



THE BROADCASTER

Bloom High School 101 W. 10th Street, Chicago Heights, IL 60411

A Change in Culture

Russian Brother & Sister Experience Life in South Chicago Heights

by: Kaiilah Brown
Design editor

OLESYA NOSAL (BACK) AND HER BROTHER IVON NOSAL (FORNT) BOTH EXHIBIT STRICT DISCIPLINE AS THEY LISTEN TO MS. LAGUNAS GIVE THEM A LECTURE DURING THEIR PRE ESL CLASS.



Could you fathom traveling an estimate of ten hours or more to another country where they speak a different language, have different customs, and different religion? Also, leaving those things you treasure the most, such as your friends. What would you do if you were in those shoes?

Pertaining to Bloom High School, life for the students is unobstructed when compared to other countries. There are many contingencies for the students here at Bloom High School, including the remainder of America. Most students from other countries are obstructive and have fewer opportunities. Most likely, when someone is obstructive in life they regain focus by abstaining from activities such as hanging out with your friends, watching television, browsing on the internet, or any other unnecessary actions.

As a witness, two transferring students Olesya and Ivon Nosal, who are brother and sister, from Novosibirsk in Siberia, which is the capital of Russia, appear more focused on their education due to the strict discipline of the Russian school system. "In my school we have to go to school six days. We get to school at 7:00 a.m. and come home at 3:00 or 4:00," stated Ivon Nosal.

"There is no talking when the teacher is talking. We have six or seven subjects in one day, and they are very hard in Russia," stated Olesya Nosal.

Even though Olesya and Ivon moved to a country of contingencies, they remain to miss there friends, regular life, and their environment. "I miss my horse," stated Oylesa. "I miss my school," stated her brother.

Although, Olesya and Ivon Nosal have received strict discipline from the Russian school system, they still are teenagers. Olesya and Ivon hang out with their friends, browse the internet, shop at the malls, and perform activities that any teenager would. Both of the Bloom students stated that they like their new school.

Meanwhile, let's hope that Olesya and Ivon enjoy their years here at Bloom High School and feel welcomed into the Trojan Family.

New Teacher Guidelines

State passes new law for teaching requirements

by Vanessa Botello
Reporter

On Thursday, January 19, 2005, a new teacher guideline was passed onto the Board of Education by state law. According to Bev Johns of the Chicago Sun-Times, the new teacher guide/requirements state, "teachers are required to have a college or graduate degree in each academic subject that they teach." So the question for some teachers would probably be, "should the new teacher guideline/requirement for teachers be taken away or kept?"

To some it may be "kept," but others may not think that is a good ide; however, teachers should be required to have a college or graduate degree in the academic subject that they teach. The reason being is that children nowadays need to be well-educated because the world is always changing. There will always be some kind of change in our lives. Teachers should be the ones to have some kind of an advantage so that they can give their students an advantage as well.

A teacher having these guidelines/requirements is a good way to improve a student's skill in their education. Teachers need to have this guideline/requirement because students need the most of the knowledge that is avilable to them.

Students who are attending schools are the next generation of our society. To people's amazement, the kids who are becoming adults and making something with their lives, are the same one's who will be the next important citizens of the U.S.

Whats happening @ BTHS?

Bloom Calendar

March 13th- Board of Education meeting

The Annual Snowball Retreat will be on April 4, 5 & 6. Any students interesting in attending should see Mrs. Woods in the counseling office.

April 10th- Murder Mystery. All Day

May 5th & 6th Spring Musical- *Little Shop of Horrors*

Blue Days Schedule

Period 1- 105 min.
Period 3- 130 min.
Period 5- 100 min.

Gold Days Schedule

Period 0- 70 min.
Period 2- 105 min.
Period 4- 130 min.
Period 6- 100 min.

Seniors 06

Scholarship are coming in daily to the Counseling Office! Ms. Fushi and Mr. Dubois are available in the counseling office every Monday and Wednesday from 3-4!

April 7th- Prom Assembly.

April 28th- Prom

Dates to Remember

March 14th- Archie Amos-Jones Center

April 10th- Prairie State College Trustee Scholarship due

April 12th- AKA- Twenty Pearls due

April 28th- Bloom in house Scholarships all due

May 10th-14th- Members of the BPA club will be attending the National Leadership Conference in Orlando.

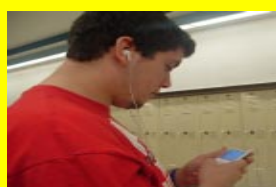
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Family Reading Night

Bloom initiates reading program to advocate literacy

By: Brittni Garcia
Editor-in-Chief

Due to the huge success in October, Family Reading Night is back. On February 9, from 7:00 until 8:30, parents, guardians, siblings, teachers, and faculty gathered together to enjoy a night full of reading and learning. The Family Reading Night was held in the Dr. James D. Steckel Library. The goals for the event were to promote reading, our curriculum, and our clubs to people within the Chicago Heights area.

According to Ms. Orr, Communications Department Coordinator, Family Reading Night allows time for students and their guardians to sit and read, explore the career section in the library, surf the internet, and do fun activities here at Bloom High School. A committee of four people consisted of Mrs. Reda, Mrs. Walsh, Dr. Navarre, and Mrs. Orr came together to put together a night of fun.

As people gathered into the Steckel Library, Mrs. Walsh, and Dr. Navarre discussed what the plan was for the night. Children divided up into large groups to learn about how the heart works, how the lungs work, and to be read to. The Science Club members dedicated their time to demonstrate how the lungs work and where they are located. They also educated children how blood is made and its uses. Science Club members used a creative way of how blood is made. They utilized candies: Red Hots for red blood cells, Lemon Heads were used as plasma, marshmallows white blood cells, and sprinkles as platelets.

LIBRARIAN TRACEY DUCKSWORTH READING BOOK & RECESS QUEEN



The Rodriguez family, natives of Chicago Heights, arrived to the family night with the perception of having quality time with the family. "It's important to be here together. It's an activity for the kids and it's quality time for the family," said Mrs. Alderete, a Chicago Heights resident.

Family Reading Night not only helped promote reading in the community, but it helped the faculty welcome future students to Bloom. Mrs. Carter's Child Development classes volunteered their time to read to children from the community. According to Mrs. Walsh, Family Reading Night incorporated curriculum and clubs into a fun event. The event also promoted our local public libraries and gave people the opportunity to find out how to get their public library card.

"It feels wonderful to have students to help out. I truly believe that our students need to be part of this wonderful event," said Mrs. Walsh, BIHS Librarian. "That is why we try to include various

classes, clubs, etc. We also have some students that help us prepare for the event and that is very helpful too. I must admit that I was nervous that things would all come together, but they did [as usual!]. As I mentioned, I was very proud of our student volunteers and how they interacted with the younger attendees."

Special Thank You from the committee to staff: Ms. Krynski, Mr. Baisa, Ms. Carter, Ms. Spires, Ms. Gliottoni, Ms. Egan, Mr. Beintum, Mr. Gasaway, Mr. Brink, Ms. Debartolo, Ms. Delgado, Dr. Felicetti, Mr. Croarkin, Ms. Michael, Ms. Lopez, Ms. Potts, Ms. Farabaugh, Ms. Keene, Ms. Reda, Ms. Orr, Dr. Navarre, Mr. Reda and Ms. Alaniz put staff in various departments. Students Volunteers: Ms. Carter's students from her Child Development Classes, Science Club, students from Ms. Alaniz's classes, Mr. Beintum's Photography students, Book Club, NHS, Rayo Club, and Interactive Club.

Destiny Fulfilled

English department loses a true motivator

By: Donte Rodgers
Photo Editor

"It seems just like it was yesterday when I walked in Bloom," says Mrs. Ferro, who has been an English teacher at Bloom for thirty-three years, and enjoying every moment.

When it comes to the subject of English, Mrs. Ferro loves to read and analyze grammar. "She motivates her students to strive for the best," says senior Mercedes Williams. Her teaching method is traditional with a modern twist. She combines literature with a bit of history, which keeps students eager to learn more. The most challenging obstacle that she has overcome was the new schedule this year. But she has adapted and thinks it has turned out wonderful.

"Students can get an excellent education if they open themselves to it," said Mrs. Ferro. "Being open to education can have some adjustments, but if you're willing to learn you will adjust." Mrs. Ferro's best memories at Bloom are "watching the students achieve graduation and knowing that they left with knowledge."

After retirement Mrs. Ferro plans to teach a class or two at PSC, observe Mentors and Student Teachers at Governors State University, and last but not



PAUL WIBERG CONCENTRATES ON MRS. FERRO AS SHE TEACHES HAMLET

least, continue to work for Mary Kay. Mrs. Ferro is a kind-hearted, warm, gentle, and intelligent person that will be greatly missed after retirement. Her interesting style of wit and her incredible attitude will be highly remembered.

Thirty-four Beautiful Years

English teacher retires after long, 'beautiful' career

By: Angelisa Giles
Reporter

Mrs. Helen Bolos-Dickett, a communications teacher, is retiring after thirty-four years of teaching. "I believe that I had the desire to teach and make a difference in young people's lives." What grabbed Mrs. Bolos' desire to teach was when she was growing up as a child she often played school with her sister and brother. She also added, her uncle, in Greece, was a teacher, principal, and then a professor in Athens. She admired his passion for teaching and thought that she had the same passion. Her favorite subject is English, thus she really enjoys the classic, Shakespearean tragedy, and the American Literature.



MS. BOLOS-DICKETT HELPING ALEXANDRA JONES IN THE COMPUTER LAB

Mrs. Bolos has taught four years as a substitute teacher and night school teacher, seventeen years at Bloom high school, and thirteen years at Bloom Trail high school, for a total of thirty-four years of educational work.

Mrs. Bolos said her most embarrassing moment actually happened here at Bloom. "In between class periods, I walked to the water fountain, and before I knew it, I was knocked down by a student, who was running to class." Although Mrs. Bolos had an embarrassing moment at Bloom, she still will miss Bloom. She said the one thing she will miss most about Bloom is the students and the staff. "I will miss Mrs. Bolos a lot. Many students and I will miss her," comments of Georgina Rodriguez, junior.

After Mrs. Bolos' retirement, she plans to travel with her husband and family, to read books she never had the time to read, and to enjoy life! Even though next year Mrs. Bolos will not be blessing us with her presence and her phenomenal teaching skills, she says, "With each school year and new generation of students, I learned that teaching is rewarding, even if you only inspire only a few students."

"Teachers are diamonds of inspiration and treasures of knowledge. Do not underestimate your influence on students," advises Mrs. Bolos to her fellow co-workers.

In addition, she advises the underclassmen, "[S]trive to do your very best in school and in life. Even the boring material on the ACT and the PSAT and the routine in life can be 'beautiful.' Accomplish your goals."

We will miss your in-depth teaching and your good spirits here at Bloom Township High School!



EAVESDROPPING: CRIME OR PROTECTION

By: Cristal Cruz
Reporter

Protection or Trespassing? What do these words signify to you? Well maybe this will really give you something to think about. "The president has the power to keep the country from going to hell," Harry Truman told his staff, according to David McCullough's 1992 biography. According to the Supreme Court, Truman was wrong. President Bush is now saying that his powers as president and commander-in-chief permit him to authorize wiretaps on U.S. citizens. I cannot speak for everyone, but this is an invasion of our privacy. We should be able to have control of what we pay for, not the government or the president. It is said that it is for our safety, but if that's so, then we, the people, should be able to give an opinion of our own.

It is said that the National Security Agency (NSA), the largest security program in the history of this country, is also involved. There has been a debate over the NSA program and the Bush's administration's decision to only tell eight senior members of Congress about the spying situation. This should not be allowed. It is safe and smart to be discrete, but the people of the U.S. should still be involved with some of the decisions the President has to make because we live in America and whatever happens in this country affects all



President Bush using the telephone as we Americans are being worried about our Privacy.

U.S. citizens. Many Americans have a problem with this idea and I am nobody to judge or blame them because I believe everyone has a right to give an opinion on whatever is being debated.

A random poll of six staff members and six students here at Bloom sheds more light on our community's perspective of this issue. Six out of six students disagreed with this eavesdropping because they feel it is a crime. "It is our privacy they are invading. It would make me angry if someone was listening on my conversation without me doing the same to them," stated junior Andre Abbott. A freshman, Herman Cruz, stated "I believe it is a crime because what goes on in our country should involve our opinions and not be decided for us."

On the other hand, two out of six staff members believe that this is meant for protection. Mrs. Simpson, math teacher, stated, "All the press is

doing is trying to make news. If they would like to do so, the truth would be nice. We are at war and hence, believe it or not, secrecy against our enemies is necessary." Ms. Farabaugh had a slightly different opinion, "I knew the day would come when we as a nation did have this discussion. The speedy passage of powers to the National Security Agency right after 9/11 was a knee jerk reaction to a national crisis.

How often does the USA have to face attacks on our own territory? Not often. So our reaction is understandable, but we must not take away rights and guarantees. That would make our government appear to be as tyrannical as our enemies."

We all have different opinions, which is why we, the citizens of the U.S., should have a say on what happens in our country. This is a crime. We built this country into something great and we should have a say to make it even better!

Some citizens feel violated by this issue and those of us who feel this way should take a stand and speak up. Others just feel trust in their president and believe he has every right to do whatever he wishes with the laws and the country. Whether we are right or wrong, the most important thing that matters in a united country is to express our opinions so that we can be heard and not left out.

ARE YOU A BLOGGER?

Internet fad creates serious security issues

By: Janese Carrell
Reporter

"Weblogs (web-based publication that consist of articles) are to words, what Napster was to music," said Andrew Sullivan, conservative on-line columnist. Many people are yet still behind on this new revolution. The word "blog" could be the next craze that sweeps through the world, ever since the internet took the world by storm.

A blog usually consists of what is happening in a person's life, on the web, or a diary, but there are unique types of blogs just as there are people. Blogs reflect the personality of the author. In the past, people wrote down their private thoughts in a journal or diary. The content in the journal or diary is considered private and exclusive to the author. If you were to read someone's diary or journal, it would be considered "rude"; however, with blogging, all that is to change.

Blogs consists of human expressions and has a meaningful purpose. By just reading a blog it is expected for the reader to be able feel the author's feelings. Blogs are also expected to provide details from the writer's life: missed hair appointments, bad breakups, rodents under the stove, muggings, tamale recipes and more.

Not only is this craze uprising here in America, its uprising in China. A Chinese web surfer was fascinated by the freedoms of blogging and how these on-line journals gave ordinary people the power to publish their own views. One problem with this freedom in China, ever since the Communist party took over in 1949, is the Chinese media is securely controlled by the government. On-line publishing is a real threat to that control, and the government is worried.

The increase of the blog trend was made possible by blog-hosting services. Just as companies like Yahoo host email accounts, sites like blogger.com, based in the United States, host blogs. Today, China has more than ninety-million internet users, and most are hungry for information. But the government also fears that uncontrolled on-line information will cause the regime to collapse. Since 2000, China's police force has established internet departments in more than 700 cities and provinces. The most effective result of the government control is the "Great Firewall," which protects the nine gateways connecting China to the global internet.

Its main purpose is to prevent surfers in China from accessing undesirable web content.

By January 2003, China had about 2000 bloggers, when without warning, the Chinese government blocked all access to blogspot.com, the server that hosts all blogs. Most Chinese who wanted to comment online used bulletin boards and chatrooms. This allowed people to express themselves anonymously and safely.

There's a catch to this, whether in China or the U.S., such sites are usually watched by editors that keep them readable and acceptable. In China, their sites also have editors and moderations who keep the sites content acceptable. There is a list that states over 1000 words, including "dictatorship," "truth," and "riot police," which are automatically banned in China's online forums obtained by the China Internet Project in Berkeley. This censorship is brought to China by the Chinese government. Handfuls of people who published inappropriate articles online were arrested.

Here in the U.S. we have a lot of freedom. Would you ever blog? Ms. Negri said, "Yes!" And that she'd probably blog about "crafts, the state of union address, or what is important at that time."

According to Jeff Wang, free-lance writer, "The entire 'Blog' craze is happening all over the world right now. If you're still not into it, it's time to jump into the bandwagon right now to capitalize on the opportunity before its over."

Most Common Blog Sites

1. Boing Boing: A Directory of Wonderful Things
2. Engadget
3. Post Secret
4. Daily Kos: State of the Nation
5. The Huffington Post

THE BIRD FLU:

Will It Effect the U.S.?

By: Vanesa Botello
Reporter



It's coming and it's going to happen without notice! Hong Kong, the largest city in China, was exposed to the Bird Flu in the spring of May, 1997. A three year old little boy and seven others contacted the virus throughout the year.

What is the Bird Flu? Well according to KidsHealth.org, Bird Flu (Avian Flu) is caused by a form of influenza virus that usually only infects birds and sometimes infects pigs. What is comical and sad about the virus is that it is coming from an animal that some Americans might eat, chickens. Yes chickens! It is said that it could be transmitted to humans causing severe illness and death. Do not be scared, just be cautious and watch out for what your piece of chicken looks like.

The symptoms that may occur are fever, cough, sore throat, and muscle aches. Others may suffer with eye infection, pneumonia acute, respiratory distress, and severe life-threatening complications.

The Bird Flu is not at high risk for anyone to catch in the United States, but the nation is ready for small amounts of exposure. They have a limited amount of vaccines for the citizens in the U.S.

In other places in the world, like Turkey, they have killed over 1,200 poultry to reduce the exposure of the Bird Flu. The Bird Flu should be getting studied more and the government should keep an eye out for any little thing that may be abnormal.

In the Media Plus (website), it shows that Americans fear car accidents, terror attacks, hurricanes and other natural disasters more than they fear Bird Flu. The main question that scientist are looking to answers is, when will it occur or will it occur in the upcoming years?

Should the government be concerned, prepared, or both?



TWO OF THE MOST POPULAR RAP ARTIST, CAM'RON (LEFT) AND 50 CENT (RIGHT), ARE TWO OF THE ARTIST THAT UTILIZE VERY EXPLICIT LYRICS

Blaze Down



To- Ne-Yo, "So SICK", so SICK of this song, I warned you!

To- Flavor Flav. The clock stopped ticking along time ago for you.

To- My car that broke down after the second day I had it. (It's fixed now)

To- The weather. "I'm mad at you Mother Nature."

To- My Space users. ONE piece of advice, DON'T GIVE OUT PERSONAL INFO e.g. *sweetgurl_05*: HEY!

Pretty boy (708): a/s/l

sweetgurl_05: 17/F/Chi

Pretty boy (708): What's your address? I wanna come see you

sweetgurl_05: 134 E. 16th street

Pretty boy (708): See you soon

ALERT! ALERT! THIS IS A BIG NO NO! Unless you want to appear on the back of a milk carton

To- The long lunch lines during C Lunch. "Hey! No cutting!"

Blaze Up



To- Snap music. "Lean wit it, Rock wit it."

To- Chris Brown. He says, "Yo!"

To- Wildin Out Nick you're finally making money

To- Kanye West, Best Rap Ablum

To- John Legend, Best R&B Male Vocal

To- Ne-Yo, "So Sick." But I had BLAZE him DOWN for hearing this song so much!

To- Pink for having guts to make a song like "Stupid Girls"

To- Flavor of Love, Zike!

To- Nas and Jay-Z for their truce (for those who were stomped by this word it means to make an agreement to stop fighting)

To- Shani Davis for taking the gold home. Chi-Town!

To- The ACT booklets and ACT practice tests (We will succeed!)

To- Solomon Adekale for being accepted to Columbia College

No Disrespect!!

Where has 'real hip-hop' gone?



Editorial Column by: Andrea Smith

"Can you shake it like a salt shaka?" Well can you? Well before you can actually do an action, you must know what it is. For those that are not familiar with today's song lyrics, they probably are dumbfounded if not offended by such a request. Certain "hip-hop" and "rap" lyrics stem from the slightly sexually suggestive to all out raunchy! Lyrics like this receive ear play from many of our Bloom students everyday.

Many of the lyrics are explicit in general; unfortunately, a great number of songs are disrespectful and down right degrading to women. In fact, over half the songs written in the name of "hip-hop" express some degree of disrespect to one or more groups of people.

So what's the big picture? This music, despite its disrespectful nature, is being consumed by many of our high school students, and worse, our younger children and siblings.

Of course, controversial debates argue that parents should have the final say in what

their children listen to; yet, many people aren't paying attention to the effects of this music on children. Scientific studies, even common sense, explain the theory of "cause and effect". "For every action there is a reaction," senior Donte Rodgers declares.

So, if you place most teens around such music, what'll happen? Well, the answer is all around you.

According to a recent student survey given at Bloom, the question posed, "Is rap music offensive towards you?" Over 66% of the students responded "Yes." Out of that percentage, 66.6% we're female! However, the majority of those who answered "yes," to the music being offensive, admitted that they continue to listen to the music, despite the disrespect!

After reading the surveys on rap music and its effect on our student body, its evident that many students shrug off the idea of the disrespect in music because

they feel that either it doesn't pertain to them or they just enjoy listening to the "nice beats" the songs includes.

"They're not paying attention to the song lyrics," senior Raynita Douglas comments. It's scary that many teens don't even care about the things being sold to them. It seems our morale has dramatically changed. Let's take a look back at rap, *Real Hip-Hop*. When it first began in 1979, Sugar Hill Gang released the first real rap song called "Rapper's Delight." Since then, rap slowly, but surely, evolved every year tearing off pieces and pieces of the original styles. It slowly began stripping more and more clothes off women in the music videos, and adding more bits of glory to the so-called rappers who solicit them. So when you look around and see split images of rap videos, don't shake your head, we've got to do better!

For The Record

Common consistently incorporates politically, socially and spiritually conscious themes in his rhymes. Some say that is why, even though he is one of the dopest MCs out there, he has not had greater commercial success.

"KOOL MOE DEE" BATTLES AND HUMILIATES "BUZY BEE" AND BECOMES ONE OF THE MOST FAMOUS OLD SCHOOL BATTLES OF ALL TIME in 1982.

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Locations

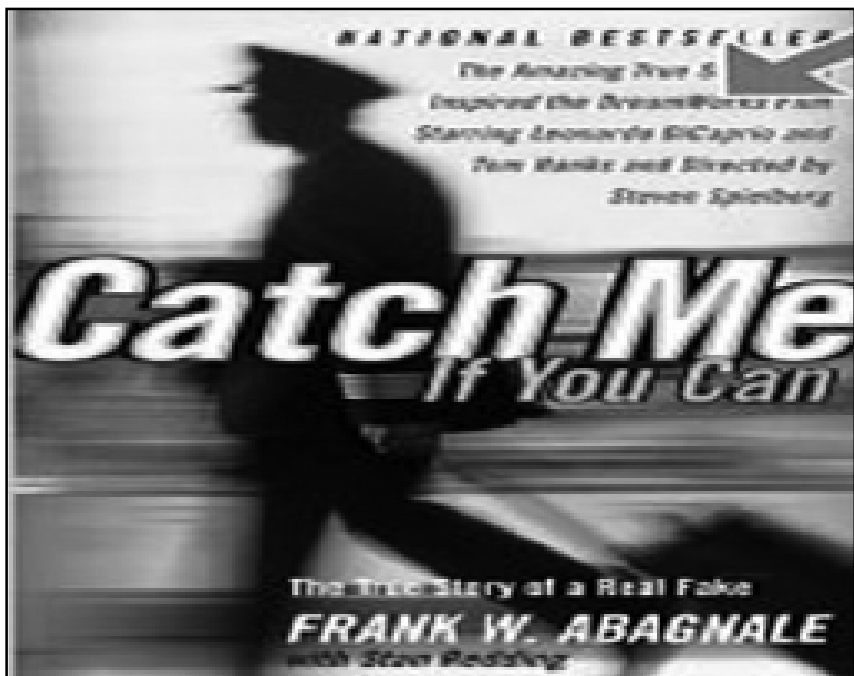
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Why Hollywood Takes a Back Seat to Literature



By: Juan Sanchez, Reporter



Catch Me If You Can:

The True Story of a Real Fake

After reading *Catch Me If You Can*, an autobiography by Frank W. Abagnale, I wanted to start making checks myself. It was a true story about Frank W. Abagnale. He made over four million dollars counterfeiting checks all over the world—he did all of this before his twentieth birthday. Frank was a Pan Am pilot, a doctor, a lawyer, and a professor.

It all started when his parents got divorced, and he went to live with his dad. His dad went bankrupt, and he ran away from home. He took a train to New York and started his journey as a con artist. He started making his own checks and cashed them. Then, he started on occupations. After four years of all this, he went to France because the FBI was on his trail. Then, he finally got caught and sent to a horrible French prison. He spent exactly one year in prison and then transferred to Sweden. Sweden's prisons were real different than France's prisons. They were like apartments with bars on them. Unfortunately, he only spent six months in that lucky prison.

He was extradited to the U.S.; however, on the plane, he went through the toilet and snuck out. He escaped! He was free for one month and got caught in New York. The FBI decided that he can help them by catching criminals; he did that for about twelve years and was legally freed.

Overall, *Catch Me If You Can* is a really superior book. It is an easy reading, breathtaking, and hilarious story. It is so different than the movie; it is better. When I started reading it, I couldn't put the book down.

The most memorable scene is when Frank escapes at the end of the book, and the cops cannot catch him.

The book is more interesting and suspenseful than the movie. The movie did not show all the facts. This book comes recommended at the highest level. It is proof of the power of literature over film.

The Godfather

The Godfather was most the superlative book I have ever read. It was written by Mario Puzo, and if you have not watched the movie, it is a fictional story about the biggest crime boss in New York. The book is a compilation of all the stories performed in the movies.

If anyone needs help, they go to Don Corleone, known as the "Godfather." The family tradition is that the Don's sons take over the family business. He has three sons and one daughter. His daughter was Connie Corleone and his three sons are Santino Corleone, Fredo Corleone, and Michael Corleone. Santino is the son who is going to be the next Don. Michael did not want to be in the family business. So, he went to college; then, he went to the marines during World War II.

Everything changed when the Don got shot down. He got shot five times because he did not want to get into the drug business with the other five families. While he was in the hospital, Santino started a war with the other family, the Tattaglias. Then, Michael shot the head of the Tattaglia family, Sollozzo. Michael had to get out the country as soon as possible. He went to Italy to hide out for about a year. While he was hiding, his sister was getting beat up by her new husband. Santino would take care of that situation, but he got set up. He was shot in his car by more than ten Tommy guns, a popular weapon during the early twentieth century. When Michael got back to America, the Don was out of the hospital. He decided to retire, and Michael decided to take over. Fredo went to Las Vegas to learn the casino business. Michael was the Don for the next thirty years.

This classic novel is a bona fide masterpiece. It is long, but it is still a solid book. If you like crime, I recommend this novel. The movies are extraordinary, too. This novel is well-organized and it is more exciting because it begins in court; it is modestly different than the movie. The most memorable scene is when Michael shoots a crooked cop. I think the book stands better than the film. It is one of the all-time great stories.



Lunchtime Poll:

What would you do if you found out this was going to be your last day on earth?



Freshman: Allison Jurgenson

"I'd meet Michael Jackson and tour the Neverland Ranch with my friend Melissa."



Sophomore: Geoffrey Wilson

"I would do all the things I've wanted to learn. I would try surfing, snowboarding, and skydiving. I'd want to do something new."



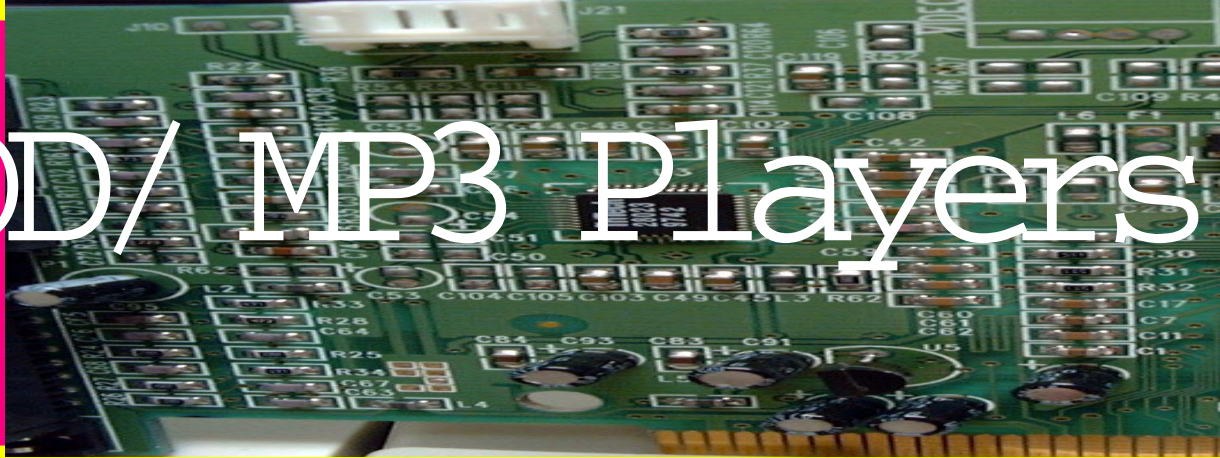
Junior: Precious Ellis

"I would go shopping all day so that I could have lots of clothes and shoes to take with me to Pluto, or wherever I end up. I will be the flyest person on the planet."



Senior: Michael Perez

"I would go to Jennifer Lopez's house and ask her to go on a date with me. I doubt she'll say no!"



IPOD/ MP3 Players

MP3 PLAYERS & IPOD HIT THE RACKS

By Brittni Garcia
Editor-in-Chief



As Luis Sadowski, junior, gets free time he listens to a video iPod.

For the past couple of years, many people have found the hottest new technology linking music downloads, FM radio, music video downloads, TV show downloads, and movie downloads into a small compact player. It is what most of us are accustomed to calling an iPod or MP3 player.

Introduced in 1998, MP3 players are used to store, organize, and play music files. The Apple iPod is a 5.6 ounce, pocket-sized digital music player, incorporating a tiny disk drive, enclosed in a skinny case. With all the advanced technology found and being created, most of us don't know exactly what these high-priced gadgets can do. These small gadgets can hold up from 99 to 7500 songs, unlike cassette tapes and CDs. Apple iPod and MP3 players from Sony, Samsung, Phillips and other name brands are getting popular due to the amount of money that could be saved from buying CDs. Apple iPods allow customers to visit the iTunes store where you can purchase your songs for the amount of \$.99 and music videos for \$1.99.

Although people are given the perception that iPods and MP3 players are just used for listening to music, they can be a more useful gadget. iPods can store pictures to use as slideshows on the actual screen or on your computer monitor. Sparknotes now offers students the ability to download notes to help them prepare for tests or assignments by downloading certain subjects into the iPods. If you're the kind of person who'd rather listen to audio books, rather than read, then iPods are a very useful device. iTunes also offers audio books to be downloaded as well as popular television shows. iPods can also help you stay organized by allowing the owner to view a calendar, have reminders, a stopwatch, and penetrate contact numbers.

"iPods are the new trend for the past year. I purchased the Phillips Mp3 player for about \$300. I feel that that was worth it because, I rather pick the songs I want from a CD rather than buying the whole CD with songs I don't want," said senior, Tiffany Wilson.

Apple iPods and MP3 players may be popular, but they are not cheap. The Phillips 30 GB Jukebox can hold up to 15000 songs and 8400 pictures for a price of \$300. It has up to 18-hour battery, 2-inch 65 color TFT screen, and MP3 and WMA music

plus FM tuner. Apple has currently created the iPod shuffle, the Nano, the iPod, and the 30 and 60 GB video iPod. The video iPod is under half an inch thin, with 15,000 songs and 25,000 photos. It has up to 150 hours of video space with 20 hours worth of battery. This costs about \$399.00.

"The iPod Nano is so small and so easy to fit in the palm of my hand. It's great to bring along with me anywhere to listen to a variety of music, which I downloaded onto my iPod. It's the new high tech gadget. Everyone should have one," said sophomore, Krystal Defries.

With advanced technology being created and found, who knows what the next hot gadget will be?

Did you know?

On February 23, Apple announced that one billion songs have been legally downloaded from the iTunes Music Store since it was launched three years ago. The billionth song was "Speed of Sound" by ColdPlay. Alex Ostrovsky of West Bloomfield,

Michigan was the grand prize winner. He will receive a 20-inch iMac, ten fifth generation iPods, and a \$10,000 gift card for the iTunes Music Store. There will also be a scholarship established in his name for the Juilliard School of Music.

| Legal |

Why do you have an Ipod?



"I bought the iPod Nano. I like the nano because I like to listen to my music. I've had it for about six months," said Ron Sherrod, freshmen.

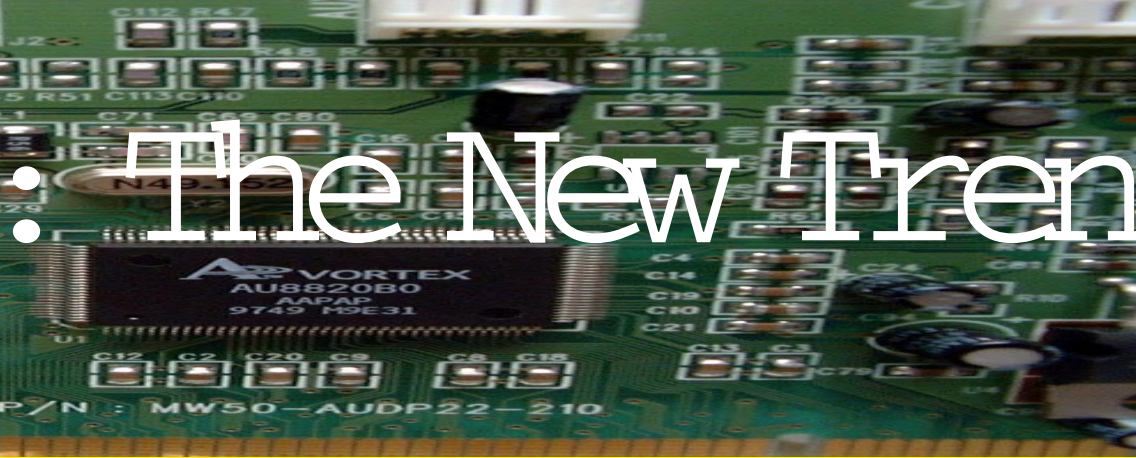


"I have an 30 GB Video iPod so I can keep school files on it. It makes it easy to pull up," said Ms. Iverson.



"I have an 30 GB Video iPod because I enjoy listening to music when I'm hanging out with friends and playing video games," said Derome Boatman, senior

It
Top 1
"So Sick"
"Bad Day"
Power
"Temperat
Paul
"Unwritte
Bedingfie
"You're Be
James Blu
"I'm In lo
Dancer"
Jones
"Always o
Sheryl C
"Shake Th
"Beep"- P
"Everytim
Cascada
The iTunes M
podcasts, 16
over 60 popu
NBC, MTV M



The New Trend?

Bonobo and Daft Punk Offer Hot Sounds to Your iPod

by Solomon Adekale
Feature Editor

Usually when I listen to music I try to be as diverse as possible. I went from only listening to hip-hop and some punk rock to listening to every type of music there is. Including down-tempo, alternative, trip-hop, movie soundtracks, and even Japanese anime OST (OST stands for original soundtrack). Changing my music habits was a definite plus. I started to learn and appreciate more about other cultures and other music phenomena than just my usual 50 Cent or Fall Out Boy. This past month I got a chance to preview two wonderful

albums, *Dial "M" for Monkey* by artist Bonobo, and *Human After All* by artist Daft Punk. Most recently my music video "Pick Up the Rhythm and Soul" was aired on BloomsScene and most people liked the weird beat that I rapped to. The beat was actually the track "Pick Up" from Bonobo's albums and most of his tracks sound just like that wonderful music. This eclectic blend of atmospheric down-tempo chill out instrumentals mesmerizes the listener to the point of pure bliss. The experience is truly amazing! The album also boasts urban

eastern influenced tracks like "Noctuary," and "Flutter." Also trip-hop down-tempo tracks like "D Song," "Change Down," and "Light Pattern." The album definitely should have been longer though, especially with such wonderful instrumentals. It was a shame the album only featured nine tracks, but it was the best nine tracks any artist could have made. The next album comes from one of my all-time favorite two man music groups, Daft Punk. Every time they make a new album they change up their sound just a little to the point a listener knows

it's a new sound, but it's still the same old Daft Punk. Their album *Human After All* is their most rocking album to date. Most of the tracks like "Emotion," "Human After All," and "Robot Rock" featured distorted but melodious electric guitars and other foreign instruments. That was not their only sound on the album, not by far. It also included techno hip-hop sounds like "Technologic" (which recently was sampled by rap superstar Busta Rhymes in his first single off his new album). The track that really made the album a hit with me was track

five, "Make Love." This track hit the spot for the album and definitely sent it to a five star rating with its repetitive drums and samples. But this album was certainly too short, featuring only ten tracks. One would think if you are going to make a masterpiece, finish it up! Both albums definitely came through for their listeners and I hope these artists' next albums will be even better. I give *Dial "M" for Monkey* five out of five stars, and *Human After All* four out of five stars. Keep the monkeys and humans going!



iTunes Top Downloads:

Top 10 Songs

- 1- Ne-o
- 2- Daniel
- 3- "The Measure"- Sean
- 4- "The Measure"- Natasha
- 5- "Beautiful"-
- 6- "I'm with a"
- 7- "T Pain/ Mike"
- 8- "On your Side"-
- 9- "How"
- 10- "That"- Eminem
- 11- "Cussycat Dolls"
- 12- "The We Touch"-

Top T.V. Shows

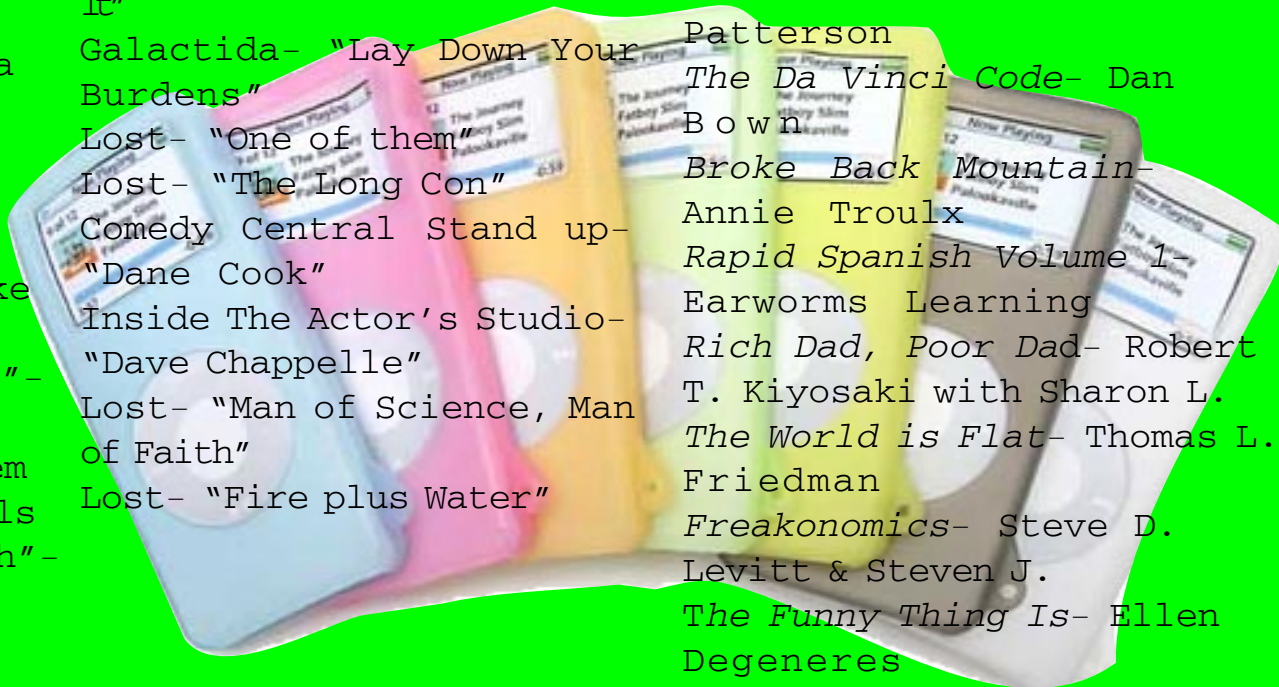
- 1- Lost- "Maternity Love"
- 2- The Office- "Dwight's Speech"
- 3- Dave Chappelle- "For What It"
- 4- Galactica- "Lay Down Your Burdens"
- 5- Lost- "One of them"
- 6- Lost- "The Long Con"
- 7- Comedy Central Stand up- "Dane Cook"
- 8- Inside The Actor's Studio- "Dave Chappelle"
- 9- Lost- "Man of Science, Man of Faith"
- 10- Lost- "Fire plus Water"

Top Audiobooks

- 1- *Ricky Gervais Show Season 2*- Steve Merchant
- 2- *How to Make People Like you In-* Nicholas Boothman
- 3- *The Fifth Horseman*- James Patterson
- 4- *The Da Vinci Code*- Dan Brown
- 5- *Broke Back Mountain*- Annie Troulx
- 6- *Rapid Spanish Volume 1*- Earworms Learning
- 7- *Rich Dad, Poor Dad*- Robert T. Kiyosaki with Sharon L. Friedman
- 8- *The World is Flat*- Thomas L. Friedman
- 9- *Freakonomics*- Steve D. Levitt & Steven J.
- 10- *The Funny Thing Is*- Ellen Degeneres

Top 10 Videos

- 1- "Stupid Girls"- Pink
- 2- "Breaking Free"- High School Musical
- 3- "Check on It" - Beyonce feat. Bun B.
- 4- "Sorry"- Madonna
- 5- "We're All in this Together"- High School Musical
- 6- "Grillz"- Nelly Feat. Paul Wall
- 7- "Get your Head in the Game"- High School Musical
- 8- "I write Sins not Tradegies"- Panic At the Disco
- 9- "Move Along"- All-American-Rejects
- 10- "My Humps"- Black Eyed Peas



Apple Music Store now features a selection of over 3,500 music videos, Pixar and Disney short films, a variety of hit TV shows, 35,000 audiobooks and more than two million songs from the major music companies and independent record labels. iTunes offers popular TV shows for just \$1.99 for viewing on a computer or iPod and recently added new hit programming from ABC, Bravo, Networks and SHOWTIME.

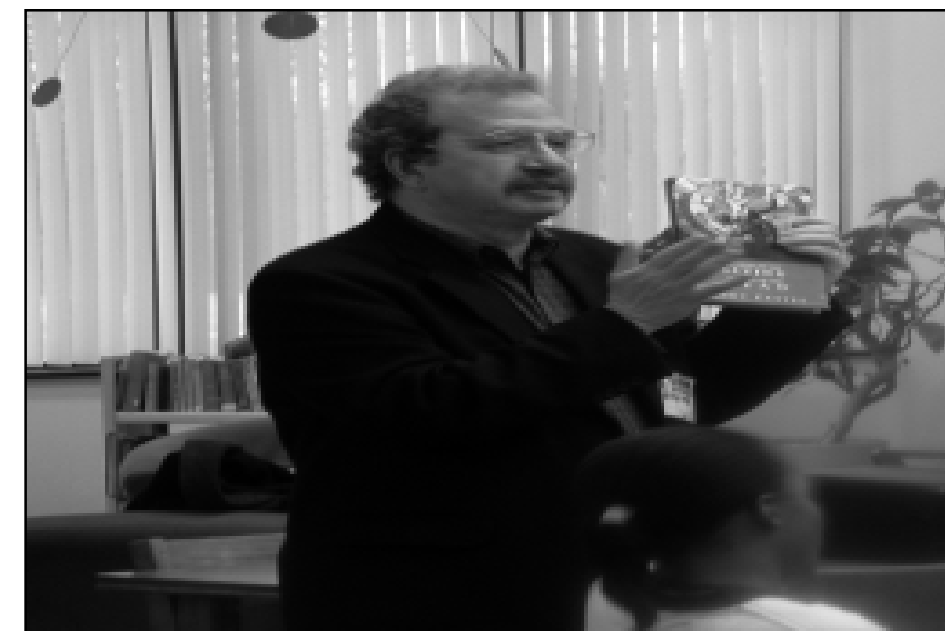
Got Creativity?

Published author, Mort Castle, speaks to honor students

BY: CRISTAL CRUZ
REPORTER

What is good writing? Is it when you write something down from the top of your head? Or when you think of something you know should be heard and decide to write it down? Whether it is a real life experience or make-believe, good writing can be anything. People can write many stories in different types of languages and still captivate millions of hearts. From drama, fiction, comedy, and horror, everyone has a story to tell!

A very important task in creative writing is to follow a set of rules. These rules lead you into writing a weak story to writing a great one! **Your writing must be interesting.** No matter what you write, you must never bore the reader! A reader is always going to want to read something they like and enjoy. By focusing on the main points of the story, the reader will get interested because you will have main points throughout the whole story. **Write about what you know.** Writing about "never land" can be good, but writing about inspiration can be even better! Many people today find, what relates to them, more interesting. So stop looking up fantasies and start looking for inspiration. **Show, don't tell.** When you tell a story, show it by using imagery and not visual aids. Imagery is the keyword in



MORT CASTLE SHOWS THE HONOR STUDENTS ONE OF HIS PUBLISHED BOOKS.

good writing because you are showing the reader what is going on in the story through your writing.

Having these guiding rules when you write can be helpful in many ways. That is what Mort Castle told the Honors English 1/2 and Journalism classes in one of the three meetings we had. In these meetings, students were asked to write about a topic given to them and then asked to read about what they wrote aloud. Some students so far have enjoyed this class, while others are still trying to figure out why they are doing this? Students who have enjoyed this class have gained a lot of confidence, not only to read in front of a large group, but to also tell a story about how some way they have been inspired. This a great class because you get to talk to

people without actually talking to them, but by telling them a wonderful story!

This class will interest a lot of our young talented readers and writers, and even if you don't fall in this category, you will grow into being one. So for those of you who don't have this class, don't hesitate to write a story. Just remember to follow the rules above and with knowing all three, start writing!



THREE RULES FOR CREATIVE WRITING

1. YOUR WRITING MUST BE INTERESTING.
2. WRITE ABOUT WHAT YOU KNOW.
3. SHOW, DON'T TELL.

MEET THE BARKERS: A REVIEW



BY: KAITILAH BROWN
DESIGN EDITOR



THE BARKER FAMILY HAVING A GOOD TIME.

Do you think opposites attract? Many may disagree and many may agree. According to the hit show "Meet the Barkers," opposites definitely attract when it comes to Travis Barker and Shanna Moakler-Barker. The drummer of Blink-182 has found his true love, best friend, and a wife with a former Miss USA turned TV actress, and they've invited the whole entire world into their boisterous lives, as well their children, together.

As a viewer, I really enjoy watching their tumultuous lives on television. To watch a couple fight, argue, love each other, and laugh are some of the main reasons why I enjoy the show. Also, I enjoy watching them spending time with their family and their children running them around. People should watch this show because it gives you an idea of marriage, motherhood, fatherhood, real life, hardship, and how different people can get along and enjoy their life happily. Also, it can influence others to better themselves in many ways: with someone they love, with life in general, and with beliefs that people with different personalities, ethnics, cultures, or customs can enjoy life together. Junior Carlisha

Banks declares, "the show is just so exciting. I look forward to watching it every time it comes on; its real life with a twist. Season Two is absolutely great. Season one was exciting also, but season two has more drama. I watch the show majority of the time it's on and I'll give it an 8 1/2."

Junior, Agata Kozieliec adds, "I really like Travis and Shanna. I think that they are such a cute couple. Also, I love watching their sense of humor. I try to watch the show every week and I would give the show a big 10."

MTV'S TOP 5 REALITY TELEVISION SERIES

5. THERE & BACK
4. 8TH & OCEAN
3. GAUNTLET 2
2. REAL WORLD: KEY WEST
1. MEET THE BARKERS

Bloom Faculty Consists of a Strong Foundation

Ms. Bobbe assumes secretarial roll for Math/Science Department

By: Juan Aguero

It takes everyone doing their part to make a school run smoothly. It seems like everyone looks to the teachers, deans, and the principal; yet, no one looks at the secretaries, janitors, lunch ladies, or even the police officers, who keep everyday life in Bloom running the proper way. This being said, there is a new member to the Trojan family. Her name is Emily Bobbe. She is the secretary of the Math/Science department. This is just a little bit of information for the people who haven't gotten to meet her.



- 1) Why did you choose Bloom?
 - a. Well I just moved and I wanted to work in the community where I live.
- 2) What's your favorite thing to do in your spare time?
 - a. I like to read, and I like to visit with friends, go out to dinner, and to see a movie.
- 3) What did you do before you came to Bloom?
 - a. I'm a massage therapist, and I just finished getting my Masters degree in Hebrew bible
- 4) How do you like this school?
 - a. I like this school a lot the teachers and staff have been very friendly, as well as all of the students.
- 5) What is one of your goals during your stay at Bloom?
 - a. I want to support Donna as well as the whole Math/Science wing.
- 6) How do you like working with Mrs. Zuidema?
 - a. She is a very nice lady to work with. She is a fun person and is very unpredictable.
- 7) What type of jobs does the position require you to do?
 - a. I help students when they have a locker problem. I also help the Math/Science department with whatever they need me to do.

It seems as if everyone looks at a secretary and thinks that all they do is take messages. To all those people that's not the case! "I haven't written one message since I've been here," declares Mrs. Bobbe.

Next time you look at Bloom, remember that it takes everyone on the staff to keep it running the way it does. When you pass a secretary, janitor, police officer, or any other faculty member, stop and thank them for their hard work.

Island of Adventure

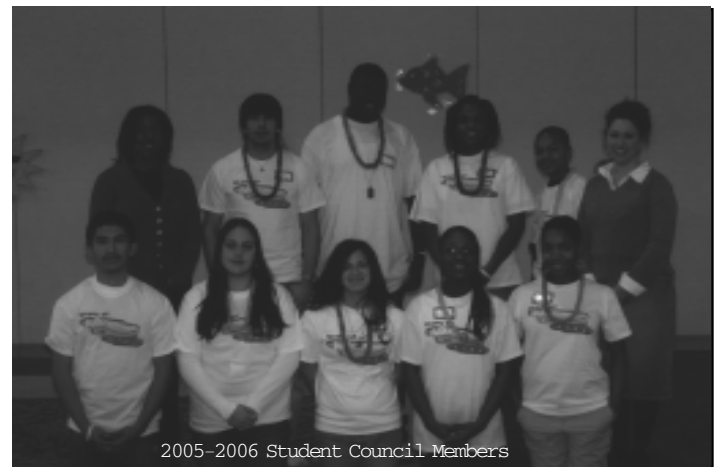
Student council convention motivates our Bloom leaders

By: Jamese Carrell & Kaiilah Brown

On Thursday, March 2, 2006, Student Council officers attended *Island of Adventure* Student Council S.I.C.A. Convention. The purpose of the convention was to learn how to be a better leader within your school. Also the conference was an excellent opportunity for Student Council members to collaborate with other local high school student councils, and allow them to take information back to their home, schools, and communities. At this convention, over 350 students, advisers, and administrators were joined from local area high schools.

At the convention there were three break-out sessions. One session was spoken by Patrick George, a motivational speaker. He stressed the importance of never giving up. He discussed on how to improve a council's performance and move toward working as a team. During the second session, the attendees watched the documentary *Pressure Points*. This movie showed teens how to deal with pressure and how it never goes away. The third session was lead by Beth Horner, a storyteller. The day ended with a round table discussion with different student council members who shared their ideas from their school. Hopefully, as members we can motivate our peers and become better leaders.

Bloom's Student Council officers, Sergio Gallardo (President), Brenda Gonzalez (Vice President), Kaiilah Brown (Treasurer), Jamese Carrell (Secretary), Aramis Steveson (Junior Class Rep.), Juan Aguero (Sophomore Class Rep.), Lysie Bibbian (Junior Class Rep.), and Keenan Brown (Freshmen Class Rep.) attended.



WHAT'S YO' ZODIAC SIGN

By: Andrea Smith
Reporter

Aries: Money may be the main problem in your life. Be careful with spending, you may not need everything you buy.

Taurus: Doing the same mundane routine is getting old. Add some excitement to your life, do something spontaneous!

Gemini: Trying to get a job? Well look to a friend for help. Your next paycheck may be in the hands of the person next to you.

Cancer: Your magnetic energy attracts an eligible partner to you. Be careful though, since opposites attract, you may be getting more than you bargained for.

Leo: Holding on to old grudges can make things harder than they have to be. Some times you have to just let go. New things are waiting behind the brick wall.

Virgo: If you want something say it! You can't expect for other people to be a mind reader. Just express yourself, you're more likely to get what you want.



Libra: It's time to let go of all the unnecessary baggage your holding on to! Relaxation is the key to relieve stress. Find some time for yourself, it will be so beneficial to you.

Scorpio: You don't have to jump head first in everything you are interested in, or anyone for all that matters. Take your time and let things come to you.

Capricorn: It seems like everything is falling in all the right places for you. Happiness is finally by your side and he's here to stay if you maintain doing what you've always done.

Aquarius: With-holding is sometimes the best way to build-up appreciation and respect. Beware! Teasing is sort of like playing with fire. Don't get to close, you may get burned!

Pisces: Change is beautiful, even if it means inner change. A shift in your attitude will bring about new friends and new beginnings this week. Just remember, your attitude determines altitude!

True Sports

Bloom's Key Club bowls to help fight Cystic Fibrosis

By: Brittini Garcia
Editor-in-Chief

On February 16, Key Club members arrived to the South Chicago Heights Classic Lanes bowling alley. They were there not only to bowl, but to participate in a bowl-a-thon for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. The foundation is a donor-supported and non-profit organization. According to www.cff.com, its mission is to assure the development of the means to cure and control cystic fibrosis, and to improve the quality of life for those with the disease. Key Club members gave hope to over ten thousand children and adults in the United States today.

Cystic Fibrosis, CF, is a genetic disease, which affects approximately 30,000 people in the United States. A defective gene causes the body to produce abnormally thick mucus. This leads to persistent lung infections. Currently, there is no found cure for this disease. "It felt good bowling for a great cause. Key Club did what they do best, gave out a hand to those who need it," said Key Club sponsor, Mr. Nieminski.

Cystic Fibrosis Foundation has been around since 1955. It had their 50th anniversary last year. The foundation wants people to raise the awareness in communities about CF, carry the message that specialized care received at a CF Foundation can contribute to people suffering from CF. To learn more about CF visit cff.org or call (800) FIGHT CF.

Featured Teachers

Get to know your Bloom teachers

Reporter: Raynita Douglas

Mr. Mark Debold



Q. What made you want to become a teacher?
A. I knew that teaching would be a career that I could do for the rest of my life.

Q. Do you regret the career you chose?
A. Absolutely not.

Q. What made you come to Bloom?
A. I student taught at Bloom and really liked the people and students here. Also, there was an opportunity to be involved in coaching the cross-country teams and the strong traditions involved with them; I wanted to contribute.

Q. What impact do you think you have in children's lives as being a teacher?
A. I think teachers have an impact on their students everyday, as do the students on the teachers, and one of the best parts of teaching is when that aspect is realized.

Q. Were you a good student in high school?
A. I did alright. My graduating class had over a 1,000 people. My goal was to find a way into the top 10%, because I knew that's what colleges look for, and I just made it.

Q. What do you like most about teaching?
A. In teaching, something new happens everyday. It's always interesting.

Q. What is your favorite motto?
A. "You should never doubt what no one isn't sure about"- Wonka

Q. What advice do you have to offer to the seniors of "06"?
A. To "06," finish the year off strong, and be excited and ready to start the next part of your lives.

Q. What made you want to become a teacher?
A. I had some really great teachers, who encouraged me in high school. So I decided I wanted to do the same.

Q. Do you regret the career you chose to follow?
A. No.

Q. What made you come to Bloom?
A. I had a relative who works at Bloom Trail. I visited Trail and liked the school, so I suggested Bloom for student teaching.

Q. What are some obstacles you are facing as being a student teacher?
A. I did not realize the hard work that teachers put in everyday!!

Q. What impact do you think you have in children's lives by being a teacher?
A. I can only hope I will be able to encourage them to continue in education and make the right choices in life.

Q. What do you like most about teaching?
A. Knowing that I am helping someone understand something they may not have understood before.

Q. What is your best quality?
A. I am funny once you get to know me.

Q. What advice do you have to offer to the seniors of "06"?
A. Never stop following your dreams!



Ms. Amy Grunauer

What Are You Driving?

Reporter: Angelisa Giles



Rebecca Bova

Q: What kind of car do you have?

A: A 2002 Ford Focus

Q: When did you get your car?

A: August, 2005

Q: Who bought your car for you?

A: My parents bought it for me

Q: What color is your car?

A: Red

Q: Why did you pick out that particular car?

A: It looked really cute and it looked like something I would drive.

Q: Is this the first car you ever had?

A: Yes.

Q: What do you like most about your car?

A: My stereo.

Q: How many times did you have to get your car fixed?

A: None, so far!

Q: Have you ever gotten pulled over or get any tickets?

A: No.

Q: Do you plan to get a new car any time soon?

A: I want to, but probably not.

2006 Turnabout Dance

Reporter: Raynita Douglas

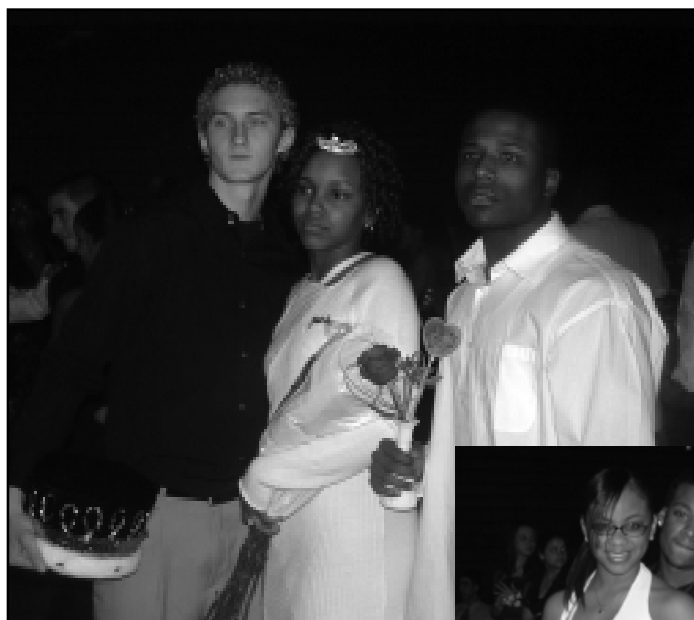
"Turnabout was a great experience for all grades, and everyone got along." -Sophomore, London Grant

The 2006 Bloom Turnabout dance was very interesting and exciting. We had a new D.J. this year named Johnathan from the group called Spinnin Disk. For seniors, he had a slideshow, with a bunch of different photos, set up by the D.J. booth. The D.J. played videos for some of the songs that were more recent. Bobby Bruno said, "I enjoyed myself, but I would change the D.J. because he played some bad music." The decorations were nice and well put together. "I enjoyed myself, but I would change the food because it

was nasty," said sophomore Kiara Cummings.

The theme was *One Wish* and that was also the song that was played for the winners of Turnabout court. The winners were Tisa Riggins, Bobby Bruno, and Derome Boatman. The music was pleasant, but the D.J. played mostly older songs. Junior Montez O'Brien said, "I didn't enjoy myself because the D.J. did not play a good variety of songs." Turnabout was held in the McCann Gym from seven to eleven p.m.

Bobby Bruno, Tisa Riggins, and Derome Boatman winners of Turnabout court



Ezekial Penny & Ashley Washington pose for a picture at Turnabout.



What's New @ the Library

By Mrs. Walsh

Booking a Steckel (carpet) Square @ Your Library

The library is going to be celebrating its 30th birthday. It was a proud moment when the new high school addition was built and the James D. Steckel Library (dedicated on June 6, 1982) opened its doors in 1976. However, the library's carpet will also be turning 30 years old. We are seeking donations from individuals and alumni groups to help improve the educational hub of the school. Please help us with this important and badly needed endeavor by "Booking a Steckel (carpet) Square." For details please see Dr. Navarre or Mrs. Walsh.

The Race Is On @ Your Library!

We have six teams competing in the third annual reading race. Teams are reading books by Illinois authors. GO TEAMS GO!

Book Reviews Wanted @ Your Library.

Students willing to give short book reviews before SSR each Friday should see Mrs. Walsh. Students will receive a gift the day of their book review and their name will be placed in a May raffle for two \$25.00 Borders gift cards.

McDonald's Gift Cards @ Your Library.

Congratulations to Lillian Brown, Stephany Dilbeck and Courtney Fouts for winning the first three library raffles for a McDonald's gift card. Students who return or renew their library books this semester have a chance to win a McDonald's gift card. A name is drawn and a gift card awarded every two weeks.

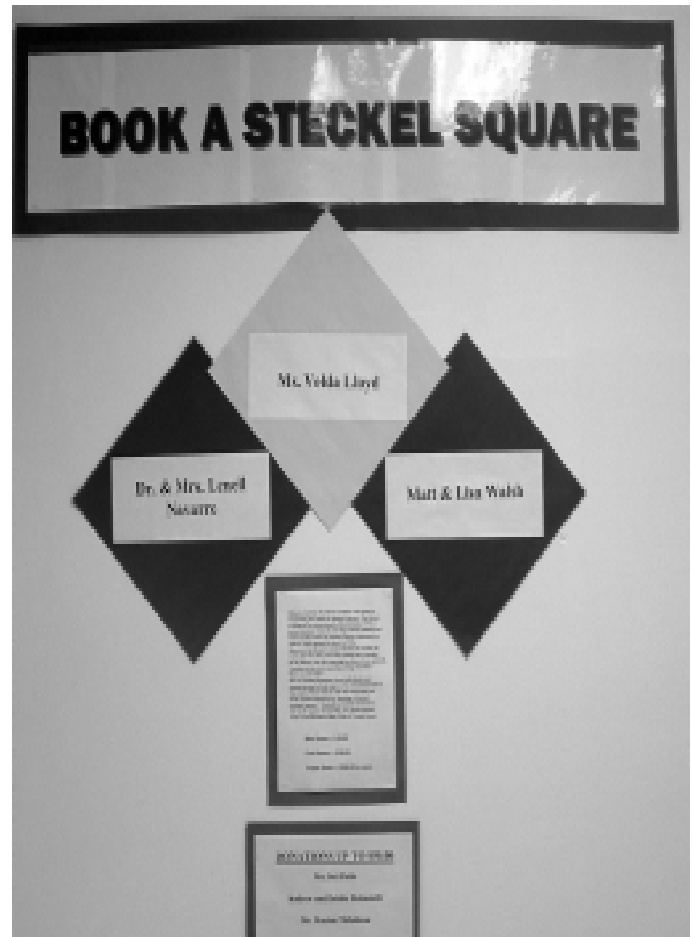
Audio Books Available @ Your Library.

Come in and "check out" the audio book collection! An audio book is a fun way to enjoy a book.



The Underground Railroad in Illinois @ Your Library.

The February topic of the library hall display was "Remembering the Flight to Freedom. The Underground Railroad in Illinois". Books from the "We the People" grant were incorporated into the display. A special thank you goes to the following Afro American Club members who helped with this display: Aisha Ragland, Kirby Ragland, Kurt Ragland and Kurtis Ragland.



Division 4 Mathlete Conference Champions

Bloom Mathletes team won the Division 4 Championship at Hillcrest! Bloom was recognized in 12 out of 14 different competitions!

The *Broadcaster* would like to congratulate:

Terence Helsel, Sergio Gallardo, Paul Wiberg, Maria Morales, Marcellina Orellana, Aaron Fiehn, Miguel Corona, Robby Napoli, Anthony Narcissi, Fernando Desiderio, Dante Silguero, John Tessling, Sandra Carvajal, Carina Munoz, Martiza Valetin, Corrine Zimmerman, Kristen Taylor, Ray Davis, Shamika Shelton, Linsey Jones, Joese Ramirez, Sarah Kidwell, and Ms. Nancy Simpson, sponsor.

Together they made it possible!

NAILS ETC...

Leslie

Nail Tech/Owner

just watch me

be accountable

College of Business
 Bachelor of Business Administration
 Bachelor of Science in Accounting
 Bachelor of Science in Management
 Bachelor of Science in Marketing
 Bachelor of Science in Finance
 Bachelor of Science in International Business
 Bachelor of Science in Supply Management

Bloomington University
 1000 UNIVERSITY BLVD
 BLOOMINGTON, IN 47403



This is the bracket from last season, can the Illini make it as far as they did last year?

Leo's Lessons



Time To Work It All Out

By: Leonard Carey
Sports Editor

This year's high school basketball season is wrapping up. This year the big state tournament is at the Peoria Civic Center in Peoria, Illinois.

This year, the top schools from the south suburbs for this immense tournament are Thornton and Thornridge—too bad Bloom could not pull off the upset at sectionals against H-F; their hopes of a state title were decimated. "I have never made it down-state," states varsity player Larry Dumas.

Even though high school basketball is very exciting, it is still has no comparison to the all-time favorite NCAA college basketball event, *March Madness*. There is nothing that gets as much hype from high school athletes than the NCAA Tournament. Dumas asserts, "I do enjoy watching it because my favorite team, Duke, is playing real good, and J.J. Redick just broke some

college records." This is the biggest time, not just for pro scouts, but also high school athletes, to find out the collegiate schools, where they wish to continue their career and future education.

There are plenty of different teams that are a force to be reckoned with in the "big dance." The top teams for this tourney are Duke, UConn, and Villanova. Dumas adds, "I think Duke will have a better chance because they have all-around shooters, a solid big man position [Shelden Williams], and they play team ball. So Duke will be the team to beat, this season!"

Even though Illinois has had a hard time this season with their inexperience, they can still make it to the tourney, and hopefully, come out with a victory or two.

The Winter Olympics

Coming out of the horrendous victory of the 2004 Athens, Greece Olympics, where the United States dominated the track and brought home a lot of gold medals for this country, the winter of 2006 has been all about the snow and winter sports of the Winter Olympics. There are so many different events that really get overlooked by plenty of diverse people. The only way that people notice that these sports are upon us is when people tell them about these events. If viewers pay attention, they will figure out that the sports that are happening are very difficult to do; also, very exciting.

There are a lot of different types of sporting events that took place during the Winter Olympics of 2006. The most notable events are speed skating, ski-jumping, and curling. Many people may be wondering what some of these events are, like curling. Well, in curling each team has 4-5 people per team, and the teams have a sundry of colored rocks, which is a kind of sphere that slides on ice. There is one person that pushes the rock, and while that rock is moving, there are two more people that sweep. Another team member gives instructions on what to do. This can be pretty confusing, but the more viewers watch the more they understand how it works.

In addition, ski-jumping is really easy to comprehend, even though it doesn't seem so simple. Ski-jumping is just when someone goes down a pretty steep hill on skies and jumps off a ramp; then, they are judged on how far they can go before they land, as well as their style. This is some of the greatest sporting one can witness—danger, athleticism, and power are all exhibited.

There are also events that we are used to, like hockey and the decathlon. Someday these sports and the athletes are really going to get noticed and will be able to go somewhere where people will be astonished that they are there. They will be true sport celebrities.

Time's Up

By: Leonard Carey
Sports Editor

This year's basketball season has come to a close with a lot of different emotions over the games that they have played and the way that they have played them. This was an up-and-down season for the ball playing Trojans. Even when some days they did not come out with the win, they still had their head up high and walked tall. Even though the regular season has come to a close, their push for March Madness did not come out like they wanted it to. There is a lot of great talent all over the state of Illinois and all the high school teams will be right in Peoria, Illinois, at Carver Arena, Peoria Civic Center. Unfortunately, our Trojans will not be accompanying them.

On March 7, 2006 the Trojans faced our arch rivals, Homewood-Flossmoor, in a sectional

match-up. Everyone knew that the Trojans had the deck stacked against them seeing as how they haven't beat H-F in their last five meetings. Even though they heard all of these facts, they still came out ready to play. The Trojans came out with intensity and with the crowd mostly on their side; nevertheless, the game was to be in H-F's favor and the Trojans season came to a close.

There were still some great performances in the game and they deserve to be recognized. It was great for the seniors to get to perform the last time for their fans at their home court; they will always remember this moment. Thank you for the years, Dante Ray a.k.a. D-Ray, Tim Davis a.k.a. TD, Kevin Gibson a.k.a. KG, John Coulter a.k.a. JT, and Dwight Connie a.k.a. DC.

Matt McLaurin



1. What sports do you enjoy playing?
I enjoy playing football, wrestling, and track.
2. How much time do you put in to the sport?
I play them year around. I give seven months to football, four months to wrestling and four months to track.
3. What is your favorite food? Why?
Steak is my favorite food. I can't explain it, I just like it.
4. What is your favorite TV show? Why?
C.S.I., I like how they solve the murders and find all the killers.
5. How long have you played your favorite sports?
3 years.
6. What do you do in your spare time instead of playing football, wrestling and track?
I like to play my piano or trumpet. If I'm not doing that, I'm sleeping.
7. Who is your favorite teacher at Bloom? Why?
Coach Hall and Ms. Julian. I've known Coach Hall for three years and he's really helped me come along. Ms. Julian because she's like a mom to me.
8. Who is your favorite singer/rapper?
Eminem
9. What is your favorite color?
Blue, black, and white
10. Where is your favorite hangout?
My bedroom

Featured Athlete

Carlisha Banks



1. What sports do you enjoy playing?
Volleyball, basketball, and track and field
2. How much time do you put in to the sport?
I put in about 18-20 hours a week
3. What is your favorite food? Why?
BBQ chicken from KFC because the sauce is so addictive.
4. What is your favorite TV show? Why?
America's Next Top Model because I love to model and this show is like a primitive stage of development for my future aspirations. I'm looking forward to next season.
5. How long have you played your favorite sports?
I've been playing these sports for about 6 or 7 years.
6. What do you do in your spare time instead of playing basketball?
I braid hair, dance, read, and model.
7. Who is your favorite teacher at Bloom? Why?
None other than Mr. Eskew. I know it might sound crazy, but he has his good days, and if I can put up with him anyone can. He's also an excellent volleyball coach.
8. Who is your favorite singer/rapper?
Ciara, because she is full of energy and she's a great dancer, she knows how to get a crowd going and she really representing' for all girls out there.
9. What is your favorite color?
Pink, Pink, Pink
10. Where is your favorite hangout? My favorite hangout is at my friend April's house. That's basically the hangout spot of the year.