

# APPLAUSE

Volume 12 Issue 3 School of the Arts 5109 W. Enterprise St., North Charleston, SC November 18, 2010





## School Calendar

### November

Thur. 18 - HS Piano Recital, 6:30 PM, Rose Maree Myers Theater  
 Fri. 19 - MS Piano Recital, 6:30 PM, Rose Maree Myers Theater  
 Fri.- Sat 19-20 - Lowcountry Region Orchestra, Cain Bay High School  
 Sat. 20 - Creative Writing Reading, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM, Barnes & Noble, Mt. Pleasant  
 Mon. 22 - Musical Theater presentation, 6:30 PM, Rose Maree Myers Theater  
 Tues. 30 - High School Orchestra Thankful Concert, 6:30 PM, Rose Maree Myers Theater

### December

Thur. 2 - HS/MS Band "Holiday Prism" Concert, Rose Maree Myers Theater  
 Tues. 7 - Composition Performance, Rose Maree Myers Theater  
 Wed. 8 - Senior Thesis Performance 2, Rose Maree Myers Theater

## Editor's Note



Fall is finally here in South Carolina and with it comes jackets, Thanksgiving, and the third issue of *Applause*. This month, we have brought you a wide variety of news, stories, and information affecting

you as well as our community. Thank you to our supporters, new and old alike.

Thank you to our staff and guest photographers for capturing all the fun of Spirit Week for our centerfold. Congratulations to our visual artists whose work was recognized at the Coastal Carolina Fair, and thank you to our honorary staff member, Gabby Wolfe, for another exceptional cover.

Please email *Applause* with your feed back at [hailey@soa-applause.com](mailto:hailey@soa-applause.com). We love to hear from you!

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Cover art by  
 Gabrielle Wolfe



## Jefferson Service Club awards two students for the month of November

By Shaless Robinson

### Alyssa Johnson

**Alyssa Johnson** began community service when she was twelve years old. She frequently volunteered on Mondays during the summer to serve lunch to families with Tri-County Family Ministries, a non-profit organization that gives groceries, food and clothing for families in need.

Alyssa also attended a Mission Trip with her church's youth group. During the trip they stayed at a beach house and completed local service work which included helping an elderly couple with their garden and



lawn. Alyssa and her volunteer team members pulled weeds, mowed the grass, and took vines off of the couple's fence. They also replenished an oyster bed which she considered the hardest task because during the all of the unloading, loading, and replenishing, it was heavily raining.

Alyssa has continued to work with TriCounty Family Ministries and enjoys "seeing the people's faces when we give them a hot meal, a bag of groceries, and clothing to wear. It's a great experience."

### Shatika McCullough

**Shatika McCullough** has been volunteering since she was in elementary school. Lately, she has spent every day after school helping to tutor children at an after school program called Metanoia Civic Leaders. Shatika realized that she wanted to continue volunteering when she saw that she could help people in need in her community. Shatika says that she "didn't mind giving some time to be the one to help."

Her first major project was when she and a group of friends went on a service trip with the students that she tutors. They painted houses for the under-



privileged, read to the elderly at a local retirement home, and picked up trash around the area. Shatika feels that you "get self satisfaction from serving others...It makes people feel good inside that they were able to help someone out."

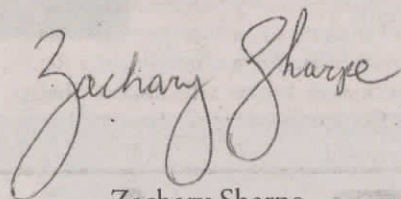
Lately, Shatika has helped her community lead a Save the Earth Campaign, where they picked up trash. She has also participated in a food drive with her church. Other service projects that she has done are fixing up homes for lower income families, and giving free art lessons to younger students that were interested in art.

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## Letters to the Editor

The recent Jefferson Club Food Drive created much excitement in our school. The club was eager to raise cans, thinking of creative ideas to reach their desired goal of 3250 pounds of food. The goal was easy enough; five pounds for every high school student. And with the Jefferson Club hosting a week of exciting events geared to raising cans, the goal should be no problem. Unfortunately, this wasn't the case. A deeper look shows that we failed as a school to reach our goal. Here's the math: The final weigh in showed that SOA raised only 2193 pounds of food. That's nearly 1057 pounds shy of our goal. Not to mention 600 pounds of food raised came from one student's private donation. So, in all actuality, our school raised 1593 pounds of food. That's half our intended goal. Our minimal efforts managed to get us second place in the Lowcountry Food Bank's annual Charleston County Student Food Drive. Which raises the question, why were we so unsuccessful as a school, or even a county, at helping out such a simple cause? Where did we drop the ball? And why were we not able to join together as a school to rise to the occasion? It's not my intention to scold or to make anyone feel guilty, but I would simply like to point out that, though our intentions were good, our efforts to help this cause failed miserably.



Zachary Sharpe

## Applause

the official student publication of

**Charleston County School of the Arts**

*Founded in 1995 by Rose Maree Myers*

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## Editorial

### No Shave November

The changing of the leaves and the chill in the air can only mean one thing—No Shave November. As the name suggests, during November many men, and women, choose not to shave. Every day shows thicker whiskers and by the end of the month, many men display full bushy beards.

The cause behind the beard is often lost in the midst of the excitement. The salvation of razor blades is supposed to promote and raise awareness for men's health issues such as prostate cancer and depression. These are very serious problems that effect many men today. So, this month when you see a man with a nice bushy beard, or a woman with unusually prickly legs, complement them on their growth and thank them for supporting this important cause.

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## Joey Dixon honors Ms. Slowinski

By Shaless Robinson

Ms. Cecilia Slowinski was a dance instructor at School of the Arts from its beginning in 1995 until her passing this August. Mrs. Slowinski inspired many students with her passion and kindness during her forty-year career, and not only dancer majors. Senior visual arts major **Joey Dixon** was inspired by his friendship with Ms. Slowinski to create a sculpture in her honor. Dixon says that he created the sculpture because of "the strength and inspiration that Mrs. Slowinski brought into this school every day." Joey, who enjoyed daily conversations with Ms. Slowinski, believes "the sculpture being placed on campus will hopefully show students and visitors what SOA is about and how teachers and students inspire each other."



Joey Dixon with the sculpture he made in honor of Ms. Slowinski

Ms. Slowinski was married to Mr. Allen Brehm, who teaches Government and Economics at SOA. When Mr. Brehm first found out about the statue he was "overwhelmed with wonderment and appreciation." He went on to explain that "Joey's use of metal has special importance. Beyond dance, Cecilia was a good amateur visual artist and she had her mind set to one day master welding techniques and work with metal sculpture." Currently the dance department and the Dance Booster Club, Clemson Extension, Clemson Master Gardeners, Cypress Gardens and Michaux Conservancy are working to find a comprehensive garden plan where Joey's statue for Ms. Slowinski can be placed.

## Congratulations to All-State chorus participants

By Shaless Robinson

SOA Vocal majors auditioned for All-State Chorus on November 8 and an astonishing 45 students were chosen. In March of 2011, the 45 vocalist will perform at Winthrop University.

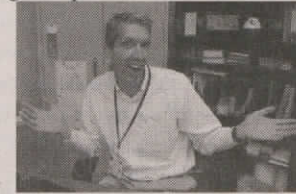
The vocalists that made All-State Chorus are as follows: Sophomores: **Nick Bentz, Ally Black, Harrison Carr, Troy Cyzman, Melodi Detamore, Alexandria Grant, Khari Lucas, Tiffany Martin, Jana Miley, Ashley Patrick, Maddie Peralta, Julia Woodward**, Juniors: **Allie Augustine, Helen Berry, Alex Enter, Savannah Evans, Wesley Hogue, Samantha Hord, Kim Johnson, Laura Johnson, Sarah Kroll, Hayley Malone, Lizz McMichael, Logan Williams**, Seniors: **Rachel Anthony, Caroline Britt, Jordan Brown, Tyler Chambers, Christin Darling, Whitney Graham, Emily Hores, Karl Heitman, Alex Martindale, Kitty Rice, Marcus Shuler, Alan Smith, Kelsey Swatzyna, Linda Wozniak**.

In addition, the following students were selected for both All-State and the American Choral Directors National Choir: **Sabrina McIntyre, Jasmine Lynes, Alex James, JP Hart, Will Isaacson, Dale Bennett, Ethan Courville, Jess Rames, Sophie Ferguson, Logan Williams, and Michael Stevens**. Congratulations to all of our vocal majors!

## SOA welcomes Dr. Teseniar

By Allie Augustine

Dr. Mark Teseniar, the newest addition to our SOA family, has begun teaching Psychology and Arts and Humanities. He was born in Greenville, SC and grew up in Mt. Pleasant.



Dr. Teseniar loves to hike, bike and just be out in the sun. He used to be a fairly competitive age-group athlete in road running, bicycle racing and triathlon, but says "Nowadays I slog along to avoid the dreaded middle-aged spread." When he is not outdoors, Dr. Teseniar enjoys music, art, photography, and poetry. He also enjoys reading and usually has two or three books going at once. His favorite books include *Kite Runner*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, and *The Water is Wide*.

Musically, Dr. Teseniar likes to listen to everything from Led Zeppelin and Lynyrd Skynyrd to the positive vibrations of Bob Marley. Dr. Teseniar, who graduated from USC, remains a Gamecock fan. For the past eleven years he taught 7th and 8th grade Humanities at Buist Academy, but SOA is feeling more like a home to him every day.



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## AP students interview Pulitzer Prize winning poet

Students in Dr. Cusatis' AP English Literature class interviewed Pulitzer Prize winning Poet Philip Levine on October 28. Senior Jordan Baer arranged the interview as part of his independent study of Levine's poetry. Jordan shared his knowledge of Levine with his classmates, who read a selection of the poet's work prior to the interview. Levine, who is 82 years old, won the Pulitzer Prize in 1995 and the National Book Award in 1991. Here are a few excerpts:

**Jordan Baer:** Your poetry seems to be less blatantly angry than it was in the earlier collections. In what ways do you feel that your work has evolved?  
**Philip Levine:** You're right. I am less angry. Why am I less angry? Well, I would say the biggest reason why I am less angry is that I am much happier. When I was forty, and especially in my thirties, I saw myself as an outsider. And I never dreamed, well I take that back, I dreamed but I didn't think that those dreams would be fulfilled, that I would be, you know, an acclaimed writer and win major awards. I just didn't see it coming for me. I had no connections. I grew up in Detroit. I didn't go to a fancy school; I went to Wayne University, the city school of Detroit. And here I was, living in Fresno, which is a real dump. And it's many miles from centers of American culture. And so I viewed myself from that perspective. At about the age of 40, I started to be acclaimed. I got a better publisher; the books got more attention, and then the books got these awards. Also my children, I have two sons, they grew up and left and they're doing well. I always worried about them, espe-

cially during the Vietnam War when, I had two sons and there was the possibility of them being drafted and I was very anti-war. My oldest son had to register for the draft and they had a lottery, and he was lucky. He got a good number and he wasn't drafted. I didn't know what he would have done. He was eighteen, and he was anti-war. And America seemed, and actually was no creepier than it is today. I mean, it seems to me today America is a mess. We're ruining the environment; we're fighting two wars. I know the president said the one in Iraq is over, but it's not. Our meddling in other peoples' affairs has got us into great debt. So it isn't that different, but you know, the second time around it isn't killing me the way it did the first time. And America's still a racist society. Not to the degree it was then, and certainly not to the degree it was when I was a boy, growing up in Detroit when it was very racist. Detroit was a very racist city. It had two gigantic racial wars during my lifetime. So that changed.

**Free Kopsak:** You often discuss the dehumanizing effects of labor. Could you comment on the benefits of it, as well?

**PL:** Oh, sure. Well, when you look around, even where you're sitting. I don't know what your class-

room is like, but I would guess there are books there. Somebody had to work to write them, and more people had to work to produce them. You're sitting in chairs. Somebody had to—the metal—somebody had to find the ore, someone had to smelt it, someone had to transform it into steel or iron. Someone had to cut down the trees to make the wood that goes here and there. So, you know whatever you eat tonight someone produced with labor. But what I'm interested in, I'm not anti-labor, not at all. I still see myself partially as a working man. What troubles me was, as I was just describing how things were produced, when you work at an automobile factory, for example as I did, it wasn't nearly these elemental things, like rubber, iron, steel, and aluminum that were transformed. It was also the people that worked there who were transformed, and I would have to say used up to a large degree, by gigantic corporations who didn't give a hoot for their well being and paid them as little as possible, and got them to work as hard as they could. And I worked with these people and saw men and women who were old at the age of 50. Going to school, I looked at my teachers especially when I started college, and they were young at the age of

50—they were so energetic. That type of industrial labor was dehumanizing and, in a way, insulting because it was so tedious and boring and beneath the intelligence of a human being.

**Rebecca Fox:** Your most anthologized poem, "Animals Are Passing From Our Lives" is told from the point of view of a pig, or presumably the oppressed worker. Can you comment on the title?  
**PL:** Living in Brooklyn or Detroit animals have passed from our lives, and there is also this sense that we tend to downgrade our own animal nature, we tend to think of our own animal nature as something that has to be Thwarted or disciplined or trained; we don't take as much joy perhaps in it as we should, how delicious it is to be able to walk, to be able to sing, to be able to make love, all these things in a sense. I mean, I remember as a boy, for example, discovering in school that certain children were told that it was evil to dance, and it seems to me that dancing is sort of like singing, it is so essential to the human. We have been dancing and singing for thousands of years and certain kids who were my classmates came to school with the notion because we had dance lessons. You wouldn't find that today, I don't think, that we actually had dance lessons and some of the kids actually got excused from it because their families felt it was evil to dance. So, I think there is a way in which our animality, instead of being celebrated is being undermined, and in my view we are nothing without our animality. We're not computers; everything grows out of our animality and comes back into it.



Poet Philip Levine

## SOA supports Student Food Drive

### By Shaless Robinson

Our school recently contributed to the 2nd annual Lowcountry Food Bank Student Food Drive. The student food drive is a six-week hunger relief campaign that was created to increase volunteerism in high school students. The assignment was to plan events to publicize the food drive throughout the high school.

There was a week long campaign, Fall Harvest: Bring in the bounty, to raise money for the purchase of canned food. On Monday, students either donated at least five cans or bought tickets to pie teachers during lunch. **Eric Payne** made his turn an impromptu performance, holding up his pie and saying a few words, before hitting **Mr. Reinhart** to pie. The rest of the week included "CAN you bowl," "CAN you throw," and "CAN you dance?"



Mr. Clark, was a favorite

The week-long endeavor was a success and SOA ranked second in division B and raised enough food for a thousand needy people.

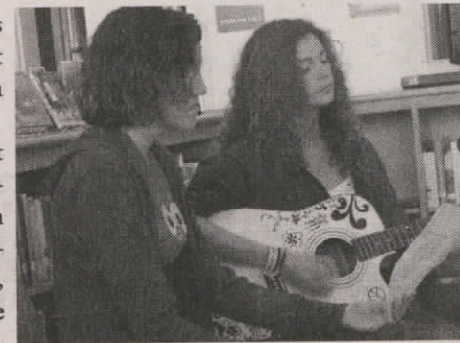
Raising the funds for the food drive was enjoyable and so was the closing event. SOA's Jefferson Club was able to get to know students from other schools who share their common effort to help people less fortunate. During the event there was a dance party and schools competed for free-lunch passes. They got the chance to meet some of the companies that helped to sponsor the event such as Federal Credit Union Young and Free SC, Dominoes pizza, Tyson, Live Five News, and the Post and Courier. Students involved also had the chance to meet the creators of the Student Food Drive concept.

## Open Mic night off to a successful start

### By Gordon Hay

On Thursday, October 21, 2010, Academic Magnet and SOA High School students packed the media center to watch their peers perform in the first "Open Mic" event. The event allowed high school students from both Academic Magnet and SOA to sing, read, or play instruments. Performances ranged from jazz, soft rock to rap and even a poetry reading.

The event opened with a jazz guitar performance from two Academic Magnet students. Next, **Charlie Martindale** and **Tory Roy** performed two soft rock songs with acoustic guitar and vocals, followed by **JC Chapman** and **JaRod Ascue** who sang a R&B duet. **Dallas Robinson**, **Eric Payne**



Charlie Martindale and Tory Roy performing.

and I performed a rap, sax, and scat combo. The final musical performance was a cover of "Feel Good, Inc." by the Gorillaz from **Stephen Corson**, **Dante Brown**, **Will Dodge** and **Khari Lucas**. **Haley Dixon** brought the event to a close with a reading of his original poem "Hard Times".

The media specialists were pleased with the event. They plan on hosting Open Mics nights in the future and plan to rotate holding the event during Academic Magnet and SOA's lunch periods. Also, they would like for the next "Open Mic" to be more poetry centered. **Mrs. Trott** commented, "Overall, it was a big success, but it will be organized a little differently next time."





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## A snapshot of theatre senior thesis

### By Chaisson Dangerfield

Senior Theatre students this year are performing their Senior Thesis in three parts. First, (showed on Monday, November 8th and Tuesday, November 9th) they performed the play *Snapshot*, starring every senior theatre major. Playing in about two scenes each (with the exception of "Monument"), the theatre majors rehearsed and worked hard to showcase their last class play at School of the Arts.

*Snapshot* is a collaboration of seventeen scenes written by seventeen different authors who all received the same picture of Mount Rushmore in Rapid City, South Dakota. The picture displayed tourists, cameras and binoculars in hand, looking up at the monument which is reflected in a building's large glass wall behind them. Each



Senior Tyler Wozniak performing in *Snapshot*.

of these seventeen scenes is unique in the fact that they reflect each playwright's own interpretation of the picture they received. The senior theatre class restructured the play

by separating some monologue scenes into two or three character scenes. Some students were interested in directing scenes within the play and were able to do so, displaying their creativity and direction ability under the supervision of Mrs. Link.

The class aimed to keep this play as representational (or real life) as possible, with the exception of one scene entitled "Bomb Squad" (which is shown as incredibly presentational and showcased theatre's musical talent in regards to musical theatre). All of their hard work and effort indefinitely paid off as they participated in the South Carolina Theatre Association festival and competition in Spartanburg, South Carolina at Converse College on November

13th. The Class's show prevailed at competition and an overwhelming congratulations goes to Javen Hodge and DeVante Lee who won All State Cast awards.

## Savannah Miller advances in Poetry Out Loud

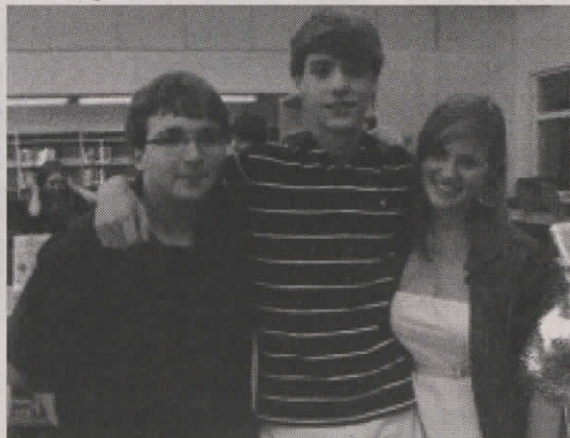
### By Cory Stegelin

On November 11, sixteen School of the Arts students recited poetry for Poetry Out Loud. The pupil who received the highest score from judges Jim Lundy of Monday Night Blues, Ellie Davis of Pressque Inc., and writer Susan Finch Stevens would represent SOA in the county wide competition which will be held downtown on January 19, 2011. That student was eleventh grade creative writing major **Savannah Miller** for her recitation

of "The Lost Land" by Eavan Boland and "Happiness" by Jane Kenyon.

Coming in second was tenth grade band major **Brent Hubbard** for his recitation of "Israfel" and "A Dream Within a Dream" by Edgar Allen Poe. In third place was tenth grade vocal major **Nick Bentz** for his recitation of "Strange Meeting" by Wilfred Owen and "A Display of Mackerel" by Mark Doty. According to Ms. Miles, "The

scores were all very close." What most likely set Savannah apart from her competitors was her preparation: "I prepared myself by rigorously memorizing both poems." She said "I used dozens of sheets of notebook paper and wrote each poem down until even the punctuation was perfect. Ms. Miles was also kind enough to help me understand each poem and let me recite it to her and her classes as many times as I wanted!"



Winners Nick Bentz, Brent Hubbard, and Savannah Miller

Congratulations Nick Bentz, Alex Berlinsky, Harrison Carr, Courtney Carrick, Miles Counts, Cooper Donoho, Joseph Dubay, Jacob Elsey, Samuel Funk, Jacob Hallex, Emily Hart, Brent Hubbard, Liz Kitchens, Alex Peebles, and Emily Thomas for making it to the school wide competition, and especially to Savannah Miller for making it to the county wide competition.



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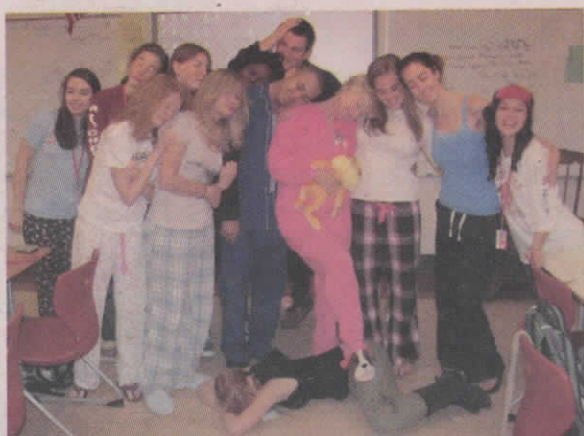


**Beginner Trail Rides:** This is walking ride meanders through the scenic woods, marshes and tidal creeks of Seabrook Island and lasts approximately one hour with brief pre-ride pointers. There is no finer way to experience the beauty of Seabrook Island. Advance reservations are required.

**Advanced Trail Rides:** A trail ride that includes walk, trot and canter. Advance reservations are required.

**Beach Rides:** This exhilarating ride tours the North Beach area and is for advanced riders only. The rider must have a minimum of two to three years riding experience and have good control at a walk, trot and canter. Advance reservations are required.





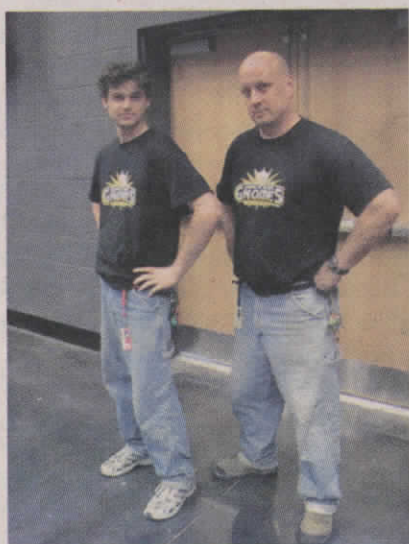
Staying a wake in Mrs. Passarello's class is tough when the teacher is asleep too!



Seniors **Becca Fox, Lizzie Caulder, Kenna Raelyn, and Dana-Leigh Gilg** show off their team spirit of Sports Day.



Seniors, **Whitney Javonna Alexander** in PJs.



**Austin Cope** dressed as his role model, **Mr. Younts**.



**Noelle Ikemoto** was able to snuggle with her favorite stuffed animal all day on Pajama Day.

# SPIRIT

20



**Ryan Labadie** in his "weekend" outfit.



Vocal majors show where their loyalties lie.

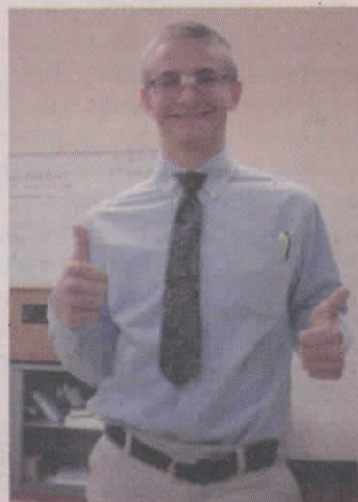


**Madison Smith** as Little Bo Peep on Fictional Character Day.

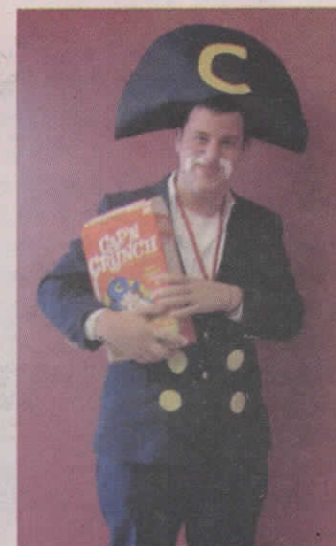




Eighth grade girls took a trip back to the 80's on Non-Fictional Character Day.



Twelfth grader, **Drew Corriveau**, letting his inner nerd show.



**Zachary Sharpe** made a fantastic Cap'n Crunch in the costume he made himself.

**T WEEK**  
**010**



The sophomore ping pong team wore their game day faces for Sports Day.



**Mr. Donnellon** got the chance to realize his childhood dream of becoming a pirate.



Our principal, **Mr. Reinhart**, dressed as *Applause's* own **Dr. Cusatis**.



Seniors **Marcus Shuler**, **Whitney Graham**, and **Charlie Martindale** showed their love for football.

showed off  
attire."



## Kings of Leon: *Come Around Sundown*

By Bailey Gaskin

The fifth album from classic rock gods, Kings of Leon, is nothing short of a stunner. Kings of Leon has always had a traditional, classic, "down south" rock style. However, recently we've been seeing a new stadium style from the band, like in their previous album *Only By the Night*. In *Come Around Sundown*, they are taking a step away from their chart-topping last album and creating a stir of not only positive, but negative feedback. *Come Around Sundown* is, to say the least, unexpected and a little tricky to analyze.

On first listen through, I was extremely surprised at how dismayed I was. This was not the Kings of Leon that I knew and loved! The songs were more gritty, more noise and less meaning. The same old-time sound that they had once used to their advantage had now become major hindrances. My heart sunk, to be truthful, for I adore every facet of Kings of Leon.

Listening to the songs a second time, I was greatly surprised to find out how much each track grew on me. No longer under the spell of hearing it for the first time,

## Paranormal Activity 2

By Chaisson Dangerfield and Bailey Gaskin

A classic horror movie has many distinct traits: innocent bystanders, an evil antagonist, and a freggin scary situation. It might even be worse, we'd venture, if you could not SEE this evil antagonist like the poor folks in *Paranormal Activity 2*. Starring a cast of barely known actors such as Brian Boland and Sprague Grayden, *Paranormal Activity 2* is one of those movies that will cause you to keep the lights on and your back against the wall.

A sequel to the horribly horrifying horror hit *Paranormal Activity*, this film uses the same basic style as its predecessor in order to tell the story BEFORE the story. The movie followed the Rey family as they dealt with...well...some paranormal activity. Fitting, eh? After a series of alleged break-ins, the Rey family installs security cameras throughout the interior and exterior of their home, only to find that what they believed to be break-ins where actually the work of something more ominous: demons.

Directed by Todd Williams, the

I began to pick out the positive attributes to each tune: Caleb Followill's twang, the playfully impressive guitar solos. This album has confidence. However weird it may be, *Come Around Sundown* weaves together but still shatters every single musical genre. It entrances you, the more you listen to it, in a wildly mysterious way; makes you close your eyes and just listen. Caleb, Matthew, Jared, and Nathan have done it again even if it isn't the same bluesy sound listeners are used to hearing.

As Joe Bosso of Music Radar said, Kings of Leon "may be the most genuine and least self-conscious band working today."

They have a way of breaking their own rules and rising from their ashes with a new and improved sound. *Come Around Sundown* is a tough cookie to chew, but the more you listen to HONESTLY, the better it becomes. All in all, both of my thumbs are up for this album and my wallet is out in preparation for concert tickets.

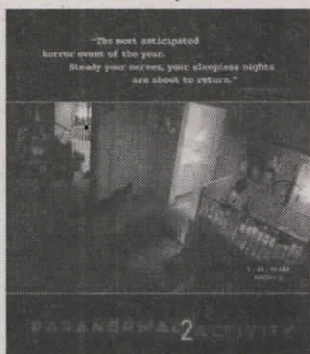
Download NOW!: "Pyro," "Pickup Truck," and "Back Down South"



Paranormal Activity movies are most known for their interesting filming style. Both were shot through the lens of either a handheld video camera or, in *Paranormal Activity 2*'s case, a security camera. This technique creates a much more realistic and quite creepy undertone to the film, making you feel like these happenings could actually occur in any household across the world...including yours... DUN DUN DUUUUUUUUUUUUN!

The acting was extremely realistic, especially from Molly Ephraim, a brown-haired teenage girl, whom you might recognize from *College Road Trip* (but that's not saying much seeing as her character is a brown-haired teenage girl).

The movie includes many different elements: humor, interesting viewpoints, and most importantly, fear. Although some scenes that were meant to be scary were terribly laughable (baby being lifted out of his crib by an invisible force), overall the fear you wanted is the fear you got.



## Savory Sushi and Catering Co.: The best of both worlds

By Hailey Bowers

∞ Enlightenment (excellent!) ☯ Zen (Average) ☮ Chi (not the best)

Location: Maybank Hwy, James Island

Type: Sushi and Southern

Grade: A

Zen Consensus: ∞

On a recent Friday night three friends and I departed to Savory Sushi and Catering Company on James Island. Situated in an area with many great restaurants, we were not sure if this was exactly what we were craving. Upon entering our apprehension was quickly dispelled. The interior is warm and cozy, only seating about 30 people. A large and beautifully painted dragon covered one wall of the small restaurant which added some flare.

The double-sided menu seemed to be slightly confusing. One side listed their tapas and sushi options while the other holds more traditional and southern foods. It took all of us an excruciating long time to choose our meals so, we ordered a salted edamame appetizer to share while we looked over the menu. As last minute decisions were being made, I took the time to look around and absorb my surroundings. There was a



very eclectic group of people in Savory that night; a family with younger children, the couple on a first date, the middle aged group drinking and talking about work, the refined older couple sipping on wine and, of course, four teenage art students.

Both the appetizers and our main courses arrived in a very timely manor, not leaving us starving or making us run late. The boys, considering the edamame enough,

green for the day, both got burgers, which were quickly devoured. The burgers were cooked perfectly to their specifications (rare and medium) as well as having great flavor. As for me, I chose the ideal vegetarian dish; a carrot dog and side salad. I must say it was delicious! The marinated carrot had a great flavor and texture while the bun was soft and warm. The salad was even scrumptious and I would recommend the carrot ginger dressing to all.

Savory offers a great meal in a wonderful atmosphere, as well as a menu that everyone is sure to enjoy. Next time you are on James Island I recommend you stop by and chow down.

## I read *The Scarlet Letter* and lived to tell the tale

By Savannah Miller

This one is especially for the juniors who muddled through every twist and turn of Dimmesdale, Hester, and Chillingsworth (or attempted, with a little assistance from Sparknotes).

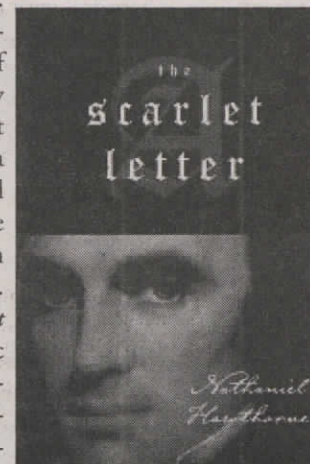
Look, several--ok, the majority of the junior class--may disagree with me, but there is definitely a reason that this novel is considered at the top of the American literature pyramid.

*The Scarlet Letter* is a romantic drama set in seventeenth century Puritanical Boston. Nathaniel Hawthorne critiques this lifestyle through the story of Hester Prynne, a young woman faced with bearing a child from an adulterous affair. As her punishment, Hester must wear

a scarlet "A" for adulterer on her bosom. In my mind, the plot played out like a modern day soap opera: the cheating wife and the vengeful husband, while the entire town is gossiping about who the unknown lover is, while he is secretly suffering with his sin. Hawthorne explores several themes in the *Scarlet Letter*, including guilt, sin, and revenge.

However, Hawthorne presents several obstacles in the form of ridiculous vocabulary. Examples include betwixt, ignominious, harangue, and phantasmagoric. Don't be intimidated. Through determination, I read *the Scarlet Letter* with Webster's by my side, and not surprisingly, my willpower helped me through the SAT this October.

*The Scarlet Letter* is a novel that everyone is required to read eventually, and through hard work, it is possible to finish. Don't give up and keep trying because when finished, you'll realize you actually enjoyed it.





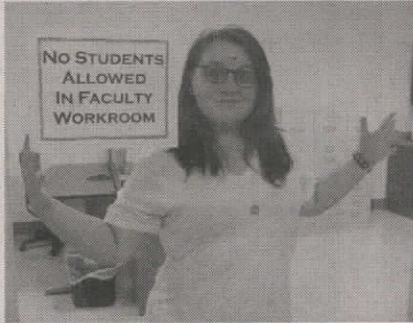
## Grow up and blown away

By Bailey Gaskin

Senioritis: \scene-your-eye-tus/ is a noun that, according to the Merriam-Webster dictionary, is "an ebbing of motivation and effort by school seniors as evidenced by tardiness, absences, and lower grades." Now, let's not lie to ourselves here folks. We have it. Send us to the doctor because we are ILL! Hold on; let me pull in my reins right quick. I understand that I'm speaking for the masses here, but to you select few who don't have senioritis...just stop reading now. WAY TO BREAK THE MOLD! One and only time it's not working out for you...

Anywhoozle, even as we speak, my senioritis is preventing me from writing this column.

In fact, it took me about four tries just now to even spell senioritiis...SEE! There I go. You have to see where I'm coming from here, ladies and gents. I am tired...absolutely ready to throw my extensive AP Lit poetry into the air and curse the name of the school system. The time has come, the walrus said, to move on to wider and greener pastures! However, my latest report card gives me hope for this school year. Read it and weep people: FOUR one hundreds. FOUR! That is unholy and unheard of. Granted, it is only the first nine weeks, but...I'm on a roll.



However, I empathize, my brotha. I know how it feels to be watching the clock, agonizing over every minute, and then hiding your report card from the parental units when you get home. PEP TALK TIME! Stick in there. Let me spit some advice your way, tormented soul: keep your grades high, your eyes on the horizon, and focus intently on your dreams. To be honest, only thing keeping me going is getting off to college (and all the cool stuff that Jostens sells out of those little booklets.) Picking a goal is the PERFECT tool to keep you motivated. Don't throw it all away yet. I have faith in you, ye of little incentive. All will come together in a perfectly tied knot in the end.

Did ya see what I just did there? By giving you ways to get out of the senioritis slump, I myself emerged with a fully written column. BRAVO. Anywhoozle, the days are long...well technically, not AS long, and the clock moves slow. I say we PUMP IT UP! RAISE THE ROOF! I expect to see a lot more dancing in the hallways. A lot more smiles. Maybe even silly string? Waste not one minute. End the monotony so that one day we can all grow up and blow away. (insert balloon imagery)

## Surviving a dysfunctional Thanksgiving

By Catherine Santos

Thanksgiving, a time to celebrate togetherness, happiness and eat good food: LIES AND SLANDER!!! Sure you do get to eat a delicious Meleagris gallopavo filled with stuffing, but there is always a threat lurking in your small suburb. Yes. I am talking about spending time with your family. Leaving the comfort of your own dwelling to brave the vast, harsh lands of wherever it is that your family lives. Somehow, I have managed to assemble a couple ways to cope with actually dealing with people.

If one of your cousins offers you food, especially homemade food, it is probably poisoned with arsenic or at least covered in salmonella. This first test is designed to break down your nerves so the rest of your family can bombard you with all sorts of terror, like fruit cake!

Aunt Pearl's bear hugs are designed to physically break you down. The bone crushing grip of her talons is meant to deprive you of air so you can succumb to her sloppy, germy kisses. Avoid her mole at all costs. That thing has a life of its own, I swear!

Do not bring your significant other with you. They will probably dump you after meeting your insane family. Not to mention if Uncle Tom starts polishing his rifle and saying that his eyesight is not as good as it used to be, your loved one will probably be a victim of one of those "accidents" that

everyone seems to hear about. Auntie Carol is clearly in denial about Uncle Tom's true nature.

Evade that evil Chihuahua that your Aunt has fallen in love with. Clearly it is only being friendly to you because it wants your food and perhaps your soul. Its big black eyes are used to suck the life out of unknowing older women. If it runs at you get a baseball glove and catch it. The leather will keep it from shredding your fragile fingers.

Don't bring anything you care about to that house. The house is like a mystery vortex. If you throw something in there chances are you will not get it back. Scientists still have not determined where the lost items end up. If you truly value that iPod, Nintendo DS, or homework do not bring it there.

Do not eat the Meleagris gallopavo. It will put you to sleep. An unconscious sleeping body is exactly what your family wants. That way they can take out the sharpies and draw all over your face and take embarrassing photos of your sleeping body.

Follow these simple rules and it is likely you will survive Thanksgiving with your dysfunctional family. If you follow them to a key then you probably will not suffer any major life threatening injuries. If you just stay home for Thanksgiving you'll obviously be fine unless someone puts a grenade in your stuffing.

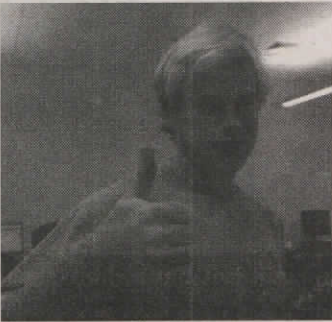


## Baldness

By Gordon Hay

Recently, I have discovered a new phenomena in our school hallways. This rare and previously unrecorded disturbance causes the victim to lose his hair. This baldness has affected almost 99.6% of the male high school teacher population. How does this happen? And how can we prevent this from happening to us?

First, let us define baldness. It is a state of mind where darkness and negative karma cause the hair follicles on the head to jump. It's proven that the hair follicles get so depressed that the only way they can cope with their problems is



by spiraling down five to six feet to an excruciatingly painful death. But how do these

teachers deal with their condition? The answer is by yelling at me. At least every single bald or balding teacher I have ever had has yelled at me multiple times, which brings me to the conclusion that every single teacher in this school is at risk of going bald. That's right,

I have figured out the theory behind baldness. You see Mr. Younts (who is the center of all Baldness) yelled at me so many times that I became the disease's recessive carrier. Due to it being a contagious disease, I have concluded that the baldness will spread to you if you yell at me. So I warn all the teachers in this school not to yell at me for anything anymore if they do not wish to go bald.



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**The Poem of Nothing**

by Zach High

this is a poem of nothing  
 a poem of nothing at all  
 for when you are done reading this  
 there will be nothing to recall

but what is nothing anyway  
 I found to my dismay  
 That when I thought to sought the  
 answer  
 The answer slipped away

I stopped to think another thought  
 The answer not too distant  
 For the answer to what nothing was  
 Was something nonexistent

Now you may think the riddle solved  
 But don't you stand too tall  
 For all you've read was a poem  
 A poem of nothing at all

**The Guest**

by Alexander Madison

A ringing in my ears,  
 a threshold overwhelmed,  
 the latest model movements  
 tweaked from routine  
 if only slightly  
 for common ease.

Cowardice,  
 shaking angrily  
 behind welcoming eyes.

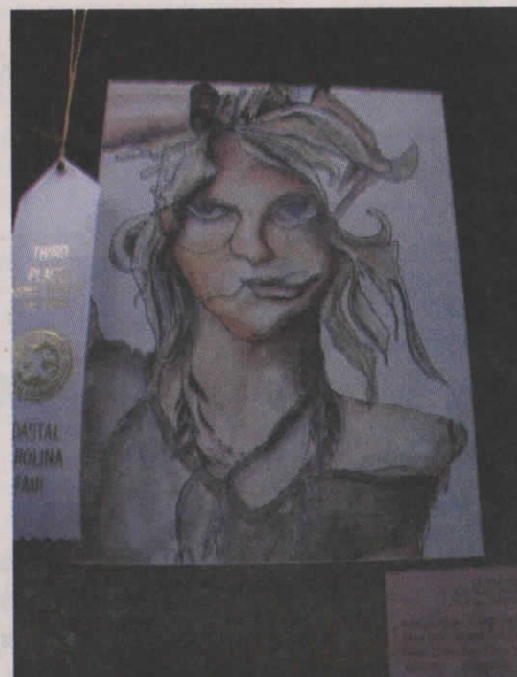
Hatred,  
 lurking beneath teeth  
 hidden inside a smile.

Fear,  
 Seen not a mere moment  
 amongst cheery chortling.

And a Tear  
 whisked away  
 by a wink  
 toward lingering departure.

I greet.  
 I grin.  
 I giggle.

A Glint in the eye,  
 a content goodbye,  
 and you'll never know.

**Congratulations to our Coastal Carolina Fair winners!****Louisa Ballou, 12th grade****Morgan Watts, 10th grade****Drew Corriveau, 12th grade****Cody McLellan, 7th grade**



## Where are they now: Caroline Johnson Clifton

By Cory Stegelin

*Applause's Cory Stegelin caught up with former SOA Theatre major, Caroline Clifton to find out how her life has been since graduation.*

**Cory Stegelin:** How did attending School of the Arts prepare you for the future?

**Caroline Clifton:** SOA really taught me how to laugh, and to see everyone through the hard times. Everyone there was (and still is) so caring, and I really learned how to read people just by hanging out with quite possibly the most eclectic group of people that could possibly be in a school. Being in the Fighting Gnomes helped me to learn to laugh at myself, and to take my life a little bit lighter, to not take everything quite so seriously. I can look at a bad situation, and when I get a chance to breathe, I let myself laugh.

**CS:** How did you further your education after SOA?

**CC:** After graduating from SOA in 2002, I went to USC Columbia to study some light computer programming and costume/makeup design. I also decided to switch my language study from French to Japanese. I still remember enough to get

around, and to help out foreign customers, though I need the occasional refresher course, which I do by studying independently with old textbooks and online courses.

**CS:** Did you pursue your art after SOA?

**CC:** While I haven't had much of a chance to get back onto the stage, I learned enough from my college courses in costume design that it helped me get a job at a local bridal shop as a tailor for about a year. They taught me a little bit more, about how to make things look better up close (there's a BIG difference between a formal gown and a stage costume!), and since then, I've been making Halloween costumes for my friends and family. This year, I made two Yip Yip costumes (the martians from Sesame Street), and I already have people asking me to make them one for next year!

**CS:** How are you currently spending your

life?

**CC:** I've been married for over 6 years, and have two beautiful kids. Tonya is 5 and at the top of her kindergarten class, reading like a champion. She also takes dance classes on the weekend, which I hope she'll use someday at SOA if we ever move back to Charleston, which I hope to do. Murphy is 3, and he absolutely idolizes his sister. When I take my breaks from work, he begs me to help with his "homework", which is when we sit down to read a book together. I currently work as a Lead Pharmacy Technician at the local CVS here in Hampton,

SC. I could walk there if I needed to; it's great. We help out so many people every day, and we have a great team.

**CS:** Do you still participate in your art in your life today?

**CC:** Improv theater is EVERYWHERE. I deal with hard-pressed situations on



## Where were they then: Ms. Touhri

By Chaisson Dangerfield

*Ms. Touhri, french and math teacher here at SOA, found time to sit down and talk about her beginnings.*

**Chaisson Dangerfield:** What were your childhood dreams/ aspirations?

**Juliana Touhri:** I was always interested in several careers: architect, teacher, or doctor.

**CD:** What high school(s) did you attend?

**JT:** I attended North High School in Sioux City, Iowa in ninth grade. After ninth grade my father got a job in South Carolina. So I finished high school at Furman High School in Sumter, SC.

**CD:** What was your first job?

**JT:** I started teaching on February 14, 1994 at a rural Sumter County school. I was a seventh grade math teacher.

**CD:** What colleges did you attend and what was your major?

**JT:** I attended Furman University in Greenville, SC where I got a B.A. in French with a minor in Mathematics.

I was a Math major until the middle of my junior year. I decided to change my major to French. I also got certified to teach French before graduating. I then went to USC in Columbia where I received a Master's Degree in French. As I was working on my Master's Degree I took the remaining few courses I needed to get certified to teach math as well.

**CD:** Why did you decide to come to SOA?

**JT:** I had been teaching in Sumter, SC. My husband and I decided that we wanted to move to a larger city in SC. I interviewed in both Columbia and Charleston. After visiting SOA, I decided that this school was where I wanted to teach. I liked the atmosphere and SOA has a great repu-

ration. I made SOA my first choice. When I was eventually offered the position teaching middle school French at SOA, I gladly accepted it.

**CD:** Did you or do you have any heroes or role models?

**JT:** My parents are my role models. My father is still a college professor and my mother taught elementary school for five years. They were always involved in volunteering to do community activ-

ities: neighborhood cleanups, recycling, tutoring at local schools. My siblings and I ended up doing a lot of the activities as well. We learned about giving back and how important it was to take care of people who were less fortunate. They also adopted four children, all of



the fly in the pharmacy constantly. I can usually tell when a customer is having a rough day, and can talk my way through most situations without causing trouble, or even calm people down when another tech has made the customer upset. It's also helped me to remember people's names, which may not seem like much, but it really does help a person out when someone they barely know remembers them upon walking up to the counter. They can be sick and pale, barely able to drive up to the pharmacy because their eyes are watery from a sinus infection, a fever that keeps them shivering... knowing their name makes it all better for that brief moment, where they manage to push out one smile.

**CS:** Any advice for students who are heading off to start the rest of their lives?

**CC:** Keep moving, keep going, no matter where you are. Do you have a regret in your life right now? Rectify that, ASAP. Make it known what you want, what you need. And learn Spanish. That's my next step, haha! I miss you, SOA... I send all my love.

whom were older than my two brothers and me (5, 8, 9 and 16) and who had been through a lot before they came to our home. We lived very simply growing up. We gardened, canned food, raised chickens, collected eggs, heated the house with wood, composted, etc. We had to work together to make ends meet. My father rode a bike to work for years before we got a car. My mother made a lot of our clothes or we got hand me downs. We learned to be not only satisfied with less material things but to appreciate what we had.

Being from a big family (four brothers and two sisters) was always interesting. I have great memories of all of us working together and playing together. We built gigantic snow sculptures every winter (I grew up in Iowa.), went sledding down a hill that we iced over in the winter, and had numerous snowball fights.



## Creative writers unwind at Lake Logan

By Savannah Miller

The fire crackled as the writers helped themselves to s'mores and good conversation. Dressed in their coziest sweaters, the junior and senior creative writers and their teachers, **Mr. Hammes, Mr. Scapellato, and Ms. Miles**, enjoyed the peace and seclusion of the mountains.

Annually, for the past seven years, junior and senior creative writers take a three day retreat to the mountains of North Carolina. Mr. Hammes, creative writing teacher, feels the Lake Logan retreat is essential for the writers because "escaping into the mountains of Canton, North Carolina gives us a chance to unplug and rediscover the



Haley Dixon, Jacob Elsey, and Liz Kitchens

solitude, out of which our art form is born."

During the retreat, the teachers' focus was senior thesis. Immediately after unpacking, the creative writers met to listen to senior theses and give constructive criticism. The juniors also benefitted by getting "the opportunity to see how much hard work and dedication it takes to produce a hundred pages of publishable material," as said by Mr. Hammes.

However, the retreat wasn't just poems and grammar checks. Mr. Hammes also planned several activities for the writers to spend the time including but not limited to, charades, a "hidden talent" show, and a

hike up a mountain. I will give the seniors credit—they completely won the charades competition with phrases such as "Joseph eating an apple."

At the talent show on Thursday night, the audience was impressed with everyone's variety of talent. **Jacob Elsey** and **Alex Berry** choreographed their skills for juggling and **Farrell Harris** displayed her array of artwork. **Joseph Dubay, Haley Dixon, and Y-Danair Niehrah** awed



Creative writing senior class.

their fellow writers with their collaboration "Metaphysical Breakdown" where Joseph played his guitar, Haley played the harmonica, and Y-Danair laid the beat on the bongos.

On reflection, **Elizabeth Kitchens** stated "Writing comes from experiences and it comes from family. Lake Logan gave us both." The three days separated from the rest of the world allowed the writers to focus on their art and how they can improve it, while simultaneously making memo-

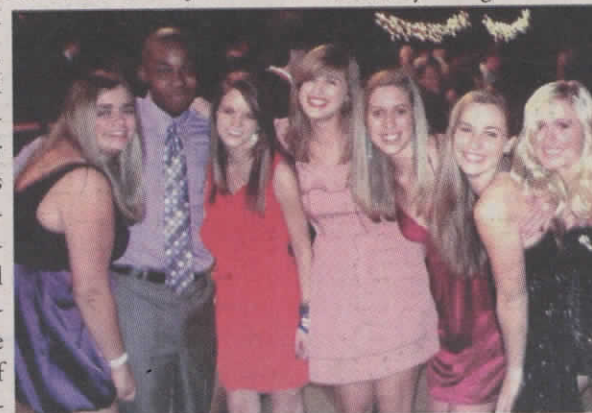
## How SOA does Homecoming

By Savannah Miller

Who could possibly argue with a swingin' good time? School of the Arts' Jazz Band hosted its annual event, Jump, Jive, and Wail, on Saturday, October 16th at the bus shed of visitor's center. Although School of the Arts cannot have the experience of a Homecoming game and dance in the school gym, what other high school has a sophisticated event downtown with their own jazz band, awards, and catering. **Anna Mathias** agrees, explaining, "SOA has an event where you get to dance like it's the 20s again. It really sets us apart from other schools."

**Mr. Kerr** and the Jazz Band began preparing for the event at band camp, and by October, they compiled roughly seventy-two songs. **Cameron Nixon** feels Jump, Jive, and Wail is special because "just about everything from the music to the setup is student coordinated."

When guests arrived, they were immediately brought back to the world of jazz,



Brian and his girls.

complete with vintage dresses, red lipstick, and swing dancing dominating the dance floor. There was a wide range of dancing talent from basics steps to spinning, dipping, and a few

throws into the air. **Parker Kelly** and **Olivia Lodge** especially impressed the crowd during the dance competition. When asked why she felt her and Parker won, Olivia exclaimed: "Our personalities were shown, and the judges could tell we were having a great time."

Jump, Jive, and Wail is the result of months of hard work and dedication and is anticipated by School of the Arts and the community every year. "It's great to just let loose and dance the night away," Olivia Lodge said, "to SOA's one and only, talented, Jazz Band."



Karl Heitman and Hadley Preganz dressed for the occasion.

**Excuse Me, while I Eat This Pie.**

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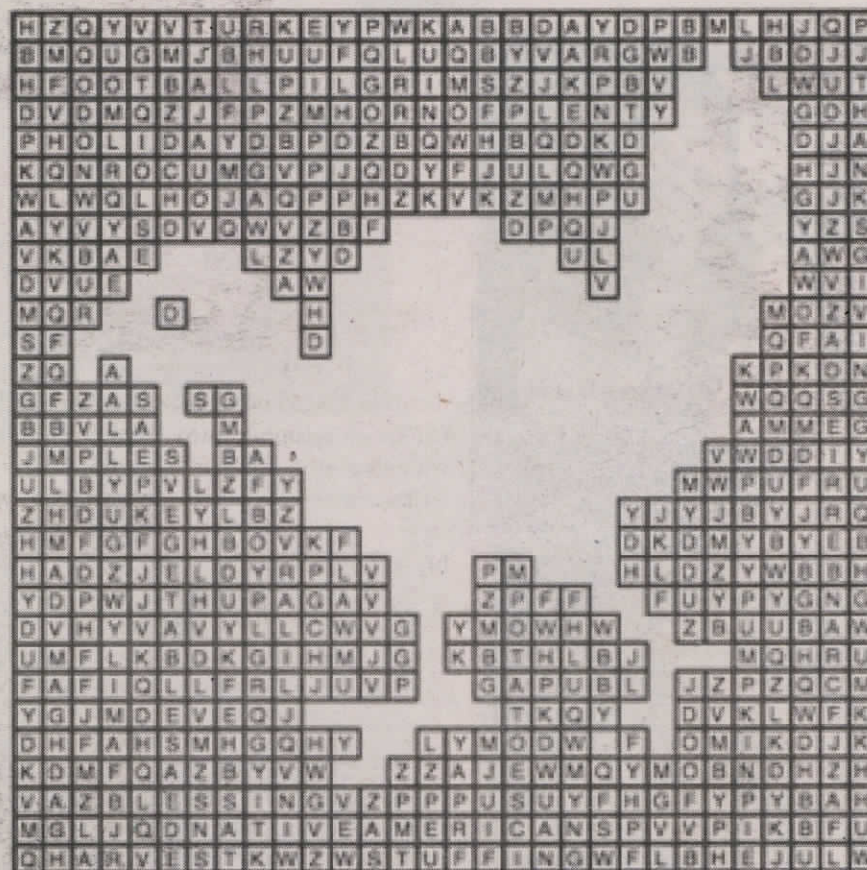
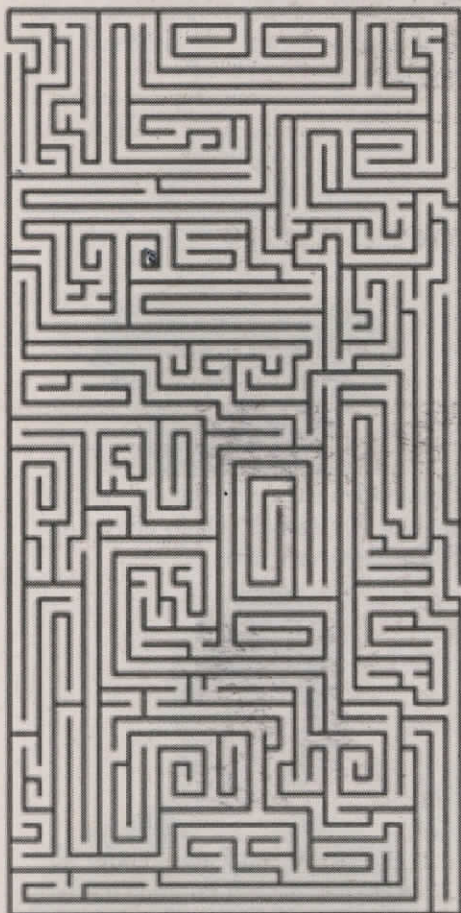


Help Mrs. Tourhi get to France!



# Sudoku

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



- |                  |          |            |                |
|------------------|----------|------------|----------------|
| AMERICA          | BLESSING | CORN       | CRANBERRIES    |
| FAMILY           | FOOD     | FOOTBALL   | FREEDOM        |
| GRAVY            | HARVEST  | HOLIDAY    | HORN OF PLENTY |
| NATIVE AMERICANS | PEAS     | PILGRIMS   | POTATOES       |
| PUMKIN PIE       | ROLLS    | SQUASH     | STUFFING       |
| THANKSGIVING     | TURKEY   | VEGETABLES | YAMS           |

# Horoscopes!

**Scorpio, The Scorpion (October 24-November 21):** In the words of Katy Perry "Don't look back/You can never look back." So, keep dancing like a fool and don't worry about who is looking.

**Sagittarius, The Centaur (November 22-December 21):** Today may be difficult, but remember every day is one day closer to the weekend.

**Capricorn, The Goat (December 22-January 19):** Just because you are a goat doesn't mean you have to eat everything. Cut back on some things in your life.

**Aquarius, The Water Carrier (January 20-February 18):** As the temperature drops and the water gets cooler you may be separated from your love. Find a new passion to get you through the winter.

**Pisces, The Fish (February 19-March 20):** Just keep swimming, just keep swimming. Just keep swimming, swimming, swimming!

**Aries, The Ram (March 21-April 19):** Stop butting heads with others and learn to play nicely!

**Taurus, The Bull (April 20-May 20):** NO BULL ABOUT IT!

**Gemini, The Twins (May 21-June 21):** Stop listening to all those voices in your head and go with your heart.

**Cancer, The Crab (June 22-July 22):** If you always walk sideways in life you will never go forward.

**Leo, The Lion (July 23-August 22):** Take the time to yell RAWR in public this week. It will provide momentary euphoria with only slight embarrassment.

**Virgo, The Virgin (August 23-September 22):** It is your month to step out side of your box and try something new, enjoy the world.

**Libra, The Scales (September 23-October 23):** This month, remember to be fair to those around you. You never know when you are going to want their fries.

### Answers to October's sudoku

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







"We are going to blow up a turkey in a turkey fryer and it's going to be amazing."  
- Taylor Keathley, 10th Grade Band



"For Thanksgiving I am going up to visit my family in Ohio that we haven't seen in a couple of years."  
- Renee Cooper, 11th Grade Piano



"I'm going to my aunt and uncle's house to eat."  
- Carly Edwards 7th Grade Vocal



"I'm going to the beach house and spend time with my family."  
- Dewitt Floyd, 11th Grade Vocal



"I'm going to Beaufort and then going to my house and eating Thanksgiving dinner."  
- Ryan Laban 8th Grade Theatre

## What are your plans for Thanksgiving?

Compiled by Allie Augustine and Grace Collins



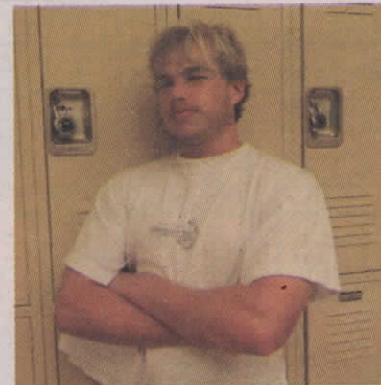
"I think I'm going to go up and visit my cousins in Virginia."  
- Emily Shorter, 6th Grade Creative Writing



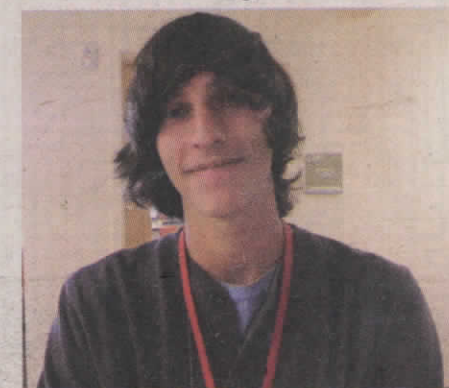
"I'll most likely be working at the holiday festival of lights."  
- Linda Wozniak, 12th Grade Vocal



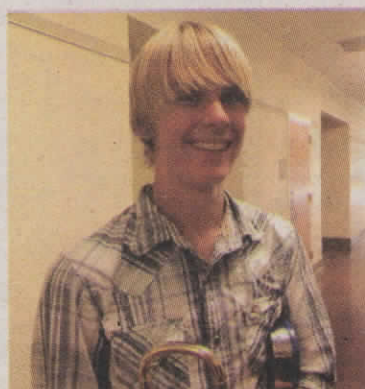
"I am going to be spending that weekend with my aunt in Folly Beach."  
- Ms. Fairchild, 8th Grade Math



"I'm going to run around Costco in a giant turkey suit."  
- Gordon Hay, 12th Grade Theatre



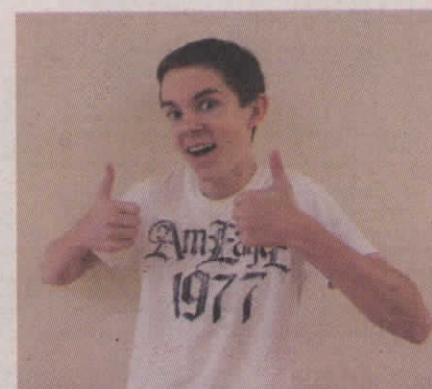
"I'm going to eat at my grandparent's house."  
- William Scarborough, 10th Grade Band



"I'm going to Atlanta."  
- Zach High, 12th Grade Band



"Well, my family and I are going to go to London, going to see *Phantom of the Opera*, take a tour of Paris for a day, and just chill around England and London."  
- Sunny Coons, 7th Grade Band



"My plans for Thanksgiving are to hang out with my family and wait for my brother to come back from college."  
- Casey Rudd, 9th Grade Visual Arts



"Eat turkey."  
- Meagan Romagnuolo, 7th Grade Dance