



How It's Made school calendar edition

BY TYLER CRONIN

A school calendar is something which impacts all students and families in a district, and there are often questions about how it's created as well as who creates it.

Superintendent Kraig Steinhoff, Washington 4-5 Center Principal Kari Hinker, HHS Principal Mike Radke, and Huron Parks and Recreation Director Chad Schroder, were asked to give feedback regarding the construction of the school calendar in order to shed light on the process.

Superintendent Steinhoff is in charge of organizing the committee and its members. According to Steinhoff, “The calendar committee comprises the superintendent, administrators, and teacher association representatives. The committee also includes representatives from other employee groups and parents.”

Building a calendar for an entire school district, especially a large one like Huron, is a complicated process, and the planning begins early. Steinhoff stated that, “The committee must convene before March 15. However, the first meeting has been in December in the last two years.”

Regarding setting the dates for the calendar, he added, “The parameters are a calendar with 180.5 contract days, which includes 174 student contact days...The final authority of the calendar rests with the school board.”

Principal Mike Radke, when asked about the impact of the calendar on students and faculty at HHS, said, “The impact of the calendar is probably minimal for most students and staff. However, there are some students, especially at the high school, who benefit greatly from our school district having similar days to start and end each semester as the rest of the state.”

Huron School District Academic Calendar 2023-2024 School Year

School Board Approved 08/12/2023

(PTC / DR / EE subject to change)

AUGUST 2023 (19)						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	*Free	+B	+B	+B	11	12
13	*A+M	+15*	+16	+17*	18*	19
20	21*	22*	23*	24*	25	26
27	28	29	30	+21		

• New Teacher Holiday • Home lunch/buss/travel service • A+B+C+D+E+F+G+H+I+J+K+L+M+N+O+P+Q+R+S+T+U+V+W+X+Y+Z
• Aug 15-16-17-18 *MS Open House (9:00-4:00) • Fresh Orientation & MS Open House (8-9 AM)
• Aug 17 - 1st Day of School • Kindergarten Screen • Aug 21 - Kindergarten Day

SEPTEMBER 2023 (19-20)						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
3	+B	5	6	7	+B	3
10	11	12	13	14	+15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25*	26*	27	28	29	30

• Wake Fall (No School) Sep 1 thru 4
• MS-PT Conferences (9:00-4:00 pm)
(Sept 13 Homecoming Parade) • Early Release

OCTOBER 2023 (21-26)						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1	+B	+B	+B	5	6	7
8	+B	+B	11	+12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23*	24*	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

• Harvest American Day • Early Release • K-PT Conf (9:00-4:00) • MS-PT Conf (9:00-4:00)
• MS PT Conf (9:00-4:00)

NOVEMBER 2023 (18-25)						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
5	6*	7*	8	9	+10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	+22	+23	+24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

• Early Release • Int Day • Holiday Break • MS-PT Conferences (9:00-4:00 pm)
• K-1 PT Conf (9:00-4:00)

DECEMBER 2023 (16-24)						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
3	4	5	+6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	+25	+26	+27	+28	+29	30
31						

• Early Release • Holiday Break

ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL

Quarter will end on date set at grade level

End of 1st Semester - December 22 (34 days)

End of 2nd Semester - May 18 (90 days)

JANUARY 2024 (28-164)						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
2	+3	+4	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	+15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

• New Year's Day/Holiday • A+B+C+D+E • Early Release • Martin Luther King Holiday
• MS PT Conference (9:00-4:00 pm)

FEBRUARY 2024 (19-123)						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	+16	17
18	+19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

• Early Release • Vacation • President's Day • K-1 PT Conf (9:00-4:00)
• MS PT Conf (9:00-4:00)

MARCH 2024 (18-161)						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11**	12**	13	14	+15	16
17	18	19*	20	21	22	23
24	25*	26*	27	28	+29	30
31						

• Early Release • Spring Break • MS-PT Conferences (9:00-4:00 pm)
• MS PT Conf (9:00-4:00) • K-1 PT Conf (9:00-4:00)

APRIL 2024 (21-162)						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

• Early Release • Vacation

MAY 2024 (12-174)						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	+15	QW*	Q11	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	+27	28	29	30	31	

• Last day of classes • Teacher Checkoff • Memorial Day • Early release
• Graduation

Staff Development - Early Release Days

Aug 30 Sep Homecoming Oct 4 Nov 1 Dec 6

Jan 18 Feb 7 Mar 6 Apr 3 May 1

(May 16 also Early Release)

WAKE-UP DAYS FOR SNOW

May 11, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24

This is a copy of the 2023-2024 school calendar put together by the committee. The format pictured is the base format when building each year's calendar.

Some might wonder if committee members have a say in the modeling process. Radke explained, “Each building, parents from the district, and a few community agencies have representation at the calendar committee meeting. I try to make sure we finish first semester before Christmas, but the rest of the decisions about where days off are placed are usually made by the rest of the committee.”

The calendar evolves through many

stages of redesign. “Dr. Steinhoff has done a lot of work before the committee meets so we aren’t starting from scratch. He usually has several drafts of the calendar and the committee begins their discussions on the drafts. After the committee creates a proposed calendar Dr. Steinhoff presents it to the school board. The board can accept the calendar, make changes, or send it back to the committee to continue working on it.”

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Is NWEA necessary?

BY EMMA AHLERS

This year, students only have to take their NWEA tests two times a year rather than three. There have also been talks of not having to do them at all. Would this be a good change?

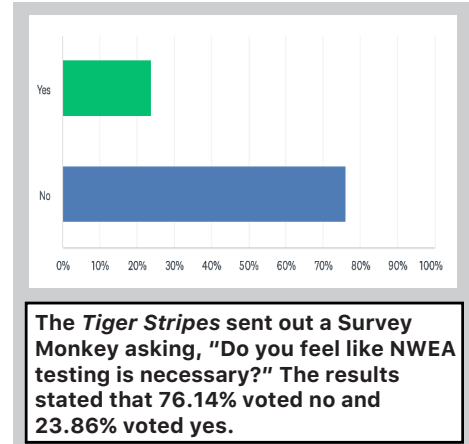
A large majority of students think NWEA testing is unnecessary, stressful, and boring. Gracie Warren, sophomore at HHS, said, "...NWEA is pointless. It causes anxiety for students, and most likely teachers too." David Jackson, also a sophomore, had very strong words for NWEA, stating, "NWEA deserves to get hit with the Death Star laser, burned down by Smaug, and annihilated for their demonic sins."

Two teachers at HHS, Marianne Trandall and Lindsey Brewer, were asked a few questions about their views of NWEA from a teaching perspective.

Trandall, language arts teacher, believes NWEA is beneficial for the learning process. "I'm not saying that

NWEA is the best testing out there, but some testing is essential in education. We need to see growth and which areas are more in need of emphasis from one year to the next," she expressed. She also feels "...students today lack competitiveness in education...Many kids don't have that competitive nature and I think it's a detriment to their success."

Brewer, math teacher, has more mixed opinions. "If we had the the time to look at the results more in-depth, the patterns and trends might be interesting." In the math NWEA test, the results are split into four categories: operations and algebraic thinking, real & complex number systems, geometry, and stats & probability. Brewer explained that her FST students tend to get higher scores on stats and probability while their geometry scores go down due to geometry concepts not being in the course. It is difficult to measure progress when math classes only focus on one of



the NWEA categories at a time.

Overall, most agree that NWEA is not the best form of testing. Despite this, students still need to perform a form of testing for proper analysis of their performance in class, whether it is NWEA or not.

El Chamoy: bringing spice to Huron

BY OKAY HT00

Huron in the recent years, has become very diverse with newcomers. This drives new developments and places to pop up to please the growing population, no matter if it is a big corporation or local owners. A fine example would be El Chamoy, located on 800 21st SW#4.

The restaurant has opened up very recently and offers a wide variety of hispanic treats and desserts. It is mainly a snack shop that focuses on bringing out the Hispanic taste by using chamoy and tajin. Chamoy is a condiment typically used for fruits and is made up of dried chiles and lime juice. Tajin is actually a Mexican company that produces the seasoning of Tajin and consists of ground dried Chile peppers (a blend of chiles de árbol, guajillo, and pasilla), and dehydrated lime and seasalt.

Heather Reyes, a junior at HHS, said, "The food was nothing you've tasted here in town, only time I've had that

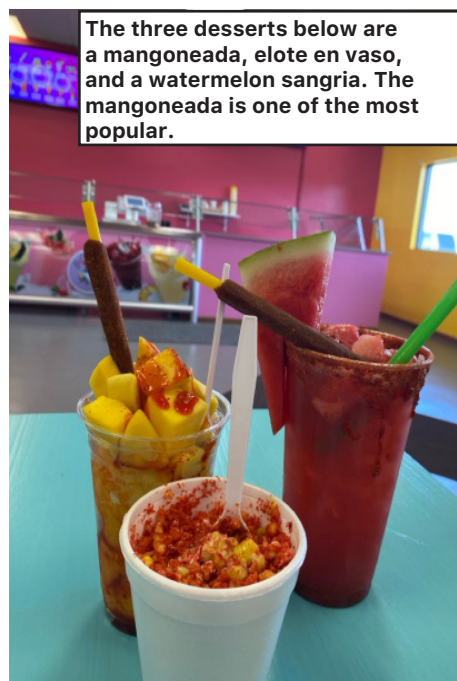


PHOTO BY MARISOL DUBON

good of food was in Omaha. It might be even better." El Chamoy serves a lot of Hispanic cravings and desserts like: helados, malteados, magonadas, elote en vaso, elote loco, takis with cheese, hot cheetos with cheese, Chiveche, etc. Reyes also said, "I would definitely recommend to other people, but the food tastes if you have a tolerance for spicy food!! Or if you have a sweet tooth."

El Chamoy was originally located in South Sioux City but opened another shop just west of downtown Sioux Falls, which makes the location in Huron the third.

Satisfied customers like senior Gabriel Montoya also said, "The food is good, I've enjoyed everything I've tried there." Senior Bryan Alfaro stated, "The food is amazing I ordered the fruta con Chile it was a cup of mango slices drenched in chamoy and tajin..." Opening hours for El Chamoy are 12-9, but are closed Tuesday's and Wednesday's.

Wrapping up festivities

PHOTOS AND STORY BY ERIANNA DEVRIES

When do you think it is too early to take down Christmas lights? When do you think it is too late to take down Christmas lights? In order to settle this debate, I asked three students and a teacher. Most of the people's answers agreed January through February is too late. The reasoning varies though.



Lindsey Brewer, a teacher at Huron high school says, "I take my tree down at 7am on Decmebr 26th, and the lights as soon as possible." Her reason being that the tree is too messy. The needles and tinsel get all over the floor. It is just a constant mess and too much of a hassle.



Jaylynn Darling, a junior at Huron high school, says, "February is too late and Decemebr 26th is too early." Jay Darling believes you should show off your Chrismas spirit all of December. But you need to take it down soon enough to enjoy the rest of the holidays.

Esports rising in popularity

BY GRADY BOTT



Students in Woonsocket Esports club practice games for their next tournament. The Esports team meets weekly after school.

PHOTO BY GRADY BOTT

Esports is a growing activity all over the world. South Dakota is a bit behind, but it is becoming more and more popular around the state. When asked in a survey what would interest a student in Esports, senior Olaf Kruse said, "I think the competition would be a lot of fun: Games like Valorant, League, or Guilty Gear have a very high skill ceiling, and taking that skill outside of just a hobby and putting a lot more weight to it seems like a lot of fun." Out of the 66.7% of students who said they play video games regularly, 77.5% stated that they would be interested in esports. With such a large majority of people, I believe that HHS would benefit greatly from introducing an esports team. Creating an Esports team would

improve engagement in clubs and create a new opportunity for students to involve themselves.

Esports were introduced last year at Woonsocket High School. The school purchased gaming computers for the students to play games in school. They offer games such as Rocket League, Valorant, and Super Smash Bros Ultimate. The season ends in late February with tournaments throughout the season. When asked why they enjoy Esports, Oscar Anderson, a Sophomore at Woonsocket High School stated, "I enjoy being able to have everyone included in a non toxic environment." Esports was a very good addition to the school and helped students get involved in extracurricular activities.



Brianna Cronin, a sophomore at Huron high school, says, "January 2nd is too late and December 26th is too early to take down Christmas decorations." She thinks December is too early because you're still enjoying Christmas. Brianna Cronin takes them down in January because it reminds her that there are new seasons to come.



Kenna Dickson, a junior at Huron high school, says, "I think if you have to wait until the next year to take down Christmas. Christmas week is too early." She talked about it hurting the Christmas spirit and magic of Chirstmas.

“Fashion Through the Ages”

Rodacker’s fashion design class starts new tradition

BY KIRSTEN DEGEEST



PHOTOS BY KIRSTEN DEGEEST

Mrs. Rodacker, HHS family and consumer science teacher, recently started a new project in her classroom. The project is called “Fashion Through the Ages.” Rodacker gave the students paper croquis and fabric scraps, and tested their knowledge of the fashion over the centuries. Rodacker stated, “They take what they learned about different centuries and create their own looks.”

“I wanted something that was not a boring poster, to be able to wrap together all the eras, without having multiple projects. This way they have the same directions for all eras,” Rodacker said. In previous years, Rodacker had them doing posters. She thought this would be a good change.

Rodacker first got the idea from a Facebook page that she follows. They did something similar, but they used home supplies. Since Rodacker

teaches many different classes, she thought it would be a good way to use the fabric scraps she already had.

Rodacker said this project was more tangible than ones she’s done in the past. Rodacker stated in the past when she did posters, some students did not enjoy the drawing portion. Now with the croquis, all students are able to achieve their vision.

Each student gets six different croquis; they then have to create one from the past, present, and future. Then, they get to choose which decade or century for the other three. Rodacker plans to continue this project in the future. Her goal is to collect enough Barbies to do the project with.

Samantha Swanson, HHS senior, agrees with Rodacker about the idea that this project should be continued in the future. Swanson preferred the

If anyone has Barbies that they would like to get rid of, Mrs. Rodacker would greatly appreciate the donations to the Fashion Design class. Just drop them off in Rodacker’s classroom (B103).

**This project is located in the B-100 hallway.
The photos show the outfits designed by the Fashion Design class.**

change up from the typical poster project too.

Swanson stated, “I feel this project is really good for hands-on learners and it gives you the freedom to let your imagination run wild.”

On the other hand, Ava Ulvestad, HHS sophomore, would prefer to do a poster project more than a hands-on project. Although, she sees the

benefits of the “Fashion through the Ages” project has, “...this project gave a good visual example of what the outfits should’ve looked like...”

Though there are different opinions about the hands-on projects, Rodacker marks this project as a success and plans to make improvements as the years go on.



All-State band audition spotlight

BY LOGAN GERRITS

All-State band auditions are coming up quickly. It's not easy to get accepted, so some students are diligently preparing. Sophomore, Karly Knippling is one such student. She plays the baritone in the symphonic band. It takes a lot of practice to be ready for auditions since she's competing with some of the best high school musicians from across the state.

There are several pieces that auditioners need to work on for their evaluations. Solo pieces for auditions are distributed at either the end of summer, or beginning of autumn. When asked how long she waits to start learning the music, Knippling said she tries her best to start right away, but it can be challenging with marching band going on at that time. The scales, or musical progressions, are the same each year, but students still need to

review them. An etude, or a piece meant to pose a technical challenge, is also given out around October.

Knippling doesn't slack off on practicing though. When asked how much she practices the music, she replied, "I don't know the exact number, but it's definitely a lot. Whenever I have free time I practice, especially after All-State orchestra it's overwhelming going straight to All-State band, but I try my best to practice at least once a day."

As well as playing, students also need to learn a plethora of musical vocabulary to test on. This ensures that students are competent in notation and can identify markings and directions in the music. Knippling says she studies the terms.

All-State makes students do a live audition at the Fine Arts Center in front of

judges. Performing their audition in front of judges is a very nerve racking process. It also doesn't afford them a chance to make a mistake and retry. That's just all the more reason to practice.



Knippling stands with her baritone. She will audition with her solo piece, Sonata in F minor by Telemann.

PHOTO BY LOGAN GERRITS

Music Department reflects on schedule

BY ASPEN WHITE

The music block is split into three 35 minute periods. For the students in choir, orchestra, and band, it gets to be a lot. After speaking with all three of the music teachers, the orchestra teacher, Beth Neitzert, said, "We are happy with the schedule at this time. We like three periods better than two as it allows each ensemble to meet with most students daily. Only a handful of band and choir kids alternate between the first two periods."

After asking Neitzert, "What do you think is the best solution for this compact schedule, or do you think this is a good schedule?" She followed the question saying, "Given the overlap of students, this schedule allows students to participate in all three ensembles. Some schools mandate that music students choose only two of the three ensembles, so we are happy to accommodate students that want to be in all three groups. The optimal solution to the short rehearsal times is to have more time in the day, but there simply are not

enough hours in the day!"

During the Christmas season, there are many concerts including the Salvation Army Christmas Basket. Neitzert states, "We have sufficient rehearsal time getting ready for our Christmas performances. We recycle some of the music we did for the Christmas Basket and perform a couple of the same pieces at our Christmas concert. The concert was Monday, December 11 at 7:00 in the auditorium. There was a meal in the commons before the concert starting at 5:30. During the meal, known as "Christmas in the Commons" three small ensembles perform at the event: the Chamber Orchestra, Madrigal singers, and the Jazz Band."

As with anything, there are pros and cons. The teachers compiled their thoughts and said "Pros- The biggest positives are that we see most of our students on a daily basis and that we can share students between all three ensembles. Cons- The 30-minute rehearsal

time is very short, but has caused us to be efficient teachers and our musicians to be efficient learners.

Next years orchestra numbers exceed the amount of space available in the orchestra room, so something might have to change there. That might look like two orchestras, but we are unsure how that could fit into the schedule."

time	period	a day Schedule	b day Schedule	period	time
8:05 to 9:30	1	7:55-8:25 Prima Chorale/ Symphonic Band 8:27-8:57 Concert Choir/ Concert Band 9:00- 9:30 Orchestra		2	8:05 to 9:30

The schedule shown above is what the HHS Music Department follows on both A and B days.

PHOTO BY ASPEN WHITE

Sideline cheer changes, limitations

BY GAVIN MOEDING



The sideline cheerleaders getting ready to help the crowd cheer loud at home.

PHOTO BY KENNEDY APPEL

Sideline cheer has started its season off with multiple events already. Although it has been going very well, they did have a few bumps in the road to overcome. From having a new practice location to having their numbers limited to fewer

than expected, the cheerleaders have been dealing with a challenging season.

The cheerleaders have a new place to practice, as their last location at the TAC was replaced with more space for the girls wrestling team. Now they have to practice in the hallway connecting the

Huron Arena and the Crossroads. "I think it is enough space for us," freshman cheer member Kya Tschetter stated. Although the new location is different, Tschetter is okay with it since they usually don't have a lot of room to cheer during games anyways.

The sideline cheer squad is limited to only seven members, which means they might have to make cuts after auditions. This makes some people unhappy, as they believe it isn't fair to those who want to participate.

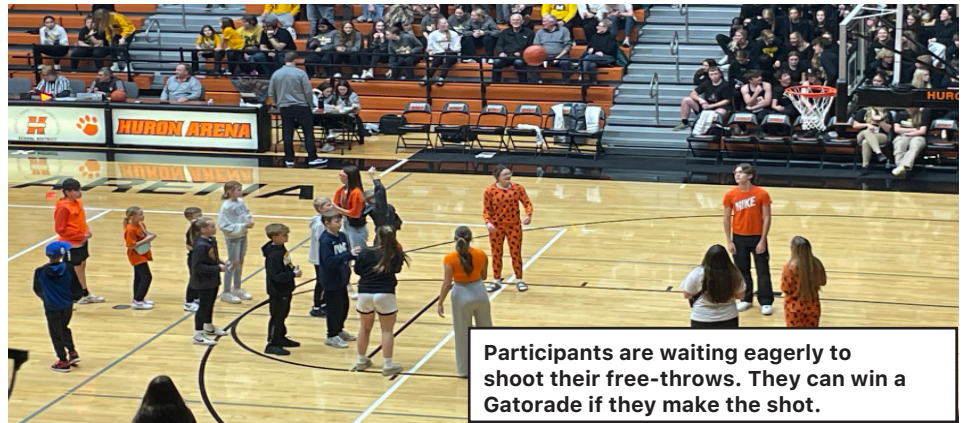
Tschetter understands why there needs to be a limit, but thinks it could be a little higher. "I think the max should be no more than ten because it can get too crowded if there's more."

Fans rise to shoot for prize

BY CONNER JOHNSEN

Huron has made a tradition of having free-throws during halftime of varsity basketball games. The students responsible for putting the halftime free-throws together are involved in FBLA and Pep Club. These students are liable for getting a cart that holds the prizes, taking the money from the participants, and rebounding the basketballs after every shot.

Mike Carda, FBLA advisor, was one of the founders of this tradition. According to Carda, the idea of halftime free-throws began over ten years ago. Over the years, the event has become popular for kids and teenagers. It became so popular for kids to participate that smaller basketballs were purchased so little kids could shoot on their own. Chase Schuchhardt, HHS freshman, has been a long time free-throw participant. When asked how long he's participated, Schuchhardt responded, "I have always shot free-throws for as long as I can remember going to the basketball games." He likes to be involved in the free-throws because he loves basketball and



Participants are waiting eagerly to shoot their free-throws. They can win a Gatorade if they make the shot.

PHOTO BY CONNER JOHNSEN

anything to do with the sport.

The prizes have also changed since the beginning of this tradition. "When this event first began the prizes were donated by Coca-Cola, but they are now supplied by the FBLA and Pep Club groups," explained Carda.

If the individual that is participating makes the shot, they can choose a flavor of Powerade to take. The incentive of a cheap Powerade and the thrill of making the shot is more than enough to convince

people to participate.

Shooting free-throws allows for spectators to pass time until the basketball game resumes. The students that organize the event are given a strict time frame of when they are allowed to be on the court and when they have to be off. They are given roughly five minutes. Time and efficiency are the top priority for these students. They have to usher anywhere from fifty to one hundred and fifty participants within the time limit.

Winter sports continue

BY GAVIN MOEDING

Boys/Girls Basketball

Boys: Coach Tim Buddenhagen has challenged his players with reaching double digit wins this season. He believes this challenge will get the team that much closer to the state tournament. "As guys get comfortable with their roles and we improve offensively we should be playing in some big games with significant meaning to our end goal."

Next Game: January 12, @Lincoln High School

Girls: "Our team has battled some adversity early on in the season but we have played very hard and been competitive in each game that we have played in so far," Coach Kody Kopfmann said. They have the majority of their away games coming up, and Kopfmann is excited to see the teams' effort and energy on the road.

Next Game: January 12, vs Lincoln High School

Boys/Girls Hockey

Boys: The team, led by Coach Waylon Walters, has battled through multiple tough and physical games already. Walters favorite part of the team is the grit they play with, and the fact that they don't let anyone push them around. He hopes they continue to grow as a team and finish the season strong.

Next Game: January 12, @Yankton

Girls: Coach McKenzie Fisher believes toughness is what makes a good hockey team. If players can be tough, the game can be very simple. Fisher sees the team grow and improve every day, and is excited to be a part of a group willing to do whatever it takes. "We come to play every game and leave it all on the ice" Fisher said.

Next Game: January 12, @Sioux Falls

Boys/Girls Wrestling

Boys: The team has had a solid first half of its season and is looking to continue to do so in the second half. Coach Matt Goth is proud of the improvements his athletes have made and enjoys watching them compete. He understands that it's every wrestler's goal to go to state, and hopes he can help them accomplish that goal.

Next Dual: January 11, @Harrisburg

Girls: Coach Dru Strand has had a fun and competitive first year with his team. He is proud of the way they have been performing. From long and tough practices to multiple tournaments, Strand is impressed with how well the athletes are pushing through adversity and competing.

Next Dual: January 11, @Harrisburg

Gymnastics

Coach Julie King is proud of the team's improvement this year and their ability to complete solid routines. Their season wraps up on February 9-10, where King's goal is to qualify for state both as a team and individually.

As far as individuals go, King had nothing but positive things to say about all of her athletes. "On an individual basis, Eastyn has had solid vaults and beam routines, Cameron has continued to show how beautifully her bars can be completed and is an all-around great gymnast. Ellie Puterbaugh has shown tremendous improvement this year, especially on balance beam along with Alivia Cunard. Eh Dah Paw is also growing in skill sets and showing her skills."

Next meet: January 12, @Huron TAC

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Kari Hinker, principal of Washington Elementary, commented that, "The calendar does not affect the students and staff at Washington as much as it does the older students. We do not have the extracurricular activities that are co-dependent with the calendar. And Washington 4-5 Center students love to go to school, so they will come any day of the year.

When the calendar is finished, the administrators from the different schools choose dates for things like open house,

parent teacher conferences, end of quarter and semester, and concert dates. The administrators have to keep many variables and needs in mind when doing this to find dates that work for everyone involved.

Although the administration plays an important role in the drafting of a yearly calendar, the committee is also made up of school staff and also parents and community members.

One of those community members is Chad Schroeder, director of the Huron

Parks and Recreation Department. He gave his views on the school calendar and how it affects his programs stating that the school calendar does affect the start dates for a few of the city programs.

One big factor he has to consider is when to open Splash Central Waterpark. Schroeder said that 90-95% of his summer employees either work for the Huron School District or are students, so having input on the calendar is very important.

State Interp team brings home superiors

BY LILY HALTER

The State Oral Interpretation Festival was held on December first and second in Harrisburg. The Huron speech and debate team was able to send eight people to compete in all seven categories. The team consisted of Green Ta Bah, Chi Muepae, Mylie Byrd, Samantha Swanson, Cameron Cutshaw, Tessa Gogolin, Antony Sorto, and Lily Halter. Out of the seven

categories, superiors were won in six of them. This made HHS a “School of Excellence” earning a plaque for the entire team. Coach Ben Halbkat said, “Receiving a plaque as a coach gives me a sense of pride and accomplishment I never felt as a student.”

This is the first year Huron has been able to bring home a plaque since 2012. Halbkat was a sophomore in high school the last time this happened. “Being a coach receiving this award makes me happy not only for myself... but for the students who put their entire beings into their performances,” Halbkat shared.

When asked how this year’s competition compared to years prior, senior Tessa Gogolin said, “I was so glad that we all put in the hard work and got the places we deserved.” Gogolin competed in Humorous Interp and Readers Theatre alongside Cutshaw,

Sorto, and Halter.

Sophomore Chi Muepae got a superior in his Non-Original Oratory speech. After being asked how he thought his first state went, he said, “I had two main feelings, the first one was feeling nervous. There was only one round at state, which is good but there was an audience. The second was being grateful for my teammates and coaches. They are so kind.” Muepae moved to America from Thailand only eight months ago and is still learning English. When asked if being on the team has helped him learn, he said, “It totally helps...I learn to speak with more emotion and enjoy speaking.”

The team now moves on to the second half of the season. With the National Qualifying tournament in February and State Debate in March, there is a lot to prepare for, but they are ready for the tough competition ahead.



The state team poses with their medals. They are very proud of their successes.

PHOTO BY LAURA IVERSON

Hegg Brothers return for Christmas concert

BY CHASETY CHRISTENSEN

On December 13, HHS’s Huron Youth Leadership Council (HYLC) put on their yearly Christmas concert. This year’s performance was the Hegg Brothers. Jon and Jeremy Hegg have been bandmates since 1996 and their career started in a group called “Spooncat!”

Since 2019, this concert has been free to attend. The band fees are paid for thanks to the generosity of area sponsors. It is up to HYLC and its members to find and ask for these sponsors. At the concert there are always boxes which the audience can donate to. Different from prior years, baked goods were sold during intermission. Members of HYLC provided the desserts along with Gigi’s Coffee Shop and Cookie Dough Cupcakes. Adisyn Zavesky, who is an active member of HYLC stated, “I thought everyone did a great job as far as preparing and it was a fun thing for the community to enjoy!”

Any money raised from the concert goes back to HYLC and they use the money for their grant night. Each year, members of HYLC have an evening where they interview applicants asking for grant money. Each applicant is a part of a youth-based organization in our community and they speak on how the different groups make meaningful impacts. In the past, HYLC has given grants up to five-hundred dollars. Some of the groups they’ve given grants to include: the Backpack Program, the South Dakota State Fair Backyard Project, and the Children Transportation Fund.

Jen Bragg, who is a part of the United Way Heartland Region and also an HYLC advisors, says her favorite group they’ve given a grant to is the Backpack Program. She describes how HYLC works with the community. “The other great thing to see is the partnerships that come out of

The concert was a huge success. This year over \$5,000 was raised, which is more than any years prior.



PHOTO BY CHASETY CHRISTENSEN

it. HYLC students are able to see what is going on right here in our community, and use those opportunities to help make a better world for fellow youth. It’s an amazing thing to witness!”

Student Council's "Mister"y HHS takes the stage

BY ANNECLAIRE RUBISH

Every year, the Huron High School Student Council hosts "Mister"y HHS, an event showcasing a mix of the "Dating Show" game and "The Newlywed Game".

This event is a fundraiser for Children's Miracle Network (CMN), an organization that funds treatments and surgeries for children all across the U.S. and Canada. All of the proceeds from "Mister"y HHS go towards CMN.

Unlike past years when "Mister"y HHS was put on in March, this year it will take place on January 29 at 7:00 PM, in the high school auditorium. The show is completely free, but a donation for Children's Miracle Network is always appreciated.

Jennifer Fuchs, one of the Student Council advisors, gave the reasons for this switch; "...March is always super busy with State Student Council and the state tournaments for many activities. So we thought we would change it to January in an effort to spread out our activities some."

For those who don't know how "Mister"y HHS works, the first step is to ask for volunteers from the senior and junior class. Three girl contestants and nine boy contestants are randomly chosen by the Student Council to be in the event, though no one but the Student Council knows who they are.

Each of the contestants has to raise a minimum of \$100 to participate, and all of the money goes to Children's Miracle Network. In the weeks leading up to the fundraiser, Student Council members make videos of each of the contestants explaining a little bit about themselves.

Micah Larson, junior and HHS Student Council Treasurer, explains the process of making these videos, "Usually you just find [the contestant's] open period, give them the questions they have to answer, and then let them brainstorm.

My job, or the person recording, really just has to hold the iPad; the person in the video comes up with what they want to do for it." He also comments that some of the contestants "get really creative" with their answers.



Featured are Reilyn Zavesky and Heaven Gainey, last year's Mister and Miss HHS. They're holding their prizes-huge candy bouquets.

PHOTO BY SARAH RUBISH

These videos are then shown the night of the event, right before each contestant comes out on stage.

When the show officially begins, one of the girl contestants sits on one side of the stage and asks three different boy contestants on the other side multiple questions. Since the boys' identities are supposed to be concealed, voice changers are used when they answer the questions and a barrier is put between the girl and the boy contestants. Some examples of

questions asked in the past are "What is the best Taylor Swift song?" or "What is your favorite type of candy?"

Once the girl has finished asking all of her questions, she chooses the contestant who's answers she liked best, and that couple advances to the final round, what Student Council likes to call the "Not so Newlywed Game". But before this game starts, the same process happens two more times, making a total of three couples that participate in the final round.

In the "Not so Newlywed Game", every couple has to guess what each of their partner's answers would be to the multiple questions asked. The questions can range from "What brand of toothpaste do you use?" to "What is your favorite genre of music?". The couple who has the most answers correct at the end wins, and becomes the new Mister and Miss HHS. For the boy contestants who didn't have the chance to participate in the "Not so Newlywed game", there is also Mister Congeniality that they can win. This award is voted on at intermission by the audience.

Student Council has been hosting "Mister"y HHS for a very long time, around ten years according to Fuchs. The idea for it came from a breakout session when the Student Council was attending a region meeting. Fuchs comments that, "[Lincon HS SC] did something like "Mister"y HHS, that our SC thought would be fun to try and use it as a fundraiser. It started off as a sort of Mr. HHS pageant per say, but throughout the years, it developed into the "Mister"y HHS that it is today."

Fuchs also comments about "Mister"y HHS that, "Everyone seems to have a great time and we have had much success raising funds for the Children's Miracle Network."

Hotspots, hangouts *past vs. present*

BY MAKEISHA DAVIS



Huron High School alumnus Lisa (Cooper) Kranzler shows off fashions from 1986 at the fountain in the mall. She was featured as part of an HHS yearbook photo spread.

PHOTO SUBMITTED

Many who were born and raised in Huron have watched it grow and change throughout the years. As the town changed, so did the people and where they chose to spend their time.

Chris Stahly, an English teacher at Huron High School, is someone who watched Huron progress into the town it

is today. “We used to hangout at the mall. It was a hoppin’ place, believe it or not! We “cruised Dakota” and “flipped the loop” at Coborn’s and Fair City Foods.” She continued, “We also used to go to the drive-in theater during the summer and sometimes go out to lake Byron.”

Stahly also said that high school dances were another common place to hang out, as they were held by different clubs once or twice a month. Kids during her teenage years were also very active in sports such as volleyball, basketball, and softball.

Surprisingly enough, this is not so different from how students like to spend their time today. The majority of students choose to hang around Walmart, the Lewis parking lot, and Ravine lake. They also like to hang out at different parks around town or at the Nordby center. A lot of students’ time is taken up by extracurricular activities or focusing on studies. Some prefer to spend their time at the gym as well.

The most common answer when asked where students like to hang out was “the underground”. The parking lot that used to be underneath the Crossroads hotel was a popular hang out spot for teens at HHS. Unfortunately, the parking lot was filled in during the summer and is not returning.

Many students enjoy simply driving around as well. Teenagers today still “cruise Dakota” and “flip the loop”.



The cars may have changed, but the Lewis parking lot has been the same since it was built in the 70's. Lewis is a meeting place for many in Huron.

PHOTO BY 605 OUTLAWS

Different holidays, similar values

BY KAYELEIGH BOWDEN

There are many different holidays that are celebrated during the winter season. A few of these holidays include but are not limited to: Lunar or Karen New Year, Kwanzaa, Three Kings Day, and Hanukkah. Each holiday has its own special traditions and meanings behind it.

One student, senior Bryan Ramirez, celebrates Three Kings Day. He celebrates this holiday, which occurs on January 6, with his family. Their reasons for celebrating include their religion, Catholicism, and tradition. The holiday comes with many unique traditions.

One of these traditions includes the host making, or buying, a special cake called a “king’s cake,” or *la galette des rois*. Whomever is hosting the party puts a little plastic baby into the cake, and then

everyone gets a slice. The person who has the slice of cake that contains the baby gets to host the party for next year. Being the host of this celebration is a great honor.

According to Ramirez, “We all give each other gifts at midnight, like the three kings did with Jesus. The gifts are small items like candies and such.” This is holiday tradition that is very meaningful for his family.

Karen New Year is a holiday that is celebrated by many students and families in the Huron community. This holiday originated from the celebration of the time at the end of one harvest and the beginning of the harvest of rice crops.

According to Ya Tha Na Kyaw, senior, “We celebrate in various ways: singing,

dancing, eating, and playing games.”

This holiday is special to many Karen students because it is a time when the community comes together to make the celebration possible. Na Kyaw says this holiday is special to her because “We are so welcoming of everyone and we want anyone to come.”

Karen New Year is also a time when the Karen community remembers where they came from. It is a time to think of their people back home.

There are many ways to celebrate the winter season and they are all important to our culture as a whole. Although not everyone celebrates the same holidays, the winter season is a joyous and meaningful time for many different people in many different ways.

Celebrating Christmas on repeat

BY LOGAN LEYENDECKER

Christmas is known as one of the most joyful times of the year. However, everyone has different experiences when it comes to the winter holiday.

According to the American Psychology Association, 40 to 50 % of marriages end in divorce, leading to children being torn between two separate holiday celebrations.

There are many assumptions about having Christmas with divorced parents, but actually experiencing it is the only way to know what it's like. Junior, Jack Pederson, stated, "A reason I like Christmas this way is because I get to see a lot more family during Christmas, which also means I get more presents."

Of course, there are not only positives to the subject. "One thing I don't like about having Christmas like this is because I miss my other family when I'm not with them" Pederson says.

Having a separated Christmas is not easy for some people; for others, it is the only way they know. Developing the right attitude and appreciating the positives

can make it more enjoyable. No matter how it is celebrated, Christmas is a great opportunity to see family and raise spirits.



Junior, Jack Pedersen, celebrates with both sides of his family this Christmas. Winter weather made it difficult, but when they were together, a great time was had.

PHOTO SUBMITTED

New year resolutions: *then and now*

BY KOLTON OGLE

New Year's resolutions are a tradition done by many people each year. These resolutions are goals set by the individuals, usually a goal set to work toward in the upcoming year. These goals can include being better at certain things

or being healthier in the coming year. Unfortunately, most of these goals are forgotten and not completed successfully.

A couple of Huron High School students sent in their resolutions from last year. Roger Htoo, a senior at HHS, said

he wanted to become a better artist. Htoo stated, "I have gotten better at art and drawing, but nowhere close to where I wanted to be at the end of the year."

Bryan Ramirez, senior, made a resolution to place at state wrestling and state track last year. Ramirez did end up placing eighth at state wrestling last season in the heavyweight division. While he did qualify for state track, he was not able to place in either the shot put or discus.

As students head into this New Year, they are making new resolutions. Bubba Peterson, junior, said he wants to quit drinking so much Mountain Dew. Kolby Hofer, also a junior, wants to eat healthier throughout the year.

New Year's resolutions help set realistic goals for people to work at in the new year. If the goals are met, it can make a person feel much more motivated and happier throughout the year.

Bryan Ramirez placed eighth at state wrestling last year. He is on the bottom right wearing orange.



PHOTO BY CADENCE KOGL

The *Tiger Stripes* Newspaper staff collaborated to create drawings for this month's edition. The objective of the game is to spot what was changed from each piece. Email a photo of your solved puzzle to Mrs. Rubish at Sarah.Rubish@k12.sd.us. The first person to spot the differences in all three levels gets a prize. The answers key will be on Instagram, @hhtigerstripes.

