



KnightWriter

Senior Spotlights Greggory Gill

Greggory Gill was born December 11th, 1991 to Bob and Missy Gill. The thing he likes the most about being at Homer is that it is a small school and you get to know everyone. Gregg's favorite lunch is pizza and his favorite subject is history. His favorite teacher was Mr. Hightree. He has participated in football, band, and jazz band. Gregg's most memorable moment at Homer was when Karen punch and broke Joel's locker. He plans on going to Western Iowa Tech Community College for wind turbine technology and a business degree. Gregg says he has a lot of ideas for what he wants to do, but he is not completely sure.

Mathew Kellogg

Mathew Kellogg is the son of Maurice and Cindy Kellogg. He was born on July 2nd, 1991. His favorite thing about Homer is that it is a small school and you get to know everyone. His favorite lunch is burritos and his favorite subject is shop class. His favorite teacher is Mr. Snyder. Mathew is in football, basketball, and golf. His most memorable moment at Homer is going to the playoffs in football his senior year. His college plans are undecided and he is still thinking about what he wants to do in the future.

McKenzie Ann Peterson

McKenzie Ann Peterson was born on November 28, 1991, and is the child of Mark and Alice Peterson. One thing she enjoys about Homer is being able to get to know everyone. Her favorite lunch is scalloped potatoes and ham or cream chicken on a biscuit. Her favorite subject is math and her favorite teachers are Mrs. Peitz and Mr. Sailors. She participates in basketball, volleyball, track, softball, and dance. One of McKenzie's most memorable moments at Homer is when they went on a HAL

trip and last year's seniors threw them into the mini-golf ponds. Her post-graduation plans are to attend a four year collage.

Michaela Mahaney

Michaela Mahaney is the child Gina and Mike Mahney, and she was born on September 29th, 1991. Some of the things she likes about being at Homer is being close to everyone and knowing everyone. Her favorite lunch is chicken on a biscuit and her favorite class is math. Michael's favorite teacher is Mrs. Peitz, and she participates in volleyball, basketball, and track. Her most memorable moment at Homer is when her friends and she had 10 people on a Gater and she fell off and hit her head, and she had her eyes closed and said she couldn't see. Her college plans are to attend a four year college and her major is undecided. She possibly wants to be an elementary teacher.

Food Drive

The National Honor Society and Student Council would like to thank all of those who contributed to the Dakota County Food Bank food drive. Over 1000 cans of food were collected. Great Job!!!

Coats for Kids

The National Honor Society would like to thank those who donated their used coats. Over 40 coats were collected and given to the Coats for Kids Campaign. Super job!!!



All-District Football

Eight Homer football players earned All-District awards following the 2009 season. Daniel Perez, Kody Snyder, Joel Olerich and Colton Novak earned 1st Team All-District honors. Earning Honorable Mention All-District were Trenton Olson, Adam Skow, Anthony Strong and Colten Korthuis. Congratulations to the entire Knight Football Team for a season of hard work and improvement.

All-State Football

Homer Knights Football seniors Joel Olerich and Colton Novak were chosen by the *Lincoln Journal Star* for its Honorable Mention All-State Team for Class C2 for the 2009 football season.

Check out Homer Community School's new website at:

<http://homerweb.esu1.org>

- updated weekly calendar on the home page
- useful links
- scholarship information
- sports schedules/varsity scores
- monthly/yearly calendars
- lunch calendar
- downloadable newsletter

KNIGHTS

FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICE**Jan. 11**

Financial Aid meeting for senior parents, 7:00, SSC High School

Jan.13

Deadline for USD online academic scholarship application

Jan. 15

UNL deadline for activities resume for leadership and service scholarships

Red Letter Day at UNL

Briar Cliff Visit Day

UNL deadline to apply for admission and to be considered for general scholarships

Board of Trustees Scholarship deadline for WSC, Peru, Chadron

Jan. 18

Augustana College Visit Day

Jan. 22

Visit Day at SDSU

Jan. 29

Visit Day at WSC

Visit Day at SDSU

January begins the financial aid process for students planning to attend college in the fall. Students need to fill out and file their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form to qualify for federal financial aid.

The FAFSA is a free form available from the U.S. Department of Education. You can get it either online at www.fafsa.ed.gov or on paper by calling 800-4-FED-AID. You can also go to the FAFSA link on the school web site. Although students and parents can fill out the form without professional assistance, the forms may be confusing to some. Here are some tips:

Get PINs. Each student and at least one parent need to request a personal identification number (PIN) from www.pin.ed.gov **before** filling out the FAFSA. The PIN allows parents and students to sign the online form electronically and make changes later.

Time it right. The FAFSA should be filled out as soon after January 1 as possible and before the priority deadlines at schools to which the student is applying. Since students' and parents' most recent federal and state tax records are needed to fill out

the form, the timing can get tricky. If necessary (although not recommended), tax and income information can be estimated to file the FAFSA in a timely manner. The FAFSA will need to be updated once the taxes are filed.

Be prepared. Several pieces of information are needed for the student and the parent, including: Social Security numbers, dates of birth, and driver's license numbers. Most recent state and federal tax statements W-2 forms and records of all income Bank and investment statements Farm and business records using the FAFSA on the Web Worksheet from www.fafsa.gov helps families organize information and understand how to fill out the FAFSA.

File electronically. Filing electronically is quicker than completing a paper form, and you get your results back quicker.

Repeat once a year. The FAFSA needs to be filled out each year the student is in college.

Often colleges will help incoming freshmen students with their FAFSA. Call and check with the financial aid office to see what help is available. Education Quest is a good resource for financial aid help as well.

There will be a financial aid meeting for parents of seniors interested in applying for financial aid on January 11th at 7:00 at the South Sioux City High School library.

A financial aid representative from the Education Quest Foundation in Omaha will conduct the meeting. Homer and South Sioux City share the presenter, so the meeting is held there as South Sioux has more parents attend.

Driver's Education

By Mrs. Morgan

Homer Community School will be offering Driver's Ed again this year, and Mrs. Morgan will be teaching the class. The class will consist of classroom instruction, individual readings/assignments, tests, videos, guest speakers, driving

practice, and outside projects. Classes will begin Monday, May 24 – Friday, May 28. The class will run from 8:30 am until 12:30 pm. Mrs. Morgan will be setting up the driving schedule after the student has completed the 25 hour driving log. If there are any problems please see or call Mrs. Morgan right away. The cost of the class will be \$200. This needs to be turned into Mrs. Morgan or the office before May 14 (do not begin sending money until April).

"In-class" time will be a little over twenty hours and driving time will be five hours for each student. Driver's Ed should be taken by students who are sixteen or will be sixteen this coming year, or those students who will be driving on a school permit next fall. Taking Driver's Ed does not exclude students from taking the written and driving test to obtain a school permit. By attending and passing Driver's Ed, students will obtain their driver's license without taking the written and driving test at the courthouse. Please note that students **MUST** attend ALL classes. There will be **NO EXCEPTIONS!!!** ** This year, I am requiring each student to **LOG IN 25 HOURS BEFORE DRIVING WITH ME.** Please get a "log" sheet from Mrs. Morgan and begin recording as of November 20th (nothing before). The sooner the student completes their 25 hour log, the sooner they can begin driving. The student must drive with an adult 21 years old or older. Each student needs practice on gravel, highway, interstate, and city/business. Parents need to sign off on the log before turning it into Mrs. Morgan. If you have any questions, please call Mrs. Morgan at (402) 698-2377 ext. 120, at home (712)490-2819, or e-mail kschoenb@esu1.org.

2009 Central Catholic**Holiday Basketball Tournament**

Tuesday, December 29 & Wednesday, December 30, 2009 @ Central Catholic Activities Center, West Point, NE

Homer Community School's
KnightWriter

Staff:
Emily Montgomery
Kerra Snow
Briann Church
Advisor:
Mr. Schmitt

Admission: Adults \$5, Students \$3, **Conference passes will be accepted.**

Players, coaches and personnel arriving with the team will be allowed free admission.

Teams: Central Catholic, Bancroft-Rosalie, Homer and Lyons-Decatur
The Home Team will be indicated in the bracket.

**Tournament Schedule
(Home Team in Bold)
Tuesday, 29 December**

Girls Game One @ 2:00 PM

Homer vs. Bancroft-Rosalie

Boys Game One with Warm-Ups Immediately Following

Homer vs. Bancroft-Rosalie

Girls Game Two @ 5:30 PM

Central Catholic vs. Lyons-Decatur

Boys Game Two with Warm-Ups Immediately Following

Central Catholic vs. Lyons-Decatur

Wednesday, 30 December

Girls Consolation Game @ 10:00 AM

Loser of Game Two vs. Loser of Game One

Boys Consolation Game with Warm-Ups Immediately Following

Loser of Game Two vs. Loser of Game One

Girls Championship Game with Warm-Ups Immediately Following

Winner of Game Two vs. Winner of Game One

Boys Championship Game with Warm-Ups Immediately Following

Winner of Game Two vs. Winner of Game One

Knights' Boys BB Starts 2-1

The Homer Knights Boys Basketball team began its 2009-2010 season 2-1, earning victories over Allen and Lyons-Decatur.

The Knights opened the season at Winnebago, falling to the Indians 62-53. Sophomore Brandon Blackfish led the Knights with 19 points, including 5 three pointers. Senior Kody Snyder chipped in 9 for the Knights.

The Knights earned their first

victory of the season in game two with a 57-40 victory at Allen. Sophomore guard Joey Murphy paced the Knights with 14 points, followed closely by junior Anthony Strong's 13.

The Knights' faced Lyons-Decatur in the home opener, defeating the Cougars 53-50. Brandon Blackfish again led the Knights in scoring with 19, including 5 threes. Kody Snyder contributed 10 points, and Anthony Strong led the team in rebounding with 7.

January Birthdays!

1/3--Vanessa Polly
1/4--Melinda Schlueter, Marissa Prine
1/5--Trista Bodlak
1/5--Jesse Stowe
1/6--Laine Calvillo
1/7--Dannielle Rasmussen
1/8--Erika Eriksen, Michael Heinemann
1/9--Brooklyn Schmidt, Danielle Smith
1/10--Cody Phillips
1/11--Jonah Schmitt
1/12--Logan Schreier
1/13--Trenna Launsby
1/14--Sarah Kellogg, Miranda Gatz
1/15--Beri Deemer, Joshua Shadbolt
1/16--Hailey Robertson, Justin Meins, Dakota Schreier
1/19--Jessy Paulsen, Jalen Scott, Chet Bottorff
1/20--Allison Oldenburg, Garet Holloway
1/21--Colten Korthuis, Taylor Murphy
1/23--Dalton Gabel
1/25--Shaylee Jensen
1/26--Schuyler Mahaney
1/27--Jenna Raveling
1/28--Wyatt Tremayne
1/29--Chris Slavin
1/30--Clara Magdanz
1/31--Albert Stabler



Lady Knights Win

On December 3rd the Lady Knights basketball players went to Winnebago, winning 83-57. Cara Olerich led Homer with 29 points. Kayla Brewer chipped in

13 points. The JV ladies defeated the Indians 45-25. Karlie Dahl led the JV team with 20 points.

Lady Nights Defeat Allen

The Lady Knights traveled to Allen for a big win on December 11th, winning 74-28. Cara Olerich again led the team with 21 points, and Kelli Tighe contributed 17 points. The JV also had a great win with a final score of 57-22. Karlie Dahl totaled 19 points to lead the JV team to victory.

JV Tournaments

The Homer girls junior varsity basketball team participated in a tournament on December 5th, defeating Lyons-Decatur 52-10. On December 12th junior varsity girls played at Elk Point-Jefferson, winning 37-35. Kylie Anderson led them to the victory by scoring 10 points. On December 12th girl's JV also played Dakota Valley., dropping a close game 30-24.

Band News

By Mrs. Lounsbury

Congratulations to the following students for participating in the Lewis and Clark Conference Honor Band that takes place January 23 in at WSC: Courtney Nogelmeier, Austin Schmidt, Jamisen Kramper, Josh Statler, Gregg Gill, Trevin Launsby, Spencer Bottorff, Shawn McNamara, Mark Knudsen, Abigail Hall and Jessica Garcia.

The students volunteered to participate in the honor band and will audition for chair placement the morning of the event. Attendance by family and friends is highly encouraged.

On December 21st, the Homer High School band had the privilege of caroling at retirement homes in South Sioux City. Music ranged from *Deck the Halls*, *Angels We Have Heard on High* and *We Wish You a Merry Christmas*, and on the 22nd, the Homer Brass Ensemble had the opportunity to do the same at FNB and Knight Stop.

Congratulations to junior high students Baylie Andersen, Trenna Launsby and Kyla Reis, and to the high school students Mark Knudsen, Shawn McNamara, Josh Statler, Trevin Launsby, Courtney Nogelmeier and Abigail Hall for trying out for WSC Festival of Honor Bands. The festival takes place on January 30th with students rehearsing together all day and concluding with a concert that evening.