

LINCOLN PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
**INDIAN**  
**EDUCATION**  
5901 O Street, Box 58  
Lincoln, NE 68501

"Tell me and I'll forget. Show me, and I may not remember.  
Involve me, and I'll understand."

-Native Author Unknown

December 2003



**The Moon**

*The moon is bright  
With the stars at night  
And the brightness is the best  
It glows in the sky  
When the wind blows high  
It shines to the greatest  
With the lines in the sky  
And everyday that I look  
I feel that I can conquer everything*

*The moon is bright  
With the stars at night  
And the brightness is the best*

by Ashlynn Cooper  
6th Grade  
Dawes Middle School

## North Star Native American Caucus Plans Exhibit



Emily Boomquist, a sophomore at North Star High, writes down suggestions and ideas for North Star's Native American Caucus Artifact Display. The display is scheduled to be assembled December 17th in the large display case near the North Star front entrance. The students will be exhibiting tribal artifacts, artwork, and personal items symbolizing their own unique cultures.

## Galynn Chavarria of Northeast Speaks Out About Native American Mascots

When asked to speak about something they felt passionate about, Galynn Chavarria, a sophomore at Lincoln Northeast spoke openly about her feelings concerning the use of American Indian mascots.

American Indian mascots have long been controversial, but in 2001, 80 colleges still used them, according to the National Coalition on Racism in Sports and Media. Recently, the struggles over such mascots have intensified, as fans and foes across the country have become increasingly outspoken.

It is natural for people to be proud of their athletic teams, even in communities where the team name and symbolism stereotypes a race of people. The fact is, American Indian mascots ignorantly exhibit false portrayals of the American Indian culture. Because of this, both Native American and non-Indian people are still learning to tolerate racism in our society. Still, the American Indian continues to fight for his/her identity. Sadly, there are those who continue to argue that Native American mascots are a way of preserving the Native culture, but isn't Native culture passed on, not preserved?

see mascots on page 2

### Contacts

For more information on the events or announcements in this month's newsletter, please contact Kris at [kross@lps.org](mailto:kross@lps.org) or Kate at [kmarx@lps.org](mailto:kmarx@lps.org). Or call us at 436-1963.

This is your newsletter. We look forward to your ideas, suggestions, announcements, events, and student achievements.

Contact us before the 25th of each month for the next scheduled publication. We are excited to hear from you!

## Mascots continued from page 1

The truth is, inaccurate depictions of Indian people continue to promote and maintain stereotypes of the many rich and varied cultures that belong to the American Indian. Native people continue to make the public aware that they are not honored by this symbolism. To them, and others who feel the mascots should be removed, these mascots represent the mockery of their culture being portrayed in another culture's 'game'.

Galynn informed the class that not only does this issue stereotype Native Americans and their culture, it also defiles religious traditional items such as eagle feathers for mascot use. In most Native cultures, to receive an eagle feather is a great honor, but this feather also carries great responsibility. An eagle feather is a way Native cultures exhibit honor, but until the stereotypical mascots are removed, they continue exhibit no more than broken promises and false depictions.

Galynn received an A+ on her speech in addition to helping others learn more about this serious issue. Pam Davis, Galynn's oral communication teacher said, "Galynn was very effective on changing the perspective student's previously felt about this issue. She is a good advocate for Native American issues."

Galynn is very interested in making this issue known to a broader audience. Aden Marshall, a freshman at Lincoln High will also be speaking to his class about Native American mascots on December 17th. Congratulations Galynn and Aden! We appreciate your courage to speak out against the continued use of "Indian" logos. When you advocate for the removal of these mascots, you strengthen the spirit of tolerance and justice in your community; you are modeling for all our children - thoughtfulness, courage and respect for self and others.

## Lincoln Elementary School's Emerging Authors

In elementary school writing classes, children are being taught to use an introduction, body, and conclusion for their work. Scott Cross a third grader at Saratoga wrote the following:

### Dogs

A dog is hard work. This is what you have to do to take care of a dog.

You must feed it every day. You have to take it to the vet to get its shots or vaccination. You have to clean up after it when it goes to the bathroom and keep it clean by giving it a bath. It must be protected from fleas and tick by getting a collar or medicine.

I'm not getting a dog. It is too much work.

### My Family Tree

Me and my mom and my dad and my Mia and my brother. I love my Mom. I love Mia. I love my Brother. I love my Dad. I love Tyra.

By Tyra Sheridan  
Grade 1, McPhee School

### A Letter to Santa

Dear Santa,

I wish for Santa to be alive. I wish for a fairy godmother named Wanda.

From Tasha Leach  
Grade 2, Hartley School

## Books

### Grades K-4

**A Boy Called Slow: The True Story of Sitting Bull** by Joseph Bruchac. Putnam (1994)

**The Boy Who Dreamed of an Acorn** by Shonto Begay. Illustrated by Shonto Begay. Putnam Books (1994).

**Enduring Wisdom** by Virginia Driving Hawk Sneave. Illustrated by Synthia St. James. Holiday House (2003).

**Full Moon Stories** by Eagle Walking Turtle. Hyperion (1997).

### Grades 5-8

**Arrow Over the Door** by Joseph Bruchac. Dial (1998).

**Children of the Sun: Stories by and About Indian Kids** by Beverly Hungry Wolf. William Morrow (1998).

**Did You Hear Wind Sing Your Name? An Oneida Song of Spring** by Sandra DeCoteau. Walker & Company (1995).

**Dancing Teepees: Poems of American Indian Youth** by Virginia Driving Hawk Sneave. Holiday House (1988).

### Grades 9 and Up

**After and Before the Lightening** by Simon Ortiz. University of Arizona Press (1994).

**Bloodlines: Odyssey of a Native Daughter** by Janet Campbell Hale. University of Arizona Press (1993).

**Encyclopedia of American Indian Civil Rights** by James Stuart Olson (editor), Mark Baxter (editor), Darren Pierson (editor), and Jason M. Tetzloff (editor). Greenwood (1997).

# College Entrance Information

## COLLEGE ENTRANCE TESTING?

### WHAT? WHEN? WHERE?

Students who plan to continue their education after high school will usually need to take a college entrance examination. All colleges in the Midwest prefer students take the American College Test (ACT), schools on the East and West Coast and some other highly selective colleges prefer students take the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT). LHS Counselors recommend that students take the ACT and/or SAT for the first time in April, May or June of their junior year. Registration materials are available in the Counseling Center. Both exams are given on Saturday mornings. The ACT may be taken at Lincoln High or several other sites in Lincoln. The SAT Exam is offered only at Lincoln East. Native American students should contact their high school counselor, Kris or Kate for a testing fee waiver.

## COLLEGE ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

Now is a good time for students and parents to see if college entrance requirements are being met. The requirements for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln are:

English: 4 years or 8 semesters.

Math: 4 years or 8 semesters including one year beyond Advanced Algebra

Science: 3 years of science.

Social Studies: 3 years of social studies

World Language: 2 years of the same world language

See your high school counselor or Kris or Kate if you have any questions.

## WATCH THOSE DEADLINES

With the holiday season fast approaching, students and parents are reminded to watch deadlines. Most high school counselors and teachers will not be available from December 20, 2003 through January 5, 2004. If students need letters of recommendations or transcripts they need to plan accordingly. Students should give individuals at least a week's notice when requesting a letter of recommendation.

## IPAC

IPAC will meet January 9th in room W110 at LPSDO.

## Mentors

Anyone feeling that their child would benefit from some one-on-one tutoring during school hours should call Marilyn Jones, Kris Ross, or Kate Marx at 436-1963. You may need to leave a message.

## Correction

Misty Thomas is a parent on IPAC. We apologize her name was not included in last month's newsletter.

## FAFSA (FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID) FORMS ARE AVAILABLE

Students and parents can pick up the FAFSA Form for the 2004-5 school year in your High School Counseling Center. FAFSA Forms cannot be submitted until January 1, 2004.

## COLLEGE OPEN HOUSE PROGRAMS

\*Red Letter Days are all-day programs at UNL (8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.) for prospective students and their parents. You must register in advance and there is a small fee to cover your noon meal. Call 472-2023 for registration. There will be another Red Letter Day on December 5th.

## SCHOLARSHIP NEWS!

Scholarship information arrives at your school often. All current scholarships available to high school students are usually posted outside the Counseling Center or may be viewed on Lincoln High School's website. To conduct your own search of national scholarships visit one of the following sites: [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com) or [www.educationquest.org](http://www.educationquest.org). Native American students are eligible for many scholarships. Please contact your high school counselor, Kris, or Kate for the most recent lists.

## ACT and SAT TEST DATES/ DEADLINES

### AMERICAN COLLEGE TEST (ACT)

Regular Registration Fee is \$26.00 (\$15.00 late registration fee)

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration
December 13, 2003	November 7, 2003	November 20, 2003
February 17, 2004	January 2, 2004	January 16, 2004
April 3, 2004	February 27, 2004	March 12, 2004
June 12, 2004	May 7, 2004	May 21, 2004

### SCHOLASTIC APTITUDE TEST (SAT)

Regular Registration Fee is \$28.50


Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration
January 24, 2004	December 22, 2003	December 31, 2003
March 27, 2004	February 20, 2004	March 4, 2004
May 1, 2004	March 26, 2004	April 7, 2004
June 5, 2004	April 30, 2004	May 12, 2004

ACT and SAT have their own web sites where students can register online, take practice tests, access college information etc. The ACT site is [www.act.org](http://www.act.org) and the SAT site is [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org).

## Thank you, Randy Thomas!

Thank you for your years of contributing to IPAC and Indian Education. Your volunteerism has helped to create a program that is poised to move forward. We wish you good luck in the future and we know everyone wishes you the best of health.

### LINCOLN BOARD OF EDUCATION

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