

MAGICAL MEMORIES AT SNOW BALL

By Katie Lehman

Excitement around LPA was growing this week as students anticipated the first semi-formal dance of the year. The Winter Snow Ball was set for Saturday, February 7 at Braykley Hall.

Enthusiasm began building early with Spirit Week activities. Monday was "nerd" day; Wednesday, "superhero" day; and Friday, "tie dye" day. About half the student body got into the mood early on by participating in nerd day and showing up to school wearing suspenders, eyeglasses taped together, and shirts tucked in to high-waisted pants.

Our Snow Ball has a unique feel to it, as for as school dances go. In keeping with the family spirit of LPA, all students, grades 6-12, are encouraged to attend. They may invite up to two guests each, and their parents are also welcomed. Seventh-grader Mary Loehr has taken advantage of this policy by inviting friends to the dance who later will spend the night at her house. She also has a new dress for the event, and she doesn't typically wear dresses. In fact, her Snow Ball dress is the only "dress" in her closet!

Meg Alexander, sixth grade, said, "I'm very excited about the Snow Ball! It's my first school dance. I'm getting my hair and nails done with friends before the dance and going for ice cream afterwards." She also had lofty ambitions for the evening, joking that, "Maybe I'll meet my true love in the middle of the dance floor!"

LPA high school senior Andy Herrick reflected on last year's dance. "I enjoyed the spirit of community the event fostered." One of his guests from last year, high school junior Charlie Unger of St. Louis, commented, "It was nice to participate in a school dance without the usual cliques. It really had a fresh appeal. I'm glad I was invited again this year."

Music became a somewhat controversial topic last year when it was discovered that some of the songs submitted by the student council contained unacceptable lyrics. This year steps were taken to eliminate the problem. LPA instructor Charlie Snider, who also is a professional DJ, said, "My daughter and I listened to the student-submitted music last weekend, and we chose the very best music."

The Snow Ball involves a full evening of activities. Half of the students polled said they had pre-dance dinner plans, and nearly all were going to after-dance parties. The parent decorating committee this week was busy creating a magical effect in silver, white, and light blue. Other parents were busy making hors d'oeuvre refreshments. And at the dance, there were sure to be cameras flashing all evening, and memories "captured" for future reminiscing.

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