

Clark High School Alumni weekend full of events

Clark High School Alumni will enjoy a full weekend of events to celebrate their alma mater and reconnect with friends and classmates during Alumni Weekend. Many of the CHS Alumni Association's events will take place Friday, September 27 and Saturday, September 28 in conjunction with Clark High School's Homecoming. The Clark Golf Club will be the main gathering place again this year. "Each year, we change and add a few details to make the weekend better for everyone," Jennifer Severson, CHS Alumni Association Board member said. "This year, we're adding a bounce house and at least one food vendor to Friday night's tailgate party so it's more family- and community-oriented while also putting more emphasis on the class reunions throughout the weekend. We expect a great turnout with four class reunions happening," Severson said.

The weekend kicks off with the Clark Homecoming parade at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, September 27. Alumni classes and team floats are encouraged to join the parade. The parade will run along U.S. Highway 212 and Commercial Street in Clark.

Prior to the Homecoming football game, the Alumni Association is hosting a Tailgate Party from 4:00-7:00 p.m. in the north parking lot by the Clark High School football field. Come dressed in your best Comet or Cyclones gear and practice your favorite cheer! The game starts at 7:00 p.m. The Cyclones opponents this year are the Groton Area Tigers.

During halftime of the football game, the Alumni Association will recognize alumni celebrating milestone reunions, like the classes of 1979, 1984, 1994 and 2004.

Severson said, "We encourage Comet and Cyclone alumni alike to attend the school's Homecoming activities throughout the week. Homecoming is a special time that pulls people of all ages together to celebrate school spirit as a community."

Saturday's events begin at the Clark Golf Club with the three-person golf scramble. Check-in begins at 9:00 a.m. with a shotgun start at 10:00 a.m. Registration is through the Clark Golf Club. Each team must include a CHS alum.

The grand finale to the weekend starts at 6:00 p.m. at the Clark Golf Club. There will be a raffle drawing for \$4,000 in cash prizes, followed by a live auction of Comet and Cyclone items and other donations. DJ Darren Beyer will pump up the jams immediately following the auction. Everyone is welcome!

"Our grand finale is Saturday evening starting with the scholarship raffle drawing at 6:00 p.m. where we'll give away over \$4,000 in cash prizes. The alumni and community were amazingly generous, and the 160 tickets that were available are all nearly sold."

The raffle, live auction and other fundraisers throughout the year help fund Alumni Association Scholarships. "We're especially proud to have increased the number of scholarships the past few years, and we'd like to continue that trend," Severson said. "With a special donation last year in memory of Heather Johannsen, we were able to award five \$850 scholarships to graduating seniors."

Alumni Association board members include Lonna (Sjoberg) DesLauriers, Jerry Hartley, Cassi (Schlagel) Kottke, Desi (Weber) Lamb, Sharon Larson, Megan (Benson) Merkel, Jackie (Forest) Schlagel, Jenn Severson and Julie (Bjerke) Zubke.

"We're doing our best to shine a light on Clark and encourage suggestions from Alumni and the community," Severson said.

Welcome the Clark High School Classes of 1979, 1984, 1994 and 2004!



Vavruska, Hlavacek named Florence Homecoming royalty

Carson Vavruska and Brooke Hlavacek were crowned king and queen at Florence High School's Homecoming coronation on Monday night. Other king and queen candidates were Louie Caulfield, Jeremiah Leadbrand, Grace Kahnke and Andie Rislov.

Photo by Katrina Boyum



The Henry High School Homecoming coronation was held Monday, Sept. 23. Named as 2024 Henry Homecoming King and Queen were Wyatt Kittelson and Brooklyn Simonton. They are pictured above in the left photo, along with 2024 Little Master Ilijah Lacour and 2024 Little Miss Adalynn Pratt.

Photo Courtesy of Henry School

Henry High School 'Breakfast of Champions' Homecoming this week

▲ Kittelson, Simonton crowned king and queen

The celebration of Homecoming 2024 at Henry School is this week, September 23-27. The theme this year is 'Breakfast of Champions.'

Coronation of the Homecoming Queen and King was Monday, September 23. Named as 2024 Henry Homecoming King and Queen were Wyatt Kittelson and Brooklyn Simonton. Tate Hartley, Henry's 2023 king, crowned Kittelson and Simonton during the coronation ceremony in the high school gym.

Spirit Week dress-up days this week include: Monday, class colors; Tuesday, breakfast in bed; Wednesday, breakfast mascots; and Thursday, cooks vs. customers.

The Homecoming parade in Henry begins at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, September 27 with the Falcon football game scheduled to start at 7:00 p.m. against the DeSmet Bulldogs at the Henry High School.

A full list of the royalty candidates are listed below.

Queen Candidates

Alex Beeler is the daughter of Staci Mikkelson and John Beeler. She participates in National Honor Society. Alex plans on attending college after graduating high school.

Shylynn Hansen is the daughter of Jody Nord. Her siblings are Shaydin who is a sophomore, Stohn who is a fifth grader, Gabe who is a sophomore, one-year-old Hannah and one-year-old Charlee. Shylynn is active in softball and National Honor Society. Her future plans include attending Lake Area Technical College for nursing.

Taylor Monnens is the daughter of Lori and Jesse Monnens. She has one brother, 15-year-old Colton and one sister, 12-year-old Mikayla. Taylor's activities include choir, play, student council, National Honor Society, FFA and 4-H. Her future plans are to go vet school to be a large animal veterinarian.

Brooklyn Simonton is the daughter of Sandra and Jesse Simonton. She

has three siblings, including freshman Rylee, eighth grader Wyatt and fourth grader Haizley. Brooklyn enjoys spending time with her family and friends. Brooklyn plans to pursue a degree in cosmetology at Lake Area Technical College after graduation.

Marshal Candidates

Denver Jenner is the son of Bobbie Jenner and Doug Jenner. He has two brothers, Tieson (seventh grade) and Izrial (sixth grade). Denver is active in golf, FFA, 4-H and enjoys fishing and hunting. He plans to attend Mitchell Technical College to study agronomy.

Wyatt Kittelson is the son of Leah and Travis Kittelson. He has one sister, Maddie who is a senior. Wyatt enjoys farming and hanging out with his friends. His future plans include attending Lake Area Technical College to obtain a degree in ag business and work spreading fertilizer.

JT Obele is the son of Hope and Todd Obele. He has two brothers, Todd Jr. who is 22 and Tyler who is 30. JT is active in football and track. He plans to attend college for electrical construction.

Parker Sween is the son of Linda and Brandon Sween. His siblings are eighth grader Grayson and fifth grader Trey. Parker participates in FFA. Parker's future plans are to attend Lake Area Technical College and become a farmer or a truck driver.

WEATHER

Robert Cole - Official Weather Observer

	HI	LO	PR
September 17.....	84	68	0
September 18.....	84	68	0.06
September 19.....	82	57	0.01
September 20.....	78	54	0
September 21.....	84	54	0
September 22.....	69	46	0
September 23.....	69	46	0
2024 precipitation to date	18.57"		
2023 precipitation to date	16.03"		

Clark 2024 Homecoming royalty chosen

Anticipation was in the air during the 2024 Clark High School Homecoming Coronation ceremony on Tuesday night in the Clark High School gym. Crowned as this year's Homecoming royalty were Marshal Zach Ambrose



Marshal Zach Ambrose

and Queen Talyn Ortberg. The two will reign over the rest of the remaining Homecoming festivities.

The other candidates nominated to succeed 2023 Marshal Christian Ramirez Gonzalez and Queen Madison Pickrel were Hannah Heiman, Avery Lee, Valley Roebke, Griffin Musser, Waylan Olson and Chris Venjohn. The Clark Homecoming football game will be Friday, September 27 at the Clark High School Sports Complex against the Groton Area Tigers.

Parade a highlight

The Homecoming Parade will be Friday, September 27.

Parade entries are asked to line up on Idaho Street, starting at St. Michael Catholic Church, north past the ele-



Queen Talyn Ortberg

mentary school and around the swimming pool park. Starting at 1:00 p.m., the parade route will be south past the Catholic Church to U.S. Highway 212, east to Commercial Street, then north to Avantara Clark nursing home. Entries may return on Idaho Street, and floats should be dismantled following the parade.

The theme this year is 'Places'. Entries will be divided into three categories - A: elementary school walking; B: elementary and middle school floats; and C: high school class and organization floats.

The entries will be judged on the basis of originality, beauty and adherence to theme. Winners will be announced at half-time of the football game.

Homecoming Spirit Week

'Spirit Day' helps make Homecoming week festive with different themes throughout the week.

Beginning on Monday, September 23, the theme was 'Anything But a Backpack Day,' followed by 'Halloween' at the high school and 'Levi Day-Wear Orange' at the middle school on Tuesday. Wednesday, the theme is 'Rhyme without Reason' at the high school and 'Pajama Day' at the middle school. Then on Thursday, the theme is 'Frat Boy' at the high school and 'Dress as your Favorite Teacher' at the middle school. Friday is the traditional 'Cyclone Spirit Day' showing school spirit with the school colors, black, green and silver.



The 2024 Willow Lake High School Homecoming royalty candidates have been announced. Coronation is scheduled for Sunday, September 29 in the Willow Lake High School new gym.

This year's Willow Lake Homecoming Court is pictured above. In the back row, left to right, are Emmerson

son Larson, Josh Kannegieter, Elliot Bratland, Kate Larson and Journey Poppen. In the front row, left to right: Flint Nichols, Cayson Bratland, Zoe Nichols, Shay Michalski and Tehya Vig.

Photo by Christina Kannegieter

Homecoming at Willow Lake School is next week

▲ Theme is 'Disney/Pixar'

Homecoming at Willow Lake School will be held next week, Sept. 30 through Oct. 4. The selected theme for Homecoming 2024 is 'Disney/Pixar'.

Coronation of the Homecoming Queen and King will be on Sunday, Sept. 29 beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the new gym at Willow Lake High School.

During the festivities of Homecoming week, each day has a different dress-up theme. Monday is Disney Day; dress up as your favorite Disney or Pixar character. Tuesday is Hawaiian Day; don't anything beach or Hawaiian related. Wednesday is Class Color Wars for sixth-12th grade and Jersey Day for preschool-fifth grade. Thursday will be Future Occupation Day; dress in your future/dream career attire. Friday is Levi Atkins Day (Orange Out). Dress in all orange or Levi shirts.

The Homecoming Parade begins at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 27. Line-up will be at the park for junior high/high school classes and businesses. The Willow Lake Junior Class will be sponsoring a Burger Feed at the Clark football field, beginning at 5:00 p.m. followed by the Cyclone football game set to start at 7:00 p.m. against the Deuel Cardinals at the Clark High School Sports Complex. It will be Levi Atkins Night; dress

in orange or your Levi t-shirts.

The Willow Lake Homecoming Court includes, along with the queen and king candidates, junior attendants Emmerson Larson and Zoe Nichols and first grade attendants Flint Nichols and Journey Poppen.

Queen candidates

Kate Larson is the daughter of Daron and Ann Larson. She has one brother, Mitchell, who is 19 and two sisters, Eliza, who is a freshman and Lauren, who is in sixth grade. Kate participates in volleyball, basketball stats, choir, NHS, FCA, JO volleyball and church youth group. After graduation, she plans on attending Mitchell Technical College to become a radiology technician or Southeast Technical College for cardiovascular sonography.

Shay Michalski is the daughter of Darin and Jessica Michalski. She has two older brothers, Cutler (23) and Kasey (20). Shay is active in volleyball, basketball, NHS, FFA, 4-H, JO volleyball and church youth group. Her future plans are to attend Dakota State University for business/accounting and play volleyball.

Tehya Vig is the daughter of Norman and Tara Vig. She has two sisters, including 22-year-old Chayla and

20-year-old Alicia and one brother, Austin who is a freshman. Tehya's activities include volleyball, basketball, FFA, 4-H, NHS, JO volleyball, church youth group and FCA. She plans to attend Lake Area Technical College and pursue a career in dental hygiene.

King candidates

Cayson Bratland is the son of Travis and Connie Bratland. He has one older brother, Caleb (22). Cayson's activities include FFA and 4-H, and he enjoys showing pigs. He plans to attend Lake Area Technical College and then go back to his family's farm.

Elliot Bratland is the son of Cory and Erica Bratland. He has one brother, Hunter, who is 20 and one sister, Izzy, an eighth grader. Elliot's activities include football, wrestling, FFA and NHS. He plans to enter the workforce after graduation and go to work on the farm with Corey Tellinghuisen.

Joshua Kannegieter is the son of Mark and Christina Kannegieter. He has one sister, 21-year-old Allison and one brother, 20-year-old Lucas. Activities Josh participates in include football, wrestling, baseball, NHS, FFA and student council. His future plans are undecided, but he would like to pursue an agriculture-related career.