

# Student Newspaper



Valentines edition  
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## Disaster in Haiti

By Kara Kibbe

The recent earthquake in Haiti that has killed 230,000 people, according to aolnews.com, and left many others homeless has struck home at Martensdale.

The elementary has held a fundraiser to help with the relief in Haiti, organized by the elementary TAG students.

According to foxnews.com, the quake struck on Jan. 12, 2010 at 4:53 p.m. and had a magnitude of 7.0 on the Richter scale. The earthquake's epicenter was 10 miles west of Port-au-Prince and its two million inhabitants. The major quake sent 33 after-

shocks, ranging in magnitude from 4.2 to 5.9.

Haiti is the poorest country in the western hemisphere; a majority of

were in the middle of the adoption process before the earthquake struck and were relieved to hear that their children were okay and that they would be rushed through the adoption process and on their way to Iowa as soon as possible. This is one example of how Iowa families are making lemons into lemonade.



**Distressed Haitians are enraged from the loss of their homes and loved ones: telegraph.co.uk**

**Haitian children still have hope: anotheresspresso-please.blogspot.com**

the Haitian people live on less than two dollars a day. Before the earthquake hit, many Haitian children were left economic orphans due to their parents' inadequate economic status that barely allows them to take care of themselves, much less their child. Many Iowa families



# Black History Month

By Taylor Tomas

About 200 years ago, a common sight would have been African-Americans working on cotton plantations. Since then, we have established a new common. Today, African-Americans are seen as equals, because of the hard work of so many. For example, some people that paved the way are Martin Luther King, Jr., Harriett Tubman, Rosa Parks, Jackie Robinson, and last but not least, Barrack Obama.

In 1936, Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered his famous "I Have a Dream" speech. Just like Martin Luther King, Jr., and many other Americans, Ross Chilton has a dream. "My dream is to help people in any way possible, and also to pursue my career in football. By doing that I hope to inspire other people."

Harriett Tubman was also one to inspire other people because she got so many slaves to trust her with their lives. Harriett Tubman

is best remembered for helping enslaved African-Americans escape slavery by taking them through the Underground Railroad in 1831.

Around 140 years



**Harriett Tubman**  
Photo by freewebs.com

later, a black woman named Rosa Parks refused to give up her bus seat to a white male passenger, and was charged with violating segregation laws. Eventually, in 1956, the segregation laws were successfully challenged in federal court and

the cities buses were officially integrated.

Although Jackie Robinson didn't integrate the buses, he helped integrate Major League Baseball. Robinson was the first African American MLB player, playing for the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947.

Most recently, in 2009, the first African-American was elected into presidency. Barack Obama is currently the forty-fourth president of the United States. When Mr. Goodale was asked to describe what was going through his head when Barack Obama took presidency, he said, "I really didn't have any issues with ethnicity or race, my main concern was political philosophy."

How Black History is seen today and why it is important to reflect on that history, no matter what race you are, is important because we're all Americans.

# Winter formal gives a break from the weather

By Tyson Manilla

Music playing, lights flashing, glow sticks shining and people dancing. These are some things that were going on at this year's Winter Formal.

Admission for this event was ten dollars per person, and was a fundraiser that would help pay for prom expenses. Mrs. Franey was head of this year's Winter dance.

This was the seniors' last Winter Formal and the freshman's first formal dance. Some people say that the times before the dance are filled with

excitement. When wondering about the freshman preparation experience, freshman Danielle Broadbent said, "I like it, it is relaxing." When asked about her first formal dance in high school, she stated, "It was good! It was filled with fun and excitement."

Mr. Caleb Hales was the D.J. at this year's high school Winter Formal. In regards to why Mr. Hales enjoys being the D.J. for the high school dances, he said, "It's fun and I enjoy doing it. It

also saves the school a bunch of money."

Mr. Hales was later asked if he plans to be a D. J. at a higher level and he said, "No, I don't plan on D. J. at a higher level. It's just fun and I enjoy doing it."

So this year's Winter Formal was fun and a huge success. Not only was it a great break from school, but an enjoyable break from the treacherous weather. Thanks to all that helped.

Photography by Manda Gibson



# Triple decker squash with a side of state

By Emily Hutchison

The now number one ranked Lady Blue Devils basketball team had a double whammy against SEW with a slaughter against Corning. With a 94-21 victory at SEW on Jan. 19 and a 91-17 victory at home on Jan. 21, the Lady Devils prove to be the best in the conference. The game against Corning on Jan. 22 also was another shut out by the third quarter.

This type of playing has been seen by these girls all year and should continue into regional play. These games are the final stop on the way to Regionals. Some people might think that now the expectations for the girls would be higher but Coach Alexander said, "the expectations have been the same all year. We want to get back to the state tournament and hopefully take a run at the state title." Those same words describe the all around mood on this year's team. With the girls

playing as good as they have been, right now, it's all or nothing. "Regional and state pairings have been assigned so the ranking has no effect on who we will play," explained Alexander. If we have good regional play, "The Well" should be in sight.

This team has gone from hardly winning anything to playing at the state tournament in three years, and with the teamwork and playing established this year, hopefully the fourth year. "It is a privilege to be able to coach these girls and play a part in this special team. There is some pressure being number one, but that is why we coaches coach, for the pressure of competition," said Coach Alexander on his team.

Senior Carrie Wood told said that being number one will not affect the girls' playing because "we will do what we do. We play good together and

we'll stay that way. No ranking can change that fact."

She is absolutely right. The girls are a fighting machine, and they will stop at nothing to win. This week was just a stepping stone to where they really want to be: playing at Wells Fargo Arena for the state title.

Picture from [kelseykerridge.co.uk](http://kelseykerridge.co.uk)



# Quoteables

What's your favorite Valentines candy?

**Brandon Robinson, 11th**-Heart shaped suckers

**Michael Deming, 12th**-Hershey's Chocolate Bar

**Paiten Gavin, 8th** -Hershey's Kisses

**Mrs. Butcher, teacher**-Symphony Candy Bar

**Daniel DeLong, 10th** -Chocolates

**Viktor Vasyonovych, 11th**-Twizzlers

**Sarah Bunch, 11th** -Suckers

**Tyson Minella, 12th**-Whoppers

**Andria Harper, 10th** -Caramel Chocolates

**Trista Thomas, 8th** -Dove Chocolates



**Gary Kraber II** is the son of Gary and Jewel Kraber from Desoto, IA. Gary has played baseball for three years, basketball and NHS for two years, and track for one year.

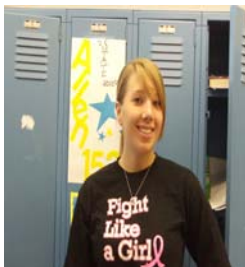
Gary's most memorable moment was going to homecoming this year and literally dancing the night away. His future plans are to attend UNI and major in economics and find a job as an econometrician.



**Natasha Llewellyn** is the daughter of Mari Harvey and Ron Llewellyn from Osceola, IA. Her activities at Martensdale include chorus for three years, dance and a football manager for two years and mass media for a semester.

Natasha's most memorable moment was getting talked to by the cops on tee-pee night with Heather Brown.

Her future plan are to attend a community college and become a neonatal nurse.



**Jessica Jacobsen** is the daughter of John and Janet Della Vedova of Norwalk, IA. Jessica has been in chorus three years, golf for two years and softball, yearbook, drama, mass media and band for one year.

Jessica's most memorable moment was when her friend Heather was backing out her truck and backed out into a school van. Her future plans are to go to Grandview for Human Resources or Business management.



**Emily Hutchison** is the daughter of John and Debbie Hutchison of Martensdale, IA. Emily has been in drama, band, jazz band, volleyball, golf, softball and a basketball manager for four years, chorus for three years, speech for two years, Mass Media and spirit squad for one year, and 4-H for five years

Emily's most memorable moment was being on the state basketball team as a manager in 2009 and 2010 and being part of the 2008 and 2009 state softball teams.

Her future plans are to attend Central College in Pella to double major in Elementary Education and Theatre, and play golf and be in pep band.

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Photo  
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**Taylor Johnson** is the daughter of Charles and Marilyn Johnson of Prole, IA. Her activities include volleyball, track, softball, band and basketball manager for four years, drama for three years and NHS for two years.

Taylor's most memorable moment was snowboarding in the back parking lot with Nick, Megan S and Tyson. Her future plans are to attend Simpson college to major in math and play volleyball and softball.

Blue Devil Staff: Pat Conner, Emily Hutchison, Tyson Minella, Taylor Thomas, Kara Kibbe and Advisor Justin Herrick