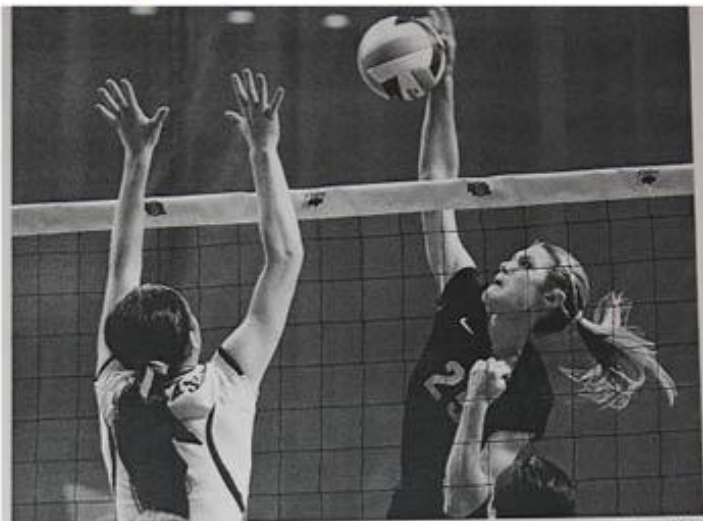




Hallway Happenings

VOLUME 18
ISSUE 5

February
2015



Lindsey Siegel uses her jumping ability to get up high and spike the ball. Photo by Rick Turner courtesy of Kearney Hub

Lindsey Siegel, Player of the Year, Signs with Hastings

Lindsey Siegel, quiet until she's on the court the Kearney Hub stated. Those of you who know Lindsey know she's quiet and respectful and works hard at everything she does. Her work paid off as she was recently awarded the Hub Territory Volleyball Player of the Year. In the interview she gives credit to her early years when her parents had her involved in team sports as early as 3rd grade. Fast forward nine years and The Kearney Hub calls her "An all-around player." She was third in the region in kills, averaging nearly 5 per set; fifth in blocks, averaging more than 1.5 per set; and in the top 10 in hitting efficiency (.364) and digs (4.56 per set). She also ranked 16th in ace serves. Head Coach Pat Hoblyn stated in the Hub "She's the total package. She can do about anything. If she needed to be a setter she could be a setter. If she needed to be a passer she could be a passer. She could do everything. She was just an all-around player". As you look down the list of past Hub Territory Players of the year, the last ten years of awards are dominated by large schools. The Spartan team needed

their quiet person with loud skills during the state championship game this fall. If you would like to read the Kearney Hub's official article, you can go to: http://www.kearneyhub.com/sports/local/hub-territory-volleyball-player-of-the-year-quiet-in-nature/article_9a28945a-757f-11e4-a6b1-a3519cadb9d7.html



Photo by Mrs. Varah

Lindsey Siegel turned down UNL and signed with Hastings College to play volleyball and compete in track. She is pictured with her future volleyball coach Matt Buttermore and her high school volleyball coach Pat Hoblyn. By Justine Pickar and Mrs. Varah

January Important Dates:

Dec. 29 & 30 Holiday Tournament
(at Giltner)

Jan. 5 No School-Teacher Inservice

Jan. 6 School Resumes

Calendar of Events:

Full activity calendar and menu enclosed
All information and full color photos
available at our website:
litchfieldpublicschools.org

Colophon:

The Hallway Happenings is a forum of student expressions. The content decisions are made by student journalists.

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Published monthly:
Litchfield Public Schools
PO Box 167
Litchfield, Ne 68852

Four hundred issues are published for all residents of Litchfield and the surrounding communities.

Red Ribbon Week

Every year the Litchfield students participate in a coloring contest to promote being Drug and Alcohol free. The contest was for the K-6th grade students. The Litchfield Elementary students had to color pictures that promoted health and well-being by choosing a Drug and Alcohol Free Life. The winners were Ryan Handley, Walker Skrdla, Dylan Handley, Katherine Paitz, Caden Holm, and Tessa Shafer. The theme of the Red Ribbon Week poster contest was things to do instead of drugs.

By: Riley Casper



Photo by: Riley Casper

Watch Out UNK! Careers Class Wins Grant for Free College Visit

Everyone knows that college is a time to have some fun, make new friends, and most importantly gain a higher education. Another factor of college, that's much less exciting, is the cost. Before you even attend college, application fees, ACT tests, and college visits really do add up, and can tend to be stressful for most students. Thanks to Mrs. Kluender, Christopher Paitz, and the 8th grade careers class, one of these costs is minimized for a day. The careers class and Mrs. Kluender jumped at the opportunity to apply for a grant that would fully pay for a college visit to any college of their choice. 8th grader Christopher Paitz offered to fill out the application and write a letter to the grant committee, stating that a lot of the barriers that students face are being unable to pay for college and college visits. On November 4th, Mrs. Kluender was informed that their careers class had

won the grant! This \$500 grant can be used for transportation and mileage reimbursement, food, and to pay for substitute teachers that will replace Mrs. Kluender and Mrs. Poland for the day. All of the students agreed that they wanted to visit UNK and will be scheduling a visit very soon. Mrs. Kluender stated "I am proud of Christopher Paitz for taking the lead to write the essay and filling out the grant application so that we could have this wonderful experience." Stay tuned for an update on how the trip went later on in the year!

By: Carlie Smith



Photo by: Riley Casper

Little Stackers and Competition Stackers

For the 4th year in a row Litchfield Public school is starting their Speed Stackers. There are two categories in Speed Stackers. The first group, Little Stackers, have a total of 13 student members. In the second group, Competition Stackers, there are 12 student members. Speed Stackers is where we teach the kids how to stack cups, and they learn that there are three different forms of competition stacks. It is a fit based sport that keeps the kids active in everyday life. There are 5 coaches, Mrs. Poland, Riley Casper, Angel Halouska, RaNay Casper, and Amanda McClain. The stackers team has been selling cookie dough and we would like to thank everyone for buying the cookie dough to help support the Litchfield Little Stackers.

By: Riley Casper



Photo by: Angel Halouska

FBLA

FBLA cookbooks are still available in the school office or at Town & Country Bank. They would make a great Christmas gift!

FBLA is still collecting aluminum pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. Submitted by: Mrs. Dobesh

SENIORS

The year is halfway over! Winter break is a great time to get out the photo albums and pick your favorite photos of you darling senior. If you don't want the job give your senior the task to pick their favorites second semester will try and soon it will be time to walk across the stage. Help us be ready with a great slide show by getting us:

10 growing up pictures from birth to senior picture by The IDEs of March, March 5th! Please give them to Mrs. Varah or the office. Thank you!

By: Mrs. Varah

YEARBOOKS!!! Reduced Rate Extended for One Month ONLY

Yearbooks will be \$25 for the month of January. This is a one month extension of our low pre-order price. We will not be ordering any extra yearbooks so if you would like one now is the least expensive time to place your order. This year our yearbook will be even larger, it will have 20 extra pages. Take this opportunity to have a piece of your history. A form is included to purchase your yearbook at the lowest price. By: Justine Pickar

What's Your 'New Year's Resolution?

Danielle: "To Implement healthier eating habits and try new foods"



Photo by: Riley Casper

Mr. Sonnenfeld: "Grow out my beard"



Photo by: Justine Pickar

Gavin Cole: "Read more books"



Photo by: Riley Casper

Lori Bay: "Read more books"



Photo by: Riley Casper

Jacob Swearingen: "Save money wisley"



Photo by: Riley Casper

Tessa Shafer: "Save up more money"



Photo by: Riley Casper

Story by: Riley Casper

Christmas Program

Once again Litchfield's music director Andrea Zulkoski put together a wonderful Christmas program! Everyone did great job and you could tell that every student had been working hard on their pieces. There was everything from singing and dancing to guitars. The Pre-K and Kindergarten students sang their hearts out with several songs. The 1st and 2nd graders sang about how they decorate their Christmas tree. The 3rd and 4th grade students showed their multicultural side by singing "Penguin Polka." They even showed off their dancing skills by polka dancing. The 5th 6th graders did a great job playing their instruments and they even decorated them too! The Jr/Sr High band wowed the crowd with their playing of "Here Comes Santa Claus" and "Santa's Toy March". Jacob Ernst and Megan Wood did two duets played them beautifully! After the concert Santa Claus even made a surprise visit to Litchfield! Students were very excited to give Santa their last minute wish list! They even got a bag of candy provided by the Litchfield Booster Club. The Christmas program got everyone in the holiday spirit!

By: McKenna Unick



Photo by: Angel Halouska



McKenna Stegel and John Zimmer

Photo by: Angel Halouska

Carlie's Corner



Photo by: Justine Pickar

Giving

We've all heard those goofy, stereotypical New Year's Resolutions like losing weight, quitting smoking, and making more money. Well this year, my New Year's Resolution is to give back to others. The holidays are time for good food, fun with family, and giving back to others. You can't walk into a Walmart without seeing the iconic Salvation Army bell ringers, or giving trees in multiple different businesses. Whether it's the atmosphere, or the new after-Thanksgiving holiday deemed Giving Tuesday, people are more inclined to give back to others during the holidays. Christmas carolers line the hallways of nursing homes, people are whipping up batches of holiday cookies for the homeless shelter, and shoppers are putting a few dollars in the Salvation Army bucket. It seems like everyone's needs are met for those few short weeks, but once December 26th rolls around, the hallways are silent throughout the nursing homes, the baking stops, and the Salvation Army bell ringers are nowhere in sight until the next holiday season. In 2013, there were 45.3 million people in poverty, and one in 45 children experiences homelessness each year, just in the U.S. alone. Notice that the statistics don't say that they're in poverty from the months of November-January; they're in poverty all year long. Most people are probably reading this

thinking "well I'm struggling to pay my own bills, I just don't have the money to help others", which is very true of most Americans today. Giving back doesn't mean you have to drain your bank account, giving back is all about doing things because you care about others. Who's to say that you can't donate your unused clothes in the middle of April, or send over a batch of cookies in August? There are so many things that can be done throughout the year that require little time, and no money. Something as simple as mowing your elderly neighbor's backyard or donating your time by volunteering at the local blood drive are very cost effective ways to give back. As the holidays are coming to an end, don't let the good deeds follow suit.

By: Carlie Smith

One Act

The Litchfield One Act may have ended their season, but not without some accomplishments! This season many students received numerous awards at their competitions! Senior Nicole Wardyn received an Outstanding Acting Award at Loup City Parade of Plays and at Ord Chanticleer Drama Festival, an Honorable Mention for Acting at MNAC Conference and Outstanding Acting Award at Districts. Senior Ben Schrock received an Honorable Mention for Acting at MNAC Conference and an Outstanding Acting Award at Districts. Senior McKenna Unick received an Honorable Mention for Acting at MNAC Conference. Sophomore Rachel Snow received an Honorable Mention for Acting at MNAC Conference and an Outstanding Acting Award at Districts. Sophomore Hoss Smith received an Outstanding Acting Award at Loup City Parade of Plays and at Ord Chanticleer Drama Festival, an Honorable Mention for Acting at MNAC Conference, Runner-Up Outstanding Male Actor Overall at MNAC Conference and an Outstanding Acting Award at Districts. Freshman Tagert Osborne received an Outstanding Acting Award at Districts. As a team Litchfield One Act received 6th place at MNAC Play Competition and 5th place at Districts. They saw many

improvements throughout their season and are very proud of all their success! Mrs. Sauer, Mrs. Moser and the cast and crew would like to send a very special thank you to Drake Sauer for writing the play, building the dragon and designing the set. Mrs. Varah and her Art class for creating the set. Mrs. Varah, Mr. Kirby and their Metal Art class for creating the rocks. Litchfield Boosters, Town and Country Bank, parents, family, friends and community members for donating items and supporting our One Act Production and Soup Supper. One Act would not be possible without the help of all these people! Everyone is excited to see what year will bring! By: McKenna Unick



Hoss Smith, Hamilton Schrock, and Kelsie Rohde
Photo by: LaShaun Scheuffele



Justine Pickar and Kayla Reynolds
Photo by: Michaela Reynolds



Shawna Patiz Photo by: Michaela Reynolds

~Senior Spotlight~

Corbin James Snow



Photo by: Janelle Snow

Birthday: August 2, 1996
Nicknames: James
Hometown: Litchfield, NE
Favorite color: Blue
Favorite movie: Happy Gilmore
Favorite actor/actress: Adam Sandler
Favorite kind of music: Hip-Hop
Favorite music artist: Linkin Park
Favorite T.V. show: Big Bang Theory
Favorite author: Gary Paulsen
Favorite book/magazine: Outdoor
Favorite place to shop: Cabelas
Favorite animal: Cheetah
Do you have any pets: Yes, a dog
Favorite pastime or hobby: Hunting and Fishing
Favorite thing to do with friends: Hanging out at Sherman Lake
Favorite thing to do in spare time: Play video games
Favorite food: Chicken
Favorite drink: Orange pop
Favorite School Memory: Breaking a CD disk during study hall
Most prized possession: Hunting and fishing stuff
Favorite sport: Fishing
Favorite subject: Science
Classes that you are taking this year: College Speech, Government, Spanish, Study Hall, Physics, Personal Finance, and Pre-Calculus

Extracurricular activities: National Honor Society and Quiz Bowl

Favorite teacher: Mrs. Kluender

What are your plans after high school: Go to South Dakota School of Mines and get a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering

What are your lifetime goals: To become financially sound and then work on preserving land for hunting, fishing, camping, hiking, and other outdoor activities

Problem that concerns you the most: The environment not being preserved

What's unique about you: I sleep with my eyes open

If you could be anyone else who would you be: No one, I like who I am

Advice to underclassmen: Get your work done on time because it makes school way easier.

Senior Quote: The journey of a thousand miles begins with one step.
-Lao Tzu

Caleb Thomas Unick



Photo by: District 12 Studio Photography

Birthday: May 4, 1996

Nicknames: Toof

Hometown: Mason City

Favorite color: Blue

Favorite movie: Godzilla

Favorite actor/actress: Jennifer Lawrence and Morgan Freeman

Favorite kind of music: Country

Favorite music artist: Jason Aldean

Favorite T.V. show: The Last Ship

Favorite author: I don't read

Favorite book/magazine: Farm Journal

Favorite place to shop: Cabelas

Favorite animal: Cow

Do you have any pets: Cows

Favorite hangout: My house

Favorite pastime or hobby: Driving stuff

Favorite thing to do with friends: Hangout

Favorite thing to do in spare time: Sleep

Favorite food: Steak

Favorite drink: Pepsi

Favorite School Memory: State FFA

Most Prized Possession: My cows

Favorite sport: Basketball

Favorite subject: History

Classes that you are taking this year: Plant Science, Government, Metal fabrication, Art, College English, Personal Finance, and Pre-Calculus

Extracurricular Activities: Football, Basketball, Rifle Club, FFA, and TADA

Favorite teacher: Mr. Kirby and Mr. Friskopp

What are your plans after high school: Go to college and major in some sort of Agriculture

What are your lifetime goals: To be successful in whatever I do

What's unique about you: Nine of my teeth are fake!

If you could be anyone else who would you be: Caleb Thomas Unick

Advice to underclassmen: Get involved in as many extracurricular activities as possible, because that's what makes high school fun.

Senior Quote: "You can't fix stupid."
-Ron White

By: LaShaun Scheuffele

Sports Extra

Boys Basketball

On December 5, 2014 the Ansley-Litchfield Spartan played the Amherst Broncos. The game remained close until after halftime, with the halftime score being 26-27 Amherst. Unfortunately, Amherst pulled away in the second half and the Spartans lost 37-65. According to Coach Habe their strengths are that "the boys have a lot more experience and understanding of what is expected of them. We are beginning to play hard and compete every day". He said their weaknesses are taking care of the basketball and shot selection. On December 6, 2014 we played the Brady Eagles the boys fought hard in a back and forth battle against the Eagles. They came up just short losing by 3, 46-49. He thinks the season should be much improved and they will surprise many teams throughout the season. What he is most excited for is to have a solid group of boys returning, to see if they can continue to build from last year and see if the football success can carry over. Good luck to the Spartans this basketball season! Story by: Riley Casper



Boys basketball picture. Photos by: Lindsey Burki



Marshall Kohls passing the ball
Photo by: Michaela Reynolds

Girls Basketball

On December 5 the Ansley-Litchfield Lady Spartan played the Amherst Broncos. The girls were dominate and won 48-30. According to Coach Blauvelt "This year we have a lot of good things going for us, we have a number of girls returning that contributed last year and who have been in the system for a few years." He stated "The big thing for us to work on is getting our older more experienced group of girls to really push our younger group to get better as the season goes on." On December 6, 2014 the Ansley - Litchfield Spartans played the Brady Eagles. The girls controlled the game winning 60-32. According to Blauvelt "As a team we are looking to carry the momentum from a very successful volleyball season into basketball, with our own push to the State Tournament in March." He said "right now I think the team is just ready to start playing games and getting into the flow of the season." Hopefully the girls can have as much success on the basketball court as they had in volleyball, Good Luck Lady Spartans! Story by: Riley Casper



Girls basketball picture. Photo by: Lindsey Burki



Nicole Wardyn with the ball
Photo by: Michaela Reynolds

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BOXHOLDER



Not pictured, Carlie Smith

By: Riley Casper and Michaela Reynolds