



## City of Clark decorated for Christmas

The City of Clark crew was out in full force Monday, decorating the town with holiday flare. Flat Iron Park, pictured above, was no exception. We've been spoiled thus far in November with warmer than usual temperatures and minimal snow, but that quickly changed this week. Temperatures seemed to nosedive and snow powdered the ground. It's starting to look like winter out there!

Photo by Karli Paulson

## Gift suggestions for your teenager this holiday season

By Mercedes Korngut  
Small Bits of Happiness

The most wonderful time of the year is right around the corner! The holiday season is a joyful time filled with fun, friends and family - as well as the daunting stress of gift-giving. Can't figure out what to get your teenager for Christmas? As a teenager myself, I've got you covered with my top gift suggestions for Christmas - for teens by a teen.

1. A Gift For The Teen That Loves Sports: Sports Game + Favorite Player Jersey

<https://shop.monumentalsportsnetwork.com/jerseys/d-3461289649+z-901878-2717710840>

Tickets to go see your teens favorite sport game, while wearing a jersey of their favorite player. Spend some quality time with your teen while watching their favorite sport being played and bond together. Gift your teen a team jersey to add to the experience and show your team spirit!

Why It's IN → Going to a live sports game is an exhilarating experience and definitely a must for sports lovers.

2. A Gift For The Teen That Loves Art: 175 Piece Art Set

[https://www.amazon.com/Drawing-Acrylic-Crayons-Professional-Supplies/dp/B0BTNH766Y/ref=sr\\_1\\_6?crid=3HQUT8XJZTPFA&keywords=art%2Bset&qid=1697381045&prefix=art%2Bse%2Caps%2C213&sr=8-6&th=1](https://www.amazon.com/Drawing-Acrylic-Crayons-Professional-Supplies/dp/B0BTNH766Y/ref=sr_1_6?crid=3HQUT8XJZTPFA&keywords=art%2Bset&qid=1697381045&prefix=art%2Bse%2Caps%2C213&sr=8-6&th=1)

Oil pastels, watercolor pencils, acrylic paints, crayons, brushes, watercolor cakes, a sandpaper block and more - all in this 175 piece art set. The box itself comes in seven different color options and is an excellent gift for teens that enjoy a variety of art.

Why It's IN → Teens love unleashing their creativity and this art set allows for experimentation in different art forms, as well as taking downtime in an artistic way.

3. A Gift For Teen and Parent Connection: Mission: Small Bits of Happiness Game

<https://smallbitsofhappiness.com/product/mission-small-bits-of-happiness/>

This game is designed by teens for individuals of all ages and it features 100 unique, simple and fun activities to do to feel happier daily. Play this game together as a family, or one-on-one with your teen. Build happiness habits, learn what makes you both feel happier and connect with one another.

Why It's IN → Everyone can use a bit more happiness and wellness. Plus, connecting with your

teen in a fun way and building happiness habits together is tremendously helpful for both you and your teens happiness.

4. A Gift For The Teen That Loves To Read: A Curse For True Love

[https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/a-curse-for-true-love-stephanie-garber/1142831119;jsessionid=EB9F2AF56460D-171F8B75BA341A437AC.prodny\\_store01-at-gap15?ean=9781250908452](https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/a-curse-for-true-love-stephanie-garber/1142831119;jsessionid=EB9F2AF56460D-171F8B75BA341A437AC.prodny_store01-at-gap15?ean=9781250908452)

If your teen is a fan of New York Times Bestselling author Stephanie Garber or the Once Upon A Broken Heart trilogy, this novel is a must-read. In this final book of the Once Upon A Broken Heart trilogy, the main character believes that she's found her happily ever after, but this is far from the truth.

Why It's IN → A Curse For True Love is one of Barnes & Nobles Best Books of 2023 and is the final book in the #1 New York Times Bestselling Once Upon A Broken Heart trilogy.

5. Gift For The Teen That Is Curious: MasterClass Subscription

<https://www.masterclass.com/>  
Hours of unique, inspiring and digital content, brought to you by countless iconic athletes, authors, entrepreneurs and celebrities. A MasterClass subscription is fitting for teens with varying interests, who want to learn more about an area of passion, or discover something new.

Some of the topics include (but are not limited to): Cooking with Gordon Ramsey, Songwriting and Producing with Alicia Keys, Personal Branding with Kris Jenner, Shooting, Ball-Handling and Scoring with Stephen Curry, and Writing with Judy Blume.

Why It's IN → Teens are constantly learning more about themselves and this is an outstanding and inspiring program for them to continue to drive curiosity

6. Gift For The Teen That Loves Music: Taylor Swift Tee

<https://store.taylorswift.com/>  
Regardless of whether you attended The Eras Tour or not, this iconic tee is certain to bring your favorite Taylor Swift fan a small bit of happiness.

Why It's IN → Taylor Swift's Eras Tour has been an immense event throughout 2023 and her merch is just as iconic as Taylor.

Mercedes Korngut is 15 years old. She and her sister, Anastasia, 13, founded Small Bits of Happiness to help individuals of all ages, especially teenagers, find more happiness daily.

## Clark High School Christmas music concert is Monday night

The Clark High School Christmas music concert, grades 6-12, will be Monday, December 4 at 7:00 p.m. in the Clark High School gym.

A selection of songs will be sung by the choirs to open the program. The sixth grade choir will be singing "An African Celebration" and "Shepherds, Go Tell." The seventh and eighth grade choir will sing "Angels and Shepherds" and "Winterlight." The 9 - 12th grade choir will be singing "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen," "Song for a Winter's Night" and "Lullaby for a King."

To end the program, a selection of songs will be performed by the bands. The sixth and seventh grade band will perform "King of Angels" and "Ca-

lypso Bells." The 8 - 12th grade band will be performing "Appalachian Snowfall," "Beyond the Bell Carol" and "Russian Christmas Music."

Clark High School's choir and band instructor is Amy Nelson.

### WEATHER

Robert Cole - Official Weather Observer

	HI	LO	PR
Nov. 21.....	48	24	0
Nov. 22.....	37	23	0
Nov. 23.....	55	21	0
Nov. 24.....	25	20	0
Nov. 25.....	25	20	0
Nov. 26.....	27	9	0.08
Nov. 27.....	21	5	0
2023 precipitation to date	19.09"		
2022 precipitation to date	18.89"		



## CHS music instructor Amy Nelson in Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade

Del Hubers, Ron Stary, Amy Nelson, second right, and Brock Persson represented South Dakota in the Saluting America's Band Directors Marching Band at the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

Photo courtesy of South Dakota Bandmasters Association

## On the move: Clark-Willow Lake Cyclones 2023 - 2024 wrestling season preview

By Heather Jordan

It won't be difficult for Clark-Willow Lake to find that chip on its shoulder for 2023-2024. After a successful 2022 campaign that netted five state qualifiers and a third place Northeast Conference finish, the Cyclones are ready to compete. Underestimate CWL at your own peril, as this year's roster is hungry for improvement at all levels.

Sure, the Cyclones are without Braeden Johnson and Chase Chambers due to graduation, but a new slate of wrestlers is working hard and ready to rumble. According to Head Coach Greg Marx, "It will be difficult to replace any senior whether it be in the practice room or on the mat, but I believe our team is set up nicely to advance through the season."

The bulk of the Cyclone's dual lineup returns for a program that Head Coach Greg Marx is convinced has worked its way into a better position than it found itself one year ago.

Finishing with a dual record of 11-6 and a sixth place standing at the Region 1B Tournament last February, the Cyclones return a strong nucleus from 2022, including State B place winners Cooper Pommer (4th) and Danielle Batchelor (5th) and qualifiers Austin Vig and Josh Kannegieter. Junior Elliot Bratland also returns as a veteran wrestler for the program. "I look for these kids to push the team towards a successful season," added Marx.

"My expectations this year are to have multiple state placers and to be in the running for a top three finish in our region as a team."

Marx has fortified his roster with both veterans and newcomers and the results may surprise some outsiders. Rookies in 2023 include seniors Collin Gaikowski and Bryce Klancke, sophomore Lincoln Reidburn and seventh graders Aksel Gjere, Bennett Pommer and Mason Severson. "Technically, Bryce has been around wrestling, but due to his injury last year, he couldn't compete," added Marx.

"I think overall this team knows what I expect of them and they have embraced the intensity that I want them to bring. We will encounter some speed bumps, but they are kids and we will push them to get better at every practice and match."

Returning student-athletes include seniors Matthew Batchelor, Danielle Batchelor and Taylor Merkel, juniors Elliot Bratland, Josh Kannegieter and Riley Popp,



With nearly three weeks of practice completed, the 2023-2024 Clark-Willow Lake Cyclone wrestling season will get underway this Saturday, December 2 at the Clark High School gym. The Cyclone Wrestling Booster Tournament begins at 10:00 a.m.

The WBC tournament is lone home competition for

sophomores Jerome Enboden, Cooper Pommer and Damian Severson, freshman Logan Foster, eighth graders Maverick Clausen, Cade Gaikowski, Isaac Johnson, Westen Olson, Austin Vig, Destiny Four Horns and Kaden Wookey.

The Cyclones will open the season at home this Saturday, December 2 when they host the WBC Tournament, starting at 10:00 a.m. In 2022, the Cyclones boasted three individual champions at the WBC, including Kaden Wookey 98 lbs., Cooper Pommer 106 lbs. and Josh Kannegieter at 152 lbs.

Coach Marx looks ahead to the season opener with high hopes. "Like always, we want to put on a show. It's our only home meet this year and I want our kids to start off offensively and make the teams around the area know we are here to compete."

Marx enters his eighth year at the helm of the Cyclone wrestling program and will be assisted by James Marx and Caleb Orris in 2023, bringing a wealth of knowledge and passion to Clark-Willow Lake.

As with any new endeavor, there will be pinnacles and pitfalls, but the Cyclones will adapt. What challenges does Marx predict for 2023? "Mostly, it will be condition-

ing and getting kids down to their completion weight on time. With the mix of newbies and vets, it's tough getting a practice plan that can push everyone equally."

When the going gets tough, the tough gets going and the Cyclones will be no exception. Coach Marx loves the sport and the kids and it will be a win-win for all involved.

"It always been the love of competition and seeing the growth of my wrestlers from start to finish," added Marx. "Nothing brings me back into the wrestling spirit more than seeing our Cyclones pull off upsets of kids they had never beaten before because of their hours of work and dedication."

Stay tuned for the ride. It's going to be a great one.

### 2023-2024 Roster

Seniors: Danielle Batchelor, Matthew Batchelor, Collin Gaikowski, Bryce Klancke and Taylor Merkel.  
Juniors: Elliot Bratland, Josh Kannegieter and Riley Popp.  
Sophomores: Jerome Enboden, Cooper Pommer, Lincoln Reidburn and Damian Severson.  
Freshman: Logan Foster  
Eighth graders: Maverick Clausen, Destiny Four Horns, Cade Gaikowski, Isaac Johnson, Westen Olson, Austin Vig and Kaden

Wookey.  
Seventh graders: Aksel Gjere, Bennett Pommer and Mason Severson.  
**2023-24 Wrestling Schedule**  
Dec. 2: WBC Tournaments in Clark - 10:00 a.m.  
Dec. 5: Triangular @ Redfield - 6:00 p.m.  
Dec. 9: Faulkton Tournament - 10:00 a.m.  
Dec. 12: Quadrangular @ Sioux Valley - 5:00 p.m.  
Dec. 14: NEC Tournament @ Milbank - 4:00 p.m.  
Dec. 30: Webster Invite - 9:30 a.m.  
Jan. 6: Miller Tournament - 10:00 a.m.  
Jan. 11: Quadrangular @ Deuel - 5:00 p.m.  
Jan. 13: Battler Tournament @ Gettysburg - 10:00 a.m.  
Jan. 16: Triangular @ Groton - 6:00 p.m.  
Jan. 20: Little "B" Tournament @ Parkston - 9:00 a.m.  
Jan. 27: Lee Wolf Tournament @ Aberdeen, Groton Tournament - 10:00 a.m./9:30 a.m.  
Feb. 3: Big East/LCC Tournament @ Sioux Valley - 10:00 a.m.  
Feb. 6: Quadrangular @ DeSmet - 5:00 p.m.  
Feb. 17: Region 1B Tournament @ Gettysburg - 10:00 a.m.  
Feb. 22-24: State Tournament @ Sioux Falls - TBA

Photo by Trudi Gaikowski