

Coach Blevins wins Berens award

When Brian Blevins began his coaching career, his father, Dave Blevins, gave him some advice - you can't base all your success off wins and losses. It's about the little things, the memories along the way.

"I took this advice and have been blessed with so many great successes," Brian said. "We have been fortunate this year, and in years past, to win a lot of games, but all the great memories and opportunities I got to share with our team this year far outweighed final scores. Each year, each season is a journey, and this year's was a great one."

It is bittersweet for the Blevins family as Lawrence-Nelson head football coach Brian Blevins has been named the Berens Coaching award winner for class D-2. Blevins led his team to the state play-off semifinals.

"His dad would be so proud of him and his achievements," Brian's mother, Jody Blevins said after receiving word of the announcement. "I know Dave would have been on the sidelines at every game and his biggest fan."

This year's season did not start out well for Blevins and his team. They were 2-3 and nothing was going right.

Blevins said the 12-60 loss to Kenesaw was a turning point. The Raiders came back to win six straight games inspite of multiple injuries and low moral.

The team got together and talked about character, resiliency, and culture. They identified what they wanted and came together as a team.

As the No. 11 seed in the west bracket, the Raiders upset No. 6 Wauneta-Pal-



COURTESY PHOTO

The husband and wife coaching team of Brian and Kelsea (Jones) Blevins received the Hastings College Alumni Association's Outstanding 2018 Alumni Coach award.

isade, 38-8, before scoring an impressive comeback, 33-30 win over Clearwater/Orchard.

They avenged their earlier loss to Kenesaw, and lost a hard-fought 24-36 battle over unbeaten Mullen in the semifinals to finish 8-4.

Earlier this year, Brian and his wife, Kelsea (Jones) Blevins received the outstanding Hastings Alumni coaching awards for 2018. The presentation was made at the athletic hall of fame and alumni coach recognition banquet and induction ceremony held Saturday, September 22, in the Kiewit Gymnasium at Hastings College.

Along with his head coaching duties at Lawrence-Nelson Public Schools, Brian is the physical education teacher and athletic director. The Stapleton High School graduate played football at Hastings College and

he coached two years at Stapleton before taking over as head coach of the Raiders in 2011. In his eighth season, Blevins has led the Raiders to six consecutive appearances in the Class D-2 state play-offs, with a quarterfinals appearance in 2017 and 2018.

Kelsea is the Spanish teacher and head volleyball coach at Superior Public Schools. She played volleyball at Hastings College and she served as a graduate assistant for the Broncos volleyball program while obtaining her masters degree. Kelsea led Superior on an unthinkable mission by taking down the top three ranked teams in the Class C-2 tournament to win Superior's first ever state volleyball championship last year. Brian and Kelsea live in Superior, and have two children, Breea, 6, and Cruz, 2.

MCHS takes state

Watson outstanding actress



COURTESY PHOTO

McPherson County High School's one act play, "Dark Road," by Laura Lundgren Smith, and coached by Robyn Dalton, won the Class D2 play production championship. Pictured, l-r: Katelyn Powers, Hollianna Watson, Garrett Neal, and Theresa Ascherl.

McPherson County High School's one-act team took on a challenging and intense subject this season. It paid off, as MCHS brought home the 2018 NSAA Class D2 play production championship trophy. It also meant outstanding female performer accolades for Hollianna Watson.

"Dark Road," by Laura Lundgren Smith, and under the coaching of Robyn Dalton, received a total of 176 points. Second went to St. Edward and third and fourth to Leigh and Chambers.

Other schools competing in Class D2 were Loomis and Shickley.

Outstanding male performer went to Alias Schumacher of St. Edward.

Dark Road features Greta, a young girl living in Nazi Germany. She reads that the nearby women's concentration camp is hiring guards, and she sees it as a chance to find her place in the world and provide for her sister, Lise. She soon learns the reality of her duties, and so too does

she learn how to justify her crimes, heading further and further down the dark road laid by the Third Reich. Kind-hearted Lise is shocked at what her sister becomes, and though the two drift apart, their fates remain inextricably and dangerously linked. "Dark Road" is a powerful drama about the choices that allow evil to become ordinary.

A picture of the MCHS one-act team and their trophy will appear in an upcoming issue.

Deer harvest lower

Preliminary deer harvest in Nebraska was five percent behind last year's pace. From September 1 through November 26, there were 47,532 deer checked, compared to 49,925 in 2017.

At the Big Game Check Station in Stapleton, located at the Dick and Sherri Pipal residence, there were 205 deer checked. This is down from the 2017 number of 260.

Mule deer buck harvest decreased slightly, with 8,575 taken, compared to 8,609 in 2017. This is still the second highest recorded mule deer buck harvest on record and bodes well for Nebraska. The average age of bucks is also very good, with 59 percent of bucks estimated at age three or older.

Whitetail buck harvest was up slightly, with 26,525 adult whitetail bucks harvested, compared to 25,489 in 2017. The average age of bucks also increased, with 41 percent of whitetail bucks estimated at age three or older.

Archery and muzzleloader seasons closed December 31. The late antlerless season ends January 15. Hunters who wish to donate venison can use the Hunters Helping the Hungry and Deer Exchange programs. For details go to OutdoorNebraska.org



KENDRA CUTLER - THE STAPLETON ENTERPRISE

Jared Johnson of Lincoln is pictured with the 6 x 6 he checked in at the Big Game Check Station in Stapleton.

New Postal Clerk

Holly Georgius is the new parttime flex clerk at the Stapleton Post Office. She began her duties October 27 Holly attended orientation and window training in Denver and North Platte.

Holly will also be work at Tryon and Arnold, as needed.

"I am excited to start this new journey in my life," Holly said.

She is living in Stapleton and close to her job.

Holly says she only has one hobby - her 8-month-old grandson, Preston, who lives in North Platte.



MARCIA HORA - THE STAPLETON ENTERPRISE

-- News Briefs --

Bronco Branded Beef Fundraiser

Stapleton Public Schools "Beef in School Committee" will be hosting a fundraiser Friday, December 14, beginning at 5:00 p.m. in the school's Bronco Room. This will be held during the Stapleton vs. Twin Loup basketball games.

A bowl of chili, cinnamon roll and drink is \$5.00.

Donations benefit our students by providing high quality, good tasting, locally raised beef for lunch. Thank you for your continued support!

Ringgold Church Soup Supper Rescheduled

The annual soup supper and program at the Ringgold Free Methodist Church has been rescheduled for Sunday, December 16. Serving will begin at 6:00 p.m. and the program will follow.

Christmas Eve At EPC

The Stapleton Evangelical Presbyterian Church will hold a Christmas Eve service on December 24 at 6:00 p.m.

McPherson Co. News



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Notices

- Logan County Commissioners Public Notice
- Village Of Gandy Board Proceedings
- Village Of Gandy Resolution To Sell Property
- School District R-1 Notice Of Regular & Special Board Meeting

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Weather



DATE	HI	LOW	MT
27	33	9	0
28	29	16	0
29	50	24	T
30	45	27	.05
Dec. 1	44	32	.34
2	33	27	.95
3	22	19	.03

Fog was observed on November 27. Snow fell on Dec. 1, .7"; Dec. 2 8.5" with snow melting on contact; Dec. 3 .3". Total November moisture was .79" with 3.7" snow.

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