



Brand new look coming to HHS

BY ETHAN NEMMERS

Students and faculty alike have noticed some construction going on in the west side of the main building at HHS. Many students have a vague idea of what is going to be added to the school, but are not completely sure. People have many questions circling their minds: When will it get done? What is the construction bringing? Most of all, will we get more parking?

Principal Rodney Mittelstedt says that the construction should take a year, which would make it ready just in time for the 2nd semester of classes for the 2026 year. Director of Building and Grounds John Halbkat agreed with the timeline that Mittelstedt responded with.

“It should be an 11-month project from the time the ground was broken.”

-John Halbkat

The addition will add a much bigger orchestra room, instrument storage, and more practice rooms. Whereas the current orchestra room is a media room being used as a practice hall. For students who are not in a music class, the addition will also include four rooms, two of which are going to be classrooms for CTE courses, as well as a complete remodel of the kitchen



PHOTO BY ETHAN NEMMERS



PHOTO BY JLG ARCHITECTS

The bottom photo shows what the rendered model of the finished high school addition should look like. The top photo showcases that the progress may look nowhere near finished, but so far, the ground has been dug up and the trees have been removed. More progress will start to show as the winter months end.

and storage rooms attached to Mrs. Rodacker’s classroom. Halbkat said the same thing but also mentioned how the old orchestra room will be converted into a classroom.

As for the parking situation, Mittelstedt said, “We are continually assessing our parking needs, and we will continue to do so after the construction is completed.”

Halbkat mentioned that 13 parking spots will have been lost from the addition and that future parking spaces may be added where the old tennis courts used to be, or the East lot but expanding it to the north, but no official plans have been made yet.

With these new additions coming soon, one thing left to wonder is, what is coming next to Huron High School?

Is A.I. good for students?

BY MYLIE BYRD AND EMMA AHLERS

PRO - MYLIE

A.I. (Artificial Intelligence) has been a very controversial topic in recent years with the rise of technology, but I believe that it is a very useful tool to all of us in at least one way.

For some students, asking their teachers questions can be nerve-racking. A.I. can help them by answering these questions within seconds in a way that is easy for them to understand.

Additionally, students aren't the only ones benefitting from A.I.; teachers are starting to use it more and more as well. They can use it to help with lesson plans, online learning, and communication with students who may have learning disabilities or language barriers. Even a teacher at our own HHS uses A.I. for some of these reasons. This teacher, Laura Iverson, says, "I think it saves students time and makes their lives easier." She believes that if it is used correctly it can be a great tool to everyone, including students. Iverson is also an oral interp coach and uses A.I. to help kids generate ideas for their pieces.

Technology is also just becoming more advanced everyday, so it is important that students learn how to use it and apply it into their lives. More and more jobs are intergrating A.I. into the workplace, so if students can learn how to properly use it they will be more prepared for the real world once out of school. The important thing is that kids know how to use it in a beneficial way and know that it's not always going to be right. Overall, A.I. is more beneficial to us and can help us in numerous ways throughout our lives.

CON - EMMA

Recently, I have noticed that many students have resorted to using A.I. to complete their work. Yes, it gets work done faster, but I believe that A.I. hurts students more than it helps them.

One concern I have is that A.I. is making students lazy. Instead of putting in the effort for an assignment, they type a prompt into programs like ChatGPT to get it done. Students do not learn anything doing this. They should use their own knowledge to truly retain the information. Not using A.I. also displays that an effort was made. Teachers are not asking for perfection- they want a decent attempt.

Additionally, A.I. gets its information from the web. Not everything on the Internet is true. What happens when students submit their work without double-checking the A.I.'s response? They could do the assignment wrong and get a bad grade. A.I. would not be worth it at that point.

Students are getting too dependent on A.I. What will happen when they enter the workforce? They are not going to be as knowledgeable in their careers because they never truly learned anything. All they focused on was getting work done just for the sake of getting it done. They should have also been learning how to do their future job efficiently. Would you trust a doctor that used A.I. to get their doctorate? Personally, I would not.

When it comes to completing assignments, students need to be more self-sufficient. They must learn how to do things on their own, not with an A.I. "holding" their hand.

Seniors demand more freedom

BY KIRSTEN DEGEEST

Senior year is one that every student looks forward to. It is the year everyone works hard the first three years of high school for, because if you do it right, senior year should be a breeze.

At HHS, I feel like we should be awarded with more freedoms as seniors. Having to fill up our schedules with electives seems pointless to me. If a student does not want to or need to take a random class, I do not think they should have to.

There are many other things seniors could spend their time on rather than filling their schedules; for example, they could have a job to save money for college, fill out scholarships, prepare and plan for college, and simply enjoy their senior year.

By their senior year, most students know what they plan to do after high school. If a class is not going to assist them in their future career, seniors should get an open. They know what is going to benefit them at this point in their life,

so they might as well do what they see is most beneficial for them. Also, if a class is unimportant to them, they are likely to not pay attention or show up anyways.

Overall, I think by simply letting seniors just do the classes that are required to graduate would be most beneficial. I know some students would still take elective classes, but the ones who have no interest in them should not be forced to fill up their schedules.

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Best season has arrived

BY MADELINE KLEINSASSER



PHOTO BY MADELINE KLEINSASSER

The picture above is from December. Frost covered everthing in sight.

Winter is a season that gets mixed reactions. Some people can't stand the cold and shorter days, while others absolutely love everything this time of year brings. Even though it's cold outside, winter has some pretty awesome experiences and perks that make it one of the best seasons.

The first reason is how beautiful winter can be. When snow covers everything in sight, trees, bushes, or dried grass, it

creates such beautiful views everywhere you look. When morning fog makes everything look crystallized, it also makes for great photos. There are so many chances to capture those moments we do not see during other times of the year.

I have always loved going out when it snows. One thing I really enjoyed when I was younger was having snowball fights with friends and family. We would also spend hours building our very own forts, and we'd make snowmen. I know everyone loved climbing the huge snow piles when we were in elementary school during recess.

Let's not forget one major perk of winter: no school. Those unexpected snow days were the best because getting an extra day off school was something everyone enjoyed. Instead of sitting at desks being bored or trying not to fall asleep in class. Getting to stay home, sleep in and stay up

as late as you want is the best.

Plus, winter comes along with health benefits. Cold weather actually helps boost your metabolism which means burning extra calories when doing outdoor activities. That also means allergy season is over, because the cold weather gets rid of most of the dust that causes allergies. Staying active becomes easier if you love having fun in the snow with all of your friends and family. It is also nice to stay inside because honestly nothing feels better than wrapping yourself in a blanket and drinking hot cocoa at a fireplace.

In conclusion, the mix of these aspects truly contributes towards making winter feel super special. Whether it's breathtaking scenery, or making the best looking snowman, there is just something about the winter season that reminds us how wonderful life can be despite freezing temperatures outside.

Winter drinks duke it out

BY GRIFFIN STORM

During the winter season, we all like to sit down and warm up with cozy drinks around the fire. There are many different winter drinks, but a few that come to mind are hot chocolate, apple cider, eggnog, and peppermint coffee.

After taking a survey, the favorite winter drink around HHS seems to be hot chocolate, winning with 76% of the vote. Apple cider, peppermint coffee, and eggnog all tied with 8% of the vote.

I also interviewed sophomores Chase Coss and Henry Van Scharrel. Van Scharrel picked apple cider as his favorite and stated, "Nothing like a nice warm cup of apple cider on a cold day. The cinnamon and the spices and everything brings it together." Coss picked hot chocolate as his favorite and said, "It gives you that warm feeling inside."

I prefer peppermint coffee, but I love all the other kinds of winter drinks. Apple cider is good for when you want something with a bit of sweetness and cinnamon. Eggnog is excellent for a gathering or hanging out. Hot chocolate is great around the fire when you're just trying to warm up. Peppermint coffee is perfect when you need to wake up. While all of them have a place and time, they are all delicious.



Sophomore Henry Van Scharrel ranks his drinks from favorite to least favorite:

1. Apple cider
2. Eggnog
3. Peppermint coffee
4. Hot chocolate



Sophomore Chase Coss ranks his drinks favorite to least favorite:

1. Hot chocolate
2. Apple cider
3. Eggnog
4. Peppermint coffee

PHOTOS BY GRIFFIN STORM

End of *Yellowstone* era

These articles contain possible spoilers

BY BLAKE ELLWEIN

In my opinion, I thought the end of *Yellowstone* was very good. I kind of figured it would end controversially.

Everyone has been ranting about Taylor Sheridan's ego getting the best of *Yellowstone*, with him writing the scripts as he wanted, but I still enjoyed the show. Sheridan is the director and writer, and he also plays a character named Travis. I personally really liked Sheridan's character. I know it was how Sheridan was as a person but he was funny and was there when everyone needed him. I also thought he sent off Kevin Costner's character (John Dutton) better than we give him credit for. They kept talking about him the whole season even after he died. I also liked what he did with Luke Grimes' character, Kayce. In the show, Kayce went and found out who killed his dad and then he went after them himself. Then he told Rip (the ranch manager) that he was going to start a new brand with his family. I thought that was the perfect ending for who he has been throughout all of *Yellowstone* and what he was trying to do all along.

Towards the end, I felt like the show got a little predictable. It was obvious that Beth was going to try to kill Jaime. I knew Beth wasn't just going to let him walk now that he could tell everyone their secrets, and I had to expect Rip to help her to keep his promise to John.

I thought the show was very strong when Lloyd cried and said if he couldn't cowboy at the *Yellowstone* Dutton Ranch, he wouldn't cowboy at all. It was also strong to me when Ryan went and found his lover. I personally thought it was a pretty good last season with everything that happened, and how they ended it.

Karter Mattke's thoughts on final season

Q. What was your favorite part of the season?

A. When Kayce figured out how to save and preserve the ranch.

Q. Did it end as expected?

A. Yes, I knew they would save the ranch and get rid of Jaime.

Q. Was it worth all the hype?

A. It was pretty good but not as good missing Kevin Costner.

Q. Who was your favorite character this season?

A. Kayce because he found a way to save the ranch.

Q. What is something you thought would happen?

A. Everything I figured would happen pretty much happened.

Q. What would you do differently?

A. I wouldn't have gotten rid of Jaime, I thought it made it obvious they killed him.

Q. Do you think it should start back up?

A. I don't think *Yellowstone* should start back up, but I think it would be smart to make another show about Kayce life.

Q. Is Taylor Sheridan featured too much in the series?

A. He is featured a lot but it's his show he should be in it.

Q. Does Sheridan's ego get in the way of the series?

A. The scenes he is in his ego can look very big, which makes his character really cocky and rude. The scenes he is in, his ego can get in the way, but most of the show isn't too bad.

Who is the G.O.A.T.? MJ vs. LeBron

BY KOLBY HOFER

The debate for the greatest basketball player of all time has been a recent hot topic. The two main candidates for the title "G.O.A.T." are LeBron James and Michael Jordan. However, it is clear to me that MJ is hands down the greatest.

When deciding the G.O.A.T. status I look at legacy and dominance. MJ has been by far the most famous sports image for nearly 30 years. His shoes are known as the most stylish and in some cases, the most expensive. This is caused by the fact of Jordan's grand legacy and how he is remembered playing the game of basketball.

As far as dominance goes, look no further than six rings in as many years.

Jordan did not build a super team or get carried by any other player. He was the team. Jordan is the only retired player in history to average more than 20 points in every regular season and postseason game of his career. MJ also won MVP in all six of the Finals he played in. Case closed.

As far as LeBron goes, I do not take away from the amazing career he has had. LeBron has the scoring title and has competed in the Finals 10 times. However, LeBron has a losing record in the big dance. Despite moving his career to three different cities, and teaming up with already huge superstars such as Kyrie, Dwade, and Anthony Davis, LeBron has never dominated in the way MJ did.



PHOTO BY KOLBY HOFER

Freshman Myles Ellwein and teacher Spencer Stahly showoff their jerseys. They disagree on who the G.O.A.T. is.

Tokyo and Agape showdown

BY GRACIE WARREN



PHOTO BY GRACIE WARREN

The *Tiger Stripes* staff taste-tested the sushi for Tokyo and Agape and confirmed that Agape is superior to Tokyo. Taste-wise, Agape has been described as more flavorful amongst the group.

It almost feels like yesterday when Tokyo Hibachi opened up, but now it creates competition with Huron's local, sushi place and Asian market, Agape Sushi. Which begs the question, based not just on taste, but also on popularity, price, and overall service, which place is better?

The search began when a few weeks ago, the *Tiger Stripes* sent out a Survey Monkey to gain knowledge of what restaurants the student body liked best: 31.25% prefer Tokyo, 43.75% prefer Agape, and only 25.00% said neither. Senior Green Ta Bah commented, "I like Agape. I prefer Agape more because I can just grab the sushi I like and leave within 10 minutes. I would recommend Agape if you're in a rush and have somewhere to go, but Tokyo is perfect for sitting down and just relaxing."

Agape wins the popularity round of the debate, but it is not over yet. The next question is who is more affordable? When reviewing the survey, it shows that 71.43% of students say that Agape is cheaper. Whereas, Tokyo received a number of 28.57%. If anyone were to look at Tokyo's menu, it is no wonder why it received such a poor vote. The average cost is

roughly \$10-\$20. Their cheapest items are the avocado rolls, crab stick rolls, and cucumber rolls, all \$4.80 each. However, their most expensive item is the Tokyo Boat, costing around \$88.88, containing sixteen pieces of sushi, sixteen pieces of sashimi, and any two rolls. Bah comments further on what items she gets from the menu. "From Agape, the rainbow or mango roll. From Tokyo, their udon." The item the *Tiger Stripes* staff taste-tested from both Agape and Tokyo were the California rolls, costing somewhere about \$6.50 from both places.

Bah noted that, "I think that both have good service, but Tokyo is better. The staff is very friendly and come to the table every so often to make sure that things are going well." The *Tiger Stripes* staff who picked up the sushi confirmed this.

In the end, out of the seven students that had tried the sushi, all unanimously voted for Agape. Overall, Agape is the best place to go to when craving such a treat for low prices and if you're on the go. However, if better service is a concern or a must have, then Tokyo is the way to go.

Mark the Calendar

BY GRACIE WARREN

At some point everyone must have stumbled across a random National Day on the calendar. Whether it's "Hug Your Mailman Day" or "National Play God Day" it is a real wonder of how these days were created.

Well, to answer the question, most of these days were created by charities and companies to promote things so they could be brought up in conversation. Also, it can get a little depressing now that the holidays are over. There are resolutions to look after and having to remember to write "2025" instead of "2024". So why not sit back and chuckle at these ridiculous, random, national days.

January 27- Punch the Clock Day

February 4- Create a Vacuum Day

February 5- National Weatherperson Day

February 6- National Chopsticks Day

February 7- National Fettuccine Alfredo Day

February 8- National Kite Flying Day

February 9- National Toothache Day

February 10- International Epilepsy Day

February 13- Galentine's Day

February 15- Single Awareness Day and Slap Day

February 17- Random Acts of Kindness Day

February 20- Missing Day

February 21- Break up day

February 27- World Non-Governmental Organization Day

All-State Band auditions come to town

BY JONAH BECK



PHOTO BY JONAH BECK

Seniors Conner Hofer, Hannah Schoenfelder, and junior Galilea Garcia get hyped for their auditions. They were unfazed by the live auditions.

Every year, the top high school musicians from around the state audition to be part of All-State Band. This year there have been several changes to the audition process, including where the auditions were held.

On January 15, students from all across the north-eastern part of the state flooded the Huron Fine Arts Center.

In the past, auditions have been held at six different audition sites across the state. These sites were teaming with all-state hopefuls for three weeks straight. This year however, the number of audition locations dropped to just three sites.

According to Brooks Bowman, Assistant Executive Director of the South Dakota High School Activities Association, "The locations changed as a result of recommendations that came from a sub-committee made up of several band directors. That committee was asked to come up with an alternative audition schedule for the SDHSAA Board of Directors to consider."

When asked what the reasons behind changes were, Bowman said, "Weather has been a major factor in our auditions for several years. The sub-committee wanted to find a way to condense the auditions down from three consecutive weekends. The new audition schedule and new locations are what the committee developed"

Last year the auditions were held

virtually, after the first audition date was snowed out. This is a good example of why the auditions needed to change.

The new audition sites are Huron, Rapid City, and Sioux Falls. Both Sioux Falls and Rapid City have held auditions in the past, but Huron is a new addition to that list.

James Stueckrath, band director at HHS is looking forward to auditions being in town in the future. "I like the auditions being in town and we don't have to travel to Pierre in January. Also, all the auditions in the state are being completed in five days instead of three weeks. minimizes the advantages/disadvantages from the first audition to the last."

A decision like this takes a lot of research. According to Bowman, "This change took a lot of research by the sub-committee, including finding sites that could host the auditions on the new dates, projected costs of the auditions, availability of judges on the audition days, and gathering input from band directors and administrators from across the state. The sub-committee met several times to finalize all of the details of the proposed changes. Those changes were presented to the SDHSAA Board of Directors where they voted to approve them for a two-year trial."

Another change to the audition process was the removal of the terms test. In the past any student who has wished to

audition for All-State Band has had to complete a comprehension test, to prove their knowledge of musical terms.

"I like the terms test. Musicians need to know what the music terms are, so I think it is beneficial in the audition process," said Stueckrath.

Junior Karly Knippling auditioned on the baritone this year. When asked what her opinion on the terms test was, Knippling said, "I was disappointed when I found out there was no terms test, and wish there was on this year. The terms test is something that you can go into knowing for sure how you are going to do if you study, if you study then you know you will do good."

Despite the new changes, Knippling still feels confident in the time she spent preparing for this audition. "This year I was definitely more prepared from the last time I did a live audition freshman year" said Knippling. "I prepared more for the sight reading by sight reading different pieces, plus I practiced all of the scales to make sure that all of them were well prepared."

The All-State Band final concert will be held March 29, at Watertown High School.



PHOTO BY JONAH BECK

HHS band director James Stueckrath has a friendly conversation with SDHSAA Assistant Executive Director Brooks Bowman. Both men were hard at work making sure that the auditions ran smoothly.

Fine art treasures *Interview with Jazz, Chamber, and Madrigals*

PHOTOS AND ARTICLE BY ALEC PESTER



JAZZ BAND WITH CONNER HOFER

Concert and Symphonic band are the well known bands of the Huron High School fine arts program, but Jazz Band is a small group of very skilled players that play at various competitions throughout the year. After an interview conducted with Conner Hofer he stated that: "You have to audition to get into Jazz Band. For the audition we usually play a harder part of one of the songs for our performance and record it then send it in and hope you get the spot you want. Our next event is the Palace City Jazz Festival on February 11, in Mitchell. We practice every Thursday at 7 a.m."

MADRIGALS WITH CHALIE SAH

"Madrigals first started practice in fall of 2024, November 5. We usually practice on Tuesdays at 7 a.m. To be in Madrigals, you must audition, when auditioning for the group, the process typically begins at the end of the year. Mrs. Unruh, the director of the choirs, will audition you one-on-one and give you music pieces to sing. Those can consist of note memorization, "The Star Spangled Banner", or small short songs. The next event for us will be on Valentines Day. My favorite part about Mads is that it's small. Most people in it are kids who actually like singing, are real good at singing and not just in it for the grade. It takes real dedication to wake up early in the morning just for rehearsals."



CHAMBER ORCHESTRA WITH ORIEANA WILLIAMS

Chamber Orchestra is another lesser known groups in the fine arts program that also play at a few events throughout the year including Christmas at the Capital in Pierre, SD. After the opportunity to talk to Oriana Williams, this is what she had to say: "Chamber Orchestra is audition only, we are given music and/or scales to practice then we have to record a video for the audition. We usually practice every Wednesday at 7 a.m. Our next event is sometime in the spring and we will be going to elementary schools to recruit younger students to be in orchestra."

Pep Band brings the boom

BY AURORA DREYER

It is officially Pep Band season for the band students at Huron High. What some people may not know is that Pep Band is a requirement for band students.

Since it is a requirement, some band students argue that it takes too much time out of their day and debate why they are being graded outside of school hours. These students have already put in countless hours over the summer and mornings during the marching band season. One student says, "If I miss one game, then that could drop my entire grade by a letter, and it's hard to bring that grade up even if I attend class everyday or go to my lessons or just do everything right on the syllabus."

Some of the students really enjoy Pep Band like junior Dylan Reindl. He says, "I enjoy cheering on our teams with my friends through my passion for music." Pep Band is a way students can show their school spirit and cheer on their peers.

The crowd and basketball team enjoy the energy that it brings pregame as well. Camdyn Fuchs, a sophomore said "Yes, I like when the Pep Band plays because it gets me pumped up for the game." Vice Principal, James Cutshaw says, "I love when the Pep Band plays because it added energy and excitement to the game."

There are many different views on Pep Band, but most agree they bring the boom and will continue to play loud and show their Tiger spirit.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Huron Tiger Pep Band playing at the basketball game against Sioux Falls Lincoln in the Huron Arena. They were all dressed up for the theme, gender swap, showing their school spirit.

Winter sports update

BY JILLIAN RENO

Boy's Basketball

Tim Buddenhagen, head coach

Q. What are your goals for the team?

A. "We would like to earn our way to the state tournament..."

Q. Are you using different techniques to?

A. "We are trying to improve our offensive and defensive skills... The main thing we need to do better is to communicate on the court."

Q. How long have you been coaching?

A. About 38 years

Girl's Basketball

Allison Janes, senior

Q. Have you guys improved?

A. "...Our skills are improving, our team chemistry is growing, and we are having a lot of fun together."

Q. What are you proud of individually?

A. "Keeping my head on straight"

Q: Do you feel like your team has a chance going to state?

A. "Yes, I believe our team will make it to state this year and break the streak!"

Gymnastics

Julie King, head coach

Q. Has your team score improved?

A. "Our team score improved 13 points from the first gymnastics meet."

Q. What are you proud of the team for?

A. "The team working together to make a team goal of scoring higher and the dedication to improving themselves as individuals on a daily basis."

Q. How many athletes do you have?

A. "21 gymnasts"

Boy's Wrestling

TJ Lien, senior

Q. What are your goals?

A. "Make it to the end of the season with no injuries."

Q What are you proud of?

A. "I'm proud of my brother who's worked extremely hard this season."

Q. When/How long do you have practice?

A. After school for about two hours

Girl's Wrestling

Sep Gay, sophomore

Q. Have you guys improved?

A. "Yes, I'm proud of our girls for improving so much this season."

Q. What are you proud of?

A. Getting better and improving skills

Q. Do you feel like you have a chance at making it to state?

A. "I do, if I try and train really hard."

Hockey

Waylon Walters, head coach

Q. What are you proud of the team for?

A. "How well they have come together as a team and the relationships formed on and off the ice."

Q. How many athletes do you have?

A. "21 talented young men"

Q. What are your goals for the team?

A. Keep improving and win some games

Pins for pins

PHOTOS AND ARTICLE BY HANNAH SCHOENFELDER



Ben Cardona is very proud of his pins and hopes he earns more this season. Cardona earned all of these pins at the Rapid City Invitational Tournament and duals.

A long standing tradition in wrestling is called pins for pins. For some context, a pin in wrestling is earned by pinning an opponent. This happens when the opponent's shoulders and back are held to the mat and the referee determines the position is controlled.

Coach Matt Goth says "The pins were initially used for a fundraiser that we no longer do so we are essentially repurposing them to congratulate the wrestlers." The wrestling managers have recently brought this tradition back after 4 years. Two freshmen wrestlers have recently earned some of their first pins of the season. Ben Cardona and Ryder Siedschlag are two individuals who have started the season with new collections. Both were asked what they plan on doing with their pins and they both plan on putting their pins on their wrestling bags. Siedschlag says, "I like having a way to show off my achievements and wins." These boys are both excited to grow their collections throughout high school.



Ryder Siedschlag begins his collection with four new pins from the Rapid City duals and tournament. He is excited to see how many he can earn this season

Huron hockey players needed

BY LOGAN LEYENDECKER

For the last few years, boys and girls have not had very many people go out. For the boys team, it has not always been certain of they are going to have enough for a varsity and junior varsity squad. However, this is better than the girls. Most years the girls team struggle to pull enough players together for just a varsity team, having to pull up younger players. Has Huron always had this struggle? Former player, coach, and president of the Huron All Stars Curtis Bales states, "The numbers have fluctuated over the years and continue to do so. We approximately thirty percent more players at the varsity level when I graduated twenty five years ago. We consistently had both JV and varsity teams when I was growing up in the program." What is the reasoning for these numbers starting to decrease?

"I believe the stigma of hockey being



PHOTO BY CHAOS PHOTOGRAPHY

These are the five seniors on the hockey team. They will play their last home game February 28 at the Bergman Arena.

too expensive and time consuming prevents parents from putting their kids in hockey. When in reality there are more one-sport athletes today than ever, and you can make any sport expensive," says Bales. Curtis played both hockey and golf in high school.

With every problem there is a solution, what is the answer to getting more kids to go out for hockey? "Huron Hockey through USA Hockey runs a 'Try Hockey Free' day that allows kids to try hockey for no cost on that day. Also,

getting more information out to Huron and surrounding area students about local and state scholarships that can offset the costs of playing hockey. Recently, there was a local donation that allowed the hockey association to waive the gate admission fee for all students. Bales states, "Come and support the All Stars at home games for no cost!"

Gymnasts at disadvantage with no club program

BY CAMERON RUTH-STYER

The Huron gymnasts are at an extreme disadvantage when it comes to competing with other teams in the AA division. Huron is the only AA school in South Dakota that does not have immediate access to a club gymnastics program. For this article, I interviewed the head coach, Julie King, Ellie Puterbaugh, a participant, and a member of the Watertown gymnastics team, Macy Olsen.

Julie King

Q. Do you think that our team is at a disadvantage in any way? Why or why not?

A. "I do believe that we are at a disadvantage because we do not have access to year-round gymnastics."

Q. Are there any teams that we compete against that don't have a club?

A. "In AA, there are no schools that we compete against that don't have a club."

Q. What is keeping Huron from having a club, or year-round gymnastics.

A. "A club takes about \$500,000 just to get it running. The floor alone costs anywhere from \$10,000-\$15,000. You also need a facility to start a club in. However, we cannot use the TAC due to there being other sports that occur in the facility."



PHOTO BY LANDSTROM'S PHOTO LOFT

This is the varsity and junior varsity gymnastics team. They have their final home meet on January 30 at the Tiger Activity Center.

Ellie Puterbaugh, junior

Q. Do you think that we are at a disadvantage in any way?

A. "Yes, because we do not have a club in Huron."

Q. How many hours a week do you practice in and out of season?

A. "I practice ten hours a week during season and six hours a week in the summer."

Macy Olsen, freshman

Q. Do you practice all year-round?

A. "Yes, I do school season and then I do club the rest of the year."

Q. How many hours a week do you practice?

A. "I practice seventeen and a half hours during the school season and twenty-one hours during my club season."

Q. Do you think that you and your team have an advantage over Huron?

A. "Yes, because you guys don't do club."

A club season is a year-round gymnastics season. Huron gymnasts only practice ten hours a week during the school season and six hours a week in the summer.

Milk Mile Meyer *Learn the League*

BY CONNER HOFER

Fantasy football is an online game fans play during the NFL season where each team manager gets to draft NFL players to have on their team.

Each player earns a certain number of points each week based on their stats during the game. The team with the greatest number of points at the end of each week wins that matchup. Whichever teams have the most wins then advance to the fantasy playoffs. Whoever wins that is the champion.

One of the fantasy football leagues at HHS consists of juniors, seniors, and HHS alumni. Former student Elliott DeVries ended up winning first place while junior Brady Meyer ended in last. The group all paid \$20 to be in the league which means DeVries won a total of \$240.

The punishment for the loser of the group is the Milk Mile, which is when the loser has to

drink a quart of milk, run a quarter of a mile, and repeat that process until the gallon of milk is gone and a mile has been run.

When looking back on the season, the managers had a lot of regrets, but some things happen that are out of the managers' control. Senior Brady Feenstra was asked how he felt about not making the playoffs and he replied, "Defeated, I felt like my team just got ruined by injuries." Most of the managers agree with Feenstra and wish they did not lose \$20.

Meyer, owner of the team many managers laughed at, blamed his terrible season on injuries and a tough schedule.

The Milk Mile is not yet scheduled, but the group will not let him get away with losing. Although the group is very excited to watch, Meyer is not excited and is very disappointed in himself.



PHOTO BY CONNER HOFER

Brady Meyer shows off his milk with a "chilled" expression. Deep down, he is alarmed by the excitement surrounding the punishment.

Meet the Voice of the Tigers: Jeff Duffy

BY AURORA DREYER

Jeff Duffy is the behind the scenes voice giving you the play by play of all the Huron Tiger Athletics. Duffy has been doing play-by-plays since 1988 and has been with the Tigers since December of 2001.

When Duffy was thinking about college, he wasn't set on a career, but he said, "My main interest was always sports, and a friend of mine suggested radio might be a good avenue for me."

KOKK is the Dakota Country radio station. Duffy came to Huron right after graduation. After many offers and interviews, he chose to stay in Huron due to an opening. He has been with the Tigers ever since. On November 28, 2023, Huron had a Jeff Duffy day to recognize him for his 40th anniversary at KOKK.

Duffy has made an impact within the community of Huron through his work. Mackenzie Lavallee said "Duffy makes it seem like you are in the arena watching the game." Duffy has created an environment that allows families and friends to feel connected. One of his favorite parts of his job is getting to know the athletes and coaches. Duffy inspires young athletes on and off air through his encouraging words.

Duffy has received many awards for his outstanding work. He has been chosen for the Huron High School Hall of Fame and has received various state awards for basketball, volleyball, and wrestling. Duffy has been nominated 11 times for the South Dakota Sportscaster of the year and has won it twice. He won in 2007 and 2014. He was recently nominated by South Dakota members of the National Sports Media Association based in Winston-Salem, NC for the National Sports Broadcasting Award.

His dedication to the Tigers does not just stay within the arena walls as Duffy also travels to the away games, keeping the Huron community involved and informed. Duffy said, "I do weekday mornings on KOKK which requires me to get up at 3:50am Monday through Friday." He does this every morning despite the time he gets home from the game the night before.

Some day down the road Duffy said "I would like to slow down from the day to day at some point, but would also like to continue Tigers play by play as long as I am able, and as long as I can continue to perform in an acceptable manner." Jeff Duffy has created something special for the Huron community and has been honorably named, "The Voice of the Tigers".



PHOTO BY CRAIG LEE

Jeff Duffy broadcasts from the very top of the Huron arena. This photo, by Craig Lee, was used when Duffy was inducted into the Huron High School Hall of Fame.

Two truths and one lie (*teacher edition*)

BY SHAR SER

“Two Truths and a Lie” teacher edition where a teacher reveals three fun facts about themselves and the objective is to figure out which one is the lie out of all three facts. To submit guesses, email Mrs. Rubish at Sarah.Rubish@k12.sd.us

Heidi Holforty



I have my picture in a Biker Magazine.

I was born in Germany.

I have a minor in Mathematics.

Mitch Gaffer

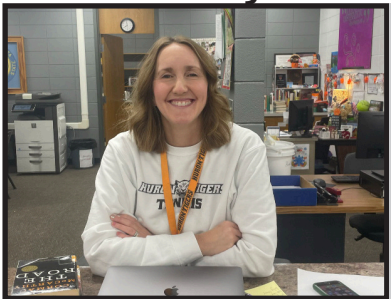


I have read the entire *Harry Potter* book series.

I have recorded two music albums in a recording studio.

I have been recognized by the President of the United States as a Distinguished Teacher.

Rachel Kary



I was a three-time all-state golfer in highschool.

I have been to all four of the major professional tennis tournaments.

I have 4 tattoos.

Jordan Mullen



I've been stung by three jellyfish.

I was gifted cemetery plots as a wedding present.

I've visited 48/50 states.

Stephanie Tschetter



My college roommate and I were extras in the first *Scream* movie.

My sister works for the school district.

I played volleyball in college.

Lona Moser



I was married at a young age.

I worked as the cook at school.

I've read 700 books in the high school

Romana Olivo



I almost joined the military at age 19.

I took theology as a minor when I first started college.

My sister works for the school district.

Hezekiah Moo



I've met a millionaire in person.

I can speak three languages fluently.

I've visited five countries.

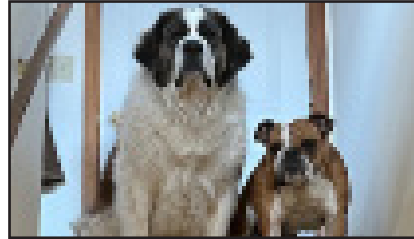
Match the teacher to the pet

We asked a few teachers to submit a picture of themselves and a picture of their pet. Pick the teacher/number and match it with the pet/letter that you think is theirs. Email your answers to Mrs. Rubish (Sarah.Rubish@k12.sd.us). The first person to guess all the correct pairs will receive a prize.

BY COLTON MCNEIL

1.

Char
Carda



A.

These dogs' names are Lucy and Gerald.

2.

Sarah
Rubish

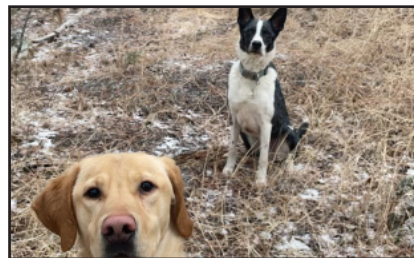


B.

This dog's name is Mauer.

3.

Mackenzie
Lavallee

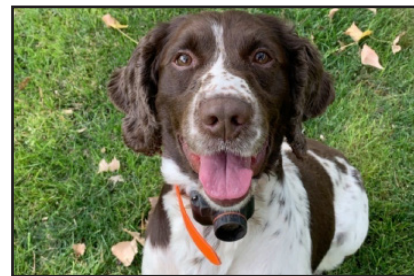
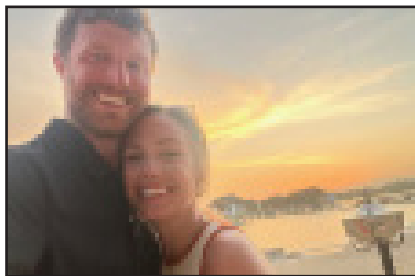


C.

These dogs' names are Bandit and Burk.

4.

Spencer
Stahly

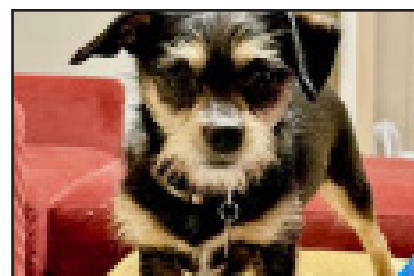
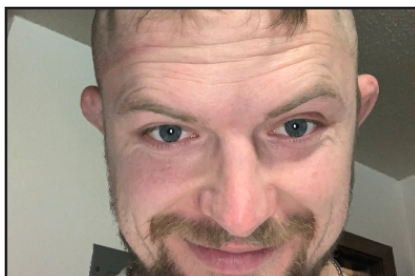


D.

This dog's name is Foley.

5.

Clayton
Wahlstrom



E.

This dog's name is Chunk Testa.