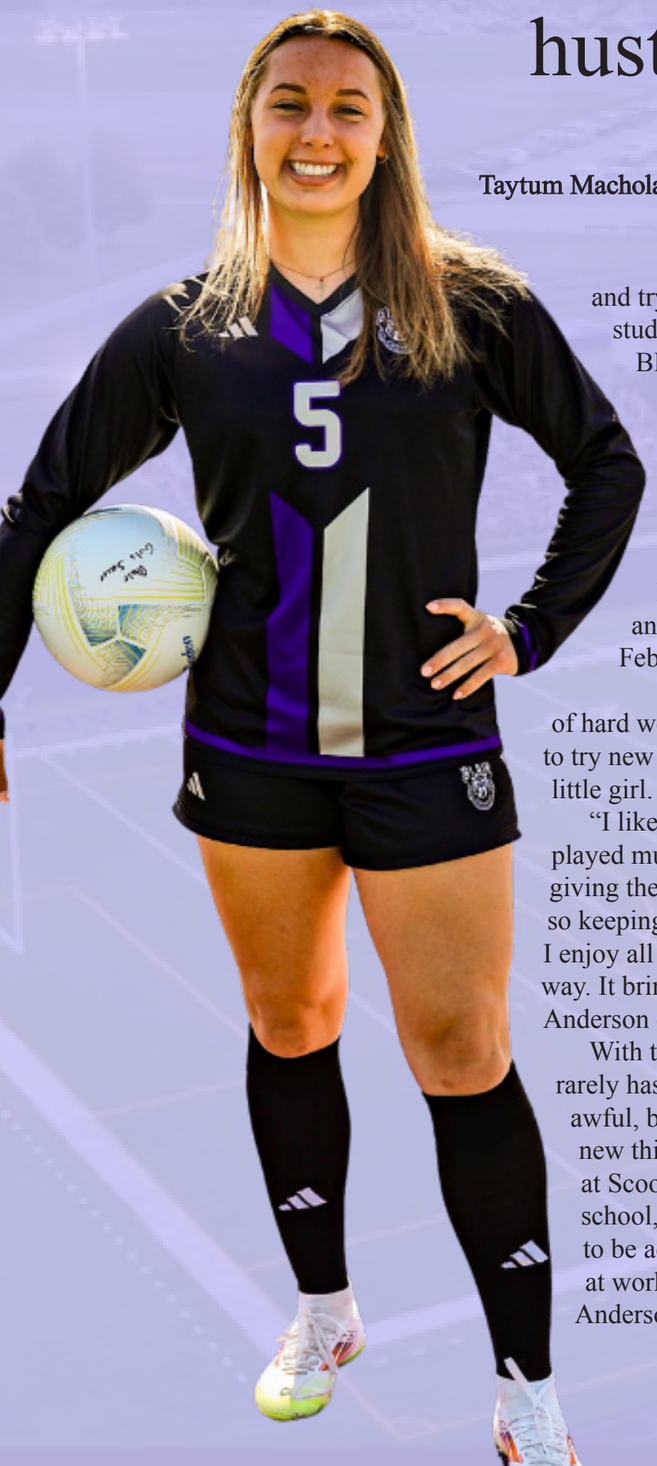
Claire Anderson: the habitual hustler



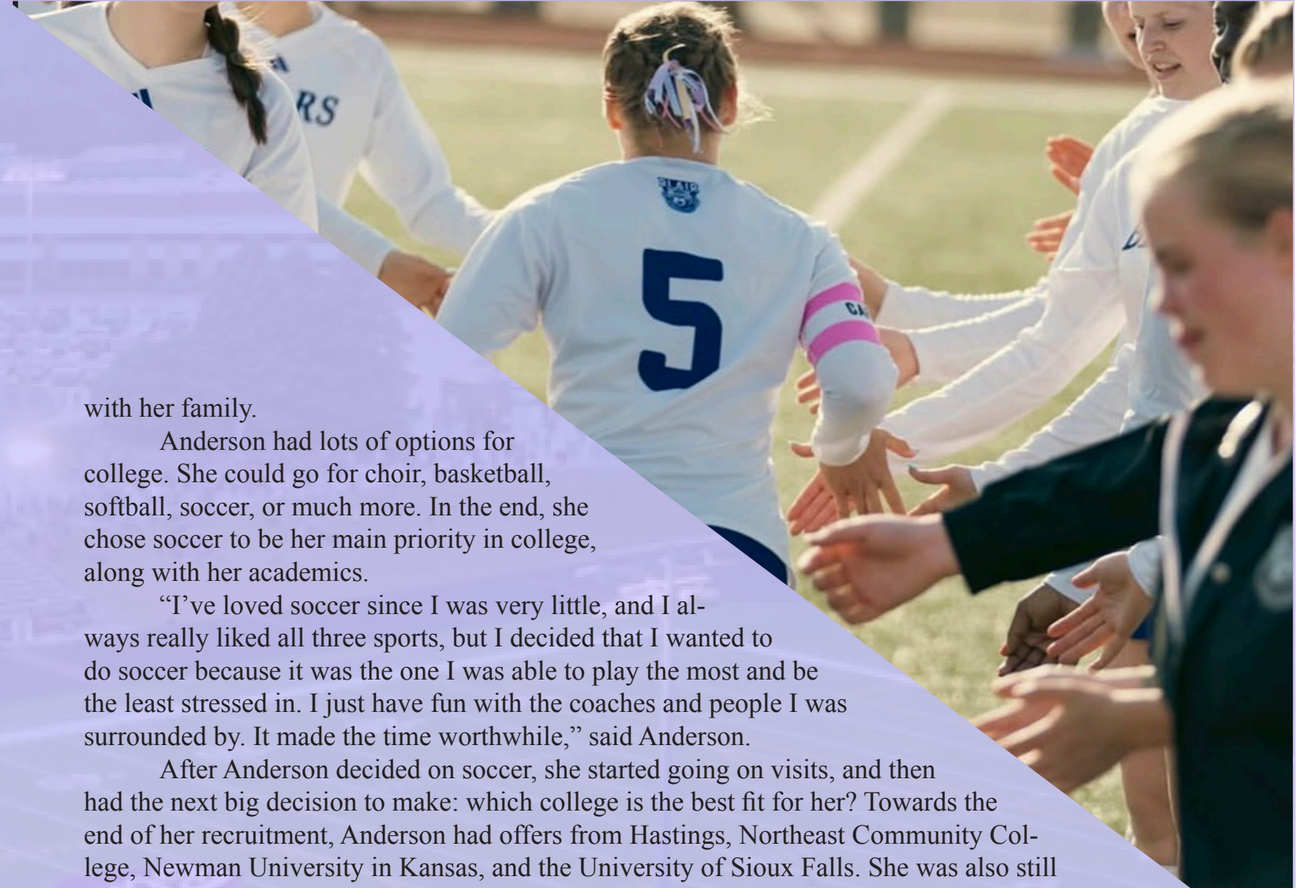
Taytum Macholan: Graphic Designer

Here at Blair High School, doing lots of activities and trying new things is strongly recommended. One student who really takes advantage of the variety at BHS is Senior Claire Anderson. Anderson has not only been a three-sport athlete since her freshman year, but she has also been involved in concert choir, NHS, a class officer, Medical Careers Club President, AEP mentor, and works both as a nanny and at Scooters. After experiencing all of these activities at Blair High School, Anderson had her mind set on going to college for soccer, and signed to the University of Sioux Falls in early February.

How did Anderson get to this point? It took lots of hard work and dedication, along with pride and the drive to try new things. She has had this drive ever since she was a little girl.

"I like to be active, and ever since I was little, I've played multiple sports, and I just can't imagine myself giving them up. I'm not the type of person who can sit still, so keeping active and in sports keeps me in shape and busy. I enjoy all of the teammates and friends I meet along the way. It brings out a different side of me in my everyday life," Anderson explains.

With this look on life, Anderson stays very busy and rarely has downtime. For most people, that may sound awful, but Anderson enjoys staying busy and learning new things. Some mornings, Anderson gets up to work at Scooters, goes to school, has a sports practice after school, and then has to finish up schoolwork. Her drive to be active helps with these long days because she looks at work as more of a hobby rather than a job. Whenever Anderson does have free time, she enjoys spending time with her family.



Anderson had lots of options for college. She could go for choir, basketball, softball, soccer, or much more. In the end, she chose soccer to be her main priority in college, along with her academics.

"I've loved soccer since I was very little, and I always really liked all three sports, but I decided that I wanted to do soccer because it was the one I was able to play the most and be the least stressed in. I just have fun with the coaches and people I was surrounded by. It made the time worthwhile," said Anderson.

After Anderson decided on soccer, she started going on visits, and then had the next big decision to make: which college is the best fit for her? Towards the end of her recruitment, Anderson had offers from Hastings, Northeast Community College, Newman University in Kansas, and the University of Sioux Falls. She was also still looking into some other schools, until she finally came down to the decision of going to USF. Having this many options to choose from could be overwhelming, but Anderson had many good reasons for choosing USF.

"USF is a Division II school about two hours away, and I feel like as soon as I stepped on campus, I knew it was the place I needed to be. It felt like the closest place to home, and when you are leaving your hometown and family behind, that's the best feeling you can get from it. I also really enjoyed all the classes and the academics that came along with the soccer program. All the people, teammates, and coaches made me feel cared about, and I knew that's the place I wanted to be," said Anderson.

As she reaches the end of her senior year, Anderson reflects on her memories from BHS. Her favorite soccer memory was making it to State for the first time since 2001. The cherry on top was beating Skutt in the first round of State. Although she will miss all of the memories from Blair, she is also ready to make new memories in Sioux Falls.

"I'm excited for new experiences, playing soccer at the next level, and just meeting new people. As you grow up with the same people, it's amazing and fun being around them all the time, but being able to branch out and meet new people is another whole experience I'm ready and excited for," says Anderson.

Anderson is looking forward to her last soccer season as a Blair Bear in the spring, but is also excited for a new beginning in the fall as a USF Cougar.