

# THE BURROW

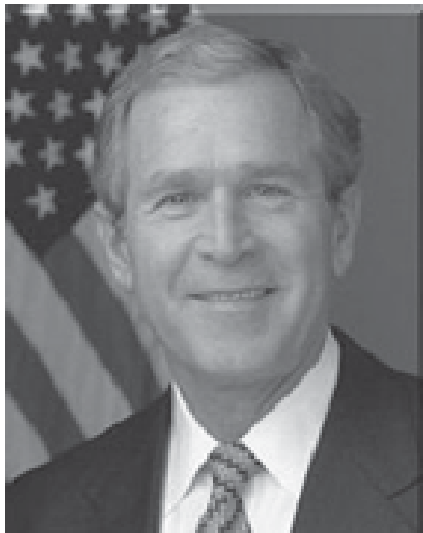
The Student Newspaper of Hamilton County Senior High School

Vol. 3, Issue 7

McLeansboro, Illinois

March 2006

## Forever known



leader George Bush.

The fate of the infamous George Bush is at stake with each and every decision his pen signs. As war wages in Iraq citizens of our country are settling their minds on how this man will be remembered for years to come. Since the year 2001, President Bush has been the head of our country and achieved many great goals but the question that remains at hand is: Will the war in Iraq define George Bush's legacy as President?

As leader of our nation, George Bush has aided in the development of such programs as No Child Left Behind. Despite these definite influences he has made on the American people, years from now when our children's children hear the name George Bush the thought of the war not the peace.

When asked what was the first thing that came to mind when the name George Bush was mentioned Sophomore Nicholas Burke replied quickly with, "Iraq, terrorism." Burke is not the only one who thinks this way. According to a recent study two-thirds of Americans said almost the exact same thing as Burke.

Will a man's entire life of decisions be overshadowed by a country thousands of miles away? Or will that man's decisions decide who he is. Many have already made their choice and have their mind set. Only time will tell about the few remaining.



By Brian Harland  
The Burrow

Washington, Lincoln, Roosevelt, and Reagan are all names that will remain in the minds and hearts of many Americans forever. These presidents have achieved greatness among the standards of the people of this great nation. On the contrary names such as Johnson, Nixon, and Clinton are widely regarded as failures to the American society. The current analysis at hand is American's

## National 4-H conference



By Sara Veatch  
The Burrow

4-H is an organization that many kids in our community take part in. One student from our high school, however, is doing more than just her county fair projects this year. Junior, Rachel Crow will be traveling to Washington, D.C. on March 25 where she will be staying for one week to attend the "National 4-H Conference". Anyone who is in 4-H and is between the ages of 15 and 18 could apply for this conference, but only 8 teens from Illinois were accepted. Crow said, "It should be a very exciting trip! I am grateful for the chance and for my parents supporting me."

The purpose of the conference is to bring teens from all over the United States together to develop plans to implement programs on the local and state levels of 4-H. Crow will be meeting with federal legislators to promote 4-H. Crow will be attending meetings, round table discussions and workshops throughout the day. They will be doing fun activities at night such as a pin swap with the teens from other states to get to know them better and going on a cruise.

Crow started 4-H when she was 8 years old. Her main project is "Public Presentation" (speeches and demonstrations). Crow has won multiple Superior Awards (the highest honor in 4-H) for her projects, and has been selected to go to the State Fair every year. Crow served on the Illinois Leadership Convention (ILC) planning committee last year. ILC is an annual conference that is held in June for 4-H members in high school. Crow currently serves on the Illinois State Fair Junior Department Advisory Committee. The committee makes suggestions on how the 4-H's state fair could improve from year to year.

Crow plans to continue to be active in 4-H. Once she is too old to be a member, she plans on volunteering with 4-H programs.



Crow will be visiting our nation's capitol on March 25.

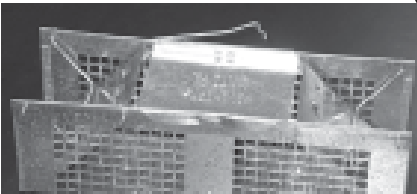
Crow said, "In the near future, I hope to be accepted to serve on the Youth Leadership Team, which is a group of about 15 young adults that plan a Junior High Leadership Conference and travel throughout the State promoting 4-H."

Crow says that 4-H has definitely helped prepare her for her future. "4-H has helped me realize that I want to go into Communications in college and for my job. It has helped me to be more confident in myself and my work. I am a more outgoing person."

When asked what she would say about 4-H to someone who asked her if it would be worthwhile to join Crow replied, "4-H is a very worthwhile organization. If you work hard on your projects and participate in your club, you can receive awards and have chances to compete at state levels and have chances to attend conferences."

Crow's final comment about the trip was, "Have fun at school while I'm in our nation's capitol!"

## Hunt for the golden mouse



The traps used leave the mice unharmed, and gives them a free meal.



By Nick Holloman  
The Burrow

Out in the wild of Bear Creek, Mr. Vallowe and his Advanced Biology class has been looking high and low for indigenous wild, and plant life. Mr. Vallowe makes their goal clear "Our goal for the creek is to establish the historical range of biodiversity" They have a list of what they should expect to find and are marking each plant and animal off the list as it is discovered. As the list dwindles in size a few mammals have yet to be found, "Ochrotomys nuttalli" and "Oryzomys palustris" more commonly known as the Golden Mouse and the Marsh Rice Rat.

The Golden Mouse has been found here and the surrounding areas in the past, but the lively-hood of this animal are threatened. They're commonly found in thick woodlands, and swampy areas. They enjoy living near honeysuckle, green bier and red cedar. When asked if Bear Creek has these plants

Mr. Vallowe replied, "We have honeysuckle out the Wa-zoo."

The Rice Rat also has been recorded in being in Hamilton County, but its well-being is imperiled. They are normally found in wet-swamp fields so it would be comfortable in parts of the Bear Creek Arboretum. Since spring is well on its way both of these mice should become more active and awake from the winter hibernation.

The traps used are non-lethal and will not harm anything that falls prey to the allure of peanut butter. They're metal so rodents cannot gnaw their way out, and are durable for weather conditions. Each end has an opening so that the target can come from either side, but once inside the door mechanism triggers causing the trap doors to slide down, trapping anything inside.

If Mr. Vallowe and his class are successful in finding the elusive mice, then John Bozett, our District's Wildlife Habitat Biologist would be informed. The mice would be taken in for study, pictures would be taken and notes about the mice's characteristics would be written down. After sufficient study the mice would be released back into the wild, unharmed. From there the Bear Creek Arboretum could apply for aid from the state to help ensure the mice's survival. So if you're walking along Bear Creek make sure to keep an out for any of our rodent friends.

## New laws limit funeral protests



By Katie Kimble  
The Burrow

Funeral protesting has become more common in the Midwest, and some states are finally starting to do something about it. Indiana's Governor, Mitch Daniels, signed into law a bill that makes it illegal to protest within 500 feet of a funeral. Illinois, Kentucky, Missouri and several other states may soon follow due to the frequency of disrespectful protests.

The main protests have been lead by Westboro Baptist Church of Topeka, Kansas. They used to protest at funerals of AIDS victims, but are now picketing the funerals of soldiers killed in Iraq. The church is led by Pastor Fred Phelps and consists of around 75 members. They believe that the soldiers were killed by God because they were fighting to protect a nation that protects homosexuals and people who commit infidelity. At one of these funerals, the wife of a deceased soldier had to visit the funeral home an hour before the service just so she would not be harassed by the protesters. At another funeral in Martinsville, Indiana, members of the church shouted insults at the family and



Protestors of Westboro Baptist Church use derogatory signs

dragged the American flag on the ground.

Some of the bills simply prohibit loud shouting, disruptive noises, and derogatory signs. Others state that protests must be hours after or before the funeral service, or that the protests must be a certain distance away from the procession. Consequences for breaking these laws will be steep; ignoring protesting laws will be considered a felony. Wisconsin has fines up to \$10,000, and Oklahoma is putting offenders in jail for a one-year sentence.

The Westboro Baptist Church has promised to challenge the bills and laws in court, stating that it violates their first-amendment rights. Shirley Phelps-Roper, daughter of the pastor and attorney for the church, said, "We'll be across the street or down the street. We'll keep a respectful distance and put our signs in the air."

## Look Inside

Mardi Gras .....	Page 2
Titanic Truth .....	Page 6
Preview of School Play .....	Page 6
March Madness .....	Page 7
This Year's Fashion for Prom .....	Page 8
Outcome of the Oscars .....	Page 8

## I've got the Madness



By Travis Ackley  
The Burrow

I had the flu this past winter. I've had Senioritis all year. Now, I am about to catch a big fat case of hoops Madness in March. Symptoms often include: uncontrollable yelling, post-loss depression, gluttony, anxiety, hyperactivity, and loss of money spent on bracket pools.

This year the parity in college hoops makes the "Bid Dance" even better. There are so many teams that have a legitimate shot at making a run to the Final Four or even the title that it will be nearly impossible to put together a perfect bracket. If you are participating in a bracket pool this year here are some tips to keep you from making a complete idiot of yourself and maybe even save you some money in the process.

To all of you ignorant wannabes out there that know more about rocket science than about college basketball, do yourself a favor and DO SOME RESEARCH! Surf the web, take a look at the polls, talk to people, do something other than picking teams whose name sounds the coolest. Make a semi-educated guess at least, because when it comes down to it, that's what we're all doing. We are all just guessing, but those with

even a peanut sized bit of knowledge hold a definite edge.

Also, be sure to make some upset picks. I have found that about 10-20% of the games are often upsets. They happen every year and everyone knows it, it's what makes the college basketball tournament great.

If you don't know anything about the participants in this year's tourney, here is some assistance that my unqualified outlook can offer.

Highly ranked teams you shouldn't bet against: Duke, Villanova, and Connecticut. These are the three teams that stand out the most among the 64. Each has played a tough schedule in a high-profile conference, been ranked in the top three all season, and feature a star-studded lineup. These teams are "for real". Each has locked up a 1 seed in the tourney, and are poised to make a strong run. Betting against one of these teams early is virtual suicide in a bracket pool. My pick for "King of the Hill": Duke.

Also, be aware that not all highly ranked teams are worthy of their committee given status. Tennessee, George Washington, and Indiana are three of the teams that you should examine closely before riding too far, as all three have been categorized as being potentially "overrated". GW has played a week schedule, Indiana has choked down the stretch, and Tennessee pretty much collapsed in their conference tourney. Ackley's pick for "biggest wannabe": Tennessee.

West Virginia, Iowa, and Michigan State are among the underrated teams that are expected to make some noise in the tourney this year. WV returns four starters from last year's Elite Eight team, and Iowa and Michigan State are both well-balanced ball clubs that are yet to play up to their potential. With a little luck, picking one of these teams may benefit you greatly. My pick for the team that will surprise the most people: Michigan State.

If you think I am an idiot fine, but do some research and find out why. Good luck with your bracket, and enjoy the Madness!

## March Madness



By Caleb Kirsch  
The Burrow

It's time to print out your brackets and throw your money in the pile, because March Madness is underway. Everyone is looking for an edge over each other to win their respective pools, yet it seems no matter how you break down each game, there is no real way of knowing who is going to win. I'm here to throw in my two cents on who is overrated, underrated, and the surprise teams that screw up everyone's brackets.

Starting off, my pick for the most overrated team is Gonzaga. Everyone knows the hype around Adam Morrison, but who else do they have? Gonzaga lives and dies on how Morrison performs, and he can't do it all preseason long. He had a lot of success during the regular season, mainly because they have a very weak schedule. I have Gonzaga being beat by the second or third round. The other overrated team I have is Tennessee at the number two seed. Out of nowhere they are picked ahead of North

Carolina, Michigan State, and Illinois. I don't believe they will live up to the hype of being a number two seed and will lose in the second or third round.

Then there are the underrated teams. I think Boston College at the number four seed will make a run at the final four. They have proven they can compete with the powerhouse teams in the tournament, and have been consistent all year long. I don't think they will be stopped until late in the tournament. My other underrated team is Wisconsin-Milwaukee. They are a veteran team that knows how to win, and are worthy of a higher seed than number 11.

Now for the teams that everyone hates, the surprise teams. My two surprise teams are West Virginia, and Indiana. At the six seed in the Oakland Division, I see Indiana making a push for a final four game. I believe they are the team that will knock off Gonzaga in the second round, and play UCLA for a trip to the final four. As much as I hate to say it, West Virginia will beat SIU in the first round of the Atlanta Division, and make a run deep into the tournament.

Given how unpredictable the NCAA Tournament always is, no team has an easy road to Indianapolis for the National Championship game.

## Mardi Gras: Homes or Parties?



By Stephanie Hart  
The Burrow

February 20th-28th proved to be festive times in the hurricane ravaged area of New Orleans, Louisiana. Mardi Gras 2006 went on despite all of the hardships the city has undergone in the months following Hurricane Katrina. The turnout for the festivities was smaller than it has been in previous years.

The city hasn't cancelled Mardi Gras since the Korean War. A major national disaster couldn't prevent the city from celebrating. With 1,282 of its people dead and 1,600 still missing, it looks like an ideal time to get out the liquor and beads, start the parades and let the fun begin!

New Orleans spent \$2.7 million on the annual celebrations this year, down from last year which was \$4.6 million. However, it is still inappropriate when many of its citizens are without homes and wondering if their loved ones are out there somewhere, searching for them. That \$2.7 million dollars could've purchased 54,000 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, doublewide trailers in Southern Illinois and house many families! What are Ray Nagin's priorities? Josh Spangler, Junior, believes "Now is not the time to spend money on luxuries, there are too many homeless, too many dead. Not to mention, hurricane season is just around the corner, and they complain about not having enough government funding to rebuild the levees. They've wasted their money; they shouldn't get more of the country's money until they learn appropriate ways to spend it." If New Orleans was

sitting on millions of dollars, why couldn't they buy bottled water for its citizens who were starving death in the face at the Superdome. I bet Ray Nagin didn't go thirsty.

Nagin urged area hotels to give parts of Mardi Gras profits to help with hurricane relief. The Hotels were accused of not doing enough to help with the relief effort by Nagin. The tourism industry has been struggling since Katrina and profits have been hard to come by. Not to mention, the remaining hotels in the area that are still opened, have 25-30% of their rooms occupied by people still without homes. If Nagin believes they need so much more money, then perhaps tax dollars shouldn't be spent on parties. Bars reported fewer sales of drinks during Mardi Gras. Perhaps the people realized they have to spend their money on the basic necessities, like toilet paper and housing. They obviously have more sense than their elected officials.

Clean up the rubble and remove all the bodies from the 9th ward. Restore plumbing to all neighborhoods. Makes sure people have homes and clothing, then discuss celebrating.

## Mardi Gras



By Callan Howton  
The Burrow

Although many people believe New Orleans should not have had Mardi Gras this year, I beg to differ. Yes, they are going through extremely difficult times, but as senior "Dave" Kelly says, "Go party and get

past the hard times. The people in New Orleans needed something good to happen."

Most people think of Mardi Gras as a place where people get drunk and flash everyone. Although that does happen, that is not the whole story. Bourbon Street is the place where most of that takes place; other parts of New Orleans are rich in culture. Mardi Gras began in 1699 when the French came over. From the late 1700s, when we were under Spanish rule, until 1827, when it became under the United States power, Mardi Gras was banned. Mardi Gras has only been canceled once,

during the First World War. Although things are bad right now, Mardi Gras went on even through things like the Great Depression, I don't think things are even near that bad and therefore it would have been unnecessary to cancel the celebration.

The traditional colors, purple, green, and gold, stand for justice, faith, and power. The people who attend Mardi Gras realize that it is a very old tradition. Continuing to have the celebration symbolizes that their city is not dead and will eventually be back to the way it was.

Obviously help to rebuild the "forgot-

ten city" has been and still is very slow. The people there needed something happy to do, something that they could look forward to. There is not much they can do without the assistance of higher authorities, so why not throw themselves a party?

Even though some choose to believe that it is, Mardi Gras is not a meaningless celebration to waste money and make regretful decisions. It is one of the few things that bring people from everywhere together anymore. New Orleans residents have lost so much in recent months and I fail to see how taking one of their most cherished and old traditions away from them would help their situation in any way.

## THE BURROW

Hamilton County Senior High  
1 Fox Lane  
McLeansboro, Illinois 62859

### Co-Editors

Travis Ackley & Abby Hill

### Editorial's

Travis Ackley  
Caleb Kirsch  
Stephanie Hart  
Callan Howton

### Front Page

Editor's Choice

### News

Amanda McEwen  
Brandon Miller  
Stephanie Hart  
Brian Harland  
Caleb Miller

### Features

Autumn Dixon  
Sara Veatch  
Callan Howton  
Katie Kimble

### Sports

Travis Ackley  
Caleb Kirsch  
Rhet Vaughan

### A/E

Aaron Trotter  
Johnny Barrow  
Brittney Heil  
Nick Holloman

### Business Manager

Abby Hill

### Photo Journalism

Travis Ackley  
Caleb Miller  
Aaron Trotter  
Nick Holloman

The Burrow is the student newspaper of Hamilton County Senior High School and is produced by the Journalism & Desktop Publishing classes. Suggestions may be placed in the suggestion box outside of Mrs. Lueke's room.



Current Price \$2.59\*

## Pumping up at the pump

By Amanda McEwen  
The Burrow

Based on Energy Information Administration's survey on service stations, Gas prices have soared the highest level in the month of March.

The rising gas prices came just in time for busy spring driving. They reflect expensive crude oil based on traders concerns about potential disruptions in world crude oil supplies. Crude oil makes up half of the gas sold in the United States.

One reason for the increase is this is the time of year refineries make their switch to a more expensive, cleaner-burning summer blend. Iran's persistence in creating a nuclear program also comes into play.

Cashiers in gas stations get most of the rap for high gas prices. When customers come in to pay for gas, they are the only ones they see so they get a lot of the com-

plaining and questions as to why prices have raised. Questions which they have no answers for.

Although gas prices have hit high records for the United States, they are actually much lower than in many countries. Some drivers, such as in European Cities, are paying nearly 3 times more than those in the U.S. The main factor in price differences between countries is government policies. Many European nations tax gas heavily. These taxes can make up as much as 75 percent of the cost of a gallon of gas.

In a few Latin America and Middle-East nations, such as Venezuela and Saudi Arabia, oil is produced by a government-owned company. This keeps local gasoline prices low to benefit the nation's citizens. The lowest gas price in the world is \$0.12 in Caracas, Venezuela. The highest being \$6.48 in Amsterdam, Netherlands, how would you like to pay that each time you step up to the pump?

## Meat during Lent

By Autumn Dixon  
The Burrow

As many know the beginning of March is not just another start to the month. For Catholics it is the beginning of Lent.

Lent is the time in which Catholics observe the sacrifice of Jesus Christ by not eating meat on Fridays. Since this year St. Patrick's Day falls on a Friday an Irish-American, Archbishop Timothy Dolan of Milwaukee, was approved to bend the rules for the holiday. Many bishops offered the same deal last time St. Patrick's Day fell on a Friday during Lent. The Archdiocese of New York has always allowed it when the calendar linked up because St. Patrick is the patron saint of the archdiocese.

Michael O'Leary, director of Milwaukee's St. Patrick's Day parade, was pleased to have his wishes granted so he wouldn't have to be so strict on what foods were made. O'Leary is planning to prepare his famous corned beef brisket.

Corned beef dates back to the colonial times in Boston when meat was imported from Ireland and preserved in salt. Since then corned beef is now associated with Ireland.

Kathleen Hohl, spokeswoman for the Milwaukee Archdiocese, stated that the Milwaukee parishioners can take their approval with them when they travel but she doesn't believe that the parishioners from other areas who have not been approved to eat meat should not travel to Milwaukee to join in the celebration.

## Rene' Trotter, MS, FNP

Hamilton Memorial Family Clinic  
611 S. Marshall Ave.  
P.O. Box 429  
McLeansboro, IL 62859



Phone: (618) 643-2151

Fax: (618) 643-3018

## 400 years without parole

By Brandon Miller  
The Burrow

Ex-nurse Charles Cullen, guilty of at least 29 murders in two states, has been sentenced to 18 life terms.

Cullen will probably spend his time alone in a maximum-security, 6 by 12 foot, cement cell in New Jersey State prison. Cullen will spend 23 hours a day in his cell, left with an hour to walk in an isolated area. He will only be allowed to shower twice a week.

In order to avoid the death penalty, Cullen agreed to help identify patients to whom he



had administered lethal overdoses. He claims to have killed 40 people during his 16-year career at 10 nursing homes and hospitals.

Cullen stated that he killed out of mercy. Many of his victims were old and near death, but others were in their early 20's and 30's. His unwillingness to acknowledge his actions enraged his victim's relatives. They lashed out against him at hearings calling him, among other things, "vermin", "garbage", and "a total waste of human flesh."

His 18 life terms total well over four centuries of imprisonment without parole.

## "What does St. Patrick's Day mean to you...?"



\*Jennifer Rogers

"To me, it's a fun day for dressing up at school and it takes away the monotony of school."



\*Toni Webb

"I don't really know the meaning behind the holiday. But to me, I have fun dressing up in green and pinching the ones who don't."



\*Jordan Hamson

"GREEN!"



\*Aaron Johnson

"Not really anything. It's just another day for the Irish to drink."

## Lasting Impressions

by Design, Inc.

Cynthia Cravens  
Owner/Decorating Consultant

- Interior Decorating Services
- Custom Framing
- Sewing
- Upholstering
- Furniture Restoration
- Home Accessories & Gifts

200 South Washington  
McLeansboro, IL 62859

Bus. (618) 643-5080  
Cell (618) 237-3363

## STUDENT



By Autumn Dixon  
The Burrow



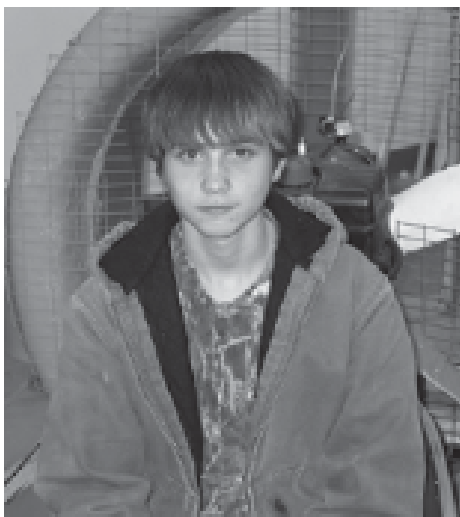
**Colton Richard Flannigan** is seventeen years old and drives a 1995 Pontiac Grand AM that he and his friends like to call Sir "Heats" A lot. If Flannigan could have any vehicle that he wanted he'd drive a Volkswagen Bus. Flannigan doesn't have a job because he says, "No one will hire me." In his free time, Flannigan enjoys hanging out with his friends, playing guitar, participating in Boy Scouts of America, playing football, helping with Humanities club, running track, participating in Scholastic Bowl, and having to find time to sleep. Flannigan likes basically all types of music except country and pop and his favorite movie is Boondocks Saints. Flannigan doesn't have the perfect woman pictured in his mind, he just wants her to be able to take a joke and have a good sense of humor. For a dream vacation, Flannigan would, "Go to Ireland and check out all the different kinds of castles and try to absorb the types of cultures."



**Robert Andrew Hargrave** is fifteen years old. He's not old enough to drive legally, but he would like to one day be able to drive a 1995 Camero. Hargrave doesn't have a job so in his spare time he likes to hunt and fish. He listens to a little bit of every kind of music except bluegrass. His favorite movie is Wedding Crashers. Hargrave stated his dream woman as, "Good looking and fun to be with." If Hargrave could take a trip anywhere, it would be a hunting trip in Africa.



**Ashley Jean Aydt** is eighteen years old and drives a silver 2003 Oldsmobile Alero. She is currently working at Aydt Farm Inc. where she has been working for five years. She loves her job. She loves that she can work outside and be on the farm. "I like knowing that I can drive a tractor just like all the other guys." When Aydt isn't farming, she enjoys hanging out with her friends, talking on her cell phone, riding horses and just being outdoors. Aydt listens to all kinds of music but her favorite is country and pop. Her favorite movie is 8 Seconds. Aydt doesn't know what her fantasy man would look like but she'll let us know when she sees him. "My dream vacation would be to go to Paris."



**Jake Taylor French** is fourteen years old. He doesn't drive but when he is able to, he would like to have a 2006 Dodge Challenger. French doesn't work so in his free time he goes 4-wheeler riding, hunting and fishing. He listens to classic rock and country music and his favorite movie is Anchorman. His fantasy woman would be, "Brunette with a nice body." If French could vacation anywhere it wouldn't be just one place; it would be a trip around the world.

# P R O F I L E S

## Meet the teach



By Johnny Barrow  
The Burrow

There is a new face here at Hamilton County High, and her name is Kaitlyn Lasswell. She is currently filling in for Mrs. Lueke, who has not been here for the past few months. On behalf of the students here, I would like to welcome her to the school.



Kaitlyn Lasswell

Mrs. Lasswell grew up not too far from here in Norris City. She just recently graduated from Eastern Illinois University in Charleston this past December with a Bachelor's degree in English and also received a secondary teaching certificate. When she first attended college, she wanted to become an author/poet because she enjoys writing poetry and short stories, but after meeting a history instructor at southeastern Illinois College named Dr. Rae where she went for her first two years, she became inspired and knew instantly that she wanted to teach and make others as excited about learning and reading as Dr. Rae made her about history. She student taught this past fall in Arcola Illinois, and then applied for the leave of absence here in February.

Mrs. Lasswell has really enjoyed her time here and says that her students have really been "a joy to have in class for the most part." She actually just got married to Hamilton County High Alumni, Tim Lasswell, only two days before starting the position here. She says that although her life has been a little chaotic these last few months because of all the changes going on, she loves every minute of teaching here and doesn't have anything negative to say about it. "Just having this teaching experience and working in a school where the staff and students are so helpful and supportive really makes my job rewarding and pleasant and is something I look forward to everyday." She would like to thank her students for making her feel so welcome and especially for their patience. "I know it has to be hard going from one teacher to another so often and still try to learn something in the meantime, but the students have really adapted well and I have a tremendous amount of respect for them."

## Welcome to the family



By Johnny Barrow  
The Burrow

Mario Puzo's classic novel and Francis Ford Coppola's movie trilogy has been created into a new video game called "The Godfather" and it is going to be released under Electronic Arts. When playing this game, you put yourself inside the infamous Corleone family, and try to earn your respect throughout 20th century New York.



The game gives you the opportunity to choose whether to solve your problems with violence or using your street smarts to out wit your enemies. This game will feature the voices of Robert Duvall, James Caan and Marlon Brando, who all appeared in the Godfather Trilogy. "Authenticity is the key," David DeMartini, the game's executive producer, told the Hollywood Reporter. "James Caan and Robert Duvall were there when the original Godfather movie was filmed, and there is no substitute for that. Along with Marlon Brando, they are some of the most respected actors in Hollywood and bring tremendous star power to The Godfather game."

THE  
GOOD



- ✓ Prom Night
- ✓ Successful sports year for the Foxes

THE  
BAD



- ✓ Rushing around the day of Prom
- ✓ Superman's wife dying

THE  
UGLY



- ✓ The morning after Prom
- ✓ Student Interaction with school events

# FEATURES

## A club for the arts



Humanities Club. Photo courtesy of The Pyramid and Witter Studio.

**By Sara Veatch**  
*The Burrow*

"We try to come up with ways to show people that art isn't necessarily a formal thing, but that it can be fun and exciting," said junior, Katie Karcher, president of the Humanities Club. The Humanities Club is about appreciation and awareness of all arts. This club is one club in our school that most people seem to know little about. There are no requirements; you don't have to be interested in paintings or sculptures to be in this club. Some members prefer poetry and music, which are also considered art.

The Humanities Club officers are President-Katie Karcher, Vice-President-Sarah Vallowe, Secretary-Stephanie Hart, and Treasurer-Jennifer Smith. This club does many fundraisers. They hold an annual dress sale and a Novemberfest. This year they sold Christmas stockings and Valentines at lunch. They also do rug painting and raffles.

The club takes a field trip almost every

year. In the past they have done many different things such as going hiking and building sand sculptures at Rend Lake. This year, they are planning a trip to the St. Louis City Art Museum.

The club is currently in the process of trying to put together a film festival. They were inspired to do this by a film festival at Rend Lake put together by Alex Ryterski. They plan on Ryterski showing some of his films at the festival. "We knew that many students at our school were interested in making movies, and we wanted them to be able to show them off," said Karcher. If enough people participate, they hope to make the film festival a contest. There will be a panel of judges, and the film with the highest score will win a prize. These are the only plans that have been made for the festival so far. If you are interested in participating and would like to know more about it, you can talk to one of the Humanities club officers. So, if you are interested in the arts, the Humanities Club is the club for you.

## Participation in clubs

**By Brittney Heil**  
*The Burrow*

There are many clubs to choose from at Hamilton County Senior High. Many of these clubs try to do fun and exciting things to keep students interested. These activities usually won't work unless students participate.

March 10th was supposed to be the Winter Bash. Interact had a lot of fun activities planned for the Winter Bash, but it's hard to have something planned when nobody is going to show. That is why they had to cancel it. Many clubs may have had this problem in the past. It may not be to the point of cancellation, but to where not very many students would attend. "I think it's really sad no one wants to participate in club activities, most of the time not even the members. I understand that we don't want to come back to school on the weekends when we've been here all week, but that's usually not the only reason. Most of the time students would rather spend their time out at

parties getting wasted rather than showing a little interest in school activities. Actually, it's rather pathetic," said junior, Maggie Karcher. Most of the times the only meetings students will attend are the ones at school. This might be because of the reason they are getting out of class. Youth for Christ and Humanities are two clubs who try to do a lot of out of school activities. Such as the Humanities concert they had at the old high school gym, or the Youth for Christ's movie night. Humanities will also be having a film festival coming up that they would love for all to attend. Another club that has many out of school meetings is FBLA. They do lots of activities to raise money for organizations, such as March of Dimes.

One night if you know there is a club meeting, and you having nothing else to do, just give it a shot, you might enjoy it. The clubs here at our high school work hard to make things fun. Show a little appreciation for the sponsors and members and try to enjoy it. The club's members would love to have you there!

## Lights...Camera...Drama



Thespians Club. Photo courtesy of The Pyramid and Witter Studio.

**By Nick Holloman**  
*The Burrow*

Spring brings many things, the trees, and Mr. Carlton's Thespians club gives us their Spring Production. This year the club is putting on not one but two plays, which include "Chinese Cinderella" Starring Jennifer Smith. She gives us a sneak preview as she recites her favorite line "Please don't call me that my name is the only thing I possess that's beautiful." She is really enthused "This is going to be my best performance yet"

The Bremen Town Musicians is the sec-

ond play lined up. It tells the story of how even old animals that should have been "put" into pasture long ago, can still be helpful. It's the four year Thespians veteran Jason Slaegle in what will be his final show here at Hamilton County Jr./Sr. High. "I've had a lot of fun these past years, and I am going to miss it a lot".

The Thespians' show is March 16th and 17th at 7 PM in the Hamilton County Jr./Sr. Commons. So if you're looking for a dramatic treat that's rare in these parts then you should come watch the show. Tickets are \$3.00 for Students, and \$4.00 for Adults, you may purchase tickets from anyone of the Thespians members.



N. Side of the Square, McLeansboro

**AUTENS PIZZA HOUSE**

207 Walker

McLEANSBORO, IL 62859

Phone: 643-3471

Owners: Dick & Lucille Auten



**Freedom Baptist**  
**Youth Group**



Sponsors: Chris & Lisa Young  
Meets: Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

**Guests Welcome!**

400 Isabelle Place, McLeansboro

## South Dakota governor signs controversial abortion ban into law



By Stephanie Hart  
The Burrow

South Dakota governor, Mike Rounds, signed a new abortion ban making abortion in the state illegal, except in the extremely rare case of the mother's life being endangered. According to the law, "South Dakota Women's Health and Human Life Protection Act" or Hb 1215, life begins with conception. An unborn child has the same natural and inalienable rights as its mother. In Section 3 it explains that anyone that knowingly performs an abortion, sells a pregnant woman a drug with the intention of terminating a pregnancy, or uses any tool or procedure to terminate a pregnancy will receive a Class 5 felony. Section 4 of the new law makes clear that any doctor may do what they must in order to save the life of a mother, however they must "make reasonable medical efforts under the circumstances to preserve both the life of the mother and the life of her unborn child in a manner consistent with conventional medical practice."

The law is expected to be challenged by pro-choice activists and Planned Parenthood. The only performing abortion clinic in the state was Planned Parenthood and was located in Sioux Falls. Rounds said "In the history of the world, the true test of a civilization is how well people treat the most vulnerable and most helpless in their society. The sponsors and supporters of the bill believe that abortion is wrong because unborn children are the most vulnerable and most helpless persons in our society. I agree with them," in a written statement.

South Dakota's population is suffering. There are fewer children and high school graduates, this has forced the board of regents to cut their tuition prices for out of state students by more than half, hoping to allure more people to receive higher education in the state, and settle there. The state will be facing protests from Planned Parenthood, which has boasted itself in the past as a "population control" organization. The organization was formed by Margaret Sanger, an extreme white supremacist.

Abortion has made an impact in the demographics of our country's population since the 1973 Supreme Court case, Roe v Wade. 1,452 African American babies are aborted every day, making the num-



ber of births and abortions nearly equal. 13 million African American babies have been aborted since the 1973 case, causing twice as many deaths as aids, accidents, violent crimes, cancer and heart disease combined. African American abortions make up a third of all abortions performed in the U.S. 78% of Planned Parenthood clinics are located in areas with high minority populations.

Pro-Life activists fear that if the law is taken to the Supreme Court, it could overturn Roe v Wade, because of the new additions to the court, Samuel Alito and John Roberts. The case has struck controversy from the beginning. Norma McCorvey is the true identity of the infamous plaintiff in the controversial case, using the fictitious name, Jane Roe, to secure her anonymity. In 1995, however, her views on the issue were dramatically changed after working in an abortion clinic in Dallas, Texas. In a 1997 CNN interview, McCorvey voiced her opinion, "I personally think it's the pro-abortion people who are doing this to collect on their insurance so they can go out and build bigger and better killing centers." McCorvey gave birth to the child she was carrying during the case and put it up for adoption.

Several other states could soon follow in South Dakota's footsteps. The new laws will be a direct challenge to the Supreme Court case and will force the court to reevaluate its earlier rulings. It appears that the wheels of change are turning. Junior, Melyssa Hart strongly supports the ban in South Dakota, "The abortion industry in this country does as it pleases and answers to no one. I'm ashamed of the fact that a minor can get a fetus removed without their parents knowing, but can't get their ears pierced or tan without parental consent."

## Titanic discovery



By Katie Kimble  
The Burrow

Twenty-one years after the Titanic was discovered, many would think that someone would know how it actually went down. It has been accepted for years that on April 14, 1912, the Titanic collided with an iceberg which tore a gash into the right side of the ship. New discovery shows that the bottom of the ship may have been damaged also, causing it to sink faster than it should have.

Studies on the Titanic in the past have allowed for scientists to assume that because of the hole in the right side of the ship, the front of Titanic filled with water first. This caused the back of the ship to stick up before sinking straight down, as seen in the 1997 movie "Titanic". Titanic was deemed "unsinkable" by its creator, because it had 16 watertight areas at the bottom of the ship. In order for the ship to be damaged and still

float, only four of these compartments could be punctured. The iceberg punctured five of the 16 compartments. New evidence states that the ship also tore its bottom along the iceberg, and as water flooded into the bottom, the force of the water ripped apart the ship, causing it to go down faster. The water literally ripped the Titanic in half.

It took about two hours for the Titanic to sink completely. After hitting the iceberg, officials on the ship thought that it was just taking on water. Had that been the case, it should have taken hours to sink, or it might not have sunk at all. Because the people on board thought there was no reason to panic, they only used half of the lifeboats available. Because of this, 1,513 of the 2,200 people onboard perished in the disaster.

The massive loss of life in the Titanic wreckage resulted in the requirement for other ships to have lifeboats for every passenger on board, around the clock communication iceberg surveillance and constant with other ships.



# PEOPLES NATIONAL BANK

Est. 1909

On the Square  
McLeansboro  
Phone 643-4303  
Fax 643-2292

24-hour Bank by Phone  
618-643-7060

## 4R Equipment Hamilton County

McLeansboro, IL  
(618) 643-2124

Carmi, IL  
(618) 382-2311

**CASE III**

## Foxes baseball team back in the swing of things

 **By Caleb Miller**  
The Burrow

The Foxes baseball team has taken the field once again for the beginning of another spring baseball season. Despite coming off a disappointing 10-21 record last year, the attitude of the team as a whole has been one of enthusiasm and high hopes.

The Foxes had their first practice on February 27. At the conclusion of the first day, Coach Gray sat the team down and told them how impressed he was with the mindset and work ethic he was already seeing. "Last year was horrible, there's not really any other way to put it. It's a new year though, and I think the team realizes that. The attitude has been great. It all starts from the top with the seniors and filters its way down line, all the way to the freshmen," Coach Gray said.

The Foxes will be led by two seniors, outfielder-pitcher Jerrod McGill (who was last year's team MVP and led the team in batting), and catcher-infielder Caleb Miller (who was named 2nd team All-Conference). We're going to be looking for a lot of guys to step up and play varsity level baseball this year," Coach Gray commented.

Juniors Justin Cantrell (pitcher-infielder),

Matt Hall (pitcher-infielder), and Austin Cross (catcher-outfielder) will be key players in the Foxes line-up as well. Underclassmen, which roughly make up over half of the team, will be expected to make huge impacts also. Sophomores Caleb Kirsch, Orry Taylor, Tanner Spicuzza, Brian Thomas and freshmen Tyler Reyling and Kane Smith will all be working for varsity innings at numerous positions.

One thing the team struggled with greatly last year was errors. As a result, they have made it one of their top priorities to vastly cut down this statistic. "We really struggled in games to make the plays when we needed them. That made it even harder for our pitchers to get in a good rhythm and keep their pitch counts down," Junior Matt Hall said.

The Foxes have their first game on Tuesday, March 21 at Edwards County and then travel to Pinckneyville.

'05-'06 has been an exceptional year for Fox sports, with the football team advancing to the playoffs and the boy's basketball team winning sectionals for the first time since 1991. The guys on the baseball field this spring will be working their hardest to keep that streak alive.

Good luck to the H.C. Foxes baseball team this season!

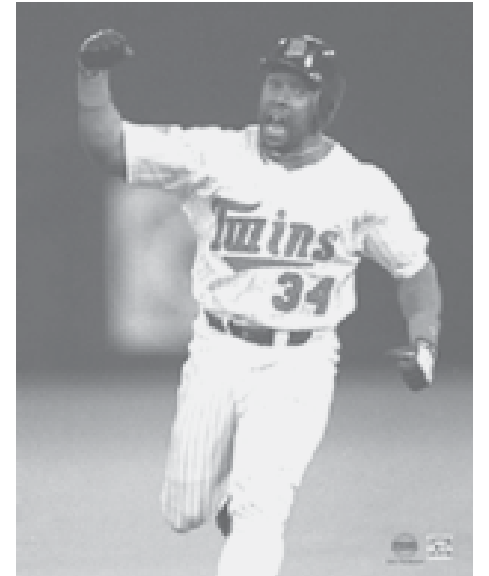


**By Devane Prince**  
The Burrow

They say the good die young, and in this case they are right. Kirby Puckett, a hall of fame baseball player, died of complications of a stroke at the young age of 45. He was known for his consistent hitting and good spirit and also for leading his Twins to 2 World Series titles.

He was one of the very few people that I enjoyed being around, to tell you the truth, because he was just himself," said Kevin Garnett, who wrote KP 34 in honor of Puckett on his sneakers for Tuesday night's game against the Houston Rockets. "I had a lot of private conversations about being who we are, being people, not being afraid of making mistakes."

The Red's centerfielder Ken Griffey Jr. was at Kirby's bedside when he passed. When it was over, and Kirby Puckett was really gone, Ken Griffey Jr. sat in a baseball dugout and took deep breaths that turned back his grief. "There's certain people that you owe it to, for the things they've done for you," Griffey said. "No matter where you are.



Kirby Puckett

He was that important to my family. It was for the things he said to me, not for the way he played. Kirby's in a better spot," he said. "But, it's everybody else who has to go through it. He's just, gone."

"It's really too bad, he was great player, and a great man", said sophomore Orry Taylor.

## John Chaney retires



John Chaney

 **By Devane Prince**  
The Burrow

Hall of fame coach John Chaney is calling it quits. He was a good coach that at sometimes had his flaws; that's precisely what made him an ideal example for the many young men he influenced in 24 years as the basketball coach at Temple.

"When his players left school and headed for the real world, they knew exactly how to carry themselves—and how not to. Four years of watching and listening to Chaney was all it took", said Temple Athletic Director Michael Watson.

John Chaney might be best known for "sending in the goon" in a rough game where his player went in and broke the arm of an opposing player. He is also known for winning 700 games.

"It is a shame to see a great coach leave the sport", said freshman Ben Scattone.

## The legacy of a legend



**By Travis Ackley**  
The Burrow

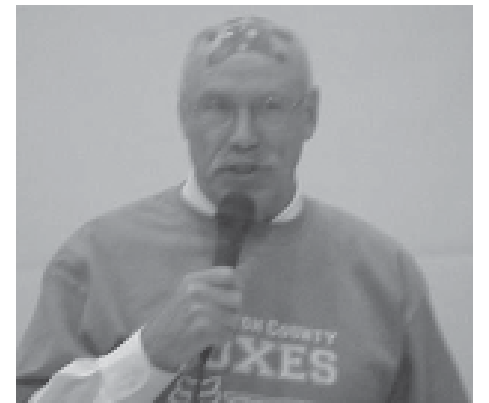
Wins in high school basketball often times come on go with the presence and absence of talent. Sometimes however, various basketball programs figure out the key to perennial success. Here at Hamilton County Coach Curt Reed has been "Mr. Success" for our hoops program since 1985-1986.

That year, Reed replaced previous Foxes coach Darin Lee. Expectations couldn't have been any higher for Reed, as he took over the helm of a program that was a year removed from a State Championship. Over the next 18 years Reed would not only prove worthy of his promotion, but also of

Hall of Fame honors in the state of Illinois.

In the boys Sectional Championship win over West Frankfort in March 2006 Curt Reed notched his 701st career win. This year, he also took his second team to the State tournament. In his career, Reed has only suffered three losing seasons, to go with more than ten 20+ win seasons.

High school basketball has changed immensely during Reed's tenure, but his style of play and overall viewpoint of the game has not. He still stresses team defense, a patient offensive attack, and a clean-cut team appearance. Student enrollment has also changed here at Hamilton County throughout Reed's reign, but still the old Fox perseveres. As rumors of his exodus will likely be flung around the region this off-season



Coach Reed

(as they seem to every year), most will wonder if he is still the right man for the job. Ask any player of his however, when Reed should step down from his position and you'll likely here this word; NEVER! Thanks for all your hard work coach as a fan, as a player, and as a friend.

## Spring fever

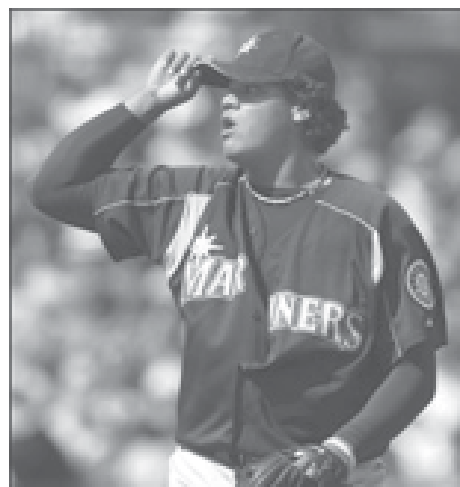


**By Caleb Kirsch**  
The Burrow

It's that time of year again, when the weather warms up, and so does the baseball.

With all of the off-season acquisitions and injuries, no one is for sure which teams have the advantage.

In the American League, there seems to be the same two teams that are tough year after year. This year is no exception with the Boston Red Sox, and the New York Yankees both looking very strong. Although, there are also other teams that shouldn't be forgotten. The Oakland Athletics were active in the off-season signing long time slugger Frank Thomas. Thomas has been plagued with injuries since the turn of the century, but Oakland is optimistic he will be ready for opening day. The Seattle Mariners are looking very strong this year, behind the 20 year old pitching phenom Felix Hernandez. Hernandez was called up to the big leagues towards the end of last season, and impressed the Mariners



Seattle Mariners pitching phenomenon Felix Hernandez

enough to make him the number one starter for their pitching rotation. Another team to keep in mind is the Minnesota Twins. The Twins recently had pitcher Johan Santana make himself known as one of the best pitchers in the league, and are expecting more of the same this year.

Even with all the talk of the Yankees, Red Sox, etc., Sophomore Orry Taylor

has a different opinion. "I thin the Devil Rays will be the surprise team of the American League this year, because they are so young and talented." Sophomore Brody Mitchell disagrees saying, "The Yankees are my pick for the best team in the American League, because they have the deepest lineup."

In the National League, the St. Louis Cardinals have put together a strong lineup yet again, and are a favorite to make it deep into the playoffs. The Atlanta Braves have won the National League East Division every year since 1995, but have the New York Mets to worry about this year. The last two seasons, the Mets have had a breakout prospect in David Wright, and acquired ace pitcher Pedro Martinez, as well as All-Star outfielder Carlos Beltran. After a disappointing season last year, the Mets believe they are the favorite to snap the Braves NL East winning streak this year.

Major League experts are excited about the 2006 season, believing that with all of the off-season trades and free agent signings, there is no clear cut teams to runaway with any division. Only time will tell how things will pan out this year, and no team is safe in believing they are going to make the playoffs.

## The next big RPG: Oblivion

By Aaron Trotter  
The Burrow

Role-playing games (RPG) have always captured the attention of many gamers out there on consoles, PC's, and the internet. After seeing videos of actual game play footage, development, and the trailer, I can safely say the next big RPG is The Elder Scrolls IV: Oblivion for the Xbox 360 and PC.

For those of you out there who are familiar to the Elder Scrolls series, you can remember the first time playing one of those games and thinking, "What am I doing? What's going on? How do I kill stuff...!?" and other such questions. Well, Oblivion solves all that by giving the die-hard player the finely tuned game play while introducing it to Joe Gamer through an easy-to-use graphical interface.

For those of you not familiar to the Elder Scrolls series, or not familiar to RPG's at all, let me explain. Oblivion is a game in which you can do anything (chase chickens, throw rocks, complete quests for little old ladies), be anything (from the stealthy assassin to the wizened sorcerer or the battle-hard warrior), and kill anything you want to (goblins, lions, skeletons, and all manor of innocent people). Throughout the game you will acquire armor, weapons, potions, and will partake in quests that will leave you absolutely speechless. Just by watching the videos I have been enthralled with the amount of aspects the game has. First and foremost is your character customization. The beginning of the game has you choosing your race, facial elements, and character classes, which in and of itself can require at least a half hour or more of your time. This RPG has well over 200 hours of potential game play, with the main storyline supplying 20 to 25 of those hours.

The game also brags of having one of the best looking graphics a video game can produce. By gazing at screenshots, I have found myself constantly picking my jaw up off the floor, trying to decipher whether these pictures were actual real-world postcards or just another video game. The lush forests, pristine waterfalls, mushrooms growing out of the bottom of trees; Oblivion leaves nothing to the imagination. The website [www.gamerswithjobs.com](http://www.gamerswithjobs.com) recently did a preview on Oblivion and made this comment about the graphics. "Bethesda has done a fantastic job of giving the world a sense of scope, filling it with beautiful, vast landscapes, mountains that rise high into the clouds, and forests more lavishly detailed than we've seen in any previous game."



Combat in the game has been drastically improved from Elder Scrolls III. Striking your enemy at close range with a weapon will always end in a hit, whereas the last game constituted a dice roll every time you swung your weapon, which would end up as a hit or miss, and perhaps a thrown controller on the other side of the room. Thankfully Bethesda removed the dice roll, therefore making combat more realistic and less frustrating.

Although its pretty, and the combat system is nice, another fantastic feature of the game is the impressively intelligent AI. The NPC's (non-player characters) have full 24/7 schedules and will interact with each other as well as you. These characters number around 1500, so interaction with them is crucial to success in Oblivion. IGN.com provides an example of what the NPC's are like and what they can do. "Watch as a woman feeds her dog, which boosts its attributes and makes it start barking constantly, which bothers her because she's lying down in bed and trying to read, so she throws a fireball at it and destroys it. Watch as another person picks up a bow and arrow and learns how to use it, chatting with you the whole while as their ability gradually increases. All this is completely unscripted. When you come back to that town hours later, that same person will still be there—perhaps still training, or down at the pub, or eating some succulent barbecued dog." Oblivion also keeps track of everything you do, such as how many murders you have committed, how many houses you own, etc. The NPC's will react to your reputation. If you kill a lot of innocent people (which, by the way, is a great stress reliever), then they will treat you as such, and more than likely Town Guards will be after you to throw you in jail. On the other hand, thieves and bandits will welcome you into their circle, so there are advantages to being an outlaw. Certain areas and quests of the game are only accessible by being one, while others become inaccessible. The choices you make in this game has a tremendous impact on whether you enjoy it or not.

Compared to other RPG's, Oblivion still leaves the others behind. Take Runescape or Diablo II for the PC for example. Certain elements of these RPG's are limited, especially choices, and that does not encompass the conditions of a well-rounded RPG. Agreed, they are not meant to be that good-looking or offer an exceptional state-of-the-art experience. (Diablo II is an older game while Runescape is internet/java based) but its game play is still lacking for the class of RPG that Oblivion has exceedingly accomplished. Charles Husemann, an online gaming journalist, says "Oblivion has the potential to be one of those games that changes things; one of those games that you will judge other games by for years to come." My thoughts exactly.

If you have the option of playing this game in the near future, I caution you to be aware of the effects it has. It will leave you wanting more. If I notice one of my fellow gamers in the hall randomly yell, "Fireball!" or "Barnacles and Biscuits! Where's my healing potion?" then I'll know what video game has caught their attention, them and the rest of the gamer nation. Oblivion is just that good. GameHelper.com sums Oblivion up the best way possible. "This is THE game that has the capacity to swallow you down whole and slowly digest you over a period of a thousand years. And you'll like it."

## This year's fashion for prom

By Brittney Heil  
The Burrow



Times have changed.

As prom approaches you'll hear many girls talking about their flowers, jewelry, and most of all their dress. This year it's said to be out with the big and formal, and in with the short and more slim-fitting, straight dresses. For some this may not be the case.

In past years all you would see were huge "poofy" dresses that girls wanted for prom. This year the tastes for dresses are changing a little bit. You may say the less dress the better. "I've worn a big dress to prom before and it was very uncomfortable and hard to dance in. I think the whole point of prom is dancing and having fun. So, I decided to go a different direction this year and get something worth spending my money on," said junior, Adrea Evans. Come to find out Evans wasn't the only one leaning towards this opinion. "I've never had a big dress for prom because I think they're hard to dance in, and I think everyone looks better in slim fitting dresses," said senior, Melisa Crump.

Even though in years to come more girls

may pick shorter or straighter dresses, there might always be some who prefer those dresses with a fuller bottom. Not every girl can say they like slim fitting dresses. For example junior, Holly Reyling, states "I got a poofy dress for prom because I think bigger dresses are more appropriate for prom." Another who prefers poofy dresses is senior, Letitia Brooks. "I love wearing a big dress for prom. For homecoming I wear straight dresses, but for Prom a poofy dress seems more formal. Plus there are only so many times in life you can wear a poofy dress, so why not," states Brooks.

Whether it's how comfortable, the expense, what looks better, or more appropriate, girls all think differently on which direction to go for a dress. Regardless most girls feel that the important thing is how pretty they feel in their dress.

## And the Oscar goes to...

By Brandon Miller  
The Burrow

In the posh neighborhood of Hollywood, California sits the magnificent 3,400 seat Kodak Theatre. On Sunday, March 5th this was the place to be as the brightest stars paraded down the red carpet in flamboyant Hollywood fashion, exorbitantly clad for the 78th Academy Awards. As the evening progressed, however, the glamour was overshadowed by suspense and the competitive lust for a little statuette named "Oscar".

Jon Stewart hosted the prestigious ceremony and stars including: Nicole Kidman, Will Ferrell, Steve Carroll, Jamie Foxx, and Jessica Alba presented the awards in 24 categories. These include: Best Actor, Best Supporting Actor, Best Actress, Best Supporting Actress, and Best Motion Picture.

For his role in "Capote" Philip Seymour Hoffman was awarded the Oscar for Best Actor. Other nominees for this category were: Terrence Howard in "Hustle & Flow", Heath Ledger in "Brokeback Mountain", Joaquin Phoenix in "Walk the Line", and David Strathairn in "Good Night, and Good Luck".

The Oscar for Best Supporting Actor went to George Clooney for "Syriana". The other nominees for Best Supporting Actor were: Matt Dillon in "Crash", Paul Giamatti in "Cinderella Man", Jake Gyllenhaal in "Brokeback Mountain", and William Hurt in "A History of Violence".

Favorite Reese Witherspoon won the Oscar for Best Actress for her role in "Walk the Line". The other nominees were: Judi Dench in "Mrs. Henderson Presents", Felicity Huffman in "Transamerica", Keira Knightley in "Pride & Prejudice", and Charlize Theron in "North Country".

The Best Supporting Actress Award went to Rachel Weisz for "The Constant Gardener". The other nominees were: Amy Adams in "Junebug", Catherine Keener in "Capote", Frances McDormand in "North Country", and Michelle Williams in "Brokeback Mountain".

The nominees for Best Motion Picture

of the Year were: "Brokeback Mountain", "Capote", "Crash", "Good Night, and Good Luck", and "Munich". Heavy favorite "Brokeback Mountain" had 8 Oscar nominations, but "Crash", with 6 nominations, managed to leave with the Award for Best Motion Picture of the Year.

After the last awards had been handed out, the stars and the other guests immediately proceeded onward to their next equally extravagant destination, the Governors Ball. For the first time that evening winners were given a chance to relax and realize that their name will forever be synonymous with the one of the most esteemed title in the film industry...Academy Award Winner.



Academy Award Merit