

# The Hillites

OCTOBER 19, 2007

Photo by Lisette Carrera



Photo by Svyatoslav Nakonechny

Teachers line up head-to-head at the Faculty Football game.

Marching band members prepare for the halftime show.

## HOMECOMING CHANGES *New format sparks conversation*

**Rachel Bokina, 09**

Homecoming is over, but are you still left wondering why the game was moved to a Saturday? Or why the assembly was on Friday? Or why the Rose Arbor tradition was changed?

One of the contributors to this year's homecoming "make-over" was head football coach Mr. Tom Cerasani. Cerasani wanted to play an afternoon game because that's when they were traditionally held.

Student Activities Director Ms. Amanda Urban discussed the changes prior to the weekend. She said, "The students really enjoy these things, and I think even

with the changes many students will come to the game and support [the team]."

Yet, as often happens with change, some people were unhappy heading into Homecoming. "I don't really like the change for the game being on a Saturday; people might not be able to go. We have to get ready or might have other sports to get to. I liked it better last year," junior Nina Quattrochi said.

Sophomore Stephanie Santoro added, "I think that having the homecoming game and the dance on the same day is too much to handle. Going to the game, and then having to get ready for the dance is too busy."

Even though students feared a hectic schedule, there was still a lot of support at the game and the pep rally. At the pep rally, a series of competitions between classes occurred, and the ultimate winners of those games were the East Leyden seniors and the West Leyden freshman.

While the Homecoming changes created discussion and some dissatisfaction this first year, many students turn out to enjoy the new tailgating activities and pep assembly. Knowing that any change will lead to feedback, Ms. Urban has already begun soliciting ideas for next year's Homecoming.

## EAST VS. WEST CHARITY BATTLE

**Roman Arciniega, 12**

It's the last quarter of the game, and the West faculty is ahead by one touch down. The intensity is visible in the crowd's eyes. Suddenly, the crowd jumps out of their seats and begins to cheer! At last, East Leyden has scored.

Both students and faculty came to the event for several reasons. As senior Adriana Bogdan explained, "It's fun to see teachers running around," a reason that many students shared. Others agreed it would be amusing to watch teachers pile up on the football field. It's not every day that students get to see their teachers compete in such a rough manner. Yet, others, such as junior Thomas Cartwright, had other motivations. Cartwright was one of a few students who attended the event to earn extra credit.

It's not strange to see a football game, but it is unusual to watch your teachers try and throw a ball. Teachers may be smart, but their talent doesn't always extend beyond the classroom. For example, industrial technology teacher Mr. Holthouse, who is obviously skilled at reading a micrometer, seemed to struggle when it came to passing a ball. To be fair, he was still able to catch a few passes.

Unlike the first half, the second half of the game seemed to create some steam. What was intended to be a charity game evolved into a competition among teachers. "At first it felt

like a friendly game, but the second half felt like I was in a competition," said business teacher Mr. Cartwright.

It was odd to see teachers who normally work together on opposing teams. East security guard Daniel Byerly, tauntingly said, "Both Cartwrights [who played for West] are going down," a feeling that East Leyden students shared. Despite his position on the West team, in his own defense, P.E. teacher Mr. Cartwright felt some loyalty towards East. He said, "It felt awkward because I was on the other team, and I usually play for East, but other than that, it was fun."

As the game progressed, East Leyden began to show some perseverance in winning the game. It was East Leyden's goal to win, but one that, ultimately, was not met. Despite touchdowns by science teacher Mr. Henning and math teacher Mrs. Miller, the game ended, to East's relief, in a tie.

More than 500 tickets were sold for the first East-West faculty game. While its attendance was a success, the true purpose of the event was fulfilled. Thanks to West Leyden Principal Mr. Wagner, who approached Mr. Cartwright and Mr. McFadden, East and West business teachers, respectively, about creating the charity event, along with the fans who attended, the profits from the event went to help a student from West who is suffering from a disease.

*Final Score:  
East 24, West 24*

### MEMORABLE MOMENTS

Photo by Lisette Carrera

Photo by Melissa Olsen

Top: Students compete in bean bag toss during the Pep Rally.  
Left: Ashley Ladd and Michael Cocozza pose after their coronation.

### INSIDE

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## Q &amp; A: INSIDE THE MIND OF...

## TEN QUESTIONS FOR EAST'S NEWEST ADMINISTRATORS

1. Please relate your previous positions/work history. (Number of years, location, roles, etc.)
2. Describe an embarrassing moment that you can share with the whole student body.
3. Who wakes up one day and says, "I want to be a high school dean/assistant principal"?
4. If you had to describe your personality as a food, what would it be?
5. How has the transition from your previous job to this job been?
6. If you wanted the student body to see you as a superhero or fictional evil villain, who would it be and why?
7. What are your hopes and goals for this school year and beyond?
8. What's one concert you've been to or CD you own that people wouldn't expect? Why did you go/why do you own it?
9. What accomplishment are you most proud of since you took this position?
10. What is your greatest memory from high school?

*Assistant Principal Mr. Mikkel Storaasli*

Lucia Ramirez, '09

- 1 "I started working at Leyden as a math teacher in 1996. I worked [at both campuses] for five years as a teacher and four years as Math Department Chair."
- 2 "In between acts at the Faculty Talent Show, we did an American Idol thing. There were three people, and I was one of the three. I was Paula Abdul (that's a girl)."
- 3 "I don't think you wake up one day and say, 'I want to be a high school assistant principal.' Once you get into education, you just go back to learn more."
- 4 "I would be coffee because it's warm, comforting, and an acquired taste."
- 5 "It was kind of scary, but I had people to help me."
- 6 "Mr. Burns (from *The Simpsons*) is my favorite evil villain because he has the best lines."
- 7 "I hope this year goes smoothly, especially with the class sizes and schedules."
- 8 "Most of the music during passing period is mine. One that I own but won't play is Slayer's *Reign in Blood*. It's a little too aggressive."



Photo by Lisette Carrera

9 "I don't feel like I've accomplished anything yet, but I am glad we started school smoothly."

10 "I took a trip to Germany during one Spring Break. It was awesome!"

*Dean of Students Mr. Dennis Byrne*

Michael Cunningham, '10

- 1 "I have taught special education for three years, and this will be my first year as a dean. Prior to education, I held a job at Minolta selling copiers and was a firefighter."
- 2 "On day one, I tried to open the door to my office and heard a loud beeping sound. Maintenance came and laughed at the rookie who set off the alarm. Mr. Grosch failed to mention I needed to use a code to get into my office."
- 3 "Someone who enjoys helping out or likes working with and assisting others in making positive life choices."
- 4 "Pizza with extra mushrooms because I am a fun-gi."
- 5 "My background in special education made it an easier and more natural fit."
- 6 "Wonder Man, because I would like to hold the truth lasso. But now that I think about that, I don't think anyone would like to see me in tights."
- 7 "Getting to know the culture of the building, fitting in with the administrators and faculty, and getting to know our students."
- 8 "I went to an Erasure (punk-rock) concert with my sister in the '80s. I went to it because my sister invited me to go. I was pretty scared; there were some 'odd' people there."



Photo by Vanessa Prachack

9 "Being able to put up with Mr. Grosch's Notre Dame bashing every time they lose a football game, which they have done quite often this year."

10 "Playing sports and having friends that I have kept throughout the years. Being involved with extra curricular activities." Byrne wrestled for two years and helped establish Willowbrook's first Boys Volleyball team as a senior.

## THE HILITES STAFF

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Charlene Kieffer  
Justyna Lipska  
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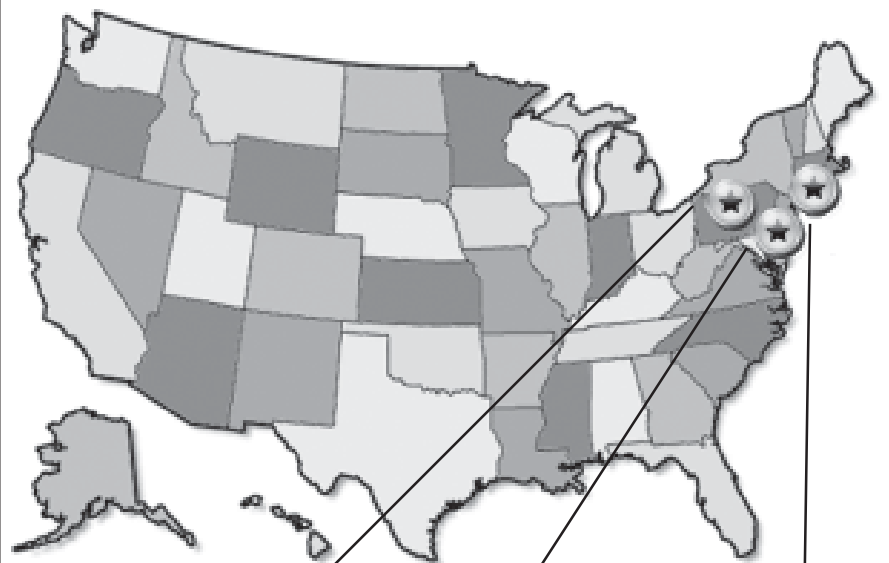
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The *HiLites* is the official school newspaper of East Leyden High School. Its stories and other contents are developed by students as part of an extracurricular club under the supervision of English teachers Ms. Cheyenne Aguilar and Mr. John Rossi.

The ideas in the Opinions section do not necessarily represent the opinion of Leyden administration, faculty, or staff. Unsigned pieces represent the majority opinion of the newspaper staff. Signed columns represent the opinion of the individual writer.

All students are welcome to participate on the staff and encouraged to do so. Students wishing to simply comment on the paper or issues affecting the school are invited to contribute a letter to the editor via email to [jrossi@leyden212.org](mailto:jrossi@leyden212.org). All letters must be accompanied by the writer's name and phone number, but they may be published anonymously upon request.

## School News



Lititz, Pennsylvania:

Washington:

New York:

Three students were charged with disorderly conduct after using racial slurs and wearing Confederate flags.

A study proved that students who attend private and public schools do just as well in school as long as they have similar backgrounds.

A mother of a 16 year-old bought weapons for her son, who allegedly used them in a school shooting.

Compiled from Yahoo! News by Kristy Collazo

# INTERNET ADDICTED

Mindy Silva, 11

I watched as my uncle's attention was given to his cell phone. He was browsing the Internet for insignificant information such as how to make a fool out of a friend. He would laugh to himself, look up for a minute, and then browse some more.

Normally, I wouldn't mind him partaking in this time-consuming nonsense, but this time I was sitting in the back seat of his car. I was annoyed and a bit nervous when he almost got hit trying to make a turn, so I asked him to stop. He didn't need

and adults.

Consequently, simple tasks take longer because people cannot focus. Think of the last time you were writing a paper for school and it took you hours because you kept stopping to use AIM. It would have taken less time to write it, but because you can easily be connected to friends, it becomes a distraction from other tasks.

This can also cause problems when focusing in class. The only things that may be on students' minds are unread emails or the number of comments on recently posted pic-



Photo taken from internet

**Who drives while browsing the internet? Freaks!**

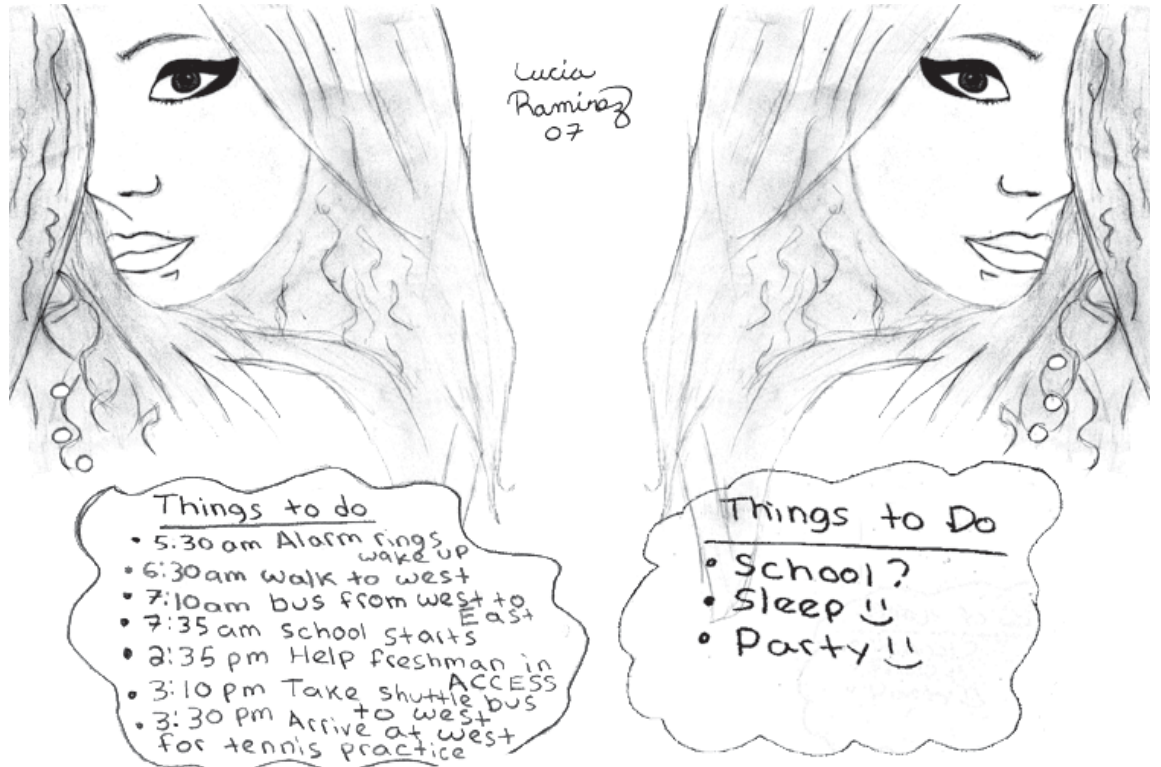
to be on the Internet; he needed to be driving. His response was that he was a pro at it, and if I didn't like it, I could walk home. I couldn't believe the words that came out of his mouth. Sadly, he's just one of many people who suffers from this disgusting, never-ending addiction to the Internet.

As a result of the new iPhones and Wireless Internet, it's even easier for someone to be "surfing the web" while on the go. This isn't always a problem because the phone can be a resourceful tool; yet, for example, when you are trying to have a conversation with someone and they're giving their attention to the phone, it can be an irritating situation. It seems as though the Internet is used primarily for entertainment now, and it has limited the attention spans of teens

and adults. It's unfortunate that all of this is caused by the need to be connected to the Internet.

When I recently got a computer after not having one for a while, my friend asked how I survived without it. She didn't know what I was doing with my free time and kept saying she would die without her computer. I could ask the same question: what's she doing on the internet that's so important? It seems to me that she's doing a lot of nothing.

It's as if the Internet is changing from a tool to a way of life. It wastes time that can be used to bond with friends, family, or pets or to do anything else productive. The Internet is a great form of entertainment, but we shouldn't become zombies that sit in front of the computer screen for days at a time.



# NOT ENOUGH TIME

*Too many extra(curricular) activities*

Kristy Collazo, 11

The audience for our fall play, *Antigone*, left something to be desired. But it had little to do with the performance. The students had rehearsed and perfected their roles, but unfortunately, many people were too busy to stop by and see the show.

At Leyden, our quarterbacks have something in common with the thespians. Both of them are looking for an audience that isn't there. How many games did the average student attend out of the 10 games there are in a season? Throughout their respective seasons, our sports teams practice countless hours in preparation to win the games that no one has time to watch.

NHS and Student Council decorated for hours to make the Homecoming Dance something to remember, but what recognition did they get for their efforts? Club sponsors spend many hours finding fun activities for their members, but who has time to participate when you have at least five other events lined up?

This busy lifestyle is a

new phenomenon. More and more high school students find themselves picking and choosing which clubs and/or activities they're going to give 100% effort to and which clubs will only get 20% effort. Not only do they not have the time to follow through on all their commitments, but the thought of attending plays, faculty games, Cool-aid concerts, and pep rallies just doesn't seem possible. Why do we kill ourselves to make our school what we want it to be? More importantly, why do we, as individuals, take on so much when it seems like no one benefits from it?

We at East Leyden should share the responsibility. We're not superheroes, and it is not our job to save the world. It's time for us to "pass the torch" and let others help out.

Juniors and seniors need to be able to let the freshmen and sophomores take on some of the responsibility. After all, the upperclassmen must have rubbed off on them somehow. Let them jump in and take charge. In fact, they might bring new ideas from their junior highs.

Freshmen and sopho-

mores, you're high schoolers now. It's your turn to make a contribution. If you already have too much on your plate, try to get some friends involved. After all, sharing is caring, so why not share the responsibility?

It's time for everybody to make an effort to try something different. Those of you who leave school every day at 2:30 p.m., we're in dire need of your help. Make an effort to try something new: spend time outside with Outdoor Adventure, create Henna tattoos in Pulse club, or design a new outfit at the next Fashion club meeting. If none of these things peak your interest, show some school pride by attending a football game or a theater performance.

Unfortunately, this phenomenon isn't confined to the walls of Leyden. It's in the "real world" too. Teachers and counselors prepare us for college, but when it comes down to it, are we ready to live our lives jam-packed to the point where we can't enjoy all the things we do? The "real world" is going to be busy for all of us, so we all need to make the effort now to be ready.



Thumbs Up

- To Homecoming activities-** Fun ways to put a spin on coming back to school
- To College Advisory Program (CAP)-** College advice from a Leyden alum
- To Faculty Football Game-** I guess the Leyden staff still has game!
- To being back at school-** Now, we can actually see our friends, not just read their text messages.
- To new breakfast sandwiches in the café-** It's a fair trade: school starting at 7:30 a.m. and getting a hot breakfast.
- To Inservice every Wednesday-** Another reason to make a coffee run



Thumbs Down

- To extreme classroom temperature differences-** Is it Africa or Antarctica?
- To questionable passing period music-** We never know if we should kneel in prayer, tap our feet to the jazz grooves, or wait for the elevator door to open.
- To 6<sup>th</sup> period lunch-** Have we reached capacity yet?
- To gum under desks-** The teenage version of the "cooties"
- To changing the room numbers-** Upperclassmen have to ask the freshmen how to get to class.
- To slow walkers-** "Get out of the way, grandma!"

CALL FOR LETTERS

Attention East Leyden! Be HEARD!  
Send your comments, concerns, or praise in for publication.  
Letters to the editor are being accepted by email to [jrossi@leyden212.org](mailto:jrossi@leyden212.org).  
Include your Name and Phone #

# COMPUTERS GONE WILD

## *Technology advancing at a rapid rate*

Adrian Blaszkiwicz, 10

In thirty years, computers have become roughly a billion times faster, and in the next thirty years computers are expected to increase in speed another billion times. The world of computers advances at a staggering rate, and it is increasingly difficult to keep up with new innovations.

Moore's Law, named after Intel's co-founder, states that the number of transistors placed on an integrated circuit doubles every two years. Simply put computers get twice as fast (for the same cost) every two years.

Among computer hardware, processors evolve the fastest as they get the most attention from the two computer giants, Intel and ATI. On January 16, 2007 Intel delivered a working prototype of an 80-core processor which uses less energy than Intel's Core 2 Quad processor. However, there are a few problems that need to be worked out before we can use computers with eighty cores. Eleven days later Intel demonstrated the first functional 45nm (nanometer) processor code named "Penryn." Just a decade ago processors were made with 500nm technology where each transistor was 500nm. Penryn is scheduled to go into mass production in late 2007, and expect it to hit store shelves in early 2008.

I sat down with Leyden's chief computer expert, Mr. Peter Dulany. "In the near future, Intel and AMD will continue to battle for domination of the desktop market, by adding additional cores to their processors. This will continue until grid-based processors hit the market in about 5 years. I also think that Vista will become the desktop operating system of choice as Microsoft phases out support for its older operating systems," he explained.

"Grid" processors, named for their architecture are in development. They

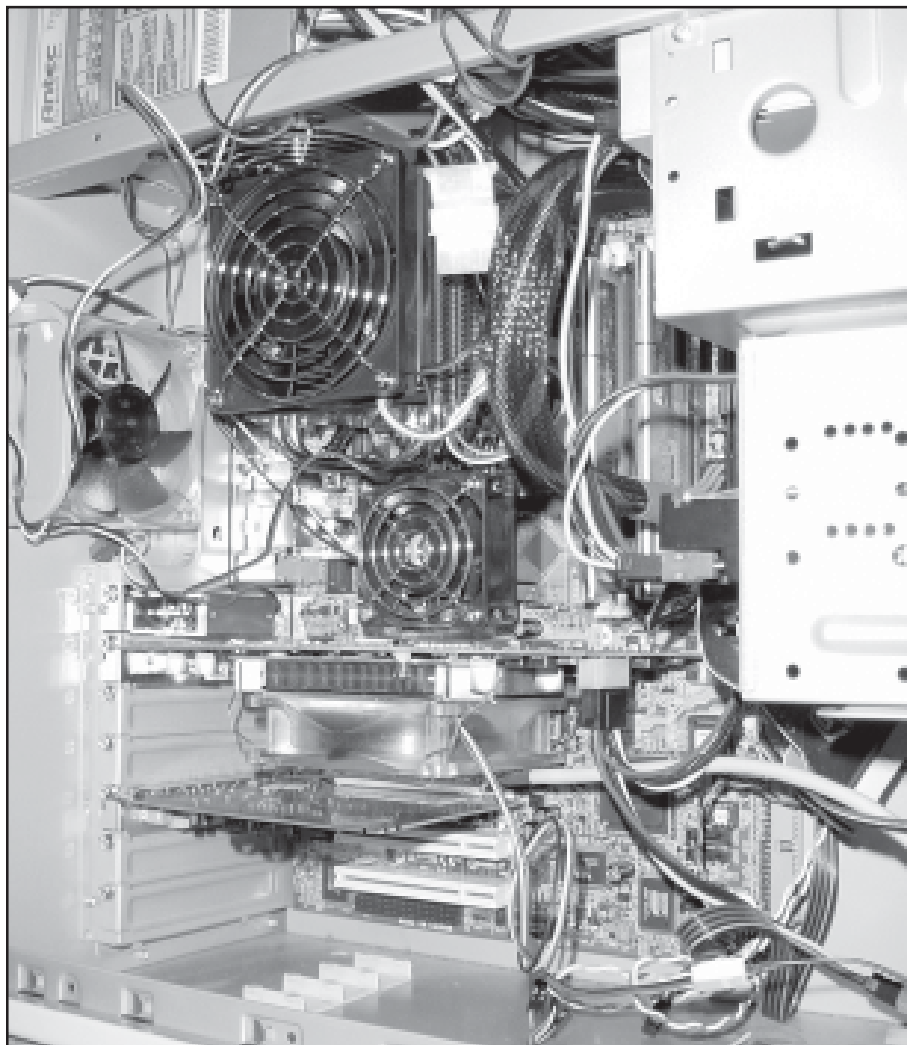


Photo taken from internet

The complex "inner organs" of a computer pose a challenge.

should show up on store shelves in the future, 3-6 years. They will have fewer limiting factors than processors using our current architecture, and that they will continue the exponential speed gain as stated in Moore's Law.

Just to show how rapidly computer technology is changing I talked to Piotr Szpara, a loyal member of Leyden's Computer Club. "I built my computer this sum-

mer," he said. "I would [already] like to change the motherboard and processor to a better one."

People interested in computer technology see a future where every good and high paying job requires first-rate computer know how. It is easy to envision a world where computers enhance human abilities and where machines and people co-exist. Simply put, people need to keep up.

## JUNIORS MOVE FROM MENTEES TO MENTORS

Charlene Kieffer, 11

This year's juniors, the class of 2009, are the first to become ACCESS mentors with the experience of being ACCESS students.

Junior Vanessa Calvillo said, "Waking up on the first day of school as a freshman, I was excited. Even with all the excitement of starting high school, I was still nervous. I thought I was going to get pennied because of all the stories I heard. I was afraid to ask the upperclassmen for directions because I thought they would tell me to go the opposite way. The ACCESS mentors helped me to feel more comfortable in the new environment I was in."

Juniors have noticed a positive change in their attitudes compared to freshman year which shows the program is helping. Calvillo said, "During the first few weeks of school as a freshman, I looked confident on the outside, but on the inside I really wasn't. Because of the ACCESS program, my helpful mentors and advisor, I began to see a positive change in my confidence level. [This year], I want to help the students reach their goals and have a great experience like I had."

Calvillo had the same ACCESS advisor, Mr. Jason Markey, for both freshman year and this year as a mentor. Mr. Markey said, "I was very excited to hear I would be working with Vanessa again this year because I knew we had already es-

### Juniors Raphael Ramirez and Anay Rodriguez both offer help to new freshmen.

established a comfortable relationship and open communication. I remember her being one of the leaders, increasing the enthusiasm in the classroom and getting other students involved."

The purpose of ACCESS is to help the freshman, but some juniors, even the ACCESS mentors, weren't excited about the program when they were freshman. Junior Rafael Ramirez said, "I was closed-minded and not positive about ACCESS at first, but I later realized that, without it being there, would be more failures and fears of getting involved." For most students, it took some time to get used to the program and get the benefits like meeting new people, getting involved, and realizing you don't have to carry your whole locker on your back to every period!

One junior mentor, Anay Rodriguez said, "I became a mentor because I know how hard it is to be a freshman. I want to help them feel more confident in their transition to high school." Confidence is an important quality when getting involved in something where you may not know many people.

Junior Tania Andrade said, "To help improve the program, I want to ask the freshmen what they want to do and not just load them with strict activities."

It isn't unusual to say the first day as a freshman isn't easy. They are entering a new atmosphere with people they may not know. By the freshmen and mentors working together, they can really create "A Caring Community Empowering Student Success."

Photo by Agnieszka Szpara

## WHAT TO KNOW BEFORE YOU BUY

**Motherboard** – Look for a motherboard with a stable chipset, and make sure it has the features you are looking to use. Prices vary anywhere from \$50 to \$230+ for high end products.

**CPU** – When selecting a processor, you should buy one with multiple cores, high FBS (about 800MHz to 1066MHz and 1333MHz for high-end PCs), and a large L2 Cache (about 2 to 4MB and 8MB for high-end PCs). Prices range from \$80 to \$300 for the popular models.

**Memory/RAM** – Select DDR2 RAM or DDR3, if you have pockets deep enough, with the highest bandwidth allowable (800MHz and up). Prices are about \$50 per GB increasing with bandwidth.

**Graphics** – If you have Vista, then you should look for a Direct X 10 enabled graphics card. Choose one with at least 256MB of graphics specific memory (GDDR3, 4, or 5). Nvidia's 8 series and ATI's 2xxx series are all great DX10 cards. Popular graphics cards are usually \$150 to \$560 range.

**Hard Drive** – Choose a hard drive that is SATA-300 as it has a transfer rate of 3.0Gb/s. Get a hard drive with the highest spindle speed (7200RPM and above). Popular models usually cost anywhere between \$80 to \$190.

All prices based on tigerdirect.com

Compiled by Adrian Blaszkiwicz

## CLUB CORNER

### The Leyden Players/Theatians

Auditions will be held in early December for the hilarious musical spoof entitled "Something's Afoot" and also for the group interpretation play "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," the non-musical version that will compete with other schools.

### Speech Team

The team will compete in two invitational tournaments in November, two in December, and three in January. In February, the team will begin the state series, which culminates in the IHSA state finals in Naperville. Head Coach Mr. David Narter expects great seasons from juniors Alicia Fraticola, Polina Zashava, senior Lester Leong, and junior Mark Kosten, who was a state finalist last year in the Original Comedy category.

### French Club

The club will host a Halloween Party (yes, they do have Halloween in France). Also, a Chicago Wolves Hockey player from Quebec will come to talk with the club members on Nov. 14. The club will attend a game in November to cheer him on. In December, members will attend the musical *Phantom of the Opera*.

### Pulse Club

Members will be attending the annual Holiday Folk Fair International on Nov. 16th in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. This event, always a club favorite, includes a combination of ethnic food tasting and cultural music and dancing.

Compiled by Kristy Collazo, 11

## FINE ART SPOTLIGHT: *Senior Gustavo Garcia*

Andrew Nell, 11

Do you remember the painters Pablo Picasso, Leonardo DaVinci, and Renoir? We know these painters from famous paintings such as the *Mona Lisa*. Each year, dozens of juniors and seniors participate in *Art I* and *Advanced Art* in hopes of improving their artistic creativity. Senior Gustavo Garcia, who produced this month's spotlight, shows us what art is supposed to look like.

Using only shadowing and blending techniques that he's learned from previous art classes, such as *Art I*, he was able to create this drawing using his refined mastery of art. He put in a lot of work on this particular piece. It is a basic, beginning project. It is a still-life portrait of a jug wrapped in a simple blanket with plain designs printed on it with one special touch. The simple touch is that, instead of a regular handle, he's added a rope-covered handle for an easier grip on the jug.

Mr. Bill Krypel, Garcia's art teacher, also teaches my period 4/5 *Advanced Art* class as well. To inspire his students, and me, he said, "Dream as big as you possibly can. Art is a great way to try something new and explore your creative side and develop self-confidence." This is something to remember and live by as you go through your four years at East Leyden High School.

Garcia has big plans for his future.

He says, "I hope to go to Dominican [University], where I will study art and teaching, when I graduate from East Leyden." In the future, Garcia hopes to become an art teacher. He chose *Advanced Art* because he wants to perfect his artistic skills, and he loves to draw and paint.

When I talked to him, he was actually busy working on the piece that is being highlighted. He said, "Being in *Advanced Art* has helped my artistic abilities, and I'm really glad that I took this class."

Let's hope that the future projects are as good and imaginative as this one and wish him luck on his upcoming art and teaching goals.

Photo by John Weber



Garcia (top left) shows off his shading skills in the still-life project exhibited above.

give me the tools to succeed  
I'll launch my career  
just watch me

Join us for an  
**Open House**

Saturday, November 3, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Schaumburg Campus  
1400 N. Roosevelt Boulevard

Saturday, November 10, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Chicago Campus  
430 S. Michigan Avenue

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## OCTOBER HAUNTINGS

ON THE NIGHT OF A FULL MOON  
A BAT GLIDES THROUGH THE SKY  
HE HAS TO FIND DARKNESS SOON  
FOR AT SUNRISE HE WILL DIE

LANDING ON A HOUSE'S TOP  
HIS FORM BEGINS TO SHIFT  
THE WHITE FANGS OF HIS SLOWLY CROP  
IT'S THE VAMPIRE'S CURSE, NOT GIFT

THROUGH A BEDROOM WINDOW THE VAMPIRE PEEKS  
LOOKING FOR A MEAL  
HE FEEDS ON A CHILD WITHOUT ANY LEAKS  
WHO FALLS QUICKLY WITH NO FEEL

SHIFTING BACK INTO A BAT, HE SEES THE SUN'S LIGHT  
AND HE CRAWLS UNDER THE BED AS HE WAITS FOR THE NIGHT.

"THE VAMPIRE'S CURSE" BY JONNY STANCIU

### Six Flags Great America Fright Fest

542 N. Route 21 Gurnee, IL 60031

Fri.: 5-11 p.m., Sat.: 10 a.m.-10p.m., Sun.: 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

Admission: \$29.99-\$39.99

### Dream Reapers

1945 Cornell Melrose Park, IL  
60160

Fri.-Sat.: 7-11 p.m.

Admission: \$15.00

### Horror Fest

4050 N. Milwaukee Ave. Chicago,  
IL

Nov. 9-18

Admission: varies

### "Haunted Yard"

10503 Nevada Street Melrose Park,  
IL 60164

Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> only

### "11<sup>th</sup> Hour"

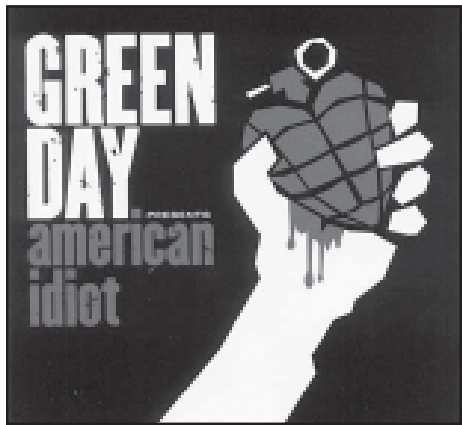
434 East Devon at Berthold's Garden  
Center Elk Grove Village, IL

Fri.-Sat.: 7-11 p.m., Sun.-Thurs.: 7-10 p.m., Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>: 7-11 p.m.

Admission: \$17

Compiled by Lisette Carrera

# CD SWAP



## Green Day: *American Idiot*

Justyna Lipska, 11

Teachers, such as Ms. Baran, can listen to cool music. Ms. Baran and I switched CDs of our favorite music. She gave me hers, and I gave her mine. What do I think about her CD?

I think it's awesome. When she told me that she was bringing a CD, I thought it would be some "old stuff" like Madonna or John Lennon, but it was Green Day's *American Idiot*. I was so surprised; Ms. Baran likes the same type of music I do, rock.

On this CD, there are very cool songs. Many of them have secret meanings that the artists want to tell their fans. Also, the melodies in the songs are strong and loud. And, while rock is not for everyone, it is for people that enjoy and feel its mood. Rock can make you feel out of your body and mind.

This music is more than fun to listen to though. It can give you the power to do something. Everyone in the world likes music, so if you like a group that someone doesn't like, you don't have to change your style because this is your choice.

### ATTENTION TEACHERS!

Interested in being the next person to complete a CD Swap with one of our writers? Contact Ms. Cheyenne Aguilar or Mr. John Rossi via GroupWise.



## Tokio Hotel: *Zimmer 483*

Ms. Lisa Baran, ESL Teacher

When Justyna told me she was going to bring me a German CD, I was very excited. I had never heard of *Tokio Hotel* before, and I was a little worried I was going to be listening to a whole CD of techno music. Luckily, Justyna's taste in music is a little closer to my own.

I decided to listen to the CD right away, on my way home from school. I was very curious since I have not heard much German music before. Of course, I caught a train and had the opportunity to listen to half the CD. I really liked it! Some of the songs were sad and melancholy while others were upbeat and exciting. I liked the various changes in tempo because they helped me to understand the emotions and sentiments behind the songs. This was more important than usual to me since I can't understand German.

Fortunately or unfortunately, my lack of German knowledge did not stop me from trying to sing along with my favorite songs on the CD. This was a pitiful attempt judging from the reaction of the man in the car next to me. I was a little embarrassed, but then the gates went up and I was able to really belt out some more lyrics. By the end of the week, I was even able to terribly mimic a few German words. I liked Justyna's choice so much that it has inspired me to learn some German!

# GAME REVIEW: *Guilty Gear XX: Accent Core*

Bartłomiej Redlinski, 12

The *Guilty Gear* series has always been regarded as one of the most popular arcade-type fighting games. If you've never played the series – it's similar to *King of Fighters*. Leave whatever you're doing right now and go get a copy of a GG game now – if you like fighting games, you won't regret it.

*Guilty Gear XX: Accent Core* is the newest installment of the series offering redesigned levels, an improved fighting system, over 20 impressively unique characters, awesome music, and a nearly complete lack of story. Think of the game as an arcade fighter, like *Street Fighter*, with the complexity of *Soul Calibur III*. It's 2D, but characters are able to double jump, air dash, guard, *perfect guard*, use *overdrives*, bursts, air combos, instant kills, and some can even charge, change form, teleport, or summon. If you're confused, that's okay – this game is as complex as it sounds but as easy and fun to play as they get.

Since GGXX: AC is a remake of the original GGXX game, fans will not find great differences in stages and music. Nevertheless, both are beautiful and well worth praise. The stages range from places like a construction yard, to a ship, to Paris, to a construction yard, to a ship, to hell. The music is a great mix of different types of rock, with some "classical" arcade tunes; there's even a totally industrial piece for the mechanical character of the game.

The characters are as beautifully diverse as they get. Everyone will find a personal favorite among the 22 available from the start characters. If you enjoy moving fast and going crazy all over the screen, the arm-blade wielding ninja – Chipp Zanuff – or the longhaired beauty – Millia Rage – is for you. If you like to play the dark/evil characters, check out the shadow controlling Eddy, or the demon summoning Zappa. If you like to

fight from a distance, try the half-angel half-demon Dizzy or the axe-on-chain wielding Axel. If you love to annoy your enemies – counter, curse, and the like – the blood-scythe wielding *shinigami* Testament, the gentle, fan wielding Anji Mito, or the battle scarred female samurai Baiken. If you still didn't find a character for you, try a vampire, a yo-yo and teddy bear controller, a billiard player, a giant, a robot, an anchor wielder, a version of Chun Li, or a character that controls fire or lightning. The fans of the series will enjoy the two "new" characters – the huge key wielding A.B.A. and Order Sol – the only character that is able to charge and power up his attacks. Neither of them is a truly "new" character because A.B.A. appeared in *Guilty Gear: Isuka*, while Order Sol was already available in Japanese versions of the game.

The highest flaw of the game is definitely the lack of story. The creators decided to take it out in order to improve the fighting system to the best of their abilities. Was it a good trade? That's for each player to decide, but all should agree that the fighting system and balance between characters were greatly improved.

Even though the game does not have much of a story, it is definitely one of the best arcade-type fighting games out there. The combat is complex, fast paced, visually impressive and pure fun. The wide variety of characters should satisfy any fighting fan and the music and stages will let you experience the fighting on a whole new level.

### DEFINITIONS:

2D: two dimensional

Overdrive: special attack / super attack

Perfect guard: blocks all and any type of damage for a short amount of time

Shinigami: from the Japanese meaning "death god" or "god of death"



A battle between the two main characters of the PS2 title *Guilty Gear XX Accent Core*.

### Beat Kitchen

Friday, October 26  
-Secondhand Serenade  
-Rookie of the Year

### Allstate Arena

Saturday, October 20  
-Fall Out Boy  
-Gym Class Heroes  
-The Plain White T's  
-Cute Is What We Aim For

### Congress Theater

Saturday, October 20  
-Brand New  
-Thrice  
-MewithoutYou

### Congress Theater

Wednesday, October 24  
*MySpace Music Tour*  
-Hello Goodbye  
-Say Anything

### Congress Theater

Tuesday, October 30  
-Paramore

### House of Blues

Sunday, October 21  
-Chiodos  
-The Devil Wears Prada  
-Scary Kids Scaring Kids

## SHOWS

### October 30

Chris Brown – *Exclusive*

Backstreet Boys – (Title TBA)

Duran Duran – *Red Carpet Massacre*

Britney Spears – *Blackout*

### November 6-13

Rob Garza – *Rob Garza*

Wyclef Jean – *Carnival II*

Sigur Ros – *Hvarf/Heim*

The Hives – *The Black & White Album*

LCD Soundsystem – *45:33*

Amy Winehouse – *Frank*

### November 20

Daft Punk – *Daft Punk Alive*

Dido – (Title TBA)

The Killers – *Sawdust*

Lupe Fiasco – *The Cool*

## CDS

Compiled by Gio Bianco

EAGLES AIMING HIGH

Photo by Codi Lovitt

Photo by Svyatoslav Nakonechny

Photo by Svyatoslav Nakonechny

Photo by Amanda Carelli

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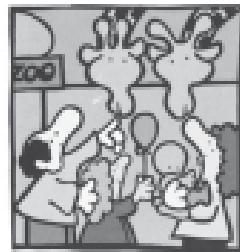


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Physical Activity



It's at the zoo.



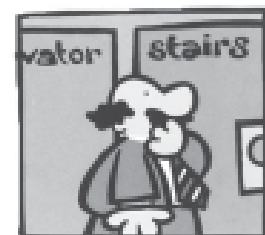
It's in the rain.



It's in the park.



It's in the driveway.



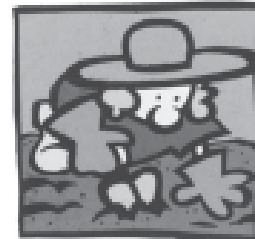
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It's at the mall.



It's in the neighborhood.



It's in the garden.



It's on the sidewalk.

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## CROSS COUNTRY ESTABLISHES ANNUAL 5K *Charity event meets hopes for first year*

Svyatoslav Nakonechny, 10

As the opening event of this year's sport-for-charity season, the Leyden Cross Country teams, along with the World Vision organization, organized and hosted a 5K Run, the first of its kind at Leyden.

The route, over three miles long, wound through the streets of Schiller and Franklin Park and gathered over 150 participants from Chicagoland.

Participants competed in seven age categories. Besides the awards for the race that were given to the top three runners in each age category, every participant received a raffle ticket getting a chance to win numerous prizes.

A very competitive and intense race quickly determined the winners. Jim Rossetti, Angel Saenz, and Luis Alvarez won the male competitions while Lisa Nordmeyer, Colleen Pecucci, and Margaret Faydash were the best among females.

According to Girls Cross Country Head Coach Thomas Trousdale, this project started as a club called "Ripple Effect" whose goal was "to influence individuals and groups in the Leyden Community to give help and hope to people affected by HIV and poverty."

"We were all very inspired by Wheaton Academy [that raised \$400,000 in the past four years], so we agreed to take on a big goal of raising \$10,000 this year," said Mr. Trousdale. "If we reach our goal, we can then send a small group of Leyden stu-

At the first Run for Hope, the Leyden community engaged in competition for a good cause.

dents to Africa to visit our community partners," he added.

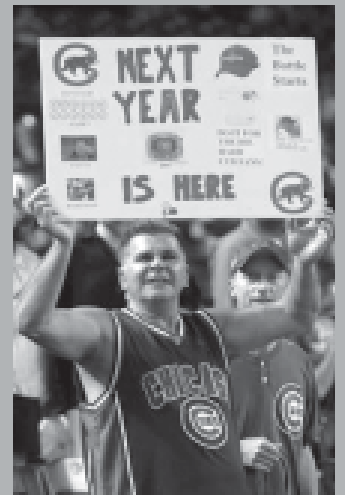
Mr. Trousdale, who in 1991 spent a summer volunteering in Africa, explained that this project provided "life skills education to

prevent the spread of HIV along with required school uniforms and antiretroviral medicines for the African kids".

Even though this was the first year this event took place in

our school, the 5K race quickly gained popularity, raising \$5,272 to help kids in Swaziland and is expected to take place annually.

## COPING WITH CUBS FEVER



Yet again, Cubs fans went from this...

Michael Cronin, 10

Depression, stress, desires to be alone: these are all common reactions to the loss of our dearly beloved Chicago Cubs in the playoff race. If you thought you were the only one going through these symptoms, think again. Millions across the nation are going through the same struggles as you. So don't ever think you're alone, you die-hard Cubs fans. I, as much as anyone, feel the pain you are experiencing.

Losing hair when the end of the regular season gets closer is a definite symptom of being a Cubs fan. As the season winded down, the race in the N.L. Central became extremely close. The Cubs and the Brewers kept slugging it out until the end. I remember thinking, "The magic number is three! Three games ahead! That's it!" All of us Cubs fans spent the final weeks of the season stressed out, and it didn't get any better in the playoffs.

The Cubs started off terribly. Cubs ace Carlos Zambrano left game one in the 6<sup>th</sup> inning after his outing. The Cubs ended up being out-hit 6-4 and lost the game to a final of 3-1. In game two, the momentum of the series was all directed towards the Rockies. Although Cubs pitcher Ted Lilly let the Rockies out hit the Cubs 9-8, the Rockies blew out the Cubs 8-4. Then, in game 3 all our hopes and dreams were crushed. Rich Hill ended the Cubs run for the World Series, losing the game to 5-3.

This is all led up to where we all are right now--wondering when the Cubs will ever win it again. Wondering, "Is being loyal to the Cubs really the way to be spending my life?" The Chicago Cubs are a mystery to the world. God only knows the next time our north side friendly confines will bring tears of joy back into the hearts of Chicagoans everywhere. Next year will be the 100<sup>th</sup> year the Cubs have not been victorious in the World Series. High expectations are building up for next year, a familiar story for us.

I have only this advice for fans, the true words of the Cubs faithful: "There's always next year!" Stick with them!



...to this.

Photos by Svyatoslav Nakonechny

### FALL SPORTS BY THE NUMBERS

The number of points by which the Boys Cross Country team won the Elmwood Park Invite to finish the regular season.

1

The number of points by which the varsity soccer team defeated conference rival Willowbrook on senior night.

3

The number of times that Josh Serrano carried the ball against Proviso East's defense, gaining 188 yards.

45

The number of seconds by which Amy Grieshamer beat her personal best at the Niles West Invitational at the end of September.

50

The number of kills that Carolina Duarte and Cheryl Robaczewski combined for in the Guerin Varsity Gator Classic volleyball tournament.

90



### GOOD LUCK

The following Leyden teams are headed to the playoffs/post-season this weekend!

IHSAA

Girls Tennis Girls Cross Country Boys Cross Country Boys Soccer

Photos taken from Yahoo! News