

The Eagle's Eye

June

Vol. 2 NO. 5

409 Eagles Way N. Conway, NH 03860 356-4343

News

Pages 1-3

"It's still a frequent occurrence for borrowed items to be lost or even stolen." ~Time's Up!, pg. 1

Sports

Pages 4-5

"Though both Anderson and Mitchell are having a great season for the KHS track team, they do carry some regret." ~ First Time Seniors, pg. 5

Feature Stories

Pages 6-7

"Every once in a while a band comes around that revolutionizes the sounds of an era." ~ Hollow Eagles, pg. 7

Editorial

Pages 8-9

"Remember the weird guy who came to our school a few months ago to talk about his experience with unkindness?" ~ Are You Being Kind, pg. 9

Administration responds to senior survey

By Hannah Wright

Recently, an article on the current seniors' perspective on the Kennett administration was published. 62 randomly selected seniors participated in this survey and the majority of the results were mainly negative. So what is administrations reply to these feelings?

Before the administrative team got around to their response to the article, some questions were raised about how the survey itself was conducted. A survey was sent out to every senior currently attending Kennett High School full time, during their reading break. The survey was anonymous so each participant could feel as though they could be 100% honest without fearing any repercussions. Each question on the survey was given at least three



Yaya reads The Eagle's Eye with great interest. Photo by Wyatt Berrier.

choices of answers and there were three free response questions as well so students did not feel as though they were limited to the answers provided by the multiple choice questions.

King, Kittle, and Moylan also raised the question if students are really aware of who exactly make up the administrative team. "Do students even know who the administrators in the building are?" asked King. "Do students know how many people work together to keep KHS running?" added Kittle, "You can't judge what you don't know." Mr. Moylan also considered the question. "I think students view the administration as a few people making up all the rules," he said. "But in reality, the administration is made up of many people who, in many cases, are at the

See "ADMINISTRATRTION" on page 3

Time's Up! Why borrowed items are scarce

By Michael Coffey

Kennett High School has lots of nice equipment and a constant supply of books from the library which are there for students to use. Unfortunately, when some students are allowed the privilege of borrowing equipment to complete school work

and books for independent reading, sometimes the borrowed items are not returned for one reason or another. Teachers have tried to prevent this by using sign out sheets on borrowed items, this will definitely put more pressure on students to return items, for if they don't they'll

be getting an earful and an empty wallet. Despite this countermeasure, it's still a frequent occurrence for borrowed items to get lost or even stolen. Even cameras worth about one hundred dollars apiece are misplaced or taken. The equipment/books that are not being returned cost

See "TIME'S UP" on page 2

Hot weather, less leather

By Megan James



Adam Murata demonstrates proper school attire. Photo courtesy of Wyatt Berrier.

It is that time of the year when the weather starts to warm up. As the temperature increases, one will notice that the amount of clothes students wear decreases. Both males and females are starting to wear shorts; some students are starting to wear tank tops, and in general expos-

“TIME’S UP” from page 1

some pretty serious money and make every taxpayer’s day worse. “There are five missing cameras right now and each one of them costs about one hundred dollars,” says Miss. L’Heureux. After the conflict over the school budget that is five hundred dollars the school does not have.

The school library is a place where students borrow books, and that’s also a place where many

are returned late or end up missing. “I’m more worried about the students who end up buying a book from a store because another student has not turned in that book to the library which the other student could have gotten for free,” says Ms. Waters. “We want students to borrow books to help with their school work and save money. It’s difficult when large amounts of students are

See “TIME’S UP” on page 3

This Month’s...

Word:

Gallimaufry - a hodgepodge, jumble; a mixture of diverse things.

Health Fact:

Every cigarette smoked cuts at least five minutes of life on average, which is roughly the time it takes to smoke one cigarette.

Fun Fact:

A cockroach can live several weeks with its head cut off.

Quote:

“Genius is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration.”

~Thomas Alva Edison

Joke:

Why don’t aliens eat clowns?
Because they taste funny.

The Eagle’s Eye
Kennett High School’s student newspaper
2010/2011 Staff

News
Hannah Wright Gabriel Roberts Wyatt Berrier

Sports
Cody Sullivan Taylor Gardella Shawn Beattie
JP Cooper

Feature
Mike Coffey Sarah Hernandez Madison Smith

Op/Ed & Editorial
Kaitlyn Krug Megan James Parker MacLean

Upcoming Events

June 14th - Flag Day

June 15th - Smile Power Day

June 18th - Graduation!

June 19th - Father's Day

June 20th - Ice Cream Soda Day

June 23rd - Last day of school!

June 24th - Go Swim a Lap Day

June 27th - Sunglasses Day

June 29th - Camera Day

July 2nd - I Forgot Day

July 4th - Fourth of July

July 7th - Chocolate Day

July 11th - Cheer up the Lonely Day

July 12th - Pecan Pie Day

July 13th - Embrace your Geekiness Day

July 17th - National Ice Cream Day

July 19th - National Raspberry Cake Day

“ADMINISTRATION” from page 1

hands of the school board. I think students may not realize that it is in fact the school board who makes a lot of the decisions about policy and rules.”

When asked what their initial response to the article was, Kittle and King had similar answers. “I thought it was pretty hard on the administrative team,” says Penny Kittle. “It was pretty depressing to imagine that the young adults in the building can't see all of the hard work I see my colleagues doing day after day after day, and weekends, too.” Julie King agreed. “I felt sorry that students feel as though administrators do not listen to them, but I'm not sure that this is an accurate or valid statement,” King said. “How can we ‘listen’ to you if you do not ‘talk’ to us?”

While Mr. Moylan agreed with Kittle and King that the results were perhaps hard to read, he had a slightly different perspective on the situation. “I think we do a pretty good job balancing what kids need with what kids want,” he said, “but we can always do better.” Mr. Moylan took the results of the article seriously, so seriously that he brought it up at an administrative meeting. One of his main concerns was with senior privileges, so he assigned a few faculty members to brainstorm new ways they could improve the senior privileges for next year's seniors. He is also talking to Junior Thomas Gregston in hopes that he too will have ideas for next year. Mr. Moylan also commented that he wants to change senior privileges so that they are more like typical privileges, that is, students will have to earn them and then work to keep them.

Mrs. Kittle seemed to share Moylan's concern with senior privileges. “There has been a change in senior privileges over the years and I feel we are not treating seniors as young adults enough of the time,” said Kittle. “I think seniors have earned the right to more privileges than they currently get. I would like to see that changed in the future. There are way more responsible kids in this building than irresponsible ones.” Kittle also mentioned that underclassmen have to be

thought of too. “You're young adults and ready to move on,” Kittle said. “While the school is a home for 870 kids aged 13-18, so things remain very structured for the benefit of younger students. It is hard to want the freedom and have it denied.” She also recognized that a lot of things have been changed for the better though. “Several things have gotten better: dress code, skipping finals, and more student council leadership,” she said. “I think not having a privileges card has made seniors frustrated this year, but the complaints from seniors have come every year.”

“Criticism is a good thing when it is constructive.”

King also wanted to point out that she too understands the frustrations of the upperclassmen and wants to do her best to make sure that there is less. “Since I deal mostly with freshmen,” King said, “I have only had a couple upperclassmen come to me with requests, but I have taken those requests seriously, accommodating students whenever possible.” King also revealed that new steps are being taken to improve the environment here at Kennett. “We have just formed a universal team that is charged with improving school climate and working on any areas that data shows need improvement,” King said. “This would be a great place for students to share their voice and opinion! As we get underway, we will be administering surveys and asking for student representatives to help with our projects.”

While the results of the survey may have been considered harsh or frustrating for administrators, Mr. Moylan wanted to make sure the student body knew that he valued the feedback. “Criticism is a good thing when it is constructive,” he said. “I would love to hear what students have in mind for senior privileges for next year.”

“TIME'S UP” from page 2

losing or just not returning books. On any given day we have ten to twenty students waiting for books. Most overdue books are returned at the end of every year. Of the 220 books overdue as of April 7th 175 of them are checked out by students, the rest are checked out by faculty. Keeping a book well past its due date isn't so much a crime against the library as much as it is a lack of kindness to other students.”

Is there a solution to this problem, or is this something the school system and the taxpay-

ers will just have to cope with? “I think that too many people are signing out equipment to students and it's too difficult to keep track of. It would make sense if all equipment was housed in the library and was overseen by the library staff,” said Mrs. L'Huereux

If all of the equipment that is there for students to be borrowed was stored and overseen in a certain location by a specific group of people, it could make the school's equipment problem easier to manage and hopefully less of a problem.

SPORTS

First Division II Championship meet held at Milford High School

By Madison Smith

On Saturday May 28, the Kennett High track team traveled down to Milford High School for the Division II Championship meet. Milford High School hosted the meet for the Division II qualifiers, taking over for two year host Coe Brown – Northwood Academy. Kennett sent five relay teams and 14 individual athletes.

Head Coach Bernie Livingston felt that the team went into the meet with high energy and motivation following their league meet where the girl's team finished first and the boy's second. The meet started with the jumping events. Gracie Ryan competed in the triple jump and Michael Mason in the long jump. Both events started at 10:30 AM. The running events followed at 11:30 AM. The first event to run was the girl's 4x800 m relay. Sianna Streeter had been sick and struggling with various injuries and decided not to run. Meaghan Macdonald ran as her replacement.

Next were the sprint and hurdle trials. Four of Kennett's five sprinters and hurdlers made the top eight in the trials and advanced to the finals. After a short thirteen minute break, the official meet started. Madison Smith, Dustin Stewart, Georgiana Miller, and Michael Albert all placed in their respective races. "No one folded against the good competition," said Livingston.

As a freshman, Miller placed third, which sent her automatically to the Meet of Champions.

While the running events were taking place, Wyatt Berrier, Katie Anderson and Maggie Perkins competed in the discus throw. Anderson and Perkins threw below their best, but placed higher than they were seeded going into the meet. Berrier threw below his best as well, but still placed sixth. Despite his throw, he still made it into the Meet of Champions.

Pole vaulting also lasted a majority of the meet. Emily Leich, Megan Darcy and Duncan Cromwell represented Kennett in the pole vault. Jumping coach Ken Sciacca was officiating pole vault at the meet and was not able to be with his athletes. All three athletes placed in the top ten, and Leich and Cromwell moved on to the Meet of Champions.

Directly following the sprints, Pete Haine competed the 1600 m race. He placed tenth overall. Quin Schreiber competed in the 400 m dash, improving her time by a second and placing fourth overall in the meet. Captains Hannah Wright and Dalton L'Heureux both competed the 800 m run. Wright placed fourth in meet, gaining four spots. L'Heureux tied his best time of the year and placed sixth. All three

seniors qualified for the Meet of Champions.

Sprinters Weigold, Miller and Tristan Macleod competed in the 200 m dash. Weigold went into the meet tied for 11th, and improved her time by about .2 seconds to gain seven spots in the final results. Placing fourth in the Division II meet, Weigold automatically qualified for the Meet of Champions.

There was about a two hour thunder and lightning delay in between the girl's and boy's 3200 m run. Kennett had both a girl's and boy's team competing in the last event: the 4x400 m relay. The girl's team, made up of Wright, Weigold, Schreiber and Emmaline Ashe, ran first, improving their time by 3 seconds. The boy's team, made up of L'Heureux, Haine, Nicholas Jenis, and Macleod, also improved their time by three seconds and placed fifth overall. Both teams ran at the Meet of Champions.

"The team ran well considering they don't see a lot of this competition in the regular season," said Sciacca. Livingston was most impressed by the way that all of the 4x400 m relay teams performed after the delay that they were forced to sit through. "Not everyone performed their best, but they competed well against good competition," said Livingston.

What to expect next year: A look into the 2011 Kennett football team

By Jon-Paul Cooper

This fall, the Eagles have one common goal and that's to get back into the playoffs and WIN. With that being said we will look into how realistic that goal will be this up coming season.

Everything next year on offense will be put on the shoulders of tall and athletic quarterback Jesse Wheeler. In order to make the playoffs, he must make big plays next year and has to put up big numbers, as the coaches really want to start passing more to open up the offense. Last year, Wheeler only completed 46% of his passes and threw two more interceptions than touchdowns. Although it was his first year under center, he was very nervous during some games and he seemed to be too focused on his mechanics too much. Next year, Wheeler will have a year under his belt and should perform with more confidence and become a true leader on the offensive side on the ball. Wheeler is just as dedicated than any other player on the team and will do anything it takes to make sure he has a winning team next year.

Last year the backfield was probably the strongest part of the team with two all-state running backs paving the way for the offense. However, with the loss of the small and

scrappy Matt Gadowski, all-state running back Nick Massa will have to shoulder the load of the carries. Massa is coming off an unbelievable sophomore season. Leading the Eagles in rushing yards and touchdowns, he might just be the best running back returning next season.

The only way that the offense will succeed is if the offensive line can hold their own, and not succumb to injuries. The Eagles lost two starting offensive linemen, Nick Irish (Honorable Mention) and JP Cooper (All-State). Those shoes will have to be filled, but with key leadership from Darien Vaughan and Cody Richards it should be a smooth transition. Both are very big and strong, but they need to work on their speed and technique. Sam Getchell will be the key on the offensive line. Last year, he stepped in and did a tremendous job. However he was injured and had to take games off and could only make it back for the season finale.

The defense will be the tricky part for the Eagles as they only have four returning starters coming back. The defensive line loses key leadership in Levi Bescos (Honorable mention) and Matt Lautenschlager, who has been a four-year varsity

standout. This year, the defensive line will be anchored by the physical specimen Tucker Paven, who seems like a man among boys out on the field.

As for the linebackers and secondary, they seem to be very experienced even though they are young. Dustin Stewart might be one of the best linebackers in all of division four, however he seems to be always hampered by injuries. Conor McDonald was the most explosive player on the team last year, leading the team in tackles with over 80 as a sophomore, and everyone expects big things from him this year.

The secondary is led by Mike Lautenschlager, a very athletic safety who recorded four interceptions in his junior year. The corner backs this year are two very good seniors, Shawn Beattie, and Austin Weber, and look to have promising seasons.

Overall, this season should be a difficult one for the mighty Eagles as they compete in one of the hardest divisions in all of New Hampshire. They will have to look out for teams such as Trinity, Plymouth, Lebanon, and Laconia, all of which are champion contenders.

SPORTS

First time seniors: What it's like to start a new sport your senior year

By Hannah Wright

It is not too common to find a student who starts a new sport his or her senior year. In most cases, students stick to the sports they start as freshmen all the way until they graduate, regardless of whether they love it or not. But current Kennett seniors Matt Anderson and Eli Mitchell broke this trend by not starting track until their final year in high school.

"I started mostly just to get in shape for the military," said Mitchell, "but then it turned out to be a lot of fun."

Mitchell had played lacrosse up until this season, but had made the switch due to the persuasion of a close friend. "Dalton L'Heureux suggested that I do track and I decided to try it. Dalton's really fast and he's a good friend, so I trusted him. Plus, he's in pretty good shape and that's what I was looking for," said Mitchell.

Anderson, however, started track for a different reason. "I started just because I thought I would have a great time," said Anderson. "It looked like a lot of fun."

"I do the 800, the mile, and I run as part of the 4x400 relay team," said Mitchell, "and practice is really fun. Sometimes we just go out for

long runs, but we always get a good workout."

While Mitchell runs, Anderson participates in some of the field events for the team. "I throw shot put and discus," said Anderson. "For practice, we go on a ½ mile warm up, do some stretching, do lots of practice throws or weight training, do core exercises, and then finish with more stretching. It's a good time."

Since Mitchell is a distance runner and Anderson is a thrower, their experiences have been slightly different, but they share the common factor of being the only two-first time senior track and field participants. Some wondered how they would be welcomed into the close-knit track community. "I actually felt pretty welcomed," said Mitchell. "I was really welcomed into the family and I felt like I belonged." Anderson had a similar experience. "I felt really welcomed," said Anderson. "Everyone was really nice."

Although both of these seniors mostly credited their fellow athletes with making them feel welcomed, they gave some credit to the coaching staff too. "Bernie [Livingston] seems like a good head coach, but I don't know him too well since I mostly work with Tim [Liv-

ingston]," said Mitchell. "Tim is really funny and knows how to make practice fun, but he also knows what he's doing, which is good." Anderson knows Head Coach Bernie and the other coaches (Coach Sciacca, Coach Kondrat, and Assistant Coach Murdough) a little better. "All the coaches are really nice and some are actually really funny too," said Anderson.

Though both Anderson and Mitchell are having a great season for the KHS track team, they do carry some regret. "I didn't start until now because I didn't think it would be as fun as it is, but I wish I had started as a freshmen," said Anderson. "I would be a lot better than I am now if I had." Mitchell agrees. "I didn't start track as a freshmen because I was into lacrosse. Lacrosse was fun, but I wish I had started earlier. I would be a whole lot better," said Mitchell.

In the end, both boys agreed that trying new sports is very beneficial. "I would definitely recommend that underclassmen try new sports early on," says Mitchell, "so they can find something they like and get really good at it by the end of their senior year."

Kennett High varsity pitcher: Whitney Roberts

By Gabriel Roberts

Whitney Roberts is Kennett's one and only varsity softball pitcher. Roberts has pitched every game, every inning to date, with no signs of stopping anytime soon. She has led her team to a 16-1 record.

Gabriel Roberts: How long have you played softball?

Whitney Roberts: I started playing in fourth grade. I honestly wasn't all that interested in the sport itself, I just liked sports in general at that age.

G: When did you first start pitching?

W: Well, I started sling shot in 5th grade but I started Windmilling in 8th grade. I wanted to do it because I saw college games on TV and the pitchers looked so intense.

G: What is your favorite part of softball?

W: My favorite part of softball is easily hitting, there's no better feeling than getting a good solid hit.

G: What is your favorite accomplishment in softball?

W: I'd have to say signing with Barry University.

G: Have you participated in softball teams outside of school?

W: Yes, all over the east coast and for various teams such as The Seacoast Hurricanes, Rochester Slammers, Nor'Easters, Stingers, Rockers, Bay State Bandits, and Southeast Explosion. I

started playing outside of school in the 8th grade.

G: Are you going to play next year?

W: Yes, at Barry University in Miami, FL.

G: Where do you hope this sport takes you?

W: I hope the sport fulfills my college experience and creates coaching opportunities.

G: If you could change one part about this sport what would it be?

W: Every error/mistake is so unforgiving and always comes back to get you.

G: What is your most memorable softball moment?

W: Pitching a perfect game against Berlin this year.

G: How is this year, your senior year, different for you personally?

W: It's my last chance to play with the girls I have grown up with and to play for Coach Peter Ames.

G: If you could have a do-over in a softball moment what would it be?

W: Easily the 7th inning of the State Championship last year, to beat Co Brown.

G: Do you have any advice for others interested in this sport?

W: You will make your greatest achievements during off season practice.



Whitney Roberts sets up to deliver a fast ball against Bishop Brady. Photo courtesy of Faye Roberts.

FEATURE STORIES

Deal With It: The Blind Fools' first EP

By Kaitlyn Krug

The Blind Fools released their first EP in May 2011 on the night of Kennett's Got Talent. This trio, made up of Kevin Ahearn (vocals and guitar), Philip Mathieu (vocals and guitar), and Zack Whitley (drums) have been working non-stop since December to release *Deal With It*. This EP is made up of four original songs.

There is the first song on the EP, and was also the song that The Blind Fools played at the talent show. At first I was skeptical, but the song grew on me a little. The vocals from Kevin Ahearn seem to be good in some parts but not very strong in others. In the chorus, everything all around sounds strong and put together. Guitarist Philip Mathieu did a nice job, but it would be good to see a little more of his singing in the opening song. The drums, played by Zack Whitley, are good but could be more prominent.

I Am You is a nice upbeat song sung by guitarist, Philip Ma-



Cover of *Deal with it*. Cover design by Kevin Ahearn. From left to right: Philip Mathieu, Kevin Ahearn, and Zack Whitley.

thieu. It was nice to hear him sing, but it was hard to focus on his voice when there was a sporadic beat that

seemed to go along with the drums. The offset beat was nice at the beginning, but once the song progressed, it became more bothersome than enjoyable. Philip Mathieu's voice is strong, and sounds alright with this song, but might sound better if this song was changed to an acoustic version. It was a good move for them to try and do something that had a pop twist to it. The drums are what turned me off the most when listening to this song though.

All Aboard! (The Train Song) is derived from a song previously recorded by vocalist Kevin Ahearn's other band, *Peace Til Tomorrow* (along with Brooke Sanderson). The acoustic, rustic feel that this song gave off at the beginning was nice. It was simple, and one of my favorites off of the EP. In music, sometimes less is more, which is why this song really stood out. The ending was alright, with back up vocals done by drummer, Zack Whitley which was a pleasant surprise.

A Light in the Darkness was confusing to me. To go from pop/rock upbeat songs to a full-on piano piece seems far-fetched. It's not to say that the piano playing was bad, but it didn't make the album flow. It was also long, which made me lose interest in it after the first two minutes.

For a first EP done by three high school students, this isn't bad. It needs work, but kudos to them for putting themselves out there and making their own EP. It takes a lot of work and dedication. If The Blind Fools can find a signature sound and if they keep working at it, then I think they have potential to go far.

Siegfried Knappe's Soldat: A WWII biography

By Megan James

In the novel *Soldat*, readers can get a feel for what it was like for a German soldier in the years before and after WWII. Readers can understand what it was like to move up through the ranks throughout the war and how the battles affect people in the army.

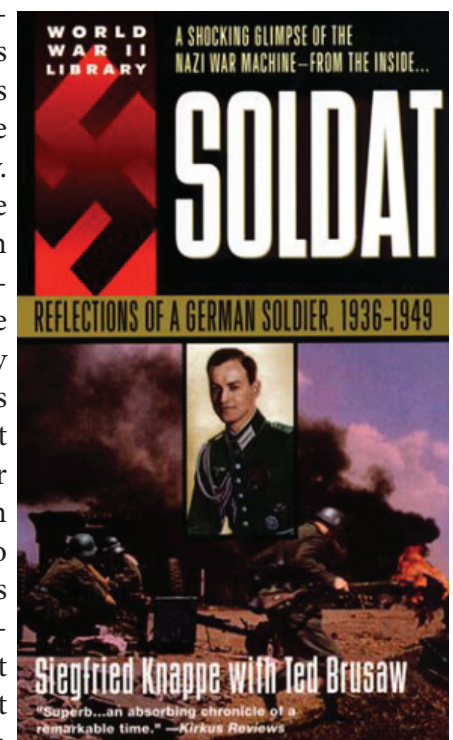
Commonly, people assume that all German soldiers had taken part in the Holocaust and supported Hitler. However, throughout the novel, readers will learn that only the soldiers that were also Nazis supported Hitler. Siegfried says that most of the military hated Hitler because he was inexperienced in the military and would refuse to surrender, which meant that battles would continue until the last German soldier was dead, and also that many soldiers didn't even know that things like the Holocaust were even taking place because of the all the propaganda. Most of the military didn't even know which side was winning in other battles because the news would only report victories.

Unlike what you might read in history class, which is just the broad side of WWII, this biogra-

“Most of the military didn't even know which side was winning in other battles because the news would only report victories.”

phy has the feeling of war, the actual experience of what the soldiers felt going to war. Having the first

person narrative and the opinion of the war by the narrator is one aspect that makes the novel good.



Cover of *Soldat*. Cover art done by Ted Brusaw.

The experience of war also contains the experience on the front line, in training, in combat, and in injury. These experiences are also shared with the families of the soldiers, the experience of having one's son come home injured, not knowing which side is winning, and only hearing what has become of one's son after he was killed in battle.

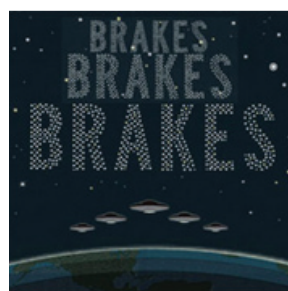
The novel takes place in several different time settings. Each time setting is a different part of the book, and with each part one can watch the life of a soldier begin right out of the gymnasium to the end of a five-year term in a Russian labor camp. With every part, the readers can share the feelings, lessons, and the experience, with Siegfried Knappe as he grows throughout the novel.

FEATURE STORIES

Songs to hear: Spring 2011

By Madison Smith

"Crush on You" by Brakes



"Crush on You" is off of the band's third album, *Touchdown*. The band originates in England and is better known as Brakesbrakesbrakes in the U.S. This was the band's second album released on Fat Cat Records which is a small label based out of their hometown of Brighton, England. The song is upbeat and the hook draws the listener in throughout the song. This single ignited the band's popularity in the United States. This song is suggested for fans of Wakey!Wakey! and The Kooks.

"Cosmic Love" by Florence and the Machine

"Cosmic Love" was the last single released off of Florence and the Machine's debut album *Lungs*. This is a great song off of a stellar debut album. This song was recently made popular because of its feature on the preview for the film *Water for Elephants*. This happy single contrasts well with the darker tracks on the album such as "Drumming Song" and "Heavy in Your Arms" (which appears on the deluxe edition: *Between Two Lungs*), but also presents her climactic style. This song is suggested for fans of Imogen Heap or the duo Frou Frou.



"Girl/Boy Song" by Aphex Twin



Richard David James is an electronic musician who plays under the pseudonym of Aphex Twin. A lot of music fans struggle to connect to songs without vocals, because they struggle to find emotion within the song. James manages to incorporate an uplifting mood into this electronic tune. "Girl/Boy Song" is a nice break from the typical music heard on the radio. All of the tracks on the Richard D. James Album manage to convey a certain mood. This song is suggested for fans of Explosions in the Sky.

"If Only" by Fink

Fink, a.k.a. Fin Greenall, released his third album in 2007, *Distance and Time*, which featured the track "If Only". This acoustic tune is representative of Fink's style. He does an excellent job of conveying his emotions through his vocals. The lyrics consist of a repetitive "I ain't" followed by various things which carry the listener through the story of a relationship. His music can be heard on popular television shows such as *Friday Night Lights* and *Greek*. This song is suggested for fans of Jack Johnson and Jason Walker.



"Menace" by Bjorn Bailie



This song is one of Baillie's first singles. He previously recorded with La Rocca as singer, songwriter and guitarist. While this is his first official single, Baillie has been involved with the international music scene for years and will surely be around for a while. This single is fun and shows off all of his musical abilities. This song is suggested for fans of Low vs. Diamond and Alpha Rev.

KHS Art: Erika McCarthy

By Hannah Wright

Erika McCarthy is well known for her devotion to art. She can be often found in the art room and she recently painted the mural that can now be found in the first floor stairwell. But there's more to her art than meets the eye.

Hannah Wright: What year are you in school?
Erika McCarthy: Senior

HW: What do you do in school that is associated with art (classes, clubs, etc.)?
EM: I used to stay after school a lot for art club, but lately I've mostly worked in class. I take at least one studio art class a year and I also take graphics too. I'm more interested in the studio arts however and this year that has been a major focus of mine.

HW: Why/how did you become interested in art?

EM: I honestly can't answer that. I've always had an interest in arts it seems. I can't remember a time that I haven't loved drawing, painting, or making something. I think part of it might have come from my grandfather bringing me to the LA Museum of Art whenever my family visited him. He and the rest of my family have always been very supportive.

HW: What's your favorite part about art?

EM: Creating, creating, creating. I absolutely love the process of making something new that no one has seen. I love having an idea and just letting it grow and change into something interesting.

See "ERIKA" on page 11

Hollow Eagle and the Mellow Generation: Sensual sounds for the soul

By Parker MacLean

Every once in a while a band comes around that revolutionizes the sounds of an era, often capturing the angst of an oppressed youth or the tension of social unrest. *Hollow Eagle and the Mellow Generation* is not that band, yet they still can throw down some mean jams. The local outfit is comprised of Kennett High School seniors Marshal "Twig" Cassel (Guitar/Vocals) and Jake "Stix" McConkey (Drums), and Kennett graduate John "J" Doyle (Guitar/Vocals).

The band serves as a cover band primarily. They often cover bands like The Grateful Dead, The Who, Sublime, Led Zeppelin and many many more. They also serve up a healthy dose of their own brew of melodic compositions such as the instant classic, *Funk My Soul* which blends together a heady brew of jam and funk intertwined to form its own special hybrid strain of music. What Hollow Eagle and the Mellow

Generation is doing is not wholly original, but they put their own spin on what they like to do. They aren't playing music for the crowd, they are playing for themselves. Whether it is a windy mountainside jam at Cranmore Mountain, a rousing set at The Red Parka Pub's open mic night, or just playing in a basement party for their friends and peers, they consistently bring heart and soul to their efforts.

The band mates seem to find a musical connection with each other and their jams are interlaced with individualistic expression from head to toe. Yet according to guitarist J Doyle, "We've only been playing together for a few new moons." The group was drawn together on a lonesome night by "the power of rock mixed with a touch of fate," said J Doyle. With multiple guitarists the jams are intricately laced with soaring riffs and licks and heavy rhythm sections, with the mix of guitars and

See "HOLLOW EAGLE" on page 10

OP/ED

Where did the spirit go?

Lack of school spirit at Kennett a hot topic

By Shawn Beattie

When I came into Kennett High School as a freshman I quickly learned that I would enjoy taking part in and watching the athletic programs at the school. I have always been an athlete and had an interest in sports but there was something else at Kennett High School that took my enjoyment and interest to a new level: the passion of the students. I can remember memories of being in the bleachers as a rowdy young freshman and following the upper class-men as they waved signs and banners around with painted faces and bodies. I remember being one of many students who took 'Black & White' day before an important sporting event seriously. I remember there were times when I was on the field or the court and the sound of the Kennett fans in the bleachers would make me and my team mates feel important. I can look back and say I was a proud student at a school who had pride in being Eagles. I no longer believe I can say that.

Each year I have been a student at Kennett High School I have seen the pride in school decline. Bleachers at sporting events are no longer

filled with students. It seems that more community members attend sporting events than students and the students who do attend seem to be less interested in the game being played and more interested in what is happening after the game, over the weekend, etc. The athletic programs at Kennett are no longer receiving enough internal support.

During Student Council election speeches I was relieved to hear a couple candidates mention that they wanted to address this problem of declining school spirit. Tanner Van Coesant and Chris King both upper class-men, made great points on school pride and shared their desire in wanting to increase enjoyment, pride, and memories for students. It is a relief that I am not the only one who has noticed a drop in school spirit and who wants to make a change.

In order to make a change I think it is important to look at possible reasons why school pride has dropped. I don't believe it would be too far-fetched to say that many students are unhappy attending school. Many believe Kennett has too many rules, let me note that I am

not one of them. It is possible that because many students feel negatively about Kennett's academics and rules that they have no desire to come and support the school at athletic events. On top of that I think it is important to point out that when I was a freshman the upper class-men had attended the old high school in their early years. Attending a brand new school boosted the pride of the students. Now that the school has been around for a few years and each new class that comes in is starting high school off here it makes the school less important to them.

I think school spirit is important in making each students high school experience more enjoyable. It also holds a sense of importance to the athletes who represent Kennett High School. I know from experience that having a large turn out for a sporting event can increase a teams ability to play. For example, when the football team ended the six year undefeated streak of Plymouth there was an extremely large turn out of fans.

See "SPIRIT" on page 9

Forgive me if I am wrong: Why is everything wet?!

By: Cody Sullivan

I don't know about you, but my last experience with a Kennett High School bathroom was a disgusting one, and I am sick of it.

I can not tell you the countless times I have gone into the bathroom strictly for the sole purpose of using the bathroom, and then leaving, but it's always something when you go into a school bathroom. If the floors and counters are not soaked with water from the sink or soap from the dispenser, or the walls covered in scribbles from pens or pencils, then it's soaking wet paper towels all over the counter or jammed in the urinals. I'm not sure what it is like in the lady's bathroom, for obvious reasons, but something tells me they face a lot of the same problems.

Whenever it seems everything is in working order and no immature classmates have decided to stuff paper towels everywhere imaginable and nothing is wet, there is always that one person who decided it would be funny to leave the next person using the stall a little "surprise". It is these acts of defiance that really grind my gears. Have some common decency people. It is bad enough

“When-
ever it seems ev-
erything is in working
order and no immature class-
mates have decided to stuff pa-
per towels everywhere imaginable
and nothing is wet, there is always
that one person who decided it
would be funny to leave the
next person using the stall
a little ‘surprise.’”

having to use the school bathrooms where you don't know who, or what, could be lurking around every corner, but to have to deal with the filth is just too much.

Please don't get me wrong, I am not knocking the janitorial services here at Kennett at all, I am just sick of walking into the bathroom and seeing the mess along with a puddle on the floor. What the substance on the floor is, I am not totally sure, and to tell you the truth I would rather not know what I'm walking through.

All I am trying to say is, clean it up people. There is no point in sticking paper towels down the drains and all over the floors and walls. It is stupid and a waste of time and money, not only to clean up but to put there in the first place. Please, just end the floods in the bathroom.

EDITORIAL

Are you being kind? : Michael Chase's message on kindness

By Micheal Coffey

Remember that weird guy who came to our school a few months ago to talk about his experience with unkindness, unhappiness and how being kind brought him happiness, fulfillment and joy in life? Remember how he asked for hugs from everyone and absolutely preached kindness in every meaning of the word? Remember he founded the Kindness Center in Maine? Remember he also started this thing called "24 hours of kindness"? Michael Chase is his name and he raised many good and sensible points, both in his book and when he came here. Whether you actually listened to him, or the words just went in one ear and out the other, you should understand and consider what he said. Maybe I can help him make his point.

One of the points he raises is that when kindness is given or acted out to others and yourself, it makes others and you happier. Has someone else ever "made your day" by doing something nice, like giving you something for free or letting you pass in traffic? Simple things like even getting thank yous from people are nice aren't they? Have you ever made someone else's day by doing something kind for them?

That warm feeling you get feels great doesn't it? When you're nice to others you feel better about yourself, and they will think better of you too.

When Michael says to be kind, he means it in every sense of the word: kind to yourself, kind to others, kind to animals, and kind to the earth. All of these things tie into one another and it's easy to realize once you think about it. In

"When we're kind to ourselves it's better for others."

Kennett, I know some students who bully other students just because someone has done the same to them and when they do this they feel as though the person they're picking on is worse than they are somehow. This doesn't alleviate the pain inflicted upon you; I can vouch for that because I myself have done that in the past. You're not eliminating negativity, you're just moving it

to someone else to feel better about yourself. This is a continuous process which can affect many.

Michael has a book out now called *Am I Being Kind*. Just the question on the cover could have so much effect on how people behaved if they asked themselves this question before acting it's hard to imagine. His book will show you how to live a life of kindness and show how it benefits you and everyone around you, whether they are your neighbors or your peers across the world. What you do and why you do it effects everyone in ways you might not even know. Can you imagine how different the school environment would be if everyone wasn't so stereotypical and judgemental towards each other? How much more peaceful, easy, and casual school could be?

Michael Chase's message really does make sense: when we're kind to ourselves it's better for others. I myself have read his book and he shows you in detail how being kind helps you be happy and lead a full filling life while making other's lives better. His book employs a step by step method after explaining his story to you for you to learn to change yourself and be confident in yourself and others to make the world a better place.

Forgive me if I'm wrong: Air conditioning?

By Cody Sullivan

Forgive me if I am wrong, but it is scorching in here. Is the air conditioning not working, oh wait, Kennett High School doesn't have air conditioning.

Let me rephrase that actually, Kennett High School only has air conditioning in rooms with a lot of computers, like the graphics room and the computer lab, which generate heat, and also the administrative offices. Now please tell me what is wrong with that scenario. Shouldn't it be the students that get the cool air? All I am trying to say is, how are teachers supposed to expect quality work and effort from us when all we can focus on is that next trip to the water fountain, or that fan waiting for us at home? Kennett's choice to not have air conditioning systems installed in the school when this fine establishment was built 2007 was wrong. Children sit in the sweltering classrooms day in and day out throughout the months of May and June and again in September when they return to school.

The long hours spent in these classrooms, which are more like ovens, does a number on a student. I can not tell you the countless times in the Spring and early Fall when I just want to go home and rest because the heat I have had to deal with all day long at Kennett has just worn me out.

Maybe grades in the fourth quarter would rise a bit if the students did not have to worry about

the temperatures in some classrooms reaching ridiculous numbers, and could focus more on their work. It seems when those almost summer months roll around, no one wants to even want to be in school, never mind sit at a table where your paper is soaked and keeps sticking to the desk because it is so humid in the room.

Kennett decided that by using a state of the art ventilation system, that it would cut down on expenses caused by AC units, however they did not take into consideration the loss of brain cells that were fried in this heat. It is honestly so much harder to focus in a classroom with temperatures that are that high, especially on the third floor where there is more exposure to the sun. It seems like now, with the new budget cuts that were passed, our school may never get the air conditioning it deserves, but that does not mean we can't keep trying to convince the school that air conditioning is necessary, because it is.

If Kennett refuses to listen to me, and will not install air conditioning, please at least put some fans in each classroom so the students have something to cool down with. This heatwave has gone on long enough. Please install air conditioning, thank you.

"SPIRIT" from page 8

I say make the best of every situation. If you are unhappy with school rules or a team is not doing well, you should still be attending events supporting friends, classmates, and sometimes family members. This school has helped shape us and our futures, it is a part of us so we should want to show pride in it. Enjoy the atmosphere of the game and the memories that come with being in high school because this opportunity is only given once.

I am hoping for my senior year at Kennett to be my most enjoyable year. I want it to be a year filled with memories that I will look back on for years. I want the students at Kennett high school to be a proud part of the Kennett community and support each other in all extra-curricular activities. I challenge the upper class-men to step up and lead the younger students of Kennett High School and instill a new sense of pride and spirit throughout the school. I want faces to be painted, signs to be made, and banners to be waved at all sporting events. Step up to the challenge Kennett and fill the bleachers.

"HOLLOW EAGLE" from page 7

heavy rhythm sections with the mix of guitars and styles there is always room for conflict "There's a lot of competition between me and J, we are always trying to one up each other," says Marshal "Twig" Cassel. Yet the constant competition creates the sound that HEATMG (Hollow Eagle and the Mellow Generation) has crafted.

Drummer Jake "Stix" McConkey comes from a different musical background than Cassel and Doyle though. His prior work with alternative ska fusion band Sisyphus gave him an array of skills not normally acquired in the style of HEATMG, such as a profound knowledge of the double bass pedal. When asked about the transition from Sisyphus to this new project McConkey said "When Sisyphus lost its bassist, I felt lost and confused. My life spiraled downward, until finally an eagle landed on my shoulder I am finally in the right place." And it shows, as the beat booms with authority over the two guitars and holds its own in the eruption of sound. When asked about the following year's plans and the struggle to stay together as a band, they collectively said that "as long as we are together, the music never stops," a masterful use of a classic Grateful Dead quote.

The measure of a great band is never in the music though; it is within the following of loyal fans. Fans like Cameron Twombly and Amber McPherson. Cameron is a devoted fan and close friend of the band mates who serves as the band manager, though it is hard to say exactly what he manages. Yet Cameron, or Cam as he is called by his friends, is not only a fan and member of the

HEATMG team, he is a functioning musician in the ways of abstract percussion. He is a master of the egg shaker as well as the tambourine. His answer to his involvement as a band mate was "Yes I tend to just wander and ponder the finer aspects of their music. I come when I want to and leave when I'm done. In the end I just love to shake a mean egg." his involvement may be considered involuntary as his friendship with the band stretches long before its conception. Asked about whether he was truly there for the music or if he was forced he answered with an honest "both". I asked what he saw as the future of Hollow Eagle, his response was a heartfelt "Hollow Eagle and the Mellow Generation is the future." Cam is not alone in his quest for bands that jam; he is joined by fellow Hollow Head Amber McPherson.

Amber claims to have been to six of the groups small quantity of gigs, proclaiming that she "hangs at the Eagle's Nest [Doyle's home and the band's practice area] quite often." She also claims "The Eagle's Nest is where the development happens"; She says her favorite member of the band is Jake "Stix" McConkey. "I helped him in his time of need by providing him band aids to mend the wounds he acquires nearly every hour." The following may be small but it is constantly growing with a larger Hollow Head affiliation every week. Hollow Eagle and the Mellow Generation may not be the future as Cam Twombly spoke of but their friends build a concrete support group for whatever they need.

The band busted into the minds and

hearts of Kennett student's at Kennett's Got Talent. Capturing the audiences attention with a gut wrenching guitar solo, Doyle ended their first song "Thunder and Lightning", with a flashy power slide propelling him across the stage with McConkey backing him on drums they slid into the final round of the event. All the while their on stage shenanigans were missing the added help of Cassell, who was out of town and unable to attend. Yet something new was thrown into the mix; the thumping sound of bass provided by sophomore Jake White. The addition of White may have contributed the band's new sound that cinched them the lead in the polls and captured them the win, taking home one hundred dollars to provide a few starving musicians with a few good meals. With the tentative new member in play, the band continues to expand its sound and musical repertoire offering their fans, whether old, new, or prospective a flavor of added originality.

Whatever the future brings for Hollow Eagle, the truth is evident, these kids found they will never stop jamming and never lose the lust for music that they collectively share. All one can hope is that, as said earlier, "the music never stops." Together or not, the music will never stop with this group of talented young musicians.

Come out and support the group Monday nights at the Red Parka Pub for open mic nights and just get involved to find out about that next secret show lurking around the corner.

Kennett's top students: Valedictorian, salutatorian, and others honored with outstanding class ranks

By Taylor Gardella

Kennett's top two students, Henney Sullivan, valedictorian, and Peter Grzesik, salutatorian, have wrapped up four years of hard work and dedication. The two have participated in many extra curricular activities over the past four years including sports, clubs, and honor societies.

These dedicated students, along with many others, make superb role models for Kennett's student body. Their achievements at Kennett have been an example for excellence to many and there is no doubt within the school that future classes will match the example set by the top students of the first class to graduate from four years at the new Kennett High School.

Q: Where are you going to be next year and what will you be doing? Why did you choose this?

Henney: I'm going to be attending Harvard with plans to major in mathematics. I also plan on taking a number of classes in political science, economics, philosophy, and other subjects that interest me. I chose Harvard over Princeton because of the location and because I expected more diversity at Harvard, to make a long story short. Pete: I am going to Johns Hopkins Univer-

sity to study Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering. I would really like to work in the medical field and this university does an incredible job providing real world research experience, even at the undergraduate level.

Q: How do you feel about your time spent at Kennett?

Henney: I've made some great friends and I've had some great teachers, but at other times I have had trouble challenging myself.

Pete: I have mixed feelings about Kennett. I feel like our class was stuck in the middle of many transitions. We were treated in a way like guinea pigs. The administration has been very indecisive over the past few years which has led to some frustration. Aside from the administrative decisions, I have fully enjoyed going through Kennett with our class.

Q: What were the major things, academic, social, and extracurricular that have helped you the most during high school?

Henney: I need to do something with my body to stay sane and I played soccer, skied cross-country, and played baseball all four years. My time in Key Club also played a major role in

shaping who I am, especially working with the MWV Dolphins, a Special Olympics swim team. Pete: The thing that may have helped me the most is playing sports. Sports are a great time to relax and take a break from school work.

Q: What kind of advice would you give to underclassmen who wish to graduate in the top ranks of their class?

Henney: Challenge yourself.

Pete: Underclassmen must challenge themselves. No one reaches the top by being lazy and taking easy classes. Challenge yourself early and then when you reach Junior or Senior year the workload does not seem so bad.

Q: If you could go through high school again, would you do anything differently, why or why not?

Henney: I'm pretty happy with the way things have turned out.

Pete: I think that I would have been a part of student council. I have witnessed some very poor administrative decisions while at Kennett, and I had no say in the matter. I would have liked to have been more involved with the school and helped sort out those issues.

See "STUDENTS" on page 11

"ERIKA" from page 7

HW: What's the hardest part?

EM: Stopping. It is always so hard for me to step back from a piece and call it "done". I always think that there's one more thing I can do, one more thing I can change. More than once I've ended up destroying a piece because I couldn't stop working on it. Like with my clay bowl. I wanted to make the edges perfectly smooth and used a little too much force and it went flying off the wheel.

HW: What are some things you have learned from art?

EM: Art does not care if you're crazy. You can create anything in your head. It doesn't matter if 'normal' people think it's weird. If you want to make something with an idea, do it. There's also a lot to be said about paying attention. Since becoming more focused in art, I've started to notice smaller details, but I've also taken note of what people really look at in a piece. Most people don't care if that one pearl on the necklace has a different light source than the rest, but it feels good as an artist to take note of it yourself.

HW: How has your art teacher influenced you?

EM: My art teacher has given me better time management skills. She gives me deadlines and helps me stay on task to reach them. A lot of times though I do end up using time

outside of class to get something perfect. Ms. Hall is also the one who has helped me learn how to pinpoint anything "off" in my paintings or things that just don't look right.

HW: Do you admire any of your classmates for their art?

EM: When Beth Kennett was here last year I really loved her work because of how finished it always looked. I also love what Leah Burke comes up with. She's very talented and I really admire her skill. Madi Doucette is also really wonderful. I loved her self portrait she did in portfolio class.

HW: What advice would you give to underclassmen who want to do well in art?

EM: Don't be afraid of it; art won't bite you. Basically, if you don't stop caring about what other people will say about what you've made, you'll never create anything from the heart. You have to stop worrying about what people want to see and just go with what you want to make. For the longest time I would never draw anyone with less than school appropriate clothing because I thought I would be weird if I drew someone in skimpy clothes or even naked. Now I don't care and my human figure drawings have improved. You can be your biggest censor, so just let it go and make what you want to.

"STUDENTS" from page 10

Q: Who was your favorite teacher?

Henney: Mr. Hadam. He is was bright, and his conservative cynicism was a great perspective for me to bounce ideas off of.

Pete: I would have to recognize two teachers who have really helped me through high school. Mr. Hadam is a great teacher who uses class time effectively, unlike many teachers at Kennett. He can make a class interesting for any student even if they do not enjoy the material. Another great teacher is Herr Weitz. He really gets to know his students and does a great job connecting with them. Both have helped me greatly in my college search and have helped me get to where I am today.

Q: Do you feel that you are pre-

pared for the challenges of college?

Henney: Yes, I am confident in what I can do. Pete: I do feel prepared for the challenges of college, but not necessarily from my experience at Kennett. I attended the St. Paul's School Advance Studies Program last summer. The classes that I took were unlike anything Kennett offers and gave me a really good look at what college will be like.

Sullivan and Grzesik certainly feel ready to start the next phase of their educations like many of this year's seniors, not only the top of the class, but everyone will be recognized for their efforts and wished the best on the 18th of June, graduation day.

A conflict of interest

Students complain of boring books while teachers struggle to spark interest in reading

By Taylor Gardella

Many high school students dread the day a new assigned reading book is doled out by English teachers. Many turn to Spark Notes and skim through the chapters to ace the tests, and neglect reading the entirety of *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Lord of the Flies*, or *Hamlet*.

Research conducted by Penny Kittle, a writing teacher, showed that a broad range of seniors owned up to not having read any of the assigned books completely, or having had any interest in reading at all throughout high school. "What I've found is that students become practiced non-readers in high school. Too many are skimming and using help online to slide through English class instead of deeply engaging with the books assigned to them," said Mrs. Kittle. That is, until their senior year.

In writing class, seniors are expected to choose their books freely and the teachers have a plethora of books lining the walls of their classrooms.

It's the mission of writing teachers to show students the joy of reading a great book. Mrs. Kittle's research also showed a comparison of readers before and after their experience in writing class. Students who had never before completed a book found themselves reading 10 to 20 books in just one semester. A broad range of students admit that they had found a new love for reading after just a few months in a writing class where they can read books with no limitations or requirements.

Although creating avid readers from the start through choice reading would be ideal, it is also imperative that students read challenging and relevant literature. "If everyone is always reading choice books and the class is literature based, you couldn't do what you needed to do objective wise," said Colleen Hill, a Kennett English teacher. This is the dilem-

ma that teachers everywhere face. "I believe high school students need to read much more than they read now--dozens of books every year--in order to be prepared for the hundreds of pages a week assigned in college. We have to balance the study of literature with building stamina in all readers," said Kittle.

Many feel that by assigning books they run the risk of even the most diligent students neglecting to read the books fully. "Spark Notes is a temptation even for hardworking students, it worries me," said Hill. In regards to choice reading in writing class (where students need 200 minutes per week), Hill expresses concern with the quality of reading, and the chance that students aren't actually reading the amount they claim to be.

Mrs. Kittle's research seems to show a drastic increase in number of pages being read with choice reading, and Hill witnesses the same change in her senior writing class. Many students interviewed by Kittle say this change occurred because assigned reading is boring and they never liked reading because of lack of interest in the books given to them. "All readers are different and we need to allow for students to develop individual interests through deep reading," said Kittle. Her philosophy on reading seems to be working for many students. A writing student who had barely read one book during high school read 11 books to feed his interest on history and wars.

Hill admits that some books just shouldn't be assigned "Some books age better than others," she said. Hill feels that when English teachers who teach literature based classes are given some play with the curriculum, they can better the chances of assigning books that students are actually interested in. Hill and Kittle agree that balance is key.

Prom 2011 held at the Mount Washington Hotel By Madison Smith



May 7 was scattered with heavy showers which managed to hold off during arrival time. Seismic Sound Photo.



Prom King and Queen runners up, Alex Jacobs and Jordan Lemerise, arrive at prom on an ATV. Jorce Allan Photo.



Trace Johnson Photo



Annie Burke Photo



Seniors and their dates enjoyed dinner and dessert before the DJ started playing around 8:30 PM. Seismic Sound Photo.



Logan Spoor and Krystina Vizard were crowned 2011 Prom King and Queen. Alexia Vouboukis Photo.