

2024

# Fine Arts



Photos by Stephanie Croston/CN/FS/WR, Mary Klasek & Courtesy Photos  
 Photo credits, top to bottom, left to right: Carson Radcliff and Lena Eschiti of Wilber's oral interpretation of drama team perform "The Crucible" at the speech showcase. Little Red Riding Hood (Emilia Perez) accepts flowers from the Wolf (Mason June) in Dorchester's musical performance of "Into the Woods." Ashlynn Brown, Kenzi Scherling, Lucy Morrissey and Olive Clark play trumpet in the Tri County band. Hephaestus (Jacob Weber), left, and Ares (Neal Scott) face off as Aphrodite (Kiley Oldehoeft) watches in Exeter-Milligan-Friend's performance of the One Act "Zeus on the Loose." Tory Villamonte of Crete's mixed choir sings a solo during their performance.

April 24, 2024

# CN FS WR

The Crete News

The Friend Sentinel

The Wilber Republican

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# Vocal



The Crete High choir (above) performs under the direction of Alex Wooten, accompanied by Jennifer Bond. Right: The treble choir listens as soloist Melanie Palomo performs. Below: The mixed choir sings with soloist Tory Villamonte.

The Spring Concert was April 14.

These choirs performed at District Music Contest April 19 at Norris High School. Check the Crete Choir Facebook page for information regarding their results from the event. Wooten thanked everyone in the Crete community who supports CHS Choir. The robes in the pictures are brand new and debuted at the spring concert.



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PHOTO/MARY KLASEK

Tri County choir members, from left, Jamie Bartels, Ema Ziegler, Payton Smidt, Emma Sullivan, Brooke Boyce, Ian Bellinder, Ethan Rosenthal, Ethan Jobman and Keaton Mulanax are directed by Nate Morrissey.



The Wilber-Clatonia choir performs a concert during the 2023-24 school year.



The Exeter-Milligan high school choir includes, the Five Guys, from left, R J Clevenger, Logan Johnson, Tucker Svec, Avery Nichols and Dravin Birkes.



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Members of Crete's show choir, Vibrance, are, from left: (front row) Ash Elkins, Kenna Brugger, Kelsey Talkington, Ren Nguyen and Analeigha Huarcas; and (back row) Kira Showalter, Elena Olague Martinez and Catarina Nicolas Francisco. They are directed by Alex Wooten. Vibrance performed at the Peru State Contemporary Choirs Festival in October, the NCDA Show Choir Festival in February, and The Rock Competition at Lincoln Northeast in March. Its show this year was about the four seasons: spring, summer, fall and winter with "Seasons of Love" from Rent as the unofficial theme song.



The Friend High choir for 2023-24 is, from left, Divinity Smith, Kyler Sladek and Halona Wootton.



Friend High junior Kyler Sladek, middle, and Halona Wootton sing as school music instructor Kaydi Daudt accompanies them at the Friend Spring Music Program March 19.



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# Musical theater



Cast and crew of "High School Musical," performed by Crete High in 2024, include, from left: (front row) Ruby Martinez Pena, Alyiah Bakker, Lauren Corning, Jaylin Johnson, Alejandro Rincon Manzano, Melanie Palomo, Tory Villamonte, Sydney Kracl, Calen Homolka, Izzy Meyers and Noel Johnson; and (back row) Director Alex Wooten, Mrs. Harrifield, Alfredo Lucas Jacinto, Kira Showalter, Emma Faltin, Ren Nguyen, Camden Kent, Le Nelson, Sierra Bond, Owen Hesser, Michael Vicente Reyes, Jahn Lemus, Tyler Ward, Cory Bohling and Assistant Director Jillian Hauschild.



Rapunzel's prince (Max Novak), left, and Cinderella's prince (Owen Vyhnaek) sing of their desire for their princesses in "Agony." Dorchester High performed "Into the Woods" as its musical in 2024.

ABOVE LEFT: Jack's mother (Ella Vyhnaek) begs the prince (Owen Vyhnaek) for help as the steward (Myles Vyhnaek) tries to pull her away. The baker (Ashton Jirsa), Milky White (Madison Theis) and the baker's wife (Kayli Carey) make their way through the woods, as well.

LEFT: The baker (Ashton Jirsa), second from right, and his wife (Kayli Carey), right, meet Jack (Bailey Theis) and Milky White (Madison Theis) in the woods. The baker tries to convince Jack to sell the cow, which is one of the ingredients in the witch's cure.

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# Performance



The Crete one act placed third at districts in 2023. Cast and crew included, from left: (first row) Alejandro Rincon Manzano, Madeline Trujillo and Brianna Lorenza Aguilar; (second row) Karin Zapata-Ramos, Michael Vicente Reyes, Noel Johnson, Jordy Alvarez-Morales, Tina Nguyen, Jaylee Likens, Ren Nguyen, Angela Avelar-Mendez and Emma Johnson; and (third row) Amory Mejia-Almanza, Sandra Ramos Tercero, Jahn Lemus, Juliette Diaz, Alfredo Lucas Jacinto, Melanie Palomo, Jaylin Johnson, Camden Kent, Kira Showalter and Izzy Meyers. Main cast not pictured are Veradis Kiewel, Donteivan Rawls and Addison Woods. The play was directed by Jillian Hauschild, assisted by Alex Wooten.

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Dorchester students, left to right. Megan Gordon, Mitsu Real, Amber Kotas, Emilia Perez and Ashton Jirsa act out a scene from "The AI Play" Nov. 19.

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Dorchester students, left to right Bailey Theis, Owen Vyhnaek, Amber Kotas, and Andrea Pavlish act out a scene from the school's production of "The AI Play" Nov. 19.

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Hera (Kmila Benitez), center, tries to get control of the family meeting in EMF's production of "Zeus on the Loose." With her are, from left, Athena (Kierra Papik), Hephaestus (Jacob Weber), Aphrodite (Kiley Oldehoeft), Hermes (Tucker Svec), Poseidon (Troy Kallhoff), front, Artemis (Divinity Smith), Persephone (Kyler Sladek), Hades (Logan Krupicka) and Ares (Neal Scott).



The Ooblex (Pierce Damrow), a creature from another dimension, and Cinderella (McKenzie Smith) disagree about his right to be at Olivia's party in Tri County's one-act play.



Demeter (Halona Wootton) hugs Hermes (Tucker Svec) after he brings her a message from Persephone as Hera (Kmila Benitez) watches in EMF's one-act play.



Things go from bad to worse at Olivia's party when she and her guests insist on a song. So Bunny (Evan Quackenbush), Cinderella (McKenzie Smith), Fairy (Emma Sullivan), Snow White (Meila Gronemeyer) and Adorable Baby Horse (Brooke Boyce) try to accommodate them in "Princess Party Smackdown," performed by Tri County.

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Nicole (Kelsey Zoubek), front left, tells Kaitlin (Aubrey Ninneman) about a meme circulating with her picture. Seated, Morgan (Lillian Korbel), Sam (Mackenzie Anthony), Jesse (Kevin Salcido) and Zack (Roman Peloso) check their phones in "Selfie" by Bradley Haward, performed by Wilber-Clatonia High.



After the fight, Tyler (Sarina Lavily), seated, wakes up in the hospital with Laura (Maddux Johnson), who is there for treatment.



Tyler (Sarina Lavily) dreams of the fight that will bring immortality as, from left, Jesse (Kevin Salcido), Zack (Roman Peloso), Kaitlin (Aubrey Ninneman) and Nicole (Kelsey Zoubek) scroll through their phones.



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ABOVE: Never fear! Hercules (Stone Thelen) is on the case! Anguish (Delaney Mazza) thinks it might be a good plot for a mystery, but Rebecca (Lillian Korbek), Fay (Madison Vogel), Penny (Breanna Spilker) and Marie (Lena Eschiti) aren't as sure. The corpse (Jack Zimmerman) doesn't care one way or the other in "The Crimson House Murder," performed by the Wilber-Clatonia senior class.



LEFT: Bridget (Jessica Martinez) becomes corpse number two, to the dismay of Rebecca (Lillian Korbek), Fay (Madison Vogel), Anguish (Delaney Mazza), Hercules (Stone Thelen) and Marie (Lena Eschiti).

BELOW LEFT: The butler did it! Well, the butler saved the day, anyway. Jeeves (Hugo Pomajzl) knocks out the delivery person (Jera Schuerman) as Rebecca (Lillian Korbek) escapes and Dr. Throwback (Zac Vyhnalek), Hernandez (Kenneth Guerra) and Leon (Jack Zimmerman) provide backup.

BELOW: Never mind that he was injured - Detective Bobby (Carson Radcliff) is back on the case!



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# SPEECH



The Tri County speech team was the district runner-up March 11 and sent speakers to state in six events. McKenzie Smith was the district champion in persuasive speaking and was a member of the champion oral interpretation of drama team with Pierce Damrow, Evan Quackenbush, Meila Gronemeyer and Ethan Rosenthal. Kaden Van Winkle was the runner-up in informative speaking. Brooke Boyce was third in serious prose, Gronemeyer was third in entertainment speaking, and Smith and Damrow were third in duet acting. At state, Smith medaled in all three of her events, making her the first three-time medalist in Tri County history.



Maddux Johnson, left, and Reegan Kracke of Wilber-Clatonia represented WCHS at the state speech meet March 21.



Troy Kallhoff of Exeter-Milligan-Friend competed in extemporaneous speaking at state speech.



The Exeter-Milligan speech team for 2024 includes, from left: (front row) Kiley Oldehoeft, Kmila Benitez, Kyler Sladek, Halona Wooton and Babe Weber; and (back row) Jase Luzum, Neal Scott, Logan Krupicka, Troy Kallhoff and Tucker Svec.



Stone Thelen presents his persuasive speech about big pharma during the speech showcase at Wilber-Clatonia March 1.



Members of Wilber-Clatonia's oral interpretation of drama team, from left, Carson Radcliff, Lena Eschiti, Maddux Johnson, Jessica Martinez (back) and Stone Thelen perform "The Crucible" during the speech showcase March 1. The group is also pictured below.



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# Instrumental



The Crete High band, 120 members strong, competes in a parade during the marching season (above) and plays in concert (below). They are directed by Eric Fahrlander.



From left, Karen Lucas, Bryan Zapata, Michael Vicente, Jordy Alvarez, Alex Cuevas, Henry Jaimes, Fabricio Medina, Melanie Flores, and Isabel Meyers were selected for the conference honor band.

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PHOTOS BY MARY KLA SEK

ABOVE: From left, Sam Heidemann, Ashton Schwisow, Arianna Bellinder and Payton Smidt play with the Tri County band.

LEFT: From left, Cheston Stewart, Sammy Holsing and Trevor Pearson perform with the band at Tri County.



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The Wilber-Clatonia jazz band performs in concert during the 2023-24 school year.



Members of the 2023-24 Friend High band are, from left: (first row) Maddison Allen, Autumn Filipi, Naomi Black, Aubrey Bachle, Halona Wootton, Kellen Vossler and Martin Wegehaupt; (second row) Ms. Daudt, Sadie Brandt, Emily Bartels, Bristol Sladek, Baidyn Snyder, Keisyn Kirchhoff, Bob Milton, Owen Hemmingsen, Dane Anderson, John Cruz, Landon Bachle, Lilly Ellison, Sophia Weber and Gracie Vyhnaek; and (third row) Madelyn Kenney, Meredith Paulsen, Jewel Lawver, Chase Paulsen, Caleb Black, Jacob Weber, Zonder Arp, Evan Brahmstedt, Gehrig Weber, Mason Semler, Ty Svehla and Derek Conley.



The Exeter-Milligan High band performs at the Nebraska State Fair last fall.



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# Journalism



Dorchester sent a record 12 students to the state journalism competition April 22. Qualifiers are, from left: (front row) Briana Tellez, Ariana Tellez, Mackenzie Luzum, Megan Gordon, Michael Maldonado and Hailey Schweitzer; and (back row) Gabby Theis, Bailey Theis, Andrea Pavlish, Jace Yager, Joseph Peacock and Rosie Lopez. Andrea Pavlish qualified in editorial cartooning, editorial writing, yearbook feature writing, yearbook theme copy writing, action photography, yearbook layout, and yearbook theme development. Hailey Schweitzer qualified in yearbook theme copy writing, newspaper layout, photo illustration, yearbook feature writing, and yearbook theme development. Gabby Theis qualified in editorial cartooning, sports news writing, newspaper layout, feature photography, and yearbook theme development. Joseph Peacock qualified in editorial writing, news feature writing, yearbook feature writing, and action photography. Mackenzie Luzum qualified in newspaper layout, newspaper sports feature writing, and yearbook theme copy writing. Ariana Tellez qualified in sports news writing and Broadcast PSA. Bailey Theis qualified in yearbook sports feature writing. Rosie Lopez, Michael Maldonado, and Jace Yager qualified in advertising. Megan Gordon qualified in editorial writing. Briana Tellez qualified in Broadcast PSA.



The Friend High School Yearbook (Journalism) Staff for 2023-24 includes, from left: (seated) Kiahna Bachle, Reagan Bartley, Lilly Ellison and Kendyll Tomlinson; and (standing) Kyler Sladek, Babe Weber, Ella Archer, Spencer Eberspacher, Mark Milton, Keila Ricenbaw and Aniston Meints.

Thanks to everyone who helped make this section possible – yearbook sponsors and photographers for tracking down photos, administrative assistants for helping with names and students for participating in these different activities. We apologize if anyone was missed. It was not intentional.

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