

A Slice of Rye

Volume 6 Issue 1

Rye High School

January 2019

Sources of Strength Making an Impact



Pictured above: Students that are a part of the Sources of Strength project at the assembly that introduced the project

By: Kalena Barnes

Rye High School began the Sources of Strength Project in 2018. As a school they were selected because of the number of risk factors in the

community. All meetings are held at Rye High School. Sources of Strength is a youth suicide prevention program. Their mission is to prevent suicide from happening. Their eight main focuses are mental health, family support, positive friends, mentors, healthy activity, generosity, spirituality, and medical access. There are currently 23 students and five student advisors who are a part of Sources of Strength. They were nominated by students and staff at Rye High School.

On October 30, 2018 there was an assembly involving all the students in Rye High School to introduce this

project. It introduced all the students within the project and all their goals with sources of strength. All the students got a colored paper with a different color dot. The colored dot shows them where they were located, and the color of the paper showed which group they were in. In each group there were two sources of strength leaders to explain the games they were to play. After all the games were done, the students linked together their colored papers and made a long chain. This is only one of the events that they had happen this school year.

Winter Waltz Another Successful Winter Sports

By: Cameron Mallo

After yet another annual Winter Sports week, Rye High School students spent a week filled with funny spirit days, an intense powderpuff game, and an all-time rivalry game against Swink. After a snow storm forced the dance to be rescheduled, students got to finally enjoy a winter waltz as snow fell.

Monday students braced themselves for college dressing as frats. Tuesday's spirit day was a clash between city and country styles where students were able to fashion their plaid flannels or even the upfront style of dressing up as actual sky scrapers. Wednesday matched the snowy season letting students dress in all white for an ultimate white out. Thursday was the ultimate meme, where students showed off some of internet's finest

memes brought to life. “

Standing up on a podium in front of the whole school with a spot light on their faces this year's candidates included: Madison Gookin, Joy Dennigan, Taylor Lauritzen, Damon Elarton, Carson Crain, and Stephen Monack. The assembly had a review of this past year with a comedic video starring Rachel Shaffer, Jansen Hildreth, and Stephen. Hard boiled eggs flew into the crowd and were used to get people to cheer for their team in the crowd game.

To close off the week of LTA's boys from each grade were able to spike for a victory in competing in this year's Powderpuff volleyball game. Other LTA's included hallway decorating, in which only the sophomores participated. The sophomores called out each of the other classes with their phrase



Pictured above: Seniors win powderpuff 3rd time in a row

on the wall “Honey, where is the other class' spirit?” When it was time to hit the courts for Powderpuff, first round games were the junior vs freshmen, and the senior's vs sophomores. To advance to the final round seniors dominated the sophomores in a hard-fought game. Juniors and freshmen in a close game battled each other out, with the juniors advancing against

Waltz cont. pg 2

Rye High and Craver Middle Schools Music Concert

By Kalena Barnes

Thursday, January 24, 2019, there was a music concert starting at 6:00 pm, located on the Rye High School stage. There were students from Craver Middle School and Rye High School performing. The director of this performance was Mr. Tajeu, this year's music teacher. The choir class and band classes were all in the performance. This was a Christmas Concert that was canceled and got rescheduled for in January.

The music concert began the night with Craver beginning band and ended the night with Rye High School band. In-between both school choirs performed. For Craver Middle School there were 27 students for beginning band, 30 students for advanced band and 21 students for choir. For Rye High School there were 14 students for band, and four students in choir.

Craver beginning band played five songs, advanced band played two songs, and choir sang four songs. Rye band played four songs,



Pictured above: Rye High School Band directed by Mr. Tajeu

and choir sang two songs. There also were students that were a part of the night playing a guitar, piano, and a ukulele. Mr. Tajeu said, "The concert was well attended, and the students played well. It is great that the community is so supportive of the program."

Throughout the concert there was a definite progression in skill with age and ability, but all students played well at their level. Mr. Tajeu did a great job getting the students prepared and playing with skill and poise. In all most people

who came enjoyed seeing their children's performance.



Pictured above: RHS Choir, Eva, Dieaneria, Makayla, and Myracle

Waltz cont. from pg 1

the seniors. Trying to stop the seniors from winning, the game went into a round of three with both teams having one win under their belt. The juniors red, white, and blue wasn't enough to stop the seniors from winning for a third time in a row.

Facing off against one of the biggest rivals, Thursday night the basketball teams played hard fought games against Swink. During these hard-fought games, the boys' varsity team pulled out a win, while the girls lost. To take a break from the intensity of the games, at halftime royalty was

crowned in front of rows of crowd filled bleachers. Stephen with his light up Christmas suit was crowned king, while Madison was crowned the queen.

A week later the dance was finally able to take place, even though some snowy weather took place the same day. After being cancelled the first time scheduled around the second dance was from 7-10 to make sure students got home safely. Michael Valdez didn't think the dance should've been rescheduled, "Because I wasn't going to go the week before but landed up going the second time." Whether

many believed it should've been rescheduled or not many stated this was a fun dance.



Photo by: Emma Jo Lesser
Pictured above: Wintersports candidates Taylor, Steven, Joy, Carson, Madison, and Damon

2018-19 Yearbook Order Your Memories

You can pre-order your 2018-19 yearbook with Mrs. Anglin. They were \$45 before Christmas break, they are \$50 now and after spring break they will go up to \$55. Mrs. Anglin does have a form in her classroom to fill out and turn in with your money. All checks should be written to Rye High School. Books will be passed out May 14th during homeroom. There

will be a signing party during that time as well where students will get ice cream and have time to sign other students' yearbooks.

All senior photos, kindergarten or below photo, quote, and photographer release form are due this Thursday, January 31st by midnight. Mrs. Anglin will not accept any late photos. All items should be emailed to Mrs. Anglin. Quotes

will be checked for appropriateness, if they are deemed inappropriate students will have a little bit of time to choose another quote. All senior photos will be checked as well. No props, babies, or inappropriate clothing will be allowed. Make sure to get those items turned in on time or the Peak Photography photo taken at the beginning of the school year.

Rye FFA Visits National Western Stock Show



Pictured above: Members at the stock show washing off cows to get them ready to show

By: Marty Beeler

Last week the Rye FFA Agriculture class went on a two-day trip (Wednesday and Thursday) to stock show and visited the Coors brewing company.

This year 30 Rye FFA students were able to attend the National Western Stock Show. The stock show is a place for agriculture and new learning experiences, it ranges from animal showing to new technology for the agriculture business. The stock show is held in Denver right next to The Denver Coliseum where the national rodeo is held.

This year the FFA students went on Wednesday the 23rd, and then

attended a tour of the Coors Brewing company on Thursday the 24th. The FFA students attend the stock show every year because, "The members attending have the opportunity to see the agriculture community first hand, and enjoy the rodeo as well as our tour," said Ethan Beeman the Rye FFA teacher.

The Rye FFA students had a blast at stock show this year, the freshmen this year really enjoyed going. Chance Donlon said, "It was a heckin' of a good time, I never thought Ag class was this much fun."

The National Western Rodeo was spectacular to say the least, professional riders and ropers from all

over the country and from around the world competed to see who was moving on to the championship rounds (Which were held on Sunday January 27th) and see who would become the National Western Champion.

The last trip on the two-day field trip was being able to visit and tour the Coors brewing Company. Coors, the second highest selling beer in America and the largest brewing facility in the world with a distance of 5 miles. While the Rye FFA students were there they learned the importance of agriculture, not just in the classroom but with a visual process of what growing crops can achieve.

Students who attended the trip pay for the trip with the annual Oyster Fry and Auction which is set for March 13th. All 30 students who attended will be up for auction, where attendees of the Oyster Fry can bid on them. If you win the bid for a student that student will then have to go work for you on various projects for eight hours. Learning about agriculture and working all go hand in hand and these students are learning a lot.

Aerobics and Rhythms Newest Course Offered

By- **Madyson Blok**

Getting into any work out plan are a good way to grow energy and get to learn your bodies limits. Mrs. McKinley created the program Aerobics and Rhythms for students who are girls that don't want to do anything hard core and to let the girls who just want to do anything they want by dancing and doing whatever makes them feel their moves.

From being in that class for only a few weeks I can really feel improvements with my joints and how I can do so much more than from when I began. For this semester aerobics and rhythms are doing the eight counts and moving to the flow of the beat, by hitting each beat with a new movement. Aerobics and Rhythms is a great way to get a good core workout without even knowing and by having fun.



Pictured above: Students using ribbons for movement in the aerobics class

TSA Helps Pediatric Cancer Patients With Blankets

By: **Kacie Anglin**

For the fourth year in a row, Rye High School TSA chapter (Technology Student Association) will take part in Fleece For Fighters. TSA members are making and collecting fleece-tie blankets from now until February 18th.

Fleece For Fighters is a community service project created by Colorado TSA to create fleece-tie blankets for seriously ill or injured children. The blankets are donated to different hospitals where pediatric cancer patients or seriously injured children are staying. The service project supports and comforts these children. The blankets are collected at the state competition,

February 21st in Denver, where TSA state officers then take the blankets to the hospitals. TSA chapters compete to see which chapter can collect the most blankets and make the most impact.

Kacie Anglin and Dean Carter, both teachers at Rye High School, are the chapters advisors and are collecting the blankets. If you would like to help, please drop off the tie blankets at the high school before February 18th. You can purchase supplies for tie blankets at most stores that have fleece material. JoAnn's and Hobby Lobby offer kits to make these blankets and you can use their coupon to help with the cost.



Pictured above: Middle school students competing at regional TSA competition at SEBS, fleece blankets up front are blankets collected by SEBS TSA chapter

Mikey Atencio Fighting to Become State Champ

As the Rye High School wrestling team seeks its first ever champion, Mikey Atencio has emerged as a strong candidate to accomplish the feat. Last year, Mikey earned third place at state. Now, Mikey is the top ranked 113-pounder in 2A this season with a 15-0 record and has dropped several ranked foes, with a majority of his matches not even close. Of his 15 wins, seven have come by pin, six in the first period. Three of Atencio's victories were technical falls. Mikey

rarely allows points. He's given up just seven all season.

"Mikey has a huge impact in our practices with his leadership, work ethic and attitude," coach Dean Decker said of Atencio's hustle in competition and practice. "As coaches, we could not be any prouder." Mikey recently pinned Fowler's Seth McFall, 3A's No. 2-ranked 113-pounder and defending state champion in 1 minute, 32 seconds into the first period of their finals match at the Santa Fe League

tournament.

His heart and impression on his teammates is what stands out. "Mikey has impressed me the most with his work ethic and determination," Decker said. "He is an outstanding athlete and team member of our T-Bolts." Mikey, also was recently voted as the player of the week in the state from the staff at insidecoloradowrestling.com and sponsor Cliff Keen Athletic. (Information for article was from the Pueblo Chieftain)

Ledama Tajeu Newest Music Director

By: **Madyson Blok**

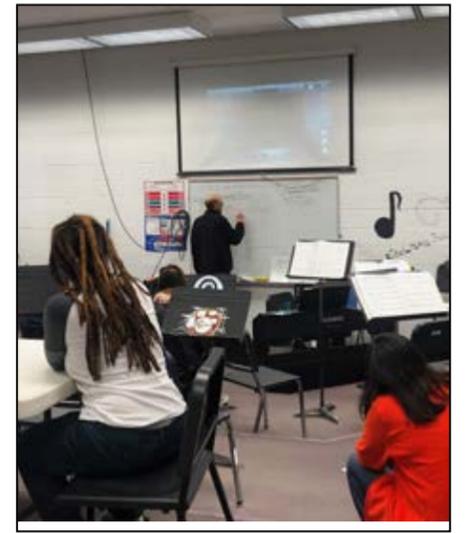
Ledama Tajeu is a music teacher here at Rye High School and Craver Middle School. He has been known to make sure kids reach the top of the line in the goals of overcoming music dreams. Tajeu started to play music when he was five and by the time he got to 10th grade, he knew he wanted to preform and teach music for a living.

Tajeu grew up in Ithaca, NY until the age of 14 when his family moved to Chicago, IL. He attended three schools: DePaul University, UAB, and The University of Alabama. This 2018-2019 school year is his first year of teaching at Rye High School. Ledama Tajeu said, "the students at Rye High School are awesome! They are respectful, hardworking, kind, and helpful. The students in my classes come to class ready to work, especially the concert band students."

Tajeu also has a brother, Gabriel. He is a recording artist and professor at Temple University. During Ledama's free time he spends at home cooking or baking, practicing

different instruments, exercising, and gaming. "I love my XBOX," says Tajeu, "I am a big gamer." If he could go anywhere in the world he would like to look at the fine arts there and wants to study their music. He really likes exchanging ideas with others in cornerstone of the meaning of life from his perspective. He enjoys everything about teaching at Rye High. He feels well supported, students and faculty are friendly and helpful, and he gets to teach music every day. He said, "what could be any better than to see the people I teach learn and grow into the soul of music!"

When it comes to his music, he is very passionate, but also serious about it. Ledama believes most students think positively about his way of teaching. Improving the quality of the music they are working on is a paramount which most of his students understand. "I ask students to be attentive, respectful, do what is asked of them every time, which is hard for some. Some students



Pictured above: Mr. Tajeu teaching his music technology class

resent my 'old-school' style, but excellent band and music programs are structured around discipline, order, and respect."

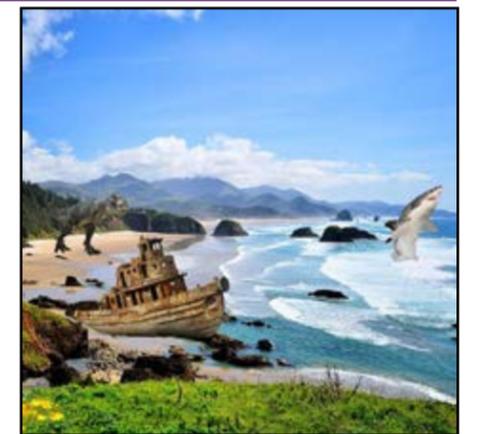
Having Ledama Tajeu teach and show students that anything is possible, he is also showing them to follow their dreams and kept your mind set on what you want to happen in your future. "Your mind can only go so far, but your imagination can go as far as you want it to." -Ledama Tajeu



Pictured above: Advanced digital art work by Fiona Hughes



Pictured above: Advanced digital art work by Taylor Lauritzen



Pictured above: Digital art work by Damon Elarton

Can Rye Boys' Get Decent Spot in Playoffs?

By Michael Valdez

Rye High School Boys Basketball team has been working hard all season. They have been battling with every team trying to get a win and move up in the seatings. Their record is 6-8 after their loss against John Mall and Crowley County. The score against John Mall was 43-47 on John Mall's home court. The score against Crowley was 42-51 on Crowley's home court. Both of those games were winnable as Rye was up against John Mall in the third quarter 29-25. Rye was down five going into halftime as

the score was 20-25. They practice all week and then go Fowler on Friday.

I asked Kyle Spencer the boys basketball coach what he thinks of the season and he said, "It's not how we imagined the season going, but we just have to keep battling and not worry about what happened in the past. If we want a spot in the playoffs we have to compete and be more disciplined than the rest of the team's, we play."

The boys' basketball team hopes to win some more games before the playoffs start. Their next games are

Fowler, Hoehne, Simla, and Rocky Ford before the playoffs and they hope to finish strong.



Pictured above: Thunderbolt Basketball team after their Championship Win over ECA in the ECA Tournament
Photo by: Sue Barcus

Girls Take Their Record to Only One Loss This Season

By: Cameron Mallo

As of right now the girls record for overall is 12-1, with a league record of 7-1. In 2A Santa Fe League the girls are right behind Swink, who they lost to 28-34. The girls most recent games were played at John Mall and Crowley County where they demolished both teams.

"With the support of the coaches and each of the fans who go and support, you can tell the girls are driven to win and fight hard," said Alessa. With hopes of going far in playoffs and districts the girls continue to fight with their next game this Friday at Fowler @5:30.

This year joining the lineup of varsity are the twins, Sophie and Sydney Adamson. Out of 13 girls 12 have floated and played varsity at least once, with Ella Peters and Morgan Elarton floating almost every single time. Varsity's players include: Madison Gookin, Hannah Ambler, Jolee Ortiz, Chloe Richardson, Sydney Adamson, Sophie

Adamson, and Brittney Miller. For scoring the girls' team has five players in the top 20 for their league, with Sophie being ranked at 5th in scoring. In rebounds for the league, Sophie is ranked 7th and Madison is ranked 9th. Hannah Ambler is ranked 6th for assists.

Although the team has had many highs, recently the girls have faced

many injuries. Chloe is currently wearing a cast on her foot suffered from sprained Achilles. Alessa Baker was placed under concussion protocol. Gracie Pfalmer just recently at Crowley hit her head and may have a concussion. The team is hoping the injuries stop so they might return with a fighting force and each of the team mates alongside them.



Pictured above: Madison Gookin takes the ball down to score another point against Hoehne