

# SNAKE RIVER HIGH SCHOOL

## YEAR IN REVIEW

### 2023-2024

**ACADEMICS:** SRHS has a student population of roughly 600 students currently. Students have done well academically this year. A snapshot of this evidence is that 71 of the 139 students who will be graduating on May 22nd, will be Honors or High Honors students. 20 of the 28 High Honors students will be our Valedictorians with a 4.0 GPA. We will have 3 Salutatorians in that group as well. Our most recent ACT scores have improved from 21.4 to 23.6 – which is above the state and national average. Our juniors recently took the SAT (April 11<sup>th</sup>); those scores will not be available until June.

In addition, SRHS has had 53 students take 717 Dual Enrollment classes which are offered through SRHS teachers here at SRHS. We also have 33 SRHS students taking 41 classes through the Idaho Digital Learning Academy as college classes. The overall financial benefit to our students is **\$170,550.00** for the **758** Dual Enrollment classes.

### **ACTIVITIES:**

**Speech and Debate—(Charlotte Reid):** The SRHS Speech & Debate team attended 8 regular season tournaments throughout Southeast Idaho from October to March, with an average of 8 students competing each weekend. These 7 students brought home piles of trophies and racked up over 2,700 National Speech & Debate Association Honor Society points. Several students won championship trophies in their individual speech and debate events. Our classroom is bursting with trophies--we need another shelf!

At District 5 Speech & Debate competition, we had 31 entries amongst 16 students. Overall, against Pocatello, Highland, Century, American Falls, and Soda Springs, we placed 3rd in Speech and 3rd in Debate. In the small schools division, we are District Champions in both Speech & Debate for the 6th(?) year in a row. Individual District Speech Champions are Josh Williams in Impromptu and Retold, Megan Johnson in Communication Analysis, and Rory Hons in Panel Discussion. Individual District Debate Champions are Megan Johnson and Rory Hons in Public Forum Debate, and Jaycee Later in Congressional Debate.

State Debate was held at Middleton High school in the Boise area. Our team travels with the Madison High School team in order to save costs and increase our level of fun. Josh Williams competed in Lincoln Douglas Debate, Jaycee Later, Cody Williams, Kai Proctor in Congressional Debate, Megan Johnson and Mackenzie VanOrden, and Jack Wada and Jaxon Lazard in Public Forum Debate.

State Speech was held at Jerome High School this past weekend. Josh Williams placed 7th in Impromptu speaking and AnnMarie Wolfley made it to semifinals in Extemporaneous speaking. Megan Johnson, Rory Hons, Cody Williams, and Jaycee Later all represented well at the tournament.

For the upcoming National Speech & Debate Tournament in June 17--21 in Des Moines, Iowa, we qualified Josh Williams in Extemporaneous speaking, AnnMarie Wolfley in Congressional Debate, and alternates Megan Johnson, Jaycee Later, and Rory Hons.

This group of juniors is amazing. They have almost all qualified for the NSDA's "Academic All-American Award"--a prestigious award earned by a small set of speech and debate students nationwide. They are an extremely high caliber set of individuals--please tell them 'good job' and 'thank you for representing Snake River so well.'

We thank the District for continued support of this important school-related program--we realize that it takes quite a bit of money to run a Speech & Debate program, and we thank you for allowing us to provide this opportunity for the students here at Snake River High School.



**Skeet/Trap Shooting Club**—(James Carter): Our shooting team is in great shape. We have about 15 members this year with 4 young ladies. We lost several shooting days because of the weather but it has been a great year. The kids have enjoyed being able to shoot in a safe environment at Cedar Hills Gun Club. Our goal as a team is gun safety 1st, and giving our kids a chance to participate in a lifetime sport. Each of our kids must pass a gun safety test and range safety test before they are allowed to participate on our team. They are also required to purchase a membership in Youth Education in Shooting Sports which provides them shooting insurance for the school year. Our team coaches are well qualified to be part of this

program. James Carter, Drew Lusk, and [Larry Seymour](#) are all NRA certified Shotgun instructors as well as NRA certified Range Safety Officers.

We received a new grant in March worth \$8641.00. The grant included 60 cases of 12 gauge shells and some other gun cleaning and shooting safety equipment (shooting glasses, hearing protection, and first aid kits). We appreciate the support of our school board in making this possible. We are also grateful to our Superintendent Mark Kress and our building administrators Ray Carter and Kyle Butters, they are always willing to help with our program. We have a great district and school and are proud of our Trap/Sporting Clays team. Members of the board and parents are always welcome at our practices and are invited to shoot with our team.

## **Snake River High School Honor Society—(JoAnn Tominaga):**

Chapter President - Rhett Packer

Junior Representative - Carson Adams

Junior Representative - Josh Williams

Sophomore Representative - Joseph West

Sophomore Representative - Eden Kreger

Total students who qualified with 3.5 and above - 209

**Total active members - 115**

### **Our activities for 2023-24:**

- Ushering at the grandstands (EISF)
- Back to School Night - Direct parents/hand out schedules
- 2 Blood Drives - Helping students with Senior Projects
- School concession stand
- SREA Fall Carnival
- Servers at (3) Elks Banquets
- Participating in the SR Community Campus Cleanup day.
- Senior Honors Banquet (Servers)
- Clean school grounds for Graduation

All members are required to do 15 hours of service along with 2 school/community service projects. We provide at least 1,725 individual service hours along with countless community service hours.

The Local Chapter is providing (3) \$500.00 scholarships  
(8) \$100.00 scholarships

**Total scholarships granted - \$2,300.00**

## **Heath Occupations Student of America (HOSA)—(Makayla Farmer):**

**CNA:** The 2023-2024 school year for the CNA course was comprised of 24 students in total. In Fall (1st trimester) 12 students took the course. All 12 passed both the skills and written tests and are now Certified Nurse Assistants, many of whom are now employed as such. We had great pass rates, only one student required retaking the skills test once. Otherwise all passed both exams on the first try. This group of students participated in clinicals at Bingham Memorial Hospital and got to practice their skills and view some neat things, including a couple students getting the special opportunity to be in surgeries. The Fall class completed a Basic Life Support (BLS) course at the hospital and did outstanding. This Spring group is currently still in progress, but looking forward to the same experiences. The CNA course will welcome paramedics on April 1st to provide a half day BLS certification course in our own classroom. Both groups participated in College Tech Day at ISU March 14th and made connections with nursing, radiology, and respiratory therapy programs.

**Medical Terminology:** Two courses of Medical Terminology were offered and completed this year. 19 students took advantage of this course. 13 students took the course as dual enrollment through ISU and passed with exceptional grades.

**Intro to Health Professions:** Three sections of Introduction to Health Professions were offered this year. 46 students in total took this course. They enjoyed doing many hands-on activities to be introduced to the health profession world. We welcomed many guest speakers who worked in various health occupations such as: Life-flight paramedic, Iridologist (diagnose and treat based on readings of the iris), Maxillofacial surgeon, nurse practitioners, travel nurse, and respiratory therapist. With one of the nurse practitioners, students got to practice giving injections on raw chicken thighs.

**Human Body Structure and Function:** 1 section comprised of 15 students occurred. This course became a quick favorite in the program due to its focus on pathophysiology (study of diseases) of each of the body systems. The students were fascinated each day. They all are completing disease projects where they choose a particular disease to study and prepare a presentation to give to the rest of the class.

**Phlebotomy:** Offered for the first time at SRHS this year! Two sections of the course were offered with a total of 13 students. SRHS is acting as a pioneer, as we are one of the first programs in the state to offer phlebotomy certification for high school students. Several other schools all across Idaho are now reaching out to SRHS to get more info on how we are going about offering this course and for help. 7 Students have completed the course and 6 students are in progress.

## **AGRICULTURE:**

**AGRICULTURE**---(JB Hoge): Future Farmers of America (FFA)—(JB Hoge): This year we have 52 active students in FFA. We have gone to New York, Washington DC, Nashville, Louisville, Indianapolis, Fort Worth and a lot of places in between. Our FFA members have the opportunity to see a lot of great places. Our FFA members successfully participated at district and state competitions in the areas of Horse Judging, AG Business, Livestock Judging and many welding competitions. Our annual Alumni Auction took place on March 11th and through the generous contributions of the SR community, raised over \$34,000 for travel and scholarship money for this year's seniors. On May 10th and 11th, we will host our annual AG Expo where grade school students come to the AG shop and learn about Agriculture. Our FFA chapter was recognized at the State Convention for our growth.

## **ARTS:**

**Orchestra**—(Maggie Price) The Snake River orchestra program is going strong with 164 students from 5th-12th grade in this trimester alone. We are the only orchestra program in District V, but we've found ways to interact with orchestra programs in nearby communities. This year we began collaborating with Soda Springs middle school and Blackfoot Charter to create the first ever orchestra honors group for Jr. High Students. I hope to continue our collaboration with other schools in the coming year. It has been amazing to see the students' progress. I have seen so many students increase their confidence and ownership of their instruments and themselves. We've used a wide variety of rehearsal techniques to prepare for concerts, honors groups, solo and ensemble festival, large group festivals, and community outreach field trips. This year we also had a student qualify for State Solo and Ensemble for the Cello Solo event. Looking forward to end-of-year concerts, the music department trip, and collaborating with the band and choir for graduation! Maggie Price is completing her first year as the Orchestra Director in Snake River School District.

**Band**—(KayLynn Hammond): **Marching Band:** Led by Second-Year SRHS Band Director, KayLynn Hammond, the marching band had 39 members. We had the opportunity to perform at four home games. And, we have worked closely with cheer and dance to help create stronger school spirit. The marching band not only participated in our home football games but we also returned to the competitive world by participating in 2 marching band competitions this year. We took 2nd place in our category at the Madison Competition. We will again be participating in 2 competitions in the upcoming year. Students and parents are excited for this opportunity and are looking forward to the challenge of competing against local schools and schools from all over the state. We are excited to embark on our upcoming year.

**Concert Band:** For the high school concert band, we've had an average of 58 students per trimester. Select students had the opportunity to attend an honor band held in Marsh Valley last November, an all-day arts and music clinic at Aberdeen High School this February, and at the end of April a Large Group Festival that we host here at SR. This will be our seventh-year hosting roughly eight different schools at our high school, which is a great opportunity! We have had guest professors from ISU come to our school and clinic our band and individual students. Our students were even invited for a special trumpet day, percussion day, and flute day for one on one time with the professors. We have had one Student Brannon Fuller audition and make the Carnegie Hall Honor Band in New York City. We also had Anna Lin make All-State Band and Julian Frei take first place at district solo and ensemble and he will be heading to State to represent Snake River Bands on May 3rd. At Christmas the music department had an amazing experience putting on a combined concert (Band, Choir, and Orchestra), which went very well. We also will be performing a combined piece with the choir and Orchestra at Graduation. Our last concert, Masquerade Ball, will be on May 8th.

**Jazz Band:** The jazz band has 29 students in it this year. These students have been doing really well! We performed at The ISU Jazz Festival this year. It was a great experience and students loved the opportunity we had to work one on one with the guest artist for an entire hour. We also recently returned from our BSU - Gene Harris festival that was held over spring break. The festival is something we've done for the last six years, and it's always a blast. The kids work hard and love what they do. They have been showing up at 6:30 every school day during the 2nd and 3rd trimesters to perfect their craft and prepare for their performances. The jazz band will also be performing at our Large Group festival before we finish our year and on our last concert, May 8th.

**Pep Band:** This year's pep band had roughly 60 students in it (from both HS & JRH). The kids played well at each game and had a blast cheering on the team with our cheerleaders. The school was generous enough to help the pep band travel to state to cheer on our girls and our boys during the state tournament. We loved having the chance to cheer on and support our amazing basketball teams!





**Choir and Drama—(Jana McBride):** Choir and Drama had an outstanding and exciting year. We still have much to do but here is an overview of all of the activities—  
August 17-19 – Chamber Retreat in Bear Lake. (31 students) We started out the year bonding,

playing and practicing hard. Went boating at Bear Lake and saw a show at Pickleville Playhouse.

September 1-5 – Ushering at the fair (drama and choir) Fundraiser. 45 students participated.

October 23-28 – Willy Wonka Jr. Musical for K-8 th grade. 181 students participated.

November 1-2 – Chamber Singers Broadway Nights. 31 students in Chambers.

November 7 – Honors Festival for Choirs at Marsh Valley. We took 29 students.

November 13 – Drama showcase for competition pieces. 21 students competed.

November 15 – End of the Trimester Choir Concert. 55 students participated.

November 18 – District Drama Competition at Century High School. 21 students participated.

Won 3<sup>rd</sup> place in districts behind Century and Highland.

December 1-2 – State Drama Competition at Century High School. 13 students participated.

Emma Poulter won 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the serious solo category.

December 13 – Chambers tour with Christmas show to the SRSD elementary schools and Nursing homes. 31 students participated.

December 20 – Music Department Christmas Concert (band, choir, orchestra) 135 students participating.

January 6 – Hale Theatre trip (choir and drama) 65 students participated.

January 16 – District V music clinic at American Falls. 37 choir students attended. Band and orchestra also attended.



Jan. 31 to Feb 3 – All-state choir, band and orchestra in Nampa at NNU. Took 6 choir students and 1 orchestra student that auditioned and qualified to go.

February 20 – End of trimester choir concert. 31 students participated.

March 19 – District V Solo competition at Grace High School. 19 students participated.

March 15,16,18,19,21,22,23 – All Shook Up (high school musical). 75 high school students participated. Averaged 350 people in the audience each night for 7 nights.

April 19-20 – One Acts Festival at ISU. 16 students participating.

April 23 – District V Large Group Festival. 31 students singing at this. Band and orchestra also participating. Snake River hosts this event.

April 23-24 – Crawford Cup (Fine Arts)

April 25-27 – Chamber's Tour to Salt Lake City area. 31 students participating.

May 3-4 – State Solo and Ensemble in Post Falls, ID. 10 students qualified for state solo. The most students we've qualified in a long time! Exciting.

May 7 – Spring Chamber's Show and senior night. 31 students participating.

May 10 – Boondocks trip in Farmington, UT (choir, band, orchestra)

May 15 – End of trimester Choir Concert. 62 students participating.

May 22 – Graduation (band, choir, orchestra perform) 62 choir students participating.

We were able to put \$10,000 towards new sound system in auditorium from musical productions account. Additionally, we were able to write and receive a \$15,000 grant from state for new lighting system in auditorium. An added \$5,000 came from the district and \$7,000 from the musical theatre account in which also added a new light bar and switch to LED lights, saving money on electricity and light bulbs and increasing our capability for lighting effects.

We were also fortunate enough to write and received a separate grant for \$6,163 to create a rack for the microphones with correct cables to organize and preserve microphones and increase capacity. I tried something new this year, and started an Elite Women's choir and Elite Men's choir for grades 9-12. These classes were very successful, and we will definitely do that again. The choir students singing Valentines on Valentine's Day as a fundraiser for the choir. It was a good way for the school to see them. This fundraiser was successful, and we will do it again. We charged \$5 for a singing Valentine, and made \$95 with no expenses.

**BPA—(Kent Dance):** The Snake River Business Professionals of America Career and Technical Student Organization attended regionals in December and qualified 4 students for the State Leadership Conference. Josh Williams, Alyce Dance, Madalyn Ramay, and Jaylyn Niu competed at state, Madalyn Ramay served as the Snake River BPA Chapter President. At state, two members qualified to attend Nationals, and four received medals. Madalyn Ramay placed 5th in SQL Database Applications, Jaylyn Niu Placed 3rd in Server Administration Using Microsoft and Josh Williams Placed 5th in Extemporaneous Speech.

We had some pretty upsetting news when we returned from the State Competition... Alyce Dance competed in Digital Media Production but they lost the technical score for her video and they wouldn't re-score it. She was placed outside of the top 10 but after some emails back and

forth and looking into it, they acknowledged their mistake but couldn't change the placing for her in the competition... They said she would have placed top 5 and potentially qualified for Nationals but we will never know for sure. This was quite a big mistake on their part but Alyce is in good spirits about it and looks forward to competing again next year.

Jaylyn Niu will be the only one attending the National Leadership Conference in Chicago, Illinois in May. There, she will compete in her event, attend leadership workshops, and network with many other students around the nation.

**Journalism/Yearbook**—(Shannon Hons): Being a first-year advisor, I did not know what to expect this year for the yearbook and was nervous I wouldn't have enough student enrollment to create a successful book. Not only was I wrong, but the class enrollment doubled from previous years, resulting in 25 students taking the yearbook class. Collectively, we have successfully created a wonderful yearbook in which we increased by 15 pages, have grown our social media following, and formed a safe and inviting place where all students feel welcomed. I am very happy with this year's outcome and look forward to being a part of the yearbook family for many years to come.

**Art**—(Tim Goodworth): See attachments

## **ATHLETICS: (Fall Sports)**

**Volleyball** —(Sydney Anderson): The Snake River 2023-2024 volleyball season was a very productive, positive, and exciting one. We started out our season playing the defending state champions Kimberly High School. We lost to them in 5 sets after battling back from a two-set deficit. After that loss we did not lose another regular season game or district game. Beating all our competitors, including Kimberly, in 3 sets. We earned the right to host districts once again and defeated Marsh Valley earning our spot in the State Tournament.

All season we would flipped back and forth between the #1 and #2 seed in the state. In the end we entered the State Tournament seeded #2 behind McCall Donnelly. In the first round we faced Bonners Ferry and beat them in 3 sets. We then faced Kimberly and suffered our second loss of the year by falling to them in 4 sets. Right after that loss we faced Filer High School. We went on to defeat Filer to earn the right to come back on Saturday to continue our fight to play in the title game. It was going to be fight to reach that game. The girls fought hard and banded together to beat the number one seed McCall in 4 sets. After defeating McCall we faced Kimberly High School once again. In our first set against Kimberly we were down by 7 points. They girls never gave up and fought their way back to win that set and two more to send us to the championship game to face Fruitland High School. The team fought hard every single set and point of the Championship game, but we fell to Fruitland in 3 to bring home 2nd place. The previous season we were able to bring home the fourth-place trophy and this season we were able to bring home the State Runner-up trophy. Something that hasn't been accomplished in

over a decade for SRHS. We only lost 3 matches all season; two of those being in the State Tournament. When the All-State teams came out for our classification, 6 of our athletes were named, the most of any of the other school in our classification. Coaches around the state saw and noticed our athletes and how amazing they were. It was our privilege and honor to coach this group of amazing athletes throughout our entire program. They always gave 110%. They are leaders on and off the court and in the community. They are individuals that the younger kids can look up to and aspire to be. They hold themselves accountable to be the best they can be. They also hold their peers, and coaches to that same standard.

Once again, they represented our community and school, along with their families, coaches, peers, and themselves with such class and dedication that everyone in the state was talking about our school and program. We are very proud of each one of them and to be a part of this school and community.



**Football-(Jeff Dalley):** Snake River Football took another quality step forward this year. The team went 6-5 overall with wins over Filer, Soda Springs, South Fremont. The team won the District with wins against Marsh Valley (30-7) and American Falls (28-16). The Panthers made it to the playoffs where they opened the playoffs with a victory over Wood River 28-10. In the 2nd round the Panthers traveled to Homedale and ran into a very tough Homedale team and were defeated. The Panthers are looking to build on this past year's success and use it moving forward to continue to build and regain the momentum of the winning tradition of Panther Football.

**Cross Country-Boys & Girls—(Mike Kirkham):** Cross Country – Boys & Girls  
The SRHS Cross Country program continues to grow in numbers and success. Forty-five students made the decision to begin the program and all remained for the entire season. They come in all shapes and sizes, but have invested equal effort and commitment for individual and team success. Jacob Hammond was the leader of a young boys' team finishing 9th in the state meet. The girls' team, after winning the first ever first place trophy in 2021 and then losing by two points in 2022, came back with vengeance this year and won their second state championship in 2023. Those on the team were Hailey Raymond, Paetyn Polatis, Mikelle Kesler, Rylee Edlefsen, Eowyn Marston, Hailee Nash, Ainslee Miller and Madilynn Perkes. What a great combination of experience and an influx of new talent with three seniors, two juniors, one sophomore, and two freshmen. It wasn't just the running or the winning this year, but the bonding, the friendships, and trying to teach the kids mental toughness and attitudes to ground them for what might lie ahead in their lives. With the support of our school board and administration we have been allowed to attend out of state and overnight meets which has been very helpful in teaching the runners that they can run with "the Big Dogs". This teaches them that regardless of their circumstances or what they encounter, that they can succeed. We can't overemphasize the importance of the support we have received.

## **(WINTER SPORTS)**

**Wrestling—(Ty Minto):** (Ty Minto): Wrestling had a very successful season for a rebuilding year. We had some very accomplished wrestlers: Jace Leavitt and Jordan Reynolds each received the 100 Wins Award this year. At districts we had 12 wrestlers in the finals out of 15 weight classes. We took first as a team, while qualifying 18 wrestlers for state. At the State tournament, eight wrestlers placed, including Snake River's first girl placer- Jordan Reynolds. Kelton Reynolds and a state champion Kelton Reynolds. Overall as a team at state, we placed 5th.

## **Basketball-Boys—(Robert Coombs): 2023 - 2024 Boys Basketball**

District Champs

Record 23-3

3rd place state finish

Luke Higginson and Marcus Coombs both scored 1000 points at the varsity level over the past 4 years. Both players were selected to the Idaho All-State 1st Team.

**Basketball-Girls—(Lincoln Driscoll):** To begin the year, the SRHS girls basketball program took three teams - Varsity, JV, and C team - to the Pocatello Skyline and Sugar Salem tournaments last summer. We competed well and then ended up at the Mesa State team camp in Grand Junction, Colorado. There were 148 teams there between girls and boys teams. The varsity girls took 1st place in this, competing against bigger Colorado and Utah schools. The JV team took 2nd place, and the freshman team competed very well, actually having some 8th-grade players on their team.

The regular season started in November with 26 total student-athletes coming out for the program. The Freshman team had a great season and were undefeated until their last game. However, the Freshman had a great developmental year and growth in preparation for the future years of the program. The JV had a good year with a record of 11-9. They too had a good season with growth in their skills and overall enjoyment of playing the game.

Overall the SRHS Lady Panther had a record of 20-6. The team had great success in the Skyline Christmas tournament where they were able to defeat 5A Highland. The team was beaten by Sandpoint only by 3 points. Sandpoint was the 4A defending champ and ranked 2nd. Throughout the year, the girls battled physical injuries but were able to overcome and endure and eventually became the district champions. After defeating both MV and AF, we advanced to the state tournament. The girls were fortunate enough to beat AF in the first round by a score of 49-24. The girls played a very good Timberlake team in the second round thus beating TL by a score of 45-37. In the state title game, we played an undefeated Teton Timberwolves team who had beaten us twice in the season. The Lady Panthers outscored Teton in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 19-5 which gave us a 7-point lead and captured the state title for the second year in a row.

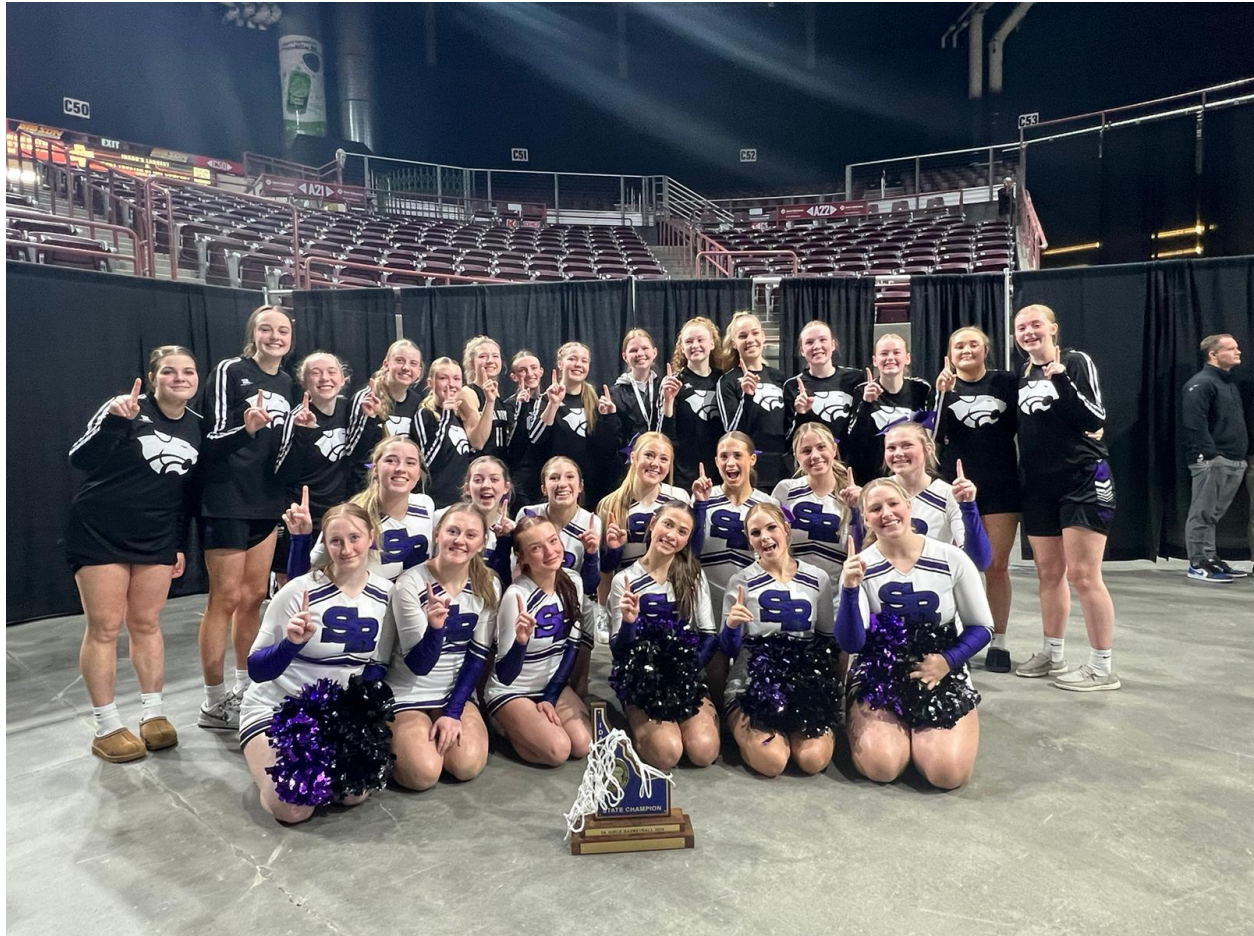
Team and Individual Accomplishments on the year:

- Rylie Edlefsen: 3A State Tournament MVP, 3A Player of the Year, 5<sup>th</sup> District All-Star game qualifier, 5th District All-Star Game MVP: Rylie Edlefsen, MVP of the All-Idaho All-Star Game
- Reese Baldwin: 1st Team All-State, 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Idaho, 5<sup>th</sup> District All-Star game qualifier
- Camdyn Dunn: 2nd Team All-State, 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Idaho, 5<sup>th</sup> District All-Star game qualifier

- Hailee Nash: State Tournament 6th Man Award
- Madi Watt: 2nd Team All-Conference
- Tailee Carlson: Honorable Mention All-Conference

**Dance—(Christy Gardner):** The Pantherettes had another successful year. We had 13 dancers, which is the largest team that we have had so far. We attended 4 competitions. Our most successful one was Upper Valley where we received 1st place for Military, 2nd for Kick, and 3rd for Dance and Hip-hop. We also were able to host and compete at districts. The new gym and sound system were perfect for this event! At districts we qualified for State in all 4 categories. This is also a first time for us.

**Cheer—(Amy Sorensen):** We had 36 Snake River Cheerleaders this school year. 23 varsity and 13 JV. Both Varsity and JV squads competed again this year. The squads cheered for JV and Varsity football and JV and varsity girls and boys basketball. Both JV and Varsity squads did many halftimes shows, assemblies, and parade performances. We had almost 150 kids at our mini cheer clinic. We sent 15 to the GBB state tournament and 12 to the BBB state tournament in Boise to cheer on those teams. Every competition we took 1st in Show and Stunt and either 1st or 2nd in Pom and Sideline. At the district V competition, we competed in all categories taking 1st in all girl show and 2nd in pom and sideline which qualified Snake River to take all routines to state. At State in Nampa in February, we placed 2nd in All Girl Show. Our kids are hard workers and incredible performers. I'm so happy I have been able to be a part of this program for 6 years. I hope to leave a cheer program that kids want to be a part of, that the school and community can be proud of, and that can continue to grow and excel.



## (SPRING SPORTS)

**Boys & Girls Track—(Mike Kirkham):** The program continues to be revitalized with the addition of more experienced and committed coaches. The number of participants increased with 80 to 90 students participating in the program. It has been rewarding to watch students who have been encouraged to “just try” any of the several varied events in track and field and see their eyes light up when they have some success in their chosen event. We encouraged our athletes to participate in other activities while remaining a part of the track program, such as the school play, jazz band, chamber group, DYW and other worthwhile activities, even though it compromises our track potential with their absences. However, with the opportunity for those students to attend a seventh period class in school, they are able to do their workouts and still have time to get to their other activities after school. Without that class this would have been impossible, robbing them of the opportunity to participate and would have compromised the

track program. Like the cross-country program, this is a young track and field program which has been infused the recruitment of freshmen and other students who haven't previously participated in track and field or any other spring sport.

**Softball—(Summer Stone):** Year in Review; Softball 2023-2024:  
(as of April 15, 2024)

35th in State—overall ranking in MaxPreps

Ranked 6th in 3A

7-4 record as of 4-15-2024

Beat South Fremont first time in three seasons (started with SR SB in 2021-2022 season)

Team Batting Average is .333

Hailee Nash's Batting Average is over .600

2 more girls hitting over .400

4 more girls hitting over .300

For a total of 7 of 12 girls who are hitting over .300

3 Home Runs to date

33 Stolen Bases

.957 Fielding percentage

Hailee Nash has signed to play SB in College at Walla Walla CC.

**Golf-Girls—(No'el Tew):** The Snake River Girls golf team had an exciting addition this year by adding a JV team, a new head golf coach, No'el Tew, and assistant coach, Tyler Watt. Tyler is a great asset to the team and is unaware that he is giving the head coach golf lessons as well.

There are 5 varsity and 4 JV players. We started the season with snow and spent a lot of time in Mrs. Harrison's classroom practicing chipping and putting. Coach Jeb Harrison had a couple of hitting nets set up in his classroom so the girls could go in there and swing away! Eventually, we made it out to the north football field and practiced approach shots and chipping until the Blackfoot Golf Course opened. By the time we hit the driving range, we were ready to break out the BIG clubs.

Our first varsity golf meet was at the River Bend golf course in Burley. Brighton VanOrden led the way with a 92 for our team. A few girls started out strong with a little beginner's luck and are continually improving. We had three girls return from last year and have two new varsity girls. Early season tournaments have been played at Blackfoot, Juniper Hills in Pocatello, and Dempsey Ridge near Lava Hot Springs. Districts will be May 6th at the Preston Golf Course and, if we qualify, state will be May 13th-14th in Post Falls.

My goal as head golf coach is to create a lifelong hobby and passion for the game of golf for these girls. I began my freshman year and eventually became halfway decent on the course, created wonderful memories, and made lifelong friends. Hopefully, the girls will have a similar experience and will enjoy the competition.



**Golf-Boys—(Jeb Harrison):** We have gotten off to a great start. We did well in our first tournament 3/26/24 with a team score of 355- but were still behind other schools. That was our first time on grass all year. Other schools have been playing for weeks. However, April 1st and April 4th we got first place in those tournaments at Blackfoot and Juniper Hills with a score of 343 and 334. Most recently on April 9<sup>th</sup>, Snake River boys golf won the Sugar Salem Invitational with an outstanding score of 325 where Brogan Katseanes was the individual medalist with a 73. Those are really good scores for our team. We are really hoping to continue to get better and compete for a State Championship this year.