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## Clayton-Ladue hockey clash casts shadow on future matchups

**Rebecca Wall**  
Senior Managing Editor

The Clayton-Ladue rivalry, which seemed to have cooled down earlier this year, has once again heated up.

On Jan. 12 Clayton and Ladue students became involved at a fight during a hockey game at Webster Rink. Eyewitnesses estimate that at least 20 students were actively involved in the violence, although many more were caught in the crossfire. By the end of the altercation police made at least one arrest and several people sustained injuries.

This fight marks the second incident between Clayton and Ladue students at a hockey game, the previous one occurring in December 2005. The occurrence of another fight, however unpleasant, came as a surprise to some since last year's fight caused quite a stir.

“I was kind of surprised because I thought they would have it under control,” senior hockey player Kevin Smith said. “I thought the students would know it's not a good idea.”

At the same time, the fight was not that unusual given the precedent according to Smith.

Since the fight occurred off campus at a non-school sponsored event, no disciplinary penalties for students involved.

“If there were fights at a school sponsored event there would be suspensions and other disciplinary action as well,” Gutchewsky said. “We'd have parents involved, and the people that were involved's future attendance at school events would be in jeopardy.”

Echoing the sentiment of many hockey players, Smith wishes that the administration would be more



Abbie Minton

**Freshman forward Zach** Cavallini fights for the puck in a game against John Burroughs on Jan. 19. The Hounds lost the game to the Bombers 4-1. Controversy arose following a fight by fans after the Ladue-Clayton game on Jan. 12, which Clayton won 3-2.

involved in the hockey program.

“I absolutely wish the administration would be more active,” Smith said. “Whether that means going to the games or supporting the team vocally.”

However, since the team does not play on school grounds, administrative attendance is an issue.

The fight began shortly after the end of the game.

Smith and the rest of the team found out about the fight while in the locker room.

“We got off the ice and went into the locker room,” Smith said.

The team participated in nor-

mal post-game activities, such as talking to the coach and changing clothes. Then, when they were about to leave, they were told that plans had changed.

Smith said that the team did not know much about what was going on.

“As we waited information began trickling in,” Smith said.

Back outside, junior Phil Levine was caught in the midst of the fight. While Levine was watching the fight, a Ladue student punched Levine. He was then pushed to the ground, hitting his nose on the cement. Another student fell on top of Levine and Ladue students kept

hitting him.

As the violence escalated, the Webster Groves police were forced to resort to crowd control methods such as use of tazers and mace.

“I got maced and it hurt a lot,” Levine said. “I couldn't open my eyes for about an hour after.”

The hockey team was stuck in the locker room for about a half hour while the fight occurred.

Smith acknowledges the rivalry between Clayton and Ladue hockey.

“There's definitely a rival with all of the sports teams,” Smith said. “Hockey is no exception. We want

to win.”

However, wanting to win does not translate into a desire to incite violence. In fact, the players themselves were not involved in any fights, despite fights being a frequent occurrence during hockey games.

“It was good hockey,” Smith said.

Despite bearing the brunt of the police action, Levine does not hold the police responsible. In fact, he feels they acted appropriately.

“Although everything that happened was really bad, it was their only way of stopping the fight,” Levine said.

CHS students at the hockey game contest that Ladue students more actively incited violence.

“There were a lot more Ladue kids than Clayton kids in the fight,” Levine said. “Lots of kids, including me, were taken on by five or six guys.”

Regardless of who was more involved in the fight, the violence diminished the game for some players.

“When the fans got in the fight, it detracted from the team,” Smith said.

Gutchewsky believes that the lack of attendance by school officials plays a part in the violence at hockey games. Students know that there will be no members of the school administration, and therefore are more inclined to act inappropriately.

“I think that part of the issue with the hockey game is that people go looking for trouble at those events because they are off campus,” Gutchewsky said. “Generally they are later at night on a Friday  
**HOCKEY, 10**

## Potential presidential candidates represent important firsts in American political history

**Jacob Blumenfeld**  
Staff Reporter

The next presidential election is, admittedly, a long way away. But for even the most skeptical among us, it is growing more and more difficult to not think about it.

George W. Bush's years in office have been marred by scandals and controversy, and many moderate Republicans, including Republican leaders, have drifted. Bush policies that have steadily grown more unpopular and admit they are ready for a change in leadership.

It will be the first election in 80 years without an incumbent President or Vice President in the race, and our 44th president will be left to deal with Iraq – a stickier foreign policy mess than any incoming president has had to face since Nixon with Vietnam.

The Democratic Party, after 12 long years, has retaken Congress, meaning that after two consecutive defeats, the Dems are considered serious contenders.

And the most popular candidates thus far include a woman, an African American, a Hispanic American and a Mormon.

The field of candidates has already begun to grow, despite the fact that the primaries are nearly a year away. This has, in fact, been ridiculed in recent media, such as an Onion headline reading, “Area Family's Trip to New Hampshire Sparks Rumors Of Presidential Bid,” and a series of Darby Conley's *Get Fuzzy* cartoon that feature domesticated cat Bucky starting a campaign.

To help keep the ever-shifting political landscape from growing too unclear, the Globe has provided a guide to where we stand right now.

**DEMOCRATS**

The Elite

Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton, NY

Love her or hate her, she is one of the most powerful politicians in Washington, and she leads the polls amongst Democrats by a significant margin. Speculation about her desire to be the first female president has been rewarded, as she has formed a Presidential exploratory committee, and declared herself “in to win.” Her many strengths include immediate name recognition, years of political experience and millions of loyal followers. Despite all this, many Democrats still fear that she is too polarizing a figure to run for office, and her inconsistent stance in Iraq will come back to haunt her.

Senator Barack Obama, IL

This young stud has more buzz around him than anyone in either party, despite that he has done relatively little to make himself considered a candidate. He is a captivating speaker whose message revolves around nonpartisanship and optimism, and his vote against the war is something that most Democratic candidates do not have, and could be a powerful asset. His biggest obstacle will be his lack of experience (only four years in the Senate), but is it better to be a fresh face than an experienced lawmaker? And will his rock-star status fizzle out before next January?

Governor Bill Richardson, NM

As the former energy secretary, ambassador to the United Nations and chairman of the Democratic National Committee, Governor Richardson is hardly short on political experience. His past emphasis on foreign relations could prove helpful, and his centrist-leaning political stance mirrors that of the Bill Clinton administration, which thrived on the support of moderate Republicans. He is very popular in

a battleground state, and could gain swing in states such as Colorado and Arizona, as well as the Hispanic vote in Florida. He may indeed be the most qualified candidate out there – but can he overcome the shadows of the political giants currently dominating the field?

Former Senator John Edwards, NC

The former vice-presidential candidate is running on the platform he has always stood on – a campaign against poverty and global warming, and in support of universal healthcare. His small-town roots, boyish charm and rhetorical skills are still enough to make him a serious candidate. But his votes to authorize military action in Iraq as well as his vote for the PATRIOT Act give him the image of inconsistency.

Other serious candidates: Senator Chris Dodd (CT), Former Governor Tom Vilsack (IA), Former Vice-President Al Gore (TN, undeclared)

Less-likely candidates: Representative Dennis Kucinich (OH), Senator Mike Gravel (AK), Senator Joe Biden (DE)

**REPUBLICANS**

The Elite

Senator Sam Brownback, KS

About as socially and fiscally conservative as they come, Senator Brownback has formally announced his candidacy, despite his relative anonymity outside his home state. He would have little trouble winning over the far right, but moderate republicans will be very hesitant to support him.

Former NYC mayor Rudy Giuliani

Though he has not yet formally announced his candidacy, speculation is active around Giuliani, who is pro-choice and pro-gay rights. His problem is opposite that of Senator Brownback – he would have a lot of trouble winning the support of the evangelicals and “compassionate conservatives” that were a staple for President Bush.

Former Governor Mitt Romney, MA

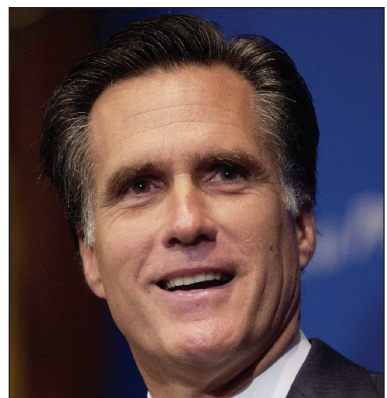
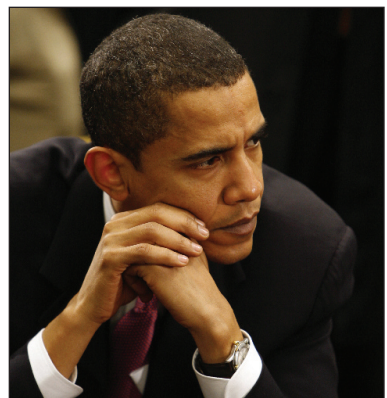
The former BYU valedictorian and governor of a heavily democratic state, Romney is a favorite amongst many political pundits. While he would have trouble gaining the nomination, his chances at winning the presidency if nominated are better than most will admit, and among the best among his colleagues. Opponents cite his inconsistency on issues such as gay marriage and abortion.

Senator John McCain, AZ

The popular Senator McCain is more conservative than his pro-choice, environmentalist, pro-immigration history would make you think. While his history of reaching across the aisle has gained him much popularity, he would have little trouble winning over conservatives with his history in foreign relations and economics. Many believe McCain to be a Republican who simply poses as a moderate, instead of the courageous lawmaker his supporters make him out to be.

Other serious candidates: Representative Tom Tancredo (CO), Former Governor Mike Huckabee (AR)

Less-likely candidates: Representative Duncan Hunter (CA), Former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich (GA), Former Governor Tommy Thompson (WI) ☺



**Top: Illinois Senator** Barack Obama would be the first African American president, while New York Senator Hillary Clinton (middle) would be the first female president and Massachusetts Senator Mitt Romney (bottom) would be the first Mormon president.

# Local organization works to combat Darfur genocide

**Sarah Horn**  
Staff Reporter

Imagine waking up every day knowing there is an 80 percent chance that your village will be burned down, a 61 percent chance you will be murdered, a 44 percent chance you will be shot, and a 16 percent chance you will be raped. These are the horrific realities non-Arabs living in Darfur have to accept.\*

In 2003 Sudan's western region of Darfur was attacked by the Sudanese government and by the government-supported militia, commonly known as the Janjaweed. The non-Arab tribes, particularly the Fur, the Zaghawa and the Masaalit, were targeted and subjected to "ethnic cleansing," or the use of murder to "purify" the nation of unwanted beliefs and people.

Since then tens of thousands have been murdered, thousands of women have been raped, and more than 2 million have been driven from their homes.

While this genocide is on the other half of the world, the St. Louis community is still trying to help out the victims of Darfur. Judy Hoffman is an active member of the Jewish Community Relations Council, which responds to large issues such as Darfur.

"We started this coalition in 2004," Hoffman said. "We do a lot of interfaith work with other organizations."

According to Hoffman the issue of Darfur is close at heart to the Jewish community.

"The Jewish community feels a responsibility to help out because it is a genocide, and we said that nothing like the Holocaust would ever happen again," Hoffman said.

Students at CHS have different reactions to the genocide.

Sophomore Lisa Tang feels that although this issue is important, it



**Left:** Harna Azin Adam, a refugee from the Darfur region of Sudan waits at the registration area at the Gaga Refugee Camp in eastern Chad where hundreds more refugees arrive each week as they try to escape the violence on the Chad-Sudan border. **Top right:** Maj. Gregoire Seshengero of the African Union takes notes as villagers describe a June 29 rebel attack on their village of Tarny, in northern Darfur. Darfur's once-united rebels are now fighting each other, leaving civilians dead and threatening a vaunted peace deal in western Sudan. **Bottom right:** With only a few meager possessions, villagers from Tarny in northern Darfur seek safety following an attack on June 29 by soldiers from a rival rebel group. Fighting among rival rebel groups is escalating in Darfur, threatening a two-month-old peace agreement and prolonging a war that has already killed some 200,000 people.

is hard to feel connected.

"We are so far away from it and ours lives are so different that it doesn't seem like that could happen in the world today," Tang said.

Senior Sadie Heintz believes that there is a need for immediate help.

"I think it's an important issue that people need to think about and

I support the idea of foreign aid," Heintz said.

That is just the attitude that Hoffman feels is necessary.

"I would suggest that if students want to get involved, they need to get educated," Hoffman said. "Also that any leaders [in the school] need to teach others and spread the word about Darfur."

Hoffman's opinion is that the main obstacle in helping Darfur is the lack of awareness and understanding.

"Some people don't believe that this is a genocide and they think that is just tribal warfare," said Hoffman. "And there isn't much in the paper about Sudan. There is more about Angelina Jolie's trip

to Africa than the real problems at hand."

Hoffman encourages CHS students to "reach out, join and commit" to helping Darfur. There are many options that students can explore if they wish to help out. On the official web site for the Darfur genocide, [www.darfurgenocide.org](http://www.darfurgenocide.org), one can email President Bush

encouraging him to take action, sign an online petition, search for a nearby event to attend, get involved in student activism or learn how to organize an event on your own. There is also the option of donating money to the cause.

\*All statistics and information from [www.darfurgenocide.org](http://www.darfurgenocide.org)

## Show attempts to dispel stereotypes

**Sara Rangwala**  
Section Editor

Wearing a skimpy low cut purple halter-top revealing her belly button, a dark-skinned girl slowly approaches the dining room where her father, Baber Siddiqui, a much older man with a white beard, sits reading the newspaper.

"What do you think?" she asks excitedly, holding her arms out. As he looks up a horrified look gradually replaces his previously passive expression.

"You look like a Protestant!" her father finally spits out.

"Don't you mean prostitute?"

"No," he replies firmly. "I mean Protestant!"

Baber Siddiqui is a very conservative Muslim in the Canadian town of Mercy in one of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's (CBC) newest sitcoms, *Little Mosque on the Prairie*. The name is all this show has in common with the well-known American show, *Little House on the Prairie*. CBC's newest show focuses on enhancing understanding of Muslim cultures

amongst the Canadian populous. It is about a Muslim community living in a small fictional town in the Canadian province of Saskatchewan and their humorous interactions with the non-Muslim community around them. The show addresses and attempts to break common stereotypes surrounding Muslims in a world following the terrorist attacks on the U.S. of Sept. 11, 2001.

Many have contended that it is precisely because we live in this world, that a show like this should not be shown.

"I think it depends," senior Avital Ludomirsky said. "Who's making the show? I mean Sacha Baron

Cohen is a Jew and he makes fun non-stop of Jews. Is that okay?"

The writer, Zarqa Nawaz, of this show is, in fact, a Muslim.

She has been behind several other films about Muslims, including "Me and the Mosque"; a documentary about the views of women on mosques.

The purpose of her newest work, she claims, is to try and make it easier for all to discuss racial profiling and typecasting concerning Muslims due to the increase

in the number of acts of terrorism being carried out by Islamic fundamentalists.

Senior Marie-Sophie Ritter likes the idea.

"It sounds funny and people can also break away from their stereotypes," she said.

However Ritter couldn't see a similar show being created in the United States. "Most Americans are more hostile towards Muslims, even if not necessarily in Clayton," she said. "And they probably wouldn't find it amusing."

Some believe that while controversial, the show serves a positive social purpose.

"It is daring in the sense that it's bringing it out again and discussing it in kind of an honest but funny way," Director of Network Programming for CBC Kristine Layfield said to a CBC reporter.

Zarqa told CBC that she firmly believes that comedy is the only way to induce the ease between different cultures that she is aiming for.

"I hope it will open up a door to another community, so people can realize this community has the same foibles and quirks as any community does," Nawaz said. "Laughter is a universal language."

**“It is daring in the sense that [the show] is discussing it in kind of an honest but funny way.”**

**Kristine Layfield**  
CBC Director of Network Programming



**Al Qadouri restaurant** owner Yasser al-Khadiree sits in front of the cash register on November 20, 2006, in Amman, Jordan. Yasser owned one of the most popular restaurants in Baghdad and last year it was hit by a suicide bomber, leaving 56 people dead.

## Bush struggles to get a handle on Iraq

**Roland Reimers**  
Section Editor

From the dire news concerning the United States' military woes in Iraq and the greater Middle East that has been the focus of political analysts and critics throughout the past three years, it has become clear that President George Bush is not faring well in his second term.

Due to continuing struggles in combating the sectarian violence in hot spots such as Baghdad and the Anbar province of Iraq, Bush has attempted to salvage his campaign for democracy with an additional 21,000 troops to be sent overseas. With legislators from both the Democratic and Republican parties now seeking alternative strategies in Iraq, it seems that Bush is standing nearly alone in his determined effort to uphold the transitional Iraqi government currently in place.

"Bush got us into a war that most Americans feel was not justified, so it's understandable that these same people aren't going to be too satisfied with him," senior Paul Lehmann said.

Senator John Warner (R-Virginia) and other members of the Senate have begun working on resolutions that oppose Bush's new plan in Iraq. In addition, Sen. Jim Webb (D-Virginia) openly offered his criticism of Bush's strategy in the official Democratic response to the president's State of the Union speech on Jan. 23. However, reaction to Bush's steadfastness has not been limited to politicians alone.

Students at Clayton High School share some of the sentiments that have been expressed on Capitol

Hill. "I think it's a desperate attempt to preserve his legacy," senior David Redick said, referring to Bush's proposal for more troops. "He's sending in more troops even though it's obvious that it won't work."

Lehmann also agrees. "I think the best we can hope for at this point is a dignified retreat, and adding more troops doesn't exactly work toward that end," Lehmann said. "It's been about four years, we've made no real headway so far, and I don't think this will make any difference."

Yet, Bush has remained surprisingly confident in his message both to Congress and the American people. In his annual address on the state of the union, Bush continued to emphasize his belief in the correctness of his decision, which was based on the advice of his military advisors.

"Many in this chamber understand that America must not fail in Iraq," Bush said on Jan. 23, "because you understand that the consequences of failure would be grievous and far-reaching."

Still, Bush's appeals to the filled House chamber are not likely to sway the growing dissension among politicians such as Warner, Webb and others. Bush's popularity has plummeted to an all-time low 28 percent, and increased opposition within the administration to his presidency will presumably offer considerable resistance for improving his legacy. Still, only in the coming months will the true effects of the Iraq war manifest themselves in the volatile political environment of the Bush administration.

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# Doomsday clock indicates dire future

Leah Eby  
Staff Reporter

According to the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, the world has nudged closer to its destruction. On Jan. 17, 2007, the organization pushed the minute hand on its symbolic Doomsday Clock two minutes closer to midnight to where it now rests at 11:55.

In Dec. 1945, four months after the atomic bombs fell on Japan, a group of scientists at the University of Chicago began a newsletter. This newsletter was distributed among top nuclear physicists concerned by the possibility of a nuclear war.

The newsletter soon evolved into a magazine and an organization, both primarily focused on the man made threats to the survival of the human race. The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists (BAS), as it came to be known, introduced the Doomsday Clock on the cover of its magazine in 1947. At its inauguration, the clock, situated in the "o" in "Atomic," was set at seven minutes to midnight.

The clock has since become an indicator for the status of the world we live in. It is an analogy for the human civilization being at a time just minutes to midnight, in which midnight symbolizes the catastrophic destruction of the Earth by nuclear war.

In 1947, when the clock was introduced, the United States was in the midst of the Cold War. Two years later, the Soviet Union tested its first atomic bomb, leading the BAS to push the minute hand forward to three minutes to midnight.

"We do not advise Americans that doomsday is near and that they can expect atomic bombs to start falling

on their heads a month or year from now," the BAS explained. "But we think they have reason to be deeply alarmed and to be prepared for grave decisions."

Only a few years later, in 1953, tensions between the United States and Soviet Union forced the clock forward once again to two minutes to midnight. Both countries had successfully tested thermonuclear hydrogen bombs, heading even closer to possible nuclear war.

**“The major new step reflects growing concerns about a ‘Second Nuclear Age’ marked by grave threats.**

Bulletin of Atomic Scientists

The minute hands on the Doomsday Clock stayed rather distant from midnight for many years, reaching 17 minutes from Doomsday at its furthest when, in 1991, the United States and Soviet Union agree to sign the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty and end the Cold War.

The clock dipped closer to midnight in 2002 as a result of growing nuclear terrorist attack concerns and the Sept. 11 attacks on New York City's Twin Towers. At this time, the clock read 11:53 pm: seven minutes to midnight.

On January 12 of this year, the BAS stated in a press release that the clock was to once again be moved forward, this time as a result of the "Most Perilous Period Since Hiroshima and Nagasaki."

"The Bulletin of Atomic Scientists will move the minute hand of the 'Doomsday Clock' on January 17, 2007," noted the press release. "The major new step reflects growing concerns about a 'Second Nuclear Age' marked by grave threats, including: nuclear ambitions in Iran and North Korea, unsecured nuclear materials in Russia and elsewhere, the continuing 'launch-ready' status of 2,000 of the 25,000 nuclear weapons held by the U.S. and Russia, escalating terrorism and new pressure from climate change for expanded civilian nuclear

power that could increase proliferation risks."

Though the BAS and its movement of the Doomsday Clock's minute hand have previously corresponded only to nuclear threats, this year has been different. With recent debates surrounding global warming, the BAS has decided to incorporate this threat into the movement of the clock.

"Global Warming poses a dire threat to human civilization that is second only to nuclear weapons," the BAS declared in its recent statement. "Through flooding and deforestation, climate change threatens the habitants and agricultural resources that societies depend upon for survival. As such, climate change is also likely to contribute to mass migrations and even to wars over arable land, water, and other natural resources."

No matter what caused the minute hand to shift, one thing is certain. Due to numerous factors, our world is in danger.

Stephen Hawking, world renowned professor of mathematics at the University of Cambridge, a fellow of the Royal Society, and a BAS sponsor put the words of many into a few sentences.

"As scientists, we understand the dangers of nuclear weapons and their devastating effects, and we are learning how human activities and technologies are affecting climate systems in ways that may forever change life on Earth," Hawking said. "As citizens of the world, we have a duty to alert the public to the unnecessary risks that we live with every day, and to the perils we foresee if governments and societies do not take action now to render nuclear weapons obsolete and to prevent further climate change."

However, there is still hope for the future. In addition to the negative side effects of technological advances, Ambassador Thomas Pickering, co-chair of the International Crisis Group and a BAS director, believes this also shows our capability to improve the Earth.

"Although our situation is dire," Pickering said. "We have the means today to successfully address these global problems." ☺

## The end is nearer

The Doomsday Clock tracks the danger of the nuclear age. First change since 2002:

**2002**  
Concerns of terrorist attacks; unsecured, unaccounted for weapons-grade nuclear materials



**2007\***  
World at brink of a second nuclear age



\*Nearest to midnight since mid-1980s

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Source: The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, news reports



Migrating snow geese stop at the Middle Creek Wildlife Management Area in Kleinfeltersville, Pennsylvania, March 13, 2006. As they embark on their annual spring migration, ducks and geese may be carrying some unwelcome baggage they picked up in Asia: the highly virulent H5N1 avian flu virus.

Chuck Kennedy/KRT

## Bird flu looms on horizon

Gila Hoffman  
Section Editor

It is highly possible that within the next few years, one third of the world's population could become infected with a deadly bird flu virus that could kill vast numbers of people.

Cambodia, China, Laos, Indonesia, Taiwan and Vietnam have all confirmed the presence of the H5N1 strain of bird flu. It is only a matter of time before the strain mutates or another strain develops that can infect humans.

"Influenza has been around for centuries, and more likely for millennia," Associate Professor of Medicine from the Infectious Diseases Division at Washington University Keith F. Woeltje (M.D., PhD) said.

Certain strains of influenza tend to infect birds, some strains tend to infect other animals (such as pigs), and some strains tend to infect humans. For the most part, these do not cross over between types of animals, but occasionally they can.

"When people talk about the bird flu now, they mostly are referring to a strain called H5N1," Woeltje said. "This strain has been present in Asia since 2003, but more recently has spread to Europe and Africa. This has mostly been in birds, but there have been human cases."

There have been 265 confirmed cases of H5N1 in the world, with 159 deaths.

Symptoms are similar to those of a severe case of regular flu—dry cough, high fever and muscle aches. Some patients have difficulty breathing, which can eventually lead to death.

These bird strains have not yet circulated in humans. No humans have previous exposure to create partially immunity. Currently, no available approved vaccine exists

against these strains.

Bird flu spreads primarily between birds via the GI system, but between people, influenza spreads via respiratory droplets—when one person coughs, another person can inhale the virus. Spread of avian strains of flu to people occurs primarily when people have close contact with sick poultry.

The strains are present in birds in Southeast Asia, primarily poultry, and have been identified in a few humans as well. The human cases have been associated with severe disease with similar symptoms of influenza (fever, muscle aches, runny nose, mild sore throat and evidence of pneumonia—shortness of breath and occasionally respiratory failure and death).

Although the H5N1 is primarily seen in Asia today, there is the possibility of it coming to America.

"As for the bird strains of H5N1, there are migratory routes over the Arctic that could allow infected birds to cross from northeast Asia into North America," Professor of Infectious Diseases at St. Louis University Dr. Donald J. Kennedy, M.D. said. "As for human strains, there really isn't any significant human-to-human spread yet."

The likelihood of an outbreak is hard to pinpoint.

"Every few decades there is a significant change in the strain of influenza that infects people," Kennedy said. "This is called antigenic shift. When that occurs many more people than normal get the flu because they don't have any im-

munity to the new strain, which is very different than the old strains. We can anticipate that there will be this antigenic shift sometime in the future, although we can't predict when."

Since it is known that the H5N1 avian flu can infect people, it may very well be the virus that will become the new human strain.

"So far H5N1 doesn't really spread well from person to person," Kennedy said. "It may turn out that this remains the case, and the next virus to undergo antigenic shift and become the new human virus will come from somewhere else. When the new strain of virus does come, we can expect up to a third of the world's population to be infected by it."

It may be relatively mild, however, like in 1957, and so it may cause a lot of illness, but may not cause a lot of death.

"I do believe that there will be an influenza pandemic during my career," Kennedy said. "I put the odds

of this being due to the current H5N1 at 50:50."

There have been periodic major changes in the circulating influenza viruses in the past century and there almost certainly will be a change in the future.

"Exactly when, where, how severe, how prolonged and the consequences are not predictable," Kennedy said. "However, previous major changes and outbreaks (especially 1917-18) have been serious with respect to morbidity, mortality, and social and economic consequences." ☺

**“I do believe that there will be an influenza pandemic during my career.**

Dr. Donald J. Kennedy  
St. Louis University Professor

## US actions viewed negatively

Dakin Sloss  
Section Editor

Global perspective on United States foreign policy has declined rapidly and currently many nations around the world believe the world superpower has abused its position and disappointed expectations of international leadership.

Some members of the CHS community, who have either lived or traveled abroad, have found generally negative sentiments towards the United States.

"I lived in Poland for a few years and I visit every summer," junior Michal Hyrc said. "In my experience, the Polish opinion of the United States appears to be predominantly negative, especially in light of the War in Iraq."

Hyrc is not alone in his observation of foreign assessment of the War in Iraq as an abhorred symbol of current U.S. policies.

"A majority of those in the Middle East agree that the War in Iraq is a symbol of Americans misunderstanding the Islamic society," Egyptian foreign exchange student Magdy Hassaballa said. "Americans seem to generalize about Muslims and then make poor decisions based on false assumptions that are only true of extremists."

Science teacher Nathan Peck has visited much of the world including Eastern and Western Europe, Egypt and the Far East, and he has also lived in Canada and Great Britain. He definitely thinks that the War in Iraq is having a negative effect upon foreign opinion of Americans.

"We are observed through our political actions around the world," Peck said. "Whether Americans support the War in Iraq or not, we are judged for it."

Although the War in Iraq is widely despised, it is not the only source of foreign frustration.

"I feel like immigration policy has frustrated those living outside the United States," senior Kyu-Sang Eah. "I lived in South Korea for more than a decade and many people there are upset with the increased difficulty in immigration, especially after the attacks of Sept. 11. There are not sufficient opportunities for foreign students in the United States, and that hurts people around the world."

Despite anger at foreign policy, nations still desire to imitate the United States to a certain extent and to import advanced technol-

ogy according to sophomore Tatiana Birgisson, who has lived in Iceland, Norway and Venezuela.

"I think that the election of President Bush has been detrimental to the U.S. image, but regardless of American political blunders; countries recognize the benefits of sending students to learn in the United States," Birgisson said.

Marie-Sophie Ritter of Germany agrees with Birgisson.

"The majority of Germans hate Bush," Ritter said. "Regardless, the youth want to imitate the United States in the field of technology. We are now against America because of the War in Iraq and foreign policy, not because we hate America in general."

In terms of European opinion, Ritter seems to have accurately described the perspective of Hyrc and Birgisson; opinion of the United States will rise with changes in foreign policy and leadership.

"I think the world sees the recent senatorial election as a step towards a better America," Hyrc said.

Peck agrees that the recent Democratic Party victory pleased the world, however he does not believe that the problem is just current policies under President Bush.

"Though currently amplified, the problem has been going on for years," Peck said. "Foreigners generally perceive the United States as arrogant in that we pursue our national interests without regard for other nations' input. For example, Canadians are sensitive to how many Americans consider Canada to be a satellite nation. Also, while I was in England over winter break, I witnessed a lot of American-bashing comedy on the telly. Although amusing to a degree, I think some people are also very angry."

Junior Vikram Chakravarthy grew up in India and resides there in the summer. He thinks that foreigners dislike American mind set.

"Regardless of the battle, the United States takes out the big guns," Chakravarthy said. "People think America resorts to warfare too

quickly. Furthermore, they dislike our conduct on a global scale and see the situation in Iraq as rapidly deteriorating into another Vietnam scenario. The first step to improving global opinions is to get troops out of Iraq, but there also needs to be a broader reevaluation of American international relations."

Hassaballa feels similarly about United States involvement in the Middle East. In his opinion, the majority of Arabs believe that the United States does not understand the role of religion in the Middle East.

"Americans attach Islam to terrorism in the mass media, but the terrorists are just religious extremists and do not represent all Muslims or Arabs," Hassaballah said. "It is unfair to judge a religion or people by the extremists. I think

that the opinion of the United States is very negative and a great number of people are opposed to President Bush and the horrible things he is responsible for in Iraq."

Peck has had experiences with the disapproving attitude toward the United States in the Middle East. He feels that in Arabic nations, the distinction between Jews, Israelis and Americans is often blurred.

"Israel is viewed by some Arabs as a 51<sup>st</sup> state and this connection between Israel and America decreases their opinion of Americans," Peck said.

Clearly, for a variety of reasons, foreign views of the United States are anything but positive. In Europe, Asia and the Middle East, people believe that America is making serious mistakes.

"People from around the world follow American politics much more than we do theirs," Peck said. "I would think that it would be easy to resent us as a world power with the world's most powerful military to back up our political actions. I think for the most part, the rest of the world thinks we are an evil empire or they think of us as well-intentioned, but sometimes misguided." ☺

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# Winter musical will show-off students' talents

**Anya Veremakis**  
Staff Reporter

This winter about 50 CHS students are working hard to bring a piece of the ever-classic Rydell High students to CHS with the performance of Grease, scheduled for Feb. 8-11 in the CHS auditorium.

Every year many students work vigorously in order to make the CHS winter musical a hit. This year drama teacher Kelley Ryan and choir teacher Alice Fasman, the musical's directors, chose "Grease" as their production.

"Each year Ms. Ryan and I try to pick a musical for the talents of the particular class/classes," Fasman said. "This year's show has large ensemble pieces (chorus) which 'Into the Woods' (last year's musical) did not have. More students can be involved. Also it's a fun show."

Everyone involved in the production seems to be very excited with the choice.

"Grease is probably my favorite choice of musical that could have been made," junior Steven Glynias cast as Danny Zuko said. "'Grease' was the first musical I ever saw, and it really means a lot to me to be in the production. That's why I'm extremely happy that 'Grease' was chosen."

However, the Broadway version of "Grease" is a bit different than the more popularly known 1978 hit movie.

"Musically, the big number 'You're the One that I Want' is not in this show," Fasman said. "There are other musical changes as well. Also, the T-Birds are the 'Burger Palace Guys' in the original show."

Nevertheless, there was an overwhelming turn out of students interested in the production, all of whom were cast in the chorus if not given a solo role.

The lead female role, Sandy, went to senior Melanie Holland. This is the first musical Holland has ever been in.

"I tried out because I've always wanted to be involved in theater, but I've never had the courage or time to," senior Melanie Holland cast as Sandy said. "So, being a senior, I just figured it would be a sort of last hurrah no matter what part I got."

While the musical is a newer experience for Holland, the lead male role went to two very experienced performers.

"I've always tried to do as much stuff in theater and music as I possibly can, and I have always done my best to be a part of the winter musical at CHS," senior David Redick cast as Danny Zuko said. "It's definitely the highlight of my high school experience. At CHS, I've been in 'Les Miserable', 'Seussical the Musical' and 'Into the Woods'. I've also done work with Stray Dog Theater and Characters in Company."

The lead male role was split between senior David Redick and junior Steven Glynias. Each boy will perform two of the four nights that the musical is showing.

"Splitting roles is good for rehearsals because the particular roles are almost always covered," Fasman said. "It is hard to rehearse without a particular role being covered. David and Steven, who split the male lead this year are both very strong and are going to be great." Although a bit different at first, the fact that the male role is split seems to have become an advantage for the two performers.

"It's got its ups and its semi-ups," Redick said. "Although it's a little hard to yield the stage sometimes and your practice time is cut short, one can benefit a lot from seeing the other actor do the same



Three members of the musical Grease's cast practice singing one of the several hits from the play. The musical will premiere at CHS this winter. Blair Klostermeier

scene. It's been great working with Steven on the same character. It also helps when you have a memorization deadline and you can split up the scenes to memorize for that day."

The crew is working hard to perfect the production in time for their performances. The cast rehearses

almost every day on either music, scenes or dance. As is likely with any production, the cast has had to overcome a number of obstacles.

"Students who can't read music sometimes have a little harder time learning vocal parts," Fasman said. "Also, many students try to sing something the way they have

heard other performers sing it and if the musical score is a little different it can be harder to learn."

In addition, many CHS students as well as director Kelley Ryan were involved in the winter musical and the production "And Carl Laughed" simultaneously. Despite the demanding work level

and time commitment, the CHS cast seems to have benefited greatly from this experience.

"My favorite part about being in the musical is making friends that I wouldn't normally hang out with and also seeing a totally different side of a lot of people, and don't forget the cast party," Glynias said.



Senior Dan Dowd and Junior Alex Phillips both play Carl Kabat in "And Carl Laughed." Blair Klostermeier

## CHS play to go abroad

**Nathan Crall**  
Staff Reporter

What do you get when a radical priest with clownish tendencies protests against the manufacturing of nuclear warheads? You get the new and original play "And Carl Laughed."

The play, performed by CHS Jan. 18 through Jan. 21 in the Black Box Theatre, is an original piece created by performing arts teacher Kelly Ryan and former English teacher Nick Otten. It is the true story of radical priest Carl Kabat and his protests against nuclear bombs and his adventures as a missionary in third world countries.

"[Ms. Ryan] read a story in the Riverfront Times about a clown priest," Otten said, explaining how the story of the play originated.

"I knew it was a good story," Ryan said. "I knew he [Carl Kabat] would be a great character in a play since he was an entertaining character in the news."

However, the original story of the play is not the only thing interesting about its development. In early August, the cast will be touring to the Enburgh, Scotland Fringe Festival. The play will be performed under the sub-set of American High School Theatre while the cast is there for 14 days.

"You can't apply, you have to be nominated," Otten said. "The nomination goes to a jury of eight jury and the director [who has been nominated] gets to go one year ahead of time to review the festival."

In spring 2006, CHS was nominated after "Winters Tale" had been performed, and was invited to the 2007 Fringe Festival. Last year, Ryan was the one who previewed.

"She found out that all of the best plays were original," Otten said.

Ryan had also thought the character Kabat could provide a good story.

"He's the person who is holy but flawed," Ryan said.

Otten also enjoys the Kabat character.

"When you look at Carl you see him as more of a prize fighter than a priest," Otten said.

The directors are not the only ones who are excited about going to Scotland. The cast shows great optimism towards the development of the performance and its impression upon audiences who come to see it while in Scotland.

"I think we're going to make a big impression on the people there," senior Mary Von Der Heydt said. "I think the show is especially powerful because we're Americans criticizing America."

Other cast members also believe the play will have an impression on audiences.

"I think that this play will have a lasting impression on those who see it," senior Daniel Dowd said. "What those people do is up to them."

Dowd plays Kabat, while his alter ego clown is to be portrayed by junior Alex Phillips. The original style of the play also has most of the ensemble cast optimistic of the coming results.

"It's a really nice show; really original," senior David Redick said. "We use sort of a post modernist style."

Junior Jacob Blumenfeld also gave his insight on the style.

"I think the theme is post modernist but the style is absurdist," Blumenfeld said.

"It's whacked out," Redick said.

The play relies on the whole ensemble rather than the two alter egos of Kabat. The cast also includes students from all grade levels.

"At first it was really awkward and weird but the others really let me in," freshman Hannah Klein said. "I think it's cool that I'm the only freshman in the crew."

The cast of "And Carl Laughed" have also gotten to work with Justin Rose and Kevin Wall, the Candidates, the actors who performed "I'm Sorry & I'm Sorry" at CHS over the first two weeks of January. Since the play is meant to have a nice amount of clowning in it, Wall and Rose taught the cast ways to clown during a performance and how to use specifics and the audience to their advantage.

"I think they really had a profound influence on our characters development," Redick said. "I thought it was great to meet professionals of this sort of acting. It was an incredible opportunity."

The cast has gotten together every night to produce the play and they all remain optimistic of the performance's potential. Opening night was sold out and every night afterwards was sold out as well. Other possible venues such as other high schools and churches have opened up to the cast, and they play will possibly go on tour.

"I think Carl is an incredible person and I think that this play does justice to him" Dowd concludes.

**Ugochi Onyema**  
Staff Reporter

Although the Clayton High School Band is not a marching band, they are planning to march on down to Nashville, Tennessee to perform around the area on March 29.

The group of 60 musicians will also be attending clinics at the Blair School of Music at Vanderbilt University and Belmont University.

They will also be visiting recording studios and music venues throughout the Nashville as well.

"One of the reasons that I chose Nashville was because of the great musical history," Band Teacher Charlie Blackmore said. "The history not only includes country music, but other genres as well. This will be a great opportunity to learn more about music."

The students planning to attend the clinics have already begun fundraising.

They will be selling P.J.'s Pizza through Jan. 31.

Sophomore Abby Williams is participating in the fundraising.

"I've been selling P.J.'s Pizza, and it has cookie dough and other desserts also," Williams said. "So far, it has been really successful."

Williams also thinks that in the end, she will really benefit from the trip.

"I'll get a lot of experience from this trip," Williams said. "The whole thing should be pretty fun. The best part will be just playing and having a good time with my friends."

Sophomore Jacob Goldsmith agrees with Williams in saying that the event as a whole will be fun.

"The best part will probably be playing at the Opry House," Goldsmith said. "The trip will be a good experience because we will be able to get lessons in sectionals and will be able to connect more because the whole group will be together for a longer period of time instead of one period per day."

Sophomore Emilie Hermann thinks that the trip will be a good experience for all as well.

## CHS band to visit Nashville, Tennessee this spring

In March, the CHS band is travelling to Nashville, Tennessee. They will be attending clinics at the Blair School of Music at Vanderbilt University and Belmont University and visting recording studios and music venues throughout the city.

"I get to bunk with my friends so it will be a very fun experience," Hermann said. "It'll be nice because I will get to play in band in a place other than St. Louis."

Blackmore thinks that the trip, which will consist of mainly upperclassmen, will be a success.

**"I'll get a lot of experience from this trip. The whole thing should be pretty fun. The best part will be playing and having a good time with my friends."**

Abby Williams  
Sophomore

"I think that the students are looking forward to the trip," Blackmore said. "Two years ago, we took a trip to Chicago, and it was very well received, so many people have been asking for another trip ever since."

The students and chaperones will be staying at the Opry Land Hotel and will visit venues such as the Country Music Hall of Fame.

Hermann says that as fun as the trip will be, there is one thing that she is not excited about.

"The thing that I am least looking forward to would definitely be the bus ride to Nashville," Hermann said.

The group of musicians will return from Nashville on March 31 from what should be a very exciting and educational trip.

In the meanwhile, they are preparing themselves, both musically and financially.

Band can be a great experience. Not only can one learn to play a musical instrument, which is a reward in itself, but there can be opportunities to go on band trips as well. The trip to Nashville is one such experience, and should be a great opportunity for all who go.



# Strict library policies, felt necessary by librarians, rile students

By **Phillip Levine**  
Staff Reporter

Every day, over a thousand pairs of feet walk into the Clayton High School library. These students may want to finish the essay that is due sixth period, check out a book for their research paper, cram in trivial dates for their AP History exam, or just to sit down, relax, and talk quietly with their friends.

The communal library is supposed to maintain a certain atmosphere that can readily meet the needs and desires of the majority of the students. The librarians and media center rules are the means for which the continuance of this environment is possible. Although the librarians are obviously looking out for the welfare of all students and trying to be fair, some students feel that the librarians are being too strict in their enforcement of these regulations. Among these restrictions is the noise situation involving chatter and socialization, which often occurs.

"It has definitely gotten a lot stricter this year and I really don't know why," junior Liza Schmidt said. "People talk and it should be complimentary that people go to the library as a place to relax and socialize. It is not like people are trying to be disruptive."

Although the noise is sometimes a problem for students intensely studying, many students do not have a problem with the background noise.

"Most kids don't get bothered from talk," Schmidt said. "Kids are a lot more used to background music. It really just doesn't bother me when there is background noise. I listen to music and talk on the phone while doing homework and I also just don't do much serious work while I'm in the library. Some kids might be crunched for time but usually the background chatter isn't too bad."

Many students do use the library as a quiet area to study and the librarians feel that it is their responsibility to maintain this environment.

"We feel it is our responsibility to help kids get work done," librarian

Cindy Menkhuis said. "It is a necessity that we provide a quiet place for kids to study and students need to respect people who are trying to work here. This is a library, where people work, not a student lounge. Our guidelines have not changed and are concurrent with those of Washington University in the Olin Library."

Although the librarians try to maintain a quiet atmosphere to study, some students feel that the new music that starting being played in the past few weeks has caused a notable disturbance.

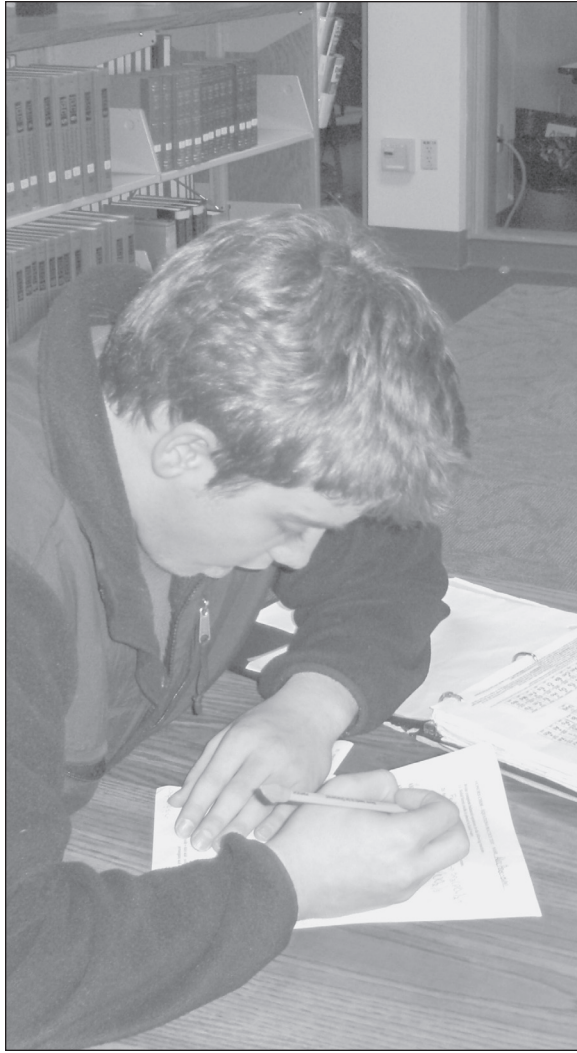
"The music is more distracting than helpful," junior Leigh Katz said. "Now I see people simple trying to talk over the music instead of listening to it. The new situation makes the library even louder."

Senior John Buse sees a definite change in the magnitude of the enforcement of policy regarding noisemaking.

"In years past, I would go out there with Potter, Peck and Sam Golembieski, and we would argue over something important," Buse said. "It would not be about who the hottest girl was or what we did that weekend; it was not Commons talk. We would intensively discuss, sometimes yelling, the more philosophical and academically related stuff. Now, it is almost to the point where if the librarians come over and can hear you talking, they tell you to leave because 'this is a study area.' I understand that the library is for studying but this is Clayton High School, not Oxford."

Buse also feels that this apparent new policy of being more rigorous in cleansing the library of talkative students relates to the latest school-wide policy of focusing more on the realms of academics and rather than the fun of having a good laugh once in a while in school.

"This reflects the tone the school has recently picked up, simply being concerned with hardcore studying," Buse said. "We are only supposed to focus on studying while in school the freshmen have a lessened amount of free periods available, being replaced with study hall, and the recent public service



**Clockwise from left:** Alec Rosenblum does his homework in the library. Jenna Carlie and Sonja Petermann do their homework together. Julia Csernansky reads a magazine in one of the chairs. The librarians have become increasingly under attack for creating a cold environment in the library.

announcement concerning the loitering in the halls. It seems like any endeavors not directly related to the classroom are labeled as inappropriate for school. Following the attitude of the school, the library has disallowed the little comforts that may slightly detract from academic pursuits, phasing out anything that doesn't directly relate to homework and study. It seems to be less about the student enjoying the library and more about the student using the library."

Another policy that has students strongly opposed is the maximum "Four people to a table" policy.

"I have noticed the librarians enforcing the four people per table rule a lot more this year," senior Hannah Longmore said. "When you are studying with lots of kids from one class, it is always a lot more helpful when we can all sit at the same table, studying and discussing the information."

Although for the majority of the first semester they strictly imposed the policy on this matter, the librarians have decided to change their decision on this matter.

"During first semester, we de-

cidated to ease up on the four people to a table rule," Menkhuis said. "Many students made the request for a change and we determined that it helps out the students when they are studying. We are becoming more lenient so that if the students are studying, it is okay."

Throughout the day, students carry food and drinks around with them wherever they are. While students are in the media center though, this is strongly prohibited.

"It has always been our policy, since before I got here, that food and drinks were not allowed in the library," said Menkhuis. "The carpets can get ruined and with the expensive computers and thousands of books, not to mention mice, food and drinks can cause huge problems. We decided second semester that you will be asked to leave for that hour instead of simply to throw it away. Kids are aware of the policy and should not be continuously breaking it."

Though many students get angry when kicked out for having food, most can agree that the food and drink policy is unquestionably warranted.

"Even though the policy is stricter, it definitely is justified," Longmore said. "Kids have expensive stuff like graphing calculators and computers in addition to all of the school's computers and thousands of books. It does suck, but you can go to the Commons if you really want to eat. Library is for studying, not eating."

Schmidt agrees with Longmore. "Food seems understandable, and the drinks that are sticky and sometimes spill are definitely reasonable too," Schmidt said. "I do feel that they are a little bit too strict and you shouldn't get kicked out right away, although the policy itself is right."

Some students may not feel as comfortable in this stricter atmosphere, and some question if the attendance has dropped.

"A lot of people are discouraged from going to the library," Longmore said. "They can't study the way they used to and they'd rather go to the Commons instead of the library."

Menkhuis may have a possible explanation for the apparent decrease in people in the library.

"This year, the number of kids in each lunch period was evened off more compared to last year when most people had sixth period lunch," said Menkhuis. "There may appear to be fewer kids sixth hour but that it simply due to a more even spread of students throughout the three periods. Last year, there were 1030 entries into the library on average in November and this year, there were 970. This doesn't account for no reading class this year. There are also fewer kids school-wide, so I can confidently say that there has not been much of a difference."

People use the library for many different purposes and it would be nearly impossible to create an environment that catered to everyone's needs. Whatever one's stance is, librarians feel justified enforcing the rules while students feel that there is no reason to be so serious in a high school library.

"Again, this is high school," Buse said. "I don't think anyone should be taking it so seriously. It isn't graduate school and both students and teachers need to lighten up in all aspects." ☺

## Dropping classes, though risky for seniors, sometimes well-advised for underclassmen

By **Rebecca Katz**  
Senior Managing Editor

For a variety of reasons, students occasionally choose to drop a class for which they have signed up. Different factors can motivate students to drop, from the difficulty level of a specific class to scheduling conflicts.

"I dropped AP Psychology because I decided that there was a different class that I would prefer to take," junior Ka Suen said.

Other students leave classes for more technical reasons.

"I dropped Team Sports because I forgot to go to class for the first week," junior Nick Conradi said. "I decided that I probably wouldn't be able to rescue my grade, so I dropped the class."

Depending on the timing and the situation, the procedure for dropping a class can be very easy or somewhat more complicated.

"In the first two weeks of a semester students may modify their schedule without using the course change request form ("blue sheet") as long as they are not moving from a smaller section to a larger section," wrote assistant principal Dan Gutchewsky in an email.

Indeed, Conradi found dropping Team Sports to be very simple.

"I just talked to my counselor," Conradi said.

Suen, who dropped AP Psychology at the very beginning of the semester, had a similar experience.

"I just went to my counselor and told her that I was dropping," Suen said. "I never talked to my teacher or anything."

Discussions with teachers or parents are only necessary later in the semester. At that point, a broader investigation into the situation may also be advised.

"If a student wants to drop a class [after the first two weeks of the semester] then his first step should be to discuss it with his parents to find out their opinion," college counselor Chat Leonard said. "Then the stu-

dent should talk it over with his teacher. The teacher might be able to come up with viable recommendations other than dropping, such as helping the student after class one-on-one, or getting a tutor."

If even after conversations with parents and his teacher a student still feels the need to drop, his next step should be to approach his counselor.

"The counselor will have a discussion with the student about why they're dropping and any possible alternatives and make sure that they've thought about what impact it might have," Leonard said. "The counselor will then give the student a course change request form, to be signed by the teacher of the class he's leaving, the teacher of the class he's entering, and a parent."

Dropping a class can have a different result depending upon the timing.

"Classes must be dropped by the end of the first marking period of the semester," Gutchewsky wrote. "In this case the course does not appear on the student's transcript. If a student chooses to drop a course after this deadline an F will appear on their academic record."

There are infrequent exceptions to this rule, which are reviewed on a case by case basis by the department head and an administrator.

This policy of putting an F on the student's transcript if the class is dropped too

late is elicits varied reactions among students. "I don't think that's fair," Suen said. "It would really mess up your grades. But on the other hand people who would consider dropping [that late] are probably already failing anyway."

Others agree that the policy generally makes sense. "If you're going to sign up for a class, you should stick with it and say committed," senior Matt Schlessman said.

Even if a student leaves a class before the quarter deadline, dropping may have other ramifications, particularly for seniors.

"We really advise seniors against dropping a core class," Leonard said. "We have to report the student's classes to colleges, and it would be raising a red flag at a time when it really shouldn't be raised." ☺

**COURSE CHANGE REQUEST FORM**

Name: Michael Hunt Grade: 10 Date: 1/11/07

PLEASE COMPLETE IN NUMERICAL ORDER.

1. Current credit with schedule change: 6

2.5 Units Required For Sports Participation

2. DROP

| Course              | Sem      | Period   | Teacher | Signature          |
|---------------------|----------|----------|---------|--------------------|
| <u>AP Astronomy</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>7</u> |         | <u>[Signature]</u> |

3. ADD

Please state your reason for requesting change: AP Astronomy does not ROX My SOX

4. Parent's Signature: [Signature] Date: 1/11/07

Students may request to drop a class without penalty during quarter 1 and quarter 3.

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# Arts Fair Steering Committee to continue Clayton tradition

**Rachel Dickens**  
Staff Reporter

This upcoming April, CHS is set to host its annual Fine Arts Fair, during which nearly 500 students and faculty members from St. Louis' Special School District meet with members of the CHS community for a day of activity and enrichment. Each year, the Arts Fair Steering Committee begins holding frequent meetings long before the actual event, in preparation for the festivities and excitement it brings one year after the next.

This year's steering committee has experienced many changes, including the establishment of its new faculty director, Student Activities Director Eric Hamylak.

"This is my first year being the director," Hamylak said. "In the past I have helped out with the Arts Fair as part of my position as Assistant Activities Director, so I am familiar with many of the traditions. Ms. Etling has helped familiarize me with a lot of the 'behind the scenes' kind of stuff. Also, a lot of students from last year's Steering Committee have really taken the lead and made things easier for me."

Steering Committee member, senior Hannah Longmore, comments on Hamylak's status as this year's director.

**This year, Mr. Hamylak is the only sponsor, so there is a lot more student involvement.**

**Hannah Longmore**  
Steering Committee member

"This year has been different because we have a change in sponsors," Longmore said. "This year, Mr. Hamylak is the only sponsor, so there is a lot more student involvement. That is the biggest change, but so far everything is working out smoothly."

Like Hamylak, Longmore is also participating in the steering committee for the first time. Longmore describes the factors that influenced her decision to join the committee this year.

"This is actually my first year as a member of the Arts Fair Steering Committee," Longmore said. "I wanted to join this year, because I wanted to be able to have a more



Chelsea Fisher

**Freshmen Jennifer Golden, Shelby Sternberg and Emily Wack** meet in the greyhound room to plan the upcoming Arts Fair. The Steering Committee is divided into four sub-committees and it oversees matching SSD students to buddies and designing the themed rooms, the hallways, and the commons.

hands on involvement with the Arts Fair. I really wished I had joined earlier!"

The steering committee is composed of 4 sub-committees, each of which performs a different function and contributes to the cohesiveness of the overall operation:

The Volunteers Committee organize an informational training day for buddies and buddy captains and recruits parent volunteers, as well as CHS students who want to be buddies and buddy captains. These students are each matched up with SSD students from Litzinger and Neuwöhner schools.

The Activities Committee designs all of the activities for the themed rooms that comprise the fair.

The Public Relations and Decorations Committee decorate all of the event's common areas, such as the hallways, the quad, and the commons. This committee also submits a press release for the fair and invites significant guests aside



## Things to know about this year's Arts Fair:

Date:

Thursday, April 5th

This year's theme:

**Seasonsational--this year's Arts Fair rooms will be decorated according to the four seasons.**

What YOU can do:

Help decorate the grounds, and sign up to be a buddy or volunteer to work in room on the day of the Fair.

Some activities at the Fair:

Face painting, mask making, building snowmen

from students and faculty.

The Site Logistics Committee organizes and configures the materials needed for the fair, coordinates lunch and bussing arrangements, and performs a thorough cleanup

following the event.

The Arts Fair's theme this year is "Seasonsational." Hamylak comments on the selection and execution of this theme.

"The theme will be depicted by

four distinct areas on the ground floor - Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall," Hamylak said. "The rooms in those areas will have activities related to the season. For example, creating snowflakes in one

## Chipotle adds spice to Clayton

**Nicholas Andriole**  
Staff Reporter

Hungry?

Clayton students will soon have another quick eat within the school's vicinity. Denver-based Chipotle Mexican Grill has recently announced plans to open a location in Clayton. Both a Taco Bell and most recently a Krispy Kreme doughnut shop formerly occupied the space at the corner of Central Avenue and Forsyth Boulevard.

"The City is excited about a new restaurant in the formerly vacant space at the corner of Forsyth and Central," Clayton City Manager Michael Schoedel said. "Chipotle has a good reputation and the City believes it will provide a new mix to our array of restaurants."

Chipotle's new location will rival other area Mexican restaurants including Qdoba Mexican Grill and ZuZu Handmade Mexican, both of which are located on the same block.

"Qdoba is the same set up as Chipotle," Chipotle Spokesman Chris Arnold said. "We came first and Qdoba was founded very much as a copy of Chipotle."

Much like Qdoba, many of the ingredients such as guacamole are made fresh in the restaurant each day. The chicken and other meat products are marinated within the store, making them very fresh.

Both Qdoba and Chipotle have customers work their way down a line, choosing fillings and condiments for their order similar to the set up at Subway. Customers purchase their food and beverages, then find seating either in the restaurant or on the patio. They then eat their food.

Having a line allows customers to customize their order, and allows them to make healthy choices or splurge to make their order an unhealthy treat if they choose.

"[Chipotle] is as healthy as you want it to be," Arnold said. "Customers dictate what they eat at our restaurants, therefore it is easy for us to meet different dietary preferences."

Allowing customers to customize Chipotle's quesadillas, tacos, and burritos also allows people to make a unique combination, if they so choose.

Chipotle also tries hard to be a good citizen in the community by offering fundraisers and promoting environmental responsibility.

"We do lots and lots of community involvement," Arnold said. "We do lots of very localized fundraising. We often open restaurants with free days, where for all or part of the day food is free. We also offer four or five annual promotions where customers eat free in ex-



Chelsea Fisher

**Chipotle Mexican Grill**, a Denver-based restaurant chain, will soon occupy the vacant lot at Central and Forsyth that previously housed the Krispy Kreme shop. Chipotle will open Fall 2007 and will offer food and service similar to that of Qdoba Mexican Grill.

change for doing something. In the past, things have included dressing up as a burrito on Halloween, and kissing at the register on Valentines Day."

Students at CHS will appreciate the convenience of the location and the new offerings.

"It is good to have another place to satisfy my craving for Mexican Food" Senior Natalie Heintz said.

Having a diverse selection of restaurants are important to students.

"I'm excited about Chipotle coming to Clayton," Freshmen Emily Clapper said.

Unlike Qdoba with 13 locations in the two-state area, Chipotle is relatively new to the St. Louis area with locations in O'Fallon, Mo, and Chesterfield.

However, Qdoba and Chipotle operate very similarly and both allow the customer to customize their orders.

Chipotle's Clayton location will likely open in Fall 2007, and an official date hasn't been announced, as construction only recently commenced. ☺

## Student recalls eye-opening Close Up trip to Washington D.C.

**Maddie Harned**  
Staff Reporter

After hours of painfully boring flight delays, finally ten CHS students and I arrived in Washington D.C. on Sunday night. I was just one of over 200 high school students who came to D.C. to learn about politics, the country and the city of Washington D.C. itself. Not to mention the week off of school wasn't bad either.

Within the first hour of being at the hotel on Capitol Hill, we were bombarded with information packets, met our roommates and were given a speech about what was planned for us. The CHS close up gang was hopeful and anxious about what was yet to come.

Monday morning was a rude awakening when we realized sleeping in was clearly not part of the schedule. We were woken at 7:15 am, 6:15 am in Saint Louis, and shortly after that the activities began.

From visiting the Franklin Delano Roosevelt memorial to exploring the massive Smithsonian museum, our days began at 7:15 am and lasted until 10:00 pm. Throughout the Close Up Trip my group and I visited tens of monuments

and memorials, but the one that stood out the most was the Vietnam Veterans memorial. Made of two black granite walls measuring 246 feet 9 inches, the memorial is a V-shaped wall that lists 58,249 names of fallen soldiers. Though the memorial is in the heart of booming Washington D.C., the pace of the city seems to decelerate around it.

Strolling alongside the wall, trying to read as many names as possible, was the most poignant part of the trip. Another stunning experience was the tour of the White House. We were led by an incredibly rehearsed sounding tour guide, who spat out facts about the White House while pointing out senators we passed while walking.

Just in one day I was able to see both Hillary Clinton and John Kerry in the White House, stand on the top of the steps on the Lincoln Monument and watch people protesting the death penalty get arrested on the Supreme Court's steps.

Even though I had to endure an excruciatingly early wake-up call every morning, the experiences I had while on Close Up were once in a lifetime. ☺

**Strolling alongside the wall and trying to read as many names as possible was the most poignant part of the trip.**

**Maddie Harned**  
Close-Up participant

**Eleven CHS students** travelled to the Capitol on the Close-Up trip the week of Jan. 14.

Scott Shapiro



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The Globe is self-funded for all publishing costs and offers advertising to all school-appropriate businesses. Ads range in size from business card to full page; prices vary. 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. We find these options particularly useful for parents, for no amount of begging or friendly reminders can compel a high schooler to remember to bring home a copy.

We also remind students that as the Globe is a student publication, all compliments, opinions, complaints, warnings, threats, sabotage attempts, arrest warrants, and libel suits should be forwarded to the Globe Office (see contact info below), not the Superintendent's. --the Globe editors

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# US strategy in Iraq war in need of serious revision

The War in Iraq has become a complete disaster, leaving Iraq in total chaos.

When President Bush announced Operation Iraqi Freedom in March of 2003 he stated three objectives for the invasion: "To disarm Iraq of weapons of mass destruction, to end Saddam Hussein's support for terrorism and to free the Iraqi people." In the same speech he also declared, "Our forces will be coming home as soon as their work is done."

Now, nearly four years later, the weapons of mass destruction have not and will not be discovered, Saddam Hussein's dictatorship has been replaced by anarchy and the Iraqi people have been freed of one evil and enslaved by a new force. There are currently 132,000 troops in Iraq and President Bush has recently decided to send another 21,500 soldiers. American casualties have reached over 3,000 and another 25,000 have been wounded. The cost in Iraqi lives is estimated in the hundreds of thousands. Furthermore, the United States has spent over \$350 billion.

Clearly the War in Iraq has been a failure. The only positive outcome was the removal of Saddam Hussein from office, but the cost has

been far too high and even President Bush admitted recently that Iraq is in worse shape than before the invasion.

Within the first month of the invasion Bush declared that the major military stages were complete, but he was wrong. Upon capturing Saddam Hussein, he announced that the conflict would end shortly, but he was wrong.

It is unacceptable, but forgivable that Bush has made mistakes, many mistakes. His mistakes have cost hundreds of thousands of lives and hundreds of billions of dollars, but he refuses to change his strategy. That is an unacceptable and unforgivable transgression against the American people, American soldiers, Iraqis and the world at large. When something is not working, one should not continue doing it, but instead one should attempt a new approach. No one in the world can afford to allow Bush to continue to repeat his grievous errors.

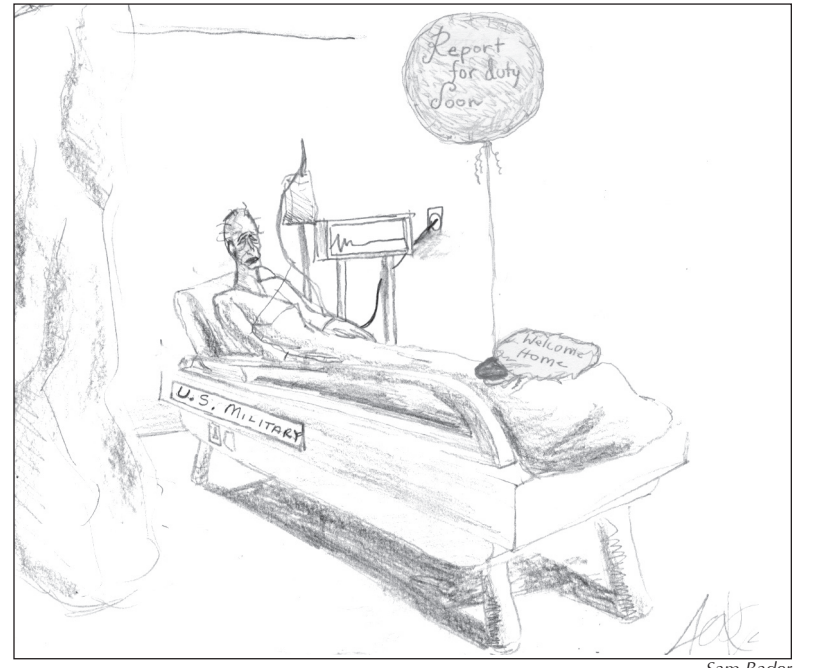
The president has lost sight of the mission's objectives. The first task cannot be completed because

there were no weapons of mass destruction and he has failed to complete the third task, freeing the Iraqi people. Instead, Iraqis live in turmoil, despite supposedly "free" elections. American soldiers and Iraqi insurgents alike kill innocent Iraqi civilians in a variety of ways. Aside from the most obvious, death in combat, the war has killed numerous others. Iraqis are perishing without running water and other essential resources destroyed by military troops.

For the first time in history there is a nearly unanimous international consensus: the War in Iraq has failed. The United Nations, the global community, the Iraqis and Americans agree that something has gone horribly wrong.

With a common disdain for the past, it is time to move forward toward a better future. The United States should under no circumstances continue the failed policy for the War in Iraq. Military presence cannot be increased in Iraq. It has not worked for four years and it will not work now.

The American people and the newly elected Congress have a responsibility to stand up against



Sam Bader

President Bush until he unconditionally ceases to send soldiers to Iraq. The war can and must be stopped, but it will not be as long as those opposed refuse to take action. A troop withdrawal should begin shortly and power should be passed over to Iraq forces without any increase in American presence. The solution must involve diplomacy, not force.

The War in Iraq was a debacle instituted by President Bush to destroy non-existent weapons and to remove a dictator who maintained

a more stable government-even if by abhorrent means-than the new Iraqi government and American military have. The Iraqi people are anything but free, yet American military presence persists as Bush sends further troop reinforcements into Iraq. Not even the Republican Party who once supported Bush can condone his blind refusal to adapt.

The American public should consider the following epigram: fool us once, shame on you, but fool us twice, shame on us. ☹

Agree **73%**  
Disagree **27%**

## Perfume provides medium for expression of personality

While languishing away for "Perfume: The Story of a Murderer," which refuses to be delivered via amazon.com, I started considering the implications of a scent. If an obsession with smell is enough to prompt lifetime devotion, culminating in murder, then is perfume an ephemeral something or a concept worthy of consideration?

Granted, it is only fiction but still, in the wee hours, the connotation of scents is fabulous food for thought.

Smells can be the signifier of a person; a particular scent encapsulates certain traits, preferably like good hygiene, but the historical context certainly begs the question whether wearing a scent is akin to masking or hiding, or whether perfume is an extension of oneself. When considering my friends and their perfume, there is an interesting correlation between their choice of scent and their personalities.

Confession: I despair at ever finding the perfect scent. In fact, it might as well be more elusive than internalizing the chain rule or understanding wave-particles. Certain smells are off-putting, whether too overpowering, too sugary or too grandmotherly. Even worse, others smell nice but are not quite right. The problem may be that I am too picky and incredibly fickle. The look of the perfume, the color and shape of the bottle, whether packaged lovingly in tartan print or shaped like a pink sugar confection, are all points of indecision. Of course, the scent itself is something I get sick of quickly.

Then again, it may be a question of when and where and a bit luck, of course. For instance, one of my friends had love-at-first-smell when her French teacher handed out perfume samples.

Another friend, upon reflection, albeit jokingly, also likens finding perfume to falling in love with someone. Addressing my dilemma, she says with a cool shrug that the key to finding perfume is to trust my instinct.

"I wasn't intending to buy perfume when I went into Anthropologie, I just went because it's one of the best stores ever," she said. "It was right before Christmas and I noticed their perfumes. I was being very impulsive, smelling each perfume. For Anthropologie I think their scents are very good deals but



Wenny Dong

I would say it was an impromptu purchase. I just came across it and I knew."

Listening to my encouraging friend recount, I'm not very surprised given her luxuriously laid-back attitude. In fact, her grapefruit scent suits her personality well. The smell is very personal with just the right amount of citrus but in an unobtrusive and low-key manner. Despite her good-natured personality, pushiness and insincerity strike her as some of the worst traits possible, in people and perfume. In fact, my love-at-first-scent friend is literally allergic to overpowering smells.

"Perfume sometimes gives me hives or headaches," she said. "I'm not against any single brand but I prefer nothing extremely musky. Otherwise, when people wear it, it seems like they're trying too hard."

Despite her reassurances and her suggestions of not being on a mission, I'm not particularly consoled.

There's always the harrowing question of what if no perfume ever captures the right essence, or what if I have no "essence." Certainly, I don't want to wait 60 years for the ideal scent, or more horrifically, to wait 60 years for a personality.

My friend who wears Chanel Chance ensures this isn't possible although she has spontaneity and whimsy, innately as well as in a bottle.

With Chance as an accessory, she

carries an air of uncertainty. She is impulsive and seemingly uninhibited, at least more so than I am. She is someone who considers wearing a shocking silver mini-dress without batting an eyelash, a la Edie Sedgwick or Madonna.

Above all, the Edie-incarnate loves perfume; in fact, according to

**“There’s always the harrowing question of what if no perfume ever captures the right essence, or what if I have no “essence.”**

her, perfume is akin to love in many ways. "Chance is like my boyfriend, the one true love I go back to, even though I have cheated on it a couple times with other scents," she said. "My advice for picking out a perfume is to experiment and not to decide immediately. You should observe your skin because the chemistry between the scent and the skin is different depending on the person. And never rule out choices because something that smells really vile in a jar could be delectable on you. Or, something that smells good on one person may not on another."

For one thing, in addition to silver minis, Edie-incarnate is also fearless with scent options. Unlike me, she has tried various perfumes, one of which is a nasty Escada from her grandmother, and accepted ev-

ery comment along the way.

In alignment with her personality, she feels that scents are an expression of individuality and that is what makes perfume memorable. All of this is of course, coming from my friend who might very well sing about being a "Perfume Girl."

Not very encouraging, especially considering my scent-savvy friend has found one that stands the test of time. Besides, also unlike me, she has a clear idea of what she likes, that being fresh smells like patchouli and amber. However, regardless of whether a perfume is a master or a classic, she shares a loathing with my other friends.

"Strong perfume is too overwhelming, on anyone," she said. "I hate it when people spray it all over themselves, especially in small or closed spaces. There are two smells that I really detest, florals and Axe. When I smell people with Axe, I don't want to talk to them. Some boys do smell amazing with perfume or cologne. Certain people wear it right, but really it's about finding one that suits your personality."

Another one of my friends has also found her perfect match with

Princess, by Vera Wang. Although younger than I am, she is authoritative, at times demanding, and with her appearance, tricks others into believing she is older. Yet despite her mature facade, she isn't close to wearing a stifling and matronly scent. If anything, she's the mischievous Princess Margaret, not to mention Ms. Expertise when it comes to choosing perfumes.

For one thing, she has the perfect nose for scents. When we walked into Sephora, purely for research purposes, she was to me as Virgil was to Dante.

As my knowledgeable guide, her advice was to try on different perfumes at different times. When finding her own perfume, upon first liking Princess, she returned a week later to reconsider. Like me, appearances mattered and the purple bottle was just pretty enough to be eye-catching.

"Then, there's so many other things to consider," she said. "The scent must be light but it should last. Faint is the word to describe it. People should never smell you when you were there two minutes ago. It is very difficult sometimes to find the perfect balance."

Luckily, there still may be hope for me as, while browsing for scents, my go-to expert revealed that she found Princess through trial-and-error."

"My previous perfume, Pleasures, by Estee Lauder, was seemingly ideal as it smelled fun, clean and not too fruity," she said. "But then I was allergic and it made my nose itch."

Somehow, even after what would to me be a devastating let-down, Ms. Expertise, returned to square one and successfully found another perfume. The tip she tells me is the most important is to select something not seasonal.

"Some perfumes smell better in the springtime or in the summertime, you know?" She said. "I'll like Princess all year, which is very important. Also, go with a real designer."

Coming from the Princess, I'm not shocked, but I suppose there is some wisdom, which I lack.

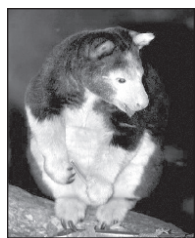
Perhaps, the problem lies in me trying to convey everything through an eau de parfum. Not that perfumes are like the tealeaves to interpreting life. Because while I dislike oriental scents, which are oddly reminiscent of soap, I doubt it's a sign of self-abhorrence.

Overall, it may be frivolous, petty and impractical, but it is only a small indulgence. ☹

### Thumbs Up



- Happy ending for kidnapped boys
- SNOW
- Hugging baby animals



- Troop increase
- Integration by parts
- Isaiah Washington
- Security cameras
- Dante's "Inferno"
- Claws on baby animals



### Thumbs Down

The Globe is a public forum. As such, we welcome the voices of all. We accept letters to the editor provided they are signed; under very few circumstances will we publish an anonymous letter. Due to space constraints, we reserve the right to edit submitted material.









# Exploring the Racial Divide

## Armed with the results of the controversial Tripod survey, administrators and faculty are trying to create a better learning environment for everyone.

**Amy Brooks**  
Co-Editor in Chief

More than six months after CHS students took a controversial survey about race and teaching, the results are in, confirming the racial divide many have acknowledged lies inside and outside the classroom.

The Tripod survey, founded by Harvard professor Ronald Ferguson, angered some students because of its questions about students who consider themselves "ghetto," students' favorite music and their hair-care habits. However, the survey also asked questions in three larger areas, hence its name: the way a teacher teaches, the content of the class, and the relationships between students and their peers, parents and teachers.

Some of the most interesting – and potentially alarming – statistics included that 43 percent of African American males and 46 percent of African American females at CHS agreed with the statement "Because of race, I get disciplined harder or less fairly in school," at least sometimes, compared with 8 percent of white males and 7 percent of white females. 49 percent of African American males and 65 percent of African American females also agreed with the statement "Because of race, some teachers think I'm less smart than I am" at least sometimes, compared with 7 percent of white males and 2 percent of white females. Both of the percentages for the African American students were much higher than those reported by other high schools who took the Tripod survey.

The results didn't surprise many administrators and teachers, yet served to remind them of the long road ahead of them: striving to make CHS more open-minded racially, inside and outside of the classroom.

"There were a lot of really positive results that were really affirming to what we do," Principal Louise Losos said. "It also didn't surprise me that there were areas we needed to work on."

### Lowering the Achievement Gap: Race in the Classroom

"Racism and stereotypes are engraved in everyone's brains," sophomore Nichole Burton said. "If I were to get an A on a test, I usually get high praise for it. But if a white student or an Asian student or a student of any other race were to get an A, it would come to no surprise to the teacher, and the student wouldn't get as much praise. Sometimes I feel like I'm treated like I'm mentally retarded because of the way teachers treat me."

Burton's experiences reflect one of the main problems exposed in the Tripod survey, one that administrators and teachers will be working hard to fix within the coming months. The improvements are designed to help CHS reach one of its North Central Accreditation goals: reducing the achievement gap. The Tripod survey results are only one piece of the puzzle. And while Dr. Ferguson returned to Harvard after presenting the results to CHS faculty and administrators, CHS recruited the local help of Dr. Garrett Duncan, Associate Professor of Education at Washington University.

"Last spring we held focus sessions with senior African American students, and this fall we held them with African American parents who live in the city by zip code," Losos said. "Also, Professor Duncan and his students will be in the building observing."

Counselor Lara Veon, who heads the African American Achievement Committee, agrees about the ultimate utility of the Tripod survey when used with additional data, despite the controversy surrounding it.

"Ron Ferguson indicated that the survey is used to 'take the

temperature' of the building and community," Veon said. "Despite the controversy regarding the administration and reliability of the survey, I think we would be remiss if we didn't take the data into consideration as one of the various pieces of data we are collecting and studying. The African American Achievement Committee will not solely use the survey results to inform new policy or make recommendations for sweeping changes; however, we will use it to inform us regarding professional development and to make comparisons with other types of data we are currently collecting and will collect in the future."

Losos knows that the task ahead is not going to be solved quickly or easily, but she has faith in CHS' teachers.

"Our teachers form deep and positive relationships with their students and personalize their instruction for their students," Losos said. "We have high expectations for all students and push all students to learn at a high level. The achievement gap is not going to be solved quickly – we've heard that from all the experts – and we know that the students who come here want to succeed, so we need to see what teachers can do differently, what we can do differently, to help everyone achieve at their highest level."

Duncan believes the data collected from the survey will be useful in pinpointing the sources of academic inequalities between students.

"I believe the main challenge posed by the survey data is to figure out how to capitalize on findings that will help reduce academic differences among groups of students at CHS," Duncan said. "For instance, a significant majority of students indicate that they do best in classes they find rigorous and in classrooms where students and teachers clearly respect and like one another – this also includes how students interact with their peers. Now, this holds true across the board among all student groups. Such findings will go a long way to help us reduce academic differences among groups of students by helping us to eliminate those obstacles that create them. For the most part, these differences are largely unintended outcomes of things that are guided by good intentions or, at the very least, that are not guided by bad intentions."

Duncan's point that inter-student relationships also make up a large part of the learning experience at CHS ties together the two main issues recognized in the Tripod survey: academic achievement and social differences.

Senior Loretta Collier said that while her teachers have never treated her differently or less intelligently than students of other races, her peers have.

"I've been in classes where I was the only black person and they expect me to be dumb and they talk to me like I don't know what's going on," Collier said. "When I was assigned to a group with them, they expect me not to do any work, but I've proven them wrong many times."

Junior Brad Johnson\* has had similar experiences in some of his honors and AP classes.

"Outside the classroom races do have their own cliques, but people of different races are not hesitant

in the slightest to associate or befriend someone of another race," Johnson\* said. "However, inside the classroom, especially in honors or excelled classes, there is segregation. There are for the most part fewer black kids than any other race in any Honors or AP class."

Freshman Preston Burnsed thinks that touchy classroom com-

munications are important. Sophomore Jasmyne Adams has had several experiences that attribute to this difference.

"I remember freshman year during the walk-through, my friend and I sat in the front and I remember the teacher telling the class that it was Honors English and, directing towards us, if you're not supposed to be here then you can leave

Aside from academic achievement, teachers and administrators are also concerned with the interactions of African American students and their peers.

Teacher Russell Vanecek tries to get to the core of these issues with the racial dialogues he has coordinated for the past four years.

"I think race relations are improving because we're talking about it, and I think that's really been positive," Vanecek said. "What needs to happen next is to have more people do it, have more time to do it and have leaders emerge to keep it going, we need more faculty and more students to keep the kind of conversations going and the ideas to make changes actually happen. We started the talk, and now we have to start doing the walk. We have the ideas, and now we have to implement them, which takes time and attention that we have not given the issue."

According to Veon, the racial dialogues are just another way to bring about racial change at CHS, but that this change will take time and effort.

"We need every adult and student in this building willing to engage in dialogue about this problem," Veon said. "Too often, we elect not to have the conversations because it is too much work or we feel like we are doing everything we can already and still not making a difference. To counteract this dependence, we need to create time and space for these discussions to happen in a safe – and ultimately hopeful – way. Mr. Vanecek has begun this already by coordinating the student and faculty racial

dialogues. We just need to widen it now to all teachers and students."

Vanecek adds that the importance of changing feelings and thoughts is equally important to lowering the achievement gap.

"We need to make systematic changes, not just about narrowing the achievement gap, but changing peoples' attitudes and behaviors," Vanecek said. "I think people want a quick fix like 'let's have more tutors,' but I think it's bigger than that – everyone has a stake in it, and we're not there yet."

Evidence for the necessity of this change can be found in several segregated areas of CHS, such as the Commons.

"I think that CHS is segregated unintentionally," Adams said. "Students sit next to the people they live by and who they spend the most time with on the weekends. I personally visit around the Commons at different tables and I see all-Asian tables and all-white tables and all-black tables, but it's not discouraging, it's just the way it is. A new student made a comment to my best friend saying that CHS was very segregated. She came from Chicago and she said it was hard for her to fit in here. She was a Caucasian girl."

Senior Bob Smith\* acknowledges the segregation within CHS but maintains that the school is still a positive learning community, with or without further administrative action.

"I don't think much can be done along the lines of teacher or administration influences," Smith\* said. "By focusing on race based initiatives in the first place, it could aggravate the situation even more by grouping academic benefits according to race. And even though CHS is segregated, rarely do I notice racial anger amongst Clayton students, whereas students from other schools sometimes scare me with their ignorance and hate for other races. Clayton does build an understanding community, but often we are too comfortable in our niches to fully blend."

Veon and other faculty members are optimistic about the future of race at CHS, provided the effort is put forth.

"I think anytime you take a bandage from a wound that hasn't completely healed, you are going to bleed," Veon said. "Our self-study is essentially removing the bandage and revealing that healing still needs to take place. While this is painful, I'm still optimistic: Ultimately, I think CHS will be better for the study, but it will take hard work, and we will have to change our practice in some way. Luckily, CHS has among the highest qualified staff in the state if not the country. If anyone can make a difference, we can. I'm continually impressed by the risks our students have been willing to take in order to engage in the racial dialogues and share their honesty and experiences with each other and their teachers; this is an emotionally draining feat. Likewise, the number of teachers willing to delve into these issues is growing, and I am increasingly hopeful about our future work." ☺

\*names have been changed to protect anonymity



ments contribute to racial tension in the classroom.

"I do feel there is racial tension in the class between students of different races," Burnsed said. "There are comments made that might offend people of different races. These comments are usually not noticed because people view them as insignificant."

### Race outside the classroom

Aside from racial issues inside the classroom, the Tripod survey also provided data on the racial atmosphere of CHS between students and teachers and students and their peers while not in class, one that differs considerably from the classroom environment.

now," Adams said. "I was so heated but I didn't let that get to me. Once teachers get to know me they understand that I'm smart."

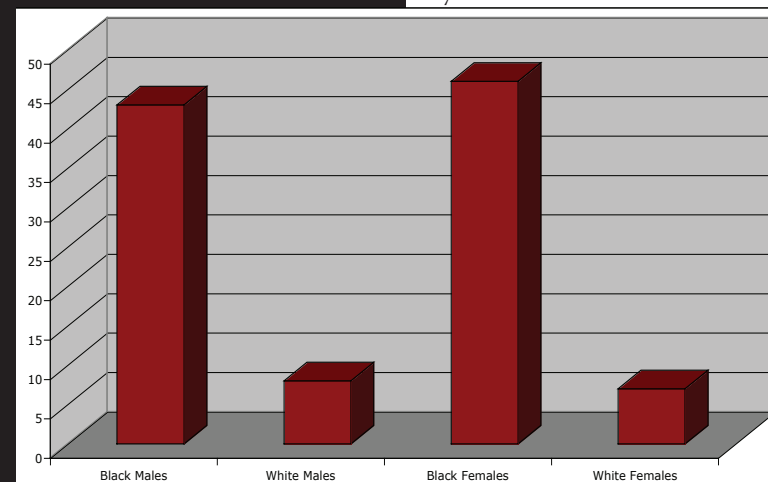
Jasmyne's experience describes another problem uncovered by the Tripod survey: racism by teachers who do not personally know the student in question. In many cases, students report they are treated less fairly by teachers they do not know than teachers they have had.

Veon points out a key issue that came to light in the survey: the difference in treatment inside and outside the classroom.

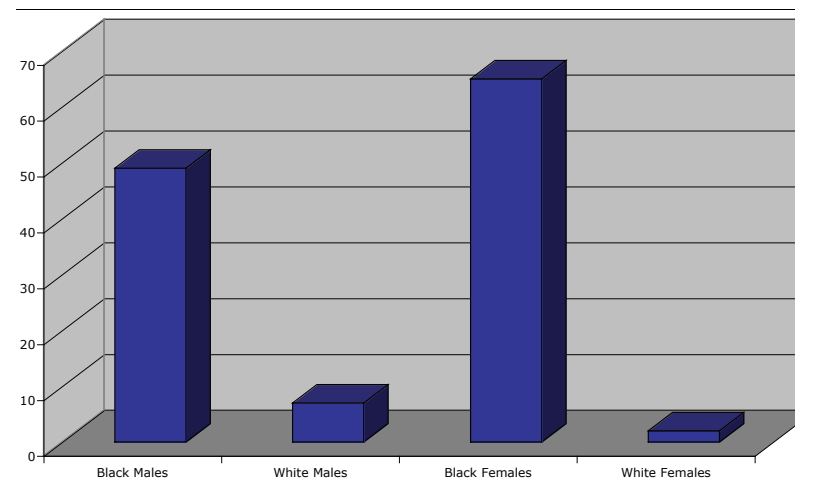
"I was not terribly surprised by some of the students' perceptions relating to building culture that indicate we definitely have some work to do to address the conditions," Veon said.

## By the numbers:

Percentages of black and white male and female CHS students who agree that, at least sometimes, "Because of race, I get disciplined harder or less fairly in school."



Percentages of black and white male and female CHS students who agree that, at least sometimes, "Because of race, some teachers think I'm less smart than I am."



This data is taken from the results of the Tripod survey taken by CHS students in January 2006

“My fate as far as academics is concerned will lie in the hands of the people I perform for. [Berklee] is such a prestigious school and I can only hope that I can perform to their standards. But I think that I can do it.”

-- Senior Jessica Haller, page 14

NEWS BRIEFS:  
PEPPERS  
CANDIDATES

The following students were nominated for Peppers kings.

Seniors: David Redick, John Buse, Max Hillman, Rob Reed, Dan Stamborski, Charlie Matthews and Bo Lanter.

NEW EDITORIAL  
STAFF NAMED  
FOR 2007-08  
GLOBE

Next year's Globe editorial staff will include the following senior editors: Gila Hoffman, Nava Kantor, Kelly Moffitt, Hyrum Shumway, Dakin Sloss, Tian Qiu and Katharine Weiss. The Editor in Chief will soon be determined.

The following people were chosen as next years section editors of the Globe: Jeremy Bleeke, Jacob Blumenfeld, Ellie Bullard, Leah Eby, Abby Eisenberg, Maddie Harned, Sarah Horn, Carol Iskiwitch, Phillip Levine, Ugochi Onyema, Fontasha Powell, Aaron Praiss, Sara Rangwala, Michael Root, Adrienne Stormo and Anya Veremakis

The Graphics Editor will be Siobhan Jones

UPCOMING  
EVENTS

Don't forget there are late start days on Feb. 7 and Feb. 28

Come see Grease in the Clayton High School auditorium from Feb. 8 to Feb. 11.

Help out those in need and donate blood at the STUGO blood drive going on from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Center of Clayton on Feb. 9.

Lace up your tennis shoes for the STUGO broomball tournament at 9 p.m. to midnight at the Steinberg ice rink in Forest Park on Feb. 15.

Don't forget no school on Feb. 16 for professional development day and on Feb. 19 for Presidents day.

Get in shape because spring sports begin Feb. 26

# The road less traveled

A Minnesota college student's idealistic views on Israel leads to his enlistment in the Israeli army.

**Katharine Weiss**  
Section Editor

JERUSALEM -- It is a sunny, clear afternoon in Sept. of 2004 and David Glotter, a 20-year-old native Minnesotan, is on the verge of a deep sleep in his college dorm room. As his eyes begin to close, he is jarred awake by a soft boom.

"It sounded like a truck was falling from the sky," Glotter said. "I immediately sat up in my bed and began to pray that what I was hearing was not what I thought it was."

Had Glotter been in his dorm room in Madison Wisconsin, where he spent his first two years of college, he probably would have been hearing the backfire of a vehicle in need of some maintenance. But Glotter wasn't in America. He was living in eastern Jerusalem where a boom is almost always more ominous. In fact, this particular explosion not only caused two deaths, but marked a turning point in Glotter's life. He is now an Israeli citizen -- and about to become a soldier.

"My dorm was only a few blocks away from the hospital and a few minutes after the sound went off, it began to become clear that the noise had come from a bomb," Glotter said. "A series of images began to rush through my mind, typical to what you are used to seeing on American TV about Israeli bombings. I was in shock that I was so close to the bombing that I could actually hear it."

Glotter immediately turned on the radio to learn what was going on. The bombing had occurred only a few blocks away from him. Then Glotter and a few of his roommates ran down the street to see how they could help.

The intersection -- often crowded with people -- had made an inviting target for attacks. So while the suicide bombing that took place there that day couldn't be considered a complete surprise, Glotter did encounter something he did not expect. Rather than chaos, Glotter found a surreal scene of organization and calm.

"By the time I had gotten there, they had already begun to clean up," Glotter said. "At first I was a



Courtesy of David Glotter

**Glotter overlooks the gulf of Eilat** on one of his many trips around the country during his junior year abroad in Israel. It was this year that cemented Glotter's decision to return back to Israel as a citizen the following year.

little disturbed by this but I ended up realizing that it is a good thing to not dwell on the attack. By letting the terrorists disrupt Israeli life and ruin everyone's lives that is the same thing as letting them win."

Glotter remembers that event as the day he began the transition from tourist to Israeli. Later Glotter would find out the details of the bombing that had turned his life in a different direction. Two soldiers had asked to check a suspicious woman's bag. The woman panicked and set off the bomb right then, killing the two soldiers as well as herself.

"After learning about those two soldiers, I couldn't stop thinking, why them?" Glotter said. "Terrorists don't care who they kill, they just want to cause harm to Israel. At the same time I can't stop thinking how these soldiers gave up their lives defending Israel. Israel

doesn't just represent Israeli Jews, it represents all Jews everywhere. If something bad were to happen to Israel, it would have a lot of negative side effects for all Jews everywhere. Including me."

Glotter reached the conclusion that he, too, needed to give something to the country that gave so much to others. "Everyone in Israel does their part for Israel, why not me?" Glotter said. "Now I could do my part in many ways. I could go home and fight the cause from the States, or I come and live in Israel."

Glotter felt that his voice in the United States would not have the strength that it could in Israel, so he made plans to become an Israeli citizen.

At this point though, he was only two months into his junior year abroad in Israel. "Everyone says that they want to move to Israel while they are here so I figured the best thing to do was go home, finish college, and then make my decision." And that is exactly what Glotter did. Glotter spent the next eight months traveling Israel, viewing many of the historic sites, and formulating new opinions about the land. And when his year in Israel was over, he returned to the

States ready to finish his senior year of college. He returned to Israel in September 2006.

"When I told my parents that I was going to move to Israel and join the army, they were really sad," Glotter said. "They knew of the dangers, and they worried about me being so far away."

But they were hardly surprised by their son's decision.

"Israel as well as being Jewish was definitely a part of my family growing up," Glotter said. "We would have Shabbat dinners every Friday night and keep kosher and during my junior year of high school I spent eight weeks studying in Israel. My friends considered me Mr. Jew."

However, Glotter at 5'9" with blue eyes, curly brown hair and an engaging grin didn't grow up much different than most Jewish kids in America. He grew up in quiet suburbia where he spent his younger days going to an all Jewish private school only later to transfer to a public high school in St. Louis Park, where he enjoyed participating in sports like soccer and track.

When Glotter boarded the plane to Israel on Sept. 6 he sat alone and one more time questioned his deci-

sion to seek Israeli citizenship and join the army.

"I didn't know anyone in Israel," Glotter said. "And here I was about to enter one of the most high stressed and scariest times in my life alone."

Three months later, he has no regrets.

"I feel more connected to Israel then I ever felt to America," Glotter said. "I feel as though in America the majority point of view is forced upon you and it is harder to be yourself. If there was a draft in America, I would probably end up leaving the country. While I will always be American, I am more connected to Israel. I feel as though Israeli history is my history."

Though it may seem odd that a terrorist bombing would attract a young man to Israel, for Glotter the explosion started him toward a renewal of his faith and a desire to help and be a part of a Jewish state.

"I feel as though I can live a more meaningful life in Israel than I can in America," Glotter said. "Just being here has inspired me to do so much with my life, things I would never think about doing in the States." ☺

“Israel doesn't just represent Israeli Jews, it represents all Jews everywhere. Including me.”

David Glotter  
Future Israeli Soldier

# Sudoku satisfies need for entertainment

Sudoku proves to be a welcomed distraction for Clayton residents from their hectic lives

**Jim An**  
Section Editor

Sudoku, a logic puzzle, has taken CHS and the Clayton community by storm.

Despite the Japanese name, Sudoku is of Western origin and was invented by an American, Howard Garns, in 1979 as "Number Place." However, by whatever name, the popularity of the game clearly goes beyond just a newspaper novelty.

"It's numbers," senior Yue Pang said. "And, you don't have to think."

By no means, though, is that charm of Sudoku appealing to only kids.

"There's a certain amount of mindlessness in Sudoku," CHS parent Lilly Canel-Katz said.

"I find it exceedingly calming," senior Jack Altman said. "I fell asleep once."

However, the ubiquity of the game no doubt also helps the game's popularity.

"I play Sudoku because it's in the paper," Pang said. "It's good for when I'm bored in class."

However, being a puzzle game, Sudoku can present its challenges.

"It can be hard," Pang said. "I take maybe about

half an hour [to complete a puzzle.]"

Nonetheless, some people certainly have a knack for numerical brainteasers.

"No. I can usually see the complete board within 20 or 30 seconds," Altman said. "It takes roughly a minute to fill it in though."

For senior Lizzie Boulton, an occasional player of Sudoku, the numerical aspect of Sudoku is its charm.

"Sometimes I can't think of the words in things like crossword puzzles," Boulton said, "but I always know the numbers [that are possible.]"

For others, though, this presents a drawback of Sudoku.

"I prefer Boggle to Sudoku," Altman said. "Boggle is a more dynamic game. Letters can combine more intricately. I also like the diagonal aspect [of Boggle.]"

Part of Sudoku's appeal is that it is easy to play in all different locations.

"I play it almost everyday on the way home from work on the Metrolink," Canel-Katz said. "It's kind of addictive."

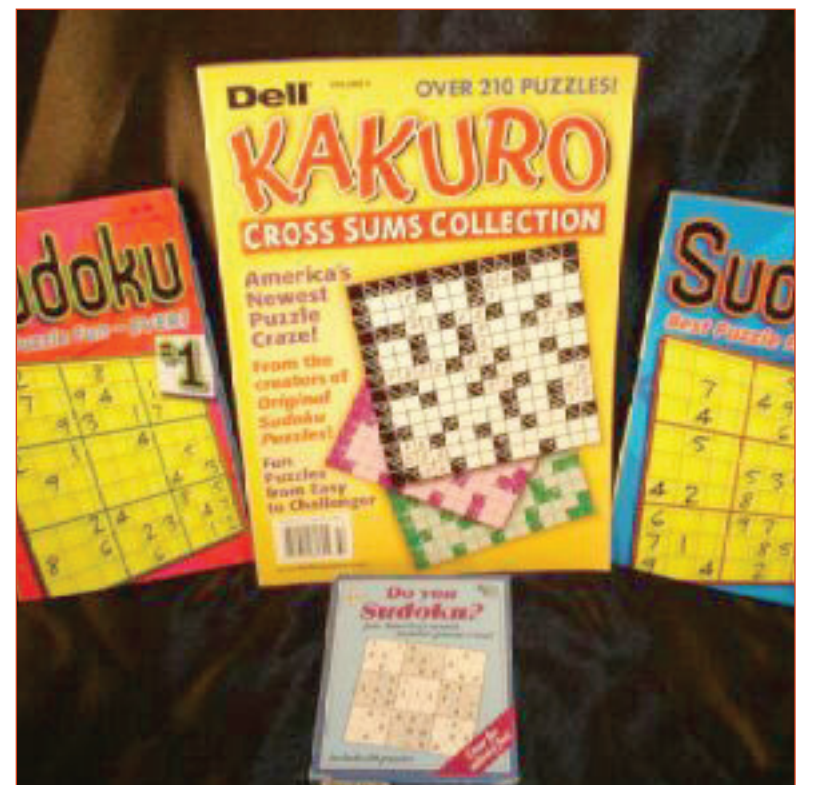
Altman believes another reason that he likes Sudoku so much is because he's very good at it.

"We like that in which we succeed," Altman said.

However, though Boulton is not as experienced or as skilled, she also takes pleasure in the game.

"I don't play Sudoku much, though I do enjoy it," Boulton said. "I play when I'm on airplanes and it helps to pass the time."

No matter what though, it seems the biggest draw of Sudoku remains its ability to distract from the drama of life. ☺



staff photo

**There are a variety of different Sudoku games** that can be purchased in almost any book store. The popular games are also widely available online.



# Students take complete responsibility for yearly SRM

**Meredith Redick**  
Staff Reporter

Each year, CHS performs a variety of theatrical and musical productions, including a fall play and spring musical.

Each spring, however, students release themselves from the hold of the theatre and music staff to produce a show known as the SRM- the Student-Run Musical.

The SRM is produced completely by students. Offering an opportunity for students to play the roles of director, musician, technical director, and, of course, performer, the SRM is a wonderful experience for students who want to learn about the real world of the theatre.

In past years, CHS has performed musicals including "Pippin" (2006), "Smile" (2005), and "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown" (2004).

This year, however, students Percy Olsen and David Redick have taken the idea of a Student-Run Musical one step further by choosing to write their own musical.

It will be entitled, "The Adventures of Normal Man and Average Boy."

The musical will be performed this April as the SRM.

The two students have been working to write the script since last winter.

"I came up with the original idea," Redick said. "I used to be a big fan of comic books, not really superheroes but cartoons like Calvin and Hobbes. Calvin reminds me of Gallagher; I think that's where I got the idea."

"Percy wrote the first draft while I worked on music, and then we did a lot of cooperative editing. One of the biggest things we changed was Damian's role," Redick said. "We changed his character to make him seem more human."

The students have been working hard to complete the script.

"It took me about seven months to write the first

draft, with school and all," Olsen said. "After that, we've both been working, revising the script and re-working the ending."

The script is now 124 pages without songs and blocking, and the creators guess that it will run about 2 hours on stage.

However, that is subject to change. The writers are impressed with their ability to get hard work done.

"Considering the length of the script and what we've done with it, it's been a speedy process," Redick said.

The musical encompasses the story of three roommates: a pair of unemployed comic-book writers, Chris and Gallagher, and the successful Damian, who moves out with materialistic fiancé, Beth.

Penniless, Chris and Gallagher develop a plan to become superheroes like the ones they've always drawn about.

"We call it a musical trauma-dy," Redick said. "It has a tragic structure but it's also kind of a comedy."

"I'd say the humor is derived from absurd dialogue, for the most part," Olsen said. "We also have a nice Spongebob metaphor running throughout, along with a general negative attitude towards materialistic behaviors."

Although comedic, the production also carries important messages.

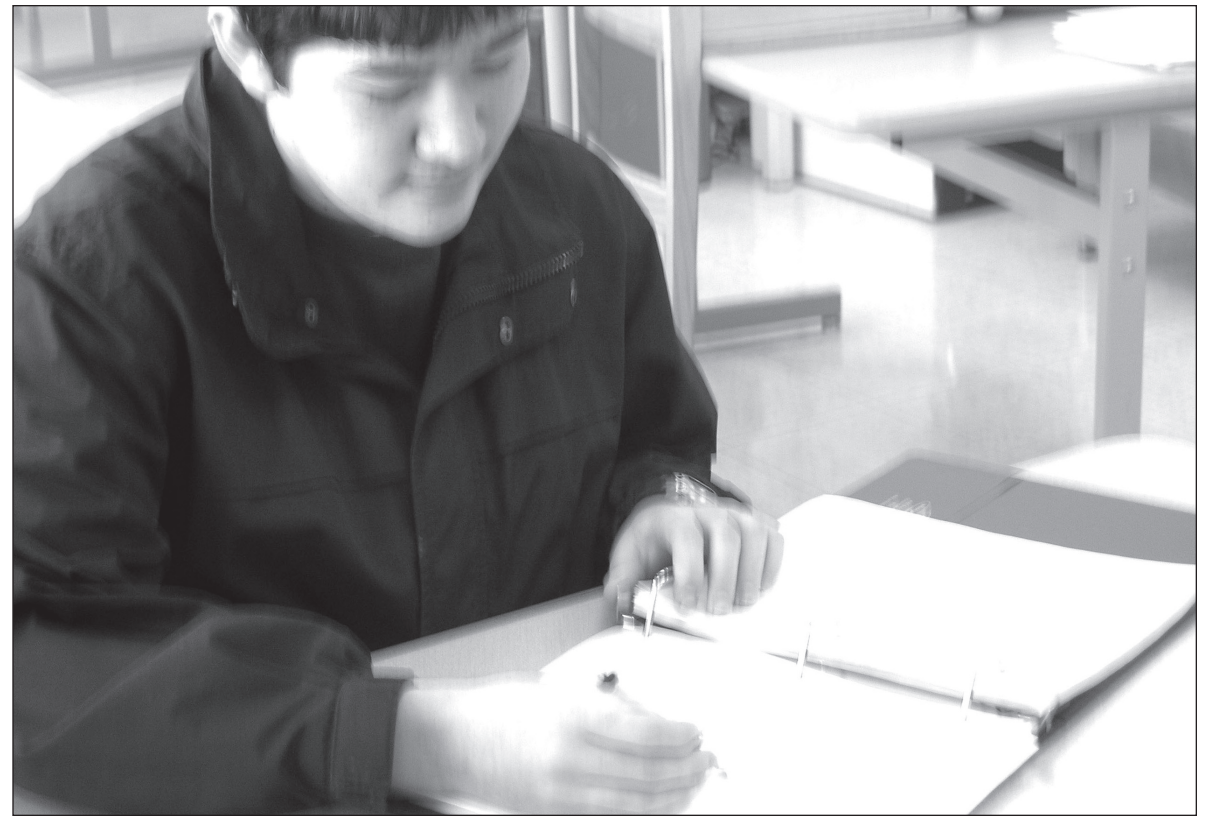
"I would say that the big idea of our musical is that you have to find something in reality to love," Redick said. "You have to embrace reality, even though sometimes reality isn't what you want it to be."

The set for the play has not been decided yet; Redick pictured a sparse stage with "one unifying structure."

"I think the set would work best if it remained realistic and not incredibly stylistic," Olsen said.

Auditions for "The Adventures of Normal Man and Average Boy: A Musical Trauma-dy" will most likely occur in February.

The final production is scheduled to run April 18-21. The writers encourage students to participate. ☺



Staff Photo

**Above:** Senior Percy Olsen, co-author of this year's SRM furiously works on the script. **Bottom Left:** Senior David Redick and Olsen work "seriously" on revising the script for the play. The process has taken over a year.



Staff Photo

## What about the SRM?

**Name:** "The Adventures of Normal Man and

**Average Boy: A Musical Trauma-dy"**

**Playwright:** Percy Olsen & David Redick

**Composer:** David Redick

**Auditions:** mid-February

**Dates Playing:** April 18-21, 2007

**Mia Harlan**  
Section Editor

From writing letters to making signs and baking cakes, girls are notorious for asking boys to Peppers in creative ways.

Freshman Emily Rosen wrote a letter to the boy she wanted to go to the dance with and then dropping it off at his house.

"It was really fun," Rosen said. She used the boy's personal experiences to make a special invite.

"I invited a boy who does not go to our school anymore, so I wrote him a letter and it said, 'we miss you a lot at Clayton, so we need to hang out more, how about the 27th, Peppers?'" Rosen said.

Rosen planned out who to ask and how to ask him with her friends.

"He called me to respond, but he is not the type of person to say that the letter was cute," Rosen said. "Maybe he appreciated it, I don't know. But, I do think guys should ask girls to dances in cute ways too because girls appreciate it more."

Other girls have thought of clever ways to ask boys to Peppers as well.

Senior Molly Dubro decided to ask her date during a class they have together.

"Since it was French class, I thought it would be cute to ask him in French, so I wrote 'Tu voudrais

aller au Peppers avec moi?'" DuBro said.

DuBro wrote the message on the board before class.

"I talked to Madame Caspari before class to make sure it wasn't going to be a disruption," DuBro said. "It was fun asking him in class, but I didn't think it would be so nerve-racking! It was kind of scary because everyone else in the class was automatically a part of it. But I think it is more special to ask someone in a creative way because it shows them that you put time and effort into it."

DuBro realizes that girls ask boys to dances more creatively than the way boys ask girls, and she has found there is an amalgam of answers to this difference.

"Overall, I think the girls ask boys more creatively, than the boys ask girls," DuBro said. "I think it's because we ask the boys in a way that we would want to be asked. But I think for Prom the boys ask in special ways."

For Prom last year, senior Rebecca Levy was asked in a cute way that she appreciated.

"I was out of town and when I

got home from the airport, he was waiting in my backyard with a big sign that said 'Prom?' and a bunch of flowers," Levy said. "I was so surprised because I didn't know he was planning anything and he worked really hard on it."

This made Levy want to ask her Prom date to Peppers this year in a sweet way as well.

"I thought I should do some-

really cute ways," Levy said. "I baked a cake and wrote 'will you go to Peppers with me?' in icing. We went out to dinner that night and I had the waitress bring it out for dessert. He was really surprised! I definitely think he appreciated it."

Not only did her date like the cake, but Levy had fun too.

"It was a lot of fun making the cake and seeing his reaction," Levy said.

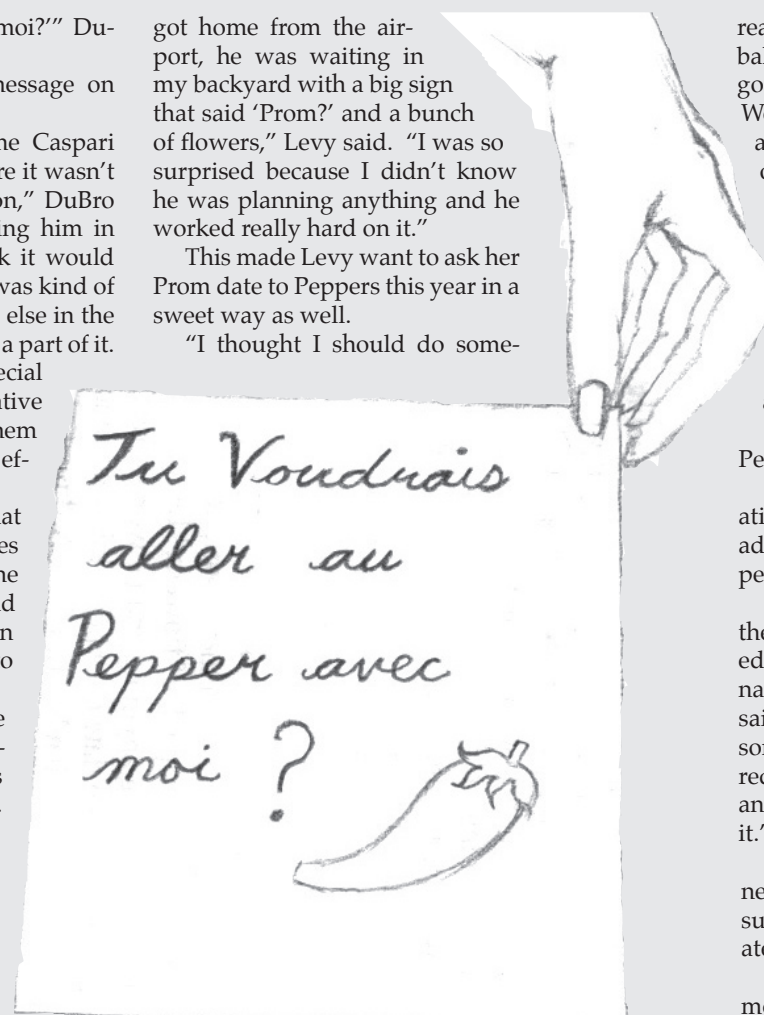
Junior Erik Jones was asked to Peppers this year.

As a boy he enjoyed the creativity of his date and thought it added something extra to the peppers experience.

"After first hour I was called to the office and the office lady handed me a large green note with my name written on the front," Jones said. "I opened the notes and someone had cut a pepper out of red and green construction paper and it had a question mark next to it."

Although Jones has personally never asked a girl to a dance in such a creative way, he appreciated the effort.

"It made the asking experience more fun and less awkward," Jones said. "A straight forward ask is boring, and I feel like she will be a fun date if she asks in a fun way." ☺



Wenny Dong

thing like that because he asked me to Prom and Homecoming in

## Try a Smoothie at Northwest Coffee

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Photos courtesy of Shaina Abrams-Kornblum

From left: Sophomore Nick Andriole traveled to Thailand over winter break. His father had a business meeting there, and Andriole went along to experience the different culture. Junior Shaina Abrams-Kornblum also traveled over the break. Abrams-Kornblum went to Costa Rica on a cruise with her family.

# Winter break allows time for exotic travel

**Ijeoma Onyema**  
Staff Reporter

This winter break, a large majority of CHS students stayed in the United States. However, a respectable amount of students—including myself—spent the holidays outside the United States.

From Asia down to Africa all the way across to the Pacific, many students have had many new experiences and have been introduced to new cultures while being in a different environment.

My family and I spent Winter

Break in Nigeria and experienced Christmas and New Years there for the first time. Although it was a short visit, my sisters and I spent two days in Abuja.

We visited the market and my mother's village to see my grandmother. We spent time giving clothes and candy to the younger kids and visiting compounds in my father's village. In addition to visiting family, we also moved into our new house. I enjoyed the weather and tasting the tropical fruits.

Sophomore Nicholas Andriole

went with his father to Thailand for the holidays. Andriole's father was on a business trip and he had the opportunity to travel with him.

"I visited some temples and spent time with the people there," Andriole said.

He also enjoyed experiencing the culture and world-famous cuisine.

"Seeing a unique country with a very rich culture and trying new things was a lot of fun," Andriole said.

Despite the enjoyable aspects of the trip, Andriole also deepened

his perspectives about how people in other parts of the world live.

"Visiting Thailand opened the door to Southeast Asia for me and helped me count my blessings," Andriole said. "Seeing the conditions people lived in directly outside our hotel was very depressing, however it was important for me to see."

Junior Shaina Abrams-Kornblum took a cruise off western coast of Costa Rica with 11 other family members.

The cruise sailed from Costa Rica to Tortuga and several other

islands.

"First my family and I flew down to San Jose," Abrams-Kornblum said. "After a day in San Jose, we drove to Puerto Caldera to meet the ship. Then we went to Curu, which is actually a rain forest preserve. There we had a chance to go on a hike and really see Costa Rica."

"We would be off the boat during the day and back on at night," Abrams said. "My cousins and I went on zip lines, and my mom and I went horseback riding up to this beautiful waterfall."

She and her family visited active volcanoes and took river tours throughout Winter Break. Abrams also saw a certain celebrity (Mel Gibson) on the beach.

"It was interesting because out of nearly my whole family, I was the only one who knew some Spanish," Abrams-Kornblum said. "It was fun talking to the people, and I got a lot of practice on my Spanish."

Besides spending time sailing to different towns and islands, Abrams enjoyed being around her family during the holidays.

## CHS home to diverse group of school custodians

**Qing Zhang**  
Section Editor

Fourth period, cafeteria.

The quiet commons suddenly bursts into animated activity. Students and teachers alike crowd the lunch line and jostle through the narrow openings between tables after a half-day's work.

Around the corner of the stairs, a man in blue uniform comes into sight. As he pushes a cart loaded with paper packages into the Student Activities Office, a student calls his name. He pushes up his glasses, smiles, waves and says light-heartedly, "Hi!"

He is Omar Bala, a member of the dedicated maintenance team at Clayton High School.

Originally from Albania, Bala has been working at CHS for almost nine years.

"Ten years ago, I came to the United States, and this is my first job," Bala said. "I did not understand English at that time, but this job was good for me because it has good pay, good benefits and it is good for me and my family's future."

Bala's co-worker, Lidia Gollshom, provided a different reason for working at Clayton.

"I did house cleaning before I came here," Gollshom said. "And when I was offered this job, I had no experience with working at schools, so it was a nice change of environment and I have been part of the staff for over two years now."

Each day, the maintenance staffs are almost always the ones who come the earliest and leave



Kate Rothman

**CHS Custodian Lidia** Gollshom pauses during picking up the commons during sixth hour. Gollshom is a dedicated member of the CHS janitorial team

the latest from CHS. The busy figures through the hallways, along the stairs and inside the classrooms are committed to a common goal—keeping CHS beautiful.

"I started by working on the ground floor for about two and a half years," Bala said. "Then I changed position to work in the commons and the kitchen for five years, and now I generally do mail delivery, take care of things inside and outside of school if there is an emergency and if we are short on staff members, I can always help do his or her job. This is sometimes a hard job, but I like it."

Gollshom agreed and described her duties on the job as well.

"General maintenance is what I usually do," Gollshom said. "I fix things around the school that are broken, like door knobs. And I do cleaning in the cafeteria, the tables and floors."

While the custodial career is commonly underappreciated and misunderstood, Gollshom found working at Clayton to be a different experience.

"I really like the environment here," Gollshom said. "Maybe it is because of my personality, but I can identify easily with young people, the students are always happy and full of energy and the administra-

tion is really efficient, so this is a great school. I enjoy working with the people at Clayton."

For Bala, whose son graduated from Clayton High in 2000, the job takes yet another special place in his heart.

"The people here are polite and respectable even to me, a janitor," Bala said. "And they talk to me in the same way. Because I am a parent with two boys, I love the kids here, and I feel like that I know how to communicate with them. I often do jokes with them, and I just love the ease of interactions between us."

Not only has the custodial team become an integral part of CHS, the job provides the staff themselves with treasured memories.

"I remember one time during Thanksgiving, the school was hosting a party for all the international students and parents in the district, I was here to help them with maintenance," Bala said. "And Karen, the ESL teacher, asked me if I could sing for them in my native language. I took the microphone and sang in Albanian, everyone applauded, it was really nice for me. I am lucky to have this job."

## English teacher finds happiness in teaching, inspiring her students

**Hyrum Shumway**  
Section Editor

English Teacher Jeanne Eichhorn, when not bestowing knowledge on students, might be watching Baseball, cooking, admiring the opera, reading, or spending time with her family.

"Mrs. Eichhorn is a great teacher because she explains concepts in detail," junior Yang Zhou said. "When I go to her conferences she is able to clarify so that I can understand. At first, her grading seems easy, but I was surprised by my first draft that I got back which was a low score. I have been improving however—she expects a lot, but she teaches a lot too."

Eichhorn's career started long before her time at Clayton.

"I taught at Parkway North for 30 years before I worked in Clayton," Eichhorn said.

"Don Hugo, who was the best principal Parkway ever had, saw me at a party and thought I should move to Clayton as he had 10 years previous. I retired from Parkway, and came to Clayton to work part-time. I was retired for a grand total of four hours."

Eichhorn has offered numerous opportunities to her students—even taking them abroad, but her real satisfaction comes through the classic classroom.

"Teaching is an absolutely wonderful job," Eichhorn said. "I get to talk about art and teach great material. It is truly thrilling everyday. I took kids to Europe for 10 or 15 years, and it was very fulfilling. I took them to operas, and we also would travel to see the Art Institute in Chicago."

Her passion for Europe budded earlier in life as she was newly married without kids.

"I started to really enjoy good food when my husband and I would travel to Europe when we were younger," Eichhorn said. "I sort of cook European style cuisine—once you go to Europe and taste great Food, you have to learn how to cook."

Eichhorn sometimes tires of cooking gourmet meals, and goes out.

"Trathoria Marcella and Niche are my favorite restaurants in St. Louis," Eichhorn said. "I especially go out when the whole family is together—it is hard to get my family together unless we go on a trip or go out to eat."

Eichhorn's has another constant hunger, which is the hunger to teach. Her yearning has been nourished, as she has found dedicated students with whom she is able to masterfully educate.

"Books and kids motivated me to become a teacher," Eichhorn said. "I love the kids here, but I loved the kids where I was. It was an immigrant community at Parkway North, and I thought I would never love the students they way I did at Parkway. When I came to Clayton, it was the same thing—I loved the kids just as much as I did at North. I wouldn't have expected that."

Even if unexpected, her wit and intellect has helped her gain respect as an exceptional educator.

"She is one of the best teachers I have had, and she knows so much," Zhou said.

Eichhorn might know so much from so many fields because of her constant reading.

"I always have loved reading," Eichhorn said. "I always re-read stuff about the Greeks. I also like Russian fiction. Once you understand Russian fiction it is more interesting."

Eichhorn merely laughs off compliments to her genius.

"I know a lot because I am old," Eichhorn said.

Teaching is really about the students, such as Zhou, learning. This is impossible without first laying the fundamental foundation of scholarly teachers who are informed, interesting, and hard-working.

"To come to a school with Clayton-caliber colleagues is just wonderful," Eichhorn said. "All the teachers here are amazing so I don't think of myself as a 'good teacher' though."

Of all the benefits of teaching at CHS, perhaps, the greatest gift Clayton has given Eichhorn is time.

"I love part-time teaching," Eichhorn said. "All the things I didn't have time for I do now. I often write letters to parents telling them about their children's strengths—I get to do the kind of work I always have tried to do—but not had the time for."

The increased time Eichhorn has seen, is a direct benefit to her many students.

"She really wants to get to know you individually," Zhou said. "In class she doesn't make you feel like you have to get in on the discussion, you can simply listen. I get a lot out of the conferences with her; she really has helped my writing significantly from the start of the year."

Although her zeal for English is great, students enjoy how she sympathizes with stressed student's schedules.

"She recognizes that English is not our only class, and makes concessions to help us get our work done well," Zhou said.

**Books and kids motivated me to become a teacher**  
Jeanne Eichhorn  
English Teacher

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# Cell phone technology entices new customers

**Ken Zheng**  
Staff Reporter

With the fast-expanding world of technology proper communication is a must. House phones are too tethered to their lines, email doesn't have a ready-to-use voice function and instant messaging is still crawling out of the mud. What's the answer then? Cell phones, of course.

Today's market offers a large variety of phones with a wide selection of features that range from caller ID to internet usage.

Several changes are going through the halls of CHS as new cell phones replace older models. One phone in particular that has made a big impact on CHS students' communication is the Motorola RAZR.

Motorola says that the RAZR is as beautiful as it performs.

Freshman Gabby Inder has a pink RAZR that includes a camera, the Internet and AIM.

"Last year I was the first one to get it and then later it became really popular," Inder said, "Motorola has sold over 50 million RAZRs. Even Maria Sharapova, the tennis player, has the pink one!" Sophomore Yiliu Zhang also owns a Pink RAZR from T-Mobile.

"It's special to me," Zhang said. "I'm not a big fan of protracted cell phone conversations because the sound waves may damage my brain."

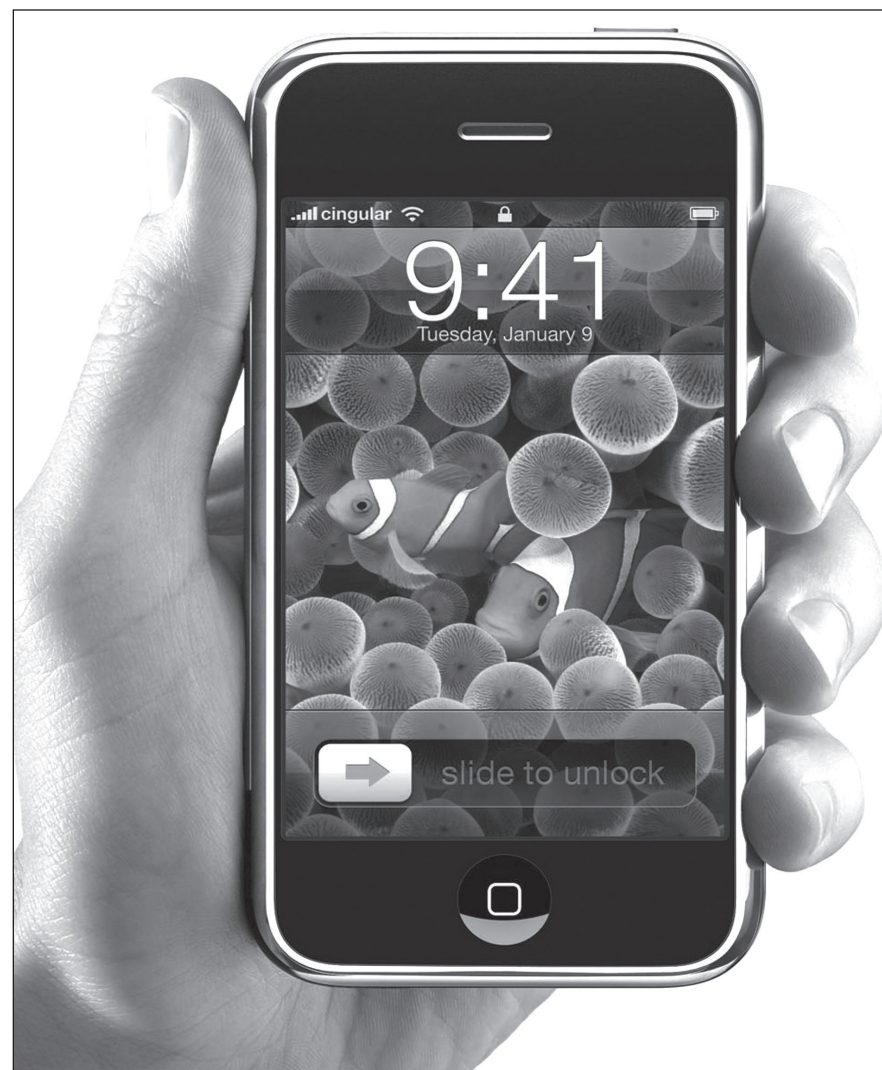
Freshman Jeanette Nguyen owns a RAZR, with T-Mobile as her service provider, but would really enjoy having an iPhone.

"It's like an iPod and phone put together and it's really cool," Nguyen said.

The iPhone is a revolutionary device that combines an iPod, cell phone and the Internet. It is going to be



**Left: The sidekick** allows users to use the Internet, AIM, email, text messaging and includes an MP3 player. Right: The new Apple iPhone will be released in June 2007. It combines an iPod, cell phone and the Internet and features a touch screen.



Courtesy of MCT Campus

state-of-the-art technology, all fitting inside a pocket. iPhone runs OS X and has a high resolution camera as well. It will go on sale in the United States in June 2007 for a price of \$499 for the 4GB iPhone.

Despite its popularity, the RAZR is not the only thin phone.

"The Katana 6600 comes in Black, Blue and Pink, and is definitely a possible RAZR competitor," a sales clerk at Best Buy said. "As far as RAZRs go, they're actually not that great. Their battery life is very short in comparison to some other phones and they're not really durable at all. If you drop them they're pretty much broken."

The RAZR emphasizes appearance and user inter-

face rather than features or different applications. It has a 1.2 mega pixel camera, and weighing at a mere 95 grams, it won't weigh its user down.

Freshman Alex Butler owns a gray and black Sidekick 3. It has AIM, Internet, email, text messaging, a calendar, an MP3 player and games.

"I like my Sidekick because it has everything I want," Butler said. "I just don't like how big it is. I would not want any other phone over mine except the iPhone, obviously."

Junior Ellory Abernathy owns a black colored Chocolate from Verizon Wireless. She has had it for about two months and is happy with it. The Chocolate doubles as an MP3 player.

Senior Seth Vriezelaar owns an LG enV, which has a keypad and opens up and comes with a two-mega pixel camera.

Campus Supervisor Mike Nelke, basketball and golf coach has a Palm Treo.

Nelke is very pleased with his phone.

"The thing I like about it is I use it more as a planner," Nelke said. "It's a great way of keeping track what I need to get done everyday. It's got the Internet, which is always nice, and its got stuff I don't even know about in it."

The enV is currently the top-selling phone on the market. It is followed by the Samsung Blackjack and the Chocolate is at sixth and the RAZR at seventh. ☺

# Pets provide health, social benefits for all

Students at CHS enjoy coming home from a stressful day at school to their pets. Many agree that there are many benefits from caring for and living with a pet.

**Preeti Viswanathan**  
Staff Reporter

When most students have homework to do and they just got home from a long day at school and a hard sports practice, they are usually stressed out. However, for those students who have pets, a long, hard day might not seem that bad.

Senior David Redick looks forward to seeing his pets at home after a long day at school.

"It's always nice to have an animal to come home to, always happy, always ready to lick your face," Redick said. "I've had my pets since I was seven, and I still have my dog and my cat. My fish died a long time ago, but I still have my dog and my cat."

According to the Humane Society, 62 percent of American households have pets; about 40 percent of U.S. households own at least one dog, and 34 percent of U.S. households own at least one cat. Also, U.S. dog owners on average spend about \$211 annually on veterinary visits, while cat owners spend

about \$179 annually on veterinary visits.

Freshman Sarah Address has two cats, Buster and Whisper. She spends about a half an hour every day caring for her cats by cleaning their litter box and changing their water, and she thinks children can benefit from having pets.

"It's nice because you get introduced to pets at a young age, then you know how to behave around them when you get older," Address said.

Address thinks pet owners get paid back for the time they spend

caring for pets.

"If I have a bad day and I come home and sit on the couch, sometimes my cat just comes up to me and he starts purring," Address said. "I don't know why, but for some reason it just really helps."

Address thinks her cat might understand German, but she is not sure if he just understands hand motions or if he actually understands the language.

"I managed to teach one just a few tricks like 'sit' and 'lay down' and he does understand it when I do it differently in German, which is another language I speak, but I think

it's mostly because I do the hand motions," Address said.

She says it's probably not too hard for pets to understand or to pick up a language.

"I think they can, generally, if they grow up learning that, and if you do hand motions," Address said.

Sophomore Carolina Tejada is one of the many students who has a pet. She has a Siberian husky named Sirius, and she has had it for the past three years. She spends a lot of time taking her dog outside, changing his water and mostly loving him.

Tejada says having a pet helps her cope with stress and days when she's been unhappy.

"He looks cute so I just hug him," Tejada said. "He's like my stuffed animal, but alive. Whenever I have a bad day, he always knows - he senses it, he always comes and puts his head on my lap and gives me his bone at he chews."

Tejada said that teenagers who have pets should be responsible enough so that their pets get proper care. ☺

**“If I have a bad day and I come home and sit on the couch, sometimes my cat just comes up to me and he starts purring.”**

**Sarah Address**  
Freshman

## Q&A

**How do pets help children psychologically?**

*Psychologists at Oregon State University found that children who care for puppies are able to enhance their social skills. They put themselves in the pet's position and try to feel as the pet feels. This can transfer to how other children feel.*

**What other benefits do pets have for children?**

*For children who suffer from emotional neglect, pets can help battle against loneliness. The pets have the capability to become substitute mothers. Treating a pet as a friend helps allow children to find someone they confide in to help themselves when they are upset.*

**What can a pet do for your body physically?**

*The Center for Disease Control and Prevention says that having a pet can decrease blood pressure, cholesterol levels, triglyceride levels and feelings of loneliness.*

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# Writing as catharsis

**Jeremy Bleeke**  
Staff Reporter

Teacher Jane Ellen Ibur met inmate Timothy Lee Anderson in her poetry class at the St. Louis County Jail. She showed him the value of poetry and its many restorative qualities.

Jane Ellen Ibur knows first hand that writing can change lives.

Ibur is a creative writing teacher who, while working at St. Louis County Jail, met Timothy Anderson, an in-and-out offender, whose passion for words was sparked by one of her own poetry classes. Since that day, Ibur and Anderson have together proven that it is never too late to turn around a life headed for ruin.

Even when she was young, Ibur knew that she wanted to teach.

"I had this teacher who made me want to be a teacher to thank her for what she gave me," Ibur said. "What she gave me was myself. And I wanted to pay her back."

Ibur studied theatre and English through college and graduated from Webster University with a lifetime teaching certificate in English for secondary education, which includes middle and high school. In 1973 Ibur got one of her first teaching jobs in Rockwood school district. It was a disaster.

"I don't understand grades," Ibur said. "I don't understand the competitiveness of school. I don't know that people need to be motivated by competition.... I didn't fit in. I didn't fit in a million ways. I tried to be creative, I was way over the kids' heads. I was disillusioned. I had no support from the faculty, I had no support from the administration, and I am very torn about what I think about public school in general."

For close to 20 years after that experience, Ibur did not teach. She took care of a close family friend for over 10 years, worked in a law firm, drove a bus for senior citizens, and took a year off to write.

But in the early '90s, Ibur rediscovered her passion to teach. She found a calling in a seemingly unlikely sector of the population: prisoners, the homeless, and others from what she describes as "marginalized backgrounds."

Ibur currently works several jobs from various grants provided by organizations. She is the lead faculty at Community Art Training Institute (CAT), teaches at Peter and Paul homeless shelter, and at the St. Louis County Jail, located in downtown Clayton. During a poetry class at that jail, Ibur met Timothy Lee Anderson for the first time.

"We met in the St. Louis County Jail," Anderson said. "She was giving a writing course, and I had written a little poetry when I was a young person, and I thought I'd go to the class, see what it was about. I didn't really expect anything out of it...It was pretty much just to get out of the housing unit and experience something different."

Anderson wrote a poem in that class, debated turning it in, but then did decide to return to class the next week to give Ibur his poem. It was then that she taught the inmates how to write sonnets.

"...She had taught us a form of a poem called a sonnet," Anderson said, "And that right there really grabbed a hold of me and got my attention, and it just seemed that a lot of stuff flowed out of me after that."

Anderson is a repeat violent offender who has been in and out of jails and prisons for 16 years. He was recently released from the state penitentiary in the spring of 2006.

Growing up, Anderson was surrounded by an environment where the molestation of him, his cousins, and his brother by one of the members of his family was never to be mentioned or discussed. This trauma early on in his childhood is what Anderson identifies as the root of the cycle of crime which has landed him in and out of prison for the majority of his life.

It is through writing that he is finally beginning to come to terms with, and make sense of, these experi-

ences from his youth.

"[I draw on] physical abuse, emotional abuse, psychological abuse, drug abuse, alcohol abuse," Anderson said. "And the drug and alcohol abuse pretty much stem from me holding in all those things. Because I wasn't able to speak with anybody about all those things when I was growing up. When I tried to speak to my mom about me being molested she said we don't talk about those things in this family, we just do not discuss it. And that was it. And the next time I was able to release all that was in a sonnet."

Ibur feels that one of her main jobs as a teacher is to help people access memories, feelings, and impulses, which are not at first obvious to them, through writing. She helps them look for an identity they may not have

otherwise found. She encourages her students to write the poems and stories they don't know.

"I teach everyone the same, from kids to these senior citizens," Ibur said. "For me it's a first name basis, total honesty, lots of humor. I feel as if my job is to give people their voice. I try to do that by sneaking up on them in a million ways. One of them is with humor, another is by trying to give prompts that will access unconscious stuff."

For Anderson, this approach has had life changing effects. It has helped him to look at his life, and himself, in a new way. Writing has also helped him cope with feelings that before he has not been able to express.

"It allows you to release anger, it allows you to release sadness, it allows you to release happiness," An-

derson said. "It allows you to write down all the things that have ever happened and it allows you to look at what you have written and reflect on yourself in a different way than just thinking about it."

Anderson has tapped into personal recollections which are not only unique in their viewpoint and approach, but which are also deeply personal.

"I really didn't want my name associated with what I wrote," Anderson said. "I didn't want anyone to know that that came from me. I didn't want people to know that that's what's inside of me. I didn't want them to know that that's what happened to me. It's very personal."

Ibur says that the most rewarding part of her job is seeing people when they have breakthrough moments with their writing.

"Everybody when they have to read their stuff back out loud wants to disclaim and say that it sucks," Ibur said. "Everybody thinks that what they just wrote is awful. And they read it back and the whole room is just hushed. And there's got to be a moment of consciousness when you think 'Oh my god, I shut them all up,' or 'Oh my god I made them laugh' or 'Oh my god I made them cry.' It's a thrill to see that happen to someone."

Ibur also finds that the excitement from people in the prison and the shelter is overwhelming. She has people not only attending classes regularly, but also asking for homework, and inquiring about inventing their own unique poetic forms. For Anderson, this excitement, once opened up, has been impossible to shut off again. He keeps a pen and pad of paper in his truck and next to his bedside table so he can write down thoughts as they come to him.

"One word can inspire me to write sentences and sentences worth of stuff," Anderson said. "I had never experienced that before I met Janie. I had never experienced anything like that before Janie. I can be walking down the street and see something and flash back to a point in my life and just tons of stuff comes to me."

After that initial poetry class, Anderson has written close to one hundred sonnets. Besides himself, only two other people have read them: Jane Ibur and a woman named Vickie. He says that he wants to do something with them, but since they are so personal he hasn't yet decided what. He does feel that having them do some sort of good for other people would be very valuable.

"There's a lot of people out there who might read them," Anderson said, "And it might help them [with] what they're going through....And if there's anyway I can possibly help someone else, even if it's just through the way of writing, then it's well worth having my name associated with it."

If Anderson does decide to look into publishing his poems, he is considering taking one of the lines he has written as the title of the collection. It expresses his newfound outlook of hope: In every rain, a little life must fall.

Anderson says that for those who really believe in it, writing can change lives. But he stresses that the people themselves must be willing to make that experience happen.

"Some will listen, some will be there just to get out of something, and some will be there to actually learn and educate themselves...." Anderson said. "You'll know after just two minutes of class, of looking people in the eye, who's there for themselves, who's there for a certain reason, and who's there just to get out of washing dishes. It's the one who stares in your eyes, listening to what you have to say—who looks back at you, and don't let their eyes off you—that are there to learn and educate and hopefully make a better life for themselves." ☺



Calla Dobmeyer

# Fair trade coffee a smart option

**Katherine Greenberg**  
Staff Reporter

For many people, enjoying coffee in its various forms is and has been an important part of life. On Friday afternoon Wydown Middle School students descend upon Starbucks, Clayton High School study groups meet over cups of coffee at Kaldis and pots of coffee are made in households and restaurants from early in the morning until well after dinner. Little thought is given to the rich history that surrounds this valuable commodity.

From 1998 to 2000, 6.7 million tons of coffee were produced on an annual basis. In 1997, the price of coffee in New York was \$3 per pound, but by late 2001 prices fell to only \$.43 per pound. Following the crash in prices, companies tried to remedy the situation with the idea of fair trade.

According to the Global Exchange website, fair trade is an organized social movement, which promotes fair standards for international labor, environmentalism and social policy in the production of commodities. It states that the intent of fair trade is to work with

marginalized producers and workers in order to help them move from a position of vulnerability to security and self-sufficiency. At least a few in the world have taken notice of the horrible conditions in which coffee is grown and produced and are trying to fix the situation.

According to an industry publication, Tea and Coffee Trade Journal, coffee workers in Kenya receive roughly \$12 a month, while the minimum wage required is at least three to four times that much. With fair trade companies, workers will be ensured fair wages and in most cases will receive their pay without a cut from the company, getting rid of the middlemen.

According to reports in the Global Exchange website, in 2005 Fair Trade sales were estimated at 1.1 billion pounds worldwide, with a 37 percent year-to-year increase.

**“ Starbucks gives off a lot of propaganda about selling fair trade coffee, but only 3.7 percent of their coffee sold is fair trade. ”**

**Ben Lux**  
Brown University student

According to information publicized by Starbucks, Starbucks has recently taken steps to support fair trade coffee. Starbucks claims to

help ensure that farmers receive an equitable price for their coffee and strengthen their farms for the future. Starbucks pays premium prices that are substantially over and above the prevailing commodity-grade coffee prices. Starbucks sells Fair Trade coffee in 23 countries. In 2005, Starbucks purchased 11.5 million pounds of Fair Trade coffee, in 2004 Starbucks bought 4.8 million pounds. In 2006 Starbucks plans to sell 12 million pounds of coffee. But for some consumers, even that amount is not enough.

"Starbucks gives off a lot of propaganda about selling fair trade coffee, but only 3.7 percent of their coffee sold is fair trade," Brown University student Ben Lux said.

Brown University has taken a special interest in coffee, and Lux is involved in Oxfam there. Oxfam is

an international organization dedicated to the establishment of long-term solutions to poverty, hunger and social injustice worldwide.

One vigorous proponent of the Fair Trade movement is Wydown Middle School teacher Sandy Sermos who began the Wydown Fair Trade Coffee project.

"I didn't think that there should be a separation between politics and social justice and fair trade coffee represents the joining of the two," said Sermos after learning about the Fair Trade movement at science teacher conventions. "I started thinking that we need to think about helping the less fortunate by saving the planet one cup of coffee at a time."

Freshman Alex Kasnetz participated in the project when he was at Wydown.

"Students sold fair trade coffee to students and parents in Clayton to promote fair trade coffee because it's better for the agricultural workers and benefits them," Kasnetz said. "I learned that it is good to buy fair trade coffee because it helps low-paid workers in poor countries have a better life. I enjoyed the project even though it was a lot of work because I felt like I was helping people."

Starbucks claims that they have collaborated with a number of farms to help improve the quality of life for farming families and their communities. Starbucks provides funding for projects by adding a "social development premium" over and above the price of coffee purchased from participating farms.

The growing fair trade movement has taken root in the community. According to Kasnetz fair trade and regular coffee "taste about the same." However, drinking fair trade coffee offers the opportunity to save "the planet one cup of coffee at a time." In light of these facts, members of the community can contribute to this cause by ordering fair trade coffee. ☺



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# 24 promises another outstanding season

**Percy Olsen**  
Staff Reporter

When a show thrives on plot twists and shockers, you can't help but wonder when it's all going to end, when the newest "revelations" become nothing more than worn clichés. Thankfully, that day is not this day of "24," and don't I see it coming anytime soon.

Few shows are able to encapsulate my attention so rapidly and completely as this slugger. Right now, all I can think about is how long I think it would take to sprint downstairs and push that button on the remote that makes last night's episode go again.

It's season six, and hopefully everyone knows how this show works, by now. Each episode repre-

sents one hour, and each season captures a day in the life of Jack Bauer, leaving 24 episodes for him to save his love and/or world. Unlike the common glossy James Bond ("Casino Royale" *excluded*), nothing comes easily for Bauer. Look to last season's finale for reference. After thwarting the corrupt President's plan and getting the girl of his dreams, Bauer is ripped away by vengeful Chinese terrorists. Twenty months later, Bauer is returned to America, but only so he can be used as a trading card in the United States' plan to capture suspected terrorist Assad.

After so many years of service, Bauer's life has been whittled into fine print.

Yet, Jack manages to escape, as he always does. He escapes the clutches of the supposed informant

Fayed in the most...vampire-ish fashion, and the season is on its way.

Like most seasons, this one rolls along quite smoothly. Interrogate this guy, blow that up, kick that gut, et cetera. About midway into the second hour, though, something goes awry. Jack Bauer can't interrogate anymore, he can't do it, he can't deal with the pain of hurting people for information. He looks into the tear-drenched eyes of a terrorist, and sees himself, lost in a foreign country and under the rule of a powerful, painful authority. I can only see this adding to the stress of the season. That and the five nuclear bombs—whoops... should not have let that slip. Fayed will kill me!

It's hard to say what really sets "24" apart from the curve, and it's painfully obvious that no words can describe the brilliance of the day-long adventures. One component that doesn't hurt is that the show is edited extremely well. Frighteningly well. The show never lingers or gets bogged down by slow parts. Not to say that there aren't heart-felt moments, but the writers and directors have managed to turn about half of these mushy parts into full-fledged action sequences. This gives the show a sense of hyper reality; we can all relate to not



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being able to experience the proper thoughts when under an extreme pressure of some sort.

Oh, and by the way, this show is scary. Think, Nicholson in "The Shining," scary. Not only is the whole "24-hour" season a great way to ratchet up the tension, but since every show takes place in towns we know and with people we trust, the viewer starts to buy into the reality

the show's producers have created. It all seems plausible and possible, and honestly, all the acts going on scare me, just a little bit. Especially when they show the politicians, with their dirty dealings and lack of morals. It hits home. All the scandals, the lies, the secrets, they stem from our fears of what our elected might actually be doing.

All things said, I challenge any

Globe reader to try to watch "24" without uttering a single "Oh, my God," or a "Holy smokes!" (Edited for profanity). If there ain't nothin' like a good boom to get that adrenaline flowin', why, there ain't no justice in this world.

Now, if you'll excuse me, I have 24 seconds to hurtle down the stairs and watch Bauer save the world again. ☺



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## Strong club beats overshadow the vocals in Ciara's 'The Evolution'

**Maddie Harned**  
Staff Reporter

Ciara is a top 40 pop singer with big plans on her sophomore CD "The Evolution". She has a plan to change the music industry. In a spoken-word interlude Ciara sternly tells the listener "When I listen to the radio I feel like music is so different than what it used to be, and because of that I was inspired to do something different this time around. The evolution of music." With such an assured, start the standards are set high for the actual songs. Usually, they measure up, such as in the addictive dance hit "Get Up" featuring Chamillionaire. However, none of the tracks are going to spark a musical evolution like Ciara promises.

Throughout the CD, intoxicating beats, reminiscent of early '80s pop, greatly outshine Ciara's whispery vocals. Rodney Jerkins helps Ciara regenerate the classic "It Takes Two" hook on "Make It Last Forever," and will.i.am delivers his customary classic soul infused approach on the "Get In, Fit In."

"The Evolution" truly is a producer's album. Another standout beat is the electronic drum-heavy slow jam "Promise". Sounding tailor made to be the "slow song" for proms, the song actually utilizes Ciara's seductive wispy

vocals. However, the majority of the evolution's songs are upbeat dance tracks, and Ciara's voice simply is not strong enough to take control of the song. As a result, the dance beats steal the show. Listening to the utterly silly spoken-word interludes is the best way to truly hear Ciara's voice. Yes, that's right, spoken-word interludes. With cheesy lines like "Dare to be different. Be your own trendsetter" and "So many things about me have changed... Heck, even my jeans fit a little different" the Evolution loses some credibility as a hot dance album.

What should not go unsaid about the Evolution is the recurring theme of Ciara's self discovery. In "I Found Myself", featuring soothing acoustic guitar parts that perfectly mesh with Ciara's cooing vocals, she sings "21, and I've realized / Everything you want's not meant to be / 21 then you qualify / The standard to responsibilities."

Overall, "The Evolution" offers slightly more sophisticated club-ready beats. Though on some of the tracks featuring strong beats Ciara's vocals fall flat (sometimes literally) she should be given credit for at least trying to sound somewhat different than the rest of the pop scene. And on the bright side, at least "The Evolution" doesn't use famous British architecture as an obscure sexual reference nor involves yodeling about goatherds. ☺

**Kelly Moffitt**  
Section Editor

Though the first definition of the word "twilight" in Webster's Seventh New Collegiate Dictionary may conjure up visions of that part of the day where light is slowly engulfed by dark, leaving the world in a confused dimness before the streetlights flicker on, the second (and much shorter) definition captures the piercing quality of Stephanie Meyer's acclaimed novel by the same name: *Twilight*.

"A state of imperfect clarity," the dictionary reads.

Through Meyer's startlingly beautiful prose, ingeniously creative plot and remarkably relatable characters, she accomplishes a novel, which leaves the reader in a state of wonderfully oxymoronic awe.

I was first alerted to the presence of this novel through my Border's Rewards club e-mail update roughly one year ago and I was immediately caught by the small teaser about a girl, called 'Bella' by her friends, who had recently relocated herself from the house of her loving mother in Phoenix, Arizona to live with her estranged father, in rainy Forks, Washington.

Oh yeah, and she meets this guy, Edward, who also happens to be a vampire.

Before you condemn me for reading a book that even involves vampires, let me assure you that at my wise old age of 17, I have well outgrown the age of Goosebumps. This novel sheds a whole new light on this mythical creature in a completely mature way.

Though I was intrigued by the description, I must have gotten too carried away with whatever else I was reading at the time or with the ever-present pile of homework on my desk to remember to go to the

library and pick it up. Last November, I sighted the book one more time, on the shelves of our own Clayton Library. Luckily, Thanksgiving was on the horizon and I had a long plane ride to catch up on reading.

The novel centers on the story of Bella as she tries to get used to life in a small town where she is a "... topic of gossip no doubt. Daughter of the Chief of Police's flighty ex-wife, come home at last", how the only weather forecasts are rainy and rainier, the change from a junior class of 700 to a school of 357 students, and the strange, unnerving glares of an impossibly beautiful junior boy who seems to have some kind of issue with her.

Commonplace ideas, turned on their head with Meyer's edge-of-the-seat thrilling description, keep the novel at a resonating level for many, even in the face of such a supernatural themes. Bella deals with an inability to fit in; not only in the way she looks (paler than pale even though just arrived from Arizona Sunshine State), but also in the way she views the environment around her.

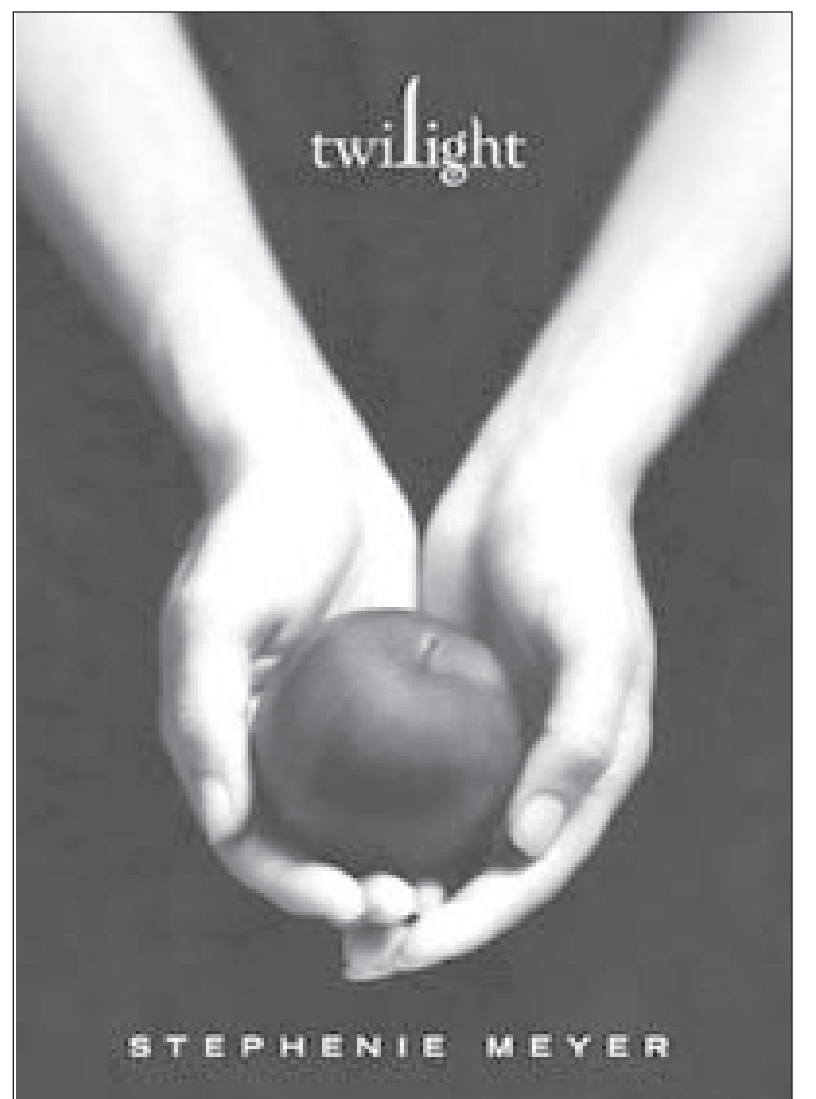
"I didn't relate well to people my age. Maybe the truth was that I didn't relate well to people, period... Sometimes I wondered if I was seeing the same things through my eyes that the rest of the world was seeing through theirs."

She also becomes acquainted with the confusing mix of feelings that signal burgeoning first love, as she becomes deep friends with Edward despite his strange capacities.

"Our relationship couldn't continue to balance, as it did, on the point of a knife. We would fall off one edge or the other, depending entirely upon his decision, or his instincts. My decision was con-

**"This 498-page dark romance, akin to the likes of Poe and Hawthorne, holds the reader until the very last drop and leaves them with a profound change inside of them."**

## The Tempting "Twilight" offers piercing plot



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sciously chosen, and I was committed to seeing it through. Because there was nothing more terrifying to me, more excruciating, than the thought of turning away from him. It was an impossibility."

Even Bella's difficulties with her protective mother and the father she never really knew or understood resound within an undescribed portion of the soul, leaving the reader with a new understanding of parent-child relationships.

Meyer is a graduate of Brigham Young University with a degree in English literature. Her education in the ways of classic books is obvious through the number of allusions to the tried-and-true story of Romeo and Juliet, and even some, more Biblical allusions to temptation.

The dazzling use of prose and Meyer's uncanny ability to describe objects, people, and places leave the reader spellbound with an appreciation for the style of writing. Meyer deftly weaves a beautiful technique in her writing that approaches the

level of exquisite art.

If the fact that I could hardly pull my nose out of the book for the entire three and a half hour airplane ride does not convince you of the quality of this suspenseful and dramatically magnificent novel, perhaps this does; the book holds the titles of New York Times Best Seller, New York Times Editors Choice, starred reviews by Booklist and Publisher's Weekly, Publisher's Weekly 'Best Book of the Year' for 2005, and many more.

Not to mention the fact that I spent the entirety of my four-hour layover at Dallas-Fort Worth airport desperately scouring every terminal's bookstores for the sequel: "New Moon."

This 498-page dark romance, akin to the likes of Poe and Hawthorne, holds the reader until the very last drop and leaves them with a profound change inside of them, a change that is imperfectly clarified and will stay with them forever. ☺

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# 'Notes on a Scandal' entertaining, suspenseful

Rebecca Wall  
Senior Managing Editor

"Notes on a Scandal" is tense. It is also perverse, on so many levels. Yet, its perversity is stimulating and entertaining without descending into bad taste. By turns bitterly tragic, deliciously spiteful, and raunchily humorous, "Notes on a Scandal" is sure to amuse the viewer.

The whole student teacher relationship plot line has had so many Lifetime Movie incarnations that the idea of yet another film of that persuasion seems nauseating. However, "Notes on a Scandal" manages to seem fresh, separating itself from movies like "The Mary-Kay Laterno Story."

The film follows the bizarre relationship that blossoms between a naïve art teacher, Sheba Hart, (played by Cate Blanchett) and a veteran educator Barbara Covett (played by Judi Dench). The young teacher feels venerable; she is having trouble at school and her marriage is unfulfilling. Sheba finds zealous companionship in the isolated Barbara. The two become quick friends.

Barbara begins to misinterpret Sheba's kindness as interest, and

fantasizes about the possibility of a deeper, subtly described as sexual, relationship. Barbara's interpretation of Sheba's feelings towards her is horribly off the mark, for meanwhile, Sheba is having affair with a fifteen-year-old student, Steven Connolly (played by Andrew Simpson).

When Barbara finds out about the relationship inadvertently, in a routine stalking of Sheba, she is mortally offended. However, instead of turning Sheba in, Barbara uses their secret as a form of coercion. Her manipulative behavior is at first subtle but becomes increasingly transparent. This cannot go on indefinitely, and Barbara's grandiose plans backfire. Severe consequences await them both.

"Notes on a Scandal" wisely decides to not frame its characters in starkly good and evil terms. It would be easy to proscribe pairs of victims and tormentors. In fact, for much of the film, the viewer sympathizes with Sheba's inability to comprehend her exploitation by Barbara. Barbara becomes increasingly villainified.

However, the director wisely decides to prevent the herofication of anyone. Just when compassion for Sheba is most pungent, she be-

comes in such an atrocious manner that sympathy swings towards Barbara. By the end, each character is nothing more and nothing less than an imperfect, all too human character.

A reason that "Notes on a Scandal" takes off where other similar movies flounder is the creative utilization of Barbara's diary, which is filled with her copious and revealing scribbles. Much of the story is told through diary entries, a creative way to move the story along. The viewer is alternately appalled by and sorrowful for the delusional and manipulative Barbara.

Of course, the other key to "Notes on a Scandal's" success is the acting. Blanchett so convincingly plays the insufferably immature Sheba, who tries to explain her culpability for the affair away with pathetic rationalizations such as "He's an old fifteen," that the viewer cannot help but feel irritated with her.

Simpson is heart wrenchingly seductive as the fifteen-year-old student. But, at the same time he is a bit crass, which fits the role. He is, as he should be, utterly unromantic.

Dench holds nothing back in portraying Barbara as a cruel spin-

ster, and while one feels sympathy for her chronic loneliness it's easy to see why she has not found companionship.

While it might come as a surprise, "Notes on a Scandal" is often brutally funny. The film's humor consists primarily of textbook examples of dramatic irony. There were certain scenes where I was squirming with outrage and simultaneously snickering at the obliviousness of certain characters.

Additionally, within the context of the film old dramatic standards such as the spinster and her cat take on new, sinister yet humorous meanings. Conventionality blends with taboo subjects like illicit affairs and causes the film to unmistakably reverberate, to somehow strike a nerve.

This is not too outlandish; the world the characters inhabit, after all, is our world. They are all too similar to us. This, in the end, is what makes "Notes on a Scandal" resonate.

More than anything else, though, "Notes on a Scandal" is a terse and pithy acting expose that has an engaging plot as well. The film is highly recommended, creatively telling a story that causes introspection. ☺



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Dame Judi Dench's critically acclaimed performance in "Notes on a Scandal" is not surprising, given her outstanding past performances. In fact, the "Dame" comes from a royal honor bestowed on her by the Queen of England.

## Styx by Alex Ferguson



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## Film gives C.I.A. history

Jon Igielnik  
Staff Reporter

Here is the true over-arching question of "The Good Shepherd": is there emotion, in someone showing no emotion? The answer, as it turns out is, yes. Matt Damon's portrayal of Edward Bell Wilson, the emotionless, rock solid CIA official proves that you can indeed show nearly no emotion and get the point and emotion of the story across.

"The Good Shepherd" focuses on the life of Edward Bell Wilson, who, in the early 40's, is asked to be one of the starters and leaders of a new intelligence agency called the Central Intelligence Agency.

The story begins showing some shots of the Bay of Pigs invasion, and some talk in the CIA headquarters the day before. The film then flashes back to the 40's, when Wilson is drafted out of grad school by an FBI agent (played by Alec Baldwin.) The movie then follows the CIA as it grows through WWII and after. It shows the CIA's major operations from the 40's up until the Bay of Pigs, all shown through Wilson.

We also see his interactions in his personal life, from love, to marriage, to (I can't believe I'm saying this) the baby in the baby carriage. We get to see him try to work out his life at home with his work life, and it is soon evident that he places more value to his country than his family.

This movie has its ups and downs, sometimes its good, sometimes its bad, first, I will talk about the good. The acting is first class, and the CIA part of the story is great. The cast is headed up by Matt Damon who puts on a fabulous performance as Wilson, showing no emotion as a father, husband and CIA official in events as crazy as torturing an enemy spy, to events as close to home as his son's wedding. "The Good Shepherd" also features a great performance by Alec Baldwin, whose trademark dry, sarcastic humor makes some great appearances as he plays the FBI's contact with the CIA, and specifically Edward Wilson. Other good performances come from Robert De Niro (who also directed the movie) as a United States general facilitated the creation of the CIA, Tammy Blanchard, who plays a deaf girlfriend of Wilson's at one time, and to a lesser extent, Angelina Jolie, who plays Wilson's wife.

The CIA story line in "The Good Shepherd" really shines over the storyline revolving around Wilson's personal life.

We get to see the CIA start up, we got to see it orchestrate world conflicts, and all from the point of view of someone on the inside.

Additionally, if you know anything about the history of the CIA, or have an interest in it, this movie is probably for you.



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In "The Good Shepherd" the CIA spies and intervenes in conflicts both domestic and international

Now the bad, this movie has two flaws, the parts at home, showing Edward's personal life are bland and leave a lot to be desired, and on a side note: when I saw Edward's son as a young child, I really thought he looked creepy.

The second flaw was length, the movie was just a bit longer than it should have been, and could have benefited from a few minutes cut down here and there.

Overall, "The Good Shepherd" is a good movie, good, but not great.

Good acting from some, but not all, of the cast, and the story being overall solid made this movie somewhat worth watching, but it still left me thinking that it could have been a lot better.

If you are interested in history, specifically the 40's through the 60's, or if you really like Matt Damon, Alec Baldwin, Robert De Niro or Angelina Jolie, this movie is for you.

"The Good Shepherd" is one of those movies that you keep watching if you turn on HBO and its already on, but otherwise, you probably don't want to be rushing to see this one anytime soon. ☺

# School drama moving though unrealistic

**Ellie Bullard**  
Staff Reporter

Very few movies that tell the story of an extraordinary teacher seem authentic. However, the movie "Freedom Writers" is based on a true story. This is what sets it apart from other movies about amazing teachers—it is not a fabrication. The movie was actually based off the diaries of the students in the class. This is what, for me, gives it a charm that it otherwise would have lacked.

The story takes place in Long Beach, CA, following the O.J. Simpson trial and the Rodney King Riots. The crime rates in Long Beach at the beginning of the story are alarmingly high.

Many kids are already in gangs by high school, and a disturbing number of students do not reach the age of 18.

On the first day of school, Erin Gruwell (Hilary Swank), the new freshman literacy teacher at Wilson High School in inner-city Long Beach, waits for her students to come into the classroom.

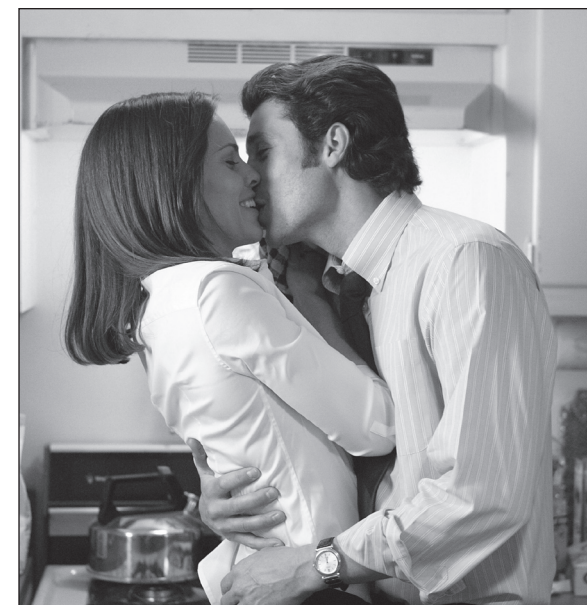
The students all come in the room a little after the bell rings. They sit down, and immediately start to pull and push their desks to sit with their friends.

After a couple minutes the class is segregated into four groups—the African Americans, the Asians, the Latinos, and one Caucasian kid. The students ignore all other students except for the others in their group.

The movie "Freedom Writers" shows how Gruwell changes this tough class of kids into a sort of family. She teaches them about the Holocaust and uses it to show the horror of racism that gangs promote.

In fact, at one point in time in the movie Gruwell asks her class to raise their hands if they know what the Holocaust was. Only one hand is raised in the entire classroom.

Gruwell teaches her class about the Holocaust by letting them read "The Diary of Anne Frank", taking them to museums and taking them to meet survivors



Left: Erin Gruwell, played by Hilary Swank, converses with one of her students. Above: Gruwell and her husband passionately embrace. Eventually, Gruwell's compassion for her students comes in conflict with her love for her husband.

of the Holocaust. Eventually, she gives each student a notebook to record their own story in the fashion of Anne Frank. Gruwell assigns writing in the journals as an assignment. Surprisingly, these tough kids take to the assignment and write in the journals, and even let Gruwell read them.

This part of the movie, among other parts, I found hard to believe. However, the movie is based on truth. There is even a book called "The Freedom Writers," which includes the diaries of all the teens in the class. The movie is based off of this book and these students' diaries.

Although there were many problems at the beginning

of the movie between Gruwell and her class, the kids bonded relatively quickly. I find it remarkable that these kids—even kids in general—would bond so quickly and deeply with their teacher. That is what separates this movie from the regular teacher movies.

I was pleasantly surprised at the acting of the students in this movie. I had not seen any of the actor and actresses that portrayed them before, but they did a great job, especially since some of the dialogue in the movie sometimes seemed unrealistic.

Swank, who played Maggie Fitzgerald in "Million

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## 'Babel' is Oscar worthy, intense

**Jon Igielnik**  
Staff Reporter

With the Oscars coming on Feb. 25, and the nominees just out, people are starting to look at what movies are going to stand a chance and what movies aren't. "Babel," nominated for best picture, is one of those movies that definitely stands a good chance to win one of the little golden men.

"Babel," directed by the acclaimed director of "21 Grams" Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu, revolves around Richard (Brad Pitt) and his wife Susan (Cate Blanchett) who are on a trip to Morocco. While on a bus ride back to a main city, Susan is shot in the neck and severely wounded. The ensuing stories follow Richard as he desperately tries to help his wife and several other people whose stories all tie into Richard and Susan's.

The movie follows Richard and Susan, their children (who aren't on the trip) and their Mexican nanny, a rural Arab Moroccan family, and a deaf-mute teenager and her father in Japan.

The film takes place in several different countries, including Morocco, the United States, Mexico and Japan, and includes dialogue in Arabic, Spanish and Japanese, as well as English.

The film pushes very hard to show the connections between all four stories, and to try to make a point about the connections between people, very similar to "21 Grams," if you have seen it.

While the film's attempt to make a point is a little overdone sometimes, "Babel" comes across as making a legitimate point about human interaction and human nature.

"Babel" truly shines in two areas: acting and directing/cinematography. Brad Pitt puts on a performance that could have

gotten him an Oscar for best actor (yet for reasons I cannot figure out, he wasn't even nominated.) He is able to display the emotions of his character perfectly, exactly how someone would act in his situation, and this movie will give a good boost to his already stellar career. Cate Blanchett puts on a wonderful performance as the wife who doesn't even want to be in Morocco in the first place, and is then thrown into this situation. Additionally, the supporting cast is terrific, with great performances by Adriana Barraza, Rink Kikuchi, Joji Yakusho and many others.

The directing and cinematography in "Babel" is some of the best this year. The brilliant direction by Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu deserves an Oscar, and he is nominated, as he expertly weaves all the stories together and shows it perfectly.

This direction, along with absolutely fantastic cinematography by Rodrigo Prieto, the director of photography, makes the viewer truly feel like they are there.

There were some truly amazing shots and brilliant lighting to set the tone. I could practically feel the raw emotion of the characters in "Babel" as I sat in my seat.

With seven Academy Award Nominations and a Golden Globe for best picture already "Babel" has a good chance of winning big at this year's Oscars.

The film uses tremendous direction and superb acting to give an intense, on the edge of your seat feel that puts you right there with the characters, while at the same time sending a message about the connections between people and our nature as humans.

If it's still out anywhere at this point, see "Babel" while you can because this movie is a serious contender for Best Motion Picture of the Year and justifiably so. 📺

## Story blends genres, provokes thought

**Rebecca Wall**  
Senior Managing Editor

Can a film that's part war-flick and part fantasy take off the ground? It takes a certain measure of audacity on behalf of a director to even try to blend these two genres. War and fantasy are alone each heavy styles for a movie, and any film combining both could quite easily crash and burn, overburdened.

However, Guillermo del Toro pulls it off. His gumption proves well played. The director of "Hell Boy" has created his greatest work in "Pan's Labyrinth." "Pan's Labyrinth" seamlessly integrates the otherworld of fairies and other magical creatures with the paradoxically more Hellish setting of Civil-War era Spain. After seeing the film, making it any other way seems criminal. It is a masterful blend of fantasy in a kind of visual magical realism. Utterly believable and sublimely emotive, "Pan's Labyrinth" is both fresh and poignant.

The film follows a young girl named Ofelia (played by Ivana Baquero) after she moves to an old mill turned military outpost with her pregnant mother (played by Ariadna Gil). They are joining Ofelia's stepfather and the father of her unborn brother, the sadistic Captain Vidal (played by Sergi Lopez). Captain Vidal is trying to snuff out the Resistance that is fighting the fascists in the hills.

Ofelia's mother is having a difficult pregnancy; thus, she is bed ridden and sedated most of the time, leaving Ofelia plenty of freedom to wander around the old mill and surrounding hills.

While it is clear that the Captain does not value Ofelia's mother, and only cares for his unborn child, she follows the captain blindly despite Ofelia's protestations. Ofelia finds

a more vivacious mother-figure in the Captain's servant, Mercedes (played by Maribel Verdu). As Ofelia begins to rely on Mercedes, complicating factors arise, not least Mercedes' complicity in the Resistance.

Furthermore, Ofelia is drawn into the labyrinth located adjacent to the mill. In the labyrinth she meets the mythological Pan, who tells Ofelia that she is actually a princess.

If she wants to return to her kingdom, a home without suffering, she must complete three tasks.

These issues, both worldly and otherworldly, come to a head in a series of horrifying events that few characters emerge from unscathed.

Ofelia is a marvelous character. Her unquestionable acceptance of Pan's surprising revelation—that she is a princess—is endearing. It is a reminder in an otherwise pessimistic film of the unique human ability to persevere and hope in the most trying of circumstances. Ofelia seems in some ways representative of human potential.

Yet even here, amidst the glimmer of hope surrounding Ofelia few characters are able to triumph over despair and death. Thus, on the whole the film seems fairly damning of the human condition. Despite weighty philosophizing, "Pan's Labyrinth" seems less esoteric and dense than sorrowful in tone.

Clearly, such complicated ideas and themes require a superb cast to convey them effectively. "Pan's Labyrinth's" cast is excellent. Since the film is in Spanish, with subtitles, it can be difficult for the English speaking viewer to evaluate the acting.

However imperfect translation can be, there is no meaning lost in powerful physical expressions of grief or tenderness. The film is rife

with such moments that demonstrate the excellence of the acting.

Most remarkable about "Pan's Labyrinth" is the fantasy element. This truly distinguishes the film from other movies set in wartime. The magical encounters Ofelia has are more reminiscent of an art gallery than Hogwarts. Even the most grotesque sequences are supremely artistic and designed with thoughtful creativity.

Ironically, these "horror" elements of the film are far more pleasant to watch than the goings on in the "real" world. Indeed, the fantasy world is an escape from the terror of the mill and the Captain for both the viewer and Ofelia.

Interpretations of this phenomena become apparent; there is nothing supernatural about true awfulness, which is the earthly inheritance of humans.

In the end, for all its innovative characteristics, "Pan's Labyrinth"

is really about the oldest of themes. Stretching back through Catholicism's dualistic view of heaven and hell, and further still to ancient Pagan traditions, it plays to the intrinsic human desire to escape earthly sufferings for something better.

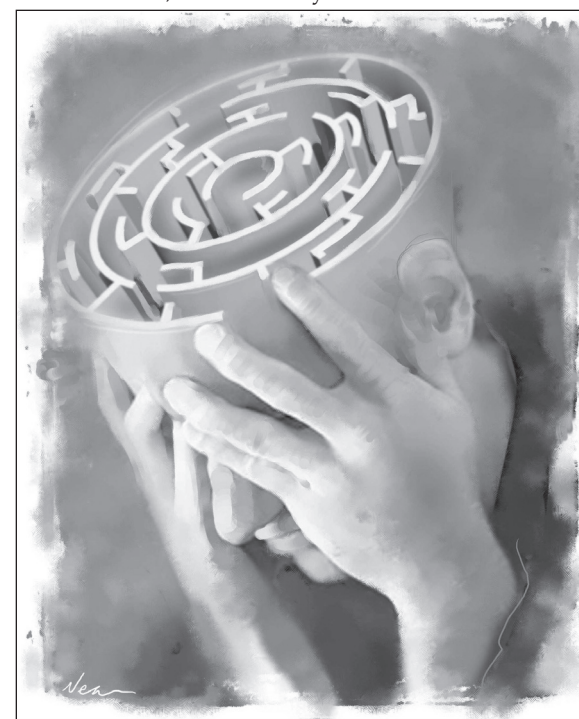
All Ofelia wants is to find a reprieve from her trials, and despite her magical encounters the film never loses touch with reality.

Ambiguous to the end, "Pan's Labyrinth" does not finish with triumphant consolation.

Tragically, few characters ever find their elusive salvation.

This generally dark film continues to haunt the viewer after its heart-wrenching finale. It is in its recognition of timeless issues that "Pan's Labyrinth" excels, and through its brilliant and artful design that it delivers its emotional punch.

It is worthy of my highest recommendation. 📺



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"Pan's Labyrinth," while very entertaining, is quite thought provoking as well. The photo to the right could well represent someone who has just seen "Pan's Labyrinth" and has the film on his mind. In actuality, though, the illustration was an original cover for the novel, "Flowers for Algaeon." What an interesting parallel.



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