

Gleneagle's Student Voice
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the Edge

Emerging talents: Gleneagle art students showcase their work

CLAUDIA LEE
staff reporter

Eleven Gleneagle senior art students have been accepted to display their polished pieces, starting tomorrow, at the Emerging Talent XIII show, held at Evergreen Cultural Centre.

They are: **Marina Bender, In-Joon Jung, Dabin Lee, Serena Lee, Kathleen Loski, Rachel Lui, Zia Somjee, Jessica Tuomisto, Justin Yamano, Tina Yang, Shaelyn Zhu**, all grade 12 art students.

A digital painting of an African savanna landscape was submitted by Somjee.

"I was inspired by my parents who are from Africa," he said. The digital painting named, "Savannah Train" has Somjee's high hopes for the show.

"I'm only submitting one [piece], so hopefully it's enough," Somjee added. From preparing for the show, he learned "how the system works." Somjee plans on going into film studies upon graduation.

Gleneagle has participated in the show since the beginning, and has had "the most number of pieces showcased [at the show]," said **Melanie Stokes**, art teacher.

She added with confidence, "I think we will do exceptionally well." The judges of the exhibition look for "creativity, good workmanship...good enough quality to be [hung] in a gallery," explained Stokes.

The show has no particular theme, but must abide by "some gallery restrictions," and be of

"suitable quality and content," she said.

The experience of having artwork publically displayed is a "quite unique experience," and is "an honour to be accepted," according to Stokes.

As Emerging Talent is a jury show, "professionals will evaluate their work," Stokes added.

However, it wasn't good news for all students. This experience has taught **Michelle Nguyen**, grade 12, "the pressures of preparing for a show," although she wasn't accepted into the show.

Nguyen is one of many students hoping to pursue graphic design upon graduation.

Emerging Talent, which started in 1996, gathers art students in the school district to get a chance to display their pieces.

The student artists who show their work are "grade 12 art students hoping to pursue art in the post-secondary level," said Stokes.

She added, "the [pieces]... vary from photography to painting, to ceramic sculptures.

"Each student can submit [up to] three pieces," which get selected by the Gleneagle art teachers, and also a jury, "who are all retired art teachers," according to Stokes. From there, the jury choose pieces, which are then revealed at the show, open for public viewing.

Eunice Hodge, Jerry Pietrasko, and **Keith Rice-Jones** are the independent jury members.

Emerging Talent XIII begins tomorrow at the Evergreen Cultural Centre January 22, and continues through March 13.



Masterpiece in the making: Grade 12 student concentrates on the creation of her art piece that she entered for the Emerging Talent XIII show, held at the Evergreen Cultural Centre.



Inspiration at work, taking shape in the form of mixed media: Grade 12 student is hard at work to finish his piece that will be on display tomorrow until March 13.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, January 22
Last Formal Day of Classes

January 25-29
Exam week

Monday, February 1
Start of Second Semester

Thursday, February 4
Second Formal Report Card

Friday, February 12
Pro-D Day Schools Closed

Studying: dreaded chore but best way to do well on finals

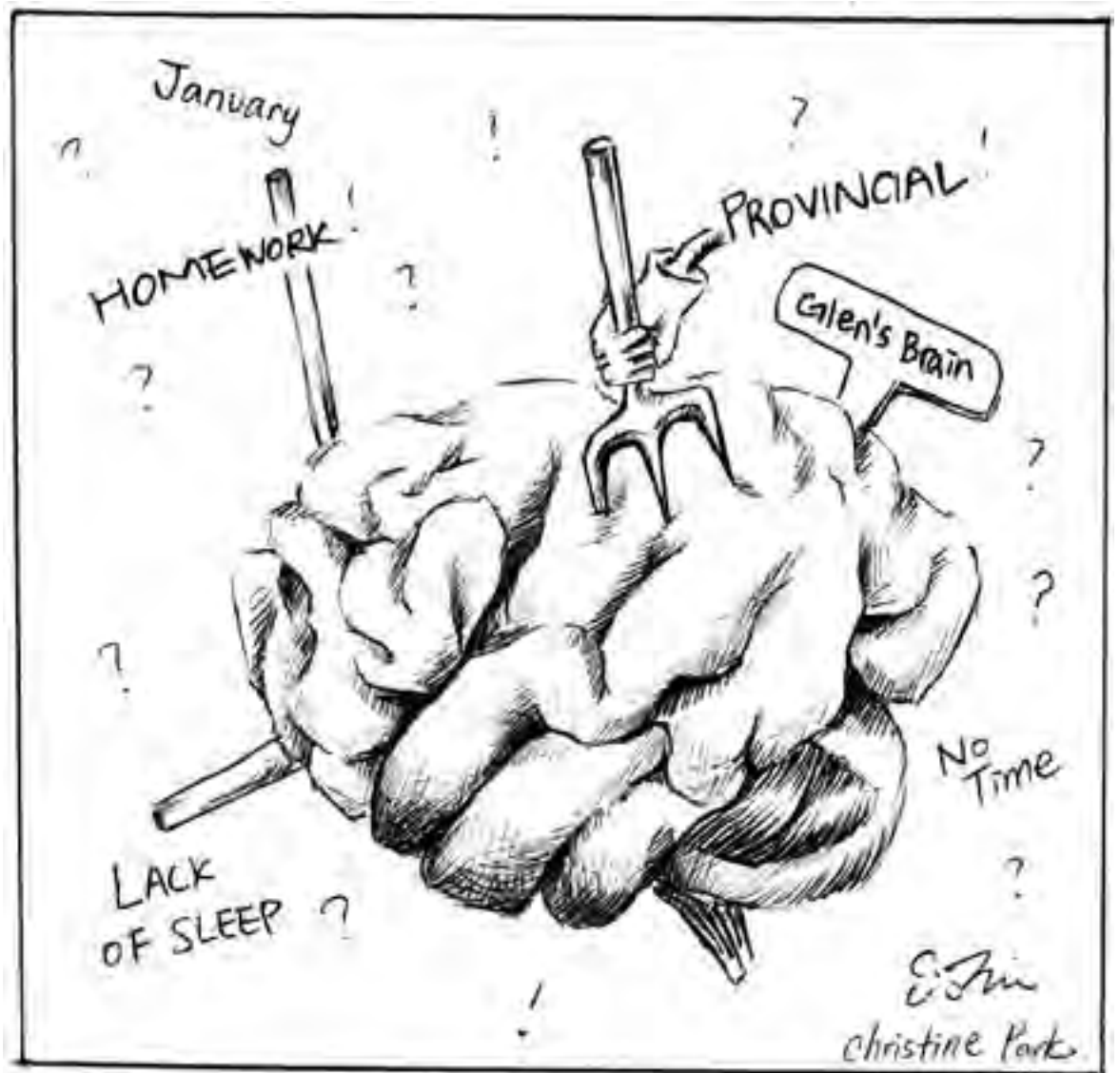
It's that time of year again: exam week—that bittersweet mix of a joyous week without school and the crippling fear of major tests. Maybe you're lucky this time around and have little or no tests, but that no doubt means you'll be extra unlucky when second semester exam week is here and you have too many tests! We all know it's coming, yet many students struggle to study. It's an important step in making sure you get a decent mark and considering it's worth upwards of 20 percent of your final grade, you'll want to do well.

There are tons of excuses why people don't study; they forget their materials at school, they make piles of other plans, or they just plain forget. Sure, you already learned the material during class time, but do you honestly remember a formula you learned all the way back in September? If you can, congratulations! You have talent. For the majority of us, however, our brain needs a boost. Studying doesn't have to be painful, but even if it isn't your cup of tea, it's necessary so you might as well make the best of it.

Studying is a great excuse to hang out with friends. You can share techniques and ask each other for help. It'll take your mind off of what you're doing—you just have to make sure you're actually getting work done! People have a variety of study habits so ask around as different things work for different people. A tried and true habit is writing something out until it sticks, which isn't the most fun, but has generally has good results.

Some classes—that we all love—don't even have an exam, which makes you wonder why exams are necessary anyway. When writing finals, you work hard to get the best mark possible, but you never get to see your result, never learn what you did wrong. Some might wonder if this is really the most effective way to measure if we're learning all that we should. Unfortunately, the exams are mostly implemented by the government, so as much as we love to complain to our teachers about them, it's really not doing us any good. If you're lucky, your teachers won't hold your whining against you, and will give you some kind of review package. If you're wise, you will study from it, often.

No one likes taking exams, but look at the bright side—a whole week without classes. For the most part you can sleep in and relax without the worry of the daily grind. Sure, you'll be sad when you have to go back, but just think: spring break's not far off! Besides that, you'll get all new classes and teachers. There will be lots of opportunities to talk to new people and make a fresh start.



Harry Potter books universally well-liked; movies not so much



edge columnist

When people think Harry Potter, they think either of the books or the movies. Most prefer the books because, well let's just face it, the books are better than the movies. But the movies are still amazing and are way up there on the popularity charts. The newest movie, *Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince* made \$929,359,401

worldwide in the box office and was the ninth biggest sell out in history. That is pretty impressive.

The first movie, *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*, had an even bigger turn out and ended up being sixth on the charts; the fifth movie, *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*, was eighth on the charts.

Despite this phenomenal success, you still see people coming out of the movies, every time, looking disappointed. "They were missing so much. The movie wasn't that good."

The book huggers who have really big expectations always complain, but the real question is: why? Why is it, that even though a lot of people are disappointed in the movies, they still go to them?

The primary reason is that the Potter stories are worldwide best-selling novels. That, in the first place, attracts a lot of attention.

Since the release in of the first book in 1997, the series has sold more than 400 million copies and the books have been translated

into 67 languages.

The last four books even have consecutively made records for the fastest selling books in history and have won many awards.

Despite this phenomenal success, you still see people coming out of the movies...looking disappointed.

People all over the world line up for days just to assure themselves they will get a copy of the book.

Another reason could be that they have immense amounts of propaganda. The Harry Potter "brand" as they call it, has been tied with loads of merchandise which makes it worth £15 billion, and that's just the brand for the book. For the movie, there are sound tracks, posters, shirts, and everything else under the sun.

The book also has two different styles because there are two different kinds of followers for the books: children and adults. That is why there are two different cov-

ers for them, but most don't know this because most book stores only sell the children's version which is much more popular.

There is even a ride coming this

spring at Universal Studios called *The Wizarding World of Harry Potter*. They also have a Harry Potter musical that is really popular. There is much more to this series than just the books.

Another contributing factor is that the plot for the overall story of Harry Potter is extremely clever. In my opinion, J.K. Rowling is a genius. The world she creates for you paints a picture in your mind. Everything in her book is original, and the characters are deep and well-developed which helps you live in the story. Hence the terms "can't put it down" and "lost in the story."

All of the spells she uses are also Latin so there is some truth in them. What also makes the story even more believable is that there isn't just a magical world in the book; there's the real world with real places as well. It's just that the "Muggles", non-magical people, can only see the non-magical places, which makes you wonder if there really is a magical population hidden somewhere.

When you read each book, one after the other, you start to see the story unfold and you really begin to see a picture appearing right in front of you. It really is magical.

Although I have read the books, I adore the movies as well. I like to see the premieres and go to the opening night and wait for six hours for the movie to start. I like to dress up in costumes and bring my own personal wand.

With the last movie that came out, the tickets for the opening night sold out two weeks before hand. I love the Harry Potter series and I don't know what I'd do without it.

theEdge

The Edge is the independent voice of the students of Gleneagle Secondary produced by the Journalism 11/12 class. It conforms and adheres to the standards and style of the Canadian Press.

Letters to the editor are welcome and will be printed as space allows; letters must be signed and

free of libel. The Edge reserves the right to edit for accuracy, spelling, and grammar.

Additional articles, opinion pieces, and features may also be submitted and will be printed as space allows. The Edge reserves the right to edit any submitted material for brevity and style.

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Advisors
Lois Axford
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Kayla Phillips
Emma Roberts

Additional staff
Christine Park

Gleneagle Secondary
1195 Lansdowne Drive
Coquitlam, BC, Canada
V3B 7Y8
604 464-5793
fax 604 464-5796
theedge@sd43.bc.ca

What is your New Year's resolution?

YOU SAID IT!



grade 9 student
"To do better in school"



grade 10 student
"To achieve a new level of awesomeness"

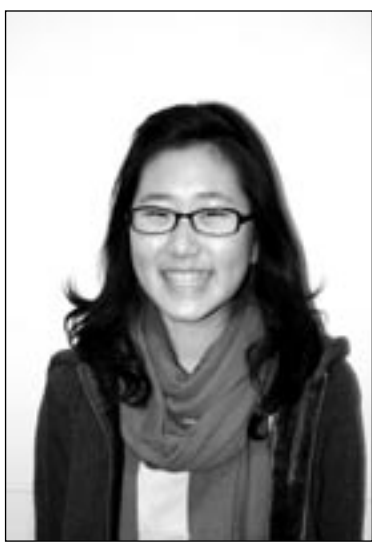


grade 11 student
"To enjoy all the wonderful things I already have, and to take advantage of everyday"



grade 12 student
"To be able to do a back flip"

Exchange program, conferences provide learning beyond textbook



edge columnist

How have you spent your four years in high school that makes you different from a thousand other people applying for the same position?

I read a recent blog posting by a Columbia University student on the importance of pursuing internship, and going on programs that suit a person's interest during high school. This blogger, only

one year older than I, has been an intern for several well-known magazine publishers, and has been on more exchange programs than I could list. She even said that it was thanks to experiences such as this that got her into such a prestigious school.

I honestly couldn't agree more. Despite her stellar grades from an impressive prep school, her ability to balance academics, internships, and exchange programs must have been notable to her school. However, it's only now I've come to understand and appreciate this blogger's perspective.

Being a senior, I've been spending a great amount of time delving into scholarship and university applications. I've noticed that despite differences in their required academic average, every school I applied for, and every scholarship I filed has one thing in common: what have you done that makes you unique from thousands of other people?

I've always taken interest in exchange programs, allowing me to further explore the different areas of interest I had. In grade

ten, I hopped onto a plane to Ottawa, through a program called Forum for Young Canadians.

During my seven-day stay, I encountered a great number of people who shared similar interests with me, and developed greater knowledge about politics and what happens on Parliament Hill. Despite the loneliness and awkwardness I felt being the only

French immersion summer school. Although I didn't succeed in the 'speaking French only, at all times' rule, my understanding and speaking of the language was clearly improved. There were many unforgettable memories, and exploring Quebec was exciting.

I can say that summer in Quebec was one of the best summers of my life by far, and I spoke and

leaders in their schools and communities.

For example, one member represented the Canadian youth at the COP15 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen just a few days short of the youth parliament session; oh, and she's also the same age as me. I felt very insignificant during my stay, and I questioned why I hadn't taken advantage of more exchange programs and conferences. However, I was reminded that the world will always be much bigger than how I see it, and I need to explore it to the best of my abilities.

My experiences through these programs are by far some of the best memories I'll be walking out of high school with. I've met many amazing teens across the nation and the lessons I've learned are innumerable. The world beyond the doors of Gleneagle requires more than a person's understanding of a textbook. Be it training in a field of interest, or delving into a new idea, a new year and a new decade is a great excuse to discover and pursue a new program.

What have you done that makes you unique from thousands of other people?

person from Coquitlam, the whole experience was invaluable.

I felt honoured for representing my school and community on such a large scale. It was from that experience that I physically went after my interests; I started taking initiative to go on student exchange programs.

The following summer, in hopes of improving my French, I went to Quebec on a federal government funded bursary school program. For five weeks, I lived with two other roommates and attended

improved my use of the language more than in all my years in French classes. I plan on returning to Quebec after finishing my first year of university to further improve my French.

Most recently, I went to Victoria as an "MLA" for the British Columbia Youth Parliament. Despite all the jokes my friends made about going on such a program, I met some of the most intelligent and interesting people I've encountered in my lifetime. Most members were distinctive

Gleneagle's hidden nooks, crannies spark student's imagination



edge columnist

Kids are pretty ninja, don't you think? As a child, I've always wished that my house had secret passages or hidden rooms. I day-dreamed that one day, I would live in a tree house, with rope ladders and hollowed trunks.

There would be rope swings to get around and I would be able to scamper among the thick leafy branches and spy on people without being noticed.

However, reality was that my house has neither tunnels nor hollow walls. The biggest scope for imagination was the attic. From what I can see standing in my parents' room and peering up at the trap-door, it's dark and dusty and completely out of bounds, for those reasons and more.

So with a curiosity as large as mine, I immediately checked out Gleneagle when I arrived in Grade 9, for places that could be, you know, kind of secretive. Knowing schools to be "public learning environments," I didn't have high hopes, but regardless, I was still pretty disappointed. Gleneagle was no Hogwarts. Even compared to my middle school which managed to conceal a dungeon and had a ravine students would sneak off to at lunch time,

Gleneagle seemed rather uncooperative with my attempts to satisfy my inner kid inquisitiveness.

Then, slowly, the school began to reveal its secrets. It was during gym class, doing sit ups, that I spied through the open door of the equipment room, a staircase. Later, I took the opportunity to check it out by offering to put away the volleyball nets. It was a metal affair, painted blue and led

it have something to do with the gate that's usually open? One of the few times it was locked, I would try the thick rusted door before climbing the fence (to get out, of course). My guesses about what could be inside that gigantic container ranged from a helicopter (after all, we have enough roof space for a small helicopter pad) to plain nothing.

Another time in the science

with the gadgets and gizmos inside. A plain white bucket, labeled "pig," sat in the corner; I decided not to peel back the lid for a look but, the weight had definitely got me thinking 'pig.' A bag of freeze dried rats sat heavily on one shelf. Large, grey, and I thought, pretty nasty. As far as I know, we don't dissect rats in this school, do we?

Apart from its contents, the room was a pretty good hiding spot, I thought, with lots of potential escape routes. It could be accessed by the two science rooms in the corner and another door led out onto the roof.

So, our school, Gleneagle. It may not be Hogwarts or the set of a James Bond movie, but it is open to a lot more possibilities than you think. If you pay attention to what's around you and keep your inner ninja minds open, you never know the things you can discover. And even if it's just make do over nothing, I'd take excitement over boredom any day.

I've always wished that my house had secret passages or hidden rooms

up onto another floor. And I wondered, what could possibly be up there?

Another day, sitting outside the gym on the spongy ground I noticed a large storage container that got me, and I'm sure, most of you, puzzled. It was just there, and nobody knows why. Could

wing, I solved the mystery of the contents of the closet in room 204. Resembling a hallway, long and narrow, with floor to ceiling shelves, it was stacked with some quite interesting (and some quite gross) items. There was an abandoned pet cage, like the ones used to hold hamsters or gerbils, still

Recycling program providing better life in developing world



CHELSEA FORSTER PHOTO

Making the world a better place: Gleneagle's skill development students use their recycling profits to sponsor a child in Guatemala.

CHELSEA FORSTER
staff reporter

A six year old Guatemalan boy has a better life because Gleneagle's skill development students program recycles.

The students in the program use the profits from their daily collection of drink containers to sponsor **Eulises Leonel Lopez Villeda**.

Eulises Leonel lives with his parents. His father is a self-employed farmer and his mother stays home to raise Eulises and help his father with the farm.

The family is participating in the Community Development Program, hoping to receive a brighter future. The program helps provide the child and his family with water, nutritious food, education and basic health care.

The idea of sponsoring a child with the money raised from the recycling is new.

Until now, the funds have been used for educational purposes within the skill development department.

Now it's being used to help someone across the globe in need.

According to **Collin Chung**, skill development teacher, giving the recycling money to Eulises feels very rewarding.

Chung said, "The students involved in the recycling are: **Evan Wei, Jenna Kadhim, Bomim Kim, Sylvia Chong, Sara Kang, and Adrian Pang**.

"They picked out who they wanted to sponsor. Some of them recognize that's a way they can contribute to the school. They know it's a good thing to do and it's something we do that we do together," said Chung.

Recycling drink containers has been done by a variety of groups in Gleneagle over the years.

After other groups stopped, the skill development students stepped in and have been doing it ever since.

These students also have the support of some of the SEA staff. They include **Linda Flag, Emilia Brownlow, Jane Gorse, Linda Wilson, and Barb Gavin**.

Technology encourages students to stay, eat on campus

PAULINE MACAPAGAL
staff reporter

Gleneagle students are now able to pay for cafeteria food with a debit card.

After everyone came back from the snowless winter break, it came to the students' attention that a debit machine is available in the cafeteria.

There were many ways people were informed about this: "I think

I was just in [the cafeteria] one day and one of my friends said 'Hey there's a debit machine!'" said **Michelle Rupisan**, grade 11.

"[But] I heard it on the announcements after I already knew," she added.

On the other hand, **Evangeline Shih**, grade 10 said "...I heard it on the announcements...or [a] teacher told me."

Shih says that when she pays with a "debit card you still have to line up. Usually when there's a

long line-up [in the cafeteria], if you pay in cash for the full meal, Mr. Matheson just takes it."

But Rupisan prefers the new method. "[Paying with debit is] easier because normally... I had to go across the street [for food], because I couldn't use my debit [in the cafeteria] and I don't carry cash with me," she said.

For Rupisan, it is very beneficial that she is able to use debit for cafeteria food, because "if it's raining outside you don't have to cross the

street, and you get to eat sooner."

It is also an advantage for Shih as she appreciates staying on-campus, "I don't go [out] anymore; I used to, but now I'm just too lazy," though she "actually prefers [to pay] cash at the cafeteria."

"Well, debit is good when you don't have cash...it's quicker. You don't have to take out your coins and stuff through your wallet...but then cash, I'm able to keep track of my money," Shih said.

Rupisan prefers "debit, it's just

easier because having cash... you lose it!"

The availability of being able to pay in debit has affected many students.

"My friend Sam, only ever brings his debit card and never has cash with him...so then it's really hard for him...that's why he never ate at the cafeteria, but now he does," said Rupisan.

Students are able to pay for cafeteria food from 9.15 am to 12.30 pm.

Calculus competition offers math students applied learning

KASEY IM
staff reporter

Gleneagle's newly created math group is raising the bar on calculus challenges by participating in an American math competition.

The competition is sponsored by NCA²PMT, North Carolina Association of Advanced Placement Mathematics Teachers.

The students are given a question every two weeks, where the questions are "calculus [applied] to different aspects of sciences

and other things, like ... economics, ancient civil engineering, and physics," according to the leader, **Mina Savovic**, grade 12.

The students first go through the questions individually, and after a few days get together to discuss what they went through.

"If anyone has any answers or suggestions, we use the white board to write out what we discovered about the problem and once we finish it, or have something, that we're not getting any further than this, then we wrap it up send it over to North Carolina where they evaluate it," said Savovic.

The solution is marked out of five, and posted online along with an answer key.

Gleneagle is one of the fourteen schools in the competition, and the only school outside North Carolina participating.

Nevena Savovic, math teacher, found the competition and encouraged students to participate.

"I am on the list for all the North American Calculus teachers, and these North Carolina Calculus teachers all ... came up with the extra opportunity to challenge [students]," said Nevena Savovic.

She is really pleased with the competition as the questions are "not directly based on the curriculum but it does go into calculus plus everything [the students have] learned in their math classes, kind of a contest level for calculus level, which we actually don't have in Canada."

The school with the most points will get a plaque honouring the work of the students, but

Nevena Savovic says Gleneagle won't be the one.

"There are schools who will achieve 100% on everything...because it's open to the teachers to approach it whichever way they want. There might be teachers who are approaching it as class activity together with the teachers. I didn't want to treat this thing that way.

"I decided that our approach is going to be totally student based, so I don't give any input whatsoever," said Nevena Savovic.

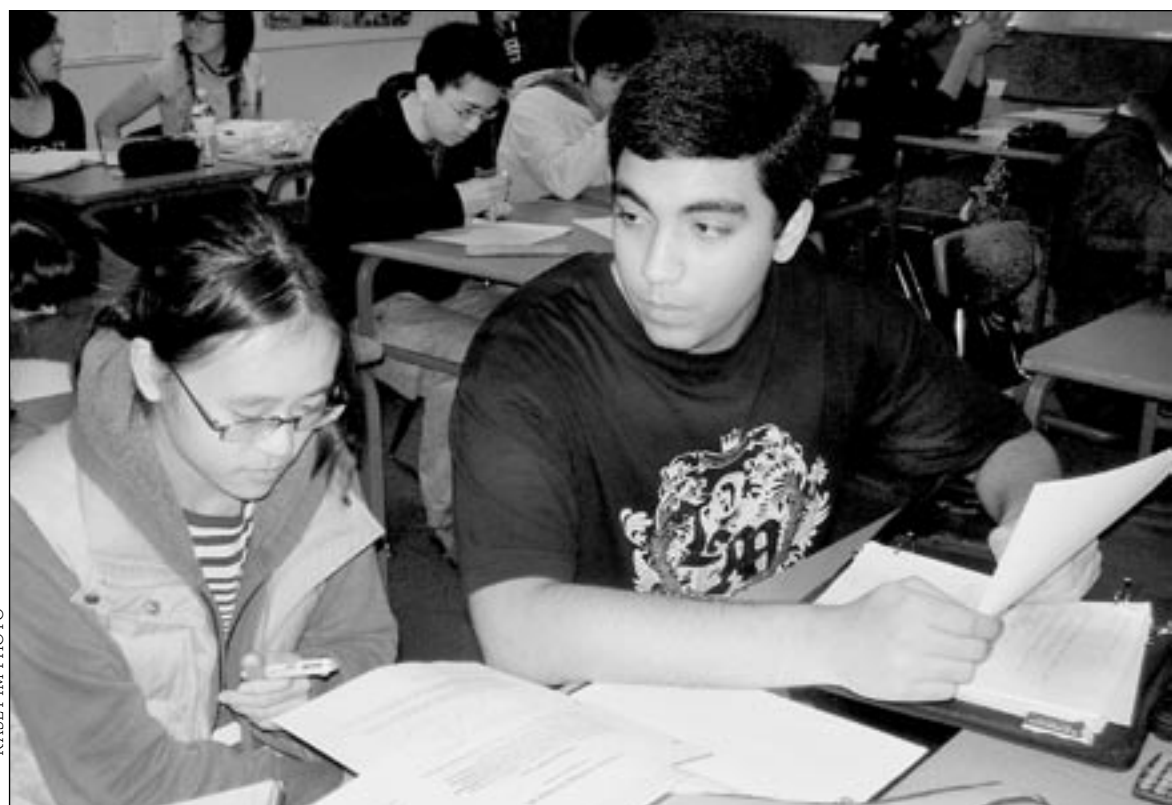
The students also like the fact that the questions challenge them with the things they've learned in their AP Calculus class.

"The questions make you take the things you've learned in the class to a whole other level," said **Calvin Lui**, grade 12.

"It gives us an idea of the problems we might be getting in university," said **Razvan Iorga**, grade 12. Nevena Savovic agrees.

"I think that calculus is the basic math for university level and this way they deepen their calculus skill which is the only opportunity they can do that outside the calculus class," explained Nevena Savovic.

Gleneagle is achieving 17.5 points overall from the five questions they did so far.



KASEY IM PHOTO

Applying calculus to real world problems: grade 12 students solve math problems in preparation for the North Carolina Math Competition.

TALONS class filmed in career choices documentary

CLARE CHIU
staff reporter

On Friday, January 8, the TALONS class took part in the filming of *One Week Job*, a documentary. They landed the part when **Bryan Jackson**, TALONS teacher, asked his former high school classmate whether he would mind coming in and talking to his class. Instead, **Sean Aiken**, founder of One Week Job, said he needed a class in the filming of his documentary and invited TALONS to be in it.

Along with students from Dr. Charles Best Secondary, the students participated in a career talk with Aiken, at Inlet Theatre in Port Moody.

Aiken came up with the project when he was job searching. He proposed an idea to work 52 different jobs in 52 weeks. Anyone, anywhere could offer him a job for one week, with all of his earnings going to the Poverty History campaign. The documentary would capture the trials and tribulations of his experiences working as a

bungee instructor, dairy farmer, stock trader, air force pilot, and radio DJ, among others.

"The One Week Job project really intrigued me as I think it is really cool that for a whole year, Sean could try a different job each week," said **Andrea Klassen**, grade 10.

"Sean talked to us about how the project came about, and he gave us lots of really great advice about finding our passions," said **Kiko Blake**, grade 10.

"It made me realize that I didn't need to make a decision for what I wanted to do for the rest of my life, but I still needed to have some ideas for jobs that I would enjoy doing," she said.

"I learned that it's ok to have no idea what you want to be," agreed **Veronica Wu**, grade 9. "[However], it made me confused because I've already decided on my career, but then he said that most people will change careers five times [during their life] so I'm not sure about [what] I'm going to be now."

"[It was] rather an eye-opening experience," said **Steven Zhou**,

grade 10. "I think it's a nice way to show people of today about the opportunities out there."

"I learned that there are people out there who actually do support kids in not planning out our whole lives ahead of us," said **Jonathan Toews**, grade 9. "He confirmed that we don't have to choose our career at age three and that our job should be a passion of ours, not just something that pleases others."

Since starting out in February of 2007, One Week Job has been followed by the media including CNN, The Now, CTV Canada and countless others. Along with the documentary coming out this spring, Aiken has written a book and started a project where other youth can sign up to take one week jobs during the summer. "I think it's really cool that he's offering the chance for other people to try what he did," said Klassen. "If they still have it when I am older, I would possibly like to try it."

Both the documentary and the book are scheduled to come out this spring.



A leap in the right direction: Sean Aikens, creator of documentary One Week Job. Members of Gleneagle's TALONS are subjects in the film.

CLARE CHIU PHOTO

Entrepreneurship 12 raises money for passion foundation

PAULINE MACAPAGAL
staff reporter

The Entrepreneurship 12 class started the new year with a purple bracelet fundraising campaign for the Passion Foundation.

It's a project that the entrepreneurship program has been supporting "for two years, and

it supports young women who are less advantaged," said **Michelle Morin**, entrepreneurship teacher. "It's actually my cousin's foundation and it's both local and international."

The Passion Foundation is a non-profitable organization that "supports young women through various means," Morin said.

"They do [things like] providing workshops for them for... self-esteem.

"It's solely focused on young women to prove their self-worth," she added.

The Passion Foundation goal is to create as many opportunities for young women as possible.

It also creates a network of

agencies that can work and support the growth and well-being of young women in British Columbia.

They invite young women from 16 to 24 years of age in the Metro Vancouver area.

The entrepreneurship class were selling bracelets at the kiosk from January 5 to 9.

Morin decided to raise money for it as a challenge, and because "it's so close to my heart."

The project also fosters practical business skills.

Morin believes that "some students may want to run a business that's not just to make money. It also makes the class work in groups," she said.

New science mascot slithers its way into Gleneagle's heart



CRYSTAL MA PHOTO

Uncaged for debut: Grade 11 student proudly displays Cornflakes, Gleneagle's new science department mascot.

CRYSTAL MA
staff reporter

A fully grown female corn snake from the **Snake in the Grass** organization has temporarily found a home in Gleneagle's science department.

Formerly, around the time when the school had just opened, the school had a large red tailed Boa Constrictor under care. "It had always been an attraction for the science department," said **Mark Liao**, organizer of the new science mascot.

"It's been gone for about five to six years and its absence created leftover equipment that was hanging around. I then heard about the "Snake in the Grass" organization when they were doing presentations at schools and thought it would be a good idea to get another science mascot."

"Snake in the Grass" is an organization founded by **Morgan York** and **Brian York**. Both of them are huge fans of snakes and own 47 snakes of their own. They created the organization to rescue snakes that are unwanted or in dangerous situations, and to find good homes for the snakes. Their organization takes care of the snakes and loans them out for educational purposes. Our snake is currently on loan

until June, and in September the school will receive a new one.

Liao explained how the snake found its way to Gleneagle. "I contacted the organization in June. From there I had to check with city hall to make sure that the school was allowed to have an exotic animal. The organization then came to take a look at the environment and habitat and suggested a corn snake," he said. It was in late October when the snake was delivered.

Corn snakes are burrowers meaning that they are used to being underneath things. They don't like to be exposed to predators and get nervous when out in the open. Since the school environment is already warm enough, a heat lamp is not required for the snake. This specific snake is currently nine years old and is fully grown. She was the first rescue of the Snake in the Grass association. She was two to four months old when she was found in a basement.

Corn snakes are named for the pattern on their bellies as it resembles multi-colored corn. This trait acts as a camouflage and helps them hunt their prey in corn fields. They can be two to six feet long and can live up to 23 years. Lots of names were submitted for the female snake, but in the end

the name chosen was Cornflakes.

Taking care of Cornflakes is a tedious job, but the lab technicians Liao trained enjoy it very much. They help out twice a week with the snake, cleaning its feces, and feeding it.

"There are about five of us who rotate taking care of the snake," said **Nick Ellery**, grade 11. Cornflakes' diet consists of two frozen mice every two weeks which are delivered from women who breed them and sell them all over the lower mainland to snake hobbyists.

"I don't think the snake understands how much work and effort we put into taking care of it because it's a wild animal so it doesn't acknowledge who its owner is," said **Walden Cheung**, grade 11.

The purpose in adopting Cornflakes is to create some interest for the science department and to promote the Snake in the Grass organization.

"Fostering snakes is a good alternative to buying them in pet stores. I hope that Cornflakes will serve her purpose and stay with us for a while. I also plan to continue the cycle of fostering snakes for Gleneagle, especially with the Snake in the Grass organization" said Liao.

Senior girls basketball pins hope for success on teamwork

CHRISTY KWOK
staff reporter

The senior girls are working hard to improve their win/loss record. Tomorrow night, the team will be going up against Terry Fox.

"We're looking forward to tough competition, and hopefully having a good performance," said **Alyssa Binns**, grade 12 basketball player.

Next Saturday, January 30, they

will move on to play against Centennial Secondary who is ranked fourth in the province. Yesterday, the girls played against Charles Best at an away game. Before the game, **Sidney Fletcher**, grade 12 basketball player, commented, "I think we have a good chance of winning." Scores were unavailable at press time.

So far, the girls have won ten games, and lost 11.

Last week, they played three games coming back triumphant in

two, and losing one. On Friday, January 15, the girls had an away game, and lost to Yale.

On Saturday, they played two games in North Langley at Walnut Grove Secondary, and won both by over ten points respectively. **Youngjoo Roh**, grade 12, said, "For our first game, we played really well. It was probably one of the best games that we played."

The girls were successful with the league play against Pinetree last Tuesday, January 12.

"It was a good confidence [builder] for the team, and brought us together," Binns said.

"It was my first game back from my injuries, and [we] were really pumped in playing together," she added.

They have lost three league games to Maple Ridge, Heritage, and Riverside. "I think we've definitely lost some we should have won," Fletcher said.

The team is determined to make the playoffs this year. "Our goal

for this year is to win one playoff game," said **Doug Binns**, senior girls' basketball coach.

"Our team consists of lovely people who would be much better basketball players if we had ten girls on the team instead of eight. I look forward to seeing them at practice," he added.

The girls recognize they will need to continue to improve their skills to achieve this goal.

"I think we can improve on rebounding," Roh added.

Junior boys battle to be contenders in league, districts

KAYLA PHILLIPS
staff reporter

The season has been a mix of highs and lows for the Talons junior boys basketball team. The boys are currently in mid-season with a record of 2 and 2. The team is fighting for a spot in the playoffs, which is no easy feat, said **Jason Bingley**, basketball coach. In an exhibition game, the boys had a win over Terry Fox in overtime thanks to **Josh Langhans**, grade 10. "I hit three at the buzzer to force overtime; then in overtime I hit three to make it a one point game. Then at the buzzer I hit another for the win," Langhans said.

Despite edge of your seat games

agrees. "[Our goal is to] get into the play-offs, go far in districts, and make it to Frasers. Provincials are the dream," he said.

If they want to reach that goal, Harding says they need to play together. "We have all the talent, but when it comes down to it, it doesn't come together. Fortunately we have some really super players," he said. In order to improve their game they need to, "work harder and put more time into the game. We love to play and no one wants it more than us," said Harding.

"The ingredients are all there, they're just not mixing," added **Jong Lee**, grade 10.

Harding commends the younger players on the team. "The transition for grade nines to the junior team



Head in the game: Grade 10 students fight off Pinetree rivals in league play as Talons struggle to make playoffs.

PHOTO BY: KAYLA PHILLIPS

"It is a war just to get out of our district"

like that one, the team has had their share of heart breakers, like last Wednesday's loss to Pinetree by seven points.

"The boys have been playing hard, but this is the most difficult league in the province and it is a war just to get out of our district," said Bingley. "[They] need to play at their best if they wish to succeed. Our goal this year is to make the district playoffs and hopefully advance to the Fraser Valleys tournament," he said.

Hodson Harding, grade 10,

was hard but they did well." Also a fan of the coaches he said, "[It's great that] they put in so much effort and come out to every single practice. This season is very important because some guys won't play again; this is their last time."

"You always need to play like it's your last game," added Lee.

Bingley offered an important question; "I always ask them, have you pushed yourself to be a better basketball player every time you step off the court? If we want to succeed, the answer needs to be ok."

Gleneagle wrestlers build strength, motivation, experience



Building a winning form: Grade 11 students practice holds during wrestling practice.

KEVIN CAWTHRA
staff reporter

3-2-1, SHAKE HANDS. Coach **Collin Chung** and his wrestling warriors are well into their season and have had a good start. Chung was pleased with the team's performance at the War on the Floor tournament at SFU earlier in the season. "We had quite a few first year wrestlers win matches before getting knocked out," Chung said. It was one of the team's memorable moments this year. "There were weight classes with about 60 boys and we had a couple [of] boys win gold medals," he added.

Chung said that how hard they work at practice and their improvement are highlights to their ongoing season. "The goal is the same every year, to come out and have a good experience, learn how to do something hard," Chung explained. He emphasized the word

'hard', because wrestling is hard and it's a hard sport to master.

Chung said throughout the season wrestlers have to work with determination to maintain focus and drive. "You've got to stay motivated, personally motivated. We've got a number of captains on our team and I think [that] does help." He encourages the captains to assume leadership. "I try to motivate them to, if they can, motivate their own teammates; that helps," he said.

Chung is satisfied with the team's performance to date. "You know team performance has been as good as you can expect... we have a relatively inexperienced team with many first year wrestlers," he said.

Chung pointed out there are some upcoming opportunities for the team such as the Lower Fraser Valley competition. Tonight is their third league meet at SFU.

PHOTO BY: KEVIN CAWTHRA

Hard working junior girls team to improve skill, teamwork



PHOTO PROVIDED BY MARK BENTLEY

Quick as a wink: Grade 9 student flies past an opposing player. The girls have been struggling, and hope to overcome injuries.

JAYME PEDERSON
staff reporter

The junior girls basketball team has been struggling to win a game in recent competition.

Starting on Wednesday, January 13, the girls played against Centennial and lost. On Thursday, January 14, they played against Archbishop Carney in league play and on Saturday they played an exhibition game against Yale, from Abbotsford, facing defeat in both games.

Previously, the team went to the Junior Girls Island Challenge tournament in Victoria. They had a one and two record in the tournament, defeating Wellington, but lost to Stelly's from Saanich and Harry Ainlay from Edmonton.

Although the girls have faced a hard time with scores, mainly because of the many injuries the team has suffered, that doesn't mean that they don't have hopes

for future games and for getting into the playoffs.

"We've had so many injured. The stuff that is hindering us is injury," said Patricia Anderson, coach of the team.

"I think if we can get everyone at practice healthy, we're going to contend against the top teams in BC. If some of the players are healthy by the time playoffs come around...we will do the best we can," added Anderson.

to practice more.

"I need to communicate and talk to my teammates, to let them know where I am," said Yee.

"My skill isn't the best so I need to work on that," added Watanabe. The girl's team plans and hopes to make it to Fraser Valleys this year and then move on to Provincials.

"[Our goal is to] try to make it to Valleys and then once we get there try to get to provincials," said Yee.

Their coach agrees. "I would

"It's a really fun group to coach, and a really hard working group"

Breanna Yee and Misato Watanabe, both grade 9, agree that there is room for improvement.

"Some [games] have been okay and some we need to work with spacing and stuff like that," said Yee.

They share personal goals to communicate with each other and

definitely like to make Valleys this year," said Anderson.

Although the girls have faced some defeats, they are still pulling all their effort together and trying to improve.

"It's been a really fun group to coach. Really hard working group," said Anderson.

Gymnastics team hopes to raise bar at first mini competition

CASSIE BARATELLI
staff reporter

With extra practices happening, the Gleneagle gymnastics team is working hard to put together a good showcase of talent for their first mini meet, happening this weekend.

On Saturday, Gleneagle's group of gymnasts, will be revealing their talent, competing against Delta and South Delta High Schools at a local gymnastics centre.

Michele Morin, gymnastics coach, said, "We've been practicing really hard." Working hard to put together their final routines, Morin shows confidence in her team and believes they will do quite well.

She knows it will be challenging for some of the girls. "For the beginners, it's very difficult to do some of the events when you've never done gymnastics before so they're as ready as they can be."

Although she does hope for the best, Morin said that she is wondering what effect nervousness will have on some of the girls. "They [the gymnasts] can get nervous and that can effect their performance."

According to Morin, certain girls are stronger in certain events, although one thing most girls have in common is

"They are as ready as they can be...they've been practicing hard"

that "most of them struggle with vaults and bars."

Morin continues to have confidence in her team as she does have an idea on how some girls may do, but as she said, you just never know.

The girls will continue to work very hard at practises leading up to the meet, Morin said.

At the regular drop-ins held at the local gymnastics centre, Gleneagle gymnasts train regularly with other schools from the district, such as Dr. Charles Best Secondary, and Port Moody Secondary.

According to Morin, training with the other schools has made them almost a team.

However "it's kind of weird," **Morin said**, "because we all train together so it's like we're all a team but we actually will be competing against each other as well."

They go to the drop-in nights and Morin goes with them to help build confidence and develop good choreography for the team.

Gymnasts from Charles Best and Port Moody will not be competing against Gleneagle in this mini-meet, however.

Competing against Delta Secondary and South Delta Secondary on January 23, Morin believes will help the girls come out a stronger and more confident team than before.

Struggling senior boys team strives for turn around success

JAIMIE MCLAUGHLIN
staff reporter

Despite early success, things have been looking somewhat down for the senior boys basketball team lately. The boys have been stuck in a slump, according to coach **Tony Scott**, who said the team has "struggled for the past three weeks."

In addition, grade 11 **Alex Klocek**, a key starter, has been out for over a month due to injury. According to Scott, the team has had a difficult time making adjustments to Klocek's absence. However, he added that "[Klocek's] injury has allowed more of our bench players valuable playing time; I hope that this will benefit our team during league play."

Speaking of which, the boys have captured a one and one record so far. They opened league play with a loss to Heritage Woods, but they were able to bounce back to defeat Pinetree on the road one week later. The difference? "[Against Pinetree,] our defence generated our offence, which lead to us playing as a team," explained **Turell Scott**, grade 11.

In addition, "We became united as one," said grade 11 **Ramtin Rajabinia**. Their most recent league test came on Tuesday versus Charles Best, but results were not available at press time.

Other than the win over Pinetree, howev-

er, the boys have continued to struggle. In their most recent tournament, Pitt Meadows Air Show 2010, the boys finished zero and three, with losses to Cowichan, Claremont and Delta. As well, they dropped two of their three games in St. Thomas More's 44 Annual Chancellor tournament two weeks ago and suffered a tough exhibition loss in late December to W.J. Mouat.

"We have not played to the level that we are capable of," coach Scott commented. "We have become a group of individuals, and that isn't a good thing because we are a team that really needs all of its parts to work so that we can experience success as a whole."

With considerable success early on in the season, like their fourth place finish at the prestigious HSBC Basketball Classic, there has been some debate about what has triggered the string of losses. According to **Arash Mohammadi**, grade 11, the deciding factor has been "mental breakdown, and mentally staying focused throughout the entire game." However, according to **Nick Evans**, grade 12, it has been the team's ability to limit turnovers.

Their next test comes tonight at 7:30, when they visit Maple Ridge for an exhibition matchup. You can also catch the boys in action next Saturday, January 30, at 7:30, when they play their next league game versus Centennial in our gym.



Defying gravity: Grade 12 student looks to finish strong while grade 10 student prepares to dive in on the boards.

JAIMIE MCLAUGHLIN PHOTO

Spring production challenges Gleneagle's talented actors

EMMA ROBERTS
staff reporter

Gleneagle's Broken Wing Theatre is gearing up for this year's spring production of Hungarian play *Parfumerie*.

The play, originally written by Hungarian playwright Miklos Laszlo, is an old-fashioned romantic Christmas tale adapted by A.P. Dowdell.

"I wanted to do something classic, something warm and fun," said **Ashley Freeborn**, the play's director.

"We've got some really talented grade 12's moving on for next year, and I wanted to give them something challenging," she added.

The plotline of the story follows a man named George Horvath, employee of nine years at the parfumerie who is madly in love with a female pen pal whom he has never seen in person, and whom he only knows as a box number.

Meanwhile, the owner of the parfumerie, Mr. Hammerschmidt, suspects that Horvath is having an affair with his wife, Mrs. Hammerschmidt.

"I just love the story," said Freeborn.

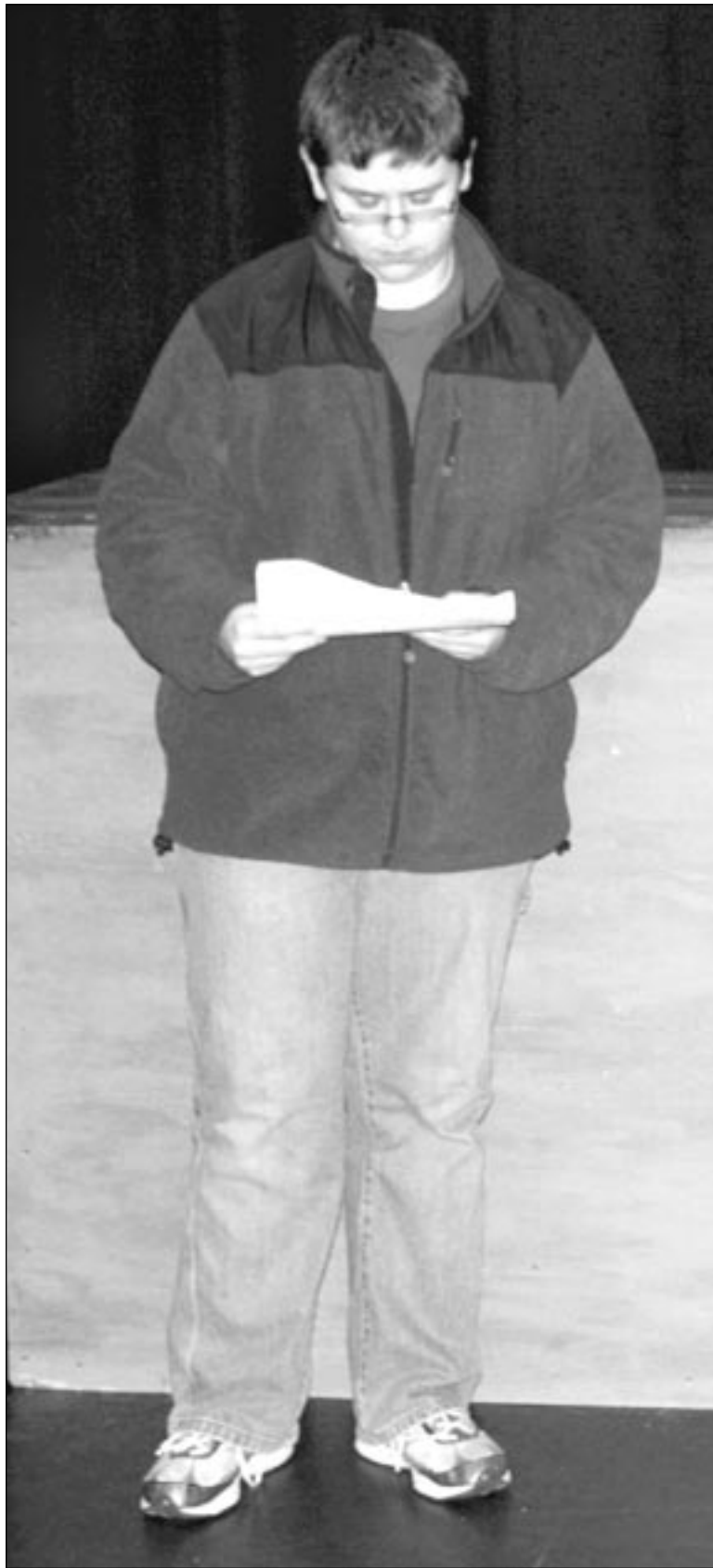
"It's a comedy, but at the same time it has some drama to it."

"I could imagine it when I read it, the warm *Parfumerie* with all the colours, and just the liveliness of it," she said.

The story has been adapted into a few movies: *The Shop Around the Corner*, *In the Good Old Summertime*, and most recently *You've Got Mail*, written by Sophia Coppola and starring Meg Ryan and Tom Hanks.

"[The play] is a three-acter," said Freeborn. "It's taking a really long time, but we're working really hard to get it up and running by April," she said.

The play runs from April 15 to 23.



Practice Makes Perfect: Grade 12 student and grade 9 student run their lines together in preparation for the spring drama production "*Parfumerie*," a classic Hungarian comedy-drama.

EMMA ROBERTS PHOTO

Gleneagle jazz musicians travelling to American festival

DARREN MULDER
staff reporter

The Gleneagle vocal jazz, jazz band and jazz combo groups will be travelling to Idaho to compete at the Lionel Hampton Jazz festival in February.

They are booked for their five day trip, February 24 to February 28 to attend the festival.

"We are extremely excited to be able to go and travel and perform [at the festival]," said **Kathryn Wasstrom**, grade 12.

"We are very excited about our trip now that it is getting closer," said **Edward Trovato**, music teacher.

"This is the first time that we will be participating in the festival," he added.

Gleneagle is sending 35 students to the event, and they will be participating in the international festival, as well as attend-

ing several workshops given by famous jazz musicians.

The Lionel Hampton Jazz Fes-

programs, but I think we will hold our own," said Wasstrom.

"I think that we are going to

work even harder," said Huggins.

They have been working diligently at sectionals at lunch.

said Trovato.

The groups will be performing several songs including *This Little Light of Mine*, *I'll Be Seeing You*, and *What Is This Thing Called Love*.

The group will also be going to see an evening concert by a famous jazz musician, as well as going out for dinner and going out for a night of bowling.

Idaho is as much as a fourteen hour drive away.

"We will be taking a school bus down to Idaho," said Kwee.

"It will be a really long drive down, but this will give the stu-

"I think [the students] are stepping up to the plate and raising the bar and putting in a lot of extra effort. I am sensing from the students a stronger sense of pride"

tival draws a large number of participants, with 16,000 to 18,000 people competing from secondary schools all across North America.

"As a teacher, I am looking forward to seeing the students compete at their best. This will likely be the highlight of their high school musical career.

"It is a real opportunity to compete at this high calibre," Trovato said.

"I think that we are going to do okay. Everyone there will be from big schools with big jazz

show Canadian pride [in Idaho]," said **Michelle Kwee**, grade 10.

Trovato's "gut feeling is that they are going to" perform extremely well down in America.

"I think we will do well if we practice as much as Mr. Trava-to has us practicing," said **Jeff Huggins**, grade 11.

"We are adding in a lot of extra rehearsals before and after school," said Kwee.

"It'll be worth all of the extra rehearsals though," said Wasstrom.

"I think we have worked really hard so far, and we just need to

"I am really proud of my students. I think they are stepping up to the plate and raising the bar and putting in a lot of extra effort. I am sensing from the students a stronger sense of pride.

"It is a real opportunity to compete at this high calibre"

"I get the sense that they want to represent their school, their community, and Canada as well,"

students time to bond with each other," said Trovato.