

LIFE AS A LAING

CHS Senior Daric Laing Shoots for His Hoop Dreams

Alexis Mullins and Carter Miller

Features Editor and Staff Writer

"I've wanted to win state since I was a kid. I've lost sleep over it, and thinking about it, it just gives me goosebumps." Senior Daric Laing is a well known individual all through-

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out Chariton. Ever since Laing was a child, he has been a huge fan of the Chargers. "I always looked up to my brothers as a kid. I saw how proud they always were to be Chargers.

I was always excited to get my shot." Laing is the youngest of four brothers, Brendan, Andrew and Chris. From as long as he could remember he was passionate about basketball and baseball. Although, in 7th grade, he began to choose basketball over baseball. For six years, Laing has played beside his friend, senior TJ Hockenson, a 2016 Iowa football recruit. "There isn't really a friendly rivalry between

us, though we do get into it sometimes. We just focus on making each other better everyday," stated Hockenson. Laing's love and passion led him into Kingdom Hoops, an AAU (Amateur Athletic Union) basketball program that promotes developing athletes not only athletically, but physically and spiritually as well. The program introduced him to junior Lim Chuol, a new member in the Laing household.

"We

were always together at Kingdom Hoops. It was really weird moving in with them," added Chuol. "It was a lot bigger of a change than I expected. But it was cool. It's awesome living with my best friend."

Kingdom Hoops keeps a religious focus, something Laing believes strongly in. Over everything else, he puts his faith first, often going to First United Methodist Church, and sometimes Cornerstone Community Church. Next to his faith, Laing values family. Laing lives with his parents, Cindy and David La-

ing, and Chuol, with three older brothers out of the house. In his free time he enjoys golfing, boating and spending time with his family and friends.

Laing is currently undecided on where he wishes to go to college. "I have gotten many offers to play basketball, but my dad influenced me to pursue business. If I could, I would enjoy being a coach."

As his last year at CHS approaches, Laing will miss the family atmosphere of the school, how nice and understanding the teachers are here, and the joy and pride of being able to say he is from Chariton. He has two goals before he graduates; try not to be tardy as often, and win the 2016 state basketball tournament. To reach his goal of coming out on top, he

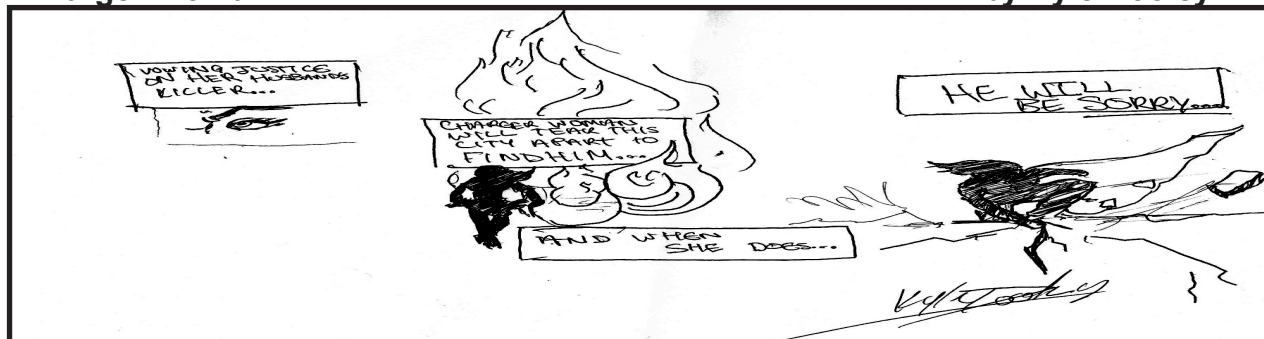
"...if I could, I would enjoy being a coach."

follows teacher and coach Ben Schooley's motto: "Get better everyday and take it one game at a time."

Photo courtesy of Brooke Howell.

Charger Woman

by Kyle Dooley



Quote of the Week:

"Anything that gets your blood racing is probably worth doing."

-Hunter S. Thompson