

Scratchin' Post

NONPROFIT OR-
GANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
NORTHVILLE,
SD
PERMIT NO. 5

Volume 18 Edition 5

221 3rd St., Mellette, SD 57461

February 2015

Mitchell to Retire after 40 Years

Mrs. Vicki Mitchell lives up her last year at Northwestern

By: Kate Finley

Over the past couple years, Northwestern School District has had to sadly say good-bye to a few wonderful teachers; teachers who have made a strong, lasting impression on the Northwestern community itself. With those few gloomy good-byes, Northwestern has also had the opportunity to meet some new, bright teaching faces as well. Regretfully, Northwestern has to say good-bye, once again, to another cheerful, familiar and hard-working face who is known all around the community.

Mrs. Vicki Mitchell, the kindergarten teacher at Northwestern, has nobly taught students for exactly 40 years, counting this current school year. This kind of dedication to teaching young students across our communities is inspiring and magnificent. It is truly moving to see such powerful enthusiasm for teaching the next generation...and the next after that in Mitchell's case.

Mitchell began teaching at Northwestern in January 1975. Before Northwestern, she had taught music classes in Brentford, three days a week, and Northville, two days a week, for grades 1-6. Beginning the fall of 1975, Mitchell taught a second-grade class in Brentford until a consolidation of Northwestern and Brentford's school took her to our Mellette school district. Fitting in to the Northwestern family did not take long because once she acquired the rewarding position of molding the minds of young kindergarten students, she could not have been happier.

"My best memory is watching the children grow and learn throughout the year and working with wonderful people who care about children and encourage them to do their best," Mitchell said.

Mitchell has so much experi-

ence teaching young minds that some of those "young minds" had grown up to teach children of their own. Kayla Sparling, Karla Borge and Amanda Fa'onelua are just a few of the many students Mitchell had taught in kindergarten, but the incredible part is that all returned to Northwestern and became brilliant teachers themselves.

"Northwestern has become my second home, and I will truly miss not being there every day. There comes a time when you just know it is time to let someone else take over. My goal was to teach for 40 years and retire at 60. I made that goal and still enjoy teaching. Hopefully, I will have the chance to substitute at Northwestern as well as other schools in the area," Mitchell said.

Mitchell plans on a fulfilling retirement where she can spend more time with her family, enjoy the priceless moments with her grandchildren and attempt some new exciting ventures.

Northwestern has been honored to have such a dedicated and hard-working teacher for this position and will definitely shed some tears after that last good-bye.



Mrs. Kayla Sparling, a former student of Mrs. Vicki Mitchell, patrols through the class, helping with the next lesson.



Mrs. Mitchell stands proudly with her very last kindergarten class.

Pictures by Kate Finley

Exchanging Stock like a Seventh-grader

By: Cameron Bohl

The seventh-graders participated in a stock market competition from Oct. 6 to Dec. 12 against other students their age.

“It was a great learning experience for the kids,” said Mrs. Shelley Fischbach.

The teams received \$100,000 to purchase stocks and keep track of how they changed during the time period given.

Seven out of the 28 teams consisted of Northwestern students with all teams from around South Dakota. First place reached about \$107,000 with the team of Danielle Watson, Torrence Bourelle, Tristen Dvorak and Tya Weideman.

“We invested in Alibaba, which really helped us succeed,” Watson said.



The team of Danielle Watson, Torrence Bourelle, Tristen Dvorak and Tya Weideman run through some ideas for the stock exchange.

Picture by Abby Fischbach

Officer Leadership Institute Held in Redfield

By: Abby Fischbach

The Future Business Leaders of America officers attended a small leadership conference in Redfield Nov. 26. The officers learned more about FBLA and leadership skills. The conference featured students from schools from around the area with FBLA attended.

“We broke into different groups and were able to learn things that we could apply to our own chapters. I had a lot of fun and got to meet a lot of new people,” junior Allison Braun said.

“As an officer, I compiled information that I have learned about being an officer and made workshops. The first workshop was for Vice presidents. The second workshop was about personal branding and fundraising. I enjoyed helping the chapter officers grow as people and leaders,” senior Christine Morgan said.

Predicting the Super Bowl

New England Patriots vs.
Seattle Seahawks
February 1, 2015

By: Nolan Peterson and Isaac Groft

Isaac-

My Super Bowl 49 prediction is that the New England Patriots will take it home. With a well-balanced, dominating offense and an over-the-top defense, the Patriots clearly have the upper hand. After finishing off an impressive 12-4 regular season, the Patriots clinched their division, home-field advantage, and a first round bye. Despite a despairing 41-14 loss on the road against the Kansas City Chiefs, the Patriots have only lost their other three games by a combined 26 points. New England also beat the AFC runner-up Indianapolis Colts twice this season by a combined score of 87-27. Along with that, they defeated Peyton Manning and the Denver Broncos' ongoing offensive domination 43-21. Defensively, New England is eighth in the NFL points given up and is first in the NFL in net points between points scored and points given up, while the Seahawks are second. My opinion on the score, 24-17, in favor of the Patriots.

Nolan-

Super Bowl 49 will be very epic featuring the two best quarterbacks that nobody thought would amount to anything. Tom Brady played at Michigan and did not start until his senior year. He then entered the draft and did not get drafted until the sixth round. Russell Wilson also was a quarterback no one wanted, as he was not drafted until the third round. Both quarterbacks were discriminated and now look at their achievements. Brady has been to five Super Bowls and now appearing in his sixth, Wilson is ongoing on his second Super Bowl appearance. Although the Seahawks have good defense, I believe that age will over run the show as Brady and Gronkowski win Super Bowl 49.



Middle School Students Chosen to Attend All-State Band

Story by Rachel Rausch, Picture by Kate Finley



Congratulations to sixth-grader Mitchell VanderWal and seventh-grader Cassidy Frericks for making it to Middle School All-State Band.

This event will take place March 6-7 in Huron.

To make it into All-State Band, students send in recorded auditions of themselves playing various scales. To be chosen for All-State Band is a great honor. The students have to be able to repeat the scale flawlessly along with smaller song excerpt in order to even

have a chance to be selected to the all-state band.

A couple days will be spent practicing several different songs during all-state, and on the last night, the students will perform them in a concert.

This would be the second time Frericks has made it to All-State Band, and VanderWal will be following in his older sister's footsteps by taking her spot in the all-state participants.

Good luck to both participants!

Second Quarter

High School Honor Roll

Freshmen: Straight A: Peyton Groft, Jaidyn Kramp and Sadie Vander Wal; **A:** Megan Heidenreich and Addison Sparling; **B:** Evy Peterson, Daniel Tonga and Darien Watson.

Sophomores: Straight A: Josie Clemens, Darby Duncan; **A:** Derek Boekelheide; **B:** Christopher Johnson.

Juniors: Straight A: Kirstin Borge, Andrea Rausch and Madison Styles; **A:** Rachael Boekelheide, Cameron Bohl, Allison Braun, Kate Finley and Elizabeth Heidenreich; **B:** Trevor Bohl, Abigail Fischbach, Darienne Frericks, Isaac Groft, Kaylee Hoellein, Cody Lefforge, Nolan Peterson, Rachel Rausch, Logan Schentzel and Codi Sparling.

Seniors: Straight A: Jordon Peterson, Halle Sieve and Corbin Smith; **A:** Hans Leonhardt and Christine Morgan; **B:** Darvella Dotson, Zachary Duncan, Haley Grandpre, Tessa Rush, Julia Sparling, Kennedy Sparling and Blake Toennies.

Great Job, Wildcats!

Peterson Meats
 Owner: David Peterson
 23 Main Street
 Mellette, SD 57461
 (605) 887-3411

CENEX Farmer's Union Oil Co.
 1002 S. Main Street
 Chelsea, South Dakota

Stop in for your farming needs!

Fertilizer, Chemical
 Custom Spraying
 Custom Spreading
 Gallagher Fencing Products

Tires, Batteries
 Hardware
 Petroleum Products
 Dot Expectations

Your comfort is our specialty!

CLIMATE CONTROL

- Geothermal Systems
- Air Conditioners
- Humidifiers
- Fireplaces
- Ice Melt
- Swimming Pool Heat Pumps
- Furnaces
- Heat Pumps
- Air Filtration
- Fire Pits
- Dust Control

Stahl Insurance Agency

For all your insurance needs
 Don Stahl • Doug Stahl

P.O. Box 22 Mellette, SD 57461
 (605) 887-3604

ABERDEEN AWARDS

Jan E. Jensen
 janj@nvc.net

Super City Mall (hallway north of Ken's grocery)
 Toll Free: 1-877-225-3732

Call today to receive
 \$50.00 off Service or
 \$200.00 off New Equipment!

Does not apply to service fee or mileage.
 Offer expires May 31, 2015

PIONEER BRAND PRODUCTS

KIM S. PETERSON
 SALES REPRESENTATIVE FOR
 PIONEER BRAND PRODUCTS

PETERSON SEEDS
 15395 383 AVE.
 P.O. BOX 67
 NORTHVILLE, SD 57465

OFFICE: (605)887-3526
 RESIDENCE: (605) 887-3494
 CELLULAR: (605) 380-3483

DUNCAN FAMILY Daycare

Amy Duncan
 605-887-3581

Our family taking care of yours.

Join us on Social Media

1910 130th St NW
 Aberdeen, SD 57401
 Office: (605) 225-9822
 www.climatecontrolprofessionals.com

We have something for everyone!

ART STUDENTS PURSUE A STICKY SITUATION

Story by Rachel Rausch

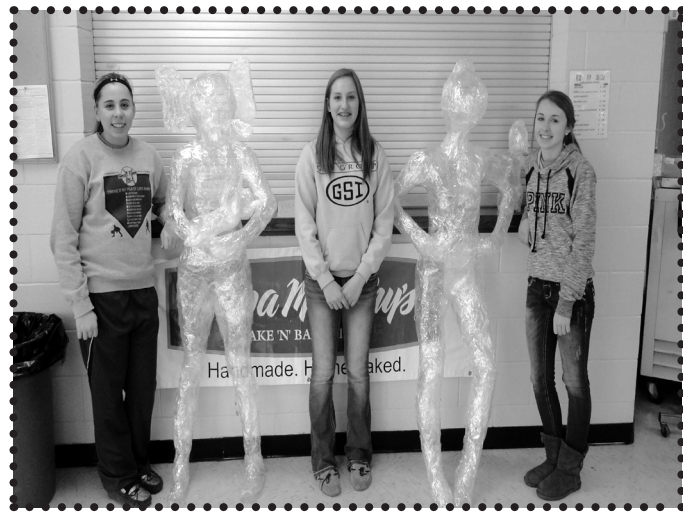
Many fun and unique projects are created in Mrs. Jennifer Schell's art class, from bottle painting, weaving, and commission projects to rolled up newspaper collages, paper maches, and the newest project, tape body sculptures. The idea of this project is to make a body cast. The finished project will be a hollow body made completely out of tape. A lot of tape and time are required for this project, but it is simple.

The easiest way to make the cast is to tape sections instead of trying to do the whole body at once. For example, tape the legs and waist separately from the torso and arms. Sections taped together do not matter because everything will come together eventually. Two students, Addison Sparling and Jaidyn Kramp, volunteered to be taped. The remaining students all helped with taping and cutting.

The students in charge of taping the models wrapped tape all along the chosen area, sticky side up to

ensure that no tape became stuck to skin or clothes. Once the whole area was covered in tape, a second layer was added, this time sticky side down. As many layers as are wanted can be added. Once the students were done with an area, they cut the tape enough that the model could get out. Once the tape was off, repairs were made by taping the cast back into its shape. Once all of the sections were done, the full body was taped together.

Instead of making a cast of the head, the students taped a globe in the same way to make a shape for the head. Both models chose a different animal for their head. A beak and comb were added to Kramp's head and large ears and a trunk added to Sparling's. Sparling's model also cradles a baby body cast, made using a baby doll. Ears and a trunk were added to the baby as well.



Freshmen Evy Peterson, Megan Heidenreich and Jaidyn Kramp showcase their beautifully taped sculptures they created in art class.

Freshmen Darien Watson, Evy Peterson and Megan Heidenreich help tape up Addison Sparling, creating a body cast. The students created this piece of work for Mrs. Jennifer Schell's art class.



Pictures by Kate Finley

The Sport Spot Bar & Grill

"Where the grill's always on"



887-3516

Bill & Dar Kraus
Owners

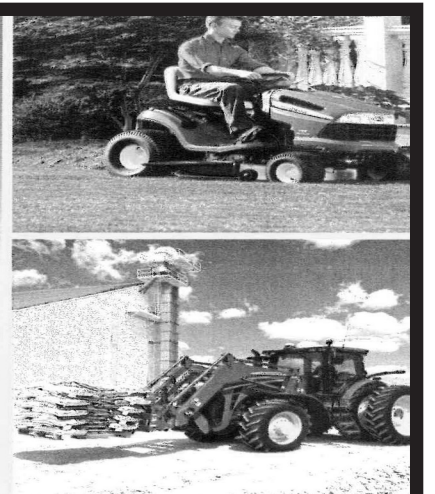


PARTS SERVICE

Aberdeen 605-225-6772
Webster 605-345-3391
Redfield 605-472-2840

JOHN DEERE


RDO EQUIPMENT CO.
www.rdoequipment.com



SLUDGE'S SEED & SPRAYING, LLC

38598 165th St - PO Box 305 Ashton SD 57424

PIONEER SEEDS * CHEMICALS * GROUND & AERIAL APPLICATION



Shawn R. Frericks
Sales Representative

605-472-3100 Tel
605-460-0734 Cell
605-472-3101 Fax
605-472-3754 Res
svfrericks@nvc.net

"Our goal is to save you time, money, and confusion...with a personal but professional touch!"



American Trust Insurance

4 Main Street
Mellette, SD 57461
(605) 887-3900

mellette@americantrustins.net

Mack's AUTO BODY

"Where quality reflects on you!"

PAT SOMMERS
Owner/Manager

803 3rd Ave. SE
Aberdeen, SD 57401
macksauto2@nvc.net

Phone: 605-225-0480
Fax: 605-226-3467

STYLES ANGUS INC.

Proud supporter of Northwestern Area Athletics!!
GO NORTHWESTERN GO!!!

Bob Styles h887-3281
c290-3324
blstyles@nvc.net

Chris Styles h887-3657
c887-7000
cestyles@nvc.net

www.stylesangus.com

We engrave most anything.
EVEN YOUR ITEMS

605-225-0220
Aberdeen, S.D.

We engrave what others can't, or won't.

Laser & Rotary Engraving

Engraving

Mycogen SEEDS

ARVIN TAYLOR
37762 153RD ST
NORTHVILLE, SD, 57461
PHONE: (605) 887-3343
CELL: 228-3168

Girls' Basketball...

Stories by: Nolan Peterson

The Northwestern girls' basketball team started the season off with a win against Aberdeen Roncalli 63-54 on Dec. 9. The team starters included freshman guard Addison Sparling, sophomore forward Josie Clemens, senior forward Julia Sparling, senior forward Kennedy Sparling and senior center Jordon Peterson. A. Sparling had 12 points, two assists and two steals. Clemens had 17 points, three assists and six steals. J. Sparling had four points, 12 assists and three steals. K. Sparling had eight points, and three steals. Peterson had 21 points, one block and two steals.

On Dec. 11, the Northwestern Wildcats outscored the Aberdeen Christian Knights 62-13. Senior Kennedy Sparling led the Wildcats with 18 points and two steals. Senior Julia Sparling had nine points and three assists. Sophomore Josie Clemens had eight points on the night with five assists and two steals. Senior Jordon Peterson had seven points and one steal on the night. Freshman Darien Watson had six points. Senior Haley Grandpre had four points, two assists and one steal. Junior Madison Styles had two points on the night, freshman Addison Sparling also had two points and Junior Kirstin Borge also had two points, three assists and one steal. The girls' Northwestern basketball team did very well and moved its season to 2-0.

The Warner Monarchs defeated the Northwestern Wildcats 58-42 on Dec. 18. The Wildcats played very hard and did very well against the defending state champions.

Senior Jordon Peterson led the team with 11 points and one steal, senior Julia Sparling added another 10 points with one assist and one steal. Senior Kennedy Sparling also contributed 10 points to the score and two steals. Sophomore Josie Clemens added five points, freshmen Addison Sparling had four points with three steals. Freshman Darien Watson contributed to the score with two points. The Wildcats move to a record of 2-1 on the season.

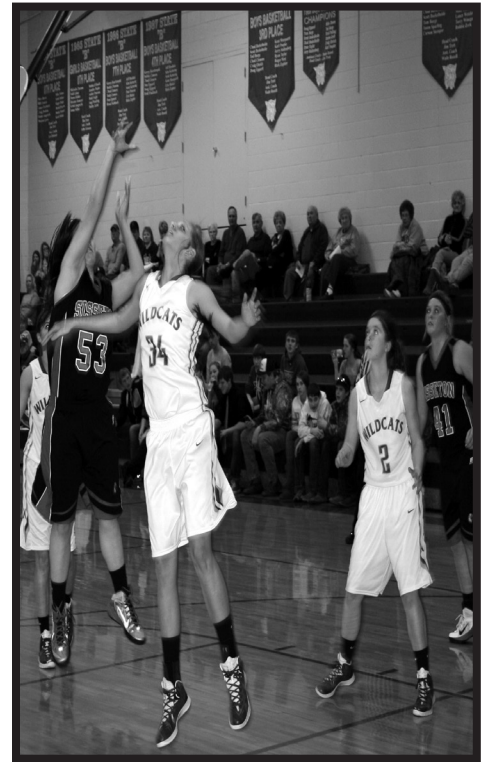
The Wildcats beat out Miller 55-37 on Dec. 20. Senior Kennedy Sparling led the Wildcats with 14 points and one steal. Senior Jordon Peterson poured in 13 points and one assist. Senior Julia Sparling also scored in double digits with 11 points, six assists and one steal. Freshman Addison Sparling also contributed nine points, one assist and four steals. Sophomore Josie Clemens put up five points, two assists and five steals. Sophomore Darby Duncan also contributed three points and one assist. The team's record is now 3-1.

Northwestern girls took down the Waverly-South Shore Coyotes 73-51 on Jan. 3. Senior Jordon Peterson led the Wildcats with an outstanding 29 points, 11 rebounds, one assist and one steal. Sophomore Josie Clemens followed with 14 points, one assist and three steals. Senior Kennedy Sparling also contributed a double digit performance with 13 points, one assist and three steals. Senior Julia Sparling had six points but did very well passing and moving the ball with seven assists and one steal. Freshman Addison Sparling also did very well moving the ball, having five points with five assists. Sophomore Darby Duncan and freshman Darien Watson totaled six points off the bench with Watson having four and Duncan with two. The Wildcats move their record to 4-1.

Northwestern Wildcats defeated the Faulkton Trojans 63-29 on Jan. 6. Senior Jordon Peterson broke out with another double digit game as she led the Wildcats with 19 points, two assists and five steals. Senior Kennedy Sparling added another 15 points, three assist and five steals. Sophomore Josie Clemens also added on 12 points, six assists and three steals. Senior Julia Sparling added another nine points with five assist and three steals. Freshman Addison Sparling contributed five points, one assist and one steal. The Wildcat bench added three points to the score with sophomore Darby Duncan with two points and freshman Peyton Groft with one point. The Northwestern girls move forward as they are now 5-1.

The girls' basketball team participated in the Redfield Classic once again and played extraordinary well, defeating Little Wound 70-39 on Jan. 10. Senior Jordon Peterson led the Wildcats with 19 points and three steals. Sophomore Josie Clemens contributed 16 points, six assist and one steal. Senior Kennedy Sparling also scored in double digits with 14 points with four assists and one steal. Senior Julia Sparling totaled eight points with one assist and one steal. Freshman Addison Sparling added one point with one steal and one assist. The Wildcats also scored another 13 points off the bench with sophomore Darby Duncan having three points, Freshman Peyton Groft with three points and freshman Darien Watson with seven points. The Northwestern girls played very well and very hard and moved their record to 6-1.

The Wildcats defeated Sisseton with a home-court thriller 49-47 on Jan. 13. Senior Jordon Peterson pulled out a "Double-Double" this game having 17 points with 11 rebounds to go with one assist and one steal. Freshman Addison Sparling came out big, scoring 13 points with three assists. Senior Kennedy Sparling added 11 points to the girls' score also having three assist and one steal. Sophomore Josie Clemens put up six points on the board with two assist and three steals. Sophomore Darby Duncan came off the bench scoring two points to add to the score. The Wildcats played very well and very hard to come on top on the close game. They move their record to 7-1.



Senior Jordon Peterson reaches up to block a shot as sophomore Darby Duncan keeps her opponent behind her.



Senior Julia Sparling boxes out while keeping her eye on the ball.



Senior Jordon Peterson makes a reach for the rebound.

Come to Chelsea!

Main Street Chelsea, South Dakota

Join us Friday or Saturday nights for Prime Rib!



Phone: (605) 887-3788

Boys' Basketball...

By: Madison Styles

The Northwestern boys' basketball team defeated Edmunds Central 57-23 Dec. 16 in Mellette. Junior Logan Schentzel led the team with 14 points, six rebounds and one steal. Junior Isaac Groft added 13 points, five rebounds and six steals. Freshman Isaac Bauer came in close behind Groft with five steals and adding four points to the team score. As a team, the Wildcats made seven of 11 free throws and made 28 of 76 shots from the field. The Wildcats, 1-0, will next take on the Warner Monarchs Dec. 18 at home.

The Northwestern boys' basketball team lost to the Warner Monarchs 35-83 on Dec. 18 in Mellette. Junior Logan Schentzel led the team with nine points and four rebounds. Sophomore Derek Boekelheide followed with seven points, four rebounds and one steal. Senior Corbin Smith and junior Nolan Peterson each added five points to the team score. As a team, the Wildcats made nine of 12 free throws and made 14 of 49 shots from the field. The Wildcats, 1-1, will next take on Sunshine Bible Dec. 30 at the Aberdeen Civic Arena.

The Northwestern boys' basketball team fell to Sunshine Bible 46-62 Dec. 30 at the Aberdeen Civic Arena. Sophomore Derek Boekelheide led the team with 12 points, five rebounds and three steals. Eighth-grader Jarret Haven came in close behind Boekelheide with 10 points, four rebounds and two steals. Junior Isaac Groft followed with nine points, two rebounds and three steals, while Junior Logan Schentzel trailed Groft with eight points, four rebounds and one steal. As a team, the Wildcats made three of five free throws and made 23 of 74 shots from the field. The Wildcats, 1-2, will next take on Waverly South Shore Jan. 3 at home.

The Northwestern boys' basketball team lost to Waverly South Shore 45-73 Jan. 3 in Mellette. Sophomore Derek Boekelheide led the team with 13 points and six rebounds, with Junior Logan Schentzel following with nine points and three rebounds. Senior Corbin Smith added nine points, three assists and three rebounds. Eighth-grader Caleb Schentzel contributed seven points, three assists and two rebounds, with Junior Isaac Groft adding six points as well. As a team, the Wildcats made nine of 16 free throws and made 20 of 55 shots from the field. The Wildcats, 1-3, will next take on Florence Jan. 9 at home.

The Northwestern boys' basketball team slid past Florence/Henry 47-44 Jan. 9 in Mellette. Senior Corbin Smith led the team with 13 points, five rebounds and five steals. Junior Logan Schentzel followed with 12 points and nine rebounds. Junior Isaac Groft added nine points to the team score, as well as four rebounds and two steals with sophomore Derek Boekelheide also adding seven points, two rebounds and three steals. Eighth-grader Caleb Schentzel contributed six points, three rebounds and two steals to the final score. As a team, the Wildcats made 13 of 20 free throws and made 18 of 70 shots from the field. The Wildcats, 2-3, will next take on Aberdeen Christian Jan. 12 at home.

The Northwestern boys' basketball team lost to Aberdeen Christian 77-53 Jan. 12 in Mellette. Junior Logan Schentzel led the team with 19 points, seven rebounds and one steal with junior Isaac Groft following with 10 points and three rebounds. Senior Corbin Smith added seven points, seven rebounds and five steals to the final score, as well as eighth-grader Caleb Schentzel with seven points and two steals. Sophomore Derek Boekelheide contributed six points and two steals. As a team, the Wildcats made 11 of 15 free throws and made 23 of 69 shots from the field. The Wildcats, 2-4, will next take on Ipswich Jan. 16 away.

The Northwestern boys' basketball team fell short to Ipswich 78-58 Jan. 16 in Ipswich. Senior Corbin Smith led the team with 15 points, two rebounds and six steals. Sophomore Derek Boekelheide trailed right behind with 14 points, three rebounds, four assists and one steal. Juniors Logan Schentzel and Isaac Groft both contributed 12 points to the team score. As a team, the Wildcats made 20 of 33 free throws and made 21 of 72 shots from the field. The Wildcats, 2-5, will next take on Miller Jan. 17 in Mellette.

The Northwestern boys' basketball team lost to Miller 83-55 Jan. 17 in Mellette. Senior Corbin Smith and junior Trey Bierman led the team with 14 points each. Sophomore Derek Boekelheide trailed close behind with 12 points. Eighth-grader Jarret Haven contributed seven points, three rebounds and one steal to the final score. As a team, the Wildcats made 11 of 17 free throws and made 24 of 67 shots from the field. The Wildcats, 2-6, will next take on Warner Jan. 20 in Warner.



CherryBerry
self-serve yogurt bar



Contact us about:

- Catering
- Fundraising
- Social Events

519 6th Ave. SE, Aberdeen, SD 262-0204

Northwestern Booster Club

Supports Northwestern
Athletes and All Students



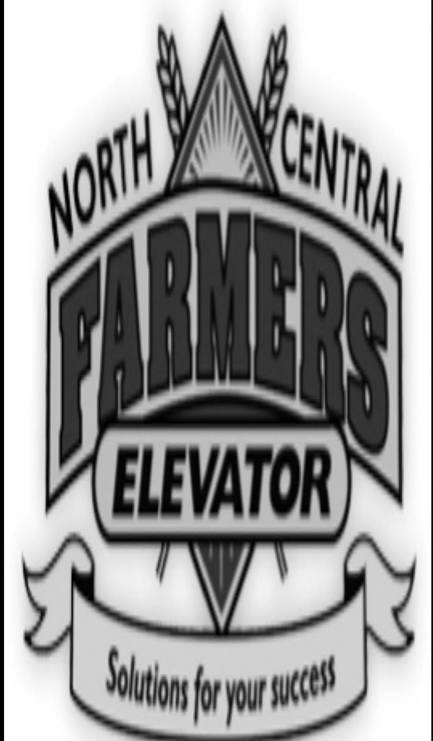
American
BANK & TRUST

PO Box 197
Mellette, SD 57461-0197
(605) 887-3471
Fax (605) 887-3231

24-Hr. Bank
1-866-539-0280

Member FDIC

Hometown People
Hometown
Spirit



Ipswich, South Dakota



Senior Kennedi Sparling keeps a centered mind before she goes up for a free throw against Sisseton.

Duncan Receives Assistant Coach of the Year

Photos and story by Kate Finley

Northwestern Assistant Volleyball Coach Doug Duncan received Class B Assistant Coach of the Year from the South Dakota Volleyball Coaches Association.

“It’s really an honor especially considering you’re nominated by your peers!” Duncan said.

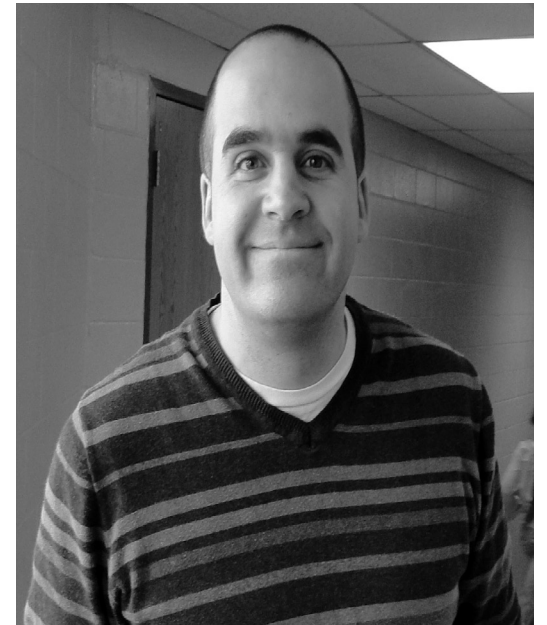
Duncan, a first-grade teacher, helped to lead the Wildcats to a 26-5 season. As a Wildcat assistant coach, he also helps coach the lower-level teams. The seventh-grade team went 7-3, the eighth-grade team went a perfect 14-0, the C team went 13-3 and the junior varsity team went 14-1. Combined, the Wildcat volleyball program sported a 74-12 record.

In the off-season, Duncan helps coach the Northwestern YMCA volleyball teams for grades 3-6. He is also the lead 16s coach for the Northeast South Dakota Volleyball Club.

Professionally, Duncan serves as the Executive Secretary and Class B Representative to the SDVBCA.

“I am very proud of Mr. Duncan

for winning this award. I don’t think people realize all that he does for the sport of volleyball, not only at Northwestern, but for the entire state. He always volunteers to help in any way that he can. He is a positive ambassador for our school,” head coach Nora Groft said.



Coach Doug Duncan

School Board Highlights: January

The walls are up at the new tech academy. Everything should be enclosed shortly to start working on the interior.

* 111 students at HATS took the career readiness exam. 55 of those attained the gold level.

* Dual credit grades did not get put on the report cards, but the grades were figured into the students GPA. The classes are on the students transcripts.

* Friday is the last day to add or drop classes.

* The Gettysburg boys basketball game has been rescheduled to Feb. 16.

* Jan. 12-16 has been declared School Board Recognition Week in South Dakota by proclamation of governor Daugaard. Thank you school board members for your service and leadership in the district.

* NW is considering the following capital outlay projects for the next three years: a bus barn; remodeling the library, offices, and bathroom remodel with new plumbing; roof projects.

* The board also brought up building a new auxiliary gym. We would like community feedback on this! Please contact one of the following to express your input: Brett Toennies 216-3702 or brettjen@venturecomm.net; Troy Grandpre 350-5076 or troygrandpre@hotmail.com; Mary Mielke 887-7305 or lmielke@nvc.net; Amy Troske 228-4594 or datroske@nvc.net; Heidi Boekelheide 290-3354 or heidib@nvc.net; Ryan Bruns 887-3467 or ryan.bruns@k12.sd.us; Lisa Frericks 887-3467 or lisa.frericks@k12.sd.us; Rich Osborn 887-3467 or Richard.osborn@k12.sd.us.

* NW had a number of NSU’s education majors conducting “junior field experiences” in the district during December to earn hours of experience for their degree in education. All reported back their gratitude and made nice comments about our welcoming staff and about the positive atmosphere they experienced while at NW.

* Thank you to American Trust Insurance for donating the CherryBerry proceeds to the school.

* W-2’s and 1099’s should be out by the end of next week.

* Approved a contract amendment for Rachel Ortmeier.

* Approved the traditional school board election date of June 16th, 2015. There will be two positions up for election/re-election.

* Approved the amendments to the Wellness Policy. Please see the attached to read the complete policy.

* Approved the Facility Use & Equipment Agreement for Community Access to Cardio Room/Weight Room/Small Gym. If you would like to use these facilities, please see the business office to complete the agreement and receive a key to the facilities. There will be an annual charge of \$25 per individual or \$50 per family. Students will not be charged, but they must be accompanied by an adult to use the facilities.

* Mary Mielke was approved as the Legislative Action Network member.

* Accepted the retirement/resignation from Vicki Mitchell.

* Congratulations to Josie Clemens for being chosen Student of the Month.

* Congratulations to the 7th grade math class for winning stock trading competition from Black Hills State University! They started with \$100,000 of play money and ended up with \$107,623 in stock increases.

* There will be a special board meeting on Jan. 23, 2015, at 2:30 p.m. for the board to meet with the staff to discuss how the year is going.

* Next regular meeting of the board is scheduled for Monday, February 9th at 7 p.m.

* The minutes of these proceedings will be published in their entirety in the Aberdeen American News during the week Jan. 11, 2015.

FBLA Celebrates with a Late Christmas Party

By: Abby Fischbach

The Future Business Leaders of America has a Christmas party every year to celebrate with classmates and create memories. The party involves high school students who are members in FBLA. At the party, many door prizes are given out, white elephant gifts, and each person brings a gift for the person they have been giving secret Santa gifts to all year. Secret Santa gifts are gifts that are given to people in FBLA from other members, but they do not know who is giving them gifts until the Christmas party when the Secret Santa brings a large gift.

“It started out pretty good with pizza and conversation and then I ended up getting robbed during the white elephant gift exchange when my Gatorade was stolen,” senior Zach Duncan said.

“The white elephant gift ex-

change was very fun and exciting. The whole party was a lot of fun,” sophomore Andrew Lefforge said.

“White elephant was a big hit as always! The party was tons of fun, and I had a great time,” junior Codi Sparling said.



FBLA members wait in anticipation for their white elephant gift exchange number to be called.

Juniors Abby Fischbach and Cameron Bohl are caught laughing and having a great time at the party.

Pictures by Kate Finley

NORTHWESTERN AREA PRESCHOOL SCREENING

The Northwestern Area School District will be screening children who will be three years old on or before March 16, 2015 or five years old on or before Sept. 1, 2015. Any four year olds that were not screened last year are also encouraged to be screened at this time. The screening will take place on Monday, March 16, 2015 in the Northwestern Elementary addition. Please stop at the pre-registration table in the choir room when you arrive.

The screening includes all children who will be in the 2015-2016 Kindergarten class.

Children will be screened in gross and fine motor skills, general concepts, communications skills, vision and hearing. Additionally, the county nurse will be available to give general physical examinations to the upcoming kindergarten class members. Early identification of difficulties can help alleviate health or educational problems, which may develop during a child's education.

As part of the school's "Child Identification Project," HEARTLAND HANDS OF BIRTH TO THREE CONNECTIONS, Rich Jankord, will be available on the testing date to screen children who are younger than three years of age upon request. Mr. Jankord will be available only if appointments are made in advance through the school.

This is a FREE service provided by the school district. The screenings take approximately 45 minutes.

If you are interested in having your child screened, please contact Jessica Halvorson at 887-3467 x110 between 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. (at least 14 days before the screening) to make an appointment. After appointments have been received, letters will be sent to each family of who has called and made an appointment to verify their time slot for March 16th.

If you know of a family who is unaware of the date for this screening, please share this information or contact the office at the number given. Thank you!

KAMEN EQUIPMENT INC
Specializing In
Livestock Equipment & Ag Machinery
New & Late Model Farm Machinery

JAMES KAMEN 605-225-4827
JERALD KAMEN 605-225-4165
13998 386th Ave. Aberdeen, SD 57401

Flinner's Grill

MUSTANG SEEDS™

Northville Location
15410 373rd Ave
Northville, SD 57465
www.mustangseeds.com
Madison, SD 57042
Toll Free: 1-800-952-3234

Joel Vetter
District Sales Manager
Cell: (605) 380-9111 • joelvetter@mustangseeds.com

Sales, Parts & Service

Crawford Trucks & Equipment, Inc
East Highway 12
Aberdeen, SD 57401

Bus. Phone: 605-225-6200

Journalism Students Editorial

Are Priceless Prom Memories Really Priceless?

Prom. Is the price tag worth the priceless moments? Are the moments as priceless as they are expected to be? Where is the line crossed on how much we spend?

Every year at Northwestern, the junior class is expected to hold fund raisers and to be put in charge of hosting a prom to be held in April. Some students see this as an extravagant opportunity to spend whatever is necessary to have an enjoyable night. Other students view this as a mis-use of time and a lot of money. Some students would like to have a prom without a giant price tag.

To some, having prom in high school is worth it. Most girls in high school love to have the experience of being able to have one fancy night. Those who don't think prom is worth it are not forced to go--it is just another night to spend with friends and have fun! But what if a person wishes to go but does not have the money to buy what is "needed" to attend prom, like a "fancy" dress? There are also those who do not have a date or partner for the evening. Is it not "required" to have a date to attend prom with? Yes, prom is another night to hang out with friends, but what if your friends have dates, and you do not? Prom can be classified as a party that is invite-only and your invite was never sent. Therefore, the students who feel required to obtain these necessities for prom and do not have them will not attend. This can cost many students and the prom attendees will be smaller in number.

There is no guarantee students will have fun. Hopefully, they will have a lovely time. However, thousands of

dollars are being used on a single night. Many hours of time are devoted to assembling and decorating the gym for this. Is it really worth it?

Granted, students dress up, look nice and use manners. The junior learns to work together to raise money and put on an event. These are important.

However, could there be a way to encourage all students to attend prom, since there is so much money going into it? Could we spend less on prom so the students can focus on enjoying each other's company, rather than making sure the gym looks pretty? Is it truly necessary to spend so much money on one night to spend time with friends we see every day? When can we start using that money for graduation or college funds?

Let's try to spend less money on prom. Thousands of dollars for one night is a bit much. According to *USA Today*, average teens spend \$1,078 on everything they get for prom, including dress, hair, nails, transportation, meals, photos, etc. An average prom set costs \$3,500. When we take the number of prom attendees times \$1,000 and add in the cost of the set, the disc jockey, the photographer, etc., we are spending quite an impressive total.

According to Mr. Richard Osborn, local scholarships can range from \$250 to \$500, the same as the average prom dress cost. What would you rather have, a scholarship on awards day or a dress you can only wear once? It is time to put things into perspective and teach students responsible spending. Saving for college might be a better investment in our young people.



We're growing with you.

Our Family Business Serving Yours for Over 30 Years

ProAg
SUPPLY Inc.

Sales • Delivery • Service

• Fertilizer • Seed
• Tanks • Sprayers

E Hwy 12 Aberdeen
ProAgSupply.com • 225-9221

Wheat
GROWERS
Connecting Solutions

Proudly Supports our

NORTHWESTERN WILDCATS!

In the Hallway...

Photos and story by: Cameron Bohl

What is your favorite app to use and why?



"Instagram because it is a social media that allows you to see and post pictures and videos," freshman Tyler Braun said.



"Snapchat because you are able to actually see people's facial expressions instead of just texting with no expression," sophomore Andrew Lefforge said.



"Hay Day because it allows be to act like a farmer," junior Kirstin Borge said.



"Twitter because it allows me to be witty and sarcastic," senior Jordon Peterson said.



"Trivia Crack because I like to challenge my knowledge," Mrs. Shelley Fischbach said.

In the Middle School...

Photos and story by: Madison Styles

Whom do you want to be your Valentine?



"Joe Groft, because he's amazing and awesome," sixth-grader Alexis Rahm said.



"Lance Lundgren, because we're really close friends, and he's super nice," sixth-grader Bailey Heim said.



"Kaitlyn Lefforge, because she's nice," seventh-grader Tristan Dvorak said.



"Zac Efron, because who doesn't like Zac Efron?" seventh-grader Hailey Boekelheide said.



"If this wasn't going in the paper, I would say Addi, but I guess I'll go with Carrie Underwood," eighth-grader Caleb Schentzel said.

In the Elementary...



"Ty Boekelheide, because he really likes me, and he actually loves me," kindergarten Abigail Schnell said.



"My daddy, because he used to be the best player in basketball, and now I am in basketball, and he teaches me," first-grader Molly VanHatten said.



"Myself, because I like myself," third-grader Lincoln Woodring said.



"Haley, because she writes nice stuff to me, and she's a nice and loving sister," fifth-grader Emma Grandpre said.

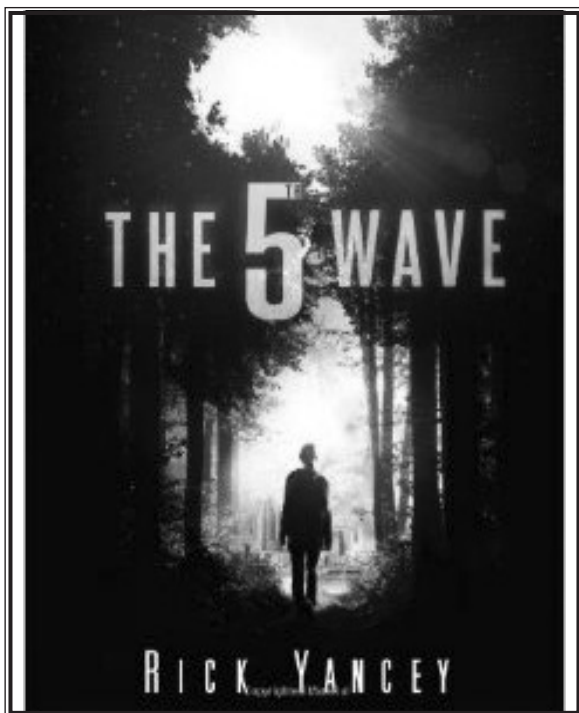


"Malana, because she likes the month of February and that's the month of my birthday," fifth-grader Kade Stahl said.

Rachel's Book Shelf

By: Rachel Rausch

The 5th Wave



In his book *The 5th Wave*, Rick Yancey takes on his own spin of the classic “aliens vs. humans” war.

Aliens have started taking over the world, but not in the way everyone expects. There are no flying saucers or alien robots declaring war, no green beings with large heads, long ears and multiple eyes. The aliens are taking over the world in the most intimate way possible, by becoming human.

The attacks come in different waves. Four waves have occurred so far, and the remaining human survivors are few. What makes things worse is that they can trust no one because it remains impossible to tell whether a body belongs to a person or an alien.

This book follows Cassie and Ben, switching between their view points. Cassie is on her own, not sure if she is the last human alive or not. All she wants is to find her brother. Ben, on the other hand, is living in a camp with hundreds of other kids training to be soldiers that will fight off the aliens.

“A modern sci-fi masterpiece . . . should do for aliens what *Twilight* did for vampires.”—USAToday.com.

For those who have loved *The Hunger Games*, *Divergent* and other young-adult books-turned-movies, *The 5th Wave* promises to be the next big blockbuster. Read it now!

Pass the Popcorn

By: Kate Finley

“What’s On Netflix!”

Netflix has announced the shows and movies that are coming to the streaming service in February (including the third season of *House of Cards*). But it also announced a slew of titles it will remove (including three separate *Batman* films). The good news: Your *Doctor Who* is safe. So what movies should you be going to watch on Netflix? Here is a list of movies and TV shows being added this February.

Available Feb. 1

Bleach the Movie: Hell Verse
Dark Ride

Departures: Season 12

Gimme Shelter

Gucci: The Director

Hot Pursuit

Houseboat

Into the Blue 2: The Reef

Joe

King Arthur

Magic City: Seasons 1-2

MASH: Seasons 1-5

Naruto Shippuden: The Movie

Now: In the Wings on a World Stage

Proof

Spartacus: Complete Series

The Brothers Bloom

We Could Be King

We’re No Angels

Zapped

Available Feb. 5

The Little Rascals Save the Day

Available Feb. 6

Ever After High: Spring Unsprung

Danger 5

Available Feb. 7

Dead Snow: Read vs. Dead

Elsa & Fred

Available Feb. 8

Blood Ties

Catch Hell

Available Feb. 10

Dwight Howard: In the Moment

Available Feb. 11

Mr. Peabody & Sherman

Available Feb. 12

Young Ones

The Two Faces of January

Scary Movie 5

Available Feb. 13

Mako Mermaids: Season 2

Available Feb. 16

Save the Date

Available Feb. 17

The Overnighters

Available Feb. 18

Earth to Echo

In Secret

The Fluffy Movie

Available Feb. 19

White Bird in a Blizzard

Available Feb. 20

Richie Rich: Season 1

Available Feb. 21

RoboCop

Available Feb. 24

Hawaii Five-0: Seasons 1-4

1,000 Times Good Night

Available Feb. 26

Open Windows

Russell Brand: Messiah Complex

Available Feb. 27

Ralphie May: Unruly

House of Cards: Season 3

Boys

By: Madison Styles

Maddie's Music Review

Twenty-three-year-old unique singer-songwriter Ed Sheeran grew up in Halifax, West Yorkshire, UK, never imagining he would end up being one of the most popular people in the music industry known today. As soon as Sheeran reached his teenage years, he made the executive decision to move to London to pursue his music career. He then began playing hundreds of live shows in attempt to make people remember his name. Along with this, Sheeran posted online

videos of his music that helped him gain popularity immensely, with some of his songs even reaching No. 1 on the iTunes chart before he ever even signed with a recording label, something unheard of these days. Venturing away from his comfort zone, Sheeran came to the United States and immediately became recognized by Jamie Foxx who asked him to play on Sirius radio show. Shortly after releasing an album, it reached No. 2 on the charts without any promotion, landing him a

record deal with Atlantic Records that same month. He released a major debut studio album shortly after, selling millions of copies all within a short six months. Sheeran began co-writing with bigger artists such as One Direction and Taylor Swift, even opening for Swift’s 2013 arena tour. Swift and Sheeran both call each other best friends to this day and can be found together frequently.

“Be nice to everyone, always smile and appreciate things because it all could be gone

tomorrow,” Sheeran said.

Sheeran currently holds the No. 2 spot on the iTunes chart with his single “Thinking Out Loud” off of his *X* album. Everyone appears to be in love with this fiery ginger with such a soft, chill sending voice. If Sheeran continues doing what he does best, people will only continue to fall more and more in love with him everyday. I know I do.

