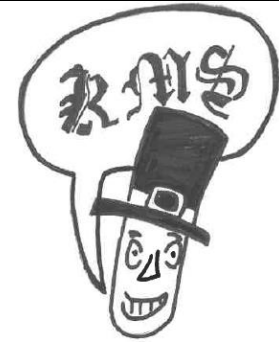


KMS PURPLE PAGES

*Kenai Middle School
Kenai, Alaska
November 2023*



BIRDS, BEARS & BIG GAME



By Truman Dodson

Several people at KMS went hunting recently. These people traveled to different areas in the Lower 48 and Alaska to hunt for various animals, including birds and big game.

Last month, from October 21-29, Mr. Felchle flew to Goodrich, North Dakota for one week to celebrate his mother's birthday. While he was there, he hunted for ducks and geese with his sons Carter and Conner. They also hunted for deer, but got none.

He was very successful: even though they did not get a deer, they saw many from the blind. They also got their limit in ducks most every day that they hunted for them. He said that the best part of the trip was being with his family: "Hunting is an activity that allows my two boys and myself to spend quality time together."

Mr. Verkuilen, who works as a substitute at our school, also went to Goodrich for one week and hunted. He hunted for ducks, geese, and deer, and on October 22, he shot a deer. He later joined Mr. Felchle to hunt for ducks and geese for two days. They got around twenty ducks and geese with each other. At one

time during their trip, it started to snow.

Mr. Dosko went to Uganik Bay, Kodiak, to hunt. He was there from October 31 to November 14. He finally won a permit draw he had been participating in for ten years. He traveled to Kodiak on the ferry, and when he arrived, he took a charter airplane to Uganik Bay. He shot a brown bear, as seen in the picture. He also hoped to get some deer but was unsuccessful. Because of the weather, Mr. Dosko had to stay in Uganik Bay for three extra days because planes could not pick him up.

Ellie Elordi, an 8th grader, has hunted in Idaho for the past two years with her dad. She used to live in a town named Caldwell from the ages of 1-13, when she moved here. Last year, she went to Rome, Idaho to deer hunt and got a 7-8 point antler bull. This year, she won an elk cow lottery and went to Deer Creek to hunt with her dad's cousin, Steve. She said the best part of the trip was hunting with her friend Abby Gumb. She recommends that you practice shooting at first before going hunting. Her family processes the meat themselves, and she really likes it when her dad fries the hearts with oil, spices, and potatoes.

**Check out the full-color version of the *Purple Pages* online:
KMS Facebook, KMS website, and in your school g-mail!**

October

Students of the Month

By Brooklyn Coleman

Every month different students are chosen for Student of the Month. For October, 10 students out of the WHOLE school were selected! Because of how wonderful they are, they each get a whole pizza to celebrate at lunch! If you see any of these students in the hallway, give them a high five!



6th Grade: Greysen Besse, Aliya Davenport, Caitlyn Cramer



7th Grade: Brailea Smith, Molli Sansotta, Machen Iverson, Marley Mesa



8th Grade: Cooper Every, Ari Thompson, Keegan Guthrie

-Delightful Deja-

By Blu Christensen



Deja Andruss is a shy but kind-hearted 6th grader here at KMS. She likes writing, and talking to her close friends to pass the time. She doesn't do sports, but she does like soccer a bit.

Deja's favorite subject in school is language arts, for the writing part of it. Deja mainly writes about her feelings, fictional stories, or her thoughts about books. She says that being in 6th grade is a lot better than being in elementary school because the teachers are a lot nicer, and she gets to see and talk to her friends more often. She said the biggest difference between middle school and elementary school is the time that school starts.

Deja has done quite a bit of traveling throughout the years, although she has only visited the places, not lived there. A few of the states are Oregon, Wisconsin, Michigan, and Utah. She says the most memorable place she has visited was Wisconsin, the reason being she was able to meet a lot of family she hadn't met before.

She has two siblings, a brother and a sister. Deja is, unfortunately, the middle child. Her brother is the eldest and in school; her younger sister is a toddler, and Deja says she's loud and messy. Deja isn't looking forward to much this year; she said, "I'm a potato." Besides all that, she's a sweet person and a loyal friend.

* * *

"Everyone wants to be appreciated, so if you appreciate someone, don't keep it a secret."

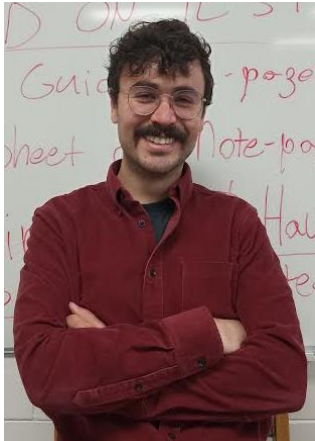
"Live life to the fullest and focus on the positive."

"Be thankful for what you have; you'll end up having more!"

Personable

Prusak

By Effie Muster



In June of this year, our new history teacher, Mr. Prusak, stumbled upon a post for a teaching job, located in a small town in Alaska, and he applied, as he had always wanted to live in Alaska.

Back before Mr. Prusak was hired, he earned a degree in Anthropology and Sociology. He minored in Latin American Studies and majored in History Education. He was inspired to become a history teacher by a conviction that learning and understanding history can make the world a better place, and by a passion for the human experience. His opinion of what makes a good historian is someone who understands that history is an argument, and who works to find reliable sources to make their argument.

When he isn't teaching, his favorite hobbies are fly fishing and skiing, which are, of course, seasonal. Another hobby is listening to music; his favorite genre is jazz, and recently, some jazz music created by an artist named Oscar Peterson.

Classy Castimore

By Dalton Wik



Mrs. Castimore is the long-term sub for Mrs. Newton, and she will be her sub until February. She wanted to be a teacher in the early 2000s because she decided she didn't want to be a waitress anymore.

What she likes about teaching is when a kid understands something, but for her the hardest part about being a teacher is appropriate discipline for misbehaving kids. The first class to get all their homework done wins cake, and so far 4th hour is pretty good with getting their homework done. But her favorite class is her second hour (prep period) because there are no students!

She has two daughters who both go to our school, in 6th and 8th grade, and she gets to teach one of them. Her favorite thing about being in the same school as her kids is that they have a fun car ride and get to talk about things on the way, and she doesn't have to remember to pick them up.

Mrs. Castimore also has a brown and black cat named Max who is fluffy and 16 years old. Another interesting detail about her is that she's an extreme gamer, playing Fall Guys, Splatoon 2, and Mario Kart. She also knits in her free time because it's relaxing.

H-amazing Hesse

By Kelsie Bliss



Have you heard of the amazing Mrs. Hesse? Well, if you haven't, she is an amazing student teacher! I have heard from a lot of people that she is probably the best student teacher ever.

For the 8th grade math students, she helps out in Mrs. Rininger's class, assisting her with anything that she needs, including teaching the class. She was also helping in Mrs. Newton's class. When I asked her why she wants to be a teacher, she said she absolutely loves working with kids.

She works with math teachers because she loves math. She wanted to be a student teacher because she feels it is the next step to becoming a teacher. She loves working here at KMS because she used to go here as a kid.

In high school, she participated in cross-country, track, and varsity basketball. She also coached KMS cross country this year. She would show her KMS spirit by wearing purple and gold, or she would go to activities or make posters for our teams!

In her free time, she loves to hike and run. She also loves spending time with her husband and her dog. She recently got married over the summer, on July 15th. Her favorite TV shows are *The Office* and *Friends*.

OPINION-8-ED

By Eli Pancoast

**“Who’s your favorite pro athlete?
Why are they your favorite?”**

Eli Bemis: “Lionel Messi, because he is a super pro soccer player that never gives up.”

Luke Karpik: “Max Verstappen because he is a great F1 driver.”

Shimi Masson: “Conor McGregor because he’s one of the best at MMA and he inspired me to do kickboxing.”

Andrew Stein: “Lebron James because he partnered with Sprite Cranberry.”

Abigail Ziegler: “Simone Biles because I’ve done gymnastics for eight years and she was always the girl I looked up to.”

Daniel Stuart: “Stephen Curry, because he inspired me to keep working hard for any goals.”

Sawyer Graham: “Micheal Jordan because he is the best at basketball.”

Mr. Prusak: “Candide Thovex because he represents human potential and uses the mountains like a painter uses a canvas.”

Oscar Marcou; “Messi because Ronaldo is trash.”

Lucas Swanson: “Tiger Woods because he is a hard worker.”

Everett Poulin: “My favorite pro athlete is Michael Phelps. He is my favorite because he holds the world record for most Olympic gold medals.”

Hallie Songer: “Caitlin Clark, because they sold so many tickets they had to put a basketball court on a football field. And she plays for Iowa State College.”

Selah Coots: “Sydney McLaughlin-Levrone, she’s a hurdler and sprinter and she always works her hardest.”



Sources of Strength

By Nik Sebesta

Sources of Strength started here at KMS five years ago. Some trainers came to the district to start the program. Nurse Dixie is the SOS advisor and everyone that is helping includes Lily Teates, Hailee Painter, Arlo Cooper, Maggie Bemis, Mia Settlemyer, Dakota Farmer, Lily Taliesin, Kira Inman, Shay Gonzalez, Brooklyn Coleman, and technically everyone is in SOS.

At our school, SOS encourages students and staff to focus on strengths and not weaknesses. The program is important because it promotes suicide prevention, helps people, and creates a healthy community.

During November, SOS at KMS is having a generosity drive. Items will be sent to the Office of Children’s Services, Lee Shore Center, the Peninsula Food Bank, and other groups. It takes everyone to support youth to have the power to change things for the better, so be sure to support SOS.

Sources of Strength

- Physical health
- Mental health
- Family support
- Positive friends
- Mentors
- Healthy activities
- Generosity
- Spirituality

Thankful Teachers

For what in your life are you most thankful?

Ms. Chantel: "I am most thankful for my family and anything we do together, from camping to cooking and all of our adventures."

Mrs. Cruickshank: "I am most thankful for daily puppy hugs, a kiss from my husband, and knowing that I am loved by family and friends."

Mrs. Laker: "I am thankful for my family. So cliché, but really, those people are the most important in my life. And solid friends!"

Mrs. Adair: "I am most thankful for my family and for friends who have become family."

Mrs. Castimore: "I'm ever so thankful for my family (even when they drive me the slightest bit crazy...) and I'm also thankful for people who understand, accept, and embrace a little neuro-spiciness in others."

Ms. Christie: "I am most thankful for family, for living in Alaska, and for the people I work with."

Mrs. Tews: "I'm incredibly grateful to live in a country with freedom to choose, especially the freedom to believe in God. My family, particularly my husband and children, give me reasons to be thankful each and every day."

Mrs. Bressler: "I'm thankful for my family and their good health, my friends near and far, and the freedoms that living in America provides."

Mr. Felchle: "God has blessed me with many wonderful things in my life. He has given me two loving families, which are my own personal family and my KMS family. He has given me a wonderful community that is supportive of those in need. I am blessed beyond measure. Thank you, all."

Ms. Silva: "I am most thankful for my job... I get to come and share my favorite thing (ART) with some pretty awesome students. I'm so lucky!"

Mr. Lewis: "I am thankful for family and friends, but I am also very thankful for living in a place that is safe. I lived in Japan for 10 years, which has a very low crime rate, and I realized how important it is to be able to live and move about freely without being afraid. Alaska is not as worry-free as Japan, but compared to many places in the United States and around the world, it is a safe place to live and I am thankful for that every day."

Mrs. Nabholz: "I'm most thankful for the love and support of my husband and son, my parents' health, being blessed with delicious and healthy Alaskan foods, and for every person who shows respect and appreciation for all of the ways that our bodies, minds, hearts, and spirits are unique."

KIDS IN THE HALL

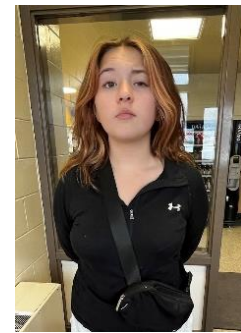
By Shayleanne Gonzalez

Would you rather go to a Taylor Swift concert or a Drake concert?



"A Drake concert 100%. I hate Swifties."
Leini Johansen, 8th grade

Would you rather be a golf pro or a tennis pro?



"I would want to be a tennis pro because my mom played tennis when she was in high school."
-Alexi McIrvin, 7th grade

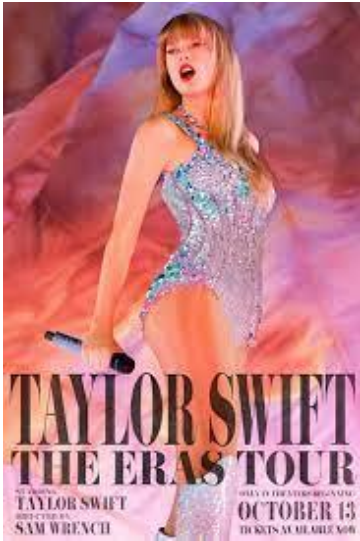
Would you rather eat moldy pumpkin pie or drink rotten eggnog?



"Pumpkin pie because eggnog is disgusting."
-Zach Ihde, 6th grade

Extreme Eras Tour

By Kennedy Wortham



The *Taylor Swift Eras Tour* movie isn't a regular movie with hired actors and scripts. It's more of a documentary or live performance of the Eras Tour. The movie was directed by Sam Wrench and is a film of her last concert of the Eras Tour that took place in Los Angeles.

You probably have heard of the movie already, but why is the movie/performance so much more popular than any other performance ever turned into a movie? Well, her concert is the biggest concert tour in history, with many songs from her lifetime of emotions, family, friends, relationships, and how she overcame many obstacles in her life.

Taylor Swift's top 10 most popular songs:

1. Shake It Off (1989)
2. Anti-Hero (*Midnights*)
3. You Belong with Me (*Fearless*)
4. Blank Space (1989)
5. Love Story (*Fearless*)
6. I Knew You Were Trouble (1989)
7. We Are Never Ever Getting Back Together (*Red*)
8. Bad Blood (1989)
9. I Don't Wanna Live Forever (*Reputation*)
10. Wildest Dreams (1989)

I would recommend listening to these songs because they are extremely popular, especially after the Eras tour. The movie is a fun-filled experience with many songs, and I would highly suggest it if you love Taylor Swift's music and upbeat fun music in general.

During the album *Red* Taylor Swift was singing the song "22" when she saw a child in the audience in the front row and decided to give her black hat to the little girl, who ended up being Kobe Bryant's daughter. This is pretty cool because while every little girl or boy might want something like that, with Taylor being very kind this little girl was dressed up nice and looked super happy to be there.

In each of Taylor Swift's albums her outfit changes, from long, flowy beautiful dresses to T-shirts and shorts. Her outfits always represent her album somehow, by wearing red for her album *Red* and wearing a very confident outfit throughout her entire *Reputation* album. *Reputation* was my favorite album, and my favorite outfit was from the album *Speak Now* with a long flowy purple dress that cost \$13,000!



Something that impressed me was Taylor Swift's set changes and how impressively fast they were. It felt like only 40 seconds to change her outfits and the set. Also what impressed me was the amount of money Taylor Swift earned from the Eras tour, with average earnings of 10-13 MILLION DOLLARS for each concert!! So in all of Taylor Swift's Eras tour concerts, she earned a whopping 4.1 billion dollars!



This issue of the *KMS Purple Pages* . . .

is brought to you by reporters Kelsie Bliss, Blu Christensen, Brooklyn Coleman, Truman Dodson, Tia Ervin, Shay Gonzalez, Ava Haugstad, Lucas Loggins, Effie Muster, Eli Pancoast, Molli Sansotta, Nik Sebesta, Sofia Tews, Chayton Todd, Dalton Wik, and Kennedy Wortham, with support from Journalism advisor Mrs. Nabholz. Illustrators for this issue include Chayton, Truman, Nik, Effie, and Shay. Thanks to all the students, teachers, staff, and parents who helped with news and photos!

Nurse Dixie with her daughter Monica!

We're all so thankful for our awesome school nurse!

Bodacious Bluey

By Kennedy Wortham & Molli Sansotta

Bluey is a Disney show and it's the best show EVER. But why would we write an article about a TV show with a target audience of five-year-olds? Because it's awesome and REALLY funny, even for the parents who are "forced" to watch it. The main characters are Bingo and Bluey, two Australian heelers who make everything they can into an awesome game with a super funny (or super obvious) name.

Bluey is such an amazing show; every episode is full to the rim with fun, and the occasional hilarious quote like these:

"I slipped on ma beans!"

"Magic Claw has no children. His days are free and easy."

"This is triffi-cult!"

"This is what happens when you're unhappy with what you've got. Someone's husband eventually gets it!"

"It's called a tactical wee."

"Bluey! Eat your floor cereal!"

"The door. It's right here. All we need to do is walk out of it."

"I don't want a valuable life lesson! I just want an ice cream!"

"Goodbye uncle strawberry!"

"Wait! If I lick first and you lick second you could take a bigger lick than me!"

"Yeah! Whack him!" "What, no!"

"THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE!"

"I'm the flamingo QUEEN!"

"Bluey, what were you doing at bum-level on the morning of this morning?"

As you can tell, *Bluey* is a super funny show, filled with a bunch of quotes that stick in your brain. There are so many sayings that you could take from *Bluey*, and if we felt like it, we could probably make an entire book completely full of quotes that we all love. But no matter how many hilarious quotes we write down, they could never be quite as funny as the first time they were said.

Bluey has been out for FIVE YEARS already! It first premiered in Australia in 2018, and was such a big success that Disney bought the international broadcasting rights in 2019. To us that's crazy because five years ago we were 8-year-olds in second grade. We didn't discover *Bluey* until we were 11, so we've missed out on a LOT. How did we not know about this earlier!? Like how did we live with the best show ever right under our tongues?

Although *Bluey* and *Bingo* are the main characters, there are more than 130 other characters! Our top five favorite kids (in order and not including *Bluey* and *Bingo*) are:

1. Muffin Heeler (*Bluey* and *Bingo*'s cousin)
2. Winton (the pug with a silly sense of humor)
3. Pom Pom (the "small but hardy" pomeranian)
4. Snickers (the sausage dog who rolls down hills really fast)
5. Judo (*Bluey* and *Bingo*'s neighbor)



Now for our top favorite parents (also in order):

1. Bandit (*Bluey* and *Bingo*'s dad)
2. Wendy (the neighbor who accidentally witnesses EVERYTHING)
3. Trixi (*Bluey* and *Bingo*'s aunt)
4. Chili (*Bluey* and *Bingo*'s mom)
5. Pat "Lucky's dad" (the backyard neighbor with a pizza oven)

At this point, we hope you realize why we wrote an entire article about the best show in the entire known world. Clearly, it's because *Bluey* is the best show in the entire known world. Like duh, how could we make that any more obvious?



Aggressive A-Team!

By Ava Haugstad & Brooklyn Coleman

Girls A-team is off to a great start to the competitive season! There are a total of 12 girls on the A-team. Before practices they have a study hall every other week from 2:30-4:00 (it alternates with the boys.)

Mr. Rose is the coach this year. He has been coaching for 12 years, and he has coached varsity for 8 years. If you didn't know, Mr. Rose is a 7th grade history teacher and he also teaches living skills (personal finance.) Coach Rose wants to see the girls improve as the season goes on and he really enjoys that.

For practice the girls are constantly doing things and not wasting time. In practices, the coach puts the team in stressful situations so the girls are prepared for the games. Coach does like to have the girls run so they are conditioned for the upcoming game.

The teams had a jamboree in Homer on October 28th, with two half-court scrimmages and two full-court scrimmages. There was no score for any of the scrimmages. Overall, the girls thought it was a good opportunity to see how the later games would play out.

The first game was at home vs. Aurora, and we unfortunately lost. Coach thought that the team needed to be more aggressive. Aurora does not participate in boroughs because they start their season WAYYYY early ;)

The second game was vs. Nikiski and the girls had an amazing win! All the girls ran the plays really well too! Coach thought that the girls had a chance in the game to work on what they needed to work on.

Another game was vs. Skyview 8th. Kenai girls won and it was super exciting because, well, it's Skyview! The girls were in the double digits very quickly!

We wish best of luck to the girls and boys A-teams in Boroughs! Come and watch the teams play boroughs in Nikiski on December 9th! In the December issue, you can read about the rest of the games and boroughs!

B-team Be Ballin'

By Sofia Tews

The girls' B-team basketball is amazing this year, with great 7th and 8th graders sporting their talents. The team consists of 11 hard-working girls who believe their season will be great. At their jamboree in Homer, they had two full-court games and a lot of half-court games.

Krista Sutton is their coach, but she goes by Coach K. All of the players think she is an amazing coach because she teaches a lot of new plays and is a great person. Braylynn Young, an 8th grader, would definitely recommend her as a coach. Former players say that she is sooo nice that they have her on Snapchat. They also say that she never makes them run, unlike A-team that has to do a lot. Olivia Tews said, "I like my coach because she is super nice. I like that we get to learn new drills and get to do lots of games."

Braylynn likes how Coach K always makes practice fun. She likes how they learn a lot of new plays, she works them hard, but not too hard, just so that they improve and have a better season. Olivia likes that they get to play games all the time. She loves playing the games because they are fun and they help the players improve on their free throws and not traveling, which is a good thing because some of the other teams might need to work on that. The entire team loves how they scrimmage a lot, because they work on their in-game skills so they have better plays that are more advanced.

At the game on November 14th against Nikiski, they won 30-12, and it was a great game! Only 10 people were at the game with one of the girls gone, yet they crushed Nikiski. The game was a bit crazy due to some players from the Nikiski team. The coaches encourage their players to be aggressive, but one of them actually bit Olivia on her finger. She was only trying to guard her from passing the ball, but the next thing she knew, the girl took a little chomp on her pointer finger! The Kenai team answered back with many great steals and rebounds; they played strong and held a big lead all the way to the end of the game.

The B-team is excited for more games and finishing off on a high note of a great season, with more shots, steals, and wins.

"I can accept failure, everyone fails at something.

But I can't accept not trying. Talent wins games,

but teamwork and intelligence wins championships."



You cannot *achieve* unless you believe... in yourself. You are more capable than you think.”
- Elena Delle Donne

A-Team Girls Roster

#12 Brooklyn Coleman
#05 Selah Coots
#25 Kailey Crouse
#10 Kennah Gregory
#15 Sydney Hershberger
#11 Maci Miller
#03 Ellore Smith
#24 Hallie Songer
#21 Rylee Trent
#33 Emery Wagner
#04 Grace Wik
#22 Bryleigh Williams
Ava Haugstad (Manager)
Ella Siemers (Manager)

B-Team Girls Roster

Amelia Adams
Riley Cramer
Alyeska Cronk
Maci Daniels
Marah Ivy
Jesika Hyatt
Keyahna Quimby
Glenna Strongheart
Olivia Tews
Audrey Williams
Braylynn Young

A-Team Boys Roster

#15 Carson Cramer
#12 Tanner Gregory
#10 Ceaton Grimm
#40 Nolan James
#21 River Kruzick
#22 Kanyon Lee
#05 Lucas Loggins
#11 Bennett Martin
#14 Eli Pancoast
#01 Uriah Smith
#02 Jay Songer
#04 Amare' Williams

B-Team Boys Roster

Noah Anding
Jaedyn Chunn
Owen Darsey
Jamie Curren
Parker Metteer
Hunter Pontius
Lucas Swanson
Gavin Victoroff
Greyson Whicker
Dalton Wik
Daniel Stuart
Elisha Young
Landon Pietz

“I’ve failed over and over and over again in my life. And that is why I succeed.” - Michael Jordan

“You have to love your sport. Your passion and dedication can’t be some-time, part-time or spare-time. It has to be all-time.”
- Breanna Stewart



“To be the best, you have to work the hardest.” - Kobe Bryant

“You can’t be afraid to fail.” - Lebron James

Beautiful B-Ball

By Eli Pancoast & Lucas Loggins

Kenai Middle School has an excellent boys' basketball A-team this year. Mr. Songer coaches the boys' A-team and has coached it for nine years straight.

In practice, the team works on all kinds of drills. Practice starts with homers, a layup drill that works on passing, shooting, and timing. For the homer drill there is a shooter, a passer, and a rebounder. Benny Martin says that Homers is his favorite drill because he gets to do layups.

We always do "medicines," which are our basic dribbling drills. We usually start with pounding, just dribbling the basketball as hard as we can at shoulder, waist, and knee height, we do this with both hands twice. Then we switch to another dribbling drill in which we dribble the ball sideline to sideline, working with two balls and a partner. In the drill one person has both balls, and they dribble both down while passing one of the balls to their partner then get the ball back, we do this sideline to sideline twice.

Another common drill we do is a shooting drill. In this drill, you have two minutes to get as far away from the hoop as possible. If you make two baskets, you take a step back. If you miss two baskets, in a row you have to take a step forward. We do this twice, for form shooting and the second time we do game speed shoots. Nolan James says that shooting drills are his favorite kind of drills.

After our regular drills, we switch to drills that will work on our defense, offense, passing, and shooting skills; these drills switch daily.

Our first game of the season didn't turn out how we would have liked. The game was against Aurora, and we ended with a loss. The second game of the season turned out well against Nikiski, and we won big in that game.

#KMShashtags

#basketballseason

#Thanksgiving

#snowishere

#stuffingisgross

#Ham>Turkey

#Chapter1fortnite

#We'regoinghomeboys

#wherewedropping

#ThurmanDobson

#ShermanDawson

#time2quitFortnite

#swimming

#cheeseballs

#Drip

#volleyballtryouts

#Slay

BRAVE BOYS B-TEAM

By Ava Haugstad & Brooklyn Coleman

It has been such a spectacular season for the B-team boys! The boys have been practicing super hard. For practice, every day they ride the bus over to the Kenai Rec Center, where they practice from 2:45-4:30.

Rudy Villegas is the coach of the boys B-team. He works as a counselor for the Kenaitze Indian Tribe at KMS. Coach Rudy loves working at KMS, and he loves working with students and staff, "No complaints!" Coach Rudy has been coaching basketball for nine years. He played basketball from 6th grade until he was a senior in high school. He also loves seeing kids fall in love with the game.

The boys have been practicing cutting to the hoop, on-ball screens vs. off-ball screens, and rebounding. The team has also been practicing communication. Coach said that it is really important to communicate in the game. He said they are improving on keeping their head up high, and not giving up on themselves.

Their first game was vs. Chapman. The team unfortunately lost, but they did well for their first official game. The next game was vs. CIA. The team lost but they did a wayyyy better job communicating with each other. The next game was vs. Aurora and the team won! They finally started to gain confidence. They also started to apply what they learned from practices. Coach also said that there were even a couple three pointers!

They also had a game vs. Nikiski. The team beat Nikiski, and the coach said that there was a very similar outcome. They communicated well and set up the post. When the team played vs. Skyview, Coach said that the team was arguing with the refs too much, but a good outcome of that game was that the jump shots were very good!

Boys B-team will have one last game vs. Homer! We are all excited to cheer them on while they (hopefully) whoop Homer's butts!



#Stanley

#Jordans

#size3cros

#caughtstaring

#chromebooksucks

#anotherdayanotherictoryfortheOG

#StartmakingyourChristmaslistnow

#it'stimeforchristmas!

Notorious NBA

By Lucas Loggins

Have you ever wondered what it's like to experience a professional basketball game? Well, it's pretty cool. I attended the Spurs @ Clippers in Los Angeles on October 29th. Here's what you need to know.

You obviously have to buy tickets, which can be somewhat cheap or very expensive. You're gonna want to get to the game at least one hour before the game starts. Walking into the arena for the first time can be something very special for people who love the sport of basketball.

Obviously you're going to watch the game and in between quarters you're going to want some food. Some arenas have actual fast-food places inside, and some just have snack shacks. Moving on to the atmosphere, something about being in that big of a building with that many people going crazy is wild.

The 2023 first overall pick, Victor Wembanyama, was playing that night for the Spurs. Victor is 7 foot 4 inches tall, which is almost two feet taller than the average man. That really puts it into perspective how big these guys really are!

I'm on the KMS boys basketball A-team, and watching our games compared to an NBA game is a drastic difference in speed, intensity, and contact. I encourage all of you to come out for at least one of our games here at Kenai Middle School. Here are some cool pictures from the NBA game I was at.



Paul George



Victor Wembanyama

December Birthdays

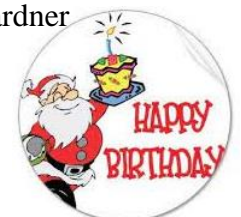
By Sofia Tews

- 02 Bryleigh Williams
- 03 Zach Ihde
- 04 Gideon Cole
- 05 Gavin Victoroff
- 05 Brayden Martin

- 06 Liam McCoy
- 07 Tristin Shay
- 08 Ms. Silva
- 09 Nevaeh Huff-Sorrels
- 10 Bryce Simper
- 13 Dawson Yeoman
- 13 Khayden Jurdi
- 14 Linda Nicholai
- 15 Blu Christensen
- 15 Allie Stonecipher

- 16 Sienna Graham
- 17 Isaak Browning
- 17 Christopher Lloyd
- 17 Brailea Smith
- 18 Ms. Mary
- 18 Lala Trenton
- 19 Kennedy Wortham
- 20 Karson Bornowski
- 20 John Flores
- 20 Myka Battiest

- 21 Teeson Serrano
- 30 Brody Merchant
- 30 Kendra Swearingen
- 30 Roman Campanella
- 30 Austin Gardner



NBA SLANDER

By Dalton Wik

Q: What do basketball players do when they can no longer see? A: They become referees.

Q: What do Bulls fans do after Chicago wins the championship? A: Rewind the VHS tape.

Q: Did you hear the Atlanta Hawks don't have a website?

A: They can't string three W's together.

Q: What is the difference between a Suns fan and a baby?

A: The baby will stop whining after a while.

Q: What does a Miami Heats fan do when his team wins the NBA Finals?

A: Turn off the Xbox.

Q: What's the difference between Tyrese Haliburton and time?

A: Time passes.

Q: What do you call a Boston player with a championship ring?

A: A senior citizen.

Q: What do Houston fans do when they win a game?

A: Keep dreaming.

Q: How many Spurs players does it take to change a tire?

A: One, unless it's a blowout, in which case they all show up.

Q: What do you call 12 millionaires around a TV watching the NBA Finals?

A: The Detroit Pistons.

Q: How do you keep a Knicks player out of your yard? A: Put up a basketball hoop.



Dribbling Jumble

By Dalton Wik

S V M L B E H Y Q X N I A T T
 W B U D U D J S C N S H O T T
 Y O T R Z P Y G I B P W J R J
 F B E A Z G U Z F W O E U U C
 I D C O E P U Y A L S O M Z I
 U I H B R R D O Z Q C P E B G
 K X J K B S E Z W A S F N K W
 Q E S C E G U V C H P D O C S
 H P Y A A P D B O D U F D I C
 N J S B T G P T F S B R N P S
 P E K N E M G A V V S Q A G W
 V C H P R J I J C W M O J S Z
 L L A B R I A R E V O N R U T
 R S Q W S F E P W I O N H C B
 F U L L C O U R T P R E S S M

- | | | |
|---------------|------------------|----------|
| airball | foul | rim |
| and one | full court press | shot |
| backboard | jump shot | sub |
| buzzer beater | key | swish |
| court | layup | tech |
| crossover | pick | turnover |

Thanksgiving Dad Jokes

By Tia Ervin

Did you ever hear about the rude turkey?

It was jerk-y.

Why was the turkey allowed in the band?

He always had drumsticks.

When are turkeys most thankful?

The day after Thanksgiving.

Why did the turkey bring a mic?

He was ready to roast.

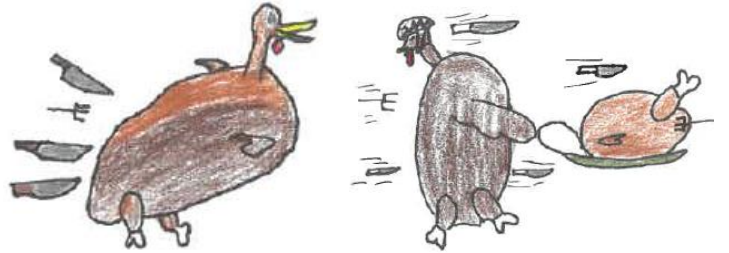
Why did the turkey stand on stilts?

Nobody eats flamingos for Thanksgiving.

What's a turkey's favorite month?

They don't have one, but they prefer any month other than November.

What happened to the turkey when he got into a fight? *He got the stuffing knocked out of him.*



Can you spot all 22 differences?

By Nik Sebesta

_____ (adjective) **Thanks-** _____ (-ing verb) **MAD LIB**

By Nik Sebesta & Mrs. Nabholz

My first Thanksgiving back in _____ (year), I felt so _____ (adjective) for I was going to be able to meet all my _____ (plural noun). I hopped in my _____ (vehicle) and went on a (number) _____-hour drive. When I finally got there, _____ (name of friend or relative) greeted me at the door. They told me we needed to wait for _____ (number) _____ (unit of time) and then finally all the food was ready. We finally started to _____ (verb) the _____ (adjective) _____ (noun) and _____ (adjective) _____ (plural noun). When we were all done _____ (-ing verb), I started to _____ (verb) and then I went to _____ (noun). Later, when I finally got to my _____ (noun) I lay down and _____ (past tense verb) for a long time. When I woke up, it was _____ (noun) again, but I realized that I had left my _____ (noun) at _____ (same person's name) house. I drove all the way back, and when I got there I went inside and asked for my _____ (noun). My _____ (noun) gave it to me, and then I _____ (-ly adverb) went back to my _____ (adjective) _____ (noun). *THE END.*



Me when that one neighbor puts up their Christmas tree and Christmas lights on November 1st . . .



POV: That one great aunt that makes her famous stuffing every single year that tastes like cardboard pulls up to the party



Persistent Piranhas

By Molli Sansotta



The Peninsula Piranhas is a competitive swim team on the Kenai that anyone 18 and under can join (as long as they can swim the length of the pool). The head coach is Will Hubler. He has been coaching our team for 30 years! Practices are held over at KCHS. There are 71 registered swimmers on the team right now.

The practices are split into three hours, with the first hour for the most advanced swimmers (middle and high schoolers mostly), from 3:00-4:00. Second hour is for the more experienced elementary swimmers, and a small group of older swimmers who stay for two hours of practice, from 4:00-5:00. Our newest swimmers and elementary swimmers who are still learning the basics swim during the third hour, from 5:00-6:00.

Within the hours, it's split up even more precisely, with people the same speed and skillset in the same lane. Our pool is split into six lanes, the fastest and most advanced in lane three, then lane two, then lane four, then lane one, then lane five, then lane six. That order seems really random, but it makes way more sense in races, when it looks like a flock of migrating birds in a V-shape, the fastest in the lead, tapering out towards the sides.

Every day of the week we focus on something different, like Monday is Monday, and on Monday we do whatever Coach Will feels like having us do (within reason). Tuesday is IM day; IM means individual medley, and you swim all four strokes by yourself (so not in a relay). Wednesday is distance day, so we focus on swimming as many yards as we can fit into one practice. Thursday is... never mind Thursday, nobody



KMS Swimmers

Eva Anderson
Aviana Boyer
Emma Castimore
Mattie Castimore
Riley Cramer
Kailey Crouse
Faith Graham
Luke Karpik
Oscar Marcou
Bennett Martin
Lyman McBride
London Parrish
Everett Poulin
Molli Sansotta
Jace Strecker
Sofia Tews

knows what we do on Thursdays. But Friday is game day, which sometimes means water polo, relays, or basically any other game you could possibly play in the water! It also sometimes means dry land workouts depending on whether you asked for games or not. Word of advice, don't ask for games if you don't want to do 200 pushups and 200 squats in an hour! Trust me, I've learned from experience.

Every month, we have a swim meet where swimmers from each age group compete in different events as long as 1,650 yards and as short as 25 yards (but only for 8 and unders) and 50 yards for everyone else. November's swim meet is called "Turkey Time" for Thanksgiving, and we did great, especially considering that we only had two weeks of practice beforehand. A bunch of people dropped time and tried new events. Next month, we have the "Candy Cane" meet where we get candy canes (yummy) after we do awesome, even if we don't do so awesome (but we always do).



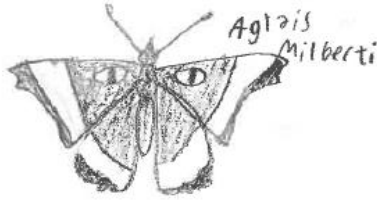
Alaska Entomological Society

By Truman Dodson

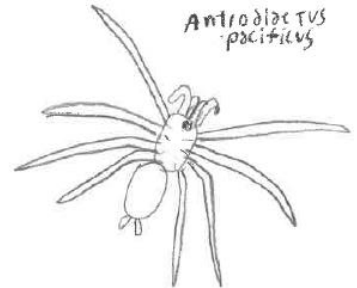
Did you know that bees and wasps are in the same order as ants but not termites? Or that those big brown insects you find under rocks in lakes are immature dragonflies? Did you know that the Milbert's Tortoiseshell is actually a butterfly?

The Alaska Entomological Society is an organization that promotes entomology in Alaska. It has been around since 2005. According to their website, they promote it by doing the following:

- Promote and support the study and appreciation of entomology in Alaska.
- Provide a forum for those interested in the study of entomology in Alaska.
- Disseminate scientific information on entomology in Alaska.
- Promote professional and social interaction among the general membership.
- Achieve closer cooperation and understanding among members so that they may work together in the common cause of furthering the appreciation and knowledge concerning entomology in Alaska.



Every year, AKES publishes a newsletter. It includes articles about various species, projects, and events, such as butterfly counts (2014 issue), or the Sony RX10 iv camera being used to photograph insects (2022 issue). The newsletters can be accessed on their website. They also host an annual meeting, where members can present information, such as the first confirmed brown recluse report in Alaska (15th annual meeting) or Alaska's only Mygalomorph spider (14th annual meeting).

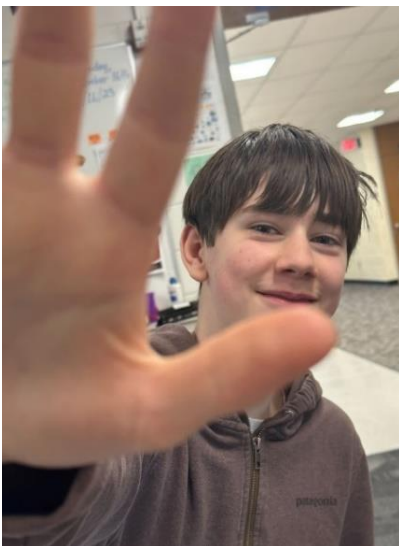


If you like arthropods and entomology, you might want to become a member of the Alaska Entomological Society by going to their website (akentsoc.org) and clicking the "membership" section on the top.

Special thanks to Bugguide.

Memes

By Lucas Loggins



"Ladies, please,
one at a time."

-Truman, Dalton & Nik

OVERHEARD

By Eli Pancoast



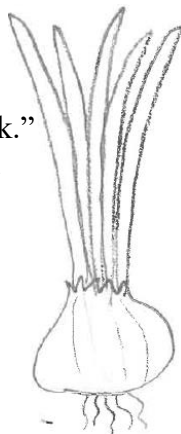
“My mom looks like a beaver.”
“He copied my birthday.”
“Retrieve your hands!”
“Spare me a hand.”
“If you’re tired, sleep at school.”
“You put her leg back!”
“My English isn’t Englishing.”
“There’s sick going around.”

“I got to let out my inner white girl.”
“I thought elephants had five legs.”
“Just sit on the floor and get wiggly with it.”
“Why would you disturb my lunch so ruthlessly?”
“All the girls will run away when they smell my man stench.”
“Isn’t your mom’s name Katie or something? Oh wait, that’s my mom.”
“Your knees are the reason public schools don’t allow people to show their knees.”
“That is the whitest personest thing you could possibly do.”



“I love mouse juice.”
“My brother makes me eat a bug.”
“Rocks taste like chicken, try it.”
“Didn’t you know feet need to breathe?”
“Get a life ... go outside and smell the snow.”
“Tell her son I breathe by smelling wax.”
“I’m not people. I am human.”
“I have underwear in my binder.”

Student 1: “What is a thousand, a thousand, a thousand...?”
Student 2: “That’s not how numbers work.”
“Just search up Flappy Shoe Boy from Greek.”
“I’m going to prison for arson and murder... not yet.”
“I can practically only smell garlic.”
“She can’t onomatopoeia anymore.”
“I am the definition of Batman.”
“That would be I.”



“I see a huge five-letter word.”

worrrd

“My head hurts after hitting it with the bat.”
“My sister thinks German is the same as Japanese.”
“She got a strike with her breath.”
Student 1: “It literally feels and looks like barf.”
Student 2: “How do you know?”
Student 3: “Just scoop through it.”
“What if Miss Piggy cheated on Kermit?”
“This hat smells like my grandma.”
“I was Chinese once.”
“He’s driving. See? There’s the car, and it’s goooing.”
“Tell your bear to stop abusing my hat.”
“You save the best present for last and that’s when you expose yourself!”
Student 1: “Stop harassing me with your paper!”
Student 2: “He has a mind of his own!”
“I’m also not fluent in Grandma language.”
“I was playing Covid one day.”
“I’m gonna prep your hair.”
“Did you just replace me with a dead dude?”
“Why is your fridge crunchy?”
“LET ME GLAZE YOUR HAND!”
“My heat is seating.”
Student 1: “I’m gonna punch you in the face!”
Student 2: “That’s assault.”
Student 1: “So we can just eat you.”
“Chicken tastes like Froot Loops.”



“I know where you live you live in that one house on that one street like you know what I mean like you know you live near that one place.”

OVERHEARD

(continued from page 16)

“You cut the baby’s eye!”

“Is your locker fighting back?”

Oh my gosh, your locker’s kicking your butt!”

“That looks like a fat pawn.”

Teacher: “Your pants match your water bottle today.”

Student: “These aren’t my pants and this isn’t my water bottle.”

Student 1: “Where’s criminology?”

Student 2: “It’s by the girls bathroom.”

“I was a snowflake once so I’m a professional actor.”

“The door is the egg and we are the zit.”

“I gotta get some cardigan action in here...”

“Your hand scared my fingers!”

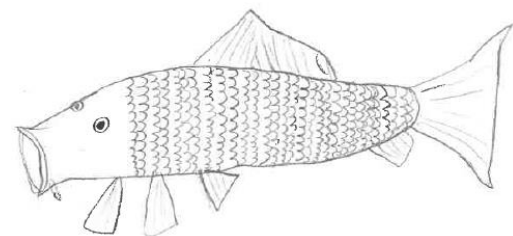
“My mother is NOT in my locker.”

Teacher: “Silence, kid! Or your voice box will be removed!”

“Girls, look at my muscles! This isn’t normal for a girl to have these big of muscles. Flexing looks heroic!”

“An elephant has legs, right? Or are they

related to fish?”



“I just hacked up a lung!”

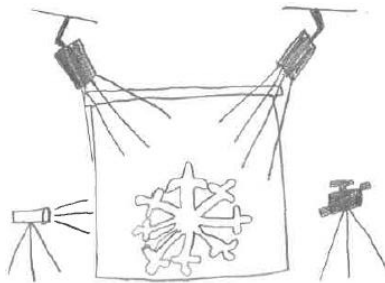
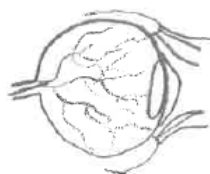
“Why are you letting us chिल्ds touch them?”

“We need 2-sided hallways.”

“Obsessed eyeball thing.”

“He walks like a flamingo.”

“He needs a full-body hairnet.”



Anonymous Confessions

By NBA youngboy & Sticker the Stickman

“I am a undercover CIA agent” -Mr. Someone
And I’m an undercover KMS student.

-Sticker the Stickman



“I like Taco Bell BEANS!”

-Bean Boy

Explains the boys bathroom tragedy of 2023.

-NBA youngboy

“What’s the big deal with STANLEY’S? JK, they’re amazing! Do you like them?”

-Shelly Stanely

No, all the people that have Stanley cups are 7th grade girls that think Dalton Wik is cute.

-NBA youngboy

“I personally believe all skibidi toilet fans should either be silenced forever, or executed”

-Anonymous

Personally, as someone who hates them as well, I definitely think a fair amount of kids at this school would be silenced forever or executed.

-Sticker the Stickman

“Walmart Mac’n’cheese brings me *HAPPINESS* :)”

-Mac’n’cheese Lover

Kraft mac n’ cheese brings me happiness.

-Sticker the Stickman

“I have once been in a bathroom stall with 7 other people”

-Anonymous

Maybe not as much why, but how?”

-NBA youngboy

“I can’t stop playing Fortnite OG, Please help. I sit for hours and hours. I never get up, not even for the bathroom. My diaper reeks of poo-poo and pee-pee. I sit for hours. Not even play the game, just staring at the Chun-Li skin. If you have any advice. Please give it to me. Another day, another victory for the OG.” -Anonymous

Why is this so relatable? And yes the Chun-Li skin will catch an eye or two!

-NBA youngboy

A Day in the Life of KMS Bald Barbie!!!



Barbie during NYC fashion week gone wrong

Barbie went a little overboard with the makeup



Barbie got dress coded



When you're bored in History so you make creepy Barbie



When you have to make the creepy Barbie a mystery