

Sackel Journal

Volume 2

October-November 2009

Issue 2

“I am somebody”



By Linsey Wolfe and Chrissy Weaver

“I am somebody, I am a champion”. This was said by Orrin Hudson on Friday, November 19th to our 7th and 8th graders during a motivational chess session. Hudson, who is a chess champion, an author and a motivational speaker, began a program 9 years ago on May 24th, with a goal to train one million young people to get their lives on the right track.

He came up with chess as a motivational tool 30 years ago when a white teacher at an all black school taught him to play chess. The teacher taught him to make better decisions and told him that making the right moves in life is just like making the right moves in chess.

On Thursday, November 19th, the junior high students traveled to the Pasquerilla Conference Center for a presentation titled, *Be Someone: Making Every Move Count*. During the presentation, Hudson stresses that every move you make affects your life in some way, somehow. He showed this through a game we all know as chess. In chess, you have to watch and examine every move you make, and that is what Hudson wants to drill into students’ minds about life. The students came back around 10:30 for a more hands-on experience.

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The First Thanksgiving

Linsey Wolfe and Chrissy Weaver

It is said that the first Thanksgiving was celebrated in 1620. The reason for this celebration was to commemorate the harvest that was reaped by the Plymouth Colony after a harsh winter. In that year, Governor William Bradford brought about a day of thanksgiving. Up until 1777, none of the thirteen colonies celebrated this day of thanksgiving on the same day. The day was first proclaimed a holiday in 1789 by George Washington. By the mid 1800's, many of the states celebrated a Thanksgiving holiday. Sarah J. Hale, a poet and editor, was the first person to lobby for a national Thanksgiving Day. In 1863, Abraham Lincoln declared the last Thursday in November as the Thanksgiving holiday.



Be Somebody, *continued*

We were lucky enough to catch up to this experience at 1:00. As soon as we arrived, the first thing we realized was a room full of 7th and 8th graders silent under what seemed to be a spell. Little did we know, two sophomores would be under a spell in less than ten minutes. Mr. Hudson taught the basics of chess, for example, the pieces' names as well as what types of moves they can make. This presentation was not boring, though! He kept all of us in a trance by giving us catchy phrases to learn how to play—one of them being “one, two, turn”, teaching us how the Knight is maneuvered around the board.

Orrin Hudson came to Johnstown to teach 5,100 students from Greater Johnstown, Conemaugh Valley, and Ferndale about chess, critical reading, skills, and self-confidence. He also taught the kids to value KASH (Knowledge, Attitude, Skills, and Habits) instead of cash.

Mr. Hudson is now headed back to Georgia, where he lives with his four children.

Color Guard 2009

By Danyé Woodlin

This year, I would like everyone to know about how the Color Guard is doing. What some of you may not know is that this group does more than just twirl flags and do cool moves. It is a sport to the girls, whether you want to believe it or not. How, you ask? Well, I can tell because it is my first year (along with Brianna Jeschonek, Cara Sweeney, Sam Parsoon, and Aimee Weaver). We found that it takes a lot of work, time, and some sweat to be as good as Sam Moss, Solana Mann, Michela Leventry and Shawna Woodlin. We work as a team like football or volleyball, and we even have some ups and downs— but when it comes to showing all that we've got, we bring it to the fullest. So, we hope to see you at the games, and that you enjoy the show!

Hunting Safety Tips

By Ryan Sweeney

Hunting season is descending upon us, and with a sizable portion of FAHS students participating in hunting, the Pennsylvania Game Commission would like to offer the following guidelines to help ensure that your hunting experience is safe and enjoyable one:

- Positively identify your target: always be sure you are shooting at legal game, and not another hunter. Never shoot at sounds or movement.
- Be seen: Wear fluorescent orange clothing to distinguish yourself as a hunter.
- Plan your hunt: Let an outside individual know where you are hunting and when you will return. Stick to this plan.
- Stay found: become familiar with your hunting area. It is a good idea to know how to use a map and compass or a GPS unit.
- Be prepared: Always expect the unexpected. Carry a basic survival kit and know how to use it.
- Always turn the safety off your weapon when not in use.

“The Young Person’s Disease”

Linsey Wolfe and Chrissy Weaver

The 2009 H1N1 is a new illness causing virus. The new virus was detected in humans in the United States in April 2009. The virus is spreading from person-to-person worldwide, probably in much the same way that the regular flu is spread. On June 11th, 2009, the World Health Organization signaled that a pandemic of 2009 H1N1 was underway. The reason people normally call this disease “swine flu” is that a laboratory test showed that the many genes in this new flu were similar to the virus that normally occurred in pigs (swine) in North America. Signs and symptoms of this flu are fever, cough, and sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headaches, chills, and fatigue. Young children are at very high risk of getting the 2009 H1N1 influenza. Medical professionals recommend that if you or your children have any symptoms of H1N1, you should stay home and away from people who have not been infected.

Helping Hands Correction

By Jocelyn Mattis

In the last issue, it was reported that there will be a club called “Helping Hands” established in conjunction with the Girl Scouts. At this moment in time, it is only an idea I have. There are several steps to take in order to create a new club at Ferndale. We apologize for any misconceptions the last article may have created.

And the Winners Are...



By Chrissy Weaver

Brandon Moyer and Stephanie Natta! The King and Queen were crowned on October 3rd, during the homecoming game at halftime. The court consisted of Tara Rager, Stephanie Natta, Brittany Baumbaugh, Hollie Russell, Jennifer Livingston, Brandon Moyer, Justin Bodenschatz, Ryan Guant, Mark Statura, and Ian Haevener. *Congratulations!*

Dia De Los Muertos

By Linsey Wolfe

Dia de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead, is a festival celebrated in Latin America. It originated in pre-Columbian culture which celebrates life by honoring the dead. Celebrants believe that on this day of the year, spirits of the dead return to Earth to connect with the living and re-experience the sensory world. Friends and family celebrate in cemeteries, their homes, and even public places with food, flowers, music, and prayers. They decorate churches and cemeteries with *papel picado*, or colorful paper cut-outs. They dress up in fancy clothes, disguised as skeletons and other deathly looking outfits.



Jacket Journal Staff

Linsey Wolfe
Chrissy Weaver
Danye Woodlin
Chelsea Chobany-Editor
Ryan Sweeney-Editor
Adviser- Ms. Susan Leftwich

Notes:

The newspaper staff currently has several vacant positions and is looking for students interested in journalism to join the newspaper. The paper is open to all FAHS students, including 7th and 8th grade, so students who enjoy writing are encouraged to become a member.

From all of us at *The Jacket Journal*, have a happy and safe Thanksgiving holiday!