

# The Brand



Lowry High School

Wednesday, October 14, 2009

Winnemucca, Nevada

## INSIDE

### Opinions



Driving While Intoxicated is becoming a real problem.

### Sports



Athletes of the Issue: Gerardo Covarrubias and Robyn Wadleigh.

### Student Life



Two Lowry students will travel to Indianapolis to compete at a national event.

### Arts and Entertainment



Lowry Drama and Stagecraft to perform "The Perils of Lulu."

## INDEX

News.....1-2

Opinion.....3-4

Sports.....5-7

Student Life.....8-10

A&E.....11-12

## Proposed landfill running into more opposition

By Mary Granath

Recently a controversial issue has been brought to the attention of many citizens of Nevada- a proposed garbage dump located outside Winnemucca. A company called Recology, based in the San Francisco Bay area, has requested a landfill be created out on Jungo road to assist California in outsourcing their waste. The proposed landfill would initially consist of 640 acres and would receive 4,000 tons (8,000,000 pounds) of garbage per day, five days a week, for 95 years.

There are many, including federal officials, who have come out against the projected landfill. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid has advised Nevada Governor Jim Gibbons to negate the proposal. Reid was quoted as saying that Recology recommending this is a "threat to Nevada's sovereignty



Courtesy • <http://gov.state.nv.us/>

Governor Jim Gibbons.

and dignity."

When contacted by The Brand, Senator Reid went on to say that the trash brought in from California would have hazardous risks, "We're talking about nasty stuff like old tires, asbestos and sludge from sewage plants," said Senator Reid, "We don't want that in our land, in our water, or in our air."



Courtesy • <http://reid.senate.gov/>

Senator Harry Reid.

Concerned citizens opposed to the landfill created an organization, Nevadans Against Garbage (NAG), to stop the development of the landfill. Lianne Iroz, Annie Drake and Tami Vetter are heading the organization.

"This is an ill-advised scheme to sell out for short term monetary gains at the expense of long term consequences," said Steven Bishop, an active member in NAG, "The only way garbage is going to be reduced in this country is if the people who produce it are forced to live and deal with

it in their own communities."

Many are justifying the creation of the landfill due to the revenue and jobs it would generate. Humboldt County would receive one million dollars a year and 25 new jobs would be created. However, Bishop says again that this is faulty reasoning, "If this is such a great deal, why aren't they keeping it for themselves and their communities?"

see GARBAGE page 2



Brooklyn Thomas • THE BRAND

Nevadan's Against Garbage have placed this trailer full of garbage to remind residents about the issue.

## Covarrubias and Studebaker named Homecoming King and Queen

By Mallorie Leal

Lowry royalty crowning took place during halftime of the football game on Friday, October 9.

The dance team and cheerleaders filed onto the field to welcome the royalty candidates.

Kali Gerhard, DeeAnna Pasquale, and Shaynee Monchamp presented the flags on horseback before the grand marshal Mrs. Corrine James was escorted onto the field by her husband with AC/DC's "TNT" playing.

"It's a great honor," said James in regard to receiving the title.

The candidates were then driven onto the field in a trucks provided by Delong Ford. Ge-

rardo Covarrubias and Rachael Studebaker were the first to be presented followed by Adam Gray and Ashlee Lee, and finally Terrell Messerly and Robyn Wadleigh.



Mallorie Leal • THE BRAND

Rachael Studebaker and Gerardo Covarrubias were being crowned as this year's Homecoming royalty.

Mrs. Grady announced Gerardo Covarrubias and Rachael Studebaker as the winners. Former king Derrick Maccliz and student body president Andrea Vaca crowned the couple.

Both winners expressed how happy they were at being selected for the honor.

When asked what he will

miss the most about Lowry, Covarrubias said, "Posting up in the hallway with my friends, the school dances, but most importantly, my mom."

He has participated in both basketball and soccer.

Studebaker has been involved in Varsity Dance Team, National Honor Society, and Art Club. Her plans include studying art in college.

Unfortunately the events were marred by an accident involving one of the flag bearers.

While riding on the field the horse ridden by Gerhard seemed to lose its footing causing both rider and horse to tumble to the ground.

Gerhard was treated at the field. Further details were unavailable at press time.



## Garbage

In an article in the Las Vegas Review-Journal, Adam Alberti, a spokesman for Recology, stated that the company is an environmentally friendly cooperation with an 89-year history of operating safe landfills. He was quoted as saying, "It will not pose any health risks. We are dealing with household waste. We are working to build trust in the community."

County Commissioner Garley Amos was also quoted in the article and when contacted by The Brand said that he has "no definite opinion on the landfill," and is still gathering information for and against it. However, Amos also went on to say that "The positive benefits...are beginning to outweigh the negative ones."

Amos stated that "Positive facts include...the site being located in a remote area that is sparsely populated and a minimal environmental impact," also there would potentially be 25 to 30

jobs created "with incomes of \$60,000-\$70,000 each, plus benefits," and "a host agreement will be negotiated which will generate additional revenue to Humboldt County."

The decision of whether or not the landfill will be created is largely up to politicians in Nevada. Nevada State Assemblymen Pete Goicoechea was quoted as saying "if the people of Humboldt County say they don't want the landfill, my job is to make sure it doesn't happen," however the construction of the landfill also depends on the companies. Amos stated that the official say on whether or not the landfill happens depends on "The developers of the landfill," and whether they "follow procedures and gather the permits from the Nevada Department of Environmental Protection."

Nevertheless, only time will truly tell whether or not Winnemucca is to be the site of the proposed landfill.

## Juniors dominate He-Man, Seniors say goodbye to championship

By Mary Granath

He-Man volleyball saw some tough teams take the court Wednesday October 7, but only one went home victorious. For the second year in a row the Class of 2011 took home the first place title.

The night started off with the Seniors and Freshmen facing off against one another. Although the Freshmen put forth a valiant effort this game ended like it does every year with the Freshmen losing. The final score was 20-13.

The next match saw the Juniors and Sophomores competing to see who would make it to the championship

game. The Junior's starters came out with a vengeance against the Sophomores. The Sophomores, had difficulty mounting any kind of offense against the onslaught from the Juniors. The final score was 20-9.

The Sophomores and Freshmen then battled to claim the third place title. The Sophomores were triumphant, beating the Freshmen 20-11.

Tensions ran high in the championship game as Seniors and Juniors contested to take home the title. The Juniors used their starters once again, namely Anders Pace, Sterling Snow, and Tyler Cox, to gain a 10 point lead.

By Tara Sanders

Homecoming week is full of activities that allow students to show off their spirit. However, on Friday there was a different kind of event that allowed the whole community to get involved.

During the JV homecoming game, Lowry hosted a tailgate fundraiser for Jackson Aberasturi and Kylie Hilbish, two young students in the community currently battling cancer.

The event began at 4:00 p.m. and was a great success. The community raised a majority of the funds through selling food at the barbecue that took place in the lower parking lot by the football field.

Items ranging from clothing to food were donated by many district employees. Their goal was to raise at least \$2,000 dollars throughout the night. All the money raised will be donated to the two families to help pay for medi-



Tara Sanders • THE BRAND

Fundraiser volunteers help customers.

cal expenses.

"I just think that it's wonderful that our community can come together and help these kids. Whatever we can do to help them is great," said Cathy Irons, who was there to watch the game.

Volunteers were confident about meeting their goal and made it a very friendly and positive atmosphere. They are hopeful their efforts will provide Aberasturi and Hilbish with the support they need.

Next year the class of 2011 plans on taking home the gold once again, or as Snow puts it "hello three-peat."



Courtesy • WINNADAC

The championship team celebrates its second consecutive win.



Mary Granath • THE BRAND

Junior starters Anders Pace and Sterling Snow strike a "He-Man" pose.

750 Grass Valley Road Suite A 623-2625

**JAVA TOWN**

-One Sip & You'll Flip!

**Grass Valley Panels**  
Panels • Gates • Shelters & More

The Bull Stops Here!

**Mike & Janell Burke**  
2995 Van Diest Road  
Winnemucca, NV, 89445  
Tel: 775.623.1476  
Cell: 775.304.0423

STUDEBAKERS

**Uptown Market**

1200 S. Bridge Street  
Winnemucca, Nevada 89445

(775) 623-2405  
FAX: (775) 623-0658

**JIM (HOBY) STUDEBAKER**  
Owner



# DWI: Driving while intoxicated

By Savannah McDade



"I remembered being so shocked that someone could be so selfish and irresponsible and kill my husband," Leila O'Dell, widow of Keith O'Dell killed on September 2006 in Utah. ([www.npr.org](http://www.npr.org))

Keith O'Dell and James Furaro were driving to work when 19 year-old Reggie Shaw crossed the yellow dividing line on a two-lane road and clipped O'Dell and Furaro's vehicle which then spun across the highway and was hit by a pickup hauling a trailer killing the two men instantly. Shaw later admitted (due to phone records) that he was texting his girlfriend while he was driving which caused the collision.

According to New York Times, since the Shaw incident, Utah has buckled down on their texting while driving penalties. In most states, if you are caught texting while driving, you may receive a light fine at most however, in Utah, if someone is caught texting while driving they face up to three months in jail and a minimum of a \$750 fine. If there are injuries or fatalities, the driver who was texting could get a \$10,000 fine and a minimum of 15 years in prison.

How do they know that you were texting? Argue it all you want, but if you give the courts a legitimate reason, cops have the right to check your phone records.

According to [mycellphoneiskillingme.com](http://mycellphoneiskillingme.com), the RAC Foundation by the Transport Research Laboratory, researchers found that young drivers' reaction time slowed by 21% from smoking marijuana, 12% when they were legally drunk, and 35% when they were texting while driving. Scientists also discovered that steering control worsened 35% for drivers who had been smoking marijuana and an amazing 91% for people texting while driving. Also, drivers took three times longer to text while driving than it would normally take to text. In other words, texting while driving is worse than driving under the influence, that is a chilling fact.

This is not hard to understand, anyone who texts should empathize, anyone should understand that texting while driving is dangerous. Think about it, when you're texting while driving, you're taking your eyes off of the road... there is no way that can be safe. However, there are some people to claim to be able to text without looking at their phone, I guess to some that might be a reasonable argument, but are they really paying attention to the road, or is their attention primarily focused on their

phone? Not only that, but even if you can text without looking, you have to look at your phone in order to read the text in the first place. Regarding this argument, an experiment was conducted in Indianapolis, in which drivers claiming to be able to text and drive without looking at their phones (or text while driving in general) drove through a course while texting as they usually would. These drivers swerved, hit nearly every cone placed on the course, or they were driving leisurely because they were trying to concentrate on their phone, in which case they could have theoretically caused a collision by driving slower than traffic. ([wthr.com](http://wthr.com))

According to a recent article posted on yahoo news, The Transportation Department reported that 5,870 people were killed last year as well as 515,000 people injured, all due to driver distraction (mostly involving cell phones), doesn't that make you feel safe?

According to an informal survey conducted by The Brand in junior and senior English classes, 75% of those students text while driving, 49% on a daily basis, and 4% have been in an accident due to driving while texting. This is compared to a mere 25% who don't text while driving.

Of those surveyed, 28% believe that Nevada should pass a law prohibiting texting while driving.

While Nevada has strict laws against driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs, there definitely should be laws against texting while driving. According to an article from The Times, experiments were conducted comparing driving while texting and driving drunk; driving while texting was significantly more evident in terms of swerving and slowing down. It is a shame that laws have to be made to enforce people to use common sense.



## Can you afford to play?

By Megan Griggs



For the first time ever Humboldt County athletes are being required to pay a \$25.00 fee in order to play a sport. Pay-to-play as it's referred

to has been around for a couple years now, and many schools in Nevada have started doing it, including Dayton, Fernley and Yerington.

Is it right to make the athletes pay just because the state is in a financial bind? Sure it's only twenty-five dollars but if you're in more than one sport the cost starts to add up. So if a student participates in football, basketball, and track they will be paying a total of \$75 to the school just to play.

Next year you will probably see the pay-to-play fee go up, this is just a test-run price. The question is: how much are the schools willing to charge each student? A school in Massachusetts is charging athletes up to \$300.00 per sport. That is a huge amount of money especially for a sport such as football that has so many kids on one team. If you had a team of just 50 athletes that would be a total of \$15,000.00 income. Now of course it's not likely that Lowry will charge \$300.00 per athlete, but the fact that the fee will increase is ridiculous.

In a small community like Winnemucca, sports are a big thing, because you know every kid playing and Friday night games are a type of social bonding for people. So in reality pay-to-play not only affects the students playing but also the families of our community.

Sure the money helps pay for travel expenses and such, but it is not the athlete's responsibility to come up with the money that the state decided to take away from our school's sports. Haven't we had enough cuts, such as cutting freshman volleyball, and cheerleading? I can only wonder what extreme our school will go to next in order to afford to keep sports around.

## Dos and Don'ts

*Of being a freshman, we've all been there...*

By Amy Balagna



Joining the “in crowd” and wearing the “right clothes” may seem like the world to all the freshmen at Lowry right now. But, what do they really know? They're freshmen right? What I'm trying to say is that they need guidance. They need me, to tell them what and what not to do.

A label, a word, an image that sticks with you for four entire years, possibly even longer and the source of oh so many tears, freshman girls are filled with tears. They cry about everything from a zit (it happens; we're teenagers, stop caking on the make-up please), to their first serious boyfriend or girlfriend. But what the freshmen don't understand is that there are some labels that you do not want.

Some would call me a nerd, I'm the editor of the paper, not that that's nerdy, I like to read, and I love, love chemistry. So, if that's someone's definition of “nerdy” then I'm all for it. I would much rather be labeled a geek than a “partier” or a “druggie”. I am proud of who I am and who I have become, but freshmen don't know who they are just yet.

Here's a hint, getting an MIC or DUI does not make people like you. It makes people glad to say they aren't you. Freshmen are vulnerable and some think that following the crowd makes you in a way “cool”. And it might be to some people for a short period of time until you start driving people away with the label you've given yourself. Is that what you want from your life? A bad reputation? We all have a lot more potential than that.

Freshmen, I am telling you to be who you are. Inside all of us is a musician or an artist or a geek and those are all so much cooler than being a tramp or a druggie.

Don't be afraid to be who you are and to dream of something bigger. Don't ruin your lives as freshmen, you have your whole life in front of you.

## Our manners are gone

By Camille Lyon



When is it okay to be openly rude? Everyone should know how to act in public, but some don't. Whether it was Kanye West stealing the microphone from Taylor Swift at the MTV Video Music Awards or Representative Joe Wilson inappropriately yelling at the President; is this acceptable? I think not.

Being polite is a golden rule everyone understands. People tend to take the situation into their own hands to act out and display rude thoughts. It seems as time goes by every generation is becoming more impolite than the last. I miss the days when many would be polite and courteous to strangers, but now it seems as if everyone fears the homeless man walking towards them on the street. Being nice to others might give the possibility they will be nice back. Kindness is contagious, but it seems to go the same way with being mean.

The Constitution's first amendment guarantees free

speech, but some take this right to the extreme. I respect others if they respect me. A person's rights end when they violate the rights of others.

Kanye West may have just forgotten his manners when he rudely ripped the microphone out of Swift's hands; he may have just been exercising his first amendment right, but everyone who witnessed it understood it was not right. In addition to the displays of emotions during the VMA's, Lil Mama jumped on stage while Jay Z and Alicia Keys sang the ending performance of “Empire State of Mind.” No one caught the surprise in the ending but it was there. Is it just celebrities and people of power who think they have the self-proclaimed rights to do what they want? These people are role models and they do not seem to be leading people in the right direction.

Manners should still be enforced. I hope parents are instilling the same values in their children they used to. Remember to say please and thank you because it may just catch on to others, and hopefully we can hope for a more polite future.

## Obama's Peace Prize

By Savannah McDade



Former President Theodore Roosevelt ended the Russo-

Japanese war by negotiating the Treaty of Portsmouth; therefore he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1906 (theodoreroosevelt.org). Former President Woodrow Wilson did great things to achieve peace during World War I giving birth to the slogan, “He kept us out of war”; he won the prize in 1919 (nobelpeaceprize.com).

President Barack Obama just won the Nobel Peace Prize, but many ask what has he done? Obama has been in office for nine months, and he has not done anything to significantly bring about peace, not that I doubt that he plans to do things to achieve peace but for now, he's all talk. I admit that Obama is an excellent speechmaker, but what good is a speech when there is no action? According to Fox News, Michael Steele (Chairman of the Republican Party)

Obama essentially won the award merely because of “star power”. Many Republicans are also saying that giving Obama this award was targeted toward our previous president, George Bush.

On the other side of the argument, politicians and bloggers are saying that Obama winning the Nobel Peace Prize will further motivate him to follow through with his promises.

In a statement from the White House, Obama said he was both “surprised and humbled” to have been chosen. But he called it a “call to action” for the remainder of his presidency to live up to being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

He should have the ambition to fulfill that “call to action” regardless of whether or not he wins the award. This whole issue is ridiculous, Obama has not had enough time to do anything to substantiate winning the Nobel Peace Prize.

Obama seemed to agree when he said, “I do not view it as a recognition of my own accomplishments...”



### The Brand

Ron Espinola, Advisor  
Amy Balagna, Managing Editor  
Mary Granath, Managing Editor  
Mary Granath, News Editor  
Brooke Thomas, Sports Editor  
Camille Lyon, Student Life Editor  
Mallorie Leal, Arts & Entertainment Editor  
Amy Balagna, Opinions Editor  
Megan Griggs, Online Editor  
Tara Sanders, Reporter  
Savannah McDade, Reporter  
Brittany Neilsen, Reporter  
Ben Norfolk, Reporter  
Ashley Chavez, Reporter

[www.humblotd.k12.nv.us/lhs/thebrand](http://www.humblotd.k12.nv.us/lhs/thebrand)

The Brand is interested in what you think.  
Please contact us at:  
[thebrand@humblotd.k12.nv.us](mailto:thebrand@humblotd.k12.nv.us)

5375 Kluncy Canyon Road  
Winnemucca, NV 89445  
775-623-8130 ext 305



# Cheerleading is becoming too dangerous

By Brooklyn Thomas



High schools throughout the US are cutting teams because of budgets deficits, or a lack of student participation. On rare occasions the activity can be cut due to being too dangerous.

The leading sport for injuries in high school is cheerleading. Since participants have learned how to 'fly' (being thrown in the air) cheerleading injuries have sky-rocketed. According to

Fox News, the US has 95,000 female and 2,100 male students taking part in cheerleading and running the risk of sustaining an injury.

Tragically, some cheerleading accidents have lead to the deaths of participants. According to The National Center for Catastrophic Sports Injury from 1982-2007, 42 girls died due to accidents taking place during cheerleading.

Because of the high number of incidents, there should be more restriction placed on the sport.

Cheerleading has become so dangerous because stunts have become more

extreme, but the training or common sense of both the athletes and coaches must be lacking. The competition to do the best stunt, has become too serious. A cheer squad's primary motivation should be to support its team. So why are the more dangerous stunts necessary? Cheerleaders push the envelope to improve their skills and that is when they become tired and possibly careless.

In the 1970's cheerleaders remained grounded (no flying) and the injury rate was far less than it is today.

All cheer squads need to be regulat-

ed as they are in Nevada. The Nevada Interscholastic Activists Association (NIAA) has ground rules to increase safety. This includes, no flying inside without a mat, prospective coaches must to pass classes, and coaches must take a yearly refresher course. The state has made these decisions with students' safety in mind.

The American Association of Cheerleading Coaches and Administration (AACCA) needs to follow Nevada's example and make cheer safer; otherwise all cheer squads should be grounded as they were in the 1970s.

## Lady Bucks volleyball falls to Dust Devils

By Brittany Nielsen

It is Friday night and the crowd is cheering as the Lady Bucks varsity volleyball team takes the court. They warm up and get ready to play the Dayton Dust Devils.

In the first game, the Lady Bucks were in close range to winning. They could see it in there sights, but it was snatched away when the Dust Devils scored the winning point to make the score 19-25. Skylar Estes had seven attacks and four kills. Julia Dufurrena had six attacks. Elisa Higbee had six assists.

The second match was just as interesting as the first with the Lady Bucks

scoring 15 and the Dust Devils 25. In that match the Lady Bucks were neck in neck until Dayton took the lead. Alta Smith had five kills.

In the third match the game was close but not enough with Dayton winning with 25 and Lady Bucks 14.

Coach Mary Kay Pace was pleased with the way the game went in spite of the loss.

"We improved on team unity and communication and serving percentage," said Pace.

"The girls did well with last minute adjustments." Pace said "it's a great hitting team."

The Lady Bucks will be back in action Friday, October 16. The Truckee

Wolverines will come to town with the first serve at 6:00 p.m.



Brittany Nielsen • THE BRAND  
Elisa Higbee and Alta Smith going for a block.

## Angels-Yankees set to meet in ALCS

By Ron Espinola

We may have to wait a little longer for the NLSC match-up, but the Angels, and Yankees couldn't wait. Each team swept its divisional series.

The Angels are riding high after sweeping the hapless Red Sox.

They did this in typical Angels fashion, with speed on the bases and solid pitching.

In the other ALDS, the Yankees made short work of the Twins who seemed to have spent all of their emotion beating the Tigers.

A renewed Alex Rodriguez and millions of dollars in salaries seem to have rejuvenated the Bronx Bombers.

Although the Yankees appear be on a roll and finished the regular season

with 103 wins, the ALCS should be exciting and is anything but a forgone conclusion.

The Yankees simply have a hard time beating the Angels although they did win the last regular-season series.

The Angels have the Yankees number. They are the only team that has a winning record against the Yankees since 2002 (espn.com). They have also knocked the Bobmbers out of the playoffs in their two previous meetings

Expect the Angels to continue to run the bases



(Paul Bersebach/Orange County Register/MCT)

Torii Hunter

well and constantly apply pressure to the Yankees' defense. In addition, their starting pitching is definitely improved with the mid-season acquisition of Scott Kazmir.

The Yankees will rely on their new free agents CC Sabathia, AJ Burnett, and Mark Teixeira. They have stabilized the Yankees defense while the long-time contributors Derek Jeter, Mariano Rivera, Jorge Posada, and Andy Pettitte have had solid seasons.

According to Pettitte, "It's going to be a war with us and the Angels."



(John Dunn/Newsday/MCT)  
A.J. Burnett

## Still runnin' hard

By Tara Sanders

Lowry's cross country team continued their winning ways at the Cross Country Invitational that was held on Friday, October 9.

Eighteen schools were represented at the meet including both 2A and 3A divisions. The race was a 3.1 mile run around the Winnemucca Municipal Golf Course.

Although a Fernley runner took first place, Junior, Erin Tattersall was the first runner in for the Buckaroos taking third place.

"Erin should've won but she took a wrong turn on the last lap, but she had a really strong race," said coach Dawn Lucas.

Senior, Adam Gray took first place for the Varsity boys with a time of 17:42.

Both Varsity girls and boys took first place as a team at the invitational. Making the meet an ideal race on home turf.

"We totally killed it and showed the rest of the competition where we were at," said Gray about how the meet went for the team.

The next meet for Cross Country is next October 16 at Sparks.



Brooklyn Thomas • THE BRAND  
Junior Erin Tattersall.



# Lowry football gets first Homecoming win in six years

By Savannah McDade

After two disappointing losses behind them the Bucks football team returned to their home field taking on the Sparks Railroaders in Lowry's homecoming game. Lowry was able to turn its fortunes around and blew out the Railroaders 68-9.

"It was a great win for us, we knew Sparks was going to be a good team, the guys came out and played hard and we couldn't be prouder of them," said coach Tim Billingsley.

In the first quarter, Joel Barton scored the first touchdown. Not long after two touchdowns were made by David Eastman. The Bucks lined up only to fumble the ball, but seconds later Sparks fumbled the ball leaving it for Eastman to score another touchdown ending the quarter with a 27-point ad-



Savannah McDade • THE BRAND  
Bryan Noble assists in making a tackle.

vantage for Lowry.

In just 71 seconds Lowry added two more scores to start the second quarter.

Sparks punted the ball to open the second quarter to Lowry's 32-yard line. Eastman gathered the ball in and raced up the middle of the field and turned to the right sideline where he broke a



Savannah McDade • THE BRAND  
Mitch Pollock tackles a Sparks player.

tackle outpacing all of the Sparks defenders.

On the ensuing kickoff the Bucks recovered a Railroader fumble on the 18-yard line. Jace Billingsley then ran up the middle on a quarterback keeper for a touchdown.

Lowry's scoring streak was interrupted when the Sparks running back

scored on a 70-yard run.

The Bucks responded immediately. Billingsley fielded the kickoff at his own ten and ran for a 90-yard TD.

During the third quarter a Barton added another touchdown.

The last touchdown of the game was made by Lewis Flores.

After six years of Lowry varsity losing homecoming, senior Terrell Messerly was overjoyed after winning. "I've always wanted to win homecoming," said Messerly.

Sophomore Jace Billingsley said the win should give the teams a lot of confidence when it comes time to play Fernley next week, he also realizes that there is always room for improvement.

Junior Anthony Leal felt the same way, "I think this is going to pump us up and get us ready. We just have to keep going, have a hard week of practice."

## What to Watch

By Ben Norfolk

This weekend there are several key match-ups in both the NFL and college football that any sports fan should watch.

### Vikings vs. Ravens

On Sunday the Baltimore Ravens (3-2) travel to Minnesota (5-0) to take on the undefeated Vikings.

Brett Favre is having a great year averaging 209 yards a game. He has a quarterback rating of 103.

The surprising offense of the Ravens has struggled the last two weeks and should have trouble with the stingy Viking defense. The Vikings are only

giving up 70 yards per game on the ground.

Adrian Peterson is the number two running back averaging 96 yards per game. However, he may have trouble against the number one rush defense that only allows 60 yards a game and is lead by linebacker Ray Lewis with 45 tackles which is leading the team.

Joe Flacco will have the Viking defensive line putting pressure on him all



(Jeff Wheeler/Minneapolis Star Tribune/MCT)  
Brett Favre

game long. The Vikings defensive line is lead by Jared Allen with 6.5 sacks.

The game is at 10:00 a.m. on CBS. Ben says: Vikings

### Giants vs. Saints

Also on Sunday the New York Giants (5-0) will be taking on the New Orleans Saints (4-0). The game will be the battle of the unbeaten teams.

Drew Brees is having a great year with a passer rating of 108 and he is averaging 259 yards a game.

The Saints have the number one offense in the NFL. The powerful offense is averaging 414 yards a game and they have a good running game that is averaging 166 yards a game.

However, the Giants have the number one pass defense in the NFL at this time but after this game that should change.

The game will air at 10:00 a.m. on Fox.

Ben says: Saints

### Oklahoma vs. Texas

The rivalry known as the Red River Shootout is always a good game. The Texas Longhorns (5-0) will host the Oklahoma Sooners (3-2).

Texas is having another good year and their quarterback Colt McCoy has a passer rating of 149 this season he is

averaging 282 yards a game.

Oklahoma's starting quarterback, Sam Bradford, is back after an injury early in the season.

Oklahoma has the nation's number three defense

allowing eight points a game. However, Texas brings the nation's number one offense which averages 47 points

Texas also boasts the number one rush defense, giving up only 241 yards this season.

Ben says: Longhorns

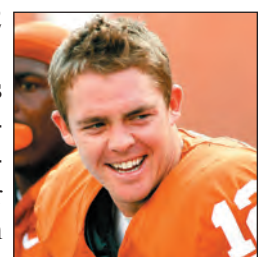
### Wolf Pack vs. Aggies

The WAC's leading offense travels to Logan, UT to face an Aggie defense that gives up 32 points per game. The last time these teams met, Nevada (2-3) beat the Aggies (1-4) 44-17.

Nevada's potent offense is lead by quarterback Colin Kaepernick. He has passer rating of 135 and is averaging 184 yards in the air and 76 on the ground. Running back Luke Lippincott is averaging 98 yards a game.

This is a win UNR needs to keep its bowl hopes alive.

Ben says: Nevada



(Erich Schlegel/Dallas Morning News/MCT)  
Longhorn QB Colt McCoy.

Delizioso

Global Coffee

Espresso



508 A.W. Winnemucca Blvd.  
Winnemucca, NV 89445  
775-625-1000  
Jeff & Patty Herzog



## Athlete of the Issue: Gerardo Covarrubias

By Brooklyn Thomas

Gerardo Covarrubias has been chosen as the Athlete of the Issue because of his involvement and dedication to sports.

Covarrubias is a senior at Lowry and has participated in both soccer and basketball.

"I've been playing soccer for 12 years and basketball for nine," said Covarrubias. He is also considering joining the track team in the Spring.

Although he was unable to play soccer last year due to injury, Covarrubias is a vital part of the team this year. He plays the position of striker and was able to score the tying goal against the defending state champions when they played Truckee at the beginning of the year.

Covarrubias is very involved with school and stated that his mother is the biggest influence in his life. He said that

his mom is, "always pushing him to do well in school and sports," and she is always there for him, especially since she works as a secretary at the school.

Covarrubias' family has been a large inspiration in his life especially when it comes to sports. "A lot of my cousins play basketball and my dad used to play soccer," said Covarrubias. He has always loved sports and plans on them being a large part of his life.

Next year his only sibling will be a freshman at Lowry and he expects that she will do well.

"I think she'll do well. She is good at soccer and basketball. She is smarter than I am," said Covarrubias.

When Covarrubias finishes high school he wants to go to Arizona and work with his cousins. He is interested in becoming an electrician and wants to construct stereo systems for cars.

Friday he was chosen as the Homecoming King (see page 1).



## Athlete of the Issue: Robyn Wadleigh

By Mary Granath

Born and raised in Winnemucca, Robyn Wadleigh has always participated in a sport. Although many know her as a cheerleader, Wadleigh also participates in gymnastics and swims. However, cheerleading is Wadleigh's favorite because of the challenges it entails such as difficult stunts.

Throughout her life Wadleigh has received support from her family.

"They come to my games and support me financially...cheerleading is expensive," said Wadleigh.

However, she also finds inspiration within herself and her team, "I like being able to get down stuff that we work so hard on," said Wadleigh.

Wadleigh knows that every position is important. As a flyer and tumbler herself, she greatly appreciates the bases, "we wouldn't be able to what

we do up there without them. We can be as flexible or have great balance but we can't get anywhere without them.

We all have to work together."

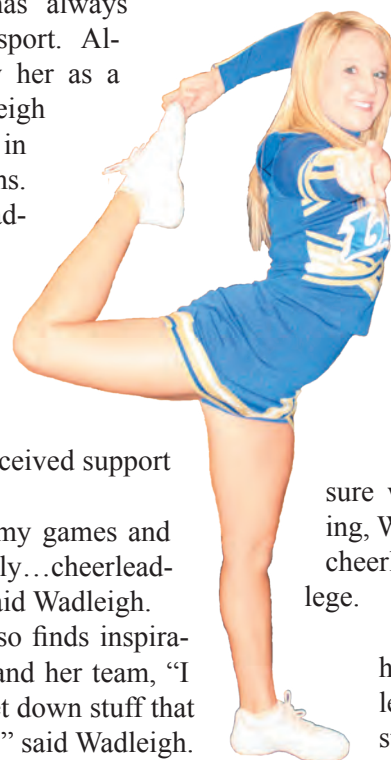
Something that Wadleigh would like to see more of on the team is a larger contribution from guys.

"I would love having guys on the team. They're stronger and it would be a lot easier to get harder stunts with them," she said.

Even though she isn't sure where she will be attending, Wadleigh would like to take cheerleading with her to college.

"I want to, but it would be hard to do work, and cheerleading, and school," she stated.

Even though Wadleigh's life at Lowry may be coming to a close as her Senior year approaches its end, she certainly can be confident



## Lady Bucks shutout Yerington

By Ben Norfolk

The Lowry girls came out ready to play on Saturday, October 10. They beat the Yerington Lions 6-0

Sydney Sundahl scored the first goal of the game in the 17th minute of the first half. Sundahl beat the Lion's keeper with a shot into the right side of the net.

"The game went really well, everyone was doing good, everyone was talking. It was better than our Battle Mountain game and we worked as a team this time," said Junior Virginia Castillo.

Jasmine Cisneros scored the second goal of the game with a shot that seemed to slip right over the goalkeeper's hands. The goal came in the 24th minute of the first half.

In the 39th minute Abbey Haaglund put the Buckaroos up by three.

Sundahl added her second goal of the day in the 13th minute of the second half. Sundahl picked up a loose ball that had been dumped into the

Lion goal box and slipped the shot by the keeper.

Freshman Kendal Madden scored Lowry's fifth in the 30th minute of the second half. As Sundahl had done before, Madden was able to beat the Lion defenders and scored on a breakaway.

Ashlee Jenkins capped the scoring in the final minutes of the game. Jenkins was able to beat the Yerington keeper on a penalty kick.

The Lady Bucks played at home against the Sparks Railroaders on Tuesday details were not available at press time.



Ashlee Jenkins takes the ball from the Lions.

## Game ends in tie for boys soccer



Ben Norfolk • THE BRAND  
Daniel Guzman (right) scores for Lowry.

By Ben Norfolk

Homecoming for Lowry's boys soccer team was bittersweet.

The Buckaroos had a lead with less than a minute to play, but had to settle for a 4-4 tie with the Yerington Lions.

"We had it won," said Junior Anders Pace.

Daniel Guzman's goal in the second half gave the Bucks the lead.

Then in the last minute of the game Yerington scored a goal to force the tie.



Ben Norfolk • THE BRAND  
Lowry defenders block a Yerington shot.

Lowry was playing a great game until that moment. The Bucks played as a team and played hard.

"It was a tough tie," said Pace. "We play Spring Creek next and we are really hoping for a win."

"I think we didn't play like we have in past games and it showed," said Junior Dusty Kraft. "We shouldn't have let it end in a tie but we'll have to do better next time."

The Bucks played Spring Creek on Tuesday. Information was not available at press time.



## NHS: It takes more than a GPA

By Ben Norfolk

Many people think National Honor Society (NHS) is only about good grades and immense intelligence. In reality it is much more than that.

"We rake leafs for the community in the fall, we have soup kitchens the first Thursday of every month," said President Giovan Cholico.

NHS has been around in schools since the early 1900s. This group helps encourage students to keep their GPA up, help the community and to learn leadership skills.

"We have concession stands for basketball season and all the money raised from that goes to scholarships for our members," said Cholico.

According to the advisor of Honor Society, Mrs. Michelle Pasquale, the selection process begins in the sophomore year of high school. The students must have a 3.5 GPA or above to be selected. The students are then subject to a character rating by teachers at Lowry.

The rating is from 0-5 with 5 being the highest. The students must average a 3 or above on their character rating. To stay in Honor Society the student must maintain a 3.5 GPA all year long.

They must have eight hours of service in either their community or is the school. Everything that the group earns throughout the year goes to scholarships.

"I like that I get to be with some spectacular students, I mean I get to help run an organization that they want to make a success," said Pasquale.

## Powderpuff football offers surprising win

By Megan Griggs

One of the most traditional Homecoming activities here at Lowry is Powderpuff football. This year it was seniors and freshman against the juniors and sophomores. Seniors /freshman wore blue while the juniors /sophomores wore yellow.

The powderpuff cheerleaders helped get the crowd pumped with their amazing sideline routines and human pyramids. The cheerleaders were coached by the varsity dance team, and

later performed a halftime routine to "I'm on a boat."

Also during halftime queen candidates Mitch Pollock, Danny Ochoa, and Sean Millikan took the field in dresses on the arms of fellow powderpuff king royalty candidates Brandi Brooks, Dana Pardovich, and Arline Franco.

Mitch Pollock and Brandi Brooks were crowned this year's powderpuff king and queen. They celebrated their win by a meaningful hug followed by Brooks hauling Pollock off the field

cradled in her arms.

Finally, a touchdown was made by Pardovich for the sophomore/ junior team. The senior/freshman team wouldn't give up, and finally Desirae Lemm scored a touchdown. The game ended in a junior/ sophomore win.

"It was so fun and really intense," said junior Jazmyn Ward.

The juniors and sophomores were excited about the win, and worked hard to make that happen. Even though they lost, the seniors and freshman had a blast and enjoyed the experience.



This year's Powderpuff cheerleaders.

Megan Griggs • THE BRAND



Powderpuff football players Skylar Estes and Dana Pardovich forget it's a flag football game.

Megan Griggs • THE BRAND

## Lowry welcomes four new staff members

By Brittany Nielsen

Lowry has three new teachers, Mrs. Miranda Santos, Mr. Corey Coles, Mr. Brian Nickisch, and one returning teacher, Mrs. Heather Morgan who taught Human Growth and Development but is now teaching Health and P.E.

Freshmen and sophomores might

know Santos for teaching at the Junior High. She graduated from Lowry and now that she is working with some of the teachers that taught her, she said, "It's a little different, but it's nice to see familiar faces within the teachers and the students."

This is Coles' first year of teaching, he moved here from Idaho. "There are

not as many trees, a lot bigger mountains and a lot more community support than other places," said Coles in response to Winnemucca. Lowry is his first teaching job. "Its been really good, I have a lot of good kids, my classes have almost doubled since school has began, its going really well just trying to get adjusted," Coles said.

Nickisch had lived in South Carolina last year, moved to Montana for a year and when he heard there was a job at Lowry he moved to Winnemucca. He grew up in a town of 2,000. Nickisch has been teaching for two years and has just taught chemistry.

Morgan has been teaching for fifteen years, throughout those fifteen years she has been teaching Human Growth and Development and now this year we have her teaching Health and P.E. The new staff members have come from all parts of the states and we are all glad to have them as part of the Lowry High community.

**BRADFORD GRANATH, M.D.**  
FAMILY AND MATERNITY CARE

**775.625.1600**

900 Mizpah Street, Suite B  
Winnemucca, Nevada 89445

Fax: 775.625.1625

[www.doctorgranath.com](http://www.doctorgranath.com)

**Mad Hatter**

346 S. Bridge Street  
Winnemucca, NV, 89445

Screen Printing and Embroidery

Call for prices  
775.623.2521

Mike and Patty Ellifritz, Owners  
[madhatter0171@sbcglobal.net](mailto:madhatter0171@sbcglobal.net)



# Pep assemblies pump up the crowd for Homecoming

By Amy Balagna

The pep assembly on Monday was a huge success. Its purpose, to encourage students to participate in Homecoming week, was displayed throughout the week with dress-up days and lunchtime activities. Monday was color war day



Amy Balagna • THE BRAND

Winners of the royalty game Gerardo Covarrubias and Rachael Studebaker

at Lowry with the freshman sporting yellow, the sophomores in orange, the juniors rocking green, and the seniors looking dashing in purple.

The assembly started out with Superintendent Bumgartner playing the national anthem on his trumpet. The cheerleaders preformed amazing stunts, and even danced with the football players before the Grand Marshal, Mrs. James, was announced.

There was also a Homecoming Royalty game. Candidates Terrell Meserly, Robyn Wadleigh, Adam Gray, Ashlee Lee, Gerardo Covarrubias, and Rachael Studebaker climbed into huge decorated boxes and raced down the court to grab an item that matched their boxes before racing back. Covarrubias and Studebaker were named the winners.

The pep assembly on Friday, Oct. 9, was also very successful; it was blue and gold day at Lowry and the stands looked spirited. The dance team preformed a spectacular dance to a medley of hip-hop songs. The Lowry teams were announced and footballs were thrown into the crowd before the shop-



Amy Balagna • THE BRAND

Three Sophomores showing their spirit.

ping cart parade started. The Art Club, advised by Mr. Anderson won the cart parade with an engine made of cardboard. The junior He-Man team then set out to defend their title in a game of volleyball against the teachers. The juniors won and the pep assembly was over.



Amy Balagna • THE BRAND

Mariah Johnson with Paedon Underwood

## The Buckaroo Roundup

By Tara Sanders

### TY GOMEZ



*"I don't think you should spend your time worrying about what everyone else thinks about you."*

**What is your favorite class this year?**

"My two off periods, they're the best. I get to sleep in and leave early."

**Do you know what you're going to do after you graduate?**

"Well, I want to go to college for journalism, maybe. And I want to work for a magazine and maybe someday have my own music magazine."

**Do you have any pet peeves?**

"I hate when people are

rude for no reason."

**If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would you go?**

"To Sweden, they have all the best musicians in the world there."

**Who is your favorite teacher?**

"Probably Ms. Meissner, I've had her for English the last three years."

**Who is your role model?**

"My parents are probably my biggest role models."

### MADIE FLANDERS



*"My brother Cody is probably my role model. He's in the military too. He kind of followed my dreams."*

**What grade are you in?**

"Sophomore"

**What is your favorite class?**

"Probably English with Mrs. Santos."

**Do you have any pet peeves?**

"I really don't like when things are all clustered together, I try to be really organized."

**What's your most embarrassing moment while at Lowry?**

"Probably today when I got hit in the head with

my own locker."

**If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would you go?**

"I want to go to Paris."

**Do you know what you want to do after high school?**

"Yeah, I'm going to join the military and be a nurse."

**Have you traveled to any exciting or strange places?**

"I've been to Forks, Washington where they made Twilight."

### ANDREW SODERSTROM



*"Since I was a kid, I've always wanted to be Will Smith."*

**You're a senior, correct?**

"Yes ma'am."

**Who is your favorite teacher?**

"Probably Mrs. James because she's awesome."

**Are you involved in any sports?**

"Track season is coming. I might do wrestling, maybe. I've been thinking about it."

**What are you plans after you graduate from Lowry?**

"Hopefully go to UNR."

**Do you have any hobbies?**

"I'm actually writing a book right now. Like a serious book, it's pretty cool. I want to make it, later on, into a movie or video game."

**What was your most embarrassing moment at Lowry?**

"Oh, probably the thing I did for Mr. Lowry."

**Have you ever traveled anywhere exciting?**

"I have, I've been on a cruise to Mexico, to Cabo San Lucas."



# 2009 Homecoming is one to remember

By Camille Lyon

"More horsepower than a train, Lowry's got game," was a success. The Homecoming week was filled with many dress up days to get students pumped. Monday was the much loved Color War day. Orange, purple, green, and yellow were all over Lowry. There



Amy Balagna • THE BRAND

Mrs. Corrine James being announced as the Grand Marshall.

was also a pep assembly to introduce the upcoming events of Homecoming week. The cheerleaders performed and incorporated many football players

Monday night was the Powder-puff game. The Junior/Sophomore team won while the male cheerleaders entertained the crowd. Tuesday was Crazy Hair and Clash day. FFA hosted



Mary Granath • THE BRAND

Brad Pearce shows his wardrobe on Duct Tape day.

a car bash that night for a fundraiser. Wednesday was Black and White day. Students sported their black and white attire. He-Man volleyball was on Wednesday night. The junior team won and would later play the faculty during the last pep assembly. Thursday was Duct Tape day.

Friday finally came as Blue and



Amy Balagna • THE BRAND

Cheerleaders performing at Monday's assembly.

Gold day. There was a pep assembly for the upcoming football game that night. The varsity dance team performed a great dance and the shopping cart parade followed. The Homecoming game ended with a win over Sparks and the crowning of the royalty. Saturday would end the Homecoming week with soccer games and a dance.



Savannah McDade • THE BRAND

FFA sponsored another great event, The Car Bash.

## Two FFA members to compete at National Convention

By Brittany Nielsen

To some, FFA is a way of life. Future Farmers of America helps develop "their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education," (FFA.org.)

Two of our very own buckaroos will be heading off to Indianapolis to represent Humboldt County and the state of Nevada at the National FFA Convention. Lance Thompson and Shane Bell worked hard to be able to go all the way to Indianapolis. They had to fundraise and work to earn enough money for the opportunity of a lifetime.

Thompson qualified in the Diversified Livestock Proficiency. He will be

speaking about his supervised agriculture experience with his cows, pigs, and his horse as well as his work experience as a farmer.

Bell is the other buckaroo that is headed to Indianapolis. Bell is competing at the national giving a speech on wild horses. "I'm looking to win," Bell said when asked what he wanted to improve on. Thompson and Bell, along with others, went to Nationals in Indianapolis last year also. When they went last year they placed fifth overall. If you win at Nationals you can get scholarships and other opportunities for college. FFA really affects the lives of the students involved in it.

To help them out, they are having a raffle to help pay for the trip. Tick-

ets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Bell and Thompson both are selling tickets. Teachers with the tickets are Mrs. Rebecca Hill, Mr. Coles, Mrs. Kern, and Mrs. Thompson.



Courtesy • Beth Thompson

FFA members Shane Bell and Lance Thompson



Courtesy Beth Thompson

Lance Thompson.

## Lowry Voices

By Ashley Chavez

What is your favorite Homecoming day and why?



Shelby Vogel,  
Junior

"Black and White day, because everyone looked really nice."

WINNADA

Shelby Vogel

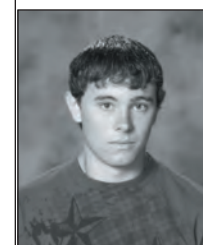


Kayla Jordan,  
Freshman

"Duct Tape day, I just like duct tape."

WINNADA

Kayla Jordan



Bryan Tyree,  
Junior

"Blue and Gold day, because that's the day of the game and everyone comes and participates."

WINNADA

Bryan Tyree

# LAS MARGARITAS

A Fine Family Restaurant



Banquet Room,  
Take-Out Orders, Catering

775.625.2262

47 East Winnemucca Blvd.





## This week in pictures



Brooklyn Thomas • THE BRAND  
The JV football team played well on Friday.



Ashley Chavez • THE BRAND  
Student showing their school spirit.



Amy Balagna • THE BRAND  
Faculty members challenged the Juniors, but lost.



Amy Balagna • THE BRAND  
The Art Club with its shopping cart float.

## 'Jennifer's Body': not worth all of the attention

By Camille Lyon

Do not see "Jennifer's Body," whatever you do, unless you enjoy watching movies that do not possess any value, and a plot that cannot be followed. The movie was written, surprisingly, by Diablo Cody, who is the same writer of a much loved "Juno."

With Megan Fox playing the role of the popular girl Jennifer who seduces boys and feasts on them to maintain strength as a "demon," and Amanda Seyfried playing the best friend Needy, the acting was not that bad. The overall plot and performance of the storyline was questionable.

Jennifer and Needy go to a concert where a fire erupts and the crowd

stampedes toward the door and many were burned. Needy and Jennifer successfully escape, but Jennifer is lured into a van with the featured band at the concert. Needy later goes home and is worried for her friend. She later encounters Jennifer in the middle of the night where Jennifer is covered in blood. After displaying strange behavior Jennifer leaves.

The whole high school is going through a traumatic experience of having lost many students in a tragic fire. The movie proceeds with Jennifer showing no remorse, and the mystery of other continuing murders.

The movie was quite original, but overall it seemed quite juvenile. Some of the lines made the movie comical and confusing. I expected more.



Courtesy•Susie Allnutt/Sony Pictures Entertainment/MCT

A bloody Megan Fox in the movie "Jennifer's Body".

## There is something for all viewers with season premieres

By Amy Balagna

Who wouldn't watch a show about a family man, a blood splatter analyst, and part time serial killer? Michael C. Hall plays such a character in the hit show "Dexter" on Showtime. It's one of the most interesting and suspenseful shows I've seen in long time. Dexter, sophisticated and suave, has a new baby, the accommodating sleep deprivation and a "code". Vowing never to kill the innocent, he lives his life solving murders and killing the murders



Randy Tepper

Michael C. Hall as Dexter Morgan.

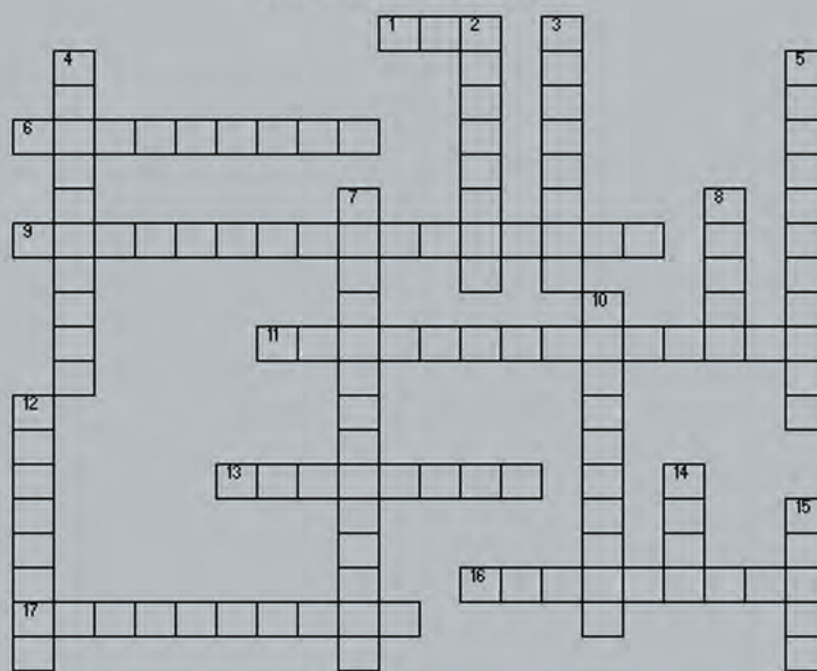
that get away with their crimes.

Drama, doctors, and Patrick

Dempsey, what more do you need? How about "Grey's Anatomy" on ABC? Never what you expect, this hospital farce has everything from realistic gore to steamy love. Random deaths and illnesses strike the cast as well as the patients.

If doctors aren't your thing, check out "Dirty Jobs with Mike Rowe" on the Discovery Channel. It has mud, bugs, and a witty host that will make you feel... dirty. Or you could watch "Cash Cab" also on the Discovery Channel. It makes ordinary people

## The Brand Crossword



## ACROSS

- 1 A test for seniors.
- 6 Interrupted the VMAs
- 9 A public option may be part of it.
- 11 Lowry's QB cousins.
- 13 Ill oinker.
- 16 The dismal economy.
- 17 New boys golf coach

## DOWN

- 2 Freshman class mascot.
- 3 Replaced by Nickisch.
- 4 Our rep. in DC.
- 5 LHS Booster club.
- 7 Winnemucca's first name
- 8 Obama's first born.
- 10 Former Lowry Principal
- 12 Bandage for bread.
- 14 Reno's new team.
- 15 Site of proposed dump.



# New teacher, new class, great success for Drama and Stagecraft

By Mary Granath

"There's nothing it can be compared to," says Brad Pearce of the upcoming play, "The Perils of Lulu."

Lowry Drama and Stagecraft have been working on the forthcoming play since last year, unfortunately due to lack of time "The Perils of Lulu" was postponed until this year. Drama, however, has been re-created this year by a new teacher and an almost entirely different cast.

Pearce and Lainey Barta, who have the male and female leads in "The Perils of Lulu," both agree that the class environment is different.

"I think a new teacher brings a whole new atmosphere into the classroom," said Barta. After Janet Kennedy left Lowry High School to become

the Dean of Students at French Ford middle school last year, Mrs. Corrine James took over the Drama and Stagecraft classes.

Even though many new cast members have stumbled upon obstacles, Barta maintains that the new students "... have done really well."

James has also encountered obstacles during the year. "It's been a lot harder than I thought it would be to get kids to work," says James, "They just want to stand around and call me mom."

The "Perils of Lulu" is a play with a somewhat complicated plot. "It's about



Mary Granath • THE BRAND  
Drama students preparing for upcoming play.

a girl who's going to her granny's house and she has one mishap after another," said James.

"It's like 'Little Red Riding Hood,' but everything goes wrong," said Barta.



Ron Espinola • THE BRAND  
Drama students during dress-rehearsal.

Drama students agree they are looking forward to the performace. "I'm very excited," said James. "The Perils of Lulu" premieres October 14 at 7:00 p.m. and will have an encore performance Thursday, October 15.

## Celebrity show case: Taylor Lautner, more than a werewolf

By Tara Sanders

Teen heart-throb Taylor Lautner, is better known as the shape-shifting werewolf, Jacob Black; his role in "Twilight."

Lautner has quickly become quite the sensation among adolescent viewers across America. At an early age he

showed he was destined for success in various activities.

Taylor Daniel Lautner was born in Grand Rapids, Michigan in 1992. He began studying karate at the age of six. At age eleven, he ranked number one in the world for NASKA's Black Belt Open Forms, Musical Weapons, and Traditional Weapons. When his karate

master advised Lautner to audition for a Burger King commercial, in which he was unsuccessful, Lautner became more and more interested in pursuing an acting career.

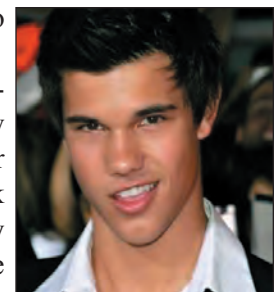
At age eleven, Lautner and his family left Grand Rapids and relocated to L.A. to chase his Hollywood dreams. The move allowed Lautner to audition

for Lautner to portray.

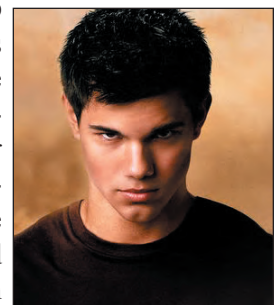
In the sequel, "New Moon," Lautner is forced to bulk up to portray the heavier role as the hunky Quillete werewolf. Lautner's acting styles are pushed even farther in this movie as he goes from awkward teenager straight to a mystical creature.

Apart from portraying his animal side, Lautner is seen spending time with girlfriend, Selena Gomez. He enjoys playing football in which he is a runningback on offense and middle linebacker on defense. He also enjoys playing baseball in which he plays second base and center field. His move to L.A. had helped him become more active in these sports. He also participates in LA Hip Kids, which is a hip-hop dance group.

Although, Lautner wants to continue acting, he wouldn't mind becoming a film scriptwriter and director.



yahoo!  
Taylor Lautner



Sony Pictures  
Taylor Lautner



full-time. During his first few months of auditioning, Lautner landed a few small roles in shows such as "My Wife and Kids," "Summerland," and "The Bernie Mac Show." Not only has he landed television roles, Lautner has also been successful in voice-overs. In 2005 Lautner's athleticism had helped him win the lead role as Sharkboy in, "The Adventures of Sharkboy and Lavagirl 3-D." Later that year he followed his first big movie by another successful audition for Eliot, in "Cheaper by the Dozen 2."

Lautner's big break came in 2008 when he scooped up the role for Jacob Black in Stephenie Meyer's, "Twilight." Jacob's character is that of a happy-go-lucky, 16-year-old, Quillete teenager. The "Twilight" saga is filled with heart loads of passion and drama