



Jaguar Jamboree

Taylor Steffensmeier Senior Tribute



Taylor Steffensmeier was born on June 6, 2007, to Kevin and Cindy. She is the youngest of Alex, Katelyn, and Austin. Taylor and her parents live north of Howells. They have a dog named Snoop. She is involved in volleyball, basketball, track, FCCLA, National Honor Society, one act, and 4-H. When she has free time, she likes to go out to hang with friends and binge-watch TV shows. Her favorite class in school is psychology. Potato bowl is her favorite school lunch. When Taylor was asked what rules she would change or add, she said she would want to leave school for lunch. Taylor plans to go to Northeast Community College for nursing. If she won the lottery, the first thing she would purchase would be a new car. If Taylor could give advice to her freshman self, she would say, "Enjoy it while you can. Time goes by fast."

-Isabella Wegner

Senior Tribute

Manuel Sotello-Trujillo



Birthday- January 16th, 2006

Siblings- Older brother Jorge and older sister Arely

Plans after High School?

“Work at Seaboard Triumph Food.”

Who inspires you?

“My Dad.”

What would you change about our school?

“Change the color of our school and make it bigger.”

Favorite Quote?

“It always seems impossible until it's done.”

Favorite Lunch?

“Hot ham and cheese.”

What do you do with your free time?

“Hang out with buddies and drive around.”

Written by: Matt Brester

Mr. Polacek

Teacher Tribute



Mr. Polacek was born in 1968, and his hometown is Prague. He is the son of Alf and Carol and has a sister named Barb. Now he lives in Howells. In his free time, he likes to hike, kayak, camp, travel, watch sports, and do yard work. One of his favorite classes to teach is psychology. His favorite music artist is Bruce Springsteen. One rule he would make if he were principal would be that respect goes both ways. Some advice he would give to students is, "Find your best skill; then passionately use it as much as possible."

By Autumn Slaughter

Prom Day Schedule

3:30pm: All Juniors at the Howells Ballroom for class pictures with Kevin Gall.

4:00pm: All Seniors at the Howells Ballroom for class pictures with Kevin Gall.

4:15pm: Servers arrive and take pictures with Kevin Gall.

5:00pm: Prom Mass in Howells @ St. John's (*optional*)

6:00pm: Juniors, Seniors, and dates arrive for the Prom Banquet; *take a breathalyzer test.*

6:30pm: Banquet & Servers' Dance

***7:30pm-ish** (after meal and servers' dance is over): Doors open for the public and parents
Freshmen and Sophomores arrive and *take a breathalyzer test.*

8:00pm: Sophomore Servers, Juniors, and Seniors' Grand March. Followed by the Juniors and Seniors' Parent Dance. Following this, the public is asked to leave.

8:30pm-11:30pm: Dance.

12:00 am-3:00 am: Post Prom at the Dodge gym –students will again *take a breathalyzer test.*

FCCLA Members Compete At The State Leadership Conference

FCCLA Members competed at the Nebraska State Leadership Conference from Sunday, April 6, to Tuesday, April 8. Three groups of members qualified for Nationals. Kenadie Throener, Andre Martin, and Jose Arita-Segovia qualified in Level 3, Chapter in Review Display, receiving State Runner-up and a silver medal. Allie Dirkschneider, Kylie Brichacek, and Brody Throener qualified in Level 2, Chapter in Review Display, receiving State Runner-up and a silver medal. Brittney Faltys, Riley Svehla, and Ava Koliha qualified in Level 2, Repurpose and Redesign, receiving State Runner-up and a gold medal. These groups now have the opportunity to compete at the National Leadership Conference in Orlando, Florida, in July. While in Lincoln, members presented STAR events, attended leadership sessions, participated in an opportunity fair, and voted for future State and Peer FCCLA officers. As a chapter, we also received 5 awards: Silver Chapter Award, Community ServUS Award, White Chapter Affiliation Award, Feed Nebraska Award, and the 2024-2025 Membership Increase Award.



-Peyten Becker



FFA



The FFA state qualifiers traveled to Lincoln, Nebraska, to compete in state events on April 2nd and came back on April 4th. Dylan Brichacek also went down there and would be the only one to become a state degree recipient this year.

State FFA Qualifiers

Agriculture Mechanics and Technology- 21st overall

Garett Praest-Red Ribbon

Noah Coufal-Red Ribbon

Hunter Luther-Red Ribbon

Ethan Coufal

National Resource Speaking- Bronze

Isabel Belina presented Aquaculture

Natural Resources

McKenzie Sindelar

Bailey Paus

Kylie Dostal

Addison Beeks-Red Ribbon

Agronomy- 13th place

Cooper Kreikemeier- Blue Ribbon

Noah Coufal- Blue Ribbon

Garett Praest- Red Ribbon

Dane Meyer- Red Ribbon

Meat Evaluation

Hunter Luther- white Ribbon

Annemarie Slaughter

Hailey Knapp

Isaiah Coufal





That's a wrap on the Jaguar Speech Season!

On March 21st, the Jaguar Speech team traveled to Plainview to compete in the C2-4 District competition. This was going to be a tense day as the Jags were to compete against the Class D1 State Champion Team, Plainview, and rival school, Humphrey. Despite the pressure of the day, the Jags came out on top as the District Champion Team, qualifying 11 events for state! To qualify, an event must place in the top three.

Qualifiers: Adyson Serious Champion, Adyson POI Champion, Amy & Noah Duet Champion, Annemarie Poetry Champion, Isabel Informative Champion, "Chateau La Roach" OID 2nd, Amy Humorous 2nd, Addi Extemporaneous 3rd, Cooper & Isaiah Duet 3rd, Isabel Persuasive 3rd, Madi Informative 3rd

Finishes: "Maybe I Should Have Stayed in Bed" OID 4th, Annemarie Serious 4th, Garret Entertainment 4th, Garret Humorous 4th, Addi Poetry 5th, Alessa Persuasive 5th, Alessa Extemporaneous 6th

The Class C2 State Speech Championship was held at Kearney High on Thursday, March 27th. At state, competitors have three preliminary rounds compared to their typical two. After prelims, the wait begins to see what events have made it into the top six to compete in finals and secure a state medal. The Jags broke 6 events into finals out of the 11 that qualified. Final results were: **Adyson Serious Runner-Up**, **Adyson POI Runner-Up**, **Amy & Noah Duet 4th**, **Amy Humorous 4th**, **Isabel Informative 4th**, and **"Chateau La Roach" OID 6th**. The team finished in **3rd Place** overall, and Adyson Krupka was recognized for being the top individual point scorer in all of Class C2 on the day. Things did not go as the Jags wanted. There were some good surprises and some rough bumps in the road, but it was still an extremely successful day.

The Jaguars truly adopted their theme for the season, "Bring it on," from the movie "The Emperor's New Groove." They brought home seven plaques this year with one of them being a District Champion plaque and another being an East Husker Conference Champion plaque. Congratulations to each member of the team on a wonderful season, living up to the true Howells-Dodge name and reputation!



~ Adyson K.

Jaguar Quiz Bowl



On March 31st, the Jaguar Quiz Bowl team traveled to Clarkson after school to attend Conference. The team played 3 rounds to set their place in the bracket. They lost to Bancroft-Rosalie and Wakefield. Then won against Stanton. Once bracketed, they lost to the eventual Conference champion, Lyons-Decatur, and were done for the day.

Then, on April 2nd, the team went to Seward to compete in a classic quiz bowl. During the round robin section, the team played both Friend teams and Shelby Rising City. After a successful morning, the team played in the bracketed round but lost in the first round to Nebraska Lutheran. The team will compete one last time on May 7th at the Underclassmen Quiz Bowl.

Jaguar Golf



The Jaguar golf team has just kicked off their year at David City in the cold and windy weather. They placed 5th as a team in the rough conditions. Cash shot a 93, Carson shot 102, Chase shot 105, Konnor shot 120, and Melvin had 127. They also had a nine-hole meet at the Fairplay Golf Course. Cash shot a 56, Konnor shot a 57, Parker shot a 62, and Cooper shot a 64. Cash Renz said, "The greens were really fast, which made it tough." Pretty rough scores, but a good job competing in the conditions with many more golf meets to follow. The next golf meet is Thursday, April 10th, at 10 am at the Beemer golf course.

By Carson Heard

Jaguar Track

The Jaguar Track Team has been busy. They started the season with the Concordia Indoor Meet on March 21. Hunter placed 3rd in the 400. Andre placed 1st in the 60m hurdles, and Kylie placed 1st in triple Jump.

They attended the Lakeview quad for the first time on March 25. Autumn got 2nd in the 200. Hunter placed 1st in the 400, Autumn got 2nd, and Jerzie got 3rd. Ethan got 3rd in the mile. Amy won the 100m hurdles and 300m hurdles. Noah got 2nd in the 2-mile, and the girls' 4x100 got 2nd. Andre also got 2nd in the 110 hurdles. The boys' 4x400 got 1st and the 4x800 got 2nd. Briggs got 2nd in the shot put. Isabella got 3rd in long jump and 1st in triple jump, and Kylie got 2nd. Andre got 1st in high jump, and Dane got 3rd in long jump.

They also attended the Wisner-Pilger Triangular and the Aquinas Invite. At Wisner, Nathan placed 1st in triple jump, Andre got 1st in high jump, Peyton got 2nd in discus, Hunter got 3rd in discus, Maura got 1st in long jump, and Taylor got 3rd. Dane got 1st in long jump and Oliver got 3rd. Briggs got 3rd in shot put, and Kylie got 1st in triple jump. Grant and Jax got 1st and 2nd in the 100, Audrey and Andre got 1st in the hurdles. Maura got 1st in the 100, and the girls' 4x100 got 1st. Jerzie got 2nd in the 400, Hunter got 1st in the 400. Hunter and Autumn both got 1st in the 200. Peyton got 3rd in the 800, and Ethan got 2nd.

The Jaguars compete on April 10 in West Point and April 15 at Lyons-Decatur.

- Ava Noyd

Jaguar Q&A

A bunch of the students and some staff at H-D were asked the following questions, and here are their answers.

What is your biggest fear?

- "Snake and Wasps" -Ady Krupka
- "Getting struck by lightning" -Kenadie Throener
- "Skydiving" -Mrs. Van
- "Losing" - Dylan Brichacek

What is the weirdest thing you've ever done?

- "Being hypnotized to be a dancing chicken" -Amy Praest
- "Flew to Fort Lauderdale and then had to drive back home" -Mr. Brabec
- "Collecting cups in my locker" -Audrey Praest

What animal would be your spirit animal?

- "Unicorn" -Isabella Wegner
- "Dragon" -Allie Dirkschneider
- "Donkey" -Mr. Polacek
- "Pigeon" -Kylie Brichacek
- "Lion, King of the jungle" -Mr. Speirs

What sport would you compete in if you had to be in the Olympics?

- "Basketball" -Nathan Tomcak
- "Sand Volleyball" -Jade Bayer
- "Bobsledding" -Jordyn Ratzlaff
- "Basketball, so I could beat Nathan" -Cole Bayer
- "Artistic swimming" -Peyten Becker


What invention do you wish you had thought of first?

- "AI" - Autumn Slaughter
- "Apple products" -Ava Noyd
- "Air Fryer" -Grant Perrin
- "Kneadoh" -AnneMarie Slaughter
- "Google" -Miss Rayback

- Taylor Steffensmeier

April/May Upcoming Events

Tuesday, April 15: Golf Triangular @ Leigh (1 p.m.); High School Track @ Lyons (10 a.m.)

Wednesday, April 16: Golf @ Leigh (9 a.m.); EHC Art Show @ Clarkson; **10:15 LATE START** 

Thursday, April 17: FCCLA Meeting (7 p.m.); EHC Art Show @ Clarkson; Sophomores Pre-ACT; JH Track @ West Point (11 a.m.)

Friday, April 18: NO SCHOOL - EASTER BREAK  

Monday, April 21: NO SCHOOL - EASTER BREAK  

Tuesday, April 22: Golf Triangular @ Leigh (2 p.m.); High School Track @ Wakefield (1 p.m.)

Wednesday, April 23: Junior High Quiz Bowl  @ Seward (9 a.m.)

Thursday, April 24: JV Golf @ Leigh (9:30 a.m.); FCCLA Officer Interviews @ Ms. Rayback's Room (after track practice)

Friday, April 25: District Music @ Columbus 

Monday, April 28: FCCLA/FFA Banquet (6:20 p.m.); JH Track @ West Point (3 p.m.)

Tuesday, April 29: High School Track @ Lakeview (2 p.m.)

Wednesday, April 30: Golf @ North Bend (9:30 a.m.)


Thursday, May 1: Golf @ HSF (10 a.m.); High School Norfolk Track Classic

Friday, May 2: 6th Grade Move Up Day (8:15 a.m.-1:15 p.m.)

Saturday, May 3: High School Conference Track @ Oakland (9 a.m.)

Monday, May 5: FCCLA Highway Cleanup (6 p.m.); Senior Trip; JH Track @ Wisner (3 p.m.)

Tuesday, May 6: Golf @ Logan View (9 a.m.)

Wednesday, May 7: High School Track @ Humphrey/LHF (9 a.m.); Underclassman Quiz Bowl  @ Seward (9 a.m.)

Thursday, May 8: Golf @ Battle Creek (9 a.m.); High School Track @ Arlington (2 p.m.)

Friday, May 9: JH Conference Track @ Wisner; Graduation Practice (2:30 p.m.)

Saturday, May 10: Graduation @ Howells (4:30 p.m.) 🎓

Monday, May 12: Conference Golf @ Oakland (9 a.m.); JH Track @ Wakefield (1 p.m.)

Wednesday, May 14: High School District Track @ Humphrey

Monday, May 19: District Golf @ Leigh; Kindergarten Graduation @ Howells (7 p.m.) 🎓

Tuesday, May 20: District Golf @ Leigh

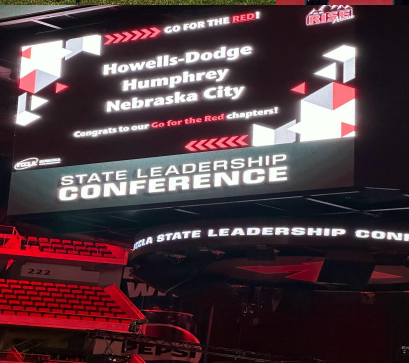
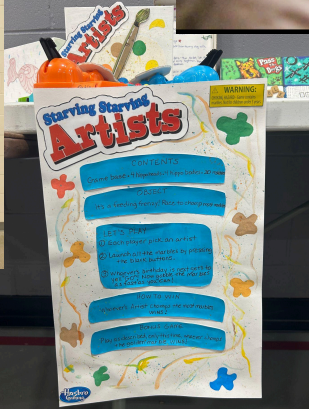
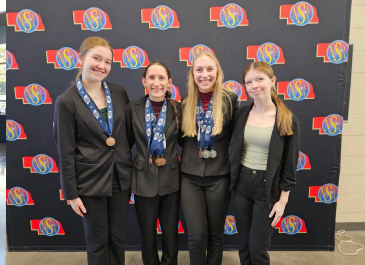
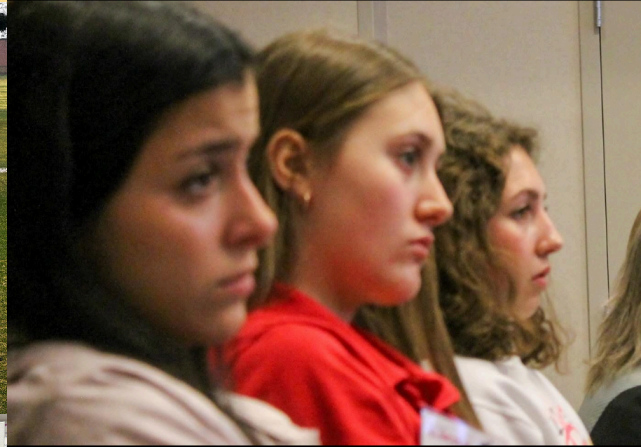
Wednesday, May 21: Last Day of School for Elementary 🏠

Thursday, May 22: Last Day of School for Grades 7-11, 11:30 Dismissal 🏠

Friday, May 23: High School State Track Meet @ Omaha Burke; Teacher Workday

Saturday, May 24: High School State Track Meet @ Omaha Burke

Wednesday, May 28: State Golf Meet @ Columbus



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