



Mr. Matt Campbell's government class celebrates after a successful day. Pictured to the left from L-R: Elora Enninga, Casey Briscoe, Alana Young, Isabel Ward, Sara Ediger, K.C. Andren, Max Johnson, Domenic Lucero, Gage Mau, Daniel Egemo, Pablo Munoz, Joey Ingham, James Ford, Matt Campbell, Alex Pearson, Charlie Hanel, Dylan Schumacher, Kadden Dillman, Jordy Stulken, and Zariah Jones.

Pictured below is Daniel Egemo, Alana Young, and Isabel Ward. Young and Ward took home the honors of winning the best unit award for Lead-Deadwood. Egemo was honored with the Best Speaker award for Lead-Deadwood.

WE THE PEOPLE Competition Hosted At BHSU

By Daniel Egemo

The WE THE PEOPLE competition took place on Thursday Jan. 23. It was held on the campus of Black Hills State University. The competition is based around student's knowledge in government and the United States Constitution. The students prepare four-minute speeches on a unit topic and then they prepare for a six minute questioning period regarding the topic.

Mr. Matt Campbell prepared his government students throughout the first semester. He assigned units to groups of three and gave the students a lot of time throughout the semester to research and prepare for the competition.

Zariah Jones commented on the event, "I think that it went well for everyone. Everyone did decent and no one messed up. I think that everyone answered the questions correctly." When speaking about the government class itself Jones added, "My favorite was learning about the structure of government. In my previous years of government classes, I did not learn much about it," she continued talking about what she would improve in the class, "Sitting through long lectures of notes was my least favorite part of class. But, I really enjoyed when we would talk about our political ideologies because its nice to figure out where everyone's political beliefs lie."

In the end, the group of Alana Young, Cheyenne Vowell, and Isabel Ward took home the best unit award for Lead-Deadwood. Daniel Egemo won the best speaker award for the school. It was a successful event, and Campbell hopes to build on that success at next years competition.



Classes Choose Snowball Royalty

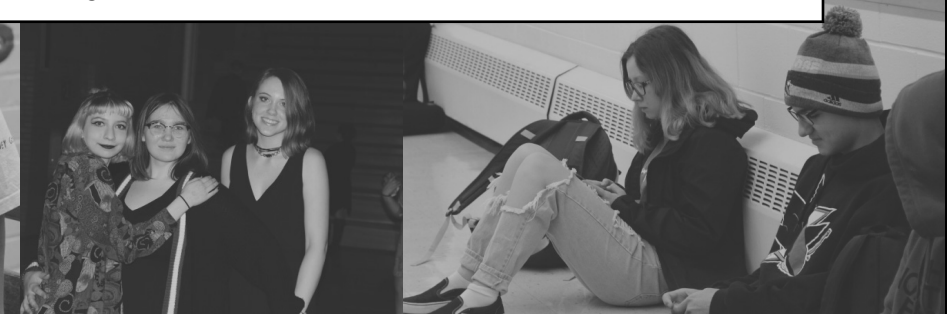
By Daniel Egemo

The Snowball dance was held on Jan. 24 at 8:00 p.m. The dance was organized by Student Council Advisor Gary Linn who worked hard to ensure that the night was a success. The money made from the dance went to a good cause. Many students went out to eat at a restaurant in their fancy outfits before heading to the dance. It was a well-attended event that led to a good night of fun.

Gym 2 was decorated with colorful winter decorations and colorful lights. The music of the dance was played by recent LDHS graduate Josh Lehman. Most of the students who attended the dance enjoyed the music playlist as it included everything from country music to Lizzo.

For the first time in Snowball history, the prince category was added instead of just the princess category. At the dance, two princesses and two princes were crowned. Miles Crippin was elected the Freshman Prince. In the Sophomore Class, Season Ozuna was chosen to be the Princess. TK Rainey was elected as the Junior Prince and Summer Stoltenberg was chosen as the Senior Class Princess.

The dance concluded at 11:00 p.m. and the students went home after enjoying the fun night.



Diggers Seek To Improve During Season

By Taya Burleson

The Digger Boys Basketball team played Upton on Thursday, Jan. 9. At the beginning of the game the Diggers were ahead the first quarter, coming up into the second quarter the score was neck and neck.

Upton was very fast and aggressive giving them a little lead. Throughout the game the Digger boys hit a lot of three pointers and were aggressive on both offense and defense.

The third quarter stayed up with both teams battling for higher points on the scoreboard. Coming into the fourth the Diggers boys had to start fouling to get the ball back to gain more points. The Boys lost by an inch with the final score of 68-72.

The Diggers advantage over Upton

was that they were quick and had better ball handling than Upton did. The boys said that their weakness during the game was they had a lot of fouls and got overwhelmed throughout the game. Going into the middle of the basketball season the boys want to play more aggressive like they did this game and learn from their mistakes and become stronger as a team.



Payton Grodzin goes up for a shot.



Rocke Rainey shoots for a three pointer.



Jordy Stulken goes up for a lay-up.

Senior Boys Lead The Team Into The Season

By Taya Burleson

This year's Digger Boys Basketball Team has three seniors leading them. During this season these three boys have led the team, brought great advice, and helped motivate the team throughout the season.

Payton Grodzin said that his favorite memory from playing basketball was making his first start in a varsity basketball game. He said, "The season is going decent, we got off to a rough start through the first two games, but we are now starting to get to play as a team." His highlight throughout the season has been scoring 10 points in one quarter. He hopes the team accomplishes a .500 record and possibly make a run for state. Grodzin stated that the person that encouraged him the most throughout the years has been his mom, "She always believes in me and she knows I can accomplish anything I put my mind to."

Jordy Stulken said, "It's been a rough start and we have had a lot of road games at the beginning of our schedule. Our schedule will get easier in the future and we will have more home games which will hopefully turn our season around." Stulken wishes to help build the future of the boys' basketball team before he graduates. Stulken stated that his favorite moment was last year when the boys were playing Douglas and it went into four OTs and they left with the win 89-85. Stulken said, "My three basketball coaches have been very encouraging throughout my career. I worked with Lane since I was in 7th grade, I worked with Gatzki for my sophomore year and I continue to talk with him today. Travis has been my coach for my final two years and has helped me become a leader for the team."

Kevin Primo said something he would hope to accomplish before he graduates would be, "To make the most of it and have fun as much as possible, enjoy it while it lasts." Primo stated, "I think the season is going good we just have to keep working every day, to improve more." Primo's highlights were contributing to the team, being ready when coach needed him, and working as hard as possible. The best memory was having the encouragement of his friends and having a challenge and being successful afterward.

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Peyton Reller feels completed after taking care of her college classes. She is excited for the new semester to get more college out of the way before her senior year.



Paige Knable took a science class and a lab. She recalls it to be "hard but worth it." But feels good about having it completed.

Students Take On Dual Enrollment

By Zoe Bourgo

Dual Credit courses are offered to Junior and Seniors.

Classes cost \$150 each, that doesn't include the price of books.

Peyton Reller said it was worth it, "Especially for the price, but you really have to make your money worth it."

It's a great opportunity to get the feel for college. Completion gets you a high school and college credit.

Juniors are only

able to take classes online. Reller also says that it was stressful to figure out a system to work, but it was worth it in the long run because not only did she get a high school credit, she also got a college credit. It takes drive and determination, but it can be done.

Seniors can take on campus classes. On campus gives a greater idea of what it's like to be a college student, while getting an idea of what professors are like. Nobody knows who or if there is a high school student, so everyone just fits in with the crowd.

Zoe Bourgo thought the experience was "great, it's a different environment than high school. I got lucky by having really laid back professors." Signing up early is one of the most important tasks before the class begins. If you don't sign up early enough, you may get put on a wait list.



Maya Bourgo leaves in less than a month, so she spends most of her time left with friends. She is very excited to leave.

Maya Goes To Australia

By Zoe Bourgo

Maya Bourgo is going on a foreign exchange to Australia. Cobar will be her new home for an entire year. This town is in New South Wales. Like Lead, Cobar is a small mining town. Because it is a mining town, it may help her feel less homesick. New South Wales is the state where those devastating fires are taking place, so there is some concern about her flying there and the air conditions.

Her host family has planned some activities for her to go do while her stay, like going to Sydney for a weekend, and seeing the beach. Maya has some "chores" to do while there, like helping with the animals, and cooking once a week. Her host family raises kangaroos, which will be such a cool experience Maya will have. She gets to experience a new culture and have an opportunity to meet all sorts of new people.

Maya Bourgo says she is looking forward to checking out Sydney, Umpherston Sinkhole, and Adelaide. Another thing she is looking forward to is visiting the beaches. Overall, she is looking forward to her foreign exchange, despite the heat and the fires.

Snowball Proceeds To Support Children's Miracle Network

By Lilianna Reynolds

The annual Student Council sponsored Snowball was held on Friday, Jan. 24. The dance was in Gym 2 from 8-11 p.m. Admission was \$5 and the proceeds go to Children's Miracle network.

The Children's Miracle Network is a non-profit organization that raises funds for children's hospitals, medical research, and community awareness of

children's health issues.

The children with cancer and other diseases find hope with donations to survive longer and be healthier.

The 170 member networks provide over 32 million treatments every year to help the children in need across the United States and Canada. Their are over 10 million kids put in children's hospitals every year. The hospitals rely

on donations and community support to help those children. Medicaid and insurance can't cover the whole bill families incur from their child's illness.

The Children's Miracle Network has been around since 1983 and has raised over \$7 billion dollars. Most of the money raised comes from their Miracle Balloon's campaign one dollar at a time.

SDSU Professors Amaze Physic's Students With Experiments

By Lilianna Reynolds

On Dec. 18, Dr. Larry Browning and Dr. Matthew Miller from SDSU came to Lead-Deadwood High School and did some experiments for students. They went to two physic classes and one chemistry class.

Browning and Matthew have some grant funding to visit high schools around South Dakota. Their hope is to get students interested in physics and chemistry by presenting cool and interesting demonstrations.

In the experiments that

were shown to the students, they explain and teach some of the concepts the students were learning.

In some of their experiments they used a battery and some acid that changed the colors of water from dark color back to clear.

They also let students do their own experiments. Students had a metal rod and a metal bowl with a colander. They also had four six-volt batteries and four cables that allowed the batteries to transfer energy to each oth-

er. The students were instructed to hook one end of the battery to the bowl and one end of the battery and continue to hook them on until they had one of eight ends left and to clip it onto one end of the metal rod. Once they had everything prepared, they could finally get to the fun part. They stuck the end of the rod, without the hook, into the water and as they did, they notice that the rod changes to almost a green color. One of their instructors began to

do the same thing just with a bigger volt battery that her could adjust the volt amount. Every time he submerged his rod in the water with a higher volt amount, the rod soon became various amounts of colors. Another experiment the students got to see was an explosion of purple gas. The explosion is caused by a powdery white substance and is mixed with two or three droplets of water. The vibrant purple gas is only visible for around seven seconds till disappearing.



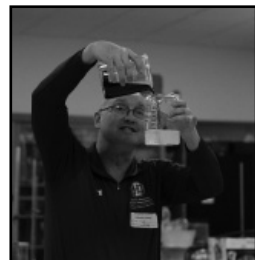
Kiayah Clark and Denisse Munoz place wires and four six-volt batteries and place their metal rod in the electric water.



Students melt the bottom of an aluminum cupcake tray with acidic liquid. Students are amazed as the tinfoil quickly disappears right in front of their eyes and watch the other foil tin do nothing.



Students Denisse Munoz and Kiayah Clark change the color of a rod with electricity and four six-volt batteries



Dr. Miller changes the colors of acids with a battery and turns it back with other liquids.



Dr. Miller puts two drops of water into acid to create a violet gas explosion that's toxic.



Dr. Larry Browning and Dr. Matthew Miller argue about chemistry.

Senior Girls Hope To Make An Impact On The Team

By Madi Rystrom

The senior girls on the basketball team hope to leave something behind. Raygan Mattson said, "This is one of our best seasons so far." Hannah Campbell added, "It will be hard to say goodbye, but we all have a lot to look forward to in the future." She hopes to leave behind, "The style of play that Coach Tim Hansen envisions for the future girls' basketball teams." Rebecca Groeger when asked about the season so far stated, "We have a strong base to build off of and I think we are doing a good job progressing into the rest of the season."

The seniors stated that one of the best memories from the season so far was the game against Sturgis on the Jan. 4, "Even though we lost in Sturgis, it will definitely be a good memory because we held a AA team to 34 points and only lost by five.

This was the closest game we've had against Sturgis since I've been in high school," stated Hannah Campbell. The senior girls have been playing basketball together since elementary school. Anna Campbell said, "My favorite part of basketball is the girls that I play with, they make it fun."

As the season is almost halfway through the senior girls must prepare to say goodbye to the program. "It doesn't feel like this is my last season. I don't think it has hit me yet, but I know that I will miss playing with this team," said Anna Campbell.



Anna Campbell shoots freethrows.



Anna Campbell and Blake Mehlberg play defense.

The Girls Basketball Team Comes Out Of Break Strong

By Madi Rystrom

The Girls Basketball team came out of winter break strong. The girls competed at home on Jan. 9 against Upton and won 46-33. The girls started the season strong with a five game winning streak but fell short to Sturgis 34-29. "Even though we lost in Sturgis, it will definitely be a good memory because we held a AA team, to 34 and only lost by 5.

After their win at home against Upton, they played in New Underwood and took a loss 37-23. But the girls played Douglas on Jan. 14 and added another win to their record beating Douglas by 20 points 64-44.

The girls hope to continue to win and finish out the season strong, as of now their record is 7-2. The girls play Hill City to finish out the week on Jan. 16. And then play STM on Tuesday Jan. 21, which will be their throwback game. The Girls wore throw back uniforms, and the team honored past teams at the game.



Allison Mollman plays defense.



Center Raygan Mattson name is announced as the girls take the floor.



Jayna Prince cuts to get open.

Wrestling Athletes Strive For Success By Working Hard

By McKinly Kyte

Contributing to the team score is a huge part of placing individually as well. For the Digger Wrestling Team every wrestler has placed so far this season. Placing third as a team in the Hot Springs Wrestling Tournament on Dec. 21 was the highest the team has placed so far in the season. Making it a huge highlight and favorite part of the season for new Coach Philip Thomas. Coach Thomas hopes to teach the senior athletes to trust in their coworkers and their teammates and to keep working hard in every aspect of life.

The team's goal is to qualify 10 athletes to state and have multiple places. To reach the team's goal it is important to have hard work and dedication, for Coach Thom-

as that is the most important part of wrestling. With all the time and the effort these athletes put in there will always be the funny moments. For Coach Thomas it was when Gage Mau asked if the tournament was double elimination. This moment was funny for Coach Thomas because every tournament is double elimination.

Coach encourages the student body to attend and support the wrestling team in their ups and downs. All the student athletes that wrestle at LDHS are good at what they do, and as the coach he hopes to continue that. With the coach helping the athletes continue to succeed the athletes have to put their dedication throughout the day during the season.



Jacob Harris wrestles against Custer opponent.



Kadden Dillman gets ready for a takedown.



Robbie Lester wins his match.

Dedication Makes A Good Athlete

By McKinly Kyte

Dedication is defined as the quality of being dedicated or committed to a task or a purpose. For the Digger athletes grades don't get in the way of being dedicated to the sport or sports in which they participate. Each athlete has a different way that allows them to stay on top of things and stay dedicated to the sport. For Jordy Stulken it means staying in a rhythm day-to-day, making sure he has enough time to balance family, friends, school and the sports he loves. For Jayna Prince it is just doing what she loves within a team or on her own. All athletes have their own way to make sure grades don't get in the way, as school comes first. Some athletes even forget the stress of school before training starts.

Having dedication to a sport also means finding something that keeps you going. For Hannah Campbell it was enjoying the time with her teammates and winning games that kept her dedicated. Visualizing success is what keeps Pratt Williams dedicated to a sport. Sports is like a second family to almost all athletes which help them want to play the sport. If you want to stay dedicated in a sport, find something that makes you want to do it.

New Tobacco Age Law is Implemented Across the States

By Colie Corkins

As of December 20, 2019, President Donald Trump signed a bill of tobacco law to be changed to the purchasing age from 18 to 21 nationwide, the American Lung Association advocated for the age to change to help save the lungs of the young adults. But with that said, the young adults who just recently turned 18, or are 18 plus are livid about the new law and are trying to make the Grandfather law take action, but we don't see that happening in the near future. With the new age being 21 there are some advantages that the younger adults audience don't see or

take time to inform themselves about, it could prevent 223,000 deaths among people born between 2000 and 2019, 50,000 less are dying from lung cancer from drastic change, that could be looking better for the world. Another thing that people have yet to take into thought, we aren't the first state to change this law nor is it a new law. States like these three additional states, Arkansas, Texas and Virginia, but provisions in these state laws will make the age increase less effective. So, the question is, does increasing the age of purchase any tobacco product effect

the ways of teenagers and young adults to stop smoking/ Juuling?



Voegeli's Wins SRB Elementary Sock Drive Pizza Party



By Colie Corkins

LDHS participated in an SRB competition about who could bring the most socks to their assigned SRB. The competition sponsored by Student Council went on for about four weeks.

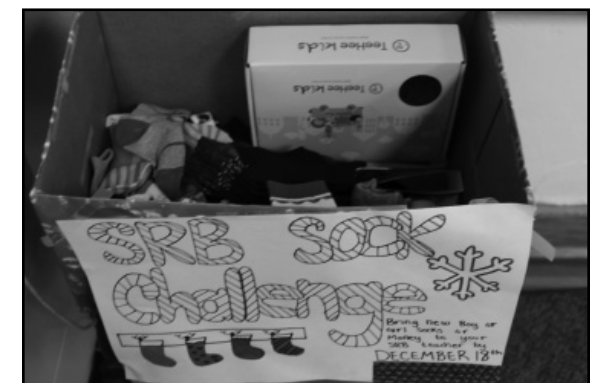
The reason why they chose socks to collect was for an unexpected reason. Student Council Advisor Mr. Linn said, "When I called down to the elementary school and asked them if they needed, jackets, or pants, or other clothes etc. they said no, that the biggest problem that they're

having with kids and their clothes was socks. Kids were going to gym and recess without socks. So that's what we decided to do."

Mrs. Ellen Voegeli's class brought in a little more than 100 socks winning the Sock Drive pizza party. There was no second or third place, but if there would've been Mrs. Amy Williams in second place, and Mr. Duane Cunningham would come in third, but the important thing is of how many socks they have managed to put together!



Lilianna Reynolds displays the poster she made for the Sock Drive contest.





Mr. Bob Phillips and Key Club Advisor Ms. Wendy Schamber discuss new plans for the upcoming months after a Key Club meeting.



Sophomore Jeremiah Fredericksen spends his time volunteering at a Key Club event.



Senior Isabel Ward fills out scholarship applications.

Apply For Scholar \$\$\$

By Kadyn Hopkins

On Dec. 2, scholarship packets became available to all seniors interested in applying. The packets included information about 38 different local scholarships accessible students to apply for. Scholarships are a great option for students planning to go to a college or vocational school in the upcoming school year by providing extra money to go towards secondary education plans. The amounts of the scholarships start at \$125 and reach a maximum of \$2,500. The recipients are chosen based upon various requirements set by the offering contributors. Requirements for the scholarships include a wide spectrum of information from work ethic, experiences and extracurricular activities to future plans after high school graduation, GPAs, test scores and your personal financial needs. The money from these scholarships is given from a variety of groups, businesses, memorials and clubs that are looking to help students wanting to continue their education.

Once you have looked through the packet, you must mark the scholarships you are interested in and return this sheet back to the Guidance Office. Seniors must complete these steps in order to receive the complete details to apply in order to be eligible to receive the awards. Applications must be complete by March 20, 2020 to be considered for any of the local scholarships.

When discussing scholarships, senior Isabel Ward stated, "Scholarships make college more accessible and celebrate individual accomplishments in order to help with higher education." Although applying for scholarships may seem like a pain in the moment, they are extremely helpful in the college years of your life when many end up in debt.

By Kadyn Hopkins

Key Club is beginning the new decade with a great start. Now that Christmas break has ended and school is back in session, many new events have been planned for the upcoming months and members are excited to jump back into volunteering around the community. In Dec., the club was as busy as could be helping out with all the holiday events within both the community and school but is now moving on to new occasions. Key Club recently had their first meeting of the new year on Tuesday Jan. 14. During this meeting, members brainstormed new ideas in addition to discussing yearly events that are happening in the next couple months, one being the Special Olympics that happened on Friday Jan. 24.

At this event, multiple club members headed up to Terry Peak with Dr. Leikvold to volunteer at the Wyoming Special Olympics Area Winter Games that are held annually at the ski area. The members volunteered during the school day from 8:30 a.m. until around 3:00 p.m. at this event where they were able to help direct visitors and check participants in.

Another upcoming event for Key Club is the Kiwanis Family Dinner taking place on Feb. 24. At this dinner, all the Kiwanis-related clubs of Lead-Deadwood will all meet up and enjoy a night with one another. The next activities Key Club will be partaking in this year include both a fundraising opportunity and the annual District Leadership Convention.

For the fundraising opportunity, club members will be selling Little Caesar's pizza kits to all who are interested in helping the club raise money. The club members will be selling kits in late Jan. and into Feb. They will be trying to raise funds for their upcoming trip. The District Convention for Key Club members in the surrounding areas included in the club's district is going to be held in Fargo, North Dakota and will take place from March 6 through the 8. Many members are looking forward to this event to have fun and get out of town to learn more about their club.



Cheerleaders stand by and cheer on their team. From Left to Right, Teyara McCoy, Alexandria Valenzuela, Kiera Gustafson, Nevaeh Foster, Winter McMahan and Miranda Kearns.



Cheerleaders lead the crowd into clapping along with the school song. From left to right, Nevaeh Foster, Winter McMahan, Kiera Gustafson and Miranda Kearns.

Students Prepare For Science Fair

By Kiayah Clark

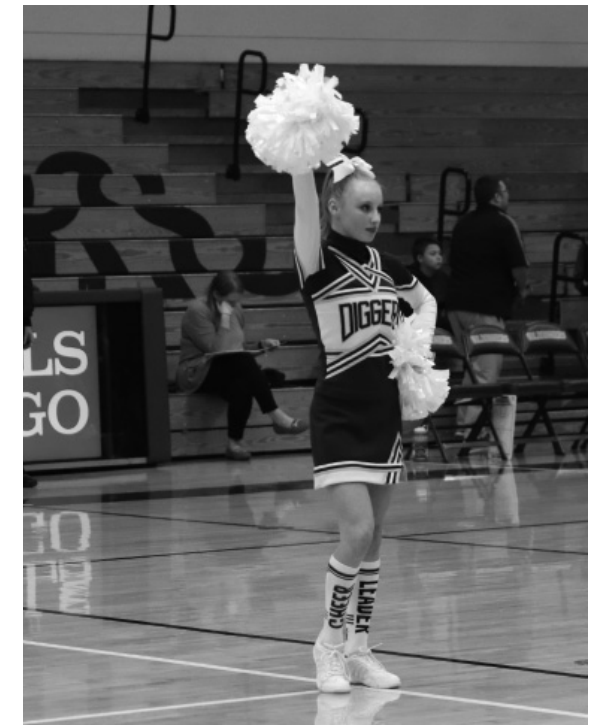
Another year with Dr. Bree Oatman hosting the science fair. All physics and chemistry students take part in the science fair making a genre of different projects and experiments.

The students start by brainstorming ideas either by themselves or with a partner. They get a sheet of paper that helps direct students in the right path. After that they figure out what supplies they need and if needed they have Dr. Oatman order them. After that they start working on the experi-

ments along with their tri-fold.

Students have picked projects ranging from chemistry to social sciences. Sophomores Liliana Reynolds and Denisse Munoz are working on a project that involves memory.

They have sets of cards with numbers, pictures and colors on them and set them out for a certain amount of time for a person to memorize. After taking the cards away they ask the person and see how correct they were, and then they record the data.



Kiera Gustafson takes a step forward cheering for the point just earned.

Cheer Team Supports The Basketball Team

By Kiayah Clark

With another season of basketball comes the basketball cheerleaders. This year's cheerleaders are Alexandria Valenzuela, Miranda Kearns, Nevaeh Foster, Cameron Stoflet and along with three eighth graders to help expand the cheer team is Kiera Gustafson, Teyara McCoy, and Winter McMahan. Nevaeh Foster says, "I'm super excited to learn different routines and stunts,"

During this time the cheer team are starting to learn more routines and stunts.

They have been working extremely hard to learn their new material. They are also learning little dances called ditties. Miranda Kearns says, "I am excited to start routines and stunting with the junior high and help them develop their own style. My favorite thing about cheer is being able to help and see everyone advance in their skill set and enjoy the sport." The cheer team is very excited for this season and are ready to take on new challenges and support the basketball team.

Critics Rave Over Little Women

By Daniel Egemo

Actress & Director Greta Gerwig followed her directorial debut *Lady Bird* with the fourth feature film version of *Little Women*. The story follows the lives of four sisters—Meg, Jo, Beth, and Amy. The film tells their journey through womanhood in an emotion invoking two and a half hours.

The story is originally from a novel written by author Louisa May Alcott which has been an inspiration for many adaptations. Gerwig manages to capture all the great things about the original story while still making it entertaining for modern audiences. The performances in this movie are some of the best of 2019. These performances are of course accompanied by a well-written and well thought out script.

The movie features a star-studded cast, including: Saoirse Ronan, Timothee Chalamet, Emma Watson, Laura Dern, Meryl Streep, and Bob Odenkirk. Saoirse Ronan plays the lead character of the movie, Jo. She delivers a performance that is catching a lot of attention at award shows including the Academy Awards.

Little Women (2019) was met with great reviews from film critics and audiences alike, receiving near perfect reviews from most film critics and critique outlets. The film is nominated for six Oscars at the Academy Awards which takes place on Feb. 9, 2020. However, one of the biggest snubs at the Oscars this year is that Greta Gerwig did not receive a nomination for Best Director.

While this story has been told time and time again, *Little Women (2019)* manages to capture yet another audience with a superb telling of the story. The film is an example that in our world of remakes and reboots, a story retold can still manage to capture the excellence of the original.



Casey Briscoe continues to work on her character development.



H.S. Boy (Todd Locke) shows strong emotion during a scene.

One Act Play Prepares For Regions

By Daniel Egemo

The LDHS Theater Department is prepping to take the stage with *Tracks* on Jan. 27-29. The first two nights of the play will be performed in the high school auditorium on the 27-28. On Jan. 29, the ensemble heads to Custer for the Region One Act competition.

Tracks tells the story of a group of strangers who meet in a subway station. They soon learn that there is no way out of the station and the unfortunate truth: they are all dead. Since subway stations have two sides, they reason that one side is going to Heaven, while the other is doomed for Hell. But which side are they on? Throughout the show, the characters reflect upon their lives trying to figure out which destination they are headed for.

“What makes *Tracks* such a powerful story is its ability to provoke thought as an audience member,” Director Eli Corbett commented about the story’s emotion, “Our individual fate and the mystery behind what the afterlife will actually hold is a question we all ask at some point in our lives.”

The group hopes to punch their ticket to state at the region competition this year. The theater department has not been to state in nearly ten years. “Ultimately, a trip to State is the Fine Arts version of going to the Playoffs in sports,” Corbett spoke about the state competition, “Personally, I believe achieving a State berth would be a tremendous accomplishment for everyone involved.”

The group will continue to rehearse throughout the month of January until the performance dates arrive. Going to state would certainly be a gratifying experience for everyone involved in the production.



The Professor (Daniel Egemo) looks down at The Old Man (Quinn Ward) and The Homeless Girl (Casey Briscoe) as the characters interact.

Roden Works Toward Early Graduation

By Isabel Ward

Alicia Roden is one of the few students who has made the decision to graduate early with the class of 2020. She was initially apart of the class of 2021 and has made the decision to graduate a year earlier than initially assigned. When asked why she made this decision she stated that it was for personal reasons and to streamline her education and get a jump start on her career. After graduation she will be attending Western Dakota Tech for a degree in Business and Social Media Marketing and pursuing a career as a dental assistant. She said that the transition from a sophomore to a senior was smoother than she had expected it to be and the school had been helpful in ensuring that her graduation requirements had been filled in time for the ceremony. Overall she said that the decision has gone extremely smoothly and she is glad she made it.

With that being said, there are a few things that you have to sacrifice if you decide to make a similar choice. When asked about the hardest part of her early graduation she stated that she doesn’t get to have the some of the senior privileges like open campus until second semester and free periods because she has to complete more required classes than the average senior. Roden also says that she will miss graduating with her peers that she has been with since first grade but overall it is an experience that she would recommend if you have the self-discipline and motivation to do well in school. It’s also important to have a plan for post-graduation if you are to make a similar decision.

Senior Service Hours Due January 17

By Isabel Ward

A panic has set through the senior class as an announcement was made regarding service hours. The announcement stated that hours were expected to be turned in by January 17th in order for administration to have an idea of where everyone is at in filling the requirement.

In recent history each year, every individual senior had to complete 45 service learning hours in order to fill the graduation requirement.

Service learning hours are extremely important and a simple requirement to fill. Service learning hours are hours of volunteer work that give back to the community in some way. The goal of them is to teach young men and women the importance of giving back without a promise of reward or compensation.

If you are in need or more service learning hours, you have a responsibility to ensure that you get them done in time to fill the requirement for graduation. There are plenty of opportunities in the community that you can seek out before the 17th.

Some can be as simple as taking dogs for a walk in the morning at the local animal shelter or helping out at the boys and girls club a couple hours a week. You could also shovel for your neighbors after a storm to get your hours. The community has a huge need for help and plenty of opportunities, all you have to do is be proactive and responsible regarding your hours and you’ll get them in no time.

Joining Key Club is also a great way to be introduced to service hour opportunities that will help you towards that 45 hour goal. If you are interested in joining get in contact with Ms. Schamber at the middle school.

If you have any questions regarding your Service Learning Hours stop by the counselor’s office and talk to Ms. Schumacher.



Alicia Roden decided to graduate a year earlier with the class of 2020. Roden plans to attend Western Dakota Technical school in the coming Fall Semester.



Senior Kialey Rose makes cotton candy at the Kiwanis tent during the Prospector Bowl to receive her service learning hours.



LDHS Democrats volunteer their time at their Thanksgiving event while acquiring service hours.