Volume 22, Issue #8 6500 Quander Road Alexandria, VA 22607

Friday, March 30, 2007

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Centur for Kida Who Can't Read Good and Want to Learn to Do Other Things Good Tea

Photo By Drew Smith
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Handout/KRT

Handout/KRT
SCANDAL UNFOLDS
ON SESAME STREET

STUDIES SHOW
PICTURE BOOKS
MAKE YOU
SMARTER
Milwaukee

# History Teacher Arrested

Scandal over chilling YouTube video leads to Coe's indictment.

Taylor "Kill Yourself" Dankmyer

Sarcasm Extraordinaire

News: Page 5

In the same week that George Coe announced his candidacy for President (see page 12), the history teacher was arrested after school for traumatizing a student.

The investigation began when senior Scott Vernon heard Coe yelling at his students. Vernon, quickly grabbing his camera, captured the incident. The video documents Coe yelling at his AP class for not analyzing a document to his standards.

Coe shouts, "NO, [the document] DOESN'T TELL YOU THAT, I CAN TELL YOU THAT! Document 1 demonstrates or proves that military, uh, prowess was extremely significant, uh, to the, to the, Muslims, we know that CUZ' THE BLOODY EMPEROR HAD A SWORD BY HIS SIDE AND EVERYBODY STARED AT HIM! So what do you say, document 1 tells me this, document 2 tells me that, you don't get the point for it, does that make sense? Good."

While this was going on, students were scared, crying, and a few were huddled under their desks. One girl in the front of the room covered her ears.

After a few moments, Vernon informed Coe he was shooting a video, and then accused him of yelling at one of his students. Coe replied, "I never yell." However, current and former students disagree. The results of a recent "teacher abuse" poll were shocking. 99 percent of Coe's students agreed that he yelled at his students. The last vote, which



Photo illustration by Kate O'Connor/Lakisha Langley/KRT

A disheveled Coe, arrested by donut-deprived officers, shouted his innocence as he was escorted off of school grounds.

was officially counted as a "no" said, "No, Mr. Coe did not yell at us... He yelled at us AND stuttered at us, both of which are quite frightening." The student wished not to be identified.

Despite the incident, a grassroots movement has started pushing for Coc's release. LLKG, which stands for "Long Live King George," is a newly formed club that supports Coe despite his indictment. "We need

him back here, not only to teach students, but to continue to promote his running for King of the United-, I mean, president of the United States," said club leader, junior Jimmy Toth. He continued, "Mr. Coe is a wonderful, hilarious, teacher who always kept me engaged. I hope this is not the end of his regime."

Mr. Coc is currently awaiting a trial, scheduled for April 11.

# School Temporarily Under Siege

Hubbard and student accomplice, dressed as vikings, attack students using trebuchets



Photo illustration by Kate O'Connor/Drew Smith/KRT

Hubbard launched rocks at students in a failed effort to capture the school.

"Super" Kate O'Connor

Front Page Hog

Early Wednesday morning, Physics teacher Garett Hubbard and junior David Pearce carried out a plan authorities believe they prepared for weeks. The two laid siege to the school using techniques from the Middle Ages and miniature trebuchets.

This story actually begins four years ago. One night, while at a Nirvana concert, Hubbard came across an instructional video discarded in the corner of a public restroom. Mistaking it for season one of "The Real World," he took it home and watched it, finding that it was actually an instructional video explaining how to effectively attack a castle with a trebuchet. Hubbard kept the film for its educational value and showed it to classes for years to come.

"I never thought that medieval warfare could be so boring," said junior Andy Blacker, a student who was forced to watch the video this year.

However, one student was riveted.

Pearce claims he always had an interest in destruction. After seeing the film, he approached Hubbard to express his curiosity in trebuchets. Hubbard was thrilled.

On March 5, Hubbard formally began the "Middle Ages" club with Pearce as the only member. The two held secret after-school meetings for weeks. Somewhere during that time, they hatched a plan. Hubbard convinced his eleventh grade Physics classes to build mini-trebuchets, devices that launch objects like a slingshot, under the pretense that they were learning about velocity. Ancient trebuchets were over ten feet tall and used in attacking castles. These trebuchets were less than eleven inches and constructed with paper and plastic spoons.

Pearce constructed suits of armor in his basement using a blowtorch and recycled

See Vikings , page 5

# School Anticipates Student Revolution

"Amazing" Grace Powell

Loudmouth

Revolution; the word is uttered like a captive who mentions freedom or a bitter man pronouncing a curse. The cause is an unknown student who wanders the halls. Authorities call him X Kid.

The hallways are filled with an uncanny anticipation. Whispers are hissed behind closed doors, teachers are on edge, and students are experiencing an unprecedented sense of excitement. While the appearance of this kid first began as a confusing joke, trouble has now surmounted.

Biology teacher Dr. Lisa Lynton first began to notice something different within her classroom over a month ago. "It was during my seventh period class. I was teaching a lesson on the overhead when I noticed something out of the corner of my eye. It was hard to see due to the glare of the overhead light, but I noticed something stirring."

Lynton then realized that someone was sitting in a seat that had been vacated since the beginning of the school year, 'Who was that kid?' I asked. I couldn't really make out his response, but I could have sworn he said, 'You'll find out.'' Lynton then turned off the overhead and asked another student to turn on the lights. Surprisingly, there was no student in the spot where Lynton thought there was. "I began to get angry, and asked the class 'Who was that?' I'm going to get an administrator to deal with this, I don't like foolishness within my classroom."

Other teachers have had similar complaints. During class time, when visibility is low and a teacher is preoccupied, the unknown student supposedly makes frivolous comments and disrupts the class. When the teacher turns to where the disruption is occurring, they find nobody there.

This is very frustrating because the students in my class claim they never saw anybody, but I know I'm not crazy," said a teacher, who prefers to remain anonymous. As the incidents become less isolated, the disturbances of the unknown student seem more organized. The undisclosed teacher said, "The kid showed up in my fifth period class last week. After I realized what was going on, I snapped to attention to find my whole class yawning." This has become a trademark of the X Kid. During situations when the unknown student has left the classroom, many students are seen yawning at the same time. Lynton said, "The yawning is an act of defiance. It signifies that the students are trying to make a point, this X Kid is just another example of that."

"The X Kid is like a hero to us. He is much more than some random student. We're talking a student revolution here," said senior Melissa Conway.

Revolution, that word again. Yet, how much could a student body really be ca-

See Revolution, page 5

#### Tea Time With T-Dank



## Pee In a Cup? That is What's Up.

Starting on April 9, the school will be implementing a daily random drug test. This is the alleged result of rise in drug use at our school.

Personally I think this is ridiculous. If I want to smoke crack, let me smoke crack. If I want to smoke weed, let me smoke weed. If I want to pop some prescription pills...then let me, wait no, heck no, pills? That is bad for you. Finally, if I want to inject myself with heroine...let me inject myself with heroine. Who cares if it hurts my performance, or if it makes me see things that are not actually happening in class. If anything, it would make the class a lot more interestinghey, look a monkey!- sorry, the heroine's kickin' in. Individuals should be allowed to do what they want, period.

What do scientists know? That is right, nothing. And besides, we are always told to be leaders and not followers,

so why follow most of the world in not doing drugs?

Then there are these "Above the Influence" commercials. The problem with them is they are so above the influence they are up in la-la land in the clouds. What do they know? They are all whacked out now.

Furthermore, despite the belief that more than half of our school is on drugs or illegally drinking alcohol, we are not. Only a select few of us are engaging in such activities, which entertain many of us throughout the day.

Not only are these drug tests stupid, they require students to get up fifteen minutes earlier. We already get up early enough.

High school is supposed to prepare us for the real world. However, the real world does not include random drug tests when you stroll in to work every day. This system threatens

our basic human rights, and is not prepare us for anything, except maybe jail.

Our school is spending every single penny it currently has (that is right no prom juniors and seniors) on this drug testing system. This makes no sense. To put it in perspective for the rest of the world, it would be like the U.S. putting all its money into the war in Iraq...oh wait, it is, bad example.

Anyways, where was I? What is this about again? Drugs, yes, I love them. Wait, no. The policy is horrible, the staff needs to go down to CVS and get a perscription for chill pills, watch Cheech and Chong and Half Baked a few times, and think about how tetious it is to pee in a cup. Maybe then teachers would realize this policy is not needed, is against our rights as Americans, and well, yea.

# RANTS and RAVES



Photo by Michael Ainsworth/KRT

A rant for sitting on the toilet then realizing there is no tollet paper.

A rant for "Deal or No Deal." what a horrible game show.

A rant for fat guys with no shirts in public places.



Photo by Kurt Strazdins/KRT

A rave for crab cakes! Crab good, cake better, Crab Cakes delicious!

A rave for Mr. Feinstein's dance performance to "Blue Suede Shoes!"

A rave for Scarlett Johansson, soooooo hot!

#### I Got the Need, the Need to Read

Dear Esteemed Reader.

It has been a while since my last letter, and I appreciate the fact that you have taken my words seriously. Readership for The Wire has gone increasingly up.

Now, that's all fine and dandy, but there's one more problem that needs to be addressed. This newspaper is not to be used as a weapon. Guns, knives, bazookas, and brass knuckles are weapons. Not newspapers.

First of all, papers don't even make good weapons. The most harm that can be inflicted on a person is a paper cut. And that's wimpy. If you want to cause real, manly harm, you should use a samurai sword or nun-chucks.

I would now like to turn the focus to the people who are being hit with the newspapers. Shut up, it doesn't hurt! Time and time again I walk down the hallway and see someone get with a newspaper. The person who gets hit then screams with pain. You and I both know it doesn't hurt that much. Stop being a cry-baby; if your parents wanted you to be a sissy they would have named you Dr. Quinn or Medicine Woman.

So, in conclusion, please make love not war. Newspapers are for reading not for fighting. Don't get it twisted.

"Dude You're Getting" Adele Hampton, Queen

#### Corrections From Last Issue

We decided to make a school paper. Sorry.

Not enough headlines rhymed or had alliteration in them.

Nick Friedrich was not quoted last issue.

We published that Grey's Anatomy article, we did

If you have a correction for The Wire, please do not submit it because we think we are perfect.

Ms. Peacock is not

very organized; she never has labels on

her material boxes.

If you have an opinion on a school-related issue, please submit your Letter to the Editor of 250 words or less to Room 418 Quander, or e-mail us at: kelcy.pierre@fcps.edu. All submissions become property of Liar Liar.



West Potomac High School 6500 Quander Road Alexandria, VA 22307

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Alex Clarkson, "Kelly's Husband" "Dude you're getting" Adele Hampton Taylor "Go Kill Yourself" Dankmyer "Oh Mr. Sandman" Sandy Slippen Emily "Kuhbacha" Anum "Giraffe" "Super" Kate O'Connor Mariya "Ms. Perfect" Ilyas Ken "Bad Spellin" Llewellyn "Amazing" Grace Powell Jocelyn "Finny Finny" Finfrock Sara "Gimp" Matthewson Caroline "Care Bear" Staples "Kelly-Belly" Wood Jon "Last Samurai" Yoo "Hoofflepuff" Cooksey Sam "The Man" McCann

King Sarcasm Extraordinaire Webster's Webster's Front Page Hog Front Page Hog Front Page Hog Loudmouth Loudmouth Blonde Blonde Centerfold E! Correspondent Meathead

Meathead

Meathead

Zach "Mini-Mr." Feinstein "JT Loving" Lara Davidson Erin "Color-Coded" Burke Devon "Candy" Cain Evan "On the" Fritz "Tidal Wave" Johnson Kyle "Red Carpet" Rosenkranz Jayne McDreamy, "Derek's Wife" Kate "Likes Cake" Sigety Sydney "Chicken Little" Smith "Wire Mom" Angie Palma Colin "BALLIN" Chadduck Emmanuel "Unheard Voices" Koduah "Quesha" Langley Brittany "Kitty" Catina Drew "Beau" Smith Kelcy "P-Dawg" Pierre

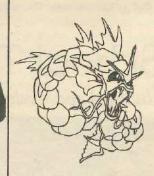
Computer Nerd Number Crud Truth Embellish Truth Embellisher Truth Embellisher Truth Embellisher Truth Embellisher Photo by Alex Russ III/KRT Truth Embellisher Truth Embellisher Truth Embellisher G-Money G-Money G-Money Soul Stealer Soul Stealer Soul Stealer

The Adviser Formally Known as Jensen

Liar Liar is a publication whose aim is confuse and entertain the student body. Liar Liar will not print any material that is true or serious, or that will invade a person's right to privacy. The ideas expressed in unsigned editorials reflect the opinions of the newspaper staff; however, Letters from the Editor do. Liar Liar is an open forum for communications which is printed by Silver Communications.



O







# Cafeteria Food Fit for Hungry Kings

Mr. Green does not have a stapler. His students often have to return small, silvery things to him.

"Hoofflepuff" Cooksey Meathead

Most students believe the best parts of a school day are being able to see your friends, participate in a sport, or learn something you have always wanted to know. All of these thoughts and ideas are wrong. The best part of the day is the 30 minutes of glory in our school's cafeteria, where students can indulge in some most appetizing and scrumptious meals from the cafeteria lines.

After finishing a lesson on World War II in my history class, I sprint down to the cafeteria to see what delicious treats our school is serving today. Yesterday, I had a great combination of cookies, chips, a soda, a pretzel (of course, with melted cheese), and some more chips. However, today I want a real meal. As I stroll through the line behind my fellow classmates, a plastic wrapper catches my eye. Inside is a chicken sandwich, I think. Or it could be a hamburger or fish sandwich. I am hungry, though, and anything from our cafeteria will taste good,

so I cannot go wrong. I grab a thing of This combination will add that unmatchable fruit, and then add chips and six cookies.

My "meal" is complete and I leave the line to join my friends at the tables surrounded by the most comfortable seats I have ever settled into.

With school lunches on the rise, bag lunches are becoming obsolete. Lunches filled with delicious sandwiches, chips in a plastic bag, fruit, homemade desserts and drinks are just no match for a variety of chips, sodas, melted cheese to go on anything and mysterious meals, such as burritos, hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken nuggets and sub sandwiches. Bag lunches cannot match our school's

cafeteria food- they are just too healthy and homemade, and definitely have too much quality. If you do encounter the bag lunch problem, then go into the line and purchase melted cheese and a large quantity of salt.

cafeteria flavor to any piece of food

from your bag lunch. Not to mention that the pink trays are far superior to having a paper bag as your place mat. The spongy surface allows the sometimes hard cheese sticks to rest comfortably between bites. The trays are not only a good

eating surface, but also allow students to cut them apart, carve drawings into them, or use them as mini catapults to launch the cafeteria food fit for the

As the school day winds down, I look ahead to the homework and sports

that need to be completed that afternoon. I complete these tasks for one reason, and one reason only; to get me to the next day, which will bring another thirty minutes of joy in our school's cafeteria.

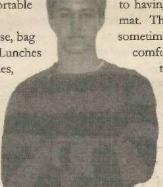


Photo by Brittany " Kitty" CATina



#### What Do You Think?

How good is our school food?

Poll out of 300,000 students.

**Too Cold** 

Just Dight

# Students, Sleep No More

Emily Kuhbaca

Websters

"The early bird catches the worm." Now is the time to apply this age-old expression to the single most time-consuming thing in our lives: school. It is time we stopped racing the sun to class; I want to just plain beat it.

Yes, I am saying what you think I am saying: I think we should start the school day earlier. In fact, let's make that one quick and easy hour earlier. "An hour?!" you protest, "But I already get up early enough!"

The honest truth is that you have no idea. Children all over the world rise and begin their days before the sun. Look at the education systems in East Asia; they rise early and they win all the worldwide education awards. So there.

The most obvious reason we should start school earlier is because it translates to a heck of a lot more learning. Imagine if we were to spend one extra hour in school every morning: those mere hours add up to eons of information.

Also, you may not realize it, but it is more beneficial to us students to start the day earlier. For one thing, when we roll up to school we are not greeted by the blinding light of the rising sun. That is a nuisance I am ready to leave behind. But more Photo by Brittany "Kitty" CATina step such as this one will have lasting effects importantly, our brains are not fully turned on. This may sound like it would detract from the learning experience, but just hold your horses. If our brains are not turned on, then we therefore are less aware of what is going on around, and therefore less likely to

have a grumpy mood when we start off our day. You all know the feeling of waking up so early that you are literally not aware of your surroundings. Imagine experiencing this bliss everyday! Yes, it may cut into learning time a tad, but once those juices get flowing, you will be fully awake without having had to go through that strugglingto-be-conscious phase. You will skip right from totally unaware to

You brain is like your stomach, my friends. Just like you are supposed to eat a nice healthy breakfast to jumpstart your metabolism, rising earlier and trying to engage in thought jumpstarts your higher level

thinking skills. So basically, you are slimming down, intellectually. You know what they say: a man or woman who can write a timed essay at 6:30 in the morning can do anything.

Oh, and one last thing: sleep is totally overrated. Personally, I am just tired of sleep. It is a nuisance to my jam-packed day. It is for wimps who are afraid to face the light (or, hopefully in our case, dark) of day. Consider all the great things you could do living a 20-hour day. The possibilities are endless.

> In the words of Ben Franklin, "Late to bed, early to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise." Well, duh, healthy, wealthy, and wise is a pretty winning combination. And Ben Franklin is a pretty respectable guy. You can put two and two together. Starting school at 6:20 A.M. Hittle sleep = a nice body, a successful career, and some brains. So what are you waiting for?

My fellow students, you can either wallow in the pathetic existence that is sleeping until 6:30 every morning, or you can take part in the revolution against sleep. Taking a seemingly small on our population; essentially, it is self-induced natural selection. You cannot make the bell, you

cannot make the team. The human race team. I do not know about you, but I want the worm.





Colin's A-B-C'S Starting Life All Over Again



Today's Topic: What Is It Good For?

Colin 'Ballin' Chadduck G-Money

Air, the stuff we "breathe," the stuff that makes us "live," the stuff of fiction. We do not need air to live.

Am I alive when I hold my breath underwater? Of course! So if we can live without air, why do we keep breathing the stuff? Walk into a classroom, inhaling teachers. Peak into the next room, students exhaling. In the classroom three doors down, the first fish on the teacher's desk inhaling and the second fish exhaling. It is crazy.

Why does every human being insist on doing some activity that is not necessary and is destroying our ozone layer? CO2 the same stuff that is causing us all this grief with the ozone layer, is the same stuff we exhale. In reality, could twenty years of spray paint and cooling fluid cause that much damage to our ozone layer? I say no. Over a billion years, various mammals, reptiles, fish, and fungi have constantly exhaled CO2, making it the true culprit. Instead of protest T-shirts about walking to work to stop greenhouse gas emissions, they should say something along the lines of "Save the planet. Stop breathing."

Suffocation (death from a lack of oxygen entering the body) is another element of the argument that we need air. People will die from sticking their heads into plastic bags, or staying under water for too long, but they die not because of lack of O2; rather, they die from pressure. Our bodies are extremely weak to outside pressures, and this is what we die from. The real science behind sticking our heads in plastic bags is this: Not only is there more stuff inside an enclosed space that raises pressure, but also carbon dioxide has more volume because it is horter then the cold O2, so it has more volume. The massive increase in pressure becomes deadly in about the same time a human dies from a "lack of oxygen." When the pressure reaches this point our lungs explode and we die from the muscles in our chest eventually falling

This lie has been going on way too long. Breathing is not necessary for survival. What kills us is not the lack of oxygen, it is the increase in pressure. Imagine what could happen if every person in the world stopped breathing. Our ozone layer would stop eroding, and our fragile earth would live one day longer. This lie was started by people who are against coolants. So, in response to billions of years of breathing, a protest date should be set up where people hold their breath in front of the White House, to show everyone it is possible to live without this air stuff. Fight the urge, do not breathel

Friday, March 30, 2007

# Electric Doors Come as a Real Shocker

The new anti-tardy policy frays nerves, frizzes hair

Sydney "Chicken Little" Smith Truth Embellisher

One of the biggest problems at our school is thehigh number of tardy students. After years of trial and error, our school's administration has finally developed a solution: put fiber optics into the doorknobs to shock students who are

In psychology class, one is taught that if an experimenter inflicts an uncomfortable feeling onto a subject, that subject will attempt to not have that feeling again. AP Psychology instructor Annica McKenney said, "In psychology, aversive conditioning is a type of counter-conditioning associating an unwanted behavior with an unpleasant state. Aversive conditioning typically works better it the beginning and wanes over time. People are generally aware when they are away from the person or thing inflicting the stimulus they can do whatever they want."

If one applies this principle to tardy students, the theory is that after a student is shocked, that student will never want to be shocked again. Senior Maysa Elhag thinks this new plan will reduce the number of students late to class. She said, "it is a lesson learned. You most likely would try your best to make it on time to class."

The installation of these new and improved classroom doors was made possible thanks to a grant our school received. The Fairfax County Public School Improve Security Now Grant (FCPSISNG) is awarded to schools who are in need

of a security makeover. The security guards are often too busy dealing with catching tardy students to keep our school safe. These new doors give students a concrete reason to be in class ontime, and it gives the security guards more time to be able to effectively do their jobs.

Parents who are opposed to this new plan are afraid that these shocks are blatant forms of cruel and unusual punishment, which are prohibited by the Eighth Amendment. Elhag disagreed. "It [the shock] is not painful, but it leaves your hand with a funny feeling."

One of the main issues for girls at our school is the obvious consequences for their hair. When a student is late, they receive a slight electrical shock. Apparently, the shock affects more than their nerves. The shock acts as a sort of static-shock that makes hair frizz up. Senior Mina Nekoueian said, "The shock made my curly long hair frizz up. It makes you have a bad hair day. I think the new frizz hair [will] become in style again."

The consequence is that female students are sometimes more focused on fixing their hair than paying attention to their teachers. However, McKenney said, "Shocking students late to class would be great. Not because aversive conditioning might decrease their tardiness but because I would like to do their new hairstyle following the

Photo by "Quesha" Langley

Freshman Janay Dixon has developed an intense fear of being tardy, due to the new electrifying school security system.

treatment. I have always had the desire to be a professional new wave hairstylist."

While these new doors are encouraging students to come to class on time, they could become a problem if girls continue to discuss their hair problems over their teacher's lesson plans.

#### **Brad Lupton's Secret Identity**

Caroline "Care Bear" Staples

Junior Brad Lupton, also known in these areas as "B-Rad," has been working with the CIA for the past three years as a secret security guard at our school. Lupton has a congenital growth hormone condition that gives him the outward appearance and voice of an adolescent boy, when he is actually a grown man.

Some of you might recognize this condition as the same as that of Andy Milonakis, which is in fact true. Lupton's condition helps to disguise his position as a security officer as he acts like a regular high school student, when, in fact, he is one of our security guards. Promoting good behavior, getting students to classes on time, and keeping the peace are a few attributes "B-Rad" brings to our school. Although he just looks like a big, clumsy, unshaven blondie, he is in fact a hero among students.

One student in particular, junior Cliff Smircina, has had some fighting issues this year, but with the help of Lupton, his troubles have long been gone. "It all started in the halls when I was starting to fight with a freshman," said Smircina, "when along came 'B-Rad,' who split me and him up.' Other acts of precaution include catching troublemakers, stealing burgers and other

popular foods from the cafeteria lines, and returning skippers to their rightful classes.

Agreeing with the rest of security, Lupton believed, "it was time for me to come out of the closet." Friends of the "B," as he is called, surprisingly did not have any problems with living under false pretenses for all these years.

How did Lupton get away with so many failing grades and tardies? All of his teachers, and many other faculty members, were informed of "B-Rad"'s assignments: keep the school safe and do not blow cover. Because his educators knew of the situation on hand, they simply gave out fake grades and excused every single one of his tardies. As for Lupton's grade sheets, they made them up. And what about his car? Of course a CIA official, like Lupton, would drive a 2006 blue Ford Mustang, instead of some beat up old 1995 Honda. And that story of his rich aunt giving him the car? That was made up in about two seconds.

"I do feel a little bad about tricking nearly every student in the school, but it is all good," said Lupton. Although somewhat deceitful, the plan worked and assault rates plummeted soon after Lupton was hired as a security guard. Thanks to "B-Rad," our school has been a more safe and secure place for learning



shocked to discover the secret behind the mysterious greenhouse plants.

"Hoofflepuff" Cooksey

Meathead

As drivers enter the school's boundaries, a "Drug Free" sign appears on the side of the road, restricting the use of drugs on school grounds. Who would have thought not only would there be drugs found on our school grounds, but that there would be an inside conspiracy to grow them to make some extra money for the county? A stunning discovery was made in our school's greenhouse behind the baseball field.

As sophomore Brendan Murphy leisurely strolled through the campus skipping his fifth period class, he came upon the somewhat hidden greenhouse. "I walked by and wanted to check on the plants inside because it had been cold the night before and I wanted to make sure they had survived," said Murphy. The door to the greenhouse was locked, so Murphy had to use the skills he learned in the "Think Like a Criminal" class he took over the summer to pick the lock with a paperclip he had in his pocket. "I know I am not supposed to do that, but I really was worried about the plants," said Murphy. After checking on the plants, Murphy removed one plant that he was not familiar with and brought it to his-science teacher, who later identified it as Cannabis sativa.

Murphy had made a stunning discovery. "I asked myself, why was an illegal substance

#### Our School's Secret Garden, Exposed

Illegal paraphernalia discovered among greenhouse plants, linked to top officials

being grown in our school?" Murphy said quizzically. Murphy then set off on a search to find the culprit of one of the biggest scandals ever to be uncovered in public school history.

He began by interviewing the administration and teachers, keeping his reason for the interviews a secret. "I wanted to uncover the culprit of this crime by myself," said Murphy. After collecting all of the evidence he possibly could, Murphy was able to pu two and two together, and link the crime to a top official in the new Potomac Schoo System (PSS), which had just replaced the original FCPS administration.

Murphy immediately went to the press, and told of all the evidence he had found and wha his conclusion was. It turns out that PSS wa spending a great deal of money on school supplies and facilities, but at the same time was not making enough money to replace th spent funds. The administration said its onl option was to sell drugs, which would gain a quick profit. The spokesperson stated the PSS did not expect anyone to actually chec the greenhouses. The PSS administration is being further investigated by the Feder Bureau of Investigation.

One thing is for sure. Murphy is a hero, ar will receive an award from the school for h in-depth investigating and his fearless pursu of justice.

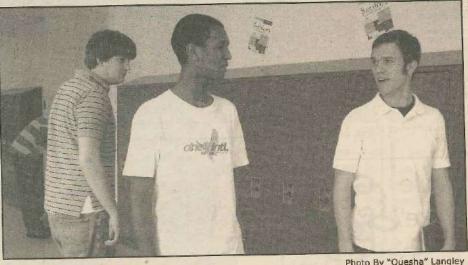


Photo By "Quesha" Langley

CIA agent "B-Rad" Lupton spent his three years undercover at our school spying on troublemakers skipping class, such as junior Abyie Maelaf and sophomore Joe Bradley.



# Psychology Teacher Diagnosed Insane

Annica McKenney faces a lifetime in a maximim security prison after viciously attacking a student

Sam "The Man" McCann

Senior Emily Chilton lay wide awake in a dimly lit hospital room, still reeling from her last day of school. She was haunted by the memory of that fateful Friday, the day she walked into Annica McKenney's AP Psychology class.

It took a great deal of effort for Chilton to open up about the incident, which very clearly traumatized her. However, for Chilton, it was crucial to reveal to the world the terror which McKenney inflicted upon her.

According to Chilton and the police reports she filed earlier this week, she has been in McKenney's AP Psychology class since the start of the year. She said McKenney was openly hostile towards her, making ceaseless threats to her and others.

One particularly memorable threat came last Friday, when McKenney, dismayed that Chilton was, according to the psychology teacher, "breathing the wrong way," made yet another terrifying threat toward the student. "She said that she would rip each and every tooth out of her mouth and shoot them back at her face with a slingshot," said a witness, junior Paul Disselkoen.

This threat was not memorable because of its poignancy, for, by all accounts, McKenney has made far more intimidating comments in the past, but rather that the threat was actually acted upon. After Chilton continued to breathe

Ms. White's stu-dents say she never

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Photo By Drew "Beau" Smith

A witness snapped this picture just as the gruesome struggle between McKenney and Chilton began.

# Summer Studies

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#### Revolution, from page 1

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Coming out of the bathroom, senior Patrick Hoffman was lucky enough to catch a glimpse of the mysterious X kid.

#### Vikings, from page 1

Pepsi cans. Within three weeks, the two had all they thought they needed to take over the school.

In the wee hours of the morning this past Wednesday, they met in Hubbard's room and carried the eighteen tiny trebuchets to the front of the school. Adorned in their soda can armor and Viking helmets, they quickly collected small rocks and gravel from the school's campus. By six A.M. they were prepared and stood waiting for the first cars to arrive.

As students poured into school they were met with rocks being pelted (rather inaccurately) at their bodies. "Fire!" yelled Hubbard as Pierce frantically rushed back and forth between the tiny trebuchets, reloading them.

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After nearly an hour of loading and launching their devices, Pierce and Hubbard finally deserted their posts. Firsthand accounts say that Hubbard was unwilling to miss giving his flex class a test. Pierce, who was disappointed in the surrender, ran off of the campus into the dawn. He has been missing for three days.

I would have rather fought pirates, but we sure did scare the school good. I bet I'll get arrested or something. Then I will hire Michael Jackson's lawyer and get rich," said Hubbard on Thursday afternoon. He returned to his regular teaching schedule and dismantled the Medieval club after Pierce's disappearance. Principal Rima Vesilind said that she does not plan to take any disciplinary action on Pierce, nor will she penalize Hubbard for pelting students with rocks. She said, "I can't hold it against him. There are days when I just want to launch rocks at these kids too."





# Psychology Teacher Diagnosed Insane

Annica McKenney faces a lifetime in a maximim security prison after viciously attacking a student

Sam "The Man" McCann

Senior Emily Chilton lay wide awake in a dimly lit hospital room, still reeling from her last day of school. She was haunted by the memory of that fateful Friday, the day she walked into Annica McKenney's AP Psychology class.

It took a great deal of effort for Chilton to open up about the incident, which very clearly traumatized her. However, for Chilton, it was crucial to reveal to the world the terror which McKenney inflicted upon her.

According to Chilton and the police reports she filed earlier this week, she has been in McKenney's AP Psychology class since the start of the year. She said McKenney was openly hostile towards her, making ceaseless threats to her and others.

One particularly memorable threat came last Friday, when McKenney, dismayed that Chilton was, according to the psychology teacher, "breathing the wrong way," made yet another terrifying threat toward the student. "She said that she would rip each and every tooth out of her mouth and shoot them back at her face with a slingshot," said a witness, junior Paul Disselkoen.

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#### **Garrett "Professor Plum" Hubbard**

Devon "Candy" Cain

Truth Embellisher

Professor Plum drank a glass of ice cold grape soda to start his day out right. Then, he changed out of his purple silk pajamas and into his suit before knotting his purple tie and walking out the door.

"I went down the steps and took my keys out. Then I realized that my car wasn't there!" said Plum. Professor Plum then phone and arranged to borrow dad's ride for the day. He drove to school, making a stop at Hollin Hall Pastry Shop along the way to grab a blackberry scone Professor Plum arrived at school thirty minutes early and walked into Gunston. "Professor Plum] tells us everyday that 'A leader is always on time," said junior Hunter Link.

During first block, Professor Plum instructed

his class to do a "Pendulum Lab." While his students struggled with the lab using inadequate rulers, Professor Plum filled out an application for a principal position at his desk.

"Professor Plum is a cool guy, I totally support his dream of someday becoming a principal," said junior James Dressing.

During Flex block, Professor Plum attended a meeting in the Career Center. Professor Plum then went straight from the meeting through the class, he received a phone call and left the classroom. A substitute sat in on his class for

him and reported that he was gone for approximately twenty-three minutes. While out of his classroom, Professor Plum was seen running out of the Main Gym by junior Jamie Coder. "He seemed very distracted so I made fun of him," said Coder.

#### Colin "Green" O'Grady

Mariya "Ms. Perfect" Ilyas

Front Page Hog

A 5:00 a.m. alarm wakes Mr. Green up every morning. His light green walls brighten his day everyday, as he pulls his dark green curtains to take a look outside and stretch. Anything could be found in his room, for he v very organized. Mr. Green firedly wears a striped, Polo, green shirt with baggy jeans without bothering to take a shower. After gelling his hair in spikes, Mr. Green heads out of his house, pulls out his green Mustang, and drives to school

"I love Mr. Green's class! He is the easiest and the most organized male teacher I know! Hey look what I found, I gotta go. Talk to you later," said sophomore 

Mr. Green takes pride in teaching, he loves discussing books and having students respond to thematic topics. He always gives out green Jolly Ranchers to students who answer his questions correctly. They had just finished the book Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe. He thought it best to invite the author and have him discuss some parts of the book with his students. But first he needed permission from Mrs. Vesilind.

Sophomore Devin Matthews exclaimed, "I can't wait for Mr. Chinua Achebe to come to our class. I am so excited to meet such a famous author. Well, if you don't mind, I have to

> murn this paper-holding-together hingy, whatever its called, to Mr.

When heading down to the Flex meeting in the Career Center, Mr. Green noticed that the custodian's closet was not entirely closed. Being nosy as he was, he decided to take a peek inside. "What a perfect place to hide some of

my students," he thought to himself. During the meeting, Mr. Green proposed the idea of inviting Mn Athebe to our school. He was shot down by Ms. Vesilind because it was too short of a notice, and besides, class time should not be wasted on such time-wasting

At the end of the meeting, Mr. Green's hair was not spiked anymore. It was drooping, reflecting exactly how he felt. And then he began to smirk.

#### George "Colonel Mustard" Coe

Emily Kuhbacha

Webster's

Colonel Mustard rises with the blazing yellow sun. Every morning he has a nice healthy breakfast: a unique combination of bananas with mustard, his great-grandmother's recipe. Donning his hornet yellow suit, he hops on his macaroni-colored bicycle and pedals the twenty miles to school, making sure not to cross the double solid yellow line.

This particular morning he arrives with more hope than usual. Perhaps it is the bright sun, or perhaps it has something to de with the fact that today is the day he is going to announce his candidacy for president. He is sure Rima Vesilind will understand that his destiny is bigger than this school, that it is time for him to move on to bigger and better things.

Throughout the day, Mustard smiled a little more maliciously than usual at his students. "This is the last time I'm going to have to deal with these little brats," he whispered liking what he saw, he turned to face it full on. excitedly to reporters between classes.

During his last class of the day, it finally hit Mustard that this was his last day as our most notorious history teacher. Feeling he should say goodbye to his students in some way, he decided to practice his public speaking skills on his 7th period class. "Most importantly, I would like to thank whoever put that video of me up on YouTube, because it really lets the rest of the world know who I am." He was referring

to the video of him ranting at students about "the bloody emperor with a bloody sword at his side" while explaining the AP test's DBQ (Document-Based Question) essay. "Teacher traumatizes student" has become about as famous as the (Howard) "Dean Scream" of

At the end of the day, on his way out his room for the last time, Mustard took one last look around his room. His eyes passed over the white board, where he went off on tangents

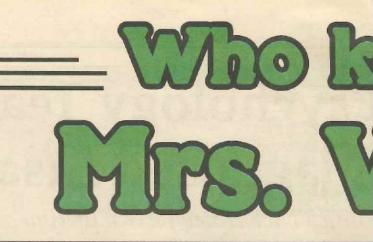
so many times, over the desk of the student who he beat over the head with a

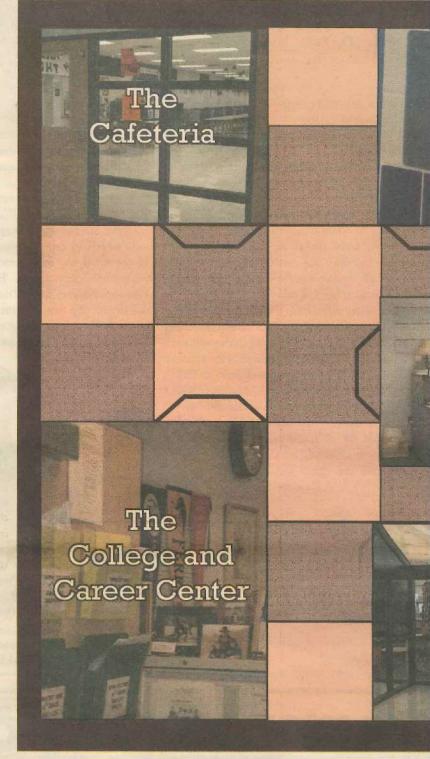
tpe dispenser (what a great day), and over the fifteen posters of various moments in history adorning his walls. With one last bitter laugh, he slammed the door on his time at our school... or so he thought.

On his way to the faculty neeting, he stopped by the men's bathroom to freshen up. Catching

a glimpse of himself in the mirror and "This is it," he said, and with an ominous bellow he was out the door and on his way.

Twenty minutes later he emerged from the meeting, the smile so often on his face replaced by a stern frown. In his hand he held his resignation letter, the one he had so carefully crafted, in shreds. One had to wonder... was there a "Teacher traumatizes principal" video





#### THE SCENARIO

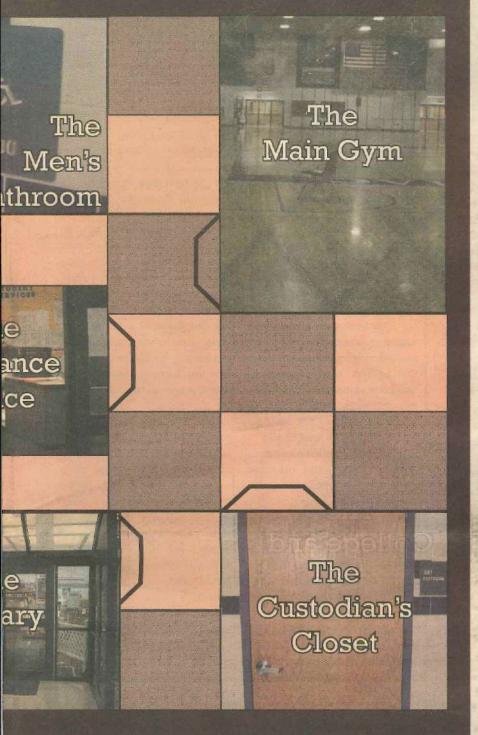
Mariya "Miss Perfect" Ilyas & Devon "Candy" Cain

Front Page Hog & Truth Eml

Our very sweet and wonderful principal, Mrs. Rima Vesilind was kidnep Read the articles about each suspect, decipher the clues throughout this newsp room 418. The first person to do this will receive a \$10 prize.

Junior Mohammed Chouat had a scheduled meeting with Mrs. Vesilind at PM. When he reached her office, he was welcomed by an empty room. After was meeting—which was very unlike our organized principal. As he was about to their meeting! But where was she?! Chouat scratched his head as he picked mysterious item left on her desk. Thinking it wise, Chouat immediately turned i odd item to Mrs. Pierre, which Mrs. Pierre quickly put on her unorganized pay

# bepped =



#### Ashley "Scarlet" Hall

Emily Kuhbacha

Vebster's

Ms. Scarlet awakens to the sound of the coffee machine chirping. "Ahh, what a way to wake up," she thinks to herself as she hops out of bed, slips on her crimson slippers, and heads off to the kitchen. Twenty minutes later, she boards her Flyer Wagon and wheels off to school. Unfortunately, she hits five red lights on the way to school, but luckily, her huge coffee

mug was there to save the day.

Before her first class that day, she made a trip to the copy machine to Xerox assignments for her classes. Although she is a sign language teacher, she has an English degree and for this reason likes to make her students do a lot of motivational writing assignments... so many that she includes at least two pages of writing space. She refuses to copy anything if it less than two pages, because "you could fit that on a Post-It note. There's no need to kill a tree for it." With that, she picked up her red stapler (an Office Space token) and left the workroom to go prepare- in other words, staple- the assignments.

That day, her students were not in the best of spirits. Despite the fact that they had all received

pretty good grades on their last motivational essays (denoted by a bright red sticker on the top of the paper), cabin fever was pulsing throughout the classroom. She watched as their eyes followed the rays of sunlight from the floor to the window, where they daydreamed about the flowering trees, sunshine, and sweet, warm air. After snapping a fifth student back to attention, she decided to take action. Later that

afternoon, she was going to suggest a short daily recess for all to Mrs. Vesilind. In one last attempt to cheer her students up, she passed around Swedish fish and strawberry Cream Savers.

On her way to the faculty meeting that afternoon, Scarlet stopped off at the cafeteria to restock her supply of feel-good candy that so often proved the trick for blue students. It was all part of her

plan of attack: She was going to win Vesilind over with candy, and if she did not listen, she would be given a talking to- outside the Career Center.

During an awkward pause in the meeting, Scarlett decided to offer up her idea. After handing out cherry lollipops to all the staff, she spoke of her dream of a short daily recess for all students during the spring. She launched into her carefully-planned speech, but it did not matter what Scarlet was saying- Vesilind had stopped listening the minute she received that

#### Annica "White" McKenney

Devon "Candy" Cain

Truth-Embellisher

Every morning Ms. White rolls out of her white bed (in her white bedroom) and slips on her fuzzy white slippers. After dressing, she put on her stylish white trench coat, and slipps behind the wheel of her white Honda.

On the way to school Ms.

White stopped at Hollin Hall
Pastry center to get a white
chocolate muffin. Standing in line,
she noticed Mr. Hubbard a couple
of feet in front of her. "I was going
to say hello, but he seemed nervous about
something," she said.

In her first period, Ms. White administered a quiz and then started her class on the next unit. "She gives our class at least three handouts a

day, but I always lose them because they are never hole punched," said junior Christina Spataro.

During the Flex block of the school day, Ms. White attended an administrative meeting in

the Career Center. She expressed her idea about a new system for making copies at our school. Her idea was shot down and she reportedly stomped out the Career Center.

A few hours later, Ms. White was seen coming out of the library with a picture book. "Initially when she saw that I had seen her, she

looked afraid. But then, she growled at me just like she normally does," said senior Laura Smith. Ms. White was late to her third block class and was described as being in a horrible mood. "She ate my sugar cookie," said Spataro.

#### Objective of the Came:

Your job is to figure out the following:

- · WHO kidnapped our caring principal?
- · WHAT did the culprif leave on her desk?
- WHERE is she now?
- WITY was she kidnapped in the first place?

You be the detective!! Have fun.

Character	Stapler	Paper-clip	Tape	Ruler	Puncher	Label
Ms. Peacock						
Mr. Green						
Ms. White						
Professor Plum						
Ms. Scarlet						
Colonel Mustard	# # #					

All photoes by 'Quesha' Langley

#### Mary "Peacock" Mathewson

Mariya "Ms. Perfect" Ilyas

Front Page Hog

Mrs. Peacock's day begins when she wakes up in her blue bed sheets. After dressing up, she heads out of the house.

Sophomore Eldar Loncarevic said, "She always hands back the wrong period's papers back. She should organize herself and get some trays or labels or something." Mrs. Peacock's English class begins as students receive their Lord of the Flies tests back—those with A's receive a blue sticker. Those with not-so-good grades receive blue bandage stickers as a message a of "recover soon."

Disappointed with the grades, Mrs. Peacock decided she should order easier books for her students. But in order to do that, she would need money. Sophomore Varun George said, "Our class isn't really at the reading level that Mrs. Peacock expects us to be at. If that bill ever gets passed by the Board of High School Education, maybe we could receive some of those picture books to make us smarter. I

mean, why not take the opportunity?"

Mrs. Peacock is known to get angry very easily. Sophomore Hussein Fahema said, "I remember one time we had to do some book project and she wanted the projects to be on blue paper, and this one kid turned in his on white. She got so mad, she slammed the door shut and the glass in it almost cracked. If

she doesn't get want she wants, she can get out of control."

While heading down to the Flex meeting, Mrs. Peacock stopped by the Guidance Officer to pick up her mail. A small room caught her attention—but she did not have time to investigate: she was already late for

the meeting!

During the meeting, she and some other teachers met with principal Rima Vesilind in the Career Center. She requested money for the English department to order picture books for the success of her students. Keeping our school's budget in mind, which only consisted of about \$500, Mrs. Vesilind declined her proposal.

Mrs. Peacock was upset after the meeting. Who knows what she would do with her bad temper?



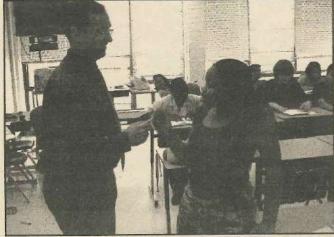


Photo by Emmanuel "Unheard Voices" Koduah

Junior Tierra Sullivan pays World History teacher, Mr. Salvatore Olivo for an A on his exam.

## Students Buy Their Grades

Emmanuel "Unheard Voices" Koduah

G-Money

With the extreme failure of the zero-zero policy, our school is left searching for new ways to improve the dismal grades of the students. In an intensive meeting last month, our school's faculty drew up a new plan, called the "Paying for Grades Policy," which they hope will help improve grades.

The outline for this new policy is quite simple. Students can pay any teacher in whose class they are struggling for extra credit. The standard set rate is five extra credit points for every dollar. Students can buy as much extra credit as they feel necessary or they can afford. The money raised from this policy will be used on school projects such as remodeling the swimming pool on the roof of our school and hiring better DJ's for school

The reaction to this controversial policy is mixed among students, teachers, and parents. "I think this is really great because now I won't have to grade as many papers," said history teacher Salvatore Olivo. There are other teachers, such as Spanish teacher Victoria O'Connor, who disagree with Olivo. "When some students pay in cents or fragments of a dollar, which I know they will, I don't want to have to do the math. I'm only a Spanish teacher," she explains.

this new policy. "I can finally pay and your parents very happy.

for better grades in all my classes. It's about time they had this," said senior Patrick Hoffman. "If they had started this back in my freshman year, I would have a much better GPA and wouldn't have to go to NOVA," he stated.

Parents are also taken part in "Paying for Grades" debate. Some parents welcome this new plan. "We've tried Sylvan, Knowledge Points and other tutors but my son's grades just can't improve. With this new policy, we're sure to see improvement," said an anonymous parent. Others are a little skeptical of the plan. "We already have senior dues and upcoming college tuition to worry about, so we don't need any more money issues," mentioned another parent.

Other nuts and bolts for the plan are still being worked out, such as whether or not checks and credits cards will be accepted, or whether there will be any discounts available. Receipts will also be given to student to ensure proper extra credit is given.

The "Paying for Grades" policy will be put into affect the first week after spring break. Only time can tell whether or not this new plan will be a success or failure like its predecessor, the zero-zero policy. As the old saying says, "money can't buy happiness," but now it can buy you an 'A' in that really hard math Most students are ecstatic about class, which will make both you

#### **SAT Scores Scored Wrong**

Drew "Beau" Smith

It is that time of the year that every senior waits four, long years for: the end of college admissions. From summer on through the New Year, seniors panic and stress over every little detail of their applications. Letters of recommendation, essays, extracurricular activities, and addresses are checked and double checked for accuracy.

But all that is over now and it is time to sit back and wait for the acceptance letters to come in the mail. However, it has been announced that of the thousands of SAT scores that were mailed to colleges, a computer error made 90% of those scores incorrect. The computer error caused the names of the test takers to appear on the wrong test. Usually the problem is only corrected if you get a higher score than what appeared on the grade sheet. But this time, because of the degree to which the scores were confused, all the test scores are being sent again. Also, due to the confusion, colleges are asking certain students to reapply with their accurate test scores. What should have been a time of relaxation has turned into one of chaos.

Some students liked the change because it gave their scores a much-needed boost. Senior Jamie Johnson said, "I was able to get into Yale and Harvard with a

full scholarship because of my higher SAT scores." On the other hand, it destroyed countless students. Senior Norma Castro was rejected from five schools that she should have gotten into with no problem, lamenting that "they ruined my life... I feel stupider now." A lucky few were not affected at all. Senior Tommy Ferguson said, "It has not affected me at all because I know I am smarter than 90% of the people here."

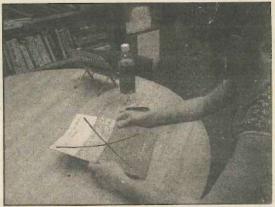


Photo by "Quesha" Langley

Junior Angela Schritver and many other students were surprised with their inaccurate SAT scores.

## Security Guard Gets Fat

Janye McDreamy, "Derek's Wife"

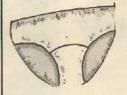
Truth-Embellisher

When you think of a doughnut from Krispy Kreme, the words warm, gooey, and delicious are the first to pop into your head. Security guard Emilio Roberts had to learn the hard way that these tasty doughnuts can also

Earlier this month Roberts was found with ten dozen glazed doughnuts stashed in his office. It was later revealed these doughnuts had been stolen from Sandra Bobo's Leadership class just minutes before a party they had planned in order to celebrate the success of Mr. West Potomac. When the famished students found their delectable treats had been taken, they thought they had simply misplaced them. When Bobo said she had seen them sitting on her desk, the students put the pieces together and realized that the sticky-fingered security guards were to blame.

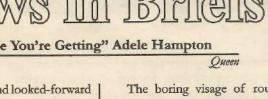
The class followed their lead and immediately marched to the security office to get some answers. They found more than just answers, however; inside of the office were four empty boxes that had been filled with their fresh off-the-rack doughnuts just hours ago. One hunded and twenty donuts later, Roberts had absolutely nothing to say for himself. After being caught red handed, he was too stuffed to get a word out.

In the days following the incident, rumors started to fly about what had happened in the previous days. As it turned out, there had been several 'tasty goodies' that had gone missing over that last few weeks. After being questioned, Roberts finally admitted to shoplifting over 24 dozen doughnuts from around the school. He is now being admitted into a doughnut rehab center and will be returning back in a few weeks. Let us hope he can come clean and end his unhealthy relationship with Krispy Kreme.



## News in Briefs

"Dude You're Getting" Adele Hampton



One of high school's most prized and looked-forward to moments will be canceled this year. Due to a lack on funding, Prom will be cancelled this year. Funding for Prom was spent in other places around the school. For example the new drug tests have taken over 80% of the school's budget. Another reason Prom was canceled was due to a "question of morals." Another reason behind the decision was based on student's behavior and racy dance moves in past dances.

The boring visage of route one is about to be drastically changed. The amusement park Six Flags has recently bought a section of Route 1 and plans to build a full-fledge theme park. Fairfax County has decided to endorse this bold move in order to raise revenue for the county. This Six Flags is rumored to be bigger and better than the one currently in Largo, Maryland. Admission tickets are expected to be around \$600 at first, but then will go down as the park gets more popular.

#### Graduation Moved, from page 12

made graduation more misery than celebration. My family members from out of town are desperately trying to change their flight," said senior Greg Son. Summer plans have also been disrupted by the surprising date change. Shreiber said, "My friends and I rented a house for right after graduation, and now we are completely stressing out because our parents already made the deposit."

Teachers who teach senior classes also have expressed upset over the rescheduling, "My wife is due to give birth to twins on the 21. I can't miss graduation! What if she has to go to the hospital by herself?" said French teacher Dan Fitzgerald. Other teachers, who wish to remain anonymous, expressed relief about the extended school schedule and pointed out that an extended school year means more time to review for finals with their students.

Other options have been discussed but, "No other venue [that we have looked at] has the necessary amount



The Graduation Dog is not happy about the change in graduation date.

seating, the price that is within our range and the prime location. It is an unfortunate situation, but our senior class is just the best and the brightest. I just know they will make the best of itl" said Cox.

#### Students Sick, from page 12

I seen her throwing up it was so gross she stood up and her puke just poured out of her mouth like running water. Afterwards I lost my appente."

Sophomore Heba Sikander, the last student to catch the cafeteria curse, said "I dashed up the steps trying to make up lost time. Running late to my fifth period class, and entered the class as soon as the bell rang. Then a few seconds afterwards I puked up the schools pizza. It was the yuckiest stuff you had ever seen or smelled. It looks like tomato soup with chunky wet saggy crust floating just sitting around in it."-

The schools has issued an apology note to all who victims who got sick. The school staff hopes that all issues and crisis that's going can be settled peacefully without going to any type of court. The administration has issued a new lunch. menu starting the day we come back from spring break.

# The Best Way to Smarten Up Fast

Mariya "Ms. Perfect" Ilyas Front Page Hog

National studies show high schoolers receive higher grades when reading picture books.

The Board of High School Education is considering a bill that will change all textbooks used in high schools to picture books-more pictures, less text. Studies say that students learn better when they see more pictures and are therefore more likely to remember factual information when studying with visual representations.

"I'm a very visual person and it takes forever to read ten gazillion pages of history," said sophomore Glenda Reyes, who favors the replacement of textbooks with more

Studies say that the occipital lobe that controls the vision in one's brain absorbs 67 percent more information when more pictures are available on a page. It is expected for that percentage to steadily increase to 85 percent in ten years.

Remember the straight A's you got in kindergarten? Researchers say those were due to an adaptation to more color pictures and visual representations. The Board of

High School Education believes by implementing picture books in high schools, high schoolers' grades will also skyrocket, which will result in higher SAT scores, which in turn will increases chances of getting into prestigious colleges.

Ms. Rimla Sayli, dean of the University of Mother State, said, "We want to see that students challenge themselves by taking courses that offer picture books. Their critical ability to relate to pictures and visual graphs helps them achieve more in college. Reading picture books increases the student's ability to comprehend the arduous curriculum we offer."

Imagine this: your AP US History teacher assigns you Chapter 23 and 24 to read by next class. Looking at the 40 pages full of text with hardly any

Photo by Lakeisha Langley

Recent studies show that students are excelling due to their heavy children's book reading.

pictures (usually in black and white), ye turn your head away from the assignmen Now, try reopening that same book, b this time imagine seeing only one colum of text on each page and three huge col pictures. Which book are you more like to read? Which book is more likely help you remember factual information on the tests? Of course, the second boo colorful, beautiful, and easy!

Mrs. Sandra Washington, a dire descendant of our first president a our AP GW History teacher said, "I a totally for pictures! What better way show Washington's teeth?"

Everyone: run to a library nearest y and grab the most picturest book you c find! Go make yourself smarter!! A remember, you will surely see an increa in your acedemic progress and make yo parents proud of those A's!

# Oh, the Horrible Shoe Smell

Caroline "Care Bear" Staples

After recent complaints from female students in Mrs. Jean Coder's gym class about personal hygiene and cleanliness not being achieved in the locker rooms, the staff has given in to creating new, five-star changing rooms for the women's gym locker room,

About two months ago, sophomores Becky Campbell and Sarah Curzon began to notice the grotesque sanitation evolving where they were changing: floors were not swept, towels and toilet paper were on the bathroom floor, along with soap, and the place smelled of "BO" and dirty sneakers after running the mile. Something, they decided, had to be changed about their "lovely" gym locker room, which they ever so dearly enjoy.

"We went up to Mrs. Coder and demanded a five-star, Ritz Carltonstyled changing room and bathroom where we can dress for gym class without the smell of the girl next to us," said Campbell. Then, Curzon and Campbell, along with the rest of the student body, got exactly what they asked for just two weeks ago, when workers finally finished the new

extravagant locker room.

with

"The place is simply unbelievable," said Coder after first entering the newly cleaned and polished room, which is a bit too girly for her. Baby blue walls are matched with pink lockers and personal matching locks for every student. Floor tiles are no more. In the restroom section of the locker room, marble flooring is laid from stall to stall and a beautiful, clean, paisley patterned carpet lines the lockers

and entire changing area. What is even better is that each bathroom has an endless supply of toilet paper. Soap and paper towel dispensers also continuously restock their containers. "It was the highlight, and continues to be the highlight, of my sophomore year," said Curzon.

> about the new locker rooms is the use of the showers, which no one has been brave enough to utilize. Workers replaced the old, revealing shower curtains and grubby showerheads sanitary walls for and hot running water.

One thing the girls like most

privacy part is the supply of fresh, "My favorite clean, white, newly pressed towels that greet you after a steaming shower," said Campbell. The ladies were also graced with extra time to enjoy such privileges.

And what about the smell, you might ask. Individual Glade plug-ins were inserted in every locker to freshen the nasty smell of the shoes. As for the gym clothes the girls wear every day, faculty members wash the uniforms weekly at school to avoid forgetting them at home.

The last grand parts of the newly formed locker rooms are the prepackaged toothbrushes, combs, toothpaste bottles, hairspray containers, Q-Tips, shampoo and conditioner, and floss. This encourages very good hygiene, something that in previous years was not taken so seriously.

If the males in gym classes have wondered lately why so many female gym students have smelled and looked better over these last two weeks, it is due to higher cleanliness in the women's gymnasium locker rooms. No more fear of bacteria crawling where students walk, no more smell of your friend after she did a twenty-minute run.

#### Grease Returns

"Wire Mom" Angie Palma

The year is 1961, and school is once again in session the students of Rydell High. Two years after the belov cast of the original Grease graduated from Rydell, the form sophomores are now ready to rule the school.

The same types of students still reside within the halls Rydell. There are the jocks, the cheerleaders, the geeks, a of course, those who are the embodiment of cool, the Pi Ladies and the T-Birds.

A new student also joins the graduating class of '61. Great Sandy has a cousin from England, who has transferred to t

states to finish high school. Michael Carrington, played by Maxwell Caulfield, enters the mix as a good boy who needs to learn the law of the land before getting himself into trouble.

With cousin Sandy's close friend Frenchy back at Rydell to explain how everything goes, Carrington learns that his crush on one of the Pink Ladies cannot be acted on because the Pink Ladies belong to the T-Birds, and he is clearly not a T-Bird. Not Actress Michelle Pfeif just any Pink Lady, Stephanie stars in the new mo Zinone, played by Michelle remake, Grease 2. Pfeiffer, is the girlfriend of



T-Bird leader, Johnny Nogerelli, played by Adrian Zmed. In hopes of gaining Zinone's heart, Carrington dedica himself to either becoming a T-Bird or luring Stepha away from them.

Grease 2 stars some beloved members of the original Grease cast including Principal McGee, Coach Calhoun, and delightful, comical Blanche.

Set to be released on June 11, 1982, Grease 2 is a mo filled with extremely impressive dance numbers. Routito side-splitting songs such as "Back to School Again "Score Tonight," and "Reproduction," are sure to fill anyon watching with an urge to dance along.

Acting unparalleled in any other musical characterizes utterly remarkable musical that wonderfully epitomizes life of those in high school. Anyone with a love for class movies needs to put Grease 2 high on their "must-see" lis







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#### y In The Life Of... A Lottery Winner

oving" Lara Davidson

Number Cruncher

as of excitement and shock rattled of the Russell household as the 4, 8, 15, 16, 23, and 42 were an-

from the television. bers were like mue ears, an unbelievacle. English teacher sell won the lottery! would have thought of our school's very achers could win the The odds of winning emely rare. "As soon as the numbers and realized ad won, my first thought

ank God! I can finally get

whelmed that he could not help but scream. "The neighbors thought someone was dying," Russell explained with a laugh.

the big win, Russell's dramatic change has been leaving our school. Russell has announced that at the end of the quarter, he will be packing up his bags and saying farewells. It is a hard goodbye

for his students, but Russell cannot wait to jump on a plane and "get the

ing? None other than beautiful Hawaii!

Russell's plan is to buy a place on the beach, where he can kick back with all worries out of sight, and be far, far away from his annoying little students. His pals from the English department and Officer Davis plan to join him for some fun in the sun.

"I want a beach house, a cozy one. That would be the life," Russell said. He looks forward to getting some rays and "chillin' with the locals." He would love to purchase a speedboat, with skies and wakeboards included. He also wants a sailboat, and two jet skies. As for cruising the streets, Russell dreams of a two-seat convertible.

When asked if he planned on saving some of his earnings, Russell replied with a confused look. "You can't save it. I've encountered a miracle, I must spend it all!"

# Scope out

"JT Loving" Lara Davidson

Number Cruncher

Aries (3/21-4/20) - You lack patience right now and people are starting to feel your wrath. Take a deep breath and calm your annoyance, or you will eventually drive every-



Taurus (4/21-5/20) Your laid-back, go-withthe-flow personality keeps you calm and collected. However, this outgoing

trait is starting to take advantage of you this month. Stay strong and do not let others walk over you.

Gemini (5/21-6/21) Your social life is bubbling this month! Your friendly and funny personality makes you the go-to



friend with all the latest gossip and best ad-

Cancer (6/22-7/22) - You feel as if a

big decision on an issue is needed. Take your time and analyze all aspects of the situation before you make your final choice.

Leo (7/23-8/22) You are a generally cheerful person and your kindness blows others away. You are a natural romantic



this month and crave to pamper the ones you adore.

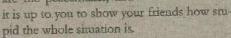


Virgo (8/23-9/22) - Lately, you have been so wrapped up in school that you have found your life is all work and no play.

This month, branch out from your comfort

Libra (9/23-10/22)

Tensions between your friends are boiling. You are the peacemaker, and



Scorpio (10/23-11/21) - It seems that larely, you have changed your ways. People are beginning to realize that they miss the real you. Do some serious thinking about the person you have become.

Sagittarius (11/22-12/21) - Recently, you have experienced a lot of stress. Be spontaneous and take a trip to somewhere fun. Take risks this month; the outcome could be better than you ever imagined.

Capricorn (12/22-1/19) - Sparks



are flying this month one you greatly adore. It is exactly the right time to go after that perfect

Aquarius (1/20-2/18) - Your mood

swings have taken the pest of you, and you are tending to explode without warning. Cool your emotions and temper, and take a deep breath



before you speak. Pisces (2/19 - 3/20) - Lately, your head has been up in the clouds. Stop thinking, "What if?" and start taking action. You will never know the outcome if you never

# this place." Russell was so over- heck out of here!" Where will he be head-

"Oh Mr. Sandman" Sandy Slippen

Webster's

Professor Plum

his class.

teaches measures

and acceleration in

ew months, a new reality television sensation will hit the airnd provide intense buzz for water coolers every week.

e heels of its new megahit, the intellectually stimulating "Are parter Than a 5th Grader?", the Fox network has announced ou Crazier Than Britney Spears?" The program's basic forill prompt contestants with several questions about their n a direct comparison to the shaved wonder herself, former U" Britney Spears. Those who prove themselves to be more than Spears will win \$250, a blender, and an all-expenses paid Nightmares, a rehabilitation facility and mental institution. arious twist, Spears' estranged husband, Kevin "PopoZão" ne, will host the program. As a result, Fox is currently conng a trash-proof studio so that the audience will not be able garbage at Federline, since most indicated in exit polls that ould, if given the opportunity. Considering the Fox network ought American viewers such critically acclaimed, intelligent programs as "Joe Millionaire," "Mr. Personality," "Married By a," "Paradise Hotel," "My Big Fat Obnoxious Fiancé," "Man st," and "Celebrity Boxing," it is generally assumed by most re You Crazier Than Britney Spears?" will likely become the it television phenomenon.

nough most details of the show, which will most likely pre-

miere in the summer, are being kept under wraps, Fox released

several sample questions they plan to ask some of their lucky contestants when the show hits

•Do you often drive at high speeds with infants in your lap? •Do you find trashy backup dancers attractive?

•Do you enjoy walking into restrooms at gas stations without

·Is someone likely to find you partying all night while you are going commando, and then posing for pictures in that state? Would this have added benefits if you were currently in the middle of a very public custody



·Have you considered completely shaving your head for no particu-

·If placed in rehab, would you leave the facility, come back, leave, and then come back again?

Kenneth "Bad Spellin" Llewellyn

owing trend in today's most popular television shows is that ast members seem to be getting into more and more publifights. Unbeknownst to all, members of the cast of "Sesame ' had a huge fight.

all started when Big Bird was asked at the Emmys whether ught Cookie Monster had a problem with addiction. "People ren't addicted don't carry around a cookie 24/7," said Big

Bird. "He needs to take some time off from the show and get into rehab." When Cookie Monster found out about Big Bird's comments, he replied, "I have a problem? Why do you think Big Bird is so big? He uses steroids. That's a problem, not me, and not my cookies. OM-NAM-AM-NAM."

Although the two actors still had great chemistry on camera, they did not speak a word to each other off-camera. Eventually, Cookie Monster said something that set off Big Bird, and the two threwdown like Zoolander and Hansel right on the set.

"I was just sleeping in my garbage can, as usual, until I heard people screaming and yelling. So I poked my head out and saw Cookie Monster, two black eyes and all, bite off one of Big Bird's wings," said Oscar the Grouch.

With two of its cast members in critical condition, and The Count facing multiple DUI charges, the show was forced into hiatus. "It's not that we couldn't do the show without them, it's just we had lost too many sponsors," said Kermit the Frog. "We had already lost the letters A, B, J, R, and Y, and we were probably going to lose the entire alphabet."

With no return date set, it seems this might be the end of an era. Many cast members have already moved on to do other projects. Elmo will be costarring with Bruce Willis in the new Dic Hard movie, set to open this summer, and Bert and Ernie are releasing an album. So, if this is the end of "Sesame Street," it was quite a run.

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Big Bird from "Sesame Street" no longer has his bright and cheery smile. Since the scandal, it has turned into an ugly



# The Stomach of a Champion Grows

Jon "Last Samurai" Yoo

Meathead

Feeling the need to relive his football glory days, head coach Eric Henderson has decided to enter the 2008 Nathan's International Hot Dog Eating Contest. "This is no joke, it is 100% business. Many

people do not understand or appreciate the sport of competitive eating. It will definitely be a challenge, but I am planning to come out in first place," said Henderson.

As a member of the University of Rhode Island football team, Henderson was notorious throughout the campus as a "buffet killer," so much so that some local restaurants were forced to switch their all-you-can-eat lunch deals throughout the week to avoid losing money. However, Henderson will have to be even more impressive to dethrone six-time hot dog eating champion and the world's top ranked competitive eater

Takeru Kobayashi. Kobayashi, known as "The Tsunami," set a world record by eating 53.5 hot dogs in twelve minutes at last year's Nathan's Hot Dog Eating Contest. Henderson said, "I am absolutely in awe

of Kobayashi. For him to be able to consume that much food, in so little time, with such a small body frame, is phenomenal. This just shows how much technique, concentration, and heart he truly has." However, Henderson also stated that he is not intimidated by "The Tsunami," and all he can be concerned about is himself focusing on

his game plan.

Henderson is on a tight schedule, with only approximately three months to train for the competition. Head track coach Dan Lundin has been selected to help him with his diet, stamina, and overall nutrition. "My main concern is that he is training the right way, making sure he is healthy and as ready as possible both physically and mentally is the key," said Lundin.

Since his decision to enter the competition, Henderon is remaining calm and collected, knowing that he can only give it his best shot. When asked what his

expectations were, he replied, "I know what I am capable of. There is no reason to put any more added pressure or stress on myself. I can only handle what is on my plate."



KRT/Photo illustration by Kate O'Connor/Photo by Drew Smith Eric Henderson obliterates his opponent in a preseason eating contest featuring hamburgers instead of hot dogs.

# BALLIN' A summary of West Potomac Sports

Dallas Cowboys wide receiver Terrell Owens came to our school on his cross-country tour after he received the Heart of a Champion award. The annual honor rewards excellence both on and off the field, and is given to only the most exceptional role models. Last year's winner, San Francisco Giants outfielder Barry Bonds, presented the trophy to Owens.

A new craze is sweeping through the school's sports team. To the outrage of water and sports drink companies, many student-athletes have begun to drink coffee at practices.



Photo by Drew Smith

Varsity football coach Eric Henderson announced on Thursday that he will resign from his long-term position as head coach. He chose to take on a new challenge as varsity cheetleading coach instead.



Physics teacher, Garret Hubbard, unveiled his juggling skills to the public. His abilities in this unique extreme sport matched and almost exceeded those of Frank DeVar's in last year's Mr. West Potomac competition.

### I Like Table Tennis, It is Very Nice

"Kelly-Belly" Wood

US Week

Getting involved in extracurricular activities is a little more difficult for students born without a natural ability for sports. Starting next year, there will be a new winter sport that will no longer penalize the less athletic students. With a little practice and even less sweat, anyone with the right motivation can quickly become a dominant player of the game. This wonderful new sport addition is none other than table tennis, informally known as pingpong.

This wonderful new sport has recently become much more popular throughout the world. It is even an event in the Olympic Games now, and has gained much more respect. A simple game found in so many nome basements is a great, enjoyable activity, and is expected to gain many eager students at try-outs next winter. However, due to the fact that only one or two people play at a time, the team will have to remain small. As of now, it is expected that only a grand total of ten students will make the team. You know what that means; time to get out your paddles and start practicing your pinging and ponging skills. Come winter, you

will be put to the test, so make

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sure you are not the one sitting on the bench.

Sophomore Caitrin Rhoads said, "I would love to play ping-ping for our school next year, so I plan on making a practice schedule to ensure myself a spot on the team. From what I hear, the competition will be really difficult, so I want to work harder."

Many details are a little fuzzy as of now, but will definitely be cleared up by the start of the season. One of these unknown details is who will coach and head the team. There are several teachers and current coaches interested in the job offer. However, these names have not been released to the press yet in order to prevent students from constantly pestering them with questions.

It is expected that our students will do extremely well in this new sport, and it is a very likely possibility that we will make it to Districts and maybe even Regionals. We will finally have a sport that will truly be unstoppable. The only existing problem is that none of the other high schools in our district have added table tennis to their sport options, so students who make the team will have to travel to distant schools for competitions. Overall, the new addition is expected to be a wonderful success.

#### Numerous Numerals Numbering Nonessentia Nonessentia

4

The number of team that made the Fina Four. It was a record high for the Men's NCAA Basketball Tournament.

The number of tim Adam "Pacman" Jones has been

arrested in the past 2 hours... we hope.

20

The margin of victor English teacher Coli O'Grady's Stanford Yell Leading team we the national championship by, setting a new record.

Unfortunately, the team was disqualified

learned that O'Grad caused the opposition severe mental anguis by throwing Shakesperian insults at them

when officials later

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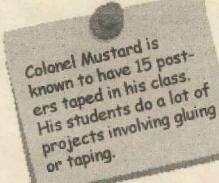
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# Friday, March 30, 2007



# **MOVED!**

Devon "Candy" Cain Truth Embellisher

Graduation, previously set to take place on Thursday, June 14 from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., has been moved to June 21 from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. due to scheduling complications. "It turns out the snow we got in February was the cause of some exterior damage to George Mason's Patriot Center," said senior class representative Iris Cox. Our graduation venue was closed for two weeks for reparations, which caused a plethora of scheduling problems. Cox said, "Unfortunately, our reservation for the fourteenth of June had to be pushed back. It could be much worse; other schools in our district aren't as lucky." Seniors at Mt. Vernon High School will not be graduating until June 26.

In previous years, senior class students enjoyed the privilege of getting out of school days earlier than the rest of West Potomac students. They also took their final exams earlier than the other students, but the date change for graduation means that underclassmen can expect to see seniors in the classroom this June up until the last day of exams. "I was expecting the senior parking lot to be completely empty after graduation. For us [juniors], the last couple of days without seniors means our time has come to rule the school!" said junior Hillary Goldstein.

"It's not fair," said senior Kim Shreiber about the current situation. "We even have to come to school after it gets out for everyone else!" Seniors will have to return to the West Potomac gym for two extra graduation rehearsals. The tentative dates for those rehearsals are Monday, June 18 and Wednesday, June 21 from 7:30-9:30 p.m. and 2:30-4:30 p.m., respectively. "This mistake has made

Graduation Moved, page 8

#### INSIDE THIS SSUE Celebs: Page 1/4 Photo by Mariya Ilyas Photo by Gary Green/KR SENIOR ALEX KECKEISEN PROPOSES TO KELLY CLARKSON-SHE SAYS YES! oice: Page 129 Photo by Mariya Ilyas TEA TIME WITH T-DANK

# Graduation Vote Coe For President

"Dude You're Getting" Adele Hampton

In a late night telecast, history teacher George Reginald Coe XIV announced his plan to enter the race to become our nation's forty-fourth president.

At 3:00 a.m., Coe made his announcement on a CNN special broadcast. When asked about the odd timing of the announcement the next day, Coe replied, "Oh jeeze, why'd you have to go and ask me that? I don't know why I did it; all that matters is that I did it." The Alexandria area is buzzing with excitement, but some of Coe's students have expressed worry about his teaching tactics and wonder if said tactics will carry over into his presidency. Senior Melissa Laitner said, "During class, he can be a bit possessive, pacing back and forth screaming at students. Sometimes, it can be scary, but I'm sure he'll make an awesome president."

In his announcement, Coe told the nation's insomniacs he planned to run not as a Democrat or a Republican, but as a member of his own party. Named after him, the party is called Coalition Of Emancipated Smokers (COES). Also, in his announcement, Coe outlined his political ideals and what he plans to do should he become our nation's leader.

A strong supporter of animal rights, Coe said he plans to create a 148-acre seagull sanctuary in his hometown of OkoBojo, South Dakota. Concerning the sanctuary, Coe stated, "Well, yes, I think it's a good idea. Seagulls are on a fast track to the endangered species list and need to be rescued." Also, as part of his efforts to better the environment, he plans to make it illegal to drive anything but the BMW 5 series, claiming other car companies clog our nation's atmosphere. He pointed out that this new plan would help reduce highway congestion. With top speeds of about 150 mph, slow moving traffic and



Head shot by "Quesha" Langley/ Photo by Mauricio Rubio /KRT

Geroge Coe is finally fulfilling his dream by running in the 2008 presidential election.

bumper-to-bumper jams will be a thing of

Born in 1917, Coe developed a knack for history at an early age. Learning to read at the age of three, he could often be found in the libraries soaking up the pages of history books. By the age of 14, he had become a living expert in the field of world history, becoming the youngest person to win the Pulitzer Prize for his essays about the Xia Dynasty. Then, in 1940, Coe backpacked to New Guinea to study the history of this small but significant island. While at first his travels brought him only heart-ache and extreme nostalgia, after three years of studying the history and culture of the island, Coe discovered something amazing. It turns out his great uncle was in fact a New Guinean prince, thus making Coe himself a royal.

Back in the states, Coe made a pact with

himself to teach history for the rest of his life. "I think Americans will be able to relate to someone who is as dedicated as I am; yes, I think I'll make a good president." While it is still early in the race, Coe is going to have a significant amount of competition. Competing against the likes of Hilary Rodham Clinton and Barack Obama, he might have a difficult time keeping up. Another setback is that Coe has yet to choose a running mate. Many teachers and students suspect Coe will pick Psychology teacher Annica McKenney as his running mate, but Coe has not given any hints has to whom he will select.

But aside from these obstacles, Coe is still optimistic about his situation. With a nod of his head, he said, "Oh yeah, I think I have a chance. And for the record, I quit smoking." Sure you have, Coe, sure you

#### Cafeteria Food Makes Kids Sick

"Tidal Wave" Johnson Truth Embellisher

Three students were rushed to a local hospital because they became severely sick after eating school lunch. The National Food and Disease Administration (NFDA) was called to run tests on the food in school. The FDA threatened to close down the school cafeteria room after a dozen tests were done. The NFDA reported that they found life-threatening diseases and bacteria in the school lunches. In addition to the germs and bacteria, NFDA officer Paris Hilton reported the lunch here was "repulsive, vile, and disgusting, and that's not HOT."

Freshman Rachel Wright, one of the three students who was sick, said, "After eating my lunch in the cafeteria, my stomach rapidly filled with a vomiting feeling. Before I got to the other side of the cafeteria, I felt nauseous. When I was just a few seconds away from the doors, a beastly truckload of green and yellow chunky vomit oozed out of my mouth and spread from the cafeteria doors to the bathroom doors." As the ambulance was called to take her away, Wright stated, "I want everyone to know that I'm suing the school for the severe sickness it caused me."

As the day went on, clinic nurse Sheryl Bright found she was overwhelmed and the clinic had reached full capacity. Meanwhile, Bright said while students limped in, holding their stomachs, she shouted,



Photo by "Quesha" Langle

Senior Sierra Taylor and many other students had upset stomaches from eating the cafeteria food.

"Not another student who ate from the school lunch!"

Junior Jessica Richardson, who was the second victim of the disease-causing lunch, was in the middle of B Lunch when her accident happened. Richardson said, "I was just throwing away my lunch tray like any normal day when a feeling like no other started to form in my chest; I thought it

was heartburn. I just shrugged it off, so I heard my stomach make this weird sound and hiccup and it smelled very odd, so I just sat down and all over teh cafeteria table I puked. It was so gross it smelled like something you find at the dump." Sophomore Joanna Copeland said " I sat like three tables down from Jessica

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