



FASHION SHOW

A selection of clothing and accessories by student designers was on display in a fun-filled evening of fashion, music, and entertainment.

pg. 12

Planned Parenthood responds to criticism, House legislation

Dawn Androphy
Co-Editor in Chief

The Planned Parenthood Federation of America has never existed without controversy and attacks on its very existence. Recent scrutiny and federal legislation have brought the organization under fire to the point where its employees have developed a growing concern for the future.

In spite of the recent struggles, leaders of the Planned Parenthood of the St. Louis Region have continued to work hard with the intention of bringing reproductive health services to women in the Greater St. Louis area. Planned Parenthood of the St. Louis Region is estimated to serve 50,000 patients this year and 95 percent of these services will be prevention services.

President and CEO of Planned Parenthood of the St. Louis Region, Paula Gianino, has observed an increase in hate mail from pro-life groups and individuals as the U.S. House recently voted to defund Planned Parenthood and pro-life

groups have secretly recorded conversations with Planned Parenthood staff and released them to the conservative media.

The conservative organization Live Action was behind the secret recordings and recorded interactions at a New Jersey Planned Parenthood between two Live Action members posing as a pimp and an underage prostitute and a Planned Parenthood employee. They acted out the same scenario at various Planned Parenthood centers and a clinic manager at a New Jersey location helped advise the Live Action plants.

Planned Parenthood reported a possible underage sex-trafficking ring to authorities due to the surge in similar scenarios before it was revealed that Live Action was behind the incidents. After the recording of the conversation between the clinic manager and the Live Action employees was released, Planned Parenthood promptly fired the clinic manager for her behavior.

Board Member of Planned Parenthood of the St. Louis Region Linda Raclin has observed a significant

decrease in morale amongst Planned Parenthood employees since the Live Action incident.

"I think that the staff members at Planned Parenthood right here in St. Louis feel like they work so hard to maintain their own professionalism and be as courteous and professional with patients as they can," Raclin said. "When they read about this one staff member at the Planned Parenthood in New Jersey, who they felt was not being very professional in her interactions with the Live Action intruders who came into the clinic, I think it just hurt their morale. They felt like somebody on their team let them down."

Raclin is leading a special task force to handle the recent publicity challenges facing Planned Parenthood with fundraisers, communicating with supporters, and organizing educational forums.

"It's our job to coordinate the Board's efforts to combat negative publicity generated by the Live Action attacks and to also generate support for Planned Parenthood in connection to the attacks against them currently going on in Congress," Raclin said.

In spite of the increase in hate mail, Gianino has been pleased to observe increased written and monetary support.

Planned Parenthood, pg. 5



St. Louis's historic opera house lay dormant for years. With the help of funding from a few key corporate sponsors, the newly-named Peabody Opera House will reopen to the public in the fall.

Peabody Opera House under construction to reopen fall 2011

Sarah Blackwell
Editor

One of St. Louis' most historical buildings gets a makeover that will be complete this fall.

What used to be the Kiel Opera House is now called Peabody Opera House. This classic St. Louis landmark was first opened in 1934 and closed in 1991. The building was inspired by the Beautiful City movement in the early 1900s.

It is in need of renovation and a fresh design before it can be reopened in the fall of 2011. The opera house has hosted operas, rock concerts and everything in between,

making it one of the most memorable places for citizens of St. Louis.

These memories may be continued in years to come, as the opera house is due to open this fall. However, structural changes will be made in order to revamp and secure the building.

In addition, the opera house now sports the name Peabody Opera House, after Peabody Energy. Peabody Energy is headquartered in the downtown St. Louis area, but provides power to 10 percent of the United States as well as 2 percent of the world.

Opera House, pg. 5

A closer look at...

Jackie Leong

In 1999, Clayton School District chose to continue participation in what is today called the Voluntary Student Transfer (VST) Program. In 2008, the district voted to extend the program another five years. And with the issue slated to come up again in 2013, discussions will start up next year.

To fully understand the program, it is important to realize that there are multiple aspects that must be considered. Financially, the district receives per-pupil reimbursement, the value of which has gone down

over the years since the program started, and which also provides the district with beneficial state funding. Within the Clayton community, many value the program as a source of diversity and opportunity.

However, the program also suffers from the various misconceptions about the effects of the program that stem from these issues.

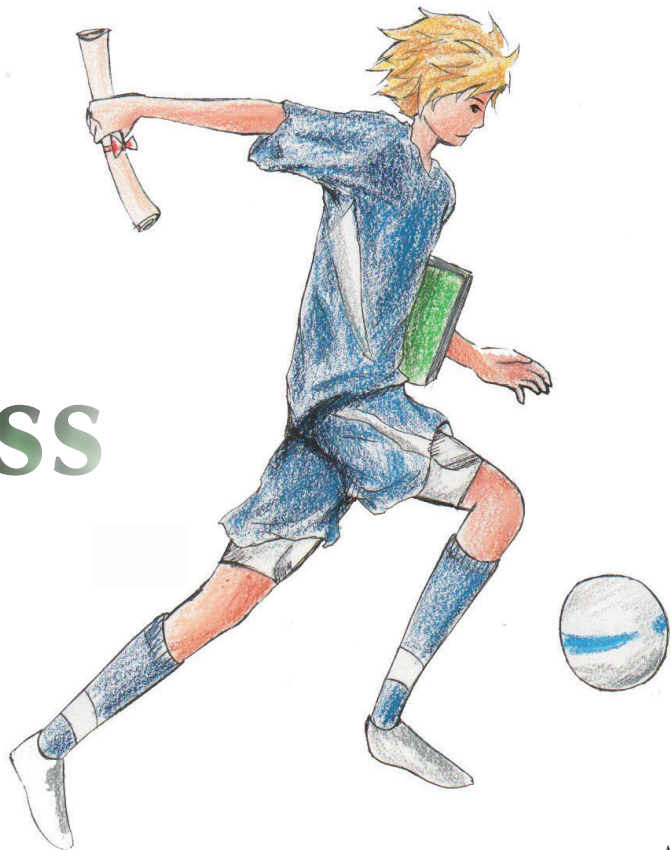
To get a clear picture, one must look at the issue from all angles and get at what's really beneath all the hype.



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Helen Wiley

Drive for Success



Mimi Liu

Scholar-athletes excel with strong GPAs, improved athletic performance

Jake Bernstein
Editor

The Hounds had great success this past fall sports season, with boys' cross country, football and soccer teams advancing to the state playoffs. The girls' tennis and boys' swim teams were much improved as well. However, these accomplishments paled in comparison to the academic achievement of the fall teams.

This past fall season, nine of the 11 varsity teams qualified for the Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA) Scholastic Achievement Awards. The award necessitates an average team GPA of 3.0 or better. Athletic Director Bob Bone expressed gratitude toward the student athlete population.

"I think that the job that our student athletes are able to do, not only in the classroom but on the courts, fields and pools is just phenomenal," Bone said. "The way we are able to balance the two is I think pretty special to Clayton High School."

Superintendent Mary Herrmann agreed that this balance of academic and athletic success reflects "very posi-

tively on the entire school community."

Senior Charlie Beard is boys' swim team captain and led his team to success in the classroom and in the pool. The boys' swim team had an average GPA of 3.71, the strongest GPA of the fall sports teams.

"I know many very talented kids who excel in both areas: academics and athletics," Beard said. "It is an honor to go to school with these scholar-athletes every day."

Student athletes are in contact with their coaches for several hours on a daily basis. As representatives of the Clayton School District, coaches put academics before athletics. Cross country coach Kurtis Werner said that, in one instance, he kept an individual out of practice until work was complete, but the problem solved itself.

"There are a few that will struggle academically, but most of the time, as a coach, a phone call home or a quick email will usually solve the problem on the parental front," Werner said. "I have been very fortunate to not have to do that too many times."

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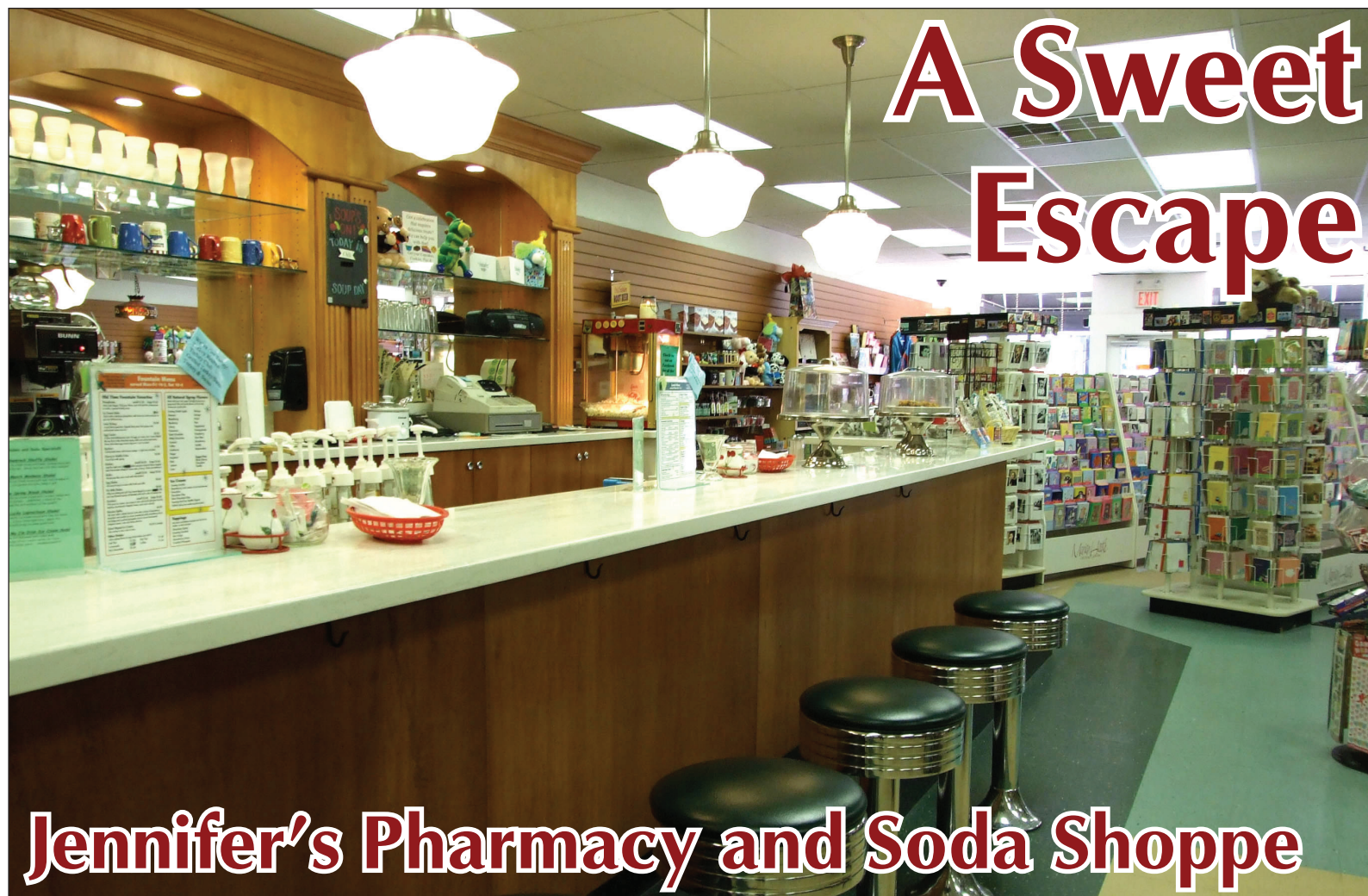
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A Sweet Escape

Jennifer's Pharmacy and Soda Shoppe

Noah Eby
Co-Editor in Chief

From the moment I first opened the creaky, squeaky door and stepped into Jennifer's Pharmacy and Soda Shoppe, I knew that I was entering an unusual realm – a place so friendly and welcoming that it is almost intoxicating.

"You know we can still see you if you're trying to hide behind all those boxes," called a woman from behind the soda counter, Mary Ruth, speaking to the substantially burdened deliveryman who had walked in before me.

"You can't see me!" he playfully replied. Within seconds of entering the store, I was smiling.

In more ways than one, Jennifer's tends to have that effect on people. The old-fashioned, home-style store moved into its current location at 30 N. Central Ave. in 2005 after spending 14 years down the street as solely a pharmacy.

Now Jennifer's offers everything from cards, books, toys, candy, games and other kitschy merchan-

dise that you won't find at a local Walgreen's.

But what is ultimately the most inviting and most delicious aspect of Jennifer's is the soda shoppe, a white countertop fully equipped with cushy swivel stools and trays of cookies and pies.

"The fountain itself is just the metal part in the center on the backside, and it's from the 1920s, it's an antique," said Jennifer Rich, the owner, pharmacist and namesake of the store. "I got that from an elderly couple in Oregon, so it cost me more to have it shipped here than I actually paid for it, and then all of this just started happening."

The pharmacy itself is unusual. It is a compounding pharmacy, meaning Jennifer makes medicine, creams, capsules, liquid solutions – even medicine for pets.

She also offers all-natural supplements and skin care products, much like a health foods store.

The food at Jennifer's is unique and delicious. Award-winning shakes – including the pie milkshake, a must-try – salads and sandwiches of

all sorts, pies, cookies, and the meatloaf melt are only a handful of the possibilities.

"All the food is house-made," said Isabel, Mary Ruth's partner behind the counter. "The meatloaf, the soups, the pies, it's all made from scratch here at Jennifer's."

Taking a seat at the lunch counter is a recipe for great food and, just as important, more than a few laughs. Mary Ruth and Isabel are, in many ways, the best part of Jennifer's.

They began working at Jennifer's after teaching together for almost two decades at First Presbyterian Preschool, and their friendship is clear.

Their banter from behind the counter is always entertaining, and their interactions with customers are priceless.

"We have a lot of regulars," Mary Ruth said. "I never remember any-

body's name, so I have nicknames for everybody."

"Thing 1" and "Thing 2" (two men who work at the County offices), "Hollywood" (a man from California) and "Hearty Soup Man" are among their favorites.

"You know my name!" chimed in the man sitting at the counter to my left, Terry.

"Terry I do know," Mary Ruth conceded. "Ok, so I know one name out of a hundred."

The conversation then moved on to the man at the end of the counter, who was nursing what seemed to be a swollen cheek.

The man reminded Terry of when he had stones in his saliva ducts, much like kidney stones but in the mouth.

"The doctor said the best way to draw it out was to use Sweet Tarts," Terry said.

"It's just fun. We get to know them, we get to know their families, they get to know us – it's a great place."

Isabel
Jennifer's Pharmacy

Community coverage

The Patch, a news platform founded in 2007, provides "hyperlocal," online news coverage for communities throughout the country.

Zach Prais
Community Editor

Clayton seems greener nowadays.

This year, the warm approach of spring is not only reviving the flowers and tree lined streets of Clayton, but it is also breathing life into the new sprouting seedling of the Patch in the community.

The Patch was founded in 2007 to provide local news coverage for individual communities through the platform of an engaging and interactive news website.

After being bought in 2009 by AOL, the Patch has flourished, blossoming in over 750 communities and towns in 19 states across the country.

This past December Clayton was introduced to the Patch with the creation of the joint Clayton-Richmond Heights Patch.

"Patch is really an effort to give communities throughout the nation, most typically around larger more metropolitan areas like St. Louis, a really good feel for what's going on in their community," said Nate Birt, the Editor of the Clayton-Richmond Heights Patch.

All of local Patch Editors live either within or in close proximity of the community they cover.

Instead of working from an office, editors work out of community centers, coffee shops, cafes, or parks to further embrace the atmosphere and livelihood of their communities.

As a result, the Patch reports on specifically community news such as local governmental decisions like the Clayton School Board of Education's recent approval of the final designs for Wydown Middle School or controversial neighborhood issues like the Hadley Township in Richmond Heights.

The Patch brings these hyperlocal issues to the attention of community residents with regularly updating information.

"St. Louis is a very media savvy area," Birt said. "People read a lot of different media and are very engaged in

what is going on in their communities...As a Patch Editor, I am here to supplement the media coverage that's already being given and provide some additional coverage in areas that have not been explored."

Furthermore, Birt innovatively utilizes the website to engage readers and viewers.

Each evening, a video called a PatchCast is posted to the site that summarizes the highlights of the day's local news of the region.

"Part of my job as an editor is to use the web medium to best serve our readers and viewers," said Birt.

At the same time, the Patch seeks to create a conversation between members of the community and their local editor.

Birt, who avidly takes advantage of social media, is always open to comments, story ideas, and recommendations from readers and viewers.

"As a company, Patch is really making an effort to interact with readers not only through its website but also through social media like Facebook and Twitter," Birt said. "It promotes a conversation...As an editor for Patch, my goal is to be someone who can interact with readers."

A central part of the Patch is this community participation.

Anybody in the community has the opportunity to report something on the site that they feel is newsworthy.

"It's really about interactions with people in the community and giving them kudos and giving them the credit for being our eyes and ears when we are not always able to be everywhere," Birt said.

The Patch also allows its readers to post announcements about local events on the website's calendar that, as Birt explains, you might not see on the 6 p.m. news but are still important to a lot of people.

In the end, Birt looks forward to continuing to grow and improve the site by engaging the residents of Clayton and Richmond Heights.

"I am really excited about the possibilities," Birt said. "I think it's a great opportunity and I'm having a blast." ☺

"It's really about interactions with people in the community and giving them kudos and giving them the credit for being our eyes and ears when we are not always able to be everywhere."

Nate Birt
Editor of the Clayton-Richmond Heights Patch



Photos by Madeline Fleming



Jennifer's Pharmacy and Soda Shoppe has found a cozy niche within downtown Clayton and a warm place in the hearts of many customers. The small shop offers an abundance of eclectic merchandise, but it is most loved for its famous desserts served at the 1920s fountain (far left). This includes its classic banana split sundae (above). Milkshakes are also a popular menu item (left). The environment is friendly and the food is good, making it a great shop for anyone. Although the shop is known for its desserts, lunch items are popular, as well.

"I would've never guessed that," Mary Ruth replied.

Later, I asked Mary Ruth what her specialty is – Isabel's is making the pies. She turned and asked Isabel, standing at the end of the counter. Making the salads was the response, and "she keeps everybody happy" too.

"Your specialty is rapport," Terry quipped, much to Mary Ruth's amusement.

"Ok, there we go," she said. "You won me over."

Such small talk, casual yet intimate, is what makes Jennifer's so warm and welcoming. Mary Ruth and Isabel genuinely have fun interacting with the customers – regulars, newbies, young, old – who walk in the door, and it's clear that they truly love what they do.

"It's just fun," Isabel said. "We get to know them, we get to know their families, they get to know us – it's a great place."

An example of the close bond that the ladies behind the counter form with their customers is a 92-year-old, white-haired man who they call

Norm – he is one of Mary Ruth and Isabel's favorites.

"We love it when old people come in," Isabel said as she began to giggle. "We're fond of old men."

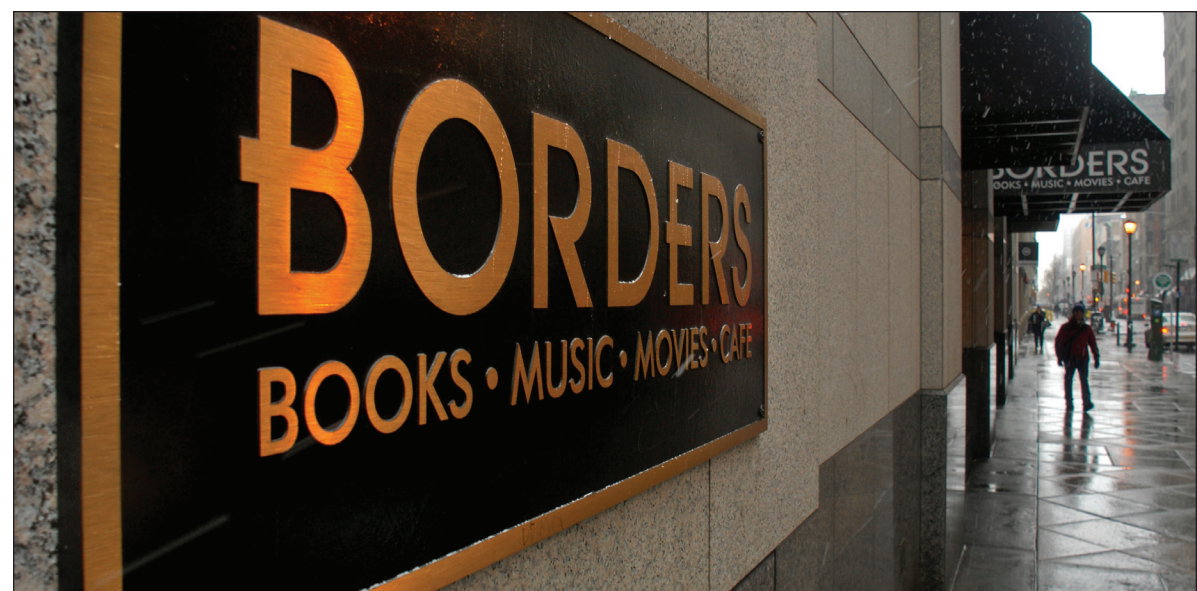
Perhaps the part of Jennifer's that best represents the store as a whole is the "Wall of Fame," a modestly sized picture collage that adorns the back-left wall.

It is a visual documentation of the regulars, the "fun, special, people" who flock to Jennifer's, Isabel said. Some of the photos on the wall, she added somberly, show people who have since passed away.

The "Wall of Fame" epitomizes Jennifer's old-fashioned, friendly, homey atmosphere; it shows an appreciation and a real care for their customers.

This April, Jennifer's will mark its twentieth anniversary. Though plans have not been finalized, Jennifer said that some sort of celebration is in the works.

In the meantime, the door is always open for lunch and a stool is always waiting at one of Clayton's most lovely and unique shops. ☺



Tom Gralish/Philadelphia Inquirer/MCT

Both independent booksellers and national bookstore chains are facing financial challenges as interest in electronic books increase and online bookstores like Amazon.com become more popular.

Bookstores struggle as e-book, online sales rise

Laura Bleeker
Managing Editor

Paper books, like paper newspapers, are falling out of fashion. An increased interest in digitalized books, chain bookstores, and online competition has challenged small, independent bookstores for years. And now, it is testing large, national bookstores as well.

Even though these book superstores have historically been successful, stores like Borders have been struggling financially recently. Borders is experiencing the repercussions of not having jumped on the idea of e-books as quickly as its competitor Barnes & Noble did with its product Nook.

Amazon.com, the largest online retailer in the United States, has also hurt larger stores like Borders badly. The site allows users to order books online, a popular substitution to buying books at an actual bookstore.

"I prefer ordering books online instead of going to a store to buy them because of the convenience," junior Corrine Yap said. "I don't always have time to drive to a bookstore and look for a book, and

sometimes, the book I'm looking for isn't in the store. Most of the time, I manage to get free shipping as well, so it doesn't cost anything extra."

Amazon also has a popular e-book similar to the Nook, called the Kindle. In the last quarter of 2010, Amazon reported it had sold more e-books for the Kindle than it had in actual paperbacks.

Near the beginning of the year, Borders announced to major publishers that they would delay their payments to them as they continued refinancing talks.

"I would be disappointed if a large bookstore like Borders would close, but not completely surprised," Yap said. "When undergoing an economic recession, such as the one we're in now, humans have a history of letting education go first. So it's only to be expected that a bookstore like Borders would be neglected, especially with the competition from Barnes and Noble and Amazon."

Borders filed for bankruptcy protection in the middle of February but they assured the public that their stores would remain open during the bankruptcy process. Borders currently has 650 stores and 19,500 employees.

It's not only book superstores like Borders that are being hard hit financially, though. Small, independent bookstores have suffered many years of financial tribulations.

"In my opinion it's really independent bookstores that suffer from e-book sales because they're already hurt from big corporate stores like Borders," junior Rosalind Cuneo said. "Borders is already able to compete with Barnes and Noble and Amazon, and I don't think that e-book sales will change this dynamic, especially if Borders develops their own e-reader."

It is clear that books and bookstores are moving in a different direction. But it is still unclear as to what will prevail and what will fail in the grand scheme of things.

"I think the country is moving more towards e-books but that paper books will never become obsolete" Yap said. "I know of several people, myself included, who prefer owning and holding a physical book rather than having a digital library. For me, it's the experience of reading. I enjoy having a book in my hands and being able to turn the pages while reading rather than looking at a digitalized copy." ☺

Fair showcases youth volunteer opportunities

Lauren Friedman
Reporter

Along with all of the activities that CHS students are involved with outside of academics, volunteering has become prominent among students as a way for them to reach out and to contribute to the community in a number of different ways. As a way to expose students to all of the volunteering opportunities around St. Louis, an organization founded by former CHS student Simone Bernstein called St. Louis Volunteer will join together with The Magic House and St. Louis Children's Museum to host the Second Annual Volunteer Fair, promoting youth volunteerism that can be found around the St. Louis Area.

Simone Bernstein started the local organization during the summer of 2009, and while she has moved on to college, the organization is currently developing a Junior Board as it promotes the upcoming fair. She is looking forward to this year's fair and hopes that those who attend the fair find programs that suit their interests.

"The St. Louis Youth and Family Volunteer Fair is an annual event," Simone Bernstein said, "and a fantastic way for students and families of young children to learn about summer, weekend, and virtual volunteer opportunities for B'nai Mitzvah projects, high school National Honor Society duties and fulfilling general high school and middle school service graduation requirement."

A number of CHS students have become involved in the organization and are currently putting a great deal of effort toward organizing the fair. Junior Emma Vierod helped to coordinate last year's fair and believes that the fair has a lot to offer youth of all ages.

"I think that the fair is a great opportunity," Vierod

said. "Students get to meet and talk to the people who run the organizations and programs, as well as listen to first hand experiences from current volunteers."

Vierod is excited to see how many students will come out to the fair this year, and she is hoping that the numbers will even increase from last year.

The fair is helpful because it provides both short and long term volunteer opportunities. Junior Jake Bernstein,

Co-founder of St. Louis Volunteer, believes that long-term volunteer opportunities allow students to become dedicated to something for a long period of time.

"The fact that the fair brings so many local nonprofit organizations together for students to choose from offers students an interactive, productive experience," Jake Bernstein said.

Jake Bernstein believes that the fair, catering to all sorts of interests, successfully promotes youth volunteering around the St. Louis area.

A few students were so pleased with the opportunities that last year's fair provided that they decided to help organize this year's fair. Senior Joseph Dillon recalls his satisfaction with last

year's Volunteer Fair and the way that it offered a wide range of volunteer opportunities close to home that would suit anyone's interests.

"There were so many different groups at the fair," Dillon said. "There was everything from baseball to working with puppies to horseback riding. Whatever your interest is, there is sure to be a group for you."

The 2nd Annual St. Louis Youth and Family Volunteer Fair will be held on Sunday, April 10 from 1-4 p.m. at the Magic House. Over 30 non-profit organizations will attend and admission to the event is free with a can of food donation per person, which will be donated to a local food bank. ☺

"The St. Louis Youth and Family Volunteer Fair is an annual event and is a fantastic way for students and families of young children to learn about volunteer opportunities."

Simone Bernstein
Founder of St. Louis
Volunteer



Senior Joseph Dillon listens intently to a representative of one of the many nonprofits that presented at the 2010 fair. Various kinds of volunteering opportunities were presented at last year's St. Louis Volunteer Fair.



The Juice Box offers community involvement along with healthy food choices at its new location at 3101 Arsenal. Globe Staff

South City's Juice Box uses healthy food to promote nutrition, community

Sri Panth
Reporter

There is an old saying that when there is darkness, there is also light. For a neighborhood in South Grand that is filled with gang violence and poverty, a local store called Juice Box serves as its light.

Juice Box at 3101 Arsenal St. is not your normal convenience store; it is a social enterprise that has become a haven for the residents of that neighborhood due its advocacy of healthy living and its homey environment.

Its owner Shawn McKie, a vegan, previously worked for GNC, a nutrition center that sells vitamins and other health products. However, he was faced with a sudden tragedy: his mother had a stroke.

"I had to take a leave from GNC and take care of my mother," McKie said. "After caring for her, I had an epiphany: why not use my experience of caretaking for my mom and working at GNC in order to create a way that would help everyone live a healthy lifestyle."

He decided to open a corner store in Augusta, Georgia, that would sell pro-health merchandise such as protein bars and vitamin supplements. Thus, the first Juice Box store was

created. However, McKie later moved to South Grand, St. Louis.

McKie's was astonished when he saw the broken condition of the neighborhood he had moved into: gang violence, high crime rates, and poverty.

"The neighborhood I moved into was a food desert, which is a term that is used for communities that do not have easy access to grocers or cannot afford to buy their products," McKie said.

Thus, McKie's goal expanded: he not only wanted to promote healthy living, but he wanted Juice Box to be the solution to the food desert problem and be a safe haven for residents during grim times. He not only wanted Juice Box to grow and develop as an enterprise, but he wanted the neighboring communities to develop with it.

"I think an essential aspect of Juice Box is the fact that is community owned, which plays on people's trust factor," McKie said. "Despite all the gang violence, no one messes with this store and there are no robberies. A big reason why people come to Juice Box in the first place is because it is like a second home for them."

Juice Box has many programs for kids and adults that promote healthy

living and education and builds teamwork within the community. Every year, Juice Box's senior customers and its teenage customers work together to make harvest vegetables from the community garden.

There is also a poetry slam two days away month where people from all ages get to show off their artistic talent. There are also subtle ways Juice Box helps the community, such as allowing kids to do homework there and having daily health clinics.

Juice Box has been doing wonders for South Grand neighborhoods and its efforts have been recognized, most notably by First Lady Michelle Obama who gave a nod to Juice Box as "one of the most innovative early stage social enterprises in the nation" during a speech about the Social Innovation Fund. McKie said that he is thinking of expanding Juice Box to other locations in St. Louis.

McKie wants their programs to help the future generation live healthy.

"I do not want them to have to endure the health hardships that many people in our current generation have been facing," McKie said. "I feel helping achieve this goal is something I am obligated to do."

To learn more, visit Juice Box's website at www.juiceproject.org. ☺

Clayton journalism students awarded at local conference

Parker Schultz
Reporter

Student journalists from around the Greater St. Louis area gathered at Webster University on March 7 to attend the 2011 Sponsors of School Publications (SSP) Spring Conference.

The 620 journalism students each chose two seminars from out of 50 breakout sessions ranging from how to build info-graphics to marketing yearbooks.

Clayton was one of the 29 schools that sent students. The Globe, GNN and the Clamo yearbook were all represented. None of the Clayton teachers held their own classes, but there were plenty of others to choose from.

One class, "Tips to Promote Your Website to Get More Visitors", taught by Aaron Manfull, showed

students how to increase web traffic. Manfull, a high school journalism teacher at Francis Howell North, shared his own experiences in creating a multi-media classroom.

The convention invited several big names in journalism from St. Louis to give sessions. Bill McClellan, a St. Louis Post-Dispatch columnist, talked to budding writers. The keynote speaker was Art Holiday, a KSDK anchor. He told the story of his career in journalism and discussed the lessons he had learned.

At the end of the convention, everyone gathered in the Webster University gym.

Awards based on submitted entries were handed out to newspapers, yearbooks and the students who worked on them. The Globe took home 14 awards, 12 of which were individuals, and 11 GNN students earned individual awards. ☺

The Globe won a SUPERIOR for Overall Newspaper;
The chsglobe.com won an EXCELLENT for Online News;
Junior Noah Eby won BEST OF SHOW for Front Page Design;
Sophomore Meredith McMahon won a SUPERIOR for Newspaper Illustration;
Senior Anat Gross won a SUPERIOR for Sports Feature;
Junior Zach Prais won a SUPERIOR for Sports News;
Senior Elizabeth Sikora won an EXCELLENT for News Sports Photo;
Senior Helen Wiley won an EXCELLENT for Newspaper Illustration;
Senior Mimi Liu won an EXCELLENT for Newspaper Illustration;
Junior Ben Colagiovanni won an HONORABLE MENTION for News Story;
Juniors Noah Eby and Shuyang Li HONORABLE MENTION for In-Depth Reporting;
Junior Laura Blecke HONORABLE MENTION for Feature Story;
Senior Dawn Androphy HONORABLE MENTION for In-Depth Reporting;
Senior Sophie Newman won an EXCELLENT award for Broadcast Sports Story;
Sophomore Tyler Walker won an EXCELLENT award for Broadcast Sports Story;
Sophomore Aidan Hayward won a SUPERIOR award for Broadcast Sports Story;
Sophomore Varun Chakravarthy won a SUPERIOR award for Broadcast Sports Story;
Junior Margaret Mulligan won an HONORABLE MENTION award for Broadcast Feature Story;
Senior Cecily Lane won an HONORABLE MENTION award for Broadcast Feature Story;
Junior Jocelyn Cooper won an HONORABLE MENTION award for Broadcast Feature Story;
Junior Antonio Wilson won an HONORABLE MENTION award for Broadcast Feature Story;
Senior Danielle Eisenberg won an HONORABLE MENTION award for Broadcast Feature Story;
Senior Sophie Newman won an EXCELLENT award for Broadcast News Story;
Junior Antonio Wilson won an EXCELLENT award for Broadcast News Story.

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Film examines everyday 'Race to Nowhere'

The recent movie "Race to Nowhere" has spurred debate about student stress and workload, questioning the merits of the modern educational system. The film has inspired reflection among students, teachers, and parents in the Clayton community.

Sarah Tait
Editor

Stress: it's an unavoidable and rather commonplace accompaniment to our daily lives that most think little of changing. However, recent outcries have brought the issue that was previously not seriously debated into the center of public forum. We are now forced to address the question: has stress reached a crisis level in the U.S. education system, or is the problem simply exaggerated by extreme cases?

The film, "Race to Nowhere," co-directed and produced by Vicki Abeles, focuses on the stories of young students and educators that have felt the sting of an overwhelmingly stressful education system.

"Race to Nowhere" was recently shown at the Hi-Pointe Theater for all those in the Clayton School District that wished to see it; parents, students, and teachers alike.

After the film was shown, a discussion and debate was held. This discussion and debate, however, have continued on long past the final minutes of the showing.

For some, the film was eye-opening in its depiction of students pushed to the brink by stress.

Senior Alison Bayly was surprised by the extent to which pressure has affected students.

"The film opened my eyes to how much pressure some students feel, even if I don't feel the exact same pressure," Bayly said.

The severity of the problem depicted in the film raised concerns from teachers and parents that student stress may be reaching dangerous levels.

Math teacher Barbara Dobbert agrees with the film's message that the pressures of high school have increased to a point that is overwhelming. Dobbert's point of view is for-

tified by her observations with her own students.

"Kids are tired from not getting enough sleep, overextended, getting sick, and showing signs of mental anguish," Dobbert said.

Students that viewed the film agreed that the problems presented in the film were relatable to their own lives.

For some students, the issues of the film's stressed protagonists resonated with their own.

Senior Samantha Corson was able to see similarities between the film's critique of the flaws of the educational system and her own complaints.

"I think it had a really good message and brought up some good points about what school is like for kids today," Corson said.

"It agreed with a lot of things my friends and I complain about on a week to week basis." Clayton, which contains a wide variety of students, seems to present a legitimate example of what the general high school stress experience is like.

Dobbert acknowledges Clayton's reputation for being academically excellent, but maintains that Clayton is no different in respect to stress from other schools.

"Clayton is definitely a high-caliber school, but I don't think it's that unique in its stress environment," Dobbert said. "I think the stress problem is a crisis everywhere."

Chemistry teacher Nathan Peck, agrees that Clayton is a high-achieving school, but is skeptical that the

stress 'crisis' is really as big of a problem as it was made out to be in the film, especially at Clayton.

"Most kids who aren't learning anything aren't stressed out about not learning anything," Peck said. "So you would think that Clayton would be a candidate school where you might see some of the behaviors [shown in the film] but I think people are pretty healthy here. I saw a lot more of the signs of unhealthy stress like anorexia or anxiety disorders at my previous school."

Peck was not alone in his skepticism on the message being promoted by "Race to Nowhere." Though many acknowledged the film was alarming in the stories it presented, they maintained the film had a skewed perception of the issue.

"While the movie had valid points it focused on a very specific group of kids and students," Corson said. "It didn't really look at both sides of the spectrum." Adding to the skepticism arising from the lack of variety in perspective was the focus on very extreme cases of student stress and what could have been a biased point of view.

"[Abeles'] bad experience with her own kids is exacerbated by the very tragic suicide of one of the older girls' classmates, which is a rare occurrence," Peck said. "They attributed the suicide to the young woman doing poorly on a math test. Honestly, there are other issues there if someone is committing suicide because they did poorly on a math test." Bayly agrees that the severity of

"Clayton is definitely a high-caliber school, but I don't think it's that unique in its stress environment. I think the stress problem is a crisis everywhere."

Barbara Dobbert
Math teacher



Courtesy of racetonowhere.com

A scene from the film "Race to Nowhere" that has led many to question the current national education system.

the repercussions shown in the film could have wrongly influenced viewers in their opinions.

"I thought the film was pretty unbalanced," Bayly said. "The movie brought up suicide and a lot of really serious mental illness which it seemed to suggest were all due to extreme stress."

Still, there are people on the other side of the spectrum who insist that these tragedies are merely symptoms of the bigger, more urgent problem.

No matter what differences in opinion the film may have brought about for its viewers, all can agree that the film has been a success in sparking discussion and changes.

Some teachers in the math department have initiated a new homework system in which homework is optional, but is graded for the stu-

dents that elect to do it.

Students in AP Language have been assigned the task of conducting surveys on the film's subject and possible reactions to the issue presented. Principal Louise Losos has noted the student's efforts in pursuing what seems to be a major topic of debate.

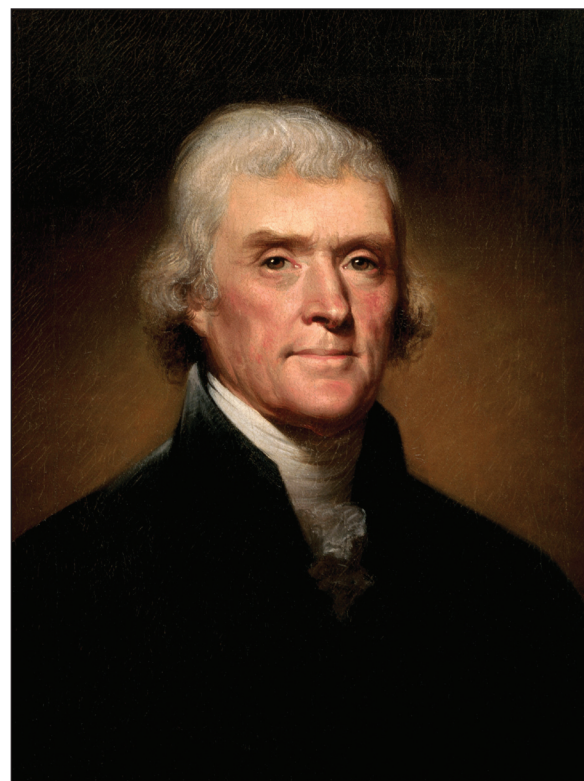
"I was really impressed with the students in the AP Lang class and how they have not let the issue go," Losos said. "They didn't agree with everything in the movie and they wanted to gather their own data. They're going to be surveying students, parents, and teachers to find if the results support what the movie said or if there's a disconnect between the three groups."

Though data will certainly help to solidify the facts surrounding the issue, a meeting has already been

set up between Clayton and several other school districts to confront the problem.

"I think what would be most helpful would be to get a collection of schools in the area to go along with any changes we might want to make so it's not Clayton doing 'X', it's Clayton, Ladue, John Burroughs, MICDS," Losos said. "That could start a trend."

Still, some are resistant to making any changes to a curriculum that has contributed to Clayton's reputation as a high-achieving school. Though the future remains unclear, it is certain that both students and teachers have been forced to confront the issue of student stress and determine for themselves whether it's real or exaggerated, and even further, what the next step should be. ☺



Rembrandt Peale (1800)-Wikimedia Commons

Books from Jefferson's library have been found at Wash U after being unidentified for over 131 years. This has caused new analysis of him, as he wrote in the margins throughout many of the books. Historians now have a new perspective on him as an older man.

Books from founding father's personal library discovered

Jocelyn Lee
World Editor

For the past 131 years, 74 books from Thomas Jefferson's personal library have sat among the shelves of Washington University's libraries, unidentified as belonging to the nation's third president.

Their recent discovery by Jefferson scholar Ann Lucas Birl and tracking by Endrina Tay has made Washington University the third-largest holder of Jefferson books. The volumes originated in one of Jefferson's book collections, known as his retirement library, so were likely some of the last he studied before his death.

Professor of History and Law at Wash U, David Konig, is a Jefferson scholar who has had the opportunity to examine the books.

"Books are books, and you can get copies of books anywhere," Konig said. "What really makes these significant is, number one, there are books in there that we didn't know that he owned. So we know about some other interests that he had that we were not aware of already."

Furthermore, Jefferson's marginal notes add to the value of the books and give scholars insight into the mind of the former president.

"He did some scribbling in the margins of his books, the way many of us do, and these tell us a lot about him,"

Konig said. "It shows us, for example, how careful he was about accuracy and details. He would make corrections to typographical errors in the books. He would make corrections of statements that were wrong in books."

Historians had always known that Jefferson was an architect, but the discovered books reveal more about this side of him, according to Konig.

"This shows how precise and careful he was, because these are the books he used when he was designing Monticello, when he was designing his summer home, and when he was designing the University of Virginia," Konig said. "So we can see the mind at work as he's pointing these things out to contractors and builders, even while these buildings are going up. That really enhances our understanding of the working personality that he had and the genius, as well."

The fact that Jefferson read the books late in his life is also telling.

"It shows you that right to the end of his life he was still very deeply interested in Greek and Roman history, especially Greek history, and that the political background of the classical era was still very much in his mind," Konig said. "We can see him really cut straight to what he felt was important as he was becoming an older and older man."

The Jefferson scholars who discovered the collection learned that the books reached the university through

a friend of Wash U's founder William Greenleaf Eliot. That friend was Edmund Dwight, the son-in-law of one of Jefferson's granddaughters.

Because the university lacked a library, Dwight offered to donate a 3,000-book collection, which included 74 of Jefferson's books. However, they were unidentified as Jefferson's when the donation was made.

"It shows how important the founding of the university was and how important it was viewed back in the 19th century – as a kind of institution that would advance civilization and culture into the far west, because we were sort of on the edge of the West," Konig said.

Konig said he thinks that Jefferson's books will be accessible to the public, most likely in a way similar to the Library of Congress, which has the largest collection of Jefferson's books.

This would involve a process of applying and requesting to see the collection, in order to protect the books.

The collection, which includes titles like Aristotle's *Politica* and Plutarch's *Lives*, has attracted the attention of many researchers and authorities on Jefferson.

"Personally, they confirm what I and most Jefferson scholars had known already about how broad-ranging his mind was and give us more details to place his thinking along with actual actions he was doing at the time," Konig said. ☺

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Men of CHS prove worthy stars of DECA calendar

Payton Sciaratta
Reporter

At CHS, kids are constantly coming up with creative ideas to help raise money for different clubs at school. This year, seniors Samantha and Abygail Dulle came up with a DECA project idea to create a Men of CHS Calendar.

The calendar features men from different sports that are popular at the high school as well as men that many of the students look up to.

"This is the first year the CHS boys calendar has been made," senior Erica Hill said. "It was an idea presented by DECA students, Samantha and Abygail Dulle."

The purpose of the calendar was to help fundraise for DECA, but with a unique method.

"It was just a fun idea Aby came

up with to get students involved and to raise money for DECA," Samantha Dulle said.

Many high school students expressed a lot of interest and excitement about the calendar because it was a new unique idea.

Junior Charlie Harned liked the idea that it was solely based off men modeling, since most calendars usually feature girls.

"Usually calendars have female models in them, so having male models is a pretty funny, but [an] innovative, twist on that," Harned said.

The Dulle asked around to see who was interested in participating in this unique event. They chose students based on who stood out on their team and represented leadership.

"The boys were chosen based on



sports and who the designers saw as the leaders of those teams," Hill said.

Sophomore Tyler Walker is featured in the month of December along with Kameron Stewart. They were chosen to represent the football team.

"Since I was a big ball player, they

considered me one of the 'men of CHS,'" Walker said.

The men that were selected for this event had a lot of fun with it. They dressed up and took photos in front of a green screen, so that the pictures could be edited later.

Two boys were paired together and assigned to a particular month,



Photos by Tom Haslam

RIGHT: Junior William Rosenfeld and junior Gabe Jacus are featured in Men of CHS Calendar celebrating Cinco de Mayo for the month of May. **ABOVE:** Junior Charlie Harned accepts flowers from senior Christian Thomas in the spirit of Valentines Day for the month of February.

where they then dressed up and goofed off in front of the camera.

"I took pictures with Christian Thomas and it was really fun," Harned said. "The Dulle twins and Ruthie and others were there just messing around and having a good time."

If given the opportunity, many

of the boys have shown and interest in participating in a similar calendar again.

"The calendar is a really cute and a fun idea," Hill said.

The Men of CHS Calendar has already been printed and can be purchased in DECA sponsor Marci Boland's office for \$10. ☎



After years of resting dormant, the historic Kiel Opera House in downtown St. Louis is undergoing renovations to open in the fall of 2011 as the Peabody Opera House. The new opera house will host a variety of venues.

Fat lady has yet to sing with St. Louis opera house reopening in fall 2011

After significant redevelopment, the curtain will once again rise in the former Kiel Opera House.

Continued from pg. 1

"We are now proud to help turn this opera house into a home for creative energy, brightening people's lives and further enhancing the city's magnificent cultural landscape," Chairman of Peabody Energy Greg Boyce said in a press release.

The revival of this cultural relic of St. Louis is meant to also revive the culture of downtown St. Louis. The reopening of the opera house will draw people downtown and hopefully lead to a livelier city.

It will do so by hosting a plethora

of entertainment of all forms. The opera house is not restricted to just opera, but will also host concerts, Broadway shows, and comedies. It is sure to be inviting to people of all ages and interests. This spring, tickets go on sale for "Dr. Seuss's How the Grinch Stole Christmas! The Musical," which will debut in December 2011.

"The Peabody Opera House Project will not only provide hundreds of new jobs to the region, but also awaken an area that is vital to downtown," said Chris McKee, President of Optimus, one of the opera house's

new owners.

The redevelopment of the opera house will cost \$78.7 million. Included in this redevelopment are several changes in the interior design, including a new logo of a bear to bridge the gap between the history and the future of the building.

"Since 1934, the Opera House has been a centerpiece for St. Louis entertainment, a history that we intend to celebrate while also looking forward to the future," Boyce said.

The St. Louis area awaits the long-anticipated reopening of the Opera House this fall. ☎

Despite genuine need, Planned Parenthood's funding threatened

Continued from pg. 1

"On Feb. 24 we held a summit attended by some 150 supporters," Gianino said. "Donor support is increasing, women and men are speaking out about the wonderful care they have received from Planned Parenthood and they are angry that we are being targeted... In addition, we are conducting the largest-ever citizen mobilization campaign to contact elected officials about the de-funding of Planned Parenthood to try to stop the attack on the funding we receive to serve patients in need."

Gianino believes that now would be a particularly inconvenient time for the federal government to cut funding from Planned Parenthood as she calls Planned Parenthood's current economic situation a "perfect storm of challenges."

Due to the increased unemployment in the current economic climate, more people are uninsured. As a result, Planned Parenthood has seen a recent increase in patients at the same time as they have faced rising health care costs.

Meanwhile, conservative pro-life groups and congressmen have argued that the nation's economic struggles require budget cuts and the approximately \$300 million given to Planned Parenthood by the federal government each year could be saved to help lower the deficit.

In a February interview with National Public Radio, Marjorie Dannenfelser, president of the anti-abortion-rights group Susan B. Anthony List, argued that Planned Parenthood should be defunded because the country is "at a very acute economic crisis where there are no sacred cows."

Raclin, however, believes that defunding Planned Parenthood would be detrimental to the health and well being of millions of women each year.

"I think it is an essential source of health care for many local women" Raclin said. "I also think for many low-income women and men it provides an affordable and very professional source of services for contraception, testing for sexually transmitted diseases, for HIV testing, and really essential cancer screening services, both for mammograms and cancer of the cervix. I think a lot of those women would not have an affordable place

to get that health care."

Gianino agrees, asserting that Planned Parenthood follows federal procedures and provides a unique service to Americans that no other organization does in the same quantity.

"We are a vital part of the health care safety net needed by low income and uninsured people," Gianino said. "There is such a shortage of providers serving these populations. The Planned Parenthoods in the country serve over 3.5 million people each year who depend on us for their care. We are the experts in gynecologic, reproductive and sexual health care, a very, very high quality and low cost provider. Without Planned Parenthood, millions more Americans would not receive health care. The federal funds we receive go to the services we provide. They are categorical funding streams for which the funding is very strictly proscribed, and we comply with each and every condition of participation for each of these federal programs."

Gianino paints a bleak future of the end results if Planned Parenthood were to lose funding and either have to downsize or disband. Currently, Planned Parenthood of the St. Louis Region is the only abortion provider within 150 miles of St. Louis that is non-profit and specifically serves low-income women.

"De-funding Planned Parenthood will mean more disease like cervical cancer, more sexually transmitted diseases, more unintended pregnancy, more teen pregnancy and more abortion," Gianino said.

Gianino believes that attacks on Planned Parenthood are an example of bipartisan politics working against the public good.

"This is the most serious attack on Planned Parenthood's reputation, on our ability to serve those in need," Gianino said. "These attacks are completely politically motivated by the most extreme anti-choice groups and a few in Congress who are paying them back for the 2010 elections. This is political hardball politics at the expense of women's health care and attacking Planned Parenthood is not the priority of the American public. The economy, jobs, the economic crises. These should be the priorities" ☎

"We are a vital part of the health care safety net needed by low income and uninsured people. There is such a shortage of providers serving these populations."

Linda Raclin
Planned Parenthood
Board

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VST • LOOMING • THE HO

Throughout its history with the district, the Voluntary Student Transfer Program has been a program that many consider essential to the community and to the experience. It is scheduled to end next year, and the debate on whether to extend it again begins next year.

BY JACKIE LEONG
MANAGING EDITOR

Look around the lunchroom of Wydown Middle School, and you'll witness a sight quite normal for Clayton students, and a testament to the diverse population treasured by the district. They are what Wydown principal Mary Ann Goldberg refers to affectionately as "U.N. tables", or gatherings of children of all different nationalities.

In 2013, a valued source of diversity, the Voluntary Student Transfer program, will finish the five-year extension it was granted in 2008. Discussions, according to Chief Communications Officer Chris Tennill, will begin next year.

In 1999, the Voluntary Student Transfer program became what it is today; that is, voluntary.

At that time, Clayton opted to keep the program, and when the program came up for renewal in the 2008-2009 school year, the district decided to extend it for another five years. In 2013, that half-decade extension of the Voluntary Student Transfer Program, and the debate will be on.

And so in 2011, we begin exploring the VST program—and more importantly, aim to uncover what's buried beneath the myths and misconceptions that plague the program today.

To do so, it is important to understand that the VST program has a multitude of facets that must be looked at relative to one another in order to understand the whole. The VST has an obvious financial side, to be sure, but a good number of Clayton district members place great esteem on the diversity and opportunities that the program brings.

"It's about a holistic viewpoint," superintendent Mary Herrmann said. The VST program pulls students from the St. Louis City area; Clayton

receives students from North St. Louis and the Central West End, mainly at the kindergarten level.

However, the complexity of the program means that many aspects must be studied and explored to get a clear picture. Looking at just the financial or social aspects leads to an unbalanced view, Herrmann said.

On one hand, the program is based upon per-pupil reimbursement given to schools participating in the program. Over the years, as the VST program was given less money to work with, the reimbursement that Clayton received fell as well, leaving many citizens wondering if keeping the program is worth it.

At the same time, the counterpoint frequently made concerns the much-valued diversity that the program injects into the Clayton community.

Of course, even with the racial and cultural awareness that Clayton strives for, the program suffers stereotypes.

Those pre-conceived notions could be detrimental to how citizens view the program.

A balance between the two main points—the money and the diversity—must be struck in order for viewpoints to be properly evenhanded.

However, this is hard with the number of misconceptions surrounding VST.

POPULATION TALK

Typically, according to CHS principal Louise Losos, the VST program brings from 40-45 kids per grade level to the high school, and about 38-48 per grade level to the middle school.

District data shows that this past year, the number of incoming VST kindergarteners was halved.

"And not just kindergarteners," Losos said, "but anywhere we take new students. We take them in kindergarten, we take them in sixth grade. We don't take them in between."

And according to Losos, this is the second school year that CHS has not received any new VST students. Behind the falling numbers, there is a simple explanation. Enrollment among the Clayton residential population is rising, leaving less room for extra students.

Tennill observes that the resident population rise usually follows the economy, and that "in times of recession, fewer families have the disposable income to send their children to private schools."

He added that Clayton has kept its tuition lower than those of MICDS, John Burroughs, and the other private schools around St. Louis. Even so, the district has been forced to raise its tuition rates. Other districts are in similar situations, he said.

And logically, as resident populations rise, the number of seats available for transfer students shrinks. Thus, the seemingly dras-

tic reduction of VST students simply follows the trend of rising resident attendance.

"Our number of VST kindergarteners went down," Glenridge Elementary principal Beth Scott said. "But our kindergarten classes actually got larger." The slightly reduced numbers are also a reaction to an enrollment spike the previous (2009-2010) school year, according to Board of Education President Sonny Buttar.

"Over 30 percent of that enrollment happened in August [of that year]," Buttar said. "The district was caught off guard."

The large resident population, combined with the influx of VST children, made for a 2009-2010 kindergarten class that was, she said, simply enormous.

The district learned its lesson and cut down the next year's incoming class in the only way it could: by cutting voluntary transfer students down.

Though the district, being public, has no control over the number of resident students that enroll, it could cut down in another manner.

"The only population the district can directly control is the VST population," Buttar said.

FOLLOW THE MONEY

The financial aspect of the VST program is indeed the most prominent, and the one of the more frequented arguments against the continuation of the program. It is the common misconception that the VST program loses the district money.

"We actually wouldn't be able to afford the class sizes we have if not for the VST program," Chief Financial Officer Mark Stockwell said.

VST reimbursement per child dips and rises according to the economy and the money in the VST program. This can be a problem—the figure fell low in the 2002-2003 school year, cut by at least 50 percent, according to Buttar.

However, Stockwell says that it will likely not fall below \$7000. Additionally, the calculated incremental costs per student are estimated to be about \$5400

to \$6000, letting the reimbursement cover the costs. Stockwell notes that many against the VST program assume that it sucks money away from the district, when in reality it is not so.

"If you believe we're losing money," Stock-

well said, "Then you don't understand the program. It's a common misconception."

Years ago, participating districts were given reimbursement based on their individual cost per student, which for Clayton has always been higher than average. It stands currently about \$17000-\$18000 for a Clayton student, according to Stockwell. When there was "plenty of money" in the program, Clayton received a much higher reimbursement based upon that cost per pupil.

"The district made money for years," Buttar said. The extra money was put to use in student programs. Buttar attributes the district's historical sense of plenty and renowned curriculum partially to the extra money that the VST program then brought in.

"The intent was that local taxpayers wouldn't be footing the bill for non-resident students," Stockwell said. "But when money became tight, the methods that were used to lower the cost of the program, which only had so much money available, basically started taking the money down from the most expensive districts." Clayton, along with several districts in the

same situation, has received reimbursement since then closer to the average.

This year, that seems to be about \$7500, but Stockwell points out once again that \$7000 is the probable "floor" in terms of reimbursement.

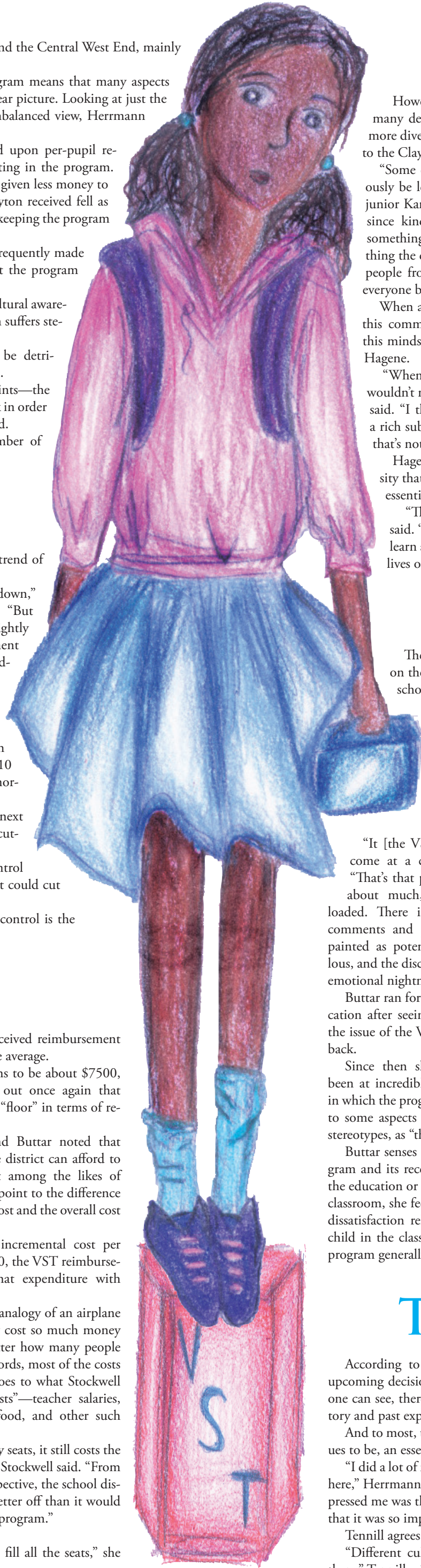
Both Stockwell and Buttar noted that many inquire how the district can afford to accept reimbursement among the likes of \$7500, to which they point to the difference between incremental cost and the overall cost per student.

According to the incremental cost per student of about \$6000, the VST reimbursement would cover that expenditure with some to spare.

Both also used the analogy of an airplane to explain this: it may cost so much money to fly a plane, no matter how many people are aboard. In other words, most of the costs of running a school goes to what Stockwell refers to as "fixed costs"—teacher salaries, heating and energy, food, and other such things.

"If you've got empty seats, it still costs the same to fly the plane," Stockwell said. "From a purely financial perspective, the school district has been much better off than it would have been outside the program."

Buttar agrees. "You might as well fill all the seats," she said.



However, another aspect of the program that many deem important is the fact that it brings a more diverse population to Clayton and adds depth to the Clayton student community.

"Some cons of ending the program would obviously be less diversity within the Clayton schools," junior Karley Woods, who has been a VST student since kindergarten, said. "I think its diversity is something the district takes pride in, and also something the district should continue to value. It brings people from different backgrounds, as opposed to everyone being from the 'Clayton bubble.'"

When asked their favorite aspect of the program, this community aspect was a frequent answer. Of this mindset is Glenridge Elementary librarian Jude Hagene.

"Whenever we have the chance to meet people we wouldn't normally meet, we should take it," Hagene said. "I think a lot of people think that we're just a rich suburban district doing everybody a favor—that's not the way it is."

Hagene is not alone in her view that the diversity that the VST program brings to Clayton is an essential benefit that it provides.

"That's why I love public education," Scott said. "We take in all students, and we help them learn and grow. It does not matter where a child lives once he or she is enrolled."

The effect that transfer students have on the quality and reputation of Clayton's schools has long been a much-discussed topic among parents, teachers, and administrators. For this reason, any future decision concerning the program will be, as Buttar calls it, "emotionally heavy."

"It [the VST program] does come at a cost," Buttar said. "That's that part you don't talk about much, because it feels loaded. There is a sensitivity to comments and perspectives being painted as potentially racially callous, and the discussion becomes an emotional nightmare."

Buttar ran for the Board of Education after seeing it struggle with the issue of the VST program years back.

Since then she reports having been at incredibly difficult and emotional meetings in which the program was the main concern, referring to some aspects of the program, especially those of stereotypes, as "the elephant in the room."

Buttar senses that stereotypes still plague the program and its reception. If parents are unhappy with the education or attention their child is getting in the classroom, she feels that it can become manifested by dissatisfaction relating to the behavior of a transfer child in the class or about participation in the VST program generally.

TO THE FUT

According to Tennill, discussions surrounding the upcoming decision in 2013 will begin next year. But as one can see, there will be a considerable amount of history and past experiences involved in the debate.

And to most, the VST program has been, and continues to be, an essential part of the Clayton experience. "I did a lot of research about the district before I came here," Herrmann said. "One of the things that really impressed me was the participation in the VST program... that it was so important to the community."

Tennill agrees. "Different cultures, different learning styles, it's all there," Tennill said.

"It [the VST program] does come at a cost. That's the part you don't talk about much because it feels loaded. There is a sensitivity to comments and perspectives being painted as potentially racially callous."

Sonny Buttar
BOE President

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NG ON RIZON

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d to end in 2013, but the discussion

ERE TO STAY

Once a student is accepted into the Clayton com-
munity, they become "ours," according to Buttar,
tt, and Herrmann.

All three stressed the fact that the aim of the pro-
gram is not to create two groups of students, the
transfers and the residents. To them, there is no dif-
ference.

"Once they enter, they're our kids," Buttar said.

Besides the general sense of community, the sense
of diversity that the program brings is another perk
in many view as essential. Some said that they
would choose to keep the program on the basis of
creating a more heterogeneous population.

"Even if it would cost us, I still think we should
keep it," Hagene said. "It would be odd if we didn't
have it."

Herrmann agrees.

"The participation [in the VST program] isn't
about the dollars," Herrmann said. "It's about build-
ing community. It enriches the community in a
whole variety of ways."

Losos notes that because of Clayton's proximity
to St. Louis City, it is much easier for VST students
to really feel like a part of Clayton's community. The
community experience is something she feels is
of high value.

"You can't put a dollar value on diversity," Losos
said.

OUGH STUFF

In addition, Buttar reports that one particularly
strong argument against the program is that of
behavioral problems by VST children.

"I do have some problems with behavior in
elementary schools, and theft and vandalism in
the secondary schools," Buttar said.
"And I hate when it's a VST kid that
has the problem. It just gives ammunition
to them [those who oppose
the program]. The argument invariably
becomes about sending the kids
back."

Scott has been in similar situa-
tions.

"I've caught it in a conversa-
tion one or two times," Scott said.
"A parent seemed to be inferring in
their thoughts, 'Can't we send them
back?' because 'he's not one of ours.'
Well, yes, he is one of ours. This is
something we're committed to. And
anyway, when someone misbehaves,
we don't typically kick kids out of
elementary school, either."

Scott feels that in her behavioral
issues there is a fair balance between VST and resi-
dents' infractions. She also chalks it up to
the fact that some cultures deal with frustration in a
different manner than others.

The debate doesn't stop at behavior. The VST
program began as a mandatory desegregation pro-
gram decades ago, and though the district kept
it when it became voluntary, Buttar feels
that there are still problems along that vein—
issues that simply contribute to her feel-
ing of an emotionally-draining situation

UTURE

In balancing the financial and com-
munity aspects, many see the VST pro-
gram as largely beneficial to the district.
It provides the opportunity to meet new
people, learn about different cultures
and interact with different kinds of
people, and in addition provides the
district with compensation for it

"They think it's about money,
not about diversity," Hagene
said. "It's about mixing it

A diverse population of students is important to
many who believe that gives children a more of a real-
world experience.

And when said children are young and impres-
sionable, growing up with a diverse class helps them
learn early on about, and to appreciate, different cul-
tures and nationalities.

"Yes, we would love diversity," Buttar said. "It
adds a richness of experience."

Tennill adds that such an experience is not just for
the benefit of the students now, but for their future
as well.

He would prefer to allow students to learn and
grow in an environment that "mirrors our world"
and provides a strong foundation that Clayton stu-
dents can take through life wherever they go.

And in this day and age, wherever one can go is
likely anywhere. Therefore, such a diverse community is even more
of a benefit for a life in a world that is, as Tennill puts
it, "going global."

"It's about global competency and competitive-
ness," Tennill said. "And if our students are going to
have to compete in that type of world, it's not a ho-
mogenous arena."
Scott agrees.

"This way, students will get a real view of the com-
munity that we live in," Scott said.

when it comes to the VST program.

"I don't think that all teachers hold the black stu-
dents to the same standards as they do the white chil-
dren," Buttar said.

Hagene agrees.

"I've had instances where a third party is medi-
ating a dispute between a student who is in the VST
program and a resident child," Hagene said. "Some-
times the third party seems inclined to side with the
resident child before they know all the facts. In one
case, it turned out that the sweet, tiny resident girl
was to blame for all the trouble, not the 'big for his
age' VST kid."

The opinions and assumptions surrounding VST
kids make for another twist in the discussion to
come.

"Buildings, Prop S, Wydown—those were nothing
compared to the emotionality of the VST issue," But-
tar said.

Total transfer students
from private schools to
Clayton (Fall 2010) } **59**

31 { Total transfer students
to private schools to
Clayton (Fall 2010)

Total resident
enrollment
(2010-2011) } **2092**

417 { Total VST enroll-
ment (2010-2011)

Total resident
enrollment
(2009-2010) } **2026**

452 { Total VST enroll-
ment (2009-2010)

Total resident
enrollment
(2008-2009) } **2019**

468 { Total VST enroll-
ment (2008-2009)

BY THE NUMBERS...



All artwork by Jackie Leong

BOE to begin superintendent search

Dawn Androphy
Co-Editor in Chief

The surprising resignation of Superintendent Mary Herrmann in January led many people in Clayton to wonder who would replace Herrmann after her short-lived term. Replacing previous superintendent Don Senti was a two-year process, so the length of the transitional period was a concern.

Thankfully, Board of Education members are confident in the abilities of Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Student Services, Sharmon Wilkinson, who will fill the role of interim superintendent during the selection process. Board of Education Secretary Lily Raymond believes that this will allow the Board to take their time finding the right candidate for the job and not rush the process.

"It's been really nice that Sharmon, our current Assistant Superintendent, is willing to step in for a year or more if we need her to," Raymond said.

Board President Sonny Buttar is also impressed by Wilkinson's abilities and flexibility in taking on a new position. Although Wilkinson did not apply to be the superintendent, Buttar is open to considering Wilkinson as a candidate if Wilkinson shows an interest.

"Honestly, it is going to be partially dependent on what Sharmon wants," Buttar said. "I mean, this is going to be the first time she'll be superintendent, if she really enjoys this, there's a maybe a good chance she'll come back and say, 'I want this.' And then it's up to the Board to say whether we want to do a full search."

Currently, the Board is unsure whether it will begin the process of choosing a new superintendent next year or the year after.

"At this point, we haven't determined specifically when we're going to do that and whether it will be next year or the following year" Raymond said.

Buttar believes that Board members will be able to use lessons from the last selection process to choose the best candidate the second time around. Previously, the Board used feedback from parents and teachers as a basis

for what qualifications to prioritize. This time, they will be paying particular attention to experience.

"What we learned from that was that everybody was basically looking for the same things, which was someone who was a natural leader, who was experienced in curriculum areas as well as bigger picture partnerships and all of that," Buttar said. "But we also learned a lot of things when we went through the process. We had a strong preference for someone who was experienced."

Buttar believes that Herrmann was an effective superintendent during her time at Clayton and has affirmed many of Buttar's priorities for selecting a superintendent candidate, while also raising the bar for her replacement.

"One of the things we really loved about Dr. Herrmann, as a Board, was that she really hears what we're saying and what we're really after and what we're asking about, and she carries us forward" Buttar said. "She listens and hears us in a very different way than we've had in our prior experience."

Raymond is looking for similar qualities as Buttar and appreciated Herrmann's knowledge about structuring curriculums. However, she is specifically focused on finding a superintendent with experience specific to affluent, suburban school districts like Clayton and, most likely, prior experience working as a superintendent.

"We value someone who is currently a superintendent and has that level of experience," Raymond said. "We ended up interviewing some people that came from districts very different from Clayton [in the last interview process]. I think we need someone who has at least one experience in a district similar to Clayton so that they understand how a small, high-performing district works."

Unfortunately, these high standards make it quite difficult for Clayton to find suitable applicants.

"Especially after going through the last search, we found out that there really aren't a lot of people coming from districts like that," Buttar said. "If they are in districts like that, they're pretty happy. They don't want to be wooed away." ☺

"It's been really nice that Sharmon, our current Assistant Superintendent, is willing to step in for a year or more if we need her to,"

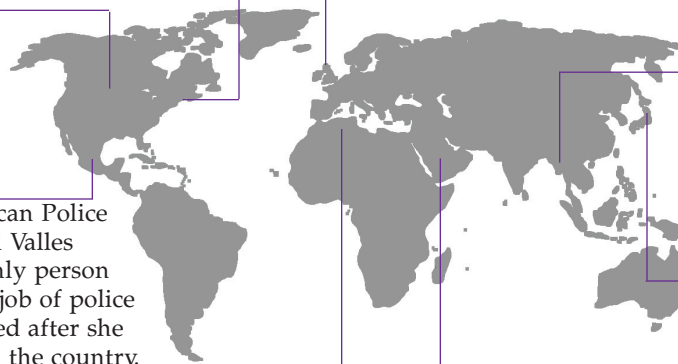
Lily Raymond
BOE Secretary

News Briefs *What you need to know.*

Wisconsin's State Assembly passed a bill limiting the bargaining rights of state workers by a 53-42 vote.

A congressional hearing was held to address the controversial topic of the radicalization of Muslim-Americans.

Ireland's two largest political parties agreed to form a coalition government.



Former Mexican Police Chief Marisol Valles Garcia, the only person to accept the job of police chief, was fired after she allegedly fled the country.

Libyan Interior Minister Abdul Fattah Younis resigned in protest to the government's violence against citizens.

Saudi Arabian forces fired at protestors after they violated the government ban on public demonstrations.

The Dalai Lama announced his plan to retire as the political head of Tibet.

An 8.9-magnitude earthquake and tsunami hit Japan, causing catastrophic damage.



Nate shared the story of his troubled childhood with father, Fred Phelps, and his consequent estrangement.

Nate Phelps speaks out against family's controversial practices

Caroline Greenberg
Reporter

Following the wake of the Supreme Court decision, Nate Phelps came to CHS on March 10th to talk to students and the public about his past and his message for the future.

"[What I say] is a counter message to what they preach," Nate said. "There is nothing positive to come out of this kind of hate."

"This kind of hate" is from Westboro Baptist Church, run by extremist Fred Phelps, Nate Phelps' father.

Fred Phelps' teachings are taken from John Calvin; however, Fred Phelps takes these teachings very literally. Although his is a Baptist church, it is not recognized from other churches.

"In my mind it meant that he took Calvinism and went way too far with it," Nate said. "Most Baptists or religious faiths and the Calvin doctrine do not go nearly that far."

This idea of being saved keeps the Westboro Baptist Church running. They believe they are the only ones that are saved and that the rest of the world is condemned.

Westboro is sometimes characterized as a cult, which is one of the causes of people's disdain for the group.

"Growing up I did not think it was a cult," Nate said. "However when I started researching what a cult was I do now believe it is. They have the charismatic leader and total control."

Nine out of the 13 are the "chosen ones" as constituted by his father. His brother Marc and sister Dorothy have successfully left the group, while his sister Katherine tried and failed to leave.

"One of the children found Katherine where she was working and living," Nate said. "We were constantly trying to get in our father's good graces, and so the child told Fred."

Fred then called a whole family meeting and piled them into a car. When they saw Katherine she was walking in the street.

"It was then like a police car race to get her into the car," Nate said. "He grabbed her and put her into the car. She was locked up into her room for the next couple of months. When he learned that a child had spilt her tomato soup, then she was beaten."

Katherine is not accepted as a chosen one by her father because she tried to leave. However, she does sometimes preach at the Westboro church.

"She is kind of in a no man's land," Phelps said. "She teaches a kind of bastardized version of my fathers teachings."

Woman in the church are second-class citizens. Fred believes that a woman not cutting her hair is a sign of submission.

"One day when I was at the church I came in to see my mother crying in a pew," Nate said. "She took off her cap to show a rough cut where her scalp was showing through. Cutting my mothers hair was showing his ultimate control."

However this ultimate control did not extend to their schooling. The children went to public school.

"He saw homeschooling as an unnecessary evil. We also couldn't afford homeschooling. He also did not have the time or tolerance for any such thing," Nate said.

Nate saw a new perspective at public school. He was able to run track and did theater for a few years.

However, Fred's anger was quick and imminent. If the wife or children angered him, he would brutally beat them and scream at them, ostracizing them from the group.

"He learned that a knee to the stomach was a remarkable way to make a child keep order," Nate said. "I learned early on to stay behind the scene. He would be angry for something we weren't sure of and us kids would be shaking for hours."

Nate was uncomfortable early on with the level of control his father had over his life. The children grew up to go to college and then law school, all under Fred's direction.

"I heard his words but watched his actions and saw it as nonsense," Nate said.

After seeing the successful escape of his brother, Marc and the unsuccessful escape of his sister Katherine, he came to the conclusion that to leave the group he had to wait until he was eighteen.

"On my eighteenth birthday, I literally sat and stared at the clock to see it strike midnight," Nate said. "At midnight I pumped my fist, screamed and ran out of the house to the car."

He ran out to his car, which he bought secretly and parked around the corner.

He then spent the next three nights sleeping on the floor of a gas station.

"I told no one because it was not safe," Nate said. "When I look back, I see that we looked at him through a prism and that he was the supreme leader."

Although Nate battled through a very difficult childhood he was able to overcome this struggle and create a life for himself.

"Things could be better or worse," Nate said. "I have three grown children and am married."

Nate now lives in Canada with his new fiancé. He recently wrote a book detailing his experiences with his family and he now travels to various places to speak.

"If a group will have me then I come," Nate said. He was able to come to CHS because of senior Cooper Minnis.

"Cooper Minnis, co-president of the Equality Club, knew the Phelps family had estranged members," Sponsor of equality club David Hoffman said. "He did some research and found Nate, then contacted him and asked him to come."

The event was privately funded and no tax funds were used through CHS. Although the recent Supreme Court decision defends the right for Westboro Baptist church to protest, it does not take away the moral issue behind it. The right to protest is protected by the first amendment, but many feel this kind of protesting crosses the line.

"Some things are just not appropriate. Everyone should be allowed to bury their dead in peace," Nate said. "You can speak freely, just not there or then." ☺



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Graduates seek greater competition in college athletics

Several 2010 graduates have made the successful transition from high school to college athletics. In addition to dealing with rigorous work from courses, practices often last four hours each day.

Anat Gross
Sports Editor

Each year a select group of CHS athletes step up their game and seek greater competition in college athletics. Just as the academic standards are raised so are the expectations for student-athletes, both in athletic skill and commitment and their ability to manage their schedules.

Class of 2010 graduate Don Stewart is currently playing football for Butler University.

"In college it is a lot more mental than it is physical," Stewart said. "Working out is important, but if you don't know what's going on you are useless."

Just as in high school, athletes are expected to maintain a good balance between their academics and sport. However, according to class of 2010 graduate Max Goldfarb, who plays lacrosse at Bates College, "balancing practice with school is definitely not easy." Actual practices take up to about three and a half to four hours and on top of that players are expected to lift during the day.

Izzy Fratt, class of 2010, plays field hockey at Cornell University and can attest to the difficulty of dealing with such a difficult schedule.

"I have to plan out my days really well, in order to balance my school work and practice," Fratt said. "Practice takes up at least 4 hours of my day and then we have traveling on the weekend when we're in season. But when we're on the off season it is much easier because we don't practice as often and have more days off."

Along with balancing time, Stewart, Goldfarb, and Fratt describe a need for determination and hard work to be successful in college athletics.

"Well obviously to play in college you have to have some level of athleticism and talent, but I think the biggest thing is just hard work," Goldfarb said. "[And] getting into the weight room more often than the next guy, and just putting in the extra effort that not everyone is willing to put in. The expectations are definitely different



Max Goldfarb, class of 2010 and three-year starter for the Greyhounds, now plays lacrosse at Bates College.

because what's above and beyond in high school is not enough in college."

Stewart offered a bit of advice for athletes looking to stand out in the competitive ranks of college athletics.

"Being able to compete and perfecting the little things is what separates you between the other competitors," Stewart said.

According to Fratt, along with standing out among other teammates, it is also important for athletes to choose their colleges based on more than athletics.

"Definitely make sure that you love the school that you are looking to attend," Fratt said. "I went by the 'broken leg' rule, if you break your leg the first week into

practice or have a career ending injury, will you still be happy with the school you are at. And the team chemistry is everything."

The bar is raised for all athletes entering college no matter the school, sport, or division. The competition against other teams and within the team itself is greater, setting the standards much higher.

"Coaches will not baby you," Stewart said. "And there are other kids who are talented that can replace you."

While the expectations are high, Goldfarb offers a piece of advice for players interested in pursuing athletics in college.

"My biggest advice is realize what you're getting your-

self into," Goldfarb said. "If you want to play in college it's not some cakewalk, it's a 365 day a year commitment no matter if you're playing Division I or Division III. Also budget your time well, and do the school work. If you can manage your time and get decent grades it's definitely a sign of maturity and going to give your coach more confidence to put you in the game in pressure situations."

Goldfarb also mentioned as a college athlete, he has to be careful.

"Obviously enjoy yourself and get to know your classmates, but everything you do is magnified because you're an athlete, so make good decisions," Goldfarb said.

While Stewart is enjoying his first year of college athletics, he does miss some aspects of high school football.

Stewart commented on the some-what carefree environment of high school sports.

"It felt like you could just go out, play, and have fun," Stewart said. "In college there is basically no off season."

Goldfarb on the other hand "was ready to move on" from high school lacrosse. While it was fun and enjoyable the level of competition the state had to offer was subpar.

Playing at Bates offers him a far greater level of competition as teams look to win the national championship. However, one thing Goldfarb does miss is playing basketball.

"I do miss playing basketball a lot," Goldfarb said. "It was definitely strange going to our games and being a fan instead of being on the court. I obviously miss the legends Coach Nelke and Coach Luhning who made basketball really fun, and brought our teams up to a new level."

While there is a lot of pressure associated with college athletics, Fratt is happy with her decision.

"Playing sports in college is awesome," Fratt said. "It is a completely different experience from the regular college student, but you have to make sacrifices and work your butt off to survive." 🍌



Christian Thomas made his mark on CHS basketball history, setting scoring and rebounding records for the team.

Thomas finishes stellar career, looks to future opportunities

Caroline Greenberg
Reporter

Senior Christian Thomas has been a leading scorer for the past four years and will be leaving CHS in the fall. Although the season has ended, Thomas led the way as captain his junior and senior year.

"Being a captain I knew I had to do well in practice and in games, so I gave one hundred percent in drills," Thomas said. "Also, I needed to help the other players if they were struggling."

Ryan Luhning, the head coach for the past five years, agreed.

"He was a leader who led with work ethic and is the guy who worked harder than anyone else," Luhning said.

Coaches have been scouting Thomas since his junior year, but he is still finding the right place where he can play and get an education.

"He has had some Division I schools interested such as Columbia, Indiana, and Purdue," Luhning said. "Numerous Division II schools are interested also."

Although Thomas is not committed to any school at the moment, he does have a school in particular that he is leaning towards.

"He has improved his ball handling in shooting to become a very capable guard. He is a great example of what hard work can do for someone. He recognized his weaknesses and greatly improved them."

Mike Nelke
Assistant Coach

"I have not decided where I am going, but St. Louis University is my favorite right now," Thomas said. "I decided that because I like the coaches, they have a really nice arena and it is close to home so my family can support me."

For the past four years Thomas has been trying to improve his game to get ready for college.

"He came in as a kid who could just score off offensive rebounds," assistant coach Mike Nelke said. "Since then he has improved his ball handling in shooting to become a very capable guard. He is a great ex-

ample of what hard work can do for someone. He recognized his weaknesses and greatly improved them."

Thomas played small forward, and forward in games. He occasionally displayed his improved ball handling at guard.

"We had him play a combination to help win and develop skills for the positions he will play in college," Luhning said. "We challenged him to work on guard skills and he did very well, this will help him to play guard at the next level."

His statistics for the year were 20 points a game, 14 rebounds, four assists, three steals, and two blocks.

"It's going to take everyone next year to replace him," Nelke said. "To go along with his scoring and leadership, he was one of the best rebounders in the area."

Thomas also made all state and helped lead the Greyhounds to a 22-7 record this past season, including winning conference and districts.

"I think he will be remembered not only as a great player here at CHS, but also as someone who did the things the right way," Nelke said. "He was a great teammate, student, and someone younger kids could look up to as a great role model." 🍌

Sports' teams impress with success on field, in classroom

Nine varsity fall sports teams averaged over a 3.0 GPA: displaying hard work, time management and commitment.

Continued from pg. 1

Beard agreed that his coach encourages academics, mentioning that swimming coach Wally Lundt "has always made sure that academics come before swim team."

According to Werner, however, because he works with runners, the disciplined mentality carries over to school-work and academic problems are rare.

"It is, more or less, on the student front," Werner said. "I just do my job as a concerned coach when I see academic grades falling into that low C and D range."

Bone agreed the student athletes should receive most of the credit for their academic achievement, but also mentioned the faculty, coaches and "their understanding of how important academics are here" as well as the support staff, "who help our students be successful."

Herrmann said that, in addition to the students and faculty, the entire educational community deserved credit.

"Credit should go most directly to the student ath-

letes themselves, but also their parents, teachers, and coaches," Herrmann said. "All members of the educational community share responsibility for shaping a culture of high expectations."

While participating in high school athletics at any level is a huge commitment, research shows that, in addition to maintaining health, participating in a sport can aid academic standing.

According to Lee S. Sitkowski's "The Effects of Participation in Athletics on Academic Performance among High School Sophomores and Juniors," a dissertation presented in 2008 to the faculty of the School of Education at Liberty University, "it was found that athletic participation had a positive impact on academic performance."

Bone was familiar with similar research and agreed that the correlation between academics and athletics was just another reason to participate in sports. He stated that students who are involved in athletics "normally have a higher GPA and their attendance is better."

Herrmann called participation in extracurricular ac-

tivities "tremendously valuable."

"Students who are active in athletics and other co-curricular activities often feel more connected to school and tend to be more engaged in all aspects of the educational experience," Herrmann said. "A student's ability to achieve academically and manage the time commitment and stress of extra curricular activities, however, is highly individualized and each student must find his or her own balance."

Having problems with managing time and procrastination is a central problem among the CHS student population. Werner agreed that involvement in sports can, in some cases, help students overcome these problems. He mentioned that, from his experiences as a former student athlete at both the high school and collegiate levels, he noticed that involvement in sports provides discipline and can force a student to better manage time.

A large majority of CHS teams have received the MSHSAA award, but Bone said that this year's fall season provides a benchmark for future years, both from an academic and athletic standpoint.

"This is something that certainly we take a lot of pride in and try to recognize those teams," Bones said of the award.

The fall sports season was a memorable one for CHS, living up to Clayton's academic reputation and setting a new standard for athletic achievement. 🍌

Varsity Team GPAs

Boys' Swimming	3.71
Girls' Cross Country	3.68
Field Hockey	3.63
Girls' Tennis	3.52
Girls' Golf	3.50
Boys' Cross Country	3.49
Softball	3.37
Boys' Soccer	3.30
Volleyball	3.20

Tennis team begins taking steps down the path toward state

Philip Zhang
Editor

The boys' varsity tennis kicked off its new season two weeks ago.

Both the players and the coach share ambitious goals for the new season.

"The team's number one goal this year is to go to State," senior Simon Warchol said.

Although the team is very optimistic this season, history proves this feat is easier said than done.

"There has never been a public school in Class one to win State in history," head coach Susie Luten said. "I would love for that to happen before I retire and we have the players this year and next year to accomplish that."

However, to Luten, winning matches is not her top priority. She hopes for a well-rounded experience for the team.

"My number one goal is to have a successful tennis program," Luten said. "That encompasses many things such as stability in the coaching staff, large number of talented players, dedicated players and parents, winning record, and post season success."

One factor that may help the team in achieving its goals is the new makeup.

"We lost three of our top players last year: Orion Wilkinson, Sam Blumenfeld and Nick Kirchoff," senior Sagar Yadama said. "But two top ranked freshmen, Joey Dulle and Mac Rechan, have joined the team."

Luten shares Yadama's confidence in the new freshman additions.

"The new varsity players will impact our team immediately," Luten said. "My number one player is Mac Rechan."

The experience of older players is very valuable. The

team is led by three senior captains who have played on varsity since freshman year: Warchol, Yadama, and Marshall McKinley.

Despite the loss of their top players Warchol is confident in the team's ability this year.

"I think we have just as good, if not any better, than we were last year," Warchol said.

The team may also benefit from the new alignment of Districts.

Every two years the state readjusts the composition of Districts and this year Clayton was placed in a new District. According to Luten the new alignment gives the team an even better shot at reaching the final four at State.

"Now that MICDS is no longer in our District, we think we have a really good shot at State this year," Warchol said.

Yadama shares Warchol optimism about the team's performance in Districts.

"All the top teams have moved out of our District this year, which leaves a clear path to State," Yadama said.

In addition to Luten, the coaching staff this year consists of new JV coach Joey Nicolazzi and assistant varsity coach Rich Chappuis. Nicolazzi is a graduate from CHS. In 2006 he won State in singles for tennis. Chappuis is a teaching professional and has been teaching tennis for 30 years.

"The coaching this year is as good as ever," junior Jake Lee said. "With Rich and Susie, we will definitely be playing our best because of their encouragements."

Despite many factors that may work in the team's favor, there are still many challenges ahead.

"We are participating in two very competitive tournaments and will be spending many weekends in April playing," Luten said. "We need to avoid injury and keep



Freshman Joey Dulle practices his serve. Dulle along with freshman Mac Rechan will be stepping up to the varsity level this season to help lead the hounds towards State.

our eye on the prize."

The team is very optimistic about the upcoming season. The challenges are unlikely to dampen the players' passion for the game.

"I played a lot in SummerQuest, and my love for tennis blossomed from there," junior Brett Rapponotti said. "I like playing tennis because it is very structured, and involves quick thinking and skill for ball placement."

Tennis also provides players with an outlet from long

days at school.

"Tennis is a great way to chill and to not always focus on school," Lee said.

With the new team makeup, experienced seniors, and the new District alignment combined with a team of passion-driven players, the team is well on their way down the path towards State.

"I feel we have all of the ingredients for a successful team," Luten said.

Student Perspective: March Madness keys to a winning bracket



Christian Thomas
Reporter

It's about that time again. March Madness is finally here. The Ohio State Buckeyes and Kansas Jayhawks are expected to meet in this year's NCAA Championship game. Both teams have experienced players and coaches, champions in their respective conferences, and earned #1 seeds making them the favorites. To me, Ohio State lacks enough talent to contend for the national championship. I have not been a Kansas Jayhawks fan since the beginning. We all remember what happened last season when Northern Iowa knocked off the top seeded Jayhawks. It would not surprise me if this happens again.

I have really enjoyed watching the University of Kentucky this season. All odds were stacked against them after they lost their five top players to the NBA. Led by freshmen Ter-

rance Jones and Brandon Knight, the Wildcats have the potential to upset the Ohio State Buckeyes in the Sweet 16.

Another highly rated team that should be careful of an early upset is the BYU Cougars. Led by scoring machine Jimmer Fredette, the Cougars earned a #3 seed in this year's tournament. The Cougars looked like a team bound for the Final 4 until forward Brandon Davies was suspended for the rest of the season following misconduct. Davies averaged nearly 12 points per game prior to his suspension. Without Davies, BYU will struggle to compete and will likely be an early exit.

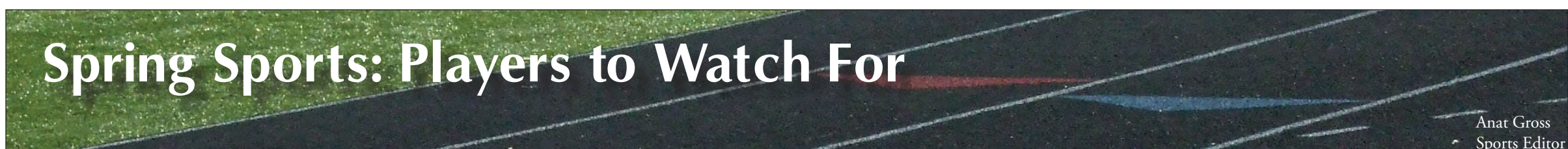
Notre Dame is a team that has proven they belong among the best. The Fighting Irish were not selected to finish in the top half of the Big East coming into the season. They seemed to have answered the call, and earned a #2 seed. The Fighting Irish should be in the Final 4, possibly winning the tournament. Other

Big East teams likely to be in the Final 4 include the Pittsburgh Panthers and Syracuse Orange.

Adding to the excitement this year are the new "First Four" games. The NCAA elected to have 68 teams compete for the championship this year, with seeds 65-68 and the four at-large qualifiers competing for a spot in the 64 team bracket. While the likely hood of any of the teams reaching the third round is incredibly slim, every year an underdog emerges.

Last season, Butler defeated #1 seed Syracuse en route to the championship game where they pushed the heavily favored Duke Blue Devils to the limit. This year, Gonzaga has the opportunity to ruin a few brackets. I doubt this happens, but they have the most potential of the lower seeded teams.

Overall, this tournament should be one to remember. Duke is likely to repeat as champions for the first time since 1991/1992.



Boys' Varsity Tennis



Freshman Mac Rechan
"He is a freshman and will be playing in the number one varsity spot this year leading an extremely talented team," head coach Susie Luten said. "I chose him because he comes into the season with a high Missouri Valley Ranking in tennis and he is a freshmen that I predict will win the majority of his matches and lead our team to a spot in the final four at State."

Boys' Varsity Golf



Sophomore David Androphy
"He should make an immediate impact at the varsity level and will be a big part of our success this season," said head coach Chris Moody. "He has a consistent swing and an even temperament on the course which will help him in pressure situations."

Girls' Varsity Lacrosse



Senior Kyleigh Smith
"After an extremely successful season last year, Kyleigh Smith returns to the varsity team with even more talent and dedication," head coach Christina Perrino said. "She is passionate about her team and playing her sport to the best of her ability, which are huge assets for our program and make her a true CHS LAX standout."

Boys' Varsity Lacrosse



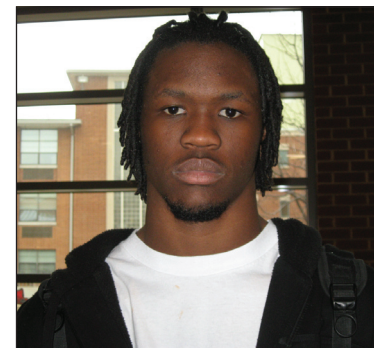
Senior Seth Thornton
Thornton returns for his fourth season of lacrosse and should have a major impact on the team's success as the starting goalie this season. According to head coach Ben Hjelle, with the team moving up a division Thornton's ability to stop shots from the outside perimeter will be vital to the team's success.

Girls' Varsity Soccer



Senior Alison Bayley
"Alison Bayley is a four year varsity starter and will play soccer next year at Grinnell College," head coach Paul Hoelscher said. "She is a quiet leader and probably the hardest worker away from the soccer season that I have ever coached. She is incredibly fit, dedicating herself to well over 20 miles of running per week."

Boys' Varsity Track



Senior Kameron Stewart
Stewart has been running track since his freshman year. Last year Stewart helped the 4X400 team qualify for All-State. Head coach Kurtis Werner has high expectations for Stewart in his senior season as he is one of the team's top returning sprinters.

Girls' Varsity Track



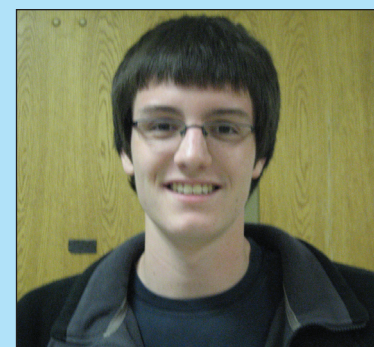
Senior Leah Johnson
Head coach Barry Ford has high expectations for the girls' team this year. Johnson has been running track for the past three years and is expected to be one of the team's top sprinters. She spent the winter off-season running indoor track to prepare for her senior season.

Boys' Varsity Baseball



Junior Freddy Barnes
"Freddy applied himself to physical conditioning and skill development in the off-season," head coach Craig Sucher said. "It's apparent that Freddy's work has made a difference as he has added strength and is a much more balanced hitter. Freddy is a natural leader which suits him and us well for him to be our starting catcher."

Varsity Water Polo



Senior Brett Downey
Downey is entering his fourth season on the water polo team. Paired up with junior Alex Yopez, the two should make a splash and lead the team in a successful season. During the off-season Downey has been playing with the St. Louis Area Polo (SLAP) teams. With extensive preparation he has made himself a standout in the pool.

'Batman and Robin' fall short of state title

Jon Knohl
Reporter

Twenty wins and a District Championship are only some of the many accomplishments of boy's varsity basketball team. The Hounds' season came to an end on March 2 with a loss to Soldan High School, 77-60.

"The Soldan loss was tough," junior guard Charlie Harned said. "After we lost I felt really upset and angry because although Soldan was really good, we couldn't be beaten them."

The Hounds were led this season by the senior duo of Ahmad Smith and Christian Thomas. The two were coined, "the area's best Batman and Robin Combination" by stlhighschoolsports.com.

Thomas led the way averaging 21.9 PPG followed by Smith with 21.5. The two also picked up some very big individual awards.

Thomas was McDonald's All American nominee while Smith picked up the southwest region's ESPN Athlete of the Week Award and the St. Louis Post Dispatch athlete of the week.

"I felt pretty excited after I found out about being named ESPN Athlete of the Week," Smith said. "It made me feel like my hard work paid off. I was a little shocked



Photos by Thaka Sass

to be on ESPN; that's pretty big."

Besides winning a district championship, the hounds did some serious damage on the court. The squad had some big wins against University City, Lutheran North, Whitfield and rival school, Ladue. The hounds did have some trouble beating some of the large schools such as

CBC, Hazelwood Central, and Vianney.

"Hazelwood Central was a very deep team and they definitely outplayed us without a question," junior guard Jake Bernstein said. "If we could replay some of our losses we would try and stay out of foul trouble and play a lot tougher."

Another key to success was coaching. The hounds were led by Suburban East Coach of the Year, Ryan Luhnning. Assisting Luhnning were Mike Nelke and Mike Lofton.

"Luhnning didn't care about who you were, how big your ego was, or how many points you scored a game," sophomore Tyler Walker said. "He cared about making us better and that started with coming to practice. No practice means you don't start or play sometimes. He was a fair coach and kept it real with each and every one of us. He pushed you to be the best and wasn't satisfied with losing"

The hounds were perfect in conference play, which led them to their second conference title in two years. Individually hounds had much success as well.

Christian Thomas won Conference Player of the Year, while Ahmad Smith received first team honors. Also junior Clayton Buchanon received second team honors and Charlie Harned and Tyler Walker received honorable mention.

With the team's two leading scorers graduating, leading the hounds next year will be Clayton Buchanon, Charlie Harned, and Tyler Walker. The Hounds will look to build off of this season's success and hope to improve from it as well. 🌐

Driving for success in the future

After losing several key contributors, the golf team looks to build upon the talent of younger players.

Dylan Schultz
Editor

The boys' varsity golf team looks forward to an exciting 2011 season. While the team consists of only one senior, the young talent should prove helpful for developing throughout the season and into the future.

Since last year, the varsity team suffered four losses of senior players in Ryan Roth, Tommy Hummel, Eitan Kantor, and Corban Holtzman. Will Rosenfeld will also be missed this year after suffering a broken arm.

The new varsity players who are mostly juniors and sophomores will have to step up if the team wants to accomplish the goals set by varsity coach Chris Moody.

"In conference matches I would like to be competitive in all matches and hopefully go .500 in the conference," Moody said. "In non-conference matches we hope to go at least .750 and defend our titles in the Clayton Best Ball and Affton Scramble."

The current varsity team has nine definite golfers in senior Jack Hodapp, juniors Davis Biermann, Connor Flood, and Jeremy Beaudette, and sophomores Chris Cho, Andrew Tankersley, Adam Belsky, David Androphy, and Curran Conradi.

The young nature of the team allows Moody to look toward the positive future for his golfers.

"Obviously we are younger than we have been in the past but I feel good about the nucleus of players we

have for this season and the next two or three years," Moody said. "Our conference schedule is challenging but this gives us the opportunity to play in pressure situations and be a better team because of these experiences."

While often under the radar of the student body, the maturing golf team should draw more attention as they achieve more success.

A few players in particular are important to the high achievement the golf team expects for the future.

"Chris Cho is our returning Varsity player from last year who has made significant strides in his ball striking skills and should be a big part of our success this year," Moody said.

Moody also has faith in Tank-

ersly, Androphy, and Hodapp for providing to the team's current and future success.

Golf is largely a sport involving concentration, strategy, and patience.

When an individual athlete applies these traits, they will be par for the course. When the team has this mentality, they can be sure to compete against even the toughest of competition.

With so many young, talented players, the CHS golf team has much to look forward to in the future optimistically involving conference, district, or even state championships. Hopefully the team's success will attract more attention to the sport, gaining student support and interest. 🌐



Staff Archives

Sophomore Chris Cho gazes at his tee shot as it flies down the fairway. 2010 was a growing period for Cho, who is now ready to become a leader.



Caroline Stamp

Girls' lacrosse team cheers after practice. After a strong season, the team looks to build upon their past success.

Lacrosse team uses past achievement to launch into the 2011 season

Nina Murov
Reporter

As the spring sports season comes into full swing, the Clayton girls' Lacrosse team has been working hard to get in shape.

Lacrosse has become one of the most popular sports with both girls and boys at Clayton for the last couple of years, sometimes even taking players that used to play spring sports like soccer or track. Sophomore Marin Garavalia thinks they have a lot of potential to do well this season.

"Lots of girls have shown excitement and motivation for the season, along with great skills," said Garavalia. "This year we've been working out earlier and playing more to prepare."

Christina Perrino, the varsity lacrosse coach, agreed.

"Last year was successful in many ways, so I am hoping that we take what we had, build on it even more and have a season full of hard work, accomplishment, improvement and fun," Perrino said.

Junior Erica Eisenberg is also very excited.

"We have a lot of awesome returning players this year, who have been working very hard in the offseason," Eisenberg said.

While there are a lot of returning girls, many new freshmen have expressed interest this year, as well.

"The freshmen that are new to Lacrosse are showing a lot of potential," Eisenberg said. Eisenberg also has a strategy for this season.

"My strategy is to stay positive and to work together as a team. It will be nice to play on a team with people who have played together in previous seasons," Eisenberg said.

Erin Bax, a senior who has played lacrosse all four years of high school, says that she is most excited for the Ladue game.

"They are definitely a good team, but we are too, and we can beat them," Bax said.

It will be interesting to see what the new players bring to the table in this season of girl's lacrosse. Coach Perrino added that she is "thrilled to be back on the field again with such a great group of girls. It's wonderful to see the sport grow at CHS and it's going to be a very exciting year of CHS lax." 🌐

"Last year was successful in many ways, so I am hoping that we take what we had, build on it even more and have a season full of hard work, accomplishment, improvement and fun."

Christina Perrino
Girls' Varsity Lacrosse
Coach

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savvi
FORMALWEAR



1

Madeleine Fleming

CLUB DIAMOND



Fashion Show

Dustin Kessler



3

Andrea Hermann

2

- 1 Juniors Petra Petermann, Maddie Kirschner, and Jasmine Respass pose in their garments before taking to the runway.
- 2 Senior Blayke Jacques models a fashionable vest of his own design.
- 3 Senior Claire Fox sits still as professionals do her hair and makeup backstage.
- 4 Senior Ali Meyer wears a gorgeous floor-length gown by Grace Brumley. The movement of the garment is accentuated by the dramatic lighting of the runway.
- 5 Seniors Grace Brumley and Andrea Glik, co-presidents of the fashion club, pose for the cameras. The back-drop was set up for red-carpet style pictures in the hallway leading to the show.
- 6 Junior Isabella Jacobs wears a Missoni-inspired dress designed and constructed by Grace Brumley.
- 7 Junior Maddie Kirschner is almost ready for the runway as she has her hair braided into an intricate up-do.



4

Andrea Hermann



5

Andrea Hermann



6

Madeleine Fleming



7

Andrea Hermann

In the Saddle

Teachers turn to horseback riding for sport, fun and personal satisfaction.

Most people have heard of horseback riding or just seen it on the Olympics. Well, substitute coordinator Meg Flach and English teacher Deana Tennill not only ride horses, they race them. But they have gone in separate ways as Flach mainly focuses on English horse riding while Tennill focuses on western cowboy horseracing and doing equine therapy with kids.

In the spring, Flach is going to ride horses in Spain while Tennill will be competing in a competitive horse race in the spring.

Flach explained how English horse riding is different from western style.

"English is something you see in a movie set in old England where the saddle is small," Flach said. "And the horse jumps over stuff."

Flach said horse riding is a lot of fun.

"There is a lot of freedom with being involved in having a relationship with an animal," Flach said. "It is also a good exercise and you get to be out in the open."

Horseback Riding, pg. 17



Courtesy of Deana Tennill

Healthier, more innovative candies from abroad best American treats

Arya Yadama
Reporter

Hershey's, Reese's, Kit Kat and Swedish Fish are all familiar candies and chocolate brand names, right? These names are seen all the time, but what about Speculoos, Chokotoff, Aero Chocolate, and even Cadbury? Many are not aware of the differences between American and international candy.

Freshman Charlotte Reed much prefers Belgium and French chocolate to American chocolate. Her favorite is Speculoos, which is a type of cinnamon biscuit made with a multitude of spices like nutmeg and cardamom. In fact, Reed thinks that the ingredients in European chocolate are better.

"Even store-brand products are made from real milk instead of powdered milk," Charlotte Reed said.

Charlotte Reed said that European pastries often have more fruits than plain sugar and she often sees more natural ways of sweetening pastries. Freshman Griffin Reed agrees that European Candies have more flavor variety.

"There are toffees, which is something we don't really have here," Reed said. "There are also more mixtures of flavors, there are things like chocolate with fruit and nuts."

Junior Paul Lisker finds that in Mexico, the native fruits embody the flavors of sweets.

"Ice cream flavors typically encompass the fruits available in Mexico," said Lisker. "Passion fruit, guava and mango ice cream are common treats. This flavor variety is also reflected in the candies."

Griffin Reed enjoys Aero Chocolate, sold in the United Kingdom.

"It's a very sweet milk chocolate with bubbles in the middle to make it incredibly fluffy," Griffin Reed said. "I prefer international candy. It's different from the very familiar flavors from the States and I like to try new things."

"I prefer international candy. It's different from the very familiar flavors from the States and I like to try new things."

Griffin Reed
Freshman

things."

What is the appeal of international candy? Is it the taste, or the sheer fact that it is something different to taste?

Charlotte Reed says there's something more. She thinks that European chocolate is truly better than American chocolate because of the actual taste.

"European standards are much greater when it comes to chocolate," Charlotte Reed said. "Some people even protested against the high-end Cadbury brand."

Cadbury is another chocolate found in the UK. However, it has been sold in grocery stores, but is very different. It comes in different flavors such as fruit and nut and plain milk chocolate.

Charlotte Reed's favorite chocolate maker is Freerick Blondeel, the Belgian chocolate confectioner. Blondeel puts his all into every last chocolate bar. According to his website, "The best beans are selected from Africa, Madagascar, Ghana, and Tanzania."

Charlotte Reed enjoys how he makes miniature sculptures out of his chocolate, many of which are not found in the United States. One of her favorite deserts is a chocolate-infused ice cream with a creamy mousse at the center, the uniqueness coming from the spices that give her favorite desert an extra kick.

Both Griffin and Charlotte Reed agreed that they see many more natural ingredients in European chocolate.

"Because of the preservatives and other chemicals in sweets that Europeans often shy away from using, America has the healthier types of candy," Griffin Reed said.

One would think that, as a country so invested in the food that we eat, American chocolate would be better quality. However, maybe it isn't the quality of international candy that appeals to many, like Griffin Reed said, it's just the fact that they are trying something new.

Q & A

State Senator John Lamping

In November 2010, John Lamping (R) was elected by a small margin to represent Missouri's 24th District. He sat down with the Globe's Zach Praiss.



Courtesy of the Office of Senator John Lamping

What has been the most challenging experience you have had as a State Senator?

The challenge is just to stay on top of everything... There are around 430 Senate bills and we will probably take up maybe less than a third of those... To be prepared to vote, you have to do a lot of homework on things that are foreign to you.

What are some specific goals you have for the rest of your term?

For the rest of my term, I am going to be counterbalancing a focus on social issues like domestic violence and human trafficking with a focus on economic issues. Adoption will be a consistent part of my term in office. I have six children; three of them are internationally adopted and the process of adopting is in need of great reform. When I got to the capital, I found very little pre-existing legislation concerning adoption. The bill we are filing this year has a lot to do with orphans being able to access information about their biological parents later in life, but ultimately, my hope is to reform the process itself. The adoption process currently takes way to long to finalize - it is almost a two-year process.

Because I have a background in business and finance, many of the committees I serve on have to do with economic development, commerce, and transportation. My goal is really to be a leader in those areas to try and revitalize Missouri's economy.

What message do you want to share with your constituents from the 24th District?

I want to say that this is my first time ever involved in politics. When I look back on it, lots of people got engaged during the campaign season, but it's too easy to go back to things as normal. I think that citizens need to be much more involved in the process. If you can't afford the time to go to Jefferson City and advocate there, don't hesitate to go to your local municipal meetings... All politics is local and nothing is more local than your city politics. So I would encourage everyone to get more involved in the political process and you can truly make a difference.

▶▶▶ Go to chsglobe.com for the complete, unedited interview with State Senator Lamping.

What did you do before serving in the Missouri State Senate?

I've been out of college for 25 years and up to this point I have spent my entire career working in the private sector. I have an undergraduate degree in economics and a MBA in finance. I worked half of my career in the capital markets in New York and half of my career back here in St. Louis with AG Edwards and what is now Wells Fargo Advisors. During this time, I have focused on my marriage and on raising my six children.

Why did you decide to run for State Senate?

When I came back to St. Louis 12 years ago, I got very involved in the community. I serve on numerous charitable boards, most of which focus on education and on inner city at risk children... I have been involved in many other organizations as well, including start-up schools and mentoring programs. So my decision to run for State Senate was really just an extension of my community service.

Can you describe what it has been like serving as a State Senator?

We just finished our ninth week in the Senate. We are almost halfway through the session. I arrive at the Capitol building around 2 p.m. on Monday and get back to Clayton around 2 p.m. on Thursday because I still have a full time job and am very active in the community. At the Capitol I serve on five different standing committees and several other statutory committees. As a result, I am on the floor or in committee five or six hours a day debating bills.

What has been the most rewarding experience you have had as a State Senator?

The most rewarding experience for me was being asked to sponsor a domestic violence bill that was the product of a lot of people coming together on a task force in 2010 led by the attorney general to update all of our domestic violence laws. It contains important changes that will make an impact in many people's lives in expanding the rights and protections of children and teenagers in domestic violence situations.

OUTSIDE THE BUBBLE



Downtown STL
pg. 18

Laura Kitcha



Zach Kirk poses atop the Wienermobile on one of his many cross-country adventures working for Oscar Mayer. *Courtesy of Zach Kirk*



Kirk smiles with an enthusiastic fan in front of the Wienermobile during a publicity event that he organized. *Courtesy of Zach Kirk*

Franks for the memories

CHS student teacher Zach Kirk relishes his time spent driving the Oscar Mayer Wienermobile.

Parker Schultz
Reporter

Zach Kirk, a student teacher in Marci Boland's business classes, came to CHS with some unusual experience. After he completed college at the University of Missouri, he toured all across America for a year in the Oscar Mayer Wienermobile.

Standing at 27 feet long, the Wienermobile is a giant hot dog on wheels. Since its inception in the late 1930s, the Wienermobile has become an American icon. Oscar Mayer uses the vehicle to promote sales for its products. The company selects students out of college, like Kirk, to operate the mobile.

Kirk first saw the job when passing a poster at Miz-zou. He sent in his information and attended an informational meeting. Kirk was then interviewed on campus, and later flew out to Madison, Wisconsin for the final interview.

"It was really dumb luck that I just kind of came

across the opportunity," Kirk said. "I didn't know about it until I saw the poster."

Kirk's first two weeks on the job were in Madison, Wisconsin. He was trained to drive the Wienermobile by starting in a parking lot with cones. Eventually he got to take the mobile out on the road with one of the instructors.

The job entailed more than just driving. Kirk and his partner were responsible for managing media relations all along their route. When they rolled into town, they would set up events for the mobile. Using local media, they would promote their visit.

"Our job was to reach out to the news stations, radio stations, the local papers, and anyone we could possibly get a hold of and try to promote these events that we were doing in the area," Kirk said. "We would then write the press releases for those media outlets and then we would do the interviews with the media. I remember I was in Tulsa, Oklahoma singing the Oscar Mayer song to the Good Morning Tulsa Show."

During Kirk's one-year contract, he was almost always on the road. It was hard not to attract attention in the Wienermobile.

"So even if it was your day off, and you weren't going to an event and maybe you wanted to go catch a movie, our only mode of transportation was the Wienermobile, so we would take the Wienermobile to the movie theater," Kirk said. "Well, everybody would follow you, and they would follow you until you pulled up into a parking lot and you would be swarmed by people."

Between events, the Wienermobile got a lot of miles. Thankfully, Kirk never put a scratch on the vehicle, but he remembers a close call.

"I was worried one time up in Chicago that we were going to be in a fender bender," Kirk said. "We turned onto a one way street that I wasn't anticipating, and the cars lined both sides of the street, and I said, 'There's no way that we are going to get through here without hitting every single car,' and I have no clue how we did it."

By the end of Kirk's one-year contract, he was ready

to find his next project. Being on the road for a long time had become repetitive.

"The reason it's [the contract] only one year is because then you start to get the same questions over and over and over," Kirk said. "One of the questions was, 'Do you sleep in there?' and we're supposed to use the pun, 'It's not a Wienerbago,' and that gets old after a while."

Once Kirk's year was up, Kraft gave him further opportunities in their company. Kirk was uninterested, however, because of the towns the work would call him to. Instead, he decided to work for Maritz as a travel director.

Still, despite the fact that Kirk didn't continue with Kraft, he was glad he had taken the job in the first place.

"It was a great experience," Kirk said. "The Oscar Mayer Wienermobile is really an American icon. It's been around since 1936. It's made it through the years, and it's one of those company logos and icons that are still out there." ☺

Whether going abroad or staying home, spring break anticipated by all

Marilyn Gund
Reporter

With spring break coming up in just a few short days, many CHS students are talking about what they are going to be doing during their week off of school. There are so many options as to where to go in the country, or even outside of it, that the possibilities are seemingly endless. From California to France, New York to Mexico, Florida to Colorado, or even just staying home in St. Louis, CHS students are all over the map for spring break.

For example, sophomore Regine Rosas is travelling to Boston to visit her friends. Rosas moved to St. Louis last year, and so doesn't see them as often as she would like.

"I love seeing my friends every spring break. It's so much fun!" Rosas said.

Freshman Julia Tomasson is going down to New Orleans for her week off. She is travelling with her family to visit with her grandparents, who live there.

"I'm looking forward to seeing the city and eating a lot of good food," Tomasson said. She also added that she will be seeing a concert there.

Seeing family is a big reason for CHS students to be travelling for spring break. Out of a random poll of 50 students, 19 cited visiting their extended families as reason to travel out of town for spring break.

Junior Syrr Hall is travelling to Arizona for similar reasons.

"I'm going to see my godmother, my god sisters, and my little godbrother," Hall said.

Hall also noted that it will be refreshing to get out of

Clayton for a bit.

"Also, it will probably be nicer weather down there, so I'll get to go outside and go swimming more, too," Hall said.

A popular place to be this spring break is, unsurprisingly, Florida. Many CHS students are taking their break on the sunny beaches of Fort Lauderdale, Destin, Miami, or the Keys.

In contrast, skiing has also proven an attractive activity to do during spring break, with popular places including Colorado, Utah, and northern California. Gabe de la Paz, a CHS physics teacher, is going to Vail for spring break.

"I'm looking forward to a nice skiing vacation with my family, although I have to grade a hundred lab reports while I'm there," de la Paz said.

However, some students are simply staying in St. Louis for a relaxing week of no school.

"I'm staying home for spring break, because I don't have anywhere else to go," said sophomore Kyle Feller. "I'm excited because I just get to do what I want to do."

Staying home for a whole week can get some students bored, but some, like freshman Josh Portman, see it as an art form.

"I plan to not leave my house for the entire week," he said. "Hopefully, a heat map of my movement during spring break will just look like a trail from my room to my kitchen and my bathroom."

With everyone at CHS excited for their week off, hopefully these last few days will move quickly to spring break. ☺



Chris Cho
Reporter

With over 20,000 cities in the United States, most people must have one that appeals to them. Of course many love Clayton, MO, but others have different views of what cities fit their lifestyle.

The countryside spells stars, peace, and quiet for one teacher.

"I do miss seeing the stars at night, lying outside," History teacher Kurtis Werner said. The town of Festus, just southwest of Clayton, has a vibe that attracts him every year.

"Festus was my hometown growing up and I miss the familiarity of my family, relatives, and friends," Werner said. "The sites of West City Park on a Saturday run always makes me smile as I weave around the pond."

Werner also said Festus is his place to go to buy his home necessities.

"It's a growing southern city from the county with access to not only a Home Depot, but also a Lowe's and a Do-It-yourself Center within sight," Werner said. "It's a home owners' Mecca!"

As for the students, one student wanted a little bit more peace and quiet.

"I love Boulder, Colorado because the ski resorts are amazing and it isn't as packed as Clayton is," sophomore Isaac Iivicky said.

The Boulder population is roughly around 100,000, while the population of St. Louis is around 350,000. Iivicky loved the fresh air that surrounded the city of Boulder. His love of winter also gave an edge toward Boulder, as the winter season is a lot longer in Colorado.

While some prefer the stereotypical, suburban neighborhood, others love the bright lights or sounds of the beach. Thus, many favor those cities that are known to be very luxurious, such as Miami, Los Angeles, and more.

For one teacher, the beach swayed her to visit one city every year that excludes children from coming.

"Playa Del Carmen, Mexico, is a great little town right on the Gulf of Mexico," said health teacher Melissa Hobick. "It is an easy three-hour flight and short bus ride to most resorts in Playa, plus the beach and water are amazing!"

The town of Playa Del Carmen displayed friendliness and great weather for Hobick.

"The people are really friendly and it is a great place to escape to relax," Hobick said. "The weather is amazing and there are adult-only resorts, so no kids!"

She also said that this city holds even greater value for her because she got married on the beach in Playa Del Carmen. Still, though the beach may be a hotspot for many people, diversity and vast buildings suit another.

"I love Chicago because you can never stand still," said math teacher Barbara Dobbert. "The diversity and rich history of Chicago fascinates me as I have visited quite a few times before leaving when I was younger."

She also concluded that people can't stand still, not just because of the wind, but because there is always something to get your hands on.

In addition, CHS students loved the cities that had a lot of activities affiliated with them.

"The bright lights of Los Angeles fascinate me, as I have always wanted to visit Staples Center," junior Kellen Green said.

He also said the consistent warm weather in Los Angeles is satisfying, as St. Louis receives the most unpredictable weather patterns.

Sophomore William Wysession said that the "Big Apple" was his favorite city.

"I love New York because everywhere you turn, the motion yields a sense of purposefulness and achievement," Wysession said.

He also stated that no matter where you are, there is always something you can do or somewhere you can go, including going out to eat, watching Broadway musicals, or just roaming the streets of Times Square.

Another student said Boston, Massachusetts, was the most prestigious.

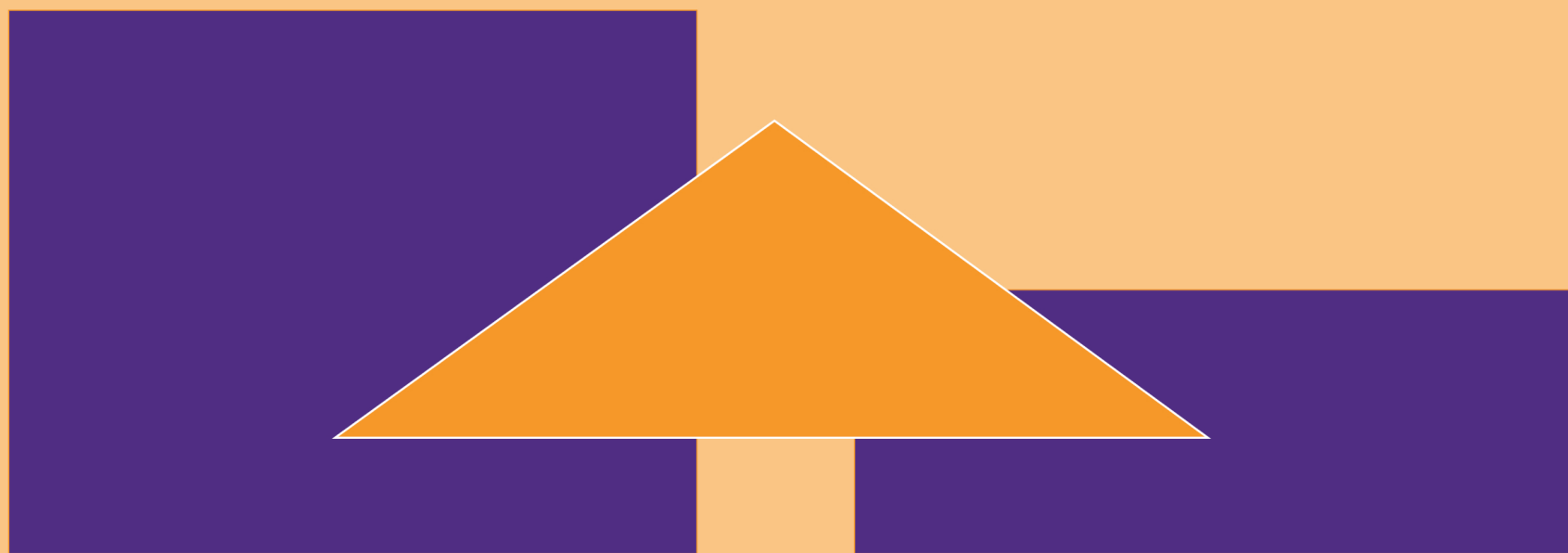
"Boston is the best city in America because it's my hometown and there are places such as Charlestown and Harvard Square," sophomore Jon Kibel said.

Students and teachers have a city that they would love to live in, all of which have their specific advantages and disadvantages. With all different tastes in what CHS teachers and students prefer, this school might just be so diverse that its members may run out of cities to choose from. ☺



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Graduating Greyhounds face musical dilemma

Maddy Bullard
Editor

Although many students at Clayton play an instrument, some more than one, only a select few are passionate enough about the music they create to take their pursuits to the next level in college. Some students reason that after many years of commitment, it would be a waste to abandon their musical activities; others made the decision because music was too integral a part of their lives to give up.

Senior Sagar Yadama has been playing the violin for nine years, and picked up the piano two years ago.

"I first got into music when my mother signed me up for violin lessons," Yadama said. "So in the beginning I was forced to play violin."

Despite his initial hesitance, Yadama has learned to love playing his instrument in various orchestras. The Clayton music program has been a good experience for Yadama.

"The Clayton High School orchestra has been very fun," Yadama said. "As a positive, it's a class that is very relaxed, especially after AP Physics, and a nice end to the day."

Yadama also finds that the Clayton orchestra is not as challenging as extracurricular orchestras, but he still finds it valuable.

"I will admit the teachers are very good about trying to give people different music according to level," Yadama said. "Sometimes, however, that is not possible with such a diverse orchestra, talent-wise."

Yadama loves listening to music in general, which adds to his appreciation of being able to create the music himself.

"I always like listening to the pieces I play so in that sense, I always enjoy playing them as well," Yadama said.

Yadama plays violin in the St. Louis Symphony Youth

Orchestra, and plans to audition for his school's orchestra when he chooses a university in the spring.

"I want to play violin because what is the point of just dropping it after so many years of commitment?" Yadama said.

Senior Elle Jacobs is another musical veteran, with 14 years of violin experience under her belt, in addition to six other instruments, including oboe. Despite her constant immersion in music (Jacobs is also a member of the St. Louis Symphony Youth Orchestra), she does not plan on pursuing music as a career.

"I am planning on minoring in music because I enjoy playing, but I don't want music to be the only thing I do in my life," Jacobs said.

Jacobs also hopes to join her school orchestra in college next year, or even start an ensemble with other students.

Jacobs is also a four-year member of the CHS orchestra.

"I was in symphonic band my freshman, sophomore and junior years and I was in orchestra my sophomore and senior years," Jacobs said. "I was also in Jazz band my sophomore and junior years."

Like Yadama, Jacobs finds the classes valuable. Since she took so many music courses concurrently, the work was at times quite challenging.

"I've enjoyed every class very much because the music played in each class was very unique and different from all the other classes," Jacobs said. "Although it was sometimes a struggle taking so many music classes, I think it was worth it because I had a lot of fun throughout the experience."

Senior Katherine Thompson has experience in other musical fields. She plays percussion and sings in school musicals, as well as outside of school.

"I appreciate percussion because it taught me to read music, which makes it a lot easier to sing - I know a lot of people with great voices who find it really hard to sing

in a choir because they can't read music, and also because it helps me appreciate the music I listen to more," Thompson said. "I know what I'm hearing and can appreciate the musicianship and notice parts of the music which I might not notice if I didn't have a percussion background."

Although Thompson doesn't plan on pursuing percussion in college, she does intend to continue to sing.

"I probably won't continue percussion in college simply because it is highly impractical to bring, say, a marimba to school with me, and since I don't plan on majoring or minoring in music, it might be difficult to find a casual group to play with where I don't need my own instrument," Thompson said. "I definitely plan on singing in college because I enjoy it so much and it's a great way to blow off steam."

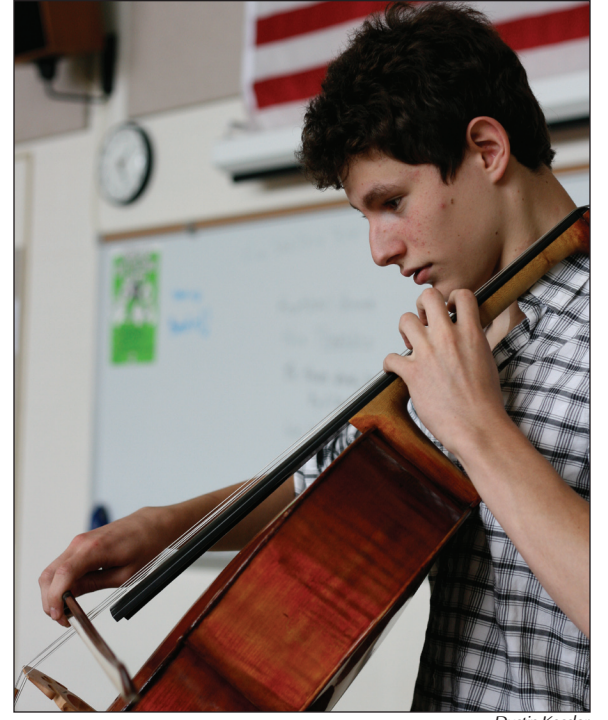
Thompson finds the music she plays in the CHS band quite easy and sometimes boring, so she appreciates the opportunity to play varied music in the percussion ensemble.

"That's why percussionists do so much extra music; we don't concentrate as much on the pieces the whole band plays," Thompson said. "However, since we still do have to practice the band music as well as our ensemble pieces, percussionists have a lot of extra rehearsals, which can be really hard to fit into an already busy schedule."

Another widely heard singer at CHS, known for his roles in musicals, is senior John Holland. Holland has been singing since he can remember, and also plays the piano.

"I enjoy the freedom of music: improvisation is one of my favorite parts of playing the piano and singing," Holland said. "I also enjoy analyzing the chords and tunes of voice patterns, jingles, etc. It's fun to just ponder how every sound has a pitch to it. Getting my voice to mimic other accents and instruments is always a fun challenge as well."

Holland plans to continue to pursue his passion,



Senior Henry Myers, who plans to attend a conservatory of music, will be taking his cello with him to college.

singing, in college.

"I am planning on having my minor be vocal performance," Holland said. "I would also love to be in a cappella group in college. I will probably not continue with rigorous studies in piano."

Holland is also very supportive of the CHS choir program, especially his main instructor, Ms. Fasman.

"We have a sense of camaraderie that extends to getting up in a circle and simply singing for one another," Holland said. "I do believe that, unlike most instruments, where one can practice the fingering and embouchure and produce good music, singing requires a little bit of extra talent to sound good." ☺



Seniors Phoebe Raileanu and Ian Miller take their shift reading the morning announcements. On opposite days, junior Freddy Barnes and senior Sarah McAfee read them.

Morning announcements provide students with information, inspiration, entertainment

David Androphy
Reporter

The beginning of third hour is crucial to the students and teachers at CHS. Ten o'clock is a key part of the school day, as public service announcements (PSAs) are read for the entire school to hear.

Without the announcements, how would one know what time a club is meeting in the morning or the room number of a team gathering?

PSAs apply to students' every day routine and comes on at a time of the day when most students aren't still half asleep.

Seniors Sarah McAfee, Ian Miller, Phoebe Raileanu, and junior Freddy Barnes make up the foursome of announcers that switch off by day. Miller and Raileanu speak on A-Days while McAfee and Barnes are the duo on B-Days. Additionally, to better intrigue the listeners, announcers occasionally switch off between news stories.

"Sarah normally likes to start first and we'll split it halfway," said Barnes. "I always like to do the sports announcements, which are always at the end."

Unlike some people may think, announcements can cut into their school schedule, making it a challenge as they miss the first five minutes of class. However many teachers are lenient in regards to their task at hand.

"Mrs. Felps is very understanding, but there isn't much going on in class in the first 2 minutes anyway," said Barnes.

In comparison to GNN, Barnes also feels that the announcements are much more effective since GNN is shown on a weekly rather than daily basis.

"Many of the PSAs don't make it on to GNN since they are covering other news stories. They show more of what the viewers want to see instead of PSAs," said Barnes.

The announcements have inspired some students to strive to become an announcer when they become upperclassmen at CHS. McAfee is a prime example when it came to tryouts.

"I always liked listening to them when I was an underclassman, so when there were tryouts before my junior year I thought, why not? I like public speaking, and it's cool to be able to give news to the school every week," said McAfee.

The announcements' primary goal is to keep students and teacher up to track about what is going on. Many of the news stories appeal to students even if they are not involved in that club or sport.

"Somehow reading it aloud to the whole school makes it seem pertinent, and then I also feel more up-to-date about what's going on"

If announcements intrigue you, then McAfee feels working on public speaking is key. You'll never have a chance if you don't show up to tryouts with Mr. Nelke in the activities office.

"Make sure you listen for when auditions are being held for next years announcers, and be proactive about it if it's something you're interested in!"

From the announcements, McAfee has gained a broader understanding of the audience she is speaking to.

"I like reading announcements about things that I'm interested in and that I know interest other students and are important to them." ☺

Stroll down memory lane

As their high school careers draw to a close, CHS seniors pause to reflect upon their favorite experiences during their four-year tenures at #1 Mark Twain Circle.

Katherine Ren
Reporter

Senior year. It's the final step one takes before entering adulthood. However, what is more important than what one does with their last 365 days before crossing the threshold, is who one spends it with.

As the end of the school year rolls around, CHS seniors reflect upon how the CHS community has influenced them to become the individuals they are today.

The request for seniors to reflect upon their most valuable experience at CHS leaves most seniors confounded.

"Gosh, I've had so many valuable experiences over the past few years, I couldn't single out one," senior Ian Miller said. "So many great teachers, so many great opportunities..."

Senior Becca Steinberg also expressed this difficulty.

"Pinning down one experience as the most valuable would be nearly impossible, since CHS has provided me with innumerable opportunities for growth. I think that simply all of the interactions that I have had with my teachers and peers have taught me a lot."

However, although singling out one experience might be difficult, it's safe to conclude that one aspect of CHS all seniors value is the community itself.

"The best thing about CHS is meeting new people and interacting with people who are so diverse with such a wide range of talent," senior Mimi Liu said. "Everyone has a different perspective but as long as you're able to keep an open mind, you'll be able to learn so much from the people around you."

These relationships established don't fall short in class either, with such a positive environment.

"My most valuable experience at CHS has definitely been taking classes," senior Moira MacDougal said. "All the teachers here are really passionate about their subjects and extremely knowledgeable. It really easy to get excited about what you're learning when you have a great

teacher."

In addition, seniors find that the community and policies at CHS have enabled them to grow in preparation for the future.

"I have learned to be more independent," senior Claire Fox said. "For the most part, the school staff sees the students as young adults. Things like off campus privileges, clubs, or being able to build a relationship with teachers have had a great effect on how I see myself now. It made me realize that things don't get done unless I commit myself to them."

Aside from the mechanics of personal growth, many perspectives have also changed through their four-year experiences.

"High school has taught me not to take anything too seriously," senior Cecily Lane said. "I'm not suggesting that school doesn't matter, but rather that this is just part of life

exactly where their roads may take them, most are clear on what they want for their future.

"From college I want an education that will prepare me for a job that I want to pursue," Lane said. "From college I want a future. I want to take away from college everything it has to offer; education, friendship, community, experience. I want college to help me grow up."

As the weather gets warmer and the days get longer, you can almost hear the sound of cars driving these soon-to-be CHS alumni into their promising futures. But before they go, they would like to share some last words.

"I would tell incoming freshmen to enjoy high school, but work hard," MacDougal said. "Besides grades, another important thing in high school is the social aspect, so make time for friends. If you establish close friendships, they can last all through high school, and it's really important to have a good support system to help deal with the stresses of life."

In addition, many seniors feel that finding a balance between everything is critical to success in the high school years.

"You can't do everything, but don't let that limit you," Steinberg said.

"Challenge yourself, but don't be afraid to cut something out or drop it when the workload gets to be too much."

Miller advises younger students to take school one day at a time, and not to stress about things in the future.

"There's always worries about the next test, the next performance, the next class to take, the next school you'll go to..." Miller said. "Stop each day and appreciate. Think about something interesting you've just learned. Ponder about the beauty of life itself. Lie down in the quad and relax—that's the best! High school only comes once. It's not just about the letters on your progress report, and it's not just a holding ground until college comes along. It's four years of the life that's been given to you, so live it out to the fullest day by day." ☺

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Horseback riding a source of joy for two teachers

Continued from pg. 13

Flach said she started riding at 6 years old and has been doing it for 24 years now.

"I got my own horse at 13, and I rode him until college and had to sell him," Flach said. "Now I don't have my own horse because there is a lot of time, energy, and money involved in owning your horse and right now I kind of like not having one of my own."

Flach said girlhood fantasies got her into horse riding.

"I think that every child goes through a phase where they are into horses," Flach said. "Some people never lose it and I was one of those people."

According to Flach, the best part of riding is being around the horses.

"The horses are neat animals and once you get to learn how to act around them and work with them, they are really cool," Flach said.

Flach also acknowledges how dangerous riding can be.

"Even people in the Olympics will fall and break their necks," Flach said. "There is a saying where they say you are not a real rider until you fall 100 times."

Flach is really looking forward to going to Spain and riding horses there.

"We are staying in Treafa, which is in southern Spain and it is on the beach and there are a lot of sand dunes," Flach said. "We are given a horse for a week and you can do whatever you want with it, so I am really looking forward to riding in front of the beach. I am also excited about eating all the Spanish food."

Flach is not sure whether she ever wants to be a professional rider.

"I don't know if I have the time anymore to devote to being a professional rider," Flach said. "I will continue to compete and I will try to improve, and I think one day I may seriously consider owning a horse again."

Flach has a lot of good advice for kids who want to be riders.

"It is a sport that is kind of deceptive," Flach said. "If you look at it from a point where you don't know anything, you will think it is easy. But the more you know, the more complicated it gets. It builds on itself and so you need a lot of patience. There is also a lot of mental challenges to riding, so stick with it and enjoy your self."

Tennill took her love for horses in two different directions. First of all, she uses equine therapy to help others. Equine therapy has to do with using therapeutic horsemanship to help people with both physical and mental disabilities.

"We work with kids who deal with emotional difficulties, who don't have diagnosed physical or mental problems," Tennill said.

Tennill said that each kid does different things in equine therapy.

"Some of the kids are getting over problems and building confidence because they have difficulties in hav-

ing faith in themselves," Tennill said. "The kids sometimes just learn how to lead a horse and be a leader. It is also important for other kids to learn how to ask without being pushy and mean."

Tennill said that the organization, Building Dreams Ranch (BDR), has been around since 2007, and Tennill first got involved in 2009.

Tennill has a lot of favorite things in equine therapy. "Most kids don't think of it as a therapy, and it is something totally different from sitting in a room with a therapist because the kids have to actually want to do it," Tennill said. "There is also learning skills that apply to their lives, like leadership, positive communications, and patience. But, I guess for me personally the best thing for me is that it is outside and doing something that I love to do."

Tennill said the biggest downside for equine therapy is the weather.

"We have not been able to do things all winter and the spring gets so muddy," Tennill said. "Our program right now doesn't have any indoor facilities, so our program is really limited to summer."

Tennill gave advice for those who want to do equine therapy.

"If they are interested as a client, they are more than welcome to visit our website" Tennill said. "We are always, especially this time of the year, happy to have volunteers to come out to the facilities and get the program ready."

Tennill's other interest with horses is cowboy racing.

"Cowboy racing is really fun and it is a time event, which makes it a race and also an obstacles course," Tennill said. "It tests the rider's communication with the horse and tests the horse's bravery and willingness to do things they might not be familiar with. There is a part of the race that is in the arena like a regular horse show and there is another part that is outside."

Tennill said that she likes cowboy horse racing for many reasons.

"My horse likes it for one thing and he gets really excited about doing it" Tennill said. "It is also just a combination of years of work."

Tennill said she started cowboy racing because her trainer suggested it to her.

"My trainer a few years ago had gotten involved in a ranch close to a start of hosting a cowboy races, and in the fall she it and she encouraged me to get involved," Tennill said. "At first, it was more of a social thing. Then it really went well in the first year, and I enjoyed it and keep pulling back to it."

Tennill has been doing cowboy races for about three years now. Before that, she did some regular horse shows and she took her horse to dressage shows too.

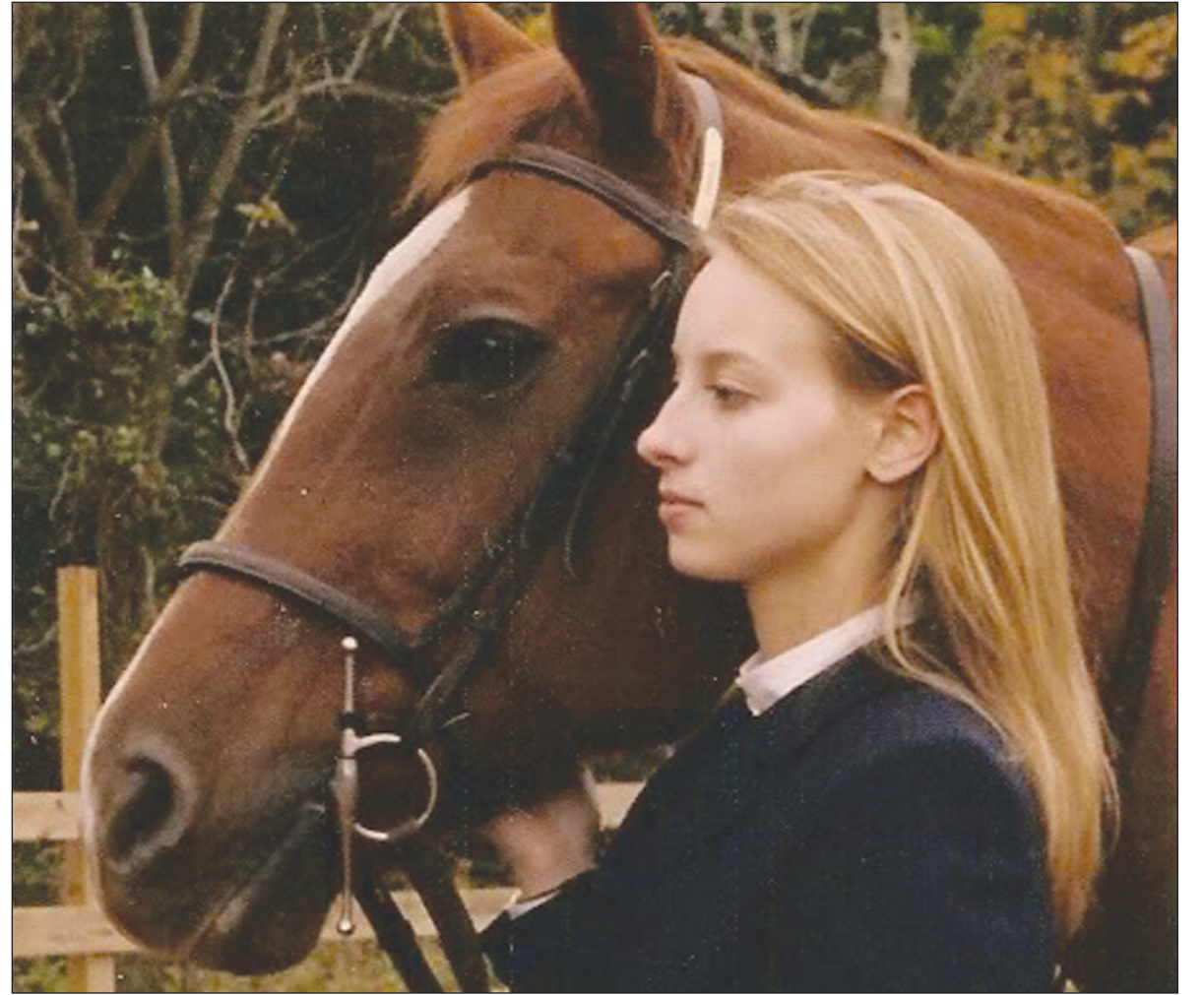
Tennill said she rides about once a week. She would like to start training three times a week because of a competitive horse trail ride. She hopes the weather will be nice soon.

Tennill said she is looking forward to the competitive trail ride in the spring.

"I am looking forward to seeing how well my horse

"It is a sport that is kind of deceptive. If you look at it from a point where you don't know anything, you will think it is easy. But the more you know, the more complicated it gets. It builds on itself and so you need a lot of patience. There is also a lot of mental challenges to riding, so stick with it and enjoy your self."

Meg Flach
Substitute coordinator



Courtesy Meg Flach

Substitute coordinator Meg Flach (above) has been riding horses ever since she was six years old, and it's been a prominent part of her life since.



Courtesy Deana Tennill

CHS English teacher Deana Tennill (above, left) and substitute coordinator Meg Flach (above, right) enjoy horseback riding, both competitively and for fun. Tennill also uses therapeutic horsemanship to help disabled people.



Courtesy Meg Flach

goes through the obstacle. And I am looking forward to what our team will look like," Tennill said. "I don't care about winning, in fact, I don't even know where I was placed in the cowboy races. For me it is more about how I feel we did and making through the obstacles and feeling good about the ride."

Tennill said the coolest thing in cowboy racing is that it challenges you in a way that is both an individual challenge and also a team challenge.

"It is like a team sport because you are in a team, and also you are the individual competitor," Tennill said.

Tennill said the biggest obstacle was that no cowboy races are held locally.

"So, if you don't want to travel really far, you are limited to a couple of races year competition," Tennill said.

Lastly, if any students are interested in horse riding, even if they don't have any experience, please see Meg Flach in the main office for more information on the equestrian club she sponsors.

They ride twice a month on Saturdays. The club would love to have new students come out and experience what is like being a horse rider. ☺

On Target

- Glee's recent episodes have not been Gleeful.
- Sixty degrees one day and 30 degrees the next is so not cool.
- 'Adjustment Bureau' gives hope to young romantics.
- March Madness is on its way with 58 million people expected to participate in a bracket.
- The first ever F-bomb dropped at the Oscars? Really?
- Charlie Sheen is not winning.

CHS lacks displays of student artwork

Eudora Olsen
Reporter

With the new building construction in full swing, students at CHS are buzzing with anticipation. But along with the excitement, some students are looking to other areas in need of improvement, particularly the lack of art on display around CHS.

"There could be more art in the halls and the commons," sophomore Adam Luxon said. "Some other schools have the public areas lined with photos and drawings done by students."

Luxon thinks that art displays are an important element at a high school. He says that the mini exhibits support student creativity and talent.

Some art is put on display in the library, and hung at the top of the commons steps, but these pieces are not in ideal viewing areas and are rarely seen.

"Art should be hung in the hallways," sophomore Seth Lewis said. Sophomore Sydney Smith shares Luxon's and Lewis' suggestions.

"There isn't really a place where art produced by students is shown," Smith said. "There should be a place."

Smith, along with sophomore Sarah Lerwick, was unaware that there are three professionally- made

statues on the CHS campus. Lerwick agrees with Smith that art awareness at CHS needs to be revamped.

"I wish there was more of an appreciation of art," Lerwick said. "Both student-made and professionally-made. They are equally important."

Although the art displays at CHS are criticized, the art curriculum is renowned. Sophomore Meg Sutter is an artist and she believes in the importance of art classes more than the display.

"Art classes at CHS are beneficial because you don't have to be guided or go by the rules," Sutter said. "Rather than following by the book, it is a chance to color outside the lines and be creative."

Sutter says that she is impartial to the possible addition of more art displays. Smith on the other hand believes these presentations are essential.

"Art should be displayed because it shows that students can be creative," Smith said, "and that school isn't just about core subjects, but also the arts."

There have not been talks for a new art display area in the new building thus far. Students at CHS are continuing to excel in the arts and many hope that there will be a convenient display area to show off their talent in the future. ☺

"Art should be displayed because it shows that students can be creative and that school isn't just about core subjects, but also the arts."

Sydney Smith
Sophomore

Outside the Bubble: Exploring Washington Avenue

Kara Kratcha
A&E Editor

Known as the "loft district" of St. Louis, Washington Ave. is a great place to shop, have lunch or grab a caffeinated beverage. The distinctive architecture and crisscrossing overhead lights create a unique atmosphere for walking around on the street. The urban area features restaurants and cafes with outdoor seating and its fair share of pubs from which music leaks to the outside. Just a short walk from Washington Ave., Citygarden is a sculpture park in the heart of St. Louis. The park, practically in the shadow of the St. Louis Arch, includes art, a restaurant and several fountains in which people can cool off on hot summer days. Touted on its website as an "urban oasis," Citygarden is the perfect place for city-dwellers and visitors alike to stop and rest. The blend of old and new elements makes the drive down 64/40 worth the trip.



Laura Kratcha



Hannah Feagans

Hannah Feagans

Tea enthusiasts rejoice! If you're looking for a cozy, quirky environment to enjoy lunch or breakfast, seek no farther than Washington Ave.'s London Tea Room. The staff, English accents in tow, is charming and friendly. Though the walls are cluttered with Brit paraphernalia, suggesting the owners' "homesickness" for their native England. The Room features a wide range of teas (white, green, oolong, black, blends and more) served in authentic English China or loose to be taken home alongside a selection of lunch options and an espresso bar. The restaurant also offers cakes and other pastries; the lemon blueberry cake in particular is a must-try item. Check out the regular tea cuppings, or stay for a traditional Afternoon or Cream Tea. Don't show up on a Monday and plan to wait on Sundays, however, because The London Tea Room is a popular place for brunch and is closed on Mondays.



Hannah Feagans

What would a teenage jaunt in downtown St. Louis be without a stop at the City Museum? This establishment's title should be taken loosely as the visitor's experience at the museum will involve very little standing around and staring at paintings. The City Museum has no want of art, however. Every inch of the building's public space (previously a shoelace factory) is covered in whimsical sculpture and eclectic decoration, while above the museum tenants live in rent-adjusted lofts. From the roof, featuring the iconic bus hanging over the street and the newly opened rooftop fountain to the dark and glittering basement caves, the space invites visitors to slither, crawl and climb on the art.



Hannah Feagans



Hannah Feagans



Hannah Feagans

Flannery's Pub is spacious and trendy. Upon entering, the first design elements that stand out are the large bar and the plush, pillow-lined, window-seat booths, and the pub's website prominently features several young ladies dancing drunkenly on tables. Despite this party-hard image, the dining experience was surprisingly classy, and the food was delicious. The cinnamon French toast (spring for the strawberries) and the hummus platter are particularly recommended. The wait staff responded well to a table of teenagers, and the waitress allowed us to order from both the brunch and lunch menus despite some inconvenience to herself. Overall, Flannery's Pub was an excellent choice for lunch, and its small crevices and lounges suggest an equally appealing nightlife.

SNACK ATTACK: Where the best pretzels roll in St. Louis

Jake Lee
Editor

1st Nadoz Cafe



The Nadoz pretzel roll sets the standard for all pretzel products. Unlike the other products, the Nadoz did not forget to include the central property of the pretzel as it was created a millennium ago: salt. In addition to being delightfully salted and maintaining the concept of a pretzel, the Nadoz roll was the only product able to maintain the concept of a roll. Their product is incredibly chewy as most dinner rolls, and the pretzel coating flows uniformly into the meat of the roll. This delicacy is a treat for any fan of snack foods.

2nd Companion



This roll is shaped into a long, softer treat. It does not disappoint as a pretzel, as the dough is sweeter, and the shape and coating more resembles the traditional soft pretzel. However, if you wish to indulge on a soft pretzel itself, nothing can top Auntie Anne's. This Companion roll lacks the chewiness of the Nadoz roll, and became stale much quicker and was flaky as the pretzel coating separated from the meat of the roll on the inside. A viable option, but nothing of note as the Nadoz alternative is.

3rd Whole Foods



It would be unfair to compare a sandwich bun to a roll. However, Whole Foods categorized this product as a pretzel. It lacked the necessary salt, and was too airy. The bun became stale quickly gave an unsavory aftertaste. I would not recommend this roll to anyone, unless they considered themselves a pretzel connoisseur. Instead, I would recommend the Whole Food's Jalapeno Roll, located just a few trays away and provide for a much better culinary experience.



Andie Glik

Delmar Loop welcomes new vegetarian, kosher restaurant

Andie Glik
Reporter

As the Delmar Loop continues to develop eastward, vibrant and eclectic restaurants are popping up all over the Boulevard. One of the newest establishments is Gokul, a vegetarian and kosher Indian restaurant. They have one other location in Overland on Page Avenue.

Indian food connoisseurs, kosher food seekers, and Vegans and Vegetarians trekked out to the Page location to enjoy Gokul's rich and flavorful meals. Now that they have a Delmar location, many others can enjoy the authentic food. Since they opened in one of the most popular areas of St. Louis, our city's best-kept Indian food secret has been revealed.

Their buffet is a colorful rainbow of a million flavors, spices, and sauces. The restaurant is completely veg-

etarian so vegetables and cheese are replacements for meat. If you're the kind of carnivore who doesn't consider cheese and veggies a meal, Gokul is not the restaurant for you. However, if you enjoy vegetarian food or want authentic Indian flavors, this is the best place in St. Louis to go.

In 2009 Gokul won Best Vegetarian Food in the River Front Times because of their heavy use of butter to make up for the lack of meat and various stocks. Butter covers the oven-baked naan, flows through their korma, and sinks into each chunk of cheese and veggie. Making this vegetarian food experience one to look forward to, not dread. On the first and third Monday of every month Gokul offers a vegan buffet between 5 pm and 9 pm.

The Delmar location is the only kosher restaurant in St. Louis. This is a huge deal for those who keep Ko-

sher in the area because finding kosher options in St. Louis is extremely challenging. Jews who keep strict kosher have one of two options, to eat at home, or when they eat out to choose the most bland and simple dishes. When they do eat out, they either have to buy cooking utensils for the restaurant or question the waiter intensely on what else goes into the pots and pans they will be using. Most orthodox Jews never have the opportunity to eat outside their home or the homes of their friends and family. Considering how large the Jewish community is in St. Louis, it's very surprising that it took this long for a kosher restaurant to open.

For their first few weeks of business on Delmar, they will only offer a buffet, but a full menu will come soon. The buffet goes for around \$10 and any dish of the menu is between \$5 and \$12. One of the

best dishes on the buffet is Gokul's Panner Tikka Masala. This dish is Gokul's fresh homemade cheese cooked with bell peppers, tomatoes and onions in a creamy garlic and tomato sauce. Paired with rice or naan, this dish is perfection.

Their vegetable korma is thick with all kind of flavorful vegetables. They use sweet potato instead of plain ones to make this dish their own. While their deserts are not too tasty or exciting, their long list of exotic shakes and Lassis make up for it.

Gokul, located at 6101 Delmar, is a brand new, exciting, and delicious addition to the Delmar loop as well as the Kosher community and the Vegetarian community. A great place to dine in, or take out, the environment is warm and welcoming but the food would taste just as good and authentic if you took it home to your own kitchen. ☺



Staff Photo

Snarf's Subs enriches Delmar Loop dining

Meredith McMahon
Editor


Feel free to scarf down a sub from Snarf's Sub Shop. Snarf's Sub Shop has recently opened on 6301 Delmar in the Loop and is part of a small chain based in Colorado. The shop is stocked full of delicious sandwich and lunch foods that are perfect to eat while walking in The Loop.

The sandwiches cannot be described as anything other than amazing. Wrapped up in clean white paper packaging and split in half, first biting into the fresh, warm and toasty bread is a joy. The bread is definitely the highlight of the sandwich, although the meat of the sandwiches always has fresh ingredients and delicious flavor. The shop has three different sandwich sizes. The smallest size is the five inch, the medium is the seven inch and the large is a 12 inch, and is made to order with whatever ingredients you decide. Overall, Snarf's Sub Shop is what I would call a gourmet Subway. However, it has a much more authentic feel because it offers organic and healthier options, and instead of eating "fresh", at

Snarf's you actually are guaranteed to eat fresh. Also, although Snarf is based in Colorado it lacks any sort of "chain" feel that Subway completely exudes, making it a pleasure to visit. Instead of generic chips and cookies, Snarf's offers delicious organic chips, ice cream and milkshakes, as well as salads and soups.

All of the great food items come at easy and affordable prices, too. It costs \$5.25 for a small, \$6.50 for a medium and \$9.75 for a large of their regular sandwiches. Although the prices air on the expensive side, they are not too bad for the great quality of the sandwiches. The small, local location is great as well. Nestled next to the Loop, Snarf's has a perfect location for shoppers to eat lunch. There is also outside seating, which makes sunny days a pleasure. The staff are friendly and helpful, and the cool and modern interior decorating makes Snarf's a hip and yet homey sub paradise. And who could really resist that first bite into Snarf's warm, delicious bread. Overall, Snarf's deserves a round of applause for it's wonderful sandwiching atmosphere. So "Snarf's" up! ☺

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Despite questionable ethics, rights upheld

When the announcement that Equality Club would be conducting a poll via text message came on over the intercom, I was skeptical. Surely no one, I thought as I strained to hear the announcements over the low din of third-hour chatter, would take the time to give their input on the as-of-then unannounced question. Entering the Commons at the beginning of fifth hour, I thought I had been correct: only two votes had been cast during all of fourth hour lunch.

The question projected above the shifting crowd of lunch eaters was, "Should the Westboro Baptist Church be allowed to protest at soldiers' funerals?" Feeling kind of stupid for standing by myself in the middle of the Commons by myself but otherwise not thinking much of my texted response, I indicated that yes, of course they should be allowed. Then I thought nothing more of what I thought was an obvious answer.

When I came back with my soup, I was pleased to find that my peers had taken an interest. "Yes" and "no" answers were just about even. Admittedly, I didn't really see how half of the voting population of Clayton's lunch periods could disagree with the Supreme Court's recent decision that Westboro's actions are constitutional, but I wasn't too surprised that the emotionally charged issue would

elicit such responses.

What did surprise me, however, was a friend's response to the displayed bar chart: "Considering Clayton's usual political views, I can't believe how many people think this intolerance should be allowed."

Perhaps this is just my inner newspaper student talking, but excuse me? As any good, knowledgeable Globie can tell you, the First Amendment guarantees certain rights: of religion, speech, assembly, press,

and petition. Now, I do not contest that Fred Phelps and company should not spread their horrible intolerance. I completely agree that people who picket funerals in order to blame minority groups for America's woes are dim-witted cockroaches that I would like to stomp upon repeatedly.

But I value my right to say that and use stronger words were I so inclined. By preventing the WBC from expressing their ideas in a public space I am encroaching on my own rights. So although the Phelps family spews a horrible message that is contrary to my beliefs and the beliefs of most of our community, their right to spew that dirt should be allowed in the interest of preserving constitutional rights. The rest of use, meanwhile, should use our rights to express our disgust at our fellow citizens' behavior. ☹

Blots and Scribbles



Kara Kratcha

Classic sci-fi novel still proves entertaining

Shiori Tomatsu
Reporter

For those who believe that the Ultimate Answer to Life, Everything, and the Universe is 42, Douglas Adams' "The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy" is the perfect book to read.

The story is about the journey of Arthur Dent, a human, and his other alien companions in outer space after Earth has been destroyed in order to make

a hyperspatial express.

As his journey progresses, he discovers that a long time ago, aliens created a computer to tell them the answer to Life, Everything, and the Universe, and the computer answered 42. Not knowing why, the aliens created another computer (which happened to be Earth) to find out why the answer was 42.

Before the aliens could receive the reasoning of why the answer was 42, Earth was blown apart, and Dent, the only survivor, is the only one who has the necessary logical reasoning.

The one great aspect of this book is that it is a true science fiction book. It has the necessary traits of a science fiction story, plus comedy mixed into it - which is why science fiction lovers will enjoy it even more.

The beginning of the story is the typical, with a group of aliens called

Vogons getting ready to destroy the Earth. What makes this part stand out among the other science fiction books is that the aliens are destroying Earth simply because they want to create a hyperspatial route. Of all reasons, that is quite unexpected for the reader because it is such a simple reason.

The story also has some of the most outrageous yet ingenious innovations that seem to be based on

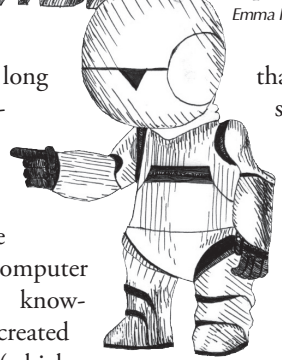
scientific reasoning.

For instance, there is the Babel Fish that allows anyone to understand every language in the entire Galaxy. In the story, Dent puts the fish in his ear and suddenly he can comprehend what aliens from other planets are saying. Just the thought of this process keeps the reader entertained and believing that the Babel Fish is probable.

It also has deeper meanings and some criticism toward us human beings. One of Dent's alien companions is Ford Prefect, a man from a foreign planet who has encountered the dangers of the galaxy and has more experience than Dent. When Prefect reveals to Dent that he is an alien, Prefect teaches Dent many new things he has never known, and the readers realize how humans are not the center of the universe.

Adams' book has many ideas worth reading about. ☹

THE HITCHHIKERS' GUIDE TO THE GALAXY



Emma Riley



Arcade Fire nabbed Album of the Year at the 53rd Annual Grammy Awards show at the Staples Center in Los Angeles, California on February 13, 2011. (Robert Gauthier/Los Angeles Times/MCT)

Arcade Fire still unparalleled, despite disappointing Grammy performance

Caitlin Kropp
Features Editor

In a performance, there is all too often one word that is vastly underappreciated: subtlety.

And subtlety was definitely the underappreciated word of the moment when Arcade Fire took the stage for the first time during this year's Grammys. Perhaps it was the fireworks or the blinding strobe lights. Perhaps it was the overuse of fog machines and the intimidating sound systems that literally shook the stadium. Or perhaps it was the BMX riders doing flips on miniature ramps onstage. But overall, the Arcade Fire show amounted to little more than overkill.

And that's the real shame in the situation. Because when you get past all of the noise and flashiness and general exorbitance of their performance, you find a genuinely great band underneath.

Arcade Fire, which released its first album, "Funeral," in 2004, isn't exactly what one would deem "new" to the music scene, but they are new to such a flashy event as the Gram-

mys, and it was clear that the marriage wasn't a happy one. The only truly good moment was when the band began another performance (albeit an impromptu one) after their win for Album of the Year. This performance, free of the unnecessary gimmicks that marred their earlier performance, demonstrated the true essence of the band, hopefully one that listeners will attune to quickly.

By far more popular in Britain, Arcade Fire is nevertheless a strong performer on the indie circuit. Composed of seven members, the band highlights an eclectic mix of instruments, at times using multiple drum or piano lines to punctuate their music, and occasionally going completely off the charts with oddities, like the glockenspiel. Their three albums, titled "Funeral," "Neon Bible," and "The Suburbs,"

respectively, tie together in a serious atmosphere, featuring grand statements dealing with politics, deep emotions, and, essentially, life.

As a relatively new connoisseur of Arcade Fire, it's hard to justify sweeping generalizations of their music, especially when there's still so much to explore in their works.

It's easy to miss the main point of such a complex musical group as Arcade Fire. But, from what I've gathered, the band breaks down like this: They focus on profound statements in their music, focusing heavily on hypocrisy and other such sentiments. This proves an interesting listen, but in their two earlier albums, the music tends to get bogged down in the message. That Arcade Fire comes across as a bit too high-minded for most tastes, and listening can quickly become exhausting.

This is not true for "The Suburbs." In this fresher taste, the band drops the heavy while still keeping the message, resulting in a truly unique and delightful listening experience. The lightly satirical voice of "Rococo" is refreshing and different, especially in its take on so-called "hipsters." "We Used to Wait" ups the anxiety with a lament of cultural exhaustion, with a strong conclusion leaving the listener "with the lights cut out... left standing in the wilderness downtown." The track rings in the mind long after the piece itself has ended.

It's sad to think that people won't experience the joys of Arcade Fire simply because they do not know about it, or because they took their judgment from an ill-advised performance. Truly unique in the music industry, Arcade Fire continues to amaze with soulful, disillusioning lyrics that still ultimately leave the listener with a hopeful message: The fight of our lives is winnable, achievable. And with "The Suburbs" still ringing in my ears, there is also another message: We are all in this together. ☹

"It's sad to think that people won't experience the joys of Arcade Fire simply because they do not know about it, or because they took their judgment from an ill-advised performance."

Lupe Fiasco's 'Lasers' met with ambivalence

Jack Holds
Editor

For a man who once believed that "hip-hop saved his life," Lupe Fiasco is now realizing that hip-hop might also be the end to his life as he knows it.

After great struggle with Atlantic Records, as well as an internal struggle, Lupe Fiasco has finally managed to produce a haphazardly assembled and more-or-less inconsistent album to appease the demands of his producers and listeners - "Lasers."

"Lasers" was released on March 8, following an online leak, and was immediately received with mixed feelings, which developed in the aftermath of Lupe's two previous creative albums, "Food & Liquor" and, more recently, "The Cool."

The ambivalence Lupe expressed stems from his conflict with Atlantic Records; through a series of failed album releases due to his strict contract with Atlantic Records, Lupe was not able to release the songs of his choice but was instead subject to the whims of the producers' mainstream, moneymaking views.

In February of this year, Lupe revealed his feelings for the album in an interview with Complex.

"... 'The Cool,' is more of my own blood, sweat, and tears, and my own control," Fiasco said. "With this record, I'm little bit more neutral as to the love for the record."

And it becomes evident by listening to the music.

While three years ago Lupe was engrossed in preaching his philo-

sophical viewpoints in his previous album, "Lasers" embodies a personal struggle with the entire ordeal he underwent. "Lasers" not only lacks Lupe's fun vibe which permeated his Kanye West-inspired lyrics and unique subject matter beforehand, but he also focuses on the suicidal sentiments and low-key thoughts that plagued his mind during the production of "Lasers."

In songs such as "Letting Go," Lupe describes his overwhelming exhaustion and his bleak emotional state in the past few years. "Beautiful Lasers (Two Ways)" mixes an auto-tuned chorus, which breaks from most of the mainstream music in the exploration of his negative energy during the process. In "Words I Never Said," the powerful lyrics alone carry the song and force his audience to reflect.

"Words I Never Said," on the other hand, takes a stronger position, a form of social criticism, attacking the political scene, including

Obama and Islamic fundamentalists; it also focuses on the war on terror.

One of the stronger songs with a clear message is "State Run Radio," in which, as the name implies, Lupe foretells of a government-controlled radio where lyrical freedom does not exist since repetitive, catchy songs that lack substance are forced upon the people.

However, perhaps it is the success of the few of his songs that cause the

great disappointment, which comes from the inconsistencies in the album "Lasers." After all, while Lupe criticizes the current radio industry in "State Run Radio," "I Don't Wanna Care Right Now" hypocritically features uncreative lyrics, mainstream popping beats as well as auto-tuned choruses and lack of direction.

Finally, there is great irony in the anarchy symbol on the album cover. After all, Lupe strives for a rebellious mix of prophetic verse which he tries to capture in the red "A," but he falls short of this in his conformist, mainstream popping beats as well as auto-tuned choruses and lack of direction.

My rating for "Lasers"? Three out of five stars. Maybe three point five on a good day.

So this piques one's curiosity: Is this the end of Lupe Fiasco, the unorthodox rapper who has fallen into a rut with record company contracts?

Well, probably not.

His album "Lasers" may fall short of his two previous fresh and groundbreaking albums, but in the larger sense of his music - when compared to the rest of the current hip-hop industry - Lupe still maintains a certain uniqueness from other mainstream rappers. Chances are he'll come back positively with an invigorated set of tracks in the next year or two.

At the release event, Lupe told the audience he would have more creative freedom next time around. "[They] promised me they would not come into the studio," Fiasco said.

With this in mind, the crowd cheered Fiasco on, not wanting to yet accept the premature career ending of a man who had recently been a superstar, a representation of that big letter "A." ☹



Lupe Fiasco's new album "Lasers" has been received with ambivalence from himself, producers, and fans worldwide. It was released on March 8.

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Talking Points: The role of government

Is big, regulatory government or smaller, hands-off government more efficient and effective in America?

Liberal

Conservative

Shuyang Li
Reporter

Government. Inquiring as to its role today will inevitably spark heated debate between liberals, who extol its virtues and conservatives who decry its excesses. An unbiased opinion is nearly impossible to obtain, and this piece is not meant to function as one. After all, interpretation of facts is subjective in its very nature.

Perhaps the best example of controversial yet unmistakably liberal governmental action is Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal.

The New Deal in particular stands as one of the most hotly debated yet beneficial programs (or collection of programs) brought forth by the government after the Great Depression. It is indisputable that the Great Depression, initiated by the 1929 Stock Market crash, caused devastating damage to the American economy and to the lives of millions of Americans, especially in the Midwest.

The main reason why this stock market crash caused such enormous damage, as well as the root cause of the crash itself, was lax governmental regulations - banks did not follow what regulations did exist and failed to provide safety measures to guard savings, while they simultaneously took savings without permission to invest. Conservative President Herbert Hoover failed to mobilize a government response, instead preferring to pass a tariff that pushed away foreign investors and buyers.

As is evident in this case, government regulations on loans and personal debt were almost nonexistent in the 1920s, and this led to an enormous monetary problem for all classes of Americans save the richest of the rich. One could point to the Great Depression as a result of government being far too small and unable to step in and complete its duties to prevent economic downfall.

It appears that the only way to prevent rampant speculation and vanishing savings is to regulate investments through a large, centralized and powerful authority - the United States government, especially as in the later Securities and Exchanges Commission. One sees parallels here to the Recession and the collapse of Lehman Brothers just a few years ago.

Indeed, the question of responsibility is, at its roots, one of psychology. Investors work with often significant sums, whether it be in private investment or working for a bank. Leaving large amounts of money in the hands of a people or institutions with no restrictions would obviously lead to terrible decision-making. People are naturally predisposed to welcome quick gains - incidentally a reason why not many ascend to magnate-level wealth - at the cost of stability.

This thought process is in fact the line of reasoning that led to so many economic damages that affected the United States just in the past decade - from Bernie Madoff's multi-billion-dollar Ponzi scheme to the subprime mortgage crisis. Instead of a rough forest of sharp upswings and downturns, however, the current situation has been more muted, more of a wave, as investor inclinations are curbed by regulations on financial information required to perform a transaction.

Indeed, it is arguably the government's extended hand in regulation that saved the USA from another depression, softening the blows into a (certainly not much more impressive) "Recession."

So it has become clear that unregulated markets, or free-markets, while capable of blossoming beautifully in the imagined ideal world of conservatives, cannot succeed given the natural human tendencies of participants. Thus, one must now turn to the largest-scale attempts at "big government" and note their success.

Roosevelt's New Deal represents a government that expanded its powers to provide jobs through the Civilian Conservation Corps, Tennessee Valley Authority and Works Progress Administration, among others. This unique organizational structure would only be possible under the auspices of a large, centralized bureaucracy of which one exists in the United States: the federal government. It has the distinction of having its laws applied to every inhabitant of the country, and thus can make far-reaching decisions while ensuring compliance with regulations.

And yet while the New Deal has been criticized, its factual results are unquestionable. Unemployment fell nearly 10% from 1933 to 1940, and the value of exports nearly doubled. This goes to show that with a large labor force and a strong structural framework, a large government can indeed impart significant economic and social benefits to citizens.

To ensure the future economic success of this nation, steps must be taken to increase government regulation of the economy as well as the provision of public goods such as roads and schools. The supply-side economic policies of Reagan and Bush have significantly impaired our economy, and thus we need a large government to ensure that the nation can be pointed toward the right purpose.

One may say that fiscal conservatism, that cutting the budget is the most important need at the moment, but that simply handicaps the nation's ability to compete. Even while the federal government must spend money to better educate the newer generations, this will ultimately translate into a more knowledgeable workforce in a global economy that increasingly relies on highly skilled workers.

As Roosevelt said, "In our seeking for economic and political progress, we all go up - or else we all go down." It is the government that determines the direction of the people, and thus a big government can bring the entire nation up along with it. 🌐

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Jonathan Shumway
Editor

What is the purpose of government in the United States of America?

In the Preamble of the U.S. Constitution, it states: "We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common Defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America."

The Preamble recapitulates essentially why American government was formed. America was formed to unite a group of colonies, in protection against their universal adversary, Great Britain, and the imperialistic desires of other European nations in the Americas. We are stronger in our unity as one, than to be divided. This has allowed America to weigh tremendous influence in world affairs, but also to be a haven for people from all types of backgrounds, regardless of race, religion, education, or ethnicity. America has become, as many have called it, a melting pot for the world, as the variety of people is so great and different. The American government, simply said, is to be a protector for the people from foreign powers.

Although the American government is a protector, in this sense, people have become disillusioned as government has expanded into all aspects of our lives -- especially on how government is supposed to "promote the general Welfare." The government was never made to be concerned with the medical bills of its citizens. It was never made to ensure that Americans received unemployment benefits. It was never made to ensure that American citizens had saved enough for retirement. This is a not an obligation of the government, or in my opinion, within the scope of its responsibility. I have never heard of Thomas Jefferson or John Adams discussing a program such as Medicare, or Social Security. Many of these so-called entitlement programs were not in existence until the mid-20th century. These programs, such as the case of Social Security, were originally to help widows that did not have financial support and has now grown to a massive program. What has happened are generations of Americans who rely on Social Security. What about the millions of recipients who never even paid into the system who now draw benefits monthly? Where is personal responsibility? Although I feel these are noble causes, government was not created for this function. The government is not responsible for the success of its citizens, but it is responsible that our rights are protected, so as an individual, we can determine our own course.

What Thomas Jefferson called our inalienable rights of Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness, inevitably, is all the freedoms that we truly possess, although the current 26 Amendments can be added to this list. Although

The government was never made to be concerned with the medical bills of its citizens. It was never made to ensure that Americans received unemployment benefits. It was never made to ensure that American citizens had saved enough for retirement.

and prosperity, but we now are at a time of decision. We have some definite and difficult choices to make now -- to ensure that America will be continued to be blessed with our high living standards, be secure, and safeguard that the freedom of the individual remain unhindered.

we have the right of the "pursuit of happiness," ultimately, the American Dream is decided to us.

America has undergone over two centuries of unprecedented progress

America's government ultimately has to make choices. Although we stopped being a debtor nation after WWI, we have become one, once more. China owns over \$755.4 billion officially of American debt, but could possibly own as much as \$1.7 trillion dollars (washington-times.com). America has a debt of over \$13.6 trillion (as of Sept. 31, 2010) and a deficit for the year 2011 of over \$1 tril-

lion (treasurydirect.gov and cbsnews.com).

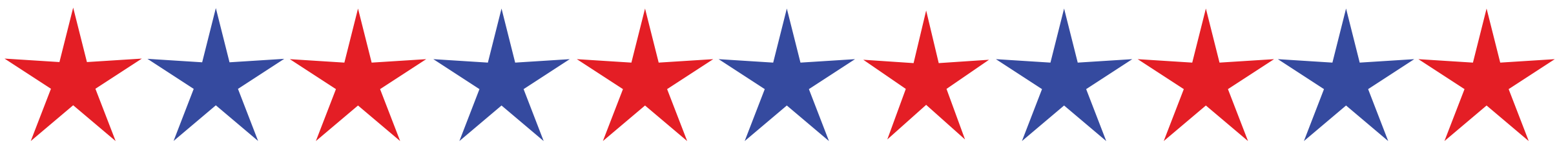
According to the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget, in nine years about 64 percent of the budget will be made up of the costs of entitlements, and by 2030, 70 percent of the budget. Beyond entitlements to Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid, we have a military whose budget is greater than the next 20 highest military spenders combined (economist.com). How can we pay and justify this type of expense?

Both sides have discussed spending cuts, but can they make painful choices? The Tea Party has worked in this respect in some ways, but perhaps cutting \$18 million of federal aid for Teach for America isn't the best. Without restructuring our entitlement programs we will lose vital programs like "Teach for America". If America does want to succeed in the future, we need to emphasize education. Was it not education that allowed America to become what it is now, a nation of literate and intellectual citizens— providing a universal education when other countries continued to restrict education to the masses.

We surely need spending cuts, but let us cut without thought or understanding. There are difficult decisions that need to be made now. President Obama refuses to compromise and lead. Republicans propose minimal cuts, as long as it does not affect their electorate too significantly. Democrats justify the continued deficit spending, claiming that to do otherwise would worsen the financial crisis—Americans can't afford the exploding expenditures of current government. I believe that America was made by innovators who revolutionized the way the public saw the government. Although these changes occurred over decades, can't we surely now make change, as our forefathers once did?

I would propose a smaller, more efficient, and more responsible government. The days of Independence Hall in 1776 are long gone, but that does not mean we cannot refocus and reanalyze the situation of the government. President Obama proclaimed the need for change and reminded us that change could be done. His words from his 2009 inaugural address state: "We remain a young nation. But in the words of Scripture, the time has come to set aside childish things. The time has come to reaffirm our enduring spirit; to choose our better history; to carry forward that precious gift, that noble idea passed on from generation to generation: the God-given promise that all are equal, all are free, and all deserve a chance to pursue their full measure of happiness."

It is time for us to put away childish things and make intelligent choices critical to our future success as a society— remembering the great ideals that America has been founded upon. The bar set by our founders is a high one; it is our choice if we want to live up to what America was established to be. 🌐





Meredith McMahon

Despite leash laws, ignorant owners still leave dogs loose

I like dogs. I really do.

But I must confess that I like smaller dogs better than bigger ones.

I associate a dog's size with its aggressiveness and its ability to bite humans. The smaller the dog, the nicer it probably is.

It was a beautiful four-day weekend, so I took advantage of the unusual 70-degree February weather. I decided to go for a walk with my dad in Forest Park. On the way back home, we ran into a man and his dog – or rather, his dog ran into us.

This dog was huge, one of those huge Great Danes – and unleashed. It decided to follow us a short distance before ramming its rather ugly face into my knee.

Keep in mind that the owner found nothing wrong with this and “took offense” – a nice euphemism for what was actually said – when my dad told him to leash his dog.

Needless to say, I was decidedly frightened of the weirdo and his dog.

Yes, both my dad and I reached home safely, and all was well after my jeans were washed, removing any physical trace of the dog and symbolically removing the danger of the dog.

But the entire walk home I was afraid that the dog would come rushing back, baring its teeth, ready to bite.

What really scared me though about this experience was the owner did not seem to care his dog was unleashed, scaring innocent people such as myself.

There is, in fact, a St. Louis City law that, according to stcin.missouri.org, “Dogs must be on a leash whenever they are on a city street, sidewalk, park, or any public area.”

When the owner of the dog “took offense,” he clearly thought he was in the right. Whether he was aware of the leash law is uncertain. I really can't say.

Regardless, this man was breaking the law.

He could not care less about rules and certainly could not care less about others and their safety, or their state of mind for that matter.

Maybe his dog is the friendliest dog in the world, but other people have no way of knowing that.

My own rule about the size of a dog and its corresponding unfriendliness still upholds (sorry, owners of big dogs). However, I have realized that size is not what really matters in situations like these.

No matter the size of a dog, if the owner lets his dog run unleashed, it is against the law and a threat to safety – or, at the very least, a threat to my state of mind.

I just like them better when they are leashed in public. ☹



Maria Massad

Now it's your turn...

“I don't necessarily think that dogs should be allowed to wander the streets, but if they're in parks with owners, [dogs] should be able to run around.”

Erica Eisenberg
Junior

“My family doesn't really believe in the whole leash law thing. We just let our animals roam wherever they please.”

Connor Flood
Junior

VST program should be continued to preserve diversity

Unless the Clayton School District chooses to continue the Voluntary Student Transfer program, no additional city scholars who commute to Clayton will be admitted to study at CHS.

In 2004, CHS students staged a walkout protesting the suggested termination of the Voluntary Student Transfer program. The students took a stand, embodying the passion and principles we are still taught today. The District voted to extend the program in 2008 despite the reductions in state funding for the program. However, the battle is far from over. The program is set to end by the 2013 school year. After this time, unless the program is extended, no new VST students could enter the district.

The VST program was established nearly 30 years ago. It was introduced into the St. Louis public school system by a court order in 1983. In 1999 a settlement was reached making the program voluntary, agreeing that the schools participating would continue accepting new transfer students until the 2008 school year. A five-year extension was approved in 2007.

Clayton participates in the program along with 13 other St. Louis area schools. Within the next two

years the district will once again have to decide whether or not to extend the program.

One of Clayton School Districts guiding principles is as follows:

“We are committed to diversity in our school population because it enriches our lives, mirrors our world, and reflects our future.”

As a school that values diversity, the VST program is a necessity. In 2004 the program came under fire and was terminated in some districts throughout St. Louis. In an editorial issued on Sept. 9, 2004, the St. Louis Post Dispatch discussed the fact that there was still a need for the inter-district school desegregation program.

According to the Post-Dispatch “the need for the city-county desegregation program will disappear when housing in the suburbs is integrated and the schools in the city of St. Louis are excellent.”

In 2004 St. Louis was nowhere near integrated neighborhoods in

the suburbs or excellent schools in the city. We're still not there. There is still the same need for the VST program. And there is still the same moral obligation to providing quality education to children in the city of St. Louis.

Twelve years after the program ends no students from the VST program will remain in the district. The diversity that is supposed to enrich our lives, mirror our world, and reflect our future, will be terminated along with the program.

According to the Voluntary Inter-district Choice Corporation (VICC), “studies completed since 1990 show that in integrated classrooms there is no evidence of academic harm to any student and show benefits to students in math, science, and language arts.”

The past 30 years have been a testimony to the program's capability of being successful. The program tears down educational barriers and provides students with the opportunity to receive a great education.

Death of teammate sparks introspection, appreciation for life

When asked to give words of wisdom, people often say “Live life to the fullest” or “Each time you fall, just get back up” or “Hardships make us strong.” I never really took any of these clichéd sayings seriously because I thought they were just that — cliché.

But looking back on the events of the past month, the only things that come to mind when I try to think of what I have learned are these short adages.

On Wednesday, Feb. 23, one of my friends, a teammate from crew, passed away. My first reaction was shock, then anger, then confusion, and then sadness. That morning I had lost a teammate, a friend, and a sister.

To lose someone so smart, so courageous, so strong, so silly, and so good just didn't seem right. It didn't make sense. A girl who was only 17 years old couldn't get sick and die when she had been healthy enough to come to practice only a month earlier.

The strong bond of my team has held us together and we've supported each other throughout this time. We couldn't look to each other for answers as to why she had died, but we could look to each other for a reason to keep living our lives as normal.

Together, we could look past the hurt and anger and sadness of her death, and remember the memories that she gave us. It was perhaps her passion for life that has had the most lasting effect on us. Everyday she reminded us that life is full of moments and it is up to us to make each

one matter.

And for the moments that she had with us, she did just that. Her strength physically and emotionally held our team together and pushed us to go farther than we believed we could go.

Her death taught us that each instant, each relationship, each journey in life really does count.

Nothing will ever be justifiable for her death, but it is possible to find meaning from lessons that her life brought us.

She was the kind of person that had a personal, truly deep relationship with everyone she knew. And I know that everyone she touched learned something from her, and that no one who met her will ever forget her.

She had an ability to bring intensity and determination into anything she did, but at the same time remember, and remind others, that life is worth enjoying.

So maybe those gimmicky quotes really do teach us something. But it shouldn't take a tragedy to start living by them and understanding them.

Life really is short, and it is up to us to make it matter, to touch the lives of the people around us, and make a difference.

Practice will never be the same without her, but she will always be with us in the boat, urging us to go harder, to live in the moment.

She gave me my team another reason to race our hardest. We have to win for Roshney. ☹



“Her death taught us that each instant, each relationship, each journey in life really does count. Nothing will ever be justifiable for her death, but it is possible to find meaning from lessons that her life brought us.”

Corrections for the February issue:

Our apologies to some of our artists in our February issue who were not given proper credit for some of their artwork:

- On page 1, Dee Luo did the drawing for “Reinventing the AP”;
- On page 5, Helen Wiley created the author project drawing;
- On page 13, Mimi Liu created the military article artwork;
- On page 16, Monica Gierada created the Super Bowl drawing.



the globe

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All content decisions are made by the student editors.

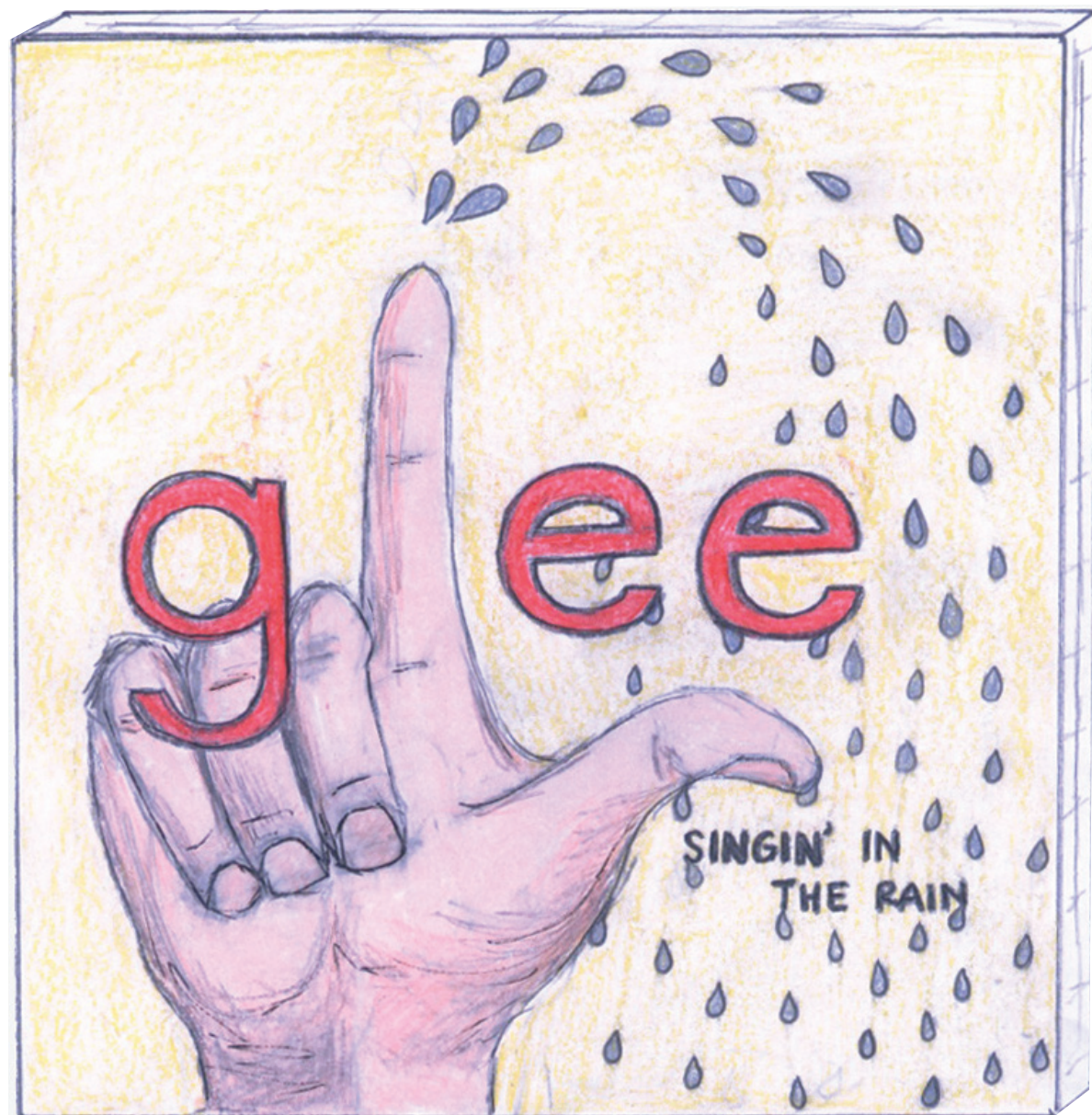
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Some material courtesy of American Society of Newspaper Editors/MCT Campus High School Newspaper Service
Winner of MIPA All-Missouri, NSPA All-American with four marks of distinction, Quill and Scroll Gallup Award, CSPA Silver Crown (2004, 2005, 2009), Pacemaker winner (2003), NSPA Hall of Fame Member (2006)



Taylor Gold

Glee attempts to modernize classics, ruins favorite songs

Since September 2009, "Glee" has become one of the most popular television shows in America.

It has captured audiences nationwide with its exciting plot and fun, musical numbers that give it an interesting twist.

However, even though I will admit "Glee" for the most part has successfully remade many classics, there comes a time where I, as an ex-fan, draw the line.

Remaking songs such their signature song "Don't Stop Believin'" as well as "Somebody to Love" and "Like a Prayer" are perfect songs to do with a large ensemble. I even thought that "What I did for Love" from "A Chorus Line" was appropriate for a large group to sing and it was very well done by the cast.

However, the problem that I have with "Glee" is when they start remaking songs from classic musicals such as "Singin' in the Rain".

Few could forget the original featuring the amazing Gene Kelly and his supporting actors, Donald O'Connor and Debbie Reynolds. That movie for me symbolizes everything that used to be good in the world.

Before, people actually had talent and could sing without the help of recording studios.

The music was also more complex and upbeat, instead of having a club beat or some other sort of techno spin on the song.

Needless to say, because of my obvious love for the classic, when "Glee" mixed "Singin' in the Rain" with "Umbrella" by Rihanna, I felt like the classic had been completely ruined.

First of all, Gwyneth Paltrow, although very talented in her own right, does not have a fraction of the voice that Rihanna has.

Secondly, the fact that "Glee" mixed a current R&B song with a classic song from an iconic musical does not make sense.

Remixing this well-known song takes away from the original impact of it. "Singin' in the Rain" was originally meant to be joyful, as it expressed Don Lockwood's love for his leading lady, Kathy Selden.

It is impossible to sing a song like this to an R&B beat and have it turn out well.

"Glee" did not stop there, however. The show also remade "Make 'Em Laugh" originally performed by Don-

ald O'Connor in "Singin' in the Rain".

This, personally, is one of my favorite numbers in any musical, and no one, not even the talented Matthew Morrison, can remake this song and dance number the way Donald O'Connor did.

Proof of this is on the screen. If you watch the original number and then watch the "Glee" version, you can tell the dancers were so generic they had to use watered down dance moves from the original version of the number, instead of making it their own.

Long story short: It did not make me laugh, nor did it impress me.

Furthermore, it is my firm belief that you cannot touch Gene Kelly or Donald O'Connor or any other icons that they have attempted to imitate.

Trying to do so is only spoiling the classics for younger generations.

Even though some viewers have heard the original songs that the show remakes, a vast majority of the younger viewers have not.

I myself was a Glee last year and the reason I fell in love with Barbra Streisand in "Funny Girl" was because I saw the number to "Don't Rain on my Parade" while watching the first season finale.

However, the younger audiences sees "Glee" remake classic songs from well-known musicals and many are unaware of how great the original versions are.

Even if they did listen and view the original song and dance number, I would bet that a majority would prefer the "Glee" version as opposed to the original because they would consider it too old and dull compared to the upbeat, modern versions that "Glee" is doing.

Overall the younger generation, especially those in middle school, is easily swayed to like what they think is 'cool', and the thing that is 'cool' right now, unfortunately, is "Glee."

Bottom line is that these musicals may be oldies, but they're also goodies. Don't dismiss them simply because they are older or from a different era.

Most people don't understand that their age is part of what makes them so special and unique.

We should embrace the past, not try to modernize it. ☺



Anna Williams

Sponsoring Filipino child helps accepting imperialist past

How should Americans in the 21st Century live with the onus of the imperialistic sins of previous generations? I have been struggling to answer this question repeatedly this year, thinking of it more and more with each passing day in my U.S. history class.

Considering that we are a country that champions freedom and self-government, we have had a surprisingly high, at times insatiable appetite for geographic expansion. The height of this fervor came at the end of the 19th Century, when the United States was in the throes of a mission to augment its territorial holdings in the Pacific.

With a heated debate raging over what to do with the Philippines-- newly acquired from Spain following the Spanish American War-- President William McKinley, while speaking to a group of ministers

visiting the White House, made this confession.

"...The truth is I didn't want the Philippines, and when they came to us as a gift from the gods, I did not know what to do with them...I walked the floor of the White House night after night until midnight; and I am not ashamed to tell you, gentlemen, that I went down on my knees and prayed Almighty God for light and guidance..."

McKinley reasoned that he could not give the Philippines back to Spain nor could he leave its citizens to govern themselves, as he was certain they would fall into anarchy and misrule.

He, therefore, concluded that "there was nothing left for us to do but to take them all and to educate the Filipinos, and uplift and civilize and Christianize them, and by God's grace do the very best we could by

them, as our fellow men for whom Christ also died. And then I went to bed and went to sleep and slept soundly."

McKinley's words continue to astound a century later, serving as a lasting reminder of the arrogance which permeated American foreign policy in the 19th century and still has an influence today.

However, the way in which Americans currently choose to deal with this legacy can define our sense of self. While there is no immediate answer, the best suggestion I've found was inspired by a letter from Analyn F., the mother of a child from the Philippines whom I sponsor through the Christian



Ben Colagiovanni

Required class proves tolerable, worthwhile

While students try to evade Personal Finance, those who take the class find material ultimately applicable to life.

Personal finance - the newest requirement to graduate from high school in the great state of Missouri - is a survey course on general consumer economics. It also is the forty-six minutes that occupies the time formerly known as my lunch period.

From learning how to get a job to building a stock portfolio, the class is supposed to arm students with the tools to confront the "real world."

As soon as I heard of this new requirement I instinctively cringed. I tried everything to get out of that class. Since freshman year I have been talking to the teacher, the counselors, the principals, I even thought about going to the school board.

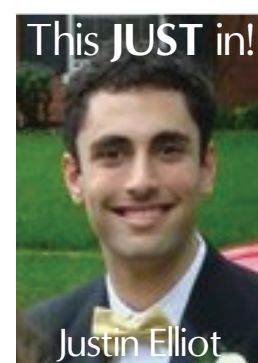
I tried testing out, taking it pass-fail, independent study, correspondence, or online.

I have never spent more time fighting "the man" than I have when trying to avoid this class.

It is hard to say if it was the horror stories of boredom I had heard from peers who had already taken the course, my self proclaimed financial maturity, or the fact that I was being forced to take the class that fueled my fire to get out of personal finance.

Most likely it was a combination of all three that made the perfect medley of utter loathing for the class.

But of course, it was all for nothing. Giving up my second semester senior lunch for personal finance not only signified my complete and utter failure, by the beginning of my demise.



Justin Eliot

On the first day of class I nearly had to be dragged in by all four appendages.

I had already decided that I hated the personal nature of finance and nothing was going to change my mind.

For the first few weeks that is how I approached the class. While never revealing my unwavering hatred for the class, I sat quietly in the room counting the minutes until class was over.

However, between the endless busy work and the mind numbing worksheets, something astonishing happened. I learned something!

I was already well versed in the vast amount of information the class covers - how to write a check, the importance of saving, and how to calculate interest.

Nonetheless, once in a while I came across uncharted territory - the different between a Roth IRA and an IRA, how to endorse a check over to someone else, and how to fill out my tax forms.

As I started noting the items I was learning, I realized that in all honesty the class isn't that bad.

The lectures are tolerable, the homework is basically non-existent and the concepts are easy lifting.

I doubt that I have evaded some kind of catastrophic financial crisis because I have taken this class, but I can say with confidence that because of this class I am a more educated consumer and participant in the American economy.

So yes, I would much rather have my lunch back, but in the end personal finance is not that bad. ☺

Unconventional film proves brilliant, surprisingly enjoyable

"The Room," a film that was a flop when released in 2003, has become a cult favorite despite abysmal quality.

How does a truly terrible film stand out in the sea of (mostly) mediocre to bad films that is modern American cinema? The answer lies in "The Room."

"The Room" is a 2003 film starring, directed by, produced by, and written by one man: Tommy Wiseau. After Wiseau failed to receive any support from the Hollywood system to adapt his play into a film, he raised \$6 million dollars on his own (by means that he refuses to discuss in interviews). The film was, at first, a complete bomb, but went on to reach cult status and earn tens of millions of dollars.

At first, this sounds like the best kind of Hollywood underdog story. That is, until you actually see the film.

Here's the thing: "The Room" is a truly terrible film, of especially bad proportions. In fact, the reason that it has reached such an intense cult level of success is its remarkably bad quality. At any given screening, one will find audiences simultaneously wincing and laughing at any of the film's numerous plot contrivances.

One character bluntly states at the beginning of the film, "I got the results of the test back. I definitely have breast cancer." Her ailment is

never even touched on again. In the absence of actual character development, characters repeat phrases like "he's my best friend" instead of actually acting like best friends. There are also scenes on a random rooftop in an undisclosed location which everyone seems to randomly walk onto at the perfect time to encounter important plot moments. The time between most scenes is filled with a humorously excessive amount of San Francisco b-roll footage.

Sure, "The Room" is funny because of the stilted dialogue, abysmal acting, and truly incomprehensible plot lines, but there's something special about the film that has led me to personally see it four times since I discovered it last spring.

In fact, it is bad in a way that can only be achieved if the filmmaker truly believes that he is making a masterpiece. Wiseau compared "The Room" to the works of Tennessee

Williams during its initial run and, even though Wiseau now claims

that the film is purposefully bad, it's pretty clear that he set out to make a dramatic film that explores the nature of human relationships.

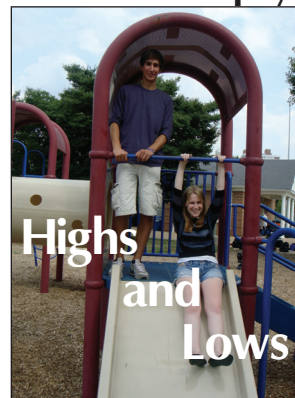
Wiseau is a mysterious figure with an account of unknown origins that sounds as if it is from an Eastern European country. He refuses to

speaking about his age or background in any public context, choosing instead to speak about his eccentricities and in the famously horrible film project.

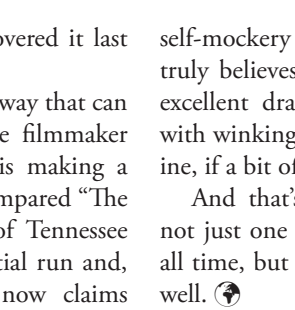
His bizarre personality and sensibilities permeate the film and his truly earnest approach to the making of "The Room" is apparent. There's not an ounce of self-mockery in the film; Wiseau truly believes that he is making an excellent drama. In a world filled with winking irony, Wiseau is genuine, if a bit off-kilter.

And that's why "The Room" is not just one of the worst movies of all time, but one of my favorites, as well. ☺

Dawn Androphy

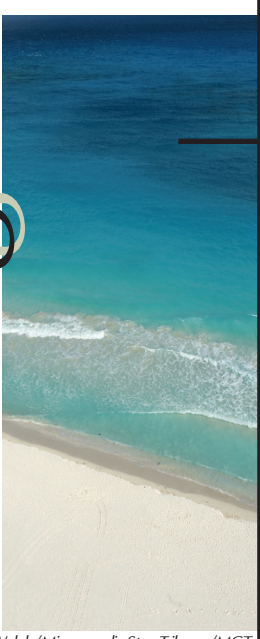


Dawn Androphy



Dawn Androphy

Go Figure



Chris Welch/Minneapolis Star Tribune/MCT

1 number
The number one spring break destination for teenagers last year was Daytona Beach while the second was Cancun. This year, vacations are in demand, with spring break bookings up 25% from last year. However, because of the increased demand and gas price hikes, airline prices have increased 8-13 percent.

7 billion dollars
The annual cost of treating allergies is about \$7 billion, with \$5.7 billion towards medication and \$300 million towards office visits. Interestingly, allergies and hay fever cause four million missed workdays per year, resulting in \$700 million in lost productivity. Allergies are expensive!



Randall Benton/Sacramento Bee/MCT

657.45 females
We spend 90% of our lives indoors. So, by your 18th birthday, you will have spent 142,009.2 hours, or 6,574.5 days, inside a concrete or brick box with various architectural embellishments compared to 15,788.8 hours, or 657.45 days in the great outdoors.



Chris Welch/Minneapolis Star Tribune/MCT

Thumbs Up

- The promise of warm weather
- Botanical Garden flowers
- Four leaf clovers
- March Madness
- Spring break!
- Wearing shorts
- Mardi Gras
- Farmer's market
- Fashion show



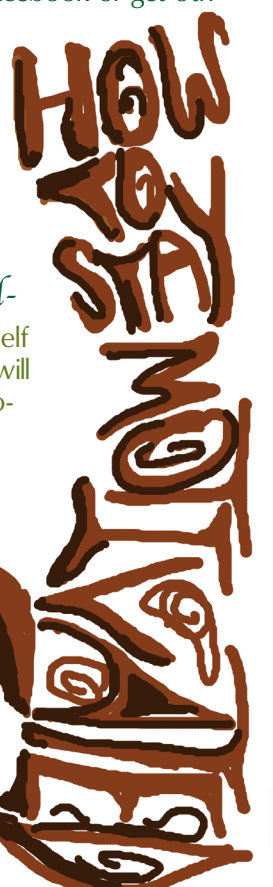
Thumbs Down

- Japanese earthquake/tsunami
- Pollen/allergies
- AP/SAT/ACT testing
- Seniors leaving
- Mowing the lawn
- No spring dance
- Snow in March
- Sweating
- Bee stings

WHAT TO DO DURING SPRING BREAK!!!

- Paint, or attempt to sketch friends and family
- Blow Bubbles and chase them on Art Hill (don't fall into the lake)
- Go to the library and read that book on your book list, or volunteer
- Go to the zoo and see your favorite animals
- Go to the Science Center Planetarium and look at the stars
- Camp outside and look at the real stars
- Go on a family bike ride
- Watch a movie
- Sort through your old toys and have a yard sale
- Clean out your closet
- Weed the garden, but be beware of lawn gnomes
- Draw a treasure map with sidewalk chalk
- Have a picnic!
- Take a hike through urban yards.
- Beware of dogs
- Learn new trampoline tricks
- Dress up as one of your friends
- Have a party!
- Go swimming
- Dance in the car with the sunroof rolled down
- Pick up a hobby from your grandparents
- Repaint the trim, doors, and baseboards of your basement
- Color Disney picture books
- Play Taboo, Apples to Apples, and Catch Phrase
- Go work your quads at Sky Zone
- Play air hockey with strobe lights
- Make a city with your brother's train set
- Make sock puppets and put on a show (then upload them to YouTube)
- Make greeting cards for birthdays, and various other holidays
- Write letters to family
- Conduct a science experiment
- Make a treasure chest and bury it in Forest Park (make sure to leave a map)
- SING!
- Start that novel in your head
- GO ON VACATION!
- Go to a big field and have a water balloon fight
- Build and fly a kite
- Bake delicious treats
- Pretend like you're on a beach in a sandbox and build sand castles that won't be washed over by the sea
- Make the next viral YouTube video
- Call faraway friends and catch up with world events
- Mail postcards from your own home town to out-of-town family
- Visit greenhouse
- Build a boomerang and test it out
- Sew a summer dress
- Make a friendship necklace/bracelet
- Have breakfast for dinner
- Have a citywide capture the flag tournament
- Take a walk, smell the roses
- SHOP!
- Watch home movies, or create home movies
- Watch a sunrise or sunset over the river
- Count the leaves on a budding tree, or watch grass grow and think about the meaning of life
- Update your journal/diary
- Make something with toothpicks or popsicle sticks
- Play Hide-n-seek in the dark
- Have a Karaoke Night
- Rearrange your room according to Feng Shui
- Have a Fiesta (Mexican Night)
- Have a silly string fight, or a mud fight
- Walk everywhere for a day
- Listen to audio books, or create an audio version of your favorite book
- Make dinner for your friends
- Grow a plant from a seed
- Make shadow puppets
- Sing in the spring rains, and splash in all the puddles
- RELAX!

Do NOT go on Facebook. If you have to, add web extensions that allow you block web pages for a designated amount of time. The moment you get home, instead of going online, make a list of all the work you have to have done by tomorrow - the list will either make you realize how much work you have to do, or help you organize your time. **Y**ish the essay or lab report, think about how good you will feel afterwards and compare that good feeling to the stressed panic you are currently in. This will hopefully convince you that doing the homework is worth the pain. Don't think about the dwindling time you have to finish that paper. Try to set an alarm for a certain amount of time, as opposed to constantly checking the clock. Make a big public commitment, like telling your friends you WILL finish, and you'll be more likely to finish it. Create a friendly competition with your friends. Check Powerschool often to remind yourself how important this assignment is to your GPA. Make it a rule never to skip two days in a row. Beware of urges to go check Facebook or get otherwise distracted and prepare for them. Start with homework that is easier, to help ease the transition into more difficult homework. Reward yourself... often, but don't get distracted by the rewards. If you're stumped, be patient and think it through. Or call your friends. Or search the internet. Getting started is the hardest part, so just get started! Don't lie to yourself and convince yourself that the two hour assignment will only take half an hour if you "work really hard." Procrastination comes from the (false) belief that you have the ability to finish the assignment later. Don't procrastinate



Quotes to Grow On

- "We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, therefore, is not an act but a habit." - Aristotle
- "The best way out is always through." - Robert Frost
- "Do not wait to strike till the iron is hot; but make it hot by striking." - William B. Sprague
- "Great spirits have always encountered violent opposition from mediocre minds." - Albert Einstein
- "Whether you think you can or think you can't, you're right." - Henry Ford
- "I know for sure that what we dwell on is who we become." - Oprah Winfrey
- "I've missed more than 9000 shots in my career. I've lost almost 300 games. 26 times, I've been trusted to take the game winning shot and missed. I've failed over and over and over again in my life. And that is why I succeed." - Michael Jordan
- "You must be the change you want to see in the world." - Mahatma Gandhi
- "What you get by achieving your goals is not as important as what you become by achieving your goals." - Goethe
- "You can get everything in life you want if you will just help enough other people get what they want." - Zig Ziglar
- "Desire is the starting point of all achievement, not a hope, not a wish, but a keen pulsating desire which transcends everything." - Napoleon Hill
- "Failure is the condiment that gives success its flavor." - Truman Capote
- "If you keep saying things are going to be bad, you have a chance of being a prophet." - Isaac B. Singer
- "Keep on going and the chances are you will stumble on something, perhaps when you are least expecting it. I have never heard of anyone stumbling on something sitting down." - Charles F. Kettering
- "Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do. throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover." - Mark Twain
- "Experience is what you get when you don't get what you want." - Dan Stanford
- "Setting an example is not the main means of influencing others; it is the only means." - Albert Einstein

The mere mention of s-p-r-i-n-g b-r-e-a-k to our overstressed minds brings up picturesque images of days relaxing in exotic destinations, but rarely do we consider the consequences of lying on the beach, unabashedly soaking up the sun's glorious UV rays. Approximately 95% of the sun's radiation is composed of UVA rays which can cause sunburn, unattractive brown spots, premature wrinkles, and most importantly, sink cancer. The second most common cancer in females aged 15-29 years old is now melanoma, the deadliest form of skin cancer. Therefore, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) suggests beach goers to bring along sunscreen with a sun protective factor (SPF) of 15 or higher and apply it ever two hours and/or after swimming. Be sure to bring plenty of aloe vera (to sooth sunburns) and aspirin (to reduce swelling). Sunburns also dehydrate the body, so make sure to drink plenty of water. Skiers should also bring sunscreen and heavy winter gear because snow easily reflects UV rays. Just remember that it's easier to have fun when your back doesn't feel like its on fire.

Zoom In



Dee Luo

What kind of plant will grow from these roots? Go to <http://www.chsglobe.com/web-site/2011/03/zoom-out-march/> to find out!