



Sheyenne Folk Fest
Photo story on page 12

Daylight Saving Time
Begins March 9th
Remember to "Spring Ahead" one hour!

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From Black Sox to Rockets

NDHSAA compels change for high school baseball team

by Nathan Price

No one knew it at the time, but last year's Sheyenne-New Rockford Black Sox were the last to play high school spring baseball under their 23-year-old moniker.

That 2024 team qualified for the state tournament for the first time in over two decades, and earned an impressive fourth place result.

But as it turns out, their appearance at state drew the attention of the North Dakota High School Activities Association (NDHSAA), who noticed something wasn't quite right regarding their team name.

Recently, the New Rockford-Sheyenne School District released a statement on Facebook explaining that



their spring baseball team will no longer be known as the SNR Black Sox.

"We came across an issue last spring when our young men qualified for the State Tournament," the district states. "Since the Sheyenne and New Rockford communities are one combined location for education, all of our NDHSAA sports teams must fall under

the same banner."

In other words, the NR-S school district is not allowed to have most of their sports teams called the NR-S Rockets, while their baseball team is called the SNR Black Sox.

Therefore, the district has no choice but to rename the spring baseball team, which had been called the Black Sox since 2001, and before then were known as the Phantoms.

"In order to comply with mandatory guidelines, our spring baseball team will be the NR-S Rockets going forward," states the district. "Our program will still continue to run the

Rockets

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Storstad named to Academic All-State

by Nathan Price

Andrew Storstad, a senior at New Rockford-Sheyenne, has been named to the 2025 honorable mention team for Academic All-State.

More than 200 high school seniors were nominated by their school principal and competed for statewide honor in the Class AA, A and B divisions. Student selection was based on grade-point averages, ACT or SAT scores, extracurricular activities, community involvement and leadership qualities.



Andrew Storstad

Based on that criteria, the North Dakota Association of Secondary School

Academic

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NR man charged with resisting arrest, assault

by Nathan Price

Jacob Lommen of New Rockford is facing multiple felony and misdemeanor charges after allegedly assaulting an Eddy County Sheriff's deputy.

Court documents say that just after midnight on Sunday, Feb. 19, Deputy Roberto Cantu of the Eddy County Sheriff's Office initiated a traffic stop on Lommen after allegedly witnessing erratic driving.

Lommen later failed a field sobriety test, and was transported to the Car-

ington Police Department to conduct a chemical test. However Lommen refused the test and reportedly became less cooperative.

According to court documents, Lommen was on his way to the Lake Region Law Enforcement Center (LEC) soon after, and it was during the trip to the jail that the alleged assault occurred.

"I could hear Jacob messing with his hand-

Arrest

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LOCAL ART ON DISPLAY



Sheyenne has revived its once-popular art show concept, hosting the inaugural Sheyenne Folk Fest on Sunday, Feb. 23. Above, attendees take in the many fantastic pieces of art on display at Ostby Hall. One such piece, an acrylic painting of a cowboy by Jody Simonson called "The Virginian," is featured at the top of the page. See more photos and art from the event on page 12. Photo by Nathan Price.

Accessibility Award given to James River Dentistry



4th Corporation Self Advocacy Group has awarded their annual Accessibility Award to James

River Dentistry of New Rockford.

The award recognizes businesses or organizations that have made significant efforts to accommodate people with physical disabilities.

Presenting the award on Tuesday, Feb. 25, to Drs. Amy Ellingson and Robert Cudworth was Self Advocacy President Cheryl Sandager (center). Photo by Winnie Weninger.

A little pep in your step

Carrington man gains mobility with knee surgery through JRM's Dr. Keene

by Erik Gjovik

Bruce Willyard of Carrington hasn't felt 100 percent when he's been on duty as a part-time maintenance worker at the Carrington Cemetery.

The retired excavation service owner has been feeling pain in his left knee in recent years, and wanted to address the issue head-on while he still is able to work.

"I had my right knee re-

placed about seven to eight years ago," Willyard said. "In the last couple years, my left knee really started to need attention."

Several years prior, he met with Jamestown Regional Medical Center Orthopedic Surgeon Dr. Timothy Volk to prepare for surgery.

However, Willyard tested positive for COVID-19 just before he was to go under the knife.



Dr. Roxanne Keene

"It could have interfered with my work at the cemetery with the sickness, so we decided not to do it that year," he recalled.

In the winter of 2023, he approached JRM again, this time with surgeon Dr. Michael Dean.

"He told me, 'When you're ready for it, you'll know it,'" Willyard said.

Keene

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Rodney Atkins to headline Stampede

by Nathan Price

Famous country music star Rodney Atkins is coming to Eddy County.

That was the exciting news announced on Saturday, Feb. 22 at the annual Sheyenne Stampede Kickoff

Party held at the Eagles Club in New Rockford.

Every year the Sheyenne Stampede features an excellent concert to follow the barrel racing and ranch rodeo, and after booking the Eli Young Band a year ago,

they've outdone themselves yet again by getting Rodney Atkins to perform this year.

Atkins has been performing and releasing country music since the late 1990s, and is responsible for some of the most

recognizable country songs ever written.

His 2006 album titled, "If You're Going Through Hell" was certified platinum

Atkins

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Community
Credit Union



www.joinccu.com

Carrington
701-652-2482

Fessenden
701-547-3856

New Rockford
701-947-5011

Notice of Annual Meeting

Tuesday, March 25 @ New Rockford Eagles Club
5:30 pm Registration/Social; 6 pm meal

Meeting to follow meal
Kids welcome/games provided

Cash prizes throughout the night!
(Must be present to win)