

The elementary music concert was last night, focusing on the theme of *Where the Wild Things Are*.

Blue Ink



Squad Goals shine on stage



Many students made their acting debut with *Squad Goals* directed by Jodi Gloe. Actors were (back row) Kennedy Buckneberg, Mya Long, Molly Hulscher, Jaelyn Benson, Riley Altman, Aftyn Heitkamp, Madden Lardy, Mattea Fiegen, (front row) Malia Johnson, Morgan Moritz, Peyton Hove, Lily Ranschau, Julia Mosley, and Rachel Kindt. Not pictured is Madi Nordstrom (sound

by **Malia Johnson**
staff writer

Last Sunday evening study hall teacher, Mrs. Gloe, put on her first ever one act play. Although she has been in a play during her high school years and continuing on through adulthood, this was her first time

ever directing one.

The cast consisted of 14 girls with only four participating in a play before. Gloe stated, "The play went well, especially for only 4 girls out of the 14 being in a play before. All the girls worked hard."

She also insisted that since it was her first one, she was learning just as

she would get the word out a little sooner and make a set list of practices for future years.

Unfortunately Mrs. Gloe turned in her resignation to direct plays, but is hoping someone will take it over and continue to host more plays for upcoming years.

Spring play performs for community, school

much as the new members. The girls put in a lot of before, during, and after school practice to make the play a success.

New actress, Aftyn Heitkamp stated, "Even though the play got off to a rough start and we all thought it wasn't going to turn out, it was a lot of fun and I'd definitely be in another one."

Mrs. Gloe did say she would get the word out a little sooner and make a set list of practices for future years.

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This Week's Need to Know

FACT OF THE WEEK: Tomorrow is affectionately known as Star Wars Day. May the 4th be with you ;)

LIFE HACK OF THE WEEK: The best way to remove pet hair from a carpet is to use a squeegee.

JOKE OF THE WEEK: Why did Cinderella get kicked off the baseball team?

BRAINTEASER OF THE WEEK: What goes up when the rain comes down?

Answers to joke and brainteaser are on the bottom.

Upcoming Events

Friday, May 3

- Golf @ BEC in Chester (9:00)
- Track @ Howard Wood Relays
- Kindergarten Round Up

Saturday, May 4

- Track @ Parker Invite (9:30)

Sunday, May 5

- Football Cheerleading Tryouts (7:00)

Monday, May 6

- JH Golf @ BEC in Garretson (12:30)
- Track @ Dell Rapids (2:30)
- JH Track @ BEC in Parker (3:00)

Tuesday, May 7

- FFA Banquet @ 7:00

Wednesday, May 8

- Golf @ MCM (9:00)
- JH Golf @ Dell Rapids (11:00)

Thursday, May 9

- Track @ BEC in Parker (2:00)

Friday, May 10

- JV Golf @ Chester (10:00)

Worth Mentioning

Golf is currently in Chester for the BEC tournament. Results will be in next week's issue.

Choose Kind

- April Precept: "What is beautiful is good, and who is good will soon be beautiful." - Sappho
- March Precept: "Kind words do not cost much. Yet they accomplish much." - Blaise Pascal
- February Precept: "It is better to know some of the questions than all of the answers." - James Thurber
- January Precept: "No man is an island, entire of itself." - John Donne

NBA Playoffs feature premier matchups

by **Mason Hofer**
staff writer

With the NBA playoffs already mid-stride, there has been lots of action and nail biting, teeth grinding finishes to games, but that's what every basketball fan loves about this time of the year. In the first round, there were no series winning upsets with the top four seeds still all at large in the second round. As there is every year, a lot is on the line for all of these teams, here is a quick breakdown of what's at stake for each team.

Golden State Warriors: The end of a dynasty may be among us, with key players like Kevin Durant and Klay Thompson becoming free agents this season, a ring would be huge for this organization. The Warriors proved they were once again top dogs in the west by achieving the one seed two out of the last three seasons, can they prove themselves once again by bringing a championship back to the bay area?

Houston Rockets: After getting eliminated in the western conference finals last year by the Warriors, the Rockets have come into the second round with a chip on their shoulder. James Harden (a contender for MVP) has proven to be a scoring machine during the regular season, but can he prove that he can be a team player, and play the role his team needs to win games?

Portland TrailBlazers: In 2015 the

TrailBlazers were among the leagues best teams, but during the offseason the team fell apart, leaving superstar Damian Lillard to step up and fill a role needed to win games. He has done just that leading the Blazers to be a three seed for the last two seasons. After being swept in the first round last year, the Blazers came into this postseason with a different mindset. Can the Blazers prove that they are still capable of winning a title, or is it time to rebuild?

Denver Nuggets: They earned the second seed in the playoffs after not even making the cut last year. Winning eight more games and fighting the Warriors for the number one seed, the Nuggets have proven that they can hoop. The only problem is, they are a very inexperienced team with little to none playoff knowledge. Can a couple of young bloods bring a chip back to mile high city?

Milwaukee Bucks: This may be the biggest shock of the season, after only winning 44 games last season, and 42 the year before that, the Bucks had the most wins out of any team this year with a final record of 60-22. Bucks breakout star, Giannis Antetokounmpo, has been the most dominant player this season, averaging 27.5PTS, 12.5TRB, and 5.9AST, and has made a serious case for MVP. Can the modern day Shaq end the Bucks championship drought?

Boston Celtics: The Boston Celtics may be the greatest franchise in NBA

history, but there is just one problem, they've only won one championship in the last 30 years! The Celtics have been serious contenders in the Eastern Conference for a couple years now. Can the Celtics work through their team chemistry issues and bring home another ring to the city of champions?

Philadelphia 76ers: TRUST...THE...PROCESS... it's crazy to think that a couple of years ago, the 76ers were one of the worst teams in NBA history. Now they are proving themselves as one of the BEST in the league! Especially after acquiring new stars this season, the 76ers have all the right tools to win a championship.

Toronto Raptors: Everyone knows about the drake curse, but what is not known is that the Raptors have not won a championship during his time on this Earth. Well, they've never won a championship anyway but that's besides the point. The Raptors are a fairly young franchise (est. 1995) and are still fishing for that championship DNA. They made a bold move last season trading franchise star, DeMar DeRozan, for Kawhi Leonard, who had publicly stated he wants to be in L.A.. If the Raptors don't win a championship this year, that trade would will be a huge flop.

This years playoffs is looking like its going to continue to be crazy as teams continue to get eliminated. Game One of the NBA Finals are expected to air May 30th on ABC.

The last stand—Avengers: Endgame

by Oliviyah Thornton
staff writer

Everyone has at least heard of this movie from a friend, from people talking in the hallways or classrooms, or you've just known about it because you are into the Marvel franchise. From die hard Marvel fans to casual viewers, this movie is the biggest of them all.

The excitement and suspense behind this movie has been growing ever since the first *Avengers* film came out, in which we get to see some of our favorite characters come together and form the group we all know and love today.

In the first film, the superheroes came together to fight Thor's (played by Chris Hemsworth) evil brother Loki (played by Tom Hiddleston). They all work together to stop Loki from destroying and taking over New York after he gains the power of the Tesseract, a powerful energy cube. They manage to defeat Loki and banish his alien warriors. Seeing these great heroes use their powers together got the Marvel fan base excited for the next *Avenger* movies to come out.

As time continues, the heroes go there separate ways and appear in their own individual movies. To allow the fans get to know each hero better, Marvel comes out with another *Avengers* movie, *Avengers: Age of Ultron*. Tony, or Iron man, (played by Robert Downey Jr.) jump-starts a dormant peacekeeping program until things take a terrible turn and force the Avengers to come back together for another show down.

One more movie before the final showdown the Avengers will have with Thanos. *Avengers: Infinity War*.

Thanos is a man bent on collecting all six soul stones and snapping half the population of the gal-



axy out of existence. In *Infinity War*, Thanos searches the Galaxy looking for these stones until he comes across Thor and his ship. He collects his second stone, Space Stone, after killing Loki and others residing on the ship. Thor survives and the Hulk is able to escape and inform the others on what has happened. One additional character in this movie is Dr. Strange, (played by Benedict Cumberbatch).

The Avengers come together to try and stop Thanos from completing his mission; sacrificing themselves just to protect the people who cant protect themselves. Later Tony, Iron man, is told by Dr. Strange that out of every possibly they only have one chance to win. With this in mind the

Avengers still fight and Tony hopes that this will be the one chance they will win.

They fight and Thor manages to strike Thanos in the chest. This is where the famous line everyone remembers comes from, Thanos informs Thor he should have gone for the head and then Thanos succeeds in snapping his fingers and eradicating half of all living things on every planet.

As people start to crumble into dust the movie takes us back to the planet where the characters of Guardians of the Galaxy, Dr. Strange, Iron man, and Spiderman are. The characters are devastated that they almost got the gauntlet off Thanos, but failed. While they're there, one of the saddest scenes occurs. The Guardians of the Galaxy and Dr. Strange start to disappear, but that's not that scene that brings most of the people watching to tears.

Our favorite friendly neighborhood Spider-Man (Tom Holland) says one of his most famous lines but also saddest. "Mr. Stark, I don't feel so good." He proceeds to fall into Tony's arms repeating "I don't want to go". Tony shows clear hurt of seeing Peter like this. Tony, in some ways, feels responsible for Peter and as Peter fades into dust, Tony

looks devastated.

This movie leads into the part two, *Avengers: Endgame*.

Knowing that our favorite heroes have suffered from their greatest defeat and are suffering from their failures, piques curiosity. Among our wondering on how Marvel will pull this movie off, it will also be interesting to see how they decide to deal with Captain America, (played by Chris Evans) since this will be his last *Avengers* movie. To get some other opinions, the Blue Ink got both sides of the story: a person who has seen the movie, and a fan who hasn't.

"I'm really excited to see the whole Avengers group go out with a bang and to see how the revolution of the graphics has improved over past movies," stated Kylie Uhl, a Marvel fan who has yet to see the movie.

"I enjoyed every bit of this movie, it was great and I would recommend it for anyone who enjoys action packed movies!" said Samantha Kruger, a freshmen who has seen the movie.

With some actors deciding to leave the Marvel universe like Jeremy Renner (Hawkeye), Tom Hiddleston (Loki), Gwyneth Paltrow (Iron-mans romantic partner), and Chris Hemsworth (Thor). It will interesting on how Marvel plays this out since most actors who play these parts can't be seen being played about anyone. Especially how both Chris Evans (Captain America) and Robert Downey Jr. aka RDJ (Iron-man) plan on *Avengers: Endgame* being their last in the Marvel universe. For fans it will be hard to see these great actors go and move on and we know that no one can replace them. Marvel has their hands full on whether to find new actors to play their spots or have them killed off in *Avengers: Endgame*.



Blue Dragons honored during academic awards



ACADEMIC LETTER WINNERS

Freshmen: Jaelyn Benson, Maren Bonte, Keara Bottelberghe, Lauren Fick, Ryan Flanagan, Katie Hanson, Noel Johnson, Dylan Kindt, Samantha Kruger, Morgan Moritz, Olivia Mullin, Cadyn Ockenga, Morgan Pierret, Lily Ranschau, Samantha Shellum, Erin Steen, Oliviyah Thornton, Mason Tillma, Mataya Trower, Sarah Welch
Sophomores: Lauren Heesch, Molly Hulscher
Juniors: Nadalie Johnson, Kennedy Lee

ACADEMIC PIN WINNERS

Sophomores: Dominic Abraham, Brady DeBates, Evan DeBates, Alexa Draper, Lucas Draper, Mattea Fiegen, Carolin Hoskins, Peyton Hove, Kaycie King, Sam Konechne, Madden Lardy, Elizabeth Olson, William Ross, Jacob Schroeder, Rave Uhlich
Juniors: Riley Altman, Ashlyn Andersen, Jayden Clark, Aftyn Ketikamp, Rachel Kindt, Zachary Klaassen, Angel Larson, Aliah Lymon, Madisen Nordstrom, Mckenzie Northrup, Nobel Nothstine, Isabella Peters, Tessa Pederson, Kara Ross, Abigail Schroeder
Seniors: Keara Beck, Andrew Blosmo, Cory Bryan, Emily Erickson, Rakell Gnad, Lesly Gonzalez, Kylee Greenhoff, Dakota Johnson, Brennan Mudder



The newest members of NHS were inducted last Monday night. They are (first row) Jaelyn Benson, Katie Hanson, Sarah Welch, Madi Decker, Mataya Trower, Sam Shellum, Erin Steen, (second row) Morgan Moritz, Amber Hulscher, Joy Fry, Lauren Fick, Maren Bonte, Kennedy Buckneberg, (third row) Cadyn Ockenga, Dylan Kindt, Ryan Flanagan, Jayse Miller, Mason Tillma, (back row) Morgan Pierret, Lily Ranschau, Noel Johnson, Mya Long, Oliviyah Thornton. Not pictured are Tara Petersen, Keara Bottelberghe, Braedon Genzlinger, Isaiah Gnad, Gabe Johnson, Olivia Mullin, Grace Panning, Justin Stoterau, and Tayson Swatek.

Measles mayhem *Outbreak spreads across 22 states*

by **Jayden Clark**
staff writer

From January 1 to April 26, 2019, there has been 704 confirmed measles cases in 22 states in America. Measles is a highly contagious, viral disease that is most commonly contracted during childhood. It was completely eradicated in the United States in the early 2000's, but recent years have seen more wide-spread outbreaks. The measles disease is completely preventable with a vaccination and, if contracted, treatable by a medical professional. Historically, most people receive their vaccination for measles as a result of recommendations prior to a child starting school, although, some opt out of receiving the vaccination as a result of religious beliefs or out of fear of potential, serious side effects.

Measles can be contracted through a variety of ways, including touching a contaminated surface, skin-to-skin contact, and through saliva. The most common symptoms of measles include, muscle pains, fatigue, fever, skin rash, and a dry cough. For those that contract measles, doctors recommend patients stay at home (largely to reduce the likelihood of contaminating others), wash hands often, disinfect household items, and get the vaccination (if not already vaccinated). The vaccine, once administered, takes approximately 2-3 weeks to fully protect an individual.

Given the information about measles, one might logically ask, "if there is a vaccine for the measles virus and it was eradicated in the early 2000's, why is there an outbreak of the disease today?" The outbreak can be attributed to a couple things: out-of-the-country travelers bringing the virus back into the United States and

fewer numbers of people being vaccinated in the United States in recent years.

There are fewer vaccinations for measles because parents are afraid their child may develop autism as a result of the vaccine. This fear was created when scientist Andrew Wakefield published a study in 1998 called the Wakefield Study. The Wakefield Study linked the measles vaccination to autism development in babies. The results of the experiment went viral and caused a panic. Ultimately, this led to a significant increase in the number of parents electing not to vaccinate their children.

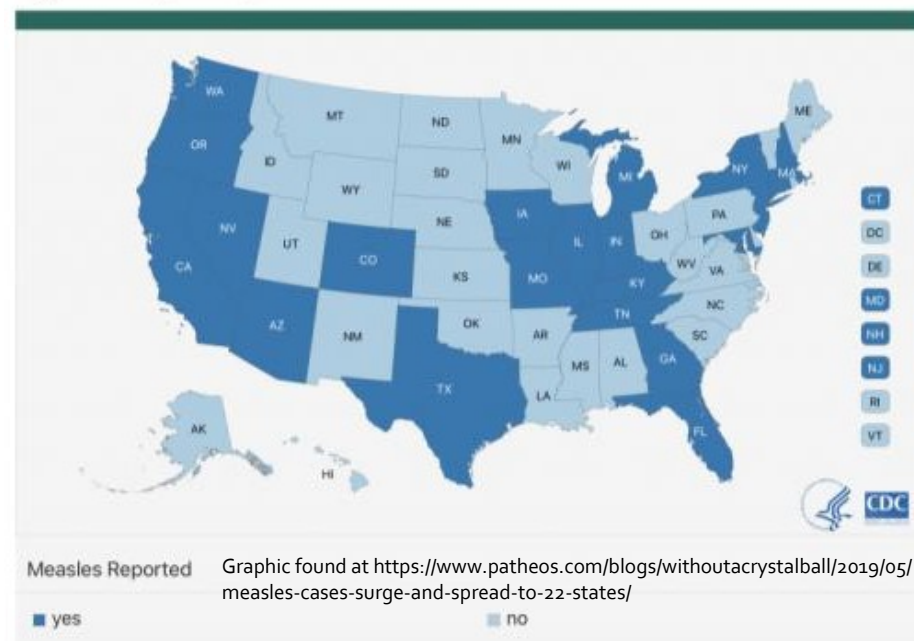
In the years following its publication, Wakefield's experiment was proven to be fraudulent and the resulting research and conclusion incorrect. Wakefield had altered medical records and lied about several other aspects of his study. Subsequently, he was banished from the British Medical community and had his medical license revoked. The Institution of Medicine has since conducted nu-

merous experiments, all with the same results that support the same hypothesis: there is no connection between the measles vaccination and autism.

Although the connection between the measles and autism has been proven inaccurate, vaccinations for the measles are continuing to decline. This decline is resulting in outbreaks throughout the United States. Some states near South Dakota have experienced outbreaks, including Colorado, Iowa, Michigan, and Missouri.

The measles virus is a disease that can easily be contained. There is a highly effective vaccination that can offer full protection to everyone in less than a month following injection. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) urges everyone to wash hands frequently and practice cleanliness habits. Most importantly, the CDC continues to promote the safeness of vaccines and stresses the importance of getting vaccinated as the primary and most effective way to avoid contracting the measles.

Reported Measles Cases in the U.S., January 1–April 26, 2019



Attention: world news update

by **Sam Gonzalez**
senior writer

Mall of America

Earlier on April 14, a five year old boy was thrown off a third-floor balcony at the Mall of America. Landen was in critical condition for nearly two weeks, but on April 26, news broke out that Landen was awake and now in much better condition. Although he is still in Intensive Care, his family has hopes to see him fully recovered by June.

Sri Lankan Bombing

On Easter Sunday, one of the most devastating events ever occurred at the church's in Sri Lanka. Suicide bombers. The bombs occurred at churches and hotels and is said to have killed 321 people. There is now speculation that Sri Lanka has multiple clues that they were going to be bombed. The group taking responsibility to a radical Islamist group called Islamic State. There is a list of about 40 possible suspects and there is some evidence that Sri Lanka has knew of the bombing before it happened.

Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi

Soon after the bombing in Sri Lanka, a video appeared that seemed to have ISIS Leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi. After being silent for five years. This has now become a national security and the United States is determined to get rid of .

Senior Spotlights



Keara Beck

SENIOR PROJECT:
Mission trip to Kenya including running a school supply drive

ACTIVITIES INVOLVED IN:
Band
National Honor Society

WHO/WHAT WILL YOU MISS MOST:
Kris

PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR:
Attend SD School of Mines for Bio-Medical Engineering



Trevor Fiegen

SENIOR PROJECT:
Building an addition on my house

ACTIVITIES INVOLVED IN:
Basketball
Track & Field

WHO/WHAT WILL YOU MISS MOST:
Hanging out in Mrs. B's room

PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR:
Go to DSU for business and high jumping for their track team

