

1. Senior Denashia Steffen performs with Bella Voce at the end of the season parent show. The parent show was a long-standing tradition. During the performance, parents put on their own rendition of the show. (photo 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 competition, 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 buses 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 notes: 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

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