

## Scholars Bowl places 5th at state

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The Wabaunsee Scholars Bowl team ended its season with a 5th place finish at state.

Seniors Maddie Alderman, Luke Barber, Jarrett Bolinder, Sean Dugger, Dillon Spellman and junior Eleanor Badeker traveled to Inman Elementary School to compete in the state meet after qualifying by placing 2nd in the regional meet. The state meet would be tough as it included eleven other teams who placed in the top three from other regional scholar bowl meets including teams like Wichita Independent and Goessel.

"I felt excited and much more nervous than I ever had," Spellman said.

The format of the state meet is similar to the format used by the

regional tournaments. The teams were separated into two pools and the teams competed in a round-robin with the top three teams from each pool moving on to the championship rounds.

WHS won its first four matches of the tournament against Syracuse, Sacred Heart, Oswego and Sublette. The last round of pool play would be against the other undefeated team in the pool, Wichita Independent.

The Chargers gained a lead in the first few questions but would be overtaken quickly after Independent correctly answered nine consecutive questions. Independent won 30-95. WHS would move on to the finals with a 2nd place finish in pool play.

"It felt good to go to the finals," Spellman said. "But getting destroyed in that final match was very

discouraging."

The championship rounds began with a match against Sublette, a team that got 3rd in the same pool. A tough set of questions would result in a very close round with only a 10 point difference. WHS took a first-round loss of 20-30.

The next match would be against Heritage Christian Academy, a team who placed 3rd at the Wabaunsee regional. Once again, a tough set of questions would produce a 20-point difference, but another loss with a score of 20-40.

A rematch Wichita Independent would be the next match and would prove to be a difficult with Independent interrupting most of the questions. Another loss with a score of 20-100 would put the team in a poor spot for placing.

"When we lost three and still had one of the top teams to play, the

mindset changed to get at least one win," Alderman said.

Northern Heights, the champion of the Wabaunsee regional, was the next team up. The questions in the round may have been difficult, but WHS would overcome the challenge to gain its first victory, 40-10. Another win would make it possible for a top four finish. The last match of the meet would be against Goessel, first place of the other pool during pool play. WHS would fight hard but would prove to be tough a result in a loss with a score of 40-70.

"I thought we tried our best but it was disappointing coming up short," Bolinder said.

Heritage Christian finished first in 2A after handing Wichita Independent its only loss. Independent finished 2nd and Sublette finished 3rd.

A 5th place finish is one of the

many accomplishments the team gained throughout the year. WHS finished second at Council Grove, league and regionals as well as coming very close to entering in the final rounds in two meets. Alderman would lead the team through the year as captain, scoring 1650 points. Spellman scored 755 points, Barber scored 160 points, Bolinder and Dugger scored 100 points each and senior Jessica Vanstorty got 10 points.

"I knew this would be a strong team because we returned so many talented players from last year. I think they were really driven and competitive. We were only a couple of questions away from a better finish against some of the best teams in the state," scholars bowl coach Brendan Praeger said.

### OPINION

## Barber siblings dispense romantic advice

By Laurel Barber, Luke Barber

With Valentine's Day, love is in the air, and dating in high school is harder than ever. Fortunately, junior Laurel Barber and senior Luke Barber have great advice for high school Romeos and Juliets.

**I'm an upperclassman. Should I date an underclassman?**

**Laurel:** I say go for it. If you are happy, then stay happy. Dating an older guy is what some people are used to but dating someone younger doesn't really matter. It's 2019 — do you boo.

**Luke:** If you're an upperclassman that means you're probably around 17 or 18 years old. In the state of Kansas the legal age of consent is 16. Why date an underclassman when you can date an elderly billionaire. Think about it, you have college coming soon and we're all broke. College tuition to an elderly billionaire is pennies on the hundred dollar bill.

**How many zip codes apart should I keep my boyfriends?**

**Laurel:** With social media it's super easy to find out who is talking to who. So stick to one boyfriend at a time and if you aren't feeling it, just break up. From the beginning set clear expectations of what you want out of the relationship and if you even want a relationship.

**Luke:** That's an easy one, don't. And by don't, I mean have lots of boyfriends in the same zip code. Have you ever seen those tv shows where people have multiple wives? Just do that but with boyfriends. Make them awkwardly compete for your affection under the guise that they are okay with it.

**How much PDA is too much PDA?**

**Laurel:** Holding hands and a cute little 3-second hug are the only acceptable PDA. Kissing in the classroom, commons or at school is gross. No one wants to see you kiss your significant other in front of everyone. It's more acceptable if you aren't at school and you give them a little peck of a kiss — as long as it isn't at a super inconvenient or uncomfortable time for people around you. Don't kiss at church, in the middle of a grocery store or at a restaur-

ant. It's okay to kiss in the park. Just don't scare little kids.

**Luke:** Any touching is immoral. Don't do it. You think other people want to see you making goo goo eyes at someone? No they don't. In fact you should do the very opposite. If you are dating someone in school you should actively try to make people think that you dislike them. Constantly make fun of them. Constantly annoy them. Do whatever it takes to make sure people think you don't like them.

**What is a good Valentine's Day gift for my HS boyfriend or girlfriend?**

**Laurel:** It depends... if you have been in an exclusive relationship for only a couple of months, you should get them something meaningful but less than \$20. Get them some like candy and maybe a nice dinner at McDonald's. If you have been together for multiple years than you can most definitely go a little bit more crazy. Maybe like \$50 on a fine piece of jewelry.

**Luke:** Immortality. It's understandable that everyone's main and sometimes only fear is death. So free them from them from their mortal worries. There are plenty of ways to gain immortality just buy a voodoo cookbook or something and get cracking. Not that hard in my opinion.

**Is Valentine's day a good day to ask someone out for the first time?**

**Laurel:** Valentine's Day is one of the worst days to ever ask someone out on a first date — right next to New Year's Day. It's awful to ask someone out because you are lonely. It's Valentine's Day. You are in high school. It's okay to be single. Everyone has been in your shoes. Just go to DG and get someone ice cream and watch some funny movies.

**Luke:** Yes. Everyone thinks "oh no one's going to ask me out I'm a major uggoo so today's going to be fine I'll just be lonely like always". But no, here you come guns blazing. Ask them out and it will surprise them so much that they'll pass out on the spot. At that point you take all the cash from their wallet. They'll be so happy they have a date they won't even notice the missing cash when they wake up.

## Miss Rodeo KS visits grade schools



Miss Rodeo Kansas Brooke Wallace speaks to Alma Elementary School students on Friday. Wallace, a former classmate of Alma fourth grade teacher Brooke Janssen, spoke about rodeo events and her duties as Miss Rodeo Kansas. "The students enjoyed it," Janssen said. "They saw her as a celebrity, which she thought was funny." Janssen said she invited Wallace because she knew it was her job to spread knowledge about rodeo. Wallace also visited Maple Hill Elementary. Photo by Emma Alderman.

## Band, choir teacher to retire at end of year

Kendyl Bolinder  
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Richard Philbrook has announced his plans to retire at the end of this school year. Philbrook has taught 5-12th grade at Wabaunsee for 11 years, but has been teaching band and choir for a total of 43 years. His favorite thing about Wabaunsee is the students, and the special bond he's formed with them over the years.

"That's not just the requisite answer. That is truly how I feel. I have never taught where, top to bottom, the students were as kind, considerate and respectful as they are here. You guys are just nice people, seriously. So many of my colleagues never got to expe-

rience people like you, and I feel sorry for them," Philbrook.

"He's very dedicated to music. I'll miss his stories," junior baritone player Brendan Dugger said.

"I've had him since fifth grade. It's going to be weird adapting to someone else's teaching style," junior trumpeter Falish Willier said.

WHS principal Jan Hutley and WJH principal Steve Oliver are interviewing candidates to fill Philbrook's position.

After his retirement, Philbrook plans to travel and spend more time with his family, and will occasionally step in as a substitute teacher as needed. He will continue performing in professional music groups.

## The Charger Staff

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