

NORTH HIGH NEWS

Omaha Public Schools
Omaha North High Magnet School
4410 North 36th St.
Omaha, NE 68111

April 2007

Inside this issue:

Counselor's Comments	2
Ink Jet Cartridges	4
Art News	5
Science News	6
Honors IT News	6
Math News	7
German News	7
AP Award	7
Explosion!	8

Principal's Points

I've learned....."that when you harbor bitterness, happiness will dock elsewhere." By Andy Rooney

As we near the closing of another school year, we are very proud of the great memories that we will have of the graduating Class of 2007. Their leadership, academic, and athletic accomplishments continue to make us all proud to be members of the Omaha North High Magnet School Family.

I wish to take this time to encourage our underclassmen to become active in all school and community events because you are our future leaders. I challenge you to get involved.

Listed below are several dates that I wish to share with our parents and students; please mark your calendars.

- August 1, 2007 - Early Bird Registration for Juniors & Seniors
 - 8:00 A.M. - 10:00 A.M. 12th grade
 - 1:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M. 11th grade
- August 2, 2007 - Early Bird Registration for Sophomores & Freshman
 - 8:00 A.M. - 10:00 A.M. 10th grade
 - 1:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M. 9th grade
- August 6, 2007 - First day for football practice
- August 13, 2007 - All other Fall sports begin: volleyball, softball, girls' golf, boys'/girls' cross-country and boys' tennis.
- August 22, 2007 - First day of school for 9th grade only
- August 23, 2007 - All grades report to school

I encourage you as parents and community partners to become involved in our strong PTSO partnership. They contribute to many opportunities for all students. If you would like to become involved, please call Mrs. Monique Sayles, Principal's Secretary, at 557-3401.

Again, I wish to take this opportunity to say thank you for your continued support of our school; it's always appreciated. You are all welcome here at Omaha North High Magnet School.

Sincerely,

Gene R. Haynes, Principal—Omaha North High Magnet School

Counselor's Comments

As May approaches, you will find many activities and events for Omaha North High Magnet School students and their families to attend.



**Commencement
Class of 2007
May 25
7:00 p.m.
Qwest Center Omaha**

Parents: Remember to talk with your child on a daily basis about various aspects in their life. Changes take place rapidly sometimes in schedules and decisions (educational, emotional, and social) that young people make. Your input is important to them as they make decisions for the present and future.

GRADUATING CLASS OF 2007

Congratulations and good luck to the graduating seniors of 2007!!

Parents: Thank you for all your support and encouragement of these young people who are entering so many different real-life avenues--college, military, employment, etc.

Congratulations to **Levi Epperson**, the 2007 Valedictorian.

Parents of scholarship recipients: Please get a copy of EVERY scholarship announcement (whether your student will use it or not) to Mrs. Greer or Ms. Jennifer Brace as soon as it is received for recognition at SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP NIGHT--Thursday, May 17. If your son/daughter did not share the commencement information with you, please contact their counselor.

Graduation is FRIDAY, MAY 25, 2007, 7 P.M., QWEST CENTER OMAHA

As always, North High has the best commencement. Senior information continues to be emailed to seniors and parents on a regular basis and is also posted on the North High School Guidance Web page.

GRADUATING CLASS OF 2008 (JUNIORS)

Now is the time to start making definite plans for your future. Register to take the ACT & SAT (for college admissions--packets are available in the GRC or register on-line for the ACT at www.act.org OR for the SAT at www.collegeboard.org), visit colleges and schools, save money for senior activities and college costs. A letter will be sent home with information, calendar dates, and approximate costs before the end of summer.

Congratulations to the Senior Class of 2007 Officers:

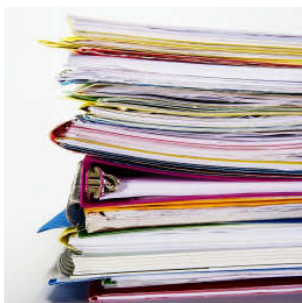
John Erickson, President; **Asialee Drews**, Vice-President; **Meng Lo**, Secretary; **Jolene Holland**, **Stephanie Leonard**, **Koua Moua**, and **Andi Schuermann**, Sergeants-at-Arms.

REGISTRATION 2007-08

Current North students have been registered for the 2007-08 school year. Each student will receive in the mail a listing of the courses they have selected. Errors in input may have occurred or a student OR parent may wish to make a change. Please contact the student's counselor to request a change in the courses selected or to correct an error BEFORE May 25. Schedules will be mailed in early August to each student.

Schedule changes will be limited to the following reasons:

1. The course was completed in summer school.
2. The student must repeat a course that was failed.
3. A scheduling conflict by the school must be resolved.
4. Student needs an additional course to meet credit requirements.



Congratulations!
Class of 2008

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

Graduation requirements for the Class of 2008 are:

- 8 English credits
- 7 Social Studies credits
- 6 Math credits
- 6 Science credits (Biology, Chemistry, Physics)
- 4 Physical Education credits
- 1 Human Growth & Development credit or Opt Out
- Electives
- Total (minimum) Credits = 49

If you have questions, please contact us.

SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES

Job openings, workshops, and opportunities to get education/experiences at various locations around the United States and the world are posted in the GRC or see Mrs. Pfeiffer.

SUMMER SCHOOL

Summer School will be held at Omaha North High Magnet School this summer. Limited openings will be available to only graduating seniors and juniors, on a pay per course basis. Students and parents need to contact their counselor to register and pay for classes before May 5. Payment will be \$85/course unless the student is on free/reduced lunch, then the cost is \$30/course. Summer School will be in session from June 4 to 29. All registrations for summer school must be made and paid for by May 5, 2007. Summer graduation will be June 29, 2007, at 1:00 p.m., in the ONHMS Auditorium.

FINES and TEXTBOOKS

Each year students have mishaps, stolen or forgotten textbooks, fines not paid, etc. Please help your student and us by looking around the house and having your student bring any books back to school to turn in. A notice is attached to the student(s) report card indicating if they have a fine to be paid or any books not turned in. Your help is much appreciated as we continue to provide books free of charge to Omaha Public Schools students BUT we need to serve our students next year so be sure to return ALL those books. This is especially important for graduating seniors so they will receive their diploma.

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT CHANGES

April Greene, our secretary, has changed to another job in Omaha. Therefore, we had a temporary secretary, Ms. Rhonda Hall, taking care of the college and scholarship applications. On April 9, Ms. Jennifer Brace, started as our full-time secretary. If you get a chance, stop in and see her. Other changes for the 2007-08 school year will include a new Guidance Director and Personal-Social Counselor. Yes, Mrs. Darlene Greer and Mr. Vince McAndrew are retiring. We thank you for the wonderful support all of you have given us over the years.

OMAHA NORTH HIGH MAGNET SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR SENIOR CLASS OF 2007

Apr 14	ACT @ ONHMS
Apr 16	Graduation Tickets go on sale—Seniors receive 6 complimentary tickets; additional Tickets are \$3 each (cash only); Jostens orders delivered this week
Apr 16	Teachers submit 4 th Quarter Progress Grades
Apr 24	JROTC Awards Night—7:00 p.m.
Apr 26	Spring Instrumental Concert—7:00 p.m.
Apr 27	SAT Registration Deadline for June 2 Test

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

May 3	Vocal Music Spring Concert—7:00 p.m.
May 4	ACT Registration Deadline for June 9 Test
May 5	SAT
May 5	Prom—8-11 p.m.
May 7	Teacher Inservice—NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
May 14-15	CHANGE OF DATES-Senior Final Tests
May 14	TAP Banquet—6:00 p.m.
May 15	One Act Plays—3:00 p.m., ONHMS Auditorium
May 16	BOP Banquet—6:00 p.m.
May 17	Senior Scholarship Night~7:00 p.m., NHS Aud.
May 18	Vikings of Distinction
May 20	Senior Banquet—6 p.m., Parents Invited, ONHMS Viking Center, \$15 per person, purchase tickets from Mrs. Franks, Treasurer.
May 22	Eric Awards (Seniors' Last Day)-9:00 a.m., NHS Aud., Awards, Caps & Gowns issued, Senior Picture with Mr. Haynes taken (Pictures will be available for purchase on Graduation Day for \$8 each)
May 25	FRIDAY-Graduation Practice-9-10:30 a.m. Qwest Center Omaha-MANDATORY
May 25	COMMENCEMENT-Seniors report at 6:00 p.m.; Ceremony at 7:00 p.m. Qwest Center Omaha
Jun 2	SAT
Jun 9	ACT



**Commencement
Class of 2007
May 25
7:00 p.m.
Qwest Center Omaha**

Important Resources for You:

SENIOR CUES—College Reps, college applications, scholarship applications and deadlines; see GRC secretary.

EducationQuest, 11031 Elm St., is an excellent, free source to obtain college, scholarship, and financial aid information. Call Sheila Schoessler, 391-4033, for an appointment.

Job Placement Counselor (Mr. Holmes) visits North with job/career opportunities every Wednesday. Sign up in the GRC to see him.

Military Recruiters—See Mr. McAndrew in the GRC

Hostens (Cap & Gown; Graduation Announcements)-Representative: Matt Langley, 733-0300
Information for professional counseling services may be obtained through your counselor.

Questions? Call your counselor at 557-3408

Omaha World Herald To Collect Ink Jet Printer Cartridges

During the 2006-07 school year, the Omaha World Herald Newspapers in Education Program has distributed over 2.6 million sponsored, free newspapers to the students of Nebraska. 25% of the cost is paid for by sponsors. The Newspapers in Education Program in its effort to raise more money so that schools can continue to get free, sponsored papers in classrooms will now be collecting ink jet printer cartridges for recycling. Please bring used ink jet printer cartridges to the North High Media Center. The school with the most cartridges will receive a party in August 2007.

Art News

The North High Art Department has had outstanding success during our Spring semester competitions. We have participated in the largest art competitions in the state by entering the Nebraska State Visual Arts Exhibition and Awards Ceremony, the Bellevue University Senior Show, the Joslyn Art Museum Art Show and the Youth Art Month Billboard program.

Phil Prazan and **Shelbi Whitcomb** both had their artwork selected to be displayed on billboards in Omaha during the month of March. March is Youth Art Month.

The student's artwork will be on display at Loves Jazz and Arts Center at 2510 North 24th Street. On April 17th there will be a reception from 5:00-6:00 honoring the students. The same work will also be on display on April 29th from 12 p.m. - 5 p.m. at the Holland Performing Arts Center located at 13th and Douglas in Downtown Omaha. This event is free for the family and features a costume closet, painting, origami, sidewalk chalk drawing and creative movement.

Joslyn Art Museum hosted their annual show on Sunday, March 25th. **Phil Prazan** had a watercolor selected to be on exhibit at this show. **Amanda Thacker** created an outstanding clay Raku mask and **Alaina Walter** sculpted a landscape box that was on display in the museum as well. This is a very selective show. Congratulations to these three fine individuals.

Each year Bellevue University sponsors a show for metro area seniors. This year's show features six North High students. **Katie Ciciulla**, **Kenyatta Coffiel**, **Rachel Hedges** and **Laura Young** all were accepted into this elite show. Congratulations. **Brooke Wilburn's** Raku mask received third place in Ceramics. It was a very large mask with a nice white crackle glaze on the surface. **Alexis Holmstedt's** tall slab construction vase won 1st Place honors in the Ceramics category. Way to go students, you make us proud.

In the largest art competition in the state of Nebraska, Omaha North took home 36 Awards and Medals. Wow! Out of forty-five schools, from all classes, only Benson won more medals, 37. We did win more golds and silvers and also the \$500 scholarship!

Our list is long and glorious! Winning Bronze Medals were: **Tara Adams**, **Rachel Adler**, **Justin Duster**, **Mitchell Eames**, **Meg Garnett**, **Emma Headley**, **Alexis Holmstedt**, **Maren Jensen**, **Samantha Keithley**, **Callista Pass**, **Rowenda Sheibal**, **Ashley Stennis**, **Anna VanOsdel**, **Dylan White**.

Winning Silver Medals were: **Geoffrey Amstutz**, **Brittani Bogatz**, **Vincent Carter**, **Laura Gentleman**, **Bret Harbin**, **Emma Headley**, **Josh Henrickson**, **Brittney Livingston (2)**, **Michelle Madsen**, **Phillip Prazan**, **Rowenda Sheibal**, and **James Watson**.

Winning Gold Medals were: **Tara Adams**, **Justin Duster**, **Josh Henrickson**, **Brandon Redick**, **Nicole Ryley**, **Anna VanOsdel** and **James Watson (2)**.

Winning the special Lauritzen Gardens scholarship prize of \$500.00 was **Michelle Madsen**. Michelle's beautiful pot titled, Bloomin' Pot was a brown, white and yellow creation like no other. Its explosion of cone shapes shooting out from the top of her sculpture caught the judge's attention.

Congratulations to all of our winners. You are all helping keep our tradition in excellence in the arts strong.

Upcoming events will be our Spring Raku, Friday April 27th, our Annual Senior Art Show during the Honors Night events, May 17th, the NAACP ACT-SO Art Competition and the Omaha Summer Arts Festival.

It's a busy time of year for the Art Department. Come on out and support your creative North High students!

Vikings Top Several Categories at Science Fair

Congratulations to the following students for their performance in the **Metro Science and Engineering Fair at UNO on March 10:**

- ◆ **James White** took 1st place in the Botany category
- ◆ **Emily Williams** took 2nd place in the Behavioral Science category and also received a special recognition award
- ◆ **Mari Logan** took 1st place in the Earth, Space, & Environmental Science category
- ◆ The team of **Sunnee Bohnstedt & Noe Patron** took 2nd place
- ◆ **Jordan Stevens** received Honorable Mention
- ◆ **Christa Webber** received Honorable Mention for her Microbiology project
- ◆ **Maddy Schmidt** received an Honorable Mention for her Biochemistry project

In addition to their plaques, 1st place winners received cash prizes of \$125, 2nd place received \$75, and Honorable Mention winners received \$10.

Vikings Medal at Science Olympiad Competitions



Congratulations to the Science Olympiad team for their showing at the Nebraska State Science Olympiad UNL's East Campus on March 24.

- ◆ 1st Place in Chemistry: **Bi Nguyen & Eric Norrgard**
- ◆ 1st Place in Quiz Bowl: **Eric Norrgard**
- ◆ 2nd Place in Physics Lab: **Eric Norrgard**
- ◆ 5th Place in Astronomy: **Bi Nguyen & Daniel Geschwender**

Congratulations to team members who placed in the Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo Regional Science Olympiad on February 24:

- ◆ 1st Place in Chemistry - **Bi Nguyen**
- ◆ 5th place in Astronomy - **Bi Nguyen & Daniel Geschwender**
- ◆ 6th place in Forensics - **Matt Olsen and Meg Garnett**

The other team members were David Turner, Katie Porter, Stephen Simusa, and Rachel Rydberg.

Vaughan Named Finalist For National Award

Science teacher LeeAnn Vaughan is one of ten finalists for the 2007 Genzyme-Invitrogen Biotech Educator Award, a national award recognizing exemplary teaching at the high school level that has positively impacted students' understanding of biotechnology's promise and challenges. The three winners receive cash awards of \$10,000, \$5,000 and \$2,500 respectively and are chosen by a panel of judges from academia, research, and the industry, from among the Biotechnology Institute's network of Teacher-Leaders. These educators serve as models for their colleagues on how to incorporate biotechnology into the classroom and act as a resource for their peers. The Finalist Round of judging will be held at the headquarters for Genzyme in Cambridge, MA in May. Each finalist will have ten-minutes to provide a short presentation and discuss his or her Biotech-Educator experience with the judging panel. Congratulations and good luck, Mrs. Vaughan!

Honors Introduction to IT Claims Another Award for a Public Service Announcement

In a student video production contest sponsored by Nebraska Educational Technology Association, the team of **Kelsey Schluter, Megan Uehling, Stephanie Valentine, Ashley Erlewine, Kevin Kreis, Ricky Page, and Zach Baltz** took third place in the Student Safety category. The team's video titled "Student Guide to Safety in Technology" focused on avoiding hardware viruses, safe listening decibel levels, and music piracy. The team will present their PSA and accept their award at the NETA conference in Omaha on April 26. The team's desktop video production is available for viewing at <http://web.mac.com/omahanorth>.

Math Team Wins In Missouri

Congratulations to the math team for a fine performance at the Northwest Missouri State University Math Contest on March 15.

Individually:

- ◆ **Corey Stone** was the 2nd place senior
- ◆ **Ben McGill** was the 3rd place senior
- ◆ **Eric Norrgard** was the 9th place senior
- ◆ **Tyler Borcyk** was the the 2nd place junior
- ◆ **Lucas Thode** was the 5th place junior
- ◆ **Skyler Lewis** was the 8th place sophomore.

The senior team of **Corey Stone, Ben McGill and Eric Norrgard** finished first.
The junior team of **Tyler Borcyk, Lucas Thode, and Ryan Mockelman** finished first.



German Exchange Program

Omaha North High School is again participating in a German exchange program. On March 23, 2007, fifteen students and one teacher from Braunschweig, Germany stayed with Omaha North Magnet students. Braunschweig is Omaha's sister city. While they were in Omaha, they attended school and visited many places including the Henry Doorly Zoo, the Western Heritage Museum, and Boystown. They also visited Mayor Fahey and took a trip to Lincoln and toured the capitol building. They stayed in Omaha three weeks and left April 14th. Each North High student who hosted a German student, will stay with that German student during our stay in Braunschweig.

Thirteen Omaha North students and North High counselor, Kevin Custard, will attend school and visit many historical areas in Northern Germany, including a trip to Potsdam, Hamburg and Berlin. It is a wonderful experience for all students. The exchange is sponsored by the German American Partnership Program, a division of the Goethe Institute.

The trip to Germany takes place every other year. The program is a wonderful opportunity for students and for their families. Since September 11th, the need for international understanding has become urgent and indispensable. This exchange with our Sister City promotes global awareness and multicultural education.

If you would like more information about the program, please contact Melinda Bailey at North High School, 557-3400 or at melinda.bailey@ops.org.

Omaha North Receives a Siemens AP Award for Second Consecutive Year

Omaha North High Magnet School senior **Eric Norrgard** is the 2006-07 state winner of the Siemens Awards for Advanced Placement for students. Selection for this award is based on his exceptional performance in AP math and science prior to his senior year. State winners will receive a \$2,000 college scholarship from the Siemens Foundation.

Now in its ninth year, the Siemens Awards for Advanced Placement exemplifies the strong partnership between the Siemens Foundation and the College Board to widen the pool of math, science and technology talent that we will need for the continued growth of business and industry in the United States and globally. This award recognizes high schools and students leading the nation in AP participation and performance in those disciplines.

The names of the other high schools, teachers and students are posted on the Siemens Foundation website at www.siemens-foundation.org and have appeared in a full page announcement in *USA Today*.

Last year, Omaha North was awarded the 2005-06 Siemens Award for Advanced Placement for the building's overall AP math and science program. Omaha North High Magnet School offers fourteen college-level Advanced Placement courses to students in tenth through twelfth grades. For the current school year, 165 students are enrolled in one or more of these courses. Ninety-six of the Omaha North High Magnet School AP students are current sophomores or juniors.

OMAHA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
OMAHA NORTH HIGH
MAGNET SCHOOL
4410 NORTH 36TH ST.
OMAHA, NE 68111

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Omaha, Nebraska
Permit No. 856



VISIT NORTH ONLINE!
WWW.OPS.ORG/NORTH

Explosion!

A week after hosting the Viking Cup Invitational, North's show choir, took 3rd place in the 4A (top) division in the preliminary part of the Sloan/Westwood Jubilation Show Choir competition on Saturday, March 23. They then competed in finals in the evening against the other five best choirs. This is the first time they've made finals in the last few years and they really rose to the challenge.

Explosion! members include: Keli Alabi, David J. Anderson, Andrae Booker, Jacque Burt, Lauren Dietzel, Allyson Felt, Jack Gilreath, Jolene Holland, Kevin Kilpatrick, Lani Lor, Ryley Matsunami, Koua Moua, Sascha Perry, Melissa Peters, Josh Pounds, Laquilla Rupert, Chris Sawatzki, Lindsay Scarpello, Corey Stone, Amy Timko, Rachel Verch, Stephanie Wagle, Natalie Watson.

Explosion! band members include: Walter Bircher, Jordan Franklin, Christina Friis, Sam Henscheid, Bradley Meyer, Lilly Steckman, Ben Wagner

Explosion! technical assistants include: Sarah Ward, Victoria Harder, Maddy Schmidt

**Commencement
Class of 2007
May 25
7:00 p.m.
Qwest Center Omaha**

