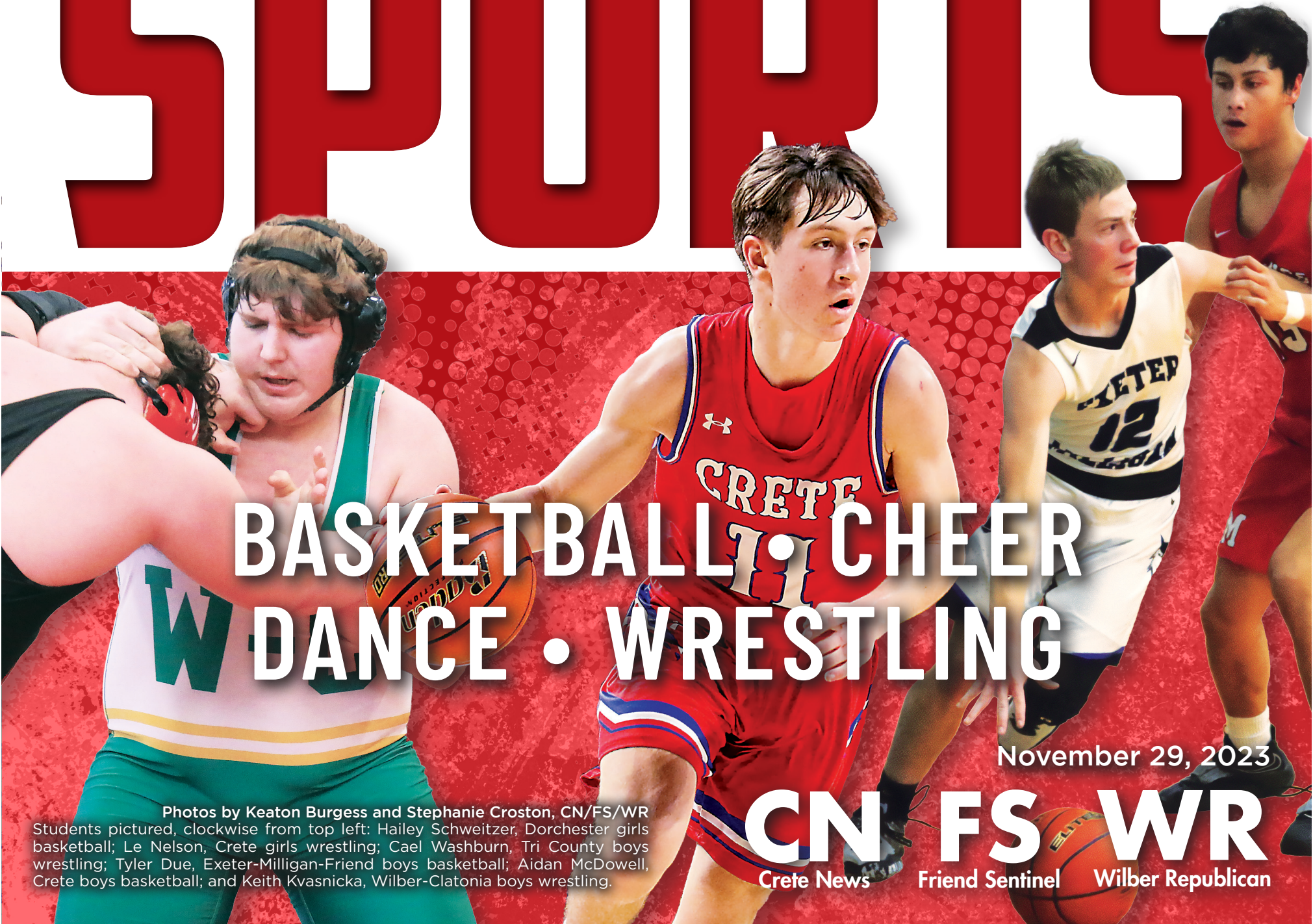


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November 29, 2023

CN FS WR
Crete News Friend Sentinel Wilber Republican

Photos by Keaton Burgess and Stephanie Croston, CN/FS/WR
Students pictured, clockwise from top left: Hailey Schweitzer, Dorchester girls basketball; Le Nelson, Crete girls wrestling; Cael Washburn, Tri County boys wrestling; Tyler Due, Exeter-Milligan-Friend boys basketball; Aidan McDowell, Crete boys basketball; and Keith Kvasnicka, Wilber-Clatonia boys wrestling.

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Pictured are the members of the Crete boys' basketball team, from left, (front row) Reece Vertin, Trace Egge, Aidan McDowell, Kenner Svitak, Ben Ehlers, and Lane Wendelin; (second row) Justus Gardiner, Everett Heath, Colton Fey, Toryn Siske, Brody Klein, Carson Kotil, Kenson Spence, and Corbin Coe; (third row) Logan Bessler, Nick Watt, Alexis Mora, Tenyson Siske, Paxton Stone, Carter Rezny, Maddox Henderson, and Henry James; and (back row) Isaiah Crist, Lester Barrientos, Brigham Moser, Carter Benes, Peyton Steuer, Brooks Piening and Dan Underwood.

CRETE BASKETBALL			
Nov 30	vs Ralston	6:15/8 p.m.	
Dec 1	at Bennington	5:30/7:15 p.m.	
Dec 7	vs Beatrice	6:15/8 p.m.	
Dec 8	at Grand Island Northwest	5:30/7:15 p.m.	
Dec 15	vs Fairbury	6:15/8 p.m.	
Dec 16	at Lincoln Northwest	5:45/7:15 p.m.	
Dec 19	vs Waverly	6:15/8 p.m.	
Dec 28-29	Doane Holiday Tour.	TBA	
Jan 5	at Gering	6:30/8 p.m.	
Jan 6	at Scottsbluff	12:30/2 p.m.	
Jan 12	at York	6/7:30 p.m.	
Jan 16	at Seward	6/7:30 p.m.	
Jan 18	at Blair	5:30/7:15 p.m.	
Jan 20	vs Elkhorn	2:45/4:30 p.m.	
Jan 22-27	at Central Conference (girls)	TBA	
Jan 23-27	at Central Conference (boys)	TBA	
Feb 1	vs Wahoo	6:15/8 p.m.	
Feb 8	at Aurora	6:15/7:30 p.m.	
Feb 10	Ogallala (boys)	1:20 p.m.	
Feb 10	at Grand Island (girls)	TBD	
Feb 16	vs Platteview (boys)	8 p.m.	

Crete Boys Basketball

Coach's name: Tony Siske

Years coaching: Fourth season, 23rd overall

Assistant coaches: Todd Taravella, Mark Sand, Max Hayes

Last season's record: 19-7, state semifinals, conference champs

Seniors on this year's team: Aidan McDowell, Kenner Svitak,

Ben Ehlers, Lane Wendelin, Theo Bohling, Reece Vertin, Trace Egge

Returning letter winners: All seniors plus Justus Gardiner, Corbin Coe, Everett Heath, Carson Kotil, Toryn Siske, Kenson Spence

Season outlook: Return three starters and four others with significant varsity experience. Some of these players have been playing varsity for the last three years. Practices have been very competitive as there are multiple players competing for

spots at each position. Depth and versatility should be strengths for this team. Multiple players can play

multiple positions. The goal will be to be playing our best basketball during postseason play.

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Pictured are the members of the Crete girls' basketball team, from left, (front row) Lauren Maly, Anna Hohlen, Marin Rasgorshek, Amelia Hohlen, and Ansley Kuntz; (middle row) Evannie Sand, Lesli Kratochvil, Ady Ziemann, Sierra Crist, Jordyn Adam, and Trinity McMillan; and (back row) Catarina Nicolas, Kimberli Magana, Cairyss Kirkpatrick, Kynleigh Draeger, Camry Draeger, Lidia Perez, Isabel Linares and Wendy Perez.

KEATON BURGESS

Crete Girls Basketball

Coach's name: Britt Ehlers

Years coaching: Fourth

Assistant coaches: Michael Trausch (JV coach), Annie Gardiner (Reserve coach), J.L. Vertin, Emerson Crist, Brooke Deisley

Last season's record: 6-15

Seniors on this year's team: Amelia Hohlen, Anna Hohlen, Ansley Kuntz, Lauren Maly, Marin Rasgorshek

Returning letter winners: Jordyn Adam, Sierra Crist, Camry Draeger, Lesli Kratochvil, Ansley Kuntz, Lauren Maly, Trinity McMillan, Marin Rasgorshek, Ady Ziemann

Season outlook: We should be improved

this year and in a position to compete in nearly all of our games. We return 9 letterwinners and add senior transfers Amelia and Anna Hohlen, which gives us 11 players who will be competing for playing time.

Strengths of this year's team: Strong senior class; depth; second year of familiarity with our coaching staff.

Holes to fill from last season: Outside shooting from Mack Steuer who graduated; need to improve our overall offensive and defensive abilities

Anything else: We had a good summer of basketball with participation from all of our players who are playing this season. Marin Rasgorshek will provide us with a strong presence in the post, and our depth at guard should allow us to be diverse in what we run.

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Pictured are the members of the Crete boys’ wrestling team, from left, (front row) William Bautista, Fernando Lucas, Jordy Alvarez, Jamie Ramos, Martin Ortiz, Emmanuel Valdovinos, Cesar Linares, Wyatt Clarke, Jeffrey Kunc1, Hollis Anderson, and Joshuan Linares; (second row) Zack Connell, Gabriel Manjarrez, Ashton Sundling, David Miranda, Marrvin Rafael, Ricardo Vicente-Vasquez, Roger Ramos, Julian Mendez, Ranger Dwehus, and Hunter Ross; (third row) Alex Segora, Greger Slevin, Benji Espinoza, Lyle Van Horn, Anthony Nelson, Jackson Stelin, Guillermo Guiza, Brandon Filipi, Alex Bevnabe Tercero, and Bryan Le; and (back row) Liam Clarke, Juan Lucas Tercero, Coleman Slater, Jace Peschong, Christopher Eberhardt and Liam Boldt.

Crete Boys Wrestling

Coach’s name: Aaron Wagoner

Years coaching: sixth year as head coach

Assistant coaches: Casey Carriker

Seniors on this year’s team: Jordy Alvarez-Morales, Hollis Anderson, Jayden Boyle, Wyatt Clarke, Lesnier Gomez, Jeffrey Kunc1, Fernando Lucas Garcia, Matin Ortiz, Jamie Ramos, Emmanuel Valdovinos, Juan Miguel Jacinto, Cesar Linares

Returning letter winners: Clarke, Ramos, Gomez, Linares, Kunc1, Valdovinos, Anderson, Roger Ramos, Ashton Sundling, Ricardo Vicente, Trinidad Sanchez

Incoming athletes to watch: Lyle Van Horn

Strengths of this year’s team: Senior Leadership, numbers of athletes, return 5 of 6 state qualifiers from 2022.

Holes to fill from last season: We need to fill some holes in our upper weights and make sure we can get some guys spread out among weight classes.

KEATON BURGESS

CRETE BOYS’ WRESTLING

Nov	30	at Schuyler Dual	6:30 p.m.
Dec	2	at Cozad Invite	9:30 a.m.
Dec	5	at Lincoln High Dual	TBD
Dec	9	host invite	9 a.m.
Dec	12	vs. Beatrice Dual	6:30 p.m.
Dec	15	at Ralston Invite	4:30 p.m.
Dec	22	host triangular	5 p.m.
Dec	30	at Shelby-Rising Invite	9 a.m.
Jan	6	at Beatrice Invite	10 a.m.
Jan	11	at Yutan Invite	4 p.m.
Jan	13	at Nebraska City Dual Tour.	TBD
Jan	18	vs Norris Dual	6:30 p.m.
Jan	19	at David City Invite	9:30 a.m.
Jan	25	at Wilber-Clatonia tri	TBD
Jan	27	at Central Conference (York)	9:30 a.m.



Pictured are the members of the Crete girls’ wrestling team, from left, (front row) Grace Nimely, Aileen Rueda, Ashaya Steele, Le Nelson, Alicia Lopez Alvis, Stephanie DonJuan Mendoza, Dina Mejia-Vasquez, and Alexa Ramirez; (second row) Ruby Van Horn, Jordan Parde, Addison Woods, Alice Nolan, and Trinity Williamson; (third row) Genesis Garay-Carpio, Adriana Gomez, Jennifer Cervantes Mendoza, Kelsey Talkington, Joycelyn Castillo, Odalys Garcia, Angie Ruedas Aviles, Stacy More Ramirez, Yedi Zambrano Olivares, and Juana Lucas-Velaquez; and (back row) Eimy Rueda, Alondra Munoz, Rachael Penate, Candelaria Vargas, Elena Olague and Diana Tercero.

KEATON BURGESS

CRETE GIRLS’ WRESTLING

Nov	30	at Schuyler Dual	6:30 p.m.
Dec	1	at York Invite	2:30 p.m.
Dec	5	at Lincoln High Dual	TBD
Dec	7	at Lakeview, Wahoo	6 p.m.
Dec	9	host invite	9 a.m.
Dec	12	vs. Beatrice Dual	6:30 p.m.
Dec	14	at Fairbury Invite	4 p.m.
Dec	16	at Platteview Invite	10 a.m.
Dec	29	at North Platte Invite	11 a.m.
Jan	5	at Beatrice Invite	10 a.m.
Jan	9	at Nebraska City	6 p.m.
Jan	12	at Schuyler	9:30 a.m.
Jan	13	at Nebraska City Dual Tour.	TBD
Jan	19	at Louisville Invite	2:30 p.m.
Jan	26	at York Invite	2:30 p.m.
Jan	27	at Central Conference (York)	9:30 a.m.

Crete Girls Wrestling

Coach’s name: Jeff Steele

Years coaching: second

Assistant coaches: Yesenia Ramos Sandival

Seniors on this year’s team: Ashaya Steele, Stephanie DonJuan Mendoza, Alexa Ramirez, Aileen Rueda Amador, Dina Mejia Vasquez, Alicia Lopez Alvis, Le Nelson, and new comer Grace Nimely

Incoming athletes to watch: Six returning state qualifiers. Five seniors: Stephanie DonJuan Mendoza, Alexa Ramirez, Aileen Rueda Amador, Dina Mejia Vasquez, Alicia Lopez Alvis, Le Nelson and one junior Trinity Williamson

Strengths of this year’s team: We have increased our numbers from 20 last season to 30

athletes this season. The increase will definitely create more competition in the wrestle room.

Anything else to know: Crete High will be hosting girls subdistricts this season. Subdistricts is something new this season. Each of the four districts is split into 2 subdistricts and only the top 4 from each subdistrict will move on to wrestle in an 8 person bracket at districts.

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Pictured are the members of the Dorchester girls’ basketball team, from left: (front row) Quinn Kasl, Kayli Carey, Madison Theis, Amber Kotas, Addison Lehr, and Hailey Schweitzer; (middle row) Gabrielle Theis, Baylor Behrens, Atley Zoubek, and Bailey Theis; and (back row) Livia Schweitzer, Lily Lehr, Savannah June, Micaela Loarca and Jace Gager.

KEATON BURGESS

DORCHESTER BASKETBALL			
Nov	30	vs Deshler	7:30 p.m.
Dec	1	at Meridian	7:30 p.m.
Dec	5	vs High Plains	7:30 p.m.
Dec	8	vs BDS	7:30 p.m.
Dec	12	vs Harvard	7:30 p.m.
Dec	14	at Osceola	7:30 p.m.
Dec	19	vs Cedar Bluffs	7:30 p.m.
Dec	21	at Heartland Lutheran	7:30 p.m.
Dec	28	at Lewiston	7:30 p.m.
Jan	4	at Sterling	7:30 p.m.
Jan	6	vs College View Academy	8 p.m.
Jan	11	vs East Butler	7:30 p.m.
Jan	12	vs Giltner	7:30 p.m.
Jan	16	at Cross County	7:30 p.m.
Jan	18	vs Shelby-Rising City	7:30 p.m.
Jan	20-26	at CRC	TBD
Jan	30	at CVA	7 p.m.
Feb	1	vs Nebraska Lutheran	7:30 p.m.
Feb	6	vs Hampton (girls only)	5:30 p.m.
Feb	9	vs McCool Junction	7:30 p.m.
Feb	16	vs Hampton (boys only)	5:30 p.m.

Dorchester Girls Basketball

Coach’s name: Brandon Bruha

Years coaching: 10

Assistant coaches: Brent Zoubek

Last season’s record: 12-10

Seniors on this year’s team: Quinn Kasl, Hailey Schweitzer, Kayli Carey, Madison Theis, Addison Lehr, Amber Kotas.

Returning letter winners: Quinn Kasl, Hailey Schweitzer,

Kayli Carey, Madison Theis, Addison Lehr, Amber Kotas, Gabrielle Theis, Baylor Behrens, Atley Zoubek, Bailey Theis.

Team captains: Hailey Schweitzer and Baylor Behrens

Season outlook: We are looking to have a competitive season. Our schedule to start the season is tough, but we bring everyone back from a year ago and with our experience we hope we can grind out some wins early. If we can stay healthy, I think we can reach our goals for what we want to accomplish this season.

Strengths of this year’s team: Experience and Depth.



Pictured are the members of the Dorchester boys’ basketball team, from left: Andy Drake, Owen Real, Owen Vyhnalek, Chase Tachovsky, Mason June and Frank Matejka.

KEATON BURGESS

Dorchester Boys Basketball

Coach’s name: Corey Bird

Years coaching: second year

Assistant coaches: Brandon Sullivan

Last season’s record: 1-20

Seniors on this year’s team: Owen Real, Andy Drake

Returning letter winners: Real, Drake, Chase Tachovsky, Owen Vyhnalek

Incoming athletes to watch: Frank Matejka, Mason June

Team captains: Andy Drake, Owen Real, Owen Vyhnalek

Season outlook: Continue our development as a unit. Our team will work hard to win

games and improve each day in practice.

Strengths of this year’s team: Players have been around each other for several years, and have improved their skills mightily from years prior. We have a better ability to handle the ball and push in

transition.

Holes to fill from last season: Outside shooting, overall players are in new roles and will have to adjust to different assignments.

Teams to watch in conference/district: Osceola, McCool Junction, BDS

Good Luck Longhorns!



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Pictured are the members of the Dorchester girls' and boys' wrestling teams, from left: (front row) Mitza Real Cruz and Briana Tellez; (middle row) Aylynn Schwisow, Emilia Perez, Stephanie Koirinek, Isabella Cornejo, Ariana Tellez, and Boone Smith (student manager); and (back row) William Paiz, Adrian Alcaide, Jacob Hatfield and Marcos Borrego

Dorchester Wrestling

Coach's name: Chris Nelson & Jeff Schoepf

Years coaching: 6

Seniors on this year's team: Jacob Hatfield, Marcos Borrego, William Paiz, Stephanie Korinek, Mitzu Real

Returning letter

winners: Jacob Hatfield, Marcos Borrego, Stephanie Korinek, Isabella Cornejo, Adrian Alcaide

Season outlook: Lots of new wrestlers and a few hopeful returning wrestlers

Strengths of this year's team: more numbers

Holes to fill from last season: more weight classes filled

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DORCHESTER WRESTLING				
Dec 1	at West Point Beemer (girls)	2 p.m.		
Dec 2	at EMF (boys)	9 a.m.		
Dec 9	at Osceola (boys)	9 a.m.		
Dec 9	at Crete (girls)	9 a.m.		
Dec 15	at Wahoo (girls)	4 p.m.		
Dec 16	at Johnson County Central	9:30 a.m.		
Jan 6	at Malcolm	9 a.m.		
Jan 13	at Cross County (boys)	10 a.m.		
Jan 13	at Nebraska City (girls)	10 a.m.		
Jan 19	at Thayer Central	2 p.m.		
Jan 26	at Freeman (boys)	3 p.m.		
Jan 26	at Raymond Central (girls)	4 p.m.		
Jan 27	at Doniphan-Trumbull	9:30 a.m.		
Feb 1	CRC invite at East Butler	4 p.m.		

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AMY HAUSMAN

Pictured are the members of the EMF girls' basketball team, from left, (front row): Malorie Staskal, Avery Tuttle, Reagan Bartley, Aniston Meints, Taylin Schluter, Keila Ricenbaw and Savana Krupicka; Second row (left to right): Sydney Engert, Lily Jeffries, Abbie Milton, Sophie Weber, Kierra papik, Alexis Paulsen, Babe Weber and Cheyenne Krupicka; Back row (left to right): Kiley Oldenhoeft, Abby Klooz, Brooklym Oldehoeft, kaylynn Harding, Ella Archer, Gracie Vyhnalek, Dylen Collier and Malorie Lawver.

EMF Girls' Basketball

Coach's name: Sara Pella

Years coaching: nine as assistant, first as head coach

Assistant coaches: Allison Meints & Preston Meints

Last season's record: EM: 5-19, Friend 3-21

Seniors on this year's team: Savana Krupicka, Malorie Staskal

Returning letter winners: Savana Krupicka, Malorie Staskal, Keila Ricenbaw, Abbie Milton, Taylin Schluter, Reagan Bartley, Ella Archer, Babe Weber, Dylen Collier, Kiely Oldehoeft, Kierra Papik, Lily Jeffries

Incoming athletes to watch: Anis-

ton Meints, Avery Tuttle, Sophie Weber

Team captains: TBD

Strengths of this year's team: We will return majority of our scoring from last year. We will also have more depth on the bench this season, which will allow us more flexibility in our rotation.

Holes to fill from last season: Exeter-Milligan graduated three girls. All of which played a huge role. Jasmine Turrubiates was a top rebounder, Jozie Kanode was a quick defender that could shoot from the outside and Liv Swanson was tough in the post. Friend graduated point guard and leader Shelby Lawver, filling that point guard spot will be a priority this year.

Teams to watch in conference/district: Our district and conference will both be tough. Pioneer Conference always has solid competition.

EMF basketball

Nov. 30	at Lewiston	6/7:30p
Dec. 1	at Osceola	6:15/8p
Dec. 5	at Sterling	6:15/8p
Dec. 7	vs Cross County (G)	7:30p
Dec. 8	at Falls City Sacred Heart	6/7:30p
Dec. 14	vs Nebraska Lutheran	6/7:30p
Dec. 15	vs Lawrence-Nelson	6/7:30p
Dec. 19	vs East Butler	6/7:30p
Dec.28-29	at holiday tournament	TBA
Jan. 2	vs Tri County	6/7:30p
Jan. 4	at Southern	6:15/8p
Jan. 8-13	at MUDECAS, Beatrice	TBA
Jan. 16	vs Thayer Central	6/7:30p
Jan. 19	at Johnson-Brock	6:15/8p
Jan. 25	at Heartland	6/7:30p
Jan. 29-Feb. 3	at Pioneer Conference	TBA
Feb. 6	vs McCool Junction	6/7:30p
Feb. 9	vs Diller-Odell	6/7:30p
Feb. 12-13	at Subdistrict D1-2 (G), TBA	TBA
Feb. 16	at Cross County (B)	7p

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Due to EMF qualifying for the Class D1 state football championship, the boys basketball and boys wrestling photos will be in a future edition of the Friend Sentinel.

Good Luck Bobcats!

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Pictured are the members of the EMF girls' wrestling team, from left: Halona Wootton, Kyler Sladek and Divinity Smith.

EMF Girls Wrestling

Coach's name: Nathan Baber

School and sport: EMF Wrestling

Years coaching: 5

Assistant coach: Jesse Duba

Seniors on this year's team: Mason Semler

Returning letter winners: Dayton Kremer and Mason Semler

Strengths on this year's team: We are bringing back experienced wrestlers looking to take that next step towards state. We had some wrestlers who were close.

Holes to fill from last

year: We did not lose anyone from last year so there are no holes to fill.

Teams to watch in conference/district: We have moved into class C this year so we will be facing some new teams in districts.

Girls' team: Having a girls' team this year has not changed practices very much. Looking at their schedule there are tournaments that run both boys' and girls' divisions along with three other separate tournaments. Right now, we have three wrestlers with one being a return wrestler, Kyler Sladek.

EMF wrestling

Dec. 2	host Bob Arehart Memorial	9a
Dec. 9	at Bob Oliver Invite, Meridian	9a
Dec. 16	at Thunderbird Invite, Tecumseh (B)	9:30a
Dec. 19	at Sutton Invite (B)	2:30p
Dec. 29	at Shelby-Rising City Invite (B)	9a
Jan. 6	at Franklin Invite	9a
Jan. 13	at Cross County Invite (B)	10a
Jan. 19	at Thayer Central Invite	2:30p
Jan. 20	at Centennial Invite (G)	9a
Jan. 26	at Freeman Invite (B)	3p
Feb. 1	at East Butler Invite (B)	4p

EMF Boys Basketball

Coach's name: Brian Arp

School and sport: Exeter-Milligan/ Friend (EMF) boys' basketball

Years coaching: I am starting my 11th year as head coach

Last year's record: 17-9 (Friend), 11-14 (Exeter- Milligan)

Assistant coaches: Travis Kotas, Nathan Derr, Dalton Zelenka

Seniors on this year's team: Breckan Schluter, Spencer Eberspacher, Tyler Due, Draven Payne, Andrew Vavra, Jacob Weber, Preston Knollenberg

Returning letter winners: Breckan Schluter, Spencer Eberspacher, Mason Vossler, Jacob Klooz, Will Vyhnaelek, Christian Conley, Zach Vossler, Chase Paulsen, Draven Payne, Tyler Due, Brett Kallhoff, Carter Milton, Aiden Vavra, Andrew Vavra

Strengths on this year's team: We will be really deep with lots of experience. We will be very athletic within our guards.

Holes to fill from last year: We will miss having the two big guys.

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STEPHANIE CROSTON

The 2023-24 Tri County boys' basketball team includes, from left: (first row) Tayden Gronemeyer, Caden Bales, Dusty Kapke and Jonah Schwab; (second row) Sammy Holsing, Drew Siems, Trevor Pearson, Henry Kapke and Garrett Smidt; and (third row) Zac Strein, Ethan Jobman and Jason Wehrman. Braiden Strouf, Cameron Reynolds and Jayden Thompsen are not pictured.

Tri County Boys Basketball

Coach: Jeremy Siems

Years coaching: Fifth year as head coach.

Last Seasons' Record: 24-6

Assistant coach: Reece Henerberg

Seniors: Caden Bales, Cameron Reynolds, Braiden Strouf, Tayden Gronemeyer, Dustin Kapke, Jonah Schwab

Returning Letter Winners: Caden Bales, Cameron Reynolds, Braiden Strouf, Tayden Gronemeyer, Dustin Kapke

Strengths: We have much experience returning from last season. I am hopeful that these seniors will play with a lot of confidence and build on what we accomplished last season.

Holes: We graduated our leading assist, rebounder and scorer from last season.

Teams to watch: I would assume that Johnson-Brock will be the favorite to win the conference since they return everyone but one senior from last year.

Tri County Girls Basketball

Coach: Koner Hogue

School and sport: Tri County Trojans girls' basketball

Years coaching: Second year coaching and second year at Tri County High School.

Last year's record: 4-20

Assistant coach: Karlee Haecker.

Seniors: Ella Clark, Ellie Peters, Reagan Schwisow, McKenzie Smith

Returning letter winners: Aubrey Siems, Ella Clark, Isabelle Peters, Ellie Peters, Meila Gronemeyer, Kenzie Scherling, Brooke Morgan

Strengths: Our biggest



STEPHANIE CROSTON

Members of the Tri County girls' basketball team for 2023-24 are, from left: (first row) Reagan Schwisow, Ellie Peters, McKenzie Smith and Aubrey Siems; (second row) Hailee Miller, Meila Gronemeyer, Miley Garrison, Kenzi Scherling and Isabelle Peters; and (third row) Olive Clark, Brooke Morgan, Macey Gronemeyer and Lucy Morrissey. Ella Clark, Ashton Schwisow and Alaina Kopf are not pictured.

Tri County basketball

Nov. 30	at Wilber-Clatonia	6/7:30p
Dec. 2	at Johnson County Central	2/4p
Dec. 5	vs Pawnee City	6/7:30p
Dec. 8	vs Southern	6/7:30p
Dec. 9	at Lewiston	4/5:30p
Dec. 15	vs Johnson-Brock	6/7:30p
Dec. 19	vs Falls City Sacred Heart	6/7:30p
Dec. 28	at Deshler	TBA
Dec. 29	host holiday tournament	TBA
Jan. 2	at Exeter-Milligan/Friend	6/7:30p
Jan. 4	at Fairbury	6/7:30p
Jan. 6	vs Freeman	5:30/7p
Jan. 8-13	at MUDECAS, Beatrice	TBA
Jan. 19	vs Fillmore Central	6/7:30p
Jan. 23	at Thayer Central	6/7:45p
Jan. 26	vs Lourdes	6/7:30p
Jan. 29-Feb. 3	at Pioneer Conference	TBA
Feb. 6	at HTRS	6:30/7:45p
Feb. 9	at Sterling	TBA

Tri County Wrestling

Coach's name: Jerod Spahr

Years coaching: 21, 11 as head

Assistant coach: Travis Likens

Seniors on this year's team: Lucas Lewandowski, Toby Ambrose, Cael Washburn

Returning letter winners: Silas Sedlacek, Cole Spahr, Keyton Reck, Toby Ambrose,

Sean Chase, Gavyn Houston, Lucas Lewandowski, Cooper Stokebrand, Cael Washburn

Strengths on this year's team: Bringing back state experience and they spread out. We have lighter weight and heavier weight wrestlers that will help the entire team.

Holes to fill from last year: With the change

in weight classes and offseason growth, it look like 175 will be a concern but otherwise it looks good. Will need someone to make a sacrifice down to 106 if possible.

Teams to watch in conference/district: Districts: Elkhorn Valley is bringing back the most points in Class C, Syracuse should be strong, Crofton Bloomfield and Central City.



STEPHANIE CROSTON

The Tri County wrestling team for 2023-24 includes, from left: (first row) Cole Spahr, Lucas Lewandowski and Cooper Stokebrand; (second row) Sean Chase, Keyton Reck, Silas Sedlacek and Gavyn Houston; and (third row) Nick Sullivan, Henry Holtmeier, Owen Lewandowski, Brodie Chase and Luis Gonzalez. Cael Washburn, Riley Kopf and Toby Ambrose are not pictured.

*Play hard, have fun,
Trojans!*

Tri County wrestling

Nov. 30	at Palmyra Duals	4:30p
Dec. 2	at EMF Invite, Friend	9a
Dec. 7	at Fillmore Central triangular	5p
Dec. 9	at North Bend Central Invite	10a
Dec. 15	host triangular	5p
Jan. 5	host Duals	2p
Jan. 6	host Duals	9a
Jan. 12	at Syracuse Invite	4:30p
Jan. 18	vs Southern	6p
Jan. 19	at Thayer Central Invite	2:30p
Jan. 25	at Wilber-Clatonia triangular	5:30p
Jan. 26	at Central Valley Invite	11a
Jan. 27	at Doniphan-Trumbull Invite	9a
Feb. 2	at Norris Invite	3p

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WC Boys Basketball

Coach: Dan Conway

Years coaching: First year at WC, 10th overall

Last season's record: 11-14

Assistant coaches: Tucker Platt, Drew Tenopir

Seniors: Carter Skleba, Ty Kuhlmann, Jack Zimmerman, Connor Harms, Carson Radcliff

Letter winners: Carter Skleba, Cooper Palmer, Aiden Zajicek, Grant Kuhlmann, Carson Radcliff, Ty Kuhlmann, Cash Keslar, Jack Zimmerman

Season outlook: With eight returning letterwinners and three returning starters, we will have more experience than most teams on our schedule. Because of the large number of returners, we have an interesting mix of older kids and younger kids who possess a variety of different talents. We have kids who can shoot it, drive it, defend, or play with their backs to the basket. If we can mesh and work towards a common goal, we have a chance to make some noise.

Teams to watch in conference/district: Fillmore Central, Sandy Creek, David City; **state:** Ashland-Greenwood, Auburn, Omaha Concordia, Doniphan-Trumbull



STEPHANIE CROSTON

The boys' basketball team for 2023-24 at Wilber-Clatonia includes, from left: (first row) Nick Jacobson, Carter Skleba, Ty Kuhlmann, Jack Zimmerman and Connor Harms; (second row) Garrett Nohavec, Dalton Sinn, Jameson Conway, Aven Smith, Graysen Vlcen and Cash Keslar; and (third row) Coach Drew Tenopir, Coach Tucker Platt, Hayden Woerner, Aiden Zajicek, Grant Kuhlmann, Cooper Palmer and Coach Dan Conway. Riley Shanahan and Collin Kohout are not pictured.

Wilber-Clatonia basketball

Nov. 30	vs Tri County	6/7:30p
Dec. 1	vs Heartland	6/7:30p
Dec. 7	at Raymond Central	6/7:30p
Dec. 9	vs Superior	3:30/5p
Dec. 15	vs Sandy Creek	6/7:30p
Dec. 16	vs Fillmore Central	3:30/5p
Dec. 19	at Thayer Central	6/7:30p
Dec. 21	at Central City tournament	TBA
Dec.28-30	at Central City tournament	TBA
Jan. 2	at Syracuse	6/7:30p
Jan. 4	at Johnson County Central	6/7:30p
Jan. 6	at Southern	3:30/5p
Jan. 11	vs Fairbury	6/7:30p
Jan. 16	vs Centennial (G)	7:15p
Jan. 18	vs Freeman	6/7:30p
Jan. 20	vs Auburn	4/5:30p
Jan. 23	vs Palmyra	6/7:30p
Jan. 26	at Milford	6/7:30p
Jan. 29-Feb. 3	at SNC tournament	TBA
Feb. 6	at Sutton	6/7:30p
Feb. 9	vs David City	6/7:30p
Feb. 12-13	at Subdistrict C2-2 (G), TBA	TBA
Feb. 16	vs Centennial (B)	7:30p

WC Girls Basketball

Coach: Paul Bade ly Rohrer

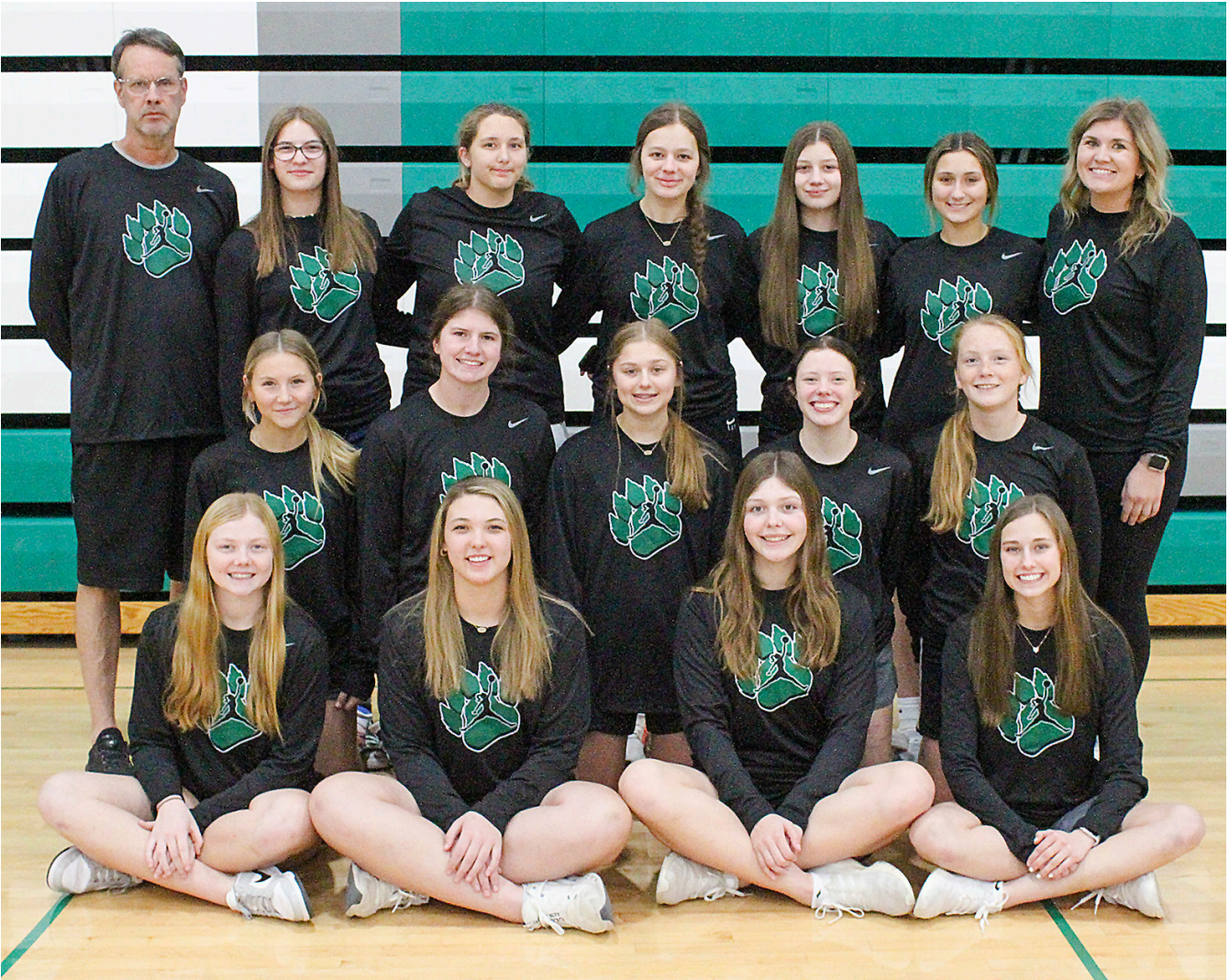
Years coaching: First at WC, second overall

Last season's record: 7-17

Assistant coach: Emi-

Seniors: Jera Schuerman, Kelsey Kotas, Breanna Spilker, Madison Vogel

Letter winners: Jera



STEPHANIE CROSTON

Playing for the girls' basketball team at Wilber-Clatonia in 2023-24 are, from left: (first row) Jera Schuerman, Kelsey Kotas, Madison Vogel and Breanna Spilker; (second row) Hadley Brolim, Jordan Musil, Taryn Jonas, Berkley Broome and Sam Novak; and (third row) Coach Paul Bade, Star Thelen, Lilly Homolka, Kaylie Fritz, Haleah Schuerman, Alexis Kreshel and Coach Emily Rohrer. Mackenzie Anthony and Korrina Paulsen are not pictured.

Good luck to all area athletes this winter!

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The Wilber-Clatonia wrestling team for 2023-24 includes, from left: (first row) Anthony Godoy, Grant Eschiti, Zaiyahn Ornelas, Carson Inderleid, Gavin Steffensmeier, Ty Roesler, Jaylin Miller (student manager) and Sage Zoubek(student manager); (second row) Savannah Lowery (student manager), Iverson Mejia, Jonatan Zelaya, Logan Zimmerman, Josiah LaMere, Jamil Sampson, Chris Slama, Ryan Marsh, Anderson Melendez, Ivan Znamenacek, Monica Zoubek and Abby Beck; and (third row) Maddux Johnson (student manager), June Petersen (student manager), Roberto Torres, Gustavo Linares, Zac Marsh, Keith Kvasnicka, Jordan Marsh, Allen Odvody, Lucas Karpisek, Alex Dunigan (student manager) and Aiden Wright (student manager). Not pictured are Gabe Klabenes, Ashton Keltner, Caleb Klabenes, Lane Vesely and Isaac Torres.

STEPHANIE CROSTON

Wilber-Clatonia wrestling

Nov. 30	at Palmyra Duals	4:30p
Dec. 2	at O'Neill Invite	9:30a
Dec. 9	at Crete Invite (both)	9a
Dec. 16	at Kearney Catholic Invite	9a
Dec. 29	at Newman Grove Invite	10a
Jan. 4	vs Thayer Central	6p
Jan. 5	host dual tournament	3p
Jan. 6	at Aquinas Invite	10a
Jan. 11	at Norris triangular	5p
Jan. 13	at Cross County Invite	9a
Jan. 19	at Thayer Central Invite	2:30p
Jan. 20	at Centennial Invite (G)	9a
Jan. 25	host triangular	5:30p
Jan. 27	at SNC, David City	10a
Feb. 2	at Norris Invite	3p



The girls' wrestling team at Wilber-Clatonia for 2023-24 is, from left, Marlee Loyd, Diamond Thompson, Stephanie Zajicek, Jovani Nordhues and Faith Klabenes.

STEPHANIE CROSTON

WC Wrestling

Coach: James Bates

School and sport: Wilber-Clatonia wrestling

Years coaching: 33

Last season's dual record: 17-2

Assistant coaches: Paul Havel, Cody Vana, Ted Troshynski

Seniors: Keith Kvasnicka, Allen Odvody, Ashton Keltner, Jordan Marsh, Lane Vesely, Caleb Klebenes

Letterwinners: We have 15 letter winners returning so we have plenty of experience. This year's team has three returning state medalists and one more returning state qualifier. Zaiyahn Ornelas is a returning state champion and the leader of the team, but we have two other state medalists back – Grant Eschiti who placed fourth at 113 and Iverson Mejia

who placed third at 132. Keith Kvasnicka is a returning state qualifier who went 1-2 at state last year.

Strengths of this year's team: We have several other wrestlers who I feel can qualify for state and contend for a medal if they wrestle hard. We have a good freshman class coming in and that should help solidify a couple of weight classes. We should fill every weight so that

also is a strength.

Holes to fill: We lost Pedro Hernandez and Zander Baker to graduation. Pedro was injured and had very little mat time. Zander was one match away from state so we are hoping to fill his spot with a capable point-getter. Their leadership will be missed but we think we have some guys who will step up.

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New rules implemented to 2023-24 basketball season

BY KEATON BURGESS
reporter@sewardindependent.com

Two new rules will be implemented this season for Class B basketball and one for Classes C and D.

For all classes, fouls will reset every quarter, and the one-and-one free throws at a team's seventh foul have been eliminated. Teams will get two free throw shots once the other teams hit five fouls. Once the quarter ends, the fouls will be reset.

According to the NSAA, the rationale for the rule is that it “Improves flow by providing an opportunity for teams to adjust their play by not carrying

over fouls from quarters one and three to quarters two and four while significantly reducing the opportunity for correctable errors to occur. Minimizes risk of injury by eliminating the one-and-one and reducing opportunities for rough play during rebounding opportunities.”

The rule has been used in college women’s basketball.

For Class B, a 35-second shot clock will be at all games this season, unless they are playing a Class C team. The Class C team will get to choose whether to use the shot clock or not.

The 35-second shot clock forces teams to attempt a shot and hit the rim within the time limit. If a team doesn’t attempt a shot, they turn the ball over.

The new shot clock rule will prevent teams from holding the ball and will make for faster-paced games.

Saline County cheer and dance teams



KEATON BURGESS

Pictured are the members of the 2023 Crete cheer squad, from left, (front row) Alejandro Rincon (Cardinal), Amony Mejia, Victoria Villamonte, Steve Enriquez, and Lindsay Schroeder; (second row) Conleigh Spence, Jadyamari Sanchez, Rylee Sommer, and Lauren Corning; (third row) Katie Lopez Mejia, Yedi Zambrano Olirares, Stacy Mora Ramirez, Colette Andelt, and Faith Heusinkvelt; and (back row) Alyiah Bakker, Dayana Navas, Jaylin Johnson, Allison McDowell, Adriana Dreve, Evan Rezac and Emma Clevette.



LEESA K. BARTU

The EMF Bobcat cheerleaders for 2023-24 are, from left: (front row) Selah Petersen, Sydney Engert and Cheyenne Krupicka; and (back row) Alivia Luzum, Kaydence Haase, Lily Jeffries and Malorie Staskal.

STEPHANIE CROSTON

BELOW: The 2023-24 Wilber-Clatonia cheerleaders are, from left, Sierra Timmerman, Addie Combs, Brooklyn Davison, Tatiana Meza, Valerie Ninneman and Elaina Roger.

Good Luck
Athletes!

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LEESA K. BARTU

The EMF Bobcat dance team is, from left, Alexis Paulsen, Sophia Weber, Gracie Vyhnaelek and Halona Wooten.

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