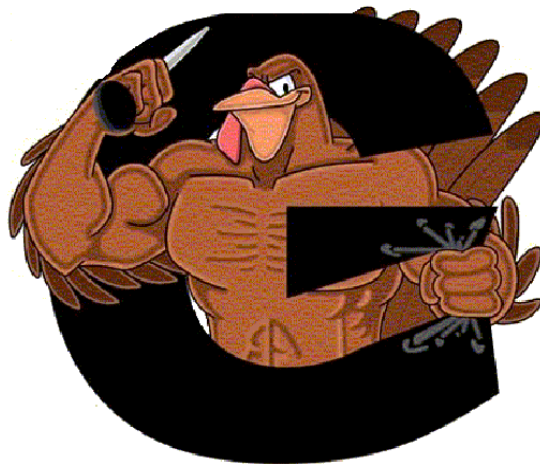


The Gobbler Times

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Filling Bottles, Not Time

Ethan Croatt
Staff Writer

We've all had that moment when your throat is as dry as the Sahara desert and all you crave is a drip of water when, bam, someone with a water bottle is filling it up at the water fountain. So, you sit there and wait for them to fill what seems like the water tower up. Well, not anymore with the new water fountain that was installed.

"The new drinking fountain was installed over the summer when the one near the North entry went bad," says Jim Bright. The custodians moved the fountain that was near the bathrooms by the new gym to the North entry and put in the new one by the bathrooms. Jim said he has installed a few of them and saw them at the Crosby High School so it seemed like a good idea to put one in.

The fountain has a feature that allows someone to fill up his/her water bottle much faster. All they have to do is place their bottle in front of the sensor and it will begin to fill. If anyone has thought that the new water fountain has better tasting water it is because of the carbon filter it has. "The filter takes out chlorine, bad taste, and odor," said Mr. Bright. It also has a cool feature that counts the number of disposable plastic bottles that it helped eliminate waste from.

The custodians plan to keep installing these new fountains when the old ones go bad. "Where should we put the next one?" Jim asked me. So, to answer his question I pose the same one to the student body. Feel free to share your ideas to Jim Bright and the custodians.



The new fountain.

Sandberg Lays Down the Law

Haley Cannon
Opinion Editor

Everyone knows once you reach a certain age in school you can pick some electives for your classes and choose what you're interested in. A lot of people choose easy classes so they can get by with good grades. If you're the type of person that likes a challenge and have an interest in studying law, Mrs. Sandberg's "Law for Personal Business" class is for you.

Mrs. Sandberg says she prefers this class being an elective rather than a required class because it gives students who are really

interested in this topic the chance to take it, and they can take more out of the class.

In this class students can learn the basics of our laws for personal reasons, or for those interested in a law profession for a career later in life, can see if this is the right profession. Some students who have taken this class or are presently taking it say they enjoy it a lot and it is their favorite class. Another feature about this class is that students get to do a research project and present it to the class. The projects in this class can range from many things like a ride-along

with the Aitkin police, distracted driving, missing people, or even forensics. The projects the students do are very informational and they could help impact at least one person's life.

Not many may have known this, but some students who are interested in the law profession have actually gone into this career once they took this class. The "Law for personal business" class helps gives students an insight on different careers and can help lead them in the right direction for after high school.



Brooklyn Is Student Of The Week

Mallory Milbradt
Staff Writer

Brooklyn Brezinsky is 12 years old and is our student of the week. She says "I'm happy to be student of the week because I'm the first one in my grade."

Brooklyn has been chosen for student of the week for showing all of her support at the volleyball games and football games; she even tells us, "I make my dad drop me off an hour early for every game so I can get a good seat." If that's not dedication, I don't know what is!

"I make my dad drop me off an hour early for every game so I can get a good seat."

Brooklyn Brezinsky

Brooklyn really enjoys cheering at every game with Rachel Curtis, Amanda Kuhlman, Josh Martz, Sam Hanson, and especially Ryan Anderson. Her favorite games that she has been to this year are the Aitkin vs. Crosby football game and the blackout volleyball game.

Brooklyn's favorite sport to watch is football, but in her free time she plays volleyball. Her biggest role model is her oldest brother Jaron. She wants to be a math teacher when she's older. Brooklyn has definitely shown what school pride means for Aitkin High School.



Brooklyn Brezinsky

Jacobson Chosen As Teacher Of The Week

Erik Sanbeck
Online Editor

Mr. Jacobson has been chosen as the Teacher of the Week for this issue! Jacobson has been teaching in Aitkin for 29 years, and previously taught in Florida for one year and at St. Cloud State for two years. "Which doesn't count towards retirement, by the way," he joked.

Born in Fort Knox, Kentucky, Jacobson started attending school at AHS in 10th grade with one of his favorite subjects being history class. After graduating, he attended St. Cloud State, and eventually Southwest State for his master's degree. When asked if teaching was his first Career choice, he responded with, "yes it was."

Jacobson offers a variety of shop classes, like seventh grade electronics, woods, and metals, eighth grade woods and drafting, trade knowledge, RV maintenance, and "pretty much the other senior woods classes." He claims that he doesn't have a favorite class to teach; "I like the variety of all of them. I'd get bored teaching five of the same classes every day."

It's hard to get bored with variety, and I like working with all the other age groups." He also teaches Driver's Education after school

Jacobson says that the best part of teaching in Aitkin is "the student population."



Mr. Jacobson, being Mr. Jacobson.

We don't really have an issue with the students here like in other schools." Nearing the end of the interview, when asked if he would

like to add anything, he said only, "It's a huge honor to be teacher of the week."

Do beards on teachers improve your learning experience?



Thomas Coyle – Indeed! Your eyes are seemingly stuck to the attractiveness.



Hunter Moe – No, facial hair has nothing to do with school.



Marie Zettel – I think they (students) might actually pay attention to me if I had a beard.



Brooklyn Brezinsky– No, it's just...something.



Drew Nordean – Yes, 100 percent. Richters needs a beard.

No Shave November kicks off today

Peyton Brezinsky
Staff Writer

No shave November (Noshember) has been tradition for years, involving men and women. For those of you who don't know how this tradition works, here are the rules: Guys and girls alike unite in the laziness agreeing not to shave their beards or legs for the entire month of November. November is

the busiest part of the work year, and you are the farthest behind on sleep, so why waste the time? For those who think this is pointless think of these words of wisdom. People's eyes are glued to your facial hair. They make a person seem more credible. Some women think that the "mountain man" look is attractive and some men think the unshaven legs are appealing.

A few of the AHS teachers said that they will not be participating in Noshember. But Heroic teachers like Mr. Richters, and Mr. Lake said that they will be participating in no shave November. We are looking forward to see what these bearded men will look like at the end of November.

Who else will be taking part in the no shave November challenge? Will you?



Jaskowiak finds his place as a Gobbler

Ethan Croatt

Staff Writer

I bet a lot of Mr. Jaskowiak's students didn't know that under that grizzly beard of wisdom was once a freshly shorn Air Force Cadet. He joined in 1993 just two and a half years out of college. "I didn't know what to do with my life," said Jaskowiak. In his family it had been a tradition to join the military and he said, "I figured it was time."

Mr. Jaskowiak was stationed in Japan for four years at Yokota Air Base, where his family lived with him on base. In fact, Mr. Jaskowiak's two sons with his first wife were born in Japan. His job was to load cargo planes at the base. One of his more memorable moments was hiking to the top of Mt. Fuji.

"It taught me to be independent," said Jaskowiak. He said he also learned there are many diverse groups of

people all around the world. Six months after he returned from Japan he went back to school where he finished out his major in English. "The Air Force made me be patient and efficient, which are very valuable in the classroom," he said. Mr. Jaskowiak said teaching turned out to be exactly what he wanted to do and really enjoys it.

Mr. Jaskowiak's class is a great learning environment. He has a great sense of humor and the voice of a thousand angels. I think he could put a class of babies to sleep with his rich mellifluous voice. He is always there to help guide you in your work and constantly checks to see how you're doing on your assignment. If you see him in the hall be sure to give him a nod of thanks for his service not only in the Air Force but in the classroom.



Mr. Jaskowiak with Mt. Fuji

Ms. Heller tries on her Aitkin shoes

Kalley Duggan

Staff writer

Ms. Heller is in her second year of teaching at Aitkin High School. Ms. Heller grew up in Wolsey, South Dakota, population 398, with her mom, dad, and sister, who is now 20yrs old. According to Ms. Heller her sister is the favorite child. Her sister sees her parents every weekend and Ms. Heller hasn't seen them since August.

Ms. Heller went to High School at Wolsey-Wessington High School where her graduating class size was 12 students. Ms. Heller was Valedictorian of her senior class. She was also the senior class president, along with the student council vice president, and she was also co-captain of the volleyball team.



Ms. Heller

Ms. Heller graduated from Minnesota State University of Moorhead with a BS in Communication Arts and Literature Education. The classes Ms. Heller teaches are Senior English, Junior English, Literacy Strategies 11/12, and Drama. According to Ms. Heller her

hardest hour this trimester is her sixth hour Senior English class, "because of the unique personalities that tend to make it very challenging to ensure everybody is focused and on task."

Ms. Heller's favorite meal is sushi. One of her favorite desserts is angel food cake. Something that you might not know about Ms. Heller is that she considers herself to be a fairly good water skier; she first started water skiing when she was 13. Ms. Heller loves to shop, she owns over 100 pairs of shoes, and has worn every single pair at least once. Someone who has helped Ms. Heller out in this school is Mr. Jaskowiak. She states, "He has helped me out the most because he's always there for me because he is my neighbor and a very easy going person." Ms. Heller hopes

to keep teaching at AHS until she retires. She says, "I love all of the students and co-workers." One of Ms. Heller's greatest stresses with teaching is it takes forever to grade papers.

This past summer Ms. Heller got engaged, to the love of her life, on the stone arch bridge in Minneapolis after going to see the play *Pride and Prejudice* at the Guthrie Theater. Her fiancé Nick is a whole foot taller than she is, and as Ms. Heller states, "He is a tall glass of water." Ms. Heller's wedding is next August; she has been doing a lot of wedding planning and still can't find the perfect pair of shoes. Ms. Heller is this year's new prom advisor and has lots of new ideas after going to 6 different proms.

Wanted: Teacher with permit to carry

Jessica Stephens

Staff Writer

The school defense tactic of huddling in the corner of a classroom is equivalent to the “Duck and Cover” safety measure of the 1950s. Congregating to create a singular target amid a shooting spree is absurd just as covering one’s head is during an explosion. Schools need to address potential threats in a more logical and aggressive manner by arming or requiring defense trained teachers and staff in every school.

Shootings typically occur in a short duration of time requiring an immediate response. Unfortunately, police often arrive too late. Schools need to revise their defense methods to compensate for time. There are several solutions that offer optimal protection, and when implemented will result in significantly more secure school systems.

Arming teachers is considered to be a drastic measure. The fear of non-gun competent teachers perceiving threats in the absence of any or the occurrence of unpredictable classroom gun accidents has in-

timidated many; these concerns are well warranted, but are negated by training programs tailored to school shooting situations. The “Armed Teachers Training Program” is designed to rigorously prepare teachers willing to protect their schools. Teachers will not be forced to carry concealed weapons if they are uncomfortable by doing so. According to a CNN article, the training entails advanced gun safety training pertaining to reacting in the “active shooter” scenario. The organization responsible for the “Armed Teachers Training Program”, Buckeye Firearm Foundation, states, “Our training will deal with a highly focused skill set and go beyond state law enforcement requirements for dealing with active killers.” This program removes the ambiguity in the situation of a school threat and provides an aggressive plan to protect schools.

Armed security guards or a police force stationed in schools is another proposed method that would substantially improve a school’s defense. However, bla-

tantly armed guards will be the first targets of a shooter; especially, a student shooter who is familiar with their school’s security system. Teachers and staff that are armed will not be distinguishable from non-conceal and carry school personnel. By obscuring the defense forces identities, the armed teacher will have the tactical advantage of not being considered a threat.

At the very least, all school personnel should attend defense workshops that teach basic physical and mental defense tactics: being able to disarm a shooter, control their fear, and prevent a shooter from entering their classroom. This preemptive and more politically correct defense solution may contribute to less loss of life in school shootings.

Gun free zones attract violence. This affinity stems from a shooter’s knowledge that there is an absence of formidable resistance in schools. Updating school defense systems will refute this notion and diminish the likelihood of schools becoming targets.

Rebellion or expression?

Tattoos: Spreading on bodies every-

Haley Cannon

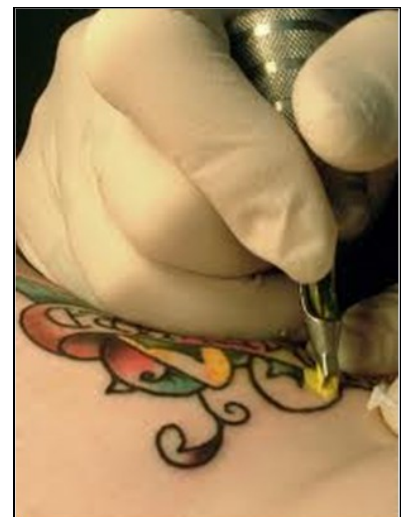
Opinion Editor

A lot of people today like to express themselves with different clothing styles, hair styles, and even tattoos. Tattoos are commonly seen all over our society with different celebrities and people of all ages. Some people get concerned when we talk about teenagers getting tattoos.

Despite the growing popularity of tattoos, people still have mixed feelings about them especially when it comes to teenagers having them. Although tattoos on teenagers are a growing trend, it has many adults concerned, especially about the health risks. A lot of adults

see them as teenagers rebelling while others see them as a form of free expression.

Another argument to be made about teenagers with tattoos is that they might regret it one day, but realistically anyone can regret getting a tattoo despite their age. Some tattoos also have a deeper meaning behind them than some people think. The tattoos may stand for someone that has been really important in their life or a special event that happened. When tattoos have a special meaning that stands for something, that tattoo isn’t just ink underneath your skin, it’s close to that person’s heart.





Teaching with Technology

Are teachers too dependent on electronic teaching methods?

Hailey Everson
Staff writer

Do we have too much technology? Yes and no. Currently we do not have enough technology to keep up with what teachers are trying to teach us, but they should still use the book in some ways as a teaching method. Often times in our day we are surrounded by technology, whether it is our phones, laptops or the iPads that we use in class. On a constant basis teens can't be without their technology, Face Book, Twitter and texting. I am not exempt from this either. I am constantly on my phone.

When it comes to learning I think there should be a divide and we should either all have iPads or use the books. Sometimes teachers say you can use your smart phone for this and often times some students might not have a smart phone to use. Not as common but also students that don't have computers at home or a smart phone can suffer when a teacher assigns homework and you have to do it on a computer.

Technology is ever expanding and that is a very useful resource in our school but our current technology can't keep up with the needs of the students. I think it can

go both ways. Yes we have a lot of technology but it is insufficient to the needs of the students. When I asked teachers what they thought, many of the responses were the same. They think that we still need more technology to get us college and career ready. When asked, Mr. Lindgren said "No, we have too little current technology to help students." We need more technology in our school with the guidelines that teachers and students don't just depend on an iPad. Everything can be misused but if taught the right way students won't misuse the technology that we have.

Do you think teachers should teach more out of a book or more from an ipad?

Kalley Duggan
Staff Writer



"Out of a book because the iPads are very helpful and useful for research, although sometimes I feel that teachers use them for busy work."

- Madisen Kuppich

"An iPad, because I think having technology in the school is a good thing because you can get information faster than looking it up in a book. Also information changes every day and books can't get updated every day."

-Trevor Nies



"Out of the book, because this world is too dependent on technology these days."

-Elizabeth Liljenquist

"Both, because a healthy mixture of the book and the iPad is always good. With a textbook you can have readily available, reliable information, but the iPad allows you to explore more on your own."

-Mr Richters



"An iPad because books get old and so does the information in them, and an iPad would be more effective."

-Kaitlyn Scharrer

All Starz Ready for the Season

Alexis Wagner
Staff Writer

The 2013-2014 Aitkin All Stars dance season has begun! Starting off the season the girls began practice on Oct 21. On Saturday, Oct 26, the dance girls and coaches had their annual dance lock-in for team bonding. They choreographed their warm-up dance for the season, played games, made team goals and personal goals, and ate some great food. The first high kick performance is Nov 19 at 6:30 p.m. in the old gym.

The first High Kick competition is Dec 7 in Detroit Lakes. The dancers are working on more strength training, stamina, running and working out in the weight room more often. The All Stars have taken on the motto "We not me" from the football team. This also goes along with the captains trying to include the whole team in everything. The coaches and girls are all looking forward to the new season! Go All Starz!



**All Starz
dance team**

Browning Returns From State with Fourth-place finish



Claire Browning serves it up.

Hope Mitchell
Staff Writer

Claire Browning won fourth place in the Minnesota Class A State Tennis Tournament on Friday, Oct. 25. She faced many challenging opponents, winning some and losing some. She was very proud of her scores and knew that she tried her best. When asked if she thought she could do better Claire said that she was nervous, under a lot of pressure, and anxious just to get it all over with.

The tennis team has held a tradition that every year when they go to state they eat at the Old Spaghetti Factory. This year Claire was excited to go there and celebrate her first two victories with her team and family. But before the

teams started to compete, the girls went to Olive Garden and ate tons of pasta. "When the waitress brought our check she brought us a mountain of mints", Claire said.

Claire won her first two matches against Claire Christian (United South Central High School) and Lauren Kozikowski (Breck School). She had a major lead against them when suddenly against her third and final opponent she lost by a few points. Sadly she did not move on to the finals, but she did receive fourth place. There was a welcome home gathering for Claire on Monday Oct. 28th for those who did not get to go to the tournament, or for her fans to congratulate her on her victory.



The amazing support coming from the side line!

Football Wraps Up Season

Bryan Haugly
Staff Writer

It was a tough loss for the Gobblers, falling short of the Mora Mustangs

As the Aitkin Gobbler Football season wraps up, Coach Sanford says, "We're very happy about this season. It is one we will always remember. We had great young men to work with, and very supportive parents." This season the Gobblers ended up 6-3. It was a great season in comparison to the seasons before it.

Going into the Mora game, Sanford explains, "We prepared our team the same we do every week. We watched film and developed a plan to try to take advantage of their short falls and avoid their strengths, but that plan fell short." The final score of the game was 22-8.

What Coach Sanford said he would have done differently about the Mora game was "prepared more for an inside game as that is not what we saw on film." Captain Daniel Bender says, "I think that we really changed the foundation for what

the Aitkin program has been and we have a total mental change in the way we go about things every day in practice and games and we truly became a F.A.M.I.L.Y."

Already looking forward to next year, Sanford says, "We are excited about next season. We hope to build on the foundation that was laid by this year's seniors. ... We have a long list of things to do in the off-season, but at the top of the list is to get kids stronger."

Volleyball Season Comes to a Close

Peter Yunker
Staff Writer

The Gobbler volleyball girls won their first match in sections, but came up short in the second round against the Mora Mustangs. The Gobblers won 3 out of 4 games and won the match with a dominant victory against the Moose Lake/Willow River Rebels, but didn't have the same luck against Mora last Friday.

With the season being over, it is time for reflection and looking to the future. In retrospect, Coach Michaletz says, "I knew we would do well, but I wasn't sure we would do this well." The team had a season record of 15-5! Michaletz credits the team's success to "Constant positivity and hustle,

even after a tough loss." He said that other coaches often mentioned that they admired the hustle shown by our Gobbler girls. He also noted that the student section was great, when they cheered appropriately.

His approach to next season will be similar to other seasons. As far as volleyball itself goes, he wants the team to improve passing. More prominently however, they need to try and fill open places left by the graduating seniors. He made note of the great leadership by the seniors, and the captains; Cassie Sandberg, Bailey Nordean, & Jenae Herron. He closed with "They were a big part of the team, and they will be missed."



Some of the senior gobbler gals!