

News & Notes

From the Director

February 1, 2008

A few years ago I ran across an interesting parable.

“Once upon a time, the animals decided they should do something meaningful to meet the problems of the world. So they organized a school.

They adopted an activity curriculum of running, climbing, swimming and flying. To make it easier to administer the curriculum, all the animals took all the subjects.

The duck was excellent in swimming; in fact, better than his instructor. But he made only passing grades in flying, and was very poor in running. Since he was slow in running, he had to drop swimming and stay after school to practice running. This caused his web feet to be badly worn, so that he was only average in swimming. But average was quite acceptable, so nobody worried about that - except the duck.

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The rabbit started at the top of his class in running, but developed a nervous twitch in his leg muscles because of the make-up work in swimming.

The squirrel was excellent in climbing, but he encountered constant frustration in flying class because his teacher made him start from ground up instead of from treetop down. He developed “charley horses” from overexertion, and so only got a C in climbing and a D in running.

The eagle was a problem child and was severely disciplined for being a non-conformist. In climbing classes he beat all the others to the top of the tree, but insisted on using his own way to get there.”

The moral is obvious - each of God’s creatures has his own particular strengths in which he excels and his own particular weaknesses and inabilities - all masterfully designed by the Master Creator. A duck is a duck, and only a duck; it is created to swim and fly, but certainly not to climb. A squirrel is a squirrel, and only that. To expect a squirrel to swim or fly would drive a squirrel nuts. Eagles are magnificent creatures in the air, but clumsy goofs in a foot race. The rabbit will win every time unless, of course, the eagle gets hungry!

What’s true of creatures in the forest is true of all in God’s family. He has not made us the same and never intended to. God gifted each of us as He saw fit and He has given us inabilities as He saw fit.

The family is diverse and thank God for His wisdom in giving diversity. Our forest would be dull indeed if we were all ducks or all rabbits. And, how empty our world would be without eagles!!

Tim Thompson, Director

School Calendar

Feb 1	Quiz Bowl @ Education Service Unit, Omaha
Feb 1	V G&B BB @ Prague - 6:15/8:00
Feb 4	Pre-Calc to Peter Kiewit - 8:50 am
Feb 4	NFC Speech @ OCA - 4:00 pm
Feb 5	JV B BB/V G&B BB @ Concordia 4:00/5:30/7:00 pm
Feb 7	Speech to NE Veterans Home - 2:00 pm
Feb 7	Junior Cheer Clinic - 3:30-5:30 pm in the Activity Rm on 2nd Floor
Feb 7	Association Meeting - 7:00 pm in the OCA Cafeteria
Feb 8	ACSI Spelling Bee @ Bellevue Christian
Feb 8	JV B BB/V G&B BB vs Mead @ College of St. Marys - 5:00/6:30/8:00 - Senior Night Pack the Gym Night Junior Cheer Performance
Feb 9	JV & V B BB vs Fremont Bergan @ Grace University - 6:00 & 7:45 pm
Feb 11	MS G BB vs Seward - TBA
Feb 12	Valentine Celebration - 5:00 pm @ Union Pacific Center
Feb 14	Elem. Valentine Parties - 2:00 pm
Feb 15	Booster Club Mtg. - 8:00 am
Feb 15	JV/V B BB @ Omaha Nation - 6:15/8:00 pm
Feb 18	No School - President's Day
Feb 19	No Preschool - Preschool Par- ent/Teacher Conferences
Feb 21	4th-6th grade to Omaha Sym- phony - 9:15 am

**OMAHA CHRISTIAN
ACADEMY**

ASSOCIATION MEETING

Thursday, February 7, 7:00 pm

OCA Cafeteria

**Adult-supervised childcare
will be provided in the
Activity Room.**

HAVE YOU BOUGHT YOUR TICKETS YET???

OCA's gala Valentine Celebration is coming up Tuesday, February 12, so now's the time to purchase your tickets in the office. Invite friends to share in this memorable evening with Steve and Annie Chapman and enjoy music, laughter, and great food and conversation! Doors will open at 5 p.m., with dining at 5:15, followed by a concert with the Chapmans. Tickets are \$50 and are available until Thursday, February 7. It's also easy to purchase them online at www.omahachristianacademy.com (just click "Valentine Celebration"). Another place to purchase tickets is at Teckmeyer Financial Services on 11104 John Galt Blvd.

Be sure to listen to KCRO AM 660 at noon Saturday, Feb. 2, to hear an interview with the Chapmans; shorter spots run at 3:53 p.m. each day through Feb. 8. And see our own Larry Nilius on KPTM Fox 42 on Monday, Feb. 4, between 10 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. as he shares about the event and OCA!

Postcards and posters detailing this special evening are available in the office. Please help spread the word!

OCA IS ON THE AIR!!!

Check out these upcoming programs featuring OCA:

- Tune in Saturday, Feb. 2, at noon to hear a 15-minute interview with Steve and Annie Chapman on KCRO AM 660. The two were interviewed by radio host Jackie Mahr about their music ministry as well as their upcoming appearance at OCA's Valentine Celebration Feb. 12. You can also catch a two-minute interview with the Chapmans on KCRO at 3:53 p.m. every day through Friday, Feb. 8. Or link to the following podcast any time to hear that spot: www.shlradio.libsyn.com

OCA's own Larry Nilius will appear on the KPTM Fox 42 "Omaha Living" show Monday, Feb. 4, between 10 and 10:30 a.m. to talk about the Valentine Celebration as well as the school.

In addition, OCA Administrator Tim Thompson was a guest Wednesday, Jan 30, on the WOWT midday show, where he discussed the Valentine Celebration as well as the value of faith-based education and OCA's plans for expansion.

SPECIAL THANKS



A special thank you to one of OCA's 1st graders, Samantha Lee, for her creative and enthusiastic fundraising for our Building Project. Samantha has "passed a hat" at two of our recent basketball games and has collected a total of \$141.67 for the building fund. Thanks to all the OCA basketball fans who have supported Samantha in her fundrais-

FEBRUARY 8th IS SENIOR NIGHT

Parents be ready to escort your senior onto the basketball court between the varsity girls and varsity boys game. Thank you seniors for the fun year! Go Eagles!

SPRING?... SOCCER?...



It is hard to think about spring sports with basketball underway... however, the time to sign-up is coming soon.

K-8th Grade Spring Soccer Sign-ups

Monday, February 11, 3:15-5:45 pm

Season: March 29-May 17

Cost: \$50

OCA Youth Sports does not offer the 5th & 6th grade students volleyball and flag football in the spring, only in the fall. If you want your child to participate in these sports this spring, please contact me and arrangements can be made to have your child put on a Y team. A registration form is available on our school's website www.omahachristianacademy.com (Youth Sports link). The registration form will also be attached to the *News & Notes* next week. If there are any questions please call Terri Zimmerle at 493-2850, send a PAN or email me at tzimmerle@aol.com.

CALENDAR CHANGES



March 13-14 will be normal school days

Spring Break will be Friday, March 21-Friday, March 28

Wednesday, April 23: Walk-a-Thon

Monday, April 28: 4th-8th Grade Spring Concert

Monday, May 6: HS Performing Arts Concert

Monday, May 12: HS Sports Awards

Tuesday, May 13: Board Meeting

Friday, May 23: HS Awards

PRAYING FOR PENNIES

The kindergarten class has been praying for our new school.

“But what can we do to help?” asked Mrs. Eveland.

The children answered, “Pennies Mrs. Eveland, we have pennies!”

The children then began bringing in pennies. Jonathan found one in the laundry room, David had some in his piggy bank and Hannah brought 300 one day.

So if you see a kindergartener, give them a penny and join them in praying for the future home of OCA.



Drawing by Abby Tulsie

Guidance Corner

- ⇒ High school students interested in a career in health care may want to participate in the Methodist Hospital Explorer Post. There will be an open house session on Monday, Feb. 11 from 6:00-7:00 pm in the Methodist Hospital Cancer Center Auditorium. There is a \$25 registration fee for those who decide they want to participate in the post. To pre-register please contact Suzie Skaff by e-mail (sskaff@mac-bsa.org) subject line: (Methodist Hospital) or call 431-9272.
 - ⇒ 11th grade students interested in a career in law enforcement are eligible to apply to participate in The Junior Law Cadet Program sponsored by the Nebraska American Legion and the Nebraska State Patrol. The program has been scheduled in two sessions, offering identical programs for boys and girls. The young women's session will be held June 9-13 and the young men's session will be held June 16-20. Participants will stay at the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center in Grand Island. If interested in applying please contact the guidance office for more information.
 - ⇒ UNL will be hosting their annual Big Red Show at the Qwest Center on Sunday, Feb. 24. It is a free open house for all students. Visit www.roadshow.unl.edu for more information.
 - ⇒ Swanson Russell Associates is sponsoring the Gus Memorial Communications Scholarship for seniors who plan to enroll in a Nebraska college or university and pursue a degree in one of the following fields: advertising, marketing, mass communications, communication studies, public relations, journalism, and graphic design/desktop publishing. Applicants must have a 3.25 GPA or above. Deadline is March 15. An application can be printed from their Web site at www.sramarketing.com.
 - ⇒ High school students interested in a career in law enforcement may want to participate in the Council Bluffs Police Department Explorer Post. The first meeting will be on Feb. 7 at 6:00 pm at the Council Bluffs Police Dept., 227 S. 6th St. There is a \$25 registration fee. To RSVP contact Suzie Skaff at 431-9272 or sskaff@mac-bsa.org.
 - ⇒ UNK will be hosting their eighth annual Senior Day on Monday, Feb. 11. For more information and to register go to www.unk.edu. Reservations will be accepted through Wednesday, Feb. 6.
 - ⇒ The Center for Professional Development at Creighton Univ. is offering an ACT preparation course for high school juniors and seniors. Students will receive 16 hours of exam content instruction in the disciplines of English, math, science and reading comprehension. The course is offered on consecutive weekends beginning March 8 and 9. Course sections will meet on either Saturday or Sunday afternoons (1:00-5:00 pm). The cost is \$389.00. To learn more visit <http://cpd.creighton.edu> or call 280-2424.
 - ⇒ Iowa Western Comm. College will be hosting Education Day on Friday, Feb. 15. This day will offer students the chance to explore opportunities in the field of education, including both Early Childhood Education and K-12 Education. If interested attending contact the guidance office.
 - ⇒ The Nebraska Truck Center, Inc. is offering seniors who wish to become medium and heavy duty truck and diesel technicians an opportunity to attend Central Community College in Hastings by offering the Nebraska Truck Center, Inc. Student Sponsorship Program. The sponsorship provides funds to cover tuition and book fees, along with a \$2,500 tool allowance. Application deadline is Feb. 29.
 - ⇒ UNL will be hosting the 2008 High School Workshop: "Career Explorations in Architecture and Interior Design." This program is designed for high school age students who are interested in pursuing Architecture, Landscape Architecture or Interior Design as a career. The workshop will be held June 15-21. Application forms are available in the guidance office. Deadline is April 4.
 - ⇒ The Great Plains Association of College Admission Counseling is offering six \$1,000 scholarships for seniors. For more information, eligibility requirements and online application go to <http://www.gpacac.net>. Deadline is Feb. 29.
 - ⇒ The Assistance League of Omaha is offering an ACT Review Course at Westside High School. The course consists of two sessions with an optional third session for the writing portion of the test. Both sessions must be attended to receive full coverage. The first session will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 5 from 6:30-9:30 pm. The second session will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 6 from 6:30-9:30 pm. The optional third session will be held on Thursday, Feb. 7 from 6:30-8:30 pm. There is a \$30 fee for two sessions and \$40 for all three. Registration forms are available in the guidance office.
- Calendar:**
- Feb. 6 - Metro Community College Rep Visit
 - Feb. 7 - Baker University Rep Visit
 - Feb. 7 - Late SAT Registration Deadline for March 1 Test
 - Feb. 27 - La James Int'l College Rep Visit
 - Mar. 7 - ACT Registration Deadline for April 12 Test
 - Mar. 21 - Late ACT Registration Deadline for April 12 Test

OMAHA CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

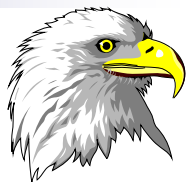
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A Christian Community of Learning

IMPORTANT

Please check Sycamore Education for the most up to date information regarding cancellations of any school events due to inclement weather.

GATE/CONCESSION/CLEAN-UP

Friday, Feb. 8 vs Mead at College of St. Mary

JV Boys/V Girls & Boys - 5:00/6:30/8:00 pm

Gate: 4:30-8:30 pm - Rick & Beth Sweeney

Concessions: 4:45-6:30 pm - Don & Debra Simons and John & Cindy Ostry

6:30-8:45 pm - Tim & Karen Galvin and Lyn & Pat Graves

Clean-up After Game: Kent & Kelly Wirges & Freshman Families

Saturday, Feb. 9 vs Fremont Bergan at Grace U.

JV Boys/V Boys - 6:00 & 7:45 pm

Gate: 5:30-8:30 pm - Dave & Marilyn Bryce

Concessions: 5:45-8:30 pm - Luke & Phyllis Wiese and Steve & Joyce West

Clean-up: Bill & Melanie Lovgren & Sophomore Families

Cub Scout Corner

Mark your calendars for the following events:
February 7, 14, & 21 - Regular Den Meetings
February 29 - Blue & Gold Banquet

School Lunch Menu

	Entree	Sides/Dessert
Feb. 4	HOT—Soft Shell Chicken Taco "Build Your Own" COLD—Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich on Whole Wheat Bread	Lettuce & Cheese Cup Corn Salsa Chocolate Sherbet
Feb. 5	HOT—Creamed Turkey over Mashed Potatoes COLD—Chicken Taco Salad Box	Seasonal Fresh Fruit Dinner Roll Oatmeal Scotty Bar
Feb. 6	HOT—Pizza Hut Pizza COLD—Salad Box w/ Turkey & Cheese	Lettuce Salad Applesauce Chocolate Cookie
Feb. 7	HOT—Teriyaki Chicken over Rice w/ Chow Mein Noodles COLD—Pepperoni & Cheese Sandwich	Oriental Vegetable Salad Peach Cup Fortune Cookie
Feb. 8	HOT—Macaroni & Cheese COLD—Oriental Chicken Salad	Carrot Sticks Mixed Fruit Jell-O Cake

Students may choose yogurt & cheese stick as a main dish alternative.

Milk will be served with all meals.

Cost: \$2.45(K-4); \$2.60 (5-12); \$1.00 Extra Entrees

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

TEACHER APPRECIATION DAY



Teacher Appreciation Day is March 1st. We will be honoring our teachers the week of March 3rd. Room parents will be organizing activities for the elementary teachers. Parents of middle school and high school teachers may send monetary donations to school (checks made payable to OCA are tax deductible). Gift certificates will be purchased and distributed to the middle school and high school teachers. A luncheon will be provided for all teachers on Tuesday, March 4. If you would like to help or have any questions, please contact Margie Thierstein at 763-9978 or Pass-a-Note.

THE OCA BOOSTER CLUB PRESENTS THE FOURTH ANNUAL

"ROUND EM UP EAGLES"

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2008

COLLEGE OF ST. MARY'S - 7000 MERCY RD.

ACTIVITIES START AT 4:00 pm

A fun-filled evening will start with the junior varsity Eagles' basketball game being played at 5:00. The varsity Lady Eagles' game will begin at 6:30 followed by the varsity Eagles at 8:00 as they set out to beat the Mead Raiders.

Come dressed in your western wear or your OCA apparel and earn a ticket to be placed in a drawing for a pizza party at Godfathers, a basketball donated by Hauff Sports, an hour of gym use at Coach Fletch's gym just to name a few. Students and teachers can come dressed all day in their western wear (no guns, please).

All week, the students will be trying to earn \$5,000 for "Bucks for Baskets." The goal will be \$100/point. Each time the varsity players score, more money will be coming in for the new building. If they reach their goal of \$5,000, there will be a Family Fun Night at Family Fun Center for OCA. More details are in the attached flier.

All during the evening you will have a chance to see the future Eagle Cheerleaders (K-4 OCA students) making their debut with the help of our Pep Squad.

There will be "horseyback relays" for K-4 students. Students, grab one of your parents for a "horseyback ride", make a basket and win a prize! This relay will take place during the Lady Eagles' varsity halftime.

There will be "the OCA Derby" for the 5th -12th grade students. Students will grab four friends for a relay race across the floor on a horse bouncing a basketball. The Derby will be held during the Eagles' varsity halftime.

Booster Club will have Eagle buttons for sale at a cost of \$1.50. You can also buy an OCA arm band for \$2.50. There will be OCA Apparel available to buy at a first come, first serve basis.

Family Fun Center is donating free tokens for any student that attends the game to be used whenever you want!!;

Eli the Eagle will have many more prizes to give away throughout the night!
The cost of the game is \$3.00 for students and \$4.00 for adults

So plan now to cheer the OCA Eagles and have a fun night of entertainment!

BUCKS FOR BASKETS!

This contest is for the entire student body. During “Round Em Up Eagles!” week, we will be trying to earn money per point for the total of the OCA boys’ and girls’ varsity games vs Mead. We will only count OCA’s score. Can you give \$.10 a point? Can you give \$.25 a point? Can you give \$1.00 a point? Could the student body at OCA earn \$100/point by the end of the week? Could the student body earn \$5,000 for the new building? We will take donations until the end of the game on Friday night.

Let’s break that down. If the teams were to score a total of 70 points between both games and we earned \$100/point, this would total \$7,000 for the new building. If the teams were to score 90 points and we earned \$75/point, the total would be \$6,750. What does that mean individually? If a student would donate \$.25/point at 70 points, that student would donate \$17.50 to the new school building. We will cap the points at 100 points so you will know the most that you could pay.

What is our goal? \$5,000 for the new school building

What happens when we make our goal? We will have an OCA Family Fun Night at Family Fun Center!

An evening that promises to hold lots of fun and memories!! Come join your friends to a game of pool, rock climbing, Football Frenzy, Jumpshot, Lazertag and more!! Earn an OCA Family Fun Night!

Elementary and Middle School Family Fun would start at 6:00 on Friday evening, February 29 with free tokens, two free attractions and lots of fun!

The High School Family Fun will be an all-nighter with fun beginning at 1:00am and ending at 3:00am on Friday night, February 29. Again, free attractions and tokens. Parents: This will be a sponsored lock-in and students would not be allowed to leave.

Students – all those attending the game on Friday, February 8, will receive free tokens compliments of Family Fun to use whenever you want!

So join in the fun! Come cheer on the Eagles to see if we reach our goal! Each basket is two points closer to our goal!



BUCKS FOR BASKETS!

The total points will be capped at 100 points so the following is the most you would donate:

- \$.10 point at 100 points = \$10.00
- \$.25 point at 100 points = \$25.00
- \$.50 point at 100 points = \$50.00
- \$1.00 point at 100 points = \$100.00

I will donate _____ per point at the OCA vs Mead basketball game on Friday, February 8, 2008. I understand that this will be capped at 100 points.

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

We will have a table set up after the game to collect money pledged. If you leave before the game is over, please send in your money to the office on Monday to the attention of Tammy Krumwiede.

