

# The Eagle's Eye

Delta High School \* 3400 E. SR 28, Muncie, IN 47303 \* Volume 40 \* 03/19/2009

pages 22-23

## ka-TIE DYE



**School lunch vs.  
homemade**

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**Student  
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Inauguration**

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Photo / Lexy Crump

Prefer homemade to school lunch? Your options for lunch and which saves you money.

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*The Eagle's Eye wishes everyone a safe and fun Spring Break!*

**On the Cover: (Inset)** Senior Katie VanHooser with her tie-dye collection. **(Foreground)** The door hanging at the entrance to Katie's room.

Photos by Ashley Pierce

Senior Jenny Buis recently went to Mexico on a missions trip with her church. Why she went, what she experienced, and why she cannot wait to go back.

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Below: Buis and a little girl during her trip.

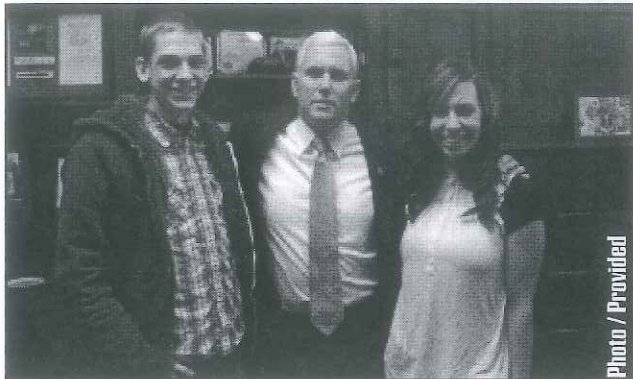


Photo / Provided

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# Eyewitnesses to history



Junior Ashlyn Orlosky and her boyfriend pose with Indiana Congressman Mike Pence during their trip to Washington.

## Hamilton, Orlosky see Obama's inauguration

*Kaitlin Clawson / Staff Writer*

Temperatures hovered around 30 degrees, but with windchill it felt like about 20 and nothing was open in the nation's Capitol. There were many people hustling to get places in the crowded streets on Inauguration Day. With travel restrictions, most people were either at home watching their TV set or in front of the Washington, D.C., Capitol building to watch history.

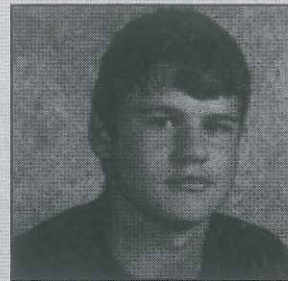
Two Delta students were among the estimated 1.8 million people who attended the inauguration of President Barack Obama.

Sophomore Alex Hamilton, an Obama supporter, and junior Ashlyn Orlosky, a non-Obama fan, attended one of the United States' most historical moments when they witnessed the inauguration on Jan. 20 of the first African-American president. Tensions were high and it was cold, but that didn't stop these two students from being a part of history.

Hamilton was able to go to the inauguration through the Presidential Youth Inaugural Conference, an event held every four years by an organization designed to educate, motivate and inspire students by understanding electoral history and their role in democracy. The group was made up of more than 15,000 high school students, broken down into small groups of

50. Delta Middle School art teacher Julie Dorton nominated Hamilton after being asked to nominate students who showed leadership qualities in the classroom for the Leadership Conference.

"I nominated Alex because I thought he was a hard-working student of good character who would be a good role model for other students," Dorton said.



*"It (the speech from Obama) was very emotional and touched many of the problems we face today. I was a little nervous because there's always that thought in the back of your head that something will go wrong."*

*- Alex Hamilton,  
sophomore*

Hamilton was in Washington, D.C., for a little over a week and was able to go to more than just the inauguration. He visited Arlington National Cemetery, the Smithsonian Institution, Pentagon City Mall, and others. He spent about \$6,500 on the whole trip.

Hamilton and the group of students he was with were supposed to be only 100 yards from where Obama was, but due to a few students being late they had to stand farther towards the back. Although they were farther off than before it was now easier to beat crowds and get out early so they could

watch the rest of the inauguration at National Stadium. They left just before the swearing in of Vice President Joe Biden.

The atmosphere was full of various emotions. For some it was a happy time full of crying. Others were just unenthused.

"It was very crowded and aggravating," Hamilton said. "People got on everyone's nerves. People were shouting, yelling and trying to get in fights. It was

**Junior Ashlyn Orlosky with her boyfriend, mom, and step-dad before attending one of the many inaugural balls.**



so packed you couldn't even turn around."

For Hamilton it was a great speech from Obama, but the situation was also very tense.

"It (the speech from Obama) was very emotional and touched many of the problems we face today," Hamilton said. "I was a little nervous because there's always that thought in the back of your head that something will go wrong."

Some of the worries people faced were relieved once they were in Washington, D.C. Everything in the city was closed. People who lived in the Washington, D.C., area weren't allowed to drive a car in some locations or take bags around. The main forms of transportation were walking, riding a bike, or taking a bus. The day of the inauguration was full of men and women in uniform.

"Everywhere you went there was a SWAT team, police officers, military officers, or snipers on the roofs," Hamilton said.

He was able to go to the Black Tie Gala Inaugural Ball held at Union Station. It was held from 9 p.m.-3 a.m. You had to wear a black tie and suit.

"I was really excited to learn that Alex had this opportunity to see the inauguration of Barack Obama," Dorton said. "I think that this event will be an inspiring experience for Alex. He got to experience firsthand what the rest of us could only read about."

Junior Ashlyn Orlosky attended the inauguration through her mom's work. Her mother works for U.S. Rep. Mike Pence, (R-Indiana). She was able to compare this inauguration to another. Orlosky has attended George W. Bush's

inauguration, also. She went to the Obama inauguration with her boyfriend, Chad Cambell, as well as her mom and step-dad.

"It was OK, but I'm not an Obama fan," Orlosky said. "It could have been better. As I get older I'll appreciate it more."

Orlosky wasn't able to see the inauguration up close because they were further back in the crowd. She described the emotions of people as energized. The spectators were pumped, excited and proud.

"It was awful because I'm claustrophobic and I just couldn't stand being around people for so long," Orlosky said. "People were acting like Obama was Jesus, and it got really annoying."

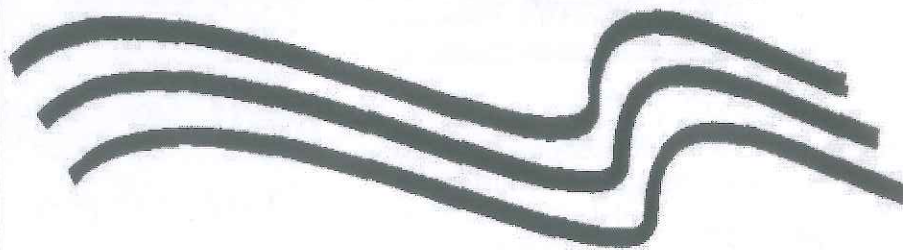
Orlosky wasn't afraid of anything bad happening because security was so tight and they were even debating whether people were going to be able to carry cell phones. No one was allowed to work the day of the inauguration, so nothing was open. Orlosky stayed in Pence's office for most of the day because their hotel was an hour away from Washington, D.C.

She was able to go to the Air and Space Museum during the three days she was there. Orlosky also attended a ball, but Obama didn't make an appearance. Overall, Orlosky estimated she spent \$500 to \$600.

Despite their different opinions of President Obama, Hamilton and Orlosky were still a part of a historical moment. They'll be able to tell their grandkids about what they witnessed when they were just in high school.

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# Crayola Colors

## Racism Still Affects Many

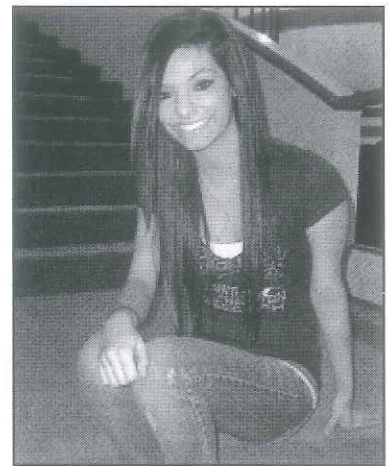
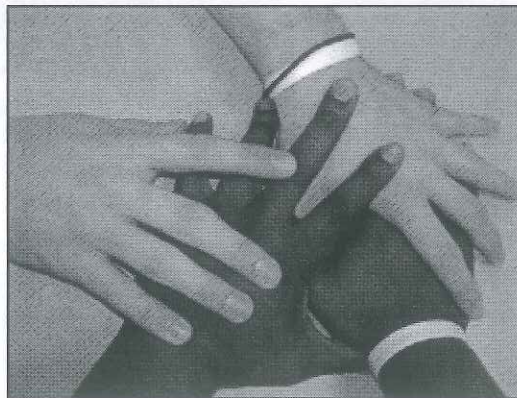
Twenty-four colored crayons in a Crayola box. Burnt Sienna, Periwinkle, Yellow Orange and Violet Blue. These crayons are used to make vibrant, colorful pictures. More than six billion people in this world are different races and have different ethnic backgrounds, but accepting a person of color isn't as easy as accepting which crayon to use on your coloring book picture. There is no racism when it comes to either owning a black or white car, or even choosing which colorful painting to put into your new home. So why is there a difference with people?

I know there are different perceptions toward racism or discrimination. Racism is not knowing anything about someone when you look at them, but disliking them anyway, not because of who they are, but what they are. Racism is cowardly. More importantly, racism is weakness and ignorance.

Many people in this world are affected by discrimination. African, Hispanic and Asian-Americans are the ones who have suffered the most from racism. Now don't get me wrong, we are all people and have had things that have affected us, but many people are not aware of how much racism still exists in our schools, workforces and society. It is obvious that racism is not as bad as it was many decades ago, but it definitely still exists. There are still many racist jokes being made and racist language being used.

Many people believe that they were born racist, but that is not the case at all. In fact, an individual cannot be born a racist but can only learn to become one as they grow from childhood to adulthood. It all depends on their childhood environment and the way they were raised.

Racism can lead and has led to many things. For example, the Holocaust. When the Germans singled out the Jewish because of their looks and their beliefs, the end result was the devastating World War II slaughter of about 6 million Jews and millions of others who the Germans discriminated against. Another example would be Rodney King, a beating victim by white police officers in Los Angeles on March 3, 1991. "Can't we all just get along here? Can't we all get along?" King said. Other wars have occurred simply because of different race and ignorant thinking. People often say racism does



Samantha Ruiz

Opinion

not exist because they treat everyone the same and no one ever has treated them with prejudice.

As you can see, racism and discrimination leads to violence and murders. One of the major issues that is always reported on the news is immigration. This can also be proof that racism still exists. When a person is having a tough time economically, they find it easy to

blame immigrants for taking their jobs. But is it an immigrant who is working at their job right now? Many immigrants have menial jobs such as picking crops or cleaning hotel rooms. Not that these are the only jobs that immigrants can do; once again, people are people, regardless of color.

Being born in the United States as a Latin American has given me a chance to understand and experience the frustration and discrimination that comes from racism. The reason I know racism still exists is because I've been

called names and have seen it happen to others before. My high school experiences and being out in the world lets me know that it's still out there. We as united people can stay even more united and have the high power to end racism. We ignored the powerful words of wisdom by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. His "I Have A Dream" speech opened my eyes and ears and had me thinking and knowing that we all can become one in the world, without any discrimination and hatred toward others.

We need to learn to see each other as brothers and sisters, not strangers. That is how it's supposed to be. Just as the five-year-old needs every Crayola to make his picture complete, so we need each other in this world to complete it.

**Senior Samantha Ruiz writes an opinion column for *The Eagle's Eye*. The thoughts reflected here do not necessarily represent *The Eagle's Eye* and/or Delta High School.**

# Spring Break

## One Day At A Time

Audrey York / Staff Writer

Are you staying in Indiana for spring break? There are a list of places you could visit, such as indoor water parks, malls, museums, theatres, zoos and many more.

Many people head to Florida, the Caribbean and other places warm for spring break. But there are a lot of people who stay here or nearby. It could be because of work, parents, money or school.

Sophomore Andrew Christman isn't excited for spring break this year. Christman says, "I'm more than likely going to stay in Indiana. I'm not really looking forward to spring break this year because I'm scheduled to get my wisdom teeth pulled."

Junior Ethan Bean is also staying in Indiana for spring break. Junior Kegan Morris and he might go to Indianapolis. "I am looking forward to spring break this year. We will be running up the stairs at Monument Circle and making the best Rocky video ever!" Bean said.

One of Indiana's most popular destinations is Caribbean Cove, the state's largest indoor water park. It is located in Indianapolis off I465 east, only an hour away.

Caribbean Cove has two levels and is connected to the Holiday Inn North. The water park has three water slides, a leisure river, two spas, and three different pools.

Another indoor water park in Indy is the Indy Island Aquatic Center, located on the Indy Island of Indianapolis. The Center has many different activities, open swimming and more.

Splash Universe Indoor Water park and Resorts, one of Shipshewana's most exciting attractions, is in Shipshewana, Ind., two hours away. From winding water slides and a 500-gallon water bucket, hundreds of people escape

for a weekend or two and spend it there swimming and having fun.

Shopping is another popular activity over spring break. There are many shopping centers all over Indiana, such as Castleton Square Mall and Circle Centre located in Indianapolis, Glenbrook Mall and Jefferson Pointe located in Fort Wayne and College Mall located in Bloomington. These are top rated malls in Indiana. Almost all these malls have many of the following stores: JC Penney, The Buckle, Abercrombie & Fitch, Bath & Body Works, Wet Seal, Hollister, Victoria's Secret, Macy's and Sears.

Freshman Bailey Mercer is spending her spring break in Indianapolis. She plans on going to Castleton Square Mall to shop. Mercer said, "I can't wait for spring break. Shopping is going to be awesome. My mom, grandma, and I are taking a trip to Indy. No school for a week!"

Freshman Kaylia Stuffel is spending her spring break in Muncie. "I'll probably end up shopping at the



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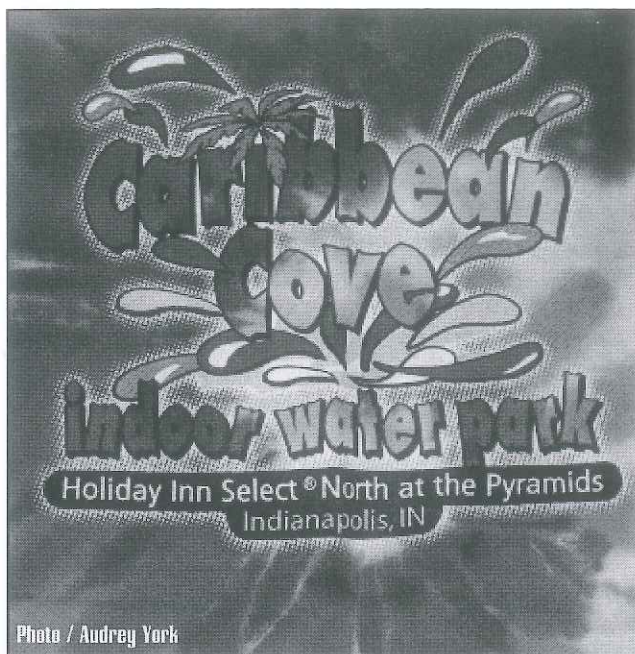


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**Caribbean Cove is one of many places students can go to on spring break that won't break the bank. This is a high rated attraction in Indiana.**

mall with my big sister, Ashli, and maybe some friends," she said.

The Regal Coldwater Crossing Stadium 14 in Fort Wayne is one of the state's largest movie theaters. Some movies that are coming soon for this theater are: *Duplicity, I Love You, Man, Knowing, The Last House on the Left, Miss March*, and others. Tickets cannot be purchased online, but ticket prices are shown on their online website.

The Indianapolis Zoo is the largest zoo in Indiana. The Indy Zoo has over 100 different animals and is open through all of spring break. Admission prices are: adult-\$14 ages 2-12 & seniors-\$9. Tickets may be purchased online.

One of Indy's most popular attractions is the Dolphin In-Water Adventure where everyone has a chance to feed the dolphins, work with them for good behavior training, and lots of hands on interactions. (Swimming is not involved) Other activities at the zoo include


riding ponies, the carousel, Kombo Family Coaster, and Splash Park.

Assistant Principal Mr. Matt Moulton is staying in Indiana for spring break. His third child was born Monday, March 9. "I love spring break because good weather and baseball season are right around the corner," Moulton said.

There are hundreds of places in and around Indiana to visit over spring break. Above are some popular destinations that people enjoy and have a fun time. Junior Aaron Williams said, "This year's spring break is going to be awesome. I can't wait."

The last day of school before spring break is Friday, March 20. School will resume on Monday, March 30. Remember that there are only nine weeks of school left when we return.

Getting pregnant wasn't part of the plan



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# SRT

## STUDENT RESOURCE TIME

Lauren Austin / Staff Writer

As spring comes around, students get anxious for the school year to end. Consumed by their busy lives, they are unaware of the new things that administrators are trying to put in motion for the next school year. It could be anything from different lunch prices to new colors on the walls of the school to a new school mascot. What is being planned for next year though, is nothing like any of these.

While nothing is finalized, there are plans to have a homeroom put into the school schedule next year. If approved by the School Board, it will be called Student Resource Time, or SRT for short.

SRT would be two to three times a week for 45 minutes. On the days of SRT, the normal classes would be shortened by roughly five minutes.

Under the plan, each teacher would be assigned an SRT of roughly 16 students, all from the same grade. During SRT, students would do homework and get help in classes that they're struggling in.

It is planned to either be after second hour or after third hour, although nothing is confirmed yet.

Principal Mr. James Koger is the one to introduce Delta to SRT. He has seen it take place at Lowell High School, where he was principal prior to coming to Delta. He has also seen other schools set the program up successfully. His main purpose for bringing it to Delta is to "have students get the help they need," he

■ Principal Jim Koger's idea could mean 16-student homerooms for all students next school year.

said.

Some students may find it difficult to schedule a study hall at any point in their high school career, while other students may have one or two study halls every year. Students may not be able to have a study hall due to lack of credits. "SRT would be used primarily as a study hall," Koger said.

"I think having SRT is a really good idea for students that are struggling or don't have time for a study hall and need the help," junior Cody Freeman said. Freeman also thinks that it is best if students in the

same grade are in the same class so younger students aren't as intimidated by the older students, which is exactly why grades will be separated.

There are pros and cons that are involved in any program, and SRT is no different.

Media specialist Mrs. Amy Lewman visited two high schools, Goshen High School and Concord High School in Northern Indiana to

experience SRT firsthand. On Feb. 5, she observed what type of things might work the best and might not work as well.

"Some pros to having SRT are that students can

"I think that having SRT is a really good idea for students that are struggling or don't have time for a study hall and need the help."  
- Junior Cody Freeman

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get additional help from teachers without missing another class to do so, groups and classes are able to meet during SRT, and it allows for make-up work during the school day rather than before or after school," Lewman said. "A few cons are that weather delays can cause SRT classes not to meet and study halls could be eliminated,"

What time, how often, and how long classes meet for are very rarely up for students to decide. They do have ideas of when they want classes to meet, though.

"I think that SRT should be around fifth hour so your main classes will be out of the way," freshman Claudia Jackson said.

Sophomore Jacob Hiatt agrees.

"I think that it should meet every day for 30-40 minutes, and it should also be after fifth hour," Hiatt said.

Although students wish SRT will be at a certain time, nothing is positively known. "It's a plan in progress," Koger said.

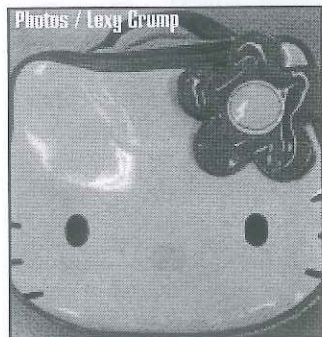
## School Lunch vs. Home Lunch

*Lexy Crump / Staff Writer*

Every day students face decisions. When it comes to lunch, they have three choices. What will they do? Bring their lunch from home, go through the lunch line or grab a snack at the snack bar?

Junior Morgan Molsenbocker always brings his lunch. "I decided to bring my lunch when I realized I can eat what I want, and however much I want" he said. Freshman Emily Coffey disagrees. "I like to eat school lunch. I don't have to hassle over packing it, or keeping it in my locker. It is way easier to just stand in the lunch line," she said.

Cost is a big deal with the economy today. Statistics by NSLP (National School Lunch Program) show that most students who eat school lunch save up to \$1.10 a week.



Photos / Lexy Crump  
Senior Kelly Crider's Hello Kitty lunchbox.

There are also certain federal nutrition guidelines cafeterias must follow. The guidelines by NSLP state that more fresh fruits, vegetables, whole wheat and low fat dairy should be available to students every day. This program also says that school lunch must contain one third of the Recommended Daily

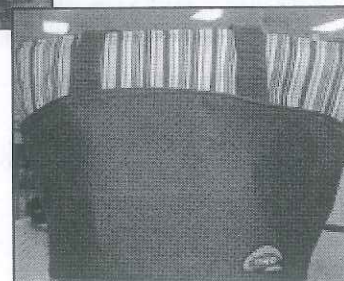
Allowances of protein Vitamin A & C.

It can be hard for students to keep food items at the correct temperature when all you have is your locker. In the cafeteria, they have strict guidelines to follow, and all foods must be at the recommended temperature.

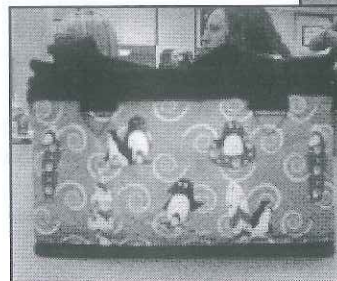
Some people use lunch to catch up with friends. "Standing in the lunch line gives me the scoop of the day. I like to talk with my friends during that time," Coffey said.



Amory Orchard,  
freshman



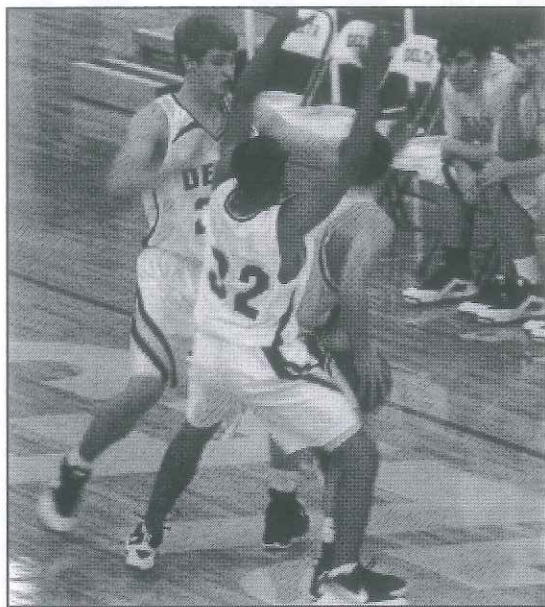
August  
Clevenger,  
junior



Studies by NSLP show that about 46 percent of students are unaware of serving sizes, meaning students might eat more or less than the recommended amount.

Sophomore Kiley Pardieck also eats school lunch. "I think that it's totally healthy, but I'm glad students can eat whatever they want. It's their choice," she said.

# Good Luck at Semi-State!



Logan Young and Skyler Case double-team an opponent. The Eagles are on track to set a new school record for fewest points allowed this season.

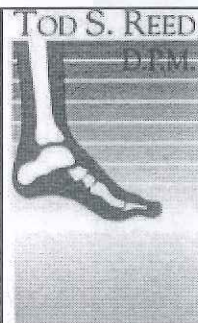
The boys' basketball team has won back-to-back sectionals for the first time in school history and won regionals for the first time since 2002. This Saturday, March 21, they will face Rochester at about 3:45 p.m. at Lafayette Jeff. If the Eagles win, they would play for the Class 3A state title on Saturday, March 28 at 6 p.m. at Conesco Field House.

## 2009 Deltonian

A few copies of the yearbook are still available for sale. Cost is \$45 per book. The 184-page full-color yearbook will be handed out in May at a school distribution party. To order your book, see Mr. Cleland in Room 124.



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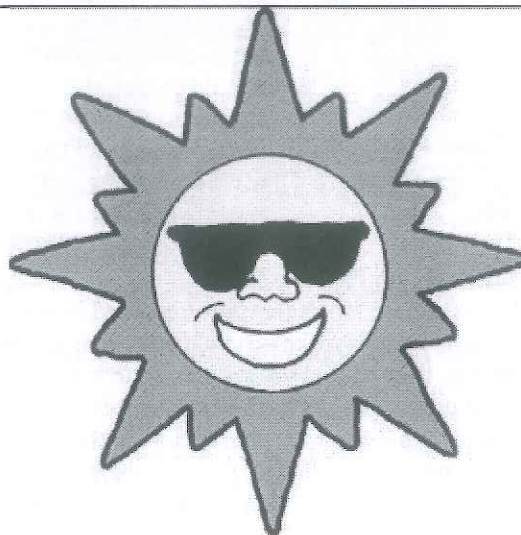
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The 2009 Deltonian yearbook staff members have fun with the book's **FRESH** theme.

Dr. Crider says,  
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# Dealing with DIVORCE

Divorce is tough, especially when you remember your parents being married.

I was seven years old and my sister was three when my parents got divorced. I remember when they were married, but she doesn't.

For years, I thought it was my fault. That's probably the number one thing that kids think about when their parents get divorced. But kids have to realize it's not their fault.

To this day, every once in awhile, I still have a hard time with my parents' divorce. I think, "What if they had stayed together? How would my life be different?"

But then I realize that even though it has been difficult, I wouldn't have people in my life that mean so much to me, like my step-mom and step-siblings. Some people may not get along with their step-mom or step-siblings, but mine mean a lot to me. They are part of my family, and I don't think of them as non-blood-related.

When I was in elementary school, I went to Storer Elementary in Muncie. I was in a group called "the Banana Splits." It was a group of kids whose parents were divorced. We would play games that would help teach us about what was going on and to help deal with divorce. One game that we played was similar to the board game "chutes and ladders" but instead it was "Mom's house or Dad's house." The group would meet once a month because our counselor Mrs. Mc Kenzie worked at other schools as well.

In middle school, Delta, I would talk to Mrs. Melinda Stephan, one of the school counselors. She helped a lot by listening to what I had to say and giving me her opinion. She also told me about books that she thought I would like. And one thing that meant a lot to me is that when I would cry, she would comfort me by being there for me to vent and letting me know that she actually cared.

I also started writing. I write poetry and songs and I am in the process of writing a book. Writing helps me get things out in a healthy way. I also paint and draw, but I have been doing those for years. It helps to put anger



Chelsea LaBoyteaux

Opinion

and sadness and every other emotion into a painting, drawing or any material of writing.

When I was a freshman I started seeing a professional therapist. I went to Lykins Counseling Clinic and saw Wendy McDonald. I recently stopped going because I didn't need professional help anymore. She told me that keeping a stress ball with me or by my bed would be better than yelling at my mom or sister for no reason. She also told me that I needed to stop when I felt like I would explode and take deep breaths. Believe it or not, it really did help.

I used to be ashamed of going to a counselor so I never told anyone, not even my closest friends. But then I said to myself that if they are truly my friends, they won't care that I am seeing a therapist and will be there for me no matter what. It turns out that I was right. After a year of going, I finally told them. They didn't have a problem with it and still accepted me for who I was.

**"For years, I thought it was my fault...but kids have to realize, it's not their fault."**

Senior Chelsea LaBoyteaux writes an opinion column for *The Eagle's Eye*. The thoughts reflected here do not necessarily represent the *Eagle's Eye* and/or Delta High School.



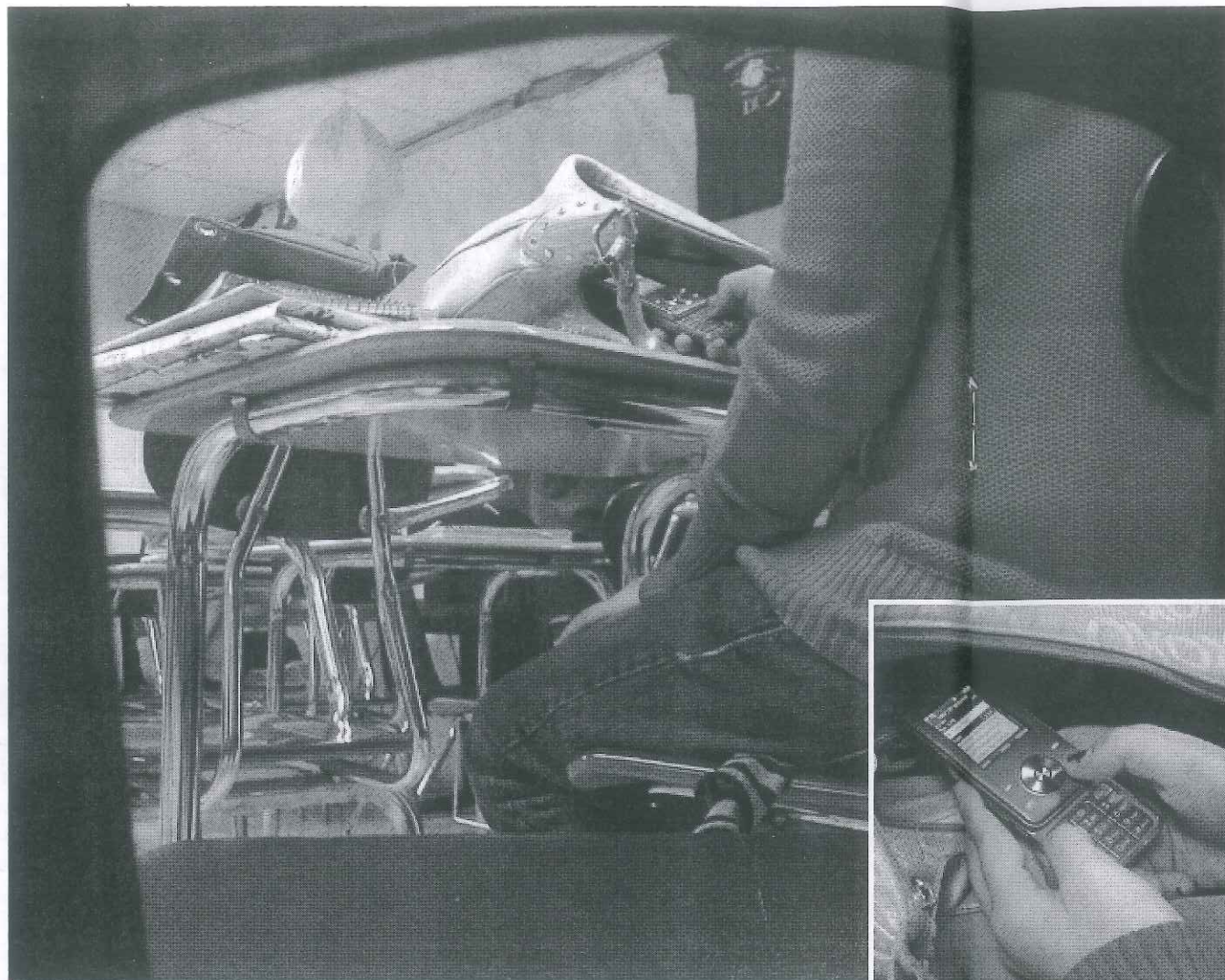
## Some disagree with texting

Texting is fast becoming popular, even with the older generation, but there are still some people against it. Here are some people who disagree with the texting craze.

"[Texting]...is a fast way to communicate, but it can be negative because texts that you do not want to be seen by others can be forwarded," sophomore Taylor Sorg said.

"It can be very convenient sometimes," Sophomore Laura Hapner said. "But a person should not let texting take over their life—not become an addiction."

Junior Kyle Ray, far from letting it become an addiction, is completely against texting. "You should be able to talk to someone, person to person, and hear them to be sure it is them," Ray said.



## Texters, Beware!

Students who are texting now, enjoy it while you can. A stricter policy on cell phones inside Delta High School is proposed for next year. The proposed policy is that phones are to be confiscated on sight from 7:30 a.m. to 3:05 p.m.

"Phones are supposed to be in lockers," assistant principal Mr. Tom Johns said. "The reason it starts from 7:30 is because we want kids to get in the habit of just coming to school and putting their phones straight in their lockers."

Phones are to be kept in lockers throughout the school day—not pockets or purses or anywhere else. Texting is not to be allowed during classes, lunch, or passing periods.

This means that a teacher could spot a suspicious bulge in a student's pocket, order them to show it to them and then confiscate the student's phone, whether it was on or off.

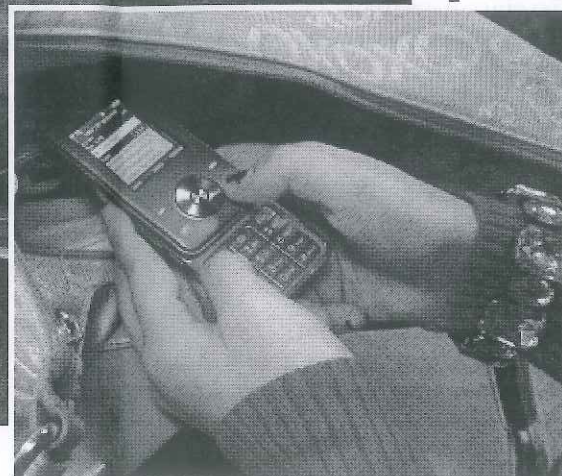
A first offense would mean Friday Night School, a second offense three days ISS and a third offense a possible five-day suspension. "Just so you know, I've never had a phone confiscated from the same kid more than twice," Johns said.

When Principal Jim Koger discussed this policy with the Student Council, they suggested that the ban on cell phones be from 7:40 instead of 7:30 a.m. and that in return for these stricter policies, texting and/or I-Pods be allowed during lunch.

Other proposed policies for next year are bans on house shoes, slippers, and pajamas, as well as tights and leggings without appropriate material, such as skirts or pants, over them. Nicotine is to be added to the drugs to be tested for in the school's random drug testing policy.

These proposals could go to the school board within the next couple months, but "we're not sure yet," Johns said. "Nothing is finalized. I want to be very clear on that."

New policies next year? Maybe.



# Sorry, what? (I was texting.)

Stories by Chris Pak / Staff Writer

It's not permitted. Few will admit to it. Almost everyone, however, does it at one time or another.

Students with their faces tilted down and hands moving rapidly under their desks are a common sight. The hand motions abruptly stop when a teacher walks by as the contraband phone is whisked into a purse, in a pocket, or even between the unprepared student's legs.

This scenario happens more often in some classrooms than others. The most fundamental reason is lack of signal. Delta is notorious for its bad signal. "There are so many dead spots, I'm surprised the kids can even text each other," assistant principal Mr. Tom Johns said. The lack of signal, however, varies from classroom to classroom.

Generally, people agree that the closer you are to the center of the school, the less signal you receive. As junior Shelby Estes said, "Any room by a window gets good signal; the cafeteria gets horrible signal."

*(Continued on page 14)*

### What do the Adults Say?

#### The Current Policy

School policy dictates that no texting is to be allowed in class, regardless of the student's grades or the difficulty level/lack of activity in a class. Offenders will have their phone confiscated and then held in the office, from which their parents must come claim it. They also have detention the first time, Friday Night School the second time, and three days ISS the third.

"I get an average of 6-8 phones per week," assistant principal Mr. Tom Johns said. "I'd probably get more except I know that a lot of teachers give a lot of warnings, you know, 'Put your phone away.' I know so many students text that if the teachers confiscated every single phone, my desk drawers would be full."

The commonness of texting makes it difficult for teachers to stop it. According to Johns, some schools have separate times set aside just for texting, but lack of signal makes this unfeasible for Delta.

Johns thinks texting is a serious problem. "For one thing, they're breaking the rules... Also, I just think it takes away from the classroom. It's another distraction the kids don't need," he said.

As biology teacher Mr. Terry Summers asked, "If the kids aren't responsible enough to do their schoolwork, how can they be responsible enough to have a cell phone?"

### Straight From the Handbook

*Exact wording of proposed cell phone policy:*  
All student cell phones should remain off between the hours of 7:30 and 3:05. On the rare event a student needs to contact a parent or guardian throughout the school day he/she may come to the front office and ask permission to do so, or the student may use the pay phone during their lunch time. It is highly recommended that students not bring cell phones to school. Delta High School does not have insurance to cover lost or stolen valuables, cell phones, articles, etc. All cellular phones or cellular devices, if brought to school, should remain off and in the student's locker between the times stated above. Any student who violates this policy including having his/her cell phone on, having his/her cell phone out of their locker, or having his/her cell phone on their person at any time between 7:30 and 3:05 will face the consequences as outlined in the disciplinary rubric. Any student violating the cell phone policy who refuses to hand over his/her cell phone when requested by a teacher or administrator will receive an out-of-school suspension.

# Sorry, What? (I was texting),

Continued from page 12

Another common answer from surveys for areas with best signal is “anywhere upstairs, especially Seidner’s room.”

Another reason for the lack of texting in some classes might be the difficulty of the class. Classes that have a reputation for being an ‘easy A’ might have more problems with texting than classes that have a reputation for being difficult to pass.

According to junior Hillary Robertson, texting in classes—difficult or easy—is fine. “It doesn’t really [affect my grades]; it takes 2.5 seconds to read and reply to a text,” she claims. “I’m good at multi-tasking.”

Senior Derek Batten agrees. “Texting gives you something to do in school,” he says. “I text in every class. I can listen very well to the teacher while I’m texting but I never listen to the teacher anyway. It doesn’t affect my grades. [I get] all A’s and B’s.”

Others disagree. “[I text in school] every day,” freshman Kayla Hanauer says, “and I can listen just as well [to the teacher] when she’s talking and I’m texting.” But she also admits, “I honestly think grades go down because of it.”

Some, like sophomore Ashley Absher, try for a happy medium between boredom and academics. “I rarely ever text in class,” Absher says, “and only when we aren’t doing anything. I don’t text while the teacher’s talking or giving a lesson.”

Yet another reason for the variation of texting per class might be the strictness of the teacher: a reputation for being a stickler for school policy might frighten some would-be texters into putting their phones away.

Junior Shelby Estes was caught texting in class once. “I didn’t get in trouble really, but I respected the

teacher and didn’t text ever again,” she says.

Sophomore Jacob Monroe says he has been caught about nine times in one class and has had detention.

“Yes,” junior Zachary Burt answered when asked whether he’d ever been caught texting and how much trouble he’d gotten in, “from ‘put it away’ to ‘hand it over.’”

“I’m sure some teachers go easier on students’ texting in class,” says biology teacher Mr. Terry Summers, “and it makes it harder on the rest of us. I take phones whenever I catch people texting and give the phones to Mr. Johns later. You can’t listen and text at the same time, and you won’t try in my class.”

As sophomore Aubrey Smith joked about texting’s effect on her grades: “Sorry, what? I couldn’t hear, I was texting...”



*“It doesn’t really [affect my grades]; it takes 2.5 seconds to read and reply to a text. I’m good at multi-tasking.”*

—junior Hillary Robertson



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# Diversity Around You

Minh Le / Staff Writer

In America, 78.4% of the population is Christian, with Christmas and New Year's as the biggest holidays.

At Delta, there are some foreign exchange students from other countries that can share the different cultural and religious differences between their countries and America.

Senior Rami Hatoom, an exchange student from Lebanon, said a popular religion in his country is the "Druze." The "Druze" people believe in God and the people they call "Sheikh," the ones who help them to communicate with God and lead them to the right way. Hatoom is also one of the "Druze."

In Lebanon, the biggest holiday is not Christmas, but "Eid El- Adha" which means "The Holidays of Sacrifice." They celebrate with a barbecue, with enough food to share with others.

They also have a celebration called "Friday Night" to show their respect to God.

"Sometimes on 'Friday Night,' we consider it the night before Friday morning, so basically it's Thursday Night- we go to the Khalwee and pray to show our respect to the Holy," Hatoom said. Khalwee is a place for the "Druze" to pray similar to a Christian church.

The "Druze" Bible is called "El Hekmen," which talks about Jesus and what he has done for mankind. That's the reason why Hatoom believes in Jesus and after he came to America, he started to go to church with his host family, the McQueary's, every Sunday morning.

"We don't celebrate New Year like in America. We celebrate Lunar New Year, the same with Chinese New Year. The first three days of New Year, my family will come over to our family members and friends to wish them a happy New Year and give the children

lucky money," said senior Annie Tran, an exchange student from Vietnam. "Lucky money" is the money that the older people give to the young like a "lucky wish" for the New Year. The money is put in a little red envelope.

Lunar New Year in Vietnam has some similarities with Christmas in America. Instead of

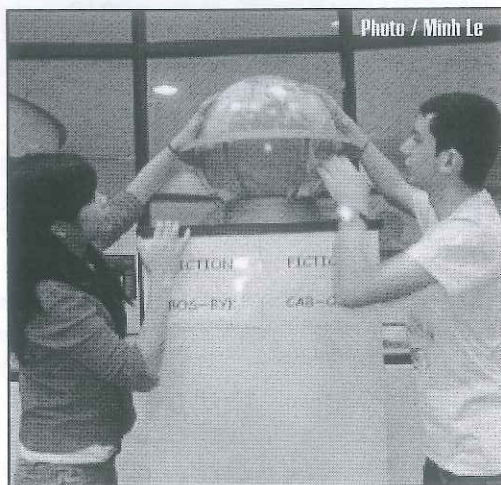
having a Christmas tree, in Vietnam they will have an apricot tree, which is the symbol for luckiness and happiness.

During the first three days of the New Year, Vietnamese people have their traditional food "Banh Chung" and "Banh Giay." Both are made from sticky rice. "Banh Chung" has a square shape and is the symbol for the Earth. "Banh Giay" has a circular shape and a white color. It is the symbol for the moon. They are the most meaningful food in Vietnam, and every family has to have a pair of them on New Year's Eve and during the first three days of New Year.

Lunar New Year in Vietnam is a chance for all the families to meet. "It helps us to remember about our ancestors and our origin," Tran said.

"Everything is so different in America where I have to try my best to fit myself in," Hatoom said.

Though while in America, Tran and Hatoom try to fit in with everyone else.



Seniors Annie Tran and Rami Hatoom point out their respective countries.

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# All Games, No Work?

Justin Sumner / Staff Writer

What effect  
do video games  
have on grades?

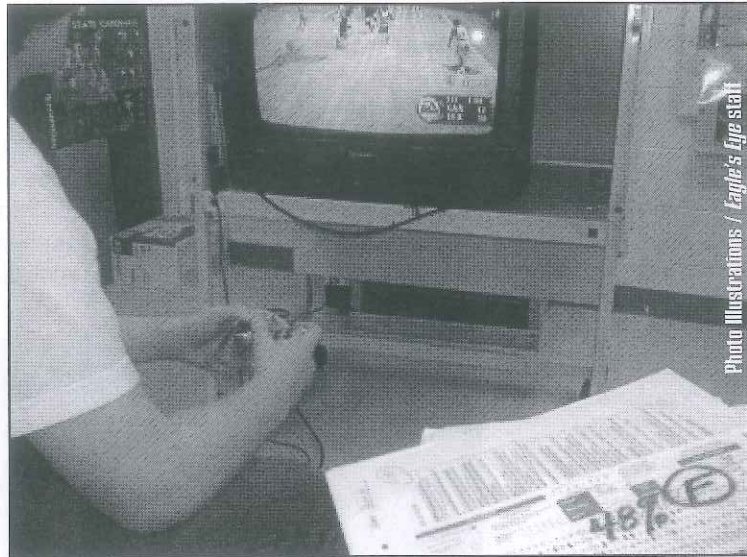
Sophomore Jakebb Berinsky claims that the video games he plays do not affect his grades, but "it makes me not want to bring anything home," he said. A 2007 study by Todd R. Stinebrickner shows that just one hour of studying each day improves your GPA by 0.38. That is the equivalent of changing from C's to B's.

"Students should be aware of the distractions that affect their grade performance," Stinebrickner wrote in his report. He is an associate professor of economics and director of graduate studies at the University of Western Ontario.

Some Delta students said they stay up late to play video games. Junior Luke Murray said, "Yeah, I have stayed up all night, sometimes even two days without sleep, but it doesn't affect my grades." Berinsky agreed, "I stay up until 11:30 or midnight every night."

A new article describes how heart rate and sleep in boys is affected by violent video games. Researchers from Stockholm University, Uppsala University and Karolinska Institute in Sweden have worked together with this study.

In the study boys 12-15 were asked to play



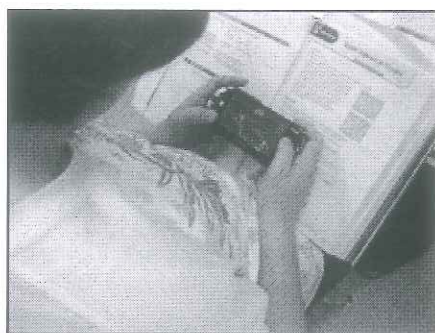
two different video games at their homes at night, while the boys' heart rate was registered. It turned out that the heart rate variability was affected to a higher

## DELTA TROUPERS...



COMEDY AND  
TRAGEDY ON  
DELTA STAGE

degree when the boys were playing games focusing on violence compared with games without violent features.



Differences in heart rate variability were registered both while the boys were playing the video games and when they were sleeping. The boys themselves did not feel that they had slept poorly after having played violent video games.

The results show that your nervous system and other body systems can be affected when you play video games without you being aware of it.

There are many studies that include not only the effect of video games on grades, but also their effect on a child's behavior. The research to prove this has been going on since the 1980's and '90's. Some scientists think the violent video games that children play may trigger feelings of anger and hostility, and they have several studies backing this theory.

There are other negative effects that video game studies find. Other effects on players are lack of social skills, inefficiency, obesity and laziness. "I put off my homework for a couple hours, but I always get to it later in the day," Murray said.

The effect of video games on the brain is a research area that is gaining popularity. Some people believe violence in video games and other media promotes violent behavior among viewers. While there is not sufficient data to state this, there are a number of studies showing that video games can increase aggressive behavior and emotional outbursts and decrease inhibitions, but there are few studies showing positive effects from

playing video games.

According to Buzzle.com, there aren't just negative effects, though. Playing video games involves many skills, such as problem solving, planning, estimating and analyzing your and your opponent's moves or actions. This would help develop a player's problem-solving skills, analytical and estimation skills and quick decision-making skills. Video games have also been included in the therapy for children with certain psychological problems. In playing video games, a child gets a sense of participation and a sense of achievement, thus building his/her self-confidence.

A popular type of game that kids play is M.M.O.R.P.G. (massive multi-player online role playing games). These are online games in which players will make a character and be entered into a world with many more characters. You're allowed to speak to other characters, do a quest and build your character.

These games sometimes take money, but some of the most popular free ones are World of Warcraft, Counter-Strike: Source, Guild Wars, Team Fortress 2 and Runescape. "I like to play online games but only on the computer. Console online games are boring and cost too much," Murray said.

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# Cooking Their Up Dreams

Brian Thornburg/ Staff Writer

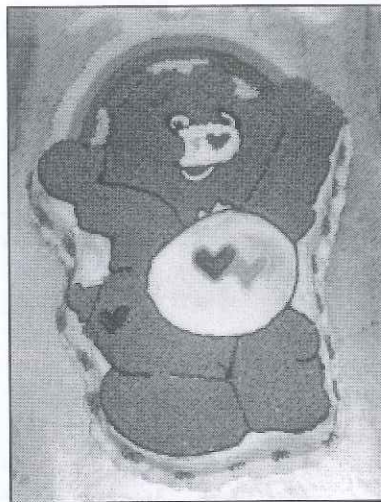
Many people have dreams in life. Some may want to be doctors or lawyers, but for seniors Stephney Clark and Chelsea LaBoyteaux, their dream is to become a chef.

"I have been cooking for a long time, and I would like to become a chef. I have wanted to for years," Clark said.

What got Clark interested in cooking was her grandmother. "My grandmother has a passion for cooking, and when I go over there, I love doing it, too," she said.

Some of the items Clark likes to make are sausage roll-ups and Black Forest Cake. The cake consists of two chocolate cakes, whipped cream, icing and strawberries or, if you prefer, cherries.

In Clark's family, her grandmother, father, mother and herself all cook. Her mom's lasagna is her



**Right - A chocolate oreo cheesecake made by freshman Audrey York for school last year. Below - A Care Bear cake made by senior Ashley Pierce for her mom's birthday.**

favorite. "It's delicious," Clark said.

Another inspiration for Clark is Bobby Flay, star of the *Food Network* shows. Flay started his career at age 17, the same age as Clark. Flay won the "Outstanding Graduate Award" at the French Culinary Institute in 1993, and serves there now as a Master Instructor.

Clark has been accepted into the Culinary Institute of New York. Clark had many different things she had to do in order to be accepted. She had to write an essay, prepare and serve a meal then taste test it first. "I absolutely love to cook. If you have a dream, you have to do everything in

your power to reach it," Clark said.

LaBoyteaux's inspiration also came from her grandmother.

"My grandmother would make food from scratch. She also grew her own garden, which had tomatoes, lettuce, corn and green beans," LaBoyteaux said. She has been cooking since she was 10 years old.

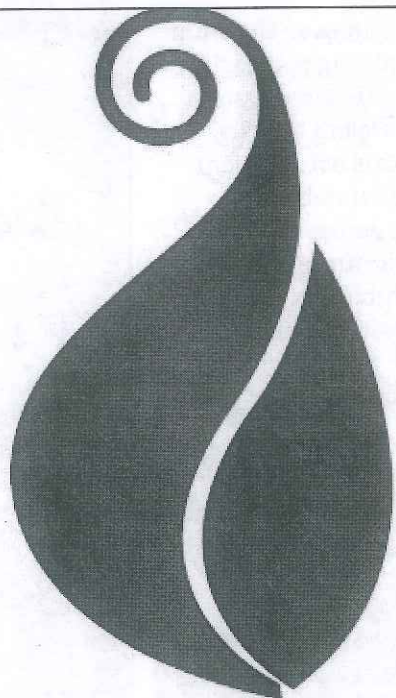
Her favorite dessert is her grandma's 7-Ups salad which includes 7-Up, pineapple, lime Jell-O, marshmallows and Miracle Whip.

Her favorite food is her dad's chili. She also likes sweet potato casserole made by her Nana, which is her mom's mother. LaBoyteaux usually makes dinner for her family and sometimes even her friends. She

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Photos / Provided

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 1 C. sugar  
 1 t. vanilla  
 1 package (8 squares) baking chocolate, melted, slightly cooled  
 4 eggs  
 20 Oreo Chocolate Creme Chocolate Sandwich Cookies, quartered

Press crushed cookie crumbs onto bottom of 9-inch springform pan. Bake at 325° F. for 10 minutes if using a silver springform pan. (Bake at 300° F. for 10 minutes if using a dark nonstick springform pan.) Mix cream cheese, sugar and vanilla with electric mixer on medium speed until well blended. Blend in melted chocolate. Add eggs, mixing on low speed just until blended. Gently stir in 1-1/2 cups of the quartered cookies. Pour over crust. Sprinkle with remaining quartered cookies.

Bake at 325° F. for 1 hour or until center is almost set if using a springform pan. (Bake at 300° F. for 1 hour or until center is almost set is using a dark nonstick springform pan.) Run knife or metal spatula around rim of pan to loosen cake; cool before removing rim of pan. Refrigerate 4 hours or overnight.

loves everything that her family makes. "Sometimes, I accidentally use the wrong ingredients or measurements, but most of the time it comes out okay," LaBoyteaux said.

Clark thinks there can be some pros and cons of cooking. "The pros are the freedom of cooking and that you get to experiment, but some cons are burning the food and you might get food poisoning," she said.

Just like Clark, LaBoyteaux is a fan of the Food Network. Her inspiration from the show is Guy Fieri, who is known as the "Bad Boy" and host of *Food Network*, but also hosts four other shows. Fieri has been a three-term President of the Restaurant Association of the Redwood Empire. "He is absolutely hilarious," LaBoyteaux said. LaBoyteaux also watches some *Food Network* shows like *Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives*.

But one thing that LaBoyteaux can't make is macaroni and cheese. Clark said, "The only reason that someone couldn't make a dish is because they don't want to. You have to have the heart to make the food, and if the heart is present, so is the will to cook anything that you put your mind to."

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# A Trip of a Lifetime

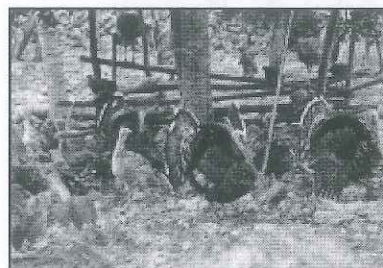
Ashley Pierce / Editor In Chief

Senior Jenny Buis recently went to Mexico on a missions trip and it changed her life forever.

You want some rooster with that breakfast? Senior Jenny Buis recently went on a missions trip with her church, Westminster Presbyterian. The village they stayed in had various animals such as peacocks, pigs and dogs running rampant throughout the town.

"One day," Buis said, "I was in the kitchen and a rooster just walked in."

She along with 18 other members of her church stayed in Xocenpiche, Mexico, part of the Yucatan



Turkeys such as these ran rampant throughout the villages Buis stayed in on her missions trip.

peninsula. They spent the week building church pews in the morning and conducting Bible studies in the nearby villages of Yaxtche and Chancome in the afternoon. All three are Third World villages. A country is considered Third World if it's undeveloped compared to more advanced nations such as the U.S., China and Britain and if most of the general public has no running water, plumbing, or new technology.

"I would love to go back," Buis said. "You just fall in love with the people; everyone is so happy to see you and gives you hugs. It makes you feel bad for the children."

One of these children was a 10-year-old boy who was born seven weeks premature. Because the village did not have the resources for a wheelchair, he had



One of Buis's recent profile pictures on the social networking site Facebook. "I would love to go back," she said. "You just fall in love with the people."

been forced to live his life in a hammock until Buis's church group brought him one.

While she was away, Buis only missed two predictable luxuries.

"I loved it so much that you can't really miss anything because there's so many people there that love you," she said. "I did miss clean showers and running water, though."

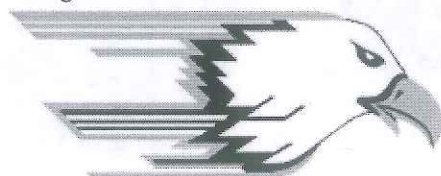
Buis has gone on other mission trips, but none out of the country. For spring break, she said her church usually goes on work projects in Michigan or Texas.

"I just really felt like it was God's calling for me," Buis said explaining why she continues to go on mission trips.

The villages Buis stayed in are unlike any one might imagine. While the villages were small, they were heavily populated. Buis said one could easily fit six children in a single thatched hut.

Delta Athletic Department

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Good Luck Spring Athletes!

Right: The compound Buis stayed in. Far right: Buis participating in their group's Bible study. Center: What the typical family's house looked like. Bottom: Buis with two of the kids they taught.



Photos / Provided

The culture shock from the U.S. to Mexico was a lot to take for Buis, although she said it was worse coming back.

"I wasn't expecting as much poverty," she said. "It was a lot worse coming back because you realize how materialistic and selfish everyone is (in America)."

However, Buis highly recommends mission trips for others who are interested.

"I encourage anybody with a chance to go on a mission trip to go because your entire life is changed by it, along with your whole perspective," Buis said.



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# TIE - DYE LIFE

Christina Hurst / Ads Director

**W**ith prom coming up May 9, every attending female at Delta High School will be looking for a dress. Senior Katie VanHooser will be looking for a more unconventional attire. Her dress, she hopes, will be tie-dye.

VanHooser began wearing tie-dye in eighth grade when she received her first tie-dye sweatshirt. Since then, her collection continues to grow.

Now, she has six or seven shirts, a pair of pants, two sweatshirts, sheets, a comforter, two purses, two tapestries, a door hanging, and necklaces: all tie-dye. She refers to her room as being "all decked out" in it.

"I want a tie-dye tattoo," she said, "but I don't know if that could work out."

VanHooser wishes she could have grown up when tie-dye first came out, and describes her style as "new age hippie."

"I couldn't have the old hippie lifestyle because I like to shower too much," she said. "I'm like a hippie because I don't

worry about stuff, and I try to have fun every day."

Even though she admits to having a lot of other clothes, she claims to wear tie-dye at least six days a week.

"I like going to a party and wearing tie-dye because it just screams 'Here I am!' That's why I wear it every day, because every day is a party," she said.

When some of her friends from Muncie Central began to wear tie-dye, VanHooser was happy to take credit for it. When she used to work at MCL Cafeteria, customers began to take on her style.

"Old people walked in wearing tie-dye. It was a good conversation starter," she said.

VanHooser buys most of her tie-dye apparel at Rare Image in the Muncie Mall. She hopes that one day Hot Topic will start selling it. "I don't know if they'll ever dip their fingers in tie-dye," she said.

As for her tie-dye prom dress, "I really want one. I think it would be bombin'," she said.

Photo / Ashley Pierce



Senior Katie VanHooser has this tapestry hanging in front of her closet. "I'm like a hippie because I don't worry about stuff, and I try to have fun every day," she said.

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Photos / Ashley Pierce



Clockwise from left: Senior Katie VanHooser's tie-dye collection covers her from head to toe; A view of VanHooser's colorful room; Her various shirts and purses are laid in a heap.



10 Different High Schools,  
1 God...  
You are invited!

Selma United Methodist Church FOCUS Youth Group

# Petting Zoo entertains kids

Students from the corporation elementary schools visited Delta in early March to attend the annual Petting Zoo. Clockwise from left: Freshman Meredith Jarvis plays with her goats; Senior Seth Smoot shows pigs to a girl during the FFA petting zoo; Elementary school students play with miniature tractors; An elementary school student enjoys meeting a goat; Junior Kaitlyn Walton and senior Emily Marsh supervise an elementary boy.



Photos / Yearbook



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