

the

ST. TERESA'S ACADEMY

dart

volume 68★ issue 6★ february 19, 2009



What did she do!?!
 That is so weird!
 She is so ugly!
 Did you see her?
 dork
 freak!
 nerd
 Fatty loser!

war
of

words

What is she wearing!?!
 What was she thinking?
 That's dumb.

No one likes you!
 jerk!
 You're an idiot.
 OMG!



Students struggle with the difference between verbal teasing and bullying, both online and in person

see pages 12-13

Financing a future

Board approves \$7 million Capital Campaign; Bone's strategic plan moves forward

by TAYLOR BROWN
Copy Editor

A unanimous vote by the board of directors last month officially passed the new \$7 million Capital Campaign at STA.

After the evaluation of various surveys and feedback committees for the last few months, the board – with the help of a fund-raising organization called the Steier Group – came to the conclusion that they should go on with the plans to enact the Capital Campaign, which is a fund-raiser for various goals in the STA community.

“This was a very involved process especially in light of today’s difficult economic climate,” board member Terry O’Neill said. “The board conducted several meetings with less than a unanimous consensus. We only came to full agreement after discussion with the Steier Group and their in-depth interview process with several parents.”

For the most part, STA students came to a similar conclusion regarding the Campaign. On a survey given to random advisories last week, 74 percent of about 70 polled students answered “the plans this Campaign has in store are necessary for STA.”

The campaign, called “Inspiring Women,” constitutes the monetary aspect of president Nan Bone’s strategic plan for the next three to five years. According to Steier representative Bill Maloney, his job is to raise the money for the Campaign.

The Group’s financial plans consist of a series of phases, Maloney said. The first is called the preparation phase which consists of various preliminary tasks. Next, the silent phase includes the solicitation of donations from about 200 major gift prospects. The third phase is called the public phase. This phase will begin next school year, inviting alumni, parents and parents of alumni to donate to the Campaign funds.

Along the way, Bone plans to enact “kick-off” activities for the STA community, such as “Dancing with the Stars” to inform and excite students, parents and alumni of the Campaign process.

Once enough money is raised, STA can begin the physical construction of their goals, which includes four main points: technology, the renovation of the M&A Building, construction of a chapel and additional classrooms and increasing the endowment. ★

‘Inspiring Women’ Campaign

by TAYLOR BROWN
Copy Editor

Editor’s Note: The Dart surveyed the student body on the different aspects of the campaign. The following ratings are the results from the survey.

chapel construction

\$4 million

anticipation rating: medium-low
necessity rating: low



Bells will be ringing ★ The board plans on adding a chapel building with four additional classrooms, a museum and bell tower to the south side of Donnelly Hall. ARTWORK SUBMITTED

The estimated cost of the chapel is \$4 million. The chapel – proposed to be built just south of the Donnelly Building – has two important features according to Bone. Not only does it appreciate and respect “STA’s Catholic traditions and spiritual development,” but it will include four new classrooms, a gallery and bell tower.

“The construction of the chapel will create much needed space,” Bone said. “It’s too expensive to add on to our historic buildings, so the chapel is an alternative plan with many benefits.”

endowment

\$1 million

anticipation rating: low
necessity rating: medium-low

The estimated cost of endowment is \$1 million. Endowment is funds donated to an institution or group as a source of income. The endowment funds may appear in various forms, such as scholarships. Bone’s hope is to not become an “elitist school where if you really have the gifts to come to STA and money is an issue, as we grow our endowment, the more scholarships and help we can give to girls who are held back by money.” The estimated cost of \$1 million for endowment is a goal, however Bone ideally wishes to raise more.

technology

\$500,000

anticipation rating: high
necessity rating: medium-high

The estimated cost of technological additions is \$500,000. The main goal of the technology project is for STA to “become the best school in Kansas City with technology,” according to Bone. A technology committee is in place hoping to create an endowment for technology that will help implement visionary advancements. These may include a wireless campus, laptops, distance learning classrooms, “Kindles” (wireless reading devices) or a computer network update.

M&A renovation

\$1.5 million

anticipation rating: medium-high
necessity rating: high

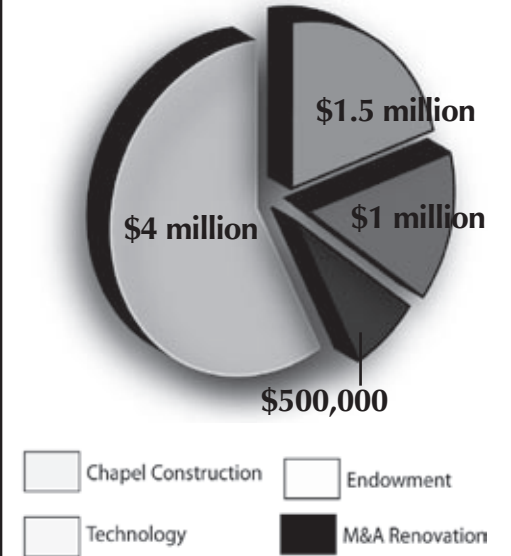
The estimated cost of the auditorium renovation is \$1.5 million. This renovation will be in two phases. The first phase includes the removal of the seats in the auditorium. The seats will be rebuilt, the auditorium painted and the organ removed. Next, the stage will be remodeled. This construction includes the enlargement of the stage and implementing a firewall on the stage. This aspect of the Campaign will include one of the “kick-off” events called “Take a Seat” which allows individuals or groups to buy a seat in the auditorium to contribute to the cost of construction.

This goal of the campaign will be the first change visible to STA students.



Au revoir, auditorium ★ Renovations of the historical M&A Building auditorium are planned for summer 2009 or 2010. PHOTO BY KYLIE HORNBECK

\$7 million potential bucks



GRAPHIC BY MICHELLE REICHMEIER

Campaigning timeline

now-april 2009

preparation phase

tasks: recruiting leaders, gathering materials, planning communications and evaluating databases

summer 2009/2010

tasks: removing and renovating auditorium seats and stage

renovation

april 2009-aug. 2009

silent phase

tasks: soliciting gifts from about 200 major donors, raise majority of funds

aug. 2009-dec. 2009

tasks: inviting alumnae, parents and parents of alumnae to donate to campaign funds

public phase

inside out



Close Up:
A look into teen sources of alcohol: local liquor stores knowingly sell alcohol to minors
See Page 8



Lifestyles:
The Dart staff puts infamous infomercial products to the test: Snuggie, Ped Egg, the Magic Bullet and others
See Page 11



Entertainment:
Best of KC: The Dart polls students to label the top 10 places in KC
See Page 17

STA to select Academy Woman



Smiling wide ★ From left, seniors Sherie Wallace, Katie Kenney and Jaime Henry-White are this year's nominees for the STA Academy Woman. Seniors and faculty voted to nominate the three, one of whom one will be chosen to represent the senior class. PHOTO BY ALLISON POINTER

Academy nominates three: Henry-White, Kenney, Wallace

by MADALYNE BIRD
Staff Writer

Each year, STA faculty, teachers and seniors vote to select one Academy Woman for the senior class. The Academy Woman represents the qualities of religious and moral character, sense of responsibility, outstanding school spirit, good sportsmanship, ability to command respect, leadership qualities, loyalty to STA, service to others and cooperation and helpfulness. This year, the three nominees include, in alphabetical order: Jaime Henry-White, Katie Kenney, and Sherie Wallace.

Jaime Henry-White

On Friday Jan. 30 senior Jaime Henry-White received many hugs and smiles walking through the halls and campus of STA. Her day had

been filled with congratulatory sayings of encouragement. She was an Academy Woman nominee. As she walked into her Ceramics class that afternoon her teacher Ms. Lisa Dibble joked about how she could use the period to call her father and tell him the exciting news.

"When I found out that I had been chosen, my heart jumped," Henry-White said. "I was so incredibly honored."

When she got into her father's car that afternoon after the final school bell had rung, she finally told him the exciting news. She was an Academy Woman nominee. Her father immediately dialed her mother on his cell phone. His daughter was an Academy Woman nominee.

"My parents just told me how proud they were of me," Henry-White said.

Their daughter was an Academy Woman nominee.

Through her happiness though, Henry-White remembered the two other nominees, seniors Katie Kenney and Sherie Wallace.

"Sherie and Katie are both huge leaders in ways that I think are both obvious and ambiguous," Henry-White said. "They know everyone in the school, they are so kind and full of school spirit, but most of all they are both so appreciative of their education. Both deserve to be Academy Woman."

Katie Kenney

Sitting in Ms. Arlene Hernon's advisory, senior Katie Kenney could not contain her smile. She had heard her name over the announcements that day. She was one of three that peers, teachers and faculty selected from 130. Students stopped her in the halls to congratulate her and give her hugs, and Kenney did not know how to respond.

"How do you say thank you for such an honor?" Kenney asked.

Arriving home, Kenney told her parents who hugged her and told her how proud they were.

"My parents were so happy when I told them," Kenney said. "They both can't wait to see if I win or not."

They kept asking me, 'How's that essay going?' when I was writing it."

However, Kenney does not forget the two other women she is up against for the award.

"[Sherie and Jaime] both have the sweetest hearts, they are both so intelligent and so deserving," Kenney said. "I can't imagine our class without either of those girls."

Sherie Wallace

For senior Sherie Wallace, Friday Jan. 30 was a normal day. Nothing exciting had happened. It was just another day at the Academy.

After mods 7-8 she took her usual spot in Ms. Denise Rueschhoff's advisory to wait for announcements. As Wallace listened to the loudspeaker she heard the office begin to read off the three nominees for Academy woman.

"Jaime Henry-White," Ms. Marion Chartier read.

"Aww Jaime, she's a good choice," Wallace thought.

"Katie Kenney," Chartier continued.

"Oh, Katie! Another good choice!" Wallace thought.

Chartier read the next name and Wallace felt she must have misunderstood. She had thought they had read her name. Rueschhoff let out a tiny yell. The advisory started clapping, Wallace's mouth dropped, her eyes widened. Shock.

"Is this for real?" Wallace thought.

Senior Tatiana Ambrose looked at Wallace.

"You seriously didn't know people were voting for you?" Ambrose asked.

She did not. Wallace was amazed by how her peers and the faculty viewed her.

"It was quite a day," Wallace said. "This is such a big deal. It is an honor to even be recognized as someone who exemplifies the characteristics of an Academy Woman, of a woman who is doing things period, is amazing."

After school, Wallace announced the news of her nomination to her mother. Although her mother was unsure what the award was, her aunt, an STA alumna, screamed in excitement.

"You made it?" her aunt screamed. "Well let's get to work on that essay then!" ★

DARTBOARD

by LINNY KAUFMAN, AVERY ADAMS,
SHAUGHNESSY MILLER
AND MICHELLE REICHMEIER

Debate duo ranks second

Seniors Mandy Prather and Emily Orndoff currently hold the second place ranking in Parliamentary Debate in Kansas City.

The partners attend each debate at a host school. At the tournament, they receive a topic and are told whether to argue the affirmative or opposing viewpoint. Then the seniors receive fifteen minutes to plan before the debate begins against a pair of students from a different school.

"We're actually undefeated right now for the season," Orndoff said. "We're pretty proud of that."

Four juniors and two seniors make up the STA Debate team. The Parliamentary Debate Championship will be held April 18. Orndoff believes she and Prather will face the Notre Dame de Sion pair, currently ranked first in the city, at that tournament. She hopes the two will perform their best said it should be an interesting day.

Avila honors STA artwork

The artwork of senior Mollie Caffey and juniors Rachel Knox and Rebecca Oyler has been selected for display at the Avila University High School Invitational art exhibition. Senior Katie Gassman's piece was also considered for entry and received honorable mention.

According to Oyler, the exhibition accepts all types of artwork, including block prints like her piece.

"[Block prints are] like a stamp of your drawing," Oyler said. "I didn't expect to get into it. It's pretty cool."

Their art will be shown in the Thornhill Gallery at Avila University Sunday Feb. 22 through Friday Feb. 27 from noon to 3 p.m.

'Exhibit This!' to show tonight

STA's production of "Exhibit This! The Museum Comedies" opens tonight at 7pm in the M&A auditorium.

According to cast member junior Becca Sommerhauser, this production is extremely unique. Because theater director Shana Prentiss handpicked the scenes of "Exhibit This!", the play is shorter than the musical performed earlier this school year, with no intermission. The set also adds to the play's distinctiveness. The stage features hanging picture frames that move up and down, a technique that has not been done recently in an STA production.

This fast-paced series of comedic plays and monologues is based on exhibits found in the famous Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. The author's web site features an advertisement for the production. Additional show dates include Feb. 20 - 21.

Stars to play at Rockhurst

After about a year of debate, athletic director Mike Egnor and the STA administration have decided to play all of the Stars' soccer home games at Rockhurst University on Troost Rd.

STA arrived upon the decision because the synthetic, or turf, field held at Rockhurst, will prevent rained out games which the team has struggled with in the past. Also, the overall atmosphere at Rockhurst is appealing, according to Egnor.

The Stars will continue to practice at STA, but will use Rockhurst's field for all home games.

Teachers bond over weekly trivia game

STA history, English teachers discover a common thread through Thursday night trivia

by MOLLIE POINTER
Staff Writer

STA teachers of the history and English departments bond over a game of trivia at the Westport Flea Market nearly every week. English teacher Mr. Kelly Fast brought the trivia tradition to STA, suggested at the lunch duty the majority of the team share.

"It's a nice group of guys," Fast said. "We're all about the same age and it just works out really well."

The table includes English department teachers Fast, Mr. Eric Thomas and Mr. Stephen Himes and social studies department teachers Mr. Craig Whitney and Mr. Richard Shrock.

As the participants of trivia night walk through the door, they each pay \$5 that is put toward the first place prize. Shrock explained the teachers compete against a usual 15 to 20 teams and have placed in the top four almost every week. The team is able to score points by answering a question of a given category. Questions are ranked from one to five points. The team received a first place winning in January, splitting \$160 seven ways.

"I think [our winning] is due more to the weakness of the rest of the crowd," Whitney said. "We're just in it for fun."

According to Fast, he has been attending the Flea Market's trivia night for about a year. Fast had been apart of the weekly get-together at his old teaching job in the Shawnee Mission School District. Fast's Shawnee Mission friends have continued to attend, joining the STA teachers.

Himes said since being a new teacher at STA, he feels [trivia night] has been a bonding experience. The Kansas University alumnus participated in trivia games in college, including one on television hosted by a friend of his.

"When it wasn't basketball night I would go and watch," Himes said. "I only went on air once and lost. I was the law student who missed the question on the Constitution."

Although Whitney feels he might not be the strongest player at the table, he enjoys sharing the time with his co-workers.

"We have a cold beverage, swap stories we've agreed not to tell," Whitney said. "Once in a great while I know something but about 90 percent of the time I have no idea what's going on."

According to Whitney, he enjoys the "bros night out" and hopes to see it continue. ★

Trivia Participants



Mr. Kelly Fast
Mr. Stephen Himes
Mr. Richard Shrock
Mr. Eric Thomas
Mr. Craig Whitney

Obama signs bill for women's rights

Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act to protect working women from gender discrimination

by SHAUGHNESSY MILLER
Staff Writer

President Barack Obama endorsed a bill Jan. 29 that works to give justice to women who have experienced discrimination in their wages. The Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, Obama's first bill since taking office, extends the length of time women can file a lawsuit against a discriminatory employer.

When Ms. Lilly Ledbetter attempted to file a lawsuit, the law required women to file a lawsuit 180 days after the first discriminatory paycheck. Congress denied reimbursement for Ledbetter because she did not file a lawsuit within the necessary time frame.

A number of members of Congress pioneered the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act in 2007 to extend the length of time someone could file a complaint or lawsuit over discriminatory pay. Under this act, the time period begins when the woman first learns of the discrimination.

In "Blueprints for Change," an online PDF that outlines Obama's plans as the president, the Obama campaign promised to change the outcome of Lilly's case for others in the future. When he signed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act Jan. 29, Obama fulfilled that promise.

"And I sign this bill for my daughters and all those who will come after us, because I want them to grow up in a nation that values their contributions, where there are no limits to their dreams and they have opportunities their mothers and grandmothers never could have imagined," Obama said to those present at the signing of the act.

The act could potentially affect futures of women at STA. It is not uncommon to experience gender discrimination in a corporate setting, according to Ms. Kelly Drummond who previously worked at an insurance agency.

"I actually have had men promoted to positions I was more qualified for," Drummond said. "I never filed a lawsuit, but I did go to my supervisor and he did try to convince me that the man was more qualified than me, but I'd been there longer."

She supported the bill because "any time

you pass legislation to protect people, it's a good thing." However, she said she could see people filing complaints who have not actually experienced discrimination.

Mr. Bill Martucci, a local employment attorney, agrees that the bill may have positive and negative effects.

"The Act serves many laudatory purposes," Martucci said in an e-mail. "Unfortunately, the Act contributes to the avalanche of employment litigation in America. As a result, there must be a careful balancing of the growth of employment litigation (which is expensive and time-consuming) with the importance of fundamental interests for equal opportunity and equal protection for all."

Ledbetter had worked at Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. for 19 years and was about to retire early in 1998. She received an anonymous note in her mailbox stating that she had been earning less than her male counterparts for doing the same job. According to an article by the Agence France-Presse, the note included information about the salaries of three other night shift supervisors. Ledbetter was earning \$3,727 a month while men of her rank were earning between \$4,286 and \$5,236.

Ledbetter filed a complaint to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) that recommended filing a lawsuit.

In Nov. 1998 Ledbetter sued Goodyear under the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Equal Pay Act of 1963.

The district courts supported Goodyear on the Equal Pay Act of 1963. Though the act states that employers do not have the right to discriminate based on sex, it allowed pay discrimination based on work performance. However, they agreed to hear her argument under the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

This act states that it is "unlawful employment practice" to discriminate "against any individual's... sex." The court found in Ledbetter's favor and rewarded her over three million dollars in compensation.

Goodyear retaliated and claimed that, under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, women who felt they had been discriminated against must file all claims within 180 days of the discriminatory action by the employer. In response, Ledbetter requested a writ of certiorari, or a review of the case by a higher court, and the Supreme Court agreed to hear the case.

Ledbetter argued in Supreme Court that in the 180-day period, she had not been discrimi-



Hand-off ★ President Barack Obama hands his pen to Ms. Lilly Ledbetter after signing the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act in the East Room of the White House Jan. 29. After working for Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. for 19 years, Ledbetter discovered that she was the lowest-paid supervisor although having more experience with the company than a number of her male coworkers. PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

nated against, but the still felt the effects during that time. The court rejected these claims and ruled in favor of Goodyear. In addition, they denied her claim that each check was another discriminatory act and initiated another 180-day period because she couldn't prove the checks were discriminatory.

"My case is over," Ledbetter said at the

Democratic National Convention Aug. 25 through 28, 2008. "I will never receive the pay I deserve. But there will be a far richer reward if we secure fair pay. For our children and grandchildren, so that no one will ever again experience the discrimination that I did. Equal pay for equal work is a fundamental American principle." ★

Mayor proposes programs to improve city



Eyes on him ★ Fourth district city councilwoman Beth Gottstein, left, speaks with Mayor Mark Funkhouser after attending a city council meeting in the Kansas City Council Chambers last Thursday. The city's approval rating for Funkhouser and the City Council has dropped to its lowest of 23 percent in nearly four years with overall city services satisfaction at 45 percent. PHOTO BY JAIME HENRY-WHITE

Low approval ratings inspire Funkhouser to redefine image

by MICAH WILKINS
Staff Writer

Mayor Mark Funkhouser recently proposed new programs to redefine the city government as well as his own image.

According to the 2008 Kansas City citizen survey, satisfaction with the Mayor and the City Council is at 23 percent, the lowest rating for elected officials in four years. Citizens' satisfaction overall with city services is at 45 percent, while satisfaction with capital maintenance is at 18 percent.

"Even in a year as bad as I've had, my biggest disappointment was when I saw this year's citizen satisfaction scores," Funkhouser said in the State of the City address, delivered Jan. 25.

Despite the city's approximate \$90 million shortfall, Funkhouser has announced initiatives to better the city government while attracting residents. The Mayor's proposals include weekly televised meetings with the city manager and his staff and the New Tools initiative, to improve distressed neighborhoods, according to Funkhouser's Assistant Crispin Rea.

"The whole idea behind the Mayor's initiatives is to bring attention to the top services important to Kansas Citizens," Rea said. "The number one priority is to see the scores go up, which, in turn, means we're doing something right."

Mayor Funkhouser also seeks to improve his image in light of the legal challenge he, his wife Gloria Squitiro and their daughter Tara Squitiro filed in November against the state court and in response to allegations involving Gloria.

"The problem with his wife has been a huge distraction," social studies teacher Patrick Serridge said. "It projects the image of Kansas City as a poorly-run government."

Funkhouser appealed to the financial preparedness group, a group of civic leaders, for help in leading the city through its difficult financial times according to Rea.

One of the city's largest problems, the Mayor said, is the loss of 100,000 citizens from the urban core in the past 40 years.

"We, as a municipal government, have disinvested in the urban core for decades," Funkhouser said. "This is what we get."

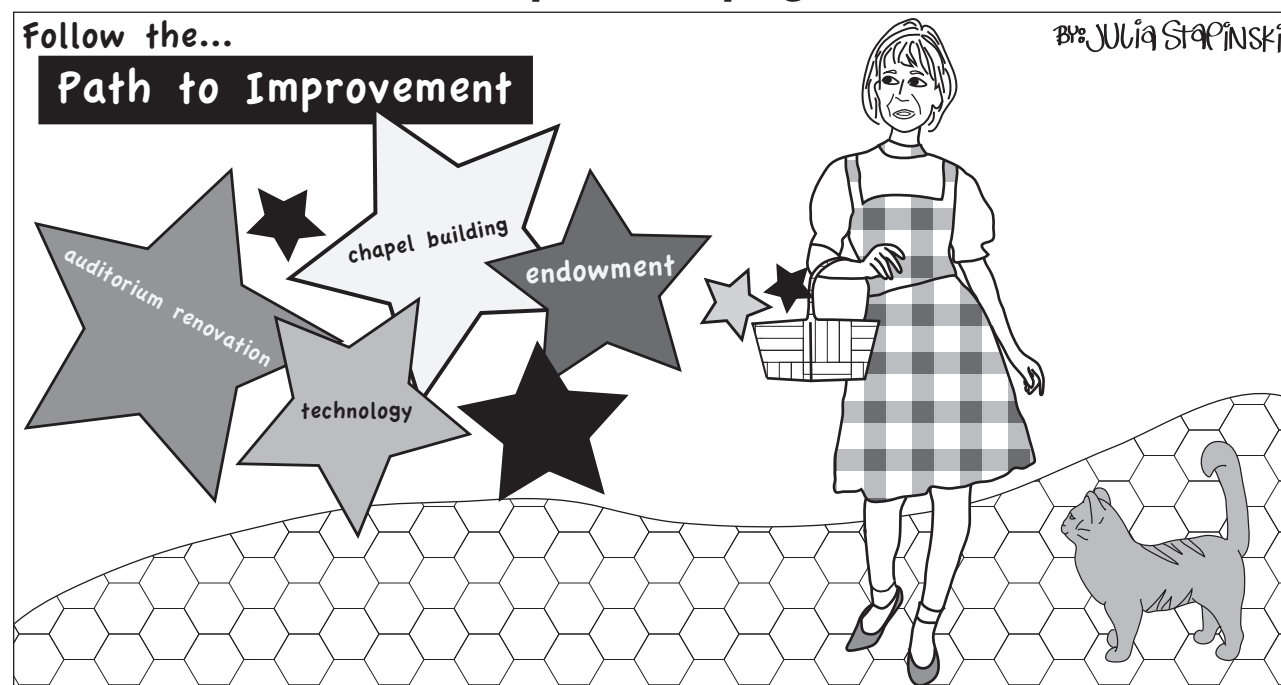
The Mayor plans to create new city staff positions in order to ensure that citizens are more informed and more engaged in their city government. The positions include community organizers and volunteer co-

See FUNKHOUSER, page 22



Funkhouser

Capital Campaign



Nan can't campaign on her own; let's raise \$7 million STA

A decision was made Jan. 28 in the board of directors that will change the face of the community over the next ten years, drastically more than other possible policy changes such as tweaking the grading scale or adding sweater-vests to the uniform. If you knew what this decision regarded (before reading page 2 of *The Dart*), we applaud you! If you didn't, we're not shocked, and we'll go ahead and fill you in: the 21 members of the school board voted unanimously Jan. 28 to charge full speed ahead with a multi-million-dollar Capital Campaign, with four umbrella goals for improving the school.

The goals of the campaign are wide-reaching: to make STA the most technologically advanced school in the city, to build a chapel on the south side of Donnelly Hall (simultaneously adding six classroom spaces), to renovate the auditorium and to increase the endowment to provide more financial aid and scholarships.

Clearly, these are goals that everyone in the STA community can agree are necessary. Teachers and students are in desperate need of classroom space and our technology is moving at a backwards rate. With steadily increasing tuition, more scholarships and financial aid are needed yet there is little money to hand out to students who deserve to come to STA. The auditorium and stage are ancient and decrepit and a giant useless organ obstructs the vision of anyone sitting in the left wing.

How many times the past year have you heard one or all of the above complained about around the lunch table? In a free? During class? More importantly, as you complained, were you aware that administrators were trying to improve the things that desperately needed improvement?

As students, we are the heart and drive of STA, yet we make ourselves the least informed and aware of decision-making. Decision-making that is made for and about us. Lack of information about positive changes going on in the community leads to general discontent and hostility amongst students, which decreases school spirit and makes for a lot of whining.

Personally, we at *The Dart* are tired of complaints heard over the lunch table about this or that which STA is lacking. It's time that STA students recognize the efforts and initiative taken for them, efforts to improve

The staff editorial represents the views of *The Dart* editors

13 out of 14 editors voted in support of this editorial.

their school and better their quality of education. Quit whining about the speaker system in the auditorium, the whole place is being revamped and renovated next summer! Quit complaining about lack of classroom space, a whole new addition to the school is being added! Quit complaining about the computers from the 90's, we may all get laptops! STA is in a constant state of improvement, and if we're supportive that improvement will only occur more quickly.

As students we should be aware every step of the way throughout this Capital Campaign, because it affects us more than anyone else. As students, we have the responsibility to include ourselves in processes that revolve around us.

Last year President Nan Bone held small focus groups amongst students, faculty and community members to see which direction she should take as the new leader for the school. She also sent out mailings to families and distributed surveys to the student body as the first round of a several year campaign. Now it's her second year here, the campaign is approved and its time for Nan to pump it up. Don't just mail letters home to our parents, get the students excited! Make announcements! Create posters! Hold fund-raisers!

President Bone informed *The Dart* she is planning a "State of the School" Address this spring, and plans to make this an annual event. We at *The Dart* applaud this effort. The STA community will function better if all are aware of its current status, and such excitement will boost school spirit.

However, as far as the Capital Campaign goes, it's time to spread the good news. *The Dart* recommends the school board release a pamphlet or handout to the STA community. This information should describe the process of the Campaign, its major goals and their timeliness and how these goals will be met. It should introduce the leaders behind the Campaign to the community, as well as introduce people who have donated to the campaign and publicize ways for the rest of the community to be involved.

The Dart respects the initiative President Bone, administrators and the board members constantly take to mold STA into a perfect community for everyone. However, we believe it's time to get the community excited, so that everyone is perfectly aware that STA is not in a stagnant state, but is in the midst of a Capital Campaign and moving down a constant path of improvement. ★

Laying down a moral foundation; Jesus or Emerson? I call it 'Thiterature'

AN OPINION BY



SUSIE ANCONA

"Look before you leap"... "The value is in the worth, not the number." We see these common morals throughout numerous stories and famous writings in literature. But think: have you ever perceived these wise sayings from a different source than your massive textbook? I'll give you a hint: think of a man with long brown hair, a beard and sandals. Yes, Jesus is the man I'm talking about.

As Catholics, we generally base our morals on the actions, words

and guidance of Jesus. At STA, the theology courses we take often have a moral foundation, derived from the Bible, Jesus and other religious teachings. The literature courses often address the same morals, but in a more artistic and intellectual way.

Although I am a Catholic in a Catholic high school, I do not believe I learn my morals completely from religion classes. I learn my morals as I live each day. As I have progressed in my years at STA, I have developed a state of mind that is both more intellectually and morally aware. As my understanding and absorption of literature has advanced, so has my appreciation and understanding of religious morals.

There is an evident connection between the works of theology and literature. Sure, theology may seem to be about memorizing the Ten Commandments. Likewise, your literature class may seem to teach you about what one particular object sym-

bolizes. But what is at the essence of these two subjects? (This is the part where you say: "Morality!").

Take the famous author, Ralph Waldo Emerson, for instance. In *Self Reliance* he said, "My life is not an apology, but a life." With this

Pairing this feeling with our morals, we merely deal with right and wrong, allowing us to judge the circumstances and make individual decisions.

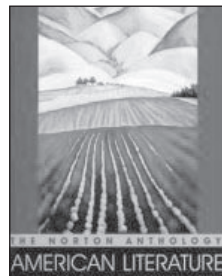
I believe Emerson's message reveals that we should not preoccupy

ply live.

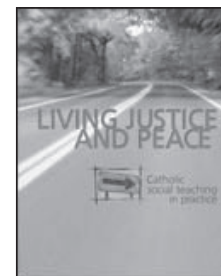
So which is more effective: theology or literature? For me, literature has been the more inspiring of the two. Well yeah, reading about Joseph and his rainbow coat did catch my attention. But it did not churn my conscience (No offense Mr. Bertalott...or Joseph.) Specifically the literature I have read this year has made me think about life and how I live it. That is what moves me.

The Bible, in all truth, is literature. Why not combine a theology and literature class? Obviously, both sides of the equation have something valuable to offer.

To me, it seems that as we progress each year as students at STA, the morals in literary works become stronger and more influential, such as those taught to us in theology classes. So why not take that to the next level, and see if we can really "suck all the marrow out of life" as Thoreau once said? ★



AP American literature text book: "The Norton Anthology of American Literature"



Social concerns text book: "Living Justice and Peace: Catholic Social Teaching in Practice"

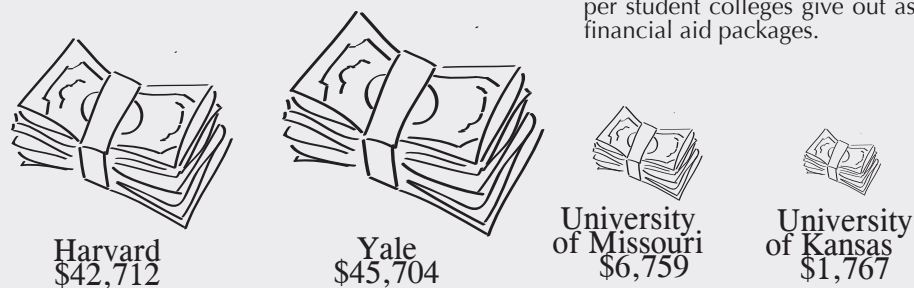
short quote, Emerson revealed an immense, inherent human trait: we all feel the need to be sorry for some reason or another in life.

ourselves with always trying to be right, and apologizing when we are incorrect. We should experience, learn, grow, feel, embrace and sim-

How much money do colleges allot for need-based aid?

GRAPHIC BY ROSIE HODES

The following figures denote the average amount of money per student colleges give out as financial aid packages.



Spend money to make money: solid stimulus plan will work

AN OPINION BY



CAROLINE QUINN

In our government class, we have devoted the past several weeks to dissecting and discussing the national budget, taxing and spending. There are two heated debates that have rolled themselves into one - should Americans get another stimulus package, and if so, shouldn't it involve more tax cuts? The conversation usually involves a feisty friend who sits behind me screeching from her soap box, with me nodding my head intermediately or adding a "say it, sister." I have remained relatively quiet in my corner seat, but cannot stay silent any longer. Our country need a stimulus package to bring our economy out of dead water and give us not only a financial boost, but a bit of hope.

Almost 600,000 more Americans lost their jobs in January, making it "the single worst month of job loss in 35 years," according to President Barack Obama. The nation's unemployment rate flails at 7.6 percent (and this rate does not even include those who have been unemployed for longer than six months), and specifically the outlook in Missouri is not bright. In an National Public Radio broadcast last week, I heard the Missouri unemployment offices (which help people survive financially while they are between jobs) have recently run out of funds. We need a stimulus package, and particularly one that creates jobs for the future. One part of the package that stands out to me is the COPS Program, or Community Oriented Policing Services. The program was essentially eliminated under President W. Bush, who believed the federal government should not pay for local police salaries. With the \$1 billion the stimulus plan could provide, local departments across the country will add 100,000 police to the workforce over eight years. The money would not be diverted into a DARE project or upkeep of a police station's rest rooms. "In police hiring, nearly 100 percent of the money goes to creating jobs," said Sen. Patrick J.

Leahy, the Vermont Democrat who is chairman of the Judiciary Committee. This comes at a time when local governments are forced to cut budgets and officers, further dragging the economy as well as creating higher crime rates. The formula is simple: more financial strangles, more crime. The proposal would provide two-fold relief.

Much of the stimulus package is focused on becoming a more energy efficient nation. The plan will work to make federal buildings more green, as well as weatherize 2 million Americans homes. It has millions set aside for renewable energy, national parks and energy efficiency programs. Again: jobs, jobs, jobs.

If you're worried the plan does not provide enough tax cuts, consider this: The Senate recently voted to expand the economic stimulus package with a tax credit for homebuyers of up to \$15,000. This measure would address one root cause of the recession.

In the area of education, the Senate has suggested a \$2,500 higher-education tax credit. If people receive an education, they can obtain decent jobs and contribute to the economy.

For businesses, there are several Senate proposed tax provisions, such as the addition of research and development credits and bonus reduction credits, allowing companies to write off a share of the cost of investments they made last year. This encourages families to start businesses.

And back to the focus on energy efficiency, the plan offers tax credits to people buying solar cars and homes.

The price tag on the package - not far from a trillion dollars - is intimidating. While our deficit grows by an estimated \$3.45 billion a day, according to brillig.com, and we are indebted to too many foreign countries, restoring our country still needs to be at the front of our minds. The stimulus package offers something for virtually everyone; it provides relief to students, families, small businesses, corporations, etc. This is not the "welfare package" as some of my right-wing challengers have proclaimed. We must keep focus on our goals, however. The smartest way to invest our nation's money is to funnel it into projects that foster new jobs and maintain existing ones. If we're going to fork over \$789 billion, I expect considerable and permanent improvement in our economy. And I think this is the package that could make it happen. ★

I wish I had applied to Harvard...

AN OPINION BY



BIANCA DANG

As an eighteen-year-old finishing high school, money is on my mind. As much as I wish the money I think about is for frivolous high school expenses, it is actually for paying for my college education. And what an expense it is. Looking back on my application process, I really wish I had applied to Harvard.

Harvard? Really? The word itself just screams money. Strangely enough, Harvard has one of the best financial aid policies out of any college or university in the country. If your family income is between \$120,000 and \$180,000 per year, tuition is ten percent of your gross income. The percentage you pay steadily decreases as your income lessens from \$120,000 and if your family income is \$60,000 or less, you pay nothing. Nothing. Harvard is a better deal for most middle-income families than a state school.

I'm not saying that I would have been accepted to Harvard if I had applied, but the financial policy alone is incentive. And, though the school may not have had the most sincere reason for changing the policy (perhaps spurred by a potential Congressional bill) I still give it props.

It has been the leader in a sweep of financial aid changes in the majority of the nation's most prestigious universities. At some of the other prestigious schools, even if I am accepted, there is a hefty chance that I won't be able to afford it. As generous as their financial aid packages are, many of the schools still cost over \$50,000 to attend, and their packages are just not enough.

This leads to another questionable area of the college application process. It seems contradictory that the most selective schools are also the most generous. It makes sense when I consider all of their benefactors and alumni, but it's also as if they are teasing any student that wishes to afford a top-tier school. To many students, such schools would likely be one of the most affordable, but affordability does not equal acceptance. Harvard is an excellent example here. Even though they have, in my opinion, the best financial aid in the country, they also had over 27,000 applicants last year. According to Naviance, a web based college search and application pool, Harvard accepted 8.84 percent of their applicants. So basically Harvard (and schools like it who have good financial aid such as Vanderbilt University and Swarthmore College) is teasing me with such an amazing education at an affordable price.

Once acceptance and rejection letters start to arrive, I face the prospect of not being able to attend my "dream school" because I cannot pay for it.

Come May 1 on college declaration day, there is a good chance I will be naming a school I really do not want to attend based on the fact that it's all I can afford. So, now that my application process is complete, I really wish I had applied to Harvard. ★

White House transition to president with better reputation leaves cartoonists with blank slate

AN OPINION BY



JULIA STAPINSKI

President Barack Obama's inauguration into the presidential office has renewed America's hope and optimism in a time of struggle and turmoil. However, the recent transition between presidents has left several political cartoonists hopeless and pessimistic in their pursuit of drawing material.

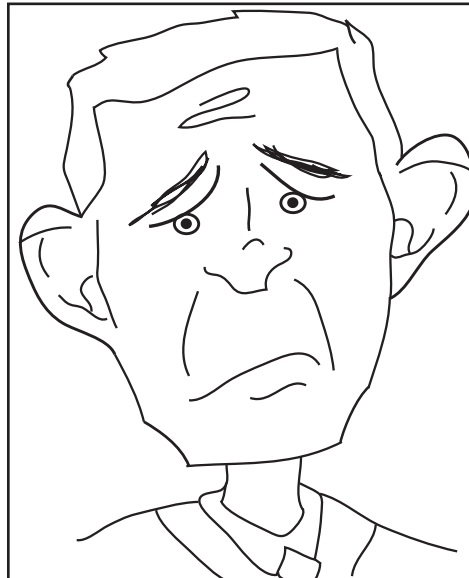
Various left-wing cartoonists have commented that George W. Bush's exaggerated facial expressions, animated features, and generally unpopular political choices over the course of his eight-year stay in the White House make him an easy subject for their cartoons. Obama's cool demeanor and handsome face have removed this sense of ease from satirical presidential cartooning for the rest of his term, or at least until he makes his first unpopular decision.

In a recent interview for political news web site Politico.com, Pulitzer Prize winning cartoonist Pat Oliphant described his frustration with caricaturing President Obama versus the familiarity he experienced drawing Bush.

"I don't know that I've ever had this experience before..." Oliphant said. "This is an antagonistic art. We're supposed to concentrate on finding things wrong. There's no point in drawing a cartoon that's favorable."

Because I am not very experienced when it comes to caricatures, the act of caricaturing anyone at all, regardless of who they are, is somewhat difficult for me. Also, I have never been asked to draw either the former or current president until now, and I probably never will be again-- The Dart tries to reflect STA's conservative standpoint in our discussion of political issues.

I love drawing for The Dart and get excited in a really dorky way every time I think about it, but I feel that my niche in cartooning lies more along the lines of light-hearted comedy than singeing political satire. ★



Practicing Portraits★ The Dart's cartoonist attempts to empathize with professional cartoonists by creating caricatures of President Bush and President Obama. **CARTOONS BY JULIA STAPINSKI**



Caricature Gold ★ During the presidency of George Bush, many cartoonists drew him unfavorably such as Pat Oliphant's depiction as a cowboy. So far, Obama has not made enough unpopular decisions to inspire comical caricatures. OLIPHANT ©2004 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE. Reprinted with permission. All rights reserved. **CARTOON BY PAT OLIPHANT**

Letters to the editor

Enthusiasm for Acceptance

I accept the pertinence of my quote to Elizabeth Wilson's article, "Move it or lose it; I am in a hurry," featured in the latest issue of The Dart, and I take responsibility for having said it; however I would like to clarify. To all those freshmen whom I may have offended: I don't hate you, despite some of your failures to comply with the unwritten rules of the hallway. In light of the cultural awareness assembly which most of us attended on February 2nd, I'm really excited about this opportunity to potentially change and improve the STA campus. I hope you will all share the enthusiasm I feel toward this topic and we can all embrace an increased sense of openness and acceptance here at STA-- not only between races and social factions, but also between classes.

Maddy Fox, junior

Assembly woes

As the STA girls walked into the Cultural Awareness Assembly this year, most knew that the assembly was going to be different, but I doubt they expected what it turned out to be. Our previously cherished assembly ended up being an opportunity for a complete outsider to come into our school and literally yell over and over that the STA students are "cake eaters," AKA people who reject racial diversity. He turned "cultural diversity" into a race-oriented issue. Since when is culture only about race? This man did not know any of us personally, yet he assumed that we were racist, thanks to the opinions of a very select group of girls. On top of all his other degrading comments, he sarcastically replied, "Everyone thinks that their part is having one black friend," when a girl shared how she helps improve cultural diversity. I am offended that we chose such an ignorant speaker to come to our school and insult our students. A very small group of girls and teachers decided to rearrange the Cultural Awareness Assembly that girls looked forward to each year. They did not represent the wants of the majority. In fact, they excluded the majority. One girl asked if she could be involved again, and was told that she wasn't "culturally diverse enough." That is absolutely ridiculous. I never thought I would be this disappointed in a St. Teresa's activity. I would, however, like to commend the lunch-time activities, for they were actually culturally diverse, but in regard to the assembly, I am just disgusted.

Paige Kuhlmann, senior

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Council adds new class options

STA curriculum council adds classes, available upcoming school year

by MEGAN SCHAFF
Staff Writer

STA faculty and staff are adding additional classes for next school year, including astronomy, digital photography and improvisation, as well as changes to the English department and anatomy class. The administration hopes that increasing both the number and type of classes offered at STA will allow students to prepare for college as well as find different career options and interests they want to pursue.

"More classes give students another avenue to pursue and discover what they like," principal for academic affairs Nancy Hand said.

According to president Nan Bone, the staff and the curriculum council, made up of the heads of each department, are always looking to improve the curriculum and give students more options.

"We are always evaluating," Bone said. "[Students are] ready to go on to [their] next level of learning, so it's our job to look at what should be in a college prep curriculum. We base our decisions on what's best for students."

Although it is always a top priority to prepare students for college, Bone thinks it is important to have interesting classes as well.

"If I was a student I'd be lined up to get into any of these classes," Bone said. "They all seem so interesting."

According to the 2009-2010 program of studies, the digital photography class will teach students about the composition of photographs along with the technical aspect of photography. The class will focus on teaching the basics of photography and will involve a variety of projects throughout the year.

Course Additions: Below are the new classes that have been added to the 2009-2010 course catalog.				
Class	Grade levels	Prerequisites	Length of Course	Content
Astronomy	10-12	Physical science or physics, enrolled in Algebra II	One semester	Introductory look into the composition and structure of the universe, motion of objects within it
Anatomy and Physiology II	10-12	Anatomy and physiology I, general biology	One semester	Designed for those with interests in the field of medicine, examines human organ systems
Digital Photography	10-11	Digital camera with manual shutter speed, aperture, ISO settings	One semester	Introductory techniques of taking photographs and digitally enhancing them, both technical and compositional principles of photography
Great Books in Literature	11-12	None	One semester	Intensive reading and analyzing of both classic and modern literature from around the world
Improvisation	11-12	Teacher signature	One semester	Study the improvisation and acting techniques in the comedic genre
Women in Literature	11-12	None	One semester	Study of the contribution of women in poetry, novel, short story, and drama

ects throughout the year.

Sophomore Kelly Clay is interested in photography and thinks a photography class would be a great addition.

"I just bought a new Digital Single Lens Reflex [camera] and I want to learn everything I can about it," Clay said. "I have been experimenting and reading manuals but if we had a class I would be able to do so much more with my camera."

According to Clay, the digital photography class will appeal to students who love taking pictures, but are not interested in writing.

"A lot of students like photography but don't want to take journalism, or they took it and they didn't like the journalism part," Clay said. "I am not very good at writing and plus I don't re-

ally enjoy it, but I love to take pictures."

Physics teacher Terry Conner thinks her new Astronomy class will also appeal to a different group of students. Conner said the science department wanted to add a physical science elective since most of the classes offered are life sciences.

Although Conner said the class will not be "all fun and games," the class will most likely include group work and night sky observations, where students will identify different stars, constellations and planets.

Conner hopes that she can interest her future students in one of her passions.

"Personally I think [astronomy is] fascinating," Conner said. "I think that most people are

intrigued by space travel and what's out there."

According to Hand, in order for a class to be added, teachers must come up with the idea, then submit a course description and explain why STA needs the class.

"Teachers are the driving force," Hand said. "They like to make changes and they're always looking to enhance what we offer to students."

Bone agrees STA students benefit from teachers' individual interests.

"If a teacher has a passion about something, that's ideal," Bone said. "You can take that passion the teacher has and develop a curriculum around it. And the students are the ones that benefit." ★

STA to convert to online grading

Rockhurst shifts to online grading, STA plans to follow

by TAYLOR IRWIN
Staff Writer

With society migrating more and more toward a technologically dependent lifestyle, schools like Rockhurst High School are no different. Teachers are now posting each student's individual grade on the school website, in the open for parents to keep track of their son's grades in his current classes.

Parents are each given their own user account equipped with a password and unique username where grades are updated weekly.

"It's a useful tool," Mr. Dan Kalen said, father of Rockhurst junior Alex Kalen. "[Alex] has good grades and I make sure he does his homework, but it's nice to see everything laid out."

However, some Rockhurst student's are not happy with the new grade system.

"I think it's dumb," Rockhurst junior John Bazin said. "I don't like it because it treats us like kids. Our parents should be on our case about grades because it's their job, but this takes it too far because you're going to have parents that maybe freak out if you have a missing homework assignment but the truth is you're gone and they just haven't graded it yet."

According to STA's academic scheduler, Kathy Walters, STA will make the transition to online grades with a similar system to Rockhurst's.

"In 2011 is when we'll switch [to online grades]," Walters said. "It's easier for parents to keep track of grades, especially since some teachers don't send out the e-mails."

When presented with the idea of online grades becoming a part of STA, students have mixed opinions.

"Well, if only the parent's see then yeah I wouldn't have a problem with it," freshman Brenna Scott said. "It's a good way to see your daughter's grades without waiting for progress reports. If you're doing your work and trying your best, it's nothing for the girls to stress over, either."

Junior Tess Distefano thinks that here at STA we already have a similar arrangement.

"Well, we basically have that already with the e-mails," Distefano said. "But if I had a choice I'd say no mainly because we are a college prep academy, and in college we won't have that."

According to sophomore Casey Miller, her grades are up to her to keep and the online grades would take away from that.

"I don't think we should have [the online grades]," Miller said. "Because I think it's our responsibility and it would take away my pride kind of if they could get on whenever and check up on my grades.

The screenshot shows the 'Rock Online' website interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs for 'Home', 'Classes', 'Students', and 'Administrative'. Below the navigation, there is a 'Welcome' message and a section titled 'My Schedule for 08-09, Regular Schedule ABC'. The current cycle day is 'A', and the date is '2/10/2009'. The schedule lists the following classes and times:

212, Applied Science, 2	1, 8:00 AM - 8:55 AM	301
711, Advanced Spanish 1, 2	2, 9:00 AM - 9:45 AM	214
912, Computer	3, 9:50 AM -	315

Below the schedule is a '1st Semester Report' table:

Course	Teacher	Q1	Q2	Exam	1st Sem
Advanced Spanish 1	Mr. Jeremy McElduff	A	A	A-	A
Algebra 1 (Advanced)	Mr. Mark Nusbaum	A	A+	B	A
Art And Architecture	Mr. Bill Murphy	B	B+	B	B
English I	Mr. Andy Beisser	A-	B+	A-	A-
Physical Education	Mr. Matt Nolen	A	A	A	A
Public Speaking	Ms. Anne Barney	A+	A	A	A
Systematic Theology I	Mr. Luke McLellan	A+	A	A	A
Grade Points					
GPA 1st Sem - YTD					3.814
GPA 1st Sem - CUM					3.814

On the web ★ In the above excerpt from the Rockhurst High School website, students are able to view their grades on individually accessible pages. COURTESY OF ROCK ONLINE

[My grades] are my responsibility, not my parents'."

Despite some students' hesitance toward the conversion, Walters

believes that it will be a positive change.

"Parents will be able to check grades daily," Walters said. "It is

better because student's grades can change daily with test scores and such, and I believe the parents have a right to know." ★



"Access Alcohol" series:
Part 1: Getting alcohol from parents/adults
Part 2: Teens with fake identification
Part 3: Liquor stores that sell to minors

Underage purchase ★ Many stores throughout the Kansas City area have been caught selling alcohol to minors through an investigative process. Detective Robert Gibbs regularly has 18-20 year-old people go under cover to see if the store in question cards the buyer or if they sell the liquor. According to Gibbs, four out of 10 places end up selling the alcohol. PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY ALLISON POINTER

Teens frequent liquor stores who sell alcohol to minors

Despite strict laws, liquor stores sell to underage drinkers

by SYDNEY DEATHERAGE
Managing Editor of News

In part one of this series *The Dart* investigated parents providing alcohol to teens. In part two *The Dart* investigated how teens obtained fake IDs and used them to get alcohol. Both of these illegal methods enable liquor industries to be duped. However, part three investigates how underage teens get away with buying liquor firsthand from liquor stores. Sometimes teens use fake IDs or have someone older than 21 buy alcohol, but more often teens obtain alcohol themselves at locations that knowingly sell to underage drinkers.

There are around 900 locations in the Kansas City Metro area that hold liquor licenses, according to the Kansas City Police Department vice unit. An STA senior, who wished to remain anonymous because buying alcohol underage is il-

legal, said that finding one of these places that willingly sells alcohol to minors isn't difficult. According to this senior, when a location minors frequent quits selling alcohol illegally, another place inevitably will "join the business." The anonymous STA senior frequents liquor stores she considers "sketchy," in areas of the city where she feels police have more important things to worry about than underage drinking and where stores might be more willing to be lenient in order to make a profit.

"I feel like there's never going to be a point where there's nowhere to get [alcohol]," the senior said. "[Stores] know there are minors that want to buy alcohol and so they allow it. Once the phase starts, I don't think [stores] know what they're getting themselves into. Once they give it to one person, that gets around quickly. In one night it starts a whole thing. And I think [stores who sell to minors] think it's just not that big of a deal."

In the Kansas City Police Department, there is one man responsible for keeping tabs on the ap-

proximately 900 licensed locations and for enforcing alcohol law: Det. Robert Gibbs of the vice unit.

Gibbs recruits minors from ages 18 to 20 to perform compliance checks on licensed locations. In a compliance check, Gibbs gives the minor money, sends them in to buy an alcoholic beverage and if the minor is successful in purchasing alcohol then Gibbs will write the location a ticket.

"Four out of 10 places, a young person will be able to buy alcohol that I have sent into that location," Gibbs said. "All over the city."

When the case comes to court, the judge will then issue the location a fine, depending on the frequency of the violation or the blatancy. The courts and vice unit cannot revoke a store's liquor license. According to Gibbs, only regulatory bodies such as Missouri State Liquor and Tobacco Control or the Regulated Industries Division of the police department have that power.

Though Gibbs performs successful compliance checks citywide, he agreed with the anonymous STA senior that oftentimes certain loca-

tions in the city become popular amongst underage teens.

"The word gets out," Gibbs said. "I've had situations where I've sat and watched liquor stores and arrested young people that live easily 30 or 40 minutes away from that liquor store. They live in a whole other state - Kansas versus Missouri. So when the word gets out, young people are coming from far and wide to try and go to a particular place to buy, and when I find out about that stuff, I try and go there so they're not able to do that again."

Gibbs said that he does what he can, but could be more successful at enforcing alcohol law at liquor stores if he had more minors working for him to perform compliance checks. This is why in order to create a dent in underage alcohol consumption, Gibbs uses a method of not only enforcement, but also prevention.

"I'm not trying to go and arrest the young people that go and buy from these places unless I'm out there and I find them with alcohol," Gibbs said. "The only thing I'd like to know is where young people are

going to buy, because in those situations I'll try to go in and talk to the manager and say that I've received information that young people are able to buy at this location. I'll do that before I even [perform a compliance check] over there."

In regards to locations that are repeat offenders, Gibbs was not able to explain why certain locations repeatedly broke the law except to say that the location may make a profit from selling to underage teens.

"The fact of the matter is that if [the store] is trying to do the right thing, then [speaking to the owner] will be enough," Gibbs said. "But if [the store] isn't, and is just trying to make a buck, or plain and simply doesn't care, then they're just going to keep on doing it." ★

ACCESS ALCOHOL

"Access Alcohol" is a three-part series focusing on how teenagers obtain alcohol and the enforcement of such means.

at a glance
in 300 words

Modeled after Brady Dennis's original 300 word series, this series captures people and moments in 300 words: no more, no less.

by HALEY VONDEKAMP
Lifestyles Editor

Leave of Absence

They made their way to Children's Mercy's oncology floor bearing gifts. They brought black-and-gold star balloons for 10-year-old Carrie, and words of concern and support for her mother, their former colleague: Mrs. Debi Hudson.

When Hudson's daughter was diagnosed with cancer, she'd been away from STA for two years. But at that point, she felt she never really left the home she had in the STA community.

After 12 years of work at the school she loves, Hudson had left St. Teresa's only to find

how much she missed it. But she knew it was the best thing for her career.

She faced a new role in 2004. This time, she had no prior job experience. In this area, her resume was bare: her only daughter had Leukemia.

During this time, college admission stats and scholarship applications came second to finishing fourth-grade math assignments and managing medical insurance papers.

Hudson and her husband attempted to juggle their careers with the onset of their new struggle. They tiptoed around each other's schedules and lugged laptops into the hospital room.

Eight months into Carrie's treatment, Hudson

quit her job. For the first time, she volunteered at her daughter's grade school. She painted rooms in her house and stayed home with Carrie on the hard days. Then, after 26 months of chemotherapy, spinal taps and surgery, the cancer was gone.

In August, six years after leaving STA, Hudson returned to the same office around the M&A circle - the same one her only daughter crawled across as a baby and will frequent next year as a freshman.

Now, Hudson stands surrounded by the same community - the same one that brought black-and-gold star balloons that first week in the hospital. ★

Students march at nation's Capitol

According to student participants, March for Life receives little attention

by HALEY VONDEMKAMP
Lifestyles Editor

In a crowd of hundreds of thousands, they could barely move. Freshman Katie Waller, sophomore Sarah Waller, and seniors Anna Gillcrisp and Sally Nulton stood shoulder to shoulder with those around them, with little room to breathe. Linking arms and interlocking fingers, people sang, prayed the rosary and chanted for change. Bearing signs, some bigger than they were, the girls marched with the crowd that blanketed the streets of Washington DC.

However, on Jan. 22, the media presence was nearly non-existent. The newspapers paid little attention to the event the following day. To most of America, the March for Life, a national demonstration for pro-life ideals, went under the radar.

"400,000 people went unnoticed in Washington," Nulton said.

The New York Times, *The Boston Globe* and *The Kansas City Star* were among the papers that failed to acknowledge the event. Other papers such as *The Chicago Tribune*, gave mention to the march, but only in less than 100-word briefings.

The march encompassed all right-to-life issues, but was primarily focused on abortion. A mass and kick-off rally preceded the march that started at the Verizon Center and ended at the Capitol Building.

Nulton and Gillcrisp attended the 36th annual March for Life with Gillcrisp's mother, Ms. Maria

Gillcrisp, while Sarah and Katie made the trip with a group of about 40 students sponsored by Bishop Miege High School.

According to the students, the March for Life took on a very spiritual and overwhelmingly positive tone, void of the violent extremities that often accompany such heated political issues.

"It was really peaceful and happy," Sarah said. "It wasn't like an angry mob type thing."

Nulton pointed out that the object of the march was not to spread their pro-life views by force, but instead to extend a new way of thinking to those with differing opinions.

"[We are not] saying that the women who are having abortions are terrible people," she said. "[We are] reaching out to these women."

Throughout the march, participants waved signs, cheered in unison and sang religious songs together. According to Nulton, one sign addressed President Barack Obama's mother, applauding her choice not to terminate the pregnancy despite being an 18-year-old unwed teenager. Other signs included graphic images of an aborted fetus, next to that of a healthy one, and statements like "I regret my abortion."

Sarah recalled unified chants such as "Hey, hey hoho Roe v Wade has got to go," and "We love babies yes we do, we love babies how 'bout you?"

From the march the girls made their own different, personal gains.

"Before this trip I was pro-life, but [after the march] it's definite - I'm pro-life now," Sarah said.

Nulton acquired new insight on an issue she was already extremely passionate about. While visiting the Holocaust Museum in D.C. the day after the march, she claims to have gained new



March on ★ On Jan. 22, freshman Katie Waller, sophomore Sarah Waller, and seniors Sally Nulton and Anna Gillcrisp march among other participants of the March for Life in Washington DC. They were marching in support of pro-life ideals at the 36th annual march. PHOTO BY SALLY NULTON

perspective, comparing the practice of abortion to the violence of the Holocaust.

"I asked myself, 'How long is it going to be until this genocide is recognized?'" she said.

According to Gillcrisp, after being surrounded

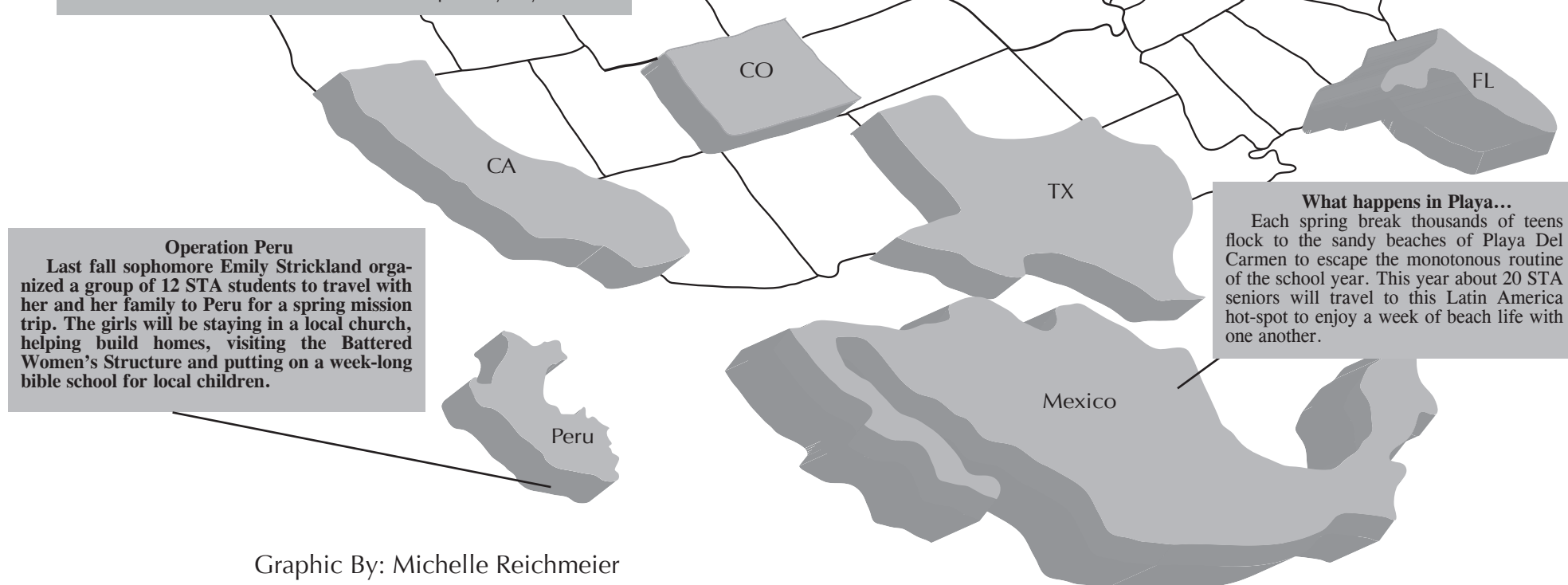
by many people who are pro-choice, the march renewed her faith that there are great amounts of people who are as committed to her pro-life mindset as she is.

See MARCH, page 22

Oh the places they will go...

This spring break, STA students will travel far and wide to spend time with family and friends, volunteer, sight see, and simply relax. In a poll of 200 students, the destinations below proved most popular.

Compiled by Kayla Loosen



New York, New York
Juniors Katie Schmitt, Shelby Langtry and senior Chloe Lundgren will be performing at Carnegie Hall in New York City with the UMKC singing group Canta Fillia.

What happens in Playa...
Each spring break thousands of teens flock to the sandy beaches of Playa Del Carmen to escape the monotonous routine of the school year. This year about 20 STA seniors will travel to this Latin America hot-spot to enjoy a week of beach life with one another.

Operation Peru
Last fall sophomore Emily Strickland organized a group of 12 STA students to travel with her and her family to Peru for a spring mission trip. The girls will be staying in a local church, helping build homes, visiting the Battered Women's Structure and putting on a week-long bible school for local children.



Limited Time Offer!

The Dart staff puts infamous infomercial products to the test. Awarding them up to four stars, the critics determine which items make the grade and which ones earn the lowest marks.

SHARP

Heat Surge

After first seeing the mysterious, glowing box in the kitchen, I was skeptical of this latest infomercial purchase. But over the past few weeks I have really warmed up to Heat Surge, the \$350 electrical fireplace. Unlike normal fireplaces, Heat Surge produces no smoke, no mess, and is operated through a remote control. The electric fireplace also serves as a night-light due to its simulated flames. In addition, Heat Surge is mobile and can be transported to practically any room in the house. While Heat Surge warms a space quickly, it only produces heat within a 5 foot radius. Despite the limited range of heat and overall tackiness, Heat Surge does get the job done; I give it 3 stars.



Rating: ★★★

Compiled by Caroline Thompson

Ped Egg

"Tired of dry, callused feet cutting your panty hose?" According to the Ped Egg infomercial this an actual problem for women; too bad it's the first time I've heard about it. However, if this is an issue for you the Ped Egg product promises to "gently smooth and remove the roughest, dry callused skin" so I decided to try it before you buy it. Beware: this review is gag-worthy (even for me).

Upon opening the egg-shaped pedicure tool, I couldn't help but notice that it was basically a cheese grater for your feet. The only difference is that this appliance repulsively catches your dead skin inside the bottom of the egg. After about a minute of rubbing, with what the makers of Ped Egg call the "micro-grooming safety surface," my feet began to bleed. Overall, if you actually care about your feet, don't purchase a Ped Egg.



Rating: ★

Compiled by Kayla Loosen

Snuggie



Everyone's seen the infamous Snuggie commercial: It begins with a series of people, depressed and exasperated after they have experienced the severe discomfort of being trapped inside a killer blanket. To be honest, Snuggie wearers look like aspiring disciples or members of a cult, but after trying the Snuggie for myself, I now know why it's worth the wear. Thanks to this blanket with sleeves you can now pick up the remote without having to worry about your blanket falling off, . . . And all the while you can stay "snuggly warm" thanks to the Snuggie's polar fleece material. My only complaint is I like all-around coverage and the Snuggie just leaves you open in the back, so don't forget to wear underwear. Great for sliding belly-forward on hardwood floors though. This product could be perfected but it's fabulous just the way it is. I say buy it...plus you get a free book light. What a deal.

Rating: ★★★

Compiled by Kayla Loosen

Magic Bullet



The Magic Bullet is almost as good as advertised. The range of foods you can make is astounding. The easiest items to make are smoothies (the Bullet makes them really smooth without making them foamy) and it also makes really great that nacho dip. It is also handy the cup is what you grind the food in so after blending/grinding/smoothing/etc, you just flip the Bullet over, unscrew and drink. However, clean up is tedious, especially with smoothies, because food particles get stuck in the crevices of the top of the cup and in the Bullet's blades. Essentially, the Magic Bullet is just a small blender with a cup attached, but it just looks so much cooler and its conveniently sized, especially when making food for one.

Rating: ★★★

Compiled by Bianca Dang

Shamwow



The best thing about the Shamwow is its color. Its bright yellow hue means that it becomes very hard to misplace it. The Shamwow is very absorbent, much more so than a regular towel, however, not nearly as absorbent as the commercials boast it to be. It really depends on how big the spill is. It's great with smaller spills, say half a cup of water. When it comes to a full can of soda, or a bottle of juice, the Shamwow leaves a considerable amount of liquid left. Again, it is still better than a towel though. The strange thing is, as useful as the Shamwow seems, I just do not spill enough to use it extensively. The lack of use really cancels out the utility of the Shamwow.

Rating: ★★★

Compiled by Bianca Dang

Are you teasing or are you **Bullying**?

Speculation of bullying in the freshmen class has girls questioning if it is actually teasing

Freshmen divide on bullying issue

Students report bullying among freshmen, discuss difference between playful and harmful comments

by LINNY KAUFMAN
Staff Writer

Freshman Maddy Dang returned home after STA's Unitown retreat Oct. 4, tired from an emotional weekend. She heard her cell phone ring and looked down to check the caller id which read "Unknown Number." She answered anyway.

"Hello?"
"Hello, is this Maddy Dang?" the caller replied, a girl's disguised voice coming from the other line.

"Yeah... Who's calling?" Dang answered, confused.
"Girl, you got a [Urinary Tract Infection]," the caller taunted. "You so dirty! You got an infection. You gotta go to the doctor."

Dang hung up with hurt feelings, confused about who the caller may have been.
According to Dang, a fellow STA freshman later admitted to being the caller after denying it for a few days. The student said she was sick of hearing Dang complain at the lunch table about the phone call.

Teachers, freshmen and upperclassmen have noticed instances of bullying within the freshmen class at STA, as well as outside of school on cell phones and Facebook. Each person's definition of bullying varies, although most agree it is an issue among teenage girls. Personal counselor Amanda James said the type of bullying that can be found in the STA freshman class generally comes from a person's need to feel important and powerful.

"Bullying is a way for girls who aren't as self-sufficient as other girls to have an upper-hand or have power over other girls," James said. "All bullies want is to know that they have power over someone else by making them react. Sometimes girls get a kick out of intimidating other people."

Principal of Student Affairs Mary Anne Hoecker defines bullying as verbal or physical harassment or major disrespectful behavior toward another person.

"Personally, I think [bullying] comes from low self-esteem and a desire to have inappropriate and what I would call wrong power over someone," Hoecker said. "I also think that it sometimes comes from a group of girls who feel like being popular is about being powerful and mean towards other girls."

Dang said she believes there are many stories like hers in the freshman class. She said

she heard about freshman girls using an application on Facebook called the Honesty Box, in which any user can post anonymous comments about other users. Dang said freshmen often use it to "trash out" at each other, but she doesn't read any of it because her fellow advisees advised her to not participate. She said that while she came to STA hoping to find acceptance, she instead has to deal with being bullied by some of her classmates almost daily.

"I didn't fit in at my grade school or anywhere else, really, so I came to STA because I thought I could fit in," Dang said. "[STA] was my outlet. I'm so weird, and I'm not trying to hide it. I'm trying to show it to people and make them be weird because if you're just going to be in your little clique it's not going to be fun for high school. I think the reason that they bully me is because I'm weirder than anybody else in my grade. I'm a nerd-burger."

Dang said she avoids the girls who bully her throughout the day at school, but it is often impossible because they take many of the same classes. The bullying is almost only verbal taunting. Once after Bode's freshman health class Dang said a classmate told her, "Your voice makes me want to throw up in my mouth." A different day, Dang said she was joking around in French class by putting her hair in a funny ponytail when a fellow freshman ordered her to take her hair down, saying she looked stupid.

While Dang takes offense to the comments some of her classmates make to her throughout the day, other freshmen feel the sarcasm is meant to be playful, not hurtful. Freshman Sarah Burchett said she feels she is not a bully but may appear to others as a bully when her actions and comments are misunderstood.

"I don't think that I've really ever commented toward someone," Burchett said. "But there are a lot of rumors around this school and sometimes people say stuff to me. They'll be like 'this and this' and I'm like 'well, you don't know me so...'. Sometimes I might come across [as a bully] but I never mean it as trying to be mean. It's just that [they] don't know me, and I'm trying to say something to defend myself from what other people are saying."

Burchett said she does not see gossip as a harmful form of bullying because it is natural to teenage girls.

"[A freshman] might hear that we passed something on that someone else said," Burchett said. "But [we passed it along] just because we're girls, and we talk about things like that. She might take it the wrong way. I mean, you'll be having a conversation and then someone will say 'Oh, something about this girl' and you'll say 'Oh, I heard this about her.' But it's just something like that."

Unlike Dang, Burchett said she was not surprised by the atmosphere in the STA freshman class.

"I guess [bullying] is a problem, but that's kind of what most freshmen I know expected," Burchett said. "[We expected] all the little cat fights because we're freshmen. None of us are used to being around this many girls, and girls are kind of catty as it is. They like to start drama about other girls. They just do."

Hoecker, however, disagrees with the idea that young women are inevitably going to gossip, especially when it comes to STA students.

"I don't believe that girls or young women are reduced to gossip and cattiness," Hoecker said. "I think that's a stereotype. The majority of our students here do not fit that description. Look at the awareness and everything we have at the school. [It's only that] some girls are looking for belonging so much that they'll just about do anything to get it, until their sense of self kicks in, until they begin to mature. If they can't do that from within, they're going to grasp at whatever they can, and I think sometimes the person who's got the best gossip falsely feels like she is accepted. Extremely hurtful gossip can be considered bullying."

Burchett said she is often sarcastic in the hallways with her friends, pretending to block their way to class or playfully pushing them on the stairs, but that she does not see this as a form of bullying.

"Sometimes I guess I can come across as kind of mean, but people that know me know that I'm kidding," Burchett said. "It's just kind of how I mess around. So people know that I'm messing around, but people that don't know me as well might take it the wrong way."

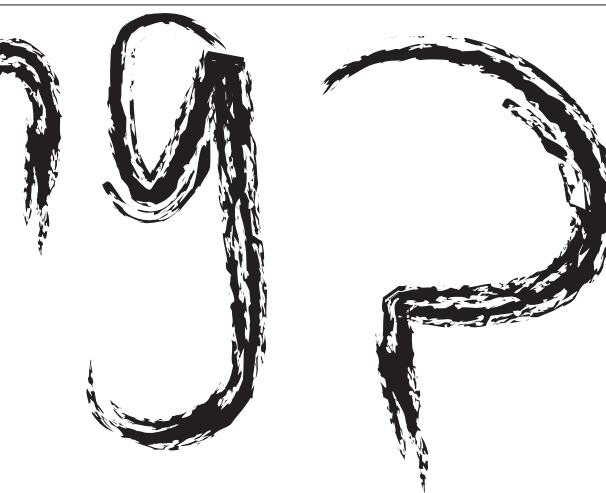
Hoecker said the best way to avoid this confusion between sarcastic behavior meant to encourage friendship and hurtful behavior meant to harm is for the person receiving the remarks to tell the other student how they make her feel. The behavior should end there, but if it doesn't, the victim should tell a parent, teacher or other trusted adult.

James believes the best way to end bullying in the freshman class is through examples.

"It has to become un-cool to bully and cool to help out students who are bullied," James said. "So I don't think it can really come from the teachers, administrators and counselors as much as it comes from the influence of upperclassmen. Underclassmen will look up to [the older students] to know how to act when they're seniors. That has a bigger impact than what we can do."

Meantime, as bullying reportedly continues in the freshmen class, Dang said she tries to ignore comments.

"[The bullies] try to make me feel bad about myself," Dang said. "The girls that are bullying think that they are going to have friends because they are bullying. I try to just avoid them, to not talk to them. I try to stand above it."★



Bullying girls

Below are statistics pulled from <http://stop-bullies.com>, regarding percentages with girl bullying.

Girl bullying statistics show that **43%** fear harassment in the bathroom at school

Intervention accounts for only **4%** among teachers and **11%** among the victim's peers

85% of the time there is no intervention by anyone in authority whatsoever.

15% of girls who are bullied actually tell someone.

COMPILED BY CAROLINE QUINN

A new form of bullying: one that does not show her face

What happens when a friendly conversation over facebook chat becomes a little nasty? Where do we draw the line on what we say online?

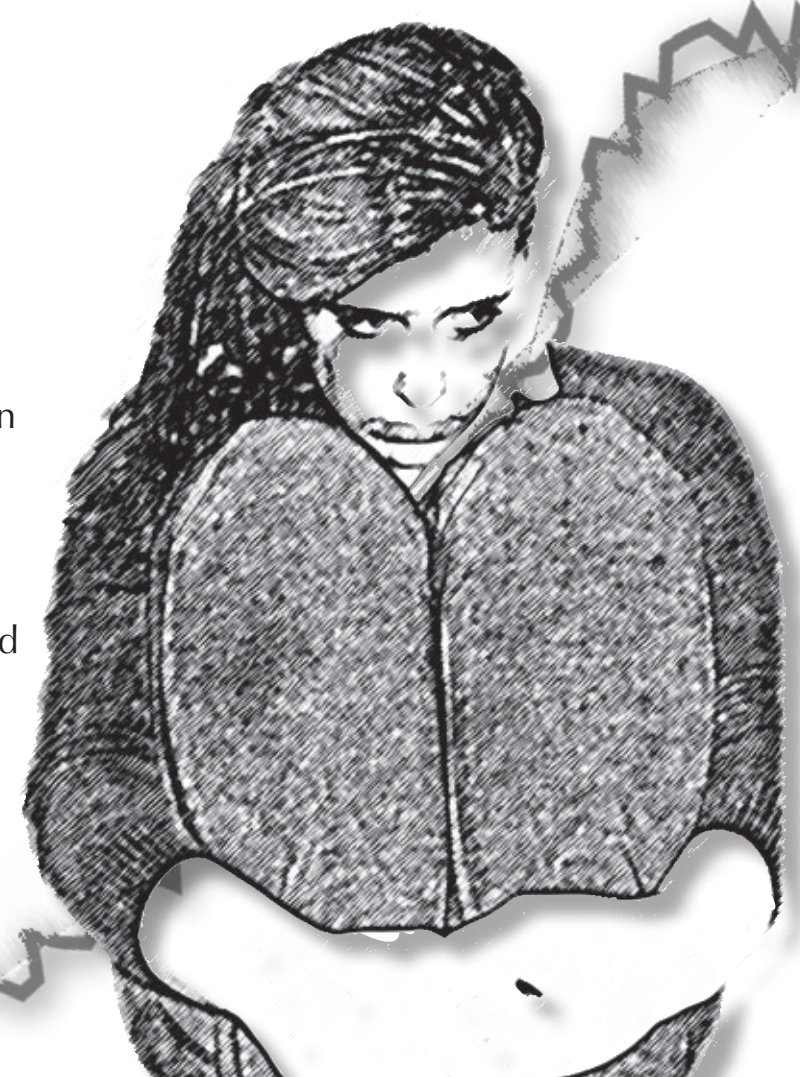
The advancement of the Internet as a form of ordinary communication among young people has created a new accessibility for those who intend to bully others. The National Crime Prevention Center estimates that over 40 percent of US teenagers with access to the Internet have reported being bullied online in the last year. The survey also revealed the most common places online for cyber bullying are chat rooms, social networking web sites, and instant messaging.

For students here on campus, facebook is the online location for bullying. The majority of STA students have facebook pages, making the website itself hard to ignore. With this popularity comes this simple fact: there is no such thing as online anonymity. I have seen posts on facebook written by girls who would most likely never say a similar comment in person.

Another fact: girls can be mean. But this cattiness isn't just playing out in locker rooms and hallways. Online bullying has become increasingly common among teenagers. From my experience, STA is not an exception to this research. Online bullying is the same as regular bullying, and should be treated the same. We have to recognize that bullying doesn't only mean pushing girls into lockers or tripping a classmate. Bullying is now disguised in photo comments that read "what were you thinking with that outfit?" or "your homecoming dress is disgusting." Some may view these comments as teasing, but many on the receiving end are offended.

To solve this problem, it is important to know the different forms of cyber bullying, like - sending offensive, crude, or threatening messages or images (through email or social networking sites), to make someone feel bad about herself, - posting sensitive, private, or false information about another person on a site, - pretending to be another user in order to make her look bad, or - excluding someone from an online group or conversation.

We can all be a part of the solution. If you are upset by someone's actions, talk to her in person in a mature and fair way. Give her a chance to respond in a neutral environment. Be adult-like. Our STA motto is, "In this house, all must be friends, all must be loved, all must be held dear, all must be helped." If you are out there posting cutting opinions about a classmate, stop. In no way does this coincide with what we stand for. We are sisters; this threatens our bond.★



Standout player cheers from bench



After season-ending injury to Stars' leading scorer, team begins to cope without her

by KYLIE HORNBECK
News Editor

As the leading scorer and rebounder, the six-foot varsity basketball captain senior Abby Duethman led the Stars through much of this year's season.

Just before halftime in the team's away game against Notre Dame de Sion High School Jan. 12, Duethman sprinted down the court after a turnover. She felt a loud pop in her right foot and a sensation of immobilization overcame her. Head coach Jamie Collins called a time out and pulled a limping Duethman from the court who was helped out of the gym on one leg.

She had broken her navicular bone, located on the top of her right foot.

Since Duethman has been unable to play, Collins has been rotating three post players in her position. According to Collins, not much has changed except the three post players, sophomore Emily Wilson and juniors Brady Essmann and Kelsie Fiss, have had to step up to fill Duethman's shoes. However, Feb. 10, Essmann injured ligaments in her left ankle, leaving the team with just two of its initial four post players.

After losing Duethman who had been averaging around 16 points, 10 rebounds and three steals

per game, the Stars have been working to adjust. With Duethman, the Stars were 3-9. Since her injury, they have become 6-16.

"We just don't have the scoring and defense we had with [Duethman]," Collins said. "It's hard to replace someone whose scoring double, double, double digit points and double digit rebounds... I think that [Essmann, Fiss and Wilson] have been doing fine. They just don't have the scoring ability that [Duethman] does."

Duethman proved herself a standout student-athlete in the community when Metro Sports awarded her a \$1,000 scholarship at the annual Hy-Vee Shoot-Out Dec. 19. All schools competing in the shoot-out provided nominees and a panel of judges who sponsored the event selected Duethman as one of two outstanding scholar-athletes.

In the fall, Duethman plans to attend the University of Maryville in St. Louis on a basketball scholarship after verbally committing Feb. 10. The official signing date is still to be announced but will occur within the next few months.

Duethman's teammates are excited she will be able to continue basketball past the high school level, as she is the first STA basketball player in over three years to commit to a four-year college or university on a basketball scholarship.

"I think we're all just happy and really proud of her and happy knowing that she can still play in college even though she was injured," Fiss said. "It's inspiring to see her pushing through her injury."

Collins believes Maryville will be a great fit

for Duethman as a student-athlete.

"I think she'll be just as good if not even better in college," Collins said. "She's just too good of a basketball player not to play past the high school years."

Duethman led the Stars in many statistics and her absence impacted the team's performance in their first half without her. When she limped off the court just before halftime of the Sion game, the Stars led by two points. However, without Duethman, the Stars fell to the Storm 55-40.

Although she is out for the rest of the season, Duethman hopes to play as soon as possible.

"It's really hard just to sit there, though, and watch because if [my teammates] win I want to be out there helping them," Duethman said. "Just not being able to play gets really boring."

Duethman has continued to support her team by cheering, giving pointers and attending every practice.

"She's still being really encouraging," Fiss said. "She'll be there telling us what to look for, helping us out from the bench and in practice cheering us on."

Wilson agrees that Duethman's support and encouragement have been incredible.

"If you're having a bad day she can keep you from dwelling on the bad stuff by telling you something funny to get you right back in it and encouraging you," Wilson said.

Duethman's doctor predicts six weeks for the bone to heal, after which Duethman will begin physical therapy to regain full strength and mobility in her foot. ★

Team prohibits in-season drinking, improves overall morale

Rockhurst High School's varsity football players put dry season notion into play

by SUSIE ANCONA
Staff Writer

A dry season is the banning of alcohol consumption during an athletic season. Professional, college and even local sports teams have put this concept into practice to keep players out of trouble.

Rockhurst High School's varsity football team put this notion into action. This year, the seniors prohibited alcohol for the sake of the players and mainly of the game. Senior captain Chris Castelluccio played a key part in this decision.

"We came into the season with high expectations since we won the State championship the previous year," Castelluccio said. "We were only the second team at Rockhurst to [have a dry season]. We felt that a no drinking policy was a way to [better] commit ourselves to the team."

Varsity football coach Tony Severino explained that as a tradition since 1987, he approaches the players each year and gives them the option of a dry season.

"Some teams take [the approach] seriously, some don't," Severino said. "It takes great senior leadership to be successful."

According to senior captain Keith Langtry, the coaches stayed out of the dry season decision and left the team's commitment to themselves.

"I think it was just that we got it from within ourselves," Langtry said. "Nobody else really impacted us."

Besides reflecting their dedication to the team, the players wanted to prevent any trouble that could potentially arise due to alcohol. Despite the prevalence of teen drinking today, the captains and other seniors took the regulation seriously. The rule was: if players did not want to accept the rule, they should not be on the team.

"It's always great to see a team take this seriously because it tells all of us how important the season is to them," Severino said. "There are always those who will break the trust of their teammates and the seniors usually handle this without me knowing."

The dry season worked to both extremes in terms of effect. During the season, one player



Standing strong ★ This year, Rockhurst High School varsity football captains and seniors Chris Castelluccio, left, and Keith Langtry decided to enact a dry season for their team. They wished to prohibit players' consumption of alcohol and stay focused on continuing a strong season. PHOTO BY JAIME HENRY-WHITE

was caught with alcohol outside of school, but admitted to his fault. However, according to Castelluccio, the "minor" mishap created some bad blood among the players. On the bright side, the dry season also had a positive result for the team.

"It couldn't hurt us [to not drink]," Langtry said. "It was a big reason as to why we've come together as a team. This year we played our best and nobody was drinking."

Regardless of the successes a dry season may bring, some do not agree with the concept. STA

track and field coach Ann Bode-Rodriguez feels there is no need to officially establish a dry season. It should be recognized as a universal and general athletic rule.

"There shouldn't be a dry season," Bode-Rodriguez said. "It should be a dry life. Alcohol use would be detrimental to performance and it's illegal."

This is Bode-Rodriguez's 30th year coaching track and field. She has never encountered an alcohol-related problem with her athletes. Therefore, she will not employ a dry season for

the track and field team.

"As far as I'm concerned, track and field is a school activity," Bode-Rodriguez said. "If you drink during a school activity there are all sorts of consequences."

But for those who do employ the concept of a dry season, the outcome is usually beneficial.

"I feel that if the sport means a lot to you, it's not that big of a deal to not drink for a few months," Castelluccio said. "I would recommend it for any team. I think it brings the team closer together." ★



powerplayers:

Clarissa Seay

by CAROLINE QUINN
Editor-in-chief

Power players are not just Stars on the courts and fields. These standout, up-and-coming athletes balance their sport and life outside of the gym. Read about their quirks and what makes them go.



Squaring up ★ Freshman Clarissa Seay does leg lifts to rehab torn ligaments in both her knee and ankle during practice Feb. 8. Although Seay will be able to play in the last game of the season, she believes it is frustrating having to sit on the bench. **PHOTO BY TRACY BURNS-YOCUM**

SCORE board

[winter sports]

Varsity basketball (6-17)		
Jan. 28	Lafayette	W
Feb. 2	O'Hara	L
Feb. 5	Pembroke	W
Feb. 6	Raytown South	L
Feb. 9	Blue Valley North	L
Feb. 17	Spring Hill	L

JV basketball (13-9)		
Jan. 28	Lafayette	W
Feb. 2	O'Hara	L
Feb. 5	Pembroke	W
Feb. 6	Raytown South	W
Feb. 9	Blue Valley North	L
Feb. 17	Spring Hill	W

Freshman basketball (11-9)		
Jan. 29	Shawnee Mission East	W
Feb. 2	Belton	W
Feb. 4	Lee's Summit West	L
Feb. 5	Liberty	L

Swimming and diving		
Jan. 31	Springfield Invitational	14th
Feb. 12	Torn Horn Invitational	3rd

Swim team roster



Freshmen

Christina Barton
Elizabeth Schorgl
Erin Twaddle
Hannah Reinhardt
Jacqueline Kerr
Lucy Edmonds
Margot Livers
Meka Kelly
Melissa Lane
Rosemary McGraw

Sophomores

Catherine Arensberg
Dominique Brawner
Hayden Fudemberg
Kelly Clay
Leah Miller
Mary Franke
Mary Kate Duffy
Rachel Edmonds
Sarah Wirtz

Juniors

Kylie Hornbeck
Nicole Twaddle
Samantha Johnson

Seniors

Emily Orndoff
Erin Nelson
Laura Peterson
Mandy Prather

Dance Team

The dance team competed at the Lee's Summit North Invitational Jan. 31 and took second in novelty, third in hip hop and fifth in jazz. They also received a special Outstanding Showmanship Award for novelty. The Missouri State dance team competition is Feb. 27 and 28.

Out of the 32 players in the STA basketball program, freshman Clarissa Seay is the only student of color. Seay considered this situation the day she walked into tryouts, and the thought continues to live in the back of her mind. But Seay has not allowed her uneasiness to stop her from becoming a standout player on the JV basketball team.

Full name: Clarissa Janae Seay
Nickname: CC

Birth date / place: Oct. 20, 1993 / Kansas City

Best known for: Rebounding

Basketball career: Started playing basketball in kindergarten. In 6th grade, began playing AAU (Amateur Athletic Union, a club basketball program) and still plays simultaneously with STA basketball.

Major awards and honors: Three-time MVP in the SSBA (South Suburban Basketball Academy) league, two-time most versatile player in AAU league, most assists in a season in AAU league, MVP of University of Kansas summer camp and MVP of Bishop Miege High School summer camp

How it happened: "Everybody in my family plays basketball. My brother and my dad have always played and I fell in love with it."

Experience at STA: "It's been good. I like it. It could be more diverse, though."

Role model: "My big sister...but she definitely doesn't [play basketball]."

Pre-game meal: "Something with protein. I'd have to go with, well I know this is weird, but I love seafood. Shrimp is good, or if it's a morning game, a shrimp omelet always works."

Pre-game warm-up: "I have to listen to my iPod...something upbeat. It's usually rap or hip hop. I always listen to the 'Love and Basketball' sound track because that's my favorite movie."

Practice location: Front yard

Earliest basketball memory: "I remember the first time I ever touched a ball. I was with my brother and he was trying to teach me how to put the ball between my legs. I couldn't at all...I was really little."

Favorite basketball memory: "I hit a buzzer beater from half court to win the championship game. It was AAU and I was in 7th grade... we won nationals. It was the best ever."

Advice for aspiring basketball players: "Don't let anybody tell you you're not good enough. Play hard and practice."

Other hobbies: "I love ping-pong. Let's see... is eating a hobby? I like that."

Secret to success: "Oh, do I have a secret to success? I guess. Don't hate the player, hate the game. It's a cliché, but it's true."

Attitude: "I'm called a bully a lot. I'm kind of mean on the court, but if players meet me outside of the court, I am not mean at all."

If not basketball: "Probably nothing. I couldn't see myself doing anything besides playing basketball."

JV teammate freshman Mayme Marshall said: "[Seay] is probably the funniest person I know. She's sweet, but she is aggressive. As a player, she knows how to box out...she's a good rebounder. She's a very important part of the team. She gets a lot of our buckets because she's so good at rebounding and putting it back up."

Grade school: St. Elizabeth's Catholic School
Why STA: "I was supposed to go to Blue Valley North High School. But I convinced my parents to let me go to STA. I heard a lot of good things about it. I went to a basketball game here and, ever since, I know I wanted to play basketball here."

As the only person of color in the basketball program: "Sure, I think about it. But it doesn't affect me too much. Everyone is really nice and there's no hostility or anything." ★

Youth sports across the nation have nearly swallowed Sunday mornings whole

AN OPINION BY



ELIZABETH WILSON

It is late Saturday night and I am getting ready to go to bed, setting my cell phone on the night stand, but not without questioning what time I should set the alarm for.

I know I have a game at 10:30 a.m., so I will have to be there at 9:45 a.m. to start warming up.

That rules out 9:30 a.m. Mass at St. Mark's and 10 a.m. Mass at Our Lady of

the Presentation. The 8:30 a.m. Mass at Presentation would also be cutting it close.

I know the game will not be over until at least noon.

That rules out 11:30 a.m. Mass at St. Mark's and noon mass at Presentation.

Looks like I am left with 7 a.m. Mass at Presentation or 8 a.m. Mass at St. Mark's.

Quite frankly, no thank you. I mean, after all, I do not want to be tired before my game.

Plus, I have to eat my Breakfast of Champions, put on my uniform and lucky socks, pump myself up to "Radar" by Britney Spears and drive all the way to my game.

After I have myself convinced that there is absolutely no way I can make it to church tomorrow, I close my eyes with a slightly less guilty conscience.

This issue of church versus sports is becoming the Sunday morning dilemma in homes across the nation. Youth sports are encroaching upon Sunday morning worship in

America and have nearly swallowed Sunday whole.

Every professional sport plays on Sunday and now more and more youth sports teams are playing on Sunday. God is competing more and more with Sunday sports and losing.

I do not feel particularly good about it when I "skip" church, but with today's busy schedules, I have myself convinced Sunday is the only time I have to do these things. I feel that I have to devote myself to my sport, and anything I do to deviate from that plan will put my position on the field in jeopardy.

We have all witnessed men bolting from church the moment services conclude to make it to a football game, kids skipping church altogether to play on their traveling soccer teams and youngsters in the pews dressed in football and soccer uniforms, ready to be whisked off to the field as soon as the last organ note fades.

I am not trying to tell anyone what to do. Every weekend I am torn between religion

and loyalty to my team. My faith has not disappeared; I have just taken some time off from celebrating mass. And occasionally games will get cancelled, rained out or start later in the day which enables me to make it to church.

But, I have had to make the decision of which is worse: letting my team down or letting God down. And sadly, I have chosen letting my team down to be the worse of two evils.

Rick Reilly of *Sports Illustrated* wrote on this same topic: "Hey do what you want. Just remember, when little Shaniqua has two free throws to win or lose the game on some Sunday morning, good luck finding somebody who'll answer your prayers."

Maybe we find some kind of spiritual fulfillment in soccer practices. Maybe to some families, sport is their religion.

We are cramming more and more activities into what was once a day of rest.

So, just think about it, even God took a day off. Take yours however you want. ★

Let's play a game of 'would you rather'

The varsity swim and basketball teams played an athletic game of would you rather

by KYLIE HORNBECK & MEGAN SCHAFF
News Editor & Staff Writer

As STA's winter sports season nears its end, four-year letter winners, first-year starters, bench warmers and team captains realize another season is passing them by.

With victories, defeats, past, present and future in mind, varsity basketball players and swimmers anonymously voted their athletic desires and preferences in a simple game of "would you rather."

The object of the game... well, there is not one. You get asked a question (or series of questions) and you pick the option that suits you best.

Exactly who is a true teammate and who is just out for the glory? That is a secret we will never tell. But, take a look to see how the majority of the players and swimmers feel about certain issues.

Would you rather have a soft schedule of games, padding up your record and athletic performance **OR** have a tough schedule of games, potentially hurting your record and athletic performance?

13 out of 20 swimmers voted they would rather have a tough schedule of games, potentially hurting their record and athletic performance.

"It'd be good to have a good record but if you have a tough schedule, it could help you get into a better college."
—freshman Jacqueline Kerr

5 out of 9 varsity basketball players voted they would rather have a tough schedule of games, potentially hurting their record and athletic performance.

"We are athletes, so we are driven by competition...Losing the close ones is disappointing, but all the losses are worth it when you can finally get a win in one of those games. The excitement that you feel and the intensity between you and your teammates is so real and strong that everything just feels perfect for awhile."
—sophomore Emily Wilson

Would you rather be a captain and team leader **OR** have good individual statistics?

The vote was split 10 to 10 for the swim team.

"I chose captain because I think a team needs a strong team leadership to get everyone motivated to swim their best individual times. Swimming is both an individual and team sport."
—senior Laura Peterson

8 out of 9 varsity basketball players voted they would rather be a captain and team leader.

"[Basketball is] about your team and being a leader. It's better to be a part of a team with faults and helping your teammates get better than to be alone with glory."
—senior Paulina Wentworth

Would you rather lead the team in statistics **OR** win a State championship?

17 out of 20 swimmers voted they would rather win a State championship.

"I think more people would rather win a State championship because if you're a good athlete but your team stinks, it doesn't get you anywhere. Most people would rather contribute to a team as a whole because everyone gives to the team to win something better."
—senior Erin Nelson

9 out of 9 varsity basketball players voted they would rather win a State championship.

"Winning a State championship allows so much more attention and glory. It's something you can be proud of for the rest of your life. If you lead a team in statistics, that's a great personal victory, but no one remembers it. Winning a State championship goes down in history, at least at your school."
—senior Paige Kuhlmann

Would you rather be All-State in one sport **OR** be a four-year letter winner in three sports?

13 out of 20 swimmers voted they would rather be a four-year letter winner in three sports.

"I would rather be more well rounded than stuck in one sport because I know a majority of girls on our team play other sports and don't just focus on swimming which may be why a lot of the other girls would vote that way."
—sophomore Sarah Wirtz

6 out of 9 varsity basketball players voted they would rather be a four-year letter winner in three sports.

"[This] shows you're capable of doing more than one sport at a high level of competition. It shows you're incredibly athletic and work hard to achieve success."
—sophomore Caroline Gray

Would you rather get a college scholarship **OR** win a State championship?

The vote was split 10 to 10 for the swim team.

"I'd rather win a college scholarship because I'd rather be able to go to a nice college than just win a State title. College is really expensive and going to college is more important than winning one State championship."
—freshman Hannah Reinhardt

8 out of 9 varsity basketball players voted they would rather get a college scholarship.

"If you wanted to play to your potential, get as good as you could and play farther into your future, you would want to go to the best school out there and that would be with the scholarship. Getting a scholarship is a one chance thing and you could have multiple chances to win a State championship."
—sophomore Lauren Scott

Would you rather sit on the bench of a winning team **OR** play on a losing team?

16 out of 20 swimmers voted they would rather play on a losing team.

"I'd rather play on a losing team because I've been in both situations. I'd rather be having fun with friends and learning about the sport than sitting on a bench and being less involved with the team."
—sophomore Rachel Edmonds

7 out of 9 varsity basketball players voted they would rather play on a losing team.

"The majority of players, at any level, want to play...Many players feel like the only way to feel included and to be a part of a team is if they are playing. Not sitting on the bench."
—head coach Jamie Collins

Would you rather get a full-ride scholarship from a small school **OR** get to play at a Division-I, elite school?

11 out of 20 swimmers voted they would rather get to play at a Division-I elite school.

"I would like to play Division I because that's what I've always grown up with. I think you'd have a better chance of going on in the sport professionally and I think a lot of people have the attitude that if you can play with the best, then why not?"
—junior Nicole Twaddle

6 out of 9 varsity basketball players voted they would rather get a full ride from a small school.

"I think most of the team would rather get a full ride rather than play at an elite school because it would help out money wise. I don't think anyone would want to get a little scholarship money or even none to play at an elite school and not even get to play very much."
—sophomore Caroline Gray



Surfing it up ★ Senior Sally Nulton crowd surfs as The Mikey Needleman Band performs in the auditorium Jan. 29. A majority of the school attended the school sponsored concert where the band played covers of bands such as Hootie and the Blowfish and Dave Matthews Band. **PHOTO BY KATIE KENNEY**

Mosh pits for Jesus

The Mikey Needleman Band performed at STA as part of Catholic School's Week

by ROSIE HODES
Opinion Editor

When Mr. Joe LaScala of Campus Ministry anticipated the Christian rock concert at STA Jan. 29 for Catholic School's week, he thought one possibility could be about 20 people sitting in the auditorium listening to some music.

"I never expected what happened," LaScala said. "I don't think anyone did."

According to LaScala, the crowd before the stage began with a few seniors dancing. More and more students quickly ate their lunches and accumulated in front of the day's headliners, the Mikey Needleman Band. According to senior Samantha Barker, things became pretty sweaty and "intense." Before long, someone threw a skirt on stage and students lifted each other up to crowd surf. Girls sang along to most of the songs, and at the end of second activity period, chanted for an encore.

"We went out to lunch after the show and Dave [Autry, drummer] was saying, 'That was one of the coolest shows I have ever played,' and he's been playing professionally since he was sixteen," lead singer Mikey Needleman said. "He said it was right out of a crazy rock show."

According to Needleman, he does not know why STA students reacted the way they did.

"I wish I knew so that we could have that at every single show from here on out," Needleman said. "I think St. Teresa's did a great job of giving you guys a treat. You guys took advantage of the opportunity and had a blast."

The opportunity came about when LaScala was helping plan Catholic School's Week. He emailed Needleman who then ran it past his band mates Mr. Josh Gleave and Mr. Dave Autry. LaScala knew Needleman through retreats and had been brainstorming ways to connect to students. He thought a concert was a good idea to do just that.

"I just think nowadays people need to be open to different forms or practices of religion," LaScala said. "Music is one of them."

At the concert, the Mikey Needleman Band further connected with students by not strictly playing Christian music, but also including songs that many girls knew the words to.

"We don't consider ourselves a 'Christian band,'" Needleman said. "We consider ourselves a band of Christian guys."

Additionally, Needleman said it is important to mix secular and Christian music in one show because he believes people should not separate faith from every day life. According to Barker, students appreciated this type of concert.

"[Playing more popular music] was a good way for them to engage the students into the music," Barker said.

By the end of the show, about 100 students were ignoring their lunches, sweating, dancing and singing to familiar, mainstream songs in front of the stage.

"After seeing seniors at the front, I think people saw that it's not that big of a deal to make a fool of yourself," Barker said.

The number of students who reacted to the show in a positive, energetic way left the band "pleasantly, pleasantly surprised," according to Needleman.

"For every crazy show there are shows that just suck," Needleman said. "We're really lucky it turned out so well."

Needleman especially considers himself lucky when he thinks about the band's very first concert in July of 2007 after about a month of being a group.

"I have that show video-taped and sometimes I watch it and think, 'Oh my gosh, we were so horrible,'" Needleman said.

Today, the Mikey Needleman Band is a three man combination of a bassist (Gleave), drummer (Autry), and guitarist/lead singer (Needleman). According to Needleman, part of the band's success is due to a few alternate performers the band incorporates so there is less pressure when someone needs a substitute. The band averaged 100 concerts in the past two years and released an album, "Waiting for You," in 2008.

According to Needleman, the band is headed in the right direction, and the concert at STA was just part of their journey.

"I like to think that a lot of the different steps we're doing are what we call 'paying your dues,'" Needleman said. "We're doing what every other band does and I'm excited to be part of that story. Hopefully."

As for what Needleman mentioned on stage about filming a music video at STA, he said, "I don't think it's out of the question." ★

Best Movie Theatre



AMC Town Center 20

Located at newly renovated 119th Street, Town Center is the spot to see the latest flick. Town Center's AMC 20 theater is a popular one among many teens. The theater does not have age restrictions like the plaza and offers a wider variety of show times. AMC 20 is also conveniently surrounded by tasty restaurants to eat at like Ingredient and California Pizza Kitchen and a variety of stores like Dick's Sporting Goods and Francesca's boutique to browse through while you're waiting for your show to begin.

4745 Central
Kansas City, MO 64112

Best Ethnic Restaurant

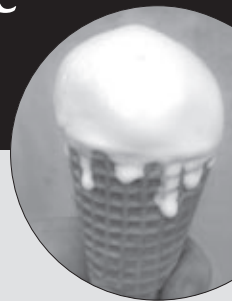


Korma Sutra

Out of the dozens of ethnic restaurants in Westport, Korma Sutra has built a positive reputation for itself. The extensive lunchtime buffet for a low cost makes the restaurant even more appealing. The food, Punjabi favorites, is traditional and delicious Indian food. The attentive yet quiet serving staff also makes one's dining experience all the better. Korma Sutra is a great place to fit into a regular schedule and is also a good place for people to expand their dining experiences. The wide selection of delectable food and the prime location make Korma Sutra a great place to eat.

4113 Pennsylvania Ave
Kansas City, Missouri 64111

Best Ice Cream



Foo's Fabulous Frozen Custard

As one of Brookside's premier dessert attractions since 1988, Foo's Fabulous Frozen Custard is a Kansas City staple. Foo's is known for their homemade frozen custard and the range of different creations that can be made with this tasty treat. With dozens of toppings and flavors, ranging from butterscotch to crème de menthe, Foo's can fit anyone's tastes. The friendly atmosphere makes any visitor feel like part of the neighborhood, making it more clear that Foo's is the best in Kansas City.

6235 Brookside Plaza
Kansas City, MO. 64113

Best Coffee Shop



Roasterie Cafe

As a self-described "group of coffee enthusiasts," the employees of the Roasterie Café make one's coffee-going experience very enjoyable. They are "passionate about creating a great product and providing the best customer service possible" and make a truly delicious coffee. The local company has been supplying Kansas City with great coffee for many years and opened the Roasterie Café a few years ago in Brookside. The shop has extensive choices able to fit anyone's, even a coffee-hater's, tastes. The local haunt is one of the best in Kansas City because of its delicious drinks and friendly atmosphere.

6223 Brookside Blvd
Kansas City, MO 64113

Best Shopping Center



Oak Park Mall

Oak Park Mall is one of the best malls Kansas city has to offer. Stores are available there that are located nowhere else in the metro including Nordstrom's department store. A total of 185 plus stores are available to customers and stores are continually being added, including the huge, new Forever XI, Coach, Macy's and Lacoste store. The mall offers gift cards and many places to grab a bite during a long day of shopping such as the Pretzel Time and the Kansas City Nut Company kiosk. If you're looking for a place to grab some

11149 West 95th Street
Overland Park, KS 6621

THE BEST OF KANSAS CITY

The Dart polled 150 STA students about some of the greatest places in Kansas City to visit. These locations ranged anywhere from restaurants to clothing stores. Here are the final results for the Best of Kansas City.

by BIANCA DANG & MOLLIE POINTER
Features Editor & Staff Writer

Best Concert Venue



The Sprint Center

As a multi-use arena in downtown Kansas City, the Sprint Center has become a favorite of many to attend concerts. Opened in late-2007, the Sprint Center has become a popular venue for some of the biggest music acts today. From Hannah Montana to Elton John (and soon to be Britney Spears), the Sprint Center houses world-famous acts for relatively affordable prices. The accessibility, in the heart of downtown, combined with the range of acts and performances that go through the Sprint Center make it the best in Kansas City.

1407 Grand Boulevard
Kansas City, MO 64106

Best Local Park



Loose Park

As one of the most spacious public parks in the area, Loose Park has become a popular hangout for all ages. On a sunny day, people lounge in the seemingly endless amount of grass. Because it has become so popular, it comes as no surprise that visiting the park entails seeing an acquaintance of some kind, napping in the grass or hanging in a tree. The large pond on the east side of the park also allows for a change of scenery and the playground at the north end makes the park great for families. Overall, the relaxed atmosphere and sprawling grounds make it a Kansas City favorite.

Wornall Rd. and 51st St.
Kansas City, MO 64114

Best Clothing Store



Addie Rose

Addie Rose, a women's clothing store, is conveniently located in the Brookside area. You have probably passed the building off 63rd street a time or two and most likely noticed its uniqueness. However, the only things distinguishing the store from other residential houses on the block are its bright pink and yellow paint and "Addie Rose" sign in the front yard painted in girly script. The inside of the store is no different with fun jewelry and varied clothing items including jeans, dresses, tops and skirts. Although most items are relatively expensive, the independently owned boutique is a recommended stop for a shopping trip.

6301 Main Street
Kansas City, MO 64113

Best Area of Town



The Plaza

Known as "Kansas City's premier entertainment district," according to its website, the Country Club Plaza is STA's favorite general area in Kansas City. The Plaza offers a wide variety of activities such as the finest shopping at Halls, to a movie at the Cinemark, dinner at Buca de Beppo, the art fair, Christmas Lights, and the list goes on. The Plaza is one of Kansas City's treasures since 1922 and STA continues to honor the tradition. The Plaza, conveniently located near school, offers a great place to go when you are bored on a Saturday night. There's always something happening!

4745 Central
Kansas City, MO 64112

Best Formal Clothing Store



Hemline

"Hemline brings a new aesthetic to Kansas City," boasts the boutique's website. The one-of-kind store carries fashion lines from Nicole Miller to Free People. According to the website, Hemline prides itself on their rare retail and extraordinary customer service. STA girls can often be spotted modeling their latest fashions at every school dance in addition to the store's apparel being a part of their everyday wardrobe. However, the store is known for their high quality, high fashion dresses. Hemline, located on the Country Club Plaza, is known to STA as one of the best places to find the perfect dress.

610 W 48th Street
Kansas City, MO 64112

entertainment
Movie WALL

"Wendy and Lucy"

Director Kelly Reichardt delivers a brutal yet truthful portrayal of America in her film, "Wendy & Lucy." Wendy, played by Michelle Williams, leaves her home in search of a better life in Alaska with her dog, Lucy. Barely able to support the journey and the testing situations it brings about, Wendy finally meets a stranger who provides her with an inkling of hope. Williams delivers a truly honest performance in the independent film. William's presentation, a tribute to the marginalized characters of the real world, heightens Reichardt's portrayal of dying America.

-Micah Wilkins



Song

"Chasing Pavements"

Adele Atkins has officially made my top five with this one. I had been familiar with it since over the summer I became obsessed with her song "Hometown Glory." However, "Chasing Pavements" is just the icing on top of her debut Grammy award-winning album. Her powerful lyrics and soulful voice serenade us through a rocky relationship she once had, which led her nowhere. This is a pop song for everyone, no matter what different types of music you like.

-Shaughnessy Miller



CD

"Emmy"

Hailing from across the pond, British singer Emma Lee Moss, better known as Emmy the Great, recently released her debut album. She has been highly talked about by the online music community for a few years and she has finally released her album after over a year of anticipation. Moss's unique voice, high in pitch with a heavy British accent, combined with her extensive and clever lyrics make this album great. Many of the album's songs are girl power, but not like the Spice Girls, more like the burning bras of the 60s. The underlying feminist theme make her songs very accessible to females. Moss's debut album will hopefully not be her last.

-Madalyne Bird

Book

"Life As We Knew It"

"Life As We Knew It" by Susan Beth Pfeffer is told through the diary of a sophomore named Miranda. The world is consumed in excitement as a meteor big enough to be seen from earth (by use of binoculars) will crash into the moon, the largest to date. In the book, things go wrong, the meteor is too big and knocks the moon out of orbit and sends the world into chaos. Tidal waves destroy coastlines and tornadoes create paths of calamity wherever they are. "Life As We Knew It" is a quick page-turner and makes one contemplate how something so seemingly insignificant plays a greater role in our lives than we can ever imagine.

-Taylor Irwin



Drama department funds itself

School does not provide a budget for fine art's school plays and programs

by LAUREN PASKIEWICZ
Staff Writer

While high schools including Rockhurst High School and Notre Dame de Sion High School receive funding for their theatre productions, STA is a self funded program. Drama teacher Shana Prentiss manages productions, like "Exhibit This!" which premieres today, by determining spending, fund-raising and future needs.

Typically, the Drama department spends anywhere from \$4,000 to \$7,000 for a musical and \$2,000 to \$5,000 for a play. The expenses for productions are due to renting fees, costumes, an orchestra and set designs.

"I am able to collect money for the plays through the Fine Arts Boosters and the last show's ticket sales," Prentiss said. "I just look at it as a budget, I try to keep a certain amount [of money] there every year."

Principal of academic affairs Nancy Hand explains that productions are put in the same category as other extracurricular activities.

"Just as the school pays for coaches for sports, the school pays for teachers for productions," Hand said. "In order for us to have a lot of extracurricular activities, sadly we have to go outside to get additional funding."

Although Prentiss has always had enough money to create a production, some years have been tougher than others. For the last three years, Drama Club has supported the Ink Cartridge fund-raiser for their main source of proceeds. This year however, Prentiss will look toward Student Productions, spring plays written and directed by seniors, for their finances.

"We won't be doing the Ink Cartridge fund-



Shake it! Juniors Jessica Luber, far left, Allie Lueke, Sophomore Claire Cirocco, Senior Anna Gillcrist, and Junior Ellen Gude act as fertility goddesses to Rockhurst junior Cary McRoberts in STA's spring play "Exhibit This! The Museum Comedies." The play, which runs Feb. 19-21, is about the Metropolitan Museum of Art which has art pieces that come to life. PHOTO BY TRACY BURNS-YOCUM

raiser this year because a lot of the work was falling on my shoulders," Prentiss said. "We'll have to rely on ticket sales from Student Productions which is a great aid."

According to Hand STA will not fund to productions anytime soon.

"We would have to find [the money] somewhere so it would have to come out of the operating budget... which means the tuition would have to be raised," Hand said. "We would also have to include funding for sports to make it just. Given the state of the economy and our desire to keep costs down, I would imagine that

extracurricular [activities] would still have to be supplemented either by fund-raisers or fees in the future."

Both administrations from Rockhurst and Sion explained that they are not permitted to talk about the details of their funding but that the finances are available through the student tuition. The ticket sales of a production will determine future financial needs, Prentiss said. Right now, Hand believes the process of funding productions is sound.

"If nothing changes then nothing changes," Hand said. ★

Self-help book disappoints; all-star cast delivers well

AN OPINION BY



MEGAN SCHAFF

Authors create book with witty comments based on bad advice

"He's Just Not That Into You: The No-Excuses Truth to Understanding Guys" by former "Sex and the City" authors Greg Behrendt and Liz Tuccillo is a self-help book targeted toward young, single women looking to settle down and who can't seem to find the right guy. In nearly all of the 18 chapters of the book, Greg answers questions from women in bad relationships while Liz tells giggle-worthy stories of her failed relationships. The authors succeed in making readers laugh, but definitely defeat the purpose of a self-help book: giving people realistic advice that actually works.

From the pink and green cover to the girly handwriting to the authors' blunt, yet truth-

ful writing, it's obvious why this bestseller has reached its fame. It's cute, it's quirky and it has a definite make-you-laugh-out-loud kind of style.

Its easy-to-read question and answer format, explanations by relationship gurus Greg and Liz, real stories from real people, polls and witty workbook exercises all provide an interesting and interactive design. Greg's token phrases like "don't waste the pretty" and the famous "he's just not that into you" kept me laughing throughout the book. But trust me when I say this: nothing in this book qualifies as worthy relationship advice.

According to Greg, if a guy works too much, if he has conflicting responsibilities, if he doesn't want to get married or if he can't spend every single second of his time with you, dump him.

Greg says we women deserve better.

Well I'm not 25 and I'm not looking for marriage, so maybe it's just me. But I think these tips are bogus.

The bottom line: The book was cute, but that's it. It was good for a few laughs and I can even take away from it that women don't have to completely rely on men, but be forewarned. Don't believe every single thing Greg and Liz have to say or I can guarantee your relationship will fail in a heartbeat.

Movie proves to hold more meaning than just chick flick

Directed by Ken Kwapis ("Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants") "He's Just Not That Into You" delivers with an all-star cast, its share of both funny and sincere moments and the underlying message that women can be strong and independent without relying on guys.

The A-list cast of Jennifer Aniston, Scarlett Johansson, Justin Long, Ginnifer Goodwin, Jennifer Connelly, Drew Barrymore, Bradley Cooper, Ben Affleck and Kevin Connolly turn the characters into people you feel like you actually know. Each actor plays their part flawlessly, inventing personalities for their characters that don't disappoint on screen.

While this romantic comedy tickles the funny bone like the bestselling book, it also gives some insight to relationships that all women should live by. Rather than detracting from the comedic aspect, the dramatic scenes give the movie more substance and increase its maturity from a mindless chick flick to a movie with some worthwhile lessons.

While this movie brings a lot of laughs, it also has its problems. Throughout the excruciatingly long two-hour-

and -nine minute movie, are about six plots all happening at once. The characters, who are all somehow interconnected, weave in and out of each other's lives, further complicating the storyline and at times, it's just too much to remember how all the characters are related. After about half an hour, when the plot finally starts making sense, it's a cute concept. But until then, it's one confusing story.



The bottom line: the movie "He's Just Not That Into You" has the same funny, witty style as the book without giving worthless relationship advice. The complex relationships and stand out actors help develop the far-fetched book into a unique and amusing romantic comedy. ★

TOP CHEF

Emily Strickland began cooking as a hobby, found her passion in creating creative recipes out of fresh ingredients and inspiration

by MORGAN SAID
Staff Writer

Arugula, goat cheese and prosciutto crostata

Makes 6 servings

For the dough:

1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
1/2 teaspoon salt
3 tablespoons chilled butter, cut into small pieces
1 tablespoon honey
1/4 cup goat cheese, crumbled
1/4 cup ricotta cheese
5 tablespoons ice water

For the topping:

1 tablespoon garlic-infused olive oil
4 1/2 tablespoons pizza sauce
1 teaspoon oregano
1/4 cup sweet onion (such as Vidalia or Texas Sweet), finely chopped
3/4 cup shredded mozzarella cheese
4 thin slices cut-up prosciutto ham, or 1/4 cup chopped
1/2 cup cleaned-and-dried baby arugula, coarsely chopped
1 small plum tomato, seeded and diced
3 basil leaves, coarsely chopped
1/4 cup goat cheese
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon pepper, freshly ground

For the dough: In the bowl of a food processor, add flour and salt and pulse to combine. Add butter and pulse until the mixture resembles coarse meal.

In a separate small mixing bowl, stir together honey, goat cheese and ricotta. Add cheese mixture to the food processor and pulse until just combined.

At least once a week, STA sophomore Emily Strickland stands in her kitchen surrounded by pots and pans and the fresh ingredients needed to invent the idea for the dish that she envisions in her head.

Getting Started

"I'm not a cook, I'm a chef," Emily said. According to Emily, she discovered her passion for cooking in the seventh grade when she made her family a basic pasta dinner.

But Emily's mom, Ms. Julie Strickland, said Emily was shadowing her in the kitchen long before then and has been helping her make dinner for their family of five for as long as she can remember.

Ms. Marva Lubker, Emily's grandmother, also inspired Emily's passion for cooking.

"When Emily was just a toddler she would come visit...and sort of hang around in the kitchen," Marva said. "She'd sit up on the counter and stir in the bowls, but I don't know if she was more interested in cooking or what the treat was in the bowl. I didn't really realize she had a deep-seeded passion, but now in retrospect, she always asked a lot of questions about what I was doing."

According to Julie, Marva and Emily have always cooked together and Emily has learned many specialty dishes from her grandmother.

"Emily is always interested in how other people cook," Julie said. "She's interested in cooking with friends and family."

At Christmas time, Marva and Emily make chocolate cake and potatoes together, a special recipe that Emily has always enjoyed.

Fresh Foods and Creative Creations

According to Emily, the most interesting thing about cooking is that she can make whatever kind of food she wants by starting with basic ingredients.

Emily has also taken recipe tips from her favorite chef, the "Food Network's" Ina Garten, and modeled dishes after Garten's.

"[Garten] uses really fresh ingredients that taste good on their own," Emily said. "They're divine."

Emily also creates her dishes by blending fresh, simple ingredients to "make

Ready Spaghetti ★ Sophomore Emily Strickland displays a vegetable and four cheese pasta she cooked after school last week. This dish is one of many of Emily's meals that the Strickland family often enjoys for dinner. PHOTO BY TAYLOR BROWN

Strickland's recipe (see left) for arugula, goat cheese and prosciutto crostata was featured in *The Kansas City Star* Jan. 21.



something out of nothing.”

Emily makes something almost every day and enjoys learning more about cooking with every meal she makes. “Back to Basics,” her favorite cookbook by Garten, was among the many cookbooks she received for her birthday and Christmas. Her mother also helps support her hobby by introducing her to new gadgets and encouraging her to experiment with them. Emily even takes pleasure in making grocery store runs for Julie because she can select the freshest and most unusual ingredients for the next meal she plans on making.

“[Emily] makes great pasta dishes,” Julie said. “She uses fresh ingredients, herbs and spices. She’s got great variations.”

For the most part, Emily contributes at least one of her dishes to family dinners on weeknights. She also enjoys cooking for daily events.

“[Cooking] is her creative outlet,” Julie said. “It’s something to reduce stress.”

Her Big Break

On Wednesday Jan. 21, one of Emily’s recipes was featured in *The Kansas City Star* after a family friend suggested the idea to the editor of the newspaper’s “Foods” section.

“I was excited for her,” Marva said. “Naturally I was very proud. It’s something that she takes so much pride in and it was recognized and shared with others.”

As thrilled as Emily was when her self-created recipe was published in *The Star*, there was some struggle involved.

“I don’t usually write [my recipes] down because I like the surprise [of every dish],” Emily said. “It was hard to write one down for *The Star* because I don’t really use measuring cups. I had to do many trials in order to get the recipe to work.”

According to Julie, the Strickland family enjoyed the dish numerous times before it was finally published.

“We’re a good family for [taste testing the meal],” Julie said. “Be-

cause we like to eat.”

The crostata dish was a spin-off of a recipe Emily had seen on the “Food Network,” and after the article was published, she made the same dish for a neighborhood party.

What’s Next?

Although Emily loves to cook, culinary school is not an immediate priority. However, she might want to study at culinary school eventually, even though being a chef in a restaurant doesn’t appeal to her.

“I think I want to study philosophy then learn more about cooking even if I don’t want a career,” Emily said. “It’s very competitive and takes a lot of luck.”

Julie said that she could someday see Emily working in the business side of gourmet cooking.

“When she’s making gourmet dishes, she gets to be the chef,” Julie said. “She likes to plan the meal and direct everything.”

Marva said that she hopes that as Emily grows and matures, so will her culinary skills.

“I really think that as Emily grows, her interest in cooking will grow with her, because I think it’s the challenge of being able to accomplish something different and tasty [that draws her in],” Marva said. “Plus I enjoy looking forward to eating lots of her stuff.” ★



Sellin’ the love ★ Senior Emily Cappo sells Valentine’s Day cookies in the cafeteria on Feb. 12. Cappo is president of STA’s Cooking Club, the host of the fund-raiser for Harvesters. **PHOTO BY ROSIE HODES**

EMILY | CAPPO

Background in cooking: “My family is Italian and we make big Italian dinners, pasta. So I guess my family background got me interested, and my mom and I cooked together a lot when I was little.”

How often she cooks: at least once a week.

Favorite thing to cook: cookies and cupcakes. “I love to bake.”

Future with cooking: “I was going to go to culinary school, but I’m going to [the University of Kansas] instead. I might go back, though, in Chicago to French Pastry School if I burn out on teaching. Then I’ll open a bakery with my mom.”



Cool down ★ Sophomore Cele Fryer allows her freshly baked chocolate chip cookies to cool on Feb. 10. Fryer often bakes to avoid doing her homework. **PHOTO BY ROSIE HODES**

CELE | FRYER

Background in cooking: “When I was little, I would help my mom because she cooks all the time.”

How often she cooks: about twice a week.

Favorite thing to cook: desserts: cakes, cookies, brownies, muffins etc.

Future with cooking: “I may gain a few pounds here and there.”



Let it pour ★ Senior Margaret Schneider prepares homemade bak lavah in her kitchen. Many seniors are fans of Schneider’s desserts. **PHOTO BY TAYLOR BROWN**

MARGARET | SCHNEIDER

Background in cooking: “Growing up, my mom always cooked a lot so I always just helped her and I really enjoyed it so I kept doing it.”

How often she cooks: “Usually I’ll help make dinner a couple of times a week and I make stuff for school a lot.”

Favorite thing to cook: desserts: cheesecake and bak lavah.

Future in cooking: (laughs) “[I] probably won’t [have one].”



Giving back★
Above left: Senior Rachel Flattery bites her tongue while giving blood.
Far Right: Sophomore Samantha Scheuler squeezes pressure ball, lying down.
Right: Junior Maura Hinken holds volunteer's hand.

STA donates blood
 Feb. 6 for Community
 Blood Center

PHOTOS BY ALLISON POINTER

March: Students dislike limited media attention

Continued from page 10

Despite what they recall as a positive, meaningful experience, the lack of attention paid to their efforts was unanimously frustrating.

"It's sad because I want to think it had an effect on people, but our media just doesn't care about it," Nulton said.

Writers from *The New American Magazine*, a publication that covers U.S. political news, commented on the issue of sparse media coverage.

"More than 300,000 people assembled in Washington D.C.," Don Feder wrote. "But as far as

the *New York Times* is concerned [the march] never happened."

According to the article, due to this selective coverage, only "news junkies" and people directly involved with the pro-life movement heard about the march.

Katie addressed the idea that had the event received more media coverage, the outcome could have been different and could potentially be different in the future.

"If there was a lot more media coverage, a lot more people would go," she said. "They wouldn't think the fight was pointless." ★

Funkhouser: Mayor enacts new incentives to improve KC

Continued from page 4

ordinators. These measures, along with others, are a part of the new program, "A City That Works," an effort to focus the city government on its citizens.

"We need a city government in which decisions and services are focused on people who actually live in Kansas City," Funkhouser said in the address delivered at All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church.

Despite Funkhouser's city improvement initiatives, Kansas City Manager Wayne Cauthen has proposed budget cuts for certain city departments. In contrast to Funkhouser's urban core development programs, Cauthen proposed a \$12 million budget cut for the Kansas City police department, which will poten-

tially cause layoffs for 225 employees or more. Cauthen also proposed a \$15 million budget cut for the Parks and Recreation Department, despite the 43 percent satisfaction rate for city parks and maintenance.

Along with the City Manager's proposed budget cuts, Cauthen suggested a property tax increase of almost \$10 million a year to help pay for general obligation debt, as well as a 10 percent increase in water rates.

"Any government is going to be hurting for tax revenue," Sirridge said. "Either you have to raise taxes or cut revenue."

Mayor Funkhouser and the City Council will decide on an estimated \$1.3 billion budget for the city and pass it in late March. ★

Corrections

Issue 5 Corrections

On page 3 a photo caption for the story "Students promote diversity across campus" contained an error. The person featured on the far left of the photo is named Mr. Airick Leonard West.

Issue 5 Corrections

On page 5 a cartoon under the headline "Pill Popping" was not attributed. Julia Stapinski created the cartoon.

TALK TO YOU LATER



JAIME HENRY-WHITE

Parents and technology: not meant to be

Bam. Curse words are flying, my mother is up in arms and the computer has tricked her again.

"This is why I hate these computers! I should have just done this at the office!" A familiar phrase, I let out a heavy sigh, walk into the computer room, and say a slow and grudging, "Calm down, mom. It's fine. I've got it." Her in-home Geek Squad is here to the rescue again. There's something about technology and adults over a certain age. My mom does not understand computers, just like computers do not understand why she constantly wants to click the backspace button instead of the 'File: Save' button. The computer is doing its job, while my mom is doing a completely different one. For years, I have tried to convince my mother and the computer to go to therapy. A class, once or twice a week, that could help my mom understand all the thingamabobs and gadgets that make up a 21st century computer. The keyboarding class she took in college was sufficient enough as orientation; she has her two-fingered typing skills to prove it.

Now, subtract a century or two from my mom's age, and you will find my technologically savvy generation and me. We text, we type with all our fingers, and we know the in's and out's of all Microsoft Office applications, how to sneak onto Facebook at school before the administration catches on, and how to download music to our hearts content. We have never really known anything else. What I have failed to realize is all the while I may be proficient in computers, my mother will never be. She comes from a time when you picked out a college through catalogs and wrote letters to save a costly phone bill. She was not a part of a time where technology has forever changed social interaction. It's not her fault when she cannot remember how to attach a document to an email, or how to cut and paste, or how to log off my account. With a down-trotted, wide-eyed puppy face, she has to admit defeat by calling on me over and over.

When it comes to any issue with the young vs. the old, parents are the wise owls. They have the capacity and good advice to help their kids understand the bigger picture. In these days, the younger you are, the greater your expertise in the realm of computers, video games, and cellular devices galore. Somehow, I have been perched a tree branch up above my wise owl mom. But, if she wants to soar with the eagles during the day, she might actually have to hoot with an owl at night. ★°

top [[weird animals]]

Compiled by Caroline Thompson

5 SLOTH: The sloth is known to be extremely slow-moving. It sleeps up to 20 hours a day in the rainforest canopy. It hangs from branches with a grip so firm, dead sloths still remain suspended for a while.

4 TASMANIAN DEVIL: Don't be offended if he yawns when you approach. Tasmanian devils are known to yawn when they feel threatened so they don't seem intimidated.

3 ELECTRIC EEL: This fish found in muddy waters uses its electric charge mainly for defensive purposes. When electrifying, this eel can produce as much as 650 volts, which is enough to petrify an animal.

2 CAPYBARA: Don't fear; it's not a mutant rat from "Goosebumps". The South American capybara is, however, the world's largest rodent weighing up to 120 pounds and growing up to 4 feet tall.

1 PANGOLIN: This anteater-sized mammal covered in sharp scales may look like a dragon, but don't worry; it doesn't have teeth to bite. However, with its tongue stretching up to 2 feet, this native African might give you a little kiss.

<http://animaldiversity.ummz.umich.edu/site/index.html>

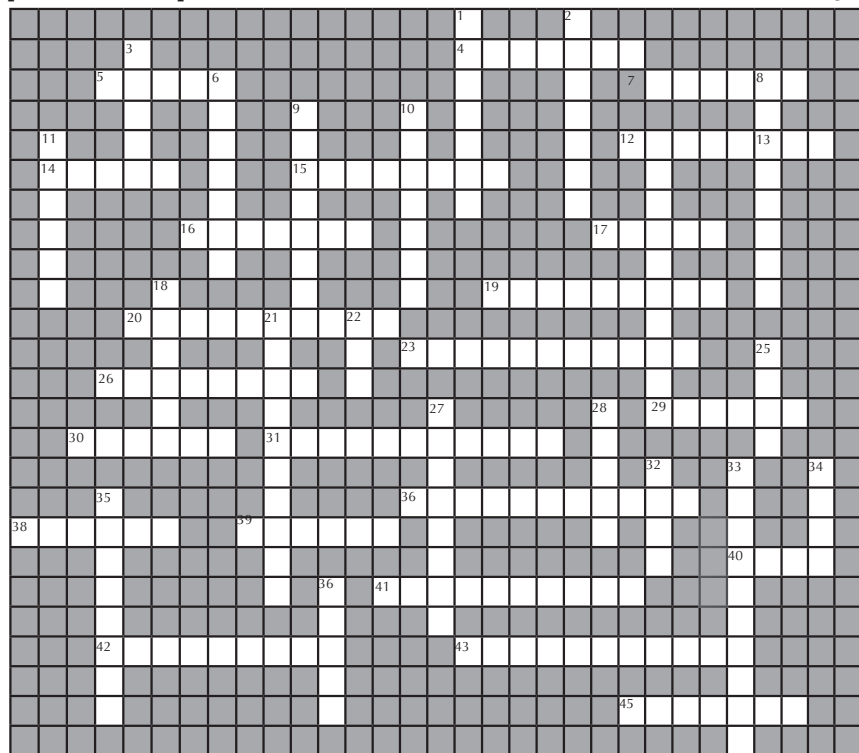
Weird Brief

Fashion alert: Fur in this spring

Although he seldom appears as often as he once did, Critter "the Campus Cat" is shocking and awing STA scholars and faculty alike with his fresh and hip new look. The cat has adorned a sassy shaggier look for the spring season, causing a hot trend among fellow neighborhood cats. The trendsetter flaunts his shiny coat of luscious fur around campus, leaving many wondering, what will he grow next? ★

Compiled by Avery Adams

[Rooms at STA]



Compiled by Shaughnessy Miller

Down- 1. two teachers share this Donnelly room, 2. Schroer left a drawing on the chalkboard, 3. Two computer carts rest in the back of the room, 6. a man is always reading as he sits by the window, 8. an out of place religion room, 9. es cerca del baño en M & A, 10. you can sometimes smell waffles cooking, 11. has the most computers besides the computer lab, 13. this room has seen an elephant, four sisters, and a giant bed, 18. advisory moved from opposite side of school, 21. there are navy blue beanbag chairs in the back, 22. you can find strangely dressed girls with their names on their shorts, 25. hundreds of girls mill through this roofless room daily, 27. students spin, glaze and fire here, 28. movie posters and bobble heads decorate this room, 32. there's a statue of Shakespeare on the shelf, 33. you'll be sore after you visit this room, 34. old ERC location, 35. every Halloween things get spooky here, 36. Peruvian resides there

across- 4. get to know some odd characters here, 5. lights are on by 6:45 am, 7. students often wave at him through the window, 12. replacement for new mother sits at the desk, 14. dimly lit with some crazy, colorful lamps, 15. hidden next to the library, 16. ebony and ivory live together in perfect harmony, 17. Madeleine va a STA, 19. one of the two rooms where students sit on risers, 20. underground room where God is the topic, 23. everywhere you look you see yourself, 26. see a picture of yourself dressed as a Spartan, 29. has a collection of stress balls in animal form, 30. various Hispanic decorations, 31. most technology in one place, 36. only language homework allowed on the computers!, 38. one of the few rooms with a microwave, 39. each black table has its own computer, 40. some desks are elevated, 41. backstage of the gym, 42. "can you tell me how to get to STA street", 43. a bloody handprint on the wall, 45. people are always leaving crumbs on the table

Answers: across- 4. Library, 5. Clark, 7. Brock, 12. Jaquin, 14. Himes, 15. Reznicek, 16. Westall, 17. Amick, 19. Keitlor, 20. Hansbrough, 23. Dance Studio, 26. Verheyen, 29. Montag, 30. Ramsey, 31. Computer Lab, 36. Langage Lab, 38. Dunley, 39. Corner, 40. Good, 41. Locker Room, 42. Berallot, 43. Fourth Floor, 45. Commons, down- 1. Blesser, 2. Caelson, 3. Heid, 6. Kitchen, 8. Coughlin, 9. Gangallo, 10. Whitney, 11. Thomas, 13. Auditorium, 18. Harris, 21. Rueschhoff, 22. Gym, 25. Quad, 27. Rueschhoff, 32. Ceramics, 38. Egnor, 29. Fas, 33. Weight Room, 34. Heid, 35. Black Box

dr. quinn's spin

with caroline quinn

Genuine, thoughtful guidance from someone skilled in the field of obscure-question answering.



Q Dear Dr. Quinn,

Is it wrong for us to be angry that 28 year olds attend youth activities, like the Kings of Leon concert?

MolDawg and LoDam

A Dear M.D. and L.D.,

I am flattered you would ask me a right versus wrong question - that's really putting some trust in me!

I never think feelings are "wrong." They are natural and inherent to you; they aren't facts.

You are not trying to be upset, it just happened. So yes, you are justified in your frustration.

To ease your annoyance, con-

sider this: the Kings of Leon are often played on 96.5 the Buzz, and most Buzz listeners are over the age of 21.

So you two are actually mature in your music taste, and a minority in the music scene.

Maybe, then, the older concert attendees were questioning why you were there. It's something to think about, and may shift your anger.

Stay healthy, STA. ★

DARTSMART

What stereotype do you most fulfill?

- As a typical after school activity, you...
 - rush to the library, so you are first to the corner table.
 - hit up the tanning salon. There's a special on the ultra bronzing lotion.
 - grab a power bar from home then head to practice.
 - gather in the auditorium where a group of cast members are singing.
- On the internet you have what web sites tagged as favorites?
 - Askjeeves.com...so many resources in one web site!
 - Facebook.com...duh. I get like 10 friend requests from hot guys daily.
 - ESPN.com. Did KU win? I couldn't watch the game, I was at practice.
 - Youtube.com because it provides access to tons of entertaining people.
- You are assigned a big project. What comes next?
 - Awesome! More time at the library!
 - Better be the first to sign up for topics...you don't want anyone else picking the history of Vogue.
 - Um...I'll have to start that later...I have a big tournament this weekend.
 - Can we present our project in skit form?
- Your Tivo is filled with recorded episodes of...
 - "Myth Busters." I'm currently working on a spin-off of the show in my basement.
 - "Gossip Girl." Nate and Serena are totally going to hook up this season.
 - Everything ESPN...you miss all the shows for soccer practice
 - "American Idol."
- Prom's next week. How are you planning on spending the evening?
 - Next week? Can't make it, I'm hosting a book club meeting then.
 - I've only been planning for the last month...nail salon, hair salon, make-up, pictures...the usual!
 - Of course I'll be attending the dance! But I'll be coming straight from my game.
 - Oh I'll be there. With a big group of friends. We even prepared a synchronized dance.

if you answered...

Mostly A's
You are a nerd. Don't take this the wrong way, though. Your main priority is school, rather than more social things. If you'd like to become more social, look into items, such as purses, jerseys and microphones.

Mostly C's
You are a jock. The usual subjects on your mind are a big game you have later or the homework you did not do because of your big game the night before. You may be busy, but you are still well-rounded - socially and academically.

Mostly B's
You are a diva, prom queen, cheerleader etc. You love fashion and are especially interested in outer appearances. Although you may be somewhat superficial, that does not mean you are selfish or unintelligent.

Mostly D's
You are a thespian. You are loud but laid back. You are pretty outspoken about many subjects but usually accept others' opinions, as well. Although you are pretty involved with extracurricular activities, they tend to range mostly in the theatre and spirit club realm.

THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF DISNEY

Girls and their dads dance in theme at the annual event

A dad's best friend ★ Junior Julia Barnett decks out in a full dalmation costume as her father Dan, poses with her as Roger, the dog owner from "101 Dalmations" during the Father-Daughter Dinner Dance Feb. 8. The theme "Disney" had many different options for costumes.



May I have this dance ★ Junior Ellen Gude laughs as she dances with her father Mike.



Winning smile ★ Senior Anna Gillcrist, from left, and her father Robert celebrate after winning the annual senior dance contest at the Father-Daughter dance.

Family dancing ★ From left, freshman Anna Meyers, father Pat and sister senior Elizabeth dance together in their Winnie the Pooh costumes.

You should have put a ring on it ★ Senior Rachel Flattery dances to Beyonce's "Single Ladies (Put a Ring on it)" at the annual dance. Flattery received a round of applause for her reenactment of the dance.



Get jiggy with it ★ Sophomores Lilly Kraus, left, and Laura Neenan dance together in a crowd during the dance. Both girls were dressed as cowgirls for their costumes.