

# THE BULLDOG BARK



Principal: Mrs. Chamberlain

Advisor: Mr. Barnes

Northern Lehigh Middle School

Fall 2010

Issue One

## Middle school boards get smarter



Miss Binder's classroom has one of many new Smart Boards at our middle school. Jordan Long (above) works on a daily edit on the new technology.

By Nick Young  
*SouthEast Team*

Smart Boards are the new thing at our school so we, the students and teachers, don't really know too much about them. We are learning new things every day.

Melanie Campbell of the SouthEast team said, "A Smart Board is a fun piece of technology." In my opinion, I think of a Smart Board as an awesome piece of technology that should be integrated into each and every classroom in the school.

A smart board is a piece of

See Technology, page 2

## Conquering the dreaded first day of school

By Melanie Campbell  
*SouthEast Team*

So, it's the first day of school and you go to bed early the day before school begins. You take a shower and lay out your clothes for the next day. (If some of you people actually do this, that's amazing).

When the next day arrives, you get really nervous. These are what I would get nervous about: Figuring out how to open my

locker (again); hoping I brought all the right things this year; meeting my teachers; seeing who is in my class; here's what some of the students think.

**Katelyn Hugo** on North team says, "The most frightening thing about the first day of school is not knowing if your teachers are going to be nice or mean."

I happen to agree with her. Who would want a mean teacher? But, eh, you never know.

**Kianna Marlatt** on the SouthEast team says, "The most frightening thing on the first day of school is wondering what kind of teacher you are going to have. (Like if they are mean, nice, rude...all those types of things.)"

So true! Another statement like Katelyn. Here's another.

**Amy Hinkle** on the South-East team says, "The most frightening thing on the first day of

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# Middle school adds technology to rooms

Technology, from page 1  
 technology that has to be used with a laptop and a projector. You use the laptop to send a document to a projector and the projector beams that to the Smart Board. To use the Smart Board, you use a stylus-type pen to write on or over a document. The program that the teacher uses is called ActivInspire.

How does Mrs. Chamberlain feel about the Smart Boards? Mrs. Chamberlain said, "This summer, with the help of the technology department and the Assistant to the Superintendent's office, we were able to purchase six Promethean interactive whiteboards. We also placed four more Epson pro-

jectors in the building. A Promethean interactive white board cost a little over \$1,000; this includes all the software and training.

The projectors cost almost \$600." She also said, "In this day and age, where the global community is so high-tech, it is extremely important to ensure that our students are well-prepared to be a successful and integral part of that community. Working with this type of technology in the classroom starts preparing them for the technology-advanced future." In total the school spent about \$7,600 on Smart Boards and pro-



jectors.

I went around the school asking the teachers that have the Smart Boards what they think about them. All of the teachers that have them are Mrs. Hubbs and Mrs. Marushak of the SouthEast team, Miss Binder and Mrs. Walter of the West team, and Mr. Battista and Mrs. Filipovits of the North Team. Some of the quotes they told me are that the Smart Boards are very interactive, they like to write over things that are on the board, and some of the teachers like to show movies on it. That is some of the new technology at our school.

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## Please, just get me through that first day

First day, from page 1

school is if it's going to be a hard year or not, who's in your classes, and if the teachers are nice or not."

**Katelyn Bult** on the North team says, "Finding classes, who's in your classes, finding out where your friends are."

Kat, I really do agree. In fact, that's something I forgot in my list. Finding out where your friends are; of course you want to have some people that you're friends with in your classes!

**Jamil Alejandro** on the SouthEast team says, "I don't really have anything to be afraid

of. I had everything and I was pretty much set. I also really don't have anything to be afraid of."

Wow! That's one tough kid!  
 Go Jamil!

**Taylor Duplaga** on the North team says, "Meeting my teachers because I didn't know what most of them were like."

Taylor, you're not the only one!!!

**Ryan Rubio** on the South-East team says, "The most frightening thing about the first day of school was wondering about how much work we were going to get in the course of the year."

Agreed, Rubio!

**Leanne Garofalo** on the

North team says, "I'm just naturally scared and getting hit in the face with locker doors."

Leanne, I can see that happening to someone! But, don't worry. You're not the only one worried about that.

**Gary Dise** on the North team says, "Whether or not I was able to open my locker."

I so agree with you on that, Gary!

This is what some of the students here at the middle school thought. I agree with each and every one of them! Well, that's all folks!



# Mother Nature doesn't dampen North Team's Walk-a-Thon

By Jessica Olewine  
*North Team*

The North Team students participated in this year's Walk-a-Thon on Oct. 1. It is a fun way of raising money for our field trip.

The North Team got sponsors who donated money per lap, or you can pay the \$30 buy-out.

You can also do the \$30 buy-out but still get sponsors and donate all the money you make.

The Walk-a-Thon is also a fun way of raising money, instead of selling items or having to go around asking people to buy whatever it is you're selling. Plus, you can hang out with your friends while running or walking.



The Maroon Team braved the elements during the Walk-a-Thon.



Devan Pepe, Julie Knerr, Jessica Olewine and Alex Garcia walk the track.



Chelsea Snyder and Kiersten Fink.



Floyd Snyder was diligent in monitoring bathroom breaks and keeping walkers germ-free.



# La escuela da la bienvenida a la maestra nueva de Español

*Señorita Keglovitz presenta cultura nueva a nuestras clases*

By **Kianna Marlatt**  
*SouthEast Team*

There is a new Spanish teacher in the school district of Northern Lehigh. Her name is Miss Keglovitz, originally from Orefield, Pa.

She graduated from Parkland High School in 2006 and continued her knowledge in Spanish by going to college. Miss Keglovitz attended Bloomsburg University and graduated in Dec. 2009. Now she finds herself in our middle school and high school teaching what she has worked so hard for.

While Miss Keglovitz was in the Parkland School District, she had taken five years of Spanish and wasn't ready to give it up. So she decided to apply her Spanish-speaking ability into her life-long goal of wanting to be a teacher.

She had always thought that she would want to be an elementary school teacher ever since she was young. Now she is teaching middle school and high school Spanish and is so glad that she chose to teach this instead!

Miss Keglovitz loves her job as much as she always hoped to, even though she has only been here for a short time. She also said that she has had wonderful teachers throughout her life and that her biggest goal is to impact her students in the ways that her teachers once impacted her. Miss

Keglovitz says she loves Northern Lehigh so far and that her students are great at both the middle and high school levels. Not only is she happy to be here but we are also happy to have her! We are so

glad to have such a wonderful new teacher in our school at Northern Lehigh! So the next time you pass her in the hallway, be sure to give her a welcoming "hola"!



Miss Keglovitz introduces middle school students, including Paige Bachman above, to the Spanish language.

# A trip back in time to the '80s



Miss Zeiser, Kasey Wayda and Miss Binder had a radical good time on '80s Day.

## By Kasey Wayda

*West Team*

I think Spirit Week was so fun (especially the '80s Day!) and we should do fun things like that more often.

Personally, I could not wait for '80s Day and I had my outfit already picked out by the previous Friday night.

I think doing some fun things like this every once in a while is a good way for us to really start to

enjoy and get used to school (or maybe even excited, like me).

Twin Day was pretty fun too, except for the fact that I had four other twins!

And then there was the Blue-and-White Day. I couldn't believe how many people had blue and white hair! I had blue and I thought I was going to be the only one. I guess in the end, it was all worth it when the seventh-graders won the Spirit Stick. I think our victory had something to do with

Miss Binder's "Let Me Hear You Scream" signs.

And by the way, for '80s Day, Miss Binder's and Miss Zeiser's '80s outfits were really good! That was a very exciting week for me, as I'm sure it also was for many others.

That is why I loved Spirit Week. And for those of you who like '80s Day, Miss Binder and Miss Zeiser might be starting an '80s club if you are interested. See them for more details!





Brandon Herschitz had the business up front and party in the back for '80s day.



Olivia Burke, Alexis Kalamaris, Benalisse Matos and Jalisa Thomas rocked their '80s outfits.



Brian Neff was all too happy with his poofed-out hairdo.



Zach Zimmermann spiked his hair for the big day.



Jessica Baker remembered the '80s, even though she wasn't even around yet.



Jocelyn Filchner went retro with her "...And Justice for All" Metallica T-shirt.

# NL marching band 'instrumental' for harmonious friendships

By Meghan Miller-Brown  
*West Team*

Do you have extra time after school and over the summer? Do you want to do something fun? If so, then you should join the Northern Lehigh High School Marching Band. The band consists of two sections.

There are the instrumentalists, woodwinds, percussions and brass. There is also the color guard, which puts color into the performance by doing flag work.

At football games, we do field shows and play in the stands to support the team.

We also compete against other schools' marching bands

with a field show.

A field show is where we play a piece of memorized music and move to drill sets.

Drill sets are where we move throughout the field. We learn all this stuff over the summer and we continue to work on it when school starts.

I have to admit, it is very hard work and it also takes a lot of time but it is most certainly worth it! When we are finished, you have a nice sense of accomplishment.

Here is what some of your fellow classmates have to say about marching band.

"I joined marching band because I love color guard! I will

most certainly join next year," Taylor Duplaga said.

Brie Williams, a clarinetist, said, "It's so fun and I love competing against other bands! I would recommend it to anyone!"

Cheyenne Troxell, also a clarinetist, said, "Marching band is so fun and entertaining! I love marching in holiday parades."

Diane McKinney said, "I love getting together with my friends and playing the marimba!"

If you play an instrument, like to perform, and are up for the challenge, please contact Mr. Carroll in room 12. Hope to see you at band camp next year!

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## Learning doesn't stop 'After the Bell'

By Mrs. Marushak  
*SouthEast Team*

The After the Bell Reading Program began on Tuesday, Sept. 28, 2010. Students who have opted to strengthen their reading skills receive free tutoring during these sessions.

There will be 40 classes, every Tuesday and Thursday from September to February.

We are excited to begin working with these motivated and conscientious students. The tutors

– Mr. Barnes, Ms. Binder, Mrs. Cox, Mrs. Filipovits, Mrs. Hubbs, Mrs. Lieberman, and Mrs. Raber – hope all participants will gain confidence as readers and become life-long learners.

This year, we will be giving away an MP3 player to four students who show excellence in effort, improvement and cooperation.

Incentives for participation are provided locally by Subway, McDonald's, Burger King, Hampton Lanes, Weis and Nestle.

We appreciate all the people who help make this program a success – Mrs. Beltz, Mrs. Chamberlain, Mrs. Nicholas, and the dedicated teachers who make it all work.

Thanks to the parents who encouraged your child to participate. There are still openings in the classes.

If you would like to sign up, or if you have any questions, please call Mrs. Marushak, ATB Coordinator, at 610-767-9812.



# Giving Silly respect to the Bandz

By Anna Barnett  
*North Team*

Are Silly Bandz “good stuff” for everyone? We don’t know. Lately, it’s like fads stay for a month *if that*, then BOOM, they’re out. Silly Bandz definitely were a popular one. They still kind of are. (Well, to me at least.)

Even though I personally think Silly Bandz are awesome, why are they? It’s just as great as any other rubber band on your wrist, but once you take it off, it’s like, “Aww, Snap! You got the bandz!”

Probably a big reason the Silly Bandz got so out was because other brands pretty much ruined it by making fakes. Seriously though, I don’t know why. Dude, who’s going to pay \$7 for 24 rubber bands when you can get 26 for \$2! Personally, people are kind of ridiculous saying they can only get named-brand Silly Bandz, but that’s just me. I have at least 87 Silly Bandz, and probably 40 of them are Trendy Bendys or just shaped rubber bands. They all look the same anyway.

Silly Bandz were made for kids who are around 4 or 5 years old, maybe 9 max. But now you see 56-year-old men wearing them around. I’m 13 and I wear them all the time. Sometimes to match my outfits, but every now and then I put all of them on for fun.

To be totally honest I stole some from my little cousin, who eventually found out she’s allergic. (*Advisor’s note: The Bulldog Bark does not condone stealing from little cousins.*)



Silly Bandz are still popular... for now.

## Walking toward a cure

By Nathan Snyder  
*North Team*

On Saturday, Sept. 18, 2010, there was a walk for cancer held in New York City. Mrs. Marushak, reading teacher on the SouthEast team, was asking for coins for the walk. She said whatever the kids donated, she would match.

They raised \$50.20 so in the end, they raised \$100.40.

The walk money was donated to the National Ovarian Cancer Coalition (NOCC).

They made a huge check that said \$100.40 to the NOCC. SouthEast team members Kianna Marlatt, Cat Marniscalco and Erin Fleishmann helped to make the check.



# Looking for a variety in after-school sports

By John Taylor  
*SouthEast Team*

I am writing to the teachers and students of Northern Lehigh School District. I believe students should know how to do something other than baseball, basketball, football, etc.



The reason they should know how to do this is because after high school, about 50 percent of the students will not go to college.

On that high note, you want them to have fun and still enjoy themselves by playing sports.

Well, some sports like golf, tennis, skiing, and snowboarding are good ways to keep yourself healthy after graduating.

Tennis and golf are great ways to interact with family and friends. You can relax while swinging a club or a racquet, instead of sweating and swinging your arm to try to rip a guy's head off.



Golf is very peaceful and can sometimes give you time to yourself.

Tennis is another sweating sport but you can play that after you graduate. By this, I think we should get involved with these sports and add them to a list of

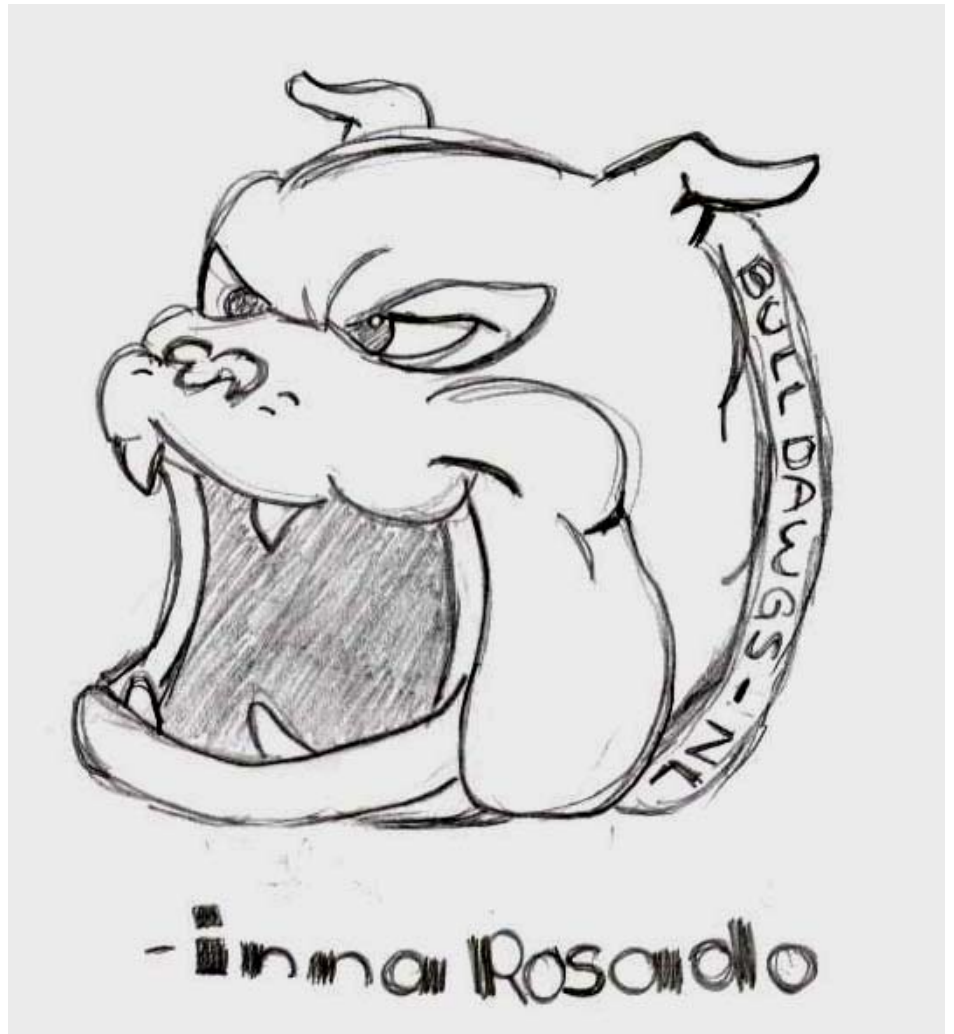
school sports.

Skiing and snowboarding are sports where there is no specific rule and you don't try to beat someone else – you try to improve on yourself. When you ski, all you're thinking about is going down the next hill or slope, not panicking about how you will make a winning free-throw or shot.

When you are snowboarding, you always want to improve your best trick, not put yourself down because you walked a batter.

I am not saying to quit football, baseball or basketball. I am saying the school should enroll some other options to students who have interests in having fun still playing sports, such as golf when they are 50 or 60 years old.

## Homegrown Art



# Students learn about principal and guidance counselor

**By Jacob Brunt,  
Josiah Williams  
and Briana Andrews**

On September 17, 2010, we interviewed Mrs. Chamberlain, our school's principal. For a half an hour, she answered our questions. We learned more about her when we asked her the questions. We hope you learn more about her, too.

When she was in our classroom, we asked her some professional questions. She told us she has worked at the middle school

for four years. Before Northern Lehigh School District, she worked at Pleasant Valley. She said her job as a principal is important and fun. She watches the cameras to make sure no one gets hurt. Also, she does not know all of the locker combinations, but she has a key to open all the lockers.

We asked her personal questions when we interviewed her. She is married, has two children and three step-children and two dogs. She lives in a medium house and drives a Mercury

Mountaineer. Her favorite movies are Jaws 1, 2, 3, 4, but she likes Jaws 1 best. She likes to drive to McDonald's for an iced tea with fresh lemon. Her favorite colors are lime green and light blue and her favorite sport is softball. When she was little she wanted to be an actress.

Finally, we enjoyed interviewing Mrs. Chamberlain very much. We liked sharing some facts about her with you. We hope you enjoyed learning more about Mrs. Chamberlain as we did.

**By Dakota Miller,  
Hasan Mujovic  
and Holly Yoder**

On September 17, 2010, we interviewed Mr. Leonzi, our school guidance counselor. We interviewed him for a half hour, asking him our student-written questions. He answered our questions and we learned more about him. We hope you like learning about Mr. Leonzi, too.

During third period, we asked him questions about his job. Mr. Leonzi has worked for the school for 26 years. Mr. Leonzi was a science teacher before he was a guidance counselor. He became a guidance counselor to help students with personal situations. The main part of his job is working with people. He helps students learn from their

mistakes. Before he worked at Northern Lehigh, he worked on a computer program for IBM. Mr. Leonzi shared some personal information about his life. He likes dogs and used to raise Dobermans. He has twin daughters. His personal goal is to be a good role model for his family. When he was

little he wanted to enter the field of education. In the end, we really enjoyed interviewing Mr. Leonzi.

We hope you have liked learning about him too. The next time you see him, don't be afraid to say hello.





# Cross country team runs for positive season

By **Jamil O. Alejandro**  
*SouthEast Team*

This story is going to be about the NLMS cross country team. First, I am going to tell you who is on the team. They are: (8<sup>th</sup> grade) Aaron Hoffman, Jamil Alejandro, Andrew Tarafas, Bryce Moser, Quintin George, Jeremie Tomkins, Josh Hamm, Strato Tri-pajis, Nathan Rex, Nathan Snyder, Anna Barnett and Matthew Pender. (7<sup>th</sup> grade) Niko Hoffman, Gavin Kemery, Paige Bachman, Kylie Berger, Noah Freudenberg, Evan Meixsell, Gage Christ, Conrad Bevans. We have a pretty good group of runners.

Next, I am going to talk about



how the year is going. Our season is basically over but, overall, it was a pretty good season. Our last race at Palisades was pretty interesting and our top runner was Bryce Moser for 8<sup>th</sup> grade and Gavin Kemery for 7<sup>th</sup> grade.

I think the high school will do pretty well in the championship representing our school.

Even though the middle school team was mostly boys, the girls did pretty well.

We have to give credit to our coaches for pushing us to the limit and helping us make better runners out of ourselves.

Here are the toughest opponents this year: Northwestern, Notre Dame, Salisbury and Wilson. These runners are coached to give more than what they can and most of the times, they end up hurt and ill. Coach Oertner and Coach Zeiser always tell us to give our best without getting hurt.

# Enter as strangers, leave as sisters

By **Amanna Bradley**  
*West Team*

As you may have heard, the middle school field hockey season has ended. It is very heart-breaking because over the past couple of months, we have become like sisters.

The season started on Aug. 16, 2010, and lasted all the way until Oct. 13, 2010. Our coach was Cindy Fritzinger.

The eighth-graders consisted of Laura Beltz, Jocelyn Filchner, Alyssa Fritzinger, Taryn Kemmerer, Amber Marlow, Erika McKay, Alexis Middaugh, Jessica Olewine, Devan Pepe, Dakota Schweitzer and Amber Thomas.



It makes me sad that they will be moving on to JV and Varsity field hockey. I wish them the best of luck. The seventh-graders consisted of Madison Bellesfield,

Amanna Bradley (that's me!), Samantha Brown, Emily Clements, Jennie Fritz, Veronica Green, Taylor Herman, Beth Kern, Cheyenne Mazzocca, Ashley Mulcahy, Hayley Pavolko, Britani Pristash, Nakiah Romansky and finally Cheyenne Smith.

This is/was the 2010 Northern Lehigh Middle School field hockey team and I am proud to

have been a part of this experience. It was the perfect way to start off a new school year.

# Cool as cool can be (for middle school)



These kids were rockin' the '80s. (Clockwise from top) Inna Rosado, Cassidy Barrett, Ryan Rubio and Matthew Pender.



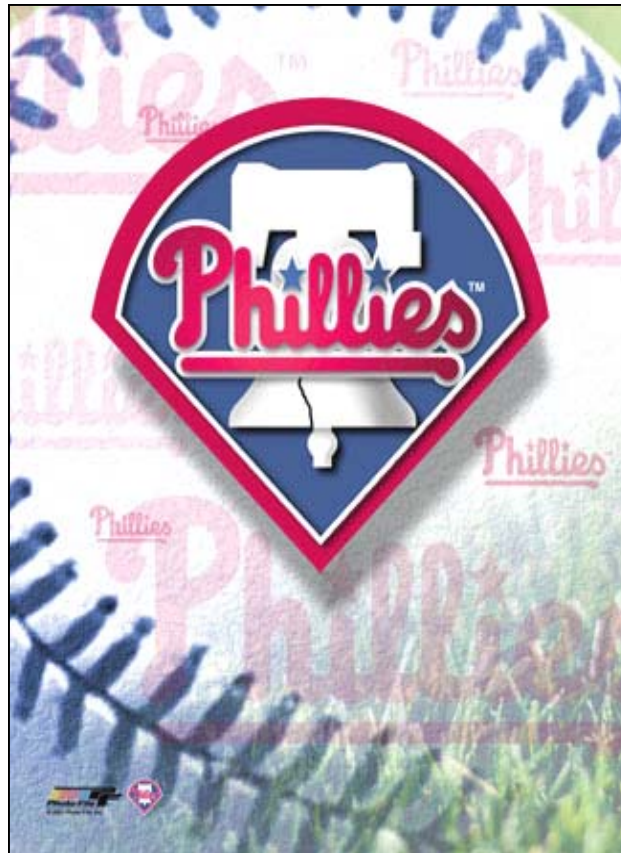
# Phillies head to post-season again

By Zach Moll  
*SouthEast Team*

The Philadelphia Phillies became the fifth National League team to win four or more straight division titles. Phillies broadcaster Tom McCarthy claimed that pitcher Roy Halladay had better stuff than when he threw a perfect game on May 29, 2010.

When Halladay came to the Phillies from the Toronto Blue Jays, he had one goal and one goal only: to make it to the post-season for the first time in his career, and he did just that.

The Phillies' 8-0 bombardment of the Washington Nationals started in the second inning when Jason Werth hit a bomb off of



Nationals starter John Lannon. Werth then had a two-run double in the sixth and a one-run single in the ninth for a four-RBI night.

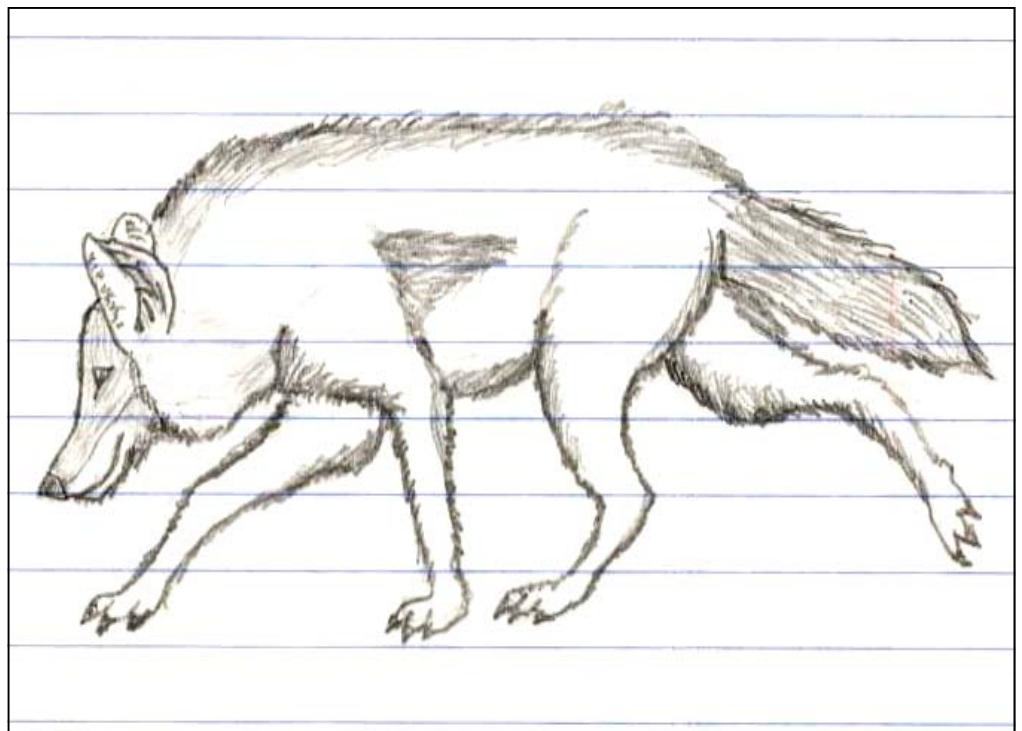
For the last out of the game, Halladay struck out Danny Espinoza. The celebration then began as the Phillies let first-time post-seasoners like Mike Sweeney, Roy Halladay and Northampton native Brian Schneider pop the champagne bottles first.

*Advisor's Note: This article was submitted right as the Phillies were beginning the NLCS against the Giants.*

## The Wondertastical, Mystical Coyote

By Brian Neff  
*North Team*

Late at night,  
the breeze breezing.  
Nothing in sight,  
beyond freezing.  
Nothing you hear,  
but your fear  
of the howling beast  
looking for a feast.  
Its wondertastical fur,  
and their K-9 teeth to ensure,  
laying there all day,  
stalking its prey.  
Coming in packs,  
leaving nothing but their tracks.  
What an amazing animal.





# OPINION

## Michael Vick reinstated: Fair or unfair?

In my opinion, Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Michael Vick should not be allowed to play in the NFL. We all know what he did – he had an illegal dog fighting ring in operation.

Usually, our country is a forgiving one but the animal cruelty that Vick committed is just too terrible for anyone to get over.

He has admitted to providing most of the money for the gambling side of the operation, so NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell left the possibility of Vick being reinstated up to how he cooperated with federal and state officials.

Goodell ruled that Vick's involvement in gambling breached his contract and the Atlanta Falcons (his former team) sent Vick a letter stating he had to reimburse them for \$20 million of the \$37 million bonus.

Afterwards, an arbitrator ruled that he had known he was engaging in illegal activities when he signed his contract in 2004. He then used most of the bonus money to pay for the operation.

Under these circumstances, I believe that Michael Vick

should not have been reinstated, and then allowed to play for the Eagles. He spent 23 months in prison and then was sentenced to house arrest.

This is my opinion on why Michael Vick should not be allowed to play in the NFL. What do others think?



Amber Thomas

**Jessica Olewine** – I believe Michael Vick is a good quarterback but a terrible person. What kind of sick-minded human being would do this to animals? I think that he needed to get a life outside of football.

**Taylor Duplaga** – Michael Vick is a horrible person. It is so cruel how he hurt animals. Who could do that? I don't understand why he is still allowed to play football. He should get a life and

stop hurting animals.

**Alexis Middaugh** – Are you kidding me? He needs to be kicked off the football team. No more NFL for him! He tried to fix what he did but, in my eyes, no human could ever redeem themselves of that hate and violence put upon animals. Any type of abuse to either a human or animal should never be tolerated no matter who you are!

**Jeremie Tomkins** – I think he plays great for the Eagles but I just don't think he had a perfect life. He abused dogs for Pete's sake but I guess sometimes we need to forgive and forget.

**Brian Scheetz** – Michael Vick plays great but the Eagles need to give him more playing time. He can run the ball, he can pass, but you have to think about his past with dogfighting.

**Drake Pristash** – Michael Vick made some mistakes in his past that people might or might not forget but the Eagles should play him more. He is a great player and I think he is getting better at being quarterback again like he used to be.

*A special thank-you to Taryn Kemmerer for the idea on this article. Without her, this wouldn't be here!*







# OPINION

## Teens are able to conquer depression

Why is teen depression so common now? All teenagers go through isolation periods and low self-esteem. Teens can fall into a quick depression by the loss of a pet or family member. It's also caused by bullying and other sorts of things.

Depression can also lead to suicide. In some cases, suicide can get so bad that the victim will decide that life is just not worth living. Symptoms of teenage depression would be:

*...A downward trend in performance at school or college.*

*...Change in personal hygiene and ap-*

*pearance.*

*...Destructive and/or defiant behavior.*

*...Hallucinations or unusual beliefs.*

*...Appetite or weight has changed considerably.*

*...May appear restless, agitated, or has slowed down.*

*...Has lost a lot of energy; complains of feeling tired all the time.*

*...Complaints of feeling guilty or worthless.*

*...Belief that life is not worth living.*



**Mel Campbell**

These can show a sign of something clearly wrong with a teenager and it's also happening in younger kids. There are many ways to stop depression from happening.

Teenagers, you could try talking to a trusted teacher or family member. Talk to your friends or even an adult you look up to. You can surround yourself with things you love and admire.

Listen to your favorite music. Jump into your favorite book and just read. Sit on the phone with your best friend and just cry until you can't anymore. Some people like to write; if this is what makes you feel better, let it out in words. Sometimes just

saying it doesn't help but writing it all down and changing it into something that means something to you can make all the difference in the world.

There is a difference between depression and sadness.

Depression deals with the function of the way the human body and mind works. Sadness is one of the signs of depression but with depression, you can have much more than sadness.





# OPINION

## Bullying can lead to more than just a broken spirit

**Bully:** noun; an over-bearing, controlling person who intimidates and tyrannizes another person for a particular or unidentified reason. Ever since elementary school, we've been taught what a bully is, and how to respond to their behavior.

Most kids have been bullied or were bullies at some point in their life. We all learned that bullying is bad, but what a lot of people don't know is how devastating it can be. Bullying is the reason why 15-year-old Phoebe Prince, a happy, pretty, freshman at South Hadley High School in Massachusetts committed suicide on January 14, 2010. She had just started school after moving to America all the way from Ireland. Phoebe must've been excited to start school in America.

Things got even better when she was asked out by a senior football player. The relationship ended, and later she dated another senior,

who happened to have a jealous ex-girlfriend. School became awful for Phoebe. A group who called themselves the "mean girls" called Phoebe names, threw things at her, posted cruel messages on Facebook, Twitter, Craigslist, and Formspring, shoved her into lockers, screamed at her while she studied, sent her threatening text messages, and so many other vicious acts of harassment.

Phoebe tried telling staff at the school, but the bullying persisted. She was having a hard time being happy, and looking forward to the future.



**Julie Knerr**



It only took once more — girls threw an empty energy drink can at her and called her names as they drove home from school — to push her over the edge. That day, Phoebe went home and committed suicide.

After Phoebe's death, nine teenagers from South Hadley were charged with criminal harassment, violation of civil rights, and disturbing a school assembly. But is this enough? Why did Phoebe have to die? Because a few girls didn't like who she was dating? Phoebe had sisters and parents, people who loved her.

In my opinion, this wasn't just bullying. This was relentless, vicious harassment directed at a new girl at school who just wanted friends.

She didn't deserve to die. Phoebe had a bright future that was ruined because of bullying. This is a tragic and unbelievable story, but it happens much more than it should.

Hopefully, the next time you think about calling someone a name, you'll think of Phoebe, and how much power one word can have.





# OPINION

## Honesty is going extinct in America

Honesty is going extinct in America. We have people lying all around us. Here is why I think honesty is going extinct in America.

First, I want to start off by saying that I'm not honest all the time. Sometimes I fib and it's a little odd because I'm being honest about not being honest.

Anyway, I don't lie a lot but I have to admit I do lie sometimes. That doesn't mean it's right but at home it saves me some trouble.

Next, we have lying all around



**Ryan Rubio**

us and I have some examples. In baseball, if you don't get hit by a pitch but the umpire isn't sure, you can say it hit you.

For example, Derek Jeter was up to bat for the Yankees. He didn't get hit by a pitch but it looked

close so he said he did. So, he got on base with the Yankees down by one. The next batter hits a home-run to win the Yankees the game. That is a prime example of how honesty is going extinct in America.

Another example could be if you were supposed to clean your room and you told your mother you are but instead you're on the computer. That is another reason honesty is going extinct in America.

Whichever way you look at it, whether internationally or at home, honesty is going extinct everywhere. Now, I'm not saying you have to be perfect but try not to lie as much as you do.

Or maybe you don't lie at all. Then just keep doing what you're doing. These are the reasons why I think honesty is going extinct in America.

## How do we stop the rumor machine?

We all know them – rumors. We hear them. We pass them along. We are teenagers who gossip because of them. But here is a question: Do you like rumors?

We all have different opinions on different rumors. But in general, do we like them or do we want them to end? This is something to think about. What do others say?

**Brittany Spaar** – “They are a waste of time. You know what they say: What goes around,



**Scarlet Ojeda**

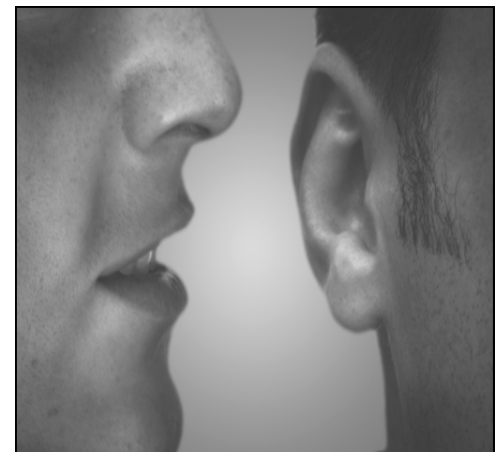
comes around.”

**Matthew Kern** – “I hate them. I hate them, unless they are true.”

**Katelyn Hugo** – “People start rumors so they feel better about themselves. Secondly, when people start rumors, others

feel the need to contribute to that rumor. Thirdly, if you're the only person that knows the secret, you're the center of attention. All rumors are like money – just to buy attention.”

So there you have it. Most people dislike them. In my opinion, I hate them. You judge people way too quickly. So never try to start them. You might only be *in* the rumor in the end.





# OPINION

## Cancer cure long overdue



**Brittany Spaar**

I have a theory. There might be a cure for cancer out there but scientists and researchers could be hiding it. There are always donation walks, 24-hour TV programs, 5K's and so much more that donate to cancer and you are telling me that they still do not have a full-blown cure?

This disease has been around forever and seriously, it is crazy if there is still no actual cure.

From my point of view, these so-called "researchers" are just money-hungry and they know people are going to give in to donating money and they make millions every year on "finding the cure."

Sure, they have treatments out there that really help people

See Spaar, page 19

## Compliments are just complexities



**Makayla Gordon**

What is a compliment? By definition, a compliment is an expression of praise, admiration, or congratulations.

When we get a compliment these days, we are almost getting the exact opposite. You know those awkward moments when someone asks you if you like their shirt or pants or hairstyle.

We don't want to be rude or hurt the person's feelings so we tell them what they want to hear. In doing this we are flat-out lying, giving out fake compliments. I think that adults who tell their children not to lie but do this everyday are being a bit hypocritical.

Parents tell their children not to lie but we feed them lies and false truths like the tooth fairy or Santa Claus. Why are we as chil-

See Gordon, page 19

## Candy corn is quite classic



**Taylor Duplaga**

Candy corn – it's a classic holiday treat. Either you love it or you hate it. I LOVE candy corn. It is one of the best foods ever. I love candy corn so much that I even have candy corn-scented hand sanitizer. Awesome, right?

I love the way candy corn tastes. People think it's too sweet but I think it is just right. I don't understand how so many people can hate candy corn. It is just too good to be hated.

For Christmas, I always ask for Christmas candy corn, which is red, green and white.

There should be candy corn for every holiday. So that's what I think about candy corn. If I come to your house, I expect candy corn and candy corn only!



# Yes, you really are seeing double!



Mrs. Marushak and Mr. Graver (not sure which is which) participated in Twins Day.



Jacob Corwin and Brandon Herschitz were snuggly all day in these things.

## Hoping for a cure

Spaar, from page 18

but it does not help them as much as it should. There will always be cancer cells in your body but there is definitely something that will keep it from coming back and I don't mean for only a year but for a lifetime.

I believe there are people out there who might know how to stop it completely but play with peoples' lives just because money means everything.

There are more than 200 kinds of cancer and they are saying there are only treatments that help and if they say you can't beat this life-taking disease, I would call them liars. There is nothing more to say than too many researchers and scientists care more for money.

## Can you handle the truth?

Gordon, from page 18

dren taught not to lie and then when we kids grow up and *have* children, we will be lying to them telling these kids that there is this magical bunny that lays eggs, and then telling them not to lie themselves.

It just does not seem right. Is our society based on all lies? I think we need to stop telling people what they want to hear and give them our true opinions. If a mind is a terrible thing to waste then so are our thoughts.





Jon Gares works on the South-East start-of-school puzzle in September.



Noah Hankee, Derek Ferrer and Alley Freed show teamwork on the first day.



(Above left) Nate Farber, Erika McKay and Isiah Ortiz. (Left) Kyle Jenne. (Above right) Derek Ferrer and Jon Taylor. (Right) The finished product!





# Fall intramurals end; Top 10 Mile runners

**Fall intramurals 2010 for Northern Lehigh Middle School.** There were 25 students who registered (15 boys and 10 girls). An average of 16 students participated in tennis, volleyball, ping-pong, and badminton during the eight days offered. A pizza party concluded this activity on Oct. 13. **Intramural Officers for 2010-2011:** President: Matthew Pender; Vice-President: Jared Brozowski; Treasurer: Alexandra Krotzer; Secretary: Taylor Kipp; Equipment Managers: Brandon Herschitz and Zachary Heffelfinger.

**The following students participated in Fall 2010 intramurals:** Anthony Wagner, Nichole Henritz, Kasey Wayda, Rebecca Blocker, Taylor Gallimore, Haley Schlegel, Chelsea Snyder, Jasmine Grant, Ambur Ringler, Andrew Tarafas, Jeremie

Tomkins, Jacob Corwin, Zachary Ohlsen, Zachary Rex, Travis Stamecker, Niko Hoffman, Hunter Witczak, Gary Reph, Edgard Lopez.

## Fall Mile Run 2010 Top Ten

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade: Boys:** Isiah Ortiz (5:37), Jeremie Tomkins (5:56), Bryce Moser (6:00), Matthew Pender (6:10), Jamil Alejandro (6:15), Zeb Shiffert (6:20), Aaron Hofman (6:37), Drake Pristash (6:47), Quintin George (6:53), Nathan Rex (6:57).

**Girls:** Erika McKay (6:58), Alexis Middaugh (7:01), Alex Garcia (7:02), Devin Pepe (7:19), Jess Olewine (7:23), Scarlet Ojeda (7:35), Emily Bevans (7:50), Amber Marlow (8:15), Taryn Kemmerer (8:17), Jocelyn Filchner (8:41).

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade: Boys:** Gavin Kemery (5:45), TJ Dooley (6:29), Carlos Figueroa (6:52), Gage Christ (6:52), Daniel Patterson (7:09), Colton Rex (7:15), Niko Hoffman (7:29), Matt Schmall (7:29), Nick Uebele (7:29), Zach Rex (7:29).

**Girls:** Paige Bachman (7:23), Ashley Conklin (7:54), Ashley Handwerk (8:43), Taylor Herman (9:02), Lexi Merkle (9:04), Cheyenne Mazzocca (9:18), Brittani Pristash (9:19), Nicole Jacoby (9:38), Sage Hargreaves (9:38), Beth Kern (9:51).

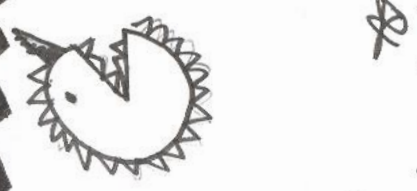
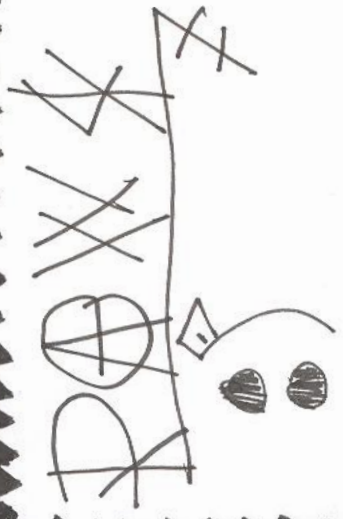
## CPR Sign-Ups

**CPR intramurals** will be held in January for students and their parents. If anyone is interested, they should see Mrs. Raber for the registration form.



Twins Day participants: (Left) Taylor Herman and Hayley Pavolko. (Above) Erika McKay and Alexis Middaugh.

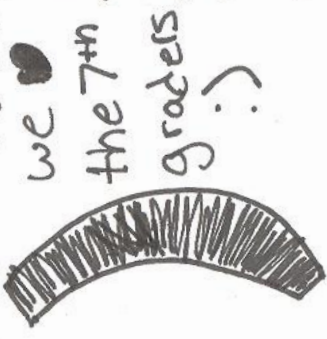
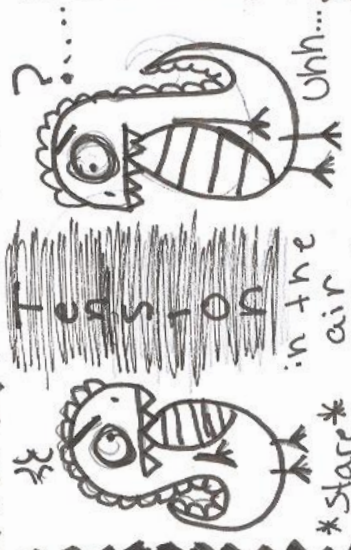




I ♥ Dino's



Cobby



we ♥ the 7th graders ;)



Amber