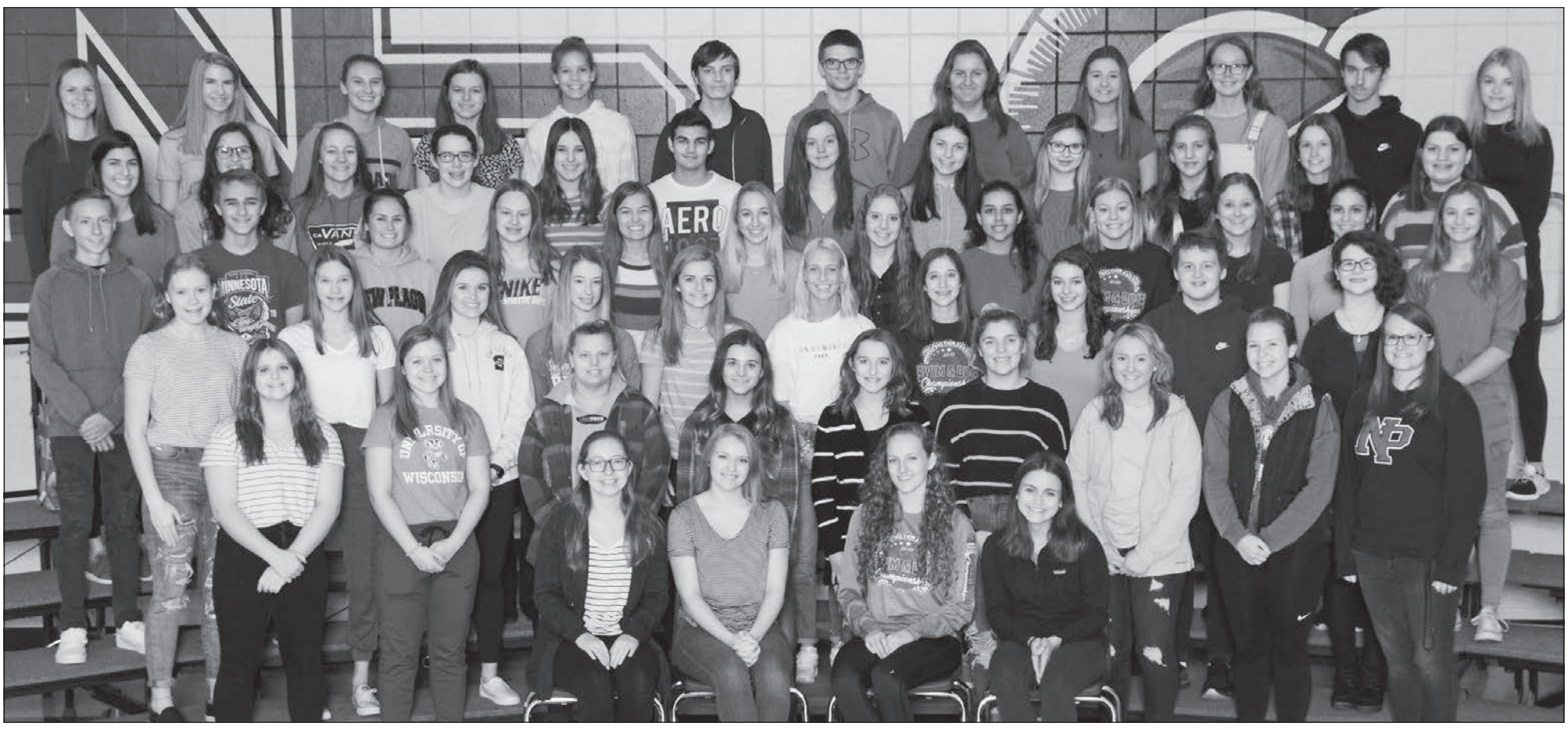
‘Once Upon a Mattress’ provided laughter and love

New Prague High School’s fall musical provided romance and laughter with the classic comedy “Once Upon a Mattress” a humorous take on “The Princess and the Pea.”

The heroine, Princess Winnifred, meets Prince Dauntless the Drab after swimming the moat. Plus her sleepless night isn’t caused by a pea at all. This musical was carried on a wave of wonderful songs, by turns hilarious and raucous, romantic and melodic. It was a rollicking spin on the familiar classic of royal courtship with a comeuppance that provided for some side-splitting shenanigans.

Performances were over two weekends at the high school auditorium. Shows were on Friday, Nov. 22, Saturday, Nov. 23, and Saturday, Nov. 30, plus two Sunday 2 p.m. matinees on Nov. 24 and Dec. 1.

Directing the musical was Ben Thietje. The cast included Becca Walsh as Princess Winnifred, Ian Hanson as Prince Dauntless, Erica Goulson as Queen Aggravain, Jeffrey Price as King Sextimus, Lindsay Bisek as Lady Larkin, Jacob Anderson as Sir Harry, Gabriel Juenemann as the Minstrel, Meg Schoenbauer as the Jester, Jonathan Lake as the Wizard, Carly Berglund as Princess No. 12, Jack McDonough as Sir Studley, Abbi Pexa as Lady Mabelle, Alison Kukacka as Nightingale of Smarkand, Maddie Dorner as Lady Rowena and Abby Jacobson as Lady Lucille. In the Ensemble are Micah Anderson, Abigail Bartusek, Mandi Becher, Emily Chaffee, Mikayla Den Hartog, Seth Dickerson, Sadona El-Wailli, Ashley Felmlee, Charley Furlong, Ava Hart, Ava Hauge, Maddilyn Holicky, Anika Honken, Keely Hrabe, Sophia Huebner, Sam Lancaster, Hailey Lane, Jacob Love, Henry Lundeen, Ava Lyons, Greta Madson, Jack McBroom, Sophia Midvedt, Ellie Morris, Elise Pahl, Amara Prochaska, Tynan Puhl, Ava Rivard, Becca Ryburn, Jessica Sadusky, Brooke Vandervoort and Nolan Widmer.



Student Council

Niki Johnson
Advisor

Student Council Activities: Assisting in t-shirt sales and money collection for Tackle Cancer, Food Drive, Feed My Starving Children, Toy Drive, Heart Week (fundraiser to sell carnations for Valentine's Day - all proceeds went to the American Heart Association), Blood Drive

Tackle Cancer: Through the sales of t-shirts and bracelets and collecting money at halftime during the Tackle Cancer football game, $4,083 was raised and donated to the Randy Shaver Cancer Fund. This was in collaboration with the football team.

Food Drive: At the beginning of November, Student Council hosted a Food Drive with all proceedings going to the Peace Center. This was a competition between all 2nd hour classes to see which class could raise the most food items per student. In total we collected 4,444 food items, which weighed out to be 2,322 pounds of food collected in one week. With our enrollment around 1315, that's about 3.38 food items or 1.77 pounds of food per student donated to our local community. Currently students are planning a socially distant Food Drive with the Peace Center for the week of May 11-15.

Feed My Starving Children: Student Council joined the National Honor Society to pack meals with Feed My Starving Children. Their hard work during their shift is feeding 246 kids for an entire year!

Toy Drive: A grade-level competition for students to donate toys and gifts for children through Santa Anonymous (Le Sueur County). Overall, a total of 259 items were donated to children and teens that would otherwise not receive any.

Heart Week: Carnations were sold and then delivered on Valentine's day. Student Council also collected money at halftime during the girl's basketball game that night. Combined Student Council raised $240 for the American Heart Association

Blood Drive: We partnered with the Red Cross and hosted our annual Blood Drive in February. 92 pints of blood was collected on this day, which results in saving approximately 270 lives!

The success of this year would not have been without the dedication, work ethic and passion these Student Council members have to help locally and globally and to build community within the school. The results of these different events and activities reminds me how when everybody contributes what they can to a common cause, no matter how much or how little, we can collectively make a huge impact in our community. It also reminds me of how our students will rise to the occasion and surpass expectations when they are invited to help and make a difference. These students put everything in what they do and I couldn't be more proud of these student leaders and to serve them as their Student Council Advisor.

Seniors - Class of 2020
Madelynn Anderson
Bayley Billmeyer
Emma Deichelbohrer
Audrey Everson
Amanda Giesen
Elsie Hatlevig
Maggie Jirik
Lauren Kitner
Lauren Kuehl
Morgan Larson
Ashlyn Osborne
Mitchel Pomije
Annah Scherrman
Megan Schoenbauer
Elyse Thoresen

Juniors - Class of 2021
Kasenia Bisek
Lindsay Bisek
Sophia Bruder
Jayden Burns
Cally Cheever
Heather Coughlin
Heidi Defor
Sidney Dickenson
Ella Ettlin
Sydney Hemann
Libby Hummel
Noel Miller
Ava Roufs
Greta Ryan
Megan Theis

Sophomores - Class of 2022
Cayley Brainerd
Abbey Carlson
Jordan Clay
Lucas Ferguson
Lauren Friendshuh
Lucy Helgestad
Heidi Jahn
Hailey Kadrlik
Madison Mayer
Katelyn Medina
Alexa Miller
Sarah Nelson
Libby Olson
Lydia Popple
Alix Queen
Dylan Raaen
Alexis Rueger
Jessica Sadusky
Audrey Seurer
Samantha Theis
Macy Tietz
Colleen Wells

Freshmen - Class of 2023
Evan Bible
Jackson Braith
Zoe Bruegger
Courtney French
Claire Holbach
Riley Huseby
Ian Kluegel
Madison Larson
Taylor Lindblom
Paige Marschall
Mia Monroe
Kaedyn Padelford
Payton Peterson
Anna Schellin
Selah Scherman

Student Council Executive Board for 2019-2020

President:
Megan Schoenbauer

Vice President:
Audrey Everson

Secretary:
Morgan Larson

Historian:
Elyse Thoresen

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- Sciatica
- Herniated disc (pinched nerve)
- Muscle and joint pain
- Arthritis/stiffness
- Carpal tunnel syndrome
- Myofascial pain
- Sprains and Strains
- Pregnancy related pain
- Scar tissue
- Exercise instruction (for strengthening and recovery)

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Speech Team

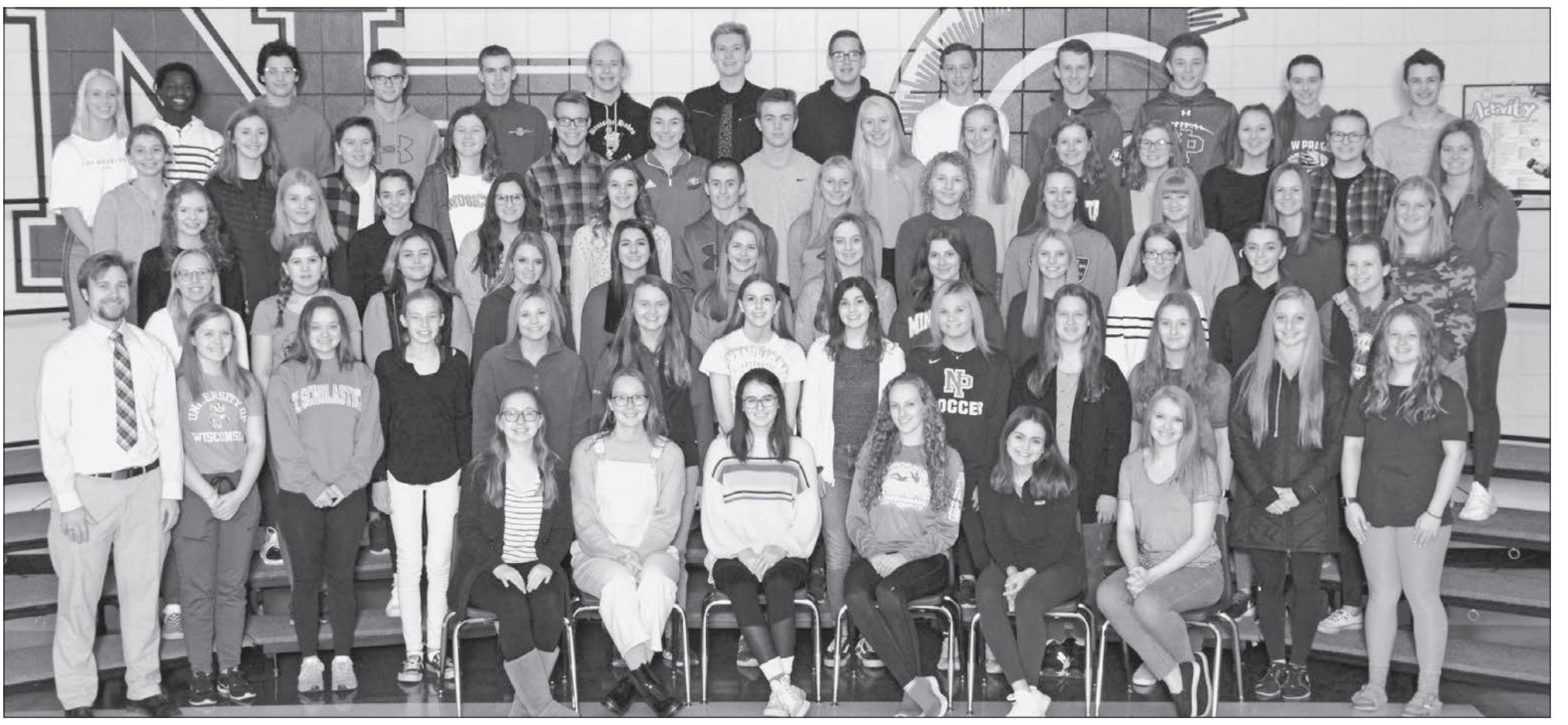
The New Prague Speech Team was fairly successful this year in many challenging tournaments throughout the season. At many of these tournaments, there were over 500 students competing in thirteen different categories. The team ended the year with twelve members, but many of these members placed or received honorable mention ribbons at tournaments and were recognized for their excellent performances. Students that placed or received honorable mention ribbons were: Mitchel Pomije (12), Ava Hart (12), Erica Goulson (12), Megan Sirek (12), Isabelle McDonald (10), Mara Duncan (10), and Mason Schmidt (9). For our last couple of tournaments, some middle school students also joined us: Taylor Peterson (8), Colton Gramley (8), and Andrew Cervenka (8).

New Prague hosted the Wright County Conference this year. At this tournament, several New Prague students placed including Mitchel Pomije (12), Erica Goulson (12), Isabelle McDonald (10), and Mara Duncan (10).

The final tournament for the New Prague Speech Team this year was at Shakopee High School on Saturday, March 7th. Unfortunately, the season ended before the section and state tournaments.

Members of the speech team are captain, Mitchel Pomije (12); captain, Megan Sirek (12); captain, Ava Hart (12); Erica Goulson (12); Grace Arrowood (12); Sofia Orsatto (11); Aaron Paul (11); Isabelle McDonald (10); Mara Duncan (10); Zoie Gilpin (10); Drew Holcomb (10); and Mason Schmidt (9).

The speech team is coached by Matthew Stensrud. This is his eleventh year coaching the team.



National Honor Society

The New Prague High School Chapter of the National Honor Society enjoyed a wide range of activities throughout the year, most of which were meant to give back to the community. This was Matthew Stensrud's seventh year as the advisor to NHS.

All members completed group and individual projects that included:

- Trick or Treating for the Peace Center
- Feed My Starving Children (with Scott Equipment)
- Adopt-A-Highway
- Judging the Science Fair
- Concession stand shifts at various high school events
- Adopted Heritage Park to help maintain/clean periodically
- Peace Center
- Assisting at various elementary schools.

This year the New Prague National Honor Society fundraised for the Hope House, and it was one of the organization's more successful fundraising years. NHS Members sold more poinsettias this year than in previous years. Also, the Tent /Cardboard Box City Event also brought in substantial donations and was an educational experience for those that participated. Honor society members raised approximately $2,700 to donate to this organization that specializes in providing shelter and resources for those experiencing homelessness.

Officers of the New Prague chapter of the National Honor Society are:

President - Ava Hart
Vice President - Lauren Kitner
Secretary - Audrey Everson
Treasurer - Elyse Thoresen
Historian - Steven Bowman
Hours Technician - Megan Schoenbauer
Web Wizard - Morgan Larson

Members are:

Danielle Anderson
Madelynn Anderson
Sarah Berg
Logan Bible
Logan Biren
Mindy Bolar
Steven Bowman
Jenna Clough
Abbey Colling
Madison Crawford
Emma Deichelbohrer
Emmalyn Dickerson
Maddie Dorner
Farrah Dresen
Audrey Everson
Emily Gatzmeyer
Amanda Giesen
Ava Hart
Elsie Hatlevig
Kianna Howard
Lauren Kitner
Abigail Knutson
Lana Krautkremer
Laura Krautkremer
Lauren Kuehl
Morgan Larson
Hannah Leverson
Morgan Lund
Lauren Moravchik
Kaidyn Mulvihill
Hannah Orr
Mitchel Pomije
Max Redfearn
Emily Russo
Rebecca Ryburn
Megan Schoenbauer
Christina Shimota
Marah Slavik
Danielle Solheid
Elyse Thoresen
Rebecca Walsh

NPHS Spring Play - 'The Nerd'

New Prague High School's cast and crew of "The Nerd" were preparing for its performances on Friday, March 27, and Saturday, March 28, at the high school auditorium and then found the show cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Since then director Ben Thietje has been looking into a "Plan B" for the spring play. They would have students perform via Google Meet, and then have that performance livestreamed on YouTube so that parents, families and friends could "attend." It was something he hoped would allow people to see at least some of the work the students had been putting in thus far -- and it would give the students some closure.

Unfortunately, the rights holders of "The Nerd" have still not been able to clear them for livestreaming the comedic play and with the end of the school year close things are looking slim.

The comedy is about Willum Cubbert, who is delighted to finally meet Rick Steadman, a fellow ex-GI whom Willum has never met, but who saved his life after he was seriously wounded in Vietnam. Willum's delight soon fades as it becomes apparent that Rick is a hopeless "nerd"—a bumbling oaf with no social sense, little intelligence and less tact. And Rick stays on and on, his continued presence among Willum and his friends leading to one uproarious incident after another.

The cast of "The Nerd" was Sam Elliott as Willum Cubbert, Becca Walsh as Tansy McGinnis, Carly Berglund as Alex Hammond, Dylan Vilt as Warnock Waldgrave, Sadie El-Wailli as Clelia Waldgrave, Amara Prochaska as Thora Waldgrave and Ian Hanson as Rick Steadman. Crew members were Micah Anderson, Emily Chaffee, Mikayla Den Hartog, Charley Furlong, Erica Goulson, Anika Honken, Alison Kukacka, Jonathan Lake, Tynan Puhl, Ava Rivard, Jessica Sadusky and Megan Schoenbauer.

Yearbook

Rachelle Balfe and Tenille Nelson
Advisors

Our book theme this year is Unlocking the Past. Due to COVID19 any senior that ordered a book will have it mailed to them while underclassmen will pick theirs up in the fall when we return.

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Band

Mark Diischer
NPHS Band Director

The New Prague High School Bands had a year of new activities, and great successes. New Prague became the host site of the Wright County Conference Honor Band and Choir event in 2020, which included hosting 200+ students from the Southern Minnesota Area. Dr. Cassandra Bechard from the University of Dubuque rehearsed students while directors from the WCC schools led masterclasses to help students improve on their instruments.

The annual Panorama Concert included guest artist Christopher Dickhaus, a prolific Minnesotan saxophonist. Mr. Dickhaus performed with the New Prague Wind Ensemble, featuring from the Riverdance Theatrical show. The Panorama Concert featured all the Bands in the New Prague Schools, but also included a percussion feature, led by the NPHS Wind Ensemble Percussionists.

This year featured some highlights in Honor Bands as well. Marah Slavik, trombone, was selected to be in one of the state's top ensembles - The All-State Bands. For the first time ever, two students (Janae Becher and Marah Slavik) were selected from New Prague to attend the University of Minnesota Twin Cities Honor Band. Students from New Prague continued to be selected for the University of Minnesota-Duluth Honor Band and the Gustavus Honor Band program.

Weather played a factor in this year's solo-ensemble competition, as the MSHSL cancelled the event due to a blizzard in late January. The event will take place next year, closer to spring time.

With the school year being moved to distance learning in the spring, students had the opportunity to meet with prominent Band directors from the area via a Google Meet Conference. This featured talks and meetings with Dr. Jake Wallace from South Dakota State University, Dr. James Patrick Miller from Gustavus Adolphus College, and Dr. Brian Hanegan from Augustana University.

For the end of the year, students submitted videos that will be featured on the Bands Facebook page that will include virtual music for the 2020 Graduation as well as Memorial Day! The Band year will conclude with the Senior Send-off and Awards video. Congratulations to all the high school band students on a great year, and a wonderful year of music-making!

Wind Ensemble
Flute
Hannah Orr
Allysa Bixler
Anna Scherman
Jasmine Schmitz
Abbey Colling
Maddie Fenner
Princess Rogers
Mitchell Pomije
Oboe
Parker Benes
Annika Honken
Clarinet
Rachel Drenckhahn
Megan Schoenbauer
Elizabeth Midvedt
Allyssa Tyson
Kateryn Brezina
Alycia Klegstad
Bassoon
Riley Holets
Alto Sax
Brynn Carlton
Billy Dopp
Madison Olson
Lydia Schmitz
Adam Pankow
Tenor Sax
Rebecca Meger
Bari Sax
Matt Gieson
Trumpet
Janae Becher
Carter Greff
Andrew Nerud
Noah Peick
Aaron Paul
Owen Wagner
Riley Pierce
Horn
Lydia Popple
Sydney Mancini
Ayush Kapeli
Trombone
Marah Slavik
Jack Thomas
Nick Schmidberger
Bass TBone
Drew Deitrich
Baritone
A.J Dressen
Tuba
Gavin Drill
Jordan Henkel
Michael Fish
Percussion
Grace Madson
Ava Phillipi
Brian Hennes
Evan Helvick
Jake Helvick
Jake Hertzog
Adam Brandt

Wright County Conference Honor Band
Janae Becher
Parker Benes
Rachel Drenckhahn
Jordan Henkel
Riley Holets
Grace Madson
Sydney Mancini
Marah Slavik
Rebecca Meger
Andrew Nerud
Ava Phillippi
Jack Thomas

Jazz I
Alto Sax
Byrnn Carlton
Lydia Schmitz
Billy Dopp
Tenor Sax
Rebecca Meger
Madi Olson
Bari Sax
Matt Gieson
Trumpets
Janae Becher
Carter Greff
Sydney Mancini
Andrew Nerud
Riley Huseby
Trombones
Marah Slavik
Lucas White
Drew Dietrich
Sam Elliot
Piano
Ava Phillippi
Bass
Jake Hertzog
Guitar
Aaron Paul
Drums
Evan Bible
Vibes/Aux.
Grace Madson

Jazz II
Alto Sax
Levi Portner
Jack Giles
Tenor Sax
Parker Benes (Bass Cl)
Mitchell Pomije
Flute
Abbey Colling
Princess Rogers
Kyleigh Grebner
Kaedyn Padelford
Trumpets
Riley Pierce
Tyler Nelson
Devin Lancaster
Aiden Henkel
Trombones
Jack Thomas
Luke Meger
Nick Schmidberger
Piano
Alex Dvorak
Bass
Michael Fish
Parker Benes
Guitar
Jayden Erickson
Drums
Alex Nelson
Anders Elliot

Symphonic Band
Flute
Simon Mathiowetz
Keely Hrabe
Kyleigh Grebner
Megan Sirek
Ella Hjorski
Clarinet
Aiden Wagner
Jayden Erickson
Anna Schellin
Logan Ehrhardt
Ben Hennes
Alto Sax
Levi Portner
Jack Giles
Tenor Sax
Izzy McDonald
Trumpet
Riley Huseby
Olivia Smith
Owen Lemke
Devon Lancaster
Tyler Nelson
Trombone
Hunter Pomije
Baritone
Vincent Meyer
Zoie Gilpin
Noah Stocker
Tuba
Joey Scott
Percussion
Dustin Anderson
Jaxon Short
Bella Peterson

Crimson Band
Flute
Lily Birkholz
Brooke Mastin
Natalie Boetler
Ali Foust
Kaedyn Padelford
Lea Sirek
Erin Wiener
Jordyn Berg
Gabriel Ellis
Oboe
Sophia Smith
Emily McCarthy
Clarinet
Maddy Boulanger
Ella Barsness
Sam Erlandsen
Paige Hawley
Alyssa Rodelwald
Selah Scherman
Bass Clarinet
Lliam Little
Alto Sax
Zoe Bruegger
Amanda Boyer
Tenor Sax
Holden Stano
Fredy Martinez-Mendez
Bari Sax
Brooklyn O'Donoghue
Ashlyn Shea
Trumpet
Mannie Gordon
Semaj Morris
Aidan Henkel
Courtney French
Lizzy Arrowood
Grace Fischer
Liam Roufs
Horn
Joey Little
Mandi Becher
Trombone
Alex Woodyard
Luke Meger
Luke White
Percussion
Abi Bartusek
Evan Bible
Alex Dvorak
Anders Elliot
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Alex Nelson
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Concert Choir

Choir

Nicole Thietje
NPHS Choir Director

Activities

All groups performed for Homecoming Pepfest.

All groups performed for the NPHS Winter Concerts.

Concert Choir performed for the Veteran's Day assembly, Snoball Pepfest, Silver Sneakers group at the Fitness Center, and for elementary students in December.

Treble Choir took part in the 9th Grade Choir Festival at Champlin Park High School.

Emotion had an overnight retreat and performed at Hastings High School's "Swingin' on the River" Show Choir Competition.

Successes and highlights

Emotion took 3rd place in Class A at Hastings High School's "Swingin' on the River" Show Choir Competition.

2 students were selected for the MMEA All-State Choirs.

7 students were selected to the Minnesota State ACDA 9th and 10th Grade Honor Choir.

6 students were selected the Central/North Central ACDA Regional Honor Choirs in Milwaukee, WI.

Belles Voix hosted the first annual "Belles Voix-giving" just before Thanksgiving and went Christmas caroling around NPHS in December.

Treble Choir and Belles Voix took part in a Big Sister/Little Sister program.

NPHS Choir and Band hosted the Wright County Conference Honor Band and Choir Festival.

Students in each group:
Belles Voix- 32
Concert Choir- 80
Treble Choir- 50
Trojan Choir- 35
Treblemakers- 14
BroReMigos- 14
Emotion- 56, plus 3 managers

Treble Choir

BroReMigos

Belle Voix

Treblemakers

Trojan Choir

Emotion

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Youth in Government

Youth in Government is an extracurricular activity which is student-run and where students model all branches of State Government with the Motto: "Democracy must be learned by each generation." We participate in a state-wide conference in January and usually in a Model United Nations conference in March. We have weekly meetings and work sessions every Monday throughout the year.

A Recap of the Youth in Government Conference

This year's Youth in Government (YIG) was another big success with the largest delegation New Prague has ever had with 56 participants, grades 8-12. We had 22 brand new faces to Youth in Government, and 34 experienced members return. The Conference was held January 9-12th, at the Minneapolis Hilton and State Capitol complex. New Prague held many leadership positions at the Conference. Ava Hart was elected last year to be this year's Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and presided over all the logistics of the Supreme Court. Hannah Orr was an appointed justice for the Supreme Court. Jack Baribeau had an appointed position on the YIG Radio station. Aiden Gaines was a Committee leader for the National Issues Forum, and Jake Helvick, Sullivan Hart and Ella Ettlin were committee chairs for House or Senate.

All students were well prepared with bills, proposals or court briefs. This year we had two local lawyers, Eric Brever and Michael Herrmann, volunteer their time to come talk through the issues of both cases our student lawyers were preparing for the Mock Court of Appeals. We celebrated some noteworthy successes. We won many of our oral arguments in the Courts. Proposals written and presented by Madi Richgels and CeCe Thoresen made it to the final round out of 100 proposals. Thoresen's was passed with a majority approval vote in the end. Sullivan Hart, Evan Helvick and Luke White all had bills passed by the House and Senate. Hart and Helvick had their bills signed by the student Governor, and while White's was vetoed, the veto was overridden. Our delegation is led by President and Vice President Aiden Gaines and Erica Goulson; they are supported by a steering committee of appointed student leaders who all have a passion for making positive changes to the program at a local and state level. The Youth in Government program is advised by teachers Jen Sayler and Greg Sayler, and parents Mark and Nicole Hvidsten. The second part of Youth in Government, Model United Nations Conference, has been cancelled due to Covid-19.

This year's Members include:

Liv Abdo
Jack Baribeau
Ryan Barrier
Abi Bartusek
Jordyn Berg
Stevie Bowman
Heather Coughlin
Henry Cox
Lilli Dickenson
Sidney Dickenson
Mara Duncan
Melissa Egan
Sam Elliot
Cale Emerson
Ella Ettlin
Lucas Ferguson
Michael Fish
Aiden Gaines
Erica Goulson
Ava Hart
Sully Hart
Ava Hauge
Evan Helvick
Jake Helvick
Ben Hennes
Preston Herrman
Jillian Hurt
Mikkal Hvidsten
Nathan Kittredge
Ian Kluegel
Grace Knutson
Sammy Krych
Adam Langfield
Rhys Lewis
James Lincoln
Caitlyn Luckow
Brooke Mastin
Dan McBroom
Jack McBroom
Alexis Nielsen
Hannah Orr
Ty Pauly
Madi Richgels
Jonathan Sayler
Anna Schellin
Mason Schmidt
Brayden Schultz
Lea Sirek
Kaitlyn Stoffel
John Taylor
CeCeThoresen
Sophia Tikalsky
Georgia Trygestad
Brooke Vandervoort
Luke White

STARS Tutors

The STARS Program stands for Students Teaching And Reaching Students. The program is offered to students who need help organizing their work, studying for tests, adjusting to the senior high atmosphere, or completing their homework. The tutors meet with students on an individual basis either before or after school. They may also meet during their study halls if it happens to work for both students. The students who become tutors volunteer for the program. They go through a set of training sessions early in the school year in order to be ready. Then they get placed on a list so when a student needing help contacts his or her counselor, the STARS tutor can be paired up with the student.

The program has been going on for many years and has become very valuable for a number of students. It has received positive feedback from the tutors and the students being tutored as well as their parents. In addition, the teachers also find it helpful knowing there are options for students who are struggling in their classes.

The tutors are: Larissa Anderson, Parker Benes, Bayley Billmeyer, Lindsay Bisek, Alyssa Bixler, Sophia Bruder, Isabella Bustamante, Mckenzie Dropik, Ella Ettlin, Audrey Everson, Mahri Halbmaier, Claire Holbach, Caleb Knudsen, Morgan Larson, Morgan Lund, Sydney Mancini, Aracelli Meyers, Emma Norstadt, Luke Oellrich, Hannah Orr, Sophia Orsatto, Drew Otteson, Ava Phillippi, Connor Pond, Lydia Schmitz, Anna Schoenbauer, Lexi Trachte.

GSA

Gay Straight Alliance/Genders & Sexualities Alliance

Lex Lammers
Advisor

The GSA club is a group that offers support to (LGBTQ) lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning students. Students can talk and learn about sexual orientation, gender identity, and social issues. Also, friends of LGBTQ youth join to show support and acceptance - to be an ALLY. GSA clubs are necessary to foster safe and affirming school environments. Clubs also help students feel more connected to their peers and school community.

The GSA group has participated in LGBTQ History Month and Diversity Days at the high school.

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NPHS students present one act play 'Silent Sky'

New Prague High School students performed the One Act Play "Silent Sky" by Lauren Gunderson. For the 20 students in the cast, ensemble and crew, this year's play was a departure from comedy to drama.

Director Ben Thietje selected the challenging show, because he felt it fit the group of student actors. Costume designers Angie Musil and Suzanne Walford provided the period clothing.

"Silent Sky" is based on the life of 19th-century astronomer Henrietta Leavitt. It explored how a woman, brimming with scientific curiosity and a determination to contribute to the understanding of the universe, came up against and changed others' ideas of what a woman's place is in society.

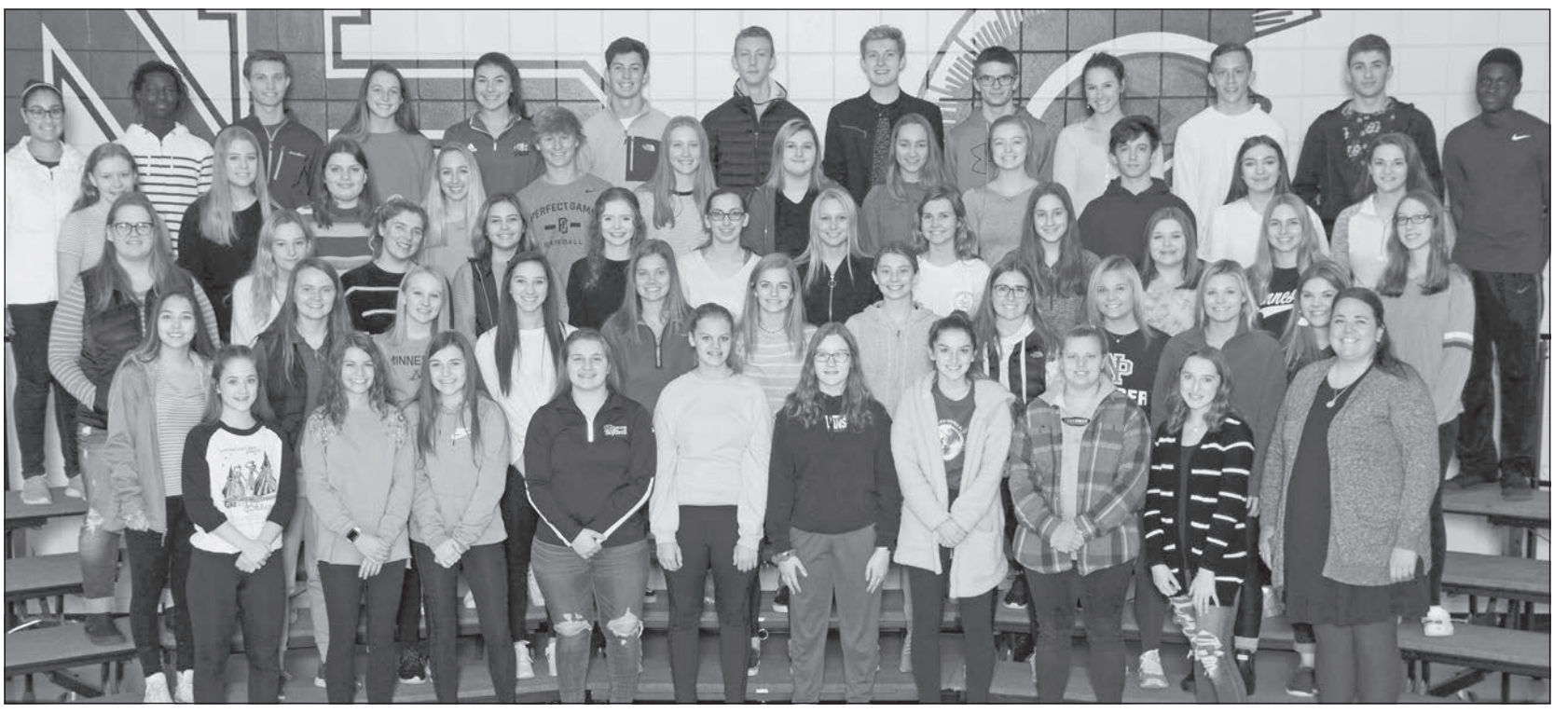
Audiences saw "Silent Sky" at a free public performance on Friday, Jan. 24, in the high school auditorium.

New Prague took first at the Sub-Section Performance at Hutchinson High School on Saturday, Jan. 25, then finished third at the Section Final Performance on Saturday, Feb. 1, at Shakopee High School. Prior Lake was first, advancing to state competition, while Minnetonka was second.

The cast of "Silent Sky" included Carly Berglund as Henrietta Leavitt, Alison Kukacka as Margaret Leavitt, Ian Hanson as Peter Shaw, Meg Schoenbauer as Annie Jump Cannon, Erica Goulson as Williamina Fleming; the ensemble of Mandi Becher, Maddie Dorner, Sadie El-Wailli, Ava Hart, Maddilyn Holicky, Greta Madson, Amara Prochaska, Nora Rosemeier, Jessica Sadusky, Becca Walsh and the stage crew of Micah Anderson, Ashley Felmlee, Gabriel Juenemann, Tynan Puhl and Dylan Vilt.

PROUD

PROUD - which stands for People Respecting Others and Understanding Differences had an eventful 2019-2020 school year. The last week of October was our annual PROUD Week celebration, with theme days, PROUD bingo. We went to Feed My Starving Children again in November, participated in the Polar Plunge for Special Olympics MN in February, and helped celebrate Spread the Word to End the Word Day in March. This year's group of seniors are dedicated and amazing individuals, and their presence will be greatly missed next year.



Faith Club

The New Prague High School faith club is a group of nondenominational Christians that meet twice a month to share in their faith. Meetings include games, messages, discussion, testimonials, and food! The group is entirely student-led and is a great place for students to be encouraged and share in the faith they value.

Trojan Times

Rachel Harmon
Advisor

The Trojan Times went completely online for the first time at the start of the 2019-2020 school year. With leadership from Senior Editors Hannah Orr and Mady Hansen as well as senior assistant editors Jason Wessel and Carly Berglund, the staff created a new online platform for news and discourse for the high school. The online platform made it possible for community members outside of the building to keep up on news and events at the high school. You can check it out at nphstrojantimes.org.

Additional writers and photographers included:

Kai Ahrens, 10
Julia Edwards, 11
Ella Ettlin, 11
Ava Hart, 12
Anika Honken, 11
Ayush Kapali, 11
Grace Knutson, 12
Adam Langfield, 11
Cole Logelin, 10
Kahim Perez, 11
Alyssa Tyson, 11
CeCe Thoreson, 12
Gabbie Perfetti, 12
Rachel Larson, 12
Lydia Popple, 10

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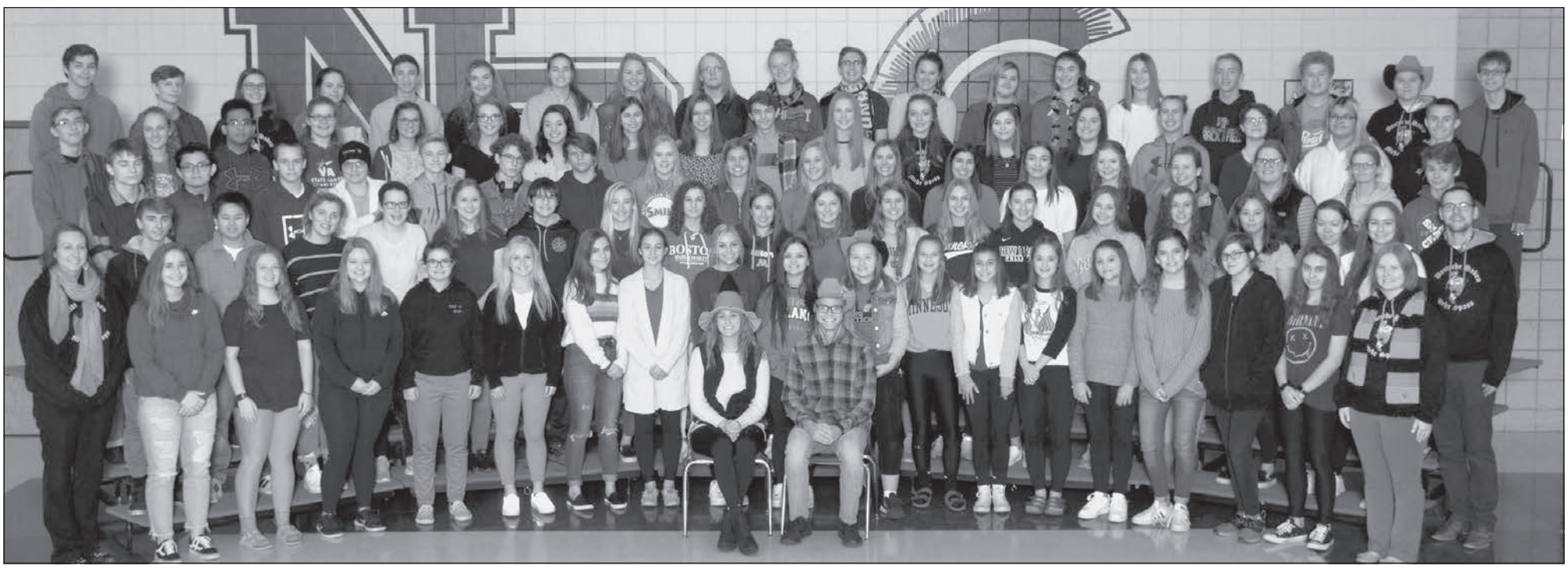

German Club

Frau Brittany Elsen, Herr Joshua Lacey and Frau Heather Vikla
Advisors

This year the German Club sampled some German cuisine at Gasthof Zur Gemutlichkeit in Minneapolis. We also hosted a soccer game in October as well as a movie night at the high school. We participated in a bowling tournament in January and spent a day in an Escape Room and at the Global Market! Club members sold advent calendars in November to help defray some of the activity costs.

There are 130 members in the German Club. The purpose of the club is to bring students together who share a common interest in speaking German and experiencing the cultures of German-speaking countries. Officers for this year are: Lauren Moravchik (President), John Taylor (Vice-President), Megan Schoenbauer (Secretary) and Julia Schoenecker (Treasurer).

Robotics Team

Daniel Cross
Advisor

This was an exciting and successful year for the New Prague Robotics Team.

Last fall, for the first time, the team participated in two off-season competitions: the Minnesota Robotics Invitational in Roseville where we placed 13th out of 33 teams and the Minne Mini Regional in Prior Lake where we were 18th out of 36 teams and were awarded the Team Spirit award.

The team also attended the JumpStart event in December at St. Cloud State University. This is a full day packed with training classes for robotics teams.

The first Saturday in January was the Kick-off for the new season when the new game and challenge was revealed. The game called Infinite Recharge involved picking up balls on one end of the field and delivering them to a target on the other end. The end of the game required the robot to grab onto a movable bar that was upto 6' high and then lift itself off the floor. The team had six weeks to design, build and program the robot.

The plan was to attend two regional competitions this year. The Northern Lights Regional was held in Duluth the first week of March. This was the first time the team attended an out of town competition. The team placed 12th out of 59 teams, the highest level achieved in the history of the team. The team learned a number of things and began working on improvements to the robot for the second competition.

The second planned competition, the North Star Regional to be held at the U of M, was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

2019-2020 Robotics Team. Left to Right: Brian Jahn: Volunteer Mentor, Stephen Whipple, Steven Bowman, Gabriel deBernardeaux, Max Redfearn: Captain, Lucas Ferguson, Dan Cross: Advisor, Grace Madson, Jeffrey Price, Jack Gilles, Gabriel Ellis, Garrison Carmichael, Luke Oellrich, Simon Mathiowetz, Tyler Jahn, Ava Phillippi, T.J. Pexa, Aurora Seger, Ayush Kapali, Lydia Schmitz, Troy Whipple: Volunteer Mentor. Not Pictured: Anders Elliott, Owen Lemke, Sydney Mancini