

TOP
PAGE
EDGE

Diggin' in the Brain



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Welcome TO Speechville

All-City Speech night preps students for success



Taking the stage at Pella Christian High School Jan. 30, speech acts performed for an audience full of teammates and others from around the city.

"I always love All-City because it's a chance to perform in a non-competitive environment and see events from Pella and PC you might have missed at contest because of the crazy scheduling," said senior **Maria Belding**.

All city speech night lasted two hours and had three separate performances occurring at one time. Students were given feedback from both speech coaches **Suzanne Jones** and **Ashley Whittington**. As usual, the open house allowed the speech program to fundraise and showcase talent. The event featured Readers Theatre, Choral Reading, Group Improv, One-Act Play, Musical Theatre, Group Mime, Short Film and Radio Broadcasting.

The exhibition also helped students prepare for the group state held at Linn Mar High school, Feb. 8.

"I thought All City helped us out quite a bit. It's nice to practice performing for a crowd before State," said senior **Greg Frommelt**.

Seniors **Maria Belding** and **Suzanna Hall** and junior **Caitlyn Dixon** participate in All-City Speech with their one act play "It's a Wonderful Life." "Our performance was a success, and I loved being able to show my peers and family our speaking talent," said **Hall**.

48 → January

8

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Brain Day



“I want to be a nurse when I’m older so it was cool to diagnose someone and figure out what was wrong.”
-Senior
Taelor Rempe

“I had a good time at brain day. It was a different experience working all day.”
-Senior
Haley Chapman

Students in **Karen Ryals’** psychology and **Cathy Honess** anatomy classes got a break from the usual school day monotony. Sheep brains were given to students to investigate, **Lisa Witzenberg** shared a personal story on concussions, and videos on brain function were viewed during the day.

Students were also given a case file to solve throughout the day. With the knowledge learned they were able to diagnose the brain issue. They were also required to host a therapy session via video to diagnose the case file patient.

My favorite part of the day was learning how brain injuries can completely change someone’s life,” said senior **Kelse Veenstra**.

Brain day let students collect data and observations about the person they are diagnosing. Students covered biological, cognitive and social affects brain injury has on people.

- Seniors **Samantha Blatt** and **Taelor Rempe** cut open a sheep brain. It was cool to see what an actual brain looks like,” said **Blatt**.
- Seniors **Cein Moran** and **Becky Visser** converse over the insides of a brain.

Dancing away at M.A.

Traveling to Southeast Polk High School on Jan. 25, Forté teams competed in the marching auxiliaries competition. They brought three varsity routines in the kick, military and pom category. The JV team also competed and earned a technique and choreography award in pom, military.

I thought it was exciting to see the JV perform in their first competition all season. They did really well,” said sophomore **Jessica Pottridge**

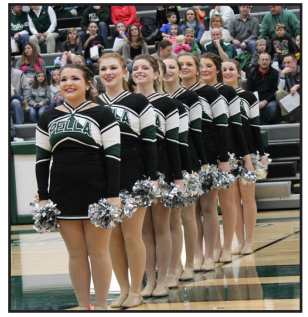
Varsity obtained a technique and choreography award in pom, military and kick. They also got a high point award in military. To top it all off,+ they won the super sweepstakes award. The M.A. competition was held on January 25.



Freshman **Mackenzie Becker** performs the varsity military routine.



Rachael Lent and **Nikki Sikkema** pose for a pictures with dancers after the award ceremony.



JV forte performs their pom routine, “Move it up.”

News For You...

Someone 2 Know Sophomore

Robert Sales



Sales displays his skills to his fellow newspaper staff.



Robert Sales has a slightly unusual hobby. He could spend time at home like most kids, instead, **Sales** uses his time and skill to teach himself the magic of illusion.

His love for magic has existed a for many years now. Over the winter, **Sales** spread some of his magic and students started to experience feelings of deception and trickery. The pandemic has been called Magic Fever, which also includes infectious feelings of magicinary.

“The sickness is real. Magic became a big deal once Robert started fooling people. It was really cool to see kids get to together to show off different tricks,” said senior **Mallory Lynch**.

“The spectators reaction is the part of the trick that I enjoy the most. It makes all the time reading magic books pay off,” said **Sales**.

Outside of magic, **Sales** is involved in many other activies including show choir and basketball. He recently joined the tennis team as well.

January →49

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