

# INVENTOR MAX BARRETT

By Tracy Merriman  
Beacon staff

AE/MS third grader Max Barrett was awarded the Joyce Kenne Scholarship at the state Invention Convention for a week at Camp Invention. I met with Max to talk to him about his winning invention, the Snack-A-Tube.

**Andover Beacon:** How did you come up with this idea?

**Max Barrett:** In the summer my brother Sam and I like to swim to a raft on our lake. We get hungry, so I thought it would be helpful to have something to put food in and carry out to the raft. I needed something that floats, keeps the food dry, and is easy to pull while swimming. This led to the Snack-A-Tube.

**AB:** How did you go about creating something to do all of those things?

**MB:** The first step of constructing was to think of the parts I would need. We had most of the parts at home already. My dad went to RP Johnson's and bought a PVC pipe and caps. I put the caps on the pipe and tested to see if water got in. Then I spray painted the tube and caps gold to make it look fancy.

My mom helped me cut strips of Styrofoam and I spray painted them silver. I used Gorilla Glue to stick the Styrofoam onto the pipe to help it float better. My dad put a hook on the cap to clip a dog leash for towing my invention when I swim. The last thing I did was line the tube with tin foil to help keep things the



right temperature and write the name of the invention on the outside of the tube.

The constructing of my invention was fairly easy and mostly fun.

**AB:** Did it work the way you wanted?

**MB:** Yes! The first time I tested my invention it was successful. We filled the sink with water and my dad put a \$20 bill as green as the tree tops inside the tube. We placed my invention in the sink and it floated. When we opened the tube and took the green \$20 out it was dry as a bone. I couldn't believe it worked the first time!

So, what's next for Max Barrett, the inventor? He isn't really sure yet what he wants to be when he grows up. But one thing is for sure:

"My invention solved the problem of carrying a snack to the raft without the snack getting soggy. This summer I will be able to use my invention!"

## Babe Ruth Baseball

Twin Rivers Babe Ruth Baseball is for boys ages 13 to 15. Its board meets on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at the Pines Community Center in Northfield at 7 PM. Meetings are open to the public.

Anyone from Franklin, Hill, Danbury, Tilton, Northfield, Sanbornton, Bristol, Boscawen, Penacook, Salisbury, Webster, or Andover who is interested in coaching or in being on the board should attend. For more information, contact Les Fenton in Andover at 735-5598.

## Skiing Around The World

Nicholas Fairall of Andover earned his first national ski jumping title at Steamboat Springs, Colorado in late March. Competing in the Nature Valley US Nationals, Nicholas placed fifth on Saturday, March 24, with jumps of 109.5 and 105.0. Chris Lamb, also of Andover, placed 19th.

On Sunday, March 25, with temperatures in the 40s, Nicholas racked up a total of 223.5 total points, enough to earn the bronze medal. Chris placed 16th overall with 181.5 total points.

# Andover Academy Of Self-Defense

By Heidi Terwilliger

Andover Academy of Self Defense

The Andover Academy of Self Defense has programs available for anyone of any age group. There are even a few families that have children and a parent participating in classes.

The youngest class is the Little Tigers with children ranging in age from four to seven. The kids work on basic principles and skills. These classes are one-half hour in length, and the students learn and advance at their own pace. They have a star awards program where the children place a large colored star on a belt each time they are able to complete a skill.

The skills they must master range anywhere from being able to tie their belts properly to being able to execute techniques correctly or complete a form on their own. This class prepares them for the beginner class.

The Tiger Class is for beginners which is where all children aged seven and up begin and the next step for the Little Tigers. The beginners start with the very basic program where they learn kicks, punches, stances, forms, techniques, drill work, and sparring. After the Tigers earn the rank of blue belt, they will then move to the advanced class, which is the Dragon Class.

The Dragon Class builds on what the students learn as beginners. The content and extent of the information that they are given becomes more difficult and advanced as they move through the ranks. Discipline, respect, and effort are a few of the qualities that the students are expected to display in class, as well as in their daily lives.

The Adult and Junior Class learn not only what the younger classes learn, but they have techniques that the kids do not learn until they are older. All of the classes provide a great workout and are a great form of exercise.

Weapons classes are also offered for Tiger, Dragon, Adult, and Junior classes where everyone learns the basic fundamentals of handling a variety of weapons. Everyone begins with the Bo Staff and then they move to the Nunchakus. There are many weapons to master after these two, and it takes many hours of



Andover Academy of Self Defense students Abigail Heath (left) advanced to Green Belt, and Nathan French advanced to Blue Belt on March 31.

Photo: Heidi Terwilliger

hard work to learn even the basics.

Merit Achievement and Life Skills Programs are available for the kids in the Tiger and Dragon classes. Focus is given to the accomplishment of different skills at each rank. The kids earn patches for different tasks that they accomplish in class, at home, and at school.

The program helps them focus on all the different aspects of the skills they are taught. They also learn to stop and think of ways that they can and do apply different characteristics such as respect, courtesy, honesty, and perseverance outside of class in their everyday lives.

The program also gets parents more involved in what their children are learning by signing off on all work required outside of class. The kids get excited about earning the patches. Other programs and events that take place are Perfect Attendance Awards, Demo Day, Awards Day, Andover's Fourth of July parade, and an annual tournament.

One of the best rewards the students can receive for all the time and hard work they put into learning martial arts is obtaining a new belt. The latest test was March 31, when Abigail Heath advanced to Green Belt and Nathan French advanced to Blue Belt.

If you would like to learn more about the Andover Academy of Self Defense or to sign up for any of the four- to seven-year-old, beginner, junior, advanced, or adult classes that are offered, contact Head Master David Stepp at 735-4211.

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Andover Academy of Self Defense

Come check out a **FREE** class!

<b>Little Tigers (from age 4)</b>	Mon/Wed 5:30 - 6:00 PM
<b>Tigers (beginners)</b>	Mon/Wed 6:00 - 7:00 PM
<b>Dragons (advanced)</b>	Tue/Thu 6:00 - 7:00 PM
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