

# The Raider Review

Complimentary Copy

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E. C. Adams Middle School

Volume 8 Issue 3

## Holocaust Survivor Comes to Adams



For two days in January, Mrs. Selma Engle joined the staff and students at Adams Middle School to share her account of the time she spent in a Nazi death camp in Poland, during World War II. Both students and staff were spellbound by her detailed and heartbreaking story of her experiences during the Holocaust.

Mrs. Engle and her late husband, Chaim, were part of the 300 prisoners that escaped from Sobibor death camp in October 1943. Only 50 of the 300 escapees lived to see World War II end. A movie, "Escape from Sobibor", was made in 1987 that depicts the harrowing escape.

Mr. & Mrs. Engle eventually came to America and raised their two children in Branford, CT. Before his death, Mr. & Mrs. Engle spoke at many schools in the area about their experiences during the Holocaust. After his passing, Mrs. Engle continued to visit local schools and came to Adams to speak at the urging of Mrs. Taylor, Team 8-1 Language Arts teacher. This is the third year in a row that Mrs. Engle has come to Adams to provide students with first hand experience of this dark period in world history. When Mrs. Engle was asked why she continues to speak with local students about the Holocaust, she simply stated, "Because it must never happen again".

## ELYSIUM SOARS!

*Submitted by Elysium Staff*

Elysium is off to a sizzling start! We've already received some interesting submissions... crammed with thought and creativity. We're looking forward to receiving many more masterpieces from talented artists and writers.

As far as the Poetry Contest, we will be announcing the winners very soon!

Recently, we visited the Florence Griswold Museum to explore the fascinating world of American Impressionists and to learn what makes art "good" when we're critiquing students' work.

Grab your stress balls! Throughout the next few months, we will be very busy selecting pieces for publication in our magazine. For all updates and other information, please visit our website, which can be accessed through the AMS site. You can also email us at [Elysium@guilford.12.ct.us](mailto:Elysium@guilford.12.ct.us). We would love to hear from you!

## Intergenerational Computer Club

*Submitted by Liz Barnes*



On Tuesdays after school, you're likely to find a number of 7th and 8th grade students taking part in the Intergenerational Computer Club. The student helpers are assisting local senior citizens in learning new computer skills. (Continued on page 3 - COMPUTER CLUB)

# LEAPS & BOUNDS

Submitted by Eric Daguanno

The year 2008 is a leap year. But what does this mean? Are we supposed to hop up and down on New Year's Day? A leap year is really a special year. Julius Caesar was the person responsible for the creation of leap years. He ordered that every 4 years, there would be an extra day added to the calendar year to make up for the extra one quarter of a day, which occurs during the annual revolution of the earth around the sun. It was decided that February 29th would be that extra day.

In the 16<sup>th</sup> century, the exact length of a year was discovered to be approximately 365 and one quarter days and then rounded to 365 days. This is 11 minutes and 14 seconds off the real length of the year. In 1582, the creators of our modern calendar omitted the leap year three times every 400 years. Any century year that wasn't divisible by four was no longer a leap year. Our calendar year is now just a half minute off from the real time!

Here is a simple way to understand a leap year:

Let's say January 23 falls on a Monday...

February 23 will fall on Tuesday.

March 23 will be on Wednesday.

But April 23 will be on Friday, not Thursday.

The 4<sup>th</sup> year "leaps" over Thursday.

## Myth Buster: The Dark Side of Jell-O

By Investigator Liz Barnes

You all know that Jell-O is a sweet, wiggly, refreshing snack. Jell-O is an easy and fun thing to make on a hot summer day. But do you have the slightest idea of what you are really putting in your mouth? Have you ever wondered what gelatin powder is really made of? Some people say it is made of bone marrow. Bone Marrow is a substance that is found inside your bones. Another myth or fact?

Here it is the real deal! Jell-O is made from a structural protein called collagen. Collagen is found in animals and in humans. But, the collagen that we eat is from cow or pig bones, hooves and connective tissues. On the bright side, collagen is very good for you. Collagen helps to keep skin, bones and tendons strong and flexible. Imagine a tasty, sweet treat that not only is delicious, but good for you too!

Now you have it! Now you have the truth! Another myth ... busted!

"What Exactly is Jell-O Made of?". [How Stuff Works](http://www.howstuffworks.com). January 24, 2001  
January 15, 2008. On-line. Available <<http://www.howstuffworks.com>>.

# GAME REVIEW '08

Submitted by Eli Guerra

Happy New Year everyone! (Yes, I know it's a little late for that!) Well I have good news and terrible news. **BRAWL's** release date has been delayed until March 9<sup>th</sup>! Unfortunately, due to localization problems, the U.S release has been delayed another month. Yet Japanese video game enthusiasts have **BRAWL** in all its glory since the overseas release on January 13<sup>th</sup>. Hopefully, **BRAWL** won't get delayed again. Phew! Now that the release date information is over with, here's what you can look forward to in **BRAWL!**

## Super Smash Brothers BRAWL

Sure we need to wait another months from it's original release date, but Masahiro Sakuria, the game director, said extra development time will let them add more stuff. And he may be right. Here's what to expect in Brawl:

- ◆ C. Olimar from Pikmin playable
- ◆ Stage creator
- ◆ Dedede from Kirby playable
- ◆ Trophy gun (new way for earning trophies)
- ◆ Sonic playable
- ◆ 4-6 color choices for characters (even possible costume swap! ex: Dr. Mario)
- ◆ Wi-Fi
- ◆ Assist trophies
- ◆ Subspace emissary (story mode)
- ◆ No cloned characters
- ◆ Final smash
- ◆ Returning Melee stages

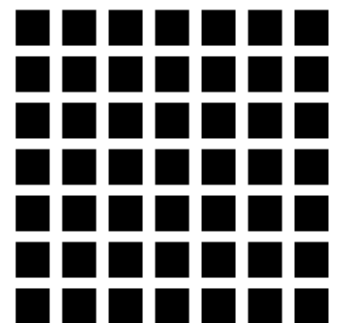
So there you have it, twelve things to expect in **BRAWL**. We'll probably find even more great features when this game is finally released in the United States!

**REJOICE!!!** Ness has accidentally been confirmed in Brawl. Along with Jigglypuff and newcomer Pokemon Lucario! Expect Captain Falcon as an unlockable though. Have fun ☺!

## Optical Illusions

Submitted by Matt Lebow

Optical illusions have been around for a long time. The illusions were made for fun, amazement, and entertainment. They were used to entertain kings and queens, emperors and empresses, other important leaders, a common family, or just yourself. In this issue of the Raider Review, you'll find three optical illusions! Check them out!



Believe it or not, there are no gray spots at the corners of the squares.

"Optical Illusions." [NIEHS Kids' Pages](http://www.niehs.nih.gov/illusion/). February 2008. On-line. Available. <<http://www.niehs.nih.gov/illusion/>>.

# Countries, Countries, Countries! <sup>3</sup> Fun Facts

Submitted by Matt Lebow

In this article, learn some interesting facts about the European country of France!

**Capital:** Paris

**Area:** The total land area of France: 643,427n sq km

**Land:** 640,053 sq km

**Water:** 3,374 sq km

**Note:** These totals include overseas regions of French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique, and Reunion, not just mainland France.

**Natural Resources of the Main Land France:** coal, iron ore, bauxite, zinc, uranium, antimony, arsenic, potash, feldspar, fluorspar, gypsum, timber, and fish.

**French Guiana:** gold deposits, petroleum, kaolin, niobium, tantalum, and clay.

**Lowest Point:** Rhone River delta -2 M

**Highest Point:** Mont Blanc 4,807 M

**Population:** 63,713,926

**Ethnic Groups Found in France:** Celtic and Latin with Teutonic, Slavic, North African, Indochinese, Basque Minorities. (Overseas departments: Black, White, Mulatto, East Indian, Chinese, Amerindian.

**Religions:** Roman Catholic 83%-88%, Protestant 2%, Jewish 1%, Muslim 5%-10%, Unaffiliated 4%.

(Overseas departments: Roman Catholic, Protestant, Hindu, Muslim, Buddhist, Pagan.

**Languages Spoken in France:** French 100%, rapidly declining regional dialects and languages (Provencal, Breton, Alsatian, Corsican, Catalan, Basque, Flemish.) (Overseas departments: French, Creole Patois.

**Government:** Republic

"Facts about France." *Living Abroad*, January 2008. On-line. Available. <http://www.howtobooks.co.uk/abroad/france/facts.asp>.

## LOONEY LYRICS

Use these lyrics to the tune of "Barbie Girl" By Aqua

Submitted by Marisa Smith

I'm a chocolate brownie with frosting everywhere.  
In a container with no air, you can you can chomp on me, I'm edible you see.

Chewy on the inside, and crunchy on the outside.

Come on brownie, in my tummy, yum, yum, yum, yeah.

Come on brownie, in my tummy, yummy, yummy!

Come on brownie, in my tummy, yum, yum, yum, yeah.

Come on brownie, in my tummy, yummy, yummy!

Submitted by Liz Barnes

## Did you know...?

...that a large group of jellyfish is called a smack?

...an eyelash lasts for about 150 days before it falls out?

...when you sneeze air rushes through your nose at about 100 mph?

...Linonophobia is the fear of string?

...that Erotophobia is the fear of flirting?

...Tachophobia is the fear of speed?

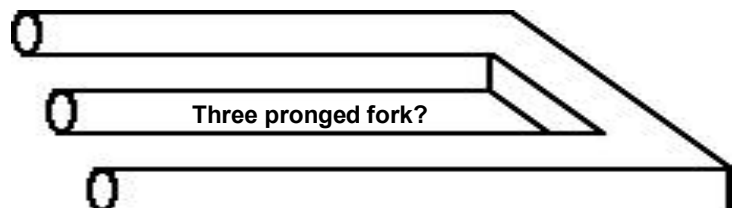
...that Phonemophobia is the fear of thinking?

"Are These Phobias For Real?". *Brain Candy: The Lab*. January 2008. On-line. Available. <<http://www.kidzworld.com>>.

## (From page 1 - COMPUTER CLUB)

Students pair up with a senior and assist them throughout the hour long classes. During the winter session, seniors are being introduced to different programs that can be found in the Microsoft Office Suite. They are currently experimenting with Microsoft Word and the templates that this program provides. Some seniors made their own stationary, while others were amazed that they could create recipe cards!

In addition, students will be exposed to PowerPoint, Publisher and Excel. After our first session, it is obvious that everyone is cooperating beautifully and the senior citizens are learning a great deal of computer knowledge. We are still looking for volunteers! If interested, please see Miss Cardella or attend our next meeting.



# Fear of Rover?

# ADAMS QUICK WEATHER

Submitted by Casey Disotell

Are you a Hippophobia? Well if you're thinking that this is a bad thing to have, well, you're right! Hippophobia means that you have a fear of HORSES L. Keep reading and see if you could have a fear of animals!

Ichthyophobia – fear of fish

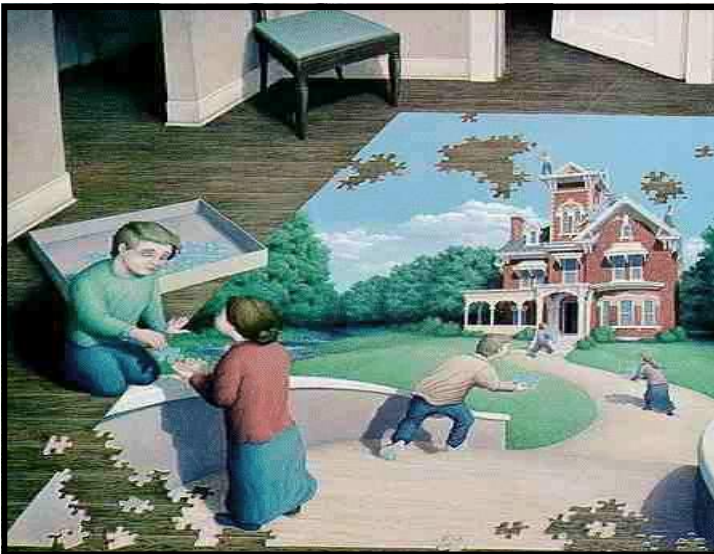
Herpetophobia – fear of reptiles

Scoleciphobia – fear of worms

Musophobia – fear of mice

Zoophobia – fear of animals

"Weird Facts and Trivia." Fun Facts and Trivia. January 2008. Online. Available. <<http://www.funfacts.com.au/weird-facts/>>.



Where does the puzzle begin and end?

# NJHS UPDATE

The National Junior Honor Society has been very busy this year! NJHS hosted the annual Halloween dance in October, which included a costume contest and showcased Team 8-3's pumpkin creations. It was a blast, and a large amount of money was raised towards purchasing a class gift.

NJHS members also participated in Knowledge Masters which was a fun, yet challenging competition against local schools in various subjects. All the participants did an amazing job!

In addition, during the month of February we sold hundreds of carnations to raise money for SARAH.

Be on the lookout for more fun National Junior Honor Society activities to come!

Submitted by Liz Barnes

Hello there! Dr. Katz here, reporting for ADAMS QUICK WEATHER! I am here to talk about the cold white stuff...SNOW! Thankfully, it is just a few days before spring and time to put away those shovels and spoons! But, I thought I'd remind you of just how remarkable snowflakes are before they go away until next winter!

As you *may* know, there are no two snowflakes alike. What you *may not* know is that all snowflakes have six sides. Just imagine how many amazing designs of snowflakes there must be during a blizzard!!! Believe it or not, billions of snowflakes fall during one quick storm! For all the trouble snow can cause, just be happy you don't live in Stampede Pass, Washington! This little town averages 430 inches of snow each year!

Let's hope that you won't have to bring out the snow boots again...but dust off the umbrellas! Spring is on the way!

This has been Dr. Katz for ADAMS QUICK WEATHER!

## We Need You!



Dear Adams Students & Staff,

Have you ever dreamed of writing an article for a newspaper or imagined that your work would be available for millions to view over the Internet? Well, now is your chance! Join the Adams Newspaper Club! The *Raider Review* is looking for members to help create our school newspaper. Would you like to help? Attend our next meeting, Tuesday @ 2:50-3:40, in the Library Media Center Computer Lab. If you cannot attend a meeting, but would like to submit an article, creative writing, photos or artwork, please see Miss Cardella in room M-9.