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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Check your campus connect email regularly for specific information regarding IMPACT events.
- Laptops with wireless internet are available for check out on a weekly basis through Impact.
- Need help with math and/or English? Sign up for a one-on-one scheduled aptt. with Loretta and/or Dianne.
- Have you scheduled your monthly meeting with your Impact Advisor?

Boxing:

“Gain knowledge of the sport you compete in. The knowledge will give you a huge step forward in the precise path, therefore leading you down the road less traveled.” Immanuel (Manny) Thompson, has experienced this epiphany since he has attended Cowley. There is something about Manny that is attractive and it is not just his good looks. He has a way about him that shows confidence. He is a young man that has a goal and he is determined to do what it takes to achieve his goals. A freshman in his second semester, Manny has earned a 3.82 GPA and is currently taking 25 credit hours. He signed up for the Impact program and has already taken advantage of several cultural and academic activities that are provided. He brings enthusiasm, curiosity and an ability to write and speak about the activities and people he has listened to and have inspired him to be the person he is today. He didn’t make it happen all by himself.

Manny shared memorabilia with the Impact staff recently which included a scrapbook of his story as told in a seven part series by Roy Wenzl, writer for The Wichita Eagle. He also let us read the same story entitled Lord of the Ring in the July 2003 edition of Reader’s Digest. The following is an excerpt from Lord of the Ring. A skinny 12-year-old boy walked up to Johnny Papin’s backyard in the Ken Mar neighborhood of Wichita, Kansas, one evening in June 2001. Immanuel (Manny) Thompson leaned on the fence, watching as Johnny put nearly a dozen boys through their paces. Johnny looked the boy over. A good kid, he thought, but distracted, angry. The kind of kid gangs love to recruit. He knew the boy had nearly flunked out of sixth grade. He knew Manny’s parents had split up three months before. His mother was working in a restaurant, stretching too little money over too much week. “What...you...doin’” Manny spoke with a stammer. “Boxing.” … “But this is a sport, not a reason to go whuppin’ on somebody. You hear? … “Listen,” he told Manny later. “You got special talent. You could be somebody big—maybe, in a few years, a champion.”

Manny’s mom learned he was failing classes in 7th grade. She offered to get him a tutor. “Get your grades up or I’ll pull you out of boxing,” she said. Manny said he hated school; it was hard. “Tutors are for stupid people.” “Is that what you think? Well, I am close to 50 years old now and I could not read until I was 40.” “What?” “And I finally learned because I go me a tutor. It was hard, but I stuck with it. And you can do the same.” Manny started working with a math tutor. Soon, he actually started to like some of his classes. Johnny trained Manny harder than the other boys, asking him to run farther, do more. Manny listened and won many boxing matches around the state.

As Manny stated in his recent speech for public speaking, Gaining knowledge from your studies acts as a fertilizer for achievement. As long as you dream, act upon it with all of your heart and desire by taking that extra step to learn about the art that you participate in. Achievement will always take place at the end, and there is nothing like the end to make you appreciate the beginning.
Jeremy Abraham travels to Argentina during Winter Break

What an opportunity for Jeremy! His dad wanted to take his entire family to Argentina to visit an old friend that his dad has not seen in 25 years. Jeremy is a sophomore at Cowley this year. He returned from Argentina with hundreds of photographs. He flew from Wichita, KS to Orlando, FL, drove to Miami, FL and then flew from Miami to Buenos Aires.

Jeremy’s family continued their flight on to San Miguel de Tucuman. Between the steep, densely wooded Sierra de Aconquija to the west and the banks of the Rio Sali to the East, San Miguel de Tucuman (population 525,853) is 1,191 kilometers northwest of Buenos Aires. Tucuman is the second largest city in North Argentina. It is the commercial center of an irrigated area that produces large quantities of sugarcane, rice, tobacco, and fruit and provides the province with its nickname, the Garden of the Republic.

Jeremy enjoyed swimming in the backyard pool where he stayed.

Things to consider when living with a roommate

Treat your roommate with courtesy and respect. Set ground rules by exchanging lists of likes and dislikes. What are your pet peeves? What are your sleeping habits? Do you sleep with the light on or fall asleep to music? What are your study habits? Do you study during the week or on the weekend? Do you study in the morning, after classes, or late at night? Do you like your room clean or messy? How do you feel about sex, drugs, alcohol, and profanity? **Compromise**! If you do not like your roommate’s taste in music, find an artist or radio station you both can listen to. Likewise, if your roommate finds your posters of sunsets nauseating, do not get in a heated fight if he or she asks you to take them down. Your roommate and you need to talk about the issue and agree on wall decorations that are mutually appealing.

**Communicate with each other**. If you have a problem with your roommate, talk it out. Only by communicating will you know what your roommate is truly thinking. If your dilemma cannot be resolved, do not immediately move out. Seek guidance from your Residence Director or Advisor. **Remember to ask before you borrow something**. Never assume that what is your roommate’s is yours. Do not even use your roommate’s shampoo without asking.

WOA / Women’s Opportunity Awards

Congratulations to Jonnie Donohue and Tiffany Kiolbasa who have recently received special recognition from the Soroptimist Organization. Soroptimists are an International Volunteer Organization for business and professional women who work to improve the lives of women and girls in local communities and throughout the world.

Jonnie was supported and recognized for her efforts to enhance her career potential on Feb. 8, 2008, at a Valentine’s social event where she enjoyed a meal, certificate, and scholarship.

The Women’s Opportunity Awards program was established in 1972 to assist women with primary financial responsibility for their families, to obtain the skills, training, and education necessary to improve their employment status and standard of living for themselves and their family.

The women receiving these financial awards may use them for any costs associated with their educational efforts, including tuition, books, child care, and transportation.

Tiffany received her certificate and scholarship Feb. 25th from Liz Shepard in support and recognition of her efforts to enhance her career potential.
Impact students interested in traveling to Branson, Missouri over four days, and three nights, should plan to sign up prior to March 3rd in order to be eligible for a random drawing to be held on March 7th. Without a doubt, many of you will want to participate even though we will only be able to financially afford to take 18 Impact students. Once it is determined as to who the 18 students will be, these 18 will then be required to attend this important meeting on Tuesday, March 11th @ 12:00—1:00. We will determine the many details of transportation, food and lodging, roommates, and the many activities that we want you to involve yourself in.

We are planning a day at Silver Dollar City which has at least three large roller coasters, great food, several water rides, shopping, and musical shows. Dixie Stampede is entertainment which includes dinner and a show. The entire meal is served and eaten with your fingers while you watch horses, ostrich races, singing and drama. You will not want the show to end!

Branson is loaded with outlet malls! There is a fairly new area in old Branson which now has water fountains and more shopping along the waterfront. If you love blackberry cobbler, you can eat as much as you want at the Farmer’s Café in old Branson. Another favorite place to eat is at Steak and Shake.

If the weather cooperates, we will definitely ride go-carts and play miniature golf at one of the many sites. The best part about going to Branson is stopping in Springfield, Missouri at the Bass Pro Shop and eating at Lambert’s Home of “threwed” rolls. If you want a roll, you just clap, and a waiter will throw one across the restaurant to you!

Finally, it will be a great time to be together and celebrate the accomplishments of another semester.
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