

# Scratchin' Post

Volume 6 Edition 17

March 2014

## Mortgage Burned at Ceremony

By: Maddie Hahler

The Northwestern community celebrated the end of its 18-year-long mortgage for the elementary and secondary gym addition Feb. 18.

Ellen Boekelheide and Diane Bindenagel, two board members during the 1996 addition project, returned to the school to conduct the mortgage-burning ceremony during half-time of the girls' varsity basketball game against Redfield.

The remaining board members, president Orville Steward, Charles Hahler and Leroy Braun did not attend. Current superintendent Ray Sauerwein and current board member Troy Grandpre hosted the event.

"Because of the leadership and progressiveness of the Northwestern community throughout the last 44 years, today's students are blessed with an outstanding facility," Sauerwein said.

Northwestern High School, which opened in 1970, started as just the high school building and the gym. Robert Ewart, Vincent Jungwirth, Charles Little, Floyd Stoltenberg and Harold Zoodsma served on the board of education at this time. The board members, superintendent Q. C. Miles and business manager Daryl Borchard showed ambition in their forward-thinking and progressive action. Past board member Lance Fuhrman also provided input for the plans. In 1996, superintendent Mike Steinhoff and business manager Diana Larson's leadership also helped to pave the way for this addition to happen. The work of these past leaders helped create the Northwestern that our community knows and loves today.

"It was a wonderful thing for the school to

finally pay off their mortgage debt, so they can look into the future and improve things in the school," Grandpre said.

In 2004, the school board decided to refinance the addition. This resulted in a substantial amount of savings and a two-year deduction of time to pay off the loan. The school paid off the loan in January 2014, rather than 2016. To recognize this achievement, Sauerwein decided to host a mortgage burning ceremony. In this ceremony, he brought out the official copy of the mortgage and handed it to 1996 board members, Boekelheide and Bindenagel, to set it to flame. The community witnessed this event and understood the meaning behind it.

"It (the developing stages) was an exciting time for Northwestern, and over the course, there were pros and cons from people of the district. Fortunately, the majority were for adding on to the school, and it became a reality. I think it's amazing that the last payment on the addition was made two years early! What a savings for the school district; that is something that definitely needed to be recognized. I am confident that our school will continue to be progressive, and our young people



Ellen Boekelheide and Diane Bindeagel burn the mortgage papers at the Feb. 18 basketball game against Redfield/Doland. Board member Troy Grandpre and superintendent Ray Sauerwein witness the event.

can have the best academic choices available," Bindenagel said.

## Duncan Receives National Girls and Women in Sports Day Award

By: Haley Grandpre

The National Girls and Women in Sports Day began in 1987 as a day to remember Olympic volleyball great, Flo Hyman, for her numerous athletic achievements and her work to assure equality for women's sports and to eliminate the struggles of girls and women in sport.

This year the coaching staff of girls' athletics at Northwestern honored an athlete who exemplifies qualities of excellence in sports skills, leadership, self-discipline and perseverance. This year's recipient of the National Girls and Women in Sports Day Outstanding Female Athlete is senior Jeanna Duncan.

A four-year starter and letter winner in volleyball, Duncan served as team captain and earned awards as assists leader, Northwestern Will-to-Win Athlete, All-Lake Region Conference, and Aberdeen American News All-Area Team for the past two years. She earned Academic All-State as a senior, All-State Honorable Mention as a junior, and Northwestern

Rookie of the Year as a freshman. Her 3.98 grade point average helped her team earn the AVCA and SDHSAA Team Academic Achievement Award each season. During Duncan's four years on the team, the varsity went 103-25, capturing the Class B State Championship in 2011. This summer, Jeanna will represent Northwestern as a member of the North All-Star team.

In track and field, Duncan advanced to the state meet in the 100-meter hurdles, the 4 x 400-meter relay, and the 4 x 200-meter relay as a sophomore, placing 5th in the 4 x 200-meter relay. As a junior, Jeanna advanced to the state meet in the 100-meter hurdles, the 4 x 100-meter relay, the 4 x 200-meter relay, and the 4 x 400-meter relay. She received the team's most improved award both years.

Duncan plans to attend the University of South Dakota in Vermillion next fall. Her parents are Doug and Amy Duncan of Mellette.





## Boster Club Thank You!

Booster Club would like to thank everyone who made our Potato Bar Fundraiser so successful!! We would like to thank CPS, Peterson Meats and American Bank and Trust for their generous donations. Also to the freshmen and sophomore parents who either donated supplies, bars, money, your

time, or all of the above – we couldn't have pulled it off without you!! Finally, the community who showed up and participated by enjoying a loaded baked potato, please know 100 percent of your money goes right to the school to be used for the students!! Thank you, thank you, thank you!!!

## FBLA Hosts Sucker Sales to Raise \$\$\$

By: Maddie Styles

The Northwestern Future Business Leaders of America members sold suckers for Valentine's Day to raise money. Along with a sucker, the recipient also received a note saying who it is from and a note if the sender writes one.

Red, pink, yellow, orange, and purple make for a variety of different choices to choose from. Each color holds a specific meaning: Red means love, pink, sweetheart; yellow, secret admirer; orange, friendship and purple, encouragement.

"I love sending suckers to Julia Sparling," sopho-

more Logan Schentzel said. The suckers cost 25 cents each during lunch throughout the week, and anybody has the opportunity to send as many as they would like. Not only do students love eating the delicious suckers, but they look forward to the end of the day when boxes of suckers are delivered to each of their rooms to see how many they have received.

"The best part about these suckers is getting to eat them at the end, and sending them to all your girlfriends," junior Colton Zens said.

## Sophomores Attend Lake Area Tech

By: Logan Schentzel

This month the sophomores got to go to Lake Area Technical Institute in Watertown to tour the school and get a hands-on feel for all the different courses and programs that Lake Area offers.

The class left Northwestern at the beginning of the school day and got back at the end of the school day. The students got to eat lunch at Lake Area and were then able to look around at the different buildings that make up the campus and

watch the tech students in action during their classes.

Some of the sophomores enjoyed the tour, but others thought it was a waste of a whole school day because the majority of sophomores do not want to go to a tech school. Most plan to attend a four-year college or university.

"It was fun and cool to get out of school and look into Lake Area because that is where I want to go," sophomore Trevor Bohl said.

Whether a student choos-

es to attend Lake Area or not, touring the school gives students a great opportunity to see what a tech school is all about and all that a tech school can offer.

A four-year college isn't always the best option for some students, so giving the sophomores the chance to tour the school may help them with their decision on which college to attend.

"It was cool to get out of school, and we had good food to eat," sophomore Nolan Peterson said.

## Physiology Class Tries Cross Country Skiing

By: Haley Grandpre

The Physiology class taught by Mrs. Denise Clemens had the chance to go cross country skiing in Aberdeen. They went skiing for class to test and see what muscles they use while ski-


ing.

"It was really hard and confusing at first, but was fun once you got the hang of it," said junior Hans Leonhardt.

They say that cross country

skiing is the most strenuous sport during the Olympic Games. The class wanted to try it out to see how strenuous it really is.



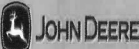



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## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE NHS SCHOOL BOARD MEETING Feb. 5, 2014

- Kari Brenner, school counselor, reviewed the results of the PSAT test and the National Career Readiness test that the juniors and seniors took. Fifty percent of the seniors were in the top gold category.
- Aberdeen was approved for the grant to build a new Tec Academy. Plans are still being finalized. The academy will be built on the campus of Aberdeen Central and will be run by Aberdeen Central. Area schools will be able to send students to the academy for a tuition fee.
- Reviewed the attendance policies of area schools. Most have similar policies as Northwestern.
- The Star Reading Report showed that in grades 3-5, 87 percent are at or above the proficient level.
- In the middle school, Mrs. Finley has started a "Go for the Gold" program to motivate students to get their ICU assignments completed.
- A consultant from TIE was at the in-service last Friday to review the SD Framework for Teaching.
- NW will be having a mortgage burning ceremony to celebrate the last payment of the elementary addition at the DHBB vs. Redfield on Feb. 18, 2014.
- NW received grant proceeds that were used to replace an aging wireless system
- Accepted resignations from Nancy Taylor and Judy Lindhorst.
- The school board invited the teachers to negotiate the 14-15 contracts on March 10, 2014.
- Reviewed the 14-15 school calendar.
- Congratulations to Student of the Month – Halle Sieve
- Congratulations to Cassidy Frericks, Miranda Thorson, Sadie Vander Wal and Peyton Groft for being selected to the middle school all-state band.
- Congratulations to the One Act Play team for placing 1st at Regions and advancing to the State competition. Acting awards went to Nik Wood, Blake Toennies and Christine Morgan.
- Next regular meeting of the board is scheduled for Monday, March 10, 2014, at 3 p.m.

## Student of the Month

By: Haley Grandpre



Junior Halle Sieve received the February student of the month. Her parents are Kim Sieve and James Huntimer. Sieve's siblings are Alexis and Alexandra Huntimer.

"Halle is a great student and role model to look up to. She is very smart and is a wonderful person to work with," junior Haley Grandpre said.

Sieve's activities include FBLA, oral interp., one-act play, spring play, girls' basketball team manager and band. Her hobbies include creating art, reading and watching movies. Halle's favorite classes are art, chemistry and literature. Her future plans are undecided at this time.

Her favorite quote is "Beauty, as defined by society at large, seemed to be only about who was best at looking like everyone else," said Lucy Grealy, and "So shines a good deed in a weary world," said Willy Wonka.

Halle's most embarrassing moment was when she fell asleep on the bus on the way to a girls game and when she woke up everyone was laughing. Mrs. Jennifer Schell then called her "Sleeping Beauty" for the rest of the night.



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## Heart Awareness Month: Wear RED

By: Julia Sparling

The month of February is Heart Awareness Month. Northwestern students celebrated Feb. 7-14 specifically, as it is National Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week.

Kindergartner Mareya Maas was born with a heart condition called TGA (Transposition of the Great Arteries) and was also born with five holes in her heart.

She has undergone four open heart surgeries, a pacemaker surgery and a

diaphragm surgery. She is one strong little lady!

Elementary students and the entire NW staff were provided with a RED ribbon made by Mareya and her mom to help bring more awareness to CHD (Congenital Heart Defects).

Many students in our school face heart issues, so bringing awareness to this issue is important not only to Mass and her family but to all in this district.

## \*News Brief\*

### The American Legion Auxiliary in Brentford donated a flag to the NW School.

## State One-Act Play Cast Performs Its Humorous Piece for Many Audiences

By: Maddie Styles

Northwestern's one-act play stole a spot as one of the 14 Class B teams to participate at state in Brandon, Feb. 6-8. Along with them, 17 AA and 14 A schools also went to compete. The class B schools received the category or theme of comedy, A schools, drama and AA schools, their choice. Seven teams could be awarded a superior from the set of three judges in each category.

"It was a wonderful experience, and I'm glad I got to end my senior year this way," senior Nicholas Wood said.

The comedic play "Speed Date" featured characters who raced to find their per-

fect dates, taking place on Valentine's Day. Despite a variety of different personalities, everyone managed to find a match before the time expired.

"It was awesome, rocked the mullet, and had a great time my senior year," senior Jesse Lutter said.

On Thursday, the team took a bus to Brandon and performed at the Brandon Valley High School Theatre that night. On Friday, everyone had fun shopping at the Sioux Empire Mall and watching the plays other schools performed. Saturday consisted of watching more entertaining plays and receiving awards.

As a whole, the team did

not place, but several cast members did receive individual outstanding acting awards: junior Christine Morgan and seniors Skylar Sorenson, Wood and Lutter.

"It was nice competing, because we haven't gone to state in a few years, so it was a new experience for all of us. I loved performing on a big stage, and I was super surprised about receiving an acting award," Morgan said.

NW's team placed first at regions in Sisseton on Jan. 29. Wood, Morgan and junior Blake Toennies received outstanding acting awards at that performance.

Mrs. Jolinda Finley directed the play.



## Region Small-Group Music Contest Results

Alto Sax Solo- Darby	I
Girls Vocal Group- Alyssa, Torey, Madison, Carolina, Allison, Ali, Rachel R, Kendra, Hope, Kalen, Jeanna, Darby, with Andrea on Flute	I
Like Vocal Duet- Alyssa & Je	I
Boys Vocal Solo- Tyler	I
Flute Trio- Alyssa, Andrea, Donna	I
Flute Duet- Andrea & Tessa	I
Clarinet Duet- Elizabeth & Allison	I
Marimba Solo- Josie	I
Saxophone & Trumpet Duet- Jeanna & Darby	I
Girls Vocal Solo- Kalen	II
Marimba Duet- Darienne & Josie	II
Brass Sextet- Jeanna, Kalen, Luther, Tyler, Rachel R, Blake	II
Alto & Tenor Sax Duet- Rachael & Kate	II
Like Vocal Duet- Madison & Kalen	II
Flute Duet- Alyssa & Andrea	II
Brass Quintet- Jeanna, Kalen, Luther, Tyler, Derek	II
Sax Quartet- Halle, Rachael B, Kate, Codi	II
Girls Vocal Solo- Darby	II
Sax Trio- Halle, Rachael B, Darby	II
Girls Vocal Sextet- Andrea, Madison, Carolina, Allison, Rachel R, Kendra	II
Vocal Mixed Quartet- Alyssa, Kalen, Skylar, Tyler	III
Brass Quart- Kalen, Trey, Isaac, Rachel R	III
Clarinet Quartet- Elizabeth, Hope, Ali, Allison	IV



# Girls' Basketball Team Pushes Through Tough Season

By: Isaac Groft



Junior Julia Sparling drives to the lane against her surprised defender.

## Northwestern Defeats Leola/Fredrick

Northwestern defeated Leola/Fredrick 69-30 on Jan. 24. Junior Julia Sparling led in scoring with 18 points. Eighth-grader Addison Sparling led in assists with six of the team's 16. Junior Jordon Peterson led the team's 49 rebounds with 13. A. Sparling also led in steals with four.



Freshman Josie Clemens passes the ball to her teammate who is open.

## Northwestern Defeats Langford Lions

Northwestern defeated Langford 73-38 on Jan. 31. Junior Jordon Peterson led in scoring with 22 points. Eighth-grader Addison Sparling led in assists with seven of the team's 16. Peterson led in rebounds with 15. Freshman Josie Clemens led in steals with seven of the team's 26.



Junior Jordon Peterson shoots the ball in the lane against her Ipswich defender in a home game.

## Northwestern Falls Short to Webster

Webster defeated Northwestern on Feb. 11 by a score of 57-51. Junior Jordon Peterson led in scoring with 24 points. Freshman Darby Duncan and junior Julia Sparling led in assists with four apiece. Sparling led in rebounding with eight of the Wildcats' 30. Sparling also led the team's eight steals with three.



Eighth-grader Addison Sparling passes the ball up the court.

## Eagles Break Wildcat Hearts on Valentine's Day

The Summit Eagles defeated the Northwestern Wildcats by a score of 46-63 on Feb. 14. Junior Jordon Peterson led in scoring with 24 points. Junior Julia Sparling led in assists with five of the team's 14. Peterson led in rebounding with 11 of the team's 28. Freshman Josie Clemens led in steals with three.



Freshman Darby Duncan makes a quick stop to catch the ball.

## Northwestern Falls Short to Redfield/Doland

Northwestern fell short to Redfield/Doland 50-53 on Feb. 18. Junior Jordon Peterson led in scoring with 16 points. Junior Julia Sparling led in assists with three of the team's nine. Peterson led in rebounding with six of the team's 26. Sparling led in steals with four of the team's 13.



Junior Jordon Peterson struggles to keep the ball in Wildcat hands.



Sophomore Kaylee Hoellein looks to pass the ball to her teammate.



Eighth-grader Addison Sparling slows up the ball to get set up in offense.



Eighth-grader Peyton Groft shoots the ball during the Redfield/Doland game.



Freshman Josie Clemens shoots the three-pointer during the Ipswich game.



# Girls' Basketball Team Completes Regular Season

By: Isaac Groft



Junior Haley Grandpre looks to pass the ball into her post player.



Sophomore Kaylee Hoellein drives to the hoop during the JV game.



Sophomore Darienne Frericks plays defense during the home game.



Sophomore Abby Fischbach closes out on her opponent.



Eighth-grader Addison Sparling drives to the lane as junior Jordon Peterson gets in position.

## Northwestern Falls to Herreid/Selby

Herreid/Selby defeated Northwestern 34-58 on Feb. 20. Freshman Darby Duncan led in scoring with seven points. Duncan also led in assists with three of the team's 11. Junior Jordon Peterson led in rebounding with eight of the team's 29. Peterson also led in steals with three of the team's 13.



Junior Jordon Peterson jumps for the tip at the beginning of the game.



Junior Jordon Peterson gives sophomore Kaylee Hoellein encouragement after a free-throw.



The team lines up for the National Anthem before the Ipswich game.

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# Boys' Basketball Team Battles Tough Teams

By: Julia Sparling



Junior Corbin Smith dribbles the ball up the court.

## Northwestern Falls to Leola/Fredrick

The Northwestern Wildcats fell to the Leola/Frederick Titans on Jan. 24 by a score of 33-92. Sophomore Hunter Lerew led the team in points with 14 while the other points were spread pretty evenly among the others. Sophomore Isaac Groft led in assists with three and following close behind, freshman Derek Boekelheide had two.



Senior Tyler Carda gets position early as his teammate shoots the ball.

## Northwestern Defeated by Faulkton

The Northwestern Wildcats lost 43-47 to the Faulkton Trojans in a close game on Jan. 28. Sophomore Isaac Groft led the team in scoring with 15 and junior Corbin Smith chipped in 10. Groft and Smith had three assists apiece while freshman Derek Boekelheide had two and senior Tyler Carda, sophomores Ethan Bauer and Hunter Lerew had one.



Sophomore Isaac Groft squares up to shoot the three.

## Northwestern Falls to Langford

The Langford Lions defeated the Northwestern Wildcats 33-76 on Jan. 31. Leading scorers consisted of freshman Derek Boekelheide with 11 and junior Corbin Smith with eight. Smith led with three assists, and Boekelheide dished out two. Boekelheide also had five steals, while Smith contributed with another two and sophomore Isaac Groft one.



Sophomore Nolan Peterson moves to get open on offense.

## Northwestern is Defeated by Wolsey/Wessington

The Wolsey/Wessington Warbirds dominated the floor with an 83-23 win over the Northwestern Wildcats on Feb. 4. Leading scorers consisted of Freshman Derek Boekelheide with six and sophomore Logan Schentzel with five. Junior Corbin Smith and Boekelheide each had two assists.



Sophomore Cody Lefforge passes the ball to his point guard.

## Northwestern Falls to Potter County

The Northwestern Wildcats got beat by the Gettysburg Battlers on Feb. 8 by a score of 85-29. Leading scorers consisted of sophomore Isaac Groft with seven, sophomore Trey Bierman and senior Tyler Carda with six and sophomore Logan Schentzel with five. Junior Corbin Smith led the team with three assists while eighth-grader Isaac Bauer had two.

## Northwestern is Defeated by the Bearcats

The Northwestern Wildcats got defeated by the Webster Bearcats 32--85 on Jan. 11. Leading scorers consisted of senior Tyler Carda with 11 points, junior Corbin Smith with 6, and freshman Derek Boekelheide with 5. Assists leaders were Boekelheide with three and sophomore Ethan Bauer with two. Also, three steals by Boekelheide and two by Smith.



Freshman Derek Boekelheide makes a lay-up on a fast break.



Senior Tyler Carda shoots and scores.



Sophomore Isaac Groft rolls off a screen from junior Corbin Smith.



Junior Corbin Smith stares down his opponent as he drives to the hoop.



# Boys' Basketball Team Keeps Fighting

By: Julia Sparling



Freshman Andrew Lefforge breaks up the court during a fast break.



Sophomore Trey Bierman makes a post move to the hoop.



Eighth-grader Isaac Bauer shoots the ball against his defender.



Sophomore Ethan Bauer drives through three opponents to get to the hoop.



Freshman Derek Boekelheide pulls up to shoot a quick jump shot.

## Northwestern Falls to Summit Eagles

The Northwestern Wildcats fell to the Summit Eagles on Feb. 14, 56-39. Leading scorers consisted of senior Tyler Carda and junior Corbin Smith with 10 apiece, and sophomores Ethan Bauer and Isaac Groft with eight apiece. Freshman Derek Boekelheide led the team in assists with seven, while Smith had three.

## Northwestern is defeated by Florence/Henry

The Florence/Henry Flyers dominated the Northwestern Wildcats on Feb. 17, 75-34. Sophomore Isaac Groft led the team in points with nine, following closely was sophomore Trey Bierman with eight, then junior Corbin Smith and freshman Derek Boekelheide with six. Assists were led by Smith with three and sophomore Ethan Bauer and Boekelheide with two apiece.

## Northwestern Falls to Redfield/Doland

The Northwestern Wildcats were dominated by the Redfield/Doland Pheasants on Feb. 17, 71-32. Leading scorer consisted of junior Corbin Smith with 15. Assist leaders were freshman Derek Boekelheide with three, Smith with two, and sophomores Isaac Groft and Ethan Bauer with one apiece. Smith also had three steals while Boekelheide and senior Tyler Carda had one apiece.



Junior Corbin Smith puts up the three ball.



Sophomore Isaac Groft shoots a jump shot with pressure in his face.



Sophomore Trey Bierman puts up a jump shot in the lane.



Sophomore Nolan Peterson looks to pass the ball to his teammate.



Sophomore Ethan Bauer drives into the lane.



Freshman Andrew Lefforge blows past his defender.



Eighth-grader Isaac Bauer dribbles the ball up the court as the point guard.



# Real or Not?

## Man on Vacation Suddenly Realizes No One is Feeding His Hostages

By: Rachel Rausch and Kate Finley

Midway through his weeklong Florida vacation, Salt Lake City resident Travis Lawson reportedly panicked upon suddenly realizing he hadn't arranged for anyone to feed

his hostages while he was out of town.

"Oh man, I was in such a hurry to hit the road, I totally forgot to have someone come over to my place and make sure Dennis,

Jean, and Carly get their daily meal," Lawson told reporters, referring to his three neglected captives, one of whom, their captor lamented, had nobody to administer her insulin

shots.

"Just thinking about them all alone and scared, locked in their cages, not knowing if I'll ever come back—it makes me feel awful. I don't even think there's any water in their bowls. I should probably call a buddy to go over and check in on them."

Lawson said he was hoping to avoid a repeat of last winter when he accidentally left his hostages tied up in the backyard, whereupon they died of exposure, and he had to get new ones.

When Lawson called on his friend, Walter Freeman, to check on his hostages, Freeman answered that he would be more than happy to take care of them. He had hostages of his own and knew the mental break-

down Lawson must be going through again at the tragic thought of losing his hostages. After checking on them, Freeman reported back to Lawson saying that although Jean was weak from not receiving her insulin, they were all alive and well, looking forward to Lawson's return.

What kind of world are we living in when a person cannot even remember to care for his own hostages? What's next? Setting the hostages free to fend for themselves?! As reporters, we are certainly concerned with Lawson's negligence toward his hostages. We hope to see a better future for these hostages, and hostages all around the world.

Check out this and more at [www.theonion.com](http://www.theonion.com).



# GUY CODE

By: Logan , Isaac and Nolan

Dressing up for sporting events can be really fun and can help the team win by the spirit you put out. High school sporting events are really fun to dress up to because not many people do dress up, so you can stand out in the crowd. You can dress up in many different ways; you can wear a full costume or just wear a homemade T-shirt made of Sharpies. Dressing up can be a very fun thing as teenagers. Through the day, you can go out to eat and everyone

will wonder what you are wearing because you will stand out. The most important thing to do when dressing up is have everyone dress up in a funny costume--his will let the crowd know you and your friends have good spirit.

Dressing up for bigger games is something that you see all the time when you go to a college sporting event, or even bigger, a professional sporting event. Real fans go all out with dressing up, especially those who buy the most expensive outfit

that they can possibly find. This looks really impressive and shows that you have true spirit for the team that you are cheering for. This looks impressive toward your team, and it might possibly even intimidate the opposing team if you buy the greatest costume.

All in all, dressing up for games can be beneficial for yourself and for the team that you are supporting. The team may also perform better the more you put into your spirit.



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# Pro/Con

## PRO: STATE GAMES

By: Logan Schentzel

Every sport's season comes to an end with a state tournament of some type. As we get to the end of the girls' basketball season, the state tournaments will be held in different towns across South Dakota. This year's State B girls' basketball tournament will be held in Huron, S.D.

Some very good things can happen to a small town like Huron when something like a state tournament comes to town. There will be hundreds and maybe thousands of people who will be going to Huron for the games. These people will all need a place to stay, which will be great for

hotel business. People need to eat, buy a few odds and ends and buy gas. This is great for restaurants, grocery stores, convenience stores and gas stations. Having the state basketball games at different locations each year can be very good for people to get out and travel across other parts

of South Dakota where they wouldn't normally travel. This gives other cities the chance to bring in revenue and show that we support their communities. There are already too many things going on in big cities like Sioux Falls and Rapid City, so I think it's great to switch the tourna-

ment locations to different cities each year. Hopefully those people traveling to Huron or whatever the next city is that hosts upcoming tournaments, will take advantage of seeing a different town and spending some money in that town to help its small-town economy.


## CON: STATE GAMES

By: Nolan Peterson

Athletes work hard their entire lives to compete for a state championship. When they finally reach that goal, the South Dakota High School Activities Association has a responsibility to make sure the event is the best possible experience for the student athletes. Hosting state championships in larger cities, such as Sioux Falls and Rapid City, provide that exciting state tournament atmosphere that most athletes crave. Those cities

have plenty of place to eat, shop, entertain and stay. Let's face it: it's fun to go there. In many of the smaller state tournament cities, there are not many good places to eat, and if there are, they are packed full with customers. Other than the games themselves, there aren't other entertainment options, but that's not the case in the bigger cities. Not having enough hotel rooms or quality hotel rooms means

fewer fans for the teams, too. Also, the gyms are not as large and cannot host as many teams or games. And with the small gym, it will get very hot. When championships are held in the small towns, some college scouts do not show up. Having a state championship in a smaller town can boost that town's economy for the weekend, but is that really the purpose of the state tournaments? Let's keep the kids first.



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### State Tournaments in Small Towns Comic By: Kate Finley

# In the Hallway...

By: Cameron Bohl

## What's the luckiest thing that has happened to you?



"I didn't get hit by the bus that almost ran me over when it was backing up at a Math Counts meet," freshman Josie Clemens said.



"I was asked to prom by Julia Sparling!" sophomore Logan Schentzel said.



"I bought a split pot ticket right before they drew the winner, and I ended up winning," junior Zach Duncan said.



"I was born into a loving, stable, American family with plenty of pizza," senior Kalen Frericks said.



"The luckiest thing that has happened to me is that my two daughters were born," Mr. Scott Boone said.

# In the Elementary...

By: Maddie Styles

## "What is your favorite app to play on the iPad?"



"Woody, because you can paint, and I really like to paint," kindergartner Ashley Haven said.



"The kitty one that makes you talk back because if you say a word to it, it will talk back in funny voices," first-grader Jessica Christ said.



"Mathbingle, because you can spread the bingle bugs across the screen and play with them," second-grader Jacob Leinen said.



"Stack the States, because it helps you learn more about the states and is fun trying to stack them all up," third-grader Ella Haven said.



"Survival Craft, because you get to ride animals, and I love animals," fifth-grader Hannah Schentzel said.



# Pizza Hut

By: Julia Sparling

Pizza Hut is probably the best restaurant ever known to man. Although it may not be the healthiest choice of food, it is definitely the best tasting. Every time I go to Pizza Hut, I end up spending a lot more money than I would anywhere else because I like every single thing they offer on the menu. I can never choose if I want pizza (which is normally what you get at Pizza Hut) or wings (because they are joined with “Wing Street” to). Sometimes the answer is both and of course breadsticks with it. Therefore,

Pizza Hut is probably the best restaurant known to man and undoubtedly the best restaurant in Aberdeen.



# Ride Along

By: Kate Finley

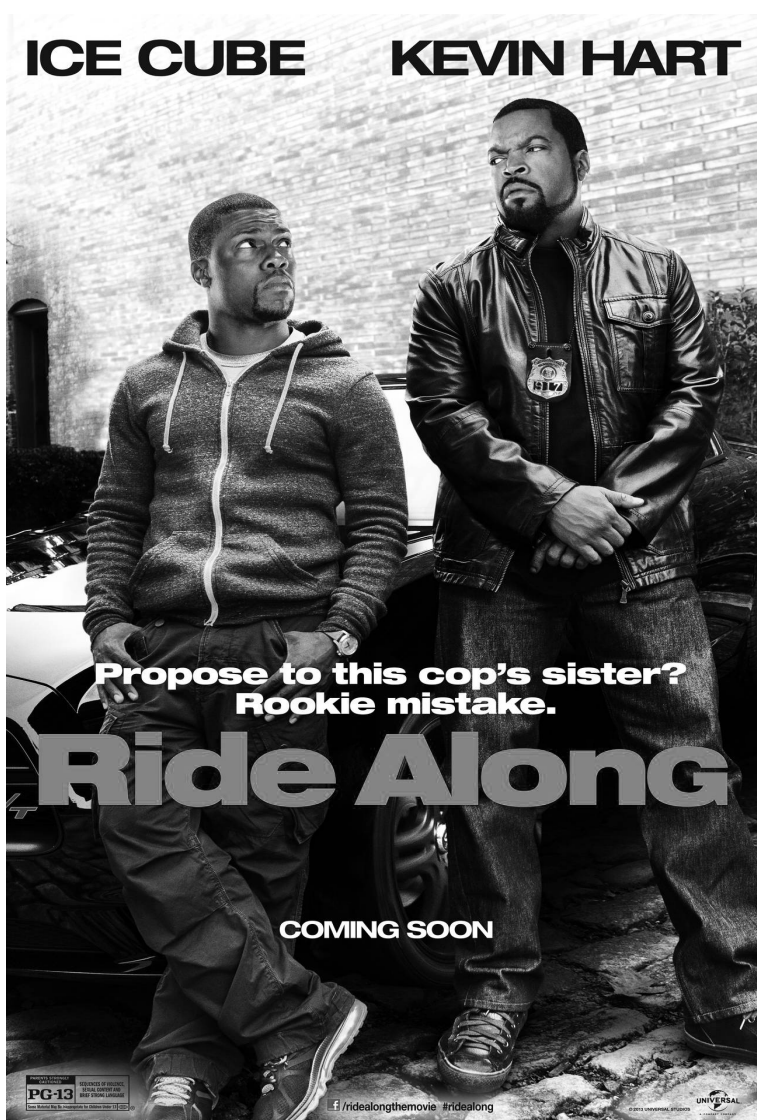
The buddy cop comedy has been around for quite a few years and in many variations. Two individuals who are polar opposites generate both comedy and tension. The latest mismatched comedy cop duo is Ice Cube and Kevin Hart in the comedic flick *Ride Along*.

The film starts with a big action scene. James Payton (Ice Cube) is trying to break into a ring of passport forgers. It is all to lead to Omar, a ghost character who works in the shadows. He is a man that no one has seen but is an underworld kingpin. James has been hunting him in

a stoic manner for over two years with little success. His inept support cop is Santiago (John Leguizamo). The botched sting leads to a chase through the streets of Atlanta and a fiery giant explosion. The film then turns to Ben Barber (Kevin Hart). Kevin's part of the film opens

with him playing a first person shooter game much to the chagrin of his live-in girlfriend Angela (Tika Sumpter). He wants to marry her but needs to win the respect of her brother... who is of course James Payton. Ben is a security guard, dealing with high school kids. He is a good guy who tries to guide these youngsters on the right path. Ben does have grander plans. He wants to become a member of Atlanta's finest and eventually become a detective. Ben gets a letter saying that he has been accepted to the police academy. James thinks that the idea of Ben being a cop is a joke. He has no respect for the 'little' man and thinks that his sister could do much better. James decides to take Ben on a ride along to show the newbie how dangerous the streets of Atlanta can be.

Kevin Hart becomes the funniest guy you will ever see in this film. The almost perfect mixture of comedy and action/adventure, like it should be.



# Before You Exit

By: Rachel Rausch

Before You Exit is a highly talented pop/rock band from Florida. The group features drummer Thomas Silvers, lead guitarist Braiden Wood, and brothers Connor (guitar, piano, vocals), Riley (bass, vocals), and Toby McDonough (guitar, piano, vocals). Before You Exit has released three EPs; “Short Story Long”, “Letting Go”, and “I Like That”. Their newest EP, I Like That, can be found on iTunes along with a few YouTube covers they have done. Before You Exit have

done a variety of different covers on their YouTube channel and have even appeared on various talk shows. Before You Exit has toured with people like All Time Low, Olly Murs, and Cody Simpson, and are about to go on a tour of their own. The music they write and perform is perfect for all ages. It is appropriate and enjoyable for young children as well as adults. The group is slowly gaining fame, and I am confident they will someday be at the top of the charts.



# DIVERGENT

By: Rachel Rausch

Beatrice Prior lives in a place with five factions. Those factions are Abnegation (selfless), Candor (honest), Amity (peaceful), Erudite (smart), and Dauntless (brave). Every year, the 16-year-olds choose what faction they want to live in. They can stay in the faction they were born into, or move to a different one. Beatrice must decide between staying with her parents and being who she really is. A highly competitive initiation follows the choosing ceremony. Initiates must prove themselves to the faction leaders by going through grueling mental and physical challenges.

During the competition, she renames herself Tris. As initiation changes them all, Tris must hide a secret, one that she has learned can mean death. As she discovers growing conflict that threaten to ruin her perfect society, she learns that her secret may be able to help the ones she loves. “Divergent”, the first book in the trilogy by Veronica Roth, is a thrilling story that depicts the life of a 16-year-old girl trying to earn her place in the world. It is a book that you will have trouble putting down. If you enjoyed “The Hunger Games” then this is the perfect book for you.