

Have a great summer vacation!

Issue 3, Volume 9

Published May 19, 2011

Hawk Highlights

The only newspaper in the entire world that really cares about Galena, Alaska

Begich wants better classroom tech, pre-K available in all schools

Proposed bill focuses on vocational education; lack of statewide preschool is "somewhat appalling"

By **SHERRI KESSNER**, editor and **DYLAN KORTA**, assistant editor

Sen. Mark Begich lamented the loss of the Galena Early Learning Center and emphasized the importance of technology in rural classrooms, speaking in an exclusive interview with the *Hawk Highlights* on April 19.

Begich, a Democrat, is a primary sponsor of a new piece of legislation called the

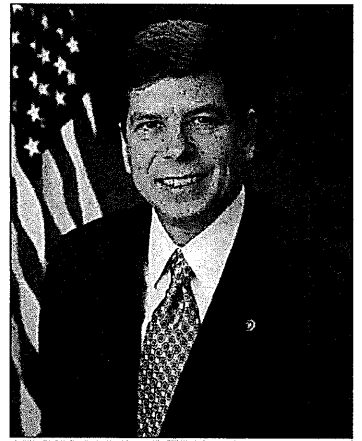
STEM Act, which was recently introduced on the Senate floor. If passed, the legislation would allocate millions of dollars to school districts throughout the country for the addition of more STEM programs in our students' education.

"The idea of the STEM act is to focus on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Many of the programs...all have aspects of that, so obviously they will

dovetail very well," said Begich.

Regarding the closure of the Galena E.L.C., Begich said he was "somewhat appalled" that the state of Alaska does not include pre-K education in their overall education program.

"[Alaska] is one of the few states in the country that does not have pre-K as part of their public education funding. The challenge is that we have a group of Republicans,



Sen. Mark Begich spoke with the *Hawk Highlights* about education and other school-related issues.

especially in the House, that are opposed to some of the programs. They tried to cut Head Start

Continued on back page

Basketball continues with D-League

By **LINDA FOLGER**, Staff writer

Basketball season continues this spring with the D-League.

The decision to have D-League here in Galena was made by Arne Erickson, GILA computer teacher; Mark Stordahl, Galena basketball coach; and Beth Buchanan, SHS principal.

They were talking about how most of the basketball players here in Galena go home for Christmas break, and how most of the kids

like to go to open gym.

D-League is not exactly open gym because it is more organized and the idea is to make basketball players better.

Mr. Erickson got the idea for D-League from a book called *Running the Show* by Dick Devenzio.

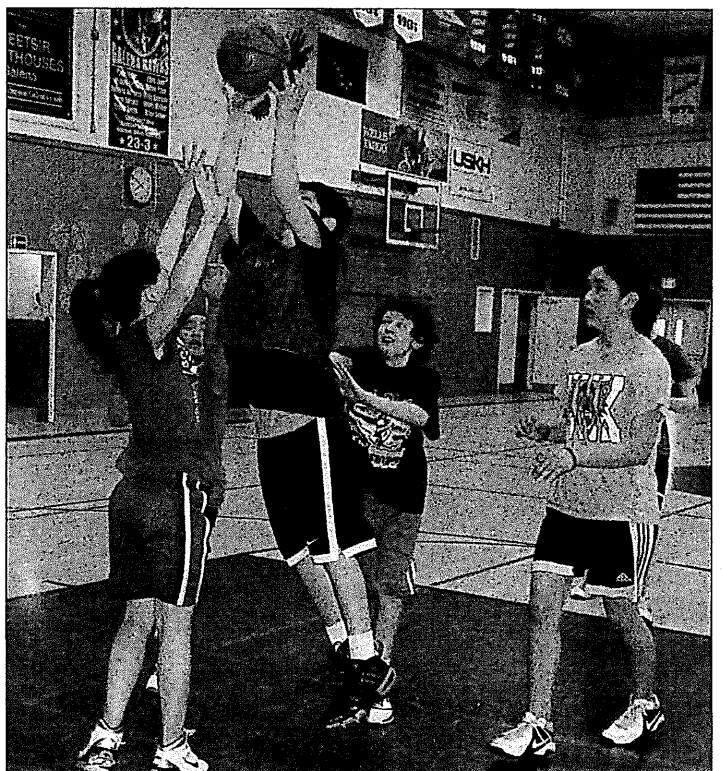
It talks about how he spent time scrimmaging, not just running in practice.

D-League is open

Continued on page 11

D-League players are, from left, Kameron Reitan, James Olin-Martin, Joseph Apfelbeck, and Romay Shayen.

Photo by Mr. A



Native corporation CEO: local boarding schools like Galena's are needed

By DYLAN KORTA and SHERRI KESSNER
Hawk Highlights editors

The chief executive officer for the Cook Inlet Region Native corporation said regional boarding schools would benefit students in the Alaska Bush during a tour of the GILA and SHS campuses on May 13 during a visit to Galena.

Margie Brown is the CEO and President of Cook Inlet Region Inc., commonly known as CIRI.

CIRI is one of the thirteen regional native corporations established by the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act in 1971.

A strong supporter

of boarding schools, Ms. Brown said that to receive an adequate education, students must be in a high school of at least 40 students.

This is uncommon in rural Alaska, where some villages have less than 10 students in their high schools.

"I've been concerned that so many children are reaching college-level classes and still need remedial help," said Ms. Brown.

Regional boarding schools could be a solution to this problem, Ms. Brown said, because they bring the student body to a size that is most conducive for efficient learning.

"I have come to



Visiting Cook Inlet Region chief executive officer Margie Brown, at right, talked with *Hawk Highlights* editor Sherri Kessner, middle, and assistant editor Dylan Korta.
Photo by Mr. A

the conclusion that if we regionalize our high schools, our children will get a better education," said Ms. Brown.

Ms. Brown was very impressed with GILA and the opportunities

presented to students here. She said establishing more boarding schools throughout rural Alaska would benefit our youth.

"We need a... change in our system," she said.

Galena students head to RAHI

By DANITADOUGLAS
Staff writer

Five of the seven students who applied to this summer's 2011 Rural Alaska Honor Institute (RAHI) from the Galena Interior Learning Academy and Sidney C. Huntington School were

accepted.

Maria Reidel, counselor at the SHS campus, says it looks like this is the largest group of students from any school in the state of Alaska.

The students that got accepted with RAHI are Emma Simple, Davida Walker, Diloola Erickson,

Kathrin Huntington, and Sid Huhndorf.

RAHI is not easy to apply for. These students worked hard to get this application done, said Ms. Reidel.

The RAHI course is a six-week long academic program at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

RAHI participants stay at the UAF dormitory getting a head start on postsecondary education offering college credit classes. The student also gets to choose one of several specialty classes, such as math, psychology, geoscience, and biochemistry.

GILA student at environmental conference

By WENDY KAMEROFF

Special to the *Hawk Highlights*

On March 14-18, I attended the Alaska Youth for Environmental Action (AYEA) Civics and Conservation Summit in Juneau.

I was one of twenty students to attend. We all learned about protecting our wild salmon from mining.

There were three

separate bills that we went over. The bills were Ocean Acidification Bill (HJR 10), Salmon Bill (HJR 8), and Toxics Bill (SB 27 or HB 63). We all got assigned to look over three separate bills.

I was in the Toxic Bill group.

I believe Alaska's legislature has an opportunity to protect Alaska's health. Senate Bill 27 would limit exposure to products that contain toxic chemicals used as

flame retardants. These are products that everyone has such as televisions, furniture, and computers. They don't stay in the products but are released into our environment.

They contaminate the ground, the air, the water, the animals, and us (humans). They cause harmful health effects. Women from the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta and the Arctic have the highest levels in their breast milk.

I fit the description

and I am concerned about my exposure. I hope the legislature will take action on this bill because

I care about toxic-free subsistence and the health of the future generations.

Alaska Youth for Environmental Action asked Wendy to have this published in her local newspaper to tell others about what she did at the conference.

Student teacher spends week in Galena

By FRANCIS VASKA
Staff writer

That person you might have seen in your classes in April was Ben Clark, 27, who goes to school at the University of Alaska Southeast and is studying to be a teacher. He is a student teacher working with a program that allows him to visit another school for a week to see how it is run.

"I enjoyed the dorms, the student, and even the teachers," said Mr. Clark. "I would say that Galena is a very welcoming town with great students who are ready to achieve and succeed." He says he enjoys Galena and its surroundings a whole lot.

"I loved the scenery, the sun, compared to Sitka's cloudy and rainy weather," he said. "I wish I could come back next month and be able to see the river break up." Not only does he enjoy the river, but he also enjoys the trees. "I would love to see the leaves change in the fall," Mr. Clark said. "It is very beautiful here. I would not change a thing here."

He comes from Sitka, and had some things to say about the differences between Mt. Edgecumbe High School and the Galena Interior Learning Academy. "There is another school in town with Edgecumbe, so there is a sort of heated rivalry. Both schools have around 350 kids or so, and they always compete with one another."

Mr. Clark has enjoyed his time that he has been here. "I have stayed at the third floor in the Iditarod Inn since I got here, and got to eat with the students at the cafeteria, it makes me feel like I'm in paradise." He also grinned and then said, "The only thing I would have to change is that Galena would be closer to Sitka, so that I would be able to get here more often."

Bad language is *&!!\$!!*## awful

By LEONARD EWAN
Staff writer

Swearing is a topic that is not quite taboo in the modern culture we are living today. It's like we are going into another transition of what is bad and what is OK to say in everyday vocabulary.

In school, some teachers are disparaging bad language, but there seems to be a lot more



Visiting student teacher Ben Clark (left) is interviewed by *Hawk Highlights* staff writers Francis Vaska and Isaiah Shavings.

Photo by Mr. A

By ISAAH SHAVINGS
Staff writer

The man sitting in the back of your classroom was Ben Clark, a student teacher seeing how things are done in Galena.

Mr. Clark, 27, is attending the University of Alaska Southeast in Sitka. He is studying to become a teacher, graduating this June with his master's degree in teaching.

Mr. Clark is staying

at the Iditarod Inn, where our GILA dorm staff lives. He says that he is having a great experience here in Galena.

The things he likes about Galena is "the scenery, very gorgeous... I would love to come here in the fall time. It is neat to see how the dorm life is here at GILA... they have really nice teachers and students that are very welcoming."

His main purpose here in Galena is learning how to be a better teacher and getting his master's degree in teaching from UAS. Part of the program is to see schools across Alaska and see how they are run and see how good they really are.

One of his plans for this summer is to take a trip from Skagway through Canada, and try end up somewhere in the Fairbanks, Alaska area.

Since Mr. Clark is a student in Sitka, he's familiar with the state's other public boarding school. Although Mt. Edgecumbe is bigger than GILA, they both were old military bases. GILA is an old Air Force base, and Edgecumbe was an old Navy base.

Mr. Clark said he looked forward to wearing his Galena Hawk shirt representing our spirit day. Mr. Clark also loves the weather here, always filled with sunshine, compared to Sitka, where it's always overcast, cloudy and rainy. He also wishes he could be here when the river breaks up.

"If I could change Galena I think I'd move it closer to Sitka," said Mr. Clark. He also said that Galena is very welcoming town with great students who are willing to achieve and succeed, and it is a very beautiful place to be.

tolerance, and students use cuss words more than ever before.

In mainstream and underground media outlets, vulgar free speech is never more "Up in Your Face!" than in pop culture history.

For instance: Kottonmouth King's song of their newest album *Long Live the Kings*, the

Continued on page 8

The *Hawk Highlights* newspaper is written by the journalism class at the Galena Interior Learning Academy, Galena, Alaska. Staff writers are Ryan Demientieff Jr., Danita Douglas, Leonard Ewan, Linda Folger, Curtis King, Victoria Lomack (Panigurluq), Isaiah Shavings, Emma Simple, and Francis Vaska. The editor is Sherri Kessner; the assistant editor is Dylan Korta. The teacher is Paul Apfelbeck. Letters to the editor can be sent to hawk.highlights@galenanet.com, dropping off a letter at Mr. A's room on the GILA campus, or writing to *Hawk Highlights*, P.O. Box 359, Galena, AK 99741.

Afterschool improves learning skills

By VICTORIA LOMACK
Staff writer

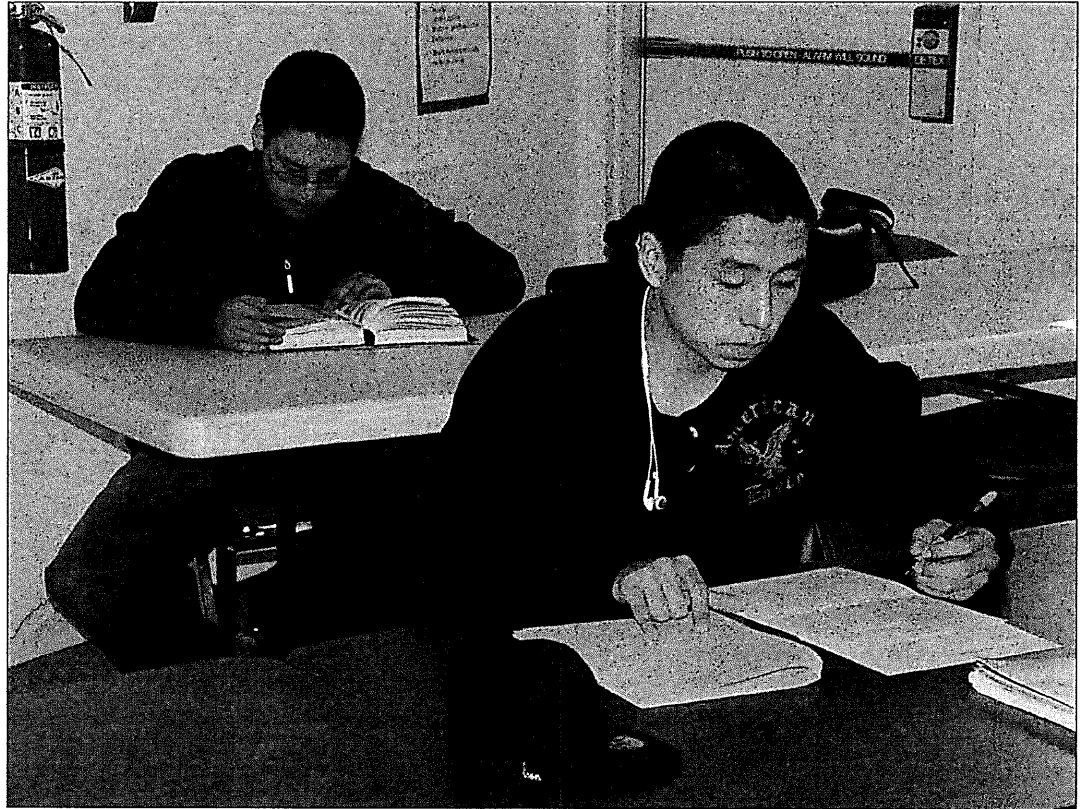
Mandatory afterschool was created to help and support students in their learning skills, to help with studying, to be organized, and successful while here at Galena. Students attend mandatory afterschool from 3:50 to 4:50 p.m. on Monday through Thursday to study, catch up on work, and do other school assignments.

How does a student get on the mandatory afterschool list?

A teacher recommends students to be on the list if you are missing requirements for your class.

The mandatory after school list normally has around 60 high school students, and the goal is to reduce the number of students on the list.

"The reason for mandatory after school is because there are too many students with D's, F's, and



Students Michael Lomack (left) and Jamie Loon buckle down to their studies during a recent afterschool session on the GILA campus.

Photo by Mr. A

I's (incompletes)," said Lisa Shelby, principal at the Galena Interior Learning Academy.

"The mandatory list includes Galena Interior Learning Academy, and Sidney C. Huntington School," she said. "We hope to help more students

be successful at school." Mr. Gillas, GILA's science teacher, likes the program.

"I think its great, it helps kids that don't do homework get it done," he said.

Danica Sipary, a senior at Galena Interior

Learning Academy, from St. Mary's, said the afterschool program was "a good strategy."

During a typical mandatory afterschool, students are working while the teachers are helping the students.

Cabin fever hangs over the late winter classes

By FRANCIS VASKA
Staff writer

"A state characterized by anxiety, restlessness, and utter boredom, arising from a prolonged stay in a remote or confined place." It's the technical term for what some folks refer to as *Cabin Fever*.

The way we look at things, cabin fever is just being trapped inside because it is too snowy or too cold outside. We have all had these experiences, and we all know how boring it can get. We all take it in a different way.

Some of us just deal with the silence, or the constant nothingness

going on around us. Some of us find games or get some couch potato time in while we can. And let's face it, who doesn't know someone that just goes out to party? The times where we just say, "The heck with this, let's just go party and make some memories."

It's a completely different story while we are staying at the dorms though. We all have the homework we never want to work on, the counselor's offices that are never open, and all the free space that we often pack in the halls. Some of us spend all the time we have killing as many zombies as we can before

they close the game room. You know who you are, and we know of your existence.

If you feel like it's been boring as of late, just wait, the last two months are always the longest months of the year, and once they pass, time will fly by. We will all go home, and we all do what we do best. Next thing you know your back to where we first started. Forget about that for right now, we are in the midst of the longest months of the year, the time when we all tell stories of the past, look forward to the future, and for the seniors, what am I supposed to be up to right now?

Cabin Fever is an extremely confusing time, where we just sit around, contemplate a lot, and just sit back and chill. We all know that the boredom is bad, that the time takes forever, but once it's gone; it flies by without us even noticing. So I think we can all wait another couple months... (Notice how I said, "I think.")

TEACHER:
If I had seven oranges in one hand and eight oranges in the other what would I have?
CLASS COMEDIAN:
Big hands!

Staff is meeting new challenges

Dorms getting a new principal position for the upcoming school year

By **DYLAN KORTA**

Assistant editor

GILA's principal, several teachers, and some dorm staff members have announced their resignation from their positions at the Galena City School District.

Lisa Shelby, who is currently the GILA principal, will be moving to Lopez Island in the San Juan Islands of Washington state's Puget Sound with her husband, Rob, and their 6-year-old son, Tristan. Rob is a frequent substitute teacher at the SHS and GILA campuses. The Shelbys have lived in Galena since 2009.

Joyce and Noel Frisbie will be leaving Galena after teaching here for three years. Mrs. Frisbie is the special education teacher on the GILA campus and Mr. Frisbie teaches aviation classes. Mr. and Mrs. Frisbie will be moving to Craig, Alaska, a Southeast town on Prince of Wales Island with a population of about 1500.

"We liked [Galena] real well," Mrs. Frisbie said. "We'll miss it."

Lon Gillas, who teaches science classes on the GILA campus, will be departing Galena after teaching here for two years. He will be moving to Stebbins, a small coastal village near Unalakleet. In Stebbins, he will teach science to middle school and high school students.

"I loved Galena," said Mr. Gillas. "There's such a variety of things to do."

Ptarmigan Hall will

also be losing some staff members. Hall managers Nathan Kafka and Pachia Xiong will be leaving Galena. In addition, Travis Larson, Ashley Lang, Patti Crow, Nancy Larson, and Becky George will not be returning to the dorms next year. The latter two are dorm counselors, and the former three are residence advisors.

Mark Stordahl and his wife, Kathy, will not be returning to Galena. Mr. Stordahl is the manager of the GILA gym and the boy's varsity basketball coach.

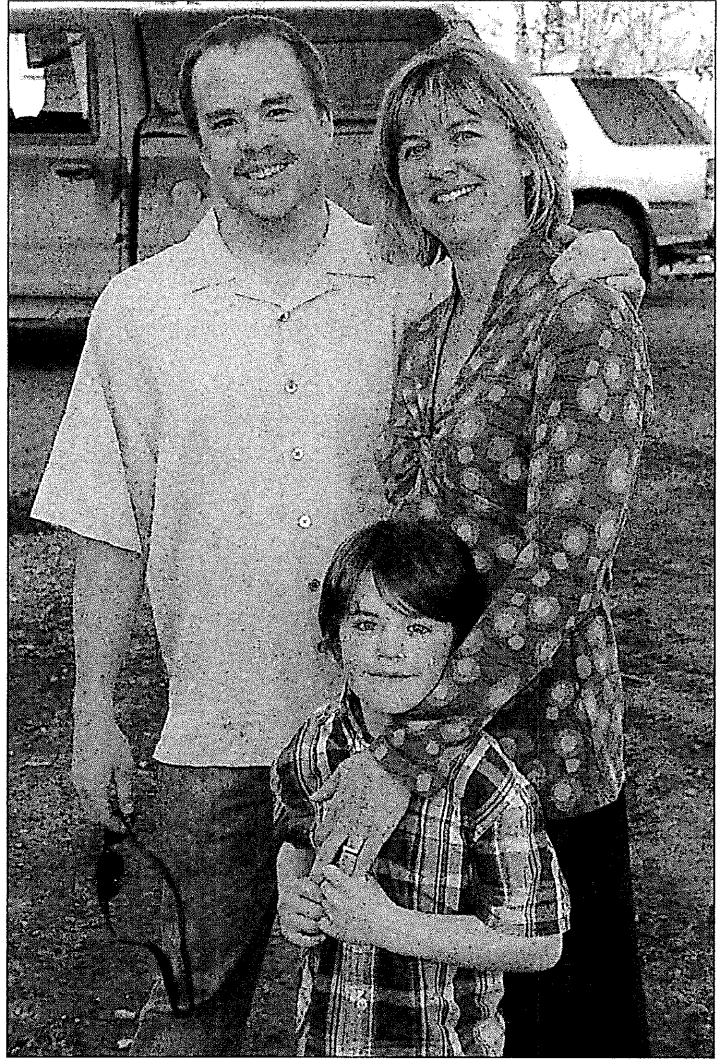
To compensate for the departing faculty members, the school district has hired several new teachers, administrators, and residence advisors.

Mr. Frisbie's position will be filled by Joshua Kaufeld, and Mr. Gillas's position will be filled by Ross Tulloch, who is moving to Galena from Montana. Mr. Tulloch grew up in Alaska.

Keilah Redman will be filling Mr. Boonstra's position as the physical education teacher on the SHS campus. She will also teach two math classes.

Mrs. Shelby's position as the principal of the GILA campus will be filled by John Hurley. Mr. Hurley has been a principal in Homer, Metlakatla, and Ekwok, Alaska. He has also been a principal in Browning, Montana, Harden, Montana, and Durango, Colorado, where he currently resides.

The dorms have hired new residence



GILA principal Lisa Shelby, pictured here with her husband Rob and their son Tristan, will be taking on new responsibilities as the principal at a school on Lopez Island, Wash.

Photo by Mr. A

advisors, but their names are not yet available, as they have not been confirmed by the school board.

Ptarmigan Hall has also introduced an entirely new position, known as the Director of Residential Life, which will be filled by Ken Essex, who has served as the principal in Hooper Bay and Pilot Station.

He will oversee all matters outside of the classroom, and will supervise Ben Blasco, the residence hall

administrator, and Rand Rosecrans, the chef and director of the Two Seasons Dining Hall.

For budget reasons, the school district will not be replacing some of the departing faculty members. Mrs. Frisbie's position will not be filled, increasing the load of students on the SHS special education teacher, Trisha Esmailka.

The positions of Mr. Stordahl and Jon Stam will also not be filled as their positions were grant funded, and the grant has expired.

Sam: Would you punish me for something I didn't do? Teacher: No, of course not. Sam: Good, because I didn't do my homework.

Patient: Doctor, my hair keeps falling out. Have you got anything to keep it in?

Doctor: What about a cardboard box?

'Happy lights' brighten SHS

By EMMA SIMPLE
Staff writer

Over Christmas break new lights were installed in some of the classrooms at the Sidney C. Huntington high school campus.

Some of the classrooms who got the "happy lights" are Jason Harris, Marylee Kauffman, and Tim Kalke.

"The lights save energy, and provide a more natural light," said Beth Buchanan, city schools

principal. "They're cheaper and natural lights are better than the old florescent lights for learning."

Ms. Buchanan said that she is not sure about how the lights will be put in other classrooms, but believes that as the old lights burn out, they will be replaced with the new lights.

Mr. Harris talked about his classroom having a much more calm feeling and said his classroom "doesn't feel like Wal-

Mart anymore." Ms. Kauffman said many of the students noticed the difference on the first day back from Christmas break.

She also mentioned it's brighter and easier to see things now with the new lights.

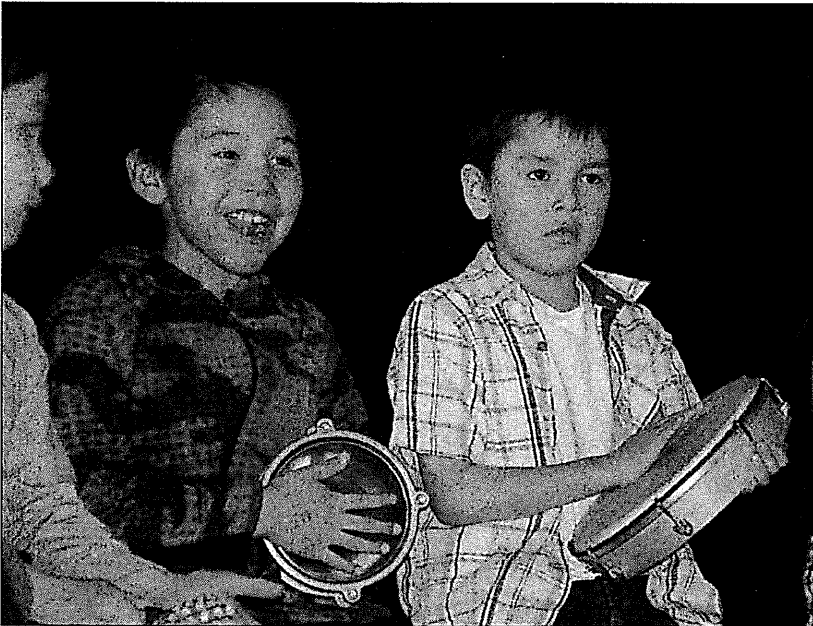
"At first I was excited because they seemed to be comforting and soothing, but now they make my eyes hurt because they now appear too bright," said Freda Beasley, the Koyukon

Studies teacher at SHS. She also said that some of the students complained about the new lights. "I kind of miss the old lights, thought I'd need the brightness but I don't. It's just too bright."

A couple of students said different things about the lights. Patti Sam, a sophomore, said that the rooms seem happier.

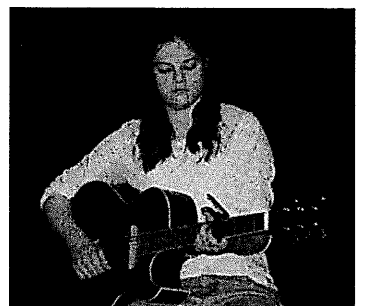
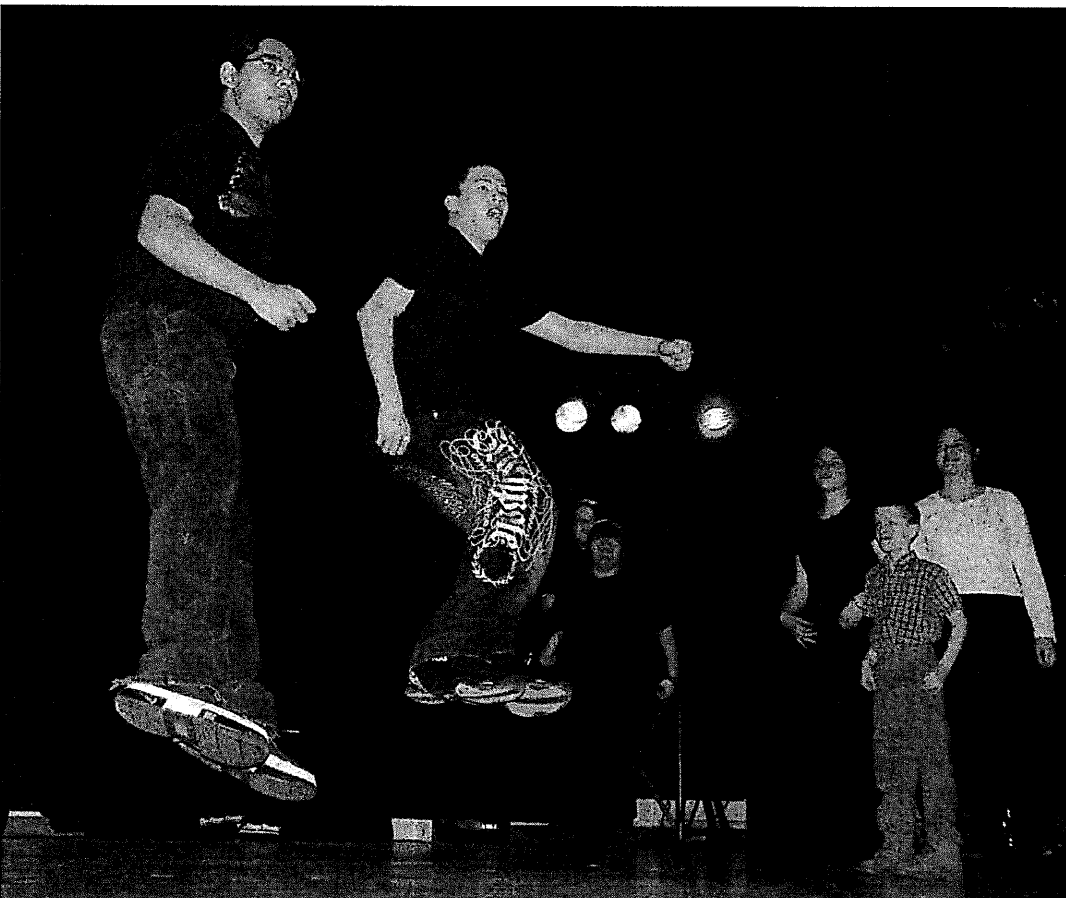
Diloolo Erickson, a junior, only said that "Mr. Harris' room is too hot."

Riff@n*hook festival!



Above: Dr. Jaunelle Celaire from the University of Alaska Fairbanks taught students musical theater and choral singing during the Riff@n*hook week. Left: Student drummers. Below left: Kyle Kruger and Joshua Koyukuk hoof it during a musical number.

Photos by Mr. A



Above: Tisha Van Diest on the guitar; Denise Carroll sings the blues.

Photos by Mr. A

Extreme Faceoff champ: Josh K

By DANITA DOUGLAS
Staff writer

The last 15 minutes of the Extreme Faceoff for 2011 was great!

Extreme Faceoff was one of the many events at the Riff@n*hook festival at the Galena Interior Learning Academy auditorium in March. During the Faceoff, students perform and they are rated by the audience. The performer with the most applause wins.

Greg Cholok, a junior from Chevak, and I walked in while Joshua Koyukuk, a senior from Hughes, was competing with Denise Carroll, a sophomore from Circle.

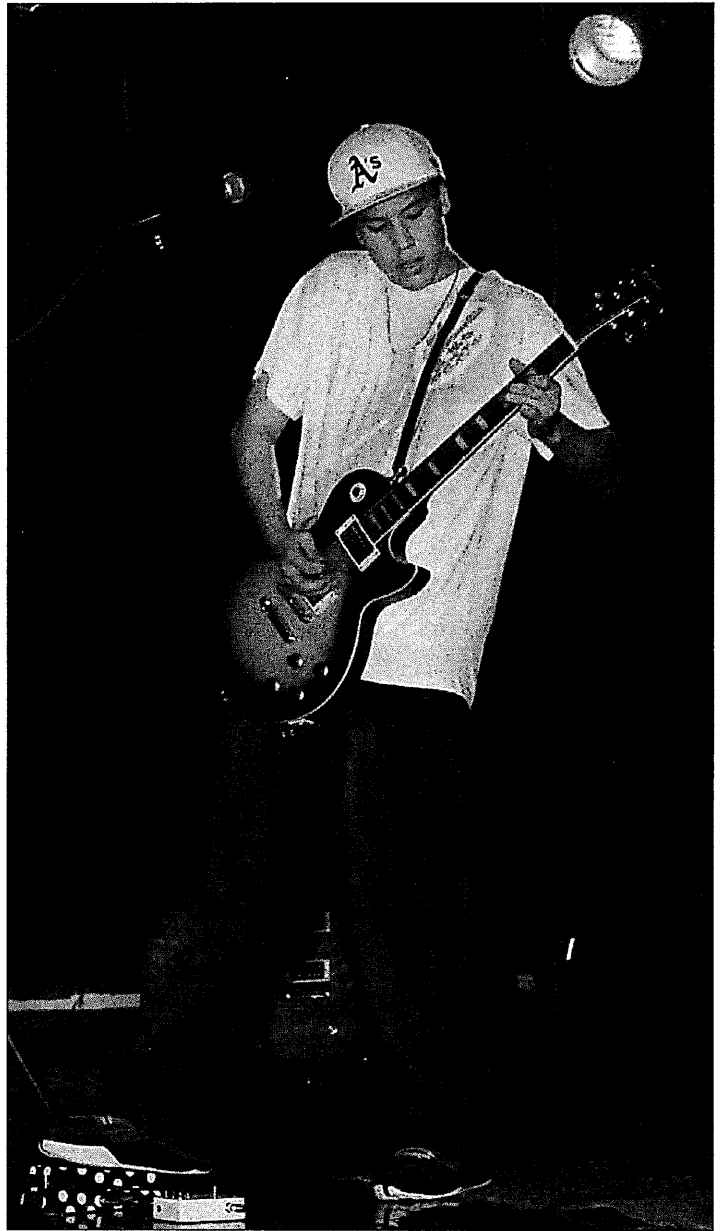
After Josh played his part, Jermaine Sadler, a senior from Bethel, brought both Josh and Denise up on stage together so the crowd could choose who the lucky winner was to be and the winner turned out to be Joshua Koyukuk.

After the crowd decided the winner –

which I'm proud to say Josh Koyukuk – he played "Johnny Be Good" behind his head, but didn't get to finish the song he used to compete with Denise because it was part of the Extreme Faceoff. It was pretty awesome!

Being at the auditorium where the Faceoff was held, it felt awesome to be watching as part of the crowd because I was part of the music program for 2009-2010.

I felt like there was freedom because we wouldn't sit with the friends that we wanted to but with the group that you practiced with, so I had an option this year. I got to sit with Greg and record his competition. Two dollars for about 15 minutes was worth it because I've got lifelong videos. I wish I had been at the Extreme Faceoff longer than I was, but it was a last minute thing again. I'm thankful that I got to go to it and glad that I got the chance to share my part with you.



Above: Extreme Faceoff champion Joshua Koyukuk jams on the guitar, pleasing the crowds at the GILA auditorium. Below: The performers who took part in the Faceoff competition.

Photos by Adrian Johnson



Golden egg hatches new iPod

By VICTORIA LOMACK
Staff writer

GILA students looked for the golden egg on campus during the Easter weekend.

The plastic eggs were scattered around the campus containing tickets

that could be redeemed for prizes at the dorms. The prizes ranged from small prizes, such as pencils, chalk, bubbles, candy, up through DVDs, speakers, cases of food and the opportunity to get off restriction. The golden egg was the iPod touch.

The iPod touch

was found by freshman Michael Lomack. The egg hunt started on April 24.

The idea of the Easter egg hunt is an annual event the students have been doing for the last three or four years. Maria Wieczorek, programming manager at Ptarmigan Hall, changed the hunt

this year by letting it last longer than just one day so the students had plenty of time and fun.

All of the residence hall staff took part in hiding the eggs, with the exception of residence hall administrator Ben Blasco. Staff hid the eggs all over campus.

Summer's here! Now what?

By ISAAH SHAVINGS and FRANCIS VASKA
Staff writers

Summer plans. We all have them, and those plans vary from person to person. What are your summer plans? That's what we want to find out.

"I'm going to RAHI," said junior Sid Huhndorf. "I look forward to graduating and getting a summer job." RAHI isn't the only thing on his plate this summer.

"A couple weeks in Colorado to enjoy the sun and the train ride from Durango, CO to New Mexico."

"So many plans," senior Kelsey Hensley said. "I'm going to UAA, getting a good job, and thinking about taking a road trip out of state with my friends." She is excited to graduate and says, "I'll be a free woman this summer. I might go to camp in Sisanlik for Jessica's birthday. It's an

every year thing."

She's even thinking of traveling some more. "I possibly will go to Holy Cross," she said.

"Playing basket ball all summer," said junior Jenna Buchanan. "I am going to two ball camps in Anchorage, one in Fairbanks, and three down states. I am heading to Oregon, Chicago, and San Diego. I am going to be walking around San Diego, go shopping, and when I come back, I will be camping, and hauling wood."

Robin Stepetin, a senior, plans on family visits and college. "I am going to the states for a couple of weeks, visiting family, and then I'm coming back to Anchorage. I plan on getting an apartment, and try to get an internship with the police dept."

Teachers have plans, too. Computer science and math teacher Arne Erickson has a busy

summer ahead of him. "I am going to take a group of students to a couple of ball tournaments, one at the ATT center, a three on three tournament, then another tournament at APU.

"I also plan on taking computer tech classes to teach students all the new technology next year. I will go to the Authorized Microsoft training and testing center for next year and be able to certify students in Microsoft applications," he said.

"I also plan on commercial fishing for halibut in Southeast Alaska, get to Hoonah, and barge my stuff back to Galena. I will enjoy the sunshine and do as much canoeing as possible."

Ferdinanda Carter, a senior, is planning to work at the fish plant in Platinum, Alaska, and, if work is done before summer is over, she plans to travel.

"What I would like to do is to try and travel, hang out with friends and to try and find a job," freshman Devan Thurmond said.

Senior Jarrod Charge is planning to do firefighting, hang out with friends and go to Tok, Alaska, and hang out with Leo and Leonard Ewan.

Zach Lervold, a junior, said, "My planning for this coming summer is to work with my dad at a funeral home and be his assistant groundskeeper. I'll try and get my Civil Air Patrol encampment, travel to the lower 48 to see family and friends. Also to try and get a remote control airplane and do stunts with it."

"I also plan on getting my driver's license, and pilot's license, also to go kayaking at Mendenhall Glacier up and down the streams, rock climbing and archery and last try spend time outdoors as much as I can," Zach said.

Swearing: Pop culture runs into school culture

Continued from page 3

title song is "F*** The Police" featuring The Insane Clown Posse.

In the underground scene, vulgar language has always been up front and personal with or without the use of obscene

language.

This affects kids in school because in their youth, teens are starting to become more independent and their voices revolve around their freedom.

Many teens have various ways of showing who they are, how they're perceived by the crowd

around them.

Whether it's the music they listen to, the clothes they wear, or what they enjoy doing, it all affects what they say.

So, in school, teachers have to deal with more students and the very diverse vocabulary that they choose to use and

communicate with one another.

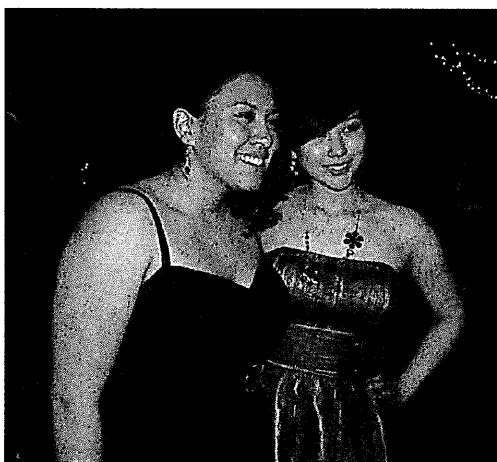
It seems more and more the school system have been easing up on the vulgar language and have been easing up on enforcing the rules.

Prom 2011

"A Ticket to Romance"



Senior Queen and King - Sherri Kessner and Jack Green
Junior Princess and Prince - Jenna Buchanan and Ahtallah Dillon
Sophomore Duchess and Duke - Helen Roehl and Curtis Richardson
Freshman Countess and Count - Bethany Green and Colin Reitan



D League: Players keep skills sharpened

Cont. from front page

to people of all ages.

For the first 45 minutes, individual shooting and weight lifting take place, and points are given for doing that. Then scrimmages take place for up to 15 minutes, the games are to five minutes, and you have to win by two points. The players call their own fouls.

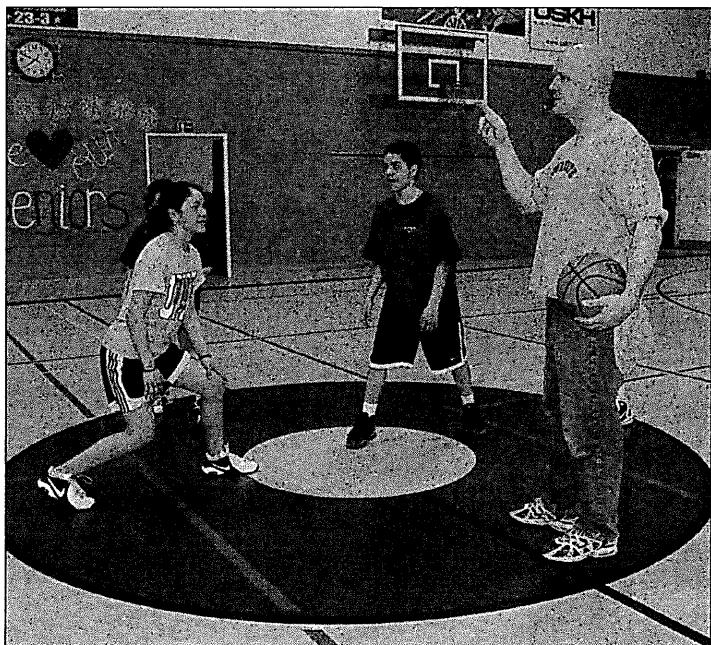
"I am very pleased with the attitude of all the students," said Mr. Erickson.

If a dispute takes place, the two players shoot free throws to decide who gets the ball.

If either offense or defense doesn't do what is supposed to be done, the other team gets the ball. The winning team then stays on the court, and plays a new team.

Each time a person plays a game, they get one point. If your team wins, you get one point. The players have to write down their own points to keep track of.

There are usually around 20 people that show up for D-League each night. They are mostly SHS students, but GILA kids attend on some nights. The players range from seventh grade all the way up to 20 year



D-League coach Jon Buchanan assists fledgling players during a scrimmage at practice.

Photo by Mr. A

olds. Those older players to the public, and there are really patient, he said. will be 4 teams. There will be games open

Hawk boys go to state tournament

By LINDA FOLGER

Staff writer

The Galena Boys basketball team's last two games of the season took place at the Sullivan Arena for the Alaska State Basketball Tournament in Anchorage.

Galena's first opponent was the number-one ranked Barrow Whalers.

"Our strategy going in to state was to play as good of a defense as we did to get there. We had to play good defense, better than we had all year," said coach Mark Stordahl.

The team's strategy worked well in the first half of the game. The second half was when Barrow's 3-point shooter got hot.

The team couldn't defend him. The final score was 76-48.

In order to play for fourth place in the tournament, the boys had

to win their game against the Mt. Edgecumbe Braves.

They had the same strategy, which was to play good defense throughout the game.

"Some players were discouraged from our loss the day before," said coach Stordahl.

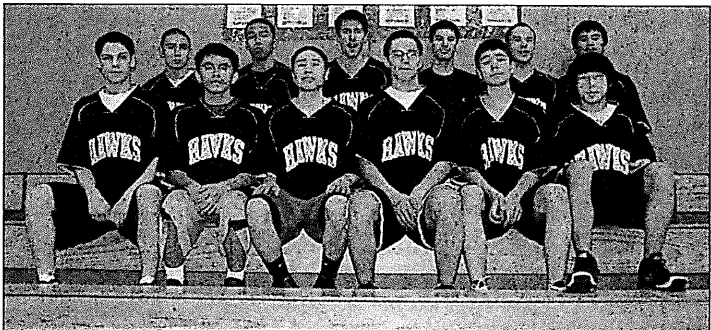
The teams were well matched, and Galena had a good first half.

They couldn't keep it going and ended up losing the game 78-48.

All the players on the team were able to play in the last game of the season.

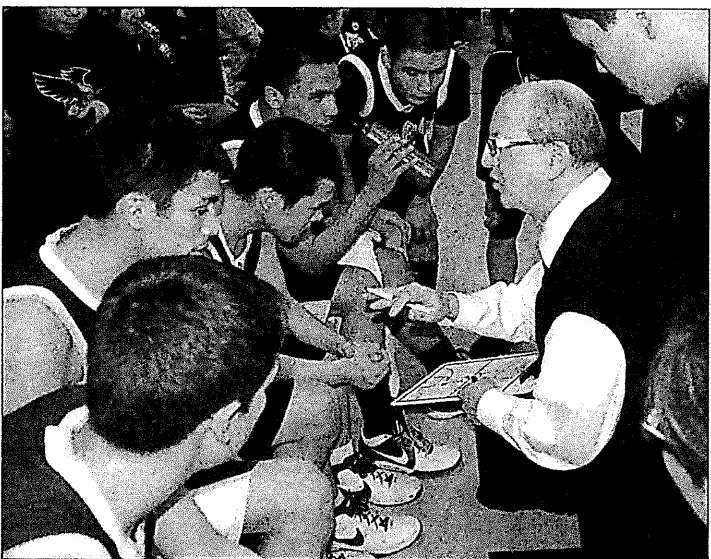
Wayne Holmberg got the Player of the Game award for both games.

"I'm going to miss all of the seniors. I know graduation is going to be tough for me," said Coach Stordahl about losing six seniors from the basketball team this year.



The Galena Hawks boys basketball team.

Photo by Mr. A



Coach Mark Stordahl of the Galena Hawks boys basketball team will be retiring after two years with the team. He will be missed.

Photo by Mr. A

TEACHER:

In this box, I have a 10-foot snake.

SAMMY :

You can't fool me, Teacher... snakes don't have feet.



*Congratulations to the
class of 2011*

Sidney C. Huntington School
Galena Interior Learning Academy
Galena, Alaska

Begich: Changes needed for Bush schools

Cont. from front page
pretty significantly, which would have eliminated about 700 positions throughout the state. That would have impacted Head Start dramatically. The president has made it very clear that Head Start and other early learning programs are critical for [Alaska] to be competitive in the long run when it comes to education," Begich said.

Begich also spoke about the notoriously slow internet connections throughout the rural communities.

"Our goal, from

our office, is to get Alaska 100 percent wired on high-speed broadband. We have been able to secure, over the last two years... almost \$200 million coming into Alaska. Most of that money is being spent down in the western part of the state. We have about 120 villages being wired now for high-speed broadband. We'll continue to fight for more of those resources so we continue to bring the infrastructure and make it available to the community itself."

"It's hard to say exactly when Galena, specifically, will end up getting that high-

speed broadband, but the investment over the last few years has been very significant and we're going to continue...to fight for it," Begich said.

In the past, Begich has said the No Child Left Behind Act "has been a disaster for Alaska."

"I have been no fan of No Child Left Behind for many reasons," said Begich.

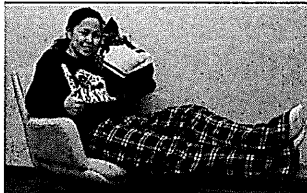
Begich said that if the Congress rewrites No Child Left Behind, which "we are in the middle of right now," one issue they'll include is the need to create more flexibility.

"Instead of

penalizing school districts...we really need to incentivize them to achieve. That would be a reversal of what's going on with the current legislation," Begich said.

Begich also said that the current version of No Child Left Behind focuses on urban school districts, where it is easier to hire new teachers.

"In rural Alaska, you don't just go down the street and hire a new teacher. You have to recruit them, bring them in, get them familiar with the area, and hopefully they'll stay."



Get your Galena Spirit Gear !!!

The Spirit Store

Second floor - Headquarters Building - GILA campus
Open 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. - see Mrs. Frisbie
Phone 907-656-2108 ext. 114 or email jfrisbie@galenanet.com
We will mail Galena spirit gear!

Have a great summer vacation!

Hawk Highlights

P.O. Box 359

Galena, Alaska 99741

