

## News Briefs

### National Merit

The National Merit Scholar Semi-Finalists for 2006 have been announced. Congratulations to seniors Caroline Bleeke, Emily Goldstein, Elad Gross, Xiaomo Hu, Jack McClellan, Joseph Mello, Chris Peck and Kate Waterbury for their outstanding performance. National Merit finalists will be announced in February.

### NHS Applications

Applications and student information packets for interested National Honor Society candidates can be picked up from Mrs. Jones in the English office or from Mr. Hamylak in the Student Activities office. Completed applications are due by Oct. 7.

### Journalism Awards

Congratulations to the 2004-2005 Globe newspaper staff. The paper once again received the Gallup Award from Quill and Scroll and All-American from the National Scholastic Press Association. Additionally, the National Scholastic Press Association awarded senior Erin Blumer third place in the Illustration of the Year competition for her artwork that accompanied "Blow your life away," a story about cocaine use. 2005 Graduate Claire Saffitz won second place for magazine page design for the The Works, the second design award for her in the past two years.

### Homecoming

Homecoming Spirit Week will take place the week of Oct. 3-8. The bonfire will be held Friday night, Oct. 7 on field five, behind the high school; games will start at 7:15 p.m. The parade and dance will take place on Oct. 8. Tickets for the dance will go on sale Monday, Oct. 3. Stop by the Student Activities Office for more information.

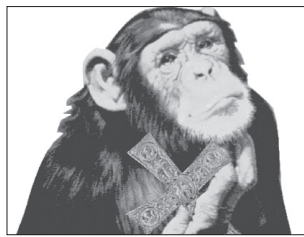
### Heisman Award

Congratulations to seniors Erica Jantho and Andrew O'Neal. They have been nominated for the state high school Heisman award that recognizes outstanding seniors for their athletic and academic excellence.

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# Globe

September 2005 Volume 77, Issue 2 CLAYTON HIGH SCHOOL | Mark Twain Circle Clayton, MO. 63105

## Dress code causes controversy in Bellville schools

by KATE WATERBURY

For students in the Belleville School District 201, first-day-of-school outfits were far from unique. At least at first glance. A closer look revealed tiny protests to the newly instated dress code, such as a small, flaming eyeball painted onto one student's white-collared shirt.

The dress code, which was approved in March and put into effect for the 2005-2006 school year, was met with controversy from both students and parents, eventually

resulting in a legal suit against the district.

"The dress code was challenged by a group of parents around Aug. 1," Belleville East High School Principal David Kniepkamp said. "The parents felt like they had not been consulted enough before it was implemented, and felt that their constitutional rights were being violated."

Before March, a simpler dress code was enforced in the Belleville School District.

"The dress code prior to this year

was a simple format," Kniepkamp said. "Attire was up to student and parental judgment except that it had to be appropriate. It could not be overly revealing and could not have any vulgarity on shirts or clothing."

Belleville School District, which had a looser dress code before this year, began revising the former dress code early last year due to the vague nature of the guidelines.

"The problem with the guidelines was that they were too subjective," Kniepkamp said. "Teachers

struggled in deciding what was appropriate and what was not. Additionally, the fashion trends have become so educationally disruptive that the school board decided to bring them back into a more educationally appropriate format."

The case, which began in St. Clair County Court and was eventually overturned by a federal judge, ended in time for the start of school. Under the new dress code, students were required to wear white, navy, or Columbia blue collared shirts, paired with either kha-

ki pants or skirts that fell below the knee. Generally, exceptions have been made for religious or health related reasons.

"Since the case was closed, the community and students have responded very well," Kniepkamp said. "Community members and parents appreciate student appearance as a whole. Students have also seemed to adapt well. In the first few weeks, we have had very few problems."

DRESS CODE, 4

## Scuba trip turns tragic for CHS alum



Jossie Lake survived an almost-fatal accident this August when the boat she was aboard caught on fire.

by CAROLINE BLEEKE

Jossie Lake didn't realize she was on fire until she heard the screams. By the time the flames left her body, Lake had suffered third-degree burns to 17 percent of her body.

During the later months of the summer, Lake, who graduated from CHS in 2004, was on a scuba-diving trip in the Caribbean, acting as an intern on a boat for the Broadreach scuba adventure company.

"I was earning my Dive Master, which is the first professional level of diving," Lake said. "I had 10 kids, age 14-16, and three instructors and a skipper."

As part of her internship, Lake had a variety of responsibilities, including going on dives and helping with boat equipment maintenance. One of her primary duties was pumping scuba tanks.

"[To pump scuba tanks] you use a compressor, which is a loud and obnoxious piece of equipment," Lake said. "One morning, pretty close to the end of the trip, I was sitting on the boat, and I heard the compressor die, which is normal since it uses so much gas, so I went to fill it up."

In all her years as a scuba diver, Lake had never heard anything about the compressor igniting. But for some reason, the morning of Aug. 14 was different.

"I was pouring the gas in and all of a sudden the whole thing was on fire, within seconds," Lake said. "At first I was just looking at the fire, and I didn't realize that I was also on fire until my instructor, who was standing behind me, started screaming."

In order to extinguish the flames on her skin, Lake had to run from the compressor at the middle of the boat to the bow and jump into the salty Caribbean ocean.

While Lake attempted to tread water, the fire spread to the rest of the boat.

"I had been holding the gas can in my hand, and when the fire started I must have dropped it somewhere near the fire, so then the gas must have ignited because the fire just shot up," Lake said.

Luckily, all of the other divers on the boat were able to safely jump overboard: Lake was the only passenger to suffer injuries. Fortunately, one of the support boats of the scuba-diving boat saw the smoke and was close enough to quickly come to Lake's aid.

"They dinghied over and got me on a little motor-boat dinghy and started doing first aid, although all they could really do was put cooling gel [on the burns]," Lake said. "I never really went unconscious: I was just sort of in a state of shock."

Lake and her Broadreach group had been scuba diving off the tiny island of St. Kitts. The first problem her rescuers encountered was in transporting her to the island hospital.

"While they were trying to figure out how to get me to a hospital, I was just lying on the bottom of the dinghy, and I could hear all the scuba tanks exploding and shooting off into the water," Lake said. "The hospital was not anywhere near where

our boat was anchored, so we dinghied to shore, and Jordan, [an instructor] who was with me in the dinghy, carried me to a cab. We took the cab to where there was a temporary hospital and a temporary ambulance, but they didn't really have any supplies or painkillers."

After about an hour and a half, Lake reached the St. Kitt's hospital. The hospital didn't have a burn unit, so the nurses and doctor who looked over Lake's injuries were inexperienced and originally believed that 30 percent of her body was burned.

After finally receiving painkillers, Lake spent the rest of the day in the hospital with the Broadreach course director.

LAKE, 7



TOP: CHS 2004 graduate Jossie Lake spent the summer as an intern working towards receiving her Dive Master and was filling scuba tanks when the compressor lit on fire, burning Lake and causing the boat to sink. She is now taking a semester leave from Wesleyan to allow her burns time to heal. Above: Lake aboard the boat filling scuba tanks prior the accident.

## Despite strong overall testing, district falls short of AYP

by REBEKAH SLODOUNIK

As part of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) legislation, the School District of Clayton is required to administer Missouri Assessment Program (MAP) tests each spring. The MAP scores help to calculate the Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) of the school district as a whole, as well as the AYP of each individual elementary and secondary school in the district.

"AYP is the amount of improvement that a school and district has to make in order to reach what NCLB determines as its target," Assistant Superintendent Mary Jo Liberstein said. "By 2014 all students need to meet the standards. It is left to the state to meet the parameters and calculate how much percent gain schools would have to show in Communication Arts and Math to hit 100 percent."

Liberstein explains how AYP is determined. "The state looks at the gain in terms of the total population of the school and district and also by four subgroups which are race, free and reduced lunch, special education (IEP) and English language learners (LEP)," Liberstein said.

A minimum number of students are required in each subgroup in order for each subgroup to be included in the overall AYP score. A minimum of 30 students must be in the race and free and reduced lunch categories, and a minimum number of 50 students in the special education and English language learners categories. Although CHS had 30 students in the former two categories, CHS did not have enough students in the latter two categories to count towards AYP.

The only two subgroups in the race category that counted towards Clayton's AYP are Caucasians and African Americans. CHS did not have a high enough population of Asians to be considered in the race category.

"[CHS] did meet all the AYP goals in Communication Arts and Math for all groups except for African Americans," Director of Professional Development and Assessment Janna Smith said. "A 26.6 percent is meeting proficiency in Communication Arts and a 17.5 percent is meeting proficiency in Math."

AYP, 4



HISTORY TEACHER BILL MENDELSON teaches his AP United States History class. All teachers are taking on the responsibility of trying to raise MAP scores even though they agree MAP tests are not the best or only means of evaluating students. Mendelson spear headed the writing across the curriculum initiative.





## Gaza withdrawal sparks debate, goes smoothly

REBECCA KATZ

From August 17 to 23, 22 Israeli towns in the Gaza Strip and four in the West Bank were unilaterally evacuated by the Israeli army. The move divided the country and led to heated debate even outside of Israel.

Soon after the 1967 Six Day War between Israel and its neighbors Egypt, Syria and Jordan, Israel began to encourage its citizens to settle in the lands it had acquired over the course of the conflict. These lands included the Gaza Strip, a narrow stretch of territory along the Mediterranean coast.

With government encouragement, many Israelis moved into the Strip, building 22 communities in close proximity to Gaza's rapidly growing Palestinian population. The new settlements were prosperous and began to employ large numbers of Palestinians.

In recent years, specifically during the Second Intifada, Palestinians repeatedly attacked the Gaza settlements, leading to dozens of Israeli casualties. This necessitated an increasingly heavy Israeli troop presence.

In 2004, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon came to the conclusion that maintaining an Israeli presence in Gaza was not worth the price and proposed a unilateral withdrawal from the region (along with four other towns in the West Bank).

Sharon's decision was based on several factors - first, that the demographic situation was becoming untenable. The Palestinian population in Gaza was already 1.4 million and increasing at a rate of 4 percent per year. If Israel continued to control Gaza, there existed the very real possibility that the Palestinian population in Israel would overtake the Jewish one and thus destroy the Jewish character of the state.

There was also growing sentiment among Israelis that it was not worth it to station such large numbers of troops (and suffer so many casualties) for the sake of such small towns (the total Jewish population in Gaza was about 9,000).

Additionally, withdrawal from Gaza left the Strip contiguous under Palestinian control, as is visualized in most plans for a future Palestinian state.

The Israeli public was deeply divided over the plan. Critics have pointed out that many of the settlers devoted three decades of their lives to building their towns. They would be required to leave behind the homes and businesses which they had built up out of the region's arid soil, and would only be meagerly compensated. It was inhuman, they said, to force people out of their homes.

Critics also noted that withdrawal from Gaza could be seen by Palestinians as a vindication of violence (indeed, Palestinian Authority president Mahmoud Abbas made comments asserting exactly that shortly after the withdrawal) which would lead to more, not less, terrorism and draw the region even further away from peace.

Many opponents of the plan opposed it on religious grounds. They believed that Israel was a land given to the Jewish people by God and that they were forbidden to relinquish any part of it.

Sharon first announced the plan in 2004, igniting passionate debate throughout Israel. Opponents of the disengagement adopted the color orange as a symbol of their cause along with the slogan "A Jew does not expel a Jew." Supporters of the plan later adopted the color blue.

Many Israelis were split on the issue. "If [the withdrawal] was totally necessary, it should have been done," said senior Donna

Iken, who was born in Israel, visits frequently, and much of whose family is Israeli. "But Gaza should not have been given to [the Palestinians] on a silver platter."

A common sentiment even among those who supported the plan was sympathy for the evacuees.

"I agree with the disengagement because I think in the long term, it will bring peace," said Avital Ludomirsky, also of Israeli family and a common visitor to the country. "But if I were a settler I wouldn't want to move."

There is a common recognition of the cost of the plan, which came with no concessions from the Palestinian side.

"You have to really commend Israel for taking such a big step," Iken said. "It was a huge sacrifice."

Despite expectations of violent resistance from the settlers, for the most part the disengagement went quite smoothly. Some had left before the police and army (who were in charge of the withdrawal) came; the majority stayed in their houses and were peacefully evacuated.

A few people (the bulk of whom turned out to be infiltrators from other parts of the country) threw various substances ranging from paint to (in one instance) caustic soda at the army. However, far more common images were those of soldiers and settlers praying together and weeping on each other's shoulders.

The security control of the Gaza Strip will be handed over to the Palestinian Authority, while responsibility for the border between Gaza and Egypt has been delegated to the latter (the border is often used for weapons smuggling).

The last Israeli soldier left Gaza on Sept. 12. Palestinians immediately moved into the abandoned towns, taking whatever remained of the bulldozed houses and burning synagogues.

## Bush proposes new energy bill

ROLAND REIMERS

Last month, President George Bush journeyed to New Mexico to sign a new energy policy act into legislation. The bill is the centerpiece of a large effort by the government to overhaul the current energy policy.

"This bill will strengthen our economy and it will improve our environment, and it's going to make this country more secure," Bush said in his address to an assembly of New Mexico lawmakers. "The Energy Policy Act of 2005 is going to help every American who drives to work, every family that pays a power bill, and every small business owner hoping to expand."

In addition, Bush stressed, "... we've provided more than \$1.3 billion for research in the innovative ways to improve today's coal plants and to help us build even cleaner coal plants in the future."

The bill, composed by Senate Energy & Natural Resources Chairman Pete V. Domenici, has been a long time coming. A new

Sue Teson, who resides in High Ridge, said. "There is no alternative [to driving]. There is no Metrolink or bus."

The recent increases in gas prices have not only caused drivers all over the country to seek ways to conserve gas, but have also affected the nation's financial system.

In an effort to reduce the strain on the nation's economy, President Bush and government agencies such as the National Commission on Energy Policy (NCEP) have stepped up efforts to research new forms of reliable energy.

At this stage, nuclear power seems to be the surest and most reliable alternative energy source. Not only are nuclear power plants capable of producing massive amounts of energy, but they also do not emit dangerous greenhouse gases. Yet the United States has not built a new nuclear power plant since the mid-1970's. Construction of new plants called for by the energy bill are to begin by the end of the

decade. However, other sources are being looked into as well. "The bill extends tax credits for wind, bio-

mass, landfill gas and other renewable electricity sources. The bill offers new incentives to promote clean, renewable geothermal energy." President Bush said.

Many European countries have already begun their initiatives to reduce the amount of environmental pollution that current fossil fuels create. Germany and Denmark have invested heavily in wind power, constructing hundreds of turbines across windy landscapes in the North Sea. Other countries such as France are now almost completely dependent on nuclear energy. With such a diverse selection of alternative energy sources to choose from, the question remains: What will the U.S. do?

"The bottom line is, I have to get to school," English teacher

president **GEORGE BUSH**

*This bill will strengthen our economy, improve our environment, and it's going to make this country more secure.*

## Intelligent Design recommendation controversial

The Kansas state school board has come under fire for its recent decision to downplay the teaching of evolution.

RACHEL HARRIS

The state of Kansas is once again making news with recommendations for its science curriculum. Recently, the Kansas State Board of Education decided by a 6-4 vote to include stronger criticism of evolution in its high school biology curriculum. This includes a greater emphasis on the teaching of intelligent design.

The Kansas school system was ridiculed nationally in 1999 when the board eliminated the teaching of evolution from their science curriculum entirely.

The theories of intelligent design and evolution have been butting heads for decades. Intelligent design is the theory that some biological structures and other complex aspects of nature are designed by a higher intelligence, such as God. Evolution is the theory that existing animals and plants develop gradually, continuously, changing from previously existing forms into what they are today. People continually debate over the validity of the two theories.

The Kansas Science Education Standards state:

"We believe it is in the best interest of educating Kansas students that all students have a good working knowledge of science: particularly what defines good science, how science moves forward, what holds science back and how to critically analyze the conclusions that scientists make."

Intelligent design advocates argue that questioning standing theories and providing alternative viewpoints contributes to students' overall knowledge of science. Evo-

lution advocates do not want to support, in their eyes, an uneducated and unscientific approach to teaching foundations of science.

"Evolution is not a matter of belief," biology and evolution teacher Chuck Collis said. "It's a matter of whether you accept the best and only naturalistic explanation of how life on this planet got to its present state. I happen to agree with it and put it on equal footing with modern atomic theory and other well founded scientific theories."

Many believe that intelligent design cannot be taught on the same level as evolution simply because it cannot be proven. Scientists view evolution as a proven set of facts based on the fossil record and comparison of DNA sequences of different organisms. Anti-evolutionists say evolution has not been fully proven either.

"It's good model for explaining small evolutionary changes," chemistry teacher and former pastor Brad Krone said. "The problem is that scientists have not shown the potential to generate the macro-evolutionary steps required by the evolutionary theory; for example, the transition from the reptilian scale to the feather."

The real issue is not what the teachers' personal beliefs are, but

what the students should be taught. Freshman Sam Oliveri is concerned that students will be greatly influenced if they are only taught one theory and won't be able to decide what they believe in on their own. Junior Melanie Holland has similar views regarding the teaching of only one of the disputed theories.

"I personally believe in intelligent design, but those are only my views," Holland said. "I don't think that they should stop teaching evolution just because I don't agree with it. If learning about evolution infringes on my beliefs, I don't want intelligent design getting a bad name because it infringes on others' beliefs."

Collis feels that introducing a non-scientific theory such as intelligent design into science classrooms has no place in public school systems due to its lack of scientific backing and blatant religious implications.

"It is important to realize that intelligent design is a belief, a philosophy, a religious view," Collis said. "It should not be taught alongside of evolution as a scientific equal. There is no way to test for it. There is no naturalistic way a scientist can gather evidence that verifies or falsifies supernatural acts performed by an 'intelligent designer.' If there is no way to falsify the intelligent design hypothesis, it is not a scientific hypothesis. Rather, it is a belief, a philosophy, a religious view."

In a group interview in the White House on Aug. 1, President George Bush commented to a group of Texas newspaper reporters that he believes the theory of intelligent design should be taught along with evolution as an opposing theory.

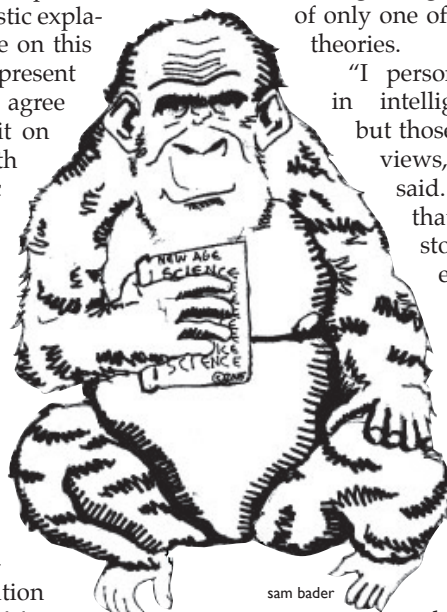
Left-wing activists are concerned Bush is not aware that by suggesting that students hear both viewpoints he doesn't understand the nature of the debate. They are troubled by the fact that one is a religious viewpoint while one is a scientific viewpoint, yet he is still endorsing both of them as if they were on the same scientific level.

While some are concerned about the teaching of intelligent design and its effects on the separation of church and state, others claim that Bush is representing the majority of Americans' views, thereby making their position more respectable.

"The prevailing scientific opinion of macro-evolutionary theory is accepted," Krone said. "Therefore, it is understood that this is what science teachers teach."

English teacher Rebecca Taylor teaches several sections of sophomore English. A major part of the course involves reading the Bible. During this unit, the students read Genesis which is the story of how God created the earth and Adam and Eve in seven days.

"We teach many things because the public insists we do," Taylor said. "We have a responsibility to the local population."



### Components of the new energy bill

#### Renewable Energy

- Provides new incentives for the development of clean and renewable energy sources
- Encourages the exploration and development of geothermal energy

#### Oil and Gas

- Permanently authorizes the Strategic Petroleum Reserve
- Incentives for ultra-deep (beyond 15,000 ft.) natural gas wells
- Authorizes the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline in order to bring 35 trillion cubic ft. of natural gas to lower 48 states

#### Coal

- Authorizes \$2 billion for deployment of clean coal technology, the most abundant traditional American energy source

#### Nuclear Energy

- Authorizes development of an advanced nuclear plant at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory, which will feature improved safety, reduced waste and higher efficiency


#### Hydrogen

- Authorizes \$2.1 billion to develop clean, renewable hydrogen cars
- Establishes research goals, and creates an inter-agency committee to oversee initiative

#### Research and Development

- Research includes: high temperature superconductivity, solar production of hydrogen, nanotechnology research for storage of hydrogen





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# District reviews strategies to raise scores, meet AYP

While test scores have increased since NCLB was passed, many districts lack the financial means necessary to make further improvements.

**AYP, I**

Although CHS did not meet AYP overall, CHS remains strong in the two individual categories.

"Our tenth grade math scores are consistently in the top 10 in Math," Smith said. "We out perform schools with similar enrollment in the county and in the state. The Communication Arts is not quite as strong."

Because each state sets its own standards, Smith feels that Clayton High School's scores should not be compared to other states.

"Every state's test scores differ nationally," Smith said. "Comparing one state's test scores to another is not an appropriate comparison because discrepancies from state to state exist."

The MAP test focuses on several main areas.

"Basic literary skills are important for MAP test success," Smith said. "These skills include understanding the reading, knowing vocabulary, being able to discern what the question is asking, writing an answer with supporting details and demonstrating an understanding of the text. The MAP test is primarily about reading and writing."

Teachers and administrators are hesitant to alter the curriculum solely to increase MAP scores without keeping the students' best interests in mind.

"Making AYP puts stress on all of us, and we want to make sure that we continue to provide for our students what we believe to be the best educational experience," Liberstein said. "We do not want to see students giving up electives or other subjects such as history, which are not included on the MAP tests."

CHS has already begun to discuss strategies to better meet AYP for the 2005-2006 school year.

"CHS teachers and administrators have set a building goal of improving academic achievement for African Americans," Liberstein said. "This fits with the district goal to maximize the learning potential for each student. These two goals directly fit with the need to meet the AYP standard."

The Leadership Council at CHS will play a key role in helping to implement change. Academic Director Josh Meyers is the head of the Leadership Council.

"As chair of the Leadership Council, I help facilitate conversations," Meyers said. "The Leadership Council is one avenue of many that will be used to

address the issue of MAP scores. The Leadership Council plans on examining the scores at our next meeting, and we will begin to formulate a game plan for how we as an entire school can work together to improve scores. Another way to address the scores both directly and indirectly is through our work with the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA). North Central is an organization through which schools can become accredited by enacting school improvements. This particular school improvement model allows us to choose the areas of focus in a given cycle, which will last three to five years. Two of our four targeted areas of school improvement will be African American Achievement and Writing. Both of these groups can help address the problems of meeting AYP on the Math and Communication Arts exams."

Besides the Leadership Council, other sources for change at CHS include the two NCA committees, as well as Professional Learning Communities (PLC's).

"A good deal of the work might come through the two NCA committees, African American Achievement and Writing," Meyers said. "We will be working with outside experts to develop and teach strategies to be implemented in the classroom. Some of these strategies may directly impact our MAP scores. A third way to approach improving MAP scores is through our PLC's, which is our professional development model designed to improve student achievement. Some PLCs will deal directly with MAP scores; others will deal with MAP scores indirectly."

The English and math departments at CHS are actively involved in utilizing the MAP scores to further develop and enhance curriculum.

"The English and math departments will be implementing an item analysis," Meyers said. "The data from the MAP tests and the MAP scores will be broken down into different parts, for example, which groups did well on which items, to better target areas in need of improvement. The break down of the data is extremely important because it shows every single component on the MAP test. The item analysis is just now getting underway, and it will take several weeks to grasp the data and plan how to address the data."

Problems exist with the process of meeting AYP. "The single measurement is perhaps the most

problematic," Smith said. "One test is used to totally define AYP, when we know there are lots of measures of success."

Principal Louise Losos agrees with Smith. "I don't like the use of only one measure to determine if we are making progress," Losos said. "I don't like a federal mandate that doesn't take into account local and state issues."

Losos is also able to see the positive side of the process of AYP.

"One aspect of the process of meeting AYP is that it makes us evaluate who we are and how we're doing, and that's not necessarily a bad thing," Losos said.

Liberstein cites a lack of financial backing as another problem.

"We do need to do more, but the improvements cost money and the federal government hasn't put financial support behind the NCLB," Liberstein said. "Although the underlying idea of NCLB is a worthy one, there is a lack of financial support. We need more finances to have a better effect."

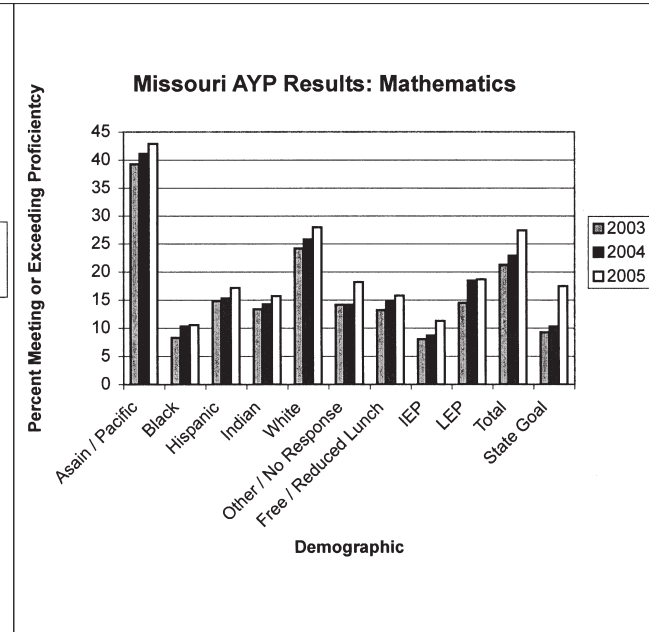
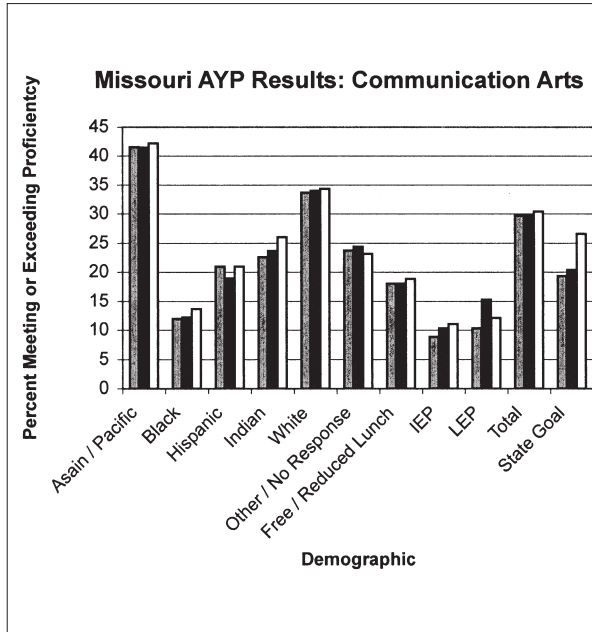
Smith admits that the failure to meet AYP is at times confusing.

"Our greatest concern is that when we look at students who have been with the district from elementary school, those students are still scoring in the lower two levels," Smith said. "This frustrates all of us, from the superintendent to teachers. We have the highest qualified teachers, and a well-developed curriculum, but how can this be happening? We must ask ourselves, 'What can we change? What kinds of things are we really changing and sustaining over time?' We need to try out of the box strategies and see how they work."

Losos chooses to view the failure to meet AYP in a more practical light.

"We do very well," Losos said. "We are an excellent high school and district and the failure to meet AYP can be befuddling. On the other hand, it keeps the faculty from being complacent. We could be better, and we need to look hard at ourselves."

Smith recognizes the significance of the MAP



statistics courtesy of www.dese.state.mo.us

*If there is only one thing I can emphasize, it is that the MAP tests are one way - not the only way and certainly not the best way - to measure our success in a certain area.*

academic director  
**JOSH MEYERS**

*Although the underlying idea of NCLB is a worthy one, there is a lack of financial support. We need more finances to have a better effect.*

assistant superintendent  
**MARY JO LIBERSTEIN**

tests.

"The MAP test scores have implications for the status of CHS and the district," Smith said. "While students may not see a personal benefit to themselves, the test really does count."

Meyers stresses the importance of seeing the big picture when considering the MAP tests.

"If there is only one thing that I can emphasize, it is that the MAP tests are one way - not the only way and certainly not the best way - to measure our success in a certain area," Meyers said. "The MAP tests are not to be ignored, they need to be taken seriously, but cannot be looked upon as the sole indicating factor of our success."

The MAP scores have various meanings to students.

"I would guess that to most students, the MAP tests mean very little, especially in relation to ACT and SAT scores," Meyers said. "To a certain, select few, it means a whole lot. There is no doubt that some kids take the MAP scores very seriously. I'm afraid some African American students at CHS might feel the MAP scores reflect badly on all African Americans. That is not OK."

Liberstein points out the long-term effects of MAP scores and the process of meeting AYP.

"The district is not in a situation where the state is saying we need improvement, but the state continues to look at AYP as part of how they evaluate the district overall," Liberstein said. "Under the Missouri School Improvement Plan, which will take place in three years time, we will be marked down by the state for not meeting AYP status every year."

Though CHS did not meet AYP as an entire school, Losos remains optimistic.

"Our students do a tremendous job," Losos said. "And all of them from every racial category tell us how well prepared we are. And that, in many ways, is a measure of success. By every measure you can look at, Clayton High School is one of the top schools in the state and comparatively in the nation. Can we do a better job? Yes. Are we doing a tremendous job? Yes." ☺

# Belleville dress code raises questions about first amendment

**DRESS CODE, I**

Consequences under the new dress code have also become more structured.

"A variety of consequences are used depending on the frequency and severity of the violation," Kniepkamp said. "The format is a structured set of consequences starting with warnings, moving to Saturday Detentions then going to suspensions in more severe cases."

The controversy over the case brought significant attention to the Belleville School District and the concept of dress codes in schools.

"The parents in the Belleville School District did the right thing," junior Ryan Dubro said. "The case might have been taken a little far, but the parents stood up and gave their children a voice, which might not have been heard otherwise."

Sophomore Kellie Jones has mixed feelings about the Belleville parents' protest.

**A quick look...**

*A few districts in the St. Louis area have creative elements in their dress code policies.*

- Students who violate Washington High School's dress code must wear a shirt saying, "I love my principal."
- Francis Howell North uses the "7 Bs" policy, stating that students may not show boxers, briefs, breasts, bottoms, bras, bellies or bedroom attire.

"On one hand, the parents are the ones paying the taxes and paying for the uniforms most of the time," Jones said. "But on the other hand, they aren't the ones actually wearing the uniforms, and they aren't the ones teaching the students and dealing with dress code

behind Belleville's decision.

"I support the general idea of dress codes," Losos said. "I think each school needs to find an approach that works well for them and fits with their philosophy. I do not know Belleville's reason-

ing, but I support their belief that it will reduce problems. Uniforms remove a great number of issues in a school and can help create a more academic environment."

However, Losos also feels that any dress code would not be effective at CHS.

"Clayton's dress policy is another example of the freedom and responsibility given to Clayton students," Losos said. "We do not mandate a certain type of dress, but expect them to dress in a responsible and appropriate manner. In my first few weeks here, I have seen only one or two outfits that raised any eyebrows. Uniforms would not fit in well with the culture and philosophy of CHS or the Clayton School District and we do not need to enhance our academic environment. We are doing quite well without them."

Jones agrees, pointing out that CHS students take a lot of pride in their appearance.

"CHS especially is a place where there is a lot of diversity," Jones said. "Kids here kind of express that diversity through their clothing and accessories. A dress code might

be good because it would put the emphasis on learning and less on looks, but at Clayton people value opinions and diversity, and it seems like looks are an important way that we express ourselves."

Losos stresses that each district must find an approach that works

for their students.

"Every school needs to define themselves and find what works best for them," Losos said. "For some it's dress codes, for others a strict closed campus.

*Uniforms would not fit in well with the culture of CHS or the Clayton School District and we do not need to enhance our academic environment.*

principal  
**LOUISE LOSOS**

CHS and believe in what they are capable of; they do not need school uniforms to demonstrate that to me." ☺

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# Increased class offerings leave CHS jammed for space

☛ **KATE ROTHMAN**

Traditionally, the Greyhound room is used for a meeting room. This year, however, it is home to a biology class. Room 118, previously a storage room and small office, is the location of multiple Spanish classes this year.

According to Assistant Principal Dan Gutchevsky, student numbers are actually down this year, so why are all of the classrooms full?

"Last year on count day, we had 913 students," Gutchevsky said. "This year, we have 904. Nine students really does not impact much within the scheduling though."

One of the reasons for all the full classrooms is the unique courses offered at CHS this year.

"We are offering more single-section classes than ever before," Counselor Claire Dickerson said. "These classes are often attractive to our students because of their creative nature."

Many CHS students believe in the importance of specialized classes.

"Taking international politics was really important to me because I'm really interested in it," junior Avital Ludomirsky. "So I decided I would work my schedule around it, since it's only offered once."

These classes, known as "singletons" often affect other class sizes as well. If students want to take a singleton, their schedules must be worked so that all their other classes fit in around the singleton.

"AP French is only offered the period that I take it," junior Hannah Longmore said. "As a result, I couldn't take sociology or American Government this year."

The master schedule has to be worked carefully so that as many students as possible get into their top classes. The administration tries

hard to prevent what happened to Longmore.

"We try to make the schedule fit so that the majority of the students get into the classes they want to take," Gutchevsky said.

The master schedule is prepared early to ensure the least amount of last-minute problems.

"The schedule is done in the spring of the previous year, after students pick what classes they want to take," Gutchevsky said. "Then, later, hand-placement is done and we balance out a few classes and fix conflicts."

CHS staff works hard to try to allow all students to take the classes they want.

"When a class has a conflict, [counselors] meet individually with the student to discuss all options," Dickerson said. "Counselors work hard to meet the individual needs of all our students. We are student-centered and sometimes meet with the same student on numerous occasions to develop a schedule that offers the best educational experience."

Another possible reason for the enlarged classes is simple class (grade) size.

"The junior class this year is the biggest to come through CHS yet," Gutchevsky said.

"Juniors take biology, so there needed to be more sections of biology classes. We have one more biology teacher this year than last year, so the Greyhound room was made into a classroom."

With all the classes, rooms at CHS are all in use many periods of the day.

"Eighth hour, there are no open classrooms in the school," Gutchevsky said. "In second and fifth hours, there are three open rooms each."

Although classes may seem awfully big, there are limits to how many students can be in each classroom.

"Under district guidelines, there can be 24 students per class, although there are some ex-



Carlin Ly

ceptions," Gutchevsky said. "P.E. classes can be higher because they can handle more numbers, as well as certain other classes."

Such requirements result in small classes.

"Any class with less than 10 students has to be reviewed, but certain classes are kept small purposely," Gutchevsky said. "Climbing is capped at 13 for safety reasons. Classes that need certain equipment are kept at lower numbers as well because there is limited equipment for some classes."

Other exceptions are made for classes such as higher level foreign language classes, classes that are "capstone experiences."

"If a student wants to take AP Spanish, and there are only a few other students in that class, we're not going to tell them they can't take it," Gutchevsky said. "We want them to be able to finish out their foreign language experience."

CHS is following the guidelines well.

"There are 148 sections that are within one

person of district guidelines, a big number," Gutchevsky said.

One particular class is within guidelines, but the numbers of students in the two sections of AP Chemistry widely differs. One section of AP Chemistry teacher Nathan Peck's class has 9 students, while the other is pushing 20.

"I am in the larger chem class," Ludomirsky said. "We have lab partners and the other class doesn't, but I really don't think there are any other differences."

Junior Chris Jeffrey views it differently.

"I'm in the smaller AP Chem class," Jeffrey said. "It is good because it's more individualized. We have to learn how to do everything ourselves to do labs since we work by ourselves."

Though classes may seem different or unbalanced this year, most students seem to like the opportunities they are getting to take more unique classes and don't mind the challenges of scheduling. ☺

**GUIDANCE COUNSELOR CHAT Leonard** discusses a student's schedule in the early days of the school year. "Counselors work hard to meet the individual needs of all our students," counselor Claire Dickerson said. "We are student-centered and sometimes meet with the same student on numerous occasions to develop a schedule that offers the best educational experience."

*Eighth hour there are no open classrooms in the school. In second and fifth hours, there are three open rooms each.*

assistant principal  
**DAN GUTCHEWSKY**

## Graduation requirements leave room for personal interests, choice

☛ **MIA HARLAN**

The graduation requirements at CHS include less than four years of most subjects and they can easily be achieved. A variety of classes can be taken to get credit for a subject and many students have noticed a difference between the regular track and the more advanced classes.

"I've had some required classes where teachers put a lot less effort into the material," senior Zach Smith said. "It results in an easy A for the student, but without much real knowledge gained."

Other students agreed. "In English II I turned in my paper and I got an A," junior Laura Goldsticker said. "Comparatively, honors physics was a lot of work."

English II is the required English class for sophomores, how-

ever honors physics is a class that not every freshman takes and that results in an increased amount of work and difficulty.

Taking the easier classes allow students to get a high grade, but they learn less. A lot of time, the information they learn tends to seem worthless by the students.

"In the honors classes you actually have to work hard to pass," sophomore Joe Lucky said. "You also might actually be using the knowledge in real life as opposed to a class that you're just taking for a credit."

Some elective classes that most students use just for a credit cause the students who take the class for pleasure not to work up to their potential.

"I feel out of place in forensics," Goldsticker said. "We go really

slow on everything, and a lot of students skip class. I don't think I'm learning very much either."

The amount that students learn or find important in classes is not the only difference between classes.

"I'm in a lot of classes I don't need for graduation," junior Bob McGibbon said. "They are harder classes because students don't need to take them. They take them for a challenge or because they are interested in them."

Many students have incentives to take harder classes.

"The difference is that kids who take honors classes do it either because they actually want to learn, or because it looks good on their transcripts," Smith said. "Either way, they make sure they learn the material. In mandatory classes kids are less concerned with grades."

Teachers also notice a difference in the students in different classes.

*In honors classes or classes that are not required, teachers expect more because the students want to be there.*

junior  
**BOB MCGIBBON**

## AP Physics carries weighty reputation

Since it was started in 1991, AP Physics has been known for its breakneck pace and challenging material. However, dedicated students find the outcome well worth the effort.

☛ **JIM AN**

The AP Physics course is often regarded as the toughest class at CHS. Only dozen or so students each year venture to take upon themselves the challenge of this rigorous course.

AP Physics was originally started in 1991 as a follow-up to the junior physics course. When physics was added as a requirement for all incoming freshman, this changed. The follow-up courses became Honors Physics and AP Physics. More recently, changes were made this year in the AP Physics program. A summer assignment was added, which saves three weeks in review time, allowing more time to cover new material.

The full-year class is designed to prepare students for the AP test held each year in May. Many concepts are covered to provide students with a thorough knowledge of physics.

"The result of this course is a substantial conceptual understanding of physics," physics teacher Rex Rice said. "However, given the nature of the subject, there is definitely too much material for the time allotted."

For colleges accepting AP courses as college credit, AP Physics has been counted as up to eight credits of work, effectively worth two semesters of introductory classes.

Though the reward is high, students often find the course to be an incredibly difficult experience.

"It's as close as you'll get to hell at CHS," CHS graduate AnTu Xie said. "It is the hardest class by far."

"This class is pretty hard," junior Brent Cohen said.

Senior Alison Byrnes agrees.

"The class is really difficult," Byrnes said. "It's not necessarily the material, although that is hard too, but the pace is really fast. You do labs almost everyday and classes are always busy. It can be overwhelming at times."

Cohen is just a few weeks into the course, yet



Laura Terri

**AP PHYSICS TEACHER Rex Rice** demonstrates the effects of friction during a recent AP Physics class. The class has a reputation for being difficult and fast paced. "Given the nature of the subject," Rice said, "there is definitely too much material for the time allotted."

already feels the pressure.

"The summer assignment took a while even though it was review," Cohen said.

Yifang Zhao, who also completed the course last year, had a lighter opinion of the class.

"The class is not too hard if you keep up with the homework," Zhao said.

While Rice estimated the homework to average out to be about an hour a night, Xie said he had nights filled with countless hours of homework.

"The hardest part of the class is the work-

load," Byrnes said. "There is no busy work. You have to spend a lot of time on every assignment to make sure you understand everything, and you have to make sure you're always doing really high quality work."

The labs were also not received with the best of emotions.

"The labs were usually tedious, or predictable, or both," Xie said.

Despite the rigors of the course, Rice is held in the highest esteem and well-liked by both his students and colleagues.

"Rice is simply the best," chemistry teacher Mike Howe said. "AP Physics is definitely worth the time and effort."

In addition, the hands-on aspects of the class are intriguing to students.

"Honors Freshman Physics was really fun and I learned a lot," Byrnes said. "In Honors Freshman Physics, Mr. Rice always said that we got to launch things across the room. That's basically why I took the class, that and the Six Flags field trip. If I'm taking a challenging class like AP Physics, I want it to be fun and different."

The challenge does indeed bring reward at the end of the year for students who choose to tackle the course. Students gain a great understanding of physics, as evidenced with nearly all students receiving fives, the highest score, on the AP Physics test.

"Even though it is stressful now, I know I will be prepared for the AP in the spring," Byrnes said. "That makes the work worth it. Everything we do in class is related to the AP, so you know what you are working towards and you know what to expect."

Upon completion, both Xie and Zhao held the challenge of AP Physics in great esteem and prided themselves upon their successes.

"It's a rite of passage," Xie said. "If you don't take AP Physics, you're not a man."

"I enjoyed the challenge. I learned things in this class that actually connects with the real world," said Zhao. ☺

## Aerobic dance offers variety to mandatory gym credit

☛ **LEAH EBY**

As students return to the school routine, Aerobic Dance is creating routines of their own.

Aerobic Dance, which is offered at Clayton High School as a gym credit, is all about staying fit while having a great time.

"My goal for this class is for the girls to have fun while being physically active," Aerobic Dance teacher Melissa Lewis said. "I find aerobics fun. I am the kind of person that gets very bored getting on a treadmill and running for an hour. So for me to stay active I had to find something that kept my interest and helped me stay in shape."

Freshman Paige Meneses, a student in Aerobic Dance, has an opinion similar to that of her teacher.

"There is always a way to make exercises fun, and Ms. Lewis plays good music during class," Meneses said.

Lewis also adds that although Aerobic Dance may seem like a simple course, her class is not easy.

"On the first day I tell everyone that we will be sweating and working out," Lewis said. "If they really want to get in shape, this is the class that will do it."

"The class is hard," Meneses said. "You really work on building up your strength and endurance."

Junior Marie-Sophie Ritter agrees with Meneses' comments.

"It's better than most gym classes because we work out more than usual," Ritter said. "I like that everyone tries and enjoys the class."

Junior Chioma Oteh feels that the class is unlike any other.

"It wasn't what I expected," Oteh said. "But I am very happy with it. After class I feel sweaty and fit."

Lewis teaches more than just aerobics.

"We do a number of activities including Body Sculpting, Abs class, spinning, yoga, and different types of dance," Lewis said.

"We warm up first, then we do aerobics, and then we cool down," Ritter said.

"Every Tuesday or Wednesday we have abs, and every two weeks we have a different unit," said Meneses.

Oteh, who used to dance, enjoys the class. She is looking forward to the guest instructor from COCA, who will work with the class in teaching many types of dance.

Aerobic Dance is offered every semester to anyone who is interested. Lewis endorses the fact that it is a P.E. class.

"It is all about being physically active and learning how to stay in shape," Lewis said. "That is what P.E. is all about." ☺

*On the first day I tell everyone that we will be sweating and working out. If they really want to get in shape, this class will do it.*

Aerobic Dance teacher  
**MELISSA LEWIS**



# Photography changes its focus

YIPENG HUANG

Beginning this year, the photography classes will be switching to digital as their main medium for shooting and developing.

The switch involves new equipment and approach on how the class is taught. It also draws mixed responses from students taking the class.

With the addition of new digital cameras and 20 iMac G5 computers to the photography classroom, teachers and students of the class have the chance to experience photography in a very different way.

The switch to a digital darkroom simplifies the technical process of making photos, giving the students more time to focus on the artistic aspects of the class.

With the time that digitizing saves, students have more time to optimize their prints and critique each other's photos. It also gives the class more time to examine the elements that go into a good picture, such as the lighting, motion, composition and the emotion of the photo.

Before this year, students beginning photo had to learn to load and focus their cameras. After the

shooting assignment, they then had to develop their film and print their photographs, a process that often took more than a week just for one assignment.

It also involved various chemicals that students need to take precaution using.

"Anyone that has been in the darkrooms would know that chemical development involves a lot of trial and error sometimes," art teacher Christina Vodicka explained. "If a student misses one step, that mistake can potentially set the assignment back by several days."

"The whole process became very frustrating sometimes," junior John Acker said, who took photo last year. "Especially when it ends up ruining your pictures."

Digital cameras simplify the more technical aspects of photography such as exposure or focusing. Printing pictures also takes much less time than it did in chemical development.

Students taking the advanced classes have expressed concern about this change. They have gotten used to the old medium of shooting and development.

Junior Ryan Powell, who is tak-

ing photo II this year, feels that the digital cameras save a lot of time and are easier to use. On the other hand, senior Jesse Kornblum, who is also taking photo II, prefers chemical development.

"Developed pictures have better quality," Kornblum said. "They show more detail."

"Digital and traditional photography are really just two different approaches to the same study of making artistic images," Vodicka said. "In photojournalism there's been a rapid and almost seamless transition from traditional photography to digital. We look forward to having that type of transition here in CHS too."

Vodicka, however, does not foresee the disappearance of traditional photography.

"Even though digital has so many advantages over traditional, there will always be a place for conventional photography, just like how television has not entirely replaced the radio," Vodicka said.

As for whether or not chemical development will be introduced into the class, it depends on how well the curriculum adapts to the new medium and how the students adapt to the curriculum. ☺



THE NEW DIGITAL photo lab has provided an easier, less stressful resource for teaching the photography class. This eighth-hour class works on a project under the supervision of art teacher Christina Vodicka.

Ben Weixmann

## Cafeteria implements healthier food options to combat obesity problem

KATIE WEISS

In a country where 60 percent of adults and 13 percent of children are obese, CHS parents and students can now take comfort in the fact that the school cafeteria will not be contributing to this problem.

Starting with the new school year, cafeteria changes have been made throughout the entire district. Healthier options have been added to the menu while the high-calorie

snacks have been taken away.

The new additions to the high school cafeteria include fresh fruit, sandwiches with whole wheat bread and healthier entrees such as, stir-fry.

However, cafeteria manager, Shelly Long says that while healthier options will be added, old favorites, such as fries and popcorn chicken, will be staying on the menu, only served less frequently.

"We feel that while we do want

kids to eat healthier, there is no way we can make them," Long said. "If they don't get the food they want here they will just go somewhere else to get it."

Long also said that these changes are not just about getting kids to eat better, but also about their learning to make better choices.

"The new menu is mainly about giving kids the option of healthy meals, it is up to them if they want to eat it," Long said.

But the real question is whether these changes will make a difference.

Cardinal Glennon obesity expert Sarah Barlow agrees that choice is important for students but how food is prepared, makes a difference as well.

"It's not necessarily about how healthy the food is, it's about making the healthy food students are offered seem pleasurable and not like something they have to eat," Barlow said. "Who wants to eat pale, limp and overcooked broccoli? But things like good tasting cut up fruit and seasoned vegetables would make kids more interested in the healthy options."

Barlow also states that while it is

all right to serve french fries every once in a while, it should not be a permanent member of the menu.

"For most of us, it is hard to choose apple when a gooey doughnut is sitting there?" Barlow said. "French fries should not be served everyday and in my opinion soda shouldn't even be available."

But is all this concern for nothing; are CHS students really at risk of obesity?

"Some students have a greater tendency to gain weight than others but three times as many children and adolescents are now overweight compared with 25 years ago," Barlow said. "Genes don't change that fast, so it must be the environment. The big answer to what causes obesity is too many calories and not enough calories being burned."

While this program has only been in action for a couple of months, it has already received the results that its been working towards.

"All we really want to see come out of this program is participation," Long said. "We really want the kids to enjoy what they are eating." ☺



Jamie Sachar

FRUIT IS JUST one of the healthier choices added to this year's lunch menu. This change to less fattening foods is in attempt to combat the nationwide obesity issue.

## Learning Center spotlights math and English

### Due to district budget cuts, history will no longer be emphasized in the Learning Center

BEN WEIXLMANN

Invariably, additions almost certainly are accompanied by subtractions.

This summer, although Principal Louise Losos was brought in to fill the duties of retiring principal Dave Skillman, the Mark Twain Learning Center cut its history portion of its program.

This elimination was made in an effort to resolve budget cuts by the school district, and this cut allowed the Learning Center the opportunity to respond to need for more math tutoring, and with the hiring of math intern Karen Thomas.

Learning Center Coordinator Dee Blassie observed the needs of students last year and came to a solid conclusion.

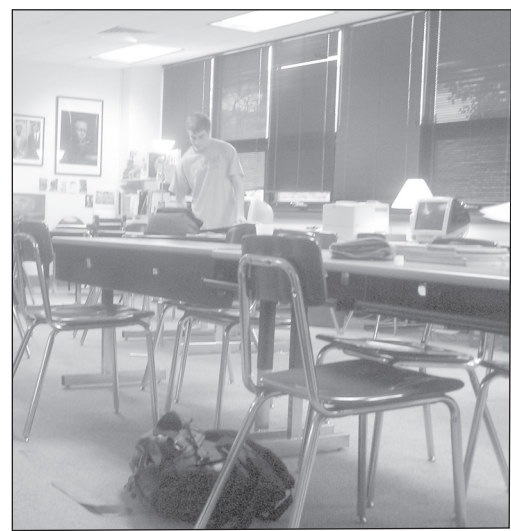
"Most of the kids in here needed help on math," Blassie said. "There would be lines of five or six kids at a time waiting for a math teacher on a constant basis."

Blassie decided that something needed to be done about this problem.

"We weighed out things, and unfortunately, we had to give up history," Blassie said. "There were just too many kids who needed assistance in math and English and weren't able to be attended to."

This change in the Learning Center has brought about a variety of new innovations within the Center itself.

"We have started support and



Staff Photo

JUNIOR ANDREW SCHECHTER works in the Learning Center. Even though the staff has been reorganized, students are still receiving ample help.

study groups," Blassie stated. "If a student is struggling, which is often categorized as a D or F in the perspective subject, then he or she can get extra help to correct any issues."

English intern Nicole Martineau believes that students have definitely benefited from the study groups so far, and will in the future.

"I spoke with the English department, and they told me the reason kids got the bad grades was due to a lack of effort to do their homework," Martineau said. "The study groups have helped to keep the students on their feet and maintaining an interest in the topic. It has also helped because students can ex-

press their problems, and we can have a discussion about it. Also, we discuss strategies for homework and the class in general, and how the students can perform better."

Blassie has also created a friendly way to fixing a noise and disruption issue within the Learning Center.

"I greet the students at the door and say, 'Hi! Which teacher would you like to meet?'," Blassie said. "This helps eliminate the chatter that students have with one another rather than just walking in and socializing with friends.

If they need to come into the Learning Center, it should be an environment in which they can peacefully study. We request that if you have any issues you need to discuss with a friend, that you talk with them at a later time or go to the library."

Blassie also reiterates that the Learning Center sees a constant flow of kids from before school to after school hours every day. The amount of students is, by Blassie's opinion, a testament to how the staff treats and cooperates with the students.

"We have such a hardworking staff," Blassie said. "My staff is al-

ways responding to a multitude of different questions whether it be English, math, or history in an orderly fashion. We hope to start a peer tutoring program within the next couple of years that allows students to interact with other students while learning the material they need to succeed at CHS. It will also be a great opportunity to get community service hours for upperclassmen."

Students for the most part are finding this new system nothing short of stellar.

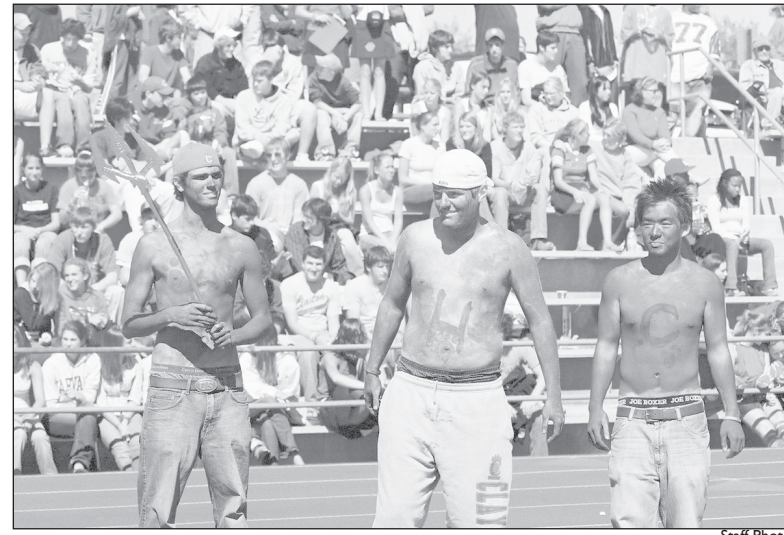
"It's awesome how I can come in here and know I am going to be able to get all my work done," sophomore Dwayne Johnson said. "And getting credit on top of getting all my work done makes it that much better. The way the Learning Center is set up now, with everything being so quiet, is amazing."

Another student commented on the environment and the atmosphere he has experienced this year.

"I love the Learning Center environment," senior Reid Goldman said. "I can go in and get any help I need on my homework or just study for tests."

Junior Tony Martin echoed what Johnson and Goldman said.

"The Learning Center is a quiet place now that Mrs. Blassie has taken over," Martin said. "She's done an amazing job getting everyone help to what they need for tests and homework in general." ☺



The spirit shown last year during the Homecoming football game by seniors Marcus Deem, Myles McDonnell, and Matt Levy is indicative of the CHS pride during Homecoming Week.

Staff Photo

## Homecoming brings out Greyhound Pride

ANYA VEREMAKIS

freshman Ben Merrick said.

Homecoming "Spirit Week", in which decorating the commons, the bonfire, and Spirit Days take place will be Oct. 3-7. The Homecoming parade, football game, and dance will be on Oct. 7. But with every new year, come the new themes and twists each new group of Class Officers come up with. The Homecoming themes were picked at the end of last year, with the seniors

picking to be the Romans, the juniors Pirates, the sophomores Cowboys, and the Astronauts selected for the freshmen.

"It was between that and different board games and we decided that even though board games would be fun, it would be too difficult to dress up as," sophomore class treasurer Jackie Wilcher said. "The themes we picked this year are just easier to do for every aspect of Homecoming week."

Class themes are used by each class to decorate their side of the commons on a given day, dress up as their theme, and decorate their float according to theme.

"The decorations at the dance will correspond with the seniors' class theme," junior class president Alex Heil-Chapelaine said.

Most students seem psyched by the choice of class themes this year.

"Being pirates is just cool in itself...it's just pretty different from anything we've ever done," Heil-Chapelaine said.

Being their last CHS Homecoming, the seniors are determined to make this Homecoming a memorable one.

"We thought [Romans] would be an easier theme to build and produce," senior class president Jesse Kornblum said. "But also, it's always fun to wear togas."

Although, not all students are as enthusiastic about their class theme this year.

"I don't like our theme [Astronauts] at all, its way too random,"

However, Homecoming being less than a month away, class officers will have to start planning according to their themes.

"I think we have a lot of motivated girls as Sophomore Officers," Wilcher said. "We are already out of debt from Freshman year and we are planning a carwash, a barbecue, and a surprise fundraiser that connects to our theme [Cowboys] the day we decorate the commons."

Planning will play a big role in Homecoming Week, but it is getting people involved which makes the whole eventwork. Motivating students

to get involved with dressing up according to their theme is always one of the bigger challenges.

"We are going to pass out sheets on the day when people are supposed to dress up in order to help get people involved," Kornblum said. "We are just going to make it the best time it can be."

In past years the parade, in which all the class floats are displayed, has started at CHS and gone to Gay Field. The idea behind this being that the "spirit" from the parade would carry over into the Homecoming game, which would be played right after.

However, due to the construction on Gay Field, the route will make a loop and end back at CHS where it started. Then all participants will drive to Concordia, where the football game will be played this year.

"I understand why the parade has to be changed this year, it's disappointing though," sophomore Elaine Faddis said. "I don't think people will be as pumped about the game and it will take away from the spirit that has been there past years."

Homecoming Week is always a very highly anticipated section of the year and the plans are rapidly approaching. ☺

We are going to pass out sheets on the day when people are supposed to dress up in order to help get people involved.

senior class president  
**JESSE KORNBLOM**



# CHS alum recovers from burns after boating accident

LAKE, I

"At first they thought I could just fly to [the neighboring island of] St. Martin and then fly home on a commercial plane," Lake said. "But then they realized there was no way I could travel on a regular plane and go through an airport."

Finding a way to get Lake off the island was only one of the difficulties, as all of Lake's forms of identification were at the bottom of the ocean along with the boat, which had sunk shortly after the fire.

"At one point, pretty early after the accident, Jordan, and it's funny because all the nurses kept asking him if he was my husband because we were both tan, came in, and we were talking, and I asked, 'How's the boat?' and he said, 'Well, don't freak out, but it sank, the whole boat burned and sank,'" Lake said.

However, by a kind of miracle, Lake's passport was salvaged from the wreck.

"Some of the guys from the support boat went diving on the wreck of the boat, and everything was burned and melted, except they found a scuba fin, an untouched half-carton of eggs that was lying where the refrigerator had been and a stack of slightly-charred passports," Lake said. "Luckily, my passport was in the stack."

By another stroke of luck, Lake had Travel Guard, the insurance recommended for all Broad-reach participants.

"Travel Guard had a way to get an air ambulance at midnight," Lake said. "So at midnight these really crazy, blonde air-ambulance medics came in and put me on a plane IV. Basically, with an air ambulance, they take you from the bed you're in to whatever the next bed is, so they carried me to the ambulance and then onto this tiny plane."

Lake doesn't remember much of the trip. "They gave me more painkillers, so I was in a weird daze throughout the flight," Lake said.

After flying throughout the night, the air ambulance landed in Miami, Florida, to go through customs. However, citing bureaucratic reasons, the Miami hospital wouldn't admit Lake.

Lake had to take the air ambulance to the nearby city of Gainesville before she was finally admitted to the University of Florida hospital trauma center around 6 a.m., nearly 24 hours after the accident had occurred.

Once in Gainesville, the treatment of her burns finally began.

"This is gross, but they put me on a table, and my feet were burned and sort of up my legs and then my arm, and it was all sort of black and purple, and I had these really big blisters full of water, and it was all dead, burned skin, so they had to take all that skin off," Lake said. "That was pretty intense."

Lake was awake for the entire ordeal. "I never, unfortunately, went unconscious," Lake said. "Basically, they put me down on a table, and they had these hoses coming down, and they sprayed everything and cut it."

During the first day in Gainesville, the Broad-reach course director, who had flown with Lake in the air ambulance, stayed with her, as Lake's mom couldn't get a flight out of California, where she had been vacationing.

Though she was at first unable to get a plane to go see her daughter, Carol Lake heard about the accident almost immediately, having received a phone call in California from the ambulance in St. Kitt's.

The time that passed between when Carol Lake heard about the accident and when she finally arrived in Gainesville was the hardest part of the ordeal.

"At first it was total shock," Carol Lake said. "It was really scary until I got to the hospital in Gainesville and saw her. I couldn't imagine what kind of condition she would be in. So it was a real relief to finally see her when I got there."

Jossie Lake remembers little of her time in Gainesville.

"It's weird because I spent two weeks in the hospital, but I was on a lot of painkillers," Jossie Lake said. "I remember things; it's just not very clear how I actually spent all that time."

According to Carol Lake, Jossie Lake underwent two surgeries during the two-week period. In order to cover her third-degree burns, skin grafts had to be taken from both thighs.

"She had one [surgery] on her arm and hand on Aug. 19, and we thought that was going to be the only surgery," Carol Lake said. "They were supposed to do her leg and foot at that time, too, but they ran out of time. So then they had to do another surgery on Aug. 22."

Thirteen days after arriving in Gainesville, Jossie Lake was transported, again by air am-



Caitlin Ly

balance, back to St. Louis, where she was able to bypass more hospital stays and go straight home, although a nurse came every morning to dress her burns.

However, as her burns heal, Jossie Lake is becoming more independent. She can leave her house, and her mom is now dressing her burns.

Although Jossie Lake continues to see medical professionals regarding her wounds, she has not had formal therapy for her leg and foot.

"I have to go to this wound clinic: I'd been going every week but now I go every two weeks," Jossie Lake said. "I start hand therapy tomorrow, but I don't have to do [formal] therapy because just walking around takes care of the healing."

Jossie Lake still wears bandages on her left arm, left hand, left thigh and right foot, but the burns are already on their way to being healed.

"At this point, the only reason the bandages are still on is to keep moisturizer and anti-bacteria ointment on," Jossie Lake said. "Most of the burns are closed, not open, so it's not a matter of infection. Before I had ace bandages on for compression, but at this point it's just trying to keep all the skin moisturized."

With time, Jossie Lake is becoming stronger. "When I got home [from Gainesville] I couldn't really do anything because I was on a lot of painkillers, and it was hard for me to walk, and I had no strength: I was always tired," Jossie Lake said. "But at this point I'm pretty much better."

However, Jossie Lake will still be taking a semester of leave from Wesleyan University, as continuing to treat her burns would be more difficult at school.

According to Jossie Lake, having to miss school is the worst consequence of the accident.

"It's hard not being able to go back to school for the first semester," Jossie Lake said. "It's my sophomore year and I was all excited. But I'm taking some classes at Wash. U [during the fall semester] and I should be back [at Wesleyan] next semester."

Despite all of the hardships she has overcome, Jossie Lake remains optimistic and grateful.

"With the fact that there was a gasoline-based fire, everything could have been a lot worse," Jossie Lake said. "The kids got to finish their trip, they got another trip, my injuries will heal. It could have been a lot worse." ☺

**CHS ALUM JOSSIE Lake** (class of '04), lounges at her Clayton home. Lake suffered serious burns from a gasoline fire on a boat this summer, but is now out of the hospital and attending classes at Washington University while she continues her recovery.

*Everything could have been a lot worse. The kids got to finish their trip, they got another trip, my injuries will heal. It could have been a lot worse.*

CHS alum  
**JOSSIE LAKE**

## New Latin teacher rejuvenates classes in CHS' oldest language

New Latin teacher Jesse Rine juggles classes at both Wydown and CHS as he steps in to fill the void left by departing teacher Cy St. Clair.

☺ **WENNY DONG**

Latin Teacher Jesse Rine is among many new faculty and students at CHS this year.

But if students think the first month of school is hard, try teaching classes at both CHS and Wydown.

Rine teaches fifth, seventh, and eighth period classes at CHS.

"It can get a little challenging going between schools," Rine said. "Sometimes I'm late to class because of traffic or something."

Junior Sadie Heinz, a Latin IV student thinks that teaching Latin can be difficult.

"A lot of Mr. Rine's classes are challenging to teach because

there are so many different levels," Heinz said. "In one of his classes there are Latin III, IV, and V students. But they are all in the same class because of size and scheduling, I guess."

However, Rine enjoys teaching and feels that Clayton uses a first-rate textbook.

Clayton also has a stronger focus on Roman culture and history compared to the other schools where he has taught, Kirkwood High School and Priory. He thinks that the Clayton Latin department offers many opportunities to study other aspects of Roman life.

Rine's first opportunity to take Latin was freshman year in college. His interest grew during a summer

trip to Rome after freshman year.

"It was a life-changing experience," Rine said. "I have always been interested in the ancient world; going to Rome made me realize how interested I was. I went back to college and changed my major."

Rine's interest also led him to sponsor the new Latin Club, open to all students who want to learn about Roman culture and history as well as the language.

"There isn't a set date for the meetings yet," Rine said. "We're thinking about meeting on Wednesday bi-weekly or the first Wednesday of every month. Latin club is open to all students to learn and find new interests." ☺



Amy Brooks

**NEW LATIN TEACHER Jesse Rine** teaches students during a 5th hour class. Besides teaching, Rine is also the sponsor of the new Latin club, open to all students, and teaches classes at Wydown. "It can get a little challenging going between schools," Rine said. "Sometimes I'm late to class because of traffic or something."



Caitlin Ly

**SOPHOMORE ZEINA HOSSAYRAMI** is getting used to life in St. Louis after moving from Lebanon with her family about nine months ago. She said she misses Lebanon and would like to go back to visit, but likes in here in America too.

## Lebanese student adjusts to life at CHS

Zeina Hossayrami talks about her new life in America.

☺ **SARA RANGWALA**

She gets up at 7 a.m. and goes to school, comes home, eats and studies and goes to her friend's house. Sounds like a typical day for teenagers in the U.S. According to sophomore Zeina Hossayrami, this was also a typical day for her in Lebanon.

Hossayrami came here with her family about nine months ago. It was the first time she had ever been to the U.S.

"I didn't know a lot of English, I was a little afraid," Hossayrami said.

The schools in Lebanon taught English, so she knew some, but not much. Now the Hossayrami family has gotten used to life in the U.S. and she is more comfortable in comparing the two countries.

In some ways, life in Lebanon was not that different from life in the U.S. Hossayrami and her friends went to places such as KFC, McDonald's and little coffee shops to hang out. It's a lot like here, she said. But the main thing missing is her best friend Amani.

"She's really a friend, not just a friend," Hossayrami said. "I tell her everything about me, and she helps me a lot if I have a problem. Even if I find someone like her, she will always be my best friend."

In addition to missing her best friend, Hossayrami misses being part of a larger Muslim culture. She has met a few other Muslims here, but holidays will still be a lot different from what she had come to know. Her favorite holiday Eid, which is celebrated after the Islamic month of Ramadan, is coming up in a couple of months. In Lebanon it was a huge deal.

"It's so cool," Hossayrami said. "In the morning all the people go to each other, and I would go out with my friends. The children, my age and younger, go out and buy clothes. It's something special."

Trying to describe how Lebanon and the U.S. are different is difficult for Hossayrami.

"You can't say what's the difference," Hossayrami said. "Almost everything is different."

In her school in Lebanon, students study the same subjects every

year. There is no choosing classes for the next year because they already know what they are going to take. The school day itself is a lot different than how it is laid out at Clayton.

"We [spend] all the day, eight hours, in the same room," Hossayrami said. "The teachers came to us."

Hossayrami said she would sit in the same seat all day with breaks every now and then. After school she would go home for lunch.

Hossayrami described her community in Lebanon differently too.

"Here, all the neighbors are like 'hi, how are you?'" Hossayrami said. "In Lebanon all the people that live in the same street all know each other. They know almost everything about you."

That is one of the reasons she likes the U.S. better. Here the neighbors are friendly but only to an extent.

In summary, Hossayrami said she likes it here although she misses her friends in Lebanon. She wouldn't, however, go back there to live, just to visit. ☺







# Travels 'Down Under' leave CHS teacher reluctant to return

BY ALEX SHER  
KATE ROTHMAN

It is common for student to take a semester abroad, studying and attending school in country foreign to them. A teacher taking a semester abroad is not quite as customary. Last year, CHS history teacher Debra Wiens had the opportunity to live in Australia for six months.

"My husband was taking a sabbatical to study at the university in the capital city," Wiens said. "So [the whole family] went along during second semester of last year."

Though the culture change was a bit shocking at first, Wiens soon grew to love it.

"My friends in Australia told me to get rid of my palm pilot and cell phone, to live the 'Australian Way,'" Wiens said. "Everything is much slower, more laid back. There are no 24-hour gas stations or grocery stores, and that really helps slow things down. You can't go to do grocery shopping at nine at night, the store is dark. You have to take a walk, talk to your family."

Small changes were hard to adjust to.

"It took me a while to get used to driving on the other side of the road," Wiens said. "I would have my kids in the backseat, one saying 'stay left' and the other saying 'look right.' It actually took a while to change back to driving on the right when we got home."

The generosity of the people also astounded Wiens.

"When we arrived, our landlords met us at the airport and took us to our house," Wiens said. "We got there, and there was lamb and wine waiting for us, and a fully stocked refrigerator. Our whole experience was generosity."

Even simple parties and events were different.

"One of my friends in the neighborhood called me on a Friday night to invite me over," Wiens said. "I got to her house, and she had between 50-60 16-year-olds

there. Her son was having a party. All the teenagers were eating on white china, and her husband was in the backyard barbecuing all different kinds of meat. Different neighbors had loaned her their china so she would have enough. That's just how it was; doors were always open for each other."

Another difference was in the landscape itself.

"Everything was so vast, it was just indescribably big and remote," Wiens said. "Everything is built on the coast, so you could drive for days and get basically nowhere."

The animals "down under" were shocking as well.

"I would be out running in the morning through the bush, and I'd look up and see a kangaroo next to me," Wiens said. "The 'Roos' were just all over, right in our backyard. "Driving, we would see kangaroos and wombats dead on the side of the road, like you see deer here. We would see 'Koala Crossing' signs on the road, and once we saw a baby koala so close, we could have reached out and touched it. It was just climbing in a tree, trying to wake up his mother. It looked like a little teddy bear, it was so hard to not pick it up."

The beachy environment of Australia made for fun times.

"We got to scuba dive, which was just beautiful," Wiens said. "They told us there were sharks, but not to worry, they would only take our arms, not kill us, so we didn't worry."

Wiens also had a fantastic time in nearby New Zealand.

"New Zealand was beautiful, but it is not somewhere that you can see in a hurry. It is so slow and laid-back," Wiens said. "There was tons to do. It is the place to go if you love extreme travel."

Wiens' two children enjoyed the months spent over-seas as well.

"My kids made great, great friends while we were in Australia," Wiens said.

For the kids, school was the big-

gest change.

"School was a vacation for my kids," Wiens said. "My son said, 'I'm getting stupider by the day,'"

The school system in the state of Australia she stayed in, the Australian Capital Territory, is much different than the United States. Elementary school is grades K-6, followed by high school grades 7-10. Then comes college, grades 11 and 12, where students take their University entrance exams and finally, students attend a university. Teachers careers are different as well.

Teachers apply to teach for the state, and are then assigned a school. In Wiens' state, teachers moved about every four years. The principals attend "Swap Sessions" in which they "trade" teachers.

Wiens was most frustrated with the unconcerned parents.

"They would say that nothing really mattered until college," Wiens said.

Wiens feels that Australians should view school differently.

"There is more to life than work; however, some work is necessary in order to learn and grow," Wiens said.

Wiens managed to stay sharp on her teaching skills by tutoring English as a first language and reading to learning disabled children at schools.

"I was known as 'the funny American lady' to the students at school," Wiens said.

Although Wiens believes that there is no city more beautiful than Sydney, Australia has it's problems, just like anywhere else.

"Parliament was crying for skilled workers," Wiens said. "We had a refrigerator repairman to our house, and he was just booked solid nonstop. He talked about how much skilled workers and good job training was needed."

There were also drug problems, as many counties have.

"There were always stories in the news about people that would

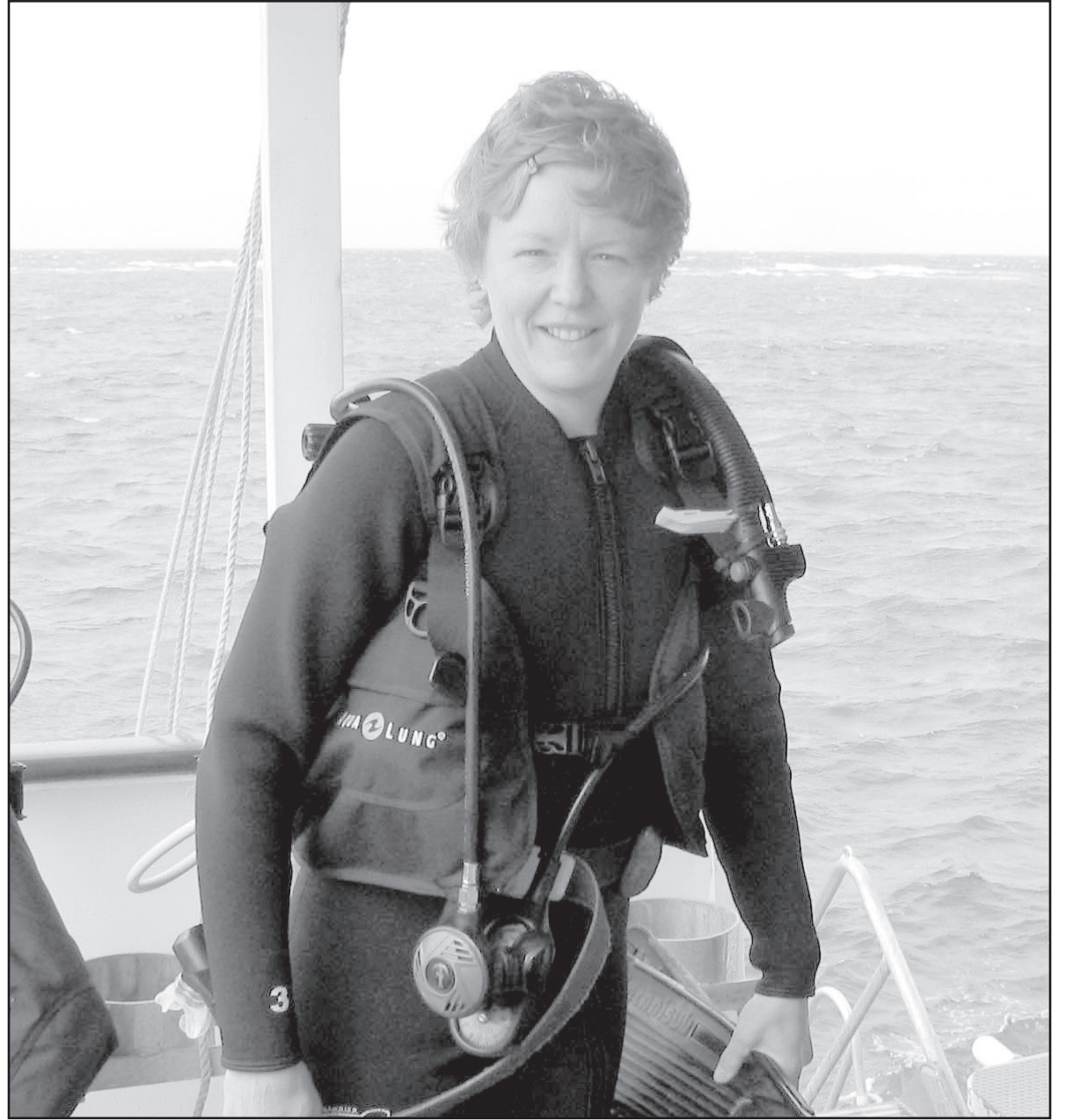


photo courtesy of debra wiens



photo courtesy of debra wiens

ABOVE: HISTORY TEACHER Debra Wiens stands wearing scuba gear on the coast of Australia at the Great Barrier Reef. "They told us that any sharks we saw wouldn't kill us, they would only take our arm," Wiens said. "So we didn't worry." Wiens spent 6 months over-seas last year, when her husband took a sabbatical to study at an Australian university. Left: A Kangaroo and joey hop through Wiens' backyard, a common occurrence during their stay in Australia. "We saw between 50-70 daily," Wiens said.

go to Bali, get caught with drugs, and go to long-term prison in Indonesia," Wiens said. "Kids were very divided about how they felt about the punishments."

Another issue dealt with religion. Wiens found the Muslim prejudice troubling.

"You can definitely tell [the Muslim presence] is there, the way people dress, and all of the Islamic

embassies," Wiens said

One of Wiens' son's best friends was a radical Muslim, named Mohammed. There is a strong Muslim presence in Australia, because of one of the most populous Muslim country, Indonesia, is located next to Australia.

"For three hours I listened to the radical Islamic teachings," Wiens said of her arguments with Mo-

ammed and his views on the world. He gave her an English copy of the Koran and to this day is working on persuading her to read it.

Despite this small issue, Wiens thoroughly enjoyed her time spent in Australia.

"It was such an amazing trip," Wiens said. "I could easily make it my home." ☺

# Chinese culture full of beauty, warmth

BY FENG-SHUANG STAMME

China, an ancient Eastern nation, with thousands of years of history, has attracted CHS's History Department's attention. In June of 2002, CHS History teacher Donna Rogers-Beard journeyed to this Asian nation. It was the trip of her lifetime. This past summer, her colleague, CHS History teacher Paul Hoelscher went to China, accompanied by several other Missouri teachers.

Rogers-Beard's and Hoelscher's trips were both based on teachers grants provided by the Freeman Foundation. The foundation founder, Freeman, who has a business in Shanghai, started this foundation so teachers could bring their experiences to the classroom. This program's enrollment is selective due to the number of applicants, and both Rogers-Beard and Hoelscher made the cut.

Rogers-Beard and Hoelscher were each in China for about three weeks. They had similar traveling routes and destinations. The first place they visited went to was the capital Beijing, arriving at the famed Peking University. The teachers lived on campus, attended classes there, and observed Chinese college students' everyday lives. Hoelscher pointed out some of the differences he noticed in the Chinese schools versus the United States.

"I found that students worked a ton harder and are more serious about their studies," Hoelscher said. "They understand education can gain them more material prosperity."

Rogers-Beard agrees with Hoelscher that Chinese students' take school very seriously.

"When we visited the high schools, I saw that students were very respectful of their teachers," Rogers-Beard said.

Other distinctions that Hoelscher found were the teaching methods in Chinese classrooms.

"I found that there was more of a focus on memorization of materials rather than opening and having discussions," Hoelscher said. "It was top-down leadership. The classes were lectures, more factual information."

Rogers-Beard also pointed out another interesting difference between Chinese and American society.

"At the university, we did see couples," Rogers-Beard said. "Boys and girls who looked

like they were dating, but not as much as you see here."

Hoelscher, who teaches sophomore World/U.S. History II, was mainly interested in learning about the modern communist country, specifically how it works, so he can incorporate it into his classroom.

"I wanted to find out how the people of China felt about Mao," Hoelscher said. "Because they lived through the time period, I wanted to know what they thought about him."

Hoelscher dined with college students and received lots of feedback regarding Mao.

It seemed to him that while the new generation was more willing to talk about Mao, and more open about discussing the subject, they still preferred other topics.

"The students were mostly interested in economic and technology advances," Hoelscher said. "Like the American students."

After the visit at the University, teachers stepped into the city of Beijing. It is still possible, just barely, to see what daily life for Beijingers was like at the last turn of the century. Hidden away among the chrome and glass of modern day Beijing lies the Hutongs, a neighborhood of ancient alleys and narrow lanes that have surrounded the Forbidden City for centuries.

"We rode on a rickshaw, and there were just a few of these old buildings left," Rogers-Beard said. "We were warmly welcomed. We enjoyed wonderful meals that had been cooked

by using maybe two woks on a Bunsen burner stove. It was a big meal, everything was hot, delicious, and complex, it was incredible. The houses were no more than three rooms, the bedrooms were very small, and the kitchen was tiny, I do not remember seeing a bathroom. It was amazing how friendly people were, and how the hosts were willing to share their culture."

In the alleys of Hutong, which range from 12 feet wide to only 16 inches, groups of elderly residents play cards or Chinese chess. They chat together over small street barrows where food is prepared, and sometimes engage in folk dancing, singing, and group exercise. The homes have brilliant red doors and flat roofs, which are used for gardens and patios.

Hoelscher also traveled to different cities all

over China, visiting many of China's popular tourism sites.

"We spent about two weeks touring about six to seven cities," Hoelscher said. "It was a lot of extreme travel, which I liked because I love to travel."

Rogers-Beard chose a different route, heading down to the south corner of China, arriving at the beautiful sceneries of Gueiling Province. Rogers-Beard saw the countryside of Gueiling, simple rural villages, and this became one her favorite memories of her trip.

"We took an over night train to Gueiling," Rogers-Beard said. "I woke up early in the morning, just at day break, and saw through my window farmers going on to the fields planting, and great oxen working along side them. I saw children coming out side from their homes with their uniforms on getting ready to go to school, it was misty, and with the green mountains in the background, it was absolutely beautiful, like time had stood still," Rogers-Beard said.

Hoelscher toured in similar area as Rogers-Beard did, visiting the city of Nanjing in the South Eastern part of China. There, the group of teachers listened to the views of students in the city.

"We went to museums," Hoelscher said. "We also talked to professors and both college and high school students."

Rogers-Beard also spent a fair amount of time seeing the natural beauty of China. They arrived at China's most famous mountain, Mount Tai Shang. It is also the tallest, the most precipitous, and one of the most dangerous mountains in China. It is popular to go to the top of the mountain to view he sunset.

"I didn't walk up, I took the sky carrier, it had maybe over 10,000 steps," Rogers-Beard said. "But just to watch people, who were delivering on foot with things balanced on their heads was absolutely incredible. There was no other way to get to the top of the mountain."

Rogers-Beard also was also impressed with the city of Shanghai, which she thought was different from any city in the United States.

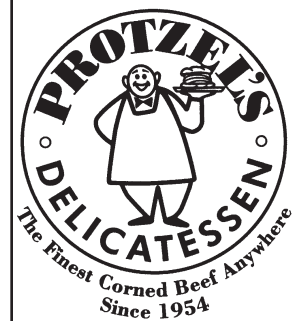
"Shanghai is an incredible city, it makes New York look like a nice little town," Rogers-Beard said. "I have never seen so many tall buildings, so many people, and so many electric signs; it was bin, bin, bin shimmering all over the place."

Traveling to China was a once in a lifetime opportunity for Hoelscher and Rogers-Beard, awing and impressing both.. ☺



Photo courtesy of Paul Hoelscher

HISTORY TEACHER PAUL Hoelscher stands in Tian An Men square, one of the locations he visited on his trip to China over the summer.



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# Exchange creates friendships

Pauline Orean looks back on her time spent in Clayton with host sophomore Chiara Corbetta this fall.

☛ GILA HOFFMAN

Imagine what it would be like to be on the other side of the world, away from all your family and friends, at a school where the language is almost completely foreign to yours and you were loaded with a schedule full of AP classes. It seems that any student placed in this situation would be doomed.

Not senior Pauline Orean.

Earlier this summer, sophomore Chiara Corbetta and her family met up with Orean's parents in Italy. The Orean family invited Corbetta to come to Belgium and the Corbetts graciously invited Orean to come to St. Louis. Plans

have not been made yet for Corbetta to visit Orean, but they may be made for this year's spring break. Everything happened so suddenly, and in a matter of weeks, Orean was ready to embark on a life-changing journey.

Several weeks ago Orean left Belgium not knowing what to expect when she arrived in St. Louis.

This experience was not only life-changing for Orean, but also for Corbetta who hosted Orean for three weeks in late August and early September. Corbetta enjoyed every moment of the experience.

"I was a little scared going into this because I did not know her before, but once I met her I really liked spending time with her," Corbetta said. "I loved listening to her

*I loved listening to [Pauline's] opinions of American schools and how they are different from at home. Her opinions about how we live are so interesting to hear.*

sophomore  
**CHIARA CORBETTA**

opinions of American schools and how they are different from at home. Her opinions about how we live are so interesting to hear."

For the first few days of school, Orean shadowed Corbetta. Later Orean received a schedule of her own, taking AP US History, AP European History, AP English, Music and American Society, Film and American Society and photography.

"She adjusted really well," Corbetta said. "She liked her schedule and all of her classes. The first day she was really scared, but then she was perfectly adjusted and I was really surprised to see that after only two days she was all settled in."

Similar to any exchange student, Orean had certain opinions about American schools.

"There is not much more work, but it takes me longer because I think in French and I have to change everything around," Orean said. "We definitely write more here. There is less to study, but more to write."

According to Orean the atmosphere here at CHS is warmer than her school in Belgium.

"Clayton is different in the way that people are more open and more friendly the first time you meet



Photo courtesy of Chiara Corbetta

ABOVE: CORBETTA (RIGHT) acquaints Orean to American food at a local restaurant. "I think it is a great experience and it is amazing to see how other people are living," Orean said.

LEFT: CORBETTA (LEFT) and Orean pose for a photo before leaving for tennis practice.

BOTTOM: OREAN (RIGHT) and Corbetta enjoy the great outdoors as part of Orean's introduction to the American way of life.

them," Orean said. "The teachers are more like friends, we joke around and it's fun. At my school we have uniforms and it is weird having everyone dressing different. Also, we use a lot more technology here."

Orean enjoyed having the large common area for meeting with friends, but was not a huge fan of the lockers. She often spent five minutes trying to open her locker when she only needed one or two belongings.

"I am so happy to be here and I am glad I got the chance to come here," Orean said. "I think it is a great experience and it is amaz-

ing to see something different than your own country and own school and how other people are living."

Orean is thankful that Corbetta was always extremely nice and that she introduced her to everyone. Corbetta was always considerate of Orean and there never was a dull moment.

"I really miss her humor," Corbetta said. "When she was living with me it was like having an older sister who I could joke around with and just have fun."

Even though Orean did miss her delicious Belgium chocolate, her bed, her friends and her dog she had a great experience. ☺



Photo courtesy of Chiara Corbetta



Photo courtesy of Chiara Corbetta

## Giving a face to charity

CHS alum Max Romano spent a year in AmeriCorps before heading to Stanford. He wanted a chance to give back.

☛ ADRIENNE STORMO

Many students leave Clayton and decide not to go directly to college. One such student is Max Romano (CHS class of 2004). After he left Clayton, he decided to join AmeriCorps, a non-profit community service organization.

"It's a great opportunity to travel and meet people," Romano said.

AmeriCorps is similar to Peace Corps, except all Peace Corps assignments are overseas and last two years, while AmeriCorps does service within the United States.

Romano participated in AmeriCorps\*NCCC, which stands for the National Civilian Community Corps. This particular program is for American citizen ages 18 through 24, in which groups of 10 or 12 people spend 10 months together working on several short projects.

Romano began with a month of basic training in Sacramento, California, where all corps members are trained in CPR, first aid and public safety, among other skills. This is also where he met the other nine members of his team: seven women, whom Romano tenderly refers to as his "older sisters," and two men, all over 21, who are mostly from the Midwest and eastern United States.

After the training, Romano and his teammates were flown to Florida to assist the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) after the hurricanes that trashed Florida the previous summer.

In Florida they picked up debris and temporarily fixed roofs, as the local contractors

were booked solid for two straight years.

One of Romano's favorite things about AmeriCorps was that he actually got the chance to interact with the people he was helping, instead of just working for some anonymous charity.

One day, Romano was helping an elderly lady with her property and they began talking.

"She had lived in Florida for over 20 years," Romano said. "After we fixed her roof, we just sat down and talked about the hurricane for an hour."

She had just bolted down her storm windows and waited the hurricane out inside her home. When she came out, the streets were completely flooded and her neighbor's house was completely washed away."

After three weeks in Florida, Romano and his group went to San Francisco where they built houses, walls and laid foundations for Habitat for Humanity.

The team was housed in a single three-bedroom apartment for two weeks.

"We would eat on the floor, sleep on the floor, and for some reason there were no overhead lights so we were literally walking around with flashlights – it was fun," he said.

Next they went to work for the Boys and Girls Club in Sacramento for two weeks. There they met an eight-year-old boy named "Uncle" Ben, who had never met his father because he was in prison.

Next, the entire group spent two weeks training as wild land fire fighters before going to Otis, Oregon, near Portland, at a YWCA summer camp.

After a month and a half of making trails,

chopping wood, and building porches on the absolutely gorgeous coast, they went Salt Lake City.

Next, Romano and his new friends spent the remainder of their 10-month service fighting fires in Arizona.

"We only spent one day fighting fires, it was really fun and exciting," Romano said.

The rest of the time they spent doing fire prevention by cutting away dry, dead trees.

When Romano finished his 10 months, he returned to St. Louis to see his friends and family.

During his time with AmeriCorps, he was making about \$13 per day, to pay for daily necessities, plus a \$4.50 per person per day for food. Also, at the end of his time, Romano received a \$4725 education award given to all AmeriCorps\*NCCC members to pay for college, or pay back old student loans for those members who have already graduated.

"When you travel with 10 people, living in random places, cooking and eating together, you really depend on each other for friendship and help and everything," Romano said.

Romano's teammates are now some of his best friends, and he spent the first week of September visiting some of them in New York. Romano recommends AmeriCorps to anyone interested in travel, community service, or just meeting "decent, interesting, nice people."

To find out more about AmeriCorps, or to get involved, visit to [www.AmeriCorps.org](http://www.AmeriCorps.org).

Now that Romano has finished his time with AmeriCorps, he will start at Stanford this fall. He hopes to become a doctor, as he obviously has a passion for helping others. ☺



photos courtesy of Max Romano

**2004 ALUM MAX**  
Romano thins a forest on US Forest Service land in the Prescott National Forest to protect nearby homes from forest fires in July 2005.

**IN CENTRAL FLORIDA**  
Romano stands on top a tarp that has been nailed up to temporarily protect a leaking roof that was damaged in the 2004 hurricanes.





Globe  
2005-2006

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Dear readers,

The Globe student newspaper exists primarily to inform, entertain, and represent the student body at CHS to the best of its ability.

We are 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.

The Globe is self-funded for all publishing costs and offers advertising to all school-appropriate businesses. Ads range in size from business card to full-page; prices vary. Please contact our office for more information.

The Globe is distributed to students free each month. We offer bulk mailing subscriptions for \$20 a year. First-class mailing subscriptions are also available for \$30 a year. We find these options particularly useful for parents, for no amount of begging or friendly reminders can compel a high schooler to remember to bring home a copy.

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

--the Globe editors

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Biking trip changes  
world perspective

This summer as I biked across the Northeastern United States and the Southern portion of Ontario, Canada, I was forced to rely on those in my group and the goodness of people we happened to encounter along our way.

Our journey began near Ossipee, New Hampshire at Camp Merrowvista. We spent 31 days biking to Camp Miniwanca in Shelby, Michigan stopping at various points of interest along the way. Sure it sounds like a vacation on a bicycle, but trust me, it took some hard work.

Each morning we woke up, took down camp, loaded our bikes with close to 40 pounds of gear and personal equipment and saddled our bikes and spent the day biking. We pedaled all day taking a 10-minute break every two hours just to catch our breath and once in the afternoon to refuel our energy with a "gourmet" lunch. By nightfall we were tired and wanted nothing more than a place to lock our bikes and lay out a sleeping bag, grab a bite to eat and conk out until the next morning when the cycle would start over again. Each night we knew what we wanted, but finding it was often a challenge.

After a week of our trip had passed our route had been revised countless times and we no longer knew where we were supposed to sleep on a given night. We had reservations at campsites and churches when we left Merrowvista, but the reservations were only valuable if we were where we were supposed to be. Unfortunately we were no longer where we were supposed to be after only a week. We still had to sleep each night, but finding where this was to happen was a challenge.

We ultimately found a place to sleep every night, we didn't have much of a choice about the matter, but several times it was thanks to the kindness of strangers that we found a place to un-stuff our sleeping bags and doze off until the next morning.

On a rainy day in the middle of July our group was stranded at a Dominion grocery store near Missisagua, Ontario. Due to the rain, lightning and our fatigue, we were unable to bike until our destination for the night had been determined and a place for us to sleep had been se-

cured. We had scoured the phonebooks calling churches, fire departments, youth hostels - anything we could think of - hoping to be on the move soon.

After essentially camping out in front of the Dominion for four hours, a man came up to me and handed me a Canadian \$20 bill. Looking rather shocked I'm sure, he told me to use the money to buy everyone candy bars because he had once biked around the world relying on the generosity of strangers. An hour later he was done with his shopping and noticed we were still sitting in front of the store came over and, without thinking twice, he came over introduced himself. His name was Dan, and he offered us the use of his basement, showers and telephone for the night. So we spent the night at his house playing with his children, enjoying dinner with his family at a local restaurant (he paid for all of us), sleeping on couches and the next morning we were treated like royalty with a home cooked breakfast before we were sent off on another day of biking.

And generosity came in other forms as well.

For example, three days before we were supposed to return to Miniwanca we were stranded along a highway on the eastern coast of MI with a burst, irreparable tire. We were waiting on the side of the road and walked up to an elderly couple's lake house and asked for water. They allowed us to use their water and then gave us \$40 "to buy hamburgers." They were in awe of our journey and wanted to help in any way they could imagine. We didn't need the money, but their kindness was certainly appreciated.

So, 1300 miles and three mountain ranges later, I have a redefined appreciation for the good people in the world. Now I find myself expecting the best from people, no longer the worst.

There really are plenty of good people in the world despite what you hear. The media likes to highlight the negative aspects of our world, but the good people are just as important.

Consider this a "hats off" to the "Dans" of the world and a chance for the media to draw attention to some of the positives of humanity. I began really seeing it this summer; I dare you to see it too. ☺

## Making our MARK...

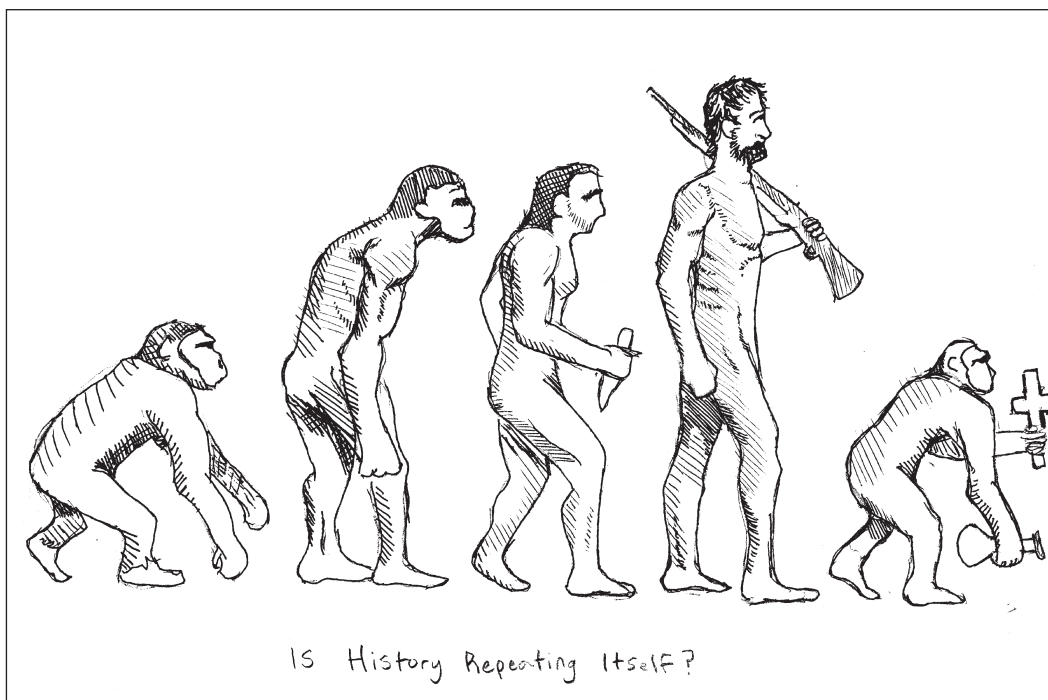


...Meghan Bliss



BLISS BIKES WITH her group through the Green Mountains in Vermont.

photo courtesy of Meghan Bliss



sam badar

Intelligent design is not  
an intelligent choice

Up on the third floor of CHS, in science wing room 221, this quote is written in defined black lettering above the door: "Nothing in Biology makes sense except in the light of evolution," Theodosius Dobzhansky, or T. Dobzhansky as the students who stare at this quote every day when they can't take even one more sentence worth of notes probably know him by. But it isn't the color or calligraphy that is important about this quote, but rather the subject matter it deals with. This quote has been re-hashed hundreds of times in articles trying to uphold the theory of evolution when the theory of intelligent design is berating the supporters of evolution yet again.

In a nutshell, intelligent design states that "Intelligent Causes" are responsible for the origin of the earth and of life in all of its splendor and intricacies. At first, intelligent design was marked as a contemporary of the Creationist movement, but supporters of intelligent design have been careful to differentiate themselves. They claim that their main reason to reject the theory of evolution is not because it contradicts their understanding of the Bible, but that it leaves no room for a creator figure. One of their logical reasoning sequences in which they find fault with Darwin's theory of evolution and natural selection processes goes something like this; natural selection could only occur by random chance; whatever happens by happenstance couldn't have been created by god; therefore God doesn't exist, according to evolution.

In reality, nowhere in the theory of evolution is there a statement that says "God played no part in this process." Some religion experts even say there is room for both an omnipotent God and evolution to coexist peacefully in people's minds. But in spite of inclusive statements like this, the debate plods on.

The importance of Dobzhansky's quote in a biology classroom isn't just that it fuels the support for evolution, but that it is here, at CHS. Advocates for intelligent design don't just want to cater to the adults of the world; they want to instill the beliefs of intelligent design from an early age. A push for the ideas of intelligent design to be taught in schools has taken the media world by storm, as well as the whole world in general. Taught as an alternative view to evolution, supporters think that it is just as proven as the theory of evolution and that science students

should be presented with both theories. But in what kind of a class would this theory be taught? A factual, experiment-driven biology class, or a philosophical theology class? Intelligent design followers believe that its proper place is in the science wing, on equal footing with evolution.

Scientists who oppose this theory always make it explicitly clear that it is not the idea of an intelligent creator that they have a problem with, rather the lack of proof to go along with the idea. Their first bone to pick is that intelligent design shouldn't even be referred to as a theory, at least not a scientific one.

The theory of evolution is based on factual evidence, which is why it is classified as a theory as opposed to a hypothesis. Intelligent design does claim fact behind it, but the fact proves there are holes in the theory of evolution, with nothing to support their own hypotheses or findings. In fact, intelligent design can never have the scientific proof that the rest of the scientific community would need to give the theory a chance because of one of the basic rules of science: science can only deal with the natural.

By instituting the belief that a supernatural being created the universe, Intelligent Design automatically goes beyond the range and purpose of science, into the realm of the supernatural.

There is an ending to Dobzhansky's quote that is not included in room 221's rendition above the door, but which is valid all the same. He concludes, "With out that light [of evolution, Biology] becomes a pile of sundry facts, some of them interesting or curious, but making no meaningful picture as a whole." It may be important to study aspects of religion so that one can understand other's beliefs and come up with beliefs of one's own. Religion is an irreplaceable and integral part of many people's lives.

However, it is about morals, wisdom and faith, while science is about experiments, facts and the explanations of natural phenomena. The presence of Dobzhansky's quote in our school shows that as a whole we do give some credence to the theory of evolution. And while intelligent design presents a viewpoint that may be important to ponder in many places and has ignited a highly covered debate, it just doesn't belong in the science classroom. ☺

## StaffEditorial

Agree **87%**  
Disagree **13%**

## New responsibilities ring true with old lessons

Growing up, I HATED to be away from my parents. On the rare occasions that I would be left with a babysitter, I would scream, cry, and throw awful temper-tantrums. Parents going out of town? That was even worse. Left for a long weekend with my grandparents, I cried each time I talked to either my mom or dad on the phone. When most of my close friends had been sleeping over at each others houses for years, I timidly set off to my first slumber party at the end of fourth grade.

Needless to say, it was a shocking moment when I announced that I wanted to go away to a sleep-away camp in Minnesota for the summer. Not only would I be away from home for four weeks, but this would require me to board an airplane alone and fly to Minneapolis without the company of my mom or dad.

As camps starting date approached, I started getting nervous, but remained excited to go. Soon enough, I was stepping off a bus from the airport and setting my feet down in the beautiful, wooded wonderland of Camp Kamaji.

Each day at camp brought with it new challenges and fun, but nights

were a little bit harder. Nighttime (especially those long, dark, midnight walks to the bathroom) always made me miss home and my family. I guess it was something about the loons (obnoxious birds) really stood out. Luckily, my first year at camp, I had fabulous friends and counselors who were always able to make me feel better and get me laughing again. My summer was a good one, and I attended camp from 6<sup>th</sup> grade on.

This past summer, I had a different kind experience at camp. I was (finally, yet sadly) too old to be a camper. I returned as a counselor for nine weeks.

Time-consuming as it was, it was worth every minute. It was a challenge, but a good challenge, transitioning between being a camper, and being a counselor. The first camp session, I (along with three other co-counselors) had a

group of 12-year-old girls, all in their second or third summers at camp, "old-pros".

Second session was different and more of a challenge. I was a counselor in a cabin of 10-year-olds that was a mix of both old and new campers. Though the returning campers tried hard to include the new ones, it was hard, with old memories, and inside jokes from previous summers. One new camper in particular, had a tough time adjusting to camp and its daily routine and having fun. Each night, as my two co-counselors and I tucked the girls in, she would, predictably, whisper a question in to one of our ears. "Can I talk to you?" The answer was yes, and one of us would take her outside of the cabin, and listen to her tearfully tell us that she didn't think the other girls liked her, and she missed her mom, and her dad, and her brother and sister.

During my nights with her, I tried my best to comfort her and remind her that she was at camp because her parents knew that she would be able to



SENIOR KATE ROTHMAN poses for a picture with her fellow counselors and campers at Camp Kamaji where she worked as a counselor over the summer for nine weeks.

have tons of fun. As I talked to her at night, some of the words coming out my mouth would sound familiar, as I channeled counselors that I had had over my summers at camp, and remembered what they had said that helped me the most when I was sad or missing home. Though I wasn't thinking about it at the time, it was as if I had changed. No longer the tearful little girl missing my mom and crying to my counselor, but instead, the counselor doing the comforting and consoling.

By the end of the session, the night-time talks were fewer, and this camper was having more and

more fun at camp. One of the last days she was at camp, one of my co-counselors asked our girls if they thought that they would return next summer. Grinning, this camper told her that she was sure she'd be back. Although this particular camper was not the easiest of my girls, she was the one that helped me to accomplish the most, and now, looking back, the one that makes me feel the best and most proud of myself. She reminds me of what I accomplished this summer, but more importantly, the growing that I have done myself since my own first summer at camp. ☺



# Bleeding blue and orange

Will you retain Greyhound pride for life? One student thinks once a Greyhound, always a Greyhound.



Greyhound Pride: a term that many of us like to use. A simple phrase that seems to describe a simple idea. Or maybe just an idea that *seems* simple.

Greyhound Pride is a quality that many Clayton students strive to acquire. For some students, it is the equivalent of school spirit. For many athletes, it describes a code of conduct to be followed on and off the field. But no matter where we have heard the term, Greyhound Pride has affected each of our lives in some fashion.

It is there during Homecoming. Students of every class spend their precious free time down in the Commons, decorating until they can decorate no more, hanging streamers from the overhanging music-wing walkway. What was a lunchroom becomes a jungle, where cardboard lions, tigers, and bears roam the tables, leaving their onlookers in awe. How did this transformation occur so quickly? Who could have done this? The unpublishized heroes of the day hurry from classmate to classmate in an attempt to accumulate a wealth of class points through

the costume challenge. The famed floats of Homecoming are physical representations of each class's school pride, the procession an opportunity to display the products of Greyhounds—an opportunity that is honored as one of the cornerstone events of a Clayton High School year.

It is there in our sports. Offseason, preseason, in season, or post-season—it makes no difference. Greyhound Pride can be found in every cranny of a Clayton High School team. "Greyhound Pride" is written on the walls of locker rooms. "Greyhound Pride" is heard from the mouths of each athlete as the team breaks a huddle. Greyhound Pride is what

motivates each player to get better, to be as good as he or she can be. It can be a simple phrase used to answer some unknown question that holds a team back from achieving its potential. It can be a passionate cry used to rally its followers to hold off a tough opponent. It is motivation.

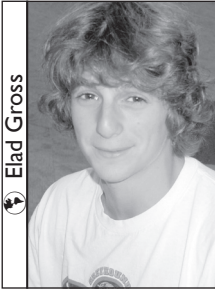
It is there in our lives. We all are students of Clayton High School. We all are Greyhounds. When we

run clothing drives for the needy, we are Greyhounds. When we take a day to help the community, we are Greyhounds. When we sit in class and learn from our teachers and fellow students, we are Greyhounds.

The question is not "Are we Greyhounds?" Rather, it is "Are we proud to be Greyhounds?"

There is a great distinction between being a Greyhound and being proud to hold such a title. One is given to us automatically. Upon entering this school, every student, teacher, custodian, and administrator has become a Greyhound. But it's what we do with this privilege, how we conduct ourselves as Greyhounds, and how we use the advantages of being a Greyhound that determine whether or not we have Greyhound Pride.

Let us all have Greyhound Pride this year. Let's step up and begin a new era of fans fully painted in orange and blue. Unleash the Greyhound within yourself and show its grace to the world. Be proud of what you do. But understand that such a way of life doesn't end on your graduation day. It doesn't just last from the end of August to the beginning of June as an annual cycle. You will be a Greyhound for life. Will you be proud to be one? ☺



Elad Gross

# Scouts make lasting impression

Since I was eight, I have been involved in scouting. My involvement has definitely decreased during my high school years, yet my love for the outdoors, camping and wilderness has not.

Every Wednesday at 7 p.m. until I achieved the rank of Eagle, I went to scout meetings. I worked on my merit badges and learned life-long skills such as how to interact with people I normally wouldn't. As I set up my merit badge counselor appointments, I also had to do something I was afraid of—calling people on the phone. As I called, I would sometimes wonder, "What if I say something wrong?" or "What if they think my voice is funny?" But, I made the calls anyway. As I called strangers and dealt with people different from me, I saw that these experiences were helping me socially. Scouting has also helped me with my goal-setting. I was always making some goal about my rank or how many merit badges I would earn. Always, though, in the back of my mind was the fact that I wanted to have my Eagle before I turned 14. After a few years of working and dozens more scary phone calls, I finally earned my Eagle. I invited neighbors, friends, teachers and family, and in March of eighth grade we had the Court of Honor along with two other boys from our church troop. This was one of the first major achievements in my life and it has helped me gain confidence when I want to accomplish something else. With scouts I have gone to many places and seen many interesting sites.

At Northern Tier, Canada I relearned the meaning of pack light. For that experience, I only brought 20 or so pounds of gear for the week-long excursion—I assumed we all carried our own supplies besides a small amount of group gear. The day before we left though, the BSA leaders who supervised our departure told us that all gear was to be separated equally between every person.

This meant that instead of carrying my meager (and light) supplies, I was also carrying Billy's Mag-light and Bob's eight changes of clothes along with the group supplies. By the start of the trek, my bag was at least 40 pounds heavier, and, believe me, every ounce counts.

At portages (hikes in between the lakes) we carried our bags and a canoe on our backs for up to a kilometer or two with our backs aching and mosquitoes biting by the dozen. I remember all the memorable portages—some a little too fondly. One went through a swamp where I was walking knee-deep in mud. Suddenly, mid-step, I was up to my hip when I fell face first into the



SOPHOMORE HYRUM SHUMWAY visits Philadelphia for the National Boy Scout Jamboree.

goopy stuff. It was a difficult and dirty night. Looking back, though, the mud was insulation and another layer of protection against the mosquitoes after it had dried. The trip was a perfect blend of beautiful scenery, my perfect fishing cast, the gorgeous waterfall and leeches on my legs—Northern Tier taught me that life could be hard and fun at the same time. It also taught me that when you fall, you get back up, even if the suction from the mud isn't letting you and has closed your airways so you can't breathe. At Northern Tier, I learned taught me not to get too excited, like the time I caught my first fish in Canada. I was jumping up so high and screaming so loud that I didn't notice the feisty fish jumping right back into its home. And sooner then I expected I too was driving home.

On the Moab trip three cousins my age and an uncle joined the scout group. During a mountain bike ride in Moab, we were heading down a steep mountain with huge rocks, craters, bumps and sand almost strategically placed so that it seemed nearly impossible to navigate a bike at 30 miles per hour down the hill safely. I watched others go down—some fast some slower—some made it; most didn't. It was my turn, and I headed down going fairly fast. A boy in front of me went off a rock jump that was directly in front of me. I took it, and the next minute I knew I was flying through the air, and then smash. . . my front wheel hit first, and I flew off to the side narrowly missing a cactus and landing on some sandstone. Luckily my helmet was on, and I only got a small road rash on my leg. This was my first experience with mountain biking, but three crashes later, I finally got the hang of it and even landed my next jump.

The next day we went rappelling. I thought it was going to be easy because I had gone rappelling numerous times before. This time was totally different. A 150-foot cliff, with jagged rocks lurching out

that at the time looked like knives. As we were getting fitted, a staff member asked, "Who wants to go first?" I volunteered, and before I knew it I was on the cliff. I started moving my feet jumping and releasing the rope through my right hand. The first jump was the hardest and after that it was pure fun. I even moved my arm forward for the last 50 or 60 feet and let the rope slide through my fingers without gripping it tightly. I zoomed down and caught myself at the last second. At Moab I learned some common sense—don't ride your bike in crypto biotic soil, don't take five-foot jumps when you can't land them, and don't go too fast rappelling. Even more important lessons included getting to know my cousins better, and hearing stories from my uncle about my mom and dad that I had never heard before.

This past summer I attended the National Scout Jamboree at Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia. During the first week we toured battle sites, visited the Statue of Liberty, saw Paul Revere's house as well as seeing a street performer do a double front flip over the crowd. The next week we attended the Jamboree and I learned how to fly fish, which I have always wanted to try after watching "A River Runs Through it." I also scuba dived, sailed, canoed, and shot guns. I met new kids from all over the world, as well as getting to shake hands with some leaders in my religion.

I know that Scouts may not be for everyone. I realize that not everyone would like to walk around tourist spots and malls in a scout uniform. I understand that not everyone likes being outdoors. I may not agree with every stance the BSA takes on political or social issues, but Scouting has been great for me. I have learned life-long skills and had fun along the way. I also have been able to participate in many adventures I probably wouldn't have done if it weren't for my fantastic leaders. I have loved my scouting experiences and I think that they have positively affected me. The scout motto is "Be Prepared," I believe that Scouting has prepared me to be a stronger and more confident person. ☺

# Letter to the editor

Three students disagree with editors' columns published last month.

To the Editor:

We feel that we must respond to vast inaccuracies published by an author who seems to think that her own personal college experience applies to all Clayton High School seniors. In "Keeping it in Perspective", the author writes, "The whirlwind East Coast college tour has become a rite of passage for incoming seniors." This is wrong. To imply that it is necessary for all seniors to visit colleges on the East Coast makes the author sound pretentious, and condescending towards those who, like ourselves, have only visited schools in the mid-west.

At the end of the article, the au-

thor states "But in reality, whether you go to Yale or the community school down the street, you are still getting a higher education." This statement is particularly ironic and hypocritical, given the fact that the author name-drops perhaps the four finest universities in the country: Princeton, Yale, Cornell, and Harvard, until the readers feel diminished for not visiting "the best of the best."

The author is clearly proud of her trek through the finest universities, but doesn't want to appear to be condescending. This instant change in tone comes out as a phony after-thought: nineteen paragraphs devoted to her trips through the ivy-league schools, one

where she compares Yale to a Community college.

As for the article on the bottom of the page, "Seniors Pass on Insight", the less said about it, the better. It missed the MARK. If advice is really to be given to freshmen, how about senior's views on the best study spots, how to utilize open campus, and which classes were among their favorites? The advice the authors give is merely common sense, which even the most inept students already know. If this year's forum section will be exclusively about college and pointless advice, count us out.

Signed,  
Zach Smith, Steven Garrett, and Steve Golembieski

# Fond memories torn down along with old stadium

On Labor Day, decked out in my faded red Cardinal jersey and jingly Cardinal charm bracelet, I watched my last Cardinals-Cubs game at the old Busch Stadium. As I complained about the blue-jerseyed Chicagoans in my section and steadfastly booed Derek Lee and Mark Prior, I realized how much I depend upon the Cardinals-Cubs rivalry.

The rivalry has always been the foundation upon which my love of baseball is built. I grew up with the knowledge that the amount of adoration I felt for my Cardinals always had to equal the hatred I felt for the Cubs.

And yet though we term it that, it isn't really hatred. The emotion associated with the Cubs is more contempt, perhaps even pity. When we complain about the Cubs, we are, more than anything else, following an ancient tradition. Cardinal baseball wouldn't be complete without those cursed yet zealously passionate Cub fans.

Therefore, I grew up with the Cubs just as I grew up with the Cardinals. Even as a little girl, I was in love with baseball. I would look forward all year to the days when my dad would pick me up from preschool early to take me to Cardinal games.

We would take the Metrolink to the stadium and buy our Kosher hotdogs with grilled onions and pickle relish and cheer until our voices cracked.

My dad would always buy me a scorecard and a red Cardinals pencil. Just as I learned long division and times tables, I learned the baseball scoring symbols and the numbers of my favorite players.

As I grew older, my passion for baseball expanded beyond just attending games. I wanted to learn how to play, to experience the feelings my heroes felt everyday. Although my mom couldn't convince me to take ballet or singing lessons,

I signed up for Clayton Recreation baseball in second grade.

During that first season, I began learning technique. As I played more and more, I started dreaming of becoming a Cardinal someday. My previous dreams of becoming an Olympic ice skater or a dentist were quickly discarded for the ambition to become the first woman player in the Major League.

It didn't matter to me that I could barely hit and seemed to have an innate fear of the ball: I wanted more than anything to become a star, to someday sit in the dugout alongside Willie McGee and Ozzie Smith and all my other childhood idols.

In order to hone my minimal skills, I joined a week-long, summer baseball camp at Washington University. When I walked with my dad onto the college baseball diamond, clutching my purple Rawlings bat bag and barely-broken-in glove, I couldn't believe that I was the only girl among the hundred or so participants.

Once I got over the initial shock that I was utterly alone, I began to realize my luck. If no other girls wanted to be Major League baseball players, I would have a much better chance of becoming the first.

During the four summers I attended the Wash U camp, however, I came to terms with the fact that baseball player was not a realistic career goal.

As I struggled with the drills that seemed to come so easily to the boys, all by myself at one end of the field, I couldn't help but think the sport wasn't right for me.

When we picked teams and a dark-haired boy shouted that he didn't want the girl on his team, only my love of baseball could keep me going.

But those sweaty days on the diamond were worth it. At the end of my last year of camp I was awarded a tall, silver, "Most Improved"

trophy.

During one of the summers I attended the Wash U session, I also signed up for a baseball camp run by a former Cardinal player. I was, again, the only girl, and the coaches spoiled me rotten. The former Cardinal would give free tickets to the boys who would take care of me. One pair of boys would take turns every day fanning me and carrying my bat bag.

As part of that same camp, I got to take a tour of Busch Stadium and run the bases and sit in the Cardinal dugout. I jogged along the same paths that Bob Gibson and Albert Pujols and so many other greats had jogged. I could feel the Cardinal magic seeping through my tennis shoes. For a month afterwards, I refused to walk in puddles or rainstorms for fear that the magic would be washed away.

Now, as I think about Busch Stadium being torn down, it's hard to imagine how many memories are being erased. No one will ever again be able to walk in the infield dirt where Mark McGwire circled the four bases 70 times in one season, or tour the KMOX booth where Jack Buck made so many memorable calls, or touch the outfield grass that has been watered by so many drops of sweat and trampled by so many diving bodies.

Just as the Cubs wouldn't be the same without Wrigley Field, the Cardinals won't be the same without the old Busch Stadium. But I guess, in some ways, their transition is appropriate. Just as they will move into a new stadium next year, I'll be far away at college, trying to pull in Cardinals games on a faint AM radio signal.

Maybe I'll move to the East Coast and somehow learn to despise the Yankees and Red Sox a little less. Maybe I'll move to Chicago and, heaven forbid, become a Cubs fan.

Until then, I'll try not to think about the looming destruction. I have tickets to Game 3 of the World Series: that will be the time for sentiment and nostalgia. Until then, there will always be another pitching match-up to watch, another hot red seat to sit in. ☺

## Keeping It In PERSPECTIVE



CAROLINE BLEEKE

purple Rawlings bat bag and barely-broken-in glove, I couldn't believe that I was the only girl among the hundred or so participants.

Once I got over the initial shock that I was utterly alone, I began to realize my luck. If no other girls wanted to be Major League baseball players, I would have a much better chance of becoming the first.

During the four summers I attended the Wash U camp, however, I came to terms with the fact that baseball player was not a realistic career goal.

As I struggled with the drills that seemed to come so easily to the boys, all by myself at one end of the field, I couldn't help but think the sport wasn't right for me.

When we picked teams and a dark-haired boy shouted that he didn't want the girl on his team, only my love of baseball could keep me going.

But those sweaty days on the diamond were worth it. At the end of my last year of camp I was awarded a tall, silver, "Most Improved"

- Cardinals
- Blues are back
- 24-hour musical
- 3-day weekends
- a hint of fall weather
- end-of-summer sales

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## Thumbs Down

- gas prices
- Gay Field renovation process
- Rams
- college essays
- server trouble
- broken air conditioning
- splinters



# Storm-Tossed

Although Hurricane Katrina made landfall nearly 650 miles away, the reverberations reached even Clayton.

by SOPHIA AGOPOVA  
and AMY BROOKS

**H**ordes of starving, dehydrated people wait in the sweltering heat. Babies cry, people with illnesses wonder where they will get their medicine. Doctors, worried about their own families, rush to save patients – at an airport. Shots ring out. Troops patrol the filthy streets. Gangs of looters rob stores at gunpoint, three-year-old children are savagely raped and others are frightened by the sound of sniper fire. Anarchy ensues.

One would think this was a scene right out of a third-world country. But, tragically enough, this horrific scene actually took place right in our own country, the most developed and wealthy nation in the world.

On Aug. 25, hurricane Katrina made landfall on the coast of southern Florida, killing nine people and knocking out power for more than 1.2 million residents.

## IN THE STORM'S PATH

History teacher Donna Rogers-Beard's nephew, Phillip Davis, lives in Miami Beach and decided to wait out the storm in his condo.

"I finally made it up to our apartment to see the palm trees bending in the wind and the rain coming in sheets," Davis said. "Two palm trees behind our condo snapped in two in the storm, and we saw many more around the city. When the eye passed over us, the wind suddenly died. Nothing. The palm tree fronds were hanging limp. Little rain. It was like that for about an hour, and then the storm started up again with renewed force for at least two more hours. You could feel the building thrumming like a bass guitar string."

The next day, the storm shifted into the Gulf of Mexico and picked up strength as it headed for Mississippi and Louisiana,

where both governors declared states of emergency. On Aug. 27, President George W. Bush declared a national state of emergency in Louisiana, and the National Hurricane Center issued a hurricane warning, predicting that the hurricane would arrive within the next 24 hours.

CHS alum Doug Holtzman heeded the warning and decided to leave his New Orleans home that morning.

"I just thought I'd be gone for a day or a day and a half so I packed up a bag of clothes and left for Jackson, Mississippi," Holtzman said.

Holtzman graduated from CHS in 1995 and has since gone on to have a successful career with the New Orleans Saints as the Senior Corporate Sales Account Executive and Hospitality Sponsorships Sales Supervisor for the team. He has been living in New Orleans for the past six years.

He decided to leave New Orleans based on past experience with hurricanes.

"Last year, during the evacuation for Hurricane Ivan, I sat in my car for eighteen and half hours, so this year I decided to get out early and I got the last hotel in Jackson," Holtzman said. "I led the pack out."

Meanwhile, back in New Orleans, as the hurricane reached category five status on Sunday, Mayor Ray Nagin ordered mandatory evacuations.

When Holtzman heard this, he knew the hurricane was going to be a greater threat than he had expected. He decided to go to St. Louis where he has family.

Junior Dana Schulman and her family were planning on staying in New Orleans until they heard the news on Sunday.

"My mom woke me up saying we were evacuating because the winds were now up to 175 mph and [the hurricane] had shifted and was heading straight towards us," Schulman said.

Family ties also brought the Schulman to St. Louis and to CHS.

Learning Center intern Christina Pupillo has also felt the effects of hurricane Katrina. Pupillo has numerous family members residing in New Orleans, including her parents, sister, niece, grandmothers and aunt and uncle. Unlike Holtzman, Pupillo's relatives were less willing to leave their hometown.

"At first, both of my grandmothers refused to leave, so the rest of the family was planning to stay," Pupillo said. "When it became fairly certain that the city would see a large part of the storm, most of my family decided to leave town. One grandma absolutely refused to

leave. She said she had spent most of her life in that house and, if she was going to die, that was where it would be. My family tried as much as they could, without actually physically forcing her, but could not convince her to leave."

Most of Pupillo's family left to stay in Mississippi with other relatives, except her grandmother.

The hurricane made landfall on Aug. 29 in two different locations with sustained winds of 125 miles per hour. Two major levees in the city of New Orleans were breached the next day. This was just the beginning of the damage and chaos that were to follow.

## THE AFTERMATH

"No one was taking this hurricane seriously," Holtzman said.

And that made the damage all the more immense.

The city was in shock. Millions were without power, food, water, communication, or any means of escaping from the unreal scenes that surrounded them.

On Aug. 30, the military started to move helicopters and ships into

the region to deal with the massive destruction. This was one of the many actions taken by the government to deal with the crisis.

The next day, at a press conference, when asked how many people had died, Nagin answered, "Minimum hundreds, most likely thousands."

Pupillo's grandmother was one of the fortunate ones.

"I was very worried about my grandma because no one could get in touch with her," Pupillo said. "When I heard that the levees were breaking, I was even more worried. She lives less than a block from the levee, but on the south side of the Mississippi River. Lucky for her, the flooding was occurring on the opposite side of the river. On Friday, my uncle and dad were able to drive to her house and bring her to Mississippi. Everyone in my family was celebrating."

But many others were less fortunate.

"For every good story you hear, you hear 10 bad ones," Holtzman said.

Everyday the body count increased and people got even more desperate. Tens of thousands of refugees housed in the Superdome began the evacuation to Houston.

"Someone is probably sleeping in my office right now," Holtzman said. "If someone has to use my house to survive, they can go ahead, but taking my personal stuff is different."

Countless more continued to hang on for life at the New Orleans Convention Center and thousands remained trapped in their flooded homes. No one knew how many people had died or how or how long it was going to take to evacuate the rest of the living. One thing was for sure: New Orleans was never going to be the same.

On Sept. 2, President Bush signed a \$10.5 billion disaster relief bill. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers estimated that it would take 36 to 80 days to drain the city.

On the same day, the Congressional Black Caucus began to criticize the relief efforts, saying that the pace was slow because many of the victims were African American.

Others were critical of the Bush administration's response, saying that money needed for Katrina relief was spent in Iraq.

"In 2001, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) warned that a category three hurricane would knock the levees out of commission, but instead of improving the levees, the money went to the war in Iraq," Literacy Lab Intern Janet Curry said.

But others thought the government was doing as well as could be expected. CHS alum Matt Erhard (class of '05) was planning to attend Tulane University this year, but the hurricane interrupted his plans.

"I feel that the government, just like the people living there, were caught off guard by the severity of the storm," Erhard said. "Their response, though seemingly sluggish, was sufficient for what they expected. I don't think that there is anyone to blame for the problems they face now, because they are responding, and no one can truly predict what is going to happen."

## RECOVERING

Eventually recovery efforts started moving in the right direction. On Sept. 5, workers patched the levees and began to drain water

from New Orleans. However, the outlook still remained bleak.

"There is no reason – no jobs, no food – no reason for them to stay," New Orleans Deputy Police Chief Warren Riley said in a press conference.

Many people were still annoyed with the lack of concern for the area, especially with regard to FEMA whose director, Michael Brown, resigned after his dismal performance in Katrina's aftermath.

Nagin was one of the most outspoken critics of the federal government's response.

"I have no idea what they're doing," Nagin said in a radio station interview. "... God is looking down on all this, and if they are not doing everything in their power to save people, they are going to pay the price. Because every day that we delay, people are dying and they're dying by the hundreds."



by Erin Blumer

By Sept. 7, Lt. Col. Jacques Thibodeaux of the Louisiana National Guard estimated that 10,000-15,000 residents still remained in the city. Another statistic is equally disturbing: the water covering the city was estimated to be at 10 times the acceptable bacteria level. According to government estimates, over a million people have been displaced because of the hurricane.

The next day, Congress passed a bill allotting \$51.8 billion for hurricane relief, which breaks down to \$1.4 billion a day over the next five weeks. Every single one of those dollars will be needed to even make a dent in the massive damage of Katrina.

## HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

It will undoubtedly take years to repair the destruction caused by of Katrina. But what about the lasting effects? Will New Orleans ever be the same again? Countless thousands of lives will change forever.

Many Clayton teachers, students and alums have been affected by Katrina.

Pupillo took in many family members because they had nowhere else to go.

"The house [in New Orleans] did not get flooded," Pupillo said. "A tree fell on the house, so the structure of the house may be compromised. There's some other minor damage, but not as much as many other houses. As of Friday, the house had not been broken into, so all of their personal belong-

ings are OK – but they can't get to them."

The hurricane also affected many CHS alumni attending colleges in the area, such as Tulane.

Alex Reinus (class of '05), was going to start his freshman year at Tulane, but now is going to take four classes at Washington University as a visiting student. He anticipates that he will be able to return after a semester.

"I've been watching the news and it seems like the Garden District, where Tulane is located, is okay," Reinus said. "Once they get the rest of the city back in order, like restoring electricity and other necessities, I'll probably be able to go back in January."

For Erhard, the hurricane meant not being able to attend Tulane, but providing other opportunities, including an internship at a local architecture firm.

Pupillo is still unsure about the future of her family but luckily, everyone has a place to go for now.

"My mom, sister, and niece are staying with me," Pupillo said. "My mom is looking for a job until she can go back to New Orleans. Clayton has graciously agreed to add her to the sub list while she is here. My dad will try to go back to New Orleans as soon as possible to start cleaning and fixing the house."

Holtzman believes the city, and his former workplace, will never be the same again.

"I don't think the Superdome will ever be running again," Holtzman said. "It was in bad con-

dition to begin with, needing over \$4 million of work, and now I just can't see public money going to the dome. The Saints have moved to San Antonio and I think they will become American's team, like the Yankees after 9/11."

Luckily, a week before the hurricane, Holtzman was offered a job with the Tampa Bay Devil Rays, although his new location still doesn't keep him away from the possibility of a hurricane.

Clearly, an incalculable amount of resolve, charity and optimism will be needed to repair the damage of hurricane Katrina.

But things are already looking up. People are beginning to move back into the city and life is starting to return to normal. Despite such tragedy, life moves on.

Schulman, like many others, believes there is hope for the city's future.

"I think the future of New Orleans is an amazing one," Schulman said. "I believe strongly in the quote, 'Behind every dark cloud there is a silver lining.' It's going to take awhile but I feel that our city will become the city it was before this tragedy and possibly even better."

Erhard is also optimistic about the future of the city.

"I think it is going to be a rough year, but the city will be back and better than ever," Erhard said. "The spirit of the people and the city are unbelievable, and will prevail over any current and future problems facing the city." ☺

## New Orleans evacuees at CHS



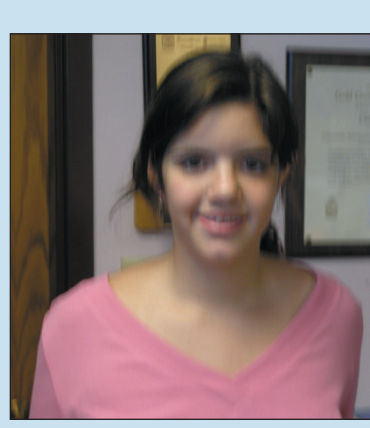
**DANA SCHULMAN**  
junior

Everyone here has been so welcoming and encouraging, and it is so nice to see that people actually care and are willing to help.



**YUE PANG**  
junior

Right now, most people I've talked to want to go back, and so do I to a certain extent, but I don't want to go through a hurricane again.



**ANDIE LAZAR**  
freshman

I was in the hurricane for a whole week. There was no water, no air-conditioning, no lights. But at least I survived.



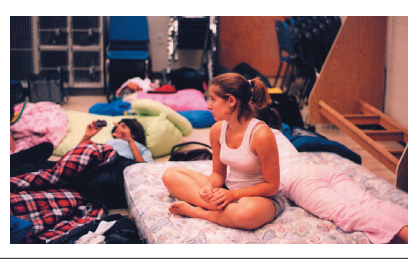
# Recreation



**Football**  
CHS Greyhounds unify after last year's state championship  
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**Ice Cream**  
Students' favorite ice cream spots around Clayton  
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**24-Hour Musical**  
Performing arts fundraiser well-received and successful  
**24**

## Water Polo honors past by hosting Founder's Cup

JACOB BLUMENFELD

The diving tank at the Shaw Park Aquatic Center has hosted Clayton water polo games and practices for decades. But on Sept. 10, that all came to a bittersweet close. The Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA) is moving water polo from fall to spring, effective in the 2006-07 school year. Shaw Park does not open until late May. And so on Saturday, Sept. 10, 2005, the final high school water polo game was held in the diving tank.

"Clayton has played many games and held many practices in the dive tank," head coach Dave Jimenez said. "To lose the use of this facility is a tremendous blow to water polo."

Jimenez is the brainchild behind the Founder's Cup. When high school water polo was founded in the Saint Louis area by Wally Lundt in 1960, only three teams existed - Clayton, Ladue and University City - thus, the three founders. Each year, one of these three schools would host the tournament. Eight teams participate, with each team playing six games. The first Cup was held in 2002 at University City.

"Once the season switch was announced, I made sure Clayton



SENIOR AARON JAY blocks a shot from opponent John Burraughs High School during the battle for the Founder's Cup.

courtesy of Ken Blumer

would get to host the tournament so we could honor the significance of Shaw Park in our history and celebrate our final games there," Jimenez said.

The St. Louis water polo community could not have asked for a better final game: Kirkwood

slipped away with a 6-5 overtime victory over DeSmet. Wally Lundt was there to present the trophy, and following the game was a barbecue.

Once the most dominant team in the league, Clayton has struggled in recent years, due largely to a

significant shortage of players. But this year, all of that is beginning to change.

The sky is the limit for this year's Hounds. They are led by four-year varsity goalie Aaron Jay, in addition to many strong-shooting juniors. Last year's deadly JV duo of

Alex Philips and Paul Orland are also now starting varsity players. But perhaps most exciting of all is this year's JV squad, which contains what Jimenez calls, "the largest freshman class I have seen since I started coaching for Clayton." Grassroots? You bet.

## Cross country program runs uphill

Since many runners are healing from injuries, the team has a long road ahead to achieve its full potential.

MEGHAN BLISS

Left foot, right foot, left foot, right foot - over and over again, as fast as you can - one after the other for 3.1 miles. For those who do not run understanding why one would choose to subject themselves and their body to such strenuous physical activity can be hard to understand. For those who do run it is easy to understand: it isn't about the pain; it's about the reward.

No one at CHS understands this more than the members and coaches of the cross country team.

"I like running and I like the sense of achievement that I get from running," senior captain Lexi Wirthlin said. "I like running in practice because it's pretty low-key and fun and I like the few minutes after races after I've gotten my energy back, and I feel really proud that I've gotten through it."

Head Coach Chuck Collis notes that watching runners' hard work pay off is his favorite aspect of coaching cross country.

"I guess my favorite part of coaching is seeing athletes improve," Collis said. "It's the proof of their hard effort and that improve-



FRESHMAN KHIRA GABLIANI and Katie Poplawski motivate each other as they run up hill at one of their races. This year has more runners, and especially more freshmen, than in years past. Some runners went to Wydown last spring to recruit the upcoming class of 2010.

Abbie Minton

ment is quantifiable. There is no doubt as to if someone is improving. I like seeing people get what they deserve in terms of improvement and the effort they put forth;

there is a direct correlation between effort and improvement."

This year, Collis and Assistant Coach Anne Etling hope to see improvement for every team member

as well as significant growth in the team despite a rocky start.

"This year, more so than last year, I see a lot of potential that hasn't been fulfilled because of injury and ineligibility," Collis said. "The team has the ability to be strong like last year's team, but we need to get more of our runners healthy and experienced. The team is a lot younger this year than in years past so it has room for growth."

Additionally, the team is more heavily female than it has been in recent years.

"At the beginning of the season I was excited because the number of girls was higher than any other season. There were 29 runners overall, which is a big team," Etling said. "Every year we try to get as many new runners as we can. Last year we went to Wydown during

lunch periods to promote the team. We have six new freshmen runners and several who have potential to grow as runners if they commit to the sport. But, going into the first meet we only had eight out of 29 runners running due to injury and ineligibility. So, because of that, it's hard to determine how well we'll do as a team when we haven't seen our runners run in races yet."

Like Etling and Collis, sophomore runner Maggie Minton noted the new demographics of this year's team in comparison to last year's.

"This year the team is different because there aren't that many seniors and the gender balance is switched from last year," Minton said. "Last year there were only like seven girls and a lot more guys and this year there are more girls than guys."

Wirthlin agreed, noting that the number of girls will help to strengthen the team.

"I think this year's team is pretty strong," Wirthlin said. "We especially have a lot of new girls but the problem is that a lot of our run-

### J.V. Field Hockey

J.V. Field Hockey has a record of 1-1. Coach Laura Rothery is very enthusiastic about the team.

"The girls work very hard," Rothery said. "We have only had two games, but the team is doing great. There are many great players on the team. They are very competitive; they just go out there and do their best."

Rothery is confident that the field hockey team is going to have a great year.

### Freshman Boys' Soccer

The boys' freshman soccer team has a record of 1-1-1.

Emily Schaller, the coach of the freshman team, explains the focus of the team is learning the game. The coaches are teaching the players the styles the varsity play so when they move up to that level they can compete for position and understand the lay out of the game.

Schaller points out the potential of the team and good sportsmanship among the players.

"There are a couple of the players that have actually been playing both J.V. and varsity," Schaller said. "No one is like our number one guy. They are all doing really well, and they are working well together."

## Rookie Girls' golf team swings into action

KATHERINE SHER

At Triple A Golf Course in Forest Park, an unfamiliar site is seen at the tee boxes. For the first time in CHS history, the school has fielded a girl's golf team. In the past, girls could play on the boy's team during the spring season, but now they

have a season of their own.

"When I first interviewed for a job here in the summer of 2004, I found out there had never been a girls' team," coach Melissa Lewis said. "I was shocked. I talked to Mr. Grawer about starting one. [He] said that if I could get enough interest then I could start [a team]."

Lewis found enough female interest a year later. This year's team is lead by junior Morgan Deutsch and senior Ali Rodgers, the Hounds are off to a 3-1 start.

"They are doing amazing," Lewis said. "We really have a great bunch of girls that really are having fun."

Rodgers agreed. "I'm really excited about the team," Rodgers said. "It was fun playing with the boys but it's nice to see where you are with people at your level."

Rodgers and Deutsch were both members of the boy's golf team at some point during high school.

"It was really exciting [to get a team]," Deutsch said. "It was hard competing against the boys. They act differently and have a higher level of competitiveness. Now I can play against my friends from other schools."

JUNIOR MORGAN DEUTSCH prepares her shot. Deutsch has been playing since she was four years old and has traveled to various tournaments. This year she broke 80 on a 18-hole course.



Abbie Minton

Although some of the girls are learning the game for the first time, Rodgers and Lewis have been around it for the majority of their lives.

"I played Varsity [golf] all four years at Edwardsville High School, and went to State two of the years," Lewis said. "I then got a full ride to play in college. After college I knew that I wanted to stay close to the sport. When I became a teacher, I knew I wanted to coach."

Likewise, Rodgers has been playing since she was six years old.

"My first memory is putting at Norway and riding around in the basket of the golf cart," Rodgers said.

However, the younger girls are improving greatly.

"The girls keep on improving," Rodgers said. "After the first time we played the girls scores have continued to drop. Some girls have had a 20-stroke improvement. They have so much potential."

Since the Hounds are a new team, the team goal is to improve

the overall game of all the girls.

"My goal is to provide the girls with an amazing chance to build their games and see where it takes them," Lewis said. "I really want to help the girls establish a great foundation."

Deutsch agrees. "It would be really cool to qualify for State, but our district is so tough and has a lot of talent," Deutsch said. "In the future, I don't think that it would unrealistic for us to go."

Rodgers agrees, but also wants to improve individually.

"I would like to do well in all of my matches and go to State," Rodgers said. "I would also like to consistently shoot below a 40 on nine holes."

With the foundation in place, the Hounds have everything they need in order to be a great team in the future.

"Once I saw the team together for the first week of practice, I knew we were going to be a great team," Lewis said. "And they have proven that."



# Recreation

## Football Statistics

### Clayton:

Leading Scorers:	
Carter Sapp	36 points
Kit Szybala	26 points
Gene Cerrato	24 points
Cameron Hicks	24 points

### Leading Passers:

Carter Sapp	596 yards
Cameron Hicks	75 yards

### Leading Rushers:

Gene Cerrato	335 yards
Brian Minor	175 yards
Devin McMiller	168 yards
Carter Sapp	132 yards

### Leading Receivers:

Brian Minor	278 yards
Cameron Hicks	239 yards
Jared Neely	68 yards
Charlie Matthews	26 yards

### Total Yards:

Brian Minor	453 yards
Gene Cerrato	345 yards
Devin McMiller	173 yards
Carter Sapp	132 yards

### Ladue:

Leading Scorers:	
Anthony Easterwood	66 points
De'angelo Dean	56 points
Sam Panke	30 points
Nick Bahn	19 points

### Leading Passers:

Nick Bahn	466 yards
Spencer Mason	318 yards

### Leading Rushers:

Anthony Easterwood	915 yards
De'angelo Dean	607 yards
Stewart Cannon	107 yards
Sean Okpala	92 yards

### Leading Receivers:

Sam Panke	471 yards
Slava Prokhorets	126 yards
Stewart Cannon	64 yards
Anthony Easterwood	55 yards

### Total Yards:

Anthony Easterwood	970 yards
De'angelo Dean	658 yards
Stewart Cannon	171 yards
Sean Okpala	92 yards



### Girl's Softball

Softball remains positive despite a difficult season

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### Clayton Alumni

2005 CHS graduates are adjusting to life at Washington University

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### Homecoming

School spirit and an abundance of fun is a high school tradition

24

## Who will go to the playoffs?

### A different perspective: Ladue football

by KATHERINE SHER

It's going to be a nail biter. Two qualified teams will enter the last week of the football season not knowing what their fates will be. Will they advance to the Missouri State High School Athletic Association (MSHAA) playoffs? Or will the results leave the seniors and the rest of the team reminiscing about what could have been? These questions will be answered Nov. 4 at Washington University, when the Clayton Greyhounds will battle the Ladue Rams in the last game of the season, in a rematch of last year's epic battle for a chance at the MSHAA trophy.

The Rams started their season with an overall record of 5-2 and are undefeated in conference play. The Hounds, on the other hand, are 4-3 overall with a conference record of 2-1. However, in district play, each team is rewarded a clean slate. This only means one thing in the eyes of the Ladue players and fans: the Clayton game is a must-win situation.

"In the state of Missouri, the last three games determine who advances in the state playoffs," Rams senior co-captain Anthony Easterwood said. "Right now, people are saying that we will probably be ranked number one in districts because we are undefeated in conference. But it all comes down to the last three weeks. [The Clayton game is] going to be a good game."

There are four teams vying for that one playoff spot: Clayton, Ladue, University City and Normandy. The playoff spot will most likely go to the winner of the Clayton-Ladue game.

The same situation presented itself last season, with a victory by the Greyhounds.

Offensively, the Rams dominate the field. Easterwood leads the team in rushing with 915 yards so far this season. Last year, he ran for a total of 921 yards.

Senior De'angelo Dean has rushed for 607 yards and

scored nine touchdowns. Easterwood and Dean give senior quarterback Bahn another option besides throwing.

Bahn has passed for 466 yards, including four touchdown passes. Leading receiving comes from senior tight end Sam Panke, who has caught 471 yards and scored four touchdowns. He also leads the team with 11 sacks and 42 tackles on defense.

Although the Rams offense is dominated by seniors, the team has a lot of up and coming talent.

"The team is pretty young this year, but everyone has stepped up," Easterwood said. "It's been a team building experience this year with the two losses."

Bahn echoed Easterwood. "There is a lot of camaraderie between the players, more so than last year," Bahn said.

Both sides can agree, though, that the Clayton-Ladue game is the most important to both teams.

"I love the rivalry," Easterwood said. "I love the way the season is set up and how it comes down to the last game, and that we play Clayton."

Bahn agreed. "It's our number one goal. We've devoted our entire season to beating Clayton. It's the biggest game and our most important rivalry. It's going to be a lot of fun under the lights and on the turf."

If the Rams beat the Greyhounds, they will advance to the State playoffs. There, they have high hopes of what they can accomplish.

"I think we can win State," Easterwood said. "It's hard being a young team with not that many seniors, but I think we can do it."

First, they will have to go through the Greyhounds, who beat the Rams the past two seasons.

"It's been a while since we've won," Bahn said. "It's become our number one priority."

Despite the outcome, one thing is true: the rivalry lives on.

Perhaps the closing statement is best left to Bahn.

"We're going to win." ☺



ABOVE: CLAYTON WON its football game last year against Ladue 31-7. Clayton plays Ladue again on Nov. 4 at Washington University. The outcome of the Clayton and Ladue football game will decide which team advances to the playoffs. BELOW: Senior co-captain Brian Minor is a running back on offense and a corner back on defense. Brian will play an important role in the game against Ladue as he competes against Ladue's backfield players, seniors Anthony Easterwood and De'angelo Dean. Minor believes he is ready to go up against Easterwood. "He's stronger and I'm faster," Minor said. "We are two different types of running backs."

## CHS football determined to keep winning tradition alive

by MAX SHAPIRO

After a hot 3-0 start, the Clayton Greyhound football team is slowly cooling off coming into the rivalry game at Washington University versus Ladue.

The Greyhounds won their first three games very easily against weak Soldan and Berkeley teams and a St. Francis Borgia team that has regressed from years past.

"The team was happy that we won our first three games," senior linebacker James Sachar said. "But we weren't really clicking well, and we were having some team chemistry problems. It's hard for a team to go through a coaching transition and we didn't even get to play in the Jamboree because of bad weather."

Former lineman coach Sam Horrell took over for former head coach Mike Musick as the head coach.

"It's a hard transition to a new coach, but we are getting there," Sachar said.

The Hounds lost their fourth game of the season at MICDS 32-14. However, they made a tremendous comeback at Jennings the next week. The Hounds were down 20-0 at halftime and were not playing great football.

"I think the guys thought going into the game that we were going to be playing the same old Jennings, the team we used to walk over every year," Horrell said. "But this team has improved a lot and we didn't give them enough credit. The team really came out and played in the second half and that's the reason we won."

A 75 yard trick play pass from senior Cameron Hicks to senior co-captain Brian Minor gave the Greyhounds the lead in the fourth quarter and senior co-captain. Carter Sapp connected with senior

Devin McMiller for a nine yard touchdown pass to put the game out of reach.

However, the Greyhounds were punned by St. Charles West at Concordia on Clayton's homecoming 42-21.

"It's tough every time you lose a game, but they were a much better team on that day," Horrell said.

St. Charles West ran the ball up the middle of Clayton's defense all game long, only attempting four passes and completing two, both for touchdowns.

"It was a tough game to play," junior cornerback and running back Brandon Powell said. "It was a big defeat and we just need to stop the run better."

St. Charles West ran the ball 52 times for 304 yards and went up 35-0 at halftime. They tacked on another touchdown to go up 42-0 in the third quarter. Clayton scored three touchdowns in the fourth quarter, but the game was never close.

"We learned a lot from that game," senior co-captain Brian Minor said. "The loss hurts, but I can't change the past. We'll move on and become a better team."

Minor is a component to the Hounds success and when he suffered a concussion in the St. Charles West game along with senior Justin Williams and junior cornerback Steve Richardson, the team was in disarray. This left Sapp and co-captain running back Gene Cerrato with few ways to succeed.

"We needed to be more focused," Sapp said. "We need to play with more heart in a game as important as that. We will play with more heart against Ladue."

The Greyhounds play cross-town rival Ladue in their last game of the season. This game has just about everything on the line.

"I don't want to say it, but I have to," Sapp said. "This game will represent our whole entire season. It's our rivalry game and playoff hopes all wrapped up in one. This game will determine whether or not our season was successful."

To defeat the Rams the Greyhounds will have to do what they failed to do against St. Charles West: stop the run.

Ladue has one of the best running backs in Missouri in senior Anthony Easterwood.

"We need to be able to limit his yards on first down," Horrell said. "It's going to be hard to stop him, but I believe we can contain him. That's going to be our goal with him."

"We should have no problem stopping him if

we run to the ball," Minor said.

Clayton will counter the Rams impressive backfield with a good pair of running backs, Minor and Cerrato.

The game is going to come down to whoever runs the ball more efficiently, either Easterwood and Dean or Cerrato and Minor.

Cerrato has scored four times this year while averaging just over five yards a carry and Minor has scored twice while averaging a little over three yards per carry.

Minor and Cerrato are working hard during practice and will use the Normandy and University City games to prepare for the final bout. Minor insists that his concussion will not affect his level of play and he will be at 100 percent for the game.

"The concussion really wasn't that bad," Minor said. "It took me out of the rest of the game, but I'm feeling fine now, and I'm ready to play."

Minor believes he is ready to go up against Easterwood.

"He's stronger and I'm faster," Minor said. "We are two different types of running backs."

The offensive line led by senior Chris Peck will need to make some holes for Minor and Cerrato.

Cerrato will have to carry a bulk of the load too for the Greyhounds to be successful against a Ladue team that has a record of 5-2, with their only losses coming against tough teams from Cahokia and Roosevelt.

"This game means the world to me," Cerrato said. "It's a lot of fun and the rivalry just keeps on getting bigger from year to year."

Clayton has won the last three meetings against Ladue and looks to make it a fourth on Nov. 4 at Washington University.

The game was originally scheduled to be played underneath the lights at Gay Field, but the field will not be ready in time.

"It's unfortunate that we will not be able to play this game on the home field, but Concordia has been great to us all year and I believe Wash U. is a good substitute site for this game," Horrell said.

Cerrato likes the idea of playing at Washington University.

"It will make the game much better," Cerrato said. "A lot more people will show up and the crowds will be going crazy."

The rivalry is heating up and this game looks to have all the facets to be one of the best ever played between these two teams.

"We are going to have to make big plays," Minor said. "Big players step up in big situations. This is a big situation and I look forward to stepping up." ☺



Jamie Sachar





JUNIOR JACI RIFKIN stands in the on-deck circle as she prepares for her next at bat. Rifkin was one of the team's two pitchers in her first year starting at that position.

## Softball falters

The team regroup in transitional year after losing their pitching ace, who graduated last year.

BY RACHEL DICKENS

Amidst the exhilaration and fervor that surround CHS football, other, less popular fall sports often become overshadowed. The varsity girls' softball team has devoted a great amount of time and effort into games and practices this season.

However, the team is given little acknowledgment for their performance. Although the team hasn't had a superb season, the players' love for the sport hasn't faltered.

"Softball is my favorite sport," junior Melanie Holland said. "When I joined the team I immediately felt a sense of community and hospitality among my teammates. Although this is my first year playing at CHS, I feel just as settled-in and comfortable as everyone else." Although Holland is a first-year player, her skills and irrepensible attitude allowed her to be elected one of the team's three captains.

"Melanie never got down and could always boost the morale of our team," junior Jaci Rifkin said. "She was always the loudest in the dugout, and could always be counted on to cheer us on."

Rifkin also holds the team's other two captains in high regard.

"Liz Bowen, our only senior captain, was the big sister of the team," Rifkin said. "She helped anyone in need, and was a tremendous first baseman. Our other captain, Beth Nielsen, is an amazingly skilled player. She could always shake off a bad play and never allowed her emotions to dictate the course of the game."

Although the team was endowed with talented captains, Rifkin attributes much of the team's success to

their coaches.

"Our coaches, Ron Steinschreiber and Christine Langenbacher, are the driving forces of our team," Rifkin said. "Christine played softball in college and can coach from a seasoned perspective. While Ron is quieter than Coach L, he is always on top of our games. He always keeps the stats and helps the outfield immensely."

Although players share an overall sense of accomplishment and unity, Holland feels as though the team could've performed better overall.

"We didn't win an amazing number of games," Holland said. "However, the ones we did win were awesome games, where we were all cheering for each other and playing with great intensity."

As team captain, Holland credits a few promising young players with the team's success.

"All of our freshmen are great players," Holland said. "Shannon Harms is an excellent third baseman, Mary Barber is an awesome pitcher and second baseman, and Hayley Rosenblum has us set in the outfield."

Despite disappointing losses and shortcomings, both Rifkin and Holland have a positive overall impression of the season.

"It was a lot of fun, win or lose," Holland said. "As a newcomer to the team, I'm glad everyone was so nice and welcoming."

Rifkin shares Holland's positive outlook on the season.

"I think this season definitely helped us bond and improve as a team," Rifkin said. "We've all made friendships that will last now that the season's over." ☺

## Early struggles help soccer in long run

BY REBECCA WALL

After a slow start, the varsity soccer Hounds have pushed their way to a 10-9-1 record. After some tough early losses, including a 1-0 loss to MICDS in overtime and a 4-1 loss to Westminster, things have started to look up.

The soccer team found motivation out of the frustration of these tough losses, especially the loss to Westminster.

"Our 4-1 loss to Westminster was really a turning point in our season," junior goalkeeper Alex Neil said. "It was the worst game we played and since then we have really stepped our game up."

Coach Matt Balossi believes that the team has good things ahead of it.

"The schedule has been tough and we were inconsistent in our effort and performance the first half of it but in the last 10 games we have really started to turn things around," Balossi said.

Senior Andrew O'Neal agrees. "Lately we have been meeting expectations," O'Neal said.

Some key victories for the Hounds include defeating Affton twice, winning again JFK in the CYC tournament, and prevailing against Parkway North.

A strong defense will be an integral part of continuing Hounds' success. Fortunately, there are indications that the team's defense is strong.

"Our defense has really started doing well in the past two weeks," Neil said.

Junior sweeper Jack Hannum and senior defender Jack McClellan have formed the backbone of the defense, contributing strong physical play.

Other key players for the Hounds include Andrew O'Neal,



SOPHOMORE PARKER RAWDON fights his way towards the ball in a late season game. Rawdon has been a big part of the team this year in his second year on the varsity squad.

Max Leabman, Jack McClellan, Zach Wexelman, Parker Rawdon, David Sherby, Scott Belsky, and Kyle Mulle.

Beyond a solid defense, a strong sense of camaraderie will also undoubtedly contribute to the Hounds' success.

According to Neil, this is not a problem, joking aside.

"The team gets along really well," Neil said. "We like to joke around and make fun of each other, but it's all good natured."

Because the soccer team has been successful lately, O'Neal feels confident about what awaits the team in district play.

"We have momentum heading into districts," O'Neal said.

This momentum will be important. Clayton has not won a district

championship in several years. In 2003, the team made it to the district championship, but fell in the championship game.

However, Neil thinks that this year might be different.

"I'm really optimistic about districts," Neil said. "We have a good chance to make it to the district championship."

One of the top teams in Clayton's district is Trinity. Trinity would be a tough team to beat, according to the Balossi.

"Trinity is currently ranked third in small schools. They play a very challenging schedule, have very experienced coach and their program has a rich soccer history," Balossi said.

Despite this, Neil thinks Clayton has a good chance.

"It would be a tough game to win, but if we played out best we would definitely have a chance," Neil said.

Other teams in Clayton's district include Trinity, Affton, DuBourg, University City, Soldan, and Cleveland NJROTC.

Balossi plans to take the season one game at a time.

"We are trying to continue to improve everyday, building momentum and confidence," Balossi said.

The team hopes that their work and talent will pay dividends.

"Hopefully this will pay off in districts with a championship," Neil said.

The soccer team plays Ritenour at 7 p.m. Thursday. District play begins on Oct. 29. ☺

## Pujols blast lifts a city to new heights

In sports, there are moments, few and far between to be sure, that transcend the game. These moments make men into Gods. No longer are they throwing around a ball, they are hurling globes. Those who participate in these moments immediately find themselves on a historical pedestal. Those who witness are forever changed as well.

And as much as that sounds like pseudo-intellectual babble, there really are these moments. I wouldn't have believed it myself not too long ago. Sure, I had heard of Carleton Fisk, Joe DiMaggio, and even Bill Buckner, but those people were just baseball players. Or so I thought until a man named Albert Pujols showed me what it takes to become something greater than a baseball player. With one swing of the bat, Pujols became loved, hated, worshipped, cursed. With one swing of the bat, he was not a man anymore, he was The Man.

There were two outs in the top of the ninth. Down by two runs, if the Cardinals did not strike here, it was over. The game, the series, everything. There was not a lot of hope, at least on my part. Brad Lidge, the Houston Astros closer, looked untouchable. But then David Eckstein pip-squeaked a ground ball through a gap in the infield. Jimmy Edmonds walked, an unforgivable sin from Lidge. And Pujols stepped up to the plate.

The first thing that struck me about him was his size. It was like I was seeing him for the first time. Seeing him in some new light. The man was enormous. The bat looked so small in his

hands. He hunched over the plate.

Not that there was really any hope, even then. Especially after Pujols' first swing looked like me out there. I was lying on my couch in the basement, my head half-covered with a pillow. I knew the game was lost. But then came one of those moments. Absolute transcendence. Pujols launched a slider from Lidge that was gone as soon as the ball touched bat.

A no-doubter. Crushed, just like the Astros. It was like someone hit a mute button in the Stadium. Dead, disbelieving silence.

I am not a die-hard, watch-every-game Cardinals fan. I root for them, of course, but I don't own a Cardinals shirt. And yet, when Pujols hit that ball, I was the biggest fan in the world. The act was so inspiring. I yelled and ran around, up and down my stairs, did laps around my house. I called a friend of mine, probably the biggest Cardinals fan I know, but his brother answered the phone.

"Ben can't talk right now," he said. "He is running around in the basement."

Even my dad, who hails from Chicago and roots for, of all teams, the Cubs, was swept up in the excitement. It was not about a game of base-

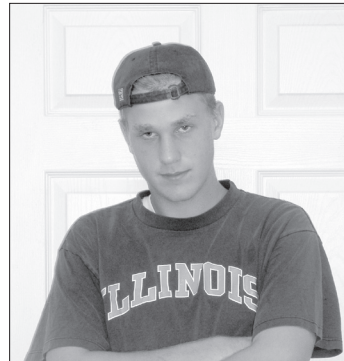
ball anymore. It was about that moment.

For the rest of the night, and into the next day, all I could talk about was what Albert Pujols had done. Comments such as "Pujols is a GOD" and "I want to marry that man" were coming from everyone. An entire city was stuck for a day in a moment that lasted 30 seconds.

I think that this is significant. I think that it shows the power of sport in our culture. Entertainment, sure, but it is so much more than that. It is inspiring to watch these men, just men like you and me, do such incredible things. To know that one man can capture the hearts of so many is hope to anyone who has ever dreamed of making a difference in the life of even one other person.

Moments like Albert Pujols' home run is why sport can be named in the same sentence as math and science and religion in terms of human life. Sports can be that important. But I won't get caught up thinking on such a grand scale. It wouldn't be fair to the home run. It was such an amazing moment that it needs to be taken as just that, a moment. Singular in time, even a loss in the next game couldn't diminish its effect. It is a moment to be remembered, cherished, and played on every Sports Center top 10 from now until eternity. ☺

### From the Back Field



JACK McCLELLAN

## Cross country runners stride towards personal records week after week

With the help of Coach Chuck Collis, the cross country team has made goals each week to set a new milestone in their running careers.

BY YIPENG HUANG

Cross-country runners have a peculiar habit of talking about every trivial aspect of every course they run. They have detailed accounts of the monstrous hills and subtle inclines that they have to conquer out on the 3.1 mile course. To the cross-country team, taking on hills during a run is a real art. Regaining speed at the crest of a hill is essential when it comes to beating opponents. Earlier this season, the team as a whole had a hard time overcoming injuries and inexperience, but now they are past that difficult uphill and ready to take on opponents and, ultimately, themselves.

In the past month, almost all of the runners have improved their personal record (PR) times. Most notably, runners new to the team this year have significantly cut down their race times.

"Runners potentially improve their times a lot in their first years," head coach Chuck Collis said. "It is satisfying for both the athlete and me as a coach to see such noticeable improvements."

Every Monday before practice, the team meets in Room 221, and the coaches go over the race times from the last week. To runners, a PR

at a meet is a gratifying reward for a week of hard practice.

At the league meet at Ladue Middle School, senior captain Lexi Wirthlin finished first place in the varsity girls' race, and more than half of the runners broke previous personal records.

"I think about chasing that next PR when I run," senior captain Sam Waites said. "I try to beat as many people as possible, but the real victory is when I break my own time."

Cross country usually talks about race results in terms of individual runners. Though some people say that running cross country is an individual sport, those that run it would definitely beg to differ. Out on the course, runners need all the motivation from teammates they can get to improve their time.

"Team members do motivate each other out on the course," Collis said. "When two runners are running at about the same pace, they can take on opponents together. Getting passed by two runners of the same team is really demoralizing."

At a typical meet, runners are expected to do more than just run their races. The team tent is usually empty as everyone is out on the course

taking times or cheering.

"For me, the greatest support I can get from my teammates is when they hand me water when I'm dying for it," sophomore runner Abbie Minton said. "I know that the team is always there for me."

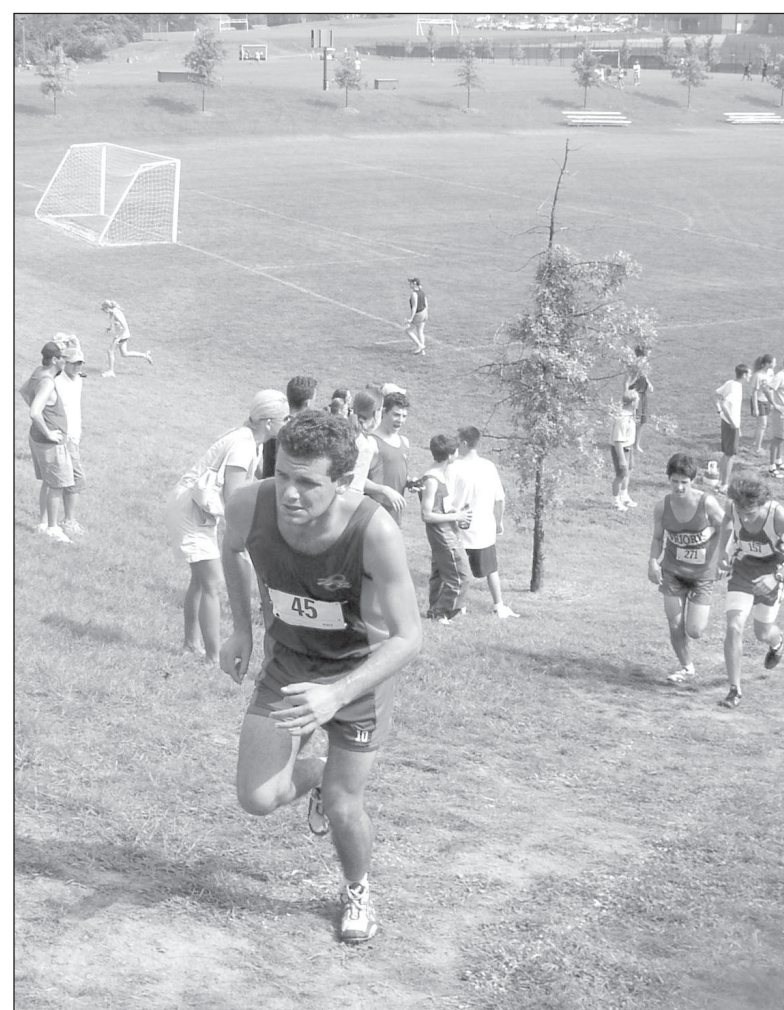
On the other hand, senior runner Zach Smith thinks that running performance depends solely on the runner.

"The expectations from coaches and teammates don't really impact my time," Smith said. "It's my own physical condition that matters."

The team is still not performing as well as it should be due to injuries. A smaller proportion of the runners are able to compete at meets compared to previous years.

"As with all sports, it is beneficial that athletes stay in shape throughout the year," Collis said. "Running a base weekly mileage in the three months prior to the season significantly reduces the risk of injury. The returning runners this season could have done a better job staying in shape during the off season."

Noting this, Collis is founding a winter running club for all students that wish to train for a half marathon during the winter. ☺



SENIOR SAM WAITES runs up a hill in a meet. Waites has made quite an impact on the cross country team this year and has been proud of his contributions. He prides himself most on the times he has broken his personal record.





Senior Elad Gross spreads his enthusiasm and spirit to his friends through his positive attitude.

## A selfless athlete

As the fall sports season hits its stride, Clayton High School is extremely lucky. Not because we have a quarterback who can fly (the Byrd man was last year, folks) or because we are the favorites for a state title (the Byrd man was last year, folks), but for a different reason. This year, Clayton has one of the most rare characters in the sports: a truly selfless athlete.

Meet senior Elad Gross, or as his teammates call him 'Harry Potter.' It is a nickname he earned the winter of his freshman year, before he even joined the team.

### From the Back Field



JACK MCCLELLAN

"During freshman year, I was the only non-football player in the winter weight lifting class," Gross said. "I walked in one day, Anthony Wise yelled 'Hey, its Harry Potter!' Everyone laughed, he told me that I was playing football next year, and I have been playing as Harry Potter ever since."

But Gross' brand of magic is different than the ones normally associated with football. He doesn't run a 4.3 and he can't throw the ball 60 yards. He has never made a game saving tackle. In fact, he is credited with only two tackles on the year. But like any other athlete, Gross was quick to point out that his stats were wrong.

"Less than you should have?" I automatically asked.

Gross told me I had it all wrong.

"No. Way more."

Come again. Did I hear that right? Gross went on to explain that one tackle really belonged to junior Charlie Matthews, and that he didn't even know where the other one came from. See what I mean about his magic. No other person at this school would have been so honest.

It is no secret that he does not get in the game very much. That is not unique. What is unique is that he can't stop talking about how much he likes game day. Talking about his first year on the team:

"It was a lot of fun. The games were outstanding. I didn't really play too much or anything, but I liked just being there."

The further I pushed, trying to release that inner frustration I knew he must have, the more frequently the word "team" came out of his mouth.

"I didn't mind being on the sideline because I liked what we were doing as a team," Gross said. "I still got to practice. Games days were still awesome because we all got to see what all of our hard work could produce. What we could do as a team."

It takes a truly special person to bring such a perspective.

"I love playing football, but I want the team to do well," Gross explained. "My primary role just might be different than actually playing."

The football field isn't the only place where Gross proves himself special. In the classroom, he maintains a 4.51 G.P.A., something he is not apt to talk about, while taking one of the most grueling course loads ever known to man: BC Calculus, AP Physics, Latin V / AP, AP European History, AP English and Newspaper. Obviously, Gross' drive to work hard is among his best quality.

"I work hard for both school and football," Gross said. "I do enjoy learning and working academically allows me to learn at a greater rate than if I decided not to work."

And making the most of it he certainly is.

Football has changed Elad Gross. Rarely can he be seen without a "Dr. Thunder" T-shirt proclaiming him former defensive player of the week. Everyday he carries a gallon-sized water bottle, and drinks all of it to stay hydrated. Football has changed his mind-set, and his outlook on his future.

"People have told me that I would make a good coach," he said.

I was shocked to hear that at first. He would probably be the first high school coach ever with a 4.51. All the other people with those kinds of numbers will no doubt end up as doctors and lawyers.

Gross still plans to go to Harvard. At least he is a little normal, right? Well, actually, the main reason that Gross wants to get into Harvard so badly is... you guessed it. Football.

"No cuts," he said happily.

Even without cuts, Gross knows that he will probably never see the field. Apparently that doesn't matter much to him. Football has changed his outlook so much that he is willing to become little more than a water-boy with jersey. As long as he has that jersey.

And as much as football has changed Gross, he has changed Clayton football, and without taking credit for a tackle. ☺

# Football Hounds pick up where they left off

☺ SAM WAITES

The Clayton Greyhound football team started the new season just the way they left off last year. After three successful games the varsity Hounds proved they will be competitive in the division. While some people thought it might be difficult to match the talent that last year's team had, the three impressive wins over Soldan 43-12, Borgia 38-21, and Berkeley 30-8, prove that the Greyhounds are still a team to be reckoned with.

New head coach Sam Horrell is proud of the way the team has come so far.

"We were a unified team," Horrell said. "Everyone played with an intensity and tenacity that the opposition couldn't handle."

So far the team is building up a sense of confidence.

"There has been incredible improvement on both sides of the ball by the underclassmen and that is due to the experience that they gained while playing at the JV level," senior captain Brian Minor said.

First time starter senior Carter Sapp is also stepping up his game. After backing up Jairus Byrd for the past two seasons, Sapp has come into his own as quarterback, currently leading the league in passing.

Junior Charlie Matthews has also been putting up strong numbers well in all areas along with senior teammates Minor, Cameron Hicks and Gene Cerrato.

"Winning another state championship won't be easy," Minor said. "We will just need to work 100 times harder than last year because everyone is out to beat us this time."



Whitney Bruce

THE HOUNDS SPECIAL teams block during a kickoff return vs. Borgia. The Hounds have started the season 3-0, but say that they will have to work much harder to get back to the state championship game.

So far the veterans of the team have stepped up including Cerrato, who is tied for third in the division in points scored and is fourth in the league in rushing with 126 yards on 26 carries.

Cerrato said that he improved his conditioning in the off season by lifting weights and going for runs. Like Minor, he thinks the team can be successful if they play together as a unit.

"We can't rely only on just one guy," Cerrato said. "It takes everyone on the field to do his job to be successful."

Defensive specialist Devin McMiller said he thinks MICDS will give the Hounds more of a challenge than their previous games.

"We've got to take it one step at a time, take care of the little things and the big things will take care of themselves," McMiller said.

Senior lineman Victor Roberson summarized the feelings of many players about the team's chances this year.

"There are no more stars like Jairus Byrd," Roberson said. "It will take a team effort to get back to the dome." ☺



Javier Groisman

SENIOR CAPTAIN NATALIE Thomure chases after the ball with sophomore Leigh Katz. The Hounds have struggled early this season, but they hope that they can reclaim the glory, and the record, of last years team. The team relies on pre game goal setting to help them become the best team that they can be.

## Field hockey comes together despite early struggles

☺ JACK MCCLELLAN

Last year's Clayton Greyhounds field hockey team set records. They had the best record in 13 years, and left quite an act to follow for the 2005 rendition. And at first, it didn't seem like this year's team was going to live up.

"We didn't play our best," said senior Erica Jantho. "We didn't play as together. We needed a few games to learn."

Sophomore Leigh Katz agrees: "At first, we didn't play as a team," Katz said. "We have someone from each grade level and it was hard."

And they certainly felt the pressure of last year. "We had such a good team last year," Jantho said. "I felt like we could never be as good as them."

That attitude showed in the hounds first game, which happened to be against hated rival Whitefield.

"Last year was the first time we beat Whitfield in like 10 years," Jantho said. "It was supposed to be this big win again."

But it wasn't. The girls lost 3-0, a score that, as Jantho said, they "tried to forget."

Those early woes, however, did not continue.

"Recently, we've really come together as a team," Jantho said.

This team attitude shows when Katz talks about the strengths of the team:

"This season, we are confident in everyone coming off the bench," Katz said.

The turning point was a 2-1 loss against Mar-

quette.

"Marquette was a big game," Jantho said. "We played really well."

Katz says the coach was proud, despite the loss.

"We all clicked," Katz said. "Our coach said that we really played as a team."

So now, the Greyhounds can start looking forward rather than back. Forward to big games, such as against St. Joes. Forward to what they can improve on to help them equal the success of last years team.

"A big goal is to become more successful on corners," Jantho said. "They are basically offensive power plays, so you should score every time. We haven't been able to, but in recent practice we have improved."

This year's squad definitely has its strengths.

"We have better transition between defense and offense that I have ever seen a field hockey team have," Jantho said. "We are almost too good at passing."

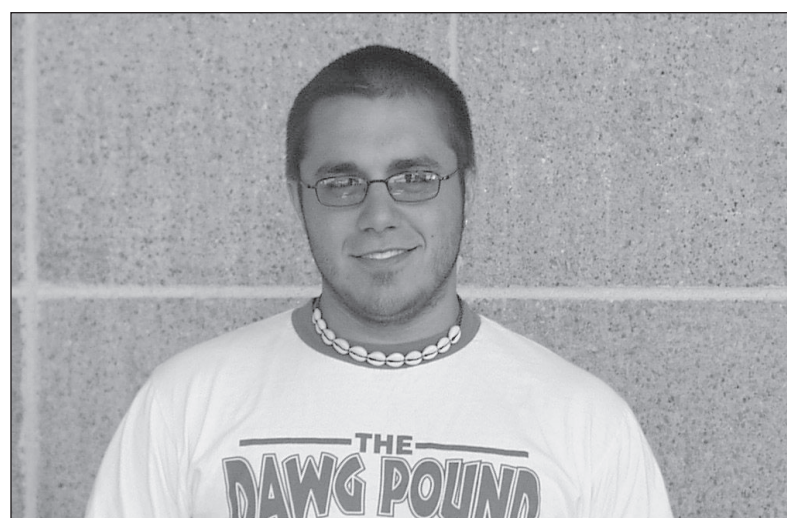
So maybe it is not out of the question that this team could live up to that historic team of a year ago. In fact, after weathering their early storms, it has now become a goal.

"Another goal is to have a similar record as last year's team," Jantho said.

The talent is there. Led by senior captains Leigh Mehlman, Natalie Thomure (this month's female athlete) and Jennifer

Pierce, the hounds are a team to be reckoned with now that they have come together.

They have a pre-game ritual, in which they all go around and say their goals for that game, and then formulate a team goal. That is a good way to look at it, in the small picture. But once this season is over, there is no question that everyone will be looking at the big picture, and if recent games have been any indication, the big picture could very well be a masterpiece. ☺



## Male Athlete of the Month: Gene Cerrato

☺ JACK MCCLELLAN

Sitting at the table alongside his self-proclaimed "spokesman" Josh Tubbs, Gene Cerrato is a man of few words. This shows at times on the field as well. Cerrato's leadership is something he is working on.

"I think I was made captain mostly because of my skill," Cerrato said. "But my leadership has been improving."

Tubbs chimes in with a "yeah it has" and a nod of the head.

Cerrato has trouble thinking of his own strengths. He needs some prompting before he comes up with:

"My power, my pad level, my leadership on the field and my pass rush."

It is indicative of his personality that he takes some time thinking of his strengths, and that is a good thing. He knows that he is a good player, but his feet stay firmly planted on the ground (which is a very good thing for a fullback).

"I wouldn't be anything without my lineman," he quickly added

after his strengths.

Cerrato plays fullback and the defensive line. He likes playing fullback more, because he gets the ball. Likes it so much that he hopes to get enough touches to run for 900 yards this season. A hefty number. And Cerrato doesn't hold those high standards for only himself.

"I hope to lead our team to another state title," Cerrato said.

But Cerrato is looking to the state tournament already. First, him and the Hounds have some business to attend to.

"I am really looking forward to Ladue," Cerrato said. "It's the last game of the season, and it determines who goes to the playoffs. Plus the rivalry. It is at Washington University, under the lights on a Friday night."

It seems that Cerrato has not forgotten "the incident" of a few years ago, and the blood is still boiling. Hopefully his leadership skills continue to improve, and he can cut a serious chunk of those 900 yards on that night. Surely, his spokesman would approve of that. ☺

## Female Athlete of the Month: Natalie Thomure

☺ MAX SHAPIRO

Senior Natalie Thomure has been tearing up the field hockey scene since the seventh grade. Thomure has come from a long line of athletes that have graduated as stars at CHS.

Her brother Adam was a dominant varsity player for four years, and her sister Kaitlyn was a force to be reckoned while playing field hockey.

"Kaitlyn really helped my game out a lot," Thomure said. "After her varsity games she would stay and watch me play JV. She'd give me lots of tips and pointers and be harsh on me if I did something wrong."

Thomure, now a senior, is in her second year as a varsity player and has achieved the rank of captain of this year's team.

"Being the captain is very important to me," Thomure said. "It gives me great a sense of leadership."

Thomure is more like a general on the field. She put up absurd numbers her junior year. She totaled 16 goals and spread the ball around beautifully with 21 assists.

Thomure has played wonderfully at the position of forward, but doesn't only concentrate on her offense.

"Natalie is a great defensive player also," junior Hannah Staenberg said. "I think she could play defense or midfield and be just as good as she is now."

Although the Lady Hounds started out going 2-4 in their first six games, Thomure is optimistic that the season will get better.

The Greyhounds are led by coaches Molly Cusamano and Lizzie Wolken.

"Molly and Lizzie have great expectations for the team," Thomure said. "I'm going to do everything in my power to help this team succeed."

Thomure is a very-team oriented person and makes sure that everybody gets along.

She has been part of organizing team sleepovers and movie nights to help the team build relationships with each other.

"The team has a bunch of diverse people," Thomure said. "But we all love each other." ☺







THE POWERFUL CLAYTON defensive line stacked up well against Soldan as the Hounds cruised to an easy victory. The Hounds defense played great again in wins over St. Francis Borgia and Berkeley. Berkeley managed only eight points. Justin Williams had three sacks.

## Defensive players prove to be the method to great success

♣ MATTHEW HORN

When it comes to sports, most spectators have one thing on their mind. Either they want a slugfest, or a shootout. In other words they want a game where offense dominates the scene. Fans often don't seem to care about defense, and all they want is a Hail Mary or a 500 foot home run. But as most coaches will tell you, defense is just as important to a teams success as offense, maybe even more.

"The name of the game is to score more points than the opposition," head football coach Sam Horrell said. "The more times your team holds them to a low score, the better your chances of winning are."

Just look at the varsity Hounds this year. In two games against Soldan and Borgia the defense has given up a combined score of only 33 points, compared to the 81 combined points the Hounds have scored. The result of that is a quick 2-0 start.

"Any time you're able to shut down a team, especially a team like Borgia, it just gives the whole team a boost of confidence and tells us that we are doing a heck of a job and giving our team a better chance of winning," junior linebacker Doug Williams said.

It also seems that a big defensive play like a big hit or a big save by a goalie really pumps up the team and motivates them the rest of the game.

"You don't know how many times I have seen a big save really turn a game around in our favor", head soccer coach Matt Balossi said.

While a defensive stop can really motor a team to victory, defense also helps to set up the offensive side of the game. It is the defense's job to create field position for the offense in

order to make it easier for them to score points. The lower the opposing score is, the less pressure is exerted on the offense to score points in order to catch up.

"The defense absolutely sets up the offense," Horrell said.

Junior wide receiver Jared Neely agreed.

"As an offensive player I definitely feel a whole lot better when the defense shuts teams down," Neely said. "It really does take away a lot of pressure to score and we usually end up with great field position which puts us in better shape to put some points on the board."

Another fall sport that seems to get little recognition is field hockey where defense is just as important as it is in football or soccer.

"Defense is an extremely important part of field hockey," freshman Kate Wheelock said. "The defense's job is to limit the number of shots on goal and to set up our offense with good passes."

Field hockey coach Molly Cusamano agrees with Wheelock and notes that importance of defense in field hockey.

"Our success this year has been mainly on the strength of our defense," Cusamano said. "While we have scored our fair share of goals, we have also recorded two shutouts and held opponents to only seven goals."

So, the next time you are upset because the game didn't feature long touchdown passes or 120 points just remember that in the end the defense is just as important as offense when it comes to crunch time.

In fact, just look at the Tampa Bay Buccaneers three years ago. They won a Super Bowl with one of the poorest offenses in the league. It looks like the old cliché is true, defense does win championships. ♣

## Past strikes show that the NHL could be in for a rough return

♣ MAX SHAPIRO

All summer long St. Louis and the community were wondering whether or not there would be a 2005-2006 NHL season. Or were we?

Sports analysts all around North America say that the lockout that ended the 2004-2005 NHL season could leave a terrible mark on the sport of hockey forever.

The lockout of the 2004-2005 NHL hockey season was the first lockout of any major sport since the Major League Baseball strike on 1994-1995. That strike lasted 232 days and over 2000 games were lost counting potential playoff games.

The game lost billions of dollars and millions more in fans who were fed up with greedy billionaire owners and millionaire players.

Tony Gwynn of the San Diego Padres was betting .391 at the time of the strike and some thought that slugger Matt Williams had a legitimate chance to break Roger Maris' home run record of 61. Of course, we all know what happened to that record. Gwynn's and Williams' were ruined by the strike.

It's been 10 years since the strike, and the game is almost back into full swing. Cal Ripken Jr.'s consecutive game streak and the home-run era have helped enormously to the second coming of baseball. This season has been extremely exciting with the Cardinals destined for a playoff spot and a heated battle going on between the Yankees and Red Sox in the American League East.

But still baseball lost some fans permanently from the strike.

"My husband still refuses to buy a ticket to a baseball game today," journalism teacher Nancy Freeman said. "He watches the games on television, but will not contribute through tickets."

If a strike to America's favorite pastime caused fans to become increasingly less interested to the sport, what will happen to a sport that was already struggling before the lockout?

The NHL in the past couple of years has lacked a real super talent with the recent retirements of Mario Lemieux, Mark Messier and

Wayne Gretzky, perhaps the greatest hockey player of all time.

Football has Peyton Manning, basketball has LeBron James, and baseball has Barry Bonds. The NHL is still looking for a star to market their sport.

And this year a new star has been dubbed, "The Great One." His name is Sidney Crosby. Crosby was picked first by the struggling Pittsburgh Penguins in the 2005 NHL Draft.

Crosby at the ripe age of 18 already has a great burden on his shoulders.

While some are looking forward to seeing Crosby, others just want to see the Blues get back onto skates.

"I can't wait for the Blues to get back into action," senior Ben Root said. "I really missed hockey last year. I was disappointed in the owners mostly, but I have a short memory. Bring on the Red Wings."

It's been a strange off year for the Blues with the recent retirement of Al MacInnis and the transaction that involved trading away their high profile defenseman Chris Pronger for Eric Brewer and two other low profile names.

The Blues start the season in Detroit and then come right back to St. Louis for a rematch in their second game.

"I'm pumped for October," Root said. "It's a great way to start off the season."

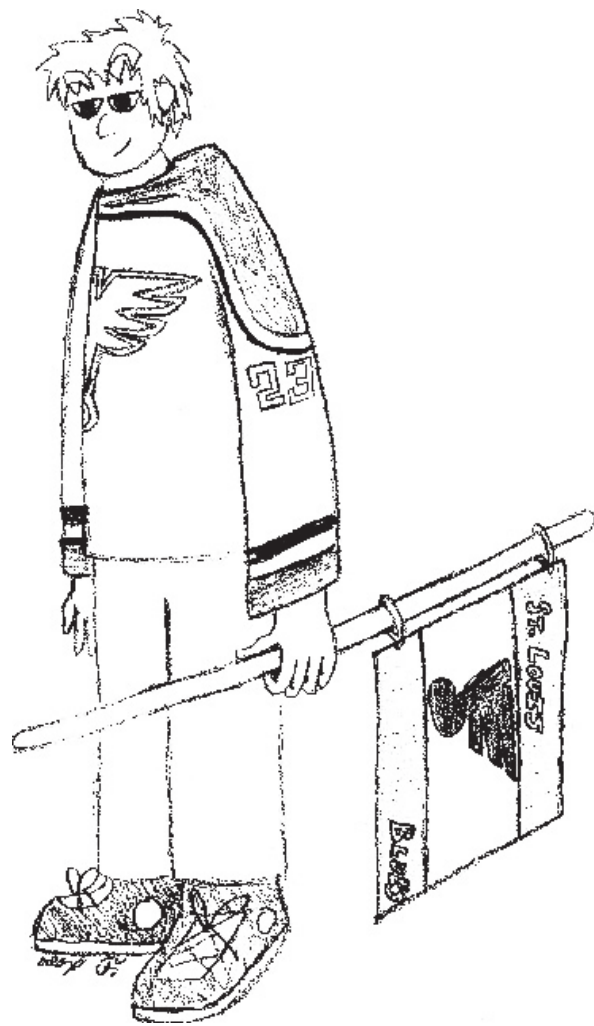
Root might be considered a minority in the hockey world today as many fans have flocked away from the ice.

St. Louis Blues customer service manager Jill Hahn refutes the statement that hockey and ticket sales will take a hit from the lockout.

"We have had 90 percent ticket renewal from last years season ticket holders so far," Hahn said. "Our season tickets took a big hit going into the lockout, but we expected that."

Hahn believes that the Blues will not have any decrease in fan base.

"It was a long winter without hockey for the organization and the fans last year," Hahn said. "I think people are ready for hockey again." ♣



## CHS cheerleaders bring it on

This year's cheerleading squad is full of energetic girls who are ready to take their sport to a new level.

♣ TIAN QIU

If you still see CHS cheerleaders as the ones you saw few years back, look again. For the first time in CHS history, the Hounds' cheerleaders are finally making plans to go to competitions in the near future.

"Over the past three years I've seen extensive improvement in their dedication and ability," Head Cheerleading Coach Meredith McCue said. "They are trying more challenging stunts and are successful! I think they should have a place (other than the games) where they can show off their hard work and talent."

From familiarizing with the basic cheers and chants, to completing highly complex stunts, our cheerleaders have really come a long way in the recent years.

"I think when you have a coach that was a cheerleader it helps," McCue said. "I understand where there girls need to be physically and mentally in order for them to perform challenging stunts and I prepare them for this. They feel confident when things are thoroughly explained to them and are willing to try almost anything. I love working with these girls because I can come to practice with an idea for a stunt, explain it to them, and they are able to do it."

Other than the dramatic progress in their techniques, improving attitudes are also contributing to where the cheerleaders are at now.

"Their (cheerleaders) attitudes were so bad last year," JV Cheerleading Captain Preshus Jones said. "They matured a lot. If we had an attitude like last year we'd get a bad squad, and we wouldn't be able to have fun and stuff. We wouldn't get anything done because people would be arguing. Attitudes are a lot better, and we get a lot more stuff done."

Jones is an upcoming star on the



JUNIOR CHEERLEADER BECKY Simington cheers enthusiastically for the Football Greyhounds in the game against Soldan on Sept. 2. The Hounds defeated Soldan 43-12 and started the season off on the right foot.

cheerleading squad. She is only a sophomore and already making a big impact. Although the cheerleaders are making nice progress, more arduous work is mandatory for them to compete.

"The cheerleaders will have extensive summer practices," McCue

said. "Many days there will be more than one practice a day. They will work on weight training, jump drills, motions, and technique."

With help from their coach and their own determinations, CHS cheerleaders will participate in competitions in no time. ♣

## Cross country strides towards excellence

♣ CROSS COUNTRY, 13

hindering the current team. Junior runner Nick Currey is currently suffering from a back injury but is not unable to compete and has been one of the first two CHS runners to finish in both meets so far this season, but his injury stands in the way of his goal.

"My goal is to get my time down to 17:59 if I can, but I have several injuries so I don't know if that will be possible," Currey said. "When I run my back gets strained, probably from not stretching as much as I used to, so I need to get in the habit of stretching more frequently."

If no new injuries develop, the team should see some runners at the state competition.

"My goal is always to get teams to state and that hasn't happened in quite a while though, but aside from that I hope to get some individuals qualified for state," Collis said. "That all stems from a long-term, systematic goal of having athletes continually improve. Wirthlin of course stands out in my mind. She, barring injury or something

hinder the current team.

But, despite the youthfulness of the team, it will not be successful if injuries are not minimized.

"The most frustrating part of cross country is that it puts a lot of strain on your body so you get a lot of injuries," Etling said. "You have to be able to sustain the workouts without overworking your body."

For this reason, injuries have always been a problem. Last year Wirthlin was unable to run at the state meet due to a sprained ankle, Minton was unable to compete for a full season and others were hindered by injury as well. Others are injured this season



FRESHMAN DANIEL SHORE runs at a meet at MICDS on Sept. 10.

else terrible, is a shooin to compete at state, at least as an individual."

Wirthlin also hopes to compete well at state this season.

"My goal for the season is to make it to state," Wirthlin said. "I made it as a sophomore, but last year I sprained my ankle so I wasn't able to compete at state. I really hope I make it to state and, hopefully, I'll do well at state, top 25 would be nice."

State is a realistic goal for some, including Wirthlin, but for younger runners, competing in a regular meet and doing well is an important goal.

"Running-wise, my goal would be to have seven uninjured runners run well in a meet," Etling said. "At a meet, you have seven varsity girls and seven varsity boys run. Then to score the meet you look at the top five places for each team

and add their places to get a score. The team with the lowest score wins. My goal is to fill a varsity boys' and girls' meet with capable runners."

The meets are a highlight for many runners, and successful meets are even better.

"My favorite part of cross country is probably the meets because our whole team is there and everyone is cheering for each other and stuff," Minton said.

The team has the potential to do great things and will enjoy their season.

"We always get a good group of runners in terms of personality and commitment to the team," Etling said. "I enjoy getting to know the runners on a different level outside of class. I also think that cross country promotes healthy living for me and the runners." ♣





Caitlin Ly

SENIOR YA XIAO listens attentively to history teacher Bill Mendelsohn during her fifth hour AP United States history class. "I'd have to say that my favorite AP so far is US history," Xiao said. "I thought it'd be a review of past years, but instead I've learned so much. It's fascinating."

## CHS experiences increased numbers in AP classes

CHELA COLVIN

In recent years the number of students enrolled in advanced courses has increased tremendously. No longer are there the usual two or three schoolmates involved in Advanced Placement courses. Now, more than ever, a diverse range of high school students are taking advantage of the AP opportunity.

That's exactly what the counselors want to see. Clayton High School offers over 20 AP courses. For many students that is a plus.

"I'm always looking for some sort of a challenge," junior Abigail Lawlor said. "It is about being who I am."

Senior Ya Xiao is enrolled in several APs and insists her schedule reflects classes she absolutely wants to take.

"I take them because why not," Xiao said. "This is not for the benefit of colleges, mostly to get the credit yes, but definitely not to impress."

Many colleges and universities are looking for those who seek new experiences.

"We really want to see that a student has pushed themselves," Washington University Director of Admissions Nanette Tarbouni said.

There is a concern that students are not taking the opportunity for AP courses seriously. Clayton students have access to a great variety of offerings.

"We cannot expect a student to take what is not available to them, however we view transcripts in the context of the environment from which the student is coming from," Tarbouni said.

A large factor in the AP push pertains to the sometimes hidden desire for a seemingly perfect academic record. The motivation is to be "well-rounded," consumes the ambitions and schedules of many students.

"I do think that the APs will definitely look good for college," Lawlor said. "But it is not my primary reason for taking them."

While all schools have certain academic expectations, there is also a want for strong individuals. Most colleges and universities express a need for leaders among its applicants.

"Webster University admissions officers [consider] many things while determining a student's acceptance," Webster University admissions representative Laura Stuhlman said. "What is

important is that the student displays strength in their specific areas of interest."

Much like Lawlor, Xiao has a strong interest in the AP courses she is pursuing.

"The material is great," Xiao said. "I'd have to say that my favorite AP so far is US History. I thought it'd be a review of past years, but instead I've learned so much. It's fascinating."

Due to the sometimes added pressures of molding a "perfect" transcript many forget the intended purpose of offering such courses. Counselors seek to help students enroll in classes that suit their interests and prepare them for new information in their desired areas of study. That doesn't have to be an AP course.

Representatives of Webster University, University of Missouri-Columbia and Washington University all agree that they would like to see students taking classes they enjoy.

"We look for excellence in any class," Stuhlman said. "That may be an AP, an Honors course, or neither. We will not look down on those who are not taking an AP, it is a personal decision."

A student's motivation for enrolling in an AP often reflects on his or her performance. Lawlor feels confident about her situation in taking more than four APs, including French, Biology, Calculus BC, US and World Histories.

"I have between three and four hours of homework each night, but it is worth it to me," Lawlor said. "I have great teachers, I like the subjects and I feel like I'm actually learning a lot."

However, AP courses may not be the perfect fit for every student.

"An AP course may not be for everyone," CHS counselor Carolyn Blair said.

Counselors at CHS point out that the need for APs and just how many a student takes are often determined by the student's desired location for higher learning.

"It all depends upon where you'd like to study in the future," Blair said.

While colleges and universities prefer excellence in all courses the development of individual goals are key.

"Our ideal student is intellectually curious," said Tarbouni. "One who articulates a passion, challenges themselves and meets those challenges well."

director of admissions  
**NANETTE TARBOUNI**

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## 'Panache' fashion show promises pizzazz

Senior Malvina Hoxha helps organize the first annual fashion show at CHS presented by Niko & Company. The fashion show consists of forty outfits, all created by the Wardrobe class.

RACHEL DICKENS

With each new school year at CHS, fresh programs, extracurricular activities and events arise. One such event is the first annual CHS Fashion Show, sponsored by Wardrobe teacher Linda Williams.

The fashion show, enigmatically titled "Panache: An Evening of Fashion," presented by Niko & Company, will take place this semester, in the CHS auditorium. Although onlookers may perceive the show to run effortlessly, immense effort has been put into its conception.

Numerous CHS students plan to contribute to the fashion show in some way. However, an elite few have devoted the bulk of their time to the production, design and logistics of the show. Senior Malvina Hoxha has undertaken the role of main designer and director of the show, and takes a great deal of pride in her work.

"I am past the point of simply 'liking' clothes," Hoxha said. "I design because it's in me. It's in my blood."

Hoxha also speaks of the nature and style of her clothing.

"I was born and raised in Albania, and lived there until I was nine," Hoxha said. "My clothes are therefore more classically styled. To me, designing is no longer about responding to trends, it's about exploring art, feelings and aesthetic ideas."

In addition to the style of her designs, Hoxha remarks on her clothing as a collective entity.

"I'd have to say that my pieces are all pretty uniform," Hoxha said. "I have nearly thirty designs, ranging from casual wear, evening wear, coats, jackets, pants and wedding dresses. I believe consistency exists within my designs, which adds to the strength of my collection overall."

Hoxha has been preparing for the show since last April. The budding designer began taking wardrobe in 2003, and received a prestigious internship designing with Stages St. Louis that summer. Hoxha wishes to pursue her interest in fashion design after graduating from high school.

"I am absolutely interested in studying fashion in college," Hoxha said. "I'll probably end up at The Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising (FIDM) in Hollywood, CA. I'm specifically interested in a career in fashion design and television production."

Hoxha, as well as the show's other designers and participants, are certainly dynamic and motivated,



staff photo

SENIOR MALVINA HOXHA works on one of her outfits designed for the upcoming fashion show on Oct. 22. "I'd have to say that my pieces are all pretty uniform. I have thirty designs, ranging from casual wear, evening wear, coats, jackets, pants, and wedding dresses. I believe consistency exists within my designs, which adds to the strength of my collection overall."

ed, and credit such determination to Williams. Williams, who has overseen the growth and progress made by those participating in the show, believes the process to be incredibly impressive.

"I've been extremely pleased with the progress of the show so far," Williams said. "There are nearly 40 separate outfits made especially for the show, which is impressive considering all of the

pieces are made and designed by high school students."

In addition to the work put into the show, Williams also believes that contributors will garner a great deal of knowledge in participating.

"I believe the experience will be a very positive one for students," Williams said. "Students in other classes and clubs are also participating in the show. DECA is co-sponsoring the event, and refreshments

are being provided by Gourmet Foods classes."

"Panache" will be held on Oct. 22. Student admission to the show will be \$10, while adult tickets are \$20. Although these prices may seem slightly steep, drinks and appetizers will be provided. Moreover, 25 percent of the show's net profit will benefit Washington University's Neurofibromatosis Center. ☺

## Parents factor into students' workload

RHIANNON JONES

Students today are busier than ever. If you ask your parents about the work load at high school before they became alumni, they'll probably tell you that they didn't play an instrument, and ace every test that they took. But by today's standards, that can seem very average.

Students today are very competitive and may have lots of stress to deal with on a regular basis.

Some students choose to put this sort of pressure on themselves, with positive encouragement from their parents.

Other students' parents create an environment that's similar to living in a hyperbaric chamber: the pressure can exceed unimaginable rates.

Unfortunately, many students go through high school with too many things on their plate. The problem seems to be that many parents want their kids to be perfect at what they do—even if that means getting straight A's, being concert master in the school orchestra and starting at center for their basketball team.

"This neighborhood [Clayton] is very competitive, Dr. Jacqueline Gabliani said. "My generation did not deal with as much outward need for performance in our culture. Our culture puts a strong emphasis on academic and professional achievement."

Some students do choose to be an "overachiever."

"I want to do everything and be

perfect at it," says freshman Kate Wheelock. "When I don't have lots to do, I get really bored and feel lazy."

Wheelock says she likes pressure to continue to excel at her various hobbies, because she likes everything she's involved in.

"Pressure does help children motivate themselves," Gabliani said. "But it has to be the right kind

of pressure. If a child is given the impression that they have to perform in a particular way in order for the parent to love them, that's the wrong kind of pressure."

"I think a lot of parents do put pressure on their kids, especially now with Powerschool," says junior Alex Heil-Chapdelaine. "Some parents check it every single day and that seems kind of ridiculous."

"There are a variety of parents today," Gabliani said. "Some put too much pressure on their children, some put just the right amount. Some don't put enough pressure on their children."

The other side of the problem is

that some kids aren't encouraged or motivated enough by their parents or guardians.

"We live in a society of extremes and certain kids are neglected," Gabliani said.

"I don't think people need pressure, but they definitely need encouragement," Heil-Chapdelaine said.

So when does encouragement become pressure?

"When parents lose sight of what their child needs, that's when things go wrong," Gabliani said. "What parents don't realize is that the most important thing is to maintain a positive connection

with their child. Every child is different. Some children need their parents to be around them all the time. For others, they may feel suffocated if that happens. Any time you put your child's performance above that connection, that's the wrong kind of pressure."

Today, in America, meeting or exceeding expectations is almost considered mandatory.

Failure can even seem like the end of the world. Some parents feel

that their child must be the best. This can be encouraging to some students and can help them meet their goals and reach success. It can also raise their hopes too high for their abilities.

"When that happens, the kids are scared to go to their parents when they need help or if they are doing poorly," freshman Diane Martin said. "My parents don't put too much pressure on me. They want me to do well, but if I do bad it's never the end of the world, they support me."

However, students aren't the only ones affected by the cultural necessity to achieve today. Parents have a tough time raising their kids.

"The biggest challenge is encouraging your child without overdoing it or setting them up for failure," one anonymous parent said.

Undoubtedly, it is hard to raise children to be the best they can be.

"In our culture, it doesn't feel good enough to truly love your child anymore," Gabliani said. "Our culture puts a lot of stress on parents now to make their child do well."

What should a student do who wishes to avoid undue stress?

"Find ways to relax and get away from all of the stress, whether it's social pressure or academic pressure," Gabliani said. "Whatever works for the person, whether it be going out into the country and staying in a cabin, or running, or doing yoga, or going to church, whatever it is, find it now in your life." ☺

I have between three and four hours of homework each night, but it is worth it. I have great teachers, I like the subjects, and I feel like I'm actually learning a lot.

junior

ABIGAIL LAWLOR

Our ideal student is intellectually curious. One who articulates a passion, challenges themselves and meets those challenges well.

director of admissions  
**NANETTE TARBOUNI**



# Birth order theory offers insight into behavior of siblings

☛ KELLY LANE

According to modern beliefs, every person on this planet consists of a body, mind and soul. With these three things in common, what makes people different from one another? Some would argue that appearance, especially skin color, creates the differences in people, but really it is everyone's personality that makes them unique.

However, there is no one spot in the body where personality can be located, so how is it shaped and formed? This exact question is the basis of what the birth order theory tries to answer.

The birth order theory is full of generalizations, but at its simplest form it describes the personalities of four basic positions in the family:

only child/  
first born,  
middle  
child, later  
born and  
youngest  
child.

"The birth order theory is one piece in a puzzle of many pieces of how personality develops,"

Director of Clinical Services at the Care and Counseling Service of St. Louis Sharon Kirsch said. "It may affect some aspect of life such as relationships for the family, relationships with friends, career choices, self images and later on in life, one's parenting style."

The theory explains a lot about children's interaction with others in their lives, but it also has attempted to pair up certain occupations with a position in the family.

First-born children or only children share the same traits because they are the first child for a set of parents. First-born children tend to be organized and researched. High expectations are placed on them, but the parents are also overly anxious because it is a new experience having a child. Because of this first-born children tend to be pleasers, but they also are more likely to succeed.

"According to literature, more U.S. presidents have been first children than any other birth position," Kirsch said. "CEOs and independent business owners also tend to be first born because they are leadership positions."

Middle children are classified as the mediators, and are often flexible and giving. Senior Ada Samuels, however, has found that she is the opposite of this statement.

"Being the middle child at times has its advantage," Samuels said. "It makes me stronger being in the middle and I also tend to get what I want."

Kirsch reiterates that the birth order theory is in no way perfect or all encompassing.

"The discussion of personality is so complex," Kirsch said. "Not any one thing can determine the way someone acts."

As far as occupations for middle children, counseling is often the number one choice, as middle children can get along with lots of different types of people and do well in mediating positions.

The later born child is a position that is often overlooked in today's society when families usually have no more than three children. How-

ever, the later born child tends to be extremely different from all of the other children.

With two or more older siblings, the later born child always has someone to compete against. By this child, the parents are usually less strict, and while the later born child may have a rebellious streak, they tend to be easy going. They may always feel like the baby, even when they are adults because they often are the underdog as a child. While the later born child may not excel at school, they are very creative and often dominate the fields of athletics and art.

The last birth position of the theory is that of the youngest, or baby of the family. Having to compete for attention from their parents, this child is often an entertainer. Youngest children are jokers, but they are also risk takers. They often get special privileges and relaxed parents since the parents are used to parenting by the time this child comes around.

Freshman B.J. Pringle seems to be a perfect example of a youngest child.

"I think since I am the youngest, the rules have lightened up," Pringle said. "I get the same privileges as my older siblings, when they had them later than I did. My family also watches out for me a lot, so I learn a lot that way."

The birth order theory gives a basis as to what a child may be like, and what road they may take in their future.

"Birth order affects some of the ways a person sees themselves, and the way that others see them," Kirsch said. "It has a large effect on each sibling finding their niche in life."

But birth order isn't the only thing that affects a person's personality. Gender can also change the traits of a child in a certain birth position.

"It is hard to say whether birth order or gender defines a person's personality more," Kirsch said. "In general I think that you can't say which is more important. What's important is that the first boy has the traits of a first born child, but the first girl will be somewhat like a first born even if she is the middle child because of the uniqueness in gender."

Personality isn't all due to genetics or luck of the draw. A person's parents also help shape that individual, especially the beliefs that parents instill in a child.

"The expectations or myths in each family which the parents place on the children is also a factor in determining personality," Kirsch said. "These are the messages for each child, such as the belief that girls are more moody or emotional."

Birth order is one variable for personality, but the time in between children also shapes the family dynamics.

"Age difference does play a role in personality," Kirsch said. "For two siblings born next in order, say the first and second children, especially if they are the same gender, the closer they are in age the more the second child will find ways to excel that are different from the first child. They size up what the first child does well, and then they stay away from those things. Really every child just wants to be unique."

Senior Ada Samuels finds that the small age difference between her and her sister has helped them to be closer to each other, rather than spurring a competition.

"My older sister and I share a close bond," Samuels said. "If she wasn't around I would just be sitting at home bored if I wasn't out with

friends."

Just as a close proximity in age affects siblings relationships, so does a big age gap.

"If there are five or more years in age difference between siblings, it is as if the birth order starts over again," Kirsch said. "The younger child will have first child characteristics, but they will also have younger child characteristics. That is where birth order theory is both interesting and confusing."

For junior Christine Ford, this theory fits her experiences. With a half-sister who is 16 years older, she is essentially an only child, with many of the first-born child traits.

"There were times when I wished I had [closer] siblings," Ford said. "I have lots of memories of begging my mom to play games with me, but I also have memories of getting lots of individual attention."

Another circumstance is when there is no age difference between siblings: twins.

"When we were younger we didn't get any special attention for being twins that I can remember," sophomore Evan Moore said. "I am kind of in the middle about being a twin. I view my sister as an equal because we are twins, but I sometimes try not to do what my sister does. I think it would seem really annoying to others if we did the same things."

Looking outside of the family dynamics, the question has been brought up if like birth orders tend to become friends.

"Yes and no," Kirsch said. "Two first-born kids can have a great friendship because they are both organized and responsible. They are compatible, but the trouble comes in because they are both used to being the leader, so there can be some conflict when both want to be in charge." Ford finds it easier to be friends who have the same life circumstances with her, but ultimately says that it depends on the person.

"I have noticed a lot that I tend to hang out mostly with oldest children," Ford said. "We usually have similar personality traits. We know how to take care of ourselves, and we are not needy."

Senior Kathryn Sternberg agrees that being the oldest has its strengths, but she also recognizes that there are weaknesses.

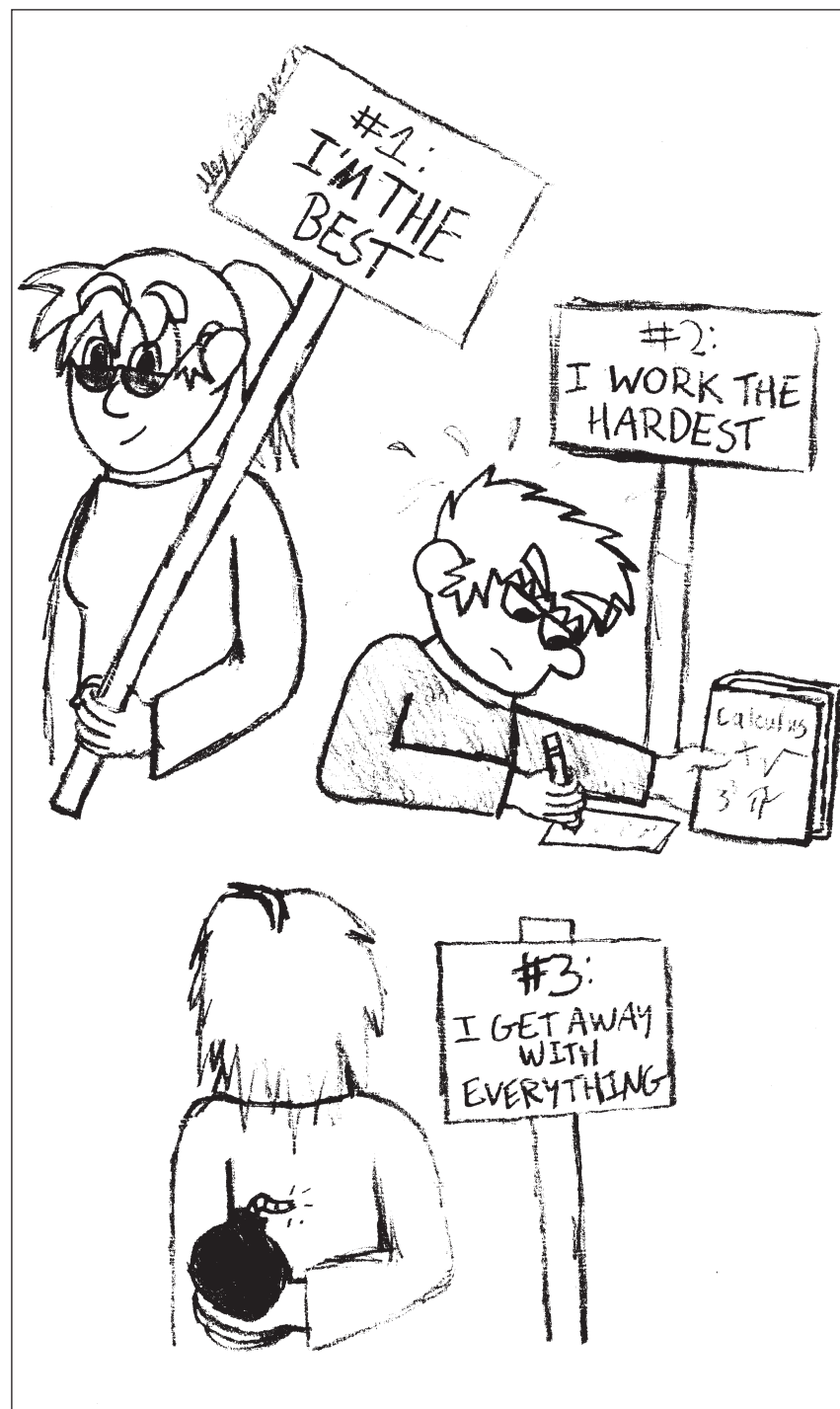
"Being the oldest has made me kind of bossy since I tend to try to be the oldest in all situations because that is what I am at home," Sternberg said. "On the other hand it has also made me more street smart."

Some people have ideas that one birth position is superior, but Kirsch disagrees.

"Every birth order has favorable aspects and some challenges," Kirsch said. "There isn't any one position in the family that is better than another."

Dr. Alfred Adler is the first man to be credited with theorizing and proving the birth order theory. What his proof was, is not widely known.

"I can't really say how the research was done to support the birth order theory," Kirsch said.



Alex Ferguson

"I am sure it involved a process of interviewing many people, and then pulling the different characteristics from those interviews."

The lack of scientific base and research is one of the things that critics point out about the birth order theory.

However, in a December 1983 issue of Science Magazine, intellectuals Cecile Ernst and Jules Angst expressed their opinion that the birth order theory was useless, so debating its validity didn't matter.

"On a scale of importance, the effects of birth order falls somewhere between negligible and non-existent," Ernst and

Angst said.

Kirsch, however, believes that there is a majority of people who are interested in birth order as an odd psychological and scientific hybrid theory.

"The reason that people are interested in birth order theory is because people try to understand why they are the way they are," Kirsch said. "Parents also try to understand why their kids are the way they are, and try to have some ideas as to the things they need to be aware of in their child. We don't choose our birth order, but by looking at the generalizations of it, it can help us feel more normal. It is just one lens to help discover the mystery of personality." ☺

*The reason that people are interested in birth order theory is because people try to understand why they are the way they are.*

Director of Clinical Services  
**SHARON KIRSCH**

# Improvements made in Big Sister Little Sister program

☛ MEREDITH MCCAY

The Big Sister Little Sister program has been helping freshman girls make smooth transitions from middle school to high school for many years. Sponsor of the Big Sister Little Sister program Melissa Lewis, says that it is all about the little things.

"It's always nice to have a friendly face in the hallway," said Lewis.

In short, the Big Sister Little Sister program is about the little things, like having someone to talk to about anything from getting lost on the way to classes to that one hated teacher.

Does it really work? Many freshmen said that they had talked

to their Big Sisters only once, at orientation, and a few had seen them since. Lewis said that the program is working but still has a lot to improve.

"We need to sit down and say 'how can we make this better,'" said Lewis

According to Lewis, the program has had some setbacks this year, including not having enough Big Sisters to go around. She comments that it is harder for the big sisters to develop good relationships with their little sisters when they have two or even three. It has also been hard to match big sisters with little sisters who have similar interests.

Seniors Christy Hayes and Ashley Campbell have also been help-

ing to improve the Big Sister Little Sister program. This year they are planning a Big Sister Little Sister football game, a Big Sister Little Sister movie night and more.

Not all Big Sister Little Sister relationships are bad though, as senior Caroline Renfro proves. She has been working hard to keep her Big Sister Little Sister relationships positive, even though she has two little sisters.

"It's hard work to be a good big sister," says Renfro. "You can't just

*It's hard work to be a good big sister. You can't just expect a relationship to develop by itself; you have to work at it.*

senior  
**CAROLINE RENFRO**

program because of her experience as a freshman.

"When I was a freshman my big sister was really bad, I talked

to her at the orientation and that was it, she never even said hi to me in the halls. That's why I decided to become a big sister, I wanted to change the cycle."

Freshman Hannah Slodounik enjoyed having a big sister, senior Erica Jantho.

"I thought Erica was a really cool big sister and I thought the Big Sister was an awesome program," Slodounik said. "It allowed me to meet someone at the school and be more relaxed about the first day of school."

Slodounik first met Jantho at freshmen orientation.

"We talked about what was going on in our lives and then we went to eat pizza," Slodounik said "Big Sister Little Sister is a really

good idea and I'm kind of disappointed that we're not doing more, because I feel like I'm not making a difference," Jantho said.

Jantho also thinks that improvements are necessary.

"There should be more opportunities to do stuff together, like a Big Sister Little Sister breakfast, because basically, you only of one thing," Jantho said.

The only question remaining in some people's minds is why there is not a Big Brother Little Brother program.

"I think it might have something to do with hazing," senior Kelly Pappageorge said. "But I don't think that really would happen anymore because of all the laws now." ☺

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# Hazing - initiation line blurs

Administrators question whether some sports team traditions cross the line into hazing.

SHAINA KORNBLUM

CHS has a long tradition of practicing a variety of initiation rites. Little sisters were kidnapped in their pajamas and taken to breakfast. At one time freshman were expected to wear beanies. In the not-so distant past the commons was divided by graduating year.

Last year the field hockey team dressed up the freshman in odd clothing and expected them to attend school that day and sing as a group in the commons. All these traditions under certain circumstances might be considered hazing.

During the first week of school the sophomore boys on the varsity football team were expected to sing an old backstreet boys song in the commons before school. This was halted by head coach Sam Horrell and assistant principal Dan Gutchewsky. Both of them deemed it inappropriate and potentially considered hazing. Both believe haz-



Staff Photo

SENIORS KIT SZYBALA and Jamie Sachar and junior Ali Sandler dress for game days, one of the traditions still acceptable to administration.

ing is not acceptable in the football program.

"Tradition is the guys wearing their football jerseys every Friday, going out to dinner or pizza night," head coach Sam Horell said. "There doesn't appear to be any issues related to the sophomores singing since it was stopped." They are just young boys trying to have fun. I understand that. [We] just have to let them know what is acceptable and [what is] not."

None of the players involved were punished. The principals and coaches concluded that the intent of the activity was not malicious in any way and yet could have been carried out with more administration and parent awareness.

Hazing comes in all forms and the administration appears to be very sensitive to this subject. Principal Louise Losos has expressed a desire to open a discussion about this to begin creating guidelines for

teams and groups associated with the district to follow.

"I think it's customary that the principal or somebody knows what's going on when they are doing this stuff," field hockey parent Stephanie Wenzler said. "If it is done in good fun instead of tormenting somebody [then it is ok]."

Sophomore field hockey player Erika Wenzler was kidnapped last year by the seniors.

"My mom thought it was funny and took pictures," Erika said.

Hazing will always be a problem. Many students and parents feel that the activities must be in good intentions to be acceptable. Dr. Losos wants to place guidelines for activities related to group bonding activities.

"Shouldn't practicing together, playing together and performing well together on the field, shouldn't that be enough of a team bonding?," Losos said.

# The Gateway Cup swells in participation

SIQBHAN JONES

The Gateway Cup is one of St. Louis's most exciting sporting events. It takes place annually during Labor Day weekend and draws riders from up to 25 states each year.

The Cup began about 18 years ago, when it was just two separate days of racing and unrelated to each other. In 1996, cycling enthusiast Tim Ranek took over the event. Under his direction, the raced continued to grow in popularity. In 1999, the race took on its four race format that it is known by today. While many weekend races boast only a handful of riders in each category, certain field sizes in the Cup have swelled to almost 150 racers.

In cycling, there are five categories of races. A beginner starts at the bottom at category 5 and moves up by accumulating points. Points can be earned when a cyclist wins a race. In order to "cat up" a rider must get 30 points in just one season.

In the Gateway Cup, all four races are criteriums. Criteriums are the most commonly found races in the United States, because they are easy to put on and are fast and furious. Many of these races feature very technical courses, with sharp corners and tight streets. Riders race together in large packs, so that just one mistake could take out an

entire field.

"It's very exhilarating," said freshman Andrew Dowd who raced in the men's cat. 5 field, "it's pretty tough, while you're in the race, it's a great time."

In a criterium, riders race for a pre-determined number of minutes around a closed loop, then do a certain number of laps. For example, the women's category 4 field would do 45 minutes of racing and then 5 laps.

The Cup starts on the Friday night before Labor Day with a criterium during the evening.

On Saturday, there is another criterium in the very hilly Kirkwood Park. Many racers opt to skip this race because it is very difficult, and the racers who excel when the road turns upward make this race their main target.

Sunday's race takes place in the Italian region of St. Louis on the Hill, for a criterium that passes in front of the historic church, St. Ambrose.

The last criterium is on Labor Day; a race that takes place smack dab in the middle of the Loop, going down past stores like Vintage Vinyl and restaurants such as Blueberry Hill.

"Most [racers] line up for all four events," said promoter and organizer Tim Ranek. "And yes, they are a bit tuckered out by the last day. But they have to be on their game for those corners."

Cycling in the USA has been growing drastically in popularity since the 80s and the number of registered racers is higher than ever. Yet cycling is still an overlooked sport in the United States. Only a small percentage of cyclists in America pedal to race and rarely, if ever, is the sport featured in the media. However, since Lance Armstrong's historic seventh win in the Tour de France, cycling is gaining a better position in the spotlight.

Big events like the Gateway Cup are not only for bikers, they are also a social event.

"I would definitely recommend the races for people who are just there to watch," said Dowd, "they are really intense. People should probably go and see a race first before they come, because they are so intense."

The Cup is one of the most successful races in the Midwest due to the number of cyclists and route.

"Bottom line, to have a good race you have to have it where the people are," said Ranek. "We put these races right smack-dab in the middle of the best neighborhoods in St. Louis."

Next year, you can go to the Gateway Cup at any of its four races. See stlbiking.com for more.

"If students want to just come down and watch, that would be great, especially the pro's race," said Dowd, "it's pretty amazing. All in all, it's a great atmosphere."

# Myspace.com attracts growing number of teens to online fun

EMILY ANDERSON

Whoever said that sitting in front of a computer for hours at a time looking at friend's pictures and comments wasn't fun was never an average American teenager.

"Basically I think that Myspace is a great way to communicate with people," junior John Buse said. "It's a more complicated and personalized way of email with pictures."

Myspace.com, which was created by "Tom," is a website where young adults 16 years and older can make their own page with basic information about themselves. They can then customize their Myspace with colors, music videos, and pictures. On the website members can make friends, and leave them comments.

"Myspace is awesome because it connects people around the country, that you might have lost touch with," Buse said. "It could be awkward to call them, however on Myspace you can just leave them a comment and remind them that you still exist."

Sophomore Marta Toczylowski agrees with

Buse; however, she has her own favorite parts of the website.

"The best part about Myspace is definitely making it, because you can fill out all the information about yourself, and take surveys, and then you get to watch your space gradually grow as you get more friends and they leave more comments," Toczylowski said.

Some students question how safe Myspace is. Toczylowski believes that Myspace isn't harmful.

"When you register to make your Myspace, you are warned that if you put any profanity or information that could harm you like your exact address, your space will be taken off the website," Toczylowski said.

Marta's mother Joan Gallagher has her own point of view or Myspace.com.

"I do not think that the website is going to get my daughter or anyone in dangerous trouble, however anytime I see her on the computer, she is on that website," Gallagher said.

Toczylowski agrees with her mother in thinking that it is addicting.

"Myspace is definitely an addicting website. The first thing I do when I get home is check my Myspace to see if I have friend requests or new comments," Toczylowski said. "However if I am having a bad day, that's one thing that will always cheer me up."

Some students have mixed opinions about the site.

"Myspace is a waste of time," Senior Kate Shoemaker said, "there are already so many ways to leave messages for people. You can IM, text message, email, talk on the phone, and heaven forbid actually talk to someone in person."

Some students like Davi Reznick don't have their own Myspace; however, they still look at people's profiles.

"I don't have Myspace; however, every once in a while I admit that I check out peoples pages and sometimes even pictures," Reznick said.

"Myspace may look stupid to the average eye, but if you need to take an in-depth look at it," sophomore Leigh Katz said. "Myspace is an amazing part of the World Wide Web."



MYSFACE.COM OFFERS A new form of community for a growing number of teens.

# St. Louis offers a variety of flavors

BECCA GUTMAN

1) You come home after school and want a snack, what do you normally reach for?

- A. Something bittersweet
- B. A coconut puff
- C. Something with a lot of chocolate in it
- D. Raw cookie dough

2) You're tired from a long week and are ready to relax with:

- A. Again, just as long as it has chocolate in it
- B. Something with an usual flavor

- C. A brownie
- D. Anything, as long as it is sweet

3) Portion wise, you really want:

- A. Something small, I'm not too hungry
- B. Something really filling
- C. A good size, leaning towards big
- D. In-between, not too big or too small

4) When it comes to flavor, I enjoy:

- A. Something semi-sweet and very distinct
- B. Moderately sweet and kind of bland
- C. Pretty sweet and full of chocolate

- D. Very sweet and full of flavor

5) My favorite place to hang out is:

- A. A small shop in the loop
- B. Outside on benches
- C. A large air-conditioned building
- D. Somewhere where I can sit inside or outside

6) When out and about on the town, who would you rather run into?

- A. A man dressed like a cow
- B. Probably no one you know

- C. Maybe a few people who know, but mainly new faces

- D. A bunch of people who you recognize from school

7) What's your favorite color?

- A. Green
- B. Yellow
- C. Red
- D. Black and White

See below for results



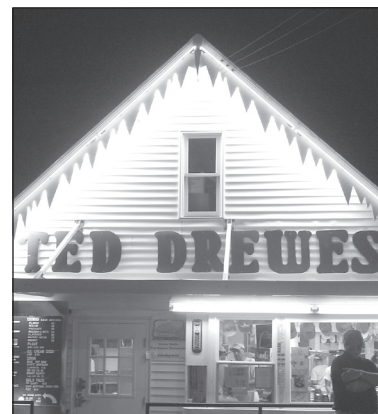
Not in the mood for any of these ice cream places? 22 Percent at CHS agree there are better ice cream parlors in St. Louis.

Some of the other favorites included: Crown Candy Kitchen, Baskin Robbins, Mr. Wizard's, The Custard Shop



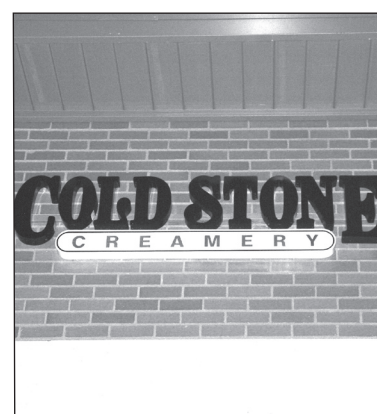
Whitney Bruce

Mostly A's: If most or all of your answers were A's, you have a hankering for Ben & Jerry's Chocolate Therapy. Though the portions are small, the flavor is strong, and there is definitely enough chocolate to soothe any problem. Located on Delmar in the Loop, you and 24 percent of your classmates agree Ben & Jerry's is the place to go for ice cream in St. Louis.



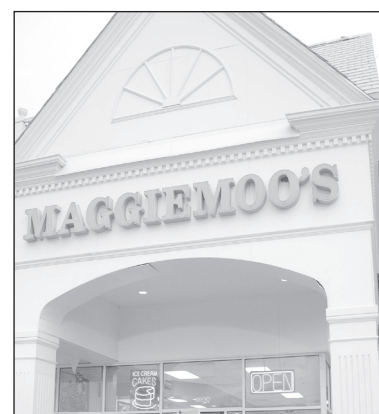
Laura Tetri

Mostly B's: If you answered with B's, you are probably in the mood St. Louis' classic ice cream joint. While there you will probably enjoy a Hawaiian concrete. This large, dense, combination of coconut and pineapple makes for a treat that 27 percent of Clayton High School agrees is good. You can get this dessert on Chippewa Rd in Shrewsbury.



Laura Tetri

Mostly C's: You are in need of a Coldstone Creamery chocolate concoction. This mix of chocolate and brownie is well-proportioned and there are many other chocolate options. These treats are only about 10 minutes from Clayton. This ice cream phenomenon is located on Delmar in the loop. 10 percent of CHS believes Coldstone Creamery is the place for ice cream.



Caitlin Ly

Mostly D's: You are a definite Claytonite if you answered with mostly D's and are in the mood for Clayton's ice cream place, Maggie Moo's, and their most frequently ordered Butter Batter. Located in the Ladue Shopping Center, about a block away from the high school. About 17 percent of students agree that it is a sweet getaway during any free period.



# Money, lack of interest keep students from driving

NAVA KANTOR

Driving is a huge part of high school life; almost every student at CHS who is old enough to drive does so (and complains to no end about the lack of parking on campus). Some people fantasize for years about being able to go places independently and absolutely can't wait until they get their licenses. For others, the subject is not so urgent.

For senior Kelly Pappageorge, driving was not high up on the to-do list. Pappageorge waited almost a year before getting her permit (which is attainable at age 15 in Missouri).

"I was 16 when I got my permit and almost 17 when I got my license," Pappageorge said.

Senior Daniel Limbert is 18 and isn't driving yet.

"I don't feel pressure to start learning because my friends drive me around," Limbert said.

Sophomore Joe Luckey is 16 and does not yet have his permit.

"I don't feel that it's extremely important to get [my permit]," Luckey said. "I feel peer pressure all the time, but I just ignore it. If driving means loads to my friends, great for them, but it's not high on my priorities."

Some students wait to start driving because they don't have the time or are simply too lazy to prepare for the tests.

"I don't really have a reason [for not driving]," Limbert said. "I don't feel like it. It's kind of like I'm 'sticking it to the man.'"

This was not the case for Pappageorge; her reasons were environmental concerns.

"I had this thing about getting a hybrid, but

you have to go on a wait list for a long time in order to get one," Pappageorge said. "I ended up giving up on the hybrid, but I still try to use as little gas as possible."

The pressure to start driving early can add a lot of stress to students' already busy lives. It's not always easy to find transportation to academic and out-of-school events, which limits students' participation in extracurriculars.

"I had to get rides all the time, so I didn't do many after-school activities. It was getting annoying to have to call my parents or depend on my friends."

*I had to get rides all the time, so I didn't do many after-school activities. It was getting annoying to have to call my parents or depend on my friends.*

senior  
**KELLY PAPPAGEORGE**

school activities," Pappageorge said. "It was getting annoying to have to call my parents or depend on my friends. My parents wanted me to be able to do errands for them and drive myself around."

According to Luckey, not having a license limits social life as well as school life.

"If I had a car and a license I could do more exciting things on Friday nights and stay out later," Luckey said. "But the biggest impact is that I have to walk or bike around to see my friends, and we can't really get out of Clayton to have fun."

Having to depend on other people to get around is never fun, but there are benefits to not



Jamie Sachar

SENIOR DANIEL LIMBERT prepares to enter the passenger side of a friend's car after school. Limbert is one of many students who don't have licenses and consequently choose not to drive, relying instead on friends and family for rides.

driving at the earliest possible time. Not having to pay for insurance and high gas prices saves a lot of money.

"I don't have to worry about paying for car stuff," Limbert said.

There are also physical benefits to not driving.

"I had to walk to and from school, to the Loop, everywhere," Pappageorge said. "It was

a bonus that I got more exercise."

Although not driving caused some problems for her, Pappageorge doesn't regret waiting to get her license.

"I was able to learn from my friends' accidents and mistakes," Pappageorge said. "I was so relieved when I finally got my license; I was convinced I was going to fail. But it's so nice now to have it done for the rest of my life." ☺

## Globe provides meaning and decoration

PHILIP LEVINE

Fifty-one years ago, in September 1954, the architect of the newly designed Clayton High School, William B. Ittner, put in a globe near the front entrance of the school. The original design of the school included a statue in that spot, but Ittner decided otherwise. He figured that the marble globe would fit in with the brick and limestone of the main building.

The globe is six feet in diameter and weighs nearly 10 tons. It was very controversial because of the \$13,000 cost. Several newspapers and magazines published articles

about the controversy surrounding the globe.

Eventually, the globe idea was passed by the school district and the globe was purchased. The globe was set in place a very interesting way. The globe was placed on ice, and as the ice melted, the globe formed into position.

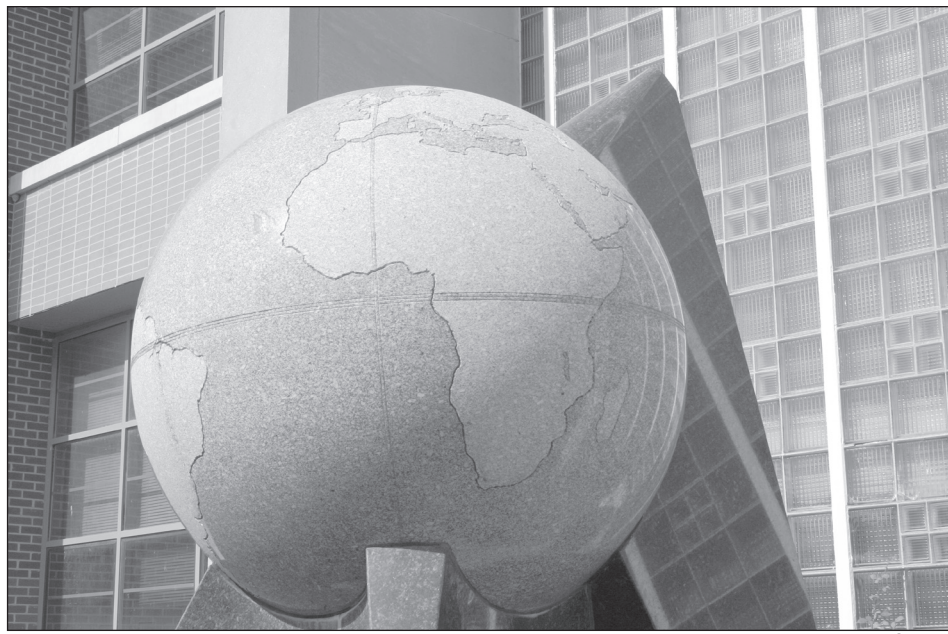
Various students have ideas on what the globe really means to them. Others feel that there is little significance to the globe.

"[The globe sculpture] doesn't mean much, I just try to use it as a mirror," junior, Zander Kanefield said.

Sophomore Tucker Syzbala feels otherwise. "I look at the globe and think about the diversity of our school," Syzbala said. "The world is filled with all different types of people and that is a symbol of the variety of people at Clayton High School."

CHS counselor and CHS alum Lara Veon has an interesting take on the meaning of the globe.

"[The globe sculpture]



Caitlin Ly

ABOVE: THE GLOBE sculpture that adorns the front of CHS has provided visual appeal to the front of school and meaning for students and faculty since its purchase in 1954. "[The globe] represents that we try to prepare students for global society," Veon said. BELOW: a different perspective of the same sculpture.

ture] represents that we try to prepare students for global society," Veon said. "A reminder to look outside the infamous Clayton bubble and consider other global perspectives."

Although she has meaningful perception now, her ideas have changed after graduating Clayton High nearly 10 years ago. "I didn't consider [the globe] significant at all as a student," Veon said. "It was just a piece of art next to the building."

Even if students do not feel the sculpture is significant, they agree that it looks nice and adds character to the front of the school. "[The globe sculpture] just goes

well with the front of the school and looks pretty good," senior David Reznik said.

The purchase of the globe was controversial in the beginning, but the community can agree that it has been a good investment. Clayton alumni have always remembered the globe as a symbol of CHS and when we come back to see our high school, it will be nice

to have the globe forever as a commemoration of our years here. "For thirteen thousand bucks, it looks pretty good, and will be here as a symbol for years to come," sophomore Steven Schilmister said. ☺

*I look at the globe and think about the diversity of our school. The world is filled with all different types of people and that is a symbol of the variety of people at CHS.*

sophomore  
**TUCKER SYZBALA**



Caitlin Ly

## ISS deterrent for some, study place for others

CALEAH BOYKIN

CHS has two places students can hangout and study: the library and the learning center, but for some students the I.S.S. room has become another place to sit and study.

Students cannot just drop into the I.S.S. room when they have want to, but being sent to I.S.S. could help some students with their classwork.

"We'll do everything and anything for students," I.S.S. supervisor Boris Khodosov said. "We can invite teachers to the I.S.S. room or I can take them (the students) to the teacher."

The I.S.S. room has everything students need to study: quiet, teachers willing to help, and space. Students are sent to I.S.S. for a variety of reasons.

While the A program handles the majority of students who are skipping class, the students who don't respond well to the A program often end up in I.S.S.

Others are sent to I.S.S. for other types of discipline problems. Even with a more serious issue, Assistant Principal Dan Gutchewsky said some students are sent to I.S.S. because the school can't reach their parents to give them out-of-school suspension.

"If a student is in I.S.S. for a full day, it's definitely more effective educationally than an out-of-school suspension, just because work is there and students are supervised with a period of work time," Gutchewsky said.

With the help that students in the I.S.S. room have available to them, it's easy to see why some of the students do not think it is too much of a punishment.

"I work really hard because Mr. Boris is cool and willing to help," junior James Scott said.

Some of the students in the I.S.S. room seem to enjoy the help and study time they can get in I.S.S. Studying in I.S.S. is one of many rules enforced to help students. The

rules are designed to help students succeed.

The strict rules help students concentrate on schoolwork and give them the time they need to complete their work. And there is always Khodosov, known as "Mr. Boris" to most of the students in the room. Khodosov does not allow students to sit around doing nothing. He will assign them something to do, even if it is drawing.

"Most of the students [in I.S.S.] I know a lot," Khodosov said. "Not too many new students come into the I.S.S. room."

Despite the rules and Khodosov's presence, many of the students in I.S.S. are repeat offenders, and return to the I.S.S. room many times throughout the year.

"I would say a majority of the students don't want to be there because they don't want to lose their free time," Gutchewsky said. "I think other students kind of become immune to losing their free time and actually don't mind so much. I would recognize that's it's a deterrent for some students but

### I.S.S. Rules

- 1) I.S.S. starts at 8:20, dismissal is at 3:01, tardiness results in a detention
- 2) Students must remain in the I.S.S. room for the assigned amount of days
- 3) Students must bring materials needed to complete assignments while in I.S.S.
- 4) Students are not allowed to communicate with anyone in the I.S.S. room
- 5) Students must remain in their seats at all times
- 6) Students cannot sleep or put heads on their desks while in I.S.S.

## Center offers underclassmen hangout

UGOCHI ONYEMA

The Center of Clayton is one of the many places that students can go during their free time. It is also conveniently located next to the main school building, which makes dropping by so easy. Almost all areas of the Center are accessible to students throughout the school day. These places include the fitness center, the gym, the track above the gym, the student lobby and more. Students can also buy food from the Subway® kiosk.

A good number of students visit the Center each day.

"At least 40 students per period [visit the center]," Center manager Denise Ucinski said.

The majority of students that go to the center consist of freshmen and sophomores.

"The center is a convenient, fun, and [overall] good place to hang out," freshman Jenna Wonish said.

ish said.

On the negative side, Wonish said that some rules, such as the age requirements in one of the weight rooms, do not allow the younger students to do as much as they might do in the fitness area.

Freshman Dominique Graham agreed that the rules are sometimes a problem. He points out that students aren't allowed at the Center during weekends without being a member or paying the daily fee. Despite this restriction, Graham still enjoys the Center. He especially enjoys one area in particular.

"I like the basketball court," Graham said. Many students use the basketball courts as well as other facilities for Physical Education classes.

"I have independent gym class at least two times a week," senior Jaime Wonish said.

She also spends some of her free time at the Center. There are a lot of entertaining activities

to do at the Center.

Freshman Tonisha Williams enjoys the opportunities the Center has to offer.

"I like the freedom to do whatever I want [to do at the Center]," Williams said.

She enjoys going to the swimming pool and the Subway® kiosk.

The only negative thing that Williams had to say about the Center was that there were certain areas that people are not allowed to eat in. This rule is meant to keep the Center clean, which is something that freshman Natalia Birgisson appreciates.

"[I like how] they keep the Center clean and respectful," Birgisson said. She also likes the fact that the Center has team locker rooms for students that play sports.

The Center of Clayton is obviously a very worthwhile place where students can spend their free time. ☺



# Venturing out of the bubble proves delicious with Mangia Italiano

Rarely do I venture outside the bubble, but when I do, it's usually for something that I will never forget. My brother's 15th birthday occurred in early September, and my family had heard nothing but great reviews about a restaurant on Grand, just south of the SLU medical school. The restaurant, Mangia Italiano, is an old Italian grocery store converted into a restaurant.

## OUTSIDE the BUBBLE



Katherine Sher

Mangia Italiano updated its look after new management took over five years ago. Along its longest wall lay an unfinished mural, which a local artist has been working on for 19 years. Wood tables, un-matching chairs, and bright colors add charm to my new favorite Italian spot.

However, the entire restaurant is smoking, but there is outdoor seating available when the weather permits. Parking was a bit of an issue, but there are plenty of side

streets where parking is available, if you're willing to walk.

The menu didn't contain a wide variety of choices, but salads, pizzas, pastas, and entrees filled in the inside.

Usual Italian dishes filled the menu but there were also some non-traditional foods as well. The thing that caught my eye immediately was the price, no entree above \$14, unless you wanted one of the specials.

My family decided on two appetizers: cheese bread and a cheese pizza. Enjoyed the cheese bread, which was served with a spicy marinara sauce, but the pizza also looked good. We were also served the classic bread and olive oil.

Dinner was something that I will never forget. Every pasta dish is made with homemade noodles, a refreshing taste from the stuff that we usually cook out of the box. My

dad and I had lasagna, which was amazing. It was served in an individual deep dish, garnished with oregano and cheese. I love lasagna, and this tasted like it came out of my mom's kitchen. The serving was a little big for me, but it was so good none-the-less.

My mom had stuffed spinach pasta, made with spinach noodles and served in the same marinara sauce as the lasagna. I'm not a big spinach fan, but this pasta was amazing. The spinach flavor was there, but it was hidden between the commanding taste of the sauce, which had a little kick to it.

My brother, even though it was his birthday, ventured for the unoriginal pasta with meat sauce. Even this was good, served with lots of meat and topped with plenty of cheese.

Although everyone in my family got pasta, there are also chicken, beef and fish dishes for a little more money (closer to the \$14). Mangia Italiano also serves personal pizzas for meals as well as all types of sandwiches and entree salads.

Service was above average, although the time in-between when we ordered drinks and when we got them was a little long. The food,

since it was fresh, did take a little longer to receive, but it was worth it. The bus boys and waitresses are happy to keep you filled with drinks and bread.

What I found most fascinating about Mangia Italiano was the fact that they still are the grocery store that they had been for about 30 years. In case you're ever in the mood for fresh pasta, Mangia Italiano would be happy to sell you some linguini or spaghetti. They also sell their pasta to some very popular Italian restaurants on the Hill and throughout St. Louis (although they wouldn't tell me which ones).

Overall, the story of Mangia Italiano is one that intrigues me, but there food is definitely the best part of the restaurant. Next time you are trying to decide which restaurant to go to, think about venturing outside the bubble to enjoy some great food that really isn't that far away.

For more information call (314) 664-8585 or visit [www.dineatmangia.com](http://www.dineatmangia.com).



Whitney Bruce

The Pageant in the loop is one of many concert venues in St. Louis. Located in the University City Loop the Pageant provides a creative environment for concerts.

# The Pageant brings distinct musical character, pleasant atmosphere

KELLY MOFFITT

Some have claimed that St. Louis is lacking in creative places for concerts. It is easy to see where this claim comes from when anyone enters the Savvis Center for a night of music and atmosphere. This is because there is essentially no atmosphere at all. However, don't lose heart! St. Louis does have one venue that can satisfy the need for great music, fun, and a lot of atmosphere. That venue is The Pageant, located at 6161 Delmar, in the University City Loop.

The Pageant started out as a dream of Joe Edwards, who is accredited with Blueberry Hill, the Tivoli Theatre, and the Pin-Up Bowl, and Patrick Hagin, who is formerly of Mississippi Nights. Obviously, their dream became a reality.

They both wanted to bring a unique and versatile venue to St. Louis," Administration & Human Resource Manager of The Pageant Gina Shanks said. "The Pageant is the only live music venue of its size and style in St. Louis."

"It's really cool to go there because you get to see bands from a different perspective," sophomore Almas Khemseth said. "Besides the band you also get to see a diverse group of people at the Pageant. Sometimes it's a little crowded, though."

The Pageant can hold up to 2,300 people. But don't be fooled, shows can fill up early, so it is advisable to buy tickets in advance.

"Normally, there isn't a long line," sophomore Zak Littrell said. "But if it's a really popular show, the line will snake a long way around the entire building."

"Get there early if you want great seats," Khemseth said. "And don't bring stuff you think will get confiscated."

Once inside, the Pageant offers a variety of ways to view the show. "We are a nightclub with general admission seating," Shanks said. "We have cabaret style of tables, chairs, and drink rails."

The Pageant also has a dance floor, a balcony, and a bar. However, parents have no need to worry about kids being able to buy alcoholic beverages at the shows. People under 21 have their hands marked, upon entry to the Pageant and cannot enter the bar area at any time during the show.

For teens there is a downside to being underage at the Pageant.

"They mark your hands but then you have to pay a cover charge sometimes," junior Ben Avi Berkowitz said. "Once, I was restricted from entering the pit [the dance floor] because I was under 18."

Most of the time, everyone is allowed to see the shows despite the age range.

"Part of the Pageant's draw is the fact we cater to all age groups and musical tastes," Shanks said. "We bring bands that are of interest to high school students and 99 percent of our shows are open to people of all ages."

The Pageant offers an extremely varied range of entertainment. Rock, rap, country, comedy, hip-hop, metal, classic, pop, and jazz are just some of the amazing genres of music it offers.

On top of offering so many types of music The Pageant also supports local bands.

"Pat Hagin has always been very supportive of local music," Shanks said. "We currently have two events which are held, on average, once every two months which are always on a weekend night and always feature local artists. We also book many local bands as opening acts for our touring shows."

Littrell has benefited from this showcasing.

"I went to Femme Fatale [a local band] at the Pageant," Littrell said. "That was pretty cool; I saw something I normally wouldn't have."

Some of the appeal that the Pageant holds for high schoolers is that shows there are usually a lot cheaper than at more publicized venues.

"The average ticket price is \$20 to \$25," Shanks said. "However, we have many shows with ticket costs much lower than that and a few that are much higher."

"I like the Pageant because it's a lot cheaper and smaller than most other concert places," Berkowitz said.

Because of its size, people can get a much closer view of the band playing.

"It's fun going to the Pageant because it's small and you can actually see bands," Littrell said. "You don't even need binoculars!"

On top of this, the Pageant offers a more intimate setting for band and concert-goer.

"The bands come out on the floor sometimes and you can meet them," Khemseth said. "They talk to you and sign autographs."

The Pageant is always reining in new and exciting things to see. "Vince Vaughan's Wild West Comedy Show," The Black Crows, Story of the Year, Styx, Busta Rhymes, and 'A Tribute to Stevie Ray Vaughan' are all shows coming up in October 2005.

The Pageant is somewhere for anyone that is looking for somewhere with a more distinct musical atmosphere with great character, look no further, the Pageant is for you!

"You'll get to see a great show in a fun, yet safe environment," Shanks said. "We hope to see everyone at a show soon!"

# Weezer mellow out

## These self-proclaimed 'geek rockers' remain in high regard with 'Make Believe.'

ABBY EISENBERG

Weezer. The name may clue you in to this emo/indie/"geek rock" band's nature. Just like their name, they are fun, different, and breathe of fresh air in a time of songs about "Pimpin' All over the World" and "Gold Diggers."

This four-piece band, originating in Los Angeles, California consists of Rivers Cuomo (yes, that is his real name) on lead guitar and vocals, Brian Bell on guitar and vocals, Scott Shriner on vocals and Patrick Wilson on drums.

They have received praise and recognition in the past for songs such as "Buddy Holly," and "Island in the Sun." Their first self-titled record was released all the way back in 1994, and they have since released four more, including "Pinkerton," "Weezer" (known by fans as "The Green Album,") "Maladroit" and most recently, "Make Believe."

Cuomo is the power force behind the band's success. His skills on his guitar, voice and his ability to create emotion and thought provoking songs while still making his audience want to get up and dance greatly exceeds anybody else in the present day. But he wasn't always perfect (and still isn't!).

When the first album went platinum, Cuomo lost sight of his initial excited, young and naive attitude. He became a shallow, egotistical jerk, who charged his band mates for being out of key. He would carefully study and analyze each hit Weezer put out there, trying to find a formula

for success. He would then produce songs in an almost mathematical fashion hoping to calculate a hit.

These changes spiraled out of control, creating problems in the records and quickly transformed the band from friends to cold business partners. They didn't sell much, and the band's producer Rick Rubin called Weezer "the most dysfunctional band he had ever worked with" in the May 5, 2005 issue of Rolling Stone.

Cuomo wasn't blind to this and discovered the errors of his ways. Ever one to punish himself, he sold his not-so-modest house and everything inside, moving into a diminutive apartment with nothing but a sleeping bag, a mat, a towel and a microwave.

It is this kind of intensity that amazed me in early works such as the angry and sad address to his ex-step father in the classic, "Say It Ain't So." It is this kind of intensity that is lacking in the band's latest installment, "Make Believe."

The album begins with "Beverly Hills," a song about longing for wealth and status, ironic considering the wealth and status Weezer most definitely already has. Yes, it is quite a catchy tune.

Many nights I find myself belting out "... Preppy girls never looked at me/why should they? I ain't nobody got nothing in my pocket/Beverly Hills, that's where I want to be! /...". And yes, people buy it. It placed as the number one downloaded song for a while there on iTunes. Yep this song is a hit, but just a hit, which

is so not Weezer.

The album progresses much differently than "Beverly Hills" would lead you to expect. Track two is "Perfect Situation," which is a good, classic Weezer song about the regrets and frustrations of being shy. With the strong drums and fairly bare verses, this is probably the best song on the album.

The main difference between this and the previous albums is that there is not as much emotion coming from the usually poetic lyrics. They are like a watered down version of a song, which becomes boring quickly.

To come to the point, listeners won't quite love the album right away. In fact, some of the songs you may strongly dislike, such as "Best Friend," which is a song much better suited for a spiky-haired teenage pretty-boy band. But the album still had some truth and talent underneath all the catchiness.

"Pardon Me" is the brutal apology to the world, from Cuomo which is well-written and heartfelt. "We are all on Drugs" is a silly, yet very rock n' roll song and will probably be the most successful single.

As always, the vocals and instruments are under perfection, with Cuomo's high notes rivaling those of Beyoncé, and Wilson's genius drum beats thumping in the background, adding some edge to even the cheese on the album. This is still a great album in comparison to what is out there right now, even though doesn't quite live up to those in the band's past.

# New art exhibit is must-see for all

## The St. Louis Art Museum brings a set of paintings from the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art to its halls.

QING ZHANG

"The great struggle for freedom has sacrificed many a spot, and many a mountain, stream, and rock has its legend worthy a poet's pen or a painter's pencil."—Thomas Cole, 1832—so begins the introduction of a breathtaking art exhibit—Nature and the Nation: Hudson River School Landscape Painting from the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art.

This gallery of infamous artworks currently resides in the St. Louis Art Museum and will be open for the general public through September. Admission is \$5 for students, \$6 for adults, and is free to all on Fridays. This comprehensive collection is composed of 25 individual painters' transcriptions of America's wilderness.

Over 50 artworks done by Hudson River painters such as Albert Bierstadt, Thomas Cole, Frederic Church, and Asher B. Durand are intended as not only an expression of the fantastic wonders of America's scenery but also a coherent solidification of the nation's purpose and potentials from its infancy to the upheaval of the Civil War.

While a literal praise for the splendor of nature, the exhibit of paintings centered around the Hudson River Valley is also a visual celebration of the nation's economic and social progress. The ragged wilderness is often combined with sights of scattered farmhouses to depict America's emergence as a definite and powerful civilization.

The alluring charms of nature are interpreted as symbols of hope for progress, as the light-toned, rain-washed landscapes so frequently suggest. By the end of the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, landscape painting assumed a dominating role in America's art when mountains and forests, streams and lakes become tokens of the society's many fortunes.

"The artworks depict the external appearance of this our dwelling place is fraught with lessons of high and holy meaning," said leader of the Hudson River School Asher B. Durand.

Indeed, as the crowd gathers in the gallery hall, they are awestricken by the elaborate visions of natural beauty and the divinity of God that echo beneath the serene sceneries. To truly understand and

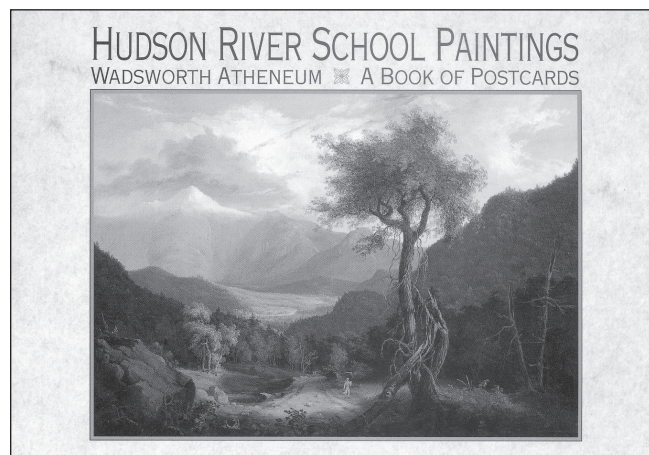


photo courtesy of St. Louis Art Museum

THE EXHIBIT ON the Hudson River Valley runs through the end of September. Postcard books like this one are available in the gift shop.

appreciate these works, however, one need to delve deeper than their visualizations of the gorgeous environment of our lands and adhere to the artists' claims that these are "sentimental assurances through divine visual language."

The drawings are unique forms of communications between God and humans spoken with vocabularies of "waterfalls and rushing streams, storm clouds and florid dawns, massed foliage and blasted tree trunks." In short, they are the messenger of God.

The halls of the Shoenberg Exhibition Galleries emerged with the foyer of the museum as the journey through the landscapes drew to an end.

I stood silently in front of the last painting, contemplating in awe the fascinating features of each painting. They are the medium in which we communicate with the early settlers of the nation and share of their pride in the citizenry of a nation of social and economic status. The exhibit is, undoubtedly, a must-see for all.





JASON STATHMA DOES not succeed in the "Transporter 2." Along with disappointing action scenes, the movie is lengthy.

## New 'action' film disappoints

### 'Transporter 2' brings unintended humor especially during the action scenes, yet lacks in overall quality.

by MICHAEL ROOT

I'm looking for a—bed, as "Transporter 2" transported me to sleep.

This movie was billed as an action packed suspense filled film but failed miserably to meet my expectations.

The sequel to the original "Transporter" applies plots from "Mission Impossible 2" and "James Bond" to culminate in a disappointing and unoriginal film. In between the high-speed, million-dollar car chases, the unrealistic special effects are beyond credibility.

During the scenes that are supposed to be action packed and dramatic, the theater erupted in laughter out of pure disbelief. These action scenes should have had people riveted to their seats in a state of silent awe. Instead, the audience doubled up laughing in apparent embarrassment for the actors.

"Transporter 2" stars the overly serious Jason Statham as Frank Martin, an ex-Special Forces agent working for a rich family in Miami by driving a souped up Audi A8 and living under a no-questions-asked system for carrying out his job.

Martin starts off in a softer role as a driver for the Billings' 8-year-old son named Jack played by Hunter Clary. The close relationship turns into a fight for his life as Jack is kidnapped, throwing Martin into a one man mission to save the boy.

We find out the kidnapers, led by Gianni (Alessandro Gassman), plan to use the boy as a weapon by injecting him with a virus so that whomever he breathes on contracts the lethal disease too. The real target is the typical, uninvolved rich father who is never around because of his important government job.

Jack's mother Audrey Billings (Amber Valleta) and Martin share a

dragged out awkward relationship throughout the movie, but the loner Martin turns down a more intimate relationship. This suggestion of romance was never convincing, and it was apparent that nothing was going to happen between them.

The comic relief, provided by a French cop Tarconi (François Berléand), is limited to the over stereotyped Frenchmen who can only cook, but still secretly helps Martin. Tarconi not only cooks for Martin, but can't refrain from cooking for the police after he is arrested. This situation is remotely funny, and one of the rare highlights of the film.

Fortunately, the relatively short 1 hour, 28 minute film doesn't waste more time than it already has to.

Unfortunately, the movie ends with a phone call to Martin, setting up a third movie in the series. . . "Transporter 3: Yet another ride."



## 'The Man' brings boredom

by PERCY OLSEN

Buddy-cop movies are dead. Or at least they should be. This tired and burnt out genre's latest foray into the movie theatres is "The Man", a film with blatantly stereotypical characters and a plot that has been redone too many times.

The movie starts out with dental product salesman Andy Fidler (Eugene Levy) getting ready for his speech at a dentist convention in Michigan. His wife pops her head in the scene to give him some timely advice, "Detroit ain't Wisconsin." Thank you Captain Obvious.

This bit of foreshadowing destroyed my assumption that this movie was going to be about the latest innovations in flossing technology. Maybe the movie would have been better if it was about fixing teeth, not knocking them out.

The plot of this movie is horrible and at times, ridiculous. It involves a dead cop and a truckload of stolen guns. Just know that Andy is under Federal Agent Derrick Van's (Samuel L. Jackson) custody throughout most of the movie. Andy Fidler is a middle-aged white father who just wants to make an honest buck. Van is a loose-cannon cop on the edge. You know he's on the edge because he wears a leather jacket, his back is tattooed into oblivion, he has problems with the ex, he curses up a storm, he doesn't trust anyone, and he never calls for back-up. Did we miss any clichés?

A buddy-cop film fails or thrives in the interactions between the two contrasting characters. For the most part, "The Man" fails to create such interesting interactions. Take this example: Andy asks if they can stop for a place to eat, but apparently he can't handle red meat. Van takes him to a burger joint anyway, and a hungry Andy eats his lunch. What ensues can only be described as juvenile, with more fart jokes than in an average Family Guy episode.



LEVY AND JACKSON fail to hold the audience's attention throughout "The Man," directed by Les Mayfield.

Van and Fidler get so close that they end up repeating each other's lines, they both lie to their wives, and they both get shot in the butt. And, of course, it wouldn't be a buddy-cop movie without the famous "We are not partners" line, which Sam Jackson has the honor of delivering in this movie.

Above everything else, the worst part of the movie is how the writers are guilty of using cheap tricks to extend the length of the film. Take this for example: the criminals are planning on handing the guns off to the man sitting in the coffee shop who is reading USA Today. Oh no! They gave it to the wrong guy! What are the odds that more than one person would be reading the nation's most popular paper? I am befuddled as to how these

criminal masterminds could not see past this flaw. Numerous times when this movie should have just ended, somebody acts stupid, and the movie trudges on.

The one saving grace for this film was Sam Jackson's ridiculous ability to act angry. And although he is a great comedic actor, Eugene Levy seemed miscast and he couldn't hold his own against Jackson.

"The Man" is a "clock-watcher." I turned on my Indigo about eight times during this movie. Thank god Yahoo! Movies had the running time for this baby, my constant checking of my watch kept me active enough to remember what happened in this predictable romp.



## What's playing in your iPod?

You've seen them around: Pink, gold, blue and white iPods are the new accessory. Everywhere you turn, people have their ear bud head phones in and are blaring their tunes. But, everyone has that one song that they play before any other. So, a few Clayton students share the favorite songs on their iPod.

"My favorite song is 'Sponge Bob and Patrick Consult The Psychic Wall of Energy' by the Flaming Lips. It just makes me want to take my clothes off and dance."

- Senior Brittany Dennison



"My favorite song is 'The Hair Brush Song' from 'Veggie Tales.' When I am doing homework and that song comes on, there is no reason not to smile."

- Senior Nisrine Omri



"Do I have to pick just one? It's a really hard question, but I guess my favorite song is 'The Way We Get By' by Spoon [an Indie rock band]."

- Freshman Lisa Tang



"Maybe 'Denial Twist' by the White Stripes. I don't know why. I just think that they have a really cool new sound."

- Freshman Clare Samuel



People love their music and what is not to love? It feels personal, yet hundreds of people like the exact songs you do. Your favorite music says something about your originality, personality. There is a broad selection of songs and artists that people enjoy at Clayton, but that is what makes our school rock.

## iPod Nano combines small size, big song capacity

by JON IGELNIK

The Nano: it's the sleekest, sexiest and smallest full-featured iPod ever

It's October 2001, and Apple just released a new MP3 player: the iPod. The iPod was small and easy to use, but at its \$399 price tag the press thought it wouldn't sell. They were totally wrong.

Fast forward nearly four years; the iPod has become one of the best selling music players in history.

It's now 5 period on Sept. 8, and I find myself in the research lab sitting in front of a computer, completely in awe of what I just saw. I couldn't believe it, right as the iPod craze was just beginning to die down, there it was: The Nano.

Apple had done it again, the iPod Nano is the newest of the iPods, released on Sept. 7, it replaced the iPod Mini.

The Nano is sleek, sexy and very, very small. To quote apple.com: "Take everything you love about iPod and shrink it. Now shrink it again."

The iPod Nano tips the scales at 1.5 ounces, and with its dimensions being 3.5 x 1.6 x 0.27 inches, it is smaller than most cell phones.

I bet most of you probably think that this little machine probably has almost no storage space, and a tiny screen, however this is far from the truth.

The Nano can hold 1000 songs in the 4 GB model (there is also a 2 GB model that holds 500). Other iPods offer different amount of storage too. The mini can hold either 100 or 1,500 songs.

Also, by switching from mini hard drives that use a spinning disk to solid state flash memory (like that in the iPod shuffle), the Nano will have absolutely no skip, very few moving parts and it will be less likely to break if dropped.

Besides the large amount of storage (for its size at least), the iPod Nano also has a 1.5 inch full color display capable of viewing photos and album covers, as well as the patented "click wheel."

Later that day, after school, I got a chance to personally meet with the newest member of the iPod family, and let me tell you, it's even cooler when you're actually holding it.

I walked into the apple store in the Galleria, excited as ever to see the Nano, but there was a problem, I couldn't find it, was the Nano just that small?

After asking a worker to show me where it was, I discovered that the answer to my question was that the Nano was truly very small but, that day the worker wouldn't let me touch



AS THE NEWEST member to the iPod family, the nano holds up to one thousand songs and it has a color screen.

the Nano, because it wasn't for display yet, but I got my chance later.

It was Sept. 10 and I was back in the same place where I was on Thursday, and this time I actually held it. The Nano makes anyone's hands

seem huge, yet the click wheel is still easy to use as ever, and the screen, while small, is vivid and easy to read.

However cool and small the iPod Nano may be, it is also expensive. The Nano is Available online at www.apple.com and at most ipod retailers. It comes in two colors: the classic white or a cool new black.

It costs \$199 for the 2 gigabyte (500 songs) version, and \$249 for the 4 gigabyte (1000 songs).

Comparatively it is similarly priced to the other iPods. Mini iPods range from \$200-\$250 and some iPods starts at \$300, but it holds 10,000 songs.

This small new piece of technology may be worth the money, and a lot of you might buy it, but most people don't have that much cash burning a hole in their wallets.

By switching from mini hard drives that use a spinning disk to solid state flash memory (like that in the iPod shuffle), the Nano will have absolutely no skip, very few moving parts and it will be less likely to break if it is dropped.



# Rolling Stones progress musically and technologically

☛ **MADDIE HARNED**

They're the all American rock band, even though they're from England. They've broken up four times, but always seem to reunite just in time to awe fans once more with a new album or tour.

They've played over 1,000 shows, sold 90 million albums and have had sold out shows on every continent except Antarctica. Now, they're back with their first album in eight years, and an arena tour to support it.

To further understand the Rolling Stone's phenomena that is sweeping the nation yet again, I watched a concert of theirs filmed in July of this year. What else would you expect me to say about their performance - it was anything short of brilliant.

Singer Mick Jagger swaggered onto the stage in a manner that could be interpreted as either magically intimidating, or very silly looking. He was followed by the rest of his band members; Keith Richards, guitar, Ron Wood, guitar, Charlie Watts, drums, and instantly threw up his arms and yelled, "Welcome to the Rolling Stones!" Instantly, his gravelly yell was an indication of the excitement that

was yet to occur.

Though Mick Jagger is past 60 years old, he sure doesn't sound like it, or act like it either. He managed to sing all the classics from "Brown Sugar" to "Can't Always get What you Want" perfectly in his signature crackly yet melodic voice.

Keith Richards managed to put down his cigarettes long enough to play "Start Me Up," "Ain't Got No Satisfaction" and other Stones classics on a variety of electric guitars ranging in colors from turquoise to metallic silver.

The other two members of the Rolling Stones, Ron Wood and Charlie Watts, seem to be in the shadow of the band's two superstars, Mick Jagger and Keith Richards. Wood and Watts contributed least to writing the band's collection of songs, but still are a vital part to the quartet.

Ron Wood is fresh out of rehab and ready to rock again, and his relaxed style of performing and playing the guitar was evident, as he calmly walked from each end of the stage while performing.

Drummer Charlie Watts, who recently recovered from throat cancer, has returned to the stage, one of the first times in almost three years.

He looked basically the same as he did in the 1970s and 80s, beside a few lines on his face and inches around his waist.

The Rolling Stone's latest tour has attracted people to come to their shows, from grandparents to young children. One patron of The Stone's Detroit concert was freshman Caitlin Blatt.

"I met a lot of really cool people there. At one point in the concert I was only like 5 feet away from Charlie Watts. It was awesome, just really awesome," said Blatt.

What about her favorite Rolling Stones song?

"That's a hard one, but I guess 'Ain't got no Satisfaction,' it sounds a lot better live," said Blatt.

The Rolling Stones wrote the book on how to be a rock star, and now they're back to add another chapter. Their latest CD, "A Bigger Bang," has reached platinum status, and is being sold everywhere from chain retailers, like Borders, to select Starbucks locations.

We'll just have to wait to see what the future holds for The Stones - an even bigger bang? ☛



MICK JAGGER AND Keith Richards first met at primary school when they were children. However, it was not until a decade later that the pair began to collaborate musically.

# Sounding

## Off



Last summer I went to see Ted Leo and the Pharmacists. Before the show I had an unequivocal disaster, because that afternoon I had soccer camp, and the St. Louis weather was typical. As far as St. Louis weather is concerned, typical is interchangeable with bad. I got more soaked walking to my car from the Center than I typically do swimming.

I left for the show soaking wet. It was still raining, and I was late. I had hoped to get downtown at about 7 p.m., but the combination of bad weather and downtown Clayton traffic made that impossible. When I arrived at 7:45, I was relieved it wasn't later.

By then, the rain had stopped and my cotton clothes had made a pretense of drying out. Excited, I jumped out of the car, carefully remembering to bring my essentials: cell phone and wallet.

Putting money into the parking meter (in actuality, you don't need to do that after 6 p.m. or something) I glanced over at my car. Sitting on the seat were my keys.

After a good 30 minutes standing alone on the damp streets, I finally managed to get my keys out of the car, and was ready to head to the show. Once I finally got to this point, things couldn't help but go uphill.

There is something unique about live music. From previous experience, I knew that live music is almost always good, the sole exception being a band I saw at the VFW hall in 8<sup>th</sup> grade. I also knew that live music was proof of the power of atmosphere. When it is dark and smoky you can pretend that there is a little more to your life than grade-slavery. Standing in a dark club, and feeling your hearing go, it starts to be too easy to fantasize about writing the most amazing piano ballad of all time. No obstacle seems insurmountable, including the inability to play piano.

The Ted Leo show made me realize there is one more thing unique to live music. Live music has a singular ability to make one ignore, or possibly even embrace, the absolutely disgusting.

Since I was seeing Ted Leo at a small venue, I was smashed up against the stage. This was a mixed blessing, considering I spent a good chunk of time fending off the urge to reach up and grab his shirt/his guitar/him. Still, I felt very intimate with Ted Leo. Especially, when, singing with all the appropriate passion, a huge blob of spit shot from his mouth, hit me in the face.

Turning to my friend, I gushed, "Ted Leo just spit on me!"

Maybe the correct verb tense is spat. I really have no idea. The fact is, I was actually excited that a man spit/spat on me.

I tried to transpose the scene to school. I'm sitting in the front row, and my teacher spits on me. There is nothing romantic or alluring about this situation.

Clearly, seeing live music is a powerful experience, if it makes getting spat on seem desirable and exciting. ☛

# Coldplay give fans great show at recent concert



CHRIS MARTIN HAS an equal sign on his hand to indicate his dedication to promoting free trade. In addition, Coldplay sells free trade shirts at their concerts.

☛ **RACHEL HARRIS**

I had been anticipating this concert for weeks. I am a huge fan of Coldplay's music despite all the criticisms they may get. Let me just say, I think the tickets were worth every penny. There was such anticipation for Coldplay to come on stage that people barely even took notice of Rilo Kiley, the opening band. Sadly but true, they received next to no applause. So when Coldplay finally did appear on stage, the roar from the crowd was deafening.

They began by playing one of their most upbeat songs "Square One" from their newest album. What an opening. I only have one word: lights. The array of lights that illuminated the band throughout the entire concert was amazing. I was so thrilled to have been there, lawn or no lawn, that next to anything they would have done would have enraptured me.

The great thing about Coldplay is that lead singer Chris Martin is obviously the frontman and focal point of the band, but doesn't have a "without me you are nothing" kind of attitude. He seems oddly down to earth despite his high-profile marriage to Oscar-winning actress and American icon Gwyneth Paltrow, and who doesn't enjoy

seeing Martin attack his piano with such vigor that you are afraid for his and everyone in close vicinities safety.

Besides Martin, the other members of the band are incredibly dynamic. Each played a variety of instruments throughout the show including the guitar, drums, piano and harmonica. I know I personally cannot play even one of those proficiently, so being able to not only play one, but three or four is thoroughly amazing.

As a whole, the band members seem to mesh well with each other. They were smiling and playing around with each other while doing the show which made the whole experience more intimate and personal. Although they had cancelled their previous two shows due to illness, they seemed as energetic as ever. The vocals were incredibly solid and flawless despite Martin twirling and dancing throughout the entire show.

We screamed, we applauded, we swayed and the females swooned. I don't know about the actual seats, but every single person on the lawn was swaying together as if hypnotized. Coldplay served up their trademark sounds that every single person present yearned to hear live.

Throughout the show, Coldplay

revealed a number of its idols when the band played "Till Kingdom Come," the hidden track on "X&Y" that Martin said was written in tribute to the late country-music icon Johnny Cash. He then preceded to play "Ring of Fire" and everyone sang along.

Only 45 minutes after they had begun playing, they suddenly disappeared from the stage with a quick goodbye, saying that maybe they would come back, maybe not. Everyone in the audience was baffled and some even started to leave. The crowd started chanting, "Coldplay! Coldplay! Coldplay!" Just as everyone started to pack up their things to go, there was a sudden flash of light. Before you could say "Uno, dos, tres, catorce," Martin was back behind the piano banging out the first notes of "Clocks." Too bad to those who left trying to beat the traffic.

The concert ended with the hypnotic song, "Fix You." Martin swung a huge strung-up white light over his head and catapulted it into the air over the audience before launching into the last lines.

They really pulled out the big guns for this show. It was amazing. ☛



# The Constant Gardener is moving, well directed, fascinating

☛ **MIKE GREGORY**

Big business is in the news a lot these days, most memorably the corporate scandals like Enron. So it's not surprising to find it in books and film. Usually, the stories are about how some rich guy tries to con his own company out of a large sum of money. I don't find that particularly scary. What most of these stories fail to tap into is the potential for crime that is more horrifying than fraud or embezzlement. Thankfully, there are stories like "The Constant Gardener" that recognize this potential.

The story is simple: Justin Quayle (Ralph Fiennes) works for the British government, and his wife Tessa (Rachel Weisz) is an activist. Tessa is murdered; it turns out that she was hiding quite a few secrets, including a possible affair and a dark conspiracy involving...big business. Now Justin is following his wife's footsteps to uncover what really happened and the circumstances around it.

The film is amazing; it has a certain artistic richness that makes up for what appears to be a rather routine plot. But this film is anything but routine. It succeeds in just about everything it sets out to do. It's intelligent, the acting is first-rate, the director is perfect and the entire film is engaging. It's also quite alarming when the viewer understands the potential that big business has for ruthless crime in the name of profit.

The two stars are terrific in roles that stray away from their usual fare. They make it one of those treasured movies that doesn't make viewers feel like they are watching a movie.

Fiennes is one of those actors who, when he's on the screen, is a different person in each film, rather than an actor who says certain lines the way the character would say them. Here again, he proves that he is one of the most under used actors out there. In the beginning of the film he's a rather meek romantic, who is both startled and intrigued by Tessa's in-your-face attitude about getting what she wants, but he

gets stronger as he tries to unravel the mystery.

Rachel Weisz is a stubborn and adamant activist, but she's also human, not a stereotype. She enables herself to be susceptible to the humanness that affects us all. She's obsessed, without having a sole-purpose in life.

Fernando Meirelles was a good choice for a director. He added an artistic richness to the film that I can't really explain. Some movies that depict severely impoverished sequences choose to give the film a grainy look with the accentuated lighting. That wouldn't have served this film well. I felt as if I were sneaking behind closed doors, yet I was still getting the whole picture without having to view it in a way where the images are more brutal than they need to be. Meirelles manages to make it a popcorn flick and an art house film at the same time.

Alas, this film is not perfect. It's a little too full of itself, it's too rich and artsy for the movie that it should be. It could have been just as deep while being simpler. Some of the characters who are talked about a lot but are not onscreen very much are hard to keep straight; this is frustrating if they are crucial to the plot. The film covers up the mess by making the story simple.

This is a good movie. It's a popcorn flick that has what most of the movies out there don't: brains. Better still, it's presented in a way that the viewer doesn't have to be an intellectual to understand it. It's also quite alarming. I don't want to give the plot away, but I will say this: see it, it will definitely be worth your while. ☛



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# Small towns shine with American 'ingenuity'

## A trip through Wisconsin proves that huge fish, lots and lots of tacos and Hummers with names still have a place in this great country of ours.

by JEREMY BLEEKE

In northern Wisconsin, it's every town for itself. As we drove up to the Apostle Islands this summer, I was reminded that desperate times do call for desperate measures. When all you have to show off is a Walgreen's, a Seven Eleven, and a Motel 6, you begin to get creative. This was a world of double takes, a world where you have to be constantly asking yourself things like, "Am I actually looking at a 45-foot tall plastic fish rising out of the ground?" I tightened my seatbelt and readied my camera; this was going to be a bouncy ride.

I knew we had entered unknown territory when we hit Minocqua. It had been a pretty typical car ride up to that point; we had passed farm after farm, and I was beginning to slip into a state of semi-consciousness, when I was jerked back to reality by a monstrously large and stunningly tacky sign. I had found Martha Stewart's worst nightmare.

This spectacular violation of personal space let anyone within a five-mile radius know that Paul Bunyan's Cook Shanty was the place to come for great dining. The sign featured an enormous Paul Bunyan (African elephants could have done the seven-elephant pyramid underneath and still not reached his head) and Babe, his blue ox. As we passed the sign, I was still trying to convince myself that I had just seen a man the size of a five-story building and his ox advertising fried chicken. But as I was about to find out, this was just the beginning.

The surprises just kept on coming, one right after the other. The next three towns- Mercer, Woodruff, and Hayward- all claim to be the sites of the world's largest loon, penny, and musky, respectively. I didn't even know the musky existed until we drove through Hayward. Apparently it's a type of fish that is very common up in those parts. So common in fact, that they felt



"THE MUNCH" HAS sold way way too many tacos

inspired to build a 500-ton, 140-foot long, four-story tall model, with an observation deck in its mouth, and plop it down right in the middle of town. Mercer seemed almost normal in comparison, although the fact that its entire tourism industry revolved around a penny sort of scared me, and Woodruff was a nice place to visit...if you want to see a loon the size of a giraffe, which some people obviously do. As we left the land of the giant musky, I felt that I had seen it all, that nothing could top that. Of course, I was wrong.

The crowning achievement of small towns in northern Wisconsin is without a doubt Hurley. This was a town with attitude. We were low on gas so we stopped to fill up. Across the street was a restaurant "The Munch," which has proudly served over 215,000 tacos (yes, that comma is intentional) since it opened. I got out of the car to go to the bathroom and walked up to the Stop 'n Go. I opened the door and walked in. As I scoured the place looking for the bathrooms, I overheard two locals talking in loud draws.

"So, there were a bunch of babes down at the wet t-shirt contest."

"Awwwww, shoulda checked it out." Momentarily stunned, I quite forgot about my quest for toilets and wandered over to the door. I was lost in a reverie about what desperate straits would drive someone to watch people partying in wet t-shirts when I saw a sight that I am sure will stay with me until I die. A pick-up truck the size of a Hummer jacked way up on monster wheels was cruising down the street. And it didn't stop there...this truck had a name. By the time we left Hurley I had seen The Boss, The Bull, El Castrador, and my personal favorite, The Dictator. Hurley was the last stop on our tour of northern Wisconsin, and as we drove off, I reflected with admiration at the spirit, personality, and originality of small towns with nothing to lose.

# Picture day causes anxiety and bad hair-dos

by KELLY MOFFITT

Since the beginning of time, school children have been set down in front of the big flashing bulb of doom. Told to "smile pretty," they flash their demonic grins and bat their shining eyes at the camera.

Back then, school pictures were about competing to see who had the most missing teeth. For me, however, each year the number of my teeth got smaller, the bow in my hair got larger. In fact, in one picture, I have calculated that my banana yellow bow takes up 99.999999 percent of the picture.

About the fifth grade something snapped in me. My picture was no longer about contributing to grandma's photo collection of grandchildren (aka the 'bragging-rights-about-how-my-grandkids-look-cuter-than-yours fund'), it was all about perfecting the look of a lifetime. Can you imagine me trying to look good for a picture that would be entombed forever in the book of doom; the yearbook?

In the fifth grade I brushed my hair so much before my picture that it actually reflected the camera's flash. Ever since that incident, I have had pictures that just get worse and worse. Take for example my seventh grade photogenic moment of the century: I decided to wear my brown hair down, wear my brown glasses, wear a brown shirt, and get the brown background. Man, that was a chameleon day to remember.

As I reached the eighth grade, I decided to go into full-on prep mode. I bobbed my hair, and wore a collared shirt with, dun dun duh, a SWEATER. Oh no, can you say Abercrombie moment? Well, yes, that one was just too perfect.

That takes me to today, the tenth grade. This year I promised myself that my picture would be perfect. I picked out a "me" outfit and I set out the makeup kit. I took a shower and rinsed my hair with "extra-volumizing" conditioner.

Yeah, those with foresight can see where this is going.

Sadly, I did not. The hour before school pictures I realized my mistake (8th hour by the way). I reached up and ran my hand through my hair. Unfortunately, it stuck there. The conditioner had not washed out and I was stuck with raspberry-scented Dolly-Parton goodness. Frantically, I raced to the bathroom and tried to wash out my hair with sink water. If anything happened, it made me hair problem worse. So, I stood there for five minutes trying out different do's to make my hair not look like a bird had landed in it. Right about the time, I was checking out how my hair would look in a bee-hive up-do, I realized I was late for class. "Oh lord", I thought, "I haven't even checked my teeth for stuff!"

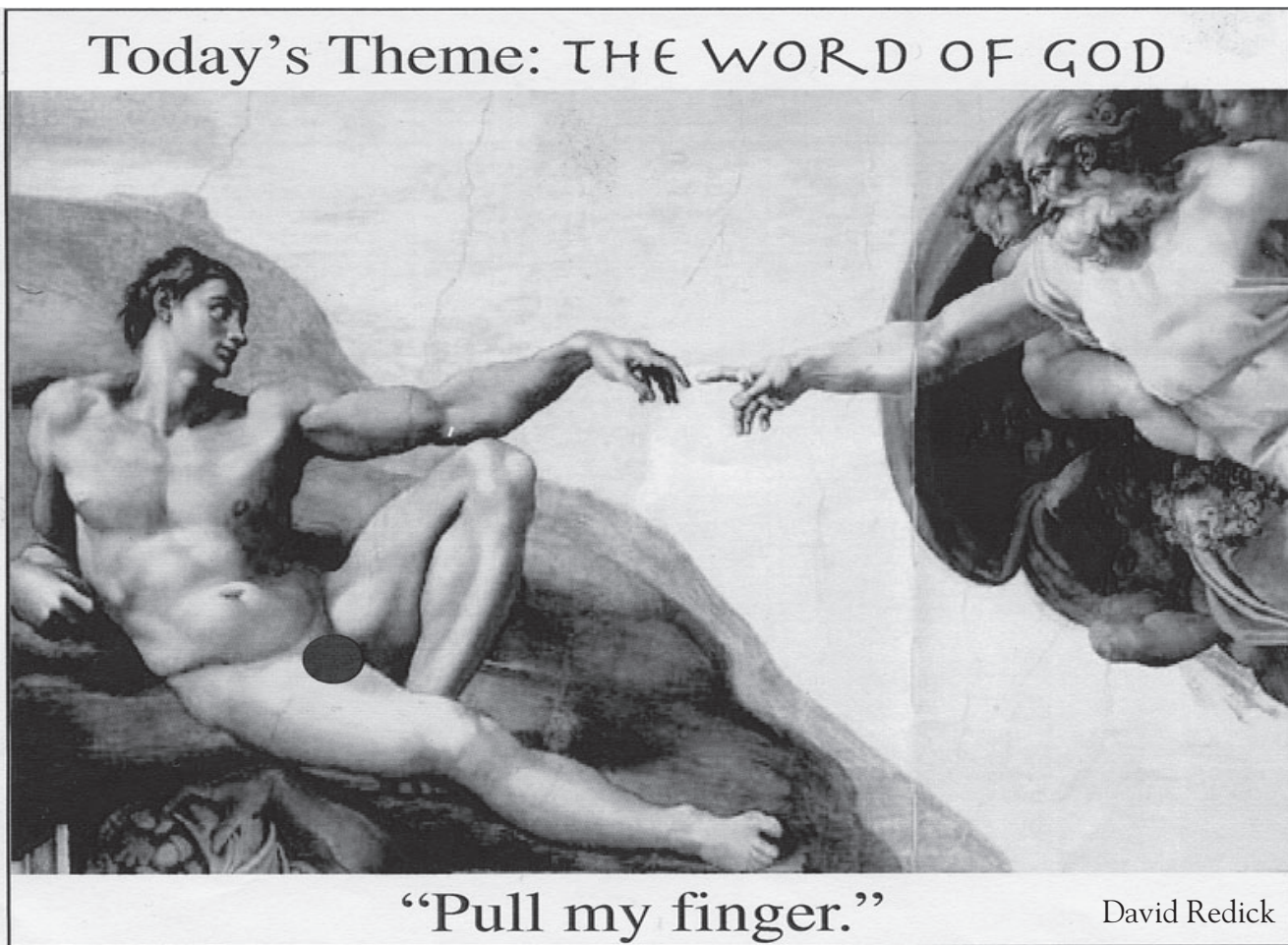
So, in a surge of great speed and grace I ran for my eighth hour class, cough cough. They actually wanted me to sit through the entire class thinking about symbolism. Ha! I believe the entire time I was thinking about how to escape from the class, run down to the nearest salon, get my hair sprayed and blow-dried, and get back before anyone would realize I had left. I couldn't come up with any good ideas, so I ended up in line with all my class waiting for my death by picture.

Needless to say, when I got my picture taken I was all nerves. I was ready to flash my most winning-est smile to divert all attention away from my otherwise hideous appearance. Right as she was about to take the picture, the photographer said something. I replied. The moment I replied, she took the picture. I don't even have to see it to know how horrible I looked.

Sometimes, I find myself wishing I was little again. I wish I still had the ability to not care what everyone thinks about how I look in the yearbook. I thought I did everything right for my picture. Turns out, the only thing I could have done was actually be myself. My younger pictures are a testament to that. Now, I realize, I will just be the girl in the yearbook who tries to be what she's not. Lucky for me, there are always retakes.

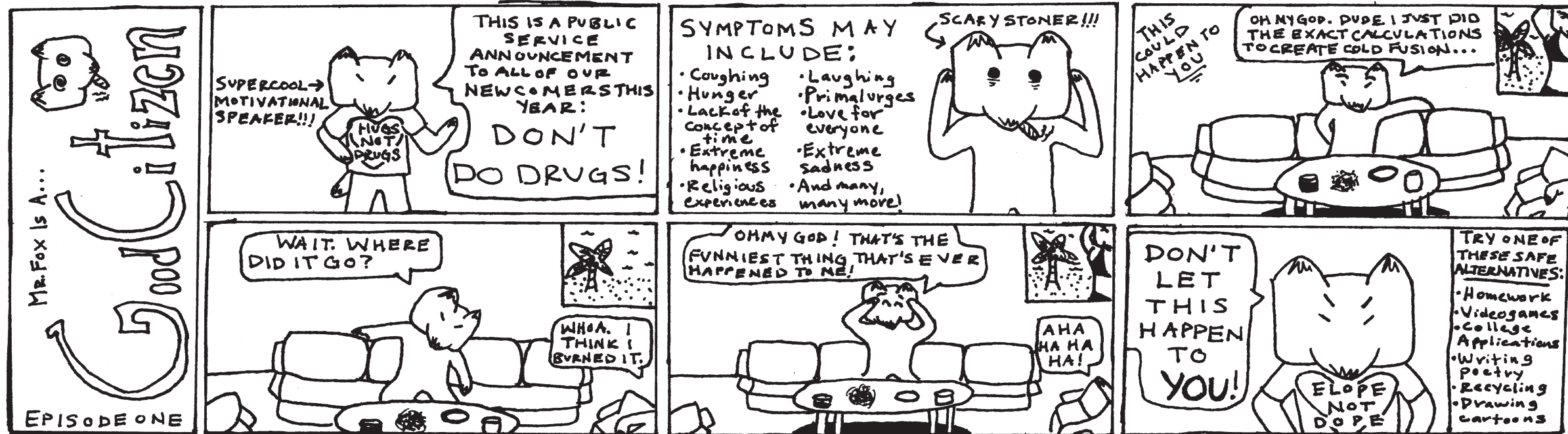


KELLY MOFFITT

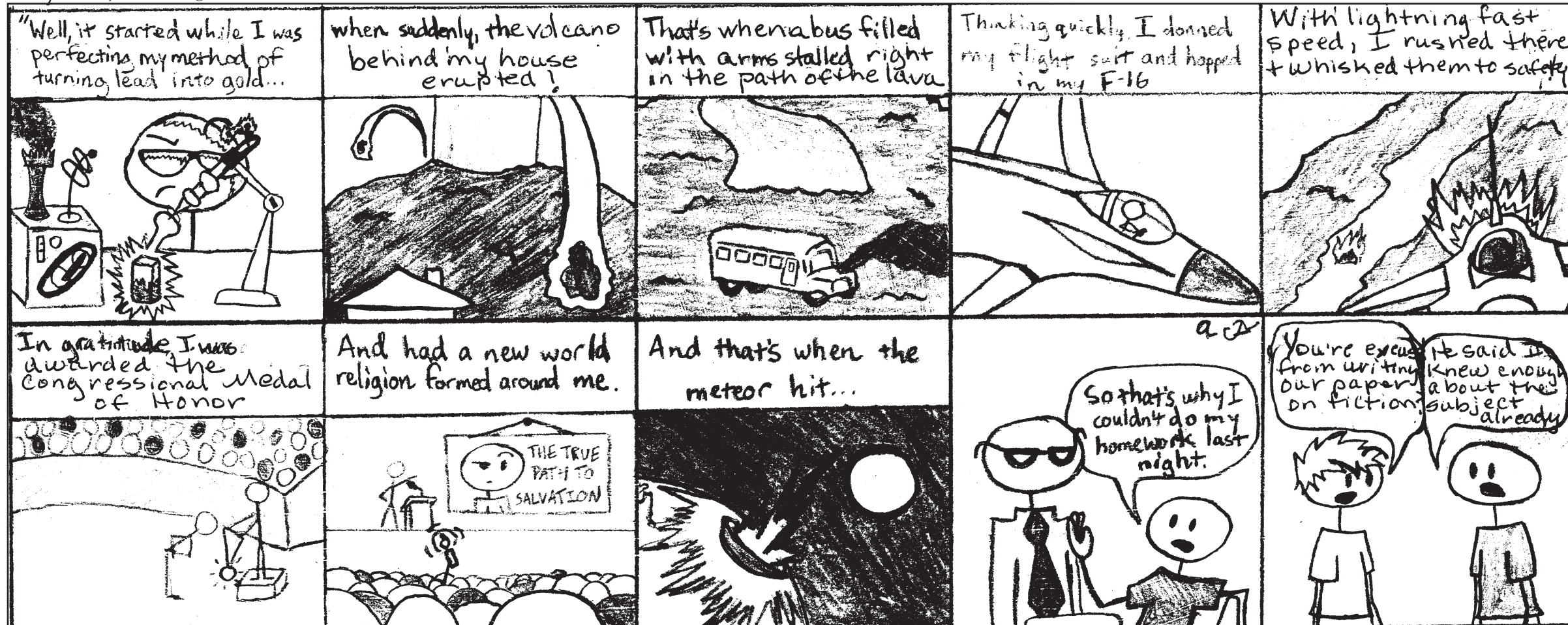


David Redick

# Good Citizen by Brittney Dennison



# Styx by Alex Ferguson







Senior Kelly Pappageorge, freshman Rebecca Singer and senior Amber Engh look over the pages of the musical they wrote in less than 24 hours. Despite students' skepticism, the 24-Hour Musical exceeded expectations. "I was tired and overworked but I had fun," senior Brandon Burton said. "It was awesome, and I want to do it again."

# All in a day's work

CHS' first 24-Hour Musical was a popular success, ultimately raising approximately \$2,000 for hurricane relief.

by KATIE SMITH

Most school musicals involve weeks, or even months, of rehearsals, but on Sept. 16 and 17, CHS students participated in a 24-Hour Musical, sponsored by the performing arts departments.

During the 24 hours, from 7 p.m. Friday to 7 p.m. Saturday, students created four original musicals and prepared to perform them.

The 24-Hour Musical was held in order to encourage student leaders in programs such as the Performing Arts Leadership Seminar (P.A.L.S.) and because the performing arts departments had been wanting to put on a 24-Hour Musical for some years.

It also acted as a type of "boot camp" for performing arts students.

Teachers from the theatre and music departments stayed throughout the 24 hours in order to help the students write, compose and direct the musicals to the best of their abilities.

Drama teacher Kelley Ryan also invited actors and directors from the community to give workshops on topics ranging from better directing to staging combat techniques.

The idea for the 24-Hour Musical originally stemmed from ideas produced in the United States' center for stage theatre, New York City. In NYC, professional playwrights, directors and actors would have 24 hours to write, cast, direct, and rehearse an original 10-minute play, often to raise money for charities.

Famous names involved in 24-hour plays include Robert DeNiro and Meryl Streep. As well as the idea for the 24-Hour Musical, other intensive, creative projects have been done, such as 24-hour films.

"We're hoping that this is the first of many years of doing something like this," Ryan said. "It's going to be a lot of fun. A lot of work is going into this, both from teachers and students. We're scared but excited."

In total, at least 85 teachers, students, and community members stayed in CHS throughout the night, surviving on few hours of sleep, as well as a lot of caffeine. Energy drinks, as well as caffeinated beverages, could be seen throughout

the school as students and adults alike stayed up into the wee morning hours preparing for Saturday night's performance.

The time was split up into two major sections: for the first 12 hours, directors, writers and musicians worked on preparing the musicals themselves, while the actors and tech crew spent the evening watching movies, eating and listening to music.

Then, at about 6 a.m., the actors began warm-ups to get ready for the long hours of practice ahead of them.

During this time, senior Chelsea Smith, the choreographer, went around to the four groups, teaching the actors simple dance moves depending on the type of music the musicians had written for the musical.

Students' expectations before the 24-Hour Musical began were generally similar: they didn't know what to expect.

Senior Kelly Pappageorge was an actress in the musical "Love and Lost," also known as "Book Club."

"[I thought] we weren't going to be able to put it on," Pappageorge said.

Senior Brandon Burton was a percussionist in three of the musicals.

"I thought we would be tired and overworked," Burton said.

However, by the end of Saturday, many students had changed their minds.

"I really liked being able to be locked in with all my peers for 24 hours," Pappageorge said. "I feel energized and so proud of my classmates. I would do this again in a second."

Burton agreed that everything went better than he had expected.

"I was tired and overworked, but I had fun," Burton said. "It was awesome, and I want to do it again."

The general feel of the students was that the weekend had been a great success. It was also a success for the victims of Hurricane Katrina: all money earned through ticket sales and community sponsors will go directly to the Red Cross for hurricane relief.

"It's really becoming a benefit performance," Ryan said.

Ticket sales alone earned over \$1,000 on Saturday, while donations accounted for another \$1,000. In all, a day well spent.

*I really liked being able to be locked in with all my peers for 24 hours. I feel energized and so proud of my classmates. I would do this again in a second.*

senior  
**KELLY PAPPAGEORGE**



ABOVE LEFT: JUNIOR Christine Ford practices the piano accompaniments to one of the four student-created musicals. Above right: Freshman Claire Samuel takes a break from rehearsing for breakfast. Below: Freshman Caitlin Bladt and sophomore Zakary Littrell attempt to catch a few hours of sleep before continuing work on their productions.

