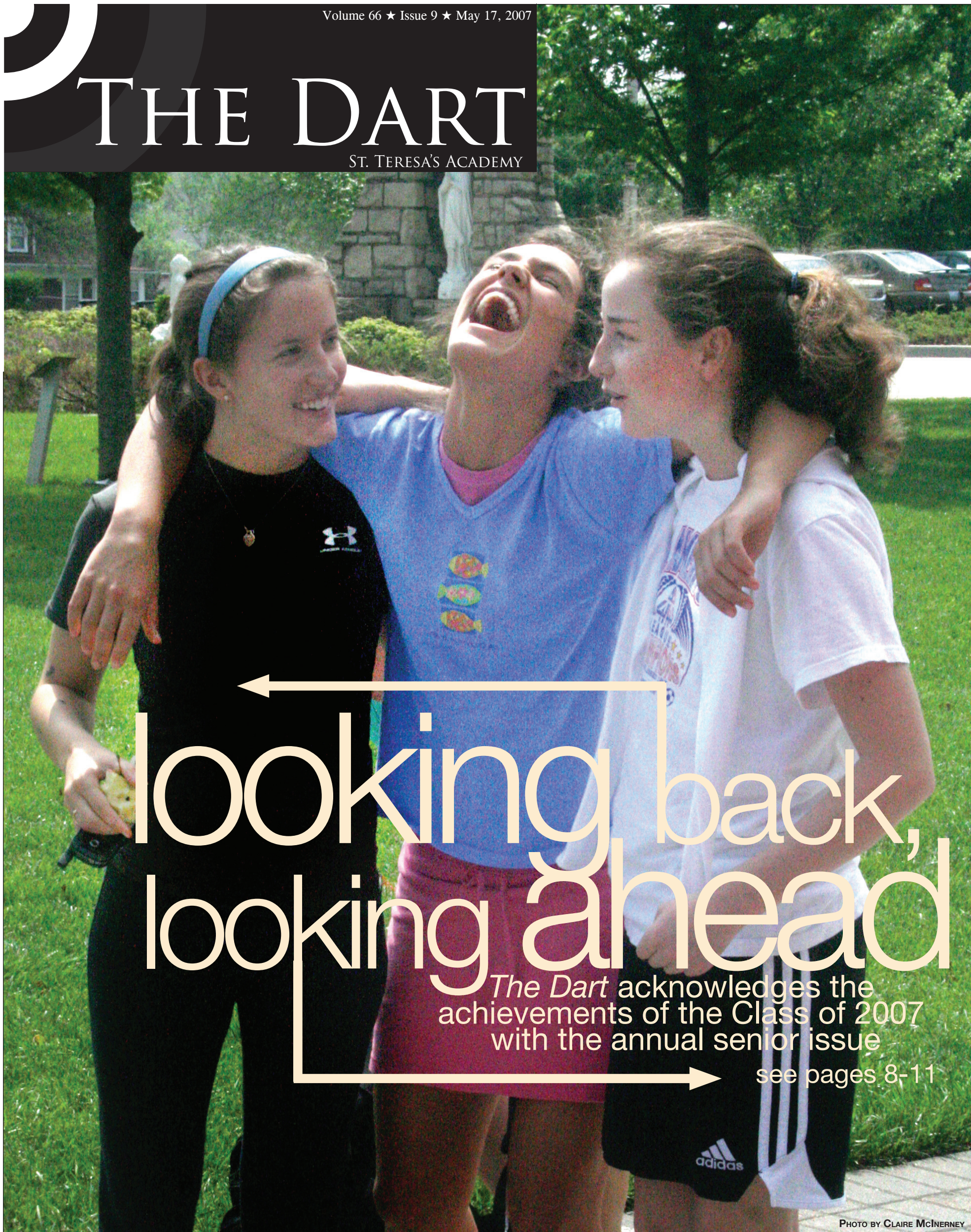


THE DART

ST. TERESA'S ACADEMY



looking back, looking ahead

The Dart acknowledges the achievements of the Class of 2007 with the annual senior issue

see pages 8-11

Staffer will hold memories dear

COLLEEN OWENS



SISTERHOOD OF THE PLAID SKIRT

It's publications, which means we're all clambering around the computers in Mr. Thomas's room on a Monday night trying to design our pages and check our stories.

Kathleen Pointer, managing editor of photography, flounces around, a camera around her neck, uploading all the photos she took for the issue. This girl is scrappy.

Mary Kate Bird, managing editor of news, sulks in a corner, finishing up her pages about 32 hours in advance of everyone else. This girl is confident.

In a roller chair, Alison Raybould, co-editor-in-chief, is laughing about a headline pun she just crafted for the back page. This girl is something special.

Kelly Nelson, sports editor, usually sitting right next to me, is always singing. She keeps up morale, unafraid to belt some Journey when the time is right. This girl is a real friend.

Katie Meyers, fine arts editor, is working on a graphic and saying things like, "Hey, did you guys know Jonathon Taylor Tomas was gay?" This girl is a character.

Laughing at Katie's questions, Nicole Farley, co-editor-in-chief, hovers over a table with about seven different page spreads to look over. This girl is sharp.

Mikhala Lantz-Simmons is laughing that classic laugh of hers and Libby Conwell is turning in a story she didn't have to do.

And I, managing editor of design, am usually sweating it out, praying to God I won't bungle my precious center spread design. This girl is a bundle of nerves. However, I am always able to put aside my fears for our traditional publications dinners.

We have usually ordered out from somewhere like Chipotle, Kin Lin or other places that generally turn a stomach after you've eaten.

We "circle up" and talk about life.

"Who's seen 'The Flavor of Love Charm School,'" I am bound to ask, considering I am embarrassingly obsessed with the 'Flavor of Love' series.

"No Coco," Alison Raybould will quip, "only you would watch that...lets talk about Harry Potter instead."

Mr. Potter is brought up at so many publications; he should be an honorary staffer.

"They didn't order my veggie sandwich," an enraged Kathleen Pointer will scream while the rest of us chow down on various meat products.

The conversation will spiral in and out of every possible topic. We know each other so well. We know I will have a nearly blank center spread until the last two hours of publications. We know Alison will want to walk out to her car with someone and we know Nicole's boyfriend will be bringing us candy and Sprite for publications night #2.

It's a beautiful relationship I have with these girls. They have made me who I am. Some people say it's the team effort that makes it special; it's the alignment of our efforts and will that makes *The Dart*. Maybe it's our ancestors (Ann Stacy, Chandler Domian, Julia McQueeney Thorpe) who keep us true to our paper. I think it's the heart we all have because newspaper has never been about work to us, it's been magic, man.

My Sisterhood of the Traveling Skirts belongs in the hearts of every STA girl now. It will not continue with me, but will in spirit. STA, however, will always be this. Embrace it. Its only four years, and it's been so damn wonderful. ★

Thousands rally at 'Displace Me'



Rise and shine ★ Musicians and dancers from the Esoke Group Cultural Arts Center perform at 7 a.m. April 29, waking the Displace Me participants with pounding drums and vibrant colors. This was the last of many events organized by Invisible Children, Inc. to raise awareness about millions of displaced Ugandans. PHOTO BY SARAH SMITH

Event displaces American youth to raise awareness for plight of Ugandan war

by SARAH SMITH
Section Editor

Over 2,500 people gathered at Kaw Point Riverside Park in Kansas City, Kan. April 28 for Displace Me, a nationwide event organized by Invisible Children, Inc. More than 60,000 people displaced themselves in 15 cities across America to raise awareness for the 1.5 million Ugandans who have been living in displacement camps for ten years.

"Our goal is twofold," said Ms. Claire Singleton, an organizer for the Middle America Invisible Children team. "We want to increase compassion in the hearts of participants and raise political awareness, petitioning the US government to take action. We want to pressure the Ugandan government to release [refugees] from the camps."

Schlepping old refrigerator boxes and sleeping bags, people came from as far as Michigan and Texas to experience living without adequate shelter or food. As cardboard houses spray-painted with encouraging messages of peace sprung up across the park, it became clear America really was listening. However, as reverent as the crowd may have been, the warm evening on the banks of the Missouri River were far from replicating the dangerous and unsanitary conditions of camps in Uganda, where death tolls reach 1,000 people per week.

"Statistics trivialize the situation; these are actually people, not numbers," said Singleton. "It is urgent right now that something must be done. We realize that there's some hope in the situation and maybe we can even find some joy in knowing that we helped change these peoples' lives."

Mobile teams had been visiting schools and churches since January, screening the "Invisible Children: Rough Cut" documentary and encouraging attendance. The Middle America team made a much anticipated visit to STA April 25.

"I thought it was so cool how many



Urban displacement ★ Participants in Displace Me sprawl across cardboard boxes and on posters promoting peace and awareness for the civil war in Uganda. Over 2,500 people came to the event April 28. PHOTO BY SARAH SMITH

people really care," said junior Hannah Girardeau, one of almost 20 STA students who displaced themselves. "It's reinforcing to find so many people who believe in the same thing you do."

Singleton described the events of the night as "experiential." Boxes of Saltine crackers and bottles of water were collected and rationed off later that night. Participants were asked to wear a white shirt with a red X to symbolize the lost identity of the Ugandans. The crowds took part in 21 minutes of silence, one for every year of the civil war. A Ugandan man spoke about his firsthand experience with the rebel forces through the murder of his parents and sister.

"It made it seem a lot more real when you hear it from someone in person," said sophomore Sally Nulton.

Youth in Uganda were informed about Displace Me and a short film was compiled enforcing the solidarity of the event.

"I can't stress enough how cool it was that they knew we were doing this," said Nulton. "They were sleeping outside and we were sleeping outside and they knew that we were raising awareness for them."

Attendees were asked to write letters to their state senator asking to promote the peace, protect the people and punish the perpetrator. As peace talks resume, there is hope that the US government will take an active stance against the war.

Using "time, talent and money," as instructed by the documentary makers, people will continue working to prove "every voice matters, every effort counts and every war has an end." ★

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★in brief

Heading home

Residents of Greensburg, Kan. are returning home to assess the damage done to their city. A May 4 category 5 tornado, the most powerful level, ravaged the city, destroying most of the town's home and businesses. Lawmakers will meet May 22 to make plans for the rebuilding of the city.

Just a side note

What is Invisible Children?

Invisible Children began with a documentary by three young men who traveled to Northern Uganda. They discovered thousands of children living in fear of being abducted by the Lord's Resistance Army, a rebel group that forces them to be child soldiers in the 21-year civil war. Invisible Children improves the quality of life for war-affected children through educational and economic opportunities. Associated programs include Schools for Schools, which pairs schools in Uganda with schools in the West to raise money and improve education. The Bracelet Campaign creates jobs and income for people displaced by war. The bracelets are made by Ugandans, and come with a short film telling the story of an "invisible child." For Give Peace a TRI, Invisible Children asks for pledges of \$3 per week to help sustain life in Uganda. The organizations collect donations of \$20 to provide clean water for someone in Uganda for 15 years.

Recent shootings rattle KC



Paying respects ★ A woman approaches a memorial on the campus of Virginia Tech before a vigil April 17. Thousands of students and members of the community joined in the vigil to honor the people killed or injured April 16 during a shooting at Norris Hall in Blacksburg, Va. COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

Weeks after tragedy at Virginia Tech, future college students reconsider priorities, emphasize safety

by CAROLINE QUINN
Copy Editor

The April 16 shootings at Virginia Tech University killed 33 people and filled millions around the world with grief. Now, over a month after the shootings, the tragedy has left many students and parents questioning the safety of college campuses.

"When events like the Virginia Tech shooting happen, it really makes you wonder what's going on in the world," said junior Leah Hogan. "This sort of thing does make me nervous about college, but I think it can happen anywhere."

According to Dr. Ned Harris, the Dean of Admissions at William Jewell College in Liberty, the issue of safety is often brought up by prospective students.

"[Parents] wonder if the institution is doing educational things for the students themselves to try and help students be proactive in creating a safe setting," said Harris. "The best way I see that is when students and their families visit campus. [Questions about safety] are not usually the first questions out of their mouths, but we do get families asking what our approaches are here."

Harris feels choosing a college the student and his or her family think is safe comes much easier than it did 20 years ago for a number of reasons. He said most importantly, any college that receives federal funding must annually disclose the campus security reports because of the Jeanne Cleary Act. The law was passed in 1990 following the murder of Jeanne Cleary at Lehigh University. Prior to her death, Cleary requested several times to have her dorm's locks changed, but the university ignored the issue.

College counselor Steph Hart stresses the importance of observing a college's safety approaches when touring a campus.

"When visiting a college campus, 'blue lights' are a regular mention on the tour," said Hart. "But students and parents should also notice whether or not they see a member of the campus security team during the typical hour to hour-and-a-half long campus tour. If not, it begs the question 'How often is the campus being patrolled?'"

Blue lights are devices located on college campuses that act as a phone, calling campus security when prompted.

Though she is considering a campus's security in her college search, Leah does not

believe students should base their college decision around safety.

"The Virginia Tech shootings probably make students scared to go to certain places, but it shouldn't," said Leah. "Students should still go where they want. Just if something violent happened at the college someone really wants to go to doesn't mean it will happen again."

Leah's mother, Mary Hogan, agrees safety should not dictate a college decision. Mary feels there is no way she can fully protect her daughter.

"These shooting events are just so sporadic," said Mary. "Things are going to happen and you're never going to be able to predict where they're going to happen. I mean, there's only so much you can do."

Harris said large-scale incidents receiving worldwide media attention, like the Virginia Tech shootings, gain somewhat widespread reactions from prospective college students.

"I think, in general, most families reactions to this is that there are bad things that happen everywhere," said Harris. "Their reaction and awareness to these things have obviously been heightened by the Virginia Tech situation so that probably more families are thinking about and asking those [safety] questions right now, but I don't think it ultimately affects the college decision process." ★

Target shooting ends with multiple deaths

by KATE RAINEY
Co-Editor-in-Chief

David W. Logsdon, age 51, opened fire in the Ward Parkway Shopping Center April 29. Three people, including the shooter, were killed and many were injured.

Logsdon was a former Target security guard, according to the *Kansas City Star*. He was also connected to the murder of his neighbor, Patricia Reed. Police determined she had been killed several days earlier, and her car was missing.

An officer recognized and approached her car, where he saw Logsdon holding a handgun. The men exchanged fire, each sustaining injuries. Logsdon escaped in his car and drove to Target at the Ward Parkway shopping center.

There, Logsdon opened fire in the parking lot, wounding two people and injuring another. He then headed into the Target, firing randomly. Officers shot him to death inside the mall. ★

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★in brief

Turkish protest
According to the *Associated Press*, over one million Turks demonstrated in support of a new secular, democratic government in the up-coming elections Sunday in the city of Izmir. Turkey is currently ruled by an Islamic government, which the protesters fear could impose religious ideas on Turks. The protest followed a bomb explosion in Izmir Saturday, which killed one person and injured 14, but there are no confirmed connections between the two events.

senior year in review: world news

By CARLIE CAMPBELL

Sept. 6: Steve Irwin dies

Crocodile Hunter Steve Irwin died when he was stung in the heart by a venomous stingray Sept. 6. The attack was caught on film because Irwin was taping footage for a TV special he was making with his daughter, Bindi Sue. A stingray's barb is not typically fatal, however, due to the place where Irwin was stung, the wound killed him. Some experts believe Irwin's is only the third recorded death caused by a stingray in Australian waters.

News of the Crocodile Hunter's death upset fans and admirers around the globe and many came to the Australia Zoo in Queensland, Australia, which Irwin ran with his wife, Terri, to pay him tribute.

Jan. 9: iPhone introduced

Apple CEO Steve Jobs unveiled plans

for the newest in the Apple line of gadgets in San Francisco Jan. 9.

"iPhone is a revolutionary and magical product that is literally five years ahead of any other mobile phone," said Jobs. The iPhone will have the capability to play music and video and function as a mobile phone. It is scheduled to be released June 11.

Dec. 5: NY bans trans-fat

New York City became the first city to ban transitive fat Dec. 5. The new ban states all restaurants must be freed of this potential cause of heart problems by July 2008. Most restaurant owners were outraged by this ban, calling it "unnecessary." Major fast-food chains are being forced to list calorie content on their menus. To reduce trans-fats in their food, McDonald's began trying to

develop different, healthier oil in 2002, when talk of the ban on trans fat first began.

This move seemed predictable from New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, who also banned smoking in restaurants and bars throughout the city.

Dec. 23: Bono knighted

The Irish lead singer of rock group U2, AIDS activist and all-around humanitarian, Bono was knighted by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth for his humanitarian work and "outstanding contribution to music," according to Prime Minister Tony Blair. Because he is not a citizen of a country where the Queen is Head of State, he is not given the title "sir."

"I'll leave it to others far more knowledgeable than me to talk about

U2's music," said Blair. "All I'll say is that, along with millions of others right across the world, I am a huge fan."

March 1: New views of Saturn

NASA's Cassini spacecraft captured new, out-of-this-world images of the sixth planet from the sun. These views from above Saturn were captured over a span of two months and include pictures in black-and-white and in color. Scientists are amazed by these images because they were taken from above and below Saturn, showing new facets of its surface and rings.

"It just doesn't look like the same place," said Dr. Carolyn Porco, Cassini imaging team leader at the Space Science Institute in Boulder, Colo. "It's so utterly breath-taking, it almost gives

Are SAT, ACT overemphasized?

No

College assessments provide students level-playing field for high schoolers, test on important abilities, knowledge

Almost every college-bound high schooler takes the SAT or ACT. Some argue these tests are not a true representation of a person, and hurt a lot of students' chances of getting into selective colleges, but that is not true.

The fact is, selective colleges are selective for a reason. Yes, you must be smart, well-rounded and successful. But the biggest aspect is "smart." To be admitted to these selective colleges, such as ivy-league schools or other top-tier schools throughout the country, you must have taken difficult classes and received excellent grades and you also must score fairly high on the assessment you take. Why does almost every college in the country require one of these tests if they are so bad? Is it to torture students? No, there are actually several logical reasons to support these tests.

First, every high school has different expectations, teaching styles, forms of assessment and grading scales. Because of this, a 4.0 at one school is not equivalent to a 4.0 at another. Some of these differences can separate schools so much that it would be unfair to select students solely on their GPA.

In some schools, teachers always expect more than what the student delivered. So a student may have put in ten times more effort on a similar assignment to that of a student from another school, but they receive a much lower grade because the teacher wants to put even more of a challenge on his or her students.

For example, most would agree it is easier to receive a high GPA at STA than it is at Rockhurst, but it is easier to receive a high GPA in a Kansas City public school than it is at STA. College is about learning, which is primarily made up of knowledge and grades. If a student's admission was based solely on their grades in high school, it would be even more unfair to students.

Similarly, these tests "weed out" certain students. The SAT and ACT are not meant to confuse or trick students. Their purpose is to ask questions over topics a student should understand. They also may ask questions in difficult ways to determine whether or not a student can

think outside of the box or make conclusions based on what is between the lines.

For example, those long reading passages may not be of any interest to the test taker. The purpose, though, is to determine whether or not a student is capable of reading and comprehending difficult material. Honestly, if a student cannot do this, they really aren't going to survive at that top-tier school they are hoping to attend.

Maybe it's unrealistic to expect a high school junior to memorize hundreds of words or read passages on obscure topics, but the reality is, at a school like Harvard or Stanford, they aren't going to sugar-coat it for you. It's not their job to make you comfortable; you are going to have to do the work yourself.

College will be tough - much tougher than high school. And if you are unable to illustrate your capabilities through a test, it's pretty unlikely you're going to do well at these colleges.

Sometimes the score you receive won't be as high as you had hoped. We all have bad days. We didn't get enough sleep or we just couldn't concentrate. That's why there's this clever option of taking the test as many times as you want. Without a test to assess students on the same scale, college admissions would be much more unbalanced and ambiguous. The SAT and ACT aren't going anywhere, so the best hope for students is to just accept them and study. ★

Yes

Standardized tests provide little insight to measure true capabilities of student, provide incomplete view of character

It's a Saturday morning and you're stuck inside a windowless school room. Around you are the nervous bodies of fellow high school students, hunched over identical test booklets and bubble sheets. Their eyes dart from the test booklet to the answer sheet. Their hands fly from one bubble to another. While others fumble through the test, you confidently fill in each bubble. You know this test; you've study numerous tests, taken classes and learned the tricks. You have no doubt you will impress your selective college. The question is, how prepared are you for college?

Standardized tests, such as the SAT and ACT, are used by most colleges to assess the preparedness of applying freshmen. It is instilled in students throughout high school how important it is to perform well on these tests. These numbers determine which college we can attend, which in many ways will determine the course of our lives.

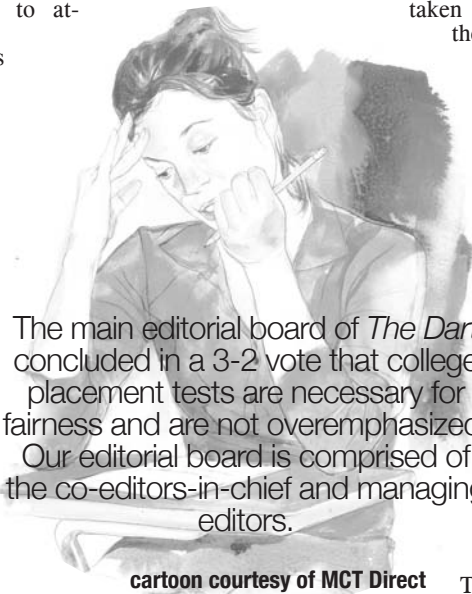
Standardized tests and GPAs cannot be the only factors, nor the most important. Colleges must consider other criteria, such as interviews and essays, which are better assessments of a student. Essays and interviews let the school get to know the applicant, both as a student and a person. The school can learn what activities the student took part in and get a better idea of how mature a student is. A well written essay or poised interview should have more weight than a score on the ACT or a GPA.

Because of the significance of these tests, many schools, including STA, have begun to teach to the tests. STA offers prep classes in English, science and math for the ACT. In the math class, students practice with released ACT tests and a book discussing the elements featured on the test, as well as techniques to achieve a good score. These techniques help students perform well on the test, but do not reflect a student's aptitude. A true aptitude test would involve no prep work, no practice tests, no coaching.

Some teachers teach to these standardized tests during regular class periods, not just in prep classes. This is the most troubling result of the significance placed on these tests. Schools no longer aim to cultivate deep understanding and a love of learning. Instead, students skim the surface; they memorize facts and tricks in order to perform well on a test. This develops test-taking skills, with little impact on the important skills: reading and writing. They may perform well on the entrance exams, but when they get to college, they will struggle.

AP classes illustrate this problem well. Students take a year long course focusing on a specific topic to prepare for an exam, such as American history. Students nationwide use similar books, study the same topics and at the end of the year, take the same test. Unfortunately, students must hurry through the school year to cover as much of the book as possible to prepare for the test. There is not enough time to delve into all the concepts of American history. It becomes more about cramming for a final exam than truly examining and learning about the topic.

When a college has 1,000 applicants with a 4.0 and a 32 on the ACT, how should they decide who to accept and who to reject? The numbers (GPA and standardized test scores) must be considered along with the words (essays and interviews) to determine who is admitted. A four hour test and graphite-riddled bubble sheet can only tell a college so much. It provides the ground work on which a more personal relationship and understanding between the college and applicant must be established to accurately determine the merit of a student. ★



The main editorial board of *The Dart* concluded in a 3-2 vote that college placement tests are necessary for fairness and are not overemphasized. Our editorial board is comprised of the co-editors-in-chief and managing editors.

cartoon courtesy of MCT Direct

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★in brief

Placement tests

Starting with the class of 2008, college entrance exams will be optional at Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Massachusetts. This is the first nationally ranked science and engineering school to take this action. WPI applicants will have the option of submitting either ACT or SAT test scores or some other indicator of academic achievement, such as a research paper, science fair project or similar effort that demonstrates organizational skills, knowledge and initiative. "This helps us capture a completely different side of a student, and also potential leadership ability," said associate vice president Kristin Tichenor for enrollment management.

the dart staff

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Editorial Policy: In cases of potentially controversial material, the students of the editorial board will meet to resolve conflict and reach decisions. However, the administration of St. Teresa's Academy reserves the right to restrain news and editorial content based on Catholic values and respect for the educational environment. Unsigned editorials present the opinions of The Dart staff editorial board. Signed columns reflect the opinions of the individual, and not necessarily the staff or school community.

Letters Policy: The Dart encourages letters to the editor about topics covered by the paper or other issues. Letters can be sent to the staff in the following ways: In person to Mr. Eric Thomas in Music & Arts 205; by mail to St. Teresa's Academy, Attn: Eric Thomas, 5600 Main Street, Kansas City, MO 64113; or by e-mail to ethomas@stteresasacademy.org or to dart_letters@yahoo.com. Letters should be limited to 300 words. The Dart staff reserves the right to edit or shorten letters for publication.

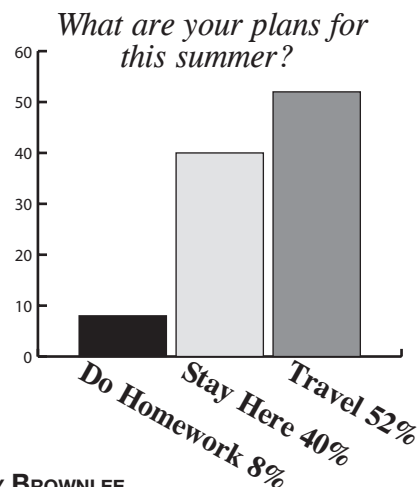
Photo Illustrations: Photo illustrations are conceptual photos that combine the limitless possibility of the drawing with the realism of the photograph.

Voice Off

With summer fast approaching, many students are beginning to consider their summer plans. Each student is unique, and while they have specific activities planned, most hope to relax and enjoy their time off.

The Dart polled 100 students.

COMPILED BY ALY BROWNLEE



Journalist's life instructs us to find special something

ERIC THOMAS



NEWSPAPER ADVISOR

The journalist David Halberstam died last month in an automobile accident. During his life, he became legendary for challenging the government's official view of what was happening in the Vietnam War. In addition, he wrote many seminal books about American culture, politics and sports. He is to journalism what Bob Dylan is to rock and roll, what Mickey Mantle is to baseball.

During a recently replayed interview, Halberstam said an amazingly simple thing. He was retelling his years at Harvard when he decided to abandon basketball and many other interests. Somewhere along the way, he realized journalism was his talent and his calling.

"This was the first thing I had ever been good at," Halberstam told NPR's Terri Gross in 1985. "You take an obsessive personality like mine who is floundering in his social environment and you finally give him or her something that allows him to be distinguished. And you have a match."

Seniors, does this sound familiar? Never thinking you were good at anything? Socially awkward? Finding one thing that makes you feel distinguished?

Some of you are nodding your heads as you remember that epiphany moment at STA when you found your calling. You wrote your first article for *The Dart*, and BAM, it ended up on the front page. You walked away from the math blackboard with a smile, having solved the mysterious equation. You smiled backstage after walking away from the spotlights to the audience's roar. You came to STA, and you found the match.

Other seniors smirk as they read. You wonder when that moment will come. Maybe, dedication to anything seems impossible right now. "Life is too fun," you say, "I am too young." For others of you, maybe, you have been looking too hard.

Regardless of the reason, my advice is this: when you find that one true thing, snatch it up and make it yours. Like Halberstam did at Harvard, shed those peripheral concerns and embrace your calling. Because once you have found it, you'll never want to let go.

Note to The Dart seniors: Some of you have found your calling in this class. For witnessing that epiphany, I am blessed. And while some of you will not focus on journalism in the future, I know you will approach everything with the seriousness and creativity you have funneled into The Dart. Thank you. ★

Letter to the Editors

Ms. Steph Hart, college counselor

At the encouragement of many in the STA community, I welcome the opportunity to offer feedback on the opinion article written about NHS in the last issue of *The Dart*. As moderator, I was taken aback by the negativity presented and the mis-facts and half truths that were offered.

First, National Honor Society is exactly that, an honor. By nature, it is not supposed to be for every student. In fact, some choose not even to apply. In multiple discussions with college admission representatives, it is clear that NHS is not sought out on a student resume, but is instead seen as a bonus for the proven academic achievements, leadership skills and service endeavors already included in the application. NHS membership is not a factor in the admission decision. Ever.

Research was, in fact, conducted to align our NHS chapter with schools like us, small, private and most Catholic. Our policies are in line both with our counterparts and within the parameters set forth by the national office.

When I came to STA, I made changes in the application review to make it fair, what it had not been previously. Three faculty readers from across the curriculum each read every application and score students in a uniform manner on a 1 to 30 point scale. Points from each reader are totaled for a score out of 90 points. Scores assessed by the faculty readers determine membership, not me.

Incomplete applications are a consistent problem within the process and are

the most common reason for low scores. Often, portions of the two-part essay questions are left unanswered. Partial listings of service and leadership do not allow full points to be assigned. Inconsistencies among the three copies submitted also stand to remove points from a student's favor.

It often takes an exceptional sophomore to demonstrate leadership and service when compared to juniors. Sometimes they are not offered membership, but those who have come to talk about means for improvement, often receive the highest scores when they reapply junior year.

Another change made is that NHS programming is no longer reserved for its membership; rather, events are aimed at the entire school community's participation in celebrating the four pillars of leadership, scholarship, service and character. This is evident in activities such as Homeless for a Night and First Friday Fabulous Faculty/Staff.

Finally, I request mention of the near 6000 hours of service NHS provided to our school and city this year, the 27 bags of food collected for the St. Elizabeth/St. Peter Food Pantry, the four boxes of personal care items gathered for the Sisters of the Poor, or of the six boxes and four bags of hotel toiletries donated to the women and children at Sheffield Place. All of this not only celebrates the core of NHS, but proves the mission of STA alive in all students, not just its membership...no matter your opinion of the application process. ★

Just a side note

Mr. Thomas's "Most Likely to..."

- ★ **Libby Conwell** - Have her hair cut by United States Senator John McCain
- ★ **Mikhala Lantz-Simmons** - Come back to STA to visit her best friend, Ms. Nan Bone
- ★ **Kelly Nelson** - Be planning for Issue 7 before Issue 2 is complete
- ★ **Coco Owens** - Overload InDesign with text boxes and Microsoft Word with words
- ★ **Kathleen Pointer** - Impose even more "journalistic integrity" on a place that already has a lot of it: MU
- ★ **Mary Kate Bird** - Strangle Kathleen for her "journalistic integrity" but then hug her one moment later
- ★ **Katie Meyers** - Be gleefully writing columns for some British tabloid in a few years...or perhaps be a hermit
- ★ **Alison Raybould** - Tear stain this newspaper when she reads it.
- ★ **Nicole Farley** - Have a dozen roses, two dozen donuts and a card each production night

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Moore trouble
Documentary film-maker Michael Moore, is being investigated by US officials over whether or not he broke laws when traveling to Cuba for a new film about US health care. US citizens face "civil and/or criminal penalties" for unauthorized travel to communist Cuba, according to the US treasury department. Moore received a letter, informing him of the legal situation at hand, which he posted on his website, mocking the government's actions.

photo poll

COMPILED BY BREANNE SIGLER

At STA, seniors have many privileges including dress-down Fridays, early releases and the ability to call themselves the oldest members of the student body. *The Dart* asked juniors about their senior year.

What event, tradition or aspect are you most looking forward to about your senior year?



"I am really looking forward to all the fun senior bonding activities because I love my class so much."
- Charlotte Adams, junior



"[I am most looking forward to] spending [my] last year with my class and getting ready to head off to college."
- Anna Essmann, junior



"I am most looking forward to leaving school early [when I have a 15/16 free] and being out of uniform [on Fridays]."
- Kristin Newman, junior



"I am looking forward to all of the senior privileges but also to spending time with everyone at STA for one final year."
- Caitlin O'Rourke, junior

Students introduce Little Sisters to STA

At Star Night, Big Sisters welcome incoming freshmen to new opportunities, prepare girls for high school

by RACHEL SCHWARTZ
Section Editor

One hundred and forty-one eighth grade girls from 39 different grade schools joined together at St. Teresa's Academy and wandered into the unfamiliar school cafeteria. Some of them wore nervous expressions on their faces, biting their lips. Others were wide-eyed and took in the new environment. The girls were greeted by smiling sophomores and juniors decked out in their St. Teresa's apparel, ready for Star Night in The Commons.

Star Night is designed to help the incoming freshmen get to know their future classmates and inform them about some of the things they will encounter at St. Teresa's. The Big Sisters arrived early to settle in and go over the activities of the night, while the eighth grade girls did not arrive until around 6:30 p.m.

After all the girls settled in, the Big Sisters introduced themselves to their new Little Sisters. Then the activities of the night began.

"We are now going to play human bingo," declared junior Elizabeth Warwick. "Walk around the room and find people who match up to the squares on your sheet. Find people to get to know each other and mingle."

As the girls walked around The Commons, first time Big Sister junior Katie Jackson noticed the girls seemed shy and unwilling to branch out. The girls stayed in their own little corners and stayed with those they were familiar with.

"I thought that some were more comfortable than others with talking and being a part of the group," said Jackson. "You could just tell all the girls from the same schools, like Visitation girls and St. Peter's girls, just found their grade school friends. And the girls that were the only ones from their school, started out more quiet and separate."

Kristen McEneavy is the only one of the incoming freshmen who is from Our Lady of Peace. However, she said she is comfortable with being the only incoming freshman to come here from her grade school.

"Everyone usually goes to O'Hara from Our Lady of Peace, but I didn't really want to go there," said McE-

neavy. "I originally signed up to go to high school at O'Hara but I changed my mind. I wanted something different, you know? I wanted a fresh start."

This "fresh start" includes new people and new experiences.

To help McEneavy and the rest of the incoming freshmen become more comfortable with each other, the girls played the Starburst game. The girls picked their favorite Starburst and then were asked a question based on what color they picked. The questions varied from "what is your favorite animal?" to "why did you choose St. Teresa's?" This eventually led to conversation about other topics.

"We kind of just talked about what everyone likes to do and trying out for teams and what their interests are and clubs and stuff they could do," said Jackson. "[We told the incoming freshmen] about daily school life. I told them that I have been to the wrong class plenty of times and that they'll probably go to the wrong class; I wanted to make them not so nervous to be freshmen."

In addition to the more personal conversations the Big Sisters had with the eighth graders in each advisory, select juniors spoke about what to expect at St. Teresa's and how to get involved.

Junior Maureen McMahon advised the girls to get involved, make new friends and bond.

"Try everything, try lots of different things, so you can figure out what you like and don't like," said McMahon.

In addition to McMahon, juniors Alex Miller, Aly Brownlee, Charlotte Adams, Kathleen Bryant, Elizabeth Warwick and Maddy McGannon also talked. Warwick and McGannon talked about meeting boys, while Brownlee, Miller, Adams and Bryant talked about meeting new people at school and getting involved.

Some freshmen, including McEneavy, already have some ideas of what they will do to get involved.

"I am in Student Council now, so I will try to get in and get involved in Student Council at St. Teresa's next year," said McEneavy. "I am going to try out for volleyball too."

Along with introducing the incoming



Stars align ★ Junior Lauren Michael, left, sophomore Haley Vondemkamp and freshman Julia Barnett stand against a railing in the Commons with three of the incoming freshmen for their advisory. Many girls gave short speeches on different topics concerning STA. PHOTO BY ALLISON POINTER

freshmen to opportunities and ways to get involved, Star Night introduces the incoming freshmen to the St. Teresa's environment.

"I like being a Big Sister," said Jackson. "I know my Big Sisters did such a

good job at welcoming me and making me feel like part of the advisory. They gave me a sense of belonging by including me and making me feel comfortable. I hope I did that and can do that for the incoming freshmen, too." ★

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AP tests

In addition to finals, some students take AP tests for college credit. The following AP exams are offered each year at STA: French, Spanish, Calculus, English Lit, United States History, European History, Physics, English Language and Latin. These exams took place last week and this week. All students who took AP exams this month can expect to receive their results sometime in July.

academy woman, valedictorian, salutatorian

COMPILED BY MADDY MCGANNON

Academy Woman Carolyn Wiedeman



Wiedeman

The Academy Woman for the class of 2007 is Carolyn Wiedeman. Next year, she will be attending University of Michigan Ann Arbor. Her favorite aspects of STA are the old rooms, traditions and "down to earth sisterhood." She plans to send her future children to STA, even if they are male.

Valedictorian Alison Raybould



Raybould

This year's valedictorian is Alison Raybould. With a GPA of 4.8, she is currently planning to attend Columbia University next year, but she is still on the wait list at Harvard. Her favorite class this year was newspaper, but her favorite subject was government. Her dreams for the future include being an editor at *Vogue*, a financial engineer or a Supreme Court justice.

Salutatorian Franci Swalwell



Swalwell

Senior Francesca Swalwell is this year's salutatorian. She will be attending the University of Notre Dame this year and will graduate STA with a 4.6 GPA. She hopes to be a lawyer. Swalwell's favorite subject this year was college composition. She says the most challenging course she took at STA was honors chemistry with Ms. Kjersten Metzler.

Colleges require immunizations

Incoming freshmen receive vaccines in preparation for fall classes, current students support this action

by LINNY KAUFMAN
Section Editor

Each summer, incoming college students prepare for their freshmen years of school. High on their list of priorities may be buying laptops, learning to use the laundry machines and finding the perfect decorations for their dorm rooms. However, one of the most important necessities for college tends to fall low on students' to-do lists: required immunizations.

The University of Missouri requires each student to have received two doses of MMR vaccine given at the age of 12 months or later, one dose of MMR vaccine and one dose of Rubeola, or Titer results proving immunity to measles (rubeola), mumps and rubella. Students living in residence halls are required to show documentation of meningococcal vaccine or to sign a waiver that they have been shown information on this

vaccine but have chosen not to receive it at this time. In addition, recommended but not required immunizations include Tetanus/Diphtheria, Hepatitis B series and the Influenza vaccine.

STA graduate and MU freshman Emylie Leonard remembers receiving her immunizations required to attend college last summer. Her mom did not inform her of this until she was at orientation.

"My mom was just like, 'Oh yeah, and you need to get shots this weekend,'" said Leonard. "I got them during summer welcome at the student health center. I remember being kind of annoyed because the line was really long."

Saint Louis University freshman Clare Morris also remembers receiving her vaccinations for the fall semester. The immunization requirements for SLU include polio, diphtheria, measles, mumps, rubella, meningitis, combination MMR and tetanus vaccines. A tu-

berculin test is also required.

"We had to turn in a medical record-like form that said we had taken certain shots on our orientation over the summer," said Morris. "They keep it all on file."

Although the lines were long and the shots were painful, Leonard said she is glad it is a requirement for college students before they can attend their first semesters of college.

"It's kind of annoying at first," said Leonard. "But when you're living with so many people and share so many things, it's a good idea for everyone to be immunized. I don't want to get sick!"

Morris agrees immunization requirements are in everyone's best interest. She believes that they help prevent a lot of illness in college.

"You live with hundreds of people in the same facilities, and you want to make sure no one has any illnesses or diseases that can be passed on to you," said Morris. "Plus, it's just healthy for you."★

Antibiotics quickly lose their efficacy

People overuse drugs, decrease effectiveness

by KATE RAINEY
Co-Editor-in-Chief

According to FDA.gov, bacteria and other microorganisms resistant to antibiotics are an increasing public health problem. A few of the infections which have become hard to treat include childhood ear infections, gonorrhea, malaria and tuberculosis.

Antibiotics are drugs meant to kill bacteria and microorganisms which cause infections. According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention website (CDC.gov), the main cause of drug resistant bacteria is doctors prescribing antibiotics for illnesses for viral infections, such as a cold or the flu. Antibiotics do not affect viral infections.

"Bacteria...adapt in a way which makes them resistant to antibiotics."

When bacteria are exposed to antibiotics, the weakest bacteria die first, the strongest last. This means the most resistant bacteria are often left alive, which gives them the opportunity to multiply and grow stronger. Bacteria are living organisms capable of mutating to survive. They adapt in a way which makes them resistant to antibiotics.

The more resistant to drugs a bacterium becomes, the harder it is to treat and cure a disease, said CDC.gov. This makes previously treatable and therefore relatively harmless diseases more difficult to treat. If the resistant disease were to spread (which is easy when people are in close contact, such as a dormitory), it would be more difficult and expensive to cure.

CDC.gov provides tips to help slow resistance, such as not taking antibiotics for viral infections and completing the prescribed course for treatment, not stopping when you feel better. Bacteria naturally grow more resistant to antibiotics, but by understanding how they work and how to correctly use them, the process can be slowed. ★

A Shot at Being Healthy

GRAPHIC BY ALY BROWNLEE

The National Immunization Program (NIP) set up by the Center for Disease and Control Prevention recommends the following vaccines for a normal, healthy teenager or college student.



Tetanus-Diphtheria-Pertussis Vaccine

Meningococcal Vaccine*

→ Protects against Meningococcal disease, which affects 2,600 people in the United States every year. Students in dorms have a higher risk of contracting this illness.

HPV Vaccine Series

→ Recommended for teenage girls to protect against Human Papiolloma Virus, which can cause cervical cancer.

Hepatitis B Vaccine Series

Polio Vaccine Series

*Recommended for previously unvaccinated college freshmen living in dormitories.

Measles-Mumps-Rubella (MMR) Vaccine Series

Varicella (Chicken Pox) Vaccine Series

Influenza Vaccine

Pneumococcal Polysaccharid (PPV) Vaccine

→ A disease that kills more people every year than all other vaccine-preventable diseases, Pneumococcal disease can lead to serious bacterial infections.

Hepatitis A Vaccine Series

→ Protects against Hepatitis A, a serious liver disease that can be spread through close contact with others.

<http://www.cdc.gov/nip/recs/teen-schedule.htm#chart>

college health centers

By EMILY BECKER

University of Missouri at Columbia Student Recreation Complex

Offers:

- ★ Jungle Gym
- ★ Aquatic Center, including oasis and lazy river
- ★ Racquetball, basketball and tennis courts
- ★ Climbing tower and wall
- ★ Outdoor trails
- ★ 1/6 mile track

Hours:

- ★ Monday to Thursday: 5:30 a.m. to midnight
- ★ Friday: 5:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- ★ Saturday: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- ★ Sunday: noon to midnight

University of Kansas Student Recreation Fitness Center

Offers:

- ★ Aerobics Studio
- ★ Climbing Wall
- ★ 3 lane track
- ★ Squash, badminton, racquet ball, basketball, volley ball courts

Hours:

- ★ Monday to Thursday: 5:30 a.m. to midnight
- ★ Friday: 5:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- ★ Saturday: 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- ★ Sunday: 9 a.m. to midnight

University of Missouri at Kansas City Swinney Recreation Center

Offers:

- ★ Racquetball, handball, squash courts
- ★ Pool
- ★ Track
- ★ Steam and sauna
- ★ Fitness testing center

Hours:

- ★ Monday to Thursday: 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- ★ Friday: 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- ★ Saturday: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- ★ Sunday: noon to 6 p.m.

Kansas State University Peters Recreation Complex

Offers:

- ★ Natatorium
- ★ 2 tracks
- ★ Video Lounge
- ★ Table Tennis
- ★ Volleyball, tennis, racquet ball courts
- ★ Horseshoe pit

Hours:

- ★ Monday to Thursday: 5:45 a.m. to midnight
- ★ Friday: 5:45 a.m. to 11 p.m.
- ★ Saturday: 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- ★ Sunday: noon to midnight

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Heart help
According to SeacoastOnline, the American Heart Association recently found that due to lifestyles and eating habits of women, many women are at risk for heart disease. This risk has increased for children and teens due to obesity and high fat, high sodium diets. To decrease the chance of getting heart disease, women should exercise almost every day and consume less sodium and more calcium.

Handprint on my Heart

The Dart congratulates the 104 graduates of the Class of 2007. In the fall, these students will attend 47 different colleges in 25 different states, three countries and one United States territory. They received \$1,782,651.50 in scholarship money and earned 10,208 hours of community service through their service agencies.



"To be a star, you must shine your own light, follow your own path, and don't worry about the darkness, for that is when the stars shine brightest."
~Anonymous

- Devin Aaron KU
- Katrina Abella UMKC
- Sydney Baker Missouri State
- Christina Bartlett KU
- Erica Bartlett KU
- Kelly Becker Undecided
- Franki Belfonte NW Missouri State
- Mary Kate Bird Nebraska
- Jillian Blanck MU
- Alex Bojarski-Stauffer Tulane
- Emily Bradford Missouri State
- Katie Burns-Yocum American
- Antoinette Catalano Rockhurst
- Alice Collins Art Institute of Chicago
- Libby Conwell DePaul
- Brie Cowing MU
- Kayla Crandall SLU
- Caitlyn Crawford McGill
- Claire Cullen Rhodes
- Leia Darden Creighton
- Bridget Dougherty Creighton
- Lizzy Duff Rockhurst
- Megan Durst Central Missouri
- Abby Fagan Loyola Marymount
- Nicole Farley Rockhurst
- Jen Finley Kansas State
- Mallory Finn Missouri State
- Allie Fiss KU
- Lauren Fowlkes Notre Dame
- Christina Fuerst Seton Hall
- Mary Garcia MU
- Laura Goede MU
- Lauren Goulding Arizona State
- Sarah Gramlich Regis
- Tracy Haden MU
- Kelli Hansen Kansas State



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- Marisa Henderson Florida State
- Brigid Hohl JCCC
- Emily Ingraham Denver
- Megan Isom Marquette
- Oghosa Iyamu Undecided
- Rachel Janose Rockhurst
- Michelle Jantsch Ohio University
- Andrea Johnson MU
- Katie Kellerman KU
- Kristi Kirk KU
- Jessie Kramer Marquette
- Alexandra Kurth MU
- Mikhala Lantz-Simmons McGill
- Alex LaPointe Undecided
- Kate LaTerza Nebraska Omaha
- Brynne Lee Boston College
- Jacqui Lindsey Undecided
- Amelia McGannon St. Mary's
- Michelle McGill Dominican
- Betsy McKenny Marquette
- Kathleen Medina Regis
- Katie Meyers American Int. London
- Mary Monachino NW Missouri State
- Amanda Morrall Duke
- Carina Murphy Virginia
- Aimee Navarre Undecided
- Rosie Neenan Creighton
- Kelly Nelson MU
- Mary Nulton KU
- Kate O'Flaherty Marquette
- Caroline Orscheln Undecided
- Coco Owens NYU



- Katie Pfeffer SLU
- Kathleen Pointer MU
- Alison Raybould Columbia
- Cecilia Rebeck Regis
- Melissa Rhodes Whitman
- Rebecca Ridge Spring Hill
- Megan Rogers Missouri State
- Sarah Runnels South Carolina
- Alyson Russell Regis
- Alexa Scharig Kansas State
- Stefanie Schwalbe Iowa State
- Catherine Seidel Undecided
- Mary Smith Missouri State
- Meredith Snyder Loyola Chicago
- Sam Sprinkle Undecided
- Meredith Stoops Benedictine
- Francesca Swalwell Notre Dame
- Meaghann Taylor Boston College
- Robin Towle Northwood
- Ciera Trejo Undecided
- Emily Tummons Kansas State
- Shannon VanBuskirk KU
- Katarina Vaughn Minnesota Twin Cities
- Caitlin Wallingford JCCC
- Laura Watz Missouri State
- Laura Welch KU
- Jessica Weston Uni. of Virgin Islands
- Carolyn Wiedeman Michigan
- Cadie Williams Undecided
- Katherine Williams UMKC
- Amanda Wilson Notre Dame
- Leanna Yanes Missouri State
- Mary Zidar Marquette



Source: Steph Hart

Not Pictured:
Maggie Burke
Art Institute of Chicago
Caitlin Clark
Truman
Lauryn Howard
Central Methodist
Shiho Kanai

Top Eleven

The following is a list of the eleven most popular colleges the Class of 2007 will attend next fall.

KU: ★★★★★★9	Regis: ★★★★★4	Creighton: ★★★3
MU: ★★★★★★8	Kansas State: ★★★★★4	Notre Dame: ★★★3
Missouri State: ★★★★★★7	Rockhurst: ★★★3	UMKC: ★★★3
Marquette: ★★★★★5	SLU: ★★★3	

leaving a legacy

As class graduates, staffers reflect on Academy aura, newspaper memories, 'home away from home'

by KELLY NELSON
Dart Senior

I can still remember my first day of school at STA. I showed up in a checkered and studded backpack with my former carpool buddy, Bobbie Neely, thinking I would walk in and automatically own the place. Instead, I got lost on the way to my first class and was intimidated into carrying a senior's books out to her car for her at the end of the day. I'm guessing that not all freshmen were as awkward and uncomfortable as me, but I remember asking myself that day if I ever felt like I would fit here.

My good friend Carolyn Wiedeman put it best in her speech at the Academic Awards Assembly: there is a certain aura that each Academy girl exudes. I didn't know this as a terrified 15-year-old, but over time it forms in each of us. It forms after four years of running through the halls, pulling pranks, dancing the night away at Teresian, confiding in classmates, laughing with teachers and becoming friends with girls I will share a bond with forever. To me, STA is no longer just a school; it's a way of life. It's the way we all understand the inside jokes of Student Productions, the way we know not to drink from the water fountain on the first floor of M&A, the way there's guaranteed to be a game of red rover on yard days, the way we've all memorized the banners in the gym and the way we sing the school song whenever we're given the opportunity. STA means the world to me.

One specific part of STA that has affected me the most is this paper. *The Dart* has been a passion of this staff's and of all the other staff members before us for many years now. I hope with each issue put out, we've been able to give you at least little piece of all we've gotten from working on *The Dart*. Last issue, as I read through the center spread among fellow seniors, I realized throughout my four years here, I've accomplished most of the 141 items on that list. I wish all of you luck in doing the same, because each of those items, no matter how insignificant they may seem, will define your time here and how you spent it. ★

by ALISON RAYBOULD
Dart Senior

For the past four years, I have been waiting for my defining moment at St. Teresa's, the moment that pronounces, "I am a woman of the dear Academy." But in my lengthiest of reflections, I cannot pinpoint an exact moment. I have discovered my time at STA is defined by my daily encounters—happy, stressful, nostalgic—with 25 beautiful and smart young women and one inspiring man who form The Dart.

My defining moment is a series of moments spent working, eating, sleeping, crying and laughing behind the blue partition in M205. Holding a tearful Nicole in my arms as we export the last news issue. Getting newsprint on my hands and face after delivering the issue. Pondering the appropriate response to one of Mr. Thomas's renowned hypothetical questions. Starting impromptu dance parties. Squeezing in a ninth issue. Bragging about my celebrity friends (Steven Spielberg, Jimmy Conrad, Barbara Bush). Joking with Emily Becker about the beauty of white space. Chatting animatedly about "The Office." Pronouncing The Dart staff of 2007 is elitist. Reading, then rereading, each story of the issue. Swallowing back tears each time Mr. Thomas so kindly reminds me that this is our last issue, last deadline, last story. Spending an evening at school, like a regular masochist, working and playing, until 11:30 p.m.

I recall our last set of publication nights before Christmas break. Nicole and I had been slaving away on the front page and thought we had finished the design. We asked for Mr. Thomas's approval. He walked over, crossed his arms, stroked his chin several times, reached for the computer mouse and ripped out my "inner soul." I kid you not, his "suggestions" hurt the news bone inside of me. He has a tendency to do that.

Mr. Thomas's room has become my home away from home; The Dart staff, my second family. You lovely ladies have embraced my idiosyncrasies for the past four years. You laughed with me

each time I told a Raybould family story, boasted about my over arching skills in all fields (think Fibers class) and turned a simple task, like eating, into an Olympic competition.

Thank you, Dart staff, for not only accepting, but embracing, and even cultivating, my anomalies. Thank you for crying with me, laughing with me, guiding me, enlightening me, teaching me, caring for me, befriending me. Thank you for being women of character. Thank you for creating in me an undeniable spirit. Thank you, newspaper girls and Mr. Thomas, for sharing these defining moments with me. ★

by MIKHALA LANTZ-SIMMONS
Dart Senior

The first day of high school, I chose a seat next to Shauna Lee Sheffield, someone I was mildly acquainted with, only to have her get up to go and talk to someone else. Mortified at this abandonment and realizing I had single-handedly ruined my chance at social success, I shrank down in my seat, wishing to disappear. Here it was, high school, something I'd been anxiously awaiting after four years at tiny Académie Lafayette, and everything now seemed hopeless. I looked down into the pit at clusters of girls from each respective grade school and panicked. I thought it was a disaster.

This anxiety at fitting in continued through the next three years. That's not to say they were miserable. I loved the JV basketball team, the incredible student production casts and the excitement of being a new staffer on *The Dart*. But it wasn't until second semester of this year that I truly found my place at St. Teresa's. In the fall, I decidedly failed to attend the much talked about senior retreat. I also did not frequent the class-orchestrated parties. I even stumbled through Kairos, waiting for senior year to be over. But now that it is, I find myself horribly jealous of my little cousin who has the next three years at STA ahead of her. Senior year was filled with an inordinate amount of good.

I now see how the Academy has molded me into a confident, self-possessed person. It's something that I'm excited to go out into the world and put into action. This year has been prime, filled with difficulties, but good nevertheless. I owe a great deal of this contentment to a couple of people. First, a supportive (and shrill) best friend made life enjoyable. I'm so glad we got over our initial hatred for each other. To all of the encouraging teachers and staff, notably Ms. Montag who supported and fed me, thank you for your care. Your influence was so important. Finally, I want to thank *The Dart* and Mr. Thomas, who has my utmost respect and admiration. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of this staff. *The Dart* was an integral part of my experience here. It is on this newspaper that I found my best friends and a part of myself. So here's goodbye and a sincere "thank you" to all those in my life. Come visit me in Canada. ★



Sentimental sobs ★ Tears stream down senior Kathleen Pointer's face as the *Dart* staff discusses the final publication night on April 23. Pointer was managing editor of visuals this past year and will be studying photojournalism at MU next year. PHOTO BY CLAIRE MCINERNEY

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Over-seas

Dart seniors Mikhala Lantz-Simmons and Katie Meyers will be heading out of the country for college. Meyers will be attending Richmond American University in London. Lantz-Simmons can be found at McGill University in Montreal, Canada. The Campus has over 1000 trees, including the cucumber tree and the Kentucky coffee tree.

dart seniors photo poll

This is the only time you can be quoted in The Dart. What do you want to say?



"Hoo-ha"
—Mikhala Lantz-Simmons



"Veni, vidi, vici!"
—Kelly Nelson



"You will rule the day Gustav."
—Katie Meyers



"Journalistic integrity!"
—Kathleen Pointer

by KATIE MEYERS
Dart Senior

Of all the interesting places in STA, the one I find most fascinating is M205, also known as the journalism room, the newspaper room, the publications room or Thomas's room.

At first glance, M205 looks like any other classroom except for that blueish-gray fake wall affectionately known as the partition, but M205 is far from being a normal class room. The journalism room was one of the first classrooms I entered as a freshman; it scared me. I was a quiet, shy freshman sitting in a class with a few other little freshmen and a bunch of sophomores just waiting to pull rank. I furiously scribbled notes as Mr. Eric Thomas taught us about quotation style, budget lines, picas and aperture.

The newspaper room was one of the first classrooms I stepped into sophomore year; I was intimidated as I watched seniors Cierra Obioha, Leslie Herring and Ann Langworthy animatedly talk about their summer vacations while I sat waiting for someone my age to walk in. I nervously interviewed sources and exchanged calls with Nicole Farley late at night to proofread each others' stories (we still do that). I witnessed Mr. Thomas tell the staff he was going to be a dad and Ann Stacy was not allowed anywhere near his child, Ella.

The publications room was the place to be junior year; nobody missed a game of baseball or Julia McQueen-Thorpe leading a revolution. I spent many activity periods sleeping underneath the light table and many publication nights arguing with the Macs and naming all of their icons (Pepe, Dante and Gustav, for example).

The Dart became a family to me. Julia, Juana, Molly, Alison, Nicole, Mary Kate, Coco and Kathleen became my sisters. Thomas's room might as well be my room at this point. Almost all of my frees are spent in there napping, playing on InDesign or procrastinating. Activity periods are often spent debating about any one of Thomas's random questions, such as "Which fruit is the most consistent?" Publication nights are spent arguing with Nicole or Alison about not needing another graphical element on my page, my moral opposition to jumping stories or if I should put another cut-out on page 19.

M205 (behind the partition in particular), in my mind, is no longer a part of the STA campus; it is its own little world, my home away from home. One day, Thomas pointed at me and said, "You know that someone spends way too much time in here when I can recognize their footsteps."

Well, Monsieur Thomas, I'm sorry you feel that way because there is no such thing as too much time spent in M205 or with *The Dart* staff, and I am really going to miss it. As for the rest of the school, I love you but I think the Genie in "Aladdin" said it best: "I'm history. No, I'm mythology. Ah, I don't care what I am, I'm free!" ★



Sisterly Squeeze ★ Seniors Nicole Farley, Kathleen Pointer, Katie Meyers, Coco Owens, Alison Raybould and Mary Kate Bird hug at their final publication night for *The Dart* on April 23. "Despite all my random outbursts of crying and my almost outright refusal to leave M205 at the last publication night, I know that I won't forget the times behind that elusive blue partition nor the girls I've spent them with," said Pointer. PHOTO BY CLAIRE MCLNERNEY

by MARY KATE BIRD
Dart Senior

Writing my final column for *The Dart* is kind of like picking a senior quote: you want it to be witty and eternal. Faced with the task of avoiding a farewell column that is analogous to "What a long, interesting experience this has been." My Dad always told me that most of my memories at STA would be remembered outside of the classroom. Well, with the exception of two or three, I believe this would not be the first time Dad was correct.

For me, it is not the institution that upsets me to leave. It's the faces I see in the hallways as I pass to and from class. It's the smiles and laughter I hear coming from the basement of M&A. It's the tears I see form in the eyes of a student late to math class. It's the casual butt-slapping, water-throwing and de-pantsing that goes on as I pass the seal.

I can't think of a place where people are happier to be themselves, where they are accepted with open arms despite their unusual sense of humor and unshaven legs. I'm going to miss the Blood Brothers chasing each other with nets, screaming to catch Betsy McKenny, dressed as a dragon. I'll wander aimlessly around the campus at University

of Nebraska, looking for clowns to make a balloon animal and covering my head to avoid being hit by a water balloon. I'll never forget having my belly stuffed as I dressed as Security Bob for Student Productions, and the same friendship that I gained in the corner of Prentiss's room over Starburst. I'll search for a teacher like Rez, one who is willing to spend an entire class period talking about how fascinating the Indian practice of sati is. And, most importantly, the thoughts of missing out on the impromptu parking lot dance parties to only be chased away by Hoecker, are what scare me to death.

And to my beloved *Dart* staff: every one of you is the best of the best. This publication has risen above and beyond any standard we anticipated our first years on staff. I'm confident that we will leave the news in the hands of responsible, competent young women. Stay true to yourselves and become the most respected reporters in your fields. And, never forget how to make those paper Revolution hats. "I LOVE US!"

The faces, the community formed by faculty and students are what will be the hardest to lose next fall. I eagerly await the challenges that face me and I am excited for what the future has in store, but I will never forget the faces that will remain at STA. ★

by NICOLE FARLEY
Dart Senior

We were wrapping our last first issue of *The Dart* on a Tuesday night in late September. It was 11:30 p.m., when Mr. Thomas called Alison and me to the back of the room. "Girls," he said, "you're leaving."

He only meant leaving for the evening, but it hit me then he was right. After four years of STA, journalism in M205 and making incredible friends over newsprint, budget lines and late hours at Publication Nights - we were leaving.

Life without monthly issue plans, page proofs and photo kickers is hard enough to imagine, but life without *Dart* inside jokes, obligatory dancing at page completion and special editor pictures hardly seems like living. I'm not sure how I'll work on a newspaper in a room other than M205, because it won't seem like a newspaper without that familiar wooden floor, blue-gray partition and eight Macintosh computers. The Publications room is a separate world away from the rest of STA; it is my home. My staff and family is a group of girls who could be silly teenage girls while they sang "Happy First Issue to Us" over ice cream cake, made QT runs, befriended Zach Hetrick on Facebook and gossiped about prom in the back of Mr. Thomas's room; but it is also a group of high-class, hard-working girls who started a revolution, got down to business when it was necessary and put out a newspaper that was given some of the highest rankings possible in local and national competitions. Pacemaker '07, here we come.

Thank you, *Dart* staff, for four years of memories. Together, we have done more than people realize in terms of producing a great paper, but more so, you girls have been some of the best friends ever. I'll miss Alison's outrageous stories about the police coming to her house and celebrities, our shared tears and her constant dedication to *The Dart*. Alison, I'm so thankful we got to share this year together. I'm going to miss Kathleen's intellect and unsurpassable love for the camera, Mary Kate's high fives, dancing and her calming, practical nature, Coco's enthusiasm and way of pulling together an amazing spread in one night and Katie's off-beat personality, fantastic sense of humor and the way that she's been my best friend for the past three years. I'll miss Mr. Thomas and his hypothetical questions, consistently sound advice and willingness to give so much of his free time to bettering our publications.

The last publication night was when it hit me that I'm leaving, as Mr. Thomas told us "four more clicks and you're done," and Alison, Kathleen, Katie and I put our hands together on the mouse and exported our last issue. I know we're leaving it in good hands, but it's so difficult to comprehend the fact that it's over.

I love you, *Dart* staff, and I will miss you girls and this paper more than anything. ★

17 may 2007

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The Dart

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St. Teresa's Academy

★in brief

Journalistic endeavors

Two *Dart* seniors will continue to pursue journalism in college. Kelly Nelson and Kathleen Pointer will be attending the prestigious MU School of Journalism. Pointer will continue her work with photojournalism.

COMPILED BY JAIME HENRY-WHITE



"I just wanted to clarify, my eyes watered at the age of 17 when I realized I did not get into Hogwarts at age 11, but I did not cry."
- Alison Raybould



"I hate rat dogs such as Cody Haden and Millie Cullen."
- Libby Conwell



"Hey guys, let's play some Justin Timberlake."
- Mary Kate Bird



"We may come off like we have a superiority complex but really, as you can read here, we're all just pretty weird."
- Colleen Owens



"400 words! How can I sum up everything *The Dart* is to me in just 400 words?"
- Nicole Farley

Athlete pursues academics first

Student with college sport opportunities decides to move in a new direction

by NICOLE GRAVINO
Staff Writer

Senior Alexandra Kurth has been a starter on the Varsity soccer team at STA since her freshman year. Along with the rest of the seniors on the team, Kurth had a busy year full of college offers and recruiters coming to watch her play. Villanova, Drake, University of Missouri and Benedictine all took notice of Kurth's talent, and made offers for her to join their teams. The only problem: Kurth was not interested in playing soccer in college.

"It was either quit playing in high school or play four more years in college and then quit," said Kurth. "I just really wanted to enjoy the college experience and start a new chapter in my life."



Kurth

Kurth said this was a tough decision to make, but was one she had to make on her own. She knew she had the support of her parents no matter what her decision turned out to be. They didn't try to sway her one way or the other and allowed her to work it out on her own, she said. That's when she decided to go to MU and not play soccer.

"I decided this past summer I wasn't going to play soccer in college," said Kurth. "When everyone is signing scholarships around you, it makes you think twice about your decision, but I think I made a good decision for myself."

She has devoted 12 years of her life to playing soccer and said she spent enough time running to and from practices and traveling to tournaments that it began to cut into her social life.

"I felt like I had so many other things I wanted to do in college," said Kurth. "I wanted the flexibility to do new things like studying abroad. I had never been able to travel because of my schedule."

While some players might have been unmotivated to continue to give the team their best effort without the promise of a college scholarship in front of them, Kurth continued to be dedicated.

"She's a starter and a big part of our team," said senior Lauren Fowlkes, one of Kurth's teammates. "She does really well as a starter. She decided to stick with it even though she wouldn't be playing in college. She is committed to working very hard."

Senior teammate Alyson Russell agreed with Fowlkes.

"She may not seem very competitive, but on the field, she is competitive," said Russell. "On the field, she has a completely different personality. She always gives 110 percent and has a positive attitude. I don't think I have ever heard her say anything



Kicking to the future★ Senior Alexandra Kurth, left, defends her side of the field during the Varsity game against the Blue Springs South Wildcats Monday. The team was competing in Districts and defeated the Wildcats 5-0. PHOTO BY ALLISON POINTER

negative."

Her teammates agree she could have been successful as a collegiate soccer player, but they support her personal decision not to play.

"She can definitely perform at the college level," said Russell. "If she ever decides to walk onto the team at MU, I know she would make it."

Fowlkes said Kurth has thoroughly considered her options and made the decision that will suit her best.

"I think she has weighed her options and is going to get what she wants out of the college experience," said Fowlkes. "I was going to support her no matter what she chose."

Many girls, like Fowlkes and Russell,

knew from the beginning they wanted to play in college. They joined club teams and worked hard year round with the goal of a scholarship in mind. Kurth says that was never her goal.

"For me, soccer is more about playing on the team and getting to know the girls, building a relationship with them," said Kurth. "Basically, the question I had to ask myself was, 'Do I want soccer to rule my life for the next four years?' I figured eventually I won't be playing. I'm not going to be on the national soccer team or anything."

According to Kurth, the successes of the STA soccer team made her decision more difficult. When people asked her where she was going to play soccer in college, she said she struggled to tell them she was not planning on playing.

"It's always about who's going where because that kind of means who is the best soccer player," said Kurth. "The constant asking puts pressure on you because when you don't have an answer, they seem to drop the topic. Just the question makes you feel insecure."

Russell signed on to play at Regis University within the last month and was in the same position as Kurth for a while. She knew she wanted to play in college, but the right offers hadn't come her way yet.

"A lot of people think, 'If you are so good at soccer, why aren't you playing?'" said Russell. "They make the assumption if you are good you are going to continue to play."

Kurth said her choice had nothing to do with disliking the sport, but rather involved spending her college time the way she wanted.

"I will still play soccer in college with my sorority just for fun," said Kurth. "I still enjoy playing soccer."★

"I felt like I had so many other things I wanted to do in college."

Alexandra Kurth, senior

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St. Teresa's Academy

★in brief

STAR athlete
The Kansas City Star selected senior Michelle Jantsch as First Runner-Up in the 2006-2007 STAR Scholar-Athlete Awards. Jantsch was chosen from among over 300 female and male scholar-athletes nominated from their respective high schools. She will receive a scholarship honoring her athletic, scholastic and service achievements throughout her four years at STA.

graduating athletes

COMPILED BY NICOLE GRAVINO

Cross Country

Alex Bojarski-Stauffer, 4 years
Libby Conwell, 4 years
Tracy Haden, 3 years
Brynne Lee, 2 years
Jacqui Lindsey, 2 years
Betsy McKenny, 4 years
Rosie Neenan, 3 years
Kelly Nelson, 2 years
Mary Beth Nulton, 3 years
Kathleen Pointer, 4 years
Meredith Stoops, 3 years
Francesca Swalwell, 3 years
Shannon VanBuskirk, 4 years

Golf

Mary Kate Bird, 4 years*
Emily Bradford, 4 years

Volleyball

Michelle Jantsch, 4 years*
Jessie Kramer, 4 years

Tennis

Maggie Burke, 4 years
Bridget Dougherty, 4 years
Carolyn Wiedeman, 4 years

Basketball

Leia Darden, 4 years
Sarah Gramlich, 4 years
Alexandra Kurth, 3 years
Emily Tummons, 4 years

Dance Team

Abby Fagan, 4 years
Allie Fiss, 4 years*
Laura Goede, 4 years
Andrea Johnson, 3 years
Alexa Scharig, 2 years
Kelli Hansen, 4 years

Track and Field

Alex Bojarski-Stauffer, 4 years
Jacqui Lindsey, 4 years
Emily Tummons, 2 years
Katherine Williams, 4 years

Soccer

Kate LaTerza, 4 years*
Alison Raybould, 4 years*
Lauren Fowlkes, 4 years*
Michelle Jantsch, 4 years
Alexandra Kurth, 4 years
Alyson Russell, 4 years*

* Indicates playing sport in college (see centerspread for colleges)

Track Stars head to Sectionals



STA runners qualify for Sectionals in three events at Saturday's District meet

by SARAH COOPER
Managing Editor of News

Sophomore Leah Barthol had a fast start. Maybe too fast. She was in second place until the last curve of her second lap, when she was passed. From there on, the 4x800 relay team stayed safely in third place. As the baton passed from Barthol to senior Jacqui Lindsey and then to juniors Kellyn Smith and Elizabeth Keaveny, coach Ann Bode Rodriguez watched from far above the track at the press box.

"I was very confident in the relay," said Bode Rodriguez. "Jacqui and Leah had been running it all year long. Kellyn had never run in the relay, but she had competed in the open 800 and had a really good time, so I knew she would be an asset to the team. And, of course, Elizabeth is just an animal."

"The finish was such a blur. Everyone felt weak, but we were all excited."

Leah Barthol, sophomore

With its third place finish and a time of 10:02 at Districts at Lee's Summit West Saturday, the relay team qualified to compete in Sectionals. Keaveny, who ran the last leg, also won the 800 and 1600 meter events, qualifying for Sectionals in those events as well.

After completing her leg of the race, Barthol sat down in the grass and struggled to catch her breath.

"The [finish] was such a blur," said Barthol, citing the heat. "Everyone felt weak, but we were all excited."

The Districts race was the first time this particular group had competed together, and though each member agreed the team performed well, Barthol and Smith felt they personally could have done better.

"I'm really excited that we qualified, but I wish I had run a better race," said Smith. "I didn't have as good a time as I've had before, and I think I could have run a smarter race. I went out way too fast and I kind of died on the last lap. But Districts is all about qualifying for Sectionals, so that was good."

Keaveny said she was able to conserve some of her energy while finishing the

4x800 relay.

"Personally, I anchored, so they made my job really easy," said Keaveny. "I just held on to third place."

Lindsey said 10:02 was the best time for STA in the 4x800 relay this year, and it was close to the school record, which is 9:48. She and Bode Rodriguez feel confident about Sectionals, which will be held Saturday at Lee's Summit North.

"We're really positive about [Sectionals]," said Lindsey. "I think we're going to State."

Bode Rodriguez the team had a "really good day" at Districts, where nine Stars competed.

She especially praised the efforts of the 4x400 meter relay team, which set a new school record with a time of 4:08. It was composed of Lindsey, Barthol, senior Katherine Williams and sophomore Sherie Wallace.

It tied for fourth place, but only the top four teams in the event could qualify, so the timers had to determine the fourth-place team.

"It turns out the girl from [Raymore Peculiar] actually out-leaned Sherie Wallace," explained Bode Rodriguez. "That was a heartbreaker; it was an excellent race, from start to finish...Sherie had a spectacular come-from-behind finish. The 4x400 was one of the finest efforts I have seen all year long."

The qualifiers will continue with regular practices this week, which will include a time trial, with Barthol, Lindsey, Smith and Keaveny preparing for the 4x800 meter relay, along with alternate junior Emily Thompson.

Keaveny will also prepare for her 800 meter race and the 1600 meter race, which she called her "main event."★

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game line

100 METER:

Katherine Williams, sixth place (finalist)

200 METER:

Sherie Wallace, seventh place (finalist)

800 METER:

Elizabeth Keaveny, first place (qualified)

1600 METER:

Elizabeth Keaveny, first place (qualified)

3200 METER:

Emily Thompson, fifth place (finalist)

Elizabeth Keaveny, seventh place (finalist)

4x400 METER RELAY:

Leah Barthol, Jacqui Lindsey, Sherie Wallace, Katherine Williams, fifth place (finalist)

4x800 METER RELAY:

Leah Barthol, Jacqui Lindsey, Kellyn Smith, Elizabeth Keaveny, third place (qualified)

LONG JUMP:

Katherine Williams, sixth place (finalist)

SHOT PUT:

Katie Drummond, seventh place (finalist)

DISCUS:

Katie Drummond, eighth place (finalist)

DISCUS:

Amy Hymer, tenth place

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St. Teresa's Academy

★in brief

Gatorade player of the year
Lauren Fowlkes was selected as the 2007 Gatorade Girl's High School Soccer Player of the Year in the state of Missouri. She is now in a pool of 50 players competing for National Player of the Year, which will be determined in June. Fowlkes, a midfielder, has won two State titles at STA and is a four year varsity starter. She was named a National Soccer Coaches Association of America Youth All-American. Fowlkes will attend the University of Notre Dame on a soccer scholarship this fall.

senior year in review: sports news

BY ALLISON POINTER

July 8: Women's Wimbledon

Ms. Amelie Mauresmo from France fought her way through three sets to declare her first Wimbledon title July 8, 2006. Mauresmo also defeated her opponents in the Australian Open, winning first place. She has become the owner of four Grand Slam crowns and has maintained her number one ranking title.

Oct. 27: 2006 World Series

In the 102nd Major League World Series, the St. Louis Cardinals took on the Detroit Tigers. The Cardinals won

the series, winning four of the five games against the Tigers. The series began Oct. 21 and ended six days later.

Oct. 29: Tennis World Cup

China's Ma Lin made history by winning the 2006 Men's World Cup for the fourth time Oct. 29. No other player in history has won the title more than twice. Ma defeated another Chinese national team member, Mr. Wang Hao.

Feb. 4: Super Bowl XLI

Mr. Peyton Manning, quarterback for the Indianapolis Colts, led his team

to victory Feb. 4. They captured the NFL title with a 29-17 defeat over the Chicago Bears in Super Bowl XLI. The Colts were quick and moved the ball well, but the big story might be their defense, which forced most of the Bears' five turnovers.

March 11: Accenture Match Play

Mr. Henrick Stenson played 120 holes at the World Golf Championships-Accenture Match Play Tournament ending March 11. He defeated Mr. Geoff Ogilvy in the finals. Stenson is now placed number five in the world.

Apr. 2: NCAA Tournament

The Florida Gators became national champions in the 2007 NCAA Tournament with a score of 84-75 over the Ohio State Buckeyes. Florida's player Corey Brewer was named as the Most Outstanding Player of the tournament.

May 4: Horse Racing

The week of racing at the Kentucky Derby officially began Wednesday afternoon with the post position draw. In the end, the horse Barbaro won with jockey Edgar Prado and a time of 2:01.36.

Annual combines individuality, art Publications staffs earn most ever state awards



Appreciation for art ★ Freshman Maddy Fox enjoys viewing life-like sculptures of people at the Brookside Art Fair May 4. Fox visited the Annual Art Fair with her friend, freshman Anna Blanck. **PHOTO BY CARLIE CAMPBELL**

Teresian and Dart win journalism top honors from Missouri press association

by **MR. ERIC THOMAS**
Publications Adviser

The staff members from *The Dart* newspaper and the *Teresian* yearbook accepted an all-time best 36 awards from a state journalism association at last night's end-of-the-year publications banquet.

The Missouri Interscholastic Press Association named *The Dart* as an All-Missouri newspaper, the highest distinction offered. Last fall, the *Teresian* staff was notified that it also won All-Missouri honors for "Collide," the yearbook from the 2005-2006 school year.

The Dart editors-in-chief Nicole Farley and Alison Raybould teamed up to win five awards in the categories of news story, front page design, in-depth articles, and diversity coverage. Kathleen Pointer, the managing editor of visuals, won four awards, including a Show-Me award for her cover image "Heavy Secrets." Two center spread designs and a story by Coco Owens earned awards as well.

Other award winners on *The Dart* staff were Maddy McGannon (2), Kelly Nelson, Mary Kate Bird, Carlie Campbell, Kate Rainey, Elizabeth Nelson, Caroline Quinn, and Linn Kaufman.

The *Teresian* staff won a total of 10 awards, led by editors-in-chief Brynne Lee and Meredith Pavicic. In addition to winning a shared award with Lee, Pavicic won three other awards, including a Show-Me award for academic reporting. The press association also honored four yearbook students with the highest award in the category of best overall coverage: Erin Vogel, Molly Campbell and Katie Kenney.

Other winners on the *Teresian* staff were Anna Warm (2), Bailey Lynch, Mary Jantsch, Hannah Bailey, Lauren Damico, Shannon VanBuskirk and Kate Christian.

Windmoor literary magazine advisers Megan Filipowicz and Karen Johnson handed out special recognition was given to Pointer, the editor-in-chief of *Windmoor*.

The banquet also served as a chance for the 2006-7 publications editors to symbolically hand over the publications to next year's editors-in-chief. *The Dart* editors Raybould and Farley gave a ceremonial dart board to Rainey and Emily Becker. For the *Teresian*, Lee presented sole leadership of the book to Pavicic. Maureen McMahon and Becker, next year's *Windmoor* editors, received ceremonial authority from Pointer. ★

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St. Teresa's Academy

★in brief

Continuing passion
Graduating seniors Maggie Burke and Alice Collins will be attending the Art Institute of Chicago together next fall. Burke plans on studying design, while Collins will study ceramics. The school provides global education in visual, design, media and related arts.

Art celebration promotes diversity within nearby Brookside neighborhood

by **ANNE TAMPKE**
Staff Writer

Distinct shops, a historical location and classic architecture could define Brookside's colorful culture. But people who contribute their creative talents to the 22nd Brookside Art Annual showcase the community's true individuality.

This festival displayed the works of 184 different artists May 4 to 6. Most artists showcasing work were locals trying to increase publicity, but some traveled from as far as Michigan and Wisconsin to set up shop. In addition to art galleries, the event included children's activities sponsored by Cosentino's Market, live music and food booths operated by local restaurants. Last year the large white tents were packed with 80,000 art lovers and curious passers-by. The different art mediums on display included glass work, jewelry, fibers, ceramics,

paintings, weavings and mixed media.

"I like seeing down-to-earth people who create great works of art, opposed to people you just read about in history or magazines," said Junior Hannah Girardeau. "I love how genuine the artists are. I bought a book from a woman three years ago and she remembered me when I came to see her this year."

As a resident of Brookside, Girardeau loves the personality and business the Art Annual brings to her neighborhood. Her neighbor junior Claire Hickey agrees.

"[The Brookside Art Annual] brings more people to Brookside from all over Kansas City and shows off the uniqueness and creativity of our area," said Hickey.

Local artist Anthony Pack's collection of colorful, oddly shaped animals and people constructed of recycled products stood apart from the rustic photography of withered landscapes and lush oil paintings. Pack has participated in the Annual several times.

"Combining basic woodworking skills, found objects and a quirky sense of humor, I try to touch the inner child within people through my artwork," said Pack referring to his collection. "Most of my work is com-

*Just a
side note*

**Brookside Art Fair
Rankings**

- ★ The Harris list of the Nation's Best Art and Craft Shows
- ★ One of the top 20 Fine Art and Craft Shows in the Nation
- ★ In the state of Missouri Brookside Art Annual was ranked 3rd
- ★ Brookside Art Annual is ranked second in Kansas City to the Plaza Art Fair

prised from recycled materials and I use found objects to inspire my ideas, drawing on my sense of humor to them for what they could be, rather than limit them to their intended purpose."

Hickey thought Pack's work exemplified Brookside's spirit and culture.

"That's the art I love to see in the Brookside Annual and people's reaction to it," said Hickey. "[Pack's] art is an example of the kind of outrageous stuff that shows off local character and talent." ★

graduating thespians

COMPILED BY EMILY BECKER

Students are invited to join International Thespian Society Troupe 3913 after earning 10 points or 100 hours of service. After earning 60 points or 600 hours, students are awarded the "Honor" status. The following is a list the seniors graduating who were inducted into the Society.



Katie Burns-Yocum
110 points
inducted in 2004



Mikhala Lantz-Simmons
110 points
inducted in 2004



Melissa Rhodes
85 points
inducted in 2004



Robin Towle
41 points
inducted in 2005



Kelly Becker
27 points
inducted in 2005



Megan Isom
14 points
inducted in 2005



Sydney Baker
14 points
inducted in 2005



Meaghann Taylor
11 points
inducted in 2006

Bakery cuts big slices, not big corners

On weekends, The Upper Crust offers different menu, atmosphere than neighboring Westport shops

by EMILY BECKER
Co-Editor-in-Chief

In an area like Westport, a place known for night clubs and alcoholically erased evenings, it is not expected to find a store like Pryde's Old Westport, much less the homemade pies served Fridays and Saturdays in the back of Pryde's at the Upper Crust.

Like the rest of the store, the Upper Crust is tucked into the last available space, merchandise from Pryde's overflowing onto counters and shelves. It might even be easy to miss the Upper Crust, hidden amongst salt and pepper shakers, spice jars and various forms of butter dishes and gravy boats. But the smell of warm sugar and flaky crust baking that wafts from the back of the store acts as a trail of bread crumbs for those looking for a tasty break from shopping.

Creaky wooden floors and a cheerful woman behind the counter welcome me as I enter the Upper Crust. As I survey the area, my eyes come to rest on the chalkboard hanging above the display case which presents the 13 varieties of full size and petite size pies that are available. Also being offered are four types of cookies, two types of quiches, two kinds of pie that can be bought by the slice and free water and coffee for all customers. I strike up an easy conversation with the woman behind the counter and the two other customers in the cozy room while trying to decide on what to order.

I settle on a slice of the French apple pie, without ice cream. The woman immediately disappears into the kitchen, reappearing moments later with my slice, still warm, although not from the oven, but the microwave. I am slightly disappointed in the thought of re-heated pie, especially because it cost me \$4.31 with tax.

Nevertheless, I am excited to try the pie that is boasted as being maybe even better than grandma's. Taking my place on a wobbly wooden stool, I dig into my generous portion. With the first bite, I find my grandma's pie still holds the title of the best pie I've ever tasted. I enjoy the crumbled topping, but am a little disappointed by the fruit filling, which is somewhat lacking in flavor. This is accompanied by a rather good, flaky crust, surpassed in taste only by my mother's and my grandmother's crusts. The only complaint I really have is, for the price, the fruit filling should be more flavorful.

As I continue making my way through my pie, I am never pressured to eat faster to give my place to other customers, even though there is only seating for ten. Unlike most servers in restaurants in Kansas City, the woman behind the counter seems delighted to answer all of my questions. When I am ready to leave, she offers a salutation from the kitchen, where she is getting more pies ready for the oven.

Overall, I am pretty satisfied with my experience at the Upper Crust. The friendly and caring service made up for the lack of flavor in the fruit filling. The next time I am hit with a craving for pie, I'll be heading for The Upper Crust. ★



Easy as pie ★ Pat Nuss prepares strawberry pie at The Upper Crust inside Pryde's store in Westport last Sat. The Upper Crust, which opened about a year ago, is open from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. PHOTO BY JAMIE HENRY-WHITE

Psychic drama captures real world, supernatural

KATE RAINEY



VIDEOPHILE

Most shows get worse the longer they stay on TV. "Medium" has gotten better with age.

"Medium," which airs Wednesdays at 9 p.m. on NBC, appears to fall into the cliché category "crime drama with a twist." Allison Dubois (Patricia Arquette) is a psychic who helps the district attorney of Phoenix solve crimes. But "Medium"

takes risks. The filmography differs from most shows. The show plays with camera angles to create a mood. In one episode, Allison dreams about a boy who fell into a well. The camera opens at the mouth of the well, pointed straight at the sky. It then slowly pulls back, dragging the viewer into the well. It felt like I was stuck at the bottom of a well. A show hasn't creeped me out like this since "The X-Files."

The show can be a little disturbing, but not grotesque. Because it draws the viewer into the storyline, it can play with your mind, grabbing you on an intellectual level, not simply grossing you out. In one of her dreams, Allison wakes up in the hospital after a terrible accident. She tries to get out of bed to go to the bathroom, complaining to the nurse that she can't feel her legs. She finally throws the blanket off her lower body to discover her legs were amputated at the knee. She repeatedly

screams "Where are my legs?" before it cuts to commercial. There was no blood, no violence, only the horrible scenario of waking up unable to walk. That was much scarier than any slasher film.

The Dubois family is also realistic. They aren't attractive in the Hollywood sense. Allison is built like a real woman; she's curvy, not stick-thin. She dresses like an adult, covering most of her body in a flattering, but modest way. Her husband is nerdy, not muscular. Her daughters look their ages, not like older actors pretending to be children. Because the characters seem like normal people, the supernatural quality of Allison and her daughters' dreams stand out even more. It also makes the concept of mediums plausible.

The show utilizes music to set a mood. Allison assists the district attorney in solving the murder of a young woman frozen in a block of ice inside a deep freezer.

The woman sends Allison dreams and visions involving snow. When Allison has a vision, light, almost cheesy flute music would play, which made me think of a winter wonderland. It was meant to be cheesy to offset the discovery of a young woman frozen in a slab of ice. It contributes to the dreamlike state. A dream about a snowstorm would be over-exaggerated, even cartoonish. It also provides an audible separation between dreams and reality, which can be hard to distinguish, since Allison predicts the future. By playing a certain song when she dreams or has a vision, it is easier to follow what is happening.

The creators of "Medium" have managed to give a hackneyed theme new life. They've revived the good-old crime drama, by developing an original perspective, innovative filmography and well-placed music. ★

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St. Teresa's Academy

★in brief

"Law and Order" lives on NBC and producer Dick Wolf agreed Sunday to keep "Law & Order" and its two spinoffs on the air for next year. "Law & Order: Criminal Intent" episodes will appear on USA network before airing on NBC. The deal promises the 18th season of "Law & Order" on NBC, making it the second longest-running network drama series next to "Gunsmoke."

senior year in review: pop culture

BY SARAH SMITH

Television:

We met the REAL housewives of Orange County, a group of strangers on a (supposedly) deserted island and men escaping from prison. Keifer Sutherland saved the world in 24 hours and we saw a slew of reality shows from Bravo - Top Chef, Top Design, Project Runway, Shear Genius. We learned Betty isn't really so ugly and watched a lot of lives be saved by some bizarre emergency room staffs. Overall, Hogan really did know best.

Music:

Justin had a comeback and brought sexy with him, Nelly Furtado was a promiscu-



Beyonce

ous girl and Kelis got bossy. Carrie Underwood slashed some tires, Fergie let down her London Bridge and the Pussy Cat Dolls loosened up some buttons. Young B ate some Chicken Noodle Soup (with a soda on the side) and Beyonce put everything she owns in a box to the left.

Most Quoted Movie:

Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of

Kazakhstan. "High Five!"

Best Movies:

The Departed, Dream Girls, The Devil Wears Prada, The Holiday, Little Miss Sunshine and High School Musical

Eco-Chic:

Trend of the year - Go Green! Al Gore and some inconvenient truths made America a little more aware of their consumption.

African Spotlight:

Thanks to celebrities like Madonna and Angelina Jolie, adoption and public awareness increased about Africa. It was

hot to adopt.

Fashion Watch:

Animal prints, cut off tights, thick high-waist belts, wedges and oversized purses (Sound like the 80's?).

Web-Trends:

YouTube brought in millions of viewers and sold to Google for \$1.65 billion. Facebook now controls 1 percent of total internet traffic.

Hot Couples:

Brangelina, TomKat, K Fed and Britney.

Senior pranks produce playful bonding during last days **Senior Shenanigans**



Loved STA ★ The seniors congregate outside of the M&A Building during 7/8 May 8. The students dressed up to celebrate their last hours in class before finals began on the following day. Seniors sang the school song and danced. **PHOTO BY CLAIRE MCINERNEY**



She shoots, she scores ★ Left: Senior Michelle McGill celebrates after hitting an underclassman with a waterballoon. Some seniors pelted the students as they exited the M&A Building after the spring sports pep rally. **PHOTO BY CLAIRE MCINERNEY**

Wet 'n wild ★ Far left: Seniors Michelle McGill, from left, Ciera Trejo and Cecilia Rebeck taunt students May 4 after school. The three seniors, along with others, caused mayhem on campus as students tried to avoid getting wet. **PHOTO BY CLAIRE MCINERNEY**

The senior class will be most remembered for their close-knit relationship. This class seemed especially close, like sisters. They bonded in many ways, from family lunches to playful lock-ins to mischievous pranks. The Class of 2007 will go down in STA history as setting the precedent for senior classes to come.



Run, Forrest, run ★ Seniors Andrea Johnson and Sarah Runnels walk back to class after a senior jog around the quad May 8. The costumed students made a song-filled lap around the quad before returning to their studies. **PHOTO BY CLAIRE MCINERNEY**

17 may 2007
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★in brief

- Senior timeline**
Sept. 15: Senior Field Day
Sept. 22: Breakfast in the Rose Garden at Loose Park
Oct. 26: Senior Lock-In at Emerald City
Dec. 19: Secret Santa held at Betsy McKinny's house
Jan. 2: Seniors lunch together
Apr. 12: Senior Retreat
Apr. 20: Prom
Apr. 30: Final decisions for colleges
May 3: Seniors lunch together
May 9-11: Senior Exams
May 17: Class Day
May 20: Graduation