1. Senior Denashia Steffen performs with Bella Voce at the end of the season parent show. The parent show was a longstanding tradition. During the performance, parents put on their own rendition of the show. (choto by Sierrah Mangra-Dutcher)



2. Sophomore Emma Erdoes belts out her award-winning solo for the the girls' song "Yes, Yes, Yes, I Can". (photo by Sierrah Mangra-Dutcher)





Snow Deep

Show Choir gets trapped in Newton

Everything was white. The road was white, the windows were white, the sky was white. Swirls of snow surrounded the bus as the show choirs sat and waited out the storm in a gas station parking lot. The show choir department was stranded in Newton, on their way home from the Davenport competiton, their final competition of the year.

The choirs left the competition early in attempt to beat the storm but about 40 miles out the team got stuck in the brunt of the blizzard. The busses decided to pull over. After sitting at a gas station for two hours, the decision was made to spend the night in hotels and wait for morning.

Because of differet locations the buses stoped at thre differets hotes: Best Western, Comfort Inn, and Econo Lodge.

Students, who were already stressed from leaving early, didn't know what was going on. "That was the longest hour of my life," senior Megan Gilbreath said. "I'm looking around and I'm like oh look there's a car in a ditch, oh my gosh there's a semi in a ditch, are we pulling over soon?"

After pulling off, the difficult choice had to be made. "It really wasn't our decision per say, we were consulting Mr. Nelson, the athletic director, quite a bit," choir director Samantha Robilliard said. "So, he was the one who made the final call. We also were discussing the roads with the bus drivers and their level of feeling secure with traveling with all the kids."

With one worker for the entire store, students rushed to buy whatever they needed for the night. "Everyone's buying their overnight items," junior Mackenzie Gleason said. "Except for Sam McDaniel, who bought a half gallon of milk and the proceeded to stand outside of the gas station, ominously chugging said half gallon of milk. It was an interesting sight,"

"I got two 12 packs of Mountain Dew, three rolls of floss, and some beans," said sophomore Nick Zimmerman, "No toothbrush, Robi took the last toothbrush. She made a very big point of running into the store and grabbing the toothbrush before any of the rest of us could."

"I was running in and looking around and not telling anybody about the toothbrush," Robilliard said. "And I did take the last one which I'm really happy about,"

Once students finally got to the hotel, early that Sunday morning, they had to find rooms. "It was a little chaotic trying to figure out who you were going to room with. You would like look at somebody and then they would be rooming with somebody else," Zimmerman said.

After finding rooms, students were finally able to sit and relax. "We walked in, we all took a shower, and then we just went to bed," Zimmerman said.

9 a.m the following morning the buses pulled out of the hotels and left for home. Finally, 11 hours later, the show choir department pulled into the high school parking lot. "I found it really funny. I find the entire event really just, really funny," Gilbreath said. "Only just because of course this would happen on the last Davenport of my senior year. Of course!"



Story By: Claire Cramer Captions By: Claire Cramer

34

Show Choir

Job # 3292 School Johnston High School

Special Instructions

Even Page

34

WORK ORDER

17

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3. Throwing his hands in the air, sophomore Neil Lagerblade bops to Synergys' guys song "Feet Don't Fail Me Now" at S.E. Polk's Rhythm and Music Showcase. Synergy went undefeated in the prep division and made finals three times during the season. (photo by Sierrah Mangra-Dutcher)

4. Junior Lauren Kress performs
Bella Voces' final song, Maroon 5's
"Maps". Bella Voce, an al-girl group,
formed this year and competed
in three competitions: Johnston's
Showzam, Urbandale and S.E. Polk's
Rhythm and Music. They ended the
season with a second place finish
in their category. (photo by Sierrah
Mangra-Dutcher)



Mod By: Jaylin Thorn Layout By: Claire Cramer



Sophomore Sam McDaniel and junior Owen Smith were on the the bus heading to the Southeast Rhythm And Music Showcase when the bus suddenly stopped. "It was like it worked its way through the bus" Smith said, "when I heard that one of the flaps was open all I could think of was 'oh crap'," when McDaniel and Smith stepped off the bus they saw that Smith's bass trombone was hanging from the bus and McDaniel's bass guitar was gone. With a quick message in the show band group chat everyone was in a flurry. McDaniel's parents quickly followed along the route and ended up finding it laying in the slush and snow on the side of the highway undamaged.

5. At the final show, junior Grady Degeneffe lays out and poses for the end of the second song, "Sunday's Finest." The song was jam packed with quick dress changes, complicated choreography and a big final pose to end it all. (photo by Sierrah Mangra-Dutcher)

6. Senior Noah Johnson gets jazzy while performing Innovation's big finale "Dancin Fool" at Showzam. The song was a loud, jazz number that showed off the talents of their undefeated show band. (photo by Sierrah Mangra-Dutcher)





Performing Arts

[3

WORK ORDER

17

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Special Instructions

9

Odd Page

35