



Volume 64 | St. Teresa's Academy | December 9, 2004 | Kansas City, Missouri | Issue 3 •

Students turn to cheating as finals loom

According to a survey of 100 girls at STA, these are the most popular ways to

The Ways of Cheaters

- The Internet Leaving a notebook open to
- notes underneath a desk Writing notes on thighs underneath their skirt
- Picture phones/text messaging Writing notes underneath a calculator lid/programming
- answers in calculator Writing on paper and putting it inside a see-through pen
- Writing answers on a rubber band/eraser Writing answers on gum
- Tapping a certain number of times for a certain answer
- Paper clipping the answers underneath their skirt
- Writing answers on the inside of water bottle labels
- Asking a friend in an earlier class

Recent survey finds over 80 percent of student body admits to being guilty

Ann Langworthy **Managing Editor**

With finals approaching, many students are beginning to prepare for their upcoming tests. Many are not. Cheating has become commonplace in middle schools through colleges across the nation. Even students at STA are willing to compromise their morals to achieve that perfect score. Many educators worry cheating has become an epidemic. A recent national survey by Rutgers' Management Education Center of 4,500 high school students found that 75 percent of them have taken part in serious cheating.

Recently the Dart surveyed more than a 100 STA students regarding

their cheating habits. Eighty-four percent confessed to cheating on homework or class-work at STA. Forty percent of STA students admitted to cheating on tests or finals. Only 3 percent of the admitted cheaters reported being caught or punished.

"I'm very realistic," said Ms. Nancy Hand, principal of academic affairs. "[Cheating] is a fact of life. I'd like to be able to say that our kids are perfect. But, I don't think these are incredibly high numbers in comparison to other schools."

While 87 percent of students reported they felt cheating was unacceptable, there are some students who disagree.

"I've never felt guilty about

cheating," said Susie Smith, senior at STA whose name has been changed for this article. "I don't think I have a conscience. Everybody has cheated at least once in their life. I pride myself that I have never been caught."

More than 86 percent of students said that academic pressure is the number one reason behind cheating. Students compromise their morals to meet the high standards of teachers, parents and colleges.

"Students are under tremendous pressure," said Hand. "They have so much on their plate and they think [cheating] is what they have to do. They just think of the final benefit."

Students confessed other reasons behind cheating to be laziness and

not enough time to study or complete assignments.

"I can definitely see students cheating on homework," said Ms. Kjersten Metzler, chemistry teacher. "I don't like it, but I can see it. I'd like to think students don't cheat on my tests."

Some students have different philosophies.

"I cheat more on tests or finals," said Smith. "They are worth more points and easier to cheat. With homework you have to reword it, which takes too much work."

The most popular method of cheating among students who

See CHEATING, page 2

Federal law defines education standard

Chandler Domian Staff Writer

The No Child Left Behind law, implemented in 2002 by the federal government, is creating nationwide controversy as some recognize a sharp contrast between the intentions and implications of the law. As stated by the law, all children should be proficient in reading and math by 2014.

According to Kansas City, Missouri School District board member Ms. Ingrid Burnett, No Child Left Behind has a good premise, and is well-intended, but is not well thought-out.

"It is not possible; it is not a realistic goal," said Burnett. "There are going to be children who will not reach the developmental stage to understand key concepts."

According to President George W. Bush in a 2002 presentation, the No Child Left Behind law is meant to improve public schools through real accountability, unprecedented flexibility for states and school districts, greater local control, more options for parents and more funding for what

Burnett said that schools that do not meet adequate yearly progress are not supplied with proper funding to make necessary changes. She also believes that although the law is supposed to give more control to state governments, a school gets taken over by a governmental agency when they face sanctions for not meeting require-

"The bill is over 1,000 pages long, and within it, there is a lot of conflicting regulation," Burnett said. "The bill gives more control to local districts, however, when you start bumping up these regulations anytime you are talking about the removal of funding the control is back on the federal government."

Under certain sanctions, schools must give students the option to transfer to better-performing schools in the district, offer tutorial services and in cases where the school has not met Adequate Yearly Progress for four years or more, the school must replace staff, change curriculum and extend the school day or school year.

Forty schools within the Kansas Cit, Missouri School District, including 13 of the 17 charter schools, have not achieved Adequate Yearly Progress for two or more years. Paseo

Season brings charity to mind



Nicole Farley

A Plaza shopper places his contribution inside a Salvation Army kettle on Nov. 27. Proceeds from kettles located all around the Metro are expected to amount for \$1 million of the organization's \$4.2 million seasonal goal.

Nicole Farley Staff Writer

On the Saturday morning after Thanksgiving, shoppers hustle by on Plaza sidewalks, carrying bags full of bright packages for their family and friends. Decked in Salvation Army aprons, Danny and Debbie Kohrs stand outside of Barnes & Noble with their daughter Kayla, on her 2nd birthday, ringing their bells in the late-November air. They wait for someone to stop for a few seconds to drop a coin or two in the red kettle, be greeted by a wish of "Merry Christmas" and make a difference in the life of someone less fortunate.

Over 800 million of these "less fortunate" people will go to bed hungry

every night, according to the Solcom House web-site. About 24 thousand people die from hunger-related problems each day, averaging out to approximately one person every 3.5 seconds. Yet, Solcom House also reports that there is an abundance of food in the world meaning enough food to properly feed each person daily.

The National Coalition for the Homeless reported that, in a 2003 survey of 25 American cities, the US Conference of Mayors found that 40 percent of homeless people are families. The 2001 version of this survey found that children under the age of 18 made up about 25 percent of the urban homeless population. Unaccompanied minors

made up about four percent of the same

Some may wonder what they could do to make a difference. Junior Rachel Somodi, who volunteers at area organizations such as the Kansas City Rescue Mission, a homeless shelter for men, said that fear can often be a factor in keeping people from volunteering.

"A lot of girls, I can imagine, are probably either scared or just alienated to [volunteering]," said Somodi. "They don't know what it's like, so they probably make assumptions."

Junior Hannah Moore, who works with assorted charitable groups both inside and outside of STA, agrees that some teens don't think enough about

volunteer work.

"There are a lot of teenagers that really feel the need to get out there and help other people," she said. "And then there are a lot of people that don't even care."

Volunteering becomes a requirement for students during their junior and senior years at STA. She said that the projects may even be able to encourage girls to continue volunteering after they have completed their obligatory time.

"If they realized that it was cool...or they found something they liked... then they might want to further go into that kind of thing, or volunteer somewhere," said Somodi.

Moore says that the satisfaction she gains is not always instantaneous. However, she says it is there, through her participation in activities like Food for Thought, an annual food drive that STA students participate in.

"I never feel [soon after volunteering] like, 'Oh, I'm so glad I did this," said Moore. "It's usually a little bit afterwards, and I had time to reflect on something I've done, like Food for Thought... now that I can kind of think about it, and think about how many people were helped by that food, it means more to me now than it did right after."

Options for volunteer opportunities vary. Food drives are available through different organizations, such as Harvesters. Area food kitchens and homeless shelters, like the Kansas City Rescue Mission, need volunteers to help serve meals. These groups are in need of food and monetary donations.

More opportunities are available during the holiday season. Heart of America's United Way sponsors Project Warmth, a program that collects coats for the needy.

The Salvation Army sets a goal for the amount of money they wish to raise in each holiday season. This season, the goal is \$4.2 million. Representative Sally Zahner said that about \$1 million of this is expected to come from bell-ringers. The bell-ringers work until Dec. 24, and Zahner says volunteers are still severely needed. Yet she remains confident.

"Kansas City has always come through for us," she said.

Somodi believes that volunteers are necessary because, otherwise, no one will be helping the people in need.

"You really are helping them, in a big way," she said. "[Serving food is] something you see as so small, but... if people didn't come to KC Rescue Mission and [places] like that, and volunteer to do just that one thing then it wouldn't get done. And they wouldn't have food, or they'd be cold, or they wouldn't have a place to stay."

See EDUCATION, page 2

OVER**HEARD**: Round II
Teachers

Ann Stacy Editor-in-Chief



Throughout my hree year and four nonth career at the îne Academy I have ealized many Truths. The seal is slippery when wet. If you are rying to get rid of food there are always

at least five girls who will be willing to take it. The tampon machines are never full. The acoustics in the auditorium can carry a conversation from the front row to the back row. More than 15 flights of treacherous stairs produce more than 500 pairs of toned calf muscles. One Truth that I have learned better than the others, thanks in part to my adventures with OverHeard, is that STA girls say some pretty crazy things. As we all know though, girls are not the only inhabitants of this school. We can't forget those other people.

The ones who stand in front of the desks instead of sit in them. The ones who have the power of pop quizzes, in-class essays and SBRs. The ones whose wardrobes include cute skirts or dress pants rather than plaid skirts and auction pants. They are los maestros, les professeurs...the teachers. And yes, like their students, they have some wild and crazy things to say.

While recently filling out the "Quote me" section of my senior grid sheet for the yearbook, I pondered what some of our trusty STA teachers would write for themselves in that box. After all, we all know that the teachers have goofy signature phrases that, over the years, have come to define each teacher as much as the subject he or she teaches.

Since most STA girls like to talk. even sometimes when they're not supposed to, a normal part of every teachers' vocabulary is some form disciplinary warning such as "All right, ladies, that's enough," "Heeeyy girls" and "Come on guys. Let's quiet down **now.**" Teachers use a variety of tones, each indicating different levels of severity, when manipulating these regulatory phrases. Most of the time they do the trick. But when they don't, teachers search for alternate solutions.

"Girls, I'm bringing out the SBRs," a teacher told her class, "and I'm ready to sign 'em and hand 'em out." "The next person who talks gets a detention," a teacher said, clearly laying the

Teachers do what it sounds like they do: they teach. They teach us about important life lessons, dates in history a product of teaching is a person about whom STA girls learn early on. She's a girl who has truly lived the STA life. In fact, she must have flunked, and continue to flunk, every year of high school because she's been around for many years. And without one of STA's finest,

students would know nothing about her "Sally Joe Rogers" a teacher said, uncovering the greatness of this girl. Teachers' passion for the subjects they teach is apparent in a variety of ways. For example, when they whip out those crazy science or history jokes or when they hold classes late while discussing some great novelist of our time. Or perhaps it is best shown in the enthusiasm they bring to STA, both

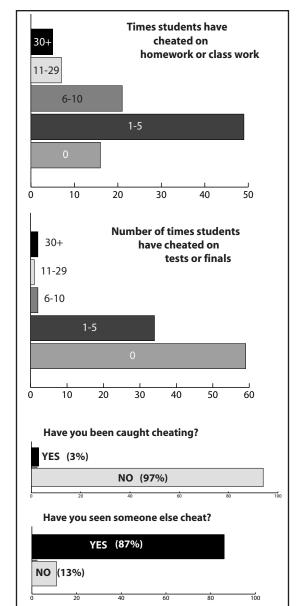
inside and outside of the classroom. "So that problem is looking pretty groovy," a math teacher told her class. "Salu," (bless you) a Spanish teacher said to a student who had sneezed, not

in class, but in a free. Maybe teachers say some of the crazy things that they do because their students drive them to near-insanity and thus, to say them. Although this possibility sounds valid, I'd like to think there's another reason. Maybe teachers use their token phrases because, if they didn't, STA just wouldn't be STA At least for me, there are some that I couldn't go on attending STA without.

"I'm going to make an announcement in about 30 seconds."

CHEATING: Origins trace back to elementary school,

THE RESULTS



Continued from page 1 participated in the survey was simply copying off a classmate's paper or asking a peer for the answer. Yet students reported a variety of other cheating tactics

and techniques. "If it's the night before and I'm feeling like I don't know the material well enough, I write out a cheat sheet," said Smith. "I just write very small on a piece of paper preferably white nothing too eye-catching."

The writing-on-the-leg method is another popular form of cheating at STA, simply because it is easy, effective and difficult for teachers to discover. Several local high schools, including Shawnee Mission East, have adjusted their policies to prohibit girls from wearing skirts on test days.

Many teachers use Scantrons. multiple choice answer sheets that are graded by a machine, for large quizzes or tests. Students reported that when a Scantron is covered in lip balm, the machine's laser is blocked and all answers are counted correct. The Dart tested this cheating method on STA's own scantron machine. When the black strips on the left-hand side were covered with chapstick, the answers were still marked wrong. However, if the large black squares at the top and the bottom of the strip

were covered, no answers were

marked wrong or correct. The entire sheet was not scored. Or if a student really wants to wreak havoc, the answer key bubble can be shaded at the top, throwing off the entire grading.

Cheating occurs outside the classroom as well. Approximately 63 percent of STA students reported using summary lecture note sites, such as SparkNotes, to get around assigned reading. For one student, the origins of

her cheating can be traced back to elementary school. "I probably began [cheating] in sixth grade," said Smith. "I found it easier than studying it just

Donald McCabe, the founder

kinda happened.'

of the Center for Academic Integrity, said in an interview with the Washington Post. ".. cheating is starting younger in elementary school in fact. And by the time students hit middle and high school, cheating is, for many, like gym class and lunch period, just part of the fabric of how things are...What's changed is technology. It's made cheating so easy. And the vast realms of information on the truly, worldwide Web are so readily available. Who could resist?

With the recent growth of technology, information has become more assessable via the Internet. Today there are more than 20 websites that offer downloadable term papers and

levels in communication arts, and 10.

percent had to score proficient or

advanced in math. These standards

increase to 38.8 percent in communi-

cation arts and 31.1 percent in math

increase until 2014, when the law ex-

pects all students in the United States

to be proficient in reading and math.

Kansas City Star, the Department of

Elementary and Secondary education

According to a Nov. 5 article in the

on Nov. 4 cited Kansas City schools

considered proficient on the Missour

In order to improve the schools, the

Kansas City, Missouri school district

has made systemic changes includ-

ing implementing Achievement First

which restructures high schools into

small communities to make sure stu-

dents are meeting requirements. The

district has also implemented reading

and math programs in elementary

school programs free of charge.

and middle schools, and offers after-

"The result [of No Child Left

really don't know what that means,'

let. There is no formula for making

students perform well."

Behind] is a nice mantra, but we

that did not have a single student

Assessment Program test.

next year. Percentages continue to

topics. If one can't find your assignment on the list he or she can order a personalized essay. Most of these sites are members only with a monthly fee, but allow students to pay by the paper. The cost can range from \$5 per page to a per paper charge of \$500 for highly specialized topics, plus delivery charges.

"Many students don't think of plagiarism as actually cheating," said Hand. "That's becoming a huge problem in society. I believe that our greatest challenge as teachers is instructing students how to read and put material into their own words."

If a student is caught cheating at STA, they are given a Category II Student Behavior Report and a zero on the assignment. If caught ten times, she would be expelled. "No one has been asked to

been here," said Hand. Students have found ways to avoid the system. "I usually try to sit in the back," said Smith. "Most teachers sit in the front of the classroom and won't move or

walk around, so it's easy.'

leave due to cheating since I've

"I have caught some people cheating," said Mr. Michael Schroer, biology teacher. "Usually I try to talk to students about it. One of my classic sermons is 'If you were under the knife of a brain surgeon, would you want one that cheated on a test?""

EDUCATION: No Child Left Behind Law leaves some questioning

Continued from page 1

Academy of the Visual and Performing Arts has failed to make Adequate Yearly Progress for four consecutive According to an article in the Nov. 5 issue of the Kansas City Star, if the school does not make the goals next year, the school might be converted into a charter school or have a private management firm take control, which would replace most of the school staff and take the school from the district.

According to Burnett, the No Child Left Behind law becomes harmful when it places sanctions on schools. This ostracizes the subgroups of students who fail to make the progess. She suggests that the test scores should be used to determine how the schools are delivering their service

"To use the subgroup scores and create divisions within the community is wrong," Burnett said. "Those students are stigmatized because they don't meet Adequate Yearly Progress. When a group is not making Adequate Yearly Progress, we should focus resources on bringing in community agencies for support, to determine causes and to provide incentives to help do that. Then the community would be coming around to solve the

problem instead of blaming." Before No Child Left Behind, students in the Kansas City, Missouri School District were evaluated in communication arts, science, social studies and math. The focus in classrooms since the No Child Left Behind law was implemented is teaching material that will help the students reach proficiency on the tests. According to Burnett, many schools have dropped fine arts programs completely in order to concentrate attention and funding

on math and english. Editor of Rethinking Schools magazine, Mr. Stan Karp, discussed the implications of the No Child Left Behind act in a Nov. 7, 2003 meeting with the Portland, Oregon Rethinking

"No Child Left Behind moves con trol over curriculum and instructional issues away from teachers, classrooms, schools and local districts where it should be, and puts it in the hands of state and federal education bureaucracies and politicians," Karp said.

"High-stakes tests push struggling students out of school; they promote tracking; they encourage schools to adopt inappropriate practices for young children, children with special needs and English language learners.' President Bush counters Karp's views of evaluating children based on testing in a statement on the No Child Left Behind website.

"Accountability is an exercise in hope," Bush said. "When we raise academic standards, children raise

their academic sights.' No Child Left Behind applies only to Title I schools, which are schools that receive federal funding for students at risk for falling behind academically. According to the United States General Accounting Office, atrisk students are those with low academic achievement attending schools serving high-poverty areas. Every school district receiving Title I funds must meet Adequate Yearly Progress.

As stated at the February 2003 National Title I Directors' Conference each state must develop and implement a statewide accountability system that ensures that all local educational agencies, public elementary and secondary schools make Adequate Yearly Progress. In Missouri, the Missouri Assessment Program test is used to determine whether students are meeting the accountability standards under No Child Left Behind.

In order for a school in Missouri to achieve Adequate Yearly Progress for 2004, 20.4 percent of students within each subgroup of a school had to score at the proficient or advanced

Missouri Adequate Yearly Progress for 2004

Schools	Number of Schools	Met	% Met	Not Met	% Not Met
Title I schools in MO	1,164	783	67.3	381	32.7
KCMO Public Schools	73	46	63	27	37
KCMO charter schools	17	4	24	13	76

edition of the Kansas City Star

Stalking Your Crush By: Leslie Herring 10. Your first name and his last name

Top Ten Signs You Are

ook fabulous together 9. *67 is you mantra

8. You drive by his house every hance you get, even though it's thirty ninutes out of the way 7. You know his favorite bands and

ou start to love them too, so what if ou've always hated country music 6. You have memorized the pages that contain his pictures in the yearbook

5. He has a hot voice when he anwers the telephone for the third time knowing that the person on the other line will immediately hang up (he's even polite enough to continue to answer it) 4. He starts to recognize you, and the

only time you have ever seen each other, you were behind the wheel of a car 3. You have pulled into his driveway at night to "turn around"

2. His jersey number is 17, he plays left wing, his next game is Monday night at 6:30 but he won't be starting like usual because he missed practice last Thursday due to a sinus infection

Burnett said. "There is no magic bul-1. That restraining order expires in wo months, three weeks, four days, and exactly six hours.

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Letters Policy: The Dart encourages letters to the editor. All letters are to be submitted to Mr. Eric Thomas in Music & Art 205. If a letter is to be considered for publication, it must be typed and signed by the author. The author's name may be withheld upon request.

Auction a night of fun to remember



An auctioneer, from left, Dr. Faith Wilson, Ms. Anita Reznicek, Ms. Denise Rueschhoff and Mr. Larry Moore receive donations from the audience to provide more technology for students.

Molly Huber Copy Editor

The STA Auction, "Proud Heritage. Bright Future," was held Nov. 20 and raised over \$400,000 for the school. There were 492 parents, alumnae and friends of the school in attendance to bid on over 600 gifts and to enjoy an evening of food, fun and

Preparation for the auction began months before the event itself and was kicked off at the beginning of October with the Auction pep rally. There, male teachers dressed up as STA students and performed a skit inspired by the movie "Mean Girls" in hopes of encouraging the student body to sell raffle tickets for the auction.

"I dressed up as a girl," said STA teacher Mr. Craig Whitney. "It was no big deal because it was for a good cause. I took one for the team."

"Sell Tickets Aggressively" became the raffle slogan and was popularized by Mrs.

Pete Hutchison, father of freshman Mary Clara, whose voice could be heard over the announcements each week promoting the sell of raffle tickets and reminding students of prizes that were up for grabs. After the tickets were sold and the gym

Doubtfire impersonator and raffle dad Mr.

was decorated by Harvest Production Company, it was time for the auction to begin. The evening commenced at 5 p.m. with a preview of Auction items and complimentary cocktails. Garozzo's Ristorante served a gourmet dinner of beef spiedini bordelaise and salmon diablo at 7 p.m., following the opening prayer. "People loved the food," said Auction

chairperson Mr. Bob McShane. "It was delicious, everyone raved about it. It was wellpresented, hot and delicious." The Live Auction began at 8 p.m. with Mr.

Larry Moore of KMBC-TV as the guest auctioneer and Master of Ceremonies. Auctioneer George Nigro and Auctioneer Assistants

to happen for a long time.'

David Nigro, Ron Stricker and Toby Tyler were also present to aid in the execution of the Live Auction. High-bid Auction gifts included a trip to Ireland, a dinner for eight served in your home by Michael and Maggie Garozzo, a Sony plasma TV, an aquamarine pendant, a vespa and various other tickets and travel packages.

One of the most coveted prizes was an eight-ten week old registered male chocolate Labrador puppy. The bidding started at \$500 and there were approximately 25 bids made before a winner was named. Ms. Pat Donnelly, an STA alumna and past STA parent, and her husband George won the lab with a bid of \$1,700.

which served as the grand finale to the Live Auction, was the "Car Tuition or Cash" raffle. The winner of the drawing had a choice of a 36-month lease of a 2004 Nissan Xterra 4x4 SUV, courtesy of Dale Martens Nis-

The highlight of the evening however,

\$10,000 in cash. The winner was Ms. Helen Fagan, mother of STA alumnae Molly, Eileen, Jane, Bridget and Anne and grandmother of sophomore Abby Fagan. She chose to take home the \$10,000 in cash. The auction was dedicated to the mem-

ory of Sister Barbara Verheyen, who passed away in January 2004. "...I always feel her presence most especially at auction time," said president of STA

Dr. Faith Wilson in a letter that appeared in this year's Auction catalogue. "She loved a party...This year's auction would have Benefactors to the auction included DST

Systems, Inc., Orscheln Industries, Inc. and the Fahev Family Foundation, among over 100 other contributors. Auction chairpersons Jeff and Duffy Clayton, Jon and Barb Haden and Bob and Dodie McShane headed the event. Raffle chairpersons were Bret and Cris Devine and Anne and Vince

Alleged murderer found

Alex Hercules **Co-Sports Editor**

In Connecticut, Benjamin Appleby was arrested for the attempted rape and murder of Ali Kemp, a 19-year old who worked at a Leawood pool. Appleby was arrested on Nov. 8 for suspi cion of being involved in a 1997 incident in Connecticut. Detectives from Leawood flew to Connecticut to question Appleby

where he said things that led them to

believe he was involved in the Kemp

Police said that a Leawood hotline received a tip that Appleby looked like a composite of the killer. The composite was created from an eyewitness who saw a man leave the pool around the time that Ali Kemp was murdered.

"Appleby could face the death penalty," said Johnson County District Attorney Paul Morrison to the Kansas City Star. "His bond will be set at \$1 million."

[She was] just a little girl minding her own business and a perpetrator went after her.

-Roger Kemp

Ali's father, Roger Kemp, worked with authorities in order to find the perpe trator. Together they set up a \$50,000 reward, showed the case on "America's Most Wanted," and had advertisements in USA Today.

'[She was] just a little girl minding her own business and a perpetrator went after her," said Rodger Kemp to KCTV5. "I think that gets to people."

Ali Kemp was murdered June 18, 2002 t 2 p.m. while working at a Leawood pool. Kemp was working at a neighborhood pool that was only a mile from her home when a man attacked her. The man managed to get Kemp into the pump room where he beat her and allegedly strangled Kemp to death. Around 5 p.m Ali's brother arrived at the pool to take over her shift. When he couldn't find Ali he called his father. Roger Kemp was the one who found Ali, dead in the pump

Last Friday Appleby's trail began. Appleby has confessed to the murder and expected to receive the death penalty

Appleby's father expressed his con erns to the Kemp family when he was alking to KMBC.

elections take place," he said.

the Middle East.'

"It's tragic," said Gary Appleby They're going to have to go through it all

Some people believe that if Afghanistan

and Iraq are democratized, the rest of the

"That's exactly what President Bush

wants to achieve," said Moran. "He wants

Afghanistan and Iraq to be models of de-

mocracy, to have a ripple effect a domino

effect you might call it - to have an effect in

simplistic" for him to believe, but that if

there were democracy in Iraq, it could serve

Hafez said that a domino effect was "too

Middle East will eventually succumb to

Iraq elections to expand democracy in Middle East

Colleen Slentz Staff Writer

Democracy is rare in the Middle East, but the Iraqi elections are challenging the idea that democracy conflicts with the region's political ideologies.

"I think it's a good start," said Dr. Charles Moran, chairman of the department of political science at Rockhurst University. "It won't be perfect, but if they even approach what was accomplished in Afghanistan several months ago, it will be significant for

Moran said that the elections in Afghanistan were a success. The Taliban failed to make good on its threats to upset the election, there was a high turnout and a high percentage of women voted. "You don't have division resulting from the election," he said. "You have a certain amount of unity from it."

The situation in Iraq is different. Sunni clerics have called for a boycott of the election, and there is concern that holding elections will be too difficult in certain war-torn

"If Americans are fighting in the Sunni Triangle, elections shouldn't take place," said Dr. Mohammed Hafez, author of Why Muslims Rebel and visiting professor at UMKC. "Violence is expected, but a few incidents here and there. I think the Iraqis are looking for a change, are looking for stability." When asked if the Iraq elections would

be a success, Hafez said, "It depends on who are the political candidates. Will the Sunnis feel that their process is legitimate? If they decide that it's not, it's going to be a big failure. Convince the Sunnis it's in their interests."

Neither Moran nor Hafez believed that elections would mean automatic democracy

I think everyone should support the goal, if "The key thing is to have vibrant political you say it's not realistic."

parties that don't just represent their own sect or their own plan, but parties that try to formulate a political program that represents all of Iraq," said Hafez. "And that's not going

To date, there are 126 parties and individuals approved to run for the national assembly, a

BGYPT

SUDAN

18 provincial councils. "To be honest, I don't know why elections are being pushed," said Hafez. "I think other than election what would be a good idea would a transition

government

parliament for

the Kurdish

region, and

to create inpress, economic development. Once you have those in place, then you can talk about

The interim government in Iraq has been in place since June 30, and to set the elections just seven months later, Hafez said, "is being too optimistic and maybe even naïve." Moran thought differently.

"I'd say it's very ambitious," he said about the elections. "But you've got to have a plan

The elections in Iraq are a part of the plan to democratize that country, and maybe East, two countries are democracies by

SAUDO ARABOA

Graphic by Colleen Slentz

systems in the rest of the Middle East. Ac-

cording to Hafez's system of grouping the

Middle Eastern governments, Syria, Saudi

Arabia, Tunisia and Libya can all be loosely

grouped together as dictatorial repressive re-

gimes, such as Saddam Hussein's in pre-war

Iraq. Then there are the semi-authoritarian

tions and political representation into their

overnment, but are dominated by a strong

regimes, which incorporate some elec-

even the entire region. In the entire Middle Western standards: Israel and Turkey. "And even those have their problems," said Hafez. There are, however, a variety of political

IRAN

Morocco and Algeria.

Last are semi-democratic governments, which include some loose forms of democratic participation but are not fully democratic like the United States or many European countries. This is because the political process is still greatly manipulated by either military or political powers. Such gov-

SEMI-DEMOCRATIO

SEMI-AUTHORITARIAN

TRANSITIONAL

curs, their days are numbered."

want Iraq to be a model because if that oc-

cratic measures being taken in the Middle

East, although he does not know whether

it is a result of what is happening in Iraq or

bia, for instance, where you see some local

"You're seeing this happen in Saudi Ara-

Hafez said that he does see some demo-

ernments include those of Lebanon and Bahrain. So how do these countries eel about democ

of the govern-

around Iraq do

not want us to

be successful in

as a model for other countries. "And this could serve in a positive way," "I think those he said. "Other countries could say, Well look, maybe we should do what Iraq is dopeople in power in the Middle ing.' But it could also work in a negative way 'America could come after us if we don't Eastl do not wan try to democratize." democracy because if free elec-America has borne most of the cost of tions were held, most of them

the war in Iraq, both in terms of money and lives, but Moran thought it was worth it. would not be in "When you consider the alternative, that ower anymore,

you have an environment that fulments the said Moran. "Most encouragement of terrorism that's aimed at us, better to fight them there than to fight ments in that area them here," said Moran. "There's a lot of people think, like Kerry says, 'Wrong war, wrong place, wrong time.' A lot of people agree with that. I don't." establishing democracy in Iraq. They don't Hafez also said America should stick it

out in Iraq, but he had a different reason.

"If we leave Iraq as it is, not only did we occupy a country that had no weapons of mass destruction, we left them in a state of chaos," he said. "I think what the Bush administration is trying to do is make the best of the situation, to vindicate itself by creating a democracy that will serve as a model for other Middle East countries.'



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his offer good for first time clients only, one per customer

HOW TO...

How to maneuver a

manual

transmission

Ann Langworthy

Managing Editor

December 9, 2004

What is your ideal encounter beneath the mistletoe?

Kathleen Musgrave, senior



haired Italian man with throbbing uscles is standing under the mistletoe, looks over at me and says, 'Hey beautiful, I'm under the mistle toe, hint hint.' And then we date for a

Amanda Textor, junior

"We would make eye contact from across the room and he comes over in a flirtatious manner and we gently kiss under the misletoe."



Mary Nolton, sophomore me and it's snow-



Orlando Bloom.'

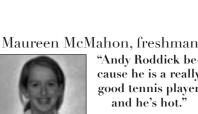
Sarah Hylander, freshman My parents handing me the keys to my new BMW."

If you could have any person jump out of a box on Christmas morning, who would it be?



like Larry Moore."

Olivia DeSimio, freshman "Daniel Radcliffe gorgeous blue



"Andy Roddick because he is a really good tennis player and he's hot."

Libby Ring, freshman "Michael Phelps because he's hot.



compiled by Jessica Closson

doors of Lincoln College Prep High School or any one of the other five high schools in the Kansas City Missouri School District, they probably would not think twice about its co-ed environment. But the stunning statistic that the district has decreased by approximately 9,000 students in the past eight years might give that person different reason to think twice. At a board retreat in early November, school district Superintendent Dr. Bernard Taylor, Jr. presented an idea to address the problems plaguing the school district, an idea that could turn the usual scene of a public Kansas City high school upside down.

Taylor suggested single-sex schools as a possible solution to the school district's problems.

"Single-sex academics could help attract families back to the district and mprove academic achievement," he said at the retreat. Some school board members are hesitant to support this idea, which Taylor said could start with secondary schools; however, they would be open to the idea of adding single-sex classes to co-ed schools.

Although this idea is in its early stages and does not currently have a timetable, the district should pursue it As students of a single-sex school we know the benefits a single-sex education offers young women. We hold every leadership position: officers of clubs and organizations, captains of our sports teams and leaders of our awardwinning choirs. We win every academic award. We are in the spotlight of every play and musical. We can ask questions in class without worrying whether or not a boy sitting next to us thinks we sound stupid.

But it is not only we who recognize

the Nov. 5 issue of *The Dart*.

is a letter from senior Michaela McKenny in response to

Now that the election is over, will the political

thought and the discussion disappear? Rose Dillon

seemed to suggest that in her "Beyond Cool" article.

conversation was a mere way to "be cool" and sound

While I must agree that the increase in political

From her article, she seemed to insinuate that political

the benefits of a single-sex education. According to the STA website, studies show that girls in all-girl settings have higher academic expectations of themselves than girls in co-ed schools do. STA President Dr. Faith

subjects such as science and math, and are less likely to stereotype jobs and careers. They are intellectually curious, serious about their studies

Another strength for some single



Wilson and theology teacher Ms. Anita Reznicek co-authored "Educating Our Daughters: 15 Considerations in Selecting the Best School Environment," which explores the impact a learning environment has on young women. According to an excerpt from "Failing at Fairness: How America's Schools Cheat Girls" that is included in Wilson and Reznicek's book, "girls in singlesex schools have higher self-esteem, are more interested in non-traditional

sex schools in Kansas City is that their composite ACT scores of seniors have exceeded those of both Missouri and the Kansas City school district in past years. In 2003, the composite ACT score in Missouri was 20.5, and in the Kansas City school districtit was 17.6. In 2004, the composite in Missouri was 20.6, and in the Kansas City school districtit was 17.5. The composite scores of STA seniors from 2003 and 2004 were 24.1, exceeding both of the other

LETTER TO THE EDITOR The following conversation has effectively caused some to contrib-In addition, this girl had no real stand on anything. I ute who only know slogans, many of these people are could sway her with my mere opinions. Those of you in Features Editor Rose Dillon's column, "Beyond Cool," in uninformed on the actual issues. However, I feel like the current events or government know that STA girls are STA girls as a whole were more educated on election

very opinionated and strongly set in their beliefs. has done in educating us on the issues. We owe our thanks to PBJ, BLT, and classes like current events or government and to the girls who made "politics cool." All of these factors first sparked our interest and then educated us, resulting in our superior knowledge of politics and the 2004 election.

Michaela McKenny

What's -REALLY-Goin' On: Proposed ban on smoking

issues than girls our age at other schools. I concluded

this afar carrying on a conversation with several others.

One girl was actually a freshman student at UMKC. Her

found her saying many of the things Rose discussed like

bogus accounts and views shocked me. I was amazed

by her "knowledge," or lack thereof, on the issues. I

Tyler Yarbrough

Copy Editor

I can't imagine ing in my favorite taurant without e stinging aroma of ning nicotine driftinto my nostrils d lining the walls of my lungs. I cough

between each bite of my crispy, buttermilk-battered chicken strip in the shiny, red leather booth sitting across from my younger sister, Meigan. We are in the non-smoking section. Thirty feet away, a couple puffs their cigarettes as they converse and glance periodically at the Sunday night football game showng above on a large television screen at the corner of the restaurant. They don't otice us, but we look in their direction and smile with delight as we inhale the same substance as they do--except we

I hope the student body and faculty can read the sarcasm that lingers between my 117-word introduction.

ditorials

According to the Associated Press, local anti-smoking advocates are pushing a proposal that would ban smoking in public places on both sides of the state line in

The Kansas City Council was expected be the elimination of smoking in bars and

As a journalist, I am called to be both sides to see where the problem never smoked, it is difficult for me to like we were smoking. But when the flames inched closer toward our fingers, we quickly extinguished the fire. All we

The "miss five days, I drop you a letter grade in my class rule" is a little

. obscene. STA has a policy that if a student misses five days of school,

er grade will drop one letter. This is unfair since students get sick and have

ntment. Either STA should extend the amount of days a student can miss

xactly the teachers' responsibility to help the students make up work, but it's

before being dropped a grade or the policy should just be dropped. It's not

Tis the season to be jolly, as well as to be in debt due to all of the holiday

or that special someone, really worth it? A great gift comes from the heart,

ot from an expensive store on the Plaza. Make the holiday spirit your own,

y coming up with a creative inexpensive present that will really make a state-

purchases. But are the thousands of dollars spent daily on the perfect gift

also not their job to fail them for missing school.

ments, thus they must lay in bed and recover or go to a scheduled ap-

were left with was ashes. That produced of smoking bans on more than 20 com-

strongest opposition to anti-smoking laws

On the flip side, supporters of the ban "They're trying to create this image out of business," Mr. Dave Kingsley, who chaired the Mayor's Task Force on Smok ing, told the Associated Press. Mr. Kingsley said he studied the effect

accept that we have to make sacrifices. society, to consider others.

ow about those Chiefs? It's hard to believe at this point last year they having a 300-yard passing game, they look like the Chicago Bears. Kiss this throwing interceptions in the closing minutes, and the entire defensive line. an effort. They have just fallen to the frustration and hype that has been this

Procedures remove unsightly facial hair

Features Page Editor

Although St. Teresa's girls have a reputation for never shaving their legs, it doesn't mean that they don't remove unwanted hair from other parts of their body. Facial and other hair can be dealt with by bleaching, tweezing and waxing, but there are more permanent methods on the market that yield satisfying results.

The two most publicized methods of "permanent" hair removal are electrolysis and laser. Though only electrolysis is truly permanent, both work well enough to have many clinics in the Kansas City area. The procedures are completely different, and they each have their own pros

The process of electrolysis takes place when a thin metal probe is inserted into a hair follicle.

"A small amount of electrical current cauterizes the hair," said Ellen DeFoe, owner of Electrolysis by Ellen. "Each hair has to be removed individually."

The method can be time-consuming and painful, and according to consumer activist website HairFacts.com, electrolysis is "highly dependent on the skill of

What dreams are

really made of...

Junior Amy Cirocco was walking down

the halls of her grade school. She was a first

According to the National Institute

dreams are a result of the cerebral cortex.

the outer layer of the brain that is respon-

sible for organizing, thinking and learn-

ing, trying to make sense of the random

by Marshall Brain explains that dreams

sleep. This type of sleep happens three

where from five to 30 minutes each time.

The essay also explained that sleep and

dreaming may serve as time for the brain

Cirocco found a blue slide towering over

a black pond at the back of the school. To the

Dr. Sigmund Freud, a psychologist

a different explanation for the purpose o

dreams. In 1900, Freud published these

theories in *The Interpretation of Dreams*.

Cirocco slid down into the black water.

Freud believed that the purpose of

dreams is to keep a person's mind con-

nected to the real world while he or she

sleeps. He believed that the connection

happened in two ways: external stimuli,

stimuli, such as emotions and desires.

Freud said that the deeper mean-

content, was expressed through the

ing of dreams, what he called the latent

manifest, or the memorable part of the

an example of the manifest. The latent

content becomes the manifest through

"dream work." Dream works consists of

four stages: condensation, displacement,

four, symbolism and revision are often

used in dream analysis.

up," Cirocco recalled.

symbolism and secondary revision. Of the

When Cirocco emerged from the pond she

saw a giant squirrel take a bite out of a man's

"His head was all bloody and chewed

Symbolism is when one element in

a dream represents something else. For

example, Dream Dictionary, by Tony Crisp

is the text STA's psychology class uses in

its unit on dream analogy. The diction-

ary says that in dreams a person's head

symbolizes "thoughts; opinions; intellect;

decisions; intentions [and] self image. It

said that a squirrel represents hoarding,

Secondary revision tries to connect the

dream to the life of the dreamer. It tries to

fulfill a desire that went unfulfilled during

the day. That may explain why Cirocco's

dream took place in her school. Hyper

Dictionary.com's dream dictionary said

that dreams that take place in school rep-

resent childhood insecurities that never

Whatever its purpose or meaning,

Cirocco's dream has had a lasting effect

on her. She had the dream when she was

in the first grade and can still remember

"It traumatized me," she said

have been resolved.

it today in clear detail.

and biting is symbolic of aggression.

dream. Cirocco's recount of her dream is

such as noise or temperature, and interna

who worked in the early 20th century, had

to five times a night and can last any-

to organize its memories.

side of the building was a forest.

occur during rapid eye movement (REM)

electrical activity that occurs during sleep

An essay entitled "How Sleep Works"

of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

Mollie Esposito

Everyone dreams.

Staff Writer

grader at the time.

the practitioner." Improper treatment can is impermanent, re-growth is usually result in re-growth, permanent skin damage or even the spread of infection under the skin.

There are three types of electrolysis: galvanic, thermolysis and blend. Accord ing to HairFacts.com, "Galvanic electrolysis works by causing salt and water in the skin around the probe to be chemically altered to produce a small amount of sodium hydroxide, or lye." The lye damages the cells that cause hair growth, or

"[Galvanic electrolysis] is the original kind of electrolysis," said DeFoe, who offers only galvanic at her clinic. Thermolysis causes the water mol-

ecules around the hair to vibrate, which creates heat. Heat also damages the papilla. Blend is a combination of both methods, operating on the theory that lye is more damaging when heated. It is supposed to be the most effective way to do electrolysis if performed correctly.

Lasers target the pigment in hairs and heat the root of the hair to cause damage to the hair but not the surrounding skin. Lasers are more effective for large areas like arms or back. Though the procedure

finer and lighter in color. Because it is a newer procedure, there is little data on

long-term effectiveness or safety, and the process works best on patients with dark hair and light skin. Improper use by a technician can cause burns, lesions or skin discoloration. Senior Angela Garozzo has tried both methods, and prefers laser hair removal

because it was more comfortable. "[Electrolysis] didn't work, and it was so painful," said Garozzo.

This is not to say lasers are not painful; the process requires ice or other pain

management, but Garozzo likens the dif-

ference in pain to that between tweezing "It's one zap instead of a lot of them,"

DeFoe, who has also had electrolysis "It's a split-second zap that you don't even feel," she said. However, "your skin

might be a little tender" afterwards. Pain is not the only factor that varies by individual; different people find that hair grows back at different rates. According to HairFacts.com, between

Meat | zone

have "satisfactory results." Re-growth rates for laser treatments have not been

Electrolysis is clinically proven to be safe and effective because the process is over 125 years old. Lasers are much newer and are used for permanent hair reduction instead of removal, a fine line that is not clarified by the industry. Garozzo did not find this to be a problem.

"They never promised it would be permanent," she said. "I don't expect it to be completely gone. My hair is stubborn. I'm Italian.'

Electrolysis is also the cheaper procedure, costing anywhere between \$25 and \$200 per session (DeFoe charges \$1 a minute); laser costs between \$75 and

\$400 per session. Because waxing and plucking can make hair grow in stronger and thicker if done too often, consumers, especially females, may begin to turn to more permanent procedures, especially if the cost of laser treatment decreases.

Both electrolysis and lasers have ad vantages and disadvantages, and it's up to the patient to decide what's right for her.

surprised by how many "normal" foods

restaurants since she has become a vegan

vegetarian lifestyle because

of their religious beliefs founded the

American Vegetarian Society in 1850.

The American Vegan Society was later

formed in 1960. Although there have

been vegetarians in America almost

since the founding of the country, it

half of the 19th century and into the

Society states that this lifestyle may

in my diet," said Artigas. "But I still

ing a vegetarian.

did not become popular until the last

20th century. The American Vegetarian

because it is hard to know which ingre-

she can eat. She finds it hard to eat at

Learning to operate a stick shift can be a traumatizing was filled with tears, ers. I heard the car make noises I didn'

comes in quite handy in many situations When my brother and I got our licenses, my parents knew that a third family car was no longer optional. In a not-so-subtle attempt to keep us away from the new wheels, they opted for a manual transmission. (Not that my 16

driving a yellow Volkswagen Beetle My first attempts in driving were not positive experiences. My mom was my eacher, though she spent most of the time covering her eyes in fear. The most difficult part of manual operation is the take-off. Sometimes I wouldn't make

Sufficed to say, there were many close calls involving other drivers, garage doors and even trees. But then one day I started Baby up and everything clicked It was almost a year after the purchase that I was allowed out on my own in the

I'm not going to lie this is a tricky subject. Most of us have been legally behind the wheel for less than two years. When learning to drive, one must first master the basics: steering, turning, stopping, parking and the buttons. Most people learn with an automatic transmis ion because it allows you to focus on where you're going without the hassle of the third petal. The following is my own personal method of learning the ways of

1. You have to understand the CLUTCH. (That's a scary word, I know The clutch is the link between the gas and the engine. It is a third petal operated with the left foot, which, for those challenged in the coordination department, can become confusing at times. The clutch must be pressed to start the car or to switch gears. Basically, if in

doubt, push down on the clutch. 2. Find the "Spot." As the clutch is released after a shift in gears, the gas petal is applied. The "Spot" is the exact ocation the clutch should be in when the gas is first pressed. Finding the perfect balance is the key to smooth driving **Students embrace alternate lifestyle** The tricky part is that the "Spot" can be different locations in different cars.

> 3. Caution: If not enough gas is applied, the car will die. This can be extremely embarrassing and cause other drivers, especially those behind you, to become upset or experience road rage. If you become too flustered, simply roll down the window, flash a smile and mo-

4. Go for more gas rather than less. If too much gas is applied too soon, the car will peel out. Peeling out is okay, it's at least better than a dead car, though people will probably assume that you are

5. Just as in cross-country, when first earning to drive a stick, I highly advise staying as far away from uphills as possible. When starting on an uphill the car will begin to roll backward, a frightening feeling, especially when another car is on your tail. In this situation, many people lose their cool and panic. Hills are the ultimate challenge of a "manuel ster," and therefore should be saved for

For the first several months of my ed ucation, I was so terrified of hills that I would drive miles out of my way to avoid them. This tactic works, and soon you will become quite familiar with many outer and back roads. However the mileage will eventually build up. Considering the recent prices of gas, I do not recommend the avoidance method. Face the hills head on and learn to love the

6. Finally, do not expect to become an expert overnight. Mastering the manual can take months. People might call you a failure, pathetic or accuse you of lacking the coordination to ever overcome the stick. Don't listen to them. If I can do it, anyone can.

ionship than ever, plus I'm no longer not be for everyone and people should afraid of hills. Another thought: Boys check with their doctor before becomthink girls who know the ways of cars "I still feel like I am lacking protein

stated in this column unless you are already an experienced automatic driver with a valid driver's license.



Juniors Brooks Fitzpatrick, left, and Clare Cummings eat their lunch in the cafeteria Dec. 1. Fitzpatrick began practicing

that showed how animals are being

People for the Ethical Treatment of

Animals (PETA) is a nonprofit organiza

tion that was founded in 1980. It oper-

Caroline Findlay fied themselves as vegetar-Wild Oats, a health food store in Mission, is a favorite of ians in a study done by the vegans and vegetarians. The store stocks a variety Vegetarian Research group mostly made of people who usu- of all-natural products. in 1997. People who chose a

There are also the stricter diets like lacto-vegetarianism, fruitarianism, raw foodism, ovo-vegetarianism, sproutarianism and veganism. The variation between these types depends usually on the individual beliefs of the person. For example vegans remove meat, dairy, eggs and all other meat products from their

vegetarianism this past summer and became a vegan this fall.

Sarah Tampke

Animal rights influence STA students

o choose vegetarian and vegan lifestyles.

"I started to hear how animals were

Fitzpatrick became a veg-

etarian in the beginning of the

ummer and then became a

vegan this fall. She changed to

eganism because she wanted to

eliminate all of the use of animal

"I don't believe that [animals

were put here on earth for us to

By definition a vegetarian is

a person who does not consum

red meat, chicken, pork fish or

seafood. There are many levels o

vegetarianism from the very str

to more relaxed. Some such as

peso-, pollo- and semi-vegetari

anism allow only certain kinds

of meat into their diet. They are

use them," said Fitzpatrick.

Staff Writer

become a vegan.

in her food.

vegetarian for a little over a year. She was ntroduced to vegetarianism by her older sister, recent STA graduate Amanda Artigas, who has been a vegetarian for over seven years. Ashley also believes in protecting animal rights. Another influence on Ashley's decision to become a

ally try to avoid meat all wound laboratories.

Junior Ashley Artigas has been a

videos on animal cruelty and is sponsored by many celebrities. The organizaof the largest horse slaughter house in the United States, the closure of military laboratories where animals were shot and stopping the use of cats and dogs in

they made the lifestyle switch.

"Meat really grosses me out now," said

tion has been responsible for the closing

Ashley recently tried to become a vegan but had trouble and went back to

"I lasted for about a week," Artigas said. "It was hard. I missed my yogurt." Both Artigas and Fitzpatrick said they have not been tempted to eat meat once

think [vegetarianism] is healthier, at least spiritually."

experience. For me, it screaming, screeching tires and angry bystand

even know existed. However, it is an important life skill that, once learned,

year-old brother would be caught dead

it out of the neighborhood, or even the driveway, before my mom proclaimed, "That's enough, get out of the car."

However, once the "Spot" is mastered, driving a manual is a breeze. Fitzpatrick said that people are usually

tion for the others to go around you.

the more advanced students.

excitement of them.

Today, Baby and I have a better rela-

Disclaimer: Do not attempt anything

District considers single-sex schools If someone walked through the scores by more than four points. And

and achieve more."



submitted by Carolyn Wiedemar

sex schools, Taylor is right to consider trying the asingle-sex pproach for the Kansas City school district. The board should support him in his attempt to use ths method to bring students and stability back to a district that is riddled with problems.

After this encounter, I realized how well our school

munities nationwide. In each place, he

said, a few businesses closed but overall

restaurant and bar business increased.

Press that we have lost sight of the pur-

pose of the ban: protecting employees.

In order to protect the employees of

the restaurants, a change must take place.

To work for more than two hours a day

with the smoke constantly lingering, can

point, the restaurant employees are taking

do serious damage to the lungs. At this

Mr. Kingsley also told the Associated

according to the Rockhurst website, of

94 percent of their 2003 senior class,

38 percent earned a 27-36 composite

Keeping in mind the enrollment

district, STA's enrollment increase of

seven to 22 students per year over the

past five years shows strength and vi-

people cite many reasons for these

is one of the most important.

numbers, STA's single-sex education

In addition to statistics regarding

finds that boys also benefit from a

single-sex education. According to

single-sex education and girls, research

The Kansas City Star, boys in single-sex

schools are more likely to pursue arts,

music, drama and foreign language

classes than boys in co-ed schools. A

caller on Steve Kraske's radio show

Taylor's proposal, pointed out that,

like girls in single-sex schools, boys in

single-sex schools fill all leadership

positions in the schools rather than

standing by and observing girls take

complete control and attain all success.

and cite such reasons for their opposi-

tion that it is separate, but not equal,

But with the knowledge of success of

single-sex secondary education, why

wouldn't the school district pursue it?

By using evidence of success of single-

therefore breaking the Constitution.

Some oppose single-sex education,

"Up to Date," which last week discussed

tality in a single-sex school. Although

decrease over the past years in the

and 17 percent earned an 18-21.

ACT score, 45 percent earned a 22-26

the Kansas City metropolitan area. to vote Nov. 23 on a smoke-free law that would ban smoking in most workplaces and other public facilities such as bowling alleys, pool halls and stores. But the most ambitious aspect of this proposal would

objective and look through the eyes of lies. Because I do not smoke and have understand the fascination behind it. Well, there was one particular incident when I was 13-years old: my sisters and I rolled up pieces of computer paper, lit the far end of the paper, held them up to our lips, without inhaling and acted

a nice laugh and an incredible memory. But most importantly, we thought we

I have been watching the news and reading various articles that express skepticism about the new ban. According to the Kansas City Star, nationally, the has come from the restaurant and bar industries. They fear that costumers will stay for shorter periods of time or, worst, flee for establishments in neighboring communities without bans. Mr. Rod Anderson told the Associated Press that his 16,000-square-foot Hereford House has seen sales drop \$10,000 a week since

a smoking ban was enacted in Lawrence claim that it will not have such an effect. that we're putting all these businesses

the risk of developing health problems in But as a costumer, I can request to be seated in the non-smoking section of a restaurant and act like the smoke settled in the thickness of the air doesn't bother me. But it does. And the employees don't

have that choice at all. Along with progression, we must also

inals. Every time STA students here the word, a visible shudder sweeps

 Γ through the room. Finals mean weeks of worry and long nights of cram-

really? It's a whole lot of unnecessary stress. Review what you know, practice a

bit and forget about it. Have confidence in what you know and don't let finals

ming, not to mention they put a damper on the excitement of the upcoming

Christmas vacation. But what does all this studying and worry amount to,

The smoking ban would be an indication of growth and the possibility that we have turned our eyes outward, as a

 $oxedsymbol{\Pi}$ were making a playoff run. They dug themselves a hole at the beginning of the season, and without Priest Holmes in the game or without Trent Green season goodbye, at 3-7 the Chiefs are now completely out of playoff contentio thanks to fourth quarter mistakes: fumbling at the 5 yard line a la Dante Hall, To say they've given up would be wrong. Giving up suggests that you've made

Dating made easy: a girl's guide to boys

Staff Writer

It's natural for teenage girls to date, but you can't help but notice that many girls go about this in the wrong way. So, in an attempt to aide the STA student body this easy-to-follow, step-by-step dating guide has been constructed as a reference tool for girls in need of a little assistance.

Warning: This guide may not be for everyone and the author cannot be held responsible for any embarrassment that may occur. Proceed with caution! Step 1- The Pickup

You could be bland and start a conversation with the usual 'Hello,' 'What's going on,' or even "Hi, I'm (insert name here)." But why be average when you can start off with a bang. Men often use pick-up lines, but this dating guide recommends them for female use as well. Here are some examples. To catch the eye of a foxy waiter you

Tve been thinking about ordering a dessert. How much are you?'

'Excuse me; I think something is wrong with the menu. Well, vou're not on it." Or to some random guy:

'I'm writing a paper on the finer things in life, and I was wondering if I could inter-

'Could I get a picture of you? I need to show Santa what I want for Christmas.' 'Hello. Are you taking any applications

for a girlfriend? 'If you were a burger at McDonalds, you'd be named McGorgeous.'

Step 2- Conversation: Getting in and Conversation is one of the biggest challenges you face while on a first date.

Here are some tips to fill those awkward Do: Have fun, laugh a little, tell some jokes (start out with knock knocks, and

work your way up). Don't: Start planning your wedding, or picking out baby names, apparently that freaks guys out. Who knew?

Ouestionable: 'This one time at band camp...'This 'American Pie' reference might be funny and it might be annoying, but it will probably get attention.

And Finally..

Step 3- Ditching a Lame Date One of the most painful things a woman has to go through in her lifetime (besides childbirth, of course) is sitting through a boring date. So, in an attempt to shield students from ever experiencing that pain, this guide offers you four solid methods of escaping these uncomfortable situations.

1) The first option is the easiest for those more forthright ladies. Go to the bathroom and call someone to pick you up. Then, come back out and simply tell your date that it doesn't seem to be working and you are going to leave. Be gentle though, men

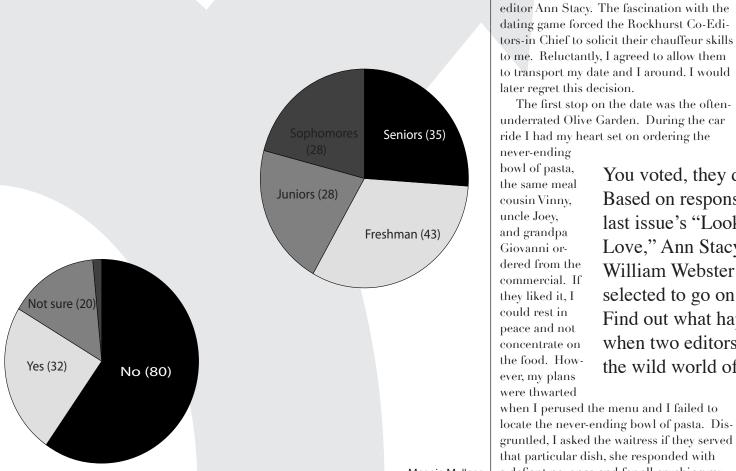
2) Have a friend or two at the same location, when things go awry give them some sort of predetermined signal to get you out. From there, you have some options. They could call you and have you fake an emergency, or they could storm the date and make up some reason to take you away You get the idea.

3) Schedule a certain time for someone to call you, use predetermined code words for good or bad; such as 'the eagle has flown' (you may want something a bit more subtle). If the date is going badly, have them come and get you while you convince your date that you have to leave.

4) Sneak out, this option is the trickiest and probably the most embarrassing if you get caught. Tell your date that you need to go 'powder your nose,' or wait until he goes to the restroom then sneak out. It sounds simple, but to pull it off successfully, you should probably scan for exits as soon as you arrive at the location (better safe than

Now that you are all dating experts, you have one final challenge: meeting boys. And for those of you who prefer girls, find another dating guide; girls are too smart to





Mollie Esposito Staff Writer

By Mollie Esposito What is a romantic relationship? What does it involve? When are two people officially going out? 134 STA students set out

to answer these questions. What is a romantic relationship? For one freshman it is "a passionate bond between two individuals." For a junior it is when two people are "really cute and happy together." And for a senior "It's crap. Romance is pointless, so are relationships.' What does a romantic relationship

One junior's idea of a romantic relationship is when the boy does everything for her. A freshman said that it involves writing poetry. Another freshman said that the people in a romantic relationship will never get annoyed with one another. Two students said that romantic relationships do include sex and one said that doesn't have to.

do these numbers mean? With 31% the the least amount of students in a romantic relationship. Does this mean that love happens with age, or can the difference between the numbers be related to the of no's. It may be more difficult for students to find time to meet someone outside of a the case, the 100 students who said that they were either single or not sure if they were in a romantic relationship account for

How many STA students feel that they are currently in a romantic relationship?

The majority of the students polled both as a whole and by grade level, said that they were not in a romantic relationship. What seniors had the most students in romantic relationships. With 17% sophomores had differences in the groups's definitions of romantic relationships? The environment of STA might also contribute to the number single-sex school or it may be hard for students to look in a Catholic school. Whatever the majority of the students polled.

Looking for Love

Rockhurst High School Prep News

17:00: Still no sight of the date. 17:05:

Date unusually late, anxiety levels rise, ten-

sion rising. 17:10: Date still nowhere to be

day. However, the St. Teresa's votes poured in and I was selected to go on a date.

I would be going on a date with head

The first stop on the date was the often-

You voted, they dated.

Based on response to

Love," Ann Stacy and

William Webster were

selected to go on a date.

Find out what happens

when two editors enter

underrated Olive Garden. During the car

gruntled, I asked the waitress if they served

dream of enjoying eight varieties of pasta.

Once we arrived at the restaurant, the

awkwardness I encountered at the begin-

ning of the date subsided as we discussed

Italian atmosphere of the restaurant to our

Next we would go ice skating and bowl-

ng at King Louie. First we went to check

rink was closed because of hockey practice.

Luckily I am a spontaneous person, so we

decided to substitute the romantic ice-

skating with arcade games. Although not

nearly as interesting as ice-skating would

have been, the arcade games proved to be interesting. We played air hockey first, a

Our bowling lane was finally ready

and we preceded to the main event of the

evenings festivities. By no means would I

in for ice-skating. Yet, to my dismay, the

everything from the corny "authentic"

hobbies and interests.

necessity for all arcades.

ride I had my heart set on ordering the

later regret this decision.

never-ending

the same meal

cousin Vinny,

uncle Joey,

and grandpa

Giovanni or-

commercial. If

concentrate on

were thwarted

Only three weeks

Art Editor

As I drove down Ward Parkway last Friday, I thought a) I should have figured rush hour traffic into my departure time, and b) this is going to be a strange experience.

I pulled into the Rockhurst High School parking lot, where I would meet William Webster and our chauffeurs, Prep News editors-in-chief Jared Meadows and Steve Isom. As I stepped out of my car, Steve ushered me into Jared's car. Once inside, I met William. Our drivers instructed us to pretend like they weren't there and turned on some mood-setting music. As Alison Krauss serenaded me and William with "When You Say Nothing At All," Jared and Steve broke their vow of silence to offer conversation-sparking questions.

My mind drifted to the show "Blind Date." If you've missed the show, I suggest viewing it. If you have seen it, picture the beginning of the date when the couple is driving to their first destination. That is where William and I were.

As we neared stop one, Olive Garden, William and I discussed the excellence of Mr. Bob Marley and prepared for the Italian delicacies. Once at the big O.G., (Olive Garden) William and I sat down at the bar to wait for a table. The bartender assumed that we were over 40 like everyone else in the restaurant, and offered us the drink menu. William and I declined.

The dinner was enjoyable, and the children at the table next to us helped make our experience enlightening. After asking her mom if tomatoes grow on trees, the girl learned tomatoes actually grow on vines. Her brother spilled his knowledge of ge-

nealogies in Greek mythology to his dad. A boisterous man sitting behind us, and the décor of cheap Italian artifacts also helped make the overall dinner ambiance A+. last issue's "Looking for

One let down of Olive Garden though, was that when we were there, we weren't family. William and I received no hugs, kisses or "look how tall you've gotten" comments. You win some and you

Jared and Steve picked us up after dinner. Several birthday the wild world of dating. parties at the laser tag arena cut out our first activity. Instead, we would bowl and ice-skate. Full of pasta and pizza, William and I talked as the car

> After arriving at the AMF and King closed for a hockey practice. There would be a wait for a bowling lane due to league night. So what did we do when two doors slammed in our face and we had a 25-minute time slot to fill? We hit the arcade. William and I explored the wonders of the video game world and indulged in some classics: ski ball and air hockey.

headed toward our next stop.

As our arcade adventures drew to a close, a lane opened. With our names on the scoring screen and bowling shoes on our feet, we began our game. Many gutter balls and a few spares later, the game was over. And although the children in the next lane were better than us, we had fun. After returning our shoes we rode back to Rockhurst. In the parking lot we exchanged goodbyes and a somewhat awkward man-hug (the classic handshake transfer to a half-hug.

consider myself a bowler. I asked the attendant if adding bowling bumpers would be In my car, I felt relieved. Prior to possible, but he denied my request and the the date I was apprehensive about the potentially weird situation. Although there were extra water drinks to fill the alley roll smoothly to success.

Dating changes along with time

Graphics Editor

He drives to her house in his '57 Corvette, walks to her front door and rings the doorbell. Moments later, her father answers the door and invites him in. He politely introduces himself to her mother and father and waits patiently for her to finish getting ready. After a few minutes, she walks downstairs in her calf-length skirt and pink cardigan sweater. Her father tells him to have her home by 10 p.m. and they walk side-by-side to the car. The first stop of the evening is the drive-in, where they watch a movie inside the car and possibly engage in "necking." After the movie they head to the local soda shop and share a milkshake. At the end of the evening, he drives her home, walks her to the door and kisses her goodnight.

Stereotypical images of the 1950s like letterman's jackets, drive-ins, soda shops and football games are often incorporated into the picture when thinking of dating throughout that decade. The 50s were the beginning of an entirely new era in relationships. It was within this decade that "courting" and "calling" quickly transitioned into "going steady" or what is commonly referred to as dating.

According to "Courtship in the 1950s, 1950-1959," it was common in earlier decades for teenagers to "play the field" or go on a variety of dates with many different people. Going steady was seen as an intention to marry. However, in the 1950's, going steady was seen as dating only one person at a time, rather than dating around. The pressure from peers and parents to marry was not as stressed as it had once been. A new level of casualness was introduced.

Many aspects of dating in the 1970s were similar to what is seen today. The Cleaver family image had faded, and in its place were short skirts and bellbottoms.

"I remember one time, a guy from my school asked me out, and my dad flat out said 'Absolutely not!'" said Ms. Robin Good "It was all because he drove an old hippie

Different date activities during the 70s included going out to eat, going to movies, playing miniature golf, bowling or even and walk me to my door where he would attending parties. Many of these are similar kiss my cheek and tell me he'd call me the to activities teenagers do today.

Although many of the same ideas and techniques of dating throughout past decades are still present, some of the ideals and morals have diminished over the years.

The invention of the Internet has played an integral role in the social lives of teenagers and only adds to the more relaxed atmosphere in the world of dating. The Internet makes it easier for teens to communicate, without the pressure of talking one on one. Chat rooms and dating websites have become increasingly popular. Ecrush.com and Espinthebottle.com are both websites geared towards teens and Internet dating.

According to "Friends, Friends with Benefits and the Benefits of the Local Mall,' a recent article in New York Times Magazine, teenagers often use the Internet to meet other teens who are willing to "hook up" rather than be tied down to one person. This practice of hanging out and making out, whether it is once or a few times, has been widely accepted among teenagers today: however, some teenagers still date

Senior Jessica Hixson and boyfriend Brett Matthews, a Blue Valley High School senior have been together for two years.

"We don't see each other very much during the week because we live kind of far away from each other," said Hixson. "But on the weekends, we'll usually go to dinner and then go meet up with our friends after

Though the times have changed and certain aspects of dating have progressed over the years, dates sometimes resemble the stereotypical dates of the 1950s.

"He would arrive at my house three min utes early," said Senior Katie Kelly of her ideal date. "He would drive a red Explorer and park on the street, not in my driveway because that is just rude. He'd come to the door and I would answer and he would politely introduce himself to my parents. He would then open the door for me and rush to the car to open that door as well. We wouldn't listen to music in the car so we would be able to talk. We'd go to a quiet, intimate restaurant with traditional food and if it's in the summer, we'd go bowling afterwards. If it's in the winter, we'd go ice skating. He would take me home on time, next day."

The (not-so) perfect date

Staff Writer

We stood on the steps leading into Goppert and waited for our ride. Between claiming our shoes and a friend's date coming out to complain to us, my Teresian date and I were finally alone. I asked him if he had a good time.

Looking back, he had every reason to

Things for my Teresian date and I were shaky long before the Big Night came. There was a lot of anxiety on my part. For one thing, I was bent on not repeating last year's dating fiasco. Going through three boys in two weeks is never a good thing. The other dilemma I faced was the fact that I hadn't seen or spoken to my date for six years. The last time I saw him was in the fifth grade. It was a total coincidence that ran into his mother, mentioned the dance when she asked me what I was up to and received a phone call from him in which he invited himself to my homecoming. I had so many questions running through my mind: was he nice? Was he cute? Did he get any taller? Yes, yes and not enough. (He was a few inches shorter than me.)

The date was shaky when it began. He got lost on his way to my house; he didn't wear a suit so his boutonniere kept falling off, we were late to the restaurant and he forgot to get me a corsage.

We met a group of my friends and their dates at a restaurant on the Plaza. When we arrived, we found them stuffed at a table in corner of a crowed room. The only chairs left were against the wall. He offered to pull my chair out for me, but there wasn't enough space. We sat and ordered dinner. Later our waitress brought our food. Well, most of our food anyway. One of the dates asked her where the rest of the food was. She looked around the table, then at her note pad. Her eyes watered as she apologized over and over. She must have been having a bad day. We told her it was okay. It wouldn't affect her tip.

After dinner, it was time to leave for the dance. When we got up to leave, my date's boutonniere fell to the ground with a flop. He picked it up and pinned it to my purse

There were only two other couples in the gym when we arrived. "Let's play tag," someone suggested. We tried, but it got old fast. Soon, the music started to pick up and more and more shoeless people crowded onto the gym floor. Hardly any of them

"I'm gonna see if anyone is dancing," my date said and left every two minutes. "I'll be right back."

The actual amount of time we spent dancing during Teresian had to be somewhere in the neighborhood of ten minutes. (That's about two slow dances.)

The clock struck ten and the upper classmen began to stream out of the dance as if their cars were about to turn back into pumpkins. My friends were going bowling, but my date and I weren't interested. We stood on the steps of Goppert and waited for our rides. For five minuets we were

I asked him if he had had a good time. He told me that he had a great time. Teresian was different than any dance he had ever been to, but he enjoyed it. Another friend's date came out and started complaining about blah, blah, blah, but both my date and I were too busy thinking about the plans for the Christmas dance.



...but now what?

Fundraising supports A Capella's trip to nationals

Alison Raybould Staff Writer

> When the A Capella Choir was selected as one of 100 choirs from a record number of applicants invited to sing at a prestigious national convention, the choir was honored. But they felt that the downside of their trip to Los Angeles was that the expenses for airfare, hotel, and a rental bus would collectively cost over \$20,000.

After they were accepted, the singers set to work, not only on perfecting their voices and overall performance, but also on raising enough money for their trip on Feb. 2nd through 5th. Their fundraisers kicked off with two car washes over the summer, where they received donations for their labor that totaled \$1,200 along with a \$2,000 contribution made by an anonymous individual. Many of the students said that this

fundraiser was the most entertaining. "I mean, how often do you get the opportunity to stand on a street corner, waving signs and screaming your head off?" said senior Samantha Putthoff. "I lost my voice at the carwash, which was probably

not very smart for a singer to do." Senior Kathleen Musgrave enjoyed the laid-back attitude.

"We had a gasoline fight like the one from 'Zoolander,' but instead of gasoline we used water," said Musgrave. "Also, there was no pressure like there has been during other fundraisers because we did not have

At the Girl Scout music camp on Nov. 13, over 70 girls paid a fee of \$10 to attend and earn their music badge. According to Ms. Jennifer Benjamin, the A Capella Choir set up four stations, where they made instruments out of recycled products, played singing games and listened to music. The Girl Scouts also interviewed senior Rachel Wilson, who plans to major in music, and formed "Make New Friends," "All God's

Land is your Land" for their parents to conclude the camp.

"There was a really good turnout," said Benjamin. "All of the Girl Scouts seemed to

The students are selling Ms. Mary Van Houten's instrumental CD titled "The Peace of Christmas: An Instrument of Your Peace" for \$12. Benjamin projected the CDs to profit \$3,500, and according to Putthoff, this will probably be their most lucrative fundraiser, especially with the approaching holidays.

"My uncle originally bought one from me," said Putthoff. "When he listened to it, he liked it so much that he bought five more copies to give as gifts."

The A Capella Choir raised \$250 in donations from the owners and the customers of Sheehan's, which is an Irish novelty store in Westport.

On Thursday evenings in December, the students will sing and accept donations at World Window in Brookside. Mr. Lonnie Buerge and Ms. Jan Buerge, the owners, contributed \$500 for the choir's music and

"There were two reasons we decided to have [the A Capella Choir] come to our store," said Mr. Buerge. "First, we had a daughter who attended St. Teresa's and was involved in the A Capella Choir, so we appreciate the music department at STA. Second, we like presenting good music in the Brookside community. Having them sing in our store is more about being a part of the community than about raising sales."

Though the singers have been busy accumulating money to pay for the trip, they are still focused on their performance at ACDA, said Benjamin

"We are working on perfecting everything from the tone quality to the vowel unification," said Musgrave. "Our music is our Bulgarian song where we barked like Critters Got a Place in the Choir" and "This dogs. It will stop people in their tracks."

Estimated total cost per student

The approximate prices below for the A Capella choir's trip to nationals include round trip air fare to Los Angeles, four days of accommadation, transportation to and from activities and required attire. Activities and meals are not included in the totals.

	TOTAL	\$529
Sweatshirt/Jacket		\$30
Ground Transportation		\$100
Hotel		\$129
Airfare		\$270

+meals and activities

TOTAL \$19,044 36 students +meals and activities



Choir instructor Ms. Benjamin plays the piano along with the A Capella choir to keep them in time as they practice. Along with class time, Benjamin and choir members spend hours outside of school for fund raisers such as girl scout camps, and car washes. The choir plans on raising over \$19,000 for nationals in Los Angeles in Feburary.

Two-sport athletes lead varsity basketball **Treatment of Athletes**

Caroline Findlay



Professional athletes often get treatment that s undeserving. They are aid large sums of money, ven access to lavish hings, welcomed into osh crowds, fans worh sip them and in some

cases are able to escape criminal charges simply because they were born with incredible talent.

Nov. 19, a melee broke out at an NBA game between the Detroit Pistons and Indi ana Pacers. Throughout the game, Pistons fans visciously heckled Pacer players. With 45 seconds to go, Piston Ben Wallace went up for a shot and was fouled by Pacer Ron Artest. Wallace felt the foul was too harsh and retaliated by shoving Artest. This got both teams involved in the brawl. While Artest attempted to stay out of the fight, a fan threw a beer bottle at him. Artest flew into the stands to fight back. Soon many Pacer players and coaches ran into the seats to defend their teammate. The situation escalated when a fan came onto the court and both Artest and teammate Jermaine O'Neal punched him. The scuffle ended once Pacer players and coaches were escorted out of the arena while fans threw concession items at them. Pacers head coach, Rick Carlisle, said he feared for his life.

Sports analysts discussed the incident for the next 48 hours many of them favoring the Pacer players. Some said it is difficult to take such harrassment from fans and it is not fair to expect players to stand back while they are being treated so badly. After an investigation by the NBA and commissioner David Stern, Artest was suspended for the remainder of the regular season (73 games), Pacer Stephen Jackson for 30 and O'Neal for 25. Wallace sat out six; while five Pistons were suspended for one.

This was the best thing that Stern coul have done for professional basketball. I respect him for making such an educated, quick and harsh decision. He made a stance that players cannot act so freely with their emotions, and if they do, there will be consequences. Some athletes believe they are invincible, but are clearly not.

The league is also making Artest attend anger management courses to control his anger while on the basketball court, especially in heated situations such as the one in Detroit.

I don't think the fans should get off easy though, because they are to blame as well. They were throwing anything onto the court to ignite the tempers of the other team. When fans act the way they did at the game, authorities must take criminal action. Auburn Hills police have been reviewing the tapes from the game and investigating this case in order to make the appropriate

What happened that night was embarrassing to me as a sports fan. I was disappointed, angry, sad and horrified.

If athletes do not realize the responsibil ity they have they do not deserve the fame, money or other perks of being an athlete. What about our athletes here at STA?

They blend in with the rest of the girls Sometimes teachers are even harder on athletes because of all the school they miss for games. Coaches also have a good hold of their athletes. Discipline is very important in sports especially at the high school level, and coaches at STA are able to balance discipline, learning and fun. Most athletes here are respectful, hard working, and good at balancing school and sports because they have to. They may have a more "celebrity" status only because we see them in games and matches, but overall our athletes do not take advantage of the posistion they have. They are just one of the girls.

but a crucial responsibility as well.

Ultimately, athletes have a valued talent,



Basketball: Dec. 9 @ SME (Freshman A and B) Dec. 17 Hy-Vee Shootout (Varsity) Jan. 3 vs. Lafayette (JV/Varsity) Jan. 5 vs. SME (Freshman A and B) Jan. 7 vs. Helias (JV/Varsity) Jan. 8 vs. Sion (Freshman A and B) Jan. 11 @ Sion (JV/Varsity) Jan. 12 vs. Aquinas (Freshman A and B Jan. 13 @ Lawrence (Freshman A) Jan. 17 Basehor-Linwood Tournament Jan. 24 @ Savannah (JV/Varisty) Jan. 25 @ SME (Freshman A and B) Jan. 27 @ Gardner (Varisty)

Jan. 29 @ Aquinas (Freshman A and B) Feb. 1 vs. Blue Springs (JV/Varsity) Feb. 3 vs. Pembroke Hill (JV/Varsity)

Staff Writer

Comprised of an eleven-player roster, STA basketball is nearly three weeks into its schedule.

The Stars bring back seven letter winners, seniors Emily Welch, Rachel Wilson, Molly Hough, Sara Penaloza and Eli Medina, junior Caitlin Aaron and sophomore Alexandra Kurth. With Aaron leading in scoring, the Stars hope to put pre-season obstacles behind them.

"We're going to play hard and work through [obstacles]," said Aaron. "The seniors have been awesome, and people are really stepping up.'

Coach Rich Wilson thinks that hard work will help get the team through the adversities they faced. Medina is out for the season due to an surgery for an ACL

"We know that we can have a rewarding season if we work hard and play together," said Coach Wilson.

Another obstacle is the many twosport athletes on the roster. Throughout Stars basketball history girls who play several sports in the same season have been able participate in basketball even with another sport's games and practives on their schedule. Traveling to more than on practice a night seems to be normal for these athletes and their

Kurth plays soccer, Medina signed a letter of intent for volleyball at Truman State University, and Wilson is involved in choir and other activities for singing. Sophomore Lauren Fowlkes plays varsity and junior varsity as a result of missing eight games: four due to playing in soccer tournaments, four due to Coach Wilson's policy that for every game a player misses, she will sit out a "I do not like when [players] miss

basketball games or practices," said Coach Wilson. "I understand that it

and MU fan Jessica Nouri.

scandals at MU

"I have pride in them," said freshman

Nouri stands by her team, trying to for-

get negative opinions, despite the recent

"I tell people the rumors aren't true,"

Ms. Katie Dolan,

STA English teacher

noderator, describes

nerself as a raving Star

an. Dolan feels sorry

for the losing players

and understands their

"When they lost

their soccer game last vear, I cried...I felt

bad for the girls," said

Dolan. "I obviously take

the games pretty seri-

Although fans

lisappointment.

nd Spirit Club

said Nouri. "In the future I hope [MU is]

Die-hard fans savor every min

is the climate of today's athlete. I do appreciate the fact that they want to compete for their school, [and] are dedi

cated to two sports." Kurth, who plays soccer for the Kansas City Chargers, balances her two sports by practicing and playing tourna-

ments on the weekends, so it will not interfere with basketball. "Basketball is really important to me,

it's not conditioning," said Kurth. Kurth and Aaron see athleticism drive and competitiveness as advantages that come from playing multiple sports in the same season.

"However, [the disadvantages are] during the off-season people are more into one sport, so there is less improve ment of skills," said Kurth.

Aaron also cites physical and mental exhaustion as one of the disadvantages to playing multiple sports because it can wear on an athlete, espcially while balancing academics.

Despite the pros and cons of players competing in two sports per season. Coach Wilson and Kurth agree that the team is dedicated to their teammates. their desire to win and their overall

performance. "Everyone wants to be there," said Kurth. "Sometimes it's hard and you have other commitments. But it's understandable, that's what it takes to be a good athlete."

Coach Wilson sees it as being no different than involvement in any other civic or school-related activity.

"Playing another sport is no different than missing time due to Kairos, choir, SATs or family matters, which other kids do," said Coach Wilson.

Despite the obstacles the team has faced thus far into the season, Kurth, Coach Wilson and Aaron all have high

"A winning record, doing well in Districts, and making it to the State finals are my expectations," said Aaron.

Variety of fans, common desire: to win

Colleen Owens **Staff Writer**

Everyday as the bell rings, students and teachers file into STA, some concealing a deep, hidden passion that consumes their everyday thoughts and actions. They are sports fans and are all around us.

more Alexandra Kurth anticipates the pass.

These fans are different breeds with a wide range of techniques and are divided ters that her team played a good game.

into three categories. There is the fair-weathered, the superstitious and the die-hard. They all want to win, but the differences are in the way they handle a loss. Fair Weathered

"I would say I'm a good fan, just not the best," said sophomore Kelli Hansen.

This fan supports their team by placidly watching the game, while questioning if a win is possible. They are pleased if their team wins, otherwise they lose interest. Hansen is a Royals fan and cheers for them when they are winning, but losing is

another story. "I distrust them," said Hansen. "I don't want to be a fan when they lose; it makes me so mad.

"I try and always wear the same socks; mine are white with blue stripes on the top," sophomore and KU fan Allie Fiss She is the type of fan who utilizes un-

Superstitious

known forces to maneuver their team into victory. Some methods are meditation, prayer and mind control. In other cases, wearing unwashed jerseys is considered

Cross Country The varsity team placed ninth out of 16 teams at State Nov 6. Freshman Elizabeth Keaveny took seventh out of 164 girls, with a time of 19:55 on the Oak Hills Golf Course in Jefferson City. Freshman Etagegn O'Neill placed 26 and senior Bridget Moran placed 47. Keaveny was selected to be on the All-Metro team. Varsity Basketball

The varsity team's record is 0-6. Varsity played Lee's Summitt North Nov. 22 losing, 51-36 and Nov. 29 against St. Joseph Benton, 38-25. Dec. 1 they played Blue Springs South, losing 45-30. They traveled to Columbia Dec. 3-4 and lost to Columbia Rock Bridge, 52-48 and Columbia Hickman

lucky and useful in a game. Fiss tries to sit in the same spot as the

Senior Sara Penaloza defends St. Joseph Benton player on Nov. 29, while sopho-

game before, so her team has a better chance of winning. "I try to keep the tradition," said Fiss.

"I can't wear face paint anymore, because when I did, they lost.'

Although Fiss is disappointed when out of trouble and going strong." her team losses she believes all that matthe field or court as a battle to be won



Die-Hard

They are the loud, eccentric, half-na-

"My mood, my way of life depends on

These fans do not have the capacity to

ked on a December afternoon, with bel-

lies painted and hair dyed. They will do

the Chiefs' outcome," said sophomore

lose, a part of me is torn away.'

Kate O'Flarety. "I feel like each time they

betray their team, no matter how brutal

a defeat may be. They stay in their seats,

47-33. Dec. 7 they played Pembroke, losing

41-32. Junior Caitlin Aaron is the leading

The JV team's record is 1-4. Nov. 22

they lost to Oak Park, 43-32 and Liberty on

seph Benton, winning 36-31. They traveled

with varsity to Columbia Dec. 3-4, losing to

Columbia Rock Bridge, 35-30, and Colum-

The freshman A team's record is 2-5.

Nov. 23 they lost to Lawrence South, 56-33

and St. Joseph Benton on Nov. 29, 23-22.

Dec. 1 they played O'Hara, winning 39-23.

bia Hickman, 42-39. Dec. 7 they played

Nov. 23, 39-36. Nov. 29 they played St. Jo-

cheering until the clock runs out.

scorer for the season.

Junior Varsity Basketball

Blue Springs, losing 41-39.

Freshmen A and B Basketball

anything to reach cheering extremes.

Creighton Jays basketball fan, Danny O'Byrne, focuses on the game between Missouri and Creighton Nov. 23. The Jays won the game 78-54.

handle losses different ly, wins are celebrated Sarah Tampke equally; there is nothing better than a victory. "Words can't even describe how I feel,"

ously."

said Fiss. "I usually jump up and down in excitement.

For O'Flarety, watching her team grow stronger and mature, gives her hope. "I see them moving and I will move with them, wherever that may be...me and the Chiefs are inseparable," said

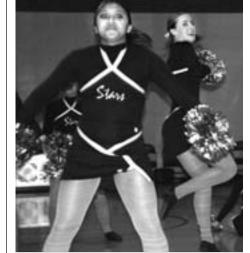
O'Flarety. "Nothing can change that." Whether its for the love of the win or the love the game, in Kansas City the stands will always be filled, the fans will always wear the team colors and the fans will always cheer.

Dec. 2 they played Blue Springs, losing 39-23. Dec. 4 they played Miege, losing 42-36. Dec. 7 they played Pembroke winning 53-23. Nov. 30 the B team lost to Sion, 47-26, Bishop Ward on Dec. 1, 28-26, Blue Springs on Dec. 2 30-26, Bishop Miege on Dec. 4, 30-16 and Turner, winning 39-29. Dance Team

Six girls from the Dance team went with United Fitness and Dance Studio to New York City to perform in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. Sat. Dec. 4 they held the Junior Dance Clinic at STA and raised over \$1500. The team will participate in the Kansas Spectacular competition Jan. 22 and on Jan. 29 at Lee's Summit North. Briefs written by Jessica Closson

Star Athletes

Seniors Kate Cofran and Jennifer Koelsch



Koelsch, left, and Cofran perform Dec. 1 during halftime at a STA basketball

Kate Cofran

•Began dancing at age 5 at Betty Tillotson Dance Studio •Now attends Midtown School of Dance, along with Betty's Accomplishments • Awarded the "Sweetheart Award" in

2003 and 2004 at the "I Love Dance" competition •Performed in Las Vegas in Ceasar's

•Awarded first place in individual dance solos and student choreography at various competitions

•Major in dance in college •Attend Oklahoma City University •Become a Rockette

Jen Koelsch

•Began dancing at age 2 •Danced with Washington Children's Dance Company in

•Danced with Mias Elite Company Accomplishments •Qualified to go to London next

summer by making the All-Star team •Qualifying for State as a team

•Do well at competitions •Be on the dance team at Pittsburgh •Become a dance teacher

~Jessica Closson and Alex Hercules

beyond



Rose Dillon **Features Editor**



The other day (and by that I mean sometime in the last year or so), I was told that being a fan of *The* Simpsons is cliché. I promptly freaked out and, delirious with

rage at the young man's insolence, forgot his name and anything he said before or after that point. How dare anyone tell me that what I like isn't cool?

The issue at hand doesn't have anything to do the fact that *The Simpsons* is a great and hilarious show (and so not cliché! I am offended). The issue is that so often we get completely wrapped up in what we like and what we think is awesome that we begin to rip apart other people for not doing what we do. Unkindness about style is not a good habit to get into. In fact, it's rather

To be clear, we need to define wicked sweet versus totally boochie. The only two things that are always (yes, always, no matter how much Seventeen Magazine may tell you otherwise) un-cool are animal cruelty/sweatshop labor, and tapered jeans (two words: mom pants). I guess technically that's three un-cool things ... I should learn to count. Or maybe I'm just fighting the establishment by creating my own form of accounting (rebellion = always fresh).

Speaking of counting, how many times have you personally heard someone, male or female, rag on another person about her clothes? On second thought, don't answer that question. I don't think I want to hear the answer.

Because it's all too often that people say things like, "She always wears those boots. She thinks she's soooo cool." And rightly so, I may add. If she thinks she's hot stuff, so be it. It is not our place to ruin her self-image with catty comments or dirty looks. It's a pair of boots!

Girls, we've got to stick together and stop the negativity. Just because you think her shoes are ugly does not mean that you should be mean about it. I'm the first to admit that I do it too; I finished cross-country races by picking out the girls who had "bad hair" and trying to beat them. But I also know that it's not healthy.

St. Teresa's is a pretty drama-free environment, at least as far as I've seen. Petty gossip blows over quickly compared to the way it ruled my coed grade school (granted, that could have been due to 8th grade girls' usual lack of maturity). But we still have a long way to go.

One good thing is that girls admit that they can be cruel. Ever seen the movie Mean Girls? (Great film, by the way. Lots of pink.) But females need to stand together, to love each other. Don't perpetuate stereotypes. Refrain from saying the horrible things that you're thinking. After a while, outward positivity can creep inside your psyche and become a way of life.

This isn't to say you can never say a bad thing about someone ever again. Venting can clear your mind. But keep it real. If she's said something to you that made you angry (such as, "You're $\,$ tacky and I hate you!"), that's one thing. If she hasn't plucked her eyebrows to your personals specifications, leave it out. That brief feeling of personal vindication is not worth curdling your soul.

On the same note, don't let other people bring you down. If they don't like your hair, your clothes, whatever, it's their loss. You, by nature, are slammin'. Don't ever forget it. Someone may decide that because you have "emo bangs" (known in some circles as a swoop), you're going to think a certain way or listen to a certain type of music. Show them where to get off. Because you're an original, confident, beautiful St. Teresa's girl, you don't have to fit into anybody's misinformed construct of how you're "supposed" to be. We've already rejected the societal value that imposes cleanliness and smooth, hairless legs on American women. Refusing to abide by one person's (totally wrong) idea of you is easy by comparison.

That said, I leave you with this: it's all good. Close your eyes for a moment and instead of taking people at their face value, take them at their spirit value. See how the other half (i.e.: not you) lives. If you don't pigeonhole other people, it becomes harder for them to pigeonhole you. Living this way might be more refreshing than you expect.

Out of STA and into Africa

SPANISH TEACHER Ms. HEATHER MACINTOSH PLANS TRIP THOSE AFFLICTED BY AIDS

Kathleen Pointer Staff Writer

SHE'S GOING TO AFRICA... On Jan. 6, Spanish teacher Ms. Heather

Macintosh will get off a plane in Cape Town, South Africa, with

in an Ecuadorian village for nine weeks through Amigos.

"[Teaching] has a more powerful impact when you are from the United States," said Macintosh.

BUT SHE'S LEAVING STA

According to senior Merritt Lee, Macintosh's room is the

Macintosh will be sad to say good-bye to the girls of STA as well.

"I'm going to miss my students," said Macintosh. "Especially this graduating class. It's going to be hard to miss graduation, because I know when I come back my family and friends will still be around but those girls will be gone."

Although Macintosh has wanted to

go to Africa for seven years she didn't approach the administration about the possibility of leaving until last year when teachers renewed their contracts. Macintosh said that the admin-Ms. Heather Macintosh teaches her Spainsh istration was three class. very supportive, especially because some of her time will be committed to service. By the end Rose Dillon Macintosh one backpack and very little knowllooks awesome in a edge of what will happen to her in sombrero. the coming months.

What she does know is that for three months she will be in Cape Town either teaching or working for AIDS prevention. There she plans to live with a host family and work eight-hour days. Macintosh she will spend the rest of the time traveling and doing freelance writing and photography. Other than those plans, she is in the dark.

"It could be completely unorganized," said Macintosh. "I have no idea until I step off that plane."

Currently Africa is plagued by the AIDS epidemic and extreme poverty.

"[The most difficult part will be] the desperation," said Macintosh. "It will be hard seeing first hand the devastating effects AIDS and the poverty have on people."

According to reports from the United Nations there are presently 26.9 million people infected with the HIV virus. Reports also indicate that 22.9 million people have died from AIDS in Africa, including 2.3 million in 2003.

"In [my] backpack I sometimes will have more than some of the people around me have ever had," said Macintosh.

Packing for Africa isn't like packing for a regular trip. Macintosh will begin her journey with one backpack.

"What you can't carry [in your backpack] isn't going," said Macintosh. "You have to be able to walk for miles. It's amazing what you can live on comfortably.

She will purchase various small products as they become necessary. One vital object will be her tent. Even when she stays at hotels it could become necessary to sleep in a tent, in order to avoid malaria.

Venturing outside of the United States isn't a new experience for Macintosh. She's seen poverty in India, spent time in the Andes Mountains and she worked

Macintosh examines a worksheet. place to be during activity period. "[My friends and Il tell Mac everything," said Lee. "I feel kind of bad [because] once 11:15 hits 30 girls bombard her desk. We talk about boys, our weekends, classes that stress us out. I'm really going to miss activity with her." Her absence will also be noticed in her classes and during advisory.

"I'm sad [she's leaving]," said sophomore Lizzy Duff. "We always have a good time in class. It's going to be hard [for a substitute teacher] to be as good as Ms. Macintosh."

year Macintosh had contacted InterExchange Online, and made definite Juana Summers plans to go. The next step was informing the STA community. Lee and Duff both said that they found out about her leaving through a widespread rumor. Neither were surprised because Macintosh's past experiences with

of

the

school

travel are well known. Junior Anna Johnson, a member of Macintosh's famous advisory, finds the trip inspiring. "She makes you want to just grab a

suitcase and go," said Johnson.

This Christmas break reveals a bittersweet feeling for some. It not only brings two weeks off school but also the last days for Ms. Macintosh this school year.

"I'm going to miss everything, the whole Mac Pack," said Lee. "Her cute little smile, being able to tell her things. It's sad that she's leaving but it's what she really wants to do."