

# APPLAUSE

Volume 13 Issue 5

School of the Arts

5107-B W. Enterprise Street, North Charleston, SC 29405

February 2012



IN THIS ISSUE



SOA's Hard Work Recognized  
Page 14



An Inside Look at Remington  
Page 8



Colbert Captivates Charleston  
Page 7



SOA's Second Blooddrive  
Page 10

## Editor's Note



From the ranting Facebook statuses, shelves bursting at Walgreens, and Mr. Clarke's posters for his big band concert, SOA knows Valentine's Day is here. An awkward holiday surrounded by confusion and high expectations, what's a high school kid to do? Are chocolates and flowers now cliché? Is that "All The Single Ladies" t-shirt still on sale? Magnolia's booked five weeks in advance?

Calm down. Just for a moment, at least, and glance through *Applause*. Inside you'll find our Valentines (and some of your own dream Valentines on page 16) such as the creative writers who made SOA proud at Scholastic, SOA's hearing impaired program, and the cast of *The Music Man* who have finally wrapped up a semester of preparing, rehearsing, and performing a full-scale production on page 14. Also, *Applause* has covered the first faculty concert on page nine and Stephen Colbert's appearance on page seven.

I would like to thank all the *Applause* readers, supporters, and advertisers. Please feel free to send any questions, comments, or concerns to savannah@soa-applause.com.

Happy Valentines Day guys

*Savannah Miller*

## Upcoming Events

- February 16: Progress Reports
- February 17: Teacher Workday...no school
- February 20: President's Day...no school
- February 23, 24: Theatre Senior Thesis Group Pieces-6:30 @ RMMT
- February 24, 25: Orchestra All State Weekend in Myrtle Beach
- March 3: State Jazz Band Festival
- March 5: 8th Grade Dance Solos Performance
- March 6: Dance Senior Thesis Performance #3
- March 7-11: HS Dance Majors Field Trip to National High School Dance Festival @ Philadelphia, PA
- March 7-11: HS Theatre Southeastern Conference @ Chattanooga, TN
- March 8-10: Young American Workshop @ RMMT
- March 9: All State Band Clinic
- March 13: 6th Grade Open House
- March 13: HS 3rd Nine Weeks Theatre Showcase-4:00 @ BBT
- March 15: HS Band Pre-festival concert
- March 15: 7th Grade Theater Play-4:00 @ BBT
- March 15-17: All State Chorus @ Winthrop University
- March 15-18: MS Band to National Concert Band Festival and Honor Band of America

Thanks to our patrons. Your support helps keep *Applause* in circulation.

### Platinum

Touchpoint Communications

### Gold

Dr. Cusatis

Ms. Drennan

### Silver

Ms. Crawford Ms. Rickson

Ms. Dekle Mr. Short

Dr. and Ms. Elsey

### Bronze

Allie Augustine Savannah Osborne

Sarah Baxley Paul Ross

Carly Crawford Miki Sugimoto

Mr. Hammes Ms. Touihri

Ms. Miles

### Patrons

Jillian Campbell Victoria Lewis

Carly Christy Mr. Lindgren

Tanner Crunelle Claudia Ludden

Kelly Daniels Jeremy McKinnon

Mr. Dawson Lizz McMichael

Will Dodge Rupert Murdoch

Joseph Dubay Meghan Murphy

Dalton Edens Mr. Orvin

Jacob Elsey Mr. Pezzeca

Sam Funk Hadley Preganz

Mr. Grant Casey Rudd

Farrell Harris Tori Sanders

Emily Hart Alston Singletary

Brent Hubbard Oliver Skykes

Elizabeth Kitchens Courtney Young

Ms. Lasley Mark Zulawski

Rachel Lechler

Cover art by  
**Catherine Santos**

## SOA has a thing for Duck Stamps

### By Rachel Lechler

Congratulations to some of our students who won the Jr. Duck Stamp Competition for the Southeastern Wildlife Exposition. The students had to draw a very realistic portrait of a duck for the competition. To my dismay, they didn't actually have to turn them into stamps, despite the competition's namesake. In the 7th to 9th grade category, Fred Horton, 7th grade, took 1st place, Elsa Cline, 8th grade, took 2nd place, and Parker

Richardson for honorable mention. In the 10th to 12th grade category, Jackson Knowlton, 10th grade, took 2nd place. These students won these awards out of the entire state. You can catch their artwork on display in Marion Square during the Wildlife Expo through the 17th to the 19th of February. Make sure to check it out while you're spending a day downtown either enjoying the wildlife of the city or the Wildlife Expo!

## Prepping for prom

### By Savannah Miller

It's that time of year again. Lunch conversations consumed with what color dress she's wearing and which one you shouldn't, deciding dinner groups, limo groups, and figuring out who asked who and who he thought she was going to say yes to but didn't and is now going with friends. Guess what guys: it's prom season.

Information has recently been released shedding light on SOA's junior/senior prom that you need to know. This year's prom will be held on Friday, April 20 at last year's location, the Sand Dunes Club on Sullivan's Island, from 8:00 p.m. till 12:00 a.m. Remember that once students enter the prom, they will not be allowed to leave and re-enter and security will be present the entire time.

And for those of you who finally did muster the courage to ask that girl, make sure you buy your tickets before the day of. During the weeks of March 26th through the 30th, April 2nd through

the 6th, and April 16th and 17th, tickets will be for sale in the cafeteria during lunch for 35.00 each. On the day of at the door, tickets will be for sale for 40.00.

Lastly, don't forget about the highly anticipated election for prom court. Like last year, in a scheduled homeroom in the spring, all seniors and juniors will elect one male and one female from the entire grade. Junior council stresses to nominate those who best represent each class in terms of academic success, leadership qualities, extra-curricular involvement, treatment of others, and service to class and school. Ballots will be made with the top three nominations for each category, and an election will be held during another homeroom. The results of the lucky duos will be announced at 11:00 p.m. the night of prom.

For more information on prom, refer to the school's website under junior/senior or ask anyone on junior council, Ms. Crawford, or Ms. Passarello.

Don't miss SOA's first-ever

### *Bonds-Wilson Poetry Slam*

Tuesday, April 3 @ 6:30 p.m. in the Black Box Theater.  
There'll be poetry, a live band, student MCs, food

See **Dr. Teseniar** or **Mr. Hammes** for more information

## School of the Arts APPLAUSE COVER CONTEST

CREATE A SPRING OR ST. PATRICK'S DAY THEMED COVER  
DESIGN FOR THE MARCH EDITION OF APPLAUSE!  
THE WINNING ARTWORK WILL BE FEATURED ON THE FRONT COVER

some examples of previous covers



THE ART CAN BE ANY MEDIUM; PREFERABLY NOT PHOTOGRAPHY  
PLEASE MAKE SURE THE ART IS SCHOOL-APPROPRIATE.

CHARICATURES ARE WELCOME, BUT PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT THEY ARE NOT OFFENSIVE.

10"

8.5"

Your Picture Here

TRY AND KEEP THE DIMENSIONS OF YOUR PICTURE AS CLOSE TO THIS AS POSSIBLE, AND KEEP IN MIND THAT THE "APPLAUSE" TITLE WILL BE OVERLAIN ACROSS THE TOP.

THE ENTRIES MAY BE E-MAILED AS A DIGITAL SCAN,  
OR THE ORIGINAL WORK CAN BE HANDED IN. ORIGINALS  
WILL BE RETURNED AFTER THEY ARE SCANNED.

SCANNED/DIGITAL PICTURES CAN BE SENT VIA E-MAIL TO: MIKI@SOA-APPLAUSE.COM

ORIGINALS CAN BE SUBMITTED TO DR. CUSATIS TO BE SCANNED BY THE APPLAUSE

CONTEST ENTRIES ARE DUE BY MARCH 1ST!

## Applause

the official student publication of

**Charleston County School of the Arts**

*Founded in 1995 by Rose Maree Myers*

**Savannah Miller, Editor-in-Chief**

Jacob Elsey, Copy Editor

Miki Sugimoto, Business Manager

Will Dodge, Sports Editor

Allie Augustine, Writer

Rachel Lechler, Writer

Catherine Santos, Writer

John Cusatis, Ph.D., Advisor

Charleston County School of the Arts

5109 West Enterprise St.

North Charleston, SC 29405

*Come and dance with your  
sweetie to the swingin' sounds of*

## The Joe Clarke Big Band 19 piece orchestra

*Tuesday February 14, 2012*

*6:30-9:30pm in the SOA cafeteria.*

*Tickets: \$5 students, \$10 all others,  
available through any piano major*

Proceeds from concessions will benefit Piano  
Booster Club. Dress is Semi-Formal.

## Editorial

### Traffic Stinks

Tourists and residents alike know that navigating through the Charleston metropolitan area is a challenge. The Crosstown is reduced to a parking lot in rush hour because of the construction; cops exponentially ramp up their ticket-giving at the end of the month, car chases tear through the interstates; crazed Mt. Pleasant residents shut down the bridge and tourists blunder through the maze of one-way streets downtown.

Cyclists will argue that closing one lane of the Ashley River Bridge is a good idea, but in combination with the severe bottleneck caused by shutting down a lane on the Crosstown, this seems like a bad idea for the growing population. The "friendliest city" loses its Southern charm when faced with stop-and-go traffic. In the spirit of not feeling like New Jersey, consideration should be given to nixing the "beautification" of the Crosstown; a grassy median loses its charm in 5 o'clock gridlock.

The one perk to traffic is that you can't be caught speeding. This should be a boon to public safety officers, but somehow their "quota" ends up backfiring. To meet their quota, they give out tickets for any indiscretion. Residents of Seabrook Island and Mt. Pleasant have reported tickets for as low

as one mile per hour over the speed limit. With the speed limit being twenty-five on Seabrook and Kiawah both, getting fined in excess of three hundred dollars for going slower than a cyclist is absurd.

Admittedly the CPD has had a lot on their plates lately. Between suicidal bomb-threats that paralyzed the city for 3 tense hours to car chases that push squad cars to 133mph, we should recognize their efforts. We only wish, as they surely do too, that we didn't have to deal with the road conditions.

Finally finishing I-526 would take the strain off the at-capacity roads such as Maybank Highway and Highway 17. Johns and Wadmalaw Island have flourished as sleeper towns because of their quiet country beauty and low population density, but citizens are becoming agitated with the inadequacy of the two-lane roads. Traffic from Wadmalaw, Johns Island, James Island, Folly Beach, and upper West Ashley all cram onto Folly Road, which becomes nearly impassible.

All in all Charleston is a beautiful city, but will never progress without some serious work on the roads. We may still have to tolerate the tourists dazzled by the colors of Rainbow Row, but in the future we hope not to see the Amtrak Station or the other sights of I-26 in such detail.

- Comprehensive Eye Health Exams by **Dr. Paul Bohac**
- Contact Lens Specialist
- Professional Optical Services
- Specializing in No-Line Bifocals
- Full Selection Of Eyewear & Sunglasses in All Price Ranges
- Fill/Duplicate Your Rx
- Most Insurance Accepted



**Angel Oak Eye Center**

2875 Maybank Highway • Johns Island

Phone: 843.559.5333

E-Mail: [DrBohac@AngelOakEyeCenter.com](mailto:DrBohac@AngelOakEyeCenter.com)

Hours: Mon-Fri 9-6 • Sat by Appointment

## February Jefferson Award recipients named

By Rachel Lechler

The Jefferson Service Club gives monthly awards to students who go above and beyond in community service. This month's winners are teachers **Mr. George Younts** and **Mr. Brian Johnson**. Congratulations to both winners!

### Mr. George Younts

**Mr. George Younts** has been engaged in community service all of his life. He's been involved with Red Cross, Boy Scouts, Sporting Events, Environmental Church and Theatre Outreaches. He has trained SOA's Gnomes, touring with them to local schools, and he teaches improv workshops. He has also



starred in a solo poetry show called "Box of Rhymes" for elementary

schools for three years. He's coming up with another one for this year.

For the past four years he has toured around in a one man version of *A Christmas Carol* to various schools, retirement communities, churches, hospitals, etc. The proceeds of the show go to charity. He goes out of his way to participate in the community and spends a lot of time performing in front of children as well as helping them.

### Mr. Brian Johnson

**Mr. Brian Johnson** has been volunteering in community service since he was in college. He volunteers most of his time at local races and events that raise money for various causes, as well as with the Mt. Pleasant Recreational Department youth track and field program. He has also been a guest speaker for fitness and running clinics for the Charleston Running Club, Charleston County Employee Wellness Day, and the Hershey Youth Track and



Field Program. Mr. Johnson says that his favorite part about volunteering is "helping people set and achieve fitness and wellness goals that lead to lifestyle changes and improvements to their health." He has witnessed people who couldn't walk a mile, but after training, they went on to run 1/2 marathons and improve their health. Mr. Johnson is helping to improve the health of the community one organization at a time.

## An inside look at SOA's growing Hearing Impaired Program

By Savannah Miller

SOA's deaf program is beginning to grow and develop, creating unimaginable new opportunities. It all began three years ago when SOA welcomed a new group of students to its diverse community. This year, **SOA's Hearing Impaired (HI) program** has twelve students, sixth through twelfth grade.

The HI program was originally at Charlestowne Academy until 2009 when the school closed and because of proximity, the students were relocated to SOA. The move was slightly controversial and parents complained that the students never auditioned.

HI became a quasi-major with the requirement being profound hearing loss, and does not affect the number of students accepted into SOA's eight art areas. SOA students are well-aware of the program, and I feel we have welcomed these students and helped

them integrate easily into our school's environment. However, many students aren't exactly sure about what exactly happens in the Hearing Impaired wing of SOA.

The HI students follow a district occupational curriculum where they are taught life and job skills. They learn the grammar of American Sign Language, deaf history and culture,

and with the accompaniment of an interpreter, any number of standard middle and high school classes. Additionally the deaf students have the opportunity to leave campus to develop job experience at various sites, such as the ASPCA, Old Navy, Charlestowne Landing, the Lowcountry Food-bank, and Quality Auto Care. At school, the deaf students assist the cafeteria staff in preparing parfaits

and organizing cookies and chips.

The HI kids have also been working really hard to get more involved with the arts. Major teachers such as **Mr. Younts** and **Ms. Pittman** have reached out by putting together



HI students using their iPads Photo by Allie Augustine

a production and creating a dance class for non-majors, respectively. **Ms. Amick**, an instructor for the program and sign language interpreter, explained that at first, the dance class was extremely separated but it only took a week or two for everyone to work together and become friends. Mr. Younts' production was also impressive. His theatre students collaborated with deaf students to perform a handful of *Grimm's Fairytales*, infusing the art of acting and sign language. Mr. Younts has also incorporated the deaf students in his

performance of *A Christmas Carol*.

Ms. Amick explained that there are still several misconceptions about the HI program. "Deafness is a low incidence handicap so we are a very small group in the general population. But as we get the students more involved in classes and activities, the more staff and students will be able to understand our students' condition and how we can all help." She feels art schools are the perfect place for deaf students because of our general acceptance of being different. Also, modern technology has allowed the students to better integrate. The HI program is excited to report that our deaf students have been chosen for iPads, which have an array of applications such as speech to text and speech to sign that will help the students in the school environment. "We have a true family at SOA and the students and staff love it!" Ms. Amick exclaimed.

## Where were they then: Mr. Southwick

By Allie Augustine

*Allie Augustine talked with Mr. David Southwick, middle school science teacher, to find out more of his life before SOA.*

**Allie Augustine:** Where did you grow up?  
**David Southwick:** James Island — Represent!

**AA:** What high school did you attend?

**DS:** I graduated from James Island Christian, ya heard!

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

**DS:** Being cool. I wasn't really good at it, though :/

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

**DS:** I graduated from the illustrious Wofford College and was a biology major. It's the best college in the state-known as the "Harvard of the South" — Go Terriers!

**AA:** Have you always wanted to be a science teacher?

**DS:** Not really. I started out in pre-med, thinking maybe I wanted to go to medical

school and then quickly realized that it was way too serious for me. Being a teacher allows me to be goofy and a bit awkward —

kind of like the students I teach ;) and I don't have

to know complicated medical terms like Pruritus Ani or Cholelithiasis

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

**DS:** I needed a paycheck and ran in to my friend

**Ms. Moschella** at a Riverdogs game and she was like "We have a job opening at my work" and I was like, "No way!" and she was like, "Way!" and I was like, "Wait, what's your job again?" and she was like, "I'm a middle

school science teacher and we have an opening in 7th grade science at our school" and I was like "Teacher? Middle school? Are you

crazy? Really? I thought you were like a nurse or something" and she was like, "No, it's a really cool school" and so then I was like, "Well I'm broke and I need to get me some 'papers'... I'll do it!" And so 5 years

later and I'm still

here - 7th grade science teacher at SOA!

**AA:** Do you have any hidden talents?

**DS:** Well if I told you then they wouldn't be hidden anymore, now would they? And I try my hardest to keep my talents hidden



Mr. Southwick tebowing on the beach.

## Where are they now: DeAnna Kerley

By Allie Augustine

*Allie Augustine spoke with former creative writer DeAnna Kerley about her success after graduating SOA with the class of 2010.*

**Allie Augustine:** How did you further your education after SOA?

**DeAnna Kerley:** After SOA, I went to study Communications and Journalistic Writing at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. I'm currently a sophomore, and I'm expected to graduate - God willing - in 2014.

**AA:** How are you still taking part in the arts today?

**DK:** I'm still taking part in the arts today through writing. Even though I do a lot of journalism work, I really enjoy doing long-form pieces that require a certain amount of creativity in the reporting. Creativity makes for really good stories, even when the stories are for a newspaper. Other than that, I take creative writing classes here at Penn, usually within the Journalistic Writing department. I also dabble in poetry every now and then, but that's mainly just to keep me sane. Without SOA, without all of those years with **Mrs. Miles**, without those years as a writer for **Dr. Cusatis** and **Mrs. Bronk**, I wouldn't be where I am today. I wouldn't have nearly as much passion and creativity. That's such a blessing I've been given, because it gives me a

certain advantage now, and you need everything you can to put you ahead of the game, especially in such a competitive world. I'll always be thankful for what SOA has given me.

**AA:** What exactly is your job at the Daily Pennsylvanian?

**DK:** Right now, I'm an Associate News Editor at the Daily Pennsylvanian. Basically,

what happens is that I spend one night a week as an editor. I go into the office on Monday night at 5 p.m. for ranking, which means the entire staff sits down as a group and talks about the stories that will be going into the next day's paper. We look at the content, inch count, and accompanied multimedia for each article and from that information, we decide

which articles go on the front cover. If we have a lot of stories for that day, we might decide which ones we are going to hold for the following paper and which ones we decide to just run on our website. After the ranking meeting, I wait for the reporters to come in and write their stories. Once they're finished, I help edit them for grammar and organization. Sometimes I check the facts to make sure the reporter has done his or her job.

Once the article is edited, I write its headline and subheadline and upload it to our website. From there, the article goes on to the next editor and my job is done! On a good night, I usually leave the newspaper office at midnight. Bad nights usually mean 1:00 a.m. Besides being an Associate News Editor, I'm also a Beat Reporter. A Beat Reporter

is basically just a writer that deals with a specific topic (a beat). My beat is West Philadelphia, so I get to write about all the cool - often crazy - happenings that go on in the community. Currently, I've been following the Philadelphia public school system.

**AA:** What piece of advice would you give to students who are interested in pursuing journalism as a career?  
**DK:** For students interested in pursuing journalism, I would definitely urge them to get familiar with website layout and all things electronic. More and more, there has been a shift from print to digital. Even the *NY Times* gives its readers the option to purchase an online subscription now. When I first became a Beat Reporter at the *Daily Pennsylvanian*, the first thing they wanted me to do was get a Twitter. It's all about getting the news



so that I don't end up like that Chuck Norris guy who can't get a moment of privacy anymore. I mean everyone knows all of his talents like his ability to swim through land or that he roundhouse kicked a horse in the jaw and that's how we got giraffes. Who wants everyone to know everything about them? Not me, I'll keep my talents hidden!  
**AA:** Are there any other fun facts that students may like to know about you?  
**DS:** I am a Denver Broncos fanatic and so you might see me "Tebowing" around the city. I am pretty sure the Broncos are going to win every Super Bowl ever. Period! One of my favorite pastimes is dominating 7th graders on the recess field! I can't even begin to count how many goals I've scored on them in soccer and how many touchdown celebrations I've had to make over the years. They just can't compete- it's like I'm a man amongst boys!

to people as quick as you can. If you're not careful, five other papers will have covered an event before you can even take a breath, and then you're left covering the leftovers. Another thing about being a good writer is **READING** good writers, something Mrs. Miles always said when I was a Creative Writer at SOA. Joan Didion, Gay Talese, Gary Smith, Hunter S. Thompson... anything and everything. I would also suggest just getting out there and accumulating experience. Sign up for *Applause* or join the yearbook staff. With everything you write, save it and put it in a portfolio. When you graduate, keep finding opportunities to write. I've never applied for a writing position without them asking me for my resume and clips of my work. You definitely want to have something to show them.  
**AA:** What are your plans after graduating college?

**DK:** After I graduate college, I plan to go straight into the field. Hopefully, I can find a good newspaper that will take me. I'll probably have to start from the bottom and climb my way up, but that's life, I suppose. I'm not exactly sure where I'll end up...all I know is that I want to write. That's good enough for me.

## Rock me like a Herman Cain

By Will Dodge

College of Charleston's Cistern yard has hosted a multitude of high-profile events over the years: the filming of movies such as *Dear John* and *The Notebook*, John Kerry's official endorsement of current head honcho Barack Obama. But none of the filmings or political hoo-hahs has been met with the fervor and hubbub that came with the half-joking political rally held January 20, featuring none other than late night hero Stephen Colbert and pizza-guy-turned-presidential-nominee Herman Cain.

Colbert had announced the event only a few days earlier on his Comedy Central mainstay *The Colbert Report*, declaring he would run for "The President of the United States of South Carolina." More details leaked out, and the pre-primary event suddenly became a hot ticket. The Cistern was filled to its brim with 3000 people packed into



Photo by Joel Tinter

the small George Street green. A group of friends and I waited for two hours in a line that wrapped around the yard's surrounding wall for blocks and blocks, lucky to get in amongst the masses of hyped-up college kids and local political heads.

"It's good to be home," exclaimed Charleston native Colbert, after a grand entrance including a marching band rendition of LMFAO's "Party Rock Anthem" and a gospel performance of "This Little Light of Mine." After thanking governor Nikki Haley and senators Jim DeMint and Lindsey Graham (which the crowd greeted with groans and boos), Colbert made his reason for holding the event clear. "I've believed in Herman's message for a few days now. He's a man of conviction: a man who has a bus with his face on it. I want you to vote for Herman Cain because Herman Cain is me."

Colbert welcomed the ex-presidential candidate Cain onto the stage, amidst heavy applause. Donning a leather cowboy hat and a genial smile, the former Godfather's Pizza CEO chuckled at the crowd and their vast array of signs, with statements ranging from "I thought

there'd be pizza" to "Thank you, based god." Cain's twenty minute talk concentrated on how "Washington is broken and must be fixed from the outside," and encouraged young people to stay interested in politics.

The crowd was tough, wholeheartedly agreeing with one statement, and offering a fit of groans and snickers to the next. Cain was smart to weave in a bit of humor, saying, "Mr. Colbert could not get on the ballot. I could not get off the ballot." But the real reason why Colbert wouldn't be able to get the nomination? "He does not have my

complexion perfection." That knocker somehow got a mixed reception from the crowd. Cain's serious side came through though, and he showed why his previous contention was for real: he was a good speaker with a solid message who became hard not to like over the course of the rally. He offered an ultimatum to the crowd.

"I'm challenging you to do three things. One: stay informed because stupid people are ruining America. Two: stay involved. Three: stay inspired."

Then came the highlight of the event. After pleading cries and at least a dozen signs offering a play on words between Herman Cain and various characters from the inimitable game Cain once quoted in a speech, he did the unthinkable: He sang the Pokemon theme song. His voice was smooth, landing somewhere between a chilled out Bobby Womack and a less funky Isaac Hayes. Many a raller joined in with him, and he closed it coolly, holding out the last word of the last line until his voice crackled out: "Dream." Sadly, ColbertCain's 2012 primary run was unsuccessful, only mustering 6000 votes, landing Cain in fifth place. However, the event showed that America is still a place where citizens can come together in support of freedom. To quote the Pokemon theme song, let's let this stand as ColbertCain's slogan for 2016: "Come with me, the time is right, there is no better team. Arm in arm we'll win the fight...it's always been our dream."

## Tanner Crunelle: Spelling Bee-liever

By Jacob Elsey

When eighth-grader **Tanner Crunelle** took the stage at the Charleston County Spelling Bee on Thursday, January 19, he said, he couldn't have been any less nervous.

A confident man by nature, Tanner said that he prepared by simply "reading over some tips and looking over some of the words **Ms. Mitchum** said might be asked." Months earlier, Tanner won the school bee held in the Rose Maree Myers Theater by correctly spelling the word *Fajita*. A spicy one, but he knocked out those letters F through A with ease.

Tanner won the Charleston Coun-



ty Spelling Bee with the word *tragic*. When asked if he thought it might be a bad omen when he travels to the Spellbound! Spelling Bee in March, he responded that the most "tragic" thing that could have happened is if he "messed up when they interviewed me about it afterwards."

Tanner described the environment on stage as very tense, but stated that "the satisfaction of holding the trophy and how everyone was taking pictures," was well worth it. SOA wishes Tanner luck in his spelling endeavor in March, and hopes his streak remains as red hot as a correctly-spelled *fajita*.

## Teachers prove themselves at Faculty Concert

By Jacob Elsey

On February 3, the SOA faculty put on a concert in the Rose Maree Myers Theater, inviting anyone to come and witness their talents both hidden and exposed (exposed, due to the fact that they teach it). Major teachers that performed were Joe Clarke (piano teacher), Debra Benson (piano teacher), George Younts (theatre teacher), and Anne Cimballa (visual arts teacher).

It was the non-major teachers that really delivered the shock factor with Barbara Wojciechowski, Ann Marie Fairchild, Vincent Pezzeca, and John Cusatis all performing some of their favorite songs. There was a great variety of genres, from Mr. Pezzeca singing a song entirely in French entitled "C'est En Hiver," to Dr. Cusatis strumming away to the soulful tune of Jason Mraz's "I'm Yours," which had the whole audience singing along until the final acoustic riff. Dr. Cusatis said he was "honored to perform on the stage that just showcased such a phenomenal musical, *The Music Man*."

Ms. Wojciechowski, who performed two songs, one on the piano, "Trli Jirli Polka," and one on the harp while she was accompanied by Ms. Benson on the piano, entitled "Where the River Shannon Flows."

After the performance, Ms. Wojciechowski said that she "enjoyed it very much, but it was kind of nerve-racking. Now [she] knows how the students feel." The concert never had a slow moment, Senior Band Major; Zachary Sharpe said that his favorite part was "Mrs. Fairchild's rendition of 'The Prayer' because it 'gave me goosepimples!'"

At the end of the show, the performers all got on stage and performed their own version of "Tiny Dancer" by Elton John in memorial of Ms. Slowinski. The chorus sang soulfully with a slide show that consisted of pictures of Ms. Slowinski put together be senior, Taylor Dupree.

Mr. Clarke worked hard to organize the event and promises that others will follow.

# Spring Sports Start to Heat Up

## By Will Dodge

Spring sports are right around the corner, and many SOA students are competing for their home schools in the upcoming season. Ranging from lacrosse to pole vaulting, SOA students will undoubtedly be a force in sports across the county.

In soccer, **Alex Wertz** and **Kimberly Johnson** will be representing their home schools, James Island for Alex and West Ashley for Kimberly. Alex, the Trojans center midfielder, says of his agenda, "I prioritize my homework and studies over soccer. Sometimes, I have too much homework and can't go to practice. Excellence has a price." In the offseason, Alex played with the Daniel Island Soccer Club and traveled to Sweden to play in an international soccer tournament with fellow SOA soccer guy, **Eli Dent**, reaching the quarterfinals in a

field of teams from around the globe. Kimberly, a forward for the Wildcats, has been playing soccer since the age of six, and she says soccer motivates her to do well in school. "If I don't get good grades, I can't play. So school and soccer are equally important." Her goal is for West Ashley to win state this year, after her team made it to the third round of the playoffs last season.

In baseball, **Logan Butler** will reprise his role as catcher for the West Ashley Wildcats baseball team. A bout of tendonitis last season caused Logan's throwing accuracy to go down, and a general struggle when trying to pick off runners stealing a base. Luckily for Logan, the tendonitis has gone away, and Logan is "looking forward to a healthy arm and being able to lead my team to a great record from behind home plate." If he can keep

up his batting line of .278/.320/.335 from last year, look out for him in the county all star game later this season.

Lacrosse has been gaining popularity in the lowcountry over the past few years, exemplified best by SOA piano major **Tori Sandeno** and visual artist **Amanda Russell**. Both girls are playing their first year on the West Ashley varsity lacrosse team. Tori hopes that lacrosse will help her to "physically and mentally become a better person and to learn as much as I can; and as a team we are focusing on little techniques that can have a huge impact on future games." After a stint in the Mount Pleasant rec league, last fall, Amanda Russell decided she wanted to hit the big time and subsequently made it onto the Wildcat's starting lineup. Being at SOA can cause some difficulties in commuting, and in turn,

she has to "stay after and work with [her] coaches on what [she] missed." However they are understanding, and Amanda knows this will pay off for her and her team later in the season.

In track and field, **Lucy Rummeler** will be running for Wando's track team, reprising her role from the previous three seasons. For West Ashley, **Ben Rindge**, **Alyssa Johnson**, and **Anna Holloway** will represent the Wildcats. Ben and Alyssa, both dance majors, are two newcomers to pole vaulting. Ben says, "I've adapted well because of doing gymnastics for ten years. I look forward to practice everyday." Anna will be running distance for the team.

Look out for future issues where we will cover the progress of these SOA student athletes.

## Dining with Remington

### Jacob Elsey

Recently, SOA's favorite and most sophisticatedly-named guinea pig, Remington, invited the students of SOA's hearing impaired program over to the visual arts room for a picnic. The students brought an appetizing salad specifically designed for the guinea pigs' diet. In the salad were pieces of lettuce, carrots, oranges, strawberries, and other various raw fruits and vegetables.

While dining, with Remington as the table's furry center-

piece, Ms. Cimballa talked about the guinea pigs' past and about how he came to SOA. Ms. Cimballa adopted Remington from a local pet store a year ago after the previous owner could no longer afford to take care of him. She says this happens with larger animals like

dogs and cats more often when owners can no longer provide enough care and take them to the ASP-CA, this called Owner Surrender.

The students had many questions for Remington and his proud

owner, wondering how old he was (1 ½ years), can he see and hear well (his eyesight is poor, but his hearing and sense of smell are sharp), where he sleeps (in his cage, on a bed of the finest textured wood chips), and if he bit (Remington, he would never)?

After the quick round of questions, Remington finished his delicious salad that the students so kindly prepared for him. With a full belly, Remington traveled through the arms of the students and

teachers, receiving many compliments on his plush fur along the way.

All in all Ms. Cimballa thought the luncheon went very well, and was a great hands-on experience for the students to learn more about Remington and his native guinea pig culture. The students are already looking forward to their next Rendezvous with SOA's favorite guinea pig, the one and only Remington.



Photo by Jacob Elsey



Photo by Jacob Elsey



## Jefferson Club needs you

By Savannah Miller

For those of you moping over the fact that you're stuck at home over spring break or for those lazy kids who haven't even thought about the SOA Diploma service requirements, this announcement is directed to you. The Jefferson Club is organizing an arts camp for first through fifth graders from local elementary schools in North Charleston that will take place from 9th to the 11th, the first three days of spring break.

On the first day the children will sign up for majors they're interested in from this list: Theatre, Dance, Vocal, Creative Writing, Visual Arts, and Percussion. During the course of the three days, volunteers of the appropriate majors will plan activities and lessons to get the students interested and excited about the arts. On Wednesday, Ms. Gorriti hopes for the students to be able to present what they've learned to the other children and parents.

But remember: none of this can happen without YOU. Ms. Gorriti and the Jefferson Club are desperate for volunteers from both the middle and high school who can be teachers. For those who would still like to be involved and get service hours, but are not available over spring break can still help by being organizers and planners. "Our students were given the opportunity to explore the arts at a very young age and we want this camp to build the same relationships with children in SOA's own community," Ms. Gorriti stated. "They can familiarize themselves with the campus and the positive environment and attitude that surrounds SOA."

If you are interested in volunteering, please see Ms. Gorriti in room 1117 and attend the informational meeting on Tuesday, February 22nd immediately after school in the library.

## Are you ready for a new kind of thrift store?

By Savannah Miller

The Art Closet Thrift Store, a non-profit organization in North Charleston, wants your help to support the local Charleston County public schools fine arts educational programs. All you need to do is donate your tax deductible donations (gently used clothing, furniture, shoes, books,

kid's toys, etc.). All of the proceeds from the thrift store will go directly to local CCSD schools. You can stop by to peruse or donate during business hours, which are Tuesday through Saturday, 10:00 am to 6:00 pm and Sunday from 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm.



843-789-5544

[www.hearts4thearts.org](http://www.hearts4thearts.org)

(NEXT TO HARBOR FREIGHT)

## Texting and Driving

- 46% of teenagers admit to texting while driving
- 37% decreased focus on the road
- 6000 people died from texting and driving in 2008
- .08% the equivalent blood alcohol content level that equals texting

**The risk of crashes increases 500% when texting**

Don't crash your Lamborghini

Or your bike.

## The Artist: 4 out of 5

By Catherine Santos

*The Artist* is a silent film starring Jean Dujardin as George Valentin and Berenice Bejo as Peppy Miller. The story takes place in 1927, when the silent film is king. George Valentin is a beloved silent film actor, and Peppy Miller is trying to break into the film industry. They are instantly attracted to each other. Of course, love never comes easy. Peppy slowly climbs the ladder of success. She gets a couple jobs as an actress and soon becomes a star.

Disaster strikes with the invention of the "talkies" or films with voices. Valentin soon finds that a silent actor is no longer in demand. Soon after, the stock market crashes and the Great Depression ensues.

*The Artist* has very little dialogue, and the characters only speak in one scene. However, the music in the film is designed to give the reader a cocktail of

emotion. Since *The Artist* is a silent film the actors had to work twice as hard to signify their emotions. At times the emotions are exaggerated and there are hints of slapstick comedy. This can be a little cheesy at times, but for the most part it works very well with the rest of the film.

The cinematography was beautiful, and very well shot. The costumes were superb.

This film is an exquisite work of art and deals with the emotions many struggling artists face. The realization that a new

trend is around the corner and the industry you have been working in for many years no longer needs you. The plot of *The Artist* is very much like *Singing in the Rain*. It is a little cliché and predictable but it's a classic story that people enjoy watching again and again.



## NHS hosts second blood drive in MS gym



Senior Hadley Preganz bears the burden of charity as she prepares to donate her pint of blood to the American Red Cross.

## The Maccabees – Given to the Wild

By Rachel Lechler

The five-piece British indie-rock band, The Maccabees, recently came out with their third album, *Given to the Wild*, on January 9th. The first song on this thirteen track album, also the title of the album, is simply an intro with the lead vocalist, Orlando Weeks.

Weeks' voice creeps in through soft tones and welcomes the listener into the lullaby of the next song, named "Child." I will admit that there are some songs on this album that don't tickle my fancy, but the more I listen to them, the more they start to grow on me.

Personally, I think The Maccabees could be the lovechild of Jack Johnson and the two-piece band, Lydia.

"Pelican," the album's lead single, was released on December 30th, 2011, bearing a cool conglomeration of warm, sassy guitar riffs and the kind of repetitive lyrics that cause the listener to bob around to its addictive sound. "Pelican" is followed up with the song "Went Away," that isn't quite as upbeat as its latter song, but contains a strong melody that hooks onto brawny sound waves and really pierces into the listener's inner ear, convincing them not to change the song, but rather, turn it up louder.

I've never really been a big fan of indie-rock, but The Maccabees just might be able to change my mind.



**James D. Hart DMD, PA**  
FAMILY AND COSMETIC DENTISTRY

1701 Beaucastel Road, Suite B  
Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina 29464  
(843) 971-6552 ~ phone  
(843) 971-6554 ~ fax  
drjameshart.com

**James D. Hart**  
DMD, PA.



**SEABROOK ISLAND**  
Natural oceanfront living near historic Charleston.



### Trail Rides

**Beginner Trail Rides:** This walking ride meanders through the scenic woods, marshes and tidal creeks of Seabrook Island and lasts approximately one hour with brief picnic stops. There is no finer way to experience the beauty of Seabrook Island. Advance reservations are required. \$65.00/ride.

**Advanced Trail Rides:** A trail ride that includes walk, trot and canter. Advance reservations are required. \$70.00/ride.

**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. \$95.00/ride.

**Pony Rides:** Parent-led pony rides are available from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. by appointment for children up to eight years old. Wait until you see the excitement in your child's eyes! \$40.00/half hour.



**STOP SINGING**

By Catherine Santos



Imagine sitting in a room pouring your concentration into something, when out of nowhere the sound of a warring manatee attacking a cat with a chainsaw seems to scream diffuse across the room. You turn around to investigate the source of the noise, and it happens to be someone in class with you singing. It is the most annoying, uncomfortable situation ever. On one hand, you can't crush their dreams of being the next American Idol. On the other hand, you are beginning to feel an annoying pressure in your skull.

There are a lot of people at SOA who have great voices; however, the people who decide to sing in class really don't. They are off key, off pitch and all and all pretty annoying to hear. Now people with gorgeous voices--I am looking at you Sabrina McIntyre--don't sing at all so there is no way to counteract the horrible sounds. What is even weirder are the faces that the people make while singing. This face can only be described as the "I am really into singing, but I am trying to look hot at the same time" face. They often tilt their heads to the side and close their eyes and do weird things with their hands. Apparently, the hand gestures are done to make the lyrics look a lot deeper and meaningful than they actually are. You cannot make "I'm Sexy and I Know it" sound like a deep, moving song. No one thinks you are attractive when you are belching out shrill sounds when others are trying to concentrate.

I describe my singing voice as that of a "disgruntled pterodactyl"; therefore, I do not sing, and I do not try to subject others to my horrible singing voice. I do not care if you think you are the next Christina Aguilera; nine times out of ten without a warm up you will sound pretty awful. Let's leave the singing in the vocal room...and to the vocalists.

**Jacob vs. Jacob***Tea Party versus the Green Party***Jacob Hallex**

The Tea Party has been destroyed by the liberal left. I would first like to discuss how the philosophical roots of the Tea Party are found in the ideology of RON PAUL. RON PAUL 2012 RON PAUL 2012 RON PAUL 2012. But seriously speaking the Tea Party doesn't have a candidate. The "Tea Party" you're describing is a movement not a political party. So needing the rest of this space to fill I guess I can just spew my ideological dogma that people are forced to read. I think abortions okay in some cases, I don't support the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Euro is going to collapse causing a massive revolution. I could go on.

Fear mongering aside it would seem as if the largest rival to the Green Party is the Libertarian Party. Again this is basically the party of RON PAUL 2012. I can't exactly say I support a political party that believes every state



If Mr. Hallex and I can agree on one thing, it's that this two party system we have established in The United States is based on the wrong two parties. Mainstream Democrats and Republicans look great in their snazzy coats and ties, with their flashy white smiles, and holding their babies that ignorant mothers are so willing to let them swing around in front of seizure-inducing camera bulbs. Real nice guys, right? I'm sure Newt Gingrich's three wives would agree. But wake up America; let's start getting it right, these flip-flopping politicians will do anything for a vote. Look up Mitt Romney's political views from fifteen years ago, you'll find that they're essentially the opposite of his current policies, both economically and socially speaking. At this rate of change, by the next election Mitt could be starring as the host of a Bosnian Cooking Show

should have it's own currency, or one that believes in world peace. Sorry if I'm not talking about what you're article rips apart but you just kind of told me to write about the tea party presidential candidate. My reply I believe was something along the lines of "I'm pretty that's just a movement, not an actual party." You replied "Hurr durrr, no it's a party, they have people in congress." After wikipediaing around I came across the Boston Tea Party which is close but no cigar, you were wrong and that fact that you're arguing against something not even present makes you look stupid. The best part is you chose the topic. I will admit that I am writing this later than I should have and had I done it earlier we could have avoided such a bad article this month but hey, forget about; we're on the cover!!!

RON PAUL 2012 RON PAUL  
2012 RON PAUL 2012 RON PAUL  
2012 RON PAUL 2012 RON PAUL

**Jacob Elsey**

for all we know. Oh, and his son's name is Taggart, I mean really? And don't even get me started with Obama, he-rides bikes without helmets and come on, they let anyone be president of the Harvard Law Review.

Not the Green Party. This political party has been going strong ever since its genesis in the relevant year of 1991: a crucial era for grunge rock and ending Cold Wars. Not much is needed to describe the Green Party of the United States; it fits into just about every suitable stereotype proudly. This band of Teva-wearing environmentalists know exactly which "green" is most important, the greens of the earth, not the green of the dollar.

America isn't getting anything done with modernity, it's time we make extremism in America as commonplace as our great bald eagle. Forget the Democratic-Republic, it's time for the Green-Tea revolution.

**Sass Attack--It's About Valentine's time to get it Right**

By Jacob Elsey



While overhearing the recent conversations in the halls of SOA about how much people hate/love the infamous corporate holiday known as Valentine's Day; I think I've finally been able to pinpoint just what exactly this lovey-dovey holiday etches into the human heart: nervousness. You see, no one hates Valentine's Day, and no one loves Valentine's Day (aside from the female in a relationship, due to the fact that their bank accounts maintain intact), but everyone is nervous about that fateful morning when they wake up and everything is heart-shaped. The man in a relationship always goes into the restless seas of Valentine's Day all on his own. You see, Valentine's Day has to be perfect for the girlfriend/fiancé/wife, the same one who's seen almost every romantic comedy that has anything to do with Valentine's Day. You know the kind, where the Channing Tatum or the George Clooney (for you older ladies) does something completely surreal and spectacular for the girl like spelling their name in the Bermudian sands.

Let me take you through what every man has to go through on Valentine's Day: wake up early to make breakfast for girl, make sure you wake then subtly enough to get them up but not enough to annoy them (if the girl is not a morning person, one might just want to avoid this step altogether), give them flowers/chocolate, take them someplace romantic like a park by the sea or downtown by the sea, give them flowers/chocolate, take them to see latest romantic comedy starring a less attractive male than yourself, give them flowers/chocolate, go to a luxurious dinner to dine on clams casino and vegan quiches, give them flowers/chocolate, give them jewelry that they will look up the price tag of later that evening and check the real diamond/gold validity, receive a kiss on the cheek, leave her house, look at barren wallet -- end of the day.

There is too much room for error for the male. At first, it may seem impossible to accomplish such a feat, but I can assure you that if these steps are completely and correctly and flowers/chocolate are in high supply, than your Valentine's Day memories will forever be stuck in that small sappy corner in the heart where the love and oxygenated blood is kept.

## Mean Thirteen

*Awarded a scholastic silver key*

By Emily Thomas

A little house perches upon a tree  
like a bird in its nest,  
high above the slate rooftops.

The house is poised to take flight  
and flap its feathered reach  
far from childhood dreams.

Dreams in which bicycles turn  
into getaway cars and  
you pedal so fast,  
but you don't know why  
you're fleeing.

And you can't turn around  
because all those birthdays  
are starting to catch up.

Thirteen is mean.

It's going to gobble down the tree house  
and the curtains your mother made,

along with your tiny tea set,  
your cowboy pop guns, lassos,  
the dusty brown baseball  
you found in the park last year.

Pedal until your legs won't pedal any more  
and the chains fall from their gears  
and you're just pushing along  
with the rubber tips of your sneakers  
because you can't  
turn around.

Lindsey Knox, 12th grade



## Darkest Night

*Awarded a Scholastic Honorable Mention*

By Rachel Lechler

I saw you in my dream  
with your hands upturned,  
soaking in the light from the gilded moon above.

Silver salty streams of water caress your skin,  
so cold,  
rushing over you like dancing sterling fish,  
droplets

resting like mist on your flesh.

With a body like Achilles  
and a persona like Zeus,  
your almighty presence creating a warm glow,

rising from the sand,  
reflecting from the luminescent glimmer  
of polished sea glass molded together.

So alluring, yet so sinuous,  
the fragile scales replaced  
your human form,

fanning your tail out against the sand  
as if it could be toes.

I imagined it to feel as soft as fresh linens,  
yet hard like the core of an apple,  
your personal armor.

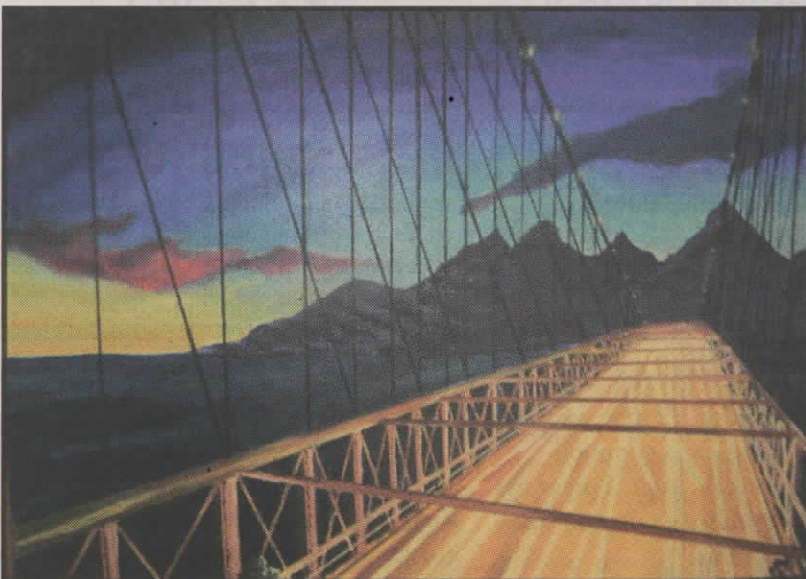
I opened my eyes  
and you swam back  
into the dark waters  
of my subconscious,  
rippling away with the night.

But if I close them again,  
maybe this time,  
I too will have a tail.

Dylan Scheer, 12th grade



Jessica Martin, 10th grade



# Creative Writers run the table at Scholastic

## Will Dodge

The SOA Creative Writers have always done well in the National Scholastic Art and Writing Awards, but never have they hit the mark that they did this year. In total, there were 144 gold key, silver key and honorable mention awards given to students from grades 7-12. The gold key is considered the highest level of work at the regional level, while the silver key is recognized as being outstanding, and an honorable mention deeming "artistic potential". Of the 81 students who submitted, 67 were recognized, many winning for more than one piece. Winners at the regional level move on to the national competition, where 500 writers are invited to New York for a ceremony at the famed Carnegie Hall.

In South Carolina's region, which includes seventeen southern states, School of the Arts alone bested the totals of all of Alabama, Florida, and Arkansas combined. Included in the honors were two prestigious gold key portfolio awards, given to seniors **Alex Hoffman** and **Jacob Elsey**. Jacob said of the honor "I am very grateful for having my portfolio and the shot at going to New York and getting them ten stacks". 37

Gold Keys, 60 Silver Keys, and 50 honorable mentions were given to SOA students.

Creative writing teachers **Rutledge Hammes**, **Sean Scapellato**, and **Rene Miles** were very proud of their students. Mr. Hammes said of the competition, "It's getting harder to win, but we consistently win more and more, proving once again that our school has some of the strongest writers in the country." Mr. Scapellato's reaction was similar. "The fact we as a school beat out three other states combined is astounding. But I'm not surprised. We work very hard and spend a lot of energy on Scholastic. The winning is well deserved." This year's total doubled 2011's intake of 75 awards.

The Scholastic Art and Writing Awards are the largest annual writing and visual art competition in the country, having received 190,000 works from 90,000 students this year alone. Established by Scholastic founder Maurice C. Robinson in 1923, the awards have become the nation's largest source of scholarships for creative teenagers. Previous winners include Truman Capote, Andy Warhol, and Sylvia

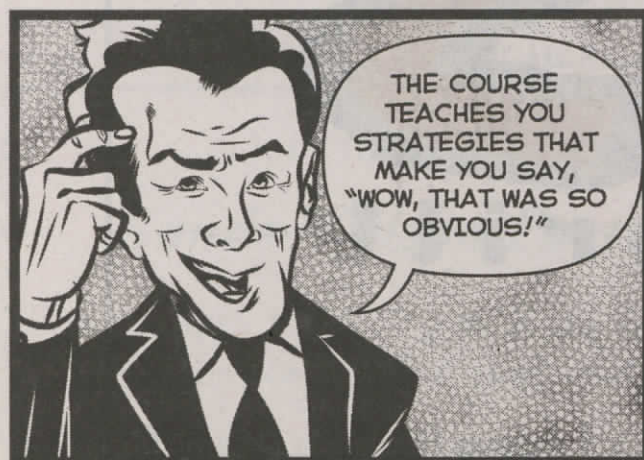
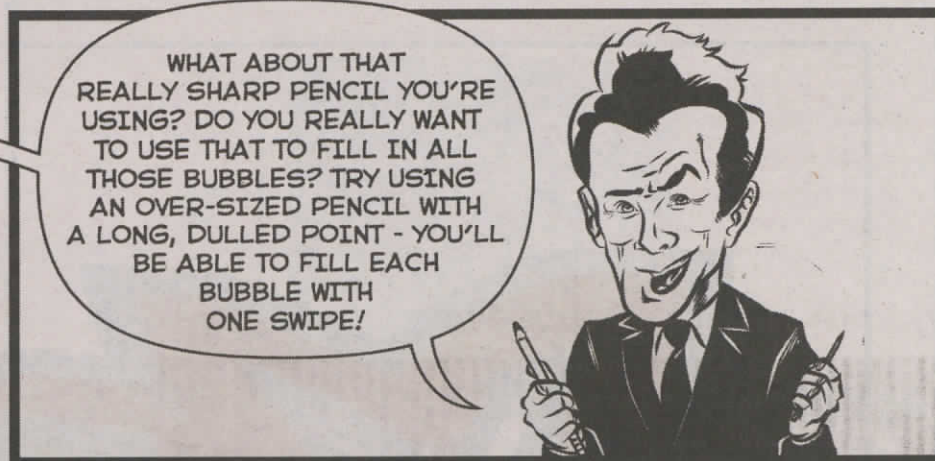
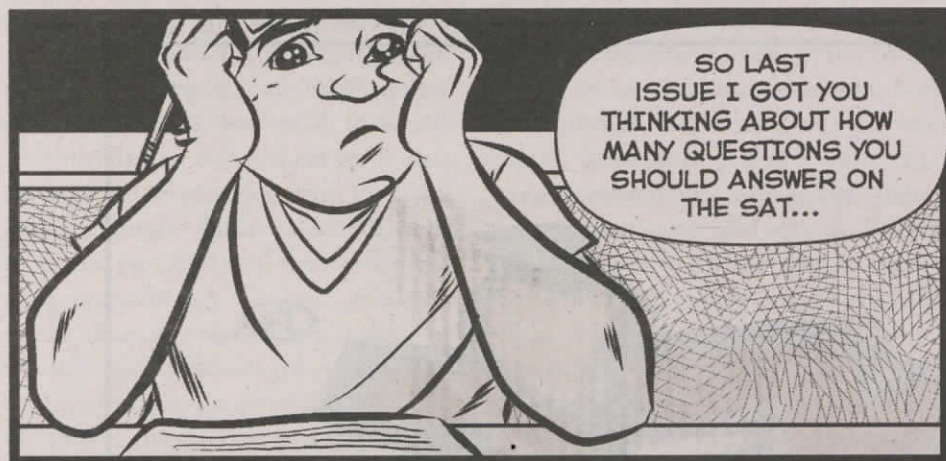
Plath. Congratulations to all 67 winners, and best of luck in the national competition to the Gold Key dudes and dudettes.

### Winners listed by grade

(SK=Silverkey, HM=Honorablemention, GK=Goldkey)

**7th Grade:** **Madison Harden** (SK, HM), **Erin Kelm** (SK, HM), **Kathleen Kittrell** (2 SK), **English Leserna** (HM), **Claire McTighe** (HM), **Glenys Morton** (HM), **Elizabeth Root** (GK, HM), **Aurelyn Van Kirk** (GK, SK), **Sterling Windham** (HM), **Tess Abedon** (SK, HM)  
**8th Grade:** **Marija Giglio** (GK, 2 SK), **Carolina Lamb** (GK, HM), **Allyson Puerifoy** (HM), **Adonis Pineda** (SK, HM), **Savannah Porter** (GK, SK, HM), **James Rode** (GK, SK, HM), **Nicole Sadek** (2 GK), **Nick Scapellato** (GK, HM), **Molly Van Vliet** (SK, HM), **Karlie Cradock** (GK, SK, HM), **Maddie Depuy** (2 SK, HM), **Jordan DeShazo** (HM)  
**9th Grade:** **Dmitri Grigorieff** (SK), **Suzanne Jackson** (GK, SK), **Hannah Kelly** (GK, 2 SK, HM), **Anna Kalik** (HM), **Astrid McGlone** (GK, HM), **Nikita Narodnitskiy** (GK), **Amelia Nielsen** (SK, HM), **Savanna Osborne** (2 SK), **Madison Seabrook**

(GK, 2 SK, HM), **Hailey Williams** (GK, 2 SK), **Zoe Abedon** (2 GK, SK, HM), **Sarah Courville** (2SK, HM), **Taylor Dahl** (HM),  
**10th Grade:** **Connor Gatton** (HM), **Ellen Kitchens** (GK, SK), **Ayla Jensen** (HM), **Emily Fairchild** (2 GK, 1 HM), **Harris Lynam** (2 SK, HM), **Katherine Murchinson** (2 GK), **Alex Peebles** (SK, HM), **Courtney Carrick** (GK, 3 SK), **Miles Counts** (GK, HM), **Lucas Eaton** (HM), **Elizabeth Cross** (SK), **Ryah Dobson** (SK), **Cooper Donoho** (GK, SK, HM)  
**11th Grade:** **Rachel Lechler** (2 SK, HM), **Maya Novak-Cogdell** (HM), **Cory Stegelin** (2 SK, HM), **Emily Thomas** (2 GK, SK), **Sarah Baxley** (SK, HM), **Grace Collins** (GK, SK)  
**12th Grade:** **Farrell Harris** (GK, SK, HM), **Marissa Henthorn** (SK, 2 HM), **Jacob Elsey** (PORTFOLIO, 2 GK, HM), **Alex Hoffman** (PORTFOLIO, HM), **Savannah Miller** (GK, HM), **Hadley Preganz** (GK, 3 SK, HM), **Sam Rames** (2 GK, SK, HM), **Katie Ridgway** (GK, 3 SK, 2 HM), **Joseph Dubay** (4 SK, HM)



## SCORE MORE!

# JANTZI TEST PREP



# 4SATPREP.COM

## SOA needs an encore

### Savannah Miller

After months of painting the set, preparing the tech crew, and dress rehearsals, *The Music Man* has finally ended at SOA. Its departure comes with mixed feelings to the cast and crew after bonding over a semester, but they also feel relief to finally be able to study for tests and sleep more than five hours.

Senior **Alex Hoffman**, who was one of the actors in the octet, explained afterward that "It was definitely a bitter sweet experience, knowing that this would be my last high school show, but I thoroughly enjoyed it, and can't wait to come support the underclassmen next time."

I went on a Thursday evening to the performance and was im-

pressed before I even found my seat. In the lobby hanging from the ceiling were life-size posters of the cast posing as if for a portrait in the early 1900's. The quality of the photographs immediately established the setting before the play had begun.

At 6:30, the curtains unfolded to display several of the cast members gossiping and muttering as they built into the song "Rock Island." The actors did an excellent job getting into character and projecting enthusiasm that I didn't think of them as friends of mine but as the Iowa townspeople on stage. The voices carried to the audience in tune with the band in the pit as the actors danced to the rhythm.

Eighth grader **Haley Campbell** noted, "I loved the duet scene between Harold and Marian; I thought the overall emotion was really well portrayed by the characters on stage." The voices were beautiful and incredibly impressive — much more than the traditional standard of a high school production. To add to the duet, dancers performed behind the actors in pairs where seniors **Lorenzo Perez** and **Kedrick Pasley** were able to lift and swing their pairs into the air. Senior dancer **Katie Erin Clancy** commented, "the dancing was very sharp and put together." Creative writing teacher **Mr. Hammes** agreed, stating "I was amazed by both the stage and the choreography. It was clear

that so many people were working extremely hard behind the scenes."

I had walked into the RMMT skeptical. I had come to the play to support my friends and cover it for the newspaper, but my expectations were low. I left the theatre awestruck. All expectations had been substantially exceeded. Meticulous detail and care was shown in every aspect of the production, and it didn't go unnoticed. From the costumes to the music to the dancing, I eagerly followed the story with the actors. Haley Campbell added "I think that having such a successful large-scale production be put on by our school alone is an amazing feat. It brings a lot of pride to the students as well as the faculty to say 'we made this, this is ours.'"



*The Music Man* incorporated dance just as much as it did vocals and acting. Photo by Anna Mathias



Juniors Callan Shattuck and Taylor Allston were among those in the chorus. Photo by Anna Mathias

**MOPES** <sup>®</sup>  
southwest grill

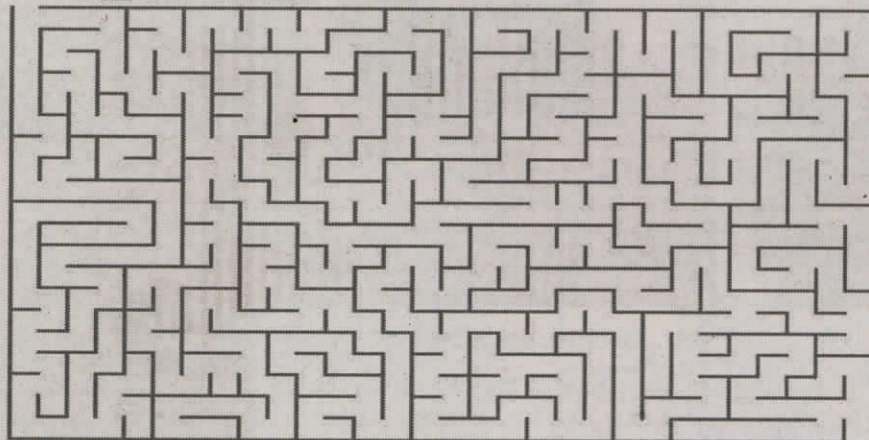
## February Word Search

BABYMAMADRAMA  
BOO  
CHOCOLATE  
CUPID  
DIAMONDS  
FIREPLACE  
FLOWERS  
FORK  
GODIVA  
HEARTS  
KHALIEL  
KISSES  
LOVE  
SUGADADDY  
SWEETHEARTS  
THEMUSICMAN

S	N	V	I	N	I	K	S	L	K	T	G	N	E	J	L	W	Q	L	Z
B	T	V	R	H	Q	U	W	L	O	X	V	A	H	S	U	Q	A	R	W
P	S	R	Z	Z	P	Y	V	W	T	V	I	M	H	B	S	C	I	F	W
B	J	F	A	L	D	O	F	D	U	W	E	C	V	T	O	T	V	D	F
D	G	U	I	E	G	T	V	E	A	Z	R	I	G	G	B	G	K	I	J
C	D	A	R	R	H	W	X	E	M	B	S	S	R	P	E	J	C	A	M
H	U	V	U	V	E	T	A	M	F	G	C	U	P	B	H	J	S	M	X
B	T	I	Y	I	O	P	E	G	T	L	W	M	U	E	L	E	I	O	Y
Y	J	D	E	E	N	G	L	E	A	D	H	E	C	G	S	Q	O	N	K
E	M	O	C	U	P	I	D	A	W	H	P	H	E	S	R	Y	J	D	H
Z	B	G	C	Y	T	Q	V	T	C	S	N	T	I	Z	Z	U	D	S	L
G	K	N	T	X	V	B	V	U	E	E	A	K	Q	W	Y	J	G	L	A
U	A	F	T	T	B	P	L	L	X	L	S	F	Z	D	V	X	Z	A	F
S	V	A	W	K	E	R	C	L	O	F	N	Z	F	V	I	Q	J	L	S
Q	D	X	E	L	F	D	E	C	N	S	E	I	O	V	Y	T	O	E	Z
L	E	I	L	A	H	K	O	X	X	U	T	X	R	D	S	W	G	G	Z
I	Z	P	R	N	S	H	O	Q	J	L	X	R	K	G	E	Y	B	W	J
U	Q	X	A	T	C	M	P	R	B	U	Z	U	A	R	B	O	B	S	J
A	M	A	R	D	A	M	A	M	Y	B	A	B	S	E	O	G	B	K	H
N	I	Q	V	S	U	G	A	D	A	D	D	Y	R	T	H	V	I	E	J



**Help Mr. Southwick  
find his soccer ball!**



## Horoscopes!

**Pisces:** Roses are red and violets are corny, get your significant other neither.

**Aries:** Eating too much chocolate will result in a spontaneous combustion of your taste buds.

**Taurus:** Be wary of what jewelry you buy your significant other. They may google the price.

**Gemini:** Those butterflies in your stomach, are actually really bad gas.

**Cancer:** Don't spend too much; love should be free!

**Leo:** Be fierce and fabulous this Valentine's Day, whip your hair back and forth.

**Virgo:** Get ready for your exciting Valentine's Day date... with your cat.

**Libra:** Fortunately, love is blind so you still have a chance.

**Scorpio:** Mirror, mirror on the wall, who's the fairest of them all? You are!

**Sagittarius:** Tell your ex how much you love him by burning your name into his lawn.

**Capricorn:** If you like it then you shoulda put a ring on it.

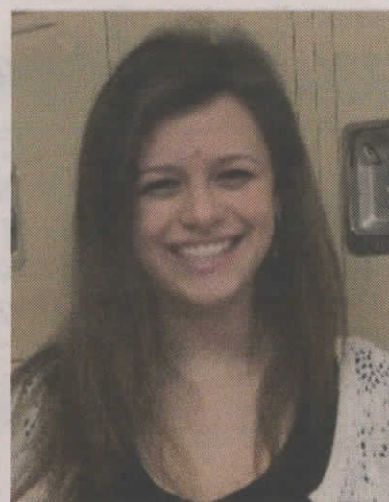
**Aquarius:** Your argumentative nature will get the best of you, when your reflection gets the last word.



“My wife because she’s pretty and she likes me...and she’s a doctor.” Mr. Donnellon



“Kwyntae Grampus, because she’s awesome.” Grayson Enter, 9th grade Vocal



“Mr. Barrett Reese...because he is beautiful.” Julia Woodward, 11th grade Vocal



“Justin Bieber because he’s really cute.” Bailey Gruber, 8th Vocal



“Hillary Clinton because she’s powerful.” Sam Funk, 11th grade Theatre



“Channing Tatum because he’s so hot.” Megan Murphy, 12th grade Theatre

## Who is your dream valentine?

By Allie Augustine and Miki Sugimoto



“I love Johnny Depp.” Jessica Lyker, 6th grade Creative Writing



Halle Berry, Madonna, Jennifer Aniston, Janet Jackson, Kim Kardashian, Nicki Minaj, Gabrielle Union...” Mr. Grant



“Mr. Brehm because he’s awesome.” Morgan Rowland, 12th grade, Band



“Harriet Tubman because she’s beautiful.” Alex Enter, 12th grade Vocal