



The Spill



Washburn Edison Jr. Academy

Issue 3, December 21st, 2007

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Birthdays:

December 24th: Nathaniel Cham-
bers, Amanda Langois

December 25th: Christopher Hallett

December 27th: Jack Hagley

December 31st: Lex Hackett-Boo

January 2nd: Kylie DeDominces

Important Dates:

January 2nd– Class resumes!

January 8th and 10th– Basketball
game

January 17th– End of the quarter!

January 18th– No school!

January 21st– No school!

Basketball

By: Libby Jacobson and Miranda Larson

This week our basketball teams played against Proctor School. The girls were playing as the home team at The Washington Center and the boys had an away game in Proctor. Sadly, all of our teams lost. The 8th grade girls' team lost in a sudden death shoot out. The next game is Tuesday, December 18th where they will be playing Two Harbors. The boys will play as the home team and the girls will be playing as visitors in Two Harbors. You can cheer on our teams at the home games at the Washington center. Go Eagles!

Holiday Hype

By: June Bjork

The holiday season is coming in fast. It's time for giving, sharing and just overall good heartedness. Art projects are being sent home to give to friends and relatives as gifts for the celebration of... well, Christmas. Until recently, children in schools have enjoyed Christmas activities such as decorating a poster tree or secret Santa's in the classroom. But now, we are not even supposed to do art projects that are related to Christmas.

While some people may be upset about not being able to make gifts in class for loved ones, these precautions make sense. After all, many people celebrate holidays other than Christmas and they might find only recognizing Christian holidays to be highly offensive. So is it possible that we could reach a happy medium in this holiday dilemma? Perhaps if we took time during the holiday season to learn about the principles of different religions, and how they celebrate during this wonderful time of year, we would gain a great amount of insight to how other people in this world celebrate and worship in different ways.

If schools take the first step to educate children about other cultures, religions and holidays, we will start to be able to accept diversity in this world. If the schools take this step, I am sure it will be a great step towards a world of peace and unity.



THE BUZZ



Guess Who!

By: Miranda Larson

This girl has brown eyes and brown hair with side bangs. She has ears pierced and laughs a lot. She is in eighth grade and in Mrs. Smith's home base.

This short boy has a bony nose and blonde hair. He has blue eyes and wears Air Walks. He is in 6th grade in Mrs. Hoole's home base and likes football.

This eighth grader has brown hair and brown eyes. She wears DC's and is in Mrs. Smith's home base. She is very skinny and her hair is super thick.

This seventh grader has blonde hair and blue eyes. He wears Nikes and is in Ms. Hill's home base and recently got his braces off.

Last Weeks Answers

Katherine Lafleur, Gabby Anderson, Graham Whiting and Kyah Koralia.

The Guthrie, *A Christmas Carol*



The Bus Ride Down

Last Wednesday the eighth graders attended the play *A Christmas Carol* at the Guthrie Theatre in Minneapolis. Overall, the eighth graders thought it was cool.

When I asked Ashley Matuszak about it she said that her favorite part of the play was the seats. The overall production was great; the sound effects, scenery and costuming were extraordinary. Miranda Larson, another eighth grader said that, "It was really fun and scary." The characters were all over the top and the story was well portrayed in the production of *A Christmas Carol*. You should really check it out.



The New Guthrie

Planners

Miranda Gurno, Kyah Koralia



What do you think of the school planners? That's what we've been asking students and teachers around the school.

We started by asking students. Some replied by saying "They suck," or "They're ok." Other students said "I liked them better last year."

After that we asked some teachers, one thing they all had in common was that they said they like having quarterly planners rather than yearly ones because students keep better track of them. The first teacher liked them for all the room they had. another said they like it because of the great information they have, such as the 20 minutes of reading and the daily hall passes.

So as you can see these planners have their ups and downs, but if you don't like them try asking

Variety

Ms. Filippini

By: Allie Pybas

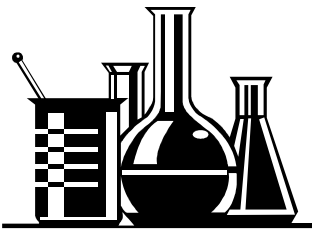
Ms. Filippini is a new teacher at Washburn this year. She teaches band and general music. Since some of us haven't got the chance to get to know her I decided to interview her. I asked her if she played an instrument and she said "I played the flute in middle school." I asked her how long she had played the flute and she said she'd been playing for fourteen years. Ms. Filippini told me that she became a teacher in May of 2007. She also said that she loves music a lot. Before coming to work at Washburn Ms. Filippini student taught at Raleigh and Kenwood Edison. When I asked her what her favorite music was she said, "Anything but country and heavy metal, heavy, heavy metal." At the moment Ms. Filippini is balancing jobs at UMD, and PBS. Ms. Filippini's inspiration was her middle school band director. Maybe, she will inspire you too.



Science Fair

By: Miranda Larson

This year the Science Fair went very well. Ms. Leith said that this was the best year because the eighth graders participated and Mr. Ondrus loved it. Ms. Leith felt that the students "answered the questions very maturely" and Mr. Ondrus was "very impressed". When I asked Ms. Leith what her favorite topic was she said that she didn't have one but that the student's favorite was the Mentos and pop experiment. Mr. Ondrus liked the originality of the projects. I asked Ms. Leith if the projects were "all that she hoped for" and she said yes; and that she was happy to see that all of the projects were done on time.



Basketball Update

By: Libby Jacobson and
Tommy Wolfe

We interviewed two boys from the basketball team. The first boy we interviewed was Graham Whiting. Graham Whiting is in eighth grade and has played basketball for the past three years. Graham thinks that one of the team's strengths is the fact that some of them don't always use the plays. He thinks their weaknesses are actually running the plays. He feels that not enough people know them well enough to play them. His favorite part of being on the team is simply just playing basketball. The second person we interviewed was Quinn Whiting. Quinn believes that the team needs to improve on the basketball plays. His least favorite part is running suicides during practice. Overall, Quinn likes being on the basketball team. The Washburn Eagles basketball season looks like it's in trouble. Coming off a 30-17 loss to Proctor, The Eagles got embarrassed by the Two Harbors Agates. They lost 76-7. The team drops to 0-2, losing their first games of 2007. There weren't many highlights for the Eagles. However Quinn Whiting and Matt Welch each had three points. The next question is whether or not The Eagles can rebound in 2008.

