School District of Cameron 600 Wisconsin Avenue P.O. Box 378 Cameron, WI 54822

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Fall 2017

Hunter strong

by Anna Jaeger

"I lost a lot that day, but I also gained a lot," said Hunter Gillett, a 2017 Cameron graduate who was involved in a plane crash on May 24, 2017. Hunter lost a lot that day including his friend Owen Knutson, a Chetek student, but continues to keep a positive outlook on his situation.

Hunter talked to Cameron High School students on September 18 about the challenges that he has faced. It was common to hear the teachers talking about grit and perseverance last year. Hunter spoke about how he used these two values to get to where he is today.

"I gained more wisdom in the past three months than I did in my past 18 years. I thought I was mature, I was 18 about to graduate and thought I knew

everything, but I really didn't," Hunter said. Hunter's outlook on all of this is "It could always be worse."

Hunter talked about how he wakes up each day and is thankful for the little things. Through his experience, Hunter has grown closer than ever to his family and friends. He is grateful for the community that he lives in and how much love and support he has received from everyone. Hunter faced many surgeries on his face, back, and ankle. He is expected to make a full recovery and plans to return to his everyday activities. He has already returned to fishing, hunting, and is back on the football field helping coach this year's team. "Hunter is a great inspiration for our whole football



Cameron's FCCLA has a coat drive going on! Donate any gently used and clean winter wear (such as hats, gloves, mittens, and coats) to the box in the middle school office. All of the donated winter wear will go to a central location in Barron County where all the items will be given away for free to anyone who needs a little bit of warmth. Donation boxes can be found in the middle school entrance area, high school office, and various classrooms in the high school. Donations will be accepted until November 1.



Calling all winterwear. Collection boxes are thoughout the district for gently used winter clothing. Donations will be accepted until November 1.



Extended family. Hunter Gillett and Owen Knutson's family were the honarary team captains of the first Chetek-Weyehauser home football game.

The Cometary





Stout stud. Hunter bonds with football coach Clayt Birmingham at Stout.

team. When we think we don't have anything left to give, he pushes us to a different level both mentally and physically," said Richie Murphy, a freshman football player. Hunter loves to motivate and push his former football team to work harder. He attends all of their practices, team meals, and games and will always be seen pushing the boys a little further.

Hunter plans on attending UW-Stout next semester and cannot wait for this opportunity. He is expected to walk again in October, which will make getting around campus easier.

Hunter is an inspiration to many of the Cameron High School students not only because of his perseverance, but because of his positive outlook on life.

Notes from Mrs. Sanborn - school counselor

Attention seniors

Get help paying for college! The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) for the 2018-2019 school year is available starting October 1. Students should use 2016 tax year data to fill this out. Once a student submits their FAFSA, financial aid estimates from campuses can be processed. The FAFSA application is available at

https://fafsa.ed.gov/.

Receive free on-site assistance completing your FAFSA during a College Goal Wisconsin event. Local events will be held in Rice Lake at WITC - 1900

College Drive - on Monday, November 6. The events is open to the public and starts at 6 p.m. An informational mailing was sent home to all seniors in early October. For more information please visit www.collegegoalwi. org

Wisconsin **Education Fair**

As part of our district Academic and Career Planning, all juniors

attended a Wisconsin Education Fair hosted by the UW-Barron County and WITC on Thursday, October 12. Education fairs are great settings

for students to meet with EDUCATION representatives from many different universities,

colleges, military and trade schools giving them the opportunity to explore life after high school. The juniors enjoyed the experience.

Notes from Mr. Meznarich - principal

Thanksgiving break Students will not have school Mon-

day, November 20 through Friday, November 24 this year for Thanksgiving break. School resumes on Monday, November 27, which will also be the first day of the second trimester. Friday, November 17 is the last day of the first trimester. It is very important that you make every attempt to be in school on this day.

Class rings and graduation announcements

Each year members of the sophomore and senior classes meet with a representative from Jostens to pick out and order class rings and graduation announcements. Seniors are also fitted for caps and gowns. Information for class rings and announcements were handed out to students on October 23. Students will place orders with Jostens on Friday, October 26.

District Facebook

page

The Cameron School District has a Facebook page! A number of great things happening throughout the district are shared on the page, along with upcoming events and the lunch menus. Parents are encouraged to "like" the page to see all the great things happening in our district.

Academic and **Career Planning** (ACP)

The 2017-2018 school year is the first year of the Department of Public Instructions' initiative for Academic and Career Planning for all students in grades 6-12 throughout the state. Students at the high school did goal setting at the beginning of the school year and will do a variety of other activities

throughout the school year, such as interest inventories, college and tech school visits and career explorations, to help them plan and prepare for life after high school. Students use a program called Career Cruising to keep a portfolio for the activities they have completed.

Yearbook orders

To order this year's yearbook, there are two easy options.

- 1. Go to www.jostensyear books.com and order online. You may pay with a credit card.
- 2. Fill out the form and bring it and your money to Mrs. Hopkins.

Order forms are available in the high school office, on our website (www.cameron.k12.wi.us), or to directly order, go to www.jostensyearbooks.com. Cost, at this time, is \$55.

See Mrs. Hopkins with additional questions. Don't miss out!

Dance to the beat of your dreams

by Taylor Brueggen

Inspiration and passion follow the CHS dance team and provide courage to be the confident girls that they are. The CHS Dance team came into this school year with two coaches who showed great interest in our girls. Each and every dancer expressed her devotion to dance, committing to the routines, practices, and performances.

Some of this year's squad had sisters who were previously members of the Cameron dance team. These girls were inspired to step into the dance shoes of their older siblings. "I joined because my older sisters were in it," said junior Caitlin Gillett. Caitlin's younger sister, Mikki Gillett, nodded in agreement.

Others on the squad haveparticipated in this sport since a young age. But, no matter what the reasons these girls decided to the beat of their dreams, their parents have been along side of them since the very beginning.



Sideline entertainment. The CHS dance team entertains the crowd at the football game.

Dance has always been about pleasing the fans, and our girls are always crowd ready--from uniforms, to makeup, to putting on a smile to intrigue the crowd.

Senior Haley Bossany said, "Dance is my life!" And part of that life, they do admit, can be a little overwhelming. It takes a lot of work for

the Cameron Comets' dancers to display the spirit of each game, but the beat goes on.



Proud of our poms. CHS Dance team proudly shake their new poms. Our girls make it a point to smile with each move, to look into the crowd with each action, and to dance to the beat.



Sports in Brief

Volleyball Coach: Val Pumala

Seniors: Jordana Craveiro Taylar Jencks, Ali Kringle, Desi Larson, Maddy



Otto, Kelsey Richter, Meranda Richter, Brittny Saffert, and Morgan Warner

Dance

Coaches: Charissa Meyers and

Connie Weis Seniors: Haley Bossany and Taylor Weis



Football

Coach: Jon Haughian Seniors: Colin Davis, Zach Huffman, Alec Reinke, and Chris Schwarz



Cross Country Coach: Dave Gerber Seniors: Kayla Gerber, Paul Mikolon, Micaela Murphy, Alexis Potvin, Ashley Salmonson, and Carli Wanink



Let's run!

by Amara Rodriguez

It is complete and utter silence. Then, a disembodied voice rings out across the cross country course.

"Ten . . . nine . . . eight . . . seven . . . six . . . "

Bang! And they are off! Twelve Comet guys and fourteen Comet girls head out for a three-mile trek-- through rain, mud, hills, bugs, and whatever else happens to be on the course. Strangely, they call this fun.

Running over--or through--anything that's in their path, laughing and chatting all the while, is an everyday occurrence for these distance runners. As senior, Kayla Gerber, said "It's all about trying your hardest and having fun."

The Cameron cross country team practices every night from 3:30 to 4:30, often running up to seven miles! The runners are very focused and determined to be better than they were the day before.

Although winning is a great accomplishment, the real accomplishment is that awesome feel-



Whoo hoo! The team goes down the slip 'n slide after a hot night at practice.

ing you get when you cross the finish line. Teamwork isn't just about "work", it's about "team" and a big part of team-building is having fun. After a recent, long practice, the team enjoyed a slip 'n slide on the old elementary school football field hill. It was a nice break from running for the team. There were many laughs and splashes involved.

Their relaxed fun helped them at the Chetek Invite on September 14. The girls ran like the wind and came out on top! They were team champions and got rewarded with a plaque. It was a great accomplishment for the team. Top runners acknowledged for the race were Carli Wanink and Izzy Thompson.

September 19 was a hot night for the runners at the Barron Invite, but each and every member ran a great race! Freshman Josh Halverson came in first place for the high school boys. Josh was one of the first males in many years at Cameron High to place first at a meet! The guys have continued their success, placing 4th our of 12 teams and the ladies won their conference meet.

This year, new head coach Mr. Dave Gerber took over the reigns from long-time coach Mr. Tim Borstad. Coach Gerber is pleased with the way the season has gone so far and is looking towards the next two weeks. The runners will kick off the end of their season with sectionals on October 21 in Boyceville. They hope to have a handful of Comet team members advance to State on October 28 in Wisconsin Rapids. Although State is the goal for most of the runners, at the end of the day they know they have each other and a rather strange way of spending their "free" time.

So don't be surprised if you hear another voice call out, "Let's run!"

We got spirit, how 'bout you?

by Anna Jaeger

Homecoming was an exciting time of the year for students at CHS. There were a series of dress up days, such as Disney Character Day, Pajama Day, and Dress Like a Teacher Day.

To kick off the week, there was a pep assembly to crown the king and queen. During the pep assembly, homecoming court was called down to the gym floor to participate in a series of activities. They did each other's hair and also had to try and feed each other while being blindfolded. Micaela Murphy and Chris Schwartz were crowned queen and king.

On Wednesday, each grade had their own color they were asked to wear. The boys also competed in powderpuff volleyball. The boys showed off all of their volleyball skills, with a little help from the girls volleyball team players. Every grade cheered for their class wearing their



Royalty. Micaela Murphy and Chris Schwartz show off their new bling.



Lots of love. The Homecoming court consisted of athletes from fall sports. They are Paul Mikolon, Zach Huffman, Alec Reinke, Colin Davis, Curtis Gifford, King Chris Schwarz, Queen Micaela Murphy, Ali Kringle, Kayla Gerber, Carli Wanink, Morgan Warner, and Maddy Otto.

class colors. The seniors were victorious beating the freshman and juniors.

On Thursday, students planned out their outfits carefully to resemble their favorite teachers. Friday the grades competed in games in the gym such as "hungry hippo" where the students laid on scooters and caught balls with buckets. After the games, the students got a surprise from some of the female teachers. The teachers lined up with fun songs and costumes and took turns dancing and lip syncing to the students. The men followed with Mr. Brett Ridout and Mr. Jeff Ladd lip syncing to "Ring of Fire."

After the pep assembly, the students filed out into the football stands to watch this year's powderpuff football girls play. The juniors were victorious over the seniors barely overcoming them in overtime. This led to the Class of 2019 getting their class year painted



Nothing but smiles. The girls receive their first place plaque at the Chetek meet.

the Spirit Stick.

On Saturday, the homecoming dance was held in the commons from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. There were 193 students that attended the dance which was more than any previous years. The DJ at the dance was brought here all the way from the Twin Cities.

Students were involved and this year's homecoming definitely was one to remember.



Like mother like daughter. Mrs. Laurie Adams (right) and her daughter Adelaide (left) dressed up as each other, on Dress Like a Teacher Day.

Newborn chicks

by Jordana Craveiro

Did you know there are baby chicks at Cameron High School? That is right! The students in Mr. Jeff Ladd's animal science class is working on an experimental project that they call "Egg hatching." The science project is based on hatching eggs in an artificial way and adding food coloring with a syringe to see if the chicks will hatch in a different color. Mr. Ladd's first step was picking the fertilized eggs in the hatchery. Then, those eggs were collected and brought into the school. In the class, the students put seven eggs in each of the three incubators and wait 21 days to see if they will hatch. The incubators take the place of the mother and provide the eggs with a 99.5 degree temperature during the three weeks.

During the weeks, progress is noticeable. The first week the egg doesn't change that much;



A whole world in one hand. *The newborn chick awakens to his first minutes of life.*

but in the second, observers notice veins begin forming. In the last week, a big dark oval forms on half of the egg and the body starts to be seen. Once again, the food coloring has to be injected during the last week when the chicken is already formed. When asked about coloring the chicks, senior Micayla Kirkland explained, "If the color is put in the chick too early, the chick would have a higher chance of dying." The first batch of eggs was



The fake mom. *The incubator maintains a 99.5 degree temperature in order for the eggs to hatch.*

planned to hatch on August 28, the second on October 2, and the third on October 14. The first incubator had their eggs hatch on the expected date. It was a success! The majority of the chicks survived and were born with color. The whole class was very proud of their accomplishment, and some of the students liked the experience so much they are taking their chicks home.



The blue miracle. One of the blue chicks shows off its color as the students celebrate its birth.

Now the students are waiting on the second batch of eggs to hatch. All the students seem to have liked having the responsibilities of taking care of an animal's life.

According to Mr. Ladd, this class helps people know more about animal life and make students more informed. "It's a huge responsibility and does not always happen the way we want, but you have to work hard," said Mr.Ladd. Eight years ago he gave the experiment a try and in all the years the percentage of sucesswas 50 percent. He affirms that he likes teaching this lab to students because it is a project that will help in all students' lives with the responsibilities they take on to care for and nurture the chicks.

Believe ...

by Dominick Ottum

Believe. How can one word have so much meaning to so many people? Well, I asked some of the CHS volleyball team because "Believe" is their team motto.

This motto was adopted two years ago after the volleyball team went to State. The returning team was completely different after that.

"No one really believed that we would be any good or be able to win," senior player Ali Kringle explained.

Under the circumstances, all members of the team needed a "Believe" mentality this year. There is no doubt that Ali, who is sitting on the bench this season due to a injury, believed in her team.

A key player, Ali was injured during the Regional Finals basketball game last year, leaving her with a torn ACL and damaged meniscus. "I sat out the rest of the season, all of softball, and now all of volleyball."

Ali, however, didn't turn away from her volleyball family. "It's



Support. Even though she can't join the action on the court, injured player *Ali Kringle sits on the bench cheering on her team.*



Team spirit. Before they start the game, volleyball girls fire up with high spirits.

like having a bunch of sisters; even though I can't play this year, I enjoy going to practice and being with them after school, laughing and having a great time." Like Ali, Mrs. Pumala, coach of Cameron girls' volleyball team, recognizes the closeness of her team. "These kids are like my family," Mrs. Pumala commented. "We care about each other. I want them to be successful in things—more things than just volleyball." And success is certain to be a goal accomplished this season because of leadership. "Everyone is a team leader in her own way," explained Mrs. Pumala. "They all take ownership of what they do. If they make a mistake, they fix it

On the topic of leadership, Ali also had a few insights to add. "This year, we have a lot of seniors. They have really stepped up and set high standards

next time."

and good examples for the underclassmen. We have four captains this year-- Maddy Otto, Morgan Warner, Brittny Saffert, and Taylar Jencks. There is a lot of responsibility being a captain. These ladies have become great leaders and represent our program well"

The performance on the court this year has demonstrated how much the girls "believe" in themselves and each other. So what, you might ask, are the prospects for post-season play?

Mrs. Pumala commented, "We have been improving throughout this season. We are in a good place right now. We have the ability to do well in tournaments. We just need to work together to make it happen."

It has been a crazy year," Mrs. Pumala added. "It's a fun group of kids to work with. I'm proud of the choices they are making. We just need to believe!"

Oh! It's deer season

by Richard Teetzel-Austin

Mr. Jon Haughian, one of our science teachers, has been incorporating a game called "Oh Deer!" into his curriculum. The game highlights the reality of resource depletion and works like this.

Two (or more) students begin playing the role of deer. The rest of the students then select one of three resources and play the role of that resource. With the resources and deer facing away from each other, the resource students place their hands over their stomachs to represent food, over their mouths to represent water, or over their heads to represent shelter.

The deer, of course, have no idea which resources have just become available. But, they still need to choose which resource is absolutely necessary for the year's survival.

Once everyone is ready, Mr. Haughian blows a whistle and



In action. The "Oh, Deer!" game taught students about deer population growth.

yells, "Oh, Deer!"

Everyone turns to face each other. Then the deer race to find the resource that will prevent their demise.

In order to keep the deer honest, each displays a hand gesture which matches the essential resource. If a deer has been unfortunate enough to find that the essential resource he/she has chosen has already been depleted, the deer "dies" and becomes a resource.

"Claimed" (or consumed) resources become deer. The game continues until the resources are exhausted or the class period is over.

Mr. Haughian graphs the results of the game, demonstrating how a animal population can grow or shrink due to the availability of natural resources in an area.

"This is a great teaching tool for kids," Mr. Haughian said. "In my class, we wondered if a population could grow forever or if there are things that limit that." Some common reactions Mr. Haughian sees are how students can now actually see populations grow and shrink and to allow them to more easily understand population growth.

Mr. Haughian believes that the game is an effective teaching tool. "It allows my students to compete for deer resources, just like in real life," he explained. "It also blends multiple learning styles together, allowing more students to learn the concept."

Mr. Haughian has high confidence that this game will continue to help his students better understand the concept of population growth.

New biking team

by Gunner Wilder

Along with many other additions to Cameron's 2017-2018 school year, students now have the option to join the biking team based out of Rice Lake. The Rice Lake Composite Team consists of 15 riders from six different towns. There are two competitors from Cameron. They are freshman Ethan Komp, and sophomore Remington Ladd. This year marks the first year any Cameron students have been on the team.

The team has seven coaches, Matt Nelson, Jame Kiffmeyer, Jon Gargulak, Pam Savas, Jeff Walsh, Ron Kay, and David Martin. Twice a week the group gets together for practices. Practices usually begin with some light instruction from the coaches

Ready, set, go. The bikers get ready to practice at Mommsen's Pumpkin Patch in Rice Lake.

and lead into bikers riding for about an hour. After the time has passed, they have covered roughly five miles of off-road trails. Each year, there are five races in Wisconsin that take place in Waukesha, Mt. Morris, Waterloo, Hayward, and Iola. There are 38 teams around the state that compete in each of these races. With

Trust the Process

by Gunner Wilder

Without a doubt, this year's Cameron football team has one of the highest ceilings in the area. The young Comets have four senior players on the entire team. Unfortunately, last season's center, Colin Davis, entered his senior year with a torn labrum and was ruled out for the year. That being said, only three fourthyear players were able to suit up on Friday nights. Fittingly, the Cameron Comets' motto for the year is "Trust the Process." When asked about the catchy motto, captain Chris Schwarz said, "Not everything is going to be perfect 'Trusting the Process' is not just about this season, it's about the work that the underclassmen



Lakers on Friday, September 8. are putting in now that will make them a good team in the future." With injuries and inexperience plaguing this year's squad, they have remained extremely positive through adversity. The positive when you have three or four guys outlook resides in the belief that who have had varsity experience. all of the hard work will eventually pay off. Along with Chris, the two other captains of the team, senior Alec Reinke and junior



Future environmentalists. Mr. Haughian's class study their material for their upcoming game.



only four teams in a one-hour radius, it is clear that the majority of them are in the southern part of the state. When asked about the thrilling sport, Remington said, "It is really an adrenaline rush because you never know what is coming up ahead." Without a doubt, the biking team has been a great addition to Cameron.

Family. The Cameron football team is introduced prior to facing the Shell Lake

Derek Gifford, have displayed exceptional leadership throughout the season. With their ability to be optimistic in the worst of times, they inspire the underclassmen to push forward with the future in mind. Overall, the Cameron team has been blessed with a great group of guys that simply love football. The coming years look very bright for the young Comets.

Production Tech

Cameron School District has many classes that prepare students for life outside of classroom. Students in Mr. Jay Cornell's Production Tech class are learning about the process of running a business where a product is made, marketed, produced, and sold to customers. Students applied for positions and were interviewed by Mr. Jeremy Miller, the HR director for Jennie-O Turkey Store. The positions were filled with Cole Gilles as CEO, Isaac Timblin as the Financial Manager, Jacob Johnson as Marketing Manager, Curtis Gifford as Quality Control Manager, and Tim Petersen and Thomas Vought as Production Managers.

This years students decided to make and sell sofa servers. Now students are offering their sofa servers for \$30 or two for \$50 and are offering three color choices. If you are interested in purchasing a sofa server, feel free to contact Cole Gilles at 715-764-2548 or e-mail us at cameronhandcraftedfurnishing@gmail. com



by Micayla Kirkland

Some of you may have heard Garth Brooks song "Good Ride, Cowboy," but one Cameron student lives it. Senior Clay Murray spends much of his free time in the saddle or with a rope in his hand.

Good ride, Cowboy

Clay has devoted so much time to his rodeo competitions, having become interested in the rodeo scene when he was about three years old. Although his interest was piqued when he was just a tiny tot, Clay actually began his rodeo career when he was about nine years old. The two activities he competes in are Team Roping and Calf Roping.

Calf Roping is an event where there is a rider and his horse, trying to catch a calf with a rope. The competition is timed, and technique is essential to a good score. Team Roping is very similar, but the competitors use a steer instead of a calf and there are two people attempting to bring down the steer quickly. One person is the header, and he ropes the horns of the steer while the other partner tries to rope the steer by the neck.

Clay has competed with people in the top ranks of ropers and



Cow catching. Clay Murray and his partner are caught roping a calf as fast as they can.

riders throughout the country. Clay has competed at Nationals in Team Roping, and he is predicted to make Nationals in Calf Roping.

Clay started competing because he wanted to continue the legacy of his family. The rodeo tradition was passed down for generations. "We always had a toy dummy around, and I used to get a rope and try to do what my family did all the time," Clay stated. "When I'm out there, I have an adrenaline rush, and I compete to win big!"

There are no specific requirements to becoming a cowboy, aside from having horse and ropes and being in full dress. That includes boots, cowboy hat, pants, belt, and a full button-up shirt. Clay plans to keep pursuing that good ride for years to come. Clay stated, "I will do this until the day I die. It's a big part of my

the day I die. It's a big part of my life, and it wouldn't feel right if I didn't keep pursuing it."

Friends from other countries

by Jordana Craveiro

This year in Cameron, two exchange students joined the CSD this year. Milena Gravenhorst and Jordana Craveiro both came here with the same organization, AYA (Academic Year In America), and are staying with the Gilletts for the school year.

Milena, a sophomore from Germany, is staying with Mike and Candi Gillett. For her, living in the United States is a great experience. She likes to meet new people and get to know the



Culture mix. Jordana and Milena get along great.

Haciendo una Diferencia (Making a difference)

Kindness is all around us! CHS's Spanish Club, led by Mrs. Tammy Pacholke made a really interesting meal and served it at Benjamin's House in Rice Lake. Mrs. Pacholke said, "The meal preparation was great! The kids made taquitos, guacamole, Spanish rice, churros, and empanadas." About 20 Spanish club members helped prepare and serve this yummy treat to the grateful families. The members learned a lot about creating a fantastic Spanish meal and about helping others in their time of need.



Fun and helpful. On September 27, 20 Spanish Club members take their prepared meal to Benjamin's House to feed its residents.

American culture. According to her, Americans are more friendly than German people and she loves that. She said that some of the weirdest differences are what the toilets and doors look like here. After being here for more than a month, Milena believes that she is adapting well. School, her host family, and having an exchange student as her neighbor help a lot with homesickness. She is enjoying this new experience, and it is like nothing she has ever done before. "Everything here is new for me and I love it," she said. Jordana is 16 and arrived here from Brazil on August 17. For her, this new experience in the USA is very interesting. Brazil is a country that has a strong personality and is extremely different from America, yet still similar. Jordana is having a culture shock and has had numerous conflicts attempting to adapt in this new country. Even though she has been in the United States before, it's her first

time officially living here. She is staying with Mark and Cammy Gillett along with her three host sisters Rachel, Caitlin, and Mikki. She plays multiple sports just like she did back home. At school, Jordana was on the dance team and now she is playing volleyball. She is interested in all school activities and wants to try as many as possible. "I want to enjoy all the opportunities I have," she says. Jordana still has to deal with being homesick but she said, "Now as things are changing and I'm making new friends, I'm happier." Even with all the differences and the difficulties, Jordana is really excited for this experience.

Milena and Jordana are both living the same experience as exchange students. Therefore, they understand each other and have become very good friends. They both are excited for this year and are happy they have each other in this new journey.