



P.C. Paige Finney and Anna Hansen

Despite Garry Pickard, Waukee School's Director of Operations, claiming there are proper recycling resources in place, recycling is still not happening at Northwest High School.

"I'm not scared to talk about [this issue]. I'm the one who calls the trash company and all that, so it's basically on me."

-Garry Pickard

## Northwest Quiz Bowl

**In its first year, the team ranks nationally.**

**Read more on Page 3**

## Northwest Barstool

**An account is criticized by students and staff.**

**Read more on Page 4**

## Cael Winter

**The wolfpack rallies behind one of its own.**

**Read more on Page 5**

# Recycling at Northwest High School

## By Paige Finney, Anna Hansen and the Editorial Team

Every day at Waukee Northwest High School, piles of potential recyclable goods are being dumped into trash bins. The improper recycling practices began before the opening of NWHS at Waukee High School.

Many observations about the current state of the recycling at NWHS have been made by students and staff, which has prompted some concerns.

Some of the processes observed included the custodians taking both the blue recycling bins and black trash bins from every classroom and dumping both into a single, larger bin, mixing both the recyclables and trash. This mix is then taken and thrown into the trash dumpster outside of the NWHS building. According to Garry Pickard, the Director of Operations for the Waukee Community School District, this is not the way the custodians are expected to be distributing the recyclables and trash.

Although this observation may seem like an error made by the custodians, the custodial staff have only been given a single bin to work with. According to a WCSD employee, the staff has been taught to empty the classroom bins into a single bin during their training.

After reaching out to WCSD's Day Custodial Supervisor, Rebecca Leanhart on November 4th and November 10th, questions were redirected to Garry Pickard.

Pickard was informed about the mixing of recyclables and trash on November 5th. As of December 8th, no visible changes seem to have

been made at the school with recyclables.

Pickard stated, "I'll have blue recycle [bins] ordered so custodians can drag them around and empty the [classroom recycle bins]."

Additionally, upon examination of two outdoor dumpsters on November 3rd, it was clear that neither was being used as a proper recycling bin. Both dumpsters had many large trash bags, along with recyclable cardboard.

"If the recycling truck driver sees contaminants in the recycling bin, then it'll all just go into the trash," Pickard said.

Leanhart was the first to bring the lack of a recycling dumpster to Pickard's attention. Upon learning this, Pickard contacted Sparta, WCSD's waste and recycling management company. A dumpster labeled recycling was then placed the week of November 15th.

During the summer months, the amount of cardboard and recyclable materials was at a high level because of the various shipments of furniture and other materials for the new building.

Kirk Johnson, WCSD's Chief Operations Officer, made clear that there was a contract that the furniture companies would provide a dumpster for the school. The furniture companies would



An outdoor bin at NWHS consisting of recyclable boxes and trash bags. P.C. Paige Finney and Anna Hansen

**"For the dumpster company right now, we spend \$1,600 a month on recycling services."**

**-Director of Operations for WCSD Garry Pickard**

then dispose of the materials from there.

One of the biggest issues is that the district is paying for these recycling services.

"For the dumpster company right now, [the school district] spend[s] \$1,600 a month on recycling services," Pickard said.

Johnson revealed that the cost is \$149 a month for NWHS recycling services.

Editor Note—The journalists reached out to the following:

- Dr. Fairouz Bishara-Rantisi, Principal of NWHS
- Kirk Johnson, WCSD's COO
- Rebecca Leanhart, WCSD's Day Custodial Supervisor
- Roxy Livermore, WCSD's Executive Director of Human Resources
- Garry Pickard, WCSD's Director of Operations
- Nick Ross, Associate Principal of NWHS
- Amy Varcoe, WCSD's Executive Director of Communication

\*This information is accurate as of 12/13/21 at 9:38am

Paige Finney:  
finney24201@waukeeschools.org

Anna Hansen:  
hansen240102@waukeeschools.org



A look inside the bin labeled as recycling contains a black trash bag. P.C. Paige Finney and Anna Hansen

A look inside the bin labeled as recycling contains a black trash bag. "If the recycling truck drivers sees contaminants in the recycling bin, then it'll all go into the trash," stated Garry Pickard.

# Northwest Quiz Bowl

## By Cohen Martin

The Waukee Northwest Quiz Bowl team coached by Mr. Winter is ranked 83rd nationally, just behind Waukee B team who came in 57th, Waukee A team who came in 60th and Ames A team who came in 81st. With the Waukee Community School District adding Northwest High School it has reportedly been “difficult” for the Quiz Bowl team. Quiz Bowl is a game where two teams face each other head to head answering questions from all areas of knowledge. Matches usually last around 30 minutes.

The Quiz Bowl team is a lot different this year, as there is a lot of new players due to half of the team staying at Waukee High School and the other half going to Northwest High School. “I feel like I get to play a bigger role this year,” stated junior Garrett Attaway in regards to the split. The split has also opened up opportunities for new

Quiz Bowl players. Sophomore Elaine Struthers reflected on her first year of Quiz Bowl saying, “It’s been really nice; [the Quiz Bowl team] has been really welcoming.” The Team Captain of the

lister said, “[The Quiz Bowl Team] always has fun [and] cracks some jokes but [Mr. Winter] always keeps on track and it is a very chilled environment.” Quiz Bowl is open to anyone who would be interested in joining the team.

The Quiz Bowl season goes from the beginning to the end of the school year. Tournaments typically start towards the end of October and end around March but if the Quiz Bowl team qualifies for Nationals, tournaments will end around May. So far, the Quiz Bowl team has had one tournament. The team won five games of seven. “[We] only lost by a small margin both of those games,” said Hollister.

When asked what his favorite part of Quiz Bowl is, Sahishnu Duvvuri responded, “Learning it has introduced me to a lot of topics I never knew I would be interested in.” Elaine Struthers explained her favorite part of Quiz Bowl, saying, “It is really fun learning about a variety of topics and about different cultures.” ■



Quiz Bowl team, senior Sahishnu Duvvuri, when asked how the split has been for him, stated, “It’s kind of fun getting to go up against my Quiz Bowl teammates from last year and testing my skills against them.”

Quiz Bowl practices are held every full schedule Wednesday and Friday. Junior Christian Hol-

Cohen Martin:

[martin24746@waukeeschools.org](mailto:martin24746@waukeeschools.org)

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## 1 in 1260

### By Presley O’Neill

Lily Romanin is a junior at Northwest High school. She takes great interest in helping people and being kind. She is a member of the club RAK (Random Acts of Kindness).

Romanin has one brother named Jack and two teddy bear dogs named Winsten and Luna. She really enjoys AP Chemistry because it challenges her. Lily also really enjoys the song “Kick The Door” by Bettelemme and her favorite genre of music is pop music. Someone who means a lot to Lily is her mom because she is always there for her and she loves her mom very much.

Romanin also has a huge passion for cheerleading. She used to do gymnastics but began to get burnt out and decided to start cheerleading in 2020. She had recent cheer experience from prior tumbling lessons at Tribe Athletics. She

immediately became one of the strongest tumblers on the team.

On Saturday November 6th, Lily performed at state with her team and was able to represent Waukee Northwest for the first time ever. Romanin and her team ended up getting 2nd place out of ten teams. “Lily did amazing when we performed. She has worked so hard on her tumbling and it has really paid off,” junior Peyton Sailer exclaimed. Her teammates can confidently say that the team would not be the same without her in it. “Without Lily, our team would not be as good as it is; her tumbling makes our team literally ten times better,” junior Charlie Goldsworth said. Cheer means the world to Lily because of her love for her team and how well they work together. ■

Presley O’Neill:

[oneill24156@waukeeschools.org](mailto:oneill24156@waukeeschools.org)

# Books Under Fire

By Jack Andersen

During the Waukee School District board meeting on October 25th, 2021, resident Amanda McClanahan claimed that the Northwest library contains books that promote pedophilia. During the open forum of the school board's meeting, McClanahan referred to many books with LGBTQ+ themes. The books being reviewed by the school board are titled "All Boys Aren't Blue", "Gender Queer", and "Lawn Boy". She displayed a sexually explicit cartoon from the graphic novel "Gender Queer" to the board. "This book is available for children as young as fourteen years old," McClanahan said. On October 28th, the Waukee School District took the three different LGBTQ+ orientated books off the shelves to be reconsidered by a board of Waukee parents.

During the next board meeting, on November 8th, parent Roxy Bohaty claimed to have emailed the authors of all three books. Bohaty read the response from Jonathan Evison, the author of "Lawn Boy". Evison said, "The passage in question is entirely out of context. It features Mike, an adult, revisiting a sexual experimentation that he had in 4th grade with another 4th grader. Sexual experimentation among young people is a well-worn trope in literature."

The Waukee board meeting sparked many other arguments from allies to the LGBTQ+ community. Junior Parker Lambert believes that censorship is not useful, because explicit content is already available anyway. Lambert claims, "The way [the parents] are saying the books are pornography is wrong. I can right now Google gay porn and it's here on the internet on my phone

like every other student in this school has."

These books are not the only sexually explicit books in Northwest's library. Books like the series "A Court of Thorns and Roses" and the standalone novel "Normal People" are also in the library but have not been called for review by the school board. Northwest Librarian Tara Reckemmer said, "One of our goals for this library would be to have newer books in here. Newer books have representation that is a big goal for our school."

People are wondering, if the books with LGBTQ+ sexually explicit books are being removed, why are the cisgender sexually explicit books staying? Parker Lambert claims that the reconsidered books are important for LGBTQ+ sexual health. "I never learned gay sexual health because they're not allowed to teach it here, and I had to find out for myself and in all honesty

that's completely unsafe," Lambert said. "Having that type of literature here is important to me." Sophomore Ragan Swanson, however, partially disagrees. She believes that all books containing sexually explicit content in the library should be reconsidered, and it should not be limited to LGBTQ+ books. "It's a school, and we don't need this now. Some people like reading [these books], but they can go to the public library," Swanson said.

As of the 10th Street Times' printing date, the books are still up for revision and are not returning to the Northwest library.

The rest of this article will be found on our website. ■

Jack Andersen:  
andersen24896@waukeeschools.org



## @NWHSBarstool

By Cassie Heit

The Northwest Barstool is a Twitter account that tweets about the NW football team and their support for the players. They also have retweeted many things about Cael Winter for support for their football player, who was out for weeks due to blood clots in his lungs. The Barstool account is not represented by the school staff and is not official by the high school. The account is run by anonymous students, most likely on the football team, due to their seemingly joking nature on some of the tweets about the players.

Barstool accounts are usually inspired or possibly ran by the Barstool Sports owned by Penn National. They mainly talk about big sports news or local sports events. Many barstool accounts that are local to small areas tend to say more racy remarks about people in the area.

There have been many things they have tweeted about like the

themes for the football games, but they tend not to reach enough people for it to be fully done by the student section. The account has nearly 800



followers, many being students of NWHS and other high schools barstool accounts.

There have been many other tweets by the account that haven't been as positive. There was a picture of a girl high school student, calling

her 'eye candy'. There was another tweet showing sexual content with students from another high school with many inappropriate responses about the girl in the video. With the responses, they were all mainly made by people with the last name 'Doyle' and all happen to work at or attended Alcron State University. Senior Taylor Thompson, spoke about the account. She stated, "I mean I think it's funny, but at the same time, that's really out of hand, for students to be doing that."

There have been some threats on some students, including a student who wrote about the student section at NWHS games. The account has called him out for his article, with some of the followers responding aggressively due to stating that there are some issues with the student section.

Dr. Fairouz Bishara-Rantisi commented on the matter saying, "For us to be able to take ac-

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# Rally for a Teammate

By Kaid Smith-Fitzgerald

During a normal day on October 18th, Cael Winter had not been feeling well with chest pain. Winter said, "I honestly just thought it was a cold at first and didn't really notice anything. I had been feeling sick for two weeks before things got bad." Cael's Mom Melissa Winter knew something was not right when her son called her from work. Mrs. Winter decided to rush Cael into the closest Clinic where his normal doctor is, but the wait was too long. Mrs. Winter then took him to Methodist Hospital, where the wait was also too long. She called around to multiple hospitals and ended up driving over 40 minutes to Ames, where he was admitted to Mary Greeley Hospital.

There they found two large blood clots in both of his lungs. Mrs. Winter and the doctors at Mary Greeley Hospital called Blank Children's Hospital and transported Cael there by ambulance. As soon as Cael arrived, the doctors had put him on painkillers and blood thinners. Three days later, on Thursday morning, "Cael was diagnosed with Pneumonia, transferred to the ICU, and had surgery to place a chest tube which drained over a liter of fluid off his right lung," Mrs. Winter stated. Cael was on oxygen supplements for multiple days and nights and had to have multiple X-Rays and CT scans.

Cael had the whole community behind him. Most teams in the metro such as Waukee Northwest, Waukee, Dowling, Valley and more wore some sort of blue to that Friday's football game to support Cael. Shirts were also made to show

support for Cael with 100% of the profits to go to the Winter family. When asked why he and his family decided to make the shirts, Junior Logan Stotts said, "I just became friends with Cael this year and I've gotten close with him over the summer and during football. He is a part of our team and he is family so we wanted to help out their family with the medical bills and make Cael happy while he was in the hospital." Many people posted about him on social media and sent him their prayers. Winter said, "I felt very blessed and very thankful that I had everyone's prayers and support. I was a little surprised at all of the schools and football community that joined in, but of course in a good way."

The Northwest football team was playing for Cael during the Urbandale game. Many players were writing his number on their wrist tape and many players talked to him before the game to show that it was for him. They put it all on the line and won the game to go to the playoffs by one point. After the game, the players facetedimed Cael and celebrated and cheered with him in the locker room.

Cael got out of the hospital on the Friday before the first round Ankeny game, but Cael didn't tell anyone. He chose for it to be a surprise for the football team. During the team meeting before the game, Coach Kopatich said, "We have a new five star from Chicago coming in that might help us this game." After he said that, Cael walked out and the team went crazy. The team loved it and it showed everyone how much of a battle Cael went through and how strong he is.

Cael has been in school doing well and has also been going to wrestling practices after school. Cael has been working hard to get back to be able to wrestle in meets this year and that is his big goal. On Nov 29, Cael went to get a check up and update to see how his health is doing, he was told things are going well and they will try to have him wrestle by the end of the year. It has not been guaranteed yet if Cael will be able to wrestle. Cael's health has been doing well and he has been feeling a lot better recently. ■



Cael Winter surprised his teammates at the first round Ankeny game.



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tion against the individual—not necessarily the account—the tweets would have to cause a 'substantial disruption' to the school environment." The NW Principal and Assistant/Associate Principals have commented on the matter, saying that the account is concerning but not much can be done about the account since it is anonymous and it is an outside-of-school matter. Sophomore Amelia Hanson talked about the account, vocalizing, "I think they should do something about it and who's behind the account." After the interview with Hanson, she spoke about how there is the freedom of speech and that not much can be done about the account. ■

Cassie Heit:  
heit240185@waukeeschools.org

Kaid Smith-Fitzgerald:  
smithfitzgerald23925@waukeeschools.org



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P.C. Ariana Aponte

The Waukee Burger King hiring for \$15 an hour.

## The Great Resignation

By Ariana Aponte

Between retail, service and office jobs, employees in the United States have quit their jobs by the millions every month in 2021. This ongoing trend is known as The Great Resignation. Resignation numbers hit a record high in April and continued to break monthly records through August. Around 4 million or 2.9% of the workforce quit their jobs in August. The Big Quit is largely driven by workers who no longer want to endure hefty work hours and poor pay. Service workers make up 892,000 workers who quit and 721,000 in retail.

The frustration between employers and employees is quite evident. Employers are struggling to find work to maintain their business, and employees struggle to find adequate pay they can live off. Hy-Vee is a highly popular employer among high school students. Christina Gayman, Hy-Vee's Assistant Vice President of Communications, stated, "While the current labor market is challenging for employers, it does provide the opportunity for companies like Hy-Vee to innovate when it comes to talent attraction." Hy-Vee offers employee benefits like employee discounts, holiday pay and tuition assistance to help attract employees.

nors who are 16 and older are allowed to work any hours with jobs that don't involve transmission or delivery. This means that there are virtually no restrictions on how many hours 16 and 17-year-olds can work when school is and is not in session; therefore, many part-time high school students are working even longer hours due to the labor shortage. Teens are not only juggling school and extracurriculars—they have now taken on the role of becoming what is now known as "essential workers." Many students are feeling the weight of this added pressure. Senior Maddie Pilquist worked at American Eagle from March of 2021–September of 2021 at the peak of The Great Resignation. Pilquist's workplace had issues regarding employment. "Some days, there were less than ten employees working the entire day," she said. Pilquist and her coworkers felt the struggle of juggling work and school life. "Picking up extra shifts on weeknights and having to be away from home until 9 pm when I had homework and other things to do was always a bit of a struggle." Pilquist continued, "There was definitely frustration with employees at most points, especially with scheduling and students struggling to balance growing availability requirements." ■

Ariana Aponte:  
aponte22248@waukeeschools.org

In Iowa, mi-

## 10th Street Takes

### November's Most Controversial Opinions

Morgan Gallagher 10: Salad can be lettuce and dressing. No toppings are needed.

Mitchell Militello 12: Kpop is overrated.

Hailey Gojkovich 11: Taylor Swift IS the music industry.

Stephanie Chu 10: Hamilton the musical is overrated.

George Willenborg 12: People don't need to decorate for Christmas the moment November 1st hits.

Carly Rau 10: Riverdale is overrated

Rachel Coon 10: Ham is a better thanksgiving staple than turkey

Sophie Berger 10: Cranberries shouldn't be a part of Thanksgiving.

Elsa Petersen 12: Pumpkin pie is gross. Who wants to eat pumpkin purée?

Alicia Sweet 10: Friends is not a good show.

Avery Balm 11: Most artificial grape candy is bad.

Collin Brown 12: The world has gone downhill since the dinosaurs died.

Lief Foussat 10: The band Queen is overrated.

Jacob Nannen 10: The caesar salads are NOT rockin'.

## Waukee Girls Swim: State Champions

By Amela Medinoski

This year marked a historical win for Waukee at the annual Iowa Girls Swimming and Diving State Meet in the Marshalltown YMCA on November 13th. Waukee's Girls Swim & Dive team defeated the running up Ankeny Hawkettes by 96 points, crowning the Waukee Girls Swim & Dive team 2021 state champions.

Waukee Girls Swim and Dive have had significant victories, winning the last three regional meets and placing within the top ten teams at state. Throughout this season, 12 of the 76 total combined Waukee swimmers participated in districts. Finally, this year brought the team's most significant achievement—a state title. "It took huge commitment and a lot of dedication from all of the girls this year," said head coach Michelle Twigg.

"The win was just pure joy, probably one of the happiest moments of my life," exclaimed Waukee Northwest junior Mallory Kell. "Winning a state title is a once in a lifetime experience," she added. As a celebration, the girls and coaches made

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# Hannah Tibbs

## Theatre Education Scholarship Recipient

By Emma Goode

The Iowa Thespian Festival was held from November 11th to the 13th at the University of Northern Iowa. Many thespian troupes from throughout the state of Iowa gathered for workshops and presentations. Many Waukee Theatre Arts students from both high schools spent time during the weekend to learn more about theatre and thespian activities.

Among the many activities was an opportunity for students to audition for many awards and scholarships. Northwest senior Hannah Tibbs was one of those students. Hannah loves theater. "It's one of my favorite things, ever," Tibbs said. "I gave a presentation for the scholarship about my core values as a teacher, and what I hold close to my heart in my classroom," Tibbs explained. The main three points were integrity, equity and empathy. Those are three things she tries to keep in her mind to create a safe space for her students. She had no idea that she would win a \$1,500 scholarship for Theatre Education that weekend.

There was a lot of hard work that went into the audition she performed. She spent about a month writing her speech, working through many trials. She received lots of feedback from her teachers and peers which made her final product very

successful. One morning, she completely re-wrote her speech and had to work to get that down to five minutes. "I've done pretty

much everything that's been provided for me," Hannah added. "I've also started writing my own scripts, which is really fun." Theatre is a huge part of Tibbs' life and her passion for it began back when she was in 4th grade. That was the first time Tibbs participated in her church's "A Christmas Carol". "That was my favorite thing ever," Tibbs said. This year, she is doing reader's theater and mime on the speech team. "I love learning new things about theatre so I'm super excited to try something new," Tibbs said. She has participated in every opportunity that was given to her and enjoys theatre very much.

Another one of her passions is teaching, and that is why she won this scholarship for educating students about theatre. Hannah participates in Intro to Education at Northwest High School and teaches a class of 8th-grade theatre arts students at Prairieview School. That is a passion she hopes to pursue in her career. She is looking forward to going to the University of Northern Iowa in the fall to study theatre education.

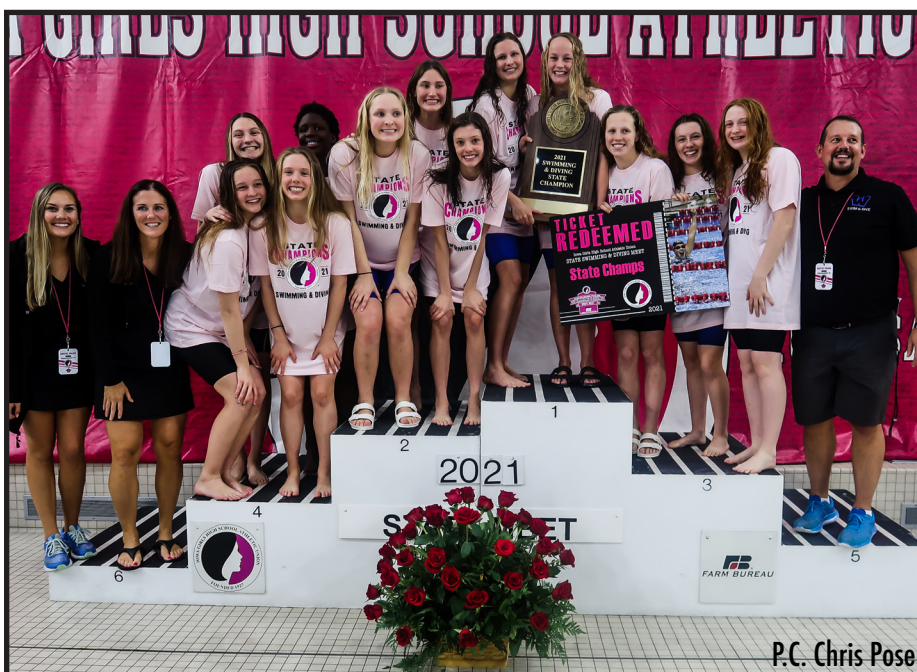
Theatre has always been a big part of Hannah's life and she described one of its impacts on her. "I've learned that everyone has a place in theatre. No matter what your interests are, you



Hannah Tibbs is a senior at Northwest.

can still find somewhere that you fit in. Everyone has a place and it's a very welcoming community." Tibbs is inspired to share those experiences with future theatre students. "You never know how much of an impact you are going to make on someone, so my goal is that if I can just impact one student and make their day better by smiling at them or greeting them every day then that's an accomplishment to me." ■

Emma Goode:  
goode24855@waukeeschools.org



Waukee Girls Swimming and Diving on the podium at state.

Continued from Page 6

memorable leaps into the water and held their team's annual donut-eating competition, as well as a team dinner. In these bittersweet moments of celebration, it would be hard to believe that this team was a combination of two different high schools.

Waukee Northwest High School opened its doors for the 2021-2022 school year and separated Waukee High School student and staff.

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Northwest started its athletic department fresh, and Waukee High School's athletics had to live with the loss of some teammates and coaches. However, the Girls Waukee Swimming & Diving team stayed together this year, but with a new combined logo, a purple and blue 'W'. These colors represent each high school.

Waukee's Girls Swimming and Diving team will inevitably split once the new natatorium for Northwest is built in the

coming years, but until then, the girls can only sit and ponder over the team's future. "To split us up and make us swim against each other is unimaginable," said Kell. Although Northwest created its own sports department, the two teams have yet to compete against Waukee High School.

Since the split, each high school's students and administration feared and experienced rivalries amongst their former peers. "Sports have been a lot more competitive, and each of the Wau-

kee high schools want to be number one," Evan Schwickerath, a junior Waukee High School, explained. Both girls believe that the schools should stray far from competing against each other in any sport for the coming years. "I just hope that when the time comes, competitors will be respectful and have the sense of community because we are all representing Waukee," added Schwickerath.

The Waukee Girls Swimming and Diving state championship banner and trophy will reside at Waukee High School, and until then, both high schools will have to do well with their time remaining together in Girls Swim and Dive. As for other sports, only time will tell with sportsmanship. ■

Amela Medinoski:  
medinoski230328@waukeeschools.org

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Print Editors:

Colson Thayer- Design

thayer22329@waukeeschools.org

Camryn Ward- Copy

ward22821@waukeeschools.org

Web Editor:

Payton Strobel

strobel23379@waukeeschools.org

Yearbook Editor:

Thomas Campbell

campbell22554@waukeeschools.org

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