



the Pheasant Call

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REDFIELD HIGH SCHOOL NEWS ~ REDFIELD, SD

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PHEASANT FOCUS

Welcome to the PARKING LOT PARTY!

by Kinley Smith

The 2023 Homecoming festivities started off with a bang on Monday, Sept. 18 as the FBLA hosted the first ever "Parking Lot Party" before coronation.

In an effort to start a fun, new tradition, FBLA advisor Mr. Tommy Gregg and the FBLA Homecoming committee came up with the idea to get students excited for the upcoming week-long fun.

"The planning for this party all involved getting more student participation, getting more school culture and starting more tradition. I was happy to see many different groups of students represent and the

event was a success," Mr. Gregg said.

The party entertainment included a variety of lawn games, music and socializing as well as free food and drinks. Students were able to interact and enjoy time together before Homecoming events officially kicked off with coronation.

Senior Carmen Herrera said, "I really had fun while listening to the good music and eating great burgers. It was fun to hang out with my friends as well before coronation."

The FBLA hopes to turn the event into a yearly tradition and looks forward to hosting more successful events in the future.

Pheasant Call Staff

Addisyn Evans, Lorena Evans, Hayden Gall,
Carmen Herrera, Emeri Hofeman, Charli
Jungwirth, Brynnley Neuharth, Brooklyn Rische,
Kaitlyn Rozell, Kendyl Siebrecht, Kinley Smith
& Roger Watson

Editor: Jadie Turner

Adviser Mrs. Kaylin Frost
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Homecoming Royalty Candidates Chosen by High School Student Body

by Hayden Gall

The results of Homecoming king and queen were revealed on Sept. 18 in the Ken Greeno building. The student body voted and chose Chloe Zens and Grady Fey as the 2023-2024 Homecoming queen and king.

"I feel very honored

to be chosen by my fellow classmates. It's a blessing to receive recognition but also to be looked up to by underclassmen. Here's to the best week of the year, roll Phez!!!" queen Chloe Zens stated.

The Homecoming court candidates for queen consisted

of Jersey Morrison, Chloe Zens, Jadit Puok, Kaitlyn Rozell and Carmen Herrera. The candidates for king included Grady Fey, Chase McGillivray, Elijah Morrisette, Kevin Weller and Chase Frericks.

Jadie Turner and Brooklyn Rische acted as the MCs for the

ceremony.

In addition, RHS alumni Shelly Fallon (class of 1983) was the guest speaker for the coronation ceremony. Fallon spoke about the memories she and her classmates made during their Homecomings back when they were in high school.



Royalty. Chosen by the RHS student body, the 2023-2024 Homecoming Royalty includes Jadit Puok, Kaitlyn Rozell, Jersey Morrison, Carmen Herrera, Queen Chloe Zens, King Grady Fey, Chase McGillivray, Elijah Morrisette, Kevin Weller and Chase Frericks. Coronation took place on Monday, September 18.



Serve It Up.

Mr. Tommy Gregg serves hamburgers and hotdogs to students in grades 6 - 12 and staff members attending the parking lot party on Monday evening before the coronation ceremony. FBLA hosted the party and members brought chips and drinks to help offset prices as the meal was free to students. Students ate, played games and listened to music.

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 **@RedfieldJH_HS**

Homecoming Traditions

Redfield students create memories throughout the week of homecoming festivities.

by Charli Jungwirth

Traditions exist in many areas in our lives. Families and individuals celebrate many traditions such as Christmas and Easter. Those traditions include the stories of Santa and the Easter Bunny.

Some traditions could also be going to a family member's house or to a certain place every year and having food and treats.

"My favorite tradition that goes on throughout the year is Halloween, because I like carving pumpkins and I love fall weather," freshman Kendyl Siebrecht said.

One of many tradi-

tions that happens in the lives of students is Homecoming and all its festivities.

Homecoming is a tradition that has been around for several decades. It includes dress up days throughout the week, the football game, and a chili cook off a couple hours before the football game.

Coronation takes place at the beginning of the week when the Homecoming Queen and King are crowned, which is then followed by the Burning of the R.

Another tradition celebrated during Homecoming week is the pep rally, when classes compete for the jug by yell-

ing a chant led by the cheerleaders as loudly as they can, and then, of course, float building for the competition for the best-decorated and the Homecoming parade.

"My favorite part about Homecoming is the pep rally and building the floats because there are fun games at the pep rally," freshman Brynn Giblin said.

Perhaps a new tradition will start this year; before Coronation FBLA hosted a parking lot party where there were grilled burgers and hotdogs for students in grades 6-12 and school staff.

"It was really great

ALL IN: Let's Give it a Try

All-In What does it mean to you? Well, to me it means that you must step out of your comfort zone and try new things. Participating in activities that you have never tried before. A way I stepped out of my comfort zone is by taking journalism and joining track. Those are two things I never saw myself doing.

Roger Watson, journalism staff

For example, when I made the decision to play music in seventh grade, I couldn't decide what instrument to play! I was so interested in the guitar, base, the keys, and the clarinet. So, I tried to do them all, but it was too difficult. Then I realized it's better to try everything than to miss out. I wouldn't be where I am today if I never tried new things. Take my advice and don't limit yourself; try new things and you won't regret it.

to see the student body from 6th-12th grades show up and have a good time, and we hope to continue this tradition and make it better next year with slip and slides," FBLA adviser Mr. Tommy Gregg said.



Traditions. Homecoming King Grady Fey holds the torch as he lights the R on fire, a tradition that has been around for decades.

What is your favorite part about Homecoming?

by Charli Jungwirth



Kinley Smith,
sophomore

"My favorite part of Homecoming was the parking lot party. Join FBLA!"



Layla Hardie,
freshman

"My favorite part of Homecoming was dressing up and going to the football game."



Jadie Turner,
junior

"My favorite part of Homecoming was getting ready for the game and the parade."



Cecilia Suchor,
sophomore

"My favorite part of Homecoming was the chili cook off."



Mady Morrisette,
freshman

"My favorite part of Homecoming was the chili cook off."



Adalyn Stoner,
junior

"My favorite part of Homecoming was going all out for dress up days and the pep rally."

Meet Mathilde Poulsen, Exchange Student from Denmark

by Jadie Turner

Mathilde Poulsen is the daughter of Karsten Poulsen and Pia Poulsen. She has two siblings: a sister Liv, who just turned 5, and a 15-year-old brother Sebastian.

Poulsen arrived in Redfield on Aug. 19 and joined her host family, Kyle and Angela Falk. She will be residing with the Falks throughout the entire school year.

When asked what encouraged her to become an exchange student, Poulsen said, "It has always been a dream of mine to live in another country, so when I

finally graduated it was the only right choice to become an exchange student. One of the many reasons why I chose to be an exchange student is because I've always liked to see and experience new places around the world."

A plane trip of 8 hours will land you in Poulsen's hometown of Kalundborg. She grew up here about 1.5 hours away from Copenhagen. She grew up in the suburbs, and because her dad traveled often for his job, she spent much

of her time with her mom and her brother. Her grandparents on her father's side live only 3 miles away, and Poulsen mentioned that there was always good candy and snacks at their house.

Poulsen gave us a sneak peek into Danish life: people must be 18 years old to drive in Denmark, and their school year starts in the beginning of August and ends in late June. Music commonly listened to includes pop or Danish music. Some of her all-time favorite foods

include "stegt flæsk med persillesovs" or, as we may call it, fried pork breast with potatoes and parsley sauce. Her favorite color is pink, and she enjoys watching *Gilmore Girls*.

After completing her year in Redfield, Poulsen plans to go back to Denmark and take three years of Danish high school. She later plans to go into education for psychology.

If you see Mathilde Poulsen in the hallway or at school events, extend a warm welcome to

her from our community and school and wish her a good school year with

many new experiences in Redfield and in the state of South Dakota!



Mathilde Poulsen, exchange student

Redfield School Welcomes New Superintendent Dr. Mortensen

by Kendyl Siebrecht

One of the new faces in the halls belongs to the new RHS superintendent, Dr. Mortensen.

She and her husband Kurt have been married for 32 years and have four children, Conrad (29), Spencer (25), Jacklyn (20), and Brannigan (14). She also has a "beautiful 10-month old granddaughter, Waverly."

As a Minnesota native, Dr. Mortensen is a big supporter of the Vikings and Twins. She also likes the world of racing and enjoys the Daytona 500 Nascar races. She grew up playing basketball from 2nd grade through her first two years of college. Her father owned a bowling alley, so she was for-

tunate to get private lessons and grew up loving the sport of bowling as well.

Albert Lea, MN, is where Mortensen considers home. She claims she has moved 31 times in 55 years, living in 18 different towns.

"We moved a lot due to my family relocating for employment opportunities, and / or for my husband and I to make a great life for our kids. I am the oldest of four children," Mortensen said.

When asked what she likes to do outside of school life, she says she loves to go camping and attend fairs.

"I don't get much time to myself, but when I do, I enjoy snuggling up to a

good book, doing puzzles, or cross stitching," she said. She is also an EMT and an ordained minister. She and her husband also flip homes.

She graduated from Jackson High School in Jackson, MN, in 1986. From there she attended Austin Community College for two years and then finished her Bachelor of Science degree from Mankato State University in Mankato, MN, in 1991. In 2004, she graduated with her Masters of Teaching and Learning from St. Mary's University in Winona, MN. As a person who believes in lifelong learning, she proceeded to attend the University of St. Thomas in St.

Paul, MN, to obtain her Educational Specialist (Principal K-12) licensure in 2008 and then her Superintendency in 2010. In 2019, she graduated from St. Cloud State University in St. Cloud, MN, with her Doctor of Education degree in Educational Administration and Leadership.

When asked what her favorite part of the job is, she says working with the kids. "That is why we are here. It is all about the kids. They can always turn a bad day into a great day with just a smile, some excitement, an achievement," Mortensen said. Her second favorite would be the staff. She claims, "Watching staff grow



Superintendent Dr. Mortensen and MS/HS Principal Ms. Kendra Becker meet students at the front door on the first day of school.

in their profession is always exciting."

Mortensen and her husband have talked for many years about moving to South Dakota.

She stated, "We

have a beautiful school, people with passion that work here, a community that has just about everything it needs, and kids that want to learn."

Fifteen New People Join Redfield Public School

by Lorena Evans

As the new school year began on Wednesday Aug. 23, fifteen new faces could be found in the halls and classrooms at RHS.

New faces include Henry Brassilio (MS/HS Student Advisor), Heidi Dowdy (Elementary Student Advisor), Kelby Hawkins (MS/HS Health/PE Teacher), Aliesha McCarthy (FACS Teacher), Dr. Michelle Mortensen (Superintendent), Heather Christman (Grade 5 teach-

er), Jan Flor (MS/HS SPED Teacher), Shannon Barcelo (Life Skills Teacher), and Janell Brochu (MS/HS Math para-professional).

Those new to the SPED staff include Phil Landegent, Cindy Sanger, Rhonda Schultz, Angela Vasquez and Kristin Wipf.

Joyce Marlow is one of the new cooks that joined the RHS cook staff.

When asked about her first impressions of RHS, middle

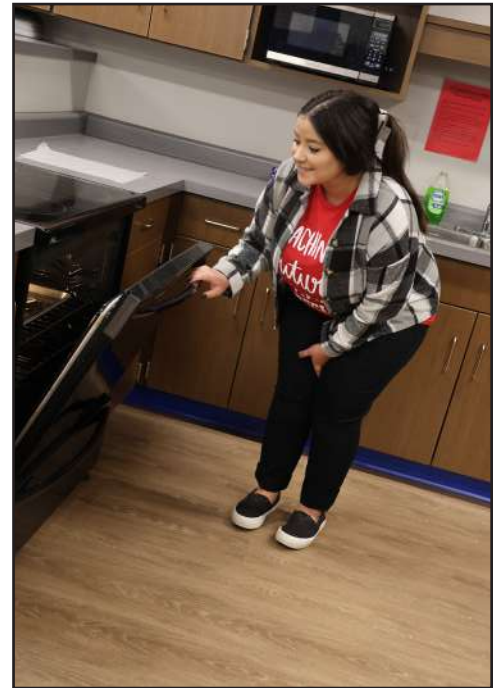
school/high school FACS instructor Aliesha McCarthy stated, "My first impression of the Redfield School District was how respectful everyone was. The students have been respectful of me coming in as a new teacher here. The staff and community has been so welcoming and accepting of me, and always answering my silly questions."

RHS superintendent Dr. Michelle Mortensen added,

"My first impression was how beautiful the school was, how welcoming everyone was, how excited everyone was to be back together, and that it appeared that the school was like a family."

New to the Crew.

(Right) Taking Mrs. Cindy Brace's place on the staff as FACS teacher and FCCLA advisor is Miss Aliesha McCarthy. Although Brace retired last May, she will continue to assist with FCCLA events to give a hand to Miss McCarthy as she takes over the position.



Seven RHS Students Attend 2023 FCCLA Nationals

by Emeri Hofeman

On July 1-7, 2023, a group of FCCLA members traveled to Denver, Colorado, for the National FCCLA convention.

Members included Bridgette Lambert, Lilly Blume, Emeri Hofeman, Hannah Lemmer, Jessie Ratigan, Amelia Sjurseth and Kayleigh Disbrow.

These 7 students worked on various projects to earn the trip to go to Denver, Colorado. They worked to get their projects just right, but they could not have done this without their advisor, Mrs. Cindy Brace, who retired last May.

The students enjoyed going to Denver, even the chaperones. The chaperones included Carol Lam-

bert, Nancy Blume, Getta Ratigan and Karen Sjurseth.

The following FCCLA students participated in these Star Events to qualify for Nationals: Amelia Sjurseth (Promote and Publicize), Bridgette Lambert (Chapter Website), Hannah Lemmer and Jessie Ratigan group project (Instructional Video Design), Kayleigh Disbrow (Focus on Children), Emeri Hofeman (Interpersonal Communications).

Lilly Blume ran for a National office position.

"A highlight of nationals for me was overcoming my fear of public speaking while being able to build strong friendships with my peers



Nationals. FBLA members who attended Nationals in Denver, Colorado include Emeri Hofeman, Jessie Ratigan, Amelia Sjurseth, Hannah Lemmer, Bridgette Lambert, Kayleigh Disbrow and Lilly Blume.

from all over the Nation."

Bridgette Lambert stated, "Being able to go on a hike in the mountains was my favorite; the view was breath-taking."

Emeri Hofeman listed her favorite memory of the trip: "Seeing the beautiful mountain views and

getting second place in the nation."

The group made new acquaintances on the trip. "It was fun getting to meet other FCCLA members across the Nation and hear about their experiences in FCCLA," Amelia Sjurseth said.

Jessie Ratigan add-

ed, "We were able to trade pins with other people across the Nation and see what their state pin looked like."

The ladies all loved Denver, Colorado, and agreed that it was an amazing opportunity to get to see new views and meet new people.

"Going to National's helped me gain more confidence and gain more knowledge of FCCLA" Kayleigh Disbrow said.

FCCLA is a student organization for putting yourself out there and making new friends for a lifetime.

Pheasants Take Silver Division

by Kinley Smith

The Lady Pheasants hosted the Britton-Hecla Braves on Sept. 14. The Pheasants won the match (18-25, 27-25, 25-8, 25-20).

Leading the team to victory, Katie Rozell had 17 kills, Chloe Zens had 7 aces, and Hayden Gall had 29 assists.

Senior Katie Rozell stated, "After the first set, we came together as a team and rallied for the next three sets. I think we played well

together and got the win we really wanted."

On Sept. 9, the Pheasants traveled to the annual Clark Tournament.

Starting the day with a game against Great Plains Lutheran, the Pheasants fell to the Panthers (25-23, 23-25, 24-26).

The next match, the team was victorious against the Wilmot Wolves (25-20, 25-20).

While in the silver bracket, the Pheas-

ants faced Aberdeen Christian (25-18, 11-25, 26-24) and, finally, the team took on Deuel (25-20, 19-25, 25-22), winning the silver division.

Other recent games ending in a lost for the Pheasants have included Miller (10-25, 15-25, 20-25); Mount Vernon Plankinton (25-22, 11-25, 25-20, 24-26, 7-15); Sisseton (17-25, 25-18, 33-31, 26-28); Leola-Fredrick (16-25, 20-25, 19-25); and Hitchcock/

Tulare (24-26, 12-25, 22-25).

Leading the team for kills and blocks, Katie Rozell totals for 162 kills and 31 blocks. Chloe Zens has 187 digs and 21 aces.

The Pheasant varsity record now stands at 4 wins and 8 losses.

Ready To Make a Play. Seniors Jersey Morrison and Chloe Zens prepare to receive the serve in the match against Hitchcock/Tulare.



Pheasants Cheer Loud and Proud

by Katie Rozell

The football cheer team has 6 members, returning three from last year's squad. Mrs. Angie Falk is the football cheer coach; this is her third year coaching overall.

The cheerleaders accompany the football players to all their games to cheer and help pump up the crowd.

"I enjoy interacting with the crowd during games and

getting them involved. No matter how the game is going, keeping people interacted with the game makes it more fun for everyone. Watching the little kids' faces light up and get excited when throwing things and doing the cheer never get old to see on Fridays," Junior Cheerleader Jadie Turner said.

Throughout Homecoming week, the

cheer team lead many cheers. Starting on Monday, the team led the Redfield community in the school song at coronation. Continuing the school spirit throughout the week, the team led many different cheers during the pep rally. Ending the week's celebrations, the team pumped up the crowd at the Homecoming football game.



Giving it All. Sophomore Payton Moore makes his way to the finish line at the Redfield Invite, giving his best effort until the end of the race. Moore finished the 5K race with a time of 18:47.72, setting a new personal record for himself.

XC Takes Off at Full Speed

by Hayden Gall

The cross country team consists of 3 high schoolers and 8 middle schoolers. Ms. Shauna Pauli is this year's head cross country coach.

On Sept. 18, the team traveled to the Deuel invite in Clear Lake. The runners pushed through a very hilly course on a hot, sunny day. The varsity race was a 5k, the JV race was a 3k, and the middle school race was a 2k.

Payton Moore was the only runner on the boys' varsity team and ran a 5k in 19:45.30, placing 14th.

Emma Fugman ran a 3k in the time of 17:10.90 placing 27th in the girls' JV race, and Christian Peterson ran a 3k in the time of 13:56.91 placing 26th in the

boys JV race.

In the middle school girls' race, Saige Jungwirth placed 2nd with a time of 9:33.23, Lydia Jungwirth had a time of 10:52.08 placing 14th, Emma Harrelson had a time of 11:00.82 placing 16th, Faith Wright had a time of 11:38.79 placing 20th, and Gemma Hansen had a time of 12:43.87 placing 21st.

The girls' middle school team placed 4th overall with a team point score of 42.

In the middle school boys' race Carson Peterson had a time of 9:20.44 placing 7th and Scylas Schulz had a time of 11:37.26 placing 13th.

First year coach Ms. Shauna Pauli

stated, "Coaching cross country has been rewarding. We are a small team, but hopefully the younger ones stick with it; they have a lot of potential! Our athletes are cutting times and moving up places, which is exactly what we need to do at this point."

The first meet was at the Don Ray invite in White. The Pheasants planned to have a meet at Britton-Hecla on Sep. 5, but it was canceled due to rain.

Then on the 14th the Pheasants traveled to the Aberdeen Roncalli invite.

On the 25th of Sept. is the last regular cross country meet in Miller. Then on Oct. 4, NECs will be held in West-

Senior Spotlight

Elden Blume is the son of Kenneth and Kellie Blume.



Elden has two siblings: Collin and Riley Blume. He has been involved in FFA for four years, and band for two years. One accomplishment that Elden is proud of is having a business

in high school. After he graduates, he will miss being with his friends, telling jokes, and just having a good time. Elden plans to attend Lake Area Tech when he graduates but is undecided on a major.

Lilly Blume is the daughter of Bruce and Nancy



Blume. She has three siblings: Lydia, Isabelle, and Ivan. Lilly has been involved in: FCCLA (6 years), FFA (3 years), Student council (1 year), NJHS (2 years), SD Junior point shows

(9 years), and Dance (13 years). Three things Lilly must do in her lifetime would be: go skydiving, win a major show, and live on a ranch. A motto that guides her is, "It's about the journey, not the destination."

Tyler Roberts is the son of Tracy and Dave Roberts.



An accomplishment that he is proud of is having over a 3.0 GPA throughout high school. Tyler has enjoyed chemistry the most in high school because Mrs. Fredrick is awesome and

he is, "basically a pro-chemist." Tyler has worked at Dairy Queen for two years. Tyler's hobbies include listening to music and playing video games. Tyler plans to attend college but is unsure where he will attend.

Emerie Binger is the daughter of Toni and Devin Glass



and Justin Binger. She has 4 siblings: Grady (19), Kingston (11), Hendrix (7), and Maklyn (6). Emerie is involved in track and will be in fast pitch softball.

Emerie's favorite high school

memory was her senior year Homecoming. She has enjoyed art the most throughout high school as Ms. Bottum made it fun and enjoyable for everyone. Emerie has worked at Eastern Star Home for a year and a half. She plans to attend Lake Area for child development.

The Pheasants Will Never Back Down

by Carmen Herrera

On Sept. 22, the excitement of Homecoming could be felt as students and fans filled the bleachers, and the Redfield Pheasants were ready to take on the Webster Bearcats.

As the players warmed up for the game, the pep band, under the direction of Mr. Dylan Unruh, filled the field with music.

Cheerleaders led the crowd in loud cheers to fire up everyone.

In the first quarter, the Webster Bearcats broke free and made their first touchdown of the night. They followed up with two more touchdowns in the first quarter to take the lead 21-0.

During the second quarter, quarterback Chase McGillivray completed a pass to wide receiver Justin Ratigan who ran the ball 64 yards to complete the Pheasants' only touchdown.

With 33 seconds left in the half, the rain started to come

down, and the officials had to suspend play because of a nearby lightning strike.

The players and fans had a 1-hour delay before they could resume playing.

The Redfield Pheasants gave up a few more touchdowns in the third quarter to the Bearcats, still trying their best in slippery, wet weather.

With approximately two minutes left on the clock and the Bearcats leading 47 - 6, another light-

ning strike had the officials ready to suspend play for a second time.

However, head coach Mr. Brasillio decided to call the game. Team Captain Grady Fey said, "I was pretty bummed, but things weren't looking to go our way anyhow."

The Pheasants lost to Hot Springs (0-55), Groton (6-56), Roncalli (0-35), Mo-bridge-Pollock (20-40). The Pheasants will travel to Parker on Friday, Sept. 29.

Protecting the Ball.

Pheasant offensive linemen Grady Fey, Elijah Morrisette and Dylan Murray charge the defensive linemen in an attempt to give quarterback Chase McGillivray time to make a pass to wide receiver Justin Ratigan during Homecoming action against the Webster Bearcats.



RHS Hosts Second Home Meet

by Addisyn Evans

The boys' golf team started practices on Aug. 7, with one week to prepare for the first meet of the season.

The four senior varsity golfers include Kevin Weller, Seth Domke, Tristen O'Daniel and Jaxen Campbell. Freshmen Micah Zastrow and Jackson Rude round out the varsity team.

On Aug. 14, the boys traveled to Volga for the Sioux

Valley Invite to then travel that Thursday, Aug. 17, to Milbank.

NECs were held at the boys' home course, on Aug. 22. Campbell shot an 86, placing 8th in the Northeast Conference.

Following NECs the golf team traveled to Aberdeen on Aug. 29, for the Hub City Invite and to Groton on Sep. 7 for the Groton Invite.

The Pheasant In-

voke was held at Fishers Grove on Sept. 12.

The JV teams from Watertown and Aberdeen battled it out on the course, while the varsity teams from Roncalli, Groton, Milbank, Sisseton and Redfield competed for the lowest score.

Weller shot an 84, with Campbell 8 strokes behind, ending with a 92. Domke finished with a 93 and O'Daniel

with a 95. Just over 100, Zastrow shot a 102 with Rude close behind with a 107.

Head golf coach, Mr. Bradley Cihak, stated, "This season got off to a slower start than what I had anticipated going into it with four seniors returning. However, we have had all six golfers stepping up in recent meets playing our best golf of the year going into regions."