

THE MAVERICK MAYHEM

ANNUAL BLOCK THE DOOR

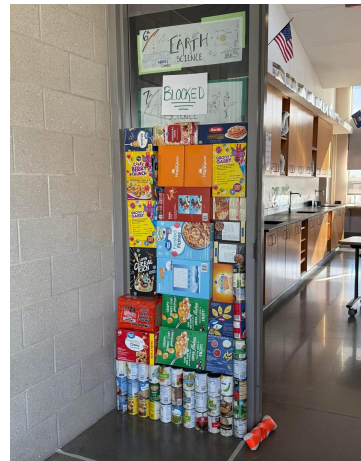
BY JEMMA PLOGER

With the holiday season rounding the corner, the Junior High got ready for their annual "Block the Door" activity. "Block the Door" is a yearly occurring event that the junior high puts together before they are out for Christmas Break. It is an activity where the students bring non-perishable items for the food bank in town to block all the teachers' doors. If a door is blocked, then you have a free day in that class. If all the doors get blocked, it is a free day for all. For the last 10 years the students have always accomplished the task of blocking all the doors with a reward of having a day full of video game tournaments, movies, board games, crafts, and a junior high Secret Santa gift exchange.

7th Grader Elizabeth Brown said that her favorite part about "Block the Door" is, "Playing board games with my friends all day." She also said that she is most determined to block Ms. Englecke's door. Although the day is full of fun and games, where does all the food go?

All of the food that is collected in the junior high hallway from December 9th to December 18th gets loaded up and delivered to the local Food Bank on 207 S. Main Street. Groups of kids in 6th-8th grade helped Mrs. Pore to deliver and stock the food. These donations help feed families in need during the holiday season. Mrs. Pore stated that she "looks forward to making a large donation to the local food bank to help those in need during the holiday season."

Gratefulness is given to all students who participated in donating this holiday season. Even though this day is rewarded with a free day full of fun, it also helps stock the food bank shelves for people in need.



Left: The students brought enough food to block Ms. Englecke's science room. The doors were fully blocked in the junior high hallways, resulting in lots of boxes of food donated to the Food Bank.

Bottom: Mrs. Pore and 7th grader Eli Peintner sort through all of the items to take to the food bank. They sorted through 100s of items and boxed them to take to the Food Bank.



VOCALISTS GO CAROLING

BY ADDISON MINYARD

The KCJH choir under the direction of Mr. Alec Cowley brought the holiday cheer as they went caroling at the Senior Center on December 17th. They sang *Carol Of The Bells*, *Feliz Navidad*, *Rudolph The Red Nosed Reindeer*, and a few other less cheerful holiday selections.

7th grader Natalie Koger said, " I think we did amazing because we did really well when we were practicing. I had really high hopes for this because we have been hitting every note in practice and we are blending really well together."

The KCJH Choir practices their Christmas carols at school prior to their performance at the Senior Center on December 17th.



Photo by Ellie Hayes

LADY MAVS RISE TO THE CHALLENGES

MAKING PROGRESS ONE GAME AT A TIME, MAVS ARE 4-2

BY KWYNN BLANTON

Finishing up the first half of their season, the Lady Mavs battled for wins to add to their record. On November 26th, they took on Meade at home. Sadly, the Mavs could not finish the game strong enough. They ended the game with a score of 20-34. The following Thursday, the Lady Mavericks went to Satanta to take on the Indians. They fought hard and brought home a win.

8th grader Charlee Jantz reported, "I think the season has been really good this year. Some weaknesses we have are a lack in height. Our strengths are our athletic group of girls. We have gotten very aggressive on defense and offense."

On the 2nd Friday of December, the Ashland Blue Jays came to take on the Lady Mavs. The Lady Mavericks struggled to control the aggressiveness of the Blue Jays. They kept with the Blue Jays at the beginning of the game, but they fell short as the minutes ticked by. They ended the game with a score of 15-43. The team now has a 4-2 season record at this point into the season.

Assistant Coach Kyla McDonald has been helping coach the Lady Mavericks for 5 years now. She reported on the season saying, "The team continues to bring intensity and effort each day, and I think we will finish the year off strong."

Make sure to come out to Jetmore tonight to watch the Lady Mavericks dish out another loss to the Shorthorns and wrap up their last game of 2024!



Top L: 8th grader Kwynn Blanton takes the shot and gets 3 points for the Lady Mavs. Top R: 8th grader Addison Minyard looks for the shot while 8th grader Jemma Ploger looks to get open. Bottom: 6th grader Mya Mitchell goes for the shot while the bench looks on. (photos by Sebastian Favela-Clayton)

LADY MAVS SCOREBOARD

11/26 vs Meade

A Team (L): 18-34
 B Team (T): 21-21
 C Team (W): 17-8

12/13 vs Ashland

B Team (L): 23-34
 A Team (L): 15-43
 C Team (W): 14-6

12/05 @ Satanta

A Team (W): 26-18
 B Team (W): 15-7

12/07 B-Team Tournament

vs Sacred Heart (W)
 vs South Central (L)

Tournament placing: 2nd



Current Record: 4-2



8th grader Jemma Ploger dribbles the ball to the goal and gets two more points for the Lady Mavericks. 2 (photo by Sebastian Favela-Clayton)

HARD WORK PAYS OFF IN PERFECT SEASON

MAVS ARE UNDEFEATED THROUGHOUT THE FIRST 6 GAMES

BY DELANEY LITTLE

Going 6 for 6, the Kiowa County Junior high boys are cooking like chefs. At home they beat the Meade Buffaloes 37-25 on November 26th. They took the long trip to Satanta and handed the Indians a loss, winning 42-16 on December 5th. The boys' team also beat the Ashland Blue Jays 51-24 on December 13th in Greensburg.

8th grader Myles Mitchell said, "I think our team has done great so far this season but we can still make improvements." The team is expecting good things for their future.

On December 7th, the B-team players participated in the B-team Tournament. The tournament team went 0-2 for the day. They played their hearts out but came up short losing to Sacred heart. Next, the team lost to Bucklin. 8th grader Truman Barnes said, "I feel like the tournament went okay. We still have a lot of things to improve on. We have been doing pretty well in my opinion. Still, there are areas to improve on, but it's mostly just an experience issue since there are a ton of younger kids on the team. We need to come out with the same intensity we have in the 4th quarter."

Tonight, The Mavericks travel to Jetmore to continue their undefeated streak against the Hodgeman County Shorthorns. The boys will work hard to get a victory. Come out and support our Maverick athletes!



Photos all by Sebastian Favela-Clayton

Top: 8th grader Preston Coss shoots a 3-pointer. Bottom L: 8th grader Carson Roenbaugh takes the ball up and draws the foul. Bottom R: 8th Grader Jack Minyard shoots the free throw as 8th graders Lochlan Gumpenberger and Thayer Zadina look on.



MAVERICK SCOREBOARD

11/26 vs Meade

A Team (W): 37-25
B Team (L): 31-35
C Team (L): 18-28

12/13 vs Ashland

A Team (W): 51-24
B Team (W): 26-9
C Team (L): 9-28

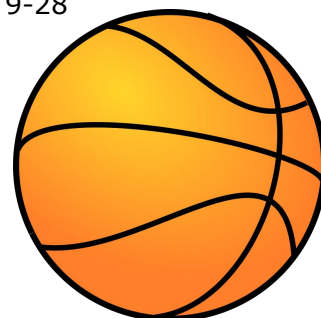
12/05 @ Satanta

A team (W): 42-16
B team (W): 27-9

12/07 B-Team Tournament

vs Sacred Heart (L)
vs Bucklin (L)

Tournament Placing: 4th



Current Record: 6-0

8th grader Joshua Gilkey shoots over a defender. (photo by Sebastian Favela-Clayton)

KEEPIN' UP WITH KIOWA COUNTY

ALL THE LATEST HAPPENINGS IN GREENSBURG, HAVILAND, & MULLINVILLE

CRUISIN' THROUGH CANDY CANE LANE

BY DELANEY LITTLE

Candy Cane Lane is a drive through light display of festive Christmas lights. It's a path which you drive through where on each side is decorated with lights and different displays. The first time it was in Greensburg was 1975. However, Dean Gamble started it before that in Stafford, Kansas, wanting the hospital that he lived across from to enjoy Christmas.

Candy Cane Lane opens December 18th through Christmas Day, and it is open 6pm - 9pm every night and is FREE! The location is 16134 30th Ave in Greensburg. However, you can drive 1 mile north of the stoplight in town and are for sure to see the glow of the lights.

Kaitlyn Alderfer, Gamble's granddaughter said, "It has become such a tradition for many families. Obviously it is a tradition for my family, and I want it to be a tradition for Acre and my niece and nephew. But, it is also something that a lot of local families look forward to at the holidays. It isn't always the most fun experience in the days leading up to opening night, but I can't imagine ever giving it up— although my dad and brother might disagree! Now that I have my own kid, that is my favorite part of doing Candy Cane Lane. I love getting to see Christmas through Acre's eyes, and it takes me back to my own childhood and what it was like for me growing up being a part of Candy Cane Lane."

Mrs. Ballard reported, "My family goes through Candy Cane Lane each year on Christmas Eve after church. We have been doing this since Grayson was a baby and look forward to this time-honored tradition each year."

As you can tell, Candy Cane Lane is an amazing asset to the community. It has become something that families look forward to. Hop in your car and enjoy Candy Cane Lane with your family this holiday season!



CANDY CANE LANE

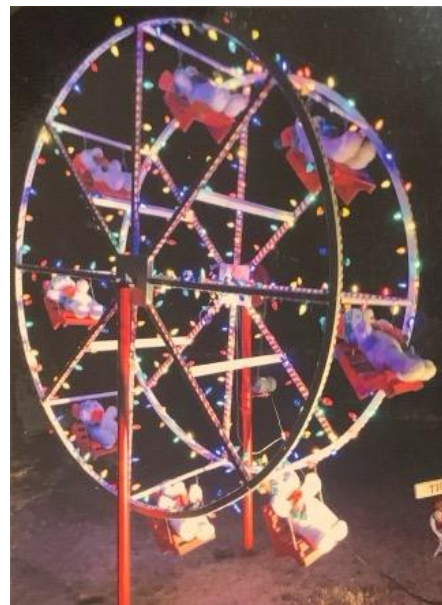
DEC. 18-25TH 6-9 PM

DRIVE THRU ANIMATED LIGHT DISPLAY

NORTH 1 MILE AT THE STOPLIGHT

Find us on Facebook for up-to-date weather & closure information: [Candy Cane Lane](#)

FREE!!!



Above: Candy Cane Lane has a Facebook page to follow for all of their important updates. Top L: The teddy bear ferris wheel is a popular display with a ferris wheel that actually moves. Top R: Several years ago, Dean Gamble and his grandkids Kaitlyn (Gamble) Alderfer and Kasey Gamble help setup for Candy Cane Lane. Bottom L: Santa Claus is being hoisted up by a reindeer.



All above courtesy photos

FUN FACTS

WITH THE 8TH GRADERS

Article & Photos
by Preston Coss

ELLIE HAYES



Ellie served up a lot of aces this volleyball season.

Q: Would you rather find a rat in your kitchen or a roach in your bed? Why? A: Rat in the kitchen because I could just get someone to kill it.

Q: Would you rather always have a full phone battery or a full gas tank? Why? A: A full phone battery because I can't drive so I don't need a full tank of gas.

Q: Would you rather die in 20 years with no regrets or live to 100 with a lot of regrets? Why? A: I would rather live 100 years with multiple regrets because you get to live longer.

Q: Would you rather oversleep every day for a week or not get any sleep at all for four days? Why? A: Oversleep for a week because I couldn't go a day without sleep.

Q: Would you rather win \$25,000 or your best friend win \$100,000? Why? A: 100,000 because its more money

GRAYSON BALLARD



Grayson likes competing in Scholar's Bowl and Bees.

Q: Would you rather die in 20 years with no regrets or live to 100 with a lot of regrets? Why? A: : 100 years because 20 is too short.

Q: Would you rather have smelly feet or bad breath? Why? A: Bad breath because I would not notice.

Q: Would you rather communicate telepathically or know every single language on the planet? Why? A: Every single language because it would be weird to have to talk telepathically.

Q: Would you rather run into an alien or BigFoot? Why? A: Bigfoot because Aliens would probably do something to me.

Q: Would you rather uncontrollably break into song or unexpectedly lose your voice? Why? A: Unexpectedly lose my voice because I hate singing.

JACK MINYARD



Jack enjoys all sports, but football is his favorite.

Q: Would you rather spend a day exploring space or the ocean? Why? A: I would rather explore space because I want to see what space looks like.

Q: Would you rather be able to fly whenever you are happy or when you are sad? Why? A: I would probably choose to be happy to fly because I am not really sad that much.

Q: Would you rather see 1,000 butterflies at one time or 1,000 starfish? Why? A: I would rather see 1,000 starfish because I like starfish better than I like butterflies.

Q: Would you rather meet someone from the past or the future? Why? A: Future because I want to meet me in the future to see if I am married or have kids.

Q: Would you rather lose all of the money you've earned this year or lose all the memories you've gained this year? Why? A: Money because you can replace money, but you can't replace memories.

PEP SOUNDS OF VICTORY

BY ELLIE HAYES

Do you hear that? Some of the junior high band students are participating in the pep band at the high school basketball game. Mr. Cowley reported, "Junior high pep band is working towards joining the high school pep band for pep rallies and basketball games. I've been really proud of the effort and focus the group has been putting into making this happen. I think this is going to make an enormous impact on the overall spirit in the gym before games."

The students participating in pep band include: 8th graders Abel Martinez, Cole Leoffler, Ellie Hayes, Kwynn Blanton, Delaney Little, Lincoln Piester, Jemma Ploger, Preston Coss, Lochlan Gumpenberger, Thayer Zadine, Jack Minyard, Carson Roenbaugh, Cy Yost, Myles Mitchell, and Dallas Derley. 7th graders Brooklyn Wright, Shelby Fulton, Brody Hoffman, Ty Hatton, Sebastian Favela-Clayton, Eli Peintner, and Bodie McDonald.

Some of the 7th and 8th grade pep band participants look over the music arrangements.



Photo by Delaney Little

MEET THE PUBLICATION TEAM



Kwynn Blanton
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Co-Editor



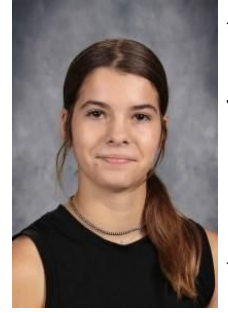
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(Photos by InterState Studios)



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Photo by Delaney Little



Photo by Mrs. Ballard

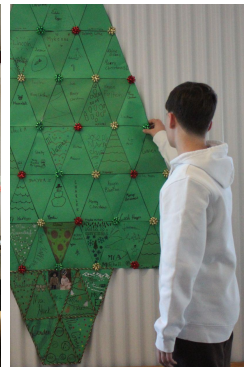


Photo by Mrs. Ballard



Photo by Delaney Little



Clockwise from Top R: 7th grader Brody Hoffman, 8th graders Dallas Derley and Lochlan Gumpenberger play a music game in band class. R: The junior high Mavericks cheer loud and proud in a high school pep rally. Bottom R: The cheerleaders pose after a win. (Photo by S. Favela-Clayton) Bottom L: 7th grader Brody Hoffman goes up for a shot and gets blocked by 8th grader Jack Minyard. Top L: The JH students listen to a panel of educators for college and career day in Advisory. Top Middle L: 7th grader Iva Brown presents her presentation for JAG. (photo by J. Ploger) Top Middle R: 8th grader Cole Leoffler adds a triangle to the Impact Christmas tree. (photo by J. Ploger)

LIGHTING UP MAIN

BY SEBASTIAN FAVELA-CLAYTON

Once again this year, Greensburg hosted their 19th annual lighted Christmas parade.

The amazing parade was on December 15th at 6pm in downtown Greensburg on Main Street, and it started at the Twilight Theater and ended at the Rec Gym. From there, you were allowed to go inside the Youth Core building for the soup supper.

Stacy Barnes reported, "I think it's a great holiday tradition and a fun way to get the community together to celebrate the season." Kiowa County put on a great Lighted Christmas Parade and everybody once again thoroughly enjoyed it.

JANUARY CALENDAR

BY KWYNN BLANTON

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
			1 New Year's Day NO SCHOOL	2 NO SCHOOL	3 ACT Registration Deadline for Feb. 8 Test Date NO SCHOOL	4
5	6 Teacher Workday- No Classes 8:00am: DLT Meeting	7 KCHS BB vs. Bucklin First Day of Classes for 2nd Semester KCHS Scholars Bowl @ Lamed	8	9 1:00pm: KCHS Girls & Boys WR @ Lamed 5:00pm: KCJH BB vs. South Central	10 Winter Homecoming KCHS BB vs. Ingalls 2:10pm: Pep Assembly 2:30pm: Classes Dismissed 9:30pm: Winter Homecoming Dance after game	11
12	13 3:00pm: SPIAA HS V/JV League Scholars Bowl @ Pawnee Heights (Rozel) 7:00pm: USD 422 Board Meeting 7:00pm: Financial Aid Night - Senior Parents	14 KCHS BB @ South Gray 1:00pm: Poster & Limerick Assembly	15 9:30am: SPIAA Big Read Judging 7:00pm: SPIAA Music Sponsors Meeting	16 KCJH BB @ Spearville 4:30pm: KCHS Scholars Bowl @ Lamed	17 KCHS BB @ Kinsley 2:30pm: Classes Dismissed	18 9:00am: KCJH C Team BB Tournament 9:30am: KCHS Girls & Boys WR @ Scott City
19	20 Martin Luther King Jr. Day Teacher Inservice - No Classes 5:00pm: KCJH BB vs. Ingalls	21 KCHS BB vs. Ashland	22 9:00am: Ag Sales CDE @ Garden City 10:00am: 3rd-8th Spelling Bee KCES/KCJH 11:30am: SPIAA League Meeting	23 12:30pm: KSDE Reg. Director Mtg w/ Amber Miller 5:00pm: KCJH BB vs. South Gray	24 SPIAA HS Girls Play-In Games @ Spearville K-5 Art 1:00pm: KCHS Girls & Boys WR @ Cimarron 2:30pm: Classes Dismissed	25 SPIAA HS Boys Play-In Games @ Spearville
26	27 SPIAA HS BB Tournament @ Dodge City KCJH BB @ Skyline	28 SPIAA HS BB Tournament @ Dodge City	29 8:00pm: USD 422 Board Meeting	30 SPIAA HS BB Tournament @ Dodge City JAG-K Day at the Capitol	31 SPIAA HS BB Tournament @ Dodge City 2:30pm: Classes Dismissed 3:00pm: KCHS Girls & Boys WR @ Hoisington	

To find upcoming events, information and more, go to usd422.org



JUST FOR FUN



when you're ready for Christmas but you still have to take finals

EMOJI CHRISTMAS SONGS

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