"You fail to recognize that it matters not what someone is born, but what they grow to be."
-Albus Dumbledore

The Word of Harpeth Hall Logos

Holiday Issue

Oh, Santa Claus...
Should religous holidays be celebrated at school?
Opinions, page 7

Harpeth Hall School * 3801 Hobbs Rd, Nashville, TN 37215 * Volume 29 * Number 3 * December 14, 2006

In brief

Library turns five

The Harpeth Hall School officially celebrated the fifth anniversary of the opening of the Ann Scott Carell Library on Nov. 15.

The construction of the new library five years ago included a fireplace, two small classrooms, six study rooms, a Bear Cave, and several new books.

In fact, according to the Harpeth Hall website, since the opening of the library, "more than 5,000 books have been added to the collection, more than 21,000 books have been checked out, and more than 2,500 classes have visited the library with their teachers to receive instruction in the use of the library and its resources. The Harpeth Hall collection now stands at 24,000 items and the number of students using the library each day is growing steadily." -NI

Locker Assignments

One of the more heated debates at Student Forum Nov 27, locker assignments in the new Wallace Wing of the Upper School have been decided for next semester.

The two "pods" of the renovated Wallace building will go to the freshmen and sophomores. Juniors will remain in the lower floor of the Massey Math and Science building while the seniors will move to the upper floor, traditionally reserved for the freshmen.

Many members of the senior class expressed dismay at this assignment. "I'm really not a fan of hiking up the stairs every day next semester," said senior Kaitlin Ray. "I'm pretty sure I've been waiting forever to not have to exercise more than is absolutely necessary at school."-NI

cEnsOrsh*p?

Students express concern in internet filtering

Noura Ismail '07
Editor-in-Chief

Students have expressed frustration with the internet regulations recently established at Harpeth Hall.

The technology department took action over the summer by activating an internet-filtering device that monitors all student web activity on campus.

"The main reason for these changes came from teachers' requests last year. They were concerned that students were using class time with games and instant messaging," explained Ms. Karen Douse, Director of Library and Information Services. "This school is a center for learning, and it is our responsibility to keep the students safe and on task."

During installation, the program provided a list of categories that were available for blocking. "We chose to put restrictions on all pornography, games, and peer-to-peer sites of mainly music downloading," continued Ms. Douse. "These were what we felt were most important."

In reaction to the regulations, however, students have responded unfavorably.

"I think blocking dozens upon dozens of websites isn't teaching us anything. It's simply telling us we aren't responsible at all to even decide whether or not we should be on a website," said freshman Olivia Coble. "I know some girls do get on the internet during class and,yes, they will realize they shouldn't being doing it after their grades reflect they are not paying attention. But during free periods, it's our own time to do what we want, and some of the sites blocked are just fun, innocent things." While some students feel it should be their choice to search whatever they please, others have expressed concern because the program has restricted them from searching academic sites.

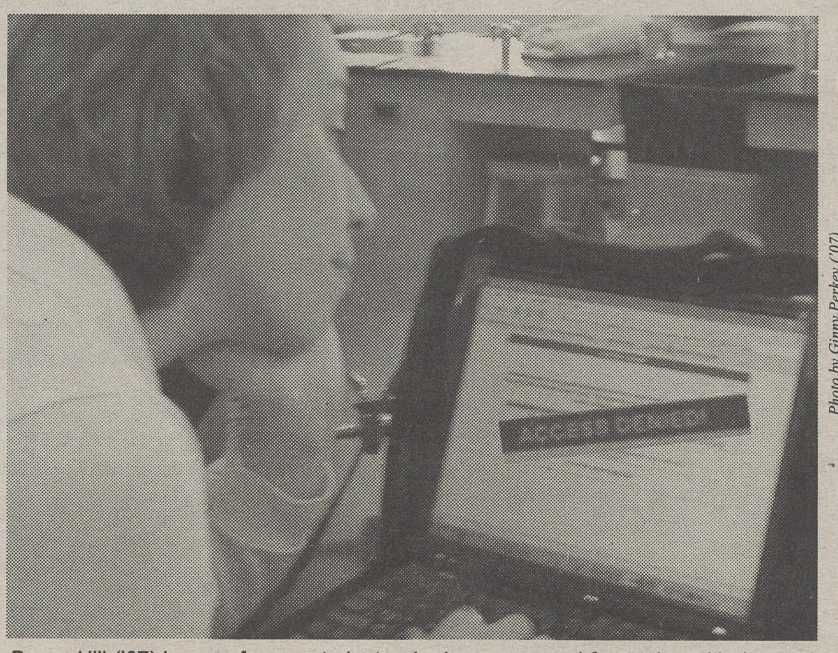


Photo by Ginny Perkey ('07)

Becca Hill ('07) is one of many students who has expressed frustration with the new internet-filtering program. She claims that even while searching through educational photos in her AP Art History class, the program has denied her access.

"When I searched for maps of Eastern Europe for my English immigrant project, it said that I was not allowed to view the site due to inappropriate content. It happened again when I searched for a picture of Jewish immigrants," explained Rosie Bichell ('10).

"It has never been our intention to filter sites that will keep students from doing their school work," responded Ms. Douse. "This has been our biggest problem, so we have been insisting that they let us know whenever this happens so that we can fix it." She continued, "You must remember that this system is new and we are still adjusting it."

Although the restrictions have been viewed as excessively strict, Harpeth Hall was one of the last schools in the district to install a filtering device. "Most co-ed and private schools have had such systems for a while now and to a much harsher extent," explained Ms. Douse.

"What most people don't realize is that even some colleges and businesses have them as well."

"Everyone loves to play games, including myself, but I know to wait until I get home to do that," she concluded."This filtering has been placed for the benefit of the students because it is protecting them from a lot of the raunchy stuff out there. If anyone finds anything that should not be blocked, I urge them to let me know, so that I mare sure to take care of it."

Winter Formal dance date moved to January

Clair Bartholomew '09
Staff Writer

The long-debated winter formal date has officially been changed.

This year's dance will be held Jan. 27.

By this date, Winterim students will be back in Nashville.

The administration decided to move the dance from its traditional night after the last mid-term exam–Dec.15–because that night is the first night of Hanukkah.

Most students are against this change because they claim that Winter Formal gives them motivation to get through exams.

Sophomore Rachel McQuiddy said, "I do not like the new Winter Formal date because now it is just exams, exams, exams, and nothing fun to look forward to at the end of the week".

Many students need a fun reward after a week of tests, she added.

Another disappointment is that Ensworth High-School's Winter Formal is also on Jan 27, which has been a source of anxiety for girls whose dates attend Ensworth.

For the small Jewish community at Harpeth Hall, the change of date does not make sense.

"I appreciate the school's consideration of the Jewish religion, but I think they took it a little far," said senior Anna Rose Heyman.

"If they had really done their research, they would have discovered that Hanukkah is not even our most important holiday."

"Changing the Winter Formal date because it was

(Continued on page 2)

"The administration decided to move the dance from its traditional night after the last mid-term exam- Dec 15- because that night is the first night of Hanukkah."

Club updates

Penstaff

"Penstaff has been going wonderfully," said President Becca Hill ('07).

During the semester, they had two Writers' Society meetings, including one with a similar club from Montgomery Bell Academy.

"We plan to have two or three [meetings] a quarter," said Becca.

After the end of Winterim in January, they will begin work on their annual publication, *Hallmarks*, Harpeth Hall's literary magizine.

Student Council

The Upper School Student Council has kept busy this semester.

As one of its greatest projects, the Council has recognized the construction workers each month. So far, they have given the men popsicles, brownies, cookies and several turkeys for the Thanksgiving holidays.

"We have also donated money [from Student Council-sponsored dances] to the Vanderbilt Children's Hospital and to Erica Sirgo's ('07) old school in New Orleans," said President Zuri Walker-Dinkins ('07).

Along with a successful Halloween Dance, "We are looking forward to bigger events this upcoming semester," concluded Zuri.

Student Forum

After two meetings, the year is already a success for the Student Forum.

In hearing students' requests and concerns, seniors are now allowed to wear jeans on dress up days.

Also, the exam schedule and cell phone policy have been changed. Please send any topics of discussion to Caroline Tanner to be talked about at the next meeting.

Inside this Issue

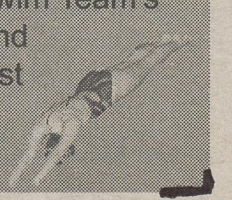


Dance Dance Revolution:
See the highlights from Real World's assembly
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Get the latest scoop on this recent blockbuster and what people have to say about it
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Dance, Dance: RW assembly takes students through cultural journey

Diane Uwamahoro '07
Staff Writer

The Real World Committee hosted a celebration of dance during the final all-school assembly of the first semester on Wednesday, Dec. 6.

The assembly opened with an introduction by Real World President Annie Killian ('07). She explained that though the assembly has focused in the past on different winter holidays, this year Real World decided to have a dance extravaganza instead.

"The assembly still celebrated the holidays, in a way, because dancing is a method of celebration in any culture," she said.

Annie announced the theme of the day, "Dance Dance Revolution," a name taken from the arcade game. This was senior Suzanne Lewis' favorite part of what she termed "an amazing assembly."

"I loved the intense moment when the theme was announced, the lights flashed, and the Dance Dance Revolution techno music filled the theater," she said.

The assembly featured five performances preceded by an introduction detailing the history and cultural background of each dance.

Freshman Claudia Crook presented a lively Irish step dance while sporting a traditional dress and curly hair. The dance form dates back to pre-Christian Celtic culture.

Her classmate Rohini Chakravarthy performed a classical Hindu dance. The song praised Shiva, one of the main Hindu deities. The dance was choreographed by renowned dance master Sri Narsimhachari. Rohini also dressed in cultural garb; the customary bells on her feet accented her intricate movements.

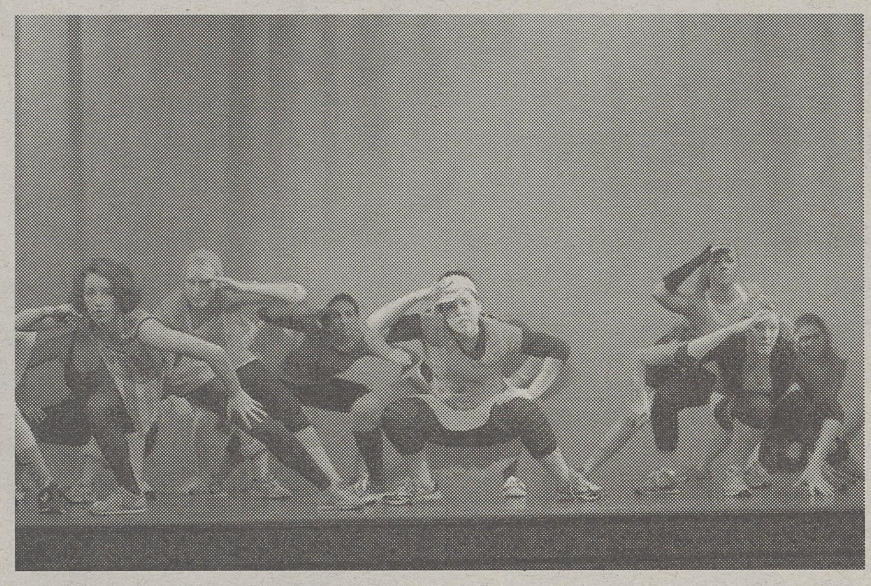
Native Spanish teacher Dr. Marina Carter did an emotional Flamenco, a dance form which originated in Andalusia, a province in the south of Spain. Her introduction was particularly poignant when she explained why dance was important to her: "For me, Flamenco gives me a sense of belonging, a sense of knowing my roots and knowing that even though I am in a global market, being a global citizen, I still can go back to my roots, the songs and dances of Flamenco."

Sixth-grader Kiya Lacey performed an energetic West African "Kuku" dance while accompanied by African drummer Marcus Shute. The dance was choreographed by her mother, Ericka Alexander. She wore a brightly-printed wrap.

The final performance put the spotlight on modern-day American pop culture. The Harpeth Hall Upper School Hip Hop Company performed to enthusiastic cheers from the audience.

"Then Lindsay [Turner ('08)] and a team of Real World members organized everything and made it look very professional. It turned out better than even I thought it would be," Annie added.

The assembly was universally praised as a great success. Students and teachers alike thought the dances were both enjoyable and educational. Senior Mary Tek summed up the assembly well in a post to the Dean of Students email folder: "This was definitely one of the best assemblies of my Harpeth Hall experience."



Courtesy of Picasa

The "Dance, Dance Revolution" themed assembly featured dances from all around the world. The Upper School Hip Hop Dance Company (pictured) was one of five performances during the event.

Nashville hosts National Journalism Conference

Noura Ismail '07
Editor-In-Chief

The National JEA Journalism Conference, held in Nashville's Opryland Hotel Nov. 9-12, welcomed over 5,000 students from all over the nation. The event–the theme of which was "Follow the Stars to Nashville"–hosted hundreds of schools across the U.S. who have programs in journalism, literary magazine, broadcasting, yearbook, and photography.

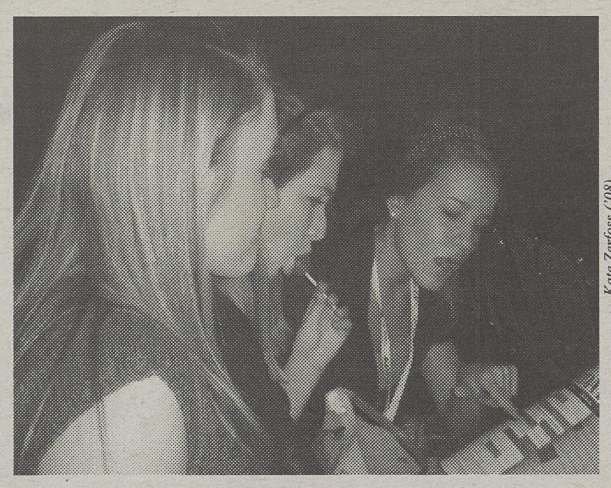
Renowned speakers shared their experiences and knowledge on particular subjects in over 200 sessions for writing, design, broadcasting, photography and advertising.

Two of the speakers featured this year were News Channel 4 journalist Terry Bulger and the University of Tennessee professor Thomas Turner.

Because the conference was held in Nashville, Harpeth Hall was able to send 23 students who are involved with *Logos*, *Milestones* and *Hallmarks*, as well as girls in the journalism class.

With the help of four personal staff volunteers – Suzanne Lewis ('07), Annie Killian ('07), Ginny Perkey ('07), and Sarah Schutt ('09) – *Logos* adviser Denise Croker took on the tremendous job of Tennessee State Director for JEA and therefore was in charge of organizing guest speakers and the Write-Offs competition.

"It was a huge task, and my committee of four was fabulous," said Ms. Croker. "Everyone who came from Harpeth Hall worked, though, and can proudly say they have served at a national convention."



Kate Zerfoss ('08)

Macy Hughart ('08), Hannah Koonce ('08), and Maddie Terren('08) glance over a daily agenda while at the conference.

Ms. Martha Ross and Ms. Katie Cowan also served and supervised students.

Of all the events that took place, schools found themselves most drawn to take part in the Write-Offs, a contest in which students compete in over 45 different categories including Newswriting, Video Commentary, Advertising and Editorial Cartooning. Two thousand students competed.

HH won two awards in the Write-Offs. Meredith Was ('09) won an Excellent in Copy-Editing/Caption/Headlines, while Kate Zerfoss ('08) won Honorable Mention in Yearbook Copy/Caption-Student Life.

"I am so glad I got to attend the conference. It was designed for people with all different types of interests in journalism, not necessarily just writing, which I really appreciated. When I'm in college next year, I'm sure I'm going to envy everyone who will be in Philadelphia. I'm sure it will be yet another incredible convention," reflected Meredith Byrd ('07).

Winter Formal date moved to after holiday vacation

(Continued from page 1) on the first night of Hanukkah would be like moving graduation because it was on the first day of Lent," she explained.

Controversy also arose around the new date because the Harpeth Hall swim team has a meet in Knoxville, TN, against rival school Webb that morning. The team has had to change their plans to try to get swimmers home in time for the dance. "The swim meet had been scheduled almost a year in advance, so it's a little frustrating that winter formal couldn't be on another weekend," said senior swimmer Casey Robinson.

The swim team, though, has decided to face the scheduling conflict with humor. "It will be a long but fun day driving home from Knoxville then going to Winter Formal. We may be rushed trying to get ready in time, but we can always substitute chlorine for perfume," explained Casey. However, some students like the new date because they do not have to worry about dresses, hair, nails and decorations when they should be studying. The student-decorators enjoy this change because they will be relaxed during exam week, and they can decorate on their own time.

"After this year's Winter Formal, the student feedback will be a vital part of planning next year's dance," said Ms. Marie Maxwell, Upper School Dean of Students. "If everybody hates it, then the change back will be a consideration for the 2008 date. The main controversy will be if student's grades improve or worsen with the new change."

Ms. Maxwell put a positive spin on the change by adding, "With Zuri [Walker-Dinkins ('07)] as president, Winter Formal will be fun whenever it is."

ALL AROUND THE WORLD

Noura Ismail '07
Editor-in-Chief

Dubai

Renowned film stars Shah Rukh Khan, Oliver Stone and Nabil El-Maleh will be honored at the Dubai International Film Festival's (also known as DIFF) Salutes program early December. DIFF Salutes is a tribute that celebrates the work of distinguished filmmakers from Asia, the Arab world, and Hollywood.

Oliver Stone is well known for his trademark cinematic style in reenacting American history. A three-time Academy Award-winning director, producer and screenwriter, Stone is a veteran of the Vietnam conflict.

Two of his most recent films include "Alexander" and "World Trade Center."

Representing Asian cinema will be Bollywood heartthrob Shah Rukh Khan. He is one of the most famous actors in India and has appeared in over 55 films.

Nabil El-Maleh, a Syrian filmmaker, poet and painter will accept the DIFF Salutes tribute on behalf of the Arab world. A pioneer in contemporary Syrian cinema, El-Maleh was one of the first Arab filmmakers to use experimental techniques, which paved the way for a new cinematographic language.

His 90 second film "Napalm" (1970), a political piece in response to the wars raging in Palestine, Vietnam and the world at that time, had a significant impact on audiences in Syria and worldwide.

SOUTH AFRICA

The three-brother band Hanson released a special internet exclusive track in recognition of World AIDS Day this past Dec. 1.

The song "Great Divide" features a South African children's choir and was recorded on the group's recent trip to Africa.

In July of this year, Isaac, Taylor and Zac Hanson traveled to South Africa and Mozambique in an effort to learn more about the issue and to see firsthand the devastation of AIDS on the continent.

The band was accompanied by DocVia, a healthcare technology company, who donated helpful technology to the Perinatal HIV Research Unit at the Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital in Soweto, South Africa.

Every purchase on iTunes of the single will contribute go to the hospital in Soweto.

logos

Amanda Geiger bought these sunglasses
to wear on spring break. She wore them only once
before she was killed by a drunk driver.

Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk.

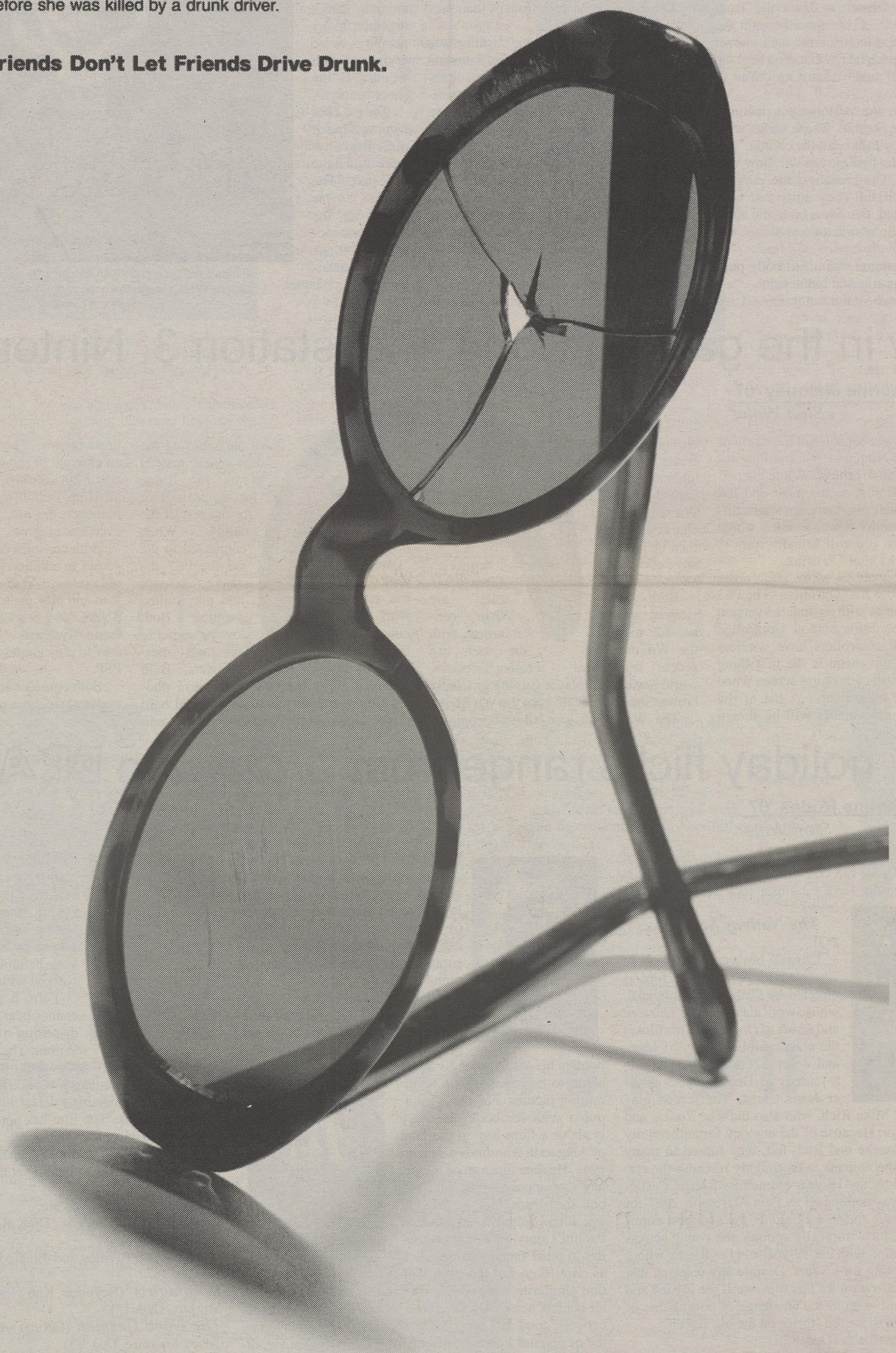


Photo by Michael Mazzeo

U.S. Department of Transportation

Ad Council

The Lion King National Tour comes to Nashville

Emily Turner '07
Entertainment Editor

Disney's award-winning musical *The Lion King* traveled to the Tennessee Performing Arts Center in Nashville from Oct. 29 to Dec. 3. This show brought the movie to life and included the well-known songs "Hakuna Matata," "Can You Feel the Love Tonight?" and "I Just Can't Wait to be King."

In addition, the performance featured many songs in Swahili. These songs were mostly sung by Rafiki and the chorus.

However, the best part of the show was the costumes. The humans wore puppets and masks and full-body suits that suggested an animal, but it was up to the audience to use their imagination to picture the animal.

Timon's costume was a full body puppet with strings attached to the actor.

That way, when the actor moved his head, Timon did too.

The adult lions all had faces that could be above their head or in front of their face with the push of a button.

However, the most unique costume was that of Zazu. The actor's qualities were that of a bird, but he was wearing normal clothing. He held a puppet bird that was sometimes perched on his head, sometimes on rocks, and sometimes flying through the air.

Almost all of the characters wore some kind of African mask or beading. The lions in particular wore beadwork, corsets, and armor. Many characters also wore flowing silk cloth to counteract their human shape, helping them to "become" the animals.

The costumes were not the only great thing about the production; they simply added to the quality of the performance. In the first scene when all the animals gather together, many people were crying with wonder at the sheer beauty.

The Lion King was much more than anyone could have expected. The movie was good, but the added characters and songs made the musical that much better.



Courtesy of Disney

Simba's costume roars with African style, while the chorus dances to his song in the background wearing yards of silk cloth and beading.

New in the gaming world: Playstation 3, Nintendo Wii

Anna Katherine Maloney '07
Staff Writer

The two newest consoles in the world of gaming are the Nintendo Wii and Playstation's Playstation 3, or PS3. While the two consoles are similar, as the most updated technology usually is, there are slight differences that matter when deciding which gaming console you will actually want to play two months after Christmas.

The Wii console is white and comes with three options for controllers. The PS3 is black and comes with an updated version of the traditional Playstation Controller. Both consoles' controllers have wireless options. The Wii menu is the first thing that appears on the television screen when the console is hooked up. A list of the channels the user watches will be shown onscreen. Users can create their own login character and save them to the Wii remote. The characters can then be taken to any other Wii console and played there.



Both consoles are internet ready. When connected to the internet with the Wii console the user can access free local weather forecasts, world news, multiplayer gaming or simply browse the internet all from the Wii Menu.

The Wii Menu also allows people to leave messages on the home screen instead of on the fridge for themselves or for the rest of the family. When connected to the internet on the PS3 the user can also browse the internet and play online with other people. Both consoles allow the owner to trade photos, text and messages with cell phone users. Both consoles allow the user to retrieve photos from a memory card or external hard drive. However the Wii allows one to edit those photos. The Playstation comes with an external or removable hard drive that is either 20G or 60G. Playstation decided to go High Definition with this console and Nintendo did not, but both consoles have excellent graphics.

Both consoles come with awesome new games in addition to the ability to play the old classics. With the Wii one can download and play games from the classic NES, SNES, N64, Sega Genesis, and NEC Nintendo Systems. Playstation allows the user to play games from the PS1, PS2, and PSP.

Both consoles are excellent new gaming systems, so chose carefully and have fun!

New holiday flicks range from *DiCaprio* to DRAGONS

Sarah Catherine Rodes '07
Staff Writer

From talking animals and dragon riders to the story of Christ's birth itself, the box office holds much potential this holiday season. Here's a closer look at four new releases.

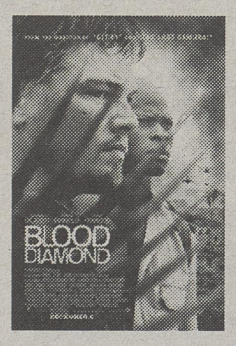


The Nativity Story (Dec. 1, PG)

Christ's birth comes to life in *The Nativity Story.* The film is directed by Catherine Hardwicke, whose work also includes *Thirteen* and *Lords of Dogtown*. This film is the classic biblical story of Mary and Joseph (Oscar Isaac) taking a journey to Bethlehem to deliver Jesus Christ. The screen play was written by Mike Rich, who also did *The Rookie* and *Finding Forester*. Because of the urgency for authenticity that both Hardwicke and Rich felt, they turned to many historians and theologians to thoroughly research the era. Mary is played by the 16-year-old actress Keisha Castle-Hughes, who was nominated as Best Actress in 2004 for her work in *Whale Rider*, making her the youngest nominee in Oscar history. Ironically enough, the young actress is herself expecting with her 19-year-old boyfriend, whom she has been dating for 3 years. Despite any research that was done in preparation for this film, we'll see if Rich and Hardwicke can live up to the challenge of putting one of the oldest and most sacred stories on the big screen.

Blood Diamonds (Dec. 8, R)

Blood Diamonds is directed by Edward Zwick, also the maker of *The Last Samurai*. Leonardo DiCaprio plays Danny Archer, an ex-mercenary from Zimbabwe who crosses paths with Mende fisherman Solomon Vandy, played by Djimon Hounsou. Both characters share the goal of finding a rare pink diamond that is said to hold the power to transform a life or end it. While Solomon wants



the diamond for the sake of his son, Archer wants the diamond to use as a ticket out of Africa. An American journalist in Sierra Leone, played by Jennifer Connelly, ends up helping the two on their journey while simultaneously unraveling the diamond industry in Africa.

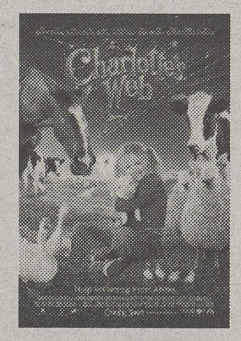
Eragon (Dec. 15)

Christopher Paolini started writing his own fantasy book at the age of 15, and now *Eragon*, the first book in his *Inheritance Series*, is about to be released as a major motion picture. For those unfamiliar with the book, the story is about a farm boy in the land of Alagaesia who finds a dragon egg. He then must go on a journey that appears to be his fate, one that leads him to face an evil king. Some have criticized Paolini's story for being too similar to other fantasy stories such as *Star Wars*, but the truth is that it is impossible not to find similarities between most fantasy stories since they all consist of archetypal creatures and the basic struggle between good and evil. The young hero will be played by the newcomer Edward Speleers. Hopefully the movie, directed by Stefen Fangmeier, will not let down fans of the book and will inspire others to read it.



Charlotte's Web (Dec. 15, G)

Charlotte's Web, the beloved children's story, is being upgraded from cartoon characters to real people and computerized animals. Julia Roberts provides the voice of Charlotte, while the other animals' voices are provided



by Oprah Winfrey, Steve Buscemi, Kathy Bates, John Cleese, Thomas Haden Church, Robert Redford, Cedric the Entertainer, Jennifer Garner and Reba McEntire. Fern is played by Hollywood prodigy Dakota Fanning, who has previously worked with director Gary Winick.

Fern, a girl living on a farm, cannot bear the thought of her dad disposing of a pig that she names Wilbur. The runt's life is saved because of Fern's care and is sent off to live at another farm instead, where he meets lots of different animals and a spider that helps Wilbur to defeat his fate every pig's fate: becoming bacon. The film has potential to capture hearts just as the original story did.

With the variety of films being released throughout this month, there should something at the movies for everyone this holiday season.

Other upcoming films are:

The Holiday (Cameron Diaz, Kate Winslet, Jude Law, Jack Black, Dec. 8)
Apocalypto (written and directed by Mel Gibson, Dec. 8)
Dreamgirls (Beyoncé Knowles, Jamie Foxx, Eddie Murphy, Dec. 15)
The Good German (George Clooney, Cate Blanchett, Tobey Maguire, Dec. 15)
The Pursuit of Happyness (Will Smith, Dec. 15)
The Good Shepherd (Matt Damon, Angelina Jolie, Robert De Niro, Dec. 22)
We Are Marshall (Matthew McConaughey, Dec. 22)
Rocky Balboa (Sylvester Stallone, Milo Ventimiglia, Dec. 22).

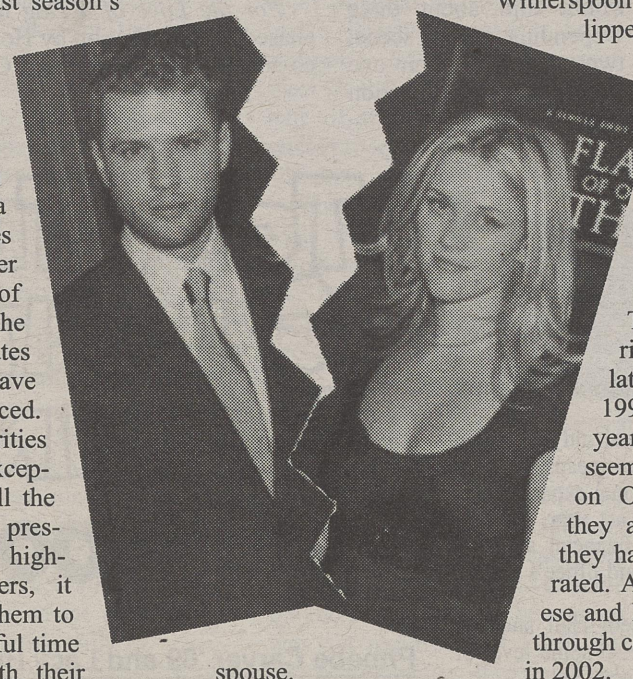
Pictures courtesy of Google

logos

Celebrity Divorces: dangerously ENTERTAINING?

Ryllis Lyle '09
Staff Writer

It seems that whenever you open an issue of *People*, *US Weekly*, or even *Newsweek*, there is always an article about a celebrity divorce or separation. Why do so many celebrities throw away their marriages as if they were last season's shoes?



It's true that marriages do not last nearly as long as they did a few decades ago. Over 50 percent of couples in the United States are, or have been, divorced. And celebrities are no exception. With all the stress and pressure of their high-profile careers, it is hard for them to find a peaceful time to relax with their spouse.

The question is whether celebrities' busy schedules are the cause of their divorces, or whether divorce is subconsciously considered "the cool thing to do." Think about it: Would you be more likely to buy a magazine with the cover describing someone's happy, normal marriage or the inside scoop of someone's juicy divorce?

We, the public, cannot deny that we contribute somewhat to this "bad publicity is good publicity" attitude. What we call "heartbreaking," such as Brad Pitt and Jennifer Aniston's divorce, we actually find entertaining.

For example, all anyone talked about in Nashville for quite some time was Reese Witherspoon and Ryan Phillippe's separation. On the surface, their marriage seemed perfect. Reese met Ryan at her 21st birthday party in 1997. They married two years later on June 5, 1999. For seven years, the marriage seemed ideal, but on Oct. 30, 2006, they announced that they had finally separated. Apparently, Reese and Ryan had been through couples' therapy in 2002.

What was the cause of this separation? According to *People Magazine*, Ryan was cheating on Reese. When this information was revealed, the public ate it up. Teenage girls as well as working mothers bought numerous magazines containing the juiciest of details.

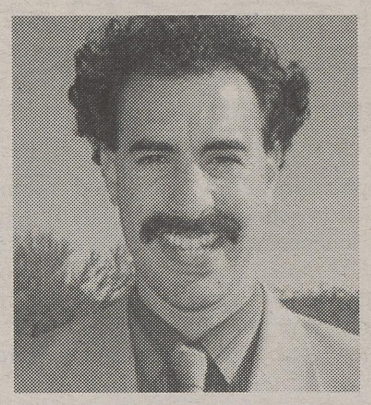
Yes, celebrity divorces are heartbreaking. We say that we don't want them to happen…but at the same time, we can't wait to find out who's going to split next.

Lewd, Crude, and Sued

Kaity Krupp '09
Co-Features Editor

What kind of movie does a freakish and uncensored fool make? Why, an exposé of the sexist, racist, and downright imbecilic aspects of America, of course!

Sacha Baron Cohen, the star of the HBO comedy "Da Ali G Show," has made a documentary-style film about a TV anchor from Khazakstan named Borat. The film begins with Borat being sent to the US by his television station to absorb and understand the culture of America, but soon he becomes so engrossed in one aspect of American culture–Pamela Anderson–that he embarks on a cross-country trek to hunt down and marry her.



Courtesy of Google Images

Borat, pictured here with a smile on his face, probably won't be grinning when he gets slammed by lawsuits.

Along the way he meets many Americans who he quickly offends with his doggedly boorish ways, but the most shocking part of this movie is what our fellow-citizens say about the world we live in.

"We support your War of Terror, America! May George Bush drink the blood of every man, woman and child in Iraq," Borat announces to a packed rodeo stadium in Texas, where he gets a mostly emphatic response. Before the announcement, he had been speaking with a distinguishably racist Southerner.

This and more offensive material is offered by *Borat: Cultural Learnings of America to Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan.*

After the first three weeks of its release, *Borat* has earned $90 million. And recently, Sacha Baron Cohen has become the highest-paid actor in Britain because he is making a sequel about another character on his "Da Ali G Show." It will be about Bruno, the pop-culture-addict.

However, not everyone thinks *Borat* is the hilarious social-commentary that many critics are calling it.

Borat has so defamed the character's fifteen-year-old home country of Kazakhstan that the Khazak foreign minister has said, "We do not rule out that Mr. Cohen is serving someone's political order designed to present Kazakhstan and its people in a derogatory way. We reserve the right to any legal action to prevent new pranks of the kind."

Two students from South Carolina University, depicted in the movie as sexist, racist and plastered imbeciles, are also suing *Borat*. The students claim that the movie's associates duped them into their drunken states, thus manipulating them into misogynistic and racist rants. They also claim that they were promised that this film would be shown outside the United States. 20th Century Fox, one of the suit's three defendants, has condemned the suit as "without merit."

Borat is also being sued by citizens of Glod, Romania, for $30 million. They claim that the movie unjustly colors them as idiots, thieves and racists.

BOND, James Bond

Meredith Byrd '07
Staff Writer

Casino Royale, the latest installment in the 007 Bond movies, was released in American theaters Nov. 17. The film opens in black-and-white with James Bond, played by British actor Daniel Craig, making his first government-sanctioned kills and then spills into full-blown color graphics with a casino theme as the opening credits.

As the film takes off, Bond heads to Madagascar to spy on the terrorist Mollaka. When things do not go according to plan, Bond decides to do some investigating himself in order to track down the rest of the terrorists. He heads to the Bahamas and meets Dimitrios, who is involved with a man named Le Chiffre, the banker of the world's terrorist organizations.

Secret Service intelligence reveals that Le Chiffre is planning to raise money in a high-stakes poker game in Montenegro at Le Casino Royale. Bond must play against and beat Le Chiffre to destroy his terrorist organization. A woman named Vesper Lynd is assigned to watch and aid Bond.



Courtesy of Google Images

The most recent James Bond, Daniel Craig stuns audiences everywhere with his action filled performance as the new Agent

While playing this dangerous game, Bond and Lynd fall in love. The tense poker match continues; the stakes only heighten as secrets are revealed, people are killed, and interesting relationships are forged.

Casino Royale hosts a cast from around the world including French actress Eva Green as the mysterious Vesper Lynd; Danish actor Mads Mikkelsen as the creepy and clever terrorist banker, Le Chiffre; Italian actor Giancarlo Giannini as Mathis, one of Bond's assistants; and of course, British actor Daniel Craig as the dashing James Bond himself.

While some were doubtful about the blue-eyed, blonde-haired, rugged Brit's ability to portray the suave Bond character, others were excited to see the charmingly edgy Craig take on the legendary role. "It's about time," said Manohla Dargis of *The New York Times*. "The likable Mr. Brosnan was always more persuasive playing Bond as a metaphoric rather than an actual lady-killer, with the sort of polished effect and blow-dried good looks that these days tend to work better either on television or against the grain."

The newest Bond movie includes action-packed adventure, passionate romances, intensity, thrill and even a few laughs, making it a great movie for anyone over 13 to see. The film receives an appropriate rating of PG-13 due to "intense sequences of violent action, a scene of torture, sexual content and nudity," according to Fandango.

Some memorable scenes include the opening chase between Bond and Mollaka across a construction site, the painfully intense "chair scene," and a surprising twist in Italy.

Casino Royale is clever, and while it is a fun film, some attention is required to understand connecting events, remember significant characters, and catch on to a few Shakespearian references.The film runs a little long at about two and a half hours.

After grossing over $40 million in the first weekend, many say *Casino Royale* is the best 007 yet.

Faculty Recipe: Dixie Salad

Dr. Schott, who teaches the Science of Food and Cooking class during Winterim, provided *Logos* with this salad recipe. He said, "The name for this salad comes from the county in Utah where my wife grew up, Dixie County. The county got its name because the Mormons tried to grow cotton in southern Utah, in the desert. It didn't work out so well."

And he added a hint: "Fresh pomegranate is the key."

Dressing:
¼ cup apple cider vinegar
¼ cup sugar
¼ cup orange juice
¼ cup oil
Juice of 1 lemon
1 tsp onion salt
1 tsp garlic salt
½ tsp ground thyme
½ tsp rosemary
1 tsp basil
½ tsp capers juice
¼ tsp dill seed

Combine all of the ingredients above and mix/shake well. For best results, allow the dressing to sit overnight before adding to the salad.

Salad:
1 head green-leaf lettuce chopped.
1 apple (Fuji or Granny Smith) chopped
1 pomegranate

Combine these three ingredients and pour on the dressing right before serving.

Willa Goes Indie

Channing Garber '09
News Editor

Sophomore Willa Fitzgerald recently returned to school after a month of acting in an independent film with the working title, *For the Love of a Dog*. Willa, along with three other teens, played a main role in this local production.

After hearing about the production from her father, who is involved in movies himself, Willa decided to send in an audition tape. Though she was not called back, she was notified a week later that she had been chosen to play the role of Vivian in the film.

Vivian, a 16-year-old cheerleader from a rich family, becomes close friends with Grace, a girl who comes from a poorer family. As Vivian and Grace become closer friends, Grace's dog gets sick, and the girls must find creative ways to raise money in order to pay for the dog's treatment.

Willa left school Oct. 16 and returned Nov. 18 from filming the movie. Willa said, "In a typical day on the set, I might arrive anywhere from 4:15-7:00 a.m. and would work until anywhere from 5:00-10:00 p.m.. The schedule would differ daily."

After arriving on set, Willa would check in at the trailers to get her schedule and lines for the day. Next she would head to costumes to don her outfit. "Then I would go to makeup and hair which would take anywhere from 2-2 ½ hours since there were other actors who had to get their makeup and hair done also," said Willa.

After all this prep she would have some free time to work on homework or hang out with her co-stars before beginning the day's work.

The actors would film about three scenes per day. Depending on the scene, they would film two to ten takes from one angle and then adjust the camera position to film the scene from another angle.

One difficulty Willa faced while filming this movie was keeping up with schoolwork. "I basically worked on my homework whenever I had free time on set, but for the most part I crammed on my days off!" she said.

Of course, everyone is wondering if Willa will continue to act in movies in the future. Willa said, "Acting is a passion of mine, and I don't think I could easily leave it behind. I always want to be involved in some form of acting whether it's paid or not."

For the Love of a Dog has been purchased for distribution by Hollywood Video and will be released next Christmas.

The Price of Plaid

Phoebe Carver '09
Staff Writer

Sophomore Lacy Broemel estimated that it costs $16,000 to attend Harpeth Hall, while her classmate Meredith Was guessed $20,000. Who is correct?

The answer is not clear cut. This year the Upper School tuition is $16,800, and the middle school tuition is $16,150. The tuition increases about 8-8.5 percent annually.

But tuition is only one part of the whole cost of a Harpeth Hall education.

Apart from being sent to school, students must also be fed. The meal plan costs $745 for the fifth through tenth graders. Since the juniors and seniors are away from school for three weeks during Winterim, their meal plan costs $690.

With a school year of 180 days, the average daily meal costs $4.13. Some consider this too costly.

"Last year I only got a peanut butter and jelly sandwich every day, so I switched to bringing my lunch this year," said Lacy. "It was not worth the money."

However, Sally Killian, the mother of two students, said, "I like the meal plan because it is a reasonable cost. It feeds my girls well and I don't have to make lunches."

In addition to these essential costs, new students in the 7th through 12th grades are also required to buy a laptop computer. Last year's laptop cost ¬ $2,190 with a four-year warranty.

Students who come in seventh, eighth or ninth grade will eventually need to buy another laptop when their warranty expires.

Textbooks are another pricey item. Ms. Lindsay McRae of the business office said, "The average Harpeth Hall student spends $200-$250 per year on books."

Books can be bought used, but new books such as the sophomores' honors world history book can cost over $100.

Trips and programs, such as Model UN or Winterim, are not included in the tuition either.

Students incur additional costs through extracurricular activities, especially in middle school. Middle school students go on a class retreat every year. These trips sometimes include airfare, so they can cost over $200.

Luckily, financial aid is offered to help students of limited means have access to the same educational experience as their wealthier peers. Last year, Harpeth Hall gave $820,000 in financial aid, and every year the financial aid office's budget expands.

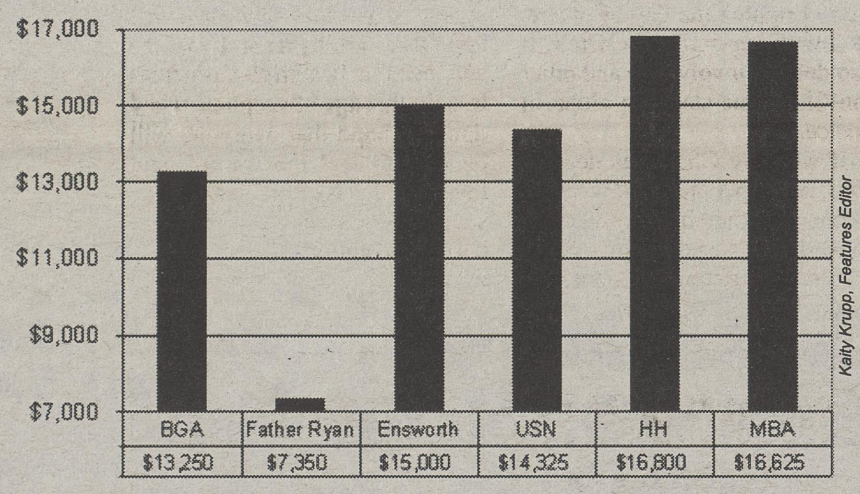
About 13% of Harpeth Hall students receive some level of financial aid.

"Harpeth Hall makes its admissions and financial aid decisions separately," said Ms. Diane Wild, director of admissions. A girl's academic aptitude is considered rather than her family's ability to pay for the education.

How does Upper School tuition compare to that of other schools? Ensworth's tuition is ¬¬$15,000, University School of Nashville's tuition is $14,325, and Father Ryan costs $7,350 for Catholic students.

Despite the current financial aid offerings, Harpeth Hall costs more than all three of these private high schools. Without taking trips into account, a Harpeth Hall tuition–plus a laptop, the meal plan and the average cost of books–amounts to $19,935 for one school year.

High School Tuition



Katy Krupp, Features Editor

Top Ten Celebrity Happenings of 2006

Phoebe Carver '09 and Lacy Broemel '09
Staff Writers

1. The mysterious and controversial Suri, child of Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes, is revealed in *Vanity Fair* magazine.
2. Paris Hilton and Nicole Riche: BFFs again.
3. Keith Urban gets married to Nicole Kidman and goes back to rehab.
4. Reese Witherspoon, a favorite Harpeth Hall alum, and Ryan Phillippe file for divorce.
5. Katie Couric leaves the Today Show and moves to NBC Nightly News. Meredith Vieira takes her place.
6. Cyclist Lance Armstrong and rocker Sheryl Crow break up.
7. Britney and K-Fed have their second child and file for divorce.
8. Mischa Barton is killed off the O.C. and many fans stray.
9. Borat grosses over $100 million in its first month.
10. Jessica Simpson and Nick Lachey call it quits.

Vegetarians in our midst

Maddie Teren '08
Staff Writer



Caroline Hallemann ('07)

"You know when it's dinner time and you're just in the mood for something satisfying? That's when I crave chicken or steak. It fills me up and gives me a hearty feeling. I couldn't live without it," said Carolyn Murdock ('08), a non-vegetarian.

Unlike Carolyn, many teenagers are surviving and thriving by ditching meat and chowing down on fruits and veggies. Vegetarianism is on the rise.

"I thought it would be a healthier alternative to eating meat, and I actually prefer a more vegetarian diet to the meat selections they had for us in college," said Kren Teren, a former vegetarian. "My choice [to become a vegetarian] had nothing to do with animal rights. If you care about animal rights, you should give up leather, like shoes, belts, purses and jackets. I couldn't do that."

"I've never really liked meat," said Caroline Prince, junior. "We don't have meat in the house—just fish—so I officially declared myself a vegetarian two years ago."

Vegetarians do not solely eat fruits and veggies. Some even refuse both.

Emi Mimms ('07) is a vegetarian who doesn't eat vegetables. "I eat a lot of cheese and bread," she stated. "I just don't really like vegetables."

Experts have recently expressed concerns that vegetarians, especially teenage vegetarians, don't get enough calcium, protein and iron in their everyday diets.

A healthy vegetarian diet includes fruits, vegetables, plenty of leafy greens, whole grain products, nuts, seeds and legumes. Beans, peanut butter, low-fat cheese, cow's milk, breads, nuts, cereals, tofu and soy products are all great sources of protein and allow a vegetarian to maintain a balanced diet full of vitamins and minerals.

For teenagers who have parents that are also vegetarians, it's easier to plan meals and consume the right nutrients. "My mom and I make sure we eat lots of soy products, and we also take some supplements," said Caroline.

"Viactive makes delicious calcium chews that come in caramel, chocolate and cherry-chocolate flavors," said nutrition and P.E. teacher Lori Graves. "That's a great and easy way to get calcium if you need it."

Although being a vegetarian is not for everyone, it has become an increasingly popular lifestyle as it has many health benefits and is animal friendly as well. Caroline Prince stated it well when she said, "Being a vegetarian is not hard, and it can make you feel really good about yourself. I love it."

logos

Calling all seniors who want to keep their hallway

Blair Carter '07
Staff Writer

Seniors hope that next semester the first floor hallway of the humanities wing in the Upper School will remain the designated senior hallway; however, recent decisions by the administration threaten these hopes.

Word has been circulating throughout the school that the seniors will be assigned the lockers where the freshmen currently reside. This new plan denies the seniors of the privilege to have a lower floor locker.

Not all seniors use the senior house, and we need another area. Also, this new hallway is completely out of the way for seniors to get to their books. Out of all of the four locker areas, this hallway has the fewest classrooms in which seniors actually have classes. Over half of the seniors have no classes in this hallway.

While it is understandable that the freshmen need somewhere to spend their time while not in class, there is a area perfect for that task at the end of what is now the freshman hallway.

As veterans of the school, seniors have earned the privilege not to walk up the horrible flight of stairs it takes to get to the science hallway.

The lockers should remain in the same order that they have in the past.

I love Christmas decorations, and I am Jewish

Hannah Werthan '07
Staff Writer

If an outsider were to look around Harpeth Hall's campus, the only indicator that we have any Christmas spirit is the senior house. In what appears to be an attempt to be politically correct, most of the school has remained bare of any hint of Christmas. I guess no one wishes to offend our "diverse" student body.

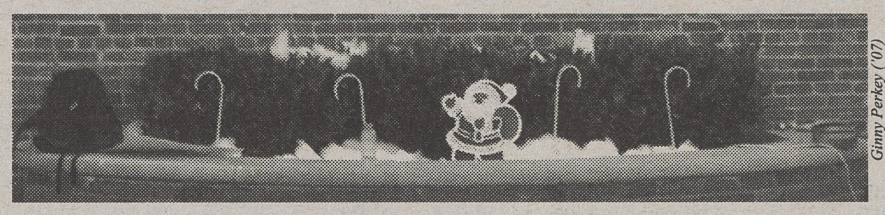
The problem with this careful watch to prevent any religious bias is that the school spends so much time occupied with outwar appearances that it forgets to think about what goes on inside our campus. A few weeks ago, we had the Thanksgiving assembly in which we were all told to stand up and sing a hymn. The singing was not required, but I still felt awkward standing there with my mouth shut while everyone else looked very involved in what appeared to be church service. I went into that assembly expecting to feel like we were all one family, and I left it feeling like the outcast.

I know that Harpeth Hall wishes to be a spiritual place, and it is hard to do so without involving religion. The solution to this is not to try and mesh a ton of cultures together and sing hymns. I enjoy learning about different cultures and traditions, but maybe one at a time, not all together to try to make the most religious yet secular holiday ever.

The solution is to have Christmas decorations. This doesn't mean I think everyone should celebrate Christmas in the religious sense. I do not celebrate Christmas – we're Jewish. My dad doesn't even know what day Christmas is on because he is convinced that the date changes every year. The whole point of Christmas decorations is not to be religious but to share a feeling of warmth. When I see a stocking or a little Santa Claus, I don't feel awkward or annoyed like I did leaving that Thanksgiving assembly. This is because I know whoever put those decorations up there is just wishing to brighten the day of others. I know the gesture is heartfelt. It also doesn't involve me and other non-Christians standing alone in silence.

If we have Christmas decorations, many people think we need to put up other holiday decorations. I can't speak for people that are of different religions, but I know that I absolutely cannot stand it when people suggest that Hanukkah decorations should be set up beside Christmas decorations. As a Jew, I am here to assure the general population that Hanukkah is not a major holiday. The reason Hanukkah exploded in America is that the poor Jewish kids were deprived of any Christmas spirit because everyone was off being socially acceptable. If we are striving to look culturally tolerant and therefore wish to include Jews, the best thing to do is to educate the student body on Yom Kippur, the most important Jewish holiday. Yom Kippur usually falls in September or October, so that leaves plenty of time to start on Christmas.

Next year, I hope Harpeth Hall chooses to celebrate the holiday season in a whole new manner. I hope there are lights and wreaths and even a beautiful Christmas tree. In this age of skepticism and doubt, I hope that everyone will be able to feel the warmth and love that I have this year in the senior house from all of the wonderful decorations. Merry Christmas.


Ginny Perkey ('07)

Decorations in front of the Senior House are enjoyed by students and faculty of all religions.

The wonders of Winter Formal after Christmas

Caroline Hallemann '07
Features Editor

Winter Formal is after Winterim and I, for one, am very glad. For many reasons it is simply better to have the dance after Christmas Break.

Had the annual winter formal dance been on Dec. 15, the original date for the event, many seniors would either be overjoyed or spiraling into depression. Why? Because Dec. 15 is the day many senior discover their collegiate fate.

It is the day early decision acceptance and rejection letters come in the mail, spawning either euphoria or anguish. Even if these members of the class of 2007 are accepted into the college institutions of their choice, the sheer anticipation of the letters creates a sense of anxiety that leaves little time for the primping and preparation rituals most Harpeth Hall girls participate in before such formal social events.

Also, I think having Winter Formal after the break will improve exam grades, especially of the last exam. With nothing to keep us from studying or distracting us from our tests, I think students will be able to have better focus and study harder for exams. In the long run, a better exam grade is going to prove to be much more beneficial than a cute hairdo.

The only problem I see with having Winter Formal after Christmas is the fact that it conflicts with a swim meet. I do not think that is fair for the swimmers, and especially the seniors, who have to miss winter formal this year because they are participating in their sport. That was some bad scheduling, and I empathize with those who are not going to be able to go because of their swim meet.

The main reason why the administration decided to move Winter Formal is because Hanukkah starts on Friday. Fundamentally, it is important to respect the religious beliefs of others. HH has been looking to draw more emphasis on the diversity of the campus, and I am glad they have made the decision to incorporate this emphasis in showing respect for the Jewish holiday in which many students take part. All in all, having Winter Formal after the Christmas Break will prove to be a beneficial change.

Homework: Important or futile?

Diane Uwamahoro '07
Staff Writer

Homework is a compound word made up of two words, "home" and "work." Have you ever wondered why the work just can't stay at school?

As students, we are told that homework reinforces what we learn in school; this is especially salient in classes such as Algebra and Chemistry where one must practice in order to fully comprehend the material.

"We could play with a little brother, watch the history channel and have an educational conversation with our parents or go volunteer at Room in the Inn."

However, homework has proven to be a point of contention between students and teachers. Teachers become frustrated when students do not turn in assignments because they see an importance in each assignment. Students, on the other hand, can be irritated by what they call "busy work." Is every single piece of homework truly a necessity?

It is understandable that we must practice to become efficient and productive students. As students we can argue that homework shortens our free time. Eliminating some of the busy work can give us time to enjoy life. We could play with a little brother, watch the History Channel and have an educational conversation with our parents or go volunteer at Room in the Inn.

Homework appears in many forms because of eclectic styles of teaching. Students differ in study methods as well.

Personally, I do not think it is necessary to do homework if students could seriously pay attention in class and retain the information they need when the test rolls around.

Therefore, homework should be radically revolutionized. Less is more.

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 Editor Emily Thompson at Ethompson@harpethhall.org.

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Quill & Scroll

For modern art and AP, Frist Center is the place to be

Janie Jackson '07
Staff Writer

The exhibitions currently at the Frist Center for the Visual Arts are all the rage in Nashville. Two in particular are the "Young Tennessee Artists" show and the "Extra-Ordinary: The Everyday Object in American Art" show.

Out of roughly 600 submitted works from 20 schools across Tennessee, 28 students were chosen as the statewide, Advanced Placement studio artists for 2006. Those selected came from 13 Tennessee high schools, displaying in the exhibit such works as paintings, drawings, prints, mixed media and photographs.

Two Harpeth Hall graduates from the class of 2006, Emily Hassell and Whitney Hayden, have their oil paintings featured in the exhibit.

"Extra-Ordinary: The Everyday Object in American Art" focuses not on traditional expectations of art but instead demonstrates 20th century modern works in American culture. The show includes over 70 different works, from sculptures and paintings to prints, drawings and photographs.

All of the artwork came from the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York, and each represents certain instances in American culture and life throughout the 1900s, often including explanations of the artists themselves embedded in their work.

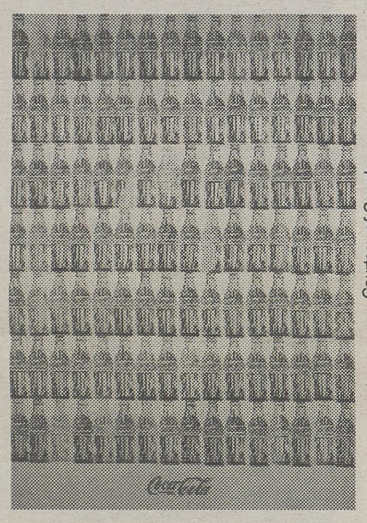
Some noted artists with popular works shown in this exhibit include Andy Warhol and Bob Trotman.

Andy Warhol's focus on American culture centers on the production and selling of consumer products and the impact of those products on society.

Bob Trotman's "Model Citizens" are wooden sculptures representing everyday people trying to retain individuality amidst society's expectations.

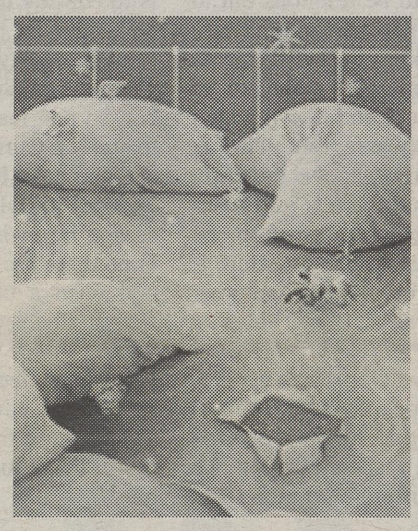
Several other impressive artists also contributed to the exhibit's successful turnout. The exhibit runs Nov. 10, 2006 to Feb. 11, 2007.

Pieces to Look For



Courtesy of Google

Andy Warhol's famous "Green Coca-Cola Bottles" portrays Coca-Cola as an American icon.



Courtesy of Google

Frank Moore's "Lullaby II" (1997) is a beautiful and intense oil painting that captures a life-altering struggle Moore had with AIDs and the dreamlike state he lived in for so long while battling this disease.

Turner's choir: Sure to be P.C.

Channing Garber '07
News Editor

Each winter, Upper and Middle School Choir Director Nancy Turner is responsible for choosing appropriate holiday music for her choirs to sing in their holiday concerts. Ms. Turner has the important task of representing a diverse assortment of holidays through her musical selections.

"When I'm choosing music for the holiday concert, I keep several things in mind. First, it's important for me to choose music that I love. But I also like to choose music from different cultures and traditions."

Living in different countries such as Switzerland and England has taught Ms. Turner the importance of diversifying her musical choices in order to incorporate a variety of traditions.

"I also have to remember that I'm using this music to work on certain musical concepts with my girls, and I always have that in the back of my mind when I'm searching for new music," added Ms. Turner.

When it comes to diversity in music, Ms. Turner can easily rely on instinct. She said, "My favorite holiday music is often based on beautiful German chorales, but I also love African Christmas music, so my taste is really eclectic!"

This year Ms. Turner chose several pieces for her holiday concerts ranging from American, African, and European songs to numbers in Hebrew and Japanese. "I think it's important to respect everyone's traditions at this time of year."

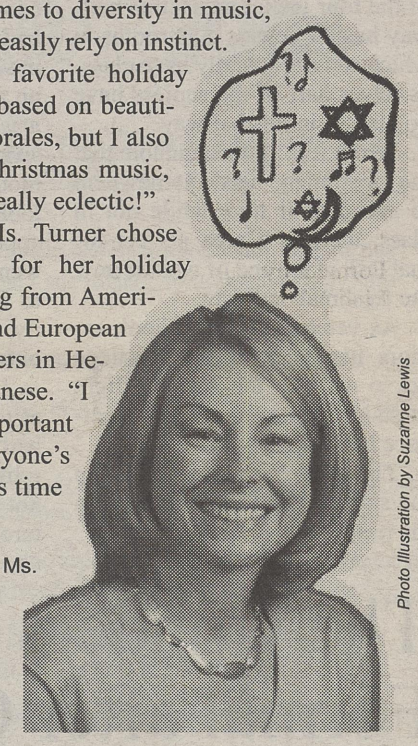


Photo illustration by Suzanne Lewis

Choir Director Ms. Nancy Turner considers the cultures represented in her next performance

Harpeth Hall Dance Co. hits the big 3-0

Suzanne Lewis '07
Arts Editor

The Harpeth Hall Dance Program celebrated its 30-year anniversary at its Fall Dance Concert on Nov.16-18. The theme of the concert was "Turn Back and Leap into the Future," and the dances were recreations of choreography that has been performed at Harpeth Hall in the last 30 years.

The show included numbers from the modern dance, tap, jazz, ballet and hip-hop companies and was directed by Joyce L. Smith, Emily Cummings, Jennifer Niemeyer Harwell, and Sabrina Johnson-Turner. Director of Upper and Middle School Dance Stephanie Hamilton oversaw the entire production.

The performance was a great success. The well-practiced dancers kept the audience entertained with each act. The first act was performed to the music of Elvis Presley. There were 18 numbers in the act, and the song list included some of Presley's most famous hits such as "Let Me Be Your Teddy Bear," "Jailhouse Rock" and "Hound Dog."

For part of the second act, a new company that has quickly become one of the school's favorites, H4: The Harpeth Hall Hip Hop Dynasty, performed. The upper school hip-hop team started the act off with a number called "I Love Being a Girl," which was performed to a mix including songs by artists Danity Kane, Diddy and Young Joc. A few dances later, the middle school hip-hop group performed an equally successful number called "Young, Fly, and Flashy."

The seniors of the dance team were particularly excellent in their collective solo, "Good Brown Earth." The dance was performed by six seniors: Mary Lindsay Krebs, Anna Katherine Maloney, Emi Mimms, Sarah Catherine Rhodes, Emily Turner and Maggie Wilkins.

The dance concert ended with the combined upper and middle school finale, "Celebrate Dance!"

This graceful performance resulted from months of practice in which each dancer not only put in time each day after school but also during free periods and weekends.

The concert only added to what Ms. Hamilton accurately referred to as the "rich legacy" of Harpeth Hall dance.



Courtesy of Picasa

Seniors Emi Mimms and Emily Turner dance in "Good Brown Earth."



Courtesy of Picasa

Seniors Mary Lindsay Krebs, Becca Hill, and Mary Helen Crafton, and others dance to Elvis's "Blue Suede Shoes."

logos

Bearacudas: A swimming DYNASTY

Annie Killian '07
Copy Editor

Sporting a plaid skirt pulled over her racing suit and a swim cap that reads "Bearacuda" in large green font, the Harpeth Hall swimmer is easily distinguished from the crowd of athletes gathered at the Tennessee State Swimming and Diving Championship meet each February. Most of her competitors, however, recognize her not for her uniform, but because they so often see her on the winner's podium. After claiming six consecutive State titles, winning has become a tradition for the Harpeth Hall team.



Casey Robinson ('07)

Lauren Gill ('08), Reed Pankey ('07), Maddie Teren ('08), Casey Robinson ('07), and Beth Ward ('06) celebrate their 2006 State Championship victory.

Harpeth Hall has a strong swimming history that dates back to the 1970s when Olympian Tracy Caulkins, a five-time gold medal winner, was in high school. While competitive swimmers have represented Harpeth Hall at the State meet for several decades, the actual school team is only 13 years old. Formed by current coach Polly Linden, the team now has 36 girls on its roster.

The Bearacudas first won the region championship in 1998. Three years later, in 2001, they won their first State title and have yet to relinquish it. This year, however, is a special one. McCallie and Baylor, two Chattanooga schools, currently hold the record for the number of consecutive swimming and diving state championships won: seven. This season, Harpeth Hall not only wants to defend its title but also to tie this record.

Leading the team is the strongest senior class Harpeth Hall has ever fielded. Half have been on the team since eighth grade. "In eighth grade, I was a little intimidated to be swimming on a high school team," said senior Reed Pankey, "but I felt cool knowing all these seniors that none of my friends knew.

After swimming together for all these years, the seniors have a strong attachment to the team and its traditions. "I think our team is unique because we're always laughing and having a good time, but we can be serious and intense about swimming, too," said Kaitlin Ray, the team's top breaststroke and individual medley swimmer.

The team dominated its first meet against Franklin High School on Nov. 16, with a 50-point victory over the Rebels. The Ravenwood Raptors, whose strong freshmen class makes them the second-best team in the region, met with an even worse fate as Harpeth Hall defeated them by over 100 points on Dec. 5. However, though the season is underway, the Bearacudas have their eyes set on the championship in February.

Intense is the name of the game when the end of the season rolls around. "*State meet* is how I sum up why I swim in two words," said sprint freestyler Anna Rose Heyman. "The adrenaline rush walking out into the sea of screaming, green, sparkling girls is a feeling that nothing but a sea of screaming, green, sparkling girls can duplicate. The music, the cheering, the smell of chlorine: I will remember those things for the rest of my life."



Courtesy of Picasa

Senior swimmer Anna Rose Heyman focuses on her start while teammates Sam Williams ('08) and Kellyn Angell ('09) cheer.

With Coach Linden keeping a running point count, the swimmers know the importance of each race, and everyone plays a role, whether she is competing or cheering. The girls' enthusiasm accomplishes great things; last year, there was at least one Harpeth Hall swimmer or diver in the final heat of every event at State. "Other coaches appreciate our spirit," said Coach Linden.

The girls' hard work in practice and in competition has garnered an impressive record of accomplishments. In the past six years, the team has boasted eight All-American swimmers and 14 All-American relays; the 400 freestyle relay has achieved an All-American time for seven of the past eight years. In addition, five Harpeth Hall swimmers in the past six years have gone on to swim Division I in college, and four girls in the current senior class plan to follow that path.

Basketball begins a new season

Erica Boozer '08
Staff Writer



Courtesy of Picasa

Coach Karen Schwartz prepares the team before their match against Antioch High School.

The Harpeth Hall basketball team began their season with a win over Donelson Christian Academy in the opening game. The loss of four key players has shifted the playing time for the girls this year, but they appear to have adjusted confidently.

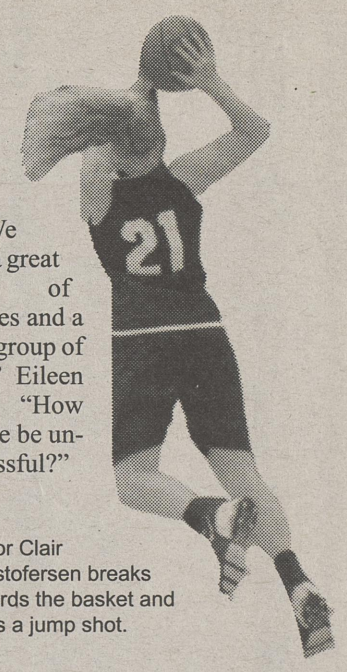
Early victories over DCA, Ezell Harding and Harding Academy gave the Bears confidence in their first game against a region opponent, Battle Ground Academy, which they won. Although the game did not count toward ranking for the region, it set the tone for the Bears to continue their two-game winning streak as they took on Father Ryan and Knox Webb last week.

This year the team has selected senior Eileen Campbell and junior Beth Binkley as the team captains to serve as leaders both on and off the court. Eileen, the lone senior, is working with the rest of the team towards one common goal: to make it to the State Championship Tournament.

"Our ultimate goal is to win our region, as well as to win state," Beth said. "Our hard work and determination will hopefully get us there."

Coaches Karen Schwartz, Paul Ward and Kearney Gay have told the players to focus on defense in the beginning of the season. Hoping to make it further in the championship than last year, the coaches have designed harder practices for the team that require more intensity during workouts than before.

"We have a great group of coaches and a great group of girls," Eileen said. "How can we be unsuccessful?"



Junior Clair Christofersen breaks towards the basket and takes a jump shot.

Bowling Bears are on a R●ll

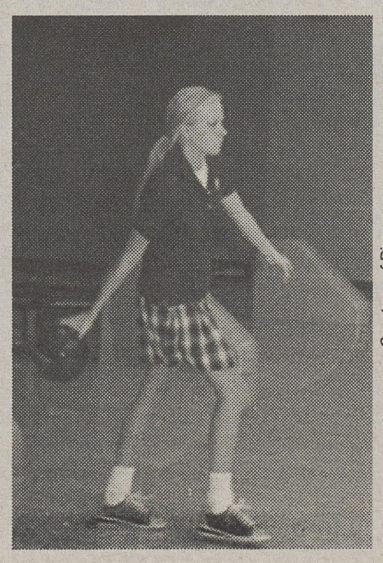
Mary Olivia Mullin '07
Staff Writer

The Harpeth Hall bowling seniors are having their best season yet. Senior members of the team Allie Kirkpatrick and Addie Boston are both in the top ten list of bowlers both having averages over 130. This season, Kirkpatrick has even broken 200 twice in practice.

Many new bowlers joined the team this season. These new bowlers include junior Katie Bell and freshmen Cassie Sanders, Grayson Eckert, Alex Bryant, and Madison Jones. Katie is now a starting bowler for the team, and new member Cassie Sanders has even gotten to bowl in a match.

With their only losses to Pope John Paul II High School and Brentwood Academy, the Harpeth Hall Bowling Bears have won ten of their fourteen matches. After matches against six different schools, Harpeth Hall is tied for second place with Brentwood Academy. JPII is in first place and has only lost once to Brentwood Academy.

Practice consists of each bowler bowling three games. The scores are recorded and averaged into the bowler's individual averages. Practices, held at the Hillwood Strike and Spare, are hard, but most of all they are fun. Since the bowlers do practice in a bowling alley, French fries and nachos are available to everyone. The bowlers usually enjoy these treats during practice.



Courtesy of Picasa

Lindsey Rollins ('07) is in mid-swing during the team's November 10 match against Brentwood Academy. The Bears went on to win 19-8.

Senior members of the team Addie Boston, Allie Kirkpatrick, Taylor Fetroll, Clare Brooks, Lindsey Rollins, and Mary Olivia Mullin all were able to bowl on Wednesday, Dec. 6, in a match against Battle Ground Academy. This match was also Senior Day. Senior Clare Brooks, said, "Senior Day was great because I bowled my first real match, we had lots of support, and it was the best match of the whole season!"

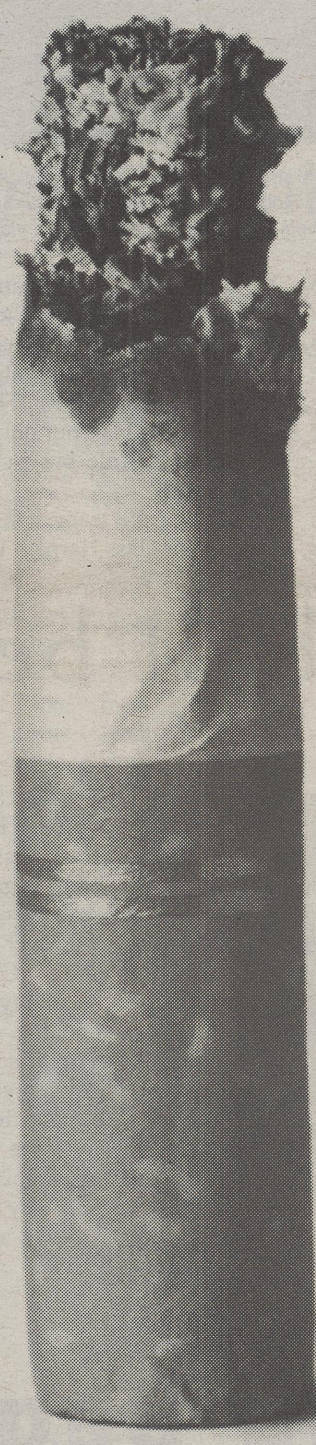
The season ended on a good note, with a win against Battle Ground Academy. In this match, Taylor Fetroll bowled her highest score ever, a 143. Mary Olivia Mullin also bowled her highest score, a 199.

With their season complete, members of the team are now waiting for the State Championship, which will be held in January.

What pickled this frog,

Could pickle your lungs.





The same formaldehyde that preserves dead frogs is found in cigarettes.

CDC

logos



MICHAEL MCGUIRE/DALLAS MORNING NEWS

HAPPY RETURNS

Get the best deal on what you're taking back

By Erin Wade
The Dallas Morning News

You think you've found the perfect gift, but are you sure? Just in case it's the wrong size, color, scent, decade, what-have-you, it's best to check out a store's return policy before making your purchase. That way your loved one isn't stuck with an ill-fitting, dust-collecting gift, no matter how well intended.

And if you're the returner? Don't feel the least bit guilty.

"Returns are a fact of life," says etiquette expert Peggy Post. "Just let the giver know you appreciate the effort and money they put into finding you a gift and say thank you. You can almost always find something nice to say about the gift, such as 'I love sweaters,' even though you hate that particular sweater." Here are some elements of the gift swap to keep in mind, whether you're giving or receiving:

TICK, TOCK

No one really wants to tackle those post-holiday crowds, but once the festivities are over, the clock starts ticking on returns. So grab your gift and gift receipt (before you lose it) and get it over with.

Many major stores, such as Target, Wal-Mart and Gap, offer a full refund within 90 days (if you have a receipt and the packaging is intact). Brookstone offers a refund within 60 days.

But some retailers can be less, um, giving. Electronics typically have a shorter return window because items get marked down much more quickly due to evolving technology, says Joe LaRocca, vice president for loss prevention for the National Retail Federation. Best Buy and Circuit City typically allow only 14 days to return items such as computers, camcorders, digital cameras and video games. Other products get a 30-day return period.

"Also, the longer an item is out of the store, the more likely it is to be damaged or scuffed," LaRocca says. "If the item is opened, it has to be examined and repackaged, and sometimes that cost outweighs the profit to the retailer. Plus no one wants to buy the opened item in the store, so it has to be marked down."

Bookstores, such as Barnes & Noble and Borders, also have a 30-day window. But those inexpensive clothing stores that are so popular with teens? Forget it. Most sales are final at Forever 21 and Charlotte Russe, where items can be exchanged only for in-store credit.

ALL ABOUT RECEIPTS

Receipts certainly make returning items easier, especially when getting an equal price for your return or exchange.

A receipt proves what was originally paid for the item, LaRocca says. "There are a lot of sales after the holidays," he says. "You could have bought a blender for $99.99 before the holidays that on Jan. 2 is on sale for $15.99 with discounts and markdowns. If you don't have a receipt, you'll only get $15.99 back."

Many gift-givers opt for gift receipts because they omit the price of the item, says Daniel Gerber, district manager for Barnes & Noble. "But we can still call up the transaction and the customer gets back what was paid for it."

So be sure to ask for a gift receipt, and don't be shy about including it in your present.

Post says it's perfectly acceptable to enclose the gift receipt with the gift for practical purposes.

"You especially want to enclose it if you won't see that person for a while or if you're mailing a gift," she adds. "If not, it's also OK to give it to them later."

CASH OR CREDIT?

Paying with a credit card has some advantages over paying with cash. A credit card makes it easier for some stores to look up a purchase without a receipt, allowing for an easier return. Target has a system that can verify most purchases made with a credit card or gift card within the last 90 days.

LaRocca says refunds are given in the same form of tender used to buy the item.

"If it was made with cash, you'll get a merchandise credit or a check, but some credit cards have additional benefits such as extended return periods and price matching, and most people don't know that."

THE BLACKLISTERS

To curb return fraud, some retailers are implementing much tougher policies.

Many retailers are imposing restocking fees or using systems that track "serial returners" and put a limit on how many items one person can return.

Many have their own systems, but a third-party company called the Return Exchange provides services that allow retailers to detect and stop fraudulent (such as returning stolen merchandise or forging receipts) or abusive return behavior. It tracks information, such as characteristics of your current return, return history and performance of consumers who have similar return characteristics, but it does not share data between retailers.

But LaRocca says that if you're a normal consumer, you shouldn't worry about being blacklisted.

For more information, see **www.thereturnexchange.com** for consumer tips and access to your personal return-activity report.

The Return Exchange does not disclose the retailers it works with, but retailers should post this information clearly. If you're not sure, ask the retailer if it uses this service.

GIFT CARDS

Instead of dealing with the decision-making and wrapping involved in giving a gift, many givers are turning to gift cards. But beware of expiration dates and cards that lose value over time.

If you're giving a gift card, check the expiration date and write it clearly on a card so your recipient doesn't get any nasty surprises. Companies we found that have no expiration date on their gift cards are Barnes & Noble, L.L. Bean and Gap.

"Gift cards are an amazing phenomenon," LaRocca says. "They allow a lot of flexibility for the giver and the recipient. But make sure you purchase one from a reputable retailer. You're gambling on getting what you pay for if you buy one at an online auction site. When you buy from the retailer, you get a purchase history and a receipt."

Gift cards from credit-card companies are a good replacement for giving cash, and allow the recipient to use the card anywhere it is accepted.

But they typically have a purchase fee and expiration dates. Many have "monthly service fees" or "dormancy fees" if the cards are not used within a six-month period. You'll also have to keep track of your balance online, because many retailers can't give you that information. MasterCard advises that you keep your gift card (as well as your receipts) after you've used it up, just in case you need to return something.

REGIFTING

So you don't have a receipt, and it's been more than 90 days since the purchase. Or you have no idea where the gift came from.

Your only recourse? Regift.

"Regifting has always been popular and is more popular now just from a practical point of view," Post says. "But if you don't want to regift, you can always give the item to charity or say, 'Look, I have two of these; would you like to have one?' A gift doesn't have to be for a special occasion."

RETURN RULES DIFFER BY TYPES OF GIFTS

Some policies are specific to certain items. Whether it's a sweater or an iPod, know what you need to have on hand if you decide to return it.

- **Clothing:** Don't snip that tag off right away. You might need it to return the item.
- **Shoes:** Just make sure your recipient doesn't wear them before taking them back. Many stores, such as Discount Shoe Warehouse, won't offer refunds on worn shoes, but they will let you exchange them for store credit.
- **Electronics:** Best Buy, Circuit City and other stores typically have a 14-day return policy on portable electronics, and a 30-day policy on other items if they are in their original packaging. To return an online purchase, make sure the packing slip and all packaging materials are included.
- **Toys:** Toy stores typically have a liberal return policy. Toys "R" Us accepts returns made within 90 days except for most electronics, collectibles, radio-controlled items and trading cards. But they will not accept any returns or exchanges without a receipt.

RETURN TIPS

If you don't know where a gift came from, a little detective work may lead you to the right store. Many stores have specific brands. For example, Cherokee is available exclusively at Target, while Kirkland is only available at Costco, and George ME is a Wal-Mart brand. If you don't know which store it came from, try searching for the brand online to see if it is only carried by one store. (You can always ask the person who gave you the gift, unless you don't want them to know you're returning it.)

Make sure you spell names right! Monogrammed items are usually difficult to return. Brookstone and Pottery Barn don't offer returns on personalized items.

- **Make a trade:** Would you rather read books than buy new clothes? Swap your gift card for someone else's at **www.swapagift.com**.

Graphic OnePage courtesy of ASNE/MCT Campus Wire Service

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Trivial Truths

Ernest Vincent Wright wrote a novel, "Gatsby," which contains over 50,000 WORDS – none of them with the letter E.

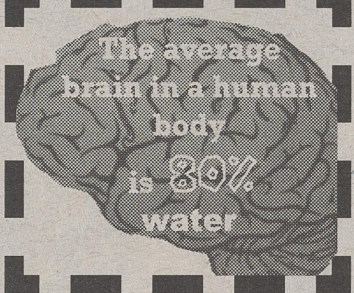
In an average lifetime a person will **walk** the equivalent of three times around the world.



It is a myth that people get sick from COLD weather; it is because being indoors makes you sick

More **REDHEADS** are born in Scotland than in any other country in the world.

The term "the whole 9 yards" came from WWII fighter pilots in the South Pacific. When arming their airplanes on the ground, the .50 caliber **MACHINE** gun ammo belts measured exactly 27 feet, before being loaded into the fuselage. If the pilots fired all their ammo at a target, it got "the whole 9 yards."



The most-used letter in the English ALPHABET is 'E.' The letter 'Q' is the least-used.

There are two ***credit cards*** for every person in the United States.

By the time you reach the 12th grade, you will have been in SCHOOL for about 17,000 hours.

Other than humans, pigs are the only *animals* that can get sunburn.

"I am." is the shortest *complete* sentence in the English language.

Horse racing is one of the most dangerous sports. Between 2 and 3 **JOCKEYS** are killed each year. That's about how many baseball players have died in baseball's entire professional history.

The flea can jump 350 times its **body** length, which is like human jumping the length of about 7 football fields.



An average pair of feet will **sweat** a pint of perspiration a day.

Compiled by Noura Ismail ('07)
Source: *thatwasrandom.com*

DO YOU SUDOKU?

Solve the entire Sudoku. Cut the puzzle out and turn it into the Logos folder in Mrs.Croker's room with your name to be eligible to win a PRIZE!

					2			8
	4			9				
		7	1			3		
				3			6	
8								9
	2				7			
		5			6	4		
				4			2	
1			8					

HOW TO PLAY

The classic Sudoku game involves a grid of 81 squares.

The grid is divided into nine blocks, each containing nine squares.

The rules of the game are simple: each of the nine blocks has to contain all the numbers 1-9 within its squares.

Each number can only appear once in a row, column or box.

The difficulty lies in that each vertical nine-square column, or horizontal nine-square line across, within the larger square, must also contain the numbers 1-9, without repetition or omission

A summary of these guidelines would be, that a number should appear only once on each row, column and a region.

There is only one solution to each easy, medium, or hard puzzle.

DECEMBER HOROSCOPES

ARIES (MAR. 21 - APRIL 20)

Your enthusiasm runs high this month. You are itching to expand, learn, and grow--to move beyond the mundane details of everyday life. Travel, or anything that expands your horizons, is highly favored.

TAURUS (APR. 21 - MAY 21)

By the 15th, you will have everything figured out. In fact, this is the best period of the month for all things. A meeting of minds with a close partner is probable now. Pressures coming from your family will ease this month.

GEMINI (MAY 22-JUNE 21)

The needs of a close loved one are paramount this month, and you are in the position to offer support. You are especially forward-looking, enterprising, and enthusiastic now, and others are bound to recognize and appreciate these qualities in you. Competitiveness drives you to do bigger and better things.

CANCER (JUNE 22-JULY 22)

Your enthusiasm for getting things done spills over into many areas of your life--your work, organizing your school work. This is an outstanding month for taking care of business, handling details, increasing your efficiency, and for working enthusiastically at tasks that help you get caught up in your work.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG 22)

This month, your attention turns to creative projects, hobbies, pleasure, and romance. These areas of your life are in for a tremendous boost. December is an outstanding period for beginning a new creative venture. You are more dedicated, confident, and go-getting than ever; and with your can-do attitude, success is guaranteed.

VIRGO (AUG. 23 -SEPT. 23)

A flurry of activity and energy surrounds your home and family life this month. Your attention to domestic concerns is paramount in December, although romantic matters figure and run smoothly. Someone from your romantic past could re-surface.

LIBRA (SEPT. 24 -OCT. 23)

December is an especially busy month for you. Life speeds up, others seem to demand more of your attention than usual, and the pace of your life is frantic at times. A disappointment surrounding an application, interview, or educational matter could occur.

SCORPIO (OCT. 24 - NOV. 22)

A new venture is favored. Your personal influence runs high, and although life is far from exciting this month, chances to improve your feelings of security are strong. A meeting of minds with a close partner is likely.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 23 -DEC. 21)

The ball is in your court this month, and it's up to you how to handle it. You are enjoying a surge of optimism. The more positive energy you radiate, the more opportunities open up. While you've been uncharacteristically withdrawn much of the year, you are now more willing to experience life to its fullest.

CAPRICORN (DEC 22.- JAN. 20)

Until the last week of December, this is one of the most private, withdrawn periods of the year for you. While it's not the best time to push forward aggressively with new ventures, it's an excellent period for developing new plans and strategies.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 21.- FEB. 19)

Your social agenda is especially lively--perhaps too busy at times--and you find yourself very much in demand in December. Still, contact with others is likely to be quite fruitful. Goals that involve joining or strengthening ties in a group project or activity, networking, and making connections are highly favored.

PISCES (FEB. 20-MAR. 20)

You are especially accountable for your actions this month. Everyone seems to be looking over your shoulder, observing what you do and what you are capable of. This is one of the busiest times of the year professionally, when you are in high demand. Support from behind the scenes or from an unlikely source is likely to come to you.