



**Tonight:**  
 Scattered rain.  
 Low 39°.

**Saturday:**  
 Mostly sunny.  
 Cool.  
 High 60°.

**Today:**  
 Showers and  
 thundershowers.  
 High 61°.

*Friday NOW is brought to you by the University of South Dakota*

WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL • SIOUX FALLS, SD

## Happening NOW

- AP Tests:** U.S. History 8 a.m., European History and Studio Art noon today
- All-State Jazz Band:** At Northern State University in Aberdeen through Saturday—concert 7:30 p.m. Saturday at Johnson Fine Arts Center
- Boys Tennis:** At GDC Tournament today and Saturday in Rapid City
- Beach Bash:** Variety Show 7 p.m. tonight in auditorium, dance to follow in commons
- Track:** Warrior Invitational 10 a.m. Saturday at Howard Wood Field

## Lunch Time at WHS

- Today's lunch:** Hamburger
- A la carte lines:** Cheese pizza, chef salad, taco, fish and cheese sandwich

## Group Meetings

- Drama:** Club banquet for all actors, tech crew members and anyone else who helped with this year's shows is 7 p.m. Saturday in the auditorium.
- Chorus:** Members for next year will meet Monday in the chorus room—Classic Connection at 6 p.m., Concert Choir at 7 p.m.
- Renaissance Committee:** Members will meet at 3:15 p.m. Wednesday in A-136.
- Newspaper:** Staff members will meet at 4 p.m. Wednesday in the faculty dining room. Sign up to attend in A-134.

## NOW Friday Staff

Co-Editors .....Parker Hanson  
 .....and Katie Bergstrom  
 Staff: Megan Martin, Kirk Metzger, Karly Rager, Kelli Hillbrands, Kellie Larsen, Kourtney Kuyper, Lynn Wiederrich, Natalie Shaft and Kiely Bren.

Editor-in-chief .....Eric Mayer  
 NOW Editor .....Erik Ordal  
 Orange and Black Editor .....Adam Heck  
 Adviser..... Jason Lueth

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# Beach Bash

## Fun Beach Bash week wraps up tonight at WHS

Variety show, dance culminate week of beach fun

By Katie Bergstrom and Kelli Hilbrands

Each Beach Bash festivities for 2009 will conclude with a big day of events today at WHS.

As is traditional, the week will culminate with a variety show and dance. The variety show begins at 7 p.m. tonight in the auditorium and the dance will follow around 8 p.m. in the WHS commons.

Tickets for both Beach Bash activities are on sale during lunch in the commons today. The cost in advance is \$3 for the variety show and \$5 for the dance. Tickets at the door tonight will be \$4 for the variety show and \$10 for the dance. The dance is for WHS students only, and all must have their school ID to get admitted.

Junior Kelly McKnight, a member of the student council, said she cannot wait for the Beach Bash festivities to come to a conclusion tonight.

"We hope a lot of kids come out because it's going to be a great talent show and a rockin' dance," McKnight said.

Senior Aubrey Smith, a participant in the variety show, agrees.

"I am really excited to perform tonight," Smith said. "We can't wait to put on a good show. I also think the dance will be a blast, and a great way to finish out the year."

Another member of student council, junior Adam Weber, said he loves this time of year.

"It's my favorite time of year," Weber said. "The birds are out and I can wear shorts—it is basically a great time to celebrate! I'm excited to finish this year with some fun, and I know everyone will have a great time."

Beach Bash events have been put on by the student council. The dance is the last event for the year for the student council, and they look for a great turnout tonight.

**If you're going...**

### Variety Show

•7 p.m. tonight in auditorium  
 •Tickets \$3 in advance during lunch in the commons or \$4 at door.

### Dance

•Following variety show around 8 p.m. tonight in commons.  
 •Tickets \$5 in advance or \$10 at door.  
 •School ID needed to enter.

## Baseball team defeats Brandon Valley

By Natalie Shaft, Aubrey Bergstrom and Kiely Bren

The varsity baseball team defeated Brandon Valley 14-0 Thursday evening in Valley Springs.

Junior Jordan Schievelbein pitched a five-inning, one hit shut out in the Warrior victory that was a preview of region action.

Senior Aaron Labrie went

two for three at bat and had one RBI along with scoring two runs. Senior Alex Ryan had one RBI and also had two runs for the Warriors.

Senior Taylor Rasmussen, like Labrie and Ryan, had one RBI and two runs. Senior Bobby Olseth hit two home-runs in the contest.

Sophomore Cole Halgerson said he is proud of his team's accomplishments on the dia-

mond as the season progresses.

"We have been doing amazingly," Halgerson said. "We have practiced really hard and are really excited for the post-season tournament."

The Warriors will go up against the Lincoln Patriots tonight 5 p.m. at Harmodon in a varsity/JV doubleheader. No matter the end result of the game the Warriors will go into the region seeded No. 1.

**We're NOW on-line at [whsnow.com](http://whsnow.com)!**

# Track teams list top performers of season

Event	Boys	Girls
100 dash	Trevor Gebhart :10.98	Kari Heck :12.49
200 dash	Matt Gerry :22.88	Kari Heck :25.8
400 dash	Casey Shade :49.9	Kari Heck :58.53*
800 run	Casey Shade 1:54.4*	Sami Smith 2:21.6
1,600 run	Josh Heitkamp 4:19.38*	Sami Smith 5:25
3,200 run	Josh Heitkamp 9:26.9	Caitlyn Gronewald 12:51.1
100/110 hurdles	Jacob Laird :15.7	Molly Ervin :16.8
300 hurdles	Dino Dautahojic :40.71	Charelle Moore :47.84
400 relay	Gerry, Q. McMartin, Dautahojic, Gebhart :44.3	Fantroj, Teslow, O'Diel, Moore :51
800 relay	Gerry, Q. McMartin, Dautahojic, Gebhart 1:31.2	L. Wiederrich, Fantroy, Houseman, Teslow 1:47
Medley relay	Gerry, Q. McMartin, Gebhart, Shade 3:35.4	Fantroj, Houseman, Heck, Smith 4:16.1
1,600 relay	Gerry, Q. McMartin, Gebhart, Shade 3:19.2**	Fantroj, Houseman, Smith, Heck 3:58.9*
3,200 relay	Holtz, Waddell, Strand, Heitkamp 8:04	Kuyper, Houseman, Fantroy, Smith 9:56.9

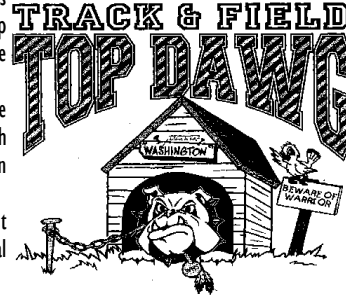
Event	Boys	Girls
Long jump	Matt Gerry 20' 5"	Kari Heck 16' 7.25"
High jump	Jordan Willeston 6' 3"	Hickey/Blackburn 4' 11"
Triple jump	Jordan Willeston 42' 10"	Missy Blackburn 32' 8"
Shot put	Quintin McMartin 47' 8.5"	Maggie Opka 34' 5.5"
Discus	Tom Farniok 142' 5"	Natalie Shaft 105' 6"

\*Indicates School Record \*\*Indicates All-Time State Record

The Warrior track teams "Top Dawgs" is a listing of top performers by event for the season to date.

Today's results reflect the teams' performance through the triangular meet Tuesday in Watertown.

The Warriors will host the Elmer Hansen Invitational Saturday at Howard Wood.



## Sun seems to be calming

By Scott Canon  
McClatchy Newspapers (MCT)  
KANSAS CITY, Mo. —  
Could Earth's star, that life-giving ball of fire worshipped by the ancients and the tanned alike, be mellowing?

New research suggests the sun might be calming, crupting in fewer solar flares and winds that send cosmic rays spraying out toward the planets.

### Science Friday



That could mean colder weather. And although it's not time to put away your Ray-Bans, the sun also could be dimming ever so slightly.

A similar phenomenon caused what's often called the Little Ice Age that chilled Europe and North America enough to form an ice barrier around Greenland and freeze solid the canals of the Netherlands.

Scientists don't yet know if the seemingly calmer sun will linger in this lull. It's too early to tell.

Yet a more tranquil sun would mean less protection from cosmic rays swirling into the solar system from elsewhere in our galaxy. That, in turn — assuming a controversial correlation between clouds and cosmic rays is correct — might mean fewer clouds, and without that pillowy cumulus, we might... bake more than ever.

Or ... without them, the warming blanket effect of clouds could be lost and we could chill.

"You could have all these competing effects," said Gregory Rudnick, an astronomy professor at the University of Kansas. "We don't have a really good understanding of this."

What is known is solar activity is as mild as it's been in nearly a century.

The sun has always been an up-and-down heavenly body, regularly running through 11-year cycles of high and low flaring and winds and sunspots as its magnetic poles switch from north to south and back.

That overlaps with the Gleissberg Cycle, which runs roughly 80 years. If the universe is seeing those two line up now, the effect on Earth could be a decade or two of slightly lower temperatures.

Last year was at the bottom of the 11-year cycle with its next peak due in 2013 — most obvious in the form of more dramatic northern lights on Earth.

Yet 2008 was even more placid on the fiery orb than in most down years. Sunspots were seen barely one day out of four, the calmest since 1913.

So far this year, they've been seen hardly one day in 10.

## NOW columns have been a long, fun ride for senior

Well, this is finally it. My last column in the NOW.

This is kind of a touchy subject for me. I must admit that I have been avoiding thinking about it. I even waited until late last night to write this. In all honesty, though, this is something I thought I would never do. I didn't think



Hear me...



Parker Hanson

I would be able to ramble random thoughts in a section of the NOW almost every Friday my junior year and never miss a

Friday my senior year.

To my surprise, I have been able to keep your attention

the last three years—or all of you just enjoy doodling on my picture, to your left.

In case you have not read my columns ever, I will highlight what I believe were my best efforts. Coming in third was my constant plugs of the show "The Office." I do not know how many of you ended up watching the show, but at least I tried. Second was last year's column about the seniors leaving. Coming in first was the PDA (public displays of affection) column, and I feel like I need to mention it again considering the large jump in lovers this spring.

It has been a long, fun ride and I doubt I will ever do anything like this again. So to all the seniors, it was great. To all the underclassman, have fun staying here!

Senior Parker Hanson is going to miss the NOW.

## Tennis, track teams in action this weekend

### Elmer Hansen Invite Saturday

By Kirk Metzger

The Warrior track teams will host the Elmer Hansen Invitational Saturday at Howard Wood Field.

Events start at 10 a.m. and continue most of the day, concluding at about 4:30 p.m.

Senior Adam Heck said it will be a good day for track.

"There will be a lot of good teams there, but we hope to have a good outcome," Heck said.

### Boys tennis team heads out west

Warrior boys varsity tennis team members headed west to Rapid City today to compete in the Greater Dakota Conference Tournament.

Junior Nolan Hazard has high aspirations for his team.

"This is a really big match," Hazard said. "We are going to face a lot of tough competition, especially Rapid City Stevens, which has four players that could each win their flights at state."

*Congratulations Graduates*

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