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College: Is it worth it? Debt grows, students feel pressure pages 8-9

Dodgeball, benefit concert support Lwala

Adelaide Morphett
Staff Writer

Harpeth Hall hosted the city-wide Lwala Dodgeball Tournament on Saturday, Feb. 25. Last year, the dodgeball tournament supported Invisible Children, but the Service Learning Leadership Council decided to promote Harpeth Hall's new partnership with the Lwala Community Alliance; a charity organization dedicated to providing medical care to the citizens of Lwala, Kenya.

Altogether, $2,961.15 was raised for the Lwala Community Alliance. Ms. Kimee Shideler, Director of Service Learning, was pleased with the tournament's results and the efforts of the planning committee.

Twenty-one teams, composed of students from Harpeth Hall, Montgomery Bell Academy, Hillsboro High School, and Ensworth, competed in the event.

Preparation for the tournament was extensive; on Friday night, the planning team worked to Ben Rector's "Loving You is Easy," until 10 p.m. making posters, wrapping baked goods, painting scheduled brackets and equipping the gyms with balls and court tape.

The planning committee made matching t-shirts, junior Allie Williams planned a bake sale, and Ms. Schideler decorated the gallery with color-coordinated balloons.

Lwala ambassador Mr. James Nardella and Harpeth Hall alumna Katherine Falk made a presentation at the beginning of the tournament. They expressed their dedication to Lwala and gratitude for the participants' support. The tournament's profits went towards providing education to over 200 girls in Lwala, Kenya.

"I couldn't think of a better crew to serve beside,"said Ms. Falk. "I'm so grateful for all the work the girls put into it, and I'm looking forward to doing it again next year."

Best Dressed awards were presented to the "Tijuana Tamales," a senior MBA team, and "March of the Penguins," a group of Harpeth Hall seniors. Prizes consisted of Sweet CeCe's gift cards and bundt cakes from Nothing Bundt Cakes. The "Tijuana Tamales," clad in rainbow ponchos and moustaches, played mariachi music and cooked quesadillas with a portable grill. Maddi D'Aquila, senior member of the "March of the Penguins," was thrilled to receive three mini bundt cakes.

"We organized our team less than 24 hours before the event" said senior Maddi D'Aquila. "We were basically a team of the rejects that weren't accepted into any other teams, but it was great! We wore strange t-shirts with penguin faces on them, orange socks, top hats and bow ties."

"I thought it was exhilarating to throw balls at my classmates," said D'Aquila. "We got really into it, but then I felt embarrassed because we weren't so good. But it was still fun, as we were runners-up in the losers' bracket. I consider that a success. I was so proud."

"I was part of a team called 'Risky Business,'" said junior Jenna Moses. "We dressed up as Tom Cruise in the movie 'Risky Business.' It was really fun, although we lost in our second round."

The MBA senior team "Dirty Mike and the Boys" and the Harpeth Hall basketball team "The HH Ballers" won their respective brackets. They received Vanderbilt baseball tickets as their prizes.

The Grilled Cheeserie served lunch behind Souby Hall to the players and spectators. "It was a big deal for them to come," said co-Vice President of SLLC, senior Litton Whittaker. "We learned a lot from last year's tournament and made adjustments this year that made the event a lot better. The Grilled Cheeserie is going to return next year."

On March 8 Harpeth Hall again opened its doors to benefit concer for the Lwala Community Alliance. The orchestra, rock band, choir and dancers performed. Dr. Echerd, Upper School history teacher, was impressed by the concert.

"In my time at Harpeth Hall, it might have been one of the best things the students have done," said Dr. Echerd.

"The finale of the whole program was a song called 'Give Us Hope,' which featured all the choirs and the orchestra," said senior Tina Qian, who performed in the orchestra. "I was surprised by how many people showed up. The whole event was inspiring and for such a wonderful cause."

"I am so proud of our school for putting together such great events," said junior Rena Clayton Rolfe. "The fact that Lwala Community Alliance is a Nashville-run organization makes it all the more personal for us. It's great to have the opportunity to raise money for such a worthy charity."



MARCHING ON: Seniors Becca Jacques, Maddi D'Aquila, Mattie Rich, Gray Wallace, Kelsey Albritton, Halley Froeb, and Allison Jane Richter competed in the Lwala Dodgeball tournament. Their team, "March of the Penguins" was awarded with the Best Dressed title. Check out more photos of the tournament on www.logosnow.org. *Photo by Anna Russell Thornton*

Mock Trial teams compete at district level, advance to state

Natalie Gideon
News Editor

The Harpeth Hall Silver and Green Mock Trial teams were among teams from public and private schools all over Davidson County that took to the courthouse on Feb. 17-18 to compete.

The Silver team placed second in the Tennessee Bar Association's 2012 Mock Trial Competition and will continue to the state competition in March.

Junior Martha Schull was a witness on the Silver Team. "I was a witness named Yagmur Merteuil, a pompous Turkish insurance inspector," said Schull. "This was my first year on Mock Trial. I really enjoyed the experience."

The case was an insurance claim. The insurance company had filed for declaratory judgment because of suspected arson. Each team included 12 roles: three lawyers for each side and three witnesses for each side. This year, Harpeth Hall sent two teams to the competition with a mix of sophomores, juniors and seniors on each team.

The competition consisted of two rounds on Friday Feb. 17, with the Silver Team's defense and the Green Team's plaintiff competing against other schools including Hume Fogg, MBA, MLK and St. Cecilia Academy.

Saturday's competition began at 8:30 a.m. with three rounds and concluded with an awards ceremony. The Silver team is excited for the state competition.

"I think all of us ripped up our certificates at the award ceremony in the excitement of the moment," said junior Meg Mitchell, member of the Silver Team. "I still have my half-ripped certificate in my car."

Senior Natalie Gideon, plaintiff and defense lawyer, was the MVP for the Silver Team, and senior Dorothy Jacobs, defense witness, was the MVP for the Green Team.

"The best part was seeing all the cases come together so perfectly," said senior Anna Russell Thornton.

Junior Cat Weiss agreed, yet enjoyed the awards ceremony most. "When they called us in second place, I looked up to see that everyone had tears rolling down their faces."



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Colleges implicated in recent SAT falsification scandal

Caitlin Casey
News Editor

On Saturday mornings, thousands of high school juniors flock to testing sites to complete a four-hour test that plays a significant role in their college application profile. Standardized testing has been a part of the college application process since the 1920s, but its legitimacy and accuracy in predicting a student's academic success in college is growing increasingly questionable.

Although most universities claim that the admissions process is a holistic review, recent SAT scandals force students and educators alike to question the importance of standardized testing in the college process.

Many students worry that standardized tests do not adequately reflect their classroom performance.

"Sometimes I really question the usefulness of taking any standardized tests," said junior Ellie Hitt. "Some students don't feel that they are good enough if they don't get great scores. They start defining themselves by mere numbers."

According to the New York Times, 20 students in Long Island were prosecuted as a result of accepting payment or paying others to take the SAT between 2008 and 2011. The five students suspected of taking the test were charged with felonies, while the remaining students, who paid them $500 to $3600, face misdemeanor charges.

Samuel Eshaghoff, an undergraduate at Emory University, is charged with taking tests for at least 20 students. He reportedly obtained scores between 2,170 and 2,220 on the SAT and as high as 33 on the ACT.

According to the Educational Testing Service, which administers the exam for College Board, about 3,000 scores are canceled each year because of suspected cheating. Over 150 scores per year are canceled due to testing impersonation.

"This very issue has been in the forefront of my mind since watching a 60 Minutes special on Teach for America, which uncovered the cheating epidemic in schools," said senior Anna Russell Thornton. "Apparently cheating is not done by just students, but by teachers and administrators as well. Schools are pressured to reflect excellence, and they choose to sacrifice their integrity by misrepresenting scores or helping students cheat. Clearly, the system is flawed."

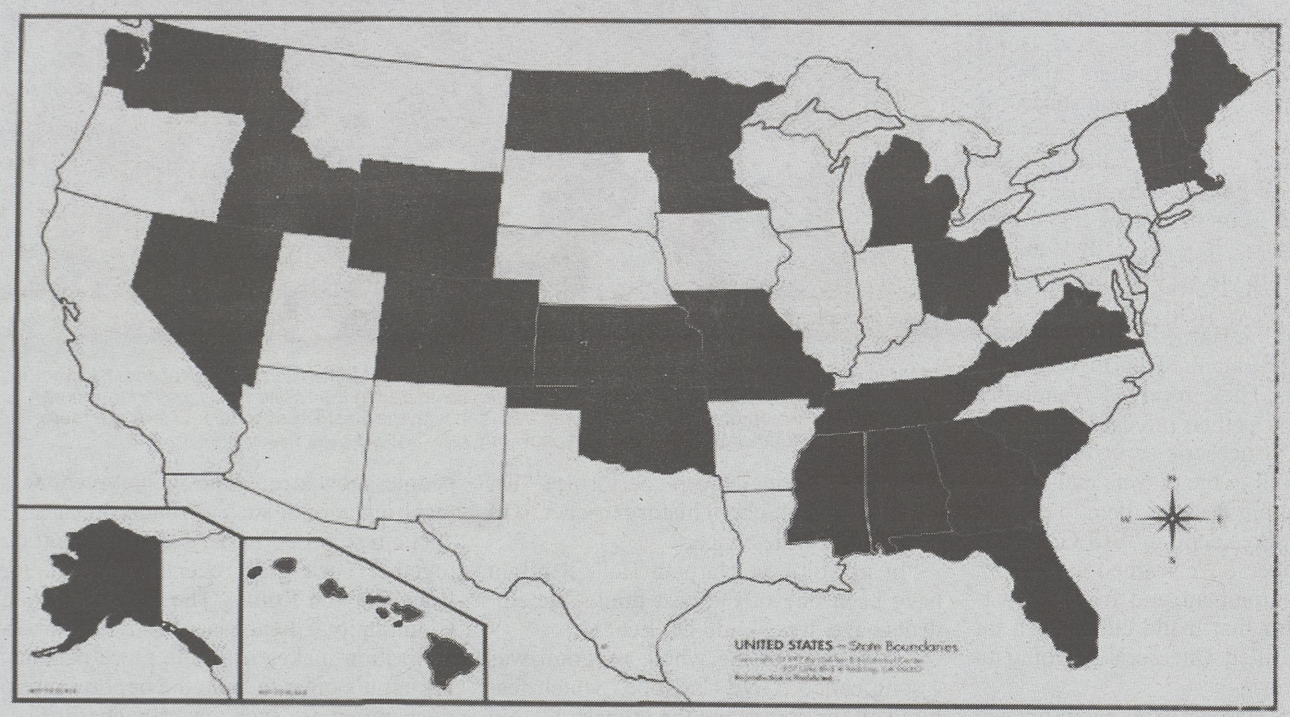
U.S. World News & World Report recently reported that Claremont McKenna College, named as the ninth best liberal arts school in the country, has submitted false SAT score data for the past six years. SAT critical reading and math scores were inflated by an average of 10-20 points each. Although this may seem like a minor discrepancy, the university's president, Pamela Gann, admitted that the inflated scores boosted the rankings.

Similarly, Iona College, north of New York City, acknowledged that its employees lied for years about test scores, graduation rates, freshman retention and student-faculty ratio. In 2008, Baylor University offered financial rewards to students who offered to retake standardized tests in the hopes of improving their scores to boost rankings. Villanova University and University of Illinois acknowledged misreporting law school statistics. A professor at the United States Naval Academy, renowned for its honor code, recently accused administrators of inflating its applicant number.

Uncovering copious instances of cheating in universities' administrations reveals the importance placed on rankings and data in the minds of prospective students, college counselors, parents and alumni.

"I've always thought there's been something wrong with standardized testing in that some people simply don't test as well as others," said senior Leah Caplan. "But knowing that people are cheating the system makes me wonder how that will affect my chances of getting in to college. These scandals prove something needs to change."

Race for Republican presidential nomination gains momentum



States that have already held their primaries or caucuses are colored in black. More than half the states have yet to hold their primaries and caucuses. The number of delegates allotted to each state is decided by the political parties of each state. *Graphic by Natalie Gideon*

Natalie Gideon
News Editor

On Super Tuesday March 6, a number of states across the country from Alaska to Massachusetts held their Republican primaries and caucuses. Super Tuesday has become a watermark during the race for nomination because this single day provides the biggest opportunity to win delegates and secure the nomination.

The states that held primaries or caucuses on March 6 were Alaska, Georgia, Idaho, Massachusetts, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Vermont, and Virginia. Four hundred thirty-seven delegates were up for grabs.

Mitt Romney was the winner on Super Tuesday, taking six states and more than half the available delegates. Rick Santorum came in second behind Romney, winning Oklahoma, Georgia and Tennessee. Newt Gingrich won his home state of Georgia, and Ron Paul didn't win any states.

Mitt Romney led the race for the nomination at the time this article went to press with 437 delegates. Santorum followed with 181 delegates, and Gingrich and Paul trail behind with 107 and 46 delegates, respectively.

The Republican candidates need 1,144 delegates to secure the Republican nomination and oppose President Obama in the 2012 election. Two thousand two hundred eighty-six total delegates are available in the primary election.

The political parties, in this case the Republican party, decide the number of delegates each state receives, but the states can decide when to hold their primaries and caucuses.

Some states operate on a winner-take-all system where the candidate who wins the majority of votes in the state gets all of the state's delegates. Other states operate on a proportional system where a candidate gets the percentage of the delegates that they win in the primary.

Thirty-four states and territories have yet to hold their caucuses and primaries and will do so from March 10 until June 26. The nominee will be announced on August 27 at the Republican National Convention in Tampa Bay, FL.

It is expected that Mitt Romney will win the nomination and become the Republican Presidential candidate.

The Youth in Government club held their own mock primary election on Super Tuesday. YIG president Allison Jane Richter organized the election in order to involve the school in the race for the nominations.

The results echoed the primary results of the wider country with Romney taking 42 percent of the Republican vote. However, Paul won 29 percent of Harpeth Hall Republican's votes. Santorum won 20 percent of school Republican's votes, and Gingrich won nine percent. Forty-six percent of those who voted in the primary voted for President Obama. Approximately 50 percent of the Upper School voted in the primary.

Students welcome Pepper, Chili's new furry companion

Julie Wilson
Entertainment Editor

After weeks of tireless fundraising efforts initiated by students, Dr. Gary Schott's classroom welcomed the newest class pet: Pepper the chinchilla.

Several freshmen thought Argentina would make a fun name for the new chinchilla, which was picked up by seniors Tina Qian, Sarah Oppenheimer, and Amanda Rehorn at Jane Whaley's house in Clarksville. Whaley is a chinchilla breeder who informed Qian that Pepper is a very valuable and beautiful chinchilla who will have white, gray or speckled babies.

Fundraising efforts to buy a new chinchilla were initiated at the beginning of February by Qian.

The "Chili's Wife" fund amounted to $100, thanks to contributions by eager students.

"I was a little skeptical that we would be able to raise the money, but once it started flowing in, I realized it was going to happen," said Dr. Schott.

A poll was put up on LogosNow to help determine the name of the female chinchilla that arrived on Feb. 22.

The name Pepper won with 87 votes, with Chiquita in second place with 77 and Argentina in third with 47. Other choices included Misty, Cloud, Lily and Salsa.

"I thought Salsa was a little more feminine than Pepper, but I think Pepper and Chili's couple name is suitable," said senior Claire Crawford, who contributed the name Salsa to the poll.

"Pepper will be old enough to start having babies in late summer," said Dr. Schott. "The gestation period is around 100 days, so if all goes according to plan, we could have some babies by mid to late November. We'll hook up a web cam for those of you who will be in college next year."

Chili and Pepper are currently living in separate cages in Dr. Schott's room. Students are able to visit the animals during their classes with Dr. Schott, during break and after school.

Chili and Pepper are getting to know each other, but they may face separation and a long distance relationship over the summer.

"Chili will probably go home to the Lassing's, and I'm sure there is a student who will take Pepper," said Dr. Schott. 'I would take her, but I have a cat who would like her too much and a spouse who would not like her, but surely she would change her mind once she sees how cute Pepper is."

Spirit and activity clubs gear up for spring

Michelle Chintanaphol
Staff Writer

Pep Club

During the first week of February, the girls of Harpeth Hall were clad in patriotic gear, togas, wigs, tiaras and tutus. Hosted by the Pep Club, the casual days of spirit week were a success. They included Patriotic Day on Monday, Salad Dressing on Tuesday, Green and Gray on Wednesday, Preppy and Punk on Thursday, and Senior Citizens, Junior League, Toddlers and Babies on Friday. The faculty also had similar Spirit Days: Thursday was Jock Day and Friday was Dress from Your Graduation Year Day.

Junior Pep Club representative Leslie Rolfe noted, "Spirit Week turned out well. I think people got into Preppy and Punk, and more people dressed up on the last few days."

In fact, most people most enjoyed dressing up on Thursday and Friday, according to a school survey. Patriotic Day came in a close third, and Salad Dressing and Green & Gray Day came in last.

For junior Anne Gray Thornburg, dressing up for Spirit Week every single day was no problem.

"For Junior League Day, I wore my mom's red pants with pictures of martinis on them and a green sweater," said Thornburg. "I liked dressing up as 'preppy' the best, because I am already preppy, but it was fun exaggerating by finding everything pink and preppy. I also liked having the difference of punk and preppy on the same day, instead of having them on different days. Salad Dressing Day was also creative, and the names for each grade's 'dressing' were clever."

ACTnow

The service club ACTnow has been very busy. Last semester, the art show, "Home," raised $900 which the club gave to Matthew 25, a center for homeless men, mostly U.S. veterans. Additionally, on one Sunday evening, the girls visited the men and served dinner.

On Feb. 17, ACTnow had a hot chocolate drive called Change for Chocolate that benefited girls' schools in Afghanistan. A huge crowd of students came to the senior patio during break and turned in their loose change for hot chocolate, marshmallows and whipped cream.

"It went well. Our student body really showed their support by bringing in all of their change," said junior member of ACTnow, Anne Elise Cain.

Junior Kate Beuter remarked, "I liked that the hot chocolate was only 50 cents. Plus, what's even better is that it was for a good cause."

"We raised close to $130 at the Change for Chocolate," said Ms. Scottie Girgus, sponsor of ACTnow. "When ACTnow started, we donated the money from hot chocolate and lemonade sales to Greg Mortenson for schools for girls; however, questions arose as to how that money was being used. Senior Margaret McDowell learned of a young man from Nashville, James Broadbent, who had started a group to raise funds for building schools in the Middle East, so the money is for his group, Themis Development Group."

Real World

In honor of Black History Month, Real World hosted the annual assembly in early February. The assembly was organized by junior Kiya Lacey and showcased African drumming and dancing.

Real World is planning Brown Bag lunches for the second semester.

"We just had the former Belmont coach, Lisa Howe, come and speak about gay rights," said senior Bridget Killian, Real World president. "Lisa Howe was the former head soccer coach of Belmont University, which is a Christian university; however, after she and her partner had a baby, she was fired. She is trying to expand her message by talking about her life story. For this Brown Bag lunch, we partnered with the Gay Straight Alliance."

Senior Caitlin Casey, Publicity Officer for Real World, was impressed with Ms. Howe's presentation. "I thought it was interesting how Ms. Howe described her coming-out as a defining moment in her life, yet it wasn't 'self-defining,'" Casey said. "The turnout was incredible! Ms. Howe was impressed by how many students and faculty members attended."

The members of the Real World committee are excited for the other events that will take place this semester.

"We want to have the amputee Craig Hutto come and speak about the work he has become involved in with Vanderbilt University, where they are designing a new prosthetic leg for him," said Killian. "Craig Hutto is a shark attack victim. He has spoken to us before, and the last turnout was overwhelming – we had people spilling out the doors."



Juniors Leslie Rolfe and Laura Lee Singer, clad in high-waisted jeans, showcase their creative "Junior League" costumes during spirit week. *Photo courtesy of Leslie Rolfe*

Creative Writing

Creative Writing Club is planning the third-annual kite-flying day for the Khaled Hosseini Foundation on March 27.

Senior Julie Wilson said, "Bring some money for donations. We are going to fly kites on the track and eat baked goods."

JETS and Science Olympiad teams successful at regional competitons

Caitlin Casey
News Editor

The charter bus was at the Harpeth Hall parking lot slightly before four a.m. on Friday, March 2. Twenty-nine girls boarded the bus with Ms. Melinda Higgins, faculty sponsor for IMAGINE, which participates in JETS, an engineering competition. The theme this year was "Engineering Healthier Lives," with a focus on medical engineering.

The competition was held for the first time this year at the University of Tennessee Knoxville. In previous years, Vanderbilt hosted the tournament.

After arriving around 8 a.m., the girls ate breakfast and were greeted by representatives from the UT engineering school. The first phase of the competition consisted of a multiple choice test, in which students were presented with certain scenarios. The girls had prepared for a specific scenario, or topic related to the overall theme of medical engineering.

The girls then toured the campus and listened to keynote speaker and UT professor Dr. Jeff Reinbolt.

The second part of the competition entailed writing an essay response to each of eight questions relating to medical engineering. Soon after the second portion ended, the results for the multiple choice portion were announced. Only the multiple choice portion was taken into consideration for the awards that day. The essays will be considered in national ranking.

Three of four teams placed in their respective divisions. President Sarah Allen Ray led the largest group of girls to JETS since Harpeth Hall's first appearance at the competition three years ago.

"Starting the club IMAGINE definitely attracted more girls to JETS," said Ray. "One ninth and tenth grade team placed first, and one junior and senior team placed first as well. We were so happy with the results. Harpeth Hall's emphasis on science is rapidly growing, and more girls are becoming interested in it."

Two teams from Harpeth Hall competed in the Regional Science Olympiad competition on March 3 at David Lipscomb. Events included rock and mineral identification, water quality tests, building instruments and many others.

The Science Olympiad team won second place in the competition overall, led by faculty sponsor Ms. Lisa Keen.

Senior Rebekah Webster and sophomore Ashley Lanquist prepared for Robot Arm, one of fifteen events at the competition. They built and maneuvered a robot to pick up objects and place them in designated locations.

Juniors Jessica Goldenring, Morgan Flynn and Michelle Chintanaphol won first place in Experimental Design by constructing a bridge out of marshmallows.

"We began practicing earlier than we've ever begun before," said senior Tina Qian, President of Science Olympiad. "The senior council really pulled together and exhibited wonderful leadership. This was the most organized year we've had, largely owing to the dedication of our seniors."

Seniors Olivia Hurd and Qian built a marimba and a harp to participate in Sounds of Music, an event in which students have to make their own instruments and perform duets.

"We were disappointed not to place in the music category," said Olivia Hurd. "But all our hard work paid off since we placed second overall."

The team is currently preparing for the state competition on April 24 at UT.

Students hungry for change:

Apples at the core of laptop debate



Juniors Meredith Beyer and Ellen Matthews concentrate on homework while using their Mac and Lenovo laptops. *Photo by Delaney Royer.*

Reid Patton
Staff Writer

Well, the results are in, and students are screaming for new computers. Scrolling through the results of a poll I sent to the Upper School, I was looking for responses such as "OUR COMPUTERS ARE AWESOME." However, I hate to report that comments of this nature were practically nonexistent. If this says anything, the majority of our students are fed up with our slow, bug-ridden and non-durable computers. In my search for positive feedback of our present day computers, never did I come across the word "fast" or "reliable." However, the administration might not be under the same impression as the students.

Ms. Karen Douse was kind enough the answer some of my questions, one of them being if Harpeth Hall has ever considered switching to Macs. She responded by saying that the school has thought about it and considers everything available every year.

She said that students may be interested in Macs because they are sleek compared to our computers, and Apple has a good marketing department. She also shared that Macs do not have the inking capability used particularly for math and science classes. I cannot speak for the whole school on this, but I do not use my tablet in science class nor in my math class, even though we have the option.

Also, Ms. Douse said that according to their research, Macs are not more reliable or less expensive. Now I have to object on this point. No offense, but I cannot imagine a computer less reliable than mine. Actually today, in the middle of Latin class, my computer shut down, and it took 20 minutes to restart.

Last year, a school computer cost approximately $1675. That included a second battery, a four-year warranty, four years of accident protection and a custom case. However, I think that there is a flaw in this warranty. When the battery breaks, it is not covered in the warranty. When the tablet pen breaks, it is not covered in the warranty. It is convenient that when my screen snapped in half, it could be sent off for free, but I have had a Mac laptop for three years, and all through its brutal life, it has never let me down. The screen never snapped in half, and it never shut down for no reason or for a "beloved" automatic update.

Supposedly, Lenovos have a reputation for sturdiness and reliability. However, these are just words. Thus far, my Lenovo and the Lenovos of my peers have not prove this to be true.

"Overall, we have tried to provide the most reliable machine and the best educational tool for students," said Ms. Douse, "even if it isn't the most attractive."

I do appreciate the fact that Harpeth Hall is trying to do their best for us, but their "best" might not actually be the best.

> Technology is daily becoming more and more important, and Apple computers are leading the way.

And so Harpeth Hall is faced with a dilemma: do we ditch the Lenovo computers for Macs, or do we keep them for eternity and beyond? Of the students that completed my poll, 84 percent wished to switch to Apple computers. Lenovo computers are, simply put, antiquated.

Harpeth Hall does a great job preparing us educationally for the business world to come. However, by having us use our current computers, we are falling behind in the technology aspect of our futures. Technology is daily becoming more and more important, and Apple computers are leading the way. Offices are switching over to Apple computers to keep up with the modernizing world, so shouldn't we do the same?

One setback of switching to Apple computers would be regarding OneNote. In Microsoft Word, on a Mac, there is a program very similar to OneNote. It has tabs, but the only problem is that it does not have a capability to make folders. Instead, each new notebook document is like a folder. However, one quality that this OneNote has that our computers do not have is the ability to record within the document. One can press "record" while the teacher is talking, and the computer will record the lecture. Then, when reviewing before a test, there is a speaker button that will appear when you drag your mouse near each line of text. You can then click that speaker, and the computer will play back what was recorded as you were typing during that specific time. This benefit, in my opinion, outweighs the downside of not being able to create folders.

The biggest change from switching to Macs would be losing the tablet function. Well, to be honest, in the 220+ responses to the survey, fewer than 10 people mentioned the fear of losing the tablet function. To the majority of the survey takers, a functional laptop is worth having to take math notes on paper (which most students do anyway).

Before I was informed that I was breaking a school rule by bringing in my own Mac computer, I used my computer all throughout Winterim and the beginning weeks of the third quarter. During this time, I was on technology cloud nine. Never once did I have my computer shut down for an automatic update, my Internet searches were fast, I could start my computer up in less than 30 seconds, and never did I lose a paper that I had slaved over and forgotten to save. However, it seems that I, as well as other non-Lenovo users, were abusing the tech policy by signing onto the internet as guests. I watched with tear filled eyes as I said one final good-bye to my Mac computer at school and reopened my black computer. But wait! I had forgotten my handy-dandy shoe stand that I made to keep my broken computer screen from falling back. I quickly took off my shoes and placed them behind my computer for support. There!

My brother goes to Ensworth (yes, I know he is a hated Tiger), but in his four years of going to this detested rival school, he has yet to have a computer problem. Is this not saying something?

A change is needed, and the Bears have spoken. These IBM's were the computers of yesteryear, and Macs are the computers of today.

Staff Editorial

Elections fail to capture student interest

It has been brought to our attention that recent political events at school have not been as well received as anticipated. At the mock Super Tuesday election, Upper School students and teachers voted for their preferred presidential candidate. Unfortunately, only about half of the Upper School participated in the election.

In our own school elections, there has not been as much participation as in past years. For next year, the Student Council President and Vice President are already decided. Usually we have an assembly in which each of the presidential candidates gives a speech. While there will still be an assembly and a speech, the President, as well as the Vice President, will be elected by acclamation. Currently, the Student Council Treasurer and Secretary are also running unopposed, but the deadline to run is not until March 30.

In class elections, a similar pattern has emerged. For next year, the Class of 2013 will only be voting for a President and a Vice President. The Secretary, Treasurer, Parliamentarian and Spirit Leader all ran unopposed. However, the underclassmen have demonstrated a significantly greater interest in class elections. Both the freshmen and sophomore classes have multiple candidates running for each class officer position.

Logos is concerned about the political apathy demonstrated by many Harpeth Hall students in both the mock primary and school elections. Some students may not have felt as compelled to vote in the Super Tuesday election since the majority of the Upper School is not eligible to vote in the national election. However, our school elections are open to everyone, and holding those offices gives students the opportunities to make real changes in the school. While we are sure that the new Student Council President and Vice President will do an excellent job next year, it is disappointing that no one else felt passionate enough about school issues to run.

As high school students, it is important that we take advantage of the political opportunities that are presented to us before we enter the real world. People should not be discouraged from running just because they do not want to hurt someone's feelings or run against a friend. It is especially disconcerting that next year's senior class has not demonstrated as much interest in elections as in the past.

As responsible citizens, we need to be informed about political issues and be willing to participate in decisions affecting our community and our country. In the future, Logos hopes that students will consider being more involved in school, local and national politics.

Song strangler: Radio prime suspect

Lack of variety angers music enthusiasts

Sarah Oppenheimer
Copy Editor

What is your favorite song on the radio? How many times have you heard that exact same song on the radio? Probably too many.

Certain radio stations, such as 107.5 The River, tend to overplay songs. Well, that's the understatement of the year. Radio stations suffocate a good song until there is not a single breath left. I understand that the radio staff wants to play songs that people enjoy, but from my experience, people only enjoy listening to songs the first 50 times they hear them.

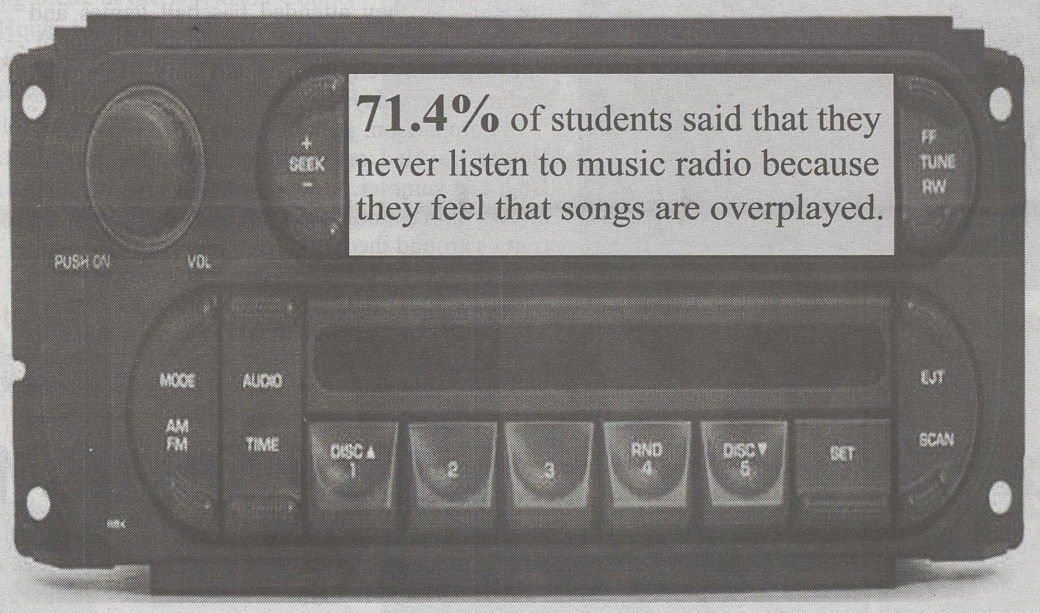
I don't know how many times I have heard a song for the first time on the radio, enjoyed it, and then considered buying it. After a month of hearing that same song over and over on the radio, I absolutely hate it! At that point, you couldn't pay me to buy that song on iTunes. Why? Because I get absolutely sick of it. It doesn't help that certain radio stations tend to only play the top songs from around the country week after week.

The radio is a song killer. While the actual song itself doesn't change over the airwaves, the meaning of the song does.

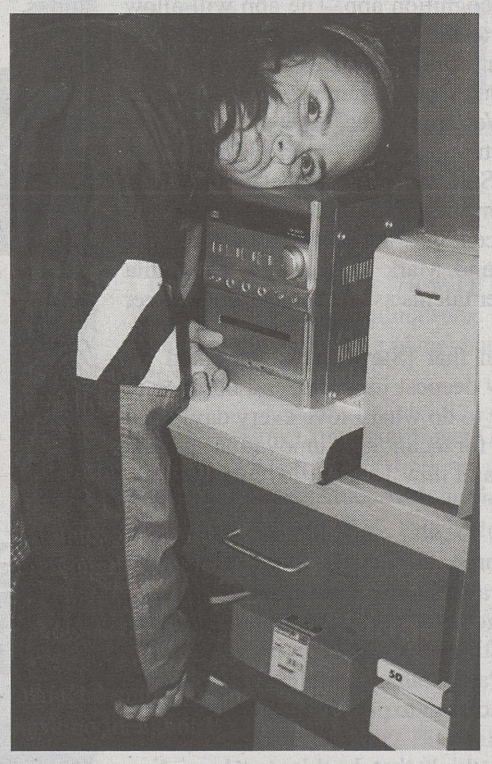
Early this past summer, one friend from camp shared a song by Adele called "Someone like You." Have you heard of it? Of course you have. Probably too many times. That song wasn't played on the radio yet, and it meant so much to us. As the days passed, it began to appear on the radio. I was overjoyed; I loved this song, and now I could hear it all the time! Well, those thoughts quickly passed. The more the song was played, the more it lost its meaning to me.

The more you hear a song on the radio, the less you listen to its message. You begin to sing along to the radio in a zombie-like trance. You are singing the words simply to sing, not because you are listening to the song's message. From an artistic standpoint, the song loses its soul, and honestly, it just gets pretty annoying.

There are only so many times you can "Just Dance" or "Set Fire to the Rain" until you want to pull your hair out– or at least until you stop listening.



In a survey conducted, the majority of Upper School students agreed that radio stations tend to overplay songs. *Survey includes only the first 100 responses. Survey courtesy of Survey Monkey. Photo courtesy of Google Images.*



FRUSTRATION STATION: Junior Logan Day expresses dismay over music radio's tendency to overplay songs. *Photo by Delaney Royer.*

Heard it in the hallway:
Students give their opinion on music radio

"I usually make CDs to listen to in my car because I hate listening overplayed, 'cookie-cutter' pop songs."

Camellia Zafar

"Radio has lost what once made it great– a wide variety of virtually unheard of songs. It has become less about bringing recognition to new bands with new sound and more about playing the synthesized pop beats we all already know about."

Anonymous

"While I usually listen to CDs in the car, occasionally I will turn on Lightning 100 to listen to their live broadcasts of local bands at 3rd and Lindsley or Music City Roots."

Katherine Deal

LOGOS
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Logos encourages Letters to the Editor. Letters should not exceed 250 words, and they must be signed by the author to be considered for publication. *Logos* reserves the right to edit the letters for length, grammar, and content. Letters may be submitted to Opinions Editors Meredith Beyer or Jenna Moses.

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We know what you did last summer:

Students' 2011 experiences provide inspiration for 2012

Miranda Ronnow
Staff Writer



CLIMB EVERY MOUNTAIN: Juniors Lacey Porter and Kate Beuter ventured into Utah canyons during a Moondance trip last summer. *Photo courtesy of Lacey Porter*

It's that time of year again — time to make summer plans. Though lounging by the pool or the beach is a tempting option during the scorching three-month break, many programs exist to give a little substance to summer vacation.

From graduation until the first day of school, a wide range of opportunities is available for students: classes on college campuses like Brown, Duke and Vanderbilt; camps and adventure programs; and chances to travel abroad to study a new language or culture.

Junior Adelaide Morphett participated in a Duke TIP course called "Symbols and Structure: Uncovering the Unconscious in Film, Literature and Art." During the discussion-based class, she analyzed "anything you watch or read or listen to" with other high schoolers from across the United States and the world.

For three and a half weeks, eight hours each day, Adelaide and her classmates discussed dream analysis and the subconscious, delving into Freud and the hero archetype.

One of Adelaide's favorite aspects of the Duke class was when the staff members "brought in Resident Counselors and had them lay on a couch to tell us about one of their dreams so that we could analyze it."

Adelaide formed strong bonds with her fellow students, as they attended baseball games and completed other activities outside the classroom. She especially enjoyed an advisory-like group that met every day.

In comparison, juniors Lacey Porter and Kate Beuter traveled on a Moondance adventure in Utah last summer. Moondance is a program that allows high school students to try outdoorsy activities around the world.

During this 13-day journey, Lacey and Beuter white water rafted, slept on riverbanks, "canyoneered" — scaled and hiked canyons— and did, in Lacey's words, "some legit rock climbing."

Lacey's favorite part of the trip, besides developing powerful relationships with her fellow adventurers, was "white water rafting for five days straight, because it was out of [her] comfort zone."

Lacey recommended Moondance to any thrill-seeking student but said, "Don't buy your camping gear; borrow it from a friend or family member."

Senior Lucy Cohn-Still participated in the National Security Language Initiative Youth program immediately after her sophomore year. The NSLI-Y awards merit-based scholarships to high school students to study less commonly studied languages. Consequently, Cohn-Still's six week experience was entirely free.

For the first three days of her trip, Cohn-Still explored Beijing with her American companions. Later, she lived with a host family in Shanghai and attended Chinese classes for five and a half weeks. The classes took place every week day from 8:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.

From 3:00-5:30 p.m., Cohn-Still and her American friends were able tour around Shanghai.

She loved learning the language in the city, even though she was exhausted every night.

"The people were amazing: friendly, helpful and great tools for harnessing the language," said Cohn-Still.

As a result, she advised that "everyone should try for it. But you have to be willing to laugh at yourself and be open to trying new things."

No matter a girl's interests, a summer program awaits to pique them. According to most students who have participated in educational summer programs, the experience provides lifelong friendships and memories in addition to valuable new knowledge.

Breaking the code: Sophomores tackle HTML

Allie Polk
Features Editor

Computer programmer. People often associate these words with images of ambitious, brilliant MIT or Caltech graduates who slouch over keyboards into the wee hours of the morning, with an excessive amount of caffeine in their bloodstream.

However, sophomores Juliana D'Eredita and Ellie Beahm hope to contradict this "antisocial" stereotype with their love for coding using HTML. Beahm even claims that computer programming relieves stress in her life, and she urges others to adopt the activity.

"I tried to get a couple of friends to start, but they wouldn't because they're too scared," said Beahm. "[Computer programming] is like a foreign language because you can look at it and not even know what it means, but as soon as you learn the basic ideas behind it, it's really easy."

According to D'Eredita, HTML, or hypertext markup language, provides the "bare bones of a website." Though its official name can be intimidating, HTML simply formats a blank webpage with correct spacing, adds functionality and enables transitions between sites. Other computer programming languages, such as CSS and JavaScript, style the websites and increase the interactivity.

D'Eredita and Beahm started programming in the second and seventh grades respectively, but they continue to enhance their skills by incorporating new programs and techniques. Beahm often uses Photoshop to edit pictures for her backgrounds because she believes "ease of access and attractiveness" are crucial to developing an impressive website.

"If [a webpage] highlights what you're trying to convey, and you don't have a lot of distracting things, you can have your main point in the front," said Beahm.

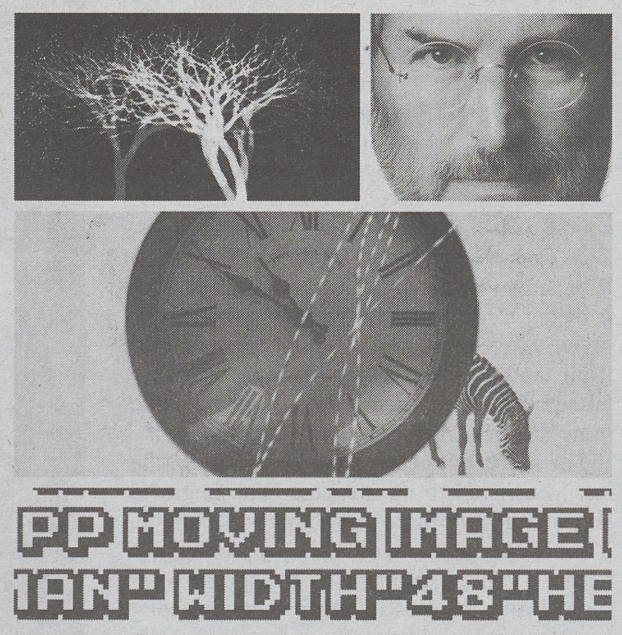
In comparison, D'Eredita has worked with Dr. Melissa Wert, Harpeth Hall's Academic Technology Specialist, to develop an image-recognition app. The app will allow Android smart phones to identify buildings and trees on campus for a virtual tour of the school.

Not only does computer programming provide useful tools, from Microsoft Word to iTunes, but it will also offer considerable job opportunities in the future. The United States Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that employment in computer software programming and engineering will grow more than 20 percent between 2008 and 2018. With idols like Steve Jobs and Mark Zuckerberg, D'Eredita aims to use her computer talents as she decides on a career path.

"The kind of passion that [Steve Jobs] exhibited inspired me to pursue my deepest interests, and because of Steve Jobs, I make time to do what I love every day," said D'Eredita. "His passion for technology innovation sparked a similar flame in me, and now I would love to pursue a career in cyber security."

Unfortunately, as D'Eredita and Beahm recognize, many teenagers view programming as too "mathy" and complex to be an enjoyable hobby. Nevertheless, the two young programmers eagerly encouraged other girls to dive in and discover that writing code can actually be an outlet for artistic expression. Paul Graham, cofounder of Viaweb, compared computer "hackers" to painters in his 2004 book Hackers & Painters.

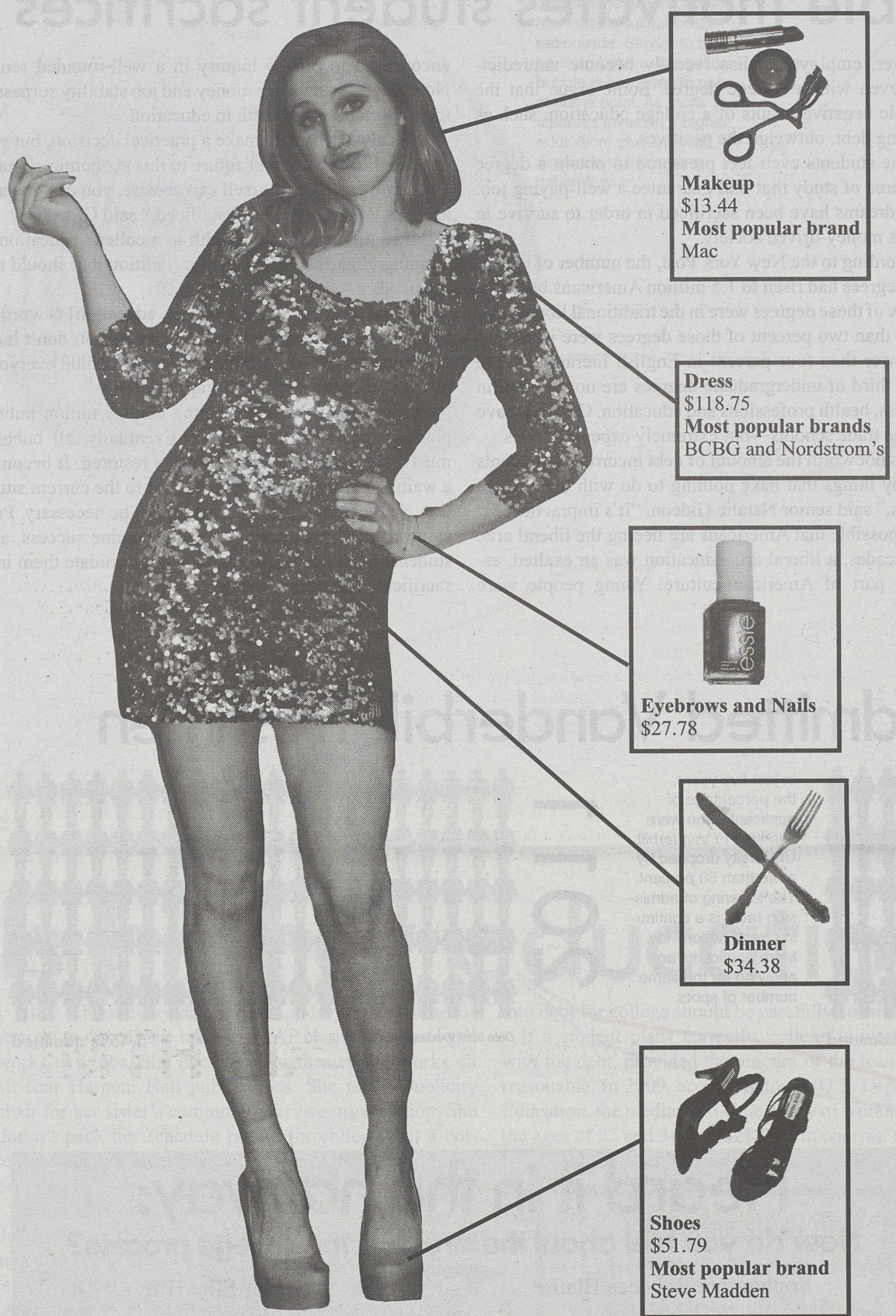
"[People] seemed to think that hacking and painting were very different kinds of work—that hacking was cold, precise and methodical, and that painting was the frenzied expression of some primal urge," wrote Graham. "What hackers and painters have in common is that they're both makers. Along with composers, architects and writers, what hackers and painters are trying to do is make good things."



OUT OF THE BOX: HTML requires innovation within certain constraints. Often, adopting and modifying an existing code produces the breathtaking results. The image above, which shows one of Beahm's websites, D'Eredita's sources of inspiration and a graphic by junior Delaney Royer, builds off this idea of borrowing and creating anew. *Collage by Ellen Matthews*

Dancing into DEBT





Makeup
$13.44
Most popular brand
Mac

Dress
$118.75
Most popular brands
BCBG and Nordstrom's

Eyebrows and Nails
$27.78

Dinner
$34.38

Shoes
$51.79
Most popular brand
Steve Madden

Allie Polk
Features Editor

Most little girls dream of becoming beautiful princesses in gauzy gowns, such as Cinderella or Belle in the classic Disney movies. This idea of perfection often persists into adolescence as girls imagine waltzing the night away and escorting Prince Charming to Winter Formal or prom.

Unfortunately, Harpeth Hall students don't have fairy godmothers that magically transform them into jaw-dropping princesses before school dances. Instead, many girls struggle to find dazzling dresses and skyscraper heels that match their unrealistic expectations. Consequently, a frenzied cycle of buying begins.

"I think if you bought a cheap dress, it would be just as fun," said junior Caroline Hoffman. "But it's one of those things where you get caught up in spending more money than you think."

A dress isn't the only expense: shoes, makeup, nails, tickets and dinner add to the final cost. According to a survey answered by 140 high schoolers, students spend about $250 on average for a dance.

The school spends money on the dances, as well. For Winter Formal the expenditures have been low, totaling $400 for a DJ and decorations, over each of the last three years. Prom, on the other hand, has a budget that exceeds $20,000.

"I think the main difference between Harpeth Hall and most other schools is the budget [for prom]," said junior Jessica Goldenring. "We have such a big budget, and we don't really need it. Schools across the country manage to have a prom that doesn't cost $20,000."

Several juniors, like Goldenring, question the size of prom's budget, especially since it approaches the cost of Harpeth Hall's tuition. Recently, several juniors have pushed for an economical prom next year that benefits the larger community.

Hoffman, a representative of the movement, said, "We're interested in finding a way to incorporate service with prom because that seems like a ridiculous amount of money to spend [on a dance] when we're already so fortunate."

Though girls like Goldenring and Hoffman claim that there are more "necessary and important things" to spend money on, many students resist reducing the expenses of an event that happens twice in all of high school. Senior Mary Liza Hartong recognized that "precedence" motivates junior classes to stretch their budgets each year.

"If [cutting costs] was proposed to a senior class," said Hartong, "the senior class might have the feeling, 'Ugh, my senior prom had to be the one they cancelled to be something smaller!'"

As a result, girls continue increasing the prom budget and buying new clothing in hopes that money will mold their realities into fantasies. Nevertheless, all girls interviewed agreed that the experience would be just as enjoyable without the heavy price.

As senior Anna Kate Jernigan said, "I hope that in the future, there is less of an emphasis on the money and more of an emphasis on who you're with and the magic of the night."

THE PRICE IS RIGHT?: According to a survey answered by 140 students, an average Harpeth Hall girl spends a total of $246.14 on a given dance. With approximately 325 girls attending Winter Formal, the student body spent a total of $79,995 for the dance. In addition, the Student Council paid $375 for a DJ this year. Finally, the prom budget typically exceeds $20,000. These expenditures match the cost of nearly five students' annual tuitions. *Photos by Allie Polk*

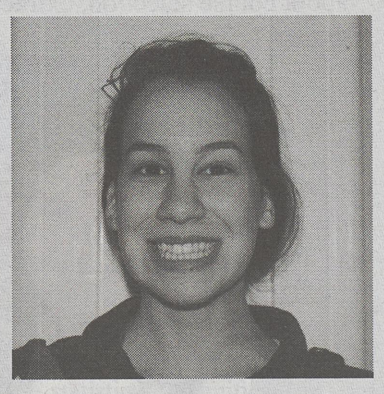
Heard in the hallway: Why do girls spend what they do?



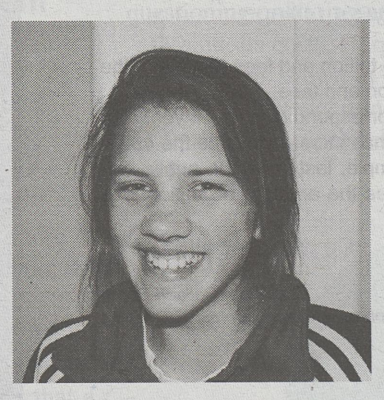
Senior Caroline Hawkins
"I think it's absurd how much money we spend, but it's exciting when you have something new to wear. You want to put your best self forward on that night."



Junior Laura Lee Singer
"There's so much emphasis on prom here. It's supposed to be this lavish, great, extravagant night, so we want to make it that special for the seniors."



Junior Jenna Moses
"I would rather use my money and my time to do things that I find more enjoyable or important. I feel like I'm gaining more than just going to a dance."



Sophomore Rebecca Morris
"For me, it's the one time to dress up, take a date and go to dinner. I think it's fun once or twice a year to spend money, look nice, and have a fun night."



Freshman Lizzy LeBleu
"Some people spend a lot, but some people borrow dresses. We're a bunch of teenage girls, so everyone wants to look good. It's all about the looks!"

The college c

Tina Qian and Maddi D'Aquila
Editors-in-Chief

College tuition bubble motivates student sacrifices

The average college graduate leaves school with $27,000 in debt, and one in 10 graduates is unable to find work of any kind. By the end of this year, student loan debt is predicted to surpass the trillion dollar mark.

According to College Board, 70 years ago there were 1.5 million students enrolled at universities in the United States. By 2006, that number increased to 20 million. Meanwhile, the cost of tuition has grown exponentially higher. Just in the past 25 years, college tuition has risen three times as fast as individual family income. Over this past decade, tuition has increased at a rate of 5.6 percent each year.

Rising tuition costs and acquired debt have created a "college tuition bubble." Similar to the housing bubble, which inflated the real estate market and sent prices soaring, the college tuition bubble has the potential to dismantle higher education. Bubbles develop when something becomes overvalued. Americans have grown to believe so strongly in a good education that the amount of unpaid student debt is perpetuating to the debt crisis America is currently facing.

College is arguably the best investment one can make; however, employment has recently become unpredictable, even with a college degree. Some argue that the possible negative results of a college education, such as life-long debt, outweigh the positives.

Some students even feel pressured to obtain a degree in an area of study that will guarantee a well-paying job. Thus, dreams have been sacrificed in order to survive in today's money-driven society.

According to the New York Post, the number of bachelor's degrees had risen to 1.5 million Americans by 2008, but few of those degrees were in the traditional liberal arts. Fewer than two percent of those degrees were in history and fewer than four percent in English literature. More than a third of undergraduate degrees are now earned in business, health professions and education. Colleges have become trade schools—but extremely expensive ones.

"It's not worth the amount of debt incurred by students to study things that have nothing to do with their future careers," said senior Natalie Gideon. "It's impractical."

It's possible that Americans are fleeing the liberal arts. For decades, a liberal arts education was an exalted, essential part of American culture. Young people were encouraged to pursue inquiry in a well-rounded sense. Nowadays, the need for money and job stability surpasses the importance of breadth in education.

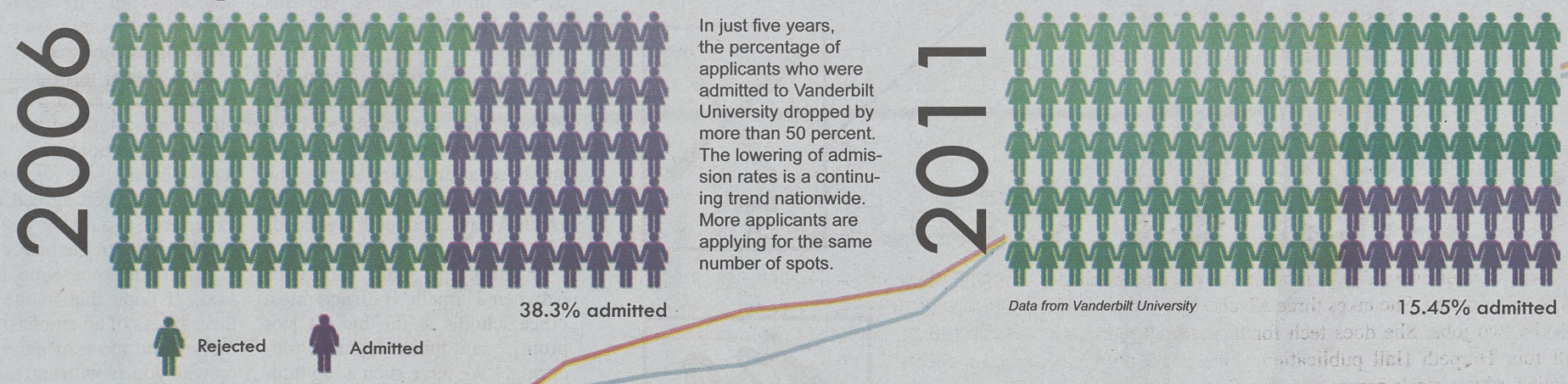
"It's always hard to make a practical decision, but you have to think about your future in this economic climate. Once you establish yourself career-wise, you can go back and study the subject you sacrificed," said Gideon.

Some still argue that breadth in a college education is an integral part of the American tradition that should not be forsaken.

"I think [a well-rounded college education] is worth it because in our society it is necessary. If you don't have a college degree you're starting off way behind everyone else," said senior Lindsey Lanquist.

The dilemma produced by the college tuition bubble plagues high school students. Eventually, all bubbles must burst and equilibrium must be restored. It becomes a waiting game. Students must adapt to the current situation, yet deserting passions should not be necessary. Pursuing passions ultimately leads to genuine success, and students must not allow a bubble to intimidate them into sacrificing such passions.

Proportion of admitted Vanderbilt freshmen



In just five years, the percentage of applicants who were admitted to Vanderbilt University dropped by more than 50 percent. The lowering of admission rates is a continuing trend nationwide. More applicants are applying for the same number of spots.

Data from Vanderbilt University



Key to background graph:

Red line: Private, non-profit four-year college
Blue line: Public four-year college

The data: inflation-adjusted tuition and fees relative to the 1981-1982 school year tuition and fees.
How to read: the number corresponding to each year tells how many times the tuition has increased since the 1981-1982 school year. For example, last year, the public university tuition was 3.81 times the amount the tuition was in 1981-1982.

Data from College Board
Graphics by Tina Qian Maddi D'Aquila

Heard it in the hallway:

How do you feel about the stress of the college process?

Sophomore Rebecca Blair

"I feel like [college] is always lingering in the background. It's not as prominent as it will be next year, but it's in the back of my mind. Especially when thinking about course selection, extracurriculars and grades."

Junior Ellie Hitt

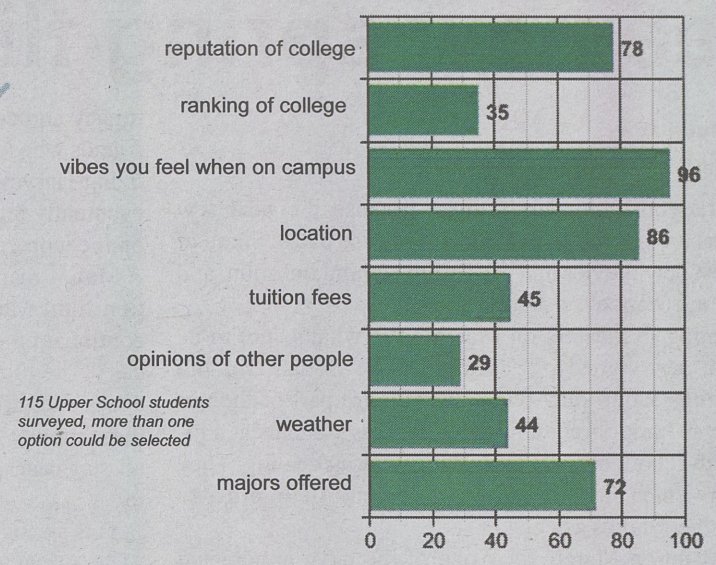
"I'm the oldest child in my family, so I'm especially stressed going through the college process. But I feel well-prepared, especially considering I do not have a sibling who has gone through this before me."

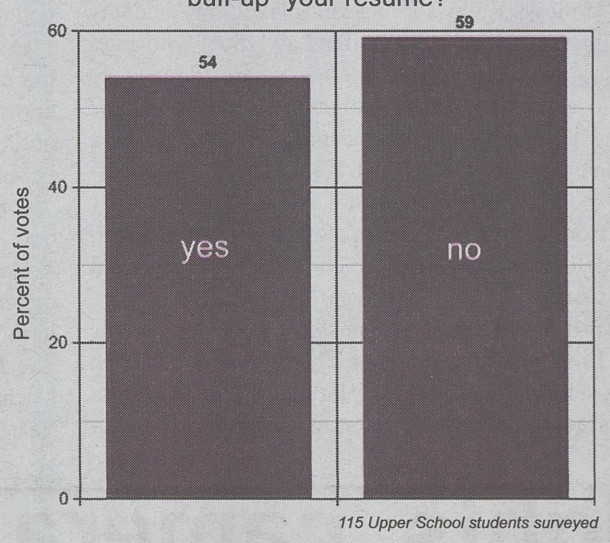
Photos courtesy of Uchida Photography

e conundrum



The college tuition bubble has inflated tuition costs nationwide. Similar to the housing bubble, the tuition bubble is predicted to pop at some point. As more students invest in a higher education, student debt rises due to increasing tuition fees.





Is higher education worth it?

After school every day, senior Lindsey Lanquist heads straight to dance. She takes three AP classes in school and works two jobs. She does tech for theater and works on all four Harpeth Hall publications. She is the publicity chair for her sister's community service organization. She doesn't pack her schedule purely for college, but a college acceptance letter is certainly one of the more enticing benefits.

Lanquist is not alone. Harpeth Hall students and students all over the U.S. work hard to get into their dream schools. The goal is the college acceptance letter, but that is only the beginning of the story. Once seniors get their letters, they are faced with years of ever-increasing tuition. Students lose valuable work time while they are at school, and after paying for college, students might face unemployment in today's dismal market.

So, is college still worth it?

The current unemployment rate is staggering. Yet, there is a marked difference between the unemployment rates for those with a high school degree and those with a college degree (9.5 percent as opposed to 4.4 percent, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics). It might be harder to find a job, but a college degree certainly does no harm.

One of the greatest pitfalls of college is the tuition. College tuition fees do not seem to have noticed the recent recession. The prices seem to be rising with increasing energy. With unemployment and lower pay raises affecting the general population, students rely on student loans to afford college. Yet, with the student debt having overtaken credit card debt at about $1 trillion, and with students unable to declare bankruptcy for their student loans, going into debt for college should be carefully considered.

If a student plans correctly, college is worth it, even with the debt, provided the amount of the loan is not unreasonable. In 2009, according to the U.S. Department of Education, the median full-time salary of workers between the ages of 25 and 34 was $21,000, in contrast to $45,000 for those with a bachelor's degree. With a master's degree, a person can expect to earn $1.3 million more in lifetime earnings than a person with just a high school diploma, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

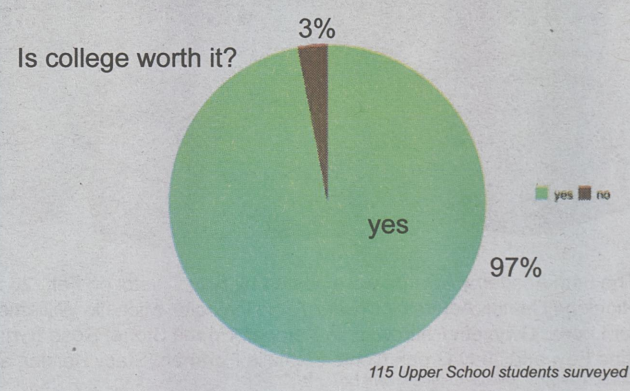
With the student debt having overtaken credit card debt at about $1 trillion, and with students unable to declare bankruptcy for their student loans, going into debt for college should be carefully considered.

A college degree is not required for high earnings, nor do all college graduates earn large sums of money. However, the numbers are statistically significant in proving that a college education generally corresponds with a higher salary. Students should carefully consider their majors before going heavily into debt. Certain majors will lead to jobs that might not be able to pay back four years of college tuition.

College is not all about money. It is first and foremost a place of learning, so that students will be prepared for life. For certain careers, then, college is not worth it. Experience might be a better teacher than a college professor for many jobs. Unfortunately, even for such jobs, a college degree has often become a prerequisite. Other careers require a college education, such as those in engineering and medicine.

Finally, if the numbers and the realities of career prospects are not convincing enough, college is a major life experience. It is the stepping stone into real life, so that students can learn responsibility before diving headfirst into the adult world. It is a place for pushing boundaries, questioning, maturing and discovering one's self.

Despite its costs, Harpeth Hall students believe college is worth it, as shown in the survey below. Though college is not for everyone, it may still be a rewarding experience for those pursuing certain majors or those who simply enjoy learning.



Procrastinate responsibly, see new spring flicks

Julia Pair
Staff Writer

Mark your calendars, ladies, because the next few months are packed with some hot release dates. Some of the best new movies and DVDs are coming out soon, and you don't want to miss them.

Coming to theaters on March 16 is what's sure to be a great new comedy, "21 Jump Street." Jonah Hill and Channing Tatum play two cops who are part of the undercover Jump Street unit. They pose as students at a local high school in order to investigate drug dealing. They must re-enter the stress of an adolescent life in order to fulfill their duties as cops.

Next up on March 23 is one of the most anticipated movies coming out this spring, "The Hunger Games." Based on the book by Suzanne Collins, "The Hunger Games" follows Katniss Everdeen (played by Academy Award nominated actress Jennifer Lawrence) who lives in a post-apocylyptic North America, where all teens are forced to enter the Hunger Games, and the chosen 12 boys and 12 girls fight to the death as punishment for a rebellion many years ago. When Katniss is chosen to participate in the Hunger Games, she teams up with the boy chosen from her district, Peeta (played by Josh Hutcherson) to defeat the other tributes. This action-packed sci-fi drama is sure to thrill.

On April 20, the season's newest romantic comedy "Think Like a Man" premieres. This movie is based on the best-selling book by Steve Harvey that gives insight on "what men really think about love, relationships, intimacy and commitment." The movie follows four male friends whose girlfriends all read this book and begin utilizing Harvey's knowledge of how men think. The men eventually find out and formulate a plan to turn the tables on the women.

May 4 marks the arrival of the newest superhero action film, Marvel's "The Avengers." This movie is the continuation of both "Iron Man" films, "Captain America," "The Incredible Hulk" and "Thor." When an enemy arises and threatens the world, the four epic heroes from these movies band together to save the day. Featuring an all-star cast, this is definitely a movie to look forward to.

This spring is also an exciting time for DVD releases. "The Adventures of Tintin" comes out on March 13. Though I did not see it, I've heard great reviews of this animated movie that follows Tintin, an adventurous, young reporter in pursuit of a great story.

On April 10, "The Iron Lady" comes to DVD. This is the inspiring story of Margaret Thatcher's life. I didn't know much about the UK's first female Prime Minister until I saw Meryl Streep portray her in this movie. I highly recommend this film.

On May 1, one of my favorite movies of 2011 comes out. "New Year's Eve" is the story of a host of New Yorkers celebrating Jan. 1, 2012 in a variety of ways. In the end, each character finds happiness and a fresh start in the new year through their trials on Dec. 31. Starring Zac Efron, Sarah Jessica Parker, Ashton Kutcher, Lea Michele and many other stars, it doesn't have to be New Year's Eve for you to enjoy this romantic comedy.

Uncovering Adele

Julie Wilson
Entertainment Editor

After Adele won six awards at this year's Grammys, we thought you might like to learn some interesting facts about the singer.

Adele's full name is Adele Laurie Blue Adkins.

She was born in Tottenham, North London, United Kingdom.

Even though Adele's last album is titled "21," the singer is currently 23 years old.

Two of Adele's major influences are The Spice Girls and singer Gabrielle. She said, "They made me what I am today." As a young girl, Adele impersonated the artists at dinner parties, complete with sequins and an eye patch to make her look like Gabrielle.

She graduated from BRIT School for Performing Arts and Technology, where Leona Lewis and Jessie J were her classmates.

She was a hair model for her cousin during a hair-styling competition.

Her dachshund's name is Louis Armstrong.

She hates airplanes.

After years of artists winning the Best New Artist Grammy and never going on to win Record of the Year, Song of the Year or Album of the Year), Adele broke the "Best New Artist" curse and won all three this year.

Lights, camera, fashion at 2012 Oscars



The 84th Academy Awards were hosted by Billy Crystal on Feb. 26 at the Hollywood and Highland Center. Actors clockwise: Angelina Jolie, Michelle Williams, Cameron Diaz, Jennifer Lopez, Gwyneth Paltrow, Ellie Kemper, Emma Stone, Rose Byrne, Sacha Baron Cohen, Tina Fey, and Judy Greer. Center: Natalie Portman, Stacy Keibler, and Meryl Streep. *Photo Collage by Julie Wilson, Entertainment Editor*

Anna LeBleu
Staff Writer

It would be difficult to select just one candidate for best-dressed from this year's Oscars. There were so many gorgeous gowns that it would be hard to choose just one deserving actress.

A few girls who snagged the tops spots in my book were Emma Stone, Stacy Keibler (George Clooney's arm candy), Michelle Williams and of course the always classy Angelina Jolie, whose daring leg-slit sealed the deal. Emma's dress was a dark pink shade with a high neckline and bow at her collarbone. It was fresh and fun, but also conservative and sweet. Stacy looked like an Oscar herself in a gold Marchesa gown with exquisite ruching and a sexier vibe.

Some went for sweet, while some went for more daring looks. J-Lo worked her body-con dress, showing off her flawless figure, while Natalie Portman looked adorable in red polka dots by Dior. Michelle Williams rocked a sweet coral Louis Vuitton with a peplum skirt.

Being an unabashed fan of sparkles and glitter, I was excited about Rose Byrne and Milla Jovovich's dresses; however, I was slightly disappointed with Rose's ill-fitting black gown and Milla's choice of dress shape. Neither dress did much for either of the lovely actresses' bodies.

I was also slightly confused by Gwyneth Paltrow's take on the cape for the red carpet. I cannot decide whether I absolutely love it or hate it completely, but kudos to her for taking such a fashion risk. You go, girl!

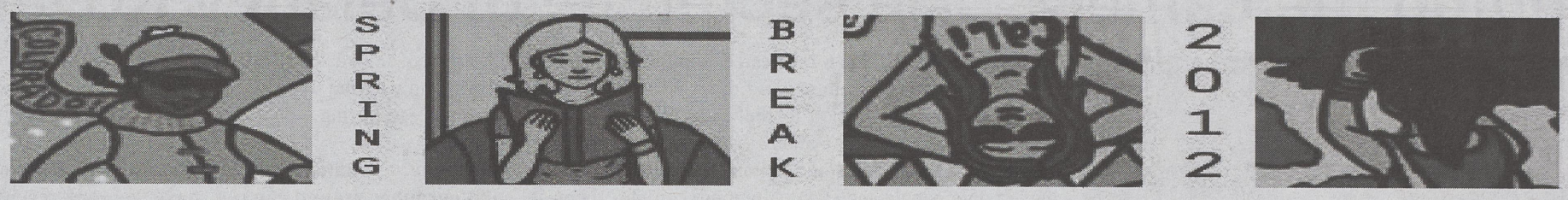
These are a few unexpected ladies who absolutely nailed it: Esperanza Spalding, Ellie Kemper and Jessica Chastain. Their jewel-tone color choices were classy, and their dresses looked sophisticated and tailored to perfection. Jessica's gold and black Alexander McQueen dress turned heads all the way down the red carpet.

Speaking of tailoring, check out Maya Rudolph's sparkling purple number. It accentuated her curves in all the right places. On the other side of the spectrum, we have Virginia Madsen, whose purple dress looks like it came straight out of 80's prom night. Yikes!

While Tina Fey, Meryl Streep and Sandra Bullock were not necessarily worst-dressed on the carpet that night, their dresses were definitely not up to par. Fey's dress swallowed her in ashy, navy fabric, Streep's was similarly swamped in the folds of a gold Lanvin and Sandra's drop-waist Marchesa just wasn't the most flattering. These three amazing ladies deserved magnificent dresses to match their outstanding acting abilities, but they ended up with ill-fitting and unflattering gowns with the best intentions, but the worst results.

Some absolute no-no's included Judy Greer (the exposed zipper, the black and silver space-age color combo, the terrible neckline…just no) and Cameron Diaz (girl, can you even breathe?! Nice try with the color scheme, but better luck next time).

Then there was Sacha Baron Cohen. The unclassy Cohen spilled pancake mix he claimed was the ashes of late North Korean leader Kim Jong Il all over Ryan Seacrest's Burberry suit (Oh no he didn't!). Ryan handled himself well. Thank goodness this was the night's only fashion faux-pas!



Graphic by Caroline Harwood, Multimedia Editor

Logos breaks it down:
Ways to spice up your Nashville staycation

Khadijah Naeem and Julie Wilson
Staff Writer and Entertainment Editor

You might be one of the many people stuck in Nashville for Spring Break 2012 and think there's absolutely nothing to do. However, this is a prime opportunity to explore Music City and experience the full potential of Nashville.

Tennessee has many hiking trails in Nashville in Percy Warner Park and Edwin Warner Park. Dragon Park is a fun place to play hide and seek, while Centennial Park has The Parthenon for history fans.

During the week of spring break, quite a few exhibits will be shown at the Frist. "Fairy Tales, Monsters and the Genetic Imagination" is an exhibit that opens in February and runs through May. Aaron Kelly, a contestant in American Idol, will be performing at the Frist on March 22.

Then there is always the mall and the movie theater. Maybe it's time to make the trek down to Franklin to check out The Factory at Franklin, which has several cute, crafty stores. Also, "The Hunger Games" midnight premiere is right in the middle of Spring Break, so be sure to buy your tickets now.

Something that you might not have thought of is Driver's Ed. If you are staying home, this could be a good opportunity to get in those driving hours and sneak past the scary test at the DMV.

"Believe it or not, I did Driver's Ed my sophomore year during Spring Break and loved it," said senior Tina Qian. "I got my license and I even made some new friends."

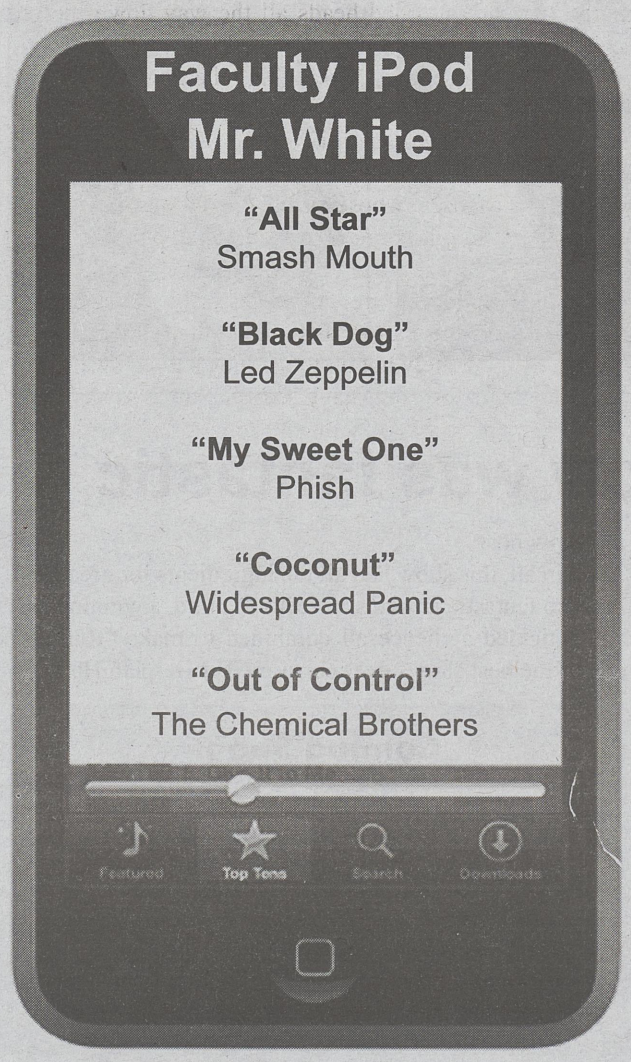
There is also an opportunity for students to support the Mock Trial team at their state competition the first weekend of spring break at the Davidson County Court House March 16 and 17.

If you're willing to go a little bit outside of Nashville, Fall Creek Falls is a public three mile hike in Pikeville, Tenn. that leads up to one of the south's top three waterfalls.

Although it's not the beach or a ski resort, Nashville has many beautiful things to see and fun things to do. A spring break in town can be enjoyed just by staying at home and going out with your friends. Either way, Spring Break is a time to kick back wherever you are.



While some students rock a staycation, others venture to various cities.
Photos courtesy of Caroline Hoffman, Anna LeBleu, Casey Caldwell, Margaret McDowell, Maggie Griswold and the Hong twins.



We be jammin'
Music to our ears on Spring Break '12

Bonnie Scott
Staff Writer

THIRD EYE BLIND: "How's it Going to Be"
This is a great mood setting song. It's relaxed enough to listen to in the car or on a plane, but it's not just poppy background noise.

FEIST: "How Come You Never Go There"
Since Leslie Feist's 2004 release of The Reminder, she has gained public attention with her hauntingly beautiful voice and eccentric melodies. This is a nice song to sit back and relax to.

A TRIBE CALLED QUEST: "Check the Rhime"
You can't go wrong with 90s rap. You just can't.

WHISKEYTOWN: "16 Days"
Are you a secret folkster? This is the song for you. For those of you who have heard of Ryan Adams, Whiskeytown was the band through which he expressed his folksier side before branching out into alternative country, rock and many other genres. This song always reminds me of home.

THE CAT EMPIRE: "Panama"
The Cat Empire is a painfully under-recognized band, emerging from the Australian indie scene. Their music is often boisterous, upbeat and political. This is a lyrically beautiful song which, though softer than many of their others, echoes their playful style.

THE SHINS: "Australia"
The Shins never fail to impress. This is one of my favorites of theirs.

THE KOOKS: "She Moves in Her Own Way"
The Kooks are perfect to listen to on a long road trip. It's a great atmosphere song.

WARPAINT: "Undertow"
For those of you who are more into alternative music, this is the song for you. It's definitely "out there" but interesting and atmospheric.

Behind the camera: The secret life of Delaney Royer



BEAUTY IN BLACK AND WHITE: Royer's self-portrait captures her personality and illustrates her love of black and white photography. *Photo by Delaney Royer*

Lindsey Lanquist
Arts Editor

Though many teenagers love being in front of the camera, junior Delaney Royer prefers to be behind it. Since middle school, Royer has explored the art of photography. She enjoys taking long walks on the beach, serving as the Logos photography editor, and doing photo shoots with her friends.

How long have you been interested in photography?

As a wee tot in seventh grade, I did a SEEK project on photography where I tried to replicate different famous photographers' styles. At about that time, I was mainly taking pictures of plants and animals. As time went on, I moved onto people and eventually more complex themes.

How did you first become interested in photography?

I honestly don't remember. Since my parents are both artists, I have grown up with their influence. I guess I wanted to find my own art that differed from my parents, and it ended up being photography when I got my first camera in sixth grade.

Where do you see your love of photography taking you in the future?

My ideal plan would be majoring in Photography and Imaging when I get to college. My favorite part of photography is directing the photo shoots. I would love to take that to the next level and eventually get to the point of directing films, maybe even feature length.

Have you ever had any interesting experiences as a result of your photography?

Well, most of my photo shoots are "interesting experiences" in and of themselves. One time, way back when, I held a photo shoot in an unfamiliar creek. The unnamed girl and I were shooting some water photography, something I'd never done before.

Everything was positioned perfectly, and I was just about to take a picture when, suddenly, she screamed bloody murder. Apparently, a crawdad pinched her in a less than pleasant area, but I had NO idea what was going on. After she finally told me what happened, I looked down to find an army of crawdads at my feet. Neither one of us had shoes, and we tried to escape the creek in a frenzy. It was absolutely terrifying.

Since you've established yourself as a sort of famous photographer around campus, have you ever received any fan mail?

Yeah, one time this bizarre person named Lindsey wrote me a weird note in my Tumblr ask box. She told me about how she sort of knew me from school and thought my photography was amazing. And look! Here she is now interviewing me!

But in all seriousness, students from this year's Art III class have asked me if they could use my photography for their class, which I consider to be a huge compliment (almost like fan mail, I guess).

If you could shoot alongside any photographer, who would you choose?

Well, my favorite photographer is Man Ray, but two things would prevent me from shooting alongside him: 1. I wouldn't want to do it out of the pure embarrassment of my own photography skill compared to his. 2. He's dead.

Do you have any words of advice for aspiring photographers?

Practice, practice, pratice. Know your camera, know your subject and try to put meaning into every photograph you take.

Check out more of Royer's photography at delaneyroyerphotography.tumblr.com

A look at Royer's other work:











Spring comedy: 'Rumors' has it this show was fantastic

Mary Liza Hartong
Backpage Editor

What was everyone talking about on March 2 this year? Weekend plans? Celebrity scandals?

Heavens no! That particular Friday morning all anyone could talk about was how spectacular the latest Harpeth Hall production had been.

"Rumors" had debuted the previous evening to an enthusiastic crowd, and after hearing numerous glowing reviews, I was anxious to see what the buzz was all about.

Alas, the plot thickens. By Friday afternoon the impending tornados were threatening to cancel the show. Had this kind of weather thwarted Dorothy? Certainly not, and like the Kansas native, the actors insisted on persevering.

The curtain rose on the second showing of "Rumors" at 7 p.m., just as promised.

Within minutes, any thoughts of hail damage to my car vanished from my mind as I watched the fast paced farce occur on stage.

Senior Claire Crawford and junior Ellie Hitt, a pair of begowned friends, giggled, cursed and dazzled the audience with their wits. With such snappy dialogue, one could hardly tell if they were reciting lines or creating the whole play as they went.

MBA freshman Jess Darnell stole the show as the frantic, bloodstained and later deaf Ken.

How MBA senior Hunter Woolwine managed to memorize his final five minute monologue, I have no idea, but I can only describe it as brilliant.

And who could forget sophomore Brianne Morrow's Kristen Wiig-esque portrayal of Cookie, the uppity cooking show host?

All in all, this show had all the ingredients for greatness. A set so fantastic it took six weeks to build, a winning cast and a tickled audience all combined to make "Rumors" one of the best shows ever performed at Harpeth Hall.

Coming Soon:

"Stages of Love: One Acts"

Wednesday, **April 11** at **7:00 p.m.**

Frances Bond Davis Theatre

Julie's declassified Winter Formal fashion guide

Five tips for surviving Winter Formal as fashionably as possible (results may vary)



HAIR, THERE, EVERYWHERE: Sophomores Morgan Dentz and Arianna Frederick opted to get their hair done for the evening. Dentz went for an elegant braided bun, while Frederick wore a more modern French braid. *Photo courtesy of Arianna Frederick*



TRENDING TOPIC: Seniors Joy Burkart and Sarah Baum sport some of Winter Formal's biggest trends. Burkart stole the show with her daring, patterned tights, and Baum stunned in her sparkly dress. *Photo courtesy of Sarah Baum*

Julie Wilson
Entertainment Editor

1. Glitter Galore: I have two words for this year's Winter Formal dance: "sparkle" and "shine." Everywhere I looked, there was either a sparkly dress or a flashy accessory. Some people went all out with a completely sequined dress, and some went with silver detailing or bold accessories. In any case, sparkle was inevitable.

2. The Right Tights: This Winter Formal, many girls went with tights (guilty as charged) to keep warm, providing a nice alternative to a jacket that would cover up a gorgeous dress. Tights can also help a dress-that-might-be-just-too-short-but-you-love-it-so-much fall on the more appropriate side for a school dance. Feeling too safe? Wear patterned tights that add a cool contrast to the formal wear, as senior Joy Burkart did.

3. Updo Nation: Updos were all the rage this year. A high ponytail gives a girl a more youthful and fresh appearance, while buns help provide a mature look. Braids have also been really in this season, and sophomore Arianna Frederick showed us why with her snazzy french braid.

4. The LBD Strikes Again: Although it is generally accepted that freshmen like to wear long dresses, the Class of 2015 broke the rules, in a good way, and strutted into the dance with cute, short dresses.

Even though little black dresses can sometimes be too safe, this year's freshmen did not shy away from making their black dresses stand out with bold accesories, super high heels and fun makeup.

5. Seniors Return to the Classics: A few seniors wore long dresses, perhaps something they have not tried since their freshmen days. As for the juniors and seniors, most let their hair down. Several students went with bouncy curls or flat-ironed hair, and I even caught sight of a crimped do. Maybe this means it's time to bring back the old classics.

The trends of this Winter Formal dance were dressing up and having fun, as well as bringing a modern twist to a vintage look. Girls dared to wear sparkly minis and contrasting tights or shoes.

It may not have been the Oscars, but Harpeth Hall rolled out the red carpet for its fabulous girls this Winter Formal. I can't wait to see what prom has in store.

Students honored with 44 Scholastic Art Awards

Jocelyn Sitton
Staff Writer

In total, Harpeth Hall's students received 44 Scholastic Art Awards and honorable mentions which were announced in February at Cheekwood.

Ms. Rosie Paschall, Upper School art teacher, explained what the Scholastic Art Awards are and how work was submitted into the competition. The art faculty chooses work created by students between last spring and December of this year, and they submit student work based on its quality.

Primarily, this is a competition between schools, but Ms. Paschall said the Scholastic Art Awards is also a competition between all of the students at Harpeth Hall to have their work chosen for submission.

She also explained that Harpeth Hall has a varied art program that focuses on the basics of art, which sets us apart from other schools in Nashville that focus on specific areas of art.

This year, the artwork submitted for the competition was judged online, which was a new experience for the artists.

Ms. Ann Blackburn, Fine Arts Deparment Chair, reiterated Ms. Paschall's statement that art was selected on the basis of quality, rather than a student's desire to submit her work. There are several different categories that student artwork can fall under, such as ceramics, sculpture, printmaking, mixed media and painting.

Ragan Wilson, a senior, received several awards at this year's Scholastic Art Awards, including a Gold Key in painting for her piece titled "The Mortician's Daughter."

"It is amazing to have been given the awards and honors that I was given," said Wilson. "I'm so happy that other people enjoyed my work, and I hope to continue making such art in the future."

Caroline Harwood, a junior, also received a gold key in mixed media. Harwood's piece was entitled "Reverto."

Harwood explained the reason she pursues art and enters into these competitions by saying, "[Creating art] is one of the only times I am capable of feeling at peace with myself. I think that the urge to create things is largely instinctual, whether it be through writing, drawing, building, etc. Everyone likes to leave something of themselves behind."

In addition to the Scholastic Art Awards, senior Mary Liza Hartong received a regional Silver Key in the Scholastic Writing Awards. She explained that she has submitted work to this competition every year since seventh grade, and she has won awards several times throughout the six year period of competing.



REVERTO: Junior Caroline Harwood explores different media in her award-winning piece, "Reverto." Harwood is currently an Art III student and plans to take AP Art next year. *Art by Caroline Harwood*

She received her silver key for her Senior Portfolio, which contained varied types of works ranging from poetry to screen writing.

"I'm not surprised at all by the number of awards garnered by the Harpeth Hall student body," said Hartong. "This is clearly a talented group."

Springing to victory

Bear statistics

as of March 11, 2012

Varsity & JV Basketball

Wins: 19
Losses:16

Varsity Lacrosse

Wins: 2
Losses: 2

Varsity Swimming

First Place: 8
Region Champs &
2nd Place in State

Varsity Track & Field

Wins: 1
Losses: 0

Varsity Softball

Wins: 4
Losses: 0

Swimming into second

Carson Hewett
Staff Writer



FOCUS: Coach Linden consults with freshman Sophie Pilkinton before her race. The swimming team placed Second in the State competition this year. *Photo by Marie Maxwell*

While the rest of the student body prepared for a normal day of classes on Friday, Feb. 10, the Harpeth Hall Bearacudas woke up knowing that it was the day they had been waiting for. The Tennessee State swim meet that they had been working towards since October was finally here.

The team, consisting of 30 swimmers and three divers, joined 114 other Tennessee schools at the Centennial Sportsplex for warm-ups before prelims began at 9:00 a.m.

"[State is] really exciting," according to freshman swimmer and 500 freestyle champion, Elizabeth Stinson. "It's like one big adrenaline rush. There is a lot of energy and everyone is screaming."

The stakes were set high as the team faced Baylor, the biggest powerhouse for swimming known to Tennessee and possibly the whole Southeast. This was the first time this year the Bearacudas had gone up against such a strong team.

"I assumed that we were going to get second to Baylor, but it would be closer than last year," said Coach Linden.

Both Friday and Saturday nights, the team had girls seeded in all events for finals, with the exception of the 100 fly. Many people came out to support the girls who were swimming and the excitement was tangible.

"My favorite meet is the state meet because there is such a good energy and it is so much fun," said senior swimmer Hayley Mowery.

Whether we were in the lead or not, everyone screamed cheers and frantic "GO!"s while waving their hands in the air for every race. As Coach Linden had predicted, the team pulled in a very close second to Baylor.

This is one of the strongest swim teams Harpeth Hall has ever had, especially since they won the McCallie meet for the first time ever. The Bearacudas managed to beat the state champion from Georgia (Westminster), and scored more points in State history, according to Coach Linden.

Some of the strongest swimmers on the team are seniors Bridget Killian and Sarah Allen Ray, juniors Morgan Flynn and Kate Beuter, sophomore Riley Frost and freshmen Elizabeth Stinson and Emma Blackwood. These girls not only compete with Harpeth Hall, but swim for Nashville Aquatic Club and Excel Aquatic Club, where they train and compete nationally year round.

"[Swimming for Harpeth Hall] is very different," said Beuter. "I really like the team aspect of it, but NAC meets are fun to swim also. It is odd swimming against my NAC teammates, but I do not prefer one over the other."

The other 23 swimmers practice from the first Monday in October until Regions at the end of February or State two weeks later.

"[Practices] are really hard," said sophomore Brennan Frazier, "but when you are finished with each, you feel very accomplished."

While overcoming the challenges in practice, the girls on the team grow really close, which is one of the best parts about being on the team.

"You really become a part of the team," said junior Kate Beuter, "and the pressure to swim well for your teammates really helps drive you to success."

Coach Karen Sutton steps down

Basketball coach to focus solely on Athletic Program

Liza Southwick
Staff Writer

After 10 seasons at Harpeth Hall as head basketball coach, Karen Sutton is stepping down.

"I made the decision to step down from coaching in order to devote my full attention to my work as Athletic Director," said Coach Sutton. "When I took the position of Athletic Director seven years ago, I knew that I would have this choice to make at some point."

Coach Sutton has served as Athletic Director for seven years, and plans to work on growing the athletic program.

Since coming to Harpeth Hall, Coach Sutton was the Varsity Head Volleyball coach for four years with all four teams making it to the State Tournament. She was the head coach when Harpeth Hall won its first volleyball state championship in 2001.

During her volleyball coaching career, she won the 2001 TACA All-Star Team Coach and 2001 Coach of the Year awards.

After coaching volleyball, Coach Sutton began coaching basketball as the assistant coach for five years before becoming Varsity Head coach in 2002.

"We won the school's first basketball state championship in 2003, we were State runner-ups in 2004, and won again in 2005," said Coach Sutton.

Along with her many coaching accomplishments, she has won awards such as Coach of the Year in 2003 and 2005, Nashville Civitan Club Coach of the year in 2003 and 2005, and Nashville Black Coaches' Association Coach of the Year in 2005.

Her favorite part of coaching has been "having the opportunity to work with talented, bright, passionate, girls at Harpeth Hall."

Coach Sutton has worked in the athletic department at Harpeth Hall for many years, and will now be solely focused on the future of its programs.



TIME OUT: Coach Sutton huddles with her Upper School bastketball team. She has been coaching the sport for the past 10 years. *Photo courtesy of Ms. Joanne Mamenta*

Under a rock: The climbing experience

Katherine Deal
Sports Editor



SOLVING PROBLEMS: Junior Kayleigh Land looks for the next move while bouldering at Climb Nashville. She has been rock-climbing for the past five years. *Photo by Katherine Deal*

Hanging high above the graveled floor, junior Kayleigh Land finds some tranquility after a stressful week at school. For several years now, this has become a frequent activity for Land, who has developed a passion for rock climbing.

"I started climbing in the 8th grade through Climbing Club, after going with my friend Allie Williams," said Land.

Soon after, Land became a member of Climb Nashville and has been climbing nearly every week since. Starting last year, she even began to work at the gym, helping with birthday parties, belay lessons and at the front desk.

With over 12,000 feet of climbing surface and 40 different walls, the facility is top notch. There is a workout room as well, with instructors who offer Yoga, InnerStrength and System classes seven days a week.

While rock climbing may seem dangerous and difficult to some, Climb Nashville caters to all levels of climbers and has strict measures to ensure safety.

"Climbing is a good sport because everyone can do it," said Land. "There are literally 150 routes at the gym, so you can find anything."

There are two types of climbing offered at the gym – bouldering and top-roping. Bouldering is done without a harness on a shorter wall. Each of the "problems" on the wall are rated "R" for Recreational, "I" for Intermediate, "A" for Advanced and "O" for Open, with about 15 of each type.

"Bouldering is lots of fun," said Halle Zander, a senior climber, "but it can be distracting with lots of people around."

Top-roping, on the other hand, involves taller walls, a harness, a rope and a belay partner. "Belaying" refers to when a climber on the ground applies friction to the rope so the person on the wall does not fall as far as they ascend. The routes on the high walls are based on the Yosemite Decimal System, which ranges from 5.0 (the easiest) to 5.15 (ridiculously hard).

"I like climbing with a partner and top-roping," said Zander. "That's when I get the most done and the best workout."

Climbing is a unique hobby that works muscles throughout the entire body. A myth about the sport is that one must have incredibly powerful arms, which is not actually the truth. Leg and core strength are equally important, as well as a good sense of balance.

One of the great things about climbing is building up healthy body strength and endurance. Of course, everyone has to start as a beginner, but through frequent practice, even the most inactive people can soon see results.

"It all has to do with how much commitment you want to have," said Zander. "I played a lot of sports, so I felt somewhat prepared, but you can start at different levels and different types of climbing."

Rock climbing can be both a social and individual activity. Many people like to climb together with friends, but going by yourself can be just as rewarding.

"There's a good group of HH girls and MBA boys that go, and you can make good friendships," said Zander. "I've become better friends with lots of people through [climbing]."

Being a member of the gym offers a sense of community to people who have a common passion for rock climbing. There are many group events sponsored by Climb Nashville to encourage mingling, such as day trips to outdoor climbing spots, movie nights, Cosmic Bouldering (glow-in-the-dark climbing), fundraisers, competitions and information sessions.

The sport of climbing offers something different for everyone.

"I love the challenge," said Zander, who has been climbing for the past two years. "I've always loved climbing since when I was little."

While some, like Zander, enjoy the demand of the sport, others love the relaxation the sport allows.

"I like how freeing it is," said Land. "It's almost like meditation. When you're on the wall, you can't think about anything else except the next move."

Student Night at Climb Nashville
Mondays and Saturdays: 7-10p.m.
$12 admission + $3 gear rental

En Garde: On the 'fence' with the Hongs

Erissa Irani
Staff Writer

While most sports involve balls, hoops, goals, and bats, one in particular involves…swords. And, no, this is not the game from medieval times that involves knocking your opponent off his horse, nor is it the one that involves fighting to the death. This is the 21st century sport of fencing. Fencing originated as early as 1200 B.C. in ancient Egypt, but the form of fencing that is done today is derived from Renaissance times.

Today, fencing is considered more than a sport: it is a form of art, a symbol of power, and a unique hobby.

While most students participate in school sports, juniors Sarah and Katie Hong go above and beyond their school schedules and compete in fencing competitions all around the United States.



DOUBLE TROUBLE: The Hong twins pose for a picture during a break from their fencing competition. They practice with the Cheney Fencing Club in Nashville. *Photo courtesy of Sarah Hong*

Recently the sisters were invited to the Junior Olympics for Fencing in Utah.

They both began competing at a local fencing club in Acton, Massachusetts in the third grade and continued the sport upon moving to Nashville. They now train with the Cheney Fencing Club, where they practice on Mondays and Fridays for sometimes more than four hours.

Who do they look up to as their role model in the sport?

"Molly Sliney is my inspiration," Sarah Hong said. "Even though she struggled, Molly always worked hard to improve herself."

Molly Sliney was Hong's first fencing coach, a member of the United States Olympic fencing team, and a recipient of five gold medals in both the Pan American Games and the USFA National Championships.

According to Sarah, the competition process is very tedious. She must first apply and then qualify for any competition.

On competition days, she signs in as a present fencer and then checks her equipment before heading to her assigned placement for the day. All of the fencers are divided into pools, which consist of groups of five fencers that compete against one another. Each match in a pool is called a bout, and to win one bout, a competitor must touch their opponent five times.

After all of the members in a pool have played each other, each fencer's points will determine their placement. In lower level competitions, competitors go straight into final eliminations, where a lower scoring fencer will be pitted against a higher scoring fencer. In these matches, a fencer must reach fifteen touches to win.

In a higher level competition, such as a Jo, points earned in pool matches decide whether one makes the cut or not. The fencers in the final rounds then face off and play to fifteen points, and the number of points that they earn determines 1st, 2nd, 3rd and so on.



READY, SET, FIGHT: Sarah Hong, right, competed in the Junior Olympics in Utah this winter. She and her sister have been fencing since age 8. *Photo courtesy of Sarah Hong*

For future freshman and sophomores who are interested in fencing, you are in luck. Harpeth Hall's Winterim program offers fencing as one of the many on-campus classes and is among one of the most popular among students.

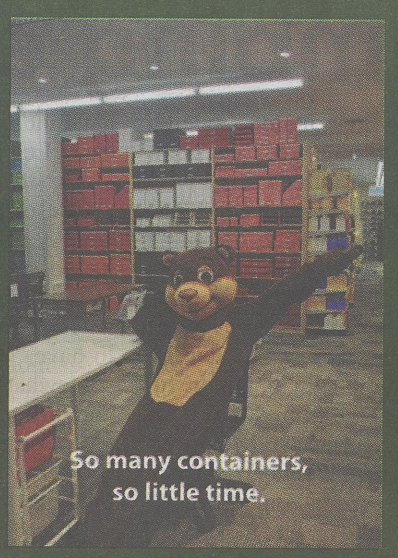
"I think the students like it very much." said Ms. Karen Roark, the director of the Winterim Program. "When we did not offer the course last year, we had several requests for it to be put back into the Winterim curriculum."

This past year, Harpeth Hall hired a new instructor, Chris Cheney, who is the main instructor at the club where the Hongs currently practice and has competed in 33 states and five countries, according to the club's website.

Mrs. Roark remarked that he "is a knowledgeable coach and had them [the students] working with epees, masks, etc. early on in the class." If you are interested in fencing and want to learn more, e-mail Sarah Hong or talk to Mrs. Roark if you would like to take the Winterim class.



Honey contemplates a refreshing dip in the mall's fountain.



So many containers, so little time.

"I can hardly contain myself!"



"Working on my tan is my number one priority."



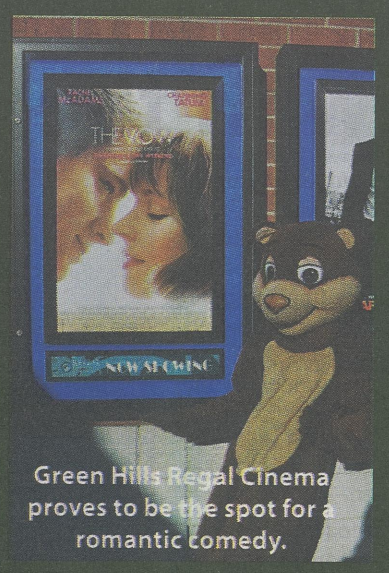
The perfect prom dress is just a credit card swipe away.

Coffee cups and chit chat abound in this hipster haunt.

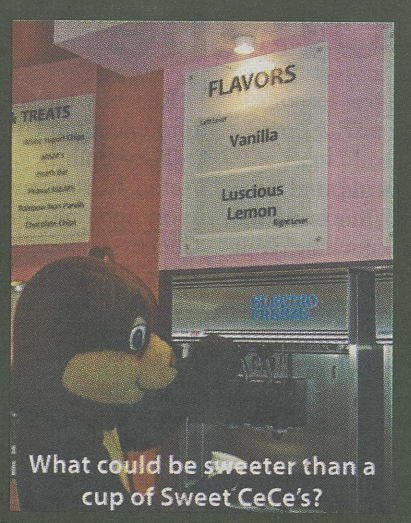
"I'm the king of the world!"

"Don't talk to me before I've had my coffee! I simply must caffeinate."

"'The Vow', totally describes my love life. Like, if I had a love life."



Green Hills Regal Cinema proves to be the spot for a romantic comedy.



What could be sweeter than a cup of Sweet CeCe's?

Honey's Staycation

Staying home this spring break? Fear not! Honey the Honey Bear has plenty of ideas for a fun-filled Nashville staycation from the Green Hills Mall to Dragon Park!

Photo illustration by Caroline Harwood
Photos by Mary Liza Hartong

Mary Liza Hartong
Back Page Editor