



THE FOREST BREEZE

Congrats to the Class of 2010!

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Forest Lake Area Senior High School

June 9, 2010

Linking us all

New Link Leaders train to help sophomores

By Erienne Nelson

The latest buzz on next year has been the Link program. There's been announcements, ads and teachers directly talking to their students about it. But what exactly is Link and what makes it different from the old program FLHS sported?

"We have had the Junior high program, Web, and decided to try the senior high program," said Angela Nelson, social studies teacher and one of the advisors for Link.

According to Nelson, there will be two Link members to every twelve sophomores. It's a highly ordered transition into the high school for ex-8th graders meant to give them some friends and connections on their first day in such a big school. Members will be giving advice to students and mentoring them all year long.

Link crew is the high school version of Boomerang, an integration program with 2000 schools country round taking part.

According to Boomerang's official website "With these programs, teachers are able to bring out the very best in their students as well as receive an excellent professional development experience." The hope is that the program will be successful in aiding the incoming students feel more at home. If interested in more information, contact Nelson or Heidel.



Above: Student Link Leaders gather during their first of three trainings on May 27. The 102 student leaders will meet again for 5 hours of training on both Aug. 19 and 20 to be ready for the Ranger Rally on Aug. 23.

Below: Teacher Angela Nelson guides a group of Link Leaders through an opening exercise in their training session on May 27. Photos by Dorothea Olson

Getting connected

New online options

By Rose Nelson

Some classes for the 2010-2011 school year are taking on big renovations. With students being in the most modernized society of all time, it's not surprising that FLHS has decided to adopt a new source of learning. Online classes.

"We're trying to provide more flexible ways to provide classes," said Principal Steve Massey.

"They're just as easy to take as other (non-online) classes and are more suitable for students."

A more affordable way to take college courses is online, especially during this year's tough economy. Instead of having to pay that small fee, however, high school online courses can be a more suitable way of learning for students for free.

"It's one place, one school. Students know teachers and they are in the same environment," said Principal Massey.

Massey also notes that FLHS is "interested in keeping kids at FLHS instead of them going somewhere else to take online courses."

The online classes were designed "based on teacher interest, student interest, and what courses are suitable for online," said Massey.

Kristen Nellis, a business teacher at FLHS who taught web design this year, will also be teaching web design next year.

"Online classes are a great college prep because most students do online classes in college," said Nellis. "Plus it's a fun class."

Nellis also mentioned that students taking the web design class will obtain "great computer knowledge" and encourages students to sign up for next year's course.

The classes being offered online next year are technical writing, environmental science, creative writing, web design I, CIS animal science, and accounting I.

In a more tech-savvy world, online classes are just the beginning. Students interested in taking online classes next year should make an appointment with their dean.

Senior All Night Party in full swing this year

By Nicole Hovatter

Graduation is right around the corner. Students at FLHS are starting to see the light at the end of the tunnel of 13 years of school. What better way to celebrate the end of the year than at the Senior All Night Party!

This year's party, like all years before, is generating a lot of excitement from the student body. Ticket sales for the party were during lunches the past two weeks. You can still buy tickets in the student services office for \$40 or at the party for \$50.

There are plenty of reasons to be excited for the Senior All Night Party. According to Janelle Kendrick, event organizer, the night will be full of "a way to celebrate good things with a night of good food and activities!"

Before the graduation ceremony, seniors attending the party should leave their car at Southwest Junior High. Then, they are bussed to the graduation

ceremony and back to Southwest for the party. After the graduation ceremony, the busses will run



on a schedule so the graduates have time to take pictures and spend time with their families.

The night kicks off right after graduation, with an array of different activities, including swimming, karaoke, a hair salon, and a Velcro wall.

Kendrick has been on the Senior All Night Party committee since her first child graduated from FLHS six years ago. She expects this year to have as good of turnout as in the past, with 2/3 to 3/4th of the graduating class in attendance.

Spanish Immersion program begins at Forest View and Lino

By Rose Nelson

Starting off the 2010 school year, a Spanish immersion program will be available to first graders at Forest View and Lino Lakes Elementary schools. The decision came about from the eagerness to attract families from both inside and outside the district who are looking to engage their children in a Spanish immersion program. Parents, teachers, community members, and administrators used a year to study the benefits of offering an immersion program at an elementary level.

"The board made the decision to move ahead with the plan, and also made the decision that the program would be a partial immersion program," said Jennifer Tolzmann, Forest Lake School District Director of Teaching and Learning.

A partial immersion program takes up half a student's day. So, half of the day will be spent in English, and the other half will be in Spanish.

The 50 percent of the day devoted to the immersion program will include math, science, social studies and other areas. The program will continue through the elementary grades if the student decides to continue on with the program. For example, if the student is willing to still be part of the immersion program the following year, he or she may continue on with the program in the second grade and so on.

The Lakes International Language Academy (LILA) is a local charter school which already offers the full Spanish immersion program. Because of the desired program the school offers, it creates a loss of per pupil funding

for Forest Lake. This is one of the reasons the board chose to offer an additional Spanish immersion program to the elementary schools.

"By providing an immersion opportunity, we can provide families a unique educational experience, and keep more state revenue within our own district," said Tolzmann.

The immersion program is not required for all students in first grade, but is optional to any families who are interested.

The board is considering offering other immersion programs at various elementary schools if enrollment is high.

"We would consider offering an immersion program in a different language in the future," said Tolzmann. "For now, we are very excited by this beginning and are committed to providing a high quality program for our students."

Not just students

Many teachers have summer jobs

By Nicole Hovatter

When it comes to summer jobs around Forest Lake, many have teenagers in mind. They usually picture the typical summer jobs for teens, like a lifeguard or babysitter. However, there are several seasonal jobs out there for adults too. Many teachers at FLHS have summer jobs that aren't usually mentioned in the classroom. Their jobs vary from ordinary to extraordinary. There are many teachers who are involved with summer school or coaching programs. While these are the more ordinary summer jobs, a lot of teachers have jobs that are related to their area of expertise. Math teacher Tara Kude has one of these summer jobs. Her summer job allows her to branch out and experience things outside of the classroom, although she finds her teaching career very fulfilling. During the summer, she works as an engineer for ATC systems. Part of her job is to make sure the bombs and missiles used in war are reliable. "We write the specs for everything the military uses. Whenever they handle any weapon, they have guidelines that come from us," said Kude. Even though her job allows her to branch out and ex-

perience new things, those experiences come at a risk. "When things go wrong, we go into full panic mode," she said. Kude compared her engineering job to her teaching job. At her engineering job, if she makes one mistake, it could cost the company millions. If she makes a mistake at school, the worst she would have to deal with are kids failing a test or angry parents. She also found her engineering job less fulfilling because a lot of her work is done without the interaction she has in the classroom. However, she knows that the work she does at her summer job helps the people who in turn protect America. On the other end of FLHS, in the English department, Jeff Neidt works in the marketing field during the summer. He believes that both teaching and marketing have their moments, but he enjoys the ability he has to express himself through marketing. He works for Bigger One Marketing Company, which is a state marketing group and Neidt also coaches Girl's Hockey. Some teachers have summer jobs to make ends meet. Some teachers have summer jobs to gain fulfillment. Whatever the reason, it adds variety to their lives.

Job outlook: bleak

Cleary, Cameron advise

By Megan Daly

As the school year draws to a close, so are many students' high school careers, and many other college careers. It's a cycle that ends with college graduates being introduced into the job market. However, during this recession, the cycle has been altered. Although graduates are being introduced into the work force, there have been no jobs available. The outlook seems bleak. So, what will it be like when our classes graduate from college four to six years from now? Will we be part of the 8.2% of Minnesotans who are unemployed, or will we experience economic expansion? There is no crystal ball to look into the future of our job market; however, Economics Teachers Matt Cleary and Sara Cameron gave some helpful pointers that could help secure jobs in the long run. "The key is to find a job in an area that is necessary, such as healthcare or waste management," said Cameron. The website www.healthcareers.net predicts that between 2008 and 2014, 675,000 jobs will be created within the healthcare industry. Of course, becoming a nurse or a doctor is not your only option. The key to securing a career is matching your skills with other people's needs. Pick something you're good at and is in demand.



Another way to stay afloat as a new grad is to avoid too much debt while you're still in school. "Make sure you're being smart when it comes to credit cards, and don't take out student loans," said Cleary. According to www.usatoday.com the average undergraduate student has at least \$3,173 in credit card debt, which could actually affect your chances of being hired after school. According to www.wsj.com, one in six employers check applicants' credit scores during the hiring process. Bad scores lower the chances of being offered the position you applied for. Although the economy is not at its best, there are many things you can do to help you enter into a successful career after graduation. Paying attention to your credit card spending, and entering into a field of work that is indispensable, could be the difference between starting a new and exciting life, or moving back in with mom and dad.

Wanted: Buyer

Carpentry 2 house for sale

By Dorothea Olson

"Even as technology grows, houses are still built the same," said teacher, Kevin Rivard. Rivard teaches the Carpentry II class that spent a half of a day for a whole semester building the house by the parking lot. The one level, 1,352 square foot house was started in the beginning of the school year and finished by the end of the 1st semester. The high-quality built house includes a laminate floored kitchen with cabinets and a sink, two 11x12ft bedrooms, a master bedroom, two linoleum floored bathrooms and a laundry room. The house was almost completely built by FLHS students with the exception of plumbing and electrical due, to the law that high school students are no longer allowed to do such things. To get in Carpentry II, you are required to take Carpentry I and Woods I. But all that time and hard work in classes pays off in



life. "These are lifetime skills that students learned and practiced. It's great background experience [for life]," said Rivard. The student-built house has been trying to be sold since March, when the first auction occurred. The bid starts out at \$49,900, but the house has yet to have an offer. After two unlucky auctions, the house can now be legally sold for the minimum price of \$49,900 plus state sales tax. If you're wanting to buy the house, go right ahead, call Kevin

Rivard at (651) 982-8589. Or if you're wanting to take the class, then talk to your dean.

**Interested?
Or know of
someone who is?**

**Contact Mr. Rivard
(651) 982-8589**

***Have a
fun, safe
summer!***



The Forest Breeze

**The student newspaper of
Forest Lake High School**

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The Forest Breeze is a monthly publication created by students in the journalism class at FLHS. *The Forest Breeze* welcomes letters to the editor, provided they are not obscene and do not exceed 200 words. The staff reserves the right to edit for length. Unsigned letters will not be printed; however, names may be withheld upon request. Views of the *The Forest Breeze* writers are not necessarily the views of the students, staff or administration of ISD 831.

Top college programs

to consider

By Rose Nelson

As the economy takes brutal blows at the country's growth, more college students are opting to attend colleges with low price tags. However, the strength of the cheapest academic programs are in doubt. So, I've conducted a list of colleges that aren't as expensive as top-ranked universities, but have great, highly-ranked academic programs based on their majors. Cal Poly State Univ. in Cali. ranks pretty high up on the scales for their top engineering program. Tuition costs are around \$19,000 which, compared to other schools, is a huge deduction of price. The College of Engineering at Cal Poly is known as "a leader in engineering education". The Univ. of Wisc.-Madison also has "one of the top engineering schools in the world." At the College of Engineering, students get to participate in international study, field research, laboratory experience, community service and internships. Tuition is \$21,814. Ohio Univ. ranks third on *College Crunch's* list of top education colleges, ranking below only Michigan State Univ. and the Univ. of Penn. Ohio University prepares students to teach locally and also globally, providing students with the chance to participate in educational services in several other countries. The college of education at Ohio Univ. offers three programs under the educational teaching curriculum. Students have the

option of choosing between Counseling and Higher Education, Educational Studies and Teacher Education. Out-of-state tuition at OU costs \$17,871. For students wanting to stay a little closer to home, the Univ. of Minn. ranks 18 on the list for the best education colleges. In-state tuition is \$10,256 a year. The Univ. of North Car. at Chapel Hill ranks 6 on the *U.S. News and World Report* rankings of the best undergraduate business colleges. The UPenn., MIT, Univ. of Cal. at Berkley, Univ. of Mich. at Ann Arbor, and New York Univ. all rank above, but are between \$30,000-\$50,000 for tuition. Tuition at UNC is \$22,295. Bemidji State Univ. in Bemidji, Minnesota also has strong programs at the College of Business. On their website, they state that graduates of Bemidji State's College of Business will be prime candidates for recruitment by major corporations. Tuition is a little over \$12,000. Strong pre-med programs can be found at the Univ. of Minn. They also have a nationally renowned medical school for anyone who wants to continue their years at the Univ. of Minn. But choosing the right college for you can't just be determined by rankings. It depends on other factors such as location, number of students, and overall learning environment. So, while these rankings may help your college search, remember that only you can determine the school you want to attend.

Money woes

Budget cuts equal teacher cuts at FLHS

By Megan Daly

Throughout the 2010 school year, budget cuts have been a subject of interest. Not only for staff, but also for students who may be preparing for the changes next year will bring. One of these changes, unfortunately, includes letting teachers and staff members go in order to keep the district afloat. FLHS is losing at least four teachers and staff who are not tenured, due to budget cuts.

The question is, once teachers are bumped, what are their job prospects in other districts? That depends on the financial standing of the district they are applying to. However, one person who has a deep insight into the hiring process is our own principal, Dr. Steve Massey.

“It depends upon what they teach; if they teach science or math they have a better chance of being hired [elsewhere] because of the number of people in that field,” said Massey.

He also went on to say that our district’s hiring is reflective of other districts. If we are cutting teachers, more than likely, so are other schools. According to Massey, the only reason districts have openings at this point is because of retirements. One teacher who got lucky is current

Science Teacher Kelli Frericks, who will be moving to the Chisago district next year.

“I was cut on March 28th and that day I applied for the job,” said Frericks.

She also said that the Chisago district has a smaller student body and fewer budget cuts, which would make for more dependable jobs for the educators.

It all comes down to what the economy is like. Travis Sletta, one of the newest music teachers at FLHS, knows what it is like to be looking for work in new districts.

“I have been let go in a few [economic] climates, but none this bad,” said Sletta, who has been bumped multiple times in past years.

However, what needs to be understood is the fact that when teachers are bumped, they are not fired. It is not because they did a poor job, it is because our district can no longer afford to keep them on hand and the administration has exhausted all other options to keep them within Forest Lake. In fact, many teachers are shifted to different schools within the district, given more or less classes, or even assigned different job titles.

It seems that although the job market is weak for our educators, it is not hopeless, and the staff we say goodbye to may not have to go far to teach others.



budget is about 80 percent people. Unfortunately, many employees had to lose their jobs or face some type of reduction in assignment. All other schools in the district had to make cuts as well some off they were even more drastic.

Our district had to make a 5.5 percent overall budget reduction. Most schools are cutting between five and seven percent. Many area schools are cutting far more than us. For example the Anoka Hennepin District which is cutting \$10.6 million for next year, North St. Paul is cutting \$7.8 million, and District 196 is cutting \$15.3 million.

It may seem our district is cutting a lot of money and employees but hopefully next year will still be a quality educational experience at Forest Lake High School.

Schools for Schools FLHS

fundraising begins

By Maxwell Nelson

About two months ago, students at FLHS had the privilege of viewing the Invisible Children presentation which featured Ugandan refugees sharing stories of their hardships. Also explained in the presentation was Invisible Children’s Schools for Schools program where U.S. schools fund-raise for kids’ education in Uganda.

Ever since the Invisible Children campaign stopped by, the FLHS Open Minds Club (OMC) and Junior Natalie Hoidal, who arranged the Invisible Children presentation, have been working to start FLHS’ own Schools for Schools fundraising.

The efforts began Thurs., May 20 and went until Fri., May 28 as a contest between 1st hour classes. Each 1st hour had a tin can for donations. The class with the most money raised on the last day won a breakfast for the class.

The last day of fundraising brought in the most money raised in a single day, with a total of \$532.56, which made the final to



Junior Natalie Hoidal poses with the cans used to collect donations in FLHS’ start to Schools for Schools fundraiser. Photo by Max Nelson

tal \$1,326.69.

Mr. Leventhal’s 1st hour won the contest, raising \$252.88 and earning donuts and juice as their prize yesterday. Ms. Kude’s class was 2nd with \$208.35 and Mr. Koch’s in 3rd with \$136.97.

Hoidal (a member of Leventhal’s 1st hour), sees the fundraiser as highly important, but just a start for future fundraisers for the

program.

“Give these kids the chance to have a life and education that you’ve always taken for granted,” said Hoidal who is already planning fundraisers for next year.

Hoidal and the OMC are planning a “Fun-Run” for the fall as well as some small fundraisers throughout the summer.

New combined media classes

have more to offer students

By Rose Nelson

A selection of new classes have been added to the 2010-11 curriculum at FLHS. Of these, introduction to media, introduction to media production, and advanced media production will be the available courses offered to students seeking classes in media.

Advanced media production, an entirely new class in itself, is where students get to choose which topic they want to study. They can focus in an area of their interest, such as journalism, public broadcasting, or television and film.

“The advanced class allows kids to get deeply into a topic of their choice,” said Joe Mueller,

an English teacher who will be teaching introduction to media production and advanced media production next year.

Advanced media production is not available to everyone, however, without a couple prerequisites.

“It is usually required that students have taken introduction to media production before they go to an advanced media production class,” said Mueller. “However, (the classes) are open to teacher approval.”

Introduction to media, which has been provided in the past under the simple title “media”, teaches basic production elements, media ethics, television, newspapers, magazines, the internet, and film.

Introduction to media is another new class that is being offered next year for the first time. The class provides a broad array of media forms, including podcasting, video, audio and print, with the goal of giving students a taste of a variety of medias.

“I think in comparison to the previous programs, the students have more exposure to more media offerings,” said Mueller. “They get to go more in-depth and cover more areas (in media production).”

If you are interested in signing up for one of these classes next year, and want to be part of FLHS media productions, make an appointment with your dean.

Health care class healthy option

By Cody Eggers

Many students have taken the new Intro to Health Care class or most students have at least heard of it. This class is different than most other classes at Forest Lake. It gives students a chance to learn more about their specialized career field and help them decide if that is really what they want to do as a career.

According to the teacher Bev Warnke “The Intro to Health Care class introduces students to the many different career options in the medical field, including different types of nurses, doctors, surgeons, and Pharmaceutical jobs.”

The class takes between ten and twelve trips to medical centers like hospitals, pharmacies, and nursing homes. At these facilities, students learn what it is like to work in these careers, what skills

are needed, and what kind of education and training is needed to get these jobs.

Some of the students decide to go into the medical field after taking this class. During the class the students get 75 hours of required training which is needed to take the test to become a nurse’s assistant. Students interested in nursing often take the test after completing the one semester class. Much of the class also covers material on the Registered Nurse’s test which

students can take after the Nurse’s Assistant test.

Many of the students decide the medical or nursing field isn’t for them. Some students try working as a nurse’s assistant after taking the test, and still realize it isn’t the career they want to pursue.

“Even if they don’t become nurses, it teaches them life skills that anyone would want if a loved one was in danger,” Said Warnke.

This class is giving students real career training opportunities and experience that few other classes do. Even for students who aren’t decided on about their career path, Intro to Health Care is a great class choice for Forest Lake students.

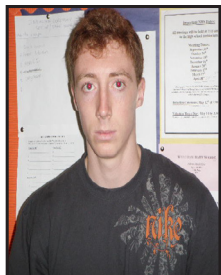


2010

Brianna Odegaard-Tennis; St.Thomas
 “It was a really good last year; it was an overall good team. I’ll miss you guys. Make it rain.”



Dan Fick- Hockey; Harvard- Hockey
 “We had best season in FL history this year, record wise and how far we went.”



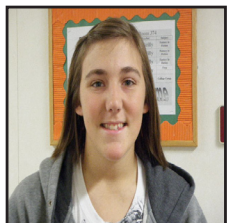
Ashleigh Matheson-Softball; Bethel
 “Everyone’s playing really well, showing heart, leaving everything on the field. Amazing Ranger plays.”



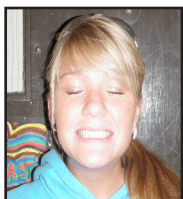
Nick Bergantine - Debate;UofM, Morris “It was so great, very cohesive, we had lots of wins and it was really fun to interact with O’Reilly, Brown, and Butler.”



Taylor Brett- Gymnastics; UND
 “It was a really good season this year; it was a lot of fun. I’m gonna miss it, and the team.”



Cody Edelen- Football; Moorhead State – Football. “It was sweet playing with the sophomores and getting them in playing shape...teaching them what I knew.



Cally Jones-Track; Anoka Ramsey
 “My favorite memory is in 9th grade when they put me in the 400, which nobody likes but I loved it.”

Alex Raak - Synch. Swimming; UMD
 “We have high hopes this year. We want to medal at sections.”



Katie Royce-Synch. Swimming; Mankato
 “Senior year was my favorite; we’re going to rock at sections and state.”



Tyler Shogren-Soccer; Navy
 “We always said this during games, ‘penetrate when possible.’



Gilbert NDS
 “My ting qual like

Remember your leaders

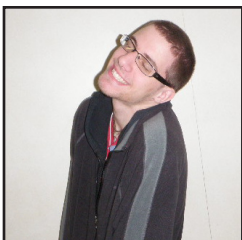
By Dorothea Olson and Maxwell Nelson



Charlie Jensen-Wrestling; St.Cloud
 “My best memory was making it to nationals.”



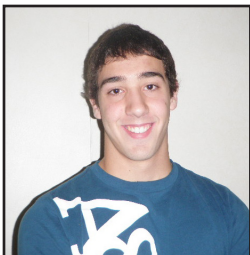
Anne Bleninger-Track; UMD “There are a lot of strong young girls; it’s good for upcoming years. We worked a lot harder, which paid off.”



Ben Follese-Alpine Skiing; Century College
 “It was fun making friends with the foreigners; we had three foreigners on our team.”

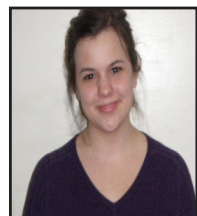


Laura Lundstrum-SADD; UofM
 “Being a leader isn’t ordering others around but helping others fill their entire potential.”



Dominic Shaw- Track; St. Johns “Little by little, great gains are made.”

Mitch Wohlk-Nordic Skiing; UW – Madison
 Reading girls magazines on car rides to meets and reenacting them that night. “We kept it clean, don’t worry.”



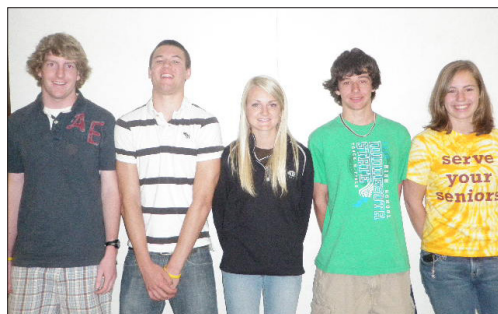
Laurel Pelton-Debate; Northwestern (Ill.)
 “This year was one of the best years; we had a cohesive team. We had a lot of un, which is why we did so well. We weren’t too serious; we put our hearts into it.”



Tom Brenburg-Track; Gustavus
 “The team had a lot of personal bests, learned to sacrifice.”



Betsy Kelly- Golf; Colorado State University
 “We made a bet with the coaches and won it. In tournaments they had to wear super girly sunglasses. When asked, they’d say, “I’m cool like that.”



JJ Weigel- Track; NDSU
 “As the season goes, people get better and most people get their personal best ever.”

Michael Howe-Cross Country; Gustavus
 “We made a gang.”

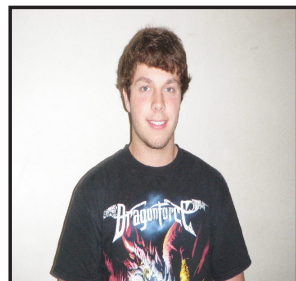
Charise Kendrick-Hockey; Bethel
 “Best times before games, when everyone was getting pumped and singing in the locker room.”

Zach Riedeman- Basketball, Football, Baseball; St.Thomas
 “Winning conference and sections in BB. Going to state was tight. It was my dream goal.”



Logan Romines- Football; Moorhead State
 “Winning homecoming was cool. It was great not having to wear dresses.”

Trevor Waldoch- Hockey; Junior Hockey
 “It was a fun year, best year with all the studs on the team.”



Kyle Anderson-Track; Hamline
 “Each year we’ve gotten better and enrollment has increased which has increased the skill of the team.”

Sammy Holien-Softball; NDSU-
 “We’re the best we’ve ever been going to state in 2010!”

Eve Yang-Speech; UofM
 “Ethos water + Wheaties cereal= breakfast of speech team.”



Jenny Kunshier-Gymnastics; UMD
 “Gymnastics creates lifelong friendships; the team has great potential. I can’t wait to see what they do.”

Bryan Rudisill-Robotics; Century College
 “You guys [the team] really impressed me, I didn’t think we’d get it done. Go FLASH Power!”

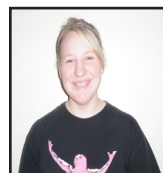
Esther Jandrich-Gymnastics; Concordia St.Paul
 “Last year we made it to state. This year was my goodbye year. I cried a lot.”



Whitney Fenne- Soccer; UW – Stout
 “This year was the best year in the four years that I played. We had the most wins in many years. All the girls really bonded as a family.”



Gweir Glewwe-Speech; UofM
 “Winning section doubles for the first time. We came together as a team and really succeeded.”



Abby Husf-Swimming
 “For Section new t-shirts our inside j

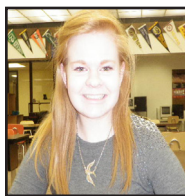
ert Tamfu-DECA;
SU-Business Management
y favorite memory was get-
called up on stage for being
ified for state and dressing up
a chick, being Ms. DECA.”



**Michelle Perreault-
SADD; UW River
Falls.** “We did a ga-
rage sale... one of the
biggest fundraisers,
very successful.”



**Steve Coozenoy-
Nordic Skiing; UMD**
“Overall it was a good
year. Next year’s boys
are going to work hard.
I believe they can do it.
SOS.”



**Kristin Iverson-
Debate; UMD**
“It was a great year. It
meant a lot to me to see
how far they could go and
how much they grow.”

Seniors

**Tristen Uram-
Volleyball; St.Thomas**
“My favorite memory
was winning the Duluth
Invitational, 2nd & 4th
the last two years.”



**Ryan Suess- Hockey;
Junior Hockey**
“Winning Conference
Championship the 1st
time; it was crazy with
all the people.”



**Heidi Witzel-Robot-
ics; Anoka Ramsey**
“I liked this year the
most because we got
more accomplished at
meetings, had more
sponsors and met more
people.”



**Kevin Nelson-
Wrestling; UW-Stout**
“This year was excit-
ing, tough but that’s
usual...Keep believing.
Don’t let yourself get
down. It’s hard but just
keep doing it.”



**Amber Anderson-
Basketball;
St. Cloud State**
“Younger kids look up
to you to make right
choices because you’re
the captain.”



**Adrianne Acosta-
Track; Hamline**
“The fact that we’re
going to state this year,
it’s exciting.”



Rangers fighting for the red, white and blue

By Cody Eggers

Most students who graduate from Forest Lake go to colleges, universities or vocational schools. Some have decided to give back to their country by joining the U.S. military. These students have put their country before themselves.

Joining the armed forces can help you pay for college, after serving for a predetermined period of time. In addition to college money, you may also get free or discounted medical care. It is also a great thing to be able to put on your résumé.

One student who has decided to join the armed forces after high school is Richard LeGuill, who joined the U.S. Army.

“I’ve always wanted to serve my country,” said LeGuill. “It’s also a good way to start my future career.”

LeGuill was originally interested in being a psychological warfare specialist; instead he decided to be a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear weapons specialist.

LeGuill thought his biggest challenge so far has been his pre-basic training program. He reports for duty on July 5th.

“Joining the military has been my best decision ever. I think everyone should join,” said LeGuill.

TJ Sullivan has also decided to join

the U.S. Army Reserve and Army ROTC. He decided to join the military mainly because of the financial aid they provide for college. He is also receiving free medical and dental care. His biggest challenge so far has been the physical training. Sullivan will be training to be a combat engineer in the Army National Guard and then will go through the ROTC program at the University of Minnesota.

“It’s awesome because I get to blow stuff up,” said Sullivan.

Logan Strunk decided to join the U.S. Army as well.

“I joined because military service is one of my family traditions,” said Strunk.

He also wanted to serve his country. Strunk will be training to be a military police officer and going through the ROTC program. His biggest challenge so far has been basic training. He reports for duty Aug. 19.

This is the story of only three different students. There are many other students from FLHS planning on joining the military, and many of them are joining different branches.

These students are making a great sacrifice for the country and fellow Americans.

Words of wisdom for the 2010 graduates of FLHS

By Nicole Hovatter

This year’s graduation ceremony will be one to remember because of the unique class of 2010. It will feature some promising class speakers and Bruce Leventhal as student-elected staff speaker.

Levanthal is both honored to speak and nervous for the big day. However, he feels he has a very important message to deliver to the graduating class.

“Remember to enjoy all experiences. If you can approach life as if every day is an adventure, you will enjoy the ride,” said Leventhal.

He also believes that the class of 2010 is a product of a unique generation, the first to deal with all different kinds of technologies. He recognizes how different the times are for graduates and how much change is to come in the future. When he spoke of Forest Lake graduates he said, “the future has possibility unique for the time they are a part of.”

While the student body wants to hear Leventhal’s speech, Tim Newcomb, Language Arts Teacher, is interested in student perspectives that will be given during the speeches. There are expected to be 4 student speakers. The concept of student speakers is nothing new, but New-



Mr. Bruce Leventhal is the student-elected faculty speaker for 2010.

comb hopes each student “has a unique message this year.”

Candidates for the student speaker applied at an informational meeting held earlier this month. The only criteria was that they wanted to speak and were able to write an outline for their speech, which was turned into a teacher committee. Possible candidates had to go through an interview, where they talk about the content of their speech.

Newcomb hopes that the final four will offer a “diverse representation of the class”. Speeches were not limited to valedictorian and anyone could try out to speak. At press time, student speaker had not yet been chosen. One positive thing about this graduation ceremony is the opportunity for all voices to be heard.

'Itis, pranks & run, oh my!

By Maxwell Nelson

Every year, seniors follow the same trend of traditions to make their final year easier or more memorable. Whether it be slacking, pranks or stampedes, seniors look to forget responsibility their final year.

Seniors (especially those already accepted to colleges) often try to reserve their energy by heavily slacking on their work. This epidemic is known as Senioritis and is highly contagious.

According to Principal Dr. Steve Massey, Senioritis is very common to see and very noticeable to teachers. Massey says that students are undetermined to take hard classes and put in full effort in all classes.

Though Senioritis is a way to make the senior year seem more fluid and easy, it’s truly not the best option. It’s not a bad option just because ‘you should always do your work,’ rather it’s bad preparation for those who are planning on attending college in the fall. By that time, the amount of college work you’ll receive will leave you no time for slacking.

Another commonality amongst seniors is a natural disaster known as senior pranks. This is a tradition held every year and has gotten the school administration (depending on the prank) to either appreciate the cleverness of the prank, or re-

sent its erroneous nature.

One of Massey’s favorite pranks of the past was when students made a big float and parked it in the school parking lot. He saw it as enjoyable but not disruptive to the school environment.

There are, however, consequences for pranks that “cross the line.”

“Pranks that are disruptive or destructive will not be tolerated,” said Massey.

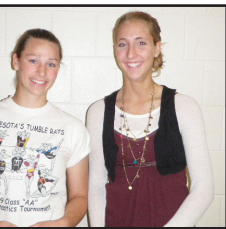
Probably the most exciting of all senior traditions is the senior run. Each year at FLHS, seniors grab their noise makers and running shoes and head for the halls. Not commonly seen or allowed in most

high schools, the senior run is tentatively handled by the administration.

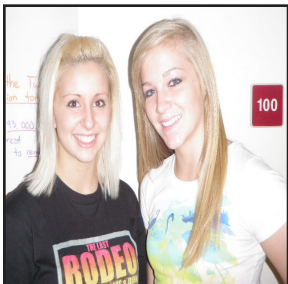
The administration and police liaison monitor the run for vandalizing or the harm of others. So, for those planning on “sprinting” their senior days away, be sure to run in a straight line, so to speak. If you don’t, Massey offers up these strong words as consequence:

“If you damage things or harm people, you will not walk at graduation,” said Massey.

Though senior year is your last and perhaps your best opportunity to have fun in high school, one must recognize the consequences of senior traditions before performing them.



**Lexi Alm - Volleyball;
St.Ben’s**
“My most memorable season is my 9th and 10th grade years because everyone supported me and I was the baby on the team.”



**Amy Olsen-
Dance Team; St. Ben’s**
“Nice knowing you made an impact on their lives.”

**Constance Berger-
Dance Team; St. Ben’s**
“I learned a lot about the team as well as myself. I enjoyed being co-captain with Amy and Jordan.”



**Sam Miller- Basketball;
Winona State**
“You have to lead by demonstration. If you’re passionate for the sport and intense in game and practice, you get more respect from underclassmen.”



Derek Waller- Speech; St.Olaf-
“This was the best speech season/team I’ve had in my 3 years here. I thought that the team was really a community.”

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Gustavus
ns we made
with all of
okes.”



**Ron Brinkman-
Lacrosse; NDSU**
“It was a lot of fun playing for school. It’ll be good for underclassman to play next year.”



**Nicole Haglund- Swimming;
UW- Eau Claire**
“Our goal at state is to beat Stillwater.”

FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS

For the past 10 months, FLHS has played host to seven foreign exchange students. Many of whom left their home, native language, friends and family in favor of learning about American culture and bringing a taste of their world here. Their experiences have helped them and us grow and learn. So, The Forest Breeze has decided to honor these seven with a chance to say goodbye to FLHS for themselves.

Claudia's letter

Dear Minnesotans,
Now we almost arrived to the end of our 10-months-America journey. I can definitely say that it was the most spacy, amazing and instructional year of my life! Especially now towards the end, I realize how much I have learned and taught, and the feeling to know that I achieved my aim is great. If I look back, eight months ago I struggled at the airport with asking for directions, but now I can even go shopping at Target (my favorite store by the way) without being identified as a foreigner.

A big part of my passage was the hope to find out who I am and what my quality values are, and I can definitely say that I found them. You can almost compare it to a plant: being placed in a strange culture to be harvested a few months later. You grow and discover the beauty of change, change in a different view of the world and change in your own person; that's what you earn at the end.

I am amazed by the American, or rather Minnesotan, way of life and spirit. Also I am very thankful that I had an amazing American family who was willing to host me for ten month and a great family in Germany who made this memorable, rich experiece and opportunity possible and lasting forever. I met the craziest, funniest and most loving people and had the best times of my present life.

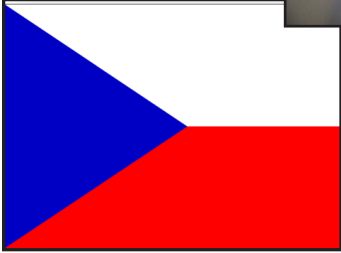
Claudia Steckenstein

About Claudia

Claudia is from Germany. She's 16 and likes to be called Claudi. She speaks Italian, French, English, and Spanish. She's been here for around 11 months. She loves French class and participates in volleyball, tennis, and dancing.

About Tomas

Tomas is from the city of Ostrava in the Czech Republic. He is 18 years old, and speaks Czech. He loves History classes along with outdoor education. His hobbies include hiking, biking, climbing, soccer, and snowboarding.



A group picture from a luncheon the exchange students were invited to. From L to R: Tomas Macecek, Julia Wolfart, Isabell Thoma, Miyoung, Iben Stubbe, Claudia Steckenstein, and Julian Bissantz.

MiYoung's letter

Hi. I'm Miyoung from South Korea. I came here in this January, which is unusual for exchange students because the new semester starts in March in my country. So I'm going to be here until next January as a senior again.

I do love Forest Lake and living here as I have more choices and freedom in all the times. However, I also have gone through difficulties from them because I have more responsibilities for my choices now. I think being an exchange student is pretty good experience in one's life. I'm learning how to manage my schedule, ask something first or decided more wisely. Although I thought that Korean school is harder than here first, I don't think like that anymore. And I truly admire students here who manage their lives by themselves with jobs or club activities.

I want to say "Thank you" to friends, teachers and school staffs who have helped me a lot. I want to be a person like them when I go back to Korea. Have a wonderful summer!

Tomas's letter

The Czech thanks you, Forest Lake High School. I can honestly say this opportunity influenced me, my feelings, and opinions about America and its people.

School sports provided me [with my] first and strong friendships. I played American soccer; in winter, I fell in love with cross country skiing and created [one of my]

About Julian

Julian is from Falkensee, Germany. He is 16 years old and speaks English and a little bit of French.

Julian came to the Unites States to learn the language and to



Julian



meet new people. He came to Forest Lake because a host family here chose him, and because his sister also came here several years ago.

His favorite subject is gym and outside of school, he likes soccer, outdoor activities and getting together with friends.

About Isabel

Isabell Thoma is from Bruchkoebel, Germany. She also goes by Bell. Bell is 16 and knows how to speak German, English and Spanish.

Bell decided to come to the United States because she wants to "learn something about the culture



Isabel

and the country, but especially because of the language."

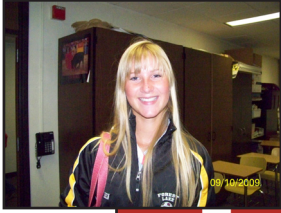
Her hobbies and interests include ballroom dancing, music, getting together with friends, playing the trumpet, and learning new things. She describes herself as being open-minded. She loves listening to music.

About Julia

Julia is from Stuttgart, Germany. She is 16 years and knows English and French. Her favorite school subjects are French and Phy Ed, and her hobbies are singing, swimming, and music. In the winter, she would do some snowboarding as well.

Julia's letter

My name is Julia Wolfart and I'm from Stuttgart, Germany. I've stayed in the US for ten months. It was a great time! I had an awesome host family and we had a great time together. I really enjoyed having the experience of going to an American



Iban



Iban's letter

Dear teachers, students, deans and our principal of Forest Lake Senior High School. I am the exchange student from Denmark. I have been here in the United States for nine months now and have been attending FLHS this year.

I really want to show my gratitude towards you all! You have done me a huge favor by inviting me into your school and country with enjoyment. An experience of a lifetime has been thrown in my arms and I could not be happier that I had the chance to do this.

In my year here I have experienced the American culture, the culture of my own country and on top of that I have learned I billion things about myself. Things I never thought I would learn. I have also been trying to present my country the best I could, and I hope I lived up to my expectations.

All of you have a special place in my heart, and I will never forget how much you have done for me. With the best regards, Iben Stube

About Iban

Iben is from Denmark. She is 16 years old and speaks Danish, English, German, and French. Her favorite school subject is French, and her hobbies include soccer and almost every sport.

Julia



High School and learn about the American lifestyle. American school is way different than our German school system. I really enjoyed that you can do sports as a part of school here. I did swimming in the fall, alpine skiing in winter and now I'm doing lacrosse, which I really love. The team is super nice!

I'm glad and thankful that I had such a good time with many great and unforgettable memories. I hope I can come back some time to visit. Thanks to the high school for letting me go to this school and everyone else who helped making it such a great year!

SchoolView: necessary evil or helpful tool?

SchoolView stunts learning responsibility

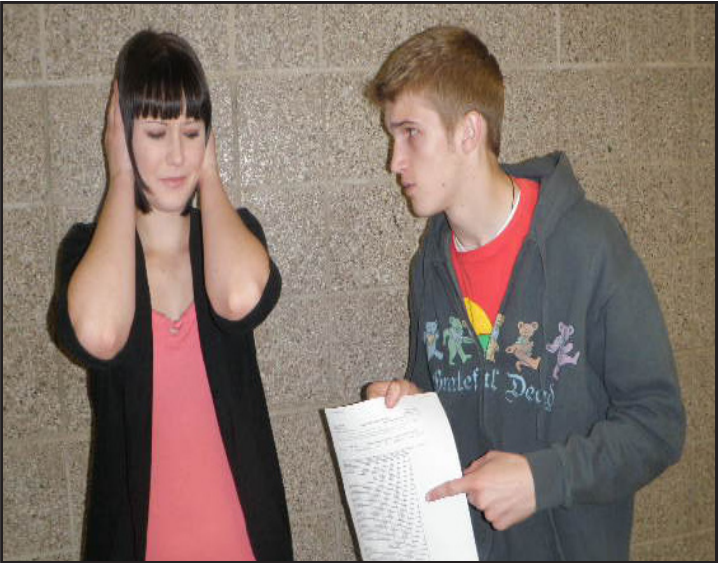
By Megan Daly

Teenagers are immature. Blame it on what you wish, raging hormones, or brain development, it doesn't change the fact we don't always handle ourselves as we should. For this reason, our district's administrators have made tools available to us such as SchoolView to help attempt self-sufficiency when it comes to missing assignments.

Although intentions were good in creating online sites to check grades, our administrators put the account into the wrong hands. I'm talking about parents.

Have any of you ever come home to grade print offs and endless vague questioning about missing assignments? If so, do you feel it is positive motivation to complete your work when you are in that situation? From personal experience, my guess would be it is not.

One of the reasons I believe parents should not have control over access to SchoolView is because they are not students. They do not attend our classes' everyday and they may not know if your grades have already been discussed between you and your teacher, and they also may not know if something is a "work in



Megan Daly and Max Nelson illustrate their opinions of SchoolView. Photo by Cody Eggers

progress", or if extensions have been given during absences.

When all of these factors are taken into account, it ends up being an annoyance to us, the students, who may be attempting to keep track of our progress in class on our own. Keeping track on our own is preparing us for the post secondary education we may be pursuing after high school. When we are in college parents will not be calling us to see if we got our papers done, they will not have the ability to keep track for us, so why would they do it now

when we should be training for educational independence?

I feel the only exception to my argument applies to those students who genuinely don't care and put no effort into their academic work. Who do not take their futures seriously. In which case, a nagging parent might not be such a terrible motivational tool after all.

In the long run, SchoolView is really quite helpful, the execution in how it is being used, however, could use a little revision.

Provides for partnership

By Max Nelson

As technology develops, most teenagers become more engaged and attached to it. It's the perfect marriage. But, technology's capabilities reach beyond video games and mp3's - and into the student-despised online gradebook. Students and parents are served a constant connection to student progress through the Schoolview Online Gradebook, traditionally disliked by FLHS students.

Schoolview is meant to be updated regularly by teachers, at most every day. This convenience is reason enough for parents not to raise their temper over bad grades. In my house, my dad usually keeps track of my grades on Schoolview. And if there is ever a bad grade, I don't get scolded or shamed, but my dad and I quickly discuss what can be done and what I need to do. He doesn't put heavy pressure on me, but a lot of trust. I believe my dad understands that Schoolview isn't a final grade and I have the ability to change the poor grades. If anything, Schoolview allows me to monitor my progress and know to what I need to be more attentive.

Bottom line: Schoolview

grades shift day-to-day.

Even though Schoolview may be the source of many of the conflicts between you and your parents, I believe Schoolview does serve a good purpose. I also believe there's possibility that parents can relax over bad grades. I see Schoolview as a wonderful convenience for me to improve in school. If parents saw it more as a tool to monitor grades rather than a way to declare final grades, they wouldn't come down so hard.

In order for Schoolview to work best for you and your parents, there needs to be some understanding. Your parents need to understand that Schoolview is more of a tool to measure progress than to determine the fate of a class. Parents also need to have more faith in their children to turn bad grades around. In my experience, kids get more motivated to do work when they're not yelled at.

So, if you are one of those who loathe coming home after a test has been corrected, for fear of Schoolview backlash, try reestablishing the meaning of Schoolview with your parents as more of monitoring tool, not a report card.

Slackers unite!

A last-minute lifestyle misunderstood

By Dorothea Olson

A lot of students can't wait for summer. The sleeping-in, vacations, hot weather and, or course, no school! Well, most people can't wait anyways. Some students, like me, get a short break and then come back for the dreaded summer school. These students either didn't understand the class, were gone for various reasons, like due to an extended illness (like me) or are part of the lovely group called "slackers".



Sophomore Dorothea Olson puts off a pile of homework in favor of listening to her music and texting on her cell phone. Photo by Cody Eggers

Slackers have varying reasons for living this lifestyle, which I think are very legit. The top of these reasons being a lack of motivation, a view that there are "more important" things to do, or they just take procrastination to a whole new level. If you are a slacker, then don't worry, I'm not cutting you down, I'm just shedding light on this unique lifestyle.

To me, slacking is just how I do things. I wait till the last minute to start projects and papers. I do my homework assignments the

morning that they're due. And for some reason I still do well in my classes. I work my best under pressure and stress. This has worked well for most classes I've taken so far. As a sophomore my success with this method may change a bit in the future. Sadly, there are actually a lot of people just like me.

Scan the cafeteria or the media center before 1st period someday. There are books, papers and stressed students everywhere,

doing last minute class work. It's like a slacker's hangout. There are friends to help you out, food to energize, and tons of flat surfaces to do your work.

We slackers aren't lazy or stupid. We have our strategies down to an art. We're the students who don't have to stay up for hours on end.

So, there are many advantages to being of the slacker group. We get to have fun, sleep and have a social life while still getting good grades and passing with flying colors. So, quit saying slackers are stupid and lazy. We're awesome!

Summer school should also help create room in class schedules

By Cody Eggers

Most students at FLHS know the drill. If you slack and don't work hard, you will probably fail whatever classes you're taking. And if you fail, you will have to make up the credits in summer school.

Everyone dreads summer school. Just the thought of having to come to school in the summer scares students silly. Having to come to school in the summer when you could be out doing better things or just sleeping in, isn't something most students look forward to.

Some will say students who come to summer school are really just making up the time they wasted during the school year slacking off and goofing around.

There really isn't a reason to complain about having to come to school during the summer to retake a class you failed during the school year. You're the one who slacked off and didn't work hard enough to pass. Granted, sometimes, students need to retake classes in the summer because they have missed a lot of school due to illness.

For some reason, summer school is just for the purpose of serving the students who need to make up credits. But why do we only see summer school as a way to make up classes, when we

could also use it as a way to get ahead? Many students want to get ahead on their classes and credits or make room for electives. If summer school offered classes for those who wanted to get ahead, students would be able to take more electives during the year, and more career-related classes. Our school is always pushing for students to be taking elective classes in their career cluster, but have never suggested this option before.

Offering summer school as an option to get ahead in addition to catching up is an idea our district should consider. I don't think it would take any drastic measures to make this program possible. Our school would need to hire a few more teachers to work in the summer. Several of the required classes are already being taught. Students who are just looking to get ahead should take advantage of these classes as well.

I think summer school is being viewed in the wrong way. It should be used for students who want to get ahead not just catch up. It would be very beneficial to start a program where students would be able to get ahead on school classes. This is definitely an option worth trying, for the advancement of learning and education at FLHS.

“We [slackers] have our strategies down to an art.”

Decorated with more than desks

By Dorothea Olson

The drill was to go around to every classroom in FLHS. The goal: To find the best decorated classroom of the 100's, 200's, 300's and so on.

Four sophomores, Dana Scott, Rachel Dupree, Sam Doten and I ventured the school in search of the best room. We rated the rooms based on the atmosphere (Was the room cluttered? Was it calming?), setup (Was there room to move? Could everyone see

the front?), decoration (Were the walls decorated? Was there stuff hanging on the ceiling? Were the walls painted?), and effectiveness (Do the decorations teach? Does the room fit the subject?).

Each wing was narrowed down, based on the rating system, to five of the best rooms. So, five 100 rooms, five 300s, three 600s and one 200, which was an automatic winner because it is the only 200 classroom.

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Best Decorated Classrooms



Mr. Waldron, English



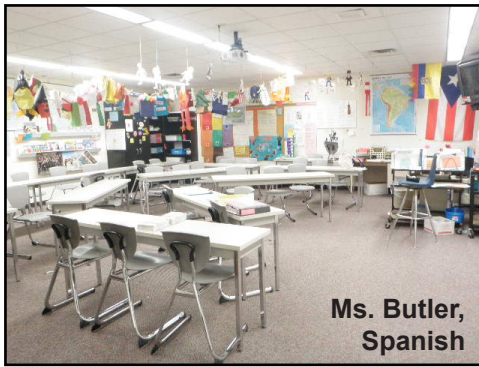
Mr. Mueller, English



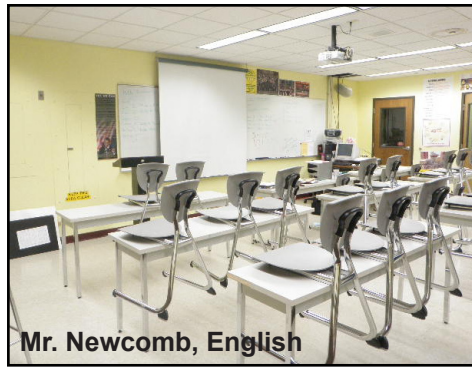
Mrs. Nelson, Social Studies



Mrs. Hill, Science



Ms. Butler, Spanish



Mr. Newcomb, English

Times to remember 2010

By Erienne Nelson

This year has been a year to remember. From devastating earthquakes to a scary economy to victorious school teams or even some pretty big laughs. Here's just a few things the class of 2010 will take away from the year along with the underclassmen.

July 2nd unemployment rate due to recession reaches 9.5% of the population,

July 3rd Palin resigns as Alaskan Governor,



July 4th Serena Williams wins Wimbledon,

August 28th Michael Jackson's death was ruled a homicide, Britney Murphy dies,

September 8th President Obama reads his speech to kids urging them to "work hard and stay in school"

September 14th Patrick Swayze died of cancer,



September 18th H1N1 vaccine

becomes publically available,

October 24th H1N1 declared a national emergency,

November 4th Yankees win the World Series,

November 6th FLHS goes into lockdown after a suspicious man was reported near the grounds.

January 12th 7.0 magnitude earthquake hits Haiti, killing 100,000+ people

March 24th Halls of FLHS were emptied to watch the boys basketball team battle it out at



the State Tourney.

April 21st BP oil rig off the coast of Louisiana exploded, leading to a disastrous oil spill within the waters of the Gulf Coast.

April 24th Forest Lake High School's 2010 Prom themed "Today is a Fairytale"

May 27th Congress repealed the "Don't ask Don't Tell" policy.

So long from the staff



From left to right: Cody Eggers, Megan Daly, Dorothea Olson, Max Nelson, Nicole Hovatter, Erienne Nelson, Jennifer Nelson.

Dear FLHS Student Body,

The 2010 school year is coming to an end, and the days of the Forest Lake journalism program are numbered. We, the staff of *The Forest Breeze*, appreciate your cooperation throughout the year with things such as interviews. We also appreciate those of you who have followed our progress by reading the issues published online and in print.

Our little class of seven thoroughly enjoyed writing for you, learning more about the goings on in the Forest Lake area, and developing skills needed to pull together a story and layout.

"I really enjoyed being a

part of the class, and being involved in the journalism process," said sophomore journalism student Maxwell Nelson.

Next year there is no class dedicated to publishing a newspaper, however, journalism will be tied in with the advanced media production class, advised by Mr. Joe Mueller, where some students will continue to work on *the Breeze* as an independent study.

"I really hope there can be a newspaper next year and that more people will become interested in journalism," said senior Nicole Hovatter.

Regardless if all or part of the class returns next year, skills learned this semester can be carried on throughout the staff's school years.

"I'm much better at using

the least amount of words to write a lot of information," said sophomore Dorothea Olsen.

Our advisor, Mrs. Laura Palke, helped us develop skills needed to approach people for interviews, edit articles, and understand the importance of being truthful and concise while writing. And with these skills, the world of written words has been expanded for the seven students who joined the program this year.

Although things will be different for the paper next year, we hope to continue bringing local stories that relate to the teenagers at FLHS.

Thank You,

Megan Daly