

[features] 16



[in focus] 20 Arts Fair



# clayton high school April 16, 2008 Volume 79, Issue 9 1 Mark Twain Circle, Clayton MO 63105

### [snapshots]

### **April Break**

There is no school for students or teachers on April 25 because of April Break. Enjoy the three day weekend!

### **Journalism Awards**

Recently, Columbia Scholastic Press **Association** announced its Gold Circle Winners. First place awards went to seniors Matt Katzman and Kerri Blumer and senior Tian Qiu. Seniors Katie Weiss, Kelly Moffitt and Kerri Blumer and junior Maddie Harned won a Certificate of Merit. In the international competition cosponsered by Quill and Scroll and the American Society of Newspaper Editors, Gila Hoffman and Nava Kantor won awards. Both are now eligible for a \$500 Edward J. Nell

### The Journey of Hope

scholarship.

CHS alum Jessie Kornblum has been chosen to be a Crew Chief for the Journey of Hope, a 70-day bike trip from Seattle to Washington D.C. that will begin in June. The ride will benefit Push America, the philanthropy organization of Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity that raises money for people with disabilities. If you would like to make a donation to help support the cause, please go to https://secure. pushamerica. org/events/profile. cfm?rID=1159337&ri decode=joh2008 to donate.

### [indox]

[maex]	
world	2
community	5
a&e	8
in depth	10
sports	11
features	14
voices	18
in focus	20





William McQuillen, 13, from Valley Park, uses a bicycle to navigate Highway 141 north of the Interstate 44 junction Saturday, March 22, 2008, in Valley Park, Missouri. Flooding in the area rendered some roads impassable to commuters.

# MO inundated

## [Jeremy Bleeke]

For John Rundle, a junior at Eureka High School, relaxing over spring break proved difficult this year. Like others in Eureka, Pacific and Valley Park, Rundle watched nervously through mid-March as rains fell and river levels rose.

"When it just started pouring down rain we got worried," Rundle said. "It's flooded near my house

The heavy storms began on March 17, when three feet of rain were deposited on the Meramec River Valley about 30 miles west of St. Louis. By March 20, the

flooding had begun. "It rose, I want to say, about a foot an hour, which is pretty fast," Rundle said.

As people piled up sandbags in downtown Eureka, bracing against the oncoming flood, Rundle and his family decided that it was wisest just to get out.

"We just didn't want to have to deal with it and be trapped so we just left our subdivision," Rundle said. "We all just went to a friend's house and spent the

On March 22, the river crested in Eureka at 40 feet. In Valley Park it crested at just under 38 feet, and in Pacific it rose to almost 29 feet—approaching the 1982 record of 33.6.

By March 24, water levels had dropped back down below 18 feet. When Rundle returned to his neighborhood, an alarming sight greeted him.

"I have a road at the beginning of my subdivision, and we got 10 feet of water over that road," Rundle said. "So nobody's house was hurt, but what we had to do was park on the highway and then take a canoe

While no structural damage was done to Rundle's house, not everyone proved to be so lucky. Flood waters displaced more than 500 people, and covered over 30 square blocks. It damaged 180 homes and business-

Valley Park didn't suffer nearly the same amount of damage. Residents of the city remained safe behind a three-year-old, \$49 million levee. Although some were worried that the levee hadn't been given long enough to settle (in this case, the minimum amount of time was 5 years), it held fast.

The flooding even affected those who lived outside of the immediate flood plain as well. Despite sandbags and 10,000 feet of concrete barriers along I-44 and Highway 141, the interchange was submerged, disrupting traffic for many.

While Eureka and Pacific were those closest to St. Louis, people towns across Missouri were damaged by

Mark James, director of the Department of Public Safety, is quoted in The Kansas City Star as saying that the flooding has been "nearly unprecedented in terms of the number of counties within our state impacted by these flash floods.'

Consequently, President Bush has approved federal disaster aid for St. Louis and 70 other Missouri coun-

However, others say that the flood pattern witnessed over the past few weeks is not necessarily exceptional. Joan Stemler, who is part of the Water Control Section of the US Army Corps of Engineers, believes that the floods are typical for this time of the year, but have received more attention since the past few seasons have

# Barber leaves lasting legacy

### [ljeoma Onyema]

Staff Reporter

During her first year of teaching English at Gary Westside High School in Gary, Indiana, she met a counselor with whom she discussed the literacy skills of the students at the school. She can't remember the counselor's name, but she said that the counselor helped her out tremendously. At that moment in time, she realized that that's how she could help kids the most, by becoming a coun-

selor After obtaining her Master's degree for philosophy from Washington University in 1974, she spent 9 years in the Pattonville School District and then came to Clayton High School where she spent 24 years as a counselor. During her years as

a counselor, she also earned a Ph.D for marriage and family counseling from Saint Louis University in 1994

Now, after 24 years, CHS counselor Ann Barber believes that it's time to move on.

"I've worked in the state of Missouri for 31 years and now I'm eligible for retirement," Barber said. "I enjoy what I do; it's been a great experience, but sometimes you just feel like you need to move on and I

feel like it's my time to go." She has two children who go to CHS; junior Mary, and senior Sean.

"Mary only has one more year here and Sean is graduating and going to Webster University, so I plan to stay in St. Louis and find another job," Barber said. "We do have a lakehouse down in the Ozarks, so we will be spending more weekends there. But with Mary still at school, I'll be around."

Barber expresses her gratitude to want to thank the parents, teachers and students she has worked with over the years.

"They've really helped me grow professionally and develop excellent and strong relationships," Barber said.

When you walk in and meet these [students], you can feel their positive energy and attitudes.

[Ann Barber]

**Guidance Counselor** 

she will miss many things here at CHS, but there is one thing she will miss the most. "No doubt,

Barber says

I will miss the students the most," Barber "When said. you walk in and meet these guys, you can feel their posienergy

and attitudes. I can't imagine life without CHS."

Tenth grade counselor Anthony Henderson says that he will truly miss Dr. Barber.

"Dr. Barber has distinguished herself through her work with students and families here at CHS," Henderson said. "She devoted her time and energy over the years to becoming a master counselor who views each student as exceptional with the goal of supporting the potential that lies within."

Barber hopes that she has left a legacy here at CHS,

"But for now, it's been a good run," Barber said. 🕏



Dr. Barber has decided to retire after being a counselor at CHS for 24 years but hopes to continue working in St. Louis.

# Illinois adopts mandatory drug testing program

### [Fontasha Powell]

Editor

The Illinois High School Association approved a random, mandatory drug-testing program for all students participating in inter-scholastic activities advancing to the state level on March 5. This judgment will go into effect July 1, 2008, applying to all ISHA member schools in the state of Illinois.

The program is not only limited to sports, such as football and wrestling, but other activities as well, such as Speech and Debate, Scholar Quiz Bowl, Marching Band and the Math Team.

The tests, to be administered by the National Center for Drug Free Sport, will be comprehensive of a total of 78 drugs including steroids, stimulants, testerone, human growth hormone and even caffeine. However, caffeine will only register on the test if the student has had more than nine cups of coffee, or four caffeine pills that day.

The consequences for taking drugs are indeed weighty. If a student tests positive for any of the 78 drugs, he/she is immediately suspended from interscholastic activities. However, if the student completes an approved drug prevention program, he/she is able to return in 90 days.

CHS Athletic Director Bob Bone feels that the mandatory drug-testing program boasts positive as-

"I think that Illinois is trying to address a problem that it has had in its athletes," Bone said. "This program has the potential to level the playing field for all athletes, which is extremely important. If people are using certain drugs, then they could gain a competitive advantage. Also, this program can discourage drug use in high school athletes.'

The superintendent of schools, Ed Rachford, maintained a view similar to that of Bone's. He believes that drugs are indeed a prob-

"It's a sad state of affairs when we have to consider this at a high school," Rachford said in an interview with The New York Times. "But drugs are such a problem in society, and in our school, that we feel we have to do everything we can to fight it.'

Junior Katie Poplawski thinks that the program won't have an effect on the majority of students.

"I think that because the testing is only for students that advance to a state-level, the students obviously have commitment," Poplawksi said. "They just have to put up with it. If they know they have a possibility of going to state, they can just not drink or do drugs the week before they get tested."

Senior Erik Jones, however, disagrees with both Bone and Rachford. Jones thinks that although drugs may be a problem in high school athletes, the school has no right to force students to take tests.

"I think that the mandatory drug testing program is wrong because it's infringing upon the basic rights of the students," Jones said. "Just because we're minors doesn't mean that they can test us. They don't even do it at work, so why should they do it at school? It's not the school's job to enforce the laws. It's a student's choice."

Still, ISHA believes that it is their job to enforce the laws. Although similar programs have been passed in Texas, ISHA is the first state in the country to pass these types of program without a directive from the state legislature.

The basic screening costs around \$35, a test admissible in court is \$75, while a test for steroids is close to \$200. Clayton, however, will not be implementing a program similar to that of ISHA due to public opinion

and costs. "At this point, we're not considering a drug testing program," Bone said. "Obviously, the privacy part of drug testing is a big question, and the cost is also a concern."

Jones believes that a drug-testing program at Clayton would cause controversy.

"Students wouldn't like if we had a drug-testing program," Jones said. "If Clayton implemented one I would drop out and hope that other students would follow my lead."

Bone used to teach at Collinsville High School, in Illinois, and they implemented a drug- testing program for their athletes two years ago. Bone doesn't believe that the program has yielded negative results.

"Just talking to administrators, I don't think that testing has had a major effect on the school environment," Bone said. "Even though they only do a small sampling, I don't think they've had positive test in 2 years."

In fact, Bone thinks that the mandatory drug-testing program passed by IHSA can have an impact on society as a whole.

"This program has the potential to change the public perception about what's occurring with athletes and drug use- from the high school level, to the NCAA level to the major league level," Bone said. "Recently, illegal drugs have been tainting the records of many MLB players with unknown possibility. People wonder about Mark Mc-Guire and when a person thinks of Barry Bonds, they don't think about his homeruns, but only steroid use."

Erica Hanson, president of the Homewood-Flossmoor Parents Association, as stated in an interview with The New York Times, remains optimistic.

"When kids face peer pressure to use drugs, this would give them an out," Hanson said. "A kid could say, 'Look, I want to be on the football team, or the debate team, so I can't risk it.'" (\$

2 [world] chs globe april 16, 2008

# Medvedev names Putin the new Russian prime minister

[Ting Lu] Staff Reporter

On Mar. 3, 2008, Dmitry A. Medvedev, the man chosen to be the next Russian president, celebrated his landslide victory, winning 70.2 percent of the vote. Medvedev, current Russian President Vladimir Putin's hand-picked successor, has vowed to work closely with Putin after taking office on May 7, 2008. Medvedev has promised to appoint Putin to be his prime minister, and Putin has agreed to move to prime minister's office under Medvedev's

Medvedev and Putin have agreed to cooperate and work toward a better Russia.

"I will work on this together with Mr. Vladimir Putin, as the future chairman of the government," Medvedev told his supporters in Moscow.

Putin has also given his con-

"If our people will trust Mr. Medvedev and elect him the new president of the Russian Federation, I will be prepared to continue our joint work — in this case, in the position of premier of the government," Putin said.

Although many people are skeptical about the transition of power that may or may not occur once Medvedev takes office, Putin himself says that he does not intend to challenge the soon-to-bepresident's power. The president is far more powerful in Russia than the prime minister, and Putin announced that he would not seek to change the legal authority of either

Nevertheless, people still see Medvedev as "Putin's puppet." After all, Medvedev is a close aide and loyalist of Putin. Many believe that Putin's intent to become prime minister will still keep him in power and that Putin will be able to



Top left: U.S. President George W. Bush (left) and Russian President Vladimir Putin talk prior to a bilateral meeting in the Kurhaus complex during the G8 Summit in Heiligendamm, Germany, on June 7, 2007. Top right: Preliminary results of the Russian presidential election; Dmitry Medvedev has won over 70%

maintain his influence over Russia. as before, Vladimir Putin will use waiting who will exercise his pow-Given that Medvedev – at age 42 has never held any type of elected office and has spent almost his entire career as Mr. Putin's deputy, it seems highly likely that Mr. Putin will continue to be the head of Russia even after Medvedev is elected.

of the votes.

It has been suggested that while Putin may be the more significant political figure, Medvedev would have control over the armed forces, the security services and other vital parts of the Russian government.

Medvedev has said that he believes that he and Putin would make a good team.

"I have no doubt that in future, a Putin loyalist and a president-in- has made unexpected moves. In a

his influence in our society and the world, for the benefit of Russia," Medvedev said. "Together, as a single team, we shall be able to solve the most difficult and large-scale tasks."

Medvedev has presented himself as both

his enormous political resources,

Together...[Putin and I] shall be able to solve the most difficult and large-scale tasks.

> [Dmitry Medvedev] New Russian President

er in a far gentler manner than the world has seen

> rule. Ever since he moved out on the political scene, Medvedev has been

> under Putin's

cast as a puppet - a president who will meet every one of Putin's demands.

However, Medvedev speech on Feb. 15, he said that liberty was necessary for the state to have legitimacy among its citizens. Medvedev has also laid out domestic policy goals in what seems like a message to Russia's growing consumer class.

Medvedev's words raise questions about whether or not there will be a power clash between himself and Putin.

Political analysts are also split concerning their stances on the

Sergei Markov, a political analyst, believes that stability in Rus-

ation, and because politics plays a main role in the Russian economy, if there is a split it could destabilize the economy, too. So that is a major

Medvedev and Putin must work

weak institutions," Markov said.

"A split between two personalities

could destabilize the political situ-

The Russian government has

together to achieve stability.

Russia results

Preliminary results of the

Omitry

United

Gennady Zyuganov Communist Party

17.7%

Andrei Bogdanov

© 2008 MCT Scance: A 1 MCT Proto Service Craptio: Julie Scheller, Morier Lytine

Democratic Party

Others **1.6**%

9.3%

1.2%

Vladimir Zhirinovsky Liberal Democratic Party

Takes office on May 7

presidential election:

Although Medvedev is expected to take the presidential office in a month, whether or not Putin will challenge the power of his successor and whether or not the two sia should be the top priority of men will cooperate are questions both Medvedev and Putin and that that have yet to be answered. §

# Oil hits record prices rapidly and unpredictably

### [Jiyoun Kahng]

Staff Reporter

Since the beginning of 2008, the oil price hit several new record highs. On Feb. 29, 2008, oil prices hit an inflation-adjusted all-time peak at \$103.05 per barrel, and on Mar. 12, 2008, reached \$110.20 which is the sixth record high in the people's seven trading days.

The average U.S. price of diesel was \$3.819 a gallon, and is currently up 53.9 cents in just four weeks. Heating-oil prices are also at alltime highs, up more than a dollar a gallon over the past year," said The Energy Department's Energy Information Administration.

A variety of factors are contributing to the increase in oil price recently. Reports from the U.S. Department of Energy and other analysis show that the increase in demand, decline in petroleum reserves worries over peak oil Middle East tension, and oil price speculation are some of the main factors that are affecting the oil price.

Moreover, some events such as North Korean missile launches, the crisis between Israel and Lebanon, Nigeria and the declining nominal value of the U.S. dollar have had short term effects on oil prices.

The International Energy Agen-

cy says that the global economic in Saudi Arabia have increased tenexpansion is driving the increase in oil demand for 24 years. Higher demands in the industrialized countries like China that is rapidly expanding their economy, are causing the rise in oil value.

"As more countries become industrialized and economically advanced,

demands for scarce sources oil increase." Said the CHS Economics teacher, Mark Bayles.

vio-The lence in the Middle East, ethnic tension Nigeria and strikes in Venezuela has also had great effects on oil prices. The exports in Iraq

attacks on oil facilities, and have caused some doubts about Iraq's anticipations s of becoming a large and stable oil exporter.

spired militants on foreign workers

sions throughout the Middle East. Saudi Arabia is the world's biggest oil producer and the biggest exporter, and the country itself possesses 21.9% of the world's proved reserves. The substantial attack on Saudi oil facilities would be a major chaos for world oil markets.

"The Middle

East is one of the

main oil produc-

ing sources in the

world, and the

in Iraq and Saudi

Arabia is rising

as a major threat

to the supplies,"

tion of the Petro-

leum Exporting

Countries (OPEC)

is another fac-

tor that is caus-

ing the oil price

to increase. The

OPEC accounts

for about half of

The Organiza-

said Mr. Bayles.

recent

violence

The president does want OPEC to take into consideration the weakened economy of its biggést customer, the United States.

> [Dana Perino] White House Spokesman

have been cut by several disruptive the world's crude oil exports and is restricting supplies to the market, in order to keep the oil price high. Nowadays, OPEC is acting more aggressively, announcing produc-Also, the attacks of Al-Oaeda-intion cuts to prevent any weakening

"Certainly the position of the United States and the president is that we believe that more supplies should be out there on the market," White House Spokesman Dana Perino said. "And the president does want OPEC to take into consideration that its biggest customer, the United States, that our economy is weakened, and part of the reason is because of higher oil prices; we think that more supply would help.

The falling value of the US currency and the lowering of interest rates are pushing up the oil price, and the Crude oil prices are very close to the inflation-adjusted high set in 1980. The price of a barrel of oil has hit a record high of \$102.59 in New York due to the strong demand and the weakening of the

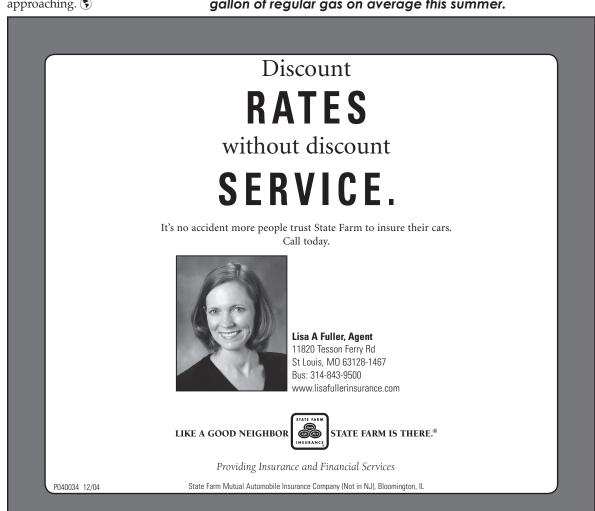
dollar value. "The previous record was \$102.53 in April 1980, with the figures being adjusted according to inflation levels." Said the International Energy Agency.

The US dollar continued to weaken on Thursday, and hit an all time low record against the euro of

The answer to how long the world's oil reserves will last is unknown, but even the oil industry suspects the world "peak" is now approaching. 💲

On April 10, the price for a gallon of regular gas had already risen to about \$3.40. The U.S. Energy Information Administration projects that drivers will pay about \$3.54 per gallon of regular gas on average this summer.

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# The dollar continues to decrease in value

### [Ken Zheng]

Staff Reporter

That sound you hear? It's value being shaved off the dollar bit by bit as its rate of conversion with other currencies sinks.

Against the euro, the dollar is currently traded somewhere around \$1.55 for 1 euro. The dollar trades at about \$0.01 for one yen.

Economists usually look at the so-called trade weighted exchange rates, i.e. a weighted average of the foreign exchange value of the U.S. dollar against the currencies of a broad group of major U.S. trading

According to Economist Silvio Contessi, with the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, the trade-weighted exchange rate was "based" in 1997, i.e. the value of this index was 100 in Jan. 1997. At its peak in the end of Jan. 2002, it reached the level of 130 and it started declining. The current level is slightly larger than 95.

Economics and history teacher Mark Bayles gives his views on the falling value of the dollar.

"All countries have a currency such as Great Britain with the pound, or Japan with the yen," Bayles said. "The values are relative to each other. The foreign exchange is how much of one economy's currency can be converted to another's currency. The values are dynamic to the situation."

Before 1934, the U.S. used a system called the gold standard. The system was sustained by countries' willingness to buy and sell gold at these pre-determined prices.

All currencies were priced in terms of gold: one ounce of gold was worth "X" amount in each currency. Because all currencies exchanged at fixed ratios to gold, exchange rates could be determined easily.

An ounce of gold was worth, say, 16 dollars. It was also worth, say, four British pounds. Then the exchange rate between dollar and pounds was 16 dollars per four pounds, or \$4 to 1 pound.

The gold standard was the major system of exchange rate determination before 1914. The system was sustained by countries' willingness to buy and sell gold at these pre-determined prices.

"Our Federal Reserve notes are legal tendered and can be used to pay all public and private debts and creditors must accept them by the law," Bayles said. "It's one of the greatest inventions in history invented by the Chinese a long time ago. The emperor said at that time if you didn't take the paper money then I would kill you. It was a brilliant idea.'

Contessi and Bayles are both unsure about how the current trend will play out as time goes on.

"Economists believe that the exchange rate is extremely difficult if not impossible to forecast," Contessi said. "The current depreciation of the dollar has been expected for a few years, but there is a wide range of opinions regarding the magnitude of the expected depreciation and especially the level at which it is going to stop and eventually turn around. It is possible that the dollar will decline further or stay stable in between \$1.50 and \$1.60 against the Euro in the near future."

The dollar is weakening in respect to other currencies, as a result, when foreigners convert their currency to buy our goods; they get more dollars and goods. This makes our goods relatively cheaper, increasing our exports.

When we trade to buy others' goods, it makes them

relatively more expensive also beneficial. These things often tend to balance out over time. The values are dependent on the concept of supply and demand.

"The amount of notes in circulation directly affects the value of the currency," Bayles said. "Lots of commodities such as the barrel of oil is priced in dollars worldwide, to some extent there are pressures on the dollar because it's a default to many countries. A weakening dollar is not necessarily a bad thing. It's a good thing for some. If you're Boeing and you want to sell international goods,

the cheap dollar is good because it's easier for them to sell because their goods are relatively cheaper. But if you're an American tourist going abroad, it's a bad thing because they'll have to trade more of their money for the previous same amount of the foreign currency.'

The value of the dollar is determined through a complex process.

"A trade-weighted exchange rate is a country's exchange rate with the currencies of its trading partners weighted by the amount of trade done by the country in each currency," Contessi said. "The exchange rate with respect to the currency of a country that trades more with the U.S. (i.e. for whom the value of imports it was easier to calculate. and exports relative to U.S. gross domestic product is larger) has a larger weight in the construction of the trade-weighted exchange rate."

Short-term causes and long-term causes also add to the declining value.

"This is a complex issue to address," Contessi said.

"The long-term causes are easier to explain. Basically, U.S. citizens and firms are consuming more than they are producing, a process that has made imports greater than exports. This phenomenon has created a large and widening trade deficit. Currently, the differ-

TO MODILES ACTORDATIVE TO THE SECONDARY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

al trade deficit. Because the U.S. has such a big debt to countries such as China, our currency is dropping in value with respect to the rest of the world. High government deficit spending and other factors have yielded a significant drop in the real interest United States. Because of rate in the the consequently low prospective gains for foreign investors in national banks, the international demand for the dollar has decreased. Lower demand for the dollar

"A few years ago, the exchange rates were a lot

better because the dollar was worth more. I think that

this problem has been caused by the U.S. internation-

al currencies.' So, what are the long-term effects of this decline in worth?

has caused its value

to decline with re-

spect to other glob-

"In the short run the adjustment process I described earlier is actually good news for the US as it is help-

ing to compensate the slow-down of other sectors of the U.S. economy," Contessi said. "In the long run, it is good news to the extent that the trade balance will be reduced. However, there is a downside to this devaluation: Foreign goods are getting more expensive, and to the extent that higher prices will be passed over to U.S. consumer, the price level might increase. Large swings of the exchange rate are not unusual over periods such as decades."

In order to revive the value, for the next few months, if the differential between U.S. interest rates and foreign interest rates lowers, the dollar will probably slow its depreciation.

This could happen if U.S. interest rates increase (an event that most economists and markets consider unlikely) or if foreign interest rates decrease.

"All the monetary values are relative, we have to look at other economies and how stable they are," Bayles said. "The value of currencies is determined by many marketing forces, and the value is constantly

# Boeing fights for Air Force contract

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### [Nick Andriole]

Staff Reporter

The U.S. Air Force recently selected European Aeronautic Defense and Space Corporation (EADS) to replace its aging fleet of KC-135s in-flight re-fuelers, some of which date back to the 1950s. The replacement aircraft is known A330-200 passenger jet. The contract has an estimated value of \$40

"We have committed our energies to this important U.S. Air Force program and to our team mate Northrop Grumman," EADS CEO Louis Gallois said. "Selecting a tanker based on the A330 MRTT will provide the U.S. Air Force with the most modern and capable tanker aircraft available today."

However, St. Louis-based Boeing Integrated Defense systems was highly expected to be awarded the tanker contract. This contract is a significant loss to the St. Louis area as Boeing Co. employs close to 20,000 people at its Integrated Defense Systems facility adjacent to Lambert Field.

Boeing proposed a modified airframe of its 767-200 aircraft, which is slightly smaller and a direct competitor of the A330.

The proposed KC-767 would

ORTHODONTIC

CONSULTANTS OF SAINT LOUIS

have an airframe manufactured in outlined in the proposal and has of-Everett, Wash., and then have refueling components added at Boeing's facility in Wichita, Kan. At time of press, Boeing had two outstanding KC-767 orders from Japan and an additional four outstanding orders from Italy.

EADS has committed to manufacturing the tanker in Mobile, Ala., as the KC-30, which consists of a while the first of the tankers will be modified airframe of the Airbus manufactured in France. Boeing is in the process of appealing the decision from the Air Force's decision to issue the contract to EADS.

> "The main reason we are protesting is because we believe the KC-767 selection process was flawed," Boeing Tanker Communications Manager Bill Barksdale said. "We say this because repeatedly there were changes unstated to us related to the requirements of the proposal. What we are trying to do with G.A.O (Government Accountability Office) is to have them take a look into our concerns with an unbiased group of people to give us a rain on what happened and where the disconnects occurred, and hopefully have them over turn the decision."

> On March 11, Boeing filed a protest with the G.A.O., and typically there is a 100 day evaluation period, and the new decision is due within 100 days of the filing date, on June 19. Boeing believes it sufficiently met the requirements

fered a competitive product.

"We bid aggressively with specific focus on providing operational tanker capability at low risk and the lowest total life cycle cost," said Mark McGraw, vice president - 767 tanker programs in a press release. "Because of the lower fuel burn of the 767, we can only assume our offering was more cost effective from a life cycle standpoint."

The Air Force has been a long standing customer of Boeing and wishes to resolve this issue

"We are obviously very focused on preserving a positive relationship with the Air Force," Barksdale said. "We build a lot of airplanes and systems for the Air Force. It really isn't in the DNA of our company to protest unlike other companies."

Boeing has been working to inform the public about their side of the tanker contract by launching a website, and purchasing full page ads in newspapers including the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

"We continue to believe we submitted the most capable, lowest risk, lowest Most Probable Life Cycle Cost airplane as measured against the Air Force's Request for Proposal," Jim McNerney, Boeing chairman, president and chief executive officer. "We look forward to the review of the decision." (\$

# Size matters

only made out of paper after all."

Boeing claims that fuel and cargo capacity never were cited as determining factors by the U.S. Air Force throughout the long evaluation process in choosing its new tanker fleet, resulting in the company losing the \$35 billion contract.

between five and

six percent. Most economists

think that this is what is currently hap-

pening. With many sellers and fewer buyers, the

Sophomore Sarah Andress realized the full effects

"Because of the sinking value of the dollar and the

of the dollar's sinking worth when her family planned

rising value of the Euro we can't afford it right now,"

Andress said. "Other currencies are rising; the dollar is

Ontario, Canada, Senior Paul Orland was not severely

affected but noticed the value of the falling dollar.

On a recent casual trip during spring break to

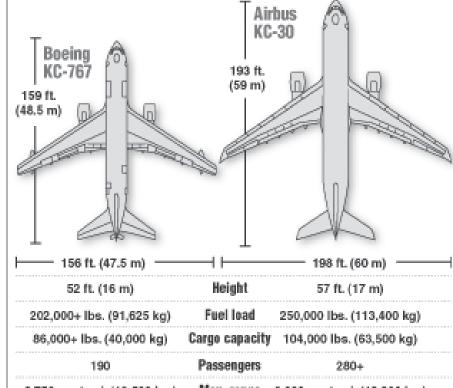
The exchange rate was about 1 to 1 between the

Canadian and U.S. currency. Orland said the rate actu-

ally made converting money more convenient because

on going to France for a few weeks in the summer.

price of the dollar (its exchange rate) is falling.



6,750 naut. mi. (12,500 km) Max. range 6,600 naut. mi. (12,200 km)

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### Other reasons **Boeing says** it should have won

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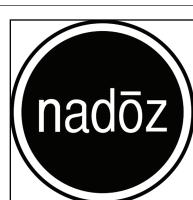


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# Vietnam Day an important event to many sophomores

CHS sophomores experienced many activities pertaining to the Vietnam War and heard stories from the veterans who saw it all

### [Meredith Redick]

Staff Reporter

Ravaging the villages of the Central Highlands. Tearing through the dense tropical jungle with machetes. Killing a child and seeing its face in dreams.

These are the tales that come out of the mouths of ordinary-looking citizens on March 13 at CHS. The day before spring break, sophomore students gathered for an in-school field trip. Vietnam Day is a tradition at CHS and a memorable expedition into the twists and turns of the Vietnam War.

Teachers sacrificed periods 1-6 with their sophomore scholars so that students could participate in an assembly, two break-out sessions, and a viewing of the film "Two Days in October," about the war in Vietnam and related protests in Wisconsin.

The break-out sessions offered a variety of media that explored facets of the war. Teachers covered areas such as ethics (Krone), science (Howe) and music (Kordenbrock) as they pertained to the war. Several veterans told their tales to an audience.

The first attraction for all students was veteran Jason Holmes and his story. Holmes' busy history included involvement in the First Cavalry Division and the First Battalion of the Fifth Cavalry, among others, and he witnessed the aftermath of the legendary Tet Offensive. Given the weighty task of introducing students into the complexities of the Vietnam War, Holmes offered a simple and powerful anecdote to grasp the attention of students.

After his inspiring speech, students moved on to break-out sessions: 45-minute-long discussions or activities that helped students learn more about the war.

One session of interest was Wydown teacher and Vietnam veteran Napoleon Carter's memories of war. Many CHS students know Carter from Wydown, but few knew his story.

"I went into Vietnam kicking and screaming," Carter said, sitting on the stool in a math classroom.

Carter, who grew up on an Arkansas farm in a large family, took the opportunity to attend college and became involved in the anti-war effort. He refused to register for the draft, despite his immunity as a student. Officials weren't playing games, though: when Carter refused to sign up, the government revoked his im-



Jackie Wilcher

Vietnam veteran Jason Holmes shares his experiences during the Vietnam War with CHS sophomores.

munity and shipped him off to training. Because of his knowledge of embalming and chemicals, Carter was shielded somewhat from the front lines as a medic.

Carter only spent a year in Vietnam, but, like many veterans, it changed him permanently. It took Carter decades before he was willing to confront his memories; now he is able to share his experiences with others.

"I still cannot watch a Vietnam movie now," Carter

said in discussion. "It brings back these really terrible things and I'd rather not do it. I've got journals about my own experiences, but mostly what I do is I read about it."

While Carter prefers not to watch war movies, students in social studies teacher Josh Meyers' session eagerly witnessed some famous moments from Vietnam films.

Science teacher Mike Howe offered a session on the

making of napalm, a powerful explosive and incendiary used many times during the Vietnam War.

Nine students from Kelley Ryan's Advanced Acting class performed a dramatic reading of a war poem by Mark Twain, "The War Prayer." The poem describes a congregation of people praying for victory, only to have their goals questioned by a funny little man who argues that victory entails destruction somewhere.

"If you would beseech a Blessing upon yourself, beware! Lest without intent you invoke a curse/Upon a neighbor at the same time," the poem reads.

The reading was accompanied by a story from Vietnam Veteran Charles Smith, who served for a year and is now a fervent activist for peace in St. Louis. Twain's poem helped him to come to terms with his regrets and unacknowledged feelings about the war.

"I knew people had died because of things I had done," Smith said. "But reading [The War Prayer], I realized that 77 years ago, someone else was dealing with the same thing."

Smith had emphatic opinions about war.

"It took me a while to realize I was a pacifist," he said. "I kept thinking, am I a pacifist? Or am I a coward?"

Smith didn't realize that he was truly against war until he went to Vietnam.

"In Vietnam, I had a crystallizing experience," he said. "Even though I was trained to kill, I thought I was against all war. In my mind, I clearly saw a Vietnamese man who was just like me. In order to survive, there is someone who wants to pull a trigger and kill me. In order to stop that, I might have to kill him first. It all became so clear to me once I identified with my enemy as a human."

Many years later, this sentiment remains close to his heart. He is a member of St. Louis' Veterans for Peace organization.

"I think it must be understood, if you go to war, then you're going to lose, and they're going to lose," Smith said.

Anna Coplevitz, like most students, felt that Vietnam Day was a valuable use of time.

"It was more than just words in a textbook," Anna Koplevitzsaid. "It was definitely more fun to watch movies, hear real stories, and see how napalm is made." \\$

# Response to flooding in Saint Louis area set to improve

Flooding, 1

"As far as spring flooding goes, what we just experienced was nothing out of the ordinary, and it's going to occur again," Stemler said.
"When the water comes up, the people that live right around the river know that, and they watch it, and prepare for it, and they do the best they can. In the past several forget about it over the people about it gion has received the people that live right around the river know that, and they watch it, and prepare for it, and they do the best they can. In the past several

years, we haven't had a high water event, so you have a tendency to forget about it."

Over the past three years, the region has received about 80 percent of the normal level of precipitation. However, since the beginning of 2008, St. Louis has already received twice the amount of normal precipitation, with record levels for March alone.

The US Army Corps of Engineers works with the Coast Guard and the river industry, informing them on the status of the river, such as whether it's rising or falling. The Corps of Engineers is also involved in the response effort to seasonal flooding.

"We work with the emergency operations folks, and so we'll issue certain forecasts, and they'll decide depending on the certain location, whether to go into a watch phase or an action phase," Stemler said. "They know the site, whether to send out a flood fight team, and they'll work with folks to levee the district."

Stemler predicts that flood season may be beginning, and that those who live in the river valley may have a watery spring and

summer ahead.

"It's only the first week of April," Stemler said. "Chances are we're still only getting into our wet season, so this might just be the start of it."

This truth is recognized by the residents of Eureka. Rundle says that people aren't getting rid of their sandbags just because the water has receded.

"They're just keeping them there in case it happens again," Rundle said.

And when the floods do come, people figure out ways to work around them. For Rundle, getting home meant getting into a canoe, an approach which seems to be tried and true. Referring to the situation in Pacific, Rundle said, "they were kayaking over there as well."

# Informal club attracts students with an aching for some baking

The Baking Club, initiated three years ago by two CHS graduates, continues to attract students who love baking and friendship.

### [Meredith Redick]

Staff Reporter

Cupcakes and chocolate soufflés top the list of accomplishments for CHS's Baking Club, a school organization formed three years ago by former students Alyson Swarm and Becky Simington.

The club started out as a group of friends who liked to hang out and bake on weekends. It was later made an official club.

"Baking club started because Alyson and I wanted to create a club and baking has always been one of our shared hobbies," Simington said. "A lot of our friends showed interest so it just kind of went from there. We had to get a form from the student activities office and fill it out and find people to fill the positions and then get the right officials to sign the paper and sponsor it,

and then it was a club."

The club took on ambitious projects under the leadership of Simington and Swarm, including a cake-decorating contest. "Alyson and I made like 15 cakes the night before and then people got in groups of two and decorated one or two cakes," Simington said. "Then our sponsor judged them and picked a winner. It was really cute."

Now, after the co-founders have graduated, the club is raring to go with the help of Swarm's sister, Rebecca, and a devoted group of bakers.

Rebecca Swarm organizes meetings as president of the club, along with vice president Shelby Sternberg. Together, they help to keep Baking Club running

"Shelby and Becca are in charge and they decide when we meet, what we bake and are really in charge of everything about the club," sophomore Sam Jacus said.

The club meets once a month on Sundays to bake and chat.

"We bake whatever is on the menu and talk, the girls gossip and just have fun hanging out," Jacus said.

Jacus and sophomore Casey Lawlor are the only boys who regularly attend meetings, but they enjoy learning to bake new things.

The concoctions vary from month to month, rang-

ing from pies to gingerbread.

"Every month we hake a

"Every month we bake a new thing," sophomore Emily Wack said. "We try to theme the baking for the month. For example in October we made Halloween cookies and in December we made ginger bread men."

The club has also tried ambitious recipes like homemade pie.

"In November we made pies and my apple pie turned out really good. It was really pretty as well as tasty," Wack said. "Also the chocolate souffles turned out really good!"

In the most recent meeting, members made chocolate and vanilla cupcakes.

"Everything is made from scratch, a lot of time goes into making it, but you don't have to do much with ten people working at different times so you pretty much rotate in," Jacus said. "For me it's more of finding the right things to measure with, which is really hard."

Assembling necessary ingredients can also be a challenge when baking from scratch, but members find the results to be satisfying, which is something that sophomore Anna Krane has experienced.

"When we baked chocolate souffle it took a lot more preparation, but it was good," Krane said.

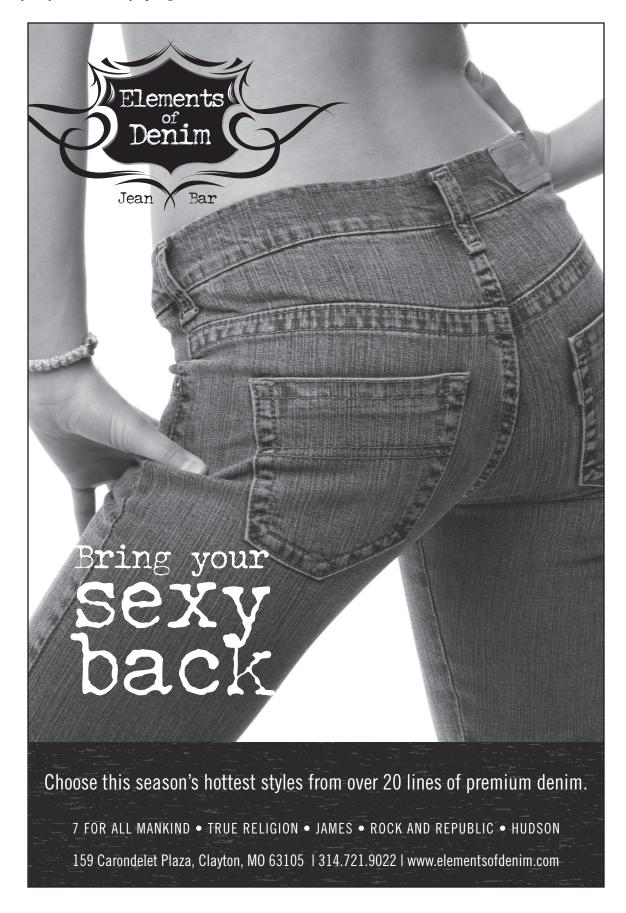
The club is sponsored by CHS teacher Heather Jacus, who helps members plan out get-togethers. Meetings are typically informal, and the club is relatively small—only about 10 members regularly attend.

"If we are baking something more popular, more people will come," Krane said.

Wack encourages people to come to a session of Baking Club to try it out. "Anyone is welcome to come, we'd love to expand the club," Wack said. "The meetings are fun. It's exciting to try to bake new things, and plus we always get some good food."

Club T-shirts are currently in the making. "We have a t-shirt design and will be ordering them soon," Krane said.

In the meantime, students who are interested in Baking Club can check it out at the next meeting. "[Baking Club is] always a really good time to come and spend time with your friends and after like an hour, you get treats to eat too," Simington said. \$\frac{\Pi}{\Pi}\$



# Advanced Placement classes prove to be difficult, yet rewarding

### [Ugochi Onyema]

Courses in college usually cost hundreds of dollars, but with Advanced Placement courses, CHS students can cut the cost and start college at an accelerated pace. However, some students do not enroll in these classes purely for the shortcut to college credit. Junior Jacob Goldsmith signed up for AP World History simply because he wanted to.

"I was really interested in the class," Goldsmith said. "I didn't really take its AP status into account."

This was also the case for senior Vanessa Moore, who took some AP classes in order to progress.

"In my case, these were the classes that were the next level up," Moore said. "And I was very interested in the subject matter as well."

Unlike Goldsmith and Moore, junior Matt Haslam is interested in the college credit that the courses offer.

"I decided to take an AP course to challenge myself and hopefully get college credit, depending on how well I do on the test," Haslam said.

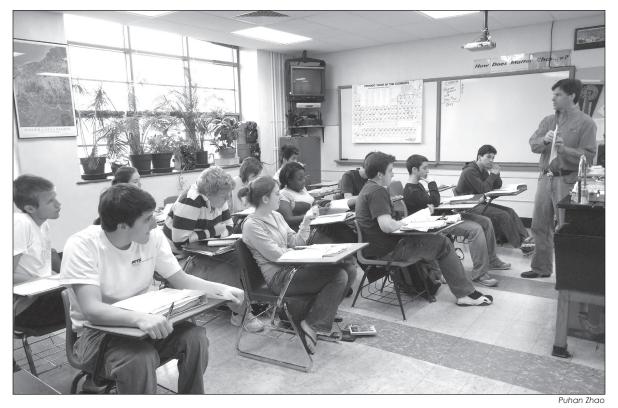
The AP courses offered at CHS have a reputation of being challenging and very difficult. Haslam believes that the rate of learning in the classes is the most significant difference between AP classes and more fundamental classes.

"AP World is much more fast-paced than any other history class I've been in. Also, there is an increase in independent work," Haslam said. "You are responsible for your own learning."

Moore, as a senior, is less worried about the AP exams as Goldsmith and Haslam.

"I am more relaxed this year because I know the basic structure of the test and what will happen," Moore said. "This way, I feel like I know what's going on."

According to the College Board, the distributor of the AP tests, there are two sections of the AP tests. The first section is the multiple-choice section. This section is scored by adding the correct responses together, and



AP Chemistry teacher Nathan Peck lectures students. While AP courses are difficult, they can prove very beneficial. At the end of the course, students take an exam to determine if they qualify for credit.

sponse for guessing the answers. Wrong answers get a fourth of a point deducted if there are five possibilities for answers, while one-third of a point gets subtracted for every wrong response when there are four possibilities offered per question. This minimal deduction proves that it doesn't hurt to guess the answer to a couple of questions.

The second section of the AP exams is the free-response section, which is scored by college professors and AP teachers at the start of summer vacation. After subtracting a portion for every wrong answer as a re-

multiple-choice score to create the composite score. After creating the composite score, the  $A\bar{P}$  grade is set through a process called grade setting. The grades are based on a five-point grading scale. The professors and teachers who grade the tests base the grades by equating, which is a technique based on statistics. The scale ranges from: No recommendation, possibly qualified, qualified, well qualified and extremely well qualified. In order to receive college credit, one must earn at least a grade of two, while earning a grade of one will result in no college credit or advanced placement. However,

many colleges and universities are only giving out college credit for exam scores of four or five.

Haslam believes that this structure of the exam is the reason that the test seems so difficult.

"I am least anticipating taking the test because I imagine it will be pretty rigorous," Haslam said. "We covered a massive amount of material and I am worried that the test will ask for a topic that I don't remember.'

There are also many awards given to students of various nationalities who achieve high scores on their AP tests. These tests include the AP Scholar, which entails the earning of a grade of three or higher on at least three tests; State AP Scholar, which is given to one male and female who earn the grades of at least a three on the highest amount of AP tests in each state; National AP Scholar, which is awarded to students who receive an average grade of four or more on all of the AP tests that they take, as well as grades of at least four on eight of the AP exams.

Haslam believes that the stress of all of these factors of the AP exams will die down when they are over.

"I'm pretty nervous about the test in general but it will be nice to put everything that I've been learning to the test at a college level," Haslam said. "Also, after the test, the class shouldn't be as intense and I will be able to focus on other work including studying for finals in

Goldsmith also believes that the fact that the test encapsulates the entire structure of the class intensifies the level of stress related to the AP classes

"The thing I like the least about the idea of the AP is the actual test and how important it is in the class," Goldsmith said. "I am least anticipating studying, because I have to study everything from the entire year."

Despite the amount of stress that AP classes cause, Goldsmith believes that there are several benefits to taking the classes.

"I like the connectedness of the class," Goldsmith said. "The teacher connects everything we learn together and then connects that with the AP test." §

# Honors classes controversial for some students, teachers

### [Hyrum Shumway]

Senior Managing Editor

Senior Whitt Downey has a full plate with AP Physics, AP Calculus BC, AP US, and AP English as well as many extracurricular activities. Honors English was not always on Downey's schedule.

"I definitely think that the process of moving from non honors to honors at the high school level is flawed," senior Whitt Downey said. "As a freshman I tried to be creative as a writer, but I didn't get good grades. Second semester I tried to be less creative and follow exactly what the teacher expectations and stated to do extremely well and I still didn't get in because they only looked at first semester grades.

Downey seemed prepared to handle the honors

"When I got into honors my junior year it wasn't that big of a jump," Downey said. "I guess that could say that I was well prepared by the regular English program. On the flipside however it could indicate that I was capable of taking the honors program all along."

Although Downey has been able to manage all the honors not everyone chooses this route.

"I was in honors English freshman and sophomore year," junior Hal Lewis said. "It was challenging. The expectations for essays were steep and the teachers graded very hard. I realized that with the classes I had I wanted to get my priorities straight and focus on math and science.'

The structure of honors courses changes from one department to another, and not all departments agree on when honors classes should begin or even how students should become eligible for them.

"You want to challenge students at the intellectual level they are at," Curriculum Coordinator Nathan

In science courses this can be difficult.

"With students possessing varying abilities on thinking abstractly it is sill possible to cover the same topic to different levels of depth," Peck said. "Part of this depth is quantitative reasoning which depends on students math ability."

History teacher Paul Hoelscher believes that dividing up students into honors and non-honors has harmful repercussions.

"Splitting up kids can have psychological effects," Hoelscher said.

Of the four core departments, the history department is the only one that does not have an honors level for underclassmen.

"In a history class diversity can provide a variety of perspectives," Hoelscher said. "In American history which is very multiethnic it is important to have multiple voices in the room."

While many English teachers support freshman honors, others believe students should adjust to CHS before splitting.

"I think honors English at the freshman level is controversial," Department Chair John Ryan said. "Some students are placed in the class who are not ready for it. Some are not placed in who could. Some teachers ..would love to see a heterogeneous groupings of students freshman year."

The English Department is concerned with the growing gender gap in honors English classes.

"Unquestionably there are more girls in the AP and honors English classes," Ryan said. "I wish more boys would take these courses. I don't think it is a lack of intellectual ability. It may be a lack of interest or misperceptions about the course content."

One of the main concerns is a false impression of what honors English entails.

"There is a perception among boys that literature discussion is just about feelings and emotions," Ryan said. "How books make the reader feel while those may be useful discussion items. But in my opinion they are often secondary to more important essential questions about the value of literature for our lives."

Similar concerns remain in how to attract more African Americans to honors English.

"Honestly for years we have tried many ways to get more African Americans into honors English," Ryan said. "It is not an issue of intellectual capability. African American students who are successful in honors English receive support from their teachers, parents, and friends. I think one perception that these students have to fight is that taking honors English is somehow 'un-cool"

Many African Americans do well once placed into the honors English environment.

"When we do honors selection at each level we look especially at successful African American students who have not already placed into honors, but who might thrive in an honors English class," Ryan said.

Because honors classes are academically challenging, groups tend to form. However, teachers try to focus their attention on the individual in order to help them succeed.

"There are achievement gaps between groups of students," Peck said. "It is a common educational tool to "group" students. But no teacher teaches groups of kids. Teachers teach individuals." 💲

# Mock Trial team goes to state

### [Leah Eby]

Editor

A lawyer paces at the front of the courtroom, detailing the crime. A witness sits at the stand, pleadmediates the affair, overlooking his dominion.

No, this is not a real trial complete with hired attorneys and precarious criminals, but a trial of the CHS Mock Trial team.

trial for this year.

each read the case," junior lawyer evidence to court." Kate Wheelock said. "Then, at the cally just throw ideas out there."

information, highlighting and annotating important passages, and affirming their roles as either witness or lawyer, the 10 teammates, including four lawyers and six witnesses, get down to business.

"Every lawyer is assigned one or two witnesses," junior lawyer Daniel Sanders said. "You read their witness statement over and over again. By trial time, most lawyers can state phrases from their witness' statements by heart as well as the line number."

The team is led this year by seniors Gila Hoffman, Marta Toczylowski and Leigh Katz, who have all been on the varsity team for the past three years.

of the team are witnesses, three for the defense and three for the prosecution. These members are responsible for memorizing the deposi- pared their lawyers and witnesses iously awaits next years' season. §

illustrates the case from a witness' success, they entered the courtthe courtroom is the judge, who is the main mediator of the trial.

courtroom," Sanders said. "They have resulted in a disadvantage. primarily rule on objections. That doesn't sound like an incredibly important job, but it can be. Sometimes you need to bring ob- bad thing. On the courtroom, you jectionable evidence into the court, need to react to what the opposing The team began their season last and the opposing team will object team does, and we would be too November when they received the to it. Sometimes you can make a papers that detailed the case on very reasonable argument as to why it should be allowed in, but that and killed in the courtroom." "Before the practices starts, we the judge will not let you bring that

After reading and rereading the of ballots from both jurors and the city courthouse in downtown St. final say.

> witness on a scale from one to 10, March 28 to March 30. adding up a team total at the end of ly writes a P, for prosecution, or D, for defense, on his ballot.

mock trial case was about the con-round. troversy surrounding the defamation of a judge.

article written by the Longstreet Clayton's participants believe they Monitor, was accused of accepting bribes from Mac Power," Wheelock sists of doing direct and cross-ex- stealing money from her employtimes reciting opening and closing that she bribed Harrison. The case their opposition. statements. The other six members was about whether the article was reckless disregard for the truth."

tion, or witness statement, which with the materials necessary for point of view. Another character in room to face judges, jurors, and opponents. Wheelock believes the team was hard-working and dedi-"The judge is one of the most cated, and though Sander agrees, ing innocent to the jury. A judge loved and hated people in the she believes their preparation may

"At the start I would say that we were very well prepared," said Sanders. "But that can also be a prepared and not react at all. Later in the year we really picked up on

Though both Wheelock and Sanders agreed that the Priory This bias can be fatal, as the mock trial team was their toughest beginning meetings we talk about judge also plays a role in deciding opponent, this did not impede their each witness, brainstorm and basi- which team is victorious. Though advancement to the state competithe result of a trial is a compilation tion. Normally held in the St. Louis judge, the judge tends to have the Louis, the state competition was moved a bit farther from home to Two jurors rate each lawyer and St. Charles and took place from

> The CHS team beat opponent the trial. However, the judge mere- Liberty High School in the first round to advance and compete against MICDS. Though they lost In the case that the jurors vote is to MICDS, the competition was split, the judge makes the ultimate determined by ballots, and due to their number of ballots won thus The story line for this year's far, the team advanced to the third

In a disappointing finale, CHS mock trial lost to Hickman "Judge Hunter Harrison, in an High School. However, many of deserved the victory.

"It was no question that we Sanders is one of four lawyers said. "Mac Power was a convicted should have won, and I can say on the team and said his job con- criminal who was charged with that confidently," Wheelock said, and she believes they were far aminations of witnesses, and some- ees' pension funds. She also claimed more prepared and skilled than

> Despite this upsetting end to the published reporting this bribe with season, the CHS mock trial team was satisfied to have advanced so Once the team had fully pre- far in the state tournament and anx-

# After thirty years, health teacher takes a break

## [Aaron Praiss]

Editor

As always, the face of CHS is changing. New students come and go, renovations are added to the building, and unfortunately, teachers have to leave. After next year, health teacher Doris Smith will end her 30 or so years with CHS.

"She was really sweet," sophomore Alexa Boulton said. "She knew what was best for her students and she did a really good job of connecting her lessons to teenagers' lives. Students really want to know more, since she makes class so relevant to our own lives."

Other CHS students agreed.

"What I remember are the many activities in which everyone was engaged in," senior Yang Zhou said. 'The activities were a really effective way of teaching. And the guest speakers gave great first-hand experiences, which were better than just doctors' opinions."

It seems that Smith is known as a legend in the CHS

"She did a really good job with engaging the whole class," sophomore Ben Goldman said. "In other health classes, students didn't really participate or focus. But, in Mrs. Smith's class, everyone was involved in the activities and discussions.'

proposed instead to switch to a teaching schedule that is every other day. This will give her more frequent three-day weekends and more leisure time throughout

"I want to work at a different pace," Smith said. "I don't want to have to grade assignments every single night, and on the days off I can be introspective and really figure out what I want to do for the rest of my

Smith isn't looking for a retirement in the sense of traveling and just a relaxing day.

"I want to find meaningful work," Smith said. "At first I want to catch a breath, with my days off and the summer time. But, I'm a planner, so during that breath, I want to figure out what I truly want to do in the future. I known that I want to use the skills I've developed as a teacher, and I definitely want to work with younger people. I can't see myself at home all the

After her break, Smith wants to get right back at

"I would call this somewhat a retirement, and somewhat a transition," Smith said. "I just don't think a complete retirement would work for me; I need to do something meaningful. I will probably travel for some

Smith will not officially retire after this year; she has time, but after awhile I would want to be doing something meaningful again."

However, there is no doubt that Smith would miss teaching at CHS.

"After 30 years of doing something, it is time to do something else, something different," Smith said. "But, there are so many things I will miss about CHS. I have always loved the traditions, and seeing the changes. When I started at Clayton, there were no computers. I also enjoyed teaching children of my ex-students. But, most important, are the people, colleagues, and especially students that I will miss when I leave."

Besides all of that though, Smith also emphasizes how she will miss the profound impact teaching can leave on students.

"Being a teacher can really show a person that they can make a difference," Smith said. "I just want CHS students to understand the importance of having a job that they truly love. People shouldn't have to trudge along in a job they don't like. To me, working as a teacher at CHS has been such a treasure. The first students I teach at middle school are about 14 yearsold, and I get to watch them leave CHS, almost grown adults. I have truly loved my job here at CHS, and I hope that as students leave CHS they find a job that they love." 💲



Health teacher Doris Smith lectures her class on the affects of drugs and alcohol.

### april 16, 2008

# Junior author project reveals writing potential and willpower

### [lieoma Onyema]

Staff Reporter

Within the daily curriculum of the Honors American Literature class, there is a project that counts for a large percent of each student's grade, a project only a truly devoted student who really wants to study English in their later years could do. As English teacher Sue Teson says, this project really separates the men from

"The author project is a scholarly piece of work," Teson said. "It's basically a precursor for the juniors in order to prepare them for the projects done in AP Literature and AP Language, which are done during the summer and finished by winter break."

Established many years ago, the author project allows the students to choose any American writer of merit who not only has a respectable body of at least three pieces of critical work, but who has also been noticeably honored by others. Then, they must read, annotate, and research several works of their author while preparing a paper and a presentation over the author.

Right now, the classes are about to present their presentations and turn in their papers, in hopes of being scored well on the rubric. The paper and presentation together count from 300-400 points.

Because of the sheer volume of the project, the project goes on for a year; the first semester is devoted to reading and researching the author's works while the second semester is used to work on the paper and the presentation. The presentation lasts 45 minutes, while the paper ranges from 15 to 20 pages, although Teson tells her students that the minimum is 10 to 15 pages.

Besides the one-on-one conferences and the basic instructions to conduct research and reading, their students alone do the "ultimate IRA" outside of class. Within the class, the regular curriculum continues. This semester, while working on their projects outside of class, they will read over four novels and conference five essays inside class. During finals week, their exam will be over all of their projects.

Junior Lisa Tang researched Chuck Palahniuk, an American transgressional fiction novelist.

"I saw Fight Club and started reading his books a few years ago," Tang said, "and I really liked his

Tang says she waited until the last minute, and had to pull a couple of all-nighters, but fortunately received a midnight deadline, which prevented her from losing points for turning the project in late.

"At first, I really regretted doing him," Tang said, "but now I'm really glad because he's such an interesting author and I recommend his works to everyone."

Conversely, Junior Tianxin Ku worked on her project consistently 30 minutes every week. Her project was on O. Henry, the pen name of American author William Sydney Porter. She has been reading his sto-



Leah Eb Junior Kate Wheelock reads "The Grapes of Wrath" for her author project on John Steinbeck. The author project includes a research paper and class presentation.

literature. She found the conferences with Teson to be very helpful.

"Mrs. Teson is really experienced," Ku said. "She told me what to do and what not to do, plus she gave me a lot of confidence."

Junior Nichole Burton's teacher, Jill Burleson, offered optional conferences to her classes; however, Burton declined.

"It's not like there are any one-on-one conferences in college," Burton said. "I decided that I should to

work on it by myself." Burton's author was Alice Walker, author of critically acclaimed novel "The Color Purple"

"My first choice was Amy Lowell, but I chose Walker instead because I saw the movie 'The Color Purple', and it was amazing so I thought, 'what the heck?"" Burton said.

Junior Kelly Hummell never had a particular author in mind, so her teacher suggested playwright August

"I've been working [on the project] since winter break until just recently," Hummell said.

"I'm really proud of my presentation because that was simple for me, and I did mine very well. Plus, I ended up really liking all the plays he wrote."

Hummell says the conferences with her teacher helped her make out where she should be in the stages ries since elementary school and enjoyed his pieces of of the project; however, she had difficulty with putting

the outline together.

"It was hard because I had to put all that information together at once and organize it," Hummell said.

The majority of the students believe that the presentation will be the hardest part of the project due to their insecurities of using their oratory skills. For some, another difficult part was finding information about their

"My author was a nineteenth century writer, and he wasn't very famous nor were there a lot of books, so it was a little hard finding information on him," Ku said, "but the librarians really helped me out, and I used JSTOR, which gave me some really good pieces of information."

However, for junior Mack Su, finding information was very accessible. His author was playwright Thomas Lanier Williams III a.k.a. Tennessee Williams, who wrote over 10 plays and several other published

"I heard about his works, I thought they were interesting, plus I wanted to read some of his works anyway, so I chose him," Su said.

Many, including Hummell and Burton, also found their researching to be effortless.

"I basically used the Library Resource Databases to find information, which turned out to be really efficient," Burton said.

For Burton, the hardest part was dealing with some-

thing that all students deal with: procrastination.

"I was out of town for spring break, and the paper was due the Monday after spring break," Burton said. "I had to get myself to open my English notebook and write a solid paper instead of coming back to type it up at the last minute."

Teson says that as the years have gone by, the project and its demands have indeed become more arduous, but not undoable. Both Su and Ku agree with her.

"It becomes challenging when you begin to procrastinate," Ku said, "but if you listen to the teacher and don't put it off, it's becomes less of a big deal."

Usually, all the students' hard work pays off.

"The vast majority—like 99 percent—of my students get As or Bs on the project," Teson said. "The really hard workers get As and are very proud and pleased with their work because they know they did a good job and they now know that they can write college standard papers."

However, there's always that one percent of scholars who don't finish or who are either not willing or serious enough to do the project; they usually end up with mediocre grades.

"That's why it's discouraging for those who want to enter Honors English because they want the credit on their transcript or the class on their applications," Teson said.

As the school year comes to a close, the students can feel the stress of the project coming off their

"I'm really relieved [now that the project is almost finished]," Ku said. "I only hope that my classmates will learn a lot from my presentation and [that] I will learn a lot from their presentations and compare them

Su says that he is satisfied with all of his work.

"I am very pleased with the final product; I just finished on Friday," Su said. "But, I still have to do my

Teson says that this project is overall the most memorable part of the course because the students work so hard and are extremely proud of their work. In addition, many wind up really liking their authors.

"Tennessee Williams was crazy, but he produced masterpiece works," Su said.

Burton liked Walker's works; however, she though it was hard to get into her books at times. In addition, she found her stories to be somewhat graphic. "I guess she does that so that the reader can relate

more and that's what makes her writing so good," Burton said. Although she is glad her project is finished,

Hummell says that she really liked his work and would read more of his plays. "His plays are really good," Hummell said, "but still, I wouldn't do this [project] again."

Overall, it seems that through this project, this year's Honors American Literature classes have learned not only about their author, but also about their own potential and self-will. 💲

# Controversy at talent show inspires change

Senior Managing Editor

The Black Student Union recently hosted their annual talent show which showcases student talent at CHS. While the students view it as a show, it is really a fundraiser that brings in money for scholarships for African-American students.

"The [BSU talent show] is done to raise money for scholarship funds," BSU Sponsor Donna Rogers-Beard said. "We have contributed to both the Jazzlyn Williams scholarship fund as well as the Parents of African American Students scholarship fund. These scholarships are local scholarships whose funds are strictly used for African American students."

Many participants who perform talent that ranges from traditional Irish dancing to reading an original poem look forward to the show each year.

"I sang the Star Spangled Banner as well as a traditional Chinese song," sophomore Chi Zeng said. "The Chinese song is a common graduation song and expresses gratitude to both students and teachers."

The song was very successful and resonated with the audience.

"I liked performing at the talent show because the audience was very supportive," Zeng said. "I thought it was fun when people started to wave their cell phones along to the song. It is fun to showcase your talents. The audience was small, but very active."

Due to the good crowd reaction many participants would perform

"It was a great experience and I would do it again," freshman Greg Dallas said.

However some felt that the event had some flaws.

"I was disappointed with the talent show when one of the acts played a song that was just random notes with distortion," Dallas said. "Also there were four kids performing that were not at the try-outs."

The act was shut off after a few minutes of playing and was different than the song that was played at the BSU try-outs. Jack Callahan,

[Hyrum Shumway] the leader of the band that was shut off, believes his music was not given the time it deserved.

"I believe that the music we played in the talent show is the natural extension of the music we played in the rehearsal," senior Jack Callahan said.

"I think that the act should have been given a chance," sophomore Laura Klamer said. "The reaction to the music was a little bit of an overreaction. I also believe that after it was shut off that the person conducting the talent show did not need to add her own comments to

Callahan supports his music despite problems.

"What we played was a celebration of the music of the Black Artist Group of St. Louis in the 1970s," Callahan said. "I stand behind what we played, even though I represented the group and myself poorly when I cursed at the audience. I was upset that the powers—that—be shut the electricity off on us, only minutes after we began playing. This prevented the audience from hearing a music that they may not have normally heard. I reacted in an impulsive and inappropriate manner, and for that I am

Other band members were not as surprised by the outcome of their performance.

"Given our choice of musical genre and our performance style, I was not particularly surprised," senior Jack Barcheck said.

Some feel Callahan's experimental music is hard to measure against other traditional forms.

"Jack is the most talented musician in this school and sometimes his ideas can be a little radical for main stream tastes," senior Jacob Blumenfeld said. "Improvisation is an integral part of Callahan's repertoire therefore it makes sense that his try-out song was different from the actual performance. It was his musical passion that sparked his outburst and not that Jack is an angry kid. That is why it is so forgivable in my eyes. It was an honest mistake."

The BSU will have stricter rules

after the controversy this year. "Next year there will be a written agreement that will mandate



Junior Farzana Saleem shares her talents by performing a dance with senior Sara Rangwala and junior Shweta Goswami (not pictured).

that the song you audition with you will perform," Rogers-Beard said. "If not you will be asked to leave. Also at the tryout we must see all the participants beforehand."

Some participants and audience members were surprised that the talent show had no winner. "I think there should have been

prize," Dallas said. "It would have made it more fun." Klamer agrees. "I would like to see winners at

people for their talent and hard work," Klamer said. However, all participants received a prize for performing.

the talent show. I think it rewards

"No prize was awarded because there just did not seem to be enough time," Rogers-Beard said. "Also last year there were judges, it took a long time to decide, and the crowd got restless. Instead, we offered each participant a gift certificate to MaggieMoo's ice cream. I believe this worked out very well

and the idea is supposed to be a talent show and not a talent contest. We may never have winners or judges from now on."

While BSU is implementing new rules for next year, their main concern might be attracting BSU member support.

"This year the BSU has not been as student driven as it has been in the past," Rogers-Beard said. "In the past there had been student emcees, students judging at the tryouts and this year we simply did not have that kind of participation. That is something we have to get back next year."

Despite all issues that the talent show experienced this year it was a positive experience for most and displayed student talent effectively and was entertaining for viewers.

"The attendance was pretty low, but I liked the show this year better than perhaps any other," Rogers-Beard said. "The acts seemed to be better and I loved the diversity." \$

# Forensics students advance

[Colleen Layton] Staff Reporter

come far this year. Some will argue their way into the even greater and senior Michal Hyrc. depths of the debating world, all the way to the National Forensic June 15 through June 20. League Tournament. These finals bring together students in high schools from all over the country to compete with one another at the top level.

"Winning students are rewarded should go to him." with outstanding trophies and over \$130,000 in college scholarships," according to the National Forensic League webpage.

Many enter the finals in hopes of winning the great prizes that the NFL offers, but participants can't iust enter at the national levels. They must first start out a little closer to for many people, even those who home in district tournaments.

"On the first day, there are 3 mandatory rounds," said finalist Dylan Cockson, a junior. "Our piece this year was the most intense; it had a variety of emotions."

Those students who make it through the chaotic district tournaments without facing elimination are eligible to continue on With sheer cunningness, confi- towards the NFL tournament. dence and a great deal of rhetoric Cockson is one of four students skills, debate team members have who made it this year, along with senior Ka Suen, junior Jessica Shen

The nationals are being held on

"After state, Jessica and I will be practicing a lot with Dr. Smith, working on the synchronization of words," Cockson said. "Dr. Smith is like a mentor, all the credit

Cockson and Shen are preparing to compete in "interpretation."

"[In interpretation,] a cutting must be from a single work of literature: one short story, one novel, one play or one or more poems," said the NFL webpage.

Debate proves to be rewarding suffer from anxiety.

"I'm kind of nervous," Cockson said. "It is going to be the best of the best across the nation. The experience, getting to see so many pieces, it is really all an art." (\$

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# 'Lost' leaves viewers with unanswered questions

### [Ellie Bullard]

Editor

"Lost" is not a show that viewers can understand without paying attention to it. Viewers must watch every episode with careful attention to truly understand the plot. Throughout the fourth season of "Lost", the same attention must be given, if not even more. New characters mixed with flash forwards and the everpresent mythological factor, the fourth season of "Lost" is not easy to watch. Nevertheless, the dedicated, hardcore viewers enjoy the show mainly because of its originality and inventive plot.

Due to the writers' strike, the show only plans to have 13 instead of the originally planned 16 episodes. There have been eight episodes so far which have stopped temporarily until they resume on April 24. The show will continue from there every Thursday with five more episodes ending in a two-hour finale.

"Lost" has always been a refreshing alternative to other, more romantically focused series. The idea of the show is weird albeit enticing. It has strange aspects—invisible characters, polar bears in tropical climates, ghost whisperers and the like. Although it may be a drawback especially at this point, the mystery of "Lost" sometimes leaves people guessing and wanting

The major change of this season of "Lost" has been the switch from flashbacks to flash-forwards. For those who do not watch, each episode of "Lost" furthers the collective story of the people marooned on the island from Oceanic Flight 815, while focusing on one character and furthering that individual's story. Recognizing that each character's past has basically been revealed, the producers made a smart move in a different direction. The flash-forwards have been interesting for the show, and have allowed viewers to see what happens to the characters once they do get off the island (it is revealed in this season that some of the characters get off the island; however, we do not know the specifics of how well they get off).

The fast forwards manage to add something new to the show to preoccupy viewer's increasing frustration with the plot. One particularly interesting use of the flash forwards was Desmond's appearance in "The Constant", an episode where Desmond was liter-



"LOST" will resume airing on April 24. The show will run 13 total episodes this season, instead of the intended 16. Five episodes remain, including a two-hour finale.

ally pulled between past and present. In this episode, Desmond would at one moment physically be on the Island, and the next moment physically in army boot

The flash-forwards were, however, a bit confusing in that past was blended with future so that viewers can't tell which is which.

The finale of the third season suggested that the islanders, trapped on the island after the crash of Oceanic Flight 815, would finally be rescued and return to their homes. This hope was dispelled, however, in the first episode when we find out that the supposed "rescuers" came to the island for another reason.

The "rescuers" include Daniel Faraday, played by Jeremy Davies, Miles Straume, played by Ken Leung, Charlotte Staples Lewis, played by Rebecca Mader, and Frank Lapidus, played by Jeff Fahey. These four main new characters are supplemented by the return of Michael Dawson from seasons one and two, played by Harold Perrineau, who is a father trying to forge a relationship with his son. The four new characters and the returning one are all brought to the island as a part of a vague mission—which does not primarily include rescuing those from Oceanic Flight 815.

They are a strange bunch. Daniel, a twitchy scientist and an obvious tribute to his namesake, and Miles, a Sawyer-like ghost whisperer, do not seem compatible with each other-much less with Charlotte, a feisty anthropologist, or Frank, an alcoholic and experienced pilot. However, as we learn as the season goes on, each person in the foursome has a motive and a secret—just like everyone else on the island. The new characters are interesting to get to know, but the increasing number of characters may make it hard for viewers, especially new ones, to fully understand the plot.

The new characters, are, of course, joined by familiar faces. Viewers got to see Jack, Kate, Sawyer, Hurley and all the other beloved favorites once again, not to mention Ben, who's becoming an integral part of the

The fourth season's plot was, however, much more centered on the new additions to the show—the flash forwards and new characters—than any of the old constants. The majority of the fourth season is spent introducing new characters and hinting at vague parts of their mission. The fourth season so far has not driven the main plot, but viewers have learned some new tidbits from the entertaining flash forwards this season. However, those tidbits are not nearly enough to satiate the hunger of the fans for more information. New information just leads to a host of other questions—for example, although viewers know that a discovery of the Oceanic Flight 815 was staged by Charles Whitmore, we want to know why.

Despite its genius, "Lost" has been becoming increasingly hard to follow, despite its clever new additions. It seems that in this season especially, the number of questions being created is disproportionate to the number of questions being answered. There are so many loose ends that are not being tied in "Lost" that it's becoming difficult to understand. There are so many questions that still have not been answered what's going on with the hatch and what was its purpose? What is the smoke monster and who created it? Who is Jacob? Why are there polar bears on the island? The list goes on and on.

It seems that the only hope that viewers have for answers is that the season is scheduled to end once and for all after the sixth season. With any luck, the producers will be forced to complete the story by then—and "Lost" fans will finally know the truth. \$\infty\$

# New show blends cultural insights with quality humor

[Preeti Viswanathan]

Staff Reporter

If you are looking for a diversion from the usual routine of reality television or the typical popular sitcoms, "Aliens in America," a new show on the CW, might provide a refreshing alternative.

Set in the small town of Medora, Wisconsin, "Aliens" is narrated from the candid perspective of 16-year-old Justin Tolchuk (Dan Byrd). Tolchuk is an awkward high school student who doesn't fit in at school. The show's title refers to the fact that he feels somewhat like an outsider in his own community.

In the pilot episode, Justin and his family, which consists of his popular younger sister Claire (Lindsey Shaw), dad Gary (Scott Patterson), and mom Franny (Amy Pietz), decide to host a foreign exchange student after Justin's guidance counselor Mr. Matthews (Christopher B. Duncan) told Mrs. Tolchuk that it may help Justin make a new friend and gain popularity in school.

Hoping to receive a burly European boy, the Tolchuks were surprised when instead they were greeted by Raja Musharaff (Adhir Kalyan), a Pakistani student. Medora High School and the surrounding community have very little diversity, so the arrival of a foreign exchange student, particularly a Muslim one, was unusual and surprising to the town's residents.

Initially, the family has trouble accepting Raja due to the fact that his customs are different from their own.

On the first day of school, Raja refuses to wear American clothes despite Justin's insistence, much to the chagrin of Mrs. Tolchuk.

Justin fears that he will look even dorkier with Raja walking beside him dressed in a traditional salwar kameez, and his suspicions are right – his peers tease him mercilessly and Raja is subjected to even more

When the history teacher asks the class what they think of Raja, almost everyone ignorantly says they feel angry at him because they consider his religion responsible for the Sept. 11 attacks. After school, Raja bleakly observes how narrow-minded American teenagers can be.

However, Justin and Raja start forming a close friendship when Justin shares his most personal feel-

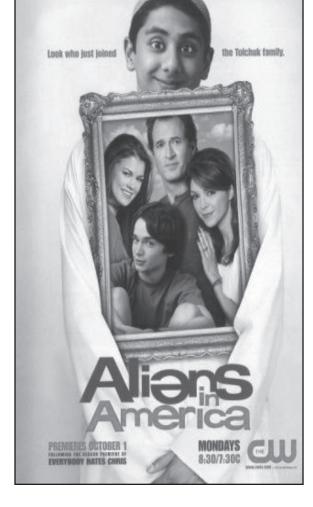
This first episode satirizes the ignorant assumptions which teenagers sometimes make about people from other cultures. In the subsequent episodes, the Tolchuk family learns to accept Raja for who he is, though some awkward moments arise between them.

When Raja points out that the Tolchuks lack prayer in their lives, the family reluctantly agrees to go to church during the holiday season, though they haven't been there in 10 years.

In fact, it is these awkward moments which provide the show with the hilarity that makes it enjoyable to

In the process of learning about American culture, Raja provides the family and his peers at school with points of view from his culture.

He advises some of the boys at school not to abuse their freedoms and to treat women with more respect. He encourages his opinion on decency to girls as well; in a particularly humorous episode, titled "The Metamorphosis," Raja advises one of the most popular



girls at their school to dress more modestly, and she

Also amusing are the clashes between Franny and Claire. Claire is portrayed as the stereotypical cheerleader who constantly argues with her parents over curfews. Claire ignores Raja for the most part though he sometimes tries to help resolve her angst, which often doesn't turn out well.

When Claire gets a job at a teen crisis hotline, she doesn't find anyone who genuinely needs help, but Raja pretends to be an American boy who is pressured by his father to play baseball.

Claire finds she is easily able to talk to him about her problems, but when she finds out it is Raja who is impersonating the boy, she becomes even angrier. However, he continues to be the benevolent mediator of arguments in the household, and tells Mr. and Mrs. Tolchuk everything that happens in school, which is rather inconvenient for Justin. Whether they realize it or not, Raja has a big impact on the family; gradually he begins changing their personalities and moralities for the better.

The main actors all portray their characters well: Dan Byrd personifies the conventional socially uncomfortable teen, Amy Pietz effectively represents the caring and thoughtful mother, Franny, whose preconceived notions cause her to believe rudely towards Raja at first; Scott Patterson as Gary, a well-meaning father and husband who struggles to bond with his son and often ends up in comically unfortunate situations; Lindsey Shaw as Claire, Justin's self-centered sister who is still learning to look beyond her popularity status at Medora High, and Adhir Kalyan as Raja, their Pakistani exchange student adjusting to the norms of

A distinctive new serial with the perfect combination of interesting characters, awkward situations and entertaining dialogue, "Aliens in America" offers a unique perspective on daily suburban life.

Not only does the show give insights as to how a teenager from another culture views American culture, it also proves that a person of a different nationality is not as foreign or "alien" as they are sometimes perceived to be.

This series emphasizes that two people who seem very unlike one another can overcome their differences and form strong friendships. §

# Cellofest offers unique experience

### [Maddy McMahon]

Staff Reporter

Collective nouns are always tricky. Terms already exist to describe a flock of birds, a troop of monkeys, a herd of elephants and a cohort of zebras, but until March 25, there was no adequate term to describe a recital given by cellists, and only by cellists. With the guidance of St. Louis cellists Catherine Lehr Ramos and Ken Kulosa, however, the word

The concert, titled "Cellofest 2008," was held in the Sheldon Concert Hall. The intimate hall, locally renowned for its acoustics, was packed on a Tuesday night by students and adults alike.

Nine student cellists from the area performed solos and chamber works either originally written for cello or

Even before the concert officially began, an excited, anticipatory mood pervaded the audience, perhaps inspired by the festive title of the program or the impressive size of the

Clayton High School was particularly well represented in the program. Out of the three senior soloists in the event, two CHS seniors, Melanie Goldstein and John McAfee, both performed solo works in addition to chamber works. Additionally, junior William Kass and freshman Henry Meyers participated in the chamber repertoire that made up most of the night's program.

Goldstein performed two movements from a solo cello sonata by Samuel Barber with a passionate performing presence. McAfee followed Goldstein's sonata with Martinu's "Variations on a Theme by Rossini." McAfee played the technically challenging piece with artistic ease and sensibility. The two CHS seniors were honored by standing ovations

after their solos.

Kass and Meyers both played in an emotionally charged arrangement of the fifth movement to Benjamin Britten's "War Requiem" by CHS alum Peter Myers.

The concert had an energetic quality to it from the start, when all nine cellists performed the beginning of Rossini's "William Tell Overture". Even their black and red concert dress conveyed an intense, yet fun, professionalism. The other five student cellists included senior Max

Geissler from Parkway Central High School, juniors Monica Godbee from Parkway South High School and Haley Jacobson from John Burroughs School, sophomore James Peretta from Lindburgh High School and freshman Richard Mazuski from Priory.

The Sheldon stage was also graced by St. Louis Symphony Orchestra violist and composer Christian Woehr, who conducted his sonorous composition entitled "Cello Dreams," and world-renowned soprano Christine Brewer, who sang Hector Villa-Lobos' unusual "Bachianas Brasileiras," which calls for soprano and an orchestra of celli.

The Villa-Lobos piece was, if not the capstone, then surely one of the highlights of the concert. Christine Brewer's mellifluous voice resonated gorgeously above the impressively accurate and expressive cello orchestra in the "Aria (Cantilena)."

Other notable cello ensembles included the lively K. F. W. Fitzenhagen "Konzertwalzer, Op. 31" and the finale of the program, Julius Klengel's "Hymnus, Op. 57." St. Louis Symphony associate principal cellist Melissa Brooks-Rubright joined in with all 9 student cellists and the two private teachers, Catherine Lehr and Kenneth Kulosa, in this last piece. The final piece was an effective summarization of the night's celebration of the sounds of the cello, whether it be one cello, two celli, or a cellofest of them all. §

# Holocaust movie profound, epic

### [Taylor Stone]

Staff Reporter

High school social studies classes include an exploration of the impacts of various global events of the past. Teachers cover the horrific brutality of the Holocaust and the war tactics and weapons of World War II. With the use of film and movies, students are able to gain a great insight into what actualy happened at these important eras.

"The Rape of Europa" is a rich, intoxicatingly informative documentary of the methodical theft, obliteration and phenomenal survival of Europe's artistic

The Nazi's disposed of nearly six million Jewish men, women and children; it can be estimated that the amount of art work stolen is equally devastating. Narrated by Joan Allen, the film never failed to keep my ears intently open and the content never failed to fascinate me.

The story begins and ends with the story of artist Gustav Klimt's famed "Gold Portrait," stolen from Viennese Jews in 1938 and now the most expensive painting ever sold. It was returned to its rightful owners and later auctioned for a whopping \$135 million.

Between the struggle for finding this lost masterpiece, the narrator describes events that ultimately outline the Nazi's pillaging of an estimated one-fifth of all known European works of art.

Though Adolf Hitler is most often associated as the man behind the Holocaust, not many know of his obsession with artwork. The film gives an eerily beautiful account of the loss of artwork at the hands of Hitler, who was in fact a failed artist himself. It is explained that he had a dream of building a worldclass monument in his Austrian hometown of Linz, complete with the finest art that Europe had to offer.

It is hinted that Hitler's anti-Semitism may have even partially stemmed from his fascination with art. When he younger, Hitler was condemned as a terrible artist by many, including a few Jewish artists.

The film not only delves deep into Hitler's motives as a murderous art collector, but also highlights the appalling destruction of European churches and homes whose magnificent architectures are cultural icons. Firsthand citizen accounts bring a touching emotion to the importance of such treasures.

An extremely exciting moment in the film is the account of the Louvre's dangerous, tricky removal of the famed "Winged Victory" in order to shelter it from the German invasion of France.

The film also examines the methods of the cruel pillaging, which includes breaking into Jewish homes and destroying any representation of their culture in order to wipe them out. Nazis bombed and picked over museums, while some were miraculously saved.

The documentary does a fantastic job of keeping its viewers interested without sacrificing content or time; I left the theater in a sort of quiet daze, contemplating the events I had witnessed.

What was perhaps the most startling aspect of the spell-binding documentary was the fact that so many of the pillaged works are still missing and may never be found. Though many organizations, as depicted in the film, are working restlessly in locating lost paintings, sculptures, rugs and religious items, many were either lost in the black market or were utterly destroyed in the devastation of World War II. Among these is the famous Portrait of a "Young Man" by

Underneath the visuals of beautiful European towns and trips into various art-finding organizations, a stunning moral lesson and eye-opening exploration of Hitler's mysterious mind is revealed.

"The Rape of Europa" paints a poignant, alluring portrait of the Nazis' art pillaging, while still connecting past events to the modern society and mind. §

# Cliché blackjack film '21' lives up to mediocre expectations

[Kelly Moffitt] Co-Editor in Chief

This month's '21' was a large bet to put down on the table but ended up paying off big time in terms of entertainment. Following month after month of soul-sucking, theworld-is-going-to-hell-in-a-handbasket type film s that may leave the filmgoer more culturally advanced, this was exactly the type of movie that was in the stars for me.

Though I would not recommend this movie for someone either dreadfully in tune with the world of blackjack or of the above-mentioned movies-type, '21' anted up some much-needed sit-back-relaxand-just-enjoy-the-movie time.

To tell the truth, I wasn't expecting much from this movie and had only originally gone to stare at the lovely Jim Sturgess of 'Across the Universe' fame. I had loved 'Ocean's 11' and, of course, enjoyed 'Rounders' and wasn't sure that another gambling movie could pull anymore tricks to impress me.

Directed by Robert Luketic, known for the sticky-sweet 'Win a Date with Tad Hamilton' and ditzy 'Legally Blonde,' surprisingly turned out an intriguing film based on the story of six MIT students who used their smarts in the world of card-counting to finance their

The story of how these students' spiral into the addiction/power trip of gambling is very loosely based on the true story, the film managed to balance the fantasy well enough with reality to make the audience believe that they too could beat the how develop extraordinary mathematical prowess.

The story centers on Ben Campbell (Jim Sturgess) an MIT senior saving up to go to Harvard Medical School, whose involvement in the engineering/mathematical/ scientific world of MIT and inherent shyness always prohibits him from getting the girl. However, when his statistical prowess is shown in class, his smarmy teacher, Micky Rosa (Kevin Spacey) enlists him to join his elite-group of students who jets off to Vegas every weekend to turn the blackjack tables in their favor. Before long, Campbell is seduced by the power, glory, winnings, and fellow teammate Jill Taylor (Kate Bosworth) associated with his new lifestyle and begins to lose sight of his former friends and original goal (to gain enough in winnings to at-

tend Harvard Med). Though what they do isn't exactly illegal, it isn't exactly making the casinos happy to be losing so much money. That's when all the cards hit the fan.

I thoroughly enjoyed watching Sturgess attempt an American accent and he proved himself to be just as enchanting and bewitching onscreen in big-budget '21' as in indie-flick 'Across the Universe' (I just wish they would have added one song in this one for him to

Bosworth was spunky as usual, though she wasn't as believable as she could have been during the intense portions of the film, when the stakes were high.

Spacey, who often disappoints me, fit the bill perfectly in his slimy gambling-man persona in this film.

casino if given the chance to some- As did Laurence Fishburne, who played the old-school casino manager who would rather use the strength of his ringed-knuckles to drive a point home about messing with a casino than revert to, say, calling the Gambling Bureau.

I'm not going to lie, most of the characters in this film were just as shallow and two-dimensional as such a movie is known to produce—but they are characters that are tried and true, the same ones that make us believe, even for a moment, that we can be anything like what we envision ourselves in our wildest dreams.

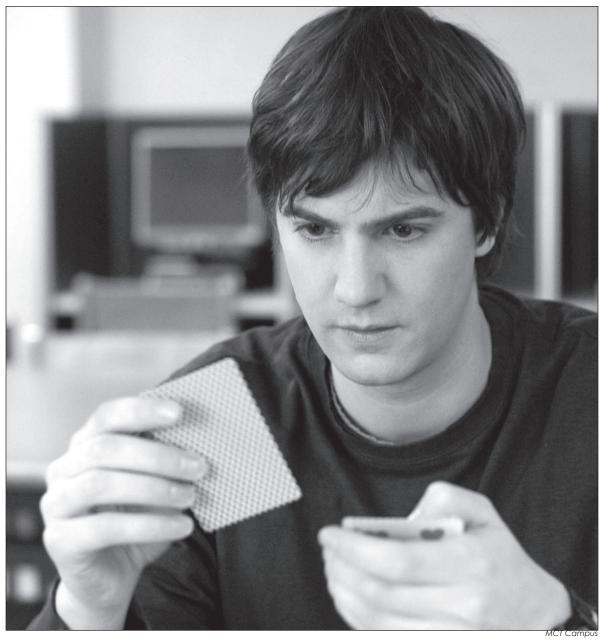
The script was catchy, the music hip, and the pace was just right: alternating between punchy casino revelry scenes and lulled life back in bleary Boston.

There's no doubt that this film was splashy and eye-catching with vistas of every hot-spot on the Vegas strip.

Though the movie lags about midway through the 2-hour film, it quickly rebounds with extra-freaky plot twists and teammate dramas for the second half, leaving the audience pleasantly surprised by the (finally!) happy ending.

The film balanced intelligent with fun, frivolous with gamblingtruisms, and cliché with innovative, making for a ultimately fun moviegoing experience.

Rated PG-13 for some violence and sexual content, I would recommend this film for anyone who wants to just enjoy a movie once and awhile or who has ever contemplated using their smarts for something other than winning a Nobel Peace prize: this one's an



Ben Campbell (Jim Sturgess, pictured) is recruited to join M.I.T.'s blackjack team, a group of students that uses smarts and skills to take Vegas for millions in Columbia Pictures' "21."

# Stimulating art exhibit presents modern, innovative artwork

## [Abby Eisenberg]

The Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum sits in the middle of the beautiful Washington University campus. The building itself is somewhat of an anomaly, a more modern concrete building amidst all the towering brick characteristic of the university. Inside, there is beautiful light hardwood flooring with whitewashed walls, and towering ceilings with beautiful skylights. The inside of the building is the perfect blank frame for the artwork that takes over its walls. The two exhibits currently featured are titled "Thaddeus Strode: Absolutes and Nothings" and "On the Margins."

As I walked into the Strode exhibit I was shocked by the bright neon sickening colors corrupting the serene atmosphere of the quiet lobby.

On the walls hung huge canvases, some filling up whole walls with bright neon acrylics splattered and blobbed haphazardly on immense stretches of canvas. Cartoon characters, skulls, and dismembered human organs inhabited these massive artworks, haunting my mom and I as we walked through the well-ar-

ranged display. All of the characters in the paintings looked either scared or sick, and left the viewer feeling the same way. The work is described to evoke feelings akin to "a mixture of a hangover and heatstroke" according to the pamphlet given out at the museum, perfectly describing the way that these paintings make you feel. The artist's aggressive strokes and use of shocking colors along with the haunting subject matter and massive size causes general tension while one looks on at the artwork.

A prominent painting entitled "On having no head (and paper dolls)" features a headless figure searching the ground with a magnifying glass. A splotch of neon paint covers the hand behind his back leading one to wonder what he did with those hands.

Such were the rest of the paintings. Their titles were often incoherent statements which mostly had little or nothing to do with what was actually contained in the painting, existing solely as little pieces of narratives leading your mind to wander in aimless directions.

Some seemed to make a political statement, such as "Beatniks, politics, nothing's new," where a hooded figure haunts the foreground as a scared, elfish man lurks out from behind trees.

As my mom and I rounded the corner to the last wall

of the exhibit, we spotted the final painting: a crazedlooking man was tied to a stick, with a word bubble coming out saying, "Hello, architect." The mom, an architect, and I were sufficiently scared for a day out at the museum, and moved on to the next exhibit on the opposite side of the lobby.

After the craziness of the Strode exhibit, my mom and I were brought down back to reality by the harsh "On the Margins." We were greeted by the sound of a woman's voice, saying, "Welcome to Baghdad" as we were surrounded by posters of horrible bombings or starving children and crying mothers, with those haunting words "Welcome to Baghdad" emblazoned over them like tourism advertisement posters. "On the Margins," an exhibit that is a compilation of the works of many different foreign artists, who mostly live as

aliens in countries they were not born in. Though varied in artists, the messages of all of these works were clearly unified. They all spoke, in on way or another, as social criticism on the state of the world

The pieces "ranged from the confrontational, to the humorous, to the quietly elegiac" according to the pamphlet, and there certainly was a wide range within the exhibit. On one wall hung photomontages called "Bringing the War Home: House Beautiful," by Martha Rosler. These featured normal, everyday settings such as a living room or dining room with horrifying images of war cropped in with them. The causality of the people in the foreground of these disastrous situations is very shocking against the fierce battlegrounds displayed.

These photos make a clear statement about people's attitudes towards war, and are very mind-opening to the importance of our society resisting the temptation to become apathetic to the horrors that are committed every single day by mankind.

Another stand-out work was an arrangement of shoes, with black shoes encircling a circle of white shoes, inside of which were placed black and white shoes. The large scale of this piece as well as the medium was shocking, and the title, "The Difference Between Black and White" explains simply the message of the piece.

The Kemper's current exhibits, "Thaddeus Strode: Absolutes and Nothings", and "On the Margins" are a thrilling combination of surrealism and super-realism that leaves a lasting impression on the viewer. The experience is well worth the trip, and a great bargain with free admission always. §



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10 [in-depth] chs globe april 16, 2008

# REMEMBERING & FORGETTING

ate Kleineberg had not heard of the Holocaust until she was 9 years old. She had not heard of Auschwitz, or the Nazis, or a man named Adolf Hitler. She had no idea that in 1938, an 8-year-old girl named Miriam Spiegel (now Raskin), along with other Jewish families, had fled for her life from the same streets that Kate called home. In 2002, Kate joined a group called "Netzwerk," and found a future in Raskin's dark past.

Nov. 9, 1938 was the night Raskin recalled as the night "everything changed." In her memoir "Remembering and Forgetting," Raskin recalls the day as being no different than any other day. On vacation with her family in the seaport town of Hamburg, Germany, Raskin found pleasure in the endless number of gigantic ocean liners and the fresh-smelling bakeries. Raskin recalled the sense of safety she felt that night as she said her prayers at her mother's side.

"When [mother] tucked me in gently under the giant eiderdown comforter and listened to me recite my 'Shema' at night," Raskin said in "Remember and Forgetting." "I felt like the safest of times."

That same night, known as Kristallnacht, "the night of the broken glass," would go down in history books as a prelude to the worst genocide in the history of mankind. While Raskin slept safely in her bed, thousands of Jewish temples and businesses were being destroyed just outside her bedroom window. Jewish men were rounded up in the streets and brought to concentration camps. The next morning, Raskin woke up to a very different world than that from which she went to bed.

"Friends and neighbors came to the apartment with whispered news that hundreds of Jewish men had been picked up on the streets and in their homes by the SS, the black-shirted storm troopers," Raskin said in "Remembering and Forgetting". "There was hushed consternation at these reports. One could not say too much or speak too loudly."

Unlike many Jewish families at the time, Raskin along with her mother and father was able to escape to America soon after the horrific events of Kristallnacht.

"Not long afterwards we were able to pack a few of [our] belongings and start on our voyage to America—all of us together and totally unharmed," Raskin said in "Remembering and Forgetting. "My mother must be right. She must have a guardian angel that watches over us. What else can explain our good

fortune?" Raskin's father had previously toyed with the idea of moving to America, giving their family an advantage when it came to getting out of Germany during such a tumultuous period.

"My father explored [moving to America] many years before, but he took a long time to make up his mind and then when he

RASKIN

did make up his mind, it was lucky for us that the American consulate had put a number on his request earlier and that helped us," Raskin said. "I don't remember anything about that. In those days people didn't feel free to say every-



who would later connect Raskin

Scotland who had gone to teach

English in the town. When she got

there she found out that all of the

students thought that the cruelty

of the Holocaust had not touched

Whitelaw started a project,

called Netzwerk, in which she had

all of the students question their

neighbors, family and friends in an

attempt to reconstruct the Jewish

community of the time. The proj-

ect began in 1999, and in 2003, they

came across the name of Miriam

Spiegel, an eight-year-old girl

who had fled Bünde during the

and some of her students came to

arove up to meet the group and de-

scribed the experience of attending

familiar to them, they started read-

ing assorted facts and anecdotes

about our familial life in Bünde,

and the subsequent destinations to

which life and death brought us,"

Raskin said in a piece she wrote

after her visit to Chicago. "They

family, and that was touching. But

what was most moving about the

presentation was the obvious emo-

tional involvement of all the par-

ticipants in the stories they were

telling. Some of them were close to

Kleineberg. Kleineberg had joined

the group in 2002, following in the

footsteps of her brother, who was the

youngest member of the program

when it started in 1999. Kleineberg

was interested in learning about

"There is a lot of information

on what happened during the

Holocaust in the big cities like

Berlin and Munich but only until

a couple of years ago, basically no

one knew what happened in our

the roots of her hometown.

Among those students was

tears. Some wept."

"Softly, in a language not totally

the service as moving.

America to meet with former resi-

In the spring of 2006, Whitelaw

Whitelaw was a Christian from

with Kleineberg.

their town.

Holocaust.

Miriam Raskin and Kate Kleineberg met through a program called "Netzwerk," that connects German students with Holocaust survivors and eye witnesses. During a year long abroad program to America, Kleineberg decided to reconnect with Raskin and spend a week with her in Missouri.

to speak. Children were encouraged to report their parents, so I never felt as though I knew everything that was happening. At one point I did learn that we were going because I started to learn a little bit of English. My parents had learned English from school and they liked to be able to talk in English because they knew I wouldn't be able to understand."

Even after Raskin escaped from Germany, she had very little knowledge about the events that were going on back in her hometown.

"I didn't know [what was going on in Europe," Raskin said. "I just sort of had to read between the lines. It was because we never really got definitive word about what happened. We lost 30 or 40 people in the Holocaust including my grandparents, who we had just left behind, but we didn't hear until maybe 30 years later. Then we heard from someone that we knew, rather than official sources."

Raskin moved to St. Louis only a few years after coming to America, and graduated from CHS in 1948. Throughout Raskin's

> struggle with the events that destroyed her friends, her family and her life as she knew it. It was this struggle that led Raskin to write her first book. "What I know what learned about the Holocaust and the ability of human beings to be incredibly cruel to one another has always hung over mv

> > head like a

life, she has continued to

black cloud, and it took a really long time until I could get past that," Raskin said. "[The book] is my way of coming to terms with a world after Auschwitz. I am trying to put it into perspective and not let it stop me from living my

Then one day in 2006, Miriam's thing because it was so dangerous turbulent past was brought back

An unexpected letter led a German immigrant to reconnect with her home town and a girl who has found a future into her dark past.

# KATHARINE WEISS



CHS Alumnus Raskin came to CHS with Kleineberg to give a presentation to the sophomore class about her experience in Germany and Kleineberg's school project.

into the forefront of her life, when she received a strange letter in the

"Out of the blue, I got a lethad never heard of was writing in German about what happened to her during Kristalnacht," Raskin said. "It turned out to be the story of my family."

named Christina Whitelaw, a teacher in Raskin's hometown of Bünde, Westphalia. Whitelaw is the person "The first interview I did when

not quite sure where to draw the

line when it came to personal

I was quite young, I would do with other students and I would basically just sit there and listen because in the beginning it was hard," Kleineberg said. "I didn't really know what to say or how to act. I didn't know how to talk to those older people. When I would talk to eye witnesses, I would start to think 'so why didn't you do anything?' But you can't really ask that because you don't want to offend

Eventually Kleineberg found her place in the program and developed a passion for learning history and for presenting that history to others.

"Meeting survivors and hearing their stories is very powerful," Kleineberg said. "But so is talking to other groups of people and being able to inform them and tell them what was going on and to give new information and input."

An event that Kleineberg finds especially moving is the annual service in remembrance of Kristallnacht. The service takes place at the Holocaust memorial in the city. The scene is filled with crowds of people commemorating loved ones past and families destroyed.

After the service concludes, the crowd walks through the streets with candles, which they lay on the stones that pay homage to the victims of the Holocaust.

"The service is usually very emotional, and I sit with the other teenagers out of the group and we listen to others talk about the Holocaust victims and to their very emotional and tragic stories," Kleineberg said. "I always think 'wow what if you had been in that situation.' Or just like 'what if you had lived during that time, not just as a Jew but just a random person living in that time, would you have changed something? People tend to say that I would never have let something like that happen but that is not how it works. I don't really know what I would have done in that situation because I didn't live in that situation. It is just easy to say I would never let that happen."

When Kleineberg met Raskin in Chicago that spring, she was dents and relatives of those mur- intrigued by Raskin's opendered during the Holocaust. Raskin ness and willingness to share her experiences

"Miriam is a very open person," Kleineberg said. "It is really easy to talk to her. The first time I met her I was very impressed because I had read some of the text that she wrote about the Holocaust and the poems she wrote, and it is really nice and easy to talk to her because she also informs other people and gives presentations about her expeknew more than I did about our riences during the Holocaust."

It was for this reason that Kleineberg called Raskin while she was studying abroad in Indiana.

"We have been in touch some, but not that much," Kleineberg said. "I knew that if I have something, I can basically e-mail her anytime. I think it is quite amazing that I actually ended up in her house living for a couple of days. "

Through Kleineberg's desire to learn about the past and Raskin's aspiration to share her pain and her understanding, Kleineberg and Raskin have formed a bond.

For Raskin, the understanding of her past has been a long and treacherous process that still concerns her today.

"I still find it difficult to understand how this can happen," Raskin said. "But we have to do whatever we can to not be part of the cruelty and to choose our sides." (\$

ter one day in which a woman I

The letter was from a woman

home town," Kleineberg said. At first Kleineberg was hesitant about interviewing survivors,

"Even the appearance of CRITICISM OF GOVERNMENT WAS TANTAMOUNT TO TREASON AND PUNISHABLE AS SUCH. IT WAS BEST TO BELIEVE AND TO ACT AS IF THE WALLS HAD EARS. IT WAS SMARTER NOT TO GIVE VOICE TO THE QUESTIONS." - MIRIAM SPIEGEL



"I CAN IMAGINE MYSELF QUAR-ANTINED IN THAT LITTLE ROOM OFF THE KITCHEN, MY EAR TO THE DOOR, STRAINING TO HEAR THE STORIES BEING SHARED IN THE PARLOR, FEELING THE ANGUISH OF THOSE WHOSE LOVED ONES HAD DISAPPEARED." - MIRIAM SPIEGEL RASKIN

### [ourview]



- 1. "Love in this Club" **Usher**
- 2. "Piano Man" **Billy Joel**
- 3. "Lollipop" Lil' Wayne
- 4. "Oregon" Dan Zweben
- 5. "Call Me" **Blondie**
- 6. "Landslide" Fleetwood Mac

### Top Three... burger joints

▲ Carl's drive in

**2** Culpeppers

3 O' Connell's



### ill·e·ist

one who refers to him or herself in third person

### What you never knew...

- -WD-40 stands for water displacement fortieth attempt.
- -As you age your eyes get lighter.
- -A typical chocolate bar has eight insect legs in it.
- -Wal-Mart is China's eighth largest trade partner.
- In Missouri a minor taking out the trash with empty alcohol bottles can be charged with illegal possession of alcohol.



virtual-egypt.com

Virtual-egypt. com is a website that allows you to convert your name into Egyptian hieroglyphics.



# Baseball team strides towards winning season

### [Michael Root]

Editor

For CHS spring sports, the toughest opponent is not always another team: this year, it's the weather. For boys' baseball, the varsity team has only been able to practice on its infield three times in the first five and a half weeks, and the freshman team has only been on the field once.

Despite having to move practices indoors due to rain and wet fields, head coach Craig Sucher remains optimistic and happy with the team's attitude.

"I am extremely proud of the boys because their attitude, morale, and work ethic has been tremendous," Sucher said. "And what I and the coaches tell them is that everyone is having the same weather, so we need to come out the strongest and sharpest in order to have the best season possible."

Senior David Luten adds that the weather has only really disrupted the team from being able to take full infield and outfield practice, which hurts the defensive aspect of the team. Fortunately, the team has been able to maintain their offensive practice with plenty of hitting both inside and in their outdoor

Aside from battling the weather, the varsity team is struggling with an extremely young roster after losing seven starters from last year's roster including most of the pitching rotation. Consequently, the team was forced to look to underclassmen and players without much varsity experience to carry the load this season.

The three returning starters are seniors Luten and Mark Heil and junior Max Freedman.

They are primarily responsible for taking on the leadership roles with most of it falling on Luten and

"David, Mark and Max set a tone with their actions," Sucher said. "I am very pleased with how the younger guys are starting to

sports at CHS, its season is off and running.

really bad for your legs."

sprinters.

exhausting.'

portant than others.

renovation was worth the wait.

The Centene Stadium renovation put a halt on the

"Two years ago was the first year that Clayton track

track team, and now they are slowly building the sport

didn't go to state in 17 years," junior Natalia Birgisson

said. "This was because the track was being changed

so we had nowhere to practice and you can't make

people sprint on roads everyday because the impact is

sport that only involves running, it can get tiring.

"I run the 4x800 relay, open 800, mile or two mile,"

Although there are many events, some are more im-

"The most important events are the relays and indi-

The girls track team is up against some tough com-

"There are schools like Nerinx that just smoke ev-

vidual events like the 100 meter and 200 meter," Byrth

petition this year, especially since the team is relatively

eryone," Birgisson said. "They make state time when

we were just getting out of pre-season."

Birgisson said. "Usually it's a combination of two of

these races because running three or more races is so

understand what it means to work hard at the varsity level, which is influenced by the senior leader-

Sucher continued to add that senior leadership in the spring season is often inconsistent with all the distractions surrounding graduation and college, but reiterated that this year's group of seniors has remained professional and focused.

For 2008, Sucher says that it is very tough to make concrete predictions based on a team comprised of underclassman along with inexperienced upperclassmen at the varsity level.

"Our expectations are very indeterminate in regards to tangible outcomes with our very young squad," Sucher said. "Our goal is to always be better every day and to see where we are against the other teams we play. I don't know what to expect considering we see glimpses of a very good team but also have some rough days in practice."

Luten echoes Sucher's remarks about having a young team and this year's expectations.

"It hurts not having a lot of experience, but the seniors have stepped up and are leading by example," Luten said. "The younger players are working extremely hard and are very serious about their baseball, which is very important at this stage in the season in order to be successful."

Luten continues by attributing a lot of the practice mentality to Sucher and the coaching staff.

"Coach [Sucher] and the rest of the staff have taken a very serious approach to this season," Luten said. "They like the group of guys we have and are constantly being supportive with high expectations for the season. Consequently, we all believe that we are a team flying under the radar, and if we are perfect and the things we can be perfect at, we will upset some teams and have a very successful season in our division."

Concerning the junior players,



Senior pitcher Mark Heil winds up for a pitch. The varsity Hounds are 2-2 so far this season. The team has faced a lot of trouble because of the poor weather conditions and they have only practiced three times on its infield.

Sucher and the coaching staff made the decision to designate a number of juniors to a swing position where they can play at both the varsity and junior varsity levels. This will enable players not receiving many innings at varsity to get a chance to play at the JV level, giving them an opportunity to possibly earn more playing time at varsity.

Although there is possibility for dissent within the program, Sucher is pleased that the players have not resorted to poor attitudes.

"I know that the juniors would rather play varsity and there is a little disappointment," Sucher said. "But it is not manifested in a poor or negative attitude, which would be counterproductive."

The varsity and junior varsity teams are also practicing together this year, creating a more unified team. This also provides the opportunity to help and monitor all players at the same time.

Sucher continues by saying that

this is a positive situation from a coaching standpoint to get players maximum playing time and valuable experience for the future.

The varsity coaching staff has been reworked a little this off season with the acquisition of former JV head coach Steve Hutson as assistant varsity coach. Hutson works with the pitchers and outfielders and, according to Sucher, provides a seamless transition for the coaching staff from last season.

So far this season, the Hounds have a 2-2 record with a wins over Gateway Tech 8-2 and Hazelwood East 10-5, and losses against Oakville 12-6 and Lutheran South 9-1. Sucher contends that the Oakville game in particular shows a lot of promise for this year's young squad.

"After giving up five runs in the first inning and four unearned runs after that, we were able to put some runs on the board and show that we can compete with a premiere

4A big school," Sucher said. "That game gives us something we can build on because we saw how good we can really be."

Luten remains optimistic based on the four games so far.

"We have played more games than we have practices outside," Luten said. "That really shows that with such little practice in gamelike situations we can still be very

In the Hazelwood East game, the team saw sophomore Matt Militello came up huge to lead the Hounds to victory.

"Militello had a double and a home run in the game," Luten said. "He is a great baseball player and it is awesome to see a sophomore fill a huge void on our roster."

The varsity team is looking for further improvement with three important upcoming games: April 14 against Ladue at 4:15 and April 18 against John Burroughs at 6:30 at

# Tennis prepared for strong season

The strength of

the varsity team

top six players

been on varsity

and my top

have been on

lots of match

experience

varsity for four

years. As always

these boys need

is experience. My

# [Anya Veremakis]

Tennis is always one of the most anticipated sports in the spring season, as many of the boys often qualify for state and receive med-

"My goal for the boys' tennis season is to continue to have one of the top programs in the St. Louis have already head area," coach Susie Luten said." have "We 44 boys out three players for the team and have attracted some very talented freshmen. We have boys that have worked on their game season know and that there are eighth graders coming

up that will continue the strong Clayton tradition of boys' tennis. We also would like to take advantage of the weak district that we are in and send both our team and some individuals to state."

With a large number of returning players, Luten looks at the boys' high overall exposure to the game over the past years as one of the team's biggest assets.

"The strength of the varsity team is experience," Luten said. "My top six players have already been on varsity and my top three players have been on varsity for four years. As always these boys need lots of

match experience. That is what differentiates the great teams from those that are average.'

The boys are very ambitious and have already set high goals for themselves in order to reach greatness this season.

"My goals for this season are

to win districts as a team and individually in singles and finish better than I did last year in singles at state, which was fifth," senior captain Jon Pang said.

Pang's co-captains Phillip Levine and Dakin Sloss have worked with him in order to set the tone for the season, especially when it has come to getting practices in since the rainy weather this month has proved to be an obstacle; the team even had to cancel a whole week of practice due to the showers. Many of the very dedicated players have found a way to practice

regardless of weather though.

[Susie Luten]

Tennis Coach

"The spring season is always challenging because of the inclement weather," Luten said. "Many practices have been cancelled, we practiced on a Saturday. Fortunately, my top guys belong to indoor clubs and have been able to play. Hopefully not too many matches will be cancelled."

Getting in practices despite the rain will be very important for improving the team from last year and working towards this season's overall success.

Boys' tennis, 13





Top: Senior Kelsey Haslett participates in the long jump at a track meet hosted by Burroughs. Bottom: Juniors Brittney Byrth and Chandler Rollins

Track seems as if it would be n individual sport,

Birgisson said. "Even when you are on your own the team cheers for you."

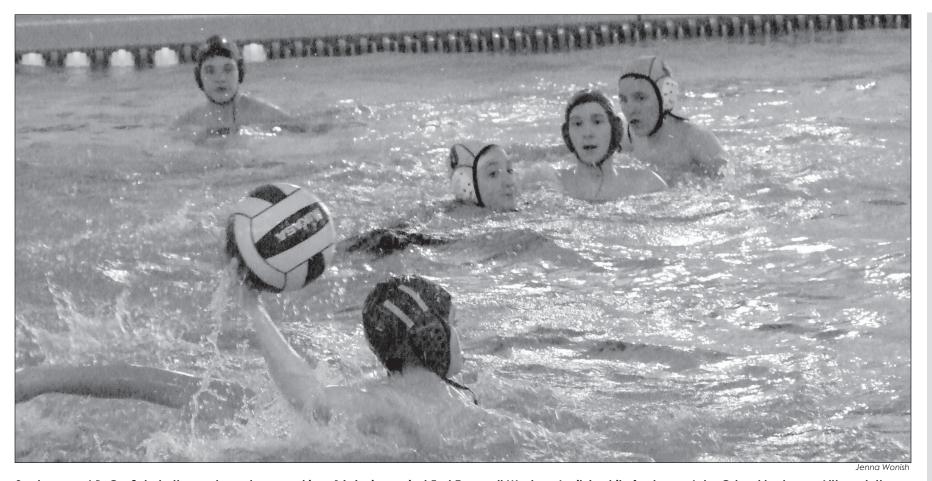
ing forward to a successful season.

said. "We just need to keep practicing hard." §

with everyone for themselves. But the girls' track team this year has become close, and they work together as "Relay teams are close because they run together,"

The team has a positive outlook, and they are look-

"I think we will do well and even go to state," Byrth



Sophomore J.B. Garfinkel attemps to make a goal in a 14-4 win against Fort Zumwalt West on April 4, while freshman John Orland looks on. Although the Hounds have battled with small numbers, they have started the season with an impressive 7-5-1 record.

# Despite slim roster, water polo Hounds surpass expectations

### [Nava Kantor]

Co-Editor in Chief

With about 15 people in the program and half of that on the varsity team, CHS's water polo program is proving to be small but successful in their spring 2008 season. With a record of 7-5-1 at press time, the varsity team has the potential to complete the year with winning the conference tournament.

With the loss of key players from last year, the team has been forced to adapt their strategies. Their adjustments have allowed more players on the team to

"Last year, Jack Altman [class of 2007] was our main scorer," senior Alex Phillips said. "We would basically pass the ball to him and he would keep it until he scored. This year, we are more fluid and more teamoriented, and I think we've seen success because of that."

The varsity water polo team's small size makes every member a key player.

"[Junior] Paden DuBois is one of our main starters, and one time he got sick and we lost a game that we should have won," Phillips said. "It hurts us a lot if even one player is missing.'

Phillips and fellow senior Paul Orland are the cocaptains of the team. The two regularly collaborate with varsity coach Wally Lundt to create a strong core of leadership that motivates the players.

"Wally Lundt is a big name in water polo," Phillips said. "He's in the Water Polo Hall of Fame. I'd say that Paul and I are the parent figures on the team and Wally is the wise old grandfather. He knows a ton and helps

Many of the water polo players play on club teams or swim for CHS during the off-season in order to prepare for the spring. This extra training is paying off; in just the first half of the season, the team has managed to win games against teams which have traditionally beaten Clayton.

"We were able to beat our longtime rival Parkway North recently, which is definitely a highlight since they beat us four times in a row last year," Orland

Though the makeup of the Parkway North team hasn't changed much since last year and the CHS team lost valuable players, CHS was still able to beat them, a real triumph for the team. They had a similar success when playing Oakville.

"Beating Oakville was a big accomplishment because they won last year's conference," Phillips said. 'They were the champions, and we had no real goalie since [senior] Kevin [Johnson] was out of town, but we still beat them."

The team is not without its losses, but losing a few games has not dampened the players' spirit.

"We've lost to a few teams that we should have beaten, but we've also beaten teams that are supposedly way better than us," Phillips said. "We know we can always come back."

Water polo is a uniquely co-educational sport, which gives it a distinctive dynamic. Senior Kerri Blumer and sophomore Eve Brumley are the two girls on the varsity team, with junior Caitlin Bladt moving between JV and varsity.

According to Orland, the girls on the team undergo different challenges than do the boys.

'The girls complain sometimes because water polo is a really hands-on game and sometimes fishy things happen," Orland said. "They have to keep up with the other players who are almost all guys. They do a really good job at it."

Blumer feels that she is treated equally by her teammates, but that is not always the case at game time.

"I don't have any problems in practice," Blumer said. "The guys are cool with us being on the team, and I'm actually one of the faster people on varsity. Sometimes games can be frustrating as a girl, but it does give you sort of an advantage. Especially when they are an allmale team, players will leave you open because you're a girl and then go and double-team one of the guys. Teams without girls don't always respect us, but we show them up later so it doesn't really matter."

Blumer, a serious swimmer, finds that playing water polo gives her a nice respite from her usual training.

"I love water polo," Blumer said. "It gives me a break, but I still get intense exercise. It's more fun than swimming because we have time to goof off instead of

just swimming laps all the time."

Talent and hard work are not the only keys to this team's successes in the pool. Phillips feels a comradeship between the players that extends outside of

'The team is basically one big family, and that includes the JV team as well as varsity," Phillips said. "We're generally happy and everyone likes each other. We address problems as they come up, so it's a healthy relationship. After games we all hang out and everyone's invited."

Orland also noted the inclusive atmosphere of the

'We're definitely a close team and we all get along, even the new players and the freshmen," Orland said. "We take some time as a team in the hot tub every day after practice and we sing in the locker rooms to get ourselves motivated."

The team's tradition of singing isn't limited to the locker rooms, however.

"We have awesome cheers that vary from game to game," Phillips said. "We've done dinosaur cheers, a capella versions of songs, you name it. They're pretty

The team's goal for the remaining half of the water polo season is to do well in the conference tournament.

"We'll have to beat every team in our conference in order to win first place," Orland said. "It's been interesting so far. Things could go any way at this point."

Blumer is optimistic about the team's chances at the

"I think this has been our greatest season despite our small team," Blumer said. "We've really come together and we're working the best we've ever worked. We've had a strong first half of the season and we hope to have a strong finish."

Pure love of the game remains central to the team and, for many players, eclipses their daily wins and

"I love swimming, scoring, stealing the ball from people, winning, losing if we've played a good game... I just love the intensity and roughness of the sport," Phillips said. "It's like going into battle." (\$

# Allegiances to St. Louis teams in question

Are you a Cardinals fan or a Cubs fan? Are you a Blues fan or a Red Wings fan? These questions are often no-brainers for most CHS students who have lived their whole lives in St. Louis (where their parents most likely grew up) rooting for the hometown team. But what happens when graduating classes go out into the 'real world' to another city? Who will they root for there? These are questions that I have often thought about, and now it's time to make my own decisions.

I am positive that regardless of what school I attend next year, I will be a St. Louis sports fan. In fact, I will probably be more of a fan in order to represent St. Louis well when I may be outnumbered with the countless band-wagoners of New York or Boston sports.

Unfortunately, I am aware of the possibility that my allegiances may change. For example, my dad grew up in New York and was always a Yankees fan, but after living in St. Louis for a number of years, he was converted into a St. Louis sports fan. This was probably due to having two boys who loved St. Louis sports.

As the senior class continues on to college, many will form new allegiances to their college teams, providing a unifying experience that I think is unmatched by any other level in sports.

Watching the men's Frozen Four (college Division I ice hockey) and men's Final Four for basketball, I see the intensity that the college students bring to watching their teams. Additionally, the college athletes themselves perform with unmatched passion.

Tyler Hansborough, the Poplar Bluff, MO native, plays for UNC and is, in my opinion, the best player in college basketball. He is always outworking his opponent, which led his team to the Final Four this year once again.

Going to college and forming an allegiance to a collegiate team also forms rivalries that are traditions that may even exceed the harshest professional rivalries. These include the likes of Michigan vs. Ohio State in football and Duke vs. UNC in basketball. These rivalries extend beyond just current students and include alumni from decades before.

One of my top two choices for next year is the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, where sports



are taken to a new level. Going to a football game in the Big House with over 100,000 fans decked in maize and blue would be an experience that I could only have at Michigan during college. To be a part of the

tradition and history of Michigan sports is a huge draw to the school. As I mentioned before, the

Michigan-Ohio State rivalry is one of the fiercest and longest rivalries in sports, and I would love to be a part of this rivalry in a college environment.

On the other hand, the other school I am considering is Dartmouth College. Although the Ivy League cannot compare to Big Ten sports, the rivalry is still there. Whether it's football or hockey, the Ivy League competes and hates their opponents just like the Michigans of the world (just without the national coverage on TV).

I think that college, wherever people go, will provide more opportunities to fall in love with teams to the same extent as their hometown

You will always have your college team and the allegiance to that team, regardless of where you relocate or end up living, which is another important aspect of college and the entire experience.

Talking to a number of people involved in some of the best sports rivalries, I have come to the conclusion that it is impossible for a person to change favorite teams in numerous situations. In the situation where you move to an archrival's town, that person will, under no circumstances, change allegiances.

If I were to move to Chicago, there would be absolutely nothing in this world that would cause me to root for the Cubs or another Chicago team. Nothing. On the same note, a Yankees fan would not become a Red Sox fan if they moved to Boston. I love the fact that teams can carry on intense rivalries for decades, or longer, without losing anything.

Over the course of numerous years, St. Louis fans have been labeled as sports' best fans.

While this is an extremely impressive distinction in the world of sports, I think that at times St. Louis fans are a bit too nice. I say this in the nicest way possible (because I am a devoted St. Louis fan), we need to start taking our sports a little more seriously.

Last summer I attended a Red Sox versus Yankees game at Yankee Stadium (my dad wanted my brother and me to see the stadium before they tore it down), and I almost felt afraid for my life. The tension and rivalry was truly thick in the air. Although I think that some of the fans took the game too seriously with all the fights in the stands, they did know how to cheer. On every full count pitch, whether it was the first inning or the ninth, everyone was on their feet cheering. This is something Cardinal fans lack.

So, as the class of 2008 is moving beyond the confines of CHS and out into the world, I raise the question: Who will you root for and where will your allegiances lie?

I think that it will be interesting to see, in a number of years, which teams people have formed new allegiances with, as well as who will break ties with St. Louis sports. §

# Boys' lacrosse faces tough schedule, looks ahead

After starting the season with a losing record, the boys' lacrosse team attempts to rebound and have success in the playoffs.

### [Evan Green]

Staff Reporter

The Clayton High boys' lacrosse team is off to an interesting start. With a 2-4 record, the team has not performed to its expectations, but has faced some tough opponents that will prepare the team for later in the season and in the playoffs.

"Our main team goal is to win in the playoffs," senior close defender Jonathan Goodfellow said.

The team's tough schedule included games against Parkway Central, SLUH, and Pembroke Hill.

"Our toughest games so far have been Pembroke game and the [Parkway] Central game because in both games we performed well, and had good chances to win against tough teams," sophomore attack Max Goldfarb said.

Some players on the team set goals for themselves at the beginning of the season.

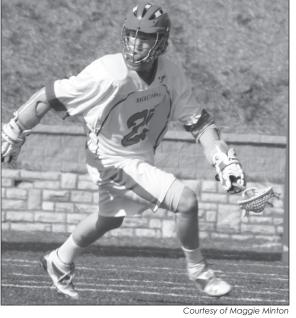
"I really want to work on my defense and have a shooting percentage above 60 percent," junior mid-

fielder Terry Ellis said. Ellis has been a key cog for the Hounds, scoring eight goals to go along with junior attacker Brigham

Wheelock's 10 goals and six assists. "While the Pembroke Hill game was my best personal game because I scored four goals, our offense has

to improve," Ellis said. After the team's tournament in Louisville at the end of March, the Hounds returned home to face SLUH,

Pembroke Hill, Republic, and Parkway Central. Even though the team only won one of those games (a 16-2 romp over Republic), the Hounds played consistently well, losing to Pembroke Hill on a last second



Left: senior captain Jon Goodfellow runs to catch a pass. Right: junior Brigham Wheelock cradles while being defended in a 16-2 win against Republic.

The team will now face Fort Zumwalt, Rockwood Summit, and a gritty Fox team. The team's stellar defense should propel them in the future.

The team's defense has been anchored by junior Andrew Dowd and senior Will von Schrader to allow just over seven goals a game, an impressive stat for the

"Our defense has done a really good job for us,"

As usual in all Clayton athletics, the Hounds are looking forward to a certain game on the calendar. "I really cannot wait to play Ladue," Goodfellow

With a strong schedule at hand, the team will be prepared to face Ladue on May 9. With consistent play, the team hopes to build on the start of the season and win their way into the playoffs. §

### Silver Box:

Hydrocollator which hold hot packs which are used to heat athletes' muscles for a better stretch, to relieve pain, and to relax muscles. Racks: hot pack covers

### Sink:

a place to wash hands to stop bacteria from spreading from one athlete to another or to the trainer

## **Generator:**

creates and stores ice for use in ice packs, used to stop pain, swelling, and inflammation.

### Silver tub:

a whirlpool used on occasion to relax muscles or reduce pain and inflammation with both hot and cold water; either for the whole body or a specified limb

Left Cabinet: holds band-aids, and non-adherent gauze Right Cabinet: holds gauze, saline eyewash, swim ear, tylenol, ibuprofin

Weights to the Right: used for wrist, shoulder, and arm strengthening exercises



# **Wooden Shelving:**

Holds therabands, theratubes, and body blades used for rehabbing muscles, strengthening ankles, and strengthening shoulders.



### **Taping**

Table: where students sit to have fingers taped or acebandaged for ankles that are swollen/twisted, fingers that are jammed, etc. Inside: cleaners for equipment, power-webs for rehabilitation exercises



**Treatment Table:** used for stretching, ankle/knee/hip rehab, where all evaluations are performed, sometimes used for bandaging, where most rehabilitation exercises are done. Foam blocks are stored under the table and are used for help with balance. And exercise ball for muscle strengthening/treatment is behind the table. Inside the table is more room for suppliesL ace bandages, co-flex, bug guard, sunscreen, triple anti-biotic ointment, antiseptic spray, elastic adhesive tape, scissors, sharps, and nail clippers.

## [Kelly Moffitt]

Co-Editor in Chief

Located in a cubbyhole in the back of Stuber Gym, below the boys' locker room, lies the room that many student athletes hail as their court-away-from-court: the athletic training room.

Every school day, beginning around 2:15 p.m. the athletic training room begins to buzz with the chaos of athletes getting sprained ankles wrapped, shoulders iced, legs stretched, muscles strengthened, and obtaining much needed physical therapy from athletic trainer Carrie Sickmann, MS, ATC.

Sickmann, who travels every day from Sports Medicine and Training Center in Webster Groves, helps student athletes prepare heal and recondition

before sports practices and games.

Machine above

latex gloves:

an ankle wrap roller

which can be used

to automatically

wrap up an ace

bandage after

washing it, so it can

be reused.

"I see anywhere from 10 to 20 athletes a day," Sickmann said. "About 50 percent of them I see to get taped, padded or braced before a game or practice. The other 50 percent I give them a hot pack, help them stretch, do their exercises for their injury, or evaluate

Usually, after about an hour and half in the training office, Sickmann is off to the various games at CHS to attend to injuries sustained on the field.

"I usually see two games a day," Sickmann said. "Sometimes I have three or four on my schedule but I can make it to two because the games overlap. For example, today I have two lacrosse games and two baseball games. I'll go to lacrosse first because it is a contact I always go to contact sports first because they

usually sustain the most serious injuries. Then, I'll see how many baseball games I can make it to."

the

photo:

athletic

trainer Carrie

Sickmann

helps

rehabilitate

an athlete

on the

treatment

table.

Sickmann stays until all the games are over. "When I know everyone is taken care of, then I'll

leave," Sickmann said. However, a major problem about the training room is the small amount of space provided for servicing

many athletes in one block of time. "I wish there was more room," Sickmann said. "I would hang weights and bandages up. It's a real problem, considering the number of kids who come in here. Especially at the end of the day, when I've got five kids lined up out the door and I'm doing exercises with a student on the table, bandaging another, and another is finishing up stretching on the floor. With a little bit room there would be more accessibility to me

and I could get athletes in and out faster so they'd be on time for their practices and games. Sometimes there is just too little space to get what we need to get done, There's so much chaos going on in such a little space, it's a safety issue sometimes.'

With little space, and little time, the training room is organized for convenience.

"It's all about space with the training room," Sickmann said. "There isn't much of it, so I use anything I can find, and I use every space I've got."

With supplies stocked in a closet in the boys' locker room in the hallway, under her desk, this can be somewhat of a challenge.

Hopefully, with this guide to the right, finding what the student needs in time for the big game will be made just a little bit easier 🕏

# Girls' soccer starts off well

The varsity girls' soccer team has begun its season with much success. Strong junior and senior players have contributed to the team's current rank among the top 10 small schools in the area.

### [Evan Green]

Staff Reporter

The girls' soccer team is off to an amazing start. With a 5-1 record, the team is now ranked in the top 10 for small schools in the area.

The Hounds are led by star junior forward Olivia Hayes and stellar senior forward Sonya Gierada on the attack. They are anchored by junior Kate Wheelock and the Einstein twins, juniors Lisa and Tracy on the defensive side of the ball. Because of the team's great balance, it has out-scored its opponents 27-5 in its first six games.

The midfield is full of experience and is led by seniors Anya Veremakis, Leigh Katz and Emily Anderson. Because of the team's great depth in talent, the Hounds have been able to improve their game in several aspects.

"We have begun to use the whole field and spread ourselves out more," Hayes said. "We have also been making smarter decisions with passes and through balls."

Haves has been equally impressive for the Hounds; she has 10 goals and four assists in the first six games for a total of 24 points.

The Suburban Journal for the entire metro area also recently named Hayes the player of the week.

"I don't feel like I have played my very best yet, but I feel like I have been moving more up top to create an outlet for my teammates," Hayes added. "I also think that I have been holding the ball really well."

Even though Hayes was recently named the player of the week, she feels that she still needs to improve.

"I need to work on my getting more fit and coming back on defense," Haves said. Thanks in part to Hayes' fast

start, the team has done extremely well. Coming off of a tough overtime loss in the district playoffs to John Burroughs Ourselves Out last year, the Hounds are ever to come out and prove that they are the best.

With strong wins over University City (9-1), Normandy (10-0 in 30 minutes), Ladue (3-1), and Principia (3-1), the Hounds have

looked like a top-notch, playoff caliber team. "The University City has proba-

bly been our best so far," Wheelock

Even with the team's great success, players still feel that they have aspects of their game to work on.

"We still need to come out with more intensity from the beginning (of the game) and play more physical," Hayes said.

Against Normandy on April 9, the Hounds scored 10 goals on 31 shots in a span of 30 minutes, signaling that the offense is already in postseason form.

In that game, Hayes netted three goals, while Gierada added two, as did junior forward Alice Lehmann.

Gierada

has 18 points

on the season,

and Lehmann

has contributed

Pierce had the

shutout in the

game for the

Junior goal-

Courtney

four goals.

We have begun to use the whole field and spread more. We have hungrier than also been making smarter decisions with passes and through balls.

[Olivia Hayes]

Hounds. Pierce has split time with freshman Bree Northern goal for with team, Northern getting slightly more time in

goal.

As Hounds contin-

ue their unbelievably balanced and talented attack on other teams, key games against Westminster (April 23) and Villa Duchesne (May 7) still lay in the team's way to a record breaking season for Clayton.

As Hayes has topped 60 goals in her short career for the Hounds, the team has gone beyond their already high expectations and are looking to make a prime run into the playoffs this season. §





Top: Junior Leah Eby goes for the ball in practice. Bottom: senior Liza Schmidt makes an attempt at scoring a goal at practice as seniors Laura Bliss (right) and Anya Veremakis (left) practice passing.

# Boys' tennis has high hopes

Boys' Tennis, 11

"This is only my second season with the team and I expect the team to have a much better season this year than last year," sophomore Orion Wilkinson said. "Last year we only sent one doubles team to state, Bohan Li and I, and this year we should be able to send two singles players, two doubles teams and go as a team."

The coaching staff is of course a very important factor to the a team's success and with such an experienced group of coaches, it seems the season will be a good

"We are fortunate to have Rich Chappius, a teaching professional, and Sam Harned, a great motivator, as our assistant coaches that will help the boys learn the game and have fun at the same time," Luten

The coaches have scheduled the Greyhounds to play in a Belleville tournament this season in late April in order to expose the boys to strong competitors that they have never played before.

Due to the team's high ambition, skill and experience, it seems the season will be an exciting one all the way up to state.

"I expect we will do great this season," Pang said. "Anything less than first at districts will disappoint

[features]

# National restaurant chain has roots in St. Louis

### [Aaron Praiss]

Editor

If you have lived in St. Louis for more than a year, or even just a week, you probably ate, or at least drove by St. Louis' undeniably great restaurant: St. Louis Bread

What you probably didn't realize was the intricate history of the company, and how it has grown to become a favorite national restaurant.

"The company originated in Company Spokesman Andrew Carlson said. "The first café opened in Kirkwood. In fact, that original restaurant is still there, though it has been remodeled many times since it first opened."

Ken Rosenthal was greatly inspired to start a café like St Louis Bread Company on his visits to San Francisco.

San Francisco was where Rosenthal first came in contact with the idea of sourdough bread. San Francisco also had many bakery and bread cafes.

Rosenthal purchased the foundational dough, and brought it back to St. Louis, where he created his own unique version on the inspirations he found in San Francisco. This is when he formulated the ideal of a café that bakes bread right, and everyday, to provide the community with fresh and delicious food.

According to Carlson, in 1993, Au Bon Pain, another similar bakery café mostly located in office

Bread Company and decided to buy its rights. However, the two restaurants remained separate entities. The restaurants were in theory under the name of Au Bon Pain, but kept their buildings and menus the same as before the purchase.

"After four years of hard work, we finally developed the concept of a more universal name: Panera Bread," Carlson said.

Just two years later, Au Bon Pain spun off the contract, and the con-



St. Louis Bread Company displays its various breads, bagels and pastries. Ken Rosenthal founded St. Louis Bread Company in 1987, and after various years of change the company is now a stand alone business, under the title of Panera Bread.

cept that was originally St. Louis Bread Company was now officially labeled Panera Bread. It was now a stand alone business

"When the company began to expand, we started to incorpobuildings, discovered St. Louis rate the name Panera for many

reasons," Carlson said. "First, there is more universal appeal to a name that doesn't include a city's name. Second, Panera, in old Latin, actually means 'time or era of bread.' By having a more universal name, you are also not tied down to a

specific area. Finally, there is more flexibility in expanding, since it is easier to register for a trademark with a name that doesn't include a city's name."

Panera had now gone national.

The question remained though, is there any difference between St. Louis Bread Company in St. Louis, and Panera Bread everywhere else in the country?

"Every Panera Bread in the country will provide customers with the same atmosphere and menu," Carlson said.

Even though every Panera Bread in the country is the same, changes have been made to the various buildings and menus since the original restaurant in Kirkwood.

"Since the opening of the first St. Louis Bread Company in Kirkwood many changes have taken place," Carlson said. "There is a more expansive menu today than there was back in 1987. The founding restaurant had a basic menu. As a matter of fact, bagels were added much later in the company's history. Also, the original St. Louis Bread Company was roughly 2500 square feet. Today, each café is on average 4000 to 5000 square feet. However, over the years, each restaurant has had the pursuit to provide wellcrafted breads for customers."

It seems that even over years of changes; Panera Bread has kept a constant variable in its list of ingredients: freshly baked bread.

"Everyday, bread is baked fresh," junior Katie Poplawski said. "But at the end of the day, whatever is left over is donated to homeless shelters, which is awesome."

This donation system, which St. Louis Bread Company is heavily involved with, is one of four different active systems St. Louis Bread Company is a part of.

"Panera Bread has its own charitable program, called Operation Dough-Nation, which was founded in 1992," Carlson said. "The program consists of four separate branches. The more commonly known branch is the Day-End Dough-Nation, which involves

sending all the leftovers to homeless shelters at the end of each day. Second there is the Community Breadbox wing, in which at every Panera Bread location there are cash collection boxes next to each cash register. The money donated in these boxes goes to non-profit organizations within the community. The third branch involves event donations. For example, at a 5K run, St. Louis Bread Company might donate food and money to the cause. Finally, there is the SCRIP Fundraising activity, which helps non-profit organizations raise money by purchasing Panera Cards at a 9 percent discounted rate and then reselling them for regular price to the public."

Not only does Panera Bread provide the community with great food, but it is clear that Panera Bread also helps the community come together through its encouraging charity organizations.

On top of this intricate history and awesome charitable programs, Panera Bread also has some interesting and funny stories about its customers.

"We certainly have had some interesting correspondents," Carlson said. "People always e-mail us about what we are doing right or wrong. One particular couple has even made it their goal to visit as many Panera Bread cafes as possible. They keep a tally going, and email us after every trip. Even more interesting, couples have even been married in some Panera Bread locations. Some even have the entire service and then reception inside the restaurant. The couples either met there or simply had a passion for the food."

Above all, Panera Bread is a fast growing restaurant. Since Panera has reached a national level, the question now, is whether Panera will expand internationally.

"Currently, we are evaluating our opportunities in going international," Carlson said. "Panera Bread is in 40 states, with over 1100 locations. Even today, we are building more locations in the St. Louis area. There still seems to be a demand from the community, so for now, we are going to expand within the communities and continue to provide our Panera experience." (\$

# Build-A-Bear Workshop grows, gives to community

### [Mary Blackwell]

Staff Reporter

Maxine Clark was shopping for Beanie Babies when her friend commented on how easy it would be to make the stuffed animals; that's when her idea for Build-A-Bear Workshop started developing.

"When I first shared my idea for the company with others, there were skeptics who told me what I shouldn't do," founder and Chief Executive Bear Clark said. "I listened politely, as I always do, but I didn't let their 'don'ts' stop me from creating what I knew could be a successful business. We decided to start from scratch and create our own version of a store where kids from [age] three to 103 could create their very own stuffed animals. The result was Build-A-Bear Workshop."

Build-A-Bear Workshop was founded in 1997 and became a corporation in April 2000. The company's headquarters is in St. Louis, and there are now more than 370 stores worldwide. The company owns stores in the U.S., Puerto Rico, Canada, the United Kingdom, France, and franchised locations in various other countries.

"Build-A-Bear Workshop Build-A-Bear a true example of how Workshop is a a small business can grow true example and prosper," Clark said. "We of how a small opened our first business can store at the Saint Louis Galleria grow and in October 1997. At that time we prosper. had just a handful of employees and a very small office location. But we had a

business plan, strong initial success at the Galleria, and many partners, partners who wanted to invest in our business and partners who could provide services to us."

The market capitalization of the company is now \$25 million. But beshe gained experience working for May Department Stores Company for over 19 years, a company that had the reputation of having a cutthroat work environment. She also was the President of Payless Shoe Source from November 1992 to January1996.

"When I graduated from the University of Georgia in 1971, I took a job as a retail trainee with the May Department Stores Company in Washington, D.C.," Clark said. "I had the experience, know how, contacts and financial wherewithal to develop the business plan for Build-A-Bear Workshop. I have vast experience in product development, sourcing and marketing, and these were exactly the skills I needed to start my company. I also had years of contacts with suppliers and people, many of which have become the backbone of our company."

Clark has learned to play to her strengths but be reliant on others for certain aspects of running her

"One of my strengths is I know what I don't know, and I have hired to fill those needed areas," Clark said. "It does take a village to raise a bear. I've had the benefit of work-

> have helped bring the idea to reality." Pearl Kramer, an employee for over seven years, has found her experience at Build-A-Bear Workshop to be a positive

ing with many

very creative and

smart people who

"Being a senior citizen, not many businesses would hire me even though I have years of working

experience," Kramer said. "I'm able to handle a great deal of responsibility. The whole atmosphere is very relaxed."

[Maxine Clark]

Chief Executive Bear

Kramer is employed part time in the Sales Audit Department, working part time assisting other emfore Clark became an entrepreneur, ployees in the same department.



Cardinals fans walk in front of a brand new Build-A-Bear Workshop in Busch Stadium. The company originated in St. Louis, and now has locations across the world.

She has found her co-workers to be "very friendly". Being an employee, Kramer has a positive relationship with Clark.

"I've known Maxine Clark for years," Kramer said. "She is very friendly, and she acknowledges her employees when she sees them." Being a woman entrepreneur,

Clark hasn't found her gender to be an obstacle in business world.

"I think the qualities that it takes to be successful are not based on gender," Clark said. "However,

I do think that having solid business relationships and being able to share ideas are strengths of mine. Whether they are because I am a woman is hard to say."

Kramer agrees that having a

woman Chief Executive doesn't hinder the company.

"If a business is owned by a man or woman, it can be successful," Kramer said. Having Build-A-Bear Workshop

in St. Louis has benefited the community. For one. it has created jobs. "The fact that home office found-

ed and located in St. Louis is a plus for St. Louis," Kramer said. "There are a great many employees at their headquarters. It's good for business in the

area." Build-A-Bear Workshop also supports many good causes with its resources. Clark donates 100 percent of the proceeds from her book, "The

Bear Necessities of Business" to the Build-A-Bear Workshop Bear Hugs Foundation, a private foundation that funds children's health and wellness grants, literacy grants, and domestic pet program grants.

"From the inception of Build-A-Bear Workshop in 1997, we've believed in giving back to the community and we have always been committed to supporting causes dedicated to helping children and animals," Clark said.

Build-A-Bear Workshop aids numerous foundations such as the stuffed with hugs day where guests are invited to make a bear that is then donated to children's causes. So far over 30,000 teddy bears have been donated through the stuffed with hugs day. Some of the animals that can be purchased benefit specific causes such as the Read Teddy, which supports children's literacy.

"People have many choices in how and where to spend their money," Clark said. "Many choose to support socially responsible companies that help causes they are passionate about. We are a company with heart, and it has always been a priority for us to be an involved and committed community

# Many opportunities await students after high school

### [Hannah Novack]

Staff Reporter

The last two years of high school are filled with many decisions that affect a student's future. More definitive post-high school plans begin to take form when juniors sit down with their parents and college counselors. In this two-hour or so meeting, the student, parents and counselor review various colleges based on the student's interests and possible career aspirations. The objective of the meeting is to help narrow down a student's college preferences and plans. However, some students have a different plan in mind for what they would like to do after they graduate high school. Ninety-four percent of Clayton's graduating class of 2007 enrolled in either a two or four year college. The remaining six percent chose a different option, other than the typical college route.

"Students may feel compelled to attend a four year college when they're not ready due to peer pressure," college counselor Chat Leonard said. "After a semester or year, he or she will realize they're hearts not it or they are not mentally prepared for the commitment and end up quitting."

To counter-act this possibility, some students choose to pursue their

interests during what is called a gap year.

"The non-traditional way to go is to take a year off," Leonard said.

"This bridge year usually occurs between major happenings in one's life.

"This bridge year usually occurs between major happenings in one's life and can happen before or after college."

During this gap year, most students go to Israel where they immerse

themselves in the language and culture. Usually, courses attended in Israel, along with other programs, offer college credit that can sometimes be transferred to universities, depending on if the college will accept it.

There are other ways students can spend their gap year, such as

volunteering.

"I had one student who first went through the admissions process and

was accepted into Stanford," Leonard said. "The student then spent a year working for Habitat for Humanity and volunteering in Mexico before going to school."

If a student plans to take a gap year between high school and college,

counselors encourage the student to first go through the admissions process, and then defer.

"I encourage students to apply, get in, and then defer for a year," col-

"I encourage students to apply, get in, and then defer for a year," college counselor Carolyn Blair said. "This way, it is much easier on the student and is a more natural progression [into higher education]."

Aspects of the enrollment process for most programs are similar to the college admissions process. To participate in these programs, students often need to provide counselor and teacher recommendations to ensure participants are interested in academics as well as giving incite to their

character. Also, depending on the program, especially those involving language and culture, academics, and possibly one's SAT or ACT score, are important factors.

Some students, who typically plan on attending college, utilize their time off by doing an internship.

"I had a student who was really interested in communications and broadcasting, and wanted more information about the field before starting college," Leonard said. "The student worked at a radio station for a year and was able to see what happens [behind the scenes] and able to gain experience."

Students who pursue internships right out of high school could benefit in the future because, based on their previous experience, and are able to get a better internship, with more duties, in college.

Some students do not take a gap year, but choose to go straight into the military. This option provides various opportunities and positives. For instance, students can earn money for college.

"Enlisting in the military comes with a commitment, the student is serving his or her country," Leonard said. "Usually, students sign up for four years."

Some students do not plan to attend a four or two year college, but rather attend a technical school.

"One on one and family discussions [are held]," Leonard said. "I also encourage students to visit the school during a 'shadow a tech' day to make sure this is what the student wants."

Once the students get their certification, they can start their career and make a livelihood.

Other students, who do not want to commit wholly to a five or six course load, often choose to go directly into the job market.

"I prefer students to balance a full time job and one or two classes at the community college rather than totally going straight into the work force," Leonard said.

Counselors do not attempt to talk students out of their decisions for the future and their career plans. However, counselors encourage students to continue further training and education.

Students are usually satisfied with their decisions; especially students

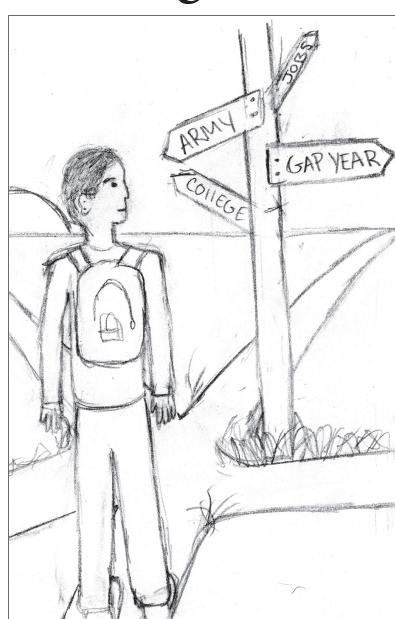
who choose to take a year off from formal schooling and pursue their interests.

"From my seat I can't see any disadvantages or a downside." Blair said.

"From my seat I can't see any disadvantages or a downside," Blair said.
"I have never had people come back and say 'I wish I didn't do that.""

Leonard agrees that a gap year brings many benefits.

"Colleges love when students take a gap year," Leonard said. "It is a year of growth, maturity, and enrichment. Students come back with great experiences to share with others." \$\)



# Center of Clayton gives students valuable options

### [Simone Bernstein]

Staff Reporter

Looking for a job? As the 2008 school year concludes, many students look for summer employment. Some students avoid the summer hiring craze by taking a year round position.

Finding a part-time job during the year, that does not conflict with school hours, sports and homework can be very frustrating. Many Clayton High School students complete a job in the summer to avoid the hectic race for jobs. The Center has a variety of positions available for students age 15 and older throughout the year.

"I have always felt that the connection to the Center is a good opportunity for students to obtain part-time jobs," Director of Parks and Recreation Patty DeForrest said

The jobs for teenagers available at the Center include a climbing wall belayer, a kid center attendant, an ice rink guard, lifeguards, a shaw park cashier, a concessions attendant, a welcome desk attendant, a youth activity attendant and a sports official. Some of these jobs are during specific months of the year.

"Students should consider working at the Center because it is conveniently located, a friendly environment and includes benefits, such as a free membership to the facility at which the employee is employed," Superintendent of Recreation for Clayton Eric Gruenenfelder said.

If students work at the Center, they will receive a free membership. If students obtain a job a the outdoor aquatic center, an outdoor pool pass will be a benefit of the job. Students also learn many new skills by taking advantage of the Center employment opportunities.

"It is very convenient to work in Center because I can easily walk there after school," sophomore lifeguard Ting Lu said. "About ten CHS students work at the Center as lifeguards."

In the aquatic center positions are also available for swimming instructors. While many skills are needed to become a lifeguard and swimming instructor, these jobs offer great incentives.



Junior Nichole Burton helps a customer at Northwest Coffee in the Center of Clayton. The Clayton Center has a host of different jobs available for students at CHS.

"Lifeguarding teaches young men and women how to handle themselves appropriately in the work environment," Aquatic Supervisor Kyle Henke said. "It also teaches them many other life skills that many of other jobs cannot teach."

Lifeguards are needed this summer. A certification class is required and lasts two weekends. This certification class enhances resumes and can benefit other positions held in the future.

"To become a lifeguard a student must be 15 years old, and complete the American Red Course Training Course for Lifeguard Certification, CPR-PR, First Aid, AED and PDT," Gruenenfelder said. "It sounds like a

lot, but it's all in one class that you can register for at The Center of Clayton."

Student lifeguards during the school year are able to choose their shifts. CHS lifeguards work about 10 to 12 hours a week during the school year.

"Making money is the best part of lifeguarding," Lu said. "Enforcing rules and telling people what to do is also fun. The job is pretty relaxing. During the summer I will work both indoor and outdoor, which is always exciting."

Numerous CHS students also have jobs as officials during the sports season. The jobs are all based seasonally. For example, soccer officials are needed from

September to November, basketball officials are needed January to early March and baseball officials are needed April to early June.

"Preferably we are looking for individuals with experience playing the sport or those knowledgeable about the sport," Gruenenfelder said. "We are always looking for responsible and reliable people."

Some students choose to be sports officials every season. Many of the games are played on the weekends, so it rarely interferes with school.

"In one week I will become a baseball official," junior Mary Barber said. "The pay is great, and we get increases in wages frequently. I really enjoy watching the kids play sports. Some kids are very competitive."

Jobs are also available for rock climbing supervisors during the school year and summer. Like lifeguarding, becoming a rock climbing supervisor involves taking certification classes.

Taking the rock climbing class, offered at CHS, is one route to becoming a certified employee. If a student has not taken the rock climbing gym class, the Center can train students interested in becoming an instructor.

"The position entails supervision of climbers during public climbing hours, teaching climbing skills, belaying and instructing during lessons, administering belay proficiency tests and maintaining the wall," Gruenenfelder said. "Being a rock wall employee provides a work environment that is enjoyable and also offers free membership to The Center and free climbing."

Working as a rock climbing supervisor requires teaching members how to rock climb and completing safety checks at open climb sessions.

"After I took the CHS gym class, I realized how much I really enjoyed rock climbing," sophomore supervisor Sarah Andress said. "Being a supervisor is fun, because you get to climb whenever you want and teach others how to rock climb. The pay is great, and there are many benefits."

If interested in applying for a job, get an application at the welcome desk at the Center and ask for an application. Employee applications are especially needed for summer as soon as possible. §





D...such stuff as

Peddings

For this year's SRM, students put a contemporary spin on Shakespeare's "The Tempest". The show, directed by Cameron Davis and scored by Jacob Blumenfeld, lived up to Clayton's



Strong tradition of inventive drama. Junior Nathan Crall on stage as the sorceror Prospero in a musical version of Shakespeare's play "The Tempest".

This was a huge

task to take on...

usually the SRM

is kind of a blow-

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Everyone is coming

with their A game. I

hope people appre-

ciate that and take

something away

### [Nava Kantor]

Co-Editor in Chief

vengeance, twisting plots, power struggles, trickery, love, reconciliation, and, of course, a giant storm – you name it, Shakespeare's play "The Tempest" has it. But this year's Student-Run Musical (SRM) proved to be more of a challenge than convoluted plotlines can provide, as was discovered by CHS seniors Cameron Davis and Jacob Blumenfeld, the director and musical director of the production. From sets and costumes to lighting and direction, "The Tempest" has been completely student-produced.

"The SRM this year has been a particularly daunting challenge," Blumenfeld said. "Shakespeare on its own is hard, but we made it into a musical."

"The Tempest" stands out when compared to previous shows at CHS.

"I think this is the most laborious SRM that's ever been done," Davis said. "I've seen them over the last three years, and ours is the most acting-intensive. It's a hard show to pull off."

Shakespeare's original script recounts the tale of Prospero, a displaced King, and his companions on an island. Prospero conjures a great storm (hence the title) in order to shipwreck a boat carrying some of his enemies. All of the characters end up on Prospero's island together, where murder plots converge and unravel. There, a whole slew first love. Being a Shakespearean comedy, the play ends in a return to happy order.

Davis and Blumenfeld altered the play to achieve a more modern tone. The shipwreck translates into a plane crash in their production. Some roles were split in two and many male parts were turned into female roles.

'We've given the play a newer twist," Davis said. "The concept of a modern, 'Lost'-themed plane crash is very different than other productions."

Original songs transformed "The Tempest" into ing my lines was especially hard," Doty said. "With I haven't had enough time to work on character de-

a musical. Blumenfeld, who said he had "a fantastic" contemporary scripts you can get by with knowing time" working on the production, composed all of the

"This show has allowed me two combine to of my favorite things, Shakespeare and creating music," Blumenfeld said.

Blumenfeld drew on the text and storyline of "The Tempest" as much as possible.

"The rest was my own instinct," Blumenfeld said. "I wrote the music that I felt would best fit each

Senior Hannah Doty, who acted in the play, appreciated the variety of pieces that comprise the show's

"All the songs are different types of music, from love ballads to humorous songs," Doty said. "Each piece really corresponds to the character who sings

Junior Rebeccah Singer also enjoyed Blumenfeld's compositions and felt that they added a new dimension to the original play.

"I've been very impressed with the music," Singer said. "Jacob describes it as similar to the sound of the Indigo Girls. There are bluesy and folksy songs and a huge instrumental number for the calling of the tempest. The music is very sophisticated."

According to Blumenfeld, on of the biggest challenges he faced as a composer was trying to get the music to translate onto the stage exactly as he

"It's different when you play it yourself when you're writing it than it is when someone else is singing it," Blumenfeld said. "I tried to get my ideas of colorful characters interact and even discover across in a way that would allow the music to work

> Turning "The Tempest" into a piece of musical theater wasn't the cast's only challenge. The cast preserved the play's original language, but along with the intrinsic elegance of Shakespearean verse came problems with memorization and comprehensibility. Adding to the difficulty was the fact that this was the first experience with Shakespeare for many of the cast members.

"I'd never done Shakespeare before, so memoriz-

approximately what your character wants to say, but saying your lines exactly as they're written is really important in Shakespeare. At times it was difficult for me to connect to the language."

Davis believes that working with Shakespeare eventually become second nature to most of the cast. Sidney Fraser, a friend of Blumenfeld's who has had a lot of experience working with Shakespeare,

came in to help the cast of "The Tempest" break down their scenes so the audience would be better able to understand the action and dialogue.

"With her help we translated the scenes onto the stage and tried to create dynamics that will hopefully create an atmosphere of Shakespeare," Singer said.

Singer also experienced difficulties in preparing her lines.

You have to get the rhythm and meter right and have a deep understanding of what's going on," Singer said. "It's complicated; there's lots of magic going on and there are a bunch of plot lines happening in this alternative reality that Shakespeare is asking us to believe. These shows have been performed over and over from it. again, so my goal is to make this role my own.

The cast and crew faced lo- [Rebeccah Singer] gistical challenges as well, losing a few members of the cast due Cast Member to people dropping out. When combined with snow days and

other problems, those losses cost the SRM valuable rehearsal time. With a show this complicated, no rehearsals or actors can be spared. The disruptions caused Davis to have to take on a role in the show while simultaneously directing it.

"It's hard because there's no one to direct me and

velopment because I've been so busy with everything else," Davis said.

In the end, Singer believes that the cast of "The Tempest" has overcome all of these challenges.

"This was a huge task to take on," Singer said. "It is Cameron's first time directing a full-length play. Usually the SRM is kind of a blow-off show, but this was demanding. Everyone is coming with their A game. I hope people appreciate that and take some-

thing away from it." For Doty, the dedication and energy of the show's directors

were a driving motivational force through the weeks of "Cameron and Jacob have been great about organization

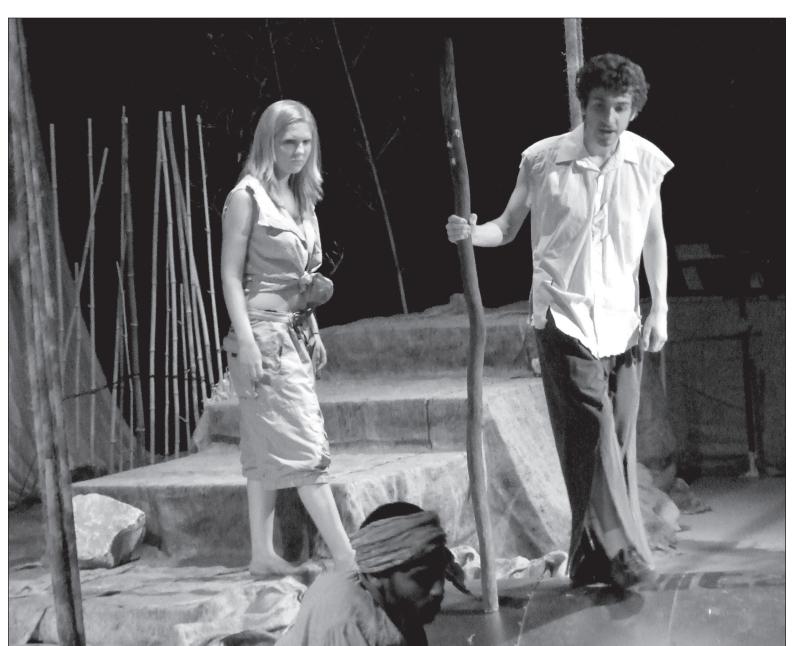
and communicating their ideas with everyone," Doty said. "They really helped us all to get comfortable working with Shakespeare."

Davis has enjoyed watching all of his hard work and collaboration come together.

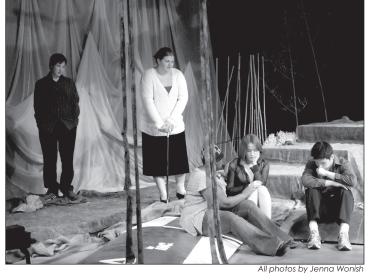
"Jacob and I have been working on 'The Tempest' since before we even entered our senior year," Davis said. "It's like our child, and now it's coming to fruition. It's amazing to see our thought processes come to life on stage.'

The cast of this year's SRM will be able to reflect on this production as a complex show that they pulled off - you guessed it – tempestuously.

"My favorite thing has been collaborating with so many people who are so good at what they do and are dedicated to the same thing as I am," Blumenfeld said. "I want to show off the talent that we have in our theater program and bring out the best in everyone. We are creating a level of original art that can't usually be seen at the high school level." §







Left: (from left to right) Meredith Redick, Cameron Davis and Nathan Crall run through a scene during dress rehearsal. Top: The cast takes a break during long rehearsals often lasting until 10 p.m. Turning Shakespeare into a musical required long hours of practice by the cast. Above: (from left to right) Ben Goldman, Blair Klostemeier, Almas Khemseth, Cynthia Koehler, Ramiz Kamarli work out the details of a scene.

# [features] 17

april 16, 2008

# a student perspective

For four days, 102 student-journalists convened in Washington D.C. for an allexpenses paid scholarship and conference program which covered integral issues surrounding journalism.

### [Kelly Moffitt]

Co-Editor in Chief

In a time when paparazzi are commonly confused with hard-hitting journalism, only two percent of the American population knows the five freedoms guaranteed to them by the first amendment (religion, speech, press, petition, assembly). When non-fat, extracrispy cookie-cutter imaging is preferred over individuality, times are looking pretty bad for the future of journalism, the first amendment, and free spirit.

One would never know it based on the enthusiasm, readiness to work, and passion surrounding the 102 student-journalists who were selected to attend the 2008 Al Neuharth Free Spirit Scholarship and Conference Program. The program took place from March 15-20, 2008 in Washington, D.C.

The program awards \$1000 scholarships to each scholar and two students out of the 102 were awarded \$50,000 scholarships. Natalia Ledford (NE) and Christopher Miller (GA) were awarded the two scholarships for their free spirited personalities and work as journalists.

As one of 102 student-journalists (a boy and a girl were selected from each state and the District of Columbia) and a semi-finalist for the scholarship, I can verify this feeling of passion for journalism as I was directly involved in it.

The scholarship and conference program is sponsored by Al Neuharth founder of USA Today, the Freedom Forum, and the Newseum and also by the Freedom Forum. The program is partnered with the Close Up Foundation to help show the students around Washington, D.C.

The program has been in effect since 1999.

"I hope that your week here will teach you what a great country this is and what great opportunities young people have to spread the word through journalism, preferably, or through politics, or another way," Neuharth said. "There is an immense opportunity for young people, smart people out there to be heard and accomplish things. If you go away from here thinking that is possible then this week was worthwhile."

Before the students arrived in Washington, D.C., they were expected to be prepared by reading selected speakers' books, knowing their biographies, and writing several short pieces about themselves for use in different parts of the conference.

Once at the conference, the students were lodged in suites holding four and treated to lunches and dinners catered by Wolfgang Puck and the Newseum.

They partook of seeing the sites of Washington D.C. in relation to their journalism history, getting a first-hand look at the Newseum (where the conference programs were held), talks with war correspondents, attending a taping and question session at 'Meet the Press' with Tim Russert, various programs regarding journalism, talks with media professionals, a tour of





Above: senior Kelly Moffitt and fellow Missouri scholar Alex Johnson pose on the balcony of the newly opened Newseum in Washington D.C. with the capital and the Canadian Embassy in the background on Mon. March 17, 2008. Below: Free Spirit scholars observe the mock-up front page layout at USA Today's offices with a front pages editor on a tour of USA Today on March 18, 2008.

USA Today, a cherry blossom river boat tour, 'Freedom Sings' a multimedia presentation of banned/censored music, ending in a grand gala celebrating free spirit.

All of the speakers had a message of hope for the future of journalism.

One of the featured speakers was Cathie Black, President of Hearst Magazines and also the Free Spirit Award recipient for 2008, who had advice for achieving success as a journalist.

"There are a lot of people who blame some outside thing for why they aren't successful," Black said. "But motivation has got to come from within-you have got to be able to be hit down and bounce right back up again. You have to have the personality traits of drive, ambition, attention to detail, and, of course, curiosity."

Dr. Charles C. Haynes, a first amendment scholar emphasized the necessary tie between the first amendment, journalism, and

"We need young people of conscious who are willing to stand up for what is right," Haynes said. "We have to have courage to act on our convictions-freedom works. We need to show schools and even American that it still does."

Bette Baye, a columnist for The Courier Journal and a crowd favorite, talked of her struggle to find her way and become a journalist.

"I'm still in awe of my career," Bave said. "I see myself sitting up with Condoleeza Rice, with the President (when he wasn't looking I took a picture of myself in his chair). I don't care what their titles are, they're still people. Never lose empathy for the people you are covering. Find out what makes them tick. Sometimes I just have to shut up because I realized I was in the presence of greatness, like when I interviewed Elie Wiesel, what an amazing man. Being a journalist doesn't mean you don't have to be

We met with war correspondents Leo Shane and Lisa Burgess who enlightened us to the truth behind being a journalist under the fire of war. We also had the opportunity to meet with former free spirit scholars Kevin Koo and Sean Tuohey. Of biggest interest to me, however, was the Newseum which we got to see first before the grand opening on April 11. It is an interactive museum documenting the history of the news-media but unlike most museums which I get bored at within five minutes it keeps things interesting. I enjoyed the gala at the end of conference in which the scholars rubbed elbows with media bigwigs and where the scholars, Cathie Black, and the scholarships

were awarded.

Overall the experience was an extraordinary one. I was really happy to get to know fellow student-journalists, and now friends, who have some of the same interests and problems that I do. Also, it didn't hurt to be treated royally in "coming to hang out in 'D.C. on Neuharth's dime" as Baye said.

I was glad to be reminded that journalism isn't a dying art and that I have made the right choice for what I want to do with my life. Ken Paulson, the editor in chief of USA Today, put it best about the way I feel about journalism:

"I want to congratulate you on your choice of a career as a journalist," Paulson said. "You're out there every day trying to make difference for the people in your community, you're trying to tell the truth, making a difference day in and day out with information, interviews, and insights...it's really one of the most fulfilling jobs, and in my opinion, on e of the most noble professions a person can partake in. I have been in the business one way or another for thirty years and there hasn't been one day that hasn't been thrilling, fulfilling, exciting, and feeling I was doing something positive for society. The bottom line is that if you want to serve people and make a difference, this is a great profession to be in."



Left: senior Kelly Moffitt (left) and California Scholar Savannah Lake pose at the grand gala at the end of the conference. Right: Al Neuharth, the man for whom the scholarship and program is named, makes a speech at the awards and medal presentation ceremony.



Speakers at the conference weigh in on different issues concerning journalism, free speech, and life in general.

Cathie Black President, Hearst Magazines and Free Spirit Award Recipient 2008

...what it takes to succeed



"Star-power will get you where you want to be. That doesn't mean you have to be a killer, you don't have to mow down everyone around you--it just means you have to work the hardest for people to see you and your work."

RUSSert host of "Meet the Press"

...on how to achieve the best life

"I'll tell you what I told my son when he went to college: study hard, laugh often, keep your honor-do that and you'll have a happy life as a journalist and a human being."



Ken Paulson

...on why newspapers will never die.

editor of USA Today



"Imagine though, if Gutenberg hadn't invented the moveable type, but had invented a digital modem in the 15th century and we never had print. And I announce at a meeting that I have got the most incredible communication device not only of this century but all centuries. With this product, you will have no need to go online a search

for hours for news information because in your hometown I've got 100 people who will do that for you. They'll get information on local sports teams, local schools, everything. And we'll print it out on color cartridges on a piece of paper you can hold in your hand. But that's not it! We're going to hand deliver it to your house every morning for fifty cents. But I'm just beginning...no more software updates, no more pop-up ads, and it's guaranteed bias-free. And I'll tell you what: when you get on an airplane and they tell you to turn off all electronic equipment, well you just turn this baby on. It is totally portable and relatively waterproof. This is the invention of a century."

# Bette Baye

columnist for the "Courier Journal"

...on the power of stories

"I wanted to tell stories of people that wouldn't otherwise have their stories told...It's a gift to be a messenger, to see history right up in the face...Never forget that you can learn something from anybody. Speak truth to power.."



Dr. Charles C.

scholar ...on why our freedoms should matter



"If you don't get what you want in life it can be devastating. But if you are not able to do what you believe is right, it can be devastating. That's a big difference. If you are not free to follow your conscious, if you are not free to act on your deepest convictions, then you are not truly free. Liberty of conscious is at the heart of the first amendment because you can only act on your convictions if you are free to choose in matters of faith, if you are free to speak out, if you are free to publish your opinions, if you are free to protest, if you are free to try to make change."

first amendment

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--the Globe editors

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# Media excessively reports political sex scandals

The recent prostitution scandal involving former New York governor Eliot Spitzer has sparked controversy about politicians' choices in personal matters, particularly as his replacement David Paterson admitted to cheating on his wife.

Spitzer's conduct was unethical and unacceptable because he em-

ployed state funds for illegal activities: hiring a prostitute. Anytime that a politician breaks the law, he must be held accountable for doing

Additionally, when public figures embezzle money, they must be prosecuted for abusing their power. However, it should not matter if they conduct themselves irresponsibly in their personal matters without violating laws or abusing government money.

The fact that David Paterson, or any politician for that matter, had an affair is irrelevant to his ability to serve as governor. Whether he has personal shortcomings or not, he can continue to be an effective executive of the state. The same is true of the various other politicians that have served in office throughout American history.

Everyone knew that John F. Kennedy and other womanizers of the past were participating in extramarital affairs. Many of the greatest

presidents and politicians dating back to George Washington and Abraham Lincoln cheated

Agree **75%** 

on their wives, but never before the modern era was it seen as a politi-

cal offense. It is not important whether Bill Clinton or David Paterson or Eliot

Spitzer cheated on their wives. The case of Eliot Spitzer is different because it involved prostitution and state

However, in the past, the media has not made politician's personal mistakes into giant news stories. Bill Clinton's lie to the American people was newsworthy, but what he did with a woman that was not

The media has inflamed these stories and acted irresponsibly by focusing on trivial affairs. Once again, it was important to expose Spitzer because he was breaking the law, but the media's pursuit of legal, yet unfaithful, activities is

Yes, it is important to note their ethical faults, but it should have no bearing on their political stance or their reputation as effective policy makers and legislators.

Only when they cross legal lines, such as lying under oath or using state funds or breaking other laws should the issue become a political

The media has simply latched onto another opportunity to make 25% Disagree scandals out of topics and stories that in many cases should not be eval-

uated by voters when considering politicians to choose

Essentially, a politician's measure should not be his promiscuity or loyalty to his wife, but rather his commitment to serving the people and working for the voters. It is a problem when a man cheats on his wife, but no one would suggest that businessmen quit their jobs for doing so.

It is the same with politicians. Although it is not a positive attribute, it should not have any bearing on their jobs, which are unrelated to their personal sexual escapades.

Unless adultery is going to be made illegal, we can no more get rid of politicians for their personal

The Globe is a public forum. As such, we welcome the voices of

all. We accept letters to the editor provided they are signed; under

very few circumstances will we publish an anonymous letter. Due to

space constraints, we reserve the right to edit submitted material.

decisions than anyone else in other professional fields. When a businessman breaks the law, he must be punished and the same is true of politicians.

However, when either makes a bad decision to cheat on his wife, the issue should be addressed in that family. It should not cost him his job and it should not be covered by the media or treated as a noteworthy piece of news. (\$)



# Reflecting on a changing home

**StaffEditorial** 

the plane in Shanghai, seven years since I last set my foot in this city where I was born and raised.

Instead, I couldn't help but smile out of a sense of heartfelt happiness and satisfaction as I exited the airport and got on the bus, home.

When I got off the bus in the district where I live, I persuaded my mom to let me walk instead of taking a cab to our house.

Though I had to drag along two suitcases in the cold after being awake for 18 hours, every step I took the first night I arrived in Shanghai was filled with energy and excitement.

As I took a look at everything around me while I walked, I could barely recognize anything.

I didn't know my way around the streets I was once so familiar with. I didn't recognize any of the buildings around where I lived. And I didn't recognize the modern Shanghainese people who were still stuck in the turn of the millennium in my memory.

But I still missed them. I missed the boisterous streets, the ubiquitous buildings, the shrewd Shanghainese people, even the second-hand smoke and the littered sidewalks.

I didn't cry when I saw my grandparents for the first time in seven years. Neither did they.

I remember being a finicky and mischievous child. Every time I went to my Nana's house, she would always scold me for being troublesome. In my memories, Nana had always been an impatient old lady with an impatientlooking face.

But when I went to Nana's house again this time, Nana didn't say anything to me. Instead, she just looked at me and held my hand for a long time, and she smiled.

So did my other grandparents when I first stepped into their houses. They didn't say much, but they smiled, widely, for a long time.

When I was about to leave Nana's house that day, however, Nana stopped smiling. Just as I said goodbye, Nana covered her mouth with her hand and turned her back to me as fast as the small steps made by her little feet would allow.

Nana cried.

As my mom and my aunt tried to console Nana by telling her that she will see me again when I go visit her next time Ĭ'm in Shanghai, Nana caught a break during her sob and said, "I don't even know if there will be a next time."

I didn't cry when I first got off fragile Nana, except this time, tears welled up in their eyes too.

> I turned away as fast as I could so I didn't have to look at their eyes. I just wanted to walk out of Nana's house with a smile on my face.

> It is hard when you are separated from the ones you care and love for so long. During the separation, you often find yourself thinking, dreaming and yearning to see the ones you left behind, even though the reality of things keep you helplessly away from making your hopes come true.

> However, I believe that sometimes, it is even harder when you do finally see the ones you've been separated from once again because as you take a good look at every detail on their faces and try to remember every change that has taken place, you are reminded of the inevitability of losing them yet again. You are faced with the inevitability of another upcoming period of helpless yearning for reunion.

I think that's why I did cry when I visited my grandparents' graves.

I have always tried to avoid thinking about things like that. I convinced myself that visiting my grandparents' graves would just be like going to the park. It would be casual, but it was just something that I had to do.

After a long walk in

the cemetery with my mom, aunt and uncle, and after I tried my hardest to keep my eyes on the road instead of wandering on the pictures on the tombstones all around me, I couldn't avoid it anymore.

The moment I saw my grandparents' pictures on their tombstones, I had to immediately turn my face away from my relatives, and away from them. I hadn't seen their pictures in seven years, but I never forgot their faces.

Although I tried hard to contain my emotions, I could tell my relatives noticed that I was shaking with my back to them, and I knew that it was useless for me to try to stop my tears from streaming

It was no walk in the park, just as reunion wasn't as easy as it seemed either.

I don't know when I will go back to Shanghai again, and I don't know how much the city will change until then.

I almost feel a sense of exhaustion when I think about how just when I finally got used to all the changes that took place, I'll have to get ready to catch up to the time again.

It's simply something that I have Still, my mom and my aunt to do. Fortunately, it's also sometried to console her as they held the thing that I'm willing to do. §

## **Corrections Box**

-In the in-depth story on page 12, Karen Omvig was incorrectly identified as Karen Omvit.

-Sam Jacus wrote the Close-up story on page 8, not Simone Bernstein.

## [Thumbs Up]



-Clementines -MTV's "The Paper" -TV shows back

on the air -Girl Scout cookies

-Kansas beating North Carolina

-AP exams arriving

-Excessive rain/cold

-Finals in AP classes -Last senior deadline

-Homework

[Thumbs Down]

# Ihe green candidate

A few weeks ago Google 'turned off its lights." In recognition of Earth Hour, on March 30, Google had a black home page. On that same day, for a single hour, cities throughout the world participated in this event by "turning off their lights."

My family and I also participated in Earth Day, and our house was very dark.

My brother, clearly the environmentalist of the family, discovered Earth Day for my family. He showed me Earth Day's home page, videos, facts and much more.

The video claimed that thousands of tons of carbon dioxide emissions could be saved if so many cities across the world participated. The whole idea was quite intriguing, but only for a while.

It seemed silly at first to turn off every single light in the house. I'm positive we saved a substantial amount of energy, and we felt proud for lasting a whole hour with no lights.

Yet, I recall walking through my pitch-black dining room and looking out at my street. Every

other house had at least one, if not many lights on. This made me question how much we actually helped in reducing our enormous human carbon footprint.

I thought events like Earth Hour had the potential to solve issues like Global Warming. I was convinced that if everyone helped out during that single hour, our planet's environmental crises could be alleviated, and even solved.

Documentaries like Al Gore's 'An Inconvenient Truth" and Leonardo DiCaprio's Eleventh Hour" both portrayed the daunting issues facing our world, yet at the same time, ended by providing audiences with inspiration to want to do something.

Indeed, after seeing Gore's documentary I truly felt like I had a responsibility to help address environmental problems in our world. I felt that I, myself, could in fact make a difference. But, after their premieres, these

face of this planet. Just days later, this inspirational feeling had completely left my body. My life continued on, and I no

longer really put effort into the

movies have literally fallen off the

issue. Unfortunately, these documentaries were truly temporary,

and had no long lasting effects. I am even starting to question the effectiveness and success of these environmentally conscious events and documentaries. How much does a fluorescent light bulb really help? If more people had "turned off their lights" during Earth Hour would there have been a big enough difference to solve Global Warming? How can I and

other people really help? Earth Hour, and other environmental events like Earth Day, are definitely steps toward addressing the environmental issues confronting us, but definitely not big enough steps.

Earth Day, Earth Hour, fluorescent bulbs, hybrids and documen-

taries unfortunately do very little in this environmental

fight, so to speak. Nonetheless, people should always continue to use fluorescent lights or purchase hybrids; turn their lights off for short periods of time and recycle. These steps are necessary in overcoming Global Warming, among

environmental problems. But, on the other hand, for those students who will turn 18, or are 18, I think you have an even greater responsibility in helping the world

we live in. Today's news is covered with the presidential race. Obama this, Clinton that. Everyone is discussing foreign policy, the Iraq War, health care, immigration, and issues relating to race and gender.

Yet, in all of this presidential hype, little, if any substantial analysis has been made regarding the similarities and differences between the candidates' environmental policies.

Sure, many people know Clinton's stance on health care, which is an equally crucial topic when choosing a leader of our

Yet, in thinking of the future of not just the U.S, but also the world itself, don't you think it would be important to know what McCain, Obama or Clinton feels about funding more environmental causes?

If you haven't visited the candidates' web sites, I highly recommend it. As a matter of fact, I was quite shocked myself.

All three candidates had a link to the various issues that they were either involved with or concerned about. All three candidates listed the environment in one way or another in this list.

But, after just minutes of scanning, it became obvious which candidate would be more committed, and certainly which candidate would be the least committed, if anything.

Obama and Clinton shared similar ideas; however, Obama went into much deeper detail about the various steps that would be taken to solve these environmental

Clinton was vague, even though the environment was listed as the third issue on her list. Obama cleverly listed his issues in alphabetical

McCain, in all truth, had the least ideas. The environment was listed second to last on his list of issues, and upon clicking that link, I found a few non-inspirational quotes and no steps to reduce Global Warming. I was stunned.

So, come November, American citizens over the age of 18 will stand in front of a ballot, making a much larger decision than many think they are making. This includes many CHS students.

Who will you vote for, and

A good leader can truly make a difference. I hope that you will at least con-

sider the environment as a crucial issue in today's society, and vote for a leader who can truly make a difference in today's environment. Remind yourself of the 2000

presidential election, with Al Gore and George W. Bush. Where would we be today if Bush hadn't been elected?

Where will we be in the future? This decision lies in the hands of many voters across the USA. Many steps have been taken to alleviate environmental problems. Earth Hour is a perfect example of one of these steps. But, when I realized that my house was the only one with its "lights off," To ensure a world in which our children can

Come November, I strongly urge all of you to take one single hour out of your busy schedules to truly make a difference. Make an informed decision and vote for a leader who is committed to saving our world, our home. §

live, more needs to be done.

# Bus rides eventually prove to be gratifying

I can tell you from experience: there is no worse feeling in the world than that last squeeze you give your father or the last words of "You're all grown up now-go get on the bus!" whispered in your ear before you step reluctantly up the steps into the leather-seated world of the school bus, always looking

"Lelloo lelloo buz tac scol funz buz go hommm!!!!"

This is a direct quote from my Spottie-Dottie diary from the first day of Kindergarten—a diary that holds only five entries of ten words each, with the rest of the pages filled with incoher-

the last

[kelly moffitt]

ent scribbling. Though I'm not sure what "Lelloo lelloo buz tac scol funz buz go hommm!!!!" means, I know it has to do with the yellow school bus that would take me to everyday school from that first day of kindergarten un-

til the last day of eighth grade.

And I know I was happy about

That bus would see me from that first day of spandex shorts and tie-died midriff baring tops, to embarrassing lunch boxes, to my first pair of glasses, to my first cracked glasses; from my status as uber nerd sitting awkwardly in the middle seats, to the socially adequate girl with tons of kids sitting and joking around with her, and back again; from the quiet youngster bedecked in bowl cut to elder, powerful kid who knew all about

the ways of life and got to sit in the deviant back seats.

I'm not sure why I started out riding the bus in the first place. I think my parents wanted me to be socialized the way they were, unbeknownst to them that hardly anyone within the reaches of Clayton rode the bus. However, the decision would foster within me a sense of independence and that feeling would stick with me even when my attendance on the bus became spotty in later years.

I, of course, had the misfortune of living the closest to school which in the anti-universe that is Clayton

word

means that I got picked up first and dropped off last on the bus route.

This had its many ups and downs: the substantial ups being that I always got the seat I wanted, to get to know the bus driv-

ers, and generally eavesdrop on the older kids conversations, hiding before they got on; the downs being just about everything else, including the frostiness of the bus on December mornings when there was nobody's heat to provide as an insulation system.

I remember sitting as a first or second grader, utterly naïve, listening as the big fifth graders made fun of me because my "epidermis was showing." I remember as a third grader, watching my retainer get passed up to the trash can. It's how I learned that people can be

utterly cruel sometimes.

But I also learned of their incredible kindness. This was especially apparent in the bus drivers who I remember better than I remember anyone I became "bus buddies"

There was Mr. Nap, who I started out being afraid of because he took the "bus driver tax" of a cookie whenever I brought them on the bus. But we ended up having many philosophical conversations over those cookies about what to do with the cards that life deals you. I'm pretty sure I didn't understand half of what he was speaking about but somehow his conversations about his family struggles fit perfectly into mine. Then there was sweet Mrs. Robin, who could always tell when I was having a bad day. I remember her kind freckled face and how it lit up when she laughed. I remember once, I had split my chin open from my day at the ice skating rink with my class. I cried the whole bus ride home, not so much from the pain but from fear of telling my parents about what had happened. Mrs. Robin let me sit up in the front of the bus with her. Any kids who tried to bug me about it, she told them to back off. And then consoled me through my menial distress, telling me: "Miss Kelly, just give it time, it's all gonna be fine." Probably the truest bit of advice I've ever received.

There were others: jovial Jim who never failed to have a joke with me, the man who would drive fast over the speed bumps to the bus crowd's squealing enjoyment, the evil substitutes we all secretly hated for not knowing the exact bus route and which side of the street we liked to be dropped off on.

I remember walking with my small hand in a big one as a buddy to the elder

The bus would see

me from that first

shorts and tie-dye

midriff baring tops

to embarrassing

lunch boxes, to

my first pair of

glasses, to my

first cracked

glasses.

day of spandex

bus buddy, fearful and taking the advice I could get. I remember listening to Dr. Mac come onto the bus at the end of school almost everyday, wagging finger encouraging us to along: sing "Seat to seat, back to back, that's the rule

of Dr. Mac." When I was young, I paid diligent attention to the bus rules, keeping my hands inside the windows, drawing playful hearts in the fog of the roll down windows in the winter that would later always get stuck in the springtime heat wave. Dan and Matt would try daily to scare me, the girly girl in pigtails obsessed with getting home to her barbies, with stories about camou-

In the middle years I remember watching my friend doodle pokemon figures and talking with Chelsea about the cute middle school boys. I remember feeling so cool.

flage and army guns.

I loved the bus and the bus loved me; those cracked leather seats and the always too-hot or too-cold climate inside, the paper

airplanes, the rambunctiousness, the bullies, the friends, the endless hours of stupid games, our genuine

dorkiness.

ber getting made fun of for riding the bus. "Don't you carpool?" kids sneered. "Where's your mom to pick you up?" they would ask.

To tell you the truth I never realized it was uncool to be riding the bus, that it meant something to be riding the bus. That something was, apparently, not

cool enough for everyone else. When I was old, I began resent-

ing the system and the new seatbelts installed, choosing instead to pass funny notes to the boys at the front of the bus. Then we played the old-kids game of seeing who could hang upside down on the seat with their feet out the window the longest before their brain started to freeze. I remember making best friends with Alicia and Maggie, trying to sneak off the bus to go to their houses after school but always getting caught, thinking I was so cool.

I remember growing older, into my middle school years and ditching the bus to angstily walk to school with my walkman playing "Evanescence" and thinking I was

I remember stamping my foot

and telling my mom I didn't want to ride the bus anymore, at any cost. Hoping that I would finally look cool.

I lost most of those days of camaraderie on that yellow cracked bus that I loved.

There is no better feeling in the world than that of riding up to your bus stop, your forehead making marks on the window from how hard your face is pressed to it, seeing your mother standing in flip flops with her arms crossed across her chest, curly hair flying in the mid-afternoon breeze, sunglasses covering her face...waiting

And you running up the aisle before the bus stops, jumping down the stairs with a hasty goodbye to your bus driver, and running smack into the wide open arms of your mother.

The bus gave me the best and worst of feelings in my life and for that I am forever grateful.

I guess the final lesson that my times on the bus comes down to is: sometimes when you think you're fixing it all to surrounded by all the coolness, to be Miss Popularity, to have a zillion friends, to gain all the freedom in the world by chaining yourself to what you think everyone else wants of you...you find yourself completely and irrevoca-

That hit me today as I rode home, by myself, in my car with the ability to go anywhere and do anything...Somehow I was not as happy with all my independence as I was on that bus filled with mostly annoying pimply deviants and weirdos with zero social skills.

I guess that's just me. §

# **Mock Trial memories** comfort, illuminate

to March. On average, four times a week. And typically, two and a half hours a meeting. So for the past three years, that means it has been around 450 hours. I never really expected my nights to be filled with federal rules of evidence, objections, exhibits, stipulations, cross examinations and depositions, but without all of this legal garble, what in the world would I have done these past three years? Probably just a lot more TV.

I was more excited than ever for the season to start this year. We crafted a really talented team and we were more determined than ever to bring home the state title, which Clayton has not done in

five years. Quite frankly, it was time to win again and we knew we had a chance. We were focused. Well, most of the time we were focused. And we prac-

ticed. A lot. Bottom line, we did everything humanly possible to

The advancement to regionals came easily for us. From there, we were definitely challenged. We hit Priory, the defending state champions and the team we lost to at

We meet from late November are good, and intimidating. The intimidation factor definitely hurt us. We went into the trial believing that we would face an extremely experienced and difficult team and because of that, we doubted ourselves. We lost that trial, but still advanced to state after winning the next trial during regionals.

At state, each team is guaranteed two trials. Friday night went smoothly. It was a close trial, but we were confident. Saturday morning was a different story.



[GILA HOFFMAN]

We were set to face MICDS. Ask any Missouri mock trial team about MICDS and we all have the same opinion. First things first, they have two teams: one for prosecution and one for defense. Two sets of lawvers. Two sets of witnesses. While every other team in Missouri learns both sides of the

case, the MICDS team members spend the same amount of time only learning half the case. Don't get me wrong though, it is perfectly legal in the competition manual. The thing is, no one actually does that but them.

ther. Again, it was a close trial, but

Our 3-0 victory the night before still allowed us to advance to quarterfinals. We were seeded seventh, so we hit the second place team, Hickman. Their witnesses weren't impressive (in fact, one of their witnesses even referred to one of our witnesses as Hitler (Definitely not court room appropriate). And the lawyers were nothing special either. After the trial it is customary for the judge and jury members to critique the two teams. The judge sent the ballots away to be tabulated and when one of the mock trial coordinators came in asking for a representative from Hickman (for the coin toss for the next round), we knew we had lost.

And this is where our journey ended. We lost 2-1. On the ballot we won, we won by three points. And we lost by one point on another. So, in fact, we won the trial by two points. It's disappointing to lose (of course), but I don't think I needed to win state to know that we are a good team. It was the friendships I made, and the nights I spent with the team that made mock trial

We eat the best food: perfectly salted popcorn made fresh on the stove, the most delicious baked goods you can find in St. Louis, peanut M&Ms after every trial, pizza with yellow peppers on top, and an endless amount of chips, goldfish, candy and almond butter.

Our coaches are phenomenal. MICDS was definitely no Mr. Wetmore and Mr. Goldstein state last year. The Priory boys "Priory," but they weren't bad ei- welcome us into their home every

night for hours at a time, even after they have had a long day of work. Their experience and knowledge help us greatly as we prepare for trial. They explain the most difficult legal concepts in a way that anyone can understand. Whether it's Mr. Wetmore asking us what color the traffic light was, or Mr. Goldstein quoting "Witness for the Prosecution" ("You are a frequent and habitual LIAR"), they always know how to make mock trial fun and interesting.

And we can't forget the MTM: the mock trial mom. She keeps our stomachs full and keeps us looking sharp in the courtroom.

We've had mock trial sleepovers where we played DDR with our coaches. We've been up all hours of the night, practicing for state in the lobbies of hotels. We've gained so much weight from all the food. We've been whipped into shape by two of the most experienced lawyers in St. Louis. We've been pushed to our limits.

Two years ago, Elad Gross was on the team. I dug up an old e-mail he sent to us after a scrimmage against the JV team. From this, you can probably see how serious we really are about mock trial:

"Today, we came to the enemy camp, swords drawn, ready to strike. When we went in to sever the heads of our opposition, we only slit their throats, leaving them dead. But we brought back no heads to roast. On Tuesday, we will decapitate our enemies. And we will roast the heads on an open

# Student struggles with repudiation

be a commercial fisherman. I used to think that all I needed to get my foot in the door was intelligence, drive and perhaps even a sense of humor. Today I stand corrected. Today, I was turned down in favor of Ben Cherry, Peace Corp volunteer, New Mexico resident and commercial fisherman.

future. The month when I would be told whether I was a valuable member of society or just a kid with a pipe dream. This was the month when I came home to find either a large envelope begging me 40 from a Republican town. Need I

for my attendance, or a tiny- sized envelope filled with small pox, and the seal of Satan, along with a letter that said "Thank you for your interest however...

I received my letter in the form of email. The letter that told me that Ben

Cherry was better than me. The moment I read the first line, I felt as if I Hillary Clinton was the candidate had just fallen on an oversized cactus. The e-mail began something stickers on my binders. I even hid like this: Dear Katharine, Thank you for your interest, however, five other donors have been chosen to have dinner with Barack Obama.

The ghastly news sent me into a grieving process, and I had to take four toward steps acceptance:

Step Blame yourself Maybe should

have donated more. I was a fool to think that they would find a \$5 donation to be charming. I believed it to be in tune with my

tub my parents won't buy me."

Perhaps it was the story I submitted, telling them why I should be chosen. I thought the tale of a liberal bred to vote for Hillary Clinton, but deciding that Barack was her man, was pure gold. I knew I should have gone with the story of a white blue collar male who grew up in Pennsylvania. I just wasn't

I have never before longed to when a 5'4", curly haired, 18-yearold young woman showed up for dinner.

Step Two: Blame the winners

Ben Cherry, you disgust me, with your name that sounds like an ice cream flavor. What do you have that I don't? Just life experience and a pair of waders. And what about Alisha Cordell? Didn't This month was the month of the anyone tell Barack that single parents who can't afford health care are so last year? High school students who can't afford a new i-Pod, now those are in. And then there is Bonnie Loccentta, a woman over

Taking It In Stride



be punished because I was born 35 years too late and don't look like I should have a Hillary Clinton button on every one of my sweater sets?

Step Three:

Blame Barack

up for you when people told me that of action. I put your slightly tacky my grandmother's car keys under your picture so she couldn't go vote for Clinton. But now I am through.

What happened to having the judgment when the phone rings at 3 a.m.? Well that phone rang and you chose an old man with a weirdly- shaved beard over a cute, interesting, and politically- competent 18-year-old high school senior.

> Step Four: Acceptance

Somehow hearing word "no" never seems to get easier. They tell me

that I should move on, that there would be other contests and other rejections-- as well as acceptances. Perhaps one of my safety contests will pull through and I will get to go hunting with Cheney or snowboarding with Kerry. But the rejection from Barack will always burden my heart. Wait, what's that you say? A chance to spend the summer working for Barack Obama's campaign? I'm there, Barack ... if you'll have me. 💲

# Childish harassment unproductive

I want to start by emphasizing that this is not a personal attack. I don't know who participated in the act which I will be discussing here, and I want it to stay that way. All I plan to do is evaluate the situation as I see it, and give my point of view.

Over spring break, a group of CHS students TP-ed a teacher's house. I don't know why. Maybe it was because someone received a bad grade on a test. Maybe it was because someone got yelled at in class. Maybe someone was tardy one time too many and got detention. Maybe they were just bored, and couldn't come up with a more constructive use of their time.

Whatever the reason, it doesn't change the fact that their behavior was immature, unproductive, and just plain mean. I felt a mixture of confusion and disgust when I first heard about this incident. The former was due to my inability to comprehend how these students could be so shallow-minded and self-absorbed as to harass a person whose life is devoted to their own education. My guess is that if their ability to express frustration is limited to the use of toilet paper, then they probably don't appreciate the quality of education they receive at a place like Clayton.

The latter emotion, disgust, was due to this group's complete lack of consideration for the feelings of anyone besides themselves. I assume they were upset about

something—that much is obvious. But how does TPing someone's house improve the situation in any

If there's a problem, wouldn't it make more sense to talk with the teacher to see if something can be worked out? As it is, the only result is that someone

gets hurt, and someone else manages to feel a perverse sort of pride in being able to cause pain without repercussions. I guess I should make clear that I have no problem with TP-ing when it's done as a practical joke between friends. That's not with the intent to harm. I see it playing out as a superficial struggle for the last word: "Uh, dude, we

just got TP-ed. We can't take this lying down. We have to go assert our manhood by hanging toilet paper on someone's azaleas." "Dude. I totally agree. Let's

break out the Scott Quilted and get moving.'

That's not a problem for me. Whatever. My problem is with

people who are apparently incapable of constructive dialogue when they're upset, and who therefore resort to immature and useless acts of hostility.

At the end of the day, after the buzz from the act itself wears off, they are

left with nothing to show for their disrespect. They have only the knowledge that they made someone's day a little bit, or maybe a lot, worse. Maybe they took a trying, wearisome afternoon, and with one little step made it an awful afternoon. Mission accomplished.

I don't expect that these are the sort of people who would have it in them to apologize. I highly doubt that they even feel like they have anything to apologize for. But maybe next time, if they even read this at all, they'll at least hesitate before they begin.

I realize that I probably come off sounding really stuffy, or anal, or "lame." I realize that in a week or so I will probably come home to find my house draped in Charmin Ultra, or I will go out to my car and find egg yolk dripping off the windshield. Maybe that's the consequence of taking credit for my views—maybe that's the price I pay for having a byline on this column.

It would certainly be easier to express my anger or frustration with a roll of toilet paper in the dead of night. I could scurry around, suppressing snickers of delight, clapping my friends on the back, feeling elated because I did something bad, and got away with it!

And I could disappear into the refuge of anonymity, safe and unharmed, too pathetic to handle any measure of accountability, and too lazy to actually deal with my problem in a useful way 💲

This month was the month of the future. The month when I One: would be told whether I was a valuable member of society or just a kid with a pipe dream.

"woe is me, I am just a poor struggling high school student trying to save up enough money for the hot

quite sure what they would think



arts fair 2008



On April 10, CHS students teamed up with students from two Special School District schools, Litzsinger and Neuwoehner, for an excursion from the norm. Activities and entertainment helped to foster rewarding new friendships.



# LITZSINGER SCHOOL NEUWOEHNER SCHOOL CLAYTON HIGH SCHOOL



### **SNAPSHOTS**

1 the Commons, packed with CHS students and their buddies 2 a sign created by the Arts Fair **Steering Committee** welcomes Neuwoehner School 3 freshman **Kyleigh Smith** decorates a hat with her buddy 4 seniors **Adrienne Stormo and Blair Klostermeier** facilitate the GSA room 5 junior Susie Wirthlin paints a visitor in the face painting room 6 a buddy proudly displays his balloon art 7 senior **Elicia Wartman works** on a project with her **buddy 8 CHS students** entertain guests with a percussion ensemble





