

THE CRITERION



Volume L, Issue 4

Craig High School, Janesville, WI

February 1, 2017

Out of this world: Zero Robotics team returns from MIT with top ten finish

By MADISON GARVIN

During the week of January 23, Craig High School's Zero Robotics team traveled to MIT in Boston, Mass., to compete in the national competition.

Since September, members of the team have been creating the code to control a satellite that is stationed at the space station.

They traveled to MIT to watch their satellite compete against teams from all over the world.

The team is compiled of boys and girls of different grades. They also brought along some extra students to show them how it works for next year.

According to the Zero Robotics website, "Students write programs at their high schools that may control a satellite in space!"

The goal is to build critical engineering skills for students, such as problem solving, design thought process, operations training, and teamwork.

This team is a great way for students to build their computer science skills while working with people from all

over the world.

Craig's team worked with the Japanese and Italian teams in the final competition.

The team placed 10th to get to the final competition, but actually beat the 2nd place team in competition.

Senior Sophie Werner loved the experience.

"It was an incredible experience that none of us are likely to forget," she said.

"Being among such a diverse group of people bound by a love for computer science and space and being able to listen to people who are pioneers in their field, working towards the discovery of Mars inspired us all and gave us a real world experience most high schoolers can only dream of. At the end of the day, watching code we had worked so hard to produce be put into space gave us pride and ignited a deeper passion for computer science."

At MIT they listened to speakers such as astronaut Cady Coleman and other engineers who have helped



Photo by David Holmquist

Craig's Zero Robotics team: Front row (L-R) Harry Kubiak (9), Grace Clasen (10), Sophie Werner (12), Travis Duffy (12). Back row (L-R): Dr. Bjoin, Mrs. Bain, Malcolm Eady (10), Andy Hermanson (11), Frank Breu (11), Ben Glowacki (11), Alexei Sapozhnikov (12).

launch the space program to Mars.

Senior Alex Sapozhnikov said, "My favorite part was talking to an astronaut on land and learning about people gain their experiences throughout time."

While in Boston the team toured museums, the Space Lab, MIT, and the state capitol.

They spent time down at the harbor enjoying the water and at a planetarium to learn about undiscovered worlds.

Mrs. Bane said, "I really en-

joyed the group I was with and they were all fast walkers!"

They competed on Friday and received a plaque for their competition.

While watching their satellites compete, they were able to see first hand into the life of an astronaut living in zero gravity in the International Space Station.

While the team left Boston without the title, Mrs. Bane said, "The win was being able to go."

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Sports



Review the winter seasons (pages 5, 13, and 14).

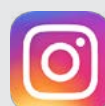
Also, see the web site next week for the key to the crossword on page 15.

The Criterion enters cyberspace

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Advisory Board: A great time to be a Packer fan despite loss

BY DAVID HOLMQUIST, CRITERION ADVISOR

As all of you who have read my columns in the past know, I am a lifelong fan of the Minnesota Vikings.

I am not alone. Mrs. Shucha and Mr. Strauss are proud fans of the Purple People Eaters.

Isn't it great to be a fan? To celebrate and share the successes of a favorite team with like-minded fans is a beautiful thing.

Most of the time, anyway.

When the NFL regular season ended on December 31, the Vikings and 19 other teams found themselves out of the playoffs and sitting at home in January.

For Vikings' fans, their early season optimism and Super Bowl dreams were dashed on the rocks of heartbreaking losses and mediocre play.

But for fans of the NFL's perennial winners--the Patriots, Steelers, Packers, and Seahawks--January is always an exciting time as Super Bowl dreams dance in their heads.

Yes, the Packers missed the Super Bowl this year--I mean, *really* missed it--but at least they played in the NFC championship game and had a chance to make it to their sixth Super Bowl.

In the past couple of decades, the Pack has been on a pretty good run of success: nine straight playoff appearances and 19 in the last 24 seasons and two

world championships.

Guess how many times they made the playoffs in the 24 seasons before 1993?

Two.

Despite this stunning record of success, Cheeseheads are not universally pleased.

This year, for example, my Packer fan friends talked a lot about the shortcomings of head coach Mike McCarthy.

"He is a bad play caller."

"Aaron Rodgers hates him."

"He should have won more than one Super Bowl."

Well, guess what, fans?

He has won one, which is the same amount as other respected coaches like Pete Carroll, Mike Tomlin, and John Harbaugh and Hall of Famers like Tony Dungy, John Madden, and Dick Vermeil.

As long as Aaron Rodgers is his quarterback, he has a good chance of winning more.

And McCarthy's one win is more than Vikings coaching legend Bud Grant (4 trips, zero wins).

Give the guy a break. It is hard to win a Super Bowl.

And a Super Bowl is an impossibility if a team misses the playoffs.

So, Packer fans, take heart! Sure, your team lost in its bid to make it to the championship game this year, but at least it had a chance.

Take it from a long-suffering Vikings fan.

In the past couple of decades, the Pack has been on a pretty good run of success.

Letter from the editors: Thank you, Craig

BY KELSEY NORTON, CRITERION CO-ADVISOR



As my student teaching at Craig High School comes to an end, I find myself overwhelmed by an array of emotions. These past six months have changed me not only as an educator, but as a person. While I did my best to teach as much as I could to my students in this short amount of time, they have taught me far more.

These students wake up--often before the sun--to be here every single day. They enter our classrooms in search of something, whether it be knowledge, safety, friendship, or encouragement. They continue to show up day after day, and it is our duty as educators to continue not only to show up for them, but to give them our very best. If we truly believe in our students and make it known to them, they will not disappoint us.

In my time at Craig, I have learned the importance of holding others to high expectations. Many of my students lacked confidence

in their abilities, often because no one had ever believed in them. Well, let me tell you something, students of Craig High School. You are capable of much more than you think you are, and if you have someone in your life who constantly encourages you and nags you to "push yourself," keep them around. Eventually, they will help you to see how capable you are.

The sky's the limit, and the only

While I did my best to teach as much as I could to my students in this short amount of time, they have taught me far more.

person who can hold you back is you. That might sound like a cliché, but it is true.

My students have also taught me never to underestimate the power of a smile. To all of the students who smiled at me while I walked down the hallway or said "Hey Ms. Norton!" or offered me a high five, I thank you. Not only did you lift my spirits, you made Craig High School feel like home. Do not underestimate the power of a small gesture such as a smile; it can really turn someone's day around.

In addition to the wonderful students I have met at Craig, I cannot express how grateful I am to the staff members who have guided me on my journey. I received overwhelming support from so many of you, especially from

those of you in the English and ESL departments. Thank you for helping to make me feel at home.

As Winnie The Pooh once said, "How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard."

As far as cooperating teachers go, I hit the jackpot when I was placed with Mr. Holmquist. He is by far one of the most amazing people I have ever met, and I know that all of his students would agree with me. He has taught me so much about what it means to be a great teacher and an even greater human being. If I turn out to be half of the teacher he is, I will have succeeded.

And to Mr. Holmquist's English 9 students, when I told you all at the beginning of the year that I thought your class was special, I meant it.

Every one of you is capable of more than you know. You have grown so much in the past six months, and I am honored to have been a part of your journey. You have brought so much laughter and happiness into my life.

You continue to exceed my expectations and prove that you can overcome any challenge you are presented with. I believe in every one of you, and I cannot wait to see where life takes you.

Thank you to all of the students and staff members that made my student teaching experience unforgettable. I am not sure where my career will take me, but I can assure you that I will always be a Craig Cougar at heart!



Do you have something to say? To get off your chest? An opinion to express? A suggestion to make? Don't be shy!

Let your voice be heard!

The Criterion accepts letters to the editor, story ideas, and guest articles from **you**, the citizens of the Craig's mailbox in the clerical pool ass from the AP office or email us at craighsnews@gmail.com.

Letters are subject to the editorial policies and mission statement of the paper, and their content may be and revised and edited in order to be publishable.

2016-17 Criterion

Our mission: To connect, inform, and entertain the students and staff of Craig High School by reporting the events and happenings in our school as well as in the community around us by writing ethical and accurate stories for everyone

2016-17 Criterion Staff

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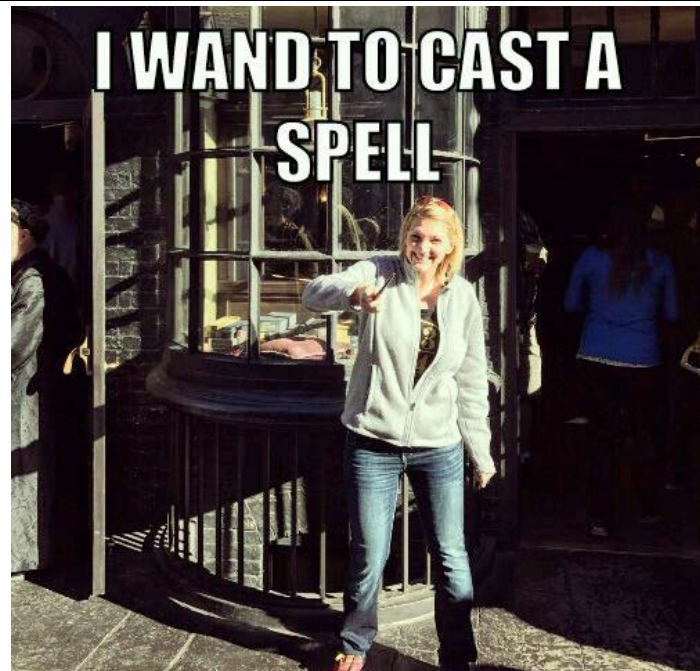
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Yay for the end of first semester, we got a day off!
 Yay for no breaks until March, we are in for the long haul.
 Yay for grades getting reset for second semester, it's a fresh start.
 Yay for losing those really high As, that cushion sure was fun.

YAYS AND NAYS BY CATHERINE ROE

Yay for warm weather and melting snow, it makes January much more bearable.
 Yay for the ice storms, honestly snow is easier to handle than ice.
 Yay for the last semester of senior year, we are almost done!
 Yay for the unknown after high school, the future is exciting though.
 Yay for the freshman finishing their first semester, great job everyone!

Nay for new semester classes, it is the beginning of the year all over again.
 Yay for the Super Bowl, the commercials had better be good.
 Nay for the Packers not going, all those injuries really added up.
 Yay for the boys basketball team doing really well! Keep it up!
 Nay for late night practices, but they are probably worth it.
 Yay for the days getting longer, it might not feel like it, but we are gaining time every day.
 Nay for it still being dark, a minute or two really doesn't make a difference.
 Yay for cabin socks everyday, they are really the best thing on Earth.
 Nay for needing to wear cabin socks everyday, the school is so cold.
 Yay to Movies 16 for installing new reclining seats! I can watch movies in extreme comfort.
 Nay to Movies 16 for not always having the heat on.



In place of a comic this month, we have a meme of our student teacher from first semester, Ms. Norton. After completing her training, she took a vacation to Universal Studios in Florida and visited Harry Potter World! Make sure to say hi to her when she is subbing. We dedicate this issue of the Criterion to her and say "Thank you for everything Ms. Norton, and best of luck!"

Mark your calendars: Upcoming events at Craig and across America

- January 31st and February 2nd:** Ireland 2018 Information Meeting
 - February 1-28:** Black History Month.
 - February 2:** Student Council Blood Drive.
 - February 2:** Groundhog Day.
 - February 3:** National Wear Red Day 2017.
 - February 4:** World Cancer Day.
 - February 5:** Super Bowl LI between the New England Patriots and Atlanta Falcons..
 - February 11:** ACT Testing.
 - February 11:** Show Choirs Perform at the Fort Atkinson Show Case.
 - February 14:** Valentine's Day.
 - February 18:** Show Choirs Perform at Naperville, IL in the "Clash of the Sequins."
- For more events go to <http://bit.ly/2kRDtUL>

JERRY'S WORLD: Christmas made great memories of family and shopping

BY JERRY WANG

Merry Christmas everyone! It's Christmas time now!
 Christmas, December 25th. It's the one of the most important festivals for many Americans.
 This year, as I am an exchange student from China, I celebrated Christmas with my American family. But my parents from China also visited Janesville during the Christmas holiday.
 This wonderful time started on December 22th, at O'Hare Airport, Terminal 5. I skipped school one day and just went to the Airport, to meet them right when they came out of the plane.
 My parents were the same as 3 months before. I am just surprised they would come here to see me. To tell you the truth, I actually do not want them to visit me. Everything is good here and my host parents are really nice to me. Here is like my second home, so I do not miss them so much. LOL!
 My father is a traditional Chinese old man, but he can understand English. My mom does not know English, but she said she down-

loaded a smart translator, and it would not be too hard for her to communicate with Americans.
 On Dec 25th, I opened my presents. But it took a long time to find my presents. I had to look closely at each, one by one, because there are 5 kids in my host parents' house.



My host mom Judy is a really nice mom. She treats every kid equally, even me. I really appreciate her.
 Then I spent 2 days out and about in Janesville, ate different kinds of American food, etc. On Dec 28th, it was time to visit Chicago! My father rented a car so we wouldn't have to ask my host parents help.

We spent nearly 3 hours driving, then we arrived at our hotel on Michigan Avenue.
 We finished all our usual stuff, put all the bags in our room, and then went shopping. Lots of brands, people, traffic, and noise. I have got to say, Chicago is really similar to one city in China: Shanghai.
 We all know that Chicago is famous, modern, colorful, fantastic. I like Chicago, the windy city, and I also love Shanghai, too. Shanghai has more people than the windy city, more crazy traffic, and pollution. The air in China is dirty, unhealthy. If you stand outside for a while, your nose will feel uncomfortable and if you keep being outside: BE CAREFUL!! These days in China, lots of people need to work outside, and they get breathing problems. So if anyone wants to visit China, bring a respirator with you.
 Ok, that's all the stuff that I did during Christmas break. I was tired but happy, spent a lot, but gained a new, good memory. My parents have been gone for some days. I miss them a little now.

Prepared to serve



Craig senior Michael Doely enlisted United States Marine Corps on Tuesday November 15, 2016. His proud parents are Craig alumna Heather Meyer and Andrew McAllister and Troy and Mellisa Doely. **Photos submitted by Heather Meyer.**

DECA prepares for nationals

BY MADISON GARVIN

What is DECA? The official definition is an Association of Marketing Students, but to the students who compete in it, it is much more.

When you ask members of DECA what it is, they always pause for a moment to figure out how to explain it.

That is because there is nothing else like it.

DECA consists of many competitions, but the most common are individual and team decision making.

In Decision Making, for example, students are given a test that relates to their subject and then they perform two role plays.

In the role plays, students are given a prompt with information about a situation within a company or organization that students create ideas to solve. Students then present their solutions to a judge who grades them on their presentation and their ideas.

Students are required to dress in business clothes and present themselves in a professional manner.

Districts was held on Saturday, January 7th, at Sun Prairie High School.

Craig competed against Bellevue, Cambridge, Cardinal Heights, Clinton, DeForest, Dodgeville, Edgerton, FJ Turner, Janesville Parker, Jefferson, Madison East, Madison LaFollette, Madison West, McFarland, Middleton, Monona Grove, Mount Horeb,

Oregon, Sun Prairie, Watertown, and Waunakee.

After districts, students who excelled will move on to the state competition in Lake Geneva.

Over 1,000 students from all over the state gather to compete in their events.

Another big competition students compete in is the Manual portion.

This consists of an 11 to 30-page paper where students work with a company to resolve or improve a specified issue.

This year the Manual topic is promotion. Joe Brennan (12) and Gray Reimer (12) are working with Ace Hardware; Allie Hainstock (11) and Jacob Gestrich (12) are working with Sweet Velvet Cake Company; and Madison Garvin (12), Joey Spoden (12), and Max Rammer (12) are working with the Cougar Den.

These students as well as Cade Badertscher (12), Jacob Ngobi (11), Jake Negus (12), Zach Werner (10), Mark Janke (10), and Sawyer Sullivan (9) will be competing in the State Competition.

If students compete well enough at State, they have the chance to move on to the International Competition. This year the International Competition will be held in Anaheim, California, on April 26th through the 29th.

The Craig's DECA program has grown over the past few years and hopes to continue growing.

If you would like to join or have any questions see Mr. Larson in room 610.



Photo submitted by Jennifer Larson
Series Champions Madison Garvin (12), Cade Badertscher (12) Zach Werner (10), and Mark Jahnke Jr. (10) pose with their awards in the Sports & Entertainment category, which they won at the DECA district competition, held on January 7th at Sun Prairie High School.

Adventure gym goes hopping and climbing at Rockin' Jump



Photo submitted by Mr. Troeger

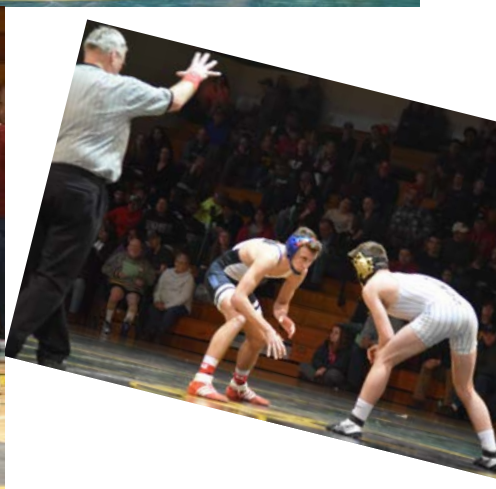
Mr. Troeger (lower right) and Adventure Gym students visited the Rockin' Jump trampoline park in Madison on January 12. To see more photos of their adventure, turn to page 7.



Photo submitted by Jennifer Larson
Series Champions Joey Spoden (12) and Max Rammer (12) display their awards for Travel and Tourism.

THE WRESTLING TEAM BEAT PARKER 64-12 WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17TH. SENIOR NATE FARREL CELEBRATED HIS 100+ PLUS WIN THAT NIGHT. THE WRESTLING TEAM HAS A FINAL DUAL MEET RECORD OF 15-6. ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 18TH THE TEAM RECOGNIZED THEIR SENIORS AND THEIR PARENTS WITH A SPECIAL CEREMONY.

PHOTOS BY MADISON GARVIN



It means celebrating a great man who changed America for the better and celebrating diversity.

-Kiana Moore, 11th

It means a lot to me, if Martin didn't do what he did, I'd be looked down upon by a lot of people and I couldn't have the friends or opportunities that I have now.

-Isaiah Pharaoh, 11th

A day of freedom and celebration for the minorities accomplishments and respect for those who have not had it as easy as others.

-EJ Hermanson, 10th

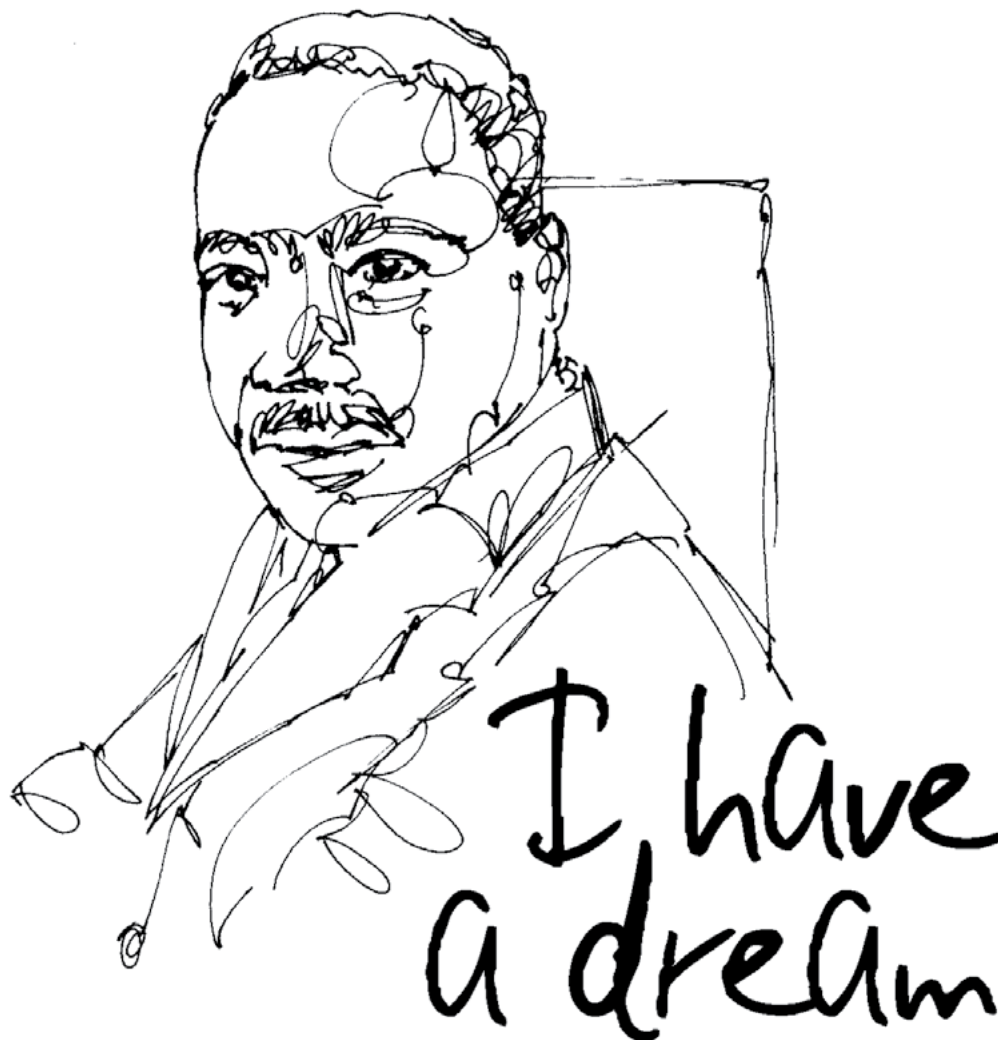
Hope

-Patrick Godeck, 10th

Martin Luther King Day is a day to reflect upon racism and discrimination in our country. It is a day to remember Dr. King and what he has done for our nation, and to look how far we have come together as a nation since then. It is also a day to look at how far we have yet to come as a nation regarding race and discrimination. Most importantly, Martin Luther King day is a day to remember that you are responsible for your dreams, and anyone can make anything happen. Advance the dream.

-Brooklyn Reif, 10th

What does Martin Luther King Jr. Day Mean to You?



It means that no matter what race we are, we can have equal rights and that's what we deserve.

-Delaney Johnson, 9th

It is important to me because it is a day when people can come together in peace and overcome racial and ethnic divides.

-Thomas Murphy, 12th

A day where we remember a great man doing great things for equality and for all folks of people around the world.

-Skyler Williamson, 9th

This day is about celebrating a man that wanted to change lives and wasn't afraid to back down from the challenge.

-Hannah Finn, 9th

Martin Luther King Day celebrates the bravery to stand up for their own fair and just treatment.

-Sawyer Sullivan, 9th

To me MLK Day means that we can live life not being scared of what race we are born into. It means that we can live life how we want to and not let anyone tell us different.

-Colin Hageman, 9th

We celebrate the life of Martin Luther King Jr. and remember what he has done for this country.

-Michelle Arenas, 12th

For me, the day stands out as a day to remember the unfair ways races and women were treated in American History. We, as a country, look back on this day to change our actions for the better, and create equality among citizens of the US.

-Kyle Wescott, 9th

MLK day means a lot to me only because it showed me how much people could come together and work as a team!

-Dyllan Witt, 9th

MLK day means a lot to me as a biracial person. If it wasn't for him sticking to how he feels and what he supports, discrimination would have ended a lot later than it did. It opens my eyes to always stick to what you think is right or believe in no matter what!

-Sariyah Bryant, 9th

Martin Luther King day means freedom from oppression and unfair treatment. Freedom and equality is something that everybody deserves regardless of who you are.

-Ashlyn Dentremont, 9th

Changing lives: Shevy named educator of the year

BY MARTY FORBECK

On December 8, 2016, a gathering was held at the Pontiac Convention Center to award CHS mathematics teacher, Mr. Shevy, with the Janesville School District's Educator of the Year.

It was a simple, festive ceremony.

"It was nice to see other people in the district," said Mr. Shevy.

Mr. Shevy's acceptance speech wasn't long, but it touched on several points.

"I wrote a speech about

people I'm thankful for. I thanked my wife who has just given me completely incredible support."

He spoke on the joys of working with kids and being a teacher, as well as against some trends of immorality he sees in the world today.

"I think it's important to do what's right and not what's easiest. My parent ingrained that into me," he said.

Craig's principal, Dr. Alion Bjoin, is not surprised that Shevy was received the honor.

"Mr. Shevy is very deserv-

ing of this award. He is an outstanding educator who connects with his students and is a leader in our school in helping teachers navigate Infinite Campus," she said.

Mr. Shevy is known for singing to his classes and for performing magic tricks on Wednesdays.

Anything to motivate the students.

Flatteringly, the award was specifically dedicated to "Dusty Shevy," a nickname Mr. Shevy reserves for his closest friends and family.



Photo submitted by Mr. Shevy
Craig math teacher Mr. Dustin Shevy posing with his award for Janesville Secondary Teacher of the Year.

Winter Bash raises over \$8000 for Project 16:49

BY KEN FORBECK

On Wednesday, December 2, the night winter break began, Craig's student council held a Winter Bash at Janesville's Armory celebration venue.

All profits from the event went directly to the 16:49 charity for homeless teens, and when all was said and done the Bash had raised \$1,877.36, and the amount was matched by three different sponsors for a total of \$7,509.44

The organization's name, 16:49, represents the average time between school ending one day and starting the next, or in other words, the amount of time that 1.3 million home-

less teens in America have nowhere to go.

Project 16:49 is a local non-profit organization that helps homeless teens in Rock County. Project 16:49 helps homeless teens get access to the services and support they need to stay in school, graduate, and be successful in life.

In Rock County, one in four teens live in poverty, and 1000 students are recognized as homeless each year.

Over 160 of these homeless teens have no parent or guardian.

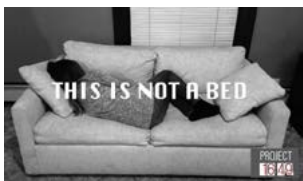
The mission of 16:49 is to empower Rock County's unaccompanied homeless youth to take action to achieve their goals.

Their vision is for every unaccompanied homeless youth in Rock County to get the help and opportunities he or she needs to become a contributing member of the community.

They aim for their values: excellence, integrity, respect, innovation, and enthusiasm.

More information on 16:49 and all their activities can be found at their website: <http://www.project1649.org/>.

In Rock County, one in four teens live in poverty, and 1000 students are recognized as homeless each year.



One of the public service announcements for Project 16:49, an organization that helps homeless teens in Rock County

More adventure gym fun from Rockin' Jump



Photo submitted by Mr. Troeger
An unidentified student slam dunks a basketball. Madi Garvin (12), left, and Audrey Williams (12), right, climb the rock wall during the January 12 adventure gym trip to Rockin' Jump.

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Show Choir



Loaded with options: Seminar students learn about apprenticeship

BY DAVID HOLMQUIST

One of the topics of the freshman seminar class is college and career readiness.

On Monday, January 9, students learned about the career opportunities that apprenticeships offer.

Greg Phillips, master electrician and certified instructor in the electrical apprenticeship program at Blackhawk Technical College—the only apprenticeship program currently offered at Rock County’s technical school—informed students about what it takes to be an apprentice.

In explaining what apprenticeship is, he hoped to give students another option to consider for life after high school.

“Apprenticeship is too often overlooked by high school graduates,” said Mr. Phillips.

“Some students in my program have four-year degrees, and many of them have at least some college,” he said.

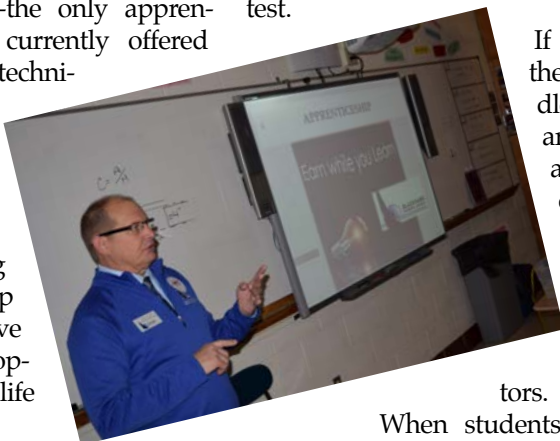
“Students should know that four

year college is not the only path to a secure and well-paying career.”

During his presentation, which he gave in all eight hours—Mrs. Lawton’s six classes, Mr. Lajiness’ one, and Mr. Holmquist’s one—he provided the students information about what apprenticeship is and how it works.

Students must be high school graduates and earn at least a C in algebra.

After they apply, they are interviewed by a committee and take a written test.



If they pass these hurdles, they are put on a list that can be accessed by local electrical contractors.

When students “get the call,” as Phillips likes to say, they are ready to start on their road to a career.

“Apprenticeship is an earn-while-you learn model,” he said. “You work in the field for four days a week, 8 hours a day, and then you are in the classroom for one day.”

In the classroom students learn theories and principles of electricity as well as various skills that they use in the field.

A big part of Phillips teaching is related to soft skills.

“These electricians need to know that it is important how they present themselves to their customers, from the way they are groomed to how they speak.”

In one graphic, Phillips showed that the average annual wages for college graduates and those of apprenticeship graduates are equal, at \$56,000.

The cost of their educations, however, is far different. An electrical apprenticeship, which takes five years to complete, costs around \$5500, but the cost of a four year degree from UW-Whitewater is over \$72,000.

“I am all for students going to four-year colleges. My son will graduate from Beloit College in May,” he said.

“But it is not the only path.”

Students enjoyed the presentation.

“It was interesting,” said Kenny Forbeck. “He did some crazy demonstrations with electricity. It was also



Photo by David Holmquist
Greg Phillips, electrical apprenticeship instructor at Blackhawk Technical College, visited the seminar classes on January 9 to teach students about the career opportunities offered by apprenticeships.

interesting to see how they bend pipes (conduit to run wires).”

Mr. Phillips plans to return to the seminar classes for second semester. “I’d also like to visit some senior classes,” he said. “We need to keep developing our technical school’s relationship with the high schools in our area.”

Mr. Holmquist wrote this article because he helped to arrange Mr. Phillips’ visit, and as a freshman seminar teacher, he was in the classroom during the presentations.

English from a different perspective: An international student reflects on his experiences

BY JERRY WANG

We are exchange students from China to America.

Before we got here, we learned English for some years. Also, when we arrived at Craig High school, some of us still choose more English classes because we want to get better at communication with all foreigners.

English is an international language now.

It is one of the most popular languages in the world, and we think most of the international kids should learn some

or more English skills.

My name is Jerry. I am an international student, and one of my friends that has the same international project with me is named John Lu. He takes some English classes this semester.

He said since he has had these classes, it is the best chance to study English now.

He can ask his teachers in Craig some questions some of those Chinese English teachers cannot solve, and also he can stay in a real different environment that China does not have to speak

English.

Like me, he must use English. If he does not, he cannot communicate to everyone.

To use his as a small exam-

When he took a language test named Toefl, his score in China is 58, but now his score is 74. And he did not do any practice. He just talks with all the people in Janesville.

ple, he told me that now he needs to use English to buy food, read some online information and ask questions.

He thought his English has improved a lot.

When he took a language test named Toefl, his score in China is 58, but now his score is 74.

And he did not do any practice. He just talks with all the people in Janesville.

He spent about one year to study Toefl in China and he only got 58.

Now because of studying in the real American school, he got lots of experience and useful skills that he can’t get from China.

Also, my host parents’ son, Tyler Munding, is a freshman, a traditional American kid.

He still studies English too. He said although he was born in America, that does not mean he is a good English speaker and remembers all the English words and use all grammars correctly.

He still needs to learn and get a better communication skills and reading skills. Every day when we get home, he always spends like one hour on his English work.

He reads some novels and watch some videos to help him to understand some of his English homework.

So this is what it is like to learn English.

Hamilton: Off-Broadway, on-quality

BY KEN AND MARTY FORBECK

It turns out that it is actually possible to get tickets to *Hamilton*.

That is, it's possible if you order them when they open a new venue, the very second they're available, and are willing to take balcony seats for a Wednesday matinée.

It's pretty hard for anyone to make any sort of critical argument against a Grammy, a Pulitzer Prize, and 11 Tonys.

Frankly, we're not inclined to try.

The musical tells the story of the life of Alexander Hamilton, the founding father who was the first Secretary of the

Treasurer, author of most of the Federalist Papers, the architect of our nation's financial system, and the face on the \$10 bill.

All told through fierce rap music.

The show's about as close to objectively good as any piece of media can be.

But, at the very least, it was interesting to see just how and why *Hamilton* won all of its non-music-related Tonys.

The set design and choreography live up to the narrative's quality.

Every theatrical element has been clearly and meticulously designed to fit with every other element.

When *Hamilton* is on a campus, there's people in the background reading.

When *Hamilton* sends a letter, a team of background dancers get it passed around the entire stage's perimeter in a second.

When the music drops a beat, the lights start making throbbing, rhythmic patterns all over the stage, as if a rave had suddenly broken out.

Somehow, through all that, they still managed to balance those upbeat moments of flashy lights and heavy audience applause with tragic, silent moments, without the tone ever feeling set against itself.

Even though a lot of the musical's original player's have since left the company, the current cast retains all the fun, energy, and poignancy present in the old recordings.

None of them are afraid of experimenting, of letting a dramatic line land in a different, but appropriate way, or even just accentuating a joke.

As a final note, of the new cast, Wayne Brady deserves a special mention.

He just started playing the role of Aaron Burr a few days before the performance we caught, and he's already managed to pick up all the complexities and gravitas of Leslie Odom Jr.'s original Broadway performance without missing a beat.

That is, right up until, a couple days after we saw him, he injured his calf and, embarrassingly, had to be pulled of the show mid-performance due to horrific levels of pain.

But he was back at it within



"Hamilton," the Tony-Award-winning musical that has taken the country by storm, is now on tour and playing in Chicago. The Forbeck brothers recently attended.

hours, and hopefully the new cast and crew will be able to continue their work without any further hiccups.

They've certainly got a full house for every performance in the foreseeable future.

Craig's Current Musical Happenings

"Preview Night": Area show choirs Compete at Craig

BY KEN FORBECK

On Thursday, January 5th, hundreds of friends, parents, siblings, and others gathered in the large auditorium at Craig High School to watch five different show choir teams perform.

The performers and other crews that helped pull this performance together worked for hundreds of hours during the first semester, after school and on weekends, to be able to produce a great performance that night.

I can't say they don't deserve respect for all the hard work and long hours they put in.

The groups that performed in this performance are Illuminations (Craig), An Octave

Above (Milton), South High St. Singers (Ft. Atkinson), Chorallation (Milton), and Spotlighters (Craig).

I had never seen a show choir before with such great choreography, singing, dancing, music. The lights were astonishing.

The songs sung were filled with emotions like "Tell Your Heart to Beat Again", "Won't Give Up", "Give Me Love", etc.

There were a few great solos, shown in the pictures on pages eight and nine.

Watching them and getting behind the scenes, anybody could see that every team was a tight group that had fun working together while loving what they do.

"Mini Pep Band": Fifth graders join the Cougars

BY KEN FORBECK

On January 12 the Mini Pep Band program with the fifth graders became a success.

All the fifth graders smiled and had fun as they joined the Craig High School Pep Band to blow the school away with the "Rock and Roll" song (better known as the "Hey" song) and "Go Big Blue."

It was a sight to see so many young musicians filling up the stands.

It gives a sense of security for the future of the band.

Mini Pep Band gave CHS-bound fifth graders a taste of what they will very likely be



Photo by Ken Forbeck Kids from fifth to twelfth grade prepare to play for CHS's men's basketball team.

doing in four years.

Their addition gave the band a greater and louder sound.

It's great to see young kids excited to perform, and giving

it their best.

The program almost tripled the band size that night's men's basketball game against Verona.

A Brief Correction: In regard to the untitled 1-Act play that was reported on this page in the previous issue, the *Criterion* would like to, firstly, apologize for reporting that the Nazi characters were wearing actual swastikas and that the German they were shouting was vulgar. In the darkness of the Small Auditorium, symbols were mistaken and attempted transcriptions of the German were mangled. In fact, the Nazi were just wearing symbols close-ish to swastikas, and it was only the English that was vulgar. Additionally, Riley Ennoci deserves credit for co-directing the production with the host, Jason Ennis. To you two gentlemen: the *Criterion* eagerly awaits your next escapade.

Craig cheerleading shows the student body their Sparkle Effect team

PHOTOS AND STORY BY LEAH THORNTON

The Craig Cheerleading team is nationally recognized for their Sparkle Effect Team, which is offered to any students in the district.

The Sparkle Effect Team is a positive way to bring students with and without disabilities together through cheerleading.

The team has helped Craig achieve a culture of diversity and kindness and creates a simple message of, "at our school, all students are respected and included, regardless of ability."

It also creates a comfortable environment for both the students involved in the Sparkle Effect team and the student body.

It allows all students to connect, not just through cheerleading but also in the classroom and hallways.

The Sparkle Team at Craig is lead by students who volunteer, but also the varsity cheerleading team who is required to lead the team.

The varsity cheerleading team at Craig has underwent national training to be the best mentors that they can be for the Sparkle students.

This year, the Sparkle Effect team has three students returning to the team from last season. The cheer team's goal

in the long run is to recruit more students onto the Sparkle team and to offer an inclusive program for the district.

The coach, ReJeanne Lehron, is glad that Craig is involved in the Sparkle Effect.

"Parents of students with disabilities report that participation on a Sparkle Effect team results in better school attendance and higher grades," she said.

In addition, Sparkle Effect-participants with disabilities are more likely to eventually join additional school-based extracurricular clubs, like drama, newspaper, choir, and band.

But why? Because inclusion is not so much an activity as it is a way of thinking.

Craig High school is Nationally recognized Sparkle Effect team.

"The varsity members choose to be on this team and go through national training to implement the intensive, immersive, and inclusive philosophy," said Coach Lehron.

This program is free to all middle school and high school students in the Janesville School District. For more information and to view our national standing go to: <http://www.thesparkleeffect.org>.



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“What’s in your gym bag?” *Athletes give insight on their daily necessities*



Lauren Zaharias (12):
Gymnastics

- Competition Leo
- Warmup Leo
- Spandex
- Hairspray
- Makeup Bag
- Scrunchies
- Grips
- Extra Sweats
- Blanket



Ashley Myers (12):
Poms

Ethan Smith (11):
Wrestling

- Shoes
- Head Gear
- Sweatpants
- Long Sleeve Shirt
- Shorts
- Sweatshirt
- Warm Ups
- Athletic Tape



Michael Cullen (12):
Swim

- Swimsuit
- Goggles
- Swim Cap
- Water Bottle
- Shorts
- Towel
- Snack



- Jazz Shoes
- Perfume
- Safety Pins
- Rubber Bands
- Bobby Pins
- a Bow
- Lipstick



Jacob Gestrich (12):
Boys’ Basketball

- Shoes
- Food
- Socks
- Deoderant
- Water Bottle



Emily Pierson (10):
Girls’ Basketball

- Shoes
- Extra Shoes
- Jersey
- Compression
- Shorts
- Shirt
- Socks
- Knee Sleeves
- Shorts



Mya Maslonka (9):
Girls’ Hockey

- Birkenstocks
- Golf Ball
- Pre Wrap
- Backup Stick
- Tape
- Socks

Kyler Kobs (11):
Boys’ Hockey

- Bottles of Ibuprofen
- Spark
- Cough Medicine
- Extra Equipment
- Honey





Coaches Corner: Coaches give opinions about their current season

We are currently 10-4 overall and 9-3 in the conference. We are tied with Madison Memorial for first place. San'Trell Payton just reached the 1,000 point milestone on January 14. Our leading scorer and rebounder is Adam Anhold. He averages 15.5 points and 8.3 rebounds per game. "This team plays together and believes they can beat anyone in the conference." -**Michael Miller: Boys' Basketball**

"The season is going very well. We have a nice mix of experienced gymnasts along with younger girls on the team. The girls are all working hard to add more difficulty and perfect their routines as we progress through the season. Our best events are probably Vault and Floor. Next week we have a dual meet at Madison east and then on Saturday the Spartan Invite at Madison Memorial, which will give us a good idea how we stack up in the conference. Jenna Brandt is our highest scoring all-around gymnast this season." -**Jean Welch: Gymnastics**

"Craig Cheer season is a long one! Aug-Feb! After football season ends we go into basketball season where we cheer on boys and girls teams as well as support Hockey and Wrestling at their contests. Not only that but it's our competition season as well! In November we competed at UWW Amp it Up competition where our cheer CoEd stunt team placed second and our Cheer dance team placed first and won Grand Champion! (highest scorer for all divisions). Our last competition was at East Troy where we brought home 2-2nd places. Our next competitions are at Sun Prairie and Kettle Moraine Lutheran HS (where we are 2 time reigning first place finishers). Feb 18 we compete at Southern Regionals in Wilmington for a chance to qualify for State Cheer. We have 8 seniors graduating this season and 1 foreign exchange student. Our Captains are Audrey Bouland, Kaci Reinman, Hanna Hedgecock, and Sarah Smith. Craig Cheer is a member of WACPC which is endorsed by WIAA. We had one qualify as a All State member last year. WACPC gives 20,000 in scholarships each year to teams who are members. Our try outs for next season are in April!" -**ReJeanne Lehron: Cheer**

January 3rd: Beat Madison La Follette (Team achieved 15 best times)

Senior Michael Cullen won the 200 Free and 100 Free
Sophomore Gavin Ziebell won the 200 IM and 100 Fly
Senior Drew Carter won the 50 Free and 100 Back

January 5th: 4th place finish at the Rock County Championships (Team achieved 18 best times). Top 6 finishes by Gavin Ziebell (5th- 200 Free) and (3rd- 500 Free), Michael Cullen (2nd- 50 Free) and (2nd- 100 Free), Cayden Williams (4th- 100 Back) and 200 Free Relay (3rd)

January 6th: Lost to Middleton and Beloit (Team achieved 13 best times)

Top 6 finishes included: Michael Cullen (5th- 200 Free) and (4th- 100 Free), Gavin Ziebell (2nd- 500 Free), Drew Carter (4th- 100 Back)

January 13th: Lost to Madison West (Team achieved 8 best times)

Top 3 finishes included: Callaghan Bradley (3rd- 200 IM), Lochlin Pearce (3rd- 50 Free), Gavin Ziebell (3rd- 500 Free)

January 14th: Finished 9th out of 13 teams at the Middleton Cardinal Relays

Top finish: 8th place in the 200 Medley Relay (Cayden Williams, Callaghan Bradley, Gavin Ziebell, Michael Cullen)

January 20th: Lost to Sun Prairie and 6-time defending State Champs Madison Memorial (Team achieved 6 best times)

Top 6 finishes included: 200 Medley Relay (4th), Gavin Ziebell (5th- 200 IM) and (2nd- 500 Free), Michael Cullen (3rd- 50 Free) and (6th- 100 Free), Cayden Williams (5th- 100 Back), Callaghan Bradley (6th- 100 Breast)

January 21st: Finished 4th at the Menomonee Falls Indian Invitational (Team achieved 9 best times)

Top 6 finishes included: 200 Medley Relay (5th place), Gavin Ziebell (4th- 200 Free) and (4th- 500 Free), Michael Cullen (4th- 50 Free) and (5th- 100 Free), 200 Free Relay (4th place), Cayden Williams (6th- 100 Back)

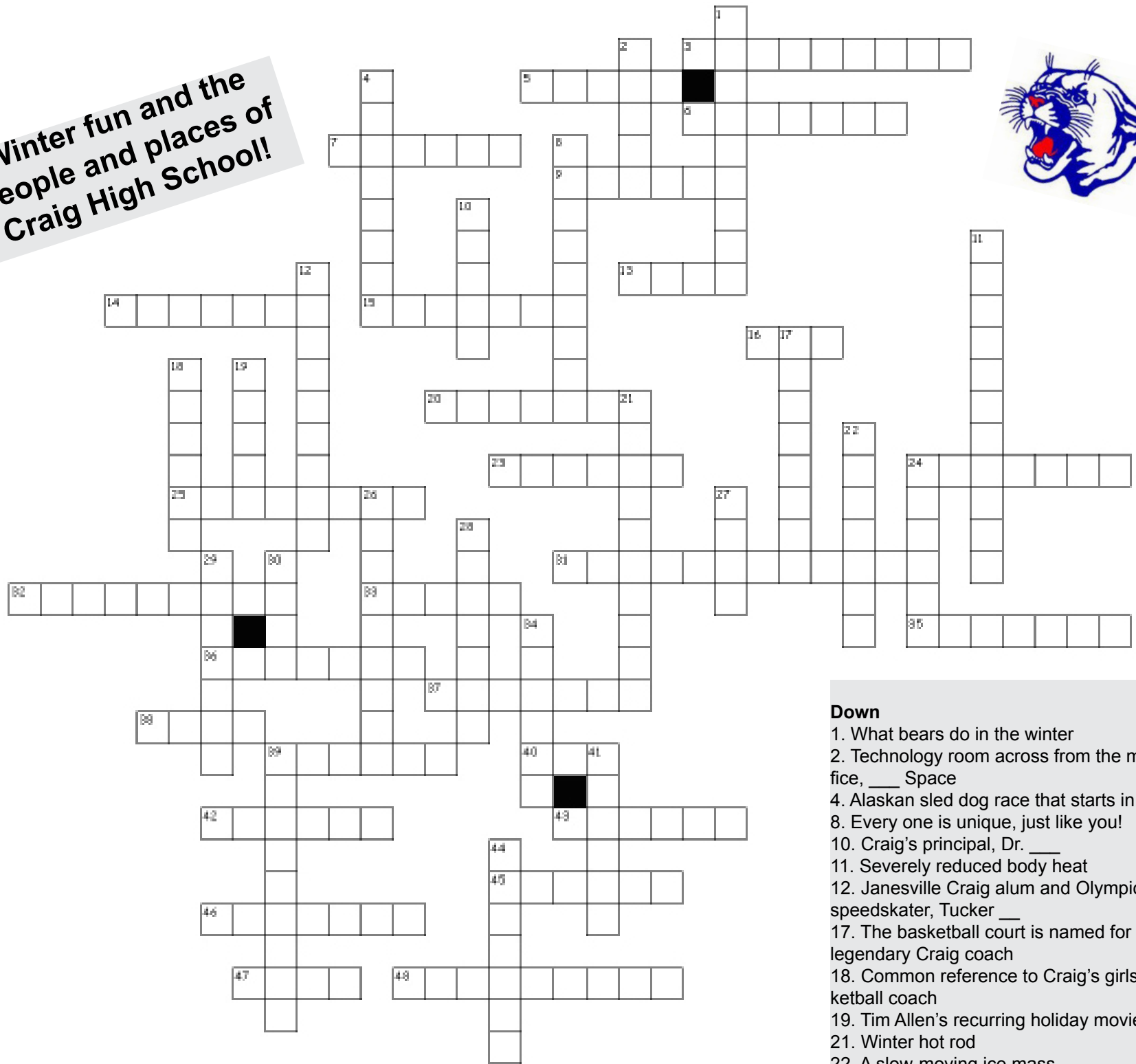
Quotable: "With a lot of hard work the team continues to show steady improvement each and every week. The effort level has been consistent on a daily basis and the team continues to show a positive mental attitude as the training gets harder and harder. The team is focused on swimming our best times of the season at our last two meets, the Big 8 Conference Championships on February 4th and the Sectional meet on February 11th. We anticipate all the hard work paying off in a big way at our Sectional meet." -**Coach Kitzman: Boys' Swim**

"The season is going pretty well. We are currently 7-9 overall and 6-6 in the conference. We are in 5th place at the moment. Our top scorers this season are Hannah Halersoon at 9.8 points per game and Ali Carlson at 8.6 points per game. The thing that I enjoy the most about coaching is getting to know the players outside the classroom. I like seeing them improve as the season progresses and enjoy seeing the friendships that develop between the girls. I am lucky to have the opportunity to work with such a great group of young ladies" -**Assistant Coach Ryan Masterson Girl's Basketball**





Winter fun and the people and places of Craig High School!



Across

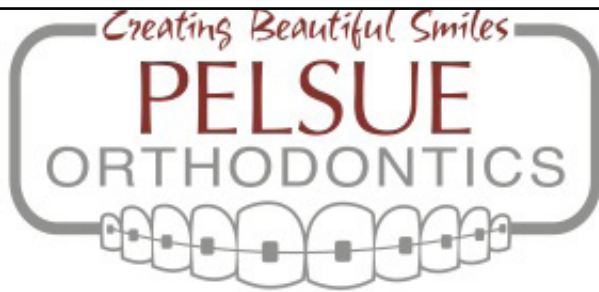
- 3. Santa's entrance point
- 5. Chill bringer, ___ vortex
- 6. Hanukkah candle holder
- 7. Craig's boys basketball coach Mike ___
- 9. Mr. Holmquist's student teacher of last semester, Ms. ___
- 13. An Olympic sled
- 14. Lots of people own an ugly one
- 15. "I made it out of clay"
- 16. Quarterly assessment in every class
- 20. They keep your hands warm

- 23. Creamy holiday beverage
- 24. A sport played on ice with brooms and heavy stones
- 25. Invisible winter road hazard (two words)
- 31. Halfpipes are big for this winter sport
- 32. The biggest football game of the year (2 words)
- 33. Eskimo's dwelling
- 35. He was not allowed to join in any reindeer games
- 36. The cheerleading program that includes students with special needs, ___ Effect

- 37. Ski resort near Portage, Wis.
- 38. A toboggan is a type of one
- 39. The football Badgers won this Bowl on January 2, 2017
- 40. Buddy was one of these
- 42. A common evergreen
- 43. Literary character Caulfield who wore an earflap hat
- 45. The earth's smallest and northernmost ocean
- 46. "Frozen" anthem (3 words)
- 47. Mythical Frost who coats everything in ice
- 48. These fairies danced in "The Nutcracker"

Down

- 1. What bears do in the winter
- 2. Technology room across from the main office, ___ Space
- 4. Alaskan sled dog race that starts in March
- 8. Every one is unique, just like you!
- 10. Craig's principal, Dr. ___
- 11. Severely reduced body heat
- 12. Janesville Craig alum and Olympic speedskater, Tucker ___
- 17. The basketball court is named for this legendary Craig coach
- 18. Common reference to Craig's girls basketball coach
- 19. Tim Allen's recurring holiday movie role
- 21. Winter hot rod
- 22. A slow-moving ice mass
- 24. Ambush predator of the Andes
- 26. How a skier gets back up the hill (two words)
- 27. Eskimos have 50 words for it
- 28. What Anna of "Frozen" wanted to build
- 29. The Jamaicans rode one in "Cool Runnings"
- 30. "Frozen" snow queen
- 34. Game of the Fury, Bluebirds, and Jets
- 39. "I'm dreaming of a white ___"
- 41. A magic hat made him come to life
- 44. Mr. Holmquist's student teacher for the current semester, Ms. ___



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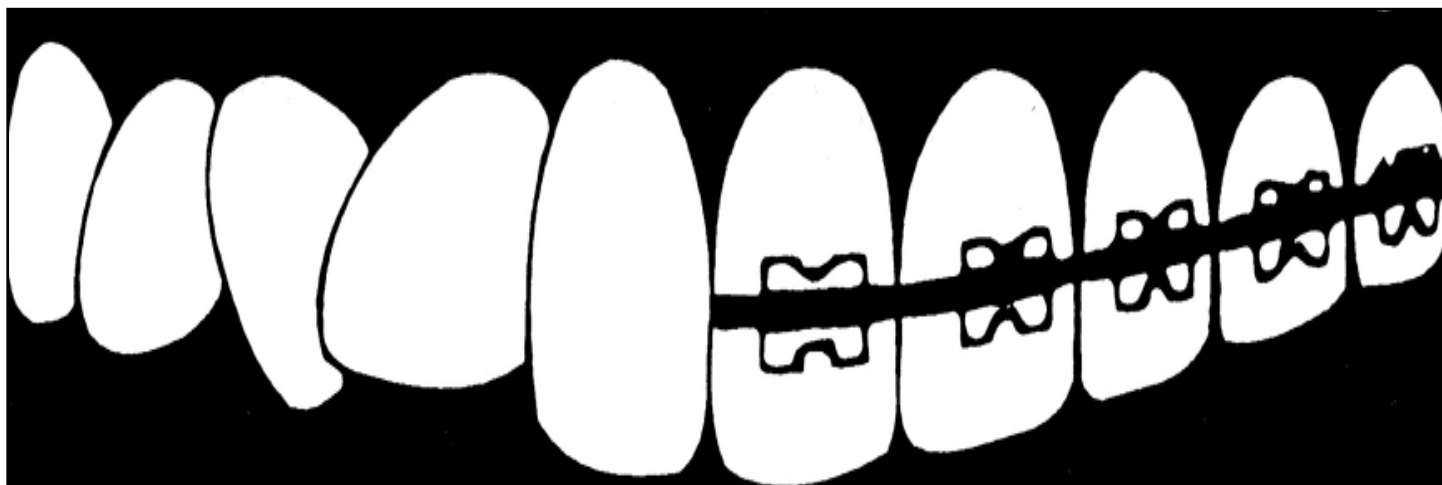
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