



THE EAGLE'S WING

Keota Jr./Sr. High School Student Newspaper



STUDENT OF THE WEEK

By CHASE KINDRED

Brady Duwa is this week's KHS Student of the Week. He is in twelfth grade. He really enjoys the bond between all the kids in this small school. He has one sister, Brianna. Throughout high school he has played multiple sports, including football, baseball, basketball, and track. Brady takes a lot of pride in sports. He even made a trip to the Dome alongside his teammates for football this year. He is also interested in doing things like speech, lifting, hunting, and occasionally playing video games with his friends.

As for his favorite class, he really enjoyed Ms. Bries' class in eighth grade because "We made some pretty good memories in that class," he said.

If there was one fact about Brady that no other student would believe if they heard it, it would be that he is extremely superstitious when it comes to sports. The people that know Brady the best would be his teammates in sports and the people in his class.

This wraps up getting to know KHS senior Brady Duwa just a little bit better.

WHIP OF THE WEEK



By MAX JOHNSON

This week's Whip of the Week is on Conner Woltering's 2016 Ford Fusion. Conner has had this car for one year and it has 67,000 miles on it. It is black with a tan cloth interior, but Conner said he wishes it would be a leather interior, so he could keep it clean easier. The car gets 29 miles to the gallon and has a four cylinder engine. Conner doesn't have any presets in his car because he uses his phone to run the radio.

One person has owned this car before Conner, but he doesn't know who it was. The Fusion can fit four people comfortably, but it can fit five if it had to. If he had to guess the top speed of his car, he would guess 110 miles per hour.

Conner doesn't have a favorite memory with his car, but his worst memory is hitting a pheasant. Conner hasn't named his car and he hasn't gone on any road trips with it yet. The places Conner takes his car the most are school and work.

We wish Conner and his car the best of travels in the future.

KHS SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

Averiy's Road to the Animation Studios



By LEXI PURKEYPILE

Averiy Sara-Alice Ackerman-Axume was born on August 8, 2002. Her parents are Elizabeth Ackerman, Juan Axume, and Wendy Axume. Her siblings are Thedianna Ackerman-Axume, Ericka Axume, Alexia Axume, George Axume, and Athalia Ackerman. Her mother loves to refer to Averiy as "Dootster," while to her close friends she is commonly referred to as "Ave" and every once in a while as "Oliverly."

When asked what is something she admires most about her family members, Averiy said, "I admire my mother's strong will. She's strived through lots of hardship in her life. I also admire my sister, Anna, because she is the person I look up to as my

role model." One of Averiy's favorite childhood memories is when her family would take long drives to Kansas or Nebraska, where she would fall asleep peacefully listening to music against the car window.

As a young girl, Averiy dreamed of being an artist. As the years went by, Averiy's plans changed slightly, but she has yet to give up on her goals of wanting to pursue a career in art. She learned from her experiences and she challenges her skills on a daily basis. In fact, one of the accomplishments Averiy is most proud of is when she drew portraits of the entire Class of 2018 as a freshman in high school. Her portraits ended up being on the Class of 2018's class shirts as well, adding to her amazing accomplishment.

Averiy describes herself as a nice, weird, and confusing person. As a fellow classmate of Averiy's, I would describe Averiy as a caring, crazy, funny, and unbelievably skilled person that I know will be able to achieve great things in life and accomplish anything she puts her mind to!

In Averiy's free time she likes to make comics and create little animations. She says, "The reason why I like this hobby is that it is very

fulfilling to see the characters that I make come to life in pictures."

As of now, Averiy plans on attending Kansas City Art Institute (KCAI) to pursue a career in the field of Animation. When asked why she chose to attend KCAI and why she chose to be an animation major, she replied, "The school is very nice. I chose animation because I want to create and manage major picture projects."

Averiy has three things in life she really wants to accomplish. Firstly, she wants to make a project that the whole world will fall in love with. Secondly, she wants to find happiness in another person and be able to live the rest of her life happy with them. And thirdly, Averiy wants to help someone change their life for the better.

Throughout her high school years, KHS has offered many courses to help educate students. Averiy's favorite classes were all of the art classes she got the chance to take with Ms. Miller. She loved having classes in which she was able to think creatively, and she loved being able to talk with Ms. Miller throughout her teachings.

Besides art classes, Averiy also believes that College Prep was the class that prepared her most for life

after high school, because it helped her learn how to write resumes, essays, and scholarship applications. One thing she loves about Keota High School is the small class sizes, which helped her get more one-on-one teaching opportunities.

In high school, Averiy was involved in volleyball during her freshman and sophomore years and Large Group Speech all four years of high school. Speech is her favorite extracurricular activity because she gets a chance to portray her characters to others.

Averiy wants to be remembered as the kind oddball of the Class of 2021. She leaves one piece of advice to future KHS seniors: "Try, because then at least you know you tried it."

We all wish Averiy the best of luck in her future endeavors.



ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

By CALLIE MCNURLEN



This week's Athlete of the Week is Macie McDonald. Macie is a junior this year at KHS.

She is playing on the varsity girl's basketball team as the guard. Something that Macie is looking forward to this season is playing with her friends and getting to compete with others. She would like to improve on her shooting form, timing, getting to the free-throw line, and being more aggressive.

Macie's motto is "Don't let it beat you twice." Something that Macie enjoys about basketball is ruining their coach's day. He likes to say, "I was in a good mood until I came here." Coach Jeff Sproule and the girls basketball team enjoy their time mixing in practice time and joking around. They also like to stop and have a tea time with the team's assistant coach, Tim Clarahan.

Macie has one final piece of advice for everyone. "Before you play basketball, figure out if you're right handed or left handed."

We wish Macie the best of luck for the rest of the basketball season.

KHS Speech Students Prepare for Districts



By AVERIY ACKERMAN-AXUME

The Keota High School Speech season is in full swing, and students have been hard at work in preparation for District Contest on Sunday, Jan. 24. "I think that practices are going far better than expected, given the pandemic situation," said Coach Gina Bennett. "We have only had one weather day so far, so that's a plus. Everyone comes this year with a good attitude and ready to work."

The Speech program has six groups this year, including two choral readings, two

group improves, one ensemble acting, and one reader's theater.

"The Freshman choral reading has been a lot of fun, due to their willingness to work hard without complaint. I guess they'll do anything for a couple of glazed donuts," Bennett commented. "Senior high groups bring experience and confidence. They understand the importance of each and every rehearsal and are always willing to be flexible with their schedules."

The first group of improv consists of Ashlyn Ross, Lexi Purkeypile, and Jocelyn Purkeypile. The second improv group consists of Averiy Ackerman-Axume and Jared Adams.

The freshmen Choral Reading, "Breaking Badly," stars Madison Scott, Makala Baughman, Chase Sieren, Conner Strand, Aiden McGuire, Addy Anderson, Aubrey Campbell, Evan Vittetoe, Will Carlson, Sawyer Stout, Noah Fisher, Cole Kindred, and Emily Sheetz.

The second Choral Reading group, "Note to Self,"

stars Taylor Kindred, Brandon Greiner, Kota Hammen, Makenzie Jackson, Taylor Garman, Averiy Ackerman-Axume, Ashlyn Ross, Lexi Purkeypile, Aiden Conrad, Dulaney Clubb, and Nicole Clarahan.

The Reader's Theater group, "Swim the Fly," stars Riley Hahn, Carson Sprouse, Chase Kindred, Luke Hammen, Patrick Clarahan, Sam Sieren, Lindsey Imhoff, Sky Weber, Max Johnson, Brady Duwa, and Bryce Greiner.

Ensemble Acting's production, "Captive Audience," stars Sky Weber, Lindsey Imhoff, Taylor Kindred, and Jenna Jaeger.

The Freshman Choral Reading, "Breaking Badly," is about a video store that houses different break-up situations. The Ensemble Acting performance of "Captive Audience" is a comedy about how television influences our lives.

"I think our selections will provide something for everyone to enjoy," Bennett said. Districts will be held at Keota on Sunday, Jan. 24, beginning at 11:00 a.m.

"We will run this event

just as if we went to another school," Bennett said. "Due to the pandemic, we cannot travel. However, there are advantages to that, such as not having to carry blocks and large armloads of costumes. We will also host our own State contest. Everything will be the same except no other schools will be here. Just like State, a group can receive an All-State nomination."

The public is invited to come and support the speech team, per the recent proclamation made by the governor. There will be minimal costuming and, as in the past, no photography will be allowed.

"I think we are very fortunate that we have not been hit hard by Covid," Bennett said. "It has been a strange year, to say the least, and so many things were up in the air, but thanks to the guidance from administration and teachers, and the diligence by students to wear a mask, we have been able to have a successful speech season this year."

Junior High and High School Wrestling

By GRANT GARMAN

The SK wrestling team is off to a good start this season. Coach Trevor Weeks said this year has been a crazy year in wrestling, and in any sport, because of the Covid-19 virus.

There are two junior high wrestlers from Keota this year: Caden Clarahan (grade 8) and Owen Menke (grade 7). They had three meets before Christmas break at Lynnville-Sully, Davis County, and Oskaloosa. They finished off their season with a meet at Sigourney.

"They are both very good in their own ways," Mr. Weeks said of his two junior high wrestlers. "Owen is a guy that wanted to beat his opponents by more every time. He knows the ins and outs of wrestling in SE Iowa. Caden was a technician. He wanted to use more difficult moves. Sometimes it didn't work out

for him, but he was trying things. Both of these athletes would have no trouble competing against higher competition in the high school practice room. I would put these two against anyone in the state. That is how confident I feel!"

Weeks said the next step for the program would be to get the junior high wrestlers into the weight room. "We just need to get ourselves a little tougher, physically and mentally," he said.

Weeks said he is always trying to get a few more kids to go out for wrestling. He currently has some parents bringing over their elementary students to youth practices on Mondays and Thursdays at 6 p.m. "I have people in the community that are genuinely interested in what we do," Weeks said.

Hunter Sieren (freshman) is the lone Keota wrestler on the high school team. Coach

Weeks said he has been a great addition to the room this year. At the most recent JV tournament in Independence on Saturday, Jan. 16, Sieren got fourth place. Weeks commented, "Come sophomore, junior and senior years, he will be really good. He wrestles with a lot of talented kids in the room and he is very coachable."

Overall, this season has seen a growth in numbers in the program, with 18 high school wrestlers this year compared to only eight last year. "That gives SK a lot more competition in the room," Weeks said.

On Friday, Jan. 8, the high school team had a dual meet at Sigourney against North Mahaska and Iowa Valley, and even though they ended up losing to Iowa Valley, it came down to the last match.

Some of the big dual meets coming up are on Monday, Jan. 25 at Sigourney against

long time rival Pekin, and on Saturday, Feb. 6 they have a sectional meet in Sigourney.

Fan favorite Jack Clarahan (Sigourney sophomore) is coming into the season with good form, and whatever meet he goes to he always puts on a good show, Weeks said. Heavyweight Zach Smithhart (Sigourney junior) has only been wrestling for a month, but he is a tough addition to the room and he even wrestled a returning state champ runner up for girls. Zach also wrestled the rank 10 guy from North Mahaska. Another new wrestler to the room is Cade Molyneux (Sigourney junior) who Coach Weeks says is the toughest athlete he has seen in this area.

"We have a lot of tough guys who love to compete and support the SK wrestling program and each other," Weeks said. "It will be exciting to see how the program continues to improve in the next few years."

BLAST FROM THE PAST

By SAM SIEREN

HOW WILL SENIORS RESPOND THE SECOND TIME AROUND?

Each week, we ask a senior the same question they were asked for the Question of the Week when they were younger. Let's see how their responses have changed over the years...

RILEY HAHN

Q: What is your New Year's resolution??

7th:

A: "To get more homework done."



12th:

A: "To play less video games."



2020-21 EAGLE'S WING STAFF

Averiy Ackerman-Axume, Jaydin Benford, Brady Duwa, Grant Garman, Riley Hahn, Luke Hammen, Jenna Jaeger, Max Johnson, Chase Kindred, Callie McNurlen, Lexi Purkeypile, Sam Sieren, Carson Sprouse, Sky Weber, Conner Woltering
Adviser: Angela Conrad

This page was composed and designed by Keota High School students. The Keota Eagle is not responsible for the makeup or editorial content expressed.

Question of the Week: What did you want for Christmas this year? By Luke Hammen



Mr. Stout Staff
"A new practice jersey for Sam"



Brady Duwa 12th
"A Playstation 5"



Jared Adams 11th
"A Forge"



Macie McDonald 10th
"For people to put up more Christmas lights"



Carson McDonald 9th
"A new bike"



Ashton Galindo 8th
"A bow sight for hunting"



Jackson Vittetoe 7th
"A new iPhone"