

the Wick



The Student Newspaper of Fenwick High School, 505 Washington Blvd. Oak Park Ill. Home of the Friars

A lesson from an Alum, entitled

“Living to Serve”

By Mr. Robert Tobin and John Hayes

A typical features article for a newspaper paints a picture of the subject by following a particular set of criteria: background info is presented, achievements and accolades are listed, and a few direct, meaningful quotes are incorporated into the piece, which like a shock from an automated external defibrillator, give the article a pulse that brings the newsprint to life. However, this is not a typical features article. This piece does not give biographical data, nor does it necessarily present any material accolades. Rather, this article serves to impart some of the most necessary words we must hear in order to fulfill our roles in the greater world community as lifelong Friars.



Mr. Tobin in California. His family moved west in 1971 after his junior year at Fenwick.

The only background information one must know is that the speaker is Mr. Robert Tobin, a member of the Fenwick family who has dedicated his life to serving those in society who need it most, namely, the impoverished, homeless, and handicapped. He has given countless hours directing several initiatives to change a culture of poverty and provide rays of hope in the greater Sacramento area and northern California for nearly forty years. Using his own practical lifelong experience as a foundation for connecting with anyone who wishes to serve the greater community, Mr. Tobin teaches us to be pragmatic and patient in fulfilling our call to serve in the face of a society that constantly stresses the need for actions with ever-greater impact. Mr. Tobin once walked the halls of Fenwick as a student. Now, through this article, he has returned to teach. The name of his class is “Living to Serve,” and the most important topic is you. There is no textbook and there are no grades, but you may wish to take a few notes along the way, as there is homework and it will not always be easy. Class is now in session... Please turn to p. 5

Cederoth and Lanza Review Banua

THE GOOD: SKITS & STUFF

The skits this year had good acting. Apart from a few non-descript teachers here and there and the occasional but inevitable dud, delivery was excellent, particularly from Arellano (Lorenzo Martino), Quinn (Matt Stein), and Power (Robby Penicook). A lot of the humor this year tended towards the more subtle and pointed, something which was refreshing in the face of a Banua that was otherwise obtuse and blunt, if still impressive.

Also, quite a few of the musical acts rather stood out: Friday’s opening act “Stay or Leave” proved that Dave Matthews can actually be good, even beautiful, contrary to some of this page’s prior articles. Joe Kelly’s “Marching Bands of Manhattan” was very striking, as was Katie Collins’ & Matt Stein’s acoustic cover of “Hey Ya”; while acoustic covers of pop songs in Banua can often be bland, these two in particular bucked the trend.

Brother Sport was appreciable simply because it was different. While it involved practically no skill, at least it was unusual, and it served as a type of “punctuation” in a show that was otherwise rather rambling. Also, pretty lights. Olivia Kelleher’s dance to Feist had a similar effect, though the bets are still open as to whether hers or Matt Birmingham’s choreography was more complicated to master, particularly given the notorious intricacy of net-lighting and a variety of other undisclosed factors, thus casting serious doubts as to whether Banua even actually happened. Please turn to “Banua” on p. 7

New rugby team takes shape

By Tom Nieter

When you think of Fenwick athletics, water polo, football, soccer, and basketball all may come to mind. Fenwick has been notorious for competing with top schools in Illinois in each activity. What may come as a surprise to those outside of Fenwick, is the new rugby team which just started this school year.

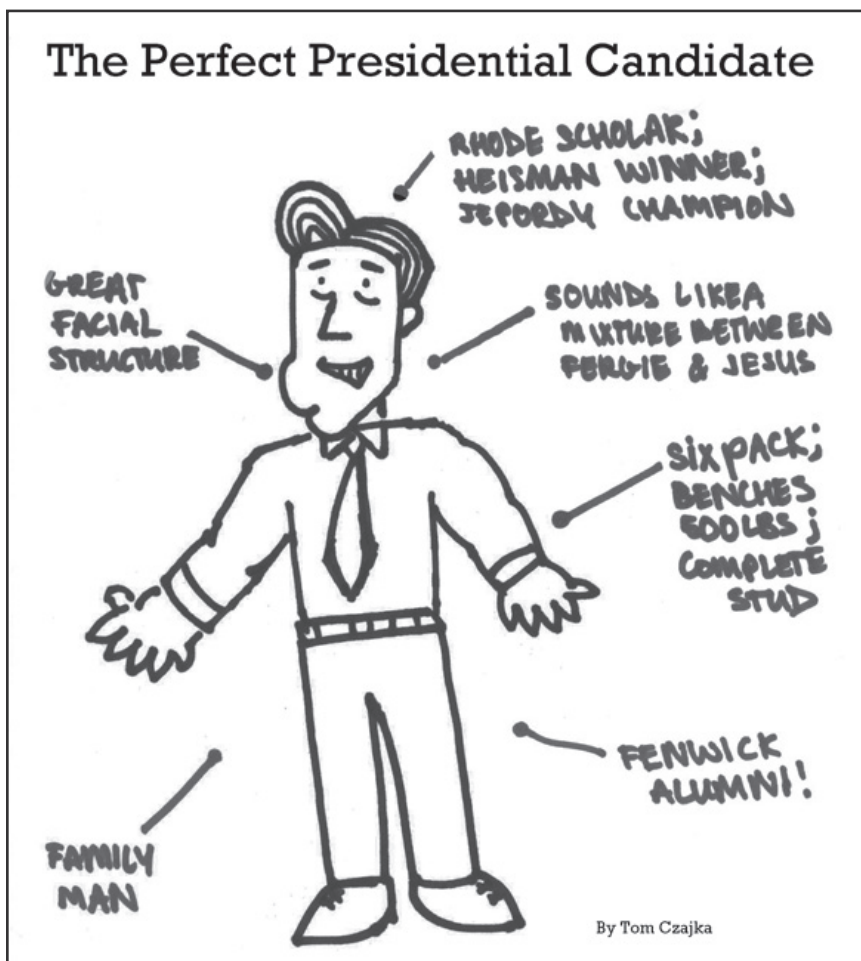
Rugby has never been introduced to Fenwick in its long lasting years. The sport, you might think, isn’t one that is commonly played between high schools. The idea was brought up by our own senior Sean Mahon. He hoped to introduce what he thought was great fun to his fellow Friars, and it seems to have worked, with a solid 40 players on the roster so far.

Sean has been on a club team since Freshman year. This team has not only played others within the state, but all around the world.

He has been on tour with his club team in England, Ireland, Wales and Canada. His knowledge of the game has expanded greatly, and as a leader of the team, he is excited to teach his fellow teammates more about the sport as well as leading them to a successful season.

Rugby is a physical sport, similar to football. Instead of using pads though, players just wear jerseys. It has just as much contact as football, but it plays much more freely. There are 15 players on the field at a time per team, with a total of 30, and what we would consider a touchdown in football is instead called a “try”. These are just a few differences between the two commonly compared sports, but there are many more.

Please turn to “Rugby” on p. 8



Chuck Norris leaves his mark on the 2012 Republican Primary Race

By Vince Napolitano

Given the economic and geopolitical crises that face our country today, America needs a new kind of presidential candidate, a man who if elected, will take the reins and utilize the might of the United States to return it to prominence.

What we all really need is Chuck Norris. However, since Chuck is off doing what Chuck does best, he decided to send us his one and only prodigy.

America’s best chance at returning to its glory days is the one and only Nuke Gingrich, born January 19, 2012 from the unexpected, fiery rage of presidential candidate Newt Gingrich’s response to a perceived personal attack by presidential debate moderator John King.

During the 1/19 presidential debate, King opened by asking Newt Gingrich about a 20-year-old “scandal” involving his second wife. It was out of Gingrich’s venomous counterattack, which left King looking like a four-year-old that just had his half eaten Twinkie taken away, that “Nuke” took the American stage. The 68-year-old PhD from Pennsylvania, with a squat, portly, slightly disheveled demeanor that more resembles a prep school History teacher than a U.S. President, was instantly transformed into a raging political firestorm of confidence, bravado, and charisma.

The transformation was so complete that it propelled Nuke to a runaway victory in the South Carolina primary, and revived his moribund bid for the Republican nomination. Many observers believe this former policy wonk, turned Republican Rambo is now armed to take the White House by storm. Nuke is a political one-man army, about to focus his wrath on Barack Obama, former “messianic boy wonder” turned effete poster child for Washington gridlock. Please turn to “Nuke Norris” on p. 7

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Learning about the new faculty



Mrs. Morrissey helps a student. Wick Photos by Rashea Minor

Mrs. Morrissey

By Andrea Alletto

Joining Fenwick's math department this year is Mrs. Susie Morrissey. As one of the 21 new staff members added to the Fenwick family, Morrissey takes on a full schedule. She teaches five math classes to freshman, sophomores and juniors.

Originally from Dallas, Texas, Morrissey received her master's degree from Simmons College in Boston. She currently resides in Western Springs but keeps her Texan roots with a love of "tex-mex" food.

Morrissey brings her southern sweetness to Fenwick through her teaching. Her favorite moments of teaching are when she shows the students how to do something hard and sees the students able to say, "I got it!" When asked what she enjoyed most about Fenwick she replied, "Students who want to learn and do well at Fenwick, and those who appreciate the opportunity to go here."

When she isn't teaching, she is busy with her studies as a student at IIT. Even with all the work toward her PhD in Math Education, Morrissey makes time for her four children, two of which are students at Fenwick. Morrissey says her kids don't seem to mind having her at school. They knew she wanted to come here, so they were prepared for it to happen. After spending time with the family and all school work is done, you can find Mrs. Morrissey watching her favorite show, *Dance Moms!* Despite a hectic day, her love for teaching shines through at Fenwick.



Mrs. McKinney answers two questions.

Mrs. McKinney

By Alisa Lollino

Coming from Michigan, Mrs. Carin McKinney has joined the long list of new teachers this school year. She is a great addition to the English department teaching English III and English III Honors. Her excitement about teaching at Fenwick shows when she is seen walking through the hallways with a smile on her face. When asked what she likes about Fenwick and the students she answered that she is "impressed with the amount of school pride."

McKinney grew up in Pleasant Ridge, Michigan, which is a small town ten miles north of Detroit. When she was a high school student she attended Ferndale High School where she was quite the involved student. She was a varsity swimmer for four years, ran track for three years and she participated in several theatrical shows. She then went on to earn her B.A. in English at Oakland University and her master's degree in teaching at National-Louis University.

Working at Fenwick is not her first run at teaching English. She also taught English at Taft High School for eight years. When asked why she chose Fenwick, she explained that she "was looking for a school where the students were motivated in their education."

Mrs. McKinney does not have much spare time, as she teaches many kids at Fenwick and takes care of her own four children, who are ten, nine, three and one at home. When she does get time to herself, she still loves swimming and theater.



Ms. Mihevc uses a map as a teaching aid.

Ms. Mihevc

By Liberty Vincent

New faculty member Madame Mihevc enchants and inspires French scholars of levels 1-5 in her interactive, well-decorated classroom. This Evanston native has instructed Spanish and German at other educational institutions, such as Geneva High School in Geneva, Illinois. Her career choices, however, seem to be rooted predominantly in the French language.

Madame attended Wheaton North High School where she was an avid participant in the French and Latin clubs as well as Tae Kwan Do. She was also involved in theater and in the French Honors Society. Mihevc graduated from Dominican University, formerly Rosary College, in 1989 with a major in French. She has worked for French airline giant Air France as well. On the extracurricular side here at Fenwick, Mihevc began spearheading the French club, for which she has exciting plans including crepe-making for Mardi Gras and a guest-speaker visit from a Chicago Wolves hockey team member.

So far this year, Madame has felt very welcome by the atmosphere. She is especially enjoying the positive attitudes, motivation and work ethic she has observed in Fenwick students. She also admires the strength of the language department.

Madame Mihevc currently resides in Hanover Park with her husband and two daughters. She enjoys a lifestyle of yoga and riding bicycles with her family.



Ms. Heinz prepares a German lesson.

Ms. Heinz

shoes to fill. The previous German teacher, Mary Barr, had taught at Fenwick for thirty-one years and left a big legacy behind. This does not daunt Heinz though; she says that she doesn't feel any pressure being the new German teacher because, "[She and Barr] have very different personalities and teaching styles." Although only in her first year teaching at Fenwick, it seems that Heinz is the right teacher for the job that will not only fill the void left by Frau Barr's departure, but might one day establish a legacy of her own.

By Jack Carey

For the first time in thirty-one years, there is a new face in the German department at Fenwick. This new teacher, familiar to all German students and many others around the school, is Alison Heinz, Fenwick's new German teacher. Heinz has come to Fenwick after getting bachelor's degrees in German, Spanish, and Education from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and a master's degree in German studies from the University of Wisconsin at Madison.

Heinz first became interested in teaching German when she took German in college and had a great experience. After a teacher recommended her to be a language tutor at a local school, she fell in love with teaching language classes, especially German. While studying abroad in Austria, Heinz taught English to younger German-speaking Austrians, an experience she remembers fondly. Heinz says she enjoys teaching because "it allows [her] to interact with the students and be creative in presenting material".

Heinz has had no problem adjusting to being a new teacher at Fenwick. She finds that the students are very motivated and loves the fact that they will "hold the door open for each other." The main challenge Heinz faces at Fenwick is that she has big

Prospective students test their best

By Virginia Wala and Mike Mahoney

On January 14th, 552 freshmen hopefuls came to Fenwick bright and early to take the Catholic High School Entrance Exam. Including the five other students who took the makeup exam, the number of students who tested increased from last year by about forty. These students came from all different areas. The most represented schools were not limited to but included St. Luke, Ascension, St. Giles, Roosevelt, St. Angela's, Hinsdale Middle, IC - Elmhurst, St. Francis Xavier and St. John of the Cross. More than 100 schools were represented.

Besides hailing from different educational backgrounds, these students were also diverse in several other ways— ethnically, geographically and socio-economically. These seventh and eighth graders were also exceptionally gifted. A large number of students scored in the

99th percentile, an achievement that could result in many Lawless Scholars next year.

However, some things turned out to be very similar to previous years. The distribution of boys to girls usually turns out to be around 45% to 55%, respectively. Also, about a third of the class had direct (parent, grandparent or sibling) legacy.

Seeing those wide-eyed eighth-graders and watching as they were sent to the auditorium left onlookers feeling uneasy for their sake. Nothing is worse than the fear of the unknown, which these scholars must face until mid-February when their letters of admission or denial arrive in the mail.

The Admissions Office is looking forward to granting admission to the classes of 2016 and 2017. Next year, Mrs. Rabchuk plans to present the message of Fenwick in an "innovative and exciting way" to "engage prospective students."



Illustration by Nicole Stark.

Internet blackout protests anti-piracy bills

By Martha Murphy

As a Fenwick student, it gets very frustrating to do homework sometimes. You need to look things up from time to time, especially for research paper assignments. One very useful tool that most students rely on is the internet, filled with web browsers and databases such as Wikipedia and Google. So why was it that Wikipedia and hundreds of other websites, blackened out for 24 hours on January 18th?

The internet "blackout" was in protest of the SOPA (Stop Online Piracy ACT) and PIPA (Protect IP ACT) bills that are being voted on in congress. These bills would essentially limit the freedoms of the internet. They would block information that had infringement or copyrighted laws, and could sue any website or search engine that allows copyrighted material that they do not own to be on their website. These websites include Youtube, Wikipedia, Twitter, Tumblr, and thousands of others. Google protested by blackening its logo, and Wikipedia had a blackened screen; you could not access anything on the website. I am trying to imagine a world without sites like, for example, Wikipedia. I could barely stand it for twenty-four hours. I, along with the rest of the population of high school students, would be left out in the cold while trying to do research, or to find simple, everyday facts. That does not even mention the business world or people anywhere. SOPA and PIPA are generally trying to censor the web. Simple as that, they started out with the right intentions; to stop internet piracy and to protect the rights of information's owners. However, realization that these bills could somehow affect everyday life made a strong protest against them begin. The bills could have drastically changed how the internet operates.

The average American citizen takes for granted what paid people publish on the internet. They are paid to do it, it is their job. Most of us just skim through things anyway. The most fascinating, important information to everyone else is their freedom to publish things on the internet: stories, blogs, pictures, and videos. SOPA and PIPA will stop creativity and free expression. SOPA and PIPA will limit people from sharing their lives. We should be glad that such big websites and search engines like Wikipedia and Google could raise awareness to not get these bills passed, because they could have affected each one of us. Thankfully, SOPA and PIPA were postponed until February with unlikelihood that they will get passed. We can be thankful that only our school was the one to be "blackened out" this past year...and not the whole internet.

the Wick

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Email: thewick@my.fenwickfriars.com

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The Spirit Ignites the Wick!

Dream machines lead to bigger and better things than just saving trees

By Maggie Donahue

As you may know, this year the Environmental Club has planted blue recycling bins in each classroom, hoping to motivate Friars to go green. However, the seriousness of this project has been tainted by the amusing labels on the bins. Sure, the name "The Dream Machine" may seem odd, but don't underestimate these blue bins.

What students don't realize is that "The Dream Machine" is a rally to "make your green dreams come true!" The Dream Machine Rally is a program that makes recycling bins for schools and encourages students to recycle and to compete for prizes. It is an effort to raise awareness for the issue of pollution and to inspire students to do something to fix the problem. The rally also hopes to help increase the U.S. beverage-container recycling rate to 50% by 2012. This would mean that thousands of bottles and tin cans that would have been dumped in landfills will be recycled, protecting plant and animal life. In addition to helping the environment, this program helps to provide support for the Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans with Disabilities,

a program offering free courses in business management to veterans with disabilities.

What's more, The Dream Machine Rally is offering rewards for recycling. Schools get points for bottles and cans that are recycled, and can cash them in for prizes such as gift cards and new computers to help improve the school. Schools also compete with each other to win cash prizes. The grand prize is \$50,000 for a "Green School Makeover." The current leading schools are St. Pascal and St. Cornelius in Chicago. As of now, Fenwick is not ranked, but we can catch up if we really try to recycle, and stop dumping sandwiches into the Dream Machines.

Even if Fenwick doesn't place in the contest, we should respect the recycling program. The Dream Machine Rally can have a huge impact on the environment, and we should also consider the help it offers to disabled veterans. The fact that they have an amusing name shouldn't affect our choice to support the cause. So, recycle your bottles and cans in the Dream Machines. We won't be the only ones benefiting from the effort.



Illustration by Katyana Palafox.

EDITORIAL: Stop the hypocrisy

Within the past several years, the issues of homosexuality and of gay rights have burst forth into society. With these debates have come the varied stances of many. The true issue that comes with this doesn't have to do with the rights or wrongs of homosexuality, but rather the often-improper ways in which the topic has been handled. Oftentimes, we as Christians forget the true message of God, which asks for acceptance of His children.

The Catholic Church holds that while the state of being homosexual is not sinful, acting upon such intentions is. Whether or not one believes that this is the case, one must keep in mind what Jesus said in Matthew 7:1: "Do not judge, or you too will be judged." Jesus was warning here of hypocrisy. One thing must be clear: not a single person can put him- or herself above the level of another unless he or she has yet to sin. In John 8:7 Jesus said to those with whom he was speaking: "Let him who is without sin among you cast the first stone...." On numerous occasions in our society, stones are cast in the name of the Lord when the Word of the Lord is being ignored. Too often, those who are opponents of homosexuality

turn to the Gospel for evidence; while there is obviously nothing wrong with this, one simply cannot take only part of the Lord's word while ignoring the rest. There are two main ways in which some of us do this. First, we condemn what is seen as the sin of homosexuality while forgetting that we too are sinners. Each one of us is born into sin, therefore a single person does not have the right to simply condemn another's actions while ignoring his or her own less than perfect ways. No, it is not wrong to point out another's actions deemed as sinful so long as it is done with a righteous judgment and with a true desire to help. The Catholic Church holds that calling out what it sees as sin is an act of love because it is an attempt to save those who have fallen off the path seen as proper.

The second way that we begin to ignore the Word of God is when we criticize others without including how Christ saves. All too often, we will begin to "preach" the Gospel, while providing only the Law given in the Gospel as evidence. This is not love. Preaching only rules is not preaching the Gospel. If one speaks only of the rules given to us from the Bible, then he or she is condemning,

which offers no hope for redemption. God does not speak solely through condemnation; he speaks also through Salvation and through Grace. Yes, the Lord condemns, through His Law, the actions of a sinful humanity; but with the Law he offers Grace, which cannot be ignored. Preaching the law without preaching the opportunity of salvation is not the Word of God—it is the word of a human who has chosen to put him- or herself morally above another while ignoring the fact that salvation is found through Christ.

This editorial is not a statement of condemnation; rather it is an acknowledgement of the hypocrisy that often plagues our society. It is not taking a stance on the issue of homosexuality; it is pointing out our sometimes-sanctimonious actions when we ourselves are sinners. The hypocrisy must stop. Whether or not one believes homosexuality is a sin is not a key part of this issue. What is key, however, is that we realize two things: We must accept all of the Word of the Lord and in doing so we must not condemn another's actions without conceding too that there is Salvation to be found for the sins of humanity.



FENWICK STUDENTS' CHOICES ON REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES

By Kevin Eicken

If you're in most of my classes, you may remember a sheet with the remaining presidential candidates' names on it being passed around a little while ago. Unsurprisingly, the most popular overall choice, "I don't know anything about politics", which beat the winner in a landslide, was less common among upper-classmen. Ignoring the abstentions, here are the results:

1) Mitt Romney 16 votes

Far and away the most popular Republican candidate, Mitt took control of the GOP in this poll. What is his most impressive asset is also one of his greatest downfalls: his business experience. As a positive, Romney has been spectacularly successful in the business world, accruing millions in personal assets, stashed away in the Cayman Islands and Swiss Banks. This is attractive to people because in this negative economic climate, it shows a wealth of knowledge about economic practices that elevate him above the rest of the field. On the downside is the way he acquired this wealth. His company, Bain Capital, would buy companies inexpensively using borrowed assets. They would then proceed to enact massive cost cutting measures such as lay-offs, closing locations, and cutting pensions. Bain Capital would then get a large portion of the cut costs and then leave the company to die on its own, as it did with GST Steel. (Explained by this website <http://www.kansascity.com/2012/01/14/3370204/romneys-bain-made-millions-as.html>) He is also known for flip-flopping on issues.

Pro- Wealth of business experience that many see as useful in fixing the economy and dealing with future problems
Con- A large portion of his business success came from unethical practices. Flip-flops on issues, or as Stephen Colbert (see below) says "I voters want a different version of Mitt Romney, they can always wait a few weeks, and it will be Mitt Romney."

2) Stephen Colbert 5 votes

This is true, and not my fault. I left a write-in box, and he was top pick. Also, with 13% support in a South Carolina poll, I guess he should be included. Not really sure what to say here, because, well, I think he can't be elected (seriously, I don't know). One interesting thing about his "campaign" is the (and I quote, this is its official name) "Definitely not coordinating with Stephen Colbert Super Pac" whose slogan is "Making a better tomorrow, tomorrow." A Super Pac is an organization that can raise unlimited amounts of money to support a political candidate who cannot coordinate with it in anyway, hence the name. Having raised hundreds of thousands, maybe millions of dollars, the Super Pac mentioned above is viewed by some as a ridiculous waste of people's money. However, what it also does is point out and explain the loopholes and shortcomings of the laws concerning Super Pacs to the American public. I seriously recommend watching this video. It does make jokes and is funny, but at the same time conveys a serious message regarding the shortcomings of the American legal system in politics. <http://www.thedaily-show.com/watch/tue-january-17-2012/colbert-super-pac---not-coordinating-with-stephen-colbert>
As Stephen said himself, "It wouldn't be funny if it weren't true."

2.5) Newt Gingrich 4 votes

As former speaker of the house, Newt Gingrich's greatest attribute is his vast wealth of experience (unlike Romney, who experiences vast wealth). One of the most powerful men in America during the 90's, Newt is making a bid for the presidency, and with recent success in Florida and elsewhere, is definitely still in the running. The downside of course is Newt's infamous personal life, having cheated on his second wife, who at the time was hospitalized with cancer.
Pro- Has large amounts of political experience. Also, moon colony!

Con- Ethics problems in personal life, has made several racist remarks as well. Also from Colbert, "Newt would wreck in negotiations with China! Their whole culture is based on shame, and he has none."

3) Rick Santorum 1 vote (though they may have been kidding)

Santorum has been a dark horse throughout the primaries, and has recently moved closer to the nomination by being able to stay in as throngs of other candidates bailed on their campaigns. Seen as the option for those who can't trust Mitt to continue to support his current views, dislike Newt for his personal flaws, and find Ron Paul too extreme.

Pro- Some see him as the least of four evils.
Con- Please don't Google his name. Just don't.

4) Ron Paul 0 votes

By far the most right wing of the candidates, almost all of his viewpoints are controversial, including cutting off all foreign aid everywhere, and eliminating the national reserve. Largely ignored by the media, he has nevertheless built up a strong group of followers that keep him in the hunt. I'm being completely serious; the closest he got to a vote was this:

Student: "Hey, you got to love Ron Paul. (Checks box) He's the guy that runs every year and loses right?"

Me: "Are you thinking of Ralph Nader?"

Student: "Oh yeah. (Crosses out vote) My bad."

Pro- Seems friendly.

Con- Too Ron Paul-y.

5) Rick Perry

Had to drop out for three reasons: High pressure, poor communication, and ... uh... the EPA?

Oops.

*Obama beat Romney (but lost to Republicans) with 20 votes.

So in conclusion, the leading Candidate in this poll of support for Republicans is nobody, with 48 votes, followed by Obama with 20. Third is Mitt Romney with 16, followed from a distance by Stephen Colbert with five and then Newt Gingrich with four. Before ending I would like to formally congratulate Barack Obama on winning this GOP poll. Will he beat incumbent presidential candidate Barack Obama in November? I think not, but only time will tell.



Illustrations: Romney (top left) & Santorum (bottom right) - Emma Gihl
Gingrich (top right) & Paul (bottom left) - Nicole Stark

ATTENTION: If You Qualify, Register to Vote Now!

By Emily Marzo

Voting has not always been easy. Men and women have been fighting for their right to vote since our country began. Today, voting is easier than one would expect.

Everyone 18 or older on Election Day is eligible to vote. Registering to vote is as easy as signing your name. I have recently read articles online on how to register to vote, but they all seem complicated. In order to clear up this confusion I went down to Town Hall. Once there I approached the lady sitting behind the administration desk and inquired how to register to vote. She asked if I had ever registered to vote before and I answered no. She took my driver's license and began to fill out a form less than half the size of a half sheet of paper. The only question she asked me in filling out this form was what state I born in. Within a minute or less she asked me to sign my name in the box in the bottom. That was it. There were no unnecessary questions, no awkward moments, and no boring line to wait in. The process is simple. Within ten minutes of leaving my house I became a registered voter. I have the power to make a difference.

The deadline to register is thirty days before any primary or election. In order to vote in the primary one must register by Tuesday, February 21. The Primary is on Tuesday, March 20. Registration for the General Election ends Tuesday October 9. The General Election is on November 6.

In recent years Youth Voters, young adults 18-29, have had a huge impact on elections. The number of young voters more than tripled in the 2008 presidential election. Many young men and women are turning out to vote in recent elections and making all the difference.

Spanish Ambassador Talks About Euro Crisis

By Stephanie Lerner

In December, the International Relations Club, represented by me and club moderator Mrs. Drago, attended a public lunch program hosted by the Chicago Council on Global Affairs and featuring Jorge Dezcallar de Mazarredo, Spain's Ambassador to the United States. The lunch program discussed the economy of Spain, one specific topic being Spain's youth and its struggles to be successfully admitted into the business world. According to the Spanish Ambassador, fifty percent of Spain's youth is unemployed. The dangerously high fifty percent struck Spain's economy in December 2011, as stated by Fiona Govan, writing for "The Telegraph." Govan continues on in the same article to claim that the national unemployment of Spain has risen to 22.85 percent. Though the national unemployment percentage is around thirty percent lower than the percent of unemployed youth, the unemployed youth is specifically very effective on Spain's productiveness, normality and overall economic state.

As for Spain's normality, Sara Elder, an economist from the International Labour Organization, puts it in her own words that "These people are delaying their advance into adulthood" and "They find the path that worked for their parents is not working for them." Sara Elder observes not only that the productiveness and overall state of Spain's economy is decreasing, but so is the amount of youth that can easily lead what is considered a normal life. Fiona Govan identifies an abnormal factor being that much of the youth is not able to leave the home of their parents as soon as they used to be able to leave. Govan explains that "Young Spaniards" are "pushing the average age of independence from their parents to well into their thirties." With more young people not being able to assure their own independence, Spain's normal "system of life" is set off-track for many people.

The Chicago Council on Global Affairs, who hosted the lecture, has been a prominent resource since its founding in 1922. The Chicago Council has provided much information on global affairs through the many events and public programs, including events discussing topics such as the Arab world, the International Criminal Court and "Iraqi Youth in Action: Peace and the Media." The Chicago Council enhances its programs and events through public education, with 150 public and leadership programs sharing their knowledge with the Council about foreign topics. With the aid of 150 programs, the Chicago Council is now able to draw more attention than ever before to Latin America, Asia and Africa, along with keeping its well-known focus on Europe.

Along with the help of 150 public and leadership programs, the Council also runs as a corporate program, interacting with experts such as policy makers and international business leaders, opening itself up to in-depth sources of information where first-hand knowledge can be attained.

The goal of the Chicago Council on Global Affairs has been to make Chicago aware of the outside world. Not only does the Council provide information through live events, but also through their website, thechicagocouncil.org, which has an events calendar, reports on international issues and a searchable database of global resources.

The Chicago Council on Global Affairs may provide a helpful source of information for many people on many topics, but this past December, it specifically provided an enhancing opportunity for the International Relations club of Fenwick. Not only was first-hand information gained for the knowledge of the club's members, but also a hands-on experience was made possible, which aided the club in becoming more familiar with the opinions of professionals directly related to the club's purpose.



Alumnus of the Month: Mr. Robert Tobin

(cont. from Front Page)

As an executive director and president of several transitional housing projects in northern California, Mr. Tobin has improved the quality of life for many of Sacramento's struggling families. In response to a few, short interview questions, he shared with us some of the most important lessons he has learned in leading a life dedicated to service for others...

1a) What was your favorite class at Fenwick and why?

The first religion class I ever had where the teacher - Fr. John Regan, OP - emphasized the practical application rather than theoretical understanding of Christian values.

Perhaps just to show that Jesus was in good company, when talking about things like "character" he'd constantly quote people like G.K. Chesterton, who said it was what people do in the dark when no one is watching.

He also would often talk about "paradox", which the Latin scholars among us would translate as two seemingly contradictory truths that actually co-exist. This highlights the utility of an educated person in this increasingly black-and-white, I'm right/you're wrong world where faith and feelings become matters of fact and differences become disagreements both personal and global.

If harmony is not unison in music or anywhere else, then we are challenged to recognize, accept and even appreciate dissonance. Fr. Regan taught us how.

He also kept telling us that someone in the room would do great things in the world, but seemed to say it in a way that each student thought it would be them.

1b) What clubs and/or sports did you enjoy during your time as a student?

I was on the swim team at a time when its members were national champions, but none of them acted like it. I also was a writer and became Sports Editor for The Wick, where I tried to bring attention to the unsung heroes and untold stories behind the game score. I have been writing along those lines ever since.

1c) What was your favorite Fenwick moment as a student?

Maybe I'm not supposed to say this, but as good as the classes and teachers were, I leaned most from sitting at the lunchroom table. People from totally different backgrounds who might never even converse otherwise were discovering together how to collate their thoughts, feelings and experiences...It's one of those moments that is hard to appreciate while it is actually happening, which is shaping your principles, priorities, and possibilities all at the same time, and everyone else around you is doing the same thing.

You'd think whom we hang out with is pretty random but it is a choice that both describes and prescribes who we are and what we are becoming - not solely, of course, but its one of a bunch of little things that end up making a big difference. So keep your head up and eyes open -- you are probably having one of those moments right now.

2a) How has your Fenwick education prepared you not only for college, but for the real world as well?

Again, all the classroom stuff helped a LOT, but one of the biggest parts of my high school education was taking the "E1" train daily from the north side of Chicago through the loop and going by the warehouses and housing projects along Lake Street, and then back again. Reading a newspaper each way saturated me in current events, but it also exposed me to people and realities I never might have encountered otherwise. It got me thinking and acting more in terms of "we" than "me", teaching me to face fear and not become subject to the tyranny of the unfamiliar...which was good preparation because my dad's company was among the first of the nation's many corporate mergers, and I ended up spending my senior year of high school in the Arizona desert, which is about as different as could be from Oak Park.

2b) What values do you believe contribute to being a great Friar, having a successful career, and most importantly, becoming a great person?

It is often more implicit than explicit, but the truly great educators at Fenwick and elsewhere know they are teaching us how to think rather than what to think. All the attention to tests and grades tend to focus on content knowledge rather than mastery of the learning process that is indeed life-long...hopefully. The brownie points that go to

the seeming winners of such intellectual contests can create misperceptions of superiority and privilege. But no less than Socrates noted that it is the questions rather than answers that are most important, and that knowing you don't know -- and interacting with others on that much more humble, more inter-dependent basis - is the beginning of true wisdom.

Another value which is often hiding in plain sight is that life is a marathon and not a sprint. America's so-called culture-of-exceptionalism portrays itself as the best-and-brightest in a more-is-better/sooner and ever-ascending spiral. We forget that, in the old fable, it is the tortoise and not the hare that won the race. Among Rudyard Kipling's definitions of success is the ability to "meet with triumph and disaster, and treat those two impostors just the same". This would be deemed a loser's attitude by those segments of our society that define success in terms of external appearances; the tortoise never made that mistake.

3) People often desire to help volunteer and give back to the community, but are often put off either by the perceived time commitment or other obstacles. What are some simple ways for people to help serve the greater community, and that may also function as gateway exercises for more involved participation later on?

First, avoid the common pitfall described in the recent book "Switch" -- which is a failure to recognize the counter-intuitive, asymmetrical relationship between problems and solutions. We think: the bigger the problem, the more needs to be done about it, but this leads to "analysis paralysis" that makes research and debate seem like action. It also fosters a tendency to become experts in the problem rather than - duh! - the solution. The great community organizer Saul Alinsky warned about those who say things and who make themselves feel good about doing nothing. Again -- counter-intuitive as it seems -- it does not matter what cause you pick or what action you take (I know you are all smart, but read that sentence again). The important thing is to pick something that can be done quickly, even easily -- simpler the better, preferably a done-in-a-day project that might also engage your social network -- friends, parents (dare I say it), church members, whomever!! Don't forget to have fun while you are doing it ... and especially don't forget to ACTUALLY DO IT (which happens more often than you'd think). Celebrate afterwards, acknowledging all those whose "little" efforts created a bigger collective result than otherwise would have been possible. Then relax, rest up and thereafter get busy doing something else!

To start small may offend your sense of purpose, proportions and power but most of that, as H.L. Menken said, is moonshine ... or perhaps just eyewash. And besides: you'll get there sooner than you think since the most ironic thing is that the "little" things usually turn out to be pretty big. For instance, if every Friar joined up with others interested in whatever they were and each team sold healthy cupcakes for a buck every day at lunch time and only half the Friar students bought one each school day, you'd still raise over \$100,000 for various charities in a year. The "Switch" book talked

about a group of teenagers in a dying rural town who calculated that their community could generate \$15 million in additional yearly taxable revenues if everyone just shopped locally. It turned out the students were wrong -- the town generated \$22 million annually instead and was totally rejuvenated.

4) What advice would you give to our current students, as well as to our graduating seniors who wish to pursue careers in any service-related field?

Honestly, my best advice is not to try it ... it is hard, frustrating, low-paying, one-step-forward/two-steps-back work that gets a lot of lip service but very little understanding or appreciation. Now that I have chased off the do-gooders and wanna-bes, I suggest the rest of you not wait any longer to do SOMETHING that doesn't change THE world, but rather YOURS...your block, your school, your neighborhood, your favorite charity, or -- what-the-heck -- maybe somebody else's. As for careers, Mark Twain suggests in his recently-released autobiography the same strategy that launched my career -- go into an organization and volunteer for two weeks. You will soon become so valuable that either they will pay you to stay or else you will have experience and skills that will qualify you for similar work elsewhere.

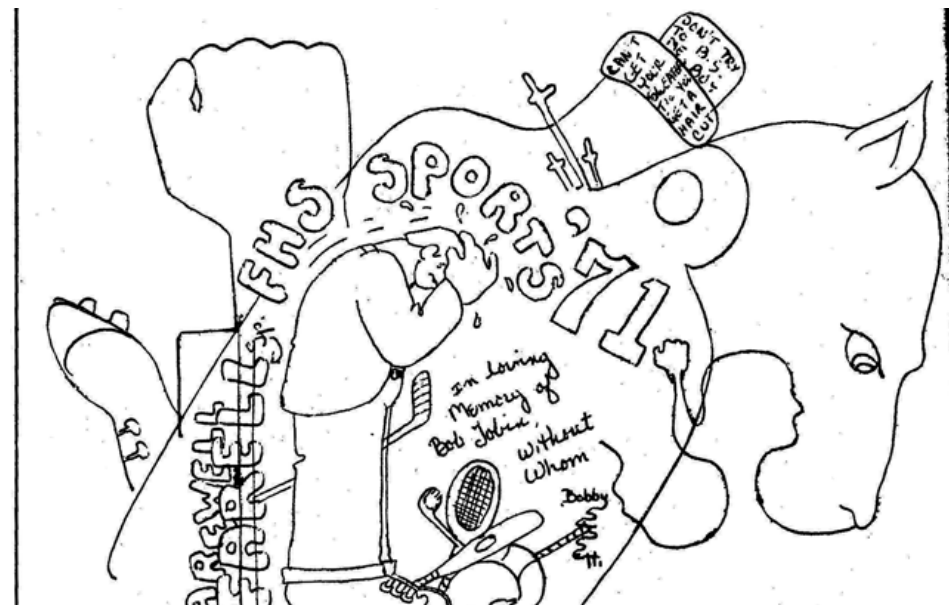
5) Please describe some of the service organizations with which you have worked and their objectives in changing the world around them. Although these organizations are in the northern California area, what are some ways Fenwick students can contribute to helping these groups achieve their goals?

What became important to me was to give help to those who needed the most --- but I soon learned that the help they most need is human contact and attention. It feels good to gather and bring sandwiches, coats, blankets etc. to those who need them, so don't miss that part. But it only seems trite to say unless you have actually done it and find that your presence, your eye contact, your smile is even more valued. So don't just drop the stuff at the door or you'll miss the best ... but hardest... part. Actually go in and interact with someone -- you both become more alive in the process.

In that sense, everyone is qualified for a helping role and it becomes obvious that the main reason the world is so troubled is that too few people actually are doing their job. Obviously, almost any of you self-respecting citizens of the computer age can help an agency keep up its website, assemble newsletters, analyze data, or just answer phones etc. Only the most crotchety senior citizen at any nearby rest home would not welcome someone who came by simply to ask them "what was the best advice they ever got" ... and actually listen while they answered. Certainly any kid in a cancer ward would be glad to see you. You could write a book or maybe just get a term paper out of it. This is not something you learn to do, but learn by doing. So get started!



Mr. Tobin has enjoyed playing the saxophone, piano, and bass for several local bands in the Sacramento area over the years. Photo courtesy of Mr. Robert Tobin



A farewell cartoon from the May, 1971 Wick for Mr. Tobin, the sports editor, who moved to Arizona with his family after his junior year...



Illustration Courtesy MCT

BANUA 2012: THE GOOD, THE BAD, THE UGLY

(Continued from front page)

THE BAD: "GIRLS WITH PIANOS"

There were so many acts like this that "Girls with Pianos 2012" became an unofficial if not clever byline of the production.

This is not to say that any of the acts involving girls playing the piano and singing—or acts where girls played the piano and someone else sang—or any act involving both a girl and a piano—were in any way inferior; indeed many of them were excellent, such as Grace Rasulo's "Wannabe". But, there were simply too many of them. Piano covers are great, but they lose their poignancy when there are too many. If you put too much salt on your fries, they no longer taste good; they taste only like salt, not like fries; that is bad.

Also, many of the acts like this, as well as others, either missed intended harmonies or abandoned altogether the harmonies that were present in the original songs. For instance, the versions of "Bridge over Troubled Water" and "Behind Blue Eyes", while definitely talented and still quite good, missed a lot of the essential harmonies of the songs because of how much they were cut down from their original versions; they simply didn't fully work on such a scale. And a number of other vocal numbers with multiple voices attempting harmony utterly failed; sing univocally, or harmonize; failing either, be quiet, please.

THE UGLY: BANDS

Don't get me wrong, the bands that were actually in the show were great; but the fact is, there were only two bands—playing only four different songs—over the course of all three nights (and only one real guitar solo, total; three if you count Viken Heuning's little blip in "Tell Me Baby"). Rock bands help form the essence of Banua—they're rock and roll's antidote against the often overwhelming melodrama caused by too many "girls with pianos" singing somber songs. Banua simply needed more bands, and the lack thereof hurt the show moreso than anything else because it made it monotonous moreso than anything else. The show didn't flatline, necessarily, but it came far too close; close enough that after three hours it grew wearisome. Let's be clever: if it's a variety show, how about some variety? Let the oh-too-somber house rock, sirs, or let it empty.

Labriola delivers delicious delight

By Matthew Borse

Labriola Café
3021 Butterfield Road, Oak Brook
(630) 574-2008
Prices: \$6.99- \$14.99



After operating a successful bakery since 1993, it was a logical move for the owners of Labriola Bakery to open a restaurant focused around a medium they had come to know very well: bread. Labriola Café opened its doors in 2008 as a place intended not only to showcase a wide variety of breads, but also to serve authentic Neapolitan pizza (cooked in a wood-fired oven at over 1000°), homemade gelato, salads and pasta.

Think of Labriola as a higher end version of Panera or Corner Bakery (with much better food, though). Open for lunch and dinner, Labriola has no waiters; you simply tell the cashier your order and they give you a number. It sounds like an easy process, until realizing that the menu is large and almost everything sounds good. Out of the sandwich offerings, I would recommend trying the Prosciutto Wrapped Chicken and the bleu cheese burger. The chicken sandwich is served on Ciabatta bread and smeared with a pesto mayo. This is a good "healthy" option, but the same can't be said for the burger. The half-pound burger is cooked in a quarter stick of butter, topped with bleu cheese and served on a brioche pretzel bun. And I'm not the only one who likes this burger either: it was recognized by the Chicago Tribune as being one of the best burgers in Chicago.

Even though the main focus is on sandwiches at Labriola, their Neapolitan pizzas are also a solid bet. There are eight pizzas on the menu, ranging from the classic Margherita pizza (tomato sauce, mozzarella cheese and basil) to the Goat Cheese and Grilled Vegetable pizza. Two versions of the Margherita pizza are actually offered: the regular pizza and the one with topped with Buffalo mozzarella, which is made with buffalo milk and has a richer flavor than normal mozzarella. Although I would love to say that this special mozzarella made a big taste difference, the \$4 up charge just isn't worth it. Another good option is the fennel sausage pizza. As opposed to other sausage pizzas, this one isn't greasy in the least and is on the sweeter side. Pastas include homemade gnocchi with Bolognese sauce, tortellini with cream sauce and others. At the front of the restaurant is a bakery section offering a huge selection (maybe even too huge) of cakes and pastries. The real dessert highlight, however, is the daily gelato flavors. There are usually ten to twelve flavors to choose from, and some of my favorites include the pistachio, hazelnut-chocolate, and coconut.

Labriola's affordable prices, along with its high quality food, make this restaurant a great spot to grab a quick lunch or dinner. The wait for a table may seem long at times (especially on Saturday nights), but then again, a crowded restaurant is a sure sign of good food.

The Wick's: What's Next

By Joseph Cederth

At the end of last year, we gave you, to your great pleasure, a brief run-down of the best and worst music of 2011 called "The Wick's Picks". Here we've dropped the archery-paradigm, but we're still right; and yes, Lou Reed is *still* a poseur, though our title *did* switch from assonant to quasi-alliterative, so. The coming best of 2012:

Jack White

True Bluesman Jack White returns in 2012 with his first solo album. Despite his being in The Dead Weather etc., "Blunderbuss" will mark the first time White records under his own name. The first single "Love Interruption" came out on January 30th. It made its Chicago radio debut on XRT. The song's minimalism and artistry marked a welcome departure from the fauxlauxphi greased-by-grit hipster barnyard nonsense seeping in, awfully, recently.

The Weeknd

The group/vocalist is planning to release a compilation of their/his three mixtapes from 2011. Repackaged and materialized, it will finally incarnate The Weeknd's beautifully amoral mysticisms. Also in the works is their/his first actual full length; the release date, is unreleased, for both.

The XX

The young caliginous British group is due for another album this year. Statements have it out before the summer's major festivals (some have speculated they'll play Lollapalooza again). The band has been partying in the wake of the debut's success: the album is to reflect that. Jamie xx's remix of the late great Gil-Scott Heron's "I'm New Here" will mark an interesting point of comparison.

Andrew Bird

The musical technocrat returns in 2012. Able to tackle complex and bizarre lyrical themes because he went to Northwestern, this album is to be interesting. Recent albums have had people trapped in people, and pirates. Also, pirates. Regardless, purchase. Things that don't make sense, don't flow, and cut up your mind are sometimes the most beautiful; after all, what is anything, anyway? Ad absurdum ad infinitum.

The album will be good, though; even if he is talking about stuff that is totally unrelatable or excessively philosophical or meaningful, at least it will be pretty.

Nicki Minaj

As she spits out her words with the decision-precision-incision of incisive incisors incisively (yet nonderisively) and certainly not divisively, they burrow into your mind through your ears and set up an impregnable citadel replete with heathen ziggurats in the theretofore unknown depths of your now much more beautiful soul; the flower of your inner-being pollinated by dark blue but not quite black butterflies, iridescence apparent only from a 45.7 degree angle. As you sit on the park bench beside the red swing with the yellowing sunset skies in the midst of the next of the summer, her words will become as vivid as mine; less like a beatnik, more like a beetle; akin to the one which has just fluttered, flippant, by your left pants-leg and which is now perched upon your young cousin's shoulder as he sculpts pagan icons in the tawny sand of the box with his quasi-Budhaesque heroine. Seeing this image, you jump up and realize that nothing means anything anymore, because you spent your money on Nicki Minaj, and what you thought was the enrapture of your greatest potential was in fact simply the insipid deterioration of your former frontal cortex. As you ride the crazy train to Dunning-on-the-northwest-side, write me a letter; on its left lip compose an elegy to taste; and may Alexander Pope have mercy on your soul, and mine.

The Flaming Lips

Perhaps I'm not "psychedelic" enough to say I listen to the Flaming Lips, but I will openly submit to the opinions of those who say they're good, including myself; they number most every critic, if not every true rock-and-roller, and the band's epic scope is undeniable. Upcoming they have a compilation set to incorporate a bazillionquattilliondajillionmillion different influences: from Bon Iver to Ke\$ha, everyone whose music has stirred your mind sweetly (or rudely) recently is set for the LP, including the impossibly gaseous NEON INDIAN, in fact fresh-off another recent collaboration with the coruscated orbicularis. Look out for it soon; watch your back for ninja spies, too...

GZA/Wu-Tang Clan: Liquid Swords 2: The Return of the Shadowboxer

...but don't be scared of the Shogun, though he is scared of you, because you are the greatest Samurai in the Empire. Maybe that was the problem? Do you know a Don Rodriguez? At any rate, you save the best for last, and the last for best, and GZA's follow up to the legendary 1995 original Liquid Swords promises to be epic. With RZA again producing, the standards may be high, but if you've set them, you can beat them. The release date is as yet unknown, as GZA has reportedly put the project on hold to work on another, unnamed album. The M.C.'s have come, let them live out their name.



Spread The Love

For I live not long--
 But I tell thee a message;
 Love, love and spread love...
 For the short time that I lived,
 I hath not loved a soul--

And thus no one accompanies me on my death--
 So! I write this brief message all by my lonely solitude...

Hoping and hoping that someone will read my note-- Love Love and Love I tell thee!

For in the end, people will only remember your love and compassion for others...
 Remember always: love thy neighbor more than thyself.....



Poem by Paulo Arellano
 Illustration by Matt Stein

Valentines Day Mad Lib

By Kate Milleker

It was the (adj.) _____ month of February, and the deadline of Valentine's Day was (adv.) _____ approaching. (Person in room) _____ was planning a(n) (adj.) _____ surprise for his/her profound (noun) _____, (person in room) _____. There would be (plural noun) _____, sparkly (plural noun) _____, and delicious (plural noun) _____. Everything was going to be (adj.) _____! Their (girls' clothing item) _____ and (boys' clothing item) _____ would even match for Turn-a-bout! Before (first person) _____ could believe it, it was already Valentine's Day. Everything had fallen into place, and the reservations at the (place) _____ were set. (adv.) _____, that was when things started to go (adj.) _____. (Second person) _____ tripped on a(n) (noun) _____ as they walked in. The waiter spilled (noun) _____ all over their (noun) _____. The chocolates were (adj.) _____, and the love was (adj.) _____. Just then, a (noun) _____ crashed through the window and hit (third person, possessive) _____ (noun) _____. Everything was a (noun) _____! To make matters (adj.) _____, Turn-a-bout was loved to March 3rd! It was the (adj.) _____ Valentine's Day ever!

NUKE: THE PERFECT CANDIDATE

Continued from Page 1

When Chuck graced us with The Nuke he knew we'd be in hands as good as his own, for it is said of Chuck that...

- Fear of spiders is arachnophobia, fear of tight spaces is claustrophobia, but fear of Chuck Norris is called Logic
- Death once had a near-Chuck Norris experience

It can now be said of Nuke that...

- Upon watching the 1/19 debate, the Taliban hijacked an offshore oil drill in the hopes of digging a hole deep enough to hide from The Nuke.
- After seeing Nuke in action, Iranian dictator Mahmoud Ahmadinejad immediately e-mailed Secretary General of the United Nations, Ban Ki-Moon and politely declined all future speaking engagements.

Let's face it folks, the 2012 presidential election... is officially over. Chuck never loses; Nuke never loses. Reliable sources have indicated that Nuke suspended his campaign efforts in the Florida primary this past Wednesday to survey remaining space on Mt. Rushmore in an effort to determine which location would be most flattering to his now iconic double-chinned profile. In short order, six pack abs and washboard stomachs will be out, in favor of protruding bellies and neck rolls. Macho can take many forms, as long as it's infused with testosterone, and Nuke has enough testosterone to make people forget Sarah Palin. The only question that remains is whom Nuke will choose as a running mate. Come on America... you know the answer... The Nuke doesn't do running mates.

Bored...?

By Jack Forde

Things to cure Cabin Fever:

- Watch MANswers...the greatest show of all time
- Overuse time machine jokes about Mr. Kotty....wait, already done
- 2 words...Zumba (Sup ladies?)
- Write in your diary
- Watch Fight Club,talk about it with all your friends
- Scavenger hunt (mmmm...)
- Full contact Duck, Duck, Goose
- Roller derby is always an option

Recipe for Success

By Kerry Murphy

Ingredients:

- 1 innocent, fun-loving 8th grader
- 1 cup of plaid shirts, white blouses, and knee highs (shirt, tie, and pants for a male) 2 hours of sports practice daily
- 3 hours of homework daily
- 4 cups of JUG 6 cups of yells from demanding teachers
- 6 AP classes (for an honors student)
- 1 cup college acceptance letters 1 high school diploma

Instructions:

Preheat oven to 420 degrees. Take 8th grader and mix with gender appropriate uniform. In another bowl mix sports practice, homework, JUGS, yells, AP classes and acceptance letters. Pour this mixture over the 8th grader—just under the point of suffocation. Cook for four, long years. Be careful not to let it escape from the oven early (this is most likely to happen after the first three and a half years). Remove from oven and sprinkle with high school diploma on top. If done right the Fenwick graduate will be burnt out with heavy bags under his/her eyes but will be a well-rounded individual with hopes of a successful future.





Ruffino to retire from coaching

By Will Lenart

After 20 years as head wrestling coach, Jerry Ruffino has decided to retire from coaching at the end of the season. As coach of the Friars, he has a career record of 235-149 and 119- 57 in Catholic League competition.

Ruffino's teams have won six regional championships and made an Elite Eight appearance in 2005. He has coached three state champions, two state runner-ups and seven all-state honorees. State champions include Nick Bertucci (135), who won in 2005, Bobby Barnhisel (152) who won in 2009, and Matt Garelli (103) who won in 2011.

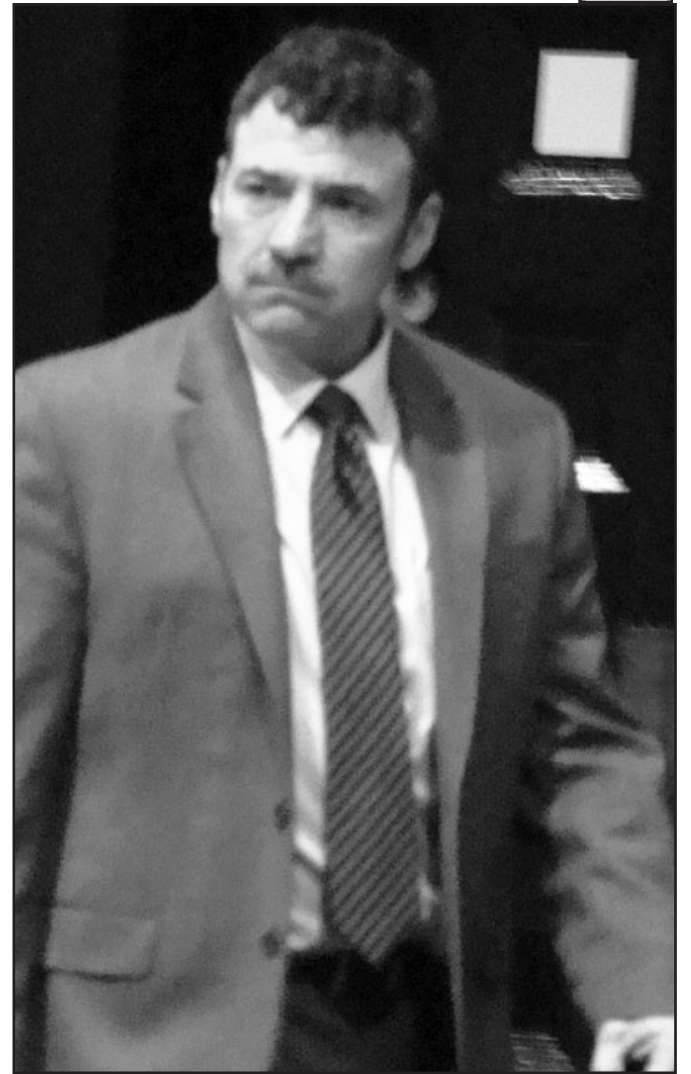
Coach Ruffino was also recently named the Lawless coach of the year, an honor given to the season's outstanding coach in the CCL, arguably the state's toughest wrestling conference. However, he isn't the only one to win an award within the program recently. Matt Garelli recently won the Chicago Catholic League Tournament. Along with Garelli, Sophomore Danny Freitag, and Sophomore Mike Kozyra both placed 3rd in the tournament.

Next in line to lead the Friar wrestling program is Ruffino's son, Chris. Chris Ruffino, a Fenwick graduate of 2001, was named Catholic League Outstanding Wrestler in 2001 and has been an assistant coach at Fenwick for the past 5 seasons. He brings the program a vast amount of knowledge and understanding for the sport.

Chris is sure to continue the tradition of Fenwick wrestling, teaching what his father taught to all of his wrestlers. As for Coach Ruffino, he will continue being a big part of the Fenwick community, and the school itself, serving as the operations manager. "I plan on overseeing the program in an administrative role for one season, helping with scheduling and contracts and then enjoying the Christmas break with my lovely wife Jan which has been hard to do for the last 20 years."

Coach Ruffino's dedication has built a powerhouse program that competes each year as serious contenders. Coach Ruffino taught what hard work, dedication, and pride could do for all of his athletes. He taught them the importance of success, along with what needed to be done in order to accomplish it. Even though his hard work has paid off in many accomplishments, his proudest moments are seeing his athletes grow into great wrestlers, great athletes, and most importantly, great people. "What makes me so proud by my guys is the hard work they put into every practice." He said, "Wrestling is a sport that we do not play and does not get a lot of recognition, but that does not stop my guys from reaching their goals."

Coach Ruffino sees a bright future for the program he built. He knows his son will be a great mentor for the wrestlers that come to this school. "My son Chris, with the help of our great coaching staff, will do an outstanding job molding the program into his own product. Coach Chris Ruffino is driven by the sport he loves and will add a new flavor to a cake that I have loved for so many years." Ruffino said, "The question is, is he ready for the Fenwick Wrestling Tat?"



Finishing Strong: Coach Ruffino shows his intensity during senior night against St. Rita. Photo by Phil Pastor.

Basketball season heats up

By Kevin Copp

The Boys Basketball Team has had a season of both challenge and transition. The team has struggled at times this season, yet rebounded on January 24th to beat highly-ranked St. Rita on the road.

The team started the season on the right foot, winning two of three to finish second at the Lyons Township Thanksgiving Tournament. Since then, however, the team struggled for victories, winning only one of eight and two of eleven games before knocking off St. Rita in thrilling fashion in overtime.

They have also been energized throughout the season by the presence of volunteer assistant coach Johnny Bach. Coach Bach is a former NBA player, head coach, and assistant coach most known for assisting Phil Jackson during the Chicago Bulls' first threepeat from 1991-1993.

He is currently a nominee for the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame. The Friars have learned greatly from Coach Bach's experience in the NBA and it is obvious that he has had a positive impact on the team.

The Friars continue their Catholic League slate with an upcoming home game against Loyola and a non-conference game at home against Richards Academy.

The Girls' Basketball team has instituted an up-tempo, high-octane brand of basketball that has excited fans and has led to a 19-6 record, as of February 1st. The Girls are also ranked thirteenth in the area by the Sun-Times, as of January 25th.

The team's fast-paced offense has compensated for a lack of height and has been the dominant factor in nineteen victories. The team averages more than 74 points per game, including more than 80 points per game when the Friars win.

To put 80 points per game in perspective, the Friars are averaging more points than six teams averaged last year in the WNBA, where the games are also eight minutes longer. The team even topped the century mark in a road victory over cross-town rival OPRF.

Yale-bound senior leader Meredith Boardman has taken the team's height issue into her own hands and has led the team in scoring and rebounding. The Friars wrap up the regular season with a home game against Marian Catholic on February 11th.

Both the boys' and girls' teams hope to finish the season strong. No matter where any of the teams are at this point, they're all continuing to work hard and focus on getting better for the home stretch of their seasons.

New rugby team starts up

...Continued from front page.

Because it is not only a new sport to Fenwick, but also to most of the players, a lot of practice will be needed for those who are just being introduced to the sport. Sean and a couple of others who are familiar with the sport, are willing to help familiarize rugby to their fellow teammates. But they can't do it alone.

The rugby team has 3 coaches this year, Billy Dunlap, Bob Walsh, and Terry Hanson. Sean explained that going over the basics with the team will be important. Running skirmishes, going over rules, and having as many practices before their first season game begins will also be important to ensure success.

The team hopes to begin practices in the middle of February, depending on the weather conditions, as their first game is in the end of March. Sean says, "I am looking forward to what I know will be a good season." So come out not only to support your fellow Friars, but to see history made at Fenwick as our team in black and white plays rugby for the very first time at Elmhurst college.

Boy's track team prepares for upcoming season

By Drew Gresik

It's February, it's cold outside, and there's snow on the ground. But all of this means nothing to the men's track and field team. Winter track is heating up around Fenwick, and this season looks promising. The track team has begun their preparations for their first meet which starts on February 4th at Thornwood. From the sprint team to the pole vaulters, everyone on the team is working hard to make sure they are ready for the quickly approaching season.

A few new faces have come out this season to see if they have what it takes to be on the team. Junior sprinter Connor Faul said, "With all the new recruits, I'd say we have a pretty well-rounded team. The winter season should be a good time for the new guys to test out all the events so that they find the ones they're most comfortable with for the outdoor season. All in all I think the team will do pretty well during the indoor season."

Some of the new faces this year are going to try their hand at pole vaulting, hurdles, and shot put. Junior Matt Dumon, who is a veteran of the long distance team, is also excited for the upcoming season.

"I feel the team will do pretty well over the winter. I know a big group of guys who have worked hard over the off-season and I'm expecting them to do big things. I don't know too much about how the sprinters and throwers have been working out but they have loads of talent and I'm excited to see what they will do this winter."

Fenwick is looking forward to see what the guys can do under the guidance of Coach McKinley. He has been working closely with the new guys to make sure they are at their best when the first meet comes around.

The track team has shown a lot of dedication and worked vigorously in preparation for the upcoming winter season. They are excited to begin the competition and look forward to having a successful season.

McKinley's talented group of athletes plan on being a competitive bunch this season, hoping success will follow.



Goaltender Zach Danna during a faceoff against St. Rita on Monday. The Friars (19-18-3) lost to St. Rita 7-2. Photo by Phil Pastor.