

Bringing Back Power: GICC Repairs after Flooding

by Catalina Chavez-Gonzalez

In late June of this year, flash flooding caused extensive damage throughout the city of Grand Island, and in particular, at GICC. The school faced structural damage and lost power, heating, and air conditioning. Thanks to the hard work of Dr. Engle, GICC's maintenance staff, and technicians, the school was able to get back up and running for school to start in the fall. James Martinez, the school's maintenance manager, Dr. Engle, and Mr. Manivong gave their input on the situation.

The school faced severe damage, with up to twelve feet of water covering parts of the school's basement, ruining all sorts of school equipment.

"The flood water seeped through the middle school boys' locker room before blowing the double doors off that provided access to the old weight room from the ramp outside. It also tore the golf simulator room to pieces and all of its contents. As the water rushed through the basement, it damaged props and performance outfits along with a large amount of youth, middle school, and high school football gear and equipment. The storm and flooding caused electrical and mechanical equipment failure ..." Martinez explained.

It took the contributions, hard work, and creative thinking of many to repair and rebuild the school after the destruction.



James Martinez (F)

"We had to remove equipment that weighed over 1500 lbs, and replace it, we had to pull hundreds of feet of wire out of water filled conduit and dry it out and run all new wire using a forklift ... Once we got some power back on, Rocky, his employee, Steven, and I ran two temp panels to get the rest of the school going, replacing the damaged equipment with new equipment as it was delivered to the school taking on whatever new obstacle that came before us." Martinez continued.

The issues following the flooding threatened GICC's ability to start school in August. Thanks to many positive developments, the school was able to open for the fall and regain air conditioning the first week.

"Some of it is just divine intervention. We found solutions that were not obvious, like rewiring parts of the school through areas that have never been used before. We found out that

some of the wiring that got damaged was actually not necessary wiring. It was stuff that we didn't need that had always been there, but never questioned. It was kind of a series of very fortunate events that led us to where we are," Dr. Engle expressed.

Many people are to be appreciated for GICC's restoration after the flash flooding.

"It starts with Dr. Engle working with our maintenance staff, insurance provider, electricians, heating and cooling technicians, and inspectors getting together to not only assess the damage, but come up with a solution to fix the problems," stated Manivong.

Dr. Engle and the faculty are still tackling the ongoing effects of the flood in the school; however, all remain under control, and the school can move forward from this unfortunate event.

"To date, we still have equipment coming in that needs to be replaced, but we have the school in a position where we can replace things without missing a beat. Some of these bigger items will be replaced during school breaks. Through it all, working in water, in the dark, dust, and debris... the joy of seeing the kids and faculty (the GICC family) walk through the doors on that first day of this school year made it all worthwhile...God Is Great!!!" Mr. Martinez expressed.

New Faces: Big Changes

by Emely Ye

The first all-school Mass of the 2025-2026 school year had the most students in attendance ever.

Due to this significant increase in students, there is a necessity for more staff. Therefore, this year, the GICC staff has hired more education paraprofessionals for the elementary students, to ensure each student gets the quality education they deserve.

"I was always a friend and helper to the special education kids when I was in school, so I have always wanted to help them. I knew that when I got older, I would enjoy helping elementary kids learn and grow, so that is what I am doing," expressed Lexi Trejo (F).

This year, we have grown our elementary staff with two new paras



Jackson Farias (F)

to help out in the classroom. Being a para requires patience and compassion towards kids. This is not an easy task and can easily be overlooked, but this job truly is something special to teachers who deeply appreciate their help, and to the students who get more of that one-on-one communication. The paras ensure that GICC provides the exceptional education that we're known for.

"Having been a student at GICC, I've been fortunate to stay in touch with many of the faculty, and this position was mentioned to me. I see it as a good first step that will allow me to decide whether education is the right path for me," voiced Jackson Farias (F).

Mr. Farias, who graduated from GICC in 2021, has come back to the Crusader Family as a para to help out the newly developed elementary school. With so many students this year, teachers now face a challenge of quantity vs. quality, from one kid to another who needs to be taken care of, paras step in and support struggling students.

"It can be challenging sometimes because each student is different. I like to build relationships and get to know them, because I feel that helps me support them best," described Jackson Farias (F).

Teaching kids isn't everyone's cup of tea. It can be difficult when students are being stubborn, compounding the issue of multiple students, but it's essential to under-

stand that kids aren't fully developed, and they all deserve to have quality education., it must be done in an appropriate way to support them in everything they do. Knowing every child and understanding them can not only help the students to see where they need to be supported, but also the teachers and other staff members. Building those relationships is crucial to youth success.

"I enjoy the relationships I can make with all of the kids, not just the ones I have one-on-one with. It is an amazing feeling when the student finally catches onto the concept we are learning," exclaimed Lexi Trejo (F).

Having the paras observe the classroom to help individual students has helped them grow in different areas, whether it is academically, socially, or emotionally. The role of a para is truly special and aligns with everyone else's goals for the elementary students.

"My goal is to help my kids grow and stay in their class longer. Growing stamina is also really important so that the kids can work longer and stay focused longer," explained Lexi Trejo(F).

Seeing the students grow in different aspects and seeing them succeed is all that the paras and the staff of GICC want for the elementary school students. It is a blessing to have these new staff members to help out with the amazing school year to come!

Crusaders March on



by Claire Woitaszewski

At first glance, marching band may look easy, but behind every performance, there is a group of students who work hard to have precise coordination and to memorize the music. They provide a good example of spirit and pride in so many ways. Whether energizing crowds at football games or representing our school in a competition, the band is a presence that continues to be there. They constantly face new challenges, but also gain new potential with the 8th graders every year. The director of the GICC band, Tonilynn Birch (F), has been working at Central Catholic since 2023. She has put in dedication and hard work into the band every year.

There isn't a year that doesn't come with challenges involving music or marching, but the more time the band has spent together practicing, whether they're in the band room or outside, the easier things get.

"Truly, there haven't been too many challenges this year, but if I had to choose one, it would be having the music fully memorized and marching and playing at the same time, which are both difficult things to accomplish," Birch stated.

With all the challenges that can come along, it can become difficult for one person to do it all by themselves, and because of this, the upperclassmen have been a huge aid to the newcomers in the band. Birch always expresses her gratitude towards the returning members for being so willing to help others who need it.

"The upperclassmen have helped the 8th graders tremendously by being leaders in the group. I can't do everything, so they really have stepped up and been excellent examples of what to do and by upholding the high standards for the 8th grad-

ers," Birch affirmed.

Now, this isn't to say that the 8th graders don't bring their own qualities to the band; in fact, they have been a huge contribution to the band since last year.

"The 8th graders have impacted the sound significantly; they are a large group, so having those numbers move up into the band has helped to fill out our sound, especially in the low brass," Birch answered.

There are many things to look forward to during the marching season. Everyone's strengths have blended together to form a hardworking band, showing great teamwork and unity. With new goals on the horizon, the band is more than ready to continue presenting their strengths.



The marching band rehearsing their song, Imperial March, before stepping off on 9/20, UNK Band day. Photo by Harrison McClure

New Priest joins the Crusaders

by Sofia Crumrine

When Father Beran walked up to the altar to celebrate the first school mass of the year, students noticed something new - not just the person standing in front of them, but also the time of day. This year, our school welcomed a new priest and a new Mass schedule, with Mass moving from the traditional 9:00 a.m. to a late morning.

Father Beran is new to both the priesthood and our school community, but he says his first impression of the school has been overwhelmingly positive. "The students I've met so far have been very friendly and welcoming to me, and I'm looking forward to getting to know even more of you as the school year moves forward," he shared.

Growing up in Lincoln, NE, Father Beran attended Catholic schools, Sacred Heart and Pius X, before serving 4 years in the Marines. It was during his own school days he felt called to the priesthood.

"I first felt the call probably around the 4th or 5th grade," Fr. Beran recalled.

We had daily Mass, and I was very impressed by the priests I saw celebrating Mass and hearing confessions."

Earlier this year, Beran was ordained a priest, an experience he describes as unforgettable. "It was the greatest day of my life to be able to give myself completely to God in such a way is a beautiful gift," Fr. Beran exclaimed



Sofia Crumrine (10)



Daniel Reiter (F)

Although he isn't surprised about being placed at a school, he is very thrilled with the opportunity.

"I'm very happy to be assigned here, and I'm looking forward to this school year," Fr. Beran added. Campus Minister Daniel Reiter shares that excitement, saying while Father Beran is still adjusting to parish and school life, he has "handled the transition exceptionally well."

Reiter (F) also mentioned that Father Beran will play an active role beyond celebrating school Mass.

"He will currently support the school by hearing confessions, assisting with Eucharistic Adoration, and occasionally serving as a guest speaker in religion class," Reiter (F) clarifies.

The shift in Mass times is another change students faced this new school year. According to Reiter, the decision was made to better balance school and parish schedules.

"Many priests have parish Masses scheduled between 8:00 and 9:30 am, so a later time allows them to serve both their parishes and our school more effectively," Reiter (F) said.

While the change in timing may be the most noticeable adjustment for students, the deeper shift comes with the presence of a new priest. As Father Beran begins his first year at Central Catholic, both he and the school body look forward to walking together in faith and growth.

4-H: Building Our Youth

by Madison Graybill

The Nebraska State Fair is no doubt one of the most illustrious attractions to pass through Grand Island. This year, they attracted over 330,000 attendees and generated over \$12 million. While many aspects of the fair contribute to its success, the 4-H program truly sets it apart. 4-H gives thousands of young Nebraskans from all over the state an opportunity to showcase their skills and hard work.

Many people have developed the misconception that 4-H is solely focused on farming. While there is a strong focus on agriculture and animals, the program offers much more. Kids can showcase items such as artwork, handmade crafts, and exciting experiments.

While preparing to present their projects, kids are given a chance to develop more than just their exhibits; they're developing important life skills like responsibility, planning, and resilience. 4-H also encourages kids to learn more about themselves and develop and discover new interests. The program provides them with a platform to experiment and utilize their imaginations.

4-H also benefits communities across the state. It inspires members to start service projects like food and clothing drives, tutoring, and community clean-ups.

Organizing these events helps kids learn the importance of giving back and makes them better leaders

GICC elementary schoolers exploring the animal enclosures at the State Fair.

Photos by Madison Graybill



in their communities. Young kids taking the initiative also inspire others to help support people in need and make lasting impacts on those around them. The 4-H program helps members build lasting friendships and surrounds them with others who share a commitment to making a difference.

Another important aspect of 4-H is the mentorship and support that youth receive from adult volunteers and community members. These relationships help young people build confidence, gain guidance, and develop skills that will serve them well beyond the fairgrounds. Through workshops, club meetings, and leadership opportunities, 4-H members learn how to communicate effectively, work as a team, and set goals for their future. This support system develops a sense of belonging and encourages youth to continue growing as individuals and contributors to their communities.

The Nebraska State Fair simply wouldn't be complete without the creativity of the 4-H program. It's important that we make the most out of our opportunities to support 4-H and celebrate the hard work of kids all over the state.

Special Feature: Culture Swap



by Sofia Alba-Esparza

What feels ordinary in one culture can feel extraordinary in another. For foreign exchange students, that means every day leads to a discovery. I am going to take you through what I like to call a “Culture swap.” This article focuses on Beatriz Latorre Martinez (10), João Abdo Lima Salomão (11), and Jennifer Na’s (10) comparisons of the U.S. and their home countries.

“In Spain, we usually eat around 3 and have dinner at 9 or 10 pm, so there is a slight difference in these times.” Latorre expressed. Honestly, if I were eating my first meal at 3 P.M. and then waiting to eat dinner until 9 or 10 P.M., I would be hangry all the time.

Schools in South Korea are unlike schools here in the U.S. There are definitely some distinct differences between the two countries. The infrastructure, for example, surprised one

of the students.

“American schools are cooler. Cool activities and cool lockers. I like the fact that the school isn’t so tall (like in Korea, so I don’t have to walk up 4 floors every morning). In Korea, everyone has nametags on their school uniforms. I think American schools need nametags, too. How am I supposed to know their names??” Na stated.

Being far away from home comes with a lot of challenges and obstacles to tackle; one of which is feeling homesick and missing your country. Abdo Lima Salomao is one of the many foreign exchange students who can attest to this experience.

“Hey, my name is Joao and I’m from Brazil. Sometimes I miss Brazilian food, like cuscuz, feijoada, and pão de queijo. I think the US could have less fast food. I also miss Brazilian music, like Carnival songs and other types of music, too. In Brazil, we have a public healthcare system (SUS) with free admission, which would be a positive thing here for people who don’t have the means to pay for a hospital.” Joao explained.

Would you like to start school late and have an earlier dismissal at the cost of not having lunch? I personally don’t think I would sacrifice my lunchtime in exchange for fewer school hours.

“School hours are different: we start at 8:30 am and we end school at 2:20 because we don’t eat at school.” Latorre shared.

One of the most remarkable things

U.S schools are known for is prom, school spirit weeks, and football pep rallies. Of course, other countries don’t have this, but they do have other discrete parties/celebrations compared to the U.S.

“In Brazil, we have some parties like Carnival and a party in June (Festa Junina), and everyone needs to go in country clothes. We worked at this party to get some money to do a big prom party in our last year. In our last year, we have had some jokes, and some weeks we can go with a fantasy theme. We can also do a graduation trip to the beach or to another country, like Argentina. In all grades, we have some trips to do.” Stated Abdo Lima Salomão.



João Abdo Lima Salomão

America's Future Business Leaders



The FBLA members, after their first meeting, gathering in front of Performance Plus Outdoors, the building where their meeting was held.

Photo courtesy of Phou Manivong

by Jane Novinski

Future Business Leaders of America, also known as FBLA, is a student organization located here at GICC. FBLA has helped many people and businesses in the past, and will continue to do so in the future. The advisor of FBLA, Phou Manivong, plans to uphold these standards and to do even more in the future with new major goals for each chapter. "Increased membership and active involvement," Phou Manivong (F) states this as one of the major goals for this school year. Not only does this organization intend to serve the community, but also tours different businesses. Being a member of FBLA can help develop skills such as leadership and participation in group discussions by engaging in practical

problem-solving and decision-making activities.

The mission of FBLA is to inspire and prepare students to become community-minded individuals and business leaders in a global society through relevant career preparation and leadership experiences. Phou Manivong has been involved with FBLA for approximately eight years, serving as the organization's adviser.

"As an adviser, it starts with our selection committee reviewing and discussing applications for the new Leadership Team. Once these members have been selected to lead our chapter, we have a retreat to go and come up with plans for the school year," Manivong states.

To be a part of the FBLA Leadership team means holding an elected

office or participating in a special council, which requires serving other members, helping to achieve new goals, raising funds for the chapter, and enhancing leadership and business skills through events. Along with the increased membership and active involvement, there are also many events that FBLA will be involved with, such as the Fall Leadership Conference in Kearney, field trips, powder puff flag football, volunteering in the community, State Leadership Conference, and more. These activities, such as the Leadership Conferences, can involve motivational sessions, professional development workshops, and opportunities to apply business knowledge and skills they have learned throughout the chapter.

Manivong believes there are many things to be proud of while working with the FBLA team, such as:

"Having active members who participate on a consistent basis, giving the Leadership Team members an opportunity to gain valuable leadership skills, watching members have success by qualifying for the National Leadership Conference. I always remind members that you get out of it what you put in it."

In conclusion, through hard work and involvement, team members can gain better leadership and business background. Members can also strengthen their confidence in themselves, develop character, and prepare themselves for useful citizenship.

Mixing it up at the Opening Mixer



by Madyn Reilly

According to students who attended this year's country-themed Opening Mixer dance, it was a blast. There was fun music and a large number of students who showed up.

"The highlight of the dance was definitely boogieing down on the dance floor with my friends. I like getting the chance to have fun with everyone from school." Jack Alberts (12) states.

"I attended because it is always a good time, and I really enjoy seeing everyone from school there." According to Alberts (12). The Opening Mixer dance is an opportunity for students to come

together and have a good time. Whether you're dancing with your best friend or someone you may not know very well, it is a great way to connect with other students.

"The highlight of the dance was everyone's high energy and the dance circle! It was pretty hype. It's fun having everyone in one place and dancing with whoever, whether you're close with them or barely know them!" Briana Ezewudo exclaims (11).

The students all agree that the country theme was superior. There was a wide variety of outfits. Some students rocked their boots and cowboy hats, while others went for a more casual look with sneakers and a plaid shirt.

"I actually really liked the theme. It was something different since we've been doing Hawaiian themes for the past 2 years." Ezewudo (11) explained.

One of the generous chaperones provided a pizza for the students. It's safe to say this was the highlight of the dance for many of the students.

"For me, the highlight of the dance was Toad bringing stuffed-crust pizza." Gangwish states.

Without chaperones, there

would be no dance, so the students expressed their gratitude for their attendance.

When asked, "Who or what motivated you to attend the dance?" Jackson Gangwish states, "My girlfriend was there; that motivated me to go. I had a fun time."

The vibes were high from the music played at the dance. The most "hype" song played (as Ezewudo (11) puts it) was BOP by DaBaby.

"There were a couple of great songs, but the best songs played were probably BOP by DaBaby and Crank That by Soulja Boy," according to Ezewudo (11).

While the dance was a thrill, students have some things they would like to improve for the next one. While the energy was pretty high, there were a few stragglers on the dance floor.

"I wish there were more hype songs, more line dances, or more group dances." Jacey Stegman expresses.

Overall, the Opening Mixer dance was filled with fun and excitement. With a cool theme, hype music, and good food, it turned out to be a great night for all who attended.

Alissa Stout: Athletic Trainer



by Oakley Todd

Have you ever experienced a stressful situation where you ran into intense pain? This is a widespread occurrence for athletes in sports. Being a low-numbered catholic school, many players are multi-sport athletes. This makes them more susceptible to serious injuries. Athletic trainers play a key role in ensuring the safety and well-being of all athletes. Alissa Stout is the main athletic trainer for Grand Island central catholic. Stout is a key asset of the Grand Island Central Catholic staff. Stout ensures all athletes at the school stay safe. She works for every sport. This means she has up to 13 teams throughout the year she is responsible for.

Cezar Garcia (10) is one of many multi-sport athletes who struggle with injuries. Many injuries took place on the wrestling mat. He strained his left shoulder when competing. Garcia had to miss many meets due to this injury. Stout helped Garcia heal throughout his time off. Stout also assisted Garcia with preventative workouts and supplies he can use during wrestling season. Garcia states, "Alissa is always willing to assist me and gives me advice and stretches when my shoulder is sore."

It can take years of experience to understand what you want to pursue in your career. Stout's passion for this job came from a young age. "I knew I wanted to be an athletic trainer when I was probably in junior high. I wanted to help people in the medical field and work with rodeo/sports." Stout expresses.

Stout stays close to home as she attends Grand Island Central Catholic. This was a big priority for her as her parents are conveniently a short distance away. "I chose to come to Grand Island Central Catholic because I wanted to be in the school setting, and it was still close to my parents, so they could help out with my daughter." Stout comments.



Cezar Garcia (10)

Being an athletic trainer is a vigorous job. Although it can be a struggle, there is also good that comes with this position. "The most rewarding part of my job is being able to watch all of you students succeed in your sport after an injury. I'm proud of each and every one of you!" Stout exclaimed.

Grand Island Central Catholic is proud to call Stout our main Athletic trainer. Stout shows resilience and performs her job admirably throughout the year. When challenges arise, she remains calm and undisturbed.

Girls Golf: A Season of Beginnings

by Kendal Flebbe

The youth and inexperience of the Lady Crusaders Golf team brought an element of the unknown to the team. The team consists of three freshmen, five sophomores, two seniors, one of them being Makenzie Clausen (12), and the head coach, Dee Hanssen. As the season has started, the team has had an exciting start to the year with multiple victories and multiple individual medalists. Hanssen seems to think the young team has a promising future for this season and for multiple seasons to come.

"We have so much potential this year and for the years ahead. I have two seniors, and the rest are sophomores and freshmen. That's exciting for a coach. I believe this is a team to watch this year and for the next few years. What coach could ask for more?" Hanssen (F), the head coach of the Lady Crusaders Golf team, exclaims.

Not only does Hanssen see these girls as good individual golf players, but she sees them as a team who encourages one another, and are always wishing the best upon their fellow teammates.

"As a whole, the team is doing great! We work together so well, and the girls love practicing together. I've really enjoyed the camaraderie.



Dee Hanssen

They are determined and very hardworking. Even though golf is an individual sport, we love the team aspect as well. You don't always see that in this sport. I love working with girls that want the best for each other, and that is what I see with this group.", Hanssen states.

While a promising team that has a deep connection with one another is ideal for most coaches, there are bound to be challenges that arise throughout the year. What sets the good teams apart from the competition is how they react when adversity occurs. A good team will know how to identify these challenges, and they will make a plan to overcome them.

"Some of our challenges are playing on all the different courses. We get used to whatever home course we practice on, and we have some tournaments on some very difficult courses. The short game is also a challenge. It always is, because it takes so much personal time to work on it, and then you deal with all of the different slopes on the greens at each course. They never read the same. We do chipping and putting drills. Each Friday, a player teaches a new drill to make it more fun.", Hanssen remarks.

Clausen, one of the seniors on the team, frequently runs the Friday putting and chipping drills, and is the most experienced on the team by far. This is her fourth and final year participating in the Lady Crusaders Golf team. With this being her last year, she has set some high expectations for herself and for her team.

"My main goal this season is to do well at State. The past couple of years, I haven't competed well, but I know I can this year. I have high expectations for the team this season. I believe that we will score very well and hopefully go to state." Clausen voices.

Mr. Fair's Weight Program

by Arabella Richling

Recently, Mr. Fair developed a new weight program to help fill the unique gaps that GICC's athletes face. These gaps varied, but a distinct gap Mr. Fair saw was that athletes were building strength during the summer months but failing to maintain this during the school year, which is crucial, especially for those participating in sports. Recognizing these problems, Mr. Fair undertook the responsibility to develop a more polished weight program. In his own words, he states,

"I believe that this strength training program is necessary for our athletes to build a solid foundation during the summer and maintain the strength while they are in season without incurring too much fatigue or soreness."

This program considers the diverse needs of athletes and prioritizes what each individual requires, while also creating a consistent, manageable, and personalized workload for students.

Unlike previous years, this program incorporates a variety of movement types, including lifting, mobility, sprinting, and recovery. The workout you are assigned to that day also depends on your athletic involvement and the sport you are participating in. Athletes competing in athletic events that day will do a specialized workout to help them perform at their event and hopefully succeed. Fair

states, "Previously I have done things similar but focusing more on mobility and recovery when athletes have games instead of being so rigid that we can't have the flexibility to skip a day and recover."

The new program addresses many concerns by structuring the workout around activities the athletes have, allowing them to build strength, perform well in their competitions, and recover. Mr. Fair believes the greatest benefit of this new program is how it pushes athletes to reach their full potential without overworking them. Fair states,

"I do believe it will benefit our students because as much as we want them to get as strong as they can we would like them to stay athletic and by allowing recovery time and working on other aspects of athleticism and not only strength we can accomplish our goal of becoming the best athlete we can."

His vision goes beyond lifting heavier weights; it prioritizes the athlete's physical and mental health, protecting the longevity of the athlete.

Mr. Fair gathered research from many sources and educated himself on the matter to ensure he has the best possible program. Mr. Fair explained his process further when he said,

"I didn't reinvent the wheel.



Willie Fair (F)

When thinking of my athletes I always go to research and see what works best and what's new. Mixing old ideas and new concepts together makes for a good program. I can't specifically shout out one author because there are so many I pull ideas from." By drawing from multiple ideas, Mr. Fair was able to adapt these findings to create a program individualized to our school.

Overall, Mr. Fair's new weight program has a clear vision for GICC athletics. By identifying a clear problem, researching, and developing a plan, a system where athletes are able to build strength while prioritizing recovery as well.

This Year's Senior Quarterback: Grayson Sack

by Connor Chmelka

When you hold four school passing records by the end of your Junior season, what do you do for a Senior encore? Crusader Senior quarterback and four-year starter Grayson Sack (12) is ready to find out. Both Sack and the Crusader football team, coming off a promising 6-3 season, face the upcoming campaign with high expectations and the high pressure that comes with them.

"Now, all there is left to do is to win," Sack says. The Crusaders suffered a heartbreaking loss last season, which knocked them out of the playoffs and ended their season..

"It's not just about personal records, it's about getting better as a team," Sack said.

Sack was injured earlier in the year; he has spent this entire summer healing and getting back healthy. Now that he is back, he has been playing even better. The Crusaders, led by Sack, have started off their football season with a 2-0 record, and none of their games have been decided within 3 scores. Sack is a dual threat. As a quarterback, he can throw the ball very well and hit any receiver he sees open.



Grayson Sack (12) reeling back, about to pass to a teammate, during a Varsity Football practice in the month of September. Photo by Claire Woitaszewski

Additionally, he can run whenever he needs to and get plenty of yards every time. At the high school level, it is rare to come by a quarterback like this.

"He is the best dual threat quarterback I've ever coached," said head coach Jeff Ashby.

But Sack doesn't take all the credit to himself.

"My coaches have helped me get smarter not just as an athlete, but as a person too," Sack noted.

Sack has not just been a great player throughout his career, but he has also been a great leader on the team.

"Grayson and his senior teammates have led this team since I first got here, and when I got here, I could tell they wanted to be very successful." Ashby stated.

Behind their confident Senior leader, the crusaders are hoping for a playoff run that will end in November. Though records and awards don't seem to motivate Sack, one feels he would be willing to lift one more trophy for his school, one for the Class C-2 state championship.

Addition to the Crusader Family: Administrative Assistant, Maria Tibbetts

by Beatriz Lorre Martinez

Throughout her career, Maria Tibbetts, who had previously worked at Aguilar Printing, has been a coach at Grand Island Central Catholic for the past 10 years, and has taken a turn in her professional life, embarking on a new challenge at GICC. After several years as a softball and basketball coach, Maria faces this new chapter with enthusiasm and high expectations, as it is a good opportunity to continue learning from others and develop her professional skills.

“Through coaching, I’ve worked with a lot of youth athletes, which meant that when I started this job, I already knew many of the middle school and high school girls,” stated Tibbetts.



Maria Tibbetts

She doesn’t find a huge difference between coaching and being at the busy office, spending her days.

“It’s easy to work at a place you believe in,” expressed Tibbetts.

The new secretary affirms that changing jobs involves financial benefits, but for Maria, it goes far beyond that:

“I’ve also enjoyed knowing how our office staff and everyone care about our school; it has only strengthened my own love for GICC,” claimed Tibbetts.

Concluding with this, Maria Tibbetts has let us know how she really enjoys working and interacting with GICC students and staff.

The Lance Vol. 6 Issue 1 Staff:

Editor-in-Chief:

Harrison McClure (12)

Assistant Editor-in-Chief:

Lexi Puncchar (12)

Editor:

Arabella Richling (10)

Reporters/Photographers:

Catalina Chavez (12)

Sofia Alba-Esparza (10)

Sofia Crumrine (10)

Kendal Flebbe (10)

Madison Graybill (10)

Beatriz Lorre Martinez (10)

Jane Novinski (10)

Isaac O’Neill (10)

Claire Woitaszewski (10)

Connor Chmelka (9)

Adviser:

Jeff Chmelka

Editorial Policy

The Lance is the official publication of Grand Island Central Catholic High School in Grand Island, Nebraska. It is published a minimum of three times per year. The paper is a member of the Nebraska High School Press Association.

Outside submissions, suggestions, or letters to the editor are welcomed and encouraged. They may be brought to Mr. Chmelka in Room 213 or emailed to journalism@gicc.org. Submissions may also be mailed to:

Journalism Dept. Grand Island Central Catholic Middle and High School

1200 N. Ruby Ave

Grand Island, NE 68803

Any and all submissions must be signed to be considered for publication, and the editor reserves the right to edit or print any submissions.