

North welcomes new police school liaison

By Katie Fleming
and Peter Hale

North welcomes its new Police School Liaison Officer, Ignacio Enriquez. The *Noctiluca* sat down with the Oxnard, California, native to interview him about his perspectives regarding his new job, and the challenges he faces.

Q: Where did your field of work take you before you came to North?

A: I had the opportunity to work at a juvenile correction center in California. I worked with juveniles from ages ten to nineteen. A lot of the kids had very tough upbringings: family problems, or gang-related or drug problems.

I learned that every person needs to be respected. All teens carry a story that's not often heard. That really drew me to my career path.

Starting in January 2008 I became a patrol officer in Appleton. I truly enjoyed making contacts with families and kids, helping them get through difficult situa-

tions and struggles.

Q: How was the transition from working with juveniles out in California to coming to Appleton?

A: I was excited; I was born and raised in California, so it was definitely a change. I like the community [in the Fox Cities] and how everybody looks out for each other. It's very receptive to different cultures and ethnicities.

Coming into a smaller city or rural area, the types of crimes committed especially by juveniles, in amount they're not as many as in the inner cities. In California we had kids committing crimes from petty theft to murder.

Q: What do you do here at North?

A: I investigate problems that students have and counsel them to get them on the right track; I'm currently working on my Master's in professional counseling at UW-Oshkosh. I also help people outside of school in the community.

Q: What are some issues you see most commonly at North?

A: We see a lot of problems with theft and students losing their belongings. I help students to make sure they keep items of value, like phones, on them or to secure it, because they can be lost or stolen.

Q: What do you see as the biggest challenge this job presents to you?

A: There's a great number of students at this school, so the biggest challenge is getting to know the kids individually. I want to connect with every single student.

Q: What's the one thing you want students to know about you?

A: A lot of time students think of police as only giving tickets. But we're another resource for help.

My door is always open for any situation or problem you may be having. Or just feel free to come and say hi; you can stop by and chit-chat about anything. I'm here for that. I want to teach the students how to be safe in school and out in the community.



"A lot of the time students think of police as only giving tickets. But we're another resource for help," said new PSLO Ignacio Enriquez. Photo by Nate Correia.

Knowledge Masters team achieves at nationals

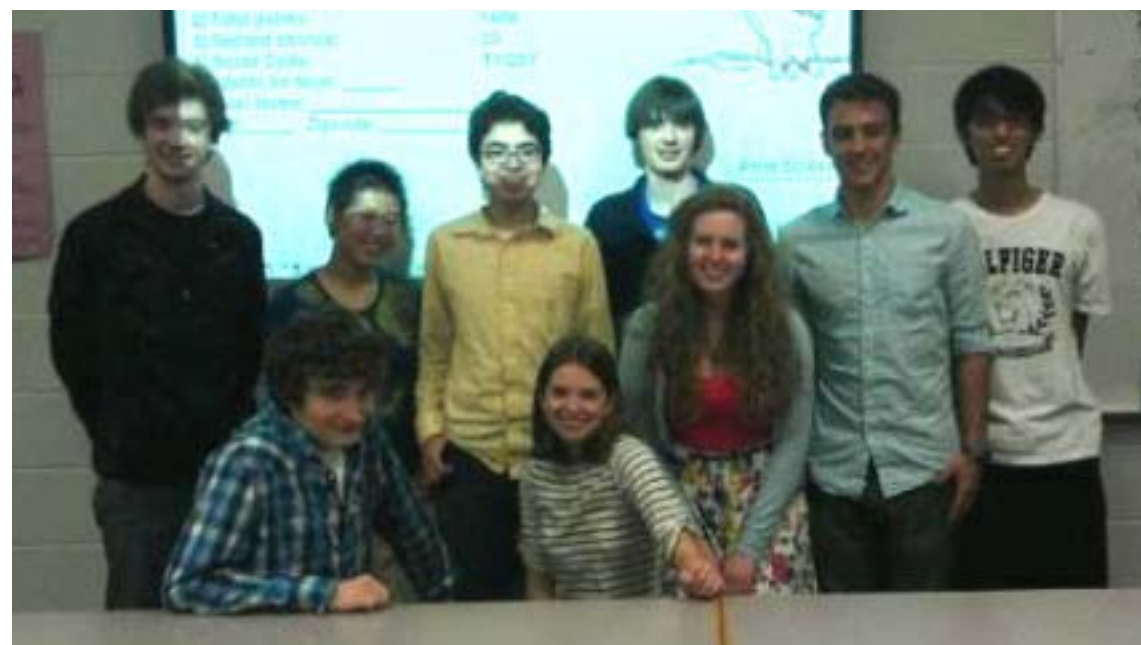
By Catie Edmondson

Appleton North's Knowledge Masters Team took first in the state and ninth in the nation at the Knowledge Master Open academic competition. The competition is run on a computer, and the team must answer two hundred curriculum-based questions as quickly as possible.

Nationally, the team placed ninth out of 518 teams, earning a score of 1608 points out of the possible 2000. Enloe Magnet High School of Raleigh, North Carolina, took first, with a score of 1754 points.

"You get up to five bonus points depending on how quickly you answer the questions, so you really have to trust your teammates when they shout out the answer," explained Junior Abbey Edmonds.

Senior Killian Kvalvik, who was on the team, attributed their success to a "high level of teamwork and synergy." "The knowledge



The Knowledge Masters team takes a quick break to memorialize their experience. Photo by Mrs. Milheiser.

of this group encompassed a wide range of subject matter, so everyone was able to contribute," said senior team member Christian Bakken.

Library media specialist Mrs. Milheiser led the team. "[The competition] was something I was involved with for twenty-seven years in the middle schools. It's a

good way to challenge students who are very bright."

"It was a good way to enrich my knowledge," said senior Jack Gerrits, who participated on the team.

The students volunteered to be on the team, which met after school. "When I first started organizing, I talked to Austin [Herrling],

and he announced that we were looking for people in his AP Physics, and we just recruited from there," Milheiser said.

"I was amazed at how quickly the team could come up with answers. They'd work together, and sometimes it seemed like they had the answer before I was even

Example Question:

There was a civil war lasting from 1917 until 1920 in...

- A. China
- B. Russia
- C. France
- D. Mexico
- E. Argentina

Answer: (B) Russia

done reading the question," Milheiser said.

The members of the team included Killian Kvalvik, Austin Herrling, Laurel McKenzie, Christian Bakken, Jack Gerrits, Wayne Sheu, Elizabeth Braatz, Abbey Edmonds, and Raphael Allen.

Those interested in joining the team next year can contact Mrs. Milheiser for more information. More members will be needed; seven of the current team members are seniors.

Syrian Revolution a continuation of turmoil in the Middle East

By Christian Bakken

This past year has seen an explosion of popularly led movements that have transformed the governments of Egypt, Tunisia, and Libya. But only one of these major uprisings remains unresolved and is still a major focus of world attention, the revolution in Syria.

The Syrian revolt, which started on January 26, 2011, has now developed into a full-fledged civil war between President Bashar al-Assad's supporters and the Syrian military forces, and widespread, poorly organized groups of rebels. These rebels started out as peaceful protestors who demanded the ouster of President Assad and democratic rule in the style of those who protested in the other Arab countries that were originally in the spotlight. However, unlike protests in Egypt or Tunisia, these protests were unsuccessful in persuading President Assad to institute any meaningful democratic reforms, and instead provoked a heavy government crackdown that killed thousands while forcing the protestors to turn to more violent methods to achieve their ends in the interest of preserving their lives and visions.

As such, the protests changed into a nationwide armed insurgency that despite being outgunned, outnumbered, and outsupplied by



Syrian activists fight government troops in Daraya on February 4th. AP Photo

government troops has continued to wage war for a year. The opposition has shown no signs of backing down despite an estimated 13,868 casualties among protestors and members of the Free Syrian Army, the rebels' title, according to the Syrian opposition web site Syrian Martyrs (the dangerous situation in Syria has made it difficult to obtain accurate casualty counts). Deaths are heavily concentrated in the major center of the revolt in Homs, yet six cities have over one thousand deaths at this time, and the conflict has spread into all regions of Syria.

The Free Syrian Army has received military and humanitarian aid from many nations in the Arab League and through non-government organizations, as well as allegedly by al-Qaeda, while many Western and Arab nations have expressed support for the Syrian opposition. However, unlike in Libya,

the West has been reluctant to become militarily involved, and China and Russia, allies of Syria, have blocked UN efforts at imposing sanctions or forcing Assad from power, while Iran has allegedly lent its support to Assad's regime.

This revolt has forced tens of thousands of Syrians to flee into neighboring Turkey or Lebanon (55,000 at the latest count), and has sparked fears of sectarian violence due to the presence of hard-line Islamic groups among the revolutionaries and the fact that most of Assad's supporters in the government are members of the minority Alawite group, and Assad's government has maintained minority rights among the Christian and Kurdish communities, who fear for their safety under a different regime.

This war has devastated the nation of Syria and gained the attention of the world, yet it remains an unresolved issue and without outside action, the path forward is still unclear and the Syrian people will continue to fight for their survival and their ideals.

Chinese activist makes daring escape

By Marit Bakken

The situation almost sounds like something out of a James Bond movie, with Bond captured and imprisoned at his house, forced to make a daring escape under cover of night.

However, Chen Guangcheng is not the daring British super-spy. Instead, he is a Chinese civil rights activist who works on human rights issues in rural areas of the People's Republic of China. Chen escaped from under house arrest on April 22 and went to the U.S. Embassy in Beijing, setting off sharp tensions between the U.S. and China on the eve of the annual U.S.-China Strategic and Economic dialogue.

Blind from an early age and self-taught in the law, Chen is frequently described as the "barefoot lawyer" who advocates women's rights and the welfare of the poor. He is best known for exposing alleged abuses in official family-planning policy, often involving claims of violence and forced abortions. In 2005, he became internationally known for organizing a class-action lawsuit against the city of Linyi in Shandong province for excessive enforcement of the one-child policy. As a result of this lawsuit, Chen was placed under house arrest from September 2005 to March 2006, with a formal arrest in June 2006. On August 24, 2006, Chen was sentenced to four years and three months for "damaging property and organizing a mob to disturb traffic."

Chen was released from prison on September 8, 2010 after serving his full sentence, but remained under house arrest at his home in Dongshigu Vil-



Chen Guangcheng. Photo by Reuters.

lage. Chen and his wife were reportedly beaten shortly after a human rights group released a video of their home under intense police surveillance on February 9, 2011.

On April 22 of this year, Chen escaped from house arrest where he was being held despite there being no pending charges against him. Fellow dissident Ai Weiwei said a friend told him that Chen waited until night, climbed over his compound walls, and slipped past "multiple cordons of guards." On April 27 Chen posted a video on YouTube in which he expressed his concern that the authorities would carry out "insane retribution" on his family.

On May 2 he left the embassy, was reunited with his family, and admitted to Beijing's Chaoyang Hospital for medical treatment. According to embassy representatives, the agreement provides that Chen will be freed from house arrest relocated, and be permitted to finish his legal education at one of several law schools. However, out of concern for his family's safety, Chen stated that he now wished to leave China with his family.

Hopefully the story of this amazing activist will end happily, and a country known for its corrupt officials and disregard for the rule of law will embark on an honorable course of action.

In other news from the last few weeks:

- President Obama's health-care law is brought to the Supreme Court, who heard a week of arguments before adjourning to release an opinion later in June.
- Facebook files an IPO, the third largest in history, it has a lackluster opening in the first few days.
- Tens of thousands of Québécois students protest rising tuition fees.
- Radical Greek parties gain power in elections, stoking fears Greece may leave the eurozone.
- Socialist candidate François Hollande wins the French presidential election over incumbent Nicolas Sarkozy, focusing on growth over austerity policies.
- Mitt Romney's rivals drop out of the presidential race after Romney easily captures several key states, including Wisconsin. Romney is now the established Republican opponent to Obama.
- A North Korean test of a ballistic missile that could carry nuclear warheads fails, proving that North Korea is not yet a dangerous enemy.
- Tom Barrett wins the Democratic primary for governor, setting up a rematch with Scott Walker.



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To publish news, information, entertainment and opinion articles for and about students, faculty and administration activities, interests and policies. Our goal is to maintain high ethical standards and provide a forum for free and responsible expression of student views. The newspaper strives for a high level of competency and welcomes diversity of scope, depth and breadth of coverage in order to heighten mutual understanding and awareness through our entire school community.

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Published nine times per year, the student newspaper of Appleton North High School is a forum in which its student editorial board makes decisions regarding its contents.

Unsigned editorials express the views of the majority of the editorial board. Letters to the editor are welcomed and will be published as space allows.

Letters must be signed, although the staff may withhold the name in certain circumstances.

The paper reserves the right to edit letters for grammar and clarity, and all letters are subject to laws governing obscenity, libel, privacy, and disruption of the school process, as are all contents of the paper.

Opinions in letters are not necessarily those of the staff, nor should any opinion expressed in a public forum be construed as the opinion or policy of the Appleton North High School administration, unless so attributed.

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Contact Information

Appleton North High School
5000 N. Ballard Road
Appleton, WI 54913
Phone: (920) 832-4300

Charities not always what they seem

By Sam Allen

In the past few weeks, most of us have either heard the news or been spammed incessantly on Facebook about a brutal warlord named Joseph Kony, accused of using child soldiers in the so-called Lord's Resistance Army to wage a brutal civil war in Uganda. Since the short film 'Kony 2012' went viral in March, it has gained over one hundred million views. According to ABC, its mission statement outlines a desire to "arrest him and his top commanders." The sequel to this video, "Kony 2012: Part II - Beyond Famous", encouraged people to spread awareness about Kony through public action, and since its release, his name has been seen scrawled in chalk on the walls of buildings across downtown Appleton, just as it is across the United States. These videos also claimed, quite conveniently, that Kony is the kind of brutal warlord that can be defeated by donating a dollar, clicking on a link, or buying a bracelet. These actions, in fact, generated over fifteen million dollars in donations, according to The Platform, a broadband video

management company. Thus, the Kony 2012 campaign has proven that anyone with ten dollars and an internet access can be an enlightened social activist.

However, the warm feelings that Americans get when they believe they're helping children dissipated quickly, once they began asking, "Where does the money actually go?" The organization behind the effort to "make Kony famous," Invisible Children, has since confirmed the allegation that no more than 31 percent of its revenues actually go to Africa to fight for the cause. Even worse, the organization is literally fighting for the cause; what money it does send to Africa is mainly invested in military efforts to seize or kill Kony, in a complex part of the world where the common people only want a stop to constant violence, according to the Atlantic Magazine. What began as a feel-good charity has now turned into something grotesque: a charity that uses over two-thirds of its revenue for things unrelated to its cause, with whatever's left is spent on issues that won't solve the overall problem. Frustratingly,

though, is that the example of Invisible Children draws parallels to thousands of other lousily run and inefficient charities across the U.S., in which, as a former employee of Invisible Children states, "Solving the problem is antithetical to job security."

Before donating to a charity, do your research, then ask, "Am I donating only to feel good about myself, or do I genuinely care where this money goes?"

The fact is that Americans donate more to charity than the rest of the world combined, at around \$308 billion, according to the GivingUSA foundation. This allows a lot of room for charities to unite people in a crusade against an evil and ambiguous force (hunger, possibly) and then use their donations almost entirely for self-promotion and salaries.

Take for example the insanely hyped cause of breast cancer awareness, which has

gone so far as to pull stunts like turning the Eiffel Tower pink, and which now commands over 1,400 different non-profits, according to Nonprofit Quarterly. As with other charities, two problems arise from this situation: first, hundreds of smaller, less efficiently-run charities draw donations away from more established institutions and do less with the money, and second, that whatever money is spent doesn't attack the root cause of the problem. As the former Invisible Children employee stated, oftentimes solving the true cause of the problem is the last thing these charities want to do. In the meantime, their employees can keep their jobs, and corporations can slap pink ribbons onto their products to make them look charitable.

So please, before donating to a charity, do your research, and then ask, "Am I donating only to feel good about myself, or do I genuinely care where this money goes?" If you really care where the money goes, then I doubt you'll feel the need to obsess over Kony 2012, or only buy things with pink ribbons on them. Have a heart, but have a brain, too.

Cheers and Jeers

By Laurel McKenzie

Image by Andy Barta

TB testing, round two – For making sure, yet again, that we're consumption free. The service was good and the facilities were clean, giving most gas station fast food stops a run for their money.

Ace Hardware – For tolerating the hordes of theatre technicians as they try to build an impossible set. You and the TB testing centers share many endearing qualities.

NEWSPA Awards – For many coming right here to North! Congratulations to all the winners! Make sure you come to Mr. Ramponi's room to pick up your certificates!

Grilled cheese and tomato soup for lunch – For being the magical comfort food that immediately boosts your day, no matter the misery beforehand.

Instant coffee – For helping busy students procrastinate even when it comes to caffeine fixes. Yum.

AP exams and studying – For ruining lives. They do help with college though, so we don't truly hate them. Much.

Classrooms without windows – For preventing us from experiencing the lovely warm weather that has just recently struck the barren tundra known as Wisconsin. Asphyxiation is not a joke!

Banana peels – For their slippery properties. Also, they're totally overdone when it comes to comedy. Pomegranates are all the rage now.

Humidity – For ruining hairstyles and being sticky and gross. No one likes you, humidity. Not a soul.

Old cars – For breaking down spontaneously or getting dented by West school buses. While liability insurance is a blast, sometimes it's best left unused. From jerky transmissions to shot heating systems, we lovingly shake our fists at you, beater cars.

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| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
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Contributors

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Sam Allen
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Vaccines necessary for a healthy school

By Austin Herrling

As a senior at Appleton North High School, I have lived through four different local health advisories concerning four serious diseases: freshman year, meningococcal meningitis; sophomore year, the H1N1 swine flu virus; and senior year, pertussis and tuberculosis. What does each of these have in common, you ask? How does a list of ailments contribute to an opinion column?

The answer is in the prevention. Each of these diseases, in some form, has a vaccine available. Meningococcal meningitis has two different vaccines available. The H1N1 virus, along with other forms of flu, has vaccines that are updated yearly. Pertussis (or whooping cough) is vaccinated with diphtheria and tetanus, and although the tuberculosis vaccine is not widely used in the United States, the vaccine is still recommended in some areas by the World Health Organization.

This article does not seek to place any blame on anyone who actually had the diseases. Personal attacks accomplish

nothing, many people simply aren't given vaccines for diseases that are not a problem, and vaccines are not always 100 percent effective. However, none of these points detract from the importance of being vaccinated, especially in such a close environment as a high school.

Proving that vaccines are effective is as easy as looking at reported cases of diseases since a vaccine was introduced. Smallpox was the most effective example of this. In the early 1950s, smallpox affected some 50 million people every year. In 1958, the World Health Organization proposed a campaign to eliminate smallpox, and it was accepted in 1959. The last reported case of naturally occurring smallpox was on October 26th, 1977. A vaccine was developed, introduced, and used globally – and today we refer to the existence of smallpox in the past tense. To put this into perspective, the United Kingdom National Health Service (NHS) estimates that if it were still a problem, smallpox would cause around 2 million deaths every year.

Polio vaccination has a

similar success story in the United States and Europe. It has not been eliminated globally, but progress is being made – India just reported its first year without any polio cases. Indigenous measles were declared to have been eliminated in North, Central, and South America in 2002.

Overwhelming experimental and practical evidence in favor of vaccines outweighs any adverse effects, real or imagined. Choosing not to receive a vaccine, for any reason, is several orders of magnitude more dangerous than actually receiving it – harm from side effects is not even comparable to the damage done by diseases. For example, the NHS noted the effectiveness of the whooping cough vaccine in preventing illness – but in the 1970s and 80s, after a scare about the vaccine's safety, parents began refusing to inoculate their children. This led to three separate epidemics in the United Kingdom, and at least 100 children died after contracting pertussis.

Much more recently, we saw disagreement with the H1N1 vaccine – the United

States produced 200 million vaccinations for the flu, but tens of millions of these doses were destroyed after their expiration. Adam Ruben, in a 2010 NPR article entitled "Why The Controversy? Vaccines Save Lives," noted that people just thought that they didn't need the vaccine, or that the costs outweighed the benefits. In direct disagreement with this judgment, however, Ruben noted that only 4 or 5 out of every million vaccinated experienced adverse effects – but 18,000 died as a result of infection. Those of us who have taken AP Psychology will recall the concept "availability heuristic." This is when people make snap judgments based only on facts and figures most known to them. In this instance, cases of vaccines causing harm are sensationalized and touted around as evidence that vaccines are dangerous. These, then, are what people first think of when vaccines are brought up. Sadly, this means that the cases of harm caused by the diseases are grossly underreported, and decisions are made with faulty reasoning. Don't let a few overblown

stories affect your considerations; take all data into account, and make informed, rational choices.

The World Health Organization, in 2008, reported that an estimated 1.5 million children under 5 years of age die every year of diseases that can be prevented by vaccination. Choosing not to vaccinate only exacerbates this problem, and puts other people at risk. Each has the right to choose, but remember that every decision you make regarding your health has the potential to affect everyone around you.

At Appleton North High School, letters were sent home and awareness was raised for each of the diseases I mentioned earlier. The meningitis scare led to a presentation on the vaccination for the freshman class, and the reported tuberculosis case led to screenings for a great deal of students. These solutions were pushed because, above else, they work, and because schools are at such a risk for the spreading of disease. Whether or not you vaccinate is up to you, but please first consider who you may be affecting if you decide not to.

Summer boredom easy to overcome

By Raphael Allen

Now that summer is within diving distance, it is almost appropriate to spend time daydreaming about the endless activities that are possible during this time. If the prospect of an empty summer is frightening, and if it is difficult to sink into the lackadaisical mindset required for coming up with leisure activities, this handy list of proven summer shenanigans may be just the inspiration you need.

Biking is a great way to get outside and enjoy the few agriculturally productive months that our great state has. Biking can be a good way to gain independence for individuals who are without motorized transport. In addition to being faster than walking, it provides cardiovascular benefits. A helmet is also a fashion statement; all the kids are wearing them. Or at least they should be.

Take a book, one that you want to read, and sit with it outside. Be it on a porch, under a tree, or on a park bench,

the mixture of fresh air, sun, and literature is many times more rewarding in the summer than becoming a cave person glued to a computer screen. You may even make friends with a squirrel or two.

For the athletically inclined, fishing can be a social way to pass hours on a dull day in July. Along with learning how to provide food for yourself and family, the skill of patience is honed. This will be useful in September. Remember that if you are over 16 you need to purchase a fishing license from the DNR.

If you have access to a family that is adventurous or a vehicle that can take you places, camping may be the thing for you. Is there a better way to enjoy nature than completely immersing yourself in the wilderness for a few days? Mosquito bites build character and the smell of campfires is good for the soul. And waking up to the calls of birds is truly a wonderful experience. Along with

experiencing nature, camping is a great way to spend time with friends and family. Wisconsin is renowned for its state parks and national forests. State parks tend to have more developed sites with flush toilets, showers and hook ups for RV's and can be reserved online or through the phone. There is no age restriction on who can reserve a site. National forest campgrounds are less developed and tend to be better for the more experienced camper. Most national forest campgrounds have water and pit toilets. They sacrifice convenience for a quiet and more immersive experience.

Quintessential to the classic summer, swimming is a way to cool off and have a great time. If your freshman Phys. Ed. teacher did their job, you should know what swimming is. Public swim areas include Erb Park, Meade pool, and Plamman pond. If you're willing to travel a bit, a day trip to Whitefish Dunes in Door County is a trip I highly recommend.

Disc golfing is a good way to get outside and go for a walk in one of the area's numerous parks that have disc golf courses in them. The rules are the same as golf, the only difference is that you are throwing a special Frisbee instead of hitting a ball, it's free to play, and you can wear whatever you want within city ordinances.

Volunteering takes up time, just like a job. But volunteering may be more rewarding than flipping burgers for 25 hours a week, and volunteer hours may work towards required hours for various organizations.

Holding an outdoor concert series is not really an option when warm clothing is a necessity, as the guitarist would have extreme difficulty playing in fluffy mittens. This is why concert series such as Country USA, Rock USA, Lollapalooza and Summer Fest take place in the, you guessed it, summer. Concerts are fun, concerts outside on a warm evening are even better. Other large

outdoor gatherings include county fairs and farmers markets. Both have an abundance of delicious food and can provide for a few hours of entertainment.

Part of the glory of summer is being bored out of your mind. A school day for some people can last from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., and any variation of crazy hours in between. Even five minutes of idleness is a needed break from the constant activity that life as a high school student can require. So when the middle of July comes around and boredom is staring you down, remember remember the fifth of November. You were probably wishing it was summer.

The best part of each of these is that they can be done relatively anywhere, relatively locally. Appleton has a lot to offer, and so does Wisconsin. It's very easy to get outside and enjoy yourself – the only thing you should be unsure of is how you're going to stay sane these last few weeks of school.

FEATURES

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STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Profiles of Students at Your School



•**Name:** Abbey Larsen
•**Year:** freshman
•**Siblings:** one brother
•**Co-curricular Involvement:** Swimming, Student Council, and Forensics
•**Favorite Subject:** Science
•**Favorite Artists:** One Republic and Bruno Mars
•**Favorite TV Shows:** Raising Hope, 24, House, Bones, and Touch
•**Other:** Abbey is on the swim team, and off season she is training to be a lifeguard. Abbey reads in her spare time. She likes to read young adult books such as The Hunger Games and Harry Potter. She is into arts and crafts and is an avid scrapbooker.

By Maya Murzello



•**Name:** Julia Lamers
•**Year:** freshman
•**Age:** 15
•**Siblings:** one sister, one brother
•**Interests:** Horseback riding, reading, tennis, playing the clarinet, recreational swimming
•**Co-curricular Involvement:** DECA

By Arpita Wahal



•**Name:** Marit Bakken
•**Year:** junior
•**Age:** 16
•**Siblings:** two brothers
•**Co-curricular Involvement:** Swim team, NHS, school newspaper, Peer Helpers, school musical
•**Activities:** playing piano and violin, singing, reading
•**Quote:** Success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which he has overcome."
—Booker T. Washington

By Arpita Wahal



•**Name:** Amanda Lyons
•**Year:** junior
•**Age:** 17
•**Favorite Subject:** Math
•**Hobbies:** Playing clarinet, writing, reading, photography, and photo editing.
•**Favorite Quote:** "Whether you come back by page or by the big screen, Hogwarts will always be there to welcome you home."
—J.K. Rowling

By Monica Stoeger

Science, crafts combine in Periodic Table quilt

By Caroline Duncombe

When incoming freshmen and returning North students alike come into school next fall, a new addition will have been added to the school's library. A quilt of the Periodic Table will be displayed on the wall opposite the Hmong quilt for the rest of Appleton North's existence.

Through the Wisconsin Arts Board and Oneida Nation Arts program, a master quilter was able to help North students find creativity in science.

With Ehrenburg's expertise on all things quilting, Mrs. S.G.'s knowledge on the Periodic Table, and the eager freshmen's hard



Freshman Maggie Burneske works diligently to design a tile for the quilt. Photo by Nate Correia.

work, a masterpiece was created.

Before helping North, Pat Ehrenberg had been quilting for over 30 years. Her hobby has taken her from the Smithsonian Museum

in Washington to Japan to showcase her works. Even though she is very successful, Ehrenberg still took pleasure in helping spread the joy of sewing to the students here at Appleton in hopes she could share her passion.

"I think the kids enjoyed the exposure to a different form of art than what they're used to," she said.

Freshman Abbey Larson commented, "I really enjoyed being crafty with a form of art I haven't enjoyed yet."

Mixing science and art, over one hundred freshmen are leaving behind their legacy on the walls of Appleton North, thanks to Pat Ehrenberg and Mrs. S.G.



Dance Marathon participants pledged their support for the Children's Hospital of Wisconsin by signing the event banner. Photo by ACA.

Dance Marathon nets \$6,339 for Children's Hospital

By Maya Murzello

Appleton North's first annual Dance Marathon helped raise \$6,339 for the Children's Hospital of Wisconsin. Money raised helped support local kids at the Children's Hospital who are suffering from cancer, heart disease, and mental health issues.

The Appleton Career Academy (ACA) organized this event as part of a class with teacher Mrs. Moder. Planning started after winter break. Some leaders of the project were Janice Wu, Claudia Tischer, Dan Heimerl, Ben Collar, and Whitney Shapiro.

Students from the area's high schools were invited to attend. The registration fee was twenty dollars, which included a T-shirt. The marathon was on April 21, from 8 to midnight. The Radio station 95.9 Kiss FM was the

DJ and made it a fun night filled with various dance music and games. Everyone had a wonderful time dancing for a meaningful cause. Culver's donated ice cream and pizza was donated by Jack's Pizza.

Patients at the Children's Hospital also attended and shared their experiences. Haley Holz has been struggling with Crohn's Disease ever since she was eight years old. Crohn's Disease inflames the digestive tract and Haley has difficulty digesting food, which has caused her to lose weight. Because her body did not respond to treatment, Haley had to be admitted to the Children's Hospital in Milwaukee in 2010. After two surgeries, Haley was finally on the road to recovery. Fortunately, Haley regained most of her weight and is able to participate in many activities and sports.

Another patient who attended the dance marathon was Zach Reetz. Due to a multi-system organ failure and septic shock, Zach was taken to the Children's Hospital for treatment. There he had both his legs and right hand amputated. Zach's chances of survival were slim because he underwent many operations and had copious amounts of dead tissue removed; it is a miracle Zach survived.

In addition to the dance marathon, the ACA sold pizzas to the staff and ice cream to the students during lunch hours. T-shirts were also available for purchase. Currently, fundraising is wrapping up but there are still many opportunities to donate to the Children's Hospital through their website for those interested. Another Dance Marathon is in the works for next year.

Reality TV: Harmless Entertainment or Societal Trap?

Children exploited for viewer entertainment

By Liza Long

With such a wide variety of shows bombarding America's youth, society has to be wary of which ones come bearing a positive influence and which ones don't. Reality shows such as "Toddlers and Tiaras" are wildly popular, guiltily amusing, and provide easy entertainment. But underlying the drama and glitz are misleading messages and twisted morals.

Many of these kinds of shows are getting huge numbers of viewers each week. For example, "Toddlers and Tiaras" ensnare the interest of 1.2 million viewers per episode. Even though the show is making a massive profit, "Toddlers and Tiaras" is viewed as one of the most controversial reality TV shows of this age because of the questionable treatment of children as young as eight months. Millions of negative reviews have appeared online, protesting the extreme lengths mothers, and now fathers, will go to transform their child

from a happy kid to a well rehearsed, polished pageant queen.

"Toddlers and Tiaras" documents the competitive pageant world, following young girls as they prepare for the event. Spray tans, fake nails, hair extensions, and expensive outfits are all part of the adventure. They also frequently feature shouting matches, children in hysterics, and obsessively insistent parents. The show has received countless reviews stating that it's immoral and just plain wrong to dress children in provocative outfits, use buckets of makeup, and take away a child's livelihood all in the face of beauty.

When asked her opinion on the popular series, sophomore Emily Hamilton answered, "It's like a bad car crash; it's horrible, but you can't look away." Another skeptic of the show, Marda Rude thinks more drastic action should be taken, meaning "Toddlers and Tiaras" should be pulled off the network. Freshman Alex Cronmiller agrees. "I don't think it's worth keeping on the air because it's too exploiting of those little girls."

Although she is not a fan of

"Toddlers and Tiaras", McKenna Rakestraw admits that the show has some perks. "It teaches girls poise and the art of public performance, and the kids get self confidence."

Another popular yet infamous reality show, "Dance Moms" documents the prestigious Abby Lee Dance Company and the drama that occurs between the intimidating dance coach and the pushy mothers of the young dancers. Controversies arise concerning the harsh methods and verbal abuse dance coach Abby utilizes to achieve perfection. "Dance Moms" is high in entertainment value because of the multiple confrontations, but has little to offer in the areas of positive role models and acceptable morals.

Sophomore Molly Sina states, "In many cases, it's the mother trying to live out her own dream through her child, unaware of the fact that she's dramatically altering her child's future."

Audiences adore the young dancing stars in the series, but are shocked by the immature antics of their mothers. Junior Joy Poole comments, "The girls on the show are amazing



The cast of Lifetime's hit show, "Dance Moms".

athletes and are obviously aiming for pure perfection, but it's their mothers who are crazy." It's quite unlikely that watching these television shows will damage your emotional well being, but if one is addicted to "Dance Moms" or "Toddlers and Tiaras", it's important to take a break and remember the important things that may

not be featured in reality TV. Don't get so caught up by the glitz and drama of a television series that you overlook the moral deficiencies that are quite obvious, although they can be well-hidden and sinfully entertaining.

Food Networks up and coming new show: Cupcake Wars

By Peter Hale

When you think of comfort food, do you find your mind drawn toward frosting topped confections nestled in colorful paper or sparkling foil? Does your pace slow as you walk past a bakery, and you find yourself staring into the bakery window with your nose pressed against the glass, or peeking into the kitchens, wishing that someone would find a really good reason to get lots of people making amazing cupcakes? Do you find yourself wishing two or three times a day that someone would come up with a cupcake competition and ask you to be the judge? Are you one of the select people that realize a cake

in a cup is actually the best idea on earth? Then Food Network's "Cupcake Wars" is the show for you!

"Cupcake Wars" is a show in the vein of other Food Network Competition shows, such as "Chopped", "Next Food Network Star", and "Iron Chef". Hosted by Justin Willman, Cupcake Wars features



The host of cupcake wars, Justin Willman.

four contestants facing off in a battle to make the best cupcake.

Contestants are selected expert cupcake makers from around the world. The contestants participate in three rounds with a different theme each round. A contestant is eliminated every round until only one remains, the winner receiving a check for \$10,000.

Contestants have to cater their cupcakes to a different theme for each round, a theme can be anything from date-night cupcakes to Kentucky Derby cupcakes, even cupcakes to celebrate the birthday of Sumar, a twelve year old whale found at Sea World.

As thrilling as this show's premise is, it gets even more exciting with the show requiring unique, special ingredients to be used in each round.

Though Cupcake Wars is about the competition, viewers can't help being enticed by the

delectable treats. For example, when asked what his thoughts about the show were senior Christian Blank said: "Hungry."

While starring cupcakes in a competition to appeal to the

hungry viewer was an enterprising idea, Cupcake Wars' true genius is its ability to appeal to our need for entertainment, while leaving us craving for more.



The winning display that was chosen to premiere at the Kentucky Derby.

All images are from Google Images.

North Student, Josh Lepak takes on “The Voice”

By Joey Jandacek

NBC’s newest challenge competition has world renowned super stars: Adam Levine, Christina Aguilera, Cee Lo Green, and Blake Shelton creating teams of twelve contestants who they choose based off of blind audi-

tions. Blind auditions consist of the judges sitting in chairs facing away from the stage so that their decisions are based on the quality of voice, and no other factors.

This past year, we had the great honor of North’s very own student compete on “The Voice”. Josh Lepak, a junior at North, was awarded with this great opportunity when he traveled across the country to Los Angeles to compete against hundreds of thousands of amazing singers. We had

the chance to interview Lepak one-on-one to get his take on his adventure.

Jandacek: How did you start your singing career?

Lepak: I started singing in the choir at my old school. I transferred schools for more artistic opportunity and found that the music and theatre departments here are beyond incredible. When I was cast last year as the phantom it was kind of a confirmation that I could make something of my talent and skill.

Jandacek: What made you audition for “The Voice”?

Lepak: I was aware “The Voice” was auditioning in Chicago in March but missed the date because I was in Norths current musical. Our family had talked about traveling over break and had noticed there was one more city left to be auditioned. So, we decided we

would go to Los Angeles!

Jandacek: Have you ever had any experience like this before?

Lepak: Never. I had to fly to one of the biggest cities in the world and compete with some of the best talent in America. I had to prepare three callback songs in three days that I had never had the time to dissect musically before. My family and I had to rent a studio with a piano to rehearse in because we stayed in a hotel which didn’t have microphones or instruments, such like I do at home.

Jandacek: What was the audition process like?

Lepak: The first audition was open call. That means anyone can audition. I was then called back to a second audition. Out of the group of ten I auditioned with, no one else had made it to the second audition. And out

of the line of thousands of people, I kid you not; only a handful got called back.

Jandacek: What made you choose singing over anything else?

Lepak: It speaks to me. To be able to communicate through words and music straight from my soul really fascinates me. I love the role of the singer. I love performing and being able to express myself through song and music.



“The Voice” judges: Adam Levine, Cee Lo Green, Christina Aguilera, and Blake Shelton.



Congratulations Josh, Appleton North is proud of you!

Jersey Shore’s inappropriate content

By Marilia Giuste

Remember the days when the popular forms of entertainment didn’t include poofing hair, dying skin pigments, or steroid developing muscles? “Jersey Shore” has spread like a plague across the nation and, sadly enough, the majority of people subjected to the program embrace the ridiculous and unrealistic lifestyles of the stars and even envy the shameful lifestyle choices the actors flaunt. Although there are a fair amount of people who accept the irresponsibility the show presents as comical and a source of entertainment, the sad truth is that the impressionable youth are encountering these false replications of reality and are being influenced by these, shall we say, “meatballs.”

The stars of the show are best known for their ridiculous predicaments from lengthy re-

lationship battles, to pill addictions, to, yes, even impregnation, and, according to brand analyst Adam Hanft, “Nothing makes better reality TV than babies and weddings. Add into that a kid that’s famous for partying who is now trying to change. That’s the ingredient for ratings gold.”

Maggie Coppersmith, a junior here at Appleton North, attempted to view the show from a unique perspective; one in which the actors are victims of the world of reality TV. “\$100,000 per show doesn’t seem like nearly enough compensation for the amount of raspberry flavored vodka and STDs these individuals are being subjected to. Does Willy Wonka know what is happening to his people?”

When asked about her opinions on the Shore craze, Appleton North junior, Joy Poole simply stated that “Jersey Shore is a very sad look on young adult life.”

It’s crushing to see society, especially the youth, subjected to idiotic behavior that the Jersey Shore represents.

If orange peons who replaced water with alcohol are what people are looking up to today, it’s distressing to think of the future taking into account the increasing ignorance of society.

Some critics have had the sense to combat the growing popularity of the show by disapproving and discouraging parents to allow their children and teens to watch the show. A review on the website, Common Sense Media, boldly stated that, “Parents need to know that this racy MTV reality series includes many negative stereotypes about Italian Americans.... they choose to “celebrate” their ethnicity by engaging in extremely inappropriate behavior -- from swearing like sailors (the strongest words are bleeped) to engaging in bar brawls and other physical altercations. Conversations about sex are endless, cast members are shown hooking up (all nudity is blurred), and they drink frequently which often leads to throwing up and/or promiscuous behavior. Bottom line? These aren’t

the kind of young adults you want your teens looking up to in any way.”

An article in the New Yorker said that, “Our ability to take any pleasure, or even interest, in shows like this—in which participants are depicted as energetic but essentially aimless, oblivious of their own deficits, and delusional about their attractiveness and their importance in the world—hinges not on our ability to identify with them but on our ability to distinguish ourselves from

them.” Writer Nancy Franklin continued to say that if the show has any positive aspects, it’s to make ourselves feel superior to other people and, for the heck of it, laughing at the stupidity of others.

It’s an interesting world where “Jersey Shore” is a popular phenomenon negatively impacting the lives of millions. But, on a positive note, at least we can pat ourselves on the back and be proud of the major mistakes we have so far avoided in life.



The cast of MTV’s hit show, “Jersey Shore”.



Ms. Tricia Elko from the Wind River Rehabilitation Center gives students the opportunity to see birds of prey recently during Earth Week events at North. Earth Week is designed to help students gain a better understanding of environmental science. Photo by Nate Correia.

TREKking thru Highschool

By Abigail Zabronsky



North student designs winning park sticker

By Arpita Wahal

Each year, North's Graphic Arts class participates in Wisconsin's State Park Sticker contest. North alumni Grace Johnson who designed the winning 2012 sticker was the first at North to win. This year Mackenzie Schmidt received Honorable Mention in the competition.

The contest is open to anyone grades 9 through



Winning sticker of 2012 designed by north alumni Grace Johnson. Photo from www.dnr.wi.gov.

12. Anyone interested in submitting an entry

may do so on the DNR website. Located on the J Drive under Mr. Edler's name are the guidelines you must follow in order to submit an entry.

Winners will receive an engraved plaque, an annual vehicle submission sticker, and a state trail pass. In addition, the winning sticker is displayed on over 150,000 vehicles annually. Stickers are \$25 for Wisconsin residents.

Heard in the Hallway

By Katie Fleming

"I think my eyelash got lost in my eye!"

"Ready for some tennis?"

"Are you taking the AP Calc test?"

"It got killed by the drumstick!"

"I need Starbucks."

"What are you doing for mother's day?"

"Twenty-three more days until summer!"

"I turn sixteen next month."

"I had so much candy this morning I'm like shaking."

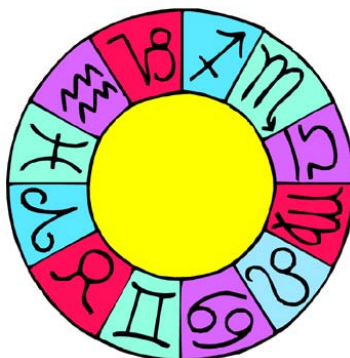
"Do you have any gum?"

Sudoku

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| 4 | | | | | | | 8 | 3 |
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| | | 5 | | | 6 | | | 2 |
| 7 | 3 | | | | | | | 9 |
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Puzzle by www.sudokuonline.us

May Horoscopes



By Kiya Govek

Aries (March 1- April 29)

In Greek mythology, Aries was a gold winged ram who rescued Phrixos and his sister. This month, an opportunity will come your way to be heroic. Make sure you take it!

Taurus (April 20- May 20)

Taurus was a beautiful white bull in Greek mythology. So just take this month as a reminder that you, too, are beautiful.

Gemini (May 21- June 21)

Gemini is the constellation of the great twins, Castor and Pollux. When one died, the other wished to be placed in the sky with him in order to be together. Make sure you show this kind of loyalty to your friends this month.

Cancer (June 22- July 22)

According to the Greek myth, Cancer was placed among the stars by Hera in reward for its service. Karma should work in your favor this month, so help someone out and you may get something in return.

Leo (July 23- August 22)

Leo was a Greek lion with impenetrable skin. Likewise, no matter what comes your way this month, don't let it bother you.

Virgo (August 23- September 22)

The Virgo constellation is mythically the Greek goddess of innocence, Astraea. She left earth for the heavens, unhappy with the wars of man. Follow your heart this month, just as Astraea did.

Libra (September 23- October 23)

Libra was the goddess of balance and truth. She aided the goddess of justice, as should you this month. Make sure you speak up for justice and truth.

Scorpio (October 24- November 21)

Scorpio was a deadly scorpion in Greek mythology. His strength may help you this month.

Sagittarius (November 22- December 21)

Sagittarius is the depiction of the Greek centaur, Chiron. Chiron was gentle, skilled, and wise. This month, follow in his footsteps as a good role model and mentor.

Capricorn (December 22- January 19)

Capricorn was a goat with a fish tail. So, this month, try to see things from two different perspectives if you get into an argument, try to see both sides.

Aquarius (January 20- February 18)

Aquarius is the cup-bearer for the Greek gods. In honor of this, don't be afraid to lend a helping hand.

Pisces (February 19- March 20)

The Pisces represents two fish tied together with a cord, just like Aphrodite and her son. Remember to show your family how much they mean to you.

School year in review: Athletics from A to Z

By Trent Tetzlaff

Throughout the 2011-2012 school, there have been multiple successes in the sports world, most notably coming from the state of Wisconsin.

Whether coming from our hometown Green Bay Packers or our scholastic Appleton North athletes, extraordinary events have taken place this year. For this purpose a list was compiled, alphabetically from A to Z, that both distinguishes and denotes these substantial achievements.

A Is for all Appleton North athletic teams who have found great success in their respective seasons this school year.

B Is for the Milwaukee Brewers, who have started the season ice cold at the plate due to their failure to score runs at the right times. Could it be because of the loss of superstar Prince Fielder?

C Is for courage, which is a virtue Brewers MVP Ryan Braun took to court with him and successfully beat the steroid allegations that were put against him.

D Is for domination, which is what the Appleton North Girls soccer team showed last year by being the first team to ever go undefeated on their road to a state title.

E Is for exciting, or the style of play Appleton North athletics brings to the table. Whether it is in football, track, basketball, soccer, or baseball, each Appleton North team keeps bringing out fans for exciting games year-in and year-out.

F Is for football, which once again was on top in conference play this season and made a strong push into the playoffs. However, North nonetheless suffered a tough loss in the second round to DC Everest. Not forgotten though was the uprooting of Kimberly on their home field, giving Kimberly their first loss on their own turf.

G Is for the Green Bay Packers who flirted with a perfect record this last NFL season by finishing at 15-1, but later on collapsed in the playoffs to the future Super Bowl XLVI champion New York Giants. A lot could be taken from the season, but also a lot was lost, such as star back-up quarterback Matt Flynn. Nevertheless, look for the 2012 season



Year-in and year-out, North athletes bring competitive and skilled teams that compete with some of the best teams in the FVA Conference, and sometimes even the best in the state.



Now plagued with season-ending injuries to shortstop Alex Gonzalez, first baseman Mat Gamel, and pitcher Chris Narveson, look for the Milwaukee Brewers to grind out a long, and perhaps dismal, season. Logo from Google Images.

to be an even stronger one with a revamped defense.

H Is for the historic laps that were made in the races swam by senior swimmer Jake Iotte this year. Iotte won yet another state title to back-up and defend his first title which he won in his junior year.

I Is for insanity, which describes this year's NCAA Division I Basketball tournament. This year's tournament was filled with plenty of down-to-the-wire games and a great amount of upsets, such as Duke's first round loss to fifteen seed Lehigh, and the deep run made by our hometown Wisconsin Badgers.

J Is for jump around, or what Wisconsin Badgers football fans were doing not only when the start of the 4th quarter came around, but throughout the whole season. Despite two losses in conference play, the Badgers rallied to a repeat Rose Bowl berth against the heavily favored Oregon Ducks, but suffered a repeat Rose Bowl loss in a high-scoring shootout.

K Is for the Milwaukee Brewers high profile "set-up



With the help of a healthy mix of talent and veteran leadership, both the Men's Basketball and Football teams proved to have successful seasons for the University of Wisconsin Badgers. Logo from Google Images.



With a squad returning that went 15-1 in the regular season last year, excitement will build in Wisconsin this year for Aaron Rodgers and the Green Bay Packers to have another outstanding season. Logo from Google Images.

man" Francisco Rodriguez, also known as K-Rod because of the massive amounts of strikeouts, or K's, he gets during the season. Rodriguez had the opportunity to sign a big contract in the offseason and be a high profile closer in a larger city, but instead opted to stay in small-market Milwaukee due to their great fans.

L Is for the luscious ginger locks of Badgers Men's Basketball player Mike Bruesewitz. Often nicknamed the bruiser for his poufy orange hair and bruising style of play, Bruesewitz has become a fan favorite of the Badger faithful after only a few seasons with the team.

M Is for the miserable Milwaukee Bucks, who once again limped through another season around the .500 mark and failed to make the playoffs. After a blockbuster trade halfway through the season by acquiring star guard Monta Ellis for often injured, former number one pick Andrew Bogut, the future looked bright for the Bucks. But with the loss of height and defense, the Bucks crawled to the finish

line to another dismal season, leaving Bucks fans wondering if they will ever be good.

N Is for nutty, an appropriate way to describe Los Angeles Lakers forward Metta World Peace, a player known for his antics on and off the court, including throwing elbows at players intentionally and picking fights. The NBA has tried to put a stop to this behavior by suspending World Peace for a few games, but really it only takes the excitement out of the NBA for the fans and aggravates World Peace to an even greater extent.

O Is for outstanding, or a way to describe the Appleton North Boys' Baseball team's season in 2011 due to their efforts of making a deep run in the state tournament at Fox Cities Stadium. With a huge amount of talent returning this season, the team should be able to brush off a slow start and have a great chance at making a return trip to the state tournament.

P Is for perfect game, or a game pitched in baseball where a pitcher allows no hits, walks, or hit batsmen. In the history of Major League Baseball, only 21 have been thrown, but since 2010 four have been accomplished. The conclusion? Either the pitchers in the league are becoming dominant, or the hitters are just becoming worse.

Q Is for the queasy feeling many Americans get while watching the Nathan's Hot Dog Eating Contest on July 4th this summer. The contest is broadcast on ESPN and is now considered a sport. The world record for hot dogs consumed in the 12 minute span during the contest is 68, more than enough to make me lose my appetite.

R Is for Brewers second baseman Rickie Weeks, who has struggled to find his glove, or bat, this season after an all-star campaign last season. With many new faces this season, the Brewers will need Weeks to step up and play a large role if they want to make another playoff run.

S Is for soccer. The Boys' Soccer Team this season struggled through the regular season with less success than the previous one, but, like we all know, made a push for state and found themselves in a shootout with Neenah for a ticket to the tournament. With tensions high, Neenah pre-

pared in the shootout to make it to state in front of a rowdy crowd at Titan stadium, sending the Lightning home with another disappointing loss.

T Is for Tim Tebow, or the man you can never hear enough about, according to ESPN. Consequently, the New York Jets expect to hear more about the legendary "Tebow Time," now that he is under the bright lights of New York City.

U Is for the University of Wisconsin Madison Men's Basketball Team, who once again rose above expectations and made a Sweet Sixteen run during March Madness, but lost a nail-biter against the highly favored Syracuse Orange. With top Wisconsin recruit Sam Dekker joining the squad next year and with the loss of only two seniors, the Badgers should have no problem making a return trip to the tournament next season.

V Is for Boys' Volleyball which had a very successful season, but fell just short of the state tournament. Expectations will be high next year, considering the team will only lose one senior in all-state libero Sam Moua. In short, next year's team will have a great chance to make a run to win the state title.

W Is for the state of Wisconsin's sports over the last few years taking the nation by storm. With the Packers winning Super Bowl XLV, the Brewers making runs to the playoffs and the Badgers football team making two straight Rose Bowl appearances, no teams will take Wisconsin sports lightly anymore.

X Is for xylophages, or the eating up of wood, which refers to the wooden bats used in the MLB today. Many bats nowadays are literally eaten up or broken by pitches which can be direct evidence for how weak the ash wood that is being used these days.

Y Is for the young, or a fitting way to describe the Green Bay Packers football team this upcoming season. After losing many veterans these past few years, expect the Packers to build and cultivate young talent that was acquired in the draft this offseason.

Z Is for zazzy, which describes the looks of the Lightning's athletic fields and uniforms over these last few years.

One-on-one with Jason Bailin, Boys' Golf

By Evan Henwood

Jason Bailin, now a senior, has been on the Appleton North Boys' Varsity Golf Team since he was a sophomore. Likewise, Bailin explains his, and his teams, goals and practices for this current season.

Q: First off, what types of things (specifically) do you try to work on or get better at during your practices? During your matches?

A: "During practice we have the choice to either play 9 holes or go to the [practice] range to work on a specific thing you are struggling on. I normally go with playing 9 holes because it's nice to work on real scenarios out on the course. I also like to hit a few balls from certain

spots so I can get the distances down."

Q: What are your individual, and even team goals that you and your teammates want to achieve by the end of the season?

A: "The goal for this year is, ultimately, to make it to state. Golf is unique where you can either make it to state as an individual or as a team. Our goal is to make it there as a team, but in order to do that we have to make it out of regionals and on to sectionals. It's also our goal to do well at the conference tournament and finish up near the top."

Q: When practicing or competing, how do you continually stay focused or stay mindful of the goal(s) that you want to achieve?

"The goal for this year is, ultimately, to make it to state. Golf is unique where you can either make it to state as an individual or as a team...It's also our goal to do well at the conference tournament and finish near the top."
-Jason Bailin

A: "During practice, we stay focused by playing against each other. I never want to lose to anyone else on the team; I want to beat my friends and my teammates, so that is used as motivation to do my best."

Q: How does your Coach, Mick Gilbert, help you become a better overall

golfer day-in and day-out? (i.e. What does he have you work on?)

A: "Mr. Gilbert is a great coach because he doesn't step in and switch around your swing unless you ask for help. If you need help with something or have any questions on why you're doing what you're doing, he can answer those for you and help you. Every day he helps us mentally by preparing us and reminding us that it's important to be mentally prepared for each match. He even goes through scenarios and rules before and after each practice/match."

Q: Lastly, who are some of your teammates that you will look to this year to have a larger role?



Bailin has participated in North's golf program since he was a freshman, and he now hopes to lead them to bigger heights this season.
Photo by Laura Siekman

A: "Matt Winter, Nick Kapheim, and Luke Gambaro will be huge this year in order for us to succeed. In addition, the whole team has a large role since they continually need to be taking practice seriously and constantly keep pushing towards the last varsity spot that could be taken by 3 different people."

North senior athletes plan to continue sports in college

By Andrew Vanden Boogaard

Throughout the last four years, many of the athletes present in this year's senior class have not only participated in, but rather excelled, in their respective sports.

Whether it came in the form of winning a state tournament (as evident by last year's Girls' Soccer team) or in the form of competing in the Fox Valley Association conference, all of these athletes continuing on have shared in their successes.

Moreover, a number of these same athletes have chosen to now take their skills and developments with them to the collegiate level. This list illustrates where these certain athletes plan to go, and what sport they plan to play.

| Name: | University: | Sport: |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| Kati Baker | Winona State | Soccer |
| Bryant Becher | UW-Whitewater | Wrestling |
| Erik Bohman | Merchant Marine | Swimming |
| Jesus Cazares | Winona State | Baseball |
| Jordyn Dudley | Concordia-St. Paul | Basketball |
| Kim English | UW-Stevens Point | Volleyball |
| Sam Fischer | UW-Eau Claire | Track |
| Kadie Flynn | UW-Stevens Point | Track |
| Tom Fruehe | St. Cloud State | Football |
| Adam Hermesen | Marquette | Soccer |
| Ali Hernandez | UW-Oshkosh | Swimming |
| Jakelotte | West Virginia | Swimming |
| Madalyn Jansen | Winona State | Soccer |
| Jordan Johnson | Augustana | Swimming |
| Jenny Jones | UW-Green Bay | Cross Country |
| Garrison Kiefer | Undecided | Hockey |
| Maria Lillge | UW-Green Bay | Soccer |
| Christina Mauthe | UW-Green Bay | Soccer |
| Shelly Misco | UW-Superior | Softball |
| Courtney Morgan | Viterbo | Soccer |
| Melissa Murphy | Cardinal Stritch | Volleyball |
| Mary Kate Ontaneda | Marquette | Cross Country |
| Nate Otto | Carthage | Football |
| Alec Rolain | St. Mary's Winona | Baseball |
| Kyle Scharenbroch | St. Norbert | Football |
| Anna Shaffer | Carroll University | Softball |
| Trace Sonnleitner | Lawrence University | Basketball |
| Jennie Stage | UW-Stevens Point | Basketball |
| Eric Thaldorf | UW-Stevens Point | Baseball |
| Calvin VanRyzin | UW-Stevens Point | CC & Track |
| Courtney Watkins | MATC-Madison | Baseball |
| Cliff Watson | Ohio State University | Hockey |
| Emily Wessing | UW-Oshkosh | Cheer |
| Anna Westmark | Concordia-Mequon | Hockey |
| Chris Whalen | UW-Green Bay | Soccer |
| Matt Winter | Ferris State | Golf |
| Grant Yost | Sacramento City | Baseball |

Boys' Track Team excited for final push

By Max Edwards

The Men's Track and Field team entered the home stretch of their season in May. Large invitational meets precede the WIAA Track and Field tournament series. The FVA Conference Meet, which was held on May 14th, was the first of several meets of the tournament series in which team members are planning to peak in their performances and put all of the season's hard work on display.

"I really like how things are going, as expected we are pretty balanced through all the running events and we are on track to peak at the right time," said Coach Busch. "I really like that this team isn't afraid to work hard towards the goals that we set."

The men's track team is pursuing their sixth title of the last seven seasons, and with such a competitive conference, Coach Busch knows that quality performances in every event are critical. "We need consistency in the field events,"

Busch emphasizes. "We are the best track team in the conference, but we will really need our field events to step up the last month of the season."

In the eyes of the coaching staff, the future of North Men's track and field appears quite promising. "I have been very impressed with our freshmen and sophomores this season," adds Busch. "They are a very talented group. The future of the program looks extremely bright."

For now, however, the team is solely focused on their performances in the final few weeks before the season's finale at the WIAA state track and field championships in June.

Coach Busch is excited about the prospect of qualifying each of the four relay teams for the two-day competition in LaCrosse. "This year we have a shot to get EVERY relay to the state meet and have already set a new school record in the 4x800 meter relay. The final month is going to be very exciting."

Review: the Avengers

By Matt Hendrickson

When writing this article, I had just gotten back from seeing The Avengers midnight release. And... I will admit that I've seen a lot of very cool things in fiction.

It is true that the things I watch as a self-identified geek tend to be pretty ridiculous. I've seen galaxy sized giant mechs fight each other; I've seen massive hordes of superpowered zombies rampage across the universe. I once read a book that had an ending battle involving wizards, holy knights, vampires, mercenaries, deities, and a disturbingly sadistic fairy godmother. Each of those things was incredibly awesome.

But this movie? Easily one of the single most awesome things I have ever seen. It. Was. Amazing.

Two and a half hours that were made of win. It is at this point you've realized that I am going to spend the entire article ranting about how awesome I think this movie is.

And why shouldn't I? It really was that good. Everything worked. The story was engrossing and flowed together extremely well.



photo from
www.marvel.wikia.com

Captain America photo from www.80stees.com

Thor's Hammer from www.programmedfromchildhood.blogspot.com

And it was funny! Seriously, I laughed out loud more often than I do at most comedies I've seen. And the action... Wow. The action was absolutely epic. Especially the last fight, the most epic battle I've ever seen in New York City, (which tends to be the sight of many epic battles in fiction).

Marvel has been building up to this movie ever since the release of Iron Man in 2008, when Nick Fury (played by Samuel L. Jackson, in reference to the Ultimate version of the character showed up to talk to Tony Stark about "The Avenger Initiative.") Nearly every Marvel movie since then has in some way tied itself to The Avengers. And it shows. The other movies set in the same continuity are referenced often enough to prove that it all takes place in the same universe, while also being sporadic



enough to not need to see those other movies beforehand. Though you probably should see them first, if only because this movie spoils most of their plots.

I'm not going to call this the greatest movie ever made. Because that's just ridiculous, there are plenty of movies that are just as good as or better than this one. I will, however, say that The Avengers is the greatest Superhero movie ever made. Beating out even The Dark Knight. It's that good. If you've ever enjoyed a superhero movie, you'll enjoy this. I guarantee it.

And be sure to stay at the credits long enough to catch a glimpse of Thanos. Because if the Mad Titan is involved, you can bet the sequel is going to be just as epic as this.

Review: Jack White's Blunderbuss

By Raphael Allen

Superstars often have the appearance of perfection, smooth and crystalline to the extent that they are revered from a distance because their status is seemingly unattainable. With the superstar loaded pop music scene, there has always seemed to be a formula behind much of the music, and today the auditory resemblance to a refined sugar is extenuated with high tech production techniques. Of course, the quality of music along with most art forms is determined by individual taste. It would seem strange then, that Jack White's new album Blunderbuss has attained mainstream success. Jack White does not fit the stereotype of a superstar for many reasons, yet he has become one through his previous band The White Stripes, and other successful projects including The Dead Weather and The Raconteurs. His success likely stems from the overall appearance of being totally counterculture.

After drifting through the past decade experimenting with different types of rock based music, Jack White has returned to the world of popular music with his most recent release. Blunderbuss represents the cumulative creative booty of his decade long treasure hunt. It is an album that would make Beethoven's deaf ears bleed. In an angry, arrogant display of raw power, conventional rules

of what makes good music are ignored. Styles are mixed and pulled apart in the middle of songs. Structure can be choppy at times and the vocals to almost every song sound as if White was not present at the recording sessions so his singing was recorded via cellular phone that was then picked up by a studio microphone.

These descriptions make it appear that Blunderbuss



Another side
of Jack White

White's new solo album is eclectic and challenging, but is nonetheless a work of art.

photo from www.musicrooms.net

is bad, but in accordance with my musical tastes it has earned a spot on a list of musical staples. The best way to describe this album is by comparing it to a spicy food that has earned its spot on my list



Blunderbuss (album cover)

Blunderbuss is comprised of many different musical influences. The album is a collage of face-melting punk rock, upbeat country ballads, and lonesome midnight ramblings.

photo from www.stereogum.com

of staples. Wasabi is a form of horseradish often served with sushi, renowned for its unique and intense burn. For most people an opinion on wasabi can be formed within a few samples, and the individual will either like it or hate it. Such is the way with extremes where a preference must be made, Blunderbuss is an extreme album. After a few listens to the album in its entirety I knew that for some reason I would keep coming back to it. This album gives me a headache even when I'm not listening to it loudly; it makes me irritable and puts me on edge. But like wasabi it's that spice that keeps bringing me back. So if you have never sampled a work of Jack White's, I encourage you to try it. You may end up coming back for more.

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In Memoriam

Adam “MCA” Yauch

I was browsing at Half-Price Books and Records when I heard the news. Adam “MCA” Yauch had died the day before, on May 4. Adam Yauch, one third of Brooklyn’s pioneering rap troupe, the Beastie Boys, was dead at the age of 47.

Yauch was born Adam Nathaniel Yauch in Brooklyn on August 5th, 1964. His parents were Frances and Noel Yauch; the former, a social-worker, the latter, an artist. Yauch grew up in Brooklyn, and while attending Edward R. Murrow high school he taught himself bass guitar. Soon after, he formed the Beastie Boys, which actually began as a hardcore punk band, with three of his friends at the age of 16. One of these friends was Michael Diamond, who would later adopt the stage name “Mike D” as the band transitioned from the CB-GB-era punk into their trade-mark experimental hip-hop sound.

Through the years, Yauch and the Beasties brought their triple-threat act to the forefront of popular music. The group’s unique style garnered critical success, resulting in three Grammy awards,



1964-2012

Adam Yauch has passed away after losing his battle with cancer.

Photo from www.cosmobaker.com

1999’s “best rap performance” and “best alternative performance,” for the songs “Intergalactic” and “Hello Nasty” and 2008’s “best pop instrumental album” for “the Mix-Up.” While contributing musically to the Beasties, Yauch also under the pseudonym of “Nathaniel Hörnblowér” directed the group’s music videos.

With that said, the Beastie Boys weren’t just any old band, as they have left their mark on the whole of popular culture. Beginning with the release of 1986’s Licensed to Ill, and the release of the first single, “(You Gotta) Fight for Your Right (to Party),” which smacked teenage angst on the nose with its

tongue in cheek messages on the cost of living at home with your parents. The album would not only go on to be the best-selling rap album of the decade, but also the first rap album to reach the number one spot on the Billboard album chart. These achievements kicked off what would endure as three decades of bril-

liance. The death of Adam “MCA” Yauch marks the end of the Beastie Boys, formerly Brooklyn’s darling rap trio. Yauch’s death is sobering to say the least, if not saddening. He will most certainly not be forgotten, for the influence that the Beasties held over the music world is incalculable, inspiring everyone from Good Charlotte, to Eminem, to Radiohead, to Kid Rock. These three boys from Brooklyn not only helped shape the music world into what it is today, but served as a valuable reservoir of inspiration to listeners like myself.

The inspiration ignited by the Beasties is at times hard to describe, but there is something profound to be heard when listening to their music. You can feel it. It transcends the notes and melodies, and lends insight into who they were. Three Jewish kids from Brooklyn, who attained fame, success, and who inspired a generation to give hip-hop a listen. The next time that anyone listens to their music and hears Yauch’s voice, they’ll know that Adam “MCA” Yauch is still with us.

Hey You!

What would you like to see in the culture section for next year? Write down what you would like to see on this slip and drop it off in the envelope outside the publication lab.

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