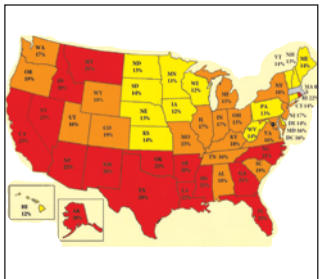




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# the GLOBE

Clayton High School

1 Mark Twain Circle

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## Celebrating a century of accomplishment

The centennial celebration will incorporate a longer Homecoming parade and a new CHS Hall of Fame.

by Ben Colagiovanni  
Reporter

Clayton High School is gearing up for a celebration of its 100th graduating class. There is a full slate of activities scheduled to take place, centered around two central events: Homecoming this fall and Graduation in the spring.

Student Activities Director Mike Nelke said one focal point will be the Homecoming parade.

"We want to get more alumni involved, so we are going to give the opportunity to any class in the last 100 years to have a float in the parade," Nelke said.

Principal Louise Losos anticipates that it could be a very long parade, but feels it will be well worth it.

"We just want to get the alums back because we have great alums," Losos said.

The school has more in store for later on in the year to coincide with the graduation festivities.

"In the spring, Clayton's going to launch a Hall of Fame and we're going to combine that with graduation weekend," Losos said. "We are again going to invite a representative, one person per class, if possible, to participate in graduation as well as invite back principals who have presided over CHS commencements."

In addition to these activities, the PTO is also planning to permanently commemorate this milestone in the form of a new main entrance to the building.

"The PTO came to me last year and wanted to do a big project in conjunction with both the facility building that we're doing as well as the 100th graduation class," Losos said.

Many people mistakenly assume that what is commonly referred to as the Greyhound entrance, the entrance with greyhounds affixed to the wall, which leads to Stuber Gymnasium, is

the main entrance when in fact it is not. So the project entails creating a sculpture to designate the main entrance.

Losos said that, although the design has not been finalized, the idea as it stands is to "have what looks like three to five students holding up a globe that would echo the globe that we have so we would have the Globe entrance, and we would have the Greyhound entrance."

The celebrations commemorate not only the accomplishments of the school but the accomplishments of the community as well since Clayton High School and the city of Clayton are strongly intertwined.

I've learned that money does make a difference in education. I see what we spend on education at work in providing a first rate education for our students.  
Donna Rogers-Beard  
History teacher

Frank Hackmann, parent of four Clayton alumni and member of the Clayton Centennial Committee, emphasizes the relationship between community and school.

"The story of the evolution of the high school in a way is also the story of not only the evolution of Clayton but in some ways the evolution of America," Hackmann said. "If you

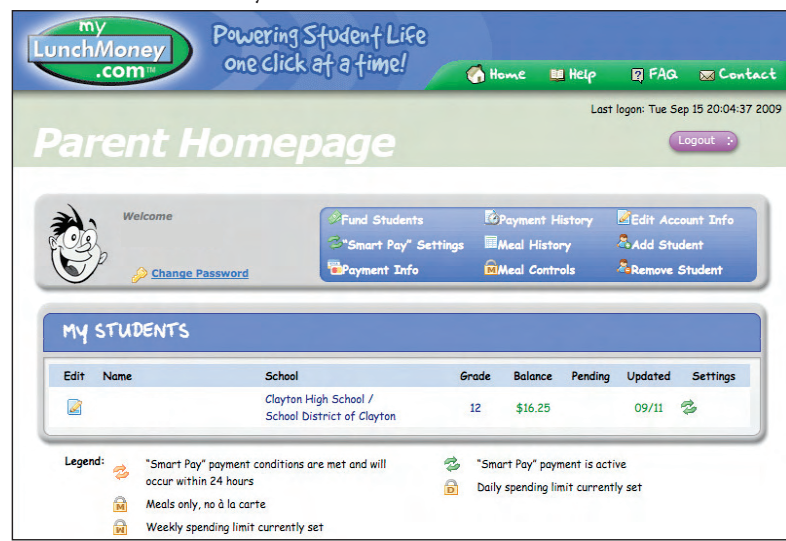
look back and see how many different things are now in Clayton compared to where they were when we started with a high school that was built on somebody's dairy farm, it's just kind of an interesting story."

History teacher Donna Rogers-Beard, who has taught at CHS for 17 years, has witnessed the pivotal role that the community has played in helping to improve the school.

"I've learned that money does make a difference in education," Rogers-Beard said. "I see what we spend on education at work in providing a first rate education for our students."

Rogers-Beard also points out that a community has developed within the school that helps to foster a healthy learning environment.

Centennial celebration  
pg. 8



After logging in at MyLunchMoney.com, parents have a variety of options to control their money spent on food at school.

## Adding money to lunch accounts easier online

by Jack Hodapp  
Reporter

This year Clayton High School has subscribed to a new service, which is intended to make managing students lunch accounts easier. This service is called MyLunchMoney.com.

On the website parents, can reload money onto their children's lunch account. There are also many other features such as allowing parents to set spending limits, control if students can buy ala carte items and get a spending history for the past 7 days.

To use the site, parents create a username and password. Then they must add a credit card which can load money automatically whenever the account is low or load the money manually. All features and services on the website are free of charge.

Money can still be loaded with cash or a check at the register.

"This could really speed up the lunch lines though, that would be great," freshman Hannah Vine said.

Most feedback from the site has been positive. However, a representa-

tives from their customer service department did say that some people did experience their account locking and not being allowed to add more money.

There have also been problems with people using Internet browsers Firefox, Opera, and AOL and they recommend for Mac users to use Safari for the best functionality.

Some students are against the new system though.

"The new online lunch thing seems like way to much of a hassle for a simple task, it's pointless. I don't think I would ever use it," junior Marshall McKinley said.

"It sounds dumb and no one will use it. It's so much easier to walk up and be like 'Hi, I want to put this money on my card'" senior Sonja Petermann said.

There have also been students who think this service could be very helpful.

"I think that it's really cool that you can do that now because then my mom always forgets to write me checks to put money on my card," junior Leah Staenberg said.



INDIAN GUESTS, pg 12  
"They are determined, intelligent and fun to be around. I hope we can work towards a sustainable future, especially in improving water quality because it's fundamentally necessary."

Madeleine Docherty  
Senior



English teacher David Jenkins teaches his sophomore English II class. This is his fourth year teaching at Clayton.

Elizabeth Sikora

## End of Course Exams reaffirm Clayton's overall excellence

by Dawn Androphy  
Editor

Clayton students are accustomed to hearing about CHS's impressive standardized test scores, but just how significant are these scores?

Last year, CHS students earned impressive scores on Missouri's new End of Course Exams (EOC). Students ranked first in St. Louis County in Biology and second in English II. In addition, students also met AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress) goals for both mathematics and communication arts.

One particularly notable success in CHS's test scores was that CHS made AYP in every subgroup. "Subgroups" divide students by income, race, and other factors.

Many schools had very high overall test scores, but failed to meet AYP for some of their subgroups. Despite CHS's overall success, the Clayton District as a whole failed to meet AYP in math for two subgroups.

Principal Louise Losos is pleased with the CHS students' performance on these tests.

"I was excited about our scores because we had no baseline data and we had done nothing special to prepare for them," Losos said. "I mean, our teachers prepared but we had nothing specifically for them. I thought that our students did extremely well across the board and that's very exciting and then we can build on that."

However, in spite of CHS students' success with the format of the EOCs, the structure of these tests is different from what CHS students are used to. CHS English teacher Adam Dunsker noticed that some of his English II students struggled with the format of questions on the test.

"I thought the essay questions were deliberately vague in some cases," Dunsker said. "I imagine they're concerned about struggling students and trying to keep the topic open. I felt like, for our students at Clayton, we would have benefitted from more clear direction."

Despite the difference between CHS assignments and EOC questions, Dunsker believes the Clayton English Department is teaching a strong writing program.

"I think that students did really well," Dunsker said. "The biggest issue was just those moments of hesitation for students getting started. Our writing program is very strong; our students do well on the test."

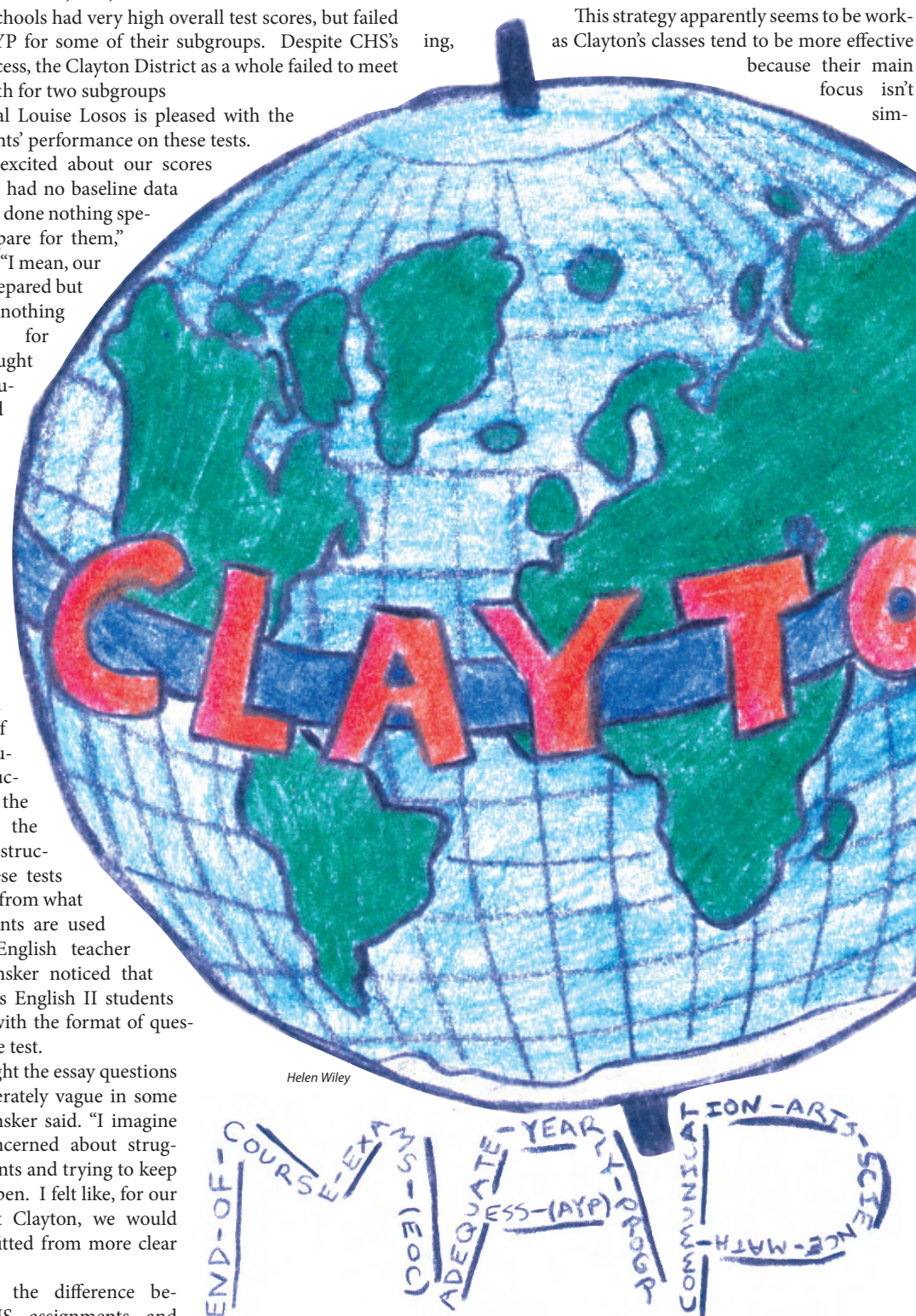
Dunsker also stands behind the curriculum's ability to prepare students for college in a way not demonstrated on EOC Exams.

"I think that we do a good job of letting students know what skills they need, and I think that we, as teachers, try to do a good job of clarifying the skills that we expect to see," Dunsker said. "I feel like the test, by acting as though the question was wide open, gave the students a task that doesn't seem to match our expectations of what students need when they get into college and beyond."

Losos also stands behind Clayton's policy of placing learning as the highest priority with regards to the curriculum.

"There are districts that plan their curriculum around the MAP test, now End of Course Exams," Losos said. "And schools like Clayton, which try to find the best possible curriculum and believe that our students will do well as a result."

This strategy apparently seems to be working, as Clayton's classes tend to be more effective because their main focus isn't sim-



Helen Wiley

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# 'Citygarden' offers pleasing attraction amidst urban setting

by **Jocelyn Lee**  
Reporter

The sign in the center of two blocks of green space reads, "Citygarden is open and free to all."

This statement couldn't be truer, as the new sculpture garden is accessible to any pedestrian. No fences or gates are to be seen, other than the barriers preventing cars from driving in the street between the two blocks.

First open to the public at the beginning of July, Citygarden is located along the stretch of land, known as the Gateway Mall, which is in front of the St. Louis Arch. Citygarden is a project by the City of St. Louis in collaboration with the Gateway Foundation, a St. Louis-based, non-profit organization. It contains 24 pieces of modern sculpture, water installations, a café called Terrace View, and various plants and trees native to the region. Surrounded by corporate office buildings, this small green strip has often been called an oasis.

Barbara Geisman, Deputy Mayor for Development in the City of St. Louis, said the garden was designed to attract all types of people. With sculpture by widely recognized artists such as Keith Haring, Fernand Leger, and Mark di Suvero, and a fountain plaza in which the young at heart can play, Citygarden is rich in both its art and its atmosphere.

"Its purpose is to provide a quality open space downtown that everyone can enjoy on a number of different levels," Geisman said. "There's people down there who like the sculpture and the various art that is down there. There's kids down there who could care less about the sculpture and the art — they love the fountains. There's people there eating their lunch that work in downtown offices who just want to get outside."

For an urban garden, Citygarden is quite unique. "It's the only free and completely accessible sculpture garden in the heart of an American city's downtown," said Paul Wagman, Senior Vice President and Partner at Fleishman-Hillard International Communications and spokesman for the Gateway Foundation. "Dallas and Seattle have downtown sculpture gardens, but the Dallas garden is fenced and charges admission. The Seattle garden is free, but on the edge of downtown."

The landscaping of the garden is also distinctive. Designed with the area's history, wildlife, and great rivers in mind, Citygarden is uniquely St. Louis.

"It's cleverly landscaped to feel much bigger, and landscaped with the state of Missouri as the theme," Clayton High School art teacher Cate Dolan said.

It seems as if this "oasis" is bringing some much needed freshness to the downtown area.

"The Gateway Mall has been in kind of decrepit disarray for a long time," Geisman said. "Before the Citygarden was

done, I don't think anybody would call the Gateway Mall an attractive place."

In 2006, Mayor Francis Slay and the Gateway Foundation agreed to begin developing a sculpture garden in the two blocks between Eighth and Tenth Streets and Market and Chestnut Streets. The Gateway Foundation offered to provide the funding for the project, while the city owns the land.

Three years later, the garden is in full swing, and Geisman now has high hopes for the rest of the Gateway Mall.

"The idea is now that we've got this sort of signature project that sets a great standard for quality and function, that we want to be able to move further west and get the whole Mall to be, not the same as the Citygarden, but equally vibrant, equally attractive, equally activated," Geisman said.

Part of the reason why Geisman and the rest of the city can look so eagerly to the future is the success Citygarden has had so far.

**“The garden is clearly appealing to a very broad cross-section of the public which is exactly what its designers had hoped.**

**Paul Wagman**  
Spokesman for the Gateway Foundation

"One of the neatest things about it is that it's attracting far more people — and far more kinds of people — than anyone ever dreamed possible," Geisman said.

Wagman seems equally pleased by the reactions Citygarden has brought about. He said that he visited the garden one Saturday afternoon when the Cardinals were not playing. In the past, the downtown area has been significantly less crowded on days without a ballgame, so he was surprised by the size, as well as the ethnic diversity of the crowd.

"All seemed to be having a wonderful time — strolling, posing for pictures, frolicking in the water, picnicking, having lunch at the Terrace View café," he

said. "The garden is clearly appealing to a very broad cross-section of the public, which is exactly what its designers had hoped."

Citygarden has received a great deal of local praise, as well as national publicity.

"It got a great review from the New York Times, and it has received great reviews from a lot of the downtown businesses and it has kind of energized them," Geisman said. "And people from as far away as Chicago have said that it is as good as Millennium Park."

Dolan says Citygarden is a playful, yet sophisticated place, and she recommends CHS students visit.

"It's a great place for kids to go to with friends or even on a date," Dolan said.

Geisman also encourages students to go to the garden, as well to the downtown area, in general.

"Downtown is the center of the region, it's the region's image," Geisman said. "When people think of St. Louis, they think of the Gateway Arch. And we'd like everyone to experience not just the wonderful, new Citygarden, but all the other aspects of downtown that make it a vibrant and exciting place." ☺



Photos by Seth Lewis

**ABOVE: Fountains at the Citygarden, which is located in downtown St. Louis close to the Gateway Arch**  
**BELOW: One of 24 pieces of sculpture at Citygarden. The garden was designed to provide a setting that visitors of all ages can enjoy, and it is serving its purpose with its popularity among numerous people.**



## Ban on texting while driving causes concern, controversy

by **Kara Kratcha**  
Editor

In an age where constant communication is commonplace, it should come as no surprise that many drivers feel compelled to keep in contact by texting. However, the practice of texting while driving has indeed become dangerous for the person doing so and the drivers and pedestrians surrounding.

On Aug 21, a Missouri law prohibiting people under the age of 21 from texting while driving went into effect. The law is intended to protect young drivers from the distraction using a texting device provides on the road.

Offenders against the new law will be pulled over and issued a ticket or a warning. However, because the law is so new, convention has not been set.

"It really depends upon whatever the judge decides at the time," Officer John Zlatic said.

Since cell phones and other texting devices are so small, police often have trouble catching drivers in the act of texting, a difficulty similar to the enforcement of seatbelt laws.

"If I saw someone texting, then I would pull them over," Zlatic said. "If there is a complain, then we can investigate further in their phone. We need a reason to suspect a driver has been texting to search them, though."

Originally, the law was supposed to apply to all drivers, but somewhere in the process of lawmaking an age restriction was added.

Zlatic expressed some concern about that facet of the law.

"Anything to do with driving should incorporate all driv-

**“Anything to do with driving should incorporate all drivers. I would have made it universal.**

**John Zlatic**  
School Resource Officer

ers," he said. "I would have made it universal. Anyone driving a car would not be able to text."

Criminal investigator and driving instructor Geno Dokes agreed, pointing out that while younger drivers have less experience on the road, adults are not usually expert texters.

"I think [the law] should be for all people," Dokes said. "In my opinion, teenagers text a lot faster than adults. There are pros and cons to both age groups, so I think it should apply to both ages. I think anyone using cell phones is very inattentive."

Even those under the law's jurisdiction support what it is trying to achieve: safety.

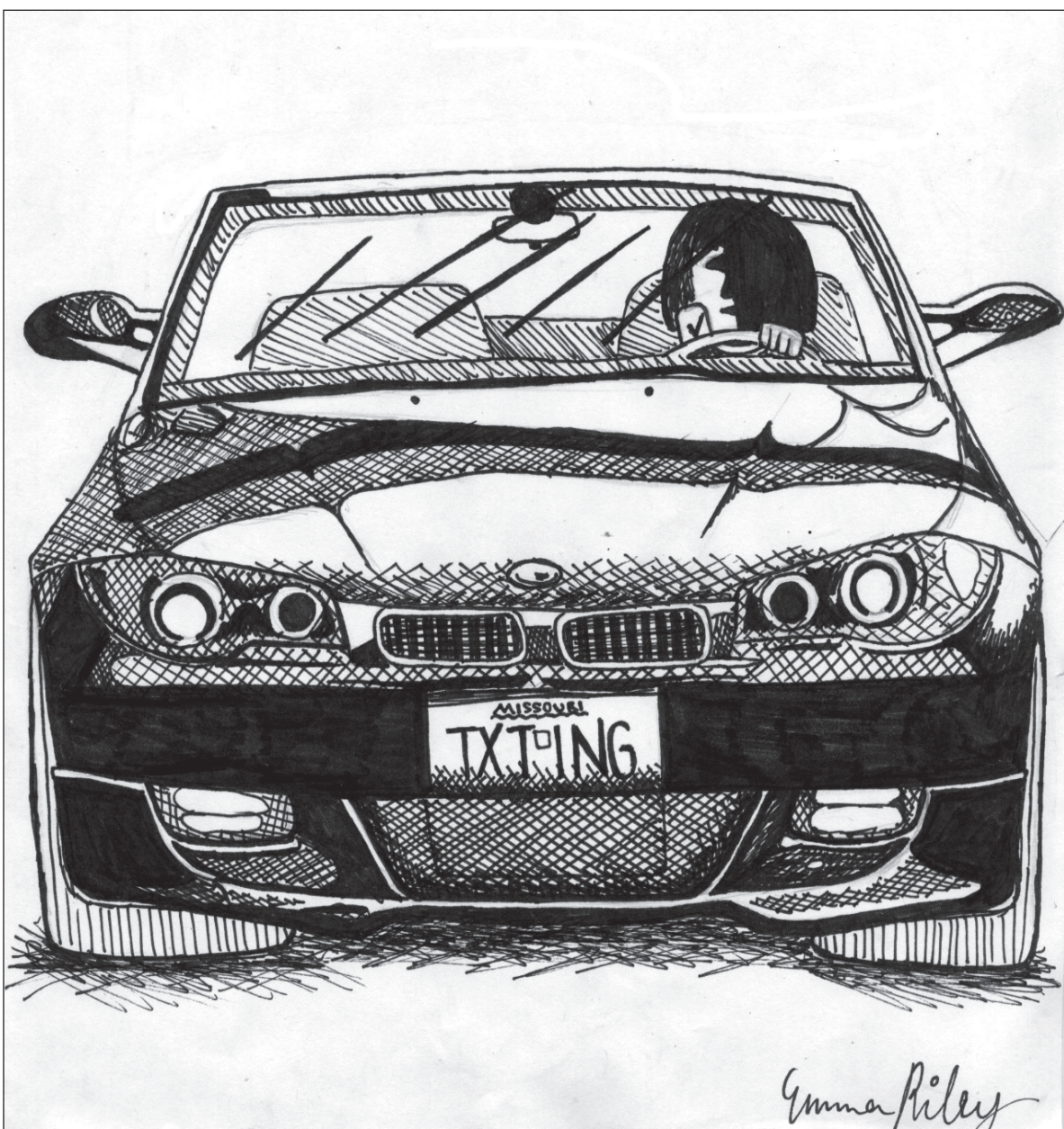
"Not only is it really dangerous to make calls while driving, it's so much worse to text," junior Kelsey McFarland said. "I tried doing it once or twice and I almost switched lanes without meaning to. Texting while driving is just really, really stupid."

Zlatic said that another problem with the law is how hard it is to collect data on its effectiveness.

"When you're only doing a small group, it's going to taint statistics," Zlatic said. "It's going to be very hard to collect statistics because the law only applies to a certain age group."

Although the law is a step in the right direction, Zlatic believes that without universal enforcement, the texting while driving law cannot keep the roads completely safe. Whether or not a driver falls under the ban on texting while driving, everyone can still keep the roads safe for everyone by staying focused on the road.

"I don't see a decrease [in accidents] right now," Zlatic said. "I think part of the problem is that it's not universal. I just wish there was a better way to enforce it. There's a fatal flaw when something only applies to one group." ☺



## Driving instructor teaches students safety

by **Max Diekneite**  
Reporter

Most people have probably never asked their driving instructor anything about their lives outside of the car. However, the job of a driving instructor is not a very common one.

Many driving instructors choose to add this job to their already busy schedules to make ends meet. Others do it just for fun. Geno Dokes, co-founder of Excel Driving Company, on the other hand, started giving driving lessons because of his experiences being a patrol officer and a criminal investigator.

"I'm a criminal investigator," Dokes said. "I work out of the public defense office, so I see everything from murder, many times caused by careless driving, to robbery. We fight for second chances on people we believe deserve it."

One might wonder why anyone would want to go through hours of teaching simple driving techniques to teenagers.

"I do it because when I was on the force, I saw a lot of stupid accidents due to people not being defensive drivers, so I decided to start doing free lessons set up by the station for those who could not afford regular driving lessons," Dokes said. "When I became a criminal investigator, my longtime

partner on the force, John Young, and I decided to start a Drivers-Ed business."

Dokes is very passionate about his instructing. "After seeing some crazy things happen on the road, I really love the opportunity to teach kids how to do it the right way," he said. "I have never had a student who didn't get their license, and I am very proud of that. If I can keep one less accident from happening by putting better drivers on the road, then I feel I have done my part."

Many of the kids he teaches could well represent Clayton High School students.

"I typically work with 15 to 16 year olds," Dokes said. "Typically the guys like to speed and the girls seem to be on their phones constantly, which I don't allow."

"I really like to text on my phone in the car, and he told me from the beginning that it was not okay with him," Katie Krause, a former student of Dokes said. "Looking back on it now, I completely understand why. There are already too many distractions on the road," she added.

Dokes' passion for instructing comes from the results he sees from his students. "My favorite part of being a driving instructor is that I can keep fatal mistakes that I have seen so often from happening in the future," he said. ☺

## Statistics on texting while driving (taken from Progressive Auto Insurance web site):

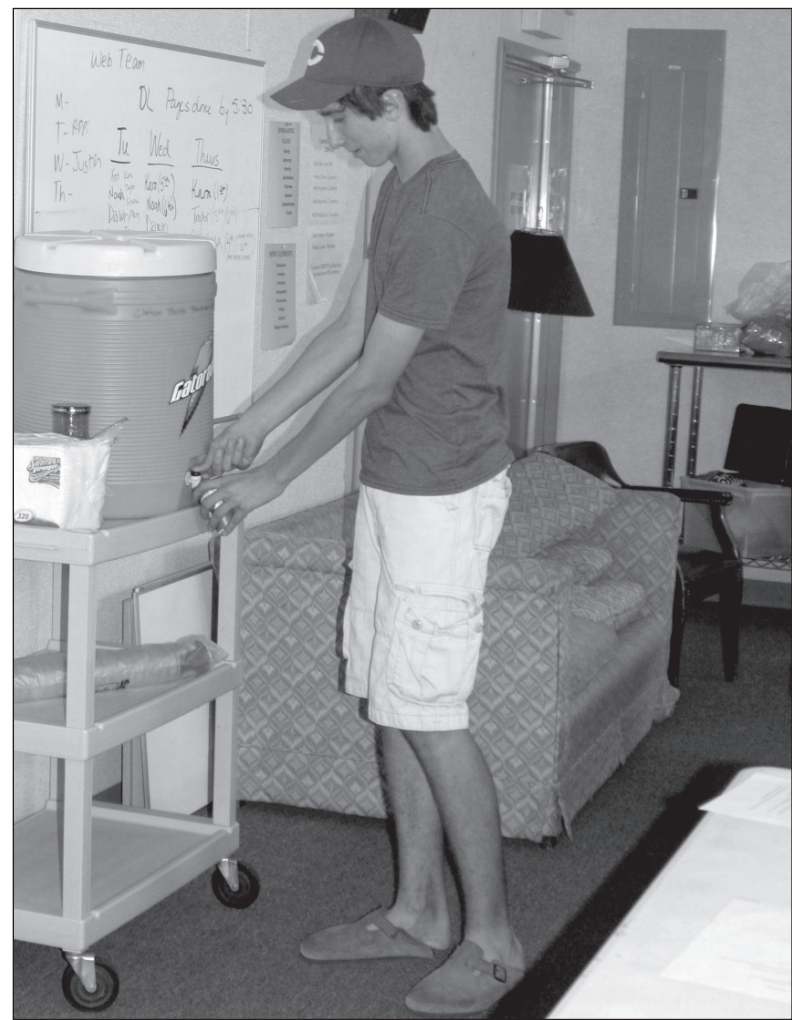
- Reaction times slowed by 35 percent when teenagers were writing or reading text messages.

- Steering control worsened by 91 percent for those who were distracted by texts.

- Texters had a harder time maintaining safe distances from other cars, and they drifted out of their lanes more often.



Staff Photo



Staff Photo

ABOVE: Students participate in *Managing Your Financial Future*, a class that has been relocated to one of the classroom annexes. TOP RIGHT: Outside view of the classroom annexes. BOTTOM RIGHT: Sophomore Noah Eby uses a water cooler located in one of the school's classroom annexes.

## Students, teachers adjust to classroom annexes

by Jacqueline Leong  
Editor

Anyone currently at CHS knows that there's something big in store with the new construction project. The changes begin in the schedules of those with business, journalism, and sewing classes, to name a few. The seemingly foreign new classrooms—the "classroom annexes"—may have been confusing at first, but students have taken the change in stride.

Don't be fooled—those "annexes" are really just the two double-wide trailers situated neatly behind the math office and serve as replacements for the cottage classrooms that will be torn down later this fall.

Nostalgic as she is about seeing the cottage go, journalism teacher Christine Stricker admits that the trailers do have their pros:

"We are pretty much set here in the trailers," Stricker said. "They're pretty nice—you can hear every step you take—it's spacious. The kids aren't quite on top of each other anymore."

The opinion on space is undisputed: the trailers are roomy, especially for the newspaper, yearbook, and broadcast news classes.

"Everybody loves the cottage," Stricker said. "It's become a home away from home for many students, but it's just not equipped for what we do."

Regarding technology, Stricker said her new classroom is set up well. But, she added, it's still not "ideal" for broadcasting purposes. It's just one step up from the cottage.

There have, of course, been sacrifices. With the cottage scheduled for demolition, CHS effectively has no kitchens.

"The downside was that we had to put cooking on hiatus for two years," said assistant principal Marci Pieper. "[But] it's worth the wait."

FACS teacher Linda Williams, who used to teach cooking, agrees.

"There's an upside and downside," Williams said. "I really like the cottage, it was very unique. But the old kitchens were estimated to have been 55 to 60 years old."

Williams added that the new facilities will allow for a "completely reorganized" way of teaching both her cooking and wardrobe classes.

"I think it's very sad [for cooking to] be gone two years, but there's no alternative," she said. "There's a whole group of kids I'll miss."

Many students wait until junior and senior year to fulfill their required Career and Technology Education classes. But, for the next two years, rising juniors and seniors won't have the choice of cooking classes to complete these.

Like Williams, most teachers transferred to the annexes are not worried about the spaces themselves, but rather the students. Fortunately, the assimilation of the annexes into student life was generally smooth after day one. The trailers, though difficult to find at first, are situated so close to the cottage itself that a walk to class is not very different than it used to be.

"I personally helped a half-dozen people the first day," associate principal Dan Gutchewsky said. "We made a point of putting up a lot of signage."

Though the adaptation was easy enough on the students' end, the moving-in process was slightly more difficult. For Pieper, the biggest disappointment was that the moving process took longer than she originally thought, causing the classrooms' set-up to still be in progress on the first day. Fortunately, the transfer was finished in a matter of days.

"The custodial staff did a great job," Pieper said. "There was little disruption."

For Stricker, being "three different people"—a teacher, mover, and organizer—was "a lot to deal with." In the end, she managed to set everything up by keeping it at a bare minimum.

"[Moving in] was rough," Stricker said, "but the kids adapted fine. We're living more simply—getting ready to move again."

Whatever the fine-tuning and adjustments made now might be, many teachers are optimistic about the thought that, two years down the road, there will be brand-new science, world language, and journalism facilities,

among other things.

"The architects tell us it's going to be two years and no less," Stricker said. "No one knows everything now, so we'll just have to go with the flow. But I'm really excited about the new building. At least Broadcast [GNN] will benefit. We'll have a studio and control room, so we can do live shows."

But to get to that goal, some things must be forgone for the moment, and others endured, such as the trailers, which both Principal Louise Losos and Williams view as "a necessary evil."

"It's life," Losos said. "They're really pretty good; I wouldn't want them for longer, but they'll be acceptable for a couple years."

Williams has another thing to look

forward to, of course: the relaunch of the cooking program. Right now, when not teaching wardrobe classes, she additionally helps out with personal finance classes instead of cooking.

"I miss teaching my courses," she said. "But I don't mind... It's not a lifetime."

The bottom line? Trailers might not be the ideal setting for a classroom. But endure it now, be patient, and get rewarded later. If all goes well and on schedule, in two years a new-and-improved CHS will be unveiled.

"I've seen the timetable, and [the architects] have been very cognizant of our needs," said Gutchewsky. "Hopefully, Fall 2011 will be up and running at full blast." ☺

## 24-Hour Musical cancelled again

Despite student efforts, scheduling difficulties made it hard for the Drama department to schedule the event.

by Laura Bleeker  
Editor

The Arts Fair, Homecoming and the Fall Play are all events that bring the CHS community closer together. They are times when students can bond with their peers, and learn something new about themselves and others. These valuable moments are not forced onto the students by teachers, but because the students willingly come together.

The Performing Arts Department at CHS has always been a strong center of student-oriented extra-curricular events. They host the fall play, spring musical, Student Run Musical, Jazz Band, Show Choir and, in past years, the 24-hour Musical.

The 24-hour Musical was a tradition first started four years ago and was an immediate hit for the performing arts. But, for the past two years the musical hasn't happened.

"Last year we did not have enough students sign up for it," Theater Director Kelley Ryan said. "Really, it's a pretty big event, and we have to have at least 80-100 kids to do it well, and it's a lot of time and effort on everybody's part."

Last year the Musical was cancelled due to lack of interest in the student body, but this year there just was not enough time.

"It has been a problem of interest historically," junior Ian Miller said. "Last year it didn't happen because of lack of interest. This year we didn't even have a chance to publicize it because we couldn't get a date for it."

Although the Musical only takes 24-hours, it was difficult to find a time where there wasn't a conflicting event. Because it takes such a large part of the school to put it together, the Musical has to be scheduled a time when everyone is free.

"It's also difficult to find time in the schedule," Ryan said. "Because there's hardly a time where the theater's not being used or we don't have a football game where all the musicians are gone."

Miller and junior Sarah McAfee were planning on running the 24-hour Musical this year. They both had great experiences of the event from their freshman year and wanted to share it with the rest of the student body.

"I wanted to co-run the 24-hour this year for a couple of reasons," McAfee said. "For one thing, Ian Miller wanted to run it as well, and we've known each other for so long, I felt like we'd be able to come up with some fun ideas together. Secondly, I had so much fun doing it freshman year, and it fell through last year, that I wanted to be able to make an environment that was welcoming and make sure it was fun for



Globe Archives

Students in the 2007 24-Hour Musical rehearse their work. Students Ian Miller and Sarah McAfee hope to repeat the experience.

It's first year was probably the best. It's kind of gone downhill since then, but hopefully we can revive it.

Ian Miller  
Junior

everybody."

In the past, the Musical has been extremely successful. The theater department hopes to bring it back better than ever.

"Its first year was probably the best," Miller said. "It's kind of gone downhill since then, but hopefully we can revive it."

The theater department is hosting smaller activities and shows to replace the 24-hour Musical this year. These smaller events don't require such a large amount of time and were much easier to schedule around the master calendar.

"We're planning on replacing [the 24-hour Musical] by

doing a series of Friday activities nights and improv nights," Miller said.

The 24-hour Musical allows students who usually aren't in a musical or play to get involved with drama. Students can make a production in 24-hours instead of six weeks. It also allows them to step out of their comfort zone, if they choose to do so.

"It gives you the chance to work with people your own age in settings where you'd normally be directed by an adult who's had more years of experience," McAfee said.

The benefits students receive from the production are enormous. They share lasting memories and experiences, and the musical ties the students together.

"It's a great kind of team building project that gets kids working together creatively in a real way with end results and an audience," Ryan said. "It doesn't work as a teacher driven event; it has to be student driven." ☺

## The Globe Online makes its debut

by Bianca Vannucci  
Reporter

The Globe, which has been in publication since 1919, has finally caught up with the modern times. Readers can now find the Globe online at [www.chsglobe.com](http://www.chsglobe.com). The Web site blends different types of media, including audio, video, and a variety of images with the collaboration of GNN and CHS's literary journal, "The Works." In addition to the newly implemented variety, CHS Globe Online will be able to report all sizes of sports matches as well as breaking news around CHS. Yearbook and GNN instructor Christine Stricker defines the new Web site as the "one Web site for all CHS news." As soon as GNN gets going, GNN web manager Chelsia Watson-Lovelace will oversee the GNN elements of the Web site. Stricker aims for there to be a featured video to watch in order to connect the different forms of media. Creating the Web site involved both hard work and motivation. This summer, while many students slept or vacationed, Globe editors and the Globe Web team worked together to make the Web site happen. Lord of the Web Chi Zeng and Globe editor and web team member Apoorva Sharma were a huge part of this project. Zeng was in charge of the underlying framework of the site, while Sharma helped in organizing and styling the content of the pages. "Over the summer, a team of webbies and I set up the site with a popular content management system that many newspapers use called WordPress," Zeng said. "I sort of got the ball rolling in terms of setting up the site's basic infrastructure and functionality, and then others pitched in with design, putting in specifics, and adding new features." The duty of keeping the Web site going is no easy task. "We now have about five people working on the Globe site," Zeng said. "We are continuing to find better ways to further the Globe's mission online more effectively. As I said, it is definitely a work in progress, so any ideas and suggestions would be greatly appreciated."

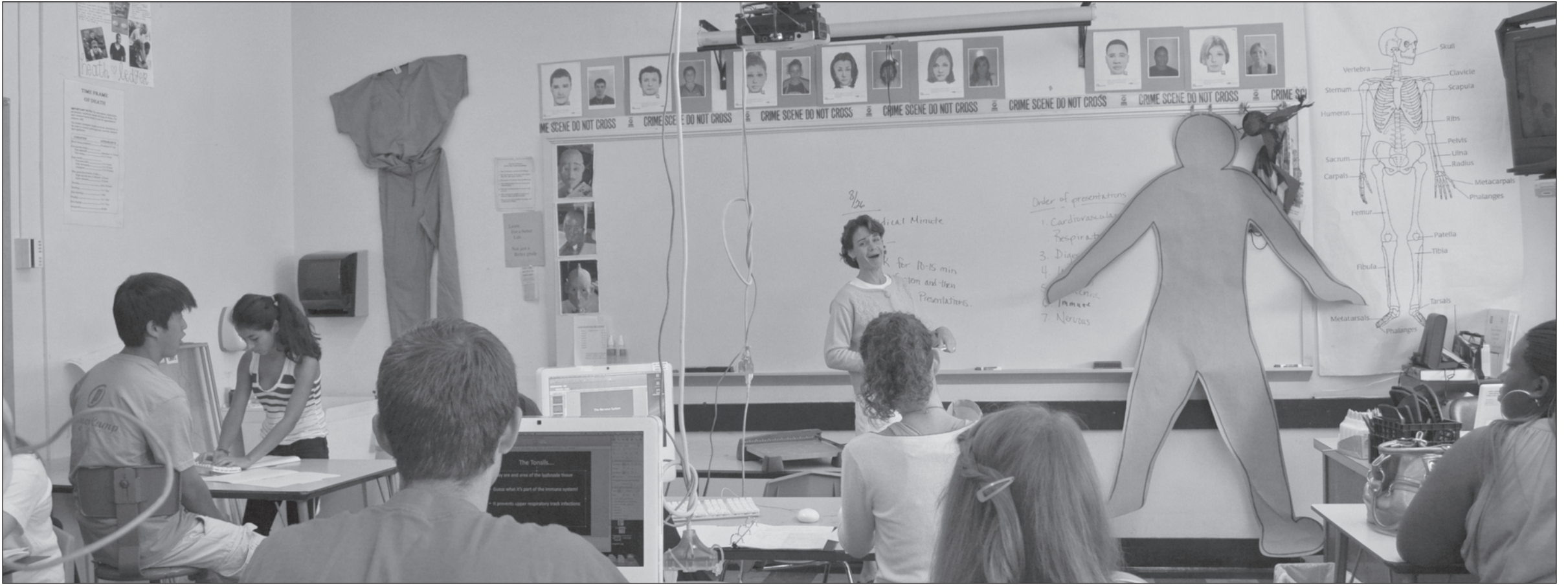
The Web site will allow readers to comment on stories, therefore easily expressing their own opinion. The Globe web team believes this will be an advantage of the site. "I'm really excited about all the possibilities that are available through the web medium, as it allows for interaction between the author and the reader," Sharma said.

"I think," sophomore class president Drake Pinkston said, "Globe going online is an example of the change going between our generation and our parents generation."

Particularly Tech savvy parents "can proudly see their sons' and daughters' articles published on a Web site for the world to see," Zeng said.

The goal of Globe going online, like so many modern newspapers, is to be able to more timely with subjects that readers might be interested in. By writing shorter, more accessible stories, The Globe will be able to cover current stories better and Freshman and JV sports teams will now be able to get the coverage they deserve.

CHS Globe Online is up and running right now. ☺



Biomedical engineering teacher Heather Jacus lectures her class, which includes upperclassmen in addition to underclassmen. The students are generally positive about their experiences in this new class.

Tom Haslam

# Medical Mysteries

The new biomedical class provides students with unique opportunities to examine real-life medical emergencies and scenarios.

by Maria Massad  
Reporter

If Forensic Science is like "CSI," then the new biomedical science class is like "House."

Biomedical science classes are a new addition to the science curriculum at Clayton High School this year. These classes are available as an elective credit for any student interested. The class helps anyone planning to major in health care fields prepare for college courses.

In the biomedical, or biomed, science class, students learn about the application of human medicine. As the years progress, new additions to this course of study will be added.

The science department plans on adding one class a year until there are four classes in this course of study.

"We're planning to develop a sequence of courses that build on each other," head of science department Mike Howe said. "The first course is being taught right now. The second course is Human Body Systems, and the third is called Medical Interventions. Ideally, there would be a fourth course in science research."

Heather Jacus teaches the biomed class.

"In Human Body Systems, students learn about anatomy and physiology," Jacus said. "It's neat because at the end of the course, the student picks a disease or disorder, explains the tests needed to diagnose the disease, and then plans a course of treatment. This class will be available next year."

However, these classes will not be required for students. It is available as an elective credit for any student interested.

"Biomed isn't designed to replace the science curriculum; the classes are designed to complement it," Howe said.

The class is based around a character named Anna Garcia. The students discover many things about biology and medicine.

"We look at Anna Garcia, and we found that she has diabetes," Jacus said. "She also has sickle cell disease, heart disease, and a bacterial infection. We study the heart. We also study genetics, metabolism, viruses, and bacteria."

A typical class includes looking up different medicines to discover why the patient died. Many students have joined the class this year. Currently, there are 19 students in one class

and 20 students in the other. Since each class can only hold 20 students, the classes are nearly full.

Although there are only two freshmen currently enrolled in the class, students have shown a big interest for the new course. The biomed class helps students prepare for college classes centered around health care as well, although anyone may take the class.

"It's a great class for anyone who is curious or likes to solve mysteries, but it does have a big emphasis on biology," Jacus said. "Most of the kids in there want to be in the health care field, and they wanted to learn about that field in a new, interesting way."

Sophomore Katie Lefton, who takes the class, thinks that any one with a queasy stomach should probably not take the class.

Howe expressed the same idea as Jacus.

"Although it is a college prep curriculum, I wouldn't expect any business majors to be in it," Howe said.

Lefton, for example, took the class because she plans to become either a doctor or veterinarian. She also is in the

class because she has an interest in anatomy.

"The class is set up around solving real world problems," Lefton said. "It's different from my other classes because you can apply what you learn to real life situations, whereas in other classes, you're kind of like, 'When am I going to use that? Ever?'"

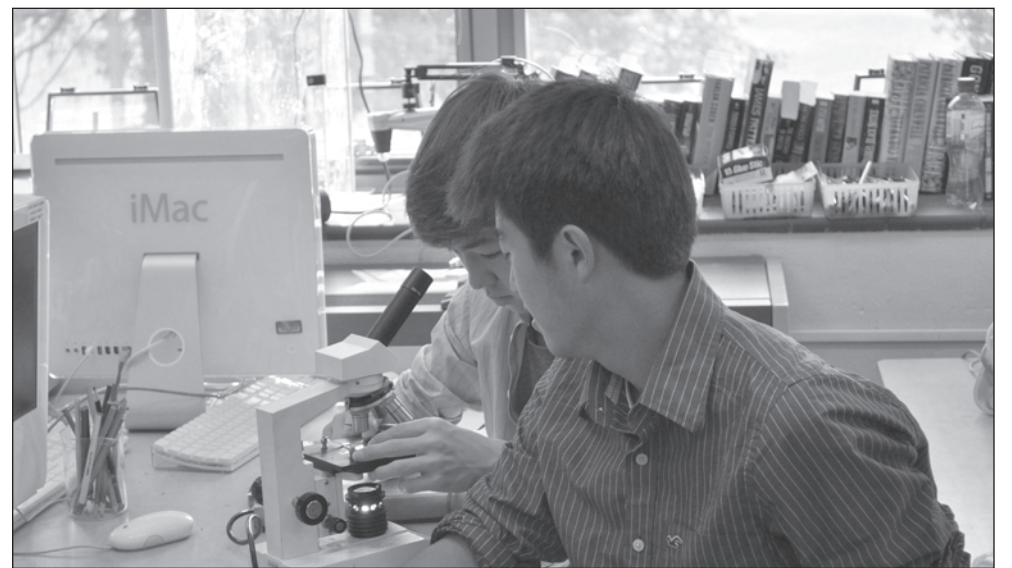
In order to make the class seem as realistic as possible, Jacus often uses the mannequin, or victim, outside room 201 to help them visualize the situation.

"It's very helpful for me to be able to visualize the scene," Lefton said. "The victim and the representation give you clues that you sometimes don't have on your paper. That's useful when I solve the medical mysteries."

But not only does Lefton find it useful, she also finds the mannequin, or victim, funny.

"It's kind of funny, though, because it's split in half and has no fingers," Lefton also liked the comparison of the class being like "House."

"Of course, the teacher doesn't yell at us like Dr. House," Lefton said. ☺



Sophomores Jake Lee and Jack Holds examine a specimen under a microscope in their biomed class.

Tom Haslam



Herr Cody teaches a German course via videoconference from his farm in Michigan. Students enjoy the new format for classes.

Anna Duranowski

## German videoconferenced classes a success

by Philip Zhang  
Reporter

On a normal school day, students who pass by Room 106 during second or third hour can't help but to wonder where the teacher is.

Long-time German teacher, Glenn Cody, is conducting the German IV and AP German classes by videoconference from Stephenson, Michigan this year.

After Cody announced his retirement last year, the school district was unable to find a new German teacher. Students who take German wished to finish their studies. As a result, Cody accepted the offer to teach German through videoconference from a studio near his home in Stephenson, Michigan.

"It is working as well as [the] other classes," said Christine Stricker, who works with the second hour class.

With the newly purchased Polycom Videoconferencing Unit, students in the German classes are able to interact with Herr Cody as if he were in the classroom. Software installed in Herr Cody's computer in Michigan allows

him to control the camera in Room 106. Students in the classroom can see Herr Cody on the Smart Board, where he writes notes, shows PowerPoint presentations, and even plays Jeopardy.

"Videoconference technology has been used in Clayton for a long time," technology operator Cathleen Fogarty said.

Fogarty has been given a lot of technical support to the German classes, but it has not been a main component of class curriculum.

"It was mostly used as enrichment," Fogarty said.

Fogarty noted that this is the first time that classes are solely taught through videoconference. For senior Jordan Stern, the new teaching environment has changed his perspective on what a class should be like.

"Before this class, I never imagined that a class could be taught without the presence of a teacher," Stern said. "Now I am convinced that classes can be taught effectively through many different ways."

Stern has been taking German since his freshmen year. Because of this new environment, Stern stated that he feels

more motivated to learn this year than any of his previous years.

The new teaching environment gives motivation and excitement to junior Traci Clapper as well.

"I was so excited last year when I found out that the class will be taught through videoconference," Clapper said. "This year, I am just excited to come to German class every day."

Cody was in the classes through out the first week of school. He began teaching through videoconference the second week. The transition was very smooth according to sophomore Nikki Tomova.

"At first I felt really surprised to see Herr Cody on the screen instead of in the classroom," Tomova said. "After a couple of minutes, I was already used to it."

Other than the success in the classroom, the technical support team and Cody are trying to keep internet interference as low as possible in the future. Although further improvement to the videoconference unit takes hard work, the class has benefited significantly.

"It is definitely worth it for students that are involved," Fogarty said. ☺

## Science classes cope with room shortage

by Martha Burke  
Reporter

During first hour, one could probably find chemistry teacher Sarah Falkoff in room 203 with her chemistry class. However, the next day Falkoff would be at the other end of the science hall in room 212. Like several science teachers Falkoff switches between multiple classrooms daily.

"I can never remember which room I'm in because I'm too busy thinking about if I have all the work for the class," one of Falkoff's first hour chemistry students, sophomore Jillian Sandler said.

"If a student needs to find me it gets really difficult because they don't know what room I'm in," Falkoff said.

While Falkoff considers 203 her main classroom, switching rooms poses many organizational problems.

"I keep all my stuff in 203," Falkoff said. "I take either a cart or I load up my hands and my backpack and take everything I need with me to 212."

Falkoff considers herself fortunate because both of the rooms she moves between are science classrooms. Other teachers are not as lucky.

Chemistry teacher Mike Howe can relate to Ms. Falkoff's problem. However, Howe switches between five different classrooms during a two-day period.

Out of these five different classrooms only two are traditional science rooms.

"Moving from room to room for every different subject

is certainly not convenient for a teacher," Howe said. "When a student turns in an assignment there's no place to lay it down."

This makes keeping track of assignments extremely difficult for both teachers and students.

Teaching science in a classroom that is not equipped for the subject has many disadvantages when it comes to short labs, that might be performed during shortened class periods. Other classrooms are often ill equipped, causing these labs to be cut from the class's curriculum. Doing demonstrations in these rooms can also cause safety hazards.

Six science teachers, including Howe, find themselves switching classrooms, though some less frequently than Howe.

"That's one reason we really need the expansion," Howe said. The new expansion coming with Proposition S will completely fix all of these problems.

While Howe says this is his most extreme year of switching, he has been moving classrooms for the past six years.

However, Howe thinks that the students seem to be flexible and are not too bothered by this.

"Overall I don't think it's such a big deal for students," Howe said. "Although, I think students don't realize the course of changing because you don't realize the demonstration didn't happen. You didn't know the demonstration was going to happen, so you won't miss it."

Howe is hoping renovations will be finished sometime during 2011, and many teachers will benefit. ☺

## CHS celebrates 100th graduation

Centennial celebration  
pg. 1

Rogers-Beard said that small classrooms, support personnel, outstanding teachers, a well maintained building, and the community of people who work here for the most part cheerfully give their absolute all.

Each helps to maintain the success Clayton High School has enjoyed over the last century.

Rogers-Beard feels that while there have been many productive advances during her tenure at CHS, one has stood out from the rest.

"The biggest change has been the Learning Center and all of the plans put into place to help struggling students," Rogers-Beard said. "I think it has had a positive effect on teachers, who see it as much of a support for what they're trying to do as students see it."

This individualized teaching style

also made an impression on Hackmann during his time as a CHS parent. He believes that the strength of Clayton as a school lies within its capacity "to completely focus on each individual child and to bring that individual child as far as that child's talent and perseverance and dedication and interests will take them."

As the school celebrates the 100th anniversary of the first graduating class the community is looking forward to what the next 100 years will hold.

Dr. Losos is determined to see that the next century is a successful one and places a priority on making Clayton the best high school in the country.

With that mission in mind Rogers-Beard calls on the students to do their part.

"I think quite often we talk about what the system owes the student," Rogers-Beard said, "but I don't think we talk enough about what students

owe the system."

Hackmann said that what has made the school great in the past will help it to prosper in the future, which is the unique combination of academic rigor and freedom, coupled with the concept of self responsibility.

The Class of 2010 recognizes the historic importance of their graduation.

"It's pretty cool to think about all the history of Clayton," senior Charles Goodman said "To realize that you're the 100th class to come through shows that Clayton's been around for a long time and has a really strong tradition."

Fellow senior Chi Zeng says Clayton means a great deal to him.

"It means four years of hard work, developing friendships, and getting ready to represent Greyhound pride in the real world."

Two-hundred-ten seniors and 100 years of excellence will culminate in 2010 to make one proud community. ☺

# College application, teacher rec processes go online

by Simone Bernstein  
Senior Managing Editor

Don't panic, but get organized. If applying early to college, the deadline is quickly approaching. No matter the due date, most seniors are in the process of drafting essays, supplements and resumes.

To ease the college process, Naviance made changes to their site. "We use Naviance for everything," CHS College Counselor Carolyn Blair said. "Students will request recommendations, search statistics on colleges and find scholarship information on Naviance. Call Ms. Hellwig if you forgot your password."

This year all teachers have the ability to send recommendation letters online. Along with leaving a smaller paper trail, this new system will also decrease the number of misplaced letters.

"Requesting teacher recommendations online was really easy," senior Melissa Kopp said. "Since the process is online, I didn't have to deal with all the paperwork and envelopes for mailing. The internet is much faster and easier to use."

All schools who accept the common application and electronic documents are part of this new recommendation process.

"First have a face-to-face conversation with a teacher about recommendations," Blair said. "Give the teacher a sufficient amount of time to write this letter. Send a request using Naviance. Contact Ms. Hellwig if you are unable to find a specific teacher on the list."

Students need to find the number of recommendations required by their school.

"Colleges don't want extra recommendations," Blair said.



Senior Ijeoma Onyema studies her Naviance page, a website that helps students get organized during their college application process.

"Colleges often say, the thicker the file, the bigger the kid."

Before submitting applications, seniors need to turn in all forms to the counseling office. To help counselors personalize the letters of recommendation, students and parents need to complete the Naviance questionnaire.

Seniors also need to turn in transcript release forms. If under 18, students must have a parent's signature since the school is not allowed to release transcripts without consent.

Blair recommends students schedule a meeting to discuss application decisions before finalizing the entire college process.

"It is really important that we talk sometime soon," Blair said. "Twenty minutes should be an adequate amount of time to discuss your decisions. Parents are welcome to attend the meeting."

Students can also schedule a separate meeting with the

counselors to discuss college essays.

"The most difficult part of the college process is the essay," senior Sam Meyers said. "I'm going to schedule a meeting with my counselor to review my essay. Since the counselors have seen many essays over the years, they can give some beneficial feedback."

Students need to turn in transcript request forms to Counseling Office Secretary Diane Hellwig at least three weeks before each college application deadline.

"Never hand transcript request forms to me or Ms. Leonard," Blair said. "These forms can easily be buried under papers on my desk. It is in your best interest to submit the forms electronically or hand the form to Ms. Hellwig."

Throughout the rest of the year numerous colleges will visit CHS during the school day. Students can find college visit schedules on Naviance, but need to ask the teacher for permission before leaving class. Along with keeping track of college visit schedules, seniors need to track their own application deadlines.

After applying to a school, students should receive an electronic confirmation.

"Make sure you receive an email confirmation that your applications were received by the college," Blair said. "If they fail to send you an online confirmation, call the college to check on your application."

Submit transcript request forms at least three weeks prior to the application deadline. Along with a transcript, the counseling department will send a secondary school report and counselor letter of recommendation to the college.

"Everyone does their own part," Blair said. "You need to know your own deadlines. In a few short months the entire college process will be over." ☺

## Parents work for better lunch choices

by Sneha Viswanathan  
Senior Editor

As obesity rates are on the rise in the United States, parents of CHS students are looking for ways to reform the cafeteria food service in order to avoid diet-related health problems for students.

Despite concerns over the nutritive quality of cafeteria food at CHS, the school's food service provider, Chartwells, recently launched its own program called Balanced Choices to promote healthy eating habits.

On the company's website, www.chartwellschooldining.com, Chartwells states that, "Each Balanced Choices" meal meets precise nutrition parameters and is highlighted on the serving line."

The program also has a Meal Guidance System, which includes posters and brochures that remind children about the importance of eating balanced meals.

According to Washington University clinical psychologist Denise Wilfley, maintaining children's overall health is often tied to healthy food in schools.

"Children and teens spend a big chunk of their day in school, and according to some studies, nearly two-thirds of students buy lunch at school," Wilfley said. "So the school cafeteria is a great place to make healthy options readily accessible and appealing to students during the school day."

Wilfley said the overwhelming majority of young people do not eat the recommended five daily servings of fruit and vegetables. According to the 2007 Missouri Youth Risk Behavior Survey, only 18 percent of Missouri students meet this daily goal. Creating an environment at school that encourages students to eat a variety of produce and other nutritious foods is a good place to start.

CHS parent Donna Robey said that a better alternative to the current system of providing cafeteria food through a large food service company would be to bring in food from small, local companies in order to supply the cafeteria with fresh food.

"I became interested in this cause because it affects the health of my children," Robey said. "I've already measured very high cholesterol levels in my older teens that you normally only see in patients who are 50-60 years old."

In addition to concerns about the nutrition of the current food, Robey also wants to minimize the larger impact on the planet by promoting consumption of food that is grown close to the St. Louis area.

"[Locally grown food] is more nutritious, it's fresher, and it's more environmentally friendly," Robey said. "It results in a lower carbon footprint because the food doesn't need to be transported over long distances."

Locally grown food means the food will be both fresher and more accountable.

"We want to make the food locally accountable," Robey said. "Meaning the community has a say in their food ser-

vice, so we make suggestions and [the provider] respond accordingly."

Chartwells supports its partner school communities' requests for changes to their existing food service. According to the Chartwells company web site, "Chartwells...encourages our schools to engage Chartwells associates as problem solvers in creating a healthier school environment."

However, other parents and school authorities in the St. Louis area are turning to other methods of receiving locally grown food that they believe are more beneficial than what the food services offer as options.

Robey will be meeting with representatives from a neighboring school district from which she hopes to model a plan for reforming Clayton food service.

"I'm in the process of meeting with the Maplewood-Richmond Heights school district to find out how they've made substantial changes to their food service," Robey said. "They're going to have healthful foods, tasty foods, and the food service is not a large company; they don't have one single representative like we do with our food service. Reforming the food service would provide a patchwork solution because currently, there are no local equivalents of Chartwells."

Chartwells' existing menu is dependent on the school district's decisions about the best breakfast and lunch options for students.

Chartwells states that it abides by the St. Louis Public Schools Wellness Policy. According to the company's website, "The St. Louis Public Schools Wellness Policy was developed in accordance with the National School Lunch Program's Reauthorization Act. The act requires all public school districts produce a detailed policy that addresses the health and well-being of all students."

Food served in schools must provide a certain portion of the Recommended Daily Allowance determined by the Food and Drug Administration and is also restricted to a certain extent in its fat content.

According to the USDA's website, "School lunches must meet the applicable recommendations of the 1995 Dietary Guidelines for Americans, which recommend that no more than 30 percent of an individual's calories come from fat, and less than 10 percent from saturated fat."

Although school food authorities have the jurisdiction to determine which foods should be served in the district's schools, Wilfley said providing healthy food to students is not solely their responsibility.

"It can be very difficult, if not downright impossible, for individuals to combat obesity alone," Wilfley said.

Wilfley said what we really need is a concerted effort to improve the nutritional quality of food and increase physical activity levels.

"It is important that parents, children, and educators are well informed about healthy lifestyle practices but knowledge alone is not enough," Wilfley said. "It is vital that people feel empowered to implement changes, to incorporate healthy eating and activities into their daily routines." ☺



Students audition for the CHS show choir with director Alice Fasman.

## Show choir incorporates new members into group

by Meredith McMahon  
Reporter

Upon walking through the halls of CHS early in the morning before school, you may catch some sounds of Duke Ellington, Van Morrison and other popular singers spilling out of the music wing, and perhaps catch a glimpse of students dancing and singing. What could have possibly dragged these exhausted teenage souls out of bed? The obvious answer is the famed CHS show choir.

Show choir is a fun alternative for students who take performance classes such as orchestra, band and choir to perform outside of school. Auditions were at the beginning of school, when students would come to learn pieces that they would rehearse with the group on the second week.

Students learned a dance routine while the dance choreographers Ian Miller, Ruthie Polinsky and Erica Hill observed.

Although more competitive for the girls, "[The new group] has a very strong male section" director of choral music at CHS Alice Fasman said.

Although competitive, sometimes it's just the blend of your voice.

"Blend is an important part of the audition," Fasman said. "A person with a beautiful voice that doesn't blend is at a disadvantage."

Previous members also had to re-audition this year and said that the process is select.

"Getting into show choir is pretty enigmatic, and is never a constant" junior Ian Miller said. "The group has always been pretty select, and it really varies based on the circumstances of the year"

The circumstances of this year have certainly changed. Show choir had to completely fill up the alto section of the choir again after three seniors graduated. Not only that, more people auditioning and more openings make this year different from previous ones.

Last year there were only 12 students in show choir, and this year it has made the leap to 20.

"The great thing about the show choir this year is that there are so many people! It has such a great sound," junior Sarah McAfee said.

Show choir not only is an extracurricular activity but also takes place in the Clayton community. It performs at graduation, the Arts Fair, Senior Swing, the elementary school tour and more.

Show choir also has three concerts with the regular choir in November, March and May. Listeners and members enjoy the pop, show and jazz genres of music.

"I really like the types of songs show and swing choirs get to sing," McAfee said. "It's nice to experience more jazzy, stylized songs, and dancing along with that type of music is great."

Past repertoire includes "It Don't Mean a Thing (if it Ain't Got That Swing)" by Duke Ellington, as well as "Brown Eyed Girl" by Van Morrison and "Mama Who Born Me?" from Spring Awakening.

Incoming students have big shoes to fill after last year's graduating class.

"The show choir last year had three voices for each part; soprano, alto, tenor and bass," McAfee said. "The three seniors who graduated were all altos, so the group was really unbalanced. It was also sad to say goodbye to Rebecca, Leigh, and Susie."

Not only was it hard saying goodbye to past members, but looking into the future it will be especially hard saying good bye to the current junior class.

"Junior class will be hard to replace for years," Fasman said. "[It is] particularly strong, oh my gosh. . . We'll be in mourning when that class leaves in years to come."

However, it is important to look at the present right now and see the potential this year's group holds.

"This year's group is already extremely determined and energetic, so we will definitely accomplish a lot," Miller said. "I really wish to break out of the mold that show choir has fallen into, and really get creative with how we perform. I am very excited to see what this new group can achieve." ☺



Juniors Sarah McAfee, Erica Hill and Ruthie Polinsky audition for the CHS show choir.

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# dos

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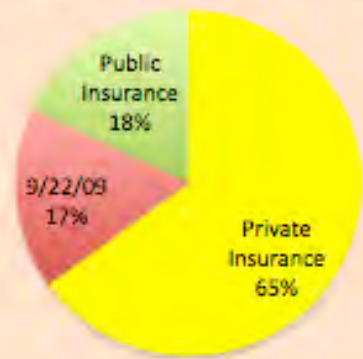
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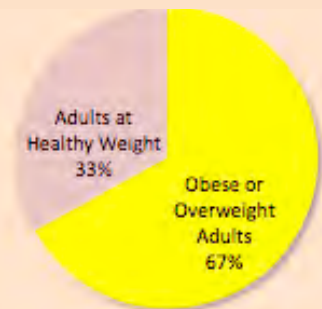
# Deciphering Health Care

By Nina Oberman and Meredith Redick

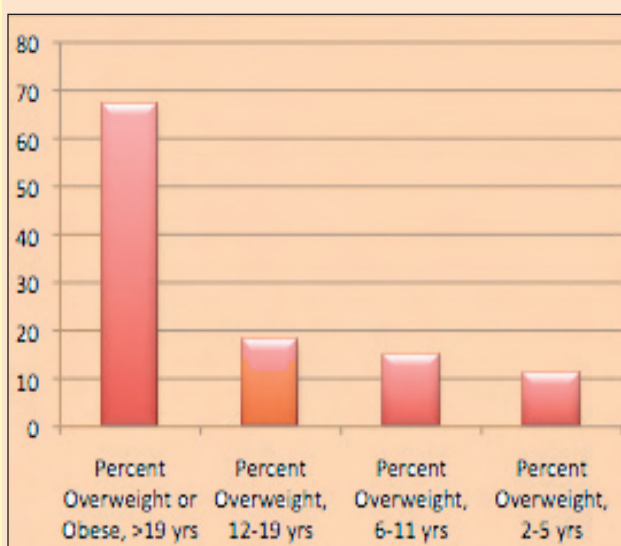
## Health Insurance Coverage



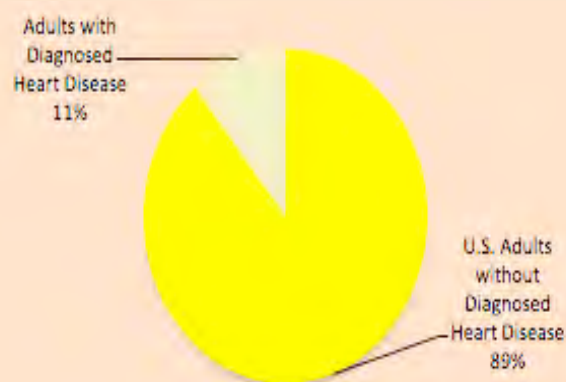
## Adult Obesity in U.S.



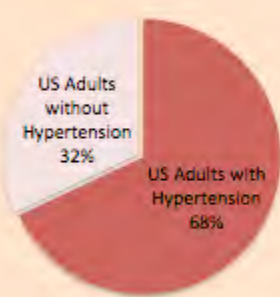
## Obesity Rates in U.S.



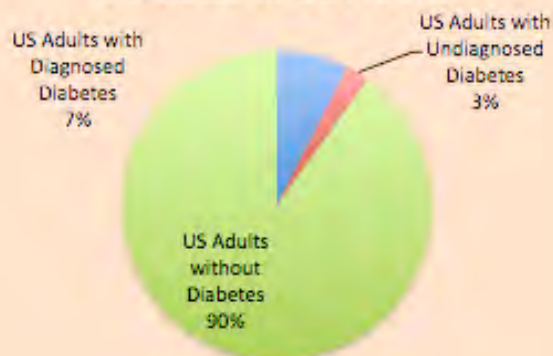
## Heart Disease in U.S.



## Hypertension in U.S.



## Diabetes in US Adults



### A Brief History

As the debate over health care reform rages across the nation, it may be easy to forget that 2009 is only one flare-up in the argument's long history. With his declaration that he will be the last President to take up the cause of health care, however, Obama is standing on almost 100 years of effort.

Former President Theodore Roosevelt was the first to call for national health insurance when he campaigned on the Progressive Party ticket in 1912, according to a timeline compiled by Elisabeth Goodridge and Sarah Arnquist in *The New York Times*. He failed to pass a plan in Congress, however, and the next great leap would not be made until 1945 when Harry S. Truman called for a health care overhaul. His 10-year plan proposed compulsory coverage and increased hospital construction, but critics warning of "socialized medicine" barred the plan from passing. The president's second attempt for reform was abandoned after the outbreak of the Korean War.

President John F. Kennedy would be the next to take up arms in 1962 when he demanded health benefits for social security recipients, but his plan also stalled in Congress. Lyndon B. Johnson made perhaps the most lasting impact with the passage of a bill creating Medicare and Medicaid in 1965. Today, over 45 million elderly Americans are covered under Medicare, and 59 million living at or below the poverty line receive coverage through Medicaid.

President Richard M. Nixon and Senator Edward M. Kennedy faced off in 1971 as Nixon proposed a plan that would require employers to provide a minimum level of insurance to employees, but would maintain competition among private insurers. Kennedy meanwhile proposed a single-payer system in the "Health Security Act", beginning a lifelong effort to reinvent the nation's health insurance system.

President Jimmy Carter once again called for universal health care in 1976, but the economic recession took precedence. In 1993 President Bill Clinton made a concerted effort in his proposal of a plan to provide universal coverage through a system of "managed competition" in which private insurers could compete under tight regulations. The bill failed to pass for a variety of reasons, including powerful lobbying by doctors, drug companies and insurance companies.

Obama's efforts will be concentrated on a complex and deeply personal issue that lawmakers have been unable to resolve for almost a century. Amidst the nation's worst economic crisis since the Great Depression, he is bringing health care reform to the forefront of the U.S. agenda.

### The Current System and its Problems

The current U.S. health care system is a diverse amalgam of government-funded programs and a large private sector. Programs such as Medicare, which offers financial support to citizens over 65, and Medicaid, which benefits low-income and disabled citizens, create a safety net for several demographic groups.

America's working-class families, though, are largely left to the private insurance market, where undeniable flaws have raised controversy throughout the nation.

Steven Lipstein, president and CEO of BJC Health care, outlines some of the principal issues in today's health care system.

"The way the U.S. Congress and the president are approaching this, they divide the health care issues into three big buckets," Lipstein said. "One is coverage, which is how do you provide access to health insurance coverage for everybody that lives in the United States? The second big challenge would be cost. How do you make that affordable? And then you've got quality: everyone wants to have choice of their doctors and their hospitals and their insurance plan, but how do you make sure that people have good choices, that they're not just getting more health care, but they are getting better health care?"

Dr. Thomas Steinberg, Associate Professor of Medicine at Washington University, believes the holes in health care are particularly prominent in St. Louis.

"There are a lot of ways in which we are failing to provide good health care to our citizens," Steinberg said. "St. Louis has a high incidence of STDs, and a few years ago St. Louis City closed their only STD clinic. They used to have a city hospital, and if you had no health care, you could always go there. Most cities used to have these, but more and more of these city hospitals have just evaporated."

Extraneous layers of bureaucracy prevent money from being spent where it is needed.

"I think that every dollar we spend employing someone to push paper in an insurance company is a dollar not spent immunizing young kids," Steinberg said. "There is a ton of money being made off of health care in this country, and we're not very healthy."

According to a U.S. Census press release, 47 million Americans were without health insurance in 2006.

"I think what American people want is guaranteed access to health insurance," Lipstein said. "They want health insurance whether they are rich or poor, whether they are

employed or not, whether they have a pre-existing medical condition or not."

### A Costly Dilemma

Most Americans would agree that the role of any health care system is to treat the sick and keep the rest healthy. The U.S. health care system, however, does not necessarily fit that description.

A study in the *American Journal of Medicine* asserted that at least 62 percent of personal bankruptcies filed in 2007 were directly related to medical expenses, and 75 percent of the people filing for these bankruptcies had health insurance.

These statistics show that having health insurance does not make citizens invulnerable to overwhelming medical costs.

In addition, many today are denied coverage due to pre-existing conditions because insurance companies find it too costly to insure them.

"My wife has multiple sclerosis," Lipstein said. "If I wasn't employed by BJC, she would be uninsurable. So I need access to health insurance, because my wife does not have access to health insurance in the individual market. When people are denied access to health insurance and health care just because they have a pre-existing chronic medical condition, I happen to think that is not right."

If the goal of the health care system is to provide security to those who need it, the American system may need serious revision. In the current system, citizens with unusually high health care costs due to preexisting conditions or diseases such as cancer are often left out of the insurance equation.

Most Americans pay their premiums as an effort to shield themselves from scenarios like bankruptcy. But even with insurance, the safety net may not be as sturdy as Americans would like to believe.

### Does a Right Exist?

While there are clearly dire problems within the current U.S. health care system, a central question in the debate over reform is whether or not an intrinsic right to health care exists for individuals.

John Mackey, co-founder and CEO of Whole Foods Market, penned a controversial Wall Street Journal editorial in August. He criticized lawmakers for costly policies that would worsen the deficit, and called for a re-thinking of the current health care philosophy.

"Health care is a service that we all need, but just like food and shelter it is best provided through voluntary and mutually beneficial market exchanges," Mackey said in his editorial. "A careful reading of both the Declaration of Inde-

pendence and the Constitution will not reveal any intrinsic right to health care, food or shelter."

Mackey's statement raises an important question: should health care be guaranteed for all in America?

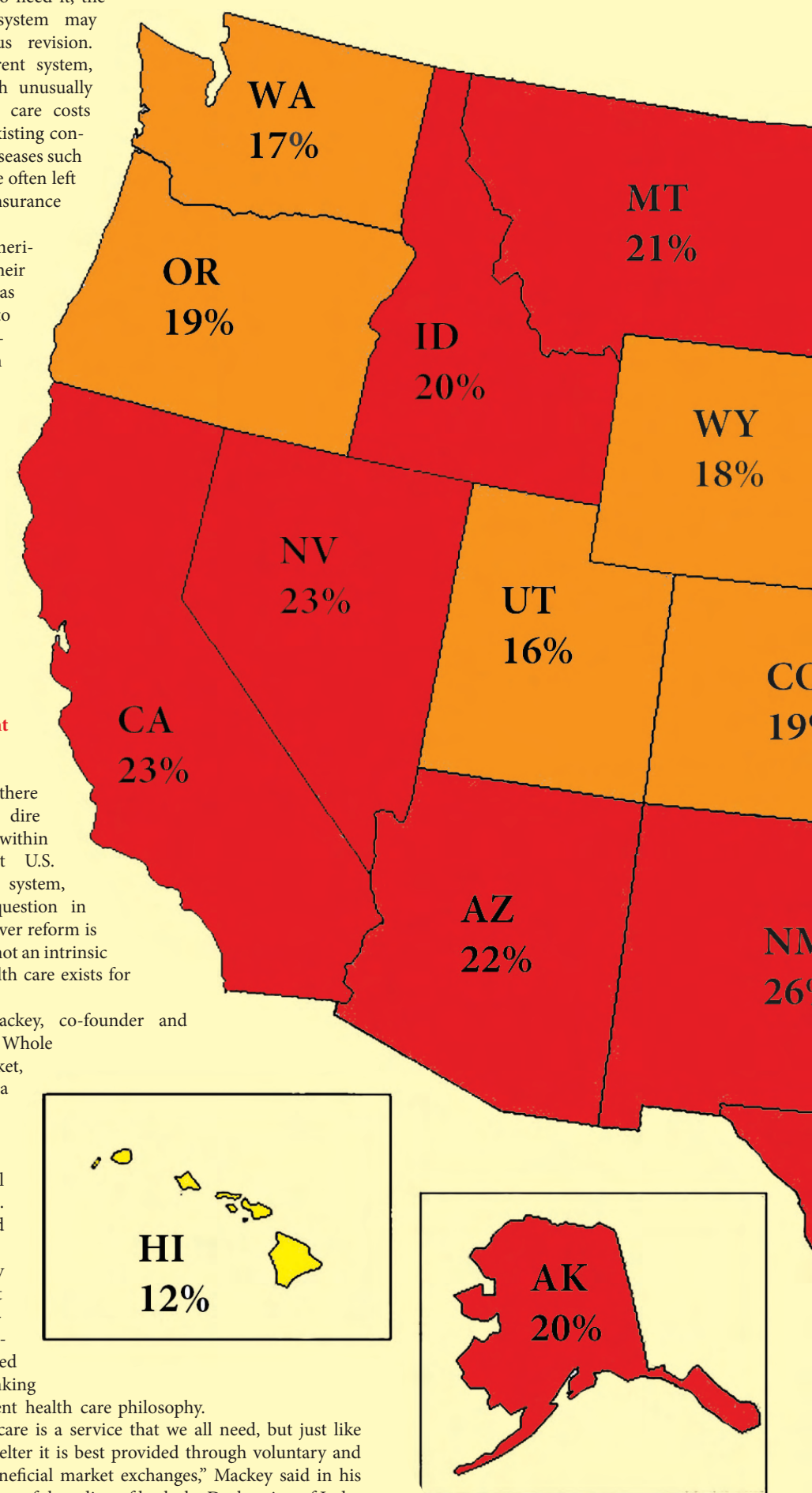
"Our government has said that if you come into our emergency rooms, citizen or non-citizen, we provide you with medical care," Lipstein said. "In a civilized society, just don't let people suffer. We take care of people that come with great personal need, great fear, great anxiety, and why I do what I do for a living, because it's a very important thing to do."

Steinberg adds that health care is not only an individual moral issue, but also a pragmatic one.

"Society has an interest in making the best use of its human resources, and that means it is in the best interest of society to make the population as healthy as it can be," Steinberg said. "It is therefore in the best interest of society to provide health care to all members."

Still, the government does not provide everything for its citizens. At some point, personal responsibility takes the place of outside aid.

"What I'm advocating for is access to health insurance," Lipstein said. "I'm not saying it should be free. I think it should be heavily subsidized for people at the lowest end of the income on the scale, but as you go up it should make sense that you should pay more and more for your health care services."



## How many American

# ng re

## After 100 years of controversy, the U.S. is closer than ever to some kind of health care reform. Local experts weigh in on some of the issues that surround this complex debate.

### The Extremes

The far left and far right advocate two dramatically different plans for an overhaul of the health care system. While some liberals have proposed a single-payer system in which the government would provide coverage for each citizen, some conservatives argue that the employer-based system should be abandoned entirely and individuals should buy insurance on their own.

The term "single-payer" derives from the concept that a single government entity manages all health care transactions. Under such a system, every legal resident would be guaranteed coverage.

Dr. Bernard Davis has worked as a doctor for 48 years. He believes the current system is so flawed that the most effective reform would be a complete conversion into a single-payer model.

"Conceptually, I think that a single-payer system would work well," Davis said. "But you can't spend 16 percent of the GDP on health care. With a modification of the financial model, a government-run health care system might be plausible, but under the current financial model, it is not."

Many also express the fear of not having a choice of doctors under a system controlled entirely by the government, as well as fear that the reform would cause long waiting lists for highly needed care.

"Although Canada has a population smaller than California, 830,000 Canadians are currently waiting to be admitted to a hospital or to get treatment," Mackey said in his editorial. "In England, the waiting list is 1.8 million."

On the other end of the spectrum, right-wing reformers call for a system in which the individual insurance market, rather than employer-based insurance, is domi-

nant. Currently, there are tax benefits for employer-provided health insurance, but not for individually purchased health insurance.

Proponents of such reforms argue that giving individuals the freedom to purchase insurance across state lines is also key to lowering costs. The health care system would then become more similar to a free market, and the forces of competition would drive costs down.

Either option would undoubtedly cause a great disruption to the current system. Single-payer and individual market concepts are the extremes; Obama is attempting to arrive at an effective reform somewhere in between.

### Socialized Medicine

Amidst predictions about the future of health care, many Americans are holding up other nations as examples of what could happen to the U.S. health care system. Some nations, including Canada and the countries of the United Kingdom, already operate under a system of government-funded health care.

According to the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), in 2006 the UK spent a total of 8.4 percent of its GDP on health care. Canada spent 10.0 percent on health care, and the U.S. spent 15.3 percent.

For the same year, the life expectancy at birth for citizens of Canada and the U.K. was notably higher than that of U.S. citizens. Despite indications that government-funded health care could be tied to lower health care costs and healthier citizens, many Americans believe a government-funded health care system would pose significant problems.

In June, former chief of staff Karl Rove articulated several common oppositions to government-funded health care in a Wall Street Journal editorial.

According to Rove, a government-funded option is not only unnecessary and financially inefficient, but it could directly harm patients by placing their needs in

the hands of an indifferent government.

"If you think insurance companies are bad, imagine what happens when government is the insurance carrier, with little or no competition and no concern you'll change to another company," Rove said in his editorial.

The concept of socialized medicine has raised controversy across the political spectrum.

### "Free Market" Health Care

Opponents of government-run health care cite the advantages of free market competition when health insurance is privately operated. Competition, it is said, fosters an incentive to reduce cost, increase quality, and broaden access. In reality, however, health care is not necessarily an industry like any other—and thus does not function wholly as a free market.

"It's not like going to buy a car and it's not like going to buy clothes, because there are couple key differences," Lipstein said. "One is you need insurance. Number two is you need to be able to ascribe value to what you are buying. Take an imaging scan, a CT scan or MRI. It has different value for you if you have a brain aneurysm than it has for you if you had a broken ankle, but it costs the same for me to produce it."

In addition, doctors are paid either a legislated price by Medicare or Medicaid or a negotiated price by private insurance companies. Referring to private health insurance as a free market can therefore be problematic, as it is difficult to value the services in a transparent way. Consumers don't have the money to buy health care directly without health insurance, and they do not have the expertise or authority to buy without a doctor.

"We sometimes think that people will behave inside the health care economy the same

nothing."

### Obama's Plan

In his speech to a joint session of Congress on Sept. 9, Obama called for a public health insurance option for the uninsured and those who aren't able to find affordable coverage, as well as a new insurance marketplace for individuals and small businesses to compare plans and buy insurance at competitive prices.

"Since health care represents one-sixth of our economy, I believe it makes more sense to build on what works and fix what doesn't, rather than try to build an entirely new system from scratch," Obama said.

The president's plan would make health insurance mandatory for all citizens in order to drive down costs, and would outlaw discrimination based on pre-existing conditions. No one would be required to purchase health insurance in the government-run public option, and it would be self-sufficient, relying only on the premiums it collects. Overall, Obama said, the plan would not add a dime to the deficit. But Rep. Charles Boustany, speaking for the GOP in response to the president, thinks otherwise.

"The bill creates 53 new government bureaucracies, adds hundreds of billions to our national debt and raises taxes on job creators by \$600 billion," Boustany said.

While the taxes would be intended to balance the budget, the financial ramifications of the plan are still highly debated.

Senator Max Baucus, Democrat from Montana, has also proposed a bill that does not include a federal public option, but rather establishes nonprofit insurance cooperatives in each state. These cooperatives would gather a large group of people for their shared need of reasonably priced health care.

Many liberals have criticized the bill, suggesting that co-ops would not be able to compete with big insurance companies. Subsidies for low-income and middle-income families are also less generous, raising doubt as to whether or not insurance would be affordable.

### Close to the Heart

Regardless of the bill's fate, the issue of health care remains difficult because it touches Americans on a personal level.

"It's almost a debate for the soul of the country," Davis said.

Lipstein supports the idea that the health care issue reaches beyond the political.

"I think part of the reason you're seeing a lot of concern and anxiety is that health care is very complicated," Lipstein said. "People already feel like they don't have enough control over their health care circumstances, and they want to be sure they have options. The government is not supposed to choose for them, and they feel the government is going to take away their choice. Whenever you change the status quo, people feel like there are winners and losers."

Steinberg agrees that choice plays a role in Americans' perception of health care. "I don't think you can convince them that their personal liberties aren't going to be taken away, even when they aren't," Steinberg said.

Lipstein notes that, out of the many polemics the government handles, health care is the one that Americans find most relevant.

"When they make decisions about defense spending it's a little bit more removed," Lipstein said. "Health affects everybody."

### At Home

While debates continue to escalate in Washington, individuals don't have to look far for a chance to make a difference.

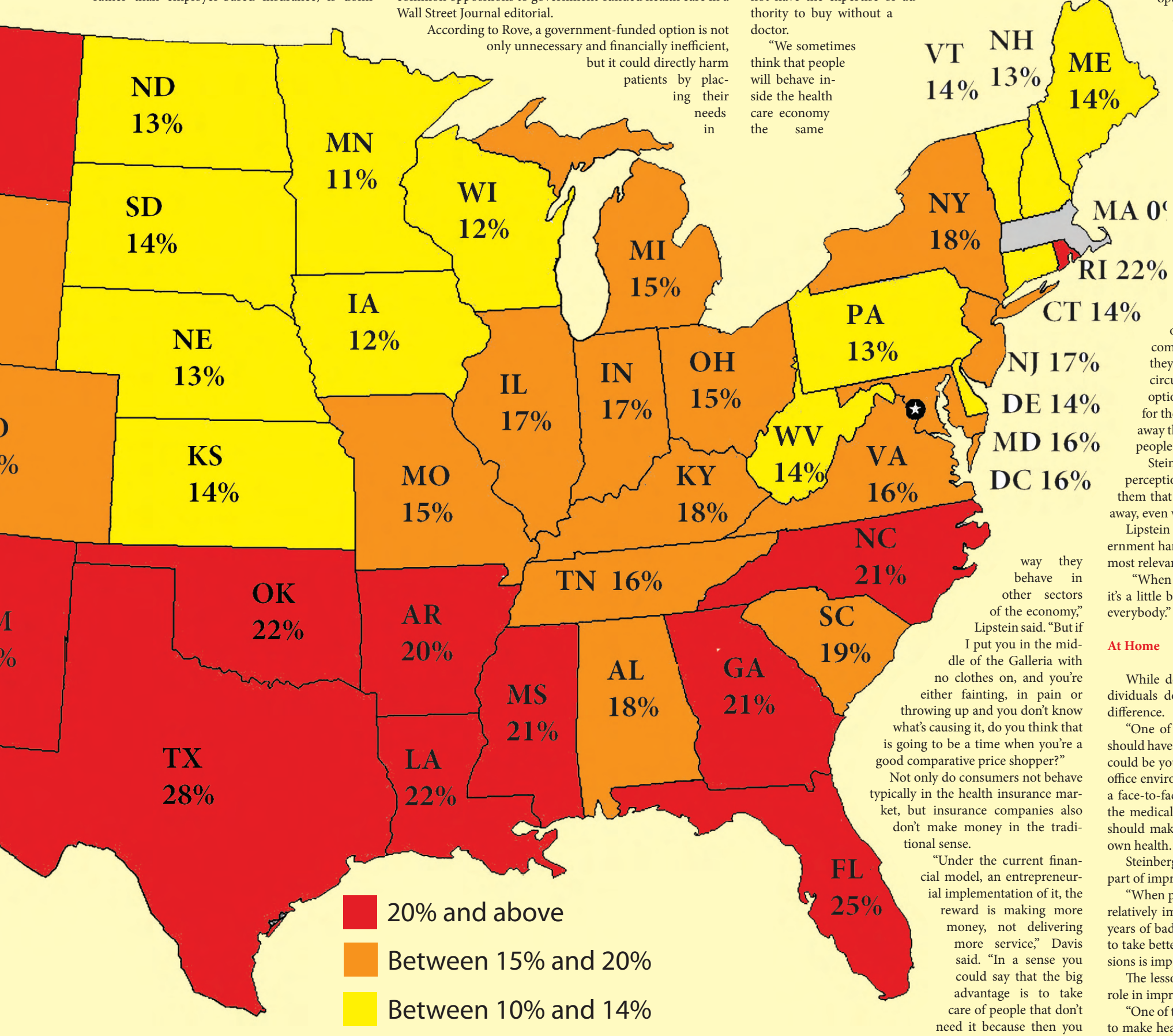
"One of the things gaining attention is that everybody should have a medical home," Lipstein said. "A medical home could be your primary care physician. It could be a doctor's office environment or a clinic. You should go through either a face-to-face or online health risk appraisal done through the medical home. Through that health risk appraisal, you should make a commitment to manage and improve your own health. You should have a plan to manage your health."

Steinberg believes that building awareness is an essential part of improving the health care system.

"When people are in high school, they are young and feel relatively impervious," Steinberg said. "But sooner or later, years of bad habits will catch up to them. Educating people to take better care of themselves and make healthy life decisions is important."

The lesson, according to Lipstein, is that everyone has a role in improving the health care system.

"One of the take home rules is that there is a lot we can do to make health care better," Lipstein said. "We in the health care system can do some of it. You can do some of it, and there is an important role for government to play." ☛



# Who does not have health insurance by state?

# Clayton community reacts to Jeff Smith senate scandal

by Justin Elliot  
Editor

CHS students are often found guilty of forgetting to put their name on their homework and thus receiving the dreaded zero for an assignment. Even though the impact of a zero is immense, in the world of politics failing to place your name on something can ruin a political career.

During his run for the U.S. House of Representatives in 2004, former Missouri State Senator Jeff Smith, along with some of his campaign workers have now admitted to sending out a flier against Russ Carnahan without placing Smith's name on the flier. Smith now faces up to 40 years in jail and \$500,000 in fines since he falsely denied involvement with the fliers during two different federal investigations over the course of five years. Although Smith is not being charged with the campaign transgressions, Assistant U.S. Attorney Hal Goldsmith says that it was still a major offense.

"A lot of people say that if they would have been truthful they just would have gotten a slap on the wrist," Goldsmith said. "It wasn't like that. The bedrock of our democracy is our fair election process; that is how this country was founded. We have rules that these candidates are supposed to abide by."

Prior to this information surfacing to the public eye, many CHS students and staff were inspired and motivated by Smith.

"In some ways he renewed my faith in politics," said CHS teacher Susan Teson. "He was a throw back to days when politicians had a mission, opposed to an agenda."

Smith was not only known for his concern for his constituents and tireless work ethic but more importantly his genuine personality.

AP U.S. history teacher Debra Weins expresses the sincere admiration her students had for Smith when he would come visit her class.

"My students fell in love with his personality, his charisma and his enthusiasm about St. Louis. He really talked on their level," Weins said. "How often do you see that in politicians?"

Sheila Cohen, a CHS substitute teacher and former teacher of Smith described him as an athletic, bright leader of Ladue High School.

"He was the type of student that you want your own child to be like," Cohen said.

Regardless of the feeling CHS staff and students once had of Smith, it is clear that their opinions have changed.

"To hear that he had become corrupt for the same reasons all other politicians become corrupt just proves that no one is immune to the temptations of power," Teson said.

Weins says that she will have a harder time teaching her class, now that many of her students have become skeptical of the issue.

"If he had just stopped at the initial campaign flier, it would have been fine," CHS junior Allison Goldfarb said. "But it was the cover up; it makes me cynical about politics."

Cohen said that Smith's recent actions fuel the negative conceptions that people frequently have of politics.

"What is really sad is when you find a Jeff Smith and he really relates to young people and this type of thing happens, not good but not the worst thing in the world, people are soured and everybody thinks politics are dirty and they say, 'I don't want to hear about these politicians,'" Cohen said. "People get turned off by politics."

While Smith awaits his sentencing his future still is uncertain; some don't even count him out of the political scene.

"If you cry a little bit and show that you're sorry everybody is willing to forgive you. I am always amazed at what these people do and then they are right back where they left off," Teson said. "I hoped he'd be done but you never know; America is a weird place." ☘



Ali Sehzadeh

## CHS Summer Reading Challenge encourages communal discussion

An idea developed by two English teachers and a librarian blossoms into a reading experience for the entire Clayton community, and helps ease the transition for new students into the CHS English curriculum.

by Schuyler Longmore  
Editor

The Clayton Summer Reading Project welcomed back all Clayton High School students this year with an ungraded, purely enjoyable reading assignment to discuss. The assignment was given at the end of last year for all returning classes offering a choice of six books dealing with adversity.

The books were "Hunger Games" by Suzanne Collins, "Old Man and the Sea" by Ernest Hemingway, "Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Fight Terrorism and Build Nation—One School at a Time" by Greg Mortenson, "The Soul of Baseball" by Joe Pasnanski, and "The Namesake" by Jhumpa Lahiri.

The reading assignment was aimed at incorporating the school into a common goal.

"The Summer Reading Project gave us an opportunity to engage the whole school community in recreational reading over the summer," librarian Luran DeRigne said. "Our goal was to create a community of readers who were not only reading, but discussing how each book addressed one universal theme in different ways."

The universal theme, adversity, is addressed in many of the books of Clayton's existing curriculum, so an effective connection was planned between the summer reading assignment and the school year's planned readings.

Adversity was addressed in each book and discussed collectively by most classes with points of view from each book.

"Creating a common experience—every student and teacher reading the same selection of books—can be a powerful way to build community at CHS," English teacher Jennifer Sellenriek said.

Community and common experience were achieved.

"One of most positive effects of the reading challenge was providing students with the chance to read for leisure and discuss literature without a grade assigned to it," DeRigne said.

The collective student body and teachers benefited greatly from the assignment.

"I liked hearing students talk about books they read over the summer," English teacher Amy Chappuis said. "Often, the conversations started with the books from our list and then the conversations expanded to other books

and recommendations."

Interesting connections and discussion were spurred by the assignment. The teachers in charge of the assignment turned a last minute idea into a successful undertaking.

"We started planning late in the second semester, so we weren't able to publicize it in a timely manner," DeRigne said. "It took a lot of time and effort to select the books, produce the literature to accompany the reading list and then try to get the word out to every student."

Despite the assignment's last minute nature, it still yielded successful results. There was some disappointment, however, in upperclassman participation.

"Many students enrolled in junior and senior level English did not read one of the books," Sellenriek said. "I know that they do a lot work on their summer reading projects, but I had hoped that they would look at the summer reading challenge as a chance to read for pleasure."

While juniors and seniors slacked, freshman showed more dedication.

"I was really impressed by the freshmen's participation this year," Sellenriek said. "We had a high percentage of students who read over the summer and were ready to discuss their books that first week of school."

The assignment proved helpful in welcoming freshman to the high school curriculum and expectations.

"The reading challenge served as a way to set high standards for our incoming freshmen, but also as a way for them to feel confident that first week of school," Sellenriek said.

Plans have been made for next summer's project, including ideas for a new theme, new books, and new sources



Meng Wang

FROM LEFT: CHS librarian Luran DeRigne and English teachers Amy Chappuis and Jennifer Sellenriek organized the CHS Summer Reading Challenge in May to create dialogue between students, faculty, and staff about books involving a shared theme of adversity. They hope to continue the Challenge next summer with more student involvement in selecting the books and themes.

to disseminate information about the assignment.

"Some of the revisions will be possibly adding more titles or expanding our list to include a graphic novel and possibly another young adult novel," DeRigne said. "We also want to get the word

out sooner, so students will have more time before summer to select a book or two to read from the list."

Revisions to the project's goals are being planned to involve students' opinions next year.

"We're hoping to have students in-

involved in the selection process," Sellenriek said.

If students are interested in getting involved with the process for next summer, they should contact Ms. Chappuis or Ms. Sellenriek in the English office or Ms. DeRigne in the library. ☘

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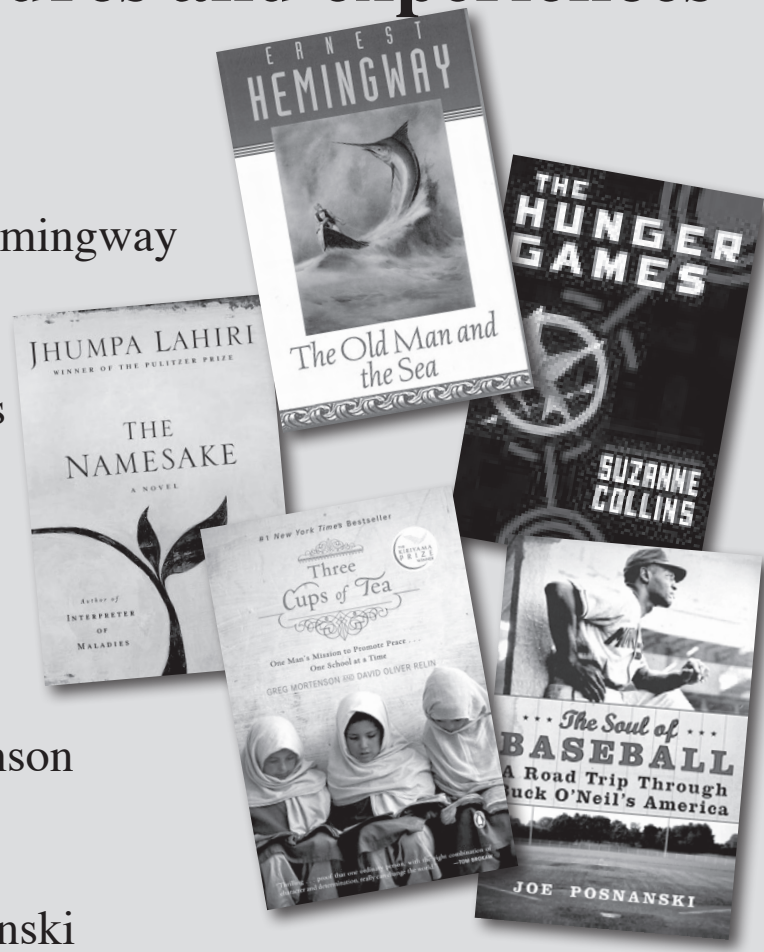
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## CHS Summer Reading Challenge 2009: Adversity across cultures and experiences

- "Old Man and the Sea" by Ernest Hemingway
- "Hunger Games" by Suzanne Collins
- "The Namesake" by Jhumpa Lahiri
- "Three Cups of Tea" by Greg Mortenson
- "The Soul of Baseball" by Joe Pasnanski





# Cross country off to stellar start in part to new regimen

by Sarah Tait  
Reporter

This year's cross country team is filled with potential and opportunity. Along with a few new faces and regimens, the team has picked up fresh hopes for what could be one of their best seasons yet.

"I would say this team is the most impressive one that I've seen yet," new assistant coach Anne Etling said.

Etling has worked as a head coach for the CHS cross country team in the past and recently returned from a stay in Milan, Italy, where she also coached a cross country team.

"In the past, in both Milan and Clayton, I felt like I couldn't even look at the team and say I have five strong runners that really work hard, but this year I do, so that's exciting," Etling said.

Returning sophomore Nicole Indovino shares Etling's excitement.

"There are a lot more people this year," Indovino said. "More people are showing up to practice week to week and there's a lot more dedication."

Head coach Kurtis Werner has high hopes for the team this season.

"I'd like to have a least one or two all-conference runners and have a girls' team finish in the top two in districts," Werner said.

Along with Etling, there are some promising new additions to the team this year. Freshman Derrick Stone has become the team's best male runner and hopes to make it to state this year.

"The thing I most look forward to this season is the meets," Stone said. "When you go to a meet there's all these

different schools and you can see everybody and hang out with them. It's just a really great experience."

The St. Charles Invitational and SLU Invitational are some of the biggest meets the team will attend, though the district and conference meets carry more importance. The veteran runners each have their own favorites.

"My favorite meet is definitely the Spanish Lake meet because I really like the course," Indovino said.

But to get to these all important meets, the runners must first train hard.

In an average practice when working on distance, the team runs anywhere from 3 to 8 miles. In an average practice when working on speed, the team will do three repetitions of 800m or 1600m sprints.

Getting into shape is the biggest challenge for the team every year.

"We've implemented a few more training regimens this year such as more distance work early on," Werner said. "A lot of our runners are very busy during the summer and don't get adequate training or anything of that nature."

Etling agrees that this presents problems for the team at the beginning of the season.

"As every season happens I think that people aren't running enough in the summers, so when we hit the season hard in the beginning, a lot of runners get injured," Etling said.

As the season gets rolling, the team will get to run against their big rivals like Ladue, Normandy, and Berkeley and see how they match up. Only time will tell how they will do, but everyone is certainly excited.

"We've already made leaps and bounds from where we were last year," Werner said. "It's going to be a fun year." ☺

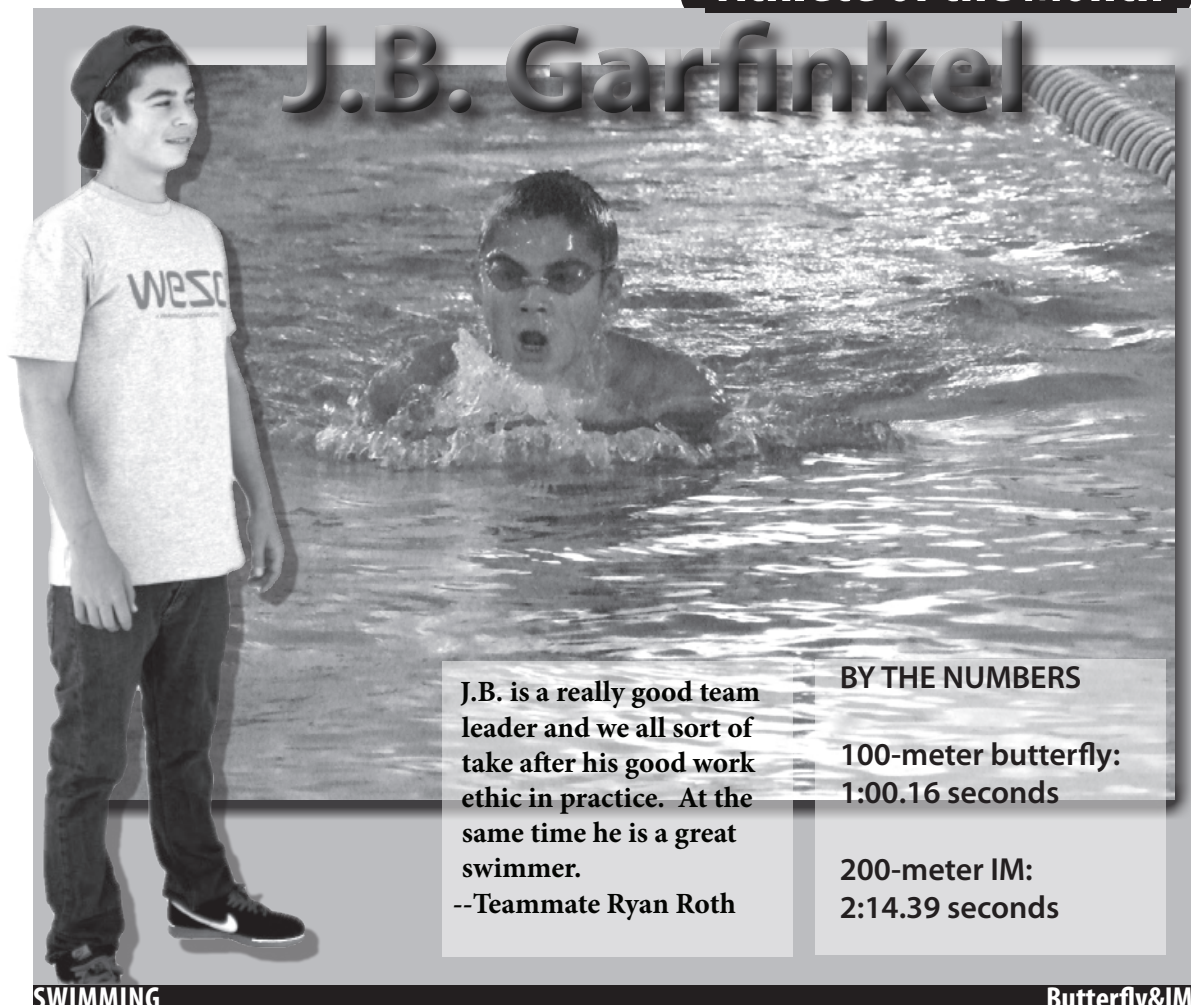


Freshman Derrick Stone (left) passes a runner from Poplar Bluff to take the lead near the end of a race.

Elizabeth Sikora

## Athlete of the Month

### J.B. Garfinkel



J.B. is a really good team leader and we all sort of take after his good work ethic in practice. At the same time he is a great swimmer.  
--Teammate Ryan Roth

#### BY THE NUMBERS

100-meter butterfly:  
1:00.16 seconds

200-meter IM:  
2:14.39 seconds

SWIMMING

Butterfly&IM

# Senior shines in pool

by Evan Green  
Sports Editor

Senior J.B. Garfinkel has sort of been the second or third man on the Greyhound water sports totem pole the last couple years to previous Clayton stand-outs Paul Orland and Tom Maxim.

But this year is different. Garfinkel will now be the go to player during water polo season and is the best swimmer on the swim team.

The changes were already noticeable in the first meet of the season. Garfinkel, who swims the 100-meter butterfly and 200-meter individual medley races, won the individual medley with a time of two minutes, 14.39 seconds. In the butterfly, Garfinkel took second, losing by .17 seconds.

"The funny part is, the butterfly is definitely my best stroke," Garfinkel said.

For the first meet, the times were not bad.

"They were okay times, but I know I can do better, and I need to do better if I want to make it to state, which is my goal for both races," Garfinkel said.

The qualifying time for the state meet in the butterfly is 57.89 seconds, and two minutes, 7.99 seconds in the individual medley.

"I can definitely make both of those times, I just have to do it in a meet," Garfinkel said.

Through one meet, it is clear that Garfinkel is on his way

to becoming a serious competitor to everyone else in the state.

While water polo is actually his better sport, Garfinkel still really enjoys swimming.

"I mainly swim to stay in shape for water polo, but it is a competitive sport which makes the meets a lot of fun," Garfinkel said.

As for college, Garfinkel also plans to remain the water.

"I plan on playing water polo in college, but not so much swimming," Garfinkel said.

Garfinkel has garnered some college interest to play water polo next year.

As for the offseason, Garfinkel really prepared for swimming season.

"Even though I use swimming to stay in shape for water polo, playing club water polo before swimming season helps me go into the fall in good shape to swim," Garfinkel said.

A dedicated water athlete, Garfinkel is excited for the rest of the season and the chance to prove himself as a bonafide two sport star.

"I am really looking forward to the conference and state meets, they should be the biggest stage of the season for me to prove myself on," Garfinkel said.

If Garfinkel has a strong showing at state, he just might put Clayton onto the water map for something other than girls' diving, and, in turn, prove his status as Clayton swimming and water polo leader justified. ☺

### Next Home Meets

9/25 4 pm Pattonville

10/2 4 pm Hazelwd W./  
Cape Girardeau

# New coaches bring new perspectives

by Preeti Viswanathan  
Editor

Students in some Clayton High School sports teams have had the opportunity to learn from new coaches this fall. This year's new coaches are Kurtis Werner, who is now the head coach for the boys and girls cross country team, Krystal Williams, who coaches cheerleading, and Allie Park, the softball coach.

Werner was formerly the assistant coach for the cross country team, but became the head coach after former head coach Mike Nelke became Activities Director. He says one of the biggest surprises about this year's team is the number of students who have joined the team.

"One surprise this year has been numbers," Werner said. "We have about thirty boys and girls running cross country this year. The biggest surprise from the numbers has been the amount of underclassmen that have joined the program. These underclassmen are the future of the program and right now the future looks bright for the Greyhounds."

Softball coach Allie Park said this is her first year coaching softball, and it has been a big learning experience for her.

"I have just tried to put together all the skills and coaching styles from coaches I have had in the past and give them [the girls] the tools they need to be successful," Park said.

Despite the relative inexperience of several players on the team, Park has seen drastic improvement in the team since the beginning of the season and is happy about the attitude of the players.

"The girls are really upbeat and always stay positive, which is great, and that is a challenge in itself - learning new things and keeping yourself and your teammates positive," Park said.

With the large number of students on the cross country team, Werner's biggest challenge so far has been organization. However, things are less complicated than Werner initially anticipated with the return of former coach Anne Etling and the help of another coach from Truman State University.

"I hired one of my former running teammates from Truman State University, Kevin Crean. The strong relationship and openness of the coaches towards ideas has allowed trust to develop between the team and coaches," Werner said.

Park also said the assistance of the coaching staff and her own experience playing softball in college has eased her transition as a new coach and has helped shape team dynamic.

"I just finished my career in college softball, so making that transition from a player to a coach is new to me," Park said. "But it's fun because I feel like I can give back my knowledge that I have accumulated over the years and make these girls into terrific ballplayers."

Werner and the other coaches have worked closely with team members on conditioning exercises to ensure that the runners don't get injured, and this has also contributed to increased collaboration.

"The cooperation of the athletes to do a lot more speed work, distance, agility, and abdominal drills has allowed



Courtesy of Kurtis Werner

Varsity cross country coach Kurtis Werner often runs with the team. The team has done well this year under his direction.

the team to both improve and become a real team," Werner said.

As head coach, Werner said one of his other goals is to learn more about runners' injuries, due to the high number he and the other coaches have encountered.

"I would like to sit down this winter and study-up on aches, pains, and other injuries and how they could be prevented. Coach Crean, Coach Etling, and I have a minor understanding of what is wrong with a runner some of the time, but I would like to not necessarily diagnose problems, but have an idea of what is wrong so the athlete can properly take care of the injury," Werner said.

For Park, team bonding has been crucial to the success of the softball team.

"We do everything as a team; I think the smallest things really make an impact," Park said. "For instance, we had a team barbecue at the beginning of the season so everyone could get acquainted."

Park strongly emphasizes positive feedback and collaboration among the players to strengthen team bonding.

"I like to teach positive thinking and leadership. I tell them they cannot get mad at each other when one makes a mistake, and they have to pick each other up. And during practices, I like for the girls to learn from each other. If each and every girl knows what the other does right and wrong - they can help and learn from each other," Park said. "Softball is almost like a sisterhood - and when a group of girls get together, they can be mean, excited, happy, sad, or irritated. But they still have to work together; it's a team sport and the team chemistry is very important. We are getting there; I tell them they are looking more and more like a team everyday." ☺



Scott Shapiro

Senior Charles Goodman (left) and Jack Harned (right) are both looking to play college sports next year; Goodman in baseball and Harned in soccer. Thus far, the soccer team is 6-1-1 under Harned's goalkeeping.



Jenna Massey

# Several CHS athletes NCAA bound

by Jon Knohl  
Reporter

Every year thousands of student athletes are recruited to bring their skills to the next level. As a matter of fact there have been quite a few Clayton graduates that have made the move to the next level. Some Clayton alumni that are now participating in college athletics are Adam Banks (football at Washington University), Parker Rawdon (soccer at Columbia College), Syd and Zack Warner (basketball at Christian Brothers University in Memphis), and Paige Meneses (diving at Yale).

Some have even made it all the way to professional sports and become superstars like Jaiirus Byrd, CHS class of 2005, who recently graduated from the University of Oregon. Byrd is now the backup corner back for the Buffalo Bills.

Last year, three varsity football players were recruited to play in college. Those three varsity superstars were Adam Banks, Hal Lewis, and Andrew Dowd.

Now it is senior running back and linebacker Don Stewart's turn. Stewart is the star of the varsity football team. He is currently being recruited by Drake University and Butler University, both of which are very good schools and Division I (FCS) powerhouses.

"I am very excited and proud that I am being recruited," Stewart said. "I am looking forward to making the move to the next level."

CHS senior and varsity goalkeeper Jack Harned is also being recruited to play in college. Harned has been the varsity goalkeeper of the boys' varsity soccer team for the past three years now and he is also ready to make the move to the next level. Harned is currently being recruited by Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee. Even though Rhodes is a Division III school it is one of the top in the country. Harned is also looking into Rockhurst University in Kansas City, Missouri. Harned is still looking for the right college to bring his skills

"I am looking for a school with good athletic facilities, good coaches, and just an overall good school."

Charles Goodman  
Senior

to.

For the first time in Clayton history, the varsity field hockey team beat Villa Duchesne High School. Four-year varsity stars Anna Krane and Izzy Fratt led the Lady Hounds to victory. Fratt and Krane have been on varsity for all four years of their high school careers and are now being scouted to play in college. Fratt is being recruited by two NCAA Division I schools located in the Northeast. She is also taking her selection process very serious.

"When I look for a college with a strong academic reputation overall, but especially in the science field," Fratt said. "I am also really looking for a strong connection with a coach that I will be comfortable to be around the next four years."

Fratt is excited to play field hockey in high school but is going to miss the friendships and memories she has created during the last four years.

The CHS baseball team has produced a lot of players to the college level, including current assistant athletic director Lee Laskowski, who played ball at Missouri. Seniors Matt Militello and Charles Goodman are both being recruited to play college baseball. Militello is currently being recruited by Miami, Missouri, Penn, Indiana, Purdue, Illinois, and Brown. Goodman is being scouted by Rhodes College, Lawrence University, Macalester College, and Lindenwood University.

"I am looking for a school with good athletic facilities, good coaches, and just an overall good academic school," Goodman said.

Every year there are thousands of athletes that are scouted to make the move to college sports and this year CHS will contribute quite a few of those athletes, whether at the Division I level or at the NAIA level.

Make sure to look for them in a few years as they look to conquer NCAA athletics next. ☺

# Clayton football team starts season 1-2, suffers injuries

by Christian Thomas  
Reporter

The varsity football Hounds came into this season with all odds against them.

Losing 22 seniors from last season's 5-5 team, a lot of positions needed to be filled including quarterback.

Junior Chase Haslett was supposed to fill that role before an unfortunate baseball injury last spring cost him at least the first half of the season.

Also, senior wide receiver, Devonte Bell, will miss this season after having shoulder surgery. Bell was an all-state selection last season after rushing for 107 yards on nine carries and accumulating 1,018 yards receiving on 41 catches.

"It is disappointing having to sit out my last year," Bell said. "I wish the team the best though."

With all the holes to fill, the Hounds adopted a new defensive system to counter the inexperience. The new system uses three defensive linemen, as opposed to the traditional four.

"I like the new defense because we are able to have more athletes on the field," said senior captain Don Stewart.

The Hounds had early success going 3-0 at a preseason Jamboree. The team got contributions from everyone, while shutting out St. Mary's, Trinity, and MICDS.

Another bright spot came when the Hounds defeated Lutheran North 23-20 in the first game of the season.

Junior running back Kameron Stewart was the story of the day, dominating the Lutheran North defense for three touchdowns after senior Don Stewart was sidelined with an ankle injury.

"A starter went down and I did what I had to do to help my team win," Kameron Stewart said.

Unfortunately, injuries plagued the team during the first home game against Borgia.

Senior quarterback Graham Gold was out with ankle problems, senior running back/linebacker Don Stewart aggravated a previous ankle injury, and junior running back/linebacker Kameron Stewart strained a muscle in his chest, which will keep him out for at least a week.

Borgia took advantage of the shorthanded Hounds racking up close to 400 yards of total offense and four touchdowns.

Senior running back John Barrett got the Hounds their first points with a 76 yard touchdown run late in the fourth quarter.

"Losing is always bad," Don Stewart said. "But, we just have to stay focused on the rest of the season."

The team is excited for several upcoming games.

"Normandy, University City, and Jennings will be interesting, because those are district games," Kameron Stewart said. "If we want to make the playoffs we need to win those games."

"The home games will be a lot of fun," Don Stewart said. "We get Berkeley, University City, and Normandy, which are

"I like the new defense, because we are able to have more athletes on the field.

Don Stewart  
Senior



The varsity football team lines up for a passing play. The Hounds lost to Borgia 31-7 on Sept. 4 and are 1-3 overall.

Izzy Fratt

winnable games."

Chaminade is the next game, and a difficult match up to add excitement to an already challenging schedule. The Hounds will play at Chaminade on Friday Oct. 25.

The Homecoming game will be played at noon on Saturday October 3, against Imagine College Prep after the parade around Clayton that morning and the Hounds are asking all students to attend.

## Tennis clinics at Shaw Park offer practice and fun for all skill levels



A tennis player prepares to serve. Serving, volleying, forehand shots and backhand shots are addressed in tennis clinics that allow athletes of all skill levels to practice.

by Jake Lee  
Reporter

Students looking to improve their tennis game now have several new options. Tennis clinics are available Monday through Thursday at 5:30 p.m. under the tennis coach Rich Chappuis. All levels of players are welcome to come to clinics at Shaw Park that are best suited for them.

Advanced tennis players who are experienced in tournament playing can come either once a week or twice a week on Mondays and Wednesdays. Most of the players in this clinic are varsity high school players as well as a few middle school players with high playing ability.

Less experienced players can go on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the same time. This clinic mostly includes middle school players, but there are also novice high school tournament players.

Players who have never touched a racket in their lives and are just beginning to play tennis can go to the Center of Clayton, where they are assigned to a professional player. There are a variety

of pros including Bobby Vodicka, Rich Chappuis, and Manuel Prado. Vodicka tends to work with beginners, while Chappuis and Prado teach all levels, including adults.

No matter what level a player is, they are bound to fit anywhere in the Clayton tennis program

"There are a lot of beginning programs in Clayton through staff members of Clayton Shaw Park," Chappuis said.

Chappuis coaches the clinic through both drills and live ball drills, where players play points out with a purpose. A purpose being practicing certain types of shots, including the forehand, backhand, slice, volleys, and serves. Conditioning is also part of the clinic, so staying in shape is no problem for tennis players who attend.

Prices are also very reasonable at Shaw Park compared to other tennis

clinics and private lessons. Private lessons are around \$40 to \$50 and clinics with the Clayton Program are \$90-\$130 per session (six clinics) for residents and \$110 to \$150 for nonresidents. However, if clinics with the more experienced players are wanted, Chappuis' program is \$150 for a single session.

Chappuis also says that clinics mix serious play with fun drills. Participating in the programs also increases one's chances of getting into the varsity tennis team.

"The clinics are not all serious, but depending on the level, we are more in depth with the more advanced players than the mediocre players," Chappuis said. "Of course, if you are trying to improve you need to find opportunities to

get better. There isn't a guarantee to get into varsity, but if you participate in the clinics, you'll have a higher chance in getting into the varsity team."

Sophomore Ali Rangwala has played tennis for a year and a half.

"The clinic is helpful because it helps my all around game and I get to experience different levels of players and learn what I should do," Rangwala said. "I have improved a lot because the coaches guide you in how to improve your game"

Sophomore Dylan Schultz, who has played tennis seriously for 4 years, plays tennis because he likes the sport and likes the individuality.

"The clinic is only one hour and a half and it is not that time consuming," Schultz said. "It's a fun way to spend some nights after school to get some breaks from homework."

Though the first session has already started, one can join at any time, even in the middle of a session, because the clinics go year round. "The clinic is pretty cheap compared to other clinics and it's not too late to join," Schultz said.

"The clinic is helpful because it helps my all-around game and I get to experience different levels of players and learn what I should do.

Ali Rangwala  
Sophomore

## Athlete of the Month

### Anna Krane



#### BY THE NUMBERS

-7 goals

-5 assists

Anna is an all around incredible athlete. She leads our team by example, and her love of the game is contagious. Anna's ability to focus on each play paired with her competitive spirit make her a standout on our team.

--Coach Lizzy Dooley

## Freshmen prove young skill by participating in varsity athletics

Freshmen athletes add age diversity to varsity teams, while prompting questions of fairness among upperclassmen.

by Rachel Han  
Reporter

Sweat dripping onto the smooth court as the ball flies over the net, the soles of shoes scrape against the green grass of the field as the goalie successfully stops the attack, and plastic clashes as two players collide head on in pursuit of the sailing football.

It is no news that sports are a big part of CHS. More than two thirds of the students are involved in a sport. To deal with the inevitably different skill levels, several freshmen and sophomores were selected to play on the varsity teams this year at CHS.

Sophomore Nikki Tomova, the setter of her volleyball team, has enjoyed her experience so far playing on varsity.

"I think that it's hard at first," Tomova said. "But once everyone gets used to each other it's way more fun and people just forget that we're all in different grades."

Varsity volleyball coach Mitchell Lazerus admits that there is more pressure from some of the older teammates to show that freshmen deserve to be

there.

"But it's great for freshmen to be able to step up and prove themselves," Lazerus said.

A varsity team presents more intense competition to be the best. The player must work extremely hard to impress his or her teammates and coaches.

Players are chosen based on their superior skill level, but also, according to Tomova, whether or not they're willing to work hard.

"The higher level you go in a sport, the more independent the sport should be to you," Tomova said. "You have to take time outside of scheduled practices to work. There isn't always the coaches' support every single time you mess up."

Varsity teams come with higher expectations, and a varsity player must be able to live up to the challenge. The varsity level requires an elevated amount of commitment to the sport.

The player has to adjust to being in a more pressured, critical environment with less room for error: if they don't understand something, they are expected to learn on their own.

Many of these players have spent

time and effort training in sports since they were very young.

They are extremely invested in their success at the sport. Because of the increased difficulty, varsity teams give higher-level players the chance to hone their skills.

Not everyone sees varsity as a fair opportunity for talented players to improve, however.

"I don't think it should be allowed, even if they are good enough," freshman Christa Kopp said. "I think you should be at least a sophomore. It gives the upperclassmen a chance to be on varsity."

Kopp is not alone in her disapproval of freshmen on varsity teams.

Several of the coaches believe that a player should be put on the team where they will improve the most. Therefore, if a player is on varsity, but never gets to play, they are better off on a JV or freshman team. For future freshmen striving for varsity or even JV, the trick is to be loud and encouraging. Underclassmen should stay positive and believe in themselves.

"It's all mental motivation," Tomova said.

## Anna Krane leads team with talent

by Dawn Androphy  
Editor

As the captain of the CHS field hockey team, senior Anna Krane views field hockey as a very important and valuable aspect of her life.

"I just really enjoy playing the sport," Krane said. "Being with the team, being with a lot of really good friends, and just all of the life lessons."

She takes her leadership role on the team seriously, but also contributes a cheerful disposition to the team.

"I pretty much have to encourage them to run—a lot—to do the conditioning, running, and stay focused during practice," Krane said.

Junior Lily Gage appreciates Krane's leadership skills and views her as a valuable source of encouragement to the team.

"Anna always encourages us to keep

pushing ourselves, especially when we go on runs or are having trouble with a new skill," Gage said. "Even when the rest of the team gets tired, she keeps encouraging the rest of us."

However, Krane is confident that the hard work will pay off and the team will succeed in the coming year.

"I think we'll do really well," Krane said. "We have a lot of juniors and seniors who have been playing outside of high school, as well, so I think we can do really well this season."

Gage views Krane's impressive

pro prowess on the field as a key component in the team's success.

"She's a really skillful player," Gage said. "She has great ball control, really

"Anna always encourages us to keep pushing ourselves, especially when we go on runs or are having trouble with a new skill.

Lily Gage  
Junior

nice shots on goal, and she's really good at just moving the ball across the field and finding the open player."

In addition to looking forward to a great season with the Greyhounds, Krane also looks forward to playing for a college team next year.

"I just really like playing field hockey, so I can't imagine not having it," Krane said. "It really helps with my time management."

## College football update Perennial national contenders have retooled and reloaded

by Meris Hoxha  
Reporter

The College Football season is under way.

The Florida Gators at the top of the AP Top 25. Florida looks to win its second National Championship with senior quarterback Tim Tebow leading the way.

"I think that they could potentially go undefeated. They have amazing talent on both sides of the ball; they just have wonderful talent," football coach Kurt Leopold said.

Tim Tebow is one of the three front-runners for the Heisman Trophy [college football's most outstanding player], the others being Sam Bradford of Oklahoma and Colt McCoy of Texas.

However, Bradford suffered a sprained shoulder in Oklahoma's opening week loss to BYU and will miss an extended period of time.

Oklahoma, ranked third before the season, dropped out of the top ten after losing to the Cougars and losing their quarterback.

Texas and Florida are among the teams who have adopted an

offensive system that spreads receivers in the field and passes often. This spread offense has taken over College Football, so these offenses will have some great match-ups this season.

"When you look at Texas, they have a great [offensive] line and receivers, and they probably have the most experience of any team," said CHS quarterback Chase Haslett. "Because of that I think that Colt McCoy is the front runner; he is just going to have a monster

season." After the first two weeks, Florida still tops the rankings. The rest of the top five is rounded out with #2 Texas, #3 USC, #4 Alabama and #5 Mississippi.

It is unlikely that both Florida and Alabama will make it to the National Championship game because these two teams have to play one another and compete in the same conference.

Additionally, third-ranked USC faces its own troubles.

The Trojans have had to replace all but one of their defensive starters, as well as most of the offensive linemen, and find a new starter at quarterback. True Freshman Matt Barkley has assumed the starting quarterback role for the USC Trojans.

"Barkley is a great player; he did win the Gatorade National Player of the Year [as a high school senior]," said junior Christian Thomas. "He won't have any trouble at USC - he's the future of the program."

Barkley looks to lead a highly potent offense loaded with great athletic receivers such as Damian Williams and an arsenal of explosive running backs including

Joe McKnight.

With a win against then #8 Ohio State, dubbed the Collision in Columbus, the Trojans have solidified their position as a national power. USC should make a very serious run at the National championship.

This season should be an exciting one with stars like Tebow and McCoy returning to lead great teams and Barkley following in the footsteps of the great quarterbacks of the past. ☺

"I think that [Florida] could potentially go undefeated. They have amazing talent on both sides of the ball; they just have wonderful talent."  
Kurt Leopold  
Football coach

## Another tough season looms Rams look to rebound after a disappointing 2008-09 campaign.

by Caroline Greenberg  
Reporter

Now that the preseason is over, the real games begin.

The St. Louis Rams showed some new faces during the preseason games. A new coach and new players on offense and defense will be joining the Rams already very large family. They won three out of four preseason games, but the regular season is all that matters.

Last year was a dismal and disappointing season for the Rams. A record of 2-14 was the worst since they moved to St. Louis. Fans were frustrated and stopped going to games. Some games where not even televised because they were not sold out.

"I think the Rams will go six and ten this year," freshman Adam Belsky said. "The new players are okay so the team could be better."

Sports Illustrated predicts the Rams will finish last in their division and will not make the playoffs. Although the magazine says the Rams are improving the team still has a long way to go.

"The Rams broke my heart last year," University of Denver freshman and recent CHS graduate Ben Hillman said. "They can't do much worse this year."

The Rams hired former New York Giants defensive coordinator Steve Spagnuolo after a search for their next

head coach. He signed a four-year deal and will hopefully have a positive impact on the Rams.

Three key new players for the Rams are Kyle Boller, James Laurinaitis and Jason Smith.

Kyle Boller replaced Mark Bulger as quarterback after Bulger suffered an injury and did a great job during the preseason. After Bulger struggled during the week one loss to the Seattle Seahawks much speculation has grown as to whether Boller will assume the starting job.

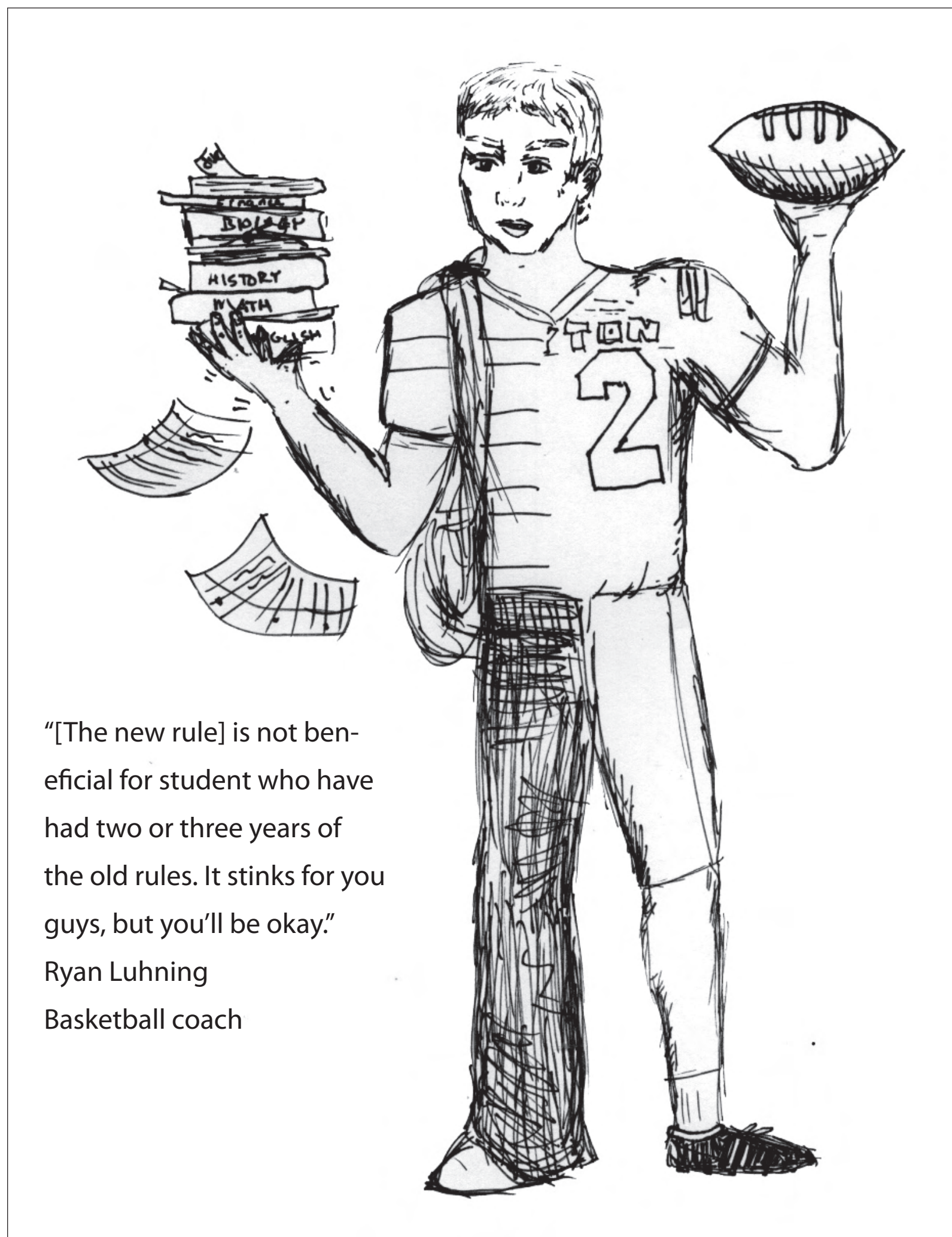
James Laurinaitis had the second most tackles in the pre-season. He is the new starting middle linebacker.

Jason Smith was the second player selected in the draft last year. After the departure of perennial Pro Bowler Orlando Pace Smith has big shoes to fill.

Pace was released and receiver Tory Holt was traded because the Rams did not want to pay their salaries. After playing such big roles in the past these are very large losses for the team.

Former Nebraska defensive lineman Adam Carriker injured his shoulder during the final preseason game and will be out for the year. The Rams' defensive rookie of the year two years ago was predicted to be a major part of the Rams' defensive plans.

It could be yet another tough season for the Rams. ☺



Meredeth McMahan

"[The new rule] is not beneficial for student who have had two or three years of the old rules. It stinks for you guys, but you'll be okay."

Ryan Luhnig  
Basketball coach

## New credit policy affects student-athletes

by Alex Kasnetz  
Reporter

Creating a schedule can be stressful for many students at CHS. There are many factors to consider and many students want as many free periods as possible.

When deciding on their schedules this year, students had to consider a new factor. Students are now required to enroll in three credits per semester in order to be eligible to play a sport, a change from the previous rule of maintaining 2.5 credits in order to be eligible.

Despite the impact this new rule has on students here at CHS, school counselor Anthony Henderson said the administration had no role in making that decision.

"That's a state decision, totally state," Henderson said, "Students must now carry a full load. Some kids may choose

not to play sports."

This change in eligibility requirements coincides with another state change, which now requires students to have 24 credits before graduating, two more credits than the previous requirement.

These changes have clearly had their largest impact on athletes and the school athletic department.

"If we do get caught with someone with less than three credits, we would have to forfeit those games," head basketball coach Ryan Luhnig said.

However, Luhnig also rejected the notion that this new rule may have a significant negative impact on athletic programs.

"People who are involved in sports are dedicated," Luhnig said.

These changes have had a more significant impact on seniors, many of whom do not need three credits in

order to graduate. Therefore, students might be discouraged from playing sports their senior year.

"I have kids come in and say, I want to play sports but I don't want to [be in enrolled in six classes] for my senior year," Henderson said.

Also, older students at Clayton High have participated under the previous rule of enrollment of 2.5 credits in their previous years at Clayton.

"[The new rule] is not beneficial for students who have had two or three years of the old rules," Luhnig said. "It stinks for you guys, but you'll be okay."

The rule change even took some students by surprise. Senior Emil Thyssen had been planning on playing soccer this fall before he found out he was ineligible.

"I had told [head coach Matt] Balossi last spring that I was planning on playing. One day I was up at the cen-

ter working out, preparing for soccer," Thyssen said, "When I saw Balossi and he told me he had received a list of the juniors eligible to play fall sports this year and that I wasn't on it."

Thyssen had taken only five classes the previous semester instead of the required six. At the time, he was unaware any change in the rules had been made. After doing some research, he found out that it was a state decision.

"We can't do anything to change it," Thyssen said, "I had 19.75 credits by the end of my junior year so I am on pace to graduate with more than the required 24 credits."

Many student athletes are unhappy about the change. But regardless of the impact the new rules may have on CHS students, administrators and students are powerless to change it. As Coach Luhnig said, "There's nothing we can do about it." ☺

## The return of Michael Vick

by Nick Van Almsick  
Reporter

Michael Vick's image was tarnished.

He was one of the elite quarterbacks in the National Football League (NFL) until he got arrested in 2007 for hosting illegal dog fighting activities on his property in Virginia. He was released from prison this summer after serving a two-year sentence and has now signed with the Philadelphia Eagles.

Vick's return to the NFL has caused controversy among the public. The biggest question was if Vick should be allowed to come back into the NFL after being arrested for a felony.

Freshman football coach and Eagles fan Doug Verby thinks Vick deserves a second chance.

"I get the feeling that he has learned from his mistakes and that he isn't going to be a repeat offender," Verby said.

Varsity football captain Don Stewart agrees with Verby. "What Vick did was wrong and he should have gone to jail," Stewart said. "But everybody deserves a second chance, and I think he'll try his best to make it up to the fans."

However not everyone thinks Vick should be reinstated so quickly. Senior Charles Goodman doesn't think Vick has done enough to be able to jump right back into things and doesn't think he would be a good role model for the kids.

"Even though he spent two years in jail, I still think [Vick] needs to do more to show that he has changed before going back to the NFL," Goodman said. "Every young athlete looks

up to the professional players, and I don't think Vick is somebody they should look up to."

Verby also believes that Vick can turn his image around, and even become a positive role model despite his past.

"I think it's a good opportunity for Vick to work with animal rights groups and to speak out against dog fighting," Verby said.

Now that Vick is back in the NFL the question of if he will even be able to make an impact after being out of the game for so long arises. Every player in the NFL works hard during the season and in the off-season to stay in shape, but Vick hasn't been able to because he has been in jail.

"He came back to practice in great shape, so I think he can contribute immediately as a Wildcat quarterback for the Eagles," Verby said.

A wildcat quarterback is a running back type player inserted into the role of the quarterback.

Stewart also thinks Vick can have a big impact for the Eagles even if he's not playing his original position of quarterback.

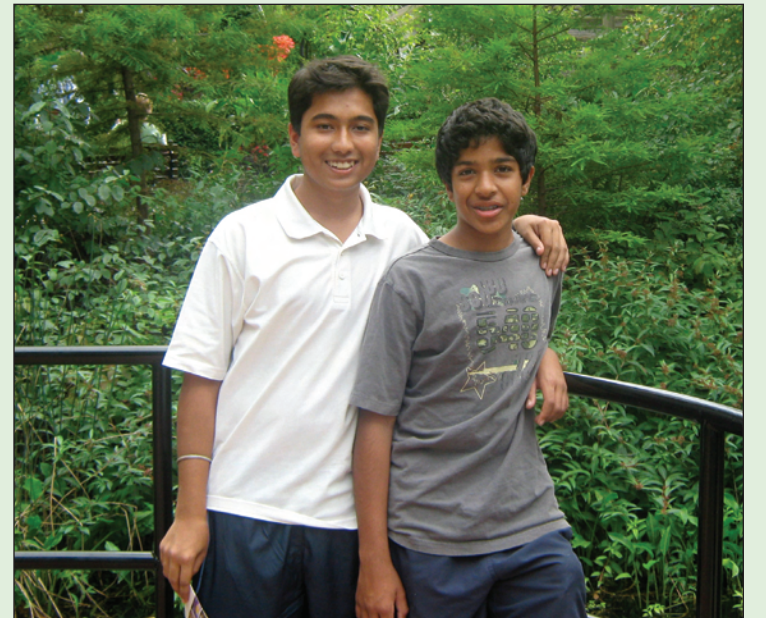
"[Vick] is an explosive player," Stewart said. "When he played for the Falcons something exciting always happened with the ball in his hands. I think if they don't use him as a quarterback they should put him in the running back position and see what he can do."

Although Vick cannot play until the third week of the season, he has been given the rare opportunity of a second chance to turn his life around. "Hopefully he'll become a better person and learn something from his mistakes," Stewart said. ☺



Photo courtesy of David Majaletti/Philadelphia Daily News/MCT

Vick (7) scrambles out of the pocket during his second preseason game since returning against the New York Jets.



# Completing the Connection

by Ken Zheng  
Co-Editor in Chief

With big grins and a bag of Bread Co bagels, the members of SAVE (Student Activists Vested in Education) were ready to greet their international guests from India on Sep. 15. After an hour of "are they here yet?" and "how much longer," the students find out that their international guests were delayed in Chicago while transferring flights.

SAVE, which consists of roughly 20

CHS and WMS students, strives to be "rigidly flexible." While an oxymoron, it describes their need for structure while maintaining the ability to adjust as needed.

The guests arrived later that night, tired but excited. Each of the six Indian students, Aarushi, Shaivya, Akanksha, Swati, Shivani and Saurabh, goes home with host families. Their trip is 12 days long, with stops in Bonn and Frankfurt, Germany and Chicago before they finally arrive at their destination: St.

Louis.

Last year, SAVE travelled to India in order to initiate a long-term relationship. Almost one year later, the other half of the international connection is built at last.

Exploratorium teacher Sandra Sermos, founder of SAVE, believes that harnessing the power of globalization in youth is key to solving the problems of the future. With that goal in mind, she enables the students to become leaders on an international level. ☺



Photos courtesy of Will Scheel



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: SAVE and the Indian students visit the Botanical Gardens to explore the verdant paths. BOTTOM RIGHT: Middle school teacher Claudia Wall prepares sack lunches while students pack sandwiches. RIGHT: Swadi investigates plants at the Danforth Plant Center. CLOCKWISE FROM BOTTOM LEFT: SAVE at the Shaw Nature Reserve for an overnight. After studying river biology, they hiked back to the cabins before visiting the Tyson building, affiliated with Washington University. A dinner at Arya Yadama's house with her father and local residents and guests. An afternoon hike at Shaw. All the Indian students pose in front of a landmark at the Botanical Gardens.

### Graduation Date Changed

Change the date on your calendar for graduation. This year CHS will celebrate its 100th graduating class. In conjunction with graduation, CHS will create a Hall of Fame. Alumni, former principals and new members of the Hall of Fame will be invited to participate in the ceremony. As a result, the ceremony will be changed from Wednesday, June 2 to Sunday, May 23. Administrators hope this ceremony will allow for more participation.

### Homecoming Events

The super heroes theme CHS Homecoming is planned for the week of Sept. 28. Freshmen and juniors will decorate the Commons on Sept. 29 and dress up on Sept. 30. Sophomores and seniors will decorate the Commons on Sept. 30 and dress up on Oct. 1. Blue and orange spirit day, the pep rally and bonfire will be held on Oct. 2. The Homecoming parade, football game, alumni picnic and dance will be on Oct. 3.

### World Languages and Culture Day

On Friday, Sept. 25 CHS will have a World Language and Culture Day. Every foreign language student is invited to the potluck and movie that evening. Students need to talk with their language teacher about attending this event. All students must bring a specific dish to share.

### Big Read Comes to Clayton

On Saturday, October 10 the Big Read will be in Clayton. This event will feature a variety of authors and discussions in attempt to promote literacy. "Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace" author Greg Mortenson will speak at this event. Volunteers are needed to help out at this free event.



“It brings Japanese culture and traditions to the Botanical Gardens and links them to our Japanese Garden.”

Karen Hagenow  
Public Information Officer  
for the Botanical Gardens

# Summer trip to Thailand provides an enriching cultural experience

by Maddy Bullard  
Editor

Junior Allison Goldfarb spent one month of her summer in Thailand, climbing mountains, building irrigation systems and exploring new cultures.

Goldfarb used a program called Rustic Pathways, a program that sends teenagers, college students and groups on trips to foreign countries for community service, gap years in college, or tourism. Goldfarb chose an intensive community service program in northwest Thailand.

“I wanted to experience something different than my normal life and I thought it would be a good opportunity to learn more about myself and the world around me,” Goldfarb said.

Goldfarb wasn't looking for a vacation, but a chance to do something truly different and exciting.

“If I go halfway around the world, I don't want to stay in a hotel with a bunch of Americans,” Goldfarb said.

Goldfarb stayed in the Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai, Mae Hong Son and B'Pai areas of Thailand. Goldfarb was somewhat intimidated by the trip at first.

“It was the most intense program,” Goldfarb said.

In most of the areas Goldfarb traveled to, there was no running water. For Goldfarb, a bathroom was a squat toilet and a shower was a bucket of water. She slept on mats on the floor in the villages.

“At first I was like, this is going to be really tough,” Goldfarb said.

After a few days, though, Goldfarb managed to adjust to her new surroundings.

“We were totally isolated from society,” Goldfarb said. “There were no roads to get to the villages,” Goldfarb said.

Goldfarb traveled in a group of 12 people, including two leaders who were in their early twenties. However, there was no hierarchy in the group; Goldfarb bonded with everyone in the group.

Goldfarb felt especially lucky because of the unique opportunities the trip presented for her.

“Being able to stay in the villages was the best part,” Goldfarb said.

Usually, tourists and visitors to Thailand only stay in cities and towns and don't travel to the small, tight-knit villages.

“People are unable to visit these villages,” Goldfarb said. “They are completely cut off from tourism. We were only able to visit these villages because of the personal connections that Rustic Pathways had in these villages.”

The populations of these villages are very small.

The largest one was 60 families, and the smallest was about 20,” Goldfarb said.

Goldfarb recognizes the unique opportunity she has been able to experience.

“Each village we went to was a different hill tribe,” Goldfarb said.

Goldfarb visited a Karen, Lisu and Ahka tribe, and encountered differing cultures from each of them.

“We would live in a village for a week and meet with elders to see what they needed,” Goldfarb said.

Living in a village was a very new experience for Goldfarb, for several reasons.

“In all of the villages, there was livestock everywhere,” Goldfarb said. “In our first village, there was a cow that would stand in front of the stairs to the house, and we would have to physically push it out of the way just to get in and go to sleep.”

The group was in charge of planning a community service project for each village they visited. Their responsibilities included planning finances, materials and construction.

“In the first village we built a roof over the water supply for the dry season,” Goldfarb said.

The village had had problems with bacteria getting into their water supply. Goldfarb's team also built a wall around the local school, so the children could plant a garden without the pigs and other livestock trampling it.

Although most of the trip was community service, Goldfarb also spent some time in towns near the villages.

“We went to a longneck village after we stayed in our first village,” Goldfarb said. “It was kind of disturbing, because it was their home, but it was also a tourist site. It was like a human zoo—I felt terrible taking a picture.”

The group's task in their second village was to build a wall around the spirit house. Goldfarb said she would rather have done something more practical, but the spirit house was the village elder's top priority. The group respected his wishes.

No women or white people were allowed in the spirit house, so the villagers had to cleanse the spirit house by slaughtering six chickens after the volunteers were finished. The third village brought the most challenging project of all. “We redid their whole water system,” Goldfarb said.

The water the villagers had been using contained fertilizer runoff, which was unhealthy to drink. Water was also scarce in the village. Their water was turned off from noon to 5 p.m. to conserve it.



Junior Allison Goldfarb sits on the top of an elephant on her trip to Thailand. During this visit she explored villages and helped with projects.

“We had to trek through the jungle up a mountain with bags of cement and pipes on our backs, and then dig a trench with a hoe back to the village, lay the pipes, and then connect them,” Goldfarb said. “It was the hardest work I've ever done in my life, but when I saw a drop of water come out of the last pipe, I was the happiest I've ever been in my life.”

Goldfarb found that much of Thai culture was very different from that of the U.S.

“The people are very polite and very friendly,” Goldfarb said.

In fact, Thai people have many etiquette customs that Americans do not practice. For example, when you're talking to someone else, it is rude in Thailand to be on a different level than that person; if they are sitting, you must also sit. It is also rude to point your feet directly at someone when talking to them. Goldfarb also enjoyed learning about Thai cuisine.

“Thai food is delicious,” Goldfarb said.

Actually, Goldfarb also encountered some not-so-common dishes during her travels: cooked dog, cooked rat, cockroaches (someone in her group ate one as big as her hand), frog and scorpion. Goldfarb tried mealworm, but didn't enjoy it.

Goldfarb also did a bit of tourism in Thailand. She took a boat ride from Thailand to Laos in Myanmar in the Golden Triangle, visited temples, rode elephants, saw the Chang Mai night bazaar and other markets, gave morning alms to monks, visited the Long Neck Village, went to the House of Opium in the Golden Triangle, and went to a Muay Thai fight.

“We would just be driving, and then tucked into the hillside would be a giant, golden reclining Buddha,” Goldfarb said. “It was incredible.”

Goldfarb took all of her new experiences in stride. She highly recommends trips like hers, especially community service trips, to other students.

“Make sure you immerse yourself in the culture as much as you can,” Goldfarb said. “Take all the opportunities because you can learn even from negative experiences.”

Goldfarb was struck by the Thai way of life and by how much it differs from Americans' viewpoints.

“I am grateful for what I have, but the philosophy is so different there,” Goldfarb said. “The focus is on people and life and living.”

Goldfarb thought that the Thai people she met were much less materialistic because they weren't focused on their belongings. Nobody locked their doors at night because there wasn't anything to steal. One month in Thailand wasn't enough for Goldfarb, but she wasn't sure if she would go back as a tourist because the experience wouldn't be as rich.

Goldfarb won an award on her trip this summer, the Star Alumni award. Goldfarb has decided to use the money from the award to help pay for a second trip next summer. She will head to Peru for a six-week adventure. Goldfarb's trip to Thailand has changed the way she looks at the world.

“It's pushed me,” Goldfarb said. “I never want to be in a comfort zone, ever.”



TOP: A girl in the Longneck village displays her neck ornamentation.

MIDDLE: Goldfarb also visited local markets in Mae Sariang.

BOTTOM: On the trip, Goldfarb visited a Karen village. On this visit, she taught sixth graders some English words and math as well as learning about their culture.

# New students explore CHS halls, activities

by Dee Luo  
Reporter

Although starting high school can be challenging, the fluctuations and pressures of school may be even harder for 48 new students at CHS, including 26 freshmen, seven sophomores, 10 juniors, and four seniors.

Students new to CHS face academic challenges and difficult social adjustments.

“If a new student is coming in as a sophomore or a senior, a lot of the social contacts, social circles are established, so it's a lot harder to adjust,” counselor Alice Morrison said. “They have the sadness of leaving friends behind.”

Transferring to a new school can be overwhelming. Sophomore Jonny Wong recently transferred from Fran-

cis Louise High School in New York. Wong's first impression of Clayton concerned its size.

“There's a lot less people here,” Wong said. “In Francis Louise, there were 5,000 students and the classes had 30 students.”

Nadia Diamond, a sophomore who moved from San Francisco, had the same impression. Her former school, Lowell High, was part of a Magnet school program. Diamond agrees that changing schools is very difficult socially.

“It's always hard meeting new people,” Diamond said. “It's even harder in sophomore year.”

Senior Alexia Barnes transferred from Orchard Farm High School in St. Charles and concurs that the social changes often make it hard to

acclimate.

“It seems like everybody has been here longer and already have their own groups,” Barnes said.

One of the ways that CHS tries to help new students adjust is through a new student orientation.

“This year, we formed new student groups that included teachers and student mentors,” Morrison said. “The new students were invited to a group all of their own, instead of integrating with the freshman. The new students got to meet their teachers and tour the school with a mentor.”

Diamond found orientation useful; she thinks the transition between schools went smoothly.

“I feel like I adjusted pretty well,” Diamond said. “My mentor had shown me around and I had shadowed over

spring break.”

As a senior, Barnes has had no major problems in adjusting to CHS.

“The teachers are pretty nice, and the classes are good,” Barnes said. “No problems so far.”

She enjoys the flexibility of some CHS policies, particularly the open campus policy.

“The open campus is nice,” Barnes said. “And free periods; we didn't have them at my old school.”

Barnes is taking sociology, forensic science and two learning centers. Being a senior, she appreciates having time during school to finish her homework, leaving free time to start looking through stacks of college brochures.

Clayton offers many opportunities for new students to get involved. School activities, ranging from all sorts

of academic clubs to sports teams, offer chances to try something new.

Diamond, who admits to being a “theater geek” will play the part of young Estella in the Fall play and looks forward to the Winter musical.

Barnes is considering joining track. Wong is taking advantage of the new classes provided at Clayton and is learning to play piano.

Morrison offers advice to new students:

“Jump in!” Morrison said. “That's tough, but jump in. Join a club, join a team, you have to be courageous. The more things you get involved in, the more opportunities that open up.”

Despite the difficulties of coming to a new school, the new students try to make the best of the situation in spite of the new adjustments.

# Art exhibits honor ancient Rome

by Taylor Stone  
Senior Arts Editor

Positioned in a farther, quieter end of the St. Louis Art Museum are two exceptional exhibits evoking homage and reverence to past art forms. However, the artwork itself seems to project this reverence as well as the exhibit itself.

"Reviving Antiquity: Artists and Their Study of Ancient Rome" and "Reviving Antiquity: Restoring Hubert Roberts Views of Ancient Rome" are separate exhibitions, though closely associated in theme and placed next to each others' gallery room. Judith Mann, curator of European Art to 1800 for the SLAM, is curator of both. The exhibitions are on display until Sept. 27.

"Reviving Antiquity: Artists and Their Study of Ancient Rome" showcases six recent acquisitions to the Art Museum's collection, illustrating the interest of eighteenth and nineteenth century painters and sculptors in the models of art of ancient Rome.

Though the Renaissance of northern and southern Italy has been most associated with the revival of passion for ancient models of literature and art, the exhibition clearly attempts to argue that the love of antiquity peaks during certain areas of modern history, including the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

Many of the artists whose works are displayed themselves visited ancient Roman sites, admiring its architectural forms and painting styles. These artists incorporated artistic styles emphasized in ancient art such as isolated figures, noble poses, and the profile portrait of Roman coins and cameos.

A French artist, Francois-Andre Vincent (1746-1816) used such forms in one of the pieces of art in the exhibition. Vincent's oil on canvas, "Arria and Poetus" (circa 1784) is one of the more dominant works showcased, because of the Roman myth associated with its subject as well as the bold poses of the

title subjects. A rather obscure myth is depicted, portraying a particular moment in the story when Arria reminds her husband Poetus that the honorable action of a Roman prisoner is to commit suicide, forcefully raising a knife to perform the act upon her to demonstrate. In the myth, Poetus had joined a failed rebellion against the Emperor Claudius. He was first punished with exile then brought back to Rome and imprisoned. He and his wife Arria "honorably" committed suicide after he was reminded of his Roman status.

The exhibition indicates that such a subject was popular among many European artists of the era and was selected

in order to demonstrate a mastery of classicism. "Arria and Poetus" exemplifies such mastery, using an easily understood stage-like setting and the focus on the profile.

Another highlight of the exhibition is the marble sculpture "Zenobia in Chains" (circa 1859). It

was created by American artist Harriet Hosman (1830-1908). Zenobia, a third century Syrian queen, is portrayed. Zenobia had conquered Egypt, but was defeated and taken as prisoner to Rome in golden chains by Emperor Aurelian. Aurelian, impressed by her beauty and dignity, freed her. Hosman displays this dignity in her piece, as the figure stands tall with her chains elegantly draped to the sides.

Other pieces in the exhibition include 4 prints of architectural fantasies based on Roman ruins by Giovanni Battista Piranesi and Andrea Locatelli's painting "View of the Roman Forum".

Accompanying this exhibition is a September seminar series: "The Allure of Antiquity: European Artists Inspired by Ancient Rome". The seminars are led by Mann; Bill Appleton, assistant director for public programs and education; Andrew Walker, assistant director for curatorial affairs and curator of American art; and Cynthia Stollhans, asso-

ciate professor of art history at Saint Louis University.

The series runs each Thursday in September from 10:30 am to 12 am and is held in the Museum's "Friends Room".

The second exhibition, "Reviving Antiquity: Restoring Hubert Roberts Views of Ancient Ruins" is an extremely unique addition to the Art Museum. The exhibition's room has essentially become a painting conservation lab, where conservator Mark Bockrath of Philadelphia cleans and restores 3 large eighteenth-century landscapes by the French painter Hubert Robert (1733-1808).

Robert was renowned for his study of classical antiquity and his artistic depiction of architectural scenes. These scenes combined elements from actual buildings in Rome as well as imaginary settings. Roberts spent many years studying in Rome where the ancient architectural feats of the ancient world stimulated his life-long interest in ruins and monuments. The Empress Catherine the Great even attempted (and failed) to lure the talented artist to the Russian court. Roberts was clearly popular in Russia, demonstrated by the four landscapes in the Saint Louis Art Museum's collection, which were in fact for Russian clients during the 1780s.

When one enters the exhibition room, the conservator can be observed certain days of the week as he delicately cleans and restores the large paintings. Two of the four are already completed and displayed for viewing. The extensive process of restoration is listed and described on the walls and railings. The detailed process includes surface cleaning, application of organic solvents to remove discolored resin varnish, saturation of paint layers, and the filling of cracks.

The full schedule of the conservator, including question and answer sessions, can be viewed online.

Truly, both exhibitions themselves promote a revival of the appreciation and fascination for ancient Roman artistic and architectural models. The admiration the artists had felt toward their subjects is transmitted to exhibition viewers, resulting in universal awe.



Staff Photo

Places such as the nationally renowned St. Louis Art Museum offer free admission. Many other theaters and museums offer free, cheap programs. St. Louis is known for its encouragement of cultural activities through visual and performing arts at multiple venues across the city.

## St. Louis offers free shows, events

by Taylor Stone  
Senior Arts Editor

St. Louis is renowned for many things. Ted Drewes' Frozen Custard. The Arch. The Cardinals. The 1904 World's Fair. While each of these things does add originality to the city, what truly is the most unique aspect of St. Louis is the utter availability of arts and entertainment.

Some may be puzzled by this conclusion, and may retort that "availability of arts and entertainment" does not fit properly onto a promotional billboard. However, this trait is nevertheless superior.

When I lived in Loveland, a quiet suburb of Cincinnati, I was exposed to very little amount of cultural, artistic events. Though this lack of exposure was perhaps a result of my young age, it seemed as if any event or performance worth attending was fairly expensive and a nuisance to drive to.

I treasured my family's attendance to The Cincinnati Ballet's yearly performance of "The Nutcracker" downtown. The beauty and fluidity of the dancing, the refinement of the theatre, and the charm of the Tchaikovsky's music mesmerized me. I was exposed to a world I didn't know in my town - where the nearest movie was 20 minutes away

and the nearest shopping mall was 30 minutes away, both on the highway. Of course, even this one performance caused problems. One year, when we attended the show, a snow storm was so harsh that it took my family almost 4 hours to drive home, though it usually took a mere 45 minutes or so.

Other cities have similar problems with their artistic entertainment in terms of pricing and availability to the general public. Museum prices in cities such as Chicago, Washington D.C, and New York City are harsh, especially for my family of 6. These tourist sites seem to be like mice-traps, aiming for profit rather than a universal appreciation for and access to the arts.

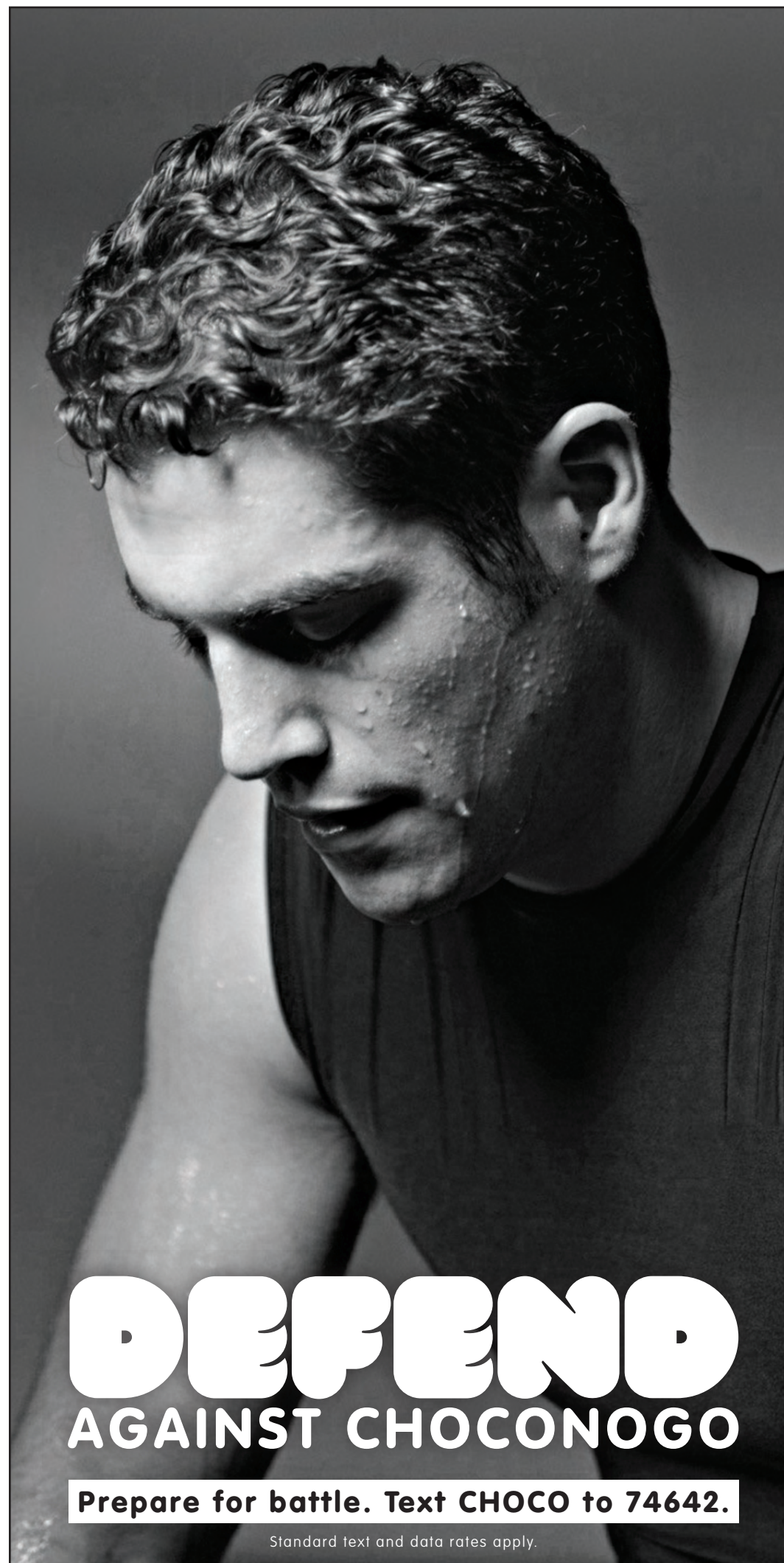
I was astounded by the difference between St. Louis and other cities when I would visit my grandparents in St. Louis, and even moreso so when I moved to Clayton. I noticed that countless shows, festivals, fairs, and exhibitions were extremely convenient to get to, especially with the easy-to-use Metro Link at anyone's disposal. Movie theatres were everywhere - ranging from the typical, like the Esquire, to the quirky, like the Moolah.

Most importantly, however, is that many events and programs are actually free and most are relatively cheap. The respective museums in Forest Park, of

art and history, are both free of charge. Each have cheap or free special events and classes available. I was astonished, at first, that one of the country's best collections of art could be open for viewing to all of the public. The nationally renowned St. Louis Science also has free admission. Other opportunities for entertainment include the free, summer "Shakespeare Festival", free seating at all Muny shows, and free access to the St. Louis Zoo. Clearly, one of the greatest contributors to the exposure of arts and entertainment is Forest Park, an asset in itself to St. Louis. Other popular, free events include annual arts fairs in various areas of St. Louis and the literary festival "The Big Read" hosted at the CHS campus on Oct. 10.

Truly, because of St. Louis's attempt to expose the arts to the general public, it can be accurately deemed one of the most vibrant and culturally active cities in the Midwest. Too few CHS students who have lived in Clayton for most of their lives take advantage of all of the blessings of their city. Students to desire to "get out" as soon as possible, unappreciative of the unrivaled advantages of St. Louis.

I, however, will retain the same enthusiasm I had as a younger child for the Cincinnati Ballet, channeling into thankfulness for my city.



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## Reviews of Coffee Shops

by Hannah Callahan  
Editor

### Kaldi's Coffee Roasting Co.

Some people bemoan Kaldi's grungy atmosphere, its equally grungy hipster baristas, and how you have to fill your own mug with coffee. These are the things I relish the most. Kaldi's offers a vegetarian, but slightly overpriced menu, serving most notably the \$2 "bottomless mug," and nachos that melt into each other to create a delicious \$8 mess of cheese, beans, and chips. There is a Kaldi's located on Demun, which is an ideal spot for spending afternoons people-watching and doing homework. However, it does not have Wi-Fi.



### Coffee Cartel

Open 24/7, The Central West End's Coffee Cartel is perfect for caffeine-addicted insomniacs and students with papers to finish alike. On one occurrence at 11:30 p.m., I was greeted by an elderly but zealous couple passing out Christianity pamphlets, urging me to "save my soul." Nevertheless, Coffee Cartel is an excellent place to hang out with friends at any hour, eat off of the full-menu, or work on homework by means of the wireless internet access. But be aware: the coffee shop tends to play cheesy 80's music on the speakers outside.



### Meshuggah Cafe

The word "meshuggah" means "crazy" in Yiddish, is the name of a Swedish experimental metal band from the 80's, and is one of my favorite coffee shops in St. Louis. Meshuggah is located in the Loop - you'll recognize it by the clay sculpture of a naked and slightly crumbling woman outside. There, you'll find many pseudo-bohemian hipsters scattered throughout the two levels, invariably talking about a band you haven't heard of, while enjoying the inexpensive coffee, cocaine-like in its effects. The food is also delicious.



### MoKaBe's Coffee House

MoKaBe's is located in South Grand on Arsenal, offering a great view of Tower Grove Park, and the cheap used book-store around the corner. There's a mix of people at MoKaBe's, including a prominent GLBT scene. Once you get around the cloud of smoke that usually surrounds the coffee shop, you'll find that MoKaBe's offers an unconventional, delicious and inexpensive dining experience.



### Starbucks Coffee Co.

To go to Starbucks is to buy into an image. It's an image of Clayton yuppies looking to blow cash on overpriced lattes with snazzy syrups and names, that don't quite mask the burnt mediocrity of the actual coffee. In fact, looking at their new "Pumpkin Spice Latte," Starbucks' drinks vaguely resemble coffee, an aspect that helps the company appeal to "tweens." This is the image of Corporate America, of big business exploiting independently-owned stores, one overpriced latte at a time. It is no surprise Starbucks is often referred to as "the McDonald's of coffee." But if you're still set on going (which I know you will be), I'm sure you know where to find one.

Photos courtesy of staff



Bridget von Hammersmark (Diane Kruger) plays drinking games with German soldiers and a couple of the American soldiers in Quentin Tarantino's 'Inglorious Basterds'

## 'Inglorious Basterds' portrays cruelty of American soldiers in WWII

by Dylan Schultz  
Reporter

"Inglorious Basterds" is a brand new and astonishing story of the Holocaust. With a great deal of violence and drama, Quentin Tarantino rewrites history in his latest motion picture. Exciting, original, and terribly shocking, the movie is almost worth the 153 minutes of time that it takes up.

The film opens in Nazi-occupied France. Nazi Colonel Hans Landa, played by Christoph Waltz, goes to question a local dairy farmer about the hiding the Dreyfus family. Drama builds as the Jew Hunter slowly breaks down farmer LaPadite. Finally, LaPadite confesses to concealing the family of Jews, and Landa orders them to be shot dead. However, young Shosanna Dreyfus manages to escape, resulting in later plot development.

The scene goes on far too long. The conversation between LaPadite and the Jew Hunter drags on to build drama that doesn't really need much building. After the dramatic opening, the identities of the Basterds are revealed. Brad Pitt, portraying Lt. Aldo Raine, assembles a group of eight Jewish American

soldiers with one common goal: to kill Nazis.

The Basterds add a comedic element to the otherwise serious film yet maintains the violence. Tarantino, who is known for his particular gory films, portrays the Americans as more barbaric and blood thirsty than the Nazis. The Basterds commit violence acts such as scalping, beating with a baseball bat, torturing by sticking a finger in a gunshot wound and carving swastikas into Nazi foreheads. The Nazis' only violent act comes in the opening when they simply shoot at a Jewish family through floorboards.

Tarantino seems to be calling Americans hypocrites because they were equally as cruel to the Nazis as the Nazis were to the Jews. Audiences are drawn to these shockingly brutal acts, but some might not realize the message that Tarantino is sending.

After a brief series of events introducing the Basterds, the next section of the movie is not Tarantino's best work. In France, the escapee Shosanna Dreyfus has changed her name to Emmanuelle Mimieux. She owns a movie theater that will soon host a preview of



Lt. Aldo Raine (Brad Pitt) and Sgt. Donny Donowitz (Eli Roth) pause to look at some of their handiwork in Quentin Tarantino's 'Inglorious Basterds'

a Nazi movie. This is because the star of the movie, Frederick Zoller, has taken a liking to her. This particular portion of the movie advances the plot, but with no action and little drama. There is no reason for this section to be as long as it is. If this part of the movie were shorter, I would have enjoyed the entire film so much more.

On the positive side, the special

effects were spectacular, consisting mainly of fake blood and explosions. The blood was always very red and abundant. It was so unrealistic that it was, in a sense, comical. The explosions were large in size, but few in number. Tarantino put in just the right number of them to make them exciting, but not repetitive. This was a feature of the film that was done perfectly.

## 'Paper Heart' takes new look at meaning of love

by Andie Glik  
Reporter

If you're a fan of "Juno" or "Nick and Nora's Infinite Playlist," and you count Michael Cera as your celeb crush, "Paper Heart" is the movie for you.

Starring the adorable and quirky Charlyne Yi (you may know her from "Knocked Up" as the stoner girlfriend), "Paper Heart" documents her trek across America. The purpose of this quest is that Charlyne doesn't believe in love, and so she goes on a series of interviews to understand it.

These interviews vary from a pack of Harley Davidson riders declaring their local biker bar as true love, to a young

child in Atlanta stating that true love is when you take someone to Applebee's and buy them hot wings. It then becomes more sentimental with couples getting married at 17, and couples that have been married for 60 years.

On this adventure, she falls for Michael Cera, who "plays" his typical geeky indie self, while also bearing the title of a heartbreaker. As a whole, I caught myself saying "aww" out loud and wishing I could trade places with Charlyne so I could awkwardly kiss Michael Cera. This film leaves viewers not only with that fuzzy indie feeling inside, but also a new, redefined outlook on romance.



Photo used with permission of Universal Studios

## 'Adam' breaks mold of traditional romance comedies

by Nina Oberman  
Co-Editor in Chief

Though "Adam" may be overshadowed by the more highly publicized "500 Days of Summer" and "Away We Go" this season, it is a romantic comedy that is worth seeking out. Writer Max Mayer succeeds at overcoming the pitfalls of the genre through a unique story about a man with Asperger syndrome who falls in love with an aspiring children's book author.

As Adam, Hugh Dancy demonstrates his ability to move beyond the role of the charming, handsome gentleman by capturing the challenges of communication humorously and believably. For those who know very little about Asperger's, as I did before seeing the film, his performance sheds light on the syndrome.

The disorder on the autism spectrum affects as many as three out of 1,000 people, according to a 2005 study in the Journal of Clinical Psy-

chiatry. Those affected have difficulty understanding the nuances of nonverbal communication and tend to have repetitive patterns of behavior and interest, as demonstrated by Adam's constant consumption of macaroni and cheese and his obsession with space.

Adam becomes enthralled with his new neighbor Beth (Rose Byrne), and charms her by creating a virtual solar system in his apartment and taking her to see a family of raccoons in Central Park. He attempts to clean her windows in a spacesuit after she uses a hyperbole that he doesn't quite understand: "they're so filthy with smoke I can't see out of them!"

The relationship that develops between Adam and Beth is sweet yet realistic: she is slow to let him in and is often forced to take up the role of caretaker rather than girlfriend. The result, however, is a funny and unconventional narrative that breaks the mold of cookie cutter romantic comedies.

CHARLYNE YI  
MICHAEL CERA  
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## 'Gamer' reveals dystopian problems

by Rachel Han  
Reporter

Set in a faraway future of tyrannical rule and hypnotizing video games, "Gamer" is an action film where mind control technology has been used in twisted video games. The first game created was Society, in which players control another person like a puppet, turning them into their own version of the "perfect" character, and manipulating their interactions with other characters. Slayers, the second game, has the same principle but in a shoot-and-kill setting.

The movie is based around Kable, the famous player who has survived 28 of the 30 rounds required to escape. "Gamer" presents Ken Castle, the evil mastermind behind the two games, as the key reason for such a dystopian society. However, this is later contradicted because the film claims people are

volunteering to be controlled, meaning that it is not just Castle, but also the citizens of this society themselves.

Although "Gamer" has decent action scenes, they occurred so often that they became just filler between the more important scenes. The climax of the movie is strong and gripping, with Kable escaping from Slayers and breaking into Society to rescue his long-lost wife.

In contrast, the ending was fairly low-key and not anything special. The concept of this film is interesting despite its extreme inhumanity and slight familiarity. It is easy to get invested into the storyline and ideas of this particular future. The movie presents a message: do not let virtual worlds and the real world collide; virtual games should never become anything more than a pastime. Overall, despite some flaws, "Gamer" is a movie worth seeing.

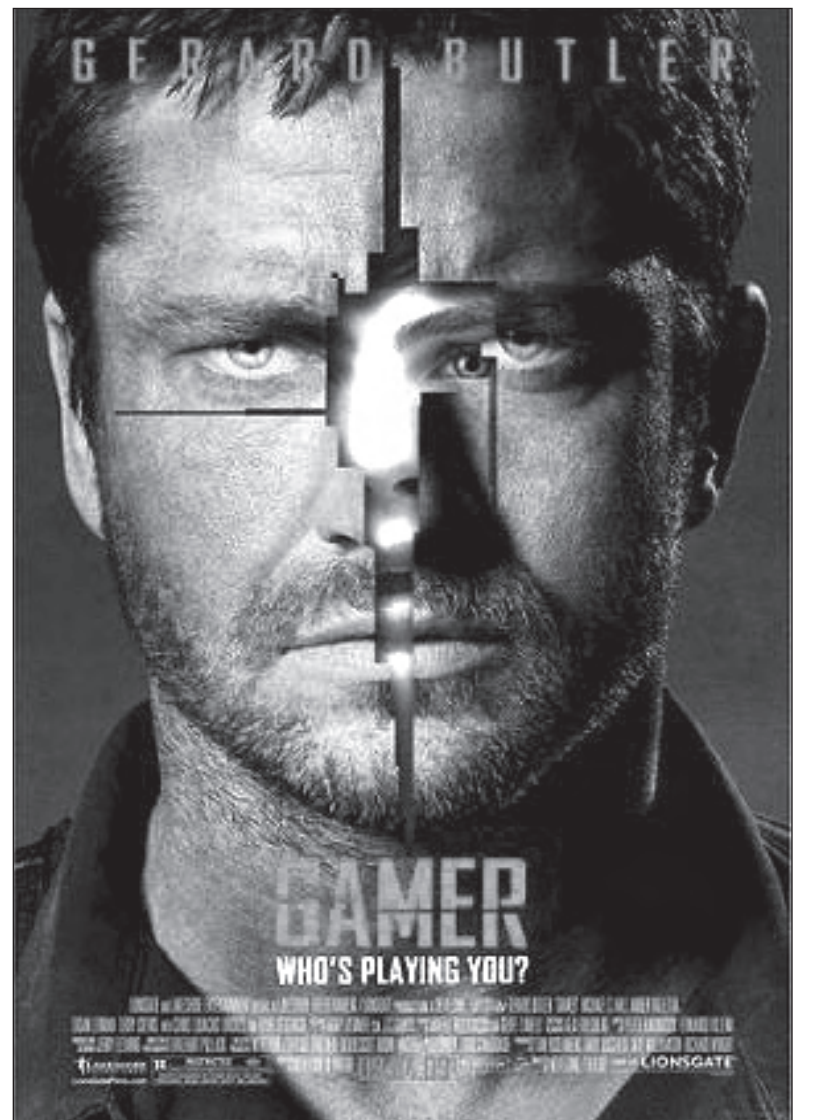


Photo used with permission of Lionsgate

## 'Ponyo' delights, entertains all ages

by Taylor Stone  
Senior Arts Editor

"Ponyo," the latest animated masterpiece from legendary Japanese director Hayao Miyazaki, excels in entertaining both cynical adults and bright-eyed adolescents.

Miyazaki is responsible for many critically acclaimed animated films such as "Howl's Moving Castle," "Princess Mononoke," and the Academy Award winner for Best Animated Feature, "Spirited Away."

However, "Ponyo" seems to evoke Miyazaki's earlier, more youthful works such as "My Neighbor Totoro" and "Kiki's Delivery Service."

Based on Hans Christian Anderson's beloved fairy-tale, "The Little Mermaid," the story is portrayed by Miyazaki with a much sweeter, lighter tone. The film begins with Ponyo, a sort of magical goldfish, escaping from her underwater home to travel to the shore for the first time. There she meets and befriends a small boy named Sosuke, who quickly learns that Ponyo isn't an ordinary goldfish after she magically cures a scrape on his finger.

After Ponyo is retrieved by her father (the ruler of their aquatic world), a series of cataclysmic events are triggered by her own transformation into a human, upsetting the balance between land and sea. This imbalance leads Ponyo and Sosuke on many adventures through both worlds.

Truly, Miyazaki's masterful use of animation is utterly breathtaking. The story unfolds almost like a picture book, with gorgeous scenes filled with myriads of colors and intricately drawn

characters. A particularly stunning scene includes Ponyo, in human form, sprinting across waves of the stormy sea, as the waves morph into massive forms of fish.

As the sea rises in search of the missing child, it floods Sosuke's town, revealing remarkable views of prehistoric creatures eerily gliding along sunken streets. Clearly, demonstrated in this film particularly, Miyazaki's artistic vision is top notch.

The English-dubbed "Ponyo" includes a star-studded, talented cast of voices. This includes Liam Neeson as Ponyo's father, Cate Blanchett as Ponyo's brilliantly animated goddess-mother, and Tina Fey as Sosuke's mother. New voices include Frankie Jonas as Sosuke and Noah Cyrus as Ponyo, both siblings of Disney stars — the "Jonas Brothers" and Miley Cyrus.

Much like a story-book tale, the film expresses beautiful, subtle messages. Most notably is the theme of motherhood. Sosuke's mother sympathetically acts as a single parent while her husband is away as Captain of a ship.

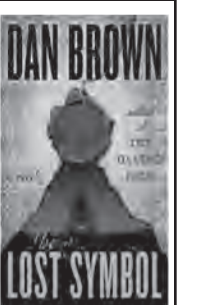
The bond between Sosuke and his mother strikes a chord in the hearts of viewers as they face troubles. Ponyo's mother, the brilliant and all-powerful goddess of the sea, exhibits a profound presence, fully understanding her daughter's wish to be human as her husband could not.

"Ponyo," truly, is a stunning visual feast. With a plot that has both subtle complexity and delicate simplicity, "Ponyo" never fails to entertain a wide range of ages. Miyazaki, as expected, gets everything right in this light-hearted, beautiful film.

## Worth the wait

Dan Brown's newest book, "The Lost Symbol," centered on Freemasons and set in Washington, D.C., is now available. A look at his other works:

Books	Films
1998 "Digital Fortress"	Release, worldwide gross:
2001 "Deception Point"	
2000 "Angels and Demons" • New York Times' bestseller No. 5, 2005	2009 \$484 million • Opened No. 1 at the box office, \$46 million (U.S.)
2003 "The Da Vinci Code" • New York Times' bestseller 2003, 2004; No. 2, 2005 • Translated into 44 languages	2006 \$758 million • Opened No. 1 at the box office, \$77 million (U.S.)
2009 "The Lost Symbol" • First printing of 5 million (English)	Source: Amazon, Box Office Mojo, Dan Brown Web site, Doubleday © 2009 MCT Graphic: Melina Yingling



## 'Taking Woodstock' inspires many

by Alex Grayson  
Reporter

In the summer of 1969, half a million people gathered on a 600-acre farm in Bethel, New York. This gathering was officially described as three days of peace and music - and less officially as three days of drugs and rock 'n' roll - known as the Woodstock festival. If you can remember it, as the old joke goes, you probably weren't there.

"Taking Woodstock", directed by Academy Award winner Ang Lee and based off a book written by the main character, presents a powerful story of the Woodstock festival without actually bringing the audience into it. That's right, if you are expecting a story about the Woodstock event, including concert footage, you will be a tad disappointed.

Rather, "Taking Woodstock" tells the story of Eliot Teichberg (Jonathan Groff), who wants to help his family's falling business. Eliot hears that the neighboring town revoked a permit for a music festival, and calls the festival's manager (Jonathan Groff) to host the festival in his own backyard. Although the film detaches itself from the Woodstock festival and focuses more on the people, I thought the story was well presented. It never drags on, the directing was stylistic and precise, and the chemistry between all the characters was believable.

The film has very memorable performances by all of the leading actors. Dan Fogler gives a humorous performance as the head of a very controversial theatre troupe, and Emile Hirsch gives an emotional performance as a traumatized hippy that just returned from Vietnam. But the performance that everyone is talking about is Liev Schreiber's, who plays a cross-dressing former marine who leads Eliot toward self-acceptance.

Eliot's main goal in the story is to learn what it takes to become an adult. He occasionally feels unsure about what his true purpose is, and wants to prove himself by learning to accept who he is. There is one moment in the film where Eliot sits down and eats breakfast with his family while his fellow druggies are having fun outside. Eliot becomes frustrated and says "I'm probably the only person here eating breakfast with my mother!" This indicates that he wants to go out and be whatever he wants to be, and not be forced to grow up only with his family.

In a nutshell, "Taking Woodstock" is a powerful film that tells a great coming-of-age story that overshadows the lack of attention paid to the events of the Woodstock festival. It's a compelling film that all can enjoy, with believable characters and pristine directing. Just don't expect to be humming along to any Jimi Hendrix tunes. ☞



Actors Mamie Gummer, Jonathan Groff and Demetri Martin play three of the main characters in 'Taking Woodstock.'



Julie Powell (Amy Adams) serves up one of Julia Child's (Meryl Steep) famous dishes at a formal dinner party.

Used with permission from Sony Pictures

## 'Julie and Julia' an outstanding performance

by Meredith McMahon  
Reporter

Don't forget your dinner before you come to the succulent, French food-filled film, "Julie & Julia." Between scenes of delicious, buttery fish and dark chocolate cake is a story of two women—Julia Child, the famed chef who introduced French cooking to America in the 1960's and Julie Powell, a woman living in the 2000's in a mediocre apartment in New York City with a stressful secretarial job.

At first the two women seem completely unconnected. Although the viewer gets to know both women very well,

they never meet. However, they do share similar stories—they both want to find something that brings excitement to their lives.

Both women turn to food, finding unplanned fame as they follow their passions. Julie is a follower of Julia Child and decides to create a blog about her personal challenge—to cook every recipe in Julia Child's cookbook "Mastering the Art of French Cooking."

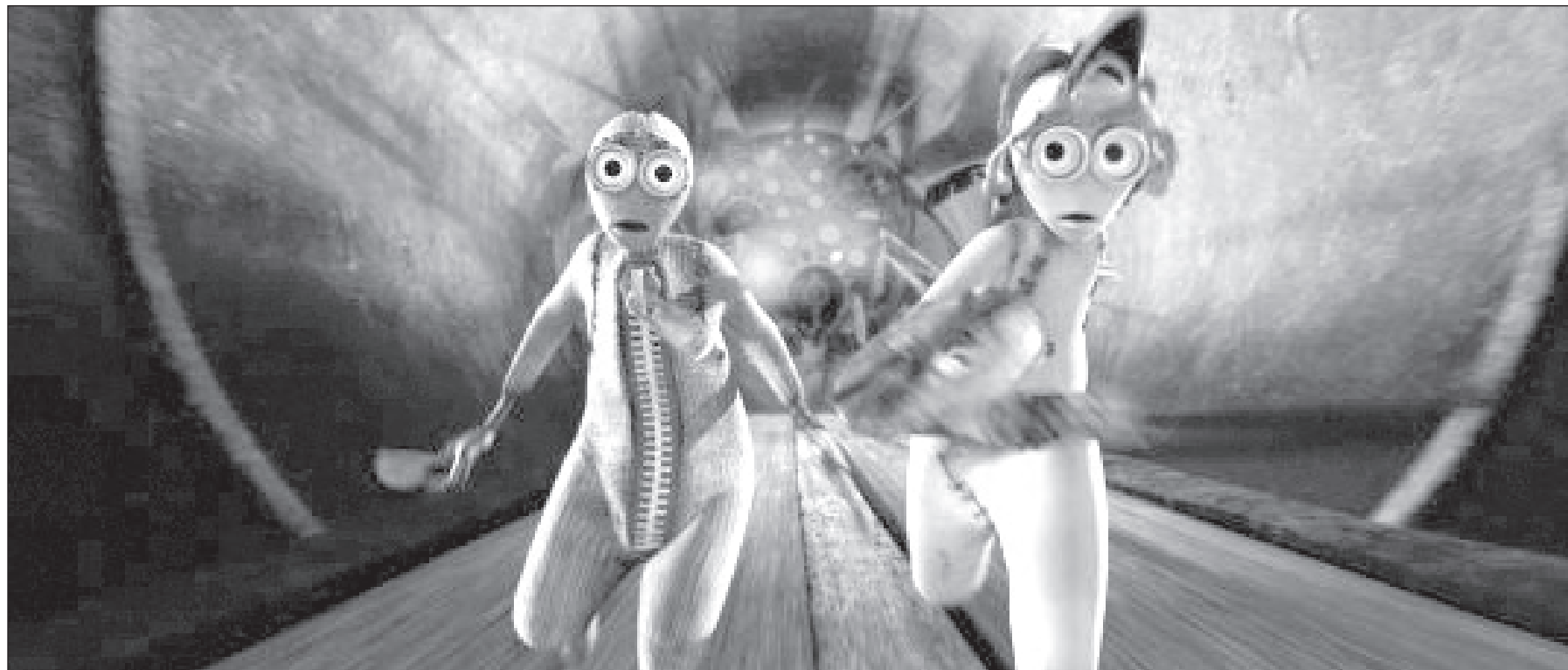
The highlight of the movie is Meryl Steep's performance as Julia Child. Not only does she look the part, but her on-screen presence is bewitching.

The film drags when Julie is moaning about her poor

life—the repetition of heart breaking cooking disasters and depressing job scenes gives a "whiny child" aspect to an actress who clearly does not deserve that title.

However, that was the personality of the character she was playing, so she should not be criticized for playing it well. In fact, the serious side of Amy Adams was impressive, particularly after starring in less serious movies, like "Enchanted."

The bittersweet end was the best part of the movie—my first reaction was surprise, but it changed to understanding (especially since it's a true story). This movie can inspire a love, or at least interest, in good food in anyone, and therefore is a movie well worth seeing. ☞



#9, voiced by Elijah Wood, and #7, Jennifer Connelly, flee for their lives from the Fabrication machine.

Used with permission from Focus Films

## "9" adventure packed film with flaws

by Ijeoma Onyema  
Senior Forum Editor

Full of action and adventure in a post-apocalyptic age, Tim Burton's "9" adds a bit of the short film version of "9" in the movie as well as his own creativity; however, this resulted in a very topsy-turvy film.

The story begins with the last "stitchpunk," 9, waking up in his creator laboratory to find that the world has been destroyed by robots. Once he steps out of the lab and into the barren wasteland that was once Earth, the lives of the remaining stitchpunks—and whatever beasts happen to be lurking around—are impacted forever.

While surveying this parallel world, he meets another stitchpunk, who is called "2" and gets kidnapped by the cat

beast soon after. Now it is up to 9 and the other stitchpunks—both those who are willing and unwilling—to go save 2 and destroy not only the cat beast, but the reactivated fabrication beast, who has the power to steal souls using the scientist's talisman. Will they all make it out alive? Who knows?

However, everyone most definitely knows that while the original short film was nominated for an Academy Award, this film failed to reach the bar of its predecessor. There were some major flaws in the plot and the character portrayals. John C. Reilly did a poor job in voicing 5 and ending up making his character appear with the traits of a follower, whereas 6 was not given enough time to enhance his character.

Moreover, the plot seemed like an unbalanced, detached group of stories instead of a flowing story. At the end, the original film transitioned well and ended with a more logical

ending, which is a key factor in whether a film like "9" makes or breaks it. Burton placed a small implication at that the Earth would restore itself again so as to instill hope in the audience. However, it did not correlate with the rest of the film. If it looks like a gloomy film, sounds like a gloomy film, and acts like a gloomy film, then it is a gloomy film ergo it should be kept as such for the sake of balance.

Though the plot was a bit disappointing, the visual affects were exceptional; they aren't ones that one comes across everyday; the antagonists were superbly frightening. Plus, there were some humorous parts that succeeded in perk up the grave situation the characters were in.

So far, most of its ratings have been C pluses or below, but since the film topped the charts on opening day, the sky is the limit for Tim Burton's "9." ☞

## Acting disappoints in 'Final Destination'

by Marc Ritter  
Reporter

I am a big fan of horror films, but this summer's "Final Destination" failed to please me.

"Final Destination" revolves around the main character Nick O'Bannon, who joins his friends in a fun time at the speedway. Some are hoping for a crash, but Nick has a bad feeling about things.

Suddenly, Nick has a vision of a horrific accident at the speedway where a car crashes into the stands and almost everyone dies. He warns his friends when he comes back to reality about the accident and they leave the speedway. Just as he predicted, the accident occurs but Nick and his friends survive.

Despite the fact their relief was short-lived, a series of gruesome deaths occur to all the people who survived the accident as the movie continues on.

Now here is where I warn people: just like the genre, the acting in this movie is horrific. Most of the time I thought the director picked some random guy off the street to be the main character, which almost made me sick through the film. If there's one thing I hate, it is bad acting, and this movie is full of it.

In some parts of the film the director would try to keep viewers watching with gruesome effects of people dying, which is a classic "Final Destination" thing to do. Indeed, it was better than the other films in the series, but, nevertheless, the plot was faulty as well. It was as if they had a group of annoying 5-year-olds as the writers for the movie. The acting was terrible, the plot was awful, and the lines were repetitive.

The director wanted to make the audience forget about all these things by adding more blood, gore, violence and even a sex scene, which didn't help at all. In fact, I found some of the death scenes to be kind of humorous. I'm not sure that was the intended effect.

Personally, "Final Destination" gets a score of two out of five stars because of all the mistakes the director made when creating this film. The only reason I give it some points is because it lives up to its hype by increasing the blood, violence and gruesome death scenes. If you want to see a movie with all of these things, then knock yourself out. Don't waste your time seeing this if you don't like horror or horrific acting. ☞

The acting was terrible, the plot was awful, and the lines were repetitive. The director wanted to make the audience forget by adding more blood, gore and violence.  
Marc Ritter  
Reporter

## Top Ten Chart of 2009 Domestic Box Office Gross (courtesy of Box Office Mojo.com)

- 1 Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen (Paramount/Dreamworks)  
Gross: \$398,641,824 4,293 (6-29-09)
- 2 Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (WB)  
Gross: \$291,051,145 (7-15-09)
- 3 Up (Disney/Pixar)  
Gross: \$288,827,973 (5-29-09)
- 4 The Hangover (WB)  
Gross: \$268,592,004 (6-5-09)
- 5 Star Trek (Paramount)  
Gross: \$256,428,821 4,053 (5-8-09)
- 6 Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs (Fox)  
Gross: \$192,559,205 (7-1-09)
- 7 X-Men Origins: Wolverine (Fox)  
Gross: \$179,845,163 (5-1-09)
- 8 Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian (Fox)  
Gross: \$176,158,631 (5-22-09)
- 9 The Proposal (BV)  
Gross: \$159,166,329 (6-19-09)
- 10 Angels & Demons (Sony)  
Gross: \$133,375,846 (5-15-09)



# CHS community mourns the loss of the Cottage

by **Caitlin Kropp**  
Reporter

The Cottage has been an important figure of the CHS community since the 1950s. A continuous stream of students could be found heading towards the cottage. Some were finishing assignments, some were helping to get the various broadcasts and publications up and running, and some came just to hang out. Whatever the reason, most students would eventually find their way to the squat brick building on the other side of the quad at some point in their CHS careers. Now, the demolition of the cottage marks the end of an era.

The Cottage is slated to be demolished in October, according to the Prop S construction plans. The demolition will make way for a new Science and Technology wing of the building. The new wing will house the currently displaced Wardrobe, Yearbook, GNN, Cooking, and Globe program, as well as a renovated science and languages wing. Until completion, which is estimated to be around 2011, the programs will be housed in several trailer/annexes, which are located just off of the math wing.

As the Cottage comes to an end, more and more find themselves looking back further, into the older days of the Cottage.

"None of the walls were there, it wasn't classrooms like that, and there was only one bathroom," Honors Calculus and Integrated Math Four teacher Stacy Felps said. "There was a real working fireplace, with actual wood that would burn and everything. It was not classroom feeling like, at all. It was very much more like it was a converted home."

Others remember days spent in a space that was more of a real cottage than what is found today.

"I was a student at CHS, and I had sewing in the Cottage with Mrs. Smith," Broadcast and Yearbook teacher Christine Stricker said. "We also had a women's rights group that would meet in the living room area, which is where the Yearbook and Broadcast space is now. There was a big couch and a coffee table and a thick rug... It was really like a living room."

Although, more recently the Cottage held the Journalism, Yearbook, Wardrobe, Broadcast and Cooking classes, the subjects taught used to be more limited in the space.

"The child development classes used to be in there... All of the things you would associate with Home Ec," Felps said. "They had family living, child development, and those kind of things, all of that in the Cottage."

This idea of classes within a home was quite modern for the early time period of the Cottage.

"I ran into an alum recently, who was here when the Cottage was built, and he said that the Cottage and the tech building were ahead of their time," CHS Principal Louise Losos said. "First of all, you had the college campus feel of walking among buildings, and for the Cottage, what they had was a little home on the school grounds where they taught sewing, cooking, etc... So it was a Home Ec in a home, and that was well ahead of its time."

Some actually believed that the Cottage was a home, thanks to a little encouragement from the teachers.

"I actually had freshmen believing that our Principal, Don Hugo, lived there, which was why there was a bathroom and a kitchen and stuff," Honors Geometry and Calculus AB teacher Michael Rust said. "I said that he lived in there when it was the floods of '93. That's why they put the bathrooms in, so he could use it since his house was flooded."

As the demolition looms closer, students and staff reflect on life in the Cottage. Separated from the school, many felt that the Cottage possessed something more for the students.

"I feel that the students really thought of the Cottage as a home of sorts," Stricker said. "They spent a lot of extra time there, working on assignments, and it just became a big part of their lives. It was so cozy and comfortable; it really was like a second home."

Students agree, claiming that the cottage was different. The break from a normal classroom setup allowed students more freedom.

"It's separated from the school, so it's kind of like its own little world,"



Some of the Globe editors stand outside the Cottage, their home away from home for many years. The newspaper office is now located in the classroom annex until the construction is over.

Photo credit: Nancy Freeman

sophomore Alexa Stanley said. "You can do a lot of stuff there, like Ms. Williams would always let us eat there, and she would always let us roam around... You can't really do that, in just a regular classroom."

The Cottage also holds a special place in other's hearts, as former students reminisce about their days in the building.

"Over my four years I got to know that office quite well," former CHS student Jeremy Bleeke said. "It was always a mess, it usually smelled like Indian food, and for all we know it may have harbored asbestos, but despite its flaws it was definitely my favorite place on campus."

Even for those who did not take specific classes in the Cottage, it was always thought of as a comfortable place to hang out.

"I never took Yearbook or anything like that, but I used to go over because my friends were there," Integrated Math One and AP Statistics teacher Chris Moody said. "It was just a com-

fortable place to be, and a lot more informal than the classes in the regular building."

"The faculty held my wedding shower in the Cottage" Marketing and Personal Finance teacher Marci Boland said. "It was the week before my wedding and it was so nice to relax with friends."

Although the dynamic and memories created by the Cottage will certainly be missed, others will mourn more specific aspects of it.

"I'll miss the window by my desk," Stricker said. "It looked out onto the Quad, and I saw a lot of stuff through that window. Camp-outs, senior pranks, fights, games... I saw it all through the window, just as it was happening. That was really special."

Still others will miss the connections the Cottage provided, not just to students and staff, but to those who inhabited the building before them.

"There was, for me, a sense of connection there, not only with my fellow members of the managing staff but

also with the students who had worked there before me," Bleeke said. "The awards on the walls and the old Globe issues stacked up in the storage closet were a constant reminder that this was a place with a long tradition of student journalism."

At the moment, students and staff agree that the temporary homes found in the trailers will suffice, but it just isn't the Cottage.

"It's going to be different, because Ms. Williams only gets half of an annex, and that's pretty small," sophomore Caroline Kennard said. "It's pretty small to fit an entire studio into, so it's going to be pretty cramped."

The trailers focus more on functionality than on creating a homey environment.

"I think for the students, the annexes/trailers are generic and characterless," Losos said. "The cottage, for all its faults, had a certain feel to it... The trailers are just four walls."

After saying goodbye to the Cottage, people turn their sights to the new

building wing that is set to replace the Cottage. Some hope for a similar experience in the new space.

"Students who use the new facilities will form their own memories there, and that space will be special for them," Bleeke said.

Others are doubtful of the same Cottage dynamic existing in the wing.

"They're not rebuilding a new cottage in its place; it'll just be a building. It's not really the same," Stanley said. "It takes a long time for a place to become old like that."

And so, as October looms ever closer, staff and students prepare themselves for a fond farewell. Cottage memories will be cherished by those who had the privilege of working within its doors. Whether things will ever be the same again, only time will tell.

"It will be sad day when it comes down, because it's an old friend, and it's a part of what has helped make Clayton a great school," Losos said, "but it's time to turn the page, and start building for the next century." ☺

## A page from the student handbook:

A person commits the crime of harassment if he or she:

\*Knowingly communicates a threat to commit any felony to another person and in so doing frightens, intimidates, or causes emotional distress to such a person; or

\*When communicating with another person, knowingly uses coarse language offensive to one of average sensibility and thereby puts such a person in reasonable apprehension of offensive physical contact or harm; or

\*Knowingly frightens, intimidates, or causes emotional distress to another person by anonymously making a telephone call or any electronic communication; or

\*Knowingly communicates with another person who is, or who purports to be, seventeen years of age or younger and in so doing and without good cause frightens, intimidates, or causes emotional distress to such other person; or

\*Knowingly makes repeated unwanted communication to another person; or

\*Without good cause engages in any other act with the purpose to frighten, intimidate, or cause emotional distress to another person, cause such person to be frightened, intimidated, or emotionally distressed, and such person's response to the act is one of a person of average sensibilities considering the age of the person.

All employees of the School District are strictly prohibited from performing any type of cyberbullying and are encouraged to immediately report any evidence of such harassment taking place. ☺



Photo credit: Taylor Gold

## Internet harassment a threat to teens

by **Payton Sciarra**  
Reporter

"I'm going to make your life a living hell," says the person on the other side of the screen. At this point in time, Jessie Smith\* didn't know whether to fight back or back out. She had been conversing with this person on the other side of the screen for several weeks now, but it was starting to get too out of control. Smith made friends with this person several weeks ago, but now their whole relationship had been turned upside-down.

According to e! Science News, three in four teenagers say that they had been bullied at least once online in a 12-month period. Many teens who become a victim to online harassment think that they are the only ones, but in reality hundreds of teens are being harassed each day.

Internet harassment can be a very serious matter, and it can often harm the victim being harassed.

"Internet harassment is so dangerous because it is much easier to do at a higher rate, a more violent rate," health teacher Melissa Hobick said. "Calling people names face to face is harder than over the internet. Who is being harassed and how they handle it can be destructive as well, girls may become depressed and suicidal because they think that people are talking about them."

Over the past few years, Internet harassment has been becoming a more serious matter for teens all over the U.S. This is because for one, the Internet has become much more popular and it has been drawing teens towards it. Not only has the Internet become much more popular, but teenage girls have been committing suicide as an effect of being harassed.

"We have had minor things happen, but we address them quickly," police officer John Zlatic said. "RCCEEG who works with the FBI in Clayton, harassment falls under their group. If something happens we hand it over to them and they take it more seriously."

The stories about girls killing themselves have affected the choices that people at CHS make when they are being harassed.

"When I was told my life was going to be made a living hell, I went through sort of a depression, and it's hard not to have those thoughts," Smith said.

Many people believe that Internet harassment has been getting worse over the past few years.

"Since it's not face to face, you can't see people's reaction, so it's easier to do and there are fewer consequences," Hobick said.

As an effect of Internet harassment not being face to face, more and more people are taking part in it.

This problem has gotten way out of control and must come to an end. However, Smith believes that it won't be stopped.

"I honestly don't think it can be," Smith said. "The only way that it can be stopped is if everyone uses everything as it was meant to be."

Because of the girls who have been hurting themselves, we hope that there can be some sort of sympathy that the people who are hurting others will stop.

"I hope it's making them think twice about what they post on the Internet," Smith said. ☺

\*Name has been changed

## Schools find homework balance difficult

by **Micah Goodman**  
Reporter

At the turn of the twentieth century, homework was outlawed because it was viewed as a form of child labor. This all changed with Sputnik and the space race, when America was spurred into competition with the Soviet Union; a competition that included scholastic ability. This marked the end of letting kids be kids with regard to homework.

Now, the frenzy is being looked at critically, and in recent years how much homework students should be assigned has been the focus of many studies. The conclusion that seems to be made again and again from research is that the 10-minute rule will dictate the optimal amount of homework. The

rule says that for each grade level, students get 10 minutes of homework, such that 1<sup>st</sup> graders get 10 minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> graders get 20 minutes, and so on, with a maximum of two hours for high school seniors.

Harris Cooper, professor of psychology and director of Duke University's Program in Education, is seen as the leader of the search for the most efficient system, and agrees with the 10-minute rule.

"Even for high school students, overloading them with homework is not associated with higher grades," Cooper said. "Plus, a resentment of learning itself can grow from unpleasant experiences at school."

"I think that to a certain degree it makes sense," replied teacher Josh Meyers, who is also the Academic Director at Clayton and head of the Leadership Council.

Similarly CHS Principal Dr. Louise Losos said, "It sounds logical."

And Counselor Alice Morrison said, "Yes, I do agree with it to a certain extent."

So there's consensus, right? No. The debate has only just begun.

So what is Clayton's policy about homework? Board of Education President Omri Prais says so far, the school board has "left it to teachers and principals within schools to address."

"We don't have a homework policy," said Losos.

Prais provides some insight about the lack of a definitive set of rules. He explains that it's difficult to find the right balance.

"For one kid what takes 10 minutes to do might take another kid 20 to 30 minutes, and it's important to find a way to make school intellectually provocative for all students," Prais said.

Meyers further clarifies that there is ambiguity for teachers as well.

"I think it's important for teachers to realize that what they think students are spending in terms of the time spent on homework may not be accurate," said Meyers.

With this in mind, Meyers has tried to be more conscious about the homework he assigns.

"I think some teachers kind of forget that if you're assigning 30 minutes of homework and seven other teachers are doing the same thing, then that's quite a bit of homework that starts to add up," Meyers said.

Morrison also sees the importance of clear communication between teachers and students.

"I think students need to be talking to their teachers. But also teachers need to talk with each other, to coordinate and try to spread things out so students can perform their very best," Morrison said.

"I understand the idea of homework overload and that too much homework could be counterproductive," said Meyers.

Meyers sums up how he views the situation: "Don't expect [homework] to go away, because it shouldn't. Homework is essential- always has been, and always will be," said Meyers. "The big question is what the homework looks like and what it accomplishes, not whether or not to have it in the first place."

Losos has the same perspective, "I believe in the value of homework, but it should be meaningful and relevant."

Like good poetry, it seems, there is an art to homework that requires using as little as possible while still maintaining its significance. The answer to the dispute lies in efficiency, with a harmony between work and learning, until the true worth of education is fully appreciated and achieved. ☺

**“I think some teachers kind of forget that if you’re assigning 30 minutes of homework and seven other teachers are doing the same thing, then that’s quite a bit of homework that starts to add up.”**

**Josh Meyers**  
Social Studies Teacher

# Student embarks on 'life-changing' summer journey

Wanting to "broaden his horizons" beyond ordinary summer camp, sophomore Lewis Grant opted for a trip to Tanzania, where he gained a cultural, and perspective-altering, experience.

by Jack Holds  
Reporter

When sophomore Lewis Grant sent off an application to a summer program, he didn't realize he would be embarking on a trip that would change his life.

Grant sent a few of his personal pictures and an essay to National Geographic Student Expeditions.

The program sends high school students to various places around the world, where they get involved in the culture and complete community service projects.

Initially, Grant was scheduled to go to China, but the trip was cancelled and moved to Tanzania.

Over the three weeks he spent in Tanzania in June, Grant did a community service project, spent time with a Homestay family, doing what they do day to day, and went on a safari across the coast of Tanzania.

"I'd been doing the same thing — camp — for a few summers and I wanted to broaden my horizons and get a cultural experience," Grant said.

Accompanying him were three guides from National Geographic and eleven other students who had also qualified to go on the trip the same way Grant had.

While approaching the date of departure, Grant said his anticipation of the trip began to rise.

"As [time] slowly went on, I thought about Africa," Grant said. "I was about to experience safari and extreme poverty and I just got excited."

The journey to Maji ya Chai was an exhausting one. Grant flew from St. Louis to New York, where he caught a flight to Amsterdam. There, he had a six hour layover and flew to the capital of Tanzania, Dar es Salaam. From there, he flew to Kilimanjaro and took a bus to Maji ya Chai.

In the first week, Grant and his group stayed in Maji ya Chai in a concrete compound in the middle of town; the only building with running water. They worked on a community service project, laying down a new water pipeline for the town. While there, he took pictures of the men and women of the community, most of whom were unlicensed for the work, laboriously laying the pipeline for no pay.

Half of the second week was spent with a Homestay family in Maji ya Chai, which hosted Grant for four days. Every day, Grant would hike from the compound to their house, and stay with the family for the entire day.

After breakfast, the family and Grant would engage in a variety of activities, such as picking coffee beans and herding the goats.

"The entire experience was very

surreal," Grant said.

He also noted the major cultural differences. Breakfast each morning was very small, perhaps a little corn, but after the few small morning tasks, the rest of the morning was spent preparing for lunch, the biggest meal of the day.

Lunch, as Grant described, was known as dinner, and the time and effort put into lunch was tremendous. Everyone pitched in and did their share and then feasted. Still early in the day, lunch was hours apart from dinner, which they called supper.

Grant took pictures while staying with his Homestay family. He only started taking photos once he was comfortable with what he was doing.

"I liked having the experience and not necessarily the proof," Grant said.

The rest of the time in Tanzania, a little over a week, Grant spent on a safari along the eastern coast of the country, described to Grant by the safari expert as "the luckiest safari he had

ever seen."

During this time, Grant and his group travelled in a jeep by day and slept in tents and sleeping bags by night.

It was during his time on safari when Grant said his most eye-opening experience occurred. On the third day of the safari, the group stopped at a Maasai Boma, the name the Maasai give to every village of theirs.

Since the Maasai don't see mzungu, or white people, very often the tribe decided to sacrifice a goat for the passing group.

In ritualistic fashion, two teenagers walked out with a goat and suffocated it while everyone surrounded them. Grant realized the hard work the Maasai people had to put into simply eating.

"This is what they do when they want to eat," Grant said. "They have to do this every time, they can't walk to the store and buy some meat. They have to take it directly from the source

everyday. It changed my whole relationship with food."

The goat was cut with a ceremonial knife and the non-edible parts of the goat were removed. As the throat was slit, Grant's group, as well as the villagers, drank the drained blood.

During the time spent at the Maasai Boma, Grant came to know one of the elders named Paolo. Paolo was Grant's guide and Hope translated. He told Grant about the village and how he watched over them.

"I don't think I've met anyone more awesome in my life," Grant said. "I didn't understand a word he was saying but he was so cool."

One day, a lion took a goat from town and Paolo chased down the lion and killed it with his spear for the sake of his village. At the end of the stay in the Maasai Boma, Paolo put his hands on Grant's back, gave him his spear and told Grant he had become a great friend. Paolo wanted Grant to take home not only the spear but also the experiences they had shared over the few days spent together.

Grant is going back to Africa next summer with his family since the trip he took this past summer was one of the best trips of his life.

"My mind was blown around each corner," Grant said.

He described how tedious the culture of Missouri can get in comparison to Tanzania.

"To have the cultural experience over and over again every day, just to have a new thing everyday, it's very surreal," Grant said.

Not only is Grant going to Malawi next year to enjoy it with his family, he is also going to visit Hope, the guide on his trip who became one of the most significant people he met. Born and raised in Michigan, Hope was unhappy simply working in a ski lodge after college and used all her savings to move to Malawi. She is now fluent in Swahili and works agriculture in Africa. Grant said she became a huge impact on his life and he thought about modeling his life after hers.

"I've been thinking about it ever since the trip ended, if I could really devote myself to helping others who really need it," Grant pondered. "It takes a lot of sacrifice."

Looking back at his overall experience in Africa, Grant said it definitely changed him.

"I almost don't know how to describe it," Grant said. "It doesn't take you out of your comfort zone, it blows you out of your comfort zone. It's 100 percent different from anything you would imagine." ☺

**“To have the cultural experience over and over again every day, just to have a new thing everyday, it's very surreal.**

**Lewis Grant**  
Sophomore



TOP LEFT: Ella Davis (10) and Grace Davis (12) show off their fall outfits.

ABOVE: Danny Steinberg (12) and Nick Kirchoff (12) model their autumn wardrobes.

TOP RIGHT: Josh Fagin (11) rocks out with neon sunglasses and shoelaces.

BOTTOM LEFT: Hannah Callahan (11), sports the latest fall finery.

BOTTOM RIGHT Connor Waldman (12), is all decked out in fresh autumn apparel. Hot trends this year include skinny jeans, plaids, gingham, and of course, the classic shirt.

## Fall brings innovative, fresh fashions to CHS

by Sarah Blackwell  
Reporter

Style is ever changing and so are shopping habits. As temperatures drop, as well as the economy, CHS students change their styles and budget.

This year, the boyfriend style for women is in. Most popular clothing stores are carrying boyfriend jeans and blazers. Senior Gabby Mottaz identifies her boyfriend blazers as a staple in her wardrobe.

CHS students wear jeans year round. But when the weather gets cold, they are essential to a wardrobe. Many high school students buy brand-name jeans.

DOS is a clothing resale store located at 7525 Forsyth Boulevard in Clayton where students can find brand names for less.

"Well they've been buying lots of Hollister and Abercrombie and Lucky and any designer jeans," owner of DOS Tina Lindsay said. "They love the designer jeans like Buffaloes, True Religion, Rock and Republic; Sevens is big."

Besides jeans, students will also be wearing skirts and dresses. When it gets cold, layers are necessary.

"Leggings are going to be in, with a dress or longer shirt over," Lindsay said.

Mottaz agrees, predicting that denim leggings will be popular this season.

"You see a lot of over the knee boots and a lot of gingham fabrics and plaids and shirts and stuff," Mottaz said.

Lindsay sees other trends that she believes will be important for fall.

"Skinnies are in. Ripped jeans are in," Lindsay said. "Dresses and all kinds of shirts are in. Jeans jackets, a little bit of the biker look will be in. I'm go-

ing to see people wearing dresses year round."

Mottaz identifies sweaters, T-shirts, and boots as an important part of a girl's fall wardrobe this year.

"There are a lot of really great sweaters out there for fall, and I think that sweaters are definitely essential for a fall wardrobe," Mottaz said, "T-shirts are essential, King labels are my favorite. Nation LTDs are another good one. I'd say everyone should have a great pair of leather boots."

However, the economy has taken a toll on many clothing stores lately. Abercrombie and Hollister used to be very popular. This year, they have suffered greatly, and many of these stores have been closing.

At the St. Louis Galleria, Abercrombie closed a few years ago. However, Lindsay reports that students have been buying lots of Hollister and Abercrombie from her resale store.

The flagging economy may be one reason for Abercrombie's problems and the success of less-expensive stores, such as Aeropostale and Forever 21. Forever 21, which sells moderately priced fashionable merchandise to customers in their teens and early twenties, opens at the St. Louis Galleria this fall.

Another alternative to shopping at the mall is online shopping. There are plenty of websites that offer unique, vintage, or specially sized clothing that would be hard to find in the mall.

"I shop online a lot. I love Shopbop and Revolve clothing," Mottaz said, "Just anywhere online because I find they have better selection than they do in stores in St. Louis. Nordstrom, Neiman, and Sax and all have better selection online."

No matter the budget, fall fashions are available to everyone. ☺



Photos courtesy of Jake Leech

# Students feel the heat of sputtering economy

## Scarcity of jobs keeps college graduates in school instead of work force

by Sam Jacus  
Editor

The decision of where to attend college for an advanced degree used to be a much simpler decision. However, with the economy in its current state, this decision has become more difficult due to fewer current jobs available to students following graduation.

"If I decide to go to grad school it would be because the work force is down right now, making grad school worth it," 2007 CHS alum Richie Kupitsky said. "The goal would be to give the economy a chance to recover."

One person who is attending grad school in hope of finding a better job when opportunities open up is Jeremy Davidson, who graduated from CHS in 2004. He is currently

attending Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law in New York. Jeremy became a victim of the economic downturn after not finding a job.

"After several months of not finding a steady job after graduation that actually required me to have a college degree, I decided it would be a good idea to go to law school," Davidson said. "Now that I'm here, I really think it was the right move."

Taking a year off before going to grad school isn't always the plan, but Michael Root, a 2008 graduate, is planning on taking a year off to get some job experience in the medical field before applying and going to medical school.

"At this point I am a pre-med stu-

dent," Root said. "I have three years to find a place to go though, so there is still time."

The process for obtaining a job as well as applying and attending grad school is different for everyone, yet the process for most people during this economic crisis is aimed at acquiring a job after completing the

program.

"In 2009, the number of applications we received was the same as it has been in previous years, so we haven't seen how the economy will affect people's decisions," said Richard J. Smith, the dean of graduate school admissions at Washington University. "This may be in part due to the applications for graduate school being due in December or January, which hasn't left very much time for students to take exams like the MCAT."

With all the recent changes in the economy, the question as to whether the attendance or applications being sent to graduate schools will increase is yet to be determined.

"We will have to wait and see whether or not more students will be applying to graduate school until this coming January," Smith said. ☺

## Jobs harder to come by for teens as employers tighten the belt on hires, applications

by Chelsea Cousins  
Editor

The recession has made it increasingly difficult for students at CHS, and all throughout the community, to get a job. Students who are currently employed are sticking with their summer jobs, while the unemployed keep trying.

"One of the patterns I've noticed is that the majority of the employed students are at least 17 or 18," senior Chelsea Fayne said. "There aren't many students 16 or younger with jobs."

Other students believe the working trend seen today is the result of other factors.

"Now that school's started, students are starting to focus on other things, so I think you'd expect to see the number of kids with jobs less than those who are unemployed now, rather than the pattern we saw in the summer," senior Carsen Miller said.

These aren't the only trends noticed by students at CHS. "I think it's difficult to get a job because a lot of businesses can't afford to hire new employees," Fayne said.

Other obstacles are continuing to pop up as well. "Now a days, a lot of businesses are also cutting back hours because of the economic state the recession has put people in," Miller said.

Fayne admits that not having a job is hard. Although the recession has a noticing effect on businesses, there are still few that see no unbearable changes.

"Personally, the recession hasn't had that big of a negative impact on my job," junior Gabby Morris said. "But the downside of working now is if business is dead then we get sent home early."

Many students at CHS are doing everything in their power to search for the perfect job.

"It is hard not having a job because you constantly see people struggling," Fayne said. "I've applied to at least 10 places or more, and I'm still waiting to get a job."

Miller said she had applied to 17 places in the past year and a half.

"Although not all of those places were hiring at the time, I filled out the application so that I'd be first on the list when they did start rehiring," she said. Miller currently works in retail.

Other students were fortunate enough to get a job soon after applying only a couple times.

"It only took me three or four jobs to apply for before actually getting my job at Steak-n-Shake," Morris said.

Despite the number of applications it takes before actually getting the job, students have realized it's better to strategize beforehand what jobs can guarantee an open position.

"Usually, jobs at fast food restaurants and family-owned businesses are the easiest to get hired at because owners need people with flexible hours to work for them and with family businesses, they usually know what they're getting themselves into," Fayne said.

While many students would agree that restaurants are one of the easiest jobs to get, some students add on to the list of the do's and don'ts of finding a job.

"It's a lot harder to get jobs in retail because most places require you to be 18, but aside from restaurants, it's also common to take up random jobs like babysitting," Miller said.

The recession has decreased the number of employers hiring, and places that are still hiring are beginning to look at more experienced adult applicants rather than students who are searching for a job.

"Generally, I think there are more adults working jobs meant for young adults," Miller said.

However, she also noticed the number of adults versus students working, especially during the summer, is more balanced.

Although the recession has put many businesses out of business, those that are holding on are opening their employment to a wider range of potential employees.

"I definitely do see more adults working now," Morris said. "I think most jobs now are employing less people under 18 because they think they aren't serious about the job or are less qualified."

With the current state of our economy and the constant hiring of new employees, students are struggling to hold positions in jobs throughout the area. It seems as if teenagers are in competition with a new group of people, desperate for opportunity.

"I remember going to Six Flags one day, and even then I saw elderly men and women working the park, which I think is unfair because there are teenagers and other young adults who could really use the job," Fayne said.

Despite the economy's harsh times, many students agree that the key to seeking employment is the perfect interview. Without making an impression, students realize their hopes for employment may continue to be in jeopardy.

"In an interview, it's important to be personal because it's up to you to make a lasting impression on the interviewer, since you're not the only person applying for the job," Miller said. "Just be yourself." ☺



## Summer plans, spending affected by students' financial problems

by Katherine Greenberg  
Editor

The recession has not just affected CHS parents this summer; students are also making different choices. While not letting the recession diminish spending, students have let it affect their summer plans.

Junior Sam Muslin worked this summer at Washington University Medical School.

"I decided to work this summer because my parents were tired of giving me money," Muslin said. "I spent the same amount of money, but I definitely noticed what I was spending more because it was my own money."

Senior Emily Rosen also decided to work more this summer.

"This summer I worked at the St. Louis Opera Theatre," Rosen said. "It was a pretty sweet job; I got paid, and I didn't really have to work that hard."

Movies have always been a popular summer activity. Because prices have increased people are less inclined to spend on movies.

"I did not get a job this summer because I didn't have time," junior Sagar Yadama. "I was working in a lab and doing schoolwork all summer. One thing that affected my summer was that prices for vacation packages were very low so we got to go to Hawaii."

Many CHS parents had money in the stock market and are feeling the losses.

"I felt bad asking my Mom for money," junior Sarah O'Brien said. "I know that we lost some money in the market, so that has made me want to get more

money on my own. I babysat a lot to compensate for the money that I was not asking for."

The Y.E.S. office has opportunities for students to find jobs during the year and the summer.

"I found a job babysitting through the Y.E.S. office," O'Brien said. "It worked out really well. I babysat almost every day all summer so I made more money than I ever have."

Some students are watching how people are investing and making plans for their futures.

"If I had money I would be investing it," Yadama said. "It's a buyer's market, I just don't have the money to spend in it."

Senior Eliana Harris has worked as a camp counselor for the past two years.

"I went to a summer camp during the summers when I was younger," Harris said. "It was a really easy decision to decide to work there because I knew it would be difficult to get a job in St. Louis this summer."

Jobs have been scarce this summer with older, more experienced people looking to take any jobs they can and, in doing so, taking many jobs that used to be saved for students over the summer.

"I did not have a job this summer because I knew how difficult it was to find a job," junior Samantha Corson said. "I am only 15 and employers do not want teenagers because they think they are less responsible. Employers also want people that can drive so that it is easy for them to come and go when they are needed."

"I did what most teenagers did this summer," senior Chelsea Hesterberg said. "I babysat a lot. I wouldn't say that I spent less though, I just spent a lot of time making money. I got my jobs mostly through word of mouth. A lot of times when I baby sit for people they give my name to their friends. Also, I have a few families that I work for more often than others."

Senior Peri Harlan changed her working habits because this year she worked at the MICDS summer camp, Pegasus.

"I actually spent more this summer," Harlan said. "I was very glad that I could use my own money. It gave me more freedom." ☺

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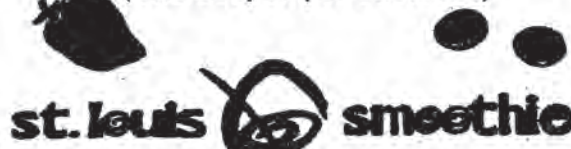


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# Defying authority

Group of anarchists co-own the historically rich, environmentally conscience, Black Bear Bakery.

by **Mary Blackwell**  
Senior Features Editor

Anarchy is often used as a synonym for chaos, but for the owners of Black Bear Bakery, anarchy is about creating community and equality.

"One of the basic ideas of anarchists is the idea that no one should have power over another," Black Bear Bakery owner and worker Mark Bohnert said. "Anarchism is people coming together to make decisions as a group."

Black Bear Bakery is located on 2639 Cherokee Street. This worker-owned collective opened in 1998. Every worker is both employer and owner of the business. The maintenance of a workers' collective, or cooperative, involves group decisions and consensus. The owners would rather not have wages, but acknowledge the paycheck as an unfortunate necessity.

"We've had high school kids work here who went to Metro and people in their sixties," Bohnert said.

Anarchist views are not a requirement for working at the Black Bear Bakery; in fact not all of the employers completely buy into the idea.

"There are 14 people [working] at Black Bear and 80 percent are anarchists," Bohnert said.

As their website, blackbearbakery.org, acknowledges, "Anarchists are not a united movement, and anarchists are not necessarily in agreement on ideas and actions."

This is true for the workers at Black Bear. Their views vary even within the group of individuals who consider themselves anarchists.

"Some consider themselves progressive and others radical," Bohnert said. "There are more working class anarchists and green anarchists."

Bohnert's own political ideology has transformed significantly over the years.

"I spanned the political spectrum from conservative to liberal to pacifist to democratic socialist to anarchist, and that's where I felt most comfortable," Bohnert said. "I was just kind of exploring. I started with the politics my parents dumped on me and then I started looking around the world at the inequality and oppression. I felt to undermine that dominance would lead to a better world."

Bohnert's disgust with government dominance eventually led to his current views and continue to inspire his radical opinions.

"The worst part of the U.S. govern-



Employer Mark Bohnert poses in the Black Bear Bakery garden, where fruits, vegetables, and herbs are grown. The garden is representative of the bakery's goal to use organic and locally grown ingredients. They strive to "eat locally and grow neighborhoodly." The workers believe that the absence of dominant authority provides for community and compromise.

ment is its global domination of other countries and their resources for our benefit," Bohnert said. "Locally, the government is instrumental in racist and sexist oppression and maintaining the ugly, wage based, mass production system that is harming people and destroying the planet at an alarming rate. Regardless, we must resist this destruction with all our might while creating alternative collectives and institutions and ways of relating to other people in a fair egalitarian way."

Though opposing government power, Bohnert chooses to vote in order to influence his community.

"I haven't voted in a national election for years because I refuse to vote for people that believe in global domination and local oppression," Bohnert said. "I do vote in local elections because it often makes a difference."

In addition to working for a business that clearly expresses his political point of view, Bohnert has worked on building cooperative houses and contributes to a kids program, CAMP, which has been dedicated to promoting social change since its creation seven years ago. In the past, Bohnert helped with the publishing of the Confluence, a bi-monthly journal with an anti-authoritarian angle.

The historical Lickhalter Bakery became the Black Bear Bakery in 1998, and the Lickhalters' influence is apparent today.

"The Lickhalter Bakery, founded in 1915, grew to be the largest bakery in St. Louis," Bohnert said.

Black Bear's rye bread and whole grain sweets are products of Lickhalter recipes. The bakery was founded by Samuel Lickhalter in downtown St. Louis. The Lickhalters were Russian Jewish and their family lived above the bakery.

The Black Bear Bakery is rooted deeply in St. Louis history. It was originally named The City of Little Bread after the 1877 St. Louis General Strike.

But the bakery's recipes aren't the only part of the operation that has history. The owners reassembled an enormous oven that dates back to 1948. One of the mixers was made in 1926, the other in 1964, and the refrigerator originated in the '80s.

"The handrails came out of the dumpster and the trim came from an old building," Bohnert said. "The tables came from an old Subway restaurant."

These unconventional materials were inspired by Black Bear's desire to use sustainable methods of design. The eclectic interior of the bakery reflects their success.

"We used to be located in an old warehouse; kids knew where we were because they could smell the cookies," Bohnert said. "Then we moved to Jefferson for eight years. We are located now in the old Vandora Theater that we renovated."

Purchased by the Black Bear Bakery in 2004, the Vandora Theater was built in 1907. The worker co-op was conscious of the rehabilitation process, hiring local companies with a diverse

group of employees, using re-used and abandoned materials and avoiding chain stores when possible.

"We want to live in a world that's not only locally focused based but sustainable too," Bohnert said. "This building was a huge mess when we bought it, but we worked on it to make it look it does now. We reused a lot of materials and incorporated lots of energy efficient products."

Extending on the environmentally friendly design of the bakery, Black Bear strives to use organic ingredients when possible. Their flour is imported from an organic farm in Minnesota. A garden in the back provides organic and local ingredients.

"We started growing food in the back vacant lot behind the bakery," Bohnert. We try to eat locally and grow neighborhoodly. It's only our first year, but we have a lot of fruit trees and herbs."

Black Bear reaches out to the community by displaying the artwork of local artists and hosting meetings of various community groups. Black Bear hopes to "to support the needs of the community through our bakery and encourage healthier eating and thinking" and "support efforts to keep this community culturally diverse."

Black Bear Bakery sells to restaurants and grocery stores in the St. Louis area and sells products at the Clayton, Soulard, Tower Grove and Maplewood market.

"The whole purpose of the bakery is to put our anarchist political views out there," Bohnert said. "We do sustainable food and sustainable rehab of this building, all the while supporting ourselves with food and a wage."

The workers at Black Bear Bakery are well aware of the paradox of their business and ideology.

"It's very contradictory," Bohnert said. "We're an anti-capitalist business in a capitalist society. It's a paradox, and we accept that inconsistency. If you reject everything then you'll just sit around doing nothing. You have to try something, even if it's imperfect."

The Black Bear Bakery's goal is more than just selling bread; they want to impact the St. Louis community politically and socially.

"Anarchism is more than a political ideology," Black Bear Bakery owner and worker Mark Bohnert said. "It's a holistic approach to life; respect everyone and undermine authority and power every chance you get." ☺



A street musician, or busker, plays the acoustic guitar in the Delmar Loop.

## Street Musicians enliven the Loop

by **Lucy Jenneman**  
Reporter

Street music is a part of cultures worldwide. The first recorded acts of busking were in Rome in 540 B.C. Buskers perform in public places for donations.

In the city of St. Louis a person has to have a \$25 permit in order to perform. The permit is only valid from the date it was issued until Dec. 31 of that same year. The performer must have their permit with them whenever they are performing.

The buskers in the Delmar Loop encompass a wide variety of personalities

Street musician Andy Hylend had been sitting in the Delmar Loop for around five hours, in the hot sun. He had been playing his guitar since 10:30 a.m. He goes there almost every day to play. It's his job for the time being, and he hopes it will give him enough exposure so he can get a record deal.

"I write most of what I play," Hylend said.

Hylend has been playing guitar for 16 years. He has been writing music and lyrics for about a year and a half. He has a job interview at Starbucks coming up and is hoping to get the job.

"I played every day this past summer, and I was homeless most of the time," Hylend said.

Another musician, Evan, has been playing guitar for five years. He was playing on Delmar for around two hours. It's his first time coming to play in the Loop, and he says he's "just here to have a good time."

Montu has also been playing the guitar for five years. He is a local of the area. He writes some of what he plays, and draws his inspiration from colors and shapes. Montu enjoys playing at the Loop.

"There are a lot of fun people here, and I can make money," Montu said.

Montu listens to a lot of electronic and jazz music. He spent around one hour in the Loop.

Violin player Tony Morales plays in the Loop because he likes when people stop by, and he likes making people smile. When he is performing, he plays a lot of classical music.

He has composed a few of his own songs, and has been playing the violin for 11 years, since he was 10. He describes the music he writes as "folky music."

He likes to listen to a lot of "Hard core Techno, and a little bit of everything." Two singers he likes are John Mayer and Michael Jackson.

The music seemed to flow freely and smoothly as he played the music. He busks simply to have a chance to play for someone. ☺



The interior of Avalon Exchange, formerly Rag-O-Rama, has not changed significantly since the store changed owners in May.

## Rag-O-Rama changes name, owner

by **Andrea Glik**  
Reporter

If you're a loop dweller or shopper than I'm sure you've noticed a recent change since May 11, 2009. The huge "Rag-O-Rama" sign over the buy/sell/trade store was replaced with a sign reading, "Avalon Exchange". Although it may seem like Rag-O-Rama has been taken over by a new company, it's actually the exact same store, with just a few new tweaks.

"A paint job, name change, and a few employee benefits are really the only changes," former Rag-O-Rama and now Avalon Exchange employee Natalie Slyman said.

Two owners were in control of the Rag-O-Rama chain that actually had three other locations in Atlanta, GA, Indianapolis, IN and Columbus, OH. Avalon Exchange was part of the business, with two other stores in Pittsburg (according to their websites). After speaking with two employees, they explained that the owners split up, and to make the division equal, each got three stores.

One owner took over the other three Rag-O-Ramas outside of St. Louis and the other owner got the Pittsburg Avalon Exchanges. To make things fair, he also got the St. Louis Rag-O-Rama.

"He made the choice of the Loop location because he liked how it was already being run, and knew that all he needed to do was a paint job," employee Scott Walter said. However, this new title came with some employee benefits including a better late for work policy and discount. Also, the store owner is a little more hands off according to the employees.

"This is good because it gives the employees more control, while the past owner liked to be more involved," Slyman commented.

Despite the change in owners, the store itself has not changed significantly.

"Not so much, except with the décor and now the ceiling isn't falling down," Slyman said. "There's no price difference, and there are the same people working here."

The employees who do the buying still look mainly for good condition vintage, and current trends.

"The St. Louis Avalon is less focused on brand names than the other Pittsburg locations," Slyman said.

Employees say that the change has had no negative effect on shoppers; they still are getting the same people shopping along with a lot of out of towers. Some Loop go-ers are confused and people have asked employees, "Do you know where Rag-O-Rama is?"

Clayton students have mixed opinions on the issue. "I think the ownership really won't effect the shopping atmosphere," senior Jake Leech said. "It was a cool shop and I don't see why a name change would really change that."

However, other students strongly disagreed.

"They put up the new sign that read Avalon Exchange, and my heart dropped," junior Josh Fagin said. "Then they handed me the bag with the new logo, and it all went down from there. Rag-O-Rama was awesome, but now its different in a bad way."

Junior Grace Brumley agrees that the change might not be for the better.

"I don't mind a new owner but it's a little scary because I can definitely see another raise in prices coming soon," Brumley said. "I am disappointed in the changes Rag-O-Rama [now Avalon Exchange] has made recently and I do not plan on shopping there regularly," she added.

Although there's a new name and environment, it looks like Avalon Exchange has made a mix of changes, good and bad. ☺

## Minutes of Fame

If you were a wild animal, what would you be? Platypus  
Would you rather play basketball with Obama or quidditch with Harry Potter?  
Obama  
Who would star in a movie about you? Tom Cruise  
Is the glass half empty or half full? full

by **Bianca Vannucci**  
Reporter

Teddy Kogos is wearing a bright red graduation cap, with a long white string hanging over his face, partially covering his eye. However, Kogos is not graduating.

Kogos is in fact a freshman, a freshman that has been wearing a different kind of hat to school since Aug. 17. His extensive collection includes a graduation cap, a chicken hat, a pirate hat and a bird that flaps at the pull of a string.

"It started last year," Kogos said. "I have always gone to private schools with strict dress codes, but at Wydown I could wear what I wanted to. I started wearing hats and Halloween costumes to school, and instead of getting in trouble, teachers liked it."

Kogos sits in the quad for lunch with his many friends, who not only accept, but idolize him for who he is.

"Everybody loves Teddy," freshman John Luong said.

"His costumes are epic," freshman Lucy Bowe said. Kogos gets all kinds of reactions from people. He often



Freshmen Teddy Kogos sports his magical Trevor costume in the quad on a typical school day.

hears himself being referred as "the kids with the hats," but he doesn't mind.

"A guy in the halls came up to me and shook my hand," Kogos said. "He congratulated me for not caring what I wear. That's wrong, I wouldn't wear ripped jeans."

However, some people have different reactions, particularly insulting ones too.

"Some insults are actually just plain funny," Kogos said.

"Freak," joked Bowe.

"Now that's a first," laughed Kogos. But people's comments can't stop Kogos.

"I thought this wearing a different hat thing would last two weeks," Kogos said "It's now the fifth."

Kogos didn't necessarily plan to collect hats.

"I saw them in stores," Kogos said. "I'd say oh wow, cool hat, and I'd get it."

Kogos has worn twenty or so hats, but he has more, maybe even a total of thirty hats. And when he runs out of hats? Maybe bandanas, maybe he'll get more hats. There's only one thing Kogos likes more than hats. Costumes. ☺

# Pro-Con: Health care reform

## Obama's plan is best viable option

by Appi Sharma  
Editor

The phrase "health care" is seen and heard everywhere these days, and rightly so. The current situation of health care in the United States is dire, to say the least.

The United States census reports that in 2007, 18 percent of the population under 65 was lacking health insurance. Although a thorough census report of these figures is not available at a more recent date, the National Coalition on Health Care reports that by next year, more than 19 percent of the entire population will lack health insurance.

This loss of insurance has serious effects on the United States' overall health. First, it is one of the reasons why the U.S. ranks 50th in terms of life expectancy. Also, in our current system, in order to get medical attention, the uninsured are forced to go into the emergency room, even for something as small as a rash. These people delay the care of those who have real emergencies and end up putting the financial burden of their emergency care on the shoulders of everyone else.

The current system of health care is not only inefficient at keeping America healthy, but also at managing its cost.

According to the University of California, Santa Cruz, the countries which have a higher life expectancy than the United States are achieving this feat with around half as much money per capita. To make the situation worse, the current system is eating up a larger share of government budgets each year. Insurance premiums are growing at an average rate of 12 percent annually, while the rate of inflation is only 2.5 percent.

These growing premiums are forcing more and more small businesses to make insurance harder to afford for their employees, or to stop offering it all together. All this amounts to a huge vicious cycle, one that eats more and more money each year, while causing more people to lose their insurance.

Clearly, reform is needed. Those who support the status quo are either misinformed or uninformed, as all the statistics show that the current plan is extremely inefficient, regarding both money and the quality of care.

President Obama's suggested policies, including the creation of a public insurance option and making sure that all people have access to quality care, meet the criteria for the optimal path to providing health care.

However, many are against the idea of such a public option. Generally, those who are against it argue that it is against the ideals of the United States of America. They argue that a public plan will put too much control under the hands of the federal government. Also, they believe the availability of this plan will cause private insurers to fail, resulting in socialized health care.

President Abraham Lincoln expressed that the U.S. government should be a "government of the people, by the people, and for the people." Those who argue that making sure people have health insurance is against U.S. ideals are forgetting that it is government's responsibility to care for its citizens as well.

Also, the existence of a public option would not cause private insurers to go out of business, as many claim. Instead, it would compete constructively, forcing private insurers to offer better services of better value, further benefiting the public. Proof of this can be seen by looking at the United States Postal Service (USPS). Although, like a public health care option, the USPS is regulated by the federal government, it still allows other postal companies, such as FedEx, to do well in the market.

Another problem that opponents cite with a government controlled plan is that in trying to expand coverage, the federal government will start rationing care. However, even if the government does ration care, it won't be any worse than the status quo, as private insurers do it all the time, when they don't cover certain things, or deny insurance based on previous medical conditions.

Those opposed to Obama's proposals also argue that it would hurt low income workers by instating an employer mandate, forcing all but the smallest employer to provide health insurance options to their employees. They argue that workers with low wages would then be forced to buy plans that would be hard to afford. However, this argument is void, since the availability of a public plan would make everyone be able to afford health care.

Another major argument against Obama's plan is the large estimated addition to the already imposing deficit. Some cite that the plan will add up to 10 trillion dollars to the debt in 10 years. However, these reports are false. In his speech to a joint session of congress on September 9, Obama said outright, "I will not sign a plan that adds one dime to our deficits -- either now or in the future." He argued that the government could pay for this plan by simply finding savings in the current health systems, such as Medicare and Medicaid.

This is not to say that these programs will offer less support, but simply that they would use their funding appropriately.

The benefits of the policies supported by Obama greatly outweigh all of the above questionable problems. The proposed policies will successfully solve the current problems with health care. They stabilize cost, and lower the number of uninsured by offering a quality, affordable, public health insurance plan. They also aim to reform current private insurance plans through the creation of a National Health Insurance Exchange, which would set standards for care, including fair premiums for all applicants, regardless of medical history.

This exchange would also make it easier for individuals to find and buy private plans as well. Obama also proposes to provide funding for hospitals and other health care providers to shift to electronic health information technology, which would computerize medical records, helping reduce medical errors, increase quality of care, and save time.

Another way these policies aim to increase the quality and cost effectiveness of care is by requiring health care providers to publicly report cost and quality measures, so all providers can see what works well and what doesn't. The plan also makes sure that children have health insurance, which in effect, insures the future of America.

Overall, Obama's proposed policies solve all the problems that exist in the current system. First, it stabilizes the exponentially growth of health care costs. Also, for those who have health insurance, the policies will simply make the insurance better. Most importantly, for those who aren't able to get insurance, the policies will create an affordable public option as well as an exchange, allowing consumers to easily buy private health insurance. For these reasons, I believe that enacting Obama's policies will solve one of the greatest issues facing us today, and in doing so benefit our nation as a whole. ☺

## Obama has mishandled health care

by Noah Eby  
Editor

As newly anointed President Obama stepped out onto the stage on election night with Joe Biden, it was hard to imagine that less than a year later he would be so despised. Yet here we are, watching public sentiment turn from the president and Congress amidst an increasingly explosive and confusing debate over health care.

As promised during the election campaign, Obama quickly announced a seemingly infallible plan to reform the health care system subsequent to him winning the presidency. He promised everything from universal coverage to a magical zero-cost plan, and for a moment it seemed as though the American people and government were ready for change.

Unfortunately for Obama, the opposition has roared up en masse in the past months. Hecklers at town hall meetings protest "socialism" and ring the alarm bell, citing death panels and the like as their reason for opposing the proposed reforms. This, of course, is madness.

Madness as it may be, it is still taking a serious toll on the campaign for reform. This not only makes Americans look foolhardy for falling into the propagandist trap, but it makes Obama administration appear flustered and unorganized as well. This could have been avoided had the president gone about reform the right way. Instead he chose the path of Bill Clinton, which, as some may remember, was not a particularly successful one.

The first error of the administration was timing. While many of the so-called "experts" argue that Obama must get reform out of the way early in his term to avoid not getting it done at all, this strategy makes little practical sense.

During a sputtering economy with unemployment almost at 10 percent and citizens scrambling to make ends meet, the Obama administration squandered large amounts of money. This is very rarely a good idea.

Though he claims the reforms will cost the government nothing and will come solely from reforms of the system, Obama laid out the trillions that reform would amount to over the coming years.

Furthermore, Obama provided nothing but his word -- no facts, no statistics -- to prove that the deficit would not be increased by health care reforms. Obama forced the American people to make a choice: to either they trust him with their money or not.

Even when riding on the euphoria of an election victory, a severe recession is never a good climate in which to ask people to trust you with their money.

His second error came hand in hand with the timing. Because Obama dove right into health care reform, he had little time to prepare a decent persuasion to the public. The result of this was seen weekly on the news, as members of Congress were bashed by constituents. The main cause of this was misinformation, a problem that could have easily been solved had Obama taken his time.

The president should have come out the election ready to campaign, something he tends to be rather good at. Obama should have taken at least a year to travel the country giving his oh-so-inspiring speeches to inform and persuade the American people about his plans for health care and how they will affect them individually.

This would have prevented the acceptance of misinformation by otherwise sane, sensible people, which forms the bulk of the current opposition. As for those raucously exercising their First Amendment rights at town hall meetings, that's pretty much hopeless.

Finally, there is the actual substance of reform. Obama chose an interesting route, which was to allow Congress to debate the actual reform while he stood on the sidelines making recommendations here and there. This plan quickly turned passive-aggressive though, as Obama refused to lay out initial plans and then critiqued ideas as they came out of Congress. This only served to confuse Congress and the American people as to what he truly wants and what he will be willing to sign.

In his address to Congress, Obama finally outlined his plan for an overhaul. This is too little too late, though, as misinformation is far too abundant to reverse with a single speech. The now infamous Joe Wilson, who shouted "You lie!" during Obama's address to Congress, has epitomized this hysteria. It seems quite doubtful that some Americans will ever trust Obama after the rocky months of summer.

There has been much brouhaha regarding the "public option," a plan in which the government would run a non-for-profit insurance company.

Many have called this socialism, but in reality it is just a choice and thus cannot be labeled so. However, there is a major flaw in the concept.

Unlike other insurance companies, the government group will not have to make a profit. Although Obama claimed one of his guiding principles is that consumers do better when there is competition, the public option blatantly allows the government to offer lower prices without consequence. This is simply and purely unfair.

As we head into the fall of his first term, Obama has found himself stuck in a rut of propaganda, chaos, and what he might consider political hell. People see him differently than they did during the spur of the election, and they most certainly don't trust the government to take care of their money or their health.

As the weeks and months roll past and nothing comes out of Congress, the situation seems more dubious than ever. American politics has become a disaster zone, struck with a partisan storm that seems without end. Every day the healthcare reform is not passed it seems more likely that Barack Obama, the man many of whom thought they would support forever, will be unable to fulfill the promises that he made just a short year ago. ☹

## Student reflects on overcoming social intimidation among modern youth

I opened my eyes, watching the ceiling fluctuating. I sat up to a disconcerting head rush and a splitting headache. For a few seconds my vision was clouded with an abundance of little white stars.

I asked myself whether drinking those beers the night before was worth my present fatigue.

Peer pressure had taken hold of me, as it has many high school students in Clayton and throughout the country.

That night, the multitude of beer cans, both empty and full, strewn across every table astounded me, for I had never seen so much alcohol in one place. At approximately 10 p.m., my peers began to apply pressure.

A few students encouraged me to "man up" and "have a refreshment" because I had not yet engaged in any illegal activity.

Part of me was humiliated to be the only one sober at the gathering. Another decreasingly significant part was adamant about avoiding alcohol consumption.

Initially I refused the alcohol offered to me; I made several excuses, like, "I can't go home drunk! My parents will notice," and "I'm not thirsty," but in vain.

I have trouble resisting the temptation of any complimentary item, and every single can of valuable beer was free. With time and atmosphere, I be-

came one with the social attitude of the night, drinking one beer after another until I was completely sedated and truly assimilated into the culture of underage drinking.

This mishap was caused by negative peer pressure as well as my own poor decision. I was not only embarrassed, but ashamed to have been manipulated by a simple social atmosphere and pushed towards irresponsible be-

havior by my peers.

Within the walls of Clayton High School, the beautiful call of safety and responsibility rings true. Students like me focus on their work, devoted to academia. Students like me make good decisions, for they are surrounded by authority figures and role models.

However, we, as CHS students, must understand that outside of these comforting walls we are surrounded by teen problems, such as alcohol and

drug use, reckless driving, and general irresponsible choices.

The frontal lobe of a teenage brain, which is associated with reasoning and planning, is not fully developed until age 21. Peer pressure creates an emotional response which furthers the impairment of judgment for the confused teenager.

Eventually, the consumption of alcohol impairs whatever judgment is left, therefor dangerous decisions are very easy to make. Giving in to peer pressure is the step between common sense and idiocy for a teen.

I believe that if CHS is to function ideally and if its students are to recreate safely, peer pressure must be made

much less prominent in the social lives of these students. I do not advocate for administrative action against peer pressure because this kind of action usually makes students rebellious or angry.

However, I do urge students themselves to take steps toward a safe social atmosphere, in which no really means no, and does not bring mocking or alienation down upon the responsible teen.

CHS students should learn to respect the social choices of their peers while making safe, responsible decisions regarding underage activity. We should also be responsible for maintaining their own safety in our environment. ☺



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The Globe student newspaper exists primarily to inform, entertain, and represent the student body at CHS to the best of its ability. It serves as a public forum for the Clayton community. All content decisions are made by the student editors.

The Globe is self-funded for all publishing costs and offers advertising to all school-appropriate businesses. Please contact our office for more information. The Globe is distributed to students each month of the school year. We also offer bulk mailing subscriptions for \$20 a year and first-class subscriptions for \$30 a year.

Editorials

Unsigned staff editorials will appear only on the designated opinion page and shall represent a majority opinion of the staff. A by-lined editorial reflects only the view of the writer. The views expressed on the editorial page do not necessarily reflect the views of any of the faculty, the administration or the board of education.

Letters to the Editor

All letters to the editor must be signed when submitted to the editorial staff. The paper reserves the right to edit letters for length and repetition. Publication of letters is subject to the laws of libel, obscenity, incitement and copyright.

We also remind students that as the Globe is a student publication, all compliments, opinions, complaints, and suggestions are welcomed and should be forwarded to the Globe Office:

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Winner of MIPA All-Missouri, NSPA All-American with four months of distinction, Quill and Scroll Gallup Award, CSPA Silver Crown (2004), Pacemaker winner (2003), NSPA Hall of Fame Member (2006)

## Morality of 'Do Not Resuscitate'

I blinked slowly, exhaling as I did so, imagining that it too was my last breath. I was perfectly healthy, but the patient in the room facing me wasn't. The specialist who I was shadowing told me that the patient had severe liver and lung failure with low hopes of recovery.

I didn't react when I first heard it, using the time to process. My first brush with death had come at last. The attending nurse drew the curtains closed after his family members entered the room. I tried to turn away but found myself looking at the place where the last glimmer of fluorescent light had been shining from the room.

I strained all my senses, as if trying to perceive when the moment would come. Time marched on and I sat there trying not even to blink in the event that I would miss something.

Several minutes later, the nurse slid the door open quietly and gingerly stepped out with a somber look on her face. I turned away as if I were looking at something vile. My imagination led me to abysses in my mind where the foreboding thoughts of death lingered. Yet at the end of the day, I felt no different after encountering death.

I was shadowing at Barnes Jewish Hospital's Pulmonary Intensive Care Unit (ICU). The specialist made rounds to patients with severe illnesses ranging from those who come in after traffic accidents to people who are in the late stages of lung cancer.

I wasn't told the causes of this particular patient's symptoms. From the orange hues of his skin, it became apparent that he had jaundice, a sign of liver failure.

I was told by the specialist that the patient had given consent for DNR (do not resuscitate). This preemptive order is given by patients who didn't want to be given CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) generally after heavily traumatic cardiovascular events. The topic is heavily controversial in the medical field concerning whether patients can

choose DNR even when there is still a fair chance of survival.

CPR is generally used on patients suffering from either breathing or vascular problems.

If the patient's heart stops or isn't breathing in the hospital, the standard of care is to perform CPR in the absence of a valid physician's order to withhold it.

After cases of acute stroke and septic shock, CPR is deemed to be ineffective. When a patient's health has deteriorated so far that even a successful recovery would most likely have death as its outcome, doctors can also choose to withhold CPR. Without knowing what was actually ailing this patient, I can't judge the validity of his DNR. However, there are many cases in which CPR still could save the patient's life.

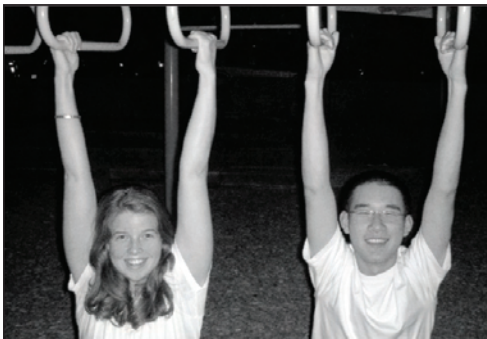
My parents have always told me that staying healthy was one of the most important things I could do. Chronic diseases or severe incidents can shatter a person's morale so that they believe in choosing indisputable death. In most cases of DNR, CPR is withheld from patients even when there are still chances of survival.

DNR transcends the medical boundary and crosses into the legal and moral battlefield. Issues crop up regarding whether family members can override the patient's wishes. In most cases, the hospital staff tries to facilitate communication until an agreement is reached.

Another issue is whether a patient can request DNR even when CPR is a viable option. In most cases, hospitals respect the patient's wishes even when CPR can save them. Even if it's what they want, I'm not sure if I condone that.

DNR gives patients the right to negate all hope and die a peaceful death. While this ensures that they won't perpetually live in a vegetative state or spend their life in a coma, the policy snatches faint chances of revival from some. In the end, as long as the patient is deemed mentally stable, the choice is theirs.

## HANGING BY A MOMENT



Ken Zheng



The Charrington family was brought together in Hutchinson this past Labor Day.

## Stories provide humor, strengthen relationships

Laughter is pretty strong stuff. This realization came as a product of the Labor Day weekend. Labor Day in itself is a wonderful holiday. This is especially true in the Clayton school district, which adds an extra day to the weekend for students.

On this weekend my whole family gets together in Hutchinson. We traditionally pile ourselves into one house (because hotels are overrated when you've got family) and let the family bonding begin. The bonding begins and ends with a funny story, a humorous tidbit of someone's life. Whether the story be old, new, over-told, or always in high demand it serves towards bringing us closer together.

These stories are always funny regardless of subject matter, or at least messed up enough to be deemed humorous in some eyes. My family thrives upon the laughter that these stories bring, which is not to say we're a silly bunch, but we realize and appreciate the power of laughter.

Of these family stories some of my personal favorites are the donkey up a mountain story, the locked in a wildlife park at night story, the almost hit a giraffe story, the man who almost jumped story, the fell off the camel story, the why I liked your grandpa story, and the sick old man story, which I heard for the first time just this past Labor Day weekend.

My grandmother and aunt were looking at a possible piece of real estate to buy. The realtor led them to into the property and showed them around. In the living room of the apartment, lying on the couch, was a very old sickly man with a peculiarly vague expression

on his face. If the man's expression was peculiar, the odor being emitted from the man, was downright unnatural. The man was there, because supposedly, the realtor was looking after his wellbeing.

Noticing the man's pallid appearance, my grandmother asked, "Is he -- okay?"

To which the woman promptly and dispassionately replied, "Oh him, yeah, yeah, he always looks like that."

My aunt, completely dissatisfied with this answer, whispered to my grandmother, "Don't he look dead to you?"

Dead, they both agreed was the man's ghastly state of appearance. Without any proof to back their own observation they continued on with the tour of the house.

Inspecting the state of the apartment as prospective buyers should. They left the property feeling good about it and still interested.

That is until a couple days later when the woman selling the apartment called to apologize for showing them around an apartment with a dead person in it.

Others might not find this story particularly funny, on account of the dead person and all. But, it kept my family laughing and in a good mood for hours after it was told. Which is where the growth, reparation, and strengthening of family relationships are able to flourish.

My family's stories help to tie and keep bonds between family members through the use of laughter. What keeps my family together through rough patches or disputes is our ability to extract humor from difficult situations. Appreciating this phenomenon is important to having successful relationships within your family.



Sarah Blackwell

## Feeble reaction to Obama's speech

Despite the build-up and controversy that has surrounded Obama's speech directed at American students that took place on Sept. 8, the speech was remarkably devoid of political leanings and certainly didn't match the media hype. In fact, the speech may have been just a bit too basic.

The build-up to this very non-partisan speech was tremendous—and many media outlets reported on the nationwide phenomenon of schools refusing to show the live televised speech to students in order to "protect"

The apparent goal of the speech was to welcome students to the new school year and encourage American students to put forth their most sincere efforts into their schoolwork. Obama also focused in on the almost aggressively bland topic of... hand washing.

To call the speech an indoctrination of America's youth, a revolutionary insight, or any other extreme statement—either positive or negative—would be more than a stretch.

This is not to say that Obama's speech was bad. In fact, it made some very reasonable and truthful points about a student's responsibility to take charge of their own education. However, it is commonplace for many students to hear constantly hear this from teachers and parents and they are surely aware that they can't succeed in life unless they take an initiative and actually do their best in school.

Obama relied too much on his reputation as an orator, spoke in clichés, and ended up sounding like just another school administrator lecturing students on the importance of good work ethic. All of this was part of a failed attempt to avoid the inevitable controversy and media circus that occurs anytime Obama or a member of his family lifts a finger.

This speech is truly evidence that the media's coverage of the Obama presidency is filled with controversy-baiting over trivial and unimportant matters. In an attempt to survive in the midst of a failing industry, many American journalists lazily focus on trivial issues to get the attention of readers and get credit for "speaking out" and starting the latest fad of controversies over truly irrelevant, non-political issues.

Obama's handling of health care, the economy, and education itself are worthy of discussion and controversy. In fact, disagreement and dialogue are essential to the democratic process. However, controversy over a very basic speech about trying hard in school and the infamous "beer summit" seem like formulaic media constructions intended to draw out raw emotions from Americans.

Quite honestly, these "mini controversies" that seem to pop up on a weekly basis are just distracting Americans from serious issues that actually have a profound impact on their lives and well-being. Regardless, people just want to take the easy way out. It's a lot easier to focus on over-hyped controversies than to actually research the healthcare system, learn about world conflicts our country is involved in, and take a stand on human rights issues.

Right now, Americans have a choice between two paths: taking the easy way out or confronting political issues head-on. If we're actually going to make this country a better place, we need to stop treating politics like a gossip column.

Let's discuss what Obama should do to improve education, instead of just homing in on a basic speech to American students and labeling it as indoctrination.

### STAFF EDITORIAL

AGREE 46%

DISAGREE 54%

## Travels to Germany lead to the Berlin Wall

Ritter gets a glimpse of Germany's history and comprehends the reasons behind Germany's diversity.

I awoke in the middle of the afternoon to the sound of the steady rhythm of the train wheels moving over the train tracks. "Ta clunk, ta clunk". I shook my head and looked drowsily through the window of the train to see a city emerge in the distance like the sun rising in the morning.

Berlin is a city filled with tall buildings, strange people and a history of struggle. I thought about how the next three days in this city would be. My mother and I go every summer to Germany to see family. We always visit the city of Munich because that's where all my family lives. This summer although my mother insisted we go to Berlin for three days so I could see the wall and the lifestyle in the city.

As the train slowly rolled into the station I could tell that life was different in Berlin than it was in Munich. As I stepped off the train I immediately recognized that this was a city of many cultures. I also realized that this was a city full of alcoholics because practically everyone in the train station was carrying a bottle of beer in their hand.

After checking into the hotel, we met up with my mother's friends who lived in the city. After meeting them, we were given a private tour of the city. I got to see many of the Berlin's historic landmarks. A few of the landmarks I got to see were the Spree River, that runs through the city, the Reichstags (seat of the parliament), and most importantly the Berlin Wall.

As I approached what was left of the wall, I realized that it had been 20 years since the citizens of Berlin demanded a reunification and tore down the wall. It occurred to me that the reason that there were so many different cultures in Berlin was because of the wall. The Berlin Wall had separated East and West Berlin from 1961 to 1989.

After World War II, Germany was in dire need of aid. The country was divided into four sections in order to help recover from the war.



Marc Ritter and his mother are standing in downtown Berlin in front of remnants of the Berlin Wall.

The city of Berlin itself was also divided into four sections. The United States, France, Great Britain and Soviet Union each had control over one section of Berlin. After two years, the United States, Great Britain, and France met together to combine their sectors of Berlin into one, which became known as West Berlin. The Soviet Union however, refused to join the other countries and their section became known as East Berlin.

After many disputes a wall was built in 1961 that separated the two sectors of the city. East Berlin was under communist rule while West Berlin was not. If you lived in West Berlin there was more freedom. You could travel anywhere including East Berlin. People living in East Berlin however, were not allowed to leave and their freedom was limited.

After 28 years of the wall dividing the city citizens demanded a change and tore down the wall. This reunification brought together people from the different sectors.



Marc Ritter



Nia Charrington

# 18 reasons to be excited (or not) about turning 18

Most seniors and even a few juniors will turn 18 this year. What can one do on his or her 18th birthday in the state of Missouri? Of the 18 things listed below, there are some legal rights you may just want to pass on like buying cigarettes. On the positive side:

1. Of course, if you turn 18 before or on this Nov. 3 election you can vote. However, if you are 18 or are turning 18 between now and Nov. 3, you need to register to vote by Oct. 7 to vote in this November election.

2. You must be at least 18 to consent to your own medical treatment. If you've always wanted that nose job, now is your chance. Just remember that beauty is in the eye of the beholder, not in the nose. Plus, the risks of unnecessary surgery are endless and your nose could turn out much worse.

3. Shop until you drop. Yes, you were allowed at 17 to be unattended at the Galleria, but now you can open up your own credit card account.

4. Along the same lines, you can sign contracts. At 18, if you have ample funds, you can now rent your own apartment, buy a car, or sign official documents without a parent or guardian's consent.

5. Although, the odds are not in your favor, you can purchase lottery tickets for yourself. Better to invest your money or put it in the bank. Given the current economy, you never know.

6. Need a last-minute gift for a friend or family member? You can now also purchase lottery tickets for someone else over 18. However, if they win big on your ticket, it is not proper etiquette to request or claim a percentage of the prize.

7. Have a tux? With or without a tuxedo, you can now get married in the state of Missouri without your parents' consent.

8. Want to irritate and disappoint your parents and pediatrician with tattoos at such a young age? The problem is these are lifetime decisions made in your youth that you might question in your adulthood.

9. Newsweek, Time, Playboy? You can now legally buy pornography, but avoid those racks at the newsstand. The

creepiest people search and peruse that area of the magazine rack.

10. Just a reminder: If you are older than 17, you can be charged as an adult. It's time to think twice about some silly immature pranks that you might want to pull off after your 18th birthday, since you are now charged as an adult.

11. Hoping that your D.A.R.E. classes made a huge impact, and you will refrain from buying yourself or others cigarettes or cigars. Yes, you can even buy a tobacco pipe, but not a great gift for your lungs. Why cut years off your life expectancy by legally taking up smoking?

12. Hoping that you will not have the dire need, but if you like to hunt wildlife, you can now purchase a gun and ammunition. However, you may not bring weapons or ammunition to school.

13. Uncle Sam could call you up if you are a male. You can also enlist in the military. Of course, if male, you will need to register at your local post office when you turn 18. However, at 18 both males and females can enlist without parental consent.

14. You graduate to a Full Driver License. You must pass the vision and road sign recognition test at time of application.

15. No more child labor laws to contend with in the workplace. When you turn 18, employers are no longer required to limit the amount of hours you work during the school year. Let's hope that your work is neither hazardous nor boring.

16. Speaking of work, you can apply and be hired as a bank teller. However, it could be a dangerous job if the person that bought the gun on their 18th birthday shows up in your line at the bank with ammunition in hand.

17. You only have to wait three more years, before you can legally text while driving. You thought texting was expensive. If stopped for driving while texting you will be fined \$200. Obviously, texting and driving is dangerous for all ages, but in Missouri it is legal to drive and text at 21.

18. You can buy your birthday candles, cake and lighter to light the candles (okay, you could buy the candles and cake at any age, but now you can officially purchase the lighter). You are 18 and legal. Enjoy the 18 new "benefits" of turning 18. ☺

## UP IN THE AIR



Simone Bernstein



Shumway enjoys basic things in life, such as chores in rural Idaho.

Courtesy of Jonathan Shumway

# A haven in Idaho

I spent the summer waking up at sun-up, baling hay, moving irrigation pipes, putting up fences, making trails, and riding horses for two weeks. It was my third summer at a ranch in Idaho, but it has always been one of my favorite times of the year—being only 30 minutes from Jackson Hole.

With the rugged Tetons overlooking the ranch, I saw the sun rise above the mountains, the valley changing from perpetual darkness to morning, the dew in the alfalfa fields, soaking me in morning as I worked. I could see aspens dotting the base of the mountains, and showing the landscape change to Ponderosa Pines or Douglas Firs as the elevation increased. I saw the summit of the Grand Teton (well above tree line) become white in August as a soft blanket of snow fell upon it.

This ranch is a place that I love for its natural beauty, but also a remembrance of the wilderness that it gives me, and the chance to get away from the craziness of life. To be able to find joy and contentment in doing hard physical labor is a lesson that can be learned on the ranch. In society, it seems that this concept in many circumstances has been lost. Being at a ranch has given me a new perspective concerning this idea. Though people may think that doing daily chores are monotonous or boring, it is fulfilling to me.

To know that you are accomplishing a job with your back and your hands is

simply a joy to me. There were actually times when work crews would compete for time in moving the irrigation pipes. My group actually got the lowest time at 6 minutes.

Hard physical labor can be fun and exciting. After moving pipes, I would actually run through the whole stretch of pipes, to let myself get soaked by its sprinklers. We would then pile up in the back of the truck because that is simply how you get around on a ranch.

Though modern conveniences help enrich our lives, and let us able to spend more time on things that we enjoy,

it is nice to get away for a while from the urban world's distractions. Perhaps that is reason why so many people are attracted to the backcountry of the Rockies, and the Jackson Hole area.

I remember one particular hard job was when we were taking down the rails on a fence. For several hours, I had to slam the sledgehammer into the rails to get them loose. It is a job that I would recommend not trying. I spent most of the lunch-break curled up on a chair because I was so exhausted.

Another day, we had to clear several acres of thistle. Picture having a scythe, and slicing it back and forth, back and

forth, as sharp points of thistle move against your hands and arms. This has given me an everlasting detestation for thistle. Even so, there is beauty in this unpleasant plant. I still think that the purple flower that thistle produces is still remarkable in its own way. Beauty can be found everywhere.

Nature has taught me a lot of lessons. With the ranch being surrounded by aspen trees, it is inspiring to find that the groves of the aspen trees were all supported by one mother tree, being inter-connected and sending the nutrients to a sick tree—the aspens living in coexistence. I find that nature can give me analogies and insights into the real world of relationships and challenges in life. For example, we can learn from the aspens to be unified in purpose, and help those in need.

To live on a ranch, and be in nature is something I love. It has actually given me the desire to someday have a ranch one day myself, and allow others to learn the lessons that I have learned while being there, taking pleasure in the simple joys of life. From my time in that special valley, I have learned to look into a different lens of life than I would otherwise have ever known. I am grateful for those glimpses. ☺



Jonathan Shumway



Forest Park Parkway frequently gets crowded with frustrated drivers who thought they were taking an unknown shortcut.

Willie Wyesson

# Parkway source of frustration

I am not an angry person.

Some people think that cars pollute the environment, and the word around the block is that gas has become too expensive. However, I have an even better reason to pull out that old ten-speed cruiser that has been collecting dust in your garage: Forest Park Parkway.

Once felt that the parkway was my little secret. I could sneak downtown in a matter of minutes from Clayton and would use it to avoid traffic. Well, four months and a few jackhammers later, my secret has been let out. And apparently, the gossip has spread to everyone in the Midwest.

Now, while driving downtown, I usually feel as though I am on MTV's "Boiling Points." For those of you who haven't had the pleasure of watching it, "Boiling Points" is a hidden camera show subjecting the unknowing participants to, frankly, obnoxious behaviors to see how far these people can be pushed before they "boil over." I highly recommend taking 30 minutes out of your day and watching an episode so you will understand where I am coming from.

I'm sure that everyone has taken 170 south to FPP. Of course, at that point, other than the 18-wheeler taking up two lanes, the traffic isn't bad. Sure, there might be the occasional spot right after the Delmar exit where everyone slows down by 10 miles per hour (of which I am still looking for the cause), but all in all, everything is smooth sailing.

Then, you have to avoid the traffic entering from Ladue Road and take the big looping turn onto the parkway. Here's where it all starts.

Every few weeks I see the smart person who decided to go 50 around the turn and corrects too much and ends up in the bank of trees staring at their totaled car and telling the police where it all went wrong. Naturally, no one has

ever seen an accident before, so we all get to slow down to 10 and observe. I can always tell if the person isn't paying attention to driving when they swerve to avoid the parked police car on the side of the road. I wonder how they passed the driving test.

I get to accelerate for about five seconds before the gentleman in the right lane decides that his blind spot is not very important. Keeping my cool, I carefully navigate the gradual turns that cause the Escalade driver to move to the center and occupy both lanes. I mutter under my breath.

Right around the Forsyth exit is where the traffic really starts. For some unknown reason, a lot of drivers think that changing lanes in bumper-to-bumper traffic will let them avoid the bumper-to-bumper traffic.

After five minutes averaging 10 yards per minutes, I see flashing lights telling me to be prepared to stop ahead. I chuckle.

I get to the stop-light and the person ahead of me decides to go halfway through the intersection instead of waiting their turn behind the white line like everyone else. Of course, the people from Pershing can't get on and think that honking at the person to make move up three inches will solve their problem. In fact, it doesn't, and then everyone else decides to throw in their two cents and honk as well. I start looking for Advil.

Twenty minutes and four songs later I make it across Big Bend. Every so often, someone gets even more frustrated than me and pulls a U-turn. That person in the Escalade decides their music isn't loud enough. I hear Miley Cyrus, or Hannah Montana for that

matter, I'm not totally sure. I roll up my windows.

Wash U students have gotten out of class and are now walking down the sidewalk. I realize that I have now finished my whole CD and must switch to the radio. Every channel I turn to is on commercial break. However, I learn that Burger King lets you have it your way and I think outside the bun when listening to the Taco Bell commercial. Boredom has set in and I start looking around. I see a woman with a walker pass me on my right. I think about "Office Space."

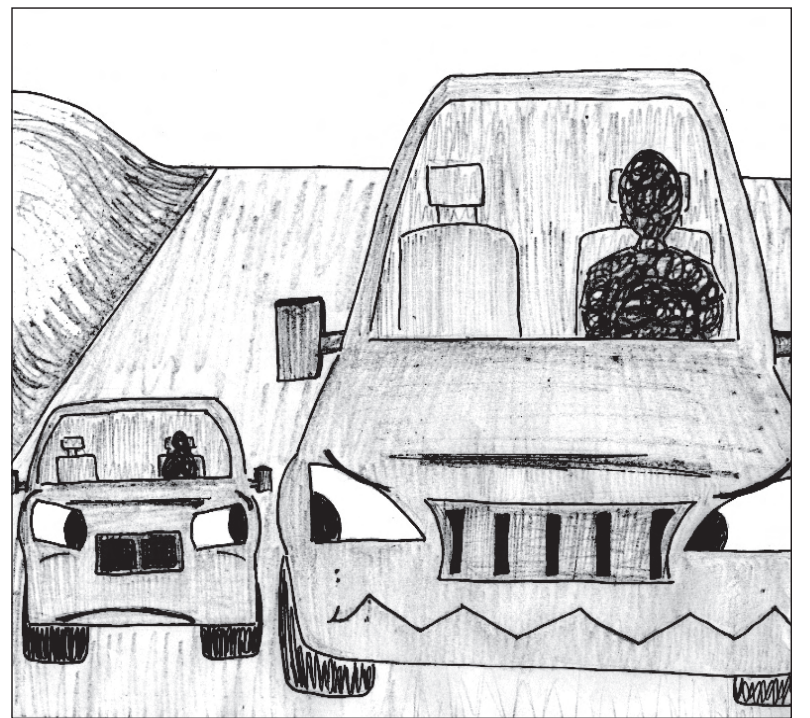
Miraculously, I get to Skinker. I debate whether to cut through on Lindell or keep going on the parkway. I choose Lindell. I turn right and sit, waiting for the left turn signal. An ambulance is approaching from the distance, and the person behind me in the brand new Mustang takes this opportunity to not move to the right, but turn left on red. I check the time. I am late. Very late.

I turn onto Lindell and finally all is clear. As I turn to take the last leg of the parkway, where all traffic has disappeared, I see the Mustang. It's been pulled over by the police. I now believe in Karma.

I get to my internship at Barnes and slam on the brakes as pedestrians do not look both ways and cross in the middle of the street. They wave "sorry." I don't return the wave. I turn to the parking lot. I press the "help" button to get let in. It is broken. I try to back up. The bus driver yells at me with a few choice words. I pay \$5 for the lot across the street and walk in frustrated and with a neck cramp. I find out that I am not a winner on "Boiling Points." I don't make \$100. I pledge to take the metro next time. ☺



Tom Evashwick



Trucks make cars feel like they are going to get pushed off the road.

Sonja Petermann

should've been recalled to the factories, so it's no surprise that my distaste with them grew deeper as I witnessed their impact on the world of driving.

Everyday I have to pass a truck dock on the way to school and mind you this is a small residential street where this dock is located so I can only hope that one can imagine the frustration of trying to get to a zero-hour class while having to wait for a truck driver to get his coffee, hop into his truck, start it up, and slowly move on out.

Then once I'm finally off that street I get stuck behind a small truck at the first stop light. The light turns green, and the truck accelerates at a whopping 10 miles per hour to turn. I exhale a small sigh of relief, only to have it become a sharp intake of air as a FedEx truck merges into my lane and slowly search-

es for So-and-so Street (which is maybe seven stop lights away).

Then, by the time I move around that truck, I'll be behind another and another and another—anyway, you get my drift; I get stuck behind trucks a lot.

But I know I can't be the only one who had to be somewhere but was stuck behind a truck for five miles. Yes, to my fellow small car owners, I say must the power of size always trump the advantage of having a leather interior, power windows, and aerodynamic side panels? In my world, no, but in general, it does.

Though we can't see through, over, or around trucks on a street, and life in a truck-dominated world is pretty difficult to bear, I'm sure that one day we small car owners will have some power over trucks. Granted, just because I'm sure of it, doesn't make it any more likely that it will happen, so hopefully you weren't expecting me to tell that day because I'm just as clueless as you are. ☺



Ijeoma Oneyema

# Japanese Festival offers unique cultural experience



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by Zachary Prais  
Reporter

Japanese wartime drumming, sumo wrestling, aikido martial arts, and traditional puppetry were all featured at the Japanese Festival at the Missouri Botanical Gardens this Labor Day weekend. Ever since its start in 1977, the Japanese Festival has significantly grown over the years to now offer wide selection of authentic Japanese food, art, music, and cultural entertainment.

"It's one of the largest festivals celebrating Japanese cultures in the nation," said Karen Hagenow, the Public Information Officer for the Botanical Gardens. "It brings Japanese culture and traditions to the Botanical Gardens and links them to our Japanese Garden."

This year, in celebration of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Botanical Gardens, the festival had several new special additions.

For instance, Bunraku, the traditional form of Japanese puppetry, was presented for the first time at the festival. Unlike most puppetry, this form of puppetry involves three puppeteers for each puppet through an intricate system of levers and rods. Silently and gracefully, the beautiful ornate puppets tell a story through their movements.

Also, this year marks the fifth year of sumo wrestling for the festival. As a result, a third sumo wrestler participated in the popular sumo wrestling demonstra-

tions. The sumo wrestlers, weighing around 300 pounds, explained their experiences and told stories about the nearly 2,000-year-old sport. They show the technique to their fight, wrestle each other, and then take on a volunteer from the audience.

The festival also continued to host many of its other popular attractions. For its sixth year, aikido was presented at the festival.

"Aikido represents Japanese martial arts," said Howard Tweet, an Aikido instructor. "It's a good fit for the Japanese Festival as it reminds us of the ancient Japanese tradition of martial arts."

Other forms of Japanese martial arts including Judo, Karate, and Kendo were also presented. Thunderous drums are heard every night at the festival, as the Taiko, Japanese drums, took the stage. Although once used to scare off approaching armies, the drums are now used to entertain visitors at the festival in a booming presentation.

Many other Japanese activities were at the festival including cooking demonstrations, ice sculpting, and the Candyman, a Japanese street entertainer who magically makes sweet creations.

In additions, this year the festival had greater selections of Japanese cuisine ranging from sushi to beef kabobs to green tea ice cream. The festival attracted people of all ages to come and enjoy these great Japanese traditions and cultures. ☺



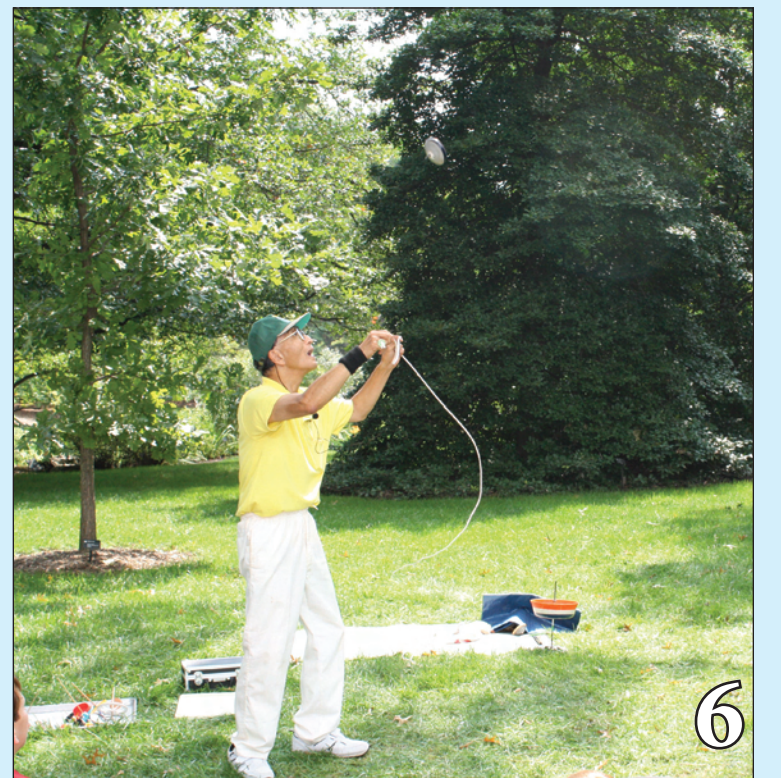
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1. A mother and son enjoy a stroll through the existing Japanese Garden within the walls of the Botanical Gardens. 2. Many items were for sale during the festival, including these dyed scarves. 3. Masaji Terasawa, better known as the Candyman, sculpts sweet creations while blindfolded to entertain the crowd. 4. Beautiful flowers and lily pads dotted the fountains. 5. The Botanical Gardens was decorated with banners and signs for festival goers to enjoy as they walked the grounds. 6. Many forms of entertainment were featured at the festival, including this skilled top spinner. 7. Many St. Louisans came out to experience the three-day long Japanese Festival. 8. Demonstrations of Aikido, Judo, Karate, and Kendo were presented at the festival.

All photos by Emily Wack