

UPDATE ON THE WORLD OUTSIDE OF YAG

By Margaret Wang, Stillwater HS (and cnn.com)

I don't know about you, but I've had a lot of fun at State Conference this weekend. It is strangely relaxing to be segregated from the world, and carry on our own little government here in the Capitol. But what happened while we were gone from the normal world? What exciting or scandalous news has evolved? I, Reporter Margaret Wang, am here to fill you in on all the scoops!

Outside of the States:

Indonesia's capital, Jakarta, was hit by a flood in the past week, damaging 100,000 homes, shops, and businesses. Some citizens are still homeless, and many are living underneath bridges. However, government help aids are pouring in from the state budget. Roads improved from before, and sanitation was kept under control.

Here in United States:

Barack Obama, an Illinois senator, just announced officially today that he will run for the democratic candidate in the presidential election of '08. He has already set up an exploration committee earlier, and is expected to be one of the top choices for presidential candidacy.

Harvard is expected to name their first woman president soon. A renowned historian, Drew Gilpin Faust, has been told her name will be put forward at the board meeting on Sunday. It is considered to be a landmark for women academia.

The woman injured last year in the drunken-driving incident involving former OSU basketball coach, Eddie Sutton, finally filed a claim of \$125,000 for injury and emotional compensation. Sutton's blood alcohol level was 0.22, almost three times the legal limit, when he was caught last year. OSU was also mentioned in the claim as a source of negligence and irresponsibility.

Entertainment News:

The Grammys are coming! Mary J. Blige tops the nominees with eight nods, and Red Hot Chili Peppers and John Mayer are also favorites. They will be on CBS Sunday, at 8 pm EST.

A bulldog swallowed his owner's \$5000 engagement ring in Michigan. Previously, his owner thought a burglary had occurred, but rather, an X-ray showed that the diamond ring is indeed in the bull's stomach. It was extracted whole and intact.

Perhaps the most surprising news this week is of the television entertainer Anna Nicole Smith's death, in her hotel room in Hollywood, Florida on Thursday. Just as YAG delegates were arriving at the OKC Sheraton, Smith was found unresponsive. Drugs were found in her room, but no drugs were found in the stomach autopsy, indicating it was not an over-dose. Smith was in the press in earlier weeks for the paternity dispute of her daughter, Danielynn. No evidence of crime was found.

"Do I dare disturb the universe? In a minute there is time for decisions and revisions which a minute will reverse."— "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock," T.S. Eliot

SHERATON SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

By Sydney Caswell, Westmoore HS

Every year the Sheraton Hotel gives a \$1,000 scholarship to a deserving Youth and Government senior. This year's outstanding recipient is none other than our very own Chief Justice, Jennifer Harrison of Westmoore High School. YAG Times was there to get the interview.

YAG Times – Why did you originally join YAG? How did you find out about it?

Jennifer Harrison – It was a new club, I was just curious about it so I tried it and I just got hooked on.

YT – As a senior, what has been your favorite part of being in YAG?

JH – I really enjoy meeting new people and seeing the passion for this club.

YT – When you originally joined YAG and heard about this award did you plan on applying?

JH – It was worth a shot. You can't really pass up money for college.

YT – So, what exactly have you done to deserve this award?

JH – I have been a YAG member for four years. I was parliamentarian in ninth grade. In tenth grade I was my club's Sophomore Representative, and in senior year, I am President of my club and Chief Justice of the Court.

YT – How do you plan on using your award?

JH – I plan to go to University of Oklahoma. I want to get a double major in Spanish and Law. I also want to minor in science.

YT – What do you want to do with your degrees?

JH – First, I want to spend a few years in the Peace Corps. Then hopefully join a law firm and get involved in city politics and become a councilwoman.

It sounds like Jennifer really knows where she is going to go. Luckily, everything she wants to do seems to benefit Youth and Government.

Jacyi Fleming and Emily Crandell go over their bill on Thursday.



Picture by Ally Leist, Highland East