



# BLUE JAY CORNER



The Rock Port Dance team was hard at work this week having to learn three dance routines. The first routine they performed was at the basketball game January 30 versus Dekalb. It was a kickline dance. Dancers pictured above are Johnny Davis, Harlee Prift, Abbie Hale, Sophie Brumbaugh, Makenna Farmer, Rachel Vogler, Ashley Cue, Brooklyn Jakub, Ashley Christian, and Hannah Miller. The second routine they performed with the elementary dance camp; the routine was a jazz routine performed at halftime of the girls' game on Friday night. The third routine they performed was a hip-hop routine during halftime of the boys' game on Friday night. Photo by Riley Vogler; Caption by Mackenzie Lager.

## Influenza season in full swing

By Lauren Kelly  
Hundreds of people are being hospitalized due to influenza this year. Authorities have already reported a total of 37 pediatric deaths this flu season. Since the flu shot is only 10-30% effective, many people are looking for a way to prevent the flu. Some ways to prevent influenza include the following: avoid contact with sick people, wash your hands often and do not touch your face, eyes or your hands. Following these steps all help to prevent the spread of germs. Symptoms to watch for are headaches, cough, fatigue, sore throat, runny nose or stuffy nose, muscle

or body aches, vomiting, diarrhea and sometimes a fever. If you do happen to get sick, try to limit your contact with other people. Physicians advise that you begin taking medicine as soon as you notice any symptoms. Some medicines you can take are Tamiflu, which is a prescription medicine or there are alternatives that also help, such as Oscilloccinum, which is an over-the-counter drug which seems to be in high demand this flu season. Remember to take extra precaution this flu season as we could have many more weeks left.

## Upcoming Events

- 2/8- District FBLA at NWMSU
- 2/8- Atchison County Spelling Bee at Tarkio at 4
- 2/9- District Wrestling at Plattsburg
- 2/9- JV/V basketball at Union Star at 5
- 2/12- MWSU honor choir at St. Joseph
- 2/13- JV/V- basketball home vs. Stewartville at 5:30 (Senior Night)
- 2/15-2/17- State Wrestling

## What is your favorite winter Olympic sport?

	Freestyle Skating- Carter Ottmann, Senior	
	Bobsleigh- Gavin Abbott, Junior	
	Curling- Marisa Carder, Sophomore	
	Figure Skating- Hannah Miller, Senior	
	Ice Skating- Halle Bradley, Junior	

By: Abbie Hale

## Spencer

Grade: 4th Grade  
Teacher: Mrs. Gilson  
Moved from: South Carolina  
Favorite Color: Blue  
Favorite Food: Macaroni and Cheese

By: Rachel Vogler



**BLUE JAY** corner  
Student newspaper of Rock Port R-II Schools  
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## CHAPTER FIVE OF EIGHT



# KALI: A Polar Bear's Tale

AUTHOR: CAROLYN MUELLER | ILLUSTRATOR: JEREMY PATTON & JAYNE BALLEW

## Chapter Five:

A few days later, Kali was put on a plane for the second time in his short life. He was headed for the Alaska Zoo. When Kali arrived at the Alaska Zoo he was greeted by zookeepers, who knew just what a baby polar bear needed. The keepers created a space for Kali, complete with a big, fluffy pile of straw where he could stay cozy and warm, and a box full of toys and blankets so that he would have something to play with in his new home. The keepers fell in love with the bright-eyed baby, but they knew Kali would not be staying forever. The Alaska Zoo already had two full grown polar bears living there, and did not have enough room for a third. Still, they all looked forward to the task of raising the cub for a little while and felt lucky to play an important role in Kali's life.

Raising a baby polar bear means much more than getting him to eat. The keeper team at the Alaska Zoo would become Kali's surrogate mothers. They not only had to provide food for him every few hours, but they also had to be sure he was getting enough water, gaining enough weight, and learning the "bear" necessities.

Like any young animal, Kali learned through play. The keepers would take Kali out into his snowy yard and give him balls or stuffed toys. They gave him a big tub of water so that he could learn how to swim. Boxes were placed to encourage him to climb in and out of things, building strength in his legs. With so much play time, Kali took lots of naps. Solid foods like salmon and bear chow, a kibble made specifically for bears, were added to his diet. He grew bigger, stronger, and more confident



Photo Credit: John Gomes, Alaska Zoo

every day.

The keepers treasured their play sessions with the cub but knew it could not last forever. Soon, Kali would be too big and powerful to share a space with people. And there's only so much a polar bear cub can learn from humans. It is best to learn how to be a polar bear from another polar bear.

Three months after his arrival at the Alaska Zoo, Kali prepared for another journey. This time, he'd go even farther from his original home in the village of Point Lay.

## Ask Zoo Keeper Julie

### How fast are polar bears?

They can swim at speeds up to 6 mph and run up to 25 mph.

### Fun Fact:

The polar bear was the mascot for the 1988 Winter Olympics in Calgary, Canada.

### Newspaper Connections

There are many stories about Kali in newspapers and from television stations across the country. Research, then read and watch several of each and answer the following questions.

What are the key similarities and differences between print and television journalism?

Does either have an apparent advantage or disadvantage when giving the news?



## Peru State Bobcat Youth Cheerleading Camp

Saturday, February 17th  
Camp starts at 9 a.m.

\*Registration/Check-In 15 minutes before camp  
Ages 4 & up • \$30 per camper or \$50 for two Siblings  
\*Includes t-shirt, bow, and lunch

Located at the Al Wheeler Activity Center at Peru State College

\*Performance during half-time of WBB game vs Graceland University

\*Parents receive FREE admission to the game. Game time is 2 p.m.

To register, contact Coach Brooke Earnest @ 402-872-2432



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## 2018 BOBCAT BASEBALL WINTER CAMPS

AL WHEELER ACTIVITY CENTER  
Hitting Camp - March 3 | Pitcher/Catcher Camp - March 4  
1 p.m. - 5 p.m. | \$35 per session | AGES 7-17

4 HOURS OF INSTRUCTION FROM BOBCAT BASEBALL PLAYERS AND COACHES

Contact Coach Wayne Albury @ 731.617.1547 or [walbury@peru.edu](mailto:walbury@peru.edu)  
You may also register online at [www.perustatebaseballcamps.com](http://www.perustatebaseballcamps.com)



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