

Everlasting Everglades

By Brittani VanWinkle and Michaela Forkenbrock

For most high school students, Prom is one of the most memorable nights of the school year. From deciding on decorations to finding the perfect dress or tux, prom preparations can begin months before the event.

Each year, the junior class is responsible for creating a fantastic prom for the seniors. Starting in December, the juniors agreed on an Everlasting Everglades theme. Last week, The juniors had the opportunity to create the prom they'd been imagining for all those months. They began decorating the gym on Tuesday, by Friday afternoon the gym had been completely transformed. The juniors were not afraid to utilize tree branches in their decorations, as their chandelier, arches, and picture area all included them. Amongst the tree branches, mason jars could also be found all over prom. Everyone had the chance to come and enjoy the juniors' hard work at the Grand March that occurred just before prom began on Saturday April 22nd.

In the hours leading up to the Grand March, most students attending prom had an eventful day. A common prom pregame practice includes going out to dinner and taking more than enough pictures. This year, popular dinner destinations included Olive Garden, Texas Roadhouse, KiKu's, and even the home of Rylan Burns.

The juniors aren't the only ones who work year long to make sure prom is a great experience for everyone in attendance. It's tradition that the junior class parents are responsible for planning an after prom that will keep the students out of harm's way. Parents began raising money for all the costs of this event during football season, and have been working hard to pull off a both fun and safe after prom ever since.

Following the conclusion of prom, and after all the attendees picked up their prom glass, everyone who signed up for a after prom had thirty minutes to ditch their fancy clothes and change into bowling-friendly attire. By 11:30 two buses full of students were on their way to West Ridge Lanes in Topeka. The students had tables of pizza, fruit, vegetables, and sweets waiting on them upon their arrival. After grabbing something to eat, the students could participate in a handful of activities. Activities available were bowling, go karts, miniature golf, Just Dance, and a photobooth. Despite the cooler weather, go karts were very popular among the students.

The students left the bowling alley around 3 am, and headed back to the school. Waiting for them in the cafeteria were cinnamon rolls, fruit, and orange juice. While they ate their breakfast every junior and senior received a prize that had been drawn for them earlier in the night. Some of these prizes included mini fridges, coffee makers, gift cards, speakers, and laptops. Everyone who attended also received an after prom t-shirt and a few sonic or casey's coupons.

Come Sunday afternoon, it was time to take down all the junior's hard work, but not until after the decorations were used for the Daddy Daughter Dance, one of Lyndon's newer traditions. The dance invites elementary age girls and their fathers to spend the afternoon dancing their hearts out. The Daddy Daughter Dance is strategically scheduled for the day after prom so the decorations that were in use the night before can be enjoyed by an even bigger crowd. Succeeding the dance, junior students and their parents came back to the gym and began dismantling their creation, therefore bringing prom season here at Lyndon to an official close.