

WINTER FORMAL

January 17, 2015

Dresses, High Heels, Jewelry

Dress shirts, pants, shoes

PREPARATIONS

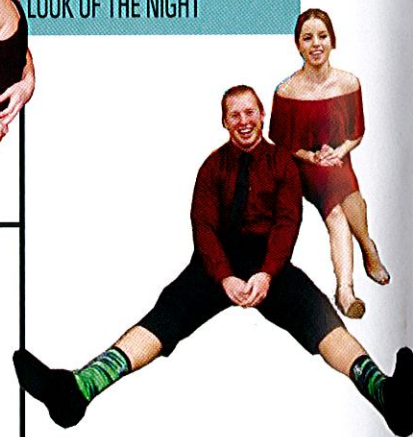
"I went to **Jaiden Versteeg's** house to get ready because she did my makeup. We also listened to music to pump us up from the dance," said junior **Kate Van Roekel**.



LOVE & FRIENDS



LOOK OF THE NIGHT



PRE-DANCE ACTIVITIES

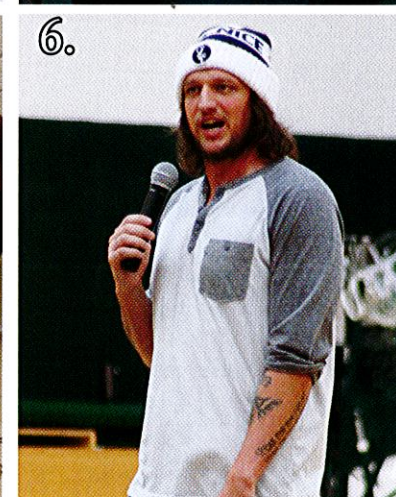
"My favorite part of winter formal was going to the barn with a lot of seniors, and being with everyone for diner, bowling, and a lot of pictures," said senior **Trevor Argo**.

THE DANCE

"Every part of winter formal brings its own part of fun. I personally enjoyed the dance the most, but it wasn't the dance itself that was the most fun; it was the friends around me that make the dance so fun," said junior **Carter Terpstra**.



Looking @ Instagram



MIKE SMITH

Inspirational speaker challenges students to make a difference.

Mike Smith, motivational speaker and professional teenager, visited on January 21 to speak to students.

"I thought it was going to be someone completely different. I didn't know he would actually relate with us so well," said senior **Sarah DeMoss**.

Smith spoke of his personal experiences throughout high school, including his friendship with a younger student named Calvin. The two became friends when Smith decided to reach out to Calvin when he was sitting alone in the hallway. Smith's mission to teach young adults that small acts of kindness and reaching out could potentially change someone's life.

"He exceeded my expectations in a good way. I thought he was going to say a mainstream story about how everyone is perfect," said sophomore **Sarah Killoren**.

"I didn't know he would actually relate with us so well."

- Senior **Sarah DeMoss**

When Smith concluded his speech, students headed to their homerooms to have discussions about what they could do to make the school a better place. The Student Council lead the discussion in which students brainstormed better ways of helping others.

"Helping others is not only good for the person you're helping, it's good for you," freshman **Alexis Van Haften**.

The discussion then lead to ways our school could change. For example, teens could talk to others outside of their usual friend group. This was just one suggestion to join students together. As well as branching out, students recommended the motto to not judge a book by its cover.

"I believe we should just start talking to others that are out of your friend group. It helps everyone get closer," sophomore **Savannah Williams**.

Mike Smith had a positive impact on the school. With his real life testimony, he taught students that with a small action, there can be a huge impact on someone, no matter who you are.

1. Sophomores **Bellara Huang** and **Natalie Meyer** searched for a topic to talk about.
2. **Mike Smith** talked about how you can make a difference.
3. Senior **Taika Dennill** introduced guest speaker **Mike Smith**.
4. Juniors **Stephanie Rennich** and **Taryn Ernst** led a serious discussion.
5. Juniors **Laurel Stelter** and **Nathan Henry** wrote down the students' ideas.
6. **Mike Smith** explained what he did for the homeless.