

Sno-Daze a success

Staff Writers

The Sno-Daze dance was packed. Students were partying, pumping, dancing and singing the whole night. One student, or so I heard, was stuck in bed the next day from being so fatigued. The selection of songs was almost perfect. Not enough techno and party-style music, but, still, a great ball. Someone kept stealing the king's crown and putting it on others' heads, then stealing it five or so minutes later to be run to another person. Some called it, in a humorous manner, the "Crown Running Service". A great time was had, and many people left with smiles and laughter. The carnival-themed Sno-Ball was truly a great time to be had.

Morgan Schoonover is this year's Snoball queen. She said, "It was very cool and surprising!" She thinks the coolest part of being Snoball queen is meeting new people at school. "A crown goes a long way."

The thing she enjoys least about being Snoball queen is going to the Snoball dance.



Students cutting a rug at Snoball.

"I've never been a fan of High school dances."

When Morgan finishes High school she plans on going to Hartwick college in Oneonta, New York. She plans on studying music education so she can direct bands one day.

"I thought all of the candidates could have won and they are all really nice people that I enjoy," Morgan said cheerfully.

Levi Perrine was crowned this year's SnoBall king. Levi did not think he was going to be king. In fact he said "I don't really care about it. It's not like being the king makes

me any different." He mentioned that it was nice to know that people appreciate him. Levi's most important job as King was to "wear the ice cream pail for a week."

After graduating this spring, Levi plans on attending college to become an English teacher.

For Sno-Daze we had some dress up days. Monday was pajama day, Tuesday was ugly sweater day, Wednesday was Hawaiian shirt day, Thursday was flannel/cowboy day and Friday was spirit day.

One-Act finishes their season

↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓
“They gave it their all and it was like comparing apples and oranges at subsections.”

Sarah Chute

News Editor

One-Act traveled to East Central on Saturday, January 28 for subsection competition. They fell short of advancing on to sections by one place. The top two teams move on; this year, East Central and Hinckley-Finlayson advanced with Aitkin in 3rd place.

The cast and crew's favorite showing is for the school. Cody Zink, sophomore and 3rd year one-actor, said that his favorite part of One-Act is “the bus ride, watching other schools, and performing for the school, because they actually laugh.”

Mrs. Real, Director of One-Act, for the past three years, said “It was me rather than the kids that failed. They gave it their all and it was like comparing apples and oranges at subsections.”

One-Act did a great job this year, even if they didn't advance at the competition. There was a final performance for the school on Thursday, February 9. Good job One-Act and thank you for sharing your talent!



Elise Courtemanche, Taylor Smith, and Joseph Fontaine rehearsing for One-Act.

Drinking and driving/ driving under the influence

Cassi Tetrick

Sports Editor

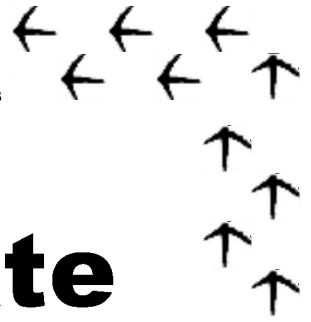
Drinking and driving and driving under the influence have always been a problem in Aitkin County from High School kids up to adults. Approximately 40 percent of 20 surveyed junior and senior AHS students asked have either drove drunk or drove under the influence in the past month. 70 percent of juniors and seniors asked have drove drunk or under the influence in the past year. Most students asked said they were fine and only had a couple to drink.

If a student were to get pulled over they would face a fine, jail time, community service, or driver's license suspension and minor consumption. Anything else the police find can be used against them. If a student were to be 18 the crime would stay on their permanent record and would not look too smashing on job applications.

Drinking and Driving is also tough on bar owners. Police sometimes stake out bars at night and attempt to catch drunk drivers. This often scares people; they will either not go out at night and perhaps drink at their own abode,

not order as many drinks as they normally would at the bar or just have a designated driver.

In Minnesota alone in 2009, 135 people were killed by drunk drivers with a BAC (blood alcohol level) of .08 percent or above. In 2009, there were 26,240 total arrest for drunk driving. Out of those arrests 383 were under age. Also in 2009, there were 25,784 liquor law crimes out of those 5,598 were under the age mostly minor consumptions.



BPA moves on to state

Dacia Sjolund
Variety Editor

Congratulations to Aitkin High School's very own BPA team. They have been working hard and you can see it's really been paying off.

The team has recently been to the regional championship in Grand Rapids on Jan. 26 and 27. There they dominated their competition and each and every member will be moving on to the state championship. For state they will be traveling to Minneapolis from March 8 to 10.

"There are close to 100 different options to pick from. Each person gets to pick two from the list," said Sarah Chute, the president of Aitkin's BPA chapter, as she described what is expected of a BPA member. Each option is a little different and they all fall into categories such as: testing, writing, presenting, typing, interview skills, and more.

The grading is different for every category. For instance how you do in writing, or test taking skills is based on the percentage you get right and the time it took to complete is. You can get up to 20 points.

"Just because we don't always bring home a trophy doesn't mean we haven't done well," Sarah said. In test taking, the top five move on to nationals, in presen-



Every member of Aitkin's BPA team will move on to state

tation the top three go on.

"I think we're going to do really well," Sarah said confidently. Best of luck

to our BPA team in the upcoming state competition!

Teen pregnancy rates have been dropping, still high

Raelyn Stiner
Staff Writer

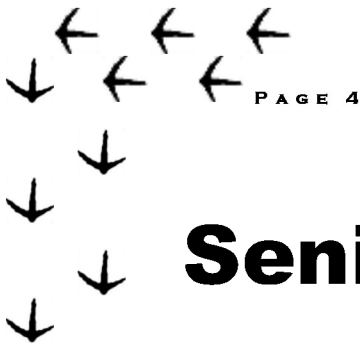
Being a teen is hard enough let alone dealing with problems of teen pregnancy. Almost one million teens get pregnant each year. Teen pregnancy has been declining but the numbers are still too high. The federal government spends about \$40 billion just by helping families that began with a teenage birth every year. The United States has the highest in teen pregnancy than any other country by a long shot. Also

the U.S has the highest in rates of teen pregnancy, birth and abortion in the world.

Teenage pregnancy is happening more and more every day. More problems, events and dramatic changes are taking effect because of the growing number of babies that are being produced more and more every year. The only true way of staying healthy and having a very successful life is to practice abstinence. Sure you can have kids, but wait till you get to college and mature more. It is scientifically

proven that if you wait on children till after you have turned 21 you have a higher percent chance of living a very successful life.

Aitkin high-school student Serena Wood says "well, I'm not against it, but I'm not for it. I think you should think carefully before you make a decision of having sex. You should always stay protected and talk to your significant other if anything like that does happen.



Seniors deserve open lunch

Kennedy Swanson

Opinion Editor

Every senior year is different so just because the year before was bad doesn't mean the next year will be as bad. Most people would agree that if a senior class ruins open lunch the next senior class should get to ruin it for themselves. They should not have to pay for the year before because each class is different. Students who are on the A or B honor roll should be rewarded with open lunch. If one irresponsible student shows up high or drunk or doesn't come back, then they do not get open lunch anymore rather than punishing the whole class. The students that are being good (which is the majority of them) should still get that privilege.

If we had open lunch it shouldn't mean that everyone in the senior class would get it. At the end of the junior year, if students are on the A and B honor roll, they should get open lunch to start their senior year. Just like students that are in sports, students would have to maintain a passing grade through the trimester to continue having open lunch and be at a B average or higher by the end of the trimester for the next term. Seniors would sign out in the office. Then, to sign back in, they would have to be in their next class on time for attendance. Students would be able to run errands, get food for sports, or if you forgot something for your sport you could run and get it. And



Seniors who have proven themselves should be able to eat wherever they want.

not have your parents leave their jobs to go get you stuff.

I understand that some teachers are not okay with having open lunch. So I went to figure out why. They believe that students would take advantage of this privilege and abuse it. Littering and stealing became a habit for the students in past years. But the school board has never tried to narrow it down to just the A and B honor roll students and that will make the chance of stealing and littering – and other poor behaviors – less.

Crosby-Ironton and Brainerd have a similar system and they do not seem to have as many problems as teachers tell us about. Give us a chance to fix these problems and show that we are responsible enough to handle this freedom.

Open lunch would give students time to eat and relax at home. Keeping us cooped up isn't showing us the real world. We are seniors, not seventh graders. We're going to be going to college. You would think open lunch wouldn't be that big of a deal. They say how different the real world is. How are we supposed to be ready for the real world when we can't even interact with it? Being out side will give us fresh air and we won't be falling asleep in our sixth and seventh hour classes. As a wise man once told me "It's only takes one person to modify an idea to make things easier, more effective and just because you try something once you don't have to give up on it." So we should try open lunch again. If it doesn't work, well it doesn't work, but does it hurt that much to try something renewed?





Opinion Poll

What is one major thing that you would change at AHS?

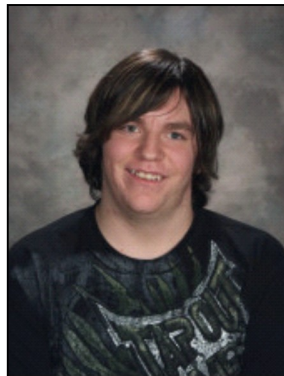
Adam Dunbar
Staff writer



Franklin Real: "We need more food at lunch."



Mrs. Brucker: "We need to improve morale in school."



Dakota Viney: "The lack of awareness of bullying and the effects it has on others. I know its effects because I dealt with it for many years. In fact it almost lead to a decision that would have ended my life at 14."



Dacoda Coch: "Longer lunches or some kind of free time."



Mr. Lindgren: "More mobile devices, like iPads/Pods, cell phones, used by students in the curriculum."

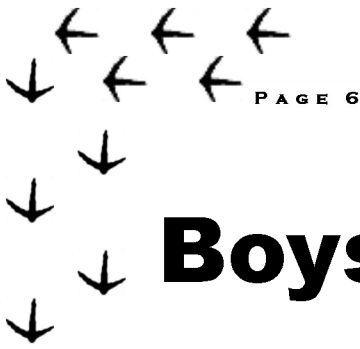
There are better ways to get your point across than glitter bombing

Cassi Tetrick
Sports editor

In Minnesota, gay rights activists are finding new ways to voice their opinions. They are targeting mostly republican politicians and throwing absurd amounts of glitter on them. The activists believe this act somehow "Shows" they disagree. Their last victim, Mitt Romney was at a warehouse bash in Eagan with Norm Coleman and Tim Pawlenty when he was doused in glitter upon entrance. Mitt handled the situation admirably by stating "I'm happy for the celebration. This is confetti! We've just won Florida, the White

House is next". The activist that threw the glitter was escorted out of the building. Later in an interview, the activist claimed that he stated "feel the rainbow" as he hit Romney with the glitter bomb. While discussing the incident with someone who attended the Bash it was revealed that "the guy was directly in front of us and didn't say a word. Almost everyone around us just thought it was part of Romney's celebration". The first glitter bomb was tolerated by the campaign however as Mitt was leaving the event he was yet again hit by a nonsensical amount of glitter, this was just atrocious.

Yes people have disagreements, everyone in the world is not supposed to agree on the same thing or there would be no point on a lot. However there are other ways to go about it. It is immoral to go up to someone and throw glitter on them; it shows how immature people really are. If someone wants to speak out about what they believe then become a politician, write a letter to the editor, talk to a congressman. It's not that hard to find mature ways of getting your opinion out there. There are 8thgraders that have more respect for authority and adults, and would agree it is childish.



Boys hoops keeps it real

Gobbler boys look to reach their potential

David Alvarez

Staff Writer

The Basketball team has a lot of solid players this year. They are doing pretty good so far but they still haven't reached their full potential. The Varsity team consists of Alex Anderson, Jaron Brazinky, Danny Dally, Nathan Enstrom, Dean Lynn, Ryan Rosemore, Eric Rushel, Peter Zasmeta, Daniel Bender, Ryan Anderson, Brad Nelson, Kinzer Hill, and Kyle Thompson. They've been putting a lot of hard work in the

gym and hope to beat their coming up opponents. The team had a goal to beat Crosby Iron-ton High school but they came up short and didn't get the win. They have a record of 6-11. When I talking to the guys on the team I learned that they are working hard to bring some wins home. From watching the guys play, you can see that they have really good players but they just need to work as a team more. They have a few more games coming up and they plan to destroy everyone of their opponents.

Peter Zasmeta drives the baseline during a game against the Hinckley-Finlayson Jaguars earlier this season.



JV girls basketball falls to Mora 44-40

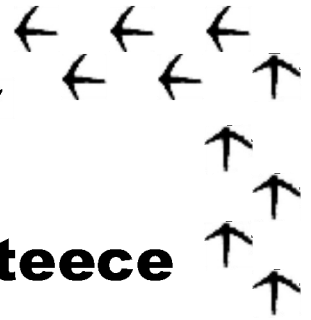
Stephanie Orpen

Staff writer

The girls basketball JV team played Mora on Feb. 3, ended their three game week on a great comeback falling 44-40 to Mora at a home game on Friday night. Brooke Miller led the team with 13

points, Jenae Herron added 10, Hope Palkie and Herron led the team in rebounding with 4 caroms each. The girls beat Onamia on Thursday the night before 57-18, nine girls got in the scoring column and 20 steals by the lady gobblers providing many scoring opportunities.

The JV girls season record right now is 14-6 making Aitkin fans and their coaches proud by playing hard for the entire 32 minutes. The Gobbler girls are putting a lot of effort into basketball and doing a great job this season.



Female Athlete of the week Kari Steece

Chelsea Ryappy
Staff Writer

We've all heard or witnessed the Aitkin All Starz dance team, but a particular dancer has stood out this year is, senior captain, Kari Steece.

Many students admire Steece's talents, hard work, and dedication to her team. She was awarded the all-conference team individual award (along with four others girls on her team), at this year's conference championship.

Kari is one of three captains on the varsity dance team, when asked what makes her captain material she answered, "I just think being a captain means being a good leader and being able to be friends with everyone easily. I take college classes and have been in dance for six years. I've been to state three times, and have been on the varsity team for four years."

Some challenges and struggles Kari has shared from her years of experience are, "Having to come back each year with less of the team I had before, and missing all my girls." But even though that is tough on her, the biggest reward of being on the dance team she said was "Having my big family to go to everyday. I love my team so much and will miss them so much when I leave."

The All Starz have swept the board again this year with another undefeated dance season in both jazz and high kick! With sections ahead of them they plan to take over the floor with some great moves and spunk. "The team's doing awesome!" said Steece excitedly. It will be sad not to see this senior return next season for the team, but she insists to be in audience cheering her favorite team to state.



Kari Steece

Jordan Chouanard is the Male Athlete of the week.

Travis Ruschmeier

Staff Writer

Jordan Chouanard is this week's male athlete of the week. Chouanard is involved in wrestling and has been for about 15 years now. He started wrestling at age three. Chouanard said, "My brother was my motivation to start."

With an undefeated season so far this year he hopes to keep it that way and we all hope he does! His career record in a single season is 37-3, with around 80 pins in his high school career.

Adam Jackson (AHS Varsity Wrestler) said, "Jordan always pushes himself and others in practice. When I first started on varsity he would always tell me good job or something after a match."

Jackson also said, "He is a very good wrestler, captain, and leader. He makes a very good role model to younger

kids as a wrestler."

"The Tank" as Jordan put it, is Chouanard's wrestling practice partner. We all know him as Brian Wold, also a varsity wrestler.

As a wrestler he has looked up to Matt Christensen and Justin Chouanard. He said, "They always pushed me to be the best I could be."

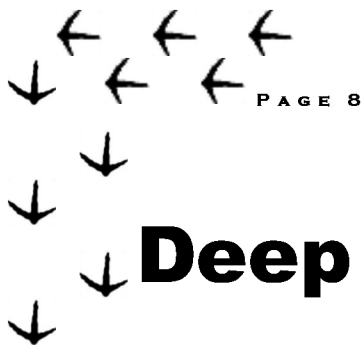
Chouanard stated, "Getting third in state is my greatest achievement."

With an undefeated season so far this year he definitely hopes to keep it that way. If you have never been out to watch Jordan wrestle try and get that opportunity before the season is up.

Good luck to Jordan and the wrestling team as they finish out their season. Hope everyone can get out and wish them luck!



Jordan Chouanard



Deep thoughts with Jaskowiak

Dacia Sjolund
Variety Editor

Mr. Jaskowiak searched around the room looking for an answer. His eyes paused over the brightly colored walls. The orange walls, (or “summer squash” walls as he would call them if he ever caught you classifying them as “orange,”) were a great new addition to his room. They matched his bright, optimistic personality perfectly, though it is the secret belief of many students that he painted them that color to ensure keeping the students as awake and attentive as possible.

“I remember one day,” he said as he began to describe one of his earliest memories. “I could feel the long cool grass on my legs.”

Soon he had painted a picture in my mind of one of those perfect days, beautiful outside, big lazy clouds ambling along. He remembered his grandmother hanging up clothes on a line.

With an image like that in my head I could understand how he wanted to be a cowboy when he was a young boy.

“I didn’t really know what I wanted to do until I was 29,” he said with one of his classic good natured smiles. “I really admire the kids who know what they want to do straight out of high school.”

He thought long and hard about the next question. Twiddling with a pen in his hand he dropped it a few times, giving me one of those good natured smiles each time he did.

“Well, I went to St. Cloud State University for two and a half years and dropped out. Then I got married and joined the Air Force. Five years later I finished my last two years of college, again in St. Cloud. Two years after that I went and got a masters degree in English, which took around three years,” he said, wrapping up the last 15 and a half years of his life into one convenient to-go package.

“I like my job because it gives me lots of freedom to be creative, and I try to avoid monotony in my teaching methods. I’m very open to new ideas.”

Dropping his pen one more time, he began describing his favorite activities: Mountain biking, tending his garden, reading, and watching movies. There was a hint of humor in his eyes as he listed the last two. With a bit of mystery he talked about how much he loved going camping, especially up on the North Shore with his family.

He also loves kayaking. One summer he went kayaking with Mr. Mehr, and Mr. Doub, from the bridge on highway 169 to Aitkin.

“What we thought would take us just a few hours wound up taking us 5 and half hours to accomplish,” he said with a chuckle, and switched subjects.

“I have an uncle I used to work for, and that was lots of fun. He taught me that there is a time to work, and there is a time to play.”

He began to talk about his kids. “My kids have a lot of experience,” began the proud parent. “We wanted them to be honest, and have fun, as well as teach them to do things right.” The look on his face explained they had accomplished just that.” Especially the importance of spending time together,” he concluded.



Jacob Jaskowiak

“I like my job because it gives me lots of freedom to be creative, and I try to avoid monotony in my teaching methods. I’m very open to new ideas.” He paused and corrected himself, “Generally.”

He talked about one of his downfalls as being impatient. “Sometimes I get bored easily,” he said and characterized himself as being too calm.

“If I had to describe myself in one word, I guess it would be indecisive. Sometimes I have a hard time making decisions,” he said shifting in his seat.

“Mr. Jaskowiak is a very creative and kind person. He’s a great teacher too! He makes even the lamest subjects seem more appealing with different projects and ideas. I enjoyed having him for English 10 and I definitely learned a lot,” says one of Mr. Jaskowiak’s former students, Andrea Nadeau.

Mr. Jaskowiak doesn’t want to be or do anything else. “I’m very happy to be where I am today.”

A Tinge of DelZoppo

Sarah Chute

News Editor

How does one go from dreaming of growing up to be a writer to becoming a science teacher in a rural town? Just ask Ms. DelZoppo. DZ has many interesting stories to tell from her childhood; growing up in the post-Vietnam War and listening to the Beatles; to her career choices.

DZ has lived in Aitkin for quite a few years. She was applying for a job when the market was hard. AHS was her first and last interview. They offered her the job a few days after the interview and she has been here since.

DZ grew up in the post-Vietnam War era and stated that she appreciates growing up then, however if she had to choose a different time to live, she would choose post-Civil War. DZ admitted, "I would hang out with Jessie James and probably be a bank robber."

DZ spent seven years in the army. When she was young, she saw how the men were being treated when they returned home after the Vietnam War and decided to join the army. Through serving in the army, she discovered that she was mechanically inclined and loved earth sciences. She went to St. Cloud State and received her Bachelor's de-



Ms. DelZoppo

gree in earth sciences. After working at AHS for a few years, she went back to school at Southwest State and received her Master's degree in Education, and then later, earned her Master's in physics from Hamline.

DZ would love to be a radio DJ at a Classic Rock Station. She said "I like that I'm

quick witted and have a creative personality... but that sometimes gets me in trouble." One word that best describes her is fruitcake because "I'm a mix of a lot of things; kind of nutty, chewy in other places..."

She loves being a teacher because she can stay in tune with the world; she learns about a lot of the changes through her students. She also likes having the summers off and being able to be a kid again. "I learn stuff during school and then go do it over the summer."

DZ experienced her first love at age 4 with a boy named Paul. She had to leave him when the family moved to Iowa City and a long-distance relationship was not a possibility. Paul now owns half of the Zubaz Company.

A few things most people do not know about DZ are that when she was kid, she gave the next door neighbor boy a bloody nose. This may not seem very important but his mom would soon become Minnesota Lieutenant Governor. A few years later, DZ crashed the driver's education car through the fence of the VA Hospital in St. Cloud.

If you hear about any banks being robbed, a new DJ on the radio, or Beatles music down the hall, be sure to stop by DZ's room and learn about the science behind it all.

Our Great Shop Teacher, Mr. Jacobson

Mr. Jacobson has been teaching at Aitkin High School for about 30 years now. He has done a lot in his life and many kids look up to him as a teacher. Before teaching at AHS he drove a Redi-Mix truck and was a dump truck driver. He also was a Heavy Equipment Operator and worked at a Yacht Company in Florida.

Before teaching he lived and worked in three states, Texas, Florida, and Minnesota. With Aitkin being his hometown he decided to come back here and start teaching.

He said, "I enjoy working with the variety of kids."

Jacobson teaches many different classes from wood shop to plastics, from seventh-graders to seniors. "RV Maintenance and Plastics are my favorite because I

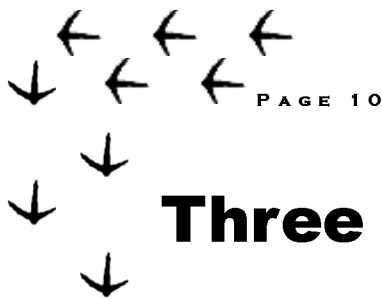
have some interesting problems I have to solve," said Jacobson. His worst experiences of AHS are, "When I almost cut my fingers off and when I tore my Achilles tendon." He also stated that his best experience is, "June, July, and August."

His motto of teaching is, "If you enjoy it the kids will pick up on it and enjoy it, also." He plans to retire after the economy recovers. After retirement he plans on doing what he is doing now, staying active, carpentry work, fishing, snowmobiling, and spending time with family.

Jacobson said, "I would like to build a really fast car!" Mr. Jacobson has been here a long time and through many different changes but still stuck around and loves doing what he is doing. After he retires he will be greatly missed.



Mr. Jacobson



Three star movie: We Bought a Zoo

Leah Bardwell

Staff Writer

Benjamin Mee (Matt Damon) is a single dad trying to raise two kids, Dylan Mee (Colin Ford) and Rosie Mee (Maggie Elizabeth Jones). When Dylan gets expelled from school, they have no choice but to move, because that was the only school within the area.

Dylan and his dad don't see eye-to-eye on a lot of things, "Whose going to take pity for a teenager whose mom died six months ago?" Dylan said

Benjamin doesn't want to move to this place after he finds out that it's a zoo that isn't running, but where's Rosie when he's telling the real estate agent this? Benjamin runs up a path, and finds Rosie playing with the animals, and he notices that maybe this place isn't too bad after all.

When meeting the manager and crew of the zoo, Kelly Foster, Scarlett Johnson, is introducing the Mee family to the crew, and when Dylan sees Kelly's cousin Lily Miska, Elle Fanning, he looks at his feet, and glances at her every few seconds.

When you live in a zoo you have to make sure that the animals are fed, and that everything is up to requirements, and that you follow all the directions. Kelly tells

Benjamin that there's a new order of snakes in the crate. Benjamin doesn't think about what all might go wrong when he tells Dylan to do all the chores. Dylan gets the curiosity to open the crate, and he hears the hiss, closes the crate, without locking the crate up. When they wake up, they all get a surprise when their yard is full with snakes. "Why'd you buy this place?" ask Kelly. Benjamin replies, "Why not?"

Go shopping for equipment for the zoo, the lady at the cash register asks why Benjamin has the card for the zoo, he tells the lady that he bought the place and it'll be opening up soon, she gets excited and says that opening day, he better save her nine tickets, because she'll be there!

Lily tells Dylan that she hears that he's moving back to the cities, and he's so jazzed about it that he doesn't even notice that she asked if he wanted to write letters. Lily doesn't talk to him for a long time, so he asks Kelly about it all, and she says, "Talking to girls is easy. They'll tell you everything. The secret to talking to girls is listening."

One day, when Dylan is walking home in the pouring rain, he sees a sign in the window that says, "If you love me, let me know," knowing that it was Lily who wrote that, he runs to her house in the pour-

ing rain, and tells her that he loves her. She smiles, and they hug through the window. Along the way through the movie, Benjamin and Dylan sit down and resolve their differences. Benjamin finds a drawing that Dylan did of a lion, and Benjamin uses it for the sign to promote the zoo.

It rained and was windy for days and days before the opening of the zoo, but on the opening, it was nice, beautiful and sunny. At 10 a.m. they cut the ribbon for the new zoo, but nobody is there, not one single person. Dylan runs to find that a tree fell during the rain and wind, they look, and there's a long line full of people, waiting to get in. The chaiseur lady says, "Well done Benjamin."

Benjamin shows the kids where he and their mom met, he says, "You know, sometimes all you need is twenty seconds of insane courage. Just literally twenty seconds of just embarrassing bravery. And I promise you, something great will come of it." Then he tells the kids, "I said 'why would a girl like you ever talk to a guy like me?' "And the mom answered, "Why not?"

This movie was such a heart-touching movie that jerked tears from many of the people, but also brought laughs. It's a movie, which a lot of families would enjoy to see, no matter how lame it seems.

Knowledge Bowl is hoping to finish strong

Joe White

Staff writer

I think it is safe to say that not a lot of people know much about Knowledge Bowl or who's in it. To help you out, Dan Klucas, Spencer Goble, and Eric Raushel put their brains together to give me a definition for, "Knowledge Bowl." They said, "It is a competitive team oriented activity in which points are obtained through answering trivia questions."

Knowledge Bowl has been coached by Mr. May for the past 8 years, "I was in it in high school and enjoyed it, and I

feel it's valuable to the students," said Mr. May. The best team he's coached was ranked fourth out of 85 teams, and that was about three years ago.

This year's hard working team manager is Jared Zoellner. There are three teams, DB, Perpetual Motion Squad, and Pluto is not a Planet. Team DB is Spencer Goble, Dan Klucas, Eric Raushel, Jack Reeves, and Zack Konser. They have done well this year, receiving eleventh place out of 32 teams, and third place out of 26 teams. What inspired Eric Raushel to join Knowledge Bowl is, "The quest of knowledge." Team

Perpetual Motion Squad is Tyler Michaletz, Matt Jones, Emily Cambell, Dacia Sjolund, Alec Kinzer, and Jeremy Paulbeck. They have received eighth place out of 32 teams, and first place out of 26 teams. Team Pluto is not a Planet is Lindy Lahon-Sharbonda, Taylor Smith, and Elise Cortomanche. They have received 19th place out of 25 teams. "I like meeting people from new towns and making up random answers when my team doesn't know the real ones," said Emily Cambell.

The tournaments are done as one written round followed by 4 oral rounds that are

played jeopardy-style where questions of literature, history, science, and math are asked. "My favorite part of tournaments is the boost in self esteem when I see all the nerds," said Spencer Goble. Dan Klucas' favorite part of tournaments is, "The endless knowledge I gain from every meet." Their next meet is on February 14 at the old Washington School, and that is their final meet of the season. It's nice to know that our knowledge bowl teams are doing very well this year!