

The

ROCKET PRESS

Volume 6, Issue 2
December 15, 2023

Your School. Your Magazine.

And to all a good night *A Very Rocket Christmas 2023*

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YOUR SCHOOL. YOUR MAGAZINE.

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The Rose Hill Rocketaires perform the National Anthem at the Wichita Thunder hockey game on Nov 29.



Dustin Galyon spoke to the student body and was on The Oh Hay! podcast on Nov 14.

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The Rocket Press is the official news magazine of Rose Hill High School that is published four to six times a year. The Rocket Press is a student publication, written and produced by students. Opinions expressed in The Rocket Press are of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the USD 394 Board of Education, the administration, the faculty or the adviser.

DRAMA DEPARTMENT PUTS ON *LITTLE WOMEN*

by teagan ibarra, staff reporter

On November 10 and 11, the Rose Hill High School drama department put on the play *Little Women*, which is about four young women coming of age, dealing with growing pains, growing up, and dealing with each other.

The two-hour production had a cast of 18 students. They changed a lot of things throughout the play like the set design, the sound effects, and the characterization of the March sisters.

“It seemed the perfect show to do, because one, we had a lot of extremely talented young women in the department,” drama sponsor Mark Blauser said. “Two, we didn’t have that

many young men available. Three, I preferred symmetry.”

Meg, played by Shayli Andrews-Towle, Jo, played by Lillie Racchini, Beth, played by Addison Himmertzhaim, and the youngest daughter Amy, played by senior Beka Craddock, were the main characters.

River Wooley and Kylee Barlett, Adrianna Woodward, Lily Sanders, and Viola Figueroa, Charlie Chung and Brigg Culbertson, and Jaxson Pember helped with the bigger roles in the play.

KAISER BACK AS HIGH SCHOOL SECRETARY

by kimberlin lovell, staff reporter

On September 27, Cindy Kaiser returned to her old job as one of the secretaries for the high school. She originally was at another job but when there was an opening of the secretary position, she accepted and came back to work.

“It has been so welcoming and rewarding,” Kaiser said. “I am so glad to be back.”

Kaiser’s experience made it an easy decision for her to come back to the high school as well as seeing the students, who she enjoys.

“We have such a wonderful group of teachers and administrative leaders in our building, and of course it wouldn’t be a job without our students,” said Kaiser. “I feel like we are one big family, even if it is only at the school hours and in the district.”

The family she has built throughout the years whether it’s with students or staff members and is truly special. Having her back and seeing her in the office everyday puts a smile on everyone’s face and Rose Hill couldn’t be more grateful to have her back.

DISTRICT IMPLEMENTS NEW SPORTING EVENT PASS

by kimberlin lovell, staff reporter

The GoFan sporting passes are something new the district incorporated to make games more accessible and easier to get into. Fans simply download the app, pay for how many tickets they need, pay online and then people selling tickets can scan the phones.

Many schools have been trying out GoFan, and Superintendent Chuck Lambert thought it would be great to try and give people a discount.

These new passes will also come in handy if friends or family are running late for a game and they can simply buy a pass rather than waiting in line.

“We want as many people at our activities

as possible and we know that the cost of tickets can be a deterrent so we wanted to help with that and this does exactly that,” Lambert said. “This app could also be used for plays, dances, etc.”

This was a perfect opportunity for fans to get a “season pass.” It does not cost the district unless it is a conference game, which the conference then agreed that \$1 of the \$7 fee goes to GoFan.

This is just what Rose Hill needs because it puts the fans first and it’s a way that is easier for them rather than standing in a long line. Using GoFan is an easy avenue for all of the Rose Hill district.

TOWN SPONSORS PAY FOR HOME NFHS SUBSCRIPTIONS

by kimberlin lovell, staff reporter

For the 2023-2024 school year, Superintendent Chuck Lambert was able to land NFHS sponsors, which allows fans to watch the home soccer, football and basketball games on televisions, computers or phones.

“I am a firm believer that if at all possible, fans should not have to pay to watch high school activities be live streamed,” Lambert said.

The only way to do that however is to get enough sponsors to install a “No Pay Wall.” This allows fans to watch the games for free. Without the pay wall you can easily make an account and then watch all Rose Hill home games. However, this wouldn’t be possible without sponsors

from businesses in the Rose Hill district.

“It just took the explanation to several organizations that feel the same way,” Lambert said. “So when word got out that this is what we wanted to do, several groups contacted us which was great.”

The sponsors include businesses such as Gridiron, Doug Mowder State Farm, Autobody Connection, Alloy Architecture, Jr. Football, Jr. Cheer, and Equity Bank. All of these businesses were willing to sponsor when they were given the explanation that NFHS was able to play all Rose Hill home games and activities.

OPPONENTS ANNOUNCED FOR NEXT TWO FOOTBALL SEASONS

by hayden swope, editor-in-chief

The new two-year football schedule was recently announced, and it has the Rockets meeting some new opponents.

The first three weeks open with the Class 3A league schools: Clearwater, Wichita Collegiate, and Andale.

“The first three games are set because of those teams being 3A,” Athletic Director Jim Linot said. “We have to play them those weeks because they have district games scheduled the rest of the season.”

The rest of the regular season includes a combination of AVCTL schools, plus a non-AVCTL school. The schedule was put together by the league scheduler.

“We visit with the league scheduler about non-conference opponents that we would be willing to play from the surrounding schools that are looking for games,” Linot said. “If their open week corresponds with our open week then conversation takes place to see if they are willing to play us on that date. If that does not work out then we are scrambling to find an opponent, which could come from anywhere in the state and any classification.”

With the competitiveness of the schedule, the Rockets will be working all offseason to prepare for some old and new faces.

“Both the divisional and non-conference

schedule has teams that are pretty good teams and teams that we should definitely be able to compete with,” Linot said. “The goal is to be competitive in every game we play and work to give yourself a chance to win the ball game in the end. Some games will be tough games, but by competing throughout the game and working to get better hopefully it will lead to game wins, a winning season, and the opportunity to compete in the postseason.”

2024 Rocket Football Schedule

Week 1 - At Clearwater

Week 2 - H Collegiate

Week 3 - At Andale

Week 4 - At El Dorado

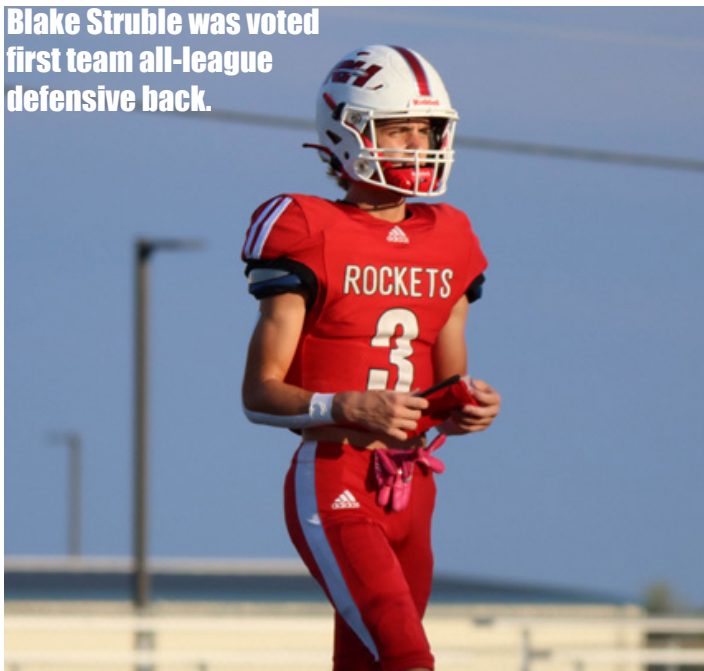
Week 5 - H McPherson

Week 6 - At Circle

Week 7 - H Wellington

Week 8 - H Independence

Blake Struble was voted first team all-league defensive back.



Scotty Carr was voted first team all-state by the KHSSCA.



MULTIPLE ROCKETS EARN FALL ALL-LEAGUE HONORS

by reese goetz, staff reporter

The 2023 fall sports season recently wrapped up with multiple athletes bringing home all-league honors and accolades.

Junior Kadance Heumann hit her 1,000-assist goal halfway through the volleyball season at the Campus Tournament, with help from junior Emily Howerton's kill.

"It felt great because I got to do it against one of my best friends," Heumann said. "We even celebrated with a poster and balloons at our home game the following Tuesday."

Along with Heumann and Howerton, senior Reese Goetz achieved second-team all-league honors. Sophomore Addie Rockley was named honorable mention all-league for the Rockets.

On the Girls Cross Country side, junior Kimberlin Lovell broke a record of her own. Krysten Lucent recently held the fastest 5K time, until Lovell came and broke the record at the Circle Invitational.

"The record deserved to be broken and I'm glad I was the one to do it," Lovell said. "I have the best

teammates that encouraged me to do it and pushed me to break it. Coach Barger has been wanting me to break it since track and pushed me every day to break it."

Senior football players Blake Struble and Kulton Richwine were named first team all-league.

"Getting first team all-league this year meant a lot to me since I didn't get it last year," Struble said. "I had a chip on my shoulder and I was going to do whatever it took to get into the first team. Knowing that all that work I put towards getting it finally paid off was a feeling I'll never forget."

Senior soccer player Scotty Carr was named first team all-state, while junior Trey Bias was named second team All-State in Class 4A.

"It's a great honor to get in my final year of high school soccer," Carr said. "It symbolizes how much work I put in over the last four years and it was a good way to go out."

CHRISTMAS ON THE FARM

an editorial by hayden swope

Ever since I was a little girl, our family's Christmas traditions have always stayed the same. A few days before Christmas, we would meet with my Grandpa on my dad's side. Christmas Day was mostly spent at home with just the four of us. We'd wake up early to open presents, eat breakfast, and then spend the rest of the morning watching Christmas movies. Christmas evening we would go to my Grandma's on my mom's side. Going to see her has always been one of my favorite parts of Christmas.

Christmas Eve, however, seems to be the tradition that has stayed the strongest. My dad's family farm in Ark City has been around for generations. It had the prettiest views, and the sweetest little house towards the front of the land. The house had a certain smell to it that smelled like home.

When you walked into the house, the round dining room table would be covered with Christmas foods and snacks, and everyone was at the door waiting to give you a big hug. The kitchen had more food and hot chocolate on the counter. The room connected to the kitchen always had a board game being played. The whole wall was windows, and the view looking out onto the land was breathtaking. This room had all of the antiques and memories from family members that lived there in the past.

The living room will forever be the room I will never forget. The walls were light with pictures hanging up. The carpet was a light tan, which made the big army

green sofa stand out. The giant piano on the right side of the room held a picture of me and the other kids. My Uncle John always had the Christmas tree stand up and decorated beautifully, and the endless number of presents under it would have made anyone's mouth drop.

The best part of the living room was the fireplace. It was built out of stone, and had a stocking for every person hanging on it. Every one of my aunts, uncles, cousins, and grandparents had their own stocking, and they were all decorated differently. There were probably over 15 stockings on that fireplace.

The house was recently torn down, but that didn't stop us all from getting together in the heated barn. As I got older, and started understanding why we celebrated Christmas, I realized that the memories I made when I was little are ones that I can't forget. It wasn't the place we celebrated, or the things we did, but who I got to spend my time with. I'm beyond thankful for years of memories.



GRANDPA WAS RIGHT

an editorial by mr. browning

I remember it vividly.

On November 1, 2015, two days after my daughter was born, my now 97-year-old grandpa told me: “life goes by really fast, so enjoy every moment.”

At the time, being a new parent, you hear all sorts of advice from so many different people. You become numb to it.

But looking back on it, that was the best piece of advice I ever received, because I think about it often, especially during the holidays.

My daughter is now eight and the magic of Christmas isn't what it used to be. She claims to believe in Santa Clause, but my wife and I don't really know.

My son, who is five, still very much does and talks about Santa a lot. So there is that.

But seeing my daughter, our first born, move on from that magical phase has been difficult.

My wife and I established traditions even before we had kids and we wanted our kids to experience those, as well.

The day my daughter complains about those...buddy, we will have some trouble.

So why am I telling you about this? Maybe it's a coping mechanism. Maybe it's a yearning for a few years ago. Maybe it's a way for me to hold on to what is close to passing.

Or maybe it's just me reminding you this holiday season to enjoy every moment.

You could be a freshman, who can't wait for four years of high school to pass or you could be a senior who can't wait to be in a college dorm this time next year.

You might be struggling. You might have a loved one struggling. You might wish things were different.

No matter where you are or who you are with, take a deep breath, sit back and relax.

And enjoy every moment.

Because Grandpa was right.



CHRISTMAS OVER YONDER

WHAT IS IT LIKE TO SPEND CHRISTMAS SO FAR FROM HOME?

by hayden swope, editor-in-chief

This time of the year is a favorite for most people around the world, with family and friends coming together for a special season. Between the traditions and celebrations, the Christmas season is better spending it with your favorite people.

However, not everyone is going home for the holidays.

With Rose Hill High School hosting three foreign exchange students this school year, the high school students and host families are going out of their way to make the United States feel like home away from home.

Senior exchange student Clara Nuno is beyond thankful for everyone making the holidays a little easier.

“Being away from your home is not easy, you miss your family and friends but it's worth it,” Nuno said. “My host family has been a great support for me and I'm very grateful. Rose Hill High School welcomed me from the beginning and always cared about me. Coming here has given me new experiences, new friends and many other things.”

Being away from family and friends can be hard, but exchange student Alba Pesquera knows that no matter the miles, she and her family will be

celebrating together around the world.

“Sometimes it is difficult to be in another country because you are not with your loved ones and friends, there are many moments when you feel alone and that you need to be with your family,” Pesquera said. “There are many times that you would like to be sharing the incredible moments that you live here with your family, but you can't because you are miles away, but since I came my host family has made me feel welcomed as best as possible so that I feel at home, and Rose Hill has made me feel like just another student with all the help possible.”

With traditions different for every family, all of the exchange students are excited to learn new traditions and celebrations, like foreign exchange student Melissa Rees.

“It is hard for me to celebrate Christmas this year without my family on the other side of the world,” Rees said. “Normally I celebrate Christmas at my grandparents house with snow and this year I will be in Florida by the ocean. It is very different, but I am excited to learn about my host family's Christmas traditions.”



Melissa Rees, Alba Pesquera and Clara Nuno-Olmedo are foreign exchange students at Rose Hill High School.

STUCO'S 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

by dawson menaul, special contributor

Every year, Rose Hill Student Council puts on "12 Days of Christmas" to get students in the holiday spirit. Dec 4 marked the first day of this year's festivities.

On the 4th, they kicked things off with Jingle Bell Day, where StuCo provided a jingle bell necklace to all the student body and staff. It was then followed by an all-time classic, Ugly Christmas Sweater Day. Next up was Snowman Day, where students were instructed to wear all white.

Then on the 7th, StuCo debuted a new idea, Christmas Card Day. While there was some confusion at first, everyone was eventually able to figure out that they were supposed to "twin" with a group of friends like you were on the front of a Christmas card. To close out week one was another classic, Christmas Character Day.

On Monday Dec 11, the upperclassmen were instructed to wear red, while underclassmen wore green. Following Red and Green Day was Grinch Day. Wednesday the 13th was another staple of the Christmas season with Santa Hat Day. Thursday the 14th the students tried to combat the weather with a Hawaiian Christmas Day.

Day 10 was "White Elephant Day," where students wore a crazy Christmas shirt that one might receive playing White Elephant.

Finals week kicked off giving the students some much needed comfort during the stressful week. Day 11 was PJ Day, where students were supposed to wear PJ's like they would if school was canceled for a snow day. On Day 12 to wrap up the 12 Days of Christmas, the final day of the fall semester, they were told to wear their fuzziest Christmas socks.



The high school staff poses for a Christmas Card on Dec 7.

HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE FOR 2023

The Most Popular Gifts in 2023

1. Xbox Series X



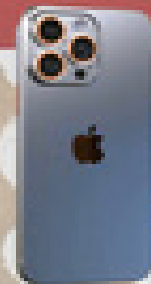
2. Stanley Tumbler



3. Uggs Tasman



4. iPhone 15



5. lululemon apparel



The Rocket Survey Says...

What is your favorite Christmas movie?

1. *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*
2. *Home Alone*
3. *Elf*
- T4. *Polar Express*
- T4. *Christmas Vacation*

What is your favorite Christmas song?

1. *All I Want for Christmas*
2. *You're a Mean One, Mr. Grinch*
3. *Last Christmas*
4. *Underneath the Tree*
5. *It's Beginning to Look at a lot like Christmas*

What is your favorite Christmas tradition?

1. *Opening presents*
2. *Eating*
3. *Decorating*
4. *Time with family*
5. *Watching Christmas movies*

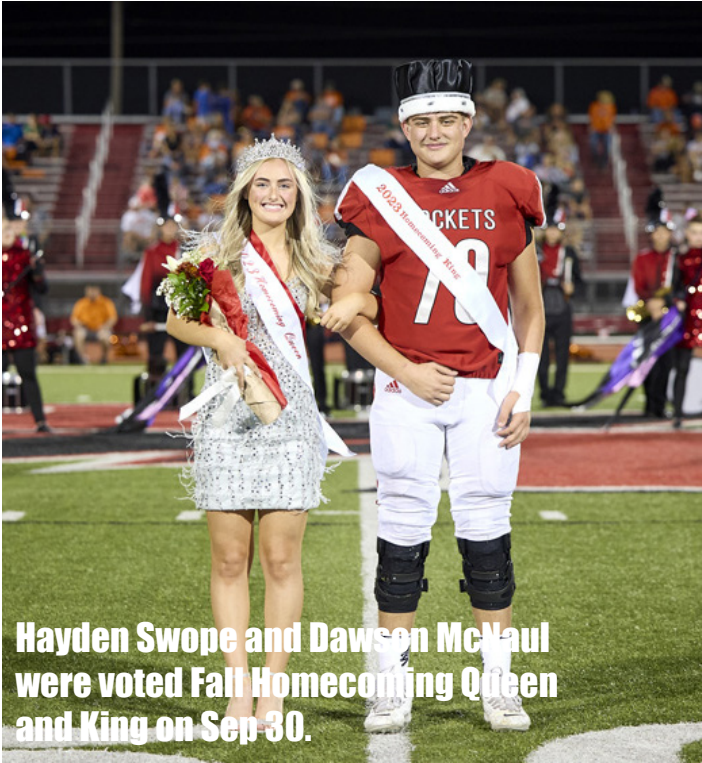
**Polls were sent and tabulated by Dakota Bryer*

ROCKET LIFE

SNOBALL 2023



ROCKET LIFE



Hayden Swope and Dawson McVaul were voted Fall Homecoming Queen and King on Sep 30.



Shayli Andrews-Towle, Lillie Racchini and Jaxson Pember perform *Little Women* on Nov 10

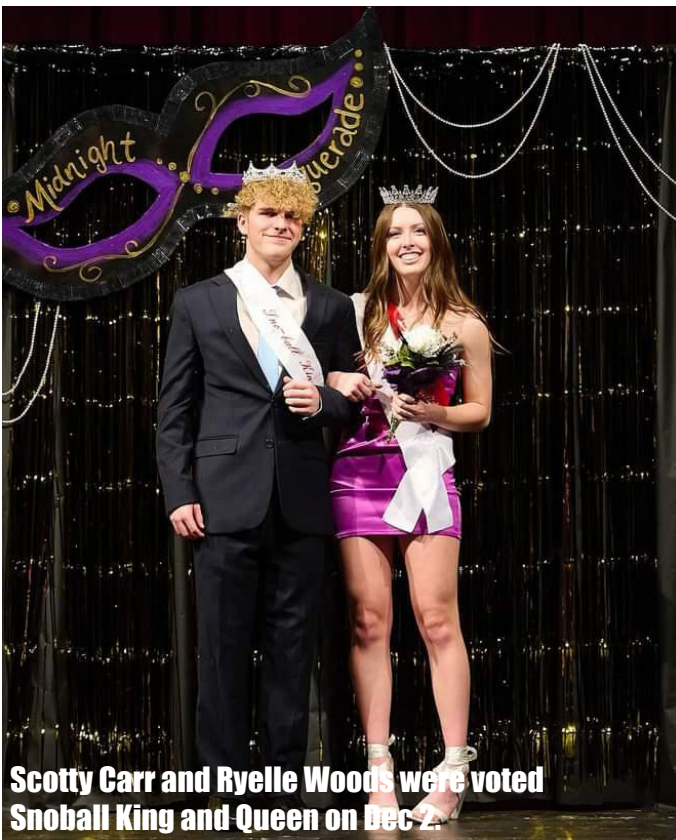


The Rocket soccer team with their regional championship plaque on Oct 26.

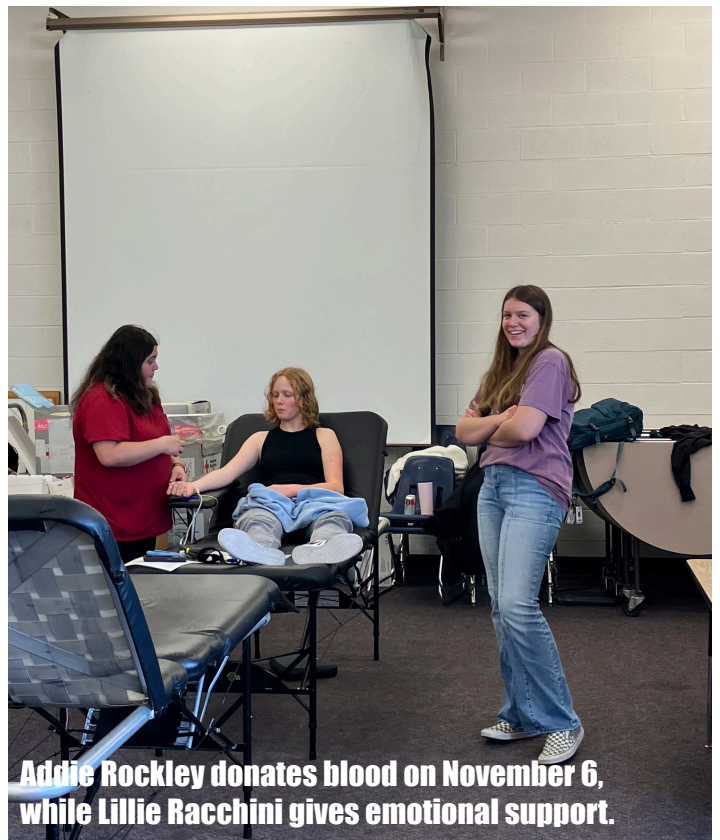
ROCKET LIFE



The girls cross country team took sixth at the 4A State Championship on Oct 28.



Scotty Carr and Ryelle Woods were voted Snoball King and Queen on Dec 2.



Addie Rockley donates blood on November 6, while Lillie Racchini gives emotional support.

Teacher of the Month - Ryan Hill

- How long have you been at RH?

“My first year here was back in 2010, so this makes my 14th year here at Rose Hill.”

- What is your favorite teaching memory?

“There are far too many great memories to choose from. I’ve had the pleasure to see the Industrial Technology program grow from a hobby shop to a program that prepares students to directly enter the workforce or for post-secondary success. I have been lucky to be a part of the successful state runs in baseball and coach for the state championship football team, as well as, work with outstanding STEM students and be a part of their regional BEST Robotics and National Technology Student Association bids.”

- What is your favorite thing about RH schools?

“My absolute favorite thing about Rose Hill School is by far the people. I am lucky to work with an outstanding group of educators and a wide range of students with a wide range of interests which makes building rapport and relationships fun.”



Student of the Month - Kulton Richwine



-What is your favorite memory at Rose Hill?

“When me and Jace Evans ordered Taco Bell at 2 a.m. at the Missouri Western Football camp.”

-Who is your favorite teacher at the high school?

“Mr. Treat is my favorite teacher.”

-What are your plans after graduation?

“At this time, I am undecided.”

Athlete of the Month - Ryleigh Page

-How long have you been wrestling and how did you get started?

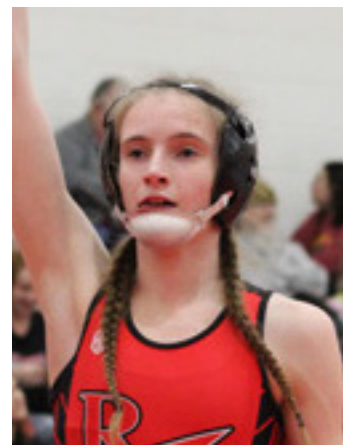
“This is my second year wrestling.”

-What has been your favorite wrestling memory?

“My favorite memory was making it to state my first year of wrestling.”

-What are your expectations for this season?

“My expectations for this season are to make it to state and place in the top three and win my district for regionals.”



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