

# Applause

Volume 7 Number 2

Charleston County School of the Arts, North Charleston, SC

October 2005

## TIME TRAVELERS



ART SMART 2005  
SPECIAL EDITION



## Applause Staff

Cait Brennan, Editor  
 David DuTremble, Technology  
 Devin Graves, Layout, Writer  
 Omi Naderi, Graphics, Layout, Writer  
 Rachel Maguire, Writer  
 Sara Marie Johnson, Writer  
 Kim Jenkins, Business Manager, Writer  
 Kathleen Smith, Writer  
 Liz Gildea, Writer  
 Sharon Stovezky, Writer  
 David Whitely, Writer  
 Alice Wise, Writer  
 Dr. John Cusatis, Advisor



Applause is a student produced publication of the School of the Arts.  
 We can be contacted at [soa\\_applause@yahoo.com](mailto:soa_applause@yahoo.com) or 843-529-4990.

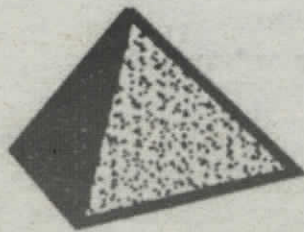
### Cover photo and design by Omi Naderi Pictured not necessarily in this order:

Vocal Majors **Christian Darling** and **Kitty Rice**; Strings Majors **Josh Rodriguez** and **Carrie Musselwhite**; Visual Arts Majors **Colleen Brennan** and **Madison Smith**; Band Majors **Zach High** and **Calvin Baxter**; Piano Majors **Brittany Chavis**, **Desiree Ashe** and **Brad Ford**; Theatre Majors **Devonte Lee** and **Ian Deas**; Dance Majors **Collin Daffin** and **Bree Holstein**; and Creative Writing Majors **Nick Ringdge** and **Wendrah McCoy**.

### From the Editor

Welcome to our fifth grade visitors! We hope you enjoy your time at SOA, now officially regarded as one of the top five public high schools in South Carolina. Thanks to all our seventh graders who posed for the cover photo. And thanks to Omi for staying up all night to design the cover. Hope you all enjoy the latest Applause. Finally, thanks to everyone who contributed to this unique issue.

*Cait L. Brennan*



## Delta Constructors

General Contracting  
 Residential - Commercial  
 Residential Inspections

PO Box 882 Edisto Island, SC 29438

**Reggie Watts**

843-869-4121 Office  
 843-209-1836 Cell

### SOA students thrive at Region Orchestra audition by Kim Jenkins

On Saturday October 1st, Lowcountry Region Orchestra auditions were held here at School of the Arts. After months of preparation, the orchestra students were finally able to showcase their talents to a panel of judges. The auditions were blind, therefore, the judges were able to evaluate on talent alone. Many SOA students made the junior and senior orchestras.

In junior orchestra, which consists of sixth through ninth graders, SOA was very well represented. The following students qualified for junior orchestra: Violin 1, **Hannah Chilcote**, **Faith Davis**, and **Katie Grantham**. Violin 2, **Daniel Anthony**, **Alexis**

**Bright harp**, **Tara Grantham**, **Jessica James**, **Audrey Johnson**, **Brianna Murray**, **Melissa Payne**, **Emily Sasard**, and **Julia Wilson**. Viola, **Tim Church**, **Rachel Harris**, **Alyssa Hartwell**, **Michele Hillenius**, **Megan Lewis**, and **Alex Nickell**. Cello, **Daniel Baer**, **Jonathan Heyward**, and **Andi Musselwhite**. Bass, **Jasmine Hyatt**, **Anna Mathias**, **Jake Met -ivier**, **Austin Power**, and **Kevin Wessels**.



SOA was also strongly represented in the senior

orchestra, which consists of 10th through 12th graders. The following students qualified: Violin 1, **Daniel Davis**, **Sytske Hillenius**, and **Taylor Raffield**. Violin 2, **Max Donoso**, **Louis Marcell**, **Alisa Myers**, **Clary Nigels**, **Megan Patrick**, **Ginny Summerford**, and **Jennifer Thomas**. Viola, **Nicole Adams**, **Keith Black**, **Missy Claisse**, **Nicole Darden**, **Morgan Lewis**, and **Danielle Schweitzer**. Cello, **Terrence Freeman** and **Laila Roudsari**. Bass, **Mary Reed** and **Robert Widlowski**.

Congratulations to all the orchestra students who were accepted into region orchestra. We are proud of you!!

### SOA Calendar

- 19-Oct-05 Teachers enter grades (Wed.-Thu. October 19 & 20)
- 20-Oct-05 High School Music Majors - Senior Thesis Juries
- 22-Oct-05 Jump, Jive & Wail at Charleston Visitor's Center
- 24-Oct-05 Teacher Workday
- 25-Oct-05 Art Smart Open House (Tues.-Fri., October 25-28)
- 27-Oct-05 Begin accepting 6th Grade applications
- Art Smart Parent Show 7-PM
- Report Cards distributed
- 29-Oct-05 HS Theatre Haunted House - 5:30 - 8:30pm In Black Box
- 2-Nov-05 Early Dismissal
- 12th Grade Senior Thesis - Creative Writing and Theatre
- Field trip to Lake Logan Center - 8:00am and returning
- November 4th at 5:00pm (Miles and Wood)
- 3-Nov-05 High School vocal All- State Auditions - columbia (Eakes)
- November 3-4
- 7-Nov-05 7th Grade to Barrier Island - November 7-9 (Lovelace)
- 10-Nov-05 Middle School Creative Writing Literary Reading - 7:00 pm in Black Box
- 11-Nov-05 Middle School and High School Orchestra Region Week end - November 11-12 (Selected Students)
- 15-Nov-05 High School Creative Writing Literary Reading - 7:00pm in Black Box

## David vs. David

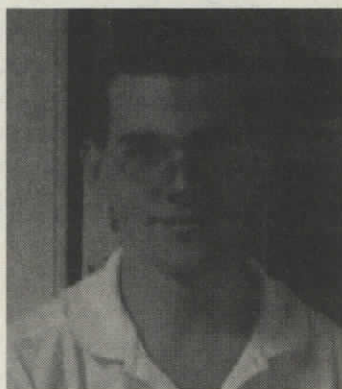
### Warfare System or Welfare State?

by David Dutremble

"With Hurricane Katrina already costing the federal government tens of billions of dollars, more than 8 in 10 Americans are very or somewhat concerned that

the \$5 billion being spent each month on the war in Iraq is draining away money that could be used in the United States."

- *New York Times/CBS News Poll*



At current, the White House has invested \$200 billion taxpayer

dollars in a sandy quagmire in the Middle East. While we have been rebuilding a third-world country with stone-age technology, a large part of our very own United States has been reduced to a similar state. So, what do we do next?

Thus far, our regime has been most expedient in emergency response. Can anyone remember what the president was doing when he was informed of the 9/11 attacks? He sat there, in a Florida classroom, looking dumbfounded. Consequently, can anyone recall what happened when the costliest hurricane in our history, both in human and economic terms, struck the Gulf Coast?

With current damage estimates topping \$200 billion dollars, not to mention the human toll, what are we to do? Thus far, the right-wing pundits have found a solution in criticizing the citizenry of New Orleans, not the government, for their quandary. As everyone knows, especially dictators of times past, minorities are ultimately better scapegoats than any other group of citizens. Since the population of said area is largely African-American, and impoverished, they are, obviously, at fault.

When not being typecast as gangsters, thieves, and thugs, the citizens of New Orleans are being chastised with a double-pronged attack: for not getting out of harm's way, and for being unmotivated to commit to getting an education, developing a marketable skill, and being reliant on the government for any sort of help. And as we all know, taking care of citizens is the exact opposite point of government. We have to take care of ourselves. Which is why, according to a September 2nd *New York Times* editorial, "America clearly needs a larger active-duty Army."

Since most of the citizens left to fend for themselves, without benefit of so much as a water-bottle offered to them by our humanitarian regime, were

mainly impoverished, they couldn't afford to get out of harm's way. But, now that we know that the solution to the problem of poverty is so simple, the Right can sleep better at night knowing that the victims are to blame for being, well, victims. The slow response was, of course, only just, because we can't drain our Welfare System by offering handouts to such an unmotivated group.

But what about that \$200 billion dollars in sandstorms of ours? With \$200 billion dollars estimated in damages, and \$5 billion going to Iraq each month, what do we do now? Well, obviously, the rich need another tax cut, because they just can't afford that burden. As for the victims, we'll slap them with our morality and let them suffer in their own filth for a few days.

When the majority party of the government resorts to the unsophisticated and stupefyingly frightening justification that these citizens are to blame for being, firstly, black, and secondly, poor, we must not cease to find reform. When the government, which is 'for the people' fails the people simply because they are an impoverished minority, the rest of us must take heed.

### Who to Blame: Bush, God, or Robert Plant?

by David Whitley

When the attacks occurred on September 11th, no one was expecting them; no one had all the time in the world to prepare for them. It was an unprovoked and unpredictable assault upon our nation. President Bush didn't say, "Two planes are about to fly into the World Trade Center! Quick, get me to a Florida classroom so I can look dumbfounded!" Hurricane Katrina was identified long before it struck, so naturally the reactions to the two events differ.

I'm tired of people taking the easy way out and solely blaming the Bush Administration for the delays in sending aid to New Orleans. First and foremost in regard to this issue, the declaration of a crisis situation and the evacuation of local citizens does not fall under federal jurisdiction. George Bush could not send in the National Guard to help until Mayor Nagin declared a crisis situation, which he and Governor Kathleen Blanco did not do until it was too late to save many innocent lives. If Bush sent in soldiers to evacuate the people without following due process, there are many people



I know of who would claim that he's "overstepping his bounds as president" and "striving to gain more power in order to eventually convert this country into a dictatorship." If there's one thing I can't stand, it's hypocrisy.

If the majority of the world is so ravenous to find someone top in the blame on for Hurricane Katrina, allow me to make some more helpful suggestions than the Bush Administration. First, there are Mayor Ray Nagin and Governor Kathleen Blanco, who together have racked up the impressive list of: not declaring a crisis situation until days after Katrina hit, (Florida declared one as soon as they learned that Katrina was a category five), refusing the federal suggestion of using school buses to evacuate the people incapable of transporting themselves, instead demanding the more luxurious and expensive Greyhound Buses, and lodging the populace inside the Superdome despite a study taken earlier that specifically stated not to use the Superdome as an emergency shelter, as it was in a low-lying location and would therefore flood. Second, there's God, who created hurricane Katrina, and who I'm sure does not want to listen to your accusations. Lastly, there's Led Zeppelin, who super-jinxed New Orleans with their song, "When the Levee Breaks."

"Since when does anybody need multiple HDTVs and DVD players to survive in a flooded area?"

By the way, there are now suspicions going on about Mayor Nagin's qualifications. "In [New Orleans] we didn't vote for who was the most qualified; we would vote for who's most interesting," says former New Orleans resident Carolyn Bird, "which was fine just as long as nothing serious happened."

Also, I'd love to know who these "right-wing pundits" are that are blaming the victims of Hurricane Katrina for their predicament. So far, I have yet to hear or see any slander and libel regarding the victims. As far as typecasting goes, is a live video feed from security cameras "typecasting." It's true that I feel as sorry for those people as the next man, but no one would be complaining if these people were only stealing food, water, and other necessities. In fact, in a crisis situation, that's no longer considered stealing. Look closely at what half the looters are carrying in the camera feeds. Since when does anybody need multiple HDTVs and DVD players to survive in a flooded area?

Bush is not to blame for a random force of nature, and I wish that people would stop focusing on who to blame and spend more time on figuring out a solution to the problem.

## Reviews

## The Beatles legend lives in Magical Mystery Tour

Liz Gildea



Though the arrival of the seventies brought with it the breakup of the Beatles, they will surely remain an essential part of our history for decades or even centuries to come. In the sixties Beatlemania stirred unnumbered teenage girls to tears, and John, Paul, George and Ringo are now widely accepted as rock 'n' roll legends, if not messiahs. Countless of their hit songs can still be heard from the throats and CD players of music lovers everywhere.

"Roll up, roll up for the magical mystery tour...." The title track of *Magical Mystery Tour* (1967) is a simple yet glamorous invitation to the rest of the album (which is the ingenious soundtrack to a not-so-successful film of the same name). Some of the other songs, however, contrast sharply to the mood of the opener (though they certainly fulfill the lyrics' promise to "take you away"). The eerie dissonance of "Blue Jay Way" is anything but cute and playful, and "I Am the Walrus" is bound to perturb a listener with its peculiar lyrics ("Yellow matter custard/dripping from a dead dog's eye...."). "Fool on The Hill" was described by an Amazon.com contributor as "haunting," and, despite the mundane lyrics of "Your Mother Would Know," its chord progressions are rather depressing.

Fortunately (or unfortunately, depending on your tastes), not every track is as dark as those. The album as a whole is actually quite uplifting, especially "Penny Lane" and "All You Need is Love," whose horns, strings, and vocal harmonies are so perfectly juxtaposed that they work almost like a sedative on a frantic mind. Two more classics, "Hello Goodbye" (repetitive but catchy) and the drug-induced "Strawberry Fields Forever" are also part of the Tour.

Though I generally don't find Beatles lyrics very stimulating, the second-to-last song on this album, "Baby You're a Rich Man," contains some interesting images: "Tuned A to natural E, happy to be that way/Now that you've found another key, what are you going to play?" And the all-instrumental "Flying" doesn't need more than its name to convey a sense of weightless wonder.

Four decades after the fabulous four's arrival on the music scene, the songs that several generations have grown up with are still as relevant and enjoyable as ever. And in the midst of what I see as a tragically boring era in popular music, it's good to sit back every once in awhile, turn on a classic like *Magical Mystery Tour*, and believe – if only for a moment – that love is all we really need.

## The latest Harry Potter: thriller or filler?



by David Whitley

**Caution: Spoilers ahead!!**

The latest book in the Harry Potter series, I was glad that this one was not as thick as its predecessor. For someone with more money than the queen of England, the author's lack of work ethic surprised me.

It used to be that all of the Harry Potter novels underwent a rigorous localization progress to remove all of the British slang words and replace them with American ones, so the titles could be more thoroughly enjoyed by all across the Atlantic. This book, however, included some oddities such as "gawping" which is one word that the colonists didn't bring with them when they settled America. In addition,

J.K. Rowling's localization team doesn't seem to understand that no one in the eastern hemisphere ever calls shoes "trainers." But that's beside the main point.

Primarily, I was dumbfounded by the lack of any originality whatsoever in what everyone has been hailing as the "shocking conclusion" where Dumbledore bites it.



"So Dumbledore, aren't you surprised that I betrayed you?" Malfoy sneered. "Not really," he replied, "seeing as how the aged mentor in every other movie, book, TV show, and video game is killed off at a critical moment in the storyline. In *Halloween II*, Donald Pleasance explodes. In *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*: Donald Sutherland kicks it. There's also Grey Fox in *Metal Gear Solid*, Anthony Hopkins in *Zorro*, Quint in *Jaws*, in *Star Wars 1, 3, 4, and 5*: Qui-Gon, Mace Windu, Obi Wan, and Yoda, respectively..."

Here's my predicted climactic scene for book 7:

"Harry, use the force- I mean magic! Yes, use the magic!" Dumbledore bellowed, sweating bullets under the watchful stares of George Lucas's copyright infringement lawyers.

In short, the rest of the series and the ending scenes are all that save this from complete mediocrity, like all of the Internet fan fictions. The final seven chapters are worth plodding through the tedious filler that makes up the rest of the book. I know people don't like to read reviews with spoilers in them, so if you haven't finished the book, please don't have just read this review.

## The Brasserie: A happy eating experience

by Kim Jenkins



For my first restaurant review, I decided to dress it up a bit. I drove around downtown Charleston and ended up at The Brasserie, a sophisticated restaurant nestled in The Renaissance Hotel, on Wentworth Street. Upon being seated, a waiter poured fresh, bottled water into a tall glass. While the waiter prepared the



drinks, I looked at the extensive appetizer list. After ordering the shrimp cocktail, I then ordered my entree, which consisted of broiled shrimp and fries. The food arrived in a very timely manner. The shrimp was extremely tender. After the amazing entree, I continued on with dessert. Due to the excellent choices, I took a while to order. I finally decided to try the New York Style cheesecake. This was certainly the best that I had ever tasted, hands down. A nice calm atmosphere is

the center of this restaurant. The attire is casual, but nice. I would strongly recommend this restaurant to older teens and adults due to the atmosphere. The food is a little pricey, but the service all but makes up for it. When you're looking for a calm, sophisticated place to eat, The Brasserie is a great place to go. Happy eating!!

## Oliver Twist: A real bore

by Devin Graves



I went to see the recently released *Oliver Twist*: starring (the mostly British cast), Ben Kingsley, Jamie Foreman, Barney Clark, and Harry Eden. The story revolved around the orphan Oliver Twist (Clark), who runs away from his orphan house and finds himself in the company of the thieves Fagin, Artful Dodger, and Bill Sykes (Kingsley, Eden, and Foreman, respectively). Oliver discovers that he doesn't like his newfound criminal lifestyle, but finds that it's more difficult to leave than it is to join.

Now here's my take. It seems like this movie revolved around the word "average". From it's acting to its story, nothing about this tale stood out as wonderful. It was incredibly boring at first, but after

awhile, I got used to the characters and finding myself believing in the story more, but I believe this is due mostly to the super-fast paced beginning than it is the acting abilities of the twelve-year-old main character. Speaking of Oliver, it seems that he had extremely little to say considering the movie is named after him. Oh well... This movie confused me to a point; it was by no means a great movie, but I hesitate to call it bad. But for a rating, I'd have to give it a 2. Maybe it could have gotten better, but the beginning was just so boring.



## School News

### 3D's

by Kathleen Smith



Mr. Davis

*"Trick-or-treat" has been said by many across the world - even our very own vice principal. Confident that Mr. Davis gave up trick-or-treating a long time ago, I was curious to find out about his best costume. So I asked, "What was your best Halloween costume when you were a kid?"*

When I was a kid, cowboys were the main theme that interested all kids. I had a Roy Rogers dress up outfit with a hat, cowboy boots and two pistols in the side of my hip. All my friends and I would play cowboys and Indians.

*Everyone loves candy, and October is the month to splurge and eat it till it makes you sick! Since Mrs. Darlene is an expert on food, I figured she might know a little about sweets so I asked, "What is your favorite candy?"*

I love candy but I can't pick just one. I love a mixture of things like candy bars, basically anything chocolate. My son is having his first Halloween this year and I plan on taking him trick-or-treating. I'm not sure what his costume will be yet.



Mrs. Darlene

*October is the month filled with candy, costumes, and scary movies. When he's not selling sodas or fixing things at our school, Mr. Dawson probably has time to catch a movie every now and then. Since it's the month of Halloween, I asked, "What is the scariest movie you have ever seen?"*

I do not care too much for scary movies, but if I had to choose, probably *The Exorcist* and that scary movie with the man who has the chainsaw (*The Texas Chainsaw Massacre*).



Mr. Dawson

### Exchange student "doing great!"

A word from SOA's foreign exchange student, Sharon Stovezky

I'm writing you again about my experience here as a foreign exchange student from Israel. Well, I've just finished my third week here in SOA, and I'm doing great!

At first, school here was very different from what I know in Israel.

First of all, the subjects are very different. In History class, for example, you learn other things than we learn in Israel. While in Israel, we learned about Israel's history, European history and World Wars; here I started learning U.S. history. It fascinates me because I would have never gotten the opportunity to learn this in Israel. English class is also very different. I'm used to learning poems by Israeli poets and stories and novels by Israeli authors. Here I began studying American literature, which also interests me. In general, all subjects here are unique to me because I study them from an American point of view. When in Israel, we discuss current events that happen in Israel every day; here we discuss American current events. Sometimes I even hear discussions on Israel's news, but from an American point of view. This was very bizzare too.

Second of all, this school works very differently from my school in Israel. In Israel I have one classroom in which I study most of the day. In my class there are about thirty-five students, and the teachers are the ones who move from class to class. Only in subjects like math and English do we switch classes, according to our level. That way, everybody has their own class and their own group of people with whom they spend most of the day. I'm very close to my classmates in Israel, who are all good friends of mine. Here it's different, and you don't have only one class. You have many classes, and you move a lot from room to room. That way I have the chance to meet a lot of new people, and although it's different, I like it. Also in Israel we don't eat lunch in school, so we don't have a cafeteria. When I came here, I started eating lunch in the cafeteria, which was a very nice experience for me. I met a lot of nice people with whom I sit and enjoy the lunch break.

Third of all, the people I have met here are very different from those in Israel. It makes sense that people here are different. American culture, tradition and holidays are very different from Israeli ones, and so are the people. That's why it was so interesting to meet kids here. At first it was very weird for me, but after a while I have gotten so used to it I can barely feel the differences now.

All in all, these three weeks of school were great for me, and I'm having a lot of fun.

With my host family, things are just wonderful! After only a couple of weeks in their house, I feel like I've been there forever. I get along greatly with my host dad, Steve, and my host mom, Cindy. We talk a lot and have so much fun. They are just like parents to me. They have two children: my host brother, Seth, and my host sister, Lyla. Seth is 13 and also goes to SOA. Lyla is 8 and goes to an elementary school in Mt. Pleasant. I get along very well with them too, and we spend a lot of time together.

Of course I haven't forgotten my family and friends in Israel. I talk to all of them on the phone on the weekends, and we write e-mails to each other during the week. They are all very excited and want to hear about everything I'm doing here.

Well that's it for this time!

Yours,

Sharon Stovezky



**Karen M. Johnston**  
Owner/Director

**1002 Wappoo Road**  
**Charleston, SC 29407**  
**(803)763-3488**

## SOA News

## Big River: SOA's Next Big Hit

by Liz Gildea

Every other year, the curtain rises to reveal SOA talent manifested in an all-major, all-high school production. Four years ago it was Peter Pan (prompting our principal, **Mrs. Myers**, to join in the fun); two years ago the legendary Ben Pooser starred in Fantasia (followed by its parody, the hilarious, faculty-enacted "Funtasia"); and this year, the classes of '06 through '09 will proudly present *Big River*, the musical adaptation of Mark Twain's *Huckleberry Finn*.

*Big River* is the coming-of-age story of young Huck – played by senior theatre major **Corey Webb** – and his adventures on the Mississippi with his friend, a runaway slave named Jim (**Cordell Mosteller**, 10th). It opened on Broadway in 1985, winning seven Tony awards and running for over

a thousand performances. The SOA cast, also featuring **Braden Joyce-Schleimer** (10th), **Elliott Matticks** (11th), **Heather Jones** (10th), **Naudia Harrison** (12th), and **Frank Shary** (10th) as Tom Sawyer, will be performing the show for the public on January 26th and 27th, 2006, at the North Charleston Performing Arts Center, as well as several times for local schools.

Although the principal roles went to mostly vocal majors (with the exception of Corey), the show involves a total of 100 students from all walks of SOA life. "It's an opportunity for all the majors to come together and work on one project," said Mr. Locklair, our fine arts director. "It involves work by all the high school art teachers and students." **Mr. Locklair** will be directing *Big River* alongside **Ms. Slowinski** (middle school dance) and senior **Lauren Shaw**, with **Mr. Anderson** (high school dance) as choreographer and **Mr. Eakes** (high school vocal) as vocal music director.

As **Mrs. Nichols** and her students design the play's costumes (the majority of the set will be built in November), excitement is building among the actors. The aforementioned **Braden Joyce-Schleimer**, who plays a con artist called "Duke," saw *Big River* at Charleston Stage two years

ago and resultantly acquired an undying devotion to musical theatre. "The guy who played Huck at Charleston Stage two years ago was amazing," he said. "I've always been like, 'Hey, that would be really fun to do,' but that was the moment I was like 'Okay, I'm doing this. And I'm doing it now.'"

Braden confessed that, since *Big River* was his "inspiration show," he had deeply wanted to play *Huckleberry Finn*. However, "It would be stupid of me to complain," he says. "I mean, everyone walks into that audition room wanting to be the lead, but, sadly, few get to be. It's the sign of a good performer when you realize how much fun you'll have in your role and put on an amazing performance, no matter how much and for whatever reason you wanted to be the lead."

It seems that the only hard feelings ahead will be the stress of rehearsals and various preparations for this momentous event. "*Big River* is a classic with appeal for all ages," Mr. Locklair says. (Besides, *Huckleberry Finn* is required reading for juniors). Performers, producers and spectators alike have embraced the show with all due enthusiasm, ready to display and embolden their passion for the performing arts. **Callie Purvis**, who reluctantly switched from SOA to West Ashley High School this year, promises to go see the show. "SOA [was] my life," she said. To those involved, she added, "Go all out – on my behalf."

If spirited words are any indicator, Callie's wish will undoubtedly come true. "It's going to be fantastic!" says tenth grade visual artist **Alice Gaynor**. "I'm enjoying working on the costumes. I just hope we get them all finished!"



"It's an opportunity for all majors to come together and work on one project."  
- Mr. Locklair

## What is Art Smart?

by Kathleen Smith

If you ask any student who attends SOA, most will say the reason they chose to spend the rest of their middle and high school years here is Art Smart. Art Smart is in its tenth year, with an average of over 2000 students and parents attending each year. The main purpose is to recruit elementary students to come to SOA. Art Smart is always performed by seventh graders and their art major teachers. Different themes are chosen each year that are meaningful to upcoming middle school students. This year's theme is "Art Through the Ages," focusing on different art styles throughout world history. *Applause* asked each art area to tell us about their role in Art Smart,

Mrs. Henry says, "Using a beatnik coffee house as a setting, the multitalented seventh grade Creative Writers will present a four-minute entertaining and funny skit including singing, guitar playing, bongo drumming, thirty second poems, dancing and hip-hop. The main idea was to present the idea of Beatnik Writing and Poetry (late 1940's) and how the Beat Generation later influenced folk singers, protest singers, and even present day hip-hop artists. To get this point across, we would have had to let our beatniks be able to see into the future. Since we didn't want psychic beatniks, we decided to name the coffee house The Time Warp Cafe. It's a cool place where hippies, Valley Girls, rappers, and even Elvis help put the writing from the beatnik era in context." Olivia Soto **told us**: "The seventh grade theatre majors have many different jobs. First, they perform and sometimes create scenes around the Art Smart theme that bring together all of the other majors' performances in the show. They also have the opportunity to run sound and lighting consoles for the show. They may also be a costumed character who greets the students as they arrive. And finally, they can be tour guides who take the attendees on tours of the school after they have seen the show."

According to **Mr. Rogers**, "the vocalists will be performing 'The Monstermash' with help from the string majors." **Mrs. Cline** says, "The seventh grade dancers have been hard at work preparing for Art Smart. This year they will be performing a dance inspired by Isadora Duncan, who is considered the mother of modern dance. This dance is set during the turn of the century and will be danced with scarves in honor of Isadora Duncan." **Ms. Johnson** said "The seventh grade string majors will be working with vocal on 'The Monstermash.' The performance is like a 1950s movie soundtrack." **Joia Tucker** **told us**, "In my video production class, I'm making a video about different projects the seventh grade visual artists have been working on since the first couple of weeks of school. This video displays the progress each student is making. The visual artists also designed the Art Smart tee-shirt." **Mr. Singleton** said, "the seventh grade band majors will be performing Duke Ellington's classic, 'It Don't Mean a Thing (if it Ain't Got that Swing).'" Finally, **Mrs. Benson** informed us "the seventh grade pianist will be very busy during the two days of Art Smart. Performing in a group, they will play 'Somewhere in Time.'" Also a selected few students will be playing, "Few Take Five," which will involve the strings, band, and vocal.

Much appreciation goes to **Mr. George Younts**, the mastermind of Art Smart!



KATHERINE DIETZEL DUTREMBLE  
ARTIST

L. PINCKNEY SIMONS GALLERIES

LOCATIONS: 1012 GERVAIS ST., COLUMBIA, SC •  
(803) 771-8815  
711 BAY ST., BEAUFORT, SC • (843) 379-4774

KUNSTGALERIE IM ELISABETHENHOF

BAD WIMPFEN, GERMANY

STUDIO IN THE GROVES

463 JAPONICA RD., MT. PLEASANT, SC, 29464

(843) 884-7372 • EMAIL:  
KDUTREMBLE@HOTMAIL.COM

WWW.KATHERINEDUTREMBLEART.COM

## School News

### NHS is off and rollin'!

By Nicole Adams

At the conclusion of last year, the National Honor Society was already ahead of the game by electing new officers for the 2005-2006 school year. The new officers are as follows: **Kirsten Palmer** (President), **Julia Sisson** (Vice President: Tutoring), **Katie Isaacson** (Vice President: Community Service), **Olivia Williams** (Secretary), **Francis Morris** (Treasurer), and **Nicole Adams** (Historian). This year promises to be an exciting one filled with several community service events. Katie has been considerably busy since the beginning of the school year organizing all of the exciting events for the first semester.



The first service event of the school year was the annual Beach Sweep. Members of the National Honor Society joined several others from the community to pick up trash on Sullivans Island. The Society plans to have their own river sweep on the Edisto River one Saturday in November.

Friends of the Library took place September 23-25 at the Gaillard Auditorium. If you didn't make it, you missed out on a great opportunity to

get some awesome books at awesome prices! How could you pass up the chance to buy books at \$.50 or \$2.00 each? You also missed a chance to have your face painted by **Lenna Walker** or **Ying Fang** and your nails painted by **Addie Brown** or **Meredith Eads**. If you missed out this year, come check it out next year!

The next big event for the society is The Race for the Cure. NHS is hoping to have a large turn out, and they would love to have their very own Team SOA. The race is an annual event that takes place on Daniel Island. This year it will be held on Saturday October 22, 2005. The race is 3.1 miles and you have the option of running or walking. The registration fee is \$22, but it is totally and completely worth it. You will receive a T-shirt to wear the day of the race and all remaining proceeds will go to the Susan G. Komen Foundation to raise awareness about breast cancer as a life-threatening disease. If you are interested, registration forms are located on the NHS bulletin board next to the attendance office. If you have any questions you may talk to Daniel Vincent or Katie Isaacson. Keep your ears peeled for announcements as the race is approaching quickly! We hope to see you there!

Interested in having some hairy looking spiders painted all over your face? Or maybe even some pumpkins or a scary bat? The National Honor Society is having face painting on Halloween at both lunches. For the first time, you'll be able to get your face painted by SOA's very own National Honor Society. Don't miss out!



Last but not least, the National Honor Society is planning a yard sale and we want YOU to be a part of it! The yard sale will take place in the front courtyard here at SOA. The prospective date is November 12, and we will be accepting donations the week of October 24 during lunch.

Make sure to check out the column in the next issue of *Applause* for more NHS news and upcoming events that you can be a part of!

### A tale of parking lot heroism

by Omi Naderi

At the dawn of 2005, the seniors of SOA were faced with a difficult challenge: fixing their overcrowded parking lot. One man looked upon all the chaos and had a dream, a vision that someday peace and order would return to the cemented land. They called him Nathan Matticks.

Little did he know, he was the chosen one. The Lord of the Parking Lots, Mr. Davis, came before him one day and said, "Nathan, thou shalt helpeth the senior park-

ing situation. Go in peace and bring glorification to the Class of '06." Nathan accepted the request, for he recognized that he was to fulfill his destiny. He enlisted the aid of the fair Hope Sims and Rindy Ross, along with the Righteous Knight, Bon Oui, who went by the alias Jonathon Brunson. Together, they formed the Senior Parking Lot Committee, with Nathan as president, Rindy as Vice-President, Hope as secretary, and Bon Oui as . Under the leadership of their president, Nathan, and with the grace of Lord Davis, they developed solutions for change.

Today the senior parking lot is organized. Peace, justice, and bright orange parking lines have been estab-

### There must be something in the water!: Two new SOA babies due to arrive in '06

by Liz Gildea

Students who have been taught by eighth grade English teachers **Tracey Castle** and **Beth Lasley** may have a hard time picturing them pushing strollers, changing diapers, or filling grocery carts with jars of Gerber. Though they try to appear austere, their incurable sarcasm and schoolgirl-ish whimsy are among their most distinct traits. Incredibly enough, both teachers recently announced their pregnancies, Ms. Castle's at 23 weeks and Ms. Lasley's at 16 weeks.

There would be no point in continuing this article if the situation wasn't so glaringly ironic. "They're crazy, wacked-out teachers," says fellow 8th grade teacher **Ms. Lawson**. "They're a pair, like Abbot and Costello or Starsky and Hutch." What fantastic twist of fate would have them begin their journeys of motherhood with only two months difference? Ms. Castle's boy is due in mid-February, and Ms. Lasley's baby on April Fools' Day.



"...Which is appropriate, I think -" said Ms. Lasley.

"- considering the father," finished Ms. Castle (in a moment all too reminiscent of the Mary Kate and Ashley movies of the '90s).

**Mr. Orvin**, the man who can be seen standing in the doorway of Trailer 13 (or, occasionally, chasing unsuspecting seventh graders), is brimming with joy at the turning of this new page. "To have found the love of my life, Ms. Lasley," he said; "then to be married and starting a new family, is one of my life's greatest moments. To be a father all over again and to share this experience with my beautiful wife is like a dream come true."

Oddly, when I asked the terrible two what they are anticipating about parenthood, the first answer I received was a secretive exchange of mutterings and laughter. They quickly recovered themselves, and Ms. Castle said matter-of-factly, "We are both very excited about being mothers -"

"I like how you speak 'we,' for both of us," Ms. Lasley interrupted. "It's like we're married."

Ms. Castle giggled. "Well, I don't know about Beth, but I'm excited."

"I'm excited, too," said Ms. Lasley cutely.

Ms. Lasley will be last of the 8th grade teachers to achieve the status of "Mom" (or, in Mr. Johnsen's case, "Dad"). "I think they'll both be wonderful mothers," said Ms. Fairchild, the 8th grade's remarkably warm and maternal math teacher. "I know it'll be interesting in the spring..."

Ms. Castle will leave in February and return in May, while Ms. Lasley will not be back this year after her delivery.

The eighth grade students, who seem duly enchanted with their teachers' condition, say, "We're happy for them...and we think they should name their kids after us."

"I just hope [our] baby looks like its mom," says Mr. Orvin.

Neither the Orvins nor the Castles have cause to worry. How could the spawn of such fine people be anything but downright beautiful?

*High School students who wish to wear a costume on Halloween must purchase a ticket for \$1 from Mrs. Awkerman or the senior class representatives.*

lished at last. The elders of SOA can arrive and depart flowingly, and there is a new place for seniors to park for early-outs --- let it be known that underclassmen may not enter this magical new realm.

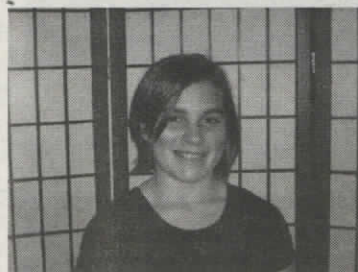
As for the future of the Senior Parking Lot Committee, President Matticks says that we can look forward to quality signs that will help regulate parking even more. When Nathan was asked what he wished to be his legacy, he humbly replied, "I just want people to know that when they come in their senior year, parking won't be a problem. If everybody goes with the flow all the cars will run smoothly." It shall be done.

## School News

### A day in the life of an SOA sixth grader

Taylor DuPree  
Dance

Elementary school to a middle/high school was a big jump for me. I went from being the "big" 5th grader of one school to the "baby" 6th grader of another. I had to go from the security of all my neighborhood friends to hardly knowing anyone at all. I had the challenge of meeting new people, new teachers, and finding all my classes in a school I wasn't familiar with. At School of the Arts I have a lot more goals and challenges than in elementary school, and the workload is harder. I do like the A and B days, and the fact that we trade from class to class each day. The block schedule adds something different and mysterious to every day school. Being a sixth grader at SOA means I have to focus harder on schoolwork as well as working hard as a dance major.



I want to be a good performer and I know this school will allow me to work at that. Being a sixth grader can be scary too. We have to walk around the halls and ride school buses with kids that are taller, older, and bigger than us. So we have to make sure that we don't mess with the "big dogs" as you might say. But over all, I feel very lucky to be a student at SOA in the class of 2012. I know we have been chosen to be here when others wanted to, but couldn't. It's exciting to see kids who have graduated and gone to great school like Julliard, and etc. I know that one day that could be me, and I have a lot to look forward to at School of the Arts.

Alec Epstein  
Creative Writing  
A Day-

"Let's go! Alec get up," my brother orders me. I had slept right on through the alarm. I roll off the bed then catch myself before slamming on the ground. I hate A day mornings. I trudge to the dining room for breakfast of the usual, cereal. I walk out of the door into the dense humidity, stumble on to my bike and spend the next ten sweat filled-minutes riding to my bus stop. I chain my bike up to a great oak using a nine-foot chain. I hop on the bus and turn up my CD player.



At the beloved SOA bus loop I depart from the bus and make my way to the cafeteria. Sitting on the hard, cold bench listening to some teacher make a speech about silence for the thirty first time this year. I wait for the light to flick on and off so that we could be dismissed to homeroom. At homeroom, I gather my stuff from my book bag and go to sit in my seat. My homeroom teacher is also my science teacher for first period on A days. Now, Ms. Enright is very nice and rarely does she give homework, so, first period is pretty good.

At 9:40, I limp from the weight of my binder into

Mrs. Boyd's class. We were working on order of operations and I had it down, yet some still didn't so that is what we spent the entire period on. I finished the work in a tenth of the time as everyone else and the rest of the period, I spent talking. She seemed not to be bothered by me talking and eventually led us to the lunchroom. For lunch I ate the usual: ham sandwich, fruit, cheese stick, and crackers. Then we have recess; excuse me, "social time". I spend social times playing soccer.

Next comes my favorite part of the day, Creative Writing. We write some, goof off some, and we get to do some creative exercises. When we are thinking up names of restaurants, I think up names like The Noisy Toucan Bar and Shrimp in a Bottle, a seafood restaurant. After that, I run off to Mrs. Newell's trailer for regular writing. We're writing memoirs and after writing in my journal, I finish my memory of when I was stung by a jellyfish.

Finally, I skip back to homeroom after enduring writing, pack up my bag and when the bell rings I board my bus and go home.

#### B Day -

There's the alarm. I flip out of bed and flick off the alarm. (B days are much better than A days.) I do the usual mourning routine and then start bike riding to the bus. Reaching the stoplight, I push the button and wait for the walk signal to light up. At the bus stop, I lock up my bike and pull a book out of my bag and waiting for the bus I read. I get so into my book that the bus pulls up and picks up the other kids and I don't even notice it is there until it starts pulling out. I stop it in its tracks and get on.

At SOA I jog to the cafeteria, choose a seat at the table and begin a conversation with some guys about the book I'm reading. I move to homeroom, gather my things, then make my way to Mrs. Blake's Social Studies class, where we have a test on chapter one today. The test turned out to be very easy and took me all of ten minutes to finish. Off to Mrs. Boyd's class. We have math both A and B days. Today is also, the test on order of operations: Two easy tests in one great day at the SOA!

My lunch was same as always, however, "social time" was awesome. At the beginning, I stole the ball and made one goal before anybody had begun to figure out that I had the ball. In the rest of the game, I scored four other goals.

Finally, I was off to Creative Writing where we had to finish our stories for a writing contest. I finished it and I loved my story. After a fun time of writing, I went to Mrs. Mitchum's room and had yet another test, this one was on stems, like bi and anti. This test was not easy though. Then, I go back to homeroom, the bell rings I begin my journey home.

### Pack your bags 7th graders!

By Sharon Stovezky

A new idea comes to life this year in SOA - the seventh grade field trips.

This year seventh graders will be welcome to join-out-of school field trips on a monthly basis. For the first time this year these kind of trips are taken in seventh grade. We spoke to Mr. Kreft, the seventh grade English and writing teacher, and the main character in planning the trips.

According to Mr. Kreft, the idea that started

the trips was considered in the school for a while now. Because kids in SOA are very involved in their majors and have a lot of performances during the year, the grade doesn't have the chance to go on many field trips. In seventh grade only one trip is taken usually. Mr. Kreft and the other seventh grade teachers wanted the kids to have the opportunity to do different things during the year. Mr. Kreft explained that it was important that kids would be involved in the community and do things in order to help other people. The idea of the trips was also suggested by the seventh grade students of last year. All the teachers thought it was a good idea and Mr. Bill Smyth helped start planning the locations for trips. They all decided that the only time available for taking that kind of trips are Saturdays. In order to solve problems of transportation the trips were to be taken by kids and their families. That way, the student and their parents are able to meet with the teachers in different places.

All kinds of ideas of locations for trips were suggested and the teachers and Mr. Smyth came up with a plan for the school year. They also decided that it would be a good idea to let the kids write about their experiences after taking the trips in writing class.

The first trip of the year was taken in August. Seventh graders were welcome to come to a beach sweep. According to Mr. Kreft, the original plan was going to the beach in Isle of Palms. However, since there were too many people on the beach the location had to be changed. They started looking for alternative locations and saw an article on the Moultrie News saying that there was going to a beach sweep on Daniel Island. It also said that it was going to be the first time they are having a beach sweep on Daniel Island. Mr. Kreft called the organizers but they said that only two people had signed up and that they wanted at least 30. On that Saturday 97 people came, most of them SOA students and their parents. The students had a great time cleaning up the beach. The organizers also let the students use kayaks. There was a little island at the beach and in order to get the trash out of the island kayaks had to be used. The parents, the students and the SOA staff all thought the trip was a big success.

Many other trips have been planned during the year:

October - Bull Island.

November - Barrier Island.

December - Ice skating at Ice Palace.

January - Birds of Prey.

February - To Be Announced.

March - Fort Sumter.

April - Overnight at the Yorktown and/ or Bridge Run.

May - Family picnic at Palmetto County Park.

Most of the trips are free of charge, in order to allow all the kids to have the opportunity to go. A few of them cost a small amount of money.

Due to the success of the first trip, Mr. Kreft believes that they would definitely continue doing these trips with seventh graders next year.



## School News

## "Where are they now?"

Elaine Hume

by Sara Marie Johnson

*What College did you attend?*

I attended Tulane University in New Orleans and graduated in May 2005. I got my Bachelor's of Science in Linguistics and Communication.

*Do you plan on making teaching your career for the rest of your life?*

It's hard for me to envision teaching as my final career choice, especially since I never thought my undergraduate experience would lead me there. I know that I do want to work with children who have special needs, so my two-year teaching commitment will help me in determining my future path. My long-term plan is to negotiate estate planning for families who have special needs dependents.

*Where did you teach before the hurricane?*

I taught English III and IV at Marion Abramson Senior High School in New Orleans East. I absolutely loved teaching high school students for the brief period before Hurricane



Katrina. I have heard that the ceiling of the school collapsed and that it flooded, but nothing has been confirmed. I'm extremely worried because I know it was being used as a shelter before the storm hit. A good number of my students lived in the flooded 9th Ward and it's heartbreaking to see television coverage because we've heard no news about students or faculty.

*What are some of your favorite things to do now that you are out of college and teaching?*

I love the city of New Orleans and exploring everything that makes it unique. It will be very interesting to see how the city changes as a result of the storm and the broken levees. Right now I'm trying to make the most of my rather adventurous situation! Life is really uncertain right now so I'm learning to take things as they come. I've been doing some shopping to replace my professional wardrobe, but it's hard to buy things without a paycheck. I don't know anything about my apartment in New Orleans, so everything could be intact when I return. It's a waiting game.

*Where do you think you'll end up after Hurricane Rita and will you relocate some where new?*

In Houston I was working with Teach For America in an effort to start a charter school for displaced New Orleans students. After being presented with an option to return to Louisiana, I've decided to go back to help with relief efforts. I will be working with my fellow Teach For America corps members as Deputy Director for Disaster Relief Centers for FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency). I had no idea that committing to teach for two years would result in working for the federal government! My intention was to return last weekend but with Hurricane Rita's appearance, I'll be staying in Houston one more day and will head to Baton Rouge, Louisiana to start the FBI background check and training process. At this point I don't know where in the state I will be stationed, but it doesn't look like I will get to be in New Orleans or the surrounding parishes yet. In fact, my work may be more focused on areas hit by Rita. I'll be working 7 days a week 9am-7pm securing state and federal services for families displaced by the hurricanes. I'll also be organizing shelter operations across the state. I hope to be in southern Louisiana but at this point I'm just grateful for the opportunity to help families and students directly. Unfortunately, the active hurricane seasons indicates job security as a DDDRC. After January I will either continue with FEMA or start teaching in one of the charter schools for the last semester. Ultimately I want to go back to New Orleans and teach there next year. Right now I'm just focusing on the day to day.

*Has this experience with Katrina and Rita affected your point of view on life?*

I have had many mixed emotions. Obviously, I'm incredibly lucky to be safe and sound and to have gotten out of New Orleans in time. Initially before the hurricane I was in Mississippi and then Atlanta (with other SOA graduates!) before I drove back to Charleston. I felt extremely removed and isolated from the situation, like most people, I think. Watching the situation worsen on television and seeing the city in which I've lived for the past four years deteriorate into a state of chaos was one of the most frustrating experiences I've had. Helplessness is such a destructive emotion and I was consumed by it. That's why moving to Houston (and now back to Louisiana) is so important to me. I need to do something, to be proactive, and Teach For America is giving me the opportunity to help those

who are in the most need.

A positive coming out of the situation is that finally, finally the federal government is aware of the extreme poverty in which the residents of New Orleans existed. It's too late to help those who were victims of the storm, but I hope that restoration plans include improved schools and increased federal funding. It's unfortunate that a tragedy like this is the only thing that demands the nation's attention.

*Did the School of the Arts inspire you to be where you are today?*

Even through college I never thought I would be a teacher, but over the past few months I have reflected a great deal on how my experiences at School of the Arts prepared me for my current job. Not until I worked in a school where many teachers and most students had no regard or understanding for the importance of education did I realize how lucky I was to have attended SOA.

I've also tried to model my teaching (and will do so once I am back in the classroom) on that of the many fabulous teachers I had throughout middle and high school. The seminar-style discussions Ms. Marshall and Dr. Cusatis led are something I really wanted to have in my classroom. Unfortunately the Socratic method falls apart with 40 seniors at 8am! I remember how passionate my English teachers and Mrs. Miles are about English and literature and I try to have that passion in my classroom. I want my students to be as excited about poetry as I was. I definitely stole Mrs. Miles's catch phrase "Show, don't tell" as adapted from Mark Twain. I made it into a huge poster that hung in the front of my classroom and forced my students to repeat the saying like a mantra. They hated it. I loved it. I never realized how much fun it is to be on the other side of the classroom. Although grading papers is a huge pain.

*Have you used your SOA major in any way outside of high school?*

I was a creative writing major at SOA, which meant in college I edited EVERY paper my microbiology major roommate ever wrote freshman and sophomore years. I had no idea the kind of advantage I had by being exposed to so much literature and having to write so often. It's so easy in college to delve into your major and area of specialization that people who pursue science or mathematical degrees are rarely challenged to write eloquently and effectively. I was lucky to have such a strong background in writing. I didn't struggle to write papers or worry about my grade being lowered because of misuse of English conventions. My friends still make fun of me because they claim I use "big words." I believe my experience as a creative writing major steered me toward my choice in college majors.

Creative writing helped foster my love of words, so studying their origins and meanings and social implications was a natural progression. I loved studying every nuance of a word's meaning and constructing its connotations.

*Do you miss the --School of the Arts?*

I miss the environment and the culture of School of the Arts. When I first arrived at Tulane I felt like a fish out water. My friends either went to small elite private schools or huge public schools with football rivalries and massive campuses. I cherished my experience at SOA and felt like it was an integral part of my personality. Many people didn't understand how I could have gone to a school that didn't have sports teams and couldn't fathom writing for 100 minutes everyday. It took me a while to find people who cared about art and writing and who desired to connect what was going on in their lives to the outside world.

I miss the teachers and my classmates as well. It's hard to have teachers like Mrs. Miles, Ms. Marshall and Mr. Murray year after year and suddenly go to a college environment where teachers don't know who you are or how to motivate you. I love coming back to SOA and seeing everyone... I think most people in my class, especially those of us who were there from the first years, would agree that the faculty was much more than a bunch of teachers to us. They were more like mentors... mentors who made us do chemistry problems and write essays!

*How did you feel to be the first graduating class of School of the Arts?*

Graduating in the first class of School of the Arts is something that I'm very proud of. I honestly think it set me apart in college. While I didn't have the same high school experience as most of my friends, I believe I realized the value of my education and experi



Continued on pg. 11 (Where are they now?)

## Art Smart Word Search

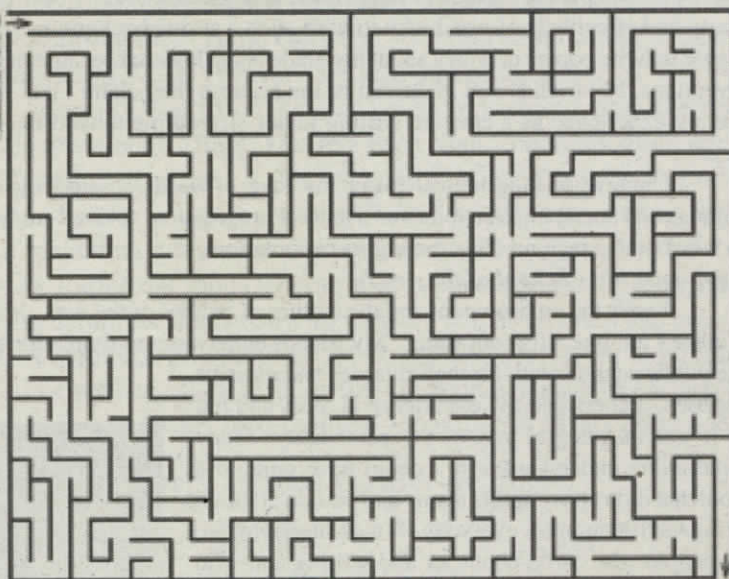
by David Whitley and Kim Jenkins

Directions: Use each word once. Words are either vertical, horizontal, backwards, or diagonal.

VZSZDPEFQZVCEKS  
DANCEIKQHIWRHTM  
OVSYDADUSKTERTL  
RPOZPNXUKAJACMI  
SWGCTOAAETETAGG  
GXZDALHHBHCIODL  
NROOALHTTUJVYUH  
IVORSJGFILVELMB  
RVTJDMOYVIOWDHY  
TSWWALDP SHJ RLOP  
SEKYOMBZICWIBZB  
QAOOBBTRAMSTRAN  
ZEHABLR RYPSIVWT  
QCNBOSP PAOENMSL  
SDDWYUDBAVLGARS

School of the Arts  
Band  
Piano  
Visual Arts  
Art Smart  
Creative Writing  
Strings  
Vocal  
Art Major  
Dance  
Theatre

HELP ORVIN-ZILLA ATTACK TOKYO!



## Who Would Win: Pirates vs Ninjas?

by Alice Wise

### Pirates

Who'd want to be a pirate? Me! Who wouldn't? Shooting cannons and guns, making the great escape, and looting oncoming ships would be the ultimate foundation of coolness. And what about the outfits? A breezy shirt with a gold earring is one of the many awesome things about being a pirate.

Ninjas are pretty good on land, but they wouldn't stand a chance on the sea. In fact, on the ocean, they would probably be blown out of the water by a cannonball. If not, then they would eventually be cornered on the pirates' ship and be blown to Davy Jones' locker!

With these points made, it's too obvious that pirates would emerge victorious!

### Ninjas

You forget how cunning and athletic the typical (or stereotypical) ninja might be. They would be jumping from cannonball to cannonball as they made their way towards the pirate ships, all the while shouting unintelligibly in a hollywood movie producer's impression of Japanese. Also, their mastery of silent takedowns and stealthy movements could allow them to take out several pirates before their presence is noticed. Even if they were to lose, activists of political correctness would not allow them to be beaten too badly, as they are a minority in this country.

## Dear Sara

By Sara Marie Johnson

Dear Sara,

*There is this guy in my physical education class that I really like. He's really cool and we talk a lot in class. A lot of kids tell me he likes me, but I don't know. Should I say anything to him?*

Dear Reader,



The first thing you have to understand is that you and this guy have to communicate. If you like him, I would suggest telling him. I know this is easier said than done. I have kept a lot of secrets about crushes and never told anyone. One of the first guys I really knew I liked is my current boyfriend. I waited for three years and didn't say anything to him. He was my cousin's best friend, and I would always dread going to family functions because I thought he might be there. I was thirteen at the time, but now, I'm glad I communicated with him and found out that he also liked me. I'm not telling you to wait three years to approach him, but everyone has heard that the heart grows fonder with time. Who knows if this actually is true; all I know is that you need to follow your heart.

This guy in your physical education class seems a little shy about the boyfriend/girlfriend situation. High school and middle school love always seems more important at the time, and you seem to have a bigger crush every time you see him. If you do talk to him about your interest and he feels the same way, that's great! In the long run you might see that you don't really like him, or you might stay together for a long time. If he feels differently and doesn't want to have a relationship with you, then it's not the end of the world. You will find more boys to flirt with and find more clever ways to catch their attention. Remember, you will never know if you don't communicate with him.

## M. Brennan Architects, Inc.



Malcolm J. Brennan  
President

113 Wappoo Creek Drive, Suite 4  
Charleston, SC 29412

Ph. 843-406-7813 Fax 843-406-7814

Web address: [www.mbrannanarchitects.com](http://www.mbrannanarchitects.com)

## Miscellaneous

### The deer I killed

by Kathleen Smith

I admit it, I'm a killer. I've done it and there's no taking it back. It just ran out in front of me and I couldn't stop fast enough. I didn't even call the police I just kept driving. I'm a runaway fugitive and I didn't even call my mom.

Ok... Ok, that's enough pretending. I did hit something but it wasn't a human, just a deer. A really big one with big horns and big teeth. It all started that morning when I left my house on Edisto Beach. Every time I leave the house my mom says the same five words, "Scan your eyes for deer." Yes that's right city folk, deer. They're everywhere out there. So far I have considered myself a good driver, except when I totaled my first car...but that's another story. I was driving the speed limit and minding my own business when this crazy deer ran out in front of me. I tried to slam on my brakes, but it was too late; I had already ran straight into it. The deer flew up in the air, luckily avoiding my windshield and fell on the asphalt. Scared that his deer friends might attack me if I got out of my car, so I kept driving till I was a safe distance away. I got out of my little car expecting the worst, but to my surprise, just one of my blinkers was broken and there was wet deer hair all over the front bumper. Determined to get to journalism class on time and avoid the wrath of Dr. Cusatis, I got back in my car and made my long trip to school. When I reached a point where I had cell phone service I called my mom. I was prepared for Mom's freak out. Surprisingly she took the news very well and told me that it wasn't my fault I killed the deer. I do feel bad I took the life of an innocent deer, but he had it coming, crossing the street without looking both ways like that!



### The men's guide to women

by David Whitley

*SOA's hotshots reveal secrets for escaping "Her Wrath."*

You're pulling into your girlfriend's driveway, ready to pick her up and take her to go see that movie everybody's been talking about so much lately.

As you slow down and prepare to park, you're thinking about how this is your last shot. She already doesn't like the way you eat, dress, sleep in your boxers, or the fact that you snore. She's always been comparing you to her stupid cat. "See, look how nice and clean she is. Why can't you be more like her?" Suddenly, as you pull up the last few feet, WHUMP! Your third-hand Soviet Union car stalls from the strain. You get out to see what you ran over, and, JUST YOUR LUCK, it's that [expletive] cat of hers. Your girlfriend will be coming out as soon as she sees your car parked in front, which only gives you a matter of minutes in which to act. What do you do?

If she finds out that you've done it, you're a goner, so place it along the opposite curb, amidst some other items like downed branches waiting for collection, so she won't notice on your way to the movies. Go, have a nice time, and let her find it sometime when she gets back. Be real supportive and comfort her, and you'll look like a really good boyfriend. Take what could potentially be a disastrous memory for her and give it the silver lining that you stood by her and were always there to support her. As for the cat, well, you never really liked it anyway.

### The first month of high school

by Ahan Lamar Hunter

The first month of school was a real rush. In the beginning, I thought that it wasn't going to be like that. At first it was just like middle school; go to class at 7:50, change classes when the bell rings, etc...Then it finally hit me. My classes started to become tougher. Since I'm in all honors it hit me harder than if I were in C.P. I not only had more homework but I also had more class work. I thought I was going to fail Geometry. I even thought I was going to fail Physical Science. I ended up not failing either of these

## Horoscopes

*SOA Astrologer helps readers plan for the month ahead.*

**Aries:** Your head is in the clouds. Snap out of it and focus on what really matters.

**Pisces:** Have you been acting incredibly selfish lately? That's what I thought...

**Scorpio:** You love being loved. Your clever mind and caring heart appeal to everyone (including the one you admire).

**Cancer:** You are beautiful, intelligent, talented and charming. Don't ever change.

**Capricorn:** You're stressed about your schoolwork. But there's no reason to be upset - you know it's your own fault.

**Gemini:** Your double personality is so confusing. Pick one and stick with it.

**Taurus:** Feeling weird? Drink a bottle of Tabasco sauce. (Um, just kidding. Don't do it or I'll get in trouble. Why don't you just eat chocolate instead...)

**Libra:** What do you want to accomplish? Weigh your priorities. If you're still not sure, just eat some chocolate.

**Sagittarius:** Feeling down about yourself? It's okay, things will get better. Meanwhile, eat chocolate.

**Virgo:** The clock is ticking. Stop looking in the mirror and go do something productive, like eating chocolate.

**Leo:** "Lions and tigers and bears, oh my!" Watch *The Wizard of Oz* for some insight on the meaning of life.

**Aquarius:** Drink more water. Eat more chicken.

classes. The other thing is that my schedule got more hectic. I have all kind of things that I have to do for band outside of school. I also have things to do for my church and many more. I hardly even have time for myself. It seems like I just have to wake up, go to school, do something for church or for band, and go right back to sleep. Now I seem like I am getting used to it. I'm meeting more and more people that I never knew before and I am getting control of it all. So in just a few words, the first month of school is just as my teachers in eighth grade put it, except without the whole making it seem like we were going to die part.

### Where are They Now? Continued from pg. 9

ence more than others. To watch SOA grow from a small school with only 2 grades and a loosely defined sense of discipline into an organized, productive, creative environment with an expanded campus was an incredible awakening. I think my class realized that the fate and success of the school was partly in our hands and we knew that no one was going to approach issues unless we voiced our concerns. Which we did a lot, much the chagrin of the faculty and administration, I'm sure! There was nothing more empowering than to watch the school enact change before your eyes as a result of your own actions. It set me up to take leadership positions in service and student government organizations at Tulane as well as in my sorority. My positive experiences at School of the Arts are part of what drew me to Teach For America. I knew that joining the organization would allow me the opportunity to make significant gains in America's education system.

#### How long did you go to SOA?

I attended SOA for 6 years, from its very first year of existence through my senior year.

#### A word from your Homey

O dear seniors of SOA, the time to hear of your privileges has finally come. And while not all of the privileges the senior council requested were granted, we have still advanced the status of SOA seniorkind. Our current privileges are as follows:

Everyday, we can eat cafeteria food outside in the "courtyard," the front of the school, (most commonly known as the carpool area) which will be exclusively our territory to have free reign over. [Here's something else to look forward to: Mrs. Myers said that the school would try to buy picnic tables and such for us for our convenience and leisure.]

The Charleston Chicken line will feature a separate, express line for seniors. Vice-President Adam Gentile thought of this ingenious system, a less intrusive alternative to cutting that allow seniors to buy their lunch more quickly while avoiding upset from everyone else. This is how it will work: a line for seniors will be set up next to already established one. Buyers will pay alternately between the two lines. Everyone will be happy.

We will have our Senior Spirit week this year the week before prom. And we are able to have one "Grub on the Green" picnic each nine weeks. Our first picnic will be held on Halloween in the courtyard - the food will be catered. And during the gathering, we will have a senior halloween costume contest.

That's all I have room to share with you now. If you'd like to hear more details, please contact any senior council member. Prepare to exercise your rights!

Peace in the Mid-East,  
Omi

## Question of the Month



We had a lot of fun and made jokes at Concert band in Sixth Grade.

Chelsea Adent  
7th Grade Band



When Mr. Wood taught us how to slap!

Shkinah Patterson  
6th Grade Theatre



My favorite memory is when we performed Mozart's *Requiem*.

Mr. Eakes  
High School Vocal teacher



Annoying Mr. Moore last year in Visual Arts.

Christian Hannon  
8th Grade Visual Arts

*What is your  
favorite  
memory from  
your  
art major?*



Freshman year we went to the Gibbs Museum of Art, and Acecily, Meredith, Whitney and I got "lost" downtown.

Justin Schram  
12th grade Creative Writing



We were in Williamsburg, VA for a competition and we all got thrown off the hotel treadmill.

Landon Washington  
9th Grade Vocal



I was dancing in front of the class, and I fell from turning too long. It was hilarious.

Sarah Aytes  
10th Grade Dance



When we went skiing at Appalachian State last year, and Laila fell off the chair lift.

Hope Seel  
11th Grade Strings