

# Student Newspaper



New Years edition  
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## Our last 800 meters

By Emily Hutchison

Think of high school as four miles, each year being one mile. Freshman year—mile one; sophomore year—mile two; junior year—mile three and senior year, the all important mile four. On our first day of school we got in the starting blocks and waited for the bang of the starting gun.

Bang! The runners are off. For many of us, this is how our high school careers started. We set out on a journey of four years not knowing where we were headed. We only knew that we had to get done fast. We were off and running fast without ever bothering to take in the sights around us, too worried about finishing the race fast. We were too worried about getting through high school that we didn't take the time to appreciate the little things that high school had to offer us. As underclassmen, we thought that Winter Formal was the best, but then we made it to prom and that was even better. What I'm saying is that Winter For-

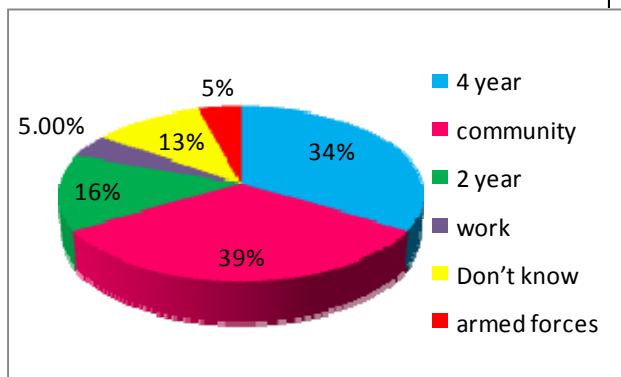
mal was meant to be the check point in the race of high school. When that came, you knew that another mile was almost over and you were that much closer to finishing the race.

That first mile went quickly, but as in any race, we started to slow down on the second and third mile. For many of us, our sophomore and junior years went so slow, but we never realized why. Maybe they went slower because we were supposed to enjoy them. The finish line is soon approaching and now we're wishing we would have taken in the beauty of the race.

We've now been running around the track for three and a half miles, with only a half of a mile left. In thoughts to how she'll spend the second half of her senior year, Kati Gehringer said, "High

school has been great and now it's time for me to sprint to the finish line (graduation)." I think most of the seniors have this same idea.

We're tired and our legs burn, but we're sprinting to that finish line anyway. We're on our way to number one. For some of us, number one might be college or the armed forces, but for others it might be moving to LA to become an actor or moving to Nashville to become the next Taylor Swift. To all of us, number one is different, but no matter what your number one is, seniors, you're going to make it.



Percentage of what the senior class will do after high school: 38 students polled, with some having two.

# The Pain of Holidays

By Zach Streyffeler

This holiday season is often a wonderful time of the year. People usually get to spend time with families and loved ones, enjoy great food and of course the presents that are always anticipated.

There is, however, one thing many people dread during the holidays and that's traveling in the nasty, bitter weather.

It's estimated that close to 87.7 millions Americans were traveling 50 miles or more during the 2009 holiday season, which was a 3.8 percent increase from the last year.

This year it was estimated that people traveling by air was 4.2 million, up 2.9 percent from

last year. Car travel also grew approximately 4.4 percent this year to a total of 77.7 million. The other 5.8 million was covered by people traveling by train, buses, watercraft, and other forms of transportation.

This year in the Midwest, we had some of the most snow in almost 3 years. We received numerous inches of snow that started to fall Tuesday before Christmas, adding more hazards, making road conditions a major problem for many people in many cities. For example, Oklahoma City was even shut down that Thursday due to the snow

and all the accidents.

So whether you are traveling for the holidays or simply driving to work, make sure to take extra precaution during this beautiful and hazardous season.



**Interstate travelers heading down I35 on a busy Holiday Vacation.**

# New Year's Resolutions

By Pat Conner

The year of 2010 is here and with the new year comes the tradition of New Year's Resolutions. Although keeping one may seem daunting, here are some hints to help you complete your Resolutions. Many people choose to create New Year's Resolutions as a way to change or improve their lives for the better.

There are many types of resolutions, the top five of them at MstM being:

1. Get better grades
2. Lose weight
3. Dedication to sports
4. Learn something new
5. Get organized

These are just a few of the many New Year's Resolutions to

pick from. It's best just to pick one that suits your needs, which will help aim your sights on one goal instead of multiple.

Although many people set these goals for the new year, only about eight percent follow through and achieve them, according to pr9.net.

A few things you can do to help achieve your goals is to aim realistically. Don't set your goals too high because you might not reach them. You also don't want to overload yourself. Just choose one goal to concentrate on because it will be hard enough to try and complete that one, let alone three or four of them.

Contrary to popular belief, you shouldn't keep your resolution to yourself. You should tell as

many people as you can. That's just that many more people to push you towards your goal.

These are a few easy hints to help achieve your goal. And if you don't have a New Year's Resolution yet, it's not too late to make one.



**Above: the New Year's Ball of 2010 in New York.**

# Quoteables

## What's your New Year's Resolution?

**Complete some artwork**-Mrs. Davidson

**Eat cookies**-Jasper Jones

**Teach 7th graders to raise their hand!**-Mr. Herrick

**Go to college**-Dustin Loyd

**Pass 9th grade**-Brittany Kish, 9th

**Pass school**- Tyler Brown, 9th

## Senior Spotlight



**Autumn Harper** is the daughter of Katie and John Lies of Martensdale. Autumn has been involved in Dance Team for two years, Football Manager for two years and Chorus for two years. Autumn's most memorable high school moment is state dance. Her future plans include attending DMACC for two years for

graphic design, then attend the Art Institute of Austin, Texas.



**Grant Hand** is the son of James and Kimberly Hand of Prole. Grant has been involved in basketball for three years, golf for two years and football for one year. Grant's most memorable high school moment is going to the football playoffs his freshman year. His future plans are to attend DMACC for two years, then attend UNI for two years.



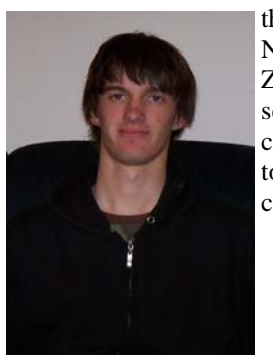
**Annika Harper** is the daughter of Craig and Amy Harper of Prole. Annika has been involved in golf for four years, softball for four years, speech for three years, volleyball manager for three years, Powderpuff for three years, Drama for two years, band for two years, Yearbook for two years, band for two years and volleyball, basketball, chorus

and newspaper for one year. Annika's most memorable high school moment was 2009 state softball where she started a rally in the semi-final state game. Her future plans are to attend Iowa to get a degree in chemistry or pre-physical therapy, then go to grad school at Iowa to become a physical therapist.



**Kyle Howell** is the son of Vicki and Rick Howell of Indianola. Kyle has been involved in wrestling for one year and golf for one year. Kyle's most memorable high school moments were his freshman and sophomore years. His future plans are to go to college to learn glass blowing, then move some place far away.

**Zach Streiffeler**, is the son of Dan Streiffeler and Kate Bowers of Prole. Zach has been involved in band for



three years, track for one year and Newspaper for one semester. Zach's most memorable high school moment was Spanish 3 class last year. His future plans are to attend DMACC's telecommunication program and work.