



stand-out coach

Honoring a legacy at the Bill Van Horn Invitational

The Bill Van Horn wrestling invite was on January 5. It honors Bill Van Horn who was the head wrestling coach at Pella High from 1989 to 2001 and athletic director from 1999 to 2011 before passing away.

He knew **Coach Hancock** from when **Hancock** wrestled at Central College. Bill Van Horn was instrumental for getting **Hancock** his job teaching at PHS.

“He was kind and considerate. He always could make you smile,” said **Hancock**. “He was one of those guys that had a passion about everything he did.”

The Dutch placed 6th at their home invitational with the score of 128. Senior **Ben Hones** finished 2nd at 152 pounds. Seniors **Tyler Vandermolen** and **Nate Kissinger** came in 3rd place in their weight classes.

Senior **David Chaffin** also did well at the Bill Van Horn invite. He placed 4th in his weight class.

“My experience was great, and I beat the second seed in my weight class, which was very surprising,” said **Chaffin**. “And I ended up with 3 pins.”

//Senior **David Chaffin** pins his opponent. Later in the season **Chaffin** had injured himself and wasn't able to compete. “It hurt really bad,” said **Chaffin**. “I landed on the top of my shoulder, and it pushed my shoulder down.”

christmas choir concert

Concert Choir, Select Choir, Honor Choir, and the Madrigals performed at their annual Christmas concert on December 17. Concert Choir was directed by **Sharaeah Sharp**. This was **Sharp's** first year teaching music at the high school. Freshman **Amelia Cyza** enjoys being led by **Sharp**.

“She is really good at keeping us on track, and she knows a lot about what she's doing,” said **Cyza**.

The Concert Choir performed “Psallite,” “December Rosa,” and “Dashing Through the Snow.”

“I liked “December Rosa” because it was a nice, calming song, and the way the piano was playing, made it sound more vulnerable,” said freshman **Brookelyn Schroder**.

As it is tradition, the last song was Handel's “Hallelujah Chorus” from *The Messiah*. Audience members were invited to join the choirs for this number. Freshman **Amelia Poe** appreciated this tradition.

“I enjoyed being able to sing the ‘Hallelujah Chorus’ with other people, not just the choir,” said **Poe**.

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making the season bright

Madrigals visit nursing homes around Pella

// Seniors **Hanna Blom**, **Bryce McCain**, junior **Colin Henry**, and sophomore **Hannah Tschetter** sing Christmas Carols at Friendship Village. **Tschetter** enjoyed singing "Come see the Baby" and "Bethlehem Town." "They are really catchy and fun to sing with everyone," said **Tschetter**.



The Madrigals is a choir group that performs Christmas music during the month of December. On December 12 they visited and sang at the retirement villages in Pella.

Senior **Bryce McCain** is a tenor in Madrigals. He feels it's important to visit places like Friendship Village.

"A lot of times people in nursing homes don't get to go out and do stuff, and bringing all of the joy and singing to them during the holidays seems to bring them up," said **McCain**.

Senior **Gavin Klein** also enjoys performing the seasonal music.

"I like Madrigals because singing Christmas carols is fun," said **Klein**. "It's a good group of people and you get to sing with them at some cool places like to the people at Friendship Village."

Sophomore **Hannah Tschetter** agrees.

"The older people really love the Christmas Carols," said **Tschetter**. "They know the songs and sing along, and it makes them really happy because they remember when they have sung them before."

christmas carols

Students name their favorite Christmas carols



"'8 Crazy Nights.' It brings back memories. I now realize that it is way too inappropriate for an 8 year old."
-Freshman **Zarah VanDyk**



"'Rudolf the Red Nosed Reindeer.' He is honestly my idol."
-Sophomore **Daniel Sanders**



"'Hallelujah', because praise The Lord!"
-Junior **Dakota Huddleston**



"I don't listen to Christmas music unless it's Mariah Carey."
-Senior **Kaleb Nguyen**



// LEFT: Choir director **Sharaeah Sharp** conducts the Concert Choir. CENTER: Freshmen **Akira Lopez** and **Malachi Langebartels** sing the "Hallelujah Chorus." RIGHT: Choir director **Michelle Chaplin** conducts the Advanced Choir.

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