pg. 9



Youth take center stage in local music pgs. 6-7



**Policy makers** 

prevent teens

from chatting

while cruising

Millions of teenagers rise each morning with certain limitations and restrictions based on their age. From viewing films to purchasing cigarettes, age is far more than simply a number, according to a bill proposed by Virginia lawmakers. According to the Richmond Times-Dispatch, Republican Senator Jay O'Brien of Virginia introduced a bill last month to make it illegal for a 16- or 17-year-old to chat on the phone while driving. The bill was introduced following the National Transportation Safety Board's recommendation that young drivers should be prevented from having cell

According to the Middle East North Africa Financial Network (MENAFN), it is estimated that cell phone distraction contributed to 2,600 deaths and 330,000

Senior Hayley Price understands the relevance of the legislation based on her

"When I am on the phone and driving, sometimes I become so immersed in my conversation that I don't pay as much attention as I should," said Price.

"And I don't realize, at the time, that I'm

not only putting my own life in jeopardy,

Virginia is not the only state pushing for such legislation. In 2005 alone, lawmakers in at least seven states have

The Senate approved of the Virginia

bill, but not without some tweaking. The

House amended the bill by making it a

secondary offense, which means that a

teenager could only be charged for ille-

Then, the House revised the bill again,

allowing the use of "hands-free" phones.

"Once you start moving away from

the phone held in the hand, it becomes

Delegate Clifford "Clay" Athey told the

Associated Press. "It becomes like the

less dangerous," Virginia Republican

gal cell phone use after they are stopped for another crime such as speeding.

introduced bills to limit teen drivers'

but also the lives of others."

Tyler Yarbrough Copy Editor

phone conversations.

injuries in 2004.

own experiences.

cell phone use.



Volume 64 | St. Teresa's Academy | March 10, 2005 | Kansas City, Missouri | Issue 5

2005 Mother Evelyn O'Neil Awards



Award recipient Angela Bennett speaks with Dr. Faith Wilson after the Mother Evelyn O'Neil Ceremony on Friday, March 4. Bennett was selected for the award by a committee of previous recipients and members of the STA community.

#### Local lawyers honored for contribution to community



#### Suzanne Gladney

- · Gladney is Managing Attorney for Legal Aid and specializes in immigration law.
- She advises community agencies serving immigrants and the Kansas and Missouri Associations of Foreign Student Advisors.
- She developed and supervises the Migrant Farmworkers Project.
- · Gladney is a known speaker on immigration and migrant worker
- · Gladney is active in a number of Community organizations such as Operation Breakthrough and the Upper Room.
- · She is also on the board of directors for the Unicorn Theaters.

Before 1973, the U.S. Federal System was such a great person that we felt it didn't know that immigrants were living in Kansas or Missouri. Ms. Suzanne Gladney, one of this year's recipients of the Mother Evelyn O'Neil award, set up the Migrant Farmerworkers Project so that the government would acknowledge local immigrants and migrants.

"The migrants and immigrants in Kansas and Missouri weren't recorded by the U.S. Federal System, so they weren't receiving help from the government," said Gladney. "I thought this was interesting because two out of every three people that were coming to legal aid needed someone who specialized in immigration law."

Gladney and Ms. Angela Bennett were presented with the Mother Evelyn O'Neil award last Friday. This award is given to two women each year who represent one of the four core values that Mother Evelyn O'Neil demonstrated. These core values are Social Justice, Community Stewardship, Assisting the Poor, which Gladney received, and Excellence in Education, which Bennett received. This award was started by director of institutional

advancement Kevin Flattery five years ago. "I started with the book of Mother

Evelyn O'Neil, her memoir," said Flattery. "It was such a great story and she was necessary to recognize women who shared the same values as Mother Evelyn O'Neil."

Bennett started out working in a law firm. She felt disconnected from the world and felt like she wasn't making a difference.

"I didn't really like working in a big law firm," said Bennett. "I was dissatisfied with the position and wanted to reach out and give back to my community, so I left the firm and realized I wanted to make my difference by helping children get a fair education."

Unlike Bennett, Gladney knew what she wanted to do with her life when she was in high school and never changed her

mind about it. "My dad owned a restaurant that was half a block from the court house, so I grew up around lawyers," said Gladney. "I worked as a secretary in Columbia where there wasn't a legal aid. I saw first hand what happened to people when they didn't have any money. So I knew that when I grew up I wanted to be a lawyer and work for legal aid to help those with

See AWARDS, page 2



#### Angela Bennett

- · Bennett is the University of Missouri System Curator.
- She is the director of the U.S. Department of Education's Office of civil rights in Kansas City; she continues to espouse equal rights and fairness, while enforcing civil rights in six states
- Bennett is the president of the UMKC Alumni Association.
- She is a member of the American Bar Association and recently received the Missouri Bar Association Presidents Award for her service to the Missouri Bar.
- She is chair for Starlight Theatre, serves on Alvin and Ailey Board, and is an Ad Hoc volunteer for Girl Scouts.

#### radio, like the glove box, like the drink in the drink holder."

But Price disagrees.

"The hands-free devices are just as hazardous," said Price. "You are still distracted by what's going on in your conversation. Being so involved in a conversation with another person is just like driving with only one hand. I don't see the difference between the two."

According to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, the crash risk for teenagers is four times that of older drivers. Recently, the University of Utah issued the results of a study which showed that while teenagers are driving and talking on the phone, they have a physical response time equivalent to that of a 70-year-old.

With such statistics and the fact that car crashes are among the most common killers of teenagers, Maine has already passed a bill that bans teens from talking while they are on the road. But Missouri residents, specifically teenagers, can continue chatting and sending and receiving text messages while driving.

"There will never be such a law [in Missouri]," said Missouri's 5th District Representative Emanuel Cleaver, II. "[The bills specifically affecting teenagers] are what is called Discriminating Legislation. [Congress] will only pass such a law that prohibits *all* drivers from using cell phones while driving in Missouri. We won't make a law that just impacts senior citizens, or tall people,

According to the Associated Press, while discussing the Virginia ban, delegates warned that if the cell phone ban for teen drivers passes, it wouldn't be

See BAN, page 2

#### Iranian nuclear facilities under international siege, threat to safety

Juana Summers

Center Spread Editor

In recent press conferences as well as international meetings, leaders of European nations including Germany, France and Great Britain, as well as the United States have pledged their support to the eradication of the Iranian nuclear program. These nations feel that the Iranian program poses a threat to the safety of Americans as well as those abroad and plan to offer incentives for disarmament, as illustrated in recent negotiations in Europe in Febru-

"We absolutely agree that Iran must say no to any kind of nuclear weapon, full stop," said Chancellor Gerhard Schröder of Germany during President Bush's four day tour of Europe in

In a Jan. 20 interview with MSNBC, Vice President Dick Cheney denoted Iran as a threat to global peace, and accused the country of supporting terrorism via its nuclear program.

The global pursuit to disarm Iran also includes many neighboring nations, specifically the countries that comprise the European Union. Reports from The Washington Post assert that the diplomatic relations between the United States and Israel may play a factor in the United States' response to the Iranian nuclear program.

"Given that Iran has a stated policy that their objective is the destruction of Israel, the Israelis might well decide to act first, and let the rest of the world worry about cleaning up the diplomatic mess afterwards," Cheney said.

The United States and European nations insist that Iran discontinue uranium enrichment. According to the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission, an independent organization established by the Energy Reorganization Act to regulate civilian use of nuclear materials, uranium enrichment, a complex scientific process, increases middleweight and lightweight uranium. This process is connected to the process of creating a controlled nuclear reaction, and ultimately building nuclear weaponry. The Tehran Times of Iran reports

that, though Bush has the support of other nations, particularly those in the European Union, there has been a larger Anti-American response with in the global community, indicative since the United States invasion of Iran with global candidates running for office on Anti-American platforms.

According to the Nuclear Threat Initiative, an international organization which promotes global security and works to prevent the spread of nuclear weaponry, dates the origin of Iran's nuclear program to the 1950s, but the climax of the program was in the 1960s when the first thermal research reactor went online at the Tehran Nuclear Research Center, located at the University of Tehran in Iran. Since the 1950s, the nation has put a great emphasis on the continuing development of a nuclear

See IRAN, page 2



Courtesy of KRT Direct Above is a view of Arak heavy water production facility under construction in Central Iran. Arak is an Iranian nuclear plant which atomic experts say could give the Islamic state reason to bomb.

Ann Stacy



rent age of St. Teresa's Academy. Although this number does not quite compare to the age of any Giant Tortoise (the animal that has the ongest life span of all

animals) I have ever encountered, it is still up there on the number line. Not only is this chunk of time ample to educate multiple generations of girls, but also for more than a few legends and myths to develop. We all know how quickly rumors can ignite and swirl around campus, and how equally quickly they can fizzle into nothing. But there are a few that have, over the years, remained lingering in the bustling halls and on the lips of curious girls. Once these rumors have survived for at least five years, they advance to the next level and become STA myths.

A common question among students is what the original use was of the cafeteria specifically the pit. Many say it has not always been the place where STA girls do what they do best: eat. But if this is the case, one has to wonder, with such an interesting shape, what was the cafeteria? My guess is that upon pondering this question a few years back, a girl created and circulated an answer that today, many students hold as the truth.

"There used to be a swimming pool in the pit," a student told her class. "No," her teacher informed her, "that's a myth, straight up untrue." Upon hearing this revelation, the classroom resounded with girls' intrigued hmmms and ooohhhs. "Really?" another student said, "Because someone said it used to be one." "No they were yanking your chain on that one," the teacher said. "I could have sworn someone said they knew someone who'd swam in it," the student said, continuing to plead her case. "No, it was the gym, but never a pool."

You might be wondering if this teacher was breaking an old myth and creating a new one, or if her divulgence of information was factual. Well here it is: she was correct. Prior to its current state, the pit was the gym, and students ate in what is today the art room. Knowing this, the

story of the existence of a pool drowns into nothing more than a myth. There was never a lifeguard on duty in the cafeteria, but don't worry, I'm sure you could have found an abundance of those cute little gym class uniforms.

Another myth involves our mascot. Some claim there was a time before we were the Stars when a different mascot represented us. Others, however, insist Twinks has always been our homeboy. In regard to this question I give props to Twinks, but acknowledge the fact: he has a

"When my mom went to STA we were the Tessies," a girl told her friends. "Really?" they replied, shocked, and clearly wondering, what the hecky is a Tessy? "Yep," the girl said. "Apparently we got made fun of for that one."

And this girl was correct. STA's school colors have always been black and gold, but we were the Tessies (plural for Tessy, a nickname for Teresa) before we became the Stars. Apparently switching from a mascot with a human body to a mascot that is a celestial body was just what needed to go down. So if we switched Tessies for Stars in our present day cheers, we would run into a fun little number such as, "Bang bang choo-choo train, come on Tessies do your thing." And switching Tessies for Stars is posters such as "Don't mess with STA or you'll be seeing stars," would not have the same affect.

Arguably the biggest and oldest myth at STA is that of M&A's fourth floor. This floor previously housed nuns' rooms. Today, post-renovation, offices and storage supposedly occupy it. But as it has in the past, a myth still circulates that the current occupants of the fourth floor are not filing cabinets and boxes, but the ghosts

"Have you ever been up there?" a girl asked a few friends as she gazed up the lone narrow stairway that leads to the fourth floor. "No," one friend responded, "but I wonder what it's like." "Yea, I have," another girl said, and her friends looked at her with amazement.

As far as this myth goes, I cannot say whether it is fact or fiction. But I can say this: on a July morning the summer before my freshman year, I was running through M&A with other girls during a conditioning program workout. As we ran around the circle of the auditorium in the humid and breezeless conditions, a door near the entrance to the fourth floor mysteriously swung open by itself.

#### **IRAN:** Global bodies work towards peaceful solution

Kansas City, Missouri

NEWS

March 10, 2005

İranian spokesman Hamid Reza asefi, in a *Reuters* article, said that Iran ould continue its nuclear program, which only seeks peaceful nuclear nergy, rather than creating nuclear

"We give our guarantee that we will not produce nuclear weapons because we're against them and do not believe they are a source of power," said Iranian President Mohammad Khatami to foreign ambassadors. However, Khatami also reinforced the Iranian stance that the Iranians had a right to a nuclear program, and that a temporary suspension while talks ensued in Geneva was nerely a show of goodwill.

Though Iranian officials say that they have no intent of giving up such a program, discussions and negotiations

United States Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice supports the stance of both President Bush and the European nations and said that Tehran must accept the terms offered by the United States and European nations or to face economic sanctions from the United Nations Security Council.

"In safeguarding the security of free nations, no option can be taken permanently off the table," Bush said in a February trip to Europe. "We are working closely with Britain, France, and Germany as they oppose Iran's nuclear ambitions and as they insist that Tehran

comply with international law. The results of this approach now depend largely on Iran," he said.

There has been no direct response from the Iranian government, other than to reaffirm their stance that the right to a nuclear program is a fundamental right. However, a report from the Boston Globe cites that the nation has increased its military preparedness.

"Iran has began publicly preparing for a possible United States attack, announcing efforts to bolster and mobilize recruits in citizens' militias and making plans to engage in the type of 'asymmetrical' warfare that has plagued American troops in neighboring Iraq," writes Borozu Daraghi, Boston Globe Foreign

#### Boxing out



Freshman Kate Christian, left, and freshman Kim Kennaley stay warm and covered in their homemade shelter Sunday. They participated in "Homeless for a Night" sponsored by NHS. The point of this activity was to experience what it is like to be homeless, so students built shelters out of boxes, were provided with a small dinner and were not allowed to bring snacks or electronic devices. Due to lightning and rain, the approximately 75 students and eight chaperones were forced inside to the gymnasium. "It was still a really good experience to make our houses," said Christian.

phones while driving.

According to Rep. Cleaver, the

ban in D.C. has triggered the neigh

boring states to adopt the ban and

"Chances are high that it won'

**4** 

be long before the law will pass in

every state in the Union," Cleaver

In the Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> issue of *The* 

Dart, junior Lauren Befort was

brief. We apologize for this

listed as a sophomore in a sports

more states are sure to follow.

#### AWARDS: Honorees dedicated to Ban: Spreading through states making a difference in community

award itself.

Continued from page 1

out [money] Gladney's co-worker, Ms. Holly Worthen, says that even though Gladney is mainly involved with immigration law, she is always seen

To be honored by a whatever their work is and being involved in place that educates everything. young women is more "Suzanne is very inimportant than the

volved," said Worthen "She is always there for anyone who needs help and knows everything that goes on."

helping everyone with

Gladney is also Gladney, Mother Evinvolved in Operation Breakthrough and the elyn O'Neil recipient Upper Room. She is a Foreign Students

advisor as well, and is also on the board of Directors for the Unicorn Theaters.

Like Gladney, Bennett is also involved in many things outside of her work. Bennett is the chair for Starlight Theatre, serves on the Alvin Ailey Board. She also is a member of the American Bar Association and is an Ad Hoc volunteer for Girl

"I keep busy and do everything that I can so I can make a difference," said Bennett. "I think that anyone can make a difference if they want to."

> Both Gladney and Bennett felt privileged to receive the Mother Evelyn O'Neil award, not only because of the recognition, but because of where the recognition came from

"I was having a bad day until I got the phone call from Kevin Flattery telling me about the award," said Bennett. "It made my day because it is coming from such a great

-Ms. Suzanne

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Gladney shared the same sentiment. "To me, personally, it's important because of the school it's coming from and the education of women," said Gladney. "To be honored by a place that educates young women is more important than

**Top Ten Activities for** unlucky souls staying in Kansas City for **Spring Break '05:** 

1. Plan a dance party including such necessary songs as "Hammer Time" and "Pour Some

2. Have a mix CD party thinking of creative ways to name your new CD's.

3. Four words: road trip to Lawrence. 4. View every Xanga of every friend of a

friend of a friend and comment randomly. 5. Make prank phone calls to friends that are on Spring Break; if you have to stay home you can at least bother those lucky enough to

6. Make Kansas City your vacation destination; go to all the highlights of your hometown 7. Go camping with a few good friends and bring all the necessary ingredients for s'mores. 8. Consume as much caffeine as is humanly possible and watch every episode of Seinfeld

on DVD.

10. Venture out to the Great Wolf Lodge and enjoy all the aquatic activities. ~Leslie Herring

Kansas City, Missouri 64113

## St. Teresa's Academy

Kathryn Fitzsimmons Manager Caroline Findlay Co-Sports Editor

In the Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> article "STA

students linked to fame," The

Dart staff omitted the fact that

Mr. Michael Garozzo maintains

restaurants in Kansas, as well

as locations in Missouri. We

Continued from page 1

ong before it is extended to adults.

Two states (New York and New

Jersey) and the District of Columbia

held cell phones while driving for

all people. In addition to that, 20

place some restrictions on using cell

**ESPRESSO** 

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other states and up to 40 nations

have prohibited the use of hand-

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Editorial Policy: The Dart is a student newspaper written, designed, and typeset by members of the newspaper staff. The Dart is published with funds from the St. Teresa's Academy general operating fund. Unsigned editorials present the opinions of *The Dart* staff. Signed editorials reflect the opinions of the individual

Letters Policy: The Dart encourages letters to the editor. All letters are to be submitted to Mr. Eric Thomas in Music & Arts 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

# **Programs offer students insight into future**

to attend the summer programs. She said

that the programs not only show what the



Junior Katherine Schilling, center, shares a special moment with friends at Notre in Cambridge, Massachusetts offers the

Kathleen Pointer University is gaining popularity because Staff Writer For the majority of students the average school year is close to nine months

long. However, a growing number of those students are choosing to extend that school year into their summer break ity of colleges today. These students are attending college "[Columbia University] saw the need Ms. Karen Fan, an administrative assis-

tant at Columbia University said that the collegiate summer program at Columbia

Dame's Summer Experience where she studied literature.

students feel the need to participate in programs that would enrich and enhance what they have studied throughout the year and beyond. She also said that this was in part due to the increased selectiv-

for high school students to have an academic enrichment outside of their regular classes," said Fan.

STA college counselor Ms. Steph Hart

non-credit courses, Writing the College Application Essay and Preparing for and Taking Tests and Exams in College to the students that are taking classes through their campus over the summer months. These students also have the opportunity to meet with admissions directors and

"I gained so many things," said Warm

"I learned lots of things that I'll probably never learn in high school. The experience taught me life skills and book

admissions processes are like for actual Both freshman Meredith Pavicic and college application but it also allows stu-Warm applied to programs that required a short explanation about their interest. lents to catch a glimpse of college life in They were also required to have received general during the summer months. "[The Duke Talent Identification a certain score on either the SATs or the Program] let me see what college life was ACTs. STA Junior Katherine Schilling, like," said freshman Anna Warm who who attended the Notre Dame Summer

attended the TIP last summer. "I think Experience program, felt like she had a it helped me to see that college isn't as close connection to the application of scary as it seems." "The application for the [Notre Dame] The majority of the host universities also offer disclaimers stating that tak-Summer Experience was similar to a ing their program will not guarantee college application," said Schilling. "It admission to their colleges, although included an essay, a teacher recommenda they are willing to help. Harvard College

tion, a transcript and a résumé." Not only do these programs offer a taste of college life, some people, like Warm, feel that it will help them when they go to apply to the college of their choice. Warm said that she thought taking college level classes would be a definite advantage when applying for college and would show her potential on her

"College admissions are being more selective therefore more students see this as an additional extracurricular activity," College credit can also be a factor

when it comes to these programs. Ac cording to Hart, the questions with tages to attending the programs is the insight into the college application process. college credit is not if it will transfer but how it will transfer. The transfer can only be made to a university that the student is enrolled in for four years. Often the courses that are only a couple weeks long, don't offer the option

of college credit. Some universities offer various options, for example, Brown University has a college credit program that runs for seven weeks plus a week for final exams. But they have Mini-Courses as well, courses that are anywhere from one to five weeks which are non-credit. Pavicic, who will be gone for three weeks over the summer at KU through the TIP, believes that her participation in the program will help her later in life, just not in the form of college credit. Hart also thinks that the programs offer much more than just an opportunity for college credit and a more thorough college application

"The biggest advantage to attending a summer program on a college campus is not only getting an earlier understanding of the application process, but living college life during the summer months," said Hart. "It's a great sneak peek to learning to balance academics, social activities, sleep and of course, college cafeteria

# Student proposal for new club denied at STA

Mollie Esposito Staff Writer

summer programs.

Earlier this year, juniors Christian Pippins and She'aRae Strother tried to start a new club at STA. The club was MEET (Multi-Ethnic Education Team) and it was denied.

The students' club would be modeled after the already established team at Rockhurst High School. The school's web site defined MEET as "an organization of interested students striving to promote multi-cultural harmony and aware-

sponsors dances, para-liturgical services, educational assemblies, and coordinates events for Black History Month."

But STA already has a club similar to the team described above, Cultural

Mr. Craig Whitney, who, along with M Mark Fudemberg, is the moderator for STA's Cultural Diversity Club, said that the goal of this club is "to help educate students against racism, bigotry and prejudice." To do this, the club sponsors

different on-campus activities such as Unitown, the Black History Month Film Festival and Mix It Up. Strother said that she would not

consider Cultural Diversity a real club. She said that although it began with high intentions, but it has not accomplished much outside of the Black History month

financial aid planners.

Strother explained that the idea was not to start a new club, but to make MEET an extension of Cultural Diversity by giving students the option to partici-

pate in more activities such as fundraising for scholarships and attending Harmony, a round-table discussion for diversity

Strother and Pippins took their idea

to Fudemberg and principal of student affairs, Ms. Mary Anne Hoecker. Strother said that their proposal was denied because they were not able to find a

As for MEET at STA, Whitney said that he is happy with the Cultural Diversity Club. He feels that the club could

Each parent raises their teen differ-

istics they commonly fall into a category

with. There are the stricter, more aware

parents, the naïve, trusting parents and

the parents who know their teenager par-

"I am disappointed in [parents who

every parent has the responsibility of mak-

ing sure their children do not break the

For teens who participate in drink-

ing, lying to parents is commonly used

"I won't say the whole truth," said

that could get me in trouble like exclud-

ing people's name or saying there was no

Cheryl\* always tells her parents where

to escape being possibly grounded or

JoAnn\*. "I will leave little details out

ties and actually contribute to it.

law," said Mr. Vincent O'Flaherty.

ently, although there are certain character-

more activities and bringing in new students, but those changes should be made

by the students in the club, not by him.

When asked, neither Fudemberg nor Hoecker felt that they could provide sufficient information about MEET or why it was denied. Whitney did not know why they would choose not to be interviewed about the Team.

Neither did Strother, "I want to believe that it's because they're too busy.'

# Bringing down the house Teen partying becomes a dangerous habit Graphic by Maggie Mullane

Colleen Owens Staff Writer

Editor's note: Some STA students requested to be interviewed anonymously because the following story deals with teens and alcohol. For the purpose of this article, their names are changed and marked with an asterisk. It is Saturday night and there is a

buzz going around about a certain party. There are going to be about 100 people in attendance—everyone is going. Oh yes, and here's the kicker: no parents are home, meaning there should be plenty of alcohol. But with a party this big, the cops are bound to show up.

How common is this picture to teenagers? Apparently, quite usual according to Ms. Jane Brody, who stated in her article, "Personal Health: Coping with Cold, Hard Facts on Teenage Drinking," that 72 percent of high school sophomores and 82 percent of seniors consume alcohol,

which is illegal for U.S. citizens under 21. "I think teen drinking is definitely an epidemic," said Ms. Karen Moran, moderator of the STA SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) club. "It is socially and culturally acceptable, but I don't believe that to be the case."

But what exactly happens at these parties? Are the myths true? Does it resemble anything remotely similar to the movie "Animal House": "The parties that I attend have a lot

of alcohol and a lot of immature people, said anonymous STA student JoAnn Smitherton\*. "Some people take it to the extent of drinking every night of every weekend, throwing up after they drink.. it's just hurting them."

teenage alcohol abuse statistics, teens who Hinkle. "He was pronounced dead about

were either heavy or binge drinkers were twice as likely to say their schoolwork was poor. They were four to six times as likely to say they cut classes or skipped school, and were three times more likely to say they deliberately tried to kill themselves.

Teenage parties have been thrown for years and will continue, at least until par-

cally look for juvenile parties and usually we do that in conjunction with cops in Johnson County," said Lt. Pat Hinkle, a Lenexa policeman.

notes and hearing conversations at school. "We try to create the appearance" that we're everywhere all the time," said

A bill was recently passed making it

among teenagers. The law was inspired The owners of the party house claimed

"He only made it about a block and a half before he crashed into a tree," said

Hinkle has adopted a zero tolerance policy for teens caught drinking in case teenagers think they will be easily

"If we go to a party and there are 50 kids there...we're going to charge every one of them," said Hinkle.

Although drinking and driving is less allow their teens to drink] because I think frequent it is a possibility, but if this did happen, it was because the drivers had a minimal number of drinks and considered themselves to be capable of driving.

drive," said anonymous STA student Cheryl Yates\*. "Girls wouldn't be that stupid.' Hinkle believes that if many adults do not understand the effects of alcohol, how can people expect a teenager to under-

"It's never the girls that drink and

"[Teens] think about what is a fun thing alcohol present.

to do on a Friday and Saturday night," said Moran. "They do not think about the she will be at the start of her night but results of their actions beyond that night. will sometimes lie about where she stays

"I don't lie, I normally just exaggerate what I did," said anonymous STA student Linda Washington\* with a laugh. "We always go to Winstead's and that's just what I say we did the whole night. I've also said that I've gone to grade school dances and watched little kid movies." In many cases, parties that get out of

the night.

control face dangerous consequences and outcomes.

"Just the other week my friend was very intoxicated and she tumbled down the stairs and we thought she was either unconscious or dead," said JoAnn\*. "Things get broken, people get in fights .later they say they had fun, but I don't see that's the case when they threw up in

the end." O'Flaherty knows that teenage parties are not the only option, "There is a lot of fun things you can do [with others] than go ing to parties and drinking, such as playing sports, going to movies, or to art shows." Organizations such as SADD help to dissuade teenagers from this suction of

"They may not take into account possi ble consequences," said Moran. "It's just making people think about [not drinking]

before the weekend." To raise awareness at STA, Moran helps coordinate events like the annual "Grim Reaper" Day where a student dresses up as the Grim Reaper to "kill off" randomly-selected students. This is a realistic simulation that allows students to better comprehend how close to home the negative effects of drinking on teenagers actually are, with death being a

major risk factor. The Party Patrol, although relatively a new organization, already sees results.

"Clearly it's had an effect," said Hinkle "We do not get calls of juvenile parties go ing on down the street very often." To some teens, police and parents seen

overbearing but to Hinkle, the intentions "A lot of [teens] say we're out on some crusade...the fact is it's a duty and you

have a responsibility to classify these

things," said Hinkle. But in the end, why do teens participate in something that can be so humilia ing, dangerous, and possibly destructive?

"You always want what you can't have and that is why teens drink basically...it's a 'rebel without a cause' thing," said



CORRECTIONS

(816) 501-0011

Graphics Editor Mr. Eric Thomas

In Janet C. Greenblatt's article about

ents and police can crack down on them. Organizations such as the "Party Patrol" have formed to do just that. "We have officers designed to specifi-

Other counties adopting this new effort includes Overland Park, Mission, Prairie Village, and Leawood. The patrol can be found driving around searching for parties to break up. School Resource Of ficers often aid the police with party tips; information they acquired by reading teen

a crime for parents to allow parties to be held at their homes. According to Brody, alcohol is the single biggest factor behind the leading cause of car accident deaths by a certain fatality; a teen named Paul Riggs who died years ago in an alcohol-re-

they did not know that alcohol was being

HOW TO...

have hula abs and

buns

ute toning is never a bad idea. Recently

my attention was drawn to a particularly

thumbing through my Self Magazine,

fit woman dressed in tropical attire.

Upon closer inspection, I discovered

that the new number one dance work-

out video is Island Girl Fitness: Hula Abs and Buns. I pondered, "Who better to

out is led by Kili, a Hawaiian native who

has been dancing hula for over 25 years.

friends and the three demonstrate their

Kili is joined by two of her Hawaiian

technique on a deserted beach under

the shade of palm trees. As the video

begins, Kili declares, "Hula has always

been my favorite way to tone hard buns

Spring officially

pegins on March 20,

and every girl knows

what that means: the

eason of bikinis and

nini skirts is at hand.

Now is the time to take

action; a little last min

Ann Langworthy

Managing Editor

On March 1, the U.S. Supreme Court issued a ruling saying it is unconstitutional for criminals to receive the death penalty for crimes they committed when they were under the age of 18.

What is your opinion of this ruling?

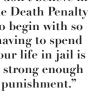
Jessica Bradford, senior



alty at all so I don't think anyone should receive the

Kayla Crandall, sophomore

"I don't believe in the Death Penalty to begin with so having to spend your life in jail is



Catherine Seidel, sophomore



"I think it kind of goes both ways. It's unreasonable for cases like the Washington sniper who should get it because of hov severe the crime But if it's not a severe crime they shouldn't receive

Sarah Cooper, freshman

"I think it's a good decision because young people shouldn't have to die because of bad

Ms. Mary Jo Coughlin, theology teacher



"It's the right decision. Even though it is controversial it shouldn't be applied to minors. There are concerns like Lee Malvo, penalty is unconstitutional but it has to be made sure that he's not back on the streets. Imprisonment for life without parole."

What is your favorite spring break memory.

Melinda Parra, senior

"Scuba diving in Cancun."

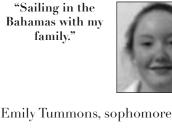


Julie Shuss, junior



rado to ski with my family."

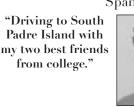
Emily Bradford, sophomore "Sailing in the



being born by C-



Spanish teacher Padre Island with

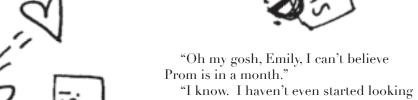


~compiled by Mary Kate Bird

# Read the writing on the walls

# THIS EDITORIAL S BORING -

you are some no final and the source of the



for a dress yet. Have you?" "I actually found this pink strapless one that kind of has little ruffles at the bottom, and then it has these sparkly things at the top. It sounds kind of ugly, but it's actually really cute. I just wish I knew who I'm going to ask. You're lucky you already have that one covered."

"Yea, I guess this is a time when it's convenient to have a boyfriend."

"Yea, and one who you're totally perfect with. Seriously Katherine, you and Chris are so cute together. I mean, I can see you guys getting married.' With this, Emily takes a pen and, on the

back of a desk in her math class, writes a simple love equation: K.S. + C.G. = Love.There are many ways people have made a mark on the world. Harriet Tubman con-

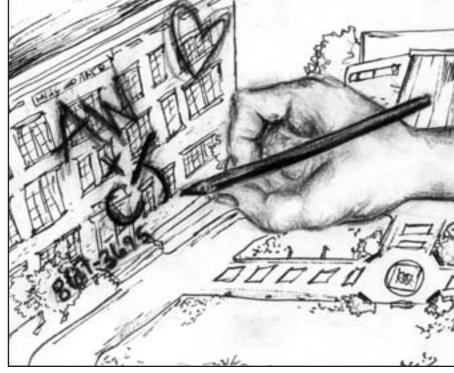
ducted the Underground Railroad. Jonas Salk developed the Polio vaccine. Neil Armstrong was the first person to walk on the moon. Sandra Day O'Connor became the first female U.S. Supreme Court Justice. Others have made their mark by taking the historically notable and honorable action of using pens, pencils or permanent markers to literally mark the objects that fill the world.

At STA, look no further than many bathroom stalls, desks, computer hard drives and tables to see where many have made their mark. You will find such inspir-

ing messages as, Class of 2006, This class is so boring and hey, hey, hey. Who would ever need to use a history book to study ancient philosophers when all she has to do is contemplate the statements that decorate our school? Furthermore, where would the world, let alone STA, be without these insightful inscriptions? It would probably be full of lost souls, wandering the earth and wondering, Who does Sarah love? Beyond the value in various messages' deep meanings, one cannot forget the visually appealing scribbles and pictures that sometimes accompany them. Thanks to these, the school gains a real taste of fine arts and

Much of the writing in our school is hidden in obscure bathroom stalls, making it difficult to appreciate. So, it is lucky for us that STA scribes recognize the value in sharing their work with many people by displaying it on moving canvases: other people. There is only one word to describe colorful Crayola markers or blinding highlighters on girls' arms, legs and even faces:

As STA completes its renovations to beautify the campus, one can only hope future generations will accept the responsibility to continue the legacy we, and former STA students have left for them. After all, the reason for raising millions of dollars to update our facilities was surely to provide students with fresh scribble pads to unload their deep and



submitted by Carolyn Wiedeman

#### What's -REALLY-Goin' On: Teen ban on driving and chatting

Tyler Yarbrough Copy Editor

BB

an



While researching he news story I wrote the bill to ban teens om talking on cell ones while driving, I me across disturbing tatistics about teens involved in accidents and

the number of fatalities. Teenage drivers make up 6.7 percent of the driving population, yet we account for 14 percent of drivers in fatal crashes. According to the Chicago Tribune, 1.6 million car crashes in the United States each year involve teen drivers. Those statistics represent people; I read their stories and saw photographs of smiling faces that have faded, but not in

memories. Teens are dying; death zaps the

energy and vitality from our bodies which

haven't even reached maturity. A National Transportation Safety Board report said, "Young, inexperienced drivers are particularly vulnerable to accidents, are easily distracted, and also engage in risk-

Delaware State Rep. Mr. Joe Miro said the bills are designed to protect not only the teen drivers, but the drivers around

I read an article by columnist Mr. Ray McAllister of the Richmond Time-Dispatch, which to make matters worse said, "There are some things you know, both intuitively and statistically...Teens are bad

I respectfully disagree with Mr. McAllister and the bills that lawmakers are trying to pass. If we account for 14 percent of fatal accidents, who accounts for the other

We live in a society where people feel more comfortable pointing fingers than taking responsibility for their own actions. The new bills seek to protect us, but fingers are pointing at us from all directions: from parents, politicians and researchers. I won't pretend that we don't make mistakes when we are driving, because

I'm guilty. There have been more than a few times when I have swerved into another lane while sending a text message to my boyfriend. And there have been plenty of times when my phone has rung and I have fumbled around my purse looking for it without paying much attention to the road. There was one particular time when I was sitting in my car and the person in front of me was on her cell phone. She didn't realize that my car was parked be-

hind hers and she backed into it, denting its hood. But thankfully, nothing serious resulted from this or other situations.

The government exists to protect us. That is its primary objective, right? I don't agree with all our government does, nor do I endorse the perfect picture we have tried to paint over the centuries of our governmental system. Oppression and discrimination have scarred our history, but we claim to be the paragon of equality and justice. Our lawmakers justify discrimination using the word 'protection' But we must protect ourselves. We

can't sit around and wait for legislation to limit our freedom, we should take it upon ourselves to restrain from excessive cell phone use while we are driving. Lawmak ers can't control our lives, we just have to

# Students plan for spring break; parents worry

Staff Writer

With spring break coming up, many young people are trying to gain independence from their parents. Whether it is negotiating an extended curfew or going to Florida, parents are often hesitant to

In recent years, thanks in part to MTV's annual spring break specials, spring break has become infamous for the half naked, drunken college antics that often occur in places like Miami, Fort Lauderdale, South Padre Island and

For STA spring break starts tomorrow at 3 p.m. and it ends March 21 at 7: actions, and whatever consequences may follow. While she understands the rules

Junior Alex Waechter, 17, and sixteen friends, all between the ages of 18 and 22, are flying to Miami, Florida, for spring break. Waechter said that her dad was "cool with it" because he knows the friends that she is going with and because he trusts her.

"I'm a really big party person, and so are all the friends that I'm going with," Waechter said. "We decided that we would go and have some fun. It's not like any of the others are juniors in high

"It's about trustworthiness," said Ms.

Casey Welch, mother of sophomore Laura Welch. "It's also a history of whether or not you did what you were asked." In the Welch household responsibility is important. According to Ms. Welch, the point was made early on to Laura that she was responsible for her

doesn't always like them. "Occasionally I think that, because they don't want me to grow up, there are things that they don't want me to do,"

said Laura. "...I know that they're right a lot of the time, but if they would let me fall on my posterior the first time it wouldn't take me so long to learn."

Laura believes that she might be able to go on a spring break vacation if there was a responsible parent chaperoning and if the friends she went with wouldn't pressure her to party.

"But even a parent being there won't always stop a determined kid from partying," said Laura.

STA guidance counselor Ms. Roseanne Hudnall agrees and she let her children know from the beginning that they would not leave the country for a high school spring break.

"We just decided that, in high school, and restrictions of her household, Laura kids didn't need to leave the country, so from freshman year on that was the rule," said Hudnall. "By senior year, when their friend's trips started getting really outrageous, they didn't even push

Hudnall made her decision, in part, after hearing stories of high school kids going to Mexico and getting arrested, forcing their parents to spend a lot of

> money to bail them out. While she is not going on any trips, there are some advantages in the Welch household during spring break. For example, Laura's curfew is pushed back from 8 to 10 p.m., and she can drive with friends in the car. These changes depend, of course, on who is accompanying her, and whether or not her parents

Whether it's going to Miami or going bowling, for many students the week isn't about the vacations, or lack thereof but about that one week where school doesn't matter.

"I like to go on vacations for spring



Sophomore Laura Welch and her mother Casey disagree on teen topics such as curfews and car rides.

1957 when Market Researcher, James M.

Vicary performed a test in a New Jersey

movie theatre where the slogans "drink

coke" and "eat popcorn" flashed dur-

ing the film for 1/3,000 of a second at

five-second intervals. After the experi-

ment, Vicary claimed that popcorn sales

weeks, and Cokes sales increased by 18.3

percent. Psychologists who performed

conclusions, and in 1958 the American

subliminal ads were "confused, ambigu-

Assistant professor of advertising at

Psychological Association stated that

ous, and not as effective as traditional

the Missouri School of Journalism, Dr.

Shelly Rodgers, says that the goal of all

ads is to sell products and services, while

increasing awareness, changing attitudes,

and informing. Subliminal messages are

not used in advertising, nor are an effec-

"Consumers are not zombies," said

Rodgers. "They must actively process a

message for it to have an effect. In fact,

and smart when it comes to advertising

Some however, would point to the

view, claiming that the glass in the bottom

left area of the can references a woman's

body. Just beneath the lip of the glass,

the bubbles form the shape of a woman's

breast, and the lower portion of the glass

McCulloch disagrees that "sublimina

messages," that fit into the category of

manipulating the unconscious, are used

in current advertisements. He also does

not believe that they ever were an effec-

tive method of encouraging the consum

"If you think just for a second that

who wouldn't do it?" said McCulloch.

throwing everything into our baskets."

"We would be walking down the isle

[subliminal messages] were effective, then

Diet Coke can to contradict Rodgers's

they are difficult to 'trick."

mimics a woman's waist.

to buy the product

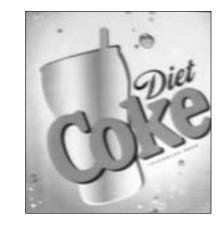
similar tests disagreed with Vicary's

increased by 57.5 percent over the six

## Ads: everywhere you (and your subconscious) want to be



Wilson Bryan Key identifies the word "SEX present in the submerged ice cubes.



Many experts believe the female bodice shaped image of a glass on Diet Coke is representative of a subliminal message.

If you think just for a second that subliminal messages] were effective, then who wouldn't do it?.

-Mr. Dennis Mc-Culloch, Director of Public and Government Relations at the University of Kansas

Staff Writer

As advertising methods change with the progression of time, researchers examine current and past implications of advertising and question whether subliminal messages are, or ever were, effective in advertisements.

Mr. Dennis McCulloch, Director of Public and Government Relations at the University of Kansas Hospital, states that it depends on how a person interprets "subliminal messages" that determines whether "subliminal messages" still exist in advertising. McCulloch states that a "subliminal message" can be defined as one that connects with the conscious dreams, desires, and emotions of a person. These forms of subliminal messages appear in many current ads.

"It's about selling the feeling of the product," McCulloch said In the book Subliminal Seduction Wilson Bryan Key discusses a different type of subliminal message, one that plays on the unconscious. He contends that American mass communication media in the 1960's and 1970's used subliminal language in ads to heavily encourage the consumer to purchase products.

"The basis of modern media effective ness is a language within a language-one that communicates to each of us at a level beneath our conscious awareness, one that reaches into the uncharted mechanism of the human unconscious," writes

Democritus, Plato, Aristotle, and then 19th century Czechoslovakian Psychoanalyst, Sigmund Freud, made the first discoveries about the unconscious mind In *Introducing Freud* by Richard Appig-

nanesi and Oscar Zarate, Freud defines the unconscious mind as being "made up of desires, impulses or wishes of a mostly sexual and sometimes destructive nature.

According to Key, Sigmund Freud's associate, Dr. O. Poetzle, along with his colleagues, theorized that from the 100,000

fixations the human eyes make on a daily

basis, only a small percentage of the in-

formation in these fixations is consciously gathered. The information perceived by the unconscious stimulates consciousness behavior at a later time, having an "alarm clock" or "time bomb" effect. Key argues that consumers cannot

consciously recall an ad or its content even minutes after viewing the ad. Because of this, an advertisement contains subliminal messages that implant the brand in a consumer's unconscious and affect them at a later purchasing time. Key's research of advertisements during the 1960's and 1970's finds that sexua references were embedded in all types

of ads, from those selling children's toys to those selling liquor. In the advertisement for Gilbey's Gin that accompanies this story, Key identifies the word "SEX" spelled out in the submerged ice cubes. According to Key, an "S" appears in the ice cube intercepted by the lime wedge, an "E" in the middle ice cube, and an "X' inside the ice cube resting on the bottom of the glass. Key then explains how advertisers place subliminal messages in advertisements.

"A photographer takes a photograph of a model and props," writes Key. "They are photographed at say 1/150th of a second. A double exposure can then be made at 1/ 1000<sup>th</sup> of a second in which only the word SEX is photographed as a faint impression across some portion of the original

Many researchers criticize Key's conclusions about the intentions of advertis-

According to Cecil Adams, author of the syndicated column "Straight Dope" that appears in 30 newspapers nationwide, although Key's observations of subliminal messaging in advertising are not completely without evidence, there is no organized conspiracy to seduce the public through subliminal techniques. Any subliminal message appearing in an ad today is the work of a practical jokester

in the retouching studio.

According to Adams, subliminal messages first appeared in advertisements in

break, but the main point really is to prepare me for swim suit season than the goddess of bikinis, the queen of the beach, the buff, the only: Island Girl?" After a little barnesandnoble.com action and a short wait of 4-6 days, I was the proud owner of my own copy of Hula Abs and Buns. It was everything I hoped it would be and more. The work-

> and tight abs." Be aware that Kili can become slightly intimidating at times. She comes equipped with a arsenal of guns and a serious six pack, and she doesn't seem to be afraid to use them. Kili is a spitfire grill, and definitely someone I would avoid angering. Yet, it can't be denied that she knows her hula.

Onto the workout itself: this 30 min ute slice of heaven is the perfect blend of toning, dance and tropical music. Seven core hula moves are mastered as the video progresses, the most basic and vital being the kaholo. This side to side move is focused on smooth swaying mo tions of the hips. Kili always says, "Hula is all about the hips." Don't be afraid to shake it; remember it's all for the sake of your abs and buns.

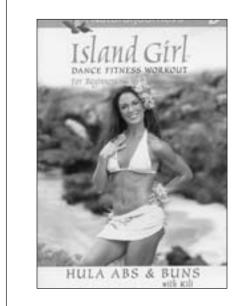
I admit, there were times during my workout I questioned my hula skills. I had some issues with putting the arm and leg movements together; I was oretty embarrassed about it. I wonlered, am I truly cut out to be an Island Girl? Luckily I persevered, and found ny rhythm. Now I know that anyone can be an Island Girl, if you just believe in yourself. Trust me, by the time you reach the 20 minute mark, spectators (if you have spectators for your workout . I'm not here to judge) will be wondering why on earth you moved from

Honolulu to KC. The workout concludes with a flippin sweet Hawaiian dance. From your new knowledge of the seven core hula skills you can dance along with Kili and her

The squatting, plies and ab contracions will leave your buns and abs feelng sore and angry. Yet in several days, the soreness with fade and you will be

left with stronger, leaner muscles. Do not be alarmed if after viewing the Hula Abs and Buns workout you find your hips swaying to and fro at random. Once you release your inner Hawaiian, it may be hard to contain. This graceful and unique island tradition can become a part of your everyday life. Sometimes when I feel stressed, I bust out the double hela and the kawelu

and the nerves just melt away. Kili and I challenge you; dance you my own research has confirmed again and way to slim, toned body with Hula Abs again that consumers are very intelligent



Available at fine retailers such as www.barnesandnoble.com

# **Amplifiers to ears, heart to heart**

"Every Friday night you know it's hardcore-good friends- good times, every Saturday night you know it's hardcore-stage dives-high fives," song lyrics by Death

Threat "As One We Stand," 2002. Kansas City hardcore is more than bands and shows- it's a way of life. Regular show-goers find a welcoming support system instead of an out-of-touch rock concert. The local KCHC scene has provided more than a listening ear to bands, but a family. Bands and show-goers alike find solace at shows by dancing with their friends, singing along, and ultimately just having a good time

"It is such a change from only seeing larger bands from like 50 yards away at an Ozzfest to being like 2 inches away from the band," said drummer of local band Eyes of the Betrayer Scott Koelzer,

The intensity and raw aggression of hardcore play major roles in bringing people together. Unlike any genre of music, hardcore offers an outlet for all types of emotion. From depression to pure anger, fans of hardcore will listen to it and will undoubtedly have a smile on their face

"I immediately connected with the intensity and passion these normal looking people had," said Koelzer. "It was so natural, no bull, all heart and aggres-

With a background in thrashy-punk, Koelzer began going to hardcore shows in 2001 and has faithfully continued.

Self proclaimed members of KCHC pour in from all corners of the Midwest Omaha and St. Louis bands frequently headline in KC and with them bring several residents for support.

"I feel I can go anywhere in the US, go to a hardcore show and make friends, said Rockhurst graduate, Nick Befort, 19. Befort wore the crown of "King of Hardcore" until late 2004 when he relocated homes and scenes to Chicago. To Befort the difference between scenes is

"The scene in Kansas City is just about having fun, definitely a lot more fun than Chicago," said Befort. "We're so elitist up

Elitism is a common problem in local music scenes. Show veterans frown on the alleged 'new jackets' and will do so until they have proven their claim. In

"There are a few kids that are question able and some have the wrong idea," said Koelzer. "But that's going to happen in

However, the positive energy generated through hardcore does not deter to music snobs. According to Befort, KCHC is a community in which it is easy to make friends. The obvious common interest serves as an ice breaker, and relations lead

"I love it here because I've never been afraid to go to a show," said Koelzer. "There's only a handful of people who even go to shows, and we all have that sort of camaraderie, and people are naturally drawn to positive energies.'

Ultimately the wide arrays of age groups, ethnic backgrounds, and personalities have no effect on the force of

"I can go to any show and immediately see my friends, and I hold on to them so tightly, I consider my friends to be my family," said Koelzer. "All the experiences I've had through this scene are things I could never forget and wouldn't trade for

have Technicolor hair.

"Yeah, we're going to start a band called Thoreau-down," says a high-school aged guy in a bicycling hat

Pond? Awesome," responds an older guy. "Yeah, but we have to have a dance team pecause Throwdown has their own dance team," says hat dude's band-mate, who is also wearing a cycling cap. "They wear

and they go to all their shows." Lauren, who is under the impression she's going to ladies' night, is led in blindfolded and the crowd is ushered inside,

"Oh hey," she says nonchalantly. "I didn't see you."

You hope she can't tell that you were otally panicking before she showed up. Clare introduces the band. Libby Zanders, She continually adjusts her jeans, but you keep seeing her butt crack anyway. The vocalist, Anna St. Louis, tall and impossibly thin, fair-skinned and freckled, runs her hands through her messy-wavy wedge haircut. Danni Parleman, the tiny guitarist,

you're going tonight. The Crap Corps show s somewhere downtown, but you have yet to get in touch with the bassist, senior Clare Lapping. Taking a deep breath, you call, hoping not to sound too uncool, and

Moving as quickly as possible, you spend an abnormally long time on your appearance, more time, in fact, than you've spent on your face since Teresian. You burn your dad for a ride, feeling like a complete loser, and come to find out that the Momo is actually on the corner of 19th and Locust.

because both corners are Clare-less, and since you know no one else, your lameness meter hits 95%. This is going to be a long

The Momo Gallery is an expansive onestory garage-like space, with white walls and concrete floors. On the walls are paintings of strings in different colors, and outside are metal sculptures made from railroad ties. The table at the door bears a chocolate cake, because this is a surprise going-away party for Lauren McIntire. At the far end of the room is the setup for the band Anxiety Attack, something you're about to have, because it's 8:56 and there's still no sign of

You wonder if you stick out like a sore humb, because you're surrounded by cool kids in Vans who talk about local bands and

"And all the lyrics will be from Walden

t-shirts that say 'Throwdown Dance Team'

#### **Vans & Blue Hair: Crap Corps At the Momo Gallery**

Features Editor

CENTER SPREAD Kansas City, Missouri

It's 6:00, and you still don't know where discover that the band is playing "after 7:30" at the Momo Gallery on the corner of 18th

But it doesn't matter which corner it is,

where vou run into Clare.

he drummer is tall and tan and gorgeous n red lipstick and black eyeliner, with dark curly hair that's bleached on the underside. lops around and her hair, black except for is white and yellow and blue and green, bounces around as she moves. It is by far the coolest hairstyle you have ever seen.

You hang out and listen to Anxiety Attack's short set, after which the girls start setting up, and Clare goes outside for a "Don't you love how when it's time for

my band to set up, I just leave?" she asks her friend, senior Margaret Rowzee. "I was and hour and a half late for practice tonight. I didn't know I started at 5:00. Libby called when I was in the shower and was like, 'Didn't you know about practice?' and I was like, 'Uh, yeah, sure, I just lost

Margaret laughs. "Yeah," she says, "We were watching 90210 on your couch!"

As Clare smokes, Kevin Morby comes over to say hello, and to tell Clare about the dream he had with her and Anna and Margaret in it. He's a nervous guy, with rigid posture and a quivering energy.

"I'd be more enthusiastic, but I'm sick," he says. "You're about to freak out when

After he tells her about the dream, which involves an empty diner and Clare shopping with Margaret's family, Clare goes inside to help set up.

The Momo smells like beer and pot and the 20-something vintage-clad hipsters are passing around 40s and sake and bottles of Jim Beam in a manner that would spread mono like wildfire. Lauren, the reason for the party, is already slightly drunk as Crap Corps takes the stage.

In front of a poster of Lauren's face photocopied 20 times that says "Crap Corps Loves Lauren," Anna, Libby, Clare and Danny start their raucous set. Anna screams "Braces [expletive] you" repeatedly over fast guitar riffs and Clare looks bored despite the rapid movement of her hands.

Margaret quietly avoids joining in the movement of the crowd, detached from the scene. She focuses mostly on Clare.

"They're funny," Margaret says. "I like to watch them. Anyway, [Clare] wants me to

As the live music ends, the piped in music comes up. Surprisingly, it's old hiphop, featuring such classics as "The Tootsie Roll" and "Jumpin' Jumpin'" by Destiny's Child. Crap Corps gets together, dancing like they're in seventh grade at a Knights of Columbus dance. For a split second the four girls who screamed out a profane show dance like teenyboppers at a sleep over. It's a mini dance party and it's all their own.

Clare decides that it's time to go, and she agrees to give you a ride. Lighting up a cigarette, she says, laughing, "This place takes a lot out of you."

But standing in the light of the Crown Center Hyatt elevator, you don't believe a

# **Aspiring singers seek fame without drawbacks**

Staff Writer

Jessica Simpson's face is plastered all over tabloids, while every night "Access Hollywood" gives the public updates on Britney Spears's love life. These stars are showered with fame and fortune, but they also are always under constant scrutiny from the public eye. Many Kansas City hopefuls question whether or not they want to be the next Britney Spears and have begun to ask themselves if the lifestyle of a star is really worth it.

"Other people live [Spears's] life for her," said Jessica Teahan, a sophomore at St. Thomas Aquinas. "She does not have any privacy, especially from the tabloids and the

Mr. Larry A. Thompson, author of Shine A Powerful 4-Step Plan for Becoming a Star in Anything You Do, said that star quality contains four essential but attainable ele ments: talent, rage, team, and luck. Of these four elements, talent and rage come from within, while team and luck depend on the circumstances and surroundings. According to Thompson, talent is the innate ability one has that can be developed in order to make their life more fulfilling, while rage is the passion for success and a do-or-die mentality. He writes that no one becomes a star without help, so they have a team, or a

"Working hard is luck," said Thompson. "Being prepared is luck." For the Kansas City's aspiring singers,

it is not a question of their talent, team or luck but of their rage. How badly do they want to be a star? "It is probably not likely that I become

a star, but I would like to try it out and live that lifestyle for a week," said Teahan.

Teahan, a strong mezzo-soprano with what she describes as a big range, has been singing and recording Christian music since she was the fifth grade. Along with being on the concert choir at Aquinas and a canter at her school parish Holy Trinity, she is ranked as one of the top 25 Christian artist of the region by the Christian Artist Talent Search. Though she soon must decide between two things she loves soccer and singing she has always been interested in being a professional singer.

"That would be pretty cool," said Teahan "But in terms of reality, I will most likely end up singing for a concert choir in col-

Instead of looking to pop queens like Spears and Jennifer Lopez as role models she sees Martina McBride, a wholesome country singer with strong family ties, as the ideal star "because of her stage presence, outgoing personality, courage, and obviously, her vocal talent. Martina has a really powerful voice. She is who I want to

be in the future but not who I am right now Her only reservations about pursuing a

singing career stem from the hectic lifestyle and the constant criticism from the press. "It can't all be glamour," said Teahan. "It seems tough because you don't have your own life and everyone always is telling you what to do. In one breath I want to be a star, but in the next I don't know if I could

balance, or a line that the public eye can't Though she has reservations about the Hollywood lifestyle, she continues to record CDs and audition for singing competitions. In fact, she recently sent in a tape to try out for Branson Idol, a contest that determines the best performer in the surrounding

have that lifestyle. You have no indepen-

dence and no privacy. There needs to be a

"I am going to give it my best," said

Teahan is not alone in Kansas City in her pursuit for and questioning of stardom. Nina Stingo, a freshman at Notre Dame de Sion, was originally exposed to show biz when her brother was five and was cast for a local commercial. At the time, she was just three years old. Since, she has been doing a lot of local modeling, commercials and voice-overs on the radio. For three years she has taken voice lessons and

prefers to sing Italian classics because they are smoother and do not require a powerful voice. She enjoys expressing her creativity through these outlets of singing and acting Like Teahan, she believes that a great stage performance, poise, creativity and an outgoing personality all explode someone into the spotlight but wonders if she wants to be

"I do not necessarily aspire to be the next Britney Spears," said Stingo. "It is just that I have watched people like her and think that I can do what she does. I wonder about what she has that I don't. Whenever I see her I think, 'Oh! I can do that.'"

In spite of their ambitions, both Stingo and Teahan do not want their every action to be under the press's microscope. "I am not so sure I could handle all the cons that come with stardom: the press, tab

loids and criticism," said Stingo. "Singing is something I enjoy doing now, but I don't know if ten years down the road I would want to be a star. According to Thompson, "Success

doesn't just happen. It is forced into

existence. To be successful, you must be determined to achieve your goal. You can't merely wish, hope, desire or try real hard to succeed. You can't just have ambition. You must have a rage to succeed, tunnel vision, a one-way ticket. You must pay the price because if you don't your competitors will."

A dream realized: night at **El Torreon** 



For the last year and a half, I've been begging my parents to let me go to El For the last year

and a half, the only answer I've received is an adamant "NO." I debated. The thought. I asked again. They didn't change

My mother's largest concern about El

Torreon was the venue's safety. As any teenager knows, it's difficult to argue when a parent has their mind set that a given situation is questionable. So it's easy to imagine that it was quite

process to change her mind. The event that finally did it was Causef

est, a benefit concert held Feb. 27. My mother felt that because it for charity, there was likely to be a more satisfactory and mature crowd present. She also felt that, at 16, I was now a more appropriate

And besides, it was for a good cause

The night of the concert finally came and the idea that I was going suddenly became real. We arrived and I stepped ou of the car. I tossed my jacket inside the car, and walked right into the doors of El Torreon. Simple as that.

It almost seemed too easy. Upon entrance, the lights were low There was a slight buzz, as people milled about waiting for the show to begin. As soon as it did, the crowd thrived and the music deafened, becoming the pulse and heartbeat, joining the people together. The music was the common focus.

I became aware of the bass pounding resounding through my head. It was loud enough to feel. Not only that, but I discovered that my jeans that were draggin on the floor were throbbing along with the

Impressive.

This continued through the night. Each of the three bands I saw were talented. But then again, how much would it have mattered if they weren't good? They had a crowd-pleasing spontaneity and experienced composure, and so much of what goes into seeing a concert at El Torreon, or anywhere for that matter, is the atmosphere. The complete experience is the key.

The show started out with a band called Our Last Chord. The music was loud and powerful, and the crowd loved it. This was evident by the makeshift mosh/dance pit that had formed over to one side of the stage. With an amused smile, I pictured my mother watching this spectacle.

Next, was Ocean Is Ours. They, too, played fast. The stage presence of their ultra-skinny lead singer reminded me of the spastic quality of Taking Back Sunday singer Adam Lazzara. He ran around the stage, swinging and tossing his microphone, and wrapping it around his neck. The last band I saw was Given With

Honor. They played the hardest brand of music yet. The crowd, which seemed to include many people who were already fans loved them. The singer engaged in friendly banter with them throughout the show. For example, one guy jokingly requested: "Play a song that doesn't suck!" The singer smiled. "Well, I don't know if we have any of those...

Sadly, shortly after the fourth band came on, my phone began to buzz. It was time to

When I got outside, one of the first things my father (who had attended many concerts himself) asked me was if I had brought earplugs. I tried to stifle my laughter. He told me

that if I was going to start attending a lot of shows, I should wear them. We'll discuss that later, because I will

most definitely be going back. In fact, there are some upcoming shows that are looking pretty good, and I can hardly wait to return. Well, as soon as I can talk my parents into it again, that is.

# All play, no practice makes Grifter an enjoyable band

Advertising/Business Manager Rewind to Jan. 6, 2004. Bishop Miege

is similar to that of many hardcore showgoers.

seniors Paul Schapman and Kian Byrne have left their old band and form Grifter with senior Dan Wyssmann. For the next seven months the three will be paid to play covers at parties. Fast forward seven months and Schapman and Byrne will recruit junior Paul Shinn. Return to today and the band is practicing. It's just a few short weeks until their audition for the Blue

Valley Northwest Battle of the Bands. When I arrive at guitarist/singer/ drummer Byrne's house and walk down the red-carpeted stairs to the black and white checkered tiles of his basement, the band has already started practicing. Most of the equipment is set up and the band seems ready to go. Bass player Wyssmann helps Byrne tune his guitar. Drummer hapman starts playing while Shinn waits at his keyboard for the boys to fin-

After everyone finishes tuning their struments Wyssmann turns to the band. "What do you want to play?" he asks. "This is probably one of the more excitng practices we've had," says Schapman

jokingly as he looks at me. "Yeah, I'd like to tell you that our pracces aren't like this, but they are," adds

The band bursts into song as if they have nade a split second decision as to which song to start practice with. It's an original song written by Byrne entitled "Café Booth"; it's Byrne and Shinn's favorite song to play.

Byrne adjusts the levels on his amp s the rest of the band continues to play. There is no microphone set up, but they

sing anyway. The song is strong and I can tell the band knows it well. There is only the occasional spurt of laughter as a band member plays the wrong part.

The song ends and Byrne reassures me

Troy Fink, left, rocks out to Given With Honour at Causefest on Feb. 27 as guitarist Mark Hall plays. Fink's support

that there are words to this song, just no microphone. I ask where the band usually plays their

"You know where Verizon is?" Schapman The band's manager and sound techni cian, senior Jerry Woiderski, is in charge

the gigs the band plays. "He's our god," the band agrees. Woiderski is currently trying to get the band to play at Broadway Café. He most recently got the band into Battle of the Bands with the sitar sounds coming from his at the Powerhouse Youth Center, where they amp.

The band discusses which song to play

"It's been a while, but I think we can pull it off," says Wyssmann, talking about

Byrne switches to playing guitar while

Schapman leaves the room for a moment and comes back with a microphone. So there is a microphone. "1, 2, 3, 4," shouts Byrne, counting

the band into Ben Fold's "Song For The Schapman is lead vocalist for this song, Shinn's favorite, and the band plays it

A few minutes into the song, Byrne's phone rings. Schapman notices it lighting up and answers it, holding it up so the caller can hear the music. After a few moments, he hangs it up and they continue playing; the band is obviously more important. Wyssmann laughs and the song sings Ben Fold's lyrics.

man to throw him his phone. Before the band can start another song, Byrne calls the person back, and the band makes fun of him. Apparently the caller is a girl. "Hey, what are you doing?" said Byrne. "Come over now."

The song ends and Byrne asks Schap-

Wait, where are the priorities? The band seems disappointed with his invitation but he assures them that by the time the girl gets there they will be gone.

Byrne returns to his guitar and, after figuring out the microphone stand, Schapnan also moves back to drums. There is a break between songs as Byrne is fascinated

It may seem like these guys are just using practice time to mess around, but it's clear that practice isn't all play. The band switches gears and chooses to work on their

"Let's work on the new songs," says

Byrne shows Wyssmann the bass part of the new song and Schapman joins in on the

"How does it go?" said Wyssmann, stopping. "What's the chorus?" Byrne continues to show him the part and Shinn joins in a little on the keyboard.

"Do you get it?" says Byrne. you don't, you're out," jokes Schap-Shinn starts the song on keyboard and

the rest of the band joins in. This song goes less smooth than the two preceding it and the band occasionally stops to figure a part out or because one of the members has lost count.

The band plays the song for another three or four minutes and it begins to sound better; they don't seem frustrated that they don't get it on the first try. "It's got to go somewhere," says Schap-

man, as Byrne messes around with song The band takes a break from the new ong, joking about some gospel song and laughing as Shinn begins to play a gospelsounding tune on the keyboard. He then switches the sound on his keyboard to or-

Wyssmann and Schapman begin to join in with their instruments. The boys' play is interrupted by foot-

gan and the whole group laughs as he plays.

steps coming down the staircase; the girls The boys start back up on the song they had trouble with, stopping when a band member must perfect his part. Most of the boys seem unphased by the girls' arrival except Byrne, who looks up for the occasional smile.

"You have to come in on six," said Schapman. "I am," said Wyssmann sharply.

It seems as if the boys have spent too long on this song. "God, I'm so sick of this," said Schapman. "Let's play something else." "Do you want to play 'Follow Through'?"

said Wyssmann. "Not really," said Schapman with a laugh. Byrne starts laughing like crazy. "I thought I just heard trumpets," said Byrne. He won't stop laughing. Then ev-

drums, Schapman moves to the micro-

phone to sing and Wyssmann switches to

eryone starts laughing.

"Yeah, we might have to change that,"

twirls his drumsticks, signifying the end of Eventually the band settles down and they start to play the song. Byrne is on

play the song again.

man, stopping "Just play it, who cares?" encourages

"I don't want to play this," said Schap-

"This really is how our practices go," Byrne repeats to me. "No they're not," says Schapman jok ingly. "We're a really productive band who has written two songs in roughly a

The band has actually written four original songs in their time together: "Café Booth" written by Byrne, "Follow Through' written by Schapman with music by Wyssmann, and two songs written by all three original members of Grifter: "Hurry Up 18" inspired by Wyssmann's girl problems and "Best Friend's Little Sister" based on

an experience of Byrne's. They start "Follow Through" in unison and although Schapman sings the wrong words, stops, and laughs, he eventually returns back to the place where the rest of

the band is. They finish the song and begin to discuss the title.

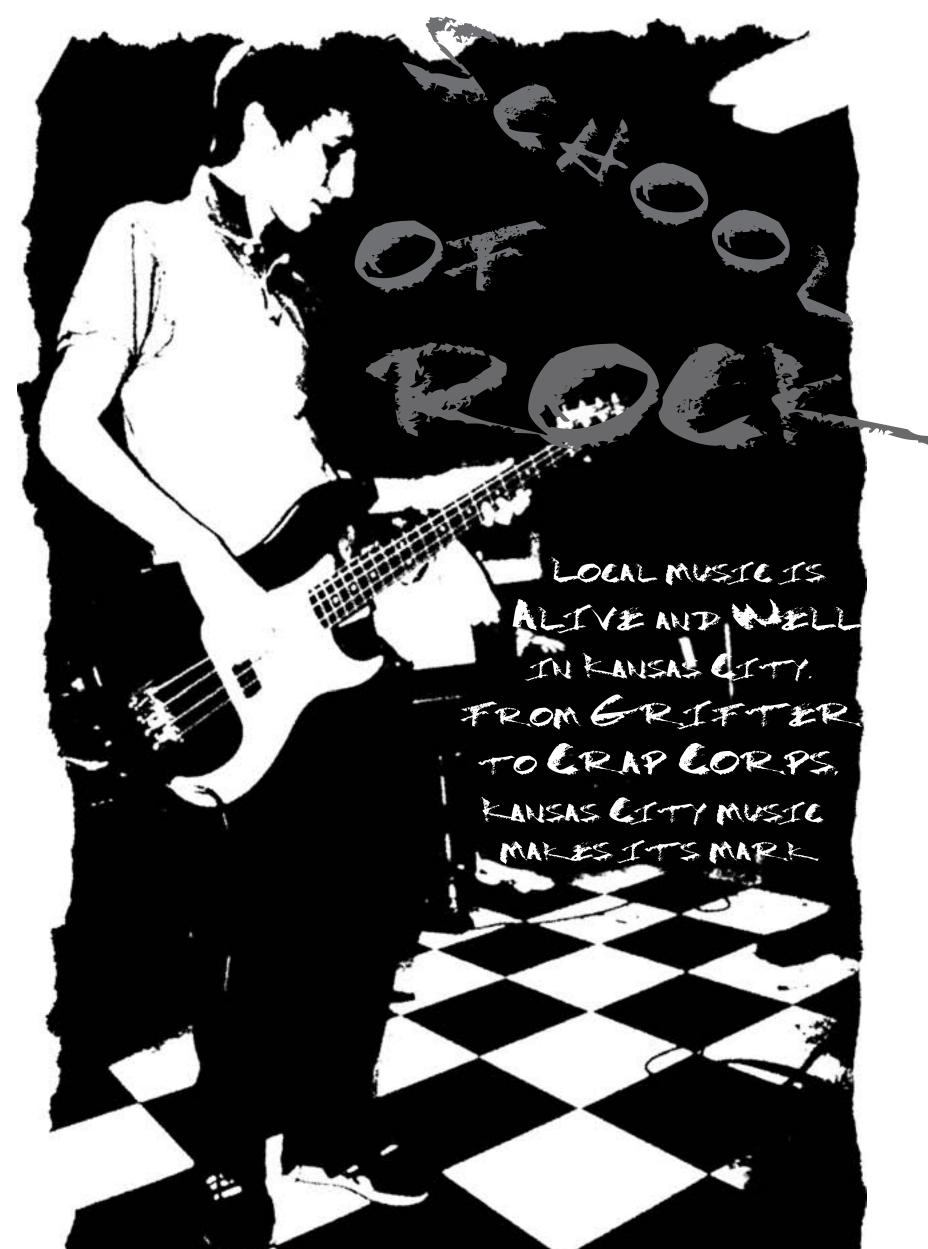
says Schapman. "Apparently Gavin Degraw has a song named 'Follow Through.' The girls chime in for the first time, wanting Byrne to sing a song.

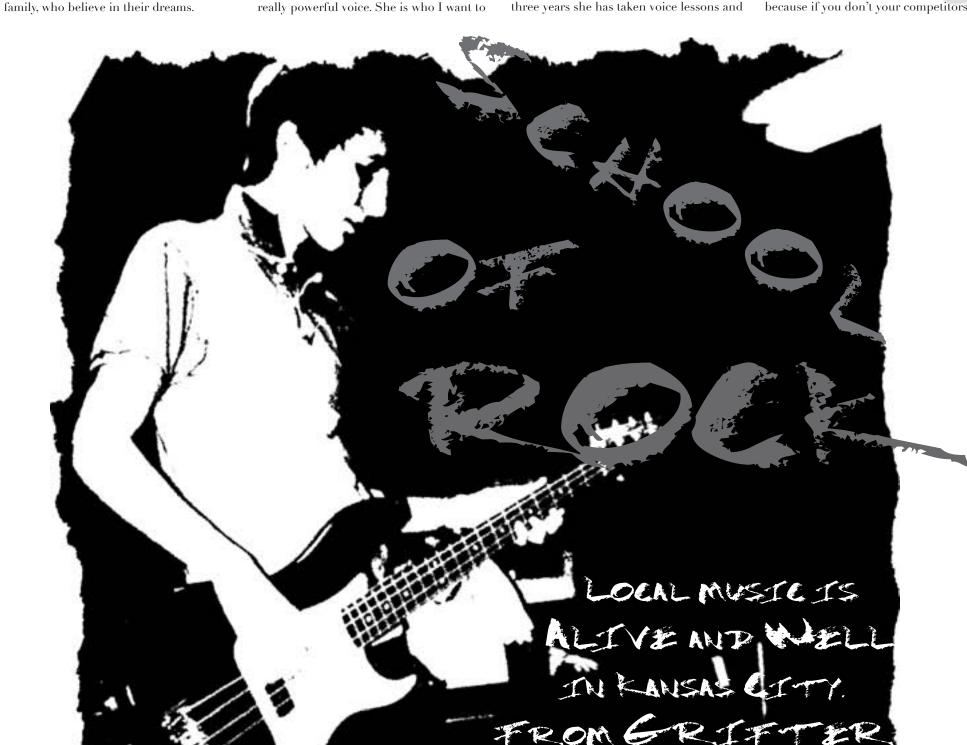
"I guess I'll sing," smiled Byrne.

The band plays a cover of "China

Grove." After the song finishes, Schapman

"We're a hot band," the band agrees. To learn more about Grifter, visit www.xanga.com/GrifterRocks or e-mail them at grifterband@yahoo.com.





In the past, the STA swim and dive team

has not gained widespread popularity in

the school community. The sport has not

been noted for its number of athletes or

achievements over the announcements, nor

are students repeatedly encouraged to put on their face paint and caravan to a meet.

Instead, students hear tales of infamous

belly flops at tryouts and stories from girls

This year, however, the swim and dive

team instituted new changes, as well as two

new coaches, in hopes to build dedication

"We want serious athletes in the swim

program, who want to be more competitive

and are willing to put the required time and effort into being more successful," said STA

One of the most fundamental changes

for the team and entire high school sport,

dual-participation amendment. The Mis-

souri State High School Activities Associa-

tion (MSHSAA) voted in favor of the law

last October. Mr. Phil Lewis, president of

the MSHSAA Board of Directors, stated in

the September 2004 MSHSAA Journal that

the amendment will have positive effects on

Athletes most directly affected by the

passing of the dual-participation amend-

with their club team while still getting the

school. Senior Maggie Mullane, junior Lisa

ment are those who wish to continue

experience of competing for their high

Peterson and freshman Rebecca Rogers

are among the STA swimmers affected by

the amendment. Junior Katie Adair, STA's

only diver on the 34-athlete swim and dive

the sport and its student athletes.

is the passing of By-Law 235, known as the

to, and gain recognition for the sport.

athletic director Mike Egner.

who tried out with hardly any skills.

Copy Editor

# Breaking the habit:

#### 'Nunsense' proves sisterhood rocks

Staff Writer

Wonderfully silly, delightfully irreverent and packed with sidesplitting humor, "Nunsense" is about as nonsensical as its name implies.

The Little Sisters of Hoboken have a dilemma: one of their sisters, Sister Julia (Child of God), accidentally served contaminated vichyssoise soup and 52 of the sisters died. Mother Superior Mary Regina, played by senior Rose Dillon, was subsequently inspired to start a greeting card company by a vision from either Saint Catherine of Sienna or Saint Thomas Aquinas in drag. The greeting cards were a tremendous success and Mother Superior purchased a DVD player, mistakenly believing they possessed the funds to bury all 52. Left with four unburied sisters in the freezer and a looming health inspection,

enough money to bury the remaining four sisters. What ensues is a veritable zoo of furious activity, wherein novice Sister Mary Leo (senior Kathleen Musgrave) pirouettes around the stage; Mistress of Novices Sister Mary Hubert (freshman Elizabeth

the sisters decide to put on a talent show to raise

Warwick) declares rapturously that those who humble themselves shall be exalted; Sister Robert Anne (sophomore Melissa Rhodes) protests her role as an understudy; Sister Mary Amnesia (senior Laura Brewer), assisted by a shockingly irreverent puppet, tries to convince the audience members to join the convent and Mother Superior saunters about with a

And that's not all: following that is a spot-on tapdance number, a hilarious scene where Dillon plays the high Reverend Mother and Sister Robert Anne performs her longed-for solo.

I won't give away the end, but I'll just say that all does end happily.

The set was as quirky as the plot the sisters were using the auditorium of the school Mount St. Helen's, where the students were putting on a production of "Grease." A couple of sound problems were slightly distracting, but the play's humor was so compelling that they were almost immediately forgotten. The live orchestra was outstanding, playing the accompaniment without a single perceptible



in Africa and she would send

said Scribe. "I began to

draw some of them for fun

again they became more

cryptic because of what was

time. They are self portrait

At the Charlotte

Street Awards exhibit

had just fallen

from the sky in the back-

d. The sky was made of different

shades of blues and grays, but the basis

of his background was a sonogram of his

son. The Rhino's parachuting act was a

portrayal of Scribe's "plunge into father-

hood." Although many of his works seem

to appear simplistic, many hold pieces of

Scribe themselves; each of his works is a

Occasionally Scribe will incorporate

Bible verses in his art as well. Scribe's

high school in Boston, Scribe moved to

Kansas City to attend the Kansas City Art

Scribe sculpted a

a parachute, which

going on in my life at the

Kansas City, Missouri

Senior Kathleen Musgrave, from left, freshman Elizabeth Warwick, senior Rose Dillon, sophomore Melissa Rhodes and senior Laura Brewer do the can-can during STA's rendition of the musical "Nunsense."

The success of this play is unquestionably a result of its small but enormously talented cast. Brewer, Dillon, Musgrave, Rhodes and Warwick performed with rarely any hesitance and a comfortable familiarity with each other, singing enjoyably (often amusingly) and coaxing chuckles from the audience wherever they go. Utterly believable as eccentric, habit-hiking

nuns, the five actors truly outdid themselves. "Nunsense" was an enjoyable, humorous and slightly mad departure from reality, into the lives of five nuns who, despite their substantial differences, managed to pull together to raise enough money to bury the poor blue sisters in the freezer. And besides, Sister Harriet approves.

#### Scribe added more of himself The art of Staff Writer Bright orbs of green, yellow, and blue dot the side of the building. Vivid streaks of pink and red tear through the bricks. Oddly shaped creatures waltz from corner to corner. Crafted signatures and letters tell a story for all to wall, build-

ing after building; each one painted with graffiti such as this. At first one might glare at this

graffiti has an artis to it. The paintings seem to resemble scribbles or funny characters, but all of the markings have meanings, at

so-called

vandalism, bu

others might

least to the artists. Graffiti comes in many shapes, sizes and letters. Each artist chooses his or her own style, adding a little flare to their paintings, but the basics are universal. Letters are categorized into different styles. For example, the most common is the "tag style". This is the standard style that most people use because it is quick and easy, but not exactly the simplest to read. Tag style is used primarily for signatures and street numbers; the first was

TAKI 183 used by a man named Demetrius in Washington Heights, New York. Other styles include "throw-up," "wild," "complex," "3D" and artists' own personal creations. These styles are more complex and artistic; they are used for bigger spac-

help others distinguish work of artists, it is still hard to read for many. "Well, think of it like this...In the

Muslim world, calligraphy is still an art in a way that English speakers and such have almost forgotten about," said Mr. Nick Ahloe, a fan of the graffiti scene ir Kansas City. "China and Japan enjoy calligraphy also. In Islam, one of the premier art forms is writing the name (or 99 names) of Allah in the most beautiful way possible and a lot of it is in a very formal or very artistically liberal form of Arabic that is not very legible. Anyway, think of it as a resurrection of calligraphy, trying

to experiment with letters and words, stretching them to new understandings and applying art to them. The first tip people always give new graffiti writers who are sketching is to start simple. You have to understand the building blocks

a lot I still can't read. But, sometimes I recognize a person's individual style before I recognize which

letters. Many people use characters or special symbols to denote their presence. father was a minister in Hamilton, Massa-"There's a guy named Bigfoot in northern California that uses the image of a Bigfoot a lot," said Ahloe. "Space Institute and gradually strayed away from Invader uses colored tiles to make space invaders like from the video game. UFO Christianity. A few years later Scribe paints this horrid looking alien head in a UFO with tentacles coming out of the bottom. And MEAT paints a chicken leg."

met James Ramirez, and together they attended church and eventually, with several others, they formed the Daystar Tribe, which is a Christian graffiti group. One such person in the Kansas City area is Mr. Donald Ross, more commonly They often use Bible verses and scenes known as "Scribe". Scribe uses cartoon in their illustrations. Unfortunately, the characters to illustrate walls around Daystar Tribe was in conflict with some Kansas City. He has also been featured in of Scribe's views, and he excused himself many art exhibits, including the Charlotte Street Awards exhibit, in which each year "The Daystar Tribe had different ideas

seven Kansas City artists are given a fourof importance on graffiti and other things figure grant on the basis of artistic merit. in life," said Scribe. "There is a Bible Scribe has been doing murals since the verse that says something like 'unequally yoked, or not wholeheartedly into someday he began painting on walls. Unlike most people who enjoy graffiti art, Scribe thing, then it should not be done.' They did not begin with letters, but rather were just loosely based; they hardly spoke. with characters. As each character grew, I joined another group called DF and

they are a group of guys that just genuinely care about each other. They talk about other things than graffiti [unlike Daystar Tribe members], like being parents; they are interested in more, like friends

Scribe felt that, although Daystar Tribe didn't offer him the same friendship values as that of DF, the members were still great people, but they were younger than him and had different valuables in life.

Scribe, at the age of 29, has a one-year-old son named Elijah, who is an example of one of Scribe's valuables. His son's birth. along with the fact that Scribe is less in the graffiti scene these days, helped Scribe stray away from the Daystar Tribe

Currently Scribe paints murals in the Children's Mercy Hospital downtown. He has done other work around town, such as a mural in Science City and one in Bartle Hall. Many people know Scribe by much of his older work, like the mural on Big Dudes on Broadway and on the wall of Zowie in Westport. Aside from paint

ing, Scribe aspires to make it big in the iterary world for children. However, even with artists like Scribe who are obtaining careers, there are still local artists who continue to paint our streets with new graffiti art. With the number of graffiti artists high, the level

of security and consequences remain a threat. Mayor Kay Barnes enacted a new law in Nov. 2003, which required all building owners to "beautify their property" or else pay a fine; if the business did not buff the graffiti off their walls in a certain time period, then the city would fine the owner and clean the walls themselves. With the new policies, business owners are on the lookout constantly, leaving the artists less time to put their work up on walls.

"I think putting your name up shows that you have been there, that it's not just a wall, it's somewhere that a person has been," said Ahloe. "Its like David and Go liath, a fight against the looming impersonal brick and concrete behemoths."

Even with the new laws in effect, the artists continue to strive to get their work out into the world and continue to tag walls. To them it is beautiful; to others it is vandalism. So who is right and who is

#### Comtroversy New swim season promotes commitment in Sports

Is the MSHSAA class structure fair? Caroline Findlay



I have never quite nderstood the class stem of the Missouri tate High School Athetic Association (MSH-SAA). I know there are

classes for each sport. I know the size of enrollment at each school factors into wha class it qualifies for. I know because STA is a private, all-girls school, it has special guidelines to follow. But I have heard time and time again that some consider our situation at STA to be unfair.

Athletic director Mr. Mike Egner helped answer all my questions about the classes. First, a rule that has been around for a while is that STA must multiply its enrollment by 2 because we are an all-girls school. So, our enrollment goes from

The effect forces all private schools to multiply their enrollment by 1.35 students.

about 530 to 1060. This is fair because other schools have about half as many girls as they do students, so STA is brought to opponent's levels.

Second, is the multiplier effect. This came about three years ago when public schools began questioning private schools getting students from a larger area (STA has students from all over Kansas City), while public schools have a limited region from which to get students. Another point public schools argue is they have some students over the age of 18 and others with special needs. Those students are unable to compete, so the school automatically loses part of their student body, which private schools do not deal with. Public schools should decrease their enrollment instead of private schools increasing theirs.

The High School Activities Association works for Missouri high schools to make guidelines and restrictions that regulate sports. They organize votes that are requested by different high schools. The multiplier effect was put on the ballot three years ago much to the anticipation of small public high schools and it was passed when the majority of high school representatives in Missouri voted to pass it. The effect forces all private schools to multiply their enrollment by 1.35 students. So, we go from 530 to 1060 to 1431

The schools that benefit the most are small public high schools because now many private schools bump up a class and compete against larger public schools.

The way the class system works, is the more schools that have a sport, the more classes there are. Football has six, basketball has five, cross-country and track have four and tennis and golf have two. Dance team does not have any classes. STA is more affected by the class jump in basketball because we are one of the smallest schools in class five. Some schools have up to 2800 students (about 1400 girls), so STA competes against schools with approximately three times as many girls. We are also disadvantaged by this is crosscountry and track. But one sport that has persevered through the multiplier is soccer, which has two classes. When STA won its first state championship in 2002, we were in class one. But the next year when the multiplier effect was passed we jumped to two and still won State, so our soccer team did not back down to bigger schools.

Many other issues have surfaced since the multiplier effect regarding private schools having an advantage over public schools. It is not fair to classify STA or any other private school ahead of public schools because of any reason. No matter what the restrictions put upon us, it is essential we continue to push forward and make winning our priority.



## Calendar

March 22 @ Olathe South (JV/Varsity) March 23 vs. Miege (C team/JV/Varsity March 28 @ Aquinas Tournament (Varsity) April 5 vs. Sion (JV/Varsity) April 7 @ Columbia Hickman (JV/Varsity April 9 vs. Blue Springs South (JV/Varsity Track and Field: March 22 @ Ruskin (Freshman/JV/Varsity) March 29 @ Ruskin (Freshman/JV/Varsity

The track and field season opened with a record number of 62 participants. The team welcomed a new distance coach, Mr Troy Fitzgerald, who replaced Ms. Karen Moran. Fitzgerald joins throwing coach Mr. Mark Ulich, jumping coach Mi Robert Albert and head coach Ms. Ann

North at 4 p.m.

Track & Field

Patke practices her routines at Line

Feb. 14 marked the first day of practice

for the swim and dive team. The team wel-

comed two new coaches, Ms. Katie Turner

and Ms. Kim Ryden. The team consists of

32 swimmers and one diver, junior Katie

Adair. Swimmers practice is Monday

through Thursday from 7:30 p.m. to 9:

30 p.m. at Shawnee Mission East. Their

first meet is March 24 at Shawnee Mission

Creek Ice Arena Feb. 25.

Swimming & Diving

team, works with her club diving coach two nights a week as well as attending school practice, thanks to the amendment. None of the athletes' club commitments interfere with STA practices or meets however.

The team also has two new coaches this season. Head coach Ms. Katie Turner from McPherson, Kansas was a NCAA Division II All-American in distance freestyle in 2000 and 2001 at Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia, AR. Assistant coach Ms. Kim Ryden, swam for Grandview High School and now teaches swim lessons. She plans to learn more about diving so she can also be an instructor. Both were chosen out of about six other applicants.

"Their desire was impressive," said Egner. "Their time commitment was perfect. They had excellent references and are genuinely good people. Their goals include helping each individual swimmer to become the best she can be through progressive training." According to Peterson, the team has ad

justed to Turner and Ryden's coaching style "Both [coaches] are very young, energetic and enthusiastic," she said. "They're excited about the season."

Another change for this season is high ly-recommended team conditioning, held two days a week after school in the weight room. The conditioning includes cardio exercises, abdominal workouts and weight training, which is designed to improve the swimmers' technique in the water. Conditioning is also geared toward team building.

said Peterson. "This year, I think conditioning will make us grow stronger as a team." Missing a practice will now result in bigger consequences. Two unexcused missed practices result in termination. If

"We didn't condition as a team last year,"



Caroline Findla

STA head swimming coach, Ms. Katie Turner, instructs junior Bridget Kelly, from left, senior Molly Hough and sophomore Abby Fagan after completing laps Feb 28

an athlete misses a practice because of an appointment, emergency or school-sponsored activity, the parent must call or write a note. According to Peterson, Egner and the coaches want to be more strict about practices than they have been because they want swimmers to improve with the limited pool time. The team practices four times a week at Shawnee Mission East, so if a swimmer or diver misses practice, they miss 25 percent of their workout that week. The team is scheduled for 11 meets dur ing the season. It is likely that the team will acquire more meets, as scheduling often

takes place just as the season begins. "[The] coaches are doing a great job," Egner said. "Our swimmers and diver seem to be very committed and willing to work hard to improve. Everyone seem to be hav-

# Star skates to the top Junior dedicates to early morning practices

Staff Writer

Junior Katherine Patke rubs the sleepi-Patke to fall. She smiles, flashes a thumbsness from her eyes in a circular motion and squints as she makes the familiar 25-minute drive to Line Creek Ice Arena in the northland. She expresses how lucky she is today, President's Day, because her practice starts later, at 8 a.m. compared to her usual 5 a.m. ractice on weekday mornings.

will be stretched and

is used to getting up

early for what she calls

'serious fun," but she

still doesn't enjoy the

schedule. She dislikes

the fact that when she

finishes practicing,

ready for practice. She

Patke explains her normal morning routine for Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. She wakes up at 3:30 a.m. so she



**Patke** 

she only has time to rush home and change before school. "It's not fair," said Patke. "Everyone else gets to take showers in the morning but I

always have to take them at night." Today she drives herself, but usually one of her parents takes her because her license does not allow her to drive before 5 a.m. When she arrives, she warms-up off the ice with three minutes of jump-roping and three minutes of stretching. Then she laces up her skates and heads out to the rink.

Patke puts one of her CDs in the player and loud, upbeat music from the video game Dance Dance Revolution blares out. She races onto the ice and zooms around the rink she shares with four other skaters. All the girls are different ages and at different skill levels. Patke weaves around the others, practicing different moves. Her coach, Ms. Chris Lebeau, is standing in the ice box instructing a 12-year-old on how to perform a turn in her short program. Just

Bode-Rodriguez. The first meet is on

March 22 at Ruskin and the athletes are

tices necessary to participate in the first

meet. The runners also have access to the

Final cuts were made for the varsity,

junior varsity and C soccer teams March

3. All teams are currently practicing and

working towards their first games. The first

game takes place on Tuesday March 22 at

Olathe South. The freshman team plays a

4:30 p.m. and varsity/junior varsity play at 5

p.m. According to the varsity head coach,

Scott Siegel, Olathe South is one of STA's

working to make the number of prac-

UMKC track twice a week.

toughest competitors.

Briefs written by Leslie Herring

"Some coaches bring in other people to choreograph," said Lebeanu. "But I like to make up routines.'

Mrs. Mantarro tells her daughter to show Lebeau the new routine she is working

Star Athlete

11-13. Patke was asked to be the featured skater and will be paid \$250.

After 30 minutes of private instruction.

Patke heads to the locker room and unlaces

her skates. She points to a picture of her

synchronized skating team. Their name is

"GO FIGURE" and are made up of 12 teen

age girls. Patke explains her team is moving

up a level and tryouts will soon take place

to add a few new members. She has been

competing with this team for mre than five

six months after she began taking lessons.

Patke began competing individually only

"It's funny the way all this started," Patke

said. "My parents got me ice skating lessons

for Christmas seven years ago and I've been

Patke usually competes in five competi-

tions a year. She explained that there really

are not many skaters in Kansas City, so she

usually has to travel. She has competed all

over Missouri, Colorado, Michigan, Georgia

and plans to travel to Dallas in October. In

2002, she was named the second alternate

to compete in Junior Nationals and is cur-

rently ranked ninth in the region for her

Patke wanted to be an Olympic skater

when she was younger but now she doesn't

"You really have to give up everything

for that, and I've already given up a lot,"

While packing up her bag, Patke

explains her future plans. She hopes

to attend St. Louis University and then

25-minute trip home much more awake

become a meteorologist. She will not give

up skating completely and wants to become

want skating to be her whole life.

doing it ever since."

up and comes to the door of the rink. "This is so embarrassing," said Patke. "I don't know what's wrong, I never fall. I am probably just nervous because no one from school has ever seen me skate.'

wards, another girl gets in her path causing

As time passes, girls come and go. One structor begins to choreograph a less advanced girl's routine and Patke's coach is instructing another. Then, suddenly the buzzer goes off, signaling Patke has been skating for an hour. Her coach calls her over to the ice box where her mother is sitting. Lebeau starts the music to Patke's long program as she glides on the ice, which is almost empty. She practices the same section continuously as her coach

shakes her head in disapproval. "Something just looks wrong," said Lebeau. "I don't like the way it looks, and make sure to keep your arms up."

Lebeau decides to change it and in structs Patke to skate while lifting her leg in the air then turn and go into a double lutz. After insisting that she can't, Lebeau tells Patke she must try. She lands the jump almost perfectly on her first try. Lebeau then turns to Patke's mother Mrs. Mantarro and tells her that she knew Patke could do it.

"Katherine is one of my hardest workers," said Lebeanu. "She is very focused and always has a plan."

Lebeau has been skating since she was eight and coached for over 30 years. She coaches six days a week and five hours a day. Lebeau has taken skaters to national and international competitions. She instructs and choreographs 15 kids' programs.

Now Patke gets ready to head home. She walks to her car and prepares to make

# Caroline Findlay

Ford practices the discus March 7.

• First learned about throwing (shot put and discus) in middle school • Started throwing in sixth grade, but did not compete in meets • She learned that STA had a team, but was hesitant to join until Ms. Ann Bode-Rodriguez encouraged her

than when she arrived.

Accomplishments • First place at the Ruskin meet and second place at the Piper meet in 2004 • Took home three third place medals in 2004 season

• Lettered as a sophomore Goals • Hold the record for shot put and discus

• Throw shot put in college. ~Compiled by Leslie Herring

# Club Q offers inexpensive fun

Lifestyles Editor

Northland teens were tired of conjuring up fun things to do on weekends, and before the opening of Q, a teen dance club, many spent their Saturday nights at home. "It was a new thing to try," said Brent

Walter, a junior at St. Pius X High School. "I usually just hung out at my house or someone else's house on the weekends." According to manager Ryan Frazier,

Q's goals are to provide teens with a

fun and safe atmosphere to socialize, dance, dine and play pool without going broke. Many teens argue that Q is the best

club in the metropolitan area that caters "The Q is definitely the place to be because it has the best music and a lot of

energy," said senior Amen Iyamu.

bustling with kids. "It has the atmosphere of an adult club," said Iyamu. "Kids actually dance

On Friday or Saturday nights, Q is

with each other and no one holds back." Walking in the door, one will see the

many pool tables. Cues hang on the wall and stools are scattered along the border of the room. A small ramp leads one from the pool hall to the dance floor. Several round tables are positioned near the floor for onlookers or for dancers to

The Q attracts teens from all over the metropolitan area.

Senior Ashley Ramsey drove nearly 45 minutes to Q and claimed it was worth

"I imagine that [the location] might be a pain for kids with curfews and also for slow drivers," said Ramsey. The Q is open on Friday nights for

middle school students, the minimum age of entry is 13. On Saturday nights, the club is open to high school students, the maximum age of entry being

"Saturday nights around nine o'clock is usually the busiest time for us," said Frazier. "When we get to capacity, which is right around 300, people have to wait

According to Frazier, parents are pleased to know that Q strives to provide the best possible safety for teens. Frazier

his/her pockets and go through a metal detector. There are usually two people at the door checking IDs as well to ensure that only middle or high school students "We also always have a Clay County

Sheriff on site both nights," said Frazier. Q also maintains a hold on their dress code. The code is comparable to that of a public high school. No headgear of any kind (hats, do rags, etc.) are tolerated

and Frazier discourages teens from wear-

ing the same color because it can tip off gang related groups. As with any teen hangout, quarrels among teens are common, but Frazier commented that there has never been anything so out of control that the club wasn't able to handle it.

"If someone commits an offense, they are out forever," said Frazier. Ramsey explained that she felt very safe while at the club, but she recommends that teens "I went with a few other girls just

because I like to travel in groups," said

Ramsey. "Especially in unfamiliar areas."

Q is proud to be a very diverse club

plained Iyamu. "You just have to hit the dance floor and start having fun because the music is great." The club is currently closed Sunday through Thursday, but is open from 6

Yet at Q, there are no inhibitions, ex-

as well. The club attracts people from all

different schools, areas and backgrounds.

North Kansas City teens enjoy the dance floor and atmosphere of the new

under 21 club, The Q. The club has pool tables, concessions, seating, a dance

p.m. to 12 a.m. on Fridays and 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. on Saturdays. Music begins at 7 p.m. on both nights. Frazier believes that in the near future, however, that the club will open for weekdays at a lesser entry fee of \$4. The Q is located at 6829 North Oak Traffic way and can be reached at (816) 468-0100.



April 1 @ Wyandotte HS (JV/Varsity) April 5 @ Turner (JV/Varsity) April 8 @ Miege (JV/Varsity)

March 24 @ SMN (JV/Varsity) April 1 @ Park Hill (JV/Varsity)

Swim and Dive:

# beyond



#### cool

Rose Dillon Features Editor



There is a place, north of Westport but not beyond the river, a place of Mexican restaurants, First Fridays and old Kansas City buildings. That magical place is Southwest Boulevard.

The easiest way to access this wonderland from Brookside is to drive north on Broadway till you see the Architectural Salvage building on the corner of Broadway and Southwest Boulevard.

Inside the former bank building is a treasure trove of ancient and not-so-ancient architecture—windows, dressers, baseboard trim, 1920's beveled glass doors and (drum roll please) a really old pinball machine that stays there forever. So if your parents are there looking for cabinets because they're remodeling your kitchen, you can become a pinball wizard with such a supple wrist while they search for the perfect depression-era wrought hardwood cabinets.

Right next-door is Lulu's Thai Noodle Shop, a really fabulous restaurant that serves (what else?) Thai noodles. The light fixtures are upside-down woks, and there's a fountain. This isn't just any fountain, however. If you're lucky, you get to eat your food right next to it, watching goldfish swim around. The servers are really cool, and dress very stylishly in their all-black get-up. There's one surly woman who totally rushes you to eat quickly so she can finish her shift, but the rest of them are awesome.

Two doors down from Lulu's is Skates Belting and Supply Co., a place you really don't need to go into unless you need belting supplies, but that looks really cool for peeking in the windows after dinner. And there are these two cats that hang out in the front right window and sniff each other like they've never met before, which is completely impossible because they're living in the same store. Probably no one else would notice the weird behavior of these cats, but Beyond Cool feels that it has a responsibility to pay close attention to details so that readers know the lowdown.

At 2856 Southwest Boulevard, northwest of Lulu's, is Ponak's Mexican Kitchen, Beyond Cool's favorite place for chips and salsa, as well as fabulous enchiladas. According to an anonymous grandmother, they also have great margaritas, but since everyone reading this (and writing this) is underage, use that knowledge strictly to get a ride from your parents.

If, after your spicy Mexican or Thai dinner, you feel like a walk, and it's the first Friday of any month, you're in luck, because you're right in the Crossroads art district, and gallery hopping is a great way to spend a Friday night. You can talk to the artists and buy pieces (if you have that kind of cash), or you can look around and pick up inspiration for your own art. You might even have an opportunity to see the Art Institute cheerleaders, Rah-Booty, who have highly political cheers and accessorize their uniforms with body piercing.

The most interesting gallery is the three-story Arts Incubator, at 113 W. 18th Street. The Incubator Gallery is on the bottom floor, and the upper stories contain the studios of local artists. During First Fridays, the artists keep their cubicle-like studios open to the public. During your gallery crawl you can see multiple artists in one place, and you can talk to them about their work. It's fun, and when you talk about it on Monday, everyone will think you are a total stud.

Not only is 18th street lined with galleries full of fascinating sculptures and two-dimensional art, but it's also home to Second Honeymoon, an extremely cool boutique full of vintage styles, right next to Birdies, which sells the cutest undergarments ever made. Okay, maybe that was an exaggeration, but they are really adorable, and they're made by two local artists. Supporting local businesses is always wicked bad

Other fun places in the area are Hot Topic, the famous burger place and Zin, a fine dining establishment that serves Asian fusion cuisine.

So ladies, if you're ever at a loss for something fun to do, and you're willing to spend more than thirty seconds searching for a parking space, head down to the Boulevard and be prepared for a million awesome diversions.



Rachel Straughn

Cars whiz past the Peach Tree on 18th Street. The Peach Tree is just one establishment that has contributed to the historical neighborhood's renewed popularity.



Rachel Straughn

While eating, Peach Tree diners often enjoy live music on the restaurant's piano.



Rachel Straughn

The Blue Room hosts a Jazz Poetry Jam the third Tuesday of every month.

# Revitaized jazz district offers glimpse of past $(\mathcal{Oth} \mathcal{U})$ $\mathcal{U}$

Cierra Chuly Obioha News Editor

Strolling through the historic 18th & Vine, I think to myself that there is a bit of soul in Kansas City. I inhale the history around me. These are the same streets where notable jazz musicians played and where many black businesses began. 18th & Vine is full of culture and after so many years it is still alive. However, not many teens consider going to 18th & Vine even though there is so much to experience here.

"Many teens keep from going to 18th & Vine because of fear, but I've always felt welcomed on 18th & Vine," said Mr. Mark Fudemberg. "I have never had an uncomfortable feeling at 18th & Vine, and when Mr. Whitney and I took some of our classes there, the students had a very positive reaction."

18th & Vine was revitalized in the 1990's, but originally became popular in the 1920's during segregation. African Americans weren't allowed in white-owned theaters, nightclubs and hotels so they began to establish their own. Soon, the word spread to many cities about this sophisticated black neighborhood, and 18th & Vine became Kansas City's main attraction. Even whites began visiting to observe the neighborhood and hear the jazz.

18th & Vine is not just known for its contribution to jazz but also its influence on black commercial activities. It's the home of the *Kansas City Call*, a black-owned newspaper founded in 1919, and the first black-owned automobile dealership in the United States.

Many teens are not aware of the history Kansas City possesses. That history can be found on 18th & Vine. Today, the museums, clubs, and black businesses capture its legacy and history.

The history of 18th & Vine is told through the Jazz Museum, the music is shared in the Blue Room and the food is devoured at restaurants like the Peach Tree. There is much to see and learn on 18th & Vine.

#### The Peach Tree

Peach Tree captures the soul of Kansas City with its food and the elegance of the neighborhood with its setting.

Although its warm and classy decor gives an impression to the average teenager that the only dishes offered are filet mignon and prime rib, a few of the dishes offered are southern fried chicken, greens and a bread basket served with every meal. The food is made with fresh ingredients and the bread-basket includes an assortment of savory dinner rolls and flavorful sweat potato corn bread that can only be found there.

Professionals spend their lunch breaks at Peach Tree, but according to those adults and workers interviewed, teenagers are most certainly welcome and should not be discouraged from stopping by.

"It's not just middle aged people who can come to Peach Tree," said 23 year-old host Ms. Tamica Pickens. "All are welcome to come."

The waiters are friendly and the prices are reasonable at the Peach Tree. Pricing for meals are from \$5 to \$15. The Peach Tree is open Tuesday through Thursday 11 am 9 p.m., Friday 11 am

10 p.m., and Saturday 12 p.m. 10 p.m.. I recommend visiting Peach Tree with family during weekdays or with a boyfriend on a Friday night when there is live entertainment and a candle-lit setting.

#### Blue Room

Up the street from Peach Tree is the Blue Room. The Blue Room is a smoke=free environment dedicated to keeping jazz music alive in Kansas City. The Blue Room offers live entertainment performed by both well-noted musicians and upcoming artists.

"I love the Blue Room," said senior Laura Brewer. "I've been there a lot of times to see my Dad play and on Monday nights for their Jam sessions. When I go, there are a lot of high school and college kids there. The best time I had is when I saw saxophone player Kenny Garrett. He was incredible."

Other artists like Ida McBeth and the Boulevard Big Band are just a few more that can be spotted there.

"The first time I went to the Blue Room was last year with my boyfriend on a date," said senior Carrie Brogan. "He wanted to take me somewhere nice and it was. The stage is centered and the seats are all around and above it. We sat in the seats around the stage and when Ida McBeth sang the first note, I was like wow. There were people of all ages. It's a cool place to hang out "

For those who are not interested in the musical aspect of the Blue Room, The Blue Room holds a Jazz Poetry Jam on the third Tuesday of every month. It's from 8 10 p.m. and in the student division, participants must be at least 17 or have their parent's permission.

According to Mr. Glenn North, the first 15 students that sign up that night will be given the chance to read their poetry. The first place winner wins \$100, second winner wins \$75, and third place winner wins \$25.

Admission is \$5 unless otherwise noted. The Blue Room is open Monday through Thursday from 5 p.m. -11 p.m., Friday 5 p.m. 1 am, and Saturday 7 p.m. 1 am.

#### American Jazz Museum

The American Jazz Museum is unlike many museums in Missouri. What distinguishes this museum from these other museums is its use of hands-on activities, creatively preserving jazz heritage.

Instead of simply reading a biography on an artist, one can put on headphones and learn about artists by hearing their music. Through a device that allows the creation of music, visitors learn about how the producers made music at that time. Learning about Duke Ellington, Louis Armstrong, Ella Fitzgerald and Kansas City's own Charlie "Bird" Parker is joyful with the Jazz Museum's creative use of technology.

"The first time I went to the jazz museum was on my 12th birthday," said senior Ali Sherman. "My grandpa took me. He's a huge jazz fan. Charlie Parker was always my favorite but my grandpa loves everyone. I had a lot of fun, but I bet I would enjoy it more now than when I was 12."

The hours for the Jazz Museum are 9 am 6 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and noon 6 p.m. Sunday. The American Jazz Museum is where one should go to find the many musicians who left Kansas City with a fascinating history.