

## True American heroes: a veteran's story

by ELIZABETH FURSMAN staff writer

Patrick McManus is a student here at Century College who served in the Coast Guard for four years. He is one of approximately 300 students who have served in various capacities in the military. Some have seen combat duty in foreign countries, while others served to guard the coast of the United States by performing their service out at sea. These veterans bring a different kind of life experience and maturity to our campus. This story is a glimpse into the past, present, and future of one of our veterans here at Century.

McManus was only eighteen years old when he left home for the Coast Guard. At the time he was not ready to pursue a college education and decided to join the services due to the fact that his father was in the army and his grandfather was in the coast guard. He talked about how it had become a family tradition.

McManus left his mother, father, and currently fourteen year old sister behind when he was stationed in various places around Alaska. He spoke of how it was hard being located in the middle of nowhere. One of the places he was stationed at was Kodiak Island, which is located in the Gulf of Alaska. Another place he was located was Port Clarence, which is

located on the western edge of the mainland, just ninety miles south of the Arctic Circle. His family was impacted greatly by the 3,000 mile distance between them and their son and brother.

McManus recalls that the first year and a half of joining the service was difficult; however he found that, "Even if you don't like the people you work with, you have to work together towards a

common goal and people naturally form a family-type bond." It is this immense camaraderie that surrounded him where he is able to recall happy memories and strong friendships.

One of McManus's most cherished memories was being named an honorary electronic technician. McManus served longer than most by volunteering his services an extra year to help support the stations maintenance, upkeep, and continue to assist the electronics shop. This particular job consists of maintaining constant and steady navigation signals that mariners could use. He received the honor in regards to his hard work and year extension.

Generally McManus ran an eight to four hour workday. His three meal breaks were approximately an hour long each. The food was pretty good; however whatever they ate came in bulk, so the selection was always repetitive during a short period of time.

Besides meals, McManus' day included things like cleaning and doing work for his respective department. He would also work faculty maintenance and upkeep (MAA). Often he would work under his secondary supervisor and take on the duties of an electronic technician. These duties consisted

*Veteran continued on 2*



PHOTO COURTESY LYNN LAVERDIERE

## Common Book talk

by CASSIE HUFFMYIER copy editor

We have all seen the posters around campus and maybe even attended an author's seminar, but some might still be wondering, where does Century's "Common Book" come from and how is it picked?

We asked faculty member Amanda Olson, who is a key person in picking out and promoting the Common Book here at Century:

**The Century Times:** What is the process for picking the common book, from start to finish?

**Amanda Olson:** We ask the Century community for nominations, then the Common Book Committee has three meetings – first, we check out all of the books that are nominated from the library and meet to pass them out to committee members and get a sense of which books we're excited about. In our second meeting, we go book by book through the nominations and get reports from each committee member who reviewed them. This is when we narrow the list to 5-6 books that the committee will read over the winter break. After the break, we have a third meeting to discuss the books and choose our next common book.

**TCT:** When did Century start doing the common book and why?

**AO:** Century started this project as a way to connect the members of the

Century Community outside the classrooms as well as inside. The idea with a common reading program is that a book can be a conversation starter for everyone connected to a particular school. For example, students may be assigned the book in a Philosophy class and spend some time discussing it there, but students may also notice that someone in the Access Center is reading the book and start a conversation about it. The book becomes a common topic that we can all talk about and learn about even outside of class.

**TCT:** How do you know if students are reading it? Do

*Book continued on 2*



PHOTO BY DAWN DREYLING

## Scholarship banquet

by WILLIAM TREMBLEY art editor

Century is more than just a community college; it is a community in which the people help create successful students and opportunities for good educations.

Some of the fuel for this burning community spirit comes from the Century College Foundation. According to Century's website, it is an "organization dedicated to providing financial support to the students of Century College."

The foundation receives funding through all sorts of donors, from individuals to corporations, and passes along the money to students in need.

Every year they give this money to students in need of assistance through a ceremony called the Scholarship Awards Banquet. This year

*Banquet continued on 5*

### Inside Out

*Had Enough Sleep? p2*



*Campus Clean Up p2*



*American Indian Heritage p3*



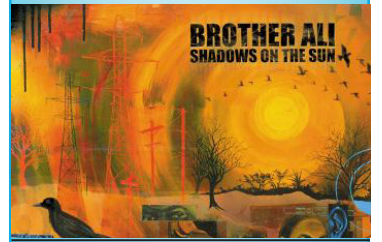
*Minnesota Driving p3*



*Farewell Editors p6*



*Local Noise p7*



### Index

News & Opinions	1-5
Arts & Features	6-9
Sports & Recreation	10-11
The Back Alley	12

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PHOTO BY SCOTT HUDSON

## Have you had your sleep today?

by FORRESTER PACK staff writer

The glowing sun far overhead is warming your face. You're on a boat, a straw boat to be exact. The gentle Nile is guiding you while towering sand dunes and distant pyramids watch over you. You can almost taste the ripe peaches hanging off the riparian trees. A breeze caresses you as you drift off to sleep under the midday spring sun....

The truck driver kindly yells out his window as he roars past, horns blaring. You sheepishly change into the right hand lane, now fully alert. What did he say? Something involving his work boots and your mug. You realize that you are not sailing a smooth river in central Egypt, but actually commuting to Century, on I-694, in the middle of January.

Even more important, you're sleepy. Again. Sound familiar?

Though the dream sequences may differ among students, the cause is generally the same. Fatigue. Lack of sleep. Overloading on energy drinks, and then enduring the inevitable crash. Today, nationwide, many parents and health officials argue that too many college students are receiving inadequate amounts of rest. But how bad is it, really? And is it only college students? College teachers and professors must be busy, too.

In response to The Century Times inquiring how many hours of sleep per night she normally gets, Humanities professor Kelly Wray replied, "Eight to nine



IMAGE COURTESY GOOGLE

hours, which is needed. But when I was studying at the U of M, I only got six a night!" she said with a laugh.

"Nobody is getting enough sleep," World Regional Geography professor Danielle Meinhardt agrees. "I think students are averaging five to six per night, based off the large caffeinated beverages I see. I know students... are taking time out of sleep for work, school, and family purposes."

According to the website for the National Sleep Foundation, [www.sleepfoundation.org](http://www.sleepfoundation.org), teenagers should receive just over nine hours of sleep per night. WebMD's experts say that adults should be getting seven to eight hours of sleep per night. However, on the Mayo Clinic's website, in a Q&A, renowned medical doctor Kenneth G. Berge offered a more fluid opinion on sleep levels.

"The amount of sleep you need depends on many factors, especially your age. As you get older, your sleeping patterns may change. Older adults tend to sleep more lightly and awaken more frequently during the night than do

younger adults — but there's no evidence that older adults need less sleep than do younger adults."

So, with respect to the many different opinions, recommendations, and statistics out there, what are some of the sleeping habits of the Century student body?

"I get about six hours per school night," Century student Josh Preston admitted. "I do all my sleeping on weekends. I don't think I get enough."

"I get an average of six," another student, Gordy Satnik, replied. "It's probably not enough. I generally function better with more sleep."

"Between work and school, I get six to seven hours, which for me, isn't enough," Krystal Flom said. I definitely wish there was a better way to get more rest."

With careers just beginning, papers being written, and jobs to hold down, many a student yearns for that perfect balance of work, play, and sleep, but these days, it just isn't a reality, for student and faculty alike. Obviously, there are some consequences to be had for lack of sleep, and no matter how busy lifestyles are, students should always make time to care for themselves: and that starts as soon as his or her head hits the pillow. Professor Wray knows this all too well, with children of her own and hundreds of students to preside over each semester.

"Students should get eight hours [of sleep] although they don't," she said. "Students cannot function on less sleep, though."

So, always remember the cardinal rule: if it's been on the ground for five seconds, don't eat it.

## Campus Clean Up

by KELL BLUTE MOE staff writer

Some people love volunteering, and some may think it's a waste of time. However, doing a voluntary work is never a bad idea. For example, the "Campus Clean Up" event this year provided students who participated during the clean up with a free meal ticket for Turkey Jam.



PHOTO COURTESY JENN RASSETT

As Century college is growing and moving forward, students are getting more involved in school activities; Campus Clean Up had been done in the past, but this year this the event succeeded because of the collaboration of Phi Theta Kappa (Honor Society), Planning Activity Committee (PAC) and Facilities Campus Pride Committee (FCP). "These groups really put a lot of time and effort into making the event the success that it was," said Jennifer Rasset, Associate Director of Student Life.

The event was held on Nov. 22, 2010 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm on the east and the west campuses so that all students could participate. At 11:00 am Monday morning students came bundled up in their winter gear to the registration table. They signed their names on the sheet and then went around campus picking up trash. Their reward for picking up trash was a meal ticket for Turkey Jam, an event held on campus the next day.

Eleven participants showed up for this activity, which is great because the involvement of students in these activities gives them an opportunity to learn new things.

"I think it is crucial to understand the difference between what you can and you can't recycle; I can now see that a lot of people don't really know what waste is and what is considered a bottle..." said one participant.

I have noticed since Campus Clean Up that the campus looks much better. "The purpose for this activity is to make our campus green and cleaner," said Ericka Vang, the Vice President of Service in Phi Theta Kappa, who was in charge of the campus clean up activity.

Turkey Jam was another event that was related to Campus Clean Up because it was organized by PAC, a club involved in both activities. Faculty, staff and other students who did not participate during the clean up came to Turkey Jam in big numbers. Over 500 people attended from both campuses, which is great!



PHOTO BY KELL BLUTE MOE

## A veteran's story

*Veteran continued from 1*

of maintaining a steady and constant navigation.

In the evenings, McManus enjoyed playing the guitar, which has been a leisurely hobby of his since he was twelve years old. The whole station engaged in playing Halo/Xbox as a network for entertainment. McManus stated that he didn't particularly enjoy Halo; however it was a fun and social experience. When McManus wasn't jamming out or gaming it up he was making contact with his friends and family. He was able to make contact by telephone or internet.

Being woken up in the middle of the night was not uncommon. If something broke, then McManus and others would have to stand watches and fix whatever the problem was. McManus states that "This usually consisted of a duty engineer and numerous electronics technicians working to fix transmitter, generator, and signal issues." On the bright side, for those who were up all night, exception would be made for the next work day in order to catch up on some sleep.

While serving his time few complications occurred; however just weeks before McManus's final return home his paperwork for discharge was lost. Also, with the unpredictable weather he was

concerned about whether or not his flight would make it to bring him home. These conflicts left him in a panic. Thankfully, his flight came through and the resubmission of his paperwork was successful for a prompt return home.

McManus's life was positively impacted by enlisting in the military. He felt mentally prepared to start college and decided to earn a degree in air conditioning and heating ventilation at Century Community College. Also, McManus received a four year G.I. Bill. The bill consists of a living allowance, which allows him to focus on school. The G.I. Bill covers his school tuition, and will cover it to the maximum of the highest state tuition. He also receives a book allowance to help cover the costs of textbooks. Ultimately he felt proud for his services to his country.

McManus, now twenty-four years old, is living in Bayport, Minnesota. He is attending school as a full-time student in order to pursue his aspirations and complete college. For his foreseeable future, McManus states that, "I just want to land a good job and be able to provide for myself and my future family. That's all that people can ask for in the times were in." I asked McManus what exactly he would say to those considering joining the service. He replied

with "It's a good opportunity and a great life experience. It's something you could never replicate in the civilian world. The benefits outweigh the difficulties." These words offer encouragement for those enlisting in the military.

Whatever our purpose may be for war or military services, it is important to honor and recognize the sacrifices that are made on behalf of our country. For anyone who wishes to reach out to the men and woman in the military, there are small things you can do that would make a big difference. A few things you could do to offer support would be to help send care packages. Also, you could become a pen pal to someone that could really use a letter. For more information on becoming a pen pal you can visit [www.milpals.com](http://www.milpals.com). With the holidays just around the corner, it is important that we are all there for our veterans and for one another.

When I asked McManus what he would say to the family and friends of those who are currently serving in the military he responded with "Be supportive, keep in touch, and send care packages." He also said most importantly, "Be there for them, regardless of what you think about the military."

## Common Book

*Book continued from 1*

you usually get a big response?

**AO:** We know through some obvious ways, like book sales, and by asking instructors if they are assigning it. But we also know by the buzz around campus. It's exciting for those of us on the committee to see students sitting in the hallways reading the common book. It's also exciting to see how many students attend our events — especially when the author is on campus, everybody wants their copy autographed!

**TCT:** Why was The Good Soldiers picked for this year?

**AO:** It was the best book that was nominated. This was the book that nobody could put down, and the members of the committee felt that this book was the right combination of brilliant writing and a timely topic.

**TCT:** What is your favorite book personally?

**AO:** That's so hard! I always feel like the book I'm currently absorbed in is my favorite! One that I truly loved though was The Hours by Michael Cunningham.

**TCT:** Is Century the only school that does a Common Book?

**AO:** No! Many colleges, and some cities even, have common reading programs. Chicago, for example has a program through the public libraries called, "One Book, One Chicago." Promoting literacy around a single book has become a popular way to build community in the past few years. I think it's brilliant; giving strangers a conversation opener (other than the weather) helps us connect more to our colleagues and neighbors. I know I've met lots of students that I never would have met if I weren't involved with the Common Book program. I love that we met because of a book we both read!

## American Indian Heritage Events 2010

by SCOTT HUDSON photographer

Throughout November, the Century College Multicultural Center has sponsored numerous events covering American Indian dress, cuisine and culture. If you stopped by the Cafeteria on west campus you might have noticed a display of female American Indian apparel in the cafeteria as well as some traditional American Indian foods on the menu.

There was also the opportunity to create an Ojibwe dream catcher and watch a film about the American Indian struggle for civil rights. The events wrapped up with a performance by the group Fast Horse. Fast Horse dazzled the audience with their storytelling, which involved Native American songs and costumes; as well as providing viewers with a lesson on the evolution of American Indian music and dance.



PHOTO BY SCOTT HUDSON



PHOTO BY SCOTT HUDSON

## Minnesota winter driving

by LIZ BROWN staff writer

It's that all too familiar feeling. The feeling you get when you're driving along and you feel your tires start to skid on the road, or your car starts to fishtail. Whether this is your first Minnesota winter or your thirtieth, we all are at risk on the icy roads that Minnesota winters bring.

Most of us have probably known someone who has been in a winter driving accident, or maybe you have yourself. Winter driving takes skill and a lot more thought than driving any other time of year. There are many things you can do to be safe on the road though. Safe driving begins before you even get into your car.

It might help to practice some winter driving techniques in an icy, empty parking lot. If your rear tires skid, "Take your foot off the accelerator. Steer in the direction you want the front wheels to go. If your rear wheels are sliding left, steer left. If they're sliding right, steer right. If your rear wheels start sliding the other way as you recover, ease the steering wheel toward that side. You might have to steer left and right a few times to get your vehicle completely under control. If you have standard brakes, pump them gently. If you have anti-lock brakes (ABS), do not pump the brakes. Apply steady pressure to the brakes. You will feel the brakes pulse —this is normal." (weather.com)

If your front tires skid, "Take your foot off the gas and shift to neutral, but don't try to steer immediately. As the wheels skid sideways, they will slow the vehicle and traction will return. As it does, steer in the direction you want to go. Then put the transmission in



PHOTO BY SCOTT HUDSON

"drive" or release the clutch, and accelerate gently." (weather.com)

Always have a full tank of gas. "Running on fumes" might be okay in the summer, but in the winter if you get stuck in a ditch and run out of gas you are going to be in even more trouble. Make a winter car kit (see sidebar for handy items to include).

Be sure to check your tire pressure each time you leave, make sure to clear all windows of snow and ice, and also clear the hood and roof of your car.

Now that you're all clear to hit the roads it's time for the serious stuff. The roads will inevitably be icy. Slowing down can be the difference between life and death. This means leaving extra time to reach your destination. Give the car in front of you at least three times the space you would normally give them. (Think the "three second rule" times three.) Never use cruise control, as it will make any skidding or slipping worse.

Take extra care if you

have an SUV or truck. The unbalance of these vehicles makes them prone to rolling.

If you do get stuck in a ditch there are still things you can do to be safe. Make sure your tailpipe is clear of debris so fumes will not enter your vehicle. Turn off traction control and move your steering wheel to the left and right to free tires from the snow. Lightly apply your foot to the gas pedal without applying too much pressure so you don't dig your tires deeper into the snow.

"Rock" your vehicle back and forth by carefully shifting between drive to reverse.

With a little precaution and some practice you can decrease your chances of getting into an accident. Now that you are well versed on winter driving precautions it's time to (slowly) hit the roads. Winter driving doesn't have to be a nightmare! Good luck out there.

*Weather.com recommends including these items in your winter car kit:*

- Working flashlight and extra batteries
- Reflective triangles and brightly colored cloth
- Compass
- First aid kit
- Exterior windshield cleaner
- Ice scraper and snowbrush
- Wooden stick matches in a waterproof container
- Scissors and string/cord
- Non-perishable, high-energy foods (unsalted canned nuts, dried fruits, and hard candy)
- Wool blankets, mittens and hats.



PHOTO BY SCOTT HUDSON

# New forms of media take on newspaper

by JOHN BELISLE layout editor

The number of newspaper subscribers has dwindled in previous years, signaling a new trend in readership and information gathering. While consumers turn to the Internet, traditional newspapers are struggling. As I interviewed students on campus it became clear that the majority of people don't read the newspaper. Century College students are more likely to get their news from Internet sites such as MSN or CNN.

However, newspaper subscriptions make up only a small portion of the revenue that papers take in. Journalist and Media Trend Analyst, Kim Garretson confirmed, "The high costs of printing and delivery of newspapers has never been offset by subscribers' fees. At best, subscriptions have covered the hard costs of printing and delivery." The main reason newspapers are struggling is because advertisers are spending more money online instead of on newspaper ads leaving traditional newsgathering sources with a shortage of revenue. As a reader of the news you might be asking yourself how this will effect what you read.

Already we're seeing a massive amount of news content piling up on Internet sites that are not based on any original reporting. Field reporting is a crucial component to breaking news and without

the firsthand observations, all we have is a bunch of second-hand accounts. A reader feels more connected to a story when there are reporters who talk to real people. In a Feb. 2009 essay, Salon.com writer Gary Kamiya described online reporting to be "devoid of human interaction or human stories, often written by individuals who do not pretend to have a neutral stance."

Objective reporting seemingly has become less important as news stories formulated by online bloggers and unpracticed journalists turn into opinion pieces. With so much content being shared through social networks like Facebook and Twitter it's easy to see how readers gravitate towards biased versions of an original story. Reported news stories take time, money, and good interview skills but the content usually doesn't attract as many readers as does Op-Ed pieces according to Kamiya. Century College student, Robbie Brinkley explains his preference for online news sites, "It's a collaboration of more opinions. Your get five stories on one subject, so I think it leaves it more open to non-biased or at least multiple biased articles."

Traditional newspapers just don't have the resources to

develop an online presence. Many reporters and journalists working for newspapers are being let go due to financial restraints and the numbers will most likely continue to grow. It's still being debated whether fees should be instituted to help pay the cost of running an online news site. However, it remains clear that newspapers cannot rely solely on online subscription fees to support their business.

Internet news sites are more cost effective, because it can relay news that first appeared in print and post their own take on a story. Visit the popular online newspaper, The Huffington Post, and you get many stories from various news outlets such as the Associated Press or New York Times. Few stories are actually broke by the writers because reporting is a time consuming and expensive process.

Garretson sees a new approach developing in the way writers and reporters work. Since digging through the glut of online news will become nearly impossible, trained journalist will be needed to mine the best content by "aggregating it into stories and 'curating' it with their commentary on why they selected it." The transformation from newspapers to online news has created an environment where reader feedback becomes more relevant.

It allows the readers to comment right after an article has been posted online. The benefit of allowing readers to discuss stories is a powerful tool in editing and fact checking for an author. It may also offer up a unique perspective not considered in an article.

Giving feedback and sharing opinions are an important step in any democratic forum. Searching for different news related articles gives the reader a more complete picture of what is going on. Holly Borrelli, a Visual Com-

munication Technology teacher at Century College believes in being a critical reader who can filter out real news from the opinion pieces, "Hopefully we will be getting our news from a variety of sources. This opens it up again, how trustworthy is the news we are getting." This is an exciting time for online news and one of desperation for the newspaper, but still, many questions remain. Are newspapers capable of establishing an online presence and can we find a way to support the dying art of journalism.



IMAGE COURTESY GOOGLE

# Find your voice

“...college students are *four times* more likely to suffer a violent sexual crime.”

by CASSIE HUFFMYIER copy editor

According to the U.S. Department of Justice, a rape is committed every two minutes in the United States. One in six women will be sexually assaulted in their lifetime, and college students are four times more likely to suffer a violent sexual crime.

These statistics are horrifying, but what's worse are the things no one tells you about—being the victim in one of these attacks. They don't tell you that your life can be completely changed in an instant, how traumatizing and haunting the situation is for the wounded.

In five minutes, your entire identity and voice can be taken away. Fear, anxiety and deep trust issues can lead to an out of control and, at times, desperate feeling.

Though those feelings can be incredibly isolating, you're not alone and there is hope.

If you or someone you know has suffered any kind of sexual assault—which is defined as any unwanted touch, violent or otherwise, male or female—please don't be afraid to reach out. Telling someone and asking for help is a crucial first step.

You can contact Century College's counseling services, an outside therapist or even call the Minnesota rape and sexual abuse hotline at 612-825-4357.

## I'm Still Here

*I'm Still Here is a poem by an anonymous survivor.*

another night spent self-medicating  
because it's dark  
and now there's this overwhelming fear of that which once was so peaceful  
Bad things happen in the dark.  
Bad things happen with men in the dark.

Like those nights that still control my thoughts-  
When I would sneak into the false, empty solace of your bed  
Until the night it turned into a web that I've been stuck in ever since.  
Struggling, defenseless  
Unsuspecting young prey in a cruel, heartless game.  
No knowledge of the impact of what was happening.  
But, when the terrifying break-and-enter had ended, after being robbed blind  
the realization that nothing in life would be as bright anymore.  
nothing could shine with the blissful innocence it once did.

Up until that night, I didn't know that it was possible to feel yourself break.  
If I opened myself up I could trace the fault lines around my heart, the cracks in my ribs down to the broken muscle in my thighs.

(these are scars I know better than I know my own spirit)  
& now I'm struggling with this clarity  
finally dealing with words like "rape" and "sexual assault"  
Replaying over and over again the moment when you forcefully, manipulatively took what was never meant to be yours.

After the innocence was gone and the heartache had subsided, a dull numbness  
and one lingering question...  
how do we survive in a world full of broken men breaking women?

Rape.  
Finally giving a name to what caused months of razor to skin relief,  
drinking until my body couldn't handle it anymore,  
sucking down thick clouds of smoke until I couldn't move or feel  
Safe, hidden beneath layers of chameleon skin and false comfort that I despise (but can't imagine living without).  
Cling to the abusers like they're life support. Like if I disconnect myself from them, there's no doubt that I'll die.

But I'm still here.

& in these early days of recovery as I walk around like a raw, open wound  
I am comforted by the small knowledge that my ability to love and thrive has not been lost, as I've believed for all this time...  
It's just been misplaced.

## Scholarship Banquet

*Banquet continued from 1*

there a total of about \$118,000 was distributed among 100 students. The annual banquet is a celebration to commemorate not only the foundation's generosity, but to honor those students who work hard and are chosen for their scholarships.

On Nov. 3, 2010, I pulled into the parking lot on East Campus just about 6:05 pm. The reception was supposed to start at 6 pm, so I hurried from the back end of the full lot, up to the doors.

Inside, I was cordially greeted and given a nametag. "William Trembley," it said, "Herb Kjos Memorial English Scholarship Recipient." I placed it on the left side of my chest and proceeded into the Lincoln Mall in search of Table 13. I saw salads and cake waiting for us at our table.

After a few minutes, most of the seats in the room were filled and Dr. Nick Maras got up to give a warm welcome to all recipients, guests and donors. After a few words, he introduced Dr. Larry Litecky, President of Century College. Dr. Litecky also gave a few words and then dinner was served.

After the meal, the awards were presented. Each student was called to come forward, receive a certificate and shake President Litecky's hand.

A half hour went by, all the awards were handed out, and the most touching aspect of the ceremony began. The true spirit of

the night was hidden in the last 15 or 20 minutes when students were allowed to read short speeches they had elected to prepare as a way of publicly thanking the foundation as well as the donors. Some students had quite moving stories to share that left the audience inspired and even teary-eyed.

Two particular speeches stood out in my mind.

Dawn Dreyling gave the first. She is one of six recipients of the Addie Williams Scholarship. According to the 2010-2011 Scholarship Opportunities handbook, the purpose of this scholarship is "to encourage education for women age 30 or older who have demonstrated aptitude and desire for higher education, career development, life enrichment, and/or self-sufficiency."

Dreyling shared a personal problem with the group. She told us of developing a unique and serious condition called Retinitis Pigmentosa that affects her sight; but the remarkable thing is that she wants to go to school for photography. She is determined to make this work.

Another speech came from Sean McDonnell, recipient of the Sara A. Kaufman Memorial Scholarship. This was an especially emotional moment because Kaufman passed away so recently, and her family members were at the banquet to meet the man receiving the scholarship given in her honor.

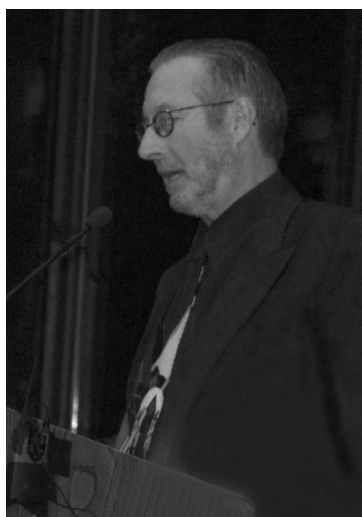


PHOTO BY DAWN DREYLING

The purpose of this scholarship is "to pay tribute to Sara Kaufman, a Century College alumna, by supporting the educational goals of actively involved returning students (age 25 or older) who have or are overcoming financial challenges or other obstacles and who demonstrate leadership through contributions to the college or larger community."

Neither McDonnell nor Kaufman family could keep their eyes dry through this speech, as it was so heartfelt.

After the student speeches, guests were welcome to hang around for photographs and small talk.

In the end, it turned out to be a very nice night with good food and pleasant company. The banquet was a perfect way to both thank the donors and honor the distinguished students.

## Century Choir

by SHERINA WIES co-editor in chief

Friday, Dec. 10, the Century Choir held a concert in the West Campus Theater at 8:00 pm. Before the concert I spoke with Century freshman music major, Jacqueline Noggle. The St. Paul native talked about the excitement and little bit of nervousness she felt.

Of the 13 songs performed, three are by Minnesota Composer Abbie Betinis. Betinis was scheduled to be there to hear the choir perform her songs Be Like the Bird, In the Bleak Midwinter, and Run, Toboggan, Run but was unfortunately unable to make it.

Prior to the concert, Noggle said, "It's really exciting that Abbie will be there so we can show off what we have been learning and we all love singing and performing, I think, but it's nerve racking because she made this music and so if we don't do something right she's going to know it." This would probably be shared by all of the students in the choir.

With such a diverse campus it is no wonder that our choir is "a group of all ages made from different music experiences and different classes, the oldest person in the choir is 74 and the youngest is 18."

All of these special voices came together to execute entertaining music with Latin American pieces, funny Christmas songs about fruitcake (complete with funny faces and a country drawl), and both traditional and semi-traditional Christmas songs for their end of the semester show.



PHOTO COURTESY ABBIEBETINIS.COM

## The power of giving back

by DANIELLE MULLANEY staff writer

This time of year is all about being with the ones we love. Whether it's gathered around a dining room table sharing a meal and conversation, or a coffee table playing a board game, it's all about being together. Have you ever thought about giving back together though?

There are millions of places and ways to do this! So many, in fact, that you could publish a whole book on ways to give back. Obviously, being a newspaper. There's no room to list them all, but here are a few ideas to get your creative juices flowing:

### Second Harvest Heartland:

Places like Second Harvest Heartland, a St. Paul based food bank was born in 2001, when Second Harvest Greater Minneapolis and Second Harvest St. Paul joined forces in the fight against hunger. In 2010 alone, they've collected, warehoused and distributed nearly 60 million pounds of food. There are many ways to give back at a place like this:

Donate—Donate goods of any kind! There can't ever be too much food for a place like this, with so many in need!

Give—With a monetary gift of just \$5, Second Harvest Heartland will be able to provide 18 meals to those in our community who need them most.

Volunteer—This might just be the most important thing you can do. All the extra hands they can pull together will be appreciated.

For info on ways you can help, visit [www.2harvest.org](http://www.2harvest.org)

### Red Kettle Campaign:

How about ringing the bell for the Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign? In 1891, one man, Salvation Army Captain Joseph McFee decided he wanted to make sure the less fortunate had a proper Christmas dinner. He placed a pot at the Oakland Ferry Landing at the foot of Market Street. Beside the pot, he placed a sign that read, "Keep the Pot Boiling." He soon had the money to see that the needy people were properly fed at Christmas.

Six years later, the kettle idea spread from the west coast all the way to the Boston area. That year, the combined effort nationwide resulted in 150,000 Christmas dinners for the needy. Captain McFee's kettle idea launched a tradition that has spread not only throughout the United States, but all across the world. Kettles are now used in such distant lands as Korea, Japan, Chile and many European countries. You can keep the tradition going by doing some bell ringing of your own! Contact your local Salvation Army for bell ringing opportunities, and other ways to give.

For a starting point, you can go to [www.salvationarmyusa.org](http://www.salvationarmyusa.org)

### Dave Ryan's Christmas Wish:

Do you still feel like gift giving should be a part of the holiday season, but want to give to someone other than family? KDWB's Dave Ryan makes Christmas wishes happen every holiday season. You can go to [daveryanshow.com/pages/christmaswish](http://daveryanshow.com/pages/christmaswish) to help make a Christmas wish come true, or nominate someone deserving in your life!



PHOTO COURTESY BROOKE OYE

## Surviving the holidays

by SHERINA WIES co-editor in chief

Visions of sugarplums, mistletoe, and hot chocolate by the fireplace are all associated with the holiday season. While these things make wonderful dreams and movies, they are not often real.

In reality we all have that crazy relative that everyone dreads seeing each year, never-ending lists of gifts to buy, and to top it all off, we are lucky enough to live in Minnesota and have a "White Christmas."

The white snow inevitably turns to brown slush and black ice that makes driving anywhere a hazard to your health and safety. It seems every time the season changes people forget how to drive. For some more helpful reminders check out Minnesota winter driving by Liz Brown on page 3.

Shopping for holiday gifts can be one of the most stressful aspects of the season. It seems in these days we focus too much on the physical possessions and gifts, instead of the reasons we care about each other.

Save the stress of looking through the malls in crowds of people (and save your hard earned money) by coming to an agreement with those in your life. For groups of friends or family try doing a "Secret Santa." Everyone will have just one person to buy for, and putting a money limit on it also takes massive amounts of pressure off everyone.

We can't forget the crazy relatives! Dealing with them can be one of the hardest aspects of the holidays. We have to be polite to them and pretend we are really happy to see them. A great way to make this a little easier is to be prepared and go with a positive attitude. No matter how annoying or weird this person is, think of all the great stories you have about the get together. (Also, bringing with you an iPod, book, magazine, or personal video game system (PSP or Nintendo DS) that can be a distraction for you if you need to get away from everyone there.)

Become a people person! Talk with as many other relatives there as possible, older family members can tell great stories from "when I was your age..." or catch up with the cousins you only see once a year. Being social can make time go so much faster and who knows, you may find you have more in common with some of the people than you thought.

Another alternative is to bring a friend, if you don't have a significant other or they are not ready to meet the family you can bring a friend who may also need you to return the favor as most families are sympathetic when your friend has no place else to go for the holidays.

With all of the madness going on during the season don't forget to schedule time for yourself. That's right, actually plan an exact time and day that you are going to do exactly what will make you happy. Most people have an idea how to spend this time but some suggestions are to go to the movies or out to eat by yourself, it may seem odd at first, but by the time you are done you will realize how rewarding it can be. Have the confidence to take yourself on a date and survive the holiday season!

# School newspaper bids farewell to editors

by SHERINA WIES co-editor in chief

This semester was all about change at The Century Times, with Rich Kuss handing over his role as advisor to Beth Mayer and many new students participating we had to learn quickly how to work together. The immense growth has made me incredibly proud to be a part of this great group of people.

All of these lessons we have learned, some the hard way of course, continue to build the relationships and bonds we have formed. Sadly this is the last issue for a few of our very diligent editors, who are moving forward with their lives after Century this spring.

Without each and every person on the staff this semester the newspaper would not have been the success it was. I have become to think of the staff as friends and not just classmates. As for the three

rocks that will be leaving us, they will be missed but not forgotten.

Erick Ervas has been serving as my fellow Co-Editor-In-Chief this semester and I could not asked for a better guy! In a leadership position he is the relaxed, friendly guy that everyone instantly felt close to. Most of you have known him from his Local Noise column that has been appearing in The Century Times. His perspective on our local music and hip hop scene cannot be replaced nor can the chill attitude he brings to every situation.

Josh Miller, our Humorist and one of our talented Layout Editors, will be a noticeable missing link in The Century Times! I will miss the days of walking into the office hearing some random band playing and Josh intently focusing on his be-



PHOTO BY SCOTT HUDSON



PHOTO BY SCOTT HUDSON

jeweled game, as well as the large volume of funny comments. He is the one that is there to make us all laugh when it gets stressful but is also committed to making sure the newspaper looks as nice as possible. The long hours he has spent placing articles and photos into just the right place are much appreciated.

Will Trembley is the do-it-all man on the staff! He started as our sports editor and also took on copy editing as well. Then with another staff member interested in sports Will decided to hand over the pen as it were for the position and continued doing copy editing as well as dabbling in layout and becoming photo editor. I don't think there is a single thing that he is not capable of doing within the newspaper and

his willingness to help with everything and everyone has contributed to the cohesiveness of the newspaper this semester.

Many funny conversations, "possibly fueled by lack of sleep and too much caffeine" as Beth Mayer likes to remind us, make the newspaper a wonderful organization to be a part of. I will miss the daily proposals, music wars, and every other small moment that occurred with the staff we currently have but look forward to the endless possibilities for growth.

Large Latte: \$4.17  
Snacks: \$7.88  
Amazing Newspaper Staff: *priceless*

# Holidays are for suckers: a humorous look at the holidays

by JOSHUA MILLER layout editor

It's the gross season of spending. Snow falls and people need to spend money so they can express their love for one another. Guess what, that's not love. That's cheap. I hate everyone who promotes this sinful version of the Christmas story. Jesus did not want you to buy a T.V. for me (even though I need one, so that's not a bad idea). Any way, I get it. Giv-

ing a gift that's thoughtful is a rewarding experience in itself. Too bad we make lists and tell people what we want, ruining all the magic and making us bankrupt.

I don't know about your family, but I can't ask for things I need. It's not in the "spirit" of the Holiday. My car needs new brakes but Santa is not a mechanic. He likes toys, not tires. So the whole idea is to get stuff we don't need but think would be neat to have.



IMAGE COURTESY GOOGLE

If you're a rich kid or family you get what you want all year. So it's the middle class that really "benefit" from Christmas. And the poor and homeless, they just get food to eat.

My main beef with Christmas is the dinner part. Who in their right mind likes plain ham? You think I'm a Scrooge? Maybe I am.



IMAGE COURTESY GOOGLE

My main rage is pointed at Christmas because of Thanksgiving. By the time you read this it will have passed and there is a good chance you didn't notice. Want to know why? "Black Friday" deals start BEFORE black Friday. What the what? You heard me. Thanksgiving is being overshadowed by buying gifts two months ahead of time and before you know it, it'll be the halfway point for the Christmas "sales."

Another thing I dislike is that my birthday is so close to Christmas. I know some of you out there will feel my pain. People always think they are tricky because they don't get you what you want for one

of them then "surprise" you on the other date. Real clever, everyone I don't like.

Okay. Maybe I should highlight some good parts of this jerk holiday so I don't seem biased or whatever. Besides the gross ham, eggnog is amazing. You get super sick after your eighth cup. Then there are candy canes, which are...not gross.

I should say I am not anti-Christian; I just don't like what Christmas has become. There is so little faith and religion left in Christmas that I don't care for it. All religions have value and merit in any society, so it's not about that.

What it should be about is family. That's it. And maybe strangers that don't have family. Well, friends are pretty important too, so they're invited. Gifts should be things everyone will enjoy.

So there's my grief with this holiday issue. I do hope you enjoy your expensive, consumer-

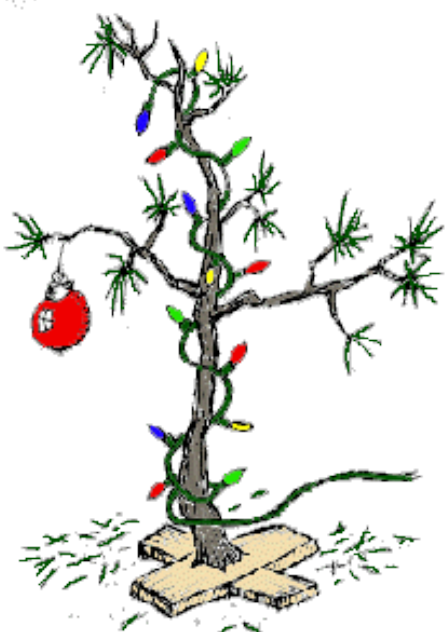


IMAGE COURTESY GOOGLE

driven Christmas. Please drive safe because after twenty eggnogs drinks I know I can't move, let alone get behind the wheel of a car.

Miller out.

# Local Noise—my top 5 favorite local albums

by ERICK ERVAS co-editor in chief

What’s up Century world? Guess what? This is my last issue. Try to hold back the tears and continue reading though, because I decided to do something cool. For my final piece, I decided to give you guys my top five favorite albums by local artists. I’m almost positive I’ve written articles about each artist, or at least have mentioned them, so maybe these names will sound familiar. Along with each album will be a reason or two to why these albums are ranked the way they are and what they mean to me personally. Enjoy!

1) Atmosphere—God Loves Ugly (2002)  
This album is probably the reason why the “Local Noise” exists. I was in the seventh grade when I heard this album and at that time I was really into 2Pac, DMX, and Eminem. I was totally unaware of local music, and when I heard the title track, I fell in love with music. This album is the reason why I make music today and was my introduction to our amazing music scene.  
*Key tracks: “GodLovesUgly” “Modern Man’s Hustle” “Shrapnel”*

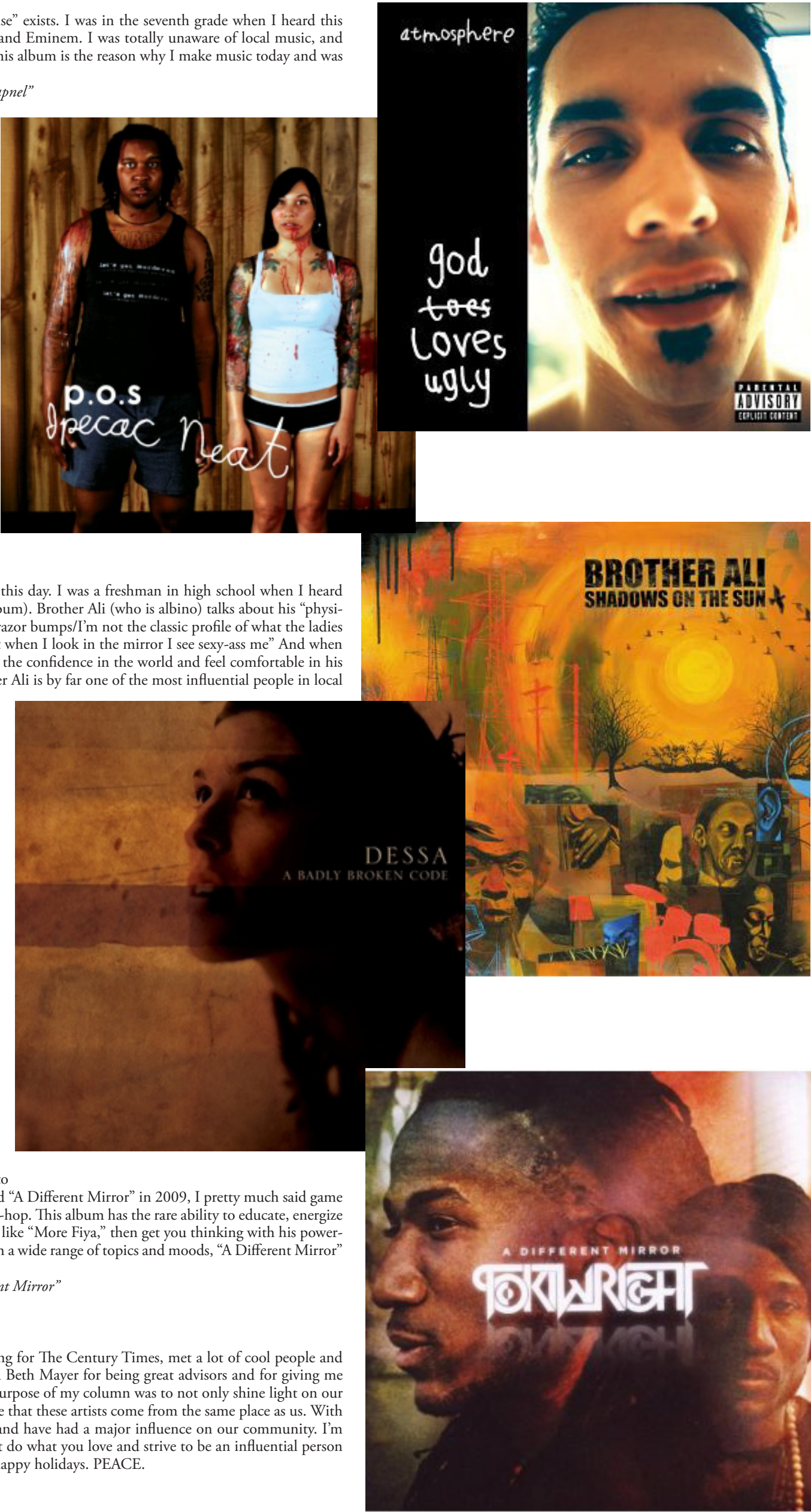
2) P.O.S.—Ipecac Neat (2004)  
In 2004, I went to an Atmosphere concert (which was my first concert, by the way) and was introduced to one of Minnesota’s most talented musicians, P.O.S. I fought my way to the front of the stage right as the show was about to start and I was greeted by a screeching electric guitar blasting from the speakers. The aggressive guitar, mixed with a dirty drum beat threw me off, because I was expecting the “classic hip-hop sound” from the opening act but here was this punk rock beat being rapped and screamed over with such finesse. It wasn’t rap-rock, punk-rap or any of that cheesy crossover stuff either, this guy was just being himself. There was nothing cheesy about it—it was genuine and raw and extremely good. I bought “Ipecac Neat” at the merchandise table after P.O.S. had finished his set.  
*Key tracks: “That One” “Kicking Knowledge in the Face” “Meth-Head vs McNugget”*

3) Brother Ali—Shadows on the Sun (2003)  
This record has a lot to do with how I carry myself to this day. I was a freshman in high school when I heard “Forest Whitiker” (which is my favorite song on the album). Brother Ali (who is albino) talks about his “physical flaws” and raps: “I’m not mean, I gotta neck full of razor bumps/I’m not the classic profile of what the ladies want/You might think that I’m depressed as can be/But when I look in the mirror I see sexy-ass me” And when I heard that line I thought, well if this guy can have all the confidence in the world and feel comfortable in his own skin then there’s no excuse why I shouldn’t. Brother Ali is by far one of the most influential people in local music and this album is definitely a classic.  
*Key tracks: “Forest Whitiker” “Blah Blah Blah” feat. Slug of Atmosphere “Prince Charming”*

4) Dessa—A Badly Broken Code (2010)  
This record came out in early 2010 and I had written an album review for it in the Local Noise last spring. In the article, I wrote it was my “Album of the Year” despite it being released early on. I still stand by that statement as 2011 approaches. This album is more than a rap album, more than an eclectic vocal album—this album is melodic art. I told a friend that owning this album is like owning a beautiful painting. She is one of the best writers in music and despite being an amazing rapper has one of the most beautiful singing voices in our music scene.  
*Key tracks: “The Chaconne” “Crew” “Mineshaft II”*

5) Toki Wright—A Different Mirror (2009)  
This album makes me proud to be from Minnesota. Atmosphere, Brother Ali, and P.O.S. have gone on to achieve national success, but when Toki Wright dropped “A Different Mirror” in 2009, I pretty much said game over for any other state who is trying to take hold of hip-hop. This album has the rare ability to educate, energize and entertain. Toki can get you pumped up with tracks like “More Fiya,” then get you thinking with his powerful, revolution-like story telling with the title track. With a wide range of topics and moods, “A Different Mirror” is an album that Midwesterners can all appreciate.  
*Key tracks: “The Next Best Thing” “More Fiya” “A Different Mirror”*

Well that’s it folks. I’ve had a great time writing for The Century Times, met a lot of cool people and worked with a great staff. Thank you to Rich Kuss and Beth Mayer for being great advisors and for giving me an opportunity to have a voice in the newspaper. The purpose of my column was to not only shine light on our beautiful and vibrant music scene, but to remind people that these artists come from the same place as us. With relentless passion these guys are doing what they love and have had a major influence on our community. I’m not saying everyone has to be a rapper or musician, just do what you love and strive to be an influential person on lives you touch directly and indirectly. Be safe and happy holidays. PEACE.



ALL IMAGES COURTESY GOOGLE

Seen Saw?

by FORRESTER PACK staff writer

If you're a moviegoer who quickly tires of holiday themes, romance, and winter comedies, or just looking for an alternative film, the horror genre is offering Saw VII, also known as Saw 3-D. The Century Times took the liberty of screening this movie and reviewing the bloody flick. Here's a breakdown:

The background: Saw 3-D is the seventh and supposedly final installment in the gory horror series, which launched in 2004. The premise is that a psychotic criminal mastermind repeatedly captures conflicted individuals and forces them to participate in deadly games to endure "justice" or death. The fuel that keeps the engine of the film running is blood; many people who have already witnessed any of the previous films will readily admit that the franchise contains many bloody scenes and violent deaths. Given that, it's no wonder this film earned an R-rating, although the original, unedited film attained an NC-17-rating.

The Good: The 3-D film in itself is a bit of a paradox. This is the first time the franchise has used

3-D effects, but this will be the last movie in the series. Anyway, the 3-D glasses enhance the experiences, making the viewer feel that he or she is right along with the victim, held fast in one of the intricate traps. The traps in this film are more personal and elaborate than the first few, especially in the swift beginning of the movie. The director and camera crew do a pretty good job with shots and angles, keeping the film moving at a rapid pace, adding deft and balance to the appropriate scenes. As a viewer, the shots make you almost feel as if you're a part of the uneven, dark tone of the film. This is a benefit in most horror movies.

The Bad: As with any film within a larger series, if viewers haven't seen any of the preceding or aren't aware of underlying storylines, they will be lost for a while. Saw 3-D is no exception to this storyline. The bloody scenes are the main attractions, but the crux of the film is a complex psychological storyline. Every slaying has a purpose. Almost every character has a sort of role or reason to the bigger plot (and there are many characters). Even every piece of machinery, and death device has

a role attributable to a character or linking storyline within the main plot. As a corollary, to the fans that watch this installment and follow the series plotline, they won't be able to help but feel that something is missing in this film, something even the reviewer couldn't quite place. This makes Saw feel a bit off-key, but many will argue that has been the case since the end of Saw III (2006). Many fans believes the first three films in the series had the most depth and vitality.

What others are saying: As of Dec. 1, the popular review site Rotten Tomatoes ranked the film as only 11 percent "fresh." Metacritic, another online review station, had ranked the film in the mid-twenties (out of 100). E-Online gave the film a B minus. The reviewer for the Century Times gives it a B-/C+. Should you rent it? If you are an avowed fan of the franchise, and seek the "closure" the film offers, then rental is a good idea. If you like blood and gore, then this is a film for you. If you're a first-timer to the Saw franchise, a suggestion: watch the previous films to get an idea for what's going on.



IMAGE COURTESY GOOGLE

Burlesque

by SHERINA WIES co-editor in chief

Anyone out there that enjoys a excellent empowering movie filled with singing, dancing, and a bit of romance will fall in love



IMAGE COURTESY GOOGLE

with legendary Cher and Christina Aguilera. This movie is filled with endless amounts of talent, besides the two powerhouses, notable cast include Eric Dane (Dr. McSteamy in television series Grey's Anatomy), Cam Gigandet (James in the Twilight movies), Julianne Hough (Dancing with the Stars television series), Alan Cumming (Kurt Wagner/ Nightcrawler in X2), Peter Gallagher (Sandy Cohen in television series The O.C.), Kristen Bell (Veronica Mars in television series of the same name), and Stanley Tucci (Nigel in The Devil Wears Prada).

It is fun to see a mini reunion of sorts for some of the cast. Tucci and Gigandet recently worked together on the film Easy A (which is also highly recommended) as well as Gallagher and Gigandet who both appeared on The O.C. (anyone else remember Kevin Volchok, bad boy surfer?). This entire talented cast has viewers walk into the theater with high hopes and leave knowing they are going to be purchasing this movie.

The whole concept behind the movie is classic with a small town girl with nobody to miss her moving to the big city to follow her dreams and make it big. Not only does Tess (played by Cher)

become a role model and mentor to Ali (Aguilera) but Ali is there to help bring about the rebirth and popularity of The Burlesque Lounge. Romance, friendship, rivalry, and all the drama that comes along with these things also have a part in the film, giving it a bit more real life depth.

Whether a girls night, date night, or just the movies with a group of friends, Burlesque is a great choice. You will be singing and dancing your way through 119 minutes of pure entertainment wanting more!

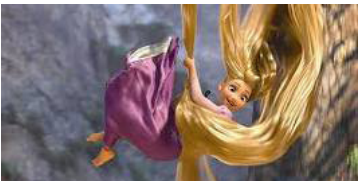


IMAGE COURTESY GOOGLE

As an avid Disney fan growing up, this new 3-D technology blows my mind, bringing stories like the most recent masterpiece 'Tangled' to a whole new level. Judging by the average age of the audience members- many people in the 18-25 age group were there without children- it seems that Disney continues to expand it's demographic as well as keep its original demographic hooked throughout the years.

One couple I talked to were at the movie for "date night" and I saw many Facebook status updates from people around my age declaring 'Tangled' their new favorite movie. And with good reason.

Honestly, I wasn't sure how a story about a girl who had ridiculously long hair and lived in a tower could hold my interest for almost two hours. But aside from the mind-blowing special affects- such as a scene where ten thousand lanterns are released and it feels as if you as an audience member are flying into the air with them- did an amazing job of taking a mundane story and making it into something spectacular.

Mandy Moore and Zachary Levi do a great job as the voices of Rapunzel and Flynn Rider, respectively. She has the voice of an angel and he, a debonair bandit. For those who aren't familiar with the story of Rapunzel, her mother-the Queen- drinks the potion from a magical flower while giving birth

to Rapunzel, transferring it's magical properties to the girl herself; specifically, to her hair. An angry witch who had been using the flower to keep herself young forever takes vengeance by stealing the baby and locking her in a tower for eighteen years, using Rapunzel's magical hair to stay young.

But every year on her birthday, the king and queen release ten thousand lanterns into the air in hopes of finding the lost princess. Rapunzel sees the lanterns from her isolated tower window and is determined to get to them.

This movie had it all; passion, drama, romance (of course) and a surprisingly sassy princess in Rapunzel.

The level of adventure was more amped up than it has been in past Disney films; an example of this is a scene that takes place in a small cave which is rapidly filling with water and Rapunzel must use quick thinking to get them out in time.

She gets them out in time and makes a great role model for young girls in that she doesn't back down when pursuing her goal, even when facing insurmountable obstacles.

Unlike the submissive Snow White and the lazy Sleeping Beauty, Rapunzel has fire and heart. Instead of waiting for "Prince Charming" to save her, she enlists the help of a misunderstood and kindhearted thief who stumbles upon her tower and inevitably becomes the love of her life (because



IMAGE COURTESY GOOGLE

what Disney story would be complete without a happy couple?)

But he does not fight her battles; she is right by his side and becomes the one who saves the day in most sticky situations that arise in the movie. One particularly funny scene is when Rapunzel talks dozens of thieves out of killing them by singing about her dreams and encouraging them to do the same.

With great vocalists and clever songs such as "Mother Knows Best" and the sweetly curious "When will my life begin?" the soundtrack is definitely a highlight.

A combination of the timeless magic of Disney storytelling, mixed with equal parts beauty and attention-holding special effects, 'Tangled' is a must-see for Disney fans young and old alike, as well as anyone looking to escape into the enchanting world of Pixar 3-D for a couple of hours.

# Potter vs. Voldemort, round 7

by WILLIAM TREMBLEY art editor

Witchcraft and wizardry. Magic and mayhem. Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows. Is it really here? Yes. That adorable, lightning-scarred little boy has finally grown up and is looking for some dark wizard butt to kick. Watch out Voldy!

The seventh installment of J.K. Rowling's fantasy phenomenon has finally made it to the big screen although this time, the studio decided to release the film in two parts. This is good, because the

last thing Harry Potter fans want is Rowling's magnum opus hacked to pieces by moviemakers trying to cram the dense 759 pages into a three-hour show. It is safe to say that did not happen with Hallows: Part 1.

Back in the spotlight are actors Daniel Radcliffe, Emma Watson and Rupert Grint, as Harry, Hermione and Ron respectively. Most of the bigger Hollywood names also returned, such as Alan Rickman, Ralph Fiennes and

of course, Helena Bonham Carter. However, their roles are slightly diminished in this film because it focuses so heavily on the three teenagers as they do their best to stay hidden during their battle against the dark forces.

As excited as I was for The Deathly Hallows, I was also "deathly" afraid of being let down. The first few movies were cute and fun to watch, but

honestly, they weren't all that great (The Chamber of Secrets comes to mind.)

Luckily, Director David Yates took the reins a few years ago and has done great with the saga. Starting with the fifth film, The Order of the Phoenix, Yates brought a darker, edgier feel to Harry Potter and turned them into real movies that actually deserve the name "Potter."

Also, I give credit to actors Radcliffe, Watson and Grint as they are actually improving. While these young stars might not be looking at Oscars any time soon, they definitely seem to be growing more comfortable and believable in their roles as the popular teenage warlocks.

The Deathly Hallows: Part 1 picks up right where The Half-Blood Prince left off. Dumbledore is dead (although he still plays a large role in assisting Harry through his seemingly insurmountable task).

Voldemort is back and more people are dying than ever. Yes, if you thought Dumbledore's death was the hardest thing you've coped with so far, you better bring a box of tissues.

And poor Harry is forced to bear the weight of the world on his shoulders yet again as he sets out to set things straight. This time however, instead of going back for his seventh and final year at Hogwarts, Harry sets out on an epic journey to destroy super evil trinkets called "horcruxes" that contain fragments of Voldemort's soul.

Needless to say, Ron and Hermione tag along against Harry's wishes but then end up saving his butt more times than you can count on your fingers and toes (it's a good thing for Harry that his friends never listen actually listen to him.)

I was slightly disappointed that the comedy seemed a little forced this time around. Hallows: Part 1 seemed like it was trying too hard to regain the comfortable, genuine humor that prevailed throughout The Half-Blood Prince.

Other than that, the only problem is that the movie seemed like it was lacking something along the lines of a true plot. It didn't have a nice, solid "beginning," "middle" and "end," with a big dramatic climax. While outrageously entertaining, Hallows felt more like an ultra-intense, two-hour exposition. However, this actually makes perfect sense. Why? Because that's exactly what it is- it's the first half

of a two-part movie, and it does a great job setting up Part 2.

So what I'm saying is that unlike some of the earlier Potter films, the acting isn't terrible, and the movie doesn't suck (sorry Chamber of Secrets fans.) But is it worth watching? Absolutely. This movie's good. From the moment that the lights went out and every teenage girl in the theater screamed- I'll confess, I did too- to the end credits when the entire audience applauded, this movie was rock solid entertainment.

On its own, it didn't seem quite as good overall as The Half-Blood Prince. However, you can be sure that The Deathly Hallows: Part 2 (which will be released mid-July, 2011) will pick up the slack and knock your socks off. So pull on your robes, bust out your wands, hop on your broomsticks and fly down to your movie theater to see Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1.



IMAGE COURTESY GOOGLE

## Deathly Hallows: Part 1 review

by MYRANDA BECKMANN copy editor

On Thursday November 18th muggles everywhere donned their favorite cloaks, pinned their Hogwarts house emblems to their chests and joined the throngs waiting at every theater across the country. They waited for hours until the clocks struck midnight and the first part of the seventh and final installment of the wildly successful Harry Potter movies hit the screen.

Like so many other teenagers, I grew up reading and watching Harry Potter. I was nine years old when my father took me to see the first movie in theaters. And, just like so many others, I had high hopes for Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, Part 1. And while there are plenty of criticisms to be made, the movie did not disappoint.

One of the best things about the decision to split book seven into two movies is that it preserved much of the original plotline; with a total of around five hours to spend on over 700 pages, there should be plenty of time to cover everything, and so far so good. Even some of the more memorable lines from the book found their way onto the big screen.

There was plenty of action in Deathly Hallows: Part 1. The first half hour contains the closest thing the series has to a car chase, with Hagrid's flying motorcycle making an appearance. And for those of us who love our creepy-crawlies, Voldemort's

monstrous serpent Nagini practically steals the show in all her lithe computer-generated glory.

As we delve further into the seventh movie, we encounter one of the biggest distinctions that set Deathly Hallows apart from all the rest; the complete lack of Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. Our trio of noble heroes fly solo this time around, traveling to various scenic locations as they try to solve the dilemma of finding and then destroying Voldemort's remaining horcruxes. (For those of you who aren't familiar with wizarding jargon, horcruxes are small objects which house pieces of Voldemort's soul.)

This movie further explores the relationships between Harry, Ron and Hermione and lets us catch some glimpses of truly good acting, especially from Emma Watson, who plays our favorite intelligent heroine, Hermione Granger. But as with most everything in the entertainment business, there is always room for improvement. My biggest gripe about the Harry Potter movies is the acting. Many of the supporting actors do a fantastic job with their small roles, but Daniel Radcliffe, and, to a lesser extent, Rupert Grint and Emma Watson have been found lacking in the talent department. Radcliffe especially seems lazy in his role; he was a cute kid in the first few movies, but looks only get you so far.

Because the next installment in the Harry Potter franchise is the first part of a two-part story, it came up a little short as far as meaty plotlines go. It felt like the movie's objective was to set up background information for part two, where presumably the fun really begins.

But it wasn't so much lack of plotline as lack of a consistent pace that was the movie's greatest downfall.

There were a few memorable moments in the movie- such as the thrilling broom chase sequence, the wedding, and Harry and Hermione's visit to Godric's Hollow- but there were too many scenes in which our trusty heroes traipsed across tranquil British moors or through all too comfortable forests.

I can only hope that part two of Deathly Hallows will make up for the at times meandering storyline of part one.

So, what's the verdict on Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, Part One? Despite a few flaws, I really loved the movie. It stayed true to the book, which is a big deal for many Potter fans. If you're a fan of the books, it's a must-see. And if you're a more casual moviegoer, I would still suggest planning to see it. Not only will you know what your cloak-wearing friends are gabbing about, but you'll be able to enjoy a thrilling, fun, and relatively well-made fantasy movie.



IMAGE COURTESY GOOGLE

A MAGICAL CHECKLIST: THINGS TO DO BETWEEN NOW AND JULY:

Are you a hardcore Potter Fan? Do you have no idea how you're going to stand waiting until Harry Potter and Deathly Hallows, Part Two comes out in July 2011? Here are some ideas to keep you nice and busy until it's time to don your cloaks once more...

**December:** Start re-reading the Harry Potter series! Start with book one, The Sorcerer's Stone.

**January:** If you aren't a regular visitor already, check out Mugglenet.com for some wizarding fun! Also read Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets.

**February:** Take every "What Hogwarts House Would You Be Sorted Into?" quiz you can find. Better yet, create your own! Also, stay on track and finish book three, Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban.

**March:** Show your love for The Boy Who Lived! Make and wear Harry Potter pins or t-shirts, or make your profile picture on facebook your favorite character from the series. Read book four, The Goblet of Fire. **April:** Celebrate Fred and George Weasley's birthday on April 1st. Pull some pranks that would make them proud! Also continue reading. Try finishing Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix. **May:** Start getting your costume for the midnight showing ready! I find

that unless I prepare a costume well in advance, it never gets done and I end up going as a muggle. Here's a handy checklist: cloak, Hogwarts or house crest, scarf in your house colors, potions and transfiguration textbooks if you're the nerdy type, glasses and a scar if you're a guy with untidy black hair. Also keep reading and and take plenty of time on my personal favorite, Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince. **June:** Host a Harry Potter movie marathon party for you and all your friends. Watch all the movies so far in order and be sure to serve butterbeer! Also start reading Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows. **July:** Finish up the Deathly Hallows. Buy your tickets early to see the midnight showing of Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, Part Two on July 15th.



IMAGE COURTESY GOOGLE



PHOTO BY SCOTT HUDSON

# Climb

by WILLIAM TREMBLEY art editor

“What’s the big deal with rock climbing?” a friend asked. “What’s so great about it?”

I wasn’t sure how to respond—it’s not easy to verbalize the feeling you get at the top of a big wall. It isn’t easy to explain that certain rush you feel when you reach for a hold that you’re not quite sure of. It’s impossible to put someone else into your rock climbing shoes (and not just because they can be so tight that your feet become numb within minutes).

Rock climbing isn’t a sport. At least, I wouldn’t define it as one. A sport involves balls, pucks, bats, sticks, racquets, scoreboards and stopwatches. No, rock climbing is more than a sport. It’s a passion. Climbing is a lifestyle, a workout, an exhilaration. You can climb in groups, with a partner or alone, indoors or outside, recreationally or competitive.

Rock climbing beats the hell out of you. Afterwards, your hands are raw and your arms are useless. If you’re afraid of sore muscles, I wouldn’t recommend climbing. It takes days to recover. But when you do, you’re burning for

more. You go back and realize you can do things you were physically incapable of before. Improvements in climbing ability are visible and dare you to return again and again. As you get better, new worlds open up. You can climb longer, harder and more aggressively than you could before. You don’t get so sore and you can return day after day to get that fix.

Climbing is dangerous, but precautions can be taken to ensure you’re safety. “Top-rope” climbing involves a rope, harness, and belay partner. As you climb, your partner takes slack out the rope so that you don’t hit the ground if you fall. “Bouldering” is a more pure form of climbing. No ropes, no harnesses, just you and the wall. Typically, you won’t climb higher than 10 to 12 feet, but the moves are tougher and more strenuous. There are more forms of climbing like “lead” climbing and “traditional” climbing, but these are very advanced forms that require a lot more training.

Indoor rock climbing is a good idea for beginners. Less equipment is required and it can

cost you as little as \$15. Not all rock climbing is done in gyms, however. In fact, most rock climbing occurs outside on real rock walls. This can be more complicated because of the equipment you should have and experience you absolutely need.

Never attempt to climb without proper safety instruction. If you’ve never climbed before, check out Vertical Endeavors ([verticalendeavors.com](http://verticalendeavors.com)). VE is the best rock climbing gym in the Twin Cities, located on the east side of St. Paul. If you’ve never been there, you’ll need to undergo a short orientation to become familiar with the gym’s equipment. Another option is the REI located in Bloomington. There is less climbing variety there, but it provides an alternative.

Climbing is a total paradox. It can be impossible one minute yet so easy the next. It can be so empowering as you “send” a route, but five minutes later, completely demoralizing when you’re barely able to get your entire body on the wall.

So, what is it about climbing that I love so much? Go find out for yourself.



PHOTO BY SCOTT HUDSON



PHOTO BY SCOTT HUDSON



PHOTO COURTESY GOOGLE

*“The goal of climbing a route is to start at the bottom and go to the top without falling. Sometimes it takes years. I’ve spent over four years working on certain projects. I’ve fallen off over and over and over again. You’ll cut your hands and you’ll be bleeding and you’ll be really sore and you just get frustrated and depressed... You just gotta keep trying to come back with a positive attitude, and then somehow, when you’re not expecting it, it just happens.”*

Chris Sharma

“Sports Talk” with The Joe

by JOE BLUSTEIN sports editor

Over the past year or so, there have been many times when I and thousands of Minnesotans have been caught yelling at the television or throwing a temper tantrum because our favorite Minnesota sports team has just let us down. So now, my brothers and sisters, it's time to vent with the Sports Editor.

Let's begin our vent with one of the most popular Minnesota teams, the Minnesota Vikings. This season couldn't have started out on a worse note, starting out 4-7 and looking like they are self-destructing week by week. But, it all starts with the old timer, Brett Favre. Favre has had a horrible sea-

son with ten touchdowns and seventeen interceptions and he gets drilled about 300 times a game. But, it doesn't stop there for Favre; he was also involved in a sexting allegation with a former employee of the New York Jets, Jen Sterger. This isn't the only controversy. The Vikings over the past few weeks have had to deal with rumors coming from the Chicago Sun Times saying that some of the players hate Brad Childress. The Vikings team now is like a soap opera called All My Vikings.

We Minnesotans can't blame the horrible start to the season all on Favre though, look at the lack of effort by this team.

Week after week there are wide receivers not completing their routes, and tons of miscommunication between the coaches and players. The last time I checked, teams who have been to the Super Bowl like the New England Patriots and Pittsburgh Steelers don't make these silly mistakes.

Thankfully, on Nov. 22, Brad Childress or "Chili" as many people called him was fired. To replace him was the defensive coordinator Leslie Frazier. This had been a wish of Viking fans for many weeks. Many people would have said it was almost like Christmas morning.

Sadly, I hate to admit it

but I still think the season looks pretty much over, so we should just look at the upside. Next year, there will be no Brett Favre or Brad Childress.

Venting can sometimes be a tricky thing but not when it comes to the Minnesota Timberwolves. The Timberwolves are atrocious and sometimes while I'm watching the game, I will just start laughing and not be able to stop until the game is over. They have so many problems it's hard to count. For example, in the Timberwolves first 14 games, they have given up 100 or more points in eleven of those games. This makes them last in the league (by a long shot) in points allowed with 109.0 points allowed per game.

The Timberwolves are also what I like to call as the "NBA Draft Bust Team." They have three of the biggest busts in the history of the NBA. The first example is Corey Brewer. He was a fantastic shooter at the University of Florida and then he hits the NBA and poof, but he couldn't shoot a basket if his life depended on it. Sebastian Telfair is another one of the busts. He was an outstanding high school player coming out of Coney Island, New York and then he hits the NBA and he looks like a runt getting beaten up by an older kid. Last but not least, Darko Milicic. He was the number two pick in the 2003 draft by the Detroit Pistons and since then he has been riding two other teams' benches.

I've got a question for the people of Minnesota: I see we have a basketball team and a football team but didn't we have a hockey team? I swear we did. I think they were called The Wild? They are The Wild and they are Minnesota's best team right now with the only above five hundred record of 11-10-2. The Wild are an average team but the one thing I can't stand is they never score. The team leader in goals, Cal Clutterbuck has seven goals compared to the league leader, Steven Stamkos of the Tampa Bay Lightning who has 19 goals.



PHOTO COURTESY GOOGLE

This is just embarrassing, and it's also a big indicator that the Wild will either not make the playoffs or end up getting booted in the first round.

The last team that will be vented about is the Minnesota Twins. People might say their season is over, but I say it's never too early or late to vent about a team. The Twins, as we all know played amazing in the regular season but yet again ended up playing the pesky New York Yankees in the playoffs and lose in three games.

As the Twins enter the offseason, they will have some big holes to fill at the shortstop and second base position because either J.J Hardy or Orlando Hudson is gone. The bullpen that was great at times this year will also be a big hole to fill because it seems like virtually everyone is gone. So, will the Twins pick up some big names in the offseason? No, they instead will go for some old washed up player that is super cheap because they are too scared to hit the \$100 million payroll mark. This basically means Cliff Lee and Derek Jeter will not be wearing a Twins uniform come March for Spring Training.

I guess we the Minnesotan fans just have to realize that we should never get our hopes up about a season or even anticipate that good things will happen because it will probably end up biting us in the rear end at the end of the season anyway.

(All records and statistics are up to date as of press time)



PHOTO COURTESY JIMROME.COM

Blow off some Steam

by DEREK ARDOLF contributor

With classes coming to an end and holidays coming head on, students are being whisked away into a winter wonderland of nothingness.

What do you do now? Why can't you drive through a blizzard anymore just to find out your class was canceled? What in life is there to procrastinate other than the homework you no longer have? If you aren't a social networking addict, then something else is on the horizon: video games.

Steam, the digital gaming service that you can run on PC and now Mac, has been in the mood

of insane discounts. With video games downloaded straight to your computer, and automatically patched when the time comes, it allows discounts to happen freely. They don't need to tack on money by selling you a box or disk. With laptops practically looking like a 1:1 ratio with students on campus, this is the time to buy games. You won't be able to play every one of the "top notch" games made for the Xbox360 and PS3, but many casual games are available for your grimy little fingers.

For instance, all of you c a m p u s could have just recently bought a PC version of the game for \$4.99 because of discounts. Though the price will go back up to normal, it was only a \$9.99 game beforehand. In fact, when sales

are not even going on, there is a continuous catalog of games under \$5 (301 at the time of this article).

The best part though, is the holidays. Last year, there were different sales every day bringing even popular games into a 75 percent off price. There were the popular S.T.A.L.K.E.R. games for merely \$5 a piece, or games like Audiosurf where the it builds a track based on your own music: \$2.99.

Though, before making any purchases, you may need to become a little tech savvy about the computer you will be playing on. Make sure you know your RAM, your CPU, your Video RAM. The better your video card, the better the games you can play. Casual and Indie games are the way to go though, for quick play on lower specifications.

Did I mention there are free games too? By just having an ATI/AMD or Nvidia card, you can get a copy of Half-Life 2: Deathmatch. With that, there is a slue of free game "mods" which are entirely new games built upon another games engine.

Why not jump in? Check it out at: [www.steampowered.com](http://www.steampowered.com)



PHOTO COURTESY DEREK ARDOLF

Locker room burglary

by MYRANDA BECKMANN copy editor

Last month the men's locker room at Century College on west campus experienced two separate break-in incidents; one on Nov. 16, and the other Nov. 23.

During the first incident, three locks were broken and items were stolen from the lockers, including cash and a credit card, which was used shortly thereafter. Both burglaries took place during the midmorning hours.

As far as the TCT staff is aware, Century College campus security and the White Bear Lake Police Department have not apprehended anyone as of yet.

If any suspicious activity in or around the locker rooms is observed, please contact campus security at 651-747-4000.

This is a reminder to everyone that it is unwise to leave any valuable items unattended in the locker rooms, even in a locker. Help keep Century safe and crime-free by being responsible.

I+is a  
WILD  
WORLD

By Peter Schumacher

Christmas time again.  
You excited, Schnozz?

Not really.

Why not?

Well, I feel like  
Christmas has  
become too  
materialistic over  
the years.

Why do you  
say that?

P.V.S. 11/30/2010

TURKEY!!!!

Now, where'd  
he go?

WAUGH!!

This time of  
year, I wish I  
was a beef cow.

P.V.S. 11/30/2010

Each semester, I collect all  
the grey hairs I gain and  
store them in these jars.

When the jars get full, I donate  
them to animal shelters where the  
hairs get made into cat toys.

Ah! Here we are!

Those kittens sure  
love this time  
of year.

P.V.S. 11/30/2010

Essays Homework Mid-terms First Date Winter Mornings

FINALS  
WEEK

Meet comic artist Peter Schumacher

by DAWN DREYLING photographer

Peter Schumacher is currently the comic artist for The Century Times newspaper. His art and humor have added much enjoyment to the paper as well as staff meetings.

Schumacher, 17, is a PSEO student from North Lakes Academy in Forest Lake.

He began drawing cartoons when he was five years old and has continued to work on that skill throughout his life. He par-

ticularly likes creating humorous illustrations of Current Events. His favorite comics include Garfield and Peanuts but he states that "Bill Waterson's Calvin and Hobbes has had the most influence on me."

Schumacher's future academic pursuits remain to be seen, but he has interest in English, Biology and Theater. Regardless of which area is pursued, comics and the love of drawing will endure.

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PHOTO BY DAWN DREYLING

# THE CENTURY TIMES

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The Century Times is dedicated to covering the activities, events, interests and people of Century College. It is a laboratory for journalism students designed to serve the total school community. All opinions are of the student staff members and do not necessarily reflect the views of all Century College students, staff, faculty or administration.

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