

ENTERTAINMENT

Word Of The Week:

Chrestomathy - noun - a selection of passages compiled to aid in learning a language

I told Jeff I was going to fail my French test. In the hallway outside of the class, he performed an emergency chrestomathy, and I just barely passed.

Entertainment News in Brief

4/11 - 4/18

J.K. Rowling sues fan over Harry Potter encyclopedia

A fan of J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter series planned to publish an encyclopedia of all terms and ideas related to the popular novels. Rowling sued the fan, claiming that "this book constitutes wholesale theft of seventeen years of my hard work." According to some reports, the fan, named Stephen Vander Ark, cried on the witness stand. He claims that his book, titled the "Harry Potter Lexicon," will "enhance the pleasure of readers of the Potter novels, and deepen their appreciation of Ms. Rowling's achievement."

Land next to HOLLYWOOD sign officially for sale

The land up and to the left of the "H" in Hollywood's famous title sign is for sale, reports CNN. Official estimates of costs put the small parcel of land at around \$22 million. Residents of the area protest the sale due to the loss of the panoramic view and decreased accessibility to hikers. "This is our Eiffel Tower," said Councilman Tom LaBonge. "There is the Hollywood sign. There is the open space. And that's all there is. This is ours and it should remain ours." The original plan for the space was to build a mansion at the top for Howard Hughes to share with Ginger Rogers. Eventually the idea died out, leaving the giant letters as a world-famous monument to the area.

Source: CNN

Beacon Entertainer of the Week

Al Pacino



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Upcoming releases:
Movies

**Harold and Kumar
Escape from
Guantanamo Bay**
~April 25~

Harold and Kumar get caught attempting to sneak a bong on a transatlantic flight.

Rating: R



Baby Mama
~April 25~

Amy Poehler and Tina Fey team up to lead a sharp, witty comedy about two women trying to support each other through nine very difficult months.

Rating: PG-13

Music

Def Leppard
~April 29~

*Songs from the
Sparkle Lounge*



Madonna
~April 29~

Hard Candy



Digital age ushers in new type of race

Viral videos, YouTube part of a digital campaign trail

By Connor Sattely
entertainment editor
cis5060@psu.edu

In an age dominated by online viral videos, forums and message boards, the major candidates for the 2008 election are not sitting idly. Several of the candidates have utilized digital assets in helping their campaign reach a potential online audience of millions.

Senator Hillary Clinton (D-NY) declared her candidacy in an online video titled "I'm in."

"After six years of George Bush, it is time to renew the promise of America," she said in the video posted on her website. While it was not available for sharing at the time of its release, the announcement still received widespread attention from an internet audience hungry for attention from any candidate.

Former Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee announced his candidacy on *Meet the Press* with

Rising internet attention to politics gives rise to a new road to the White House.

Tim Russert. He wasn't the first: Presidential Candidate Ralph Nader and Senator Joe Biden both used *Meet the Press* to make their candidacy declarations this year.

The proliferation of digital and broadcasted announcements seemingly did not reach Obama. He made his announcement in sub-zero degree temperatures in Springfield, IL, in the same place that Abraham Lincoln delivered his famous "House Divided" speech.

"You didn't come here just for me," he said to his home crowd. "You came here because you believe in what this country can

be." Though the two remaining Democratic candidates used different media to announce their plans to run, both addressed criticisms directed at them by opponents. Obama shrugged off comments that his inexperience



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Hillary Clinton declared her candidacy in this online video.

would lead to a "transition period" in the White House. "I know I haven't spent a lot of time learning the ways of Washington," Obama told his supporters, "but I've been there long enough to know that the ways of Washington must change."

Clinton announced that she would try to fix miscommunication from the government to its people. "So let's talk," she said in her video. "Let's chat, let's start a dialogue about your ideas and mine, because the conversation in Washington has been just a little one-sided lately, don't you think?"

Senator John McCain (R-AZ) chose *The Late Show with David Letterman* to announce his can-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Sen. John McCain declared his candidacy on *The Late Show*.

didacy for President. "I am announcing that I will be a candidate for the President of the United States," he told Letterman. He then made it clear that he would formally announce his candidacy the following month in a speech.

Beyond candidacy announcements, all candidates used the internet as a core medium of delivering information about their policies.

Republican Mitt Romney used the internet to his advantage early in his campaign. He utilized a "Five Brothers' Blog," written by his five sons. His wife also posted, and online sources claim that he was the first candidate to attain a Facebook page, something which helped him garner support amongst teens and young adults.

There is no doubt that political interest through the internet is growing steadily. The Pew Research Group announced results confirming this growth in early 2008. In 2000, nine percent of people said that they "regularly learned something from" internet sources regarding the Presidential campaign. In 2004, that number had risen to 13 percent; this year, it jumped again to 24 percent. The numbers tend to be in favor of a younger population: breaking down the survey further to 18-24 year old responses, a whopping 42 percent frequented the net for information this year, doubled from 2004's total.

The shift to an online focus in reaching out to younger voters may have significant disadvantages for the candidates. Negative videos, including embarrassing moments tend to garner more attention than videos promoted by the candidates.

For example, a YouTube video of Hillary Clinton singing the Star Spangled Banner out-of-tune has almost two million views, while her candidacy announcement has 33,000.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Country Music Television Awards.

CMT music big hit with audience

Monday's Country Music Television awards hail Kellie Pickler, Taylor Swift

By Evan Koser
copy editor
emk5110@psu.edu

The Country Music Television (CMT) Music Awards aired on television Monday, April 14. The show was hosted by father-daughter duo Billy Ray and Miley Cyrus, together performing their duet "Ready, Set, Don't Go." Many country music artists and a few unconventional artists such as Snoop Dogg and Jon Bon Jovi attended the event, even winning some awards. However, the majority of the awards went to 18-year-old Taylor Swift and 21-year-old Kelly Pickler.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Taylor Swift.

A visibly surprised Taylor Swift won the award for best female video of the year for "Our Song." "Are you sure? Are you serious? Oh my God. Oh my God. I can't even believe this," exclaimed Swift. "I wrote that song in the ninth grade for a talent show," she explained. "I never thought it would be on an album, never thought I'd record it, never thought it would be a single, never thought it would be No. 1 and certainly never thought it would win video and female video of the year." Her competition included Martina McBride, former American Idol winner Carrie Underwood, LeAnn Rimes and Miranda Lambert. The song also won best video, topping Kenny Chesney's "Don't Blink", Brad Paisley's "Online" and Sugarland's "Stay".

Speaking via satellite while getting ready for Country Thunder in Arizona, Pickler said, "This is the first time I ever won anything in my life. I'm so excited... Thank you to American Idol. You are the rocket that launched my career." Pickler also won USA Weekend Breakthrough Video, Tearjerker Video of the Year and Performance of the Year for "I Wonder," a song about a daughter's feelings for her mother that she says connects deeply with fans. Like Carrie Underwood, Pickler is a former "American Idol" contestant.

Also worthy of mention was Bon Jovi and LeAnn's collaborative song, "Till We Ain't Strangers Anymore" which won the award for Collaborative Video of the Year.

Who's endorsing whom? Celebrity Endorsements

Sen. Barack Obama

- **Bruce Springsteen**
"He has the depth, the reflectiveness, and the resilience to be our next President. He speaks to the America I've envisioned in my music for the past 35 years."

- **Tom Hanks**

- **Robert De Niro**

- **Oprah Winfrey**

- **Zach Braff**

- **Jennifer Aniston**

- **Halle Berry**

- **Usher**

- **Chris Rock**

- **George Clooney**

- **Scarlett Johansson**

Sen. Hillary Clinton

- **Ted Danson**
"When you look at Hillary, you see that she has literally, for the last 35 years, woke up and thought about you. How to make your life better. She's like a chronic problem-solver."

- **Jack Nicholson**

- **Madonna**

- **Jon Bon Jovi**

- **Renée Zellweger**

- **Jerry Springer**

- **Chevy Chase**

- **Danny DeVito**

- **Steven Spielberg**

- **Barbara Streisand**

- **Magic Johnson**

Sen. John McCain

- **Arnold Schwarzenegger**
"He's a great American hero and an extraordinary leader. We talk about a great future - this is the very reason why I am endorsing Senator McCain."

- **SNL Producer Lorne Michaels**

- **Tom Selleck**

- **Sylvester Stallone**

- **Actor Rip Torn**

- **Clint Eastwood**

- **Heidi Montag**

- **George W. Bush**

- **Tom Ridge**

- **Steve Forbes**

- **Joe Lieberman**