

**Harding  
Middle  
School**

# TIMBERWOLF TIMES

**VOLUME 2  
ISSUE 2  
DECEMBER  
2013**

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<b>Midwest Tornadoes</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Lady Timberwolves</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Grade Level Goals</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Wolf Pack Fieldtrip</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Battle Heroes</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Movie Review</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Feature Teacher</b>	<b>4</b>

### WHAT ARE YOU THANKFUL FOR?

*I am thankful for my family because they are always there for me & I can be myself around them. — Miss Schmid*

*I am thankful my teacher Mr. Long because he is hilarious & make the class fun everyday. — Shannon McGuire*

*I am thankful for my family because they help me with my school work & push me to do better whenever I'm doing bad. —Cardell James*

## Harding Wrestling Program

By Damian Conejo and Ben Swift

Des Moines Public Schools has never had a wrestling program for middle schoolers. This year, 2013, is the first year it started. Wrestling featured over 100 wrestlers across the district. Harding coaches Isaac Lohmeier and Earl Robinson are the best wrestling coaches Harding wrestlers have ever had. When asked how we felt about wrestling this year, Coach Lohmeier said, "All my wrestlers through the years are important and memorable...but I will never forget this particular group of wres-

tlers. My favorite part of being the coach of Harding this year is that it is our first year as a wrestling team!"

Harding wrestlers are Emmanuel Poweh, Gage Lutrell, Dakota Hyatt, Damian Conejo, Keith Wright, Ben Swift, Phil Gaye, Noah Anderson, John Harvey, Luckyboy Dweh, and Davion Norton. Davion and Luckyboy both bring experience to the Harding wrestling team. Coaches pointed out that the wrestlers had great, positive attitudes and sportsmanship. They always helped set up wrestling meets, even if it was an away meet, to make sure the meet was a success.



**Go Harding Timberwolves!**

Meets took place at different middle schools around Des Moines. Harding's last meet is at Lincoln High School for the conference tournament on December 17th at 4pm.

## Your Voice is a Powerful Weapon

By DeAndrey King

Did you know your voice is a weapon? On Tuesday November 19 Mary Beth Tinker was at Harding Middle School. All of the 8<sup>th</sup> Graders went to this event that day.

Mary Beth was explaining the Tinker Tour. Tinker Tour is when they suspended Mary Beth, her brother, and his friends from Harding Middle School and North High School for wearing arm bands to protest the war. They then sued the Des Moines Public Schools

for their rights to express themselves.

Mary Beth and her brother John Beth described how she liked Harding and missed this school. Mary Beth told the 8<sup>th</sup> graders how powerful your voice is and you can use it any time. This event was interesting in life because you do have the freedom to speak and tell people how you feel. Harding will remember the Tinker case by dedicating a locker to Mary Beth Tinker. This locker is currently being used by Gabby Andrade but will never be used

again. If you haven't heard about The Tinker Tour, look up the articles on the Des Moines Register.



**Mary Beth Tinker with students.**

# Tornadoes Devastate the Midwest

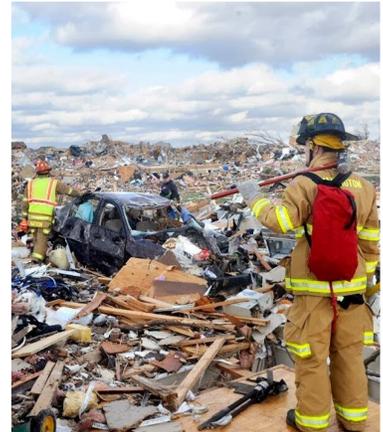
By Theresa Campos

We all heard about the tornadoes in Illinois. But did you know at least 10 tornadoes struck Illinois in one day? About 66 tornadoes were reported throughout the Midwest. At least six people were killed, but so many more people were injured. The worst tornado was in Washington, Illinois and was followed by many twisters. They were moving about 60 miles per hour. That's pretty fast. There were about 80,000 houses left without power

in that area. It was confirmed the storm had winds of 170 mph to 190 mph, producing EF-4 damage.

Do you know what to do when there is a tornado? The TV usually tells you when to prepare. A tornado watch means tornadoes are possible and to listen to the radio or TV for information. A tornado warning means a tornado has been sighted and you should take shelter right away. If there is a warning and you don't have a basement, go into a room without windows like a closet or hallways. Tornadoes are possible at any time in Iowa, but the most tornadoes hit during the Spring.

Below: Firefighters help in Washington, IL.



# Lady Timberwolves Wrap Up Season

By Angelica Vorasith

The coaches of the Lady Timberwolves 8<sup>th</sup> grade basketball team were Mrs. Bennett and Miss Burnette. The girl's last game was on Thursday, December 5<sup>th</sup>. A total of 9 games were played. There were 12 girls that played on the team. Mrs. Bennett says that the overall season was entertaining for her and nice seeing them improve and getting better each game. Mrs. Bennett and Miss Burnette hopefully will be next year's coaches.

Each player received an award at the awards banquet. Some awards were : MVP (Samantha Anderson), Most Improved (Reem Maki), Best Attitude (Kamia Harris), Hardest Worker (Georgia Chance), Team Leader (Jazmarye Morrow), and Best Shooter (Katie McCarl). Some upcoming sports are 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys Basketball and in the Spring time

there will be track for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls and boys.



# Started from the Bottom, Now We're Here

This year, Des Moines Public Schools has asked all middle schools to reduce the number of level 2 referrals. For us, this means we need to have less intervention rooms. Every term, Government sets a goal for their grade level. If the goal is met, Government chooses a reward for the whole grade. Last term, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade met their intervention room goals and got dress down days.

Sixth grade has been averaging 20 inter-

vention rooms weekly, so their goal that started last week is 15 intervention rooms or less per week (45 or less by break). Seventh grade was averaging 35 intervention rooms per week in term 1, but they brought it down to only 15 per week! Their new goal for term 2 is 10 or less per week. That is 50 or less by break for all of term 2. Eighth grade's goal is 20 or less intervention rooms per week. That is 100 or less by break for all of term 2. If a grade reach-

es their goal, they get a dress down day!

Harding has had a bad reputation in the past, but we have turned it around. People think Harding is still a bad school, so it is our job to prove to them that we are positive and the best middle school! We aren't at the bottom anymore. We have to work together to help each other.

## Positive Wolf Pack Students Get Rewarded

By: Isabel Arias-Camacho

Did you get to go to the Wolf Pack field trip? All Wolf Pack students got a reward for having good grades, for doing community service, and for being a positive role model. About 300 Wolf Pack members got the privilege to go to Plaza Lanes Bowling Alley on November 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. The 8<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students went together on the 25<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders went on the 26<sup>th</sup>. Students there had fun bowling with friends, eating

snacks, and playing games in the arcade.

Do you want to be in Wolf Pack and go to the next fun field trip? Well, be positive and a leader. Then you'll have to be nominated by a teacher for a pledge packet. Once you get the pledge packet, complete it and turn it in to your advisory teacher.



About 300 students earned the opportunity to go on this field trip!

## Battle Heroes from Afghanistan

By: Keagan DeVore



Everybody knows about 9/11 but I don't think you know about this. At the time of 9/11 Afghanistan was controlled by the Taliban. Grown men could not comb their beards without getting hit with canes. Kids could not play or have toys. If they did their whole family may get their hands chopped off. Women had to walk silently and not work or go to school. If they did they would get beat with canes.

Nine days after 9/11 the United States demanded that the Taliban turn over all leaders and al-Qaeda and immediately close all the terrorist training camps and round up all the countries terrorists and supporters. The Taliban refused! That caused war! There are about 80,000 troops still in Afghanistan to this very day. I think I am speaking for all of us when I say "Thank you troops!"

## Movie Review: Catching Fire

Everyone has heard of the book series *The Hunger Games*. Have you read them? These books are so good that they are making movies of them. The second movie, *Catching Fire*, just came out November 20th. If you haven't seen the first one, hurry and watch it so you can go see this great movie!

If you haven't read the books, they are about a girl named Katniss who lives in a district that is poor. Her country has a capitol that is rich and makes a lot of

rules for everyone to follow. Every year, they have something called the Hunger Games where two kids from each district (there are 12) have to go fight to the death. The winner is the last person alive.

The first movie was good, but the second is even better. A lot of people criticized the first movie, but the second movie is full of action and drama. There will be two more movies coming out within the next two years because

the third book is split into two parts. The third movie will come out next Thanksgiving, 2014. The last movie will come out Thanksgiving 2015.



Follow Us on Twitter and Instagram:

@HardingWolfPack

Like us on Facebook:

Harding Wolf Pack



**HARDING MIDDLE  
SCHOOL**

**Respect the Pack**

Check us out online!

[harding.dmschools.org](http://harding.dmschools.org)



**Howling at the Moon by Tre Jarrett**

## Feature Teacher: Meet Mrs. Surprenant

By Jamehl Inthabounh

Mrs. Surprenant was nominated as Staff Member of Term 2. She is the Behavior Coach at Harding. If you don't know her, read on to learn more!

### Where are you from?

I am from Hampton, Iowa.

### Do you have any children?

I have four boys: Jace who is 16, Cael is 9, Ryne 8 and Broc 6.

### How do you like working at Harding?

I love to work here because after being with elementary aged children for 14 years, I was ready for a change. I love getting up everyday to come to a place where everyone is devoted to making education and life better for our young adults.

### What are you looking forward to this year?

I am looking forward to the 8th graders going on their trip and watching them mature.

### What are your hobbies or interests?

I play all sports with my children and love to travel. I also like to scrapbook.

### What is your favorite food?

My favorite food is pizza.



### What is your favorite sports team?

My favorite sports team is UNI. Go Panthers!

### Where would you want to travel most?

I would like to go back to Jamaica.

### What are you afraid of (biggest fear)?

I am afraid of my kids or students getting hurt.

Congratulations, Mrs. Surprenant! We appreciate you.

Do you want to join  
Media Club? See Miss  
Wilcoxon or Miss