

“Mind of the World” Phreno Cosmian



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Wade Beavers: Entrepreneur discusses technology

By Christopher Wick

On November 17, 2010 Wade Beavers visited DWU and spoke throughout the day. I was fortunate enough to sit in on two of his lectures, presentations. I was very inspired by Mr. Wade Beavers. His story is something that I've dreamt about and something that I have watched happen time and time again in Business. I think of myself an entrepreneur and I keep my eye on trends as a hobby. At this point in my life, I would like to set some goals for myself and maybe test out some of my business or invention ideas.

Beavers came up with an innovative idea and that really made an impact on society. Hearing his story and how he got to where he is helped connect some of the dots for me.

He became an "entrepreneur" at a young age by selling candy bars to other kids when he was in High school. He says this is where he really knew that he wanted to be his own boss and found the entrepreneurial spirit or drive.

This entrepreneurial behavior has almost become synonymous with Generation X and Generation Z. With people like Mark Zuckerberg, Tom Anderson, Wade Beavers, et cetera, the ideology of taking an idea, pushing it and selling it has become inspiring to many of today's youth.

I have the hope, belief, and affirmed knowledge knowing that you can do anything you want to in life as long



Photo by Emily Nicolaisen

Wade Beavers, Co-founder and CEO of DOAPP, Inc. and MREMEDY, Inc. speaks to Entrepreneurial Leadership and Business students.

as you work for it. I know that it takes more than just a dream, however and Beavers touched and reaffirmed this for me when he spoke.

I not only had him speak in my morning Business class, but I also chose to sit in on another conference that he did on campus later on in the day. I got the chance to speak to him one-on-one and speak trends, technology, and patents-copyrights. After

our meeting, he gave me his business card. I look at his business card now and just the design of it is very unique. You can definitely tell he is one of the few individuals in life that has been gifted with talent as an entrepreneurial mindset.

He worked at a TV station, as a sports rep., IBM and that is where he

**- Wade Beavers
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Tips on holiday gift shopping

By Amanda Dixon

It's that time of year again. Decorations are going up. The air is that much crisper. Everyone you know is asking what you want for Christmas. That's when it hits you that you've only got sixty dollars in the bank. It's Christmas and you're in college.

The worst thing about this is that you have so many people to buy for and nothing in the bank! This is the point that you need to start getting creative.

Personally, I do my shopping online. Amazon.com and newegg.com have great deals for everything you could possibly think to get. You also avoid lines at the store. The only downside is that you have to wait for items to be shipped and you can't always guarantee quality.

For those of you that want your gifts now, local stores are your friends. Wal Mart is always there to supply you with anything you desire. It also comes cheaper, but that can be both price and quality.

If someone wants dishes for Christmas, I don't advise the plastic dollar bowls at Wal Mart. After a few washes, the plastic cracks and they look ugly. If you aren't going for aesthetically pleasing, though, grab a stack.

You've now spent a dollar of your hard-earned cash on your roommate. Let's face it, college students are always needing dishes. We just get too

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Editorial: 'Tis the Season to Budget!



By Emily Nicolaisen

Editor, *Phreno Cosmian*

Input, Achiever, Individualization,

Learner, Futuristic

As the holidays quickly approach, most families begin to feel overwhelmed with long to-do lists and little spending money. There are several people who are either unemployed or are waiting until the last second to buy all their Christmas gifts in one day. There are several steps you can take to save money this season, however, which will lower your stress level and keep that holiday spirit alive!

The first thing you need to do is stay focused.

You can begin the process by creating a holiday money budget sheet. How much extra spending money do you have to purchase all the gifts?

In order to figure this out, refer to your monthly expenses: school loan payments, insurance bills, gas money, food, rent, and etcetera. After finding that dollar amount, you must stick to it.

Do not allow yourself to spend more than you can afford. It is not a bad idea to budget in a dollar amount over that limit, just in case you run into some unexpected expenses during the month. Fifty dollars over seems like a reasonable amount. Do not forget to track the actual spending throughout the season to make sure you are adhering to the budget plan you laid out for yourself.

Next, make a list of all the family and friends you plan on buying a gift for. Write down the item you plan to purchase for each name on your list. Keep in mind that you can save a bundle of money by buying one large gift for an entire family or a couple rather than buying gifts for each individ-

ual. Also, do not waste your time buying a gift that you do not really think they will use that often, even if you think it is cool.

The next step is to hunt for all the gifts on your list! Give "bargain shopping" a new meaning by looking online for holiday deals or comparing the prices from one local department store to the other to make the cheapest purchase. You do not want to blow a chunk of money on one sweet deal only to slap yourself in the face later because you found it cheaper at the next store you entered.

It is most recommended to start shopping early in the season in order to spend the least amount of money. Don't worry, there are still a few weeks left before Christmas!

Even when I fully intend to stick to my budget plan, it is too easy to deter. There are several factors to keep in mind when trying to stay on track with your budget.

Whenever I go shopping at the mall, the smell of homemade pretzels and cinnamon rolls beckon me. There is nothing wrong with treating yourself every once and awhile, as long as you can afford it. However, I find it best for me and my pocketbook when I shop on a full stomach; therefore, sweets and junk food do not steal from my extra spending money stash.

Parents, it might be best to leave the kids at home. They can persuade you to spend more than you planned or distract you while you are trying to look for bargains.

Some people trap themselves with their credit card. It is difficult to keep track of how much you have spent unless you write it down in the same place. A good way to stay on budget is to pay with cash, because you can plainly see how much you are spending and how much holiday money you have left.

Another thing some people overlook is the concept of "re-gifting." I know, I know—how dare I re-gift, right?! Well, I happen to believe that re-gifting is a genius idea. If I do not like the scarf but my aunt would love it, why not give it to her so the scarf is at least worn? If something you recently received is just going to sit in your closet and collect dust, don't be afraid to wrap that sucker up and slap a bow on it! Besides, it's not like the recipient is going to know that it was given to you as a gift, unless you mention it, of course.

Don't let the pressures of holiday spending overburden you. The most important thing to do this season is to tell your loved ones how much you appreciate them and find some time to relax. (...And making a budget spreadsheet doesn't hurt either!)

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Letter to the editor policy

The *Phreno Cosmian* appreciates comments, questions, or story ideas. Please contact the editor at emnicola@students.dwu.edu or turn in a letter to mailbox # 318.

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Photo by Emily Nicolaisen



- Wade Beavers
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became involved with DoApps. After meeting his friend Joe Scriver whom was an associate at IBM, when Beavers decided to branch out on his own with DoApps he knew he wanted his friend Joe to work for him. Joe helped found Google AdSense, which is a big time deal. AdSense is used on video giant, YouTube, and other sites as well. It was a groundbreaking idea and “commodity”.

When he first brought his ideas for applications for mobile phones to cell phone providers, they scoffed at him and told him that his idea would never work. Faith, a dream, and the right people helped him get started and the apps became a hit. They are popular with people of all ages, but more so now with Generation X and even more so with Generation Z.

He talked about Apple and how the profits they get are transacted. I found that aspect very fascinating because that is an inspiration to someone like me who plans on owning his own company some day

soon. Find a niche, make your idea into a reality, do the legal paperwork, and keep a good business model. Apple has done that and that’s why they are the leader financial wise.

Something he said struck a bell with me, “Look at what’s out there, see how it can change the market. Then see what your product can do. You have to ask yourself what can it do?”

I agreed with him when he said, “If there is an idea you have, go with it. There is no dumb idea. Take your idea forward. Think of the unthinkable.” That’s a motto I have had my whole life. My life personally has been a battle since a teen. To be 30 years old and in college and do freelance work on the side where I think it doesn’t pay off in the end I know that it will because I am learning so much and even more so learning out who I am as an individual.

His motto was illustrious:

1. Come up with an idea
 2. Analyze it. Go through analysis with your idea
 3. Take it forward
- That is something I will remember

and use when I continue on with my entrepreneurial ideas and try to carve a name for myself and make a career. I also would like to try out some of my ideas with patents, copyrights and see what I am capable of. I have the fire in the iron and it’s up to me to succeed. No one else can make your ultimate decision for you. You need to take it forward and be sensible about it.

He said business changes so fast, 4-5 years at least. Many products are based off of the combination of several different products.

A lot of what he said I already had thought to myself for a long time, but he only validated those thoughts. A lot of what else he talked about was things that I needed to hear as a college student taking two majors and a business minor.

I learned about patents and copyrights. He said that for your idea a patent is necessary. A provisional patent is \$400 to file and gives you 1800 days to file it. I learned that business concepts are patentable. That is something that I believed to be true, but was validated by Mr. Beavers. I have so many ideas in my head that I would need to sit down with a good associate or lawyer and talk about.

He said that business plans are always revolving and changing for him so be prepared to change your business plan according to trends, society, finances, and other notable tangents. He said, “I would review my business plan or model every week.”

He then talked about adaptation in business. In my opinion he basically said create a business plan (after you get your ideas in place), adapt, change, review and repeat. He said you must look at your business in comparison to the product or service you offer. Then adapt, change, review and repeat. It totally made sense and hit home with me prover-

bially speaking.

He said today’s society has low standards, “Expectations are so low.” So with that said, your service, customer service, tech help can make or break you. “In any business, you can win with outstanding service. Guaranteed”, he said.

He then broke down the service OR customer service module for us:

1. Problem
2. Wait
3. Quality

These components are essential in understanding and utilizing because society has low standards. If you can have a great service for people they will keep coming back.

It was great to hear Mr. Beavers speak and he was a very energetic, inspiring and motivating person. After you or I make our big idea and get going. Maybe we will be speaking to young people or people about the very ideals of successful entrepreneurship and business.

Share What You Wear completed

A Dakota Wesleyan Service Event

On Saturday, December 4, community members were welcome to shop FREE of charge.

Hundreds of items were donated and sorted through to help those in need from the Mitchell area.

Anything from coats, toys, blankets, furniture, and household items were accepted.

This event was run by DWU softball coach, Marie Foster.

Thank you for all your help and donations.

Students making the most of their college experience: Christen Mitchell - major in Business Administration

By Tara Van Hofwegen

Christen Mitchell, age 20, was born to Dave and Sherri on February 28, 1990. With a major in Business Administration and minor in Communications, she plans to graduate in May, 2012. Graduating from a high school class of twenty-five from Kimball in 2008, DWU's small campus was an advantage to Mitchell.

Mitchell is an involved member of organizations on campus, such as MCC, TRiO, and FCA. She works as a Peer Mentor and Peer Tutor for TRiO, as well as a student ambassador. She also works at the McGovern Library for work study. Aside from all the things she does during the week, she spends her weekends working in Kimball at Club Vega.

Mitchell grew up in Platte, South Dakota, with her younger brother, Devin, and her sister, Jessica, who is a 7th grader. Her family grew larger on July 3rd, 2010, when she married her love, Dusty from Highmore, South Dakota.

In her spare time, Mitchell loves to be outdoors, traveling, running, hiking, playing basketball, and spending time with family and friends.

During the summer of 2007, Mitchell had the opportunity with 200 other students from South Dakota to travel to Europe for three weeks, touring England, Germany, France, Switzerland, Austria, Liechtenstein, and Italy. "My favorite place to visit was Switzerland in the Alps, and the place I hated most was the Dachau concentration camp."

When asked where else she would travel to and who she would bring with, she answered, "Bora Bora is the next place I would love to travel to. I would take my husband because we both love to travel, and it would



Photo submitted by Christen Mitchell

Mitchell lends a helping hand at Share What You Wear.

be time that we could spend together and just relax and not worry about work."

When asked what her idea of a perfect date was, she responded, "The perfect date for me would be for him [Dusty] to cook a nice meal and have a candle lit dinner at home and watch a movie." She added, "It might sound kind of lame and boring to some, but I'm not a person for going out to fancy restaurants or movies."

Some of Mitchell's favorites include: Fresca, the color, pink, dogs, Professor Jerry Lockett, comedy movies, Christmas, playing basketball, and watching football. Her

aspiring goals include running a half marathon in the spring and owning her own business someday.

Mitchell is a hard-working, intelligent student, who juggles family, school, and her hobbies. She is well-handed and a great student spotlight.

Class Presidents

By Amanda Dixon

The freshman and sophomore classes voted for their presidents this past month and the votes are in!

Joshua Karow is a History Education major. He has plans to teach in Minnesota after his graduation in 2014.

"I ran to become more involved with the school. I also feel that I can represent my class well in the student senate," he said.

Karow has numerous ideas for what he plans to do within the student senate. One of the things he's interested in is introducing a laptop program.

"I'm working out the details, but one of the major points is to ask students at the beginning of the school year if they would like to add a laptop to the cost of their tuition," he said.

For many students that come to the school without a laptop, this may be a good change. This way they wouldn't have to work out the cost of a laptop; the school could also probably get a discount price.

Austin Brynjulson was declared the sophomore class president. He no doubt has as many bubbling aspirations as Karow, but was too busy to provide insight.

Another congratulations to the presidential winner of the freshman and sophomore classes! May their year on top help initiate what they hope to accomplish in the student senate.

Mitchell Area Community Theatre Presents... *A Christmas Story*

Opening weekend, December 3, 4, 5, and continuing Dec. 10, 11, and 12.

Students get in FREE with your student ID, compliments of DWU. Staff & faculty, you have the option of volunteering (selling concessions, taking tickets, etc.) and earning a free ticket.

Pressure from Finals Week

By Tara Van Hofwegen

It is that time of year again, students! Besides Christmas time, it is time for finals! Some of you probably feel relaxed and prepared for the upcoming tests, projects, and papers, while most others are struggling with the idea of studying for a difficult comprehensive final in Chemistry class, writing that six-page paper for U.S. History, or a doing a big project that is worth half of their grade.

Students, procrastination is not going to make your tests, papers, and projects go away! Carrie Swanson stated that she "thrives off the negative adrenaline rush, also known as procrastination." This may work for Swanson and other students, but not everybody. Some students prefer to check it off their list and be done with it. According to Kaylyn Gross, "It just makes you feel so accomplished when you get to cross things off of your list to get done."

I asked students their perspective on the pressure of finals, whether they think it should be changed, and if so, what do they propose?

Of the responses, I had many nursing year students respond, specifically second-year. Brandi Peterson stated, "It's too many tests crammed into a small amount of time and stretches us WAY too thin." She continued to explain that second year nursing students have seven tests, and all of these just their in nursing classes.

Joni Dey, another second year nursing student added that it is not just nursing classes either. Dey also has to add the comprehensive Chemistry class to her study list.

Caitlin Bailey said that she doesn't think finals should be a stressful time. She states, "You know the entire semester that it is coming so I

guess people who wait to the day before probably deserve the stress."

With the nursing tests coming up for her, she knows it can be overwhelming, but she believes it is just a part of school.

Danielle Bellet gives some encouraging words to the procrastinators at Dakota Wesleyan. She says, "Finals are tough if you wait until the night before to start studying, but if you pace yourself you can survive."

Some students also had suggestions about finals.

Dillon Ostby states, "Just don't have them. We all have enough test through the whole semester. We shouldn't have them at the end also."

Christen Mitchell added her opinion, "I think finals are too stressful. There are too many tests, projects, and papers due at the same time. I think there should be more group projects or reflection papers about what you have learned instead of the tests!"

Alli Clarke suggested having a week off before finals week.

Abigail Isaac responded, "I don't know if they all have to be in test format, but I do think that they are necessary to prove competency of the material before passing." Isaac continued to say, "Some classes should have open book finals instead of just memorization though, because in many situations, you can look up the information whenever you please."

Despite all the suggestions and statements about finals week, this year's finals are not going to change. You are still going to have to write the six-page paper for History, do that huge project that is worth half your grade, and test over all the chemistry you attempted to learn all year. So buckle down students, study hard and good luck!

Wesleyan Words



Word Bank

- CHIMNEY
- CHRIST
- CHRISTMAS
- DECEMBER
- DWU COOKBOOK
- FOOD DRIVE
- GIFT WRAP
- HOLIDAYS
- JESUS
- MISTLETOE
- NEW YEAR'S
- NUTCRACKER
- ORNAMENT
- PHEASANTS
- REINDEER
- SAINT NICHOLAS
- SANTA CLAUS
- SNOW
- TOY DRIVE

As you now know, "Students making the most of their college experience" is a regular feature. If you would like to nominate a student for a future profile, please fill out the following information and submit it to the Phreno mailbox, # 318. You can e-mail Emily Nicolaisen with nominations as well.

Students Making the Most of their College Experience Phreno Profile

Student who should be profiled: _____

Why the student should be profiled: _____

Your name: _____

SPORTS

Small-town football talent makes up DWU team

By Jon Hart

Making the transition from nine-man football to eleven-man football is never an easy task. But despite the obstacles, Coach Brad Pole recruited 20 local nine-man players who made an impact for the Tigers.

Home-grown talent is the backbone to any small college football team and Dakota Wesleyan has followed that motto to the fullest. Out of the 96 players on the Tigers, 63 players hail from South Dakota. Among these from South Dakota, 20 players have converted from playing nine-man football to eleven-man.

Whenever head coach Brad Pole begins his recruiting process, he usually starts in the immediate area. Local recruits are always familiar with the area and often bring a history of playing against one another. "I think the local kids are the heart-beat of our program," Pole said. "They also draw in the larger crowd at games because people enjoy coming out to watch familiar faces."

Hanson High School has produced the most local talent for the football team. Seven grew up 12 miles east of Mitchell in Alexandria, which has a population of roughly 650 people. Jim Williams and Jordan Gau were senior leaders for the defense and juniors Jon Hart and Chet McManus have played key roles during their tenure. Sophomores Craig Henglefeldt and Matt McManus have both added valuable depth to the defensive side of the ball while the newest Hanson addition, freshman Austin Letcher, redshirted due to a shoulder injury.

"We have a really big lock in Alexandria. We have seven kids out of that high school and all seven are players," Pole said. "They've been a



Photo by Melissa Wintemute

Junior Josh Endres at DWU's homecoming game.

real strength to what we are, along with a lot of other local guys that really contribute in a big way."

Two Emery-Ethan standouts have also found home at DWU. Sophomore running back Josh Endres has had a remarkable first two seasons, and freshman Matt Tuttle has settled in at defensive line. Fellow Cornbelt Conference players such as Jimmy

Olson (sophomore line-backer from Canistota) and Josh Cleveland (junior wide receiver from Montrose) have both provided valuable depth to the Tigers defense and offense, respectively. Senior tight-end Steve Bloch of Scotland was a key ingredient to the Tiger offense the past four seasons.

High school success

In order for small-town kids to catch the eye of college coaches, they must excel at their sport.

Among the 20 kids who played nine-man, there were many stories of success, and many individual honors.

The Hanson crew of Williams, Hart, McManus and Gau were key contributors to their class "9A" State Championship football crown in 2005. They defeated the Philip Scotties 46-18. Williams won the MVP award for the game. The four also won a State "B" Track Championship in 2006.

Matt McManus and Craig Henglefeldt guided their team to a football state championship in 2008, defeating Hitchcock-Tulare 50-24. McManus was the MVP of the game. Austin Letcher continued the trend by leading the Beavers to another state championship title in 2009 when they defeated Avon 20-16.

Other nine man standouts such as Bloch and Endres also led their teams to state championships in football. Bloch won the "9A" crown in 2006 defeating Gettysburg 20-16. Bloch was named lineman-of-the-game. Endres won the "9AA" title in 2007 and he was named MVP after defeating Gregory 33-14. "Hopefully winning championships at the high school level can carry over to GPAC championships at the college level," Endres said. "We have a lot of players with winning traditions from high school, and we want to further establish a winning tradition here at DWU."

These players, among others, were a part of some of the best nine-man teams in the state. As individuals, each player enjoyed success. Not only did these players earn All-Conference, and All-State honors in football, but in a majority of other

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- Small-town Talent

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sports. Many of these players were “do-it-all” athletes and lettered in 3 or more sports in high school. At Hanson, Hart and the McManus brothers lettered in 5 sports during one season: football, basketball, track, baseball, golf.

Making the transition

Recently, Nevada, Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota have been the primary states of nine-man football. Nebraska is also home to a handful of eight-man football teams.

Many of the former nine-man players will tell you the transition from nine to eleven man football was a drastic change. The speed of the game and the overall gameplan changes a lot, according to Jim Williams. “Adjusting to the speed of the game is the hardest thing for most players, and having the extra two guys on the field also takes some getting used to,” Williams said.

The reason for nine-man football is simply because some high schools are just too small to field an eleven-man squad. The nine-man brand of football is usually short two offensive lineman (offensive tackle positions in eleven-man), and defensively it depends on what kind of scheme the team plays. Nine-man fields are commonly 80 yards in length and 40 yards in width. “Adjusting to a 100 yard field was also something that was a little bizarre,” Endres said.

From rivals to teammates

Numerous small-town players on the roster were very familiar with each other before stepping on the same practice field. There are many stories of rivalries, big games and memories that these student-athletes



Photo by Melissa Wintemute

Senior Steve Bloch at DWU’s homecoming game.

have from high school.

For instance, the long history between schools in the Cornbelt Conference: Emery, Ethan, Hanson, Bridgewater, Canistota, Montrose, Freeman, Menno, Marion, Parker, etc. Twelve current players hail from this conference and played each other season after season. The Cornbelt Conference continues to be one of the toughest conferences in the state for nine-man football. The conference has produced more state titles than any other conference the past 5 years. A statistic that many of DWU’s football players can be proud of.

This year, three Cornbelt Conference teams swept the nine-man ranks in state championship games. Bridgewater-Emery-Ethan won the 9 “AA” title, while Hanson and Canistota hoisted the championship trophy in class 9”A” and 9”B” respectively.

The big games and rivalries didn’t just exist within conference matchups. Many of these current teammates met during the high

school football playoffs, when wins counted the most. Two years in a row Hanson met up with Steve Bloch’s Scotland Highlanders in hyped playoff games. In the 2005 matchup Hanson defeated Scotland and went on to win the state championship. The following year in 2006 Scotland upset the heavily favored 9-0 Beavers, and the Highlanders went on to capture the state championship crown.

Tight end Bloch said, “There was a time when Hanson and Scotland absolutely hated each other because both schools were at the top of the list in football, basketball, and track. We wanted to beat them in everything and they wanted to do the same.” In the spring of 2007 Bloch and three Hanson players (Gau, Hart, McManus) all signed letters of intent to play football at DWU. Once they stepped on the football field as

(List of Current Nine-man Players at right)

**- Small-town Talent
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- DILLON BOHLANDER**
Britton-Hecla High School
- JIMMY OLSON**
Canistota High School
- GEOFF LANGLAND**
DeSmet High School
- ERIC LUNDBERG**
Deuel High School
- JOSH ENDRES**
Ethan High School
- MATT TUTTLE**
Ethan High School
- JIM WILLIAMS**
Hanson High School
- JORDAN GAU**
Hanson High School
- CRAIG HENGLEFELT**
Hanson High School
- JON HART**
Hanson High School
- CHET MCMANUS**
Hanson High School
- AUSTIN LETCHER**
Hanson High School
- MATT MCMANUS**
Hanson High School
- JASON LATHAM**
Harding County High School
- COLE HAMLIN**
Highmore High School
- SKYLER ERICKSEN**
Lyman High School
- JOSH CLEVELAND**
Montrose High School
- CODY DUERKSON**
Parker High School
- RYAN ANTAYA**
Plankinton High School
- STEVE BLOCH**
Scotland High School

ARTS

To Defeat a Dark Lord

By Ariel Ptak

Only a few days after Jerrad's small altercation with Burari, the group finally stumbled upon civilization...of a sort. It was a very small village, nestled in the hills and thin woodlands that made up the very base of the still-blue mountains, but it had a tiny inn and at least a little bit of a population. Jerrad was so pleased at the thought of sleeping in a real bed for the first time in weeks that he failed to remember just what else coming upon more people could mean. It was Tamarashii who reminded him as they took two of the inn's five rooms: they should be able to find a guide for Jerrad here, one who could take him back to his own home. They would part ways in the morning.

Within the hour, Jerrad found himself lounging on a haystack outside (he could practically hear his advisor's scandalized admonitions) and trying to puzzle out just why that statement bothered him so much. His thoughts were soon interrupted by a familiar voice.

"So, has our king discovered one of life's simplest pleasures?"

Jerrad propped himself up on his elbows to see Nip's grinning face.

"What, lying in hay? Maybe. It's scratchy, but better than lying on rocks."

"Make room?"

Jerrad moved over and offered Nip a hand up. The wood elf flopped himself on the sweet-smelling heap and wriggled around with a contented sigh. Jerrad tucked his hands behind his head and closed his eyes, intent on losing himself in his thoughts once more.

"You sure you want to be quite so comfortable around me?"

Nip's words startled him slightly. Jerrad cracked one eye open; Nip was sitting seriously upright.

"Is there a reason I shouldn't be?"

"Check your hands."

Obligingly, Jerrad did so. For a moment, nothing seemed amiss...until he noticed the lack of a silver glint on his right ring finger. Jerrad shot up and began to frantically pat the loose hay around him.

"Over here."

And there it was, a silver ring flashing as it spun in the air, flipped up and caught again by nimble brown fingers. Jerrad grabbed for it, but it seemed to vanish from the elf's hand even as he gripped that wrist. Nip leaned forward and, with his free hand, made a plucking motion at the side of Jerrad's head. He brought that hand back to show Jerrad the ring once more before dropping it safely in Jerrad's palm.

"How did you do that?"

Nip shrugged, leaning back again.

"Quick fingers, sharp reflexes...gifts of the species. Don't tell me you haven't heard about the tricks elves can pull?"

"No, not really," Jerrad said, replacing his signet ring—the only thing he had which marked who he was—and curling that hand into a fist.

"Well, that explains how relaxed you've been around me."

"Even if I had heard...well, what kind of a trickster would go off on some serious quest, like this one?"

"A trickster with wanderlust," Nip replied, once again thoroughly relaxed. "One with a major sense of adventure, to start with. And to finish...one who found some real good friends."

"Friends, like Xander, Tamarashii, and Burari?"

"And you," Nip corrected. Jerrad fiddled with his signet ring and stared at the sky.

"Oh."

"Sure wish you didn't have to go, but I suppose I should get used to friends leaving now."

"Why?" Jerrad remembered one thing he had heard about elves. "Because you're immortal?"

**- Defeat the Dark Lord
Continued on page 11**

Creature of My Heart

By Ada Guevara

Lovely creature of my heart
Come with me to the top
For our love is bound to hop and
Harp a symphony to the top.

You are mine and
I am yours and
Together we are one.

Loving creature of my heart
Pray that you will come
For our love is bound to last and
Sharp a philharmonic to the past.

You are proud and
I am strong and
Together we are one.

Lovely creature of my heart
Don't be blind by the spark
For our love is bound to art and
Fun a battalion to the park.

You are my answers and
I am your questions and
Together we are one.

Loving creature of my heart
Keep my go-kart on the track
For our love is bound to grand and
Force a light to the dark.

You are the creature and
I am the heart and
Together we are one.

You are the creature of my heart.

Movie Review: *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*

By Jane Nemeth

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part One, directed by David Yates, starts an introduction to the close of the Harry Potter phenomenon. Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint, and Emma Watson reprise their roles as Harry Potter, Ron Weasley, and Hermione Granger, respectively.

In part one to the finale of the Harry Potter saga, the trio of friends forgo Hogwarts for their seventh year to set out on a quest to destroy Voldemort's five remaining horcruxes (bits of his soul divided up to preserve his immortality). Events take off in a domino effect, as Harry, Ron, and Hermione must stay on the move to search out and destroy these horcruxes, and avoid being captured by Death Eaters (Voldemort's followers) and the Ministry of Magic, which has succumbed under Voldemort's control.

Personally, when keeping the book out of mind, was well done. As always, the acting in the Harry Potter films is superb. Radcliffe, Grint, and Watson all played their roles outstandingly; Rupert Grint especially. Grint's character Ron Weasley is often the source of comic relief when things become tense. In this film, however, Ron's usually silly character grows darker under the pressure of wanting to know if his family is alive, the stress of little progress finding Voldemort's horcruxes, and his jealousy over Harry and Hermione's close, yet sibling-like, bond. Though I may be biased, I believe Grint performed this transition well from the usual comical character to one with the angst of jealousy and worry of family.

Having read the book, I thought the plot was rushed through a bit. I have never really been a fan of Yates his tendency in the Harry Potter movies

to condense information and sequences from the novels. It was my understanding that two-part finale meant more information stacked into both halves. This was an incorrect assumption, but every fan of the book should definitely know by now not to expect to see the books in their entirety when they watch the movies, and this film was no different.

Though the sequences were not completely confusing, I felt like viewers who had not read the book may still have some trouble understanding certain scenes, like the visions Harry receives through his connection with Voldemort. Though a fair chunk of sequences was left out from the book out, I did like the additional scenes that were exclusive to the film (Harry cheering up Hermione when Ron departs with a goofy dance was a really nice touch).

My only issue with this film was the scene with the locket. Ron Weasley is my favorite character (along with Professor Lupin), so I was really excited to see Ron overcome his mental hurdles and mature. The climax of the locket's destruction put me off due to do it being so racy. The images of Harry and Hermione created by Tom Riddle (a.k.a. Voldemort) were unclashed, although smoke was strategically billowing out around them, and the kiss they shared was more extensive than I expected. For me, this scene was reminiscent of sequences Beowulf (a film I would happily forget). Plainly speaking, the execution of Ron's fears and insecurities was simply not my cup of tea.

On the whole, this movie was a very good beginning for the start of Harry's final battle against Voldemort. Differences from the book are

inevitable, and though the pacing seemed a little rushed at times, the film is definitely worthy of multiple viewings. The stability between the action, comedy, tension, and frightening sequences was balanced really well. When action was taking place, there was action. When something scary was happening, feet were to be pulled up to the theater chair where they could be seen. When the moment was tense, respiration was put on hold. Fans of the movies will be very pleased with this installment. Fans of the novel will find things to pick at (we always do), but there's still plenty to love. And, if you don't like Harry Potter, there is plenty of conflict and suspense to keep you entranced anyway.

Uneducated Voting

By Amber Hiles

Voting is a method for people to make a decision or express an opinion—often following discussions, debates, or election campaigns.

On November 2nd we voted. We used our rights as American citizens to choose new policies. Our voice has been heard. Did the society really get what it wanted? Sure, we voted and that's great, but aside from a couple important topics that we are all familiar with, like the anti-smoking bill, the rest of what or who we voted for was probably based on a popularity contest and severely un-informed.

How many people really research all of the different issues they are voting on before marking on the ballots? I have a feeling that number is small. After waiting in line, millions of people enter a tiny cubicle and mark or punch the ballot in front of them. Some had a very specific reason for going, like a policy they were passionate about. Moments later, after idly marking several boxes, not knowing what the bill is about or which candidate really is the better choice, you emerge into the light and go about your day.

Every time there is a vote for office, we see signs all over the place. Driving down any highway you are bound to see multiple colored signs with a running candidates name plastered all over it.

Some people will choose a candidate on the ballot just because they see these signs. The way that we are voting people to run our country and make our decisions is because we saw their name more than the other or their commercial was more memorable. The people campaigning for office spend thousands to millions of dollars on television ads, signage, and petitioners.

Am I the only one that thinks this is ridiculous? People choose a candidate because they saw an ad on television that saying the running mate is a bad

- Uneducated Voting
Continued on page 15

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OPINIONS

Amber's Reflective Perspective: Ho Ho Ho! or No! No! No!

By Amber Hiles

Santa Claus is coming to town! He sees you when you're sleeping. He knows when you're awake. He's knows when you've been bad or good... oh excuse me, the thought of Christmas catapults me into a whirlwind of memorable Christmas tunes. Will Santa be coming to your house?

Allowing children to believe in the magic of our mythical Santa Claus has become a topic of controversial debate. Mothers and fathers say that the belief of Santa is damaging.

What a bunch of overblown nonsense! What is the reason for the season?

The birth of Jesus, Santa Claus, and Hanukah are familiar terms during the cold December month. For me, Christmas is a time to be with family. It is a time to give. It has also been argued that Christmas was selected to correspond with the winter solstice, known as bruma. Commemorating the birthday of Jesus, the central figure of Christianity, is the most wide-spread motive for celebrating Christmas. Whether or not parents really teach their kids this or just say they are is beyond me.

Christmas is also widely celebrated by many non-Christians. Popular modern customs include gift giving, music, greeting cards, a special meal, Christmas trees, lights, mistletoe, nativity scenes, and garland. Let us not forget the spiked eggnog.

Saint Nicholas, otherwise known as Father Christmas or Santa Claus, is associated with delivering gifts to children during the Christmas season. It is a well-known legend that Santa lives at the North Pole. His elves work diligently 364 days a year to make toys for all of the good little boys and girls. They smile and



Illustration by Jane Nemeth

sing and adore the work they do. Jolly St. Nick has a list and he's checking it twice. The nice kids get toys. The naughty kids get coal, fruit cake, or a sweater that had actually been embroidered by Great-Aunt Mildred.

There are families that do not tell their kids that there is a Santa Claus. There are various reasons. Some say that they do not want to lie to their kids. Others' say that teaching children that there is a Santa is a deterrent from the real reason for Christmas: Jesus Christ's birth.

I battled with this idea after giving birth to my son. Of course, I always

want to be honest with him, but giving kids a dreamy fantasy about a mythical gift-giver is not necessarily a bad thing, at least in my opinion.

Kids are naturally full of wonder and delight. The story of Santa is one of the most magical of all. As a child, I remember the excitement of going to sleep Christmas Eve night knowing that the plump Santa was going to be coming to my house. We did not have a chimney, but Santa would find a way to get the gifts under my tree.

This may frighten some children, in which case you will not have to worry about perpetuating a "lie". An

old man shows up at your house while you are asleep. There is no way that you can keep him out. He will find a way in (Santa could be a vital contributor to Ocean and his 11). He sneaks through the house as quiet as a mouse, and there is no trace that he was ever there. He quietly sets gifts under the tree fashioned by elves that are victims of slave labor and get no credit for their hard work. In the case that your children are shaking with fright, you can explain to them early on that "some

- Ho Ho Ho!

Continued on next page

**- Defeat the Dark Lord
Continued from page 8**

Nip snickered.
“Immortal? No way, who told you that? No, elves just age slower and live longer than most other beings. Everything dies eventually. We aren’t immortal, but...in a blink of time for me, you and Tama will be gone, forever. Another blink, and it’ll be Bura. A couple more, and maybe Xander will finally trip on the absurdly long wizard’s beard he wants to grow and break his neck. And I’ll still be here, barely going grey, but feeling terrible about losing you all. I’m an idiot, really, setting myself up for that. But at least I’m a happy idiot for now. And hey, by coming along on this mission, maybe I can make sure those blinks of time actually get to pass.”

“So you’re doing this to help and protect your friends,” Jerrad summarized.

“If you want to put it that way, yeah. It wasn’t my intention from the start, but things happen. Things change.”

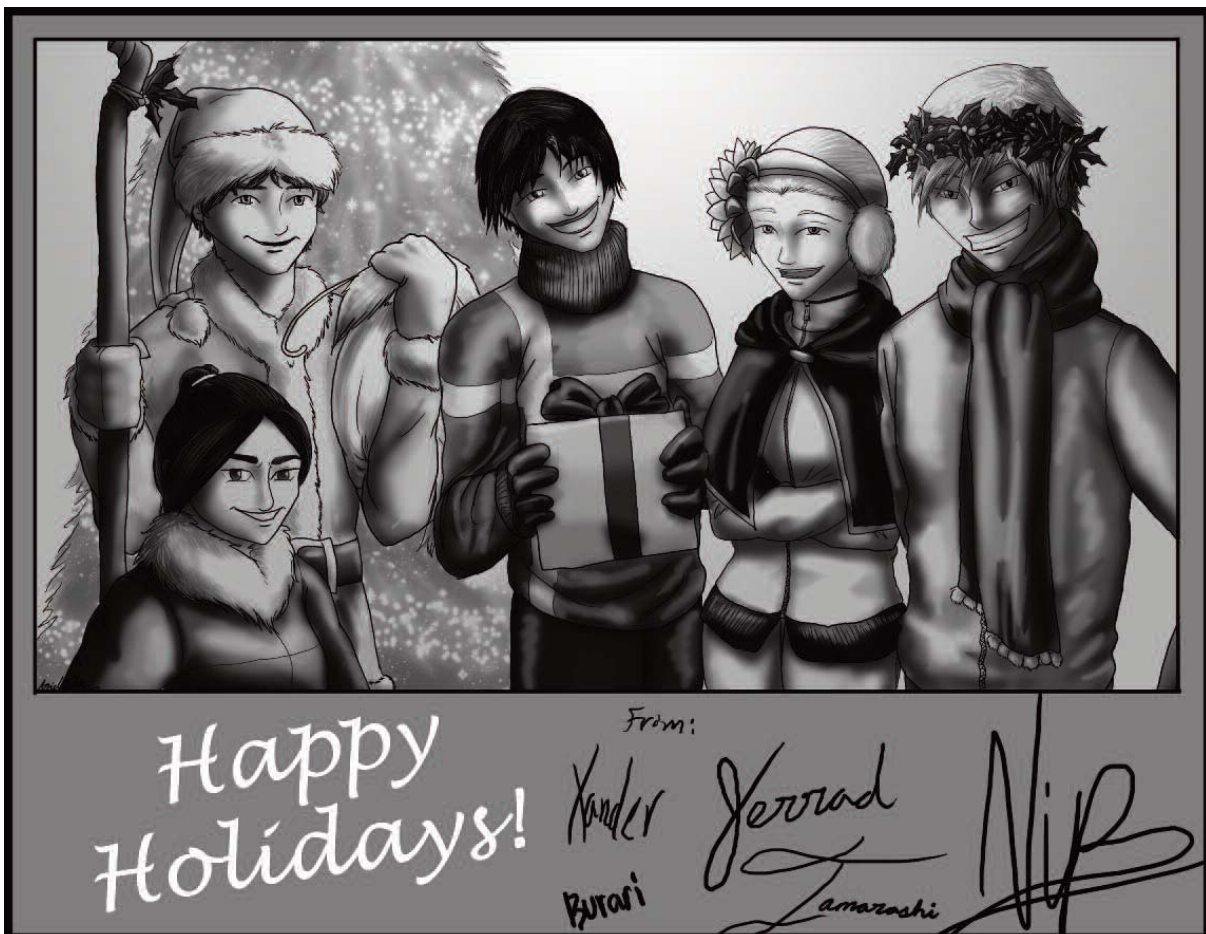
Jerrad hummed something like agreement, thinking hard. Off to his right, Nip huffed and squirmed, then suddenly blurted out one last thought.

“You know, I think friendships aren’t things you go looking for. They just happen, as long as they have room to grow, and there’s no predicting or stopping them.”

“Yeah, I guess not,” Jerrad said. After many long minutes of silence, during which Nip finally dozed off, Jerrad slid off of the haystack, brushed the worst of it from his clothes and hair, and went back to the inn to find his other companions. When he did, he had to take a deep breath to calm himself before speaking.

“I want to help. Let me come with you.”

Their grinning response was enough



to make Jerrad feel he’d made a right decision at last.

**- Ho Ho Ho!
Continued from prev. page**

people believe...”

Do not tell your kids that if they are nice they will get gifts and if they are naughty they will not get anything. Avoid using Santa as punishment for bad behavior. This will undoubtedly lead to your children expecting a new Barbie or remote control car every time they say please and thank you. Kids should be taught to be kind, mannerly, and respectful without reward.

One year, there was a thump on the roof of the home I grew up in (most likely a snow drift falling to the ground). My brothers told me Santa

fell off the roof and died. I was in utter terror. I stood by the twinkling Christmas tree adorned with candy canes with a glowing angel perched on top and I cried and cried. You can imagine the pain a young 6ish year-old felt believing that her house was jolly Santa’s last stop.

Of course after a while, I found out that Santa was not authentic. There were no elves. There were no flying reindeer. Rudolph’s nose did not shine so bright. There were uncles and fathers all over the world dressed in the standard red suit with black boots and a fluffy white beard. I was not upset about it. I hold no harsh feeling toward my parents for telling me the myth.

Children will have a sense of pride when they discover the truth about Santa all on their own. And even

though they know Kris Kringle is not real, they still think the idea of him is pretty cool.

A good imagination and fantasy play are essential for a child’s cognitive development. Figuring out how reindeer fly or if there really is a Santa encourages little ones to develop an explanation of their own.

Is the telling of Santa any different than Goldilocks, Little Red Riding Hood, or Shrek? When kids get older, they will understand that it was only a fairytale. Believing in Santa was a delightful childhood memory (aside from believing that he died in my lawn), and I will not be one of those “politically correct” parents for all of the sleigh bells in the world.

LETTERS TO ST. NICHOLAS FROM THE GERMAN 105 CLASS

Lieber Wienachtsmann:
 Für die kommende Weihnachtzeit Ich wünsche dir gesundheit. Ich möchte Frieden und Glück in der Welt. Dieses Jahr bin Ich sehr gut gewesen. Meine Wunschzettel ist sehr kurz dieses Jahr. Für die kommende Weihnachtzeit Ich möchte Bücher, dvd's, und ein neue TV.

Danke Wienachtsmann
 Die Besten Wünsche

Deine Cassie

Lieber Skt. Nikolaus:
 Ich wünsche der Gesundheit. Ich möchte Frieden und Glück in der Welt. Dieses Jahr bin ich besonders gut gewesen.
 Zum Weihnachten wünsche ich mir eine Halskette und eine Vliesjacke und eine Kameralinse.

Bis nächstes Jahr
 Fröhliche Weihnachten und ein wunderbares neues Jahr!

Liebe Grüße dein Taylor

Liebe Saint Nicholas,
 Für diese Weihnachten will ich nur zu verbringen sie mit meiner Familie und Freunden Auf meiner Startseite. Ich brauche nicht jede neue Spielzeug von Geschenken. Ich möchte nur mit meiner Familie und essen Partien von meiner Mutter kochen.

Ab,
 Schyler Bryan

Lieber St. Nikolaus,
 Ich wünsche Dir Gesundheit. Ich möchte Frieden und Glück in der Welt. Diese Jahre bin ich sehr gut gewessen.

Zu Weihnachten möchte ich nicht so viel, und hier ist mein Wunschzettel.

- 1.fur mein Frau und Kinder Gesundheit und Glücklichkeit
- 2.ein Motorrad
- 3.gute Noten

Lieber Saint Nikolaus,
 Ich wünsche Dir Gesundheit. Dieses Jahr ich sehr gut gewesen. Für die Kommende Weihnachtszeit ich möchte Prophezeien Richtung.

Bis Bald,
 Peggy

Lieber Weihnachtsmann,
 Ich hoffe ist ganz ins der Nord. Bitte sagt "hallo" das Rentier und der Kobold.
 Wünsche ich mire du und die Welt glücklich für die kommente Weihnachtszeit.
 Dieses Jahr bin ich sehr gur gewesen. Mein Wunschzettel is kurz. Wünsche ich mir Hula-Reifen oder Backenhörnchen dass signt. Wüshe ich mir Digitalkamera und viele bucher.

Diene,
 Carrie

Lieber Skt. Nicklaus,
 Ich wünsche Dir gutes Weihnachtswetter in dieser Festzeit.
 Während diese Weihnachten möchte Ich Frieden in der Welt haben.
 Ich habe mich dieses Jahr gut benommen, so möchte Ich ein blaues Nachtemd und goldene Ohrringe als meine Weihnachtsgeschenke haben.

Besten Liebe,
 Deine,
 Linda.



Letter to Editor from Lancaster, Pennsylvania

Dear Editor:

The recent suicides of gay teens has moved me to think of students on campuses who are gay and trying to reconcile their sexuality with their faith. This letter is to them.

In 1972 I was a freshman at a Christian college. I was fairly new in my faith. And I was gay. My four years there I lived with that secret, and a fear that I was going to hell, pleading with God to change me; afraid to tell anyone.

We are assuring our gay youth that "it gets better." And it does. I also want you to know you have choices. You didn't choose to be gay (just as no one "chooses" to be heterosexual), but you can choose how to live with your sexuality.

You can believe homosexuality is a sin and try to change; on your own, by praying or by entering into an "ex-gay" ministry. . I tried all three and, speaking from my personal experience and years of meeting other gay Christians who tried doing the same, I don't think one can become "ex-gay" any more than one can become an "ex-heterosexual".

You can believe that it is not a sin to be gay, except when acted upon. I know gay Christians who accept their orientation and choose to live a life of celibacy.

You can marry someone of the opposite sex; concealing your same sex attractions, determined you have it under control. I know gay men and women who have done just that. In each and every case, after what might have been years of suppression, they eventually ended up acting upon their impulses; some leading a double life. Inevitably the lies and secrecy caught up with each of them; revealed either by their own confession or an inappropriate situation they put themselves in. Of all these people I know, each of their marriages, except for one, ended in di-

voiced; the unsuspecting spouse's life shattered, as well as the children's.

You can decide to be honest with your future spouse, trusting he or she will be willing to partner in your decision to live heterosexually. I know couples who are doing just that. Publicly, they present themselves as a typical heterosexual couple. I don't know how they conduct themselves in private.

You can choose to reexamine the scriptures that are used against homosexuals and decide if they are speaking out against same sex attraction as we know it today. You can choose to believe God honors a same sex monogamous committed relationship. You can choose to believe you can be both gay and a Christian. I, personally, lived through years of struggle and anguish after college; trying everything I could to change. The end result was clinical depression and my own thoughts of suicide.

As the years have passed, I've come to trust that God does love and accept me as an openly gay man. I do look at those scriptures in a different light. I believe God sanctions any relationship that is loving, committed and monogamous.

I belong to a United Methodist church in one of the most conservative counties in Pennsylvania; the only openly gay man there. I was welcomed warmly by the pastor and the majority of the congregation. My presence there has generated an open dialogue within the church about homosexuality and the Bible. People have told me that their views on homosexuality have changed because of knowing me; some acknowledging I'm the first gay person, they're aware of, that they've known.

Our church now has an outreach ministry to let the gay community know our doors are open to them.

That we not only welcome them, we also affirm them, their committed relationships and the families they are creating. Know that there are churches, and Christians, who will accept you as you are.

If we are to be judged it will be by God. Maybe at that time it won't be a matter of who was right and who was wrong. Maybe God will look at each of us and ask if we lived our lives being true to who we were.

Maybe God will assure us that He's always loved us even during those times we were told He didn't.

It does get better. And you do have choices. The decisions you come to are between you and God.

Know that, whatever you decide, there is a place for you at the table.

Signed,

Artie Van Why

avanwhy@aol.com

Lancaster, PA

- Christmas gifts

Continued from page 1

lazy and toss them. That's why we buy Wal Mart dollar bowls.

Wal Mart also has a seemingly endless supply on vampire books, which seem to be popular now. For the Edward-lover in your life that is depressed at the end of the series, you can always try The Vampire Diaries. Perhaps you could even take a different avenue and purchase Love You Hate You Miss You. There are no vampires, but it's a good read.

This book purchase will have you easily handing over fourteen dollars. Fifteen bucks and two gifts down. Mom and Dad still need a gift.

The easiest gift to give to your parents would be your presence. While going skiing with your podmates sounds like fun, a visit home could be more beneficial. This not only saves you the money you would spend on a pointless gift card or drill set, but parents are commonly the

contributors to college cash flow.

Hopefully that forty-five dollars that you saved is enough to get you home. If it isn't Mom and Dad are sure to compensate for the shortage. After all, you are going to visit them.

For those of you that aren't on a traditional college budget of odd quarters and dryer lint, have no fear. There are ways for you to spend your cash as well.

Glik's in The Highland Mall has an array of clothing for young adults. Perhaps your little sister is worth the twenty-dollars or up that it costs for a Billabong t-shirt.

JC Penney's always has a twenty or fifty percent off rack or a Saturday Sale that would be perfect to find clothing gifts for your siblings or friends.

If you aren't shopping for a fashionista or someone in need of cheap dishes, perhaps you're looking for a hunter.

Cabela's has "great deals" right now, as Foster Bartholow said. Cabela's can load you up on all sorts of sporting and outdoor gear with their twenty-five days of deals.

They have hunting optics and gear bags for up to seventy percent off. They also have rainwear and tree stands for up to fifty percent off. There is also a video game sale for up to sixty percent off.

In case you're planning a holiday proposal or just something more romantic, Riddles has all diamond and gemstone jewelry for up to fifty percent off.

So if you're strapped for cash, stick to Wal Mart and the discount racks at JC Penney's. If you have a little more to spend then Glik's, Cabela's, and Riddle's would all suit your needs nicely. By hunting for the bargains even in these higher-priced stores you can help out your bank account. As a student in college, you need all the help you can get in that area.

Proper classroom etiquette that students should remember

By Emily Nicolaisen

As we get deeper into the semester, students begin feeling more comfortable in their classrooms and in discussion with their professors.

However, students must not forget about proper classroom etiquette.

All professors have different techniques and different teaching methods with different messages.

However, they all have the same goal: to educate their students. Students make it difficult for them to reach this goal when they are chatting during lectures, playing games on the computer, and sleeping in class.

Professor Jerry Lockett recalled a day when she had a minister visit the classroom in order to speak. "As he was speaking, students were drawing pictures, reading newspapers, and laying their heads on their desks," Lockett said. Because it was obvious to the speaker that the students were not paying close attention, he told Lockett that perhaps the topic was not of much interest to the students as he left the room.

Lockett knew there was a problem and it needed to be addressed. As a result, Lockett has her students write reflection papers on visitors so that they pay attention and act respectful.

"These speakers are donating their time to us," commented Lockett.

"Students are not learning if they are not paying attention. I want them to come out of feeling educated," she added.

Other professors have noticed the lack of attention during class time as well, although each professor has his or her own way of handling the issue.

Professor Jack Mortenson expressed his opinion on the matter. "There are always going to be day

dreamers. My goal is to get them interested enough in the subject to make them want to stay on task," Mortenson said.

While some professors express a "zero tolerance attitude," others, like Mortenson, have a different approach.

"In our society, we are too much 'zero tolerance.' People make mistakes. To me, zero tolerance makes zero sense," Mortenson commented. "We need to teach students how to be responsible, not just to follow the rules. Most students learn reality after college when they get their first job; they should learn responsibility now," he added.

Sometimes it appears students need to be reminded where they are and why they are here in order to stay on task. "When you treat people like they ought to be treated, they will respond," Mortenson said.

Is it the responsibility of the professor to be the "bad cop" in the classroom or to sit back and expect the students to know better, allowing them to create their own successes or failures? There really is no correct answer. Perhaps some students need to be made an example of with harsh disciplining while others need independence to learn their mistakes through time. Both Professor Lockett and Professor Mortenson have found that, for the most part, their strategies work. However, like Professor Mortenson said, there will always be those daydreamers.

Students, next time you are sitting in the classroom with your head plopped down on your desk or chit-chatting about so-and-so during a visitor's presentation, ask yourself: Am I carving myself a path of successes or failures?

- Small-town Talent

Continued from page 7

teammates they developed a great friendship and the following year Gau, Hart, and Bloch roomed with each other in Allen Hall.

Stories such as these are true for numerous small-town players, and are a testament to the family bond that comes from being involved with a sport on campus.

Making an impact

A handful of current nine-man players are making a big impact for the Tiger's in many ways. Sophomore Endres had a decorated year at the running back position. He earned an All-GPAC honor this season. The Ethan native finished the season with 1,001 total rushing yards, and he set the school record for rushing yards in a game with 316 yards against Hastings. Endres finished the season third in the league in rushing (100.1) and sixth in all-purpose yards per game (116.2).

Steve Bloch has proved himself as one of the most consistent tight ends in past years, and he seemed to save his best season for last. Bloch earned All-GPAC Second Team honors and was third on the team in receiving with 222 yards. He scored his first career touchdown in the first game of the season against Dordt, and added another score against Hastings. Over the course of his career, Bloch has played at guard, tackle and tight end. He started in nearly every game the past three seasons.

Linebacker Jim Williams finished up a standout career for DWU. The Hanson native was the team captain this season and led the team in tackles with 67 (36 solo, 31 assists). Williams also led the team in total sacks with 3. The prior two seasons he earned an All-GPAC Honorable Mention. In 2009 he finished with 53 total tackles, two tackles for a loss, an interception and two fumble

recoveries. He has also rushed for 508 yards and eight touchdowns in his career.

Gau also finished up a remarkable career with the Tigers. He has been a key player in the Tiger secondary throughout his tenure. He was a key leader and a smart player with great instincts. Gau recorded over 280 tackles and eight interceptions in his career. He was also a two-time all GPAC Honorable Mention performer.

These nine-man players and others continue to make an impact on and off the football field. They set the standard for small-town players with dreams of playing at the college level. "Coming to DWU to play football from a small town has been a lot of fun. I am glad I got this opportunity and hopefully it is a trend that the DWU football team continues to follow," Endres said.

Introducing the Phreno Staff:

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Staff Writers - Jared Clavarella, Renee Stewart, Christopher Wick, Amanda Dixon, Tara Van Hofwegen, Ada Guevara

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Columnist - Amber Hiles

Creative Writer - Ariel Ptak

Cartoonist/Creative Writer - Jane Nemeth

Alison's Story: The Final Part

By Jane Nemeth



“Alison explained it to me, it’s okay! I’m really sorry, I just walked in on your practice. You looked so cute when you were blushing, I couldn’t help myself.” Oscar smiled serenely, while Juliet fought a losing battle with the color in her face at his compliment. I almost hit myself, knowing that’s the sort of thing that set this whole mess and my resulting bruises into motion. Delicately, I picked myself up off the floor to let them be, hoping Juliet would eventually have the chance (and nerve) to explain what the practice was for.

As I made my way around the corner, I heard her confess. Her voice sounded shy and embarrassed. I knew her face would be even redder by this time, her eyes probably blazing. And I could imagine Oscar’s tingeing pink as well, but his face would be broken into a grin so bright, my eyes were probably safer off not seeing. I myself was very happy when, later that night, I received several boxes of smiley-face Band-Aids and two very sincere get well/thank you cards from two incredibly appreciative friends.

- Uneducated voting Continued from page 9

person (in so many words). I don’t think we want someone in office that spends time on this useless information. Instead of focusing on key issues, they are focusing on making someone else look bad and spending an exorbitant amount of money doing it. With great sarcasm I say, “PUH-lease!”

Let’s not forget that everyone has had their share of faults and events they probably wish they could erase or else keep out of the public eye. Judging a person’s political ability based on mistakes and/or a mishap in the past is silly.

This leads me to believe that some of people that are voting for the criticizing individual think it’s okay to speak ill of another. We need to have more people in office who are kind and supporting. Someone who is wasting time and money digging up their competition’s past to make them look bad is not someone I want having a voice in government.

The idea behind the right to vote is that the voters become informed. This may only take a short time away from The Biggest Loser or whatever flick is on HBO. While you are browsing the web, do some searching around about issues and read the candidate’s platforms.

People should be in office because they are hardworking, honest, and continually growing. They should be responsible and working towards a healthier and happier world for all. People spend a colossal amount of money running for office. Is this responsible?

My suggestion is that you investigate the issues and people you are voting for. Going to vote is important, but don’t go and make choices based on media hype. Throwing away your vote with a random choice is disrespectful.

Next time you are in that tiny cubicle with the ballot lying unmarked, make an informed decision and feel confident knowing you are making a positive difference.

Christmas Extravaganza

The Dakota Wesleyan University Department of Music will present a “Christmas Extravaganza” at 7 p.m., Friday, Dec. 10, in the Sherman Center on campus.

The concert will feature the Wesleyan Choir, Wesleyan University/Community Band, Highlanders, faculty soloists, members of the theatre department, and a special men’s choir composed of students, faculty, staff and alumni. This concert is free and open to the public.

The Christmas Extravaganza will take audience members on a nonstop whirlwind tour of sacred and festive music from around the world and from all ages. There will be congregational carols as well as a special candlelight grand finale.

The choirs and voice ensembles are directed by Dr. Clint Desmond, DWU choral director, and the band is directed by Brad Berens, adjunct instructor of instrumental music at DWU. Student Reuben Isaac created the original artwork that will be featured on the cover of the Christmas Extravaganza program and in promotional materials.



Painting by Reuben Isaac



A crowd gathers to sing and help set up the light display at the Abbott House. The light display will be up through Christmas until January 3rd.



Photos by Teagan Aguinaga



Employee Christmas Luncheon

Above: The Highlanders perform at the Employee Christmas Luncheon.



Left & Below: Mike Farney dressed up as Santa, then proceeded to pelt the audience with popcorn balls. He also dressed up as Sir Isaac Newton for a song by Mike Catalano.



Below: Clint Desmond and Dan Miller co-hosted.



Below: Jarod and Brandon won the professional excellence awards for this quarter.



Photos by Mari Olson