

THE GO HAWK EYE



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WAVERLY-SHELL ROCK STUDENT PUBLICATIONS STAFF.
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TIS' MARCHING SEASON

By: Kiara Djoumessi

The Waverly-Shell Rock High School Band has had an outstanding start to all of their fall activities. They are led by their band's drum majors Lidia Pawlak, Christoph Letsche, and Aubrey Moeller, as well as their directors Mr. Vowels and Mr. Stover. The band kicked off their season with band camp, where they learned their music, practiced marching band basics, and had a great time bonding with their fellow members, all to get ready for their upcoming performances. Freshman, Alto Saxophone Gage Moeller expressed, "Band camp isn't just an experience; it's where you meet the closest community for the school year." While at band camp the band learned music for three Dolly Parton songs. The band decided to perform a Dolly Parton show after a student showed a performance of a Dolly Parton tribute by a college band to Mr. Stover and Mr. Vowels. They loved the idea, and it fit perfectly with the band's upcoming trip to Tennessee during winter break. They performed Jolene, I Will Always Love you, Here You Come Again, and then lastly 9-5. Additionally, the W-SR Pep Band delivered multiple outstanding performances for the community. First, the band played at the 50+ reunion; at the reunion, they entertained the audience with a repertoire of pep music, the Dolly Parton tribute, the school song, and the band played as the audience sang the National Anthem. The next opportunity the band performed was the Day of Caring United Way Kick-Off. Now, the band is gearing up for their next show, featuring "Blinding Lights" by The Weeknd, "Good as Hell" by Lizzo, and "Timber" by Pitbull ft. Ke\$ha, and "Flowers" by Miley Cyrus. "It's fun to play new and recent songs, and I'm super excited for our upcoming performance," Aiden John, a freshman alto saxophone notes. Along with the high school band, the 8th grade will join them on the "Flowers" and the school song. Additionally, a group of high schoolers traveled to the middle school and help them practice. Senior, alto saxophone section leader, Luke McMillin was one of the students and he stated, "It was awesome getting to play with the 8th graders, and I loved seeing the future of the WSR band. Playing with the middle schoolers was extremely fulfilling, and I am excited to see what we can accomplish together." On top of their Homecoming performance on October 14th, the band will also march in Wartburg College's Homecoming parade, march at Wartburg's halftime, and some students within the band have started a pit orchestra for the musical. The W-SR band has had a great year already and are looking forward to what the rest of the year will bring.

DON'T FEAR, CHEER IS HERE

By: Alix Blanchette

The 23-24 WSR football cheerleading team has been busy reloading on many terms as there are several new members, and a new cheer coach, along with many new and exciting cheers! Let's start off by meeting your 2023 WSR football cheer team! First up, is the seniors: Alexis Johnson, Ashlynn Golly, Bella Feldhake, Charlotte Yang, Paulina Robles, and Lanie Herrmeyer. Next is the Juniors: Gabby Lee and Rylee Temple. Our sophomores: Eva Bruns and Alix Blanchette. Finally, our exchange students: Oceane Llaurodo Lubrano, Seeun Park, Giada Rosso, Milena Mihajlović, Milana Kartautseva, and Valentina Guerranti! First-year coach Abby Ryan is happy with how the cheer season is going and is excited for the future. She says "Go-Hawk cheerleading is the best activity at WSR!". Milena Mihajlović also agrees with being excited for the season and loving Go-Hawk cheer. She loves cheering because it's "such an American experience" and "football games are a vibe". One of the things she loves most about cheer is that it is a group sport and she enjoys getting to meet lots of new people. Milena says she would rate cheerleading 10/10 and it's one of her favorite things so far during her time here.

ROUTINE TO REMEMBER

By: Harmony Reingardt

The 2023-2024 dance team started their season in July of 2023. They have been coming up with new routines to perform at WSR's home football games. They also have been coming up with routines to perform for the Waverly Shell Rock Homecoming pep assembly, coronation, and game, so be sure to cheer them on. Later in the year, the WSR dance team will be going through different dance exhibitions, even hosting one of their own on December 17th. These exhibitions lead up to one of the biggest competitions they have all year, the state competition. Their state competition is December 1st in Des Moines where they perform in the Wells Fargo Building. When asking a few of them what they have done so far starting off their season, they told me they've done quite a bit of community service over the past season to help out our community to make it a better place. When asked what else they were looking forward to the rest of the year a couple of girls, Genevieve Powers and Mimi Jensen, said; "Nationals, definitely nationals. It's supposed to be in Florida and it would be a great thing to experience." On top of that the question of what they liked about the dance team and what are some lessons they learned, Jami Rohne gave quite the answer. "My favorite thing about the dance team is how everyone cares about dance, no one is half-hearted about dance and everyone tries." Adding onto that, "One lesson I've learned is how vital effort and practice is. In some things, it is easy to get by, by just doing the bare minimum, but you can't do this in dance. This helped my mindset not only in dance but in other aspects of my life, too." Each person who was interviewed seemed very involved and loved what they are doing on this team, if you see this year's 2023-2024 dance team, make sure to cheer them on!



NEXT PLAY VARSITY

By: Randen Lee

In the heart of the community, beneath the Friday lights a tale of passion and perseverance unfolds out on the field. As we delve into our daily lives either through going to school or working on our jobs we can always trust that there will be a great game heading our way from the weekend. Football is more than just a sport. It is a tradition that binds the community together. This is certainly true for Waverly Shell Rock Varsity Football. The Waverly Shell Rock Varsity Football team is a team that is defined by their dreams, dedication, and impenetrable spirit. The season for the team so far has not been the best. The Go Hawks current record is 0-6. Playing some of the best teams through the state including Xavier, North Scott, Western DeWuque, Clear Lake, Decorah, and Bondurant, has put a lot of hardship on our team so far. Even though the team hasn't had the best lineup so far, they have had a lot of resilience and come back each and every week to play their hardest. A quote from Brock Seims, the starting Varsity center says, "The season is tough as you know, but it is fun playing with my boys." Another quote from Grant Tranior the starting safety "I think it's a tight-knit team. To go 0-6 and still be able to stay together and keep playing is a hard thing to do. Yes, it sucks, but the game is not an important part of football. Coach Hubbard reminded me after I told him that my career is done and that the game ends for everybody at some time, but the relationships you build through your career are forever. I believe we have as good a coaching staff as you can get. Every team has rough patches, but it is up to the players to respond to adversity and rise above the tough times." This shows that the team knows what they have been up against and has been trying their hardest through all the different trials so far, and is keeping up with perseverance throughout the season. Just like the team, the community has been just as resilient in showing unwavering support throughout the season. This kind of motivation and support can be game-changing. Knowing that your fans are here no matter what the outcome is can really help morale and motivation on the field. Despite all the hardship this season, Waverly Shell Rock is eager to find their pace and secure a win.



NEXT PLAY FRESHMAN

By: Dalton Thomas

The roar of the crowd, the thrill of the game, and the promise of a bright future for Waverly Shell Rock High School football within the freshman football Team. While they may be just starting their high school journey, these young athletes have already made quite an impact on the name of Go-Hawk football the freshman football team serves as the crucial building block for Waverly Shell Rock's storied football program. Under the dedicated coaching of John Souhrada, and John Hubbard, these budding stars are learning the fundamentals of the game and the values that go beyond the field. The Freshman Football Team has shown remarkable promise in recent seasons. Their dedication to practice, improvement, and the pursuit of excellence is evident in their on-field performance. They tackle every challenge with determination and heart. As these talented athletes continue to develop their skills and grow as a team, there's no doubt they'll make a significant impact on the varsity football program. The freshman football team's dedication to the sport and the camaraderie they build now will undoubtedly set the stage for future Go-Hawk greatness. The Waverly Shell Rock freshman football team embodies the spirit of dedication, teamwork, and determination that is synonymous with high school sports. With dedicated coaches, an enthusiastic community, and a roster of promising athletes, the Go-Hawks are poised for a future filled with Go-Hawk success. Keep your eyes on these rising stars; they are the future of Waverly Shell Rock football. We wish the freshman football team good luck on the rest of their season.

NEXT PLAY JV

By: Dalton Thomas

The sports scene at Waverly Shell Rock High School has always been synonymous with excellence, the Go-Hawks have consistently showcased their talent and determination on the field. In recent years, it's become evident that their junior varsity teams are no exception. Today, we turn our spotlight to the rising stars of the Waverly Shell Rock JV Team. The JV team often serves as the foundation for a school's athletic program, where young athletes hone their skills, develop camaraderie, and prepare for the challenges of varsity competition. At Waverly Shell Rock, this tradition is upheld with pride. The Waverly Shell Rock JV Team has been exceptional in recent seasons. Whether on the football field, or any other arena, these young athletes have consistently demonstrated their passion for the game. One of their athletes, Jackson Oswald, states "The guys on this team have a lot of talent, and are the future of Go-hawk football, and I hope they all can improve from this season." As these dedicated athletes continue to hone their skills, their potential is boundless. With each touchdown, tackle, and victory, they're not just building a brighter future for themselves but also for the varsity team and the Waverly Shell Rock football legacy. The Waverly Shell Rock JV football team embodies the spirit of determination, teamwork, and sportsmanship that defines high school football. With dedicated coaches, an enthusiastic community, and a group of talented athletes, the Go-Hawks are well-positioned for a future filled with gridiron glory. We wish the JV football team good luck for the rest of their season.



A JOURNEY WORTH REMEMBERING

BUY THE YEARBOOK

Justins

CROSSING INTO FALL

By: Jailyn Kent

The boys started out their racing season with a trip to Webster City on August 8, 2023 after their first meet in Charles City on August 24, 2023 was canceled due to the heat. Junior Austin Soldwisch began his season with a personal best of 17:11.20, placing seventh. Senior Aiden Bridges placed thirty-first. The team placed seventh with 182 points. The following week, the boys were excited for their home meet, but once again the heat was responsible for the cancellation on September 5, 2023. Luckily, the team got into the North Fayette Valley meet on September 7, 2023. The boys placed sixth as a team, led by junior Austin Soldwisch once again. Not far behind Soldwisch's third-place finish was senior Aiden Bridges, improving from his previous time. One week later, on September 14, 2023, the team went to Independence finding success. The boys finished second as a team in both the junior varsity and varsity races. Sophomore Kiefer Pugh led the JV pack placing thirteenth. Right behind, Oliver Gibson placed fourteenth, Andy Britt finished in fifteenth, Wouter Reuling placed sixteenth, and Cyrus Leyda secured seventeenth place. In the varsity race, Austin Soldwisch ran a new personal best and placed fourth. Seniors Colin Knudsen and Aiden Bridges both medaled as well, placing tenth and twentieth respectively. After the race, head coach Kevin Kueker expressed his thoughts so far about the season by saying, "The W-SR cross country team is young, replacing a lot of varsity guys from last year. However, the team continues to work hard and keep running." With the start of the season being delayed, the boys are eager to continue racing. Soldwisch eagerly pointed out that "[their] times are dropping every meet." Coach Kueker added, "When we get the chance to run, we work hard and place well individually and as a team." The boys are looking forward to their home meet on the 30th of September.



HILL OF A START TO THE SEASON

By: Sydney Bochmann

The season has officially started for the girls' cross country! Pre-season ranking showed the Go-Hawks ranked 19th in the state for class 3A. The top 10 runners made the trek down to Dallas Center-Grimes on August 29th. Here the team placed fifth with 144 points. At this meet, senior, Sydney Bochmann, placed 7th in the senior division. Juniors, Emma Smith and Jailyn Kent, barely missed out on placing in the junior division. The following week the team would move up in rankings to 16th place. Senior, Cece Jerome, comments on their success, "I love our team atmosphere! We all get along and push each other to do our best!" The team's second meet would be on the following Tuesday in Waverly. However, due to the heat, the meet was canceled. Head coach, Jason Milke, decided to take the team down to North Fayette Valley to run a race on Thursday, September 7th. The runners had outstanding times at this meet as they placed second behind ranked team, Hudson, with a score of 87. The team beat ranked teams Sumner-Fredericksburg and Jesup. Runner Sydney Bochmann, placed fifth overall with a time of 20:32. All 7 varsity runners crossed the finish line before a time of 22:30, a huge accomplishment for the Go-Hawks. Due to the team running in a meet with smaller schools, the Go-Hawks dropped in the rankings down to 18th. Despite the rankings, junior Emma Smith expresses, "Our team is more than just a team. We are family which means we go through ups and downs together. We are still ranked and we can keep moving up!" The girls had a fire beneath their feet as they ran at Independence on Thursday, September 14th. Junior varsity ran great with sophomore, Adali Borglum, placing fifth. Freshman, Taylor Sikora, placed 10th, freshman Emme Jerome placed 11th, and sophomore Mollie Hunzelman placed 15th. Junior Varsity placed third with 64 points. Varsity's top five runners all medaled. Sydney Bochmann was 3rd, Emma Smith 7th, Cece Jerome 11th, junior Jailyn Kent 18th, and freshman Kate Nelson placed 20th. Varsity placed second behind number five team Clear Creek-Amana by 18 points. You can see the amount of fun the team has whether it is in practice or during meets. They have had practices in the dark with glow sticks, a scavenger hunt run, pool workouts, and disc golfing. Every Saturday morning you will see the team riding their bikes around town and finish at the bakery for a fresh pastry. This team is stronger and faster than ever and they are only getting started.



CINDERELLA SHOWBIZ

By: Kiara Djoumessi

Musical season has commenced. The Waverly-Shell Rock arts department will be presenting a rendition of Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella (Enchanted Edition). Auditions took place, and the cast began rehearsals in September. The musical has around 60 members, with 10 lead cast members. Paulina Robles has the role of Cinderella, and James Lockie has been cast as Christopher "Prince Charming". James Lockie expressed, "The musical is a ton of fun. I would highly recommend it to everyone. It's really fun to work with such a talented group, and I've already learned a lot." In addition to the cast members' roles within the musical, many students are helping out behind the scenes. Musical is for everyone within the school, and students can be involved in various aspects, even if they do not want to perform on stage. Students can take on leadership roles within the costume department, set design, lights, sound, and the pit. Specifically, the pit is a group of about 14 students within the band and orchestra that support the actors by playing the soundtrack. They had their first practice on Thursday the 15th from 6:30-8. For now, they are practicing twice every week without the actors, and then they will practice more near the end of October in the pit below the stage. The pit this year is very different from last year's performance of Mama Mia because Cinderella's score is more Classical whereas Mama Mia's music is more modern with instruments such as an electric guitar. Lidia Pawlk, a Junior Basson shared her experience being in the pit and her thoughts, she stated, "Pit is definitely one of my favorite musical extracurriculars that I participate in. I've played in the pit all three years I've been in high school and every time has been a blast. You become close with the other musicians whether you like it or not due to the fact that you're crammed under the stage for up to three hours a night together. We have a lot of fun playing a lot of cool music, and it's always sick when you hear the audience confused because they thought it was a recording the whole time. I will always cherish the bonds I have created and furthered with all of the talented musicians from participating and I'm looking forward to showing everyone what we've been working hard on!" Before the musicals performance they will walk in the Homecoming parade. The musical members will put on a matinee for the school, and then they will have three more performances on November 10th and 11th at 7:30 pm and on November 12 at 2:30. W-SR's musical has many different students involved with a plethora of talents; this year is not something the student body should want to miss.

ORDER ON THE COURT

By: Gracie Wagoner

The W-SR volleyball started off their season with a trip to Hudson on August 22nd. The girls played their games very well but fell short 21-23. Currently, the Go- Hawk Volleyball team stands at 6-13. While the season has not been what the team has hoped for there are several bright spots worth talking about. Coach Homeister states, "Something I have enjoyed/ am proud of this season is that the girls are working hard in practices and it's reflecting in game situations. Something I'm looking forward to this season is getting back in the swing of things and what the teams will look like having a different head coach this season." Senior Katelyn Eggena has had an outstanding season. Starting 19 matches, Eggena has accumulated 89 kills, leading the team. Junior, Kennedy Weichers, has been a force on the team earning 51 kills. Junior, Sydney Bienemann, leads the Go-Hawks in assists with 231. Brynn Schrage states, "Something I've enjoyed this season has been team bonding and getting to know my teammates. It's been really fun making new connections with people on the volleyball team. Having these strong relationships we are able to pick each other up and work hard together." The future of the W-SR volleyball team looks bright with some strong underclassmen performances this year. Sophomore, Delilah Kroymann, has had a commendable season. With 24 kills, and 126 attempted kills. Sophomore, Gracie Hagarty, and freshman Dawn Meyer-Lillibridge have been very successful in serving this season. Freshman, Lizzy Frazell, has started her high school career with a bang. With a total of 51 kills and 215 attempted kills so far this season. Kroymann states, " I have enjoyed the adversities and victories so far throughout the season. I love that our team focuses on relationships with each other, so there is a positive environment. I am looking forward to the conference tournament and really challenging our team with our rivals and other opportunities." There must be something magic about the Go-Hawk gymnasium because 4 out of the 6 wins this season have been in front of the home crowd. The Go-Hawks have earned decisive wins against Columbus Catholic, Davis County, Waukon, and Clarion-Goldfield-Dows. There's still time to experience some the magic of Go-Hawk volleyball. Have a great rest of your season!

Cast List

Lead Roles

Cinderella	Paulina Robles
Fairy Godmother	Lanie Hermeyer
Step-Mother	Neveah Bouska
Grace	Adrien Drenkow
Joy	Tori Happel
Christopher	James Lockie
Lionel	Luke McMillin
Queen	Natalie Herbers
King	Christoph Letsche
Court Jester	Jackson Mraz

Pit Orchestra

Violin I	Jeffrey Kang
Violin II	Lyla Pier-Atkinson
Viola	Lily Myrmo
Cello	Emily Lorenzen
Bass	Beckett Hunzelman
Flute	Ryne Niedert
Clarinet	Daniel Becker
Bassoon	Lidia Pawlak
Trumpet	(not yet filled)
Trombone	Apollo Wild
Drum Set	Christian Toma
Percussion	Keeley Manning
Keyboard I	Denise Hull
Keyboard II	Owen Neuendorf



SOFTBALL RECAP

By: Ramey Dahlquist

The Waverly Shell-Rock softball teams had an exciting and busy summer. Roughly around thirty girls were out for softball in the 2023 season. They started their season in the Spring to be prepared for the summer games. The freshmen team played a total of eight games, going 6-2 on the season with their coach being Ainsley Lovien. The junoir varsity team went 7-3 for the year with the coaching of Kelly Beck. When I asked junoir varsity player Emma Smith about the Junior Varsity season she said “ The team had a great atmosphere. We worked really well together and created a strong bond that no other team would break. I feel that is why the team had a successful year.” The Varsity Team coached by Kim Meyer with assistant coaches Kelly Beck and Ainsley Lovien went 11-19 for the season. Varsity player, Maya Willey, said “Everyone definitely played more like a team this year, our communication was tremendously better compared to the past years”. Mary Carlous was the only senior on the team. “The best part about my last season was that I got to spend it with all of my best friends,” is what Mary mentioned to me while talking about her last softball season. Player Maya Willey earned 1st team All Conference pitcher, as well as player Natalie Beck earning 1st team All conference outfield. This was Kim Meyer’s first year as head coach, Natalie Beck explained that “We made good changes defensively and improved our hitting.” The softball girls are excited to come back better than ever next year.

BASEBALL RECAP

By: Addy Schut

The 22-23 Baseball season is one to remember as the varsity boys came up strong with a winning record of 20-12 after facing a rocky 3-game losing streak. The boys took home the Northeast Iowa Conference Title among many other wins. After being asked about the season, junior Ayden Hoffert said, “We came together as a team even though we weren’t really working well in the beginning. We fixed our problems and became a good team”. Among several challenges at the beginning of the season, components such as underclassmen filling open positions and a large number of seniors led this team to victory. Congratulations to Dylan Stockdale, Abram Wrage, Sam Roose, Tanner Nuss, Tony Hobson, Aidan Kelley, and Lance Myers on their successful senior baseball season. Along with the varsity success, the JV boys also found victory as they went 7-4 overall. A couple of the JV baseball games were canceled, but the boys still found a way to fight the adversity and create a winning season. Sophomore, Peyton Hoffman, states, “Other than a couple of games being canceled, there were no setbacks. We all cooperated with each other”. The sophomore and freshmen teams also had great seasons to follow in the JV and varsity footsteps. All four baseball teams found victory when many did not think it would be possible after losing several seniors in the 21-22 baseball season. Needing to adjust all four teams to be strong-suited and ready to go was just the beginning of the wild ride this past summer, but the boys managed to make their season great despite it all. Congratulations to the baseball players, and coaching staff for a successful baseball season.

HOMECOMING

By: Addie Juhl

The 2023 Homecoming week was one for the books. In all four years I've attended WSR High School I have never seen participation and excitement levels like this year. The class hallways were decked out and brought the beach to the halls. This year's Homecoming theme was "Beach Out" a Hawaiian/Aloha-inspired idea decided on by the student senate. Palm trees and summer posters filled the halls, while many Decorah jokes and school spirit echoed through the building and classrooms. This year's Homecoming dress-up days included: BBQ Dad vs. Soccer Mom, Barbie and Ken, Mathlete vs. Athlete, Beach outfits (Homecoming shirt), and Spirit out on Friday in support of our Go Hawk football team. The Homecoming court kicked the week off with a parade and coronation on Sunday night. Katelyn Eggena was crowned queen, and Luke McMillin was king. Monday night a girl's kickball tournament that was coached by the male students from each grade took place. The senior and sophomore girls won their games to later face off in the championship on Friday. During this week points could be scored by each grade through participation in aims to win the Spirit Stick. At Friday's pep rally, the winner was announced following the games that all grades took part in. Ultimately the seniors won both the spirit stick and the kickball tournament. The dance on Saturday was just as memorable as the activities throughout the week. Homecoming 2023, in my opinion, was one that makes the history books at Waverly- Shell Rock High School. Huge thank you to the staff, student senate, and student body who participated, and made this Homecoming week memorable!

PHOTO OF COURT RIGHT TO LEFT:

Front Row- Katelyn Friedman, Brenna Bodensteiner, Ashlynn Golly, Lucy Korth, Katelyn Eggena, Sally Gade, Ramey Dahlquist, Lilly Betts, Zayda Smith
Back Row- Landon Destival, Cole Marsh, Austin Souhrada, Jonah Nelson, Luke McMillin, Randen Lee, John Kang, Caden Hotz, Benny Ramker





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