

Applause

Vol. 8 No. 8

School of the Arts

May 2007



Letter from the Editor



As seniors approach graduation, many will take the opportunity to pursue careers in the field of their art major; the May issue of Applause profiles those who have already gained success. Our centerfold features Joel Hamilton who, as the lead singer of rock band The Working Title, has applied his Band major training toward reaching international fame. Also featured is Bubba Bryant, a Theatre major who is currently starring in the Lifetime series *Army Wives*. The Question of the Month asks current student how they will use their training after leaving SOA. Enjoy the issue!

Sincerely,

School Calendar

May 8	Orchestra Senior Thesis
May 14	HS Visual Arts Show @ 10 Storehouse Row
May 18	Piano Senior Thesis in Black Box
May 21	HS Orchestra Awards Dinner
May 22	Creative Writing Senior Thesis in Black Box
May 28	Visual Arts Senior Thesis at Robert Lang Studio

Cover art by Jen Kennedy, 8th grade.



Applause

the official student newspaper of
Charleston County School of the Arts



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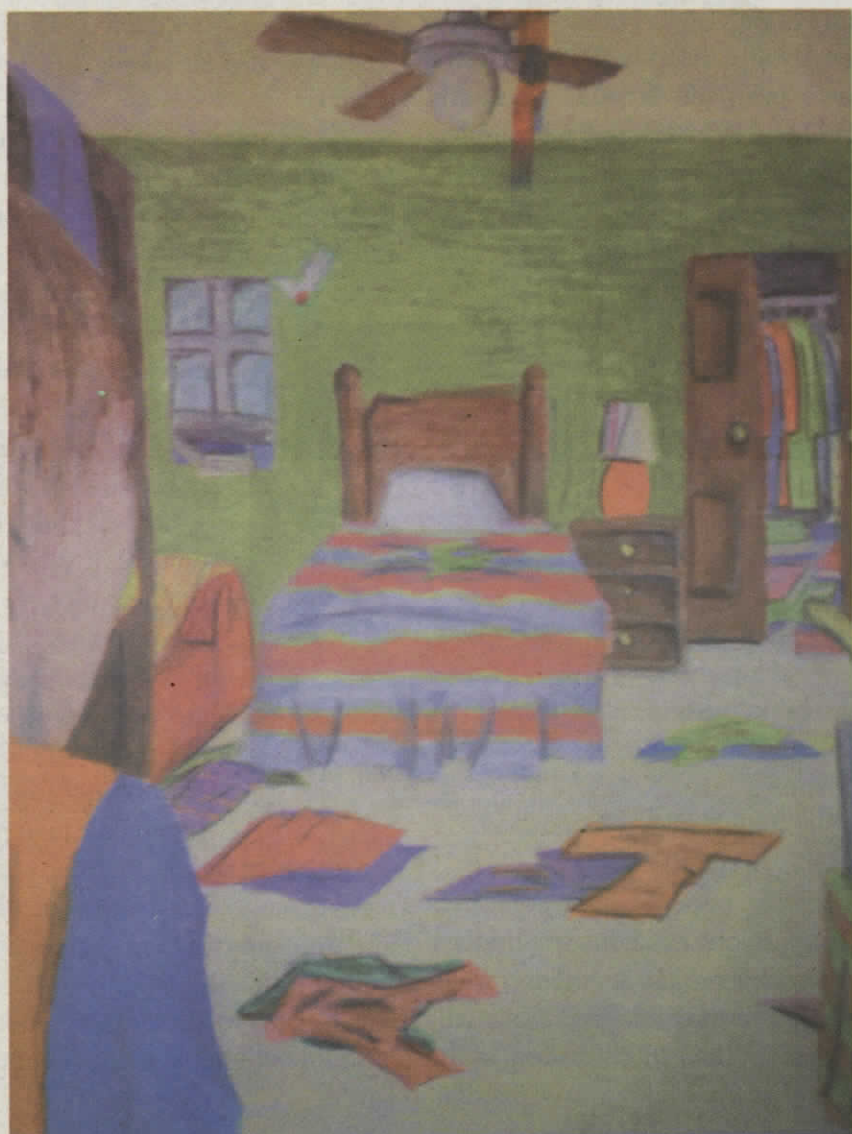
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Middle School Artwork



Photos by Ashley Sagan and Amber Caparas

"The Messy Room" by Jack Gallagher, 7th grade.



"Untitled" by JaRod Ascue, 6th grade.



"Flamingo at Sunset" by Abby Allardice, 7th grade.



"Untitled" by Lucy Rummler, 7th grade.

NHS holds tapping ceremony for 2007 inductees

By Victoria Doose



On March 30, the day before Spring Break, twenty-one National Honor Society applicants - who had been worrying and agonizing for weeks - were put at ease after being pulled from their first period classes and told that they were accepted into the Society. Congratulations to new members **Larissa Clarke, Catie Donnelly, Serena Doose, Preston Hogue, Lamar Hunter, Aubrey Isaacson, Katie Lear, Reilly Lovingood, Shannon McNellis, Andi Musselwhite, Amanda Nelson,**

SaNavia Paisley, Morgan Roach, Maggie Jo Saylor, Gabriella Terranova, Anastasia Timina, Ariel Todd, Lauren Turner, Shanequa West, Whitney Wilson, and Jessica Yang. The induction ceremony took place on Wednesday, April 25.

For community service, NHS has planned a river sweep on Saturday, May 19. A car wash fundraiser and service project at Thornhill Farms are also in the works, though the details have yet to be worked out.

Breakfast food and drinks are still available for purchase in the Fine



Gabriella Terranova "worships the dumpster" as part of her tapping ceremony, while NHS members Jeffrey Cabiad, Victoria Doose, Hannah Trussler, Catie Donnelly and Shannon McNellis look on.

Arts building from 7:30 to 8:00 every morning. Anyone who needs help with his or her studies can also still receive help from Society members in the peer tutoring program, after school in Ms. Cobun's room on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Creative writing theses available on Amazon.com

By Blake Engel

SOA Creative Writing seniors **Dan Hanf, Megan Haselden, Olivia Henderson, Ashley Hunter, Sara Marie Johnson, Krystal Kennedy, and David Whitley** have all completed their thesis works, which are available for purchase on Amazon.com. They were required to write a 100-page collection of poetry or short stories, or a 100-page novel or work of non-fiction. Now, after months of not only preparing their hefty manuscripts but also finalizing the details of publishing their work, the final products have been printed and shipped to the students.

The books will be officially available for purchase at the publisher's website, Booksurge.com, a subsidiary of Amazon.com, or at Amazon itself. But the writers will be personally selling them at their thesis reading in the Black Box on May 22 at 7:00 P.M. Each student will have fifty copies to

sell, and each one will have its own set price, generally in the \$10-15 range. They will also be selling them in the cafeteria.

Creative writing teacher **Ms. Rene Miles** said that this year's theses are "one of the most broad varieties." One book she describes as a "nonfiction stream of consciousness" and another as "satirical fiction."

"The quality of the writing is really good," she said. "They each have their own, unique voice. Totally unique voice."

Right now, the seniors are working on organizing the reading, which includes designing the invitation,

the program, and the stage set-up. The reading has a central theme of wheels and spinning, hence their mantra, "take a spin with us."

Stay tuned for more info next issue, including pictures of the books' covers.



The seniors will host a literary reading and book signing on May 22, which they have been advertising with posters around school.

Ready for battle... sort of

Photo by Amber Caparas

Senior **Billy Hood** marched around the lawn in a gladiator costume on Tuesday, April 17 as part of SOA's Senior Week. Seniors dressed up according to a different theme each day. Tuesday's theme was "Back in Time."



Thirteen vocalists perform in Chicago

By Victoria Doose

On March 21, thirteen SOA vocal students traveled via plane to Chicago, Illinois. These students - **Frank Shary, Chelsea Cummings, Elliot Matticks, Maggie Hendricks, Brittnee Curlett, Brett Sims, Frankie Lee, Alex Schroeder, Demetrye Malloy, Hillary Roberson, Angela Bedell, Stephen Ferguson, and Ladana Sanders** - had been selected to be members of the OAKE National Choir and participate in an honorary performance. High school vocalists from at least thirty states were represented in the choir, chosen only after auditioning.

The thirteen students stayed in Chicago for five days. Since the actual performance, performed for parents, educators, choir directors, and anyone else who had purchased a ticket, only took up Saturday, the

vocalists took the rest of the time to sightsee. Among other places, they hit the Magnificent Mile to shop and went to the Shedd Museum and Sears Tower.

As for the performance itself, it went well for the school's representatives.

"We were one of the better prepared groups," says Brett Sims, a first-time member of the National Choir. "We practiced for three days straight. You could tell some people weren't as ready."

The performance in Chicago was not part of a competition and so there were no awards or ratings to be won. Those talented enough to be selected, however, got the satisfaction of being considered one of the best high school choral vocalists in the nation, a reward enough in itself.

2007 AP Exam Schedule

Week 1

Tuesday, May 8	12 p.m. Statistics
Wednesday, May 9	8 a.m. Calculus AB
Thursday, May 10	8 a.m. English Lit
Friday, May 11	8 a.m. US History
	12 p.m. Studio Art
	(portfolios due)

Week 2

Monday, May 14	8 a.m. Biology
Wednesday, May 16	12 p.m. Art History
Thursday, May 17	8 a.m. World History

Band attends Chattanooga festival

By Victoria Doose

On April 27, the band majors packed their bags and instruments and set off for Chattanooga, Tennessee to participate in the Grand National Adjudicators Invitational Festival. As is suggested by its lengthy title, this festival is a nationally renowned competition open only to the most distinguished high school bands. Bands must have earned a "superior" rating at their state concert festival for the past three years in order to participate, in addition to having taken part in other national competitions and being able to play high-level music.

According to band director **Mr. Basil Kerr**, the value of entering such national festivals – besides getting an ego boost – is the experience students receive.

"The students get to see other groups of students in other outstanding instrumental programs. They also

get to work with some of the most respected conductors and teachers in our profession."

The competition took place April 28 at the Veteran's Memorial Auditorium. Each band in the festival played three selections from a provided list, one being a march and the other two being concert compositions. The Symphonic Band division of SOA's band will play "Cheerio March" by Edwin Goldman, "By the Rivers of Babylon" by Ed Huckaby, and "Poet and Peasant Overture" by Franz von Suppé at 10:00 a.m. The Wind Ensemble will perform at 2:00 p.m., playing "On the Quarter Deck" by Kenneth J. Alford, "The Solitary Dancer" by Warren Benson, and "The Sorcerer's Apprentice" – also performed for SOA students at March's convocation – by Paul Dukas.

Students win public speaking contest

By Blake Engel

Three SOA tenth graders won first and second place awards in the 2007 Optimist Club Oratorical Contest. They competed in the category of males and females, fifteen or younger. At the St. Andrew's Middle School Auditorium, each contestant had to prepare a speech lasting four to five minutes, which concerned the topic of his or her biggest challenge.



Tony Linog

they lived elsewhere, and during this time their debt began to build. He described the experience of public speaking as "nerve-wracking and intense" and provided a few pointers. He said that typing the speech, helped and offered his most valuable piece of advice: "Know your lines." He explained that staring at one's paper during a reading "doesn't help to captivate the people." To calm his nerves, he also pretended that inanimate objects were real so he could address his speech to *them* as opposed to directly to the audience. According to his English teacher **Ms. Anna Bronk**, his performance was so close to perfection that she was driven to tears. "It was one of the best speeches I've ever heard," she said.

Second place winner **Daniel Anthony** adapted his speech from a paper he had previously written for Ms. Bronk's class. It concerns a death in his family that left him without a positive elderly influence. "There was no one old and wise to talk to," he said. The two-and-a-quarter page speech took four minutes and thirty seconds to deliver. When Daniel was younger, he enjoyed performing in school

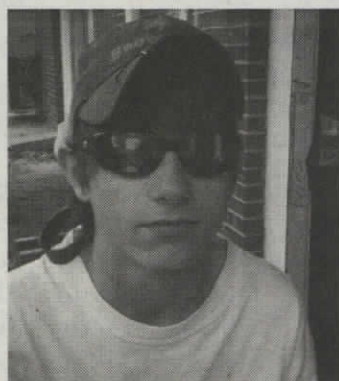
plays and making speeches, which lent to his pleasure in participating in the contest. He felt mostly calm during the speech, he says, although he was somewhat afraid of forgetting his lines. The audience, he observed, is "receptive and kind" and it's only the official judges that really inspect one's performance. When giving a speech, one should think calmly: "Don't think it's going to be hard," he advised. "It won't be hard." For his success, he commented as a final point, "I want to thank Ms. Bronk for the opportunity."

For the female fifteen and under category, **Mikayla Carr** took home the first place medal. For her speech, she chose a personal issue which has had a lasting and negative effect on her life – insomnia. As a child, people thought she simply had other problems, and that a sleeping disorder could not develop at such a young age. As a result, the disorder went untreated, leading to many other struggles in her life, such as depression and anxiety. Ms. Bronk worked with Mikayla, who stayed after school to prepare for the oratorical contest. Memorization is the key to a good speech, she noted. One must practice until it can be "with one's eyes closed." "Don't even think about being nervous," she said. Get comfortable with the speech until you can "rattle it off" and make it "more conversational instead of like an essay." "People aren't there to criticize you." By giving this speech, she felt she could educate the public on the difficulties sleep disorders can cause.

Tony and Mikayla advanced to the Zone Competition on Thursday, April 19 and both won first place for their respective division. On Saturday, May 5, they will present their speech at the State Competition in Columbia, where they will be competing for college scholarship money. Be sure to check the June *Applause* for a follow-up article.

What do you think?

Do artists really need to go to college?



Miles Merritt, freshman
No. College is really expensive and time consuming. A lot of artists would rather spend that time and that money creating art to make a living.

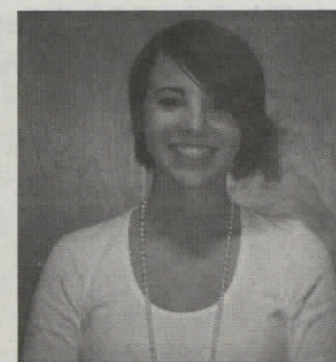
Photos by Amber Caparas



Grace Beatty, sophomore
Yes. You can use your college experience to expand on your gift and share your art and creativity with fellow students.



Grace Lee, junior
It depends. It would be nice, but if they can't, then oh well. Some people are naturally talented enough to get away without going to college, but others still need more work if they want to make it in the real world.



Kendall Jones, senior
Yes, if you want to continue on in your art area or if you want to have a career in the "real world"—plus, odds are you'll end up wanting to switch majors anyway.



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Middle School Interns

Pages 6 and 7 are compiled by our 8th grade interns:

Chelsea Adent Paige Lamprecht

Desie Ashe-Bradford Eric Payne

Mary Lee Carter Gabrielle Wolfe

Liz Gildea, intern advisor

SC school bus breakdown: Problematic buses pose safety risks

By Mary Lee Carter

Any bus-riding student at SOA can tell you how annoying it is to ride on old, creaking buses, and what a pain it is to switch buses when their own breaks down. South Carolina's bus fleet of 5,701 is at an average of fourteen years old, if not more, with most buses having driven over 200,000 miles. The state has failed to replace these buses with new ones in more than a decade, as the cost of a brand new bus is \$72,000. Almost 5,000 of the state's school buses, almost the entire fleet, are already at or have passed the recommended retirement age of 12-15 years. The very oldest buses, totaling about 3,000, have been hauling children for three decades and having more than half a million miles on the odometer, must be replaced and pose a \$360 million bill.

Bus mechanics face a nightmare as well, with an average of 67 bus breakdowns a day. Many parts are rare, and some are stripped from decrepit, non-working buses in junkyards. Another major problem is bad brakes. Maintenance records show that buses develop brake problems most frequently. This poses another, larger problem- bus

fires. For example, in August 2002, 15 students were evacuated from a bus in Williamsburg County after the brake pads wore away and the metal-to-metal contact sparked a fire.

More than a dozen fires burned through buses in 2006. Mechanics fail to correct problems that eventually spark fires, and people's lives are at risk. Overall, forty-two school children have died in school bus-related accidents in South Carolina since 1969. Six of them were riding on a bus at the time of the accident. The rest of the involved children were passengers in other vehicles or were struck while standing or walking outside of a bus. South Carolina school buses were involved in about 500 accidents during the last school year.

South Carolina's buses are the oldest, most polluting and least safe in the nation. SOA is lucky enough to have the newer buses, the ones that are about 12 years old. So next time your bus driver tells you to practice the emergency fire exit drill- pay attention and do it right.

Charleston Police Blotter

By Mary Lee Carter

The Blotter is taken from City of Charleston police department reports, the Moultrie News, and the City Paper. We've added a little commentary and a little humor, too.

A well-meaning friend called the police when his buddy, who had just been dumped by his girlfriend, came home and tried to cut his own throat with a steak knife to no avail. The police arrived and witnessed the drunk, dumped dude banging his head against the wall. The officer cuffed the guy to restrain him, but he kept trying to bang his head on various objects. What a lady - she took his love, dignity, and a couple brain cells, to boot.

Two patrons at a downtown sushi joint found themselves in a verbal dispute with a bar employee over their tab. The bartender allegedly hopped over the bar and began assaulting one of the men, who received bruises on his

arms and a large cut on his face. Bon-saiiii!

It was a happy Valentine's Day at a Hollywood fast food restaurant when a customer and a manager got into an argument about the service quality the woman had received. The woman asked for a refund and when the manager returned with the money, a quick scuffle ensued, during which the manager received a cut on her nose and a blow to the back of the head. No word on whether she was "lovin' it."

Blotter Bogus Arestee Explanation O' The Month:

"That ain't nothing. That's just laundry soap."

Pi Day festivities: All about the pies

By Desie Ashe-Bradford

On Friday March 16, 2007, the 8th graders had their annual Pi Day celebration. Though running short for time, they did their best to make things work. It started off with the "Pi Recitation" contest, where **Javen Hodge** came out on top, reciting 201 digits of Pi. During this contest, four judges were circling the pie tables taking a small sample of the pies for the "Homemade Pie" contest. This seemed to be the most popular contest. There were 31 pies that needed to be tasted to find one first place winner. The winner was **Aubrey Moore**, who made her special fudge brownie pie.

When that was through it

was finally time for the main event, "American Pidot." In this competition contestants had to create a song or rap about Pi. As the contest moved on the decision became harder and harder for our Pidot judges. Randy (**Mr. Charlton Singleton**) and Paula (**Ms. Rene Miles**) were very happy with most of the contestants, though they did offer some "constructive criticism." Simon (**Dr. Marty Ball**), on the other hand, seemed unhappy with everyone. Finally they came to an agreement, and the winner was the group Pi it Out. Sadly, the celebration came to its end. I know the 8th graders will remember this day every time they hear the word "Pi."

8th grader becomes a competitive equestrian

By Gabrielle Wolfe

Eighth grade visual artist **Katharine Kiser** has been riding horses at Middleton Place for nearly two years and knows exactly what it takes to be a true horsewoman. From afar, horseback riding looks easy, but in reality it is no simple task.



Katharine Kiser

Amber Capara

lenging," Katharine says. "You don't just sit on the saddle. You have to post, lead and control the horse." Although horseback riding does have its challenges, it also has many rewards to offer. "What I really enjoy about horseback riding," says Katharine, "is going fast, and spending time with the horses."

At a competition on March 31, Katharine placed 7th and 5th in two categories of the "walk and trot" competition.

"Horseback riding is chal-

Middle schoolers attend All State Band convention

An exciting and fun experience at Furman University

By Chelsea Adent

Five middle school students, along with high school students, left Thursday, March 8 for Furman University to participate in All State Band. Early Friday morning, practice started. All day, we rehearsed and learned the music for Sunday's performance. But luckily after the rehearsal, we got to go to the mall and relax until later that night. On Saturday, we awoke again early and were ready for rehearsals. That day was when we cleaned up all of our music and made sure it was all going to run smoothly the next afternoon.

After spending the whole morning in the practice room, where we had been the past two days, we went into Furman's auditorium to finish practicing. We ran through the whole concert, making sure that the performers knew where they were supposed to be and what they were supposed to be doing. We all left that day feeling excited and prepared for Sunday's performance. Saturday night, we went to the bowling alley.

It's an All State tradition that the middle school bowls against the high school. The five of us went in there, feeling like we were going to get beaten horribly. But after the first round, we found out that we had gotten a *way* higher score

than the high school. Then during the second round, we fell apart. But even so, the middle school won!

After all the fun, we went back to our hotel and started packing. We could all say that we felt a little sad about leaving the next day. But we decided to enjoy it while we could. The next morning was chaos. We all had to make sure we had our uniform, all of our clothes, and most importantly, our instrument. After boarding the bus and eating breakfast, we headed for Furman. Luckily we got some time to relax before we had to start getting ready. But as soon as everyone started getting instruments out, we knew it was time to go.

The performance started at 1:30 pm and the junior band (the middle school) was up first. Our conductor spoke a little about our music and then it was show time. The four songs we had been practicing *over and over* went by so quickly. The first song we played was called "Joy Revisited," which was a really fun song to play because you could really picture what was going on in the song. The second song we played was called "Glory March," which emphasized heavily on the brass, giving the woodwinds a little bit of a break. The third song was



Chelsea Adent

The middle school band played four songs at the All State Band performance on Friday, March 9.

called "Prairie Song," which was my favorite song. It was a really tough song, but we managed to play it really well. Finally we played "Message on a Rock," which was a good song to end with because it had a variety of patriotic songs included in it. Then before we knew it, we were all standing and smiling towards the audience, thinking about how fast this whole weekend had gone by.

All State is one of the best experiences for a band student. You get to experience playing under a great conductor and playing with the best band students in the *state!* After the three days you spend in All State, you want nothing less than to come back next year.

Dear Desie

Advice on life, love and looks

By Desie Ashe-Bradford



Dear Desie,

I'm your typical awkward girl. I don't consider myself pretty or anything special. It did not always matter to me, but now that I'm in middle school it's starting

to get to me. Guys aren't attracted to me and it's really starting to annoy me. I don't know what's wrong with me. When I try to be pretty and put on make-up I end up looking like a clown. The fact that I look like this makes me hate my best friends because they are all so pretty and they've all had boyfriends before and I haven't. At sleep-overs I can barely talk about boys because I don't know anything. Please help me change myself!

Sincerely,

Never Turned Swan

Dear Never Turned Swan,

All females are beautiful and, with that being said, it's your job to show it. The way you said that you want to "change yourself" means you are going in the wrong direction. There's a difference between changing yourself and switching up your appearance. Don't ever change yourself to get more attention. If you want to put on make-up, make sure that the make-up you choose is the exact same color as your skin. It's O.K. to use mascara and eye shadows but don't use eye liner for your eyebrows, its best to just get them plucked or waxed. Do something to make yourself feel pretty, like a spa treatment. Once you feel pretty on the outside your confidence will begin to show, and that's what will make you truly beautiful inside and out. There is no need to force yourself to be someone you're not.

Featured middle school teacher: Ms. Rosamund Lawson

By Paige Lamprecht

Ms. Rosamond Lawson, an 8th grade teacher, has been teaching social studies for eight years. Before the interview, she said not to ask her about any "relationships [she] might have had with famous men..."

Paige Lamprecht: What did you like about going to school?

Ms. Rosamond Lawson: My favorite thing to do in school was talk to my friends.

PL: What did you do before you taught?

RL: Pretty much everything except being a waitress. I've been an orchestra manager, a mediator, I worked in a psychiatric hospital, I worked in a bookstore, and I was a stay-at-home mom.

PL: What made you decide to teach history?

RL: I love history because history is all about knowing where we are, where we've been, and where we're going.

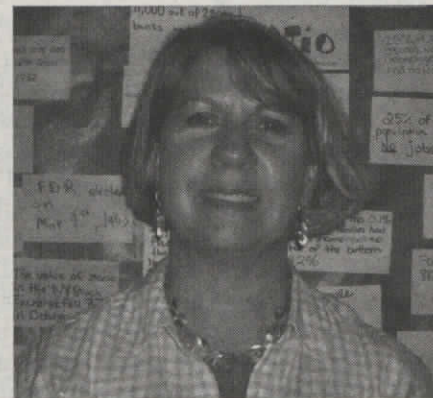
PL: What is your favorite thing about SOA?

RL: I think the eighth graders are awesome because they don't take themselves too seriously and are sometimes like little kids still.

PL: What's your least favorite thing about SOA?

RL: I don't really like the layout. I would like there to only be one building.

PL: What is the funniest thing you've ever encountered in your years of teaching?



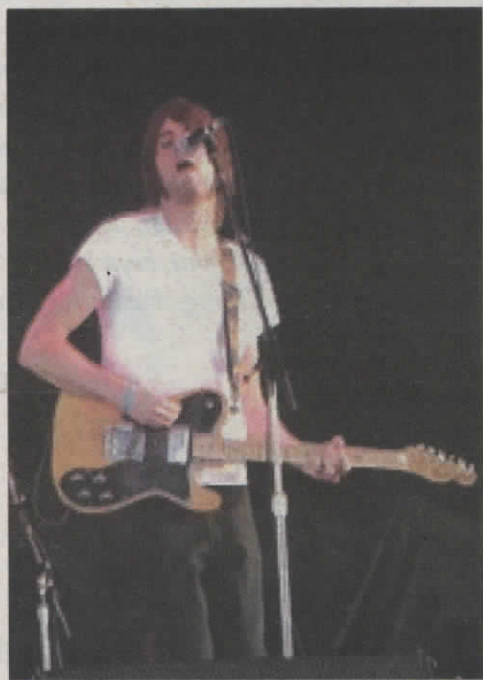
Paige Lamprecht

RL: One year on our trip to Washington, D.C., Mr. Pompeii wore "redneck teeth" the whole way back. When we stopped, he would stand outside the building and smile at people as they went in. It was so funny. The other teachers and I laughed so much we had mascara running down our faces.

Rock dreamboat, SOA grad: Joel Hamilton discusses his love of music

By Amber Caparas

Like most Charleston area teenage girls, I've been a fan of budding rock star Joel Hamilton since I first heard his voice; but for me, that dates back to when I was a 5 years old. So, when Joel agreed to an interview with me, I was both thrilled and honored. The Working Title front man is easily the school's most famous graduate, having signed a deal with Universal records straight out of high school and toured with bands such as the Counting Crows, The Goo Goo Dolls, and Augustana. His music is critically acclaimed and his songwriting and vocal skills rival the best in the business. So let's all get to know Joel a little better!



Says Joel of performing: "As long as I can do what I love and stay true to myself, then my vision for The Working Title is being accomplished."

Amber Caparas: *What were your dreams when you were a little kid?*

Joel Hamilton: Well I think I wanted to be a firefighter first, then a boxer. I wasn't tough...in fact very puny, so both of those were ruled out...then a dentist, but I decided I didn't wanna be in peoples mouths.... then sports...I played lots of sports...my favorite probably soccer. But I remember the day that it was clear to me that music was going to be my life, and I told my dad I was quitting sports to do music and he said ok. I was like 15.

AC: *When did you begin writing music?*

JH: I probably started writing music when I was in like 8th grade. I was playing music at my church a lot and started writing songs around that time.

AC: *Where is your favorite place to write music?*

JH: As long as I am very much alone I'm not too picky, but it generally happens on my bed.

AC: *How did The Working Title come*

together?

JH: We have all known each other for a long time...friends from school and church and had played in bands with each other in the past for the most part. I guess it just kind of fell into place like that. I was writing songs and recording them acoustically on a four-track recorder and then we decided to make full arrangements of the songs and perform them.

AC: *How would you describe The Working Title's music?*

JH: I generally don't try to do that...I have a hard time...um.... drums, guitars, pianos, vocals, and bass.

AC: *What is your vision for The Working Title?*

JH: For me The Working Title is an outlet and a way to keep myself from getting caught up in everything that makes me feel like I'm going to lose my mind. For me, playing music and more specifically, playing the music that I write that means the most to me, is one of my biggest sources of happiness and fulfillment. As long as I can do what I love and stay true to myself then my vision for TWT is being accomplished.

You hear a lot of bands and musicians saying things like "It's all for the fans and everything we do is for our fans" and what not, but I just don't totally understand that and personally it's just not true. I write and play music and do what I do because I have to, because it makes me happy and because it makes more sense than anything else in my life. Now a lot of what we do is for our fans and we owe a lot of things to our fans and we appreciate our fans so much for the support, and without it, it would be very, very hard, but to say that it's why we do what we do just doesn't make sense. If that were the case, we might as well ask our fans what we should do next and what types of songs we should write and what not. It's just not the case. We also have developed goals. For instance, because we put so much of our time in to our music its hard to do things like make money, so we have to figure out how to support ourselves

and what not....and really the most feasible way and arguably the "only" way for most bands to make money and become self-sufficient is by touring and developing a fan base to where you can tour and make your living in that way. This is one of our biggest goals and it's something that takes a lot of time and dedication and hard work but it

pays off, especially when people start coming to the shows that you expected to be empty and when people tell you things like "the music you make has helped me through a hard time in my life"—that means the world.

AC: *What is the craziest thing you've done during a concert?*

JH: Well I fall a lot. I don't know if I do anything too crazy. We've had some crazy things happen I guess. A lot of times when we tour with a band for a while, the pranks start to come out...such as taking the wheels off of their van while they perform, etc. At the end of a long tour with this band mae, during our last song, they started coming up and taking Ross's drum set away from

him piece by piece until he was only left with his bass drum. And then they started playing all of the drums until the song just basically turned into a bunch of nonsense and jamming and we just kind of slowly walked offstage. It was pretty funny. I guess now that I think of it, that may have been the start of a tradition because at the end of a lot of our tours with bands we started just inviting everyone on stage on the last song, from the bands and sometimes the audience, and then we just hang out and play and get everyone to play something. At the end of the tour we did with Augustana we had a very intense one of these. We had all the guys from Augustana playing instruments and I think we fit everyone from the crowd on stage...it was interesting.

AC: *What is the craziest thing someone in the audience has done during a concert?*

JH: I like to try and talk to people in the audience and sometimes conversation will ensue. I've had people get pretty mad because we weren't playing their favorite song and

start yelling....um....we had this one kid begging us to play "Stacy's mom has got going on" during our whole set at this show in Pittsburgh. It was really annoying and then funny....he was like 10.

AC: *How do you prepare for a concert?*

JH: I warm up my voice. I concentrate on that....gotta do that....and keep my mind on it and don't think about anything else... just warm up the voice....and stretch out the body.

AC: *Do you ever get nervous while up on stage?*

JH: Honestly not much. It's weird though the less people and the more intimate the environment and perhaps if I'm doing solo stuff, the more scared I get....but 1 thousand people is a breeze.

AC: *Where would be your dream place to perform?*

JH: Hmm....I've always wanted to go to Australia. I'd like to play for kangaroos.

AC: *What are your favorite Working Title songs?*

JH: Well, my favorite ones are usually the ones that are the most pleasing to perform. "This is Not Glorious" is a fun dance-y song that I love to play. This newer song called "Sugar from my sugar" is a very emotional song that is very exciting to play live. I got to play some drums at the end....which is how I actually got into SOA in sixth grade by playing the drums at the audition.

AC: *Would you ever consider doing an album in another musical genre?*

JH: Of course...I write lots of songs all over the musical spectrum. I'm probably going to release something solo very soon in a very different direction than TWT.

AC: *You have such a distinct voice. How did you develop your own style?*

JH: I'm not really sure. I guess I generally worry that I don't and that I sound like everyone else out there....which is something I try not to and hope that I don't.

AC: *What was the highest high of your musical journey?*

JH: Well we recently were given the opportunity to go on tour with the Counting Crows and The Goo Goo Dolls which was basically amazing....more like a dream than reality....got a chance to hang out with them quite often....ate with them everyday...played cards with them often. It was incredible....all of them super nice people.

AC: *What was the lowest low of your musical journey?*

JH: More than once we have had lots of our gear and things stolen. There is nothing worse than to have your things stolen especially when it leaves you stranded in a foreign country without passports or anything at all!

[Continued on page 10]



Joel, foreground, and the other members of The Working Title are releasing a new album, *About Face*, on July 18th.

Bubba Bryant hopes for a big break into acting with upcoming T.V. series

by Lucy Hunter

There are two sides of Richard Bryant: the ambitious young actor who will star in the upcoming Lifetime series *Army Wives*, and "Bubba," the easygoing, talkative Charleston native who loves surfing and playing the guitar. Bubba, as most people know him, is a legend at SOA—a popular theatre Major who graduated from the class of 2002. I sit down with Bubba, who laughs as he fools around with "Self-esteem rings" in the middle school guidance office and tosses Smarties in his mouth between sentences. But when we start talking about acting, he ignores the Jenga blocks and puts down the candy. There's a lot to be serious about: starring in *Army Wives*, the high-budget production that's been filming in downtown Charleston for weeks, could be the breakthrough performance of a career that's already a "freaking freight train," as he puts it. He's just been signed to an agency in L.A., a city he has never visited but to which he will soon be moving. The possibilities for stardom are thrilling, but daunting, and Bubba sums it up perfectly: "I don't think I'm quite ready for what's about to hit me."

A career in Hollywood has not always been on Bubba's agenda. "I never thought I'd be going down this path in middle school... I didn't think that I was good at theatre, didn't think that I was good at film."

Not all of his early attempts were successful, including his first stint at Moultrie Middle School. "I was cast as Lysander in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* across from Hermia, who was the hottest girl in school. I was so excited. But then I missed one day and they dropped me! I wasn't SOA material back then, but it gave me a little kick to come over."

Bubba transferred to SOA for freshman year, urged by friends Ben Pooser and Mark Washington. The experience changed his perspective on a career in acting. The directors at this school taught me more than any other directors—**Mr. Michael Locklair, Mr. George Younts and Mr. Sam Wood.** They had totally different ways of approaching me, pushed my limits, and gave me the confidence that I needed to go on; they told me that I could do it. If I were to get an Academy Award, the first people I'd thank would be the people at SOA."

As his love of acting emerged, so did job opportunities. "I did theatre at the Dock Street, and summer musicals for SPACE. I got picked up by an agent and started doing the film side of acting. The first thing I did was as an extra on the movie *O*."

Working on *O*, a modern version of Shakespeare's *Othello*, sparked his love of film. "What I like about film is that you

can put the audience's eye on something. You can do a lot more when you have the audience's eye. Without having to draw the audience's eye to a certain thing, you can just put it there."

After graduating from high school, Bubba enrolled at College of Charleston with a full scholarship to the Theatre department. "I was not impressed at all. I couldn't learn the stuff I needed to learn because I was on a different level than them."

"Honestly, the directors over there don't have anything on the directors [at SOA]. Mr. Locklair, Mr. Younts and Mr. Wood—those teachers just knew how to attach to a person, knew how to read [a



Bubba co-stars in *Army Wives* with Catherine Bell, left, a cast member on TV series *JAG*.

script], had an awesome way of teaching it."

Bubba left the College of Charleston to pursue a career in acting full-time, finding parts in several commercials and a "Lights, Camera, Charleston" feature filmed for Channel 2. However, opportunities in Charleston were very few and much farther in between. "Every time that I go on an audition, it's an entire day's worth of stuff. I have to drive to Wilmington, Charlotte, Atlanta or New Orleans. It's very stressful taking time off [from work] when you get calls for auditions the day before. It was all about sticking it out."

Bubba has an unnerving sense of confidence, and it's hard to imagine him wavering on anything, least likely his desire to act. He shifts in his seat, though, as he talks about the limitations of being a commercial actor. "I was really discouraged when I had a bunch of auditions and I wouldn't fit the part. Basically, I wouldn't be what they thought was an attractive young..." he pauses mid-sentence. "It was hard not being what [casting directors] wanted people to see. And what pissed me off was that there was this hurdle that I had to cross: I couldn't get across the commercial side of acting."

A bit part on *One Tree Hill*, the popular high-school television series, was particularly disappointing. "I had this huge scene with Chad Michael Murray. Told all my friends about it. Had to sit through *One Tree Hill*," he says, grimacing. "And they cut the scene. There was one shot of me blowing up a toaster [slang for smoking pot]. That was it. I had to tell everyone, like, 'sorry, y'all.'" Discouragement was not limited to disappointing jobs. "I had this girlfriend who was yelling at me because I wasn't progressing at school. There were so many different people who told me 'this is not a career. You will not make a career out of this. One in a million people makes a career out of this.' I wanted to quit. I really did. I took a year off to get my schoolwork done at Trident [Technical College]."

Less than a year later, he got a call about an audition for *Army Wives*. What made him return to acting? He lights up: "I have a passion for this. It's something I have a knack for. If I get away from it, I get this urge, this little thing, and I got to do it. It's the creative bug in me and I can't get rid of it."

Getting back into auditioning required stamina, and at times, creativity. "I was actually told I couldn't go on the [*Army Wives*] audition by the place where I was working. I had already gone on two auditions that week. So I walked out of the bathroom with my cell phone and was like 'my brother just hit his head on the diving board! He's bleeding everywhere,' and so [my bosses] were like 'Go! Go!' I already had my change of clothes in the car."

"For a month I didn't hear anything about it, then I got a call back. They were trying to cast everybody from L.A. They cast me and they cast one other girl from Charleston. The pilot got picked up, which is awesome. It's crazy how many pilots they do as opposed to how many they pick up. This was the first big part I auditioned for—the first pilot I'd been in."

On the series, his character is an abusive son to an "army wife" played by Catherine Bell, a television actress who starred in the NBC series *JAG*. "Because of that dynamic they have to put me on the air," he said. "For her to grow as a character she has to get over my thing, my problem. We're on the fifth episode, and every episode I've been getting more and more lines, the part is getting bigger and bigger."

And, clearly, more exciting. "I had a kissing scene today with a girl. She's..." he grasps for the right way to put it. "She's pretty attractive. I have never been nervous. I don't get nervous. That scene made me the

most nervous I have ever been. I called Mr. Younts last night to talk about it."

Opportunities in music have also opened up recently. "It's something I can always fall back on. This is my objective: when I get out [to L.A.], to work on my acting and my music career. People tell me I sound a lot like Corey Smith. It's emo Jack Johnson, more of a rock campfire sound. "[The directors] wanted to know if I'd play guitar on [*Army Wives*], because it's a way for my character to want to get out of the army." Bubba plays a character who has been accepted to West Point but is having second thoughts. "They bought two Gibson guitars for me once they heard my demo. I've got two paths going right now."

Bubba has high hopes for the positive impact of *Army Wives* on America's view of the war. "It shows America what's been going on. The whole show is about the war in Iraq, and it's good for soldiers. I am essentially propaganda, not for the war, but for keeping spirits up in America."

"We represent the lives of people in the military. We represent the ideal man and woman figure of America. You can't sway. You can't make mistakes, that would be showing civilians that there is weakness in our army. There can't be any weakness in our army, being the world superpower. There are people in this world that are being oppressed. We are the superpower, we have to go help them. I'm for freedom for everyone. I'm for democracy, but obviously it comes with a price."

It's a political opinion not widely held in Hollywood, a fact he acknowledges with a certain amount of disdain. "You would think with the liberals' view in the media, [the show] would be about army wives cheating left and right, people talking crap. Take people like Sean Penn. He's an actor! What does he have to say about the war? People try to take the war and bring that back to fame."

Fame and the price of success are points of conflict for Bubba. He will have to move to L.A. for work, a place he calls



The early days: Bubba performs his SOA senior thesis, *And All Was Well*.

[Continued on page 13]

Where were they then?: Mr. Younts

By Amber Caparas

Amber Caparas: *Where were you born and where did you grow up?*

George Younts: I was born on Chicago's Southside and spent my formative years till college back and forth between the Northwest Illinois area and the outskirts of Chicago. Wellington Park, Lake Villa, Freeport and Mt. Carroll are some of the towns/suburbs I lived in due to my father's appointments. He was

a Methodist Minister.

AC: *What were you like as a child?*

GY: Pretty curious and busy. I always had some type of project going on. Building or making something. Exploring the

outdoors. I was always, as my mom use to say, "Getting Busy."

AC: *What would you say impacted you the most as a child?*

GY: Our family's TV broke down when I was around eight and we didn't have one for about four years. So without it I got even more "busy." It also resulted in a strong drive to create and an exploration of many different interests all the way through high school: magic, comedy, tap dancing, inventing, football, masking tape/cardboard boxes, gymnastics, biking, running, garage sales,



Mr. Younts, one year old, poses with his parents and his older brother.

carpentry, boxing, theatre, wrestling, kites, Boy Scouts, music and the library.

AC: *Do you remember what you wanted to do growing up?*

GY: It changed a lot. Magician, musician, comedian, gymnast, woodman, doctor, actor, clown and a dancer (like Gene Kelly) or a running back (like Walter Payton).

AC: *What college(s) did you attend and what were your majors?*

GY: B.A. in Theatre from Illinois Wesleyan in Bloomington, Illinois and did a little work on a M.F.A. at DePaul in Chicago.

AC: *Did you participate*

in any of the decade appropriate activities?

GY: My parents didn't buy me the big wheel, skateboard, banana seat bike or roller skates that I wanted in the 70's. But I probably wouldn't be here now if they had. I had a yo-yo though! In the 80's my collars were turned up for a bit but no mullet or preppie wear.

AC: *What happened after college?*

GY: I went to graduate school and wasn't really into it. So I quit and went to New Hampshire to put away money working as

a waiter at a resort. After that, it was off to the Big Apple, where I did the "young aspiring actor" thing.

AC: *When and why did you begin teaching and how do you like it?*

GY: I first began teaching as a summer camp counselor during college. Then years later in Athens, GA, I was training an improv

theatre troupe. After about four years of doing that and other part time teaching, I decided I wanted to do it on a more permanent basis. It turned out to be a good decision. Teaching theatre is very fulfilling. It's a great way to learn about new things and develop a versatility of skills, if one chooses to do so.

AC: *What are your life's biggest milestones?*

GY: I don't know. That's a loaded question which could go several ways.

AC: *Any regrets?*

GY: Should have stayed with the tap dance lessons.

AC: *What are you most proud of in your life?*

GY: In my 20's I worked for Theatreworks/USA, a children's theatre company based out of New York City in a touring

show about Jackie Robinson. I was part of a troupe of six touring all around the USA in a jammed-packed van full of sets, costumes and luggage. Many a time, while watching the landscape fly by through the Chevy van windows late at night, we would echo to each other the following sentiment: "You know, wouldn't it be nice to settle

down some place, where you could perform, direct, design, teach, create theatre and make a full time living doing it?" And now, over 15 years later, I can truly say that I've been doing so.

AC: *What are your future plans/goals?*

GY: Over the last four years I've been working as a director/designer outside SOA. However, recently I've gotten back to performing because of a nagging feeling that those

skills might be "shriveling up." As a result, this past December I did a one person show and found the process to be really gratifying. So besides getting a Masters and getting back into shape (a yearly, recurring goal), I have a couple one person show projects that I'm working on now.



Mr. Younts kept his collars "turned up" as a high schooler in the 80's.

One-on-One with Joel Hamilton [continued from page 8]

By Amber Caparas

AC: *Who do you look to for inspiration?*

JH: I guess I usually don't try and look for inspiration...it usually finds me and that's when it is the most authentic. It usually comes in the form of something painful...or hilarious....or extremely depressing....or exciting....you get the idea....or for instance...good and evil.... and the battle that goes on between them around us...and within us....

AC: *What are your favorite bands?*

JH: Some of my favorite and most inspirational artists include Jeff Buckley, Bob Dylan, Ryan Adams, the Counting Crows, Iron and Wine, Pedro the Lion/David Bazan, The Beatles, there are many more....

AC: *What is the best piece of advice you have ever been given?*

JH: Pants first then shoes.

AC: *What advice would you give to any young artists trying to break into the industry?*

JH: I would urge you not to worry about breaking into any kind of industry and just do what you love and do something that is from yourself and original and makes you happy. Play as many shows as possible and treat everyone with respect that you come in contact with.

AC: *How did your time at SOA affect where you are right now?*

JH: SOA definitely provided me with a great environment to learn and develop my skills and meet creative and inspirational people that have meant a lot in my life. That sounds kind of cliché now that I read it but its very true....being able to just immerse myself in music and learn

new music and instruments and learn the theory behind music, that has made it easier to do what I do.

AC: *What are you passionate about other than music?*

JH: I really enjoy playing soccer. I'm generally a pretty competitive person and love playing sports when I get the chance. We always bring a football and tennis rackets on tour.

AC: *What do you like to do during down time?*

JH: Sleep....that doesn't happen too well or often on the road....play soccer.... we've been home for a little while and I have been playing soccer 2-4 days a week with this pickup league thing that I found. It's really nice. I like to find high things to jump off of into bodies of water....it's amazing....I do it too much....I think

I'm addicted....I'm going to look that up and see if it's a real addiction....I don't recommend it....my body hurts all the time. Your body will not thank you for jumping off a 70 foot cliff into water.... again and again.

AC: *What is the first thought that enters your mind when you wake up in the morning?*

JH: I usually feel overwhelmed with things to get done—things that aren't getting done.

AC: *What matters the most to you in life?*

JH: Chicken.

AC: *What keeps you going everyday?*

JH: Family...friends...God's unwavering love...

Survey explores ethics, frequency of cheating at SOA Cheating attitudes vary among art majors and grade levels

By Blake Engel and Liz Gildea

After conducting both personal interviews and a standardized on-paper survey – both under the condition of anonymity – we have drawn some conclusions about SOA high school students when it comes to cheating. The results of this investigation were often humorous, sometimes surprising, and above all, they reflected much ambivalence in regards to the issue.

Just how rife or rare is cheating at SOA? In order to answer this question comprehensively, our survey presented it in three parts: How often do you cheat on homework? On quizzes? On tests? Predictably, the percentages of self-reported cheaters were lower for the higher-pressure assignments. While nearly 70 percent of respondents said they “usually” or “sometimes” cheat on homework, that number drops to somewhere between 30 and 40 percent for quizzes; and only about 20 percent of respondents claimed to routinely cheat on tests.

In order to better interpret the general statistics, we organized our results by major, gender and grade level. Interestingly, Creative Writing had a higher percentage than any other major of people who usually cheat on homework and quizzes; and the *only* people to report that they usually cheat on tests were creative writers. (Also, ironically, the only person of all 161 respondents who reported to have plagiarized an entire essay was indeed a creative writer.)

Of all the majors, Piano and Dance had the highest percentage of respondents – 6 of 7 in each – who said they never cheat on tests. On the other hand, only 3 of 18 Theatre majors said they never cheat on tests.

There were notable differences in frequency of cheating among the four grade levels. In the homework, quizzes and tests categories, the percentages of students who “sometimes” or “usually” cheat is higher among sophomores than among freshmen; and the same statistic is lower among seniors than among juniors. This data leads to two (highly speculative) conclusions: 1. that there may be a pattern of experience whereby students lose

their academic integrity then regain it as graduation nears; and 2. that the classes of '07 and '10 are less likely to cheat than '08 and '09.

SOA students, according to our data, are unlikely to report their peers for cheating. Only three percent of survey respondents said they would report someone, compared to sixty-three percent who said they would not. Sixteen percent weren't sure, and eighteen percent said they only would report someone they didn't like.

Is cheating even a matter of integrity? Do people base their decision to cheat or not to cheat on a fixed ideal, or on the anticipated consequences of a certain situation? This, we decided, is the core question of our survey.

On paper, the query read, *Which of the following would keep you from cheating?: a. Fear of negative consequences. b. personal morals/ethics.* The results were split almost 50-50, with personal morals favored by a small margin. A portion of respondents said that both would be effective deterrents. Other students gave the humorous but logical response that studying would be the best preventative.

We also asked a slightly different question, “Do you consider cheating immoral or unethical?” 32 percent said yes, 14 percent said no, and 53 percent said it depends on the reason for cheating.

When this question was raised in the face-to-face interviews, many were hesitant and uncertain. Some people replied after only a moment of thought. Most students turned to consult their friends before giving a definitive answer – which suggests that kids take their moral cues from one another.

“It depends,” or “to a certain extent” were common initial responses. One person gave an example: “If your teacher gives you a bajillion things to do, and you split it up with someone... it's not *immoral*.”

“You have self-control,” one girl said. “You do certain things in certain environments.” She noted that she'd cheated at a school she used to at-

tend but has never cheated at SOA.

In face-to-face interviews, we asked students why they *would* cheat. Some cited laziness and lack of motivation; others, general unpreparedness. Still others referred to “grade paranoia” – which, it appears, motivates even the hardest workers to sneak peeks at their classmates' work. “There are smart cheaters,” said one student who gets consistently high grades. “They don't rely on it to do well. They just use it for insurance.”

Apparently, then, not everyone uses cheating as a way to avoid hard work or compensate for work they neglected. Rather, it's a matter of comfort. “Just knowing someone got the same answer makes me feel better,” said the aforementioned student. A few interviewees went as far as to call cheating a necessary evil.

“If you don't cheat, you're at a disadvantage,” said one junior.

Eleventh grade English teacher **Ms. Jane Marshall** would take exception to that last statement, at least in regards to discussing a test outside of class with those who haven't yet taken it. “Telling each other answers – I consider that cheating, but honestly I don't care,” Ms. Marshall said. “...I don't find that it helps. They don't do better.”

Ms. Laura Tisdale, the U.S. History teacher, said she was never compelled to cheat when she was in high school. “It was sort of an ego thing for me, I thought my work was better than someone else's,” she explained. She added that she felt close to her teachers and didn't want to jeopardize those relationships.

“A serious consequence of cheating is broken trust,” said vice principal **Ms. Myrna Caldwell**, who taught eighth grade English here at SOA before becoming an administrator. “As educators, I believe our responsibility is to teach students to make better choices. Students must be helped to recognize the long-term negative consequences of cheating, even if their cheating goes undetected in the short-term.”

Cheating reflects poor character

By Blake Engel



Cheating works.

It's another way to get ahead, to achieve success and by using it, one could very well succeed. But after either feeling guilty or getting caught, you may begin to question cheating and ask, “Is cheating wrong?” In its most basic sense, “wrong” can be described as what goes against all else and is inherently unjust. As such, bad, as it applies within the parameters of SOA, is defined by the school board. Therefore, cheating is “wrong” because it is explicitly stated in the student handbook that cheating is not acceptable. Furthermore, in the teacher handbook, first on an eleven-page list of student violations and their respective, appropriate disciplinary action, cheating is defined as “cheating on class assignments” or “forging notes.”

But who cares about that? Of course, we *should* and, at times, we do care. When we cheat, we are aware that it is unfair. Nevertheless, we continue to cheat by and large because we want to avoid negative consequences, generally failing grades, angry teachers, or angry parents. What these threats hold in common is fear – fear of what may happen if we don't do what is “right.” Clearly, however, there is another option.

You don't have to cheat. The effort required to cheat can instead be focused into activities that many students find painful, like studying. Numerous people who populate the SOA campus have never cheated. Other people cheat on a regular basis, be it with certain classes, teachers, or tests. This decision is based on a person's will – his will to get ahead or his will to do what is “right.”

One's will is the defining factor for change. Your personal ethics – your work ethic, your moral ethic – are the defining traits of your character as a student. They can help you to achieve success in any arena. The only real threat to your progress as a morally inclined student is yourself.

You can choose not to cheat or to cheat. Cheating is not the complete definition of a person, but it shows what he is prepared to do once he encounters obstacles in life. It is a problem that needs addressing. Is it good or is it bad? If you don't let fear define who you are as a person, then whatever you believe is right will define your character. And hopefully your definition of “right” is characterized by honesty and fairness.

On a Life Well Spent: a Brighter Retirement

By guest writer Logan Wells

On a Life Well Spent, Marcus Tullius Cicero, Penguin Classics, 136 pages. \$10.20.

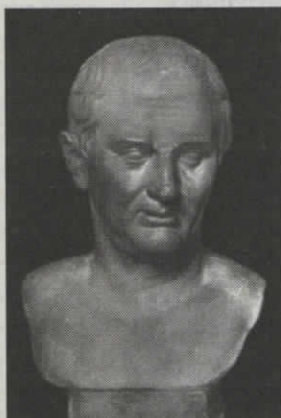
For one who fears growing old, *On a Life Well Spent* enabled me to look forward to my grandfatherly days. This classic piece of philosophy has been read for centuries by both nobles and paupers seeking to ease their fears of old age. Written by Cicero in his sixties, this first person narrative relates the conversation he has with three fellow politician-philosophers regarding his "ripe old age" and the satisfaction and contentment he finds as he nears the end of his life. For most of us, we fear growing old because of the infirmity and the inability to do the things we once did. In a wonderfully reassuring tone, Cicero explains how he actually *prefers* his gray years to his younger days. This is the book that will make you look forward to getting old.

If I had but one complaint for *On a Life Well Spent*, it would be the prolonged use of very antiquated language. There are those among us who enjoy such things, as I do, but if you are more familiar with "cool" and "aight" then you might find this book a pinch difficult to comprehend. Here's an excerpt to prove my point: "His latter Days were more happy and glorious than his preceding Life, that he was more illustrious in himself, and clothed with greater authority freed from the Toil that commonly feeds it." In essence, this statement means, "His older days were greater than his

younger; he was more alive and honorable without having to do something to confirm it." If that wasn't readily obvious for you, you're going to have some trouble as this is the only English version of the pamphlet, translated by Benjamin Franklin in 1774.

Cicero lived between 106 B.C.E. and 43 B.C.E., during which he was an esteemed Roman lawyer, statesman, and magnificent orator, his speeches resounding in Rome's halls for centuries. In contrast to the reigning Julius Caesar, Cicero was a staunch opponent of dictatorships, which eventually led to his murder at the hands of Mark Antony. Despite many of his contemporaries' revilement of his beliefs, Cicero continued to stress his keystone proverb, that thought and deed transcended the physical, which is clearly evident in *On a Life Well Spent* when he speaks of pure thought versus debauchery.

From all angles, *On a Life Well Spent* is an incredibly fascinating piece of philosophy regarding life's stages. Be you fifteen, twenty, or eighty, you can experience an epiphany of virtuous aging. Although hard to understand at times, the book's theme, that old age is a wonderful thing, is quite easy to glean from the difficult language. I strongly urge any readers of philosophy to pick up *On a Life Well Spent*; it will create new perspectives on aging and how to look forward to it.



This bust of Cicero was made when he was around 60 years old.

An exciting trilogy of upcoming movie trilogies

By Amber Caparas

Spiderman 3: Black will be the new red on May 4th



It finally seems as if Peter Parker (Toby Maguire) has managed to balance his life as both human and hero; but as soon as things begin looking up, Peter is confronted with his greatest challenge yet. When his red Spidey suit mysteriously mutates black, Peter is overcome by a dark force of power, aggression, and vengeance. Under the suit's control, Peter begins to neglect the people he cares most about, including his beloved Mary Jane (Kirstin Dunst). Additionally, Peter's best friend, Harry Osborn (James Franco), teams up with two of the most-feared villains, Sandman and Venom, to destroy Spiderman once and for all. Forced to choose between the seductive black suit and the red Spidey hero everyone loves, Peter's battle begins within. **Rated PG-13.**

Shrek the Third: On May 18th the wait is over



The last thing Shrek wanted was to rule Far Far Away; but when his father-in-law finally croaks, Shrek must either find another suitable ruler or be forced to spend the rest of his days royally screwed. The most promising candidate for kingship is Princess Fiona's uneracheiving teenage cousin, Artie (Justin Timberlake), who turns out to be much more of a problem than Shrek (Michael Myers), Donkey (Eddie Murphy), or Puss in Boots (Antonio Banderas) had bargained for. **Rated PG.**

Pirates of the Caribbean 3 sets sail May 25th



In *Pirates of the Caribbean 3: At World's End*, we find our heroes, Will Turner (Orlando Bloom) and Elizabeth Swan (Kiera Knightly), allied with Captain Barbossa (Geoffrey Rush) in a desperate attempt to free Captain Jack Sparrow (Johnny Depp) from Davy Jones' locker. All the while, Davy Jones and his ghost ship, *The Flying Dutchman*, are wreaking havoc across the seas under the control of the East India Trading Company. The stage is set for a battle of titanic proportions as pirates unite in Singapore to fight for their existance in a rapidly changing world. **Rated PG-13.**

On the Roster: Local May concerts

- 09- Godsmack @ North Charleston Performing Arts Center
- 19- George Clinton and Parliament Funkadelic @ The Plex
- 20- Alison Krauss @ North Charleston Performing Arts Center
- 26- Sister Hazel @ The Windjammer

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Horoscopes
By the SOA Astrologer

Taurus (April 20 – May 20): You will find love on Flag Day, but you will have to climb a thirty foot greasy pole to reach it.

Gemini (May 21 – June 21): If Dr. Price asks you for some Polonium-210, just say you've never worked for the KGB and walk away quietly.

Cancer (June 22 – July 22): Volunteer for Stanley Milgram's new experiment.

Leo (July 23 – August 22): If you're hunting birds, aim away from the storks because falling babies can really put a dent in your head.

Virgo (August 23 – September 22): Tomorrow is the official Hug Smelly Strangers Day.

Libra (September 23 – Oct. 22): We here at *Applause* do not endorse Chuck Norris jokes because we do not believe humor and Chuck Norris exist within the same dimension.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21): If you really want to get revenge on your enemy, run his or her life-support system on a Mac.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21): Politics is the cause of and solution to all of life's problems. Except gangrene – we can't help you on that one.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – January 5): If you find any food outside of the cafeteria, back away slowly, do not touch it, and find the nearest responsible adult.

Aquarius (January 20 – February 18): Before summer begins, make a promise that you will visit the grave of Marlon Brando. When you get there, light some candles and say seven "I'll make him an offer he can't refuse" and two "capiches."

Pisces (February 19 – March 20): If someone's barking at the moon one night and keeping you awake, tell them that Ozzy's not in town, so stop pretending you can hear his voice.

Aries (March 21 – April 19): Patience is a virtue, but if you're being chased by a wild horde, it's just a liability.

Stylewatch: Help Mr. Younts find his Sundresses hero, Sigmund Freud!

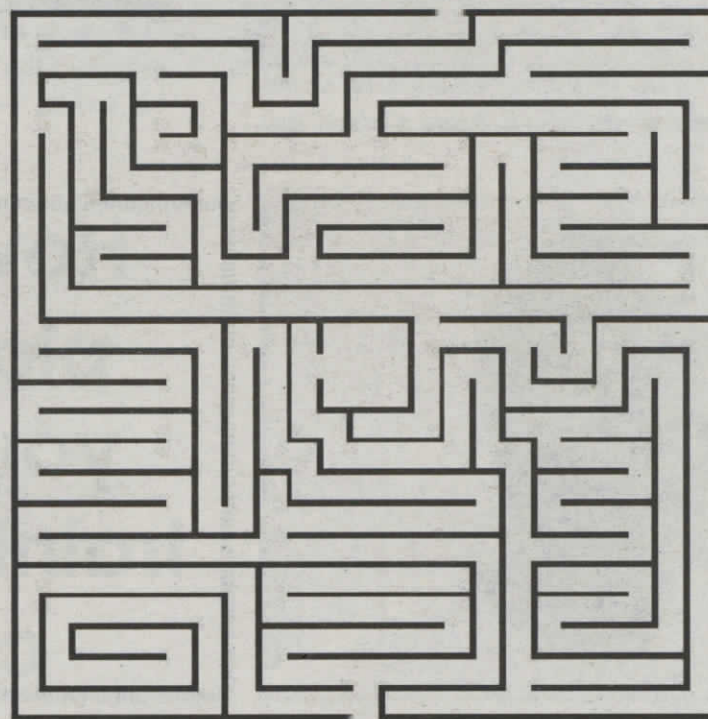
By Kristin de Herder



Sophomore Anastacia Timina gears up for summer in a sundress.

As I'm sure you have already noticed, it's May. More importantly, there is only one more month until summer! I know, it's pretty exciting. I would love to ramble on about all the different reasons I love summer, but this being a fashion article, I'll stick to one of my favorite aspects, sundresses.

Sundress can really come in handy when the Southern sun is beaming down on you. From white eyelet, to pastel pink; sundresses come in all different colors, patterns, and styles. You can dress them down, with a cute pair of flip-flops, or dress them up, with a flashy pair of heels. For a great summer look, try pairing a cute, casual sundress with a pair of rope espadrilles and shell-chandelier earrings. Sundresses are cute, fun, and flirty; what's not to love.



What a cool guy!

Sudoku

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

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



Photos by Ashley Sagan

"I want to be in an orchestra and travel many places with it." -Rebecca Culver, 6th grade



"I want to use my major to go into acting in movies. Don't hate when you see me on the big screen." -Gabrielle Jenkins, 7th grade



"I want to use my art major to become an architect." -Joey Dixon, 8th grade



"I plan to use my experience in the band major to become a professional musician." -Demetrius Doctor, freshman

How do you plan to use your artistic training in your career?



"I am going to use my art major, visual arts, in 3D animation." -Wade Judy, sophomore



"I plan on using the vocal major at SOA to major in musical theatre in college and becoming good enough to be in a musical." -Cordell Mosteller, junior



"I'm going to open an art gallery." -Brooke Warden, senior



"Every art has some sort of discipline. I hope that my students apply the discipline that it takes to learn an instrument, to whatever future endeavors that they have." -Mr. Charlton Singleton, middle school Band teacher

