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you're in for a scare!
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surprises surrounding
her life as a leader.

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in Districts; Paulson
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Amplifier

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i-SAFE brings internet safety close to home

■ SARAH CHICOINE

co-Editor-in-Chief

With 71 registered Oregon sex offenders having accounts on Myspace alone, internet safety education is essential to Angie Hammond, IT Specialist. Hammond first realized the necessity for internet safety

Luckily, soon after she began this endeavor, Hammond attended a conference in Seattle where she learned about i-SAFE.

Three years ago, she brought i-SAFE to the school. A community based program, i-SAFE strives to educate

about keeping their children safe.

In West Linn alone, there have been six known 'traveler cases.' Traveler cases are predators who don't live in West Linn, but travel in order to meet their prey.

In this generation, internet is a way of life. On average parents spend four hours a week on the internet while kids spend four times that amount. This generation gap is the biggest since the Rock and Roll generation, according to Hammond. Because of this, internet education between parents and students is essential.

"You have to get a driver's license to drive a car, and you have to be 21 to be trusted with

alcohol, but when it comes to the internet, it is a free-for-all," Hammond said. "It is time that we educate ourselves and the community the same way you have to be educated to drive."

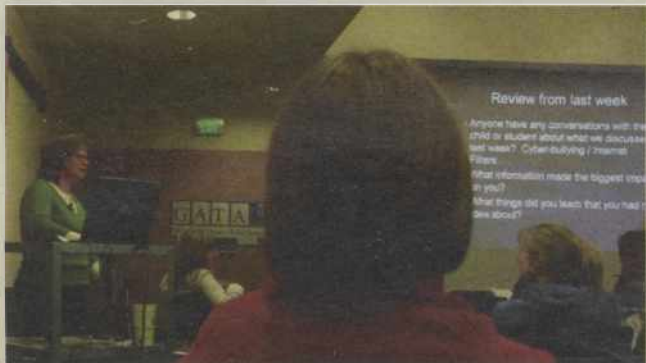
Each academic department is required to show an educational video on different internet safety topics. Hammond is also giving free educational seminars about internet education for parents and other members of the community who are interested.

The presentations and curriculum focus on education, rather than taking away programs like Myspace. Since kids are likely to have an account, even if their parents don't allow it, it is important not to just restrict

use. However, through education, sexual predators, viruses, cyber harassment, pornography, gambling and other forms of internet abuse can be prevented.

Hammond is holding four educational seminars which began on Jan. 30 and were held every Wednesday until Feb. 20. Nearly 70 parents attended each of the first two seminars and an equivalent amount were expected for the remaining programs.

Hammond ends each seminar and Powerpoint with the same quote: "We recognize the answer to Internet safety ultimately lies with the child. You can't be with them every minute, so educate to empower their choice making."



Angie Hammond, IT specialist, leads a seminar on internet safety in the Forum on Feb. 13. Hammond has trained 500 people in internet safety using the community based program, i-SAFE.

Photo by Jon Helmkamp

education after seeing a news story about child pornography. After being touched by this story, Hammond started to create her own internet safety program.

However, Hammond soon realized that this program needed to be community-wide, not just student focused. The amount of work was daunting.

students, teachers and parents about internet safety. The program supplies a syllabus, and DVDs that provide relatable education.

Hammond has successfully trained nearly 500 people in internet safety. From Redmond, to Medford, to Estacada, she has made it her duty to educate communities

ASB tries to alleviate student, staff stress

■ HILLI CIAVARELLO

Staff Reporter

Setting their sights on invigorating students and staff after the stress of Finals Week, ASB members planned an alternative to the traditional Spirit Week with Rejuvenation week which took place last week. The goal was to ease students and staff back into second semester with excitement instead of dread.

"Hopefully it was a chance for students and staff to relax and get energized in a healthy way," Mary Kiely, senior and ASB member, said.

Students and teachers were treated to free green tea each day, a longer lunch on Tuesday, yoga in the gym Tuesday and Thursday, a 10 second scream and 50 second silence during break on Wednesday and added

time for reading and napping during second period on Thursday. No Homework Day was pronounced for Wednesday.

"We wanted to make school fun again," Benjamin Morrow, senior and ASB member, said.

A dance which was held Wednesday evening, boasted Christopher Jonsson, freshman, as DJ. ASB purchased special blacklights to add to the atmosphere in the old commons. Students who paid the \$5 admission were treated to pizza and a three hour dance party. Connor Deeks, senior and ASB president, assured students beforehand that it would be the "biggest dance of the year."

Rejuvenation Week

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Thespians rock, Science Bowl rolls

■ SYDNEY MACNAUGHTON

Staff Reporter

Actors excel

WLHS Thespians dominated their competition in Solo Acting, Solo Musical Theatre, Duo Dramatic and Pantomime at the Region Acting Competition held on Feb. 2 at Parkrose High School.

Eight students will advance in four divisions to the State Acting Competition will be held in Medford, Ore. at the Criterion Theatre on April 3-5. In order to qualify for state, an actor must score in the top ten percent of all of the competitors.

At state, Avik Bandyopadhyay, senior, and Caitlin Olson, junior, will be competing in Solo Acting in the experienced category. Alyssa Johnston, sophomore, will be competing in Solo Musical Theatre. Georgina Cohen and Dylan Stark, seniors, will compete in Duo Dramatic. Alexandra Mink, sophomore, Jenelle Barzola and Reis Mahnic, juniors, will be competing in pantomime.

"I was so excited when I found out [I had made it to State]. I just stood there, screaming silently, and my hands wouldn't stop shaking for 15 minutes," Mink said.

In the second category, Novice, only first, second and third place were awarded. Ta-

tianna Young and Alyssa Aramaki, juniors, came in second and third place respectively in Solo Acting.

"We did incredibly well and are very proud of our dedicated, talented students," Murray said.

Competing students were primarily responsible for selecting pieces and rehearsing. In order to prepare, actors also met with Annie Kaiser, Murray, or her husband Colin Murray for coaching in 45 minute time slots throughout January. The three offered coaching until 9 p.m. on weekdays and all day on Saturdays.

Many other schools in the region offered class time in order to prepare for the competition. Such schools, including Gresham and Centennial High School, who always do well, spent upwards of six weeks preparing. The two schools also had a district competition three weeks before competing at the Regional competition.

The actors will spend the weekend away, first competing on Saturday, and then attending a production of "Midsummer" at Oregon Shakespeare Festival on Sunday before returning home.

Science Bowl Team scores third

The last week of January

was a good week for West Linn science enthusiasts with West Linn scoring third at the Science Bowl, the annual regional competition in which 64 teams from Oregon and Washington compete against each other in a test of science and math knowledge.

Competitors Angela Oliverio, Micheal Bernert, Cheng Tan, seniors, and Avi Levy, Matt Kirsch, juniors, led West Linn to victory at the competition which was held at the University of Portland.

Although there is no official Science Bowl season, teams participate in Regionals in hopes of going on to State. This year's placement has been the best since Jonathan Isensee, science teacher, took over five years ago. Both Oliverio and Bernert have been on the team all four years of their high school career, each year coming considerably closer to the number one spot.

Isensee will be looking for new recruits this spring, wanting to continue on the path paved by Bernert and Oliverio.

"I am looking forward to next year. With Avi and Matt returning, the team promises to be strong enough to keep moving forward," Isensee said.