

Volume 67 ★ Issue 6 ★ April 17, 2008

# THE DART

ST. TERESA'S ACADEMY



## **new mortal sins**

**The Catholic Church creates a list  
of social offenses to remain  
relevant in an era of globalization**

**see pages 12-13**



# STA to update security

Administration to review school security, implement many changes by next year as part of five-year plan

by KATE RAINEY  
Co-Editor-in-Chief

STA will add three new elements to its security system in the next year: cameras to monitor the parking lots, a system which will keep the front doors locked at all times and updates to the crisis plan.

STA already has added six elements over the past year: a new Public Announcement system; phones in all classrooms; "No Public Restrooms" signs on the front doors; the School Reach program, which enables the school to communicate with parents in case of emergency; Mr. Ben Casey does security during the day; and principal of student affairs Mary Anne Hoecker and facilities manager Mike Farmer met with the Kansas City Police Department last summer to review plans and provide the police with the latest blueprints of the school.

According to Hoecker, no particular incident spurred these changes. President Nan Bone plans to beef up the security system as part of the five-year plan.

### Monitoring the parking lots

One of the goals is to fix cameras on the rooftops of the three buildings on campus to monitor the parking lots. In the past, someone stole a student's car and in a separate incident, someone vandalized a student's car. In both cases, there was no way for the school to identify the perpetrator. Hoecker believes these cameras will help deter vandalism and theft. And in case of an incident, it would help police or school officials identify offenders.

### Securing the doors

Bone also wants to install a computerized system on the front doors of each build-

ing which will allow them to remain locked from the outside during school hours. The school hasn't decided on the exact system it will install. One possibility is a key pad installed on each door into which students would enter a code - probably the last four digits of their phone numbers - to unlock it, Bone said. Other systems include a fingerprint identification pad or a machine a student would slide her card through.

The doors would also be equipped with a doorbell and camera. The camera would be linked to a monitor located in the front office. Someone who didn't know the code would have to ring the bell and explain his reason for being on campus before one of the secretaries decided whether to allow him into the school.

Senior Lauren Michael is skeptical of this plan.

"That would work when you're in class," Michael said. "It would not work in the passing period unless . . . just during the passing periods, the doors were unlocked. If everyone's trying to get to class and the doors are locked and you have to punch in a code, that would take forever."

Art teacher Theresa Wallerstedt also questions its usefulness.

"I think that would be very complicated when we have students every 40 minutes going to three different buildings," Wallerstedt said. "I just don't know if that's practical."

Bone doesn't see the passing periods being an issue. She believes that after the first girl punches in her code to enter a building, the flow of students would be constant enough to keep the doors open through most of the passing period. Only stragglers would have to punch in their codes.

### Crisis plan outlines other emergency responses

STA's crisis plan explains how to respond to emergencies such as a tornado or fire. Last Thursday, STA had a tornado drill because "we found our opportunity," principal of student affairs Mary Anne Hoecker said. There were few announcements that day, she said, so it was a good time to do it.

Many seniors noted this was the first tornado drill in four years, and several teachers said it had been longer than that. Hoecker remembers having tornado drills in the past, but cannot remember specifically when the last one was.

Many believe we need more drills.

"I think that we need to practice them a few times a year so that we're comfortable with them," social sciences teacher Denise Rueschhoff said.

According to Hoecker, STA will have tornado and fire drills when the weather is nicer.

"The thing about fire drills is you want students to take them seriously," Hoecker said. "When you have too many of them, people start slowing down to get outside."

Next year, Hoecker wants to have a tornado and fire drills on the same day. That day would have a special schedule to provide time for the drills.



**Jam packed** ★ Students file into the Donnelly Hall basement and crouch on the floor during the tornado drill held last Tuesday. This was the first fire drill in many years, according to several teachers. PHOTO BY SYDNEY DEATHERAGE

"No school, no matter what you do, is 100 percent secure," Bone said. "What schools try to do is make it so that it is a very welcoming environment for who's supposed to be on campus, and [deter] those who aren't supposed to be. . ."

### Preparing for the worst

Hoecker, Bone and five other faculty and staff members will review and update the crisis plan.

A crisis plan is a "written plan that gives specific directives for problems we hope never happen," Hoecker said. It explains how to respond to incidents such as a tornado or person with a weapon on campus. It is a standard element for schools, Bone said. Updating the plan is also standard, something which is done about every two years.

"Our job is to look at our plan for bomb threats, crime in progress, a fire, tornado, all the different things that in life you sometimes have to be prepared for," Bone said. "They're terrible, terrible things, but we have to have a plan for [them]."

The crisis team will meet this summer to look over the plan and make adjustments where they are needed. According to Bone, they will create a handbook for faculty and staff (students do not receive this document)

to consult in case of emergency. The handbook should be ready by next school year.

Hoecker would not get specific about what is in the crisis plan or what changes would be made to it.

"Some information I want out and some I don't because when we talk to police officers, they say, 'You don't give out your whole plan,'" Hoecker said. "Police are pretty secretive about what they do because they don't want perpetrators to know what they do. We don't give all our information out either."

According to Hoecker, STA reviews and updates its security every year. These changes can range from meeting with the police to adding new equipment.

STA has a multifaceted security system. It includes keeping the side doors of the M&A Building and Donnelly Hall locked during the day, requiring visitors to check in at the front office and wear badges and installing locks on all the classroom doors. The Public Announcement system and phones in classrooms also provide communication in case of emergency. The police department has blueprints of STA, so if police are called

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## inside out



### Health:

Kansas City passes ordinance which bans smoking in small businesses, but excludes casino floors, stadium courses.

See Page 11



### Sports:

Stars varsity soccer comes back to win 4-2 after playing inconsistently during home game against St. James Academy Tuesday.

See Page 15



### Entertainment:

Previous acting experience helps some students write, direct plays for annual student productions, to be held next Friday, Saturday.

See Page 18



### Features:

Senior Stephanie Chapman follows in her parents' footsteps in her passion for acting, singing, dancing.

See Pages 20-21



## New economics class will give students an edge

KATE RAINEY



CAMPUS CRIER

I was ecstatic when I heard that the informal economics class meeting at STA will be made into a formal class which will be offered next year, and jealous I can't take it. This course will be the most important one offered next year.

Knowledge of economics is crucial to functioning in the real world. The amount of money you earn versus the amount you spend, interest rates, supply and demand, the stock market, mortgages. These concepts constantly enter our lives. The news bombards us with stories of looming recessions, rising oil prices and Congress's plans to fix the economy. In college especially, we will face the temptation of high interest credit cards, student loans and balancing a budget.

All of these relate back to economics, but most people don't understand how economies work. So college students purchase items on a credit card when they can't pay the fees and individuals buy houses with an adjustable mortgage they can't afford.

Even important people, like politicians, frequently don't understand economics. Or, if you're more pessimistic, they prey on people's general ignorance. They promise to fix problems with the housing market, unemployment and oil costs by tweaking the system. Through the law of unintended consequences, this tinkering with one area affects the market in others.

For example, an increase in minimum wage at first glance seems like a way to insure more money in people's pockets. But that money has to come from somewhere. Employers have to make a decision to insure their businesses can survive: hire fewer people or raise the prices of their merchandise or services. Then, workers have to spend more money purchasing necessities, nullifying the wage increase, or worse, they get fired because their boss could no longer afford to pay them. Then they end up with no money in their pocket. The motivation behind minimum wage is well intentioned, but ignorant of the nature of economics.

It worries me that people aren't more familiar with economics. I don't want economics to become like the legal system. Most people have to rely on lawyers to interpret the law for them. These same lawyers write the law in a language which is incomprehensible, which keeps people dependent on them. It's dangerous to have to rely on other people with your legal rights. Relying on others to take care of your finances is just as dangerous. You never know who to trust or what someone's political agenda is. Don't leave it to politicians or journalists or even economists to take care of your money or tell you how the economy is faring.

With this class, STA students will gain a huge advantage. Just think, when those pundits start discussing the state of America's economy, you can understand them and determine whether you agree with their analysis. Economics takes more than one class in high school to develop a deep understanding. Hopefully this class will provide students with just enough knowledge to be dangerous. ★

# STA remembers sister



**Hugs for Harriet** ★ Two women share a hug at the end of Sister Harriet Koutsoumpas' memorial mass March 7. Many of Koutsoumpas' friends and former students gathered to honor her many contributions to STA. PHOTO BY SYDNEY DEATHERAGE

## STA community gathers for mass, celebrates life, legacy of Sister Harriet

by EMILY BECKER  
Co-Editor-in-Chief

The life and legacy of Sister Harriet Koutsoumpas was celebrated during mass at STA last Wednesday. Koutsoumpas had served the STA community through scoring games, teaching and tutoring outside the classroom the past 30 years. She passed away in St. Louis March 7.

"I think everyone at school knows her as the SBR lady, but she also in some way, whether you realize it or not, she has affected your life," senior Katie Embree said.

The mass featured an autobiography of Koutsoumpas, read by English teacher Katie Dolan, theology teacher Anita Reznicek and drama teacher Shana Prentiss, reflections by Embree and math teacher Arlene Hernon, and the Jewish Mourner's Kaddish presented by Eng-

lish teacher Mark Fudenberg and senior Roni Katz. During the portion of the mass where the gifts are presented to the altar, several symbols of Koutsoumpas' life at STA were presented, including her rocker, her Greek cookbook, a volleyball scorebook, her lab coat and a "Nonsense" t-shirt.

"She said 'hate me now, love me later' and I know you are here today because you love her so dearly," celebrant Father Don Farnan said during the mass.

Koutsoumpas was born in St. Louis in 1928. Growing up, she loved to learn and she loved to play sports. Koutsoumpas first met the Sisters of St. Joseph while attending Fontbonne College. When she told her Greek Orthodox parents she wanted to become a Catholic nun, she had to leave her house. At her first meeting with the Superior of the Sisters of St. Joseph, Koutsoumpas said her family thought she was insane.

Koutsoumpas loved teaching and began teaching at STA in 1979. She also loved watching St. Teresa's sports teams, cooking and writing poetry. It was said that her enthusiasm helped fuel

the enthusiasm of the school. Eight years ago, Koutsoumpas was forced to leave the classroom after contracting Bell's palsy, but this did not keep Koutsoumpas from teaching.

"I don't think Sister Harriet quit teaching one day, one hour, one moment of her life," theology teacher Robin Good said during the mass.

During her time at STA, Koutsoumpas touched the lives of many students, like Embree, who got to know Koutsoumpas through the CSJ Leadership camp sophomore year and after Koutsoumpas gave Embree her first SBR. Embree soon found a friend, mentor and advisor in Koutsoumpas, visiting her often during frees and Activity.

"She would definitely call you out on every single one of your mistakes, but she loved you anyway and helped you fix it," Embree said.

Koutsoumpas will be missed by many of the members of the St. Teresa's community.

"She was just one of those phenomenal people," Embree said. "She affected every aspect possible of St. Teresa's." ★

## News ★ Briefs

### Sophomores' documentary places second at State

Sophomores Jessica Ann, Ellie Hart and Allison Pericich's documentary about the One Child Policy in China received a second place award at the National History Day competition last Saturday at the University of Missouri in Columbia. The first and second place winners will go to the national competition in Washington, D.C.

This year's competition theme was "conflict and compromise." Several other STA students placed at the local competition but did not advance to state.

This is the third year STA has participated in the NHD competition. ★

### Spanish classes combine lesson with charity work

Ms. Courtney Jianas and Ms. Julia Gargallo organized a service project to go along with a Spanish I lesson.

Each student brought in five articles of clothing that would be to donate to Goodwill and the Bishop Sullivan Center.

"In Spanish [level one] you learn the colors and all the vocabulary about clothing," Jianas said. "This was a good way to incorporate it into the lesson."

Students held a fashion show in class as they spoke Spanish to describe the clothing they were wearing.

There were over 500 pieces of clothing donated. ★

### PB&J club makes plans for new recycling program

Senior Hannah Girardeau, president of the Peace Biodiversity and Justice Club, has been one of the pioneers of the recycling program at STA. Thanks to a new program through Deffenbaugh Industries, she is working to have a more inclusive recycling plan on campus.

The new dumpster would cost \$38 per month and would collect cans, plastic, paper and cardboard. It would be picked up every two weeks.

"This is the most exciting thing that has ever happened," Girardeau said. "It's really, really, really cool." ★

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# Foundation promotes safety

Murder brings students, parents together to practice self defense

by KYLIE HORNBECK  
Staff Writer

Two weeks after the brutal murder of their daughter, Mr. and Ms. Roger and Kathy Kemp founded The Ali Kemp Educational (TAKE) Foundation in her name. The defense training program encourages safety and awareness in females of all ages. Last Sunday TAKE Foundation self-defense class came to STA promoting safety in the 50 student and parent attendees.

On June 18, 2002, 19-year-old pool attendant Ali Kemp was attacked and murdered at a neighborhood pool in Leawood. Roger discovered her battered body in the pool's pump room under a tarp about two hours after her death. Today the TAKE Foundation works to eliminate attacks on women and has worked with over 20,000 females across the country, according to Roger.

"[TAKE Foundation] is about safety awareness," Roger said. "I want people to be aware that [attacks] don't just happen to someone else. No one ever thinks it's going to happen to them, and that's what we have to put a stop to."

During the two-hour class Sunday, executive directors Bob and Jill Leiker primarily educated participants on the ABC's of self defense: Awareness, Boundary setting through verbal and body communication and Combat skills as a last resort. The first hour was spent learning about self defense and awareness and the second hour focused on skill techniques and practice.

"I hope no one has to use the self defense portion of the class," Jill said. "The idea is that no one finds themselves in that situation now."

According to Jill, with proper preparation and awareness, an individual can avoid reaching the combat stage. It's important to know what to do in a situation so that no one reaches this stage, but one must also know how to respond if one does reach it.

Sophomore Elaina Brownlee, an attendee, believes TAKE Foundation's class was worthwhile and beneficial.

"I would recommend this class for other girls because most other girls would freak out [in a situation] and not know what to do," Brownlee said. "But I feel prepared."



**Buddy system** ★ Freshmen Lindsay Girardeau, left, and Addie Thompson practice self-defense techniques at a class hosted by the Ali Kemp Foundation in the Goppet Center Sunday. The seminar taught students and their mothers how to protect themselves from physical and sexual assault. PHOTO BY JAIME HENRY-WHITE

With real life scenarios, a number of example situations and partners and dummies to practice on, Brownlee feels the class made situations easy to relate to.

"Since I work at a pool, I think it's really great to know that I can be safe, and I'm not afraid as much," Brownlee said. "[The self defense class] has helped me to be more confident."

College counselor Steph Hart, who is responsible for bringing TAKE Foundation to STA, believes that everyone who participated got something out of it and practice is crucial.

"I think being forced to put [techniques] into practice reemphasizes the importance [of self defense]," Hart said. "That way you aren't thinking back to what you've read or been told but what you did... Maneuvers do have to be practiced to be effective."

Roger believes each life is important and self defense can help save innocent victims.

"If we can save one girl's life, then no matter how much we put into the foundation, it's worth it," Roger said. ★



**Smooth moves** ★ Senior Michelle Samborski, right, and mother Twyla practice self-defense techniques at a class hosted by the Ali Kemp Foundation in the Goppet Center Sunday. Many STA families and friends attended the event. PHOTO BY JAIME HENRY-WHITE

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## Regional CSJ leader moves to STA

Alumna remembers STA, anticipates re-connecting with students, school spirit

by JULIA STAPINSKI  
Staff Writer

After four years as a student at STA and 45 years as a member of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet (CSJ), Sister Patricia Clune has not only learned the importance of faith and education, but also the strength of sisterhood. Now, over four decades later, she looks forward to returning to the Academy.

After discussions with President Nan Bone, Clune will begin moving into the M&A Building April 30. Clune hopes to give back to the community what she received as a student.

"Without a doubt, St. Teresa's Academy

really prepared me for my future," Clune said. "The sisters that taught and worked here were role models to me, so my relationships with them obviously influenced my vocation choice."

Recently Clune became a member of the CSJ leadership team. Her new position as a canonical director will sanction her to relinquish her current position as associate superintendent of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph.

When Bone learned of Clune's new position, she called to congratulate her and offered her an office in the M&A.

Clune graduated from STA in 1962 as treasurer of her senior class, knowing what she wanted to do with her life. After

high school, Clune became a member of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet and continued her career as a student. She received degrees at Fontbonne University in St. Louis, the University of Missouri Kansas City and Georgia State University. Once she had completed her education she went on to fulfill positions as a teacher, principal and superintendent in numerous schools in Georgia, Delaware and Kansas City. Clune said she's glad to be coming back to STA.

"I am so delighted to return to my high school roots at St. Teresa's," Clune said. "It will be just like going home again."

In addition to being excited to return to STA, Clune also feels extremely grateful.

"I'm very lucky to have ever attended St. Teresa's, much less to be returning here for my job," Clune said. "When I was a student here... my parents had a very hard time paying the tuition for me and my sisters, so

I really embraced being here. I don't think I missed a day of school because I always wanted to see my friends. I'm so lucky to be able to return."

Clune is impressed by the spirit of STA girls and their acceptance of outsiders.

"The students here are so friendly," Clune said. "I was here a few weeks ago scoping out my office and the girls were all switching classes. Everyone was so friendly to me instead of treating me like a hole in the wall."

Clune wants to be a part of the school community and build relationships with the students, just as she remembers building relationships with her teachers at STA.

"The door to my office will always be open," Clune said. "I want to really get to know the kids here and kind of learn about how the school has changed and just what these girls are all about." ★



Clune



BY SYDNEY DEATHERAGE

**April 6: Nuclear planning**

Russian President Vladimir Putin and US President George W. Bush failed to reach an agreement April 6 to amend hostility regarding a US missile defense system planned to be constructed in eastern Europe, but did agree to a “strategic framework” to govern future talks.

The two presidents released a joint statement after their talks in Moscow: “The Russian side has made clear that it does not agree with the decision to establish sites in Poland and the Czech Republic and reiterated its proposed alternative. Yet, it appreciates the measures that the US has proposed and declared that if agreed and implemented such measures will be important and useful in assuaging Russian concerns.”

**April 7: Brazilian epidemic**

At least 55,000 people in Brazil have fallen victim to the dengue fever, a sometimes fatal mosquito-borne disease. Due to overcrowding in hospitals, and waits that ranged from 8 to 24 hours, the Brazilian military joined the efforts by establishing field hospitals to help ease the pressure in permanent hospitals.

“We have to enter into combat like we’re fighting a war, to minimize the suffering of the population,” field hospital commander Major Roberto Tury said.

Federal Health Minister Jose Gomes Temporao said city officials failed to acknowledge warnings for the possibility of an epidemic and to prevent an outbreak by spraying against the mosquitos.

**April 9: Indonesia bans website**

The Indonesian government temporarily banned YouTube in response to a video being called “anti-Islamic” that was posted on the website by Dutch lawmaker Geert Wilder. The video, called “Fitna,” highlights quotes from the Qur’an accompanied by graphic images of terrorism. Together, the two display the author’s views of Islam as a threat to the Western World. In heavily Muslim-populated countries such as Pakistan and Indonesia, hundreds of protestors against the film have articulated strong sentiments against the Dutch government.

“My intention was not to offend in any way, but to show the truth – at least the truth as I see it,” Wilders told CNN News. “And if the truth hurts and could be offensive, well, this of course is not my problem.”



# Protests plague Olympics



**Clever photo kicker** ★Pro-Tibet demonstrators carry their message along Steuart Street in San Francisco, California, following the Olympic torch run April 9. PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

## Upcoming Olympics venue calls China’s human rights record into question

by **HALEY VONDENKAMP**  
Staff Writer

The opening ceremony of the 2008 Summer Olympics is scheduled for August 8 in Beijing, China. This announcement has been met by international controversy in response to China’s questionable human rights record.

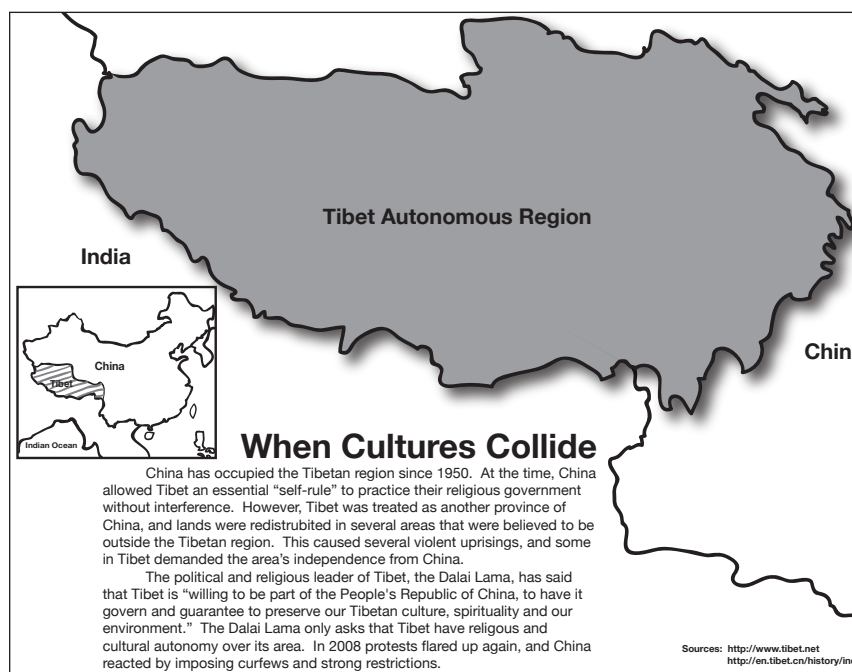
The Olympic Games, perhaps the most celebrated sporting event in the world, represent more than just athletic competition to millions of people. According to the Olympic Charter, an official set of rules for the Olympics, the mission of the Olympic Movement is to aid in the construction of a more peaceful and united world by educating through sport, void of any discrimination, and through the Olympic spirit which implies understanding, friendship and fair play. However, in the opinion of those engaging in recent protests, the intended spirit of the Olympics has been threatened.

“[The Olympics] are such an international event and it gives China a lot of opportunity for positive public exposure,” history teacher Craig Whitney said. “It has been questioned if [China] should be given the Olympics because of some of their standings in the world community.”

China’s presence in Tibet, a province the Communist Chinese government has claimed sovereignty over since 1950, is at the core of the international debate. According to Mr. Robert Gamer, a political science professor at UMKC who specializes in Chinese politics, the Tibetan conflict is extremely extensive and complex.

“The biggest problem with the Tibet issue is that people are looking for simple answers,” he said.

According to Whitney, the conflict lies in the fact that the Chinese govern-



ment sees Tibet as a part of its country, while the Tibetans like to view themselves as their own separate cultural, political and religious entity.

Since the Chinese invaded Tibet, attempts to eradicate Tibetan culture and religion have sparked accusations of genocide. According to Gamer, the Dalai Lama, Tibet’s Buddhist religious and political leader, isn’t necessarily seeking complete independence, but rather religious freedom. However, the younger, radical monks demand full disassociation from China.

Radical protesting is often met with violence when Tibetan radicals and Chinese authority collide. Such has been the case with the announcement of the next Olympic venue. Protests plagued the lighting ceremony of the Olympic torch in Athens, Greece where activists chanted “Save Tibet!” and revealed signs that read “Stop Genocide in Tibet.” Police stepped in and protesters were detained, but most were later freed.

April 9, the Olympic torch made its way to San Francisco, its only North

American stop on this year’s world tour. Security was boosted in anticipation, especially after the chaotic protests that took place at the same ceremonial event in London and Paris. Ten thousand spectators were said to have flooded the downtown streets to catch a glimpse of the torch. Among those spectators were hundreds of protesters. Even before the torch made its appearance, tension arose. Protesters hung banners from the Golden Gate Bridge and opposing sides of the issue came face-to-face as shouting matches ensued.

The route of the torch was unexpectedly altered as part of the security agenda. The torch runners changed directions despite the crowds awaiting their arrival. Other changes were made as well, and the initial six-mile route was reduced to about half its intended distance, leaving onlookers confused and disappointed.

Adding fuel to the conflict are rumors that some countries are contemplating boycotting the games in their

**See OLYMPICS, page 23**

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# Emergency drills

## Practice makes perfect

Shots are fired. Students and teachers alike scream in terror. You begin to panic. What is your next move?

STA has taken measures to make sure that all of its students are accounted for during the day. From accountabilities to logging when students enter and leave campus, it seems like all the bases are covered. While these methods are important, there is still more to be done. STA has a lock down plan in the event of danger on campus, so why don't we practice it?

After scares at several high schools and colleges around the country, most schools have implemented a plan for extreme cases, such as this. While STA does have a lock down plan, the teachers are the only ones who know it. Most likely, the teachers do not have this plan memorized. If chaos were to erupt, people would be in panic mode and the plan might be at the back of teachers' minds.

It would be fairly easy to teach the plan to students. There are two basic steps: an assembly to explain to the students that these lock downs are no laughing matter and routine practices of the lock down procedure to be initiated to try to reduce confusion should something happen.

Most people can recall the tragedy at Columbine High School in Columbine, Colo.

Two students at the school went on a shooting rampage killing 12 students and teachers. Columbine did not have a lock down plan.

At other schools, similar situations have occurred, but with strangers or people who were not already on campus as the shooters.

Most students would feel much safer coming to school knowing if events like these took place, the students and school staff would have

a better chance of being out of harm's way.

While it is understandable that printing the plan and providing the student body with copies could create problems if a predator found out about it, this is slightly far-fetched. If the administration were to distribute copies of the plan to students, this may create fear; but simply allowing students to become comfortable with the plan by practicing it would be in no way harmful. It's important that our community is armed with knowledge and awareness.

Our proposal to the STA community is that we practice the plan that has been constructed. Find the places in the rooms where the girls and teachers would be safest. We have all practiced the fire or tornado escape route, why not this one? How beneficial is it for only the faculty to know how to stay safe?

The student body should be well equipped with some practical experience from the drills. Hopefully, this will make STA students primed to react if a calamity like those seen at other locations should ever touch our campus.

Let's be smart, prepared and safe. We may not like to think of anything like this ever happening to us, but there is always the possibility. In reality, school shootings are extremely rare and only seem more common because of the media coverage, so

there is no reason to fret. But with STA's large campus, it could greatly increase the risk of such an event happening.

We are not saying STA is in any imminent danger. But, it is still important for us to know what is out there.

Let us pray nothing like Columbine or Northern Illinois University ever happens at STA, but if it did, would you be prepared? ★

The staff editorial represents the views of *The Dart* editors  
**12 out of 12 editors voted in support of this editorial.**

### School safety facts

According to the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, the following general safety regulations should be applied at schools to reduce risks:

- evaluate risks and understand possible school safety risks and take steps to reduce those hazards
- coordinate planning with local fire department and public safety organizations
- be trained in first aid and CPR/obstructed airway procedures
- be aware of students with medical conditions and ensure the safety of students with disabilities.

### Communication is also important.

Staff members are able to communicate and each student should have an emergency contact card on file.

In Kansas public schools, a fire drill is required each month, and a tornado drill is required three times a year.

According to Missouri statute, Chapter 160, Section 160.453, an emergency exercise should be held at least twice each school year where students and staff simulate earthquake emergency conditions and the procedures for safety and protection to be implemented under such conditions.

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## Voice Off

compiled by Sarah Cooper

100 students polled  
margin of error 8.81 percent

Should high school students have jobs during the school year?

Yes, work is a beneficial extracurricular that teenagers should participate in: **45 percent**

Yes, but a teenager should only work if it is necessary for finances: **32 percent**

No, students should earn money through "odd jobs" like babysitting: **17 percent**

No, working during the school year is too stressful and harmful to teenagers: **6 percent**

## 30 seconds with Ms. Karen Johnson

compiled by Caroline Quinn



*English teacher Karen Johnson and her husband, Josh, have waited for nearly 18 months to hear any news about adopting a child. With news of their new addition, there will also be a new addition to the English department.*

**Q.** Describe the situation when you and your husband received the phone call from the adoption counselor.

**A.** "Hillary, our adoption counselor, called and told me [about the baby] and my knees almost gave out and I swear I nearly fell over. One of the first things I thought was 'Thank you, God.'"

**Q.** What preparations are you making for the baby?

**A.** "The first thing we're doing is making a budget. We'll be missing my salary from STA and we want to start saving for her college fund. Also, we hired [junior] Mollie Caffey to paint the nursery. We're doing a classic Winnie-the-Pooh theme."

**Q.** What are your favorite names for the baby?

**A.** "Lucy and Olivia are at the top right now. We're not really thinking Anna anymore. Right now we just call her 'Cleo,' like Sr. Harriet's nickname."

**Q.** What are you looking forward to the most?

**A.** "I look forward to finding out who she is, seeing what she is good at and what her personality is."

## Photo Poll

compiled by Elizabeth Nelson



"Yes. It's important that [we] know what to do in those situations, especially after all of the college shooting, because not everyone knew what was happening."

– Paige Vondenkamp, freshman



"No. I feel safe because from what I've heard, STA hasn't had a criminal on campus. [If something does happen], people would know what to do even without a plan."

– Susie Ancona, sophomore



"Yes. It's important to keep everyone safe. In the case of a predator on campus and girls are between classes, they should know exactly where to go. This should be talked about."

– Elizabeth Warwick, senior

Many area schools have a "lock down" plan in the event of a threat on campus, like a criminal. STA currently has a lock down plan but does not practice it with the students.

Check out the story on page 2 for more information and the Staff Editorial above for The Dart's opinion.

**Should STA practice a lock down plan?**



## Club Libby Lu: made to corrupt

AN OPINION BY



BIANCA DANG

I try not to throw around the word “hate” because it is usually an overreaction. However, in the case of the store Club Libby Lu, I can say with complete confidence that I hate it and all stores like it. It is the type of store that gives the impression that looking older and sexier is just \$21.95 away.

Club Libby Lu is a makeover store that targets girls ages 5 to 12, but often receives a younger clientele beginning at the age of 3. Usually a haven for suburban birthday parties, Club Libby Lu takes an average pre-teen and turns her into a “princess” (the name employees call young customers). Armed with makeup, glitter, tube tops and low-slung pants, the club counselors fashion young girls to look like celebrities such as Paris Hilton, Britney Spears and Hannah Montana.

The store is almost completely pink, heart-shaped (even the mirrors) and covered in rhinestones. Their makeovers are called “diva,” “rock star” and “club.” I’m certain that if anyone saw a 3-year-old in a nightclub, they would be appalled.

When girls choose their outfits, many choose tight, sequined tops or low-cut, belly-baring tube-tops. It must be pointed out that almost no one wearing these outfits has hit puberty. Their stomachs hang out because they are still in the midst of baby fat, and the shirts that are meant to expose cleavage only cover a chest that has not developed. These girls are wearing clothing fit for someone triple, sometimes even quadruple their age.

In a moneymaking world, the brains behind such an operation has to be completely aware that the audience is hooked. They realize that with all of the Disney Channel hype, young girls want to look older quickly. Club Libby Lu makes this happen easily and quickly.

How can people profit from over-sexualizing girls who are too young to understand sex? Club Libby Lu is emphasizing the importance of appearance to girls that are young enough to believe that the only way to achieve goals is through looks.

All in all, the store is filled with girls who wear more makeup than most teenagers, giving impressions that to be “famous” or popular, one must show some skin or mask her face. It’s not healthy to believe you have to change yourself to attract friends and boys.

Now young girls wear halter-tops and hot shorts, showing off body parts that haven’t appeared yet. It’s nonsensical. Children are already impressionable and adding concepts of sex and parties can only damage a young girl’s psyche.

Every time I pass Club Libby Lu at Oak Park Mall, I repress the urge to vomit. When I see pre-pubescent girls attempting to show off skin, I wonder what kind of parent allows their child to be so sexual at such an early age. I wonder how the girls’ ideas on image and society will be affected by this distorted display of reality. I wonder if Club Libby Lu has any regrets about using their negative influence on the youth of America for profit. After all of this wondering, and alongside the disgust I feel when I walk by the store, the only word that comes to mind is “hate.” ★

## Workers stereotype teenagers



AN OPINION BY



RACHEL SCHWARTZ

It is a Friday night, and there we are, an innocent group of teenagers, carrying our wallets or purses and keys. All we want is some food. So, we walk into this Mexican restaurant and order some food before we go on with the rest of the night’s activities. It is not busy at the restaurant, so we assume it will not take long to get in, order, then get on with the rest of our night. But, half an hour later, when we still do not have our food and our water glasses are empty, we realize we were wrong.

Another night, my sister and I are shopping at the mall for dresses. We walk into a cute store, knowing very well that we want dresses and even have some preferences. However, no one rushes up to help us. We are ignored. Seconds later, though, a lady walks in with her teenage daughter and before they can even start looking, a worker says, “Hi, welcome! What can I do to assist you today?”

Can you relate to these stories? Do you walk into restaurants and have to

wait for hours? Does your waiter or waitress serve other, older guests before taking your order? At stores, do you feel like workers are more willing to help adults than you?

The waiters and waitresses see us teenagers and, unless they are our understanding peers, assume that we will buy the cheapest items on the menu and leave a measly tip. Now, I am not saying that I have never purchased the cheapest items, but everyone has done that before, including adults. Anyway, since they assume we will not tip well, they are discourteous to us. Well, I don’t know about you, but when I go to a restaurant and have a rude waiter or waitress, they usually do not receive much of a tip. I wonder if they have ever thought of that before. Hmm...

As if that is not annoying enough, there are the situations we run into at stores. When I walk into a department store, no one rushes up to me and immediately offers assistance. That is because the workers do not think I will buy anything. Why, you may ask? Well, it is because I am a teenager and do not have any money and only like to look at clothes and take up space. Okay, it sometimes may be true that some of my peers, as well as me, venture to stores just to browse, but there are also plenty of times when we actually do buy items. Workers just assume we will not buy anything; I have a solution though. According to my dad, “balding middle-aged men

with guts” receive lots of help from the workers because the workers know that they will buy something. So, we just all need to dress up as “balding middle-aged men with guts” We could bring our fathers. Who’s with me?...

Okay, I guess not. But, I do have real ideas. As teenagers, we need to stand strong. We need to, in the nicest way possible, demand help. At restaurants, do not hesitate to flag down your server when you are in need of more water. When you leave, consider giving him or her a bit more generous tip than you usually would. That way, when you come the next time, perhaps you will have that same server and receive better service.

Next is advice for shopping. While shopping at a store, be sure to look interested and not just rush through everything. If you really are looking for something in particular, maybe the workers will want to help. You could always ask for assistance. Novel idea, right? That way the worker will know you are interested. That is the best way to handle a situation in a store: be friendly and ask for help.

There is really nothing more that we can do as teenagers. And, as sad as I am to say this, those solutions will not always work. We just have to put on our smiles, be polite and be generous. And we also have to wait. We have to wait for our water and wait for our food and wait for the workers to help us. We have to wait until we are balding with guts and don’t have to wait anymore. ★

## Teenagers feel intimidated after auto accidents

AN OPINION BY



PAIGE KUHLMANN

Teenagers are usually dubbed as incompetent drivers, always blamed as the cause of the accidents they are in. However, this stereotype is foolish and is the basis for why police officers and insurance companies are biased towards teens and are more likely to believe an adult in the case of an auto accident. I know this from personal experience, and it offended me that, while the other driver involved in my accident was at fault, the police reports instinctively blamed me. On top of that, because the other driver knew of the bias, as most people do, he lied to make himself seem more credible and to make me seem like an “idiotic teenager.” The following is a Do and Do Not guide on what to do as a teenager if you get into an accident with

an adult and feel as if you aren’t at fault.

First, DO make sure you are okay and that your car is drivable, in case you feel it necessary to remove yourself from the situation. DO call a parent or guardian, let them know what happened, tell them if you’re okay or hurt and ask them their opinion on what to do. DON’T get out of your vehicle until you know you are safe from injury or kidnapping. DO take pictures of the accident, your car and the other car, and the location and surrounding of where the accident occurred. If you don’t have a camera, use your cell phone.

Remember, DON’T let the other driver intimidate you into believing that the accident was your fault. Stand your ground, but don’t initiate a potentially dangerous conflict. DO exchange insurance information and get the other vehicle’s license number. DON’T take the other driver’s word on anything, especially if he or she says he or she will take care of everything. This leaves you vulnerable to a lie on his or her part.

Even if you know the other person, which I did, he or she still cannot be fully trusted not to fib. DO file a police report right away. Either call a local station, or if

you are near one, go there in person.

When you get there, DO gather yourself and remain calm and DO understand and go over your own story in your head to make sure it makes sense. DON’T lie about the accident. Just be truthful, but don’t take the blame. DON’T be irrational, rude or immature, for this would only reinforce the stereotypes working against you.

Finally, with your parent’s or guardian’s approval, call your insurance agent if you are going to turn the accident over to your insurance company and remain consistent with your story.

Unfortunately for teens, showing even the slightest sign of weakness or immaturity increases your chances of not being believed. Adults feel as if they can take advantage of us because we are younger and not as experienced, or because they think we won’t stand up to them. Prove them wrong by not taking the blame if you are not at fault. Follow this guide and improvise as you go, and you will not end up on the losing side of an accident. I only wish I would have had this information. ★

17 april 2008

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Some students have part-time jobs during the school year, while others do not. Students work for a variety of reasons, but some claim it places too much stress on teenagers. Considering all of these factors...

## Is a part-time job beneficial to teens?



Breanne Sigler  
Managing Editor of Visuals



Elizabeth Nelson  
Managing Editor of Design



Sarah Cooper  
Managing Editor of News

Our number one priority in high school should be school. I understand that girls have jobs during the school year so they can pay for things like gas and going out on the weekends, but a job adds more stress and takes away from homework time.

As I've never had a job during the school year, I don't know how these girls do it. I can barely manage to finish my homework without working four to six hours a night. If girls didn't have jobs or only worked on the weekends, I think many would see their grades and health improve from more study and sleep time.

The summer is the perfect time for a job. High school jobs are a great way to get a taste of what the real world is like. Teens can learn about money and responsibility. Summer jobs don't affect your schoolwork. Another alternative is to work on the weekends when you have lots of free time. This way you can earn the spending money you need without affecting your grades.

A less serious reason for avoiding working during the school year is youth. We are only young for about 19 years of our life. That's only a small fraction of our time. Teens should be able to focus on school and having fun, instead of worrying about getting someone to cover their shift. By working only during the summer I've been able to get involved in lots of extracurricular activities that I otherwise might not have had time for. I haven't had to worry about playing a sport or staying after school for a publication night because I might have to work. I've also been able to volunteer during the week after school, which is really fun.

My mom always quotes the saying, "You're only young once." I want to enjoy my high school years, which is why I stick to strictly summer jobs. ★

According to WebMD, the average teenager gets only six hours of sleep per night, but should be striving for at least nine to ten. Most students are probably shocked to learn that if they wake up at 6:30 a.m. each morning, they should be going to bed no later than about 9 p.m. the night before.

If a student works after school for four or five hours, she obviously will not be getting the recommended amount of sleep each night. She still has homework to do, food to eat, a shower to take and every other part of their nightly routine to consider. With all of that to schedule in, she probably will not be getting to bed until at least midnight.

Teenagers should not be working during the school week. It puts added stress on the mind and body, and school work, social lives and health suffer. It is understandable that some students need to pay for gas, entertainment or college tuition, but no one should sacrifice her health. Working on the weekend could be one way to combat this. Babysitting or nannying are usually lower stress, higher paying, and has better hours than the average job. Teenagers need to consider the damage they are doing and search for better options.

I know from personal experience how destructive working after school can be. I worked as a cashier about three school days per week and on the weekend. After school, I worked from 4 p.m. until at least 9 p.m., and sometimes I had to stay and clean. By the time I got home, I was exhausted from dealing with rude customers and standing all night. I skipped meals, I did not prepare for class and I fought with my friends and family constantly. I realize now that working over the summer, making a few hundred or thousand dollars is the best lifestyle. It teaches budgeting and wise spending, which are things all teenagers can benefit from. ★

Some high school students work out of necessity while others view their job as an optional extra-curricular activity. Either way, they are reaping long-term benefits along with the cash they're earning.

Working helps develop time management skills. Working students have to plan their schedules in advance to accommodate for long-term projects and big assignments. Knowing that you'll have to work is also motivation to complete tasks earlier; having a job will quickly force you out of the habit of procrastination.

Work experience now could pay off later in life. Many employers seek employees with past work experience. A high school job that may seem unimpressive could give you an edge for your next job. Working students also develop a sense of professionalism by interacting with co-workers and a boss; they'll be more comfortable in a work environment and hopefully can adapt to new environments to come.

And a job can be fun! You have the opportunity to make new friends and develop a community outside of school. Working can give you the opportunity to pursue a passion or discover a new one. A high school job can also give insight into what kind of job you'd like to pursue later in life.

And the income, of course, is a nice perk in exchange for work. Whether it goes toward gas, new clothes or a savings account, a job is a source of steady money. Earning this cash and deciding where it goes is empowering and good practice for money management later in life.

The benefits of working during the school year far outweigh the potential challenges. All teenagers should consider a job a most enticing extra-curricular activity. ★

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# Juniors able to gain more credit

STA allows juniors to take two additional AP classes, brace for heavy workload

by **BREANNE SIGLER**  
Managing Editor

Next year, juniors will have the option to take western civilizations and AP biology, formerly classes for seniors only.

Principal of academic affairs Nancy Hand said that high schools and colleges want students to take more AP classes. Hand and the Curriculum Council believe seniors' course loads are often very rigorous and seniors can not fit all the AP classes they want to take into their schedules. Permitting juniors to take AP and dual-credit classes will allow them to take all the advanced classes they want to take.

Western civilizations is a dual-credit class offered through University of Missouri Kansas City and taught by Mr. Mike Egner. According to Egner, UMKC allows juniors to take dual-credit courses, which is one of the reasons STA decided to make the class available to juniors.

Egner took into account the fact that juniors could take AP United States history and AP American literature their junior year, and the fact that seniors might pass up on his class to take AP government senior year. Both of these factors told him that juniors would be ready for the class.

"I just thought there might be juniors interested," Egner said. "I think it's going to work out fine."

The class will remain the same since Egner uses UMKC curriculum.



**Testing the waters** ★ Senior Kellyn Smith, left, and Anna Warm titrate algae water for their last lab in their AP biology class last Thursday. The all-senior class completed a lab every other week of this school year as part of AP curriculum. **PHOTO BY KAYLA LOOSEN**

The requirements for juniors taking the class are harder than the requirements for seniors. Juniors must have a

3.6 GPA and submit a writing sample, along with signatures from both Ms. Denise Rueschhoff and Egner.

"[Allowing juniors to take advanced classes] gives juniors an introduction to the rigor of AP," Hand said. ★

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# Students take summer college classes

Courses offer possibilities for high school students to expand their knowledge

by **SARAH COOPER**  
Managing Editor

While most students look forward to summer as a break from academics, a few STA students chose to continue their studies with college courses during the summer months.

College counselor Steph Hart estimates that 10 students from STA will take courses on college campuses this summer, either to review a subject they struggle with or to challenge themselves with a class they will not take at STA. Hart credits pressures from the media, parents and classmates with the upward trend in taking college classes during the summer.

"It's becoming more common," Hart said. "And it's not just an STA thing... There is a societal pressure to get ahead."

Junior Kate Bohnert plans to take a five-week biology course through Rockhurst University beginning in June. STA advises taking no more than three classes for college credit at a time, and Bohnert had four to choose from during her senior year: Spanish V, college composition, AP biology and calculus. English teacher Mark Fudenberg advised Bohnert to consider taking biology

during the summer, as his advisee senior Meredith Pavicic did last year. Hart gave Bohnert the contact information to register with Rockhurst.

Pavicic also had to plan for a senior year with the responsibility as the editor-in-chief of the "Teresian" yearbook. She has taken seven classes each semester of her senior year.

"I was worried AP biology wouldn't fit into my schedule, and I knew I couldn't take eight classes and be editor-in-chief," Pavicic said. "It turned out to be a good thing because a lot of people were freaking out about schedules and conflicts and stuff and I didn't have to worry... There is no way I could do everything I'm doing senior year and take AP biology."

Hart advises students in a similar situation to take their favorite classes and those that relate to their plans for the future at STA, and also noted that college classes taken during the summer do not count as credit for STA.

"[STA] is your environment where you feel most comfortable," she said. "You know [the class will] show up on your transcript. You're part of this tried and true system..."

Pavicic is not concerned with whether the college she chooses will accept the credit hours she earned through Rockhurst, and Bohnert knows that all of the colleges she is considering will accept them. One concern she does have, however, is her preparedness.

## Degrees of Summer

GRAPHIC BY ALY BROWNLEE

Summer classes at local colleges are available to both juniors and seniors. Many of them offer more than just the traditional classroom environment.

### Penn Valley Community College

**Enrollment starts:** April 15  
**Enrollment deadline:** May 15  
**Class dates:** June 2-July 31  
**Website:** <http://mccck.edu/>

**Unusual classes offered:** Merchandising, Astronomy, Criminal Justice, Film as Literature and Scuba Diving.

**Cost:** \$82 per credit hour (Most classes are about three credits.)

**How to enroll:** Penn Valley is a part of the Metropolitan Community Colleges group, which also includes Blue Valley Community College, Business & Technology Community College, Longview Community College and Maple Woods Community College. They all have the same enrollment process and due dates. Go online and fill out an online application. Afterwards, go to the admissions office and bring in your ACT scores. You may have to take a placement exam for some of the classes, then you can enroll and receive your summer schedule.

### Johnson County Community College

**Enrollment starts:** March 31  
**Enrollment deadline:** May 16  
**Class dates:** June 2-July 24  
**Website:** <http://www.jccc.net/>

**Unusual classes offered:** Animation, Computer Forensics, Geoscience, Horticulture, Interior Design and Metal Welding.

**Cost:** \$63 per credit hour if you're a resident of Johnson County. \$144 per credit hour if you are not.

**How to enroll:** Go online and fill out an online application. Afterwards, go to the admissions office and bring in your ACT scores. You'll also need to pick up a high school authorization form at that time, and bring it back to STA for the necessary signatures. After that, you can enroll and receive your summer schedule.

Sources: <http://www.mccck.edu>  
<http://www.jccc.net>

"With my honors science background, I think I'll hopefully be ready," Bohnert said. "I just don't know if my work ethic is up to par with the college level."

Pavicic said the class is good practice for her freshman year in college.

"I have a really clear idea of what would be expected of me in [a college class]," she said. "It was a lot more reading than any science class I've tak-

en before... It was more work than I'm used to, but not enough that it seemed to overwhelm me."

Bohnert, who wants to become a doctor, has an optimistic view of the class to come.

"The more I think about it, I don't think it will be a burden," she said. "The only thing will be the homework... Who wants to do homework in the summer?" ★

# Nine qualities set senior apart

Classmates, faculty select Claire Hickey as winner of Academy Woman award

by ELIZABETH WILSON  
Staff Writer

In the tradition of St. Teresa's Academy, the one who is noted for religious and moral character, a sense of responsibility, outstanding school spirit, good sportsmanship, the ability to command respect, leadership qualities, loyalty to STA, service to others and cooperation and helpfulness is the Academy Woman.

At the National Honor Society assembly March 26, senior Claire Hickey was selected by faculty, staff and her peers as the 60<sup>th</sup> recipient of the most distinguished Academy Woman award. Seniors Hannah Girardeau and Emily Thompson were also nominated for this eminent accolade.

According to president Nan Bone, it takes four years of love to make an Academy Woman.

"It's our goal for every girl here," Bone said. "Many of them achieve it but few really stand out. And [Hickey] does."

Bone said a lot of people are not the full package sometimes. Some may have good sportsmanship or outstanding school spirit, but having all nine of the Academy Woman qualities is what sets Hickey apart.

#### Religious and moral character:

According to Hickey's boyfriend, Rockhurst High School senior Alex De Zeeuw, Hickey displays religious and moral character through her constant desire for other people to feel good.

De Zeeuw recalled seeing a note in Hickey's room, on which was inscribed her Lenten goals. According to De Zeeuw, the note read: "People won't remember the things you say and do, but they will remember the way you made them feel."

#### A sense of responsibility:

Senior Ellen Jantsch said Hickey's responsibility stems from her immense involvement. She ran track and cross country all four years, takes challenging classes, is a member of Peer Helpers and SADD Club, etc.

"She can juggle all of these things and still manages to give the same amount of commitment to each of them," Jantsch said.

#### Outstanding school spirit:

According to Hickey's sister, senior Maddie Hickey, Claire has always attended STA games and gets pumped up about spirit days.

"She has this crazy black and gold skirt and shows spirit through her appearance," Maddie said.

#### Good sportsmanship:

Jantsch describes Claire as an awesome competitor.

"She's good at cross country but you can't picture her giving someone a mean face or trash talking anyone," Jantsch said. "When the other team is winning she will say something like, 'oh well, it was their turn to win.' She has respect for others and understands that someone has to be losing."

#### The ability to command respect:

De Zeeuw said Hickey does not like confrontation but she is not afraid to tell you in you have hurt her feelings.

"She's such a nice, friendly person, how could you not respect her?" De



**Group Hug**★ Seniors Hannah Girardeau, from left, Claire Hickey, and Emily Thompson embrace just after Hickey was announced Academy Woman during an assembly in the Goppert Center March 26. The three students were nominated and then voted on by the senior class and faculty. PHOTO BY CLAIRE MCINERNEY

Zeeuw asked.

#### Leadership qualities:

According to Jantsch, the leadership she displays at school and within her group of friends is only one side to Claire's leadership.

"Claire is captain of the cross country team, a Kairos leader and involved in the cabinet of her church," Jantsch said. "She doesn't do things to be cool; she does what she believes in and stands for. She leads because she is confident

seventh grade.

"In seventh grade, we worked on a science project together and I'm not the best partner in the world," Jantsch said. "Claire was so cooperative and talked me through it even though I was a brat to her the whole time."

Jantsch said she would describe Claire as a monkey.

"Not only does she have 5,000 monkeys in her house and sleeps with a huge one named Suzie, but she treats everyone like family and is always smiling and giving hugs," Jantsch said. "She is like a monkey, carrying kids on her back. She is funny and who doesn't want a monkey? Everyone wants a Claire."

According to Jantsch, Claire's confidence radiates.

"It's not just her crazy clothes that distinguish her from everyone else, but the fact that she's comfortable with herself," Jantsch said. "She has something that the rest of us will eventually grow into, but right now she's a step above the rest. She's had that confidence from the very beginning. I went to grade school with her and she's been that way since second grade."

Maddie confirmed that Claire has always exhibited the Academy Woman qualities. She said Claire received a similar award in eighth grade, so she was not too surprised when she received the Academy Woman Award as well.

"She's consistent in who she is," Maddie said. "Every night she's always on the phone with a friend. She's a good listener; she's like a personal counselor. She always puts others first."

According to Jantsch, when you think of Claire, you think bright sunshine.

"When people talk about her, it's never bad... ever," Jantsch said. "And it's not just that way within her group of friends; it's the same with the entire school. Everyone knows the qualities she represents."

"She is like a monkey, carrying kids on her back. She is funny and who doesn't want a monkey? Everyone wants a Claire."

Ellen Jantsch, senior

in what she has to offer."

#### Loyalty to STA:

Bone admires Claire's loyalty to STA.

"Claire has a sense that STA has given her a lot and she passes that on, pays it forward," Bone said.

#### Service to others:

Maddie said she and Claire have gone on international service trips since they were eight, where they volunteer in under-served communities.

"Claire helps people that aren't in good conditions feel better about themselves," Maddie said. "She helps young children overseas and shows her service through her values, caring and appreciation."

#### Cooperation and helpfulness:

Jantsch recalled Claire's cooperation and helpfulness in an experience from

## Valedictorian & Salutatorian



### Valedictorian: Kellyn Smith

**Parents:** Jim and Marsha Smith

**School activities:** 4-year runner of cross country and track, 2 year-Peer Helper, SADD Club member, NHS service committee member, Math Team, Student Life page designer for the "Teresian"

**Service:** Service project at St. Joseph Institute for the Deaf, St. Luke's Hospital three-year volunteer

**College options:** Kansas State University, Clayton University, Dartmouth University, Northwestern University, Davidson College, University of Duke, Washington University, Vanderbilt University, Truman State University, University of Tulsa, University of Rochester

**Intended majors:** Biochemical engineering and pre-med

### Salutatorian: Bailey Lynch

**Parents:** Kelly and Daryl Lynch

**School activities:** 4-year cross country runner, 3-year track runner, math and Spanish tutor, cooking club president, chair of the NHS character committee, "Teresian" managing editor

Bailey was commended for National Merit.

**College options:** Kansas State University, University of Illinois or Purdue University

**Intended major/ minor:** Major in engineering with a minor in Spanish



# One in four girls has an STD

Doctors suggest safe sex, abstinence as remedies for teenage STD epidemic

by CAROLINE QUINN  
Copy Editor

Over a month ago, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) held a press briefing that was a wake-up call to doctors, parents and teenagers alike.

On March 11, the CDC announced the findings of their latest study: one in four teenage girls in the US has at least one sexually transmitted disease [STD].

These numbers worry many, including Ms. Amanda Schieffer, the community development manager for LifeGuard Youth Development. LifeGuard is a division Women's Clinic, an organization in Independence that educates and supports women who are pregnant or may be suffering from an STD.

"STDs are becoming an epidemic," Schieffer said. "[STDs] are very widespread. Teens are only 25 percent of the population who are sexually active, yet 50 percent of all newly acquired STDs are by teens."

The study included data from 838 females ages 14 to 19 who participated in the 2003 - 2004 National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey. The four STDs tested include human papillomavirus (HPV), chlamydia, herpes and trichomoniasis. HPV was overwhelmingly the most common disease, affecting over 18 percent of the girls tested.

Among other results, the recent study demonstrates the racial disparities associated with STDs. While African Americans represent about 13 percent of the US population, they make up almost half of chlamydia diagnoses, more than two-thirds of gonorrhea diagnoses and 43 percent of syphilis diagnoses. In addition, about one in two African-American girls were found to have at least one STD, compared to one in five white teens.

According to Dr. Daryl Lynch, a physician in the Teen Clinic of Children's Mercy Hospital, race has nothing to do with who can acquire STDs.

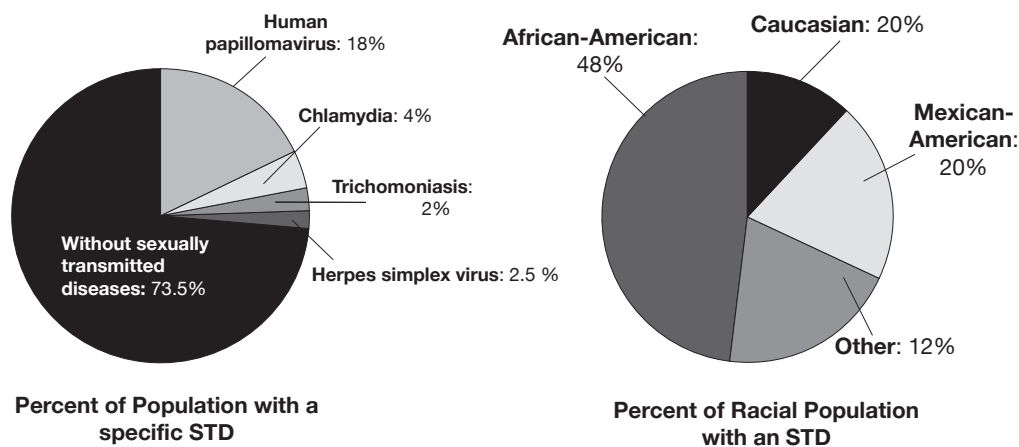
"I'm sort of frustrated with the stats," Lynch said. "Being a color is not a risk factor."

Ms. Jennifer Ruth, a spokesperson of the CDC, supports Lynch's belief that race itself is not a risk factor for STDs. She added that the reality of many African Ameri-

## STDs by the Numbers

GRAPHIC BY ALY BROWNLEE

In a study conducted in 2003 by Center for Disease Control researcher Dr. Sarah Forhan, 838 girls were surveyed concerning STDs. The following results were collected.



Sources: <http://www.cnn.com/2008/HEALTH/conditions/03/11/teen.std.ap/>  
<http://www.cdc.gov/STDConference/2008/media/release-11march2008.htm>

cans' lives does often increase their chance of getting an STD.

"Factors contributing to the severe STD impact among African Americans include limited access to quality health care, as well as poverty," Ruth said.

Lynch said poverty is one of the most important risk factors. If teens do not have quality health care resources, they may never know they have an STD, or if they are aware, they might not believe they can receive the necessary services. In Kansas City, this poses a major problem. A 2002 report by the US Census Bureau estimated that 15 - 20 percent of children in Jackson County alone live below the poverty line. Because so many teens live below the poverty line, many are left with no resources.

Schieffer is trying to let the public know this setback can be overcome. She said constantly relaying the message of abstinence before marriage to teenagers is essential.

"I think empowering kids is really important," Schief-

fer said. "[Teens] need to be reminded of their futures and their values and how premarital sex can inhibit those goals."

Lynch challenges the effectiveness of abstinence-only programs. He said research shows these classes only delay the onset of pregnancy by six months and do not actually prevent the pregnancy. Lynch believes it's up to doctors and clinics to be teen-friendly and open at hours suitable for teenagers. Most important, he said, is that teens practice safe sex and get checked for STDs annually.

Regardless of the means of preventing teens from getting an STD and protecting those who have an STD, health providers and educators agree that solving the problem will be difficult, but taking one step at a time is critical.

"These stats may be disheartening to people, but this is only all the more cause for awareness," Schieffer said. "We have to remember that we can only move forward." ★

# Smoking ordinance upsets, pleases

New law bans smoking in enclosed public areas, casinos remain exempt

by CARLIE CAMPBELL  
Staff Writer

On April 8, Kansas City voted into effect a city-wide ordinance that prohibits smoking in most public places. This ordinance will become effective 60 days after it was passed. Violations of the ordinance could result in fines up to \$500.

"Finally, we have a comprehensive clean indoor air and now, Kansas City... is among a dozen communities to have moved forward to protect residents from the dangers of second-hand smoke," said Mr. Michael Seward, Co-Chair of Kansas City, Missouri Health Commission's Tobacco-Use Reduction Committee.

Under this ordinance, smoking is prohibited in all enclosed places of employment and other enclosed public places, such as movie theaters, bars and restaurants, hospitals and retail establishments, according to the City of Kansas City's website. Smoking will also not be allowed on sidewalks that surround hospitals.

Mr. David Winslow, owner of Winslow's Barbeque, does not agree with the new smoking ordinance.

"It's going to affect every small business man in Kansas City, especially the

ones close to the state line," Winslow said. "Some of [my customers] are going to just drive across state line where you can still smoke or drive to another city, like North Kansas City, where you can still smoke, and they're going to go to there and eat their lunch or their dinner there instead of my place."

Winslow also pointed out that, under this ordinance, all casino floors are exempt from the regulations on smoking.

"What is the floor of a casino?" Winslow said. "It's one big bar."

Smoking will be allowed on casino floors in Jackson, Platte and Clay counties in Missouri and Johnson and Wyandotte counties in Kansas. This ordinance also does not regulate smoking in homes, cars or on sidewalks except those surrounding hospitals. Seward agreed that it is unfair to allow smoking on casino floors.

"I would welcome all those bars and restaurants that wanted a level playing field and feel like there should be no exemption for casinos, we would gladly welcome them to join us arm-in-arm to make the casino floors smoke free," Seward said.

Before this ordinance passed, another was already in effect. Both ordinances regulate smoking in enclosed public places, but under the old ordinance, smoking was permitted in bars and restaurants with a valid liquor license after 9 p.m.



**Countdown to no smoking** ★ Ms. Jenny Parish, left, and Ms. Amber Cunningham take a smoking break during their shift at Winslow's Barbeque April 12. The smoking ban that will go into effect will not allow smoking inside the restaurant but Winslow's has the largest open air patio in Kansas City, so they are not concerned about it hurting their business. PHOTO BY SARAH SMITH

The City of Kansas City's website also claims that this ordinance will help many businesses in the long run. The site stated that cities who have put into effect similar ordinances have noticed a drop in employees calling in sick to work, consequently lowering health care costs.

Winslow hopes that the people who voted this ordinance into effect will start

supporting businesses affected by it more frequently now, because of the lack of second-hand smoke.

"The concept is 'How do you eat an elephant? One bite at a time.' We just chewed off a major part of the elephant with this passing," Seward said. "By taking this step, a strategic move, our initiative is clean air across the board." ★

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## Church announces modern deadly sins

by SARAH SMITH  
Section Editor

Fifteen hundred years after the Roman Catholic Church installed the original seven deadly sins, the list has been updated to relate to the age of globalization.

The Vatican's official newspaper, *L'Osservatore Romano*, published a new set of mortal sins March 9. Now included are pollution, genetic engineering, selling drugs, abortion, pedophilia, excessive wealth and contributing to social injustice.

"You offend God not only by stealing, blaspheming or coveting your neighbor's wife but also by ruining the environment, carrying out morally debatable scientific experiments or allowing genetic manipulation," Monsignor Gianfranco Girotti said to *L'Osservatore Romano*.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church states that "immediately after death, the soul of those who die in a state of mortal sin descend in Hell." The only way to avoid this is to go to confession, the Church says.

"I think a lot of people already thought of these as sins," senior Emily Thompson said. "Maybe [the church] sees these as problems that people don't take seriously. They have never taken a strong stand on some of these issues before, so maybe by putting [pollution] next to abortion it raises the status a little bit."

Thompson regularly attends confession and admits that she would not have considered pollution a mortal sin.

There are over one billion baptized Catholics in the world but the percent of them going to confession is falling due to what Pope Benedict XVI describes as the "decreasing sense of sin" in today's "secularized world." A survey conducted by the Vatican found that 60 percent of Catholics in Italy no longer go to confession.

"We've gotten very lazy about sin," theology teacher Mary Jo

Coughlin said. "We find a way to excuse ourselves from any responsibility and we are having a problem accepting the need for reconciliation."

Coughlin is not convinced this is the most effective way to make Catholics more aware of their actions. If someone is already not attending confession she does not think having more sins will make them start going.

"I don't think these are new sins," she said. "They are modern interpretations of ones we already had. If the rationale is to make us think in modern day terms about the evil of the world, they are heading in the right direction."

Other religious scholars agree that the additions are not far from the original mortal sins.

"In different times, in moments of history, cultural moments, technological moments, sins dress themselves up, so to speak, in a different way," the Rev. John Wauck from Rome's Pontifical University of the Holy Cross told CNN. "The underlying sin tends to be the same – a variation on a theme of selfishness, a lack of respect for others, of lying, cheating, stealing or killing."

The Pope's hope for the new list of sins is that it will create a broader social awareness. He wants people not only to look at how a sin affects them personally but how it affects the rest of the world.

"If yesterday, sin had a rather individualistic dimension, today it has a weight," Girotti said. "... It has a resonance that's especially social rather than individual."

Coughlin thinks some of the new sins may be difficult for people to interpret.

"How do you define the degree of pollution that makes it a mortal sin?" Coughlin said. "I think the intention was correct in helping us see how it is in the 21st century that we commit deadly sins. However, the [original deadly sins] are such general issues they are almost timeless."★

# MORE CIRCLES OF HELL

## DRUG ABUSE

**DEFINITION:** The addiction to drugs; substance abuse involving drugs

**STATISTICS:** According to the 2007 Missouri Status Report on Alcohol and Drug Abuse Problems, in 2005, 35 percent of high school students, and 38.4 percent of US high school students had used marijuana at some point.



**FICTIONAL CHARACTERS:** In the movie "Rent," two of the main characters, Roger and Mimi, use heroine. The characters in "Across the Universe" partake in hallucinogenic drugs.

**WHY CHURCH ADDED THIS SIN:** Monsignor Gianfranco Girotti, the head of the Apostolic Penitentiary, told the Vatican newspaper, *L'Osservatore Romano*, that drugs "weaken the mind and cloud judgment" along with contributing to "social injustice" by deepening the imbalance between the rich and the poor.

### CHRISTIAN WRITINGS

"Don't you know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God... So you must honor God with your body" (1 Corinthians 6:19-20). "Whatever you eat or drink or whatever you do, you must do all for the glory of God" (1 Corinthians 10:31).

## OBSCENE RICHES

**DEFINITION:** Abominable or disgusting wealth; the spending of one's money grossly on unnecessary objects

**STATISTICS:** In Missouri, 13 percent of the population in 2004 was living below the poverty line, compared to the national average of 12.7 percent. In Jackson County alone, it was estimated that 80,582 people live in poverty (US Census Bureau).



### CHRISTIAN WRITINGS

"Blessed are those who are generous, because they feed the poor" (Proverbs 22:9). "If you pay special attention to the rich, you are committing a sin" (James 2:9).

## ABORTION

**DEFINITION:** The premature termination of a pregnancy accompanied by, resulting in or closely followed by the death of an embryo.

**STATISTICS:** According to the Center for Disease Control, in 2005, over one million legal abortions were reported. The highest percentages of reported abortions were for women who were unmarried (82 percent), white (55 percent), and less than 25 years old (52 percent)



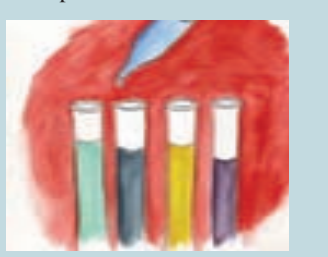
### CHRISTIAN WRITINGS

"Human life is sacred because from its beginning it involves the creative action of God and it remains forever in a special relationship with the creator, who is its sole end" (Catechism).

## GENETIC ENGINEERING

**DEFINITION:** The development and application of scientific methods, procedures and technologies that permit direct manipulation of genetic material in order to alter the hereditary traits of a cell, organism or population

**STATISTICS:** Over 60 percent of Americans believe it is immoral to clone animals. Eighty-nine percent want to see cloned foods labeled.



**FICTIONAL CHARACTERS:** In the movie "Multiplicity" a man clones himself in order to accomplish more. In "Star Wars Episode II: Attack of the Clones," a clone army is created to fight.

**WHY CHURCH ADDED THIS SIN:** "[Within bioethics] there are areas when we absolutely must denounce some violations of the fundamental rights of human nature through experiments and genetic manipulation whose outcome is difficult to predict and control." (Pope Benedict XVI)

### CHRISTIAN WRITINGS

"You made all the delicate inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother's womb... You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb" (Psalm 139:13-16).

## SOCIAL INJUSTICE

**DEFINITION:** Social injustice occurs when all people within a society do not have equal access to the facilities, services or systems within that society.

**STATISTICS:** Ninety percent of the world's population lives in countries where income differentials are widening (2007 Human Development Report). The distance between the poorest and the richest countries has grown: in 1820 it was 3 to 1; in 1992 it was 72 to 1.



**FICTIONAL CHARACTERS:** Jean Valjean from Victor Hugo's "Les Misérables" is treated unjustly because he is a peasant and an ex-convict.

**WHY CHURCH ADDED THIS SIN:** "... Social and economic inequality, in the sense that the rich always seem to get richer, and the poor, poorer. This [phenomenon] feeds off an unsustainable form of social injustice and is related to environmental issues – which currently have much relevant interest." (Bishop Gianfranco Girotti).

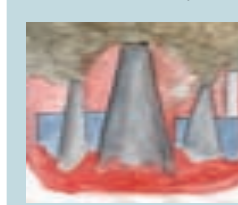
### CHRISTIAN WRITINGS

"By this law of social justice, one class is forbidden to exclude the other from sharing in the benefits." (Pope Pius XI, Encyclical on the Reconstruction of the Social Order 15 May 1931)

## POLLUTION

**DEFINITION:** The act or process of polluting or the state of being polluted, especially the contamination of soil, water or the atmosphere by the discharge of harmful substances.

**STATISTICS:** SUV's put out 43 percent more global-warming pollutants (28 pounds of carbon dioxide per gallon of gas consumed) and 47 percent more air pollution than the average car (2002). US and global annual temperatures are now around 10 degrees Fahrenheit warmer than they were in 1900.



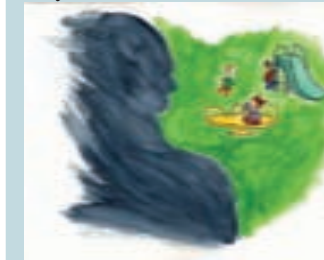
### CHRISTIAN WRITINGS

"The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein. For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods" (Psalm 24:1-2).

## PEDOPHILIA

**DEFINITION:** A sexual desire in an adult for a child

**STATISTICS:** According to the FBI, two-thirds of sex offenders in state prisons have victimized a child and children under 18 were the victims of almost 20 percent of the violent crimes committed by state prisoners. There are 271 registered sex offenders in Kansas City and over 600,000 in the United States.



**FICTIONAL CHARACTERS:** In Vladimir Nabokov's "Lolita," Humbert Humbert speaks openly about his obsession with young girls and his abusive relationship with a young girl.

**WHY CHURCH ADDED THIS SIN:** Pedophilia in the church "exposes the human and institutional fragility of the church," said Gianfranco Girotti to the Vatican's newspaper, *L'Osservatore Romano*.

### CHRISTIAN WRITINGS

"The children of Israel took all the women of Midian captives, and their little ones... and they brought the captives and the spoil unto Moses.... And he said 'Now therefore kill every male among the little ones and kill every woman that hath known a man by lying with him. But all the women children that have not known a man by lying with him, keep alive for yourselves'" (Numbers 31: 9-18).

ART BY MARY CLARA HUTCHISON

COMPILED BY TAYLOR BROWN, ALY BROWNLEE, TRACY BURNS-YOCUM, BIANCA DANG, CAROLINE QUINN, MICHELLE REICHMEIER



# KU fans celebrate win



**Fanatic fans** ★ Juniors Mollie Caffey, from left, Lauren Damico and Maggie Burke watch the KU vs. Memphis NCAA National Championship game at a friend's house April 7. Caffey and Burke cheered as KU scored a point in the second quarter, leaving Memphis fan Damico unhappy. **PHOTO BY JAIME HENRY-WHITE**

## STA students screamed, scowled during NCAA Championship game

by LINNY KAUFMAN  
*Sports Editor*

Junior Mollie Caffey screamed with excitement. "I have never seen anything like this before," Caffey said. "That shot was the most beautiful thing I have ever seen in my entire life!"

With 2.1 seconds left on the clock, University of Kansas guard Mario Chalmers hit a three-pointer to send the NCAA men's championship game into overtime.

Junior Lauren Damico cursed KU and continued to cheer for the University of Memphis, flaunting her University of Missouri sweatshirt. She taunted Caffey and junior Maggie Burke with comments like "Tigers eat birds for breakfast fools" and "Hey guys, how does it feel to finally make a basket?"

Caffey, Damico, Burke and junior Megan Monsees watched the nail-biting championship game between KU and Memphis April 7 at junior Bianca Dang's house. Caffey and Burke cheered for KU, while Damico and Monsees supported Memphis. KU defeated Memphis in overtime 75-68.

"These games are just more fun when you have someone watching it with you to cheer against," Caffey said. "I liked hearing all of [Damico's] stupid comebacks; it was funny."

When it comes to college basketball, Caffey doesn't exactly have a favorite team and rarely watches regular season games. But last Monday night, she was jumping up and down, screaming at the KU players to steal the ball and make a shot.

"I cheered for KU because they are local," Caffey said. "I also wanted to stick it to Roy Williams. I get easily pumped during games, even when I have no special interest in either team. I go crazy with games like the one [April 7]; it was so close and so intense."

Burke, who jumped, danced and screamed in her Kansas sweatshirt between Caffey and Damico, has grown up surrounded by Kansas fans. She said her aunts and uncles love KU, so she has basically always cheered for them.

As she sat down to watch her favorite college basketball team play in the championship game, Burke didn't know which team would win.

"I actually felt like Memphis might win because they had been doing better than KU," Burke said. "I knew the game could go either way, though. It made it more interesting and fun to watch it with fans from both teams."

Junior Mallory Sweatt, lifelong KU fan, had the "best night of [her] whole life" cheering in the Alamo Dome in San Antonio during the game. Sweatt has watched every KU game this entire season, at least five of which she saw in person. Sweatt was sitting in row 20 when KU won the NCAA Championship.

"I've never had so much fun in my entire life," Sweatt said. "I'm seriously not exaggerating. I was crying, my 9-year-old brother was crying. It was amazing."

Sweatt said the Alamo Dome was packed with about 43,000 people in attendance, and she saw no empty seats. It was almost impossible to hear anything. She thought it seemed like there were more Memphis fans at the game than KU fans, but it was difficult to tell.

Sweatt said the most exciting moment of the game was when Chalmers made the three-point shot to tie the game, which was "the most incredible thing [she] had ever seen".

"When Mario made the three at the end of the game, I couldn't express my feelings," Sweatt said. "I didn't know it was possible to go from crying to screaming in two seconds. I had been crying when there were 10 seconds left because I figured we had lost. Then, I was suddenly hugging everyone around me, even people I didn't know. It was crazy."

Sweatt, Caffey and Burke were ecstatic about KU's win, along with many others at STA, who displayed their hap-



**Hand in hand** ★ Memphis fans juniors Lauren Damico, left, and Megan Monsees worryingly hold hands as they await the outcome of the game at a friend's house April 7. KU won 75-68. **PHOTO BY JAIME HENRY-WHITE**

piness at school the next day with KU sweatshirts, socks and endless recaps of the game. Sweatt, a future Jayhawk student, said KU's championship win was her dream come true.

"I was screaming so loudly," Sweatt said. "Everyone was jumping around; no one could believe it. I was so happy." ★



## Varsity soccer team focuses on talent, teamwork

LINNY KAUFMAN



SPORTS EDITOR

My younger years in athletics were filled with year-round basketball, Visitation volleyball and club softball. I was busy and in shape, and I loved those three sports. But if I could go back in time seven or eight years, there is one sport I would definitely add to my list of athletic activities: soccer.

I've always thought soccer would be one of the best, if not the best sport to play at STA. Soccer players are quick, in shape and intense. They know how to head and "juggle" the ball and their leg muscles are insane. Every time I watch a soccer game or practice, I regret not playing when I was younger.

Despite my jealousy, I have a ton of fun at the games. Even though varsity lost to St. Thomas Aquinas High School 0-1 March 29, I loved sitting in the stands buried in blankets watching our team play. A group of about 15 STA girls huddled together on the metal bleachers, chanting our school song and commenting on the intensity of the game. It was cold and a bit rainy, but we all enjoyed it.

I love watching this year's varsity team. The players seem to be focusing more on working together and less on individual success. The seniors have stepped up to lead the team with both their soccer skills and emphasis on team-bonding. This year's group has what last year's squad seemed to be lacking: a strong sense of teamwork.

I am so excited for the rest of the soccer season. This team has a fair shot at taking the State Championship, and I know I'll have a great time watching them compete.

I encourage everyone to come watch a soccer game. Whether it's against some small school from the middle of nowhere or against a top-ranked school like Aquinas, you will have a great time. This year, our team is not only extremely talented, but also possesses a commitment to teamwork and a love for the game that is often difficult to find in high school squads.

These varsity players, especially the six (healthy) seniors, know what it feels like to win State, and they know what it takes to get there. And this year with a focus on teamwork and leadership, they have the tools they need to do it. ★

# Stars blast Thunder

## Varsity soccer team beats St. James Academy 4-2, moving to a 11-2 record

by ALLISON POINTER  
Staff Photographer

It was halftime as the STA varsity soccer Stars walked off the field, out of breath and worn out, on the Tuesday night home game against the St. James Academy Thunder. The score was tied one to one, but Coach Scott Siegel was frustrated with the team's first half performance.

"There was just so much lack of consistency everywhere from everybody," Siegel said.

The game started out with little stability in keeping possession as the Stars fell short with passing.

"We were doing a lot of dribbling," junior Caitlin Boger said. "We were needing to work more unified rather than individually."

It wasn't until STA blocked a first half St. James's penalty kick and broke away toward the opposite end that senior Mary McCue scored the first goal. Only two minutes later, St. James also made their first score.

"At half time, our coach just basically said we needed to pass the ball more," sophomore Mary Warwick said. "We did more of it in the second half. The team had settled down more then."

Five minutes into the second half, senior Molly Campbell positioned herself for a corner kick, a clear shot right into the net.

"Getting the goal in the second half gave [the team] more commitment to play the right way," Siegel said.



**Two on one** ★ STA freshman Katelyn Devine, from left, a St. James High School player, and STA senior Molly Campbell fight for the ball during the STA vs. St. James game Tuesday at STA. STA won the game with a final score of 4-2. PHOTO BY CLAIRE MCINERNEY

Following the goal, the Stars gained control and scored two more shots by sophomores Maegan Kelly and Taylor Brown. However, St. James recovered quickly and scored their second goal of the game.

"St. James [was] better than what we were expecting," said Boger. "We weren't expecting much because their team is so young."

Siegel thought St. James wasn't necessarily ready for STA, because the school was established only three years ago and has had little time to develop its soccer program.

"They're good," he said. "They have a couple very good, very dangerous players."

Winning this game 4-2, the Stars

have a record of 12-2. Even with the win, Siegel felt the team did not play up to its potential.

"Sometimes we lose our focus for a little bit and can't get back," Siegel said. "I get very frustrated when I know they are not playing up to what they should be."

A month into the season, the team has played 14 games and competed in two tournaments. Currently the team has three players out due to injuries, including All-American senior Brittany Scott. With the injuries, the team has suited up two JV sophomore players for the varsity games.

The Stars next game will be an away game tonight at 6:30 p.m. against Lee's Summit North High School. ★

## Lacrosse picks up momentum

### After a rocky start, team grows more confident, works for improvement

by TAYLOR BROWN  
Staff Writer

After weeks of tutorials, practices and conditioning, the STA lacrosse club feels they are finally becoming a more confident team.

The first game of the season took place April 7 when JV played Notre Dame De Sion High School's club lacrosse team. Although STA lost this game 8-0, many girls feel the result and effort were significantly improved from the last time STA scrimmaged Sion, losing 17-0.

The team then defeated Columbia Rock Bridge High School 8-5 April 12 at STA, securing its first season win. The Stars lost to the Kansas City Team 14-0 Tuesday.

Although most of the team started this lacrosse season as beginners, the girls agree they have shaped up for the better.

"I am surprised that I picked it up as fast I did," sophomore team captain Jordan Miller said. "I mean, I had never touched a [lacrosse] stick before the first day of practice."

Miller credits this improvement to the coaching of Ms. Jessica Connor.

"[Connor] works with us mostly on stick control and she makes sure we do



**Game face** ★ STA senior Julia Adriano, from left, senior Caitlin O'Rourke, and a Rock Bridge High School opponent reach for the ball in the Varsity lacrosse game Saturday. STA won 8-5. PHOTO BY JAIME HENRY-WHITE

everything as a team," Miller said.

A general practice for the lacrosse team consists of warm-up exercises, running a mile, basic ball-handling drills, various games and sprints.

Recently, Connor divided the lacrosse players into three official teams: Varsity, JV and underclassmen. The teams were chosen based on grade and

skill level. With the team division, the girls received their uniforms.

Many of the team members, including senior Varsity team captain Sarah Coleman, feel that the girls have drastically improved but there is still room for more development.

See LACROSSE, page 23

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St. Teresa's Academy



# Smaller size brings team closer

## ★Scoreboard★

Track and field team loses participants, decrease causes tighter team bond

by RACHEL FLATTERY  
Staff Writer

St. Teresa's Academy's 34 member track and field team is 10 members smaller than last year's squad.

But coach Ms. Ann Bode-Rodriguez doesn't mind.

"I'll take quality over quantity any day," Bode-Rodriguez said. "I've seen numbers go up and down and vary from year to year. More and more I see athletes focusing in one sport all year instead of a girl doing more sports. Lacrosse is another thing. I've lost about 3 or 4 [girls] from track last year."

Senior Jordan Behnken has been a short-distance runner since her freshman year. This is her sixth year on track.

"I fell in love with running and track," Behnken said. "I like the meets the best because I always get nervous and my adrenaline is high and you do your best at meets."

Like Behnken, senior Katie Drummond has been on the team since her freshman year. Drummond, a shot putter, said she liked both competing as an individual and practicing as a team.

"Ms. Bode pushes me to be a leader," Drummond said. "[She] continues to push me each year up until my senior year. Now I'm the leader."

Behnken and Drummond are two of five returning seniors on the team. Some say the smaller squad brings the athletes closer.

"When I was a freshman, I didn't know very many people," Behnken said. "Since [the team] is smaller, we're closer together."

Junior Paulina Wentworth participated in



**Fighting for first** ★ Junior Shauna Muehlbach, right, fights for the lead against a Kearney High School opponent during the 400-meter race at the Blue Springs Invitational meet last Friday. This year, the track team is smaller in number, but has retained some of its strongest runners. PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NELSON

track her freshman year and dropped out of track sophomore year. Now a junior, Wentworth says she's glad to be back.

"I have better relationships with my team than in my freshman and sophomore years," Wentworth said. "I am closer with my team. I could be in the worst mood and when I go to track they help me and make me feel better."

But a smaller squad means STA competes in fewer events at meets, therefore earning fewer points.

This year is junior Jessica Bales' second time participating in track at STA. She and

freshman Shay Bell are the only two team members involved in hurdles.

"Since the teams at the meets get points for each race they place, we don't do as well in meets," Bales said.

Still, the team is competing in more meets than last year and Bode says it is more competitive.

Bode-Rodriguez is happy about her team and isn't worried about the size at all. She focuses on how her team can excel.

"Track and field is my passion," Bode-Rodriguez said. "It's fantastic." ★

### Varsity Soccer (11-2)

March 24	Olathe North	W
March 26	Liberty	W
March 29	Aquinas	L
March 31	LS West	W
April 3	Hickman	W
April 4	Kapaun Mt. Carmel	W
April 5	SM East	W
April 8	Blue Valley NW	W
April 11	Jackson	W
April 12	Oakville	W
April 12	Lafayette	L
April 14	Platte County	W
April 15	St. James	W

### JV Soccer (5-2-1)

March 27	Aquinas	L
March 31	Lee's Summit West	W
April 3	Columbia Hickman	W
April 4	Kapaun Mt. Carmel	W
April 5	SM East	T
April 8	Blue Valley NW	L
April 14	Platte County	W
April 15	St. James	W

### C-Team Soccer (1-1-2)

March 27	Aquinas	T
March 31	SM East	W
April 3	Olathe North	T
April 15	Aquinas	L

### Track and Field

March 27	Blue Springs	
March 28	Blue Springs South	
April 1	Turner	
April 3	Winnetonka	
April 4	Bishop Miege	3rd
April 9	O'Hara	3rd
April 10	Winnetonka	
April 11	Blue Springs	

### Varsity Lacrosse (1-1)

April 12	Rock Bridge	W
April 15	Kansas City Team	L

### JV Lacrosse (0-3)

April 7	Notre Dame de Sion	L
April 9	KC Girls JV	L
April 12	Omaha	L

### C-Team Lacrosse (0-1)

April 7	KC All Stars	L
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### Dance Team

Try-outs for the 2008-2009 dance team took place today, Tuesday and Wednesday in Goppert Center after school. Tuesday was the first day the prospective team members met their new coaches, head coach Savannah Vose and assistant coach Deena Schumberg. Since the dance team has had four head coaches in the last four years, commitment was an issue.

"My passion is dancing and working with girls who share my same passion and I have no doubt that this is where I'm supposed to be," Vose said. "I can't tell you how excited I am."

Vose has an extensive training in dance, including participating on a competitive dance team for 12 years and cheeleading for the Kansas City Chiefs for four years. For one year, Schumberg was a Rock Chalk Jayhawk dancer. ★

## dancing up a sweat



**Shake it** • New assistant dance team coach Deena Schaumburg teaches a routine to a group of St. Teresa's Academy students auditioning for the STA dance team in Goppert Center Wednesday. Freshman Grace Bisbee said, "[Schaumburg] is teaching at a good speed for people who aren't used to it and those who are; not too fast, not too slow." PHOTO BY KAYLA LOOSEN



# Showcase displays fine arts

Students, teachers await opportunity to present work in annual exhibit

by JAIME HENRY-WHITE  
Staff Photographer

The empty STA halls are crowded with noisy chatter again, and students wind around corners to their next class. They pass by a few walls adorned with artwork, quickly glancing at the pieces displayed, but only enough to capture a blurred image. Walking out of English class, they peer at the ballet barres in the dance room and wonder how the dance classes go. Thumping down the stairs, they hear only a glimpse of the choir warming up their voices. However, on April 30, students, faculty and family will have the chance to truly see what the art department is all about at the eighth annual STA Fine Arts Showcase.

"[My favorite part] is walking around and listening to people's reactions, like parents, boyfriends and grandparents," art teacher Theresa Wallerstedt said. "They realize how really talented their loved one is and that's really gratifying."

From 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., the showcase will present the best work of over 200 students in the fine arts department. Plans for the night include performances by the choir, dance class and orchestra, a fashion show displaying the apparel and accessories items made in the fibers/textiles class and a showcasing of student's artwork from the ceramics I and II class, art portfolio class, drawing I class and more.

"It's nice for them to have their '15 minutes of fame' as Andy Warhol would say," art teacher Lisa Dibble said.

Art portfolio student and senior Jessica Marak agrees.

"The girls in the art department don't get a lot of fame and glory like sport teams and whatever and it's just nice to get out there and show people what people do in the art room," Marak said. "It's kind of just a big finale for the whole year. It's just kind of nice to see and just get recognition for all the hard work we've done."



**Dancing moves** ★ Senior Stephanie Chapman and the intermediate dance class rehearse their jazz routine for the Fine Arts Showcase last Tuesday. For the eighth year, students of the fine arts department will present their best work from the year to friends, family and faculty. **PHOTO BY JAIME HENRY-WHITE**

Hours of planning and preparation occurs for the show. This includes performance rehearsals, students selecting one or two pieces to display and teachers tracking down artwork from students of the previous semester. Over 30 hours alone is spent creating labels and cutting out mats to mount two-dimensional pieces. The actual setting up of the event will be mainly done by Wallerstedt's student teacher Nick Erker and Dibble.

"It's very time-consuming," Dibble said.

"But it's really well worth the planning and effort because it's really good for teachers in other disciplines to see that students that they think are brilliant math students, that these math students are also brilliant on the [pottery] wheel."

Ceramics I student and junior Emily Cappo is excited to look at her pottery and fashion show pieces, as well as see what other student's have created in different classes.

"I think it's important because I think

that everyone needs to do more than just your class and look at other people's work," Cappo said. "Like, if you're in ceramics, I think it's important to see other people's pieces in fibers, graphic design, and dance too."

Cappo think that many students have a sense of accomplishment after the show.

"It's important not to just have your pieces shown in school, but you get to elevate it and it's like 'Hey, you're special, you're cool,'" Cappo said. ★

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## Art portfolio class explores creativity

Seniors complete unique projects, present portfolios in showcase

by ROSIE HODES  
Staff Writer

The art portfolio class is having three shows to display its work over the course of this year. The shows each run a week in the Donnelly Hall Exhibition Room, beginning today, April 24 and May 8.

Art teacher Theresa Wallerstedt teaches the class and said she tried to give the earliest show times to the girls who have worked the hardest. She requires students to complete six pieces a semester. They will present as many pieces as possible. Girls interested in furthering their art career take the class, which is designed to give them a chance to produce a portfolio. They have created pieces with ceramics, apparel, scratchboards, paintings and more. Senior Kathleen Bryant went to a glass studio for one of her projects.

"I have monthly assessments to check on their progress and make sure nothing looks kitsch," Wallerstedt

said.

The class meets once a week, so there is a lot of outside work involved.

"There's not enough time to get into the project then clean up [during school]," senior Lindsay Pericich said. "I work more at 3 a.m. when I am inspired," she said.

According to Pericich and senior Charlotte Adams, the girls are allowed to explore their creativity after Wallerstedt assigns a project. For instance, a self-portrait made out of abstract items. They often bounce ideas off of each other.

"We're all good at critiquing without being competitive," Adams said.

The final product of the art portfolio class is their presentation in the upcoming shows and the portfolio that many, including Pericich, send to colleges. Senior Amy O'Connor will attend the Art Institute of Chicago and Senior Jessica Marak will participate in Missouri State University's art program.

According to Wallerstedt, the shows will be diverse because of the free nature of the class.

"A lot of what we do is sporadic and random," Pericich said. "Everybody is unique." ★

### Art portfolio students



Charlotte Adams  
Kathleen Bryant  
Tessa Cunningham  
Anna Holley  
Jessica Marak  
Erin McAnany  
Amy O'Connor  
Lindsay Pericich



**Perfecting the pig** ★ Carefully manipulating her sculpture, senior Erin McAnany works on one of her portfolio pieces April 3 in art portfolio class. McAnany was following her piece before glazing it. **PHOTO BY CLAIRE MCINERNEY**



## Columbus Park echoes local community

EMILY BECKER



### NO DIRECTIONS HOME

The Columbus Park area looks like Brookside. A stay-at-home mom takes a walk before the kids get home from school. A middle schooler pedals his bike down a street of bricked houses. Birds chirping and dogs barking play as the accompanying soundtrack. There is one difference between Columbus Park and Brookside, though. All the signs in Columbus Park are written in Vietnamese.

Columbus Park was not a place I was looking for. I had headed down Main Street with the intention of going to the River Market District, a place I always heard about, but had never spent much time in (besides standing in the market area for concerts during the summer). But City Market at 3 p.m. on a Tuesday afternoon was deserted. I decided to get out of the immediate vicinity of the market and went in search of the Folger's Coffee plant that gives the air in the River Market District a distinct caffeinated smell. A few one-way streets and random turns later, I ended up in Columbus Park.

I had been to the area once before a few years ago. I ate lunch at the Vietnam Café, which has excellent pho and Vietnamese coffee. The Café sits in the small downtown area, across the street from a Vietnamese video store. There is a salon down the street and a grocery store a few blocks away.

The best part of Columbus Park really is the park though. It sits near the interstate at Independence Avenue and Charlotte Street, but it is easy to forget you are in the city when you are surrounded by lush green grass and wooden benches that line the short walking trail.

This park is grown-up. There is minimal play equipment and a green-roofed gazebo sits in the middle of the park. No kids were around when I was there and instead of being weird, this was actually refreshing. The park is smaller than Loose Park and certainly less crowded. It is in the perfect location to be a cross between the urban and suburban neighborhood.

There are more similarities between Brookside and Columbus Park than you might think. Most things are in walking distance of each other and the houses look like they came straight off Oak Street. There is even great food and friendly people. The only thing standing in the way of a St. Teresa's in Columbus Park is knowing how to write "With the help of God, we need not fear" in Vietnamese. ★

# Seniors prepare for production



**Peering pals** ★ Seniors Mary Clara Hutchinson, Bailey Lynch, and junior Kate Bonhert rehearse for their Student Productions play "The Adventures of Annie and Halle", written by seniors Libby Ring and Molly Hamid, last Monday at Ring's house. Student Production will be on April 25-26 and will be the premiere of five original plays written and directed by STA seniors. PHOTO BY JAIME HENRY-WHITE

## Despite inexperience, two senior directors compose original student production

by NICOLE GRAVINO  
 Staff Writer

Each year, STA girls have the opportunity to write a script and be a part of student productions. The writing pool is not limited to those already involved in theater at STA, but instead includes the entire student body. Drama teacher Shana Prentiss gives anyone willing to produce a script a fair chance. Often the directors end up being girls who have been in a few shows and these girls say their experience definitely helps them. However, not every director this year has theater experience.

"We've never done anything like this before," senior Libby Ring said. "It was always sports for us."

Ring and senior Molly Hamid wrote "The Adventures of Annie and Halle," which is one of five shows chosen for student productions this year. Both say support from friends encouraged them to write a script.

"We have been told we entertain people and are rather humorous," Hamid said.

When asked about their lack of theater experience, both said writing and directing was a challenge.

"As of right now, it's not a disadvantage," Hamid said. "Once we get to tech week, the timing and lights, [directing] is going to be a lot harder."

Seniors Anne Tampke and Anna Boisseau wrote "Table Talk," another show featured this year. Tampke says their experi-

ence from being in shows was helpful while writing and directing their show.

"You learn how to write by reading," Tampke said. "You learn how to direct by acting a lot and being told what to do in shows."

When asked about writing and directing a show without having been in one, Tampke said Hamid and Ring are taking a different approach.

"[Anna and I] know what we like and what we don't like because we have been in shows," Tampke said. "I think they are experimenting without having been through all the practices for shows before."

Seniors Elizabeth Warwick and Hannah Bailey wrote the student production "The Junior Miss Missouri Kansas City Jackson County Loveliness Pageant." Warwick says her acting experience showed while going through auditions with girls and in preparation for tech week.

"[My experience] helped in the directing aspect absolutely, but not the writing," Warwick said. "Knowing how I feel during auditions, I wanted them to be very comfortable. I have done tech since freshman year. I know we have to anticipate [tech week]. Our music needs to be ready, so and so needs to be ready, etc."

Warwick expressed confidence in Hamid and Ring's abilities to direct a show without acting backgrounds.

"They will be fine," Warwick said. "It just might be a little bit more stressful and overwhelming but it's not a two-hour-long musical they are trying to direct. Student productions this year are really going to showcase some girls who have never been on stage." ★

*"Once we get into tech week, the timing and lights, [directing] is going to be a lot harder."*

Molly Hamid, senior

### Student Productions

#### ★ "Tallula's Song"

Directed by: Kathleen Bryant and Hannah Giraradeau

Plot Summary: "Three little creatures go on a humungous adventure to find their missing goddess."

#### "Table Talk"

Directed by: Anne Tampke and Anna Boisseau

Plot summary: "Fate brings a group of misfits to the same dinner table on a Disney Cruise."

#### "The Junior Miss Missouri Kansas City Jackson County Loveliness Pageant"

Directed by: Hannah Bailey and Elizabeth Warwick

Plot summary: "A beauty pageant that takes place in Kansas City and each contestant must get through three excruciating rounds of competition."

#### "Real World: All Stars"

Directed by: Claire McFarland and Maggie Henehan

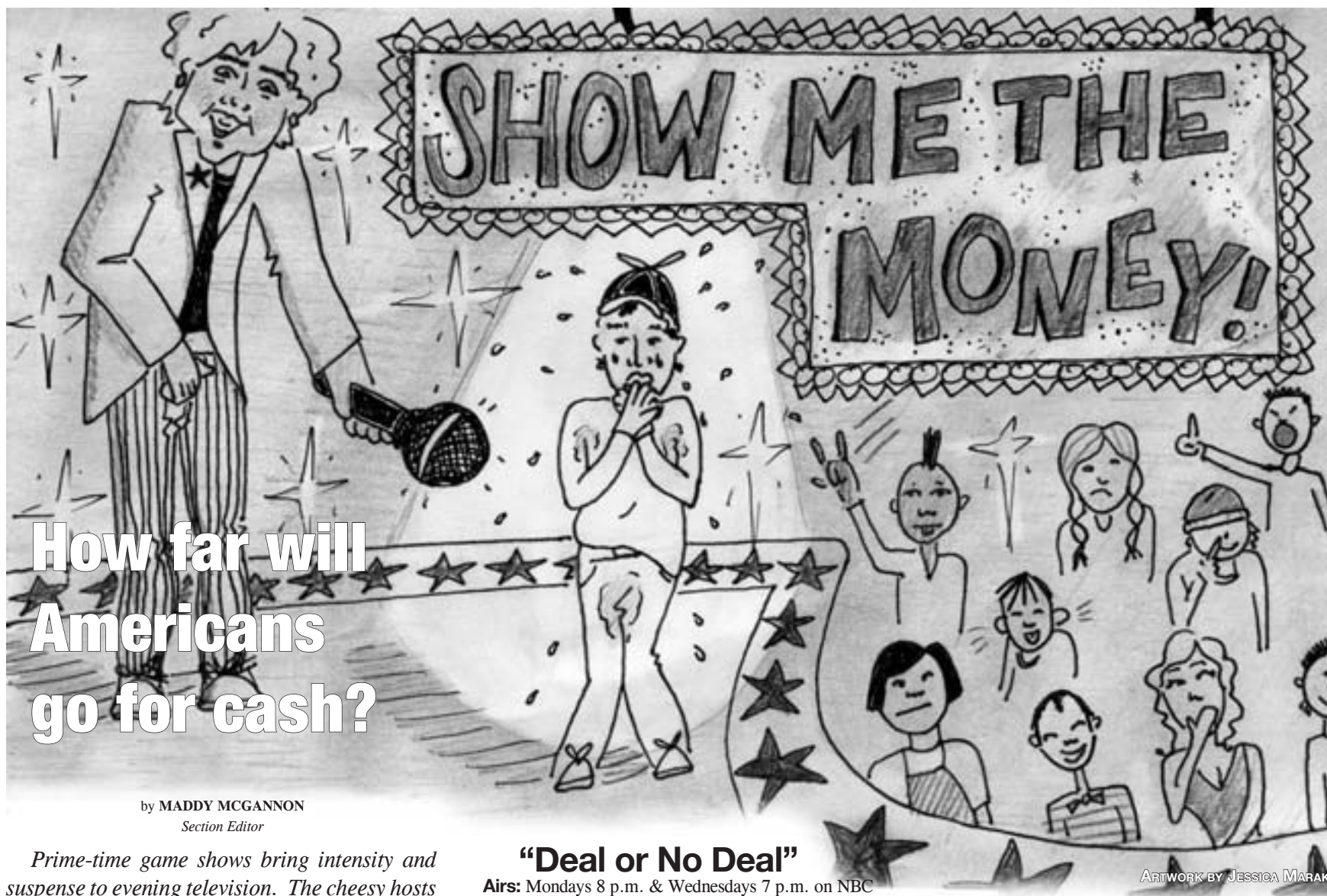
Plot summary: "Seven famous celebrities living in one house try to live through awkward situations and love triangles."

#### "The Adventures of Annie and Halle"

Directed by: Molly Hamid and Libby Ring

Plot summary: "Our play is about the adventures of two girls getting left behind during a field trip at the Liberty Memorial and how they make their way back."





## How far will Americans go for cash?

by MADDY MCGANNON  
Section Editor

Prime-time game shows bring intensity and suspense to evening television. The cheesy hosts and greedy contestants create an entertainment factor that keeps me watching.

### “Don’t Forget the Lyrics”

**Airs:** Thursdays 8 p.m. on FOX  
**Host:** Wayne Brady

**How to play:** The contestants choose songs from different genres and decades as they take center stage to sing along with the band. Once the music stops, their job is to fill in the missing lyrics. If the contestant can fill in 10 songs with 10 missing lyrics, he or she wins \$1 million.

This upbeat prime-time show will have you tapping your feet and singing along, or at least trying to. The viewers at home think they know the lyrics just as well as the contestants. However, once the music stops and you’re left staring at four or five empty lines, the game becomes quite difficult. Wayne Brady gives the show a lighthearted feel and pulls out his jokes from time to time. Overall, the show is worth watching if you don’t mind busting out and singing a few tunes.

### “Deal or No Deal”

**Airs:** Mondays 8 p.m. & Wednesdays 7 p.m. on NBC  
**Host:** Howie Mandel

**How to play:** The contestant begins by choosing one case he or she believes holds \$1 million. The case is removed from the group and remains untouched until the end of the game. As the show continues, the contestant’s goal is to eliminate the remaining 25 cases. One by one, the contestant selects a case, hoping it does not hold the \$1 million.

“Deal or No Deal” is repetitive and obnoxious, yet captivating and addicting at the same time. This popular game show has quickly become a hit, not only in my house, but in homes across America. Many of us find ourselves screaming at the television, “NO DEAL!” as the ambitious contestants slam the plastic cage over that button and call it a deal.

The most annoying part of the entire show is the mute banker, who sits above the audience and calculates the offer. The intense music plays, the lights are dim and the camera zooms into a dark glass box where he sits. Next comes the phone call, where Howie acts like he has the news of the century. Despite the banker, you still have 25 drop-dead gorgeous models in matching dresses. And no matter how bad you want to turn your television off, you have to see if they’ve got the million dollar case and will make a deal.

### “The Moment of Truth”

**Airs:** Wednesdays 7 p.m. on FOX  
**Host:** Mark Wahlberg

**How to play:** Prior to the show, the participant is strapped to a lie detector and asked a series of questions. Once the show begins, the challenge is to answer 21 increasingly personal questions honestly. If the participant can do so, he or she wins \$500,000.

“Never has a woman been more willing to destroy her marriage for a chance to win \$500,000,” said host Mark Wahlberg in the episode of “The Moment of Truth” that aired March 26. This is the game show that tears apart families and is painful to watch. The idea of the show seems interesting, until you begin watching and listening to the personal questions. Questions like, “Have you ever borrowed money from a family member and spent it on something illegal?” and “Do you keep a spreadsheet of all the women you’ve had sexual relations with?” are asked. Not only do they answer this on national television, but in front of their closest family and friends. It is agonizing to watch, and the show makes me wonder how far Americans will go for money. ★

ARTWORK BY JESSICA MARAK

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## movie

If a psychopath showed up at your senior prom, you’d be pretty scared too. The determined killer in the movie “Prom Night” sets about his grim business of dispatching all of Donna’s (Brittany Snow) friends predictably, one by one. The movie offers less gore than the average Band-Aid commercial and fewer scares than the elimination episodes of “American Idol,” but with a release date right before prom season, this slasher hit connects with teens looking for a mild scare about a night that is literally “to die for.”

-Elizabeth Wilson

## cd

Despite being released over a year ago, the “Once” soundtrack is still going strong and worth listening to. Each of the tracks combines mellow guitar, piano and drumbeats with Markéta Irglová’s achingly beautiful foreign melody and Glen Hansard’s quiet, powerful voice. The lyrics are vague enough to relate to everyone, and specific enough to strike a chord within each different person. This soundtrack comes highly recommended, and if you don’t try it out, at least see Markéta and Glen when they come to Kansas City May 5 at the Uptown Theater.

-Sydney Deatherage

## book

Dr. Miriam Grossman’s “Unprotected” is a fascinating read which exposes how most college healthcare professionals place their social agendas before helping their patients. This means they frequently ignore pertinent, but politically incorrect medical facts. “Unprotected” exposes those facts. For example, college health centers promote pregnancy prevention, but don’t explain that by age 40, women have a 5 percent chance of conceiving each month, and chances of miscarriage triple and stillbirth double. Don’t be blindsided; read this book so you can make informed decisions about your body.

-Kate Rainey

## tv

“High School Confidential” gives an inside look at what high school is really like. The camera team follows 12 girls from Blue Valley Northwest High as they struggle with sex, drugs, alcohol, homework, health crises and family problems. The show is dramatic and is a lot to take in. Like life at STA, the girls’ experiences can be overwhelming. Many of the girls deal with unwanted pregnancies. Some lose family members or grow apart from long-time friends. New episodes of the show can be seen on the “WE” channel 9 p.m. Mondays.

-Rachel Flattery

## song

If you’re a fan of The Format, The Postal Service or Cary Brothers, then Band of Horses’ most recent single “The General Specific” is the song for you. The mix between acoustic guitar and a bouncing melody is sure to put any listener into a good mood. The lyrics explain a carefree lifestyle in which the characters’ main focus is having fun. This lyrical plot is appropriately represented by the happy-go-lucky mood and tone of the song. “The General Specific” will have you driving down the street, volume up, windows down and feet tapping as soon as you hear the first few notes.

-Taylor Brown



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# Performance *of a* lifetime

STA senior Stephanie Chapman was influenced by her parents' passion for theater at an early age. Now they watch as she dedicates her life to the stage.

by **BIANCA DANG**  
Staff Writer

PHOTO BY SYDNEY DEATHERAGE

Holding her knees to her chest, two year-old Stephanie Chapman watched ballerinas run past the prop table she was hiding under, able to see only their legs. Changes of shoes, asthma inhalers, costume pieces and a fake trumpet were scattered on the table above. Her mother, Cathy Haygen-Chapman, dancing on stage with Kansas's Regional Ballet enthralled Stephanie. The lights and the sounds of the ballet surrounded her and filled all of her senses with the excitement of the performance. This began years, and perhaps a lifetime, of Stephanie's dedication to the theater.

## It's in her blood

Long before STA senior Stephanie was born, her parents were on stage. Cathy and Stephanie's father Michael Chapman have performed in shows for years, stretching back to the 1970s and before. Her mom was educated in the arts at Hussian's School of Art in Philadelphia. Theater not only created a strong connection between Michael and Cathy, it was the reason they met.

"We've done a lot of theater," Michael said. "We actually met doing theater. We met at a 1975 production of 'West Side Story' when they used to have theater at Loose Park."

After marrying, the Chapman's were in a nightclub act, Encore, where they performed at the Marriot Theater near the old downtown airport in the early 1980s. These nightclub acts were based of a compilation of Broadway songs.

Cathy and Michael continued dancing and acting through the years, even to the last moments before Stephanie's birth.

"The day before I was born, she was on stage as the Wicked Witch in Sleeping Beauty," Stephanie said.

Both of Stephanie's parents describe their love for the arts as something that comes naturally to them also adding that it helps take away troubles while they are on stage and uplift both themselves and the audience.

"Whether you're the comic relief or the person tearing their hearts, out, it's like a good book come to life," Cathy said.

Cathy also contributes to visual arts through her job as a production artist at Hallmark. Both continue to perform in summer performances, and Cathy does a ballet every year.

## Early beginnings

Stephanie cites her mom's involvement in theater, especially the ballets, as one of her greatest influences.

"My favorite of her ballets was 'Alice in the Looking Glass' where she played the Queen of Hearts," Stephanie said. "I would always beg her to let me wear her dress or her petticoat or for her to curl my hair or do my makeup. There's a picture of me wearing her petticoat and she had drawn a red heart on my face."

After seeing the performances, even at such an early age, Stephanie knew she wanted to dance, sing and act.



"I started taking acting lessons when I was really, really young and dancing lessons as well because I would see my mom dance and act in ballets every winter and I knew I wanted to do that," Stephanie said.

She took acting, ballet, dance, voice and piano lessons in her youth, helping her prepare for the roles she would take on in performances.

"Stephanie's first official role was the royal turner-downer for the king and queen," Cathy said. "She was pretty pleased with herself."



## All in the family



Stephanie's parents were ecstatic when Stephanie began to show interest in theater and the arts. The family now had a bond and had more time to spend together.

"We're not a family that plays tennis together," Cathy said while trying to hold back a laugh. "We have gone camping once. We only play miniature golf; we don't play real golf. We don't do that sort of thing. So theater is what we do as a family. It's been great because at a certain age, she wouldn't get embarrassed. By that time she had her own group, and theater was cool."

The family began doing Theatre in the Park in Shawnee Mission together about seven years ago. A summer performance, Theatre in the Park brings in three or four thousand people on a regular performance night, making it one of the largest outdoor stages in the area. The family prepares for their roles together.

"Cathy always has to go over all of her singing parts with a tape recorder with the songs recorded," Michael said. "Believe me, some of the funniest things about Theatre in the Park are listening to Cathy and Stephanie harmonizing in the car on the way to rehearsals."

Stephanie's parents had performed in Theatre in the Park for years before Stephanie showed interest. Cathy was thrilled because not only would Stephanie be introduced to new people and a new atmosphere, but the family would also get to spend time together.

However, not all was perfect in the Chapman family world of theater. Cathy's connections to the theater and the friends she had there were briefly problematic to Stephanie.

"At first, when I started auditioning [for Theatre in the Park] I thought I was just an extension," Stephanie said.

"That was kind of frustrating because I wanted to be cast because I was talented, not just because my mom was talented. I started getting so excited when I got callbacks for good roles, and even if I didn't get them, I knew I was not just being called back because of my mom."

The Chapman family continues performing in Theatre in the Park. Though this summer may not work out because of Stephanie's college schedule, they hope to continue the tradition in coming years. It is a way to keep their family close and to be around each other doing something they all enjoy.

"It keeps us from going our fragmented ways during the summer and it's just a lot of fun," Michael said. "There is more to it than just rehearsals and performances. A lot of times, the whole cast goes out to eat afterwards. Summer theater is just different than theater at any other time of the year."



## The high school years

Standing on Rockhurst High School's Rose Theatre stage, STA senior Stephanie Chapman sings in her carrying soprano of her excitement for the prince's ball. At this dress rehearsal for Rockhurst's "Into the Woods," the giant pink sleeves of her gown keep slipping off her shoulders. But being the professional she is, Stephanie doesn't let it faze her. Instead of being in the audience or on the side of the stage watching her mother in anticipation, Stephanie is doing what she loves, performing. As an evil stepsister in Rockhurst's production, Chapman brings humor and her polished acting skills to the stage.

Chapman has been in over a dozen shows during her high school career. Her parents have been with her every step of the way.

"We go to every performance of everything she does," Cathy said. "Whether she has a big part or a chorus part, it doesn't matter. These years have flown by and we want to absorb every moment of it."

Her parents also help in any way they can with Chapman's performances. They help build sets, work concessions and occasionally make donations to the theater.

One of Chapman's closest friends, STA senior Claire McFarland, has noticed the unique bond Chapman's family have formed around theater.

"[Her parents] are at the shows every night, cheering Stephanie on," McFarland said. "Most families don't go to every night. I think it helps bring the family closer."

High school shows have helped Chapman improve her acting and singing skills as well as create close bonds with other actors and other people involved in theater.

"I've met so many people who have become so important to me," Chapman said. "I don't go a day without thinking about [theater] or reminiscing about shows that I enjoyed."



PHOTO BY SYDNEY DEATHERAGE

## Take two

After sixteen years, almost her entire life, filled with performances, recitals and dancing, Stephanie is not ready to desert the theater. Beginning this fall, Stephanie will attend Columbia College Chicago, a school dedicated to visual, performing, media and communicative arts.

"I think it's a perfect fit because all of her interests, writing, theater, music, film and video editing are there," Cathy said. "They have everything. They have every art, not just the diva-performance element of it, but all sides of it: the directing, producing, technical and business end to it, they have it. This way everything is there, and a majority of the people she knows are going to Chicago as well."

Stephanie's parents were supportive of her wherever she decided to go to college, only stressing that it should have numerous programs that she is interested in and should focus on her passions.

"When Stephanie told [her parents] that she wanted to go to Columbia, they did everything they could to get her there financially," McFarland said.

Though the school puts on four to six performances, some musicals, a school year, Stephanie is ready to dedicate her life to her passion for the arts.

"It should be a labor of love because it's what she loves to do," Michael said.

The shift from like STA a school with math, science, writing, music and drama classes to one with basically just music and drama classes is exciting and refreshing to Stephanie.

"I can't wait to be around so many people who care about the arts and I'm expecting to really enjoy what I'm doing," Stephanie said.

Back on the Rockhurst's stage, Stephanie will be hunching over a cane in a ballroom dress and sunglasses. She will be missing STA's pre-prom and putting as much effort as possible into her last high school performance. As Stephanie prepares to leave the high school stage forever, her performances in shows such as STA's "Suessical the Musical", "Leader of the Pack" and "Our Town," as well as Rockhurst's "Big River" and "Little Shop of Horrors" will not quickly be forgotten. Especially by her family. ★



It's in her blood ★ From top, Stephanie Chapman's mom Cathy is in full queen garb from a performance of "Alice Through the Looking Glass." The whole Chapman family poses with their fake facial hair during a "Peter Pan." Stephanie and her dad practice ballet when she was five years old. PHOTOS SUBMITTED



# I'll take my chances on taking risks

JAIME HENRY-WHITE



TALK TO YOU LATER

I've made an unfortunately strange discovery. I've realized that I could make decisions 100 times faster when I was four, five and six years old than I can at 17. These may not have been the wisest decisions, but, nonetheless, at least I made them.

When I was four years old, I loved gummy bears. But, when I didn't finish them all, I needed a good place to put them

for later. So, I decided my nose was always a great option. The consequences: I had to go to the doctor one too many times.

When I was five years old, I got ranch dressing in my hair while eating salad on my mini T.V. tray and watching Nickelodeon. I know, naive at its best. So, I quickly choose that the best decision was to go to my room, grab my green scissors, sit down in front of my mirror and simply cut the ranch dressing out. Of course, singing Little Mermaid songs all the while.

The consequences: I cried hysterically when I went to McDonald's to get my happy meal because I thought they'd take me for a boy. I was horrifyingly scared that Ronald would give me a Hot Wheel car instead of a beautiful, girly Barbie. You do the math on how my haircut looked.

The same year, I was walking around my serene, bright blue swimming pool on a lovely

summer afternoon. The sun was shining, I was most likely singing Pocahontas songs, and my crossed-eyed Siamese cat Sammy strolled right by me, brushing up against my bare legs. Looking adorably up at me, I picked him up. The next thing I knew, he was spastically thrashing around in the pool swimming for his life. I guess I wanted to see if he could swim. That or I wanted training to become a professional animal torturer.

The consequences: Sammy never steps 100 feet within the vicinity of my pool. I have no idea why he still curls up next to me, sweetly purring, every night.

Back in those days, when I was formerly addressed as Jaime Marie Snow White, I was an odd, but brave one. I made decisions, which were at times particularly embarrassing. I acted on my gumption, my curiosities and the flickering light bulb above my head. I had no fear of risk. No fear of

regret. No sense of uncertainty.

Yet for some reason today, I can't even choose what ice cream I want without consulting my family on what they're ordering, what sounds good and what they think I should do. I'm so terribly afraid of making a wrong choice, a mistake. And as I look at my daily actions, my interactions with others and even at my college search, I'm so afraid of making wrong choices that could greatly affect me, or worse, others.

Somehow I need to go back to the child misfit that I was. And if that means I need to take up my Disney singing again, then so be it. Though one is always told to "think before you act," sometimes that can be just as dangerous as acting on impulse. I've become so focused on what is right, there's no room for me to slip-up. No chances to allow true discovery, knowledge and growth through accidental findings.

## Operation Prom: asking a date



**Planning prom** ★ Senior Mary Clara Hutchison meticulously molds one fortune cookie while making seven in order to ask her date to prom March 31. Hutchison's brother delivered throughout the school day to Rockhurst High School senior John Fritzlen.

by ELIZABETH NELSON  
Managing Editor

Each year, some STA seniors attempt to find the perfect way to ask their prom dates to prom. Some form elaborate schemes that take weeks of planning while others stick to more basic plans. The following are some of The Dart's favorite plots.

### McMahon

It was a Wednesday afternoon and Maureen McMahon knew it was the perfect opportunity to ask her desired date, Andrew

Cirocco, to prom. Around 2:45 p.m., she and a couple of friends went up to Rockhurst High School to begin the plan. Maureen made a sign that said "Out of all the fish in the sea, will you go to prom with me?" She placed it on the windshield of his car, along with a goldfish, fish bowl and fish food. Maureen was nervous that he might have a sports practice or meeting after school, but it all worked out when he finally came out and said "yes."

### Warm

After spending hours working on a sign,

applying glitter, glue and paper, Anna Warm was ready to ask her desired date, John Martucci, to the prom. She found out his address from a friend and attached the sign to his front door. Anna waited several days and was upset that she had not heard from him so she sent a friend to investigate. Her friend questioned the woman who answered the door if John still lived in the house, and the woman informed her that he had moved. Her friend asked for her sign back, and Anna set out the following week to try again...at his real house. This time, he called back later the same day, to tell her "yes."

### Becker

Emily Becker knew her desired escort, Alex Dobens, loved to run on the Trolley Trail on the weekend. She found out from friends what time they would be running one day. She created a sign that said "Alex, PROM? Emily Becker" and taped it to a pole on the side of the trail that she hoped he would see. Then she waited in her car for him to run by with his friends. When he passed by, he did a double take and circled back around the sign. After reading the sign, he began looking around in search of Emily. Finally, he found her, smiled, and said "yes."

### Jackson

A couple weeks ago, Katie Jackson ordered golf balls online. She had them printed with the word "PROM?" with the intention of giving them to her golfer boyfriend, Luke Callahan. She drove up to Rockhurst High School during the day and his car was unlocked, so she placed them on the seat with a sign that read "Open me."

Later that day when he was out of school, he called Katie and said "yes," and they went out on a date later that night.

### Hutchison

Mary Clara Hutchison wanted to do something elaborate when she asked her date, John Fritzlen, to prom. So several weeks ago, she baked fortune cookies and placed a paper with one word inside each cookie. Altogether, the papers spelled out, "Will you go to prom with me?" Mary Clara had her younger brother, a student at Rockhurst High School, take a couple of the cookies and she gave the rest to a friend to pass out to different boys so John would receive different cookies in each class. Mary Clara kept the last one and waited for him by his car at the end of the day. He came out, opened the cookie, and said "yes."

### Gigliotti

On her birthday, Julia Gigliotti was ready to ask her boyfriend, Henry Hodes, to prom. She made four different notes with the letters "P-R-O-M" with clues on the back of each one. The first sent Henry to Panera where earlier that day she had paid for a meal and left it for him to pick up. On the bag of food, was the second clue, which led him to Classic Cookie where she had picked out a few cookies with the help of a friend. The third clue led him to Latté Land where she had purchased drinks and left the final clue. She told him to go to her "favorite spot in the city," which he knew to be a specific bench in Loose Park. She was there with her prom invitation and he said yes. Even though she was afraid it would rain, they ended up having a "perfect" picnic. ★

## As time in school dwindles, junior finishes strong

AN OPINION BY



CARLIE CAMPBELL

As of last Thursday, there are 6.4 weeks of school left. That's 31 days. 222.27 hours, 13336.2 minutes, 800172 seconds and that's only time actually in school. We have 13 weekend days left, which equates

to 312 hours, 18720 minutes, 1123200 seconds (numbers thanks to Jessica Bales and a 7/8 free with nothing to do).

With these figures, and the weather warming up with every passing day, the tantalizing treat of summer seems to grow nearer, which only makes getting through a day at school more and more difficult. So how do we trudge through these next 6.4 weeks (and counting)?

Instead of bemoaning our fate, let's find some ways to enjoy the rest of the school year. I will present here some suggestions to make these last days not only bearable, but also enjoyable.

Take advantage of the warmer weather. As spring rolls on, don't sit inside with

your homework and dream of what you could be doing outside. Get some friends together, grab a blanket and your books and have a study party at the park. It's nice to take a break from stressful school-work outside.

Enjoy your time off on the weekends. Start your homework early Friday afternoon and get the bulk of it finished so you can make the most of your precious free time. Your open mods at school are also a great opportunity to get a head start on homework, instead of counting seconds.

Don't plan your whole summer right now. If you spend all your time dreaming about what you are going to do in 6.4 weeks when summer starts, save that for

when summer is very close at hand. If you tease yourself with "freedom plans," you won't make it to finals.

Apply yourself. We still have over a month left of school, don't slack off now. Put forth your best effort for the next few weeks and finish strong so your summer isn't dampened with the arrival of your report card.

These are only a few suggestions to help you survive the next few million seconds. Come up with your own and share them with your friends and classmates and make the most of the last weeks. High school only lasts four years, so make the most of them. (And hey, there's one less minute to bear since you started reading this!) ★

one saturday morning



**Recess!** ★ From left, sophomore Kerry Cummings, seniors Elizabeth Warwick and Emily Thompson, English teacher Katie Dolan, senior Mary McCue and sophomore Samantha Waeckerle dress in full out costumes from the TV show "Recess" during the pep rally skit Fri., April 4. The skits were all based off of older TV shows to recognize the current spring sports. PHOTO BY ERIC THOMAS

## Olympics: Countries question China's human rights record

Continued from page 5

entirety while others are opting out of only the opening ceremony. Officials in the United States are considering the latter.

"Traditionally, the Chinese do not respond well to outside pressure," said Gamer. "That's why foreign countries may have leaders fail to attend [the opening ceremonies]."

Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi suggests President Bush follow this trend.

"I think boycotting the opening ceremony, which really gives respect to the Chinese government, is something that should be kept on the table," Pelosi told

ABC News.

Democratic presidential nominees Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama have publicly supported this same idea.

Politics have been an issue throughout the Olympics' existence. In 1980, Jimmy Carter pulled the United States out of the event in Moscow at a time when the Soviet Union had what he felt was an unjust presence in Afghanistan. The question of whether issues surrounding politics should have an affect on the Games again enters the picture as the opening ceremony in Beijing approaches.

"In a perfect world [the Olympics] would be strictly a sporting event," said Whitney. "But in reality, every event is somewhat political in nature."

## Security: Technology, plans bolster STA campus security

Continued from page 2

and they determine it's a serious incident, they can take over and handle it.

Rueschhoff, Michael and Wallerstedt feel safe at STA, but they have concerns about strangers coming on campus without being noticed.

"[STA] is not nearly as secure because other schools' faculty and staff wear identification all the time," Rueschhoff said. "We have Young Audiences and stuff as part of our campus and in one of our buildings, which is kind of confusing because I don't know them. And if I see them, I don't know if they're supposed to be in the building."

Rueschhoff worries that with an open campus, anyone could walk into the buildings, especially in Donnelly, where it is harder for Ms. Marion Chartier to see who comes through the front door

from her office. Rueschhoff would feel more secure if cameras were installed in the front entrances of each building.

Wallerstedt agrees.

"I feel pretty safe," she said. "The one thing I wish we would have is security cameras. I know they are expensive but . . . I think they would deter crime and vandalism."

Hoecker agrees our unique, three-building campus makes security trickier.

Bone wants to maintain the college-like atmosphere, while ensuring a safe campus.

"The most important issue for me is to make the buildings safe for the girls," Bone said.

Hoecker agrees.

"Our main emphasis is that students are as safe as we can create it," she said. "[But] we are not able to provide 100 percent security; no one is." ★

## Lacrosse: Players unite, conquer field with first win

Continued from page 15

"It is so obvious that every individual is more confident," Coleman said. "Everyone is more confident when using their stick and the skill level has definitely gone up. It is a passing and catching game, though, so we need to keep working on those skills."

These unexpected turnarounds and radical progression have surprised many of the lacrosse players.

"I think that everyone thought you could just show up to practice whenever you wanted but it is not like that," underclassmen team captain Elle Rauch said. "It is more serious than that and it requires commitment from everyone."

Miller explains that the confused girls from the first week of practice have completely transformed into a new, more confident team.

"During our first few scrimmages, the ball was continuously dropped and it didn't even look like a lacrosse game," Miller said. "However, lately everything has started to come together and we actually look like a real team." ★

## Correction

In issue 5 of *The Dart*, a story on page 17 headlined "Art students awarded, compete nationally," made two mistakes. The National Scholastic Art Awards are held in New York City and are judged by only a picture of the artwork. Elizabeth Keaveny's jug was additionally entered into a show in Pittsburgh.

## True life: I can't dance

AN OPINION BY



SARAH SMITH

Prom is this weekend and I do not know how to dance. I can do the goofy dances that everyone else who can't dance does. But, put me with a partner and my palms will pool with sweat and my feet will grow five sizes and I will lose all coordination as I step on his toes.

Many of my friends have nicknamed me "antelope" and mock my long, lanky legs when I run. However, unlike most antelopes, who swiftly dart oncoming lions, I lack the grace and agility that trademarks this safari animal. In my own defense, I've never seen an antelope kick up its hooves and do the rumba.

I want to be able to soar. I want to do wild arabesques and shuffle-ball-change in my high heels and let my prom dress sway back and forth as I find the fluidity that is so mesmerizing about a good dancer. But, my legs are just a little too long and my hips just a little too uncoordinated and I seem to fail miserably every time I try to boogie down.

Take a peek behind the blue partition in Mr. Thomas' room and you will see where I photoshopped my head onto Elizabeth Meyers body as she defies gravity and prances through the air. Take a peek in my bedroom window at night and occasionally you will find me attempting to "soulja boy" or "pop lock and drop it" in front of my full length mirror. One month ago, I tried to face my fear and went to an introductory dance class. I spent most of the time in the back corner, hoping others wouldn't notice my spastic movements as I frantically tried to learn the dances they started a week earlier.

I realize prom is no professional ballroom dancing event. For the most part it will be the same Knight's of Columbus style "grinding" lines that are a hallmark of adolescent dances. Most likely, the mob of sweaty bodies will morph around me and I will be absorbed into the oblivion of hairspray and testosterone pumped boys. My anxiety will subside as I accept that no one is actually paying any attention to me at all.

Every girl has her prom dream. I am not worried about getting the perfect date, or my dress not being quite right, or my hair going flat before pictures are taken. My prom dream is to not have the night consist of standing a few inches away from a boy and moving back and forth a little bit as I try to ignore everyone's garlic breath. I want to be in one of those dance circles, and to go out into the middle of it and magically be granted with dancing powers. I would shake and slide and shimmy all over the place. Everyone would clap and say, "man, I wish I could dance like that." Then I would humbly go back about my night, knowing that I had impressed someone with my moves.

Every night until prom I will be practicing. I don't expect any drastic transformations will take place. However, just in case this is my dance debut, make sure you save a dance for me! ★

17 april 2008

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St. Teresa's Academy



People crowd the gym  
to search for  
**Hidden Treasures**



**Lounging around ★** Seniors Jordan DeLorenzi, from left, Maranda Le and Leah Hogan take a break from shopping on the couches during the TNT sale April 4 in the Goppert Center. **PHOTO BY CLAIRE McINERNEY**



**Browsing by ★** Ms. Mary Ring glances at the books during TNT setup April 3 in the Goppert Center. Ring along with many other volunteers organized the gym into sections depending on the items. **PHOTO BY CLAIRE McINERNEY**

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**Calculating costs ★** Above: Science teacher Renee Blake, right, works with a volunteer at the annual TNT sale April 4 in the Goppert Center. Blake bought various items for herself and her kids. **PHOTO BY CLAIRE McINERNEY**



**Checking it out ★** Left: Junior Cynthia Livingston collects books as she helps working at TNT Friday April 4. TNT, STA's annual sale, lasted from April 4 to 5. **PHOTO BY TRACY BURNS-YOCUM**

The saying, "One man's junk is another man's treasure," comes alive every year in April at St. Teresa's Academy. It has become an annual tradition at STA for bargain hunters to purchase items from the school's Trash N' Treasure garage sale. Each April, TNT is organized in the school's gymnasium where shoppers can purchase an assortment of donated items. These items range from furniture, pictures, linens, lamps, antiques, collectables, knickknacks, books and kitchen supplies. Members of the community, teachers and STA students and families are encouraged to come and shop; English teacher Mark Fudemberg purchases a new, used lounge chair for his classroom every year from the sale. All of these profits raised from the TNT garage sale are donated to STA to help support the school's needs.

BY KAYLA LOOSEN