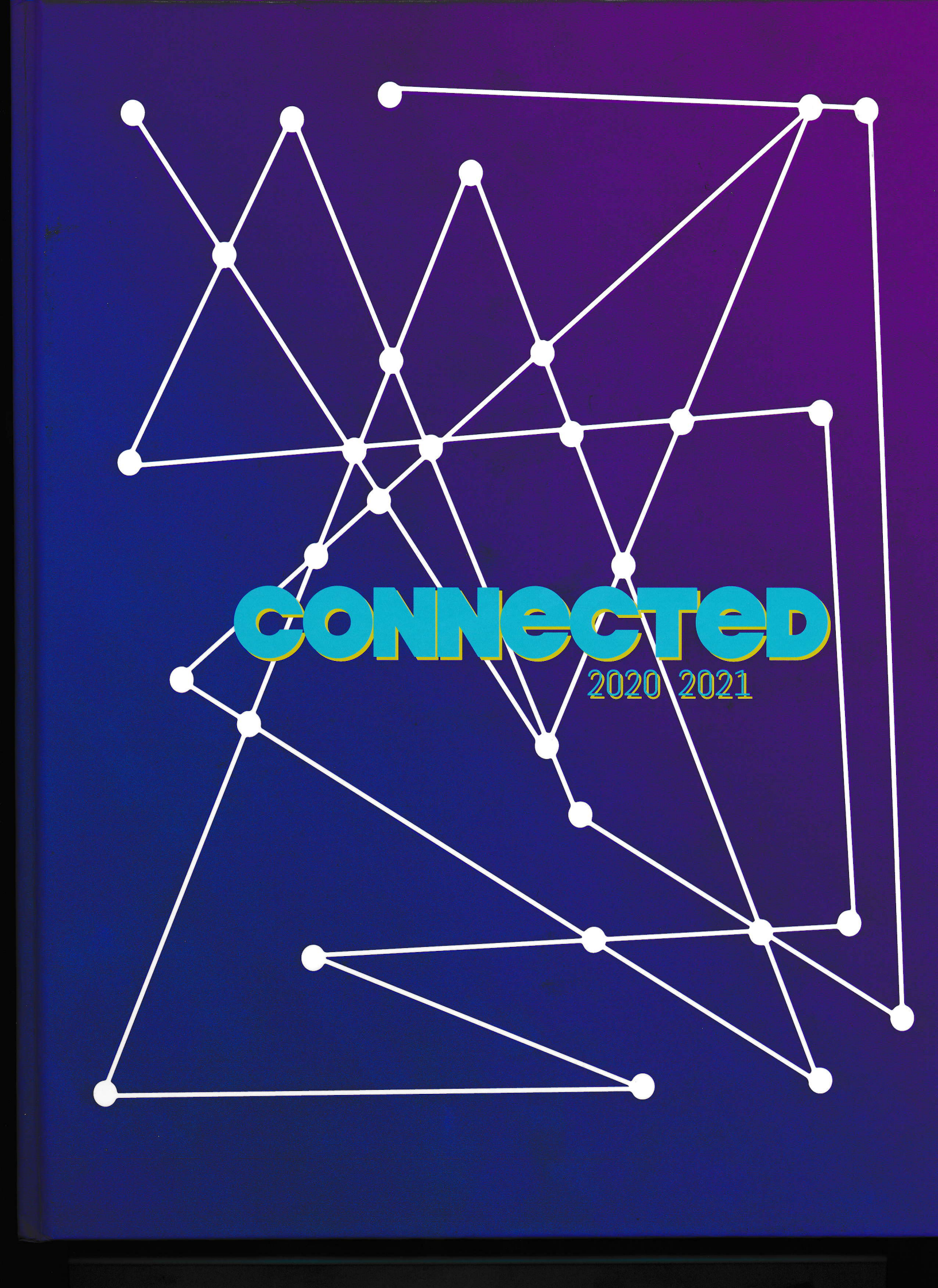
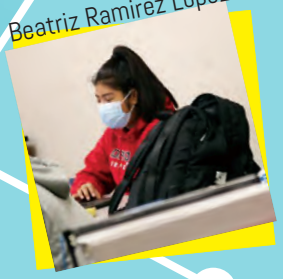

CONNECTED
2020 2021

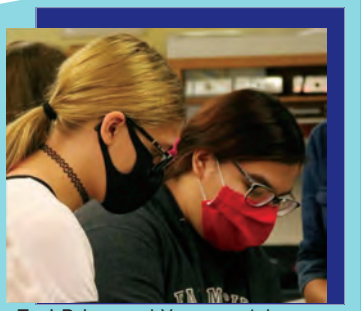
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Alexis Forney

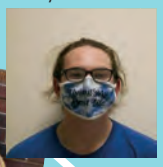
Beatriz Ramirez Lopez



Beam Signing


Tori Price and Yanette Adame



Dylan Vodicka

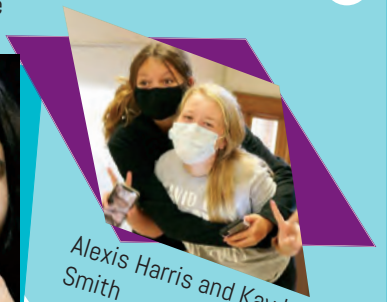
Jayden Lee


Kayla Gay



Trinity Boss

Carolina Dancer and Jazmine Palencia Juarez

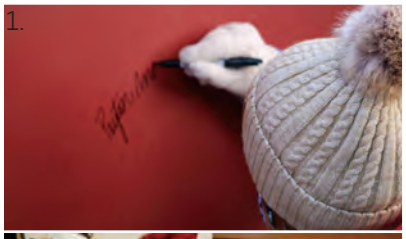


Alexis Harris and Kaydance Smith

CONNECTING THROUGH THE YEAR

David City 2020-2021

Through all of the unknowns, what ifs, changes, and difficulties as we set out into the new school year, we knew we would have to stick together. We knew we would form new connections with people we didn't know well, different connections with friends, and virtual connections as some of us would spend time doing school from home.

Whether it was sports, homecoming week, halftime performances, prom, pep rallies, club meetings, virtual meetings, or on-line school, everyone found ways to have fun and connect with one another. With these big challenges, we knew our connections to one another is what would carry us forward through the school year.







1. **DARE TO DREAM.** On a chilly day, senior Payton Andel signs the last beam for the new addition. "I would say this year was very challenging but eye-opening. We all faced a lot of adversity together, but by the end we learned, grew, and found new perspectives," Andel said.
2. **FOCUS ON THE FUTURE.** Teacher Morgan Dredge sits and receives her second dose of the COVID vaccine. Dredge said, "I was pretty excited to get my vaccine. It kind of seems like the light at the end of a very long tunnel."
3. **IF THE WALLS COULD TALK.** Eighth graders Kailey Blum, Emily Poulas, Kaydence Smith, and Jayden Ray pose for a photo. "My friends helped me get through the year. I don't know what I would do without them," Poulas said.

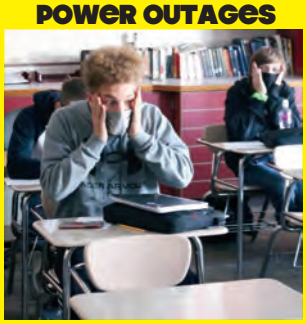
STARS OF THE FUTURE. Right: Dakota Blair messes around on a classmate's scooter in a break during MAPS testing. "MAPS testing is so boring, so in the breaks I would goof off," Blair said.



SAY CHEESE. Below: In the art room, seventh graders Coleigh Kluck, Garrett Small, and Sophia Slonecker pose for the camera. "A crazy moment would have to be when I was running to access with Coleigh Kluck and tripped and fell and dented my water bottle and just laughed it off," Slonecker said.



POWER OUTAGES



Above: When the power went out in the middle of class, juniors Tre Daro and Jordan Palikgoff around for the camera. "The power outage in the middle of class was definitely unexpected, but it was kind of fun to experience," Daro said. Senior Shelby Hein added, "The power outages were so crazy because with no school, we had to find other places to stay warm and SHOWER!"

THESE ARE THE MOMENTS. Below: Junior Jaley Schultz makes a project in the Ambassadors club. "I love Ambassadors club. I love learning about different cultures," Schultz said.

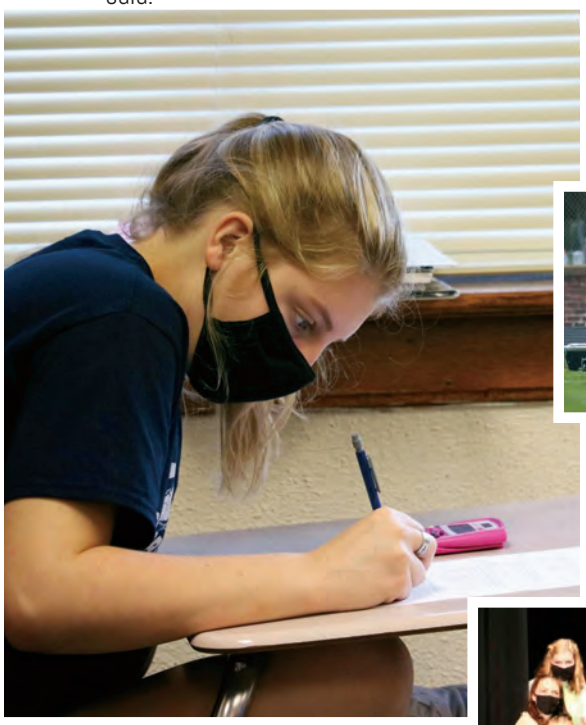


YOU DO YOU!



SAY YES TO NEW ADVENTURES. Above: Senior Allison Coil mixes colors in painting class. "I love painting and drawing and just any type of art. It's a way to express yourself without using your words," Coil said.

SHOOT FOR THE STARS. Below: In math class, freshman Grace Eickmeier does her homework. "Some days I really don't want to do my homework, but I just get it done in class so I don't have to do it at home," Eickmeier said.





ONE STEP BEYOND. Above: "I love weights class, it's so different from all the other classes," said eighth grader Jace Rerucha, pictured here lifting weights in class.



THIS MOMENT WILL JUST BE ANOTHER STORY SOMEDAY.

Above: Dylan Masek sits past the end zone, recording a home football game. "Recording the football games is such a different experience than actually playing or being in the stands," Masek said.



"[My favorite part of the year was] participating in One Act because we still got to perform even with all the restrictions." -sophomore Autumn Lindsley



LIFT THAT IRON Above: Eighth graders Hannah Gangwish, Addison Kulhman and Kailey Blum pose for a photo in weights class. "Definitely being around friends helped me get through the year," Gangwish said.



REACHING A GOAL. Senior James Escamilla stands in front of the student body during a state wrestling pep rally. "Being able to stand in front of the school for going to state wrestling my senior year was pretty exciting. I am so glad I got to that point," Escamilla said.

When asked who helped him get through the year, senior Ethan Zegers stated "Mrs. Heins because she helped me so much and is so easy to talk to."

"Meeting new friends because I met some amazing people" was the most exciting part of junior Anastasia Kephart's year.

"Crazy, chaotic, different, and new" are words eighth grader Megan Jahde used to describe her year.

"[The most exciting part of the day is] 3:00 everyday" - eighth grader Brison Flowers.

"[My favorite part of the year] is the end" - junior Amber Robak



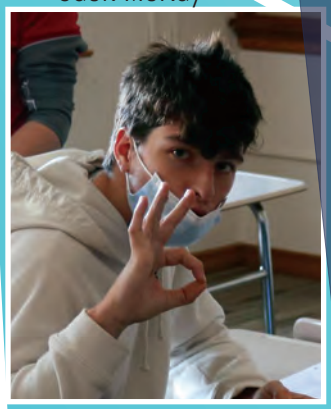
LEARNING BY DOING. Left: Seventh graders work on a science project. "Science is my favorite class. I love all the projects we got to do," seventh grader Jason White said.

CONNECTING WITH ONE ANOTHER

High School Portraits



On Sept. 4, students cheer at the homecoming pep rally.



Jack McKay



Tyrian Cummings



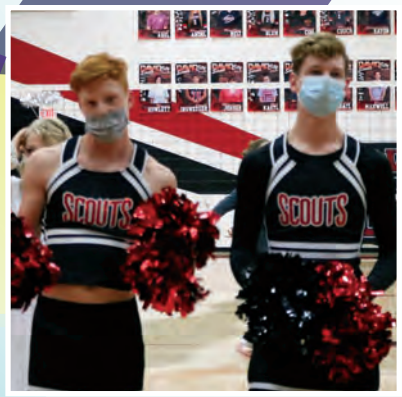
Keyan Helgoth



Areli Carrera-Soriano
& Yanette Adame



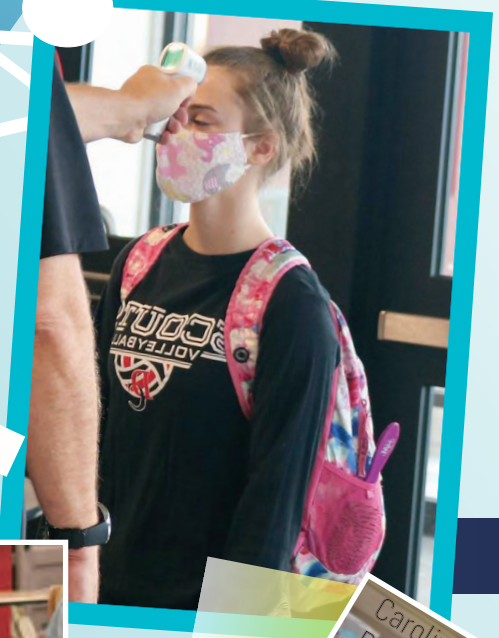
Emily Ewert



Seth Golden and Brock Dubbs



Zoe Kastl





Dominic Prothman





Lydia Ockander



Kaitlyn Palik



Avery Couch

CONNECTING WITH THE FUTURE

Class of 2021

Can you believe how time flies? It's crazy to think about how quickly this senior class went from little kindergarteners to high school graduates. Students in the class of 2021 have overcome adversity and faced many challenges during their school careers. But they've also had fun experiences and made memories that will stick with them for the rest of their lives.

The seniors stepped it up this year while participating in many school activities. Two esports teams won at the fall and spring state tournaments. The volleyball team was the conference champion for the first time in twenty years. The wrestling and speech teams placed third and fourth at state, respectively.

With all the craziness, mask wearing, quarantining, and hand washing COVID-19 brought, the normal shenanigans high school seniors experience, and the things they do with friends in and out of school, the class of 2021 experienced a year that will make them remember, "Wow! That was a crazy senior year!"



James Escamilla

MOST LIKELY TO...

Win the lottery: Brooke Windedahl



Become a famous actor: Natalie Blum



Move to Idaho to become one with the potatoes: Harley Eickmeier



Fight aliens: Koby Harvey



WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE MEMORY AT DCHS?

"Seeing my friends everyday and winning a conference title in volleyball. " - Lauren Vandenberg



"My junior and senior year both during basketball season and both games versus Thayer Central. Junior year we won on a buzzer beater and this year we won by three points. Crazy games, and both were amazing." - Natelya Gibbs



"Going to the pep rallies and college visits." - Abby Nelson



"Winning state wrestling as a team and individually." - Dylan Vodicka



"When I joined one act when I was a freshman and we won state." - Madison Jensen



"Work release" - Kordell Abel

"This sounds kind of lackluster and cliché I suppose, but everyday I'm making better memories than the previous day." - Jasmyne McDonald-Gebert

LEARN FROM A SENIOR: BEST EXCUSES



"Wifi's down"
- Koby Harvey

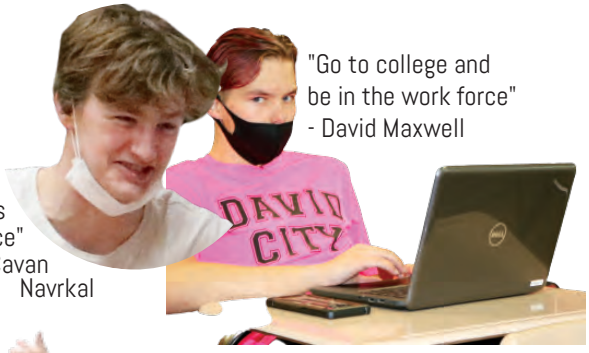
"My car ate it"
- Nancy Howlett

"My husky was so needy and wanting attention [that] he took my papers and ran under the bed and chewed them apart"
- David Maxwell

IN 10 YEARS, I WANT TO...



"graduate from college and work close to home."
- Payton Andel



"Go to college and be in the work force"
- David Maxwell

"work at a sports place"
- Cavan Navrkal



"be married and living comfortably."
- Ethan Zegers



"Continue living in Butler County and become a teacher."
- Shelby Hein



"Get out of college and find a significant other."
- Zoe Kastl



"Own a really cool pickup and semi hauling cows and broke."
- Aiden Cluck



"Be a real estate agent."
- Nancy Howlett

ADVICE FROM A SENIOR



"Take advantage of every opportunity you have. If that's preseason conditioning in the weight room or whatever it is, just do it."
- Ethan Zegers



"Everything has its beauty, but not everyone sees it"
- Griffyn Roberts



"Take pictures of all the fun events (football games, pep rallies, homecoming) so you can look back one day and realize how exciting and simple it used to be as a high schooler."
- Natalie Blum

CLASS OF 2021

Connecting to the future



Kordell Abel
"Shake N' Bake."



Payton Andel
"The past can hurt. But the way I see it, you can either run from it, or learn from it." -Rafiki, The Lion King



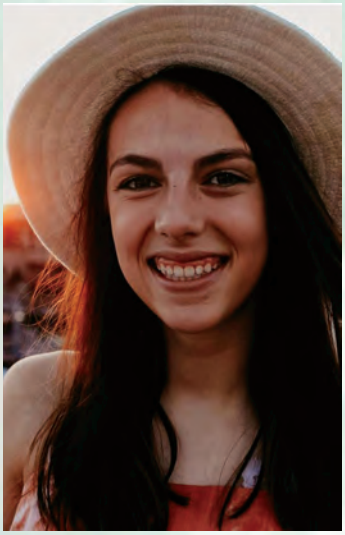
Kaitlyn Belt
"All of our dreams can come true...If we have the courage to pursue them."



Natalie Blum
"It really does go by too fast, but I know the memories will last a lifetime."



Allison Coil
"You can't move forward without saying goodbye to the past."



Maya Couch
The Office: Seasons 5, Episode 14; 9:12-9:17



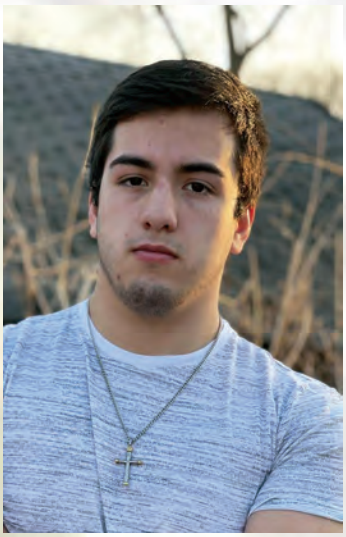
Samantha Eaton
"Slap me really freaking hard if I don't write my paper."



Olivia Egwuatu
"Sometimes you will never know the VALUE of a moment, until it becomes a memory" -Dr. Seuss



Harley Eickmeier
"Life is short. Drive fast and leave a sexy corpse. That's one of my mottos." -Stanley Hudson



James Escamilla
"Don't be shy, put some more."



Garrett Foster
"Me and school are the same as socks on a chicken."



Jaymison Fountain
"Now the hard work begins."



Kayla Gay
"High School musical is pretty unrealistic."



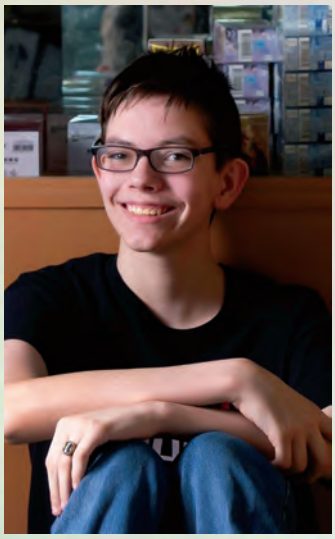
Natelya Gibbs
"Live day by day, don't focus too much on the future."



Tyler Graybill
"Life's a garden dig it." Joe Dirt



Clayton Harris
"You can't buy happiness, but you can buy Subway, which s basically the same thing."



Koby Harvey
"I did my waiting! 12 years of it! In Azkaban." -Sirius Black



Shelby Hein
"When that last bell rings, I might actually miss this place."



Keyan Helgoth
"There may be people that have more talent than you, but there's no excuse for anyone that works harder than you do." -Derek Jeter



Nancy Howlett
"This wasn't like high school musical at all :/"



Jacob Ingwersen



Madison Jenson
"Why fall in love when you can fall asleep."



Zoe Kastl
"Hero 108"



Aiden Kluck
"Just send it."



Jordan Kracl
"You can catch a lot of flies with honey, but you can catch a lot more honeys being fly."



David Maxwell
"Don't slack off. Always work hard until the end."



Jasmyne McDonald-Gebert
"Is this the American dream?"
-Ash Lynx



Nycholas McDonald-Gebert



Cavan Navrkal
"You have to expect things for yourself before you can do them."



Abby Nelson
"Take one day at a time."



Beatriz Ramirez Lopez
"If you follow your dreams, you are capable of anything."



Griffyn Roberts
"When gone I am, the last of the Jedi you will be. The Force runs strong in your family. Pass on what you have learned." -Yoda



Andrew Roemmich
"Keep moving forward."



Lauren Vandenberg
"Hang on, let me overthink this"



Jazlyn Vazquez-Zavala
"When you want to succeed as bad as you want to breathe, then you will successful." -Eric Thomas



Dylan Vodicka
"Be the best you can be!"



Brooke Windedahl
"It is what it is."



Ethan Zegers
"Life's a garden, dig it." -Joe Dirt

The best is yet to come...

Cody Adle
Jesus Alonzo Gonzalez
Darwin Arcos
Neely Behrns
Trevor Belt
Zachary Bongers



Nicholas Carlson
Maddison Craig
Jerrianne Cudaback
Tre' Daro
Kaitlyn Davis
Maci Dion



Lili Eickmeier
Grace Farmer
Haden Forney
Jayson Fountain
Sebastian Fuller
Mya Galley



Annakah Garcia-Kelley
Sabastian Gillespie
Emily Glodowski
Seth Golden
Johnathan Hodyc
Caitlen Jeane

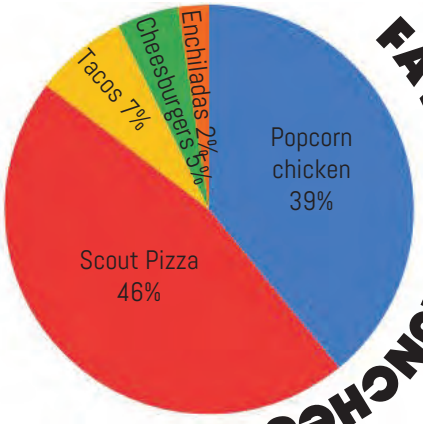


Emily Johnson
Anastasia Kephart
Jayden Lee



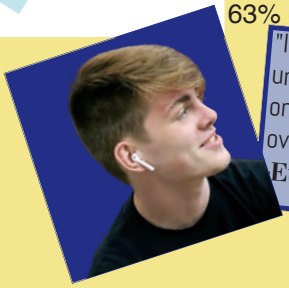
FUN FACT: Just over 60% of juniors attend the football games regularly.

FAVORITE LUNCHES



IN-SCHOOL LEARNING?

63% of students say that they prefer in-school learning.



"It is sometimes hard to understand what is going on online, and it can be very overwhelming."
Ethan Underwood

"It was hard to find the motivation to open my computer and find something to work on. When you're at school and have a set routine, it's easier to stay focused and motivated."
-Alexus Schmoll-Sabata

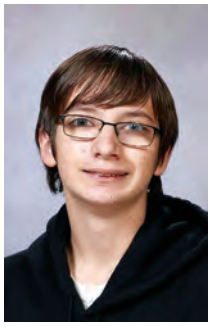


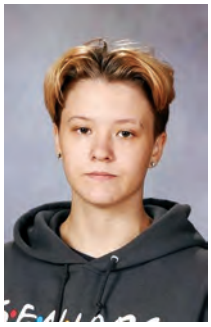




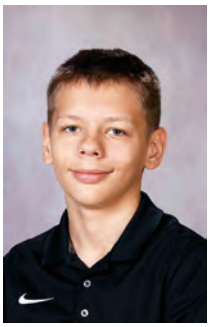



Randi Little
Dylan Masek
Logan McDonald
Jack McKay
Brittney Moore
Kaidence Morlan


Lydia Ockander
Jordan Palik
Tatum Palmer
Shawn Pruss
Amber Robak
Kennen Robinson





Ashley Rodriguez Grado
Brett Romshek
Simon Schindler
Rylee Schmid
Alexus Schmoll-Sabata
Jaley Schultz








Breanna Slonecker
Brian Solis Soriano
Joshua Spatz
Ethan Underwood
Madison Valish
Brenna Windedahl

CONNECTING IN SCHOOL & ONLINE

Class of 2022




Alysha Yellowbird Steele
Grace Znamenacek

ONLINE LEARNING? 37% of students say they would rather have online school.



"When we did online school, I didn't feel like everything was a competition. I wasn't scared of asking questions or being wrong." -**Mya Galley**



"I just liked being able to do school work in silence with no distractions while also having the liberty to wake up whenever I wanted or to eat whenever I wanted." **-Seth Golden**

STAYING CONNECTED

Victor Alonzo Gonzalez
Barrett Andel
Dakota Blair
Sidnee Busch
Angel Carias



Avery Couch
Caden Denker
Emily Ewert
Hunter Faz
Hailie Fuller



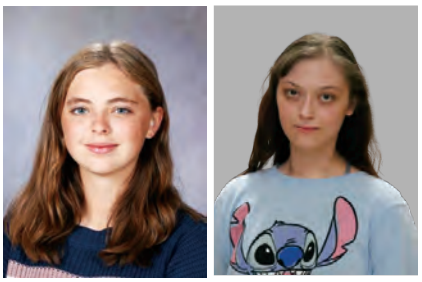
Dylan Garretson
Jeremiah Gibbs
Savannah Gregory
Kaydense Hansen
Austin Jack



Wesley Johns
Kathryn Johnson
Chase Krafka
Samantha Krafka
Hayleigh Larsen

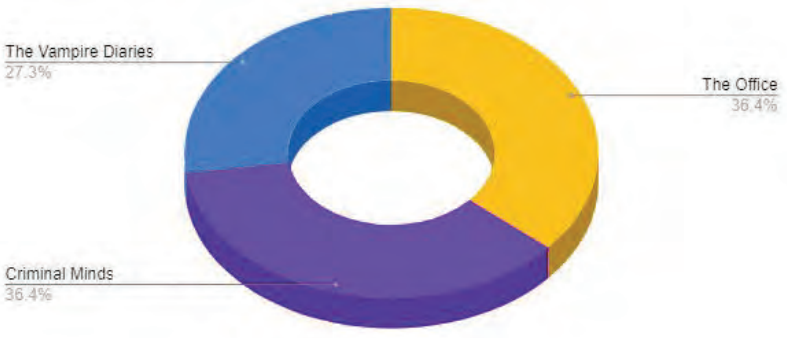


Autumn Lindsley
Kaylee Moore



Through the struggles of 2020, students have had a lot of time to discover new ways to stay connected with their peers, teachers, and community. Social media and new technology advances have been a huge part of daily life. Through this past year students have discovered new music artists, social media, and television shows. We made sure to tell you about them!

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE BINGE-WORTHY SHOW?



Class of 2023



Colin Mills
Mikah Mittleider
Ava Neujahr
Valori Olson
McKenna Pavel



Dominic Prothman
Juan Ramirez
Ava Schlotfeld
Carly Schmid
Carson Scribner



Mitchell Shanahan
Braxton Small
Cadence Smaus
Reese Soukup
Natalie Summers

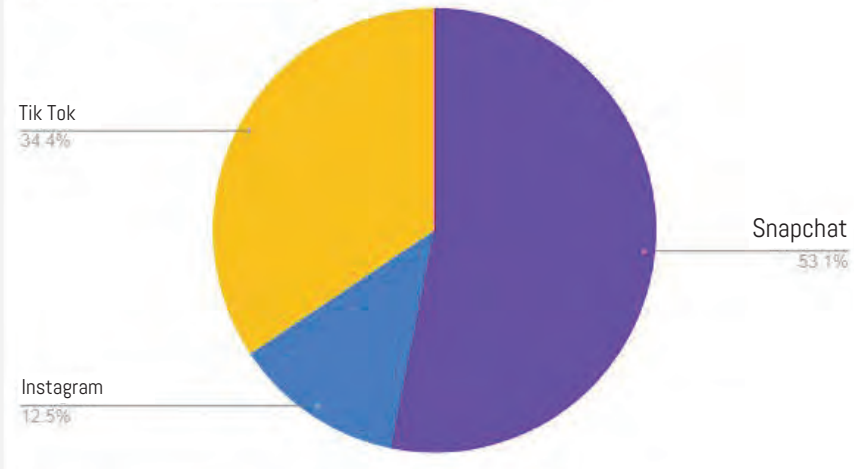


Keetyn Valentine
Carlos Vazquez-Zavala
Jayden Velazquez
Ashley Villalba Pena
Fabiola Viscarra



Drew Whitney
Cassidy Wieser

THROUGH QUARANTINE



WHICH SOCIAL MEDIUM IS YOUR FAVORITE?

CONNECTING WHILE TREND SETTING?

I THINK YES!

Class of 2024

Yanette Adame
Geovanni Barrios-Hernandez
Ella Brokaw
Chase Campbell
Areli Carrera-Soriano
Vianet Carrera-Soriano

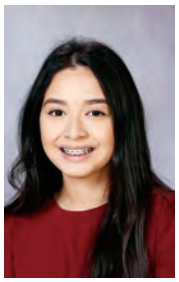








Tyrian Cummings
Carolina Dancer
Brock Dubbs


Grace Eickmeier
Jason Escamilla
Justine Fountain






Hannah Gillett
Raven Harvey




Hunter Hlavac
Brayden Johnson
Keaton Kloke
Drew Langan
Blake Lukert







What's a trend that you want everyone to jump on?

"Harry Styles. Everyone should stan Harry Styles."
- Kaitlyn Palik





"Normalizing not looking like everyone else."

- Kylee Windedahl

"Mullets."

- Drew Langan










Cassandra Maxwell
Alexia O'Dell
Brandon Ohnemus
Braxten Osantowski
Jazmine Palencia Juarez
Kaitlyn Palik





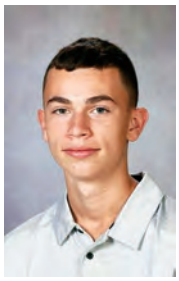
Tori Price
Braden Radford
Logan Ratkovec



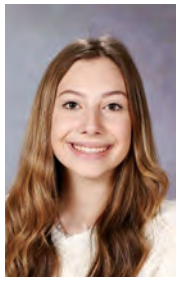


Kendall Schindler
Tristan Schmit
Anthony Schrader





Joseph Scribner
Jonathan Sosa-Palencia
Alexander Thoendel



Dulce Visoso
Kylee Windedahl
Savannah Young
Chloe Zegers

How do trends affect your life?



"It affects how I act and how others act."

- Brock Dubbs



"They don't. I do my own thing."

- Hunter Hlavac



"It affects what I find funny, what I wear, how I act, etc."

- Grace Eickmeier

I heard that there's a Draco Malfoy "trend" where every girl is obsessed with him. Tell me what's up with that?

"He's spicy. He looks really good in movies 3-6 and the second half of the seventh movie. We all know he is actually a nice person, but because of the way his dad treats him, he isn't always the nicest."

-Cassandra Maxwell



"Nah I'm good. They obsessed wit me" -Geovanni Barrios-Hernandez

"I am not sure, but Kaitlyn is very obsessed with him for some reason." -Drew Langan

"Never heard of that blasphemy"- Brock Dubbs

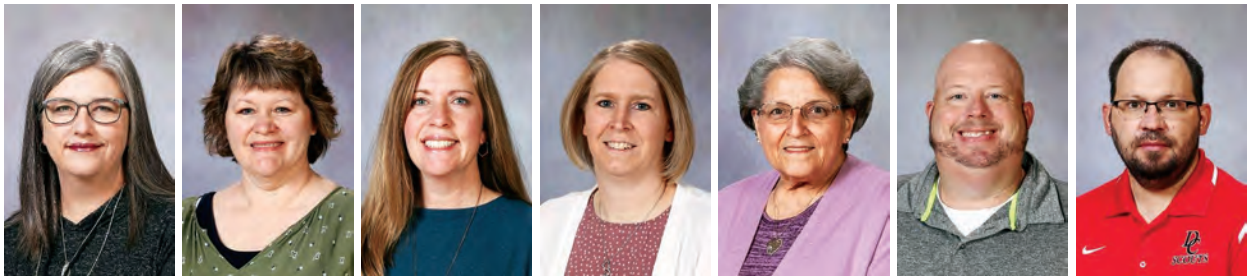
"IDK I AM A GUY" -Blake Lukert

"I don't get it" -Kendall Schindler

"I have no clue. Probably a joke but not for sure" -Brayden Johnson

"Idk who that is and idk who is obsessed with them" -Jonathan Sosa-Palencia

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



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



Jenna Didier
Morgan Dredge
Adam Ebbeka
Steven Egr
Robert Evans
Megan Fiala
Trey Frey



Ronda Gestring
Travis Hays
Tiffany Heins
Rodney Hoeft
Pam Kabourek
Kenneth Kovar
Patrick Kozisek



Guess their dream job

1. Who wanted to be a **backup dancer?**
"A backup dancer was my dream job because I love to dance. I have always wanted to travel the United States, and this would have been a great opportunity to do this. And I enjoy being surrounded by people. In addition, I knew it would help keep me in shape!"

2. Who wanted to be a **nurse?**
"I have always had an interest in biology and anatomy, and I love helping people as well!"

3. Who wanted to be a **Game show host?**
"I love game shows and thought it would be cool to be on tv."

4. Who wanted to be a **Broadcaster for ESPN?**
"I love sports and always loved watching and listening to the men and women that broadcasted games or did highlights on SportsCenter."

5. Who wanted to be a **Teacher?**
"My aunt was the principal at David City Elementary and my 2nd grade teacher was a close friend of my family. I looked up to those two women."

6. Who wanted to be an **Actress?**
"I had a very dramatic personality as a child, so I was always creating "plays" and pretending to be an actress when I was younger."

1. Tiffany Heins 2. Morgan Dredge 3. Sam Schlautman 4. Trey Frey 5. Amy Sander 6. Jenna Didier







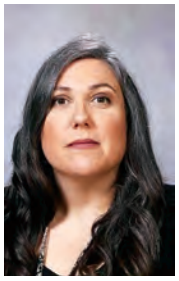


Nancy Krenk
Chad Lindsley
Teri Messerer
Sara Miriovsky
Angela Moore
Dillon Nerud
Diane Noonan



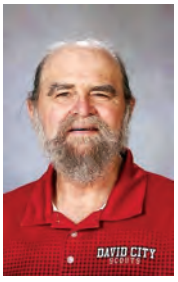






Jarod Ockander
Jami Olson
Sarah Oltjenbruns
Amy Sander
Sam Schlautman
Pamela Schmid
Aimee Scribner






Matthew Seaman
Ed Sieck
Brandon Sobota
Anton Stuchlik
Tahner Thiem
Carole Unger
Laurel Valentine






Tom VanWinkle
Travis Worm
Tonya Zegers
Tammie Zitek

CONNECTING TO THEIR PAST

David City High School Staff









Guess who?: Staff Childhood Photos

1. Morgan Dredge, 2. Lisa Bales, 3. Diane Noonan 4. Jami Olson

CONNECTING THROUGH TEAMWORK

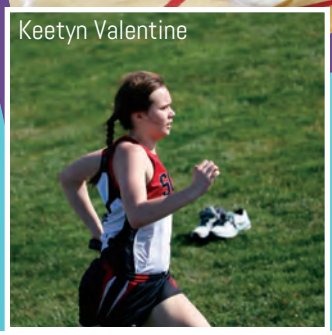
Sports


Varsity Football


Neely Behrns, Natalie Blum, Lauren Vandenberg, Maya Couch, and Lili Eickmeier


Chase Campbell


Dylan Vodicka


Keetyn Valentine


Shelby Heinz and Emily Johnson




Cassidy Wieser





Jordan Kracl

Tristan Schmidt


Kaitlyn Palik and Brenna Windedahl


Lili Eickmeier

Covering the Bases



STRIKE! On August 24, sophomore Autumn Lindsley pitches at the first home softball game. Lindsley said, "Pitching isn't just physically hard, it's mentally difficult. You can be the best pitcher in the world, but if you're not mentally tough, you won't get anywhere. And that's the hardest part, learning how to block everything out and just pitch."



ALMOST THERE. Left: Waiting for a ball, sophomore Hayleigh Larsen watches carefully in the outfield.

BATTER UP! Sophomore Cassidy Wieser follows through on her swing hoping to get her teamates home. Wieser said, "I think I played best when everyone was invested in the game. It was always a fun game when everyone was up and cheering. It always made the games fun because you felt like a team and you just wanted to be there."



The 2020 softball season was all about connections. From hanging out in the dugout to cheering at the fence in games, the positive energy the Blue River Panthers softball team brought each day made for a memorable year.

At the beginning of the year, many feared that they wouldn't be able to play the entire season because of COVID-19. Thankfully, they were wrong and the Lady Panthers were able to play the full season. As they played, they made many lasting memories, both good and bad.

"I was at practice and the coach was hitting ground balls at us. It was my turn and the ball bounced off the ground weird and hit me in the throat. I ended up stopping for the day because I was in tears because of how bad it hurt. I lost my voice for about a week because of this," said sophomore Autumn Lindsley.

For first year assistant coach Nealie Josoff, the season was one to be proud of. "Seeing the progression as the girls learn and improve on their skills," Josoff noted as the best part of practices. She believes the girls built not only softball skills this season, but also teamwork, communication, accountability, and grit.

At the end of the season, softball is about more than a win-loss record and hitting and catching a ball. It's about connections and memories that you will take with you at the end of the day. As sophomore Cassidy Wieser put it,"The energy in the dugout when something good happens [is the best part of games]. We can be playing our worst game ever but when something good happens we are all up at the fence cheering and have a great time."

HANDS UP. With her eyes in the sky, sophomore Emily Ewert prepares to catch a ball while warming up before a home game. Her favorite moment this season was "when our coach got his 100th win! Or every time we start a game, we get hyped up by listening to our favorite songs."





SWING. Striving for a home run at the first home game, sophomore Autumn Lindsley steps up to bat. This is Lindsley's first season with the Panthers but tenth year playing softball. A saying she goes by? "Keep pushing even when you think you have nothing left. It is when we push the hardest that we improve the most."



Back Row L-R: Lily Pokorny, Allie Neujahr, Sophia Renner, Rylie, Carter, Natilie Martensen, Ellie Fredrick
Middle Row L-R: Carissa Schoenrock, Cassandra Ziemba, Aubre Siffring, Camryn Kocian, Sierra Rhynalds, Alexa Carter, Autumn Lindsley
Front Row L-R: Hayleigh Larsen, Cloe Keagy, Emily Ewert, Elena Murray, Kira Pavlik, Cassidy Wieser



Academic All-State Autumn Lindsley

Effects of COVID on Softball

The girls wore masks in the dugout and couldn't shake the hands of opposing players.

Due to the fear of not having a full season, the Panthers had parents night at their first home game against North Bend.

Team members socially distanced and didn't share equipment.

MAKING IT HAPPEN

Lady Scout Volleyball Team Clicks

In a season where everything was up in the air, the Scouts took control over what they could and blew everyone's, including their own, expectations out of the water. During a practice, head coach Tali Reeves preached to her players to stop wishing for success and to instead "make it happen." The girls did just that. The Lady Scouts started off the season with a losing record before going on a ten game winning streak, which included a DC Invite Championship. "We turned to each other in need of encouragement, and nobody was secluded or felt alone in the low points," said senior outside hitter, Lauren Vandenberg.

The turning point in the season occurred in the Cross County game when the team pulled off an upset and they clicked. They hopped off a roller coaster of ups and downs to stay at a steady high level of play. "Everything just clicked and from then on out, it was all uphill," said junior outside hitter, Neely Behrns.



ADRENALINE RUSH. Natalie Blum, Payton Andel, Lauren Vandenberg, and Maya Couch celebrate after Couch hammered a ball into the ground to score a huge point against Aquinas in September. The Scouts were able to find success in running "quicks" between setter, Andel, and middle, Couch. "We stayed after practice most days to work on timing and connection, and it paid off in games," said Andel.

The team found success in running a fast-paced offense, serving tough, and playing solid defense. The team peaked at the right time, as they were able to come together to accomplish something never done before in school history, a SNC Conference Volleyball Championship title. "Not only was there a lot at stake, but we played confidently and as a team and came out on top. It was a really amazing experience," stated sophomore middle blocker Avery Couch. As the Scouts connected together and found their groove, they experienced exciting wins in close matches along with epic celebrations in support of both individual and team successes.

The program was able to make tremendous strides this year under incredible leadership of a very experienced team. Not only did the team learn how to win games and change the culture, this season the players also learned life lessons. "It helped me learn the aspect of a family outside of your actual blood family," said Behrns. With a winning season of 21-9 under their belt, the seniors have passed the baton on to the younger girls and set new expectations for the program. This year's season proved to all of the girls that hard work turns into great results. The team truly proved themselves this year and learned how to use their talents together to play to win. "I'm looking forward to playing with these girls next year; they are so talented," said freshman Justine Fountain. "This year showed me the value of growing together and having that tight bond."

HARD WORK TURNS INTO GREAT RESULTS: CONFERENCE CHAMPS!

MASKING UP. During the DC invite, junior Emily Johnson serves while wearing her mask. Although the NSAA did not require masks, the Scout players decided to wear masks at all practices and games to ensure they weren't spreading COVID-19 and wouldn't need to quarantine. "Wearing masks helped our team have a full season, unlike other teams who chose not to wear masks," said Johnson.





WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS. The entire team, coaches, and managers pose for a picture with their plaque after defeating Centennial in the finals of the Conference Championship. The Scouts entered the tournament as the fourth seed and upset Thayer Central and Centennial to come out as champions. David City made history with that win as the program had never won a SNC volleyball title since joining the conference. It had been 20 years since David City won a conference tournament. "We worked so hard and dedicated so much time into this sport. I'm so proud of us," said senior Payton Andel.



The 2020 Scout Volleyball Team. Back Row L-R: Emily Johnson, Neely Behrns, Avery Couch, Lauren Vandenberg, Maya Couch, Olivia Egwautu, & Cadence Smaus. Middle Row L-R: Justine Fountain, Payton Andel, Valori Olson, Kaidence Morlan, Shelby Hein, Rylee Schmid, Keetyn Valentine, & Grace Eickmeier. Front Row L-R: Carolina Dancer, Lili Eickmeier, Chloe Zegers, Sidnee Busch, Sammi Krafka, Natalie Blum, & Kaydense Hansen. Not Pictured: Assistant Coaches Tyler Brester and Danielle Hlavac & Head Coach Tali Reeves.







1. CAN YOU DIG IT? Junior Neely Behrns dives to dig a ball during the Wilbur game. Big saves like this often led to big, explosive celebrations from the players and the crowd after winning the rally. "We were each other's biggest supporters; we always stuck together," said Behrns.

2. PROTECTING OUR HOUSE. In a home game against Cross Country, senior Shelby Hein serves while senior Lauren Vandenberg prepares to play defense. As the season progressed, the Scouts started to upset teams and pull out all of the stops; they finished the season undefeated at home. "I'm glad I got to reach such great accomplishments with this team," said Hein.

3. SWING AWAY. Sophomore Sammi Krafka attacks the ball during a junior varsity match as sophomores Sidnee Busch, Keetyn Valentine, and Cadence Smaus look on. The JV team ended the season with a 11-10 record. "My teammates showed me that blood doesn't determine family. It is the friendship and teamwork that brings us together," said Krafka.

THAT FEEL GOOD WIN. After defeating cross town rival, Aquinas, senior Payton Andel, senior Lauren Vandenberg, junior Lili Eickmeier, senior Natalie Blum, and junior Neely Behrns celebrate together. The Scouts defeated Aquinas twice during the season, a feat that none of the girls had accomplished before. "That win built up our confidence and showed us that we could be a dangerous team," said Vandenberg.



Scouts Going Down in History

Shattering School Records



Payton Andel
Senior Setter

Assists in a Career:
2,318
Assists in a Season:
688



Lauren Vandenberg
Senior Outside Hitter

Kills in a Career:
911
Kills in a Season:
327
Kills in a Match:
27

Scouts Receiving Conference and State Honors

Southern Nebraska Conference
All-Conference Honors:
1st Team: Lauren Vandenberg
2nd Team: Payton Andel
2nd Team: Maya Couch



Honorable Mention:
Avery Couch



Omaha World Herald & Lincoln Journal Star All-State Honors:

Honorable Mention:
Payton Andel, Maya Couch, & Lauren Vandenberg

RUNNING AS ONE

Cross Country

What drives cross country members to run every day? According to sophomore Ava Neujahr, "My team because I want to inspire them to try their best and all of us older kids want to be good role models for the younger kids and try to set good examples."

Running cross country isn't just about the running; it's about the teammates. Being able to travel with some of your closest friends, listening to some of your favorite music on the bus ride, laughing and cheering each other on is really what cross country is about. The runners on the team have expressed that they have become much closer as a team this season. The team doesn't see each other as teammates but as a small family.

This year cross country looked a little different than other years. With COVID-19 this year the cross country runners had to run with their masks during warm-ups to stay safe. Freshman Joey Scribner stated, "It was definitely much harder to run with masks on, but we managed." Having masks made it harder for them to communicate with their team mates. It was also a different year because the teams had to social distance themselves from the other teams so the starting line was staggered at some of the races. Something else the team couldn't do this year was their big pasta parties a day before each meet because of social distancing. The team also wasn't provided with snacks and drinks at the end of each race because of COVID-19.

Cross country runners spent about five hours each week training with each other to prepare for meets. They started off the year doing sprints and then ended the year with endurance exercises. Two days before a meet, the cross country team would run three to four miles of hills as a tough day. Then the day before a meet the team runs one to two miles as an easy day. The minutes right before the race gives the runners the adrenaline rush they need to push through.

Ava Neujahr



Sophomore Carly Schmid runs at the Scotus invite. As Schmid was running, she thought to herself, "Is it over yet?"



Sophomore Braxton Small puts all his effort into finishing the race at the Scotus invite on September 19th, 2020.



Sophomore Ashley Villalba Pena makes her way to the finish line at the Scotus invite on September 19th. "At first glance, cross country is truly daunting," Villalba said.

Below Left: Passing his opponents at the Scotus invite on September 19th 2020 is sophomore Angel Carias. Angel's motto for the year was "The fastest kid is the most special." This made him work ten times harder to be the fastest runner.





Placing The Race

Above: Sophomore Alexander Thoendel places thirteenth at the East Butler meet. He was nervous right before the race started, but then made a bet with the team that they would win. After he made the bet, his nervousness went away He forgot everything and just ran. Once Alex finished the race and found out he placed 13th he stated, "It was happiness I placed. That's the only thing I can think of to describe it. Just happiness."

Just Happiness...



Tristan Schmit



Back Row (L to R): Grant Arps, Angel Carias, Joseph Scribner, Alexander Thoendel, Braxton Small, Neil Olson, Hannah Gangwish, & Drew Langan. Front Row (L to R): Max Arps, Kendall Schindler, Stanley Allen, Ashley Villalba Pena, Juan Ramirez, Carly Schmid, Tristan Schmit, Ava Neujahr, & Hayden Schmit



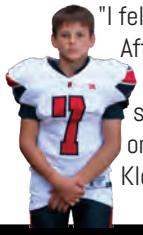
NO I IN TEAM. On Sept. 17, senior James Escamilla (#65), senior Dylan Vodicka, and junior Tre' Daro tackle a Hartington Cedar Catholic opponent as senior Cavan Navrkal (#1) and sophomore Barrett Andel (#11) look on. Andel's most memorable moment of the season was "when we won our game against Sandy Creek with a last-second touchdown throw."



"I don't care about the scores; they are just numbers. We got to play, and we had fun. So, it doesn't really matter about the scores." -Senior Clayton Harris



"This year I had starting spots on both sides of the ball, and I think I earned the respect of my teammates by competing at their level." -Sophomore Caden Denker



"I felt really connected to the team. After going through the whole season with them, it really sucked not being able to keep on playing." -Freshman Keaton Kloke



AIM FOR THE SKY. Senior Jordan Kracl punts the ball in the Aug. 28 game against Twin River. The Scouts won 16-6.



GET THOSE GAINS. The team helps clear a path for senior Dylan Vodicka #3 to gain yardage during the Sept. 4 homecoming game against Logan View/Scribner Snyder. Vodicka's favorite part of the year was, "just fun things that happened at practice, in the locker room, or on the bus."

"It starts in the weight room...period! Freshmen begin with a foundation workout that focuses on their technique, which they can progress to an in-season workout. The weight room transitions to the football field through technique. Technique is the most important thing we can teach our football players, which transitions from learning the technique as a freshman to muscle memory by their junior-senior year."

-Coach Robert Evans





HIKE. The Scouts prepare for a play in the Oct. 9 game against Aquinas. Freshman Brayden Johnson's favorite thing this season was, "The Saturday practices. Jason [freshman Jason Escamilla] would wear a funny shirt."

OVERCOMING OBSTACLES

Football



Back row L-R: Coach Chris Bode, Head Coach Robert Evans, Blake Lukert, Jack McKay, Tre Daro, Seth Golden, Nicholas Carlson, Caden Denker, Brock Dubbs, Dylan Vodicka, James Escamilla, Coach Trey Frey, & Coach Todd Carmichael. Third row L-R: Chase Campbell, Brandon Ohnemus, Jonathan Sosa-Palencia, Jordan Kracl, Jason Escamilla, Hunter Faz, Dakota Blair, & Keaton Kloke. Second row: Coach Dillon Nerud, Jake Ingwerson, Carlos Vazquez, Clayton Harris, Chase Krafka, Cavan Navrkal, Colin Mills, Trevor Belt, & Coach Travis Worm. First row L-R: Dominic Prothman, Ethan Underwood, Josh Spatz, Brayden Johnson, Harley Eickmeier, & Barrett Andel.

LET'S GO. The Scout football team runs onto the field on Sept. 17 ready to play Hartington Cedar Catholic. The game was a defensive showdown; all the game's points were scored in the fourth quarter. Senior James Escamilla's favorite part of the season was simple. "Being able to finish the season with the boys."



Hard work, commitment, and determination are words anyone would associate with the 2020 Scout football team. This year the Scouts had to face many challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic, and they still managed to work hard at each game.

"The work ethic is great. Everyone puts 100% effort into the drills we do. If someone isn't doing 100%, the team tells them to put more work in to make the team and themselves better," said freshman Keaton Kloke.

There was a slight chance that the Scouts weren't going to be able to have a season because of COVID-19. Needless to say, the Scouts were pleased to have a season and complete a nine game schedule.

Despite all their hard work, the Scouts faced some of the highest ranking teams in the state. Scouts started the season off strong with a win: 16-6 against Twin River. But they faced big challenges throughout the rest of the season. Through it all, the Scouts never gave up and always remained a hard working team. They stayed connected with each other and their community through all the challenges that were presented to them this year.

"I learned to love and appreciate the game as it is. I went from knowing little about football to knowing a decent amount. I also learned that the bonds made in football are different from anything else," said senior Clayton Harris.

SHOOT FOR THE STARS

High School Girls Basketball

In spite of starting a season with rising COVID-19 numbers and restricted audiences, the 2020-2021 girls basketball team began their season with high hopes. Shooting for the stars, the team made the most out of a demanding and thrilling season.

Especially early in the season, audience capacity was limited due to COVID-19. "This year, we had to stay away from everyone, and our crowds were half the size they were. However, I found that Scout Nation never disappoints as they did everything in their power to come and support us and make things more normal for us," said senior Maya Couch.

First year Coach Sam Schlautman tried to emphasize the need for the girls to play FOR each other, not WITH each other. The team bought in and invested the time in one another which led to greater success on and off the court. "Throughout the entire season we were all pretty close as a team, but especially after winning a game, the atmosphere in the locker room, and on the bus ride home always gave me a sense of feeling connected with my teammates," said senior Shelby Hein.

And at the end of the season in the subdistrict final, the team had much to be thankful for and remember. As Coach Schlautman said, "I will remember how hard this group of girls worked every single day... I will remember how much fun it was to coach a team that gave it everything they had each game and always had each other's back."



EYES ON THE PRIZE. Left: Junior Neely Behrns puts up a three on the Dec. 22 game against Sandy Creek as senior Lauren Vandenberg boxes an opponent out. Behrns led the teams in assists and steals this season. "Despite the ups and downs of our season we always maintained a positive mindset and worked hard every day. We were each other's greatest cheerleaders," Behrns said.



BELIEVE AND ACHIEVE. Above right: Surrounded by Twin River opponents, senior Maya Couch puts up a shot on January 8. Couch believes her team is the part of the season that will always stay with her. Couch said, "We are just so close and so silly when we were with each other. There were no cat fights or dramatic moments, just fun times! I loved every moment I got to be with my team!"



REFUSE TO LOSE. Junior Emily Johnson makes her way around a Sandy Creek opponent on Dec. 22 as she drives to the basket. Johnson set a new school record this year with the most three pointers in a season (57). Johnson said, "The most memorable moment this season was when we beat Lakeview in districts after losing to them in the regular season."



SCORE. Above: On January 12, sophomore Kaydense Hansen aims for the basket in the junior varsity game against Raymond Central. "My proudest moment in the season was watching everyone at the end of the games cheer in the locker room," Hansen said.

UNSTOPPABLE. Below: Running down the court, senior Payton Andel passes the ball to junior Neely Behrns during the Twin River game on January 8. "I was very proud of our team for pulling together in a really rough game against Thayer Central when we were down by 20 at halftime and fought back to win on a last second play," Andel said.



GAME ON. On Dec. 22, junior Lili Eickmeier puts up a shot over the hands of a Sandy Creek opponent. The Scouts dominated the court with the varsity team winning 61-19, and later in the season, they made it to the final subdistrict game. Eickmeier said, "I always felt most connected to my team after we won game. We would always wait until Schluatman came in and then we would celebrate together. One of the most special times was after winning the first district game we played."





Top Row L-R: Hailie Fuller, Reese Soukup, Avery Couch, Lauren Vandenberg, Maya Couch, Neely Behrns, & Emily Johnson. Middle Row L-R: Payton Andel, Keetyn Valentine, Natelya Gibbs, Shelby Hein, Emily Glodowski, & Kathryn Johnson. Bottom Row L-R: Lili Eickmeier, Natalie Blum, Emily Ewert, Grace Eickmeier, Justine Fountain, Jazmine Palencia, & Kaydense Hansen.



GET THE NET. Left: Senior Natalie Blum watches intently after shooting the ball against a Twin River opponent on January 8. Blum was proudest of the team's upsets like Thayer Central and Cross County. "The most memorable moment this season was the Thayer Central game. I will never forget the hype in the gym and the adrenaline rush from the game," Blum said.



REACH FOR THE SKY. Right: Reaching high, senior Lauren Vandenberg tips off against a Lakeview opponent on Dec. 19. Vandenberg, along with senior Payton Andel and juniors Neely Behrns and Emily Johnson, were named All State Honorable Mention this season. "My favorite parts of the season were the wins against Cross County and Thayer Central and the celebrations after each win in the locker room," Vandenberg said.



SMILE. After a basketball got stuck on the rim, seniors Natelya Gibbs, Shelby Hein, and Payton Andel are all smiles as senior Maya Couch watches the action resume. Coach Dillon Nerud jumped three times to unstick the ball during the January 8 game against Twin River. What was Gibbs' favorite moment of the season? "Making a free throw shot for my last senior game at home."

Defence wins championships.

Boys Basketball



Top Row L-R: Jayden Lee, Darwin Arcos, Caden Denker, Brock Dubbs, Seth Golden, & Blake Lukert. Middle Row L-R: Mitchell Shanahan, Jack McKay, Cavan Navrkal, Dominic Prothman, & Jason Escamilla. Bottom Row L-R: Chase Campbell, Drew Langan, Hunter Faz, Jordan Kracl, Jonathan Sosa Palencia, & Tristan Schmit.

The 2020-2021 basketball season was full of challenges, but it was also a season of improvement and strengthening the connections of an already tight-knit group. COVID-19 meant a reduced crowd capacity and at times players quarantining at home. Thankfully, as COVID-19 rates lowered, a crowd and even a student section were eventually able to return.

The most memorable game of the season for many players was the Madison game, won in overtime. The game “really emphasized defence and how it led offence. [The] defence stepped up and made plays which turned into our offensive side performing well,” said assistant coach Dillon Nerud.

Outside of games, the boys worked in practice, and they also made time for fun. On one memorable day, they played the coaches five-on-five. “ It wasn’t good for us. They beat us. Schlautman’s so good!” said freshman Brock Dubbs.

Outside of games, one thing the boys will take from the season is the memories they’ve formed together. As sophomore Caden Denker said, “The entire team was really close this year, so every practice was fun because we got to spend time together outside of school and get better at the game of basketball.”

HOOPS, HE DID IT AGAIN. 1. Senior Jordan Kracl shoots a jumper off one foot on Jan. 8 as Twin River players watch.

DEFEND 'TIL THE END. 2. Flanked by opponents, junior Seth Golden protects the ball before turning and passing it to senior Cavan Navrkal. "The funniest part of the season was definitely in the beginning when Hunter Faz threw up during sprints and Garrett slipped in it," Golden said.

HANDS UP. 3. On Dec. 19, sophomore Hunter Faz defends against a Lakeview player as freshman Tristan Schmit watches. Schmidt said music was a way the team got ready for games. "The team brought in a Bluetooth speaker [on the bus] and listened to hyped up music on the bus on the way to games."

JUMP. 4. With eyes on the hoop, junior Jack McKay shoots a jumper during the Dec. 22 game against Sandy Creek. McKay's most memorable part of the season was "making a few buzzer beaters."









HANDS UP. Sophomore Caden Denker jumps for the tipoff against Madison at home. Denker lead the team in points with 17.3 points per game. Denker' s favorite memory was dropping 33 points against Raymond central.







5. **TEAM WORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK.** Senior Cavan Navrkal prepares to shoot a free throw in a close game against Sandy Creek as junior Darwin Arcos watches. Navrkal played a central role on the team this year and made the entire team proud when he made a three-pointer in the Madison game, tying the score and bringing the game into overtime.

6. **UP, UP, & AWAY.** In the Dec. 23 Sandy Creek game, freshman Brock Dubbs shoots a 3- pointer to tie the score. He had his highest scoring game this season against Twin River dropping 14 points. Dubbs' favorite game? ""Madison because we won in overtime or the Shelby game because I played pretty good that game."

WITHOUT CHEERLEADING, IT'S JUST A GAME. Right: Performing at the homecoming football game, junior Jaley Schultz does a herkie. The cheer squad performed their fall pom routine to "Don't Start Now" by Dua Lupa. "My best memory was getting to perform our pom routine at the football game. We did so good!" Schultz said.

NOT A TEAM BUT A FAMILY. Below: The cheer squad performs their pom routine at the homecoming football game halftime. "At football games, the whole David City fans section is right in front of us and that's like the scariest thing in the world, especially for a first game," said freshman Kaitlyn Palik.





KEEP YOUR HEAD HIGH AND YOUR BOW TIGHTER. Right: Junior Brenna Windedahl cheers in front of the student section at the homecoming day pep rally on Sept. 4. This is Windedahl's second year on the cheer squad.



PEP IN YOUR STEP

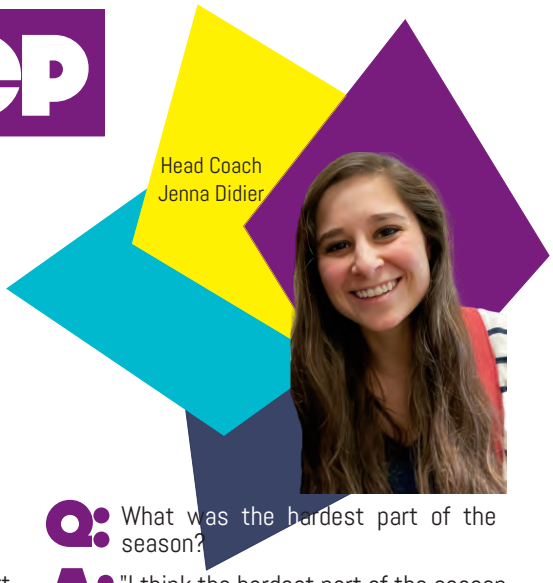
Cheer Squad

Like many other sports and activities, the cheer squad was affected by COVID-19 this year. Although the cheer squad had to limit practices, cancel some performances, and wear masks, the squad still did their best to put a 'pep in their step' and bring the school spirit to the student body.

The team started the year off strong. They attended every game and had a blast putting on fun but safe homecoming activities. But as COVID rates increased and audiences were restricted at sporting events, the cheer team couldn't attend home basketball games for the first half of the season.

Although the cheer squad had to do some things differently this year, they still tried to have fun in the new normal. Senior Brooke Windedahl's funniest memory from the season was "The Fremont football game where everyone was getting eaten by bugs. That was interesting to watch and experience." For coach Jenna Didier, it was, ""Brenna Windedahl is always talking in accents, which makes me laugh!"

Overall the squad had a memorable season. As junior Jaley Schultz said, “Being on the cheer team has made me feel that I am a part of a family because we are all so close and connect with each other." That sounds exactly like what you need from the group that is in charge of putting a pep in your step.



Q: What was the hardest part of the season?

A: "I think the hardest part of the season was just jumping through the hoops of COVID and making adjustments based on that. It was a bummer that there were certain things we could not do such as little kids' camp and the homecoming dance."





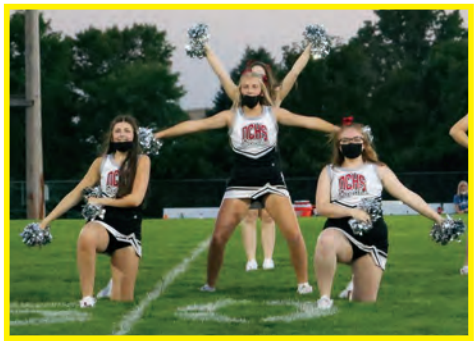


CAN'T HIDE OUR PRIDE. Left: Juniors Breanna Slonecker, Jaley Schultz and sophomore Drew Whitney cheer on the sidelines of the Jan. 12 Raymond Central game. "My favorite part of being on the team this year was traveling with the team. We always bond even more when we are traveling," Slonecker said.



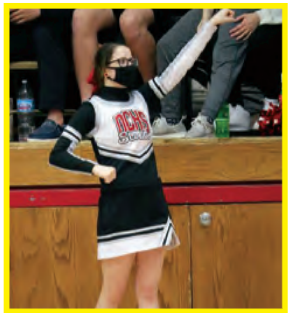
LOUD AND PROUD. Above: Junior cheerleader Grace Farmer cheers at the Aug. 28 football game. "Ever since I was younger I wanted to be in cheer, and I always had fun at the cheer camps, so I wanted to try out," said Farmer.

SCHOOL SPIRIT! Left: On Jan. 8, junior Breanna Slonecker steps forward on the sidelines to let the cheer team know that it was their last round of the cheer at a basketball game. "This year we had to wear masks while we cheered, so we had to be a lot louder," Slonecker said.

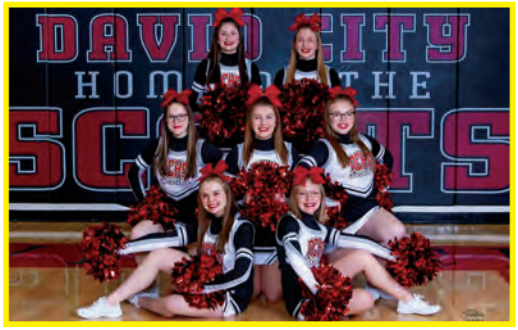


HAVE NO DOUBT, SHOUT IT OUT! Above: Performing their pom routine at the homecoming football game are juniors Grace Farmer, Brenna Windedahl, and Breanna Slonecker.

Right: Back row (L-R): Grace Farmer, & Brenna Windedahl. Middle row (L-R): Drew Whitney, Brooke Windedahl, & Breanna Slonecker. Front row (L-R): Jaley Schultz & Kaitlyn Palik.



GO BIG OR GO HOME! Sophomore Drew Whitney cheers at a basketball game. Whitney said, "The best memory I have from cheer is when we would just talk about random stuff and just have a good time."



Q: WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE CHEER MEMORY THIS YEAR?



"Cheer camp. It was one of the first times we were all together as a team. We worked together to learn a dance and we grew closer as a team."
- Freshman Kaitlyn Palik



"Being the leader and helping people improve."
- Senior Brooke Windedahl

"I enjoyed watching the girls work with Marlando, the choreographer for the cheer routine. He is a lot of fun and the girls had a blast learning from him!"
- Assistant Coach Morgan Dredge



TAKING CENTER STAGE

Platinum Dance Team



LEAPING LILI. Junior Lili Eickmeier performs at halftime during the Jan. 8 Twin River basketball game. This year was Eickmeier's first year (along with most of the team) performing at state cheer and dance. Eickmeier said, "I was really nervous and excited. I felt really grateful to get the opportunity to dance at state dance."

A SEASON IN BRIEF

The dance team started the year off in the summer with practices and preparing for homecoming in order to take center stage later in the year. Once a week they spent a morning practicing their dances and an afternoon making decorations for homecoming. When the school year started, the team was excited to get their first performance in. The year's activity schedule was uncertain due to COVID, so the team was excited to be able to perform at every single football game!

After the fall season, the dance season got a little rocky. When the COVID-19 risk dial went up, the dance team was not allowed to meet for practices or perform at any basketball games. Halfway through the basketball season when the risk dial went down, the team was allowed to perform in person again.

As the winter season started to wind down, the team perfected their routine for state dance. In February, the dance and cheer teams competed in the state competition in Grand Island for the first time in two years. It was an exciting way to end the season!

1. **TIME TO SHINE.** Senior Shelby Hein and juniors Emily Glodowski and Lili Eickmeier form a kick line. Glodowski's advice to new members: "Prepare like no other. Practicing over and over will help you feel more confident, which will help you perform better."





2. **BORN TO PERFORM.** During football halftime, the dance team takes the field and performs a dance. Senior Shelby Hein, junior Grace Farmer, and senior Natalie Blum smile their way through their performance. "We put in a lot of work during the school year to be able to perform," Farmer said.



Back row (L-R): Emily Johnson, Grace Farmer, and Shelby Hein. Middle row (L-R): Emily Glodowski, and Chloe Zegers. Front row (L-R): Lily Eickmeier, Natalie Blum, and Kaitlyn Palik.

FUN FACT

The dance team has five different dances they perform throughout the year!

1. **...5, 6, 7, 8!** The dancers strike a pose as they wait for the music to start at the Twin River football game. Freshman Kaitlyn Palik said, "I remember being very stressed, but at the same time, I knew my team was there for me and we were all in it together."

2. **POSING FOR A PHOTO.** The dance and cheer teams pose for a photo with a homecoming sign after halftime of the homecoming game on Sept. 4.

3. **REACHING FOR THE STARS.** The dance team perform their dance at the Oct. 22 Oakland-Craig football game. Junior Emily Johnson said, "I really enjoyed all the performances this year, but my favorite part was all of us getting ready together for state because we had time to bond and spend a lot of time together."

4. **EAT. DANCE. SLEEP. REPEAT.** First year member freshman Kaitlyn Palik and second year member junior Emily Johnson connect a kick line while performing at a halftime boys basketball game.


1.



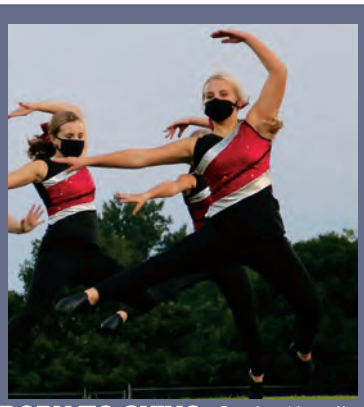
2.


3.


4.



A ROUND OF APPLAUSE. Left: While her name is being announced before the dance performance, freshman Chloe Zegers waves at the audience. "I love to dance and it seems like a fun and new experience."



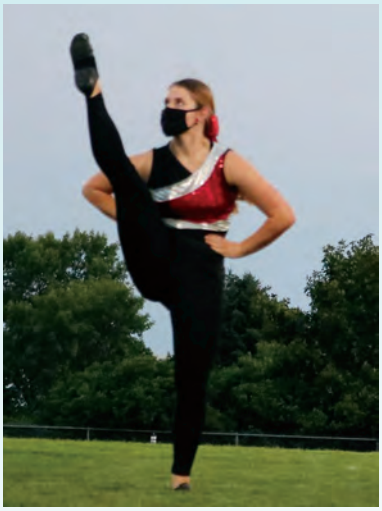
BORN TO SHINE. Senior Natalie Blum performs during halftime at a home football game. "I will miss the coaches the most. They spent so many mornings getting up early and helping us practice. Even if we felt like we weren't confident in something they always reminded us how good we were and made us feel so important. They definitely make a huge impact on the team and entire program. Nothing would have ever happened without them and for that, I am eternally grateful," Blum said.

"The girls rocked it at state! That was truly their best performance of the season. Unfortunately, we fell short of what the judges were looking for in terms of choreography. I think we can all say we learned from our first adventure at state together and know what to focus on for the following years. The girls showed improvement over the course of the entire year! Each practice got less intense and more fun because they were feeling more and more confident with their dances!"

- Coach Anna Kouba



IT'S CHRISTMAS TIME AGAIN. Dance team members hold their final pose for a picture. Because of COVID the dance team couldn't perform their Christmas dance in front of an audience this year, so a recording was played in the gym at basketball games.

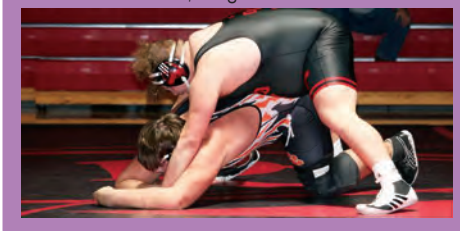


POINTED TOES AND LEG HIGH. After two years on the dance team, senior Shelby Hein said, "Believe it or not, I am going to miss the 6:30 am practices."



BREAKING A SCHOOL RECORD. Senior Dylan Vodicka set a new record for most career wins with 182. Vodicka had a great year winning 54 matches in a row. "My biggest influence throughout my wrestling career was my father. He taught me many lessons relating to the sport and life in general. He was always there for me whether I won or lost with either congratulations or advice," Vodicka said.

TAKING THE WIN. Jake Ingwersen pins another wrestler to the mat. Ingwersen had a great season, medaling at many meets. Ingwersen was third at conference and first at districts which landed him a spot at the state competition. "I can't believe this year was my last year. It was so bittersweet qualifying for state and going. I might not have gotten the results I wanted, but I still had fun on the journey and that's all that matters," Ingwersen said.





GRAPPLING FOR A VICTORY Above: Pinning yet another opponent to the mat, senior Ethan Zegers gets the win. Zegers said, "There was a moment when I thought I was going to lose, but then I pushed harder and got the win."



Back Row L-R: Jacob Ingwersen, James Escamilla, Tre Daro, Dylan Vodicka, Clayton Harris, & Chase Krafka. Middle row L-R: Josh Spatz, Barret Andel, Harley Eickmeier, Ethan Zegers, Simon Schindler, Ethan Underwood, & Brayden Johnson. Front row L-R: Kendal Schindler, Samantha Krafka, Brandon Ohnemus, Zach Bongers, Braden Radford, & Keaton Kloke.



"This year was different than the other years I wrestled, but I enjoyed it just as much. I worked really hard this year and I'm proud of how much I improved this year."
- Zach Bongers

PIN AND WIN

Wrestling

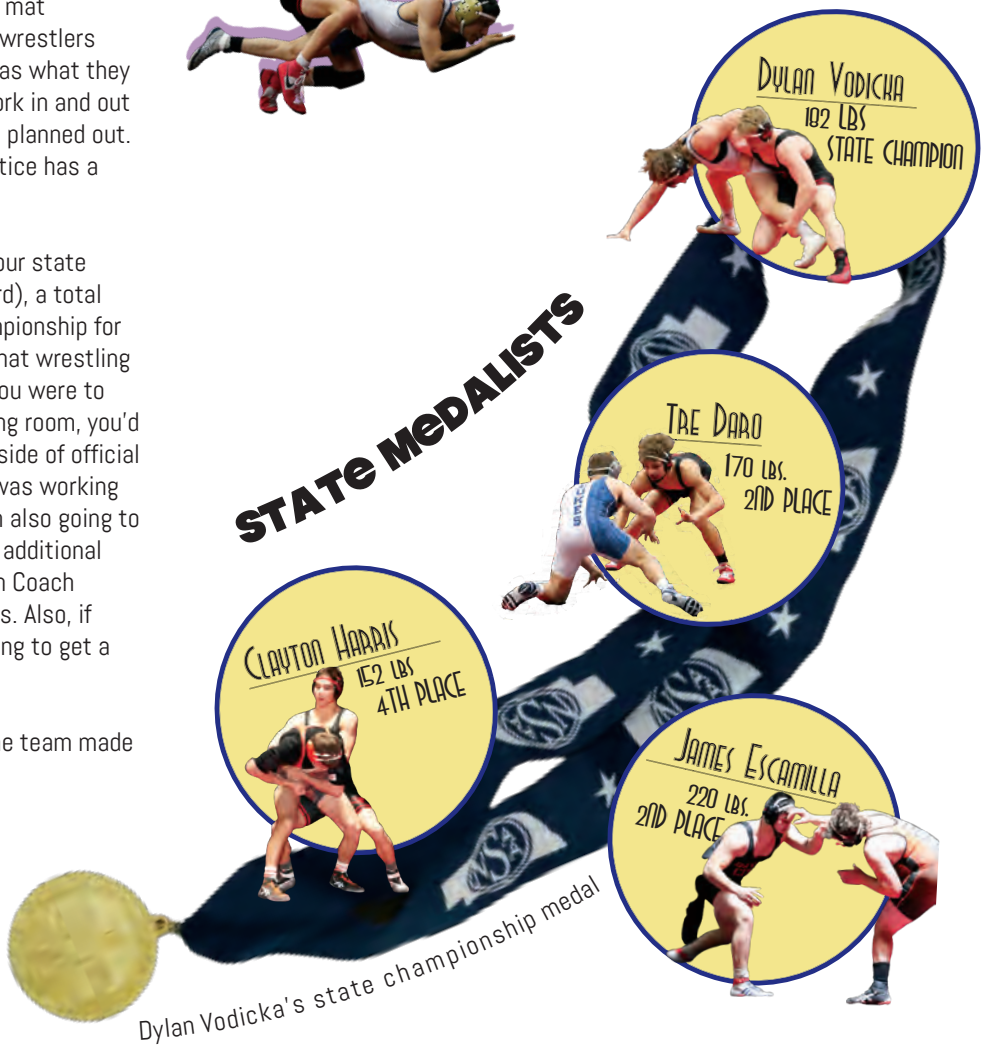
This year, wrestling was different from other years due to COVID-19. The team had smaller tournaments and more duals in order to lessen the risk of COVID-19. The wrestlers had to wear masks when they weren't on the mat competing. In spite of these differences, the wrestlers pursued success, and with hard work, that was what they found. "The wrestling team puts in a lot of work in and out of the season. Practices are intense and well planned out. We try to make sure every minute of our practice has a purpose," said head coach Tahner Thiem.

Boasting a third place team finish at state, four state medalists, 11 state qualifiers (a school record), a total dual record of 19-3, and a team district championship for the ninth consecutive year, you might think that wrestling comes easy to the kids at David City. But if you were to spend time in the weight room or the wrestling room, you'd see kids working out and practicing even outside of official practices. "Before the season ever started I was working out in my basement with my brother and then also going to the weight room once it opened in June. I did additional work in the mornings at the weight room with Coach [Robert] Evans and a couple of my teammates. Also, if weight was close I'd jump rope or do something to get a sweat going," said senior Dylan Vodicka.

Wrestling isn't an easy sport, but this year the team made the sport look easy.

TEAM FIRST. "When I get on that mat, I forget about everything else and focus on my opponent and winning the match," junior Simon Schindler said.





Dylan Vodicka's state championship medal

TUMBLING ON THE MAT FOR A WIN. Right: Junior Tre Daro puts all of his effort into getting the win during the North Bend Dual on Jan. 28. The Scouts took home a victory. "I don't know where I would be without wrestling. It means so much to me. It's my life. I'm sad to see the season come to an end," Daro said.



HARD WORK PAYS OFF.
Conference Medalists: Zach Bongers 1st, Simon Schindler 1st, Josh Spatz 3rd, Harley Eickmeier 3rd, Clayton Harris 1st, Tre Daro 1st, Dylan Vodicka 1st, James Escamilla 1st, and Jacob Ingwersen 3rd.

State Qualifiers: Zach Bongers, Simon Schindler, Ethan Zegers, Josh Spatz, Ethan Underwood, Harley Eickmeier, Clayton Harris, Tre Daro, Dylan Vodicka, James Escamilla, and Jacob Ingwersen.

LET'S MAKE A RUN FOR IT.

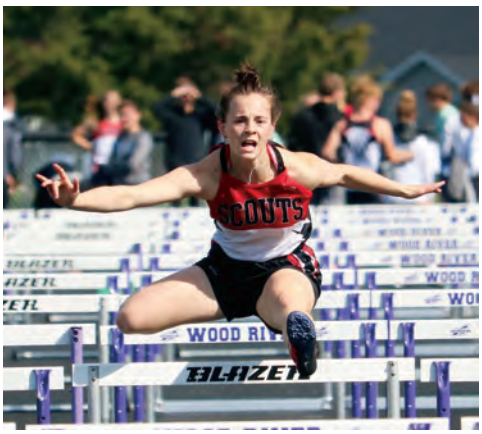
Track and Field



Top Row L-R: Kaidence Morlan, Emily Johnson, Neely Behrns, Maya Couch, Lauren Vandenberg, Olivia Egwuatu, Avery Couch, & Shelby Hein. Middle Row L-R: Natalie Blum, Emily Glodowski, Keetyn Valentine, Payton Andel, Kathryn Johnson, Carly Schmid, & Ashley Villalba. Bottom Row L-R: Fabiola Viscarra, Kaydense Hansen, Chloe Zegers, Grace Eickmeier, & Lili Eickmeier.



Top Row L-R: Colin Mills, Dominic Prothman, Jacob Ingwersen, Clayton Harris, Mikah Mittleider, Seth Golden, Barrett Andel, Nicholas Carlson, Drew Langan, Brock Dubbs, Caden Denker, Blake Lukert ,Jack McKay, Anthony Schrader, Alex Thoendel, Joey Scribner, Trevor Belt, Juan Ramirez, & Hunter Faz. Bottom Row L-R: Keaton Kloke, Darwin Arcos, James Escamilla, Dylan Vodicka, Angel Carias, Jonathan Sosa-Palencia, & Hunter Hlavac.



LEAPING TO VICTORY. After a series of successful regular season meets, junior Lili Eickmeier competes in the 110 meter hurdles at the district meet in Wood River. She placed third and qualified for state as a wildcard.



SPRINT TO THE FINISH. Sophomore Caden Denker and junior Jack McKay lead the pack during a 200 meter dash prelim at the district track meet on May 13. Both qualified for finals and later for the state track meet.

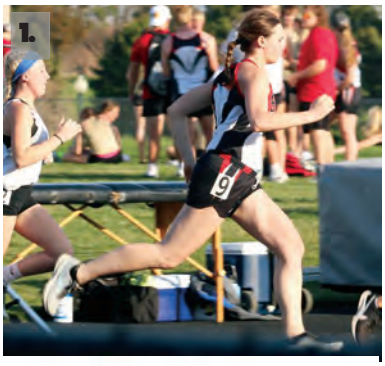
After missing the entirety of the last track season due to the COVID-19 shutdown, track athletes were rearing and ready to go this year. Thankfully, there were minimal COVID-19 related restrictions, so the season was able to go on normally. This isn't to say there weren't challenges. "I've always had a history of getting hurt during track season and this year was no exception. The biggest challenge was just finding a way to stay healthy and compete an entire season," said junior Neely Berhns.

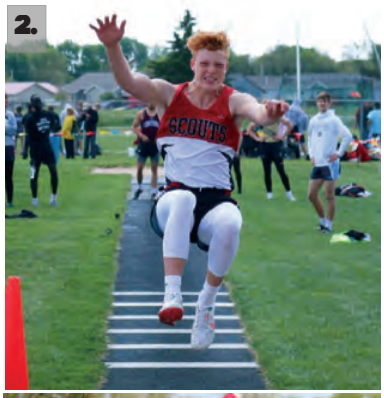
Sophomore Barrett Andel echoed her concerns. "[My biggest challenge was] shin splints and rehabbing my knee."

The track teams began conditioning and practicing early on, running and doing conditioning inside if the weather was poor. But they also made time for fun. ""The athletes also enjoyed having their team competitions at practice from competing in Heads Up to tossing a water balloon," said Coach Drew Rodine."

By the end of the season, eight track members qualified for state, medals were received, a new school record was set, and many smiles were seen on and off the field. Looking ahead to 2022, the track team is ready to run forward together, finding success and making new memories.









1 - **RUN FAST OR BE LAST.** At the Aquinas Invite, sophomore Keetyn Valentine competes on April 5.

2 - **JUMP HIGH ACROSS THE SKY.** Junior Seth Golden leaps forward during the May 13 district track meet.

3 - **ALL YOU'VE GOT.** Senior Lauren Vandenberg throws the shot put in a winning throw at the district track meet on May 13.

TEAM SPIRIT. Right: On May 13, the members of the girls 4x100 relay, sophomore Avery Couch, senior Maya Couch, junior Neeley Behrns & senior Natalie Blum, form a huddle before the 4x100 final. It was near the end of the day, and many girls had already qualified for state. The relay team place first, qualifying for state, clinching the David City girl team's spot as the district champion.



The girls 4x100 relay team set a new school record: 51.3 seconds!

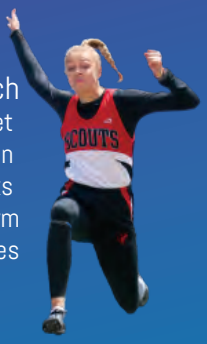
WHATS IN THE TRACK BAG?



Caden Denker
* warmups
* tights
* a blanket (if it's cold)
* shoes
* uniform



Hunter Faz
* AirPods
* tights
* warmups
* blanket
* snacks
* shoes
* uniform



Avery Couch
* blanket
* sunscreen
* snacks
* uniform
* track shoes



Juan Ramirez
* warumps
* snacks
* uniform
* blanket
* shoes

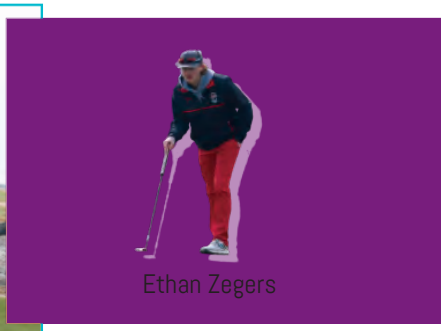
STATE TRACK QUALIFIERS:
Neeley Behrns - 100, 200, 4x100
Natalie Blum - 4x100
Avery Couch - triple jump, 100, 4x100
Maya Couch - long jump, 100, 200, 4x100
Caden Denker - 200, 400
Lili Eickmeier - 100 hurdles
Jack McKay - 200
Lauren Vandenberg - shot put, discus

STATE MEDALISTS
Maya Couch - 200, 4th; 100, 5th
Avery Couch - triple jump, 3rd; 100, 7th
Girls 4x100 team - 3rd
Lauren Vandenberg - shot put, 6th
Caden Denker - 200, 3rd; 400, 7th









Ethan Zegers

IN FULL SWING. 1. On April 22, Senior Kordell Abel braves the cold and takes a swing. The team placed first at the meet.

TEE-RIFIC. 2. Teeing off at the DC Invite, freshman Chase Campbell watches as the ball bounces toward the green. Campbell has golfed for eight years, but this is his first year playing for the Scouts.

GOT GOLF? 3. Freshman Brayden Johnson keeps his eyes on the ball at the DC Invite.

ALWAYS ON PAR. 4. Tapping the ball in the hole, senior Keyan Helgoth takes a shot on April 22. Helgoth placed second at this meet.





Back Row L-R: Ty Cummings, Kennen Robinson, Logan McDonald, Kordell Abel, Tre Daro, Caven Navrkal, & Simon Schindler.
Middle Row L-R: Brayden Johnson, Tristen Schmit, Keyan Helgoth, Jordan Kracl, Ethan Zegers, Josh Spatz, & Chase Campbell.
Front Row L-R: Keaton Busch, Kendall Schindler, Stanley Allen, & Hayden Forney.

Q: WHAT WAS THE FUNNIEST MOMENT IN GOLF THIS YEAR?

A: "Tre broke his putter on the green. He missed a put for bogey, he bent it in the ground and it just snapped."
- Freshman Tristan Schmidt

A: "Kordell hitting out of bounds four times."
- Freshman Chase Campbell

WINNING IS A HABIT. Senior Ethan Zegers contemplates how to take his shot on April 22.

REAP THE REWARD

"Golf this year was a definitely worth-it experience that has me extremely excited for next year."
Cadence Smaus

TEAM OF THREE

The DCHS girls golf team consisted of Valori Olson, Cadence Smaus, & Natalie Summers.



SETTING A COURSE

Golf

"I am extremely proud of this group of golfers this year. We finished in the top three teams at 7 invites this year and 21 individual medals were earned this year by our varsity. Our season did not end the way that we wanted, but to see this group mature from the time that they were student managers has been a fun ride."

Tom Van Winkle



Swing! The 2021 golf season got off to a busy start. Largely unimpeded by COVID-19, golfers were able to experience a fairly normal season. Typical daily practices (when the weather cooperates) are broken up into three parts. The golfers spend about half an hour on chipping and putting, half an hour on hitting range balls, and half an hour playing holes on the golf course.

The team has also had fun moments on and off the course. One fun regularity for the team was "dominating Casey's breakfast pizza before events and Dairy Queen afterwards. [We also played] Kid Rock music as we pulled up to the golf course," said golf coach Tom VanWinkle.

The golfers worked to improve their game this year, and their work paid off. For freshman Tristan Schmidt, this meant "fixing my drives. It made it feel like I could do things in golf." Because of many senior golfers graduating, the team will lose a lot of experience next year. With new golfers entering high school to join the returning golfers, the future of DCHS golf is already looking forward to getting back on the green.

AHEAD OF THE GAME. Right: Putting the ball, senior Jordan Kracl concentrates at the DC Invite. Kracl has played golf for 15 years and had a strong season this year, placing first at multiple invites. He helped lead the team to many top five finishes including multiple championships.



IN IT TO WIN IT. At the DC Invite, junior Tre Daro tees off.



Senior Jordan Kracl signs to play golf for Concordia while his parents look on.

LAST WORD

Q: How would you describe your relationship with your peers and the coach?

A: Wonderful. They help with whatever I need help with.
- Jordan Kracl

DIRECT CONNECTIONS

Clubs & Organizations



Student council members hold food collected for Box Out Hunger.



FCCLA members meet for their 2020 recruitment night.



Seniors Payton Andel and Shelby Hein working with NHS doing a random act of kindness for the people at David City's nursing homes.



Zero-K conduct an experiment outside.



Scout Quiz Bowl at their meet with Central City on 10-31.





David City Ambassadors meet at the online Latino summit.



FCA members do warm-ups to start their meeting on Sept. 16.



David City One Act members perform at SNC on November 17, 2020.



Sohpomore Drew Whittney practices her speech.



James Farmer competes against other schools in esports.



DCHS band members play songs at the 2020 homecoming pep rally.



LIVE, LEARN, LEAD. Above: Senior Payton Andel bags food collected in the annual student council Thanksgiving food drive. This helps provide a Thanksgiving meal to DCHS families in need.



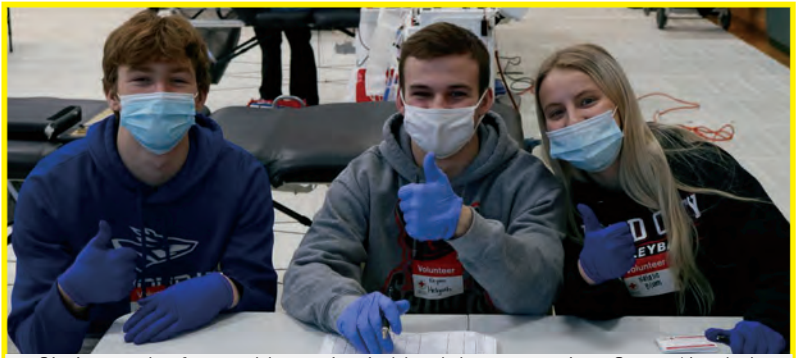
HELPING HANDS. Before Thanksgiving, senior Shelby Hein packages food collected in the student council food drive.





Back Row L-R: Harley Eickmeier, Barrett Andel, Brayden Johnson, Keyan Helgoth, Tre Daro, & Alex Thoendel. Third Row L-R: Fabiola Viscarra, Kaydense Hansen, Neely Behrns, Lili Eickmeier, Emily Johnson, Caden Denker, & Braxton Small. Second Row L-R: Olivia Egwuatu, Avery Couch, Natalie Blum, Lauren Vandenberg, Maci Dion, Grace Eickmeier, & Yanette Adame. First Row L-R: Cavan Navrkal, Shelby Hein, Payton Andel, Clayton Harris, & Maya Couch.

READY TO LEAD. Above: Seniors Dylan Vodicka, Cavan Navrkal, Lauren Vandenberg, and junior Emily Johnson take a break for a photo while assisting during the blood drive held at the community auditorium.



Sitting at the front table to sign in blood donors, seniors Cavan Navrkal, Keyan Helgoth, and Natalie Blum pose for a photo.

KEEP CALM AND LEAD ON

Student Council

A YEAR IN BRIEF

In a full school year in the middle of a global pandemic, student council members stepped up to new challenges. Some regular student council activities had to be cancelled, and others were changed to be safe from COVID-19. This year the biggest student council activity, the blood drive, had to be held at the community auditorium instead of the high school gym because of restrictions on visitors entering the building. In spite of the challenges they faced, student council members stepped up and did the best they could to make the most of this unique school year.

THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX

National Honor Society



Surprise sidewalk art created by NHS members on the high school sidewalk.

This year, the members of National Honor Society had to think outside the box to complete their many service projects and other activities. For the first time ever, the annual homecoming jersey auction bidding was done online live because students couldn't crowd around tables at lunch. Normally, NHS members would also eat lunch with elementary students. This also couldn't happen this year.

"We wrote a personalized note for each student during testing at the end of the year (MAPS, DIBELS, NSCAS) which wished them luck and encouraged them to always do their best. These notes and a treat were handed out prior to one of their tests to let them know that the NHS members were thinking about them. We were also hoping this helped boost their confidence!" said NHS advisor Tiffany Heins.

The big focus of NHS this year was completing random acts of kindness. At the beginning of the year, NHS members all suggested three acts of kindness, and each month the group selected one to do. In October, Scare Away Hunger raised $400 and collected many food items. In February, all staff and students in the high school building received candy, and the teachers also received notes.

After a unique year, it's safe to say NHS members were successful thinking outside the box. They carried out the four pillars of NHS, character, scholarship, leadership, and service, while surviving a global pandemic, smiles on their faces all the way.



Junior Neely Behrns and seniors Maya Couch, Payton Andel, and Shelby Hein prepare gripper socks to go with handmade cards for nursing home residents in David City. NHS brought gifts to 100 residents!





HAPPY HOLIDAYS. 1. Decking the halls for Christmas is junior Jack McKay.

BE MY VALENTINE. 2. Juniors Jaley Schultz and Grace Farmer tape Valentine's Day candy to students' lockers.

ALWAYS THANKFUL. 3. NHS members pose with treats baskets for healthcare workers in David City. These were given to the 72 doctors and nurses working at three facilities in town with signs letting them know how thankful NHS members are for their work saving lives in the COVID-19 pandemic.

THE FULL CREW. Left: National Honor Society members after the spring induction ceremony. Back row L-R: Caden Denker, Barrett Andel, Harley Eickmeier, Dylan Vodicka, Keyan Helgoth, & Clayton Harris. Third row L-R: Emily Glodowski, Shelby Hein, Maya Couch, Neely Behrns, Zachary Bongers, Mikah Mittleider, & Braxton Small. Second row L-R: Maci Dion, Lauren Vandenberg, Natalie Blum, Payton Andel, Valori Olson, Avery Couch, Natalie Summers, & Jerri Cudaback. Front row L-R: Jaley Schultz, Ava Neujahr, Kaydense Hansen, Lydia Ockander, Autumn Lindsley, Keetyn Valentine, Cassidy Wieser, Lili Eickmeier, & Emily Johnson.

JUST B NATURAL

Band

Before the first bell of the school day rings, band members are already in their seats with their instruments ready. They start the class by warming up and practicing some of the songs they will be performing. One of the group's favorite songs from the year was "Wake Me up Before you Go Go." Band teacher and director Joseph Brumm stated, "[My favorite song is] 'Wake Me up Before you Go Go' because it required them to sing, and it was out of their comfort zone. It was unique. They have never done anything like that before."

In spite of COVID-19, the band was still able to perform many times throughout the year, particularly early in the year during marching band season. They performed mostly at football game halftimes and marching band competitions before their first concert band performance in the spring semester. At their last band competition of the year, they earned a superior (the highest band rating at the competition). Junior Jaley Schultz said, "I thought we were set up for success and that we were going to do fairly well." The band should be proud of themselves because they had less practice than a normal year. With no summer band camp or morning practices, students had to put in even more effort to normal class rehearsals.

At district music contest in the spring, the band brought home 7 individual/duet superior ratings. Their final regular performance was playing for graduation. After a unique and challenging year, these musicians are thankful for the opportunities they had and hope for a return to normalcy and a full year of performances next year.



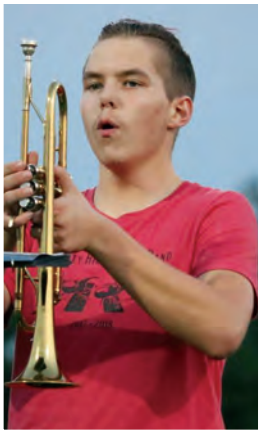
ONE SOUND. Sophomore saxaphone player Valori Olson watches director Joseph Brumm's conducting while performing at a home football game. "Of course we did" are words that run through Olson's mind after a strong performance.



Jerri Cudaback & Jordan Palik

Sophomore Autumn Lindsley played the bass during field marching. ""My favorite part of being in band is playing music with people who choose to be there. That makes playing together more fun," Lidsnely said.

"[I am going to miss] just the camaraderie when we are all yelling."
– Senior David Maxwell





LOUD AND PROUD. Senior David Maxwell, junior Caitlen Jeane, junior Angel Carias, freshman Jonathan Sosa Palencia, & sophomore Kadense Hansen perform at a home concert.



Reese Soukup



Bottom row L-R: Drew Whitney, Caitlen Jeane, Reese Soukup, Jaley Schultz, Chloe Zegers. Second row L-R: Autumn Lindsley, Jerrianne Cudaback, Wesley Johns, Natalie Summers, Valori Olsen, & Braxton Small. Third Row L-R: David Maxwell, Angel Carias, Jonathan Sosa-Palencia, & Clayton Harris. Fourth row L-R: Tristan Schmidt, Sabastian Gillespie, & Joseph Scribner.

Q & A WITH DIRECTOR JOSEPH BRUMM

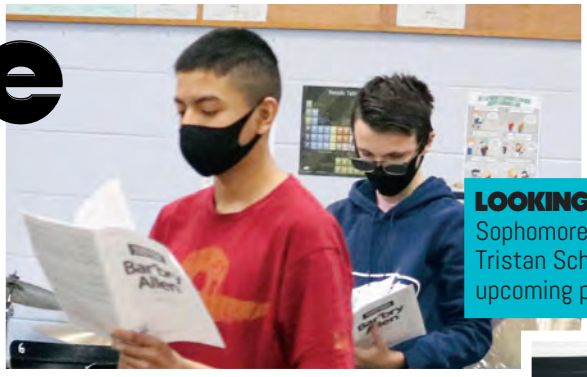
Q What went through your mind when you found the band received a superior rating?

A "I felt like the students really deserved it. I was proud that they got to get recognized."



Angel Carias

ENCORE
Choir



LOOKING SHARP. On February 10, Sophomore Angel Carias and freshman Tristan Schmit practice for their upcoming performance in class.

Choir jumped through a lot of obstacles this year. They had to wear masks while practicing and performing. "Having to sing with masks, we don't get as good of feedback about vowel shapes. Also with the distance [about 6 feet apart] we can't really hear each other," junior Kaidence Morlan said, explaining the difficulties COVID-19 caused. Their winter concert was even recorded and streamed online instead of performing live due to high COVID-19 numbers.

Although the year has been challenging, it did have good moments. They were able to perform at district music on April 24th, which they missed out on last year. "The best memory I have from choir is getting a 1 at district music for our Women's Ensemble," said sophomore Autumn Lindsley. Another good moment was a memorable November day when there was a power outage after an ice storm.

"We played a choir card game. It was like apples to apples, and Kaitlyn [Palik] had a card that said a soprano with purple hair, and at the time Cassidy, who is a soprano, had purple hair," said freshman Cassandra Maxwell, recalling one of her favorite choir memories.

The memories of practices, performances, and unexpected fun moments make choir something its members can look back on fondly. The returning singers are ready for their encore when they come back next year.



Back row L-R: Cassandra Maxwell & Koby Harvey. Fourth row L-R: Hailey Larson & Tristan Schmit. Third row L-R: Kaitlyn Palik, Nicholas Carlson, Hunter Hlavac, Hailie Fuller, & Drew Whitney. Second row L-R: Ava Schlotfield, Carolina Dancer, Angel Carias, & Grace Eickmeier. Front row L-R: Autumn Lindsley, Alexus Schmoll Sobata, Dominic Prothman, Cassidy Wieser, & Kaidence Morlan.

LIVE, LOVE, SING. On May 4, the choir performed at their last concert of the year. Junior Nicholas Carlson said, "My favorite memory from choir was when [Director Joseph] Brumm took off his shoe and threatened to throw it at people who didn't listen. He obviously did not mean this in a serious manner, but it was still funny to watch." Carlson has been in choir for 3 years and he plans on finishing his high school career in choir.



TIME TO SHINE. After waiting for many months, members of the high school choir were finally able to publicly perform in person in the spring semester. In the fall and winter, live concerts were cancelled. Other normal performances (e.g. the Veteran's Day program) were also cancelled. However, graduation ran as normal, so the singers were able to put on their last regular performance as they would in a normal year. "I'm excited to see where next year takes us. I'm hoping we have more freshman," said sophomore Cassidy Wieser.

TREBLE MAKERS. Below: Freshmen Cassandra Maxwell, Kaitlyn Palik, Grace Eickmeier, and director Joesph Brumm pose after their first in person music concert of the year in March. "My friends and I decided to do it [choir] together," Eickmeier said.



Q Why did you decide to become a choir teacher?

A "It's fun to share my knowledge with students and to keep music alive and have the student actively be a part of the something they listen to everyday."
- Director Joseph Brumm.

AN AMAZING GRACE

One Act 2020



One Act Cast and Crew 2020
Back row L-R: McKenna Pavel, Payton Andel, Shelby Hein, Natalie Blum, Lauren Vandenberg, Caden Denker, Barrett Andel, Dylan Vodicka, David Maxwell, Anthony Schrader, Chase Krafka, Braxton Small, Darwin Arcos, Ava Neujahr, & Joseph Scribner. Middle row L-R: Reese Soukup, Andrew Roemmich, Jasmyne McDonald-Gebert, Juan Ramirez, & Angel Carias. Front row L-R: Valori Olson, Avery Couch, Kaydense Hansen, Cassidy Wieser, Autumn Lindsley, Tre Daro, Kaidence Morlan, Lydia Ockander, Maya Couch, Clayton Harris, Drew Whitney, Justine Fountain, Keetyn Valentine, & Hailie Fuller.

One Act isn't just about performing. It's also about connecting with others and making a big family of people who have the same interests. "The family-like relationships that are formed during One Act" is senior Andrew Roemmich's favorite part of one act. Most of the cast would agree. The one act cast and crew practiced after school, after evening sports practices, and even before school depending on the time of the year and what was going on at school.

The year had a few memorable performances. "My favorite part about this year is when we went to Conference in Fillmore Central because the lights kept blacking out," said senior Clayton Harris. This proved to be challenging for everyone on stage, but the cast persevered. DCHS took home a championship for the ninth time in ten years, and seven students took home outstanding acting awards.

And of course, no matter what, there is always time for fun. "During practices when someone would crack a joke backstage, you would have to try so hard to hold your laughing is so you wouldn't get in trouble," sophomore Drew Whitney said.



PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT. Above: Sophomore Kaydense Hansen, junior Avery Couch, and sophomore Valori Olson play three girls who don't get along with two characters named Grace and Faith. Olson said the hardest thing about One Act is, "covering for missing actors; sometimes you miss cues because they aren't there, and it's hard to cover their lines, especially when you don't have the script memorized."



THE END. Left: At the One Act conference on November 11th, sophomore Reese Soukup and the other cast members gesture as senior Maya Couch rests her hand on junior Lydia Ockander. Fourth year one act member Maya Couch played this year's lead, Grace Thomas. Couch said, "I think my favorite scene in this year's play would be the last scene. At this point, I'm dead but have a moment with my sister Faith, played by Lydia Ockander. I tell her that even though I am gone, she can use my death to heal others like I once did and that I will always love her. It's such a tender moment and really heartfelt. I always liked acting... and making others feel something. It's a special experience that only actors would understand."



MASK UP. Left: Senior Clayton Harris plays his role as a preacher. When asked how COVID affected One Act, Harris responded, " Well, for starters, we had to practice with our masks on all the time. Also, we were unable to watch other One Acts at competitions."

HEALING. Right: Portraying a married couple are seniors Andrew Roemmich and Jasmyne McDonald. However, Roemmich's character is deaf. Roemmich said, "And I can hear my wife again, I don't know what kind of miracle that is. and then my 'wife' hits me."





Freeze! Freshman Joseph Scribner, junior Angel Carias, seniors Jasmyne McDonald, Andrew Roemmich, and sophomore Drew Whitney reach out to help Grace Thomas (played by senior Maya Couch) as she falls. In One Act, there are a lot of times where someone has to freeze and hold their position while something else is happening. Whitney, who played a church lady named Alison Bell, said, "The most nerve-racking thing (about One Act) is when you forget your line while you're on stage or you see something else going wrong on stage but you have no control over it."

Experience matters. At a home performance, seniors Andrew Roemmich and Jasmyne McDonald react to other characters on stage. Roemmich has been in one act for four years. Roemmich said, "I joined One Act because at the time my sister was in it and I like acting."





Early start. On David City's stage, senior Clayton Harris performs with junior Kaidence Morlan. Harris, who has been in One Act for four years, shares, "We start practice about a month before our first performance. Usually, it starts with small ensembles. Then after a week, we start adding others into the mix."

Busy busy. Sophomore Kaydence Hansen (in the red dress) is a very busy person. She said that the hardest part of One Act was, "being able to fit in the other sports and the practices."





Bit of fun. Left: sophomores Drew Whitney, Cassidy Wieser, and Autumn Lindsley, freshman Justine fountain, and sophomore Reese Soukup have fun on stage.

You've got some nerve. Junior Tre Daro has made many memories, even when he was nervous. Daro said that one thing that makes him nervous is "performing in front of Ockander."





On stage. Senior Clayton Harris and junior Kaydence Morlan share a scene in the play. Harris's favorite part of the play was when,"I was blackmailing Vincent Sheridan (Tre Daro) and Sasha Simms (Kaidence Morlan). It was fun because I got to be creepy with them."



RACKING UP RIBBONS. FFA advisor Catherine Chmelka and junior Lydia Ockander pose with Lydia's grand champion ribbon at the Butler County fair. Ockander said, "I've been showing livestock since I was little with my sister, so it made sense to be in FFA."



THIS LITTLE PIGGY. In animal science class, juniors Cadence Smaus and Keetyn Valentine disect a baby pig.



LEADERS IN THE FIELD. The 2020-2021 FFA officers. Back row: sophomore Barrett Andel, juniors Grace Farmer, Lydia Ockander, & sophomore Keetyn Valentine. Front row: seniors Shelby Hein, Keyan Helgoth and Payton Andel.



CUPCAKE WARS! This is the second year FFA organized cupcake wars for an access competition. Senior Keyan Helgoth and juniors Simon Schindler and Tre Daro team up to dazzle the judges with their sugary creations.



PRESENTATION IS EVERYTHING. Senior Payton Andel, junior Lydia Ockander, and senior Shelby Hein compete in the district floriculture competition through Zoom. Andel said, "this year was different and everyone had to be strong for the team."



I SPY...

Some farm animals are lost! Find these animals hiding on the two FFA pages.

HEALTHY COMPETITION. For the second year, FFA organized the ag Olympics, a series of agricultural related games students participate in during access.



AG TO SWAG FFA



WINNING BIG. Junior Lydia Ockander, seniors Shelby Hein and Payton Andel, and sophmore Keetyn Valentine react with surprise and pure happiness when they recieved the news that they won the state floriculture contest. Ockander said, "I remember screaming and kinda jumping up and down too!"



KEEPING THOSE ACRES GREEN. Seventh grader Jesse Divis and sophomore Dominic Prothman clean up a section of a local highway. FFA members participate in adopt-a-highway, one more way FFA serves the larger David City community.

Jack McKay
& Jerri Cudaback

Just keep showing, just keep showing. FFA is an organization where young students can learn leadership and useful skills for inside and outside of the classroom. "You get out of it what you put in," FFA advisor Catherine Chmelka said describing FFA. "I started FFA in middle school and loved the way it changed me as a person, so when I had the opportunity to take a leadership position in high school, I jumped on it because I wanted to help impact other students through FFA the same way I was," said senior Payton Andel.

Like everything else at school, FFA faced challenges due to COVID-19. Almost all contests, conventions, and meetings were held virtually this year. Opportunities for FFA members were limited. There was no Husker Harvest convention. Students who made cupcakes for Days, no Feed the Farmer, and no attending national cupcakes! In the words of senior Clayton cupcake wars weren't even allowed to eat their many people have had to take Harris, this year was "'Exhausting' because so precautions in order to achieve their goals."

Although the year was full of challenges, FFA members did what they could. In the fall, students were able to attend a land judging contest. Members were able to give back via adopt-a-highway Through thick and thin this year, FFA members made new memories, formed new connections and friendships, and had fun along the way.



KIDD'N AROUND. Junior Lydia Ockander holds a lamb while elementary students enjoy petting and interacting with it and many other farm animals during FFA Barnyard held May 14.

State STAR

Kennen Robinson - Repurpose and Redesign, Gold
Maci Dion - Early Childhood Education, Bronze
*Braxton Small - Professional Presentation, Gold
Parker Robinson - Repurpose and Redesign, Gold
Valori Olson - Repurpose and Redesign, Gold
*Kaydense Hansen & Ava Neujahr - Chapter In Review Display, Gold
Hannah Scribner - Career Investigation, Silver
*Autumn Lindsley & Drew Whitney - Interior Design, Gold
*Chloe Zegers & Kaitlyn Palik - Event Management, Gold

*Denotes national qualifiers
This year's competitors for nationals will go to Nashville, Tennessee to compete.



SAFETY FIRST! Sophomore Braxton Small demonstrates traffic safety by posing at a stop sign at the virtual State STAR event on April 13. This was during a scavenger hunt where competitors took pictures representing FCCLA National Programs. Small said, "Everyone should be in FCCLA. You can develop so many skills and gain experiences."

State STAR Competitors



Top Row L-R: Kennen Robinson, Maci Dion, Braxton Small, Parker Robinson, Valori Olson
Bottom Row L-R: Ava Neujahr, Hannah Scribner, Autumn Lindsley, Drew Whitney, Kaydense Hansen, Chloe Zegers, Kaitlyn Palik

DECORATE! 1: On October 16, at the virtual District 5 Leadership Conference, sophomore Autumn Lindsley decorates a box for donations for Camp Fontenelle. Lindsley said, "I wanted to be in FCCLA because my mom was a FCS teacher. Watching her students in FCCLA inspired me to join as well." Lindsley also said that FCCLA has helped her public speaking skills, planning and organizational skills, and communication skills.

MEETINGS. 2: President Maci Dion recites the creed at the November 4 meeting. "I wanted to help the organization take a step in the right direction," Dion says. This was Dion's fourth year in FCCLA, and she has been the secretary and president in this organization.

LEARNING WITH LEADERSHIP. 3: At the virtual District 5 Leadership Conference, freshman Chloe Zegers listens intently to the speaker. Zegers said that her goal in FCCLA was to "keep the chapter organized and be in every activity the chapter was doing. I also hoped to make it to state and then on to nationals." Zegers' favorite FCCLA activity is going to the scary corn maze in the fall.

SMILE FOR THE CAMERA! 4: Sophomore Kaydense Hansen and freshman Justine Fountain walk together to an activity at the FCCLA Recruitment Night on August 18. "Our main challenges are trying to plan meetings or hosting events without leaving any member out," Hansen said. She has been in FCCLA for three years, and her favorite event is STAR.



MAKING AN IMPACT

FCCLA

FCCLA is the ultimate leadership experience. This year our school's FCCLA chapter had 36 members and averaged about 22 people per meeting. FCCLA mets once a month during access time to discuss upcoming events, chapter budget, and chapter goals. FCCLA worked to make many impacts on the school and community. This year, like every year, this organization's members did a community service project, raised money for a good cause, and competed at competitions. President of the organization junior Maci Dion said, "I have developed speaking skills in FCCLA. Having to talk at meetings and competitions has been a huge step out of my comfort zone."

There have also been many challenges in FCCLA. Chapter officer freshman Chloe Zegers said, "One big challenge we've had would be getting more members and keeping people actively participating. We hope that after COVID-19 is all done we can pick up on that and get more people in our organization." Many of this year's activities had to be canceled or made virtual due to COVID-19. Some of the canceled events included the Christmas Party, Feed the Farmer, and several others. Officer freshman Kaitlyn Palik said, "Some challenges our organization has had were competing in STAR competitions virtually." This year competitors had to record their STAR presentation at the David City High School. Then the recording was sent to the district or state judges. Chapter vice president sophomore Ava Neujahr said, "Getting a recording done without errors was easily the hardest part about STAR this year." Neujahr's favorite memory in FCCLA was playing laser tag at the scary corn maze.

FCCLA is all about leadership and connections with other members. "Try new events, go on the trips, help with the service projects. You never know, you might find something you're really passionate about," said sophomore Autumn Lindsley. FCCLA participated in many leadership activities throughout the year including the scary corn maze, the Christmas Party, and FCCLA week. It also allowed students to take part in competitions such as the District Five Poster Contest, the creed speaking contest, and STAR competition. The chapter hopes to have even more students involved in the organization next year!



FUN AND GAMES. On August 18, a game of tag is played at the FCCLA Recruitment Night at the David City Park, and freshman Kaitlyn Palik runs away from the person who is 'it'. This was Palik's third year in FCCLA, and her favorite event was the Christmas Party. Palik said, "I wanted to be in FCCLA because this organization has so many fun events and I learn important skills from competing in FCCLA competitions."

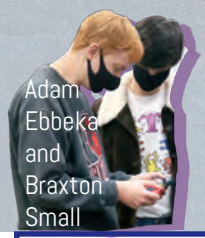
HEAD IN THE GAME

Esports

LET THE GAMES BEGIN! Esports is made up of a group of competitive players who are ready to express themselves and make new beginnings with new people. Not everyone may get along right away but everyone ends up laughing with each other because, come on, everyone needs a little laugh once in a while. Eighth grader Hannah Scribner said, "My friends like to cheer me on as we play, and it's low-key, really embarrassing. I laugh it off and take it seriously though."

The procedures taken for COVID didn't affect the esports very much. Only a few small measures were taken that already happen outside of esports/school. They sanitized everything they use, kept their masks on, got their temperature taken, and did not share food. They had fun working around the procedures as well. Freshman Jason Escamilla said, "A key memory is when I see a friend's face turning all red because he is mad when I steal one of his lives."

In all, everyone has fun. Even the sponsor Adam Ebbeka has made a few memories. In the fall, he said, "If you ask me in a few weeks my answer will probably be the state competition. So far though it's our first two 'Overwatch' matches in the fall. They were really close games and fun to watch." During the fall, the "Overwatch' team won gold at state. In the spring, David City's Super Smash Bros took first and second place at the state championship. Even though things have changed, the Esports team continues to thrive.


Adam Ebbeka and Braxton Small


Davi Neves de Mont Serrat


Jayden Velazquez


James Farmer


Garrett Small


Wesley Johns

CONCENTRATE. Right: Juniors Jasmyne McDonald, Garrett Foster, and freshman Joseph Scribner practice to win. Foster said, "Esports can get just as competitive and tense as any physical sport, but you have a lot of opportunities to make so many awesome memories and friends."





WHO WINS. Above: Freshman Alex Thoendel, sophomores Braxton Small, Angel Carias, and seventh grader Garrett Small all practice to beat their opponent, honing their abilities. Small said, "Esports has let me do what I'm good at on a larger, more competitive scale."



GOLDEN. Left, Darwin Arcos, Griffin Roberts, Jasmyne McDonald, Jordan Palik, Brett Romshek, Garrett Foster, James Farmer, and Adam Ebbeka all pose after a very successful win, making key memories throughout. McDonald said, "Every practice is a new memory formed, but my favorite memory so far would be my 'Overwatch' team competing at state and getting the gold."



Back Row (L-R): Griffyn Roberts, Sebastian Fuller, Braxton Small, Nycholas McDonald, Garrett Foster, David Maxwell, Darwin Arcos, and Alex Thoendel.
Third row (L-R): Clayton Harris, Jordan Palik, Koby Harvey, Jasmyne McDonald, Hannah Scribner, Wesley Johns, Angel Carias, Johnathan Sosa-Palencia, Jayden Velazquez, Davi Neves de Mont Serrat, and sponsor Adam Ebbeka.
Second Row (L-R): Brett Romshek, Garrett Small, Harlan Kadavy, Joseph Scribner, Stanley Allen, Tristan Schmit, and Neil Olson.
Front row (L-R): Jason Escamilla and James Farmer.
Not Pictured: Cohen Denker, Kurtis Harvey, Mikah Mittleider, Mason Schaal, and Simon Schindler.



Back Row (L-R): Neely Behrns, Emily Johnson, Caden Denker, Jack McKay, Tre Daro, Drew Langan, Brayden Johnson, Barrett Andel, Lauren Vandenberg, Olivia Egwuatu.
Forth row (L-R): Lili Eickmeier, Grace Eickmeier, Kamryn Behrns, Hailey Glodowski, Cohen Denker, Brittin Valentine, Avery Couch, Hailie Fuller, Sebastian Fuller.
Third row (L-R): Shelby Hein, Payton Andel, Emily Glodowski, Addison Rands, Kambri Andel, Keetyn Valentine, Autumn Lindsley.
Second row (L-R): Addison Kuhlman, Madeline Moravec, Kailey Blum, Clayton Harris, Maya Couch, and Natalie Blum.
Front row (L-R): Meagan Jahde and Natalia Thoendel.



FUN IN THE SUN. Left: Junior Emily Glodowski and eighth grader Addison Kuhlman get to know each other during an FCA activity. Emily said, "We always start FCA off with an ice breaker, which is a fun activity that students take turns doing each week. It starts FCA off on the right foot and always has us laughing and having a good time."







MAKING MEMORIES. Seventh graders Kambri Andel, Addison Rands, and Kamryn Behrns attend a FCA meeting and start to make memories with each other. Rands said, "My most memorable moment while being at FCA is when we had a devotional at night, and were encouraged to pray in our ending prayer. Everybody participated and said something that they would like to pray about or for."

PRAYER. Above: During prayer, junior Jack McKay and freshmen Brayden Johnson and Drew Langan hold hands for prayer. FCA Sponsor Alice-Jane Behrens said, "FCA helps students to see life differently, from an eternal perspective, through the eyes of God's Word. It acts as a support group where students are comfortable with each other."

FAITH IN OUR HEARTS

FCA

Faith and prayer. These two important things are included in FCA, or Fellowship of Christian Athletes. All students who join are always welcomed and inch closer to God as time goes on. Some may not think that they will be able to be as close to God as others, but when asked what kind of connections are made during FCA, sophomore Caden Denker said, “Connections with God and connections with students and faculty, especially Ms. Messerer and the Behrens. They are safe places to reach out. You find good people that will help you on your journey to connect with God.” They all learn and gain faith as they connect with each other and educate each other about their faith.

COVID has taken a toll on FCA. Some things that have changed are that they can't eat as a group anymore, and they wear masks. Senior Shelby Hein said, "[We] didn't do “See-You-At-The-Pole,” no food/meals at meetings. Weekend of Champions is usually in Grand Island, and this year it was Night of Champions as a virtual event. Summer camps were cancelled, FCA couldn't be held after Thanksgiving due to COVID, and Fields of Faith was cancelled."

None-the-less, FCA members were still able to make memories. During Christmas they were able to go to the little house at the Yellow Park and had a Christmas activity there. They brought their own food and exchanged gifts by rolling a die. Everyone got to connect in their own ways. Sophomore Hailie Fuller said, "[FCA] helped connect me to people and God to help me get through some personal issues I was going through. [FCA] saves lives."

CONNECTING THROUGH THE CHAOS



This year's YAB (Youth Action Board) members from David City were sophomores Ava Schlotfeld and Kaydense Hansen.

This year brought many challenges to all clubs and organizations. Stay-U had many events canceled, including June Jam, Middle School Fun Nights, and other social events that many students enjoyed. However, through it all everyone in this group managed to stay connected with each other to encourage others to stay drug and alcohol free. During Red Ribbon Week, members handed out candy to all the students at both the elementary school and high school. They also went around the parking lot and tied red ribbons on student and staff members' cars.

The group also connected with the community and students that are not members of the organization. The Stay-U members tried something new this year. They created a project called "Food from the Heart" which involved collecting non-perishable food items from any student to give to the families who have been struggling to provide for themselves. Everyone is welcome to join this organization and be a part of all the fun!



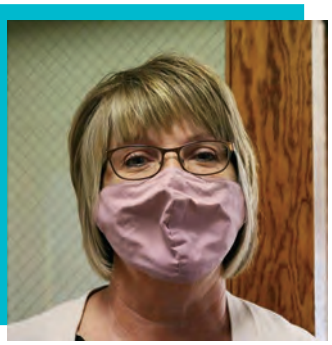
HOLIDAY MAGIC. Excitement fills the air as sophomores Kaydense Hansen, Ava Neujahr, Barret Andel, and Caden Denker open their Secret Santa gifts.



HAPPY AND YOU KNOW IT. Left: Putting smiles on kids' faces, seniors Shelby Hein and Olivia Egwuatu prepare to hand out candy during Red Ribbon Week.



TALKING AWAY. Above: In August, Stay-U members discuss how the year is going to lay out as they prepare for the new year.



"Sometimes students feel they are potentially the only ones that have a strong belief in the negative effects of using drugs and alcohol, but when they gather as a group, they know there is a strong support system."
-Sponsor Amy Sander

Below right: Back row L-R: Harley Eickmeier, Clayton Harris, Darwin Arcos, Caden Denker, Tre Daro, Jack McKay, Barrett Andel, Lauren Vandenberg, Avery Couch, Olivia Egwuatu, Braxton Small, Mya Couch,& Grace Eickmeier. Middle row L-R: Jerrianne Cudaback, Neely Behrns, Emily Johnson, Drew Whitney, Autumn Lindsley, Keetyn Valentine, Justine Fountain, Ava Neujahr, Valori Olsen, & Ava Schlotfeld. Front row L-R: Breanna Slonecker, Jaley Schultz, Emily Glodowski, Lili Eickmeier, Natalie Blum, Shelby Heins, Kaydense Hansen, Fabiola Viscarra, & Payton Andel.

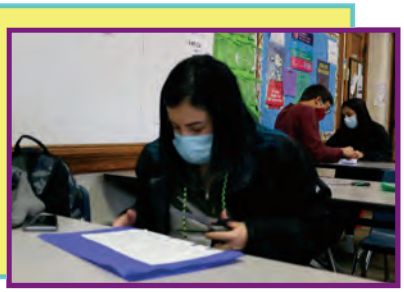




B-I-N-G-O. Left: During Cultural Appreciation Week in April, students and staff had the opportunity to play Culture Bingo.



Back row: Nicholas Carson, Juan Ramirez, Carolina Dancer, & Jazmine Palencia. Middle row: Breanna Slonecker, Jaley Schultz, Jeri Cudaback, Maci Dion, Yanette Adame, & Joey Scribner. Front row: James Escamilla, Clayton Harris, Maya Couch, & Nancy Howlett.



WORKING HARD. Left: During an Ambassadors meeting, senior Nancy Howlett works on a project.

This year the Ambassadors kept busy with the activities they were able to conduct due to COVID-19 limiting activities. Their biggest project was Cultural Appreciation Week held April 19-23. In addition to culture bingo, throughout the week in access students also played a Kahoot, completed a virtual Goosechase, completed a virtual escape room, and wore cultural attire. The project was a hit! The ambassadors are excited to see what they will be able to do next year in a more "normal" year.



STRONGER TOGETHER. Above: Seventh grader Brittin Valentine shows off a flag he brought from home.

CONNECTIONS AROUND THE WORLD

Ambassadors



Avery Couch

"I believe the organization will make a difference to its members by providing a means of celebrating and sharing parts of their lives that may be different from their peers. At the same time it will make a difference to the community by helping everyone feel welcome and learn something about each other in the process."
- Sponsor Teri Messerer

STAYING CONNECTED WITH SCOOP

Journalism

Pencil? Check! Paper? Check! Ready? Yes! Scoop is a wonderful opportunity to learn how to properly write and talk to others confidently. The students enjoy Scoop and think that it's fun and just a little break from everything else. Sophomore Ava Schlotfeld said, "I'm not going to lie, Mrs. Olson is one of my favorite teachers, and being in such a small class for journalism is kind of a break in the day." The students really do encourage others to try Scoop.

The students help each other and become better friends through it all. Having such a small class allows them to open up more and just talk things through when needed. Sophomore Braxton Small said, "Ava always helps me when I have questions. Total queen, I don't think I could survive journalism without her."

COVID hasn't changed anything for the Scoop staff besides the interviews. They do have to wear masks and, of course, sanitize. In some cases they weren't able to report on some things that they wanted to, but they made the best out of the year.



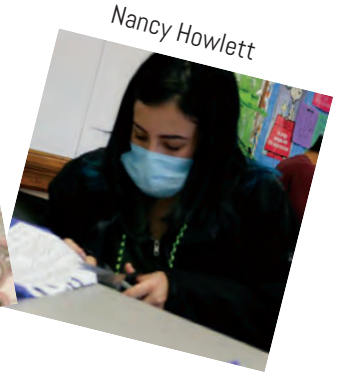
David Maxwell



Ava Schlotfeld



Braxton Small



Nancy Howlett

CLICK. Below: Sophomore Ava Schlotfeld takes pictures on Halloween for a new post. She said, "[Scoop] definitely makes me focus more on what's going on around me. I try to listen into conversations that I'm involved in or around to get story ideas."

Congratulations to Braxton Small for being the state runner-up in newspaper feature writing.





GETTING TO WORK. Senior Nancy Howlett and Sophomore Braxton Small get to work writing and typing out what they're going to say for their next post. Nancy said, "[Scoop] gave me a chance to really be involved with the many groups here at DCHS, it has given me a chance to improve as a writer and be able to learn how to work around deadlines."





CONNECTIONS. Though it's Jami Olson's first year teaching here it's quite easy for her to make connections with the other students and staff. "I have met a lot of new students and I had not known some of the faculty and staff prior to this year. It has been great getting to know new people."



Fall 2020 Scoop Staff

(L-R) David Maxwell and Ava Schlotfeld



Spring 2021 Scoop Staff

(L-R) Ava Schlotfeld, David Maxwell, Braxton Small, and Nancy Howlett

DOCUMENTING THE DAYS

Yearbook

Pose for the camera! Yearbook has great opportunities waiting in the classroom. Yearbook is about learning communication skills, technique, design, and much more. The students in yearbook had a great time, laughing and talking about random things that happen over the week. This year connections were very important knowing how COVID-19 could had a large impact on our school again. But it wasn't all bad. Sophomore Ava Neujahr said, "Miss Oltjenbruns is my girl. She is my favorite. Also Noonan is just funny."

COVID-19 hasn't really affected the Yearbook staff much. The only changes were that they had to call companies rather than going to the company and talking to them (for business ads), they had to do face to face interviews but at a certain distance, and they could only take pictures at home activities instead of both away and home.

Aside from COVID-19, the students are always ready for the day, being energetic as ever and having a positive attitude. Someone in particular this year had a really enthusiastic attitude and made everyones day a little better. Junior Mya Galley simply said, "I'm the energetic one."



FIRST START. Sophomore McKenna Pavel looks at the school's yearbook cameras for the first time. She also took this time to connect with others at DCHS. She said, "[Yearbook] helped me communicate with people that I otherwise would have never talked to."



Semester 1 Yearbook Staff
Back row L-R: Payton Andel, Grace Farmer, & Maci Dion. Front row L-R: Ella Brokaw, McKenna Pavel, & Breanna Slonecker.

SAY CHEESE. Right: For a yearbook class photo assignment, sophomore Ava Neujahr poses for a picture. Having this time really connected her with others in the classroom and learn about the school organizations as well. She said, "I've gotten closer to some people in yearbook and I've learned a lot about organizations in the school that I've had to do pages on."





CAPTURING THE SCENE. Left: Juniors Breanna Slonecker, Grace Farmer, and Mya Galley work on a design and take pictures around the school. Slonecker said, "I feel like I really got more involved with the school in general."

Another took the time to make memories and learn about different things in school. Farmer said, "I've been able to learn more about different groups that we have in our school that I didn't know about before"

Galley looked at yearbook and thought that a new class would be fun to take and that she would learn about something new that she wouldn't really learn in other classes. She said, "I thought it would be a fun experience to take it."



Semester 2 Yearbook Staff: L-R Carlos Vazquez-Zavala, Ava Neujahr, Mya Galley, Ella Brokaw, & Breanna Slonecker.

CONNECTING THROUGH QUESTIONS

Quiz Bowl

Do you like trivia? Do you like having fun? If you answered yes to both of those questions, then quiz bowl is for you! Quiz bowl is an activity where knowing random trivia can lead to success.

Quiz Bowl is all about connecting. The team has to work together to answer questions. "I love that there is a spot for everyone. All members get a chance to participate and in several events regardless of their age or abilities," says sponsor Lisa Bales. Bales has been the sponsor for Quiz Bowl since 2011, and the most challenging thing about Quiz Bowl for her is finding time for practices and meets while working around the schedules of other activities.

Senior Jasmyne McDonald-Gebert, a three year quiz bowl member, said that her favorite part about quiz bowl is "hanging out with [her] besties." McDonald's statement reflects the togetherness of the quiz bowl team here at David City High School.



WINNING AS A TEAM. The team gets ready to win another match at the Central City Quiz Bowl Meet. At this meet, the quiz bowl team pictured, freshman Tristan Schmit, junior Alysha Yellowbird Steele, and sophomores Ava Neujahr and Valori Olson, won three matches. Second year quiz bowl member Ava Neujahr said, "This meet was particularly tough because we kept having to go up against schools that were a lot bigger than ours."

1.



2.

1: **CONCENTRATE.** On February 9th, sophomore Valori Olson types in the answer 'inductive reasoning' at the Knowledge Bowl Master Open online competition. Olson said, "There's not a lot of pressure on the team. It's pretty casual." This is Olson's second year on the high school team, and the funniest memory she has in Quiz Bowl is when the team couldn't find freshman Joey Scribner at the Central City meet. As it turns out, he was just on the floor in the lobby.

2: **THINK FAST!** "In 1956, Imre Nagy unsuccessfully called for Soviet withdrawal of forces from what Eastern European country?" (see answer below.) As time runs out, junior Alysha Yellowbird Steele contemplates the answer. Steele, who has been on the Quiz Bowl team since she was in seventh grade, said that she loves "being part of a great group."



L-R: Valori Olson, Jasmyne McDonald-Gebert, Braxton Small, Joey Scribner, & Ava Neujahr
Not Pictured: Alysha Yellowbird Steele, Tristan Schmit, & Clayton Harris

2. Hungary

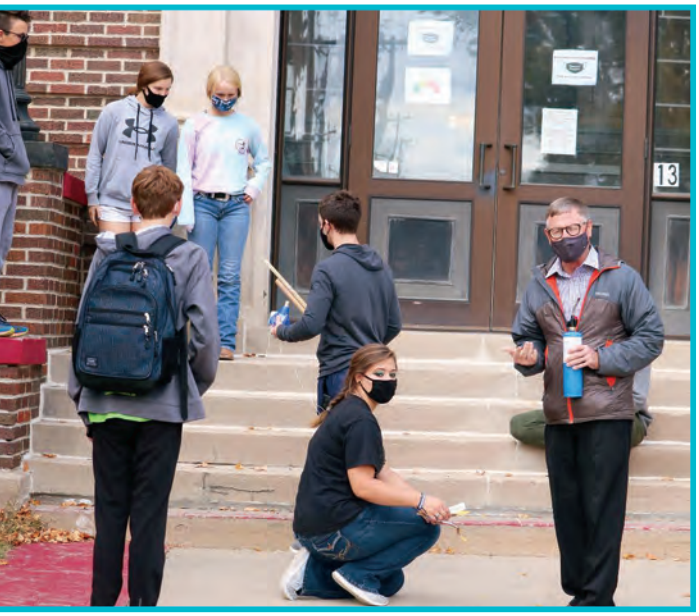
WORKING TOGETHER

Boom! In Zero-K anything can become an experiment, from making dry water to an actual rocket. "I always tell them they must be self-motivated and come up with their own projects," said sponsor of six years, Ed Sieck. Zero-K meets everyday in access at the library. Here many experiments and ideas take shape.

Unfortunately, like many things this year, there have been a lot of challenges for Zero-K and its members. Sieck said, "We thought of taking a trip to the SAC Museum, but a pandemic prevented that and other possible trips." There have been other challenges besides the pandemic. "Some of the biggest challenges I have faced in Zero-K have been safety concerns, lack of resources, funding issues, and lack of the knowledge on a subject that sometimes isn't available to learn," said sophomore Mikah Mittleider.

Zero-K has overcome these challenges by working together and staying connected. Sophomore Hailie Fuller said it best when she called Zero-K a family. Her favorite part of this club is "Being friends with everybody. And just having a laugh at the end of the day before you leave." Her favorite experiment was bottle rockets. Together, Zero-K members can overcome any challenges they face.

Zero-K



MAKING A HYPOTHESIS. Zero-K students get ready to conduct an experiment outside of the south entrance of DCHS. Freshmen Tristan Schmit and Joey Scribner, sophomores Emily Ewert and Kathryn Johnson, and junior Alexus Schmoll-Sabata watch intently as sponsor Ed Sieck and sophomore Mikah Mittleider get ready for the next experiment. Sieck said, "grafting flowers might be the most challenging [project] this year."



The 2020-2021 Zero-K members pose with a cardboard cutout of Billy Nye the Science Guy. Back Row L-R: Carson Scribner & Hailie Fuller. Middle Row L-R: Alexus Schmoll-Sabata, Wesley Johns, Anthony Schrader, Mikah Mittleider, Tristan Schmit, & sponsor Ed Sieck. Front Row: Emily Ewert & Joseph Scribner. Not Pictured: David Maxwell & Kathryn Johnson.



IT'S ROCKET SCIENCE! Above: On October 16, sophomore Mikah Mittleider lights the end of a rocket with a blowtorch. This was Mittleider's favorite experiment, as well as many other members in Zero-K. "When we launched it, it went up around 50 ft, then started spinning out of control and hit the ground," Mittleider said.



Pictured left: Freshmen Tristan Schmit and Anthony Schrader and sophomores Hailie Fuller and Mikah Mittleider

DID YOU KNOW?

Salt melting ice is an endothermic reaction. Students learned this while making ice cream less than ten minutes. It reached temperatures of -7 degrees Fahrenheit!

CONNECTING WITH PUBLIC SPEAKING

Speech

Public speaking... It's not for everyone. However in speech, it is everything. In speech there are many different types of speeches you could do. From duet acting to extemporaneous speaking, the possibilities are nearly endless.

The DCHS speech team has had many successes. The team has been the conference champions for thirteen consecutive years. They also were the runner up at the district meet. At state speech, four events made it to finals and the team placed fourth overall.

With success also comes challenges. The first few meets that the speech team attended were virtual. Students did their speech while in a Zoom meeting over the computer at David City High School. Sophomore Ava Neujahr said, "We had a virtual meet earlier in the year. We had to record our OID, and Angel was wearing a shirt that said 'I toot'. Mr. Ockander was not impressed."

In the end, speech is really about the connections you make with the people around you. When sophomore Autumn Lindsley was asked about what she would say to someone who was considering joining speech, she said "I would tell them to just do it. You get to meet so many amazing people and you have something to be proud of in the end." Lindsley has been in speech for three years and her favorite moment was when sophomore Drew Whitney fell off a box during their OID. Speech is an activity where everyone is a friend to everyone. Senior Clayton Harris said "I love the bonds people make. I've met people from other teams, and it's always fun to make those new relationships." Speech is all about making lasting memories with your team.



PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT. Sophomore Keetyn Valentine performs her poetry presentation on parent's night. "I was so nervous," Valentine said. This is her third year in speech, and her favorite event is poetry.



ACT! On March 8, junior Kaidence Morlan and sophomore Angel Carias perform their Oral Interpretation of Drama to their fullest ability at district speech. Morlan and Carias are in the "That's Not How I Remember It" OID along with Braxton Small and Ava Neujahr. This OID team placed second at conference and fourth at districts. Carias shared that "the biggest challenge was that I was making it into finals, but placing lower in the rounds. Ultimately, this pushed me and finally paid off and got me to state." Carias placed third in Humorous Prose at districts.

District Meet

Duet: *Maya Couch and Clayton Harris-2nd, Braxton Small and Cassidy Wieser -5th
Entertainment: Drew Whitney-4th, *Autumn Lindsley-2nd
Extemp: Valori Olson-4th
Humorous: *Maya Couch-1st, *Angel Carias-3rd
Informative: *Natalie Summers-1st, Justine Fountain-5th
OID: Munchies (Drew Whitney, Autumn Lindsley, Justine Fountain)-6th, Remember (Kaidence Morlan, Ava Neujahr, Angel Carias, Braxton Small)-4th
Serious: *Clayton Harris-1st, Keetyn Valentine-5th
Poetry: *Kaidence Morlan-2nd, *Keetyn Valentine-3rd
Persuasive: *Valori Olsoni-2nd, Ava Neujahr-6th
(*denotes state qualifiers)

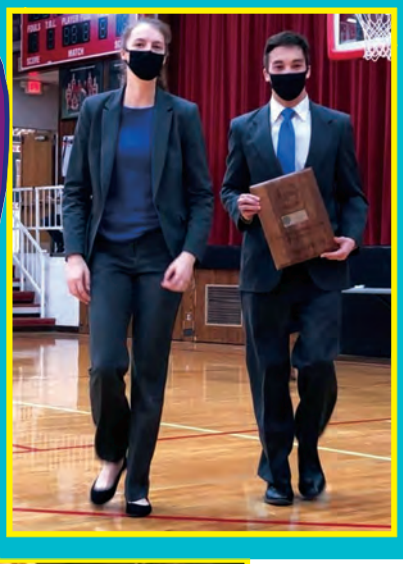


CHAMPIONS. Freshman Justine Fountain and sophomore Drew Whitney preform their OID "The Munchies Games" at the district competition on March 8. The OID team, which also consists of sophomore Autumn Lindsley, placed sixth. Fountain said, "I got the skill of having more eye contact in front of my competition." This is Fountain's second year in speech, and her favorite thing about speech is watching poetry.

"Speech isn't for everyone, but speech has every opportunity for anyone who is willing to work hard."
Clayton Harris



The Road to Success



Victory! After the team is announced the winner at conference, seniors Maya Couch and Clayton Harris strut away with the champion plaque. Harris said, "If you want a laugh, all you have to do is look at Angel Carias. He is always doing something that he probably shouldn't be doing, or he definitely forgot something." This is Harris and Couch's fourth year in high school speech, and Harris' favorite moment was when the entire team broke finals at districts. Harris and Couch's duet placed third in state on March 18. There Harris also placed second in serious prose and Couch placed first in humorous prose. Junior Kaidence Morlan also placed at fourth at state in poetry With these four entries placing at state, the team ended up with a fourth place finish.



And the winner is... Sophomore Natalie Summers is ecstatic as she is handed the district champion medal in informative speaking. "When they called the second place person I was like, wait, my name hasn't been called! How could they forget about me? I was so confused cause I thought I was going to get third, and then I got district champion," Summers recalled.



Pose! Between rounds, sophomores Ava Neujahr and Angel Carias and junior Kaidence Morlan pose for a picture at the conference speech meet at Sandy Creek on February 27. Neujahr said, "We had left all of our OID boxes at last week's meet in Columbus. We didn't realize they were gone until next morning when Mr. Ockander told us he had to go back to Columbus to get them."

Conference Meet

Duet Acting: Maya Couch and Clayon Harris-Champion, Braxton Small and Cassidy Wieser-2nd
Entertainment: Autumn Lindsley-Champion, Drew Whitney-3rd
Extemporaneous: Valori Olson-2nd
Informative: Natalie Summers-5th, Justine Fountain-7th
OID: Ava Neujahr, Angel Carias, Kaidence Morlan, Braxton Small-2nd, Justine Fountain, Autumn Lindsley, Drew Whitney-7th
Humorous: Maya Couch-Champion, Angel Carias-2nd
Poetry: Keetyn Valentine-Champion, Kaidence Morlan-2nd
Serious: Clayton Harris-Champion, Keetyn Valentine-5th
Persuasive: Ava Neujahr-Champion, Valori Olson-2nd



Back Row L-R: Drew Whitney, Justine Fountain, Ava Neujahr, Kaidence Morlan, Angel Carias, Braxton Small, Valori Olson, and Keetyn Valentine
Front Row L-R: Autumn Lindsley, Cassidy Wieser, Maya Couch, Clayton Harris, and Natalie Summers



Ty Cummings and Zoe Kastl

CONNECTING WITH EACH OTHER

Student Life

Cadence Smaus, Reese Soukup, Kaydense Hansen, and Kathryn Johnson





Trevor Belt

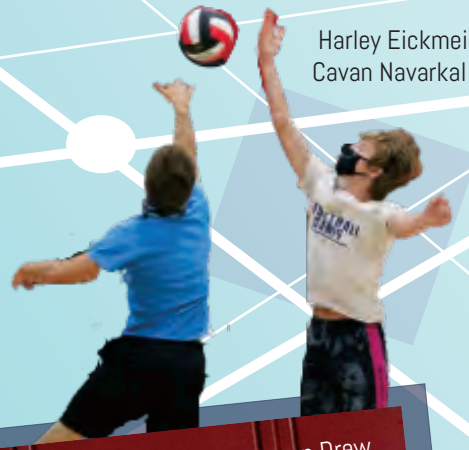




Keyan Helgoth

Jaley Schultz



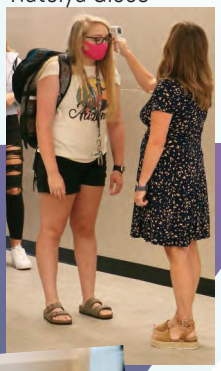


Harley Eickmeier and Cavan Navarkal



Dulce Visoso

Natelya Gibbs





Drew Whitney, Faby Viscarra, Keetyn Valentine, Braxton Small, and Valori Olson



Freshmen Drew Langan, Hunter Hlavac, and Blake Lukert work on a project for Tahner Thiem's class.



The student section, girls volleyball team, and cheerleaders snap a photo following the Pink Out game on October 15.



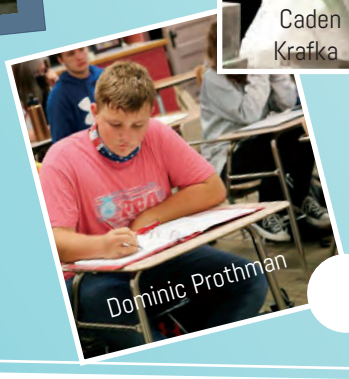
Caden Denker and Chase Krafka



Carly Schmid and Faby Viscarra



Keaton Kloke



Dominic Prothman



Justine Fountain

2020

August

12

FIRST DAY BACK. The first day of the school year started fully in person. Face masks were optional but highly encouraged. Every day, students had their temperatures taken as they in the new commons, the only unlocked door.



Juan Ramirez and social studies teacher Lisa Bales

7

FIRST CASE. DCHS students are notified of the first positive COVID-19 case in the school district. Two unmasked students had to isolate as a result. All students returned after self-isolating.

October

20

LUNCH CHANGE. At the beginning of the second quarter, the lunch schedule at DCHS added a new lunch period. With rising COVID-19 numbers, it was decided students needed to be spaced out more than two lunch periods would allow. Students were also required to sit next to the same people at every lunch period to help track potential COVID-19 exposures while unmasked. This was an unpopular decision, but as students got used to the new system, everyone carried on together.

COMING HOME IN COVID. Homecoming looked a little different this year. As the week kicked off with the annual opening pep rally, COVID restrictions were in place. There was no homecoming bonfire or homecoming dance. Pep rally games were played with small changes to ensure student safety. Despite the changes, DCHS students and staff made the best of it and enjoyed a fun homecoming week!



Juniors Jaley Schultz and Breanna Slonecker

28

September

MANDATORY MASKS. "Four Corners Health Dept has provided schools new guidance... When an unmasked child tests positive, close contacts will be required to quarantine whether or not they were wearing masks," said Dr. Chad Denker, DCHS Superintendent in a news release to parents. On Sept. 23, masks became mandatory in all district buidlings and at all district events.

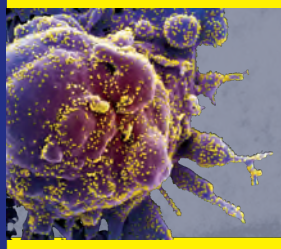
23



Sophomore Emily Ewert, seventh grader Cheyenne Fiala, & junior Jayden Lee



Sophomore Mikah Mittleider



CONNECTING DURING

2021

February

22

LUNCH BUDDIES. Due to a decreasing number of COVID-19 cases in the area, lunch restrictions eased up. Students were now allowed to sit more than six to a table so long as an empty seat was left between them.

24

VIRTUAL VICTORY. The FFA state floriculture contest and other state contests are held virtually. Our floriculture team was the state champion!



Lydia Ockander, Shelby Hein, Payton Andel, & Keetyn Valentine

January

DROPPING DOWN. COVID cases slowly start to drift down. On Dec. 31, the NSAA releases updated guidelines for winter sports and activities. While social distancing and wearing masks are still required unless you are actively participating in the activity, capacity was lightened to only a 50% restriction. These changes started as we resumed school on January 4.

4



Caden Denker and Lauren Vandenberg

March

A QUICK STICK AND A BURN. After months of waiting, district staff members receive the first dose of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine. Many experienced mild symptoms such as fatigue and arm pain after the shot. The second dose which is more commonly associated with side effects was administered approximately four weeks later on a Friday. This allowed a weekend for staff to recover.

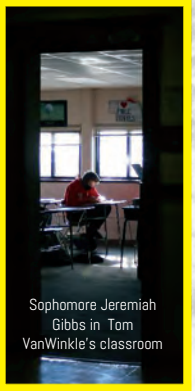


15

Teachers Morgan Dredge and Tracy Behrns

68 COVID-19 images courtesy of the National Institute of Health

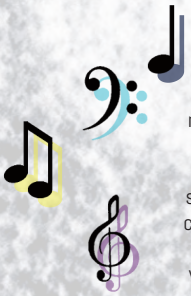
NATURE STRIKES BACK. COVID wasn't the only challenge nature threw us this year. After a day of no school due to an ice storm and no power, students returned to DCHS. In the midmorning, power went out again for around two hours. Thankfully, most classrooms have windows! School continued with the help of generators until the power was restored.



Sophomore Jeremiah Gibbs in Tom VanWinkle's classroom

12

December



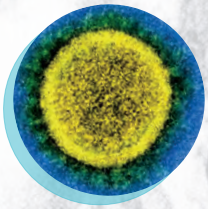
16

FA-LA-LA-LA-LA-NOPE. As COVID numbers fall from a high around Thanksgiving, they are still high enough that musicians were not able to have their annual winter concert. On Dec. 16, students recorded their concert which was later shared via Stiv, a web-based video streaming company. School activities were broadcasted on Striv throughout the school year so those who weren't able to come to sporting events or school activities could still watch online.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN. With COVID restrictions in place, DCHS students still managed to celebrate Halloween in costumes.

20

November



COVID ON THE RISE. DCPS moves to orange in the risk dial. With rising COVID numbers in and out of David City, no outside groups can use school facilities. Red policies begin to be implemented. In the words of the Nov. 13 message from Superintendent Dr. Chad Denker, "The world of COVID is changing by the hour, not the day." At events, the audience is often limited to two people per athlete/participant.

13

HAPPY HOLIDAYS! Students celebrate the last day of first semester decked out in ugly Christmas sweaters. Everyone went home unsure if COVID rates would rise over break, forcing more changes second semester.

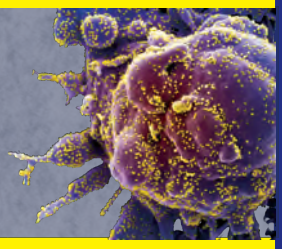


Stanley Allen

21

COVID-19

Pandemic Changes DCHS Student Lives



April

5

SPRING IN YOUR STEP. High school students participate in the Aquinas track invite. Spring sports like track and golf have minimal adjustments due to COVID-19.



Clayton Harris & Hunter Faz

12

RETURN TO NORMALCY. With just over a week left of school, DCHS students return to a two period lunch day on the seniors' last day of school. COVID rates have plummeted to the yellow range as vaccinations have become more widespread.

20

WE MADE IT. Students turn in their textbooks and materials as they celebrate the end of the school year. We made it through the entire year physically in the building due to the efforts of all staff, students, and community members. Students went home for the summer with smiles on their faces.



Esmerelda Ortega

JUST DANCE. After the spring shutdown and prom cancellation last year, students were ecstatic to attend prom. At the dance, students didn't even have to wear a mask!



Caitlen Jean, Savannah Gregory, Angel Carias, Nycholas McDonald, & Ashley Villba Pena

24

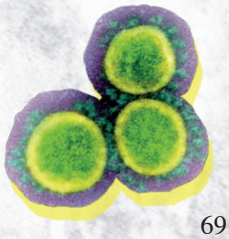
May

CAPS, GOWNS, AND BARE FACES. The Class of 2021's graduation ceremony was held in person in the school gymnasium. Masks were not required. For many families, this was the first time seeing extended family in person without a mask.

15



Jazlyn Vazquez-Zavala



WALKING THE RED CARPET

Homecoming



Students enjoying the homecoming canidates' competition.

Lights! Camera! Action! The 2020 homecoming week was a little different this year because of COVID-19, but that didn't stop us from having our fun. We all still made the best of the dress up days and pep rallies. This year's theme Hollywood Homecoming made for some awesome dress up days. On the Monday of homecoming week when students fill the halls, they find decorations that magically appeared out of thin air over the weekend. Well, not really. The cheerleaders and dancers work hard over the summer to make the decorations for around the school. On top of that they spend hours putting up the decorations and making sure our school has homecoming spirit. Junior cheerleader Breanna Slonecker said, "This year we didn't spend as much time during the summer preparing for homecoming week because COVID pushed it back, but I feel like we did a good job getting everything done." Just like past years, we had two pep rallies, one on the Friday before homecoming week and one on the Friday of homecoming week. The first pep rally on August 28th had a fashion show put on by the cheerleaders and dancers to show the do's and dont's of the dress up days. An announcement of the homecoming candidates was followed by a game the candidates played. The homecoming day pep rally was just as fun. The cheerleaders and dancers both performed a dance, the dress up day winners were announced, and the candidates paraded around the gym followed by another game. Even though this year's homecoming week was a little different, everyone worked together to make it fun.


Junior Hayden Forney


Seniors Natalia Gibbs, Zoe Kastl, and Sam Eaton


Eighth grader Neil Olson


Eighth grader Natalie Robak


Freshmen Hunter Hlavc, Brock Dubbs and Drew Langan





1. **LET'S GO SCOUTS!** On September 4th, junior Brenna Windedahl brings school spirit at the end of the homecoming day pep rally by leading the school in the Come On All You DC Fans cheer. The cheerleaders had many get-togethers following up to the pep rally to practice all the cheers. Windedahl said, "We start practicing the cheers we plan to do at pep rallies a month or two before. We practice them over and over again until we look and sound the best we can."

EXPECTO PATRONUM. 2. L-R: Payton Andel, Keyan Helgoth, Shelby Hein, Harley Eickmeier, and Maya Couch are all dressed in pink to show solidarity with their fellow seniors. Andel said, "Homecoming week is my favorite week of the year because I love seeing all the school spirit and being goofy with my friends."

MOO. 3. Senior Maya Couch gets ready for the judging of the costumes during access in her unique cow costume on Wild Wild West day. Couch placed third that day and ended up winning overall. Couch said her favorite dress up day was "WESTERN DAY! It was so fun being the cow and being different from everyone else! I made cow jokes all day and stared at people when they were drinking their milk. It was so fun!"

HOLLYWOOD HOMECOMING SPIRIT DAY WINNERS

Monday: Surfs Up
1st: Neil Olson
2nd: Avery Couch
3rd: Haden Forney

Tuesday: Harry Potter
1st: Savannah Gregory
2nd: Jordan Kracl
3rd: Natalie Robak

Wednesday: Wild Wild West
1st: Cadence Smaus
2nd: Harley Eickmeier
3rd: Maya Couch

Thursday: Space Jam
1st: Zach Bongers
2nd: Jeancarlo Rodas
3rd: Keyan Helgoth



On the Tuesday of homecoming week the theme was Harry Potter, Battle of The Classes. Each class dressed up in different colors. 7th grade was green, 8th was yellow, 9th was blue, 10th was red, 11th was purple, 12th was pink, and teachers were orange.

ROUNDING UP THE ROYALTY

Candidates Push Through Adversity Together



Natalie & Keyan



Lauren & Dylan

"It was cool [to be selected candidate] because the teachers have respect for me, and think I'm a good representative for our class."

-Keyan Helgoth



Maya & Clayton



Shelby & James



Payton & Harley

Homecoming queen candidate Shelby Hein said it best as she described her senior year homecoming experience. "This year was definitely different, but I think we made the most of it," she said. She, along with the rest of the homecoming royalty, experienced a very different homecoming than candidates of years past. With COVID-19 restrictions limiting just about every traditional event, the group of candidates had to get creative and make the most out of their limited opportunities.

Throughout the week, the candidates showed school spirit and dressed up every day. "Dress up days were fun and I had been planning for them for weeks. I only get to be a candidate once, so it was fun to actually be in the spotlight instead of just watching," said Maya Couch. Despite the COVID restrictions, the candidates were able to keep a positive attitude and make fun memories. Though it was slightly disappointing, the general consensus among the group was that they were thankful that they even had a homecoming, as some schools didn't even get that.

During the access pep rally on the Friday of homecoming, each pair of candidates entered the gym from opposite corners to a walk out song of their choice. They met in the middle and did handshakes, chest bumps, and dances as their names were called. Then, they paraded around the gym with their posters while throwing candy and beach balls into the crowd. They also split up into a boys team and a girls team to play a relay competition called "Izzy Dizzy" as the rest of the students cheered them on.

That night at the football game, candidates walked down the track for coronation with their parents as their name and activities were announced and the fans cheered for them. Candidates Clayton Harris and Maya Couch were named the 2020 DCHS Homecoming King and Queen. King Clayton Harris said that his initial reaction was surprise as he thought, "Oh hey, that's me!" He and Couch both agreed that it felt good to be honored in that way. They also both expressed that it was crazy to think it is already their senior year. "I'm really happy right now, but also sad because tonight put into perspective how fast time flies. This was my last time having a homecoming," Couch said.

"We stuck together and controlled what we could control with an upbeat attitude."
-Maya Couch

"It was a really fun week, and it was awesome to top it off by walking down the track with my closest friends."
-Shelby Hein


1.


2.


3.


4.

ON YOUR MARK, GET SET, GO! 1. The girl candidates prepare for their relay competition as senior Maya Couch gets into her ready position. The girls soaked up every moment in the spotlight and went on to defeat the boys' team. "I just felt really privileged to be part of this group," said candidate Natalie Blum.

SEEING DOUBLE. 2 & 3. Candidates Natalie Blum and James Escamilla spin in circles around a golf club while playing "Izzy Dizzy" at the homecoming pep rally on September 4. The competition proved to be a success as both the candidates and the crowd got hyped up. "It was a great experience and super cool to be in the spotlight of the entire school," said Escamilla.

FINISHING STRONG. 4. During the "Izzy Dizzy" competition, Keyan Helgoth finishes his leg of the relay and is welcomed by his teammates as Harley Eickmeier takes off for his leg. Despite the restrictions this year, the candidates were still able to keep the tradition of playing a game on homecoming day. "I'm glad we were still able to do some fun things even though a lot of it was different than it should've been," Eickmeier said.

ON TOP OF THE WORLD. Below: Following the football game on September 4, Clayton Harris and Maya Couch are named homecoming king and queen. The pair was crowned by the 2019 king, Jacson Valentine, and 2019 queen, Daphne Navarro. "It just feels really good to be recognized in this way," said Harris.



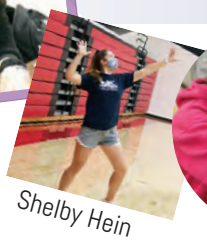
Following the homecoming football game against Logan View on September 4, the members of the 2020 DCHS homecoming court participate in coronation. Back row L-R: Dylan Vodicka, Keyan Helgoth, James Escamilla, Harley Eickmeier, Jacson Valentine, Clayton Harris, Maya Couch, Daphne Navarro, Payton Andel, Shelby Hein, Natalie Blum, & Lauren Vandenberg. Front Row: Tyce, Tayden, & Tierani Thiem.



A DAY IN THE LIFE of the 2020 - 2021 school year

Alexus Schmoll-Sabata





Shelby Hein

Allison Coil



EYES ON THE PRIZE. Freshmen and eighth graders pass the beach ball over to the seventh graders at the homecoming day pep rally on September 4.

Annakah Garcia-Kelley





Cadence Smaus

WINNER WINNER. Junior Jaley Schultz, senior Clayton Harris, and junior Jerrianne Cudaback were the FFA cupcake wars winners.

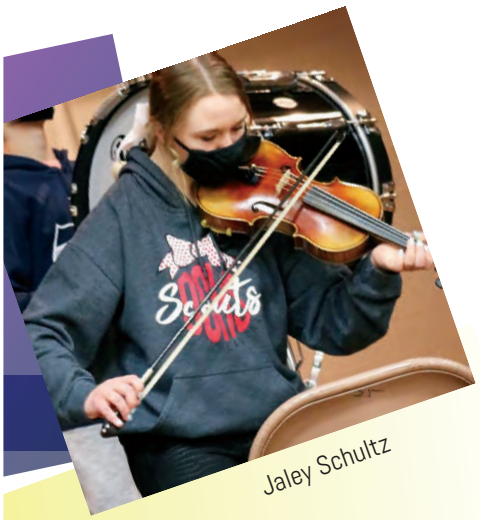




Haden Forney



Grace Farmer



Jaley Schultz

Being a student in 2020 has been different than every other year, but DCHS students took it in stride. The students of DCHS have stuck together, ensuring we were able to attend school in person for the entire year. With COVID-19 this year has brought some changes to everyday life at DCHS. Every student at DCHS would agree that the biggest change this year brought is wearing masks each day at school. Another change was a new wing being added to the building. If you were in the rooms on the east side of the building, you probably experienced some extra noise!

With all of the bad things going on in the world this year, students still found a way to have fun and stay involved with school. We couldn't have the same experience with pep rallies, and for much of the year audience numbers were limited at activities. Students had to find another way to stay involved with the school and each other. Some stayed involved by doing sports, joining different clubs, and making new friends this year. Junior Mya Galley stated "[My best memory this year] is starting to hang out with my friends again and making new friends."

Having a limited way of finding safe fun, students found things to call fun that they wouldn't have before. Students found fun in everyday activities, like going to class to learn. "My favorite class is math because it's fun and all my friends are in that class," said sophomore Carlos Vazquez-Zavala.



Mikah Mittleider



Chase Campbell and Cassandra Maxwell



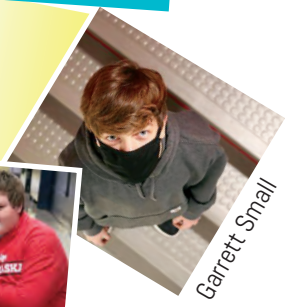
Jack McKay



Mya Galley



Carlos Vazquez-Zavala



Garrett Small



Grant Arps, Parker Johns, and Timothy Davis

FINALLY IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Prom

Finally, after a year of waiting, the seniors got to have prom before graduating. Last year there wasn't a prom due to COVID-19, but this year prom was the best it could be. Although COVID is still around, most didn't take any precautions because, "how could you if you wanted to dance and have a good time? Social distancing was impossible," said junior Alexus Schmoll-Sabata. Everyone went all out this year and made a phenomenal night.

The amount of memories made was extravagant! Shelby Hein shared her favorite, "...the horse drawn carriage ride with my friends. We had a blast riding around the park." The first prom for juniors and the first and final prom for most of the seniors was the best they could have asked for.



Want a different song at prom? What would you play?

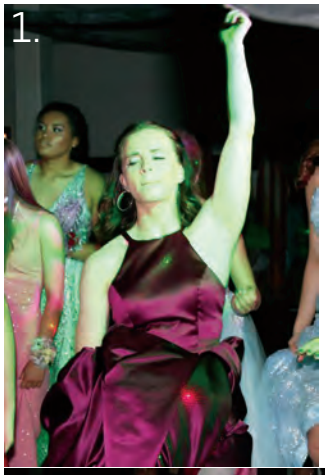
"Yellow by Coldplay" - Mya Galley
"Today's top hits" - Anastasia Kephart
"Levitating by Dua Lipa" - Breanna Slonecker
"Crank That" - Sabastian Gillespie
"Laffy Taffy" - Payton Andel
"Anything but country." - Nancy Howlett, Darwin Arcos
"Fishing in the Dark" - Shelby Hein
"Don't Stop Believin' by Journey" - Jaley Schultz
"Party Rock Anthem" - Kaitlyn Davis
"Uptown Girl!" - Zachary Bongers
"Smells Like Teen Spirit" - Dylan Masek
"Party in the U.S.A." - Emily Johnson
"Girlfriend by Avril Lavigne...that song is so fun to dance to" - Maya Couch
"Somewhere Over the Rainbow" - Clayton Harris

Different theme? What would you choose?

"Like the 50's or 70's" - Mya Galley
"Wonderland" - Anastasia Kephart
"Enchanted Gardens" - Breanna Slonecker
"A medieval masquerade would be exciting" - Sabastian Gillespie
"Paris" - Payton Andel
"Western" - Kordell Abel, Shelby Hein
"TikTok" - Kaidence Morlan
"Country" - Rylee Schmid
"50's theme" - Josh Spatz
"Hollywood" - Darwin Arcos
"Under the Stars" - Madison Craig
"I think a masquerade theme would be cool" - Jaley Schultz
"Like starry night or something" - Kaitlyn Davis
"Las Vegas" - Zachary Bongers, Alexus Schmoll-Sabata
"Maybe like a glow in the dark/neon theme" - Maya Couch
"80s" - Kayla Gay

Describe prom night in one word.

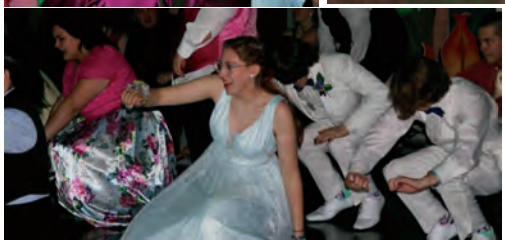
"Weird, a lot just happened that night" - Mya Galley
"Amazing" - Anastasia Kephart
"Exciting" - Breanna Slonecker
"Tiring" - Sebastian Gillespie
"Amusing" - Payton Andel
"Fun" - David Maxwell, Ethan Zegers, Jaley Schultz, Kaitlyn Davis, Kaitlyn Belt
"Ruthless" - Kordell Abel
"Extraordinary" - Payton Andel
"Sheeeeeeeeeshhhhhh" - Garrett Foster
"Thrilling" - Kaidence Morlan
"Mediocre" - Josh Spatz
"Hype" - Darwin Arcos
"Magic" - Madison Craig
"Memorable" - Zachary Bongers
"Magical" - Dylan Masek
"Incredible" - Alexus Schmoll-Sabata
"Phenomenal" - Emily Johnson
"Astounding" - Maya Couch
"Crazy" - Kayla Gay
"Exuberant" - Clayton Harris







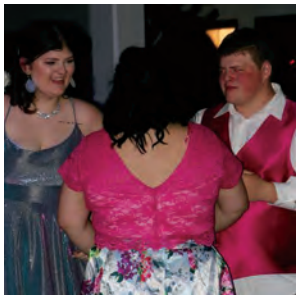
TURNING HEADS. 1. Junior Lili Eickmeier dances like no one is watching. She said, "My prom experience as a whole was a very fun night. I made memories with my friends that I will cherish forever." 2. These girls jump into a conga line getting everyone's attention. Senior Maya Couch said, "Being able to dance with everyone and having a good time is something I'll remember for a while. This was one of the best nights I had in a while, and it was a fun way to end senior year!" 3. Junior Haden Forney dances with his date in the spotlight. He said, "Prom was awesome, definitely a night to remember. I was able to spend time with my friends, eat food, and enjoy being a teenager for a night."



DANCE DANCE! Left: Everyone dances to the "Cha Cha Slide" showing off their snazzy moves. A few people share their favorite memory. Junior Anastasia Kephart said, "Slow dancing was fun." Junior Sebastian Gillespie said, "Walking out with Dylan, me and him got a lot of good pictures. Many people said they thought we were the best dressed too." Senior David Maxwell said, "The Toxic Waste being set to max speed because I couldn't stop laughing when people where getting launched." Senior Kaitlyn Belt shared, "Dancing with my prom date because he was pretty cool."



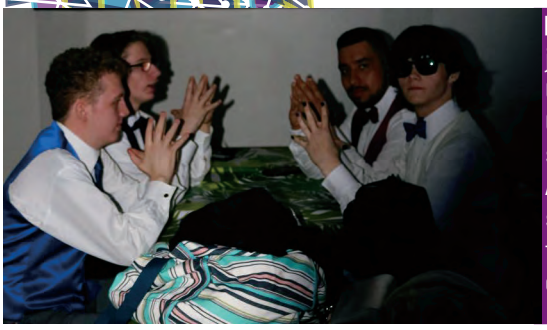
LET THE GAMES BEGIN. Darwin Arcos and Sebastian Fuller compete for the win. Darwin's favorite memory is, "when Brett Romshek looked like a character from a video game."



GET TO TALK AND DANCE. Here juniors Madison Craig, Anastasia Kephart, and Shawn Pruss dance and talk on the dance floor. Craig shared, "[My favorite part of prom was] the dance."



FINALLY. Juniors Breanna Slonecker and Brenna Windedahl finally get a chance to talk to each other at prom after not seeing each other since Brenna went online. Slonecker said, "The best part of prom was being able to dance with my friends."



DIABOLICAL. Sitting at the table, juniors Jordan Palik, Darwin Arcos, senior Griffyn Roberts, and junior Sabastian Gillespie act like they are planning something... you guessed it... diabolical. Arcos shows off his diabolicalness by saying, "[The funniest moment was] when that one spinning machine was hitting everyone in the face."





Above: Jack McKay, Lili Eickmeier, Delaney Adame, & Emily Glodowski

Below: Lili Eickmeier, Olivia Egwuatu, Lydia Ockander, & Emily Glodowski





Above: Brock Dubbs and Caden Denker



Above: Kaitlyn Belt and Colin Mills

MAKING UP FOR LAST YEAR. Below: Sophomore Ava Neujahr and junior Kaidence Morlan link hands and dance the night away. Morlan said, "[To make up for not having a prom last year] I dressed my very best and stayed awake."



Above: Sidnee Busch and Joshua Spatz



A NIGHT OF PARADISE.

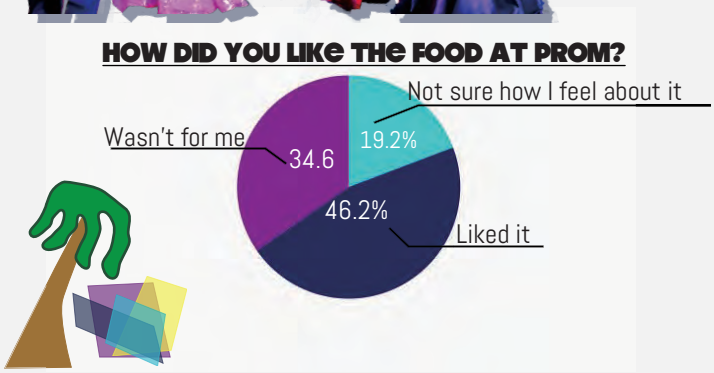
Prom 2021

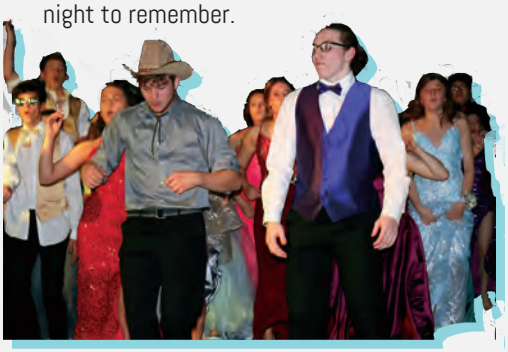




DANCE DANCE DANCE. A variety of music was played at the dance. Students danced to upbeat party beats, slow songs, and country music.

GUYS AND GOWNS. Seniors Harley Eickmeier, Keyan Helgoth, James Escamilla, Payton Andel, Natalie Blum, and Shelby Hein pose for a prom royalty court photo. Dylan Vodicka and Lauren Vandenberg weren't able to attend but were also part of the court. Due to the spring COVID-19 shutdown last year, this was the first prom for many seniors. They made it a night to remember.





A NIGHT TO DANCE. The Cha Cha Slide got everyone out on the dance floor!



ALOHA. Left: Junior class prom attendees: Back Row L-R: Darwin Arcos, Cody Adle, Haden Forney, Tre Daro, Jack Mckay, Hunner Juzenas, Seth Golden, Josh Spatz, & Brett Romshek, Third row: Sabastian Gillespie, Dylan Masek, Shawn Pruss, Logan McDonald, Kennen Robinson, Jayden Lee, Jordan Palik, Ethan Underwood, Zachary Bongers, Nicholas Carlson, Trevor Belt, & Simon Schindler. Second Row L-R: Maci Dion, Mya Galley, Anastasia Kephart, Maddison Craig, Jaley Schultz, Emily Glodowski, Neely Behrns, Emily Johnson, & Lili Eickmeier. First Row L-R: Alexus Schmoll-Sabata, Breanna Slonecker, Kaitlyn Davis, Rylee Schmid, Kaidence Morlan, Brenna Windedahl, Grace Farmer, Lydia Ockander, & Jerrianne Cudaback.

HULA IT OUT! Right: Seniors prom attendees: Back Row L-R: Nycholas McDonald, Ethan Zegers, Abby Nelson, Kaitlyn Belt, Olivia Egwuatu, Payton Andel, Maya Couch, & Jasmyne McDonald. Middle Row L-R: Caitlen Jeane, Madison Jenson, Natelya Gibbs, Nancy Howlett, Shelby Hein, Natalie Blum, Zoe Kastl, & Kayla Gay. Bottom Row L-R: Koby Harvey, Griffyn Roberts, Clayton Harris, David Maxwell, James Escamilla, Keyan Helgoth, Harley Eickmeier, Jordan Kracl, Kordell Abel, Aiden Kluck, Jaymison Fountain, & Cavan Navrkal.





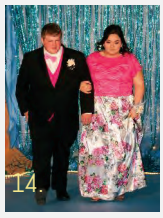




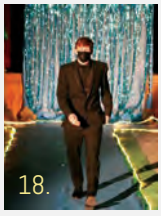






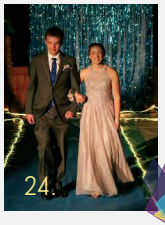







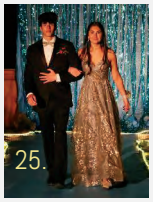




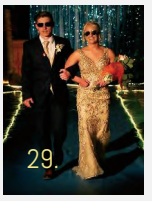
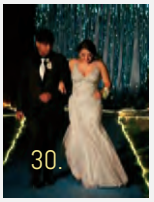


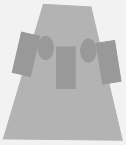
Prom 2021

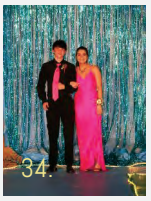
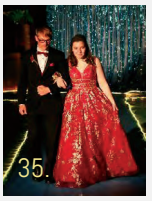
1. Trevor Belt & Jayden Bollig
2. Ethan Underwood & Grace Farmer
3. Coby Adle
4.Darwin Arcos & Kaidence Morlan
5.. Seth Golden & Neely Behrns
6. Caden Danker & Emily Johnson
7.Alysha Yellowbird-Steel & Syrus Svoboda
8. Zachary Bongers & Natalie Summers
9. Jaymison Fountain & Jaley Schultz
10. Nicholas Carlson & Autumn Proski
11. SaLea Gillespie & Madison Craig
12. Kolby Baer & Maci Dion
13. Breckin Ratkovec & Kaitlyn Davis
14. Shawn Pruss & Anastasia Kephart
15. Jayden Lee, Brett Romshek, & Jordan Palik
16. Nycholas McDonald & Ashley Villabla
17. Abby Nelson & Melvin Ramirez
18. Cavan Narvrkal
19. Colin Mills & Kaitlyn Belt
20. Madison Jenson & Paris Butters
21. David Maxwell
22. Jasmyne McDonald & Braxton Small
23. Lydia Ockander & Kyle Rehak
24. Griffin Roberts & Ava Neujahr
25. Jack McKay & Delayne Adamy
26. Kennen Robinson & Logan McDonald
27. Sabastian Gillespie & Dylan Masek
28. Ethan Zegers & Brenna Windedahl
29. Jordan Kracl & Natalie Blum
30. Carlos Vazquez & Mya Galley
31. Lili Eickmeier & Hunter Faz
32. Haden Forney & Breena Walkenhorst
33. Hunner Juzenas & Emily Glodowski
34. Simon Schindler & Paige Hoelscher
35. Josh Spatz & Sidney Busch
36. Harley Eickmeier & Payton Andel
37. Clayton Harris & Maya Couch
38. Breanna Slonecker & Jerrianne Cudaback
39. Caitlen Jeane & Reese Soukup
40. Kordell Abel & Tatum Hilger
41. James Escamilla & Shelby Hein
42. Garret Foster & Adam Coffin
43. Natelya Gibbs & Zoe Kastl
44, Koby Harvey & Savannah Gregory
45. Keyan Helgoth & Chloe Zegers
46. Nancy Howlett & Damian Tovar
47. Tre Daro & Emily Augustin
48. Alexus Schmoll-Sobata & Preston Beringer
49. Kaden Gubbels & Rylee Schmid

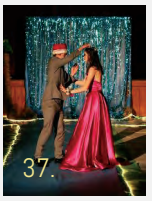












LAST DAY AS A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT. As a graduation speech is given, seniors Olivia Egwuatu, Koby Harvey, David Maxwell, Katie Belt, Harley Eickmeier, Keyan Helgoth, and Nycholas McDonald watch.

ON TO BIGGER AND BETTER THINGS



Senior Clayton Harris gives his graduation speech on May 15. Harris is going to attend Wayne State College and will major in nursing.

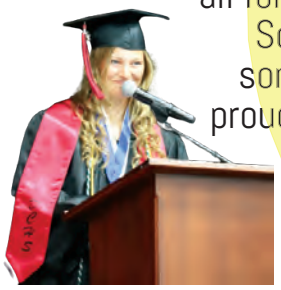


Principal Cortney Couch proudly smiles after giving his daughter Maya her diploma.

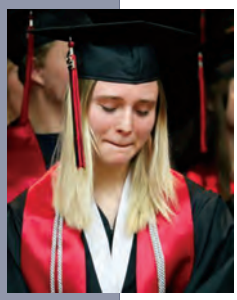


Kayla Gay and Jaymison Fountain walk out of the gym as high school graduates.

"Even as we all separate and branch off in different directions, we will all forever be a David City Scout, and that is something I am very proud to have as part of my identity."
- Payton Andel



"Hey underclassmen, it's me--your favorite senior-- I'm going to miss you guys... Thank you for some of the most enjoyable years. I enjoyed being your role model, but it's now time for several of you to step up and fulfill my positions. I know you guys will rock it! I mean, you learned the ropes from me, obviously [laughter]. But I'm just so happy that I got to share many experiences with you, even if you aren't graduating with me. Whether you know it or not, you all hold a place in each of our hearts. The high school experience would be incomplete without you. Thank you for letting me spend time with you."
- Clayton Harris, in his graduation speech



MOVING ON. Above: Senior Samantha Eaton gets emotional as principal Cortney Couch gives his graduation speech.

FOREVER A SCOUT

Graduation 2021

The class of 2021 may now be out of high school, but they will forever be a Scout. On a warm Saturday afternoon, the high school seniors officially became high school graduates. Graduation made for a fun afternoon where memories were shared like Kordell Abel "dating" 22 girls throughout elementary school. Another fun one was the death of the class guinea pig in third grade and its subsequent burial in Ethan Zegers' nearby yard.

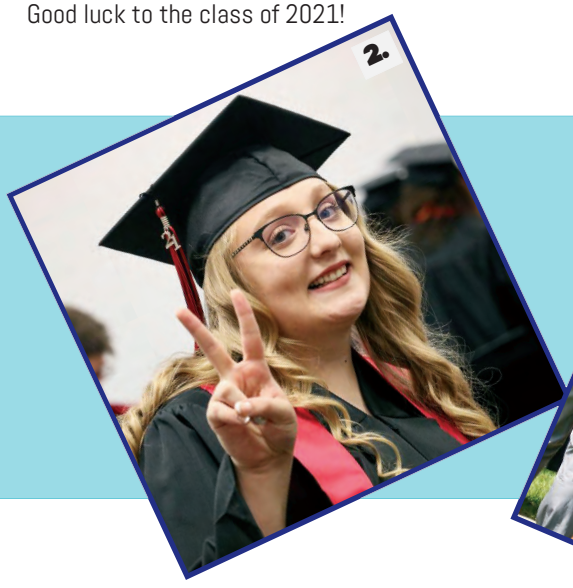
On a more serious note, it was also a day of thankfulness. "This class is full of great people. Our class made everyone feel like they belonged, and they did... We knew how to stay positive and enjoy the highs and lows of high school together," said Dylan Vodicka in his senior address.

More than anything, graduation was a day of love and appreciation for each other. In the words of senior Maya Couch, "Classmates, never forget our memories. I know you'll end up making more, but remember, from east to west there's only one David City... just like there's only one of you. Never stop chasing that happiness you all deserve."

Good luck to the class of 2021!

1. **LUCKY SEVEN.** Kordell Abel, Cavan Navrkal, Jacob Ingwersen, Keyan Helgoth, Ethan Zegers, Dylan Vodicka, and Jordan Kracl smile for the camera.
2. **GOOD VIBES.** Before the graduation ceremony, senior Natelya Gibbs poses with a peace sign.
3. **A HUG GOODBYE.** Olivia Egwuatu embraces a friend after the May 15 graduation ceremony as Jason Escamilla watches.
4. **OFF TO COLLEGE.** As graduation congratulations are coming to a close, senior Jasmyne McDonald puts her hand on sophomore Braxton Small's shoulder. Like many of her classmates, McDonald is planning to attend Wayne State College.









YOUNG CONNECTIONS

Junior High

L-R: Natalia Thoendel, Kambri Andel, Addison Rands, Hailey Glodowski, Kamryn Behrns, Meagan Jahde, and Addison Kuhlman

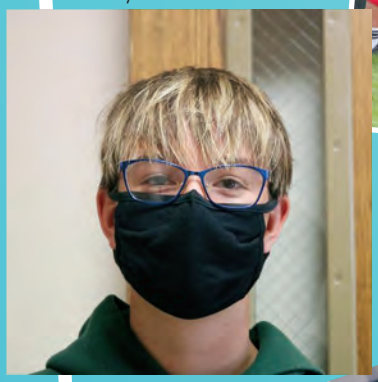






JH Football team

Cheyenne Fiala





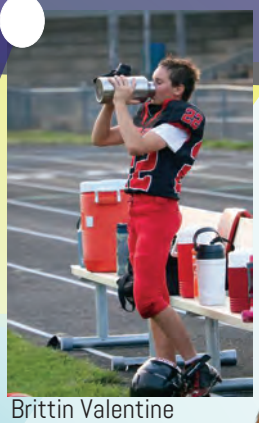
Parker Johns, Keaton Busch, Mason Prothman, Cameron Hlavac, and Lukas Sabata cheer on the junior high volleyball team.



L-R: Sophia Slonecker, Hayliegh Hladky, Coleigh Kluck, Hannah Gangwish, Grant Arps, Kaydance Smith, and Addison Kuhlman.



One of Laurel Valentine's English classes

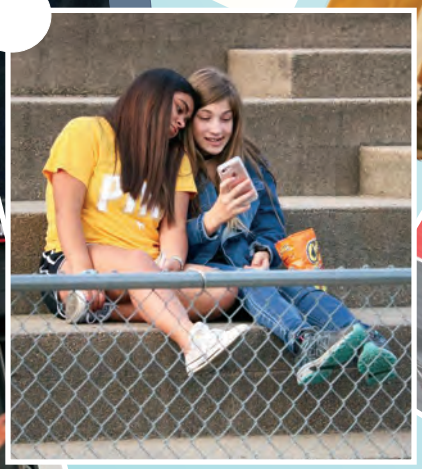


Brittin Valentine





Hannah Pokrinchak



Esmeralda Ortega and Marissa Jack



Sam Smith



Megan Jahde

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



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



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



Cameron Hlavac
Meagan Jahde
Laylani Kasik
Caeden Kelley
Catlyn Kratochvil
Addison Kuhlman
Israel Martinez



8TH GRADE

"I have been able to connect with my friends more and learn about them and myself. I was deprived of social interaction due to quarantine, and it was good being able to talk to them using social media. I made new online friends and got to know them better also."

-Hannah Scribner

Popular Games that 8th Graders Play Together:

Among Us
Madden 21
Fortnite
Minecraft
Subway Surfers
GTA Online

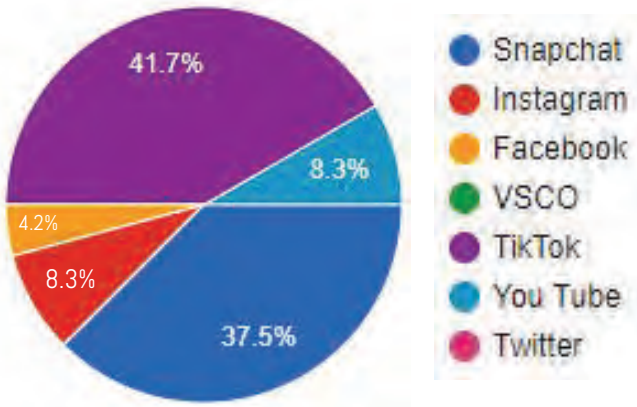


FIGURING IT OUT TOGETHER

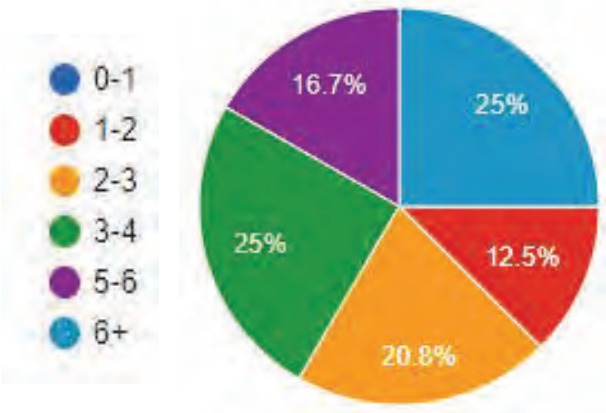
Class of 2025

Eighth grade is the year where students experience being "top dog" of the middle school just before becoming "bottom dog" of the high school. It is the year they learn about themselves and start developing a reputation as they transition from middle to high school. As this group is figuring out who they are, they are also finding ways to figure out who others are and how to make new and stronger connections. In a society that embraces technology, this group has found special ways to connect with one another virtually. This is especially the case as COVID-19 encourages keeping a physical distance. Through the thick and thin of this last year and all of its challenges, this group has learned how to connect to each other and the world in new ways as they navigate finding who they are and who they want to be.

FAVORITE SOCIAL MEDIA TO USE



AVERAGE HOURS OF SCREEN TIME PER DAY





Bessie Morter
Davi Neves de Mont Serrat
Neil Olson
Brooklyn Palensky
Emily Poulas
Justin Pruss
Stephanie Ramirez

Jaiden Ray
Jace Rerucha
Natalie Robak
Parker Robinson
Lukas Sabata
Mason Schaal
Cally Schmid

Hannah Scribner
Emily Silva
Kaydance Smith
Sam Smith
Reese Svoboda
Ashlyn Walker
Rodger Yates

LEARNING THE LAYOUT

Class of 2026

Lorelai Aldrich
Kambri Andel
Max Arps
Kaylee Bartak
Kamryn Behrns
Xavier Boss



Timothy Davis
Cohen Denker
Jesse Divis
Cheyenne Fiala
Jackson Gregory
Kurtis Harvey



Gage Horak
Marissa Jack
Max Jasper
Parker Johns
Aubrey Johnson
Harlan Kadavy



I COULD NOT LIVE WITHOUT...



"...SPORTS."
-Mason Prothman



"...MY DOGS."
-Lorelai Aldrich



"... MY FAMILY, FRIENDS, AND MENTORS."
-Jeancarlo Rodas



"...OXYGEN."
-Hannah Pokrinchak



"...MY HOUSE."
-Brittin Valentine



Alexis Kleckner
Coleigh Kluck
Shakira Lerma
Ashton Mather
Madeline Moravec
Esmeralda Ortega



Brayden Osantowski
Hannah Pokrinchak
Mason Prothman
Addison Rands
Jeancarlo Rodas
Morgan Roehl



Zoe Roehl
Kaydence Schauer
Hayden Schmit
Jenacy Schultz
Sophia Slonecker
Garrett Small

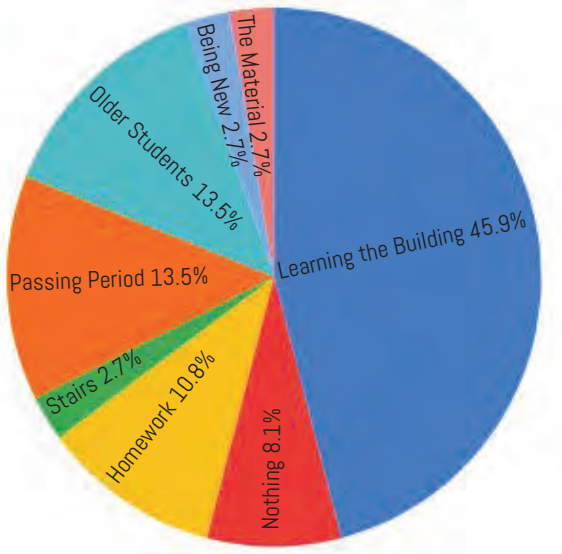


Natalia Thoendel
Brittin Valentine
Daren Vodicka
Camron Walker
Taylor Ware
Caden Weverka



Jason White
Americus Young

WHAT WAS THE HARDEST PART OF COMING TO THE HIGH SCHOOL?



Order on the Court

Junior High Volleyball



"Middle school is the perfect time to try something new. Everyone is learning, and it's a great experience," said junior high volleyball couch Teri Messerer. When you start in middle school, it gives you time to build a team and learn what team members' strengths and weaknesses are on and off the court.

On the bus to a game, all of the players' phones get taken away. This helps connect their mind to the game and each other. This is also the perfect time to build memories and create goals for themselves. Seventh-grader Kambri Andel said, "I wanted to become a leader on the court and help everyone be encouraged."

Creating memories with your team is a huge part of volleyball. One memory that really sticks out to eighth grader Meagan Jahde: "The funniest thing was when we were playing duck duck goose waiting for the refs to figure out Schuyler team rotation." Another notable mention for eighth grader Lexi Forney was "when I lost my AirPods under a wrestling mannequin at Wisner Pilger." These memorable moments and more unique aspects of practice (such as running around the gym as different animals) are something these girls will carry with them into next year. Their connections and memories will stay with them on and off the court.



Pepping up. Junior high A-team members seventh graders Kamryn Behrns and Kambri Andel and eighth graders Meagan Jahde, Hailey Glodowski, Katilyn Ewert, and Addison Kuhlman get pepped up in a match against Twin River. Jahde said, "I think we played best against Twin River because we had a lot of set ups." They only missed three serves during this game.

Go. Fight. Win. A- Prepared to set the ball, eighth grader Kailey Blum has her eyes up as classmates Lexi Forney and Kaydance Smith wait to hit the ball in the Oct. 8 game against Fairbury. Forney's favorite part of the season? "Winning against North Bend. "They're really hard to beat. It felt good. It was close, and we fought for every point."

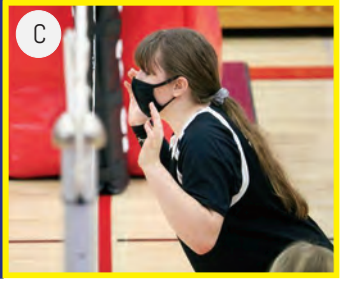
Ready, Set, Go. B - Seventh grader Kamryn Behrns bumps the ball on the Sept. 12 game against Twin River as classmate Kambri Andel watches. Behrns recalled a funny moment from the season when she said, "Our first game in Central City [was the funniest moment] when we were all standing in the hallway and we did our one two three Scouts! A guy did it with us. We all thought it was some regular kid when Mr. Rodine pushed him away. It was his cousin."





Right: Back Row L-R: Hannah Scribner, Lexi Forney, Hailey Glodowski, Kamryn Behrns, Natalie Robak,& Emily Poulas. Middle Row L-R: Megan Jahde, Kaitlyn Ewert, Jaiden Ray, Addison Rands, Trinity Boss, Jenacy Schultz, & Kambri Andel. Front row L-R: Maddie Moravec, Cally Schmid, Natalia Thoendel, Laylani Kasik, Kaydance Smith, Addison Kuhlman, Brooklyn Palensky, & Kailey Blum.





Eye on the Ball. C - Eighth grader Hannah Scribner stands in position at the net on Sept. 12 as a Twin River player serves. Scribner's most memorable moment of the season was B team beating North Bend. "We came together and were jumping and screaming and hugging each other. We couldn't formulate words. We were just screaming and shaking."

CATCH, RUN, TOUCHDOWN!



Jessie Divis

Junior High Football



Back row (L-R): Jace Rerucha, Lukas Sabata, Parker Robinson, Ethan Buresh-Marick, Reese Svoboda, & Timothy Davis. Middle Row (L-R): Brittin Valentine, Caden Weverka, Garrett Small, Jason White, Mason Prothman, Sam Smith, & Gage Horak. Front Row (L-R): Daren Vodicka, Cohen Denker, Jesse Divis, Cameron Hlavac, Keaton Busch, & JeanCarlo Rodas. Not pictured: Parker Johns & Israel Martinez.

The ball falls into your hands. You cradle it under your arm, dodge an opponent, and run down the field as fast as your legs can carry you. Touchdown! Welcome to football.

The 2020 junior high football season was a year of challenges, changes, and player growth. After a few years of co-opting with Shelby, David City resumed playing with just our school's players this year. Like every other school activity, COVID-19 also prompted changes. "We had to wear masks on the bus, to practice, and to away games," eighth grader Reese Svoboda said.

Although the year was full of changes and challenges, students still manged to have fun. One such fun day occurred near the end of the season. "Coach Bates raced the team and ripped his pants," eighth grader Keaton Busch said. "He said if he beat us all, we'd have more conditioning. Ethan [eighth grader Ethan Buresh-Marick] was the only one who beat him."

Another memorable part of practices was the Oklahoma drill, a 3-on-3 drill where you try to get the other group's running back out of a coned-in area before he gets to the other side of the cones. Throughout the season, the technique and abilities of both grade levels improved, and by the end of the season, the seventh and eighth graders tied.

From silly occurrences at practices to listening to rap music loudly on a speaker brought onto the bus to connections formed on and off the field, the 2020 junior high season was one that will be remembered for much more than the challenges brought on by COVID-19.



RISE AS ONE. Above: On Oct. 8, eighth grader Cameron Hlavac (#3) runs the ball up the field as a Schuyler opponent tries to drag him down. Seventh graders Jason White (#55) and Jessie Divis (#80) watch. Hlavac played an active role on the team this season. "Even the smaller have big impacts," Hlavac said.

PROTECT THE BALL. Being brought down by many Centennial opponents, seventh grader Daren Vodicka protects the ball on Sept. 28. Vodicka's most memorable part of football this year was "meeting new people. I didn't know most of the new people from Bellwood."





VICTORY! Eighth grader Lukas Sabata makes a huge gain in the Sept. 28 game against Centennial. The Scouts were victorious 12-0. Sabata said, "My most memorable game would be my last game against Centennial. I put up our team's first touchdown of the season I think, and I played a pretty good game at home."



CATCH! Eighth grader Reese Svoboda jumps up to catch the ball at the Sept. 14 Malcolm game. Svoboda learned a lot this season. "Football really showed to me what it means to be part of a team. It helped me improve my teamwork and team building skills," Svoboda said.

CONNECTING ON THE RUN

Junior High Cross Country

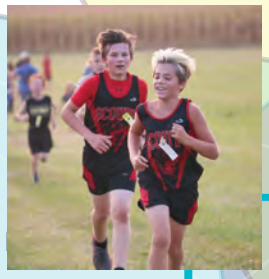
"We're a big family and we get along well," said eighth grader Hannah Gangwish. Cross country is often thought of as running and nothing but running, but its actually much more than that. Cross country brings people together and helps them connect in new ways. Many memories are made while running cross country. Being with friends and having time to relax and laugh on the bus lets them let go of some stress that they may have before running. Eighth grader and second year cross country member Neil Olson said, "On the bus going to a meet last year, somebody threw a granola bar. It landed on a car and Alex [Thoendel] took a picture of it and drew an arrow on the picture, and the arrow looked wonky, so now we say 'Arrows for Alex.'"

Has cross country changed at all because of COVID-19? Minimally. Students had to wear masks for practice and on the bus, but when it was meet time, they could take them off and run. Gangwish said, "I'm not scared of any corona scares because we are pretty socially distanced."

Altogether, cross country fills its runners with life. Coach Matt Seaman said, "They [the athletes] are very motivated; they come everyday ready to run; they're expecting it to be tough; and they come ready to work and have fun with it. It's lighthearted and hysterical at times." The 2020 junior high cross country season will be remembered for being funny, challenging, and one filled with personal growth.



Right: Hannah Gangwish, Neil Olson, Hayden Schmidt, & Stanley Allen



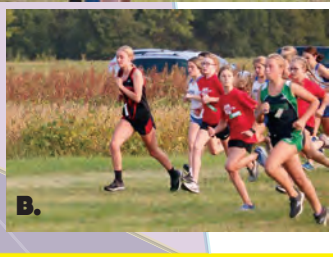
POSITIVE RUNNERS. Right: Seventh grader Hayden Schmit runs with a smile on his face trying to win the Sept. 17 competition with teammate eighth grader Stanley Allen close behind.

GOING STRONG. A. During the Sept. 17th meet, eighth grader Neil Olson goes to finish the race, keeping his pace so the other team doesn't pass. Olson said, "Will power is what you need to keep going."

STARTING FIRST. B. At the Scotus Invite, eighth grader Hannah Gangwish starts with a strong lead.



A.



B.

What was your motivation to do this sport?

"It keeps me in shape for wrestling."

- Hayden Schmit



Is there anything you would change about Cross Country?

"I wish it was a little more respected; people say it's easy and stupid, but it's not."

- Neil Olson



What challenges do runners face in Cross Country?

"Being able to run the whole way without stopping."
- Hannah Gangwish



CONNECTING ON THE COURT

Junior High Girls Basketball

"We were 23-25 and there was almost no time left. Then another one of our girls made a 3 pointer...26-25. The buzzers were just about to beep when one of the other girls shot. She missed. We won." These words from eighth grader Hannah Scribner describe a close game against Tri-County during the Milford Tournament. The 2020 basketball season was an interesting mix of hard work, connecting on and off the court, buzzer-beater games, and celebrating successes. The Lady Scouts ended with a combined A and B team 14-2 record. It was a season to be proud of.

"Moments that I felt the most proud is when we were on the bus coming back from an away game that we won. Everyone was so tired, but we all managed to be super happy," said eigth grader Hailey Glodowski.

Just like every other part of life this year, COVID-19 meant changes. There were no locker rooms at away games, no sharing of food, more sanitizing, wearing of masks on the bus, and a limited audience at games. And of course, people being quarantined meant fewer players, so at times some girls had to play positions even if they weren't comfortable in them. No one enjoyed the difficulties and uncertainties COVID brought. As assistant coach Court Croghan put it, "Ugh don't even get me started. COVID IS THE WORST."

From working on staying in a positive mindset during close games to talking, taking photos, and braiding hair on bus rides to celebrating after a win, these junior high girls will never forget the fun times.



PUT IT UP Seventh grader Kamryn Behrns puts the ball up in a home game against Schuyler. Behrns was a big scorer for the Scouts, scoring 20 points in the game against Central City. Her favorite memory from this season? "Watching the B team and Cally Schmid stealing a ball and then bowing."

Madeline Moravec



Kambri Andel



Trinity Boss

GET READY. A: During the Dec. 10 game against Schuyler, eighth grader Meagan Jahde prepares to pass to a teammate down the court. Jahde scored and had multiple steals against the Warriors. "The moment this season that made me feel proud was our first game. Seeing how [well] we played, I knew we would have a good season," Jahde said.



A



Addison Kuhlman

CAN'T STOP ME. B: Running around her competition, eighth grader Kailey Blum races down the court. According to coach Court Croghan, Blum had the best dance moves of the team this year. Blum's favorite part of basketball this year was "winning all our games but two."



B



EYES UP. Above: Eighth grader Katilyn Ewert puts up a shot surrounded by Schuyler opponents. This year, Ewert faced a challenge unique to 2020. "Getting back in the game right after quarantine. I didn't know any of the plays, so it was difficult."



Back row L-R: Hannah Scribner, Hannah Gangwish, Kamryn Behrns, Hailey Glodowski, Natalie Robak, & Trinity Boss. Middle Row L-R: Katilyn Ewert, Alexis Harris, Addison Rands, Kambri Andel, & Meagan Jahde. Front Row L-R: Cally Schmid, Addison Kuhlman, Natalia Thoendel, & Kailey Blum.



1



2


3



4

RUNNING DOWN THE COURT.

Junior High Boys Basketball

The 2020-2021 season was a very unique season filled with adversity and excitement. COVID-19 affected many sports like football, volleyball and wrestling, but Coach Tom VanWinkle said the junior high boys team handled it well. "We were lucky in that we had minimal interruptions on the team due to COVID-19. No team member had to quarantine for the boys season this year. We are lucky that we have a pretty short season."

Coach VanWinkle's coaching philosophy is that the importance should be placed on teaching the fundamentals to as many kids as possible. "All positive change happens through rigorous activity. You need to work hard if you want to see positive changes," VanWinkle said.

Through the hard work, the players learned important lessons and had fun along the way. Eighth grader Lukas Sabata provided a good insight into the season when he said, "The best advice I could give to someone who is going out for basketball next year is to be coachable and to be prepared for whatever is thrown at you because often we will come up with a whole new way to play the game in a single timeout."

As the team moves forward into next year, some players will continue on in high school and others will remain in junior high. Wherever they go, the connections they've formed and the lessons they've learned this season will help them as they continue on in their basketball careers.



5

1. **ZOOM.** During a close game of basketball, seventh grader Cohen Denker zooms past a defender to set up his team's offense in the game against the Central City Bisons on Feb 1.

2. **DOUBLE TROUBLE.** With two defenders on him, seventh grader Parker Johns looks for an open pass at the game against Clarkson-Leigh on January 28. Johns' proudest moment of the season? "Making my first baskets."

3. **SHOOTERS GONNA SHOOT.** Eighth grader Keaton Busch watches as classmate Reese Svobada drains a 3-pointer at the Clarkson-Leigh game on January 28.

4. **A STRONG DEFENSE WINS GAMES.** Eighth grader Cameron Hlavac dribbles past the defenders to try and score points at the game against East Butler on January 11.

5. **LOOKING TO SCORE.** At the East Butler game, Lucas Sabata weaves his way toward the basket. He felt that everything started to really flow near the end of the season. "After every loss and win and through our ups and downs, our team was there to keep each others' heads up and keep us moving forward," Sabata said.

WORK HARD. THEN WORK HARDER. Junior High Wrestling

The challenges COVID-19 caused didn't manage to put a dent in the hard work of the junior high wrestling team. From long hours at practice to a challenging 10 days with 5 tournaments, the 2020 wrestling season was historic.

COVID-19 brought new changes such as wearing masks, wrestling in the auditorium, and less freedom to move around at meets. The team also faced number restrictions. Eighteen students participated in wrestling, but at many competitions, schools could only bring 14 competitors. And of course, students being gone due to testing positive or quarantining made things difficult. Seventh grader Daren Vodicka said the most challenging part of his season was, "when I was out because of coronavirus and had to get back into wrestling."

In spite of the challenges, the team's hard work paid off, and they managed to strengthen connections on the team and have fun along the way. "Down at the auditorium for practice, we played a different version of capture the flag, and the teams had to get one of three objects into the center circle of the wrestling mat to win. It created some intense, exciting fun," said coach Travis Worm. The team continued the tradition of visiting McDonald's if they did well in competitions, the favorite part of many wrestlers' season. They also experienced successes. At the home tournament, they took home nine gold medals, and the team placed first at the Schuyler Invite. They journey of the 2020 junior high wrestling team proves that if you connect with one another, work together, and work hard in spite of challenges, your work will pay off.



Back Row L-R: Jason White, Garret Small, Lukas Sabata, Parker Johns, Ethan Buresh-Marek, Jace Rerucha, & Timothy Davis.
Middle Row L-R: Caden Weverka, Brittin Valentine, Mason Prothman, Sam Smith, Stanley Allen, & Jesse Divis.
Front Row L-R: Jeancarlo Rodas, Hayden Schmit, Cohen Denker, Daren Vodicka, & Keaton Busch.



CELEBRATE. Above: Watching seventh grader Parker Johns win his match against a Schuyler opponent, seventh grader Hayden Schmit, coach Tahner Thiem, seventh grader Jeancarlo Rodas, and seventh grader Caden Weverka celebrate on November 17. Schmit was proud of the team's success this year. Schmit said, "Despite wrestling in a tiny wrestling room, we still beat the other teams in Butler County."







FIGHTING HARD. Seventh grader Garrett Small wrestles at a home competition on Nov. 14. Small had a successful season with five medals. His favorite moment of the season was "getting to wrestle."



TAKING HIM DOWN. On Nov. 14, eighth grader Keaton Busch works to take down his opponent at a home competition. Busch ended the season 15-4. His favorite memory this year was "getting a 40 piece chicken McNugget. Our coach told us that the last people who got the 40 piece McNugget won a state championship."

WILL RUN FOR TACOS

Junior High Track and Field


Cohen Denker


Addison Rands


Lukas Sabata


Natalie Robak


Reese Svoboda

STRONGER. FASTER. FARTHER. Below: On April 29, eighth graders Jaiden Ray and Kailey Blum run hurdles at the East Butler Quad. The girls team placed first at the meet.





SHE'S A TRACK STAR. Above: Running the anchor leg, seventh grader Kambri Andel runs in the 4x100 relay in the East Butler Quad on April 29. The Scouts placed first in this event.

I'M ALL ABOUT THAT PACE. Below: Seventh grader Jesse Divis and eighth grader Adam Carrasco race in the 100 meter dash. Carrasco placed sixth in shot put and second in discus at this meet.









1. Eighth grader Grant Arps runs a leg of the 4x100 relay at the East Butler Quad on April 29. The team, which also consisted of Cohen Denker, Cameron Hlavac, and Ethan Buresh-Marick, placed second.
2. Giving her all, seventh grader Madeline Morevac throws the discus at the East Butler Quad held in David City.
3. Seventh grader Daren Vodicka lands carefully during the long jump competition on April 29. His teammate eighth grader Reese Svoboda placed first in this event.



Addison Kuhlman



Brittin Valentine

Run far, run fast, and run hard! The 2021 junior high track season ran by faster than its participants could believe. Thanks to track being outside, lower COVID-19 numbers, and loosening restrictions, the track season ran with few differences from a normal track season. The season was a successful one. Both teams consistently placed as a team and brought home many individual medals. At the Stanton Invite, the boys and girls teams brought home a combined 55 medals!

This year, the junior high track athletes worked on developing their skills and using the correct form. They also did a lot of conditioning. This helped the athletes get "into the zone" at competitions. “When the pistol is raised before it is shot... everything just leaves my head, and all I can think about is what is in front of me,” said eighth grader Lukas Sabata.

Outside of the sport itself, students enjoyed track for different reasons. Eighth grader Stephanie Ramirez said, 'I like to communicate with other people to get to know them better." Eighth grader Cally Schmid felt the same way. "My favorite part [of track] is probably hanging out with my teammates and meeting new people. It's fun to talk to them while I am waiting for my events or after I'm done with them."

The junior high track athletes supported one another through thick and thin as they grew as athletes and a team this year. Together, they ran far, fast, and hard.



Xavier Boss



Ethan Buresh-Marick & Alexis Harris



Back Row L-R: Mason Schall, Max Arps, Neil Olson, Grant Arps, Lukas Sabata, Reese Svoboda, Ethan Buresh, Kambry Behrns, Hailey Glodowski, Hannah Gangwish, & Trinity Boss.
Third Row L-R: Jesse Divis, Jason White, Cameron Hlavac, Garrett Small, Mason Prothman, Sam Smith, Meagan Jahde, Addison Kuhlman, & Lexi Harris.
Second Row L-R: Daren Vodicka, Camron Walker, Xavier Boss, Brittin Valentine, Cohen Denker, Cally Schmid, Addison Rands, Kambri Andel, & Maddie Moravec.
Front Row L-R: Emily Poulas, Natalie Robak,Jaiden Ray, Brooklyn Palensky, Kailey Blum, Kaydance Smith, Rebecca Fitch, & Natalia Thoendel.

JUST SPEECHY

Junior High Speech

SMALL BUT MIGHTY. The 2021 junior high speech team may have consisted of just four members, but they accomplished much with small numbers. The team competed in their first virtual meet, placed second at an away meet, and maintained a positive attitude no matter what challenges COVID-19 caused.

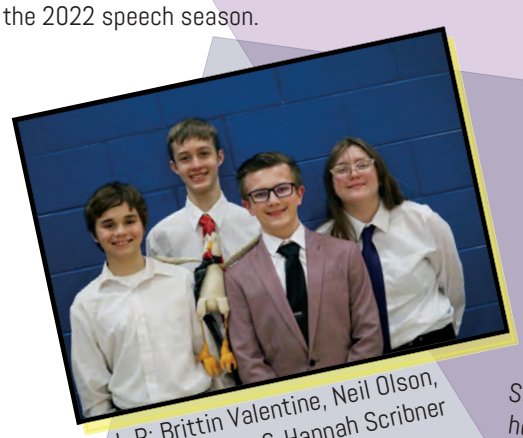
In spite of practicing with masks on for most of the season and half the team's members being new to speech, the year had many funny moments. "When Hannah, reading the part of the nurse, instead of saying, 'There they are!' said 'There... they are!' putting an extremely awkward gap between the two words. The misreading of the line has pretty much become the team's catchphrase and we can hardly go through a practice without mentioning it," said eighth grader Stanley Allen.

The season also had moments to be proud of. "Placing second at a meet with only four team members is something the kids should all be proud of. That isn't an easy task," said coach Sarah Oltjenbruns. All four members medaled in all three of their events at the Grand Island meet.

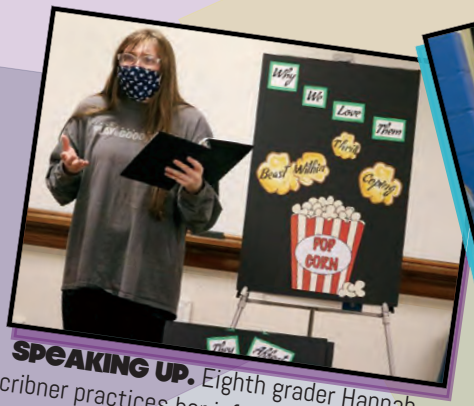
From rocking out to a sing-along waiting for virtual speech meet results to giggles and OID hijinks, the 2021 junior high speech team was small but mighty at meets and practices. The close-knit team will take their strong connection and memories as they move forward in the 2022 speech season.



FREEDOM OF SPEECH. During practice, seventh grader Brittin Valentine works on his humorous prose speech in which he plays two boys forced to join the cheer squad. Valentine also participated in duet acting and OID. He received many medals throughout the season.



L-R: Brittin Valentine, Neil Olson, Stanley Allen, & Hannah Scribner



SPEAKING UP. Eighth grader Hannah Scribner practices her informative speech on horror films on March 16. Scribner's favorite memory was "the practice where Miss Oltjenbruns printed the same picture three times and didn't change it every time." Don't worry. Eventually the picture was printed correctly.



WE SPEAK, YOU LISTEN. On March 25, eighth grader Stanley Allen stands after receiving his second place medal in persuasive speaking. "I chose to join Junior High Speech because each person on the team is my friend, and I wanted to push myself in ways I hadn't before, Allen said.

EXPRESS YOURSELF. Right: Eighth grader Neil Olson practices his speech in preparation for the Grand Island Speech Invite. At the March 27 meet, he placed second in expository. His OID, which also consisted of seventh grader Brittin Valentine and eighth graders Stanley Allen and Hannah Scribner, placed first.



SO YOU THINK YOU CAN QUIZ BOWL...

Q: Napolean invaded this country during WII which resulted in the Battle of the Pyramids.

Q: What is the probability that two dice show the same number?

Q: In Greek mythology, which maiden goddess was bestowed the honor of presiding over all sacrifices?



BUZZ, BUZZ, BUZZ. Sitting at the desk waiting for the next question, seventh graders Americus Young and Garrett Small wait to buzz in to answer the question. Young said, "It is a really fun thing to do. It challenges you."

A: Egypt
A: 1 in 6
A: Hestia

THINK FAST, BUZZ FIRST

Junior High Quiz Bowl

NATURAL BORN QUIZZER. "Impressive" is what Quiz Bowl sponsor Lisa Bales would say about this year's team. In spite of the stress of figuring out middle school and COVID-19 affecting their season, this year's team has been able to manage all that and still "excel in academics and be respectful young adults," said Bales. The team participated in nine contests.

Although quiz bowl is a competitive, fast decision making activity, there are plenty of times when the competitors do something funny. This year it was when seventh grader Garrett Small was being asked a question about Notre Dame, and in the middle of the question being asked he yelled "NOTRE DAME." The answer was France.

Quiz bowl is also a great activity to have fun in. When seventh grader Neil Olson was asked about his favorite thing about quiz bowl, he said that "it gives me more time with my friends."

Middle school is a great time to learn and find things you're good at. Let's hope this team of young, bright, quiz bowl minds stick together and keep on quizzing.



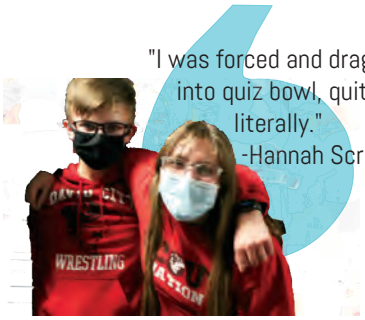
I CAME. I BUZZED. I CONQUERED. Members of the junior high quiz bowl team pose for a photo before the round begins. "The funniest [thing that happened this year] was probably when my friend Stanley literally dragged me to a quiz bowl practice to join," said eighth grader Neil Olson.



WHAT'S THE BUZZ? As the next question is read, the team ponders how to answer. Coach Lisa Bales gave her team simple advice to trust their gut this year. "If you think you know it, you probably do! When you hesitate, you get beat to the buzzer.



THE BRAINY BUNCH. The 2020-2021 junior high quiz bowl team: L-R Garrett Small, Stanley Allen, Chloe Foss, Hannah Scribner, Neil Olson, & Americus Young.



"I was forced and dragged into quiz bowl, quite literally."
-Hannah Scribner

CONNECTING THROUGH MUSIC

Junior High Band Choir



Seventh grader Garrett Small

DIVIDED BY SECTION, UNITED BY HARMONY.

This year has been a challenging year for the middle school band and choir due to COVID-19. Although wearing masks isn't the most convenient for band and choir, the students continued making music. Students also had to space out in the room and for concerts. With high COVID-19 numbers near winter break, students were not able to have an in-person winter concert. The groups recorded their concert in the school gym, and it was broadcast on Striv, an online streaming service.

In between the changes and hard work, the groups still managed to have fun. Seventh grader Jenacy Schultz's funniest memory in band was "when Mr. Brumm was going to show the clarinets 'how it's done' and failed miserably because he was off tempo and sounded squeaky."

One of the most challenging aspects of all the changes this year was not being able to see each other's faces. This meant that band and choir members had to pay extremely close attention to the sounds of the musicians around them to connect and form melodies and harmonies. With the connections these young musicians formed this year, there is no doubt they will come back stronger next year when the world is hopefully a little closer to normal.



Eighth graders Stanley Allen, Hannah Scribner, & seventh grader Jenacy Schultz

KEEP CALM



STIRRING UP TREBLE. On May 4, seventh grader Brittin Valentine, eighth graders Natalie Robak and Stanley Allen, and seventh grader Jesse Divis play in the high school gym.

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECTION



Above: Hannah Gangrich, Sam Smith and other eighth grade choir members prepare for the upcoming concert.



Eighth graders Adam Carraso, Neil Olson, Stephanie Ramirez, & Alexis Harris



Below: Seventh graders Sophia Slonecker, Lorelai Aldrich, Garrett Small, & Jeancarlo Rodas



Seventh grader Ashton Mather



Eighth grader Catlyn Kratochvil



Alexis Kleckner and Natalie Robak



Joseph Brumm directing his musicians at the Spring Concert

AND JAM ON !



WHO ARE THOSE MASKED SINGERS? Members of the junior high chorus stand at arms length from each other while performing at the spring concert on May 4.

JUNIOR HIGH STUDENT LIFE

What's life like as a junior high student?

Throughout the 2020-2021 school year, there was chaos. Just ask David City middle schoolers. Because of COVID-19 many things were canceled. House competitions and school dances are just a few examples. Many activities that were normally done in person were changed to online. Despite these changes, the students persevered. Some favorite parts of the year have been sports, homecoming dress up week, and the beam signing. Students still went to all their classes (online if they had to quarantine) and managed to have fun and learn new things at the same time. Students even made the best out of mask wearing by wearing creative and stylish masks to express themselves. No matter what life threw at them, this year's junior high students chose to make the most out of each day, every day.



MASK UP. Left: Eighth grader Hannah Pokrinchak spices things up with a creative tie-dye mask.



KEEP CALM MASK ON. Right: Seventh grader Taylor Ware shows her creativity with a purple patterned mask.



HALLOWEEN MADNESS. Left: Seventh grader Caden Weverka wears his signature baby Donald Trump Halloween costume.



IN THIS TOGETHER. Above:Seventh graders Ashton Mather and Madeline Moravec work together on a project in science class.



WE'VE GOT SPIRIT. Junior High students get excited as homecoming candidates throw candy at the crowd during the homecoming day pep rally on September 4.



CHEESE! Above: Eighth graders Kaydence Smith, Laylani Kasik, Alexis Forney and seventh grader Madeline Moravec pose at the homecoming football game.

Teacher SPOTLIGHT



"As teachers, we really appreciate students stepping up and communicating and connecting with us from home."

- Sarah Oltjenbruns



BLACKOUT! Above: Junior High band students pose for a photo during the 2020 ice storm power outage.

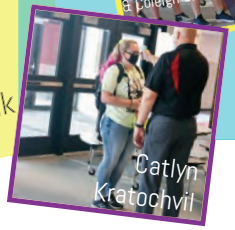


JAWS! Eighth grader Roger Yates shows off his fabulous shark hat on Halloween 2020!

What does a normal day as a junior high student look like?

"Forgetting your classes, wondering if it's a red week or black week, but doing fun activities."
-Seventh grader Hannah Pokrinchak





"Morning classes, lunch, afternoon classes, then go home!"
-Seventh grader Kaylee Bartak

Student Spotlight!

See junior high students throughout their day and hear what they have to say.



Strong

Eighth graders Hannah Gangwish, Kailey Blum, and Addison Kuhlman take a break to show off their muscles in the weight room. "Being with friends and being able to spend time with everyone even throughout the pandemic has been the best part of my year," said eighth grader Hannah Gangwish.

On the Bright Side



"The highlight of my year would have had to have been at the football games getting to watch our high school and middle school football team play and doing concessions and just goofing off with my friends," said seventh grader Hannah Pokrinchak. Here she shows her holiday spirit on Halloween 2020.

Strike A Pose!



Eighth grader Bessie Morter stops to strike a pose in the weight room.

STAYING CONNECTED THROUGH A YEAR OF CHANGE

"The most important things in life are the connections you make with others."

– Tom Ford

The 2020-2021 school year will be one that we will never forget. Many big changes have happened this year such as getting temperatures taken each day before school and wearing masks. Only a limited amount of spectators were allowed at games and activities. Competitions and meetings were held virtually. Assemblies were few and far between because of restrictions, all the while a new addition was being built. But no matter the challenges we faced, our connections with each other pulled us through.

Whether we were connecting in person during classes, athletics, or activities; whether it was through Zoom in an online class or through a FaceTime with a friend, this year has taught us that the connections we have is one of the most important aspects of our lives.

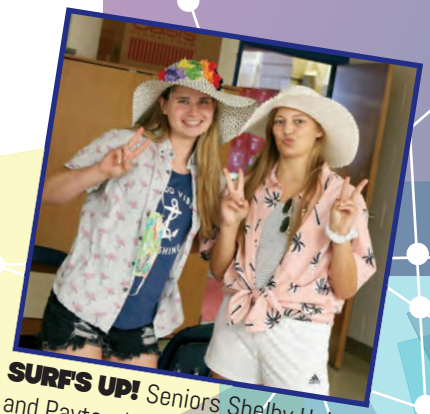
This year Scout Nation persevered through the good and the bad, and we couldn't have done it without staying connected. In spite of the challenges the year posed, it really was a great year to be a Scout.







ROLL SCOUTS! Homecoming candidates seniors Natalie Blum and Keyan Helgoth rile up the crowd in the homecoming pep rally on September 4. A few minutes later Helgoth and Blum threw candy at the students in the bleachers.



SURF'S UP! Seniors Shelby Hein and Payton Andel dress up for homecoming beach day. Andel and Hein were both homecoming candidates this year. Andel said, "We had a lot of fun that week dressing up!"



PINK OUT! Striking a pose, senior Keyan Helgoth attempts to carry senior Jordan Kracl. This was during homecoming week on the Harry Potter Color Wars themed day. The senior class dressed in the color pink.



FACE OFF! A: In a close game of volleyball, seniors Cavan Navrkal and Harley Eickmeier try to tip the ball over the net. Senior Dylan Vodicka gets ready to hit the ball back.

SAFETY FIRST. B: Building his project for shop class, freshman Drew Langan puts on his safety glasses and gets to work on September 29. Langan is in second period shop class.

OBSERVE! C: On December 2, senior Amber Robak and sophomores Colin Mills, Fabiola Viscarra, Carly Schmid, and Emily Ewert observe as the last beam is being placed on the new addition of the school. All students and staff took turns signing the last beam before it was placed.

BEST FRIENDS! 1: On August 26, during a break between tests on MAPS testing day, eighth grader Alexis Harris hugs eighth grader Kaydence Smith while they pose for a picture.

SCOUT PRIDE! 2: After the Scout football team gets a first down, sophomore Angel Carias cheers. Carias is a member of the high school band and plays the trumpet.

PRACTICE, THEN PERFORM! 3: In this year's One Act play titled, "An Amazing Grace," junior Lydia Ockander and senior Maya Couch comfort sophomore Braxton Small. This performance was at the DCHS dress rehearsal.

FUN AT THE PARK! 4: Sophomore Reese Soukup throws a Frisbee at the FCCLA Recruitment Night in August. Soukup won this game of Frisbee golf.

READY FOR THE RUNWAY! 5: Looking stylish, junior Zach Bongers shows off his outfit complete with his signature red sunglasses.



A HIGH KICK TO CELEBRATE! During the homecoming pep rally on September 4, junior Jaley Schultz does a high kick to pep up the students. After this, the homecoming candidates were announced and the games began. Schultz said, "We were performing a cheer at one of the pep rallies and the cheer had a kick in it. It was very exciting."

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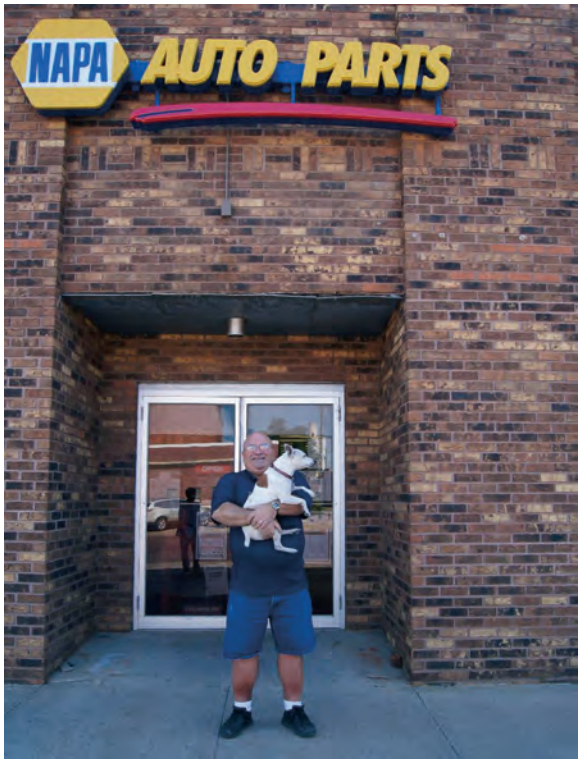
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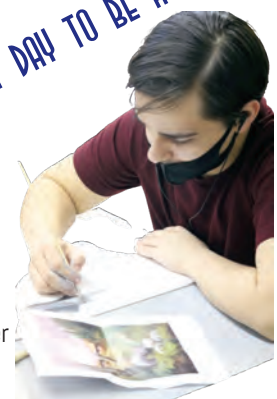
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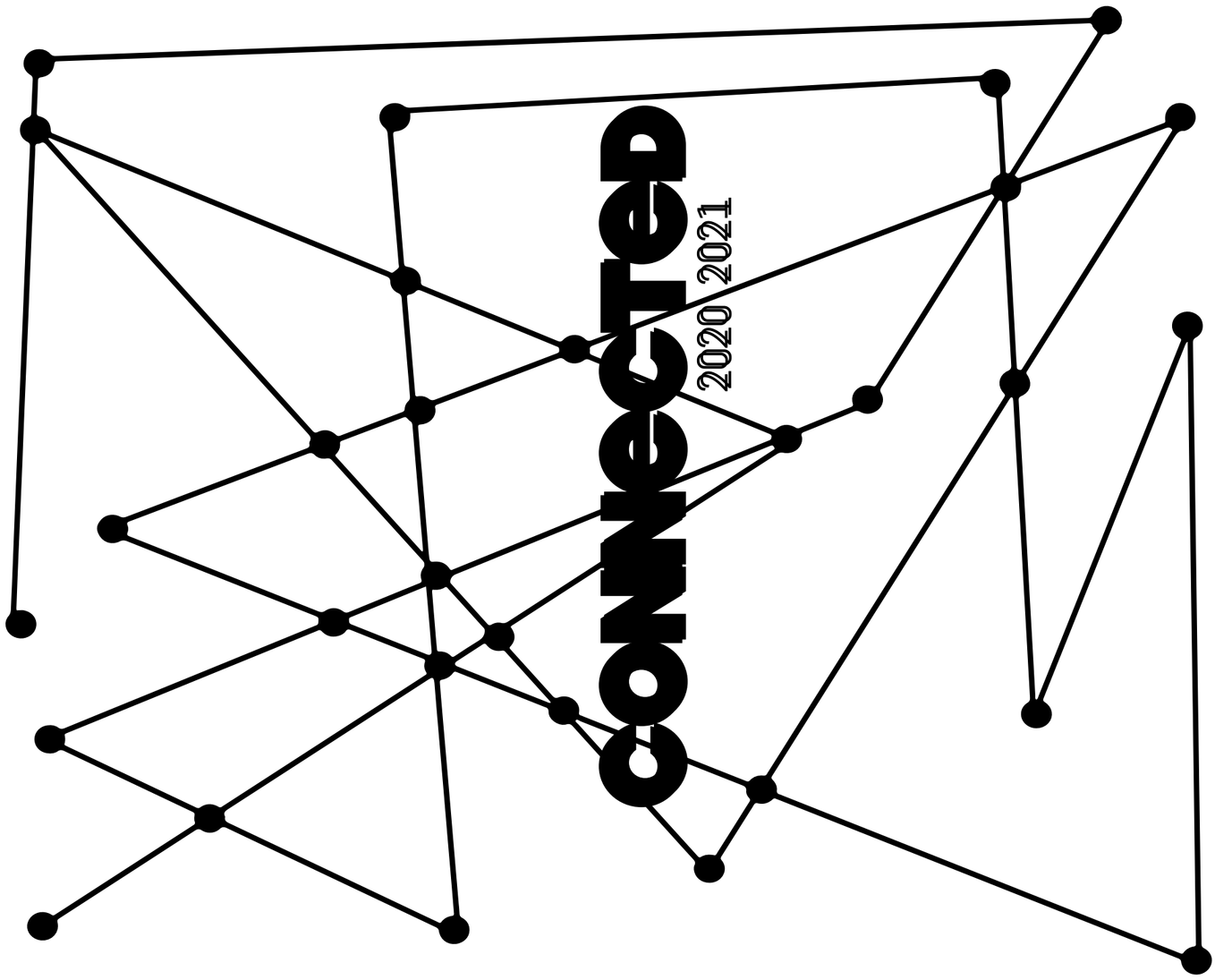
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