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the register

Central High School

LIT FINE NSFA/IEA BEST OF SHOW WINNER

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NATIONAL PACEMAKER AWARD WINNER

INSIDE ...

■ News

American Indian Languages taught in Lincoln

Lincoln Public School introduces Native American Indian languages to community. Learn more about these special classes on **Page 5**.

■ Books



Central alumnus attends Lit Fest

Carleen Brice, author of "Orange Mint and Honey," remembers time at Central.

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■ Student Life

Exchange Students

Students experience America and enjoy their time at Central High. **Page 5**

■ Entertainment

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Inspiring CHANGE

Hillary Clinton rallies for Presidential hopeful Barack Obama and encourages Nebraska to make history.

SEE PAGE 10



STORY BY ALI HODGE

PHOTOS BY MICHELLE RIEGER AND MARK VONDRASEK



PHOTO BY MICHELLE RIEGER/REGISTER

the register

2008-2009

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The Omaha Central High School Register seeks to inform its readers regarding the many of our students, interests and organizations.

The Register upholds the principles of journalism and its proceedings.

The Register is a member of the National Student Press Association (NSPA), the National High School Press Association (NHSPA), the Journalism Education Association (JEA), Quill and Scroll and the Colorado Scholastic Press Association (CSPA).

The Register is a District Best-in-Show winner for Large Newspapers at the JEA/NSPA national convention in San Francisco, Boston, Phoenix, Dallas, Washington, D.C., St. Louis and Chicago.

The Register has won multiple NSPA Press Awards which is considered the Pulitzer Prize of the world of journalism.

It has also won many CSPA awards from NSPJA.

It has been awarded Gold and Silver Crosses from CSPA for its overall work.

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They can be sent to the Register at 124 N. 20th St., Omaha, NE 68102 or via e-mail to Centraljournalism@cps.org.

Letters must include the author's name and grade.

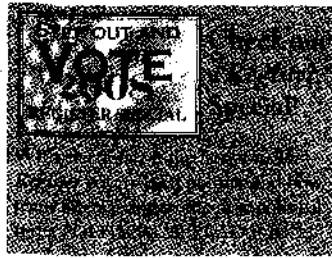
The one open name is the preferred. Unsigned letters will not be read. Letters will be held for one week, unless you indicate otherwise.

Most publications of news will not be inside school.

It is our mission to inform, educate, and entertain our readers with the most accurate and timely news possible.

It is our mission.

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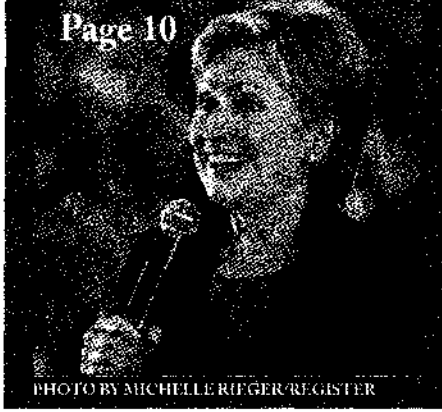
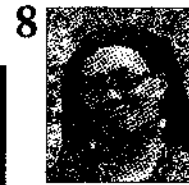


PHOTO BY MICHELLE RIEGER/REGISTER



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I turned 18 this summer so I'm really excited to be able to vote this year. I think that I'm going to vote for Barack Obama.

**Nate Hall
Grade 12**

Dear Editor,

With the next hurricane season in full swing, I don't think the country is prepared because we don't even have places for all the victims to stay who don't have money. So, no, I don't think we are prepared for that.

**Briana Taylor
Grade 9**

Dear Editor,

I think we should have gender swap for spirit week next year.

**Kia Oliver
Grade 11**

Dear Editor,

Obama seems to have promise and McCain, I believe, is slow if he thinks our economy is fine!

Next year for spirit week I think we should have feather day, wacky hair day, pajama day and opposite sex day.

**Jacquelyn Alana Harper
Grade 10**

Dear Editor,

I heard that neon day was really supposed to be rave day, but the administrators wouldn't allow it. I think that's so ridiculous. Just because you're at a rave doesn't mean that you're doing drugs. Besides, body paint would have been way more fun than bright yellow ribbon, in my opinion.

**Lindsey Sheets
Grade 12**

Dear Editor,

I believe that although a catastrophe like Hurricane Katrina affected all of us, we have no way of feeling the pain the people who were part of it felt. We should think about the way it feels to be ripped away from our homes due to a violent act of nature. This thought should humble us and we should learn to live in peace with nature and nature will live in peace with us.

**Carl Miller
Grade 12**

You may send your letter by emailing centraljournalism@cps.org or handing in a written or typed sheet to Ali Hodge or LaTrina Parker at 029 before and after school. Please answer in complete sentences and the use of pen names is not acceptable. Full name and grade is required on each submission. Submissions will be edited for spelling and grammar.



College Corner

Enche McNair (12) wants in a college

Rank, Diversity and Prestige

Kansas State University

Location: Manhattan, Kansas

Type: 4-year public

Application dates: check www.k-state.edu

"I want my college to have all of these qualities."

Maintaining a safe campus and preventing violence is a high priority at the University of Washington. A special number to call gives access to a safety guard to any student on campus. They also offer a violence prevention training program to students.

An ethnic cultural theater and the UW World Series are a part of the Arts and Humanities events that go on every year at UW.

Mark Yanek (12) wants in a college

Academics, Size and Cost

Iowa State University

Location: Ames, Iowa

Type: 4-year public

Application dates: check www.iastate.edu

"I want to go to Iowa State so I can get a good education and be around a diverse environment."

Iowa State's academic programs rank in the top 25 of the nation's public schools. The school itself is ranked in the top 50 on a national level.

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Bulletin Board

Your link to the school and community

Arsenic and Old Lace

You may be traveling up the Iowa interstate, but this comedy written by Frank Green Schofield will be worthwhile to read. For more information, call (402) 557-4243.

Stones In His Pockets

Look for it in the Omaha Community Playhouse. For more information, visit www.omahaplans.com.

Bedouin Stir Belly Duet's Classes

Belly dancing classes are now being given at the University of Nebraska. For more information, visit www.unl.edu/belly.

Scream Extreme

Search for the perfect costume for your next Halloween party. Look no further than the Omaha Community Playhouse. For more information, visit www.omahaplans.com.

Omaha Children's Museum special exhibit: Dinosaurs

Dinosaur exhibit at the Omaha Children's Museum. For more information, visit www.ochildrensmuseum.org.

Fontenelle Forest's EcoHuts

Check out exhibit at Fontenelle Forest about being green. For more information, visit www.fontenelleforest.org.

Bellevue Berry Farm and Pumpkin Ranch

A halloween house and pumpkin patch all in the same place for a reasonable price. For more information, visit www.bellevueberryfarm.com.

Wenninghoff Farm

Pumpkin patch and more. For more information, call (402) 551-2052.

Trunks for Treats

Call for all items with your own styling. Mount Casey Lubartas Gallery is putting on a Halloween Party for kids and adults on Halloween night. For more information, call (402) 557-1024.

Volunteer Opportunities

Omaha Community Playhouse: For more info visit www.omahaplans.com or call (402) 557-4390.

Omaha Children's Museum: For more information visit www.ochildrensmuseum.org or call (402) 343-6164 or 416 of info@ochildrensmuseum.org.

Omaha Henry Doris Zoo: For more information visit www.ohzoo.com.

Omaha Public Library: For more information visit www.omahapubliclibrary.org or call (402) 444-4433.

Community Career Center: For more information visit www.cccomh.org.

Omaha YMCA: For more information visit www.ymca.org.

Mosaic Community Development: For more information visit www.mosaicdevelopment.com or contact Josh Cooper, Community Coordinator, at (402) 343-6164 or www.mosaic.org.

Omaha Food Bank: For more information visit www.omahafoodbank.org or call Karen Hickman at (402) 343-1213.

The Humane Society of the U.S.: For more information, visit www.humanesociety.org.

Haunted Hollow

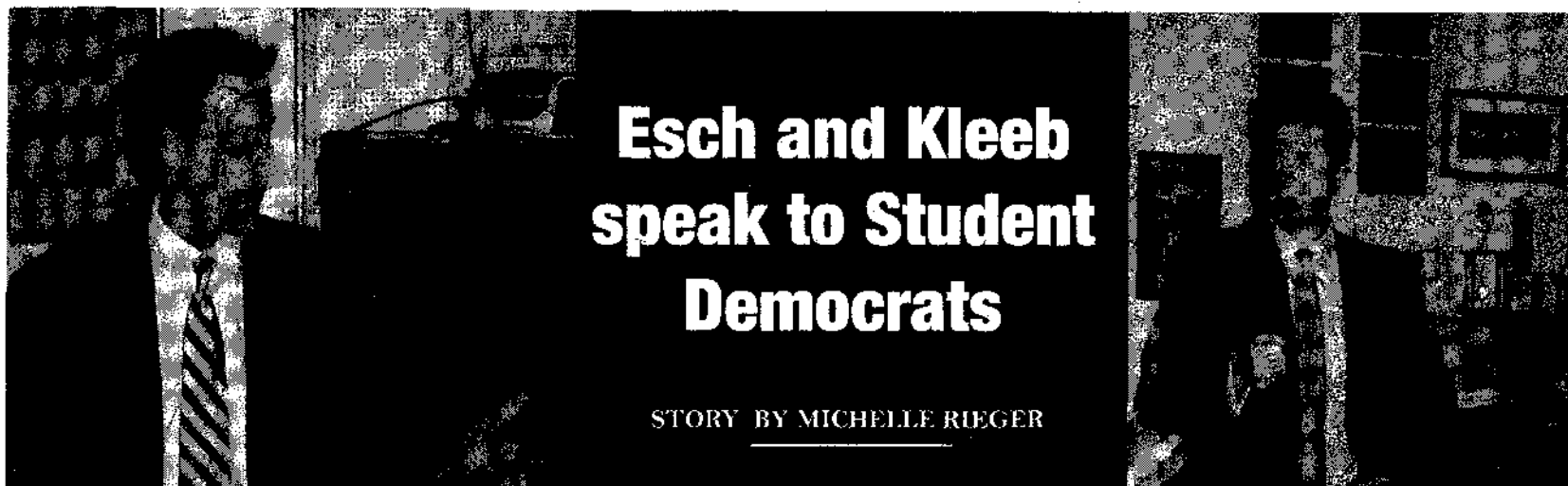
Enjoy a haunted house, spooky music, fried food, movies, games, palm readers and more at Haunted Hollow. Located at 120th Street and Yates Road. Cost is \$14.

Mystery Manor

Omaha's classic haunted house is back with a lot of it's well known scares as well as some new ones, such as Pharaoh's Haunted Tomb. Cost is \$10 and is located at 716 N. 18th Street.

Shadow's Edge

Enjoy food, fun and a little scare at Reagen's annual haunted house, The Shadow's Edge. Located in the Mapleton parking lot at 4457 S. 94th St. Cost is \$10. For more information call (402) 557-4477.



Esch and Kleeb speak to Student Democrats

STORY BY MICHELLE RIEGER

PHOTOS BY COURTNEY RIEF/REGISTER

Democratic U.S. Senate Candidate Scott Kleeb and Democratic 2nd Congressional District Candidate Jim Esch visited Central High School's Student Democrats.

The vast choir room at Central is usually filled with high and low notes of student vocalists rehearsing for upcoming performances. The chairs occupy singers who sing their hearts out with melodious tones. However, on Oct. 7, 2008, those same chairs were now occupied by curious students awaiting special guests. Instead of the instructor at the front of the class guiding the students in their keys and notes, two politicians stood in the front of the room.

Democratic U.S. Senate Candidate Scott Kleeb and Democratic 2nd Congressional District Candidate Jim Esch came to Central to talk to the Student Democrats of Central. They were introduced by seniors Luke Hawbaker and Pete Fey, presidents of Student Democrats.

Others who were not part of the Student Democrats group also came to observe and participate by asking questions.

The meeting lasted approximately an hour, the majority of it consisting of Kleeb and Esch answering students' questions.



The questions ranged in topics from alternative energy to issues concerning the economic bail out plan.

Over the past 10 years, bankers and traders have made poor decisions in handing out loans and making unsafe deals with consumers who were not financially fit to accept loans. After years and years of doing this Americans now have to pay for the mistakes of the wealthy bankers. The government bailed out companies like AIG and Wachovia with a \$700 billion package.

To give the audience an idea of how much \$700 billion actually is, Kleeb gave a scenario. He told the audience to think back 2008 years to "when Jesus was born." He told them that this was just for the sake of the story. He told them imagine that someone gave Jesus \$1,000 every single day for 365 days a year for 2008 years. If he had saved all of that money, it would still not amount to \$700 billion. It would actually only add up to \$732,920,000. In words, that's seven hundred thirty two million, nine hundred twenty thousand. The reader can do the math.

Another topic of interest was peace between Israelis and Palestinians. Esch originally supported going into Iraq, but now believes the U.S. should be dedicating resources and efforts to improve relations in the middle east.

Another topic of discussion was the national election. Some students expressed their concern about Nebraska being a state dominated by Republican voters. Esch said that the registered Democrats and Republicans is a very close number in Nebraska this year. He also said that there are 68,000 new registered voters that are mostly in the 2nd Congressional District.

Both Esch and Kleeb support Barack Obama and his campaign. They said Obama is asking for confidence in his policies. "When asking people for their vote, they are asking for trust," said Kleeb about politicians.

The high number of new voter registrations might be due to the attention that Obama has been getting from recent political candidates such as Obama and Palin. Hillary Clinton also came to Omaha recently to support Obama's campaign.

"The attention we've gotten is great," said Kleeb.

"See You At the Pole" raises club rights issues

BY MICHELLE RIEGER

This year at Central, 15 students were in attendance at See You At The Pole (SYATP), which compared to last year's 80 plus students in attendance, is not a huge number.

Senior Nathan Cunningham thinks that the major contributing factor of the decrease was the lack of prior notice of the event.

This year students were not able to hang up SYATP posters weeks in advance of the event. They were only allowed to post them the day before. This was apparently due to a complaint called in to the Teacher Administrative Center building concerning See You At The Pole posters affixed in the school last year.

About a month ago Principal Greg Emmel was informed about the complaint that had to do with the SYATP posters, but was not given any other information concerning the nature of the complaint.

"It's unconstitutional. It's a campus club; if other clubs have the right to do it, why can't we?" said Cunningham.

Junior Leah Pruitt, leader of The Light Club had a more optimistic view and did not think the number of students that showed up this year was a bad thing.

She said it was better than no one showing up.

See You At The Pole (SYATP) is an annual event that occurs on the fourth Wednesday of every September. It is meant to gather high school students around the nation at their school flagpole to pray.

This is why it might have been a controversial issue; the issue of church and school. Cunningham argued that SYATP is a nationwide event that has been occurring for many years now. He also didn't see why the posters could not be displayed weeks prior to the event after they were changed and modified. Last year the posters displayed some religious content like prayer and the church that was sponsoring the event.

"The posters aren't pushing religion or anything, it's a nationwide event, so I don't see why there's a problem with it now," said Cunningham.

An American flag, the words "See You At The Pole" and the date of the event were the only items displayed on this year's posters.

"There were no biblical statements or anything to offend anyone," said Cunningham.

This whole situation opened up a conversation regarding curricular versus non-curricular clubs and their rules.

Emmel said that non-curricular clubs should not have the same access and resources as curricular clubs because curricular clubs contain school subject matter. This does not mean that non-curricular clubs have no resources from the school, they just have limited access to them.

French club would be an example of a curricular club because there is an actual course at Central that teaches French. A club that would not fit into that category would be Gay Straight Alliance or The Light Club.

The reason that SYATP posters were not allowed to be posted so much ahead of time was so the school is not seen as biased or supportive of a certain non-curricular club.

"As a school we want to remain neutral. We don't want to give the impression that we are supporting their cause or are of the same belief," said Emmel, "instead we are allowing them to exist because they are student-led clubs."

In 1990 District 66 dealt with the issues of club rights when Westside High School took the district to court after being denied the request to form a Christian Bible study group. Student Bridget Mergens made the initial request to a school official and after being denied said it violated the first and 14 amendments. A faculty member was not allowed to sponsor the group because the school thought it would be endorsing the particular group. The school denying the students' request to form this group violated the Equal Access Act, which was made to prevent discrimination of student religious groups in secondary schools.

Emmel said that clubs that do not relate to the body of courses offered at the school have a different set of rules than clubs that are course related.

"Guidelines or rules need to be the same in terms of access and resources for curricular and non-curricular clubs," said Emmel.

Cunningham said despite the outside pressure, The Light Club will keep meeting.

School District Offers unique language course

BY MICHELLE RIEGER

Instead of the same list of available language classes like Spanish, French or German, people in the Lincoln area have a choice of a language course that was not previously available.

Native American language classes are being offered by Lincoln Public Schools (LPS) for the whole community of Lincoln.

The importance of having classes offered in Native American Languages is because these are languages that are dying out and not being spoken as much anymore, even in native homes. And once it is lost, it is almost impossible to recover. This is why the Esther Martinez Native American Languages Preservation Act was created.

Congresswoman Heather Wilson created this Act which passed in September 2006.

Named after a woman who was told she was not allowed to speak her native language in efforts to assimilate Native Americans, this act was created to support the Native American languages and to create and recreate fluent speakers of the native languages.

According to native languages.org there are somewhere in the range of 750 to 850 indigenous languages spoken in North, South and Central America. Some might argue that certain languages are dialects of others, so no one is quite sure on the exact number of all the languages.

Indian education advocate Matt Scrapper

teaches one of the languages along with two other volunteer instructors. Altogether, they reach four different native languages in three classes.

Cherokee is taught by Scrapper and Lakota is taught by Native Mark Awakuni-Swetland. The Omahan and Ponca languages are taught in the same class because they are classified as a Siouan language.

The classes are being held at Goodrich Middle School September through December every Wednesday night. So far, they have had 40 plus people sign up, ranging in age from second grade students to adults. Most who attend the classes are native, but there are a few who are not.

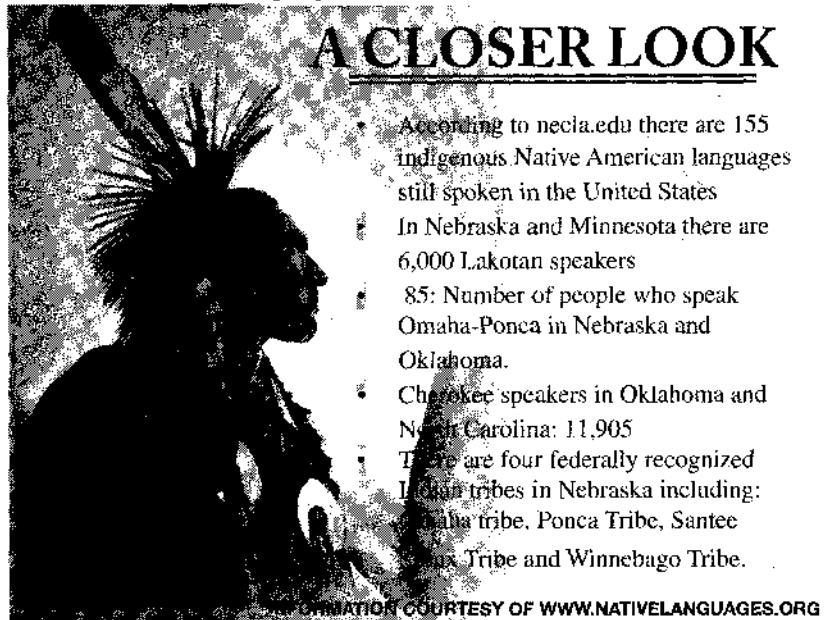
Scrapper said that they have a really good mix of adults and younger ones in the classes. Most students come with their parents, making relationship building a part of the class.

"We have a lot of family involvement in the class," said Scrapper.

Because children are attending these classes with their families, there is a more likely chance that they will use what they learned in class at home said Scrapper.

The primary goal is to preserve the native language. These indigenous languages are becoming "endangered" because it is being used less and less, Scrapper said.

In order to preserve the language it needs to be passed on to younger generations and that is exactly what this program is aiming for.



A CLOSER LOOK

- According to necla.edu there are 155 indigenous Native American languages still spoken in the United States
- In Nebraska and Minnesota there are 6,000 Lakotan speakers
- 85: Number of people who speak Omaha-Ponca in Nebraska and Oklahoma.
- Cherokee speakers in Oklahoma and North Carolina: 11,905
- There are four federally recognized Indian tribes in Nebraska including: Omaha tribe, Ponca Tribe, Santee Tribe and Winnebago Tribe.

FOR MORE INFORMATION COURTESY OF WWW.NATIVELANGUAGES.ORG

News Briefs

The Omaha Area

Ban on pit bulls only apply to those deemed dangerous

Recent dog attacks have sparked debate over whether to ban the pit bull breed of dogs in Omaha. An ordinance going into effect January 1 would include specific restrictions such as proper fencing, microchips, and harnesses for the dogs. Only dogs deemed dangerous would be included under the ordinance.

Loophole in Safe Haven Law brings national attention

Outcry has been brought against Nebraska's new Safe Haven Law, designed to allow unfit or overburdened parents to surrender children to the state. The law, created to protect infants, has a loophole which allows parents or legal guardians to drop off children as old as 18. The law is now being challenged after several cases of people dropping off teenagers.

Price of gas dropped 53 cents in past two weeks

Omahans and people around the country have noticed rapid decline in the price of gas. The national average price for a gallon of gas dropped 53 cents in the past two weeks. The decline is a result of the reducing price of crude oil.

North Platte becomes a testing site for mercury

University of Nebraska-Lincoln's West Central Research and Extension Center has been monitoring the North Platte area for mercury in the atmosphere. They are conducting the test to more closely examine a toxin that is found to be dangerous to fetuses and infants. The testing site is about 20 miles east of Nebraska's largest power generator, Gerald Gentleman Station.

Three teens killed in car accident

Angelica Washington, Tyler Eggert and Dillon

Synovec, students at Elmwood-Murdock High School, were killed after their Pontiac Grand Prix lost control. The three teens were rushed to BryanLGH Medical Center west of Lincoln. The teens were on their way back from raising money for a choir trip to New York City. Police highly suspect speed was the main cause of the accident. Funeral arrangements are still pending.

Volunteers lend a helping hand to Cedar Rapids, Iowa

More than 1,400 volunteers are expected to gather in Cedar Rapids this week to renovate approximately 100 homes in the area damaged in June by flooding. The volunteers represent the Tupelo, Mississippi-based Eight Days of Hope. Lodging, food and materials are paid for by money donated to Eight Days of Hope.

National

Retailers try and keep with the holiday spirits

As always, retailers are already gearing up for the holiday season, by displaying Christmas décor and other themed items. Even with the recent financial crisis, retailers try to remain confident even after predictions of an economy that may not improve before the holidays.

United States moves into Syria

A United States military strike to kill a suspected Al Qaeda leader brought soldiers across the border into Syria. Although military leaders deemed the strike successful, Syrian officials are outraged by the aggression toward the country.

Tragedy plagues American Idol superstar

Popular singer and former American Idol contestant, Jennifer Hudson's family underwent great tragedy over the week. Hudson's mother and brother were found dead in the Chicago family's home. A body found in an SUV was confirmed to be Hudson's 7-year-old nephew.

In The Headlines

A COLLECTION OF HEADLINE RECAPS
BY THE REGISTER STAFF

Local
Now there's a new way to buy home insurance in Nebraska. A new policy will be available in the near future. The new policy will be available in the near future.

Local
The off-peak travel season is here. The off-peak travel season is here. The off-peak travel season is here.

Local
The price of gas has dropped significantly. The price of gas has dropped significantly. The price of gas has dropped significantly.

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In Florida an unmarried woman who paralyzes on a Tuesday may be jailed

Foreign exchange student experiences America at Central

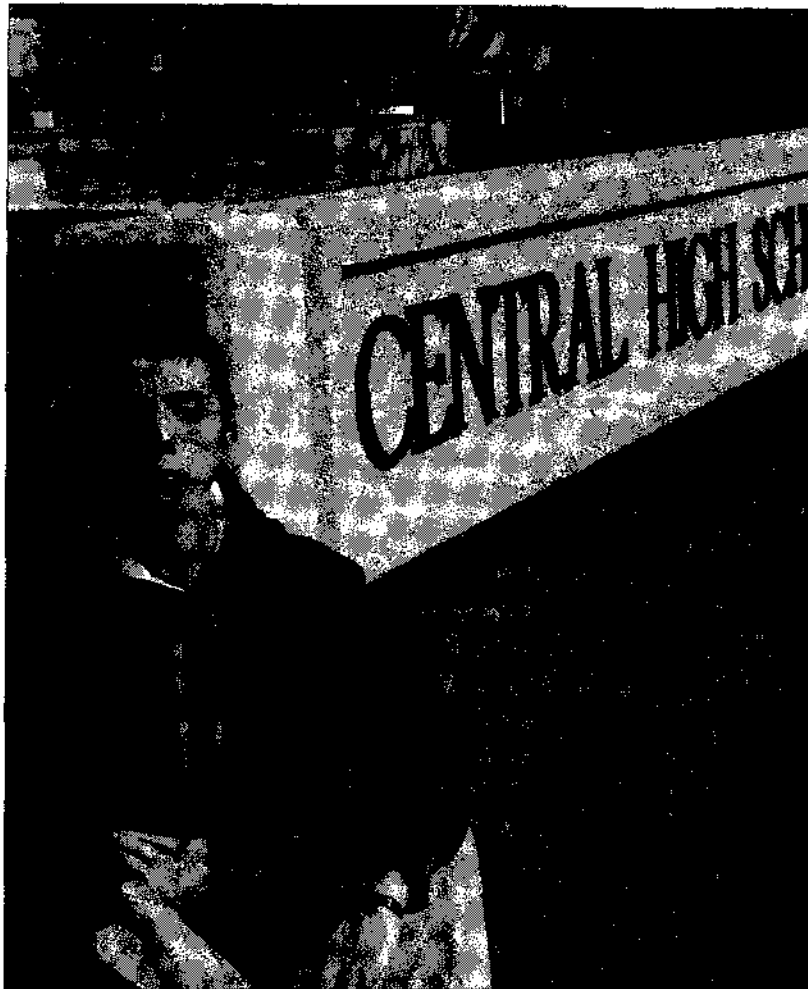


PHOTO BY CHELSEA WILLIAMS/REGISTER

Fitim Imami, an exchange student from Kosovo, enjoys his senior year thousands of miles away from home in Omaha at Central.

BY CHELSEA WILLIAMS

Many Americans are used to the stable lifestyle they live, with the big cities, diverse tastes in foods, variety in homes, and even transportation.

These differences, which are normal to United States citizens, may take some adjustments to get used to for others.

Fitim Imami, senior exchange student, came to Omaha from Kosovo, a small new country of 18,000 citizens located in the center of Europe.

When leaving his country, Imami left behind his most prized possessions his parents, and two younger siblings.

Alone, in the state of Nebraska, Imami began learning his new life style as an official American. He quickly realized the differences.

"Wow! This place is huge and different, I'm not quite used to anything like this," he said about his first reaction when he entered the city of Omaha.

"I was once used to seeing mountains when I woke up in the morning, instead I'm greeted by a big facility with cars and buildings surrounding me," he said.

The senior is learning the standards of the school and most important just fitting in with the new people, environment, and Eagle territory.

"I enjoy it here at Central," he said. "It's different from what I'm used to back at home. At our school in Kosovo we only studied in one classroom and had one professor."

Though Central seemed to be more flexible than his previous school, Imami felt he learned a lot.

"I believe Central gives me more freedom. Not only that, but it helps me expand my mind when it comes to learning," he said. "The class I take that helps me expand my mind and has my most interests is marketing. I would love

to continue to learn more of the study in the business field."

In addition to his studies, Imami was able to participate in athletic activities, especially since he was an athlete in his hometown.

"I'm very used to playing soccer," said Imami. "Not as much like-wise as Central does. Here we work hard and push ourselves to limits of greatest where we could achieve and play better."

After school, Imami found that he spends less time out late like back home.

"Omaha is so different than my country I'm used to going out at night and staying out late," says Imami when reminiscing on his days back home.

Despite the differences between Omaha and Kosovo, Imami found there are many similarities.

"Omaha and Kosovo dress codes are similar. Back home kids wear hoodies, jeans, slacks, and Nike shoes," he said.

Many of those similarities are in foods, however, Imami enjoyed the new foods he was introduced to in Omaha.

"In Kosovo, traditional foods are popular, even though we do have a McDonalds. Being here helped introduce me to a improved level in styles of foods," he said.

Overall, Imami learned that though his hometown is different, he always feels that he fits in here.

"There are some identical and non-identical facts between the country Kosovo and Omaha, which is a good thing," said Imami. "It helps me somewhat fit in, I'm not just an outcast known as Fitim Imami the exchange student from the country of Kosovo, I'm recognized as a normal human being who is now proud to be a citizen of America."

Imami has now started a new journey in Texas, where he was able to find a host home.

Central marching band plays at opening of Bob Kerry Bridge

BY MARK VONDRASEK

Years of arguing, thousands of dollars of taxpayer money, and intense planning led to a climax for the Bob Kerry Pedestrian Bridge that spans the Missouri River. That climax was the opening of the bridge on September 28 at eleven o'clock in the morning. There to serenade the crowd before all of the city officials spoke was Central's very own Eagles Marching Band.

Two years ago, Band Directors Pete Wilger and Tom Cosby were approached by city officials to have Central's marching band play at the groundbreaking ceremony for the Bob Kerry Pedestrian Bridge. Both Wilger and Cosby, considered and scheduled carefully the band to play at the groundbreaking.

"I immediately said yes," Wilger said.

Ground was 'broken' for the bridge in October of 2006. Central's Eagle Marching Band was there along with the Thomas Jefferson Marching Band from Council Bluffs. Due to the weather on that day, both bands were forced to bring a smaller portion of their entire bands. Central decided to take only its Jazz Band.

This time around, both of Central's band directors were only given a month's notice to decide if they wanted to come back to play for the opening of the bridge. After a meeting with the

student leadership in the band, the band directors informed the City that Central's Band would be honored to play at the opening.

On September 28, students in Central's marching band met at Central at 11:15 in the morning. The students dressed in their uniforms and loaded a moving truck for the larger equipment. The students warmed up their instruments on the football field in Scemann Stadium. The students then loaded school buses and drove to Playland Park in Council Bluffs.

Central's marching band and Thomas Jefferson's marching band then met on the Council Bluffs side of the river in Council Bluffs' Playland Park for the grand opening of the Bob Kerry Pedestrian Bridge.

The main event was situated on a large grass field located directly next to where the Pedestrian Bridge touched down in Council Bluffs. The opening on the bridge was blocked off so no one could go over it until the official ceremony. There was a small stage set up just in front of the opening to the bridge. Several different organizations from Council Bluffs and Iowa were set up around the stage to either sell or promote their organizations. There was a contest to see who would get to cross the bridge first, and people were wearing blue bracelets to secure their 'one-of-the-first' status.

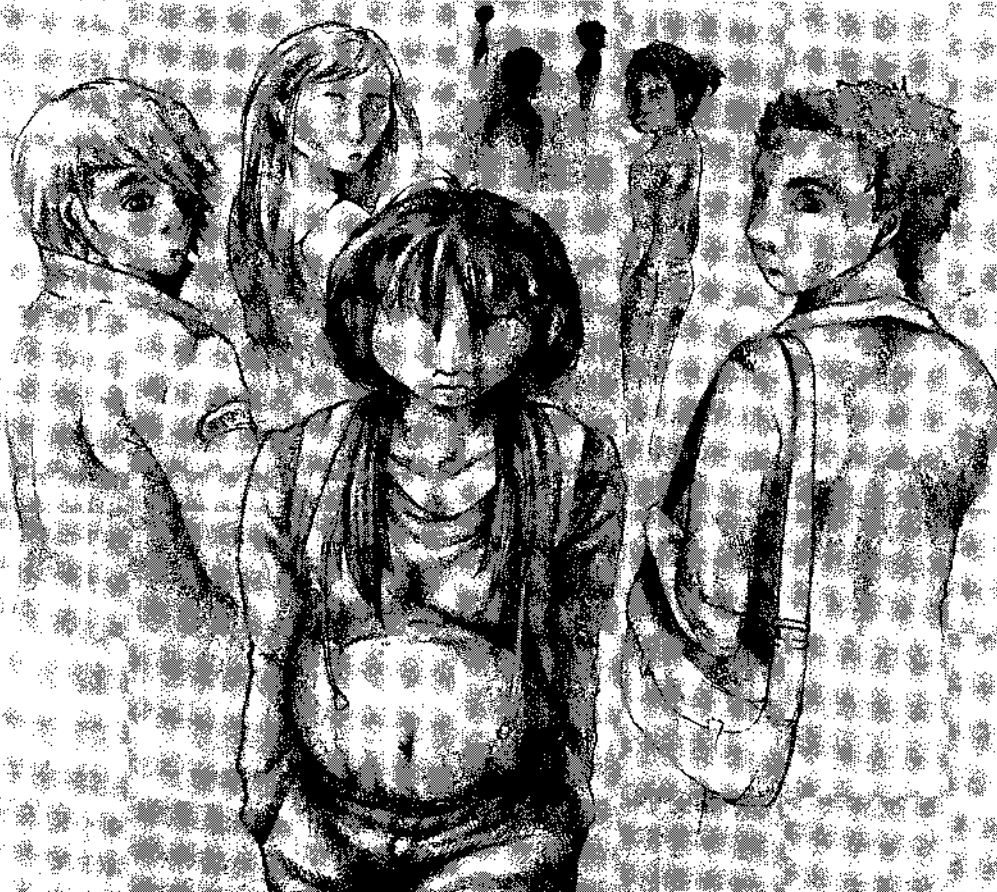
First the Thomas Jefferson band played its music that is

featured in it's marching show. Next, Central's band played the music from its marching show, which is themed around the four seasons of spring, summer, fall and winter. Then for the grand finale, both the Central marching band and the Thomas Jefferson marching band merged together and played 'You're A Grand Old Flag', a patriotic American Folk song, as one band.

Senior Samantha Lang commented that "In fifty years I'll walk across this bridge with my grandchildren and tell them about how I opened it with the band."

Upcoming Band Events

The Fall Instrumental Concert will take place Oct. 27 in the auditorium. Central's Orchestra and Jazz Band will perform at the concert. Band 5 will perform at the concert. For more information, contact Pete Wilger at 781-3333 or Tom Cosby at 781-3333.



The fashion of teen pregnancy

BY CHRISTIAN CHAPMAN

Slimmy jeans, leggings, bold colors, bob hair cuts, and platform shoes are all trends amongst teens. With a surge in teen pregnancies, parents are starting to wonder is it a new trend, too?

According to www.teenhelp.com the U.S. has the highest rates of teen pregnancy in the western part of the industrialized world.

"It [teen pregnancy] is out of control and unnecessary," said junior D'marqus Bonnor. "What's the point of getting pregnant at our age when we can't even take care of ourselves?"

In Douglas County, the rate of pregnancies of teen mothers ages 14-15 rose one percent in the last year, as well as ages 16-17. As for ages 18-19 the rate went up three percent.

"It seems like the age of teens getting pregnant keeps getting younger and younger," said Adrial Mitchell, teen director at the North Omaha Boys and Girls Club.

Certain aspects of the media glamorize pregnancies among celebrities. Do teenagers look at that and get the wrong influences about pregnancy?

"For some girls they look at their favorite celebrities, that aren't necessarily teens, and see that they are pregnant and think 'oh I want to be just like them. I want to be pregnant too,'" said sophomore Darian Henry. "For the girl that looks at the TV and the media and does not pay it any attention does not really worry about it."

All the pregnant teen stars and movies that star pregnant young women, magazine headlines of pregnancies, and the pregnancies of teen idols is prevalent in the media today. It is hard to say that the media does not take part in portraying pregnancy as a trend.

For example, the movie "Juno" mocks this problem common not only in the community, but in the world. The movie, starring Ellen Page, is about a teenager who becomes pregnant unexpectedly. Eventually, she gives her baby up for adoption. Though the movie discusses a serious issue, it is a comedy. But, teen pregnancy is the last thing that's funny.

"They talk about having sex at a young age, but making movies out of it as a joke," said Bonnor referring to "Juno."

ILLUSTRATION BY ANITA HODDE/CARTOONIST

At Central High School this year alone the pregnancy rate has reached the 20 mark. This includes all grades freshmen on to seniors.

"We are seeing a lot more of the younger kids from the ninth grade and incoming as well," said Jennifer Conahan, school nurse. "It [pregnancy] can affect your health if it occurs during your growing process, and it physically and mentally make you grow up fast."

Central offers two levels of teen parenting classes for teen mothers and fathers. One is for mothers that are pregnant and teaches them about the development of the fetus and the basics they need to know in labor and during the first months of the baby's life. The second level is for teens who already have children and includes the development of their child, birth control methods and planning skills.

Some teen mothers feel that raising children has helped them to grow up.

"Being a mother made me more responsible, showed me how not to be selfish, and to think of others," said Martisha Harris, senior. "My maturity level has gotten higher."

In OPS, the use of birth control and contraceptives are taught as well as abstinence. However, politicians argue about abstinence only programs versus talking about birth control and contraceptives.

The question is: Which one is more effective in protecting teens from early pregnancies?

Recent studies show that the abstinence only program was ineffective to the cause. Of course, abstinence is an effective way to not get pregnant, but every American teen is not going to practice abstinence. So instead of just teaching something that the teens are not hearing why not teach them how to protect themselves so they don't get pregnant or get an STD.

With the rise in teen pregnancy rates, the choice should be which one will prevent teen pregnancies rather than what some parents don't want their kids to know about adult engagements.

"To have more prevention classes would be wise for people who don't know anything about it, but I would recommend to just give information and not persuade them if their mind is already made up," said senior Samantha Lang.

WHAT'S IN FASHION

A COLUMN BY CHRISTIAN CHAPMAN
STYLING BY ANITA HODDE

"Wearing white after Labor Day is like blapping your forehead in the face. You just don't do it."

The rule of not wearing white after Labor Day came from the rule that stated to not wear white shoes between Labor Day and Memorial Day. Some now it changed to don't wear white at all after Labor Day, mainly geared toward shoes and pants.

I agree to this rule to the fullest on the white pants and shoes. But, I do believe it is okay to wear white tee shirts and a crisp pair of jeans (Ah, Force Ones), but wearing white pants in the winter is just a disgrace. It's not the fact that they are white. It's the fact that it's a summer color and are normally made of lightweight material.

I always wondered since I was a kid why this rule existed. I can remember how my mother made me pack away all of my white clothes the day after Labor Day. So I began to think...

This year I've noticed that the day after Labor Day the weather took a substantial dip. Even though in Omaha the weather is still sunny, I thought about the previous year. I drove to the store and the previous year the weather was the same, it was a day after Labor Day, not on Labor Day itself.

Could it be that Labor Day is the indicator of when the summer season starts to drift away from us and we begin to hibernate but the longer pants and jeans have thrown out the headlines in the stores because I did it.

I have to wonder that is how this rule came to be.

Despite when the debate on white after Labor Day supporters may disagree on the justification for the rule, there is a common theme: white, which can be described as an ivory, off-white, or a light off-white color, is not that hard for people to wear it, instead of white, it's off.

It frustrates me when people just don't take into consideration to coordinate their wardrobe to the season anymore. It brings me to think how much things have changed in the years past. People would not be caught dead in white after Labor Day.

It seems that over the last four or five years people have been wearing more and more white during the winter and designers are doing more accessories and clothes that come off white to think of the Labor Day rule becoming undignified and to wear to retirement.

Are people over-allowing the rule to be acceptable to society that no one can say that?

Every time I go to school and I see someone with all white in the winter, I think about what I did after Labor Day. I really did not like the rule, but I was a kid and I was just trying to fit in. I was a kid and I was just trying to fit in.

And on that note, I will be happy to hear from you if you have any comments or questions.

The O

Yearbook Photos

Palmetto Studios will be taking senior photos on Nov. 11-12, 2008 for seniors who were absent during yearbook photos.

Get Your Senior Yearbook Photos In Now!

The deadline for Senior photos is Friday, December 5, 2008. Use the following info when submitting photos:

- Pose specifications: head and shoulders only
- Background: neutral, no props allowed
- Format: Email, CD, jpeg file, at least 300 resolution
- Waller 2x3, only color only

Buy Your 2009 O-Book Online!

In addition to purchasing yearbooks in room 629 before or after school, they can always be purchased anytime online at astensyearbook.com

Attention Students and Parents

Senior and Friendship Recognition Ads are on sale now. All prices are as follows:

- Full page: \$300 full payment/\$100 down payment
- Half page: \$175 full payment/\$50 down payment
- Quarter page: \$80 full payment/\$40 down payment
- Eighth page: \$30 full payment/\$20 down payment

The deadline for a completed ad (with photos) and down payment is December 12 and all materials should be turned into room 629 or to terrina.parker@astens.org. Remaining payment is due January 24.

If you have any questions, contact Andrica Mauerthor, Advisor, at terrina.parker@astens.org or at (402) 557-3357.

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A service of the AIM Institute

TIPPING THE BALLOTS

In a tight race again, time for change. Democratic Presidential hopeful Barack Obama versus Republican John McCain has turned this election into one of the most historical races in American history. See how teenagers are taking to this political fever.

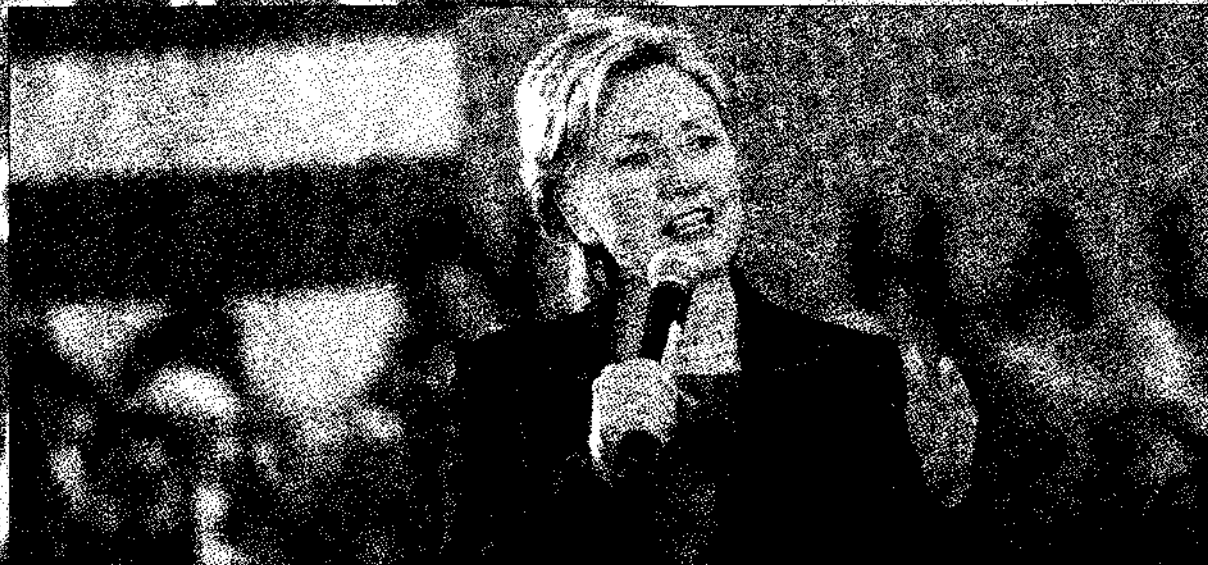
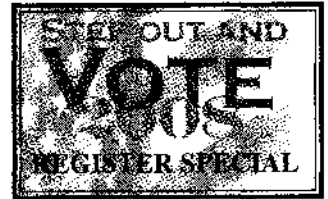


PHOTO BY JENNIFER BIEGER/REGISTER

Hillary Clinton speaks at a campaign event and inspiration to a crowd of approximately 1,000 people at the Qwest Center Oct. 21. She is the only woman to have ever won the state in history Nebraska could split the electoral college.

Hillary rallies for Obama support from

BY ALI HODGE

Three thousand democrats of all different sorts filed into Exhibit Hall A of the Qwest Center Oct. 21.

Omahans everywhere from young people skipping school to older persons in wheelchairs were there to support Barack Obama for Change. The room was packed with the floor of the room waiting for the honor, Senator Hillary Clinton.

A short address by Senator Clinton was given by Senator Clinton. She was given a standing ovation. She was given a standing ovation.

Clinton said she was proud to be a part of the Obama campaign. She said she was proud to be a part of the Obama campaign.

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message not only to the Democratic party, but to the republican party as well."

Clinton's rally followed her keynote speech at a closed door luncheon for Girls Inc., which was also at the Qwest Center.

She also attended a morning fundraiser for the Democratic National Committee at the home of Susan Buffett earlier that morning. Starting a little behind schedule, the event was free and open to the public. It was one of many stops made on a national tour by Clinton, rallying for Obama in key states such as Florida and Minnesota.

Clinton had never visited Omaha before the rally, but she did send her daughter, Chelsea, earlier in the year to rally for her mother. She thanked the audience for the "kind welcome" her daughter received.

She expressed many times over that America did not need to be run by another republican. She said that it was clear that this was going to be a close race and Omaha is poised to help Obama reach the finish line first.

"What we saw in the 1990s was a surplus and a balanced budget. It took a democrat to clean up after the first Bush and it's going to take another democrat to clean up after this Bush!"

Clinton recalled that the last time Nebraska voted for a Democratic president was in 1964 with Lyndon Johnson.

She said she understands how much support Nebraska would need to put forth in order to elect Barack Obama, and she fully believes that Omahans could do it.

"Sending a republican to clean up the economy and the White House is like sending a bull to the china cabinet," she said. "Our country will once again rise from the ashes of the Bushes."

Exploring the Issues...

Exploring the Issues... [Text about economic issues and the impact of the recession]

Exploring the Issues... [Text about the impact of the recession on the economy and the need for change]

Students impress, place first in district in mock presidential debate



PHOTO BY ALI HODGE/REGISTER

Central teacher Caroline Krejci and students Peter Fey, Michael Walsh, Susan Freeman and Luke Hawbaker placed first in the mock presidential debate held at the school following on Oct. 3. The debate was later broadcast on channel 17.

BY

Stage lights beat down on five students decorated in American flags, standing with an Orator's Club banner in the middle of a stage. They were on the stage for the annual Obama TAC

debate field for all OPS students. The debate was held in a fun, competitive way, with students discussing the country such as the economy, education in America. Winners, candidate Luke Hawbaker (senior), his team of Michael Walsh, Susan Freeman and Peter Fey, and their sponsor, Government teacher Caroline Krejci, were announced at the end of the day.

After a short introduction from each mock Presidential hopeful, the first question was given starting with North. "If elected, how would you handle the war in Iraq? Would you pull our troops immediately and save lives of thousands of Americans or will you continue to station troops and continue in our track in Iraq?"

Candidates and their teams were given the topics that would be discussed in the debate, but they were not given the exact questions, said Central's candidate, Luke Hawbaker.

"I really couldn't have done it without Pete, Susan and

Pete," he said. After getting together on the weekends and after school, they had come up with general answers for every topic that was going to be discussed at the debate.

Hawbaker said he worked not only on his answers, but on his speech, his posture and controlling his facial expressions, especially when one candidate's answer sounded immature, ill rehearsed, or he didn't agree with it. And while sometimes it worked, Hawbaker said sometimes it didn't.

"I'm disappointed I let that (his emotion) slip," he said. "I worked really hard at holding it together."

Hawbaker said there were some things about the debate he wished were different, despite his close win.

"That was one thing I missed about the debate, doing a little back and forth with the others," he said, wishing it was more of a show and more like a panel. "And I think that there was a certain question where I came across as a little too cocky or condescending. That's one thing I have to work on. And I do feel like I stayed to the script too much."

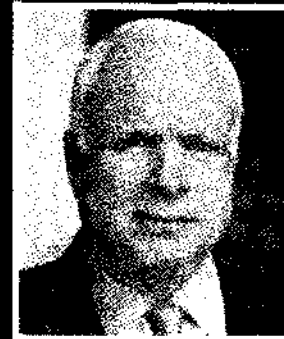
Hawbaker and Peter Fey both were Senate pages in Washington D.C. Hawbaker said his time spent on the hill, from Sept. 3 to Jan. 10, fueled his passion for politics and has led to a hopeful future as a politician.

"I plan on majoring in political science. After that working on the hill, in the capital, and then going to law school," he said. "Politics is my passion and I kind of got that from D.C. last year."

Meet the Candidates

REPUBLICAN

John McCain



War on Terrorism:

John McCain does not want to leave Iraq until the Iraqi government is a stable democracy and Al-Quaeda is defeated.

Health Insurance:

McCain would like the American people to choose what they would like on their health coverage.

Oil and Gas:

McCain would like to use the oil from the Federal Reserves.

DEMOCRAT

Barack Obama



Taxes and expenses:

He plans to make tax cuts for 95 percent of the working class. He plans to make a \$1,000 emergency energy rebate to help families pay rising bills.

Healthcare:

Barack Obama believes and is working toward Universal healthcare.

BY CHRISTIAN CHAPMAN/REGISTER

Environment:

"The election will decide whether America will depend on expensive foreign oil. If you want to be financially responsible, you need to do more than just come for the oil. We need our pipelines. I think the Republicans will continue a policy that keeps our troops and our money in Iraq."

War on Terrorism:

"I believe the administration will be held to the same standards that we should hold ourselves to. The responsibility is on the Iraqis to get their act together. Barack Obama said that he will do this and we will see a stable solution. And McCain does not do that. He says of bombing Iran and that's just irresponsible."

Healthcare:

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BY ALI HODGE AND ALANA BRUNOW/REGISTER

The Haunted Truth . . .

Mystery Manor offensively frightening

BY ALANA BRUNOW

What is Halloween without visiting a haunted attraction? Omaha has various places open to the public for fun and screams. One of the most well-known attractions is Mystery Manor. It is Omaha's oldest haunted theater and has been terrifying locals and tourists for twenty-five years. People of all ages can pay a \$10 fee to get their pants scared off, although I would not suggest taking young children.

On the outside, the building just looks like a regular, staged haunted house; the windows are all boarded up and there is a giant orange-lettered sign near the rooftop. The large brick structure is intentionally a little shabby and screams coming from within can be heard from blocks away.

What many don't know about Mystery Manor is that the theater is really haunted. When it was first built, between 1800 and 1900, it was originally a bordello, which consisted of four apartments. A woman named Grace and her son were brutally murdered while living there. For a long time, the structure was vacant.

Four apparitions have been spotted in the building and are identified as genuine residents from the past. Grace and her son are two of the ghosts and the third is described as a dark figure that supposedly protects the Manor. This ghost is known as the "guardian." The fourth is unidentified.

Being knowledgeable about this structure's historical past gives a genuinely frightening element to the entertainment.

To prepare houseguests, a few scare actors wander around outside tormenting and teasing the most vulnerable-looking

victims. There is always a demented, sharp-toothed clown streaking up on people when they least expect it.

While waiting in line, the latest modern music is blaring, while an artificial skeleton stags along next to an attractive middle-aged woman with lack of fashion sense that dances on a stage or a disc jockey.

Once you enter Mystery Manor, there is a peacefully conservative room, decorated very old-fashioned, but the moment the door opens, guests are in for a rude awakening.

A monstrous man tells a frightening tale while holding an axe synchronized with his story just above one guest's skull.

While walking through, there are some impressive scenes to gaze upon. Special effects are key in this house. Lighting, noise, illusions and physical obstacles are played up a lot. Creatures appear out of nowhere, each slyly guiding guests to the next scene.

In one area, guests are led one at a time through a black and white, veiled tube that is spinning around a still, invisible beam. Then guests are led through an air tube that requires a lot of core strength to wriggle through, as there is no light and the victim is sandwiched between two air-filled walls. This theater is not for those with weak stomachs.

To exit the theater, there is a 65-foot-long metal slide guests must endure to escape. It is curvy, rough and can be painful. Whatever you do, don't lean back. There is a high risk of acquiring a concussion.

Overall, Mystery Manor is very frightening, but there are a few things that could improve.



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY ALANA BRUNOW/REGISTER

Staff prepares guests for the horror they will encounter once they enter inside Mystery Manor.

Shadow's Edge does not live up to hyped reputation

BY ALI WOODGE

It's Halloween and you can smell it in the air.

And if you're strategically placed in Omaha, you can even

bear it in the air. Ah, the thrill of screams, bangs and fake chills.

I took it all in as I stood in the shadow of the entrance to Shadow's Edge with my three good friends, Mark, Bridger and Justin.

Haunted Houses have always been one of my favorite ways to celebrate the passing away of fall. But every moment I stand about to enter another dark house, I feel as if it's my first time.

"Alright," growled the colorfully decked-out bloody... whatever he was. "You may enter." He opened the black door ominously.

I grimed, squeaked, looped my arm through Justin's and felt Bridger and Mark cling to my neck and shoulders.

Shadow's Edge, located on South 84th St. in the Mangelson's parking lot, didn't live up to its rep, but it didn't let me down either. Certain aspects of it were pretty cool, playing off of audience's deep fears.

For example, if I happened to be afraid of tight spaces, which I am, the passageway with air-filled walls pressing against me would have freaked me out... which it did.

If one of us was afraid of dead bodies hanging from the ceiling, which Justin was, the strobe lit room with hanging clown corpses would have freaked them out, which he admitted it did later.

And if anyone was afraid of being chased, which it was unanimously clear that Mark was, the bloody "red neck" with the loud chainsaw constantly on his tail would have been totally scary. And judging by the amount of screaming he did, I would say he was pretty spooked.

Workers of Shadow's Edge, or any other haunted house in the area, are not allowed to touch their guests.

I have heard many times of grabbing and intentional touching going on in some of the houses to enhance the haunting experience, but Shadow's Edge stuck to the rules pretty well. The actors, still in character, did go out of their way to let you pass without brushing against you.

One complaint would have had to be that there were many moments in the house where nothing happened, giving me a moment to lift my face, as it was buried in my friend's shoulder most of the time, look around and take in the scenery.

While for some that freak out easily, this may be a good thing, I like to be scared the entire time I'm in the house. Those momentary lapses of activity allowed my heart to slow again, which I definitely didn't like as I paid money to be disturbed.

And speaking of money, while I expected admission to run \$10 per person, I still have to admit that it is a little ridiculous to fork over that much money for only one walk through the house when I could have crossed the street and used that money to feed four people at Taco Bell.

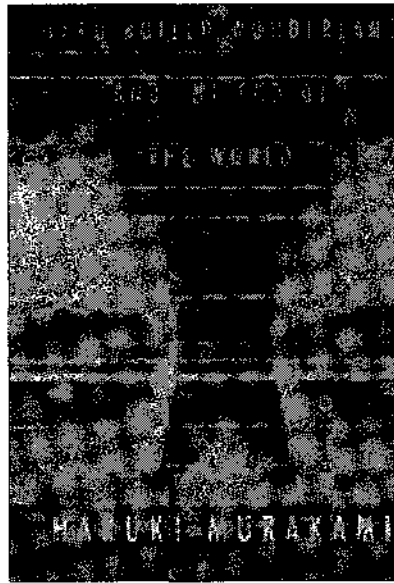
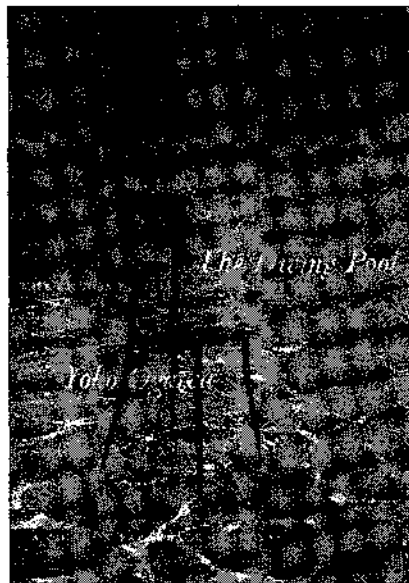
But to be fair, it was definitely worth the experience, not just to go through the house, but to hang out with my friends and that's what I adore about Halloween.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THESHADOWSEDGE.COM

Despite being an expected slight disappointment, guests of Shadow's Edge were not disappointed.

Books promote culture, fascinate western audience



PHOTOS COURTESY OF VINTAGE PUBLISHING, PICADOR PUBLISHING

BY ALI HODGE

Every avid reader goes through phases. I myself have gone through a classics phase, a Russian literature phase, and now, a Japanese phase and I must say that this newest fascination is the most stunning.

I have to spread the gospel of these two internationally known authors, Yoko Ogawa and Haruki Murakami, and their words that inspired me.

The culture of Tokyo is so vibrant that it pulsates as the pages of Ogawa's *The Diving Pool* fly by.

The small book consists of three novellas starting with a story about a teenage girl who is in love with her adoptive brother.

It's an intense love story, full of emotion and unrequited feelings, or so the reader thinks.

Because of the translation from Japanese to English, the sentences are very simple. "I watched him as he dove into the diving pool."

It's almost eerie to read the stories by Ogawa because they are darkly truthful, all three of which peek inside the bitter dark souls of three lonely people.

The second novella is called "The Pregnancy Diary" and is an eerie account of the pregnancy of the main character's sister.

It's simple, brutal, and truthful in its translations, but all the while leaves the reader wondering, "is she real? Is the baby real?"

The final, perhaps the most creepy of all, is of a lonely house wife connecting with her old college dorm through her nephew. It is a story of blood curdling nostalgia. Not in the way of horror, as all aspects of all of these stories are

completely realistic, but in an insulting way. In "The Pregnancy Diaries" the reader *wonders* if it's a figment of the narrator's imagination. In "The Diving Pool" the reader *wonders* if her brother loves her back and in "The Dormroom" the reader *wonders* if the landlord killed the narrator's nephew like he allegedly did twenty years before to another student.

The personality and life of the dark side of Japan, made magical by the sheer cultural drift between Easterners and Westerners, is brought to the forefront of Ogawa's novel making it worth every minute of those two days I was glued to it.

On the complete flip side, Haruki Murakami's *Hard Boiled Wonderland and the End of the World* is a psychological, sci-fi roller coaster taking

the reader from the depths of the "lab rat's" mind to the depths of underground Tokyo.

To be completely honest, the story line, both magical, science fiction, and completely insane is far too complicated to explain in my allotted space. The reader doesn't even figure out what's going on completely until about three-fourths of the way through the book.

Oddly enough, it's the physical embodiment of "a page turner."

It's in no way scary, just fascinating, contemplating the definition and the components of the mind, love and the importance of life.

Both novels are brilliant. They explore completely different aspects of the Japanese culture in ways that are fantastically unique and widely diverse. In a world that is unlike our own, the contents of the novels can relate directly to the western culture as they focus on the aspects of human nature, not the nature of culture.

"The Diving Pool"
Author: Yoko Ogawa

"Hard Boiled Wonderland and the End of the World"
Author: Haruki Murakami

"Eagle Eye"
PG-13
Starring: Shia LaBeouf



PHOTO COURTESY OF PARAMOUNT PICTURES

'Eagle Eye' a deadly, action-packed game of Simon Says

BY SAM LANG

In the new movie, *Eagle Eye*, Jerry Shaw, played by Shia LaBeouf, and Rachel Holloman, played by Michelle Monaghan, are two strangers who are mysteriously thrown together by a phone call from a woman they have never met.

Throughout the film, the woman sends Shaw and Holloman on dangerous missions while tracking their every move with today's technology.

When Shaw comes home to see his small apartment filled with weapons of warfare ranging from nuclear gases to bazookas, he receives a call from a mysterious woman telling him that the FBI will invade his apartment in a matter of seconds and if he does not do what he's told he and other innocents will lose their lives in the process.

Holloman receives a similar phone call from the same woman explaining that if she does not comply with every request given, the train she just put her 10-year-old son on to Washington, D.C. will be derailed.

After a sequence of events, Shaw is ordered to hop into a black sports car to suddenly meet Holloman and start this twisted game of 'Simon Says' with the purpose to save lives.

The plot of the movie was well thought through.

Each scene presented a new sense of danger and hope for these two characters. Although the dialogue was as witty as the plot, the action scenes were seizure-inducing and generic.

In one scene, Shaw and Holloman are forced to participate in a typical 'get away' chase

resulting in a police car pile up and their car being picked up by an influenced crane.

For more than ten minutes, all I could see were streaks of black with red and blue flashing lights. If one were to watch the entire scene without looking away, they would most definitely walk out of the theater with a headache.

The acting in this movie was decent.

With the emotion put into his character, one would easily believe that LaBeouf was actually a fugitive running from the FBI who's innocent life was threatened.

Monaghan was exceptional. The instinctive love Holloman felt for her son and her struggle to keep him and herself alive was visible in Monaghan's acting.

Both of the actors had their own distinctive acting style but they worked together so well and incorporated both of their unique abilities to make a good movie.

The music playlist was made up of the typical suspenseful orchestra pieces that are in every action-adventure movie.

Nothing about the music really popped out and caught my attention.

Even though this movie brought on a strange feeling that Big Brother was watching me, I really liked it.

It kept my attention the entire time and I could not wait to see what was ahead for Shaw and Holloman.

Every new twist to the plot had an original explanation and everything connected together at the end.

Every question was answered and I was left with a feeling of fulfillment that wasn't too vast or too little.

In New York it is considered disorderly conduct for one man to greet another on the street by placing the end of his thumb against his nose at the same time as extending and wiggling the fingers of his hand.

Coming to Theaters

Opens Nationwide on Oct. 31, 2008

Zach and Miri

R by Dimension Films

Starring: Seth Rogen, Elizabeth Banks



PHOTO COURTESY OF ROTTENTOMATOES.COM

To combat their rising levels of debt, two friends living together, Zach and Miri, played by Seth Rogen and Elizabeth Banks, decide to get into the amateur porn business. As they continue on in their humorous journey, they slowly realize their underlying feelings for each other.

INFORMATION COURTESY OF SCREEN GEMS

Opens Nationwide on Jan. 16, 2009

Paul Blart: Mall Cop

PG by Sony and Columbia Pictures

Starring: Kevin James and Jayma Mays



PHOTO COURTESY OF ROTTENTOMATOES.COM

In Paul Blart: Mall Cop, James plays a single, suburban dad trying to make ends meet as a security officer at a New Jersey mall. It's a job that he takes very seriously, though no one else does. When Santa's helpers at the mall, who are really a team of crooks, stage a coup and barricade themselves inside, Paul Blart finds

INFORMATION COURTESY OF SCREEN GEMS

himself stuck in there with them. They shut down the mall and take hostages including Paul's daughter and sweetheart among them. It's up to Jersey's most formidable mall cop to become a real cop and save the day!

Director: Steve Carr

Horror film surprising in effect

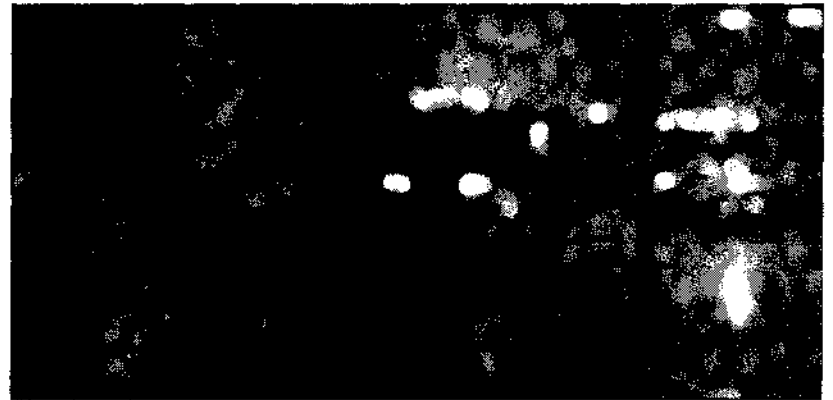


PHOTO COURTESY OF ROTTENTOMATOES

BY ALI HODGE

Goose bumps. For real. With the visual effect of *Cloverfield* and the horror effect of a seriously scary haunted house, *Quarantine* proves to be one of the best scary flicks for this Halloween season.

The plot is simple. A budding reporter, Jennifer, played by Angela Vidal, and her camera man follow around the Los Angeles Fire department for a special report. One late night call brings them to a small apartment building

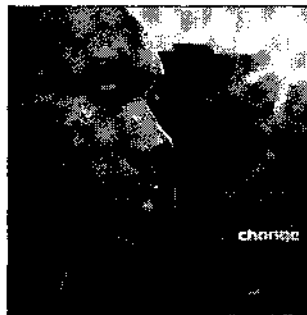
where a sick older lady was heard screaming insanely.

The residents and the fire fighters discover that they have stumbled across a mutant form of rabies and suddenly find their fellow prisoners their worst enemy.

Quarantine is scary only in the aspects that it brings with it that awful feeling of being chased and due to the filming style, most of the movie can't be seen but that adds to the horror of it all. It's definitely a perfect thing to get you into the Halloween mood.



Album "Lyfe Change" is the voice of truly changed man



DEF JAM RECORDS

BY TORIANN RUSS

How many times do we get a chance to start over in life? For most, it's not often, but for the thug turned singer, Lyfe Jennings it's a different story.

'Lyfe Change' is an album full of happiness, reform, and the voice of a truly changed man. By naming his new album 'Lyfe Change,' the artist is trying to strongly emphasize to everyone that he is on a new path. Although the new love vibe is a total contrast of Lyfe's two previous albums, he still seems to capture his audience.

In Lyfe's previous albums, he aimed towards listeners who were able to relate to his life struggle growing up. The listeners were accustomed to hearing everything from him begging for cigarette money, to his 'baby

momma' suing him for child support. Basically, hearing about life without that white picket fence in the front yard. Now, we're hearing about love and happiness. I wouldn't quite say that Lyfe has totally abandoned his hood fans, but I'm sure those fans were in for a big surprise.

One of the things that Lyfe didn't change was his spoken word/song narratives. Just as before in 2004's 'Lyfe 268-192' and 2006's 'The Phoenix', the intro and in-between songs, you'll hear a word or two from the artist. 'Lyfe Change' starts off with a spoken word intro called 'Change The Game'. This opening track pretty much explains how and why Lyfe has decided to transition lifestyles.

In about a minute in a half, Lyfe instantly captures you and shares his new world.

'Keep On Dreaming' which is the second track, gives a better understanding of his concept.

Even though it sounds like it came out a high school play, it's a pretty decent song. The main vibes and focuses are love and how it feels when you are in love. Lyfe descriptively explains what love feels like to him in his love track 'Cops Up'. I won't spoil the song, but I will give a few lyrics. "Somebody call the cops up/ 'lil mama done stole my heart" is the chorus, which is sung by Luke & Q. Even though he dropped the grittiness of his first two albums, I think the new vibe suits him well and can hopefully influence the minds of all his fans both young and old.



The Art Scene

Durham Western Heritage Museum
801 S. 10th Street, EyeWitness: American Originals from the National Archives, October 4, 2008- January 4, 2009, Sunday 1pm-5pm, Tuesday 10am-8pm, Wednesday- Saturday 10am-5pm, members are free, \$7

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Haydon Art Center, 335 N. Eighth St., Lincoln. "New Animation," through Sept. 27. 402-475-5421 or www.haydonartcenter.org.

Great Plains Art Museum, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Hewitt Place, 1155 Q St., Lincoln. "Hinterlands," gelatin silver prints by photographer Michael Farrell, through Oct. 31. 402-472-5841.

Artists' Cooperative Gallery, 405 S. 11th St. Sheila J. Downey, watercolors; N. Bryam Luth, acrylics and collage; Margie Schimenti, mixed media, through Sept. 28. 342-9617 or www.artistsco-opgallery.com.

Heller Art Images, 11015 Elm St., "Meet the Artist," featuring Jeff Boutin, Friday 4 p.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 496-9988.

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LaCasa Gallery, 44th and Leavenworth Streets, artwork by Irene Marchese. 553-6082.

Pulp Gallery, 6114 Military Ave.

Out on the Town



Who The Moscow Ballet Touring Company
Anatoly Emelianov

What Moscow Ballet's Great Russian Nutcracker

When Sunday, December 7, 2008 at 3pm

Where The Orpheum Theatre

The Nutcracker is a traditional ballet played every Christmas time for ages. It is a great event to attend with the family. More than 6,000 United States dancers participate in this magnificent performance. It is a once in a lifetime experience that I highly recommend. The New York Times states "... Beautiful and refined, exemplifies loyalty to the classical vocabulary," and the Shreveport Times said "All Nutcrackers are not the same...[Moscow Ballet's Great Russian] Nutcracker is brilliant." I think the reviews speak for themselves so if you are out and about check out the Moscow Ballet's Great Russian Nutcracker. I guarantee you will be satisfied.

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High School: Week of Nov. 3

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Tues. Dec. 16 Periods 0,2,5,8
Wed. Dec. 17 No Finals
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Fri. Dec. 19 No finals (make up day)

First Day of Second Quarter: Mon. Oct. 20

New Step Club offers unique past time

BY ALI HODGE

"I had young ladies filling all my desks, sitting on the floor, and standing against the wall," said English teacher, LaTrina Parker of her informational meeting promoting her new club, Central Step Club.

Parker said she was approached with the idea of starting a step club by two girls who had approached other teachers but experienced hesitation.

"I told them to bring me an estimate of how many girls were interested and they came back with 9," she said.

The number of young women interested multiplied at her first informational meeting where she estimated she had about 40 attendees.

"My goal for the meeting was to dispel the myth about stepping," said Parker, who said some of the misconceptions include that it is only for black girls, it's more of a drill team, and it's only for members of sororities.

At the informational meeting, the only meeting the club had had, Parker said she discussed what the requirements were to be involved, one of which is something unique seen in clubs: a GPA requirement.

The minimum GPA requirement, Parker said, is 2.5 and every prospective member is required to sign a sheet by their administrator.

"I feel like it's an extra curricular activity and if the students don't have an adequate GPA, then they should really focus on doing better in their classes," she said. "My plan is to teach a challenging skill that can be a fun past time and as in-depth as a competitive sport."

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"I'm a staunch advocate of service," she said with a laugh.

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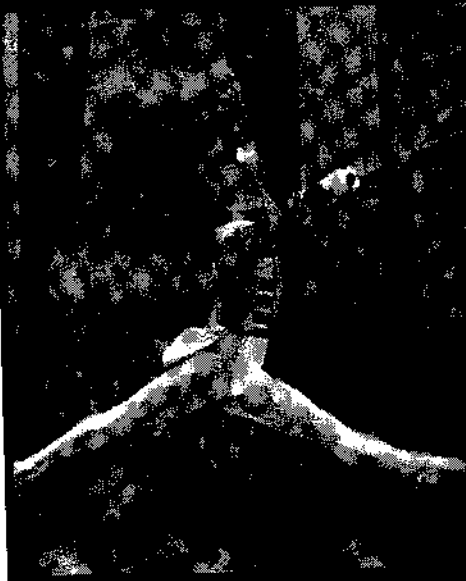
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"I'm a staunch advocate of service," she said with a laugh.

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The Movie Scene

Film Streams Theater
Evil Dead 2, Rated R, 1hr 25 mins
Showtimes: 5:00, 7:05, 9:15, \$8.
For a complete list of movie times visit, www.filmstreams.org
Trouble the Water, 1hr 36 mins
Showtimes: 5:00, 7:05, 9:15, \$8
For a complete list of movie times visit, www.filmstreams.org

AMC Theater
Appaloosa (R) Nov. 1, Nov. 2, Nov. 3, 1:25pm, 4:25pm, 7:05pm, 9:50pm., \$8.
For a complete list of movie times visit, www.amctheaters.com
Body of Lies, (R), Nov. 1, Nov. 2, Nov. 3, 1:05pm, 3:55pm, 7:05pm, 10:05pm., \$8
For a complete list of movie times visit, www.amctheaters.com

The Duchess, (PG-13) Nov. 1, Nov. 2, Nov. 3, 2:00pm, 4:50pm, 7:25pm, 10:00pm., \$8 For a complete list of movie times visit, www.amctheaters.com

Fireproof, (PG) Nov. 1, Nov. 2, Nov. 3, 1:20pm, 4:20pm, 7:20pm, 10:15pm., \$8 For a complete list of movie times visit, www.amctheaters.com

Beverly Hills Chihuahua, (PG) , Nov. 1, Nov. 2, Nov. 3, 1:00pm, 3:15pm, 5:30pm, 7:50pm, 10:05pm., \$8 For a complete list of movie times visit, www.amctheaters.com

Eagle Eye, (PG-13) Nov. 1, Nov. 2, Nov. 3, 2:00pm, 4:50pm, 7:25pm, 10:05pm., \$8 For a complete list of movie times visit, www.amctheaters.com

High School Musical 3: Senior Year, (G) Nov. 1, Nov. 2, Nov. 3, 1:30pm, 2:15pm, 3:00pm, 3:30pm, 4:15pm, 5:00pm, 5:45pm, 6:15pm, 7:00pm, 7:45pm, 8:30pm, 9:00pm, 9:45pm., \$8 For a complete list of movie times visit, www.amctheaters.com

Max Payne (PG-13) Nov. 1, Nov. 2, Nov. 3, 1:40pm, 2:35pm, 4:10pm, 5:05pm, 6:40pm, 7:40pm, 9:10pm, 10:10pm., \$8 For a complete list of movie times visit, www.amctheaters.com

Nick & Norah's Infinite Playlist (PG-13) Nov. 1, Nov. 2, Nov. 3, 1:10pm, 3:25pm, 5:40pm, 7:55pm, 10:15pm., \$8 For a complete list of movie times visit, www.amctheaters.com

Pride and Glory (R) Nov. 1, Nov. 2, Nov. 3, 1:10pm, 4:10pm, 7:10pm, 10:10pm., \$8 For a complete list of movie times visit, www.amctheaters.com

Quarantine (R) Nov. 1, Nov. 2, Nov. 3, 1:00pm, 3:20pm, 5:40pm, 8:00pm, 10:15pm., \$8 For a complete list of movie times visit, www.amctheaters.com

Saw V (R) Nov. 1, Nov. 2, Nov. 3, 2:05pm, 3:05pm, 4:35pm, 5:30pm, 7:05pm, 7:50pm, 9:30pm, 10:15pm., \$8 For a complete list of movie times visit, www.amctheaters.com

Sex Drive (R) Nov. 1, Nov. 2, Nov. 3, 1:50pm, 4:40pm, 7:15, 9:50pm., \$8 For a complete list of movie times visit, www.amctheaters.com

W. (PG-13) Nov. 1, Nov. 2, Nov. 3, 1:35pm, 4:30pm, 7:25pm, 10:15pm., \$8 For a complete list of movie times visit, www.amctheaters.com

The Secret Life of Bees (PG-13) Nov. 1, Nov. 2, Nov. 3, 2:10pm, 4:55pm, 7:35pm, 10:10pm., \$8 For a complete list of movie times visit, www.amctheaters.com

Cinema Center
Beverly Hills Chihuahua (PG) Nov. 1, Nov. 2, Nov. 3, 4:50pm, 6:55pm, 9:00pm, \$8 For a complete list of movie times visit, www.douglastheaters.com

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W. (PG-13) Nov. 1, Nov. 2, Nov. 3, 4:25pm, 7:15pm, 9:55pm., \$8 For a complete list of movie times visit, www.douglastheaters.com

Staying Near Home

Who Blake Lively, Leighton Meester, Penn Badgley, Taylor Monique, Ed Westwick
What New season Gossip Girl

Where The CW Cable Channel 11

When Monday nights 8/7c



A new juicy season is jumping off with a new plot that you wouldn't believe. "Gossip Girl" is about the secret lives of Manhattan's elite. The television series is based on the series of books by Cecily von Ziegesar. These are not your average teens; they are fiery, fabulous, and filthy. They are willing to do what they have to be the last man, or in this case, last woman standing. So watch out all you Degrassi fans. There is a new bunch in town and they are ready to rightfully claim their fame on prime time television. Grab your spot on television this Monday. XOXO Gossip Girl.

DICAPRIO GROVE

TRUST NO ONE. DECEIVE EVERYONE.

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF AMERICAN GANGSTER AND BLACK HAWK DOWN

BODY OF LIES

FOR LOCAL CLINIC INFORMATION VISIT STDOMAHA.COM

We've been tested.

HAVE YOU?

In Douglas County, STD rates are highest among persons 15-29 years of age. Don't you think it's time to be tested?

FOR LOCAL CLINIC INFORMATION VISIT STDOMAHA.COM

Question of the Issue

Your Views on the World Around You



Every year a teacher is chosen and honored as Teacher of the Year, nominated by their co-workers and students.

Unofficially, who is your favorite teacher and why would he or she be qualified for this award?

Who is my favorite teacher? I would have to say Mr. Gunvalson. He's really pretty spiffy. His teaching is interestingly fun! (In my opinion, obviously!) So, I think he deserves this award because he's a fresh, new addition to this school and he keeps it interesting to say the least.

Dawauna Hayes (9)

Giovana Zermenol She is not just the bilingual liaison in Central High, but she runs the Latino Leaders Club. She helps Latinos in any way she can to get scholarships so they can go to college.

Jazmin Hernandez (12)

Ms. Kadar would have to be my favorite teacher. She understands me most. She's a great teacher and deserves an award.

Jameliah Ray (12)

Mr. Mullen is by far my favorite teacher! He is the only teacher that really connects with students.

Emily Sevick (12)

My favorite teacher this year would have to be **Mrs. Allen** The reason being is that she is fun and explains things fully, enabling students to interact and understand concepts.

Jacquelyn-Alana Harper (10)

My favorite teacher is **Mr. Hill**, my honors Algebra teacher. He helps and makes sure we, as a whole class, understand our lesson. If we don't get what he has already explained to us, he breaks it down into little parts that we can understand.

Briana Taylor (9)

Mrs. Ryan because she is a really good teacher and I learn a lot from her!

Stephanie Peters (9)

Mrs. Luethge is my all time favorite teacher. She's always happy and is the best motivator I've ever met. I had her as a teacher freshman year, but I still haven't come across a teacher as good as her.

Hannah Rowan (10)

Mr. Leslie, no doubt, he is humorous, yet a good teacher at the same time.

Shay Augustine (10)

The teacher who is unofficially my favorite is **Sergeant Major Sutter**. He believes in doing all and what he can for his students. I mean, he gets here at 5:30 a.m. and doesn't leave until 6:30 p.m. I mean, what teacher does that?

Jaylin Jones (9)

Mrs. Pleiss is my favorite teacher because she is understanding, a very good teacher, and she has fun and makes class fun! (She dresses up for spirit week!)

Samantha Gentry (11)

Mr. Wilson, because he teaches so well and he makes everything fun. He doesn't yell either.

Payden Kuhn (10)

Mr. Foster would have to be my favorite teacher because he has a unique way of teaching that is fun and easy to understand.

Indya Walden (11)

Ms. Mahoney is a great teacher. She goes the extra mile to make sure you understand the work. She doesn't believe in a stupid question.

Christopher Race (9)

Mr. Burns!! Best math teacher ever. He's funny but he also makes sure you understand everything, and he's always there for help when you need it.

Lyndsay Sanko (11)

Mr. Mullen because he really knows how to make learning fun.

Kia Oliver (11)

Mr. Sand is my favorite teacher. He is so good at making math simpler to understand. He's my all-time favorite math teacher.

Nate Hall (12)

Mr. Gibson because he is always pushing us to our fullest and has helped me come out of my shell.

Lantz Glynn (9)

Mr. Foster. He is a great teacher and he pretty funny. He keeps it real in class and talks in ways we understand.

Emily Pallestinu (10)

Mr. Albertine because he is a great teacher and has unique but interesting ways to teach.

Abby Brown (9)

Ms. Mahoney would have to be my favorite teacher. Even though I've only had her for this first month of school, she has already made an impact on me. I enjoy walking in her doors everyday ready to learn!

Lindy Dilocker (11)

Mrs. Whitten, because she really cares about her work and still knows my name after two years.

Hannah Grossman (11)

Mrs. Royer because she takes her own time to help you with the work. And also because she is a good teacher.

Zehaida Anthony (11)

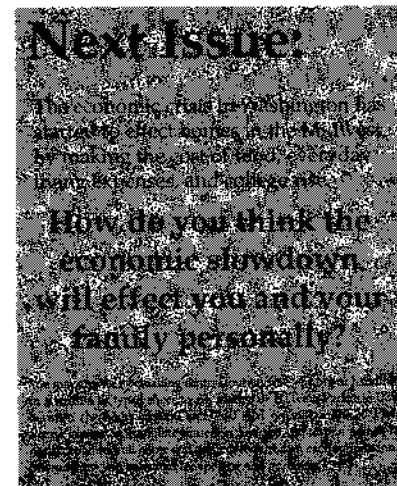
Mr. Foster. He's the most understanding and funny teacher. He helps students be the best they can be. And he really inspires them.

Amber Bischof (12)

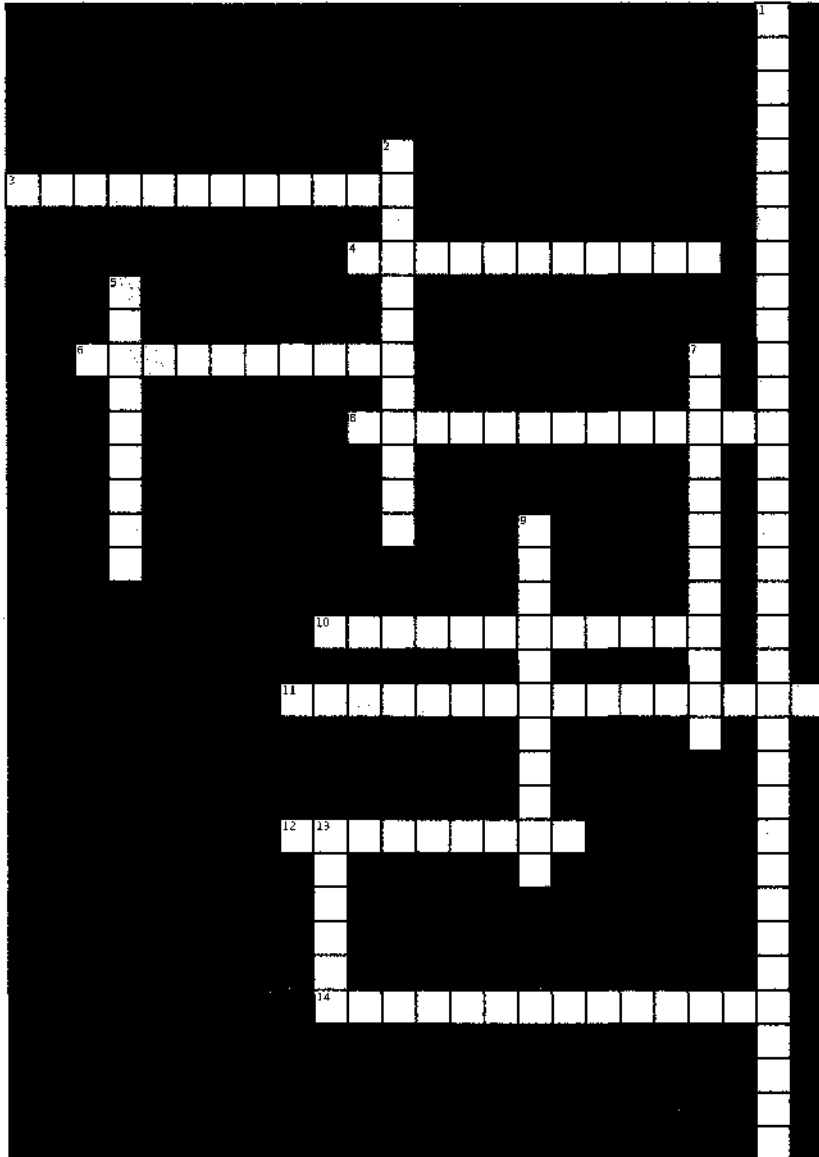


What do you know about ...
High school English
Provided by Ben Mihovk,
English

- This was the only man to have won the British Open Championship six times.
 - A. Winston Churchill
 - B. Harry Vardon
 - C. Thurgood Marshall
 - D. Bono
- This 20th Century author is a relative of the author of "The Star Spangled Banner."
 - A. Ray Bradbury
 - B. Willa Cather
 - C. F. Scott Fitzgerald
 - D. Hemmingway
- Because of his fluency in German and French, this *Franny and Zooey* author served as an interrogator during WWII.
 - A. Stephanie Meyer
 - B. John Steinbeck
 - C. John Green
 - D. J.D. Salinger
- I would like ___ go to the store, ___, but I only have ___ dollars ___ spend.
 - A. to, too, to, two, to
 - B. to, to, too, two, to



Crossword



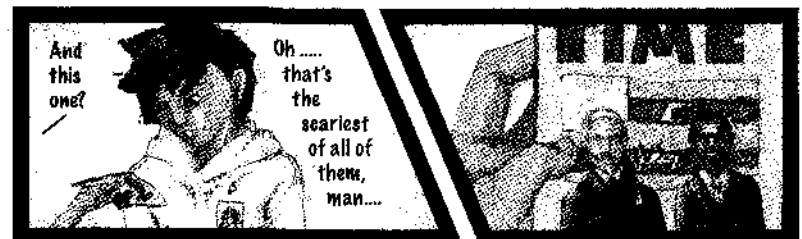
- Across**
- Who played Scarlett O'Hara in the 1941 classic "Gone with the Wind"?
 - What actor that played the leading character in "Love Jones" also played Ludicris' friend in Crash?
 - Rick Blaine said "We'll always have Paris" in this 1942 movie?
 - What was Jack Nicholson's famous line in "The Shining"? (1980)
 - What deceased actor starred in the 1990s teen hit "10 Things I Hate About You"?
 - Which Grey's Anatomy star played Alexia Wharton in the 1996 Disney Channel Original Movie, "Wish Upon a Star"?
 - Who wrote the theme song for the 2006 blockbuster "Babel"?
 - Who was responsible for lifting the spirits of families during the Great Depression with her song "Lollipop"?

- Down**
- Paul Newman played Butch Cassidy in which 1969 Western classic?
 - What teen superstar provided the English voice for Asbel in Nausicaa of the Valley of the Wind?
 - What superstar played Chad Feldheimer, a childish pretentious young man working at a gym, in "Burn After Reading"?
 - What is the name of the actor who plays James in the newest 007 film, "Quantum of Solace"?
 - What iconic Hollywood superstar died at the age of 83 on September 29, 2008?
 - What trilogy features the adventures of Ellen Ripley and her crew as they fight against a deadly intergalactic species?

Artist in Residence

Anita Caroline Hodge

Monsters



Anita Hodge is a sophomore at Central High School. She is widely involved in the art department as well as artistic endeavors outside of school including Kent Bellows Art Internship sponsored by Bemis Art Center and privately paid projects. She is the contributing artist to The Register and O-Book. You may send feedback to Hodge at central.journalism@ops.org. All content is original and belongs to The Register.

Photo of the Issue



Members of the audience raised signs showing their support for democratic candidate Barack Obama at the Change Rally held at the Qwest Center on Oct. 20. Guest speaker Hillary Clinton said she was very surprised and pleased to be met with such a vast amount of support from Omaha.

Mark Vondrasek is a senior at Central High School and the photographer for The Register. Any questions, comments or updates can be mailed to Mark at central.journalism@ops.org or markvondrasek@live.com. All content is original and belongs to The Register.