

Could the Draft be in your future? The war in Iraq hits close to home.

— page 3

FEATURES

Students and staff share memories of seniors Daniel Sawyer and Thomas Earhart.

— page 6

SPORTS

Underdog Varsity Volleyball Team takes State Championship with upset victory.

— page 8

ENTERTAINMENT

Diverse, talented cast creates exhilarating atmosphere in the fall musical "Once Upon a Mattress."

— page 10

PHOTO ESSAY

Geology classes' trip to Mt. St. Helens cave turns out to be totally tubular.

— page 12

Amplifier

Published Since 1921

Official Student Publication of West Linn High School

December 2007 - Volume 96, Issue 3

Adams wins Holiday Tour of Homes poster contest with original design

KAITLYN RAGAN

Staff Reporter

Margaret Adams, senior, created the winning design for the annual Holiday Tour of Homes, a fundraiser for Grad Night. To advertise the event, 600 copies of the poster have been distributed around West Linn. Adams created



the winning design, which consists of a snowman with holly leaves on a white background, as a project for her Graphic Arts class.

"I stuck with the classics on this one. I think that holly and snowmen are fairly typical symbols of winter for people," Adams said.

"Margaret's (design) was inventive, fun, original and easily readable. She used colors that worked together well, and left room for the typography to breathe. Her use of the snowman shapes

for the 'o's in the piece was a fun idea. And let's face it, the snowman is adorable! All in all, Margaret's piece looks very professional," Lynn Pass, Graphic Art teacher, said.

This is not the first time Adams has been recognized for her creative artwork. She has won two contests at online sites for her designs and two years ago her photograph of Christine Rutan, taken for her Photo I class, graced the cover of the *Kaleidoscope*.

"Winning stuff is pretty neat. I am addicted to scratch-its and those are based on chance and should not be played for investment purposes. So winning something I actually had some control over feels a lot different. Better, to clarify," Adams said.

Adams attributes her natural ability to various influences, especially her parents. She is still not sure what she wants to use her design talents for as far as a career goes but she enjoys being creative and would like to explore job options in that area.

"The last thing in the world I want is to live in front of a computer. That's not to say that in 30 to 40 years when I'm finally looking for a job computers won't be incorporated into our heads and we'll be able to simply imagine something and it will then transfer onto a document. If a company can offer anything along those lines on top of basic health benefits, consider the deal sealed," Adams said.



December 9th, 2007
12-5pm
Tickets \$15

Tickets Available at...

Bales MARKET PLACE
Curves
Saluté Cafe Italiano
WLHS CAREER CENTER
proceeds benefit '08 substance free grad party

Itafari changes face of poverty in Rwanda

VALORIE WALLACE

Contributing Writer

"Growing the country, one brick at a time," is the slogan of the Itafari Foundation which addresses one of the most talked about issues in today's society: the genocide in Africa. The Itafari Foundation was formed to help people in the African Country of Rwanda rebuild a community plagued with

AIDS, poverty and hunger.

In 2005, two Portland women, Karen Freeland and Beth McChesney, heard Eugen Butera, a Rwandan woman speak of the dire conditions her country was facing. The women were so moved, they couldn't go home until they found a way to help. The Itafari Foundation was born.

Journalism students

will continue to sponsor Banamwana August, who hopes to be a journalist. He writes letters of thanks to praise them for the "sacrifice" they have made to support his education. Staff members and students gave money last year for five year-old Jack who hopes to become a teacher.

Itafari in Rwanda

continued on page 2

School community mourns loss of Earhart and Sawyer

JON HELMKAMP

co-Editor-in-Chief

Students and faculty were stunned to learn of the tragic deaths of Daniel Sawyer and Thomas Earhart, seniors, on Nov. 17. Although some learned of the accident shortly after it happened, others learned of it days later, and still others not until



Daniel Sawyer

they returned to school.

The accident occurred when Sawyer and Earhart veered into the north-bound lane of the two lane U.S Interstate 97, colliding head-on with an oncoming commercial truck carrying a load of steel about 15 miles north of Klamath Falls, Ore.

Sawyer, driving a 1993 Toyota 4Runner, corrected back into his lane as the oncoming truck swerved into his lane to try and avoid Sawyer and Earhart. The two seniors were pronounced dead at the scene.

Two hours before the 4:20 p.m. crash, a state trooper ticketed Sawyer for speeding, citing him for going 73 miles per hour in a 55 miles per hour zone.

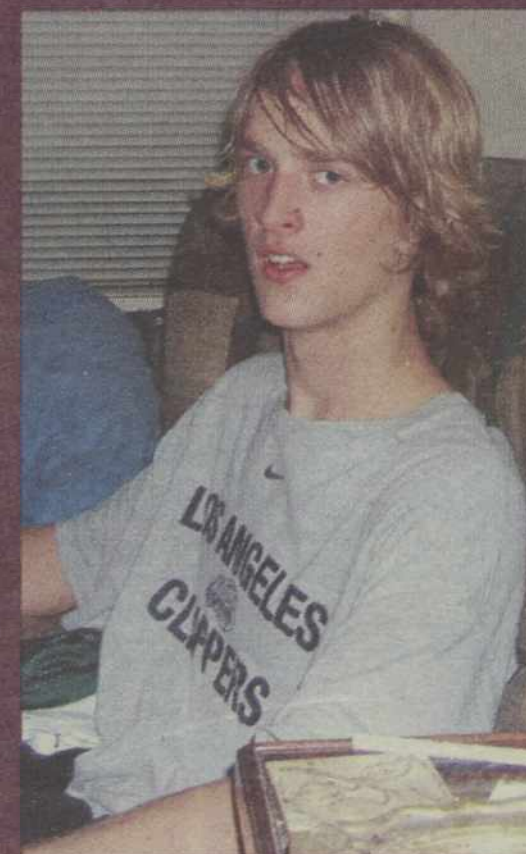
As of press time, no further information had been released as to the cause of the accident.

A brief memorial was held in the school library at 2:55 p.m. on Nov. 26, the Monday after returning to school after the Thanksgiving break. Students and staff left their sixth period classes to pay their respects to the two boys.

A few of their close friends, the father of each boy, and Earhart's sister, Gracie, Class of 2007, spoke about them. People responded with tears, silence and laughter to shared memories.

Sawyer's funeral was held on Tuesday Nov. 27 at Lincoln Memorial Park at 2:30 p.m. while Earhart's funeral was held two days later at Mary's Woods Chapel at 2 p.m.

Accounts have been set up for both families at Bank of America to help offset the cost of their services. Contributions can also be made at bins located at Senor Taco, Bales Marketplace, Round Table Pizza, Perfecto Dry Cleaners and Market of Choice. Checks can be made payable to the families.



Thomas Earhart

Please see page 6 for related articles about Earhart and Sawyer