

Recently inaugurated President Barack Obama starts his first 100 days with a bang.

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Senior Caitlyn Olson balances school, homework and activities while leading the Thespians to State.

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Nerves and anticipation don't get the best of swimmers at State, even against the dominant Lake Oswego Lakers.

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"Marrakesh" offers unique food and an authentic atmosphere to cater to any patron's needs.

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Students enjoy various activities during the first annual Winter Writer's Festival sponsored by Kaleidoscope Club.

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Amplifier

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French students prepare, fundraise for trip of lifetime

PATRICIA PALCZEWSKA

Staff Reporter

Foreign language students are receiving a dose of culture this spring and summer break. French, Japanese and Spanish classes have been given an opportunity to travel and explore exotic locations while practicing their speaking skills. Although a foreign language trip is made every year, students feel this year's overseas adventure looks especially promising.

"I'm so excited," Catherine Boyer, junior, said. Boyer is one of five students traveling to Japan. "I've never been out of Oregon, so this is great. I want to explore the world outside of our state and this is the perfect time to do it."

This summer, students who are taking a Japanese class will be going to Japan, while 23 French students will travel to France as well as Barcelona and Rome. Spanish language students will be traveling to Costa Rica during Spring Break.

Those who want to travel need to be in the second year of their chosen language. This is to ensure that students can converse with natives as well as understand directions well enough to travel around the country, eliminating

any problems asking for the bathroom or mishearing directions.

It has taken lots of time

\$4,000. This covers the cost of transportation, lodging, food and activities. The students will also bring

collected will go towards the overall cost of the summer's voyage.

While in Europe and

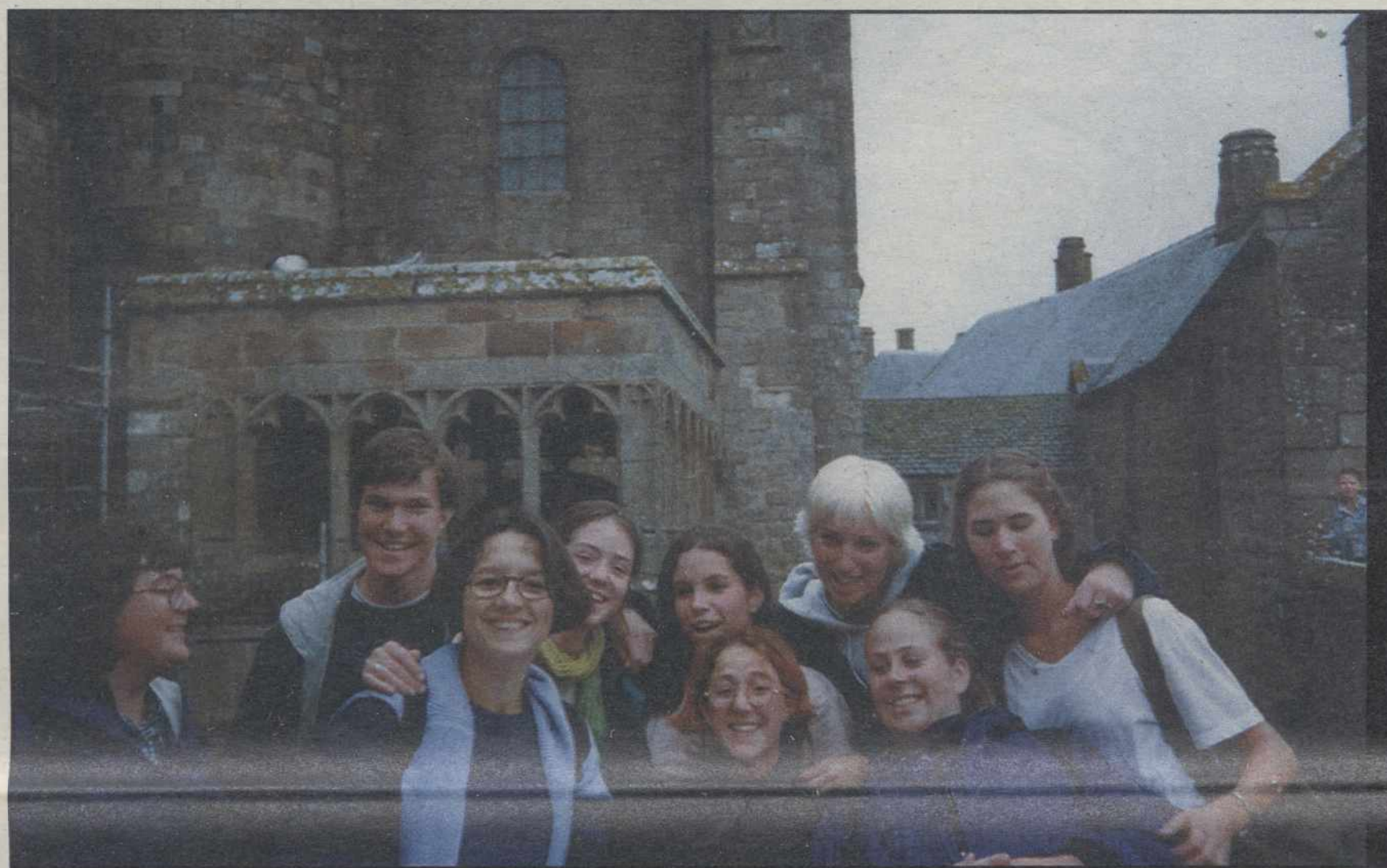
Students will also dine on exotic fare while traveling. On their menu will certainly be the tasty cuisine of French cafes, Japanese sushi bars, and traditional South American restaurants. "There's this dish called *okonogiyaki*," Boyer said. *Okonogiyaki* is a meal of vegetables and meat on a pancake like pastry. "You can make it yourself, and it looks fantastic. I'm really looking forward to trying it out, and can't wait to have the opportunity."

A voyage like this year's is made to let students begin to understand the differences of culture in the world. Being so far away from home, students begin to notice the diversity in other countries' ways of life as well as realize how much they're used to life back home.

"The most important thing some students have learned while away is how much they need and love their friends and family," Rhonda Case, French teacher, said.

Even with the imminent homesickness, students seem especially eager for this year's trip and the knowledge they will gain from it.

"This is an experience," said Boyer, "that I will truly never forget."



Former West Linn World Language students stand in front of Mont St. Michel in Normandy during a French excursion. This year French students from West Linn will be exploring Paris and French provinces and cities in Italy.

Photo submitted by Rhonda Case

to organize and plan these trips. Many documents need to be collected, lots of paperwork has to be done, and stacks of medical information must be filled out. Months of planning and preparation will go into the few weeks the students will spend overseas. Students and their families also have the responsibility of paying for the vacation. This year's French trip will cost around

extra money to spend on souvenirs and shopping in the many boutiques found in the major cities they will pay a visit to.

To ease the cost of this year's French trip, a group of dedicated students and parents have organized a benefit dog wash. On March 14, from 9-3 at 1034 Molalla Avenue in Oregon City, pooches will be washed by students and the money

Asia, students will not only enjoy the view of unfamiliar land, but will spend their days participating in activities such as white water rafting in Costa Rica, visiting the Eiffel Tower in Paris, revering many of Japan's war memorials, and walking the streets. "I'm really excited to go to the Hiroshima Peace Memorial," Boyer said.

Carlson resigns after 22 years as teacher and administrator

MARY WOOD

Staff Reporter

Effective as of Feb. 13, Kim Carlson, former assistant principal, resigned from her position due to personal reasons. This was announced to the staff at a short meeting on Feb. 17.

"I have always believed that the West Linn High School community is extraordinary," Carlson said. "Working there has been the best experience of my life. There will never be a day that I won't miss the students and staff. It's a really special place."

This was Carlson's 22 year at WLHS, but she wasn't always part of the administration. Before becoming assistant

principal, Carlson taught health and physical education for 13 years.

"I miss teaching everyday and



Kim Carlson, former assistant principal, resigned as of Feb. 13. She has been involved with WLHS for 22 years, both as a teacher and as an administrator.

Photo courtesy of www.wlwh.k12.or.us

I think that helps me tremendously as I work with students and the faculty," Carlson, said on her web page profile. Carlson made many friends and keeps in touch with many of her former students.

"When she was a teacher she was well loved by her students," Tana Dearborn, chemistry teacher, said. "Her goal was that they would learn something about themselves and become better people. She did the same thing as an administrator. It was important to her that students were learning."

In her career, Carlson coached

volleyball when she began, and for a year she was in charge of Associated Student Body. Life outside the school grounds is spent with her family, traveling,

"I'm grateful to have been able to work with her from beginning to end—it was truly amazing."

—Gary Eppelshiemer

working in the yard, shopping and learning new things. Carlson dedicated many years of her life to helping students grow and learn throughout their high school days. She offered students growth and support, and even when she

was busy with something else in her life she always put her students first according to her profile.

"I worked with her for so many years, from when she was a teacher to when she was an administrator. I'm grateful to have been able to work with her from beginning to end—it was truly amazing," Gary Eppelshiemer, photography teacher, said. "I had the wonderful opportunity to watch her grow and change as a person as well as in her profession. Working with her was a fabulous experience that will remain vivid in my memory forever."