

Applause

Volume 2 Number 5

Charleston County School of the Arts, North Charleston, SC

April 2001

In This Issue



Kate Colbert unveils her family fame. page 6



Tawana Tolbert interviews Mrs. Cooper. page 4



SOA chooses favorite Lowcountry eateries. page 10

Theatre majors return from England!

by Ian O'Shea

The SOA high school theater majors have returned from their trip to England, and do they have a story to tell! This trip was a first for a lot of people. A few had never even flown on a plane before.

While staying at the Plaza Hotel on Hyde Park, theater majors enjoyed a wonderful learning experience in London, England. The group visited Westminster Abbey, Buckingham Palace, and "The Witches of Eastwick" on the first day of their nine day tour of London. The tour was led by Julie, a young female tour guide who almost immediately became everyone's favorite Brit. The thirty-three students traveled to Windsor Castle, Shakespeare's homes, and Stonehenge. They also saw several shows including *The Rivals*, *Madame Melville*, *Starlight Express*, and *Romeo and Juliet*. *Madame Melville* starred former childhood actor **Maccauly Culkin**. The theater majors were treated to a "meet and greet" session, backstage, after the show. There Maccauly answered questions from the theater majors for fifteen minutes. Some of the guests thoroughly enjoyed his company. "I thought he was a very nice young man," said instructor **Michael Locklair**. Too bad others did not feel the same. "Maccauly Culkin was annoying... I wanted to cut off his head," shouted **Bubba Bryant**. "He is pretentious, rude, snotty, and the worst stage actor I have ever seen," said **Courtney Dix** a tenth grade theater major. Gosh, I'd hate to cut her in the lunch line! But seriously, aside from seeing shows, the students toured famous theaters and paid a visit to a wax museum. While on the trip **Blair James** celebrated her seventeenth birthday at a restaurant called Maxwell's, which is rumored to have the nicest looking male staff in all of England.

The students were asked to keep a daily journal, in which they would relay the events of the day, along with artistic interpretations in the form of collages, poems, theatrical reviews or personal thoughts. Students were able to keep their journal to always remember their stay. I have asked many of the students what their favorite part of the trip was. Bubba Bryant told me that "Stonehenge rocked!" **Becca Toms** said "Ask any girl and they will tell you that Maxwell's was the best!" **Matt Riddlehoover** responded "My naughty, naughty prank calls."

The students all had different opinions and views of the shows they saw, and all enjoyed the different aspects of the trip. The hotel was said to have been a fun experience, as was mingling with the students of Trident Academy. Shopping and eating out for lunch swallowed up the students English pounds. The chaperones on this trip can not be thanked enough for the wonderful job they did supervising the students. Check out our next *Applause* to read accounts from SOA's other world travelers such as the visual artists, creative writers and strings majors who visited Italy, the piano majors who journeyed to Germany, Switzerland and Austria and the dance majors who traveled to France.

SOA School Report Card: A++

by Taylor Silver

We've all heard the worries from parents before, "Is my child obtaining as good of an education at SOA as she would at a regular public school?" Well, in case you haven't seen it yet, the school report that came with the our latest interim should put those worries to rest. Not only does SOA boast outstanding artistic accomplishments, but countless impressive academic achievements as well. It's safe to say: we have the best school in South Carolina. An impressive 48.3 percent of SOA's student body is on the state-identified gifted and talented list compared to the entire school district's 9.4 percent, our MAT 7 scores are ranked second in the state, and the average SAT score is 1107. Face it; we're blowing the other public schools out of the water.

Other highlights from the report...

- PACT 6-8th grade at or above basic skills: 98%-Writing 93%-Math
- 10th Graders passing the exit exam: 98%-Writing 97%-Reading 93%-Math
- 20 winners in the Scholastic Writing Contest; the greatest number in the nation
- First Place in the International Thespian Festival
- 20 winners in History Day state competition, 7 at the national level



Kayla Morrisey and Rebecca Toms salute with an anonymous member of the Royal Guard.



Deirdre Middleton, Monica Fields, Dwan Miller, and Ellis Bradford rehearse for Rotary Club performance.

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Editor's Page

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*Applause is a student produced publication of the School of the Arts.
We can be contacted at ccsoa@email.com or 843-529-4990.*

Letter to the editor

Dear Applause,

I recently overheard a student commenting on how they were tired of the dress code, and all of its newest changes. In fact, they even mentioned that they had dressed to defy it and Mr. Davis.

Personally, I feel that the dress code, and its many revisions, is somewhat restrictive, but if students, such as the one I overheard, are going to blatantly refuse to follow these simple guidelines on how to dress, then, I believe, the dress code should be more strictly enforced. It is because of these select few who refuse to adhere to certain guidelines that the rest of us must suffer. For example, last year, the seventh grade class (now eighth graders) continued wearing what the administration deemed short-shorts, rather than wearing the requested length, to the end of our middle fingers. Because of this "rebellion," this year, the administration has enforced that shorts be (at most) four inches above the top of our knee caps when we are at a standing position.

By being required to follow a certain dress code, our school's administration is trying to instill in us the knowledge that appropriate attire is necessary for a professional environment. Some of our most "rebellious dressers" don't realize that if they were to go apply for a job, in any respectable workplace, they would not be hired if their job would require them to interact with customers or clientele. By refusing to abide by these dress codes, our fellow classmates, and underclassmen, have exchanged our freedom of expression, given willingly to us by Mrs. Myers when SOA was first founded, for total disrespect and lack of understanding for our school's staff and faculty.

Just because students agree to follow these guidelines doesn't mean they give up their personality, individuality, or freedom to express themselves; it simply means, these students understand the importance of "dressing for the occasion," or, at least, respect our school's administration. Regardless of what some of the SOA students believe, school IS a professional environment, and we should act as such, with respect for those who are learning, those who are teaching, and those who enforce the rules (especially).

A. Nicole Griffin
Class of 2001

The Bloody Hand of Our Youth: an editorial

You would think that after the blood-shed at Columbine, the madness our youth searches for would become a vague, bitter memory. Now, after a 15 year old freshman named **Charles Andrew Williams** went to his school carrying a .22 caliber pistol, the past nostalgia is a startling reminder of our failure to see the issues of today's generation. Williams opened fire on his school campus in San Diego, California, wounding 13 people and killing 2 other fellow students. After being apprehended in a school restroom, with 8 bullets still loaded in his gun, we have to ask ourselves why and what can be done.

Although we as an American public and as a student body have pondered what causes our classmates to kill, these disturbing questions have yet to be answered. The victims are considered indiscriminate, and there are no particular targets for such violence. The motives seem to be rather unclear. But, if we are the youth of today's generation and we can create such madness and condone such a form of chaos, what could the next generation of youth be capable of? This thought has often caused government officials and the authorities to be extremely apprehensive, whether it is a joke or not. According to *The Post and Courier*, Williams "joked" with his friends about bringing a gun to school, but later claimed, when asked by a concerned parent, that he was "just kidding around".

I believe that a public out-cry has failed to be heard, and that there should definitely be some sort of program in all schools that warns children of all ages about school shootings and other forms of destructiveness that occur in classrooms. But then there is another question. Can school violence be prevented? Many people say that "metal detectors" and "lock-downs" would help in the prevention of another school shooting, even if it doesn't prohibit school violence completely. But whether or not we use these programs and/or other ways of safety, it is still a rising issue in the youth of America.

Rebekah Bevins - 8th grade

A word from the editor



Welcome to our latest issue of *Applause*. In our continued effort to improve our paper and develop the diversity of our staff, we have made a few role changes. I look forward to the challenge of making our final issues the best they can be. I would like to thank all of the students who participated in our food survey this past month. Some of the results may surprise you, so be sure to check it out on page 10. I would also like to thank the middle school visual artists for their fantastic artwork featured on page 7. If you find yourself constantly unorganized, or you just can't seem to ever get all of your homework done, be sure to look at some tips from Emily Moebes on page 3. Thanks to Ms. Lawson's eighth grade history class for submitting the essays on page 4. If you have any views, or comments for our staff or for publication in the next issue, send your e-mails to ccsoa@email.com. Thanks for your continued support; I hope you enjoy this issue and our future issues of *Applause*.

Taylor Silver
Applause Editor

Features

Mess-Prone Or Neat Freak?

by Emily Moebes

Do you often times find yourself rummaging through your Biology notebook, searching for your pre-cal. homework? Then when you pick up your French notebook, do you find that mysteriously missing assignment? If you said yes to any of these things, then chances are you have a disorganization disorder that plagues more than half of school kids. Nothing has a place, and everything goes where it shouldn't.

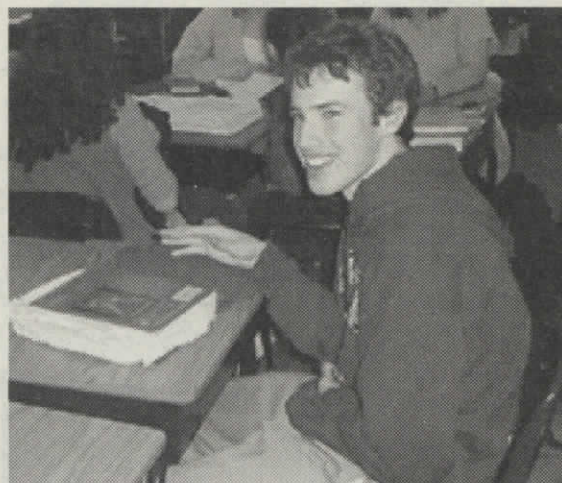
The symptoms of this disorder are obvious, but the causes vary from person to person. Some are simply "mess-prone"; some are too busy to be organized; and some don't have an excuse, other than laziness. As a mild obsessive compulsive, I am very picky about how my notebooks are arranged. Each subject has a color-coded one-inch binder, and every binder has sections determined by the class specifications. I have lent my assistance to many of my friends with "junk" issues, and all have been satisfied with my organization methods. This article could give YOU some insight on why you can never seem to find your assignments when you need them. If you are, in fact, one of those people who stuffs their text books with papers, then the first thing you need is a **NOTEBOOK!** Buy dividers with colored tabs and label the tabs "homework," "classwork," etc. Now, having a notebook does you no good if you can't ever find anything in it. My cure for this is simple: put a good bit of loose leaf notebook paper behind each divider, and when you do your work, do it on the paper in the appropriate section. Then you can never lose it. Always keep plenty of paper in your notebook so you won't be forced to do an assignment somewhere else. You know high school teachers don't accept the excuse "I had it but I don't have it."

Your next organizational tactic is more a matter of habit. Get in the habit of putting dates and page numbers on your paper. If you keep them in chronological order, then you can easily access them later. To help myself, I write "homework notes", etc. at the top of the page and underline it. In US history, under these headings, I write the chapter and section. Also, keep a section for miscellaneous stuff that you might use later on. When you take notes, always give them a heading that pertains to the topic, so that when it's time for midterms or finals, you can pull out the notes you need to look over. Last but not least, use your planner. If you don't like writing your assignments in a little book with fish on it, then put a sheet of paper at the very front of your binder, taped on the inside cover. Use the final five minutes of class to write your assignment on this paper. Write "work due" at the top and highlight it; that way you won't forget. Also, write the date next to it.

For example:

Work Due
Chapter 3, p.g. 254 2/12/01
Test Friday 15th

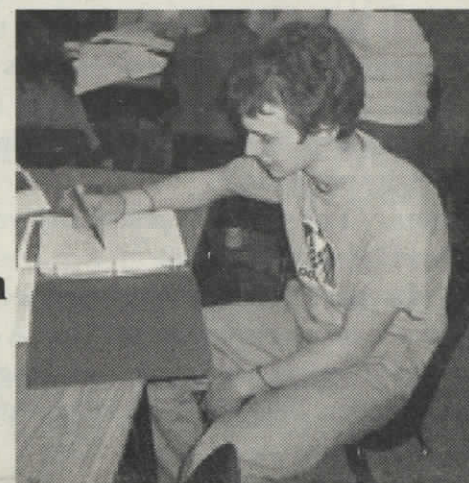
If you decide to use these tips and you still find French work falling from your calculus book, then either A: you're one of those gifted people that succeeds in a disorganized lifestyle, or B: you're willing to take a chance on the fact that some sad day your Doctoral Dissertation will disappear somewhere in your messy dorm room, only to be discovered after you miss graduation.



Ms. Marshall helped Brian move from the book to the binder.



Brian Batten's Miraculous Conversion



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Features

Hangin' with Mrs. Cooper!

The school bell rang approximately 7:50 a.m. on August 10th, and students walked down the familiar halls in a loud and boisterous manner, anxiously waiting to get to their homeroom and start a new school year. However, the loud noise subsided when students noticed an unfamiliar face sitting behind a desk outside the front office. Little did they know it was Mrs. Sharon Cooper, SOA's former substitute teacher. While interviewing Mrs. Cooper I discovered she is a Little Old Country Gal at heart and has a love for children.

Tawana: Were you born and raised in South Carolina?

Mrs. Cooper: No, I am a native of Gatesville, Texas.

Tawana: Where did you attend high school, and was it anything like SOA?

Mrs. Cooper: I attended Lamar High School in Arlington, and I wish I had the opportunity to attend a school like this.

Tawana: So did you attend college in Texas too?

Mrs. Cooper: Actually I moved miles and miles away from home to the University of Texas.

Tawana: After spending practically your whole life in Texas why did you move to South Carolina?

Mrs. Cooper: I moved here because this is my husband's home and I met him while he was a student at Texas A & M.

Tawana: I've only seen your two daughter but don't you have a son also?

Mrs. Cooper: Yes, I have a son who attends Buist Academy and my daughters are theatre majors here at SOA.

Tawana: How do your daughters feel about you being a part of the school now?

Mrs. Cooper: They like having me here, but dislike the fact that I'll know whenever they do something wrong.

Tawana: So, Mrs. Cooper, what exactly is your job title, and is it better than substitute teaching?

Mrs. Cooper: I am the receptionist here at SOA, and though I love children this is much better because I have my own desk, computer, and phone.

Tawana: Don't take this personally, but do you like sitting outside the office by yourself?

Mrs. Cooper: As a matter of fact I do because I get a chance to meet a lot of parents and students and talk to the teachers that always walk by.

Tawana: Who are the two young ladies working with you?

Mrs. Cooper: They're my two assistants, **Beatrice Heyward** and **Kristen Moore**.

Tawana: When do your assistants come on the scene and where do you go?

Mrs. Cooper: I'll either go talk to the ladies in the cafeteria or sit and talk with the students. However, only on A-days because I have someone here to help me all day long.

Tawana: I always see a crowd of kids in the morning in front of your desk. That just has to be the most aggravating part of your day.

Mrs. Cooper: Actually, the most aggravating part of my day is giving detentions, but I'm always relaxed when Bea and Kristen come to help me.

Tawana: So, after long hours of work what do you do to relax yourself?

Mrs. Cooper: Honestly, I drink a glass of wine and read the newspaper or a book.

Tawana: Are you ever in a bad mood because I always see you smiling and in a peachy mood?

Mrs. Cooper: I'm never in a bad mood because I have a whole jar of peppermints.

Tawana: You are a very patient person with a positive attitude, what advice would you give to students (like me) with little patience?

Mrs. Cooper: Just suck on a peppermint and don't say a single word until you're finished.



Mrs. Cooper

Eighth graders speak out

The following essays were written recently by eighth graders in Ms. Lawson's social studies class as part of Black History Month.

"If there is no struggle, there is no progress."

-Frederick Douglass

I have wanted to be a performer since before I can remember. I'd always swing and dance for people. It was something I loved to do, and still love to do. I have been dancing since age two. I remember how I'd come home at 10 or 11 pm and be exhausted from our teacher working us so hard. For the past four years I've taken at Robert Ivey Ballet and have had to learn harder technique. I dance everyday except Wednesdays and Fridays so I have to stay up until two o'clock in the morning most nights to get my homework done. I also get frustrated with myself if I can't do something in class. I'd start crying, and sometimes I still do. A few months ago, my dance teacher took me into a smaller room and told me that I needed to lose weight. I remember exactly how I felt at the exact moment. I'm very self conscious about my weight and it was like he was just telling me I was fat. He put me on a diet where I couldn't eat any breads, carbohydrates, or sweets. I went on the diet for fourteen weeks. I don't eat much anyway, but after I had started my diet, I ate close to nothing. My friends would threaten to stuff food down my throat if I didn't eat something. Soon after, even the sight of food would make me sick. I'd have to stare at the table because I couldn't even watch my friends eat.

Sometimes I'd, make excuses such as I had to go back to homeroom and get something. I'm proud to say that I quit that diet and I'm on a much healthier one as of right now. This time I'm not doing it for my dance teacher, but I'm doing it for me.

Right now, singing is what my life is focused on. That's what I want to do with my life. Last year, my voice was awful. I had no volume whatsoever, and I had a break in my voice. Every day in major a piece of the dream I had for myself diminished. I was determined to not let that happen, so I worked on singing whenever I had the chance.. I auditioned for everything. This year, my voice has more power and control, and my break has smoothed out some. I have participated in All County and performed in a sextet in my vocal group.

I have always been a straight A student. I work hard for my grades. I've set my standards high from the beginning and have never expected any less of myself. I know that all my work will pay off someday. What I don't know determines what classes I'll take next year, what college I'll end up going to, and it sets a good reputation. I don't take the easy way out. I earn my grades.

Last year, my family and I had trouble communicating to each other. My brother and sister and I hardly ever had a conversation without fighting. My mom and dad had trouble understanding me and the problems I was going through. They didn't take the time to just listen to me. I ran away a lot. I hated being in that house surrounded by people who didn't like me. Through a "second mother," my mom was told many things that she hadn't thought of before. She started listening to me and having conversations with me. It was the same with my father. I felt like I was part of the family again.

Because of all these problems, I gained success and progress. I used to think my life could never be good again. With determination, patience, and struggle my life became like a happily ever after story. Through all my struggles I have become stronger because of them.

-Shannon Gaetke

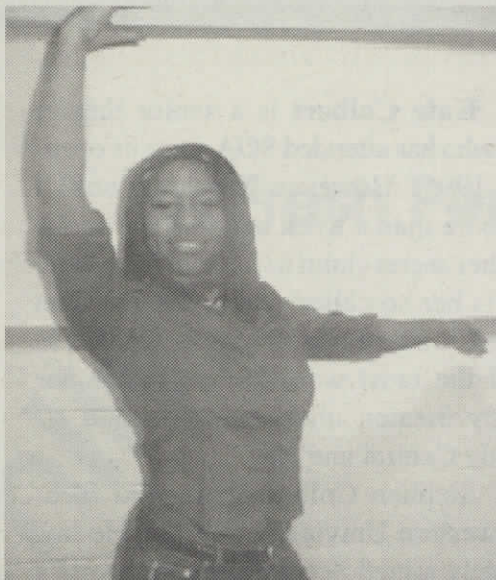
(Continued on page 6)

SOA News

Dwan's dancing dream comes true

by Loriel Brown

Dwan Miller, a dancer, an artist, a star. Dwan's love for dancing started in Los Angeles, California where she was born. When she was about seven years old her mom decided the family needed change; her mom, brother, and she moved to the city of Charleston, SC. During this time in her life she felt great pain from moving from a place she knew as home, to a place that was unfamiliar to her. What Dwan didn't know is that this may have been one of the best decisions her mother could ever have made for her. While in Charleston Dwan's dancing career has flourished. This



is ironic because when people think of Los Angeles, stardom comes to mind. However, if the goal of the majority of the people living in Los Angeles is to become a star, it would definitely be harder for her to get the attention she wanted because so many people want the same thing. Since Charleston is not as "stardom happy" as Los Angeles her chances are a lot greater. I enjoyed interviewing Dwan because she is a remarkable young woman. What makes it more special to me is that she is a friend.

Loriel: *Start off by telling me some projects that you are involved in.*

Dwan: I'm currently in a professional dance company called JII Dames which does different forms of dancing. I'm also a back-up dancer for an up and coming singer name Tara. She has extremely good vocal skills and possibly will be doing shows soon with some well known artist.

Loriel: *How does it feel to be a professional dancer?*

Dwan: Professional dancing is definitely more difficult and demanding because the instructor always expects more out of you. You have to follow mandatory rules and take care of your body.

Loriel: *(Keep in mind that Dwan is a student, professional dancer, member of a teen leadership council, and many other things.) Dwan it is obvious to see that you are very mature to be doing all these things. Since you are in the professional world of dance, you must do dances that require maturity. Tell me about them.*

Dwan: The company is working on a piece called "Anastasia". It is about a man questioning his sexual identity. This man isn't sure he he wants to be with a man or a woman. I am not in the piece, but I still have to be mature about the situation. Seeing "Anastasia" is preparing me so when I have to do a mature dance number.

Loriel: *Not only do you dance, you choreograph as well. I personally know you choreograph numbers for school, Tara, and for fun. Where do you get the inspiration to create such wonderful dances?*

Dwan: Choreographing isn't hard for me to do because I also have a love for music. I feel the music and the movement and it comes naturally to me.

Loriel: *It's not a secret that you are an amazing performer, one of the best. What do you feel when you're on stage?*

Dwan: What I feel and see on stage is courage. I love performing. Performing to me is like talking to a friend; it doesn't faze me. I love it a lot.

Loriel: *Dancers have great figures. Please give me some exercising tips I can do to be in shape like you.*

Dwan: Dancers are required to exercise and stretch a lot. We have to work out every joint in our body. You must have a good posture, body muscles, and most importantly you have to enjoy it. The main exercises are crunches, stretches, and push-ups.

Loriel: *I guess I'll just stick to my Tae bo. It has been a pleasure interviewing you.*

14 SOA vocalist selected for All-County Chorus

Soprano:

Laura Benson
Kimberly Cozart
Leah Hennessy
Lekeisha Montgomery
Kari Rikard

Tenor:

Marcus Richardson
Nigel Shine

Alto:

Loriel Brown
Courtney Clark
Jonisha Hart
Jonnie Ann Margiotta
Jennifer Paul

Bass:

Xan Gentile
Tyrone Wallace

Visual artists clean up in Duck Stamp Competition

by Loriel Brown

Congratulations to the Visual Artists who won South Carolina's Jr. Duck Stamp Competition, whose works were chosen from hundreds of entries.

11th grader **Rachel Taylor** was one of three 1st place winners in the high school division who will attend a workshop and luncheon with wildlife artists from around the world. Her work will go on to the national competition.

In the eighth grade, **Sarah Haynes** won 1st place, **Lucy Polley** won 2nd place, and **Austin Dukes, Toni Spigner** and **Rachel Steeley** won honorable mentions. 7th graders **Alyssa Pabst** and **Brent Sagan** both won honorable mentions.

The students' works were featured at the Wildlife Exposition at the College of Charleston.

Eva Sclipa recently won first place in the Teen Fiction Writing Contest, sponsored by the Charleston County Public Library. She was awarded a fifty-dollar prize unanimously. Congratulations Eva!

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Features

Do U Know...



Name: Tiffany Talley
Nickname: TBT, Tiff
Grade: 10
Major: Vocal

If you could trade places with any celebrity, who would it be and why?

It would be The Rock because I would lay the smackdown on all trash talkers.

Say that you were president, what would be the first law you would change or make?

The first law I would change is the speed limit. Some people, including myself, love danger!

When you die, what do you want to be reincarnated as?
I want to be reincarnated as a better person than I was before.

What song title best describes you? Why?

I would have to say "Independent Woman" because I am my own person and I take care of myself!

If you could be a super hero, who would you be?

I would be Xena because she is all that and a bag of chips!

Next to the Backstreet Boys, who is your favorite group?

Creed because they are so real.

What is your favorite subject? Why?

My favorite subject is biology because I just love lipids and zygotes!

Senior actress hopes to follow uncle's footsteps to fame

By: Ian O'Shea



Stephen Colbert

Kate Colbert is a senior theater major who has attended SOA since its opening in 1995. However, it was not until a little more than a week ago that she spoke about her secret claim to fame to *Applause*. What is her so-called claim to fame, you may ask? Her uncle, Stephen Colbert, is one of the most well known writers for comedy theater, and has performed on Comedy Central and NBC.



Kate Colbert

Stephen Colbert graduated from Northwestern University in 1980. He immediately joined Second City, the world's best comedy troop. His big break into

showbiz occurred when he and a group of friends wrote the variety show called "Exit 57." The show was picked up by Comedy Central and was in their primetime lineup. After only one season the show was cancelled, but the cancellation did not upset Stephen, instead, it motivated him. "Exit 57 gave him a taste of showbiz and he couldn't get enough of it," says Kate. He then propelled himself into stardom with his obvious comic genius. Stephen wrote for and appeared on such shows as "Saturday Night Live," "The Dana Carvey Show," and even "Spin City." While working for the shows, Stephen had plenty of time to rub elbows with quite a few superstars like Chris Farley, Dana Carvey, Michael J. Fox, Mike Myers, Craig Kilborn, and Jon Stewart.

Currently, Stephen is writing for "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart" on Comedy Central. Stephen Colbert lives in New York and has a wife and two kids. Our fellow student Kate says that she is very close to him. "He's like anybody else. No ego whatsoever; he doesn't even talk about work very often. He is not rich; he doesn't even drive a fancy car. What can I say? He is an awesome dad and fun to be with. He's just great and I love him to death." Kate told me that she intends to use him to the fullest as a connection for her own acting career. "In New York it is who has connections, not who has acting ability." When I asked Kate what it is like being related to someone who is so famous she joked "Sometimes it's tough being a Colbert. I...uh...I can certainly understand how the Kennedy's feel," an inside joke of the family's. Kate last saw her uncle when he came down to Charleston for Christmas.

Eighth graders speak out

(continued from page 4)

When I hear the statement stated by Marcus Garvey, "If you must be free, you must become so through your own effort, through your own initiative," I really have to stop and think about it before it makes good sense. When I was younger my dad walked out on our family, leaving my mom to do all the work. I never saw him so I really never counted or called him "dad." I knew my mom was there, it was just, she was so busy with other things, I hated to disturb her. She had to support not only me, but my younger and older sister too. It was hard on her being a single parent of three kids, but she did a wonderful job fulfilling her place as a mom. It's just during this time frame I learned how to do some things on my own, without anyone's help. My grandmother always used to say you never get anywhere in life if someone always does your work for you. That's probably one of the only statements that are true 100% of the time. Philippians 4:13 says that all things are possible with Christ by my side. So, really I don't do things on my own, but with the hand of Jesus Christ leading the way.

-Anonymous

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Student Work



Ashlyn Hunt Grade 8

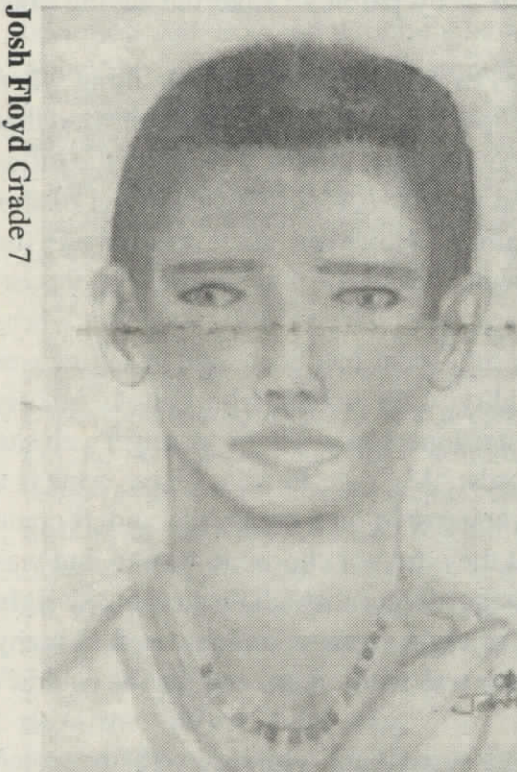
Death

What happens to someone who has died?
 Are they reborn as a baby?
 Are they sent up to heaven to spend eternity?
 Or do they stay on earth
 to hunt those who destroyed them?
 it would be strange if one day
 a killer woke up
 and knew his victim had come back to haunt him.

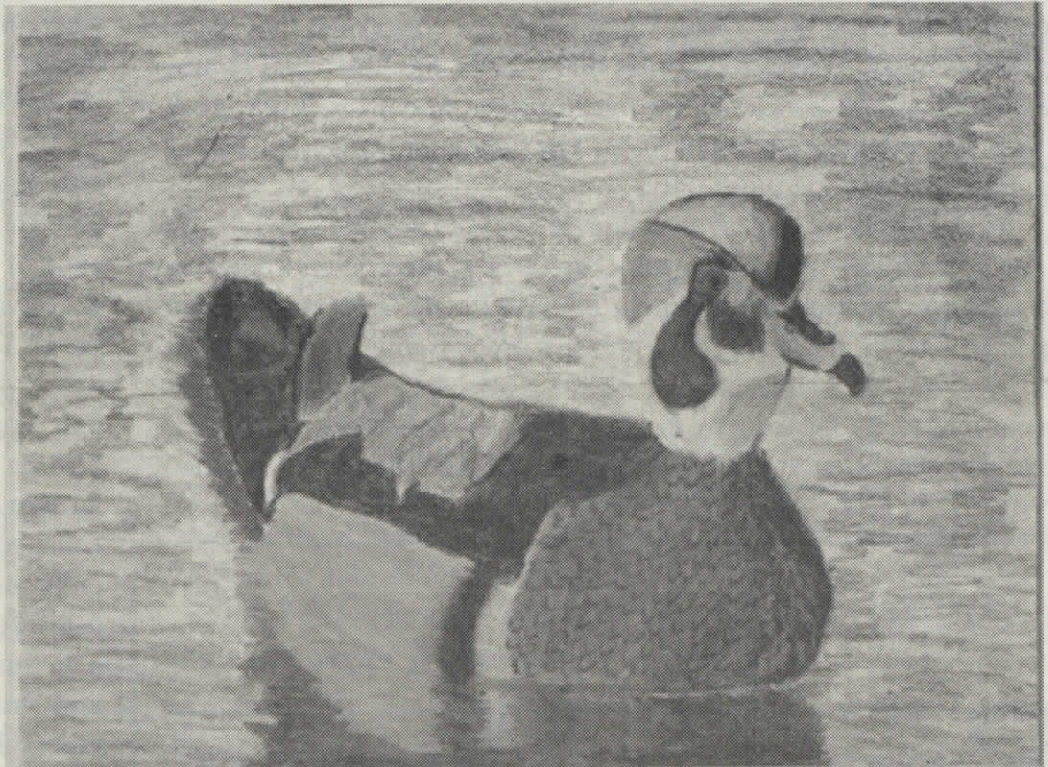
It is time,
 time to get what you deserve.
 Are you sorry that you murdered innocence?
 Do you wish that you could turn back the clock
 to undo the killing?

Somehow you know you can't.
 You have to live with the guilt,
 because no matter how sorry you are,
 you can never replace the dead.

Amy Chang
 8th Grade



Josh Floyd Grade 7



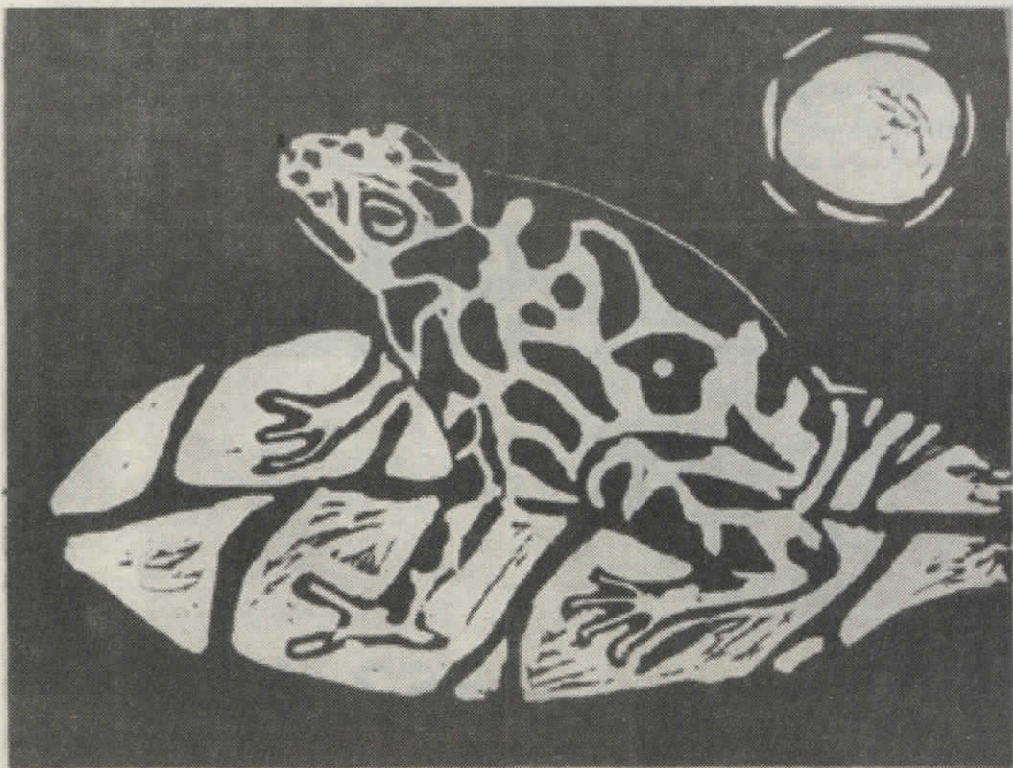
Constance Belton Grade 6

New Light

With every little grain of the sand of time
 That passes through the hourglass of eternity's
 funnel,
 He watches on as it speeds on through,
 Cutting shorter his next tomorrow.
 To others, though,
 It crawls slowly down,
 If somehow in slow motion, paused.
 So they quicken their pace
 To speed through life
 not noticing their lessening time.
 Then, they become the wizened man,
 Praying that maybe,
 Just somehow,
 something would come along and clog that funnel,
 To keep their time from running out.
 He minds not, though,
 For beyond these walls
 Lies a place never seen before.
 And there he'll rise,
 Get up and walk,
 And be greeted by God and open doors.

George Bates Grade 7

Sarah McCoy
 10th Grade



A Student's Voice

Entertainment vs. Media

by Sarah McCoy

In 1999 one of America's most horrible tragedies occurred. Dylan Clebold and Eric Harris walked into Columbine High School, shot and killed twelve students, one faculty member, then themselves. There were a total of fifteen dead. The confused and stunned nation didn't know at whom to point the finger: first at the students, then at the parents, and then, it seemingly rested upon music and video games. In magazines everywhere there were tables and charts listing the names of bands that child murderers were listening to, and what games these children were playing. The music ranged from rap to black metal and dark wave; video games were not played by all killers. This seemed interesting seeing that the coverage of these massacres emphasized that video games and music were two of the largest bad influences on the children. This isn't the only time that music has been blamed for psychotic acts of kids killing kids and themselves. Earlier in the year 2000 two Columbine students committed suicide while listening to a song by Blink 182 called "Adam's Song." Apparently the song had to do with suicide. Immediately, fingers were pointed at the music industry for the two boys' suicides. It turns out though, that the song was "Anti-Suicide." I am concerned that people don't realize music is used to express one's ideas, opinions, and feelings in an artistic way. Video games are mere entertainment for children who later on in life should grow out of them. The blame for these tragedies lies within the killer and the killer only.

Music has been used to entertain, tell stories, myths, folk tales and such for as long as time can record. Often times, there is an underlying meaning in lyrics. Often, people shouldn't take music so seriously. Sometimes depressing or angering lyrics are actually parodies or satires. Some bands that create such songs include NoFX, KoRn, Ray Stevens, Eminem, and plenty more. In one song by the artist Eminem, he states: "How much damage can you do with a pen?...Who would have thought Slim Shady

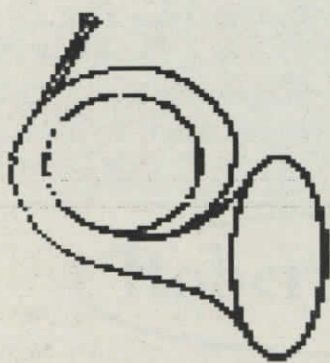
would have been something you would've bought that made you get a gun and shoot a cop. I just said it, I don't know if you're gonna do it or not," a prime example of my point. If it were true that music were to corrode the mind, there would be billions of people going out and shooting each other because someone who had a pen wrote lyrics that told them to do it. Yes, music can move a person, but only to a certain extent; then it takes something else to push the killer to his or her limit... something inside.

With technology advancing by leaps and bounds everyday it doesn't surprise me that companies have created games with extreme graphics and gory detail and sounds. There are plenty of people out there, some of which I know play these games like there is no tomorrow. Yet I have never seen them walk around with flames of rage in their eyes, or lick their chops with ambition to kill. Most everyone has played a war game or two out in their friend's back yard, or in a field, or even in a pool. If video games can supposedly drive someone to kill, then would that signify these other children's games will drive someone to start a war? There are ratings on video games (as well as warning labels on CDs), things of which should be looked at by parents. Like the saying goes "buyer beware."

Emotions play into actions of people. It is a terrible thing when kids start killing other kids, or people in general. A research showed that Eric Harris, the leader of the two Columbine killers, was under the influence of a Prosaic-like drug called Luvox. A reported side effect of this drug was possible massacre attempts. However, not everything is the drug's fault. There had to have been a reason he was on this anti-depressant drug in the first place. What causes children to kill- no matter where they are from, who raises them, and what has been said- what causes anyone to murder is in the mentality of the person who kills. In a letter written by cereal killer Keith Hunter Jeperson to a man hosting a web site I visited, he states in his own words: "My rage in what I have done is a cultivation of years and years of being sold on a dream that didn't come true...To say of any criminal, that they did not choose to be bad, but was a victim of his upbringing, is to make all morality, all discussions of right and wrong impossible." A killer of eight women, and accused of many others, Jeperson tells that the blame was within him, and that he couldn't control himself.

Perhaps these words from a current anti-violence website posted by a man named "Gunny" best summarizes my point. "The familiar cry is going up, as people try to decide whether to blame the NRA, guns, Marilyn Manson, the parents, the media, television violence, and a host of other scapegoats, but the true blame lies within the killers, and the killers alone."

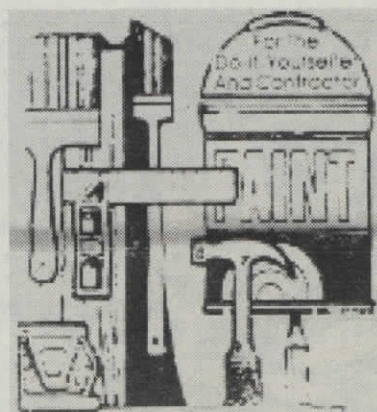
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Featured Teacher

Spotlight on Lock

by Ian O'Shea

When it comes to sports some guys have it, and some guys don't. **Mr. Locklair** says that when he was a kid he just didn't have it. You think "so what," right? Well back then if you didn't have game then you better find something that you are good at - fast. So Mr. Locklair tried playing piano...but was not too fond of it. So next he tried playing other instruments but, still that wasn't his bag of chips. So his parents, trying to find something that their son liked, sent him to the the Dock Street Theater for acting lessons. It was at the Dock Street that Mr. Locklair met **Emmit Robinson**, who would become his acting instructor. He immediately found a liking for acting. "I liked it because I enjoyed being able to create a story with a close group of people." He was fifteen years old then.

After graduating from Summerville high school, Mr. Locklair attended Georgia Southern as an undergraduate and received a degree in Elementary Education. He says he got into teaching because he was a good storyteller. He then moved to Tampa, FL and taught fourth grade for two years. While teaching during the day, Mr. Locklair acted and directed at night, weekends, and in the summer. His second summer teaching, Mr. Locklair directed a show and impressed the theater department at FSU. He was offered a position in the Asolo Theater Company in Sarasota, FL. The company was part of the FSU Masters Program. He performed professionally with the company and regional theaters from Maine to Florida on the east coast for three years. His favorite role was in a play called *Travesties*. "My character was a magician, so I got to learn all of these cool magic tricks." After three years he moved back into the field of education and taught for ten years. He then left Tampa for New York. "I didn't feel I was mature enough as an actor to go straight to New York. After teaching and acting in Tampa, I felt that I had matured as an actor enough to take on the Big Apple."

Once in New York he became a member of the theater troupe Alarm Dog Rep whose founding member is **Alan Ball**. After three years in New York, Mr. Locklair decided to move back to Charleston. One reason for the move was to be closer to his parents but also because of the Dock Street Theater. In the summer of 1995 he was contacted by **Mrs. Myers** and told about a new school that



Lock's tries some new threads.

was in the making. The school was focused around seven different art areas, theater being one of them. He agreed to help set up the audition process and the curriculum for theater. After the auditions he was offered a position as a theater instructor for one year. Somehow that one year has turned into six.

Mr. Locklair who says he constantly modifies his teaching techniques to fit his students, knows what he wants his actors to take from theater.

"I want theater majors to become excellent communicators and take their education seriously, but in a fun way." Mr. Locklair is optimistic about the future of SOA but wishes more people could see what is going on at this school and not simply assume what is happening. He credits his fourth and eleventh grade teachers as well as his acting mentor, **Jim Hoskins**, with whom he studied at FSU, as his inspirations. Mr. Locklair passes on his own word of advice to his students: "It's not important who you are, it is what you can do."

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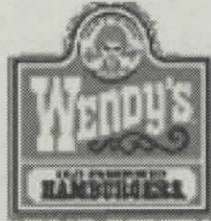
Lock hangin' with his students in England.

SOA Food Survey

Applause surveyed the SOA student body to determine their favorite local restaurants and menu items. Here are the results:

Best Deli: Schlotzsky's Deli
Runner-Up: Publix, Atlanta Bread Co. & Blimpies
Honorable Mention: Subway

Best Fast Food Restaurant: Wendy's
Runner-up: McDonald's
Honorable Mention: Burger King



Who has the best....

Best Steak: Outback
Runner-Up: T-Bonz
Honorable Mention: Ryan's



Best Ice Cream Shop: Ye Old Fashioned
Runner-Up: Baskin Robins
Honorable Mention: Dairy Queen



Best Soup: California Dreaming
Runner-Up: Miyabi
Honorable Mention: Outback

Best Breakfast Restaurant: IHOP
Runner-Up: Shoney's
Honorable Mention: Waffle House

Best Doughnut Shop: Krispy Kreme
Runner-Up: Dunkin' Doughnuts
Honorable Mention: Publix

Best Fried Chicken Sandwich: Chick -Fil-A
Runner-Up: KFC
Honorable Mention: Wendy's



Best Broiled Chicken Sandwich: Chick-Fil-A
Runner-Up: Wendy's
Honorable Mention: KFC



Best Japanese Restaurant: Miyabi
Runner-Up: Kim's
Honorable Mention: Osaka



Best Non-Fried Chicken: Applebee's
Runner-Up: Chick-Fil-A
Honorable Mention: Sticky Fingers



Best Chinese Restaurant: Emperor's Garden
Runner-Up: China Gourmet
Honorable Mention: Great Wall

Best Chicken Fingers/Nuggets: Chick-Fil-A
Runner-Up: Wendy's
Honorable Mention: Applebee's

Best Italian Restaurant: Fazoli's
Runner-Up: Olive Garden
Honorable Mention: Vincenzo's

Best Fried Chicken: KFC
Runner-Up: Ryan's & Chick-Fil-A
Honorable Mention: Kickin' Chicken

Best Greek Restaurant: Olde Towne
Runner-Up: Athens
Honorable Mention: Manny's



Best Wings: Wild Wing
Runner-Up: KFC
Honorable Mention: Kickin' Chickin & Blues

Best Mexican Restaurant: La Hacienda
Runner-Up: Los Loros & Ciscos
Honorable Mention: Taco Bell



Best Pizza: Pizza Hut
Runner-Up: Papa Johns
Honorable Mention: Ci Ci's



Best Family Restaurant: Applebee's
Runner-Up: Ryan's
Honorable Mention: Ruby Tuesday

Best Hamburger: Burger King
Runner-Up: Wendy's
Honorable Mention: McDonald's

Best Bar-B-Q Restaurant: Bessingers
Runner-Up: Sticky Fingers
Honorable Mention: Melvins

Best Fries: McDonald's
Runner-Up: Burger King
Honorable Mention: Checkers



Best Steak House: Outback
Runner-Up: T-Bonz
Honorable Mention: Ryan's

Best Salad: Ryan's
Runner-Up: California Dreaming
Honorable Mention: Mellow Mushroom

Best Seafood Restaurant: Red Lobster
Runner-Up: Captain D's
Honorable Mention: Boat House



Best Salad Bar: Ryan's
Runner-Up: Shoney's
Honorable Mention: SOA Cafe



Best Sub Shop: Subway
Runner Up: Mom's and Pop's
Honorable Mention: Jersey Mike's



Best Taco: Taco Bell
Runner-Up: La Hacienda
Honorable Mention: Juanita Greenberg

SOA Food Survey

Best Burrito: Taco Bell
Runner-Up: Juanita Greenburg
Honorable Mention: El Dorado's

Best Appetizers: Applebee's
Runner-Up: Ruby Tuesday
Honorable Mention: Red Lobster

Best Quesadilla: La Hacienda
Runner-Up: Applebee's
Honorable Mention: Backstage Deli

Best Lobster: Red Lobster
Runner-Up: Gilligan's
Honorable Mention: Boat House



Best Fajita: Taco Bell
Runner-Up: La Hacienda
Honorable Mention: Los Loros



Best Waffles: Waffle House
Runner-Up: Huddle House
Honorable Mention: IHOP

Best Non-Alcoholic Drink: Applebee's
Runner-Up: Red Lobster
Honorable Mention: California Dreaming



Best Pancakes: IHOP
Runner-Up: Perkin's
Honorable Mention: Waffle House

Best Macaroni and Cheese: Ryan's
Runner-Up: Piccadilly
Honorable Mention: Hard Rock



Best Eggs: IHOP
Runner-Up: Cracker Barrel
Honorable Mention: Waffle House

Best Ribs: Sticky Fingers
Runner-Up: Outback
Honorable Mention: Applebee's



Best BLT: Ye Old Fashioned
Runner-Up: Gaudie House
Honorable Mention: Wendy's



Best Baked Potatoes: Ruby Tuesday
Runner-Up: T-Bonz
Honorable Mention: Arby's & Wendy's

Best Omelet: IHOP
Runner-Up: Cracker Barrel
Honorable Mention: Alex's

Best Garlic Bread: Fazoli's
Runner-Up: Olive Garden
Honorable Mention: Mom's and Pop's

Best Egg Roll: China Gourmet
Runner-Up: Panda Palace
Honorable Mention: China Dragon



Best Fish: Captain D's
Runner-Up: Boat House
Honorable Mention: The Trawler

Best Hot Dog: Sonic
Runner-Up: Scoogies
Honorable Mention: Ye Old Fashioned

Best Buffet: Ryan's
Runner-Up: Shoney's
Honorable Mention: Super Buffet



Best Chinese Buffet: China Royal
Runner-Up: China Gourmet
Honorable Mention: Super Buffet

Staff Favorites

Jacquelyn Glover - La Hacienda

Taylor Silver - Osaka

Jane Lucas - Applebee's

Ian O'Shea - Mellow Mushroom

Emily Wahrer - On the Border

Emily Moebes - On the Border

Tim Smith - Charleston Crab House

Loriel Brown - Ryan's

Tawana Tolbert - Red Lobster

Sarah McCoy - California Dreaming

Jonisha Hart - Olive Garden

Staci Oliver - Bocci's

Kimberly Cozart - Sushi Kanpai

Mr. Cusatis - Caruso's



Best Roast Beef Sandwich: Arby's
Runner-Up: Hardee's
Honorable Mention: Subway



Best Desserts: Kaminski's
Runner-Up: Ruby Tuesday
Honorable Mention: Ryan's

Best Bloomin' Onion: Outback
Runner-Up: T-Bonz
Honorable Mention: Chili's

Best Hush Puppies: Captain D's
Runner-Up: Charleston Crab House
Honorable Mention: Gilligan's



April 2001 Calendar

Have a Great Spring Break!

Wednesday 4	High School Choral Concert (Garden Theater 8 PM) Senior Theater Thesis Performances	Saturday 21	Piano Festival Continues East Region Orchestra Continues Wind Ensemble BOA Regional Festival Middle School Choral Competition Continues Junior/Senior Prom, Stern Center Ballroom 8pm - 11pm
Thursday 5	High School Spring Concert (Garden Theater 8 PM) Senior Theater Thesis	Monday 23	9th grade Shakespeare's Clowns, Fools, and Buffoons
Friday 6	Piano and Dance Recital (NCUMC Davis Hall 7:30 PM) Senior Theater Thesis	Wed. 25-Sat. 28	Wind Ensemble in Washington D.C.
Monday 9-Monday 16	SPRING BREAK	Thursday 26	Middle School Band Festival (Atlanta)
Friday 20	Festival Choral Competition (Myrtle Beach) Piano Festival East Region Orchestra Wind Ensemble Concert (Seabrook Island)	Friday 27	Middle School Choral Concert (N. Chas. Performing Arts Center 7:30 PM)
Saturday 21	State History Day Competition (Columbia)	Sunday 29	PTSA Auction (Riviera 2:00 - 5:00 PM)
		Monday 30	PACT and Terranova Testing

SOA Band members sweep-up in Region and All-state bands

2001 SC Junior All-State Band

Instrument	Name	Chair
Flute	Lauren Shaw	10
Oboe	Alexandra Dawson	1
	Kristina Kirk	3
Bassoon	Treavor Murray	3
Clarinet	Phillip Lipton	10
Bass Clarinet	Joshua Fernandes	A1
Tenor Sax	Taryn Kimel	2
Trombone	Timothy Robinson	A4
Tuba	Samantha Ingram	1
String Bass	Mary Reed	1

2001 SC Clinic All - State Band

Instrument	Name	Chair
Clarinet	Andrew Pearlman	6
Tenor Sax	Luke Eppersimmons	A1
French Horn	Evan Lampkin	3
Trombone	Luke Reed	2
	Matt Stritch	3
Euphonium	Stacie Millere	1
Tuba	Drew Dupuis	A2
Timpani	Scott Black	1

2001 SC Senior All - State Band

Instrument	Name	Chair
Bassoon	Shrieka Gilliard	3
Clarinet	Ian Lampkin	A5
String Bass	John Fisher	1
String Bass	Mary Reed	2
Snare	Randall Scarborough	1

2001 Junior Concert Band

Instrument	Name	Chair
Oboe	Donavan Vedad	2
Euphonium	Alexandra Ingram	3
Tuba	Samantha Ingram	6

2001 Junior Symphonic Region Band

Instrument	Name	Chair
Flute	Christine Chong	10
Bassoon	Treavor Murray	4
Bass Clarinet	Joshua Fernandes	1
Alto Sax	Lauren Adderley	4
Trumpet	Scott Hodo	1
	Joshua Smoak	6
	Dustin Davis	7
French Horn	Daniel Vincent	2
	Colleen Campbell	7
Trombone	Timothy Robinson	1
Euphonium	Molloy O'Connell	3

2001 Region Clinic Band

Instrument	Name	Chair
Contra bass	Karvelis Flowers	2
Tenor Sax	Luke Eppersimmons	1
Trumpet	Brian Black	6
	Alex Collier	8
	Rob Madison	16
French Horn	Ben Fine	5
Tuba	Drew Dupuis	1
Snare	Lindsay Alexander	A3

2001 Region Senior Band

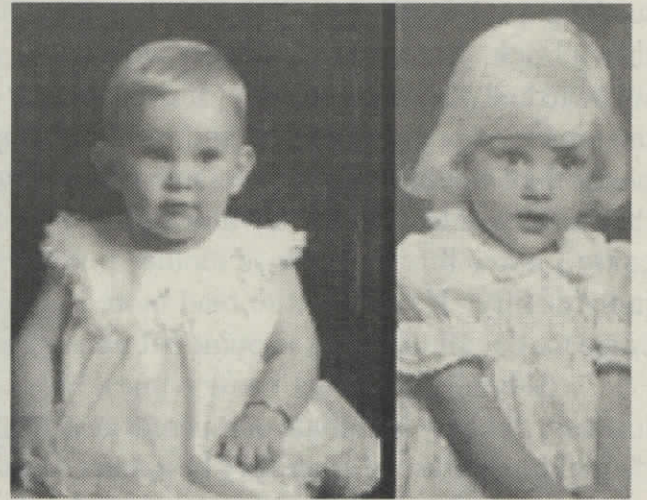
Instrument	Name	Chair
Flute	Haley Campbell	6
	Lydia Sisson	A1
	Keeverlee Burchett	A3
Bassoon	Shrieka Gilliard	A2
Clarinet	Ian Lampkin	1
Trumpet	Samantha Millen	6
French Horn	Taylor Silver	1
Trombone	Zora Johnson	2
String bass	John Fisher	1

Congratulations to the High School Jazz Ensemble for receiving a superior rating at a recent festival at Newberry College.

APPLAUSE Plus

Emily & Emily:

A Fresh Perspective



THE IN CROWD: Affluent Or Afflicted?

(Moebes) For editorial number four, my co-editor and I have decided to write on a topic that affects every student in every school, across the United States: the clique conflict. Before you read this editorial I highly suggest that you take the time to look at the people around you. Just look, don't make judgments, but rather observations. As human beings we're prone to pass judgment on those whom we do not know. These judgments, or stereotypes, if you will, are what divide our schools. They can lead to hateful feelings, which result in misunderstandings. While you are reading this, keep an open mind, and ask yourself if you are someone who helps to promote those misunderstandings.

Words like 'jock', 'ditz', 'brainiac', 'druggie', 'teacher's pet', and 'loner' are all commonly used to describe the divisions in a student body, collectively known as "cliques." For the last nine years my co-editor and I have proudly been a part of the group known as the loners. (Loner/N.: Individualists.) The dictionary definition is one that I think sums us up perfectly. An individualist is one who pursues a markedly independent course in thought or action. Unfortunately, over the years, 'loner' has come to have a negative connotation, more as someone who avoids contact with others. I personally resent this change. To avoid and to be avoided are two very different things. How people, such as myself, are marked with this derogatory title is rather ambiguous. It ranges from reasons as shallow as taste in clothes and physical appearance, to personality or religious clashes.

I, for example, prefer small group of friends that I can trust completely, as opposed to a large group where no one "really" knows anyone, which is the case with many large cliques. My co-editor and I keep to ourselves for the most part and do not interfere with others. Our group consists of a very diverse mix of people. We have the Catholic, the Atheist/Vegetarian, the Wiccan, the agnostic, the Episcopalian, and the non-denominationalist. Most of us are the black sheep of our majors as well as other school hierarchies. We all have a mutual respect for each other, and we try to extend that respect to everyone we come across; however, this does not stop people from hurling insults and criticism for no reason other than hurting someone else. As most of you know, our December editorial was extremely controversial, and as a result we were reprimanded by those who missed its point. What most people do not know is that for four years we let other people control our opinions and our beliefs if they dared to differ from their's, forced into submission by the majority. We combatted depression and feelings of inadequacy until we made it out of the public school system and into SOA, a school where we were sure our voices would at least be heard. Our own voices being a foreign concept to us, we looked forward to it. I realize now that it was an unrealistic thought. When we arrived at SOA, we were met with the same oppression that we had been fighting our whole adolescence to escape. The painful truth is that these problems are prevalent in every school. People judge continuously on outward appearance as if that were all that decided our personalities and differences. Just because someone dresses in a sweater vest and button-up shirt, doesn't mean they are a prep. Their personalities are what define them, and unfortunately many people are too consumed by jealousy or anger to take the time to get to know those whom they mock. This gross mistreatment has become a part of my life, and as a result, I question the motives of anyone who attempts to treat me with courtesy or even (gasp) respect. Having rocks thrown at you and insults screamed at you can damage anyone, I suppose. I've learned to deal with it in my own way, but I cringe when I see these things directed at others on a daily basis in our own school.

I watched last year as a very close, personal friend of mine was tormented by his peers simply because they had nothing better to do before French class, like studying for the test they would inevitably fail. I could not rationalize why they would mistreat someone that wouldn't hurt another living thing. It's sort of a lion vs. the lamb incident. Strangely, these "peers" are the same students whose names can be found scribbled on the bathroom wall under "I love..." If earning popularity and respect is all about demeaning those who do not deserve it, then I would be ashamed to call myself a part of the IN CROWD. Or so they so aristocratically call themselves. I'm sorry, people, but proving you can lower your standards just to hurt someone else is not something I would be proud of. So you can point at someone and laugh! This only shows how un-evolved and insensitive many high-schoolers are. I consider myself to be a liberalist and am accepting of all social groups, even if I don't agree with their views; however, this does not mean that I will sit idly by and watch others suffer through this unfair treatment.

Emily & Emily's Editorial

People complain about how black/white prejudices in schools are so terrible; however, in our school I find that the real issue isn't race but student status. Popular Vs. Unpopular. Considering that we attend an art school, it surprises me when I am condemned as a slut for wearing a mini skirt by a girl with less personality and individuality than a brick. Sometimes I wonder what these people would be like if we switched places for one day. If even just for one hour they could be the targets of pointing fingers and mocking laughs. I wonder if afterwards they would really be the same people. Perhaps I dress in a way that some would consider lewd or skimpy, but I pity those people because I know that my taste in clothes reflects nothing more than my individuality. If you want to read more into it than that, you're welcome to, but all that does is point out your ignorance and jealousy.

Naturally I cannot name names, but if you continually tease, torment, publicly humiliate or mistreat anyone for no reason other than their clique status, whether they be a loner or a nerd, don't be surprised when they conquer the world and you are left folding shirts in the Gap. After all, "To be great is to be misunderstood." (Ralph Waldo Emerson)

(Wahrer) People float around in groups, like schools of fish, camouflaging themselves to blend in with each other. They look alike, sound alike, even think alike. It must be easy to slip into that situation, but I wonder if, on occasion, they look at themselves and wonder if they should venture forth a topic of conversation that veers from the norm of looks, television, cars, and members of the opposite sex. If such thoughts do occur, though, they are apparently vanquished by self-doubt, or things wouldn't be the way they are.

Though I am fully against exclusive cliques amongst the student body, I endorse it every day by coming to this school, whose entire existence is based upon the concept that people can be divided according to criteria. But these divisions are necessary in order to tailor each student's education according to their strong points; however, this only helps students with ONE of their strong points. As a Creative Writer, I am only called on for one purpose: to write. If I display any other talent, people generally respond with disbelief. For example, every now and then I will bring in my sketchpad so I can work on a drawing in-between classes. If this drawing displays skill unbecoming of a Creative Writer (such as staying inside the lines), then anyone who happens to pass by me is sure to stop, stare, and ask, "Did YOU draw that?" I will usually reply with something as dry and impolite as possible, in the hopes that they can take a hint. They usually can't, though, because anyone that asks that kind of a question obviously isn't that sharp.

"YOU drew that? But aren't you a... WRITER?" That's when I have to REALLY bite my tongue, because I would feel just SO guilty about disillusioning some poor child. In case you've misunderstood me (as if THAT would ever happen!), I meant that sarcastically. I've built up a nice little writing career that's based on disillusioning people. Just for future reference in relation to my editorializing (and pretty much everything else about me), the opinion pieces that I write for the APPLAUSE newspaper are ALWAYS laced with sarcasm. But my thinly-veiled ribbings are never without their points.

In addition to the obvious art area divisions, there are individual sects within them. In most schools, or at least the ones I have attended, you immediately notice how most everyone has organized themselves according to race and gender. I don't think that these issues are as prevalent here as at other schools, mainly because of the fog of political-correctness that envelopes this school. This is not necessarily a

bad thing, but most of my black friends are so tired of forced pleasant-ries that they'd probably smack me if I so much as uttered "African-American". After all, I'm white, aren't I?

But these divisions are still quite large. Underneath race, gender, and art area, there is an unfathomably complex caste system. The whole purpose of writing this article is to examine cliques, but we can only scratch the surface; it's up to you to change it.

I hate how everyone is so concerned with their outward appearances. If some quiet, slightly nerdish type of person were to ACCIDENTALLY spray ketchup, which just happened to be in her path, ALL OVER a particular self-proclaimed princess, then they shouldn't freak out about it. No one cares if you got some ketchup on your pants; it's not something that you go and tell the whole school about. I think that it's much cooler to not care about it. You could even use it to your advantage. Turn it into a fashion trend! Everybody loves a spontaneous, nonsensical fashion trend. Who knows? Maybe the next big thing will be designer Calvin Klein ketchup bottles.

"Stain. From Calvin Klein."

I guess the top two most observable cliques would have to be Nerds (also includes geeks, weirdoes, and that one kid that always reminds the teacher that she forgot to assign the class homework), and cool kids (includes jocks, preps, and any girl that stuffs her bra). I am DEFINITELY a nerd, at least according to the general populace, which I don't mind, because I came out of the proverbial weirdo closet years ago. WEIRD AND PROUD!

Famous Last Words

"The good writer will sacrifice anything for their work; they'll kill, steal, and starve, all in order to get their message presented. They'll sell their own mother down the river, if they have to. After all, Ginsberg's *Howl* is worth at least a dozen old ladies."

-Emily K. Wahrer

"Those who speak badly about others are usually talking about themselves. Do not mock those whose backs are turned if you have never tried to understand them when they are facing you. To call someone else a cruel name is to call yourself something ten times worse."

-Emily Nichole Moebes

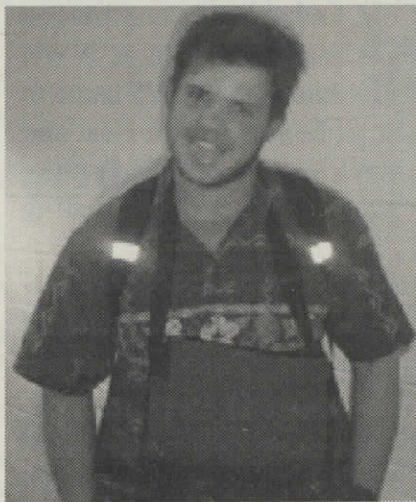
**E-mail responses to
applauseplus@yahoo.com
Emily & Emily's views are
not necessarily the views of
SOA or Applause.**

Question of the Month

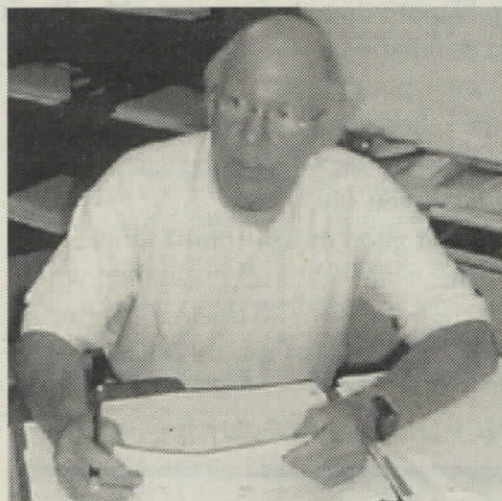
What is your favorite movie?



Jennifer Haycook- "*Green Mile*; makes you think."
Grade 10



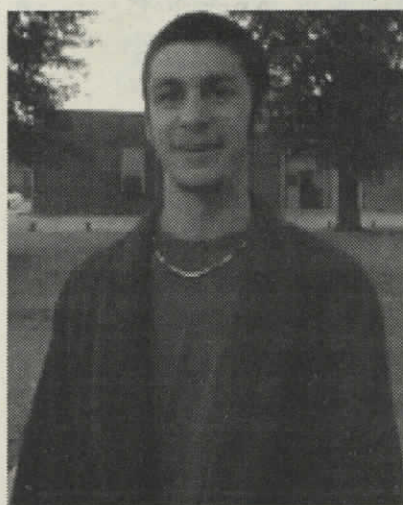
Keegan Reynolds- "*Scary Movie*; simply because it's *Scary Movie*."
Grade 11



Mr. Smythe- "*The English Patient*; very well done, a lot of meaning."
High school math teacher



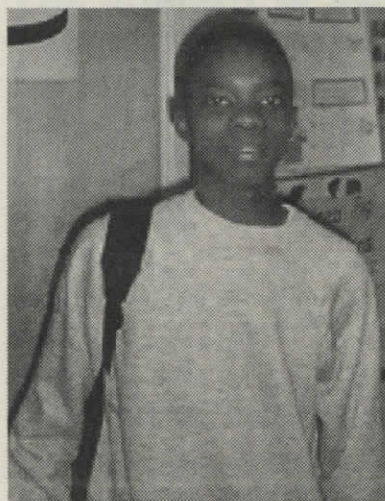
Mrs. Tilton- "*Better off Dead*; John Cusack; about teenagers and life."
High school math teacher



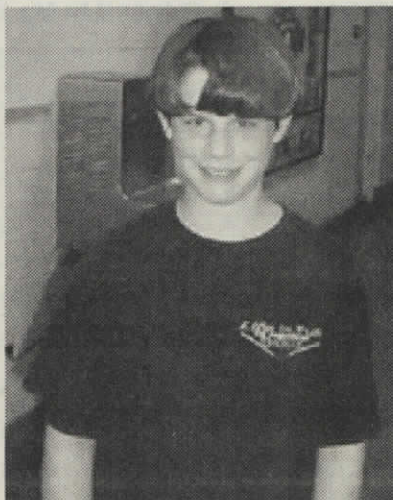
Josh Garr- "*The Matrix*; shows that realities don't have to be defined."
Grade 11



Amber Rosintoski- "*American History X*; it makes you realize what life is really about."
Grade 11



Charles Aiken- "*Rush Hour*; lots of fighting action."
Grade 7



Eric Black- "*Star Wars Episode 1*; all the cool special effects."
Grade 6



Puzzles, Games & More

THE SMACKDOWN WAS LAID ON THE NORTH CHARLESTON COLISEUM

by Jonisha Hart

Hordes of wrestling fanatics, Stone Cold lookalikes, Kane Masks, and Rock T-shirts were just some of the things that were seen at WWF Smackdown. On February 6, 2001, as you all may know, the WWF came to the North Charleston Coliseum for a live taping of Sunday Night Heat and Smackdown. I will admit it, I am a fan of the WWF superstars. My favorite superstar has to be The Rock because he is "the most electrifying man in sports entertainmen."

The show started off with a few matches of rather unknown wrestlers. It then heated up with the live show Sunday Night Heat, which is televised on MTV on Sunday nights. To my amazement, Heat actually boosted some of the well-known superstars, seen on MTV. Among them were: Kane, The Undertaker, Kaeinti, and others. After the hour long taping of Heat, it was time for the main taping, Smackdown! The show started off with a pep talk from announcers. The first words of Smackdown were- "Ladies and Gentlemen, welcome to the World Wrestling Federation's Smackdown." Following those words the crowd, myself included, were on their feet and screaming. There was a collection of all the major WWF stars, but the two main stars were The Rock and Stone Cold Steve Austin. When these two stars walked down the ramp, there was an unbelievably thunderous sound of screams and cheers combined. In a long, drawn-out but crowd pleasing match, The Rock fought and defeated The Big Show. Although Stone Cold Steve Austin didn't have a match, he was just as intense as the superstars that did. All Austin did was provoke Triple H and drink about 4 cans of beer.

For all you Rudypoos that didn't come to Smackdown, I want you to turn on that T.V. Thursday nights at 8:00 on UPN and watch The Rock lay the Smackdown on those Jabronees. If you smell what The Rock is cooking!

Stupid South Carolina Laws Compiled by Ian O'Shea

It is a capital offense to inadvertently kill someone when attempting suicide. Every adult male must bring a rifle to church on Sunday in order to ward off Indian attacks.

It is perfectly legal to beat your wife on the court house steps on Sundays.

When approaching a four way or blind intersection in a non-horse driven vehicle you must stop 100 ft from the intersection and discharge a firearm into the air to warn horse traffic.

It is illegal to sell any alcoholic beverages on Sunday, unless you own a private club.

Horses may not be kept in bathtubs.

It is considered an offense to get a tattoo.

Performing a U-turn within 1,000 feet of an intersection is illegal.

Musical instruments may not be sold on Sunday.

No work may be done on Sunday.

An exception to the above law is that light bulbs may be sold.

All schools must prepare a suitable program for Francis Willard Day.

Dance halls may not operate on Sundays.

Merchandise may not be sold within a half mile of a church unless fruit is being sold.

Fortune tellers are required to obtain a special permit from the state.

A railroad may not remove itself from a town of more than five hundred people.

Railroad companies may be held liable in some instances for scaring horses.

By law, if a man promises to marry an unmarried woman, the marriage must take place.

It is illegal to communicate with a woman using obscene messages.

It is against the law to drive a motorized vehicle on King Street.

The Fire Department may blow up your house. This law was made so that the fire department could create a fire brake.

Horses are to wear pants at all times.

It is illegal to dance in public in Lancaster.

Eating watermelons in the Magnolia Street cemetery is forbidden.

March Horoscopes

by the SOA Astrologer

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)- You are in need of a reality check. Try being more genuine instead of being feign.

Pisces (Feb. 19-Mar. 20)- Try broadening your range of interests while mixing and mingling more.

Aries (Mar. 21-Apr. 19)- Others find they can't be in a bad mood around you. Remember- positive thinking.

Taurus (Apr. 20-May 20)- To achieve a sense of belonging, try devoting yourself to good cause.

Gemini (May 21-Jun. 20) - There are responsibilities that go along with being a Romeo- learning to rise above lust.

Cancer (Jun. 21-Jul. 22)- Life is precious. Don't waste it on what you could have been or done.

Leo (Jul. 23-Aug. 22)- Love is a complex matter. Don't dive into it with your heart first or you'll sink beneath the waves.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)- Jealousy is a distraction. There are plenty of fish in the sea.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)- Friendship is more than monetary wealth. Don't cash it on popularity.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)- Voice your opinions. Don't be afraid of the leader on the other side.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 20)- Money is on the way, but be careful what you do and what you say.

Capricorn (Dec. 21-Jan. 19)- Behold, for good things come to those who wait.

The Search Continues...

See if you can guide Marty to his chicken

