

North's 20th anniversary highlights alumni

By Kate Bennett

Appleton North High School first opened its doors to students in August of 1995. Since then, over 20,000 students have walked its halls, going from class to class, enjoying many of the same familiarities that still exist today. Graduates from Appleton North are all over the world, and their reach spreads to many different career paths. The wealth of knowledge that Appleton North has helped incubate is copious, the resources growing greater every year. This year, as we look back, North's administration decided it was time to bring the past and the future together through our alumni.

Though there are still events to come, North's first plan for a 20th anniversary celebration took place during the homecoming game on Friday, Sept. 26. The event was set up for North parents and alumni before the game. Mr. Kevin Herrling, the Appleton North activities director, was one of the main organizers behind the pre-game event.

"We set up a big tent out on the grass north of the stadium," he said. "We served popcorn, cookies, and water for those



James Swetlik and others sell t-shirts in front of the alumni tent at the Homecoming football game on Sept. 26. For more on the history of North, check out the Centerspread section on pg. 7. Photo by Paige Beckum

parents and alumni attending the game."

The event was organized to also serve as a reunion of sorts, giving alumni a flash from the past and a chance to meet with one another.

"We had a DJ there playing music from the last 20 years," Mr. Herrling said. "There were banners set up from each graduating year, so that our alumni could take 'class pictures' in front of them. We also had every

single yearbook laid out, so that alumni could page through their high school memories."

The administration went online to inform potential attendees.

"We're really looking to social media to inform alumni of the event," Mr. Herrling said before the event. "We're also going to be using it to set up connections with our graduates, so that we can keep in touch even after the event is

over."

This, said North's principal Mr. James Huggins, is the whole purpose of the event.

"We wanted to establish connections with our graduates who are in the workforce today. Our alumni are an invaluable resource. Appleton North graduates are everywhere and in every field. Their knowledge and expertise could provide priceless information to students who are looking to go

"These vast connections [with alumni] help to keep part of our history alive in spirit of 20 years of Appleton North."

-North's principal, Mr. Huggins

in a similar direction. Through this network we could bring in speakers, set up presentations, and help our students make connections in their field of interest," Huggins said.

"This won't end with homecoming," Mr. Herrling said. "We hope to have many more events this year, both in spirit of North's 20 anniversary and to keep our connections to our graduates alive. This is an ongoing effort, and we want to tap into as much of our alumni resource as possible."

"This homecoming game was really just the beginning of the partnership we hope to form with our alumni. These vast connections will help us to better provide students with career planning resources, as well as help to keep part of our history alive in the spirit of 20 years of Appleton North," said Mr. Huggins.

CAPP courses are free for 2014-15 school year

By Ally Price

This year at Appleton North, some students will have the opportunity to gain free college credits through the CAPP program. CAPP, or Cooperative Academic Partnership Program, is a program in which high school students can take a class and earn both high school and five or more college credits. The AASD provides the student with high school credits, and the partnering college, which in North's case is UW-Oshkosh, provides the college credits.

The CAPP program is not new, but it has seen many changes since last school year. Last year, if a student wanted to take a CAPP class, they had to pay \$600 or more out of pocket. This all changed in mid-June, when the Board of Regents that sits over all of the UW colleges stated that they would pay the tuition for any



Frau Strom teaches a CAPP German class at North. This year, students enrolled in CAPP courses will not have to pay a fee to take the classes; the UW system has volunteered to pay the fee for all CAPP students. Photo by Sofia Voet

student enrolled in the CAPP program.

The cost coverage occurred due to the benefits a different program at North called Youth Options offers to its participants. Youth Options is an opportunity for students who can't

find the classes they want to take at North or anywhere else in the AASD. They can take up to two college classes at a nearby college, and the AASD will cover the costs. There is debate as to whether or not CAPP, which does involve stu-

dents earning college credits, should be covered under Course Options. While this decision, which will determine whether the cost ultimately falls on the AASD or the student, was made, the UW system stepped up to pay the tuition for one year.

"This is probably a one-year fix," said Mr. Dave Pynenberg, associate principal at Appleton North. "I don't think [UW-Oshkosh paying for the credits] this is going to happen in the future."

The CAPP program, which is mainly available for world languages at North, is very helpful if a student is looking to earn free college credits. All they have to do is pass the class with a B or better to receive these credits, which are accepted at all Wisconsin col-

leges and a few other universities. The only complaint students have about this program is the curriculum, which has to be approved by UW-Oshkosh.

"The things that we learn can be very challenging," said Sofie Druckrey, a sophomore at North who is currently taking CAPP French. "I like that we can earn college credits, though."

CAPP French teacher Mrs. Elizabeth Platten agrees. "There is quite a bit of paperwork in the beginning and the proceeding spring. Other than that I really like being a part of the program. I think it is a fantastic opportunity for all involved to get credits for college. We are so lucky to have this program."



Mme. Platten
 Photo by Paige Beckum

Common Core Standards: an explanation

By Colton Bennet

In 2001, Congress passed the No Child Left Behind Act, requiring public schools to implement standardized testing to determine federal aid benefits.

In 2009 several states, including Wisconsin appealed to the federal government, hoping to do away with this bill by adopting the Common Core Standards in their classrooms. The standards were developed throughout 2009 and were adopted by the state of Wisconsin in June 2010. These standards are now being fully implemented starting this school year.

Common Core Standards are a set of guidelines, according to the Common Core website, that are supposed to teach students problem solving skills and analytical thinking, as well as the curriculum at hand.

This set of "guidelines"



Mrs. Sarah Hestres assists students during a Pre-Calculus class at Appleton North. Common Core Standards determine what is to be taught in classrooms across Wisconsin, though the standards are hotly contested. Photo by Paige Beckum

was originally set by experts from all over the country. These standards are a list of core ideas in each subject that are expressed as the key ideas in each area. These key ideas

are thought to be the base of any well-rounded education, and are standard in any classroom using the common core system.

The Common Core Stan-

dards are not all about the subjects, though. They also aim to educate "good learners" rather than "good students".

The standards also teach

For more information

To see the Common Core State Standards and to learn more about how they impact you, visit <http://commoncore.dpi.wi.gov/>

a level of understanding, and ways that this understanding can be expressed by the students.

The Wisconsin Standards for Literacy in All Subjects is a part of the program that teaches students to gather information and state their case for all subjects.

Related article
Common Core State Standards: an imperfect solution to an incredibly complicated issue, pg. 3

Infinite Campus replaces Parent Portal

By Megha Uberoi

Infinite Campus is the new website that the Appleton Area School District is utilizing to manage the grades and schedules of all its students. The new website is significantly more interactive and efficient than the previous parent portal website, according to Ms. Shannon Davis, a teacher who signed up to be Infinite Campus coach to help other teachers navigate through the program.

"From a teacher's perspective everything is easier to access because everything is in one location," said Ms. Davis.

Another component to efficiency with students is the fact that Infinite Campus comes with its own app for smartphones. The app refreshes right away and allows students to see their grades for every class on their phones.

"I find the app very useful. It updates faster than parent portal and makes looking at grades easier. The app is more efficient and useful than the old website," said Lauren Drankoff, junior.

"Grading has definitely become more efficient," according to assistant principal Mr. Dave Pynenberg. "Grades update immediately and there is no need for teachers to transfer grades from one system to the next."

The fact that last year Ap-

"Grading has definitely become more efficient [with Infinite Campus]. Grades update immediately and there is no need for teachers to transfer grades from one system to another."

- Mr. Dave Pynenberg, associate principal at Appleton North

pleton School District had six different student information systems that separately housed scheduling, special education reports, and grades, was the main reason the system switch was made to Infinite Campus.

"Now Infinite Campus has all of those in one location in one program," said Mr. Pynenberg. "Last year our systems were working, but we were just putting band-aids on them. To be more cost productive we made the switch to the one system."

Some new features of Infinite Campus include scheduling capabilities, a daily planner, and the eventual ability to assign quizzes and tests through Infinite Campus.

"The master schedule was



A now-familiar screen greets all students when they log in to Infinite Campus. This grading and scheduling system replaced Parent Portal in the 2014-15 school year. Graphic by Erik Bakken

built with infinite campus this year. The scheduler is more robust, and so is the grading system. I can print report cards in so many different ways now; in alphabetical order, by class period, by homeroom, or by teachers. There is more accessibility to documents and it allows me to be more efficient in scheduling classes," said Mr. Pynenberg. "The teachers have lots of new features available to them too. In fact it's a lot like Edmodo where the system will be able to assign quizzes and tests and grade them."

Ms. Davis explains the biggest feature available to teachers is the online planner. "From a teacher's end it allows you to put in the due date of an assignment and when an assignment was assigned so it shows a student how much time they have to complete a certain assignment. It will be really helpful and convenient for teachers once they start using it and get used to the system as a whole."

As teachers, administrators, and students get more comfortable with Infinite Campus they will be using more features of

the program in the future.

In fact, according to Mr. Pynenberg, one big upcoming change related to infinite campus is that "Guidance and administration would like to go to online scheduling next year. This will be a big change from previous years because instead of paper and pencil scheduling students will be able to schedule themselves into classes through Infinite Campus."

The switch to Infinite Campus is an adjustment for teachers, administrators, and students alike. Right now the big issue with Infinite Campus is simply getting used to the new system and working out all the details with the website.

"I feel that once teachers start to use it [Infinite Campus] regularly and get comfortable with it, it'll work just as well as the old Parent Portal. At this point I would rather go back to the old website, but that is just because I was used to it," said Chandler Crane, junior.

If interested in writing for News, contact Erik Bakken via Facebook.

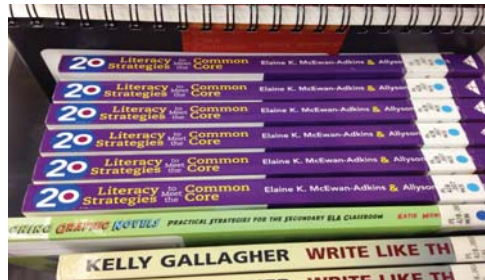
Noctiluca Editorial

Common Core State Standards: an imperfect solution to an incredibly complicated issue

It is the opinion of the majority of the Noctiluca editorial staff that the Common Core State Standards are an imperfect solution to an incredibly complicated issue, but are still more beneficial than not.

According to the Common Core State Standards Initiative Webpage: "These learning goals outline what a student should know and be able to do at the end of each grade. The standards were created to ensure that all students graduate from high school with the skills and knowledge necessary to succeed in college, career, and life, regardless of where they live."

Initially, the standards seemed to pressure teachers



Textbooks with Common Core strategies can be found in the Appleton North library. Teachers are able to reference these when adhering to curriculum standards. Photo by Nora Ptacek

to adopt a "teach to the test" style which seriously lacks 21st century skills such as: creativity and innovation, personal responsibility/ac-

countability, technological and digital citizenship, and many more. This "teach to the test method" harms student's education, further limiting

their future.

It is true that many teachers do feel the need to "teach to the test" but the common core state standards do not require this. The standards dictate what students must learn, but not how they must be taught. It is the responsibility of the teacher to take an innovative, engaging approach to teaching while still meeting the Common Core State Standards.

The state standards also support equal education throughout the nation. It is known that in the southern states, school systems are often not as advanced when compared with other states. This is mainly due to their lack of funding.

A system that allows most states to be at similar levels is encouraging. These standards help ensure that students won't lack quality education simply because they live in the wrong state.

Every person in this country deserves quality education, every teacher should be held accountable and not let the standards limit their teaching, but rather enhance it. The Common Core State Standards are a manageable solution to the issue that is quality education for all.

Related article
Common Core Standards: a brief explanation, pg. 2

Cross country deserves a chance to be seen

By Isabel Edmonds

"Hey are you going to watch the Cross Country meet tonight?" is a phrase that has never been uttered within the walls of North High School.

It has been said about basketball, volleyball, and soccer, but as the most notoriously unappreciated sport at Appleton North, cross country runners have grown accustomed to the absence of the student section at every single meet; but that doesn't mean that a change wouldn't be welcome.

"I'd like for someone other than my mom to see me finish a race," Senior Max Ritzow said.

At the typical Cross Country meet, a devoted boy/girlfriend or two and a sibling that really doesn't want to be there counts as a big fan section; this seems to be the downfall of playing a sport that is not football in Wisconsin.

However, other sports have been able to garner a fan base by doing well in conference or making it to state.



JV Girls took first place at conference in Kaukauna on Oct. 16. Photo by Kim Kolbe Ritzow

For example, many people attended the North men's volleyball games and even were bussed to the state meet.

A little known fact is that the Cross Country girls varsity team as well as two individual qualifying boys also competed at state, an impressive achievement that did not make the morning announcements.

However, the student

body is not to blame. In fact, the lack of fans seems to stem from the idea that cross country is a boring sport. The Lightning runners beg to differ.

"No pads, short shorts, full contact, it's like WWE," said graduated senior Andrew Johnson, who currently runs cross country for UW-LaCrosse. You might not see a person getting full body tackled, but once in a while

someone does get spiked or trampled.

If you come to sporting events for the atmosphere, jumping around and cheering, cross country provides that as well. Watching cross country requires sprinting to different parts of the course, and yelling at the top of your lungs, in fact "It's the only sport you can get exercise by spectating," said Payton Fors.

If you go to games to see your team bring home the gold, with a girls varsity ranked 3rd in the state, and their number one runner Lauren Farina never failing to win a race, it seems you are in luck.

In addition to this the boys varsity recently took 3rd at the Bayport Invitational, Senior Zack Gasick placing 4th. Our JV runners compete at equally high levels, the JV boys also taking 3rd lead by freshman Sydney Hester.

It is typical before any JV girl race to hear the cheer of "Who rules the world?!" shouted by junior Claire Riebau or junior Alyssa Grunder "JV girls!" as a swift response from the rest of the girls. They certainly seem to be ruling the cross country course, taking first at every meet but one, sweeping the top five at the Irish Invitational, and the top four at Bayport.

So if you like running around and screaming, winning or just want to support the Lightning cross country team, give XC a try. The theme for next week's meet will be showing up.

Noctiluca Mission Statement

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

Its mission is to publish news, information, entertainment and opinion articles about our community.

Our goal is to maintain high ethical standards and provide a public forum for free and responsible expression of 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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20 years for North, advancement made or enhancement needed?

By Fatima Ali

It has been 20 years since North opened its doors in 1995. Since then, many students have come and gone, leaving a lasting legacy in certain activities, clubs, and academics; but one question may be lingering upon our minds: Has North made an impact in our community and state? There's obviously no right or wrong answer, but one thing for sure, it is not an easy question to answer.

On a recent survey I conducted, I noticed that most of the student body seemed to agree that in some way, shape, or form, North has indeed made an impact on the community.

For starters, a well-known quote that North proudly acclaims is that "North is never asleep." This serves as a true quote for numerous clubs such as Drama Club. These hard-working participants work on various crews, whether it's the actual acting or the "teaching" process of the theatrical act, as the premiere date of a certain play starts to approach. In fact, Drama Club's "Haunted House" attracts many different people of all ages across Appleton.

Moreover, several of North's drama productions

are acclaimed across Wisconsin, especially for their superb scenery, outstanding director, millions of helpers, and of course the people who are part of the production in many different ways.

There are many other exam-

ple of how North is making an impact on the community. For example, many clubs such as Key Club and Student Council regularly donate their time to the community, whether it's by working at the Soup Kitchen on Saturdays or working on a fundraiser for the Animal Shelter. Of course, there are many other students out there at North who

are regularly devoting their time to many activities that they enjoy that perhaps other students at North don't know about.

However, sophomore Kenady Duesterhaus points out that, "North is just a high

need more students participating in these activities."

Many other students also agree with this statement, stating that North would have even a better reputation if it participated in even more community service activities, as a whole general school body and not just as private clubs that only some people at North are part of.

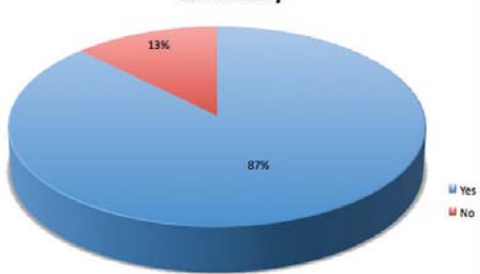
On the contrary, Senior Chris Cudnowski is grateful for what Appleton North has done.

"Appleton North is giving us an education. That is very important because an education is going to help us get a job in the future and that is very important, considering the very competitive society we live in now," Cudnowski said.

Based on numerous interviews and surveys, which included 10 students from each grade, it is important to note that North indeed has done much in its 20 years of existence in Appleton.

North definitely still has lots of opportunities to improve their notability in this community, but overall I think everyone can agree that in some way North has had an impact in the community. What do you think North will accomplish in the next 20 years?

Survey Results from the Student Body on Whether North has made an Impact on the Community



Results from the survey. 10 students from each grade were interviewed for a total of 40 students. By Fatima Ali

Events in Ferguson demonstrate loss of trust in police force throughout country

By Ethan Usalabar

On Aug. 9, shortly after noon, Michael Brown was involved in a dispute with police officer Darren Wilson, and Brown was shot and killed. Since August, this has become a large conflict regarding police and racial stereotyping.

The dispute began as Brown was leaning through the window of Wilson's patrol car to speak with him. As this was happening, Wilson's firearm discharged inside of the car.

After the weapon had fired inside of the car, Brown is said to have ran away from the officer. As Brown was running away, Wilson fired at Brown. Several accounts of these events say that Brown then turned to face Wilson, and put his hands up and ceased to move until Wilson shot him. Six times.

Michael Brown was shot six times by Darren Wilson. A private autopsy requested by the Brown family, as well as an autopsy by the Justice Department, show that Brown was shot four times in the right arm and two times, fatally, in the head.

After his death, Brown's body was left in the street for four hours. This was the second act the police in the Ferguson area did wrong in regards to this whole issue.

Leaving Michael Brown's body in the street and not allowing it to be removed was completely insensitive to the situation. Not only was it disgraceful to leave Brown's body in the street for that long, it only added fuel to the fire of the overall protests.

The police in the St. Louis/Ferguson area handled these

protests very poorly. The police were very hostile with protestors and demonstrators, even during peaceful periods. Law enforcement officials let heavily armed squads loose to try and contain the situations.

The police were armed with military grade weapons and vehicles, including tear gas, rubber bullets, and armored mine-resistant vehicles that were similar to tanks.

These efforts by law enforcement were probably no help to the already hostile situation. When protestors were violent, which was rare, the police reacted with tear gas, smoke bombs, and sound cannons. This only led to more chaos.

Protesters also complained about police cracking down during peaceful protests. If these protestors were demon-

strating against the wrongs committed by the police in the St. Louis/Ferguson area against the black community, some of which were violent, and resulting in death, why would they feel any more safe or content with the law enforcement when police are being militarized?

It was unwise for the officials to have reacted by sending in these heavily armed police into such a sensitive situation.

It's sad to think of how often it takes tragedy, such as the Michael Brown shooting, to bring a community together to put efforts forth in stopping the unjust.

I'd like to believe that if something like this were to happen in our own community we would band together as one and put an end to those who wronged us as a community.

Junior Kenna Harke crowned Miss Wisconsin Teen USA

By Lila Metko

Congratulations are in order to Kenna Mia Harke, an Appleton North junior, who was recently crowned Miss Wisconsin Teen USA 2015.

The competition took place on Sept. 6 and 7 at the Fond du Lac performing arts center. The competition involved three categories, interview, evening gown, and swimwear.

Kenna won a generous prize package which includes scholarships, gowns, jewelry and of course, a trip to the National Miss Teen USA competition. The Noctiluca had an opportunity to speak with the winner herself.

Noctiluca: What will you be doing to prepare for the national competition and where will it be held?

Kenna Harke: First of all, my preparation is an everyday process. I work to be the best I can be, and just living every day to the fullest. I will be getting out in my community and speaking more so I have many experiences that I will be able to talk about! There are three equally scored areas of competition- Interview, Swimwear and Evening Gown. I will work hard with the sponsors provided so that I show up able to perform in those three areas to the best of my ability. At this time they have not released the date and location of nationals, but for the past

couple years, it has been at the Atlantis in the Bahamas.

N: What will your responsibilities be as Miss Wisconsin Teen USA?

KH: As Miss Wisconsin Teen USA, I will get to have the opportunity to work with some of the program's partners--such as Best Buddies and Project Sunshine. I will make various appearances and speaking engagements around

packed schedule, and I always love a challenge. One of my mottos is work before play, and that will always help me to focus on what is most important. This is a dream of mine, and no matter what, I will work hard in everything I do! In fact, I feel like my academic studies and keeping those up will help me to be more knowledgeable and competitive in the interview portion of the

all your hard work will pay off.

N: How did you become involved in Miss Wisconsin Teen and how long have you been doing this?

KH: I was approached to do pageants by my cheerleading coach, as one of my biggest dreams is to walk the Miss USA stage. I am so proud to say, this was my second year doing it, and I was the first re-

first step and apply. It will be a decision you won't regret. Applications are accepted online at www.misswisconsin-teenusa.com. This pageant has helped shape me into the girl I am today.

N: What was the relationship between you and the other contestants, was it very competitive or did you find yourself making good friends?

KH: Oh my gosh, you can



Kenna Harke being Crowned Miss Wisconsin Teen USA 2015. After months of preparation and excitement, her hard work paid off at the Fond du Lac performing arts center. Photos courtesy of Miss Wisconsin USA website.

Wisconsin. For example, I just got to work with the Donald Driver Kid's Day at the Boys and Girls Club, and this weekend I am headed to the Cranberry Festival.

N: Will it be difficult to juggle the responsibilities of schoolwork, cheer, and your Miss Wisconsin Teen USA responsibilities?

KH: I am totally used to a

pageant. And, my involvement with cheer will help me better perform by giving me more experience in front of an audience.

N: Do you have any strategies that helped you manage your time to share with other busy teens?

KH: I'm glad you asked. Again, you have to focus on work before play! In the end,

turning first runner up to win the following year since 1999.

N: What was the hardest part of this competition?

KH: For some, it is a confidence issue. It can be hard getting up on stage in front of hundreds of people. I personally think that this pageant is a confidence booster if anything, and I would encourage every young lady to take that

only imagine. I made so many amazing friends at the pageant, and made memories that will last a lifetime. I am still in touch with many of the girls, and I plan to be for the rest of my life.

You can continue to follow Kenna's journey to the finals on her facebook page Miss Wisconsin Teen USA and on Twitter @RealMissWTeen.

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"We have a rare opportunity to establish a legal quality athletics, and traditions. Imagine the beginning of the year. School was a blank slate."



"The high standards we set will be the contribution to future classes. Our experience at North High School will establish traditions and expectations that upcoming generations will follow for many years to come"
-Class of 1996

Printed in the first issue of the *Noc-tituca*: excerpt from "Top Ten List: Reasons why North is truly the best!"
#10. Our students are physically fit from jogging to their lockers between classes.
#7. Magical lights turn on when you walk into a room.
#4. Our neighbors are cows...literally.
#3. The school store's sign is neon.
#2. Our swimming pool is so classy, they call it the "Natatorium" instead of just the pool.
#1. PINK SOAP IN THE BATH-ROOMS



Every time we go to a pep rally or have a pep rally on that clean slate. We will seldom in a lifetime get the chance to see those rare traditions. The opportunity for traditions for

- The 19



Started from the bottom 1993-2015

North by the numbers

- 5,247 cubic yards of concrete
- 335,000 concrete blocks
- 322,000 bricks
- 600 doors
- 320,00 square feet
- Cost \$25 million to build including new equipment

Some things never change...



North students have always signed up to donate blood and "save three lives".



Mr. Edmonds was always the cool cat he is today.



the opportunity
 of academics,
 and outstanding
 line that at the
 year North High
 k sheet of paper.
 go tailgating
 we make a mark
 sheet of paper.
 our lives be given
 o start over,
 h we have one
 e chances:
 y to establish
 the future."

1995 *Almanac* staff



A sampling of senior quotes from the class of 1996

"Lunch was fun, turd burglar, mental bath-rooms. JM I love you!"

"Branson B Jimmy T you and me. There she be!"

"Terry Miller's quote is the dumbest thing I have ever seen. UWM Disc Golf!"

"High school is like getting hit by a train... wait, I did get hit by a train!"

"Sweaty monster freak show forever."

"Live life like an oompa-loompa...always add sugar and flour at approximate times."

"Slam watcha got!!!"

"I believe that the fifteen word limit appropriately reflects the depth of most senior's character."

"Boys, from what we remember, I think we had fun. Susan, I will remember you forever. Rocks up '33".



om

e **bottom**

now we **here**

Appleton North High School turns 20



They made it...

Staff that has been here/returned since North opened

- Heidi Brooks
- Doug Davis
- Joel Edler
- Bernie Edmonds
- Lisa Gill
- James Huggins
- Linda Meyer
- Cathy Mueller
- Marlyce Reed
- Curt Salm
- Jim Thaldorf
- Terry Wittmann



See the Culture section for more throwback fashion.

What was old is new again...

Flow is back, but it has evolved. Duck lips and duces were apparently cool then too.

Dwarfism awareness month at North Did you know?

By AJ Floodstrand

October is National Dwarfism Awareness Month. To raise awareness about dwarfism, what better way than to learn about it from two Appleton North students who have this genetic disorder?

Junior Courtney Nelson and Sophomore Brooke Densmore have been living with Dwarfism since they were born. For those who are unaware of what dwarfism is, also known as achondroplasia, it is a genetic disorder that occurs at the FGFR3 gene.

Nelson has several mixed feelings on her thoughts of dwarfism. "It's a blessing and a curse at the same time, you get all the disability perks of handicap parking and all that but you also get the claustrophobia and the judgment and all that stuff."

For Densmore, it's not much different. "I don't like really see it as anything but a condition that makes your bones shorter."

During the school day Nelson and Densmore are faced with many challenges. "I take three steps for everyone an average high school



Brooke Densmore is a sophomore at North. Photo by Elise Painton



Courtney Nelson is a Junior at North. Photo by Elise Painton

student would take," said Nelson.

Densmore has had her locker changed. "They have moved my locker shelves down." For Nelson, these are challenges she wished she could change. "I would change everything about my dwarfism in a second. I'm not

bending to the rules of society, I'm doing what I want."

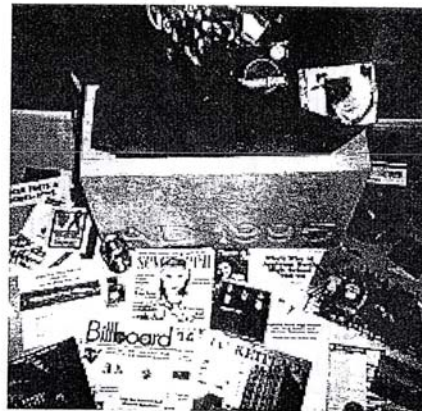
At times, Nelson finds herself at the point she wishes people were more aware of dwarfism. "People need to be aware of their surroundings." In the classroom it's not always different. "Many times teachers will be awkward of what they should do and how they approach it. When I have a problem I'll tell them."

For Densmore it's very similar. "It gets annoying; I can do it." Nelson is disappointed in the comments she hears. "The offhand comments like, 'Oh my God, she is so short... why is she here?', 'Oh my God, is she, like, five?'"

Overall, Nelson doesn't want extra attention. "I don't want the spotlight on me, but I don't want to be in the back." At the end of the day, Nelson and Densmore want to be treated the same.

Densmore wants people to know. "We are just...people--just a bit shorter." While Nelson wants the awareness of Dwarfism to be stronger. "I can do anything anybody else my age can do; I just need to do it in a different way."

Appleton North's Time Capsule is Ready to Wait!



Some of the items Appleton North students selected for the time capsule include a Billboard magazine, Green Bay Packers memorabilia, and a can of Coca-Cola.

By Elise Painton

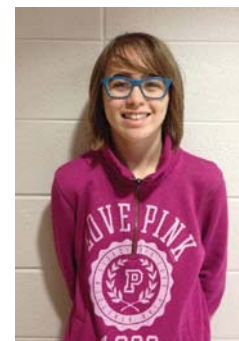
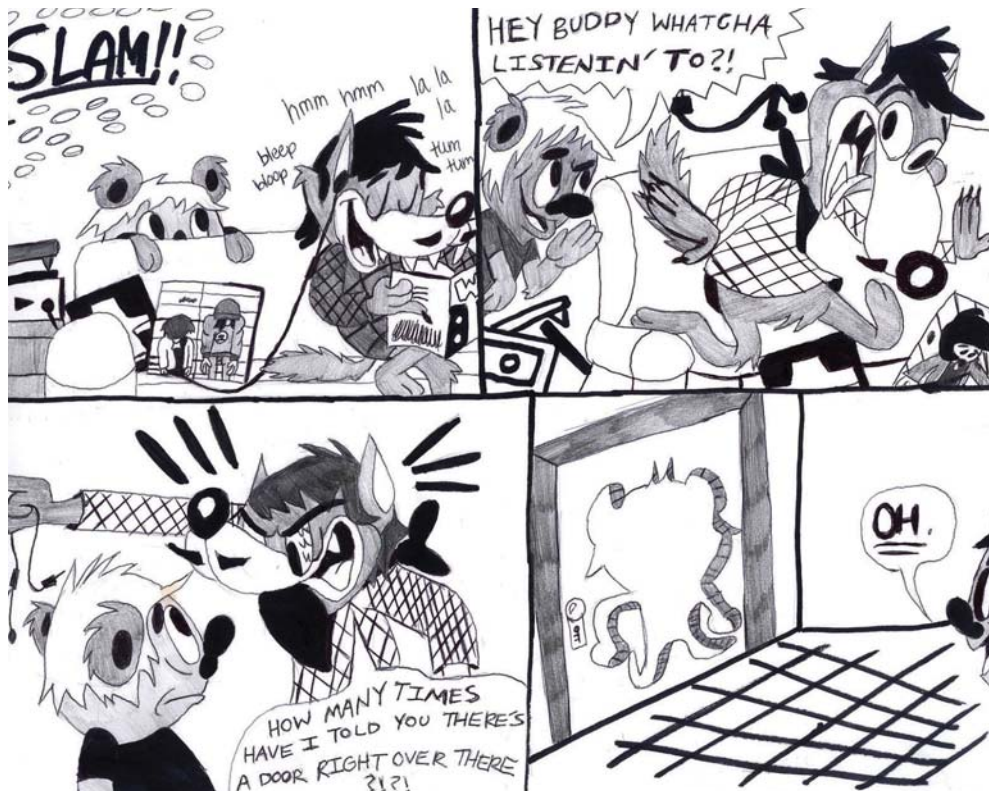
Within the Publications Lab, home of the Noctiluca, the first edition of the school newspaper hangs on the wall.

Titled, "The ?????", it hosts a series of news stories regarding the upcoming and current culture of Appleton North High School circa 1995. Apparently, North has its own

time capsule buried somewhere on the property, and apparently, inside the commons there was a jukebox that played songs from *Pocahontas*. The time capsule is so encapsulated that the office staff assume it is in the cornerstone, but this has not been confirmed. See centerspread for more throwbacks.

LK SASSI'S FUNHOUSE

By Lauren Sassi



Lauren Sassi illustrates "LK SASSI'S FUNHOUSE". Photo by Elise Painton

Lauren Sassi has been creating comics and illustrations for the Noctiluca since her freshman year. Sassi has had an interest in drawing since she was in kindergarten. Make sure to look for new drawings by Lauren Sassi in upcoming issues of the Noctiluca. If you are interested in making a contribution to the features section, contact Elise Painton via Facebook.

20 Years of Fashion: How Styles Have Changed

By Rachel Brosman

It is hard to believe that our high school has been around for 20 years. In that time period, technology has become a thousand times more efficient, our school has been surrounded by buildings instead of farmland, and the styles of students have evolved. However, there are many parallels in the dress of today to the fashions of 1994.

The "90's look" contains various pieces that are staples in the wardrobes of any on-trend teen today. Whether to add an extra layer in the never-changing Wisconsin winter or as a fashion statement, the flannel is a true 90's piece.

At the beginning of North's days, flannels were kept in lockers instead of sweatshirts for when students' classes got that same unexpected chill we have today.

Crewnecks were the sweatshirt of choice, as they are popular now today. In the earlier 2000's, the crewneck was overwhelmed by hoodie styles, but now are the often preferred choice, even including 90's inspired graphics and logos for a throwback vibe.



A former student who attended North in its first year follows a common hair trend during that time, the middle part. Photo by Rachel Brosman

Denim was an absolute essential of the aforesaid era. From jeans, to skirts, to button ups, to jackets, to overalls: an all denim outfit was completely the norm.

Lighter washes were more popular, and high rise jeans and shorts were the only style that any respectable student would wear.

Nowadays, the high rise and light wash jeans are definitely back in style; although,

the 90's were more about a relaxed fit than a skinny shape.

Big chunky sweaters were another Wisconsin staple for guys and gals. The most popular style was striped sweaters, along with other abstract or "ugly sweater" prints.

Currently, stores are selling "cold shoulder" or off the shoulder tops for ladies. This is a completely 90's inspired trend that has been brought back by young adult stores such as American Apparel and Forever 21.

Accessories were generally minimal during the 90's, as casual was the common dress code. However, glasses are an overlooked accessory that are a great reflection of the time period.

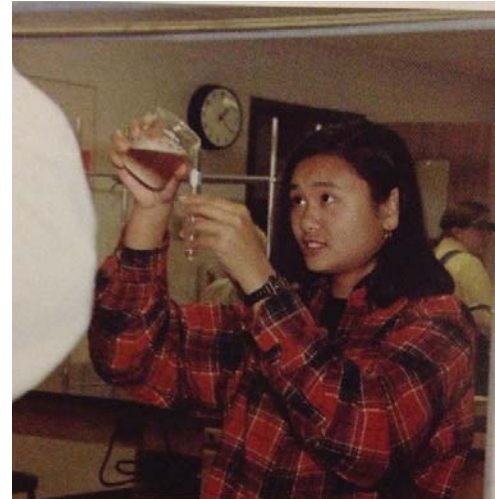
Large, wire rimmed glasses were the common style for glasses back then, while nowadays, the thicker frames are more popular. For either gender, popular shoes during 1994 included big chunky construction boots and athletic Chuck Taylors.

If a girl was looking to dress up, her go-to accessory would definitely be a pearl necklace: a perfect elegant piece that is not worn as much today.

Last but not least, hairstyles of the students at North in 1994 were much different from today. Middle parts were the most seen look, for both guys and girls. The boys would sport a mid length shaggy cut, parted directly in the middle. Ladies also wore the middle part, and short

bangs were very common, too.

While the middle parted hair look may not be favored nowadays, it is always interesting to take a look into the past and realize that we are not all that different from those first students to attend Appleton North.



Former student, Anh Hoang, measures her substitute solution, while wearing a plaid jacket. Photo by Rachel Brosman



What's on your playlist?

By Caroline Augustine and Katherine Hackney



Olivia Hackney
Freshman



- "Gasoline"
- Troye Saivan
- "Drop the Game"
- Flume
- "Ways to Go"
- Grouplove
- "1901"
- Phoenix
- "Animal"
- Mike Snow

Skye Iwanski
Sophomore



- "Girls/Girls/Boys"
- Panic at the Disco
- "If You Leave"
- Orchestral Manoeuvres in the Dark
- "I'm Only Joking"
- Kongos
- "Don't Forget About Me"
- Simple Minds
- "Carry on Wayward Son"
- Kansas

Kaelah Byrom
Junior



- "All About that Bass"
- Meghan Trainor
- "Trashin the Camp"
- Phil Collins
- "Here I am"
- Spirit Soundtrack
- "Through Heaven's Eyes"
- Led Zeppelin
- "Say Goodbye"
- Dave Matthews Band

Deniza Peja
Senior



- "Lake of Fire"
- Nirvana
- "Seven Nation Army"
- White Stripes
- "R U Mine?"
- Arctic Monkeys
- "Maps"
- Maroon 5
- "Babe I'm Gonna Leave You"
- Led Zeppelin

Mrs. Klunder
Teacher



- "All About that Bass"
- Meghan Trainor
- "Midnight Train to Georgia"
- Gladys Knight
- "Keep Me in Mind"
- Zac Brown Band
- "Lean on Me"
- Bill Withers
- "Odds Are"
- Barenaked Ladies

Haunted House: a night to dismember

By Jack Russell

Appleton North's Drama Club has always been proud to present a spooky and wonderful event that only comes around once a year - Appleton North's very own Haunted House.

Taking a brief hiatus during the 2012-2013 school year due to the fall musical *Spamalot!*, the haunted house reopened its doors for the second time since its return.

This amount of room provides space for almost anything terrifying or uncomfortable you can think of, which makes this haunted house the biggest (and only) running atrocity exhibition within the city limits of Appleton. This year's haunted house was seeing some interesting development taking place. With the success of "A Night To Dismember: Reborn!", North's



Drama students involved in haunted house pose for a scary picture. This year the haunted house opened from Friday, October 24th to Saturday, October 25th. Photo by Appleton North Theatre

Commentary

Drama Club made this year's exhibition (aptly named "A Night To Dismember: Again!") even more terrifying and uncomfortable than before. However, difficulties arose during the planning process earlier this month.

During the run of the haunted house development, the district meet for Appleton North's One Act play *Romeo & Juliet* and ongoing preparation for the showcase production of last year's spring play *Journey to the West* are happening in tandem with the weekend chosen to present this year's exhibition.

With this, comes difficulties in the allotted timeframe,

and other bugs in the system need to be worked out during the creative process. Earlier in the month, the Drama Club officers met with club advisor and theatre director Mr. Parker to discuss whether or not the haunted house would function this year. The democracy spoke in favor of the house, and the planning process began.

The actual building process of the haunted house and its elaborate setup was what really showed the Drama Club's commitment and dedication.

Not only do the Drama Club officers spend hours mulling over floor plans, room designs, and creative aspects, but students from all grades are in-



(Top) Senior Tess Stevenson helps out by doing some heavy lifting. The Drama Club members have to put six hours of work to participate in the house. Photo by Julia Lammers



(Bottom) Senior Alyssa Rogaff and her mom work to untangle cobwebs from a chandelier. The haunted house takes up the auditorium, the music hallway, scene shop, green room, and additional portions of the fine arts wing. Photo by Julia Lammers.

involved.

Gathering props, creating costumes, constructing the stage layout, and putting together the technical aspects of theatre are essential in making it as best it can be - the only administration utilized are the Drama Club officers, Mr. Parker for advice and supervision, school staff/faculty for approval, and other parent or adult volunteers that take part in the construction process from start to finish.

The dedication to getting the house up and running was imperative, as the paralleling runs of *Romeo & Juliet* and *Journey*

to the West: Showcase make the month of October time crunch.

That being said, the majority of the cast and crew of North's upcoming productions are heavily involved with this year's house (with every Drama Club officer already involved in both One Act and Showcase to begin with).

However, with the abundance of student contribution and hard work from all corners of the theatre department, the entire experience becomes not only possible, but magical in its own special, bloody, uncomfortable, weeping-angel-infested way.



Alt-J surges back with *This is All Yours*

By Conor Tarnowski

The English experimental rock band, Alt-J, has finally released their much anticipated second album entitled, *This is All Yours*.

This album is the result of a year filled with many difficulties for the band, including the loss of their bassist Gwil Sainsbury, whose dynamic bass lines proved to be the foundation for the band's previous album, "An Awesome Wave". Many fans and critics alike questioned whether or not the decision to keep the band intact was in their best interest, but questions no longer remain.

Alt-J has produced a truly spectacular collection of songs that focus around the



New Alt-J album *This is All Yours* includes 13 original songs.

electric genre more than they have previously.

Highlighted by tracks such as "Left Hand Free" and "Hunger for the Pine", *This is All Yours* introduces us to the new and improved Alt-J, who I'm hoping stick around for a while longer.



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Fall sports at a glance



Senior Maya Murzello (right) hits a backhand at a match during the JV tennis season. Murzello played singles against De Pere. Freshman Nicole Lorenzoni (left) serves a ball in a match. Photo by Mr. Herrling



(Right) Sophomore Jayden Behrendt, number 12, heads the ball to midfielder Jon Kotek, number 9, during a varsity soccer game. (Below) Sophomore Collin Squier kicks the ball during a game. Photos by Mr. Herrling



The Varsity Girls Cross Country team consists of (from top left) Kaitlin Squier, Lauren Drankoff, Isabel Edmonds, Katie Flood (from bottom left) Lauren Farina, Maggie Burneske, Dakota Holzem and Payton Fors. Photo by Mr. Herrling



Bruce Schroeder, 12, clasps hands with Chase Kruel, 87, while Evan Bohman, 35, and Tyler Huggins, 89, look on. The team began their playoff season this past weekend. Photo by Mr. Herrling

Boys volleyball plans to carry on state championship legacy

By Ashley Pierson

When most people think of boys volleyball, they think about the state championship title of 2012. This year's team is currently honorable mention and is expected to move in to the top ten rankings soon and hopefully continue to make their way up. Last year the team did not even rank.

When asked if he thought they would be returning to state this year, senior captain Liam Mahoney said, "I think we have a pretty good shot at going to state this year. We have a lot of work to do, but I think we're very capable and up to the challenge."

Although the team has only had a couple games, they are starting off strong and positive with a lead of 15-3.

When asked what improvements he'd like to see on the court throughout the rest of the season, Mahoney said, "I



Senior Kody Fiorito to sets the ball up for a spike to senior Dennis Garvey at a tournament in Kimberly in October. Photo by Alex Neumann

can see us improving on just about everything this season—from passing, blocking, more

"I think we have a pretty good shot at going to state this year.

We have a lot of work to do, but I think we're very capable and up to the challenge."

-Liam Mahoney

aggressive attacking, and better serving. We have a ton of athletes on this team which should help us advance faster."

Mahoney also feels that the team will do well this season, because of the coaching staff.

"We have one of the better, if not the best, coaching staff in the state, so we're pretty spoiled," he said.

With it being the first year

a lot of these athletes have been together on the team, our team chemistry needs to be a focus during the season. Junior, Ryan Driessen, libero of the team, said, "Our team has pretty good chemistry, not as much as Marquette boys volleyball, but they have been playing together much longer than we have. Appleton North definitely has the potential to be as good as Marquette within just one year with our six seniors and nine juniors."

This is Driessen's first year on varsity. "Varsity is a blast so far. Being able to play at a higher level of competition has really helped me become a better player overall, and of course, it's super fun," Driessen said.

Mahoney said the team goes through a specific ritual before each game. "Pregame we like to listen to some funky music in the locker rooms and dance around for a little bit.

We then head into the gym to start stretching and getting loose for the game. We joke around a lot and just keep things fun."

Mahoney also feels that as a captain he has a responsibility to set a tone for his fellow teammates. "As an older guy on the team, I want to keep thinking positively and make sure we're having fun and staying loose. Especially when the season gets tough. Our season is too short to mull over losses or to not constantly get better," he said.

Knowing that Appleton North's student section has a good reputation, Driessen described what he expected to see from the student section this season. Driessen said, "Appleton North has the best student section out there, and it helps. Volleyball is a mental sport and if we can get in their heads in any way, we should do it. Keep it up rude nation."

Fall sports focus on what really matters

By Becca Finger

A team is like a family, and it is crucial to have a bond and a leader to look up to in order to make that team work.

Athletes know that one of the best parts of being involved in a sport is team dinners. Team dinners usually take place before home games/meets and are a crucial element in team bonding. Senior soccer player Jon Kotek describes the effectiveness of team dinners. "We basically get together, eat food, and take our minds off soccer, which I really think helps us focus and perform even better come game time," he said.

Issey Edmonds, a senior cross country runner, said, "You can focus more on your relationships with your teammates during a pasta dinner than when you are running repeats and mostly focusing on breathing."

Team bonding doesn't just have to take place over food, however. When players con-



Sophomore Jenna Miller tips a ball over the net while junior Emily Rohloff guards her block during a varsity volleyball game against Oshkosh North. Photo by Alex Neumann

nect outside of practice it can help their performance as a team.

"I feel like at practices we really try to bond with all the grades, because golf can be such a tough sport you really need encouragement from everyone and being friends is really important, so we can all cheer for each other and be happy about wins together and upset about losses together," Senior golfer Lizzy Hidde said.

In sports, a team is like a family. It's important to have teammates who have each other's backs. Edmonds said, "The mental aspect of racing is really important in cross country, so running with people you know really well and having your friends cheer you on really helps you during a race."

Cross country and golf are

not the only sports that require team support. Bailey Bogatitus, a senior tennis player, said, "I think that even in tennis it's important to bond with your teammates. It's a sport that can be more individual, but even then, having your team on the sidelines cheering for you can be the difference between a frustrating point and the point you win by. Plus, it makes the matches and practices more enjoyable when you have a stronger bond."

In both individual and team sports, it is important to have a good team dynamic in order to make things work.

"Hanging out and getting to know each other off the field brings us together," Kotek said. "I think if we are strangers to each other off the field there is no way we will be able to work together on the field."

Athletes also look to team leaders and captains to help unite the team. "It tends to be the upperclassmen that step up," Junior cross country runner Lauren Farina said. "The majority of the upperclassmen make a good effort to welcome and integrate the younger runners onto the team."

Whether team leaders are chosen by the team or not, the effect is still the same. Junior volleyball player Emily Rohloff said, "I think it's important to have team captains, so there is always someone to bring more energy if the team is down."

Weston Floerke commented on the importance of team leadership. "We have captains to set the tone for the team, whether it be in the weight room, on the practice field, or during a game," he said. "I think it is important to have designated team leaders, because as in every organization, family, or government, some level of centralized leadership is crucial to keep a focused direction in mind. When times get rough, a team needs to know who they can look up to, to pull them back up."

No. 1 singles player for girl's tennis reflects on season

By Erin Gietman and Becca Finger

The Appleton North Girls Tennis Team has been hard at work since mid-August in hopes of making it to the sectional tournament. Practices have been all work and no play since day one, Coach Burt often tells the team, "Water is for the weak," to keep the varsity girls focused on their play, not their thirst.

Natalie Sheu, a junior and the team's number one varsity singles player, commented on the season and a slight injury which she dealt with; she said, "I had a hard time at first with my wrist, but now it's gotten a lot better so I can actually hit."

Sheu has been playing tennis since 2008 and hoped to end the year by getting to the state tournament. She had to win her first match at sectionals to qualify for the tournament, but her opponent was last year's state champion. "I got one game off of the state champion, which was an accomplishment. I didn't think I would get a game off of her. I had a few nice rallies, I did better than I thought I would, my strokes were nice that

day. I'm satisfied with how it went," she said.

Although the tennis team had a lot of great aspects to it, Sheu reflects that her favorite part is her teammates. She said, "I love talking to everyone during practice, it always makes me happy."

Tennis may not be a "team sport", but the team dynamics play a huge role in everyone's overall performance.

"At games when your teammates cheer for you, you just feel like you have that much more energy and strength to play on," Natalie said about her teammates watching her matches. Sheu had a win at Kimberly, and the team hopes that she can keep her record going and make it to the state tournament.

When asked about the prospective season next year, Sheu says, "Even though we are losing a lot of senior players, we have a lot of new players who joined the team this year. We formed a strong bond by the leadership of our seniors, and we are excited to carry the momentum over in to next year."

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