

The Grassland Gazette

The End of the Year

Inside this Issue:

The End of Year	1
Variety Show	2
Stress	2
Sports	3
Summer	4
Reviews/Letters	5
Entertainment	6

The school year is finally almost over! For 6th and 7th graders, this means it's time for summer. However, for the 8th graders, the end of the 2008-2009 school year means something a little more. It's the end of their middle school years, and the beginning of the rest of their lives.

After speaking to some future freshmen, we discovered how they felt about finally reaching high school. Most were excited about the new school. One student just thought of it as "just another school". The rest of the students were "nervous, but excited". Overall, the 8th grade is ready to leave behind the bonds of middle school and taste the freedom of high school.

Some of the 8th graders feel like they're not quite ready for high school. There's so much work and so many projects.... However, Ms Lange has faith in us. "You're ready to move on!" she exclaimed when asked her opinion. "The sooner the better," she finished. This does not mean that the French teacher hates us; she just thinks that we are prepared.

As the year draws to a close, everyone is pumped for summer. But for the 8th graders, this fall is more than just a school year. It's the first step into their future.

-Ella Dermon

The Variety Show



The Variety Show is coming up, and boy, does it look like fun! There are about 30 acts, and some of the comedy acts will be going more than once throughout the show. The acts are typically from about a minute and a half to two minutes in length, depending on what they are doing. People are dancing, doing comedy, singing, and some bands are performing.

Over forty acts auditioned, and some of those had multiple people. There were a lot of students who tried out for the opportunity to take part in this show. During auditions, there were many different people judging each act. There were around 15 students, and several teachers to ensure that the judgment was not biased. They were judging the acts based on appropriateness, organization, creativity, originality, and en-

-ertainment value. In the end, there were about thirty acts who made it through. Thank you to those who auditioned, and good luck to those who made it in! Watch out for the Variety Show on Friday, May 15th!

-Katie Keirstead

The #1 tip for dealing with stress?

“Practice too much!”

Stress

It's a feeling that most performers of any kind can relate to. A crippling combination of anxiety, stress, and doubt. Due to the Variety Show on Friday, and due to me being IN the Variety Show, I asked some friends and fellow show members for advice on pre-performance stress. Here are some of the

most trustworthy and original ideas.

1. "Practice too much!"
2. "BREATHE! You don't want to die before you go."
3. "Have a little pep talk with everyone else that's performing. Encouraging words = success!"
4. "Think about all the compliments you're going to get afterwards."

5. "Make up a handshake with friends backstage."
6. "Drinking water is very important, but eating is just as important."
7. "Make sure you have someone to watch and encourage you through the whole experience."

-Dana Gary

Ending Sports

It's almost the end of the year, and that means all GMS sports are over. It was a tough season for Grassland sports, but we hope to come back and have a strong year next year. For GMS track, the season ended a few weeks ago. It was a hard season for both the boys and girls teams, but they both worked really hard, and hope to have a better season next year. For baseball and softball, both teams ended in the HVAC tournament. The girls' team lost in the first round, and the boy's team lost in the second round. We have to say congratulations to the GMS tennis team! The boy's tennis team placed third in the county this year. Good job, Grassland, for a great year in sports, and we hope to see you all next year.

Just a reminder, for any sixth or seventh grader planning to play football next year, spring training started May 11.

-Michael Wilson

Answers to Page 6

Answers to "Do You Know Your Teachers?" (page 6):

1. C
2. F
3. A
4. K
5. J
6. D
7. L
8. H
9. G
10. E
11. B

E-mail:
gmsnewspaper@ymail.com

Dear Generals,

Thank you so much for reading this issue of the Grassland Gazette! If you need to talk to any of the staff, you can locate most of us in Coach Clark's room during first period. Thanks!

-The Grassland Gazette Staff

Staff

Executive Editor– Ashley De Peri

News Editor– Ella Dermon

Features Editor– Katie Keirstead

Sports Editor– Michael Wilson

Entertainment Editor– Jackson Wood

7th Grade Reporter– Dana Gary

6th Grade Reporter– Peyton Bottoms

6th Grade Reporter–Spencer Cox

Sponsor– Coach Jerry Clark

Sponsor– Mrs. Jeanne Rowan

Summer!

Everyone here at Grassland is probably anticipating the end of school and the start of summer, so we came up with a few ways you can have fun in the sun without being on vacation.

First of all, remember to drink a lot of water and put on sunscreen if you are outside. If you want to have fun but still keep to a budget, you could always have a pool party, a sleep over, or just meet up with some friends and hang out. One of my favorite things to do over the summer is go bowling. It may cost a bit, but it can be a nice way to hang out with your friends or family and have a fun time. The summer is also a great time to head over to the library and pick up a nice book or two. You also could rent a DVD and have a movie night. These ideas are just a few ways to have fun over the summer.

-Spencer Cox

-Peyton Bottoms

The Revealers by Doug Wilhelm

The Revealers is the story of three geeky kids, Russel, Elliot, and Catalina. They have always been considered outcasts, and were, for that reason, targeted by all the bullies in the school. One day they decide to tell their stories by sending out a letter to the entire school about all the terrible things the bullies have done to them. Soon, kids start sending in their *own* stories, asking for them to be published, too. They decide to make their own newspaper called *The Revealer* that includes nothing but kids stories of being bullied. But when the bullies fight back, they are forced to come up with an idea of how to stop them— and fast. This may not be a very well-known book, but it's a heartwarming one all the same. **This book's rating: 3 out of 5 stars**



Earth

You may not know it, but *Earth* stars some of the greatest celebrities known to man: animals! This Disney/Discovery Channel production follows three different families of animals through their different habitats and lets you see for yourself all the wonders and terrors facing certain species of animals today. Whether you're stalking prey with a lioness, sliding down glaciers with the penguins, or even swimming through the ocean with whales, this movie will thrill the entire family and keep you entertained throughout the entire show.

This movie's rating: 4 out of 5 stars



Letters to the Editor

We want to hear from YOU, Generals! If you have a question, comment, or suggestion about something we write, you could have it published here! Just send us an email at:

gmsnewspaper@ymail.com with your name and grade. There is also a box set up in the Commons where you can submit your comments if you don't have access to a computer. If you wish to remain anonymous, just leave out your name. Each issue, we will pick one of your letters and publish them here! Thanks for your participation!

-The Grassland Gazette Staff

Do You Know Your Teachers?

1. _____ Mr. Keller a: this teacher can smell ants and loves to play the pipe organ

2. _____ Ms. Sullivan b: this teacher used to work for Gov. Bredesen

3. _____ Ms. Worsham c: this teacher claims to be the “breakdance master”

4. _____ Ms. Brasher d: this teacher has run in 3 marathons and 9 half marathons

5. _____ Ms. Gordon e: this teacher was once pulled out onto the court during halftime at a Harlem Globetrotter’s game

6. _____ Mr. Oldham f: this teacher used to be a jazz singer

7. _____ Ms. Boone g: this teacher taught two of their daughters at GMS

8. _____ Ms. Gardner h: this teacher has 3 kids and has been married for 16 yrs.

9. _____ Mr. Koehler i: this teacher is working on their Ph.D. and can play the piano

10. _____ Coach Breece j: this teacher has been to all 48 contiguous states of the USA

11. _____ Ms. Lange k: this teacher will be planning a wedding for their daughter, who will marry a man she met in middle school

*Answers are in text box on page 3.

-Jackson Wood