

From the Middle

May 23, 2008

Quotes of the Week:

"I think beliefs are kind of figments of your imagination." -Jasmine Braman

"Everything should be made as simple as possible, but not simpler."

-Albert Einstein

Announcements:

Monday is Memorial Day!

The marching band will be performing in the parade (NO SCHOOL!)

Farewell Concert on Thursday, May 29th at 6:00 PM

Charley Mao and Caleb Oldham present "A Farewell to Chelsea" concert with friends

THREE MINUTES OF "SILENCE"

by. Robbie Hood

China has been rocked by disaster, literally. On Monday, May 18 2008, Beijing announced three days of mourning to commemorate thousands of fatalities from the horrendous earthquake that hit the hardest in Sichuan province. On the afternoon of the next day, exactly one week after the 7.9 earthquake annihilated many lives and communities, Chinese citizens observe three minutes of "silence". People were silent as they sounded their vehicles, trains, ships and air raid horns for three minutes in a cry of grief. The mourning period is now over and the death toll is over 55,000 at this point. Many countries have flocked to China's aid, but the U.S stopped sending food because the government was distributing the food their own way. I decided to interview Charlie Mao to see how he felt when he heard that there was an earthquake in his own country. I knew that his immediate family was OK, but he said that his "sister" (who we would call cousin) was directly effected.

Q: How do you feel about your sister/cousin and the earthquake?

A: It's good that she's OK, but sad that other people died. She had to sleep out in the open under tents for a week. They're trying to rebuild the region with \$10,000,000,000.

Q: Do you have any other friends that were affected by the earthquake?

A: I don't know right now.

Q: Were your parents affected?

A: They were far from the center, So they are OK.

Q: Have you ever experienced anything like this natural disaster before?

A: No, my grandmother told me that I'm very lucky this year. [To have been in the United States and not in China]

We are fortunate to have had Charley with us this year and wish him the best in the future!

SUMMER

by Jacob M. Brooke

With just three weeks of school left I thought that it would be interesting to find out what people wanted to do first once summer started. These are the results:

| <i>Name</i> | <i>Activity</i> |
|--------------------|---|
| 1. Robbie Hood | I want to work for my dad so I can buy a truck when I am old enough. |
| 2. Ms. Copp | I am going to relax and hang out with friends and family. |
| 3. Jacob Brooke | I will make a 2 ft by 2 ft cookie and then eat it and sleep for 24 hours. |
| 4. Jasmine Braman | I want to do some horse shows / haying / work around the house and get tan. |
| 5. Cody Perkins | I want to look for a summer job and then go to Kyle's house. |
| 6. Kyle Coburn | I will work for Bobby Button unloading wood shavings. |
| 7. Chris Bartsch | I will get a job. |
| 8. Alex Richardson | I will get a job at a store. |

I honestly can't wait until school is over but at the same time I don't want the year to end because it has been such a good one. I can't really think of specifics, other than going to see *To Kill a Mockingbird* in Montpelier recently, but I do know it has been a great year.

Poetry from the 6th grade...

| <i>Veterans</i> <i>by. Andrea Neville</i> | <i>“Funny SS Poem”</i> <i>by. Robbie Hood</i> | <i>Hat</i> <i>by. Hunter Trombley</i> |
|---|--|---|
| They defend our country. They risk their lives for us. They are so brave and strong. They enlist knowing they could go back home in a coffin. I am glad we honor them. I am glad they defend for me. I hope God blesses them! But I believe it would be a better world if we did not need them, if there was no war. I love our veterans. | Do you know what most elders say? They wished they learned more Geogra-PHAY! Geography is a wonderful thing. Sometimes it makes me want to sing. Roses are red, violets are blue... I like Geography, don't you too?! Mapping Africa... most are done. Mapping is really awesome, and so very fun! It's almost the end of the year, I might break out a tear. | Look at all those Vets Dressed up in black With their funky hats And their nice black Polished boots Standing nice and straight With their arms Glued to their sides They march down the road Making a rhythm With their boots Clunk Clunk Clunk Clunk Clunk Clunk |