

COLUMBUS HIGH SCHOOL

The Clarion



December 2011

FFA Lock-In: A Great Success!

By Ariel Baesman

The FFA Lock-in on Friday, December 2nd was very eventful and a good bonding experience for FFA officers and members. One highlight for Ms. Meister was that “They let me sleep for four hours!” The rest of the time the students were busy with “a lot of fun things,” according to Johnni Winter, such as playing “no rule dodge ball.” Jamie Reynen explains, “I don’t think anybody got hurt.” Also in the line-up was a game of boys vs. girls kick-ball in which the boys won. Following the games were several movies including *Son-in-Law*, *Arthur*, and *Smokey and the Bandit*. Thankfully for the students that participated Ms. Meister and Ms. Henderson both gave up their nights to help supervise the event allowing these fun things to take place.

The many students that at-



tended included: freshmen Renee Budris and Cody Buss; sophomores Jamie Reynen, Johnni Winter, Mitch Schleicher, Mitchell Lins, Austyn Hayes, Kendra Hein, Sam Housner,

Alyssa Wilke, Miguel Salas, Liz Kanouse, Bronwyn Schwoerer, and Audrey Steuer; junior Randi Miller; senior Aaron Schleicher; and eighth grader Rachel Damm. Aaron explained to me very simply that the lock-in “was a fun time” and that the students all had fun throughout the night.

FFA certainly needed some down time because the day after the lock-in was the celebrated Christmas Tree and Wreath Sale. Students worked extremely hard decorating wreaths and picking out trees for the holiday season.

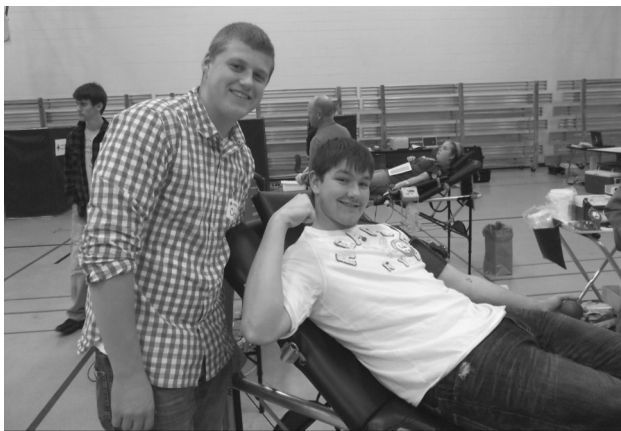
If you would like to get involved with FFA, meetings are every third Monday of the month; the next meeting is January 16th after we return from winter break.

Blood Drive

By Reagan Johnson

The American Red Cross is a nonprofit organization that coordinates forty-five percent of the blood given in the US. They then sell this blood to hospitals and other blood suppliers across the country. Forty-one students and two staff members participated in the Red Cross blood drive sponsored by the National Honor Society on November 9th. They had a goal of donating forty units of blood at the drive and got extremely close at thirty eight units. A unit is equivalent to a pint.

While the idea of giving blood might be a little scary the first time, the Red Cross volunteers made the experience a positive one for the students by taking extra care and explaining the process. This way, students understood the importance of giving blood and hopefully will continue to donate blood in the future. This is so important because less than ten percent of the population donates blood annually.



Pictures courtesy of Ms. Kirchberg



A Trinity of Students

By Logan Wescott

There are three types of students here at CHS. We have the students who do homework right away after school, the kids who do homework when it's night, and the procrastinators who wait until they absolutely have to get it done the minute it's due.

The students who do their homework right after school tend to be the smarter kids in CHS. Once they get home, they automatically think 'homework time.' These students tend to get good grades and ace exams.

Many people should be more like these students because it'll help you out in the long run. These students get stuff done.

The students who start their homework during the evening seem to be more average with low A's and B's. Don't get me wrong, there are always those smart kids that do this too, they're just good. They will get stuff done, but will have the occasional late assignment or two and will have to stay up late some nights doing homework. Then we have the procrastinators.

tinators.

The procrastinators are the students who start their homework late at night. They begin at about 10 or 11. They'll sometimes even start in the morning. Their grades vary but they get it done most of the time.

There are many types of kids in CHS and their homework finishing skills aren't always top notch. The kids who do it, the one's who do it later, and the ones who do it at the last chance. Whatever floats your boat, I guess, as long as it gets the job done.

CHS Volleyball Award Winners: Diggin' It

By Coach Parchem

On November 10th, the volleyball team held their annual banquet as a traditional end the season. Look for good times ahead for the team as all three levels put up great numbers and competition this season! The Capital North Conference voted two of the Columbus Varsity members as all conference selections. Some of the highlights from this year were completing a 3-peat sweep of Rio and an intense 5 set win over Luther Prep at home in Conference play. Congratulations on a great season! Pictured below are this season award winners: (From right to left).

Front row:

Senior Bridget Derr-Captian, Coaches Award
 Senior Jessica Bruenig- Captian
 Senior Ellie Holtz-Sportsmanship Award
 Senior Josi Swatek-Captian, MVP, All Conference Honorable Mention

Back row:

Junior Sarah Rowe- Hustle Award
 Junior Sam Fletcher- Defensive Award
 Sophomore Amy Denikas- Offensive Award, All Conference 2nd Team
 Sophomore Ashley Martinsen- Captian (Martinsen also holds the school record for Serving Points in a season)



Holiday Gift Ideas

By Brittany Grafton

As everyone knows, the holidays are right around the corner and you may be wondering what to get for your friends. Chances are that your friends don't know what to get you either. Stay simple and sweet, but at any chance jump for the funny gifts. Those Secret Santa limits are hard to follow. Staying to a budget may be difficult, but when you go with the funny gifts, it becomes a lot easier.

Let's say in your group you have your best friend, your sibling, and your lover:

~If your best friend is a girl, get her some bright colored nail polish and her favorite candy. No girl can deny sweets and bright colors.

~If your best friend is a guy, get him some iPod headphones and mechanical pencils. Considering that these are the most commonly lost or stolen items, it wouldn't hurt to have some extras.

~If shopping for your brother, head for some games or treat them to a lunch of their choice.

~If shopping for your sister, hair accessories or gift cards to her favorite store.

~When shopping for your girlfriend, make sure to be sweet. Something adorable like a candy cane with a little note will make her day. Something shiny would also do the trick.

~When looking for something for your boyfriend, I'm sure he just wants to spend time with you! But seriously, maybe gifts from an inside joke that you two share would make him smile and think of you.

Check Out Quarter One Honor Roll Students!

9th Grade

HIGHEST HONORS

Austin Bittner
Maeve Droessler
Elizabeth Gerber
Autumn Hardesty
Christian Kirchberg
Kaylin Langer
Erin Wedig

HIGH HONORS

Alec Archambault
Bryce Bousquet
Leah Clark
Kayla Ebert
Benjamin O'Connell
Adele Poser
Jessie Reynolds
Rebecca Schroeder
Sydney Spence
Hailey Wheeler
Hailey Woodward
Andrew Zahn

REGULAR HONORS

Jacob Ballweg
Michael Beal, Jr.
Renee Burdis
Taylor Gessler
Laurel Goetsch
Rebecca Grafton
Alyssa Grimes
Elijah Hammer
Tarek Herschleb
Colton Leisses
Gabriele Menomin
Kaia Miller
Morgan Seltzner
Taylor Simerson
Jesse Virgin
Lea Wagner-Fournier

10th Grade

HIGHEST HONORS

Ariel Baeseman
Brett Bousquet
Colin Freidel
Molly Hussey
Fred Mosley

Elisabeth Rehfeldt
Adam Schmidt
Zachary Schmidt
Kalina Udell

HIGH HONORS

Aaren Armatoski
Jesslynn Baker
Katlun Braun
Wyatt Brownskowski
Aurelie Cremers
Amy Denikas
Garrett Gosdeck
Ashley Guerrieri
Nathan Hahn
Elizabeth Kanouse
Lena Mason
Kendra Minick
Elizabeth Morris
Jacob Pacala
Cynthia Powers
Jamie Reynen
Patrick Roche
Audrey Steuer

REGULAR HONORS

Gemma Bonelli
Christopher Crombie
Brittany Grafton
Mitchell Hasey
Megan Hauge
Dalton Lange
Alyssa Lee
Gattlyn Molnar
Sean Russell
Miguel Salas
Alyssa Slack
Nathan Virgin
Dana Weinheimer
Elliot Zander

11th Grade

HIGHEST HONORS

Anna Bostian
Brittany Brandt
Kory Branton
Celia Hein
Herfrank Loyo
Bethany Patrick

Justin Roche
Cassidy Schroeder
Kaila Witthun

HIGH HONORS

Morgan Crouch
Gavin Droessler
Marion Hoffman
Sarah Jahnke
Randi Miller
Manuela Molina
Hannah O'Connell
Sarah Rowe
Alyssa Turnquist
Abby Waldo
Hannah Weber
Megan Wittchow

REGULAR HONORS

James Baerwolf
Stephanie Bruns
Brent Bublitz
Gracia Clark
Kristi Collaku
Laura Cutshall
Seth Dowdell
Henry Elling
Mitchell Groh
Kirsten Henke
Patricia Hilpert
Jacob James
Reagan Johnson
Megen Milburn
Mariah Rake
Rebecca Sawyer
Colin Schilling
Amanda Schroeder
Alicen Shedosky
Madeline Tompach
Jeffrey Weiland
Alexander Zahn

12th Grade

HIGHEST HONORS

Alexandra Breitzman
Elizabeth Breuckman
Lenin Hernandez
Dalton Miller
Laura Morris

Alyssa Pearson
Kayla Prosser
Kasey Reese
Katherine Schmidt
Michaela Skalitzky

HIGH HONORS

Payton Archambault
Anna Avogaro
Emilie Boomsma
Jessica Breunig
Kane Brownskowski
Samuel Cares
Morgan Cherry
Colleen Diels
Jacob Ewert
John Faulhaber
Caitlin Gockel
Kayla Hasey
Charles Hauge
Amelia Holtz
Tayler Hurckman
Angela Miller
Ali Roberts
Elle Russell
Bradley Schack
Katherine Tompach

REGULAR HONORS

Alex Anderson
Casey Crombie
Clara Goetsch
Ryan Goodinson
Maddie Hammer
Lindsey Heiling
Karli Hess
Kody Klink
Sophia Kramer
Devin Larson
Justin Maier
Dario Mazzei
Christopher Mickelson
Gentiana Salioska
Haley Schlueter
Haley Trumble
Anthony Vick
Eli Weichert
Matthew Wendt
Kyle Winter

Pros and Cons of Winter

By Aurelie Cremers

During Wisconsin winters all of us expect a lot of snow. That's fine if you do like snow, but some of us simply do not. But there are so many good and bad things about winter that you can never absolutely hate it or absolutely like it.

Pros:

During the winter the holidays are right there so we get to get together with family that we sometimes rarely get to see. There's so much to do with them, like eating a lot of food, going outside and having snowball fights, watching snow fall gently to the ground, or watching a blizzard, and watching Christmas movies like *Elf*, *The Grinch*, and *It's a Wonderful Life*. Outside there are so many things to do: you can build a snowman, make snow angels, make snow forts or igloos, you could go sledding, or if you have an imagination you can attempt to swim in snow. If you like you could go to Cascade Mountain or anywhere else and learn how to ski and snowboard. If we are lucky, it will snow enough so that we get a couple snow days, an early dismissal, or two hour delay. During winter there are a few sports going on. There's wrestling, basketball, hockey, figure skating and ice fishing, if you consider it a sport.

Cons:

As the winter approaches the bitter cold hits us all in a sore spot, or at least most of us. Sometimes, the weather makes us be in an especially bad mood, especial-



Photo courtesy of imdb.com

ly if you're outside in the cold, wet snow, which ends up becoming black towards the end of the winter, and shoveling for an extremely long time, then having your socks get all wet. Sometimes, it's worse because you fall on the ice and *you* get even more wet and crabby. Then there's the snow days, you might think, well I love being home from school and I get to see my friends. But the kids living in the country mostly do not, especially if the roads are bad. Plus you have to make up for all those missed days in the summer. If you do manage to get out there is a chance that your car will slide in a ditch

and then you'd need to call for assistance, or if you're a stud you could push your car out.

Everyone loves to give or get gifts, but if you go buy all your gifts it's sometimes a pain to realize that all your money went to the gifts, but it does end up being gratifying seeing people open and love your presents. The day after Thanksgiving the Christmas music starts. At first we all love it, but then it ends up being all you hear on the radio and a lot of people end up getting sick of the holiday music. Also during the holidays, you eat *a lot*. And some people, including myself, gain ten pounds just looking at the food and twenty pounds actually eating the food.

But even though there are so many things to dislike or love about winter I think that we all have a soft spot for gently falling snow during Christmas and Christmas Eve. So enjoy the winter to the best of your ability and have a great holiday season!



Fireside Chats with JT

By JT Cestkowski

"Relationship" is a word with quite a broad definition. "Relationship" could be your connection to anyone, but in the high school lexicon we generally use it as a way to refer to those who are dating or have a "thing." A relationship can define us and tell so much about ourselves. Think about it, when you creep on someone on Facebook, what's one of the first things you check? The relationship status, because our natural human curiosity makes us want to know who is doing what with whom and for how long have they been doing it.

Different relationship statuses (including those not listed on Facebook) have different definitions and sometimes we may not be exactly clear as to what they mean. But have no fear, through years of in-depth research and field testing I feel I have developed extremely accurate definitions for each. The following relationships are listed in order of least to most seriousness.

Crush - Oh, the crush. A term we used to only apply to those of the sex we find most appealing that we found not totally repulsive or infected with cooties. We usually would only share our crush's name with our friends at 1 a.m. through a mouthful of cookie dough at a sleep over.

Thing- A little more serious than a crush, it could mean two things. First, "We are basically dating but we haven't put the label on it yet." Second, "We are doing stuff that my parents wouldn't approve of and we don't want to admit it." Either way your "It's Complicated" status is going to be changed back to "Single" pretty quickly.

On again, off again- You have known this person a long time and probably really care about them, but when they do that thing you hate, you want to yell profanities at them and beat them with a stick until they cry. You two will break up, but eventually you'll forget the pain and only remember the passionate make out sessions. Your friends may say that they wish they had what you two have, but secretly, they want one of you to move out of state.

Summer romance- You never realized how nice/funny/hot they were until your parents and his/her parents made you both go to that same camp/class/event/4th of July barbeque where neither of you knew anyone else and you bonded. It was the best relationship you ever had. It was a magical and beautiful time... That is, until school started and your friends reminded you what a freak your new fling was because they ate their pizza backward. You broke up with them over the phone.

Heart breaker- You didn't care that they couldn't remember your name or that they only called when they needed to borrow money to pay off their latest speeding ticket because they didn't want their parents to find out about it and take away their keys because there was a party they wanted to drive to in Beaver Dam that weekend. And sure they left you for your cooler best friend, which made you a sobbing wreck for weeks, but at least they briefly acknowledged your existence, that was enough for you.

Just Sayin'

By Leah Clark

Yo, what up my... well, an associate. One of my friends has a crush on a freshie and he's a senior; he's gonna be 18, isn't that illegal? And secondly, he doesn't have the balls to ask her out let alone talk to her, so what would you suggest to push him forward with crushing the [poop] outta him. Plus, he's a tad creepy, so he also needs advice on how not to be a creeper.

Dear.. an associate.

First off, for an 18 year old senior to be dating a freshman is not illegal. However, if they have sex or do other intimate touchy-feely stuff, then that would be considered illegal. Secondly, you said he doesn't have the "balls to ask her out let alone talk to her," maybe he doesn't want to get involved with the illegal situations and wants to stay away. Or maybe he just needs to man up. As for the creepy part, just drop subtle hints here and there. Usually girls can tell if guys are creepers, just sayin'. He'll eventually get the hints and back off.

I really like this Leah Clark girl and I need to know how to get her number?- Anonymous

Dear Anonymous,

I'm sure this Leah Clark girl doesn't give her number out to strangers, just sayin'. If you want it, go ask her for it.

Last month my baby cousin died, and I still can't get over it. People say it's stupid to still be upset about it cause he was only three months old. And, I barely knew him. I get really angry and sad randomly.

How do you get over something like that?-Anonymous

Dear Anonymous,

I'm sorry to hear about your loss. It's hard dealing with a death, even if you didn't know the person very

well. It's difficult to get over something like that, but just try to stay positive. Maybe do things to get your mind off of him, like hang out with you're friends or go to a movie. And the people that say it's stupid that you are still upset probably don't understand what it's like for you, just sayin'. Keep yourself occupied and you'll get over it eventually.

How can I get more girls to converse with me. They kind of ignore me right now. Toot-a-loo for now, friend.

Dear friend,

There isn't really a right or wrong way to make girls talk to you... I mean, there are things that you should never do, and things that you should do. For instance, if you want girls to talk to you, make yourself available. Don't be the loner in the bunch! Talk to them first, then they will talk to you. But, don't be desperate. It's extremely obvious when a guy is trying too hard to get someone's attention, just sayin'. Also, when you start talking to girls, don't be awkward. Try to keep the conversations flowing instead of having awkward silences in between topics.

Dear Kane,

You asked me a question about facial hair at the basketball game. You asked me when you need to shave. Well, there is a difference from looking like a caveman to having a clean cut shave. I mean, you don't want to look like Santa Claus, despite your holiday spirit. Keep it clean and not too ratty and everything will be fine. But honestly, the ladies aren't a fan of the Chewbacca look, just sayin'.

Got a question? Just write your question on a piece of paper and put it into the question box located in the library.

Make sure it is school appropriate!

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Have a
great
holiday
break!

From The Clarion