



CONA WEB EDITION

BLUE RIDGE CONFERENCE CENTER
BLACK MOUNTAIN, NORTH CAROLINA
JUNE 3RD, 2007 ISSUE 1



DEVOTIONAL #2 BROOKE STEVENS

Devotional is a time every night where delegates have an opportunity to reflect on the five core YMCA values that guide CONA.

On opening night, the Alabama delegation sponsored the devotional. The devotional was on the subject of 'caring,' and how as delegates it is important that we care about one another. In addition, we should be thoughtful towards other peoples' ideas and proposals.

The second night's devotional was led by the Texas delegation. The value that the Texas delegation illustrated for the group was 'honesty.'

To prove how important honesty is, the Texas delegation quoted famous sayings and Bible verses that all had to do with honesty. These quotes stressed that honesty is a crucial part of one's character and should be shown when facing opposition and criticism.

Before they ended the devotional with a prayer, the Texas delegation handed out different colored pieces of paper. Those colored pieces of paper represented different types of honesty.

This devotional seems to have had an impact on the delegates who attended it. Stuart Downey of Oklahoma remarked that it was "original and sweet," and Josh Travis of Missouri said that it was "very insightful."

Caring and honesty are only two of the YMCA values. There are still three more core values to be taught at this year's CONA.



Lee Hall from the Blue Ridge Center.

Editor-in-Chief: Katy Keefe, NC
Layout Editor: Jessica Sharp, SC
Webpage Editor: Tory Clower, OK
Reporters: Claire Harris, NJ; Morgan Smeraglia, MUN; Kim Neu, MO; Jess Willis, DE; Jill Grewe, WI; Brooke Stevens, PA
Advisors: Jennifer Owens, OK; Monice "Mo" Oliphant, LA

CENSORSHIP COMPARISON KIM NEU & MORGAN SMERAGLIA

Jennifer Harrison

Oklahoma Delegation
Proposal #290

Title: Harsher restrictions upon broadcast media enforced by the FCC

Applies to: Broadcast media (radio and non-cable television)

Forecasted results: An increase in American moral standards; decrease in hate crimes, teenage pregnancies, and gun deaths

Plan to implement change: Create a new branch of the Federal Communication Commission (FCC), designed to seek out objectionable broadcasts based on the "reasonable-man standards" that defines indecency. All broadcasts would be subject to prior review.

Opposition: Infringes upon First Amendment rights

Tim Concannon

Massachusetts Delegation
Proposal #371

Title: A proposal to make all censorship illegal

Applies to: All branches of the media

Forecasted results: Expanded freedom of speech; media will be regulated by public opinion

Plan to implement change: Completely dissolve any and all laws or doctrines that censor the press

Opposition: Possible threat to national security; objection on a basis of age and/or religion



Delegates have a drinking contest.

WASHINGTON, D.C.: A 'POSITIVE PARIAH' CHRISTIAN YANEZ

Since Washington, D.C., is not a state, the question "who's your representative?" arises quite often. The D.C. delegation responds by proudly stating that Damien White is their mayor. Mayor White was elected by the D.C. Youth and Government population during their two-day legislative week-end. What makes D.C.'s Youth and Government program unique is that their general assembly is run on a city council system and uses "at large" representation. Some delegates feel that this format could use some adjustments in order to give every delegate a voice, but they all agree that "it is definitely an honor to participate in CONA...because we are not a state."