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Scratchin' Post

Volume 3 Edition 17 December 2013

Frericks and Schnoor win Snow Queen

By: Julia Sparling

The 2014 Snow Queen Festival held Nov. 16 at Northwestern School featured beautiful female participants and talented musical entertainment.

The Junior Snow Queen participants consisted of freshmen Klaryssa Schnoor, Lauren Kelley and Ali Johnson. The Senior Snow Queen participants consisted of seniors Kalen Frericks, Madison Hahler and Kristie Bade.

All of the participants spent the day rehearsing and getting ready for the big night. They got to enjoy the day together and also spend it with the former queens, sophomore Madison Styles and 2013 graduate Kaitlyn Sparling.



Talent winner Christine Morgan, Senior Snow Queen Kalen Frericks, Junior Snow Queen Klaryssa Schnoor and Junior Talent winner Maddie Styles pose with the 2014 Frosty, Chad Hansen, who is a 1992 graduate of Northwestern. .



Senior Snow Queen Kalen Frericks proudly wears her crown.



Junior Snow Queen Klarysaa Schnoor smiles for the crowd.

At the beginning of the night, the contestants welcomed everybody and introduced themselves. Junior talent consisted of Madison Styles singing "Famous in a Small Town" by Miranda Lambert and Ezekiel Duncan playing the "Mario" theme song on the piano. After that, the junior snow queen participants each got their own time to walk around on stage while the announcer read their interests, hobbies and favorite classes. Next, senior talent consisted of Alyssa Steward singing "Have Your Way" by Britt Nicole while Jeanna Duncan played the piano; Tessa Rush singing "A Thousand Miles" by Vanessa Carlton while Andrea Rausch played the piano and Christine Morgan singing her own mash-up of "Royals" by Lorde and "9 to 5" by Dolly Parton. Directly after that, the senior snow queen contestants got their time to individually walk on stage. Finally, the kindergartner princes and princesses entertained the audience with their humorous answers to questions that they were asked. After all of the students got introduced, they performed three songs.

At the end of the evening, Schnoor received Northwestern Junior Snow Queen and Frericks received Northwestern Senior Snow Queen.

"We've always been told that having contacts is something really important in the future, and by going to the state competition in Aberdeen, we will be able to meet other girls with whom we will be in contact with in the future," Frericks said. "I'd really like to thank the Plains Lions Club for giving me the opportunity to represent the Northwestern community."

Styles received first place of the junior talent division and Morgan received first place in the senior talent division.

All four contestants will proceed to the state competition on Jan. 4 for juniors and Jan. 11 for seniors in Aberdeen.

FBLA Students Host Blood Drive

Many sophomores and juniors braved their fear of needles to become first-timers at the blood drive, a time-honored tradition for most Future Business Leaders of America members at NW.

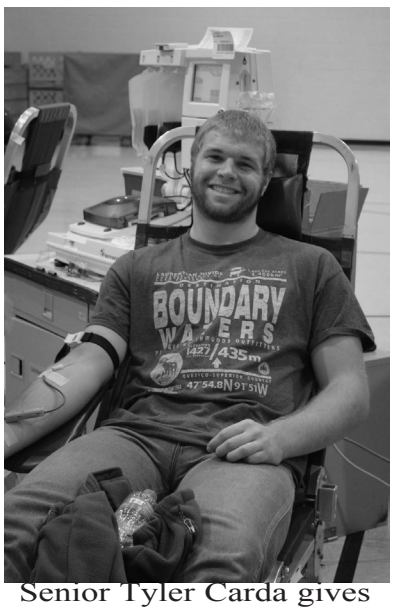
By: Julia Sparling

Northwestern hosted its first blood drive of the year! Twice a year, Northwestern Future Business Leaders of America hosts a blood drive for students of age and other community members.

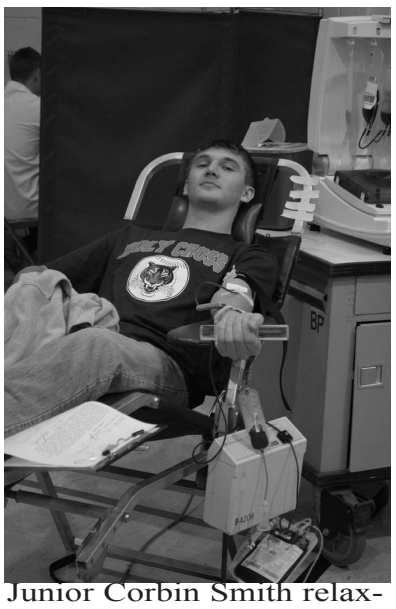
This year all time slots got filled, and the process was successful!

The FBLA members sign up to bring juice, cookies, fruit and other snacks for the event as well as work the check-in station at the blood drive. Most students get involved in one way or another.

"We had 49 people sign up and then another 4 or 5 walk-ins from the community. A lot of people gave doubles this time. Right now there is a huge shortage of blood in our area, so it was great that we got so many people to come donate. All of the blood donated stays in the area, too, which I think is pretty cool. I thought it was an excellent blood drive!" Mrs. Anne Frericks, FBLA adviser said.



Senior Tyler Carda gives blood at the blood drive.



Junior Corbin Smith relaxes and gives blood.

Four Students Sing at All-State Chorus in Sioux Falls

By: Rachel Rausch

Seniors Alyssa Steward, Kalen Frericks and Tyler Carda and sophomore Isaac Groft participated in the annual All-State Chorus concert in Sioux Falls on Nov. 1-2.

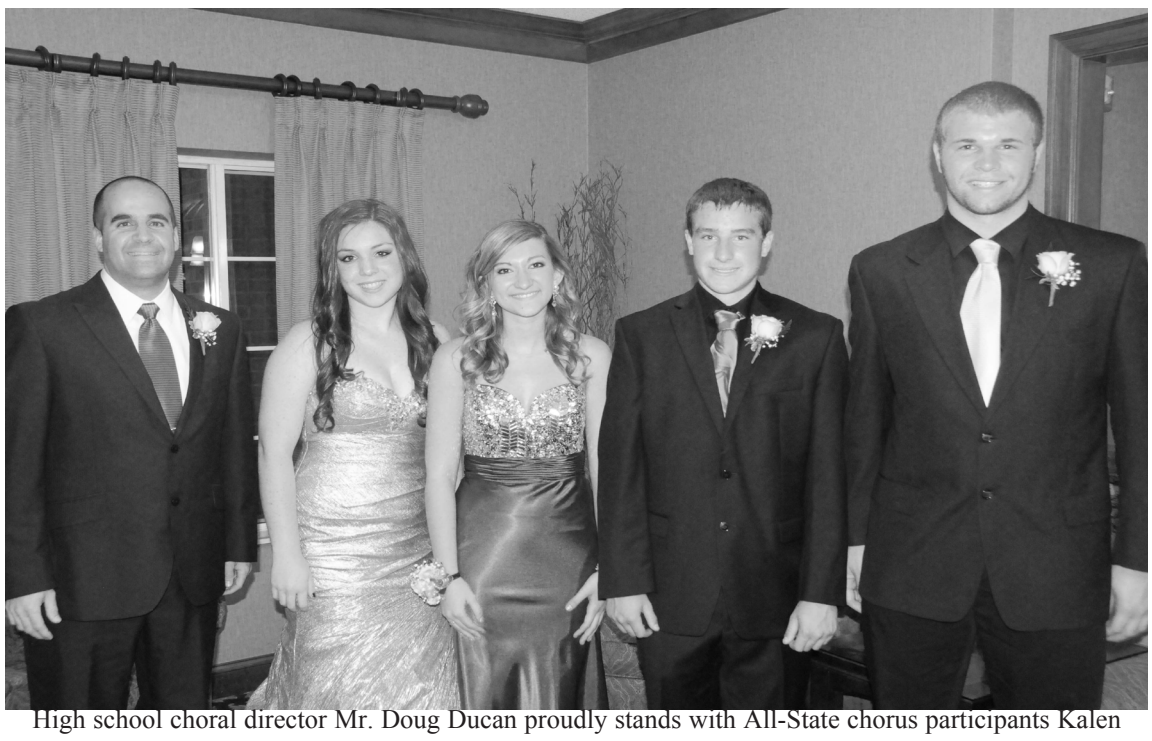
A quartet of one soprano, one alto, one tenor and one bass from each school can perform at All-State.

This year, Steward went as soprano, Frericks went as the alto, Carda went as bass and Groft went as tenor.

The day they arrived was spent practicing the songs. The next day, they practiced more before the concert.

"There were some insanely talented singers there," Groft said. "I sat next to one of them."

Both Steward and Carda received awards for being in All-State for four years.



High school choral director Mr. Doug Ducan proudly stands with All-State chorus participants Kalen Frericks, Alyssa Steward, Isaac Groft and Tyler Carda. The group performed at the state event in Sioux Falls in November. Steward and Cards received awards for being four-year members of All-State chorus.

Two NW Students Place at Math Counts

By: Logan Schentzel

Eighth-graders Sadie Vander Wal and Peyton Groft placed fourth and fifth, respectively, in the Roncalli Math Counts competition held in Aberdeen on Wednesday, Nov. 2.

"Sadie and I got to go against each other in the count down, and that was cool!" Groft said.

The eighth-graders attending this competition included Tyler Braun, Evy Peterson, Groft and Vander Wal. Seventh-graders included Riley Grandpre, Caitlyn Fischbach, Moira Duncan, Seth Wood, Zach Toennies, Jarrett Haven, and Caleb Schentzel.

"I like it because I get out of school, and it helps me learn more about math," Schentzel said.

Math Counts competitions allow middle school students the opportunity to compete against other students from area schools. Under the direction of high school math teacher, Mrs. Amanda Fa'onelua, members of the Math Counts team receive worksheets consisting of story problems that each team member must complete.

As with any extracurricular activity, Math Counts requires practice in order to do well. Students meet once a week to work on math problems. Team members complete a practice worksheet that has story problems similar to what will be at the contest. The problems are a review in all math concepts ranging from algebra to geometry.



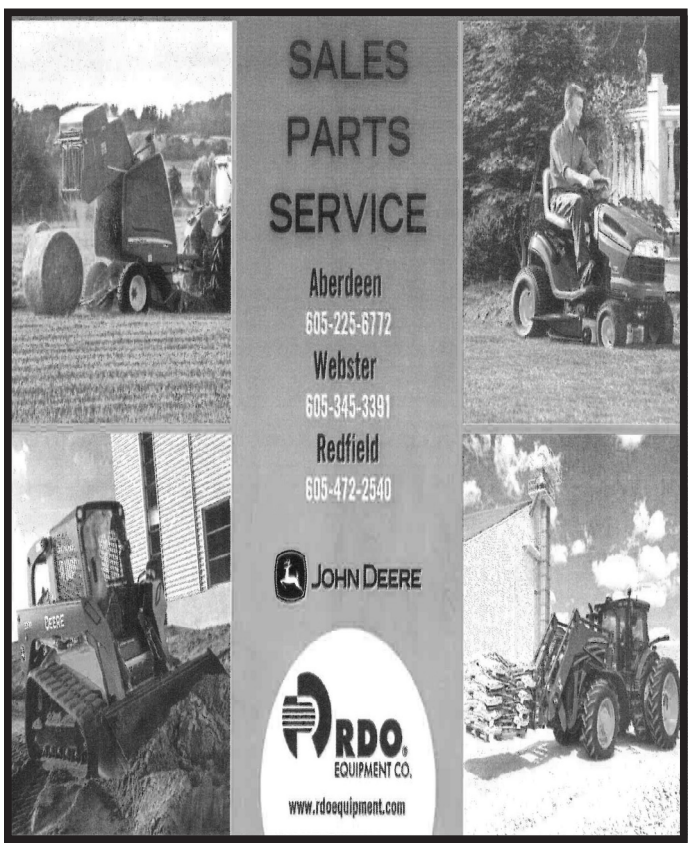
Eighth-graders Sadie Vander Wal and Peyton Groft placed fourth and fifth in the Roncalli Math Counts Competition.



Sadie Vander Wal placed fourth.



Peyton Groft placed fifth.



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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE NWA SCHOOL BOARD MEETING Nov. 11, 2013

- Conference attendance at HATS is up from last year.
- Vo-Tech instructors are pleased with what the Hub Area students have learned in high school from the HATs program.
- Trustworthiness is the character counts trait for November.
- The elementary will be encouraging nonfiction reading by having a “nonfiction November” next month. Nonfiction reading is part of the common core requirements.
- There will be an elementary assembly with the topic of manners on November 19, 2013.
- The end of the middle school trimester is Nov. 12, 2013.
- Elementary conference attendance was near 100%, middle school was around 60% and high school conferences were around 30% attendance.
- Auditors from Eide Bailly were here auditing the financial materials the week of Oct 28.
- Thank you to the Boosters for their donations to the library and conference expenses.
- The robotics team competed in their first event on Nov. 2 at SDSU in Brookings. They received fifth in Team Exhibit, fourth in Marketing Presentation, and eighth in Engineering Notebook. The team was only two points away from going to Regionals! It was a great effort by the first ever Northwestern Robotics Team.
- Thank you to everyone who donated to the Robotics team to make it possible for them to compete at SDSU.
- Congratulations to the Northwestern Cross Country runners at state. Derek Boekelheide and Josie Clemens finished in 13th place, Peyton Groft finished 19th and Darby Duncan finished 43rd. The girls’ team placed fourth.
- Congratulations to the Northwestern Dance & Cheer team at state. They placed fourth in small stunting/tumbling, fifth in poms and third in jazz.
- Congratulations to Student of the Month, Alyssa Steward.
- Next regular meeting of the board is scheduled for Monday, Dec 9, 2013, at 5 p.m.

Student of the Month

By: Haley Grandpre



Senior Alysaa Steward received the October student of the month. Her parents are Allan and Laura Steward. She has one sibling, Ethan Steward.

“Alyssa always strives to be the best. She has worked hard academically and is very talented in photography, dance and musically as well. We go to the same church, and she is very active there, too. I will miss her fun personality a lot next year!” junior Julia Sparling said.

Alysaa’s activities include dance, 4-H, FCA, FBLA, Wrestling statistician, church, band and chorus. Her hobbies include crafts, dancing, singing, taking pictures and hanging out with friends and family. Her biggest role model and inspirtation is Britt Nicole, a Christian singer. Steward’s favorite classes are art, band and chorus.

Alysaa’s future plans are to attend Belmont University, get married and have children.

Her favorite quotes is “We should consider every day lost in which we don’t dance,” Neitzche. “The Lord will protect you from all dangers; he will guard your life. The lord will guard you as you come and go, both now and forever.” Pslam 121: 7-8.

Her most embarrasing moment was when her friends Jacob Heidenreich and Kristie Bade decided she needed a boyfriend. So they made business cards, with her picture, name, emial, and number on them and hanned them out at trackmeets. Their plan did not work.

“Alyssa is a remarkable young lady. She is a grat role model for our younger students and is very deserving of student of the month,” Mrs. Denise Clemens said.

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2014 NORTHWESTERN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL
FIRST QUARTER

Names appear alphabetically

9th Grade: Straight A: Josie Clemens, Derek Boekelheide; "A": Darby Duncan; "B": Ali Johnson, Kyler Johnson, Lauren Kelley.

10th Grade: Straight A: Rachael Boekelheide, Andrea Rausch, Madison Styles; "A": Allison Braun, Darienne Frericks, Elizabeth Heidenreich; "B": Cameron Bohl, Kirstin Borge, Kate Finley, Abigail Fischbach, Isaac Groft, Kaylee Hoellein, Josephine Kelley, Cody Lefforge, Rachel Rausch, Chance Sale, Logan Schentzel, Codi Sparling.

11th Grade: Straight A: Halle Sieve; "A": Corbin Smith; "B": Haley Grandpre, Aubrey Johnson, Hans Leonhardt, Christine Morgan, Jordon Peterson, Tessa Rush, Julia Sparling, Kennedi Sparling.

12th Grade: Straight A: Kristie Bade, Jeanna Duncan, Schyler Sattler, Alyssa Steward, Nick Wood; "A": Tyler Carda, Kalen Frericks, Madison Hahler, Jacob Heidenreich, Paige Metzinger; "B": Torey Beardemphl, Matt Fischbach, Nathan Frericks, Donna Harmon, Skylar Sorenson.

2014 NORTHWESTERN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

MIDDLE SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

FIRST TRIMESTER

Names appear alphabetically

6th Grade: Straight A: Hailey Boekelheide, Christine Stoltenberg, Miranda Thorson; "A": Ezekiel Duncan, Cassidy Frericks, Madalyn Groft, Tya Weideman; "B": Zechariah Clemens, Tristan Dvorak, Kaitlyn Lefforge, Dalton Peterson, Danille Seymour, Talley Sparling, Danielle Watson.

7th Grade: Straight A: Gavin Bohl, Moira Duncan, Caitlyn Fischbach, Jarret Haven, Caleb Schentzel; "A": NONE; "B": Riley Grandpre, Zachary Toennies, Seth Wood.

8th Grade: Straight A: Petyon Groft, Jaidyn Kramp, Addison Sparling, Sadie Vander Wal, Darien Watson; "A": Megan Heidenreich, Evy Peterson; "B": Tyler Braun, Mackenzie Engels, Hunter Neiber.

First-Ever Robotics Team Debuts at Gatekeeper Competition at SDSU

By: Maddie Styles

Northwestern's first Robotics team consisting of 16 students in grades nine through 12 held kickoff day Sept. 21 for their first competition Nov. 2 at SDSU where the top four teams advanced to regionals at NDSU Dec. 5-7.

Given 42 days to build a robot with minimal equipment, the team had to come up with a robot able to perform a complicated task.

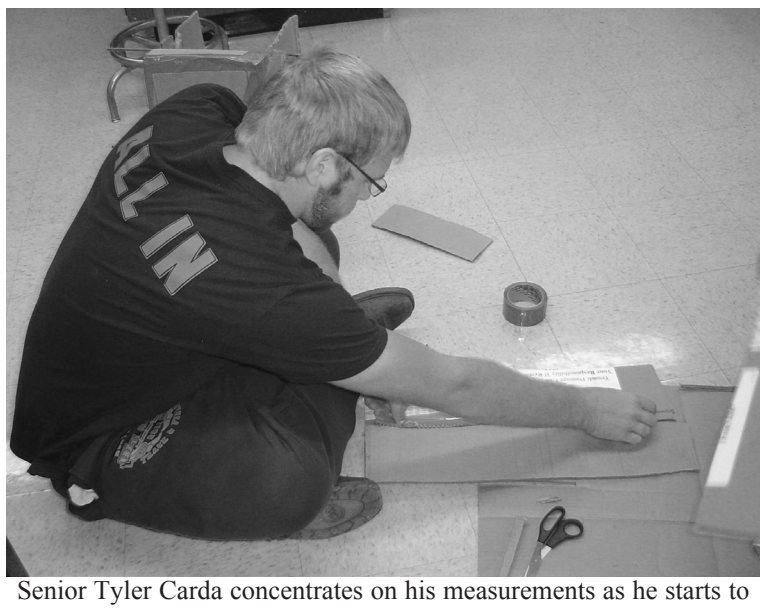
"My favorite part about robotics is getting things to work the way we want it to, because it makes everything else much simpler," sophomore Nolan Peterson said.

Teams are judged on their marketing and promotion, an interview, outstanding sportsmanship and team spirit. NW's team consisted of five crews: a design crew, field/engineering crew, computer programming crew, and a marketing crew. The marketing crew hung posters, started a Facebook and Twitter account to keep students updated, and did an interview on radio station 103.7. The design crew came up with a design for the robot called "Geek-E," and the engineering crew built the final product.

"I built everything that needed to be built, and it's a lot harder than it looks," sophomore Ethan Bauer said.

Overall the team took fifth in Team Exhibit, fourth in Marketing Presentation and eighth in Engineering Notebook.

The team learned a lot from their experiences. They ran into some struggles along the road. When they got there, the original robot that they built did not fit the measurement requirements, so they had to re-build it on the spot.



Senior Tyler Carda concentrates on his measurements as he starts to build the robot for the BEST robotics competition held at SDSU.



Senior Tyler Carda and junior HansLeonhardt talk with the radio station in Aberdeen in order to promote their robotics work.

Coming Soon to NW...Cat Prints

The Northwestern junior class is in charge of operating a business that specializes in Northwestern fan gear. This year the name of the business is Cat Prints. The juniors are busy at work and are going to have the items for sale in the near future. This year they will be offering:

T-shirts……. $12.00
Hoodies…….. $25.00
Crewnecks…… $22.00
Fleece Jackets…… $25.00
Sweatpants……. $20.00
Yoga pants..... $20.00
Baby Onesies……. $5.00
Baby Bibs……..... $5.00
Blankets…….…… $20.00
Stocking Hats…… $7.00
Jewelry……. $7.00
Insulated Cups…… $5.00
All sizes: Toddler/Child – Adult

NW Holds Veterens Day Program Nov. 11

By: Katie Myers

Senior and student council president Nicholas Wood welcome students, faculty and veterans on Monday, Nov. 11 for the Veterans Day Program.

As sophomoreDarienne Frericks played the snare drum, Brentford Junior American Legion Auxiliary brought out the flag. Shortly after the flag was positioned, the students, faculty,and veterans stood as seniors Jeanna Duncan adn Kalen Frericks played the National Anthem on their trumpets.

Seventh-grader Jarret Haven presented his Patriot's Pen essay, "What Patriotism Means to Me." After Haven recited his Patriot's Pen, K. Frericks sang a patriotic solo.

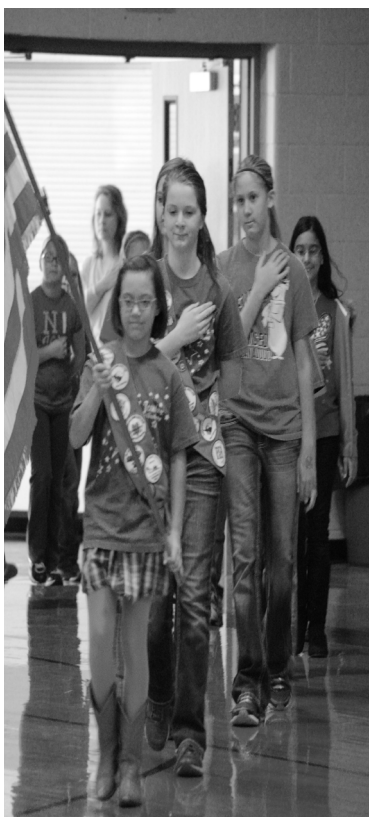
Senior Nik Wood introduced guest speaker, Chuck Welke. Welke spoke with words that inspired many people, including some of the students.

After Welke's speech, eighth-grader and South Dakota Junior American Legion Auxiliary President Sadie Vander Wal recited her Patriot's Pen essay, "What Patriotism Means to Me." Shortly after Vander Wals' essay, everyone stood for a moment in silence.

The middle school band played "God Bless America" as the middle school and the audience sung along. After the song, the flag was retired from the gym.



Chuck Welke speaks at the Veterans Day program.



Junior American Legion Auxilary members carry in the flag.

Three Sophomores Selected to HOBY

By: Nolan Peterson

Sophomores Kate Finley, Codi Sparling and Kirstin Borge will represent Northwestern this June at the Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Conference.

Sophomore Rachael Boekelheide will serve as an alternate.

To become a HOBY representative for the school, students have to write an essay about their leadership skills and why they would like to go to HOBY.

Then, students go through an interview process with previous NW ambassador and current HOBY counselor Evan Finley, last year's student ambassador Christine Morgan and school guidance counselor Mrs. Kari Brenner.

"It is an honor to be picked for HOBY, and I'm very excited to go," K. Finley said.

HOBY was founded in 1958 as a mission to inspire and develop youth and volunteers to leadership, service and innovation. HOBY programs provide students selected by their schools to participate in unique leadership training. Due to selfless volunteers and generous donors, nearly 10,000 students can participate in the United States.

"I am excited for the new experience and for all of the new people I am going to meet," K. Finley said. "It was weird having my brother interview me because I had an advantage almost. It may have seemed like an advantage, but not."



Senior Kalen Frericks performs a patriotic solo for the program.

Students Pass Sobriety Test

By: Rachel Rausch

A local police officer brought special goggles to Northwestern Oct. 24 to show students what it was like to be drunk.

The students were asked to put on the goggles and then perform tasks such as passing a ball back and forth or standing on one leg.

"I thought it was a good idea to have them come here because it showed the students how hard it is to move around when they're drunk," sophomore Andrea Rausch said.

Project Success Coordinator Mrs. Natasha Jorgenson brought the event to NW to help students understand the effects of alcohol on students' reaction time.

Students should have learned how difficult it would be to operate a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol.

"I thought it was really fun! It made me very dizzy, and I had to get down on my hands and knees because I couldn't stand up right," junior Carolina Spielman said.

Groft wins Voice of Democracy Contest

By: Julia Sparling

The Northwestern sophomore class recorded its first speech of the year for the Voice of Democracy speech contest sponsored by the Redfield VFW.

The students were to write a 3-5 minute speech about why they are optimistic about our nation's future and record it on a CD.

The scoring is based on a 100 point scale; 30 for originality, 35 for content, and 35 for delivery. There are 50 students in this area that wrote to this competition and only 3 winners.

Isaac Groft won the contest this year and will receive $100 in cash and will advance on to the next round.

Groft will be sent to the next level, which is the regional competition, and if he places, it could eventually go all the way to nationals with a grand prize of a $30,000 scholarship!

"I feel shocked, astonished and privileged that won the speech contest," Groft said.

NW Students Take Pottery Class

By: Katie Myers

Senior Donna Harmon, juniors Blake Toennies and Tessa Rush, and sophomores Kate Finley, Rachel Rausch and Andrea Rausch attend pottery classes Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. They learned how pottery is made and how to use the pottery wheel.

"We learned how to center the clay to make the pot smooth. We are going to start making pots next class. I think the youngest is an eighth-grader, and the oldest is a senior. It is fun so far, and I cannot wait to start actually making a pot. The classes are pretty small, there is like 10 people in the class," sophomore Rachel Rausch said.

The classes started on Oct. 22 and Oct. 24 and they end on Dec. 10 and Dec. 12. There are two classes, one class is held on Tuesdays and the other is held on Thursdays.





Wildcat Volleyball Team Finishes the Season 24-7

By: Isaac Groft

NW vs. Hitchcock-Tulare

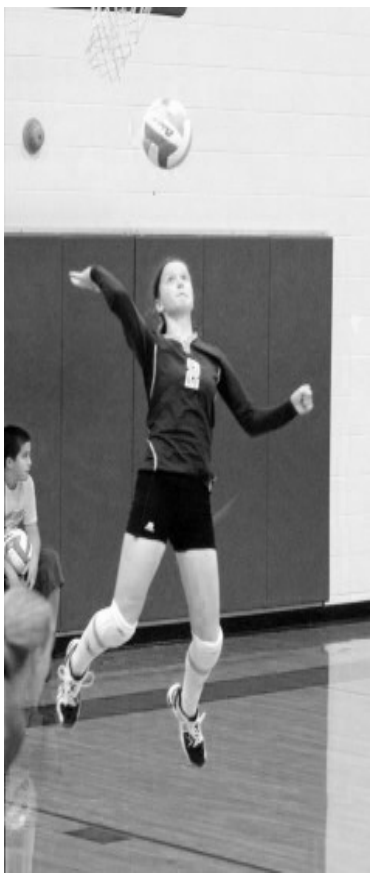
Northwestern defeated Hitchcock-Tulare in three sets, 25-6, 25-10, 25-9 on Oct. 31. The Wildcats served 69 of 74 with 10 aces. Freshman Darby Duncan led with 16 of 18 with three aces. Northwestern attacked 60 of 65 with 40 kills. Junior Jordon Peterson led with 23 of 26 with 22 kills. The team set 65 of 65 with 39 assists. Duncan led with 54 of 54 with 34 assists. Junior Kennedi Sparling led the team's 33 digs with 15. The Wildcats had eight assisted blocks. Senior Paige Metzinger led with three assisted blocks.

NW vs. Waubay

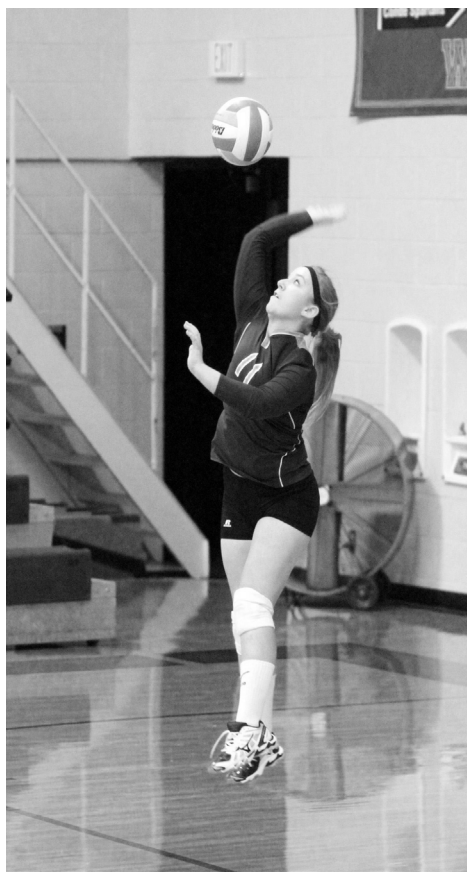
Northwestern stomped over Waubay in three sets, 25-5, 25-8, 25-2 on Nov. 7 in the District 2B Tournament semifinal match. The Wildcats served 70 of 73 with 18 aces. Eighth-grader Peyton Groft led with 34 of 36 with 12 aces. Northwestern attacked 61 of 68 with 38 kills. Junior Jordon Peterson led with 27 of 30 with 20 kills. The team set 66 of 66 with 37 assists. Freshman Darby Duncan led with 57 of 57 with 33 assists. Junior Kennedi Sparling led the team's 31 digs with 12. The Wildcats had two assisted blocks. Junior Haley Grandpre led with one assisted block.

NW vs. Warner

Northwestern fell to Warner in three sets, 20-25, 13-25, 24-26 on Nov. 8 in the District 2B Tournament Championship. The Wildcats served 53 of 58 with five aces. Junior Kennedi Sparling led with 17 of 18 with two aces. Northwestern attacked 91 of 104 with 24 kills. Junior Jordon Peterson led with 23 of 25 with nine kills. The team set 102 of 102 with 24 assists. Freshman Darby Duncan led with 77 of 77 with 19 assists. Sparling led the team's 51 digs with 21. The Wildcats had two assisted blocks. Juniors Haley Grandpre and Julia Sparling led with one block each. The Wildcats volleyball team ended its season on this loss and came away with a final record of 24-7, an improvement from last year.



Freshman setter Darby Duncan serves up at ace at the last home match of the season.



Junior defensive specialist Chrsitine Morgan serves the ball against the Hitchcock-Tulare Patriots on Halloween.



Senior Jeanna Duncan serves the ball at the Hitchock-Tulare defense.



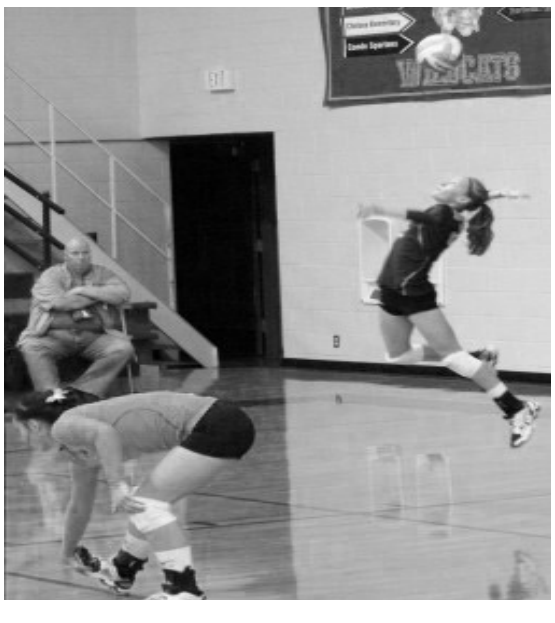
The team cheers after a long, hard-fought point.



Senior Paige Metzinger and freshman Darby Duncan block the ball against the Patriots.



The varsity team posses with Willy the Wildcat after winning their last home game of the season.



Freshman Peyton Groft serves as junior Kennedi Sparling readies her shoe for defense..

Girls' Team Places Fourth at State Meet

By: Cameron Bohl

Three Wildcats medaled and the girls' team finished fourth at the state cross country meet in Rapid City on Saturday, Oct. 26.

"My favorite part about state was crossing the finish line and having the feeling that my team did very well," freshman Josie Clemens said.

Runners in the top 25 receive a medal and a place on the medal stand while the top four teams receive a trophy and a place on the medal stand.

In the girls' 4K race, Clemens placed 13th to medal with a time of 16:26.98. Eighth-grader Peyton Groft placed 19th to medal with a time of 16:33:73.

"My favorite part about state was being with our little cross country team all weekend," Groft said. "We are very much a family."

Freshman Darby Duncan placed 43rd with a time of 17:32.63.

"I liked how our team placed fourth overall and how everyone had improved throughout the year," Duncan said. "I am excited to see how much our team will continue to improve as the years progress and more girls stick with it."

The girls' team placed fourth overall behind Ipswich, Gayville-Volin and Potter County.

In the boys' 5K race, freshman Derek Boekelheide placed 13th to medal with a time of 18:28.35.

"My favorite part about state was knowing that all my hard work during practice and running during the summer paid off," Boekelheide said.

The Northwestern cross country team resurfaced three years ago and continues to to do well.

Nine sixth-graders participated this year: Tristan Dvorak, Ezekiel Duncan, Zec Clemens, Tomlyn Toy, Hailey Boekelheide, Miranda Thorson, Tya Weideman, Chrissy Stoltenberg and Madalyn Groft.

Seventh-graders included Caleb Schentzel, Jarrett Haven and Moira Duncan. P. Groft was the lone eighth-grader, while Isaac Groft was the lone sophomore. D. Boekelheide, J. Clemens and D. Duncan were the freshmen. Junior Hans Leonhardt served as student manager. Coach Kris Boekelheide has served as coach for the past three seasons.



Coach Kris Boekelheide, freshman Darby Duncan, eighth-grader Peyton Groft and freshman Josie Clemens receive their team fourth-place plaque on the medal stand at the state cross country meet.



Freshman Darby Duncan runs in the state cross country meet.



Freshman Derek Boekelheide takes 13th in the state meet.



Eighth-grader Peyton Groft takes 19th in the state cross country meet.



Freshman Josie Clemens took 13th in the state cross country meet.

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Cheerleaders Perform at State Cheer & Dance

By: Nolan Peterson

State cheer held in Rapid City this year featured the Northwestern cheer squad who took off Oct. 24 to compete. The girls competed in four events: stunting/tumbling competitive cheer, pom, dance and jazz dance and did very well in these events.

They got fifth in the pom dance, fourth in cheer and third in jazz dance.

"I felt amazing with the job we had done because that was the best we have done all year," sophomore Codi Sparling said.

This sport, especially at state, has a very extensive rubric. The girls had to worry about new additions to the routine, making sure everything was precise and on count, making sure the stunts were stable and tight and making sure the deductions stayed to a minimum. The deductions are mostly safety deductions such as hair and non-stability of a stunt.

The overall experience for the girls was fun. They loved going to Rapid City and competing in the sport they love.

The girls enjoyed representing Northwestern at the state cheer competition and look forward to going again next year.



Senior Kristie Bade, sophomores Codi Sparling, Rachael Boekelheide and eighth-grader Megan Heidenreich perform at the state cheer and dance competition in Rapid City.



The cheerleading team competes in their dance routine.

GUY CODE

By: Logan , Isaac and Nolan

Why wear camouflage?

Hunting season is when most people go hunting, and the one thing you do when hunting is wear camouflage.

However, many reasons to wear camouflage. The most important reason without a doubt is that wearing camouflage attracts the babes.

When you are wearing some sort of camouflage, girls instantly think it is cool.

When you add camouflage to anything, it instantly becomes cool, and thus, anything with camouflage attracts the girls.

More importantly, there is a seven-letter word that describes someone wearing camouflage, it is "REDNECK."

What girl doesn't want to date redneck?

When you wear camouflage, people know you have a different side that is actually cool. Girls love guys who are cool.

Other than wearing camouflage to be a cool redneck, there are many obvious reasons to wear camouflage.

When hunting, animals see you easier than you see them, so by wearing camouflage, a hunter will be hidden or camouflaged. That is precisely how camouflage clothes became known as "camouflage." By wearing camouflage, animals will not see you, but they can smell you.

Along with camouflage, a cool hunter will also use scent killer deodorant and scent killer shampoo. That will really attract the babes.

You can also get some doe urine to spray around your deer stand while hunting. Girls love that.

Who wouldn't want to date a guy who smells like deer urine and looks like a shrub?

Just remember, if you hunt, you are probably already a redneck, so use it to your advantage and get out your best camouflage and go hunt something.

Hunting is the best hobby. One thing everyone has to know when hunting is "If it flies, it dies; if it hops, it drops."

Girls love that, too.

PRO: KEEPING THE DRIVING AGE OF 14

By: Logan Schentzel

Teens have many good reasons for driving at age 14.

When people begin driving at age 14, they gain a lot of experience, thus making them better prepared for driving to college and driving in big cities when they are older. South Dakotans are lucky to be able to drive here. There's not much traffic, and Aberdeen is the perfect city to learn driving techniques. It's not too big, but it is big enough to learn many of the rules of the road. Once teens master driving in Aberdeen, they are probably ready to drive in Sioux Falls and then Minneapolis.

Having teen drivers is definitely easier for parents who have to work all day and are not able to drive their kids to and from school and all of their activities. Teenagers can drive to their own activities. This also saves a lot of embarrassment for teenagers when they do not have to be seen getting dropped off or picked up by their parents.

Also, many teenagers have jobs in the summer and after school. More than 63 percent of teenagers in America have jobs in the summer, and when teenagers have a job in the summer, they cannot rely on their parents.

Teen drivers also benefit farmers because it makes it legal for teens to be out driving and helping with the duties of the farm. Some farm families have children who drive even younger than 14, but at least it is legal at age 14.

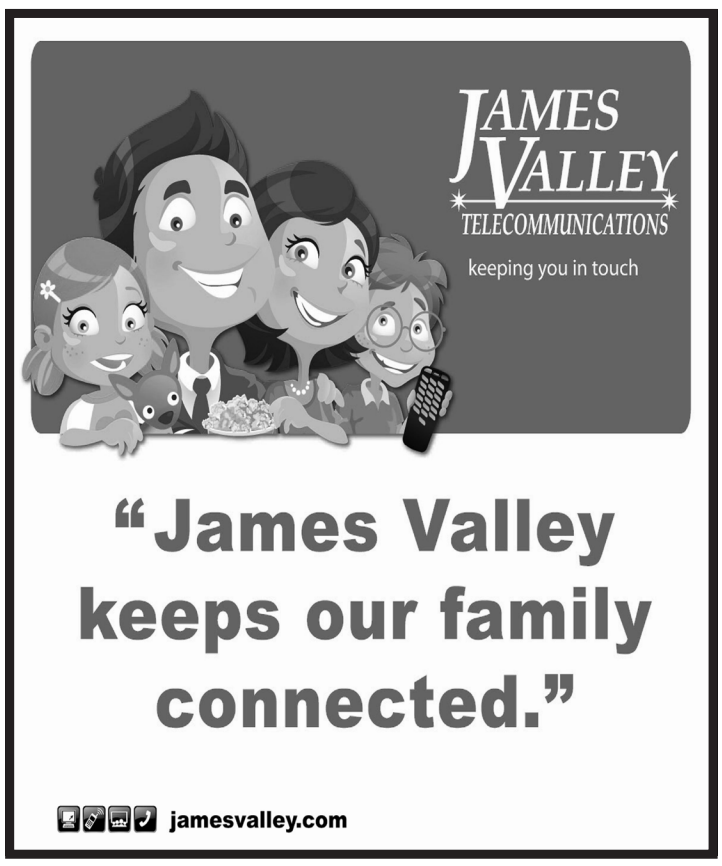
Teen drivers can also help with other family responsibilities, such as picking up their younger brothers and sisters or running errands for their parents.

Teen drivers can be scary, but with a great driver's education instructor (like Mr. Jerry Sauer) and respecting the rules of the road, driving at 14 can be worth it.

CON: RAISING THE DRIVING AGE TO 16

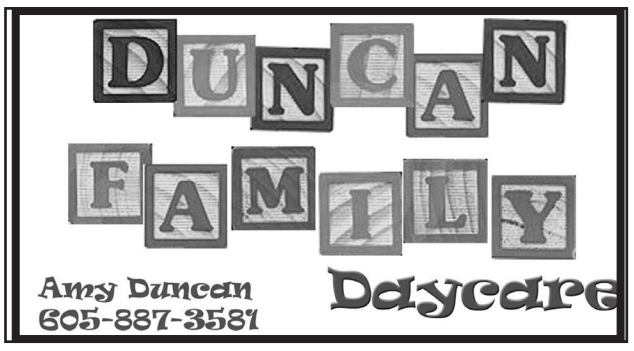
By: Haley Grandpre

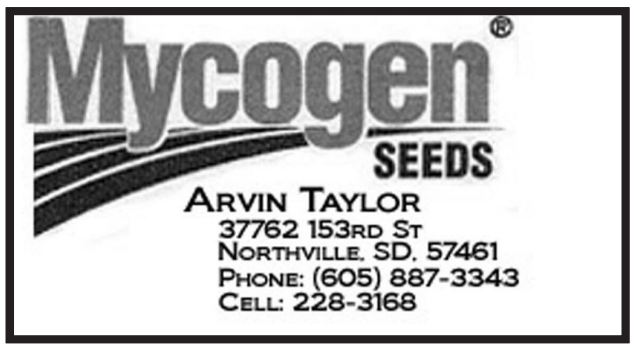
Driving at age 14 is quit a horrific thing to think about. I realize that I was driving at age 14, but now that I think about it, it was probaly not the best idea. Teenagers who are 14 are too young. They are usually in eighth grade or seventh grade. As a 14-year old, you have not had the experience of the full driving experience yet. Most accidents happen with teenagers who have little experience. If we want to find a way to cut back on the accidents, we should think about raising the driving age. This is going to cause problems with the teenagers who think the driving age is perfect. Driver's ed is something that is really good to have before driving. Of course, you should probaly have some driving experience before you go in the student's driver car with the driver's ed teacher. Teenagers are just reckless drivers, sorry to say. Aren't we always worried about the accidents that happen on the road? Well maybe this is something we need to change to have fewer accidents. I think students should have a good two years of driving with a parent before you actually receive your driver's license.





















Pro/Con Comic

Comic by sophomore Kate Finley.

Should the age limit be raised from 14 to get a learner's permit???



In the Hallway

Should the age limit be raised from 14 to get a learner's permit?



"No, the age limit should not be raised because it give teenagers more experience," freshman Alli Johnson said.



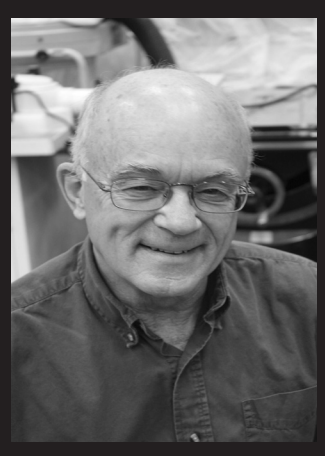
"Yes, the age limit should be raised to at least 15," sophomore Abby Fischbach said.



"No, the age limit should not be raised because if everyone drove like me when I was 14, then we are all good!" junior Jordon Peterson said.



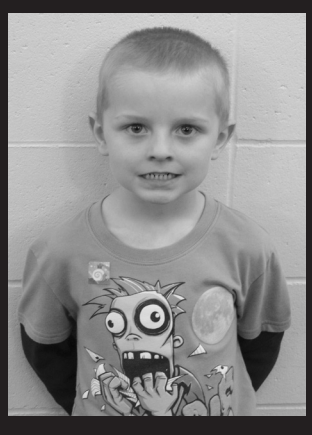
"It should be raised because they are not mature enough," senior Paige Metzinger said.



"It should be raised to 16 due to my experience as a driver instructor," Mr. Jerry Sauer said.

In the Elementary

What is on the Thanksgiving table you don't like to eat?



"Mashed potatoes, because they are mushy," kindergartner Dylan Harmon said.



"Stuffing, because it tastes wrong and sometimes my mom burns it, and I don't like burnt stuff," third-grader Brooke Heim said



"Turkey, because it is just really hard to chew, and I really don't like the taste," fourth-grader Landon Melius said.



"Squash, I hate it. It's disgusting. We do German foods because our ancestors are German," fifth-grader Alexis Rahm said.



"Chicken, because it tastes meat like," second-grader Rikkalyn Gisi said.

Review: Orange Leaf

By: Logan Schentzel

I realize there is a lot of controversy over which frozen yogurt chain is worthy of its customers, but you can't really be sure until you've tried them both. I'm not going to lie, it didn't take me long to realize that this was like my version of heaven. There are about 16 different flavors to choose from, which rotate daily, although some of them are there all the time. A few of the options available when I was there included peanut butter, chocolate, mango, banana, strawberry, coffee, cookies & cream, wedding cake, red velvet, vanilla, white chocolate, cheesecake and more. And they are all non-fat or low-fat, which takes some of the guilt out of the experience. At a price of only 39 cents an ounce you can easily come out of there with an awesome treat at a very reasonable price. Personally, I enjoy Orange Leaf much more than competitors. Atmosphere and the taste of the treat cannot be beat. Plus, they have the extra-large bowls that you can fill with all the yummy goodness!



Thor: The Dark World

By: Kate Finely

Another movie has been added to the wondrous world of Marvel. I am delighted to come away from the cinema to write a positive review. Thor: The Dark World is a spectacular, special-effect driven film, much of which is set in Asguard. I was worried that including Loki yet again might become a little repetitive, but in this film, he excels as a great character. I only hope however that they don't overdue his presence in the Marvel Universe. How many times can this guy come back from the dead?

In this film, Thor returns to Earth to find Jane Foster struck by a red power. Just like he promised, he brought her back to his home world to take care of her. Unfortunately, Thor's planet is under the attack of an older enemy. The armies of Asguard were noticeably lacking in fire-power and weapons (even though they have an armory), which is made even more evident when an entire guard division bring knives to a laser-gun fight. Their torrents were the only defense they had against an Ariel assault and proved to be practically useless. You would expect them to be better prepared.

You should be prepared for a little humor to strike you as well. Jane Foster's intern is a huge riot. Like many Marvel films, especially in this series, don't forget to stick around after the main character credits for the special look into the next film.





Three Days Grace

By: Katie Myers

Three Days Grace is a Canadian rock band that formed under the name of Groundswell in Norwood, Ont., Canada in 1992. After they broke up in 1995, the band reformed with its current name, Three Days Grace. The band consists of lead vocalist Adam Gontier, drummer and backing vocalist Neil Sanderson, and bassist Brad Walst. In 2003, the band recruited Barry Stock as the band's lead guitarist.

Three Days Grace has many hits, such as, "I Hate Everything about You," "Animal I Have Become," "Pain," "Riot," and "Never Too Late."

Groundswell's line-up consisted of five members: Adam Gontier, Neil Sanderson, Brad Walst, Phil Crowe, and Joe Grant, which all were attending high school when the band formed in 1992. After being disbanded for two years, in 1997, the band regrouped in Toronto as a trio: Gontier, Sanderson and Walst. At this time, they also changed the band's name to, Three Days Grace.

The band created the song, "I Hate Everything about You," because a record label wanted to hear more material. The song attracted the interest of several record labels. The band soon signed to Jive Records after being sought out by the company's president.

The band was surprised to learn that even though they were informed on Dec. 21 that Gontier would not able to tour with the band due to a health issue, he planned on participating in a show in New York City on Jan. 17, as a solo artist.

Shortly after Gontiers' decision of leaving the band, My Darkest Days singer, Matt Walst, signed with Three Days Grace. Walst is not only with Three Days Grace, but is also still with My Darkest Days. Walst is the lead singer for My Darkest Days and the lead vocalist for Three Days Grace.

Three Days Grace recently released a new album, Transit of Venus. The album is a follow up to the band's 2009 release, Life Starts Now.

As of Nov. 12 last year, Three Days Grace is hitting the road on a co-headlining tour with Shinedown this year.





The Scorpio Races

By: Racel Rausch

Every year in November, people from all over the world come to the island of Thisby to compete in the Scorpio Races. The race is short, but very difficult. These races take place in November because that is when the carnivorous water horses, or capaill uisce, come out of the water and onto land. The capaill uisce are dangerous, not only because they are carnivores, but because they are much bigger, faster, and stronger than normal horses. The goal of the races is to catch and ride one of these water horses down the length of the beach after a week of training.

Sean Kendrick is a 19-year-old man who is known for his ability to calm these water horses. He can stop them in the middle of an attack, something no one else has ever been able to do. He has won the Scorpio Races four years in a row on the horse that killed his father when he was a boy. Despite what happened years ago, Sean has formed a bond with the blood red stallion called Corr. He and Corr are entering the races again, hoping to win a fifth time.

Kate Connolly, or Puck, comes from a broken family. Her parents were killed by water horses, and she now lives with her two brothers. When her older brother threatens to leave the island she does the only thing she can think of. She tells him she will ride in the Scorpio Races if he stays. She will be the first girl to ever ride in the races.

Maggie Stiefvater has won numerous awards for her book "The Scorpio Races". I highly recommend this book to anyone who looks adventure, fantasy, or horses.

