1014-17-970 **Esther Beneish*** (ebeneish@gmail.com), Department of Mathematics, Pearce Hall 214, Mount Pleasant, MI 48859. *Centers of generic algebras with involution.*

Let F be an infinite field of characteristic different from 2. Let n be a positive integer, and let $V = M_n(F) \oplus M_n(F)$. The projective symplectic and orthogonal groups, PSp_n and PO_n, act on V by simultaneous conjugation. Results of Procesi and Rowen have shown that $F(V)^{PSp_n}$ and $F(V)^{PO_n}$ are the centers of the generic division algebras with symplectic and orthogonal involutions respectively. Saltman has shown that $F(V)^{PSp_n}$ and $F(V)^{PO_n}$ are stably isomorphic over F for all n even, and that for all n odd $F(V)^{PO_n}$ is stably rational over F. Saltman has also shown that for all n for which the highest power of 2 dividing n is less than 8, $F(V)^{PSp_n}$, and therefore $F(V)^{PO_n}$, are stably rational over F. We show that the result is also true for all n for which the highest power of 2 dividing n is 8. (Received September 26, 2005)