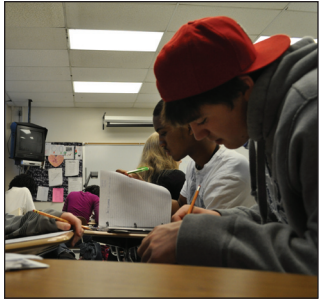




2 Supreme Ct. rules on political speech



4 Changes to class registration



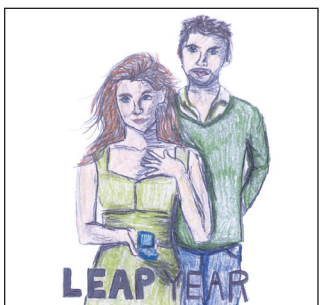
13 Celebrating the Chinese New Year



14 For some, teen relationships last



17 AP Euro wins broomball



18 Forgettable 'Leap Year' lacks depth



24 Family Center hosts Messy Play

the GLOBE

Clayton High School

1 Mark Twain Circle

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BOE votes to put Prop W on April ballot

by Noah Eby
Editor

The Board of Education voted unanimously to place Prop W on the April 6 ballot last month. If it passes, the zero-tax-rate increase, \$39.4 million bond issue will fund the construction of a new middle school. The BOE's Jan. 25 decision was met with celebration from the standing crowd at the meeting.

"I cried tears of joy," Wydown principal Mary Ann Goldberg said. "Probably over two thirds of my staff was there, they knew it was a big moment. The Board came out into the audience and hugged teachers and hugged the administrators, and it was one of those really, truly feel good moments."

The vote was the culmination of a lengthy journey, beginning with the Facilities Master Plan that eventually evolved into Prop S. Wydown's exclusion from that bond issue led to the formation of Wydown Tomorrow, a committee that proposed two construction options for the BOE to vote on.

"We are proud of the process that the Wydown Tomorrow Committee undertook and look to it as an example of a thorough, constructive and encompassing public engagement process," said BOE President Omri Prais on the District website.

The plan will not raise the property tax rate to generate funding. Instead, the gap between decreasing payments on current bonds and the increasing revenue stream from higher property values will allow for the nearly \$40 mil-



Wydown Middle School's auditorium lobby, where Jerry Estes teaches his choir classes because of a lack of space. The BOE voted to place Prop. W, a \$39.4 million bond issue, on the April ballot to address this and other issues with the current building.

lion expenditure. A new school, with almost 20 percent more green space than the current building, would be built on the current playing field so that the current school could still be used. However, this would mean that the field and track would be taken offline for 31 months and the gym and locker room rendered unusable for 15 months.

With the BOE decided, the District will now turn its focus to informing the

public about Wydown's needs and how the bond issue will address them. Clayton School District Director of Communications Chris Tennill said that the District "can tell people to vote, [it] just can't tell them to vote yes." Goldberg said that she thinks the biggest challenge facing Wydown and the District is having the community understand the minimal impact that construction will have on students' education.

"[The biggest challenge is] getting

people to understand that teaching and learning will go on, and there may be some disruption, but not until later when they're working on the theatre and the gym," Goldberg said.

In a preliminary survey commissioned by the District that surveyed 504 registered voter households, 77.0 percent of respondents said that they would favor a bond issue, knowing that it would not increase the tax rate. The bond issue needs only 57.1 percent of

the vote, but Goldberg said the experience with Prop S keeps her from being overly confident.

"I don't want to throw my eggs in one basket and say 'It's all done,'" Goldberg said. "I think every vote's going to count, we learned about that last year with the passage of the bond issue by two votes."

Despite the favorable numbers from the survey, an opposition group has already formed, calling itself A Better Plan for Wydown. The group is centered on architect Michael Roth's alternative plan for WMS that he presented at the Jan. 13 BOE meeting. Roth's plans would renovate Wydown instead of rebuild it.

"They're tearing down approximately 104,000 square feet of what we think is rather useful space," Roth said. "Our plan, basically, is taking that 104,000 square feet and adding 30,000 square feet to it."

Roth said his plan would only cost \$18.5 million and would result in more classrooms than the plan included in Prop W. He added that the group doesn't believe that Wydown's problems necessitate a complete rebuild, saying that the classrooms are "fully functional," although more are needed, and that the District never thoroughly considered a renovation.

"As I understand it, according to the architect who did the work for the District, the District asked for a new build-

Proposition W
pg. 8



History teacher and CHS Academics Director Josh Meyers reviews the School District's 2009-2010 budget in preparation for NCA's March 2 and 3 visit and evaluation.

NCA accreditation team to visit CHS

by Jocelyn Lee
Reporter

The North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA) will send a visiting team to CHS on March 2 and 3. The team will evaluate the school based on the organization's seven standards and present a report of their findings.

CHS has been accredited by the NCA since 1914. The school chooses to go through the process of accreditation once every five years, although it is not required to do so. The state only requires that CHS participate in the Missouri School Improvement Program (MSIP).

The NCA accreditation process has two basic parts.

"First, we complete a report called a Standards Assessment Report (SAR)," CHS Academics Director Josh Meyers said. "This report, based on the seven standards, is the guidebook for the visiting team. The report for this cycle was 57 pages and was started by the entire faculty."

Over the past year, CHS has been preparing for the visit.

"It began December of '08, when we invited stakeholders, such as parents and students, to join the faculty and central office folks to review our mission and guiding principles," CHS Principal Louise Losos said. "This year, we've spent a part of every faculty meeting working in small groups to prepare the SAR."

The preparation process, not just the team's visit, serves as a time to look critically at the school.

"Under each standard there are indicators," Losos said. "Under each one we assess whether we are anywhere from the bottom, emerging, operational, or highly effective. There are some areas in which we are operational,

which means we're doing it, but it's not really systemic, or emerging, where we just started working on it."

According to Meyers, it is a time when light is shed on both negative and positive aspects of CHS, aspects that might otherwise have gone unnoticed.

"We have discovered some important things we can improve on, like being more effective users of data, and consistently examining and communicating school improvement results," Meyers said. "More significantly we have affirmed a lot of things we are doing well, primarily in the field of 'teaching and learning.' By having the entire faculty examine the seven standards, we really are conducting an internal audit of everything significant about our school."

The second part of the process comprises the visit. Meyers said that after examining the SAR, the visiting team will come to CHS and examine artifacts, conduct interviews with stakeholders, including students, and observe in classrooms and hallways. There will be minimal disruption for the students.

"There will be eight members of the visiting team," Losos said. "They will spend one full day, maybe a day and a half, interviewing people - teachers, support staff, students, parents, board members. They have a very prescriptive interview - they have specific questions that they ask, so we know what's coming."

The NCA team will present an oral report of its findings after school on March 3.

"They will report to the faculty a) whether or not we're accredited and b) level of accreditation," Losos said. "I am

MSHSAA changes eligibility rules regarding zero-hours

by Maddy Bullard
Editor

Sports and extracurricular activities are continually offered at CHS as a chance for students to have fun, work with a team, and engage in spirited competition. But this year, the Missouri State High School Athletic Association (MSHSAA) has put in place a new rule which may bar some students from participating in these activities.

Recently, the member schools of MSHSAA voted on a new regulation that will change some students' eligibility. The new rule states: 'Extra' classes taken beyond the normal school day shall be excluded from all consideration (i.e. credits achieved in the 'extra classes' shall not be considered either for or against academic eligibility).

Some Clayton students might remember changes to the eligibility requirements that were made within the past few years. Namely, the requirement was raised from 2.5 credits per semester to 3.0 credits per semester. Principal Louise Losos was involved in the original decision to raise the amount of credit.

"The reasoning behind it is the state had just raised their graduation requirement from 22 to 24, and at 2.5 you could be eligible every semester and not graduate on time, which seemed almost educational malpractice," Losos said. "It just seemed wrong that you could say to a kid, you can play sports every season but not graduate on time. So we voted to raise it to 3.0."

MSHSAA executive director Kerwin Urhahn was also involved in the passage of the new rule for eligibility standards in the 2009-2010 school year.

"The increase in academic eligibility standard, By-Law 213, moving from 2.5 units of credit or 70 percent of courses offered, whichever is greater, to the new standard of 3.0 units of credit or 80 percent of courses offered, whichever is greater was voted on and approved in the Spring 2007 Ballot," Urhahn said.

Member schools vote on new rules for athletic eligibility each year. The democratic process usually makes sure that schools are aware of all components of the rules they vote on.

"The proposed changes to the MSHSAA Constitution require a two-thirds approval, and By-Law change requires a simple majority," Urhahn said. "All rule changes are voted on by the member schools... There are 578 member schools and 81 percent of those schools voted on last year's ballot."

MSHSAA gave the member schools time to acclimate students to these new requirements, so that no student was left behind in the shift towards more credits.

"It did not go into effect until the 2009-2010 school year to ensure that all students and schools were aware of the change and would not get surprised by the increase," Urhahn said.

Losos also made efforts to spread the news of the changes in eligibility requirements.

"We were given a full year's heads-up on it," Losos said. "We tried to make sure the students knew, and there were still some students who missed it, that you needed to be enrolled in 3.0, and you needed to have passed the prior semester 3.0."

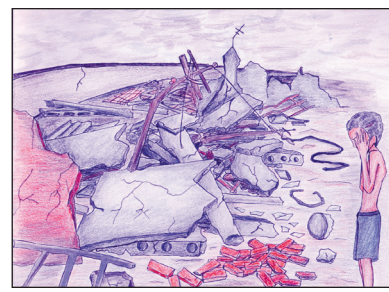
However, a few Clayton students were not able to retain their eligibility after the new rule was instituted for the 2009 fall semester.

"We feel really bad about the kids who are ineligible," Lo-

DISASTER IN HAITI, pg 6

"Haiti is a beautiful country with beautiful people and an incredibly rich and diverse culture.... It's survived slavery, it's survived disease, it's survived previous earthquakes and hurricanes."

Chad Perlyn
Plastic surgeon



MSHSAA changes eligibility rules regarding zero-hours

sos said. "I feel horrible. We have second-semester seniors." Losos plans to utilize new computer programs to help catch students who are currently ineligible.

"In the end, we did a lot of education with the students, and we didn't have enough institutional safety checks in place," Losos said. "So we'll be putting those in place."

Urhahn advises students to be sure to take more than enough classes to satisfy the requirement, even without counting zero-hour classes.

"I would suggest they take at least the minimum requirement during the normal school day to maintain their bona fide student status (for a 7-period day, they would need to be enrolled in at least 6 classes each worth a half a credit)," Urhahn said. "Also, I would make sure those students were aware they had no room for error. They would have to pass all their classes."

For the spring semester, Losos and other faculty have already put checks in place which will take into account the jump to 3.0 credits.

"Right now for this semester, we've checked all kids' schedules to make sure they have the 3.0, and we checked all kids who had 3.25 and down, or 3.25 to 3.0, to make sure that... one of those 3.25... wasn't forensics or jazz band," Losos said. "We don't want kids to be ineligible because of a mistake."

New attendance and enrollment reports will help in the process of screening each student for eligibility.

"Moving forward, because of what happened first semester, we've put some new protocols into place that will increase our safety net," Losos said. "The technology folks at central office have created a report that they can now run... that can tell us students who are enrolled - how many credits are they eligible for."

Unfortunately, however, some students will probably not be able to participate in sports this semester due to the requirement of 3.0 passed courses.

Additionally, the new rule's definition of "normal school day" is rather unclear.

"A normal school day is where a school says a student should achieve a minimum number of credits and offers the student the ability to take the corresponding number of classes," Urhahn said.

"Therefore if a school normally has a 1st hour through 7th hour, then the normal school day would be 7 half credits per semester."

Some students disagree with the new rule and feel that zero hours should be counted towards eligibility. Elle Jacobs, a junior at CHS, plays tennis and participates in jazz band. Although she attends jazz band in the early morning, it does not count towards her eligibility.

"It is not fair for MSHSAA not to count zero hour classes for sports because students wake up extra early and still have a 46 minute class period, so zero hour classes should be counted equally as any other class during the day," Jacobs said.

The member schools voted to eliminate zero hours in the spring of 2009. Losos and the Clayton Athletic Director, Bob Bone, attended a rules meeting after the new rule was voted on. It was at this meeting that they heard for the first time the details of this new eligibility standard.

"At that time, Mr. Bone and I were made aware that the new rule stated something to the effect that it was 3.0 earned

Eligibility rules
pg. 3

Index:

- 2 World
- 3 Community
- 6 InDepth
- 9 Sports
- 13 Features
- 18 Arts
- 21 Forum
- 24 InFocus

NCA Accreditation
pg. 4

Corporations declared 'people'

by Laura Bleeker
Editor

Just before the midterm congressional elections, the 20-year old Supreme Court ruling that barred corporations from spending freely in elections was broken.

Chief Justice Roberts and Justices Kennedy, Alito, Thomas, and Scalia all voted in favor of a ruling that would allow corporations to spend freely in elections. Justices Stevens, Breyer, Ginsburg, and Sotomayor made up the minority voting against the act.

By a 5-4 vote, the court majority justified its decision by saying that the previous laws had been a violation of basic First Amendment rights, their argument being that the government cannot regulate political speech.

"When government seeks to use its full power, including the criminal law, to command where a person may get his or her information or what distressed source he or she may not hear, it uses censorship to control thought," Kennedy said. "This is unlawful. The First Amendment confirms the freedom to think for ourselves."

The opposing four justices saw the ruling differently. They believed the act would weaken elections in the future.

"The court's ruling threatens to undermine the integrity of elected institutions around the nation," Stevens said.

According to the New York Times, the new ruling overruled two previous precedents.

The first is "Austin v. Michigan Chamber of Congress, a 1990 decision that upheld restrictions on corporate spending to support or oppose political candidates."

The second ruling, known as McConnell v. Federal Election Commission, was a decision in 2003 that upheld the part of the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002, which limited corporations' and unions' campaign spending.

In most legal situations corporations are treated like individuals, and therefore they have the same rights.

"The court essentially said that corporations are legal persons for purposes of the First Amendment," Saint



The Supreme Court recently decided on Citizens United vs. Federal Elections Committee by a 5-4 vote. The ruling allows open corporate support of political candidates.

Louis University Assistant Professor of Political Science and Law Matthew Hall said. "Just as they are in most legal contexts, and as such the government may not limit the money they spend on 'electioneering'."

Although the new ruling will greatly reshape the way elections are held, there are still restrictions on the corporate financiers.

"Corporations will now be able to spend money from their general treasury on ads that influence elections," Hall said. "But they still can't donate directly to the candidate."

Another law still intact requires nonprofit groups that support a political candidate to disclose certain financial backing.

The new ruling may not only affect

candidates in current elections, it may also affect candidates already in office.

"Corporations not only can spend more to encourage certain policy positions," Professor of Political Science at Washington University Bill Lowry said. "They can also threaten to spend more if some elected official takes a position that they don't like. This could be intimidating to some office-holders."

Many Americans are wondering how this ruling will affect the power of unions and corporations in the future. Although the ruling seems in favor of conservative businesses, it could also be in favor of liberal unions.

"Supporters of the ruling say it will lead to fuller and freer electoral campaigns," Hall said. "Opponents say it will allow corporations to buy elections

and probably give an advantage to Republican candidates. Although businesses tend to be heavily Republican, unions tend to be heavily Democratic, and the unions may now spend directly on elections as well. So I think the effect will balance out to some degree."

The new ruling could impact candidates' campaigns in ways visible to the voter.

With more money from the corporations also comes more money to spend on advertisements.

"If the normal American citizen thought that they were already getting an overload of ads during elections, wait until the next campaign," Lowry said. "In addition, the potential for greater spending by corporations could impact a wide range of public policies, although this remains to be seen."

In a speech made by President Obama, he voiced his concerns of the new ruling and how it might demean the role of the average citizen in elections.

"The Supreme Court has given a green light to a new stampede of special interest money in our politics," Obama said in a statement. "It is a major victory for big oil, Wall Street banks, health insurance companies and the other powerful interests that marshal their power every day in Washington to drown out the voices of everyday Americans."

The upcoming midterm congressional elections will feel the effects of the new ruling most strongly.

The Supreme Court ruling shocked many people, and it is certain that the way elections will be conducted has been changed dramatically.

The court ruling remained judicial throughout the case, though, and it is obvious that the court wanted a change.

"Whatever one thinks about the implications of the court's ruling...it would be hard for someone to argue that this Supreme Court did not pursue judicial activism in this case," Lowry said. "The case itself could have resulted in a much more narrow ruling that did not produce significant disagreements with past decisions and precedents, but this court obviously wanted to make a strong statement." ☺

Global Corner: Winter Olympics reflect differences between participating nations

by Sneha Viswanathan
Senior World Editor

For all the immense expectations that Apolo Ohno, Lindsey Vonn, and Shaun White face, athletes from a multitude of countries have trained for equally grueling hours in the hope of simply competing in the Winter Olympic Games in Vancouver.

Aside from the American favorites who have the world's eyes on them, yet another country whose athletes face extremely high expectations is China. In pairs skating, the favorites for Olympic gold were Shen and Zhao, a married Chinese couple who have been together for 18 years but continue to live in the dormitories reserved for athletes in their home country.

"When I watched pairs figure skating, I was really rooting for Shen and Zhao. I've heard their story, my parents know their story...it really instilled some national pride when I heard that they won," said junior Mimi Liu, who's family is from China.

Short-track speed skating came down to an athletic battle between the U.S. and South Korea, another country that, like China, provides strong support and funding for its athletic programs.

While major television networks broadcasted glamorous profiles of American gold-medal hopefuls, other countries achieved landmark milestones in international athleticism. Iran had a female alpine skier in the Olympics for the first time, and India sent a lone luger.

During the Parade of Nations, which opened the Games, viewers could see the diversity of participating nations. Several countries in

tropical regions were represented alongside the old-time favorites such as Canada, Germany, and Russia. The range of countries included Ghana, Algeria, Jamaica, Mexico, and Ethiopia.

Unfortunately, the Winter Games in many ways highlights the gap between wealthy and poor countries. Not only do several countries in the tropics lack the climate to train year round, they also lack funding for the equipment and coaching to be competitive with traditional medal-winning nations.

For example, according to the Botswana National Sports Council's website, the council "relies on private donors for funding." By contrast, the Australian Sports Commission wrote on its website that, "the Australian Government provides funding for sport as an investment in the community in terms of national pride, health, and economic activity."

Furthermore, the national interest in winter sports in tropical countries is fairly low. According to the Bahamas Government's website, the government increased its funding for sports programs in 2007 and allocated money for basketball, track and field, and boxing, among others. However, money was not appropriated specifically for winter sports.

Still, fans in the tropics remain supportive and optimistic.

"In 2006 Mexico didn't send anyone [to the Winter Olympics], but this year they sent one athlete; he's 51 and this is his fourth Olympics," said sophomore Paul Lisker, who is from Mexico. "Mexico isn't that strong in the Winter Olympics, but it's an honor to have at least one person representing the country." ☺

Federal funds appropriated to St. Louis for renovation projects

The St. Louis metropolitan area is benefiting directly from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act signed by President Obama in 2009. The bill has provided funding for major infrastructure projects in the St. Louis metropolitan area, including repairing the city's highways and flood management program.

by Jonathan Knohl
Reporter

On February 17, 2009 President Barack Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

The Act called for federal tax cuts, expansion of unemployment benefits and other social welfare provisions.

It also would increase domestic spending in education, healthcare, and infrastructure. In total, the act is worth about a whopping \$787 billion.

After little over a year, what has the stimulus package brought to Missouri, more specifically, the St. Louis Metropolitan area so far?

For starters, the Army Corps of Engineers has received a lot of money for infrastructure repair from the package. The corps was appropriated \$4.6 altogether. The St. Louis district decided to focus on four critical missions such as flood risk management, navigation management, environmental support, and civilian recreation sites.

More specifically, the money will be used to maintain levees, flood walls, locks along the Mississippi River, wildlife sanctuaries and large area lakes.

"There are two things that decide which projects receive stimulus funding," said Michael Dace of the Army Corps of Engineers. "One decision maker is, what Congress and the president tell us to complete and after that we decide ourselves, which projects

need the money and the work the most after that."

One improvement that is being made in the flood risk management category is to the St. Louis Flood Protection System. The flood protection system is better known as the two walls on each side of the steps of the Gateway Arch. In terms of lake improvements, the corps is making tremendous improvements to Mark Twain Lake by relocating its business center and maintenance improvements to the Carlyle Dam in Illinois.

The Army Corps of Engineers has made and is still making a lot of improvements to American society so far through the stimulus package by creating approximately 57,400 construction jobs directly and another 64,000 jobs indirectly in firms supplying or supporting the construction.

One stimulus project that is soon to come is the Chicago-St. Louis high speed rail line. The rail line will link the two cities together through a 110 mph train going both ways. The state of Illinois will get \$1.1 billion to make track improvements that will enable the 110 mph passenger line.

"I really hope that this project will actually get built," freshman Lindsey Berman said. "I think it would create a lot of jobs and also bring a lot of tourist from Chicago to St. Louis and the other way around."

One individual that is really push-

ing for the development of the program is President Obama. Obama believes that it will create a lot of jobs and otherwise stimulate the economy. Obama stressed the need for creating more jobs and made it his number one priority for the new year.

One company that is not always recognized for its doings that received a lot of money is MODOT (Missouri Department of Transportation). MODOT received almost \$788 million for transportation projects.

Specifically, in St. Louis that money is being spent to help make repairs to local area highways and the St. Louis City Port for dock improvements.

Some highways in the St. Louis Metro area that are being repaired using stimulus money are Highway 70, the Maryland Heights Expressway, and Route 141.

"Not only is this project creating jobs for Americans but it also makes me feel safe on the roads, knowing that the roads are up to date and nobody can get hurt," sophomore Sam Fox said. "These new repairs and maintenance checks have not just brought good to our community, but they have made it a safer environment for travel."

It has only been a year since the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 has been in effect, but only two-thirds of the money has been distributed, which still leaves more to come. ☺



Ongoing construction work in the St. Louis area is being funded by money appropriated to the city from the federal stimulus package that went into effect in 2009.

Injured animals in Haiti receive care from aid organizations

by Andrea Glik
Reporter

The whole world watched in horror on Jan. 12, 2010, as Haiti suffered the aftermath of an earthquake that measured a 7.0 magnitude. This disaster was followed by six more aftershocks measuring between 5.9 and 4.5. America and the rest of the world thought of the suffering children, the women and the men who were trapped under buildings who had lost everything.

Many countries rushed to the small island with medical supplies and doctors, only to make a small dent toward repairing the damage. People in churches, synagogues, mosques, and in their homes prayed for the people who were hurting and who had been killed. But who was thinking of the animals?

When a natural disaster of this magnitude occurs, it does not just affect the people who inhabit the area. It also affects the animals. Everyone remembers Hurricane Katrina and the thousands of animals that were being sent to shelters and adopted all over the country.

But what do people do about the abandoned animals from a country that is not their own?

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), an animal rights organization, has only commented on the subject on its website, and have said nothing about future plans to help.

However, in a recent New York Times Interview, Karen Ashmore, executive director of the Lambi Fund agricultural group in Haiti, talked about the conditions before the earthquake for pets and how the state of the animals was grim even before the earthquake occurred.

"The concept of pets is quite foreign to Haitians," Ashmore said. "Most Haitians can barely feed themselves, much less a pet."

After the disaster Haiti just experienced, animals come second place to human needs.

According to The American Veterinary Medical Association, "As always with disasters like this, the humanitarian rescue efforts will be the focus in Haiti for the first week or so. However, veterinarians are on standby to assist with the tragedy."

Luckily, some very devoted activists all over the world are ready to do what they can to help the injured and sick animals of Haiti.

An organization called Sodopreca is the only Dominican animal rights group that is going to Haiti specifically to rescue the animals. Another charity called the International Fund for Animal Welfare is jumping in and helping the animals after immediate human needs are met.

An international relief effort has been created for these four-legged victims called the Animal Relief Coalition for Haiti (ARCH).

Organizations involved include the World Society for the Protections of Animals (WSPA), the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA), American Humane Association, Humane Society International, United Animal Nations (UAN), Kinship Circle and Best Friends Animal Society.

Doctors from the ASPCA are already in Haiti and are vaccinating and performing some surgeries on around 60 animals each day. Most of the animals that have received help from these doctors are dogs and cats.

Water, food and other supplies will be transported around Haiti in a mobile veterinary clinic. Not only will this clinic help animals but it will also vaccinate them to avoid any outbreaks of disease. The clinic will be driven from the Dominican Republic to Haiti.

WSPA commented on its mission and ARCH's mission in Haiti. Not only do these organizations want to vaccinate animals to decrease the chance of disease, but they also want to raise awareness among Haitians of their presence so people will bring their animals to facilities.

New vets will be trained so more animals can be helped, and ARCH plans to set up solar powered clinics and purchase all needed medicine and equipment with the donation money.

The relief team mentioned above is accepting donations on the International Fund for Animal Welfare's website. Other charity websites that accept donations include www.sodopreca.com or www.wspausa.org. Although there is much work to be done, and \$1.2 million is needed to follow through with plans, people are making a major effort to help the animals in Haiti. ☺

MSHSAA changes eligibility requirements for athletes

Eligibility requirements pg. 1

during a regular school day," Losos said. "They explained, at that time, that that meant zero hours wouldn't count. That was the first we had heard of that."

Since she had not known this was part of the language of the rule, Losos was indignant after the meeting.

"Mr. Bone and I left that meeting rather angry, to be honest, because I fully supported raising it to 3.0. I thought that was completely appropriate, but that the reasoning given for why zero-hour classes wouldn't count, I felt, was specious, and rather short-sighted," Losos said.

According to Urhahn, the reason for the new rule was merely a simplification of eligibility requirements for member schools who had complained about too much complexity in the system.

"It was introduced last year due to the increased number of schedules and classes taken by students where administrators had to calculate each student's academic eligibility on multiple schedules," Urhahn said. "Many schools have more than 800 students participating in sports and activities that meant they could have 800 different schedules as they worked through the academic eligibility."

For Clayton students, the new rule has a direct impact on those who take zero-hour courses.

"Jazz band, forensics, lab jazz band, do not meet during the school day at all," Losos said. "So right now, those will not count towards eligibility."

Several other member schools from MSHSAA argued that Clayton's wide, varied course offerings gave students an unfair advantage because their schools weren't able to offer zero hour courses. However, Losos disagrees with this reasoning.

"It's an equity issue because some school districts can't offer it," Losos said. "My response is twofold. One is, they can. They choose not to because it's too expensive, or too logistically

difficult."

Losos does acknowledge that Clayton is a unique academic community; in fact, she cites that very fact as the reason why the zero-hour rule should be eliminated.

"We offer classes that other school districts don't offer," Losos said. "We offer AP Music Theory. How many schools in the state offer AP Music Theory? My guess is that you could probably count them on two hands. Certainly far less than a majority of the schools. Does that mean that we shouldn't be allowed to count that?"

Other schools have also argued that the students' option to take eight or even nine classes in one school day is only giving them an opportunity to fail more classes. Losos counters this argument as well.

"Part of the response is, so we just want to be able to let kids fail more classes," Losos said. "That's not it. If you're really worried about a failure model, then MSHSAA should pass a rule requiring a minimum GPA to play, or no failures."

Additionally, Losos recognizes that students who take more classes than are necessary usually do so because they are genuinely interested in the subject, and not because they want the opportunity to fail a class, yet still be eligible for sports.

"Our kids who are taking eight and nine, it's because they want to get more classes, it's not about getting more credit," Losos said.

The zero-hour courses that do not meet at all during the school day aren't

meant for students who are struggling with academics. In fact, they are enriching academic opportunities. Furthermore, according to MSHSAA, "Participation in high school activities is a valuable educational experience and should not be looked upon as a reward for academic success. Students with low academic ability need the educational development provided through participation in activities as much as students with average or above average ability."

Ability, therefore, should not be the deciding factor in whether a student should be allowed to participate in sports or other MSHSAA activities. For some students, participating in these other activities is quite significant. For example, students enrolled in forensics do not receive credit for that class, but many participate in debate tournaments, which is a MSHSAA event.

Junior Sagar Yadama has taken forensics, and is an active participant of the Clayton Speech and Debate team.

"MSHSAA activities are not only sports related but include debate as well as band statewide contests," Yadama said. "Thus, this rule not only alienates those that do compete in debate and band, but also devalues the classes that are not counted. This rule is a two-fold malediction on Missouri schools."

Many students who participate in zero-hour classes, however, are also high-achieving students in general.

"So this isn't kids who are trying to get by," Losos said. "The zero-hour classes are not a remedy. These are classes that kids would not be able to take if we had to offer them during the school day."

Students themselves can attest to the demanding nature of zero-hour classes. Junior Ian Miller agrees with Losos' statement, and contends that zero-hour classes are some of the most

"I'd also say there is tangible evidence of the accomplishments made in zero hour classes, and it seems arbitrary and somewhat belittling to exclude them from filling credit requirements."

**Ian Miller
Junior**



Jenna Carlie

CHS basketball players play against Westminster. The Missouri High School Athletic Association requires athletes to be enrolled in a minimum number of credits, which may not include zero hour classes next year.

challenging offered at Clayton.

"Zero hours require just as much, and possibly more, personal drive than classes during the day," Miller said. "It takes some serious motivation to sacrifice an hour of sleep every day. I'd also say there is tangible evidence of the accomplishments made in zero hour classes, and it seems arbitrary and somewhat belittling to exclude them from filling credit requirements."

Urhahn and Losos met to discuss the new rule, and Losos tried to convince Urhahn and other member schools to see things from Clayton's perspective.

"We contacted the MSHSAA executive, Kerwin Urhahn, and talked to him," Losos said. "Because we have an open campus, our kids don't necessarily have a traditional schedule. If they don't need to be in seven classes, sometimes they're not. The world that we're moving towards is pushing schools to be more and more flexible in how kids earn credit."

The meeting was a success, and Losos cautiously hopes that the "normal school day" part of the eligibility rule might soon change.

"We had a very good conversation," Losos said. "We sort of made an appeal explaining that some of our kids start early and end late, that we might have

kids start at 7:30 but end at 1:30, or start at third hour and go until later."

In fact, Losos was surprised by the positive response from MSHSAA.

"We've heard from the state that they actually listened to our scenarios," Losos said. "They are looking at language to potentially state in there that a school can sort of set what is a standard school day, and a kid could go zero to six, two to nine, if we said our day was a seven-period day, so long as it was sort of your standard school day. That's still in discussion."

Urhahn also predicts that MSHSAA may change the rule in the near future.

"I believe there is a good chance that the item will be on the annual ballot to allow schools to establish their normal school day requirements," Urhahn said.

The horizon may hold changes in the rule, but for now, Losos plans to continue her current strategy by educating the student body as much as possible to make sure there are no mistakes in eligibility requirements.

"I would say I am cautiously optimistic, but we are working this semester as if that's not going to change," Losos said. "If we get word, sometime in the spring, then we will rejoice."

Losos recognizes that had the eligi-

bility requirement been kept at 2.5, the zero-hour issue would not seem to be as big of a problem.

"In all honesty, when the credits were 2.5, the fact that we had this kind of schedule didn't really matter," Losos said. "In a seven-period day, you're unlikely not to be enrolled in 2.5, and if you were, you're probably a senior, and you have a really light load, and someone would talk to you about that."

Losos also admits that there are alternative interpretations of the rule, and Clayton could potentially use those alternatives to circumvent the purpose of the rule. But she also insists that the best way to deal with an eligibility problem is to be honest.

"These are the rules, we are a member, we live by them," Losos said. "We could ignore the rule, and say, they've earned three credits, we interpret it differently...I'd rather have us live by the rules and be upfront about it."

Should the changes occur, Losos will be much more satisfied with the credit requirements than she is now.

"We will have moved past it and got a rule that I actually think is appropriate," Losos said. "You should have to have 3.0 credits to be eligible, and we have many ways for you to gain those 3.0." ☺

Arts fair steering committee prepares for annual festive event

by Jacob Bernstein
Reporter

Students will have a chance to sign up for the Arts Fair, an event where students are assigned a buddy who they help around and make crafts with. The annual Clayton High School and Special School District Arts Fair will be held on Thursday, April 8, 2010. "It is the most fun day of school you'll ever go to," junior Scott Jeffrey said.

In order to participate, students will have to go through buddy training. Shelby Sternberg, a member of the activities committee for the arts fair, explained the training.

"It is not a very big commitment," Sternberg said. "You are just required to sign up, make a card for your buddy during lunch and attend a buddy training session for a period, and then be a buddy on the big day."

Students, however, do have the choice of attending the Arts Fair day at school. Jeffrey does not like this procedure.

"I dislike how the school allows people to think it's optional, because then some kids, without realizing it, miss out on an incredible, eye-opening, and all around fun day," Jeffrey said.

Though students have the choice of attending, 80% of Clayton High School students participate in some way at the Fair.

This Arts Fair will bring some of the same activities, but an exciting new theme.

"The theme is Museums, and it's going to be incredible," Jeffrey said. "There will all types of museums for the different individual rooms."

Sternberg said there will be three wings, with art, history, and science museums.

Jeffrey also said that the committee has arranged for storytellers, music provided by the middle and high school bands and possibly a magician. Members of the committee work hard in order to prepare for the big day.

Sophomore Isabella Jacobs participated in her first Arts Fair last year. She found it to be a moving experience and plans on participating in the event every year of high school.

"I would definitely recommend volunteering to freshman and other students," Jacobs said. "The kids just get so excited from the activities, and this makes everyone happy."

Activities Director Mike Nelke, in his first year, has seen firsthand how much students enjoy preparing for the Arts Fair.

"I've helped out with this event in the past but you do not realize how much planning goes into one day until you actually do it," Nelke said. "It's neat to see how excited and enthusiastic our students are about this day."

This year 250 SSD students will be paired with the 300 Clayton High School students. The Arts Fair is between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. and the day will be filled with numerous art activities, performances, and entertainment for CHS students and their buddies. Students will be given a chance to sign up for the fair during third hour on a day before spring break.

Nelke and Sternberg agreed that helping at the Arts Fair is a great chance to learn.

"It's a great opportunity to get to know and help a fellow student," Nelke said.

"Even if you may feel a little uncomfortable at first, it is a good day to learn how to be in situations that aren't always easy," Sternberg said. ☺



Jen Maylack

The Arts Fair Steering Committee meets in the Greyhound room, where they plan for this year's Special School District Arts Fair. The Arts Fair is an event many CHS students and faculty participate in with enthusiasm.

CHS librarians monitor student use of library computers

Librarians have been monitoring students' computers in one of the computer labs in the library to ensure that they are used for school work rather than other purposes

by Zachary Prais
Reporter

Big Brother is watching you.

Throughout the school day at CHS, librarians monitor the use of computers by students in Lab B of the library. For over 10 years, this monitoring of students' computers has been taking place not only at CHS but also throughout the Clayton School District, with little notice from Clayton students.

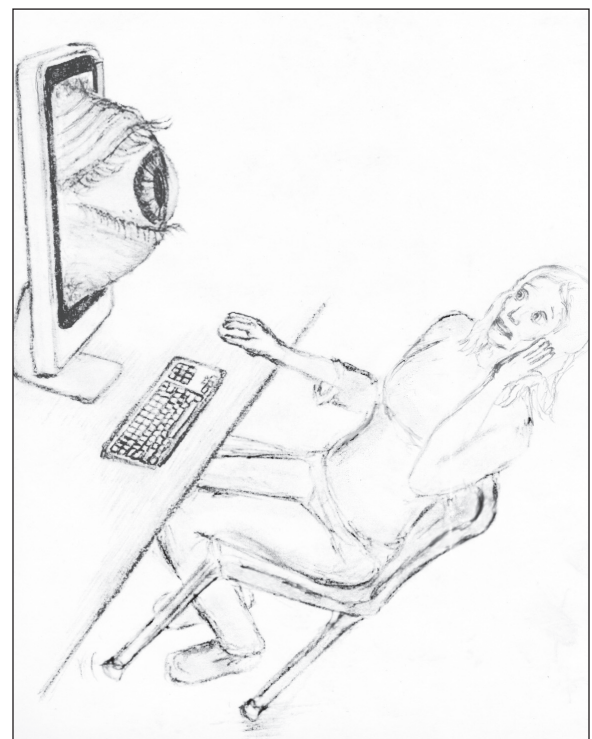
"The thing we're trying to do is help the students," Luran DeRigne, the Head Librarian at CHS, said. "It's a benefit to [the students] that we keep that lab for student use for school work and that is really what it's needed for."

DeRigne explained how throughout the school day, students use the computer lab as a place to do their homework. However, when the labs are full, she explained that students who are unable to work on the computers become frustrated, especially when they see kids on the computers playing games and not being productive.

"When the labs are really full, we would like to make sure that there are enough computers for kids who want to do school work," technology specialist David Hoffman said. "So, that's when we are more likely to monitor and kick off kids who are listening to music, watching movies, or downloading things."

Hoffman also emphasized how some students rely on working in the computer lab because they do not have access to a computer at home.

"There are some students who need that time here because they don't have technology at home," Hoffman said.



Alli Sehzadeh

"We don't want kids wasting time on computers while other kids need to get work done before they go home."

With more and more students playing games in the labs and the library continuing to become a louder more social

environment, Principal Louise Losos also feels the library struggles between being a place for studying or socializing.

"The library always walks that fine line between being a place where kids can gather and be social and a place where students go to do research and work," Losos said. "And it needs to err on the side of research and work but not so much as to make it unwelcome to everyone else. I think [computer monitoring] is just another way they try to maintain this balance."

In addition to monitoring computers, librarians can also check a student's schedule to see if he or she is skipping class at that moment.

"Sometimes if there has been an issue with a student, we can look to see [his or her] schedule, but we don't use remote desktop, so that's really not monitoring computers," DeRigne said. "It's more of, we know the student and where should they be because they are not doing any work right now."

If the librarians see that a student is skipping class in the lab, they will immediately email the teacher of the class that the student is skipping and inform them that their student is in the library.

"I think teachers appreciate that fact the librarians are letting them know [that a student] is in here, [when] he's supposed to be in your class right now," Losos said.

However, some students have expressed concern for their privacy since the librarians are monitoring their computer screens in Lab B.

"It feels like they are standing over your shoulder," Sophomore Stephanie Avery said.

Likewise, Sophomore Georgina Kluser feels invaded by the monitoring as she explained that the monitoring made

her feel uncomfortable when she is trying to work in the lab.

Despite these concerns, DeRigne said that all students were required to sign the School District of Clayton's Acceptable Use Policy, which states, "The district may monitor employee and student technology usage. Electronic communications, all data stored on the district's technology resources, and downloaded material, including files deleted from a student's account, may be intercepted, accessed or searched by district's administrators or designees at any time."

Yet, Hoffman believes that very few students are actually monitored in Lab B.

"Percentage wise, there's very little monitoring that is going on," Hoffman said. "I would say out of 100 students in the lab maybe one or two, percentage wise, would be monitored. We don't sit there just to monitor to try to catch people. It's just not that widely used."

However, the librarians are always on the lookout for any illegal electronic activity in the student computer lab whether it is a student illegally downloading a new hit song or a popular movie.

"If we do see kids downloading movies or music, that is highly illegal and we'll stop them from doing that," Hoffman said. "That could be big trouble for the district."

In the end, Losos agreed that monitoring computers in Lab B is necessary for sustaining a productive work environment in the labs; however, for a high school with an open campus, students should know that they could be monitored when using a computer in Lab B.

"I would hope that there would be a transparency," Losos said. "You ought to know when you go on the computers that this is a possibility." ☺

'Pen and paper' method proves best for class registration process

by Maria Massad
Reporter

Registration for classes next year has already begun. The Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA) made many changes in this process. Among these changes are MSHSAA changing eligibility requirements, as well as the counselors' changes in the registration process.

MSHSAA recently changed the number of required credits from two and a half credits to three credits. If students want to be eligible for sports or other school-sponsored activities, they must be enrolled in at least three credits of classes per semester.

"For making appropriate progress for graduation, students need three credits a semester," Associate Principal Dan Gutchewsky said. "Students need more than two and a half credits a semester in order to fulfill the graduation requirement of 24 credits. Two and a half credits per semester won't have you graduate on time. Three credits do."

Last year, registration was completed online. This year, the school counselors are using the old-fashioned pencil and paper method to sign students up for classes.

"We don't have a scheduling Naviance anymore," coun-

selor Alice Morrison said. "This is because we decided to switch to pen and paper. We are comparing the two systems, and then we will determine which one is a better fit for CHS students."

According to Gutchewsky, the online process was more complicated than it should have been last year.

"CHS has multiple courses, as well as teacher recommendations and prerequisites that just made the online registration program inefficient," Gutchewsky said. "The sheer time encompassing every situation required more manual work than handwritten work. It seemed easier just to do it using a paper-based method."

Junior Moira MacDougal likes the pencil and paper method better than the online system, as there were multiple problems that occurred when she used the Naviance program.

"The online system just didn't work," MacDougal said. "There were problems with adding honors versus non-honors, and zero-hour classes. This caused a lot of stress for me, so I'm really glad that I was able to physically plan and write out what I wanted my schedule to be next year. I need to be able to mess around and plan out my desired schedule on paper. That's just how I work. I understand the desire to have a quicker, more environmentally friendly method of registration, but it has to be a better, more user-friendly system."

Sophomore Xiaoya Wu likes the pencil and paper method better than the online version since she is more of a visual person.

"Although the online version was faster, the pencil and paper way actually lets you visually see your schedule rather than having a bunch of drop-down lists," Wu said. "Since I am a visual person, it's easier for me to see the placement of the classes when they are on the same sheet in a grid in front of me."

Junior Gabrielle Morris is glad that the counselors made the switch to the old-fashioned pen and paper method as well.

"Online registration was okay, but sometimes it was confusing," Morris said.

However, sophomore David Mayer takes a more neutral stance of choosing between the paper-based method and the online version, but he thinks that altogether the new method is less confusing.

"I think that using the papers instead of the online system didn't change much," Mayer said. "If anything, it made it easier, since one of the classes I want to take next year might be an independent study class, so I was able to write that down on paper, whereas with the online sign-up, I may not have been able to do that."

This year, teachers were given two days to recommend classes to students, a change.

"Teachers wanted to give students all the possible options for next year," Morrison said. "CHS has a student-run schedule. Whatever students sign up for is what the teachers teach. If a lot of students sign up for a class, we have to gear up for it. If no one is interested in a class, we don't teach that class. Teacher recommendation day is important because it not only shows you classes for upcoming years; it also the day when students choose what is being taught next year."

Freshman Emma Riley is grateful that CHS offers so many unique classes that are taught based on student interest; in this way, teacher recommendation day was important.

"There's such a wide array of classes," Riley said. "I feel like I can start anywhere. In fact, I always wanted to learn piano, and now I get to take it in school. I'm really grateful because I know that not very many schools can afford to offer students such a wide variety of classes."

Morris is glad there were two days for teacher recommendations, because the registration process is more important as an incoming senior.

"Seniors don't get to drop classes," Morris said. "If they

do, they have to inform the colleges and talk to the college counselors. It's really important that the teachers give students a chance to talk about all the subjects."

MacDougal agrees that scheduling classes is really important as an incoming senior, so she appreciated the guidance given to her by her teachers on teacher recommendation day.

"As a senior, I want a course load that is challenging, interesting, but one that wouldn't burn me out," MacDougal said. "I needed guidance on how much homework my perspective classes would be giving, and how challenging they were. Since I am looking to apply to very specific programs within colleges, I also need to develop a portfolio of my work. As I'm applying to colleges, I want to know that I have the perfect schedule that shows off my interests and strengths. Having the input of teachers who have gotten to know me and my needs as a student is really invaluable."

Sophomore Marguerite Daw also thinks positively about the teacher recommendation day.

"You get to know what the best class for you is," Daw said. "The teachers know your strengths and abilities, so they'll recommend the best fit for you. You also get to see your whole schedule planned out, a plus."

Mayer agrees with Daw's view on teacher recommendation day.

"It was pretty helpful, even though I knew most of the classes I was taking next year," Mayer said. "I was also able to learn a little more about the possible choices I had."

Sophomore Matt Mikesic thinks differently, taking a much more neutral point about teacher recommendations and their influence in his class choices.

"Teachers already know in their heads if you are going to the higher or lower level classes," Mikesic said. "To me, it didn't make much of a difference in my class choices for my schedule next year."

Freshman Hanna Park agrees with Mikesic's neutral point.

"Teacher recommendations were something I had to do," Park said. "They weren't exactly helpful or unhelpful for planning my classes. I already knew what I was going to take, and my teachers were okay with my choices."

However, Morrison warns that teacher recommendation day is important when deciding for next year's classes.

"When students change classes, it throws off what we planned for," Morrison said. "Students should be aware of that and plan their classes accordingly." ☺

2007 - 2008

Graduation Requirements and Schedule Planning Worksheet

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS: 22 CREDITS TOTAL (24 credits beginning 2010)

4 units in English (English I and II required)

3 units in Social Studies

{5 Am. Govt., 1.0 U.S. History required}

2 units in Science (3 units beginning 2010)

2 units in Math (3 units beginning 2010)

1 unit in Fine Arts

1 unit in Practical Arts (1/2 unit Personal Finance required beginning 2010)

1-1/2 units in Physical Education & Health**

7-1/2 units of Electives

**Physical Education is completed at the rate of 1/4 unit per semester.

CHS Counseling Department

Teapot Exhibition accepts student work

by Sarah Blackwell
Reporter

This year marks the Twelfth Biennial Teapot Exhibition at the Craft Alliance in the Delmar Loop. There is a gallery of all sorts of interesting teapots from both artists and high school students. This year, seniors Orion Wilkinson and Katie Johnson will be featured in this show.

For the first time in several years, two CHS students were accepted into a teapot show at the Craft Alliance. Located in their Charak Gallery, the selected work of high schoolers will be showcased there up until Feb. 28.

"If students made a good enough body of work to be in it, sure we enter the show," Material Science teacher Gregory Kramer said. "But it's juried, and they don't accept everybody."

Johnson was very pleased to have her work on display for the first time.

"I was excited of course when I found out they accepted my teapot," Johnson said. "This was the first independent art show I have been in, so I was very pleased."

The students whose teapots were accepted into the show were both from Kramer's Material Science class. This year, the class focused on clay work, which hadn't been a focus in the past.

"In Material Science, you make things," Kramer said. "It's a third metal, a third wood, and a third glass. This year, we concentrated and focused on ceramics because we didn't have the metal working equipment because of the building construction."

This complication was beneficial for some, including Johnson.

"I switched into Mr. Kramer's Material Science class because I was interested in further exploring those mediums," Johnson said. "We spent at least half a quarter working with clay, and also worked with glass and wood. I was very excited to work with clay, which I hadn't worked with since 7th grade, and found it to be a lot of fun, as well as educational."

The class worked on their teapots, some not knowing that they would be entered into a show.

"I had no idea that my work was going to be on display," Wilkinson said. "If I had known I would have put even more effort into it. Some of the other tea pots were amazing and blew mine out of the water."

Johnson also thought that the work of other artists surpassed that of the high school students.

"The professionally made of course very much overshadowed the student work, but I thought all the student pieces there were enjoyable," Johnson said. "I thought my teapot looked a little sad next to some of the other pots, it being smaller in size as well as being my first teapot, but I was proud to see

it there."

Wilkinson's design featured a teapot shaped like a mountain with little men climbing up the sides. Johnson's teapot is designed like a telephone pole.

"In my AP Studio Art class, you need a series of 12 pieces to submit for the AP Portfolio," Johnson said. "I chose telephone poles as my theme because they are such an important part of our societies infrastructure, supplying us with power, as well as connecting us to each other, but they are so often invisible to us."

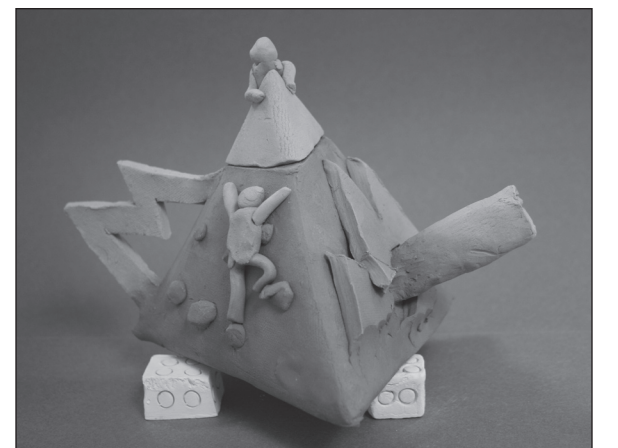
The teapot show was a big hit.

"I went to the show on the first night it was in town and I was surprised how many people are into designer teapots," Wilkinson said. "There were at least 100 people there throughout the night."

Johnson also enjoyed the show, but found it hard to have people criticize her work.

"It's always rather nerve wracking having something on display, especially when you are at the show wearing a name tag that says you made it," Johnson said. "It's always hard to take criticism from people, or what is perceived criticism, but of course it fills your heart with joy knowing that people are taking the time to consider a piece that you put a lot of hard work and emotion into."

Although Wilkinson's and Johnson's teapots are the only teapots from CHS that made it into this show, teapots



Courtesy of Greg Kramer

Senior Orion Wilkinson's rock climbing-themed teapot was featured in the display. Material Science students made teapots, using a new medium in order to compensate for the lack of technical arts building.

made by other CHS students are on display in CHS' English hallway.

"There are at least ten or more participating high schools," Kramer said. "Two entries were selected from each high school."

All from the St. Louis area, 14 schools in total are participating. They include MICDS, Metro High School, John Burroughs School, Ladue Horton Watkins High School, and more.

Access to this gallery is free. ☺

NCA accreditation group will interview students, observe classes

NCA accreditation pg. 1

fully confident we will be accredited."

Paul Hoelscher, CHS history teacher and chair of the African American Achievement Task Force, said accreditation benefits CHS by confirming the school's hard work. However, he said he does not know that the preparation process is as helpful as the overach-

ing goals the faculty has been working on for the past five years as part of the NCA work.

"We have three goals right now," Meyers said. "The fourth one we finished three years ago - that one is the writing one. The three current ones are African American achievement, technology, and building community, which is more of a staff goal, instead of a direct student goal."

Ideally, these goals are determined

by examining student data, such as test scores, according to Meyers. In addition, he said faculty and staff input is a major contributing factor. The writing goal, building community goal, and technology goal were faculty-chosen, although some data was used to determine them, too.

In terms of the overall impact on students, Meyers said the faculty is trying new teaching strategies in classrooms and doing a lot of behind the

scenes work at meetings in order to develop improved ways to teach students.

"[Students] may not know it, but the North Central work is impacting them all the time," Meyers said. "And tangentially, it is a source of school pride, being able to say that we have this certification."

After the visit, CHS will receive a formal written report containing praise and recommendations. The school must then follow up with the recommendations and send its results to the

NCA's parent organization, Advanc-Ed, or it could risk losing its accreditation status, according to Meyers.

When the visit is over, CHS will celebrate, as well as focus on areas that require improvement.

"It's a very self-reflective time, where we say 'what is it that we're doing really well?' and 'where can we perhaps be doing better?'" Losos said. "Clayton High School is a great school, but it doesn't mean we can't improve."

According to Meyers, the school

benefits because the visiting team brings an outside set of eyes to look closely at what faculty and students see every day.

"Fresh eyes and fresh minds can provide fresh ideas," Meyers said. "I also think it benefits us because it says to the community that we are an institution of excellence. We have been accredited through North Central since 1914, and we are the only school in the district that has that accreditation. That is something CHS is very proud of!" ☺

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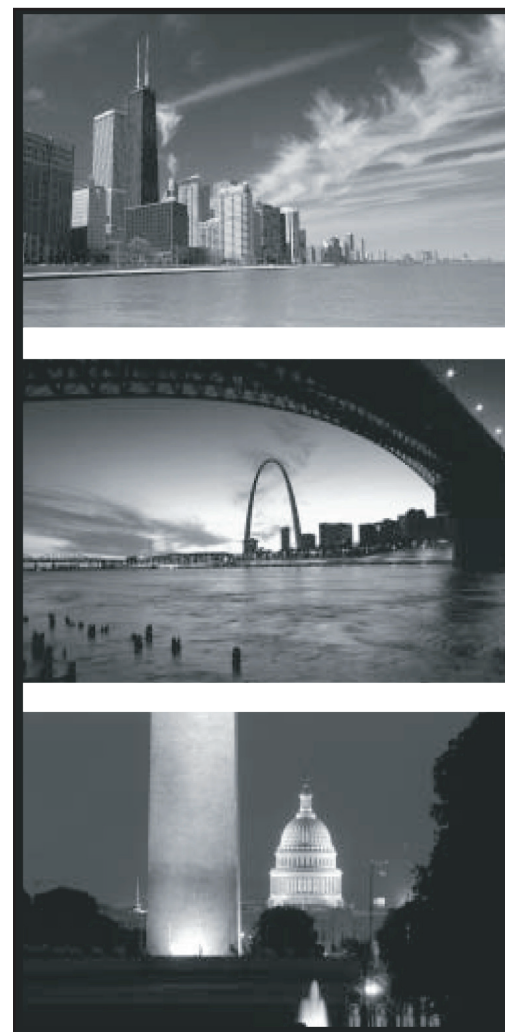


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Collaborative school offers alternative for students

by **Sneha Viswanathan**
Senior World Editor

While some CHS students stay up into the wee hours of the night studying for AP courses hoping to earn credit for required classes as well as college credit, other students take a different approach to completing credits. These students attend an alternative form of schooling called Collaborative School.

Collaborative school is a school for students who want a self-scheduled pace of learning, or for students who want to finish earning credits for graduation in a low-pressure environment.

"Some students chose collaborative school because they are so behind in credits and it is easier and takes a shorter amount of time to earn credit if they keep focused," counselor Alice Morrison said. "Some students are given the option to attend as an alternative to a long-term suspension. Students who just can't attend a full day of school for various emotional or medical issues can request to go to collaborative school."

Students can also be referred to collaborative school for disciplinary reasons. For some, collaborative school offers a change in environment that allows students to regain their focus on academics.

"A small percentage of students benefit from an alternate environment if they need to make a fresh start," counselor Mark Snyder said. "In some cases students who have had a negative experience at CHS may thrive in a different setting away from potentially negative peer interactions. I would estimate that between 35-45 students have attended the Collaborative School either part-time or full-time over the last three years."

The curriculum of collaborative school is tailored to be remedial and focuses on improving students' weaknesses. Students also determine their own pace of learning.

"The Collab school curriculum is approximately 60 percent computer-based and students only work on two or three classes at a time," Assistant Principal Dan Gutchewsky said.



Students take a break from the collaborative school in the parking lot at 345 Marshall. The Collaborative School is for students who want a self-scheduled pace of learning. The teaching is set up to be more supportive than the typical high school.

"This allows students to focus their efforts on a few classes at a time. Another advantage is that the curriculum is designed so that students take a pre-test for each unit and they only have to complete the objectives/activities for the areas in which they did not do well. Once a student has completed all of the objectives and passed the unit exam they move on to the next unit."

Students can therefore work at their own pace.

No matter how much time they spend on a course or how strong they are at a certain subject, each student earns credit once they have completed all of the units within a course.

"In a traditional setting, students cannot receive credit

without spending a semester in the course," Gutchewsky said. "At Collab., credit is awarded based on the amount of work completed."

If a student feels that CHS doesn't meet his or her needs in a certain subject, he or she can enroll in special classes through collaborative school.

The process for determining if a student is eligible for collaborative school requires the input of the student, parents, counselors, and administration of the school.

"First, counselors work with students and their families to determine if Collab is a good option for the student," Gutchewsky said. "I work with the counselors and other

administrators to place students on a space available basis. Preference is given to upperclassmen and students who are the most credit deficient."

Many options are available for students who attend the school.

"One of the least common options pursued by students is taking correspondence courses offered through the University of Missouri-Center for Distance Learning and Independent Study (CDIS)," Snyder said. "In order for a student to be eligible to take one of these classes, they must have some extenuating circumstances or credit deficiencies and be approved by the building principal prior to enrollment."

Many people have misconceptions regarding collaborative school, especially since students are often sent to the school for disciplinary reasons.

However, the diversity of the student body reveals that students of all backgrounds and a wide range of strengths and weaknesses attend the school.

"A lot of people think that it's a school for bad kids, they think it's easier, but it's really not," Collaborative School principal Julie Redington said. "It's an alternative environment; we provide a smaller environment and we focus on what the students need. We have an eight to one student teacher ratio. If a student is struggling in an area, it [collab school] gives them a chance to slow down. It's also for students who want to move into the district but who don't want to miss out on credits. There's probably more diversity."

The teaching at collaborative school is set up to be more supportive and less rigidly instructional than your typical school.

"Teachers are facilitators of the curriculum instead of direct instructors," Redington said. "We have a computer software program that helps students get through the book work. Some students aren't familiar with the software, and we help them to learn how to use it. For example, a student couldn't get through a lot of the book work in geometry, and he wanted to go into the construction industry. We helped him focus on some of the real-life applications [of geometry] involved in construction." ☺

Safety issues in the Clayton community raise questions

by **Noah Eby**
Editor

Clayton is a community that is often thought of as sheltered and protected from the crime and violence that plagues most cities, but this idea recently took a hit.

The idiomatic Clayton bubble seemed to take a step towards bursting this month as two security issues affected student life.

The first, which occurred on Feb. 10, was a bank robbery that caused CHS to go through a "soft lockdown," as Principal Louise Losos said.

Losos was told by Student Resource Officer John Zlatic that the Regions Bank in Ladue, which is approximately half a mile from CHS, had been robbed by a man who claimed to be armed and that the man had fled on foot.

"Did I think he was headed directly for the school?" Losos said. "No. But could he have? He could have. So we did what I would call sort of a soft lockdown.... We asked teachers to pull people from the hallways, lock their doors, and we locked the exterior doors."

Zlatic said that teachers manned exterior doors to allow students to enter while he and other police officers patrolled the parking lot. "There was no sort of immediate, imminent threat," according to Losos, and the lockdown was removed after several minutes. The gunman was never apprehended.

Two days later, on Feb. 12, the Center of Clayton was closed to students and faculty.

The Center's statement on the incident says that the Center experienced a "safety concern," and Clayton Superintendent of Parks and Recreation Operations Toni Siering declined to answer further questions.

Losos called the incident a "personnel issue," and Zlatic said that "an individual known to the Clayton Police Department conveyed a specific threat of violence." Losos said that she never thought that students were really endangered.

"There was never a bomb threat, and I never truly be-

lieved that there was going to be any danger involved," Losos said. "[Closing the Center to students] was a precautionary measure."

Zlatic agreed, but said that he works under the premise that it is better to be safe than sorry and that the incident warranted a response.

Losos said that she had hoped to open the Center later in the day but that "events didn't play out quickly."

According to Zlatic, one suspect was arrested at noon and a second around 3 p.m.

At that point, Zlatic contacted the Center to remove the ban. He also said that a Clayton Police Officer was stationed at the Center for the duration of the closure.

Despite their chronological proximity, Zlatic said he doesn't see any connection between the two besides their locations.

Losos pointed out that Clayton is unique in its location – it is at the heart of a city center – and in its philosophy, and that these qualities can contribute to the occurrence of outside threats to the school.

"Most high schools are created based on the concept of keeping students, teenagers, from making the wrong decision," Losos said. "They close the campuses, you can't be in the halls. Clayton High School has the underlying philosophy of presuming that students will make the right decision and then responding when they don't."

She also said that some security measures, such as metal detectors, would not have helped the bathroom graffiti threats of last year or the bank robbery and threat at the Center.

One way to increase security would be to close campus, but Losos said that she has no intention of doing that. In all Losos said that high schools have to respond to all threats, even if they seem remote.

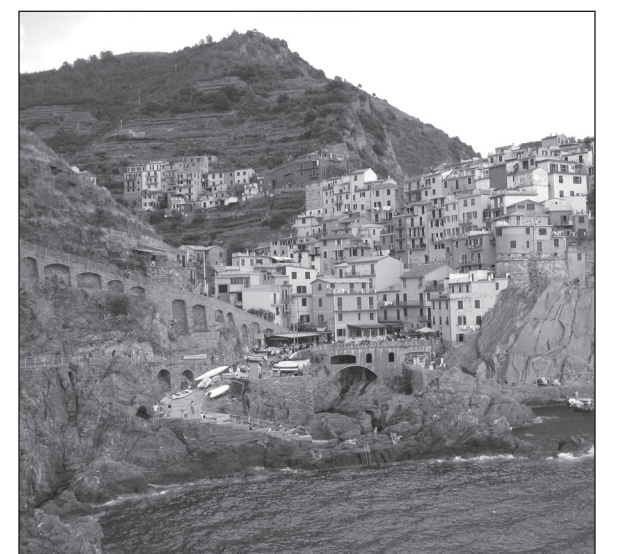
"We have cameras throughout this building – we didn't have those three years ago" Losos said. "Columbine changed schools, particularly high schools, forever, and how we have to respond to real or perceived threats is at a much higher level than it was 15 years ago. You can't just presume nothing will happen." ☺

"We have cameras throughout this building – we didn't have those three years ago. Columbine changed schools, particularly high schools, forever, and how we have to respond to real or perceived threats is at a much higher level than it was 15 years ago. You can't just presume nothing will happen."

Louise Losos
CHS Principal



The CHS Latin class is taking a trip to Italy during spring break. The group will gain an appreciation of their studies and Roman culture over the eight-day trip. They plan on visiting Venice, Florence and Rome.



MCT Campus

Latin class plans trip to Italy

by **Anat Gross**
Reporter

Italians venerate. They will venture through the streets of Ancient Rome, the very streets men like Julius Caesar and Cicero walked through. Latin students have studied about Rome, reading ancient texts, viewing photographs, and watching videos, but now these students have the opportunity to view these places in person.

Junior Charlie Beard has been taking Latin for the past four years and is excited for this great opportunity.

"Getting to see all of the places we learned about in the classroom will be a real blast."

The students will explore Italy on an eight-day tour during spring break. They will be traveling to Italy with both CHS Latin teachers Stephen Meier and Pamela Skinner. Meier teaches Latin at Wydown along with the beginning levels at CHS, while Skinner teaches Latin II, III, and IV/IV at CHS.

Meier was the main organizer of the trip, beginning the process last year when he stumbled across a great deal and found that many of his students would be interested. Now, a year after planning the trip, 12 students will embark on a once in a lifetime trip to Italy.

Junior Tyler Markham, a Latin IV student, hopes to expand his Latin knowledge through this firsthand experience.

"I hope to learn how awesome Italy is," Markham said. "In other words, I hope to learn its history, particularly that pertaining to Roman times, to learn its customs, and to learn its essence."

Using the company Explorica (explorica.com), Meier discovered the eight-day tour of Venice, Florence, and Rome.

Through this tour the students will gain a newfound appreciation of their studies and Roman culture.

"We are going to visit multiple sites such as Pompeii and the Roman Forum to see first-hand what the students have been studying and what the Romans have left behind for us," Meier said. "We are also going to see pieces of Medieval and Renaissance Italy."

Specifically, the students will visit the Basilica, St. Mark's Square and Doges' Palace in Venice. While in Florence they will see such landmarks as the Palazzo Vecchio, Piazza della Signoria Giotto's Bell Tower.

Lastly, the group will venture to Rome, experiencing the wonders they have seen in their books, including the Coliseum, Roman Forum and the Sistine Chapel.

The students will certainly visit many places they have read about, but their skills involving the language may not be as exhausted during the trip.

"If I can ever translate some writing on a building then I would consider that my Latin skills had been put to good use," Beard said. "Latin also helps with learning Italian, so we will have an easier time communicating with locals than the average tourist."

Although the trip may not involve much of the language itself, Meier hopes that the students will return with "a greater appreciation for Italian culture and the legacy of the Roman empire." ☺

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Health care providers bring much-needed assistance to injury-stricken earthquake victims

by Dawn Androphy
Editor

Placing a crying child under anesthesia with crowds of sobbing, injured people sprawled around a makeshift hospital is not the ideal circumstance a doctor hopes for during surgery. But, desperate times call for desperate measures, and the mass of injured people suffering from the effects of the Jan. 12 earthquake in Haiti certainly qualified as a desperate time.

Dr. Chad Perlyn, an attending plastic surgeon at Miami Children's Hospital and Assistant Professor of Surgery at the Florida International University College of Medicine, arrived in Haiti days after the earthquake and remained for a week to provide medical care.

Even an experienced doctor such as Perlyn faces an entirely new set of rules when visiting Haiti, with difficulties arising from unusual places.

"[What is most difficult is] to overcome your own anxieties and be able to focus on the patients and their needs and put aside your own worries and your safety," Perlyn said.

Perlyn was the team leader of the first group of pediatric surgeons to arrive in Haiti. The team of 19 doctors and nurses from Miami Children's Hospital arrived in a plane loaded with about 15,000 pounds of cargo. Soon after their arrival, the group realized that it wouldn't be easy to unload so many pounds of cargo. They would have to improvise.

"You land in the middle of the night at Port-au-Prince Airport and there's no one there who says, 'Thank you for flying American Airlines, you can pick your bags up at gate B27,'" Perlyn said. "You literally land on a runway, and there's a few lights."

Eventually, using everyone's manpower and an efficient coordination, the cargo was unloaded. But the troubles didn't end there.

"From the minute we got there we knew it was just going to be an incredibly trying situation with very limited resources," Perlyn said. "You very quickly figure out how to solve these types of problems and get your equipment and your people where they need to be. You have to learn to adapt."

With their supplies, Perlyn and his team were able to set up their own hospital within a hospital owned by the non-profit Medi-Share inside the airport. Despite some of the good equipment being brought to Haiti, some very familiar elements of an operating room were missing for Perlyn and his team.

"But some things were just very different," Perlyn said. "Like, our operating table. It was too big and too heavy to bring a proper operating table from one of the operating rooms, so we just got to Haiti and we found a table and it was a fold-up picnic table. But that's what became the operating room table."

Ben Yoder, an anesthesia assistant at St. John's Mercy Medical Center who has visited Haiti on numerous occasions as both a volunteer at an orphanage and as a medical volunteer, also observed a drastic difference in resources during his 2004 visit.

"It was a really good way to practice anesthesia in a way that was different than in America," Yoder said. "I got to use some of the gases that we don't really use anymore and some other medications that probably aren't quite as common. It was just really interesting to see medicine kind of practiced without all the luxuries that we have in America."

Additionally, Yoder appreciated the overall spirit of the Haitian people and felt welcomed for his presence and medical assistance.

"The Haitian people are just incredibly nice and welcoming," Yoder said. "Like, I never felt threatened in any way. I always felt very welcomed there like they were happy to have me. They were very genuine and very giving."

Additionally, the wounds that Perlyn attended to were severe and, even though his team avoided this scenario as often as they could responsibly, they did have to amputate many crushed limbs as a result of the horrible effects of the earthquake.

Treating infections and preventing compartment syndrome, wherein a limb swells to such a degree that the blood supply of the muscles is blocked off so that the muscle dies, became a top priority.

"Unfortunately, we did have to do a lot of amputations," Perlyn said. "But we did try extremely hard to really save as many arms and legs as possible. And that's something as a team that I think we're very proud of, to save so many arms and legs so that they did not need to have an amputation. We prevented them from getting infections, from getting gangrene. And we were really able to save the arm or the



ABOVE: Perlyn operates on a patient in a hospital tent; TOP RIGHT: Perlyn and U.S. military officers transport a patient from a hospital tent; BOTTOM RIGHT: Victims of the earthquake receive treatment and care in a makeshift hospital.

leg and that was something that was very meaningful." It wasn't just the physical impact of his patients that affected Perlyn, however. He was particularly upset by the horrible trauma experienced by particularly young victims.

"The amazing thing was that the only time I've seen people hurt with this amount of trauma is when a person for example was doing 150 mph on a motorcycle and hit a pickup truck," Perlyn said. "We saw that level of trauma, that intensity of injury, in one- or two-year-olds. With conditions around the world, you don't see those kinds of injuries because children are never in those situations; they're never in dangerous situations to get these types of injuries. But we saw young children with absolutely devastating crush injuries to their arms, their legs, their faces"

The reality of a young child's day, and possibly even life, being interrupted by a single natural disaster is a daunting concept. Perlyn recalled one story of a 9-year-old whose life has been completely altered.

"He was watching television next to his cousin and then a roof fell down on him and it killed his cousin," Perlyn said. "For four days, he was trapped laying next to his cousin who had died."

Not only did the boy face the fate of looking at his dead cousin for hours on end, but he was also inundated with heavy, dangerous objects crushing him.

"He had a wooden beam, a piece of wood, on top of him and his face was pressed against a rock. He had terrible wounds on his face and he lost part of his face and he lost an ear and part of his scalp. He got brought to us with terrible infection and maggots had already started crawling inside him, in the face and the wounds."

Perlyn also recalls the sometimes-brilliant use of makeshift resources to help others during his stay in Haiti.

"There was a guy whose name was Grant," Perlyn said. "He and a couple of other guys, some were paramedics and some were firefighters, they got to Haiti and they found an old baker's delivery truck. They couldn't find any red paint,

but they found some green paint. So they painted a green cross on the side instead of a red cross like an ambulance. They would drive this bread truck around the streets of Haiti of Port-au-Prince and when they found them [injured people], they'd put them in the back of the bread truck and drive them back to the hospital. They were really the ambulance."

Dr. Timothy O'Connell, a plastic surgeon at St. John's Mercy Medical Center, has been visiting Haiti to provide medical care almost annually since 1992. He has already arranged another visit for the first week of March. While there, he will work at a hospital with only 65 beds that has currently extended into school-rooms in the city of Cap-Haïtien.

O'Connell also finds the transition to more primitive resources to be difficult and notes that adequate transportation is lacking most noticeably.

"[Transportation] is pretty primitive," O'Connell said. "If they need to get around, they either walk, they ride a bicycle, or they have these pick-up trucks that people ride in the back of called tap-taps. You'll see people sitting in the back of these pick-up trucks; sometimes they'll have a roof on them. Occasionally, you'll see these school buses and the school buses will have public transportation not only carrying people inside of the bus, but perched on the roof of the bus. If you can imagine what it looks like, a park bench with people sitting up, in a double row of park benches, on top of the roof of the buses."

O'Connell also observed that crumbling or nonexistent infrastructure contributed to the health care transportation issues. Without typical roads, it was a challenge just to bring patients to the hospital.

"The distance between Port-au-Prince and Cap-Haïtien may be only 90 or 100 miles, but the roads are in such terrible disrepair, that in many places they're not paved," O'Connell said. "There are ruts and holes in the road and it takes perhaps six hours to drive maybe 100 or a little more than 100 miles."



“One of the most incredible things was the incredible diversity. I met people from all over the world and I worked with colleagues from across the world.”

Chad Perlyn
Plastic surgeon

"A lot of the things that we take for granted, they don't have, such as running water, indoor plumbing, electricity," O'Connell said. "So it's a completely different lifestyle. The people there live, more or less, one day at a time because they're not sure where they're going to get their next meal tomorrow or whether they're going to have shelter over their heads."

These basic amenities taken for granted in the United States are at stake in Haiti right now. O'Connell notes that the drastic contrast is particularly noticeable immediately upon his returns to the United States.

"When you walk into the Fort Lauderdale airport and you go into the restroom and you put your hands under the faucet and clear, clean water comes out, it's always something that makes you grateful," O'Connell said.

Despite the obstacles faced in Haiti, Perlyn was impressed by the ability of doctors from multiple countries across the world to join together for a common cause.

"The Portuguese, the Austrians, the Germans, and the Moroccans all had search and rescue teams or other surgical teams," Perlyn said.

In fact, for two days, Perlyn worked at an Israel Army hospital that was in need of a surgeon. This period was a particularly interesting time for Perlyn because he was able to work with colleagues from across the world.

"One of the most incredible things was the incredible diversity," Perlyn said. "I met people from all over the world and I worked with colleagues from all over the world."

Although Perlyn is proud of his work in the immediate period after the earthquake, he realizes that the problems in Haiti won't be ending any time soon.

"The most dramatic, the one [issue] that the world will really see is going to be a need for prosthetic limbs for all the people that had amputations," Perlyn said.

Port-au-Prince already had crumbling infrastructure that was very handicap-unfriendly prior to the earthquake,

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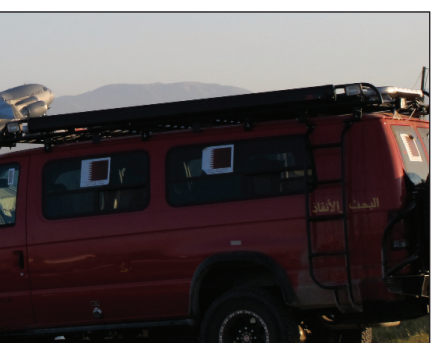
"Haiti is

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quake victims.



refuge in a hospital tent.

tion will be worsened by the sudden influx of refugees in Haiti. Haiti will face severe weather threats in the next few months during the country's rainy season. "There's a beautiful country with beautiful people and a rich and diverse culture," Perlyn said. "That survived many things. It's survived slavery, it's survived, it's survived previous earthquakes and



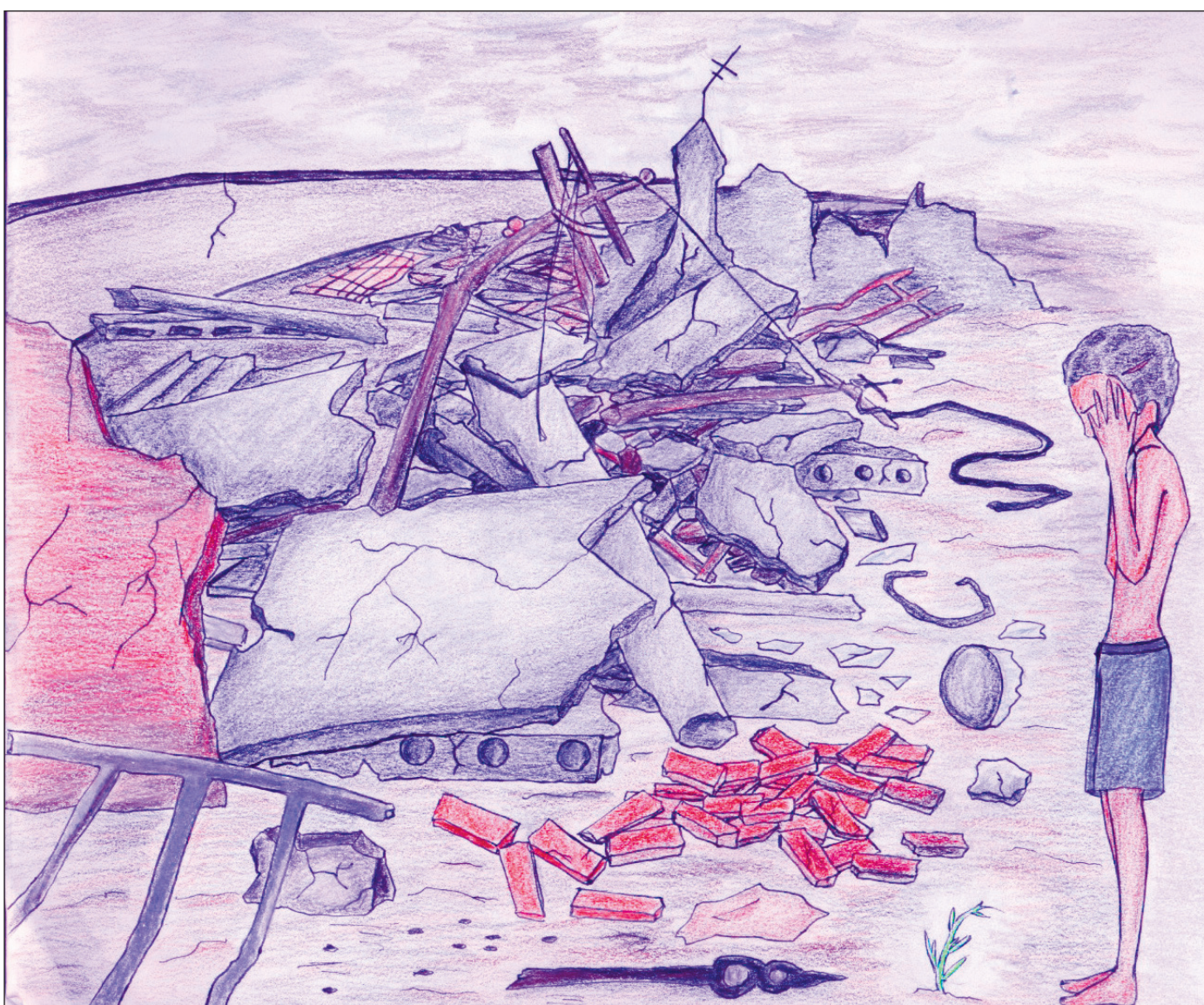
Victims recover and receive treatment in a hospital tent.



Perlyn with Israeli soldiers assisting him during a surgery.



Military and Red Cross vehicles transport victims to the hospital.



Mimi Liu

Haitian earthquake and ensuing disasters met swiftly with aid

Haiti was particularly vulnerable to ramifications after the earthquake with regard to health care and infrastructure. CHS students respond to the tragedies in Haiti by raising awareness and funds.

by Ken Zheng
Co-Editor in Chief

Senior Governance Adviser Carl Anderson was in Haiti when the earthquake struck. He lived in Port-au-Prince since Jan. 2007 and was evacuated to Washington D.C. with his family on Jan. 13.

He was at home in the kitchen when the quake struck, but nobody was hurt.

"I noticed really violent shaking which kept going on and on and damaging the inside of the house. At home there was damage to the exterior yard walls, a crack in the house and all the items in the house are completely smashed. That night after the earthquake I could see fires burning and the constant deafening sound of wailing of people who were hurt, trapped, or mourning the loss of loved ones. The next morning I saw people on top of smashed two-to-three-story buildings trying to dig people out."

Anderson saw three homes completely demolished in his neighborhood while two were more or less undamaged.

"There were lots of people walking by with dust on their clothes and hair," Anderson said. "There were power lines in the middle of the road and at work, all of my files and papers were completely tossed around and ceiling panels were hanging down."

The earthquake in Haiti was a magnitude seven. Going up two units of magnitude equates to increasing about 1000 times in energy.

Michael Wyession, Associate Professor in Earth and Planetary Sciences at Washington University, uses seismic waves to map the interior of the earth.

"The earthquake in Haiti happened when two plates slid past each other," Wyession said. "The contact between the plates is very thin. The magnitude never gets much larger than a seven, but Haiti has had several over the past hundreds of years. The plates move about two centimeters a year. The rest of the plates keep moving and occasionally slip to catch up with the rest. You can think of the Caribbean plate as stationary and the North American plate as sliding."

The last large earthquake along this plate was in 1860, and the stress has been building up. There are 20 earthquakes of this size per year.

"The danger here is that the peak happened 14 km from the capital of Haiti," Wyession said. "The country is politically mis-managed and an economic disaster. They tried to grow agriculture by cutting away the rain forest. It has a weak infrastructure and an unstable government and then you knock all the buildings over. Even before the earthquake, it was the poorest country in the western hemisphere."

With regards to the destructive forces of an earthquake, it's the acceleration that matters. Earthquake hazards are in terms of Gs or fractions of Gs, the acceleration that happens due to earth's gravitational field.

"Different buildings have different frequencies," Wyession said. "An earthquake might have the right dominant frequency and it will be very hard to build to withstand earthquakes. There's much you can do in terms of general construction to minimize damage. An earthquake that would kill 40 people in California will kill 40,000 in Armenia. When you are a poor country, you can't properly reinforce buildings. The world is coming together and the aid will last for a month or so. I hate to be pessimistic but it's not going to happen. Haiti just doesn't have the money. It's going to take the good graces of the world to restore Port-au-Prince to a city."

Anderson also believes that lots of work will be needed to rebuild, reconstruct, reemploy, clothe and feed the citizens of Haiti. To contribute to the cause, he plans on going back to Haiti for a short work visit in the days ahead.

"Stay involved, try to contribute to reputable charities, and don't forget that the effects of this type of disaster will be felt for years, not days or weeks," Anderson said. "I just hope [the financial aid] continues and we make new opportunities to work with the people in Haiti to jointly make it a better place in the long run. There are many heroes in this whole event. People came to help their fellow man."

Along with the rest of the world, CHS has responded to those in need to Haiti with fundraisers to contribute towards rebuilding the ravaged country.

Learning Center History Teacher Janet Curry sponsors Amnesty International, a worldwide organization with thousands of chapters in schools and universities. Allison Goldfarb, Ali Meyer, Emily Holtzman are some of the activists this year who had an idea for helping Haiti.

"Amnesty International's goal is to widen awareness and contribute actions that support human rights for all people as prescribed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights 1948, a U.N. document signed by member nations," Curry said.

Curry has read many books that influenced her opinion on the events and the aftermath. Naomi Klein's "Shock Doctrine" was particularly insightful.

"Among the things capitalists 'capitalize' upon have been natural disasters, in order to remake afflicted societies in a pro-Western image," Curry said. "The earthquake was a particularly heart-breaking tragedy, but all the worse for the political-economic and environmental exploitation before, and likely after, the geologic event."

Curry is heartened that the entire world has come together in order to support Haiti.

"It has been noted by a great feminist that among all the human emotions, the most radical is empathy, and in its authentic shape it

involves learning enough about others to be able to begin to see things from their perspective," Curry said. "Anthropologists have long known that we do this work, experience the comparative moment, we grow, the world becomes larger and more interesting, and -here's the Amnesty part- we are moved to helpful action. Every bit matters, but those of us from the comfortable West owe so much more."

The Amnesty International club has raised \$1,016 and is concentrating efforts on a multi-school benefit concert in April.

"It will be a great event, packed with student band talent, consciousness raising, and action options, all toward the prevention of genocide, including the Darfur conflict," Curry said. "We need to fight against the omnipresent pressures to forget Haiti as other headlines and quicker gratifications eclipse the need."

Sophomore Margaret Mulligan created a blog after the crisis in Haiti.

"I had been thinking about creating a blog to raise awareness about problems in the world like poverty, genocide and natural disasters," Mulligan said. "I figured that we all spend enough time checking our emails or going on Facebook and that creating a blog would be a convenient thing for people to access."

All of her posts are different. Some are long and carry many messages while others are short and give ideas for ways that teens can help right now, whether it's watching something about Haiti on the TV or buying an album on iTunes where the profits go to help Haiti.

"The posts usually take two to three hours of research and writing time which may seem ridiculous, but with all of the information in the media, deciding what to use can be difficult," Mulligan said.

In collaboration with the Community Service Club, Mulligan created 'Hearts for Haiti,' a Valentine's Day-themed fundraiser that went from Feb. 8-12. The fundraiser sold \$2 chocolates attached to a heart with the message "Love is Worldwide" with other donations welcome.

"Working through community service club was amazing," Mulligan said. "With the help of president Jen Golden and sponsor Sarah Falkoff, I was able to promote my project even more and help Clayton High School spread the love. I was inspired by the feedback I got from my blog. All of my friends and family members were reading it and even some people I didn't know were asking for the link. I thought of Valentine's Day and how incorporating the holiday would give the fundraiser a theme that instantly inspired me with the name 'Hearts 4 Haiti.'"

Mulligan is very grateful for all the support she has gotten and the number of responses as well. The \$467 raised by 'Hearts 4 Haiti' event went to The Red Cross.

"My friends and volunteers from community service were absolutely amazing at lunch," Mulligan said. "They all helped to sell the Valentines and promote the cause and I thank them all so much for that."

7.0
The magnitude of the Jan. 12 earthquake in Haiti

\$1,016
The amount the CHS Amnesty International club raised

250,000
The estimated death toll of Haitian victims as of Feb. 9 (New York Times)

\$467
The amount raised by the 'Hearts 4 Haiti' fundraiser at CHS

5,000
The number of U.S. troops sent to Haiti (New York Times)

Donations to further Miami Children's Hospital missions can be made at MCHF.org

Close-up opens students' eyes to bigger picture, better opportunities



Courtesy of Rick Kordenbrock

Close-Up participants pose in front of the Missouri's part of the WWII Memorial. TOP ROW: Amanda Wagner, Jeremy Phillips, Jon Knohl, David Rhodes. BOTTOM ROW: Dylan Schultz, Sarah Tait, Lauren Hill, Margaret Mulligan, Isabella Jacobs, Laura Bleeke, Karley Woods.

by Alex Grayson
Reporter

Whenever you hear the words "Close-Up" at CHS, you may automatically think of it as just a "week-long field trip" for students and some of our selected staff to just get away from the Clayton scene.

In reality, this is referring to the week-long field trip that takes its participants to the heart of Washington, D.C. and beyond. Both students and teachers have said that it is always very successful, and this year is no different.

Although this year did not have a new President being inaugurated, students still participated in the Close-Up Trip, which occurred on Jan. 11-15.

Well what exactly is the Close-Up? It's an organization that provides educational opportunities in Washington, DC. It primarily focuses on how the government functions and on politics, but it also gives a big tour of the capitol state itself.

This year the sponsor was history teacher Kordenbrock, a first time leader in the event. Kordenbrock believes this year's group of students, as well as previous ones, were given the opportunity of a lifetime.

"The Close-Up gives the students an opportunity to see senators, representatives, and the D.C. capitol in action," Kordenbrock said. "It also gives a historical study because a large part of the program is seeing historical sites in Washington and discussing the historical aspects of them."

For example, the students visited the FDR Memorial and talked about the role of the government and the differences between liberal and conservative views. These

were only a couple of the breathtaking activities that took place.

They were required to keep a notebook of all the significant things they encounter, and are asked to reflect on them later. This way, the students can take a bit of school with them, rather than separating it completely.

While the educational aspects were still similar to last year's trip, the biggest difference was that it wasn't dominated by the inauguration. Last year, the trip occurred during the inauguration of Barack Obama, and the students witnessed the inauguration several rows away.

Another main difference was that this year there were more students from around the country, such as Arizona, California, and Texas. Clayton High School was the only school from Missouri.

Not only was Kordenbrock impacted by the trip, but many of the students were strongly impacted by their experience as well.

"I thought the trip was amazing and life-changing," sophomore Amanda Wagner said. "It influenced me to be more politically active and aware, and maybe even pursue a career in politics."

And while it was life-changing, Wagner claims it to be a one-time event since it will never be the same experience again.

Many people watch the debates on television and see people like Claire McCaskill and John McCain, and for the students to be able to see them in person giving their lives to govern their country is definitely a very powerful feeling.

Many students commented on this note and certainly felt the same degree of happiness.

"It was empowering for the students since they interacted with people who were not unlike them and were active in political affairs," Kordenbrock said. "Students found that they can do it too." ☺

"I thought the trip was amazing and life-changing. It influenced me to be more politically active and aware, and maybe even pursue a career in politics."

Amanda Wagner
Sophomore

Biggest Loser reaches new level of popularity at CHS, teachers get involved

by Dee Luo
Reporter

Losing is the new winning as CHS teachers participate in The Biggest Loser: High School Edition. Although their journey will not be broadcasted to the fans of America, they strive to eat healthier, exercise more and, ultimately, shed a few pounds.

Originally presented as an idea by health teacher Melissa Hobick at the January faculty meeting, The Biggest Loser has inspired teachers in all departments.

The rules are simple: each participating teacher goes in for an initial weigh-in followed by one weigh-in every two weeks for 16 weeks, which is slightly longer than the 10 week intensive the television show lasts.

Along the way, there are cash rewards and prizes that help motivate participants.

"There are little incentives along the way," math teacher Barb Dobbert said, "like the two biggest losers of the first two weeks got little prizes, and they were acknowledged over email."

However, the prizes are not the biggest incentive to win, especially since the teachers had to pay an upfront fee to join the competition. Although material motivation is certainly present, "Mrs. Hobick made it cost \$15, so I guess if you're going to pay into it, you're going to be a little more invested," science teacher Brad Krone said.

In addition of material motivation, The Biggest Loser also requires some personal motivation.

"Its discipline," Krone said, "it's me choosing to eat correctly and exercise every day and it'll work... if I stick to it."

Dobbert, who tried the Weight Watchers program in the past, agreed that the hard part of losing weight is not figuring how to do it, but actually doing it, continuously. To encourage the teachers, Mrs. Hobick sends out emails to the participants with websites and tips on eating right and, exercising daily.

Living healthy means sacrifice for many participants.

"I love sweets, so instead of having two desserts a day, I have two desserts a week now," Dobbert said. "That's my biggest downfall, my sweet tooth."

Krone, who knows he eats bigger portions than he should, agrees that eating right is difficult.

"I make waffles for my kids every Saturday with chocolate chips, and this Saturday I didn't," Krone said, with a touch of nostalgia. "Instead I had a banana and a bagel."

Although it is a competition between individuals, it has created a "common bond," as Dobbert would say, between the teachers.

"There are quite a few people in the math department that are doing it," Dobbert said, "We are supporting each

other, sharing Weight Watcher recipes, talking about it at lunch sometimes, and bringing bring in new recipes."

For some, inspiration comes from family as well as colleagues.

"The ultimate goal is to live a healthier lifestyle," Dobbert said, "and I want to do it not only for me, but my family as well."

Family plays an important role for the participants of The Biggest Loser at CHS.

"My wife's a fitness instructor and a personal trainer," Krone said, "and she said I have to win, because if I don't win, it looks bad for her. Maybe I'll just lie."

The winners – the top two female Biggest Losers and top two male Biggest Losers – are selected based on the percentage of body weight lost, not the number of pounds shed.

However, winning isn't the main reason teachers are participating. Many have personal goals.

"I want to fit into size 36 pants for a while and I don't have enough money to buy a new wardrobe," Krone said.

"I used to walk all the time," Dobbert said, "but now I feel like I don't have time to do that. I'm just making it a point to get more exercise."

Technically, The Biggest Loser at CHS is a competition, but not in the usual sense. It is a competition to live a healthier life, which has united the CHS staff. ☺



Jenna Carlie

Mrs. Hobick (left), among many of the other teacher participants in The Biggest Loser: High School Edition, experienced weigh-ins every two weeks for a 16 week period with CHS nurse Dede Coughlin (right).

Construction at Wydown soon to develop

Prop. W
pg. 1

ing," Roth said. "The District did not ask, 'Find us what the best scheme is for renovating or for providing for the students at Wydown.' It should have been a much broader or global question."

However, Tennill said that the Wydown Tomorrow committee went through an "exhaustive" study of 10 possible concepts, seven of which involved reusing parts of the existing structure. He called accusations that the District had ruled out the possibility of a renovation from the beginning "completely inaccurate."

Roth also outlined what he sees as problems with the District's plans. He questioned the plan to put a parking garage underneath the building, calling it a "no-no," and said that having students enter in the same location where there would be parking will create dangerous situations. He raised issue with the zero-tax-rate increase phrase, saying that it is "tweaking reality" because if the bond issue did not pass or a cheaper option was chosen, taxes would actually go down. Roth also questioned the length of the project and the disruption that it will cause.

Roth said that he offered his services to the Wydown Tomorrow Committee but was told they had sufficient help, and he said the reason he didn't propose his plans in the summer was that they were not completed. He said that A Better Plan for Wydown will put up signs, canvass and email to spread the word. Details on Roth's plan can be found at www.chsglobe.com, as well as links to the layouts for the plan included in Prop. W and answers to frequently asked questions.

As for other opposition, Goldberg said she saw doubtful community members at the tours of Wydown that she conducted. The survey reported that 14.9 percent of respondents would not support the bond issue because they did not think the school needs to be upgraded, and Goldberg received similar comments.

"There may be some people who think that this doesn't need to be done," Goldberg said. "When I did the tours, there were a couple people who said, 'Oh things look fine, you don't need to do anything.'"

If the bond issue passes, the in-depth planning process would begin. According to Goldberg, choosing architecture and construction firms and going through the steps necessary to break ground would likely take many months.

"We'll have parents involved, I want representative group of students to meet with the architects, all of the different departments will meet and talk about their needs, you know, what the science rooms need to look like, the art rooms, how the theatre is going to be arranged, and that probably will take us into the start of school," Goldberg said.

Tennill said that construction would not begin until the spring of 2011 and that the project would be done in the fall of 2013. As for now, Goldberg said she will be canvassing on four upcoming Saturdays, going door to door to inform the community about a project that will finally bring her and her staff the type of facility they have long awaited.

"We were always hopeful, but now we're thinking that there is going to be an answer in the future, if the bond issue passes, that will address the issues that we've been dealing with," Goldberg said. "[The staff] felt that they were listened to, that their concerns were validated, that something really awesome is going to happen for the school." ☺



Elizabeth Sikora

Wydown principal Mary Ann Goldberg strongly hopes for parents and the community to vote "yes" on Proposition W. The Clayton district is currently seeking new ways to inform the public on the middle school's renovations.

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Basketball Hounds beat Ladue at Fontbonne, look to playoffs

by **Evan Green**
Senior Sports Editor

The real question for the boys' basketball team is just which squad will show up on a daily basis.

Will it be the team that handily defeated a good Normandy team on the road on Jan. 29, or the team that lost by 13 at home to a considerably less talented Westminster squad at home three days before?

Having not won or lost two straight games in their last six match-ups, there has really been no consistency to judge the Hounds by. With districts coming up, the team needs to return to their winning form of earlier in the season.

"We need to work on sharing the ball, finding the open man and getting easy baskets," head coach Ryan Luhning said.

At the same time, the team has had to fight through injuries to junior guard Ahmad Smith and sophomore guards Charlie Harned and Clayton Buchanan. While Luhning is not one to make excuses, clearly part of the team's struggles have come from these injuries.

However, with the setbacks, new people have stepped up for the Hounds.

"[Senior] Preston Burnsed has really stepped up lately, and [senior Max] Goldfarb has played tough for us," junior guard Christian Thomas said.

Thomas has stepped up his game for the Hounds lately as well. Now just 12 points away from 1,000 for his career, Thomas is averaging a team-high 21 points per game to go with 10 rebounds per game as well.

"I've done a good job of scoring,

rebounding and ball-handling lately," Thomas said.

On Feb. 17, the Hounds took on Maplewood, and in a losing effort, Thomas netted 29 points, 10 rebounds, seven blocks and five steals.

However, Thomas wasn't the only talent on display for the Hounds on their Senior Night. Senior guard Devonte Bell (who is averaging 15 points per game) was honored before the game as a possible recipient for an McDonalds All-American award. Only 1,000 high school players in the country received the recognition.

Hopefully, these two talented players can make Bell and seven other seniors' final playoff run a memorable one. The team certainly has the talent to do so.

The Hounds first district game will be at home on Feb. 24 at 8:30.



Junior guard Christian Thomas goes up for a three-point attempt in the first half of the Hounds' 48-42 win over the rival Ladue Rams on Feb. 11. The team improved to 15-7 and Thomas finished with 19 points in the game, which was played in nearby Fontbonne University's gymnasium for the first time in the series.

Should McGwire be held responsible for an entire era's mistake?

Lately, former Cardinals slugger Mark McGwire has been in the news following his recent admission to steroid use and the thought provoking discussion as to whether he should be allowed into the baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown is now up for debate.

The reasons that Big Mac should be allowed into the Hall of Fame greatly outweigh the detractors against him. McGwire's situation is only part of the problem that eventually equates to why players from the steroid era should universally be considered for the Hall of Fame, whether steroid use was proven or not.

The detractors against McGwire say that he cheated the game. The Hall of Fame voters say his numbers were so bloated due to his use of steroids that he shouldn't be allowed into the Hall of Fame.

Clearly the majority of Hall of Fame voters are against Big Mac right now, with the last vote only raking in about 25 percent of support for him. Hall of Fame voting is conducted by the Baseball Writers Association of America (BBWAA), and any player that gets 75 percent or more of the vote in that year is inducted to the baseball Hall of Fame.

With that in mind, McGwire is currently very far away from being inducted. That was before his admission to using steroids on and off during his career, and now it will be interesting to see what the voters say next year. In a sense, the voters' decision on McGwire could possibly be how they will vote on the entire era's players.

But should the voters be the judge and the jury for the whole scenario? In my mind, they shouldn't. The other Hall of Fame players need to be incorporated into the situation

because they are the ones that the Hall of Fame means most to, and they know the situation better than the writers.

Some Hall of Fame players point out that if former Cincinnati Reds second baseman Pete Rose and former White Sox outfielder "Shoeless" Joe Jackson can't be considered for the Hall of Fame, then neither should players from the steroid era. However, the problem with that logic is that while yes, those players aren't eligible to be voted into the Hall of Fame, it is because they have been banned from the game of baseball for life. McGwire was never banned. He didn't even break any MLB rules in taking steroids (MLB banned anabolic steroid use in 2002, and McGwire retired after the 2001 season).

Rose and Jackson, however, did break MLB rules by gambling on the game of baseball. Jackson went as far to throw the World Series, which is, in my mind, the most sacred part of baseball in America and maybe even the world. Jackson threw away what most kids dream about achieving, yet never get a chance. Jackson and Rose were living a dream and threw it all away.

Before 1998, the season that McGwire smacked 70 home runs and became the all time single season home run leader, baseball was dead. Following the 1995 players strike, fans did not want to come to the games and attendance was at an all time low.

But then two guys came along that made people care again. The Cardinals first baseman combined with Cubs

slugger Sammy Sosa to bring the fans back to the stadiums in droves, now excited to watch these two swing for the fences. TV ratings not only for Cubs and Cardinals games, but all of baseball, climbed through the roof as fans were amazed by the surge of power across the league.

It is now known that some of these all star sluggers were using steroids during the height of their careers, but at the same time, it is now known that the pitchers they faced were "on the juice" as well. From Roger Clemens to Andy Pettitte to Kevin Brown to Eric Gagne, pitchers have also admitted to their use of banned substances.

What the voters should realize about McGwire is that he put up his numbers while other players of the era were also juicing. And at the same time that this was occurring, McGwire put up Hall of Fame numbers while many of his peers using steroids did not.

So should the man responsible for bringing baseball back have to take the fall for an entire era's mistake?

Every era in baseball has had its controversies. From the Black Sox and gambling scandal in the 1920's to players' use of cocaine and other drugs in the 70's to the abuse of amphetamines by players in the 1980's, and then the strike in 1995 and the following steroid use. The other eras that were considered to be "tainted" have never had to endure such discussion as to whether their stars should be allowed into the Hall of Fame.

This in part has to do with a recent change in the sports

media to report anything they see by players. The sports media of the past was close to the players, often going out to eat after games. The media then had a personal, yet professional relationship with the athletes. The sports media of previous eras knew that their job was to report what happened on the field and that anything outside of the game was off limits in terms of reporting.

Now, the sports media feels it is their duty to treat athletes as if they are Hollywood actors or actresses by reporting every aspect of their lives, not just their performance on the field. The sad part is that this reflects today's culture. A culture that would rather hear the off the field gossip about a big name player than read about the same player's two home run night that they capped off with a diving catch to save the game.

The sports media is possibly the biggest culprit of what has become a travesty in terms determining who deserves to go into the Hall of Fame.

Even though many reporters knew or suspected Big Mac of some sort of steroid use in 1998, they looked away; they, in a sense, encouraged steroid usage by not speaking out against it then. Now, those same writers are the ones that are not voting for McGwire to get into the Hall of Fame. This is quite a show of hypocrisy in terms of their morals. Their condoning of McGwire's steroid use during his playing days should be exactly how they treat him now.

In conclusion, has there ever been discussion or really even much thought as to whether players of other tainted eras should be allowed into the Hall of Fame? No, so why should there be now?

Turf Tales



Evan Green

Athlete of the Month

Gabe Jacus



Jacus leads Hounds on ice

by **Payton Sciaratta**
Reporter

The Clayton hockey team has been doing pretty well so far this season. One of the main contributors to this is sophomore forward Gabe Jacus.

Jacus has been playing hockey since he was just five years old, thanks to Clayton alumni Max Barron.

"Max Barron used to come to my house and get me to play street hockey and then he eventually got me to play ice hockey," Jacus said.

Playing hockey as a child paid off in the long run, as Jacus began playing on the varsity Clayton team during his freshman year.

That season, he scored 1.5 goals per game. Jacus dangled his way through the club season as well, and has now established himself on the St. Louis hockey scene.

Being one of the best players on the team, Jacus tallied a team-high 32 goals and 22 assists, showing why he plays on the top line. He has had three game winning goals this year alone.

So far this season, Jacus has scored half of the team's game winning goals. Even though the team is 6-16-1, he still has a strong passion for the sport.

Jacus receives a lot of emotional support from his teammates as well.

"He is really fun to play with," sophomore forward Will Rosenfeld said. "He scores a lot of goals and is tough."

This season alone, Jacus had 47 penalty minutes, showing his phenomenal toughness on the ice.

In the last game of the playoffs, Jacus managed four goals and an assist in an 8-5 loss to Fort Zumwalt South.

On a better note, the Hounds' first Ladue game was one of the team's best because of their dedication and hard work on the ice.

"Our team was able to win without a full team," Jacus said. "A lot of individuals stepped up their game, and that was fun to watch."

Even though Jacus is dedicated to hockey, he seems to be very relaxed when it comes to setting personal goals for the season. This year he didn't make any set goals for himself; however, he did want to score as many goals possible.

Jacus doesn't have his heart set on any college just yet, but if the opportunity arose he may just take a scholarship.

"If a good offer came up from a school, then I'd think about it, but I have no problem just going to a school and having fun," Jacus said. "I've got a lot of time to think about it, so I don't worry too much."

At this point Jacus is exceeding in the sport and may, in time, have an opportunity to make this a profession.

"For a while that was my plan, but a lot changes over time," Jacus said. "It would be great, but the sacrifices you need to make and the dedication you need to have is just ridiculous."

Jacus plans on playing hockey throughout high school and may eventually turn his love of the sport into a career.

BY THE NUMBERS

32 GOALS

22 ASSISTS

47 PENALTY MINUTES

"Gabe is really fun to play with. He scores a lot of goals, is tough, and is one of the team leaders on the ice."

-Sophomore forward Will Rosenfeld

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Saints victory brings joy to New Orleans

Saints roll over Colts in first franchise Super Bowl victory with a 31-17 victory in Miami.

by Jake Bernstein
Reporter

The conclusion to the football season has brought more than just a trophy to the champion. In winning the Super Bowl, the Saints have completed their dream season and in doing so have helped bring New Orleans closer together.

The Saints, who had been notoriously bad for their 44 seasons as a team that they became known to residents of New Orleans as "the Aints," finally won their first Super Bowl February 7 with their victory over the Colts.

Hillary Shulman, a temporary Clayton student after Hurricane Katrina and currently living in New Orleans, explained her joy after the Colts victory.

"When it got down to about 20 seconds left in the game, I burst into tears," Shulman said. "Me and my mom stood their with our jerseys on counting down to the last second and when it got to zero seconds on the clock, I ran out of house along with all my neighbors."

Clayton student Edward Du, a senior who moved from Louisiana in 2008 and big Saints fan, was ecstatic after the victory.

"Being from Louisiana, I'm extremely proud of them," Du said. "For the people in New Orleans, the Saints became their hope, and the story of their success will continue beyond the French Quarter."

Henry Pulitzer, a Saints season ticket holder and New Orleans native, noted the Saints underdog status.

"Most of the country thought the Colts were going to win," Pulitzer said.



Saints fans fill the Superdome to celebrate a Saints victory, the Saints success has helped to lift spirits of people affected by Hurricane Katrina.

Jake Bernstein

"But as Saints fans, we were not looking at the talent of the team, we are looking at all that the team has done. This year there were a lot of times where the Saints just got really lucky, so it didn't matter that we were the underdogs."

It is hard to imagine that the Saints franchise was considering leaving New Orleans only five years ago and that their arena was destroyed. Now, when the Saints began to win, the city became closer, Shulman explained.

"We as a city have become so much closer because of the Saints," Shulman said. "Everything is black and gold now, and all cars have a bumper sticker that says 'WHO DAT!' Strangers were hugging strangers last night because of the Saints."

Larger than the victory however, Du thinks that the Saints team has grown to represent the city since the Hurricane.

"I definitely think that the Saints

bring the city together from the damages caused by the Hurricane Katrina since 2005. I believe that the Saints, since the hurricane, have found motivation for greater success," Du said. Pulitzer shared a similar view with Du.

"It's not just the football that fans are crazy about, it is that the Saints stand for New Orleans," Pulitzer said. "New Orleans has been so far down and out in the past few years. And so many times this year the Saints have come

from behind and had incredible comeback victories, so it is easy to associate the Saints and the city in this way."

In a city which murder rates lead the nation, it is a noticeable change when number of reported murders and number of 911 calls drop on game day. Many have seen this as a sign that the Saints and the city developed an even closer bond in the past season.

"The general atmosphere and spirit has changed," Pulitzer said. "There is a

nicer feel to a city sometimes not considered so nice."

Shulman, however, has noticed a difference this year in New Orleans as well.

"This year is completely different," Shulman said. "Everyone watched every game. Kids put 'The Saints won the game' as their facebook statuses after each game."

This is not to say football was not big in New Orleans prior to this year. Fans fought to keep the team in New Orleans after Katrina, and the Saints have always held a spot in the heart of New Orleans residents.

"Pretty much everybody in the state of Louisiana and the city of New Orleans watch and support the New Orleans Saints," Du said.

After waiting so many years, New Orleans' fans finally got the ultimate prize.

"Having the Saints do so well is good for people's souls," Pulitzer said. "Being in the spotlight for is good for the city because it gives us pride, and hope that better things are to come."

The city does seem to be making the next step in rebuilding. The Super Bowl will be played in New Orleans in 2013, two thirds of New Orleans voters agreed on a new mayor-elect for office and there is a drop in crime across the city.

For now, however, residents are still in the midst of partying over Mardi Gras and the Saints victory.

"The theme of Mardi Gras seems to be the Saints," Pulitzer said. "It is still Saints everything around here. The city is on fire." ☺

Chelsea Granberry leads Hounds as team works toward districts

by Katherine Greenberg
Editor

Chelsea Granberry has been playing basketball on the Clayton High School team for four years. Until freshman year she never had any formal basketball training or education.

"When I was younger I played basketball with my family and friends," Granberry said. "I had so much fun that even though I had never played on a team, I decided to try out for the high school team."

Granberry is the lead scorer on the Lady Hounds and inspires many of her teammates.

"I worked out everyday over the summer," Granberry said. "I played a lot so that I could have a good season this year."

"Chelsea keeps everyone focused and gives us a big play when we need it," senior Margaret Lanter said.

Lanter has played with Granberry on varsity for two years.

"Chelsea is so unique because she can be so goofy and funny off the court," Lanter said. "But once the game starts she's all business, she's focused."

Her work ethic has been noticed and praised by Lady Hounds coach of three years, Steve Lanter.

"Chelsea's commitment is simply stellar," Lanter said. "She has a great attitude and love of the game. She is always fighting for a win."

Granberry's dedication goes further than just showing up at practice but also in the way she helps the team dynamic.

"I am definitely going to miss the team next year," Granberry said. "I love to play basketball, but because the team is so fun to be around I always want to go to practices and games."

Granberry has also affected younger members of the team.

“Chelsea’s commitment is simply stellar. She has a great attitude and love of the game. She is always fighting for a win.”

Steve Lanter
Head Coach

"She is a very hard worker," sophomore Sarah Tait said. "She practices more than any other person on the team. Seeing how hard she is working makes other people want to work harder."

Coach Lanter hopes that her performance will influence her underclassmen teammates.

"Chelsea's approach and work ethic is an example to the younger girls," Lanter said. "If there is a choice she always chooses to spend her time practicing and her improvement has been remarkable."

The team has not bonded only because of all of the time spent together on the court but also off. Team sleepovers are one way the girls developed deeper connections.

"Chelsea is so funny," Lanter said. "Her laugh is unmistakable, its contagious, she can make anyone laugh."

Granberry credits the team atmosphere with helping her enjoy her time on the basketball team.

"We like to be together," Granberry said. "The team is really laid back, we are always laughing and joking around."

Granberry will also miss having Lanter as a coach.

"Coach Lanter is really intense," Granberry said. "He really knows how to get people fired up."

Granberry plans to continue playing basketball in college at Newman University.

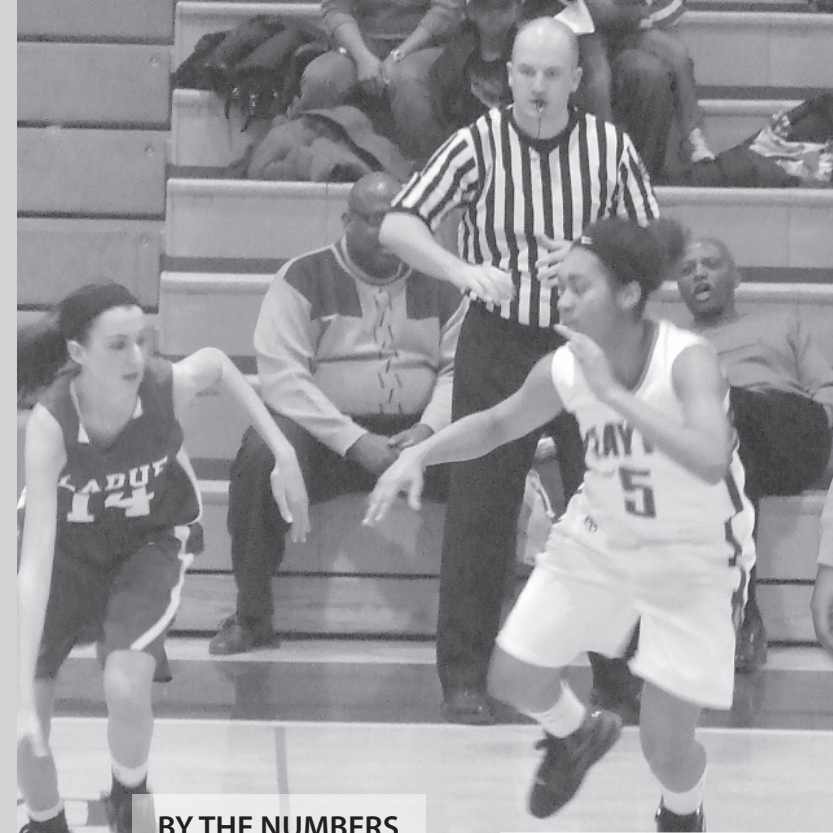
"I picked Newman based on athletics and academics," Granberry said. "I am really happy that I will be able to continue to play basketball in college."

Although the Lady Hounds have lost the last few games the quality of play has improved and Granberry is hopeful for a good end to the season.

"We have been playing very well the last few games," Granberry said. "I think that we will be successful at districts because we are pretty evenly matched with a lot of the teams that are in our district." ☺

Athlete of the Month

Chelsea Granberry



BY THE NUMBERS

5.5 PPG

3 RPG

63.8 FT%

"Chelsea's approach and work ethic is exemplary to the younger girls on the team."

--Head Coach
Steve Lanter

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Clayton thrashes Ladue

by Jonathan Knohl
Reporter

It was Friday night and a swarm of fans stormed the court after another thrilling Clayton-Ladue rivalry matchup. The Varsity Boys Basketball Hounds headed down the road to Fontbonne University to take on their rivals, the Ladue Rams. This game was also a marquee matchup for two of the area's scoring leaders; Clayton's very own Christian Thomas (20.4 points per game) and Ladue's Eli Weigley (17.1 point per game.)

The first quarter was a slow one for the Hounds. Ladue held them to only 8 points while they managed to put up 13 points for themselves. In the second quarter the hounds prevailed, scoring 10 and managed to only trail by 3 at the half.

"At half time, I felt pretty confident about us winning," Senior Sam Hagene said. "We were only down by 3 at the half and had a whole 20 minutes ahead of us. We are a second half team and with Devonte and CT (Christian Thomas) out there doing work, I wasn't worried"

As soon as the ball was inbounded

and the clock started counting down the hounds were off to a good start. Starting the half off with an 18-2 scoring run, there was no room for improvement. The hounds ended the third quarter leading by 9.

In the second half there was a little bit of scare from a Ram's 4th quarter comeback but the Hounds lockdown defense stopped them while showing no mercy. The hounds were lead defensively by Preston Burned with 2 steals and Christian Thomas with 2 blocks. Sooner or Later the game came to a close. Everybody knew the game was over when the Clayton fans started chanting, "Drive home safely" and "Good luck next year." The final score at Dr. Lee McKinney Court was Clayton 48, Ladue 42. The Hounds were also led by Junior, Christian Thomas (19 points, 11 rebounds) and Senior, Devonte Bell (18 points, 3 assists).

This was not the first victory over Ladue this season. Earlier this season, the Hounds thrashed the Rams by 15 points (62-47) in the Christian Brother's College D.C. Wilcutt Tournament.

The win on February 11, improved the varsity hound's record to a solid 15-7. ☺



Mark McGwire swings for the fences during the Cardinal's 1998 season. McGwire and Chicago Cub's outfielder Sammy Sosa chased the single season home run record during the 1998 season. McGwire tallied 70 home runs, four more than Sosa's 66.

Mark McGwire's steroid use changes legacy but not student's memories

by Alex Kasnetz
Reporter

I was in Mrs. Wilson's first grade classroom as I used red crayons to create my poster to be used that night. "Go McGwire Go!" it read. That night I held up that sign proudly amongst thousands of replicated plastic McGwire signs handed out as fans entered the gates. But my sign was special. My sign came from the heart; it represented the unblemished joy of a true fan.

During a mildly warm, humid night I watched the game and ate my hot dog, all the while with a tingling anticipation. When the ball launched off of McGwire's bat, a line drive home run that rocketed to left field, I and about 50,000 other baseball fans jumped up, threw our hands in the air and screamed in jubilation.

It was his 60th home run of the season. I was pretty young, but I knew he had just tied Babe Ruth and that Roger Maris' all-time single season home run record was just one swing away. I knew that night was history, and I was part of it. Mostly I knew that that was one of the greatest nights of my young life.

Steroids have been an unavoidable controversy for baseball fans for the past few years. Athletes have held press conferences, tested positive, and even testified before Congress on the issue. Records have been questioned and suspicion is still rampant. Most importantly, many fans have felt cheated by players who have used steroids for putting a blemish on a pure and innocent game—our past time.

Recently, it was announced that Mark McGwire would become a part of the Cardinals coaching staff, as the hitting coach, emerging from a hiatus from public life since his retirement. Due to his return to baseball the steroid controversy had to be brought up again. The Press would not be satisfied until they had a definitive answer. So, Mark McGwire admitted what many fans and sportswriters saw as a foregone conclusion: that he had used steroids during his playing career.

Again the steroids issue was on the tip of everyone's tongue. Every sports pundit has his or her opinion. Some feel that such offenders should be banned from baseball. Others

feel that the steroid era is akin to the dead ball era, when the baseball itself simply did not travel as far.

The steroid issue has always been there for me as a baseball fan, but with McGwire it hits home. I've largely been on the fence since the controversy began. His use of steroids was wrong, and that behavior sets a poor example for kids who look up to athletes like McGwire.

At times I share the opinion of Bob Gibson, another Cardinals great, who once noted that had steroids been around in his era, he might very well have used them himself to gain a competitive edge.

I take a moderate view on McGwire compared to others. I do not hold hardly any contempt for those athletes who did take steroids, though I don't approve of steroids and believe what they did was wrong.

One thing I can't agree with is what noted sports columnist Jay Mariotti said and that many others have echoed. Mariotti stated that McGwire's use of steroids had completely tarnished that magical summer where he and Sammy Sosa chased the single season home run record. I can't accept that.

I can't accept it because no matter what athletes put into their bodies, nothing can take away what I felt in the summer of 1998. Nothing can. Nothing can take away the joy I felt sitting in Big Mac Land praying for an upper deck shot, or seeing a McDonalds poster with Mark McGwire's face on it and forcing my mom to turn the car towards McD's.

McGwire has been treated unfairly. Fans and writers have forgotten all that he did for this city and for the game of baseball. The homerun race between him and Sammy Sosa brought fans back to our national past time following the contempt left over from the lockout a few years before. He helped reignite a passion for the game. When we opine about McGwire, that fact should never be forgotten.

Steroids can stop McGwire and others from being accepted to the Hall Of Fame and stop their records from being recognized and cause shrinkage to a certain body part, but that doesn't matter as much to me. Because what steroids can never do is tarnish the memories that Mark McGwire helped give me. ☺

Athletes' salaries raise questions of greed and excess in pro sports

by Tom Evashwick
Editor

Please, raise your hand if you would turn down that oh-so idolized \$1 million per year salary.

Please, keep it up if you would walk away from \$5 million per.

You've got to be thinking, "Who on earth would have their hand up?" Athletes. It's a simple answer that blows my mind.

The man who represents not a team, but a country makes less than Major League Baseball's minimum salary.

That's right: Obama earns less than half of what the now infamous Jason Motte makes.

From when I was just a little kid, it was understood that the harder one worked, the more one would get in return. Prospective doctors spend their twenties (and their life savings) memorizing entire textbooks knowing that one day they will be rewarded with due compensation.

Then there's the case of athletes.

JaMarcus Russell, the top overall selection of the 2007 NFL Draft, decided that he was just too good to play for anything under \$11 million per season. He missed the entire training camp and has never lived up to the hype. His so-called unlimited potential seems to have been no match for karma.

Sports agents call it "smart finan-

cial advice." I call it greed.

Okay, I'll admit, they have God-given talent. Unfortunately, they seem to think they have a right to make more than God Himself.

Of course, there are two sides to every story. The owners and those who run these sport organizations have buckled one too many times.

In all honesty (I'm not just taking this opportunity to bash the Evil Empire), many blame the New York Yankees and George Steinbrenner for driving up the markets of the sporting industry over the past 35 years.

Steinbrenner expected to win the World Series every year and used cold hard cash to wipe away the tears when the Yankees would not win. He paid Dave Winfield a then-unheard amount of \$25 million over 10 years to bring him to the Bronx.

Others players followed, and then it forced other teams to fork out the same kind of money. Then football players thought they deserved as much as baseball players; basketball players followed.

Now, LeBron James and Kobe Bryant both make \$40 million for playing 82 games. And apparently, that isn't enough.

The National Basketball Association has a collective bargaining agreement (CBA) with the Players' Association that expires in 2011.

Recently, a new CBA has been drafted. It includes cutting the maxi-

mum contract to \$60 million spread over multiple seasons, a cutback for some players approaching 66 percent.

Of course, the players immediately laughed it off most likely believing the minimum should be \$60 million per year.

I applaud the owners, though. Sources close to the National Football League Players' Association (NFLPA) say that a lockout is likely for the 2011 season.

That's right, Rams fans: Orland Pace is now causing problems for yet another team.

I just don't understand why sitting and refusing to earn \$5 million is better than playing and earning \$5 million...

Don't get me wrong, I love going down to Busch Stadium, but I don't understand why I should have to pay \$5 to have to squint to see the outline of Albert from my 1,000 foot high seat.

The now embattled Tiger Woods made about \$125 million last year. Floyd Mayweather, Jr. made about \$50 million. I think it's safe to say that Pope Benedict does not make quite that much.

So if I hear one more NFL line-backer saying how he is unjustly forced to earn only \$9.875 million, I very well may cry.

Please, raise your hand if you agree. ☺

Hockey Hounds finish a season of complications with a first round loss

The Greyhounds hockey team suffers injuries and gaps in the roster during a season of ups and downs.

by Nate Townsend
Reporter

The Clayton hockey team finished the regular season 6-14-1 and made the Founders Cup for the third time in the last four years. In the first round of the Founders Cup, the Greyhounds took on Fort Zumwalt South. During the first game of the series the Greyhounds fell short losing 10-6 on Feb. 6, which happened to be the night of the Peppers dance for Clayton High School.

Despite the fate of the season resting in the next two games, some of the Clayton team decided to attend the dance rather than the game. For many seniors this was upsetting that their final season in the Greyhound uniform was coming to a half-hearted conclusion. Although the team was hopeful that they could win the second game and the mini game, several obstacles stood in the way of the team not just for the second game of the series but all season.

After coming off a great season last year that was cut short in a mini game lose to Priory the future of the Greyhounds was looking bright. There were some key players, however, that Clayton couldn't afford to lose.

"We really only lost two seniors," head coach Chris Wirtel said. "But Tim Smith was a rock on defense and Murray [Horlacher] was a solid checking

line center. Looking back on it I can see that it is a main reason why we have given up so many goals this year."

Not all of the players that departed were seniors. Junior Zach Cavallini opted to forgo his senior year at Clayton High School and moved to Toronto to play competitive hockey for the Toronto Junior Canadians.

Along with the graduated seniors of '09 and Cavallini, the loss of seniors Connor Dougan and Sam Jacus, has taken a huge toll on the team's performance. Jacus left the team early in the season due to a shoulder injury and still hasn't been able to play. Dougan, a huge contributor to the current season, has been unable to play because of multiple concussions.

"Connor's leadership and point scoring was a tough loss," said Doug Holtzman, father of senior player Corbin Holtzman.

Dougan, however, will continue his role as team captain despite his injuries.

"As captain of the team I try and be the team leader and get the team prepared for games," Dougan said. "I work hard and set an example for the rest of the team."

Another key lose for the team occurred on Saturday, Feb. 6, as Clayton students celebrated the annual Peppers dance, Stern was taken by ambulance to the hospital after receiving a neck

injury. Although Stern returned the following game, his absence for the rest of game one was seen as the team's defense was depleted.

The injuries were not the only absence that the Greyhounds faced this season. Throughout the season junior Cory Canon was absent from seven games due his club hockey team traveling. This lose was key, because Canon was a major contributor to the Greyhounds offense.

At CHS, hockey games have always been a traditional way for students to spend their evenings. In past years, crowds of Clayton fans would file into the bleachers and scream and cheer for the team. This year, however, Clayton saw a depleted fan section throughout the whole season. Doug Holtzman credited this as being a contributing factor to Clayton's performance this season.

"Audience turn-out is great for La-due games, otherwise it has weakened in my years of watching Corbin play," Holtzman said.

Like the game on the night of the Peppers dance, the Clayton team ended their season, and for many of the players their high school careers, in an 8-5 loss to Fort Zumwalt South on Feb. 13. With the season over the Greyhounds are looking forward to next season and the opportunities that comes with a clean slate. ☺

Lady Hounds gain new coach and new motivation for a run at districts

by Christian Thomas
Reporter

The winter sports season is coming to an end. As some athletes coast through the remainder of the season, a certain group of athletes continue to push for success.

The girls' varsity basketball team is determined to turn things around for the district tournament.

"I think we have struggled because we don't know our strengths and weaknesses," sophomore Haley Wartman said.

This is Wartman's first season on varsity. Wartman had a hard time adjusting to varsity action in the beginning of the season, but has since gotten used to everything.

"The pace is a lot faster compared to on JV," Wartman said.

"Overall Haley has played really well," said senior guard Taquera Walker. Walker is in her second season as a member of the varsity team.

Although not enjoying as much success as the team would wish for, the team has some bright spots emerging including senior Michelle Cooper. She has proven her talents on the basketball court.

"She hits her shots and plays really good defense," said Wartman.

Cooper is shooting 24% for the year, the highest among the starters.

Michelle is also a great leader on and off the court. Another bright spot for the team has been the addition of Coach Mahlon Sanders. Sanders is

the father of junior forward Darcy Sanders.

"Having my dad coach was weird at first," Darcy Sanders said. "I've gotten used to it though."

"Coach Sanders has been a real asset. He is very defensive minded and pushes us to work harder," Wartman said.

With little time remaining in the regular season, the Lady Hounds are preparing for districts.

"Obviously we want to win districts," Walker said. "In order to do that though, everyone needs to step up and play well."

"I am confident that we can turn it all around in time. We have a really talented team. We just have to figure it all out," Wartman said. ☺



The Lady Hounds collect at around coach Steve Lanter from left to right: sophomore Stephanie Avery, sophomore Sarah Tait, junior Jaclyn Poe, senior Taquera Waler, and junior Allison O'Neal. Seniors Chelsea Granberry and Maggie Lanter lead the team with 5.5 and 4.8 PPG.

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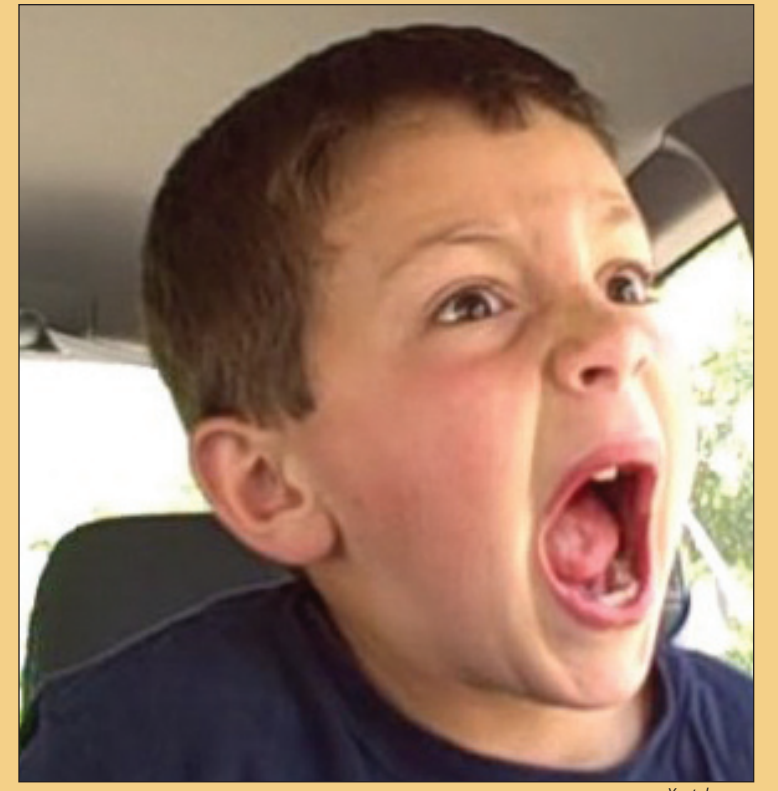
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The choice of an attorney is an important decision and should not be made solely on the basis of advertising.

As voted on by the Globe staff



Best Music Video "I'm on a Boat" The Lonely Island

Best Youtube Video "David After Dentist"



Best T.V. Series "The Office"

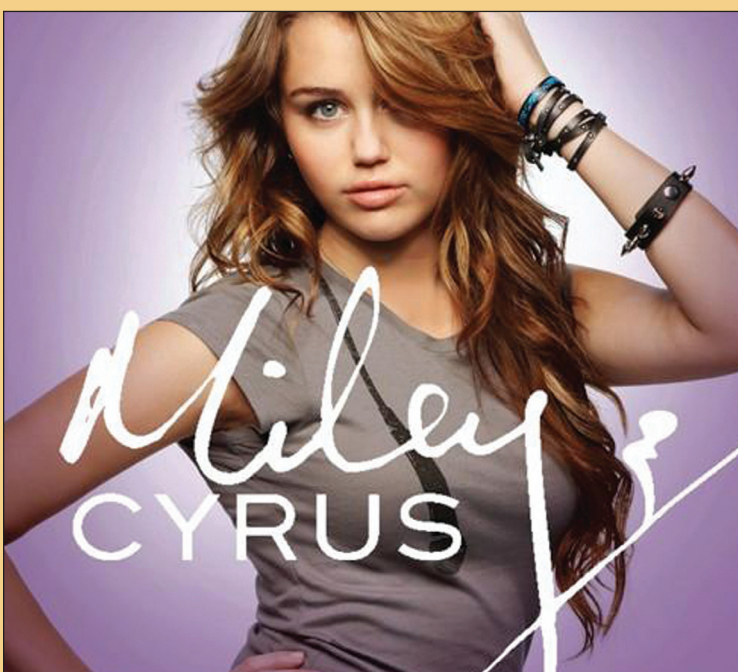
Best Song "I Gotta Feeling" Black Eyed Peas



Best Female Performer Beyoncé

Best Male Performer Zach Galifianakis, "The Hangover"

Worst Movie "Hannah Montana The Movie"



Most Addictive Song "Party in the USA" by Miley Cyrus



Best Movie "The Hangover"

NEWS BRIEFS

New Head Editors for 2010-2011

Congratulations to the new Globe head editors for the 2010-2011 school year. Dawn Androphy and Noah Eby will be Co-Editor-Chiefs. Maddy Bullard will be Senior Managing Editor. Laura Bleeke and Jackie Leong will be Managing Editors. Justin Elliot, Kara Kratcha, Zachary Praiss, Anat Gross, Jocelyn Lee and Caitlin Kropp will serve as Section Editors. Helen Wiley and Mimi Liu will be Art Co-Directors and Dee Luo will be the Graphics Editor. We will also have many new page editors.

Take a Survey, Make Money

Interested in making \$10 in ten minutes? A research group from MIZZOU will be hosting a survey at the Center of Clayton in Meeting Room A on Wednesday, March 3 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for high school students. The survey is anonymous and is a study on teens beliefs on alcohol.

Buddy Recruitment Day

Buddy Recruitment Day is Friday, March 8. The Arts Fair Steering Committee members will be in all classes after GNN to recruit students. Think about participating in this annual event. Contact Mr. Nelke if you have any questions about the event or you happen to be absent March 8.

2010 Peppers King Winners

Congratulations to our 2010 Pepper's Kings Danny Steinberg and Devonte Bell. Out of approximately 400 votes there was a tie.

CHS Film Festival Entries

Entries for the 2010 Second Annual CHS Film Festival are due on March 19. Pick up entry forms in the library or contact Nate Townsend for more information. The festival is on May 2.

of LIFE

www.chsglobe.com

by Ben Colagiovanni
Reporter

Our society is obsessed with the present. Twenty-four hour media outlets report any newsworthy subject the instant it occurs. Websites like Twitter and Facebook allow people to tell the world what they are doing at any given moment. Smartphones can be set to ring every time the owner's favorite baseball team scores a run. Dominos, the famous pizza delivery company, allows people to track their orders from placing an order to delivery.

The flow of information is endless; people flock to it like Niagara Falls. However, all too often, this perpetual, societal flood of knowledge erodes our appreciation for the past.

While instances of such erosion can be found in multiple facets of society, I recently discovered its prevalence in music. The epitome of this collective forgetfulness can be observed through a comparison of two groundbreaking musicians whose career apexes were approximately 85 years apart: Michael Jackson and Scott Joplin.

When Jackson died last summer he was working on his magnum opus. The "This Is It" tour was to be Jackson's final farewell, a salutation to the countless number of his devoted fans across the world. When Jackson died, he had won 18 Grammy awards, revolutionized music videos, and helped to bring African American music to the mainstream.

When Joplin died in 1917, he was also heavily entrenched in his magnum opus. "Treemonisha," an opera depicting life as a slave for a girl on a plantation in Arkansas, was going to be Joplin's big break, his chance to elevate African American music from honky tonks to opera houses and make an America just over thirty years removed from the Reconstruction era realize that black music was powerful force.

Before his death, Joplin had witnessed his "Maple Leaf Rag" reach national popularity, and saw his song "Cascades" played at the 1904 World's Fair in St. Louis, and was ready to further his national reputation. So, what's the difference between Jackson and Joplin, two accomplished musicians both perfecting their finest works at their deaths?

Timing.

When Jackson died there was a media frenzy, a lavish funeral at the Staples Center in Los Angeles, California, and the video recordings of his rehearsals for the "This Is It" tour were immediately made into a movie.

When Joplin died he was buried in an unmarked grave at St. Michael's



The Scott Joplin House State Historic Site in St. Louis is a memorial to the famed ragtime musician Scott Joplin. The house was recognized in 1976 as a National Historic Landmark when it was saved before being torn down. It is now open to the public.

Remembering Ragtime

A student finds appreciation for America's musical past at the Scott Joplin House.

cemetery in New York and "Treemonisha" had not been performed and would not see the stage until 1972.

Last summer, I was reminded on a nearly daily basis by the media that Jackson was a musical genius, a legendary performer, and a fixture in our society. However, it was not until this January when I was driving down highway 40 and saw the brown sign which reads "Scott Joplin House State Historic Site" that I was reminded of my first visit to Joplin's house in the second grade, how excited I was to discover his music, and how blind I had been since to his importance in creating America's current popular music landscape. I quickly realized that the nature of our society had caused me to lose sight of the relationship between the present and the past.

With February being Black History Month, and as a fellow composer of music myself, I felt obligated to visit the house again and investigate

Joplin's music and life to a greater extent. I came to appreciate the work of an artist who, living in St. Louis was at the core of the ragtime explosion of the early 1900s, was at the right place in the wrong time, and as a consequence, did not reap the benefits of the modern day media.

Our society needs reminders of how the past continues to influence the present. As I walked through the doors of 2658A Delmar, where Joplin lived intermittently from 1901 to 1907, I heard, read, and saw Joplin's legacy, was reminded of his greatness, and recognized his relevance to our world today.

When I visited, I was fortunate enough to meet Bryan Cather, a researcher of ragtime and volunteer at the Joplin house. Cather further developed my appreciation for Joplin's impact on American music and began to do so with another comparison of Joplin to a famous musician. This time,

Cather compared Joplin to one of his predecessors.

"Joplin was to American popular music what J.S. Bach was to classical music," Cather said. "Bach's music laid the formational groundwork for everything that came after it. The case is much the same with Joplin, in popular music. Everything that has come after it, in terms of American popular music, from jazz, blues and swing, to rock, hip hop, trance and techno, can trace its origins back to the music of Scott Joplin."

Cather spent many hours listening to ragtime music at the local library in his hometown of Arlington, Texas, but first became interested in ragtime, and particularly the music of Scott Joplin, thanks to the soundtrack for the movie "The Sting." He soon found that he wasn't the only one who had discovered a love for rags thanks to this revival.

"The Sting" put ragtime back into the mix of popular music as it hadn't

CHEATING, pg. 16

"The desire to succeed and get ahead is so strong that many people will cheat and feel like they can justify it due to the noble reason behind the cheating."

David Aiello
History teacher

Feb. 24, 2010

been in 60 years or so," Cather said. "You could not go out in public anywhere without hearing 'The Entertainer' [one of Joplin's most famous rags]. Radio stations played it, people hummed it, whistled it, it was on the background music in malls and stores. It was inescapable. People liked it, and, for the first in a very long time, Scott Joplin's name was one that ever kid taking piano lessons knew, because if anyone knew you played, the first thing they'd ask for was 'The Sting.'"

Cather soon also realized the importance of ragtime music to American culture.

"[Ragtime] gave us the ability to say to the world, 'here is something that is ours, that we created ourselves, out of our own people, our own experience,'" Cather said. "That the rest of the world looked upon it, and pronounced it good, should give us immense pride."

But the renewed nationwide appreciation for ragtime music was short lived. Soon, new movies came along with new soundtracks that captivated audiences just as "The Sting" had and except for a few people like Cather, ragtime music faded from the media spotlight and became irrelevant.

Cather observed that as a consequence society mistakenly developed the belief that ragtime was a thing of the past.

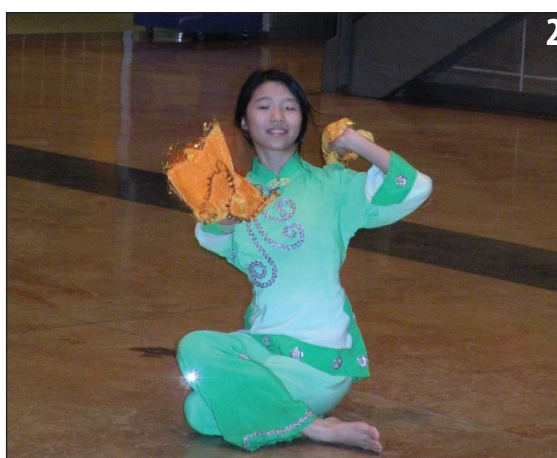
"The biggest misconception about ragtime might be that 'no one listens to it,'" Cather said. "To debunk that, look at the throngs of people at the various festivals. Concert halls are packed. People love this stuff."

Cather is also the co-editor of a newsletter for the Friends of Scott Joplin, a ragtime society in St. Louis, which holds various ragtime festivals, a monthly open piano night at Dressel's pub in the Central West End, and even has its own online radio station.

However, this does not change the fact that many people are still too caught up in the present to look back at the past. To these individuals, Cather has a strong message.

"Ragtime is not a dead form," Cather said. "It's being composed, performed, recorded, bought, sold and enjoyed. To anyone who turns up their nose and says 'all this is old music,' I just reply that an old song I've never heard is a new song to my ears."

And perhaps Cather's mantra is how we should approach our past. To many people, ragtime, along with countless other artifacts of our history, is an unknown entity, a new song they have not heard. Maybe, if we continue to preach the relevance of the past to our present, pioneers like Scott Joplin will receive the lasting credit they deserve. ☺



CHS celebrates Year of the Tiger

by Philip Zhang
Reporter

Although the holiday season is over for most people, the festive spirit was revived mid-February as people gathered to celebrate the Lunar New Year.

On Feb. 11, teachers, parents and students of Clayton High School and Wydown Middle School, totaling over 60 guests, attended the first annual Lunar New Year Celebration in the CHS commons. The celebration included traditional performances followed by a potluck dinner consisting of a surplus of Chinese food.

"This was an opportunity to celebrate cultural and language diversity at Clayton High School," English Language Learner teacher Karen Hales-Mecham said.

The evening highlights included remarkable performances by young people from CHS and the metropolitan St. Louis area — the Lion Dance, Chinese opera, a presentation on the Lunar New Year, the fan dance, the sword dance, Kung fu performance, saxophone performance of Chinese folk song, and traditional Chinese dance.

"I thought [the performances] were really cool," junior Mimi Liu said. "The show was really informative and broadened my knowledge about my cultural heritage."

Pinpun Yu, the Chinese language teacher at CHS, was glad

that the event turned out to be a success.

"I hope this celebration would stimulate student interests in studying about China," Yu said. "It is important to experience different cultures in the world."

In addition to the performances of the event, the food also left guests with lasting impressions, thanks to Hunan Wok restaurant and families that brought dishes.

"The food was delicious," freshman Julia Bui said. "It added a lot to the festive atmosphere of the celebration."

Liu also enjoyed eating Chinese food with her friends. "I liked the chow mein and the duck," Liu said.

The event was organized by Hales-Mecham and Yu. Students in Yu's Chinese language class were also involved.

"We started planning for the celebration a month ago," Yu said. "The students explored on the Internet about Lunar New Year, wrote brush writing as red couplets for decoration, and helped design the invitation program."

For the event, students in the Chinese language class decorated the commons with Chinese paintings and red lanterns. There were many drawings of tigers because next year will be the Year of the Tiger according to the Chinese zodiac. The Chinese Cultural Association also helped to advertise the event in the school.

"We plan to make this a yearly event at CHS," Hales-Mecham said. ☺

1. The Chinese Bird of Peace, or He Ping Ge, was hung from the ceiling at the CHS first annual Lunar New Year. 2. Sophomore Dee Luo performs a handkerchief dance. 3. Chinese lanterns provided a festive ambiance for the celebration. 4. A banner at the celebration reads "snow on the New Year brings a good harvest season."

Despite the odds, some teen romances last

by Mary Blackwell
Senior Features Editor

Most teenagers are not shopping for spouses or pursuing serious relationships, and lifelong partnership is usually not associated with high school romance. But for an exceptional few, high school relationships develop into marriage and long-term companionship.

For CHS math teacher Stacy Felps, English teacher Ben Murphy and Social Studies teacher Dave Aiello, romances that started in high school have led to marriage.

Aiello and his wife of 20 years, Janice, started their romantic relationship on the last day of high school at a party while she was fighting with her boyfriend, one of Aiello's good friends at the time. During his high school years, Aiello dated several different girls "always one at a time," (for logistic reasons) but he and Janis had often found themselves in the same circle of friends.

"We were at a party and she was having a spat with her boyfriend at the time and I was outside and we started talking," Aiello said. "We found that there was a connection there that we had not realized before. Her boyfriend was actually a good friend of mine, his locker was right next to mine and we had played sports together growing up."

While Janis's boyfriend went away to school, she and Aiello attended community college together.

"So he gave her the big speech of, 'Well I'm going away to the big school and I'm going to be dating other girls but since you're just going to be staying at home, living at home you should just stay here and wait for me,'" Aiello said. "So we dated basically whenever he wasn't in town."

They didn't date exclusively through the first years of college, but their relationship became more serious as the years went on.

"Before my senior year in college is when we realized that we really, really wanted to be just with each other," Aiello said. "So then we dated for another four or five years and then we got married."

Murphy and wife Julie have been together for 14 years, since sophomore year, and have never broken up since their relationship began. The couple attended different high schools and colleges, and Murphy attributes their long-term compatibility to their ability to appreciate each other's strengths.

"For instance, I love how quick and energized she is, and she values my fortitude and thoughtfulness," Murphy said. "We wouldn't have survived if we weren't able to recognize our differences as means of balance and growth. Conducting a long distance relationship during college obviously also required us to be patient and trust each other quite a bit as well."

Felps and her husband Jeff also never attended school together and started dating in 1980 during her junior and his senior year in high school. They met while working together at Zantigo--a Mexican restaurant that was "slightly better than Taco Bell."

"At the time, Zantigo had TV commercials starring Ricardo Montalban where he stated 'You're gonna fall in love, at Zantigo,'" Felps said. "That still makes me laugh!"

They have never completely broken up although they went through periods of seeing other people.

"Those times were usually really short and just confirmed that we were supposed to be with each other," Felps said.

Felps credits their balance of shared interests and individuality to their successful relationship.

"We have things that we do together, and things that we do apart," Felps said. "We have friends that we share, and friends that are our own. We have become our own people in ways that overlap but also separate. We don't rely on each other for everything."

But the experiences of these three high school sweethearts are rare, and the likelihood of marrying the significant other of your teenage years is slim.

"I think high school relationships are unlikely to last because people grow and change so much throughout college and early adulthood," CHS substitute coordinator Meg Flach said. "Even if a high school couple goes to the same college, there's so much to experience that I think it's inevitable that at least one of the pair will resent the other for holding them back, whether that's actually the case or not. College is often a place where people reinvent themselves and it's difficult to do so with a partner who keeps you tied to the past."

Saint Louis University Psychiatrist Hilary Klein agrees that the changes that come with maturation contribute to shifting romantic interests.



Emma Riley

"I think that adolescent love, and by adolescent I mean teenage and all the way for some people even into your twenties and even into your thirties has a lot to do with thinking that you can find a ying for your yang," Klein said. "Almost always this doesn't work out because as you mature and develop more you realize that you have to have inside of you the things that you need. The person you share your life with should not be based on need but rather desire."

Adults and peers alike often blame lack of maturity for failed teen relationships. This theory has scientific support as the study of brain development provides a concrete explanation for teenage behavior within romantic relationships.

"One of the things that relatively recent scholarship and psychology's figured out is this idea of the prefrontal cortex being the last part of your brain to really develop," Aiello said.

This part of the brain, located directly behind the forehead is part of the frontal cortex, which is responsible for higher order thinking. When the prefrontal cortex is underdeveloped, a teen's rational thinking and problems solving strategies are also underdeveloped.

"The idea that some experts have been suggesting is that a lot 15-16-17-year-olds don't really have that part of their brain developed, so the relationships formed in adolescence don't really make a whole lot sense," Aiello said. "They don't involve a whole lot of judgment and so they must be coming from other parts of the brain that are little bit more primitive."

Thus, relationships are more about the emotional and less about intelligent decision-making.

"So we have relationships because the person is really cute and inspires some emotions in us, not necessarily because we are thinking logically. 'This is a person that would make a good partner,'" Aiello said. "It feels good, it's enjoyable right now and so that's the sort emotional reason for a lot adolescent relationships."

The lack of lasting teenage relationships is undoubtedly connected to faulty emotional attachment.

"I think teenage love is lust," senior Hannah Klein said. "People don't know enough about themselves at this age to find the person they will be compatible with for the next 20, 30, 40 years down the road."

Aiello agrees that teenage romance is unlikely to be based on actual love.

"I will oftentimes make that joke in class, you know I'll say something like, 'young lust' or whatever," Aiello said. "I don't want to minimize the possibility that there actually could be what experts would say is true love in high school. I say it's the exception to the rule simply because of the biology of the brain, chemistry and hormones and all of that kind of crazy stuff that happens."

Growing apart is easier to do in modern times, as teens are more inclined to attend school in a different state or country.

"Fifty years ago a large number of kids who started dating somebody in high school, spent most of their adult life in that same community," Aiello said. "They didn't go away to school or get jobs in other {places}. The pool of possible partners was relatively small and based often times on where you lived."

However, the improbability of forming a lasting relationship does not defeat the purpose of dating in high school.

"Some people think there's no point in dating unless you're looking for marriage but I don't agree," Hannah Klein said. "It's important to get experience at this age so you know what you're looking for when you do decide to settle down."

Felps agrees that dating in high school can be beneficial for discovering individual needs or desires in future relationships.

"Dating in high school lets you begin to see what you like, or don't like in a potential partner," Felps said. "Each time you are with somebody new it should help you learn more about yourself, what you want from life, and how a partner fits in with and supports who you are."

Flach, who had several boyfriends throughout high school, found her experiences beneficial.

"I honestly think dating in high school is really important," Flach said. "There are so many social nuances that need to be learned and practiced in the relative safety of a high school setting. Once you get to the freedom of college, not having any dating experience can lead you in all sorts of dangerous directions. Practice makes perfect and high school is a great place to figure out how to flirt, get together, stay together, fight, make up, break up and all the things in between. Just don't take it all too seriously."

There are also dangers in emotional entanglement in the early years.

"I think that it is possible to become cynical very quickly," Hilary Klein said. "I think that it's possible to think that you as an individual are there to please the other person, to make them happy rather than to share the happiness between you. The biggest danger is in stunting the individual's development as a person, a fully rounded person and therefore not allowing her or him to understand what it is that they would like in a partner."

But the decision to date during high school is contingent of many factors including familial rules, religious influence, and personal preference.

"I don't date because I haven't found the right girl yet," senior Casey Lawlor said.

When Hannah Klein started dating seriously in her junior year, her mother Hilary Klein found herself more open to the relationship than her husband was.

"Much of that was gender based," Hilary Klein said. "My kids' father had difficulty with our daughter dating but had no difficulty with our son in the same situation. Much of that stemmed around his ideas that dating equaled sexuality and his discomfort with that. I don't necessarily think those are related although they can be. The more comfortable you feel with it the more easily you can transform that comfort to your children."

Aiello has three daughters, the oldest 13 years old. While he is a proponent of adolescent dating, he, too, is wary of the sexual activity often coupled with a romantic relationship.

"I personally would oppose sexual activity for a long, long time," Aiello said. "I strongly believe in monogamy and I believe that a married couple should be monogamous so I don't think that sexual experimentation should be a part of dating. Lots of research that has been done over the years shows that people who have fewer sexual partners and less sexual activity until they end up with the person that they are going to have a long-term relationship with, oftentimes end up much, much happier."

Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) leader John Holland and Jewish Student Union (JSU) leader Daniel Iken both view dating from a religious perspective.

"Many different Christians put many different spins on the rules for dating," John Holland. "But the abstinence rule applies almost universally, since it is indeed stated in the Bible that 'the marriage bed is to be undefiled' (Hebrews 13:4)."

Holland identifies the two basic rules of dating in Christianity to be date only Christians and abstain until marriage, though the latter guideline is more widely accepted throughout Christianity.

"I'll only date a Jewish girl, not because I'm discriminating against non-Jews, but because I want to raise a Jewish home and that would be easiest with a Jewish spouse," Iken said. "I meet many other Jews through involvement in youth groups, camps, and Jewish organizations."

In Orthodox Judaism, Jews date for marriage, usually much later in life.

"I know some people who have gone on two dates and gotten engaged," senior Kerrin Ast said. "Often Jews don't date unless they're ready for marriage."

Matchmaking still exists in traditional Judaism even on a professional level, and parents are heavily involved in setting up their children.

"Generally according to strict orthodox Judaism your not supposed to date before age 18," Iken said. "There is an old expression in Judaism that says 'At age 18 we should see you under the marriage canopy.'"

In Christianity, the rules are less explicit, but the sentiments are similar.

"Generally, I try to stay away from any truly close encounters, and at the same time I hope to reflect God's love for everyone in my interactions with girls," Holland said. "I suppose it's a tricky scale to balance, but I believe every Christian man must pursue as pure a relationship as he can find, and not encourage anything that is not true to his own emotions, and that is what I try to convey in my own practices." ♡

Yoga defined by the physical regardless of spiritual aspects

by Nia Charrington
Reporter

Is yoga a religion? Some people seem to think so.

Many feel very strongly that yoga is a religious practice for Hinduism or a religion within itself. According to Syracuse.com, a local publication's website, in October 2008, the parents of Massena High School in upstate New York petitioned that students not be taught yoga at the school because they felt it was a Hindu spiritual practice. The school later brought the class back under the name of Raider Relaxation with approval from the parental community.

Dr. Rebecca Taylor, a English teacher at Clayton High, has been doing yoga for nine years. Taylor feels that the parents of Massena high school may have overreacted and that a yoga program at Clayton might be better received.

"I think it would be a wonderful idea to have a yoga class at Clayton," Taylor said. "I think it would be met with less opposition."

In a recent debate, Missouri legislators have tried to tax yoga studios as fitness studios according to the St. Louis Post Dispatch. Missouri's yoga community disagrees with the tax by arguing that yoga is a spiritual practice and therefore exempt from the same taxes applied to gyms and fitness studios.

Gabe De la Paz, a CHS physics teacher, has been practicing yoga for

two months and feels that the yoga studio should still have to pay the tax.

"Some people are more into it religiously than others, but I'm not sure I agree with the tax exemption," De la Paz said.

Rebecca Bennett, who teaches free yoga classes at the West End Community Center, believes that the yoga studios are correct, if they are specific.

"They would be correct if the primary form of yoga they taught was one that emphasized spirituality," Bennett said. "There are five different kinds of yoga and only one is physical. There are people that devote their lives to the spiritual practice of yoga, it has its own holy book or verses called the Yoga Sutras."

The five types of yoga are Raja Yoga which has emphasis on meditation; Jnana Yoga which puts emphasis on self-enquiry; Bhakti Yoga which emphasizes worship; Karma Yoga which emphasizes community service; and lastly Hatha Yoga which emphasizes physical health. Hatha Yoga is what most Westerners associate with the word.

The majority of people who practice Yoga within the United States practice for health benefits.

"I think that the benefits of yoga are multiple and they include a sense of well being and relaxation," Kristie Skor, a Clayton resident who practices yoga regularly at D's Home Yoga, said.

Yoga has many benefits. It can in-

crease memory and concentration, while reducing stress and even blood pressure.

Yoga can relieve the symptoms of some chronic diseases like asthma, back pain, and arthritis.

Yoga also increases lung capacity, strength, balance, and posture. The yoga poses called asanas safely stretch the body releasing lactic acid in the muscles which reduces fatigue creating a sense of bodily harmony.

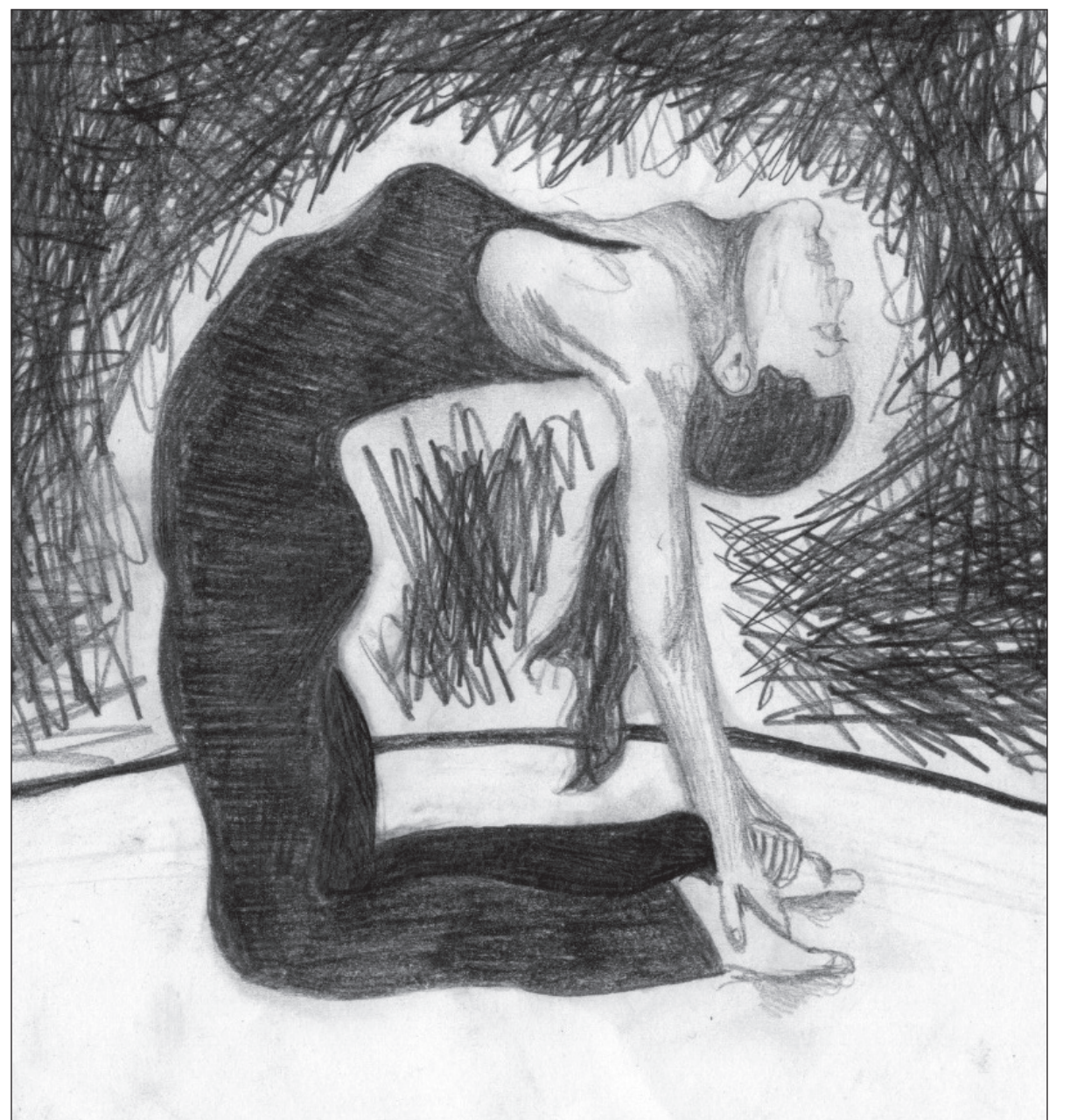
"Yoga is very calming," Taylor said. "Big Bend Yoga, where I take classes, is very quiet. Even the people in the lobby are whispering."

De la Paz highlighted the physical benefits he got from doing yoga.

"My joints are sore all the time," De la Paz said. "I'm not very good to them. Yoga increases my core strength, and improves my flexibility, which frees up tension in my joints."

Regardless of recent controversy, most people will continue to do yoga because they enjoy it and because of its health benefits. Each person something different from yoga.

"The thing I enjoy most about yoga is the stretch," Bennett said. "I love the stretch, it is a great metaphor for life. If you live long enough on this planet life gives you many opportunities to extend beyond your perceived limitations of yourself. In essence life gives you many opportunities to stretch, to push the boundaries of yourself, the perception of yourself and the world." ♡



Emma Riley

'Catcher in the Rye' resonates universally, has lasting impact

by Hannah Callahan
Editor

"If you really want to hear about it, the first thing you'll probably want to know is where I was born, and what my lousy childhood was like, and how my parents were occupied and all before they had me, and all that David Copperfield kind of crap, but I don't feel like going into it if you want to know the truth."

The truth is, what got me the day J.D. Salinger died on Jan. 27 wasn't the loss of the writer himself. He had been living as a recluse in his home in Cornish, New Hampshire for more than fifty years. He was 91.

And like Holden Caulfield, he didn't seem to want much to do with any world outside of his own.

But for some reason I let out an almost inaudible gasp when I read "The New York Times" headline: J. D. Salinger, Literary Recluse, Die at 91.

Here was the original Holden Caulfield. And here was his final fade from the world, left with-

out one to chastise or hide from, anymore, while I'm still stuck here, smoldering in teenaged bemusement.

But then again, "The Catcher in the Rye" Holden sits untouched for the most part, unlike his creator, in book-form on my shelf. I consult him. We can read each other's thoughts. I've never known someone so well.

Until we discovered each other, I was stuck in my own stupid brain cage, unexpressed misanthropy rattling against my skull walls.

Holden put my thoughts down on the page, bringing the order of syntax, diction, and a unique narrative to adolescent confusion, so that I could understand. So that we all could.

The truth is, you can still see Salinger, or rather, the character he created, wandering through yellow-lit school halls, narrating it all inside his or her head, tearing apart the "phony" facades of society and the adult world. Just in updated slang.

"Sometimes I'd get a horrible sinking feeling," junior Andrea Glik confessed,

"and I didn't know what it was, but it stuck with me every time I went back to New York. It was like I was slowly choking. Then I read the Catcher in the Rye, and I could identify the feeling—everything and everyone around me was completely fake."

Senior Jake Leech agrees. "Thus, this book lives on," he said, "On, and on and on."

"I really could relate," Leech continued, "in the whole idea of trying to save everyone I knew from all of their problems. I wanted to be the hero like our hero of the story, to love and be loved, and to save everyone I called close to me. That's all I wanted and all he wanted. We come to find we can't and

Any kid who feels like he doesn't belong can understand and relate to Holden Caulfield. "The Catcher in the Rye" was something I wanted to say but couldn't find the words for.

Andie Glik
Junior

attached to our limbs like marionette dolls, maybe all of Salinger's threads twisted up into a web he couldn't get out of.

The novel has also sparked troubling responses throughout history, though. Mark David Chapman, the delusional man who shot and killed John Lennon, was carrying a copy of "The Catcher in the Rye" at the time, and read it until the police arrived at the scene. Reportedly, he reenacted scenes from the novel.

Additionally, the man who attempted to assassinate President Reagan was found with a copy of the novel in his hotel room.

When I want a connection I don't have here, or feel, very typically, that no one understands me, I read my copy of "The Catcher in the Rye," all yellowing pages, worn spine, without a front or back cover.

"Any kid who feels like he doesn't belong can understand and relate to Holden Caulfield," Glik said, "'The Catcher in the Rye' was something I wanted to say but couldn't find the words for. I was going through a really big transition in my life. I identified with Holden, being confused and frustrated with everything, trying to find what's real in something completely fake. There was someone who completely understood how I felt."

However, high school stereotypes are all part of a connecting force—the tiny threads—in Salinger's intricate web.

These connections make me think: while walking through the halls, are we all thinking variations of the same, silenced thought?

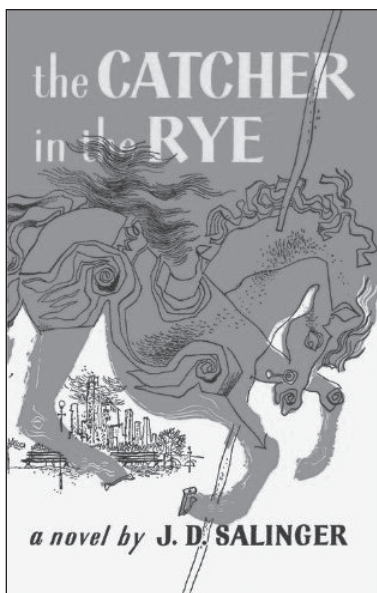
"It seems so genuine," Murphy said, "that's the enduring legacy J.D. created. The portrait of a young person rings true. As much as I'd like to talk about Salinger's life as a recluse, and the book's strange responses, I hope people keep reading the book. The rebellious teenager was a more rare breed in the 1950's. What is already dated is the language that he used. Some see the language and discount its authenticity. It's a problem we all have: to see ourselves for what we really are. And in a reverse way, the book helps us do that."

The irony of the novel's success, though, is that while Salinger's angst-filled alter ego, Holden Caulfield, sparked connections with generations of outcasts, Salinger himself withdrew from the limelight. Holden was the overwhelming force of adolescent understanding that Salinger fled from.

With all of the novel's success, perhaps, as Murphy explained, he became someone Holden would have chastised.

So maybe Salinger was one giant contradiction, and he knew it. Or maybe, he didn't want the responsibility that came with so much understanding.

If all six billion people in the world are connected by tiny, invisible threads,



Amazon.com

Clayton possesses unique 'spirit'

by Bianca Vanucci
Reporter

The attendance at sporting events often gets Clayton High School criticized for lack of school spirit. CHS students themselves have accepted this as a fact, but what if it's not true? CHS school spirit might very well be showing in a different way.

Donna Rogers-Beard has been a history at CHS for 20 years. Her previous work experience includes University City High School.

"In University City," Rogers-Beard said. "As well as in my own high school experience, there was a more outward display of school spirit. There would be more participation at games and more pep rallies."

"I think there are some schools where it's tradition," Assistant Principal Marci Pieper said. "It's tradition for them to pack the stands and sell out, it's always been done."

Sophomore Jillian Sandler joined the Cheerleading Team this year with the goal of doing something about this.

"I thought the spirit was way too low," Sandler said. "Crowds would never join in on cheers, I wish they'd collaborate a little bit more. I'm really into school spirit and I thought I'd change the squad."

Pieper believes that school spirit is very cyclical at CHS. She remembers how 10 years ago there was a group called the Mad Hatters who would go out and they'd cheer at games.

"This year we have the Clayton Craziest," Pieper said. "With the right people in charge [Luhning and Nelke] the Craziest have brought a lot of student participation. They do things a bit differently."

The perception is that people are no longer attending dances and other school sponsored events. However, this year there were around 400 kids at the Peppers and Homecoming dances, maybe even 350 at the Halloween dance. That is about half of the student body.

"There's a lot more going on than people realize," Pieper adds. "School spirit is a lot more than showing up at sporting events. Students are proud of their high school."

Rogers-Beard sees the pride Clayton students feel in their school.

"It shows in how clean our halls are for example," Rogers-Beard said. "It says students like where they are, they feel good about it. There is not much vandalism, posters aren't destroyed in the hallway."

"There's no vandalizing or much trash," Custodian Lidia Gollahon said. "Sometimes people are late to class, they get up and they leave, but it's not bad."

School spirit ultimately is the pride one feels for their school, and though we do not see outward participation there is certainly a feeling of pride.

CHS students receive many freedoms other schools do not allow their students.

"Students know how lucky they are to have these freedoms," Rogers-Beard said "and they most certainly appreciate it."

Kelsey McFarland, a junior, doesn't think people realize how lucky they are.



Sarah Blackwell

"Coming from the town I came from," McFarland said, "it really irks me that kids don't appreciate this school and what they have."

It is well known that there is no-cut policy at CHS, and kids are very involved academically as well as in sports. The participation in clubs and academic activity at CHS is outstanding. Almost every single student is involved in one or more school sponsored activity.

"Some people don't have time to cheer everybody else on because they are so involved themselves," Rogers-Beard said.

"Our school just has a different feel than other schools, always has," Pieper said. "CHS is very college oriented. If a student has to make a choice between an A on a test or attending a sporting event, a Clayton High School student will always pick the test."

Across the United States there are very many high schools that are traditionally into sports, and CHS is not one of them.

At the end of the day, CHS students should recognize the ways in which their high school is unique.

Though our participation at sporting events may not be part of the tradition, it says something about our school that academics come first. It may not be a very obvious kind of school spirit, but it's there.

New HPV vaccines encouraged for youth

by Jacqueline Leong
Editor

We've all been there. During the routine yearly checkup, we are mildly horrified to find that we are slated for a slew of shots, including our first set of booster shots. But now, along with the usual contenders—tetanus and pertussis, to name a few—a separate, unfamiliar name tags along. A vaccine for HPV? For a 12-year-old?

This scenario certainly isn't new; the quadrivalent HPV vaccine commonly known as Gardasil, or QHPV, has been available in the United States since 2006. However, since then, a second, bivalent, vaccine—known as Cervarix, or BHPV—has recently been cleared for use in the U.S., while the most common vaccine, Gardasil, was recently approved by the FDA for use in boys as well as girls, though it still has to be cleared others before mainstream use.

"The Committee on Immunization Practices, ACIP for short, is the Center for Disease Control agency that makes formal recommendations on use of vaccines," Diane Merritt, Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Director of Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology at Washington University, said. "ACIP accepted the FDA recommendations but did not endorse vaccinating boys and men. They are 'permitting' vaccination and leaving that decision to the individual patients, families, and health care providers."

The Gardasil vaccine is the exact same for both genders, involving a series of three doses. After the initial dose, the second and third shots are issued two and six months afterwards, respectively, totaling to a six-month-long process. Though it's been approved for males by the FDA thus far, its journey does not stop after ACIP approval.

"The kicker is that now we have to wait for insurance companies to kick in and approve," Jill Powell, Associate Professor of the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Women's Health at St. Louis School of Medicine, said. "I suspect that in the next two years or so, we won't be vaccinating quite as many boys as we are girls, but still quite a few."

Though, obviously, only females can get cervical cancer, both genders are susceptible to genital warts, which are infectious. In addition, the more people vaccinated, the less exchange of the disease as well.

Cervarix, which had been used in other countries well before it appeared in the U.S., has not applied to be given to males yet. Though both vaccines are grouped under the same umbrella function—HPV prevention—they are slightly different.

Both vaccines protect against HPV-16 and HPV-18, the two strains of HPV responsible for 70 percent of all cervix cancers, Powell said. In addition, though Cervarix is supposed to offer longer, better protection, Gardasil shields against two additional strains which Cervarix does not: HPV-6 and HPV-11, which are responsible for 90 percent of genital warts cases.

However, the vaccine only protects against those strains if one hasn't been exposed to them yet, which is the reason

that the vaccine is offered to as early as age nine. Even though the vaccine can be given anytime from age nine to 26, it is recommended by ACIP for ages 11 to 12 years of age.

Ideally, all three doses of the vaccine should be administered well before coming into contact with any of the strains protected against, as the protection is weaker against strains the body has already encountered.

"The reason they picked ages 11 to 12 is because [at that age] you get re-immunized with booster shots," Merritt said. "They chose to throw it in at that time, to catch the biggest population. The primary care provider offices are used to give vaccines at age 11 to 12 years to boost the immune responses to many diseases like tetanus, and meningococcus, so adding the HPV vaccine to this usual series of vaccinations makes a lot of sense."

Around 18 million doses of Gardasil were given in the U.S. last year, Powell said, and about 36 million doses worldwide. Even so, it is estimated that only 25 percent of females eligible for the HPV vaccine—that is, girls and women aged 9 to 26—have actually been immunized in the U.S.

No one knows for certain if the vaccine, being relatively new, lasts a long time. Data is being taken from those who took the vaccine a decade prior, and there is no evidence yet that suggests that a booster will be after that long. Still, many are investing in a vaccine that not last.

"We have data with this vaccine from Scandinavia, and it is still active after 10 years," Merritt said. "There is no information that says that we need to give a booster shot, yet."

Powell agrees. "We might need a booster if the shows any signs of weakening," Powell said, "But we don't know [for sure] until we watch for a long time."

In addition, Merritt describes the HPV vaccine as "a very expensive vaccine to keep stocked" in doctor's offices, requiring a specific temperature environment.

Powell adds that the vaccine isn't live, so getting the vaccine can't cause you to get HPV as well. However, said, since the vaccine is grown in "similar to bread yeast," those with allergies shouldn't take the vaccine, traces of the yeast could remain.

"We really need to educate people about the getting [the vaccine]," Powell said. "I do think that on having my own kids vaccinated when they come of age."

Merritt agrees. "It works better if everybody is vaccinated," Merritt said. "Girls really should think about getting vaccinated before any sexual contact could place them at risk, certainly in high school, definitely by college-age."

In addition, Powell said, to the vaccine being important now, it also has prospects in future medicine, beyond the narrow scope of a few strains of HPV. It is, in effect, "the first cancer-preventing vaccine," in successfully protecting against cervical cancers.

"Maybe, in the future, we'll already have created more vaccines like it," Powell said. "Maybe we can lower cancer rates this way. It's a big shift in how we're approaching how to treat cancer—it's exciting."

Preemptive review: Apple's iPad unimpressive, lacks innovations

by Ken Zheng
Co-Editor in Chief

iPod and iPhone: meet iPad, your newest sibling and Apple's latest addition to its lineup of mobile devices. This time, the company seeks to revolutionize the tablet market as it did with the MP3 and the cellular business.

CEO Steve Jobs cradled the device in his arms as he announced it to the world on Jan. 27. Like most of Apple's products, few can dispute its beauty. The device is encased in a curved and sleek silver shell half an inch thick with a vibrant 9.7 inch screen. The device appears to be an oversized iPhone with identical button and port layout but is faster and more advanced in almost every way.

"Almost" being the key word. After Jobs announced the iPad, there was heavy opposition on many fronts. While many critics commended the starting price of \$499, there was a lack of enthusiasm at the device's meager feature list.

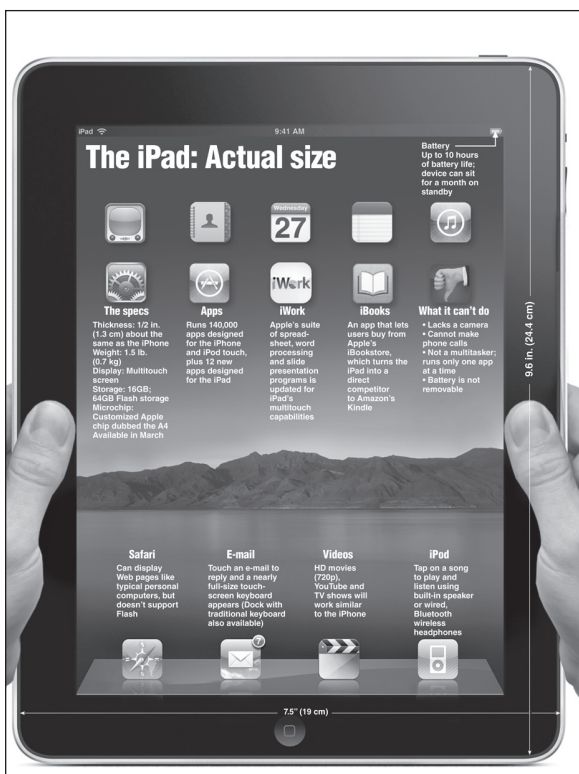
The iPad is running a stripped-down version of OS X or a souped-up version of the iPhone OS. Either way you look at it, the device is stuck in the middle. Apple launched the device in order to fill a supposed gap between its laptops and mobile devices.

The company created a version of the iWork suite including Pages, Numbers and Keynote just for the device while most applications that work on the iPhone will also work on the iPad. Users can either keep the application at its normal size centered on a larger screen, or expand it to fill up the entire space at the cost of the screen's resolution.

In terms of hardware, there isn't much to flaunt because iPad lacks a camera like the iPhone, a physical keyboard like the MacBook. However, one thing the iPad can do is provide 3G cellular data from AT&T, for a price, of course. This type of portable wireless productivity is commendable, but a notebook with a wireless contract could perform similarly. The likely cheaper netbook could also multitask, another major letdown in the iPad's capabilities.

The hype created for this device simply doesn't stack up with what it can do. Before the launch, MacRumors quoted Steve Jobs saying that he was "extremely happy with the new tablet" and even how it "will be the most important thing [he's] ever done." Given these descriptions, one would expect the iPad to be able to levitate or something of the sort.

Apple's strategic marketing involves stringing along its loyal customers with bits of rumors until the device is believed to be magical. That plan worked wonders for the iPhone, which delivered a phone, iPod and Internet browser all in one. What does the iPad deliver aside from good looks and the ability to read electronic books like Amazon's Kindle?



Karl Kahler, Andrea Maschietto, San Jose Mercury News/MCT

There isn't a clearly defined niche for the iPad either. Apple seems to think that it can be a great browsing experience while also holding its own in the e-book market. There are two holes in that plan: the iPad doesn't support Flash and can't use e-ink.

Flash is a ubiquitous and vital part of the Internet that powers video players like YouTube and Hulu and displays many parts of the more interactive parts of the Web. E-ink is used in most e-readers and offers an experience much easier on the eyes.

Even after many people saw how little the device could do after the launch, the company still calls the device on its website "Our most advanced technology in a magical and revolutionary device at an unbelievable price."

Sorry Apple, I'm not buying it. Revolutionary? I think not. I would hardly call this device evolutionary. Granted, actually holding the iPad and seeing it in its overhyped glory could change my opinion completely.

While I believe that many people will find some excuse to incorporate the iPad into their lives, this device could have been so much more.

Plagiarism incident prompts community discussion

by **Nina Oberman**
Co-Editor in Chief

It's past midnight on Thursday. You just finished that 12-page English paper on Modernism. Now on to the lab report—you're drained. You Google the title. An example of the exact assignment pops up. Do you use it?

For many CHS students, the answer is yes. In a recent Globe survey issued to six English classes, 39 percent of the students admitted to cheating to obtain a better grade, 16 percent said they had never cheated, and 45 percent did not respond.

But for those who choose to use the lab report, there is a more important question to answer: *how* do you use it?

For chemistry teacher Nathan Peck, this was a complex issue. Several students in AP Chemistry made the same unique mistake on the Qualitative Analysis Lab, one of the most important labs of the year.

After further investigation, Peck found that a former student had posted his labs on a website for others to view. The errors were identical.

Peck said that there are gray areas when it comes to cheating—that there is a difference between copying something and using it as a resource to understand a problem.

"There was a variable grade penalty assessed that was commensurate with the degree to which plagiarism occurred on the assignment," Peck said.

Peck also offered his students the option of confessing to having looked at the lab report and receiving a grade penalty, or taking their chances of not getting caught and having worse consequences.

Now, the class places more emphasis on lab quizzes rather than lab reports, a change that Peck hopes will ensure that students "own the knowledge" necessary to succeed.

"Kids tend to focus too much on the product instead of focusing on the process," Peck said. He stands by the way he dealt with this issue, and believes that the changes he made will get his students focused back on the learning process.

But some community members have questioned if the punishment was strict enough.

Andy Rochman, who graduated from CHS in 1964, said he was "shocked by the school's minimalist, slap-on-the-wrist response."

As a community member, he has been concerned for several years with academic integrity in the school district. When an article about cheating was published in the March 2007 Globe, Rochman was stunned that CHS students were willing to brag about instances of cheating.

He spoke about this issue at a school board meeting, and superintendent Don Senti penned a letter in response.

"While students may feel that there are gray areas surrounding this issue, their teachers do not share the same perspective," Senti said.

Evidently, some teachers at CHS do share the same perspective. According to a Globe survey that asked teachers to rank certain actions on a scale of 1 to 5, 1 being not really unethical and 5 being absolutely unethical, numbers varied. However, only 17 teachers responded out of approximately 90.

For example, 9 out of 17 teachers reported that there was a difference between collaborating on an assignment that is supposed to be done individually and plainly copying answers from another student's homework.

"Where things often get gray is let's say we're in a class together, and it's an individual assignment, but I'm struggling," Principal Louise Losos said. "You

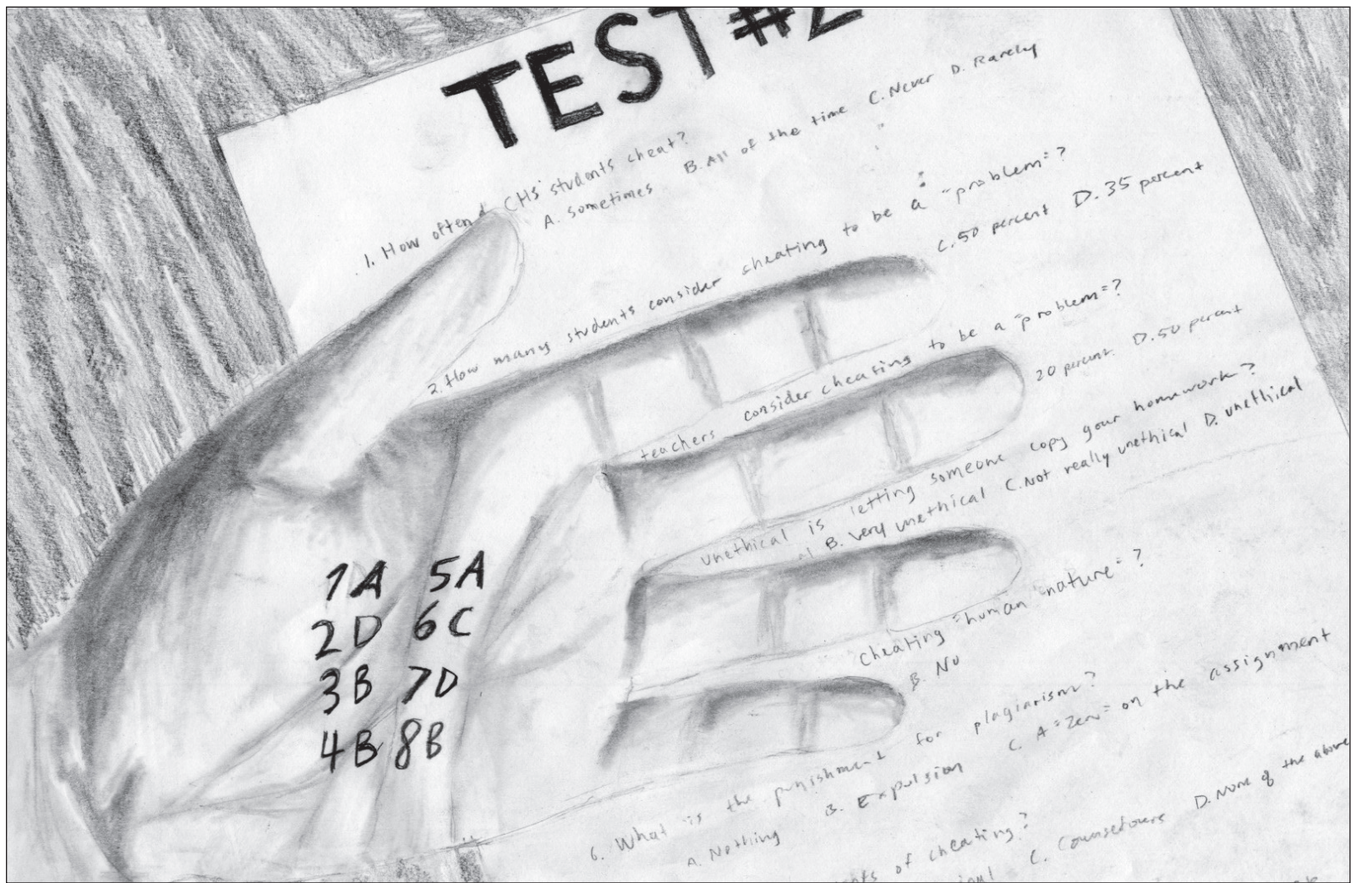
talk me through it. You don't let me copy your work, but you help me process it. Is that cheating? Probably not. But you were told to work independently, so it's that very fine line."

J. Martin Rochester, Professor of Political Science at the University of Missouri-St. Louis and an active member of the Clayton community, sees cheating as fairly straightforward.

"There are gray areas, but 95 percent of plagiarism is clear-cut," Rochester said. "It's not rocket science, and AP students should be able to figure out what cheating is."

Losos offered a simple definition. "In the end, when a student turns in that work, when they put their name on it, the work needs to be theirs," Losos said.

Currently, the administration does not have a school-wide policy for pun-



Nina Oberman

“There was a variable grade penalty assessed that was commensurate with the degree to which plagiarism occurred on the assignment.”

Nathan Peck
AP Chemistry teacher

ishing cheating. Losos, along with many teachers, wants to keep it that way.

"I like the fact that our policy allows teachers to determine the consequence commensurate with the infraction," Losos said. "Teachers are professionals, and they have a responsibility in the classroom."

Rochman, however, feels differently.

"There needs to be some kind of consistency and unless you have some kind of top-down guidelines that won't happen," Rochman said. "It puts too much pressure on the teachers and the administration when the teachers make up their own rules."

Rochester agrees that teachers should be responsible for issuing punishments, but thinks that cheating needs to be tracked more efficiently.

"I do believe strongly that the classroom is your castle," Rochester said. "The teachers should be permitted to have control over the grade, but there has to be a school wide system for reporting and monitoring cheating. Teachers should be obligated to report it to the principal, and the principal should be required to keep a record." In this way, "serial" cheaters cannot

evade harsher punishment by cheating in several classes.

"We don't have a systematic way of recording incidents of cheating," Losos said. "Right now we might need to look at some of our systems so that a kid can't cheat once in each of the core areas and have no severe consequences."

Still, before punishment comes prevention.

"I think that perhaps as an institution we can be doing a better job of talking with the students about our expectations—our belief about what is cheating and what is not," Losos said. "There is some cheating that is clearly black and white, and there is some cheating where it's worth having a discussion. But that discussion has to come before hand, and not after."

Teachers should thus do a better job of clarifying when an assignment is collaborative or individual, Losos said.

"One of the things that is contributing to plagiarism is this obsession with collaborative learning," Rochester said. "Because there's so much made of collaboration, it's become a bit of slippery slope, where students now assume that it's okay to get help on something even if that constitutes cheating."

However, some students know that their actions are unethical but still choose to cheat.

"I've copied other students' work several times," an anonymous senior said on the survey. "My parents are really strict about grades. There is so much pressure placed on academic success that a lot of us resort to cheating."

But perhaps in this case, "success" is being measured as a grade, and not as the level of understanding—an indication that students are still focusing on the "product instead of the process" as Peck asserted.

"I see Clayton as a moral relativism community," history teacher David Aiello said. "The desire to succeed and get ahead is so strong that many people will cheat and feel like they can justify it due to the noble reason behind the cheating. I believe it is endemic to this type of high-achieving community, and can feel almost necessary just to stay competitive with those who will cheat at the drop of a hat."

Students seem to disagree. Only 35 percent of the surveyed students said that cheating was a problem at CHS, whereas 100 percent of the teachers said it was.

"To the extent there's any solution to the problem, it has to be education at the front end, where it's explained clearly to the students and there's adequate warning from faculty about the consequences," Rochester said. "Clayton makes a big deal about the open campus, treating kids like adults, and personal responsibility, but in this issue, they fall back into 'kids will be kids.'"

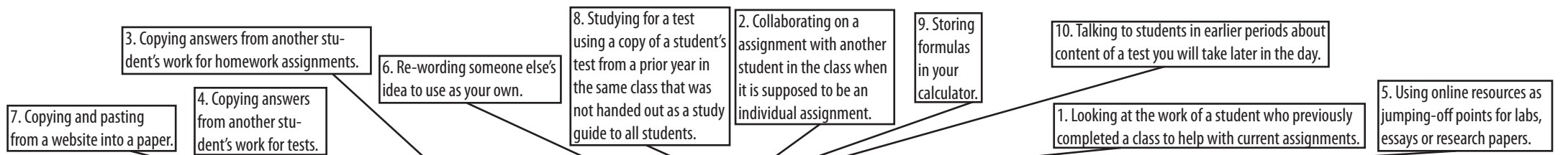
The district will be reconvening a committee on Academic Integrity in the hopes of drafting a more precise definition of cheating.

The statement on Academic Integrity currently reads: "Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty shall be subject to disciplinary action at either the classroom or building level."

Is this statement too vague, or vague enough to allow appropriate interpretation? "One of the attributes of Clayton High School is the individual responsibility given to students and teachers, combined with a level of mutual responsibility to each other, the building and our profession," Losos said. "We don't enforce our discipline code with a draconian approach." ☹

Survey: when it comes to cheating, are there 'gray areas'?

Student responses above the bar



Absolutely Unethical

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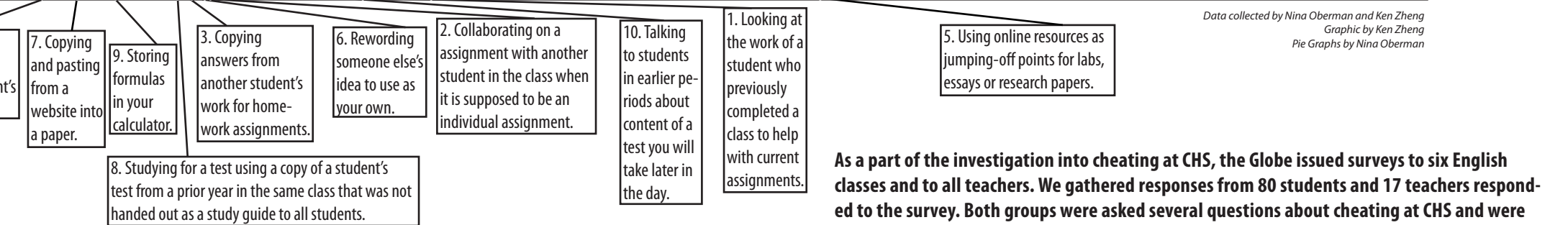
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Not Really Unethical

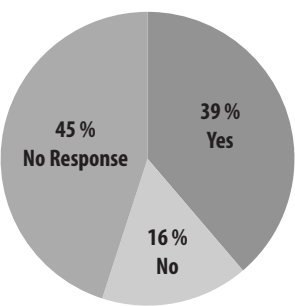
Teacher responses below the bar



Data collected by Nina Oberman and Ken Zheng
Graphic by Ken Zheng
Pie Graphs by Nina Oberman

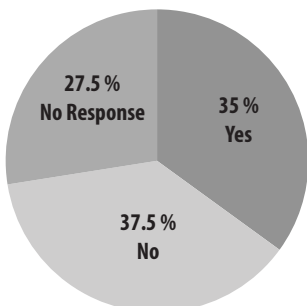
As a part of the investigation into cheating at CHS, the Globe issued surveys to six English classes and to all teachers. We gathered responses from 80 students and 17 teachers responded to the survey. Both groups were asked several questions about cheating at CHS and were also asked to rank certain "cheating" actions on a scale of 1 to 5, 1 being not really unethical and 5 being absolutely unethical. The results are presented in the graphics above and below.

Students

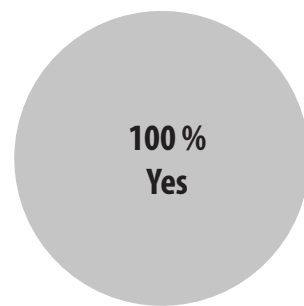


Have you ever cheated to obtain a better grade?

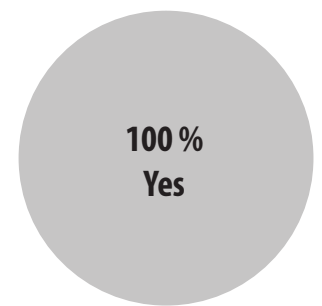
Teachers



Is cheating a problem at CHS today?



Have you ever caught a student cheating?



Is cheating a problem at CHS today?

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Meredith McMahon

Broomball history repeats itself

by Caroline Greenberg
Reporter

Runny noses and numb hands couldn't stop the intense games of broomball, an old tradition at CHS.

The annual tournament took place on Feb. 10. Broomball is much like hockey, but the ball is not a puck but a soccer ball, and the sticks are now brooms. There are also no skates but closed-toed shoes, and always a helmet for safety.

Safety is key to this game for it is so easy to slip on the ice. Slipping and sliding along is part of the fun of the game.

"Until the second game I couldn't move very well on the ice," freshman Jonathon Waldman said. "I came out very soar the next day from falling, but next year there is no doubt I will be playing again."

Although there was much sliding on the ice no one got injured while playing the game.

Broomball is classically held on the weekends but this year it was moved to a Wednesday. According to CHS math teacher and STUGO sponsor Kurt Kleinber, it was thought that the games were on a weekend date, but later on realized it was on a school night. There was much controversy and there was even a discussion of moving the games.

"We talked about moving to a different rink but it would have changed the spirit to not be on home turf," Kleinberg said. "Despite it being a weekend date the turnout was fantastic, and the spirit was high."

The games were scheduled to be held from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., but the games wrapped up early. Although the games were held later than normal, many people still played and cheered on their friends.

"At first I was really hesitant to have it on a Wednesday, but everyone had such a good attitude it really didn't mat-

ter," STUGO president Eve Root said. "I feel like most people stayed longer to cheer on other teams."

Many people saw no difference in the change in the nights other than the fact they had school the next day.

"I had play practice so I was not there for the whole time, but it did not seem any different having it on a Wednesday rather than a weekend day," senior Shelby Sternberg said. "I still finished all my homework and was ready for school the next day."

Many teachers were worried that students would be out late into the night. However, to ensure everyone would finish in one night, each game was ten minutes long, which were five minutes shorter than last year. These five minutes made a large change for almost every game went to penalty goals.

"Historically most games went to overtime so were looking into possible changes in the game to see more scoring," Kleinberg said.

These changes are not definite nor ready to be announced what they will be but they will ensure more scoring for the games. When in overtime, the goals were set that three people would get the ball into the goal and the first to do so would win. At least one of the people had to be girls.

AP Euro won, the second consecutive year a social studies team reigned victorious, with a goal from Will Hayes.

"It was pretty awesome winning two years in a row," senior Joe Evers said, who played on AP US History last year. "We all knew how to work so well together by being in class together for two years."

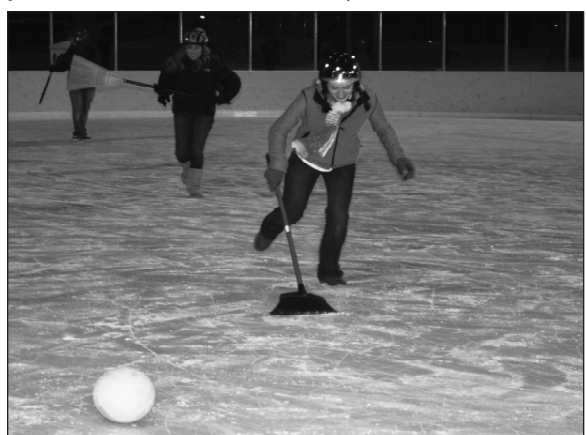
This team mostly full of seniors will be missed next year when the time for Broomball comes back around.

Broomball has been at Clayton for a very long time and is an annual event in which any one can play. To get involved for next year just grad a broom and make a team. ☺



Eve Root

ABOVE: AP Euro poses after winning the annual Broomball Tournament on Feb. 10. The team was composed mostly of seniors, many of whom played on the victorious team of last year, AP US History. BELOW LEFT: Senior Sonja Petermann chases down the ball with senior Eliana Harris in pursuit. BELOW RIGHT: Junior Scott Jeffrey studies the bracket after his team was defeated in its first game.



Jen Maylack



Jen Maylack

Students looking forward to joining military as alternative to college

While still an unconventional plan, recent graduates have entered the service academies and others look to follow.

by Jonathan Shumway
Reporter

Many people look to college as their next step after graduating from high school, but there are also many who consider the military as an option.

According to Sgt. Andrew Haagan, a military recruiter for high school students in the St. Louis Area, 70 percent of military recruits come straight out of high school.

Sophomore Albert Howard, who hopes to join the military after high school, said that the things that interest him in the military are, "discipline, money for college, and a place for me to go if things don't work out." He believes the military provides many opportunities to its enlistees.

Sophomore Freddy Barnes also aspires to join the military.

Barnes wants to go to Annapolis after high school and then complete his five years of service.

Barnes feels that by joining the military, he can gain the personality that he values so much in military men and women.

Hagaan said that the military is an opportunity to make strong bonds with others.

"Most people who join the military find friendships that last the rest of their lives," Haagan said. "It is one of the best places to learn camaraderie and friendship. When you are out in the middle of nowhere, you only have yourself and your buddies."

However, as of right now, the military has a surplus of men and women.

According to an article in The Washington Post, the Pentagon cites the rise in unemployment and bonuses for the reason that hundreds of thousands of citizens have enlisted.

"As of about a year and a half ago, [the military] lowered its standards, so eventually it has had to raise the standards in the last six months because it doesn't need so many enlistees," Haagan said.

"I have family members who are in the military," Howard said. "I saw it as an option rather than college, since it could provide me a job and money."

Howard said that one of his military heroes is a relative serving in the Middle East who saved a platoon from a roadside bomb.

"It shows that I am willing to put my life on the line for America," Howard said. "It also shows that I want to do something with my life."

Although Barnes always found the military interesting, it was not until a couple of years ago that he decided he wanted to join the military.

Barnes said that for several years he spent a lot of time at the St. Louis Country Fair and Country Show since his dad flies recreationally. Over those years, the military appeal to him developed.

"I spent a lot of time with the military pilots," Barnes said. "I saw their driven personality and this made me want to do it also."

Howard is now getting ready for the military.

"I am mentally trying to keep my grades so I can show that I am willing to work," Howard said. "I do a lot of push-ups and sit-ups before I go to bed. I am lifting weights to get physically strong."

Barnes is also starting to work towards his future in the military.

"I am working physically by working out a lot and getting my body in shape," Barnes said. "I am following the courses that anyone would need to get into college. I am trying to get good grades and good test scores. I am aiming high. I am also looking to political sponsorships and getting letter recommendations from federal Congress members."

Barnes says that he is not trying to prove anything by joining the military.

"It is about serving the country, and for the people who serve beside me," Barnes said. "I would do the job for free because it is not about the money."

The military provides discipline for many, and the ability to pursue education after high school. It also gives people a broad perspective of the world, introducing to them places that they could not have traveled to before.

"Where can you go to serve your country, get college benefits, experience, and get everything all paid for at the same time?" Haagan said.

Although not all hear the call of the military, those who do are passionate about their decision. ☺



Jen Maylack

The Mid Country Branch of the St. Louis County Library system allows students to check out books and provides a quiet place to study. It is located at the intersection of Maryland Ave. and N. Central Ave.

Local libraries offer a study haven

by Simone Bernstein
Senior Managing Editor

When looking for a quiet place to study, many CHS students resort to one of the surrounding libraries in the St. Louis area. The CHS library closes early after school so some students choose to study at one of the area library branches.

Popular libraries for students at CHS include the Mid County Library in downtown Clayton, the Richmond Heights Memorial Library, the University City Library and the Headquarters library in Frontenac. Each library offers unique programs for teens and convenient places to study.

Although the Headquarters branch is a farther drive for students in the Clayton community, the branch has more events and resources for research projects. The Headquarters branch is one of the few libraries in the St. Louis area open on Sunday.

"Headquarters is the largest branch of the St. Louis County Library system, housing the most books, magazines, newspapers and DVDs of any other branch," said Sarah Windau, Headquarters Youth Services Assistant Manager. "Unlike the branch libraries, Headquarters is divided into departments and has multiple floors. On the main level, there is a separate Reference Department with staff solely dedicated to answering information and computer-related questions, plus teaching instructional classes. Free Internet computers are located in the Reference section. Library support staff and library administration offices are also located at Headquarters."

Over the past few years, Headquarters has tried to increase the number of young adult authors to speak at the branch.

"We try to have an author of a teen book speak and sign books at least every few months," Windau said. "In the past we've had John Green, Melissa de la Cruz, and Ally Carter. Lisa McMann and Heather Brewer will be at Headquarters on February 22."

The Headquarters branch also hosts a wide range of activities for teenagers each month.

"On the second Friday of each month, there's an after-hours Teen Night," Windau said. "So far we've had Twilight Trivia, Video Game open play and Karaoke Night. This month, we're doing a Chocolate Fever night, with chocolate-related games, trivia and a chocolate fountain. Over the summer, we're planning to have a teen program every week. We've been trying to start a Teen Advisory Group to get input on planning programs. Because teens are so busy, we've been considering doing an online Teen Advisory Group via Facebook, so we can get some opinions and ideas too."

Due to its large space and attractive layout, some students choose to work at the Headquarters branch.

It's a large building and we have lots of study tables, including a large quiet area," Windau said. "In the last couple

of years, during finals in December and May, we've notice such an influx of students, we've been opening up our large meeting rooms for group study and providing free snacks on certain nights. Plus, Starbucks is nearby, and we do allow you to bring in small snacks and drinks."

The Mid County library in downtown Clayton is extremely convenient for students looking for a quiet place to study on week nights and Saturdays. However, the Clayton branch is not open on Sundays. Over the past few years they have tried to increase the number of activities for teens. For the next few weeks the Mid County branch will hold a photography contest for teens.

The St. Louis Public Library is the oldest in the area. This system is noted for its rare architectural books, African American literature, historical Fairy Tales, family histories, Civil War resources, historical information on St. Louis, patents and trademarks.

"St. Louis Public Library's history dates back to 1865, when the St. Louis Public Schools, established a library," said St. Louis Public Library Young Adult Librarian Carrie Dietz. "It's the oldest library system in the Metropolitan area. Unlike many public libraries of the time there were no age restrictions and children were encouraged to visit."

The St. Louis Public Library was recently ranked number two in the nation. They have 16 locations across the city and see more than 2.3 million visitors each year and have over 71,000 cardholders. The library system has more than 4.7 million books and items.

The St. Louis Library also offers a variety of programs for teens.

"We offer regular video games like Xbox 360 and Wii," Dietz said. "We have craft programming, a summer reading club, book discussions and host young adult authors. Jennifer Brown, the author of the 'Hate List' will be at Carpenter Library on March 11. We also have the Read it Forward Program where teens get a free book and an opportunity to meet an author in the fall and spring."

Volunteer opportunities are available for teens at most library branches in the St. Louis area. This summer, the libraries are in high demand for volunteers to help with activities and events.

"Anyone from the age of 13 to 17 can visit their local St. Louis Public Library Branch and pick up an application," said Pepi Parshall, Volunteer Services Coordinator for the St. Louis Public Library. "The application asks for references from two individuals who will answer questions about the teen. The largest number of volunteers are needed throughout the summer to assist with programs and the Summer Reading Club. Depending on the Branch they visit, opportunities may be available throughout the year."

Each library in the St. Louis area provides specific events and benefits for teens looking to find a new release DVD, use a public computer or meet friends to study in a quiet environment. ☺

Fantasy ruins reality, creates predictable mystery in 'The Lovely Bones'



Helen Wiley

by Jackie Leong
Editor

You're baking a cake with a friend. "I don't think we can fit three different kinds of chocolate in it," he says to you. "Too hard. We'll just add more sprinkles on top to make up for it, and no one will know the difference."

Wait. Substitute sprinkles for actual flavor? That seems kind of backwards.

"Nonsense," says your friend. "It's easier if we skip all that chocolate. Besides, even if it ends up tasting like cardboard, everyone loves sprinkles."

Such is the sad case of "The Lovely Bones": an emotional exploration into how we all cope with tragedy, turned cheap thriller, topped—nay, smothered—with special effects to make up for what is lost.

Unfortunately, even the sharpest CGI can't make up for the absence of an entire emotional facet of what, originally, was meant to be a much more complex story than the movie lets on.

Based on Alice Sebold's bestselling novel of the same name, "The Lovely Bones" is narrated by 14-year-old Susie Salmon (Saoirse Ronan), who is brutally murdered in the beginning of the story.

Susie ends up in a sort of fantasyland between Heaven and Earth, anxiously watching her loved ones from above.

Though she is told that she cannot graduate to the real Heaven until she herself lets go of Earth, Susie cannot bring herself to do so.

Back on Earth, her father (Mark Wahlberg) spirals into a self-destructive mode, her little brother (Christian Thomas Ashdale) swears that he can perceive her presence, and her mother (Rachel Weisz), unable to cope at all, drives to California and lives in solitude.

Here is where the book and movie say their good-byes; while Sebold beautifully explored every aspect of a suffering family, director Peter Jackson evidently decided to take the easy way out.

As Sebold focused mainly on the family slowly unraveling from grief, Jackson instead turns the spot-

light on Susie and her grief-stricken father, Jack, and leaves the rest of the family fairly alone.

It's no coincidence—both Susie and Jack stew in the most predictably intense anger and misery one can imagine for the majority of the film.

Jack continuously searches for leads and clues, briefly turning violent when he discovers the identity of Susie's killer, while in her afterlife, Susie watches with emotions of a similar fashion.

Though these scenes were well-done, and well-acted, they turn the film into a cliché murder mystery laced with feeble attempts at conveying various nuances that Sebold built into the story as well.

What Jackson evidently can't handle are the more delicate emotions. He makes short work of Abigail Salmon, Susie's mother, who ultimately leaves to come to terms with her grief away from home. Jackson gives a single flash of her pain in one short scene, then has her leave rather suddenly.

Finally, without warning, she returns home, where she is easily accepted into the lives of the people she abandoned, as if she was never gone at all. The whole affair is rather choppy done—and I didn't believe it for a minute.

Sebold's Abigail is painted as forever struggling to escape, struggling once she's escaped, and struggling when she's obligated to back at home, where Jack is in the hospital, a much more realistic and believable person. Jackson's Abigail is a paper doll in comparison.

At the same time, Buckley's struggle is also omitted. In the movie, he accepts quickly and readily that his sister is dead, with no confusion, which is of course rather unrealistic. Jackson banks on the assumption that Buckley can apparently "see" Susie, with no follow-up whatsoever.

Even Lindsey, Susie's junior by one year, seems distant and undeveloped as a character. Instead of highlighting Lindsey's efforts to come to terms with the murder, Jackson merely uses her as another device to move the suspense along, emphasizing the fact that she suspects, and realizes early on, the identity of Susie's killer.

The film flattens all three into two-dimensional characters to make room for what Jackson must think pulls more audiences in: the thriller aspect.

"The Lovely Bones" plays out like any stereotypical mystery/thriller/drama would: girl is killed, family senses paranormal clues but isn't able to do anything, killer escapes, family moves on, killer falls off a cliff in a moment of poetic justice. And nothing more. Couldn't that have been any film?

Even more disconcerting than the loss of much of the story's depth is the fact that a large bulk of the film is actually nothing more than one animated landscape after another.

When Jackson focuses on Susie, he actually uses it as an excuse to experiment with the wildest animation he can.

Such scenes play out crystal-clear, with meticulous detailing, vibrant enough to jump off the screen. The problem? That's not acting, nor is it integral to the story. The girl is dead. We don't need huge flowers blooming under a frozen lake to remind us that her little slice of sub-heaven isn't Earth.

And it's not just one scene, which I believe might be tolerated, but scores of them. At one point, we witness a sort of fantasy-montage in which Susie shows that she can be whatever she wants in her world.

Watching Susie dance through some kind of celestial New York City is not bad, but it certainly isn't relevant either, not when Jackson is supposed to be to highlighting Susie's unwillingness to let go.

Movies are never quite like the book that they spring from. But it's a shame that Jackson felt the need to turn what could have been a touching study of the depths of family and relationships into something run-of-the-mill. And yet, one senses that he can't quite let go of his favorite parts of the original novel.

"The Lovely Bones" is the product of a director who can't quite make up his mind about whether he wants to stick to Sebold's emotional exploration, or go all-out and completely transform the thing into—alas—a suspense flick, and his ambivalence certainly shows. ☹

Despite amusing premise, 'Leap Year' lacks depth

by Caroline Greenberg
Reporter

"Leap Year" went to theatres but left quickly. Amy Adams, who plays a type-A, over organized woman with a "cardiologist" boy friend (Adam Scott) decides its time to tie the knot with him after he leaves for Dublin. She travels after him contemplating an old Irish tradition that on February 29, she can propose to him but it can only happen in Dublin and only on that day.

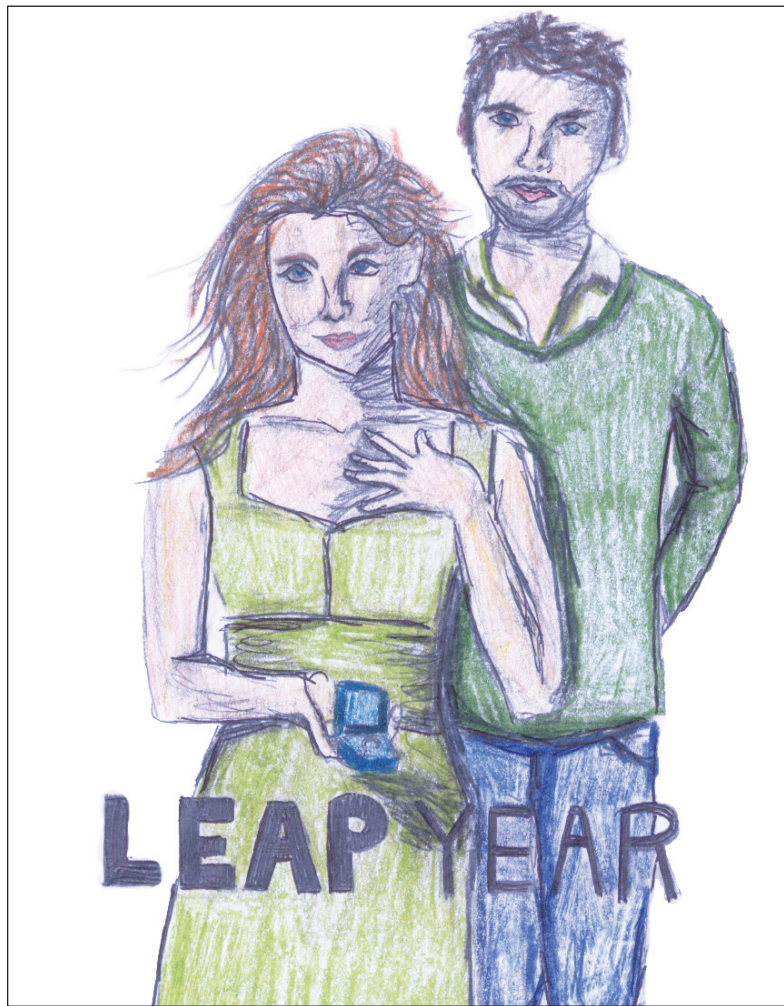
Once her plane breaks down due to a storm, she hires a young, very attractive male (Matthew Goode) to drive her all the way to Dublin to propose. As expected he is obnoxious, rude, and never listens to anyone except himself. Even more expected (as the story goes on) is that you see the relationship between the two develop.

Though she "googled" and found the validity of the folk tale, Adams makes it sound like Dublin is the place on the earth in which this magical event can take place.

Although doing this is unexpected for her workaholic boyfriend, who seems to care more about his reputation than his girlfriend.

Every Irish stereotype is used throughout the whole movie from the red hair, the little Irish Pub and the old time superstitions. Even the violent attribute is used in a bar scene in which the "hero" comes to the rescue to get her luggage.

Every possible storm and tragedy strikes from a hailstorm to rain storm trying to extend this very predictable plot. Even when they finally catch a



Taylor Gold

break they decide to take a walk, which makes them end up missing their train.

Amy Adams sliding down a muddy hill still comes up stylish and well dressed. Throughout the movie she is

dressed with never ending style. While she may have been stuck in a small corner room in a random motel, she still wore a silk robe and fuzzy slippers.

Adams has an ability to make things seem fresh and new. Even her charac-

ter's job is something unexpected, for she stages houses on the market. She has a double meaning for her "staged" personality in which she may seem put-together but on the inside she is a complex character.

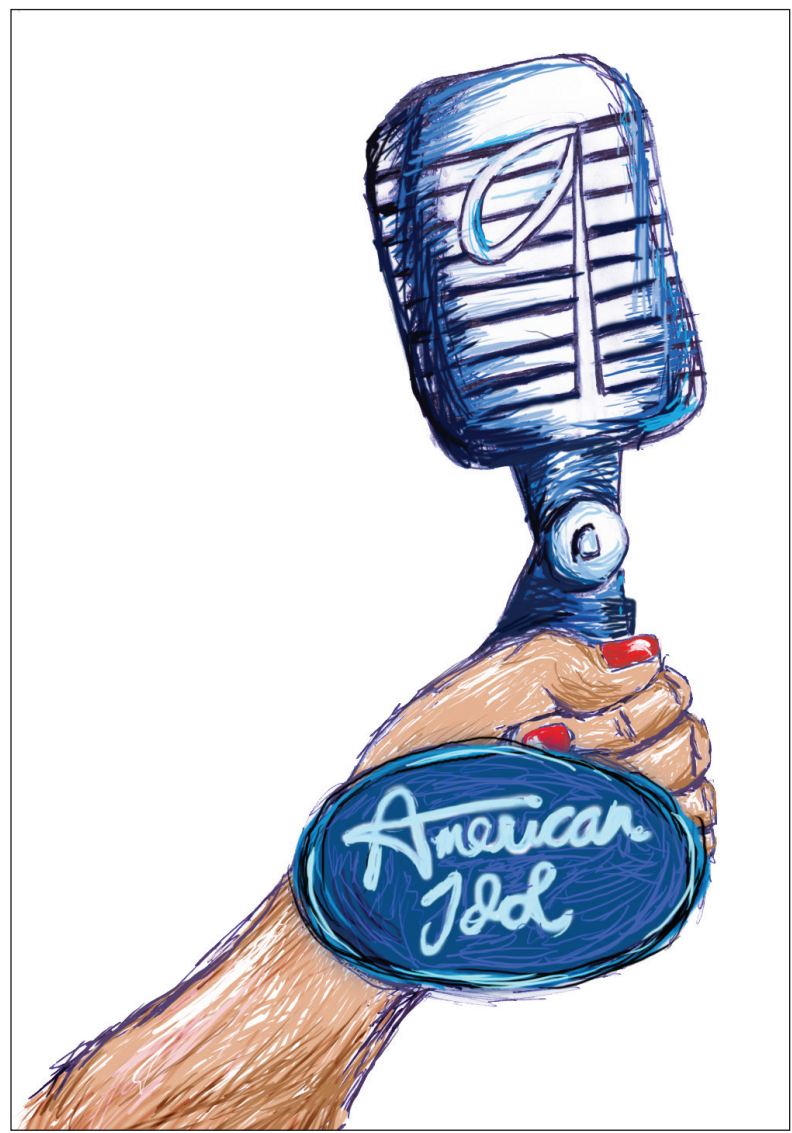
Everything seems to be happening to her for the first time. She has a particularly innocent sincerity that's convincing enough to let viewers think she actually has no idea how ridiculous she looks at different points in the movie.

While the movie was sometimes a bore, the never-ending gorgeous scenery of Ireland kept it interesting. For instance, while they were traveling in train or car the cliff top peaks and mountains all covered in grass is shown. While traveling across the countryside they made a pit stop at one of the best wonders in Ireland, Dunamase Castle. This made the movie very visually pleasing, but it was still lacking in many other aspects.

The predictable opposites teach each other different lessons. She teaches him to smile and be polite every once in a while, and he teaches her to loosen up and to learn you can't always plan everything.

The movie is comical at one point while they pretend to be in love at an old fashioned inn when they realize they are actually in love. While that is something that seems all too well known to happen, they make it a laughably awkward event, which shows the point when their relationship begins to change.

Overall the characters made the movie but it still lacked the depth to make it truly memorable. ☹



Taylor Gold

'Idol' disappoints

The ninth season of "American Idol" fails to deliver quality entertainment.

by Eudora Olsen
Reporter

With the ninth season of "American Idol" come some big changes for the popular singing show.

For one, guest stars, such as Avril Lavigne, Joe Jonas, and Victoria Beckham have been helping judge the hopeful contestants during the six-week

audition process. Perhaps the biggest change of them all is that a brand new judge has been added to the mix of permanent judges: talk show host Ellen DeGeneres will be filling the spot of former judge Paula Abdul. This has come as a shock to most viewers, as Abdul has always been the voice of friendliness as she almost

always sided with the contestants, not to mention she had often been a source of annoyance to judge Simon Cowell. Although Abdul will be greatly missed, many are excited for the addition of DeGeneres.

But even with these changes, nothing seems to have actually changed. Personally, when I clicked on the show for the first time in about a year, I felt boredom slowly creeping. Usually from year to year, they add little quirky addi-

tions to keep the audience enjoying not only the worst of auditions, but also the audition process itself.

For example, last year in season 8, there was the infamous door. Auditioners would come into the room, sing their song, and be met by two trick double doors that didn't open on their way out. The joke among the judges never got old, especially when the flop auditions tried to storm of these trick doors.

This is the kind of thing that kept viewers at home in constant laughter, and thoroughly enjoying themselves. But this year, there has yet to be any quirky tricks, and as we near the end of auditions and enter "Hollywood Week", there haven't been any incredible talents yet.

So you can imagine my disappointment when the very first contestant, a woman dressed in a mermaid costume, sang her heart out in the wrong key and stormed out of the judging room through working doors. Perhaps the producers have exhausted their ideas to keep the audience entertained, or maybe the show in general has exhausted me. Whatever the case, the new season has been a bore so far. ☹



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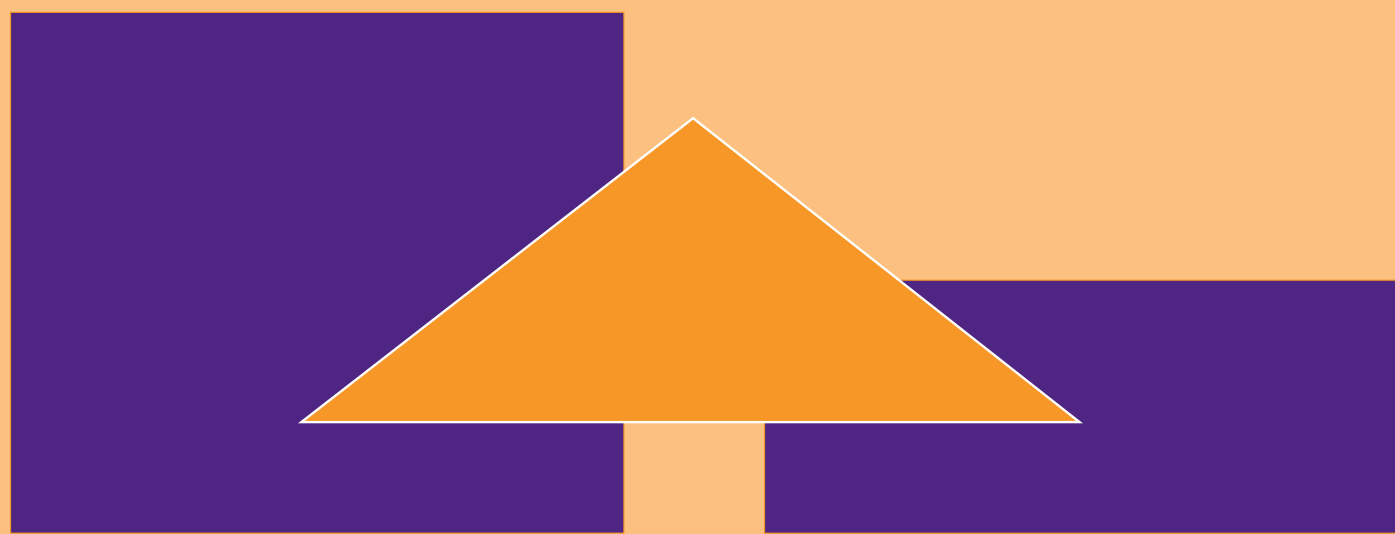
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'When in Rome' fails to win hearts of fans

Lack of character development and cheesy dialogue ruin a good idea.

by Meredith McMahon
Reporter

Initially, all I had really wanted was Rome, a few cute guys and a nice bucket of popcorn to cuddle with. My expectations were, for a chick flick, standard.

So where did it all go wrong with "When in Rome"?

The movie is pretty simplistic—the main character Beth (played by Kristen Bell) travels to Rome for her sister's wedding and meets—surprise, surprise—the man of her life, the best-man Nick (Josh Duhamel). She then casts him aside because of her generic, "I'm too busy for a guy/relationships are overrated" stereotype. While in Rome she decides to snatch a few coins from the "Fountain of Love," sparking a slew of stereotypical men to fall in love with her. She deals with a lot of mayhem in New York City with the band of suitors and Nick, eventually breaks the spell and has that happy, fairy tale ending.

Sounds like a good chick flick, right? Wrong. If there had been a quarter of the bad, clichéd jokes and had the best and most creative punch lines not been completely predictable, then maybe it would have passed. However, scenes in which she gets suspiciously fake looking pieces of lettuce stuck in her teeth while talking with her ex, the "hilarious" scene where she can't break a vase promising her sister's happiness, and other such cliché, exaggerated scenes make the viewer want to be sick.

The plot line—although somewhat original what with the enchanted coins—makes the view want to be sick again by its exaggeration on foreshadowing

(the type that bangs viewers over the head three times to make sure they get it). Overplay of lines like "Make sure you get the centerpiece of the exhibition here, Beth" and "Once I find a man I love more than my job, he'll be the one" make the entire movie completely predictable. After repeating the latter line at least five times, the viewer wants to slap themselves when, after a dramatic pause, Bell says with enthusiasm and emphasized slowness: "I've finally found a guy I like more than my job!"

Of course, it's not entirely Bell's fault. Although her voice can be somewhat perky and annoying, her acting, as well as that of her co-star Duhamel, is not too shabby. No, what really is to blame is the lack of character development. It seems that these screenwriters, David Diamond and David Weissman haven't exactly heard of the concept.

In this movie, the blonde, type A New Yorker who loves her job falls in love with the ex-football player, love struck reporter. The sausage man, the artist, the model and the magician are the blonde's suitors—emphasis on the "THE". Although the viewer learned a little about each character once the spell was broken, otherwise each was a walking stereotype with no other flairs apart from functioning as the plot wanted them to function.

It is this kind of movie that kills a truly good chick flick, or more formally known as romantic comedy. I pride myself in being a true veteran of chick flicks, or even a "hard core chick flicker," who has delighted in old classics such as "Breakfast at Tiffany's," adored films such as "10 Things I Hate About



Kristen Bell in the film "When in Rome", which is a movie some viewers think gives chick flicks their bad reputation.

You" from the '90s and fell in love with modern-day films such as "(500) Days of Summer" and "The Proposal" that you can watch over and over and have that same, fuzzy happy feeling when you finish.

Indeed, chick flicks have morphed—although with an exception to "(500) Days of Summer" and "The Proposal" with Sandra Bullock—into cheaply thrown together movies with a sickeningly clichéd and overdone plots, a couple of cute guys and a few stereotypical allies. It's no wonder that we chick flickers are mocked and criticized now.

Movies like "When in Rome" have catapulted us into that dumb, pushover category of viewers.

What people do not realize is that

when we enter into all these chick flicks, what we get and what we want are so different. We do want the classics to revive again. We do want to walk out of chick flicks with the warm fuzzy feeling, not the feeling that we just wasted 10 bucks and two hours of our own time. We do want movies like "When In Rome" to go back to where they came from, and we want to start seeing good chick flicks that rise above recent Hollywood standards.

If you're looking for a cheesy, dumbed down "chick flick," sure, go with "When in Rome". But if you're searching for a chick flick that has the beautiful artwork of originality, creativity, humor and good looking actors, I would suggest going back a few years to find the true gems. ☺

'Survivor' still a favorite

by Caitlin Kropp
Reporter

I, for, for one, have never fully understood the strange pull reality TV shows have on me. It can't be the brilliant concepts, or the wonderful people I meet every season. And it certainly can't be the amazing things they put normal people through every season. Still, for lack of a better reason, I inevitably find myself pulled back to the couch when a new season of my favorite reality TV show airs. And this was the situation I found myself in when the new season of Survivor premiered last Thursday.

Survivor has always held a soft spot in my heart. It was the first reality show that we really started watching regularly, as a family. Every Thursday, after dinner, we would all curl up on the couch upstairs and watch as ordinary people attempted to "Outwit, Outlast, and Outplay" their fellow competitors. Survivor has just always been special.

Since its inception in 2000, the hit TV series has obtained record-levels of fans, completely changing the outlook on reality television. It was only after Survivor aired that other reality shows began to take shape. So, I guess you could say we have Survivor to thank for all of those wonderful shows that do so much to enrich our lives.

And, okay, I know reality shows are not the highest form of entertainment. They're often mindless, repetitive, and increasingly idiotic. They do absolutely nothing to broaden our horizons or teach us new ways of looking at life.

But, the thing is, they have an appeal for us. To see ordinary people, placed in extraordinary situations, is exciting

for us, and helps the shows to develop the cult-following most of them boast. And I have become one of those reality TV junkies, at least when it comes to Survivor.

When it comes down to the truth of it all, I feel like I really know Survivor. I have memories of it, at the very least. Who could forget when Tom killed that shark, or when Jenna won the game against all odds, or even Rupert's infamous man-skirt? My family and I, we have developed a kind of code-system related solely to Survivor, one which we employ frequently while discussing the movements on screen.

This fascination only seems to grow with each new season. I feel like I know these people, like I'm living alongside them, not just watching them on a TV screen. I root for my favorites, wish that

the bad guys would go home, and hope that something stupendous will happen this episode.

I even considered trying out for Survivor when I got older, for a brief hallucinatory period (thankfully, I have come to my senses and realized my low tolerance for pain).

In some strange way, these strong men and women who choose to be on Survivor are good people. They are the strongest, the smartest, the bravest, and, in the end, the best of the best win and are rewarded for it. Reality television, for all its faults, has turned out a true gem in Survivor. And so, I know that, without a doubt, I will tune in every Thursday for the latest installment in the saga that is Survivor, knowing that this season, as always, will be even better than the last. ☺

“Survivor” has always held a soft spot in my heart. It was the first reality show that we really started watching regularly, as a family.

Celebrate February by watching old films that were best chick flicks

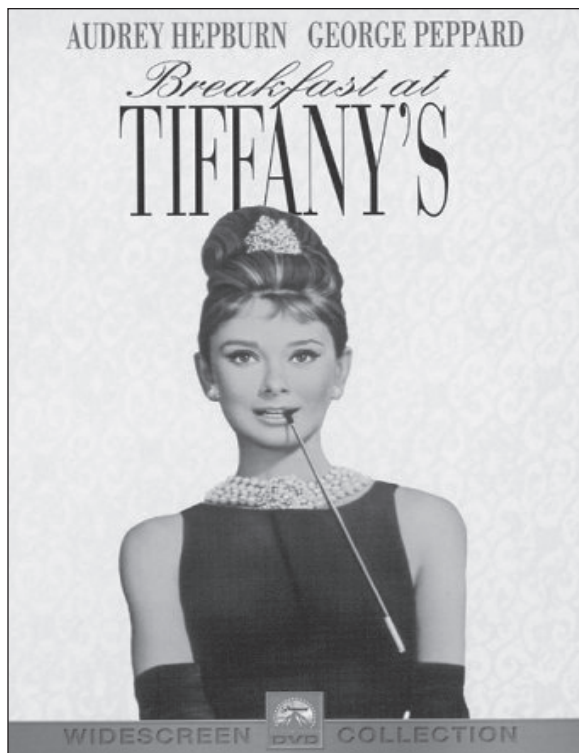
In honor of the month of love, I have posed the question, "what exactly is a Chick Flick?" Some would say it is a sappy, unintelligent movie (note the term "film" is not applied) that is intended for an audience primarily composed with silly, young girls and middle-aged women. However, others would defend the chick flick, or more appropriately termed "romantic comedy," as an exploration of relationships between loved ones with poignancy and humor. I choose to believe in the second definition, but recognize that stereotypical sneers at "chick flicks" are not necessarily unfounded when reminded of some awful movies placed in the genre, such as the predictable "Because I Said So" and the recent "When in Rome".

I have compiled a list of, what I believe, so be the top films in the genre of romantic comedy. Each of these films contains the appropriate mixture of humor, romance, and poignancy to be worthy of being deemed a film outside of the familiar stereotype of "chick flicks".

1. "When Harry Met Sally" (1989) – Truly, it's impossible to have a list of "girly" movies without a little Meg Ryan. Rest assured, I did not include "Sleepless in Seattle" or "You've Got Mail" for the sake of the reader's sanity. The film also stars Billy Crystal and centers around the question: Can two people of the opposite sex remain just friends? This feel-good movie follows the pair after they graduate from the University of Chicago, jumping through their lives as they search for love and fail several times. Filled with humor and witty dialogue, the movie coined such famous quotes as "I came here tonight because when you realize you want to spend the rest of your life with somebody, you want the rest of your life to start as soon as possible."

2. "Breakfast at Tiffany's" (1961) – This iconic, beautiful production begins with the iconic scene of Holly Golightly (the impeccable Audrey Hepburn) dressed in a black dress, consuming her morning coffee and pastry, and staring at the windows of New York City's Tiffany & Co. Easily Hepburn's most identifiable role, the film is loosely based on Truman Capote's novella of the same name. When uninspired author Paul (George Peppard) meets the eccentric gold-digger, both of their lives are turned upside down.

3. "Bridget Jones's Diary" (2001) – This hilarious, very British romantic comedy oozes with charm and sweetness. Bridget Jones (Renee Zellweger) plays a slightly overweight, insecure thirty-something who is trapped by her ridiculous mother, her drinking and smoking problem, and a horrible job. She becomes entangled in a doomed relationship with her "player" boss Daniel Cleaver (Hugh Grant) and repeated encounters with the seemingly rude Mark Darcy (The always brilliant Colin Firth). Mr. Darcy, anyone? Bridget documents her embarrassing moments and ultimate triumphs in a journal, as the viewer falls in love with her funny ways.



4. "Casablanca" (1942) – This masterpiece is probably one of my favorite films of all time. Starring the legendary Humphrey Bogart and the lovely Ingrid Bergman, there's no surprise why it's ranked so high on most lists. Rick Blaine, exiled American and former freedom fighter, runs the most popular nightclub in Casablanca during World War II. The cynical Rick comes into the possession of two valuable letters of transit. Much to Rick's surprise, Czech underground leader Victor Laszlo arrives with Ilsa, Rick's one time love. Both of the former lovers must contemplate whether it is worth it to salvage their love in the midst of the Nazis pursue of Victor. Viewers learn where the famous sayings "Here's looking at you, kid!" and "I think this is the beginning of a beautiful friendship" come from as the legendary script completes the magic of the film.

5. "Pride and Prejudice" (1995) – The charm and wit of Jane Austen's wonderful novel is properly honored in this six-hour, beautifully evoked adaptation. The classic tale is revitalized with the wonderful Colin Firth as the handsome, but seemingly proud Mr. Darcy and the lovely Jennifer Ehle as the sharp-tongued, sensible Elizabeth Bennet. Lizzy Bennet is a strong-willed young woman whose father is a gentleman but plagued to be without a son. When Mr. Darcy and his amiable friend Mr. Bingley join their neighborhood, they're the talk of the town but Darcy and Lizzy clash on numerous occasions, challenging the stereotypes each of them cast upon the other. As chaos and scandal ensue, Lizzy finds that Mr. Darcy may not be so disagreeable after all. This is certainly the best adaptation of the classic, spending time to include each detail in Austen's novel and remains true to the text.

Certainly, this is not a complete list and I have numerous more titles that could easily be added. I hope that this list as guided the reader in a direction that values romantic comedies, or chick flicks, as a valid genre. ☺

82nd Academy Awards picks 10 nominees for best movie

The decision to up the number of Oscar candidates for top honors may attract more viewers.

by Nick Van Almsick
Reporter

A couple of weeks ago, The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences announced the nominations for the 82nd annual Academy Awards. The announcements were the same as every other year with the exception of one big difference: 10 films were announced for best picture nominees.

This is the first time since 1943 that more than five movies have been nominated for best picture. The films nominated this year are "Avatar," "The Blind Side," "District 9," "An Education," "The Hurt Locker," "Inglorious Basterds," "Precious," "A Serious Man" and "Up in the Air."

The addition of five extra films being added to the nomination list has stirred up a lot of controversy concerning if the Academy is doing the right thing.

Over the past five years, the ratings for people watching the Academy Awards have been at an all time low. Therefore, the Academy is losing money on advertisers that they once were able to get.

Junior Sophie Newman believes this decision will start to bring ratings back up.

"I think the addition of films that wouldn't normally be nominated will get more people interested, and the show will attract a bigger audience of

Director	Movie	Box office (rank) In millions
Betty Thomas, <i>Alvin and the Chipmunks ...</i>		\$209 (9)
Anne Fletcher, <i>The Proposal</i>		\$163 (16)
Nancy Meyers, <i>It's Complicated</i>		\$104 (31)
Nora Ephron, <i>Julie & Julia</i>		\$94 (34)
Karyn Kusama, <i>Jennifer's Body</i>		\$16 (116)
Mira Nair, <i>Amelia</i>		\$14 (126)
Drew Barrymore, <i>Whip It</i>		\$13 (129)
Kathryn Bigelow, <i>The Hurt Locker</i>		\$13 (130)
Christine Jeffs, <i>Sunshine Cleaning</i>		\$12 (132)
Lone Scherfig, <i>An Education</i>		\$9 (144)
Vicky Jensen, <i>Post Grad</i>		\$6 (152)
Anne Fontaine, <i>Coco Before Chanel</i>		\$6 (152)
Jane Campion, <i>Bright Star</i>		\$4 (161)
Aviva Kempner, <i>Yoo-Hoo, Mrs. Goldberg</i>		\$1 (193)

Source: Box Office Mojo Graphic: Pat Carr © 2010 MCT

movie viewers," Newman said. "I personally don't like the idea, but I think it will definitely help the Academy make more money and improve their ratings."

It seems that the Academy's goal is to incorporate more popular films, such as "Avatar" and "District 9", into the best picture race in hopes of reaching a wider audience.

Senior Charlie Katzman usually doesn't watch the Oscars, but is planning to this year because some of his favorite movies are nominated.

"I never really watched the Oscars that much because the movies nominated were usually ones I had never heard of," Katzman said. "But 'District 9' was one of the coolest movies I saw this year, and I

want to see if it has a chance to win."

Although the addition of more films to the nomination list has excited some potential viewers, it seems to have upset others, especially those who are avid film fans.

Ladue High School senior Jake Torchin thinks the addition of five more films makes getting a nomination less special, and allows too many films that aren't nearly good enough to get a nomination.

"I understand the Academy did it to try and get more people to watch the show," Torchin said. "But I really don't like the idea. This decision allows way too many non-quality films to get a nomination, and this overshadows the really good ones that should be nominated. It definitely lessens the value of an Oscar nomination and lessens the value of a potential win."

There seems to be good arguments for both sides on whether this extension was a good idea. The Academy plans to try this out for a couple of years and see how it affects the ratings.

The 82nd annual Academy Awards air Sunday, March 7 on ABC. ☺

“I think the addition of films that wouldn't normally be nominated will get more people interested, and the show will attract a bigger audience of movie viewers.

Sophie Newman
Junior

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Butting Heads: Qdoba or Chipotle?

For years, the world has fought over the universally perplexing question: Qdoba or Chipotle? And now, the never-ending clash of the Tex-Mex spots has finally come to the Globe. A face-off in its prime, Butting Heads greatest debate yet on which Mexican grill deserves the title of "Monarch of Tex-Mex."

Qdoba provides delicious and nutritious choices as well as a natural, jovial ambiance

by **Meredith Redick**
Senior Managing Editor

Qdoba. The very name sends chills of anticipation up the spines of devoted burrito-eaters. Since its inception in 1995, Qdoba has served as a haven for hungry people seeking delicious "fresh-Mex" nutrition. Restaurants similar to Qdoba, such as Chipotle Mexican Grill, are ubiquitous on the landscape of inexpensive eateries. Qdoba, however, is irrevocably and indubitably superior to Chipotle.

First, Qdoba's menu encompasses a diverse amalgam of taste treats, in contrast to Chipotle's painfully meager menu offerings. While Chipotle offers the ingredients that serve as the building blocks for a good burrito—items such as beans, rice, meat, guacamole, and salsa—Qdoba has endowed its menu with a spectacular and creative array of delicacies such as the Poblano Pesto burrito and the Mexican Gumbo.

Items such as these put a twist on traditional Mexican dishes and, as a result, distinguish Qdoba's food from that of bland burrito-makers such as Chipotle.

They also offer options such as taco salads and nachos, in addition to the "Naked" burrito for those counting carbs—a tortilla-free burrito which cuts 330 calories from the meal. Particularly noteworthy are their sauces, which range from the creamy three-cheese "queso" to mole-inspired creations, and their unique salsas, which include "Fiery Habanero" and "Mango Salsa".

Those who want a little pep in their day certainly won't find it in the unpleasantly puritanical menu at Chipotle; Qdoba, though, offers the creative flavors and menu diversity we have come to value in pseudo-ethnic restaurants.

In addition to its preferable menu, Qdoba restaurants offer a homier environment than the steel-coated, sleek interiors that Chipotle favors.

There is no need for burritos to slide across chrome countertops as they are prepared. On the contrary, the earthy atmosphere at Qdoba enhances the burrito-eating experience. Background music at Qdoba is played at a reasonable volume, in contrast to the blaring sounds Chipotle customers must face.

Additionally, Qdoba makes no gimmicky statements about the ethics of its food: while Chipotle attaches a moral compass to its foil wrappers in its discussion of organic food and local produce, Qdoba focuses solely on its food and resolutely perfects its creations.

It's true that Qdoba is owned by Jack in the Box, a fast food company still stigmatized for the 1993 E. coli outbreak caused by consumption of undercooked meat. While those events were undoubtedly tragic, Chipotle's history is by no means pristine. In 2008, a norovirus epidemic infected over 400 people, causing symptoms ranging from nausea to vomiting and diarrhea. Thus, faux pas in the area of food contamination are certainly not limited to Qdoba affiliates.

Finally, Qdoba demands some vestige of loyalty from St. Louisans, who frequented the Qdoba in the Delmar Loop long before Chipotle planted a storefront a mere block away. It may be pure sentiment, but Qdoba has long been the steadfast burrito supplier for the Clayton community and has proudly filled its niche. We have some obligation to remain faithful to the company that has nurtured us through so many years of burrito emergencies.

Clearly, all burritos are not created equal. Those who want a wimpy facsimile of Qdoba: head down to Chipotle. For those St. Louisans looking to eat a satisfyingly delicious burrito that combines the splendor of Tex-Mex cuisine with the freshness and convenience of a Subway-style kitchen, Qdoba is your place. ☺

Chipotle brings Tex-Mex to a whole new level with hand-made meals and wholesome, fresh ingredients

by **Schuyler Longmore**
Editor

The Burrito is a quick but complex meal that is unique in its variety of ingredients, but also practical in its convenient and egalitarian organization so that every one of the six, seven, eight, or nine flavors may be experienced in every bite. Messy? Possibly. Delicious? Yes.

As the nation grows more accepting of its cultural amalgamation, previously foreign delights like Chinese food, sushi, and Mexican food fall under the easier-to-market American food. So now, more than ever, your average American can reach for a burrito and enjoy Mexican flavors without finding themselves partaking in anything too exotic.

Out of this expansion comes the burrito. The foreign but familiar lunch-in-one has divided into two main camps: Qdoba and Chipotle Mexican Grill.

Chipotle provides a superior burrito. They have a simple menu with five options – burrito, fajita burrito, burrito bowl, salad, and tacos – that manages to stay varied enough to fit a million taste buds, but focused enough to not get sloppy around the edges. The flavors are as authentic as fast food gets and the restaurants are consistently clean, friendly, and even tasteful. Reliably good burritos at low costs; it's a Tex-Mex flavor utopia for cheap.

Qdoba and Chipotle have been in competition since Qdoba opened in Denver, Colorado in 1995, two years after Chipotle opened in the same city. McDonalds acquired Chipotle in 2001 and Jack in the Box took control of Qdoba in 2003, however McDonalds divested in Chipotle in 2006 while Jack in the Box kept their ownership of Qdoba.

In a fast food world of cheap and easy food buying for maximized profit, Chipotle serves it against the current. Most fast food restaurants acquire products from their own enormous conglomerate run farms, where growing and processing are done for financial gain, not culinary authenticity. The whole fast food industry has become a prisoner of sorts in a culinary pillory stock as a result of highly competitive pricing and limited variability of marketable products. These restaurants have settled with the trio of fatty, sweet, and salty foods that taste wonderful in theory, but essentially leave the human body in worse condition than if it was merely starved for the meal.

The rival restaurants produce similar cuisine, but their approaches are completely different. Chipotle remains committed to natural and organic product purchasing. They serve naturally raised pork and chicken in all restaurants, and 65 percent of restaurants offering naturally raised beef. In addition, 30 percent of all black and pinto beans are organic and they use no rBGH (bovine growth hormone) in dairy products.

Jack in the Box – one of these aforementioned fast food syndicates and also the owner of Qdoba – had an E. Coli outbreak in 1993 as a result of poor meat inspection. The disaster was the largest and deadliest in American history up to that time. Chipotle has not made such a slip.

Chipotle has made their fresh and natural approach to food noticeable under the mission statement Food With Integrity. More impressive than their dedication to properly raised food, is their dedication to local farmers and fair-trade, with 35 percent of Chipotle restaurants using produce from local small and mid-sized farms.

Chipotle dishes up fast food with care. The products are—dare I say it—healthy. The pre-conceived image of greasy microwaved fast food burgers and other assorted sub-par products served through the windows of hideous buildings needs to be overlooked. Chipotle is not another Kentucky Fried Chicken trying to go grilled.

Business and morals aside, Chipotle's food speaks for itself. Marinating meat up to 24 hours before cooking, daily guacamole preparation, and never pre-grated cheese. All of these preparation techniques and more make for a fresh and flavorful burrito. Four kinds of salsa and meats and two varieties of beans as well as four other toppings make 65,000 possible combinations of ingredients for a restaurant that stresses simplicity for the purpose of perfection. Without tons of different soups, wraps, tacos, and other meals, Chipotle is not drowned in variety, but able to focus on building the perfect burrito. Simplicity spells delicious results.

Known as a 'fast casual' restaurant, Chipotle operates with an assembly line style of service where the customer picks ingredients and an employee manufactures the burrito. Chipotle is often faster than a McDonalds or Burger King, and yet much more careful with preparation as proven by the kitchen's open visibility to the customers. Chipotle also offers alcoholic beverages, unlike most fast food locations.

Taking the market by storm and leading the charge of 'fast casual' restaurants into a new decade, Chipotle has come to prominence in a time of renewed interest in healthy eating and the environment. They cater to those who care for their health and those who care for this planet. If your wallet feels thin and you can't endure another post-burger-bypass, try Chipotle. ☺



Letter to the Editor:

Appeal to Students: stricter punishments should be applied for cheating

The Dec. 17 Globe spoke of rampant plagiarism in Mr. Peck's AP Chemistry lab assignment. The lean punishment meted out failed to deliver the message: CHS will not tolerate cheating or plagiarism. Unfortunately, it is you -- the honest students -- who are the victims.

Consider that those who opted for Mr. Peck's option of 'fessin' up and saying a few mea culpa's were rewarded (for their honesty!) by having 5 points deducted from their lab assignment grade. It's demeaning, demoralizing, and illogi-

cal that they turned in someone else's work and received a grade that may have been higher than the grade received by those who submitted their own work.

Through your honest efforts, you may achieve a lower grade point average than those who cheat. They may get into the National Honor Society and you might not, even though honesty is a NHS criteria. Worse they may, and you may not, get accepted by the college you have worked so hard to get into. Other than being able to walk proud, you may be

punished for your honesty.

So, what can you do? First, talk to your parents and share the Globe article with them. You are no doubt the children of honest, education-concerned parents who imparted sound values to you. They won't be any more pleased with the school's dealing with cheating than many citizens are and possibly won't sit still on this issue. Second, you could write your own letter to the Globe. Finally, you could write or speak before the Clayton School Board.

It's not right, but (at least at this time) you should consider becoming part of the solution of protecting your own interests as well as the broader societal interest in academic honesty. If you agree, then let your voice be heard that CHS should start dealing with the cheaters in a tough way.

Sincerely,

Andy Rochman (CHS '64)



Jackie Leong

Though children in Clayton are told that "we are all equal", the school district's policy still lacks the same rights for homosexual employees that others enjoy. Though it is improbable that gays would actually be discriminated against, Clayton policy does not protect against it.

Though all men 'equal' in theory, homosexuals still lack the same rights as others

Equality: an idea that is indoctrinated into the head of every Clayton student from almost the first day of Kindergarten. Regardless of race, gender, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation or any other defining characteristic, students are told that we are all "equal."

This school district teaches students that they are free to show the world who they are and that they can be whatever they want to be.

Although this message has good intentions, in essence it is a lie. Gay citizens of the United States are not equal; they are second-class citizens.

It may seem that the gay rights movement is simply a distant debate intertwining intense religious, moral and political discussions that in the end have no real effect on the already liberal community of Clayton. However, the inequality the gay community suffers from is present in the Clayton School District every day.

According to the District's employee non-discrimination policy the district only refuses to discriminate on the following bases: race, color, religion, sex, or national origin, all of which are categories mandated by federal law.

This leaves a gaping hole in the policy: sexual orientation. By policy the school district can fire, not hire and discriminate against staff members that are gay.

Granted it is unlikely for gay teachers here at Clayton to feel discriminated against or are in fear of losing their jobs because of their sexual orientation. However this policy sets a frightening principle: we all are not equal.

While the school district does not actively practice discrimination, the policy of the district should reflect its belief of equality.

This policy just sets in stone that even in one of the most liberal school districts in Missouri equality is not a reality, merely a hope for the future.

In addition to the non-discrimination policy, there is a more tangible form of inequality that exists in the district.

Teachers and staff of the Clayton School District are allowed to buy health insurance for spouses from the school districts plan. Additionally, when teachers pass away, they can allocate the remainder of their retirement funds to a living spouse.

However, in the state of Missouri gay marriage and civil

union are unavailable, thus blocking gay teachers and staff from these two benefits.

It is for this reason that when gay Missouri State Highway patrolman Dennis Englehard was killed in the line of duty last Christmas, his domestic partner of almost 15 years received no benefits from the state of Missouri, even though the spouses of officers that die in the line of duty are entitled a lifetime of benefits totaling \$28,000 per year.

It is tragic injustices such as these that call for the district to close this gap of inequality.

Although federal and state marriage laws are difficult to change, the district can take matters into its own hands.

The school district can grant benefits to domestic partnerships. By doing this, the school district would allow for insurance and other benefits to be applied to any committed couple who applied for domestic partnership through the district's guidelines.

These guidelines would most likely include a requirement that the couple live together, that their finances are intertwined, and that the couple has been with each other for a certain duration of time. Furthermore, this policy would not be limited to same-sex couples.

Although it would be no easy task implementing these two policies, it is time the district put forth the effort to begin the process to bridge the current gap of inequality.

Across the nation numerous corporations have implemented these policies. Even locally the city of St. Louis now offers both an amended discrimination policy and domestic partnerships.

Even though no Missouri public school holds either of these policies yet, there is no reason Clayton can't be the first to implement them.

As a leader in Missouri education, this school district should be on the frontier of equality.

What type of message does the district send forth when it preaches equality but does not even provide equality for its own staff?

In a district that so adamantly teaches of equality, this is the least the district can do to make our community a more accepting place.

It is time this district lives up to the words it teaches that "we all are equal." It is time for change. ☘

STAFF EDITORIAL

AGREE 89%

DISAGREE 11%

Those without technology provide reality check, newfound appreciation

I've often imagined guiding someone from the past through today's world. I would picture the awe in their faces as I showed them the machines we use every day: lamps, heaters, air conditioning, sinks, cars, television, grocery stores, and the magical little box on which I am now typing this sentence. The computer.

I can't conceive what it would be like to use a computer for the first time as an adult—to see a screen light up, to be suddenly connected to the world, to type in anything you're interested in and have video, photo and text at your fingertips.

What I didn't realize was that someone didn't have to come from the past to experience this awe. In fact, they could come from just across town.

About a month ago, I started volunteering at the International Institute of St. Louis as a Teacher's Assistant in the Computer Basics class. The Institute assists immigrants and refugees who have come to St. Louis from around the world in the hopes of beginning a new life.

Many of these men and women grew up with little or no access to electricity, let alone a computer. The entire machine is alien to them—from the power button to the endless rows of symbols on the keys.

In the United States, however, there is now a cultural expectation that a adult be proficient in using a computer. Without these skills, a job is hard to land.

And so the class meets every Tuesday and Thursday. We began small: learning how to move the mouse, click, drag and scroll.

Then, opening and using programs. Paint was an absolute joy. Calculator was even more astounding. As I helped one man find the numbers on the keyboard, he nearly beat the computer in calculating products, sums—even sines, cosines and squares.

These adults are educated; the hurdles of learning the English language and acquiring technological skills are the only things keeping them from success. They want, and need, to be taking this class.

We moved on to Word, learning how to type and format text. Choosing from amongst the hundreds of fonts was a new and fascinating game. But the real excitement came when we hit a magical little button—and across the room, the printer buzzed with activity. The students were beyond thrilled to take that sheet home with them.

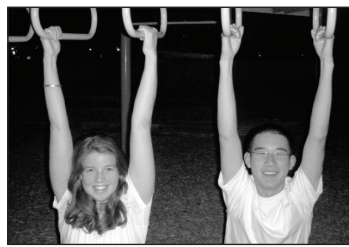
And finally, the Internet. It's funny trying to explain something to someone when you're not even sure how it works yourself. Each student set up an email to get in touch with old family and friends, as well as future employers. We used Google Earth to find homes in Bhutan, Eritrea, Cuba and

Iraq. It was, for many, magical.

As American teenagers who grew up in the age of technology, we often take our high-tech surroundings for granted. Our fingers move swiftly across the keyboard and guide the mouse with ease.

As we go through our days, we often forget how remarkable technology is. Not everyone has access to the inexplicable enchantment that computers bring. We are accustomed to magic. ☘

HANGING BY A MOMENT



NINA OBERMAN

Chinese New Year serves as reminder of forgotten culture

A few hours of a Chinese celebration bring back the reminders of a native culture that has been pushed below the surface due to years of living in the U.S.

Waking up at 7:30 a.m. on a Saturday, during a four-day weekend, is excruciatingly painful. As someone who could probably sleep through WWII if it started and ended between 5am and 9am, I am not known as a morning person.

So when I rolled out of bed Feb. 13 at 7:30 a.m., it could only mean one of two things: Johnny Depp was bringing me breakfast, or CCTV's New Year's Gala was broadcasting. Since Mr. Depp doesn't know I exist, the logical conclusion would be that I woke up, in spite of excruciating pain, to watch TV. But CCTV's New Year's Gala is not just the average television show. CCTV's New Year's Gala, commonly referred to as Zhongguo zhongyang dianshitai chunjie lianhuan wenhui, is the annual four and a half hour long Chinese New Year celebration, of the Lunar New Year, that 75-100 billion people tune into every year (making it the most-watched television broadcast in the world).

In China, the Gala starts around 7 p.m. and goes to 1a.m. However, mankind insists upon this concept called the "time difference," therefore proclaiming that 7 p.m. in China is 6 a.m. in America. So I woke up at 6am and tried to watch the Gala. I only got far enough to turn on a light before the urge to sleep overpowered my willpower and I fell unconscious again.

But being persistent and motivated, I managed to get up at 7:30, and stumble into the living room where my parents were already watching the broadcast on the computer. Happily accepting a cup of warm tea, I pulled up a cushion and settled to watch magic unfold on the tiny screen.

Two familiar faces appeared in brilliantly garbed clothing and introduced the next program in clear mandarin. My ears perked up to the "strange" language. It was like culture shock; I was so used to English or Chinese with English words substituted for the ones I couldn't remember that to hear a complete dialogue in unbroken, fluent, Chinese, took me by surprise.

I was reminded of how far I actually was from my home in WuHan and how little Chinese culture I still retained. As

the program went on with famous singers from different areas and different times creating beautiful melodies, with the familiar faces of the two xiang sheng (stand-up comedy in a way) performers, with the new twist on the continuation of the "Remodeling" skit, with the quirky magician who stuck his hand through glass, and with the dances that could make Anna Pavlova jealous, I felt like I was in another world.

As I grow older and more embedded into American society, I encounter Chinese and Chinese culture less and less. But sitting in front of the computer screen, at an ungodly hour, holding a cup of tea and surrounded by family, I felt completely connected to the distant culture of China. I found that I could still understand the jokes, could still appreciate the music, could still recognize the dances, and could still identify familiar faces (although not by name).

For four and a half hours, I was surrounded by reminders of who I am and where I came from. It's an amazing feeling: finding something you didn't know had slipped away. By the end, I was left with vivid images of dances and beautiful snippets of songs. I was also left with the déjà vu that I had felt like this before, that I had had these reflections once upon a

time. That déjà vu is one of the things I like the most about tradition, the comfort in knowing that this event, these feelings have happened and will happen again.

Every year, around 10am when the Gala ends and my brain whines at the loss of precious sleep, I leave the computer feeling like the five year old who just received a cookie: intense happiness while eating and intense yearning for just one more chocolate chip delight. Then I turn on the TV and receive a pie in the face as English blares from the speakers and another culture shock hits me. But through the second culture shock, I know that the feeble connection I have with my heritage is twisted a bit tighter, made just a tiny bit stronger.

And yes, that's definitely worth waking up at 7:30am on Saturday, on a four-day weekend. ☘



Dee Luo

Extra attention lends sense of hope to children stuck in summer school

As is typical in high school, I spent my summer in summer school. However, I did not spend three to six hours a day listening to a teacher lecture at me while I sat writing so fast my hand hurt in an attempt to capture the words verbatim. Instead I did the teaching, or at least aided in the teaching.

Two summers ago I entered Lexington Elementary School along with six Duke University students, one of whom was my brother. I had decided to volunteer for the first year of his non-profit program, Education Exchange Corps, sponsored by Duke University through their program Duke Engage. It took place in St. Louis for six-weeks from June to July.

The first day I went to Lexington no students were around. We entered the teacher's lounge, greeted by a woman who was soon to be leaving. She was young, close in age to the other volunteers who hovered in the lounge, but she looked dead tired. She only seemed to represent the fatigue we would feel once our six-week program was up.

And we did experience such fatigue accompanied by frustration, helplessness, and few glimmers of hope. From 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. we acted as teacher assistants in the classrooms we were assigned. I was placed in the third grade room (for students entering fourth grade in the fall), which turned out to be one of the largest classes. It was difficult, and it never got any easier.

The amount of time taken out in the day for discipline was tremendous. Two of my students were even suspended from the program because they were play fighting. And since "play fighting" leads to real fighting, according to the main rules of the school, those caught were to be sent home.

I was reluctant to reveal what I saw to the third grade teacher, who furiously glared at the boys, almost eager to send them home. Both boys needed to be there; they needed the extra time to work on academics. Yet, the teacher often yelled or spoke angrily that she was not there to babysit, and thus she sent them home. This was one of the low points during the program.

Frustration, helplessness, and fatigue are all results from a long day monitoring 9 and 10-year-olds who cannot sit still for over five minutes. But the overwhelming feelings occurred when I began to question the effectiveness of my presence. I thought, coming into the program that I would be useful and would be able to change the lives of those students attending Lexington.

And then there were the few glimmers of hope. The first occurred early in the program. In the morning the

students were assigned a drawing that showed the things they liked to do, and then write a sentence about it.

A discipline problem occurred; one student would not share his markers with another. This boy, Quentin, who was not being given the red marker to color in his picture, got upset and began to cry. He said he hated summer school and did not want to be there. I spoke with him to calm him down and then told them to share and sat down to color with them.

Things turned around quickly and the boys began to share and enjoy the activity a little bit more once I started to participate. I made pictures for the boys and they made some for me. Then, Quentin asked to go to the bathroom and we exited the classroom making our way down the long hallway of empty rooms and school chairs. Quentin smiled and skipped excitedly exclaiming, "I think I'm going to like summer school this year."

Being able to turn his hatred around so that he might enjoy his time in school was reason enough for me to spend six weeks frustrated, helpless, and fatigued.

Then there was Sam. He was smart and eager to learn more, particularly in math. During breaks in a few lessons Sam and I spoke and eventually I felt like I was teaching. He surpassed the other students in math, and I taught him long division, giving him worksheets to do outside of class if he could.

I decided to gather those few students who were not being challenged mathematically and to set up a sort of enrichment program. We got a few worksheets done together, but we were only able to come together a few days in the six weeks. I was only able to begin what could have been a great opportunity to teach and challenge the students.

The days were difficult and the rewards were few. But I wondered how the students' summer school experience might have been different had I not been there. Despite questioning the impact of my presence I decided to volunteer again the next summer, 2009. The answer to the question was much clearer after those additional six weeks.

I spent next summer in Stix Early Childhood Center, a much more well off inner-city school in comparison to Lexington. This time I was assigned to one of the first grade classes.

The days were exhausting, possibly more so than those at Lexington. I was constantly being called from one table of students to the next. I could hear my name coming from four different voices at a time, asking me to help them sound out a word or explain the assignment. I was thankful for the times the teacher gathered the students for a lesson, it meant a break from the questions for a few moments. Yet, it was for those many voices that I came to Stix.

By the time their summer school was over the students were sounding out words on their own, attempting and coming close to, if not, the right spelling of the words. They were able to write in their daily journal with fewer questions.

Many students were able to make those small steps in summer school, but had I not been there, how could their teacher have maneuvered between the 15 students all requesting her help without breaking down and getting nothing done? I'm not sure if it could have happened.

This held true even when I was there to assist. Certain students needed more help than others, one not even knowing the sounds each of the letters of the alphabet made, but because of his resistance and because of the five other voices calling my name I could not sit down and take the time to help him.

I recognized my impact, but I also realized that much more needs to be done than just a six-week summer school program.

More time needs to be spent on the individuals, to identify the students' needs and not allow them to slip even farther behind. The way a first grader can move on without knowing the alphabet is if he is overlooked, and this can be done easily when there are 19 other students to attend to.

The students in both programs, at Lexington and Stix, came from a variety of schools. The spectrum of abilities was immense, from students who could not identify the sounds of the letters to those who could write sentences and sound out words on their own.

I do not know what the school year is like for the students, but either way more attention needs to be put on the summer programs. Although I may have disagreed with some of Lexington's third grade teachers' methods, I do agree that summer school is not meant for babysitting.

If more people volunteer then those children who struggle can receive more help, so that they may not continue to fall behind even more. One person can make a small impact, but a group of volunteers make one even larger. ☘

“And we did experience such fatigue accompanied by frustration, helplessness, and a few glimmers of hope.”

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Radio broadcaster Rush Limbaugh prepares to inform his audience about his controversial issues about the relief to Haiti. MCT Campus

Public figures wrong in placing fault on Haitians for tragic earthquake

The human capacity for love is simply astounding. It continually amazes and inspires us. Somehow, the world is able to put aside their differences, for however brief a time, and simply contribute. Man reaches out to fellow man, and both are lifted into a new level of understanding and, above all, love. So, it comes as no surprise that, mere hours after a devastating 7.0 magnitude earthquake left Haiti in ruins, the world came to their aid. There was determination, there was friendship, there was hope...

And then some people had to go and screw it all up.

But, really, should this come as any news? Shouldn't we have expected something at this level? After all, there will always be the cynics, the people in the crowd who choose to go in the opposite direction, whether it is to make a point or just to fulfill some personal vendetta. It's a tried and true fact that there will always be those who willingly stand up and let hateful drivel flow from their mouths.

I guess I was just being naïve when I thought this wouldn't happen with Haiti.

How could anyone, seeing the daily-increasing devastation, knowingly attempt to broadcast his or her own, narrow-minded and hateful ideas? Who could look into the tortured, broken faces and sneer? How is it possible that someone could watch the news reports and not see the tragic loss of human life?

Apparently, it's possible. Since the earthquake that shook Haiti to its core, a different kind of aftershock has been felt across the globe: that of the insensitive comments made in the face of the tragedy. They range from the stupid to the truly cutting, inserting religion, politics, and even personal ire into a situation that definitely does not call for such remarks.

The day after the earthquake, Rush Limbaugh made some not-so-savory comments about Haiti on his morning radio program. He brazenly attacked the relief organization set up in the White House, encouraging listeners not to donate to the fund. As he so eloquently put it: "You already give to the Haitian relief- it's called the income tax."

Of course, this ignited a firestorm amongst relief groups and Limbaugh critics, who accused him of promoting the message that there was no need, or point, even, to donate to relief funds (and yes, it did sound like that). Limbaugh, of course, was quick to defend with the statement that he was, instead, attempting to get people to donate to funds run by the Red Cross and the like.

He might have scraped by with that "support", but other comments are a bit

harder to take back, aren't they, Rush? In the same radio program, he also claimed that President Obama and his cabinet would use Haiti as a way to get closer to the "light-skinned and dark-skinned black communities in this country."

Oh, so that was the reason Obama went to Haiti's aid. Not because thousands of people were suffering, but for a political agenda. It all makes perfect sense now.

Just ignore the fact that the majority of America supports him; ignore the fact that relief organizations within the government have worked together before: this is clearly all to do with support ratings. No offense, Rush, but I think Mr. President has a little more on his mind right now.

Unfortunately, Limbaugh's comments only scrape the top of the heap. Below his on the rung of insensitivity (and complete lunacy, to tell the truth), lie the comments of a Pat Robertson, who proved that anyone, anyone can insert religion into a completely non-religious issue if they just try hard enough. My hat is off to you, Mr. Robertson.

On the same day as Limbaugh's commentary, Pat Robertson decided to make his views on why this happened to Haiti known. And, boy, did he have some good ones. Robertson claims that Haiti, as a whole, made a "pact with the Devil" in order to escape French colonial rule, and so have been plagued with misfortune ever since. Yep, the Devil made them do it.

Before we get to the actual statement, let's look at the facts, ones that Pat probably could have learned a lot from: 80 percent of Haitians identify themselves as Roman Catholic, followed by the Protestants at 16 percent. Now, am I going crazy, or was a main focus of those religions to stay away from the Devil? Did I get hundreds of years of Christianity and Catholicism incorrect? Or is there another kind of Catholicism, and Protestantism, that only Pat Robertson knows about?

I'm going to lean towards a no for the answer. And, so, the issue comes back to why anyone would even consider making such a blatantly idiotic and insensitive remark? If it's not bad enough that Haiti just experienced a major national disaster, it also turns out it's all their fault. Kick 'em while they're down, eh, Pat?

But the final indignity comes in the form of Pat Shirley, a former NBA player who felt the need to not only comment on the Haiti disaster, but also to write a letter to all Haitians. Pat Shirley, you get my award for the most insensitive pinhead to roam the face of the Earth. Shirley penned a long letter on Jan. 26, detailing just how he felt about

the Haiti situation.

He begins with firmly stating that he will not donate any money to the Haitian relief, and begins to list his reasons for doing so. His arguments basically consist of him blaming the Haitians for their situation, and for relying on the rest of the world to help them out. Shirley argues that Haiti should be able to pull itself out of the hole, while the world looks on.

That's just wonderful. You really emphasized the collectiveness of man there. Who cares if we have a lot of money and resources? Why should we have to help some other country attempt to live? Survival of the fittest, right? Anyway, if they fail, that's one less country we have to worry about.

The blows keep coming, however, when Shirley pens a letter directly to the "Haitian people, applauding them on "developing the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere." And it only gets worse. After encouraging Haiti to build fewer shantytowns, Shirley also recommends "maybe using a condom once in a while." He signs off as "The Rest of the World."

What?! What?! How dare he! This has got to be the most offensive, the most insensitive letter ever written to anyone.

Hang human compassion and understanding; just criticize them to within an inch of their already fragile lives! It appears that it is just too much to ask that people simply help these people trying to rebuild their lives. I know that there are those who always feel the need to get a comment in, but enough is enough. A couple of lessons on self-restraint, and, yes, empathy is in order here.

And then, of course, he has the audacity to sign it as the rest of the world. It shames me that anyone will even have to see this letter, much more to assume that this is some kind of twisted world opinion. Just because you don't have a caring bone in your body, Pat Shirley, doesn't mean that the rest of the world can't care and attempt to help those less fortunate.

In the end, the results are all the same: disgust and humiliation. I don't care who you think you are, mocking people in this kind of situation, in any kind of situation below yours, is never right.

Shame on all those who perpetrate such lies and insensitivity and hatred, for lack of a better word. It is our duty, as a world power, to help those who are less fortunate than us. I don't care how you think it should be run, why you think this happened, or any of that. Keep your mouth shut, and turn off the idiocy and insensitivity factories that seem to have replaced your brain.

No one, I repeat no one, has the right to mock tragedy, incriminate the victims, or thwart relief attempts. No one has the right to play judge when faced with a disaster of this magnitude. Perhaps you should have thought before you spoke. ☹

Nonviolent conflict resolution an essential tool in work, life

Every student has had the experience: the alarm goes off loudly at 7 a.m., it's still dark outside, your bed is especially warm, and you can't help but think, "is school really worth it?" A parent can usually be counted on to enter the room at this time repeating that ever-encouraging mantra, "school is important for your future!"

After hearing this so many times, it's impossible not to question just what about school makes it so important.

Every school has a standard curriculum consisting of math, science, English, history, and physical education. There's no doubt that all of these subjects have merit and are important to learn about for certain careers, but not much of the subject matter has a practical application.

How many times a day in life outside of school do you find yourself in desperate need of an algebra equation? It's not often that a social situation requires you to remember the themes and symbolism used in "Catcher in the Rye", either.

High school is a time when students prepare for their adult lives. A part of this preparation is the shaping of a student's morals and guidelines, the rules with which one will live by.

The duty of the school is to aid the student in this preparation and to give them the tools they need to be successful. Certainly all of these subjects are important to learn, but a school can't be considered successful if it produces intellectuals that aren't ready to handle life's everyday conflicts.

According to the American Psychological Association, the average American family has a conflict every eight minutes. Though there's no data to prove it, this may be just slightly more than the number of times the average American family uses the Law of Cosines.

Everyone can acknowledge that conflict is a part of everyday life, yet there is no high school curriculum that teaches students how to resolve it. The closest students get to receiving such an education is a brief unit or two on con-

flict in health.

As the future of the nation, the students of this generation need to know how to effectively use nonviolent conflict resolution.

According to the Kaiser Family Foundation study, kids and teens spend 7.5 hours a day engaging with media, more time than they spend with any other activity besides sleeping. Now more than ever, young people are constantly bombarded with violent images and themes by this media. From an early age, youths are exposed to violence and shown that it's a credible way to solve any problem.

With the increasing violence present both in the world and our very own neighborhoods, it's probable that if schools don't teach peace to youth, someone or something else will teach them otherwise.

It's hard to compete with 7.5 hours of media exposure and the surrounding violence teens experience or witness in their everyday lives, but the least a school could do is to offer 45 minutes of alternative options.

If students were offered a chance to experience, discuss and analyze conflict as well as possible resolutions to that conflict, they could learn ways to avert violence and see the positive outcomes of peace-

ful solutions.

In order to secure a future that's safe for all, peaceful conflict resolution needs to be a skill that all students have and are practiced at.

Many high schools have already integrated nonviolent conflict resolution as an elective class into their curriculum.

These classes are even more common at the college and graduate level. Clayton High School has an excellent academic record, but the success of a school is not just measured in the IQ of its students.

For Clayton to truly be a launching pad for its students, more practical classes such as nonviolent conflict resolution should be added to the curriculum. ☹



Sarah Tait



Jeoma Onyema has had her violin for seven years, and it holds many meaningful memories MCT Campus

Sight of violin sparks memories of early childhood experiences

Looking around in the orchestra room, you spot an old violin coated with sticky residue from rosin. Play it and you'll find yourself enjoying one scratchy tune. Look out world, it's Violet.

Violet and I have been together since 5th grade. I started violin in fourth grade and my mom got me a rental. Though it had a really shiny rock in it, it still lacked the companionship I so longed for.

It was a lovely late afternoon in summer when my mom brought violet home. When my mom arrived with it she told me I couldn't open it but I couldn't help it.

The sunlight glimmered of her golden brown coat as I slowly opened the case and there she was. I know this sounds lame but I even teared up a little; I had never seen anything so heavenly. Well maybe a whole bunch of corn on the cob, but I was 9 years old at the time, can you really blame me?

She had a couple of flaws—some chipped part at her curvy bottom, but she was all mine.

I wrapped my finger around one of the strings and gave it a strong pull. The sounds resonating from the string was divine even with my mom shouting at me for opening the case.

Once school started, I couldn't help

but flaunt my mediocre violin skills as I showed off Violet. Then the unspeakable happened: I dropped her. There was a dead silence as I picked her up to give the diagnosis; it didn't look like anything looked off. Relieved, I packed her up and went on my way.

At home, I celebrated by playing like a fool; twisting all the knobs and tuners. I cranked one of the peg tuners as far as I could and it snapped.

The A-String. Not only that, but the string whipped across my face so fast that I actually started bleeding. I flung her back into the case, furious and oozing blood.

After awhile, I realized that I should have resisted showboating and just played from my heart. My teachers have always told me that there's no "I" in "team". Although I usually replied with a snarky comment about "I" being in "violin," it occurred to me that in the end, it's not about how good the violin looks, but how well you play.

After that episode, we never looked back; we just played.

We've been everywhere together, orchestra-wise. Kansas City, the Lake of the Ozarks; we've seen victory and we've seen defeat, but every single time we played quality music. She has been my extension for fine art for a good seven years and though she's looking rusty, she's still got it. ☹

Jeoma Onyema



Raid On Na! On!!

The Globe student newspaper exists primarily to inform, entertain, and represent the student body at CHS to the best of its ability. It serves as a public forum for the Clayton community. All content decisions are made by the student editors.

The Globe is self-funded for all publishing costs and offers advertising to all school-appropriate businesses. Please contact our office for more information. The Globe is distributed to students each month of the school year. We also offer bulk mailing subscriptions for \$20 a year and first-class subscriptions for \$30 a year.

Editorials
Unsigned staff editorials will appear only on the designated opinion page and shall represent a majority opinion of the staff. A by-lined editorial reflects only the view of the writer. The views expressed on the editorial page do not necessarily reflect the views of any of the faculty, the administration or the board of education.

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All letters to the editor must be signed when submitted to the editorial staff. The paper reserves the right to edit letters for length and repetition. Publication of letters is subject to the laws of libel, obscenity, incitement and copyright.

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Messy Play!



1. Senior Shelby Sternberg finger paints with a child during "Messy Play" at the Family Center. "Messy Play" is an annual event organized by the Community Service Club. 2. Senior Jessica Zaccarello shows a "Messy Play" participant the cool effects of Ooblick, a mixture of cornstarch and water. 3. Junior Kevin Matheny helps a younger child in sculpting with Clean Mud, a concoction of soap and toilet paper. 4. A Family Center student makes a picture with different colored pasta. 5. Junior Allison Goldfarb and a Family Center student show off their messy hands from playing with colored shaving cream. 6. Junior Marin Klostermeier paints a child's hand for a hand print activity. 7. Junior Zeina Ziade works with a girl playing with flubber. 8. Sophomore Amanda Wagner helps students draw with melted crayons. This was one of the most popular activities of the day. 9. Senior Sonja Petermann also helped out at the melted crayon station. 10. A boy at the Family Center gets messy at the shaving cream station. 11. Senior Erin Murray interacts with a child at the shaving cream station. Murray is the secretary of Community Service Club and helped organize the event.

