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central.journalism@ops.org

the register

Central High School

IT TIME NSAA/JEA BEST-OF-SHOW WINNER

A HIGH SCHOOL NEWSPAPER PRACTICING PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISM

NATIONAL PACEMAKER AWARD WINNER

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Tumor doesn't bring teen down.

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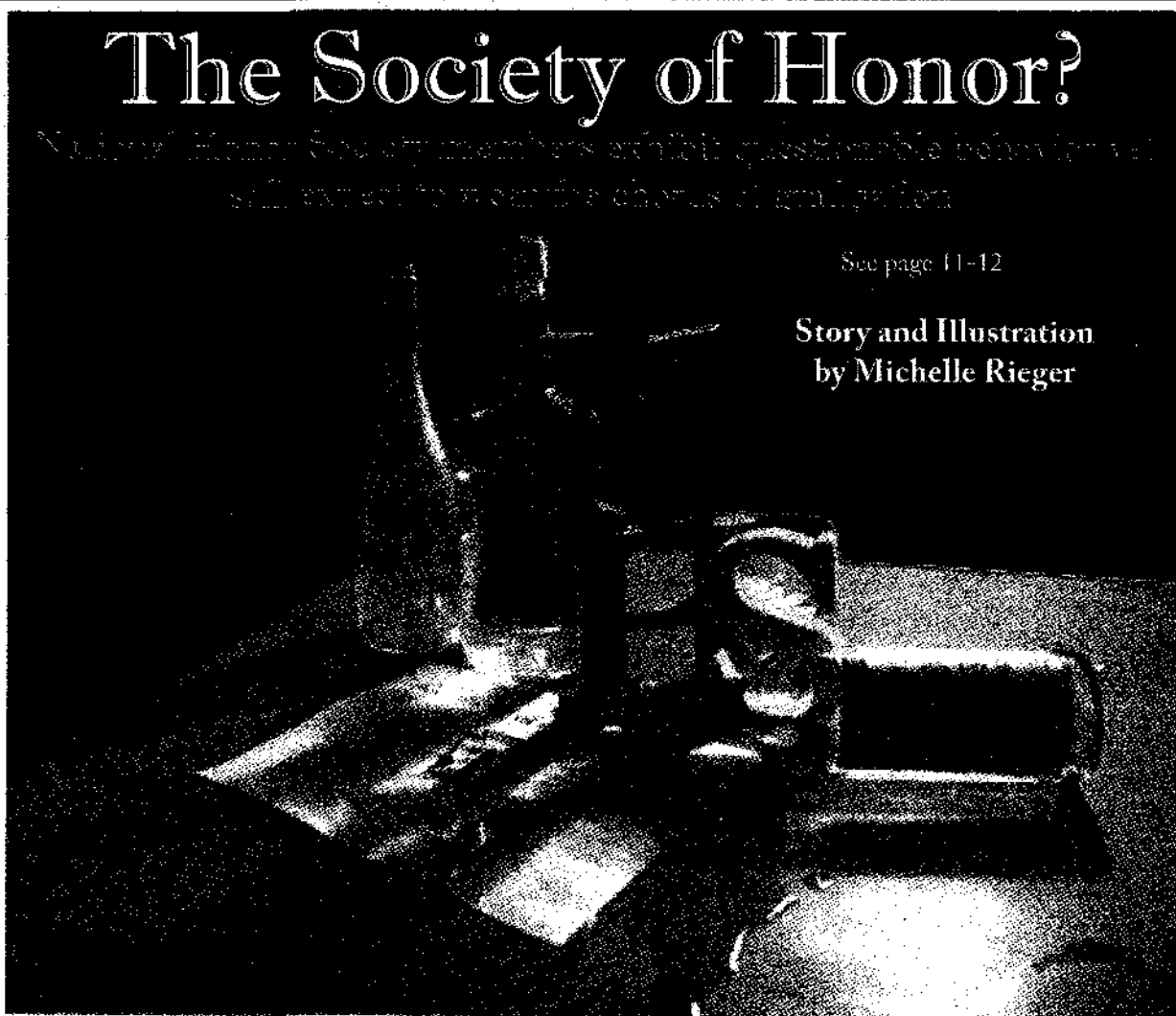
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The Society of Honor?

Nation's Honor Society members exhibit questionable behavior yet still expect to wear the robes of graduation.

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Story and Illustration
by Michelle Rieger



Grixby brothers charged with assault, terroristic threats

BY CARLY SMITH

DeAntae, 29 Cortney, 22 and Ronnell Grixby, 19, respectively, were arrested on Wednesday, Jan. 21, 2009 for third-degree assault, suspicion of making terroristic threats, interfering with a public service (preventing someone from calling the police) and criminal mischief.

Reportedly, the three were in a verbal altercation with one of the brother's ex-girlfriend on Sun. Jan. 18 at a bowling alley in Papillion. The Grixby brothers are Central alumni who have, in the past, been associated with the Nebraska Huskers.

Jay Ball, who coached two of the brothers in previous years, said he wouldn't expect this kind of behavior from the brothers.

"They are innocent until proven guilty. They are some pretty famous guys, and people that gain fame, also gain notoriety for things that don't normally occur," said Ball. "They are great young men and come from a great family."

The Grixby brothers were released from Sarpy County jail Wednesday night after each paid a \$5,000 bail. Charges against them are currently pending.

the register

2008-2009

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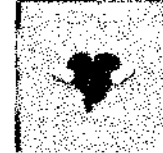
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Staff 2008-2009



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Will Langan
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Chelsea Williams
Student Life Editor



Mark Vondrasek
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Dan Seaton
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Cary Smith
Student Life Editor



Jade McCoy
Entertainment Editor



LaTrina Parker
Business Editor



College Corner

Luke Hawbaker (12) wants in a college

Predominant Academics, Residential Colleges, Strong Political Sciences

Yale University

Location: New Haven, Connecticut

Type: 4-year private

"With the Residential Colleges you get the resources of Yale, but there is still a feeling of community," said Hawbaker.

Yale is consistently ranked in the top tier of American Universities for its academics. Yale's residential college system gives its 5,000 plus graduate students the sense of intimacy of a small school, yet they have the resources of the Ivy League university. The university's wide variety of specialty schools makes it a great place to pursue one's individual educational focus.

News Briefs

The Omaha Area

Candidates start campaigns for Omaha Mayor

Omaha's Mayoral race is currently underway. So far, Councilmen Jim Vokal and Jim Suttle, and former mayor Hal Daub are the main contenders on the ballot.

Nebraska contemplates the death penalty

Nebraska's legislature is currently debating the death penalty. Last year, Nebraska's use of the electric chair for executions was deemed cruel and unusual. On Thursday, Jan. 30 the legislature made plans to change Nebraska's execution method to lethal injection, while some lawmakers called to end the death penalty altogether.

Pass of bill would require dating violence education

A bill introduced in Nebraska's legislature would require dating violence education in schools. The aim of the bill is to promote awareness of dating violence and bullying by incorporating it into the curriculum for grades six through 12.

National

Illinois Governor impeached for accepting bribes

The impeachment trial for Illinois Governor Rod Blagojevich wrapped up on Thursday. Blagojevich was found guilty of abusing his power by a unanimous decision. He was impeached for attempting to sell the senate seat that was held by President Barack Obama.

Gold record holder admits to smoking marijuana

Olympic gold medalist Michael Phelps admitted on Monday to smoking marijuana after a photo of the swimmer smoking out of a bong surfaced. Phelps has been suspended from swimming competitions for three months and so far has lost one of his major sponsorships.

Bill passed to expand health care to children

Congress passed a bill on Wednesday February 4th that expands health care to children. Congress plans on raising the federal tax on cigarettes to finance the bill.

It is the first of a series of bills that will be passed by the Democratic majority in the House of Representatives.

Bulletin Board

Don't think you're a school
child anymore?

The Waiting Room

6212 Maple Street, March 17, 2009. Black Lips with Gentlemen Jase & His Men & Bromberg Band at 9 pm.

Ratatat

March 25, 2009, 9 pm, The Slowdown, 729 North 14th Street. Admission \$15. Tickets on sale at www.thelowdown.com.

The Hold Study

April 9, 2009, 9 pm, The Slowdown, 729 North 14th Street. Admission \$15. Tickets on sale at www.thelowdown.com. Performing with The War On Drugs.

Quintrón & Miss

Pussycat

April 6, at The Waiting Room at 9 pm. Tickets are \$9.

Death Cab for Cutie

April 13, 2009, 8 pm, The Holland Performing Arts Center, Rich and Douglas. Admission \$15 and up. Performing with Cold War Kids and The Roots. Tickets on sale at www.omahaperformances.org.

Friggatriskaidekaphobia

February 13, 7 pm - 11 pm, The Bennis Center for Contemporary Arts, 724 South 12th Street. Admission \$7 for members, \$13 for non-members. Proceeds support the artists and the Bennis Center's programming.

Spring Break 4-Ever

February 20 - March 18, 5/14 Military Avenue. Free admission. Artist reception by Tim McEver on February 20 from 7 pm - 10 pm.

Harlem Globetrotters

March 28, 7 pm, The Qwest Center Arena. Admission \$21 - \$99.

NSAA Wrestling

February 17 - 21, 2009, The Qwest Center Omaha. Admission \$9 at the door, \$7 at Ticketmaster retail ticket centers.

Creighton Basketball Bracket Buster

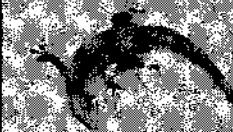
February 21, The Qwest Center Arena. Visit www.basketballbracketbuster.com for admission information.

Volunteer Opportunities

Omaha Community Playhouse: For more info visit www.omahaplayhouse.com volunteer or call (402) 553-4890.

Omaha Children's Museum: For more information visit www.ochm.org or contact Ian McKenzie at (402) 342-6164 ext. 418 or imckenzie@ochm.org.

Omaha Henry Doorly Zoo: For more information visit www.omahazoo.com.



Omaha Public Library: For more information visit www.omahapubliclibrary.org volunteer or call (402) 444-4835.

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

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

Mosaic Community Development: For more information visit www.mosaiccd.org or contact local Cooper Community Coordinator Jodi Hunsaker at (402) 933-6672.

Omaha Food Bank: For more information visit <http://www.omahafoodbank.org> or call Karen Hickman at (402) 331-1212.

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

NSAA State Basketball Competition

March 12-14, 2009, The Bob Devaney Center in Lincoln. Visit www.nsaaohio.org.

Poetry Slam and Open Mic

February 14 at Omaha Healing Arts Center, 1216 Howard St. at 7:30 pm.

James Taylor

May 8 at the Omaha Music Hall. For more information go to www.gofox.com.

letters to the editor

■ Abortion

Dear Editor,

I believe that abortion should be banned because regardless of the situation it is and will always be murder.

Jacquelyn Harper
Grade 10

Dear Editor,

I think that if someone wants to have an abortion it's their choice. And no one else's business.

Tom Beatty
Grade 11

Dear Editor,

I think abortion should be the woman's choice. However, I think that if they are just having an abortion because they are not being responsible enough to use some form of contraception then it is crap.

Andrea Mauseth
Grade 12

Dear Editor,

I feel that banning abortion will only lead to unsafe practices and unneeded fear. We made the decision a while ago that having an abortion was the decision of the mother. I just don't think that people realize the long term effects it will have if it is banned.

Lindsey Sheets
Grade 12

Dear Editor,

I think abortion should be banned because it's a person's decision to have intercourse and not use protection. It's not the baby's fault. Instead they should put it up for adoption.

Dorian Andrade
Grade 10

Dear Editor,

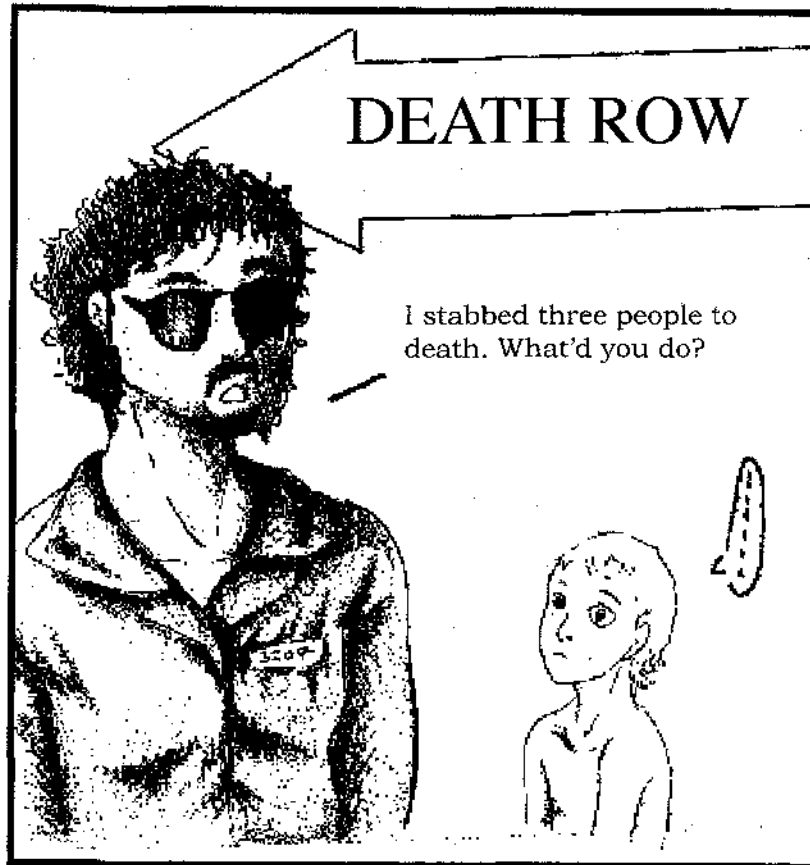
I don't agree with banning abortion. It should be women's right to decide if she's ready to leave a kid. The world doesn't need any more neglected children. Banning abortion would not decrease the number of unwanted pregnancies, but would increase the number of unwanted children.

Emma Erickson
Grade 11

Dear Editor,

I think that they should ban abortion in Nebraska because just because they are not full human beings, they still have a heart beat and I think they can feel pain. In my opinion, it is murder.

Clarissa Gonzalez
Grade 11



CARTOON BY ANITA HODGE/REGISTER

Dear Editor,

I think that abortions should be banned because no one has the right to take a life even if it hasn't started yet. I mean if someone kills an unborn child while trying to kill the mother, the person is charged with murder of the unborn child. So why shouldn't abortions be considered the same thing?

I can, however, see if the child was in danger. For example, like from an STD or something like that. Or in instances where the mother was raped. Then she should have a choice. But all these young women who get pregnant and then decide to get an abortion shouldn't have them because they're not taking responsibility for their actions. Therefore, they should not have a choice in whether or not to get an abortion.

I mean, if you're going to have sex you should be ready to take responsibility for what ever comes with it and if you're not then don't have sex.

Shawna Booth
Grade 10

Dear Editor,

I've never been in that sort of situation so I wouldn't know what to do, but I definitely wouldn't want to kill it. I also cannot afford a child. So adoption is the way to go.

Zach Jones
Grade 11

How can you kill harmless babies? We have no idea how they would change the world and our lives. We have no idea the capacity to what they can achieve, create and believe.

Jack Macchennan (10)

Dear Editor,

I think that abortion is wrong and should be banned. There's such a thing as birth control. People should use it.

Nicole Dawson
Grade 11

Dear Editor,

I am a teen mother, so I obviously do not agree with abortion, but I think it's an issue each woman has to deal with for herself with a healthcare professional. I believe it's in no way right, but it's a private health matter that the government should have no say in and all women have the right to do what they want with their own bodies. Also, banning would cause a rise in illegal abortions.

Gabby Gard
Grade 12

Dear Editor,

Abortion is a difficult topic to discuss about. I believe the laws and requirements we have already set are fair to both sides. Pro-choice is the way to handle it.

Molly Anderson
Grade 11

Dear Editor,

I am pro-choice. I feel that abortion is a woman's choice, no one else's. With that said, I also feel that abortion should be a last resort.

Melaina Katrinak
Grade 12

Dear Editor,

A ban on abortion would only damage the lives of the women and children it aimed to protect. Under a ban, abortion would become a shady, dangerous, DIY-type operation. As long as abortions are legal they will be supervised by professionals and can be regulated appropriately.

Rosemary Brusnahan
Grade 11

Dear Editor,

I think banning abortion is wrong. Women should have the right to choose whether or not to have an abortion. It is a personal liberty, and I think banning it is unconstitutional.

Claire Goodwillie
Grade 12

Dear Editor,

I feel most strongly about banning abortion in Nebraska. This is wrong, completely so. Every person should have the right to choose what he/she thinks is right for his/her body. Banning abortion limits a woman's right to choose, and ultimate freedom. We have freedom of religion, speech, etc. Why not the right to choose for one's self?

Catalina Ramirez
Grade 9

You may send your letter by emailing central.journalism@ops.org or handing in a written or typed sheet to Ali Hodge or LaTrina Parker in 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.

DECA sells fruit rather than sweets

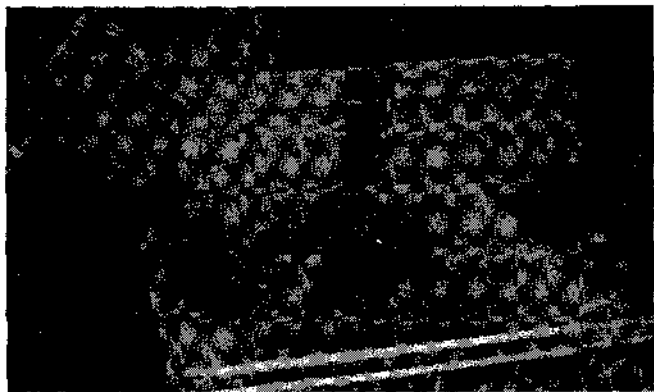


PHOTO BY MICHELLE RIEGER/REGISTER

BY MICHELLE RIEGER

Students waiting in line on the third floor, second side were expecting to buy cookies, but instead they found apples, grapes, bananas and clementines.

'They called it "Fruit Friday".'

On Friday, Jan. 9 the marketing department sold fruit instead of

their usual product, Otis Spunkmeyer cookies, during the passing periods.

The reason for this unexpected switch was a lack of cookies and a little optimism.

"We were out of cookie dough and it was either sell fruit versus sell nothing, so we decided to sell fruit," said Vicki Wiles, marketing teacher.

They decided to stick with one dollar and 50 cent increments to avoid confusion making change.

This was a spur-of-the-moment experiment and was not advertised except for word of mouth. Wiles was satisfied with the amount of sales for the fruit.

"For the amount of fruit that I bought, we sold it all. My expectations met my sales," said Wiles.

Although the fruit sales proved to be successful for this particular experiment, fruit sales didn't even make up 25 percent of cookie sales.

Reactions varied from "I want cookies!" to "Is this trick day?" to "You guys should sell fruit everyday."

Wiles purchased \$44 in fruit and sold everything, but a few bananas. Apples, grapes, clementines and bananas were among the fruit sold. The most profit was made on the bananas, and there was no profit made on grapes. Clementines were sold for 50 cents each, while everything else sold for \$1 each.

Smartboard technology enters MPS, OPS

BY DARIA SEATON

From touch screen computers to touch screen phones, touch screen technology is advancing far beyond personal high tech entertainment. Smart tech is trying to advance technology by creating an interactive whiteboard that hooks up to your computer.

Smart boards combine the simplicity of a whiteboard and the power of a computer to make it an easy to use tool for teachers and students. Many teachers believe that the touch smart boards can help in schools. The touch screen board it makes it so the student can give a presentation instead of at a computer. When writing on the board with the pen the screen tells the computer what color is being used and projects it on the screen. Everything can be done from the screen. It's just like sitting at a computer, but more interactive.

These touch screen boards can make learning more interactive, said Mark Smith, Dean of Students.

One of the teachers here at Central actually possesses a smart board. Although it is not up and running it will be in use as soon as they fix a couple things to get it set up right.

Although teachers like the idea of them students, don't seem to feel the same. A sophomore believes that the smart board will teach the same thing that a regular whiteboard and is just a waste of money.

According to Smith the smart board would be a great tool in all classes. As for the students, they believe it would be more helpful in all the math classes.

"All in all the smart board is a great tool," said Smith.

"Technology makes things easier and I think this would really help," said sophomore Gaila Wright.

According to a review from Smart Board PC, they are just as impressive is the included application software, which compliments the board perfectly. It is easy to control Windows applications or make annotations on the screen. If one has to enter information into a program, one can use an on-screen keyboard or the handwriting-recognition feature. (These work well, but a real keyboard is still much faster.)

There are a couple of downsides if something were to occur and the school lost power it wouldn't make it more useful than anything else we have in the school.

"There are students that don't care and don't appreciate these types of things," and the school would lose a lot of money if one of them were to get ruined," said sophomore Mia Robinson.

Smart boards are being used in the Millard school district. These boards are a bit on the expensive side running at \$3000 dollars a board.

Students speak out on Proposition 8

BY MICHELLE RIEGER

"It makes gays and lesbians into second class citizens," said Senior Nate Hall, vice president of Central's Gay Straight Alliance club.

Hall is talking about Proposition 8, a ban on gay marriage in California.

Hall is a self-proclaimed gay student.

"It's scary because Proposition 8 has allowed the majority population to vote on rights of a minority group. I don't see why people should vote on another person's marriage. I think that some of the people that opposed gay marriage used very ugly methods of scaring people into voting for it," said Hall.

Senior Erin Emsick is a self-proclaimed lesbian, but said she would never go into a gay marriage because it's not the norm of American culture.

Emsick doesn't mind stating that she is a lesbian, but doesn't want to go into a gay marriage because it would go against her religion.

"I'll put my sexuality out there, but not my beliefs," said Emsick.

Hall doesn't feel threatened.

"Simply because I don't live in California and I don't plan on marrying anytime soon. I am scared of implications of Proposition 8. They just voted to say gays and lesbians can't marry, what's next? Maybe they will vote on if we can have drivers licenses," said Hall.

A group of people who aren't afraid to tell the nation what they think about gays and lesbians is the people of Westboro Baptist Church.

The WBC is a hate group that was founded in Topeka, KS.

In November members of WBC came to the Central High campus to protest the GSA club.

They held up colorful signs, in both senses, language and image.

Students weren't afraid to show WBC how they felt. After students got out of control and started throwing items such as pop bottles, sandwiches and cartons of milk, police officers on the scene sprayed mace towards the crowd.

Hall isn't threatened by this proposition, but thinks that other teens might be.

"I think the students that are actually paying attention to what is going on in this country might be scared and upset by Proposition 8 and how it strips gays and lesbians in California of their rights to marry," said Hall.

It's scary because Proposition 8 has allowed the majority to vote on the rights of the minority.

Nate Hall

Local dry-cleaners sell used prom dresses

BY CHRISTIAN CHAPMAN

Max I. Walker dry-cleaners will be holding their second annual "Ultra Chic Prom Boutique" at the Westside Community Center on Feb. 28, 2009.

The boutique will take place from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. A fashion show will take place at 11:45 A.M.

It will also include a special dance performance from the Nebraska Dance Studio.

Last year, according to maxwalker.com, they received 332 dresses in donations, and all of them were sold at the event.

They encourage people to donate gently used prom dresses, bridesmaids dresses, and any other type of formal wear.

A donation makes one eligible for a \$500 getaway contest. The contest consists of a \$250 gift card for American Airlines. The other \$250 will be given to the winner in cash.

They will also have a "Perfect Prom" grand prize giveaway equalling to the amount of \$250.

Every dress is sold for \$15 and the proceeds go to the Lydia House.

Last year they raised more than \$2,000 to donate.

Their sponsors include channel 94.1, Teez beauty salon, VIP Limousine, Ashley Lynn's Tanning, Beyond the Vine Flowers and Home Decor, Faces Spa, Meri's Wearhouse, Impact Merchandising, and Mary Kay.

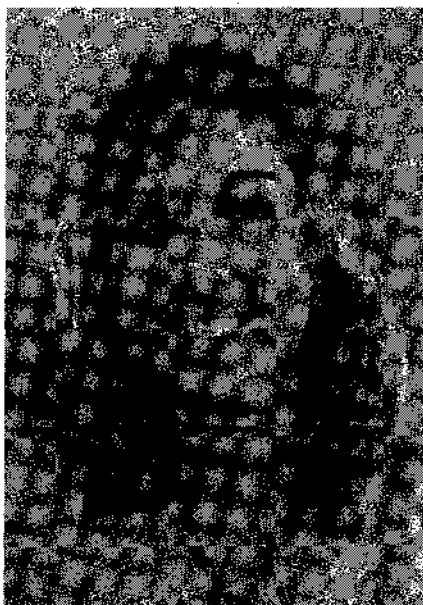
All of these are set up at kiosks at the boutique.

Typical Prom Expenses:



Senior suffers brain tumor, recovers to move back to Arizona

BY CHRISTIAN CHAPMAN



Imagine moving to a strange place, not knowing anyone but your parents. That's a drag right? Well what if you were diagnosed with Grade 2 Astrocytoma within days of the move?

For senior Arianna Elnes, this was her reality. She and her family moved here from Arizona on Aug. 1, 2008. Then on August 4 she had an unexpected seizure that resulted in a trip to the hospital.

The worst part came when she received the devastating news that she was diagnosed with Grade 2 Astrocytoma, a tumor that develops in the brain.

"When I was diagnosed I was scared, and we had just moved here in August," said Elnes. "I wanted to get support from my friends."

Astrocytoma is one of the most common forms of cancer that starts in the brain. People from every age group can retain these tumors of the brain.

Grade 2 Astrocytoma is where the tumor cells are slightly abnormal in appearance as well as bigger in number. One tumor with treatment has the survival rate of about 70 percent.

Elnes went through two major brain surgeries to remove the tumors that were located on the left side of her brain. It took several weeks to recover and come back to school.

Her first surgery was on Aug. 29 at University of Nebraska Medical Center. When she woke up she was completely paralyzed.

"Mentally, I was really sad and depressed, I just kept thinking why did this happen to me," said Elnes. "Yesterday I was just a normal 17-

year-old."

After her last surgery, taking place at Methodist Hospital, she was paralyzed on her right side, and she is currently going through physical therapy to be able to gain all of her physical movement back.

"My parents cried a lot and said that they were there to support me. They said that they would be there every step of the way," said Elnes.

Elnes went through her surgeries without any type of complications. She was on the fortunate side of this statistic.

Elnes returned to school on Wednesday, Jan. 14, 2009 with a positive attitude and high spirits. Elnes said she was excited to be around people her own age.

"People are being nice and are really happy to see me back," said Elnes.

Alexandria Tran, a friend to Elnes, said she felt happy to see Elnes back and with a good attitude and a beautiful smile.

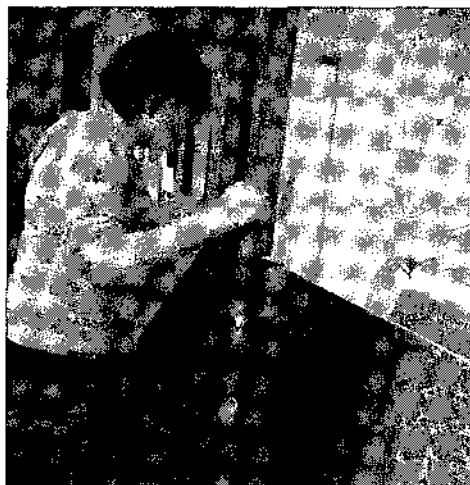
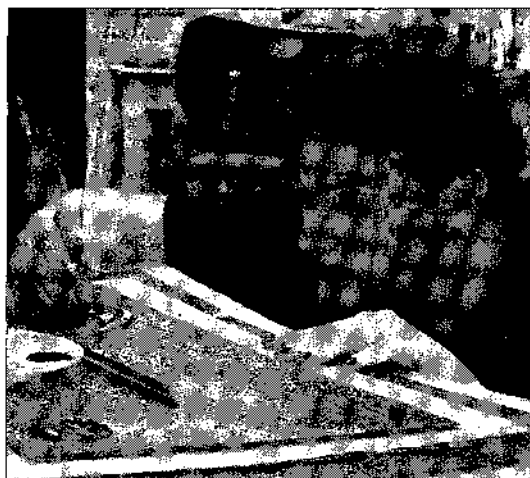
"It felt really good to see her back. I wanted her to come back because she didn't talk to a lot of people her age," said Tran. "I visited her three times while she was in the hospital."

Tran and Elnes met in band and became good friends.

"I'm going to be really sad when she leaves," said Tran. "I wish we could've hung out more before she left."

Currently since this article has been written Elnes has moved back to Arizona with her parents.

Elnes wanted to go back to graduate with her friends at her school in Arizona.



PHOTOS BY ALI HODGE/REGISTER

Senior Stephen Pelish, sophomore Anita Hodge and senior Roxanne Carter work on their individual pieces for their show, which was on Dec. 18. Students from all Omaha and Council Bluffs schools applied for the Kent Bellows Mentor program and a select few talented students were accepted.

Students express creativity outside high school classes

BY WILL LANGAN

Ten Central students were lucky to have the privilege of participating in a visionary new art program offered to young people in the Omaha area.

The Kent Bellows Studio art mentoring program offers affordable art education to people such as these ten students.

The program, named after local artist Kent Bellows, was started by his family when the artist passed away. Bellows was a believer in art education and its impact on young people.

Several local artists and people in the art business mentor students as they paint, sculpt, or assemble and market the art galleries.

The students then set up an art gallery full of their work. Students are all given positions, from creating the art to setting up the actual exhibit.

Central Junior Taylor Long is a participant of the program.

Long's role is to assemble the exhibits.

For his instruction, mentors educate Long and others on the specifics of exhibit production and on other general art principles.

Long enjoys the program as something to do after school, and he said he has a much greater appreciation for art.

The other nine central students involved participate in programs similar to Long's administrative program. Other programs focus more on art production.

The areas of art studied are traditional and untraditional, ranging from ceramics to graffiti.

Long said that along with the interesting instruction comes a fun and positive atmosphere.

"She is very nice," Long said of Rebecca Herskovitz, the program's director. Herskovitz, who coordinates the program, is excited for the future of this program, which includes a full time studio. Instead of holding the mentoring program where it is

at the Bemis Center, the program would take place at the Kent Bellows Studio and Center for visual Arts, which has been the overall concept of this program.

The studio would offer the same services at a larger scale, making it the place Bellows' family envisioned as helping to educate young people about art.

The program, which more information can be found at kentbellows.org, is looking for more student participants. The program is directed toward those with major artistic ambitions or even those with limited knowledge of art. Only an application is required for entry, and the program is very affordable, allowing applicants to pay according to their income.

This educational and potentially life-changing program is "recommended" according to Long and others.

The legacy of Kent Bellows' family will surely continue through this program and those participants who will carry their knowledge and love of art through their life.

Central's new powerlifting club doesn't disappoint

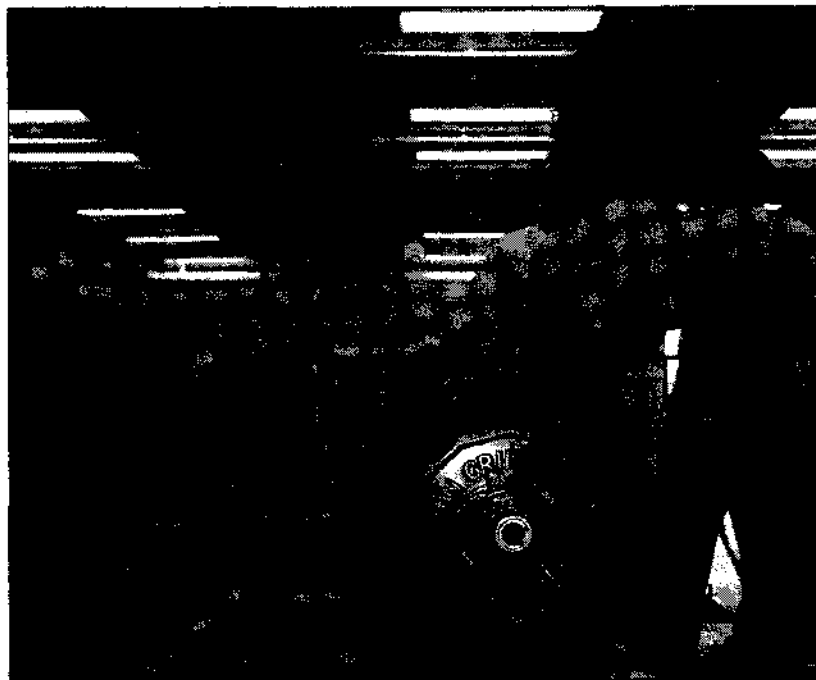


PHOTO BY MICHELLE RIEGER/REGISTER

Sophomore D'Nasha Jackson deadlifts in preparation for her next competition. Her max on deadlift is 250 pounds. Jackson is the only girl on Central's Powerlifting club.

BY DARIA SLATON

Clubs and extracurricular activities have always been an integral part of high school life. Central is known for its broad variety of extracurricular activities. Power-lifting club is a unique club that has been offered at Central for almost a decade.

Though it has been around for more than 10 years, the power lifting club is not financially sponsored by the school.

They have to raise their own money. They use fundraising and sponsorships to raise the needed money.

Coach Dennis Baker has brought it back by the popular demand from several students.

He said that it just makes sense to be the coach of powerlifting since he is already the weight training teacher.

"Mr. Baker helped us bring back the powerlifting club this year," said D'Nasha Jackson.

During practice they start off with a variety of different warm up techniques.

First off they run, do sit ups, push up, and a new kind of ab working technique. After that they are free to do all their lifts.

They start off slow then steadily increase as practice goes on.

Jackson is the only girl on the powerlifting team. She has been accused of participating

purely for social gain, but says she truly loves weightlifting.

"Trust me I would not work this hard just to hang out with guys," said Jackson.

Jackson's hard work paid off. In a recent lifting competition, she did very well individually, placing second in the girl's bracket.

However, she struggled at the competition.

She was lifting a heavier bar than she had practiced and placed her hands too closely together during the competition.

Overall, the team won second place.

The lifting club only attends three competitions, one in January, February and March. They travel all over the state, going as far as Fremont, North Platte, South Sioux City, and even South Dakota.

Jackson said Baker has been a very supportive coach. Because he is a weight training teacher, he has experience and information to offer the team, said Jackson.

He stresses to the members the importance of the mechanics of lifting. He wants the team to be able to lift at their potential without getting hurt.

He has been an enormous help and very supportive, said Jackson.

Even though powerlifting is a club, it is not a year-round sport. They begin training in late November and stop around March. They meet every Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday.

Newcomers qualify for state swimming competition

BY ALEX TRAN

Ian Mart and Sean Froeming are the only freshmen on Central's 200 yard freestyle relay teams, which consist of seniors Michael Walsh, Carl Miller, and Ryan Stofell.

Mart and Froeming have been best friends since middle school and although they occasionally swim as rivals, they have helped each other throughout their swim careers.

Mart began swimming as a 7th grader to condition for football but immediately showed promising potential. Mart said he learned how to swim from his middle school coach, picking up everything very fast.

"It was our eighth grade year when he really started to bloom," Froeming said of his teammate.

When Mart first came to Central, swim coaches Mike McGuire and Rhianna Feis put him on a relay swim team with fellow underclassmen. After the first several meets, Mart's time quickly improved and he was moved up with the seniors.

Mart said the coaches and seniors have been very supportive. The coaches have helped him improve his strokes, flip turn, and bilateral breathing.

Inspired by his teammates' hard work, he attends the optional morning practices.

Senior Michael Walsh, a fellow swimmer on Mart's relay, commended Mart for his work ethic. "He consistently comes to practice and puts in the effort, all with a very positive attitude," said Walsh. "He knows when to have fun and when to focus. He fits in really well."

When asked how he managed to get on the relay team, he answered "I worked really hard and practiced. I listened to all the things the coaches have told me... It has really paid off."

Froeming, inspired by his older brother, began swimming when he was nine years old.

"I've always been a natural born swimmer," he said.

Once he began swimming for Central, Froeming said he faced bigger and better competition.

"I didn't use to have to try, but now I've got to work harder," he said.

At first, like Ian, Froeming swam with other underclassmen. As an alternate, he was forced to swim with the senior relay team when one of the swimmers was sick. The experience taught him he could compete with the upperclassmen.

"It really kicked me into gear," he said. "I worked hard during practice... My times started decreasing dramatically."

Now, Froeming is permanently on the relay team.

When asked about his teammate's improvement, Froeming said that Mart struggled in 7th grade and barely knew how to swim. He continued that Mart has drastically improved and they now compete neck and neck. "Whenever either of us beats the other," he said, "it pushes the other to work harder to try and beat him back."



PHOTO BY MICHELLE RIEGER/REGISTER

Freshman Ian Mart helps freshman Sean Froeming out of the pool after practice. They have been swim teammates since 7th grade.

Swimmer chooses culinary over the water

BY ALEX TRAN

After 97 days at the pool, 245 hours of practice, and 12 meets, senior Joel Kielion is still not able to attend either Metro or State swim competitions.

"I'm pretty disappointed," he said, "mainly because I have to pick between two things that I'm really involved in."

Instead of going to the meets, Kielion is attending two culinary competitions, ProStart and Skills USA.

Skills USA, which occurs the weekend of State, is an individual culinary competition that concentrates on knife cuts and plate design.

ProStart, which overlaps Metro, is a team culinary competition offered through the Career Center.

One third of the competition is cooking based. A team of chefs has one hour to cook a three-course meal, which consists of the appetizer, entrée, and dessert.

The second third is a quiz bowl, and the last third is management case study, which asks problem-solving questions about managing and overseeing a cooking staff.

Kielion's team consists of five members, three from Central and two from North.

If Kielion's team wins Metro, it gets to attend nationals in San Diego later this year. In addition, the teammates will receive scholarship money from ProStart sponsors.

If Kielion manages to do well enough to go to nationals, he will be able to go to virtually any culinary

college in the nation.

When Kielion first found out about the schedule conflict, he was torn between his two choices.

"I was confused on what to do," he said.

Kielion knew swimming was simply a hobby. He would probably not pursue swimming after high school but wanted to be involved in culinary for his entire life.

"It really bugged me that I couldn't help or swim with my teammates," he said after making his decision.

Although his teammates were a little upset, they fully support him in his endeavor.

Kielion dedicates much of his extra time to cooking.

He secured a job at Mark's, an upper class restaurant in the Dundee area. His title is the pantry chef, or *garde manger*.

He began working for a culinary scholarship that required 600 hours in the kitchen. As of now, he has accumulated about 1000.

Originally interested in computer engineering, Kielion can remember the moment he knew he wanted to be a chef.

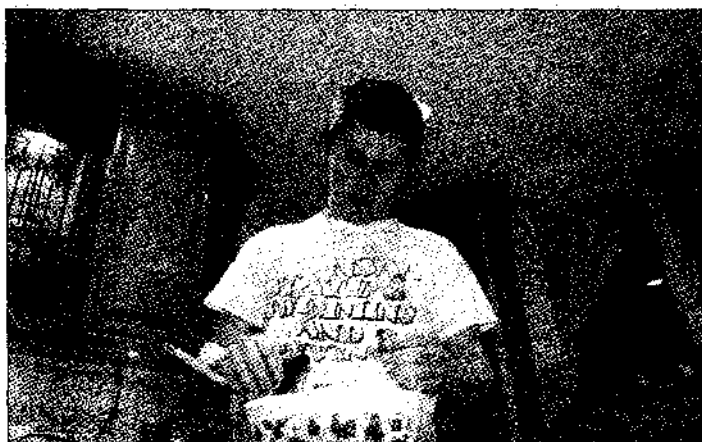
"The summer after freshman year, it just hit me one day," Kielion said.

He cooked the whole summer and found his passion.

"I enjoyed it. The more I cooked, the more I got interested," he said.

Now, Kielion is fully integrated into the culinary world.

"Culinary is now my life."



PHOTOS BY ALEX TRAN/REGISTER

Cooking has become a passion for senior Joel Kielion. His favorite dish to prepare is an almond encrusted pork roulade with a *beurre blanc* sauce.

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IN THE HEADLINES

A COLUMN BY MICHELLE RIEGER
NEWS COLUMNIST

Barack Obama made a mistake.

Actually, I don't know if I'd even call it a mistake. He had time to think about this. He signed this piece of paper knowing what it would enable.

Barack Obama made a senseless, careless decision.

On Friday, Jan. 23, 2009 our president of the United States signed an executive order that will allow U.S. federal money to go overseas to groups that perform abortions and offer abortion information. This is after former president George W. Bush restored the ban on giving federal money to those international groups.

I know that he wasn't the first to do this. After Bill Clinton took office, he ended the ban after Ronald Reagan voted on the law in 1984.

I was under the impression that Obama's presidency was supposed to bring change, good change.

Not change that would kill many more innocent around the world.

I had this new law put in perspective for me by someone.

He said that by Obama signing this piece of paper, not only is Obama saying that these babies and their lives are worthless, but they're less than worthless. He [Obama] is willing to use taxpayers' money to get rid of them.

Obama did this one day after the 36th anniversary of Roe v. Wade, a law that made it legal for a mother to abort her baby up until the point to which it is viable. When a baby is viable it is able to live after birth, not needing the nutrients and sources of care from inside the mother's body.

I understand Obama has good intentions behind his decision. The intent is to provide better healthcare for pregnant women around the world.

But instead of killing this baby, why not take more action and preventative measures to insure that these women won't be at risk for death when delivering or during the pregnancy? Why not make sure there are resources to take care of the babies that are unwanted? Why not even provide information about adoption instead of abortion?

I work with toddlers on a weekly basis. I look forward to seeing them and hearing their cute little giggles every week. If it wasn't for them, I wouldn't want to wake up at 5:30 a.m. on a Sunday morning. Just spending the one and a half hours I do with them makes my whole week. Their smiles and unconditional love are contagious. They keep me smiling throughout the whole week.

And to think that these kids could possibly not be here because of poor planning and misuse of taxpayer money. I just couldn't tell you how different my life, as well as others', would be.

So next time let's actually think about taking a life, a human being from this world.

National Honor Society rules broken, consequences fall short

MICHELLE RIEGER

Rules are in place to govern behavior within a group or activity.

If a rule is broken, then there is a punishment or consequence. But if the punishment isn't being applied, the rule means absolutely nothing.

There's no point of the rule even existing.

And rules can be manipulated under different circumstances. What is the point of a rule?

National Honor Society (NHS) runs under tough rules and regulations. NHS is a nationwide organization of secondary students who display outstanding scholarship, leadership, and character.

Unlike other clubs at school, a student must be invited to NHS. Eligibility for membership is based on three criteria of service, leadership, character and a 3.5 GPA, as well as a clean school record. That means no referrals.

"We tend to have very strict chapter of NHS," said Jennifer Stastny, chapter adviser.

There are minimum requirements for a member to have that are stated in the NHS Constitution.

MEMBERSHIP

In order to keep membership, students must continue to display qualities of leadership, scholarship, service and character, as well as maintain a good, clean record. This is all according to the NHS Constitution. Central office of the chapter requires members to maintain a minimum GPA of 3.5.

The objective of NHS is to develop character in the students. David Cordts, Association of National Honor Societies, is not able to comment on this specific situation, but he was able to elaborate on some of the goals of NHS.

"We do not specify a definition of character, but all members must use, simply because we want chapters to define character in such a way that reflects the values of the school and community," he said.

Cordts also has a linkable monitor of the constitutional provisions of NHS.

Cordts said that NHS recommends that schools look at, charactercounts.org, a website that provides information of NHS. They want the students to build upon honesty, citizenship, taking responsibility, fairness and respect.

THE INCIDENT

In October 2008, several NHS members were caught with alcohol at a house party. After being caught, they were charged with Minor in Possession (MIP). Some party-goers are not NHS members were charged as well. Members who were charged were not dismissed from NHS.

For the sake of student confidentiality, the student names who were charged could not be published.

The discipline and dismissal procedures are in the hands of the school board, principal, faculty council and principal of the particular school.

"We rely upon the integrity of the local education to render the appropriate decisions in all disciplinary cases on NHS," said Cordts.

Article X, Section 2 of the Constitution stated that, "Members who fall below the standards that are the basis for selection shall be promptly warned in writing by the chapter adviser and given a reasonable amount of time to correct the deficiency, except that in the case of suspension of school or the law, a member does not have to be warned." Cordts said this language had been added verbatim from the original, when it was written in 1921.

CONSEQUENCES

Stastny was aware of the incident and knows the students did receive punishment. However, she is not able to comment on what exactly their consequences were. She said she is also bound by an ethical obligation to my students to not give information to the media. Stastny said she would not say if it was an incident that occurred on school grounds or if it was an off-campus incident. She also said she can't apply



CARTOON BY ANITA HODGE/REGISTER

Model students avoid consequences after charged with MIP

■ Continued from page 10

the rules of NHS when the incident occurs outside of school.

"I don't have access to every students' life outside of school," she said.

Principal Gregory Emmel also could not comment regarding the names of the students charged with the MIPs, as well as the nature of their consequence.

Confirmed by Diversion Services Inc., these students were enrolled in diversion classes. These classes virtually erase a minor's record of criminal history.

Stastny said not much can be done about this incident since it did occur off of school grounds.

"It's something we can't do anything about," said Stastny.

Her role as a sponsor of NHS is to conduct regular meetings, keep track of volunteer hours of members and regulate behavior.

"It's an imperfect science," said Stastny, referring to keeping track of members' records and behavior.

Emmel said only under certain circumstances does the school give consequences to students for events that happened outside of school and school related activities.

"That is a huge leap to be making. We have to be very fair and judicious about how we deal with these types of situations," said Emmel.

He said it would be unfair to only punish students who were caught, because there might be other students who were doing the same thing but did not receive consequences.

Another reason NHS members were not dismissed is because the safety of other students was not in jeopardy.

"There isn't an immediate or implied threat to anyone in the school," said Emmel.

THE REACTION

Some students thought the situation was something the school should not have been involved with while others thought it to be hypocritical.

Senior Jamie Stewart, although not an NHS member, did not agree with the administration's decision not to dismiss NHS members.

"They should have been kicked off in a heartbeat! Being an NHS member, you're representing the school anywhere and everywhere you go," said senior Jamie Stewart. The rules shouldn't be bent no matter what their GPA is. That's ridiculous."

Junior Eric Jizba is planning on joining NHS next year and believes that since it happened on the members' own time, it shouldn't influence their membership status.

"If it had nothing to do with school then it shouldn't affect NHS," said Jizba.

However, Stewart disagrees with the "off campus, no punishment rule."

"They (rules) should be universal. I don't care if it happened in China. The law is applicable 24/7 so the rules of being an NHS member should be, too. No matter the degree of the offense they are still guilty and should be punished," said Stewart.

Cordts would agree with her.

"Character is not defined only by what one does from the first to

last bell of the school day," he said.

The stipulations of NHS may not be monitored outside of school activities, but Cordts said they should apply at all times.

"We do define character as being applicable on a 24/7 basis," said Cordts.

This was not the first time Stastny and Ben Mihovk, NHS sponsor, became aware of behavior similar to this incident.

"He (Mihovk) and I are very frustrated by the fact that we hear occasionally of students doing things they aren't supposed to," said Stastny.

Instead of punishing students for behavior, Stastny would rather be there to steer her students in the right direction.

"We do have to remember always that your high school years are a learning process. You have to have adults to guide you," she said. "I have to teach them how to do better."

"If it had nothing to do with school then it shouldn't affect NHS."

Eric Jizba

Key Club, after many years, continues to give back

BY CHELSEA WILLIAMS

Most students can say that some clubs have been around when their parents were Eagles, but few can say they're apart of a club that's been around for over 80 years.

In 1925 the Downtown Kiwanis decided to organize a service for high school students that focused on volunteering for and around their community, and by the month of May the Key Club was formed.

"The Key Club is an organization found internationally that focuses on volunteering," said Michelle Pleiss. "It is a co-educational service organized for high school students that is sponsored by the Kiwanis club."



PLEISS

Supporters of the Key Club program also include other club heads such as Marnie Best, Polly Briles, and Jodi Anselmo.

Dealing with the head club members and the Downtown Kiwanis these people make sure the club is built strong and is providing for their community.

Although the club is centered on students volunteering, the Kiwanis made sure the students could experience a diverse side of the club that involved in many different activities that didn't just involve community work.

They considered this important to promote diversity not only in school, but in the activities they involve themselves in outside of school.

"During the summer Key Clubs all over the area of Nebraska got together and visited a camp Key Liter," says president Nadia Al-Absy. "It was tons of fun. It was good to do something outside of the box other than just following the normal routine the club is used to."

The majority of students would agree that joining a club is a process that helps build partnership while learning the joy of bonding.

The Key Club shows that the student body can learn these two things by doing the activities that are formed.

"Some of the projects that we may work are things such as The Hope Center, The Open Door Mission while also just helping out the school by picking up trash around its surroundings" said Al-Absy.

As of now the Key Club is doing well and being very helpful with the community if you would like to catch them you can find them in room 117 Wednesdays once or twice a month depending on the volunteer opportunity.

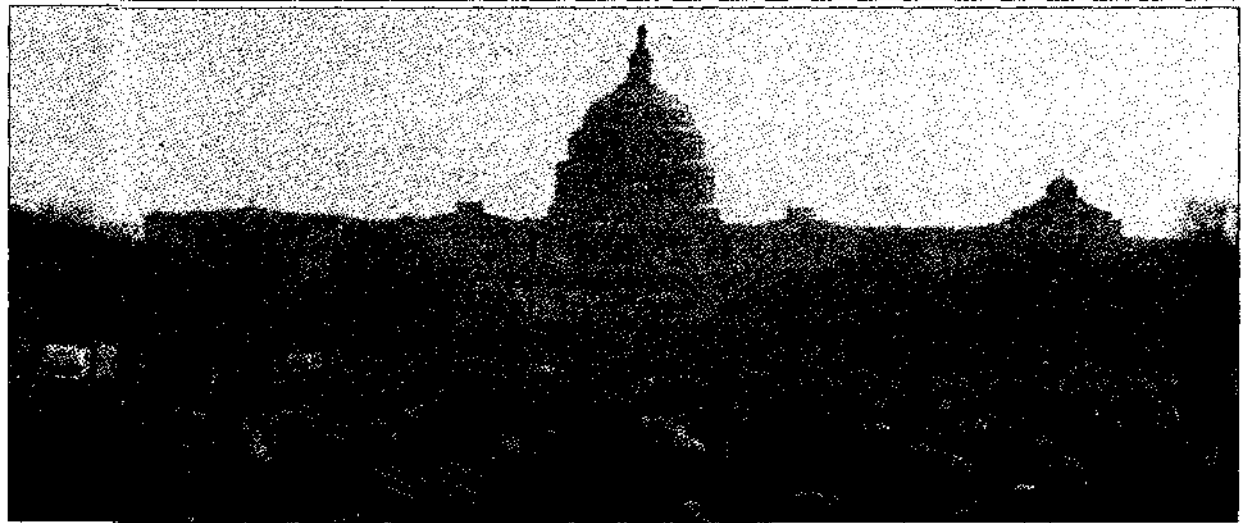


PHOTO COURTESY OF MAXINE DRULINER

Maxine Druliner gets a view of the capitol along with the other two million people that attended the inauguration.

Senior attends historic inauguration

BY MARK VONDRASEK

Probably the most exciting inauguration in the History of the United States took place on Tuesday January 20th, 2009. Barack Obama was sworn in as the 44th President of The United States. Almost two million people attended the event; however many were turned away because of overcrowding. One person who was not turned away was senior Maxine Druliner.

Druliner was able to go because of the organization People to People Student Ambassadors Program, which President Dwight D. Eisenhower established in 1952. Two other students accompanied Druliner from Nebraska who are also involved in the PPSAP. PPSAP is a very exclusive organization, and to qualify for admission Druliner had to have two recommendations from teachers, three additional from other teachers, and she had to have a personal interview with a member.

Druliner left Omaha with PPSAP for Washington D.C. on Jan. 17. Hotels in Washington D.C. were packed over capacity for this historic event.

Maxine said that 400 people were stuffed into one hotel on average. On the days before the inauguration took place, Druliner and others who were traveling with her toured several tourist attractions in the D.C. area.

While Druliner was visiting the National Portrait Gallery she ran into popular Hip-hop artist Will.I.Am. Druliner commented that although she admires the artist, she was too embarrassed to ask him for a picture. She also got to meet Ken Walsh, host of the popular T.V. show America's Most Wanted, and also Mary Eisenhower, granddaughter of former President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

On the day of the inauguration, Druliner woke up well before three

in the morning. Ten thousand tour buses were present in Washington D.C. on inauguration Day, Maxine was on a bus that would take her to the Capitol Building by 4 a.m. The bus she rode on was at the Capitol Building by 5 a.m. in the morning. The temperature was a chilling 13 degrees.

After getting off of the bus, Druliner prepared for the cold wait until eleven o'clock. "People kept pushing and pushing, and we just got closer and closer to the Capitol Building," she commented. Druliner ended up being directly in front of the first huge T.V. screen that had been set up all down the mall.

"The biggest thing for me (was) seeing every kind of person you could imagine standing there" Druliner said about the large crowds that occupied the mall.

"It was amazing to me that one man (Obama) could find something to relate to in every single person that was there," said Druliner.

When the actual ceremony started, Druliner remembers that it was dead silent. No one talked during the ceremony. Several people got up to participate in the inauguration of President Obama, including the Queen of Soul, Aretha Franklin, who sang the song "My Country 'Tis of Thee".

The night of the inauguration, Druliner and the group of students she was with attended an inauguration ball, named the 'Students and Teachers Ball'. Druliner commented that she thought that President Obama or Vice-President Biden might show up, but it didn't happen. Neither President Obama nor Vice-President Biden were present at the ball.

"I think they just wanted us to feel like we were a part of it," Druliner commented.

She was.

Central participates in Poetry Slam

BY JUDE MCCOY

Passing through endless doorways, walking laps around Central's second floor, Mr. Larson holds a bowl of rice and beans and speaks of poetry. Outloud! His shouts in the empty halls seem to be unneeded and unheeded raucous. Who is listening to him?

A bloody spit, then a pair of limbs push themselves out of Larson's gaping mouth of noise, followed by a human abdomen. Indistinguishable fluids from the passage drip on the hallway floor, the entirety of a boy now walks beside Larson.

More students emerge, while hummingbirds, dragons and other creatures that cannot be kept in cages flow out of their mouths. Eyeballs of Walt Whitman, Allen Ginsberg, Arthur Rimbaud and others hit ceilings and walls, bouncing like bouncy balls. While their skeletons dance amongst the crowd, like any being who has left something behind that will live longer than themselves.

Who are these kids? Are they on honor roll? Varsity athletes? Ghosts spit on with milk and now they own space.

Cacophony settles and respectful silence erupts as they usher into a classroom.

The poetry slam begins and one at a time verses are recited that the students did not write, instead being chosen by the individual out of 600 poems written by established authors.

Voice, articulation, shadows of tone, and evidence of understanding are being judged in the performances. The winner advances to regionals, and could potentially win \$20,000 in scholarships.

This will be the third year Central has participated in the national competition, Poetry Outloud. Though it is a good opportunity to boost an ego, or have something to write on a transcript, Larson says the main goal of the competition is that it will help young people find a genuine appreciation for written word.

For more information go to www.poetryoutloud.org



PHOTO COURTESY OF PARAMOUNT PICTURES

Benjamin Button emotional and creative

BY CHRISTIAN CHAPMAN

All month I've been waiting for this movie, I've been thinking about it for about an hour a day.

The Curious Case of Benjamin Button was the most optimal movie that has been on the circuit since "Legend."

The theater wasn't nearly as crowded as I expected, but why couldn't it be for such a dramatic mystery?

My anxiety calmed as the lights dimmed over my head and the movie began to flicker across the screen.

The setting was New Orleans in 1919, and World War II is over. People are celebrating in the streets.

This was a happy time in America. All except for the Button family who suffer a loss as well as a shocking birth.

Not in his right mind, and upset of the loss of his wife, Thomas Button, played by Jason Fletmyng, left his deformed child on the step of Queenie's, played by Taraji P. Henson, retirement home.

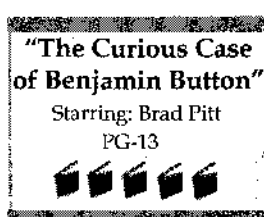
Then again, it wasn't clear if it was a retirement home or something like a nursing home for older people. As for Benjamin Button played by Brad Pitt, he received a lifetime of fortunate and unfortunate events being exposed to the wisdoms and lives of those who have seen and done it all.

I'm sure being born old can be a burden, but has it its advantages as well. For Benjamin Button, it was more of a blessing for himself and others that he came into contact with.

This movie was a prime example of taking whatever life throws your way, and learning to use it to your advantage.

If people could go live life in reverse then maybe they could learn to appreciate life more.

Throughout the movie, Benjamin had many opportunities to experience something that a child should not experience at such a young age.



For example he had the opportunity to grow up in a nursing home. He was able to attain the knowledge of the older people around and have a head start before his time.

The movie was filled with tears of joy and tears of sorrow. Brad Pitt had a unique way of portraying this emotional part. He had the perfect demeanor for the part of Benjamin, and I must admit that he was quite easy on the eye; especially when his character started to age down into his twenties.

This movie was a classic tale written by F. Scott Fitzgerald in 1921 as a short story, but the movie was three hours long.

At times it became very slow moving, but I focused because I didn't want to miss anything vital. If you took your eyes off you might have missed something that would have made a difference. Despite the effort put into watching it, it still was very thought provoking.

As I watched the end credits of the movie I began to think, 'what if I could turn back the hands of time and live life in reverse?'

Hmm... A thought to ponder.

Kanye West drops rapping to step outside the box

BY WILL LANGAN

The new and well publicized album, "808's and Heartbreak" is a change for Kanye West.

The rapper (now a singer) released his album under much anticipation after 2007's hit "The Graduation."

West did something unexpected with his new album.

Instead of hit rap songs, West sings on every track. In place of his usual upbeat themes, West describes heartbreak in his songs.

The difference between "The Graduation" and "808's" is incredible.

At first, West's new style appeared to be a change of genres to attract a wider audience. His new album is a more popular and trendy style of music.

At first listen, it didn't sound like Kanye West at all.

On top of singing, West uses auto-tune, a robotic sounding voice changer made popular by the singer T-Pain.

The unique sound of the auto-tune became less unique in the past couple of years after robotic voices began to appear on what seemed like every recent hip-hop or R&B single.

After more listening, though, the music is uniquely Kanye West.

Recent events in West's life, including a breakup and his mother's death, led to the creation of this album. His recent single, "Heartless" from the album describes a relationship gone wrong. He describes heartbreak and sadness in a very personal way, which explains his departure from rapping.

For fans of R&B, the album is great. But for followers of West, the album may come as a disappointment.

On some of the songs, West's heartbreak comes off as whininess.

Also, the album production seemed rushed. The music lacks a certain quality, and it seems that not much time or effort were put into the album.

A combination of this whininess and his overuse of electronic voice changing takes away from the sincerity of "808's and Heartbreak."

Hip-Hop artist much more common than he'd like to think

BY MARK VONDRASEK

I don't usually buy CD's in stores, but I saw an advertisement on television about Common's new album that was just put out in stores. I'd heard of him before. He's been making hip-hop for over a decade. So I went out on a limb and bought it. When I got in my car, I put in my new CD and immediately was overcome by a woman speaking French to me. It was an interesting opening, and then she said "universal mind control". The beat kicked in and Common went to work. The beat was great and "Universal Mind Control" started off with a great song.



The beats in the next songs (there are only ten of them) were interesting, to say the least. One song called 'Change' is obviously a reference to Barack Obama winning the presidential election in November, though he

never actually says Obama's name. The rest of his rhymes are almost hard to understand. He makes vague references and rhymes that don't really make any sense. One such rhyme would be that he "hustles for mathematics" and other confusing and meaningless

phrases that have nothing to do with anything. He rambles on and on in the other songs to the point where I wonder why I got the CD in the first place.

Several other artists are featured in Common's newest album. Some of these are Kanye West, producer turned singer who has within the last two years made a name for himself in the music industry. Other artists included in the featured list of "Universal Mind Control" are Pharrell Williams, The Neptunes and Mr. DJ.

In the end, "Universal Mind Control" is like a bad energy drink. It had a great start, but a horrible crash in the end. Common really set the bar low this time around. When talking about this CD, Common's reputation did not proceed him. He is a very talented artist, but "Universal Mind Control" feels like he rushed it. He definitely earned his one and a half (out of five!) CD's.



PHOTO COURTESY OF COMMON-MUSIC.COM

The Seduction of Pop Literature

Pop Literature plays a large roll in the creation of captivating films that evolve into the world-reknown cult entertainment.

Vampire saga doesn't appeal to all audiences

BY MICHELLE RIEGER

You've heard of it by now.

"Twilight." A story of forbidden love between a vampire and a human. The question is, why would anyone want to read anything like that in the first place? And what causes fans of all ages to become hooked to the vampire saga?

"It's my dream," said sophomore Noelle Keely, "she basically wrote my dream out in a four part saga."

Keely has read all of the books in the "Twilight" series: "Twilight," "New Moon," "Eclipse" and "Breaking Dawn." On Nov. 21, Keely was one of many dedicated fans to attend the midnight showing of "Twilight" the movie. She thought the movie contained many fillers and would have liked to see more originality.

Many girls like Keely, dream of having the ideal, perfect boyfriend such as one in "Twilight" who is portrayed by vampire Edward Cullen. He holds the door open for you. He's got the looks. And he's mysterious. Everything a girl wants, right?

Senior Alex Greene doesn't agree.

"It's weird how people are obsessed with something that isn't real," said Greene.

She doesn't understand the craze about the unusual love story among her friends.

"It doesn't even make sense...a vampire with a human," said Greene.

She believes everyone is just jumping on the 'bandwagon' of the "Twilight" obsession.

Published in 2005, "Twilight" was the first book of a four book series. The second installment, "New Moon" was published in fall of 2006. Almost a year later, "Eclipse" was published. The last installment came out in the summer of 2008. "Twilight" was then made into a film, which plagued the entire world with "Twilight" mania before it even hit theaters.

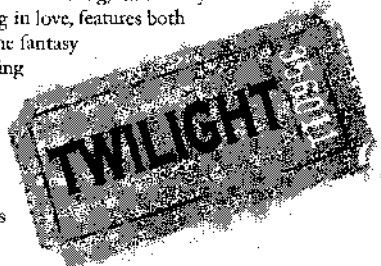
What sparked this craze? What draws people to this series?

"Because the books are amazing! Anytime there's an amazing book, you want to see if the movie is just as amazing," said Keely. The story about a vampire and human falling in love, features both realism and fantasy. Keely is drawn to the fantasy aspect of the story. She believes in keeping dreams alive. It's more painful to face reality than fantasy, Keely said.

The "Twilight" series has stolen the hearts of many young girls as well as moms. It will continue to do just that, as the sequel, "New Moon" hits theaters in November of 2009.

After "Twilight" pulled in more than \$69 million in the box office decided that the production of New Moon

opening weekend, it was decided that the production of New Moon would begin in early 2009.



Latest installment of '007' just as action-packed as before

BY MARK VONDRASEK

Movies are an important part of American history. Different movies have stood the test of time and are called 'classics'. But when a movie becomes one in a series, sometimes the movies can create such followings that they become a frenzy. Good examples of these 'cult classics' are "Star Wars" and "Harry Potter." But the very first cult classic appeared in theaters in the early fifties.

Ian Fleming began writing James Bond novels in 1951. In 1964, "Dr. No," the very first "James Bond" movie came out in theaters. It was an immediate hit not only in the United Kingdom, but also in America and around the world. "James Bond" stirred deep emotions in all different kinds of

people.

Men were attracted to Bond's open sexuality and the independent and self-aware female characters in the movies attracted women. Some went to the movies for the gadgets, and some for all the action. Bond began reeling in its fans by the time the second movie came out.

The newest James Bond installment, "Quantum of Solace," came out in November of 2008. Many Central students went to see the latest 007 flick when it opened on the seventeenth. One in particular student was Central Senior Kate Nelson. Nelson was not a huge fan of James Bond; in fact, Nelson admits she didn't even know there were James Bond novels.

"Quantum of Solace" is the second to last Bond film that is based on a James Bond

novel by Ian Fleming.



When asked if she liked the newest Bond film, Nelson responded that "Daniel Craig is a great actor and the action scenes were amazing". Nelson also commented on the huge following the Bond films have had and that she wanted to know what it was all about.

This time around, "Quantum of Solace" focused more on the action and storyline than building characters. This time the Bond Girls were less sophisticated and more raw and action-y.

The movie didn't go into deep detail about the bad guy either. The focus was more action-oriented, unlike Quantum's predecessor, "Casino Royale."

The movie also left out important "Bond" classics like all of the gadgets that James Bond uses on his missions. These things led to lower ratings from most critics, claiming that there was too much action and not enough character development.

The 'cult' of James Bond also responded somewhat negatively, agreeing with the professional critics on the major issues of little character development and less gadgets than other films. But James Bond fans who go for the action seemed to be perfectly satisfied.

The best contrast between the 'old' Bond and the 'new' Bond would be between "Quantum of Solace" and "Die Another Day," starring Pierce Brosnan as James Bond. In

"Die Another Day," Bond is given a car by his boss which can turn invisible. It really does. This almost unbelievable Bond is contrasted in "Quantum of Solace." Bond drives a Ford, no less, separating him from his predecessors, and he has no gadgets to use. Bond must completely rely on his defense training to survive. The British Secret Service however, has an amazing touch screen featured throughout the movie that Bond works with.

All in all, "Quantum of Solace" is a great addition to the James Bond Franchise, everyone involved in the film performed admirably and the movie greatly exemplifies Craig's career as the world's best spy.

Harry Potter still prevails, never fails large fanbase

BY ALI HODGE

And speaking of series that have attracted an ungodly large fanbase, "Harry Potter" is the wizard that tops them all. While "Twilight" has swooned pre-teens all over North America and "Bond" has rocked older generations and new generations who find it fashionable to be old, "Harry Potter" has collected attention from people of all corners of the world with a collection of fans ranging in all ages. Literally from pre-teens to Potter-crazed seniors.

The movies are based on the cult series by British author, J.K. Rowling. After the huge success of the books - I won't even get into that - the movies seemed to be almost greater hits, accompanying the already large fan base, and those who are not fans of reading.

And if you think die-hard fans are bad, you would think Potter fans had some sort of spell on them. Many media outlets have called them "the craziest of all."

The sixth movie, "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince," was slated to come out this November, but when it was delayed eight months...well, you can only imagine what happens when Potter fans are angered.

(*Avada Kedavra!*)

"Time" Magazine reported that fans were planning to march to the Warner Brother's offices to protest, screaming that they will not be pacified. And thousands of people have reported joining the Facebook group: "The Delay of Harry Potter Movie has Ruined My Life."

"Harry Potter" is a book that relates to the readers, said Anita

Hodge. Even though it is unrealistic, it has qualities and elements that readers see in themselves, such as love, friendship, hard times, and overcoming adversity.

"I'm reading it though for the second time before the movie comes out," she said. "I realize now that J.K. Rowling isn't necessarily a good writer, but the story, now that I'm reading it again and understanding it more, is pretty incredible. It's so clever and complex."

Fans have continued to pour in long after the books met their end with the final installment, "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows." The movies have had a great deal of success and only continue to get better.

With fans like that, you can only hope they would get better for fear of satisfying this cult complex.



"Sisterhood" caters to hormonal, puberty stricken adolescents

BY CHELSEA WILLIAMS

Not only have you seen it in theaters, but then you've read the books.

"Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants" is a novel based on a close friendship between four girls, a pair of jeans that fits all sizes, and a message telling about what great experiences they've received while wearing the pants.

When the title of the book or movie enters someone's thoughts, their first conclusion would be "this movie is just a chick flick." Others, however, disagree with that theory and view not just the novels, but also the books from a completely different perspective.

"I enjoy all of the characters, especially Gusta," said sophomore Maren Elnes. "That's how I always pictured him. Carmen was also my favorite. I liked how she was always full of energy,

and, even though, she had her own personal problems, she was always there for her friends."

Elnes has read the "Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants" series: The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants, The Second Summer of the Sisterhood, Girl in Pants (The Third Summer of the Sisterhood) and Forever in Blue (The Fourth Summer of the Sisterhood). "You name it, she's read it."

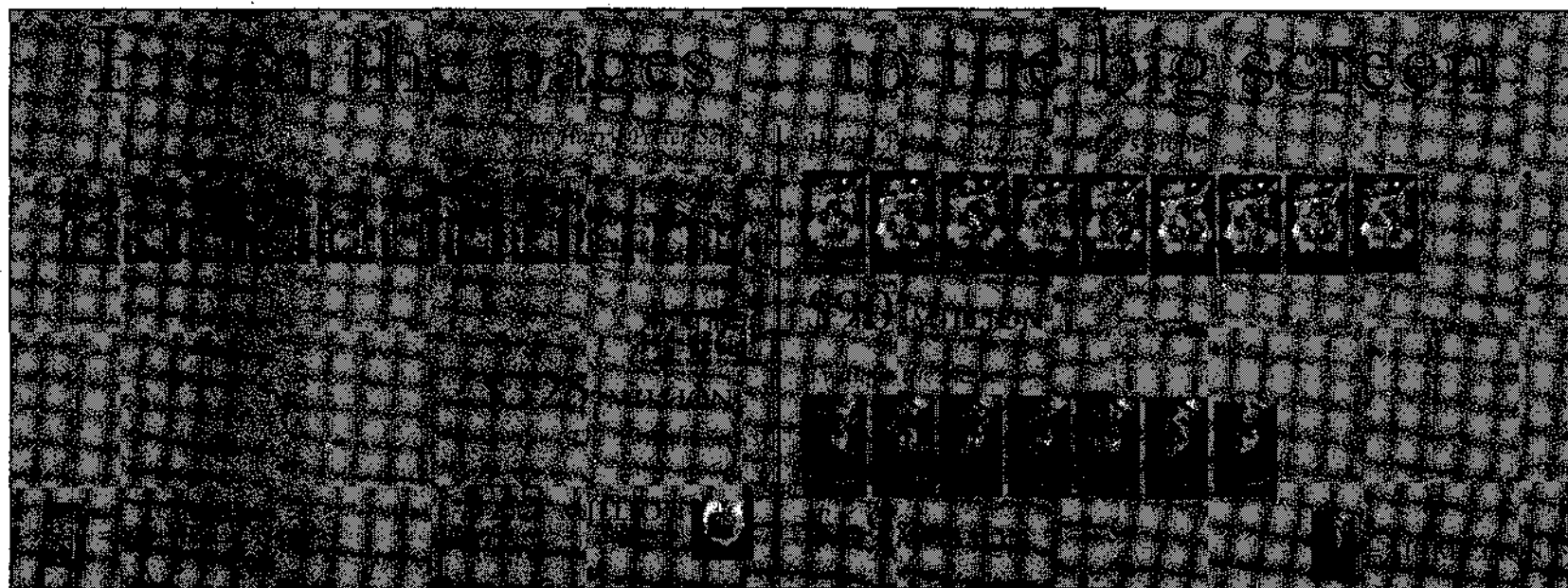
"The stories the books share and what the movies reveal, I can relate those things to my life. My friends and I are extremely close just like the characters," says Elnes. She enjoyed the novels. She thought they were fun, filling and entertaining.

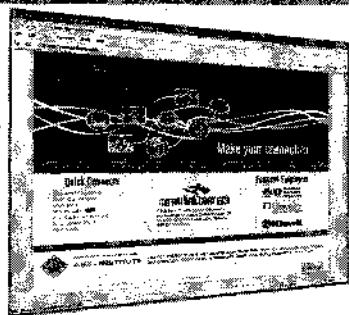
Although Elnes enjoyed the series and films she disagreed with some of the characteristics plotted in the novels and movies. "I disliked how in 'Forever in Blue' they ended up

losing the pants at the end," said Elnes. "I also didn't like the fact how they combined all the rest of the books into one in the second movie of the Traveling Pants."

Despite the negative topics pointed out by Elnes, others were delighted with the smiles, laughs, and cries brought to them by the films and series. "Even though the movie has a few tweaks I didn't like, I believe people like them both (movies and novels) because if a female is really pink and girly, they could relate to the film. Not only that, but the friendships that the characters have developed."

With that said, Elnes encourages others who have not seen the movies or read the novels to hit up the first movie rental store or library/book store.





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careerlink.com

Aim Institute in partnership
with *The Register*. All
information courtesy of
careerlink.com.

Internships & Volunteer Opportunities

Market Research Interviewer -The MSR Group

Conduct and read customer satisfaction surveys and questionnaires over the phone while typing responses into the computer accurately.

8-34 hours/week

\$9-15/hour

For more information contact:

Alyssa Vaughn

402-392-0755 x136

Part-Time Bilingual Market Research Interviewer -The MSR Group

Conduct customer satisfaction surveys over the phone in English and Spanish. Read scripted questionnaires over the phone and translate scripts from English to Spanish. Must type at least 20 words/minute and be able to persuade reluctant respondents to participate.

12-34 hours/week

\$9-15/hour

Two positions available.

For more information contact:

Alyssa Vaughn

402-392-0755 x136

Unpaid Internship -Agency 89

Seeking energetic and organized individual looking to gain knowledge and experience in fashion, modeling, acting and marketing. Duties may include assisting with planning and execution of special events, direct mail, advertising or marketing and simple office tasks. Must be proficient in Microsoft word, publisher and excel.

Hours determined upon hire.

For more information contact:

Mrs. Michelle Lewis

402-758-8989

Visiting Volunteer

-Little Brothers, Friends of the Elderly

Needed to visit lonely and isolated elders in the Omaha area, must commit to visiting an elder they are matched with twice per month.

Voluntary.

For more information contact:

Patty Sargent

402-932-1995

Order Packer

-Offwire Accessories

Distribute cellular phone accessories by packaging and shipping the product in a fast paced, fun atmosphere for the wholesale business.

20+ hours/week

Apply in person.

For more information contact:

13575 Lynam Drive

Omaha, NE 68138

8800 O Street

Lincoln, NE

Southeast Community College

Omaha Health Works Job

Fair

Wednesday

March 11, 2009

1:00pm - 6:00pm

Holiday Inn Central

3321 So. 72nd Street

Omaha, NE

Employment Guide

13th Annual Bilingual Career

Fair

Tuesday

March 17, 2009

12:00pm - 6:00pm

Metro Community College/South Omaha

Campus

27th & Q-Street

Omaha, NE

Radio Lobo

Career Fairs

Career Preparation Seminar

Thursday

February 12, 2009

1:00pm - 3:00pm

Latino Center of the Midlands

4821 So. 24th Street

Omaha, NE

Latino Center of the Midlands

Truck Driving Job Fair

Wednesday

February 18, 2009

11:30am - 1:30pm

Southeast Community College

8800 O Street

Lincoln, NE

Southeast Community College

Health Care Fair

Monday

February 23, 2009

1:00pm - 3:00pm

Southeast Community College

Spring Job Fair

Wednesday

March 18, 2009

10:30am - 2:00pm

Cox Activities Center Gymnasium

801 E. Benjamin Avenue

Norfolk, NE

Northeast Community College

Career Services

**Quick Tips on:
Creating a list of
reliable contacts**

*Information provided
by AIM Institute*

You know the old saying, "It's not
WHAT you know, it's WHO you

know." Well, a majority of jobs are
actually found through personal and
professional contacts. Professional
contacts are people you may or
may not already know. They can be
found by:

Looking in professional
directories

Searching alumni reports

Scouring job listings
magazines

Calling former classmates

Attending job fairs

Remember, a network is developed
throughout your life. You know
some of the people who can help you.

Some suggestions:

Friends

Neighbors and community
contacts

Social acquaintances or
professional associates

Teachers

Former or current employers

Peers from your organization
or former workplace

Others, friends, family and
neighbors

Classmates or professors
from college or educational
institutions you have
attended

Either way, making friends with
professionals in your industry and
having people who know your
strengths will get you ahead in the
job search game and in life.



Word of the day...

FUNDage

Fun • dage (fun-dij) Slang. Money from a variety of financial aid and scholarship options at Peru State. Best delivered by our new scholarship program, which rewards involvement and leadership (things that lead to more fundage in the future). Also references the most affordable tuition in the region both on campus and online.

Peru State College

find out more at

www.peru.edu/theword

Nebraska's First College • Established in 1867 • Peru, Nebraska • Member Institution of the Nebraska State College System

Question of the Issue

Your Views on the World Around You

This year the United States has seen an economic slowdown that has not only affected our own economy, but also the economies of other major countries as well as our own lives.

How do you think the economic slowdown will affect you and your family personally?

Dear Editor,

Since I am on welfare, I feel that my family will be affected in a negative way. I'm fearful for my future and worried about my ability to pay for college.

Melaina Katrinak
Grade 12

Dear Editor,

My work is already closed now and in two days my dad will be losing his job because the company is "minimizing" and closing it's facility in Omaha.

Greg Meyer
Grade 12

Dear Editor,

The economic slowdown will affect my family by influencing my family and I to be smarter about the investments we make on luxuries. As the cost on everything goes up, we must be smarter with the income we receive.

Derek Porter
Grade 12

Dear Editor,

It will effect the jobs and money, and will also bring a change for everyday life.

Craig Chiesa
Grade 11

Dear Editor,

I think we will have to be more conscious about what we buy day to day. Meaning items we want such as new shoes vs. what we need, like food. The effect wont be to great as long as we are conscious of what we spend our money on and are properly managing all of our finances.

Gabrielle Gard
Grade 12

Dear Editor,

The economic slowdown has already affected my family and me personally. We have definitely started cutting back on money spent on things like extra clothes and expensive vacations. We carpool to save money on gas, and we use coupons at the grocery store a lot more. Basically, we have just tried to cut back on household expenses.

Claire Goodwillie
Grade 12

Dear Editor,

My family, I don't think will be affected by this because if you take a look at gas-it's slowly dropping and now we can save more money.

Caitlin Hochwender
Grade 9

Dear Editor,

Since gas is a definite issue the rising prices will force us to cut down on driving.

Molly Andersen
Grade 11

Dear Editor,

The economic slowdown will probably have a big effect on my family. With a relative in the hospital bills are going to be hard to pay. We are already taking precautions. I'm starting to work, my sister who is in college is working two jobs. We think it'll help take a load off of our parents' back if we pay for most of our expenses.

Olivia Trummer
Grade 11

Dear Editor,

The economy slowing down will affect many people in many different ways. For me, I have to lay off buying things like video games or some winter jackets. Now we have to stick with buying only what is necessary.

Gary Lu
Grade 9

Dear Editor,

The economic slowdown could possibly affect me and my family with all the bank closings. We may not be able to get the money we need which could cause us to possibly lose everything.

Stevie Behrens
Grade 9

Dear Editor,

I do not see the effects of the slowdown in the economy affecting me or my family. Everyone says that the economy is in recession, but I do not see this.

Cesar Romero
Grade 11

Dear Editor,

Well I personally think the issue with the economic slowdown will efficiently prosper in my community, with lower gas prices and all.

Shon Cruz
Grade 11

Next Issue:

America's first black president, Barack Obama, will have a long office day today. What do you think the next issue will be on the next issue of The Register?

How do you think Barack Obama is doing as America's new President?

Barack Obama was the first black president to get married in the White House.



What do you know about ...

High school Spanish

Provided by Stephen Gunvalson, Spanish

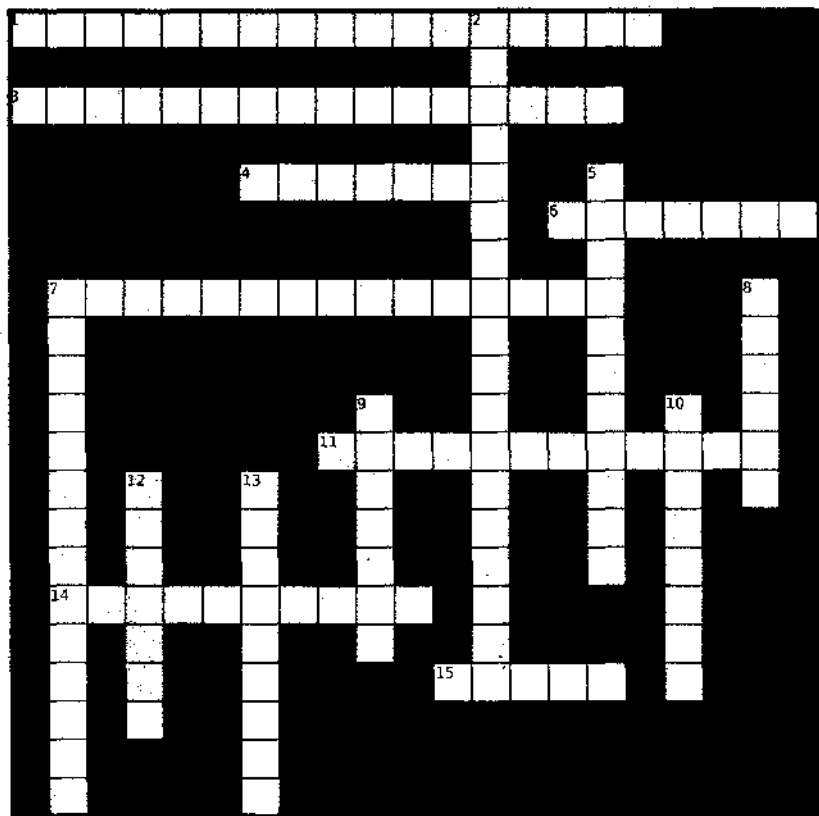
- This Colombian author's novel, "Love in the Time of Cholera" was recently made into a Hollywood feature film.
 - A. Sandra Cisneros
 - B. Mario Vargas Llosa
 - C. Gabriel Garcia Marquez
 - D. Shakespeare
- Omaha was the first in the Midwest to open up this Latino cultural center with bilingual exhibits and events.
 - A. Joslyn Museum
 - B. El Museo Latino
 - C. Bemis Center
 - D. El Museo de las Americas
- The Joslyn is recently displaying the works of the world renowned Mexican muralist.
 - A. Frida Kahlo
 - B. Diego Rivera
 - C. Fernando Botero
 - D. Pablo Picasso
- The Central mascot is this word in Spanish.
 - A. El pajar
 - B. El gorrión
 - C. El aguila
 - D. El leon
- This European country won the 2008 World Cup.
 - A. France
 - B. Italy
 - C. Spain
 - D. Nebraska

ANSWERS: 1. C, 2. D, 3. B, 4. C, 5. D

Crossword

Test your knowledge on: R&B and Rap artists

Please remember when doing the crossword puzzle that spaces are included and counted as letters.



Across

1. This affected Lil Wayne and a lot of other people on August 23, 2005.
3. What does t-pain monikers stand for?
4. Jam Master J was in which hip hop trip?
6. Which rap star got his name from hip-hop icon Snoop Dogg?
7. Kimora Lee wed which Hip Hop Icon?
11. Appeared along side salt n Pepa and MC Lyte at the 2008 BET awards...
14. Was originally born in South Wimbledon, London, England.
15. Which artist was born Katrina Laverne

Down

2. What is the full name of the rapper that died September 13, 1996?
5. "I'm down on bended knee"
7. Aaliyah co starred in this movie in 2000.
8. "Cleanin' out my closet"
9. What is Chris Browns middle name?
10. Snoop Dogg and Tyrese both co starred in which movie?
12. Married another R&B artist at age 15?
13. Nikki Minaj works along side which rapper?

Artist in Residence

Anita Caroline Hodge

Sheep's Madhouse



Anita Hodge is a sophomore at Central High School. She is avidly involved in the art department as well as artistic endeavors outside of school including Kent Bellon's 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 Central High School's Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) held a silent protest outside the South entrance of the school in December during a hate rally against homosexuality. Their message was very clear: promote acceptance and tolerance in a peaceful way.

Michelle Rieger is a senior at Central High School and a photographer for The Register. Any questions, comments or updates can be mailed to Michelle at central.journalism@ops.org or michellerieger@gmail.com. All content is original and belongs to The Register.

James Buchanan was the only president to remain a bachelor.

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