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The Blizzard Ball raises \$629

DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America), advised by Linda Carpenter, raised \$629 through the volleyball Blizzard Ball event that was held on Friday, Dec. 12th. During 9th period, students who purchased the \$1 ticket for the event were able to go to the gym to watch the students take on the staff in a co-ed volleyball game. The staff won with a final score of 31-25.

The money raised for the event will go to help local families in need. On Tuesday, December 16th students in Marketing II went shopping and spent \$365 on gifts for four families in the community with children from ages 5 to 16. The remaining \$264 was given to the school office to help other students here at Sidney High School.



My Christmas Wishes

BY CAMILLE YERKEY

This Christmas I asked for something new...nothing. This year I didn't ask for anything. My parents are already taking me to New York over the break and I'm very excited about it. Other than that I haven't asked for one thing, oh, well I did ask for a toothbrush. I got a puppy earlier in the year so that was off the list, and I got a car over the summer so I won't be asking for that. My parents provide me with all I need throughout the year and I could not ask for anything better. They love me, hope and wish the best for my life, and they will support me no matter what I choose to do with me life. The way I see it, I already have everything I could ever want, and I don't really need anything, so I'm not going to milk my parents for material things this year. Simply having my family

Happy Holidays from The Sidney Buzz Staff

Here are some of our Christmas wishes and memories...



happy and healthy is all I could ask for.

A Family Tradition

BY: JON LEMASTER

A family tradition is something special that you do every year with your family.

It could be a great Christmas dinner or a certain time you get up and open presents. I have a tradition in my family. Every year I go to my grandma's on December 24th, and open presents. Usually around the beginning of December she asks me what I want. If we really cannot think of anything at the time, I can just tell her I would just take money so when I do think of something I can just

go out and get it. This year I told her that I would take the money because when I turn eighteen in January I will get an early graduation gift from my mom. She is going to give me her old car and I would use the money that my grandma gave me on any upgrades I would want to do to the car.

Going out to my grandma's is one of the best times of the year. I go with my dad, my twenty-one year old brother, my twenty year old brother, and my six year old brother who will be seven on Dec. 23rd. My twenty-one year old brother is married and has two kids also. My dad's brothers come out, who each has three kids and my aunt from West Palm Beach, Florida comes up. To make a long story short, we have a lot of our family all at Grandma's and it is the greatest way to spend Christmas.

The Sidney Buzz wishes you all a safe and happy holiday season!

NHS, the truth Behind the letters

National Honor Society, NHS, is an organization that selects students who represent outstanding qualities of Scholar, Leadership, Service, and Character. Sidney's NHS group is run by advisor, Mrs. Kelly Thorne, and officers, Sam Young (President), Jalee Clendenin (Vice-President), Jessica Griffis (Secretary), and Dora Vines (Treasurer). Although this organization inducts only juniors and seniors, freshman and sophomores wishing to join need to begin the process now, by watching their grades. Juniors who are not inducted their junior year still have a chance to join senior year.

The process begins with obtaining a 3.5 cumulative grade point average at the end of sophomore year. The students who are eligible based on the g.p.a. requirement will receive a letter which includes the application form. On this form, potential members are to list information about them such as volunteer activities and leadership experiences. Upon completion of this form, students should distribute them to teachers throughout the school to inform them of their involvement in school and community activities. Then, the faculty rates each applicant in respect to the four cornerstones; Scholar, Leadership, Service, and Character. The students who receive the highest average ratings will be invited to attend the induction dinner and ceremony. This year's celebration took place in the Sidney High School cafeteria on Dec. 8th, at 6:30pm. The banquet was open

to parents, administration, board of education members, the superintendent, the assistant superintendent, and the curriculum director. The senior officers played a big role in the induction. Each of the four officers discussed one of the cornerstones then light the candle that represents that quality. Once all of the principles had been addressed, the inductees were called up to receive their certificate, NHS card, membership pin, and a candle. After everyone had received their incentives, the new members recited the NHS Pledge simultaneously as they formed a candlelit semi circle.

Satisfying requirements isn't a one-time deal. Once a member, students are required to attend monthly meetings, complete a designated number of service hours (15), maintain the 3.5 g.p.a., and uphold the character and leadership qualities required. NHS provides many services including the Salvation Army ringing of the bells, TEAMS and Central Zone (mentors and tutors that report to mainly Longfellow and Central), Peer Tutoring provided at SHS, Pioneer Days with help from the Historical Society (for Middle School students), plus many other offerings that vary from month-to-month. There is never a need to worry about recording enough hours with various opportunities. NHS is the perfect way to get involved for the students that believe they can reach all requirements. Being involved in National Honor Society also looks great on college applications.



The Cornerstones broken down

Scholar: maintaining a 3.5 cumulative g.p.a. throughout the remainder of one's high school career.

Leadership: the act of inspiring, encouraging, and influencing others in a positive manner.

Service: volunteering time to provide assistance to others.

Character: a positive, selfless person who is cooperative and able to handle criticism, but also submits relevant ideas.

NHS Pledge

I pledge myself to uphold the high purpose of the National Honor Society to which I have been elected.

I will be true to the principles for which it stands;

I will be loyal to my school and will maintain and encourage high standards of Scholarship, Service, Leadership, and Character

Recently Inducted Members

Aubrey Gaylor, Brooke Lambert, Lauren Stearns, Kristin Abbott, Jenna Alexander, Melissa Ayton, Kayla Clifford, Karlee Cole, Aaron Dinzeo, Bailey Ditmer, Katy Easton, Tyler Elmore, Aric Eppley, Jennifer Fogt, Chris Gaier, Abril Galang, Laura Gutman, Ethan Headings, Tarah Heath, Sarah Hipple, Grady Hoellrich, Beth Hull, Pranav Jayanth, Zachery Johnson, Raechelle Kahlig, Destiny Kellerman, Ethan Langhorst, Kira Lauth, Alex Lochard, Chelsea Mabes, Holly McVety, Amanda Milligan, Leah Morris, Chad Niekirk, Jennifer Seeger, Gavin Spangler, Kathryn Steenrod, Lindsay Ston, Yuta Suzuki, Courtney Tennyson, Taylor Thompson, Tristine Toves, Beverly Wheeler, Chelsae Wise, Gage Wooley, and Adam Zimmerman.



On the left, NHS members line up with their candles to form the semi-circle, while on the right the new inductees pose for a group shot.

Need A Ride? No High School Busing after break

Starting January 5, 2008 (the day we get back from Winter Break) there will no longer be buses to come pick up high schoolers and take them to school. Students will be expected to find their own method of transportation.

According to Ohio Laws, the school system only has to provide buses for K-8 and special needs students. So now, students in grades 9-12 are left without a ride. What are they supposed to do? Well, carpooling is one way to solve this problem. They can ride with another student that has a car and can drive, as long as they are 17 or older, or are not giving other students a ride, because remember, it is illegal for a



person under 17 to have more than one non-relative person in the car. If this doesn't work, students and parents can go to www.sidney.k12.oh.us and click on the parent resources link where viewers will see a link for **Carpool Connect**. This is a site where they can find other students and parents that are willing to drive students that don't have a ride. Those looking for rides simply need to type in their location and where they want to go and it will help them find a ride. Students living close enough, can walk or ride a bike.

With the transportation change, it will be important for students to still make it to school on time. The school will not be letting up on its tardy policy, getting to school is the student and parents responsibility, not the schools. If students are late too many times, they will get in trouble. There will be no exceptions to the rules just because there are no more buses. The administration hopes that it will not affect attendance and tardiness, however they are prepared to deal with

whatever happens due to this change.

People may be wondering how it helps to cut buses to the high school if we have buses that are going right next door to the middle school. Well, if the buses do not have to pick up high schoolers, they can fit more middle school students on the buses, and there could then be up to 10 less buses, which will definitely mean less gas. Students traveling to JVS will need to have a ride to the high school, but Busing to the JVS will still be offered and will leave from the high school as usual.

If the levy is passed this spring, busing will most definitely be reconsidered. At this time, it is unsure whether or not the school system will have to make more cuts toward busing in the future if the levy is not passed in the spring. Any questions regarding busing should be directed toward the Board of Education.

If a student currently rides a bus, make sure they find a ride to school in advance. If they know of someone who can give them a ride, ask now, don't wait! This change is going to affect everybody, so it is best that they are prepared in advance.



I Want a Hippopotamus for Christmas...

In reality, not many of us want hippopotamuses for Christmas this year. It's nothing new that one of the best things about Christmas is all the new stuff you get. There's so much out there for us to choose from that no one has an excuse to have a short Christmas list this year. We went around and asked you what you wanted this year for Christmas, and there was quite a lot. Some students were serious, while others

were just being funny. Regardless, here are the top ten gifts that YOU want this year, followed by the top ten gifts that parents buy for their teens.

Top Presents Parents Buy

1. Car



2. Laptop

3. Digital Camera

4. Concert Tickets

5. Movie Tickets

6. Bedroom Furniture/Accessories

7. Clothes/ Gift Cards

8. Video Games/Consoles

9. Musical Instruments

10. Ipod/ MP3 Player

Guidance Office News

Seniors- You can begin filling out the FAFSA starting January 1, 2009. Don't forget, you need to do this as soon as possible.

* There will be an assembly, "Making College Count", for seniors coming up in January. It will be from 8:00-9:00AM.

* There will be an assembly, "Making My College Search Count", for juniors coming up also in January. It will be from 9:15-10:15AM.

* If you are a senior and you missed financial aid night, you can pick up the information in the guidance office. Also scholarship applications are in the guidance.

* If you need to sign up for the SAT or ACT, you can pick up a packet in the guidance office.

Top Ten Student Presents

1. Guitar Hero World Tour/ Rock Band 2

2. Ipod/ MP3 Player

3. Car

4. Pony

5. Clothes

6. Wii

7. Laptop

8. Money

9. Digital Camera

10. My Two Front Teeth



**Page Created by
Samantha Mooney**

The College Process

It's that time again, time for college applications and scholarship opportunities. While seniors are busy writing essays and filling out applications, there are things juniors need to be doing also. These include taking the ACT so their scores can improve senior year and looking into colleges and majors so they have a better idea of what they want to do when the time comes. Also, juniors need to make sure their grades stay up because the whole application process involves their high school grades through their junior year, since applications are due prior to senior year being completed.

Right now seniors need to be working on getting their applications done and sent in. Colleges usually want applications in by mid-January. Some of the schools students have been applying to include Ohio State, Wright State, and Bowling Green. If seniors are looking to get a scholarship, there are hundreds of opportunities available. Updates are passed out to seniors each month, or they can get online and look for scholarships. Some good websites to look at would be www.fastweb.com, www.schoolsoup.com, and many others. Most scholarships are available online, or they can be filled out and sent in. Each scholarship has its own deadline, but most are between January and April. Thousands of dollars are given out to Sidney students each year, and there are many opportunities that are not even taken advantage of. The process may seem overwhelming at times, but it is still worth pursuing because in the end, it really helps with college.

Words of wisdom from Mr. Dillon, "Find out what makes you happy and pursue it or you'll be in a job or college program you don't like."

What Colleges Are You Applying To?



Molly Schriber- Heidelberg



Jessica Hand- Ohio Northern



Cody Herbert-Rhode State



Samantha Young-Wright State, University of Illinois

Blast From The Past



With a full house and the juniors raising over \$2000 for prom, Lip Sync 2008 was a big hit this year. The emcees were Chelsea Mables, Leslie McKnight, Devon Rickert, and Gage Woolley. They all did a great job. The theme this year was incorporated with tie dye banners and the emcees dressing up as singers from the past. The battle of the classes was HUGE this year. The judges surprised everyone when the seniors were announced the winners, since it has been the juniors that have been victorious many times over the past ten years. The seniors deserved it though because they did an amazing job with their high school musical act.

First place honorable mention went to YMCA by Devon Rickert, Ethan Headings, Gage Woolley, Ethan Langhorst, Killian Gray, and Alex



Lochard. Second place honorable mention went to Wanna Be by Jacob Meyer, Gage Woolley, Anthony Ordway, Killian Gray, and Jimmie Marsh. Third place honorable mention went to Karma Slave by Mollie Moniaci. Third place winners were DeDerick Curtiss, Antwon Thomas, Patrick Sharpshire, Lawrence Daniel, and Ricky Stackonis performing Freeze. The second place winner was Mark Schwarzman performing Wheels. First place went to the students performing OMIGOD YOU GUYS. Congrats to everyone! You all did an amazing job....GO SENIORS!!



Anthony Ordway- San Francisco State University



Thomas Kimbler-Wright State, Bowling Green

Peer Mediation

Peer mediation is a process where students are trained to help other students talk out their problems. It first started in California during the '80s, in community mediation centers. The most prominent program was Conflict Managers, and it was brought out by the San Francisco Community Board for Policy and Training, and has been the model for many others. Our own version of peer mediation was brought to us in 2000, by Mrs. Kerr.



In a mediation, there are a few basic things you are guaranteed, such as confidentiality, mutual respect, and it will be interruption free. There are only 4 people allowed in a mediation; 2 mediators, and 2 conflicting students. This seems to be a successful formula because most everyone who has used peer mediation has gotten over their differences and ended up fine. With no adults in the discussion, it helps students to keep mutual respect, and they know that whoever they are talking to, they will be able to relate to each other.

There are 6 steps that are met in each session. They are: Step 1) Process explanation and verbal agreements to uphold respect, to not interrupt each other, and to remain seated; Step 2) Both sides of the story are told; Step 3) Both disputing students talk about the problem to each other; Step 4) Disputing students brainstorm ideas on how to fix the problem; Step 5) The chosen solutions are written in contract form; Step 6) All parties are thanked for the mediation, and return to class.

In order to become a mediator you are required to have the approval of two different teachers, and then you have to go through the training.

Peer mediation has been considered to be incredibly effective, and no one even knows it happens unless one of the mediated tells someone else. While the office is only averaging 1-2 mediations a month, peer mediators are looking to get the word out about mediation as an alternative to conflict. So, the next time you are feeling angry at someone, or you have a serious problem with being around someone, just give peer mediation a try. It might help.

**SHS YEARBOOK SALES
ARE GOING ON NOW!**

**Take advantage of the
Early Bird Special!**

Through Jan. 16th yearbooks are \$55, but after Jan. 16th they will be \$65. Order forms are available in the high school office.

Trip to France scheduled for June

This coming June there is a big trip in the works for anyone who would like to learn about the French culture, art, architecture, food, and much more! Students, teachers, and parents are going to be going on a trip to France, from June 15th to June 26th. The trip, which is open to all students (including those who have not taken a French class), will include a tour of the Louvre museum, visits to such historical areas as Normandy and Versailles, and a stay in Paris. The cost for the trip is \$3,700, which includes everything except spending money. Participants on the tour will do most of the traveling by bus, but will end the tour with an overnight train ride to the Riviera, from where they will leave for home. While the cost is high, students have been running fundraisers to help with their cost. One such fundraiser that is currently going on is the collection of old cell phones, mp3 players, ink cartridges, cameras, laptops, anything electronic. The collection of these items can then be used to get money for the fees. Those interested in donating items for this fundraiser should contact Mrs. Smith or drop off donations to the high school. In addition to the current fundraiser, there was also a plant sale this past spring, and most-recently a cheesecake sale that has just ended. There are currently 24 people going on the trip, which includes students, parents, and SHS faculty members. Faculty member chaperones going on the trip are Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Luebke, and Mrs. Kerr, with additional faculty members, Mrs. Plaine and Mrs. Pirics, joining them as well. Students who would like to go on the trip should sign up quickly. The deadline to sign up at the \$3,700 rate is December 6th. The prices will then go up for anyone signing up after December 6th. All interested students and parents, or those needing more information, should contact Mrs. Janet Smith at the high school via phone or email, smithj@sidney.k12.oh.us. For more information about ACIS, the educational travel company the trip is being organized through, go to www.acis.com.



From left to right: Dara Wildermuth, Chelsae Wise, Laura Gutman, Melissa Ayton, Courtney Morris, Katherine Beigel and Warner Huskey.

Articles written and created by: Chad Blue



SHS History, Symbols, and Traditions

SHS has been through quite a few symbols and mascots. But the few iconic symbols that will never be forgotten will be the old SHS jacket logo, but then it was changed for legal matters with a copyright issue. Then we adopted a new mascot, for which the SHS cheerleaders held a contest for the naming of the new mascot, Sid. Many activities or traditions have been around for quite awhile. Some of these popular traditions include:

- Lip Sync battle of the classes
- The Class Rah, Rah, Rah...
- Homecoming
- Prom
- Powder-puff

Read more in our next issue to learn the history behind Sid, the Sidney Yellow Jacket mascot, and why he hasn't always looked the way he does now.



FIGHT SONG

Sidney High! Sidney High!
 Never let that Spirit die!
 Break through that rival line
 Their strength defy;
 Put the pigskin over;
 Loyal to Sidney's men,
 We are here to win again,
 Fight, fight unto the end
 For Sidney High!
 Go, go, go, go, go
 Fight, fight, fight, fight, fight,
 Win, win, win, win, win.
 Go, fight, win!

Buzzing Through Time

Past winners of the lip sync battle of the classes
 1991 - Seniors- performed "Friends in low place"
 1992 -Sophomores performed "Opposites Attract"
 1994 Sophomores performed "Convoy"

Exploring Careers Day

BY SASHA HOOVER

On Wednesday, December 3rd, around 200 sophomores from Sidney, and about 1,000 sophomores from around the district visited Upper Valley JVS to attend the annual Exploring Careers Day. Sidney sophomores went in the afternoon, and chose two different labs that lasted fifty minutes. Each lab they attended had activities planned to help introduce them to that career field, and show them what they do in the classroom each day. JVS is excused from school that day, in order to use the space in the labs. Each Career Day Lab was instructed by Students of the JVS, so that the sophomores were able to see the JVS experience from their peer's point of view.

New Math Classes at Sidney High School

BY SASHA HOOVER

Starting next year with the class of 2014, all high school students will have to take four credits of math to graduate. They will also have to pass Algebra 2. To help students meet these new requirements, Sidney has made it so that all freshman have to take Algebra 1. Instead of breaking up Algebra 1 up into A and B courses, Sidney will make it an option to break up Algebra 2 into A and B courses. Since Algebra 2 is the requirement for graduation, breaking it up into two years of class makes it easier to focus on it.

ALMA MATER

Words By: Sally Benjamin Castle (class of 44)
 Music By: Dorothy Dull Wells (class of 44)
 Hail, Sidney High School! We will spread thy fame.
 Our Sidney High School, we will praise thy name.
 Now to our school, we pledge our loyalty;
 Glory and honor, Sidney High, to thee.
 Chorus: Sidney High, thy name we praise;
 Sidney High, our song we raise.
 Hail, Sidney High School! Changeless, ever be;
 Through all the years thy guiding light we see.
 Ever we hail thee, chosen from the rest,
 Our Sidney High School, the school we love best.
 -Repeat Chorus-

HISTORY PAGE CREATED
 BY BAILEY CARTER

One Minute of Shelby County History Amos Memorial Public Library

BY KELLY ELEY

Completed for Mrs. Gleason's 07-08 TV Production class.

Did you know that the Amos Memorial Public Library's first location was where the post office now stands? Records show that William Binkley was our very first librarian and was only paid 5 dollars a year! In 1879 the library was moved to the Monumental building but many problems occurred over Sidney for seven years. Amos Memorial reopened in 1886 under the guidance of Hon William Wyman. He helped construct our courthouse in 1881 and also served as the mayor of Sidney. In the following years the library grew steadily. It still had no official plans for its home. But the General James Amos family would change all of that. After coming to Sidney in 1876, Amos took over the Shelby County Democrat and founded the Sidney Daily News in 1891. Construction of the library was completed and the dedication ceremony was held on December 6th, 1958. The Amos Memorial Public Library has celebrated 125 years to our community!

Pay to Play: What you should know

Pay to play is just around the corner, so to get more information about what is happening, Jeff Courter, Sidney High School Athletic Director, and I sat down and talked. When asked his opinion on the effect of the levy, he told me that he thinks it has had a negative impact on the athletic department, as well as the whole district. He believes that it will reduce the opportunities for some of the athletes to participate. We all have yet to see what the effect will be, and nobody will truly know until spring sports really start up. Courter also shares that all of the booster clubs are looking for ways to come up with money to hopefully help cut the cost. The only other thing that can be done to lower the participation fee is to pass the next levy in the spring, which will take place on May 5th. If the levy does pass, the price for pay to play will definitely be lowered. However, nobody is for sure how much the decrease will be.

I also asked Courter what sport he thought might possibly have the highest risk of losing athletes in the spring, and he responded with track and field. Since most athletes participate in track to stay in shape for their main sport, the cost could cause them to pick their one favorite sport they want to play because their family can't afford more than one. Another question that has been asked frequently is, "If students are on free or reduced lunch, do they have to pay the full \$450 participation fee?" The answer to that question is YES. Each and every athlete has to pay the full amount in order to play a sport. For more information about what is going on with the athletics, Jeff Courter would like to invite all potential athletes and parents to an informational meeting on Jan. 11, 2009, at 7:00p.m., which will be held at Sidney High School.

Page created by: Hillary Fishbaugh

OSU vs. Michigan

Another OSU Victory



The OSU-Michigan game was held on Nov. 22, 2008 at the "Shoe" in Columbus. The Buckeyes left with a victory over the Wolverines with a score of 42-7. This game brought OSU's record to 10-2 (7-1 in the Big Ten), and Michigan's record to 3-9 (2-6 in the Big Ten). There were 105,564 fans who bundled up and ventured out to watch the battle between rivals. This was Michigan's fifth consecutive loss to the Buckeyes – A new record on each end for both teams.

- During OSU's 5th possession in the game, Chris Wells got a 59-yard touchdown run, putting OSU ahead, 7-0.
- In the second quarter, OSU quarterback, Terrelle Pryor, threw a 53-yard pass to Brian Hartline, bringing the score to 14-0.
- Right before half-time, Michigan scored on Brandon Minor's one-yard, fourth-down, touchdown plunge, which brought the score to 14-7.
- In the second half, OSU pulled away again with their two-play, 39-second scoring drive. It was a 49-yard touchdown for running back, Dan Herron. The score came to 21-7.
- Following ten minutes later was Pryor's 8-yard touchdown pass, raising it to 28-7.
- OSU's next drive brought on another touchdown, pulling them ahead 35-7.
- On the kick return, OSU scored on a Michigan turnover, leaving the score at 42-7.

Girl's Basketball Preview

Sidney High School's girl's basketball team has been doing many things to prepare for this year's season. The girls have been conditioning and practicing since summer to get ready for their opponents. In addition to the physical training, the girls have been mentally training by developing strategies for each game. These strategies will develop throughout the season and they will use what works best, which will help in giving them the upper hand. When it comes to the team, the new players, along with the chemistry between them, are the biggest differences from the previous year. The girls don't consider any game their "biggest game". They go out and play the next game like it's the biggest one. The coaches hope for the players to improve and to go out and play their hardest each night. Come out and support the Lady Yellow Jackets this season!



Fun Facts: Over The Years

- In 1936-37, Mr. Hopkins' basketball team won 16 games and lost 1. They also won the league.
- In 1987-88, Coach Wildermuth's team went 19-6, becoming District, Sectional, & Holiday Tournament champs.
- In 1994-95, Coach Clark lead his team to 16 wins and 6 losses. They won the Holiday Tournament and were Sectional Runner-up.

How to Write a Good Story

The first step to writing a story is to find inspiration. The inspiration can be an image, an experience, a dream, or a tale. After the inspiration is found, the idea must be developed. To properly develop the idea, there are numerous ways to set it up. The first one is how some teachers teach a person to do it. That is a chart with a bubble with the main idea and small bubbles to the side with ideas of how the story will progress. Another way is to free write whatever comes to mind and edit it later. A third way is to speak it aloud. Sometimes saying something aloud makes it clearer to a person.

Details are one of the single most important things in a story. Here are two examples. "The man walked up to the old house. He opened the door and walked in. It was dark and cold." Here is the same text with details. "The sky was a gloomy gray as the tall, thin man walked up to the old, abandoned house. The trees surrounding the building were dark and dying. The man lifted his wiry hand to the doorknob and the door creaked slowly open. He entered the home, the floorboards sighing and creaking in protest. There was no light in the place and the man felt chilled to the bone."

The preferred example is the second one. It gives enough details to entice the reader but holds enough back that it does not drag. Details can also add to the suspense of a story. The more detailed the surrounding is, the more anxious the reader becomes.

Another important thing is to make the reader think. If the reader does not think, then what is the point of reading? The story should be thought stimulating but not too complicated for the targeted audience. A way to figure this out is for the writer to put him or herself in the mindset of the people who would be more interested in the storyline than other audiences.

It does not matter how well an author describes something or thinks something out if the grammar is not decent. An author always reads through his or her work to make sure the grammar is correct and then has an editor read it. People do not want to read grammatical errors.

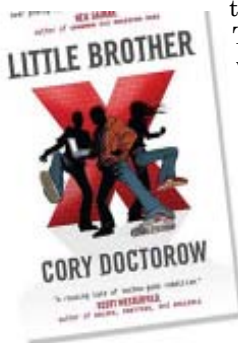
Overall, the keys to a good story are creativity, thinking, details, and grammar. An author must use all of these to even begin writing a good tale. Don't be afraid of bad reviews. All an author can do is his or her best.

New Book Spotlight: Little Brother

Little Brother by Cory Doctorow

is a gripping book about fighting for what a person believes in. In the book, a terrorist attack happens in San Francisco. A boy, Marcus, and his three friends are in the wrong place at the wrong time. They are held without trial and interrogated unjustly. Three of the four are released but a strict eye is kept on them by the Department of Homeland Security.

The three that were released realize that the city of San Francisco is under a military state with the Department of Homeland Security in charge. Two of the



three decide to fight back through the cyber world.

This story is suspenseful and well-written. The author makes dynamic characters that seem able to do anything but he frequently reminds us that they are still teenagers with fear. His colorful cast always makes the story interesting along with the plot. *Little Brother* says that if security infringes on our freedoms,

then the security has got to go. Don't let the Feds push you around. If they cross a line in the Constitution, fight them.

Page written and created
by Jen Scott

SHS Students' Favorite Books

Seniors

Tessa Olsen- *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* by Stephen Chbosky
China Lemaster- *Running with Scissors* by Augusten Burroughs



Juniors

Leah Morris- *Nineteen Minutes* by Jodi Picoult
Gage Wolley- *I am The Messenger* by Markus Zusak



Sophomores

Jack Van Horn- *Alaska* by James A. Michener
Robert Frantz- *Angels and Demons* by Dan Brown



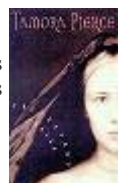
Freshmen

Carolyn Van Matre- *Twilight* by Stephenie Meyer
Tiarra Stewart- *Twilight* by Stephenie Meyer



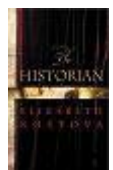
One Line Reviews

Trickster's Choice by Tamora Pierce
"A rousing story of how a girl finds her way from slavery to a god's choice."



The Hound of the Baskervilles by Arthur Conan Doyle
"A mystery-thriller that makes your head spin with possibilities and spooky scenery."

The Historian by Elizabeth Kostova
"A frightful tale with mystery and action as a girl tries to uncover the mystery of her father's strange, blank book."



HOT Holiday Picks

Say yes to the dress... the sweater dress that is. This is this season's hottest pick. Paired with a cute boot and tights is a sure way to keep nice and cozy this winter.

Big jewels are it, nickels, ear rings, rings. Like Kristen Stewart's cover look in Teen Vogue's December issue (pictured below). Go big or go home this holiday season. You can find reasonably priced jewelry at almost every store.



Cute Curls! Curly hair is a new and fun way to give your hair a new twist. Pull looks from Sarah Jessica Parker and Laetitia Costa to find one that matches your face shape and personal style.

Holiday nail hues, this holiday season dark is it, dark purples and grays are great for this holiday and add a little sparkle to keep them fun and flirty. Don't forget red is always a fun and classic holiday color. Try Petites available at Wal Mart for about \$2 each.

It's all about the boots; boots are a great way to keep those feet warm this winter and look really cute at the same time. Since boots come in many different looks and styles you can find one to match yours.

Forget that old hoodie, try a sweater, it's a super cute way to keep warm this year, and many sweaters will make it to next winter and you'll look cute all over again. I find mine at second hand stores to add a little vintage flare.

PAGE BY: CAMILLE YERKEY

Take on STYLE

with SHS student, Courtney Morris

It seems these days there are many different look and styles pouring into the halls at Sidney High School, and I asked one student, Courtney Morris, about her own personal style and some tips she added on her own...

Q: What is style to you?

A: I think style is really how people convey their personality through their choice of clothes, color, and how they put it together.

Q: Why is it so important to you that your style is different?

A: For me, it's just enjoyment. I just like to wear weird patterns and layer things that typically wouldn't go together, just so that I have a different identity than everyone else, and am not seen as part of a category.

"I just want to encourage people to wear whatever they want and not worry about being embarrassed"

Q: How do you, if you do, keep up with current style?

A: Ha ha! I don't. Half of my clothes are cheap vintage things or things I meant to throw away and rediscovered three years later.

Q: Do you have any inspirations, like a star?

A: Not that I really model myself after, but I do like Michaela Barton and outfits from old movies like what Julia Roberts and Molly Ringwald wore.

Q: Do you pull your look together before you head out the door or is it planned before?

A: Depends on how much time I have. When I'm actually shooting for an eighties look or something, I plan it, but if I look spontaneous and mix-matched I probably threw it on in five minutes.

Q: Where do you like to shop?

A: I love Forever 21, but I always hit sales everywhere and Pac Sun has cute stuff too.

Q: Would you like to add anything else?

A: I just want to encourage people to wear whatever they want and not worry about being embarrassed if it's ugly or weird. It helps you get rid of shyness and take risks in other things.

Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors!

Do you like to write?

Scheduling is coming soon.

See Mrs. Croft in room E114 or your guidance counselor about signing up for Journalism!

Hanging out with Mozart

BY THOMAS KIMBLER

If I could meet anyone that I wanted dead or alive I think it would be Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. He was an amazing music writer and composer, and I would just like to know how it felt to write and compose famous works of music and how it felt to be one of the greatest composers of all time.

He would be an amazing person to hang out with since I love music so much. We would be able to

talk about music and have the same interest. On the opposing side I would learn so much from him on how he began to write music and how the thought process went for him to write pieces of music so easily. It's kind of hard to explain how it would be to hang out with an amazing guy like Mozart. Composing music at the age of three and performing for large groups at the age of five is something that most kids don't do. I couldn't imagine even

performing for a large group now and I have been playing instruments since I was a little kid.

Mozart would be one guy in history that I think others would like to get to know and learn how he actually did the great and many things that he accomplished by a young age. Coming up with well over 100 pieces before the age of 20 and not even hesitating about it. It came so easy to him and it would be nice to know how he

actually did it and how his prepared for the process of writing masterpieces. Maybe if we knew, then there would be a lot more little Mozarts running around creating masterpiece quality music left and right.



Behind the Scenes of the SHS Musical

BY THOMAS KIMBLER

The musical, *The Wizard of Oz*, is quickly approaching with casting being decided on December 19th. The musical takes place April 2-5 in the Sidney High School Auditorium and lasts an hour and a half to three hours. It will have close to 50 cast members including the main characters and children that will be playing the munchkins.

Making a musical takes lots of work and is possibly the most stressful part is putting it together. They have long rehearsals, some being as long as 8 hours, and the stress of tech week which is when they start adding music and lights to the musical. Along with all of those things the actors and singers also need to memorize their lines and dance moves that they have to perform on the night of the musical. Along with the stress and hard work of putting on the musical it also takes quite a bit of money...close to eight thousand dollars.

Many people wonder how they pick the musical from year to year. They try to make a big contrast between the previous year and this year's musical. Last year's musical, *Once Upon a Mattress*, was a comedy, so this year they picked a more classical musical, even though it does have its funny parts.

The musical all together is a lot of hard work. There is a lot of stress for the students and the adults that help put on the musical.

This is just a little insight into the making of a musical. Make sure to check it out in April!



The Winter choral concert took place on Dec. 11th. Students from the Symphonic Choir sing during their last piece.

Local bands and musical events.

**At the Attic-
Dec. 19th**

**Haste the Day, Sky Eats
Airplane, Emarosa, and
Inhale Exhale.**
w/ 3 Great Local Bands!
Doors 6pm, Show 6:30pm -
Tickets \$12adv/\$14dos

**Dec. 31st
THE DEVIL WEARS
PRADA, At The Throne of
Judgment, Miss May I
and More!** Doors 7pm,
Show 7:15pm - Tickets
\$15adv/\$17dos

**In Good Taste Cafe-
Dec 19th**

Jazz Night, 7pm – 10pm,
first and third Fridays every
month. Please call 937-498-
9463 for details and
reservations.

Page written and
created by
Thomas Kimbler



Computer Technology class gives thanks

Students in Mrs. Vicki Fulk’s class had an opportunity to show what they are thankful for, one feather at a time. Each student utilized skills that they had acquired through their Computer Technology class to create a computer-generated “feather” for the turkey that is now displayed on the classroom door. Those who passed by room E113 saw a great decoration, but may not have realize all that went into the project.

Students began by transferring the object (the feather) into Microsoft Word. After successfully transferring the object they had to create and format a textbox that included the “I Am Thankful For” text. Students then had to format that text by selecting their own font(s) and color(s), while also removing the textbox lines so that the typed text appeared to be within the feather. Next came typing the list of their blessings, the things that they were thankful for. The students were to format this text and add picture bulleting and place the list in another textbox. Finally, students had to add their names by utilizing Word Art colors and shapes. After all of the different parts were typed and formatted, students had to put the text boxes within the feather outline and arrange the images so that the feather appeared to be outlining the text and group all of the parts together. All that was left was to then transfer the document to Mrs. Fulk for printing.

There were many steps involved, but the final product and message created is one of thanks. Mrs. Fulk encouraged students to think “outside of the box” when coming up with their list of things they were thankful for and also to think about the things in life they truly are thankful for. The list of blessings contain many different items that the students give thanks for, but many feathers included thanks for family, friends, food, health, and cell phones of course!



The Buzz on Music

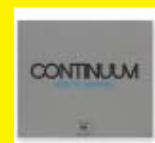
Music Reviews BY ANTHONY ORDWAY

Madvillainy 2004 Stones Throw Records Underground hip-hop



I first got into MF Doom about three years ago when I heard their music on one of my favorite cartoons the “Boondocks”. The song I am feelin’ the most has gotta be “Fancy clown”. The song is a confession to an unfaithful girlfriend by Viktor Vaughn (a.k.a. MF Doom). It starts out with a 50’s style background chorus and flows into a heavy bassline with added in piano chords and jazzy old school lyrics...this song is ill for-real. And I give it a 10 out of 10.

Continuum 2006 Columbia Records Acoustic soul



My favorite song on this album has got to be “The Heart of Life”. The song starts with soft acoustic sound followed by the voice of John Mayer projecting his views on the joys and struggles in life. The song is a great eye opener for anyone whose thoughts on life are diminished by the hardships of everyday life. This record makes my day every time I listen to it, and is a song for the inner thinkers in all of us! I give this record a 10 of 10 rating.

HAPPENINGS AT THE HIVE

Boys Varsity Basketball

19-Dec Piqua 7:30PM
 22-Dec West Carrollton 7:30PM
 2-Jan Greenville 7:30PM
 3-Jan at Stivers 7:30PM
 9-Jan Butler 7:30PM
 10-Jan Springfield HS 7:30PM
 16-Jan at Trotwood Madison 7:30PM
 18-Jan at Fairmont 7:30PM
 23-Jan at Fairborn 7:30PM
 27-Jan at Miamisburg 7:30PM

Boys Junior Varsity Basketball

19-Dec Piqua 6:00PM
 22-Dec West Carrollton 6:00PM
 2-Jan Greenville 6:00PM
 3-Jan at Stivers 6:00PM
 9-Jan Butler 6:00PM
 10-Jan Springfield HS 6:00PM
 16-Jan at Trotwood Madison 6:00PM
 17-Jan Lakota East 4:00PM
 23-Jan at Fairborn (Baker MS) 6:00PM
 27-Jan at Miamisburg 6:00PM

Freshman Boys Basketball

19-Dec Piqua 4:30PM
 22-Dec West Carrollton 4:30PM
 29-Dec at Northmont
 2-Jan Greenville 4:30PM
 3-Jan at Stivers 4:30PM
 9-Jan Butler 4:30PM
 10-Jan Springfield HS 4:30PM
 16-Jan at Trotwood-Madison 4:30PM
 17-Jan Lakota East 2:30
 23-Jan at Fairborn (Baker MS) 4:30PM
 27-Jan at Miamisburg 4:30PM

Girls Varsity Basketball

20-Dec Piqua 1:00PM
 23-Dec Greenville 7:30PM
 27-Dec at Stebbins 2:30PM
 3-Jan at Northmont 1:00PM
 7-Jan at Trotwood Madison 8:00PM
 10-Jan Lehman Catholic 2:30PM
 14-Jan at Butler 8:00PM
 21-Jan Wayne 8:00PM
 28-Jan Troy 8:00PM

Girls Junior Varsity Basketball

20-Dec Piqua 11:30PM
 23-Dec Greenville 6:00PM
 27-Dec at Stebbins 1:00PM
 1-Jan at Northmont 11:30AM
 7-Jan at Trotwood-Madison 6:00PM
 10-Jan Lehman Catholic 1:00PM
 14-Jan at Butler 6:30PM
 21-Jan Wayne 6:30PM
 28-Jan Troy 6:30PM

Boys Varsity Wrestling

27-Dec at GMVVA at Butler 9:30AM
 28-Dec at GMVVA at Butler 12:00PM
 10-Jan at Beaver Creek Invitational 10:00AM
 14-Jan -Tri with Springfield & Trotwood 6:00PM
 17-Jan at Wapakoneta Invitational 10:00AM
 28-Jan at Indian Lake Super-Tri 6:00PM

Boys Junior Varsity Wrestling

20-Dec at Ben Logan Tourn. 10:00AM
 10-Jan at Beaver Creek Invit. 10:00AM
 24-Jan Sidney JV Tourny Sid MS 9:00AM

Freshman Wrestling

16-Jan at Centerville Buckeye Classic-TBA
 17-Jan at Centerville Buckeye Classic-TBA

Coed Varsity Bowling

26-Dec Centerville/Miamisburg 4:30PM
 6-Jan Fairmont 4:00PM
 9-Jan at Troy 6:00PM
 13-Jan Piqua 3:45PM
 16-Jan Butler 4:00PM
 27-Jan Troy 3:45PM

Coed Varsity Swimming

20-Dec Celina 5:00PM
 3-Jan Sidney Swimming Invit. 5:00PM
 10-Jan Bellefontaine 5:00PM
 11-Jan Tri-Meet vs. Lehman/Botkins 5:00PM
 17-Jan at Classic Invit Trotwood-Cinci -TBA
 18-Jan at Classic Invit Trotwood-Cinci -TBA
 24-Jan Kenton Ridge 5:00PM

Dec. 22 - Jan. 2

Christmas Break-
 First day back to school January 5th

Jan. 19 Martin Luther King Jr. Day
 No School

Musical Practice

5-Jan 6-9PM Auditorium
 6-Jan 6-9PM Auditorium
 8-Jan 6-9PM Auditorium
 12-Jan 6-9PM Auditorium
 13-Jan 6-9PM Auditorium
 15-Jan 6-9PM Auditorium
 27-Jan 6-9PM Auditorium
 29-Jan 6-9PM Auditorium

Fastpitch

5-Jan 7-9PM Main gym
 7-Jan 6-8PM Main gym
 12-Jan 7-9PM Main gym
 21-Jan 6-8PM Aux. gym
 26-Jan 7-9PM Main gym
 28-Jan 6-8PM Aux. gym

Academia

6-Jan at Northmont 4:30PM
 13-Jan at Piqua 4:30PM
 27-Jan at Wayne 4:30PM

Baseball Batting Practice

5-Jan 7-8:30PM Small Gym
 6-Jan 7-8:30PM Small Gym
 7-Jan 7-8:30PM Small Gym
 12-Jan 7-8:30PM Small Gym
 13-Jan 7-8:30PM Small Gym
 14-Jan 7-8:30PM Small Gym
 20-Jan 7-8:30PM Small Gym
 22-Jan 7-8:30PM Small Gym
 26-Jan 7-8:30PM Small Gym
 27-Jan 7-8:30PM Small Gym
 29-Jan 7-8:30PM Small Gym

Spring Sports

Parent Meeting

11-Jan High School Auditorium 7-8PM

Looking for something fun to do?
 What about the Winter Wonderland Dance at the YMCA?
 December 20th from 8 - 11pm
 In the YMCA West Gym
 300 East Parkwood Street
 \$5 per ticket at the door
 School Dress Code Applies
 Dance is for teens in grades 6-12
 Sponsored by the Sidney-Shelby County YMCA Leader's Club

Writer's Corner

In My Spare Time

BY JON LEMASTER

What are some things you enjoy doing in your spare time? Well I'm going to tell you some things I like doing in my spare time.

First, if I have any time to spare, working out is my number one. It feels great to be fit, and it is a great way to release your stress or anger. I work out every night for one to two hours. I do bench, curl, and push ups. The most important thing about working out is to drink a lot of water so you don't get dehydrated and you have something to sweat out.

The second thing I enjoy doing with my spare time is play Guitar Hero 3 on my play station 2. I haven't had the game that long, but I am a legend of rock on expert. I started playing on easy, got pretty good and skipped a level and then played on hard. I beat every song on hard so after that I rock it out on expert. It's fun to play when you're good, hitting all

those notes is pretty cool. Which brings me to my next favorite thing to do, playing an acoustic guitar. I like to play the acoustic because pf it's sound. The sound is relaxing and real.

The last thing I like to do with my spare time is playing my Nintendo sixty-four. I've had it for a long time but just recently hooked it up and started to play it again. I play my little brother in football. We have Madden 2002. We also have some basketball, NBA 1998, WCW/NOW Revenge which is wrestling.

There are so many things you can do with your spare time that could and most likely will become a habit.

If you would like to see your writing or art published in the Sidney Buzz, see Mrs. Croft in room E114 for information.

Random Facts for Fun

selected by SASHA HOOVER

1. One of the pairs of ruby slippers made for the *Wizard of Oz* movie sold for \$1,150,000 at Christie's in New York City on May 24, 2000.
2. A hippo can open its mouth wide enough to fit a 4-foot tall child inside.
3. A giraffe can kill a lion with one kick.
4. The Navajo Indian language was used successfully as a code by the US in World War II.
5. Bamboo can grow 4 feet in 24 hours.
6. A bolt of lightning can strike Earth with a force as great as 100 million volts.
7. Lemons contain more sugar than strawberries.
8. Most lipsticks contain fish scales.
9. You're born with 300 bones, but when you become an adult, you only have 206.
10. Human thigh bones are stronger than concrete.
11. A sneeze travels out of your mouth at over 100 miles per hour.
12. Humans and elephants are the only animals that can stand on their heads.
13. Apples are more efficient than caffeine in keeping people awake in the morning.
14. Fortune cookies were actually invented in America in 1918 by Charles Jung.

from the 2002 Renaissance Calendars Trivia Facts