



# the Pheasant Call

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REDFIELD HIGH SCHOOL NEWS ~ REDFIELD, SD

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## PHEASANT FOCUS

### Showing School Spirit with HoCo Dress-up Days

by Brooklyn Rische

Students dug through their closets, went to Good Will or ordered items from Amazon to find the perfect outfits for the Homecoming Dress-up Days.

Monday was "Sleeping Beauty" day and students of all ages showed up in their PJs. Tuesday was "Inside Out" day, and they dressed in the colors of the movie emotions. Wednesday was "Minion" day and students worked around town doing community service projects, painted windows, and built floats. Thursday was "Good vs. Evil" day, and Friday was "Monster's Inc." day and students dressed in Redfield gear.

Students showed their Homecoming spirit throughout the week.



**Feeling the Emotions.**

Seniors Jadie Turner and Brooklyn Rische re-enact a scene from the *Inside Out* movie.

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## A Magical Homecoming Coronation

by Kinley Smith

On Sept. 9, student body, staff and community members filled the Ken Greco building waiting to hear the results for the Homecoming King and Queen.

King Collin Dean and Queen Jadie Turner were chosen by the student body to reign over the 2024 Homecoming festivities.

"Homecoming is the one time of every year where our small town comes together to show the true pride and tradition of Redfield. The week-

long celebrations not only let us students get out and show our appreciation for the community, but also show us just how supportive and proud of us they are! Lots of people are involved with helping prepare and support this event every year, and I and excited that I got to be a part of it one last time," Queen Jadie Turner said.

The whole student body had the opportunity to vote for the seniors who would become the five

king and five queen candidates. Queen candidates included Addisyn Evans, Brooklyn Rische, Adalyn Stoner, Jadie Turner and Brynnley Neuharth. King candidates included Collin Dean, Creighton Bower, Dylan Murray, Camden Murray and Jacob Buranen.

Juniors Karlie Brabant and Kinley Smith were the emcees for the ceremony.

Mr. Dominic Evans, the 25-year-Homecoming King,

was chosen to speak at the ceremony. Mr. Evans spoke about "the good days" of his high school experience and the current school year theme of "All in: Whatever It Takes."

The Burning of the "R" took place after the ceremony where King Collin and Queen Jadie lit the "R" on fire as many coronation attendees watched. The Redfield cheerleaders chanted different cheers to get the crowd involved in the annual tradition.



**Homecoming Court.**

Members of the 2024 Homecoming Coronation Court include Brooklyn Rische, Brynnley Neuharth, Addisyn Evans, Adalyn Stoner, Queen Jadie Turner, King Collin Dean, Dylan Murray, Camden Murray, Creighton Bower and Jacob Buranen.

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# Students Participate in Annual Pride Day

by Brooklyn Rische

Each year on the Wednesday during Homecoming, students spend the day helping around town and doing community service activities. This is also the day that each class gets time to build their floats that will be judged before the parade on Friday.

During the day, students completed activities around town. Some of the places students could be seen was at the fairgrounds, the city park, the fairgrounds, the baseball field, the cemetery, at local businesses, or just on the many streets of Redfield.

"Pride day is important because it helps bring the people you may not talk or interact with together. It also helps make the community look better and

show the students appreciation for what the community gives up," Brynn Giblin said.

According to the stats reported by the Park and Rec office, the following was done during Pride Day by students: 208 holes marked and filled, 24 picnic tables painted, 11 garbage holders painted, 1 backstop net taken down for the season, 36 outfield ad signs removed for the season, 19 fire pits removed of their ashes, 13 garbage cans and 1 garbage bag of leaves removed, countless branches picked up, 5 playgrounds weeded and raked clean, 2 Welcome to Redfield signs weeded and cleaned, 1 picnic shelter painted, 64 posts painted around the tennis courts, 2 tennis courts shoveled

around for drainage purposes, 6 picnic shelters swept clean, 1 rainbow bridge path edged and cleaned, 1 armory sidewalk edged and cleaned, 1 main street weeded and swept clean, 1 city park walking path swept clean, 1 city park softball infield weeded, 2 portable baseball mounds removed, and 1 fastpitch pitching circle redone.

# The Best Time of the Year

Homecoming is a magical time of year, with so many different activities students can be involved in. My favorite Homecoming traditions are float building and the pep rally. Float building is an effective way for my classmates to be creative and have fun competing against other grades while collaborating with each other. It is a fun group project for students to get together and use different ideas and creativity to build a float by themselves.

The pep rally is also an exciting time for all students and staff and gives off good energy for all. The good energy turns into school spirit for the football game on Friday night. The pep rally games, class floats and their results and yelling for the jug is a wonderful way to end off homecoming week. Then after the pep rally is the Homecoming parade where everyone in the community gets to be involved and show school spirit.

These traditions give students and the community pride and make people proud to be a Redfield Pheasant.



Kendyl Siebrecht, journalism staff



**Building a New Mound.** Mr. Gregg, Noah Johnson, Maddon Odland, and Derrick Bogart dig in the dirt to build a new mound at the softball field for the fastpitch team in the spring.



**Painting the Flag.** Matthew Carr paints the red strips for the flag on Main Street. Every year the senior class paints a flag somewhere in the community to show patriotism.

# How did you contribute to the Community?

by Hayden Gall



Connor Gruenwald, sophomore

*"I was in a group that went to the Methodist church and cleaned."*



Tucker Nelson, junior

*"I went to the Legion and we took metal and wood from the basement, and brought it to the dump."*



Jessie Ratigan, sophomore

*"I picked up sticks and pulled weeds at Hav-a-Rest, and then filled holes in the park."*



Mr. Gregg, teacher

*"I took a group to the baseball field, and we took advertising signs down, we painted, built a new mound and weedeated."*



Jaxon Sandoz, senior

*"I helped my classmates repaint the flag on the corner of Main Street."*



Jaycee Appel, freshman

*"I went to the 4-H building and we cleaned the walls, mopped the floors, and pulled weeds in the arena."*



# Redfield Welcomes Ruben Alvarez, Exchange Student

by Hannah Schlechter

RHS students noticed a new face in the hallways and classrooms during the second week of school; Ruben Alvarez, exchange student from Spain, joined the junior class.

His family includes his parents, his 24-year-old brother and his grandparents, whom he is with often.

Kyle and Angela Falk and their son Ethan welcomed Alvarez into their home in August, and he will be staying with

them throughout the school year.

When asked why he became a foreign exchange student, Alvarez said, "I wanted to come to see the U.S and practice my English."

To get here, Alvarez traveled about 4,500 miles. He stated that he had to fill out many documents and even make a presentation about himself and his family to become an exchange student.

Alvarez's hometown is a small town next to Valladolid,

and although he lives in Spain, he has been all over the U.S. He has traveled to Alabama, Georgia, and Florida. His favorite state is Florida because of the beaches. He also said he enjoyed Atlanta while in Georgia.

A few other favorites of his include ice cream, his favorite dessert. His favorite color is blue and he likes dogs. His favorite class is Algebra II.

A few things Alvarez does in his free time back in Spain

is go to the movie theater, play board games, and watch sports with his family. The sports he watches often include basketball, soccer and tennis. Alvarez also participates in a few sports; he plays basketball, football, and possibly track starting this year. He also likes playing soccer with his friends.

After finishing his year at Redfield, Alvarez plans to go back to Spain and possibly attend a university in his



*Ruben Alvarez, exchange student*

hometown.

If you see Alvarez in school or around town, welcome him

to our community and wish him a great year with many positive experiences.

## Judges' Decision Results in Chili Cook-off Tie

by Ainsee Sattler

The temp was hot, but the chili was even hotter at the annual chili cook-off.

The event was held prior to the Homecoming football game.

The Post Prom committee hosts this traditional competition for the com-

munity, and the proceeds are used to fund the events following Prom in the spring.

Twelve participants took part in creating a variety of chili to taste-test.

The Judges' Choice award was a tie between Nuhsbaumer

& Co. and Community Memorial Hospital, and the People's Choice winner was Chrystal's Bar.

"It's great to see our community participate in events for the school," Amanda Schnabel, who entered with the Dakotaland team, said.



*Chili Champions.* Karen Sjurseth accepts the coveted award as the chili cook-off champions for Community Memorial Hospital; they tied with Nuhsbaumer & Co. with the Judges' Choice; Becca Nelson accepts the People's Choice award on behalf of Chrystal's Bar.

## FBLA's 2nd Parking Lot Party Starts Off Homecoming Week

by Hayden Gall

On Sept. 9, FBLA hosted their second annual Parking Lot Party before the coronation ceremony.

The party had free food, games, music, and a dunk tank. The appeal of the dunk tank was to knock teachers into the water.

The teachers who volunteered to be

in the dunk tank and raise money for FBLA were Mr. Hawkins, Mr. Osborn, Mr. Gregg, and Mr. Cihak.

FBLA members provided the chips and pop, Dr. Mortensen supplied cotton candy, Mr. Falk and Mr. Cihak prepared the burgers and brats, and Ms.

Becker played the music.

"I thought the turnout was very solid in relation to last year. The block party has turned into an event for students and faculty to have some fellowship and to enjoy coronation. Fun was had by all," FBLA adviser Mr. Gregg stated.



*Get the Party Started.* Superintendent Dr. Mortensen serves students Conner Zens, Alex Shottenkirk, Payton Moore, Noah Johnson and Ethan Falk free burgers that were served at the Parking Lot Party.



# Eleven New People Join Redfield Public School

by Charli Jungwirth

Redfield Public School welcomed many new faces to the teaching staff.

Justin Desens is the new 6-12th grade band teacher. Mr. Desens has two classes throughout the day. First period he teaches high school band class. His second class of the day is fifth period, where he has middle school band students. He also holds lessons throughout the day.

The new music teacher is Mrs. Abigail Desens. She teaches elementary, middle, and high school vocal classes.

New to the SPED department are Ms. Brooke Niederbauer in the elementary, Mrs. Michelle Binger in the MS/HS, and Ms. Evelyn Salingay in the high school.

Mrs. Amanda Evans joined the staff as the new educa-

tional evaluator, and Mrs. Dana Siebrecht joined as the behavioral interventionist.

Kindergarten brought in two new teachers: Mrs. Briana Haven and Mrs. Kalyn Ede. Other elementary teachers include Mr. Richie Dela Cruz, third grade; Ms. Shelby Hendrikson, fourth grade; and Mr. Vinnie Kenitzer came into the custodial staff.



**New to the Crew.** Mr. and Mrs. Desens lead the middle school band during the Homecoming parade on Sept. 13. Mrs. Abigail Desens is the new choir teacher, while her husband, Mr. Justin Desens, is the new band director.

## Qualifying FCCLA Students Attend Nationals

by Kayleigh Disbrow

On June 26, Ms. McCarthy and her students left for Seattle, Washington, to attend the FCCLA National Leadership Conference.

The students spent their first two days visiting Pikes Market, going on a sunset cruise, visiting the Museum of Pop Culture, and attending the Seattle Mariners vs. Twins game.

The conference started on June 29 and lasted until July 3. On the first day of the conference, there was an opening session, along with South Dakota's first state meeting.

Kayleigh Disbrow represented South Dakota as the State Jr. High Representative; she attended state officer networking's, workshops, and helped run state meetings.

Emeri Hofeman, who did Event Management, and Zoe Zastrow, who did Focus on Children, presented their projects that day as well.

On the second day of the conference, Hannah Lemmer presented her project in Digital Stories for Change.

Members attended conferences all day. Toward the end of the day, a state meeting and a general session were held.

Disbrow and the other state officers and advisers attended a Harbor Tour Cruise to conclude the day.

On the third day of the conference, the top ten finalists were revealed for each STAR EVENT. Hofeman made Top 10 for Event Management, and Zastrow made Top 10



**Representing Redfield.** Members of FCCLA who attended Nationals in Seattle, Washington, included Kayleigh Disbrow, Zoe Zastrow, Emeri Hofeman, Hannah Lemmer, and Adalyn Stoner. Others who also attended were Mrs. Melissa Zastrow, Kari Lemmer, and advisor Ms. Aliesha McCarthy.

for Focus on Children. Throughout the day there were more general sessions and workshops. To end the day they went to the Great Wheel and Cheesecake Factory.

On the final day, the top ten finalists found out if they made it to the top 3.

Hofeman received a silver and top 10 in the nation. Lemmer received silver, and Zastrow received a gold and top 10 in the nation as well.

"This National Conference was one of the most memorable that I have been able to attend. I was

able to take great kids with me, get the experience of being an advisor to a state officer, meet more people, and experience the city alongside my students," advisor Ms. Aliesha McCarthy said.

Adalyn Stoner added, "Going to Seattle

was such a good experience, we learned so many valuable lessons and had such a good time touring the city. It was truly an unforgettable experience that I would love to experience again sometime with friends."



# Pheasants Claim Victories

by Aly Gruenwald

With a record of 3-9, the Lady Pheasants are working their way through the new season with different teammates.

According to head volleyball coach Mr. Joel Osborn, communication is key to any good relationship.

"Overall, we are still a very young team and are working to find leadership when we have opportunities to put other teams away. We have a lot of po-

tential, and when we get it, we will see the wins come a lot easier for us," Coach Joel Osborn stated. "We must keep our heads up and still strive to be better all the time for every ball, at every practice, at every match and trust in each other so that we can do the job or the task in front of us," he added.

The Pheasants traveled to the annual Clark Tournament on Sept 14, where they battled DeSmet

(25-22, 18-25, 17-25). The Pheasants went on to play Britton/Hecla, but were defeated (25-22, 20-25, 13-25) in pool play.

They won against Waverly/South Shore (25-17, 25-20) in the bronze division, and lost to Deuel as their final game (18-25, 20-25).

Even through the losses, the Lady Pheasants found ways to improve, not only in themselves, but also as a whole

team.

Their first victory was against Deuel at home on Aug. 27 with the scores of (25-12, 25-12, 25-22).

Leading the victory against the Cardinals, Charli Jungwirth had 8 kills and 12 digs.

## Aces All Around!

After sophomore Brynn Giblin serves an ace against the Deuel Cardinals, the Pheasant players meet together to celebrate. Giblin leads the team in aces for the season with a total of 12.



## Sideline Cheer Promotes Spirit

by Jadie Turner

With the responsibilities of promoting school spirit, the sideline cheer team has made their presence known during football games and Homecoming.

By leading the pep rally and throwing out footballs, candy, necklaces and bandanas during the football games, the girls continue to show their spirit.

During Homecoming, the girls

started off the week with the annual tradition of crowning the RHS Homecoming king and queen on Monday. They led the school song and danced to the pep band as people found their seats. The following Friday, they danced at the pep rally and led the students in the yelling for the jug. The juniors came out on top with the win. Before the homecoming game,

the cheerleaders put spirit tattoos on people during the chili cookoff.

On Sep. 6, the girls held their annual little Pheasant cheer camp. The cheerleaders had an hour and a half to teach the girls four cheers and an age-appropriate stunt. The little girls got to perform during halftime of the game against Britton. There were 41 girls in grades K-5 that attended and performed.

Sophomore Amelia Sjurseth said, "This is my first year being a football cheerleader and it has been absolutely incredible! I've got the chance to form great friendships with all the girls on the squad and getting the chance to show school spirit has been one of the highlights of my school year!"



**Taking it Step by Step.** Freshman Willow Ronneberg and senior Jadie Turner race to the end line at the Redfield Invite. Both ran the varsity race, a 5k course.

## Cross-Country Members Race to the Finish Line

by Willow Ronneberg

The cross-country team has attended two meets this season under the leadership of the new head coach from Aberdeen, Kearra Elkins.

The varsity team includes Jadie Turner, Peyton Moore, Maddon Oldland, Willow Ronneberg, Aly Gruenwald and Carson Peterson. JV includes Emma Fugman, Lydia Jungwirth and Saige Jungwirth. Middle school runners include DJ Bucholz, Tory Betten, Ava McMahan, Harper Schade, Aniston Whitley, Marcus Fugman, Will McPhee and Scylas Schulz.

The most recent invite was held in Milbank. Varsity times came up to Peyton Moore with a time

of (19:10), Maddon Oldland (22:16), Willow Ronneberg (24:36), Aly Gruenwald (24:16), Jadie Turner (26:02), and Carson Peterson with a time of (22:10). JV came in with times of Saige Jungwirth (18:42) coming in 3rd place, Lydia Jungwirth (20:00), and lastly Emma Fugman (24:15).

The season began on Aug 15. The runners have worked daily to push to get the best times possible. They run hills, distance and at fast-moving paces to prepare for the upcoming meets and courses they will run.

The Redfield Invite was the first meet at Fishers Grove on Sept. 5. Runners paced themselves to

persevere through the race to finish. Varsity runs a 5k, JV runs a 3k, and middle schoolers run a 2k.

"Cross country keeps me in shape and makes me feel healthy. My teammates are kind, and they push me to my limits. I feel like I improved a lot from our last meet. At meets, I encounter new people and I get to hang out with my teammates. Cross country is difficult; we don't get many days off and we're always practicing hard, but you should join cross-country. It's a mental game and it's great for your body. We have more meets to come so come and cheer us on," Carson Peterson said.

## Senior Spotlight

**Creighton Bowar** is the son of Preston and Debbie



Bowar. He has two siblings: Kinsey and Chaley. Creighton has been involved in golf (2) and FFA (4). He says he has enjoyed golf the most because you can always improve. His favorite

class while at RHS has been forensics because he gets to learn many new ways to investigate. After high school, he plans to attend Lake Area Tech and pursue a degree in diesel tech.

**Brooklyn Rische** is the daughter of Heath & Andi



Morrison and Dustin Rische. She has two siblings: Hudson (14) and Bristol (10). During her time in school she has been involved in basketball (7), track (2), volleyball (10), FCCLA (2),

FBLA (4), FFA (4), NHS (2), NJHS (2), softball manager (2), journalism (4), student council (8) and church youth group (12). Her advice to others is to never take time for granted. Brooklyn plans to attend SDSU. She is unsure of a major, but is leaning toward ag-related.

**Jaxon Ethridge** is the son of Felicia and James



Ethridge. He has two siblings: Haven and Natalie. While in high school, he has been involved in: football (2), track (3), baseball (5), band (6), and basketball (3). His favorite activities

have been football, basketball and band because he has always had an interest in sports and music. Jaxon's favorite quote is "Keep moving forward" - Walt Disney. Ethridge is unsure of his plans after high school.

**Jadie Turner** is the daughter of Amy and Bobby



Turner. During her time in high school, she has been involved in: competition cheer (3), football cheer (4), cross country (3), track (4), dance (13), softball (4), FBLA (4), FCCLA (2),

Student Council (8), NJHS (2), NHS (2) and Journalism (4). One thing Jadie is proud of is being involved and having a high GPA. After graduation, she plans to attend USD to study pre-med and then later become a general surgeon.

## Keeping a Positive Attitude This Season

by Brynnley Neuharth

The season has looked a little different for boys' football as they made the switch from 11-man to 9-man football. The team is now in the 9AA class.

"The change from 11 to 9-man has been challenging, but it is also exciting that we get to play different teams that we have never played before," Coach Hank Brassilio said.

The boys last played the Waubay-Summit Mustangs on Sept. 20. The final score stood at 38-0 in favor of the Mustangs.

The Pheasants hosted the Stanley

County Buffaloes for Homecoming on Sept. 13. After 4 quarters, with a touchdown and 2-point conversion scored by Dylan Murray, the Pheasants lost 8-44.

For their first game on Aug. 24, the boys traveled to Leola to play the Leola/Fredrick Titans. There, they were defeated 7-60, with Dylan Murray scoring a touchdown for the Pheasants.

On Aug. 30, the team lost 0-52 against Kimball-White Lake. They took on the Britton-Hecla Braves on Sept. 6 and lost 0-48.

"Truthfully, it is overwhelming. We are not measuring up to our expectations. We are not performing to our best capabilities, but there is a lot of potential for

us to have success in the second half of the season," Coach Brassilio said.

The Pheasants will travel to Hamlin to take on the Chargers on Sept. 27.



**Hyping Each Other Up.**

Seniors Camden Murray and Collin Dean hit shoulders before the game against the Stanley County Buffaloes.

## Golf Competes in Six Meets Thus Far

by Addisyn Evans

The golf season started Aug. 12, just seven days before the first meet.

The team welcomed seventeen members. Eight of the seventeen interchangeably compete at the varsity level; some also compete in JV meets.

Varsity members include Collin Dean, Creighton Bowar, Conner Zens, Micah Zastrow, Jackson Rude, Gavin Frericks, Grady Hulscher and Hudson Rische.

On Aug. 19, the boys traveled to Sioux Valley where Zastrow led the team with 88

strokes. Zens shot a 94, Bowar a 101, Dean with a 103, Rude with a 112, and Hulscher with a 129.

On Aug. 22, three of the varsity golfers participated in the Milbank Invite. Rude led the team with 104 strokes, Bowar with 112, and Hulscher a 126.

NECs was held at Dakota Winds, where five of the boys competed. Zens led the team with 86 strokes, Zastrow a 102, Dean with a 112, Rude a 114, and Bowar with a 122.

The Hub City Invite was on Sept. 3 where Zens led the team once again,

shooting an 89. Following, Zastrow shot a 101, Rude a 104, Dean a 110, Bowar with a 114, and Hulscher ending with a 132.

With an eleven-day break between meets, the boys continued to practice preparing for the Groton Invite on Sept. 12.

Zastrow led the team with 100 strokes, with Dean only 1 behind for 101. Bowar finished with a 105, Hulscher a 110, and Hudson Rische a 133.

On Sept. 17, the boys held a home meet at Fisher Grove. Rude and Zastrow led the

team in strokes, both shooting an 88. Bowar shot a 94, Dean a 100, Hulscher a 109, Rische a 115, and Gavin Frericks finished with a 143.

"The golf season this year started on a major upside for the boys' program, with a lot of uncertainty coming in being young and having only one varsity player returning. After that we have gone through a bit of a struggle but seem to be re-gathering our success that we started the year with just in time for regions," head coach Mr. Bradley Cihak said.