THE CENTURY TIMES

Century College

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Get Involved And Attain Success at Century

Joshua Mahan | Staff Writer

Fall is a time of new beginnings at Century College. Summer has come and gone, the weather is changing, and a new crop of students have entered the campus.

This genesis is felt in almost every collegiate institution. According the National Center for Education Statistics, a record 21.8 million students are expected to attend American colleges and universities in the fall—with a large percentage of them enrolling as first-year freshmen.

But as with many new beginnings, the possibility of failure exists. In a 2013 article written by U.S. News & World Report, as many as one in three of these first-year students do not make it to their sophomore year. Cited reasons for drop-outs include: difficulties adapting to college level classes, family issues, and/

or a lack of resources. Yet while these statistics may seem unsettling to some, many are convinced that more could be done on a local level to help decrease drop-out rates.

In a recent written-response questionnaire conducted by the Century Times and given to students at random, students were asked to write down their thoughts on what it takes to become successful at Century College. When questioned as to what advice they had to offer to new students, many of those polled in this questionnaire listed personal work ethic, organization, and open communication as the preeminent virtues of a successful first-year student.

Chee Vang, a veteran student in her eighth year at Century College writes, "My advice [to new students] would be: 1) Stay on top of all your classes



Photo By Keano Vang Continued on Page 3

Don't Be Afraid To Say The "S" Word

Keano Vang | Staff Writer

your class is, you would never surmise the fact of its aims to build awareness, spread information, and

When you walk in the hallways getting to where ing the event. "World Suicide Prevention Day" sets



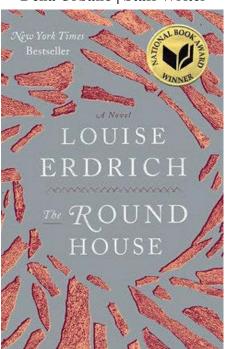


Photo Courtesy of articles.latimes.com The Century College Common Book Project committee stepped away from the norm when they chose an awardwinning work of fiction as the Common Book for the 2013-2014 school year. Native Minnesotan Louise Erdrich's The Round House is a gripping mystery mixed with a coming-of-age story. It pulls the reader in from the first chapter. The ending, however, leaves a lot of questions unanswered

for the reader. The Round House is a powerful and bittersweet story set within an Ojibwe Indian reservation in North Dakota. It centers on a Native American teenage

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How To Become A Police Hero

how many people you come across. An afterthought. You pass different faces, emotions, and lives getting to where you need to be. As such, you would never assume the person you see smiling while chatting to friends, listening to music on their mp3-player, or the person you bumped shoulders with would have any ill thoughts, much less suicidal ones. That's the thing you could never guess. No one is at fault for that.

"World Suicide Prevention Day" took place as a week-long event at Century College from Monday, September 9 through the following Friday, whereas the actual annual day was on the tenth of September. This program has promoted suicide awareness, associated mental illnesses, as well as its prevention for 10 years. It was first established in the year of 2003, on September 10, by the International Association for Suicide Prevention (IASP) as an initiative along with the World Health Organization (WHO) co-sponsorimprove education about suicide. Events took place on all weekdays, one of them being a "Suicide Prevention Presentation," which was held on that Thursday from 12PM-1PM at the Eastern Campus, room 2313. The presenter's name was Jessie Rae Rayle, a Umatter Intervention Specialist, there she provided a great deal of information about what to notice, what to say and not to, what to do in a situation, and ultimately to prevent a possible suicide.

Suicide by its definition is the intentional taking of one's own life. It is also a subject most would want to try to avoid and not think about altogether. This subject gets sticky and personal for the plain fact that emotions can run wildly through whoever is affected with the loss or recovering from a previous attempt. Statistically, almost a million people all around the world die each year, suicide being the leading cause. A single person dies by suicide every forty seconds

Jennifer Billstrom | Staff Writer

Century College has many degree and certificate programs, one to fit the needs of students with varied interests, one of which is the Law Enforcement program. This program prepares students to become licensed peace officers, or in layman terms-cops. Century has offered this program for eight years and John Adie, one of the three directors for the program, said it's one of the more popular programs at Century.

There are only four community colleges in the state of Minnesota that offer this program, though there are a number of four-year institutions who offer it at a significantly higher tuition cost. Cen-

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boy named Joe, whose childhood is cut short when his mother endures a brutal rape. The details surrounding the attack of Joe's mother, Geraldine, are revealed to the reader in intriguing snippets. It adds intensity to the book as a person continues to read it.

Erdrich does her best to give the reader a glimpse of what



Photo Courtesy of articles.latimes.com

life on "the Rez" is like while crafting the main plot. She shows the enjoyable things, such as the family get togethers and Pow Wows, "Rez steak sandwiches," and traditions passed down through many generations. Joe's teen angst and the adventures he and his friends embark upon throughout their summer together give a lighter touch to an otherwise intense dramatic tale. Erdrich also fearlessly writes about the negative aspects, such as corrupt police officers and unjust treatment of Indians on reservations.

The legal issues the characters in the story encounter are based on factual evidence of Native Americans' struggle with federal, state, and tribal boundary issues, and how the law should proceed in cases involving a Native American and a non-Native American. The reader sees all of what is happening through Joe's young, impressionable eyes and gets a sense of how his life is torn into many pieces following his mother's attack. His young mind fixates on finding justice for his mother, no matter the cost.

Joe's father does his own investigating, but he becomes frustrated by lack of help from the state and federal government. No one seems to care that a Native American woman was brutally raped. Joe sets about finding evidence and information with the help of his friends. He is quite successful, but the more he finds, the more desperate he is to get revenge for his mother. His mother senses a lot of this, but the feeling is that she is so far gone in her own pain she doesn't know how to cope with her son's need for justice. She is frightened by his resolve, but it's as if she's paralyzed by her emotions. Avenging Geraldine seems to be the only way for Joe to cope with what happened to his mother and to find a way to make his life at home right again.

What is essentially at the heart of The Round House is not the rape that happened to Geraldine, but the way Joe's life suddenly seems to rip at the seams and then slowly starts to come back together stitch by stitch. He grows up right before the reader's eyes. Erdrich paints a clear picture for the reader: one day's events can shake a person's entire reality to the core.

While most of the book is quite enjoyable, Erdrich's choice of ending for the story misses the mark. Perhaps it is her way of transitioning for a sequel or continuation of Joe's story.

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tury's two-year Associate of Science (AS) program is the first step toward becoming a Minnesota police officer, but there are more requirements needed than just this degree. Becoming a police officer in Minnesota is not for the faint of heart.

According to John Adie, a director of the Law Enforcement program, upon completion of the required credits at Century, students must attend North Hennepin Technical College in Brooklyn Park to take 22 additional credits for a total of 68 credits to receive their Associate of Science degree. This program takes three semesters to complete. Upon successfully completing the program, students are eligible to take the Police Officer Standards and Training exam (POST) to become POST certified; by all accounts a very challenging test. In addition to these academic requirements,



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several police departments have also established a fairly rigorous physical fitness test that includes bench press, push-ups, sit-ups, a vertical jump, and running standards.

After completing their AS degree, students may either transfer to another college or university to pursue a bachelor's degree or remain at Century to complete their bachelor degree. If they remain at Century, their degree is awarded from Metropolitan State University, though all of the coursework is done at Century.

As you can tell from the above criteria, Minnesota has high standards for police officers. According to howtobecomeapoliceofficer.com, "A 2008 study of the Minnesota police education requirements, police officers in Minnesota were overall more educated than the rest of the adult population in the state. The study found that 34.7% of all police officers in Minnesota had at least a bachelor's degree, whereas only 27.4% of the rest of the state's residents had a comparable level of education."

When interviewed, Jason Wiley, 20, who is currently in the program, will be moving on to North Hennepin Technical College to complete the Law Enforcement Program at the end of the semester. He said he decided to become a police officer because, "A lot of my family are military, and my grandpa was a cop; so I guess it's just kind of in my blood, but I also like

helping people." He went on to say he selected Century to pursue his goal because it has the most competitive price of all of the colleges he looked at.

Wiley encountered a few surprises while in the program. When he started, he expected the majority of his classes would be dealing with the law, but instead he found he's been required to take many general courses like Composition, Sociology, Psychology, and Math, just to name a few. In his field, he's had to take four Sociology classes, which he said were his favorite classes; however, his Juvenile Justice and Delinquency class taught by Kerry McIntyre was his favorite. Wiley commented, "He [McIntyre] has a lot of personal experience in his field, and he had great stories of what he went through in his life. He made me think of things in ways I never thought before."

Wiley is on his way to becoming a full-fledged police officer, thanks to the Law Enforcement Program at Century and as a product of his hard work. If you are interested in learning more about this program, you can contact John Adie at john.adie@century.edu or MaryVukelich at mary. vukelich@century.edu; you can also attend the open house at East Campus Lincoln Mall on October 15, 2013 between 5-7 PM where there will be representatives that can answer any questions.

Suicide continued from Page 1

in every minute. Suicide exceeds more deaths by homicide and war altogether each year. These stats prove how startling it is to look at. Now, suicide is one social issue among all others. Social issues are matters that indirectly and directly affect a single person or many within our society. Some few examples are gang violence, alcoholism, gun control, poverty, and obesity. All of these issues are important and some more valued than others, but it is important to be aware. It is a great thing that organizations and individuals try to, and do, prevent such tragedies from happening. Although realistically we cannot fix all of the social issues in the world, no less the United States, getting information across to others and knowing is the key.

According to Ms. Rayle's information, there are many factors that lead to a suicide making it hard to exactly determine and pinpoint its cause. Risk factors are individual and different to everyone meaning that they can be circumstantial, long term, time limited, and/or physical or psychological. Examples can be stress, job loss, depression, history of mental illness, sexual identity, lack of self worth and hopelessness, a passing of a family member or loved one, or even a pet death. More factors can be named but there is too much to list. Warning signs are things a person can notice about someone else that is different or off; a change in behavior, actions, gestures, verbal expressions, a previous attempt of suicide, or patterns all of which put up a flag to yield and let others see. Like risk factors though there are a lot of warning signs that aren't listed. Both warning signs and risk factors can interchange to fit under either category. If you are somebody going through any of these you should try to inform someone you trust and know cares for you, arrange an appointment with a counselor, or call a prevention hotline.

Following more of the lecture from the presentation, knowing and taking preemptive measures when dealing with one that has suicidal thoughts must be eased into a conversation, not asked out of nowhere. Take into account that everything in their life and all of it may be falling off its mark. Understand the protective factors, which are the personal reasons one would not take their own life: responsibilities, future plans, beliefs and religion. You must take the topic seriously and consider about what you are going to say.

Starting a conversation with someone you suspect to be thinking about suicide depends on your relationship with them. You have to be black and white when talking about suicide, do not go around the topic. Ask if they are having any thoughts about suicide or if they are thinking about killing themselves. Adjusting to responses is very essential; you have to be calm and collected. If they reply "no" tell them why you asked, let them know you care about what they think, tell others who also care about that person, and give resources of where they could go to talk to someone or hand them a number. If answered "yes" be calm, ask if they have a plan, bring them to a counselor, or call 911 for help. Be careful with saying phrases like "you're not thinking about doing something stupid are you?" or "you wouldn't go that far would you?" because you're ultimately challenging them to do it. Do not be afraid of stating the word "suicide" either, it will be better to voice the issue at hand then not bring up entirely. Most importantly, tell them you care for them and they can be mad at you all they want as long they are still here to be angry. Your willingness to open up is a great first step.



Photo By Keano Vang

Success continued from Page 1



experienced students should, "Be more inviting to everyone, not just the outspoken crowd." And Connor Becker (also a first-year student at Century) said that these advanced students should, "[seek] out the students that look like they need help in the halls and give them a hand."

In his new book How to Win at College: Surprising Secrets for Success from the Country's Top Students, Assistant Profess Cal Newport writes that outside of studying and working hard, one of the most effective ways new students can thrive in college is to simply get involved and develop relationships. He states, "The hermit approach [to college] denies you a lot of opportunities to get excited early on in your collegiate career. And, of course, excitement and inspiration about your pursuits are the fuel of a successful college student." What then does this say about succeeding in at Century College? According to students surveyed for this article and the sources listed above, success in college is both about working hard on an individual level and getting involved with others in the local academic community. For the many first-year students at Century this may mean studying very hard and simply getting involved. But for the more experienced students this could also mean having some empathy for your local freshmen. Remember what it was like when you were a first-year student? Did you ever feel lost, confused, lonely or overwhelmed? Did anyone ever help you out at school when you needed it the most? By working together on this problem, perhaps something can be done about student drop-out retention levels and academic success in our own community.

Photo By Keano Vang

2) make sure you contact your professors and understand the course and 3) be open and make friends." Likewise, sophomore Amanda Nelson, Century writes, "Don't procrastinate—college is nothing like high school--do your very best [and] don't settle for just passing."

Yet beyond the individual need to study and work hard, many of the students in this questionnaire agreed that succeeding in college was not a solitary effort. When asked how more experienced students could help those less familiar with college life, freshman Collin Schladweiler writes that more

For your comments, or a desire to participate in this conversation, please visit the TCT website or Facebook page—TCT's QR code and web address can always be found on the front page of this paper.

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American Sign Language Club Welcomes You

The ASL (American Sign Language) Club at Century College was formed in 2009 to give deaf and hard of hearing students a sense of community. Since then it has expanded to hearing students who want to learn about the culture. The college started offering ASL classes in the fall of 2012. The Club's purpose is to provide an opportunity for Century College students to socialize in ASL, make contacts in the deaf community and promote awareness of deaf culture within the college and local community. The group of 10-20 people meet each Monday at 11:00 a.m. in room W1001. They play games, icebreakers as well as teaching and practicing ASL and deaf culture.

Anyone can join the ASL Club whether hearing or deaf, even if a person doesn't know any signs, or just want to practice what they've previously learned on their own or in a previous class. Houa Moua, the Club secretary, first came to the Club last spring without knowing any signs, with friend, Bao Vue, the current vice president. That first meeting showed a documentary on the deaf and hard of hearing culture. She says it inspired her. "I needed to be there, this matters." Alex Hall, Club treasurer, joined two semesters ago and is currently taking ASL at Century. He enjoys learning new languages and is studying to be an interpreter. He likes how visual the language is.

American Sign Language is a language that uses hand and facial gestures to communicate and is used by the deaf and hard of hearing or speech impaired. American Sign Language isn't just hand movements, it has its own grammar;

by using different facial expressions it can add to or change the meaning of a word. For example, the sign for pretty and beautiful are the same, but when the person signs pretty, they don't have a lot of facial expression. With beautiful, eyes open wider and they make the hand gesture slower and stronger. Also the sentence arrangement is not the same as it is in written or spoken English. Nuqou Vang, the two-year president of the



Club Officers photo From Left to Right: Alex Hall -Treasurer, Nuqou Vang-President, Houa Moua-Secturary, Bao Vue-Vice President

Photo by Lanie Carter

ASL Club, who is hard of hearing, said "It's not English, it's a visual Language."

Like learning any new language, with dedication anyone can learn to sign. The ASL Club will be participating in the Fright Walk on October 30th and Turkey Jam November 27th. Make sure to check out http://www. centurytimesonline.com/ for future events.

New Center Opening Welcomes Everyone

Kyla Oesterreich | Staff Writer

Century is home to an extremely diverse student body of 10,918 students from over 70 countries including adult and young adult learners, which include part-time and fulltime students. Students have access to the Multicultural Center, the Veteran's Center and will soon have a LGBTQ Center. LGBT stands for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender. The center is expected to be officially open mid-October.

The Center is in room W1216. The main focus of the LGBTQ Center is to create a



Left: Buttons and cards advertise the new center Right: Justin Martin in front of the center

Photos by Kyla Oesterreich



focus of the LGBTQ Center is to create a tional leadership at MSU Mankato. After spending Milk - an American gay rights activist who be-

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welcoming space that provides resources and support while allowing students to speak freely about their own sexuality and gender. Students will have an area designated to help them grow as individuals and discuss LGBT issues. "I think that it is really important on a college campus to have a safe and inclusive space for LGBT people and their allies" said Justin Martin, the new Student Involvement Coordinator. He welcomes everyone to come in and participate in discussions of sexuality and gender.

Martin works part time providing support for the Q&S (Queer & Straight) Club and LGBTQ Center and spends the rest of his time working with social media for Student Life. He also helps out with the food pantry. Martin did his undergraduate program in Political Science at Gustavus College before getting his Masters degree in educa-

welcoming space that provides resources a year working with the LGBT Center at Mankato and support while allowing students to speak freely about their own sexuality and gender. Students will have an area designated to help Century.

> "This is my hometown," said Martin. "It seemed like a good fit."

> The center will have many resources pertaining to LGBT issues. Movies and books are available for students to borrow. The center will have condoms accessible to encourage sexual health. Students will have access to community resource pamphlets similar to what you would find at a health center. There will also be a large library of Lavender, Minnesota's LGBT magazine, as well as chairs, a flat screen TV, and a computer for student use.

> The LGBTQ Center will be hosting a fall film series of movies that address LGBT issues or have some sort of LBGT theme every week on Wednesdays at noon. The first movie, shown on Oct. 9th, will be Milk, which highlights the life of Harvey

came California's first openly gay elected official.

Q&S Club will be hosting an event on National Coming Out Day, Oct. 11, to celebrate coming out as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or as a straight ally. This day is also an opportunity to promote governmental and public awareness of LGBT rights and to honor the activist roots history. To celebrate this civil rights holiday, the Q&S Club will have a panel of Q&S members sharing their coming out story and answering questions that students may have about their own sexual or gender identity. All are welcome. The panel will speak at 11:30 am on Oct. 11th in The Nest. Pizza and veggies will be served to those who attend.

The new space will be a shared area for Q&S Club members and other students. Q&S Club President, Oluchi Omeoga, plans to have club members utilize the center for programming, social interactions, and being a voice for the community. "All are welcome!" said Omeoga.

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Karaoke is Japanese for 'Empty Orchestra' Zach Lacy | Staff Writer



The Orchestra and It's Missing Members

With renovations finally complete, Orchestra Hall's new look boasts a modern-age appeal to this season's patrons.

KPMB Architects has replaced the orchards of retro-orange chairs and balconies with a cool storm of black and gray. The lobby, now twice its original size, gives insiders an appealing view of 11th street thanks to its new floor-to-ceiling glass walls. The hall was built in 1970 and came equipped with a gender bias that provided more men than women musicians to the orchestra. Now, to the delight of cross-legged female patrons everywhere, they have doubled the number of women's restrooms.

Now, 15 months and \$50 million later, Orchestra Hall has cooked up everything that it and the public could possibly hope for. Except one major ingredient was left out of the mixture; The Orchestra.

Minneapolis, a city known for its vibrant and eclectic music scene, may be preparing to roll the credits and end a century long love affair with classical music.

Since October 1 of 2012, a day after the expiration date of the musicians' contract, the musicians have been locked out. Management has offered to pay the musicians \$102,200 in salary instead of the \$135,000 they received under their last contract. The reasoning is that the Minnesota Orchestra has seen an annual deficit of \$6 million and they could not thrive as an ensemble under those conditions.

The icy dispute between the musicians and the management still trudges on, and the idea that there isn't much that can be done by fans and supporters is slowly becoming a harsh reality. Of the original musicians, 23 of the original 98 have already left to find work elsewhere, including star clarinetist Burt Hara.

"There was no choice but to accept a position where excellence is val-



Image Courtesy of minnesotaorchestramusicians.org

ued," reads a statement made by musicians on minnesotaorchestramusicians.org. The distinctive sound produced by the Grammy-nominated ensemble will never be the same due to the loss of these performers. The only hope is that it can retain some of its uniqueness by not allowing more members to leave. But time is running out. Rapidly.

Conductor Osmo Vanska threatens to leave if an agreement is not made by September 30th. No agreement by this date would lead to the cancellation of performances at Carnegie Hall in November. "It is my duty to advise you that under these circumstances, my own positions as Music Director may become unsustainable," said Vanska in a letter according to the Star Tribune. "I must make it clear, that in the case Carnegie Hall chooses to cancel the Minnesota Orchestra's concerts this November, i.e. if they lose confidence in our ability to perform ... then I will be forced to resign."

It seems there is no winning. Do the musicians keep fighting for what they think is right and risk Vanska's resignation, or do they take the pay cut to save their world-renowned conductor? It's a Catch-22 and the only response is to watch. "He is arguably the best conductor on the planet," says Elliot Wilcox, professor of Music at Century College. "So, we better figure it out. It looks suspicious that management can spend \$50 million on Orchestra Hall but can't afford to pay their players."

With former US Senator George Mitchell mediating for the two parties, there is a ray of hope. Working with both sides, Mitchell is trying to ensure the orchestra keeps Vanska and that management can sustain itself without falling victim to its deficit.

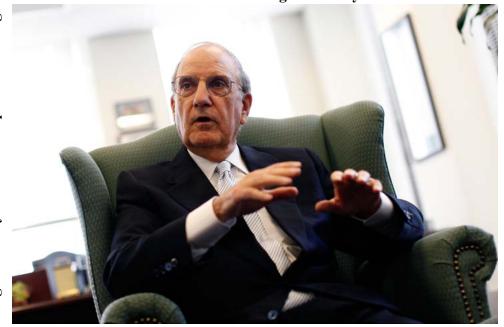
Most recently, Mitchell proposed a four month interim agreement stating that musicians would continue work at their last contract's salaries for two months. If no agreement was made after the two months, the musicians would then work at a 6 percent salary cut for the following two months. After this, both sides would go back to their "respective positions." The board rejected this proposal.

Losing a cut in annual income isn't the only thing concerning the orchestra. With a pay decrease comes a loss in status and prestige.

"The Minnesota Orchestra is considered by many to be a destination orchestra," says Scott Chamberlain, ex-staff writer for the orchestra before

Left Osmo Vanska Below Geaorge Mitchell Continued on Page 10

Image Courtesy of onwardstate.com



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Why Does the World Choose Century?

Renee Cortez | Staff Writer

In a growing, changing world, Century embraces determination not to be left behind. In an era of increased desires and the occasional need to cross national boundaries, our country continues to welcome in many ethnic groups each year. Those include individuals and families that seek new and exciting opportunities in America.

Here at Century College many international students enroll each semester. Some first came to America to attend a different college and transferred to

Century, while others came directly to Century. Being an international student can mean that you are on visa from your country or are from another country but have acquired permanent residency in America. The colleges in the United States offer a better education then most countries. Century, in turn, gives these students the resources to help

Leyda Bakala, a student from Congo, stated that students must care more about their educational experience in another country than they do in their own. They don't usually have the family support system to lean on. The 19-year-old accounting major went on to say that she believes that when international students come here, they learn to be more responsible.

them stay on tract. However they get here, the international students at Century have a unique experience.

One cannot enter Century's doors and not see diversity. Sylvie Ndenn is an International student from Gambia, Africa pursuing a nursing degree. The recent 21-year-old stated, "I came to the United States in search of a better education [and] I chose Century College because at that time it was the only college in Minnesota that charged international students in-statetuition." Other reasons international students have picked Century was they found it to be a nice community, a place to improve their English, and it was affordable. Many students come to America for the numerous resources available in education. Cameroonian Tatiana Nde, also a nursing major, believes Century has many resources for her to succeed. The 20-year-old said, "There is a lot of difference in the style of teaching and the resources used. There are plenty of great resources provided to students here. Compared to Cameroon, we have limited resources and do not have the advantage to be guided into our career path."

> Mustafa Jama is another international student (who now has acquired permanent residency in America) that agrees with Nde. The 27-year-old economics major, said school in his country is "Absolutely different!" He indicated where he is from in Puntland, Somalia where the schooling has to be paid for by the individual. There

is no government aid to help pay for college like America has.

Herbert King, the Director of the Multicultural Center and International Student Services, provided the statics regarding Century's International population. There are approximately 131 students from 46 different countries. In addition, 50% of them come from overseas and 50% come from transferring from other U.S. colleges. King indicated based on international student persistence data that international students enrolled at Century College had a semester-to-semester persistence rate of 89%.

King pronounced, "The vast majority of our international students transfer to other [U.S.] institutions to further their education after completing



Students using the Multicultural Center

their studies at Century College" Many students get an F-1 student visa, which comes to them under certain conditions from the U.S. Embassy in their home country. They must meet those conditions or their F-1 status could be canceled and they would have to return to their country immediately.

International students fare well at Century College because they like going to school here. Ndenn exclaimed her admiration of how Century deals with diversity. "There is definitely an appreciation for diversity at Century. Century embraces all types of students. There are students from all over the world. It creates a great learn-



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ing environment with all the different perspectives."

Diversity and American education is part of the international student experience. Students learn much from coming into another culture. Ndenn stated that by coming to Century as an international student, "I've learned to take responsibility for my learning and seek out the many resources for problems I may face."

Two resources Century has for international students are a separate orientation and the English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) program. ESOL provides classes for students while they are learning to adapt to English in the classroom. Nde voiced, "It prepared my mind for how English is written and spoken in America. It also made me learn a lot from the teaching methods and [the] approach the instructors use towards new and international students." Jama agrees that ESOL is a great program saying that, "All colleges should have ESOL. It helps a lot of immigrants whose English is not their first language."

As for the International Orientation, Tom Black, the International Student Admissions Coordinator, affirmed that it is an "introduction to college and who is here to help new students. We try to introduce the people that will be helpful." It is four hours long and

Tatiana Nde is majoring for Nursing

Photos by Tina Nichols

includes different speakers, an insurance for international students session, counseling session, F-1 advising session, and meeting veteran international student mentors.

Their time at Century has influenced many international students to stay in the country. Jama declared he is absolutely influenced to stay because the systems are better. Education in America is free now that he has permanent residency and can now receive financial aid. "If you are poor you can't go to school in Puntland, Somalia," he stated.

Nde attributes some of her success as an International student to her advisors. Continued on Page 11

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Hollywood: A Mixed Bag so Far in 2013

Matthew Hoemke | Staff Writer

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As the year winds down and we head into Oscar season, I can't help but feel that 2013 has been one of the worst years in recent cinema history. Like last year, the market was swarmed with sequels, prequels and remakes. But unlike last year, this year's releases seem uninspired and positively lackluster. With few exceptions, there was nary an original idea. The best of the year came in the form of the biopic, which is hardly surprising as they are typically awards fodder. There is hope though. The year seems to be loaded with films that have promise.

As aforementioned, the sequels, prequels and remakes of the year were all but dismissible. Iron Man 3, Man of Steel and The Wolverine all had moments of quality reflective of their franchises, but were largely disappointments. Films like Despicable Me 2, and Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters, while having a certain charm, were hardly memorable. And, let's not even discuss the atrocity that was A Good Day to Die Hard. Perhaps the better title would have been A Good Day to Blow Hard. Pixar had a solid prequel with Monsters University, but it lacked the heart or definition that is often associated with a Pixar film. Evil Dead, which initially left me with cold indifference, has held up as one of the better remake/reboots of the year. Then there was Star Trek Into Darkness, which is the sequel to the reboot of the original series that remakes the sequel to the original series first film. Follow that? Yeah, no one else did either. In essence, it is a sequel, prequel and remake that, while being a good film, was really nothing to write home about.

There were some really fun, original films that came out this year that were predominantly comedies. The anthology film Movie 43 was occasionally uneven, but did deliver some really great laughs. One of the year's best films was The World's End, which was dripping with creativity and the perfect conclusion to director Edgar Wright's Blood and Ice Cream Trilogy (Shaun of the Dead, Hot Fuzz, and The World's End respectively). Words cannot express how

> FROM RICHARD CURTIS, WRITER O LOVE ACTUALLY, NOTTING HILL FOUR WEDDINGS



Image Courtesy of nerdsontherocks.com

wonderfully entertaining and intricate the film is. That being said, these were gems concealed in a stream of blandness. Some films left me so indifferent that I had forgotten I'd even seen them, such as R.I.P.D., Mama, and Epic. Others were interesting ideas that fell apart in their excessively poor execution, as with Harmony Korine's Spring Breakers.

Three of the year's best films were inspired by actual events. Sofia Coppola made the hugely underrated The Bling Ring. The film follows a clique of young socialites who go on a crime spree breaking into celebrity houses and thieving from them as they go. The film is remarkably rich with social commentary that is lost on some viewers. Lee Daniels' The Butler is the year's easiest film to love. It follows an African American butler working in the White House through at least six presidencies, and numerous civil rights movements. The film gets a little overly sentimental at times, but a film like this is entitled to. The year's best film so far is Fruitvale Station. Without giving much away, it follows a young man who is trying to reform his troubled life on film experiences I've ever had as a reviewer. It is the eve of the New Year. It is one of the most raw



Image Courtesy of impawards.com impossible not to become emotionally invested in these people in its short 85 minute run time. You positively grow to love this man, and his family, which makes it all the more tragic. It is very likely that the film will get a Best Picture nod at the Oscars, as will the film's star Michael B. Jordan.

Moving into awards season, there are plenty of

VHAT IF EVERY MOMENT IN LIFE CAME WITH SECOND CHANCE

Rachel McAdams Domhnall Gleeson A NEW FUNNY FILM ABOUT LOVE. WITH A BIT OF

films to look forward to. Alfonso Cuaron's film Gravity looks like it will be one hell of a visceral and claustrophobic thriller, which may garner him a best director nomination. Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom and American Hustle look to be awards bait, particularly for their respective casts. But, I'm going to call it right now: 12 Years a Slave is going to win Best Picture at the Oscars. The film looks tremendous and heartfelt. Star Chiwetel Ejiofor looks to be an early frontrunner for best actor, which is exciting because he elevates everything he touches. There are other films that have definite entertainment potential like Thor: The Dark Ones and The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug. But the one I look forward to most is About Time, which is the film director Richard Curtis (of Love Actually fame) plans to retire on. If the previews are any indication, he may have the sleeper hit of the season.

Image Courtesy of joannascarrattyabrands.wordpress.com

The Century Times

Resource Series: Academia Isn't So Hard With Help from Century

C. Scot Stene | Staff Writer

Century College has many ways to help students achieve their goals. Not only does Century offer smaller class sizes with more access to professors, but it also has several centers dedicated to providing students the tools they need for success. Last semester The Century Times took a closer look at just a few of these centers with features on the Writing Center, the Mathematics Center, and the Language Lab. Over the course of this semester we hope to continue familiarizing students with a few more, beginning with the Academic Resource Center.

The first thing students need to know about the Academic Resource Center is that there are two of them. One is on the East Campus just down the hall from Lincoln Mall towards the cafeteria in room E2542, and the other is on West Campus at the top of the ramp on the second floor by the gym in room W2461. Students have access to several services available at each center; all they need is their Student ID Card.

The main service provided at each center is Peer Tutoring. Peer tutors are students who have received a B or better in the subject for which they tutor. "We have Math and English tutors, tutors for the Sciences and Social Sciences, as well as Communications," said Jackie Reichter, Peer Tutor and TLC Coordinator for the West Campus, "We basically have tutors for the liberal arts courses that are taught here on West Campus." East Campus caters to its student body as well, offering tutors for a variety of technical courses as well as Math and Science tutors.

A nice feature of Peer Tutoring is that students can sign up for appointments with the tutors. "Students can sign in for up to an hour and a half per week for each subject," said Reichter. Appointments allow students to get a tutor for a block of time, giving them an uninterrupted block that they can continue to sign up for throughout the semester.

Tutors Linked to Classes (TLC) are also based out of the Academic Support Centers on both campuses, and a lot of them hold their office hours there as well. TLC tutors spend time in the classroom too. Students from those classes have priority over other students, but that doesn't mean they can't answer a question or two if they are not busy. "Both Peer Tutoring

and TLC are services that are available for all students," said Keith Hagen, Peer Tutoring and TLC Coordinator for the East Campus.

Both centers have a several computers as well as a printer available to students with their IDs. There are many textbooks and other printed materials available, and there are relatively quiet places to study with the added benefit of all the tutors on hand.

There are also several other more specific services available out of the Academic Support Centers. The West center is also home to the TRIO/ Student Support Services. These are services designed to provide opportunities to students who are the first in their families to receive a bachelor's degree, who are low income, or have a documented disability. All TRIO and SSS programs are aimed at assisting these students in their goal of achieving a four-year degree. The center is also home to the English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) advocate for the West Campus. For more information on this, just stop in.

The East Campus' Academic Support Center has a few other related programs that share the space. There is the Career & Technical Education Specialists who help adult learners transition through each step of the education process; from reentering a school environment to reentering the work place with a degree, along with a variety of other things. There is the Brothers to Brothers Program, which is a student organization that strives to improve the educational experience among male African American and Latino students. Finally, there is the Scholars Program, which focuses on helping high school students who will be the first in their family to graduate from college, demonstrate financial need, or represent traditionally underserved populations.

The Academic Support Centers on both East and West Campus are designed to help students achieve their educational goals. Both centers are open Monday through Thursday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, and on Friday's from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. For more information on the East center, students can call 651-747-4088, and 651-779-3258 for the West center.



Photo By C. Scot Stene

Chinese Fall Festival Is A Delicious Piece of History

Johann Hollar | Staff Writer

the Chinese Moon Festival is as well celebrated watermelons, apples, grapes, and mooncakes. in China as is the Chinese New Year. This year Afterwards, there would be a big round moonit will have been celebrated September 19 to the 21st.

Whether or not you are into Chinese culture, sacrificial offerings to the moon in the form of cake that would be divided by the size of the Emperor's family. The tradition of the Moon Festival would never be official until the Sui (581-618 CE) and Tang (618-907 CE) Dynasties would make it an official festival for even the common people. By the time of the Northern Song Dynasty (960-1127 CE) it was celebrated all over China. Mooncakes are traditionally made from a lotus seed paste and walnuts, which are the base ingredients. Today it can be filled with fruits, dates, nuts, or even Chinese sausage. However, there are also more exotic ideas, such as Green Tea Mooncakes and ping-pei, or even Snow Skin Moonkcakes. In a Southeast Asian variation it is made with rice flour, and Hagen-Daz has even created their own version of mooncakes. Some people don't have the culinary abilities to make mooncakes, so they are available for purchase in stores.

Mooncakes are traditionally made in four different styles: Guandong, Suzhou, Beijing, and Yunnan. The other styles are Huizhou, Quzhou, Chaozhou, and Bamboo Charcoal. There are also the Hong Kong and Taiwan styles.

There is an interesting folk tale behind the moon festival. The story involves the mythological hero Hou Yi, whom after shooting down the nine suns was given the Elixir of Immortality from the Lady Queen Mother. He did not drink it, but his wife Chang'e was forced to drink it due to the curiosity of a neighbor who wanted to take it. When Hou Yi found out about this he was devastated, and it was only after he called out to her that he learned she was on the moon when it was at its fullest and brightest. It was then after he started bringing out her favorite cakes and asking for the blessings of Heaven.

The Chinese Moon Festival dates back to the Western Zhou Dynasty (1046-256 BCE) where emperors would worship the moon in the fall, which they believed would bring them a good harvest when families would make non-human

Whether or not you like mooncakes, you won't be able to pass up the proud tradition that the Mid-Autumn Festival represents.

Song Dynasty: http://www.chinaknowledge.de/ History/Song/song.html

Sui Dynasty: http://www.travelchinaguide. com/intro/history/sui/

Tang Dynasty: http://www.travelchinaguide. com/intro/history/tang/

Zhou Dynasty: http://www.travelchinaguide. com/intro/history/zhou/

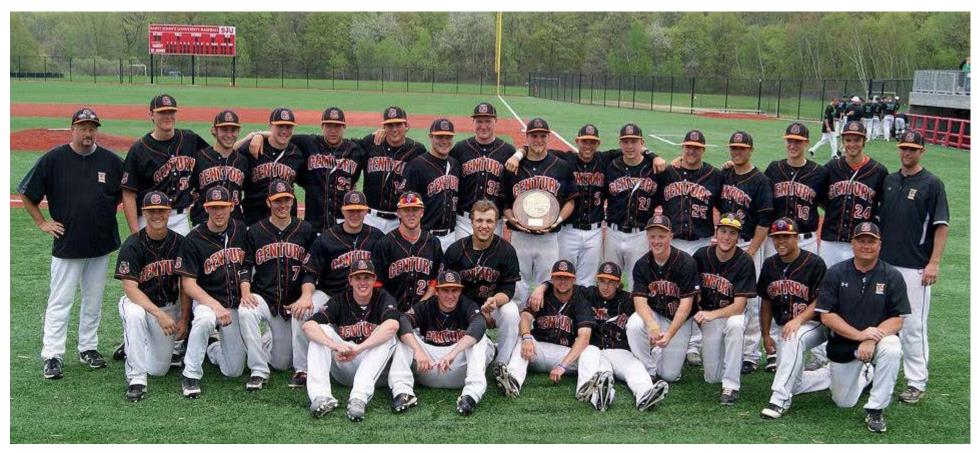
Moon Cakes: http://chinesefood.about.com/ od/mooncake/a/moonfestival.htm

Mid-Autumn Festival or Moon Festival: http://www.travelchinaguide.com/essential/ holidays/mid-autumn.htm

Issue 1

Wood Duck's Baseball Team Is A Home Run

Julia Sosniecki | Staff Writer



The fourth season of Century College baseball is upon us, and looking at last year's record of 42-13, the bar has been set high. Finishing second in the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) World Series last season to Gloucester County College in New Jersey, the school's baseball team has proven to be one of the greatest teams in their field. There are about sixteen or seventeen players back from last year with a total of forty on the team right now.

No longer having an ace player like pitcher Jared Dettman may worry some, but the team has great confidence that they will be able to return to the World Series. Over his seventeen years of coaching, Dwight Kotila has had eight different teams make it to the World Series. So far, it's looking good for the team. While fall games only count as scrimmages, Kotila said, "Let's just say we've won more than we've lost this fall."

In order to return for the title, sophomore third baseman Jordan Stroh said, "To get back to our success from last year we will have to come ready to play each and every game, we will need to have to focus and ambition to win every game and come out and play each game like it was our last."

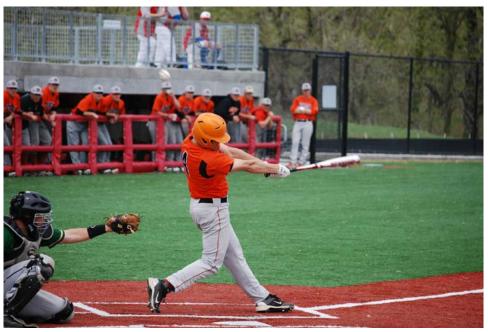
Being part of the team is not easy; it is a full time commitment. Justin Anderson, a sophomore who plays infield described, "It's definitely like a full time job...you throw that and school and there's not a lot of free time." With this kind of time commitment and dedication, the team is bound to complete great success. "It's a lot of work, but it pays off," continued Anderson.

It helps that the team has a great base of support: each other. The sophomores are in the leadership position now and help guide the freshmen who are new to college ball. Anderson explained that when it comes to the freshmen, "They're full of questions all the time, so you just have to answer your best and help them out. If they're down in practice or something, try and cheer them up because that's what you have to do." Kotila explained, "We practice hard, we try to do things in a certain way to prepare the players both off the field, on the field to be successful in whatever they do." It is important for the school to understand that this nationally ranked team has to work very hard off the field in order to make it possible to go to their tournaments. A lot of fundraising is required to support the team to make it to their tournaments, such as one in Florida over spring break. The school provides a budget, but fundraising is where the majority of the funds for the tournaments come from. "The Florida trip is 100% fundraised," stated Kotila. In order to raise this money, the team hosts camps and clinics for local baseball associations, will be working at Valleyfair a couple times this fall, and sends out pledge letters to friends and family.

Century's team after winning the regional championship



Dakota Belter pic - sophomore pitcher from Somerset ,WI



Century College

In addition to fundraising and playing lots of ball, the team gets involved with the community. They do this by hosting clinics for the Miracle League which is a free clinic where the team works with kids with special needs.

Though there are many fans in the stands at the games, it would be great

Ben LaMere pic - sophomore outfielder from Blaine, MN

Pictures by Julia Sosniecki

for more students to be there to cheer on our team. If a person is wondering where the home games are played, the athletic fields are right behind the West Campus. Just take the Wood Duck Trail back in the woods. Students, show your support and make it to the games. This team is truly a home run you want to experience.

The Century Times

Orchestra Continued from Page 5



Orchestra Hall

Image Courtesy of en.academic.ru

the split. "It's one that musicians strive to be a part of and make permanent home once they get in."

If all of these changes take place, the fear is that the Minnesota Orchestra will transmute into a "stepping-stone" orchestra; one where its musicians will simply want to use it as a resume builder and not a destination. "They won't hesitate to jump ship if something better comes along," says Chamberlain.

Management sees it differently, though. According to minnesotaorchestra.org, this idea is a misrepresentation of reality.

"About half of the nation's 'Group 1' orchestras have agreed to significant contract concessions in this time period," reads a statement from the website. "These reductions do not mean other arts institutions or orchestras have lowered their artistic standards but rather that they are willing to adapt to changing economic conditions, which we must do too."

Management isn't budging, musicians aren't offering proposals, and the public can't spend a night with the state's finest, and arguably one of the country's greatest fine arts musical ensembles (while losing a world-class conductor one day at a time.) This leaves everything on Mitchell's shoulders. As the mediator, he is the only person in this dispute who wants to see both sides shake hands at the end and walk away with their heads up.

The pulse of the time bomb can be heard echoing throughout the city, but who is brave enough to cut the wire that defuses it?

It's hard to find focus amidst the chaos. It's like a football game; all you can do is watch and hope that your team wins. No matter how loudly the

to lose more instrumentalists, the resignation of Vanska, and the chance of no agreement being made at all, the fine arts community is threatened and the clock is ticking incessantly in the background. Until the musicians and the management can come to an agreement, local fans and supporters of classical music might just have to settle for karaoke at local coffee shops or pubs.

So, until that day comes and that treaty is signed, empty orchestra night it is.

Update:

As of October 1, Osmo Vanska has resigned as conductor to the Minnesota Orchestra.

According to TwinCities.com Vanska said in a statement, "It was a very sad day for me. Over 10 years ago, I was honored to be invited to take up this position. I moved from Finland to the Twin Cities. At that time I made clear my belief that the Minnesota Orchestra could become one of the very greatest international ensembles."

Vanska led the Minnesota Orchestra to Carnegie to perform in 2010. The performance won them the highest praise of the evening and was hailed by New Yorker music critic, Alex Ross, as sounding like "the greatest orchestra in the world" that night.

There were two keys to the success of this orchestra. Management swallowed one, the musicians swallowed the other, and Vanska walked out with the lock.

Two farewell performances with the esteemed conductor are taking place on Oct. 4 and Oct. 5.

television is screamed at, they won't be able to hear it. on C

Karaoke is Japanese for "empty orchestra" and if this continues much longer, that's exactly what Minneapolis will be left with. With the potential The musicians remain locked out.

Wonder Fudge

Jennifer Billstrom | Staff Writer

Are you looking for a WONDERful fudge recipe without all the fuss? Then look no further! This mouthwatering treat will cure any ailment. Just follow these quick and easy steps, and you'll be satisfying your taste buds in no time.

What you'll need:

- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup margarine
- 1 cup semisweet chocolate chips
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup corn syrup
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups powdered sugar
- 2 cups Rice Krispies

Instructions:

- Combine margarine, chocolate chips, corn syrup, and vanilla in large saucepan
- Cook over low heat, stirring constantly until smooth; remove from heat
- Mix in sugar
- Add Rice Krispies
- Press into a buttered 8x8-sized pan

Set aside until cool, and then enjoy your tasty creation.



Issue 1

World Chooses Continued from Page 6

"I have the great assistance of the International advisors, Herbert King and Tom Black, who are welcoming and make you feel at home. Whatever the case, I am not leaving Century College because of its excess resources and friendly people."

King enjoys his work for Century's international population. "Having a place like the Multicultural Student Center provides support for these students who often times have to form new support networks because they don't have immediate family members here during their studies at college."

Century College is a place filled with diversity. Because of this, our hallways are full of culture and different perspectives. This integration of a variety of ethnic and cultural backgrounds provides experiences and a learning environment that we can all benefit from.

Furlough Jennifer Billstrom | Staff Writer

Republicans who like to goad Will gladly let our nation implode

It only seems right

That beginning tonight

Their reps should all be furloughed





Mind the Gap Kiana Williams | Staff Writer

The JFK Assassination; 9/11; the collapse of the I-35W bridge. All of these events have been burned into our minds, forever a part of our psyche as a nation. Whenever they are mentioned, we feel ourselves being transported to the past, experiencing them as if for the first time. This phenomenon is known as a flashbulb memory: a highly detailed, exceptionally vivid 'snapshot' of the moment and circumstances in which a piece of surprising and consequential or emotionally arousing news was heard. While these events were national tragedies, they allowed us to come together, ultimately making us stronger.

On August 25, 2013, a new event joined the archives in our mental libraries of pain. We tried to ignore it, to shove the memory as far out of our minds as possible, but that only made it stronger. At night we lay in bed and it appears in our minds, never in its entirety, no, just brief snapshots flashing before our eyes, the images haunting even our dreams: the lolling tongue, the nude bikini, the slow motion image of pale flesh slapping together like thunder from the heavens.

While it may be difficult to talk about, only after addressing it can we move on as a nation. So I took to the halls of Century College, asking anyone who was willing to talk: Where were you when you first saw Miley twerking?

Tawny Meyers, a mother of three, recounts her chilling experience, "I didn't understand it at first. I thought it was a joke, you know? But then, the tongue. THE TONGUE."

Vicky Shulman, also a mother, had a similar experience. She takes a shaky



Image Courtesy of mtv.nl

from it? It's everywhere!"

For weeks after the horrifying event occurred, the media plastered pictures of Miley gyrating all over Robin Thicke, it was everywhere you looked, rubbing salt into our wounds. Even I had to turn away when I saw them, lest the memories I'd long since repressed return with a vengeance. I was sitting in the living room with my grandmother, who had come all the way from California to visit me. We had been talking together, laughing and reconbreath before beginning, trying to hide her sadness, "I have a little girl. necting when something caught my eye; the violent shaking of Miley's butt. What kind of message is Miley sending her? And how can I protect her I stared, mesmerized. It was almost as though I was in a trance. "What's happening?" asked my Grandmother, squinting to see without her glasses.

Century College



"Armageddon." I whispered, a lone tear sliding down my cheek.

We must always remember. We are survivors, and as survivors, we are entitled to feel pain. After all, when Miley tore off her leotard, she tore our hearts out as well. So yes, for a while it will ache; for a while we may shed tears; for a while visions of the gap between Miley's legs may dance before our eyes. That is all to be expected. Soon, though, our pangs of distress will become a mere relic of the past, just another memory to repress. We can be certain, however, that inner peace will elude us if we do not acknowledge what happened to us.

Yes, America will only overcome this tragedy once we learn to mind the gap.

Image Courtesy of mtv.nl

The Century Times

THEARTICHOKE

Artichoke Looses Heart

Jonathan Pressley | Staff Writer

As The Century Times eagerly begins the new semester, with a shiny new office and great new staff members, the newspaper's veterans solemnly remember their lost heart, Ellen Ahlness. "At the center of every artichoke is the heart," laments Mr. Rich Kuss, one of the newspaper's advisors, "and Ellen was our heart."

In a wake held to remember Ellen's past pieces, as an effort to impart a measure of her English prowess and wit to the newspaper's writers, Matthew Hoemke, the newspaper's Editor and Chief reflects, "Ellen wore really big shoes." He later added, "I don't think anybody will ever be able to fill her shoes."

Dena Urbano sentimentally lamented, "I miss her." Dena's comment, seemingly pulling at the hearts of all in attendance, caused sentiments to rise and all raised their ginger Norwegian(a sugar filled drink created by Ellen), toasting to Ellen. A group hug was there after instinctively initiated; unfortunately there was an unfilled hole in the center.

Nevertheless, as the night wore on many felt their wits rise. A Norwegian accent notably started to permeate all conversation. "We can tell that she is still with us in spirit," Mrs. Dana LeMay emotionally stated, unable to comment further on the newspapers loss.

When asked as a group if the newspaper would like to share one thought with her family, Hoemke eventually said, "We all want to let you know how deeply grieved we are with our loss."

We are obliged to report that we have received an unverified correspondence on Facebook from an individual claiming to be Ellen and using her account. It read, "I am not dead guys, I am just in Mankato." "Yes," C. Scot Stene, the newspapers Online Editor, responded, "but to us you are."

Understandably, this has created a lot of controversy within the newspaper. Therefore, TCT has released an official statement regarding the allegation. Hoemke stated at the last newspaper meeting, "While the correspondence is alarming, remember, it is unverified. It will stay that way. It may be hard, but our heart is gone."

The final statement issued by the newspaper simply read, "We miss you Ellen and wish you the best."

Ben Affleck Announced as New Batman World Loses Mind

Matthew Hoemke | Staff Writer

Remember all the way back in the distant past of February 2013, when everyone loved Ben Affleck? Well that was before the man, who appears to be mostly comprised of chin, was cast in the role of Batman; a character who only shows off his chin. Upon the announcement, geek fan-boys from across the globe released a collective, "Nooooo!" that would make Darth Vader proud.

Sure, Affleck's won two Academy Awards and appeared in four Oscar nominated Best Pictures. But this man starred in Gigli; a ten year old movie that everyone hates, yet no one saw. He doesn't have

the ability or track record to play the Capped two thirds of his previous film learning how to STUDENT LIFE EDITOR



Image Courtesy of comicbookmovie.com



Image by Lori Ford Ahlness

THE CENTURY TIMES **STUDENT NEWPAPER**

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MISSION

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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ONLINE EDITORS	C. Scot Stene Jennifer Billstrom

Fall 2013

Crusader. At least Newsies' Christian Bale, Mr. Mom's Michael Keaton, At First Sight's Val Kilmer, and Batman & Robin's George Clooney have embodied the Dark Knight through every stage of their careers.

Granted, the boy looks good in a suit: he's built like a brick sh*t house, and he has a chin that won't quit. But, uh... he was in Daredevil. Remember that movie that's also ten years old? It was awful. Ok, he was good in it but that's beside the point. He just doesn't have the finesse that it takes to balance two sides of a man. Actually, I guess that is exactly what he did in Daredevil. But remember, bad. Umm....

Intensity! He lacks the intensity to play the character. Remember his performance in Dogma. He's clearly unable to play a character driven by rage and injustice.

No, that's not the Batman we want. We want the one that mumble-growls and has spent

walk...twice. And if not that Batman, we want the one that was completely dismissive of the source material, but was forgiven of its many faults because Tim Burton is such a visually interesting filmmaker.

How dare you Warner Brothers?! How dare you cast a well-established actor, who has had a complete career turnaround in the past decade with such acclaimed films such as Hollywoodland, State of Play, The Town, and Argo? Clearly the better and most obvious choice to dawn the cape and cowl is none other than superstar Andy Dick. He embodies every aspect of the character. For shame WB. For shame!

This just in! Geek God, Joss Whedon tweets, "Affleck'll crush it. He's got the chops, he's got the chin -- just needs the material. Affleck & Cavill toe to toe -- I'm in." Where Joss goes, so goes our nation.

Renee Cortez

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