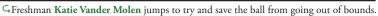
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Senior Jordan Pingel keeps the ball away from a DCG defender.

DUTCH

DCG picks up pair of wins in early December

Both varsity girls and boys battled hard against the DCG Mustangs Dec. 13, but neither came out on top. The Lady Dutch dominated the first quarter with 23 points to DCG's 12. However, DCG picked up the intensity during the next three quarters as the Lady Dutch fell, 68-56. Junior Mackenzie Gustafson was the top scorer with 21 points.

We played really well the first half and then they took over, so we are looking forward to playing them again," said Gustafson.

The boys' varsity team put up just as many points as the Mustangs did in the first half, but struggled to score in the second and third quarters. They worked hard the last quarter, fighting to make up for lost time, scoring half the points in the fourth quarter as DCG did, but it wasn't enough to overcome the visitors. The Dutch lost 61-49 with junior **Isaac Naaktgeboren** leading the Dutch in points with 19.

We are a lot better team now than the last time that we played them," said Naaktgeboren.

Day of the Dead

To celebrate the Day of the Dead, Paloma Soria's Spanish I classes drew and colored a picture to represent the day. They also wrote a paragraph about it in Spanish.

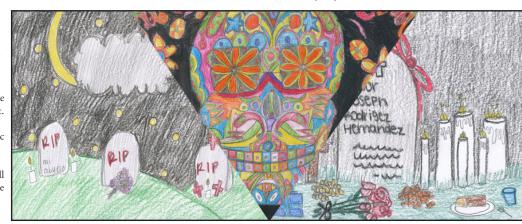
←LEFT, junior **Amelia VandeLune** drew and colored a picture of gravestones for her Day of the Dead Spanish I assignment.

←MIDDLE, freshman Molly Rietveld colored a more artistic skull to represent the Day of the Dead for Spanish class.

⊆RIGHT, freshman **Josie Vroom**'s drawing represented all the different gifts that people bring during the Day of the

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Senior Sarah Muller raises autism awareness

Why did you feel the need to raise aware-

mess about autism?

"The project started when Mr. [Mark]
Core handed out his semester project.
The project was pretty much taking direct action on a previous project that was on something you're politically passionate about. I am very passionate about people with autism. My dad worked at C.O.C. and now is the director of the Homestead in Des Moines. I've grown up around people with autism."

How has the experience changed you as a person?

"It really made me realize how amazing of a community we have here in Pella. Businesses were so willing to come forward and donate. I even had some businesses come to me and ask if they could donate, which was incredible. Then, we had people purchasing tickets and some didn't even put it in a prize but just wanted to donate! It was an amazing experience."

What was your favorite part about your experience?
"My favorite part was hearing people's stories and how they were connected with people who have autism. It was amazing to see the school and community come together and understand what the day was really about."

How are people around you affected by this? "People were really grateful for this awareness day because it is something not a lot of people think about yet it affects so many people. It was a great experience."



Senior Sarah Muller hands a raffle ticket to special education associate Shelly Sample.



MAKIN' SNOW

CHEMISTRY STYLE







Creating a snowflake inside brought a whole new meaning to a 'snowday' for chemisry teacher **Erin Yoder**'s sophomores.

"I thought that the snowflake lab was a really good idea from a teaching stand point because it had a connection to the real world and chemistry," said sophomore **Carter Terpstra**.

The sophomores mixed hot water and Borax together to create a solution that pipe cleaners, cut into smaller pieces to look like snowflakes, soaked in. Once the solution was done, it was poured into a bucket.

"I didn't know you could make a snowflake out of that stuff," said sophomore **Grant Judkins**.

The next day, the snowflakes were done, and the sophomores were able to the results of their work.

"It was so cool to see the snowflakes' progression," said sophomore **Aletta Verhey**.

"I thought the snowflakes turned out really neat. The students were successful in the problem-solving activity," said **Yoder**.



Ringing in the New Year

Students share New Year's experiences

Celebrating New Year's means staying up late, drinking sparkling cider and hanging with friends.

"I went ice skating in Des Moines with my best friend Eleanor," said junior **Julie VanEe**.

VanEe wasn't the only one who had fun and hung out with friends.

"I went to **Joe Gaiser**'s new house and played 'Bratz Girl Talk' with **Paige Miller**," said sophomore **Mike Roozeboom**.

Some preferred to stay at home and ring in

the New Year in their own way.

"I stayed home and watched all the Harry Potter movies," said freshman Aimee Dieleman.

Thinking of resolutions for the New Year gave students inspiration.

"I like being able to have a fresh start and new goals," said senior **Iloria Phoenix**.

"My resolution is to exsercise more and get in shape," said junior **Greta Putnam**.

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