

WELDING A FUTURE

Nolan Dzingle Turns Welding Skills Into a Business

By: Turner Happold

For many students, high school is a time to explore their career interests and determine what they want to do after graduation. For senior Nolan Dzingle, it's been a time to build something real. What started as a simple idea in middle school took off during his freshman year and has grown into a hands-on business that serves his local community.

Dzingle, who runs Dzingle Machine and Welding out of Hastings, focuses on repairing farm equipment for area farmers. Growing up around agriculture, he saw firsthand how important it is to keep machinery running, especially during the busy seasons. When something breaks down in the middle of planting or harvest, time matters; that's where Dzingle steps in.

"I started welding in middle school, mostly just messing around in the shop," Dzingle explained. "Once I got the hang of it, I realized I could help people and make some money doing something I enjoy."

His interest in welding quickly grew. With support from his family and friends and plenty of hours spent practicing, Dzingle built the skills and knowledge he needed to take on real jobs. At first, he did small repairs for friends and neighbors,

but as his confidence and abilities grew, word spread. Before long, local farmers were calling on him for more challenging projects.

One of his biggest jobs so far has been repairing a track closer, a project that required both creativity and technical skill.

"That one definitely tested me," said Dzingle. "It wasn't just a simple weld. I had to figure out how to fix it right, so it would hold up in the field. It took me about three months because I had to repaint the bar, add hydraulics, and change all

the bearings."

Running a business while still in high school takes dedication. Between classes, activities, and customer work, Dzingle keeps a busy schedule.

"It gets crazy sometimes," he admitted. "But I like staying busy, and it feels good to help people when they need it."

Looking ahead, Nolan hopes to continue growing Dzingle Machine and Welding.

"I want to keep learning and take on bigger projects," he said. "Welding is something I could see myself doing for a long time."

Dzingle's story is a meaningful example of what can happen when passion,

skill, and hard work come together. He's not just learning in the classrooms, he's putting those lessons to work in the real world, and helping his community.

Dzingle, who is also a two-time state FFA qualifier in welding, will be taking his next step into his future at Southeast Community College, where he'll study tool and die and continue to work hands-on fabricating metals for machines.



Top: The pivot track closer Dzingle fixed.

Above: Nolan Dzingle prepares to weld a lap joint by using oxygen settling during welding class.