

Carroll eighth grader has 'amazing' DC trip

By Jennifer Archibald
Staff writer

Carroll student Samantha Gates will write about her recent experience in Washington, D.C.

She was there from Jan. 17-21 as part of the Presi-

dential Youth Inaugural Conference. She was selected for the Conference after attending the Junior National Youth Leadership Conference in 2007.

She was part of a group that was supposed to witness the Presidential Inauguration, but instead, she said her group was stuck on a bus for three hours.

Nevertheless, she enjoyed the rest of her trip.

"I had an amazing time," she said. "I met so many people and made so many

friends."

Keynote speakers at the conference were General Colin Powell, USA (Ret.) and former Secretary of State; Al Gore, former Vice President and Nobel Prize winner; and Erik Weihenmayer, the first blind man to climb Mount Everest.

"My favorite speaker was

Al Gore because he is very interesting to listen to," Samantha said. "He talked about the changes that will occur, how he is 100 percent behind Obama, and of course, he gave his famous speech on global warming!"

She said another highlight of her trip was the Newseum.

"That was the most exciting thing I got to see," she said. "I learned a lot. It had all kinds of old documents, and newspapers from the first one ever to a newspaper

with Obama's face on it."

The trip also included visiting other D.C. sights, including the Air and Space Museum.

She didn't get to go to an official Inaugural Ball, but there was a dance, with a live band, for the kids in her group.

Samantha is the daughter of Jenni Gates of Flora and Bryan Gates of Galveston. She has an eight-year-old sister, Madison.



Gates



Kindergartners have a wild day

Camden Early Childhood Education Center kindergartners (pictured left to right) Logan Miller and Gavin Gleason were stunned when they were handed a boa-constrictor during a Jan. 21 convocation. Cheryl and Larry Battson of Wildlife Educational Services of Greencastle brought several wild animals for wildlife education. The Battsons have been featured on the Johnny Carson Show, the Discovery Channel and Animal Planet. Photo provided

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Rod's Barber Shop
55-4-065

The Carroll County Chamber of Commerce hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Grand Opening of Rod's Barber Shop in Delphi on Friday, Jan. 23.

Pictured left to right: Ambassadors - Lordes Henderson, Cheryl Blickenstaff, Shop Owner - Rod Lowry, Chamber Director - Sana Booker, Ambassador - Tina Woodham, and EDC Executive Director - Daryl Smith.