-- Junior Michael Root, page 9

661 don't understand why the players

have to suffer from the fans' poor deci-

sions. The fight was started and carried out by a few individuals but the innocent bystanders and players are the casualties. 9

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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 inju-

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

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 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 hock-

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

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

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

"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 vio-

"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 "When the fans got in the fight,

it detracted from the team," Smith

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

# Potential presidential candidates represent important firsts in American political history

### **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

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,

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 smalltown 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, unde-

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 Giu-

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,

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 prochoice, 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

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

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.

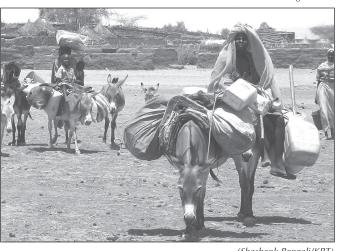
"The Jewish community feels a responsibility to help out because it is a genocide, and we said that nothing like the Holocaust would ever happen again," Hoffman said. Students at CHS have different

reactions to the genocide.

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







(Shashank Bengali/KRT,

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

"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."

She has been

behind several

ing "Me and

a documentary

about the views

of women on

The purpose

her new-

est work, she

claims, is to

try and make

it easier for all

profiling

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about

lims,

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

"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

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, 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 🐧

# 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 types surround-

father finally spits out.

"Don't you mean prostitute?" "No," he replies firmly. "I mean U.S. of Sept. 11,

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 interac-

tions with the non-Muslim community around them. The show addresses and attempts to break common stereoing Muslims in "You look like a Protestant!" her a world following the terrorist attacks on the

> 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.

It is daring in the sense that [the show] is discussing it in kind of an honest but funny

CBC Director of Network

**Kristine Layfield** 

Programming

to discuss raand ing concerning Muslims due

to the increase in the number of acts of terrorism being carried out by Islamic funda-

Senior Marie-Sophie Ritter likes

the idea.

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

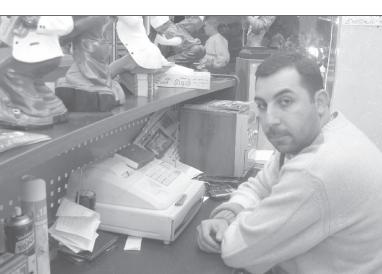
However Ritter couldn't see a similar show being created in the United States. "Most Americans are more hostile towards Muslims, even if not necessarily in Clayton," she said. "And they probably wouldn't find it amusing.

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

"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." 🕏



**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

"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.

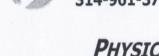
"I think the best we can hope for at this point is a dignified retreat, and adding more troops doesn't exactly work toward that end," Lehmann said. "It's been about four years, we've made no real headway so far, and I don't think this will make any difference."

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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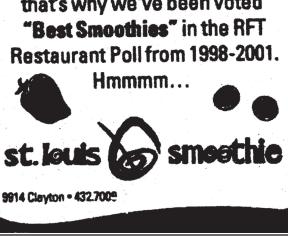
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# Doomsday clock indicates dire future

\$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 hy-

drogen bombs, heading even closer to possible nuclear war.

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

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 re-

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 weaponsgrade nuclear materials



2007\* World at brink of a second nuclear age

\*Nearest to midnight since mid-1980s

© 2007 MCT Source: The Bulletin of the Atomic

Scientists, news reports

**Though currently** 

problem has been

going on for years.

Foreigners gener-

ally perceive the

US as arrogant.

amplified, the



# US actions viewed negatively

**SDakin 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 technolo-

gy 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

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 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

HAIR DESIGNER

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

"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 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.

Nathan Peck

Science Teacher

"Israel is viewed by some Arabs as a 51st 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." (\$



The major new

ing concerns

**Nuclear Age'** 

threats.

about a 'Second

marked by grave

**Bulletin of Atomic Scientists** 

step reflects grow-

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.

### looms on

**\$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

Ĉambodia, China, Laos, Indonesia, laiwan and vietnam nave 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

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 fludry 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

I do believe that

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influenza pan-

career.

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

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.

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 Dr. Donald J. Kennedy pandemic during my career," St. Louis University Professor 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." (\$



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CHS GLOBE IAN. 30, 2007 LOCAL • 5

## 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

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.

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

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."

# ville, Tennessee this spring

CHS band to visit Nash-

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.

66 I'll get a lot of ex-

perience from this

trip. The whole

thing should be

pretty fun. The

best part will be

playing and hav-

ing a good time

with my friends.

**Abby Williams** 

Sophomore

opportunity for all who go. §

### **SUgochi Onyema**

Staff Reporter

Although the Clayton High School Band is not a marching band, they are planning to march on down mainly upperclassmen, will be a success. 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 op-

portunity to learn more about music.' The students planning to attend the clinics have already begun fund-

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

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

"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

"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

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

# 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 coun-

"[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 pre-

"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

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

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 Candidatos, 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

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

6 • LOCAL

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

**\$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.

I understand that

the library is for

studying, but this

is Clayton High

School, not Ox-

"Most kids don't get bothered from talk," Schmidt said. "Kids are a lot more used to back ground music. It really just doesn't bother me when there is background noise. I listen to music and talk on the phone doing while homework and I also just don't do much seri-

ous work while I'm in the library. Some kids might be crunched for time but usually the background chatter isn't too bad."

ford.

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

"We feel it is our responsibility to help kids get work done," librar- hall, and the recent public service

ian Cindy Menkhus 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 up 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 feels that this apparent new policy of being more rigorous in cleansing the library of talkative students relates to the latest schoolwide policy of focusing more on the realms of academics and

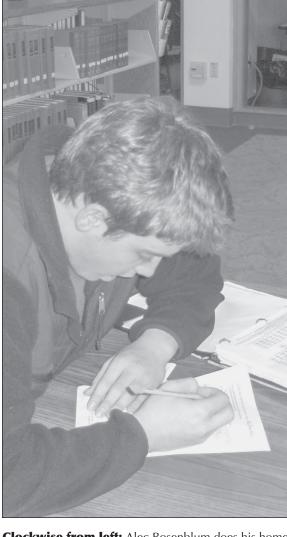
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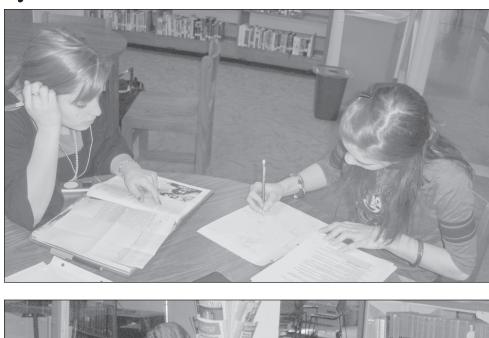
fun of having a good laugh once in

John Buse

Senior

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







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-

cided to ease up on the four people to a table rule," Menkhus 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 Menkhus. "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."

Menkhus 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 Menkhus. "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

Please state your reason for requesting change:

ROX MY SOX

### 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 con-

"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

"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 sim-

"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 student 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

"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 ad-This policy of put-

ting 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 Schless-

Even if a student leaves a class before the quarter deadline, dropping may have other ramifications, par-

"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."



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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

Steering Committee member, senior Hannah Longmore, comments

This year, Mr.

only sponsor,

more student

involvement.

Hamylak is the

so there is a lot

**Hannah Longmore** 

Steering Committee member

on Hamylak's status as this year's director.

"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.

L i k e Hamylak, Longmore is also par-

ticipating 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

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-committies, each of which performs a different function and contributes to the cohesiveness of the overall operation:

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

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

The Public Relations and Decorations Committee decorate all of the event's common areas, such as the hallways, the guad, 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: What YOU can do: Date: Thursday, April 5th Help decorate the grounds, This year's theme: and sign up to be a buddy or volunteer to work in **Seasonsational**--this year's room on the day of the Fair. Arts Fair rooms will be

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

decorated according to

the four seasons.

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

Face painting, mask making, building snowmen four distinct areas on the ground floor - Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall," Hamylak said. "The rooms in those areas will have activi-

ties related to the season. For ex-

ample, creating snowflakes in one

Some activities at the Fair:

of the winter rooms. In one of the spring rooms, students will make rainmakers. Some other activities include making flowers, face painting, creating masks, playing with ooblick, making buttons, building snow men, and painting butter-

Senior Alex Glaser is also an active member of the steering committee. As a veteran participant, Glaser is familiar with the proceedings and operations of the Arts

"This is my second year as vicechair of the volunteers committee," Glaser said. "Our main objective is the most important part of the day, which is the buddies. Without the CHS students, this day would not be possible, and my job is to recruit them and then match each student with a student from the special school district. Two other objectives are making sure each buddy has an invitation and making sure sub-buddies are in-line."

Longmore believes the Arts Fair has and will continue to be a great success for many reasons.

"I think the fact that CHS students are so willing to help and participate really shows how successful the Arts Fair can be," Longmore said. "It's really nice to know that our students can come together to produce something this great that benefits everyone who participates in it."

Hamylak agrees.

"It's definitely the people that make the Arts Fair such a success year after year," Hamylak said. "It's amazing to see about 75% of our students volunteer for the day. They don't mind coming to school on their day off and becoming buddies with students from Litzinger and Neuwoehner. I think the Arts Fair is a rewarding experience for everyone involved - our students, the students from Litzinger and Neuwohner, and everyone else that is a part of it."

In addition, Hamylak urges students and faculty members alike to contribute to this remarkable

"I encourage everyone to get involved," Hamylak said. "Students always end up raving about how much fun they have as a buddy. So don't miss the opportunity to volunteer. Steering Committee students will be in third hour classes on Tuesday, February 6th to recruit buddies. If you don't sign-up on Tuesday, you can still sign-up in the commons on Wednesday during all lunch hours." (\$)

### 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 Bou-

"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 Chipo-

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

"[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 quesidillas, 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-



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 impor-"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 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

Chiptole'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.

**SMaddie Harned** Staff Reporter

After hours of painfully boring flight delays, fi-

nally 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

From visiting the Franklin Delano Roosevelt memorial to exploring the massive Smithsonian museum, our days began at

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

**Strolling** 

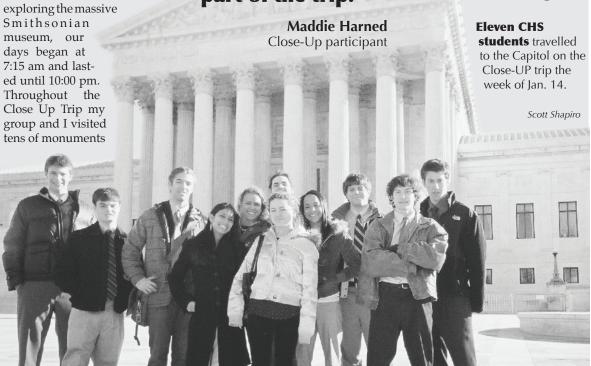
and memorials, but the one that stood out the most was the Vietnam Veterans memorial. Made of two black granite walls measuring 246 feet 9 inches, the memorial is a V-shaped wall that lists 58,249 names of fallen soldiers. Though the memorial is in the heart of booming Washington D.C., the pace of the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

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. 💲



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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

complete disaster, leaving Iraq in total chaos.

When President Bush announced Operation Iraqi Freedom objectives for the invasion: "To disarm Iraq of weapons of mass de-

struction, 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 ceptable, but forgivable that Bush coming home as soon as their work

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

The War in Iraq has become a 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 inin March of 2003 he stated three vasion Bush declared that the major military stages were complete, but he was wrong. Upon capturing Sad-

dam Hussein, he announced that the conflict would end shortly, but he was wrong.

Agree **73%** 

27% Disagree

It is unachas 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

**StaffEditorial** 

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

der 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

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

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. 🕏

## 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

Smells can be the signifier of a person; a particular scent encapsulates certain traits, preferably like good hygiene. 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.

might as well as be more elusive than internalizing the chain rule or tain smells are off-putting, whether too overpowering, too sugary or

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 confec-

tion, 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



Confession: I despair at ever I would say it was an impromptu finding the perfect scent. In fact, it purchase. I just came across it and I knew."

Listening to my encouraging understanding wave-particles. Cer- friend recount, I'm not very surprised given her luxuriously laidback 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

"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 con-

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

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

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tures the right es-

sence, or what if I

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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," said. "My advice for picking out a perfume 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 every comment along the way. In alignment with her personal-

ity, 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

scent-savfriend 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 mis-chievous 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

Somehow, even after what would to me be a devastating letdown, 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 summer-time, you know?" She said. "I'll like Princess all year, which is very important. Also, go with a real de-

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.

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## Hockey Hounds deserve more respect, appreciation for effort

Clayton vs. Ladue hockey. Offcampus. Alcohol. Testosterone. Mix it all together and what you get is another brawl after the hockey game for the second year in a row. Who won? Clayton outscored Ladue 3-2 on the scoreboard but in the end nobody won. In fact, the people who lost the most are

the hockey players who had absolutely nothing to do with the fight.

From the very beginning of the season the entire team was devastated to find out that Ladue was moved out of our division so we would only play them once instead of the usual two times a year. Our

coaches actually scheduled a 'secret' game between the two teams during preseason so no fans would know about the game.

This past weekend, a Ladue game that was scheduled immediately after our game at Webster was actually rescheduled to prevent any possible confrontation between our fans leaving and their fans coming. This should not be the case.

The simple fact that coaches and league officials are consciously trying to avoid fan confrontation is ruining our great rivalry. What people don't understand is that the players enjoy playing in the rivalry game not only for bragging rights to play it, not to get into fights. For but also for the competition that extends into consecutive years. For the past two years all three games we've played against Ladue have been great and exciting games that came down to the last minutes, but were severely tainted by the actions of both fans.

> As a junior player, the thought of not playing Ladue in my last season is awful. Even playing Ladue next year and the years to follow where fans may not be

allowed to attend will

be painful and a lot less

exciting. If you ask the seniors this year what their most important game was they will all say the Ladue game. It is vital for Clayton, as well as Ladue, hockey to maintain the rivalry intact, but recent events

What I don't understand is why the players have to suffer from the fans' poor decisions to fight. The fight was started and carried out by a few individuals but the innocent bystanders and players are the casualties. Hockey has a negative reputation already and the fights have given more ammunition to people who dislike hockey and the players. We play hockey because we've grown up playing it and love

have severely hurt our chances.

the past two years the players have been the best behaved and the fans the worst, yet there is not a mention about the hard-fought games and for the most part the good-sportsmanship exhibited on the ice.

Last season's extreme success, with a 17-2-1 record, was forgotten and hardly recognized when we lost in the playoffs, but the fight remains in the minds of every administrator and student. Every day CHS students are recognized for great achievements that are not school sponsored like winning a rap competition or doing community service, yet we voluntarily wear the Greyhound logo on our jerseys and deserve to be recognized. What other sport practices before school and pays for all their equipment and ice time?

What makes students act differently at a hockey game than a football game? I think that the hands-off approach adopted by the administrators is actually detrimental. I hope that if the administration would change its tune and actually outwardly support our team, it should not affect the fan support for the team, but actually create a much better environment. I believe that the mere presence of administrators at games would curb the unnecessary violence exhibited by some of the fans and add to the



The Clayton and John Burroughs hockey teams after a game on Jan. 19. The hockey team has recently been the focus of considerable attention from CHS administrators and fans after a fight broke out at a game against Ladue.

school spirit.

We need the support of the fans and the entire school just like every other sport needs it and thrives behind the support.

It is my opinion that with more support in and out of school from teachers, administrators and students the environment will drastically change and once again hockey will return to the great spectator sport it truly is.

After last years fight there was a circulated rumor that the hockey team may have to or be asked to change their name so as not to include Clayton. My response is that that would be completely uncalled for and unnecessary.

We are proud to wear our jerseys with Clayton Greyhounds on the front and would like it no other

way because we represent Clayton well, and I believe, and hope, Ladue feels the same way.

It's up to the student bodies, teachers and administrators from both schools to realize the same thing the players do and represent the school well, not by fighting or pinning the blame on the players, but by supporting their team through thick and thin. (\$)

# Thoroughbred series offers relaxation and a chance for friendship

ferno." For those of you who haven't read it, "The In- about girls and horses, and the challenges and exciteferno" chronicles Dante's journey through Hell. It is not a book that I would recommend reading before bedtime. One evening, upon completing the assigned cantos for my nightly homework, I found myself thoroughly disgusted. I headed towards my bookshelf in hopes of some lighter reading.

I picked up a book titled "Living Legend." Sounds interesting, right? Inspiring, even. And it is (was?) both of those things to me. Those, and so much more. "Living Legend" is book number 39 in the "Thoroughbred" series, by Joanna Campbell.

The series, combined with another series of equal renown: "The Saddle Club" made up the majority of

Last week, my English class read Dante's "The In- my reading from grades two through five. Both were

ment that they experienced. Somehow, no matter what the girls' days brought with them, they always ended with blue ribbons, and successful races.

For me, the books were timeless; I could re-read them over and over again, with the stories never getting "old" to me. As a kid who had just begun taking riding lessons, the girls in the "Thoroughbred" books were my heroes. I looked up to the fictional characters, and was insanely jealous of them. Not only did these girls get to

ride everyday, as opposed to my every other week, but they got to live on a farm. The girls of "Thoroughbred" practically breathed horses.

The books both provided me with goals to work towards in my own riding, and sparked my love of reading in general. I guess Joanna Campbell deserves a lot of credit, since I still love both riding and reading.

Additionally, the books provided me with something else, maybe even something more important. They provided me with conversation material. The day that I finished fourth grade, my best friend moved across the country. The two of us had grown up together, and it was incredibly hard to be without her at first. In the beginning, even a simple phone conversation was a challenge—I was angry that she was gone, she was angry that she had been forced to move to an unknown city. We constantly fought and argued, long

Both of us, however, were avid readers of the "Thoroughbred" books. Both of us would read the latest stories, me in St. Louis, her in North Carolina, and that would provide us with enough material to talk for hours on the phone. There was still fighting and hanging up on each other, but it was a whole lot less when we had "Thoroughbred" to talk about. We both adjusted to the move eventually, and began to talk about more "normal" subjects—like school and friends. But, "Thoroughbred" was always there, just in case. And if a new book was released, you could bet money that we were talking about it. Our parents still joke about our obsessions today, years later.

Last week, "Living Legend" provided me with a nice distraction from my schoolwork. Sure, now I finish the story in about 20 minutes, but it's a happy, relaxed 20 minutes. And, it's a whole lot less creepy that reading about the boiling blood and flesh-eating lizards in Hell. 💲

### Standardized testing accurate, necessary means of measuring intellectual abilities

niors take the SAT and ACT and al- to the University of Chicago. Using the scores of the various ethnic most all of them have some gripe or this sort of plot to determine the vagroups. The statistics are unambiganother about it. I know I certainly lidity of SAT testing is akin to using uous about the fact that blacks and did not find the thought of two four-hour long tests appealing.

However, contrary to the other arguments of bias and invalidity, these tests are the best tool available for measuring the skills of students on a standardized scale, something that is desperately needed when the secondary education opportunities and communities simply are not uniform for the million of students in the United States.

Standardized testing is exactly that: standardized. Everyone who takes the SAT and ACT takes them with generally the same conditions, facing about the same number of questions in a set amount of time all of comparable difficulty.

The scores from these tests allow

colleges to compare objectively students from public high schools that weigh grades on a 5.0 scale to students to extremely selective private schools that do not weight grades on a 5.0 scale. How can a college tell how much "smarter" or "successful" a student from that first school will be com-

pared to a student from the second, since the grading systems they are subjected to are so different on an institutional level, never mind the individual teachers?

Standardized testing is the only feasible solution. While a standardized test does not measure diligence as a GPA does, GPAs, especially the ones at CHS, also put an extraordinary amount of weight into the courses students choose and the effort they put into them rather than their intelligence or capability.

Nevertheless, standardized testing does have its detractors.

The most reasonable argument against standardized testing is simply that they are invalid, that they do not do what they claim to do, i.e. predict the freshman year success of college-bound students. However, the problem with these claims is that they rely on GPA vs. SAT score scatter plots that use the freshman year GPA and SAT scores of students from a variety of schools a plot of college quarterback rating vs. wins in the NFL and concluding that college quarterback ratings are a horrible way to judge quarterbacks because Division III quarterbacks with great QB ratings end up not being stars in the NFL.

Another argument against standardized testing is that they are unnecessary and that the high school GPA is a better predictor of success. Once again, these conclusions are drawn from data sets that encompass a wide variety of colleges, and while it might be more politically correct to say that all students have the same potential, that simply is not true. The correlation is there because SAT scores have already separated the 4.0s who got their

high GPA from "Introduction to Anime" rather than "Advanced Nuclear Physics" into schools appropriate for

their talents. However, since every student who takes the SAT or ACT takes a test that is the virtually the same for everyone, a student who does well on the tests is

clearly one who can (a) figure out the correct answers from his own analytical and logical skills, or (b) figure out the correct answers by thinking as a test writer.

While some people would argue that (b) is a reason why the tests are bad, I personally believe that the ability to change one's way of thinking in such a manner for just a few hours is a kind of mental flexibility that should most certainly be rewarded along with traditional logical and analytical skills.

'Coaching," or test-preparation, is another contentious issue with these college entrance tests. However, I do not believe coaching should be an issue for three reasons. The first is that books with all the "insider" tips-and-tricks are available free from any public library so that anyone who wished to prepare for these tests can do so for no cost whatsoever.

What I do believe to be the most serious issue with standardized

Every year, over a million se- ranging from Bob Jones University testing is the discrepancy between Hispanics score hundreds of points fewer on average than whites and Asians on the SAT and a

comparable amount less on the ACT. Some claim that this is due to the failure of the tests to ask fair questions that members of all races can answer with equal opportunity. However, this is obviously a flawed argument at best since the score discrepancy extends even into the math sections, where 3x+1 = 4 is unambiguous in any language. Clearly, the reason for the score gaps lie not with the tests themselves, but elsewhere, in the educational system.

Finally, though, standardized testing presents the opportunity for bright students who have fallen through the gaps in high school to show off their abilities. Too often students with extenuating family or personal circumstances are unable to perform optimally in high school and achieve the best grades and have the best extracurricu-

Standardized testing is a way for them to prove that they have the mental capacity to handle college work and whatever lies beyond that. This prospect of success should not be denied to those who deserve it because some of us wish to sleep in an extra three hours on a Saturday.

I am not saying that the SAT or ACT is or should be the be-all-and-end-all of admissions, for the industry demonstrated by GPAs and the creativity and character that an essay or a rec-

ommendation can show are all vital traits for someone to have both in college and the real world.

However, on a college playing field riddled with foxholes, standardized tests bring equality that nothing else can supply. §

### Extracurricular activities, school records provide better insight of students' strengths

eagerly for their first taste of the objective reading questions, while discriminatory system in itself. ACT or SAT in April. Cherish it: some feel pressed by time connowadays, the pressure of standardized testing rarely

Counselors and college representatives never failed to make clear to us the purpose of standardized tests. Schools look to test scores to compare students

coming from different backgrounds.

Supposedly, a student with a 26 ACT can have comparable academic performance to another with the same score. Indeed, schools often use test scores as a first criterion for narrowing down the applicant crowd.

All of this, however, is based on an assumption that a student in Clayton is statistically identical to, say, one growing up on a farm in rural Iowa. It's also assumed that test scores fully correlate to success in college.

Both of these assumptions are somewhat questionable.

Scores have limited correspondence to academic capabilities To me, the idea of

having a standard measure of a student's academic capability is just silly. A test score reflects,

at best, that student's ability at taking that test. This sounds obvious at first, but students and educators often attribute too much to a score.

There's more to a strong student than being a good test taker, and the rigid format of standardized tests often holds back even the most talented.

Some kids may have creative institutional discrimination against capacity than test scores. §

It is now the merry time of the minds but find sitting down to underprivileged students, the sysstraints on lengthy math sections. Students are talented in learning

> in our own ways that test scores may or may not reflect.

In my opinion, test scores are the least useful pieces of information colleges can look at when assessing applications. I believe that my transcript and record of activities over the course of four years says more than

**Disparities in** 

are already

school systems

known to exist,

yet the tests fail

to help close that

gap. Standardized

tests should help

these inequalities.

compensate for

what I scored in one day. Students' scores should only be considered a last resort in comparing otherwise similarly qualified candidates.

Standardized testing perpetuates educational inequalities

fact

is, test scores reveal only a limited aspect of a student. Scores merely help discover the statistical differences groups of students coming from different schools.

Standardized tests including the SAT and the ACT are potentially invaluable tools for research in achievement gaps between urban, suburban, and rural school tems, and be-

tween students with different racial dardized tests. Doing well in the and economic backgrounds.

Students would try harder on these tests than any other standardized test required by the No Child Left Behind Act, and in turn these tests would provide more accurate

Sadly, instead of lessening the

year when the seniors are done take an exam appalling. Some may tem of preparing for and taking with testing while juniors wait be avid readers who struggle with standardized tests has become a

> Starting as early as middle school, students across the nation have varied access to resources that acquaint kids with standardized testing. Tests such as the Explore, PLAN, and the PSAT familiarize students with test formats and provide them a preliminary look at their college prospects.

> We at CHS are very lucky to have district-funded PSAT and ACT tests. However, such tests are often inaccessible in rural areas. Other preparation venues such as Kaplan or tutoring are even less available to impoverished students.

> These factors likely account for the discrepancy between students of different social and economic circumstances. These disparities in school systems are already

known to exist, yet the tests fail to help close that gap. Standardized tests should help compensate for, not perpetuate, these inequali-

Students need to be more than just test takers I believe that

we as students need critical thinking skills and the time and energy to devote to our interests. We do not

need to spend more than sufficient energy preparing for and taking stan-

classroom provides students with much greater opportunities of achieving success later in life, including college.

Most importantly, we need educators to recognize that learning is personal, and that there are better ways to evaluate our learning

### Odd college mascots are humorous, endearing

(\$Rebecca Wall

Senior Managing Editor

There is nothing more important to the identity of a university or college, one could argue, than its mascot. Mascots give schools identity. They are the most succinct and telling description of a school's values, personality and identity.

Conventional mascots abound. There are the beloved Mizzou Tigers of course, but there are also the Auburn University Tigers, the Texas Southern University Tigers, the Towson University tigers, etcetera etcetera etcetera.

There are the not quite as beloved Missouri State Bears, but there are also the Baylor University Bears, the University of Maine Bears and of course the Brown Bears (those Ivy Leaguers are so witty!). Some schools choose to really distinguish themselves by calling themselves the California Golden Bears and the Bowdoin Polar Bears.

Sometimes I like to think about what college I would attend if I were to chose my ideal school based solely on the eccentricity of the mascot.

Clearly, Brandies would come up high on my list. The Brandies judges. That is really hard-core. If you mess with Brandies, they will pack you off to prison for twenty to life. Classy, yet legalistic.

Or, what about the Tufts Jumbos? What a completely American name.

The University of Delaware also has quite an interesting mascot, one which surely strikes absolute terror into the hearts of the opposition. All cower in the wake of the mighty Fighting Blue Hens. That one might be kind of lame.

I suggest that Delaware change a mere single letter in their mascot name to the Fighting Blue Huns. It could be awesome; they would put a picture of a hypothermic Attila the Hun on their helmets.

What about the University of Hawaii? This school chose a physical phenomena for its mascot: the Rainbows. Are they sponsored by Lucky Charms or something? Maybe Isaac Newton could sponsor U. of Hawaii and it could change its name to the Gravity. That is way more prevalent than rainbows, I'd image, even in Hawaii. At any rate, it is certainly more weighty. On the other hand, it might be a bit weighty for a sports team name. Furthermore, I think it might be very difficult to dress up a student as Gravity to pump up fans during football and basketball games.

The only mascot that possibly has less personality than the Rainbows in the Stanford Cardinal. Don't confuse the Cardinal with the cute and much admired birds. They are just the Cardinal, as in Cardinal red. No, they are not sponsored by the College of Cardinals. They just like the color Cardinal. But, to be fair, Stanford completely redeems itself through making its logo/secondary mascot a huge tree. That is awesome. I doubt that anyone could beat a tree, except perhaps a team named the lumberjacks.

There is something about the State of California and Californians that makes them want to give their teams mascots named after semi-obscure and completely non-threatening animals.

For your consideration: the University of California Santa Cruz Banana Slugs. Go slugs! Continue lying prostrate on the ground!

Also, the University of California Irvine Anteaters. At least anteaters can move faster than 0.001 miles per hour.

But, going beyond just strange, some schools decide to be absolutely oxymoronic. I'm thinking of the University of Pennsylvania Fighting Quakers. I do not think the Society of Friends would care to fight anyone. It doesn't make sense; at the same time, I wonder if the teams heavily depend on oatmeal for nutrition.

Equally oxymoronic is Trinity University, which goes by the mascot the Christian Trolls.

Some schools, like Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) would probably be best off if they did not have sports teams or mascots at all. RISD's mascot is the Design Nads. But, those perverse artists evidently only like this mascot because it allows them to vell "Go Nads!" at their sporting events. I can only hope their artistic creations are more taste-

Another personal favorite of mine is the Virginia Tech Hokies. Many of you might be asking, "What is a Hokie anyway? What's weird about it?" Allow me to enlighten you. A Hokie is a castrated Turkey. Why would you even want to be called that?

However, there is one mascot that I think absolutely takes the cake for the most absurd, the most ridiculous, the most completely nonsensical and non-threatening mascot in the nation.

This mascot is the Scottsdale Artichokes.

You are the star quarterback of a rival football team. It is third and long. You go back to pass, but suddenly your offensive line breaks. Three gigantic artichokes come bounding towards you, spiky exterior and all.

Would you be absolutely terrified, or completely confused? Would you think you were having an adverse reaction to you allergy medication?

Probably a mix of all those emotions.

Thus, it is clear that silly mascots abound. Even the most non-descript college or university can distinguish themselves in a memorable manner.

I believe that even if you are someone who absolutely abhors college sports, and sport in general, you can appreciate the humor of a ridiculous mascot. Perhaps that is why colleges have mascots after

Editors Note: Ben Weixlmann's column will be returning in February.





Left: A Clayton hockey player takes the puck around behind the Clayton goal during the game against. Burroughs. He faces two Burroughs players in his quest to clear the puck. Right: It is line changing time on the Clayton bench, as tired players come off the ice and fresh skates come on.

# Administrators disappointed with student violence at hockey game

HOCKEY, 1

or Saturday and there is no supervision by the CHS

Unlike other inter-scholastic sports, which are governed by MSHSSA, hockey is governed by Mid-States. Since hockey is a club sport, students must pay to play on the team.

There is no mention of the policy concerning fan fights in the Spectators' Code of Conduct, as posted on the Mid-States website. However, Mid-States does have rules about what happens if players fight.

"If it's a serious fight you could go before a board," Smith said. "But they don't have rules as far as the arena and fans go."

Since Mid-States does not govern this aspect, much of the responsibility with dealing with fans lie with the Webster Rink.

"I think some of it is Webster's fault for not having more policemen and more organization when the fans left," Smith said. "But I also think Webster will not be so open to us having a game at their rink again."

Use of alcohol and tobacco is banned at the games, but there does not appear to be any rule about fans showing up inebriated.

The CHS administration expressed distress that Clayton students were involved in a fight. No members of the administration were present at the fight, so they do not have first-hand knowledge of what oc-

Despite this, administrators have heard from students and others about some of the occurrences.

Gutchewsky was especially disappointed because recent campaigns, most significantly Click 4 Glik,

"It makes me sad," Gutchewsky said. "I'd thought we made a lot of progress with the Click 4 Glik cam-

There had been signs of improvement in the Ladue Clayton rivalry. In particular, there seemed to be

a sense of camaraderie between Ladue and Clayton students at the

annual football game. The Click 4 Glik campaign, symbolized by the shirts, has become in some ways a measure of the start of better relations between Clayton

and Ladue. "Historically it has never been out of control, but there's always been an issue or two at the football game," Gutchewsky said. "This year it was for the most part uneventful and it was kind of cool to see both the kids from Clayton and the kids from Ladue wearing Click for Glik shirts."

Gutchewsky points out that this friendly attitude did not transfer over to the hockey game.

"A couple of students mentioned to me that it was unfortunate because they were at the

football game and saw both sides wearing the shirts," Gutchewsky said. "But they said no one was wearing Click for Glik shirts at the hockey game."

seemed to indicate a lessening of inter-school ten- ing varsity basketball game at Ladue on Feb. 9.

Athletic director Bob Bone noted that since basketball is a school-sponsored event, the upcoming games would be supervised, unlike the hockey game.

"We have expectations for our students when they are at school sponsored events and we do everything we can to be there and to supervise," Bone said. "We'll

do that same thing February 9 at

Bone has been corresponding with his counterpart at Ladue. They discussed how to improve relations between the schools as well as how the fight will alter any preparations they are making.

"We might have to do things a little different after the hockey game," Bone said.

Bone does not specify exactly what any differences in preparation might be, but he said that the fight at the hockey game would not necessarily translate into tighter se-

"I don't know if the fight will make us amp up security, but it will make us more aware," Bone said.

This reporter tried to contact

representatives from Ladue High School and the Webster police unsuccessfully.

All parties express hope that Ladue students and Clayton students will be able to come together for ath-The fight has potential ramifications for the upcom-letic events without violence in the future. §

### Wrestling team struggles to overcome inexperience

Rachel Harris Co-editor in Chief

With winter sports nearly over, the wrestling team has struggled throughout the season to pick up some wins. This year's team consists of mostly underclassmen which puts the team at a real disadvantage when competing against schools with more experience.

"This season the team is not doing as well as we anticipated in the beginning of the year," sophomore Daniel Shore said. "The team is very small and often times we have to forfeit weight classes to other teams in dual meets."

Because of the lack of bigger, upperclassmen, the team is lacking wrestlers in the middle and upper weight classes. The CHS wrestling team was essentially forced to start from scratch due to the lack of interest in wrestling at CHS.

"We lost two important leaders from last year, Max Groswald and Devin Stein," senior Brent Cohen said. "This year we have no four-year wrestlers and that is a big disadvantage."

In addition to several of the key wrestlers graduating, many current seniors chose not to wrestle this

"Some of the juniors heard from their senior friends that they should just have fun their senior year," head wrestling coach Boris Khodosov said. "They quit late in the season and let the whole team down. It will be very hard to replace the. It was just too hard."

Wrestling is most popular in the United States in Canada but is actually an ancient physical combat sport. Wrestlers score points through moves such as takedowns, reversals, escapes and near-falls. A wrestler can also win a match by pinning his opponent to

Even though wrestling is an extremely hard sport, the wrestlers left on the team still work really hard.

"They enjoy themselves," Khodosov said. "It is a group of talented young kids. If they survive they will be very good wrestlers because wrestling is one of the hardest sports."

Even though wrestling is a difficult sport, the wrestlers enjoy the time they spend participating and especially interacting with their coach, Khodosov. "I believe we have one of the

best wrestling coaches around," Cohen said. "Boris has taught us hundreds of moves and still has more to teach. I learn something new at every practice."

Both Piepert and Shore agree with Cohen. Shore especially likes learning to become a better wrestler and getting one-on-one time with the coaches.

"The coaches teach us the moves and yell at us when we are on the mat in a match," Cohen said. "Boris also argues with the officials when necessary. Boris is from Russia and was a very important high ranking



It makes me sad. I'd

thought we made a

lot of progress with

**Dan Gutchewsky** 

Assistant Principal

the Click 4 Glik

campaign.

Floyd Hemphill and Daniel Shore grapple during wrestling practice. Wrestlers must be immensely strong in every area of their body to be successful, which is why many consider wrestling the most difficult sport.

coach for the Soviet Union."

It is a group of tal-

ented young kids.

they will be very

good wrestlers.

**Boris Khodosov** 

Wrestling Coach

If they survive

Khodosov grew up in a poor family in Russia. His parents divorced when he was seven years old, splitting his home in two. He started to wrestle at the age of 12 and his wrestling coach was like a second father to him. After graduating from a Russian university with

> the help of scholarships, Khodosov served two years in the Russian

"If it were not for wrestling, I would not be alive right now, Khodosov said. "It was like a jail. It was so hard. I can't even describe

Khodosov says that wrestling is in your blood. It is a sport that no one can help the wrestler with. With the years of experience Khodosov brings to the table, the team is able to learn a great deal.

"I don't care how strong you are," Khodosov said. "Technique is everything. You can work on all the other things, but you have to be tough. We work on technique every day. We have special Clayton signa-

ture moves. A lot of wrestlers in the area lose because they don't know our moves." Piepert's favorite method of training that Khodosov

taught him is the Boris Ball. "It's like soccer but you throw the ball and you stay on your knees and can tackle each other," Piepert said. "It gets intense."

While each wrestler enjoys being part of the team, it is a very time consuming and exhausting sport. Not only is it physically draining, but mentally as well.

"Balancing wrestling is very difficult," Shore said. "I take honors classes and wrestling usually goes until 5:30 p.m. every day of the week. Usually there is not a lot of time to relax after school. [In addition,] every Saturday we have tournaments which last from when we arrive at school 6:30 a.m. until about 5 p.m. It is obviously a very time consuming sport."

Piepert has unfortunately had to miss several matches due to other important commitments.

"I have a really hard time this year balancing my time," Piepert said. "I've had to miss a lot of matches due to music things I do. I try to get as much of both worlds as possible.'

Cohen as the captain of the wrestling team is very crunched for time trying to juggle hockey with wres-

"I go to hockey practice before school and then go the wrestling practice after school," Cohen said. "On days that I have a hockey game I do not go to wres-

Even though wrestling may take it out of the wrestlers, it may be well worth the time and effort in the

"We have four wrestlers who could make it to state," Khodosov said. "But, we will see how it all turns out in the end." (\$)

SPORTS • 11

# Girls' basketball sprints towards districts

**\$Evan Green** Staff Reporter

The Clayton High varsity girls' basketball team knew they had talent returning after the end of last season when the Lady Hounds won. This year, the Hounds are sporting a team that is 9-1 and a serious threat to win the state title. With returning seniors Stacey Lawrence, Barissa Ford, Ashley Crawford, Adira Wexelman, and Linda Morris, the Hounds have the ex-

The Lady Hounds biggest win so far have not had many close games so far this season, especially with wins such as 72-6 over Brentwood and 60-7 over Prin-

perience and talent to make a deep run into the play-

cipia. "I think that the Normandy win was our best team win so far this season," Senior Guard Barissa Ford

The number five ranked (small school area) Lady Hounds had a game with the number one ranked (small school area) Berkeley-McCluer South Lady Bulldogs on 19 January at home. The match up went back and forth as the both teams traded leads, and at the half, Berkeley led 29-25. Coming out in the second half, the Lady Hounds stayed close, but trailed by as many as 13 in the second half. With about five minutes left in the fourth quarter, the Lady Hounds began to make a run, and cut the Berkeley lead to three with 14 seconds left in the game. As Barissa Ford brought the ball up, Linda Morris attempted to set a pick, and was called for a moving pick, giving the Lady Bulldogs a chance to shoot two free throws because the Lady Hounds were already in the double bonus. The Lady Bulldogs made one of two and that was the end of the game as CHS lost 61-57 in a great game. Barissa Ford

finished with 19 points, seven steals, and eight assists, while Linda Morris had 11 points and 11 rebounds, and Ashley Crawford also had a double-double with 10 points and 11 rebounds. The game was also Berkeley's first win by less than 13 points.

While the varsity has been very successful, they are also being supported from their JV friends.

"I definitely think varsity will win districts this year! They have all the skill they need, and they are a great team. It's also fun to watch them because they have such great teamwork and they never give up,' freshman JV forward Maggie Lanter said.

While the Lady Hounds have been very impressive this far, Coach Barry Ford still believes that they have several aspects of their game to work on.

"We still need to work on patience and our execution of plays, but we must continue to keep believing in themselves, working hard, and ignoring officiating," varsity girls basketball coach Barry Ford said.

Barissa Ford also believes that the team has several things to improve.

"We need to keep our mistakes to a minimum and we also need to keep running our plays effectively, and everyone must remain to produce for the team," Barissa Ford said.

The Lady Hounds still have several hard games before the playoffs role around.

"I would say that the Westminster game is our toughest test left on the schedule," coach Barry Ford

Indeed Westminster is 10-1 and has not had a win by less than double digits.

The Lady Hounds and their fans already know they are good enough to go deep in the playoffs, but the question is, 'how far'? §



Matt Willett

Hounds snag

Assistant AD

**\$Fontasha Powell** 

With his piercing pale blue

eyes, infectious smile and tran-

quil demeanor, Assistant Athletic Director Matt Willett is the

newest addition to the CHS staff.

Although he's only 23 years old,

Willett doesn't find his youth to

be a problem at all. In fact, before

coming to CHS, he coached bas-

ketball and baseball at Mehlville

The job might appear to be uncomplicated, but the duties

of assistant athletic director are

demanding. Routine tasks in-

cluded working closely with

Athletic Director Bob Bone to fulfill duties such as scheduling, arranging officials and dealing

Willett's determination and education help him in these ar-

"I attended Mehlville High

School, where I graduated, then

went on to graduate from South

Eastern Missouri State," Willett

volves one of this favorite activi-

ball and basketball for four years,

and football for one," Willett

said. "I also love to play sports

Indeed, Willett's love of the

game is apparent in his actions.

Students have seen him, watch-

ing intently, at a variety of stu-

dent games , from girls' varsity

basketball games away at Whit-

field to freshman boys' games

Bone agrees that Willett's

"We thought Mr. Willett was

sports background was a factor

a good fit for the job when we

saw his impressive background

in athletics," Bone said. "His

age wasn't an issue at all, and

positive so far. Clayton is an extremely unique place to work."

In addition to attending games, the liberal atmosphere is

"I love that Clayton isn't too

one of the many aspects of CHS

restrictive," Willett said. "The students have freedom to make

their own decisions and oppor-

"I find that the biggest challenge at CHS is meeting and getting to know all of the students," Willett said. "So feel free to stop by my office and introduce your-

However, all is not smooth

tunities to be responsible."

that Willett admires.

considered when hiring him.

right at home in Stuber.

Willett loves that his job in-

"In high school I played base-

and Oakville High.

with contracts.

said.

ties: sports.

in my free time."

Staff Reporter

With experince and talent on their side, the lady hounds, prove to be tough competition. Above junior Erin O'Neal defends the precious ball.

### Hounds strive to end season on a high note despite obstacles

**SEvan Green** Staff Reporter

The varsity basketball hounds started off the season losing games to Vianney and Fort Zumwalt South. Luckily for the Hounds and their supporters, they rebounded (no pun intended) by winning eight of their next nine games, with big wins over Sumner, Whitfield, Parkway South, Howell, and Jennings.

"The Howell game has been our best win as a team so far, but my personal best game was in the win over John Burroughs" senior center Zack "Earl" Warner said.

Indeed, Warner had 22 points, seven rebounds, four steals, and five blocks in the 54-48 victory over John Burroughs. Warner leads the team in points per game, rebounds, and blocks. He has been a key part in leading the Hounds to a record of 8-6.

The Whitfield win was over former coach Mike Potsou, and as the horn ended the game giving the Hounds a one point win in an exciting back and forth battle, the torious season.

Friday, Feb. 2, 2007

CHS students stormed the court to celebrate the victory with the team. It was a perfect ending to a perfect night for CHS basketball as the freshman, JV, and varsity teams all beat Whitfield.

The Hounds still have tough games left on the schedule in Affton, Westminster, Berkeley, Summit, and as always, Ladue.

While Ladue is not as talented this year as they have been in years past, everyone on both sides always gets pumped for the rivalry game. The game will be played at Ladue on Feb. 9 at 7.

"The Ladue game is our biggest game left in my mind," sophomore guard Syd Warner said.

Senior Point Guard Bo Lanter believes else wise.

"I think that the Berkeley and Westminster games will be our toughest tests left on the schedule,"

In all, its pretty clear that the Hounds have some tough games left on the schedule that they will need to win in order to have a vic-

Although the Hounds are having a successful season, they still have some things to improve.

"We still need to continue to learn to play better team basketball and learn to trust each other," Varsity Basketball Coach Luhning

Warner also thought that there were several things the team needs to improve.

"We need to play well the whole game, not just the fourth quarter, so we need to close out games," War-

As the season continues, the team is looking to achieve the goals that they set for themselves at the beginning of the season.

'Our goals at the beginning of the season were to win the Suburban East Conference, win districts, and become a team," Warner said.

If the Hounds achieve their goals, all fans and players of CHS basketball will consider the season to be a great success, and, as they say in CHS basketball, 'Success is a Choice'. The crowds will watch with anticipation. (\$)

### **Upcoming Games**

7 pm vs. Afton **Away** 6 pm vs. Summit Home 7 pm vs. Ladue **Away** 5 pm vs. Maplewood Away

### Tuesday, Feb. 6, 2007

Friday, Feb. 9, 2007 **Senior Bo Lanter** dribbles the ball looking for a pass. Lanter an Monday, Feb. 12, 2007 experinced player represents the power and pride of the hounds.

# Athletes of the Month

### 'Bluming' Potential

**\$Ben Weixlmann** Senior Editor

Kerri Blumer recently brought light to a seldomly-talked about sport: swimming. Under the tutilage of coach Dave Koemetscher, Blumer has qualified for state in consecutive years.

"I've been swimming competitively since I was 8," junior Blumer said. "I started with Clayton-Shaw Park, and have loved swimming ever since."

Blumer has mastered the 100 butterfly, turning in a blistering 1 minute 5 second season-best, tops in the Suburban East Conference.

"I also swim the 100 backstroke and 200 backstroke," Blumer said.

Not only does she swim the 100 backstroke as her second-best event, she holds the conference's best time by more than a second.

Blumer leads the conference in 3 other categories, making her a dominant force in the pool in every

Blumer is one of the most versatile swimmers on the team. With the ability to swim a plethora of events, opposing teams are in trouble in attempt to counteract her versatility.

It's often hard to rip Blumer away from the pool, as she also participates in varsity water polo.

"They are such different sports," Blumer said. "In water polo, it is about being aggressive, and in swimming you are going back and forth and its meditative and calming."

Another aspect Blumer attributes to her success is the Lady Hounds swimming squad.

"Although swimming is primarily thought of as an individual sport, being cheered on by the rest of your team is so important,"Blumer said. "You need the team to help excel individually. The cheering is reciprocal, when I am on the pool deck, I'm cheering for them, too."

Blumer has been an integral part of two victories for the Swimming Hounds.

"In the Ladue and Parkway North meets, it both came down to the final relay," Blumer stated. "I was the anchor(last swimmer) for both of the relays, and turned in my best time in the 100 free of 58 seconds."

In only her junior year, Blumer is showing off talent that could land her among the area's best swimmers next season. For now, her focus is doing well at state, in a hope to put Clayton girls' swimming back on the map. Kerri has the potential and power to do it, and time as she is a junior. (\$)



**Kerri Blumer, Swimming** 



**Brent Cohen, Hockey** 

### **\$Ben Wexilmann**

Senior Editor

Senior Brent Cohen has always been more fond of ice than land. Ever since he was 6, Cohen has made the rink his home.

"I'm a rink rat," Cohen said. "I love to just go in the summer and skate around. If I'm in a bad mood, I can just head up to the rink, and I feel a lot better."

Cohen's primary club team, Affton Americans, has witnessed Cohen's progression over 12 years.

"I've had some great years with Affton and with Clayton," Cohen said. "It's really sad that it's going to come to an end soon."

For Cohen, going to the hockey rink is just part of his normal rou-

"It's just something since I was 6, has been part of everyday life," Cohen said. "I don't even think twice about it, I just drive on over to the rink and have a good time."

Cohen first dabbled with serious hockey after attending a camp with Ex-Blues great Red Berenson.

"He was a huge inspiration, but I've also has wonderful coaches over the years to teach me a lot," Cohen said. "Sean Ferrell, our head coach, is such a great person and asset to our team. He puts aside his family to help us get better at hockey, and I think that means a lot."

'Rink rat' formidable as goalie, wrestler

As a goalie, Cohen realizes the pressure placed on his shoulders. "I'm out there for all three periods, and the whole team is depen-

dent on me," Cohen said. "I'm the last line of defense, but I also have great defensemen to help out, like Timmy Smith and Sam Jacus." "When the team comes over at

the end of the game, it feels so great when we win, because I know I did my job," Cohen said. "Last year I was proud with my performance, because we had 17 wins and only one loss.'

Cohen played a stellar game in a 3-2 win over perennial powerhouse SLUH. Clayton was outshot 39-16 in the victory, showing Cohen's 37 saves had a large part in the result.

"My favorite memory from growing up on the ice would definitely be in the locker room hanging out with my friends," Cohen said. "We used to locker box, and just have a lot of fun."

Although hockey is admittedly his best and favorite sport, Cohen is competes well on the wrestling mats. Cohen registered a second place finish in the Kirkwood Invitational recently, with a record of 4-1.

Cohen, now the captain of the varsity wrestling squad, as wrestled at the 135 and 140 weight classes

during his career at CHS.

"I like wrestling because I learn something new at every practice," Cohen said. "It doesn't come as easily to me as hockey does, so I am constantly trying to get better." The best match of Cohen's ca-

reer came this season at Principia.

"I was about to get pinned in the last period," Cohen said. "The ref called us out of bounds, and I had a reversal and three backpoints to win the match for the team."

What started out as a merely a conditioning exercise for hockey has turned into a successful endeavor. Cohen also has earned the admiration of his team in the pro-

"Brent is a true leader," junior Louis Rosenfeld said. "He always keeps his head up and doesn't mess around during wrestling practice. He's a great guy. Wrestling is a physically tough sport and Brent is admirable because he never complains, despite how tough the sport

Cohen will attend Missouri-Rolla and hopes to play Division I roller hockey.

"It would be a great experience," Cohen said. "Their roller team is fifteenth in the nation. I just want to continue playing the sport

12 • IN DEPTH

# **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.

**SAmy 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 acknowl-

edged 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 sur-

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 openminded 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 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'

"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 ne survev will be us ful 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 says 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

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

temperature' of the building and 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-

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 im-

talking about it, and think that's really been positive," Vanecek said. "What needs to happen is next to have m o r e people do have m o r e time do it and have leaders emerge keep it going, we need more faculty and more stukeep the kind of conversa-

proving

because

we're

dents to tions going and to make changes actually hapthe talk, we have to start doing the walk. We have the ideas, and now we have to imple-

ment

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 despondence, 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

"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 started 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 selfstudy 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

now," Adams said. "I was so heated

but I didn't let that get to me. Once

teachers get to know me they un-

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

came to light in the survey: the dif-

ference in treatment inside and out-

"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 condi-

Veon points out a key issue that

than teachers they have had.

side the classroom.

derstand that I'm smart."

ments contribute to racial tension in the classroom.

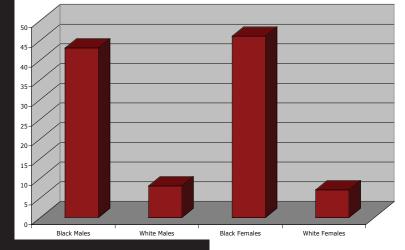
"I do feel there is racial tension in the class between students of different races," Burnsed said. "There are comments made that might offend people of different races. These comments are usually not noticed because people view them as insignificant."

### Race outside the classroom

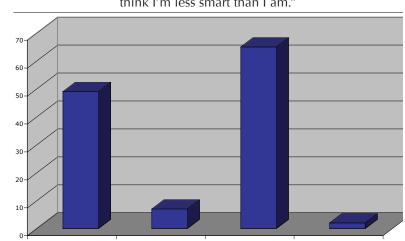
Aside from racial issues inside the classroom, the Tripod survey also provided data on the racial atmosphere of CHS between students and teachers and students and their peers while not in class, one that differs considerably from the classroom environment.

# tions," Veon said.

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

# SPORTS FEATURES ARTS

66 My fate as far s 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

IERUSALEM -- 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

Israel doesn't just

**Jews, it represents** 

where. Including

**David Glotter** 

Future Israeli Soldier

represent Israeli

all Jews every-

down ran the street to the site to see how they could help.

The intersection - often crowded with people - had made inviting target for attacks. So while the suicide bombingthat took place there that day couldn't consid-

ered a complete surprise, Glotter did encounter something he did not expect. Rather than chaos, Glotter found a surreal scene of organization and

me.

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

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

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 decision 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

"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." (\$

### Sudoku satisfies need for entertainment

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

**SJim 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 Su-

doku," 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 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 Su-

"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

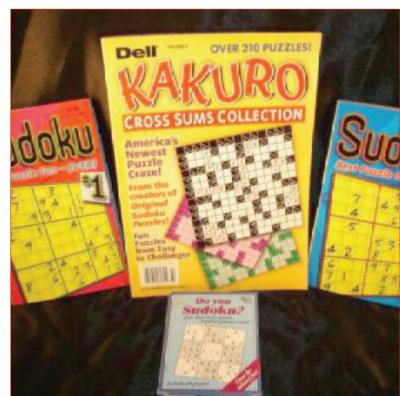
all different locations. "I play it almost everyday on the way home from work on the Metrolink," Canel-Katz said. "It's kind of addictive."

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 dra-



**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.



# \*Chasing Dreams



#### (\$)Tian Qiu Section Editor

Hold the microphone, and follow the sound of your

Stand on the stage, and morph into the mind of

your character. Slide the bow, and float with the melody across the

strings on your cello. Pick up the pencil, and follow the lines of your cre-

ativity

For aspiring singer, Jessica Haller (senior), aspiring actor, Cameron Davis (junior), aspiring musician, Melanie Goldstein (junior), and aspiring artist, Erin Blumer ('06 alum), that's when their dreams began.

The audience for her first school choir performance wasn't too big, however, it was still enough to fill Haller's school gymnasium in Minneapolis. Though she has been singing since she was two years old and has loved performing in front of her parents, when Haller got up to the microphone to sing her first solo, "terrified" was how she felt being only six years old at the time.

"It was the first time I'd ever done something like that," Haller said. "I was scared that I would mess up and everyone would laugh."

To overcome her stage fright, Haller opened her lips, started singing while she tried to filter out thoughts about anything but the music.

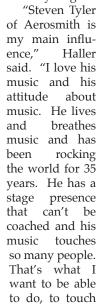
"I just kept on singing," Haller said. "My nerves calmed down, and I let the music take over. I sang my heart out."

When Haller's solo ended without any mistakes, the audience stood from their seats and showered Haller with cheer and respect during their standing ovation.

"[I thought], 'Oh my god, I can't believe I just did that!"" Haller said. "I was hooked. I remember it was the best time I'd ever had singing. I knew I loved to sing, but as soon as I heard that crowd cheer just for me, I knew I wanted to be on stage singing professionally. I've been dreaming big ever since."

After her first solo, Haller was asked to sing more solos in other shows at her school and took every opportunity they gave her. Haller performed in her school talent shows and sang for her church youth choir. She





Aspiring singer, Jessica Haller

people emotionally through music."

In order to pursue her dream career, Haller is applying to the Berklee School of Music, a school in Boston that produced prominent alumni such as Melissa Etheridge, John Mayer, and Aerosmith drummer Joey

To be accepted into Berklee, Haller will have to schedule a 15-minute live audition when the school visits St. Louis at the end of February. The audition will consist of singing a selected piece of her choice, a call-and-response session, a sight reading session, and a 15-minute interview. After she sends in an application, Haller's performance during the entire audition process will be the only thing that determines her admission.

"The way I'm preparing for the audition is to go through my repertoire and select a song I feel I can perform the best and impress the audition staff with," Haller said. "As far as nerves go, I think this will be my hardest performance. My fate as far as academics is concerned will lie in the hands of the people I perform for. This is such a prestigious school and I can only hope that I can perform to their standards. But I think I can do it."

Besides applying to Berklee, Haller plans to start off her career by taking gigs at bars, cafes, karaokes, along with everything she can get her hands on. Haller also plans to go out of town to search for more opportuni-

"Fulfilling a childhood dream is the big thing that I want to achieve," Haller said. "And a Grammy or two wouldn't hurt either. That, and rocking the world."

### **CAMERON**

Davis has liked performing ever since he was little, but he didn't start seriously considering taking up acting until he tried out for the school musical, The Winters Tale, during his sophomore year.

"It was then that I really put my skills to the test," Davis said. "I had never taken an acting class so I just did what I felt was natural [during audition]. The end result was getting one of the major supporting parts and I thought, 'Hey, you might actually have something there.'

And when I was working on the play, my love [for acting] just grew."

However, Davis's real test was unveiled with the curtains on the musical's opening night.

"I was freaking out!" Davis said. "I was shaking back stage and I was imagining every possible thing that could go wrong. I had never had the audience that close to me before. And the idea of that closeness in the Black Box Theatre had taken hold of me."

But when Davis got on stage, being a natural performer, he went into "hardcore performance mode." During Davis's performance, it was as if the world fell around him, making him emerge as the only thing that remained intact on stage.

When the show ended, the sea of applause ensued,

and Davis was already pumped for the next show.

"When I finally went to Missouri Fine Academy Arts to study Acting," Davis said. "I knew that was the direction I was heading in. No other subject in school called me more than acting, which is ironic because I didn't take my first acting class until this year."

Aspiring to be either a Broadway actor or a screen actor, Davis is drawn to a certain freedom acting gives its actors. Moreover, through acting, Davis is

Aspiring actor, Cameron Davis able to explore

not only himself but also philosophical concepts, such as the human condition.

"You become more in tune to how you respond to people," Davis said. "Relationships become more vivid since it is those relationships that you play on the stage. The response from the audience and their praises and applause feed not only the energy that you give on stage, but also your ego as an artist and reaffirms your talent. It's a good feeling.'

In order to pursue his dream career, Davis has started taking a theatre course to hone his acting skills while familiarizing himself with the field. After building his foundation in acting, Davis's next big step is to attend a college with a good theatre program and start auditioning. However, as of now, Davis concentrates on gathering as much knowledge and experience as he

"I hope that I finally do end up on stage or the Haller screen," Davis said. "And get to a point where I not only am good at what I do but can teach others, direct, or even start a company. Eventually I would want to do something that can give back to the community or spread some sort of awareness. At first, I would want to do theatre just for the sake of doing theatre, but, eventually I will want to use it as a device for some sort of change."

### **MELANIE**

Goldstein developed her love for the cello rather ac-

"When I was little," Goldstein said. "I used to sing everywhere I went. People thought I should learn to play an instrument, so I started on the cello. I continued to sing in operas and musicals, but I have bad allergies that got in the way. A few years ago, I started to realize just how much I enjoyed the cello, and I became more serious. Ever since then, I have had the best time playing. It has become one of the major things I love to do."

Although she hasn't decided on her future occupation, Goldstein does hope to major in music in college and become a musician in one way or an-

Being an aspiring musician, Goldstein finds her inspiration in prestigious cellists such as Yo Yo Ma, Jacqueline Du Pre, Rostapovitch, the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra, and her teacher, Catherine Lehr, the Assistant Principal in the Saint Louis Symphony. "My teacher is

extraordinarily patient and believes in me," Goldstein s a i d "Which has been extremely important. She and the other cellists I have mentioned are so amazing. I listen to their recordings or to them in person and become inspired, because I hope some day I can sound like them.'

In order to sharpen her skills, Goldstein became a member of the prestigious Saint Louis Symphony Youth Orchestra and the All State and the Honor Orchestra of America to adapt herself to playing in an orchestra and its kind of repertoire. Goldstein also takes music theory, piano courses, and attends music camps over the summer. Goldstein grasps every opportunity and plays for as many people as she can to receive their

"[Music] is not only something that I enjoy," Goldstein said. "It's a way of expressing myself and a way of making other people happy."

#### **ERIN**

As cliché as it sounds, Blumer has drawn since she could pick up a pencil and has always wanted to be an artist. There were times when she thought she should follow a more conventional career, but she found that art is what really speaks to her.

Regarding Artemisia Gentileschi, a female artist during an era that banned women from becoming artists, as her role model, Blumer admires Gentileschi's paintings and determination. Blumer is also

determined herself to follow her passion and work to become either a portrait artist or an illustrator.

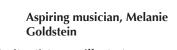


photo courtesy of Melanie Goldstein

"I draw constantly," Blumer said, "apply for scholarships, and enter my work in various shows."

Now a student in the Art School at Washington University in St. Louis, Blumer has been very occupied with schoolwork. However, Blumer has begun to see results of her persistence in following her artistic passion; her work was accepted into her first professional show in March, 2005. Currently, Blumer is working to have another art show in conjunction with her mother, who is also an artist, by the end of year 2007.

"[A career as an artist] is extremely flexible and offers a lot of freedom of decision," Blumer said. "It sounds cheesy, but I'd like to [use my art] to make the world a more beautiful place. As for myself, the act of creating a work is enough."

### A TOUCH OF REALITY

Though Goldstein is drawn to her cello and the aspect of doing what she loves in her future, sometimes, she still holds doubts about whether she is doing the "right thing"

"I don't like the fact that the classical music industry seems to be dwindling," Goldstein said. "And perhaps I wouldn't be able to make it. It's scary to think of how difficult it is right now to get a job as a classical musician.'

Davis agrees.

"[The field of acting] is a tough business," Davis said. "It's so subjective! Everyone's perception of an actor is different and that's nothing that I as the actor can change. So with this being such a fickle business, there is a high chance that I don't even make it or get a job and end up broke."

Blumer acknowledges the competitiveness as well in the art industry.

"I think that if I can get into illustration," Blumer said, "it would probably be more lucrative than portraiture, but illustration is an extraordinarily vicious business. I'm pretty sure I'll end up teaching, at least for a while, in order to put food on the table."

> While Haller also realizes the difficulty of being discovered as a singer, she is still unhesitant about her choice of career, even

if she might need to work a side job such as bartending in order to bring in some extra income.

"I'm not going into [the business] for money," Haller said. "Sure, it'll be a great perk if I ever make it big, but I want to do this because I love it. I don't want to be in a job I hate just because it makes a lot of money. I'd rather do what I love and make just enough."

Like Haller, Blumer is also determined to pursue her career as an artist. Blumer is confident about her future and believes that her passion for art will remain with her.

"It has suited me for 19 years of my life," Blumer said. "I don't see why it won't suit me five or ten years from now. Love for art isn't something that comes and

goes."

plans to go all the way to follow his current love for acting. However, Davis is keeping his options open as he has thought about choosing majors and careers that could supplement his income in order for him to have a solid foundation to fall on.

him not pursuing the acting career in the future, he

Though determined, Haller recognizes the risk she

"I'm praying that thought never crosses my mind,"

Though Davis also worries about the possibility of

is taking in case she doesn't think being a singer suits

her in the future in the one-way career path she has

Haller said. "And I don't expect it to. I have no back

up plan. This is it. I'm going all the way or bust."

Besides their own motivations to pursue their dreams, Haller, Davis, Goldstein, and Blumer all attribute part of their current success and confidence to their parents.

Davis's parents support their son 100 percent in his choice of career as long as they are confident in his second major that can complement his income.

"They trust my talent and determination," Davis said. "But at the end of the day, I need money to get a house, car, and food. And as parents, that's their primary concern. They just want me to have something to fall back on in case acting doesn't work out."

For Haller, her mother has been helping her find colleges that she believes would be a good fit her daughter, a quite burdensome task considering that there are very few colleges like Berkelee that offers Haller's desirable Contemporary Music as a major.

"My parents fully support me in any choice I make as far as career goes," Haller said. "They think that I have the talent and they want to see me succeed in whatever field I choose, even singing. They've been behind me this whole time, and I know they'll be be-

hind me no matter what happens." Being an artist herself, Blumer's mother fully supports her daughter's decision. Furthermore, it's Blumer who sometimes expresses doubts in herself, though these doubts are dissolved relatively quickly.

Goldstein also appreciates her parents' support.

"They are encouraging yet practical," Goldstein said. "and seem to have more faith in me than I sometimes do."

Davis's role model, actor, director, and narrator Morgan Freeman, was told when he first started in his career that he couldn't make it as an actor. Yet years later, Freeman

is now an acclaimed, Academy Award-winning film legend. Freeman's story of "rags to famous" inspires Davis to keep trying.

"If I don't pursue it," Davis said. "Then I'll wonder the rest of my life, 'What if I had actually tried?' And that's a chance I'm willing to I always take. keep in mind that right now is the beginning. I'm just starting off, and it's too early to accept defeat."

Goldstein is also resolved.

"I don't think I could live with myself if I didn't at least try," Goldstein said. "I don't want to



photo courtesy of the Blumer family

Aspiring artist, Erin Blumer

settle for being a good cellist. I want to be great."

### FOLLOW THE DREAM

For Haller, the best part about singing is a certain 'rush" she gets being on stage.

"Words really can't describe what it feels like to be on," Haller said. "Hearing the cheers of the crowd, the adrenaline surging through every vein in my body. It's crazy. It makes me wonder why so many artists in the early years of their careers did drugs because being up on the stage in front of a crowd is a natural high in itself, at least for me."

For Davis, the best part about acting is seeing the audience's response and his ability to let his body go and flow with the play.

"I love doing it!" Davis said. "I have a passion and determination for it that I don't have for anything else so far. I feel that I have a true talent, ability, focus, and drive. It is a part of me that I can't let go.'

For Blumer, the best part of making art is simply creating a work of art.

"I love it when I just start a piece with no idea what it's going to look like except for a general motion and composition," Blumer said. "[and then see it] turn out beautifully. It happens more often than you'd think."

Though Haller, Davis, Goldstein, and Blumer may still have a long way to go to reach their goals and fulfill their passions, they are not stopping until they strive to the top of their dreams.

"Aerosmith [sang in] 'Dream On,'" Haller said. "'Dream until your dreams come true.' And that's exactly what I'm doing. So peace, love, and rock and roll forever baby!"

Put down the microphone, and smile at the standing ovation.

Let the curtains fall, and listen to the sea of ap-

Put away your cello, and bow to the cheering audi-

Unveil your canvas, and watch the crowd in

For Haller, Davis, Goldstein, and Blumer, the quest for their dreams has just begun. §

### 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

The SRM is produced completely by students.

66

I would say that

the big idea of our

musical is that you

have to find some-

thing in reality

to love. You have

to embrace real-

ity, even though

sometimes real-

want it to be.

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

The musical will be performed this April as the SRM.

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

"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 hu-

The students have been working hard to complete

"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 reworking 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 fiance, Beth.

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

"We call it a musical traum-ady," 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

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. §



**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.

#### What about the SRM?

Name: "The Adventures of Normal Man and

Average Boy: A Musical Trauma-dy"

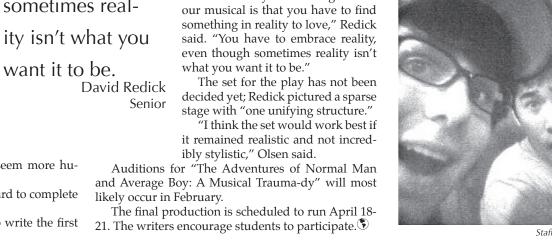
Playwright: Percy Olsen & David Redick

Composer: David Redick

Auditions: mid-February

Dates Playing: April 18-21, 2007

Wenny Dong





#### 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 nang out more, how about the 27th, Peppers?" Rosen said.

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

"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

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?"" Du-

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 irls ask hove 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."

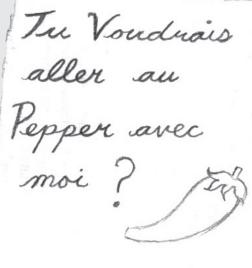
For Prom last year, senior Rebecca Levy was asked in a cute way that she appreciated.

"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-



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

proudly presents

**Clayton Community Theatre** 

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

'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

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." \$

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CHS GLOBE IAN. 30, 2007 16 • FEATURES







From left: Sophomore Nick Andriole traveled to Thailand over winter break. His father had a business meeting their, 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

💲 ljeoma 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 and moved into our new house. I enjoyed the weather and tasting the tropical

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 cui-

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

Despite the enjoyable aspects of Sophomore Nicholas Andriole 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

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

The cruise sailed from Costa Rica to Tortuga and several other

"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

"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."

English teacher finds happiness in

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 Igot a lot of practice on my Span-

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,

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



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 fig- tion is really efficient, so this is ures through the hallways, along the stairs and inside the classrooms are committed to a common goal keeping CHS beautiful.

ground floor for about two and a half years," Bala said. "Then I changed position to work in the and respectable even to me, a 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 communicate with them. I often 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-

a great school. I enjoy working with the people at Clayton."

For Bala, whose son graduated from Clayton High in 2000, "I started by working on the the job takes yet another special place in his heart.

"The people here are polite 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 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." (\$

### teaching, inspiring her students Her passion for Europe budded earlier in life as she was newly mar-

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.

**\$**Hyrum Shumway

Sectión Editor

"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."

**Books and kids** 

motivated me to

become a teacher

Jeanne Eichhorn

**English Teacher** 

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

"I taught 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 studentseven 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."

ried 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

"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 yearn-

ing has been nourished, as she has found dedicated students with whom she is able to master-

fully 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 wittiness and intellect has helped her gain respect as an exceptional edu-

"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 hardworking.

'To come to a school with Clayton-caliber colleagues is just wonderful," Eichorn 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

"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

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. 📢

### Come ski the hills of Hidden Valley

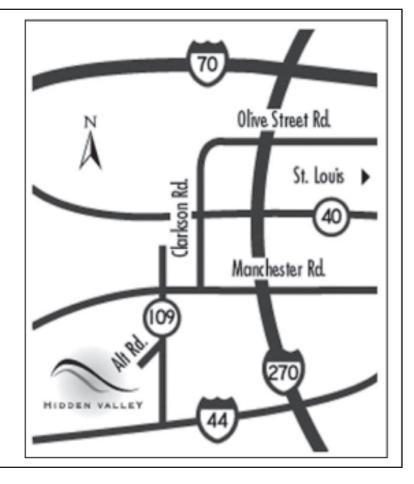


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Washington University is popular among CHS students for a variety of reasons. It is extremely close to home for many, yet, it is one of the top Universities in the Midwest.

### Unusual number of students attracted to nearby Washington University

Mary Blackwell Staff Reporter

Every year, Washington University accepts a large number of CHS students who apply compared to other high schools. For example, last year 38 students applied, 18 were admitted, and 11 enrolled. In the past four years, 54 percent of CHS students who applied were accepted compared to a nationwide average of 20 percent. Despite these numbers, Wash U remains a very prestigious school; the average GPA for Clayton students accepted is 3.92 and the average ACT score is 31 (www.connection.naviance.

Senior Percy Olsen is attending Washington University next year. His mother works for the Washington University School of Medicine.

"It probably helped a little," Olsen said. "She has contact with the head of admissions at Wash U."

Many universities demonstrate some preference for applicants whose parents are alums or who are employed by the school. This could help explain CHS's very high rate of admission.

Washington University, one of the best schools in the Midwest, attracts Clayton students who don't want to go too far from home but still seek a top-notch education, as where everything is and I won't

well as those who have family ties to Wash U.

"Students are attracted because it's a highly selective school located in the Midwest," College Counselor Claire Dickerson said. "Kids are very familiar with the school because of its proximity. Many students attend summer programs at Washington University so they feel very comfortable applying,"

This year, so far, 11 students are going to be attending Washington University. Senior Adira Weixlmann was accepted early decision to Wash U and plans to major in Architecture. Weixlmann studied at Washington University last sum-

"One of the reasons why I applied to Wash U is that it has a really good architecture (school)," said Weixlmann. "I might play basketball. I've talked to the coaches, but architecture is a demanding major so we'll see how that all works

Some students may have attended Wydown Middle School across from the street from Washington University dorms. Others are familiar with the university from visiting the campus or going to concerts, carnivals, or theater events on campus.

"I kind of like it because I know

have to get used to a new place." Olsen said, "Also, I'll be spending most of my time in University City. I don't go there that often so it'll be like a new experience."

Weixlmann also feels that going to college close to home and her parents is comfortable.

"Many Clayton parents are affiliated with the university." Dickerson said, "There is a tuition reimbursement for employees of at least five years, I think. It's a full tuition reimbursement if their child attends Washington University."

This reimbursement covers tuition, but not room and board. But if a faculty child chooses to go to another college, Wash U will cover half of the tuition.

"Both of my parents work at SLU so I guess it's kind of funny that I'm going to Wash U," Weixlmann said.

Some people may question whether this is fair, shouldn't all students have an equal chance of being accepted?

Why should CHS students be favored over others?

"I think you would find that is works similarly in schools across the country," Clayton counselor Carolyn Blair said. "Life in general is not fair, and through the college process is often students first taste

### Early decision beneficial to students sure of first choice

**§** Feng Shuang Stamme Section Editor

As senior year approaches, many high school students will go through the college application process. Just as soon as senior year started, students were already talking about applying to college.

Many were stressed over their standardized scores and getting applications in on time for the early admission process. With all of the talk about college applications, some of them wondered whether or not to take advantage of some colleges' early admission programs.

Some people think the early process provides a better change for students to get into their first choice school. In the end, the early application process proved to be beneficial for nearly all who applied.

According to college counselor Claire Dickerson, colleges offer two types of early application, restrictive and non-restrictive. Restrictive refers to Early Decision, which means that students are committing themselves to going to that school. It is a contract between them and the college. They agree to attend that school if the college accepts them. Because of this commitment, students can apply Early Decision to only one college.

Non-restrictive is non-binding. Early action is where students send in their application earlier, and the college will let students know earlier, but students are not required to go to that school if they are accepted.

Dickerson also said that many colleges will take advantage of the early programs because it gives them an idea what their freshman class will be.

"Some schools take a greater percentage of students early than they do regular," Dickerson said. "They do this because it helps them predict the yield (how many students the college is gong to get for that year). The colleges only have so many dorm rooms and available seats. So if they admit a large percent of students early, then it helps the college to know."

Compared to regular decision, with college stuff right now, and early decision offers many advan-

tages to students. The benefits of early decision is the students know early," Dickerson said. "They know by Dec. 15. They don't have to wait until April to find out the decisions. Usually the students who apply Early Decision have done a lot of research on their own, and they know it's the school for them."

Senior Rebecca Blackwell agrees with Dicker-

sion and was accepted to Northwestern Univer-"The biggest reason why I applied early decision was because I really wanted to go Northwestern," Blackwell

said. "I did

lots of re-

my own, and

it was my

first choice

chance to get in."

of regular decision.

wasn't a reason why I shouldn't,

Like Blackwell, many students

apply early because they think it

will help them beat the competition

nior Yi Zhao said. "It shows that

you are interested in the college."

action to apply to safety schools.

"It's definitely beneficial," se-

Senior Sadie Heintz used early

"I liked the early action pro-

cess," Heintz said. "Because now

even if I don't get into one of my

top choice colleges, I still have the

sion, it proves to be helpful to most

students because it gives them time

not applying to her top colleges

action because I would be finished

through the early action problem.

Either early action or early deci-

Senior Alyssa Hartel now regrets

"I wish I would have done early

other schools as cushions."

to plan ahead.

I know it would give me a better

search

son, she used

early deci-

Usually the students who apply **Early Decision** have done a lot of research on their own, and they know it's the school for them.

> **Claire Dickerson** College Counselor

cial aid. Harvard also stated that the early process contributes to the

level of student stress during the admissions period. According to Zhao, who was accepted to Washington University in St. Louis, said that the hard part begins after the stu-

it would be less stressful," Hartel

said. "The waiting period is re-

tive aspects to the early program.

Prestigious schools such as Har-

vard and Princeton have decid-

ed to end their early admission

vard sensed was that early ad-

missions disadvantages low-in-

One of the reasons that Har-

come students.

to the Harvard

Crimson, the

Dean of admis-

sions at Harvard

said early ad-

mission "advan-

tages the advan-

claims that low-

income students

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lenges, such as

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to adequate sec-

ondary schools,

counselors

to help them

through the pro-

cess, and finan-

Harvard

taged."

According

However, there are also nega-

ally annoying."

program.

dent gets accepted. "You don't have the choice to turn the school down," Zhao said. "Even if you have financial trouble, you still have to find a way, you are tied down."

Zhao also stated that he had to apply through early decision, because the schools that he was applying to did not offer early action.

In the end, applying early is not a decision students should make on the spur of the moment, no matter what their friends are

Students should take some time to think about which options are right for them. §

# classes attractive to high-achieving students

**SAaron Praiss** Staff Reporter

As registration for the 2006-2007 year comes and goes, many sophomores and juniors sign up for AP classes. It seems that AP classes are becoming typical to the student body, as if they are required to graduate. Yet, despite the class difficulty, many students get recommended into AP classes hardly thinking twice.

"People take AP classes more, it has caught on," senior Yue Pang said.

"For me, AP classes were the next logical step," former CHS student Paige Romer said.

Students arrive at CHS already taking honors courses, and as the years progress, the track leads directly to many AP courses.

"There weren't any other options on the honors track but AP classes," former CHS student Derek Wetmore said "it progressed that way, if you're taking honors classes as a freshman, AP is going to be the next step in the future."

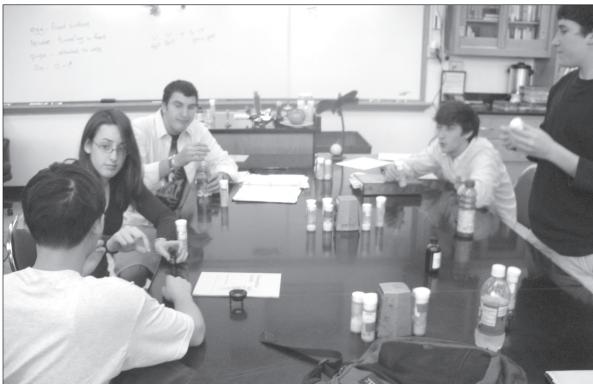
For former CHS student Alison Byrnes, some of her AP classes she took because she wanted to. Students might have either enjoyed having a specific teacher, or were interested in the subject.

There are a variety of reasons of why students are compelled to take AP classes; competition with other students to take the most AP classes, or they feel pressured to take the AP courses as a means to get into college and please their parents. Of course they could also enjoy the subject and want to challenge themselves further.

"For me, AP credits satisfied many general education requirements, allowing me to pursue a double major and take more interesting courses," Wetmore said.

Similarly, many students realize that AP courses not only look good on the transcript, but could help eliminate required courses in college. For others, AP classes can even take an entire year off of college programs.

"I knew I wanted to go to a high ranked university,



From left: Juniors Ka Suen, Kerri Blumer, Seniors Richie Kopitsky and Zander Kanefield, and junior Phillip Levine discuss a recent lab in their AP Biology class. Many CHS students take advantage of the many AP classes offered at CHS. Some enjoy the challenge, and some want the chance to get college credits.

and AP credits help you graduate early," Romer said. "I'm in a five-year program that I will be able to finish in four years because of AP classes I took during high

However, simply taking the AP class isn't enough to eliminate years of college, to get AP credits at most schools, students have to do very well on the AP

The AP exam is stressful to many, yet according to

Wetmore, after taking CHS finals, the AP exam isn't that different.

"I overtook the kitchen table, and for about a week immensely crammed and studied," said Romer.

The AP exam isn't required at all, yet if students get certain grades back, depending on the university they can get college credit. The grading scale goes up to a five (the best), and most high ranked universities accept fours or fives for credit.

"It is a poor decision not to take the AP exam after taking the AP course," Wetmore said.

However, no matter the AP class, students should expect an immense amount of studying and work. Romer agrees, recommending that three or more AP courses is going to be very challenging, and that in the long run, AP classes help, but not to the point that you need to take five or six.

"I split my six AP classes evenly; three Junior year and three Senior year." Byrnes said. "It makes the whole process more spread out, rather than stressful all at one time."

"Take only the AP courses you're interested in," Romer advises, "it makes a big difference."

"They should just call the class something else, high school is for high school, not college," Pang said.

Yet, registration continues, and once again many sophomores and juniors sign up for many AP classes. And even though students might believe that they

absolutely need to take every AP course available, they should realize that AP classes will not make or break their acceptance into the perfect college.  $\mathfrak{T}$ 

AP Classes offered at CHS: Math: Calculus AB, Calculus BC Science: Biology, Chemistry, **Physics** English: Literature, Language

Social Studies: World History, European History, US History, Psychology, Human Geography Language: French, German, Spanish

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# Cell phone technology entices new customers

**SKen 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,

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!"  $\mbox{\footnote{A}}$ Sophomore Yiliu Zhang also owns a Pink RAZR from

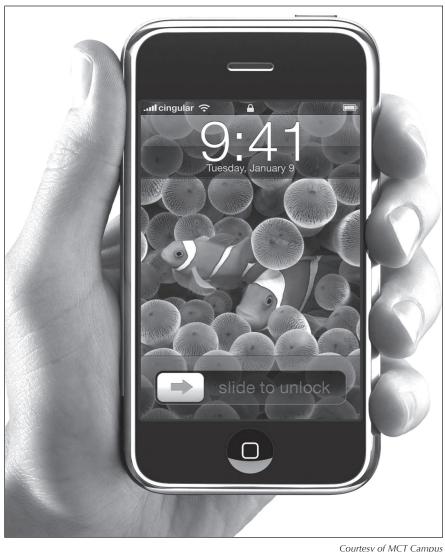
"It's special to me," Zhang said. "I'm not a big fan of protracted cell phone conversations because the sound waves may damage my brain."

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.

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

"The Katana 6600 comes in Black, Blue and Pink, and is definitely a possible RAZR competitor," a salesclerk 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

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

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

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 caring for pets.

When most students have two cats, Buster and Whisper. She times my cat just comes up to me spends about a half an hour every and he starts purring," Andress

> ing for her cats by cleaning their litter changing their water, and she thinks children can benefit from having pets.

'It's nice because you get introduced to at a young

age, then you know how to behave around them when you get older," Andress said.

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

If I have a bad day

and I come home

and sit on the couch,

comes up to me and

he starts purring.

"If I have a bad day and I come Freshman Sarah Andress has home and sit on the couch, some-

> but for some reason just really helps." Andress thinks her cat might understand sometimes my cat just German, but she is not sure if he just understands hand motions or if he actu-

> > ally under-

stands the

language.

said. "I don't

know why,

**Sarah Andress** Freshman

"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," Andress 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," Andress

Sophomore Carolina Tejada is one of the many students who has a pet. She has a Siberian husky named Sirus, 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

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 loneli-

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# Writing as catharsis

**§** Jeremy Bleeke Staff Reporter

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

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 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 now to write sonnets.

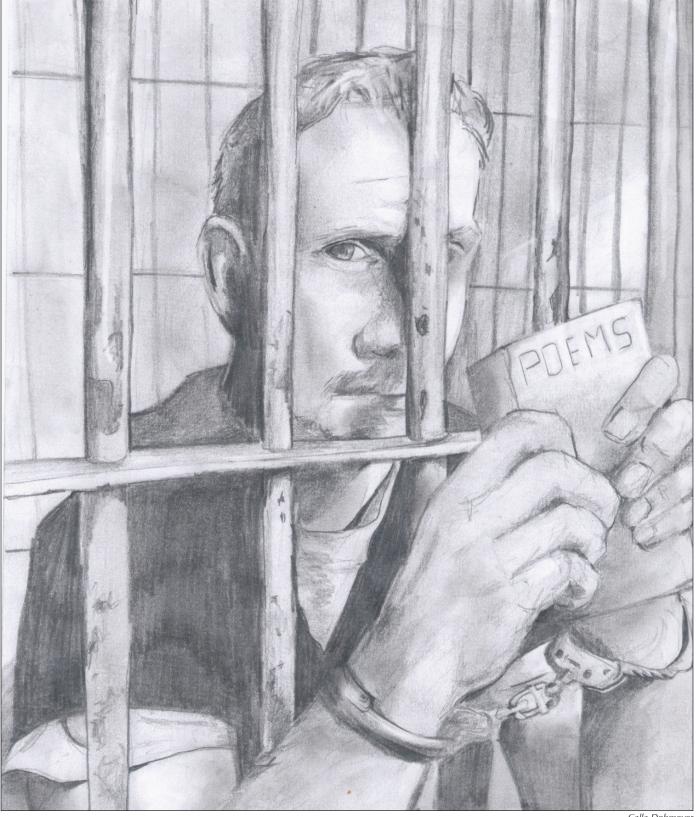
"...She had taught us a form of a poem called a sonnet," Anderson said, "And that right there really grabbed a hold of me and got my attention, and it just seemed that a lot of stuff flowed out of me after that."

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

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.

come to terms with, and make sense of, these experi-

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.



Calla Dobmeyer

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, It is through writing that he is finally beginning to which are not at first obvious to them, through writing.

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," Anderson 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

# Fair trade coffee a smart option

**SKatherine 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 1.1 billion pounds worldwide, with few in the world have taken notice a 37 percent year-to-year increase. of the horrible

conditions in which coffee is grown and produced and are trying to the 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 Over 1.5 mil-

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An additional

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66 **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 international organization dedian equitable price for their coffee and strengthen their farms for the future. Starbucks pays premium prices that are substantially over and above the prevailing com-

modity-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 sell-

ing 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

cated to the establishment of longterm 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 time."

Freshman Alex Kastnetz 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

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. §





and wide variety of restaurants and coffee houses. Many ambitious condominium projects have recently started to

spring up in the area, making the desire people have to be part of this vibrant community evident. However, the beautifully restored turn-of-the-century houses are still visible around the area, showing that the Central West End





### Central West End attracts customers old and new

**Siobhan Jones** 

will never lose sight of its old roots.

Staff Reporter

St. Louis is fast becoming one of the hottest cities in America. From young families to old retirees, people are scrambling for that perfect condominium.

One of the most cultured neighborhoods of St. Louis is the Central West End, a historic and intellectual community squeezed along a few streets between the Loop and Lindell.

Although there is just a small commercial area between some classic-looking apartments and private neighborhoods, the unusual and specified shops attract a variety of customers.

Traditional St. Louis cuisine can be found at Culpepper's, a delicious, critically acclaimed restaurant that specializes in fried foods, and is famous for their

Foy Culpepper Waldron founded this restaurant in the early 1900s and it is still going strong today. A clean and welcoming venue, patrons will enjoy the childfriendly (kids eat free on Mondays) atmosphere during the day, as well as the party atmosphere at night. If not wings, than the long menu of sandwiches and soups is enough to please even the pickiest of eaters.

Other restaurants include Llywelyn's, a Welsh pub famous for its steak and cheese sandwiches. The service is almost as bad as the food is good. A sleepy mood hangs in the air and posters of traditional Welsh family shields can be found on the dark wood walls.

At the northern end of Euclid Avenue, the main street that runs through the Central West End, is the restaurant Dressel's, another Welsh pub, with a Santa Claus bartender and the best fish and chips to be found on this side of the Atlantic.

Left Bank Books, is one of the last independent bookstores in St. Louis. The service cannot be matched by bigger chain bookstores like Borders, where bluehaired, nose-pierced attendants don't know Fitzgerald

At Left Bank, employees can give you a wealth of apparel. information about any book there. From old world classics to modern day cult favorites, Left Bank has books from every possible genre.

Sweet tooth? With a Ben and Jerry's, the hip ice cream shop that has taken St. Louis by storm, and a Bissinger's French chocolate store within shouting distance of each other, either a fruity sorbet ice cream cone or an expensive chocolate worth lusting over can satisfy shoppers.

Lots of outdoor seating for restaurants, as well as

cafes like Balaban's, gives the Central West End a European flair. On sunny weekend afternoons, patrons can find a seat to relax in and read a book.

A European-looking Starbucks is another place for coffee, and Coffee Cartel might be a good place to stop and get caffeine in the wee hours of the morning before an exam, seeing as they are St. Louis' only 24hour coffee houses.

Although an older neighborhood, the Central West End is completely up to date with all the trends, hosting shops like Boxers, fashionable men's underwear store as well as Alpha Dog, the coolest place to get your dog a bed.

venues for collectors and fans of modern "pop" art.

Houska is a familiar name to some students from Glenridge Elementary School who worked with Houska on a mural for the school library.

Fashion-conscious students might enjoy the Kuhlman Company, an upscale contemporary European fashion with both tailored clothing and ready to wear

It isn't for big

city-types, but the

**Central West End** 

will attract those

with a true pas-

sion for the cul-

ture of St. Louis.

Not far south, on Lindell Ave. is the Chase Park Plaza, an upscale movie theater that shows blockbusters and Indies films everyday. Pluses include small theaters and real butter on the popcorn.

Above the theater are apartments and condominiums where many people retire. An elegant lobby, complete with a restaurant, creates a cozy atmosphere for

Older, luxurious neighborhoods surround the shopping area. The rare turn-of-the-century architecture on

the long streets creates peaceful places to live, with an air of grandeur.

At the end of streets like Kingsbury Place and Portland Place are majestic stone towers, built in the days when a guard stood at the gates of such neighborhoods. Although some are a little pricey, reasonable accommodations can be found for families.

The fancy-feel architecture spills out onto Lindell with some grand houses and the Cathedral Basilica of Saint Louis, which besides being a place of worship, is a stunning display of mosaic art, which covers 83,000 square feet of the building. A life size sculpture of Pope John Paul II stands guard outside the Cathedral. An example of devout Catholicism, the Basilica is also a piece of art.

Although it isn't for big city-types, Art galleries, like Charles Houska's, are exciting the Central West End will attract those with a true passion for the unique culture of St. Louis.

> The intellectual stores, and the feeling of Europe create a center for academic thinkers, while restaurants and bars are host to the young and old alike. The beautiful neighborhoods make this area one of the most stunning places in St. Louis. Enthusiasts of St. Louis, this is your hangout. 💲

# Year's best musical fiesta misses Oscar nod

Before I begin this month's column, I want to offer a brief explanatory note. During the course of reading this column, you might ask yourself, "What is this? A movie review?"

"Sounding Off" is, and remains, a music themed column. However, this month I have decided to write about a subject of great urgency. The subject might appear more cinematically related than strictly musical, but considering both the content and style of said subject, its discussion in this forum is not really a stretch.

Plus it's my column. I like to think I rule over its content much like an "Enlightened Despot."

What I say goes. Now, beginning in earnest:

It is a travesty that "Dreamgirls" was not nominated for Best Picture at this year's Academy

Before resorting to personal attacks upon members of the Academy, I want to elucidate about the amazingness of 'Dreamgirls." I am tempted to write a full-blown ode a la John Keats, but I will restrain myself.

Seriously, though, "Dreamgirls" is truly a wonderful film. The music is catchy and certain numbers without fail cause movie theatres to erupt in

This acting was nothing spectacular, but more than competent. After all, "Dreamgirls" is not really contingent on

Sounding Off

Rebecca Wall

its actors. Rather, it is a film of universal themes and generalizations, a microcosmic look at characters who pursue success and respect in the face of adversity. In short, it is the classic tale of the American Dream.

being a This column music by design, I have to talk about the

music. What a pleasure! "Dreamgirls" is a musical fiesta, a raucous time full of song and dance. Beyonce cedes the stage for new coming and illfated American Idol Jennifer Hudson, also known as Aretha Franklin the II. Hudson's outstanding voice is stupefying.

I already knew Jamie Foxx could sing, but Eddie Murphy? I had no idea, but Murphy is outstanding as well, playing a character that is threefourths James Brown, one-fourth Marvin Gave. In fact, the entire cast excels in the numerous musical numbers.

The music is the lifeblood of the film—and this lifeblood is certainly not anemic. It is marvelous.

My personal favorite numbers are the jazzily sung and groovily choreographed "Steppin' to the Bad Side" and the disco remix of "One Night Only." The disco remix is out of control; there are tons of oddly dressed men dancing around behind Beyonce and Co. The song truly captures the out of control and over the top nature of the whole Disco craze. It is kind of funny to see the characters' reactions to disco, especially after studying the genre recently in the course Music and Ameri-

Some snootish Academy members might accuse "Dreamgirls" of being plastic, shallow, and superficial. They probably think, How can such a gorgeously designed, colorfully set, and supremely FUN film be meaningful enough for our lofty award?

No doubt the Academy is still overcompensating for their pick of "Titanic" for best picture about a decade ago.

That would be understandable; in retrospect, "Titanic" seems one of the most strung out fabrications of meaning imaginable.

But the fact of the matter is "Dreamgirls" is plenty meaningful. As stated earlier, the film is simple but nevertheless a potent and moving tale of ambition set in the uniquely American backdrop of race and Motown.

There seems to be a requirement that would be best pictures contains a self-deprecating political

Consider "Babel." Many people believe it is an excellent movie, and I'm sure it is.

I don't want to suggest it is undeserving of its nomination, but I do want to point out that this is precisely the type of film the academy likes. It is left of center in an entirely conventional way, and on the whole is pretty depressing. I would not be surprised to see "Babel" win the award.

Conversely, "Dreamgirls" is a celebration. It is joyous and over the top in a fantastic and eminently entertaining manner.

All told, it is an incredible moving going experience. It does not cause despair but rather elation. I have to wonder if this is why the Academy

Whatever the reason, it is unfortunate that "Dreamgirls" will not be honored with the highest honor.

I want to suggest that everyone do their part to rectify this silly error on behalf of the Academy. If you have not yet, go and see "Dreamgirls." It will make you laugh. It will make you clap. You will want to dance in your seat, but will not do so for fear of public humiliation. You might even

And two hours later, when the film is over, you will wish it was still going 🕏

Pueblo Nuevo provides authentic, familythemed Mexican food and entertainment

**SAbby Eisenberg** 

Staff Reporter

Great food? Check. Great entertainment? Check. Pueblo Nuevo at 7401 N. Lindbergh Blvd. in Hazelwood, Missouri embodies all that is good in the culinary world as far as I am concerned.

When I walked into the building, the soothing, deep voice of the in-house entertainment met my ears. An authentic Mexican singer who trades between singing old classic Elvis songs and traditional Latin tunes entertains the customers on weekends.

The outstanding music is greatly accompanied by the overwhelming variety of spicy, ethnic, real Mexican food: fresh salsa, tortillas and more.

The place is pleasantly busy, however; there was just enough seating, so we didn't have to wait. A friendly server promptly waited on us, and after inquiring as to whether or not we spoke Spanish, I, the sole Spanish speaker at the table, carried on the rest of the conversation in his native language.

After we ordered, I had a chance to look around. It was a surprisingly bare decorating-wise, but the place was anything but boring. There was a large opening back into the kitchen, large windows in the front which enlarged the entire place and a big Mexican flag on the blank wall. In the corner sat the musician.

On the final wall were pictures of people, clearly related, the frames meticulously and respectfully placed neatly across the whole wall, indicating a family owned restaurant. This family theme extends into the restaurant, which is very family friendly with big tables and a kids menu.

As for the regular menu, it consisted of the Mexican restaurant regulars--chicken and beef dishes along with plenty of vegetarian options. Also included are pre-made combo plates which all come with sides of bean and rice, all of which were reasonably priced with everything well under \$15.

While we were waiting for our food to be ready, fresh, hot chips were brought to us along with some guacamole that I insisted upon ordering. The guacamole was mediocre, but the fresh chips definitely



Pueblo Nuevo Mexican restaurant is located at 7401 N. Lindbergh Blvd. in Hazelwood, Missouri. The delicious food and fun atmosphere -- complete with live music -- make this restaurant special and worth the trip.

made up for it. Our food arrived soon and exceeded expectations.

My dish was enchiladas verdes, consisting of two tortillas wrapped around chicken with super-spicy green sauce on top of it. The sauce was perfect, quite spicy, but not overwhelming to the rest of the dish. I

The rest of my family seemed satisfied as well. My sister raved that her enchiladas were "to die for" and my mom's fajitas were brought out on a hot skillet. The filling, consisting of different colored bell peppers, onions, and her choice of meat was plentiful and tasty, and the tortillas that went along with it were slightly under-cooked, however they weren't horribly so, and definitely homemade.

Pueblo Nuevo has now become my favorite Mexican restaurant out of many to choose from. Not only is the food excellent, but also the Elvis singing is definitely something you can't find anywhere else, and is very hard to beat. §

**ARTS** • 21

# 24 promises another outstanding season

**Percy Olsen** Staff Reporter

twists and shockers, you can't common glossy James Bond ("Ca-

**Each Episode rep-**

resents one hour,

and each season

in the life of Jack

**Bauer, leaving 24** 

episodes for him

to save his love

and/or world.

captures a day

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 rapidly 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-

leaving 24 episodes for him to save When a show thrives on plot his love and/or world. Unlike the

> sino Royale" excluded), nothing comes easily for Bauer. Look to last season's finale reference. After thwarting the corrupt President's plan 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 in the United States' plan to

capture suspected terrorist Assad. After so many years of service, Bauer's life has been whittled into

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

tures a day in the life of Jack Bauer, fashion, and the season is on its

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

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 daylong 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 heartfelt 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

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



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

**SMaddie 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. §

# The Tempting "Twilight" offers piercing plot

#### **%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.

This 498-page

dark romance.

akin to the likes

of Poe and Haw-

thorne, holds the

very last drop and

leaves them with a

profound change

inside of them.

reader until the

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

Oh yeah, and she meets this guy, Edward, who also hap-

pens 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 exwife, 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-ofthe-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

people my age. Maybe the truth was that I didn't relate well to people, period...Sometimes I wondered if I was seeing

relate well to

didn't

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 capaci-

"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 contwilight

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

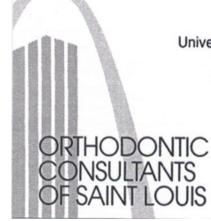
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level of exquisite art. If the fact that I could hardly pull my nose out of the book for the entire three and a half hour airplane ride does not convince you of the quality of this suspenseful and dramatically magnificent novel, perhaps this does; 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

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 misinterpreted Sheba's kindness as interest, and

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

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 villified.

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

fantasizes about the possibility of a haves 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 charac-

> 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 though 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 be feel irritated

> 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 unroman-

> 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.

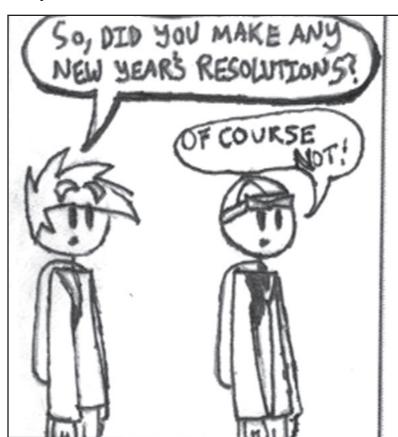
This is not too outlandish; the world the characters inhabit, after all, is our world. They are all too similar to us. This, in the end, is what makes "Notes on a Scandal" resonate.

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. §



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

### Styx by Alex Ferguson







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# Film gives C.I.A. history

**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

"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 cant 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

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.



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

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, an 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

"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 out to see this one anytime soon. §

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# 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, a nd a disturbing number of students do not reach the

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 en-

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



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'

Although there were many problems at the begin-

ning 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.

These actors were able to convey feeling through their performances despite this unrealistic dialogue.

Swank, who played Maggie Fitzgerald in "Million



Left: Erin Gruwell, played by Hillary 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

Dollar Baby," a part which merited her a Best-Actress Oscar, did a mediocre job in this movie. She did not instill the emotion that the students did in "Freedom Writers.

Even the part of the movie where Gruwell and her husband Scott Casey (Grey's Anatomy's Patrick Dem-

sey) get a divorce did not make me particularly sad. Overall, the film was a remarkable story, told in a

slightly unrealistic way. The acting was fantastic, but the script was a little

Despite this, the majority of "Freedom Writers" was entertaining and enjoyable. (\$)



# '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 hu-

areas: acting and directing/cina performance that could have of the Year and justifiably so. §

gotten him an Oscar for best actor (yet for reasons I cannot figure out, he wasn't even nominated.) He is able 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

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 "Babel" truly shines in two point, see "Babel" while you can because this movie is a serious ematography. Brad Pitt puts on contender for Best Motion Picture

## Story blends genres, provokes thought

Rebecca Wall

Senior Managing Editor

Can a film that's part warflick 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 Ofilia (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 Ofilia'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.

Ofilia'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. Ofilia 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 Resis-

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 representational 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

Clearly, such complicated ideas and themes require a superb cast to covey 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

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 Ofilia 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 Ofilia.

Interpretations of this phenomena become apparent; there is nothing supernatural about true through its brilliant and artful deawfulness, 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 re-

prieve 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 sign that it delivers its emotional

It is worthy of my highest recommendation. (\$)

"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 Algaenon." What an interesting parallel.

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# MARCHING INTO HISTORY

Nava Kantor Section Editor

t is very difficult for most people these days to even imagine the America of 50 or so years ago, when there were actual laws enacted in order to keep blacks in a subservient position in society. In the middle of the twentieth century, thousands of people, regardless of their race, took it upon themselves to engage in a fight of the noblest kind: a war of sorts to end discrimination and racial hatred in the United States and to ensure that all people really are equal under the law. Rabbi Bernard Lipnick, a long time resident of St. Louis and prominent figure in the St. Louis Jewish community, devoted much time and energy into making the dream of equality into a reality during the 1950s and 1960s, and continues his fight to this

Lipnick grew up during the 1930s and 1940s in Baltimore, Maryland. He attended Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore Hebrew University, The Jewish Theological Seminary, and Washington University, at which schools he earned rabbinic ordination, a Master's degree in Hebrew literature, and a Ph.D. in Education. From 1951 to 1991, Lipnick was the educational director and head rabbi of Congregation B'nai Amoona, first at what is now the current COCA building but is presently located in Creve Coeur. He is now the actively retired Rabbi Emeritus of B'nai Amoona.

Growing up in Maryland, Lipnick got his first taste of the evils of racism.

"Maryland has the distinction of being a border state, much like Missouri," Lipnick said. "Even though I did not experience firsthand the full impact of segregation as was practiced in Southern states, I did have frequent and searing intimations of the great divide between the black and white communities in this country at that time.'

After the Second World War, America began to pick up the pieces of society. Lipnick turned 18 right as the war ending, and so was exempt from combat duty. He did, however, lose his best friend during the war; he was killed while fighting on an island in the Pacific. The war began to change people's racist attitudes as the country witnessed blacks fighting the war alongside whites. It was a new era of reshaping America.

"Part of this new era said, what's wrong with black people that we've been keeping them down for all of these generations?" Lipnick said. "It's not right. And blacks began to feel their muscle, and those of us who were sensitive to social issues, we agreed with them. They were freed in the 1860s by Abraham Lincoln and here it was, 100 years later, and they still couldn't vote! They had all kinds of interesting tests [to prevent blacks from being able to vote]. It was impossible for a person to pass these

When Lipnick became the senior rabbi of B'nai Amoona in 1962, he began to feel that he had enough influence from his position to make a real difference in the fight for equality. Lipnick became the senior rabbi of B'nai Amoona exactly at the time when the whole movement came to a head.

"Being the leader of the congregation gave me a certain amount of freedom and a certain amount of power," Lipnick said. "I had a pulpit which was mine, in a large congregation."

The area of St. Louis in which Lipnick lived influenced his activism as well. He and his family lived in University City, which was one of the earliest integrated suburbs in the country. It had been conceived as a kind of ideal community, where people would live with one another in solidarity and mutual support. Lipnick's congregation, B'nai Amoona, was also a part of that community.

Rabbi Dr. Abraham Joshua Heschel, considered by many to be one of the most significant Jewish theologians of the twentieth century, also inspired Lipnick to take an active stand in the Civil Rights movement. Rabbi Heschel had a close and famed friendship with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. as well. These two great leaders were essential to the formation of the movement.

"We had a great teacher named Abraham Joshua Heschel, a good friend of mine who came to the synagogue many times," Lipnick said. "And along came a man called Martin Luther King, Jr., who had the gift of communication, a congregation in Atlanta and a talent for organizing."

Lipnick emphasizes that the struggle for equality, although it had exceptionally brilliant leaders, was not actualized by one or two men alone.

"You should realize, incidentally, that none of this was the work of one person; it was neither King, nor Heschel, nor anybody by themselves," Lipnick said. "One the other hand, it wasn't a mass program of millions of people, either. So sometimes I can emphasize the fact that it was not the work of one person, and other times that it wasn't large numbers of people, and they're both correct."

With the inspiration of King and Heschel, Lipnick felt a responsibility to become active in the push for civil rights.

"This was not fun and games," Lipnick said. "It was a very serious situation. People were getting killed. So King called for clergy support, which was his natural constituency. And we responded."

Besides being the rabbi at B'nai Amoona, Lipnick was the Social Action Chairman of the Rabbinical Association, so it was only natu-

A prominent leader in the St. Louis Jewish community recalls memories of the Civil Rights movement and Dr. King's March on Washington.



Rabbi Bernard Lipnick (right) greets Sister Antona Ebo on January 7 at the second annual Heschel-King Celebration, which honored the two as local Civil Rights icons. Lipnick and Ebo flew to Selma, Alabama to march for equality in 1965. Before the demonstration, Lipnick was assigned to physically protect Ebo should the Selma police use violence to try to halt the peaceful marchers.

ral that when given the opportunity to participate in cision. Without realizing it, the authors of that letter Dr. King's march on Washington, D.C., he decided to

But something frightening was waiting in Lipnick's mailbox just a day before he was to leave. The letter Lipnick received included the following text: 'We are warning you, a nigger is a murderer, savage, rapist, and descended from cannibals. Rabbi Lipnick, you better stay out of this racial trouble for the good of yourself and your family...why take chances on your life, job, and the safety of your family?' It was signed "A group of members from the B'nai Amoona."

"My immediate reaction was, 'This is a nut," Lipnick said. "The spelling was not good; 'trouble' was spelled t-r-o-u-b-e-l. I lived in a big old house with a wife and children, and I was leaving for Washington. I read this letter and didn't know how it should be taken. 'Why take chances on your life, job, and the safety of your family?' it said. Why take chances...now, what does that mean? Does that mean that if blacks have equality it will destroy my job and my family? Or does it mean that this person who wrote this is really threatening me? You don't really know."

Lipnick brought the letter to the police, who contended that the letter was, in fact, sent from members of B'nai Amoona. He hadn't believed that people in his congregation had sent it before because B'nai Amoona was spelled wrong, with two m's, and it felt impossible that his members would do such a thing. Whether they did or did not write it, Lipnick will prob-

ably never know. Lipnick decided to go despite the threat. The police provided some measure of security while he was gone, and nothing happened to his family. In fact, Lipnick

began to see positive effects that the letter had on him. 'It occurred to me that the letter writer had done me a very great service," Lipnick said. "The letter and

its contents removed all doubts

"I was struck almost immediately by the way the people were dressed," Lipnick said. "Everyone knew that this was going to be a long, hot day. Intelligence dictated that old clothes, or at least sport clothes, were to be worn. But, strangely enough, jackets and ties were the order of the day. Fine dresses were worn by the women. I know I wore my best suit and so, I think, did everybody else. These people had not come to relax. They had come to a religious ser-

put down in black and white, clearly, for me to see,

what the Civil Rights Movement had to fight. The

vague sympathy within me became a flaming passion

against the evils of discrimination and bigotry visited

'father of the movement' himself.

active stance towards Civil Rights.

Upon arriving in Washington, D.C., Lipnick met the

"I arrived in Washington by plane at just about the

same time as Dr. King," Lipnick said. "I became part

of a welcoming committee for him. We had a brief ex-

change of greetings, and I wished him and the march

The march on Washington consolidated Lipnick's

"We spoke of our conviction that the whole civil rights issue is basically a moral issue, which cuts across

all political considerations and which demands solu-

tion, immediately," Lipnick said. "It was as though

some giant magician had waved his wand, and, presto,

there were a quarter of a million people, come together

to demonstrate the need for freedom and equal educa-

The polite, dignified, weighty atmosphere of the march was expressed in the attire of the marchers.

tion and job opportunities, for all citizens, now.'

vice. They were not boisterous. The mood of the crowd was genuine, honest, sincere, gentle reverence.' For Lipnick, the highlight of the afternoon was the famous

"I Have a Dream" speech by Dr. King. "It was probably the greatest speech I have ever heard," Lipnick said. "The speech by itself didn't say anything new. It contained no great profundities, was very short, and was written in simple language. But what made it great were the circumstances surrounding

it: the emotion that Dr. King and all of us brought to it, the tremendous fervor and pas-

A brief timeline of the Civil Rights movement

**Board** of **Education:** The Supreme Court bans segregation in public schools on the grounds that separate education is inherently unequal.

refuses to relinquish her seat on the bus to a white passenger; subsequent arrest ignites the Montgomery **Bus Boycott.** 

The U.S. Supreme Court declares segregation on buses in Alabama to

Freedom Riders.

Abraham Joshua Heschel, along with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr

**Civil Rights** 

Movement.

The Civil **Rights Act** is passed by Congress. King is Prize for Peace at age

Johnson signs the **Voting Rights** Act into law. Malcolm X, one of the most prominent leaders of the black community, is killed.

shot while standing on the balcony of a hotel in Memphis. Riots break out across the country in protest of the murder.

with which it was delivered and heard. The speech and the whole demonstration succeeded in piquing the conscience of our country. The Voting Rights Act of 1965 was a direct result of that."

March 10, 1965 found Lipnick in Selma, Alabama, on another Civil Rights march, this time without King. At King's request, 54 St. Louisans traveled to Selma to march for equal voting rights. Since marching was against the law, the marchers had to decide what to do if confronted with violence during their peaceful demonstration.

"The subject wasn't just an academic issue," Lipnick said. "Only three days before had been Bloody Sunday, in which other marchers who had attempted a march were tear-gassed, trampled, clubbed, and whipped. There were 100 casualties, and they weren't even admitted into the hospitals in Selma. There was only one black hospital, and there were so many casualties that many had to be cared for at home."

It was decided to follow King's wishes, which meant obeying the law and remaining nonviolent. Lipnick was designated to protect a nun called Sister Antona Ebo in case any violence should erupt.

"What protection meant, in this case, was that I was to shield her body with my body from whatever blows would be rained upon us," Lipnick said. "Incidentally, Sister Ebo and I had a wonderful reunion a couple of years back, and she identified herself as "my" nun, and I remembered her as the nun that I

As they began the march, the group saw what lay in store for them down the road: not one, not two, but three lines of defense, which included police cars, wooden barricades, fully armed policemen, and the

"Here we were, a motley crew of rabbis, ministers, working people, children, nuns, trying to walk up to the courthouse to sign up to vote, being met by enough firepower to defeat the whole Japanese Army. We decided not to break the law by marching, and instead, we took advantage of the publicity. I spoke, paralleling the struggle for Negro equality with what has always been Western Civilization's inspiration for seeking freedom, namely the Exodus of the Jewish people from Egypt."

Despite their small numbers, the participants of this march felt that they were just in their protest, and so could not be defeated.

"When I think that when we marched in Selma that only 200 people were inside that church- you could fit 200 people inside this small room!" Lipnick said. "But those people were really in the process of changing American civilization. You have to be right, and your means have to be right, and ours were. There was really no force on earth and certainly no force in a country such as ours that could stand in our way. So those 200 people were having an enormous effect on American history."

Progress continued, but without King. The architect of the Civil Rights Movement was shot in the neck by a sniper at 39 years of age on April 4, 1968. Lipnick had the honor of attending the funeral.

"He was buried in Atlanta," Lipnick said. "I attended the funeral, as did many, many other people, and helped to bury Dr. King in the yard of the school that he had attended. One of the main officiants was Dr. Heschel, who was invited by Mrs. Coretta King to conduct the funeral service. The service was very moving and included many beautiful Negro songs, among which was 'We Shall Overcome.'"

Lipnick's faith in Judaism was essential to his support and understanding of the Civil Rights Move-

"Ki betzelem elokim nivrah ha'adam- Man was

created in the image of God," Lipnick said. "It doesn't say black men, or white men or yellow men. Equality is endemic to Judaism. We are all members of the same family. Race, the color of skin, is irrelevant in that point. If there are people who are discriminated against, the world is out of kilter, so we have to put the world back in shape." The greatest advice Lipnick can

give is to be sensitive others' lives and do what you can to help them. "The greatest satisfaction that one

can derive from this life is helping to improve the world and to live exemplary lives ourselves, a large part of which is helping other people," Lipnick said. 'Your generation has to learn what every generation

has to learn, that the greatest happiness to the individual, the greatest contribution to the advancement of civilization, stems from altruistic activity towards people who are disadvantaged, who need a leg up. That's our vocation as people. Be instrumental in the perfection of Calla Dobmeyer society." (\$

#### 1968 1965 Brown v. **Interstate Rosa Parks President**

Lipnick's activism in the fight for equal rights for blacks was partly inspired by Rabbi

the laws requiring be unconstitutional.

**Commerce** Comission bans segregation in interstate travel largely due to the work of Martin Luther King, Jr. and the

King gives his famed "I Have A Dream" speech in front of the Lincoln Memorial during the largest rally of the

awarded the **Nobel Peace** 

King is fatally