

Gleneagle's Student Voice
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theEdge

Students win medals at Emerging Talent Festival

YOUMY HAN
staff reporter

Grade 12 Art Career students **Christine Park** and **Anna Semyonova** received the Silver and Bronze medal respectively, for the Emerging Talent XV Special Recognition Award (ECC Staff Choice), on the show's opening night last month.

"The painting [*Soul Portrait*] actually represents my childhood. The girl on the painting is my best friend when she was little. I made it look mysterious to show that in our childhood we were dreamers. The lady bug shows we were closer to nature than other people in our own little worlds," said Semyonova.

Park had three pieces of work, the largest number of works you can submit, and had all three pieces accepted in the show.

"This was totally unexpected and was definitely the surprise of the night! I feel very grateful and honored to be awarded silver," said Park.

"For '*Trace of Life*', I wanted to capture the simplistic life of a working man... to express how, even in the midst of ordeals people may have in their personal lives, they still manage to move on with their lives.

"*Danse Macabre*' was inspired by a French tone poem for orchestra music of the same title by Camille Saint-Saëns. I illustrated a skeleton couple in their passionate dance.

"I wanted the viewer to feel the earnestness and passion of the couple. '*Outburst*' represents the limit and restrictions many Middle Eastern women are forced to face.

"Each flower represents the characteristics, such as loyalty, purity, and tolerance, which every woman possesses.

"Through the flowers, I wanted to express... the release of their emotions as well as their future[s] full of hope and potential," explained Park.

The Emerging Talent Show exhibits 71 pieces of artwork overall by 40 students from eight schools throughout district 43.

Among them are 22 pieces by ten Gleneagle Art Career students. Besides Park and Semyonova, other Gleneagle students who had work accepted are: **Xena Dahye Choi**, **Gloria Han**, **Donna Kim**, **Caroline Kwon**, **Michaela Stebbe**, **Spencer Wang**, **Yilin Wang**, and **Heejo Yang**, all grade 12.

"It takes a certain amount of dedication to be working on a piece on your own, so [the students] have been doing that [since] the summer," said art teacher **Melanie Stokes**.

"This is a good experience, a good opportunity for me right now," said Yilin Wang, who also had all three of her pieces accepted.

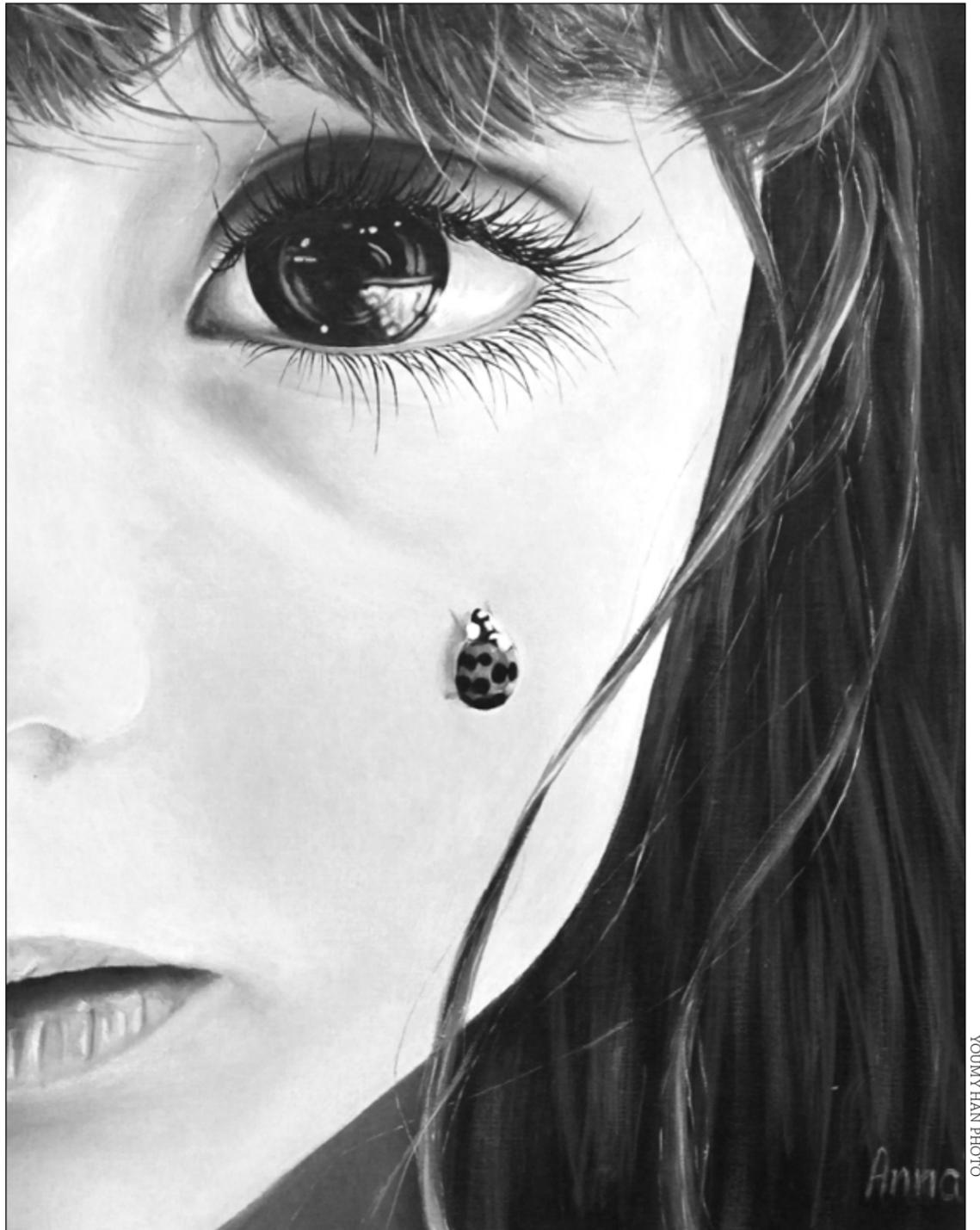
Before the pieces were passed by the judges of the Emerging Talent show, Gleneagle art teachers had a pre-screening session.

"All of us decide what we think is strong enough to go forward to the judges," said Stokes. "And I think probably, because we have that process and the other schools don't, that's probably why we don't have too many pieces rejected.

"We took time to actually advise our students before their work was judged," Stokes added.

Emerging Talent includes a variety of mediums, ranging from drawing to painting, mixed media, photography, and sculpture.

The show will be open until this Saturday, February 18. Stokes welcomes everyone who is interested in student art work to go out and see the show.



YOUMY HAN PHOTO

Deep into the soul: Anna Semyonova, grade 12, had her piece, *Soul Portrait*, displayed at Evergreen Cultural Center. It was one of the pieces that resulted in her bronze medal achievement.



YOUMY HAN PHOTO



YOUMY HAN PHOTO

Simple, yet beautiful life: (far left) **Christine Park**, grade 12, had been working on her piece, *Trace of Life*, since the summer.
Shed some skin: (right) *Danse Macabre* was also a piece by Park, who won a silver medal at the Festival.

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 17

Provincial Non-Instructional Day

February 24

Jazz Dinner and Dance 6 pm

Asserting individuality in face of societal pressure

Nothing says Valentine's Day like the classic heart-shaped box of assorted chocolates accompanied by a sentimental note buried in a bouquet of fresh roses. Every year, couples race frantically to find the perfect gift for their partner, asking everyone in sight for advice or suggestions and raiding every store within ten kilometres. Couples plan weeks in advance to ensure a perfect day with their significant other.

But let's be real. Most of us don't have a significant other. Valentine's Day may as well be called Just Reminding You That You're Single Day. The pink and red heart decorations are tacky and the chocolaty aroma is so sweet, it's sickening. Third wheeling is no fun either, and watching your friend gush over how amazing Valentine's Day will be, gets old pretty quickly.

You've heard the phrase. Two words, rolls off the tongue? Forever alone.

But what's so wrong with being single? Society has morphed and molded our idea of normal into a tight, neat package, complete with a bow. Being in a relationship and finding love is considered the norm, and we're influenced to believe that's what we need to be happy.

Many people have the perception of relationships being this wonderful oasis, when really all that's there is a mirage, an illusion that's been created by books and movies and television shows.

No relationship is perfect and finding the love of your life really doesn't need to be your life's top priority. We've come to believe that the only way we'll ever be happy is if we're



in a relationship, and the fact is, that's really not true. Society has imprinted this idea that finding a significant other is so important, and when Valentine's Day comes around, finding that someone is essential.

A popular coffee chain has even come up with a way to profit from it all – during February, you can choose to receive either a

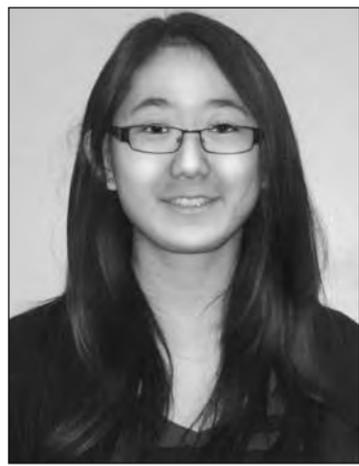
normal sleeve or a red sleeve. The red sleeve is made for all the singles out there, to let others know that you're available. You can even write your number for others to take a peek!

Society's idea of what is normal and what is accepted is so narrow that the expectations really are unrealistic. Being single isn't a bur-

den – it's something you can enjoy. Happiness doesn't depend on being in a relationship.

So this Valentine's Day, you can sit there, moping around the house and downing that tub of Ben & Jerry's while watching *The Notebook*, or you can celebrate your independence and freedom. In a society that values individuality, aren't chocolates and roses a bit passé?

Student laments end of classic "Kodak moment" era



edge columnist

Undoubtedly, they revolutionized the photography industry.

In 1888, they introduced the concept of snapshot photography, having the famous slogan of "You press the button...we do the rest."

In 1900, they invented the Brownie, a user-friendly pocket-sized camera that led almost three generations of Americans into the mysterious realm of photography.

In the mid 1960s, they joined

NASA and built the cameras used for American space exploration programs, being once part of the "American Dream."

And in 1975, they produced the first ever digital, or "filmless", camera, opening the world to a whole new possibility.

Yet, on January 19, 2012, the Eastman Kodak Company filed for bankruptcy, calling its last "Kodak moment."

One could not forget Kodak in its Golden Ages. It had once supplied 90% of the photographic film as well as 85% of the cameras in the US.

It had ownership of more than 1100 patents, and had the world's leading engineers and scientists working for them at their base in New York.

In modern terms, it could easily be compared to great businesses such as Apple and Google.

But today, we see the 130 years old corporation walking through its final days, old and withered, soon to be leaving 19,000 of its workers unemployed.

In reality, the company has

been going downhill since the early 1990s, especially in recent years when the world had entered the grand era of digital image processing.

By 2008, the company's market

value had decreased to only 120 million dollars. On June 22, 2009, Kodak was forced to announce that they would no longer be selling the Kodachrome color film, the first commercially successful amateur colour film in the world and that had been in production for 74 years, due to unimpressive performance in sales.

In September, 2011, its stock dropped to an all-time low of \$0.54 per share. Kodak's most recent year to be making any profit had been 2007.

It is hard to name the exact reason for the company's decline. The fact that Kodak invented the first digital camera, but died at the hands of digital technology is

extremely ironic.

Being overly confident in a field that it had once dominated, yet was gradually left out of, may be part of the reason.

It is also reasonable to say, that

I remember the excitement every time I pushed the round, black button on the top, hearing the satisfying "click" of the camera

Kodak had been simply kicked out of the game from the highly competitive business world, due to its lack of creativity, its slow pace of reform, and its inability to keep up with time's footsteps.

It is not fair to say that Kodak had not tried to gain back its reputation; its efforts were just too little, too late.

What I am trying to focus on here though, is the legend of Kodak. No doubt, it affected every person who ever took a picture, used a camera, or processed a photo.

I remember some of my "Kodak moments." I remember myself using one of those disposable Kodak cameras—my first camera

camera. I remember looking at the corporate logo of red letters and yellow background as I put new reels of film into the sleek black machinery.

I remember going to a Kodak shop to print out those photos after the vacation, only to find with amusement that I had my fingers in the way in almost 1/3 of the photos; so much for my first attempt at photography.

It only saddens me to see this company as it is today, lying under a death sentence.

And when that guillotine drops, what will vanish is not only Kodak the company, but also one of the last of the traditional industries of this world.

theEdge

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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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Award Winner: 2011, 2010, 2009, 2003, 1999
George H. Gallup Award
Winner: 2006, 2005, 2004, 2002, 2001, 2000

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What is the corniest pickup line that you've heard?

YOU SAID IT!



grade 9
"You are the vinyl to my acetate."



grade 10
"Aren't you tired? 'Cause you've been running through my mind all day."

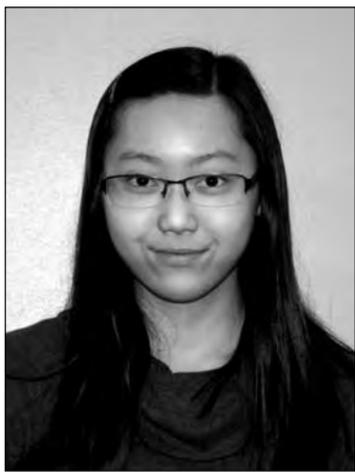


grade 11
"Baby, if I could rewrite the alphabet, I'd put U and I together."



grade 12
"Do you have a library card? 'Cause I'm checking you out."

Beyond deaf: high decibels bring danger to ears, overall health



edge columnist

ears to drain out all the noise pollution on the street, or to shut your mom's voice out of your little universe?

Have you ever noticed lately that sometimes the things you really want to hear, can be nearly inaudible? And it's driving you nuts.

It all started when music technology kept getting better and better. I still remember the time when I got my first CD player with headphones and I was thrilled.

Not long after, MP3s and MP4s came along with earphones. They were so much more convenient than the CD players!

Then lightweight iPods came along with tiny earphones that fit right into our ears. Everywhere I went, I saw someone listening to music in the noisiest places, especially on the streets and I thought, how brilliant that such portable machines can block out undesirable noises with music.

Of course, I would raise my volume to the highest levels as I walked down noisy streets. But one day I realized that in my qui-

et home, I listened at a volume level of two or three. But on the streets, I could barely make out the tune and words Katy Perry was singing, unless I cranked it up to 15. Only then would I hear *Fireworks* clearly.

When I got home, and took off my earphones, my ears would be ringing. This was a bad sign.

Not only does loud music leave a ringing echo in our ears, but it also spoils our ears' health.

When I got home, and took off my earphones, my ears would be ringing. This was a bad sign.

Research shows that regular speech ranges at 60 decibels (the unit to measure the intensity of a sound). A lawnmower is 90 decibels and a chain saw is over 100. At this range, the outer sensitive hair cells in our ears can be damaged in less than half an hour.

Don't assume that the hair will grow back like the hair on our head though! Hair cells in our

ears are like flowers. Once they are damaged, they cannot be restored to original health.

Listening to music at a volume higher than 85 decibels for more than 15 minutes is very destructive to our ears.

Loud music also lowers our alertness on the street, risking our lives. When I hear earphone "leakage", it makes me wonder if people can hear anything else around them.

I mean, wouldn't you want to be able to hear a warning if something or someone is attacking from behind you, or if you're crossing the street and a car is beeping at you?

It's amazing how we can be so carefree, letting singers howl into our ears. I find it paradoxical how people want to block out everyday noise with the music they enjoy,

but when they want to hear everyday ambience again, the familiar sounds become weaker each day until perhaps eventually, they cannot hear at all.

"Older Ears on Younger Bodies" — a headline I saw the other day, I think, is going to be a new trend in the future.

Everyone is talking about how to be more physically fit, how to eat healthier. We go to school to exercise our brains, and get the occasional eye checkup to make sure that even our vision is healthy. What about our ears? Who checks ears anyway?

It's important that we understand how to keep our ears healthy. Listening to loud music with our portable players can be addictive, but don't you want to keep hearing music, birds chirping, and not living with permanent earplugs for the rest of your life? It would be so mundane to live such a life, like a world without colour!

So, make sure you keep your volume down!

Letters to the editor:



[Re: Death of Kim Jong Il affects students with Korean ethnicity]

I was very interested in this article. It was informative and well written and made me think quite a bit about the situation in North Korea. The points that were made about the regime and the mourn and cry "or else" is new information to me and it's shocking to hear about it.

-Christian van Geyn

[Re: Student sacrifices integrity in pressure to succeed]
In Student sacrifices... Scott Lee talked about cheating and people's pressure to succeed. I liked this column because he himself admits his wrongs and uses his experience to stop others from cheating.

-Gabby Chia

[Re: Student sacrifices integrity in pressure to succeed]
In the article Student sacrifices... Scott Lee proves that he is only human. This is a lesson to be learned for people who ever try to cheat on a test!

-Ariana Celani

[Re: Student sacrifices integrity in pressure to succeed]
This article by Scott Lee addresses an issue that everyone thinks is "dealt with," but in reality, that is not true. Many people have had the same urges as Scott to cheat, especially

those who are planning to go to university. Some people have the misconception that their parents demand an 'A' from them at any cost. If you think so, ask your parents this question: "Would you rather I get an 'A' or earn it?"

-Shahin Yousefi

[Re: Divorce: Whatever happened to "till death do us part?"]

I think that this article is great. I agree with the article completely, especially the part where she says "Worries about fitting in, gaining social status, or trying to adapt to a new environment could accumulate in plenty of stress, which could possibly lead to behavioural problems such as decrease in self-confidence." My parents are divorced so I know that all these things are true especially the self-confidence part.

-Caitlynn Chilman

[Re: Exam schedule alterations increase student workload]
The article explaining the extra workload students have because of finals in the last week [caught my attention]. It was not expressed as strongly as it should have been. Some students had four finals in two days. This last week of classes was extremely stressful for some, and I think the article could have shown that more.

-Katie Maryon

[Re: New year, new animal, new start!]
It makes me very surprised to see the Chinese New Year information in this paper. This article is very interesting and accurate. Thank you for writing such a good article.

-Amanda Huang

[Re: Junior boys sweep home tournament]
The junior boys are awesome. I'm their number one fan always showing up in *Black and Yellow* swag. I'm the one yelling and cheering and once the boys win, I feel like I contributed to their win. Yaa Boy!

-Kai de Torres

Top Canadian hair stylist mentors hairdressing department



PHOTO PROVIDED BY JANNA MCCULLOUGH

Learning from a master: Gleneagle's hairdressing program welcomed with enthusiasm the renowned hairdresser, **Anthony Crosfield**, who spent a day teaching the next generation of hairdressers valuable skills. The students looked on as he demonstrated a variety of techniques.

CASSIE BARATELLI
staff reporter

The hairdressing department recently was graced with the presence of the acclaimed hairdresser, **Anthony Crosfield**, who spent an entire day with the class teaching them valuable hairdressing skills.

"[He taught me] if you really want to get something, practice until you get it right. Work hard, don't give up, and just really apply yourself," said **Sarah Bramble**, grade 12. "He really emphasized his beginnings and the practice he did, non-stop, and how that's what it takes to be really good," said **Janna McCullough**, hairdressing teacher. Crosfield who recently won *The Canadian Superstar Hair Challenge*, where 12 of the top Canadian hair

stylists competed in front of judges. Crosfield also competed in *Hair World* in Italy in 1986 and in Holland in 1990. He's also on *Global* once a month doing makeovers and is known for his charity work.

"We were really blessed to have someone of that calibre work with us. We thought we would only be able to have somebody like that for a couple of hours," said McCullough.

Crosfield generously gave up his entire day, staying until quarter after three, to pass on his hairdressing wisdom to the promising talent of Gleneagle's hairdressing program.

"Not many people of his star-like ability would do a class like this, especially for nothing," said McCullough. "He was completely set up with mannequins and

just showing us different cuts and colors," she added.

"He taught us so many new techniques," said **Tina Desantis**, who is a graduate from last year.

"I use the bun technique a lot and he showed us how to do a fishtail and incorporate braids into our up-do's, and I really use that a lot . . . now. I just throw that extra little braid in there," added Desantis.

"Some people are really good hair stylists, but they're not necessarily great teachers, and that's the thing with Anthony; he's a fabulous teacher," McCullough said.

"I was really hoping that he could come back and teach us more things because there's so much to learn, and that was only one class," said Desantis.

"He really made us realize how serious it

is and if we really want to do it, then we really have to work hard," added Bramble.

"In a year, we would probably have close to ten [guest speakers.] We have people come in from Suki's and different salons," said McCullough. "We also have a continual program running with *Goldwell*. They come in every two weeks to do color classes with us, but we also use a lot of local people."

The hairdressing program also, on a continual basis, does haircuts for people at *Riverview Hospital*.

"It's a good experience for our students because it allows them to work with people a little less fortunate than they are, and people are so appreciative. It's a really good feeling for my students and it's great for those clients," added McCullough.

Jazz Combo enthusiastically performs at local restaurant

JANICE WU
staff reporter

The audience at New Westminster Heritage Grill were fired up by Gleneagle's Jazz Combo on Saturday, February 4. It was their first 40 minute gig outside of school and for many of them, it was their first time performing at a bar and grill, which "added a lot to their experience," agreed **Jonathan Zhang** and **Clayton Dowell**, both grade 10.

"It's really different to perform in a bar and grill . . . because it's a lot smaller, so everything is a lot closer to you. . . [whereas] during band concerts, there's a stage

and a good distance between people," Zhang observed.

Their playlist of the day included *Blue Bossa*, *Mellow Tone*, *In a Sentimental Mood*, *Song for my Father*, *Work Song*, and *Night Train*.

"My favourite song was 'Song for my Father' because I was really stressed and didn't really do well on the other songs, but that song clicked with me. I went intensely into it," **Sepehr Rashidi**, grade 10, said.

"We were really tight in that song too because usually what happens in the rhythm section is that they're all [grouped] together. [However,] in this case, the guitar was on the other side, which makes it harder to

click, but we still managed to do so."

The majority of the people in the band believed that they gave a pretty successful performance to their audience.

"What happens in jazz bands and in other jazz groups is generally there are a lot of strong players and they anchor the band. This time, the majority of the students only had a few years of jazz experience, so I think we did pretty well as some newcomers," Rashidi commented.

Rockridge Secondary School from West Vancouver also came to perform. They performed first that day, but according to Rashidi, people were getting more "disgruntled every second" because the piano

player in the other band came half an hour late, so everyone had to wait.

"They made up [by] playing well [though]," **Sina Maloufi**, grade 9, commented. "They were a lot more serious, [while] we were more relaxed, just enjoying it...their piano player was really good."

"They were all higher level musicians. They've been playing together for three or four years now, so they were just really good," Dowell stated.

For the most part, everyone enjoyed the day, gaining experience.

"For me, it was a good break from all the homework and stress from school to just go play and have fun!" Dowell exclaimed.

Model UN brings home four awards from Vancouver conference

JADE NYUGEN
staff reporter

After a remarkable outcome with four awards from the Vancouver Model UN conference, Gleneagle's club is looking towards their next conference – an even bigger deal – in May.

With a small contingent of six students, Gleneagle was able to win four awards. **Paolo Mercado**, grade 12, won Best Delegate at Joint Crisis Committee; **Liam St. Louis**, grade 11, won Best Delegate at Disarmament and International Security; **Nicholas Kraemer**, grade 11, won Outstanding Delegate at Disarmament and International

Security as well; and Verbal Commendation at United Nations on Drugs and Crime went to **Scott Lee**, grade 11.

"It turned out really well, since we were such a small group facing . . . these schools who have done Model UN for years. I think it really was a step forward for us," said Mercado.

The club went through a few obstacles prior to the event. A few of the students participating dropped out, including their lead delegate, **Pedram Farahbakhsh**, grade 12. Lee took over the role, and according to **Adam Hayes**, teacher sponsor for the event, he did it with total grace and leadership.

"It was a moment of pride for them because to have such a small group and win

that many awards... it was incredible," added Hayes.

Schools from all over Canada and even the United States participated in in the conference.

"[It was] my first time going," Hayes continued. "To see such a well thought-out, well-organized event that draws on an international body was amazing."

The event was student-run, with teachers behind the scenes making sure everything fell in to place. Even Gleneagle's own Model UN club is student-run – the next event will not even need a teacher sponsor, according to Hayes.

Mercado says that a bigger group from Gleneagle will be going to the Canadian

High Schools Model UN (CAHSMUN), which will also be downtown Vancouver March 2 to 4.

"It seems as though this will be our biggest [conference] yet, so I would really encourage anyone who hasn't even done Model UN and is interested, to come to our meetings," added Mercado.

"I look forward to CAHSMUN with much confidence, knowing that our delegation will do an excellent job," said Farahbakhsh.

Model UN is also looking into the Canadian International Model UN (CAIMUN) conference that will be at the Marriott, and will be attending a mock conference at Pinetree with the other schools in the district on February 24.

Library assistant retires after meaningful career

MARIANNE ALCALA
staff reporter

It is an ordinary rainy winter day at school. After surviving the agonizing hours of lessons, you enter the library to start up a computer, speed through some homework, or simply skim through some magazines. And do you notice something different?

At the end of January, **Chris Newton**, the school library assistant quietly left Gleneagle with her memories and goodbyes as she retired from her duties.

Newton is most remembered for frequently surveying the library, reminding everyone to keep their voices down or catching students sneaking on Facebook every day during lunch. However there was more to Newton's career than the stereotypical library "shh'er".

For instance, there was her eight-legged adventure at Centennial in the science department. "I used to look after lots of cockroaches and tarantulas. And I once lost a Hissing Cockroach for a year," Newton said. Madagascar Hissing Cockroaches are the largest type of its species, and range about two to four inches long in size. "We found it. It fell out of a binder onto a teacher's desk. Anyway that was fun," she said.

"And I had a break dance crew once. I was their sponsor. I had about 13 to 15 boys that would come over every day at noon and dance and play their loud music. They had a lot of fun doing that," she said. "They did not compete. It was more like giving them something to do during their lunch instead of causing trouble," she added.

Newton worked for District 43 for the past

22.5 years in many jobs including caretaker, school crossing guard, science aide at Centennial Secondary School, and library assistant at Centennial, Scott Creek, Port Moody Middle, and our home, Gleneagle. Working as long as Newton, she recalls many amusing and remarkable incidents over the years.

On her last day at Gleneagle, Newton commented on her feeling towards leaving the school. "I've really enjoyed working here," she said. "A little bit sad [to retire]. [But I am] also excited. . . . I can spend more time with family. I will be busy doing a lot of stuff."

At the end of her last working day she headed off to volunteer in a charity program to feed the homeless at her local church. In the program they bring people who need shelter and warm food, from around Coquitlam, and welcome them to stay in the church for the night. This program lasted all of January as a good way to start off 2012. Newton has spent, and will continue to spend, a significant amount of energy in such volunteer activities.

Newton and her husband are planning a luxurious vacation in February to Orlando, Florida, and a cruise through the warm waters of the Caribbean afterwards. She also plans on a relaxing escape by the Pacific waters of Maui in August. Beats our BC weather, eh?

Newton looks forward to spending time with her four grandchildren. She loves to cook with them, such as making jam, as well as taking them on wild adventures to the playground and park. She likes to go hiking with her husband, too. The students and staff of Gleneagle wish her well as she heads into a busy and energetic retirement.

New staff face challenges, obstacles with positive energy

STEPHANIE LUI
staff reporter

With a new semester, come new faces. The staff and students of Gleneagle are pleased to welcome four new staff members this month: **Shaunna Martin**, counsellor, **Jessica Gauer**, English teacher, **Liz Hoey**, science and math teacher, and **Marina Mehai**, science and planning teacher.

The new staff members bring their teaching experiences and diverse backgrounds to Gleneagle.

Prior to being a counsellor, Martin was a teacher at Thomas Haney Secondary School. She is an avid basketball fan and has coached this sport many times. Likewise, Gauer, Hoey, and Mehai share the interest of being physically active.

"I love working out and fitness," said Gauer. "I love swimming, jogging, kick-boxing and I have a background in modern dance."

"I enjoy outdoor activities such as scuba-diving," said Hoey. "And I love to travel. . . I've [been] to forty-seven countries."

"I do yoga. . . and have recently taken up hiking," said Mehai.

Though coming from different schools and having distinct teaching methods, the new staff members share a similar passion and goal to stress the importance of education to their students.

"I hope to do the best possible job for the English 11 students," said Gauer. "I will bring my broadcasting and writing experiences into English."

"I like to see success in my class," said

Hoey. "I hope to bring in exciting lessons and ideas to make classes more interesting."

"I want people to be excited about what they learn," said Mehai. "My goal is that everyone will be successful in the courses."

Although her role with students is different, Martin sees her job as a "sense of support for the school."

"My philosophy is that I might be the best part of someone's day," explained Martin. "Talking to me will help [students] feel better. . . I don't think of this as a burden but a way for [students] to get through [difficulties]."

Despite the positive outlooks, obstacles are inevitable.

"There are lot more ESL [students] in Gleneagle," said Hoey. "They have more difficulties understanding, so I had to change my methods of teaching to engage them in class."

"Coming in half-way through the year and not knowing all the students is an obstacle," explained Martin.

"I am new to the subject area," said Gauer. "I had a degree in psychology so English was new to me."

However, the new staff members all share a positive opinion of Gleneagle.

"[Gleneagle] is much newer than Charles Best," said Hoey. "[There are] great students and staff. . . kind and approachable."

"I like Gleneagle," said Mehai. "I've known a lot of the staff when I worked here and it's a very nice school."

"It's a great school," explained Martin. "Everything I've heard in the community about the staff and students is wonderful."



The life of the party: Chris Newton, centre, former library assistant, shares a laugh with Michele Wilson, left, and Katherine Rossiter, right, at her retirement celebration.

Have a crush for your crush

HELEN DOO
staff reporter

It was sweets for the sweet on Valentine's Day, courtesy of the marketing class's "A Crush for your Crush" fundraiser.

"Crush for a Crush is a Valentine's Day gift that someone can give to someone that they may like, a friend, or someone that they just care about," said **Michele Wilson**, marketing teacher.

The gifts were sold for \$3.00 each, and a total of almost 100 were sold.

Choosing what to sell was easy. "We had to use crush, obviously," said **Lisa Snyder**, grade 12. "We knew we wanted chocolate, so we just went to see what was

available and got candy hearts and chocolate," she continued.

"We're doing it to fundraise for our marketing class, and to also raise school spirit," said **Jessie Lee**, grade 11. "I think it's a fun event to do."

Not only did the class raise money for future projects, they also learned what it was like to work for the marketing industry.

"It was for some fun in my class, and also so that my students could learn some marketing tools like promoting and advertising. They got to learn certain skills with that kind of a project," said Wilson.

"Some students need to learn how to promote the product a little more, but they seemed to be doing a good job," Wilson added.



Talk your heart out: Shaunna Martin, new counsellor, engages in a conversation with grade 10. Martin counsels students with surnames O-Z.

Junior girls fight for top district spot on way to Fraser Valleys



PHOTO BY YUMMY HAN

Outta my way: Grade 10, ball handles around an Archbishop Carney opponent as teammate, also grade 10, looks on in a league game earlier in the season. The junior girls hope to extend their season into Fraser Valley competition.

SCOTT LEE
staff reporter

Clinching a spot in the Fraser Valleys with a 34-21 win against Centennial, the junior girls basketball team is hoping for their momentum to carry them to the top spot in the Coquitlam district play-offs.

Izzy Samaniego, grade 9, soared above her usual game with 16 points, hitting crucial shots and sinking a 3 point shot in the fourth quarter. Holding her own at post, **Lauren Pettifer**, grade 10, shot 11 points.

"In the regular season, we finished third in the district," said **Jason Bingley**, coach. Bingley places the success of the team on practices "going up to six days a week."

"I think the team has improved a lot from last year. We've gone up against some pretty tough competition and came out with more learning experience," said **Ariana Barrato**, grade 10. ["However,] if we were a more committed team, there's no doubt that we'd be much more successful," Barrato added.

Bingley also agrees that although, "we are happy with the improvement, we're not near what are goal is...to do well in the districts and get into the Fraser Valleys."

Without a separate grade nine team, the junior girls team numbers 15 players, and the diversified team has both its ups and downs.

"With 15 girls, we have a large team. Although the grade nines don't play as much, they practice as much as the grade tens. By next year, they should be well prepared," said Bingley.

Even with a large roster, injuries, and spring flus have impeded the team's successes.

"We've had quite a few injuries...Ariana Barrato who is a great all-around player and also gives the team confidence has been out for three or four weeks," said Bingley. "If we get our full roster back, anything is possible."

"At the moment I can only do my best as a team supporter," added Barrato.

Looking already to the future, Bingley said, "We've got some talented girls at a junior level, but the next jump to seniors is a hard one."

Past games include an impressive second at the Sullivan Heights junior girls tournament facing schools such as Little Flower Academy and Argyle, and two wins out of three in Victoria.

Senior boys narrowly squeeze into playoffs

EMILY KIM
staff reporter

Numerous practices, a team effort, and a skinny win against Pinetree in a sudden-death game on Monday night, 74-73, has landed the senior boys basketball team a spot in the playoffs.

"Every time we're on the floor—every second—we're trying to get better. That's one of our goals. If we can do that, then we'll get closer to being more successful," said **Tony Scott**, head coach.

Scott believes intimidation supposedly targeted towards opponents is something the players lack.

"This year, as we've progressed in the sea-

son, we've lost that kind of swagger," he said.

On the reverse, it appears the boys are able to harness the pressure of other schools and use it to their advantage.

"There are a few teams that do intimidate us, but we know whenever we play them, we're going to work our hardest, so we have a good chance of winning," said **Artem Zaporozhets**, grade 11.

"That's none of our business if [other teams are] intimidated by us or not," said **Jong Lee**, grade 12, "because we're focussed on not getting worried about other teams and what they do. We're just about what we can do to the best of our abilities."

"I have a feeling that we don't really have

enough people who understand what it takes to actually win the game," said Scott. "You can accept losing if you're playing hard, to the best of your ability, and your opponents are better. It's harder to accept it when the opponents are equal or lesser than you are in ability, and you're still losing to them," he added.

According to Scott, uncontrollable variables, such as injuries, have made this more "a year of speculating instead of knowing."

"I feel like [the season] hasn't gone as well as it could have and that we didn't worked as hard at the beginning of it, but we're pulling together now" said Zaporozhets.

Lee concludes, "We worked really hard. I, personally, don't think this will be the end."

Table tennis team achieves fourth at BC championships

SOPHIA CHAN
staff reporter

Falling a little short of their expectations, the table tennis team placed fourth in B.C., but won awards in every category at provincial high school championships held last Saturday at St. George's Boys School.

Current captain **Adrian Lee**, grade 11, placed second in singles. **Adam Ni**, grade 11, teamed up with Adrian Lee, placed third in doubles.

The team has achieved excellent results in previous years. Two years ago, the team participated in the same tournament, and secured second place. Last year, the team surpassed themselves, coming home provincial champions, said **Ali Tootian**, coach.

To repeat their first place achievement was the main goal. Prior to the tournament, the team's expectations were high. "I'm expecting to win the provincial, because we were provincial champions last year," said **Ahmad Reza Edalat**, grade 12.

On the other hand, the team was aware of the tough competition. "Other schools have good teams," said Lee. Edalat notes that Burnaby teams are "especially good. We

have to beat them in order to be provincial champs."

"I'm hoping that our skills can overcome the stress and win those games," he added.

Gleneagle was represented by two teams instead of one, a significant change, as the number of players increased from six to eleven. Players were separated into two teams of five, and one individual player, **John Lim**, grade 11.

"Last year we only had one team, but this year we have two teams, so we [had] more potential to win the provincial again," said Edalat. "The team last year [had] really good, skillful players."

Three players on the team were returning players. For the other eight, this tournament marked their first as Talons.

A good number of players take part in table tennis outside of school, according to Tootian.

Lee placed first in men's singles at the BC Invitation challenge tournament that took place in late January this year. "[I would like to] play more international tournaments," said Lee.

Having such a strong player has been an advantage. "Adrian [Lee] was the guy who



PHOTO BY SOPHIA CHAN

Spot the difference: Lunging to the right then to the left, grade 12, practices his serve in preparation for the BC championships.

[helped] us win the provincial championships, so I'm hoping this year he makes us win again," said Edalat.

Lee is in Toronto this week, competing

for one of the Canadian spots on the North American Olympic team.

Next year's provincial championships will be hosted by Gleneagle.

Gleneagle hosts Fraser Valley competition, walks away with medals

ALICE ZHANG
staff reporter

Gleneagle's wrestling team put in an impressive showing at the Fraser Valley Championships, with 13 of its 18 members advancing to provincials.

Brawling for a place in the BC High School Championships, Gleneagle's wrestlers faced off against over 200 wrestlers from 14 schools. Although St. Thomas achieved first place overall and Gleneagle was only four places behind, **Collin Chung**, coach, was "pleased with the [wrestlers'] performance at the Fraser Valley's."

Due to injuries, Gleneagle did not have many compared to the others who participated, but power made up for size. Many parents and supporters that attended commented that Gleneagle held the best-run zone tournament in recent years, according to Chung.

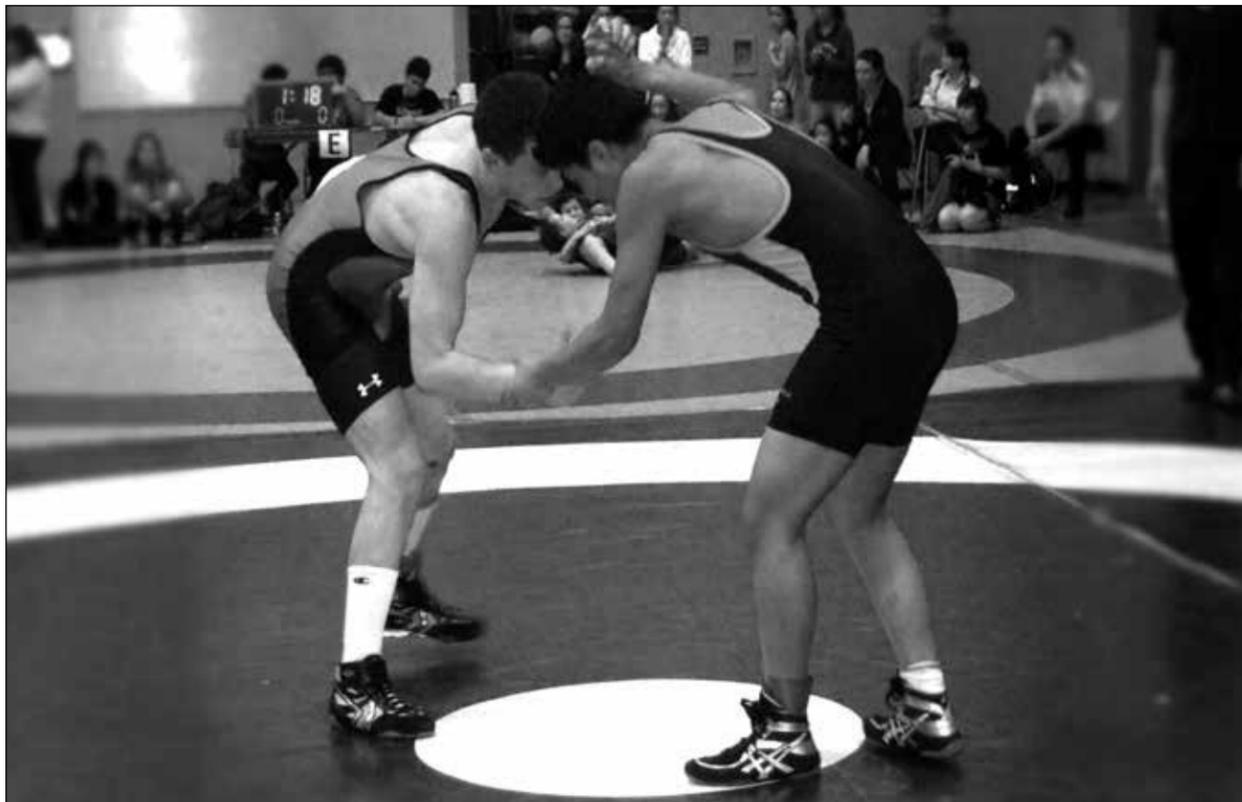
Gleneagle's boys team achieved 5th in team standings, yielding three medalists. Getting gold in the 66kg weight class was **Sasan Haghighat-Joo**, grade 11. **Farid Alizadeh**, grade 12, got silver in the 48kg weight class and **Aarman Bondar**, grade 10, got Bronze in the 63kg.

As for the girls, gold medals went to **Haley Kitsch-Besl**, grade 9, in the 75kg weight class, **Julie Cho**, grade 12, in the 60kg weight class, and **Candice Owen**, grade 12, in the 57kg weight class. Bronze medalists were **Stephanie Ma**, grade 11, in the 43 kg weight class and **Kaila Guimond**, grade 9 in the 57kg weight class.

"Compared to last year, the team [is definitely way better]," said **Andrew De los Reyes**, grade 10 wrestler. Enduring large amounts of training and building up even more determination.

On Friday February 3, Gleneagle's wrestlers set out to Vancouver Island to participate in a Port Alberni tournament. Chung commented that those results were good and the team "performed well in a tough provincial competition." It has been a very successful season so far.

"[The Raven Invite is] the first tournament that Gleneagle has ever won as a team. That was definitely our best tournament," said Chung.



Going in for the kill: Grade 10, grapples his competitor showing the crowd the results of his strict training. Gleneagle wrestlers have reached new heights, building a reputation as a power in the province.

In that tournament, the girls earned an overall ranking of second place while the boys earned the prestigious first place. De los Reyes agrees that it was a tournament yielding triumphs because: "the senior boys won a trophy and a banner from that, and almost everyone got medals."

Throughout this season, each of the 25 members of Gleneagle's wrestling team put in tremendous amounts of hard work, asserted their best effort in each tournament, growing stronger as a team and as individuals as the season advanced into its final stages.

From the start of this season, Gleneagle's wrestling team members developed their techniques and agility through intense training of four coaches: **Doug Mancell**, **Mark Tu-**

stin, **Anthony Giordano**, and Chung. "I definitely like the atmosphere of this team and we're well rounded," said **Candice Owen**, grade 12. She also hopes to "get high medals in provincials and kick butt."

De los Reyes says he "[wants] to be able to compete to the best of [his] ability."

"[What] we're looking for in the future [is] to have more elite wrestlers come out of the school and make Gleneagle known as a traditional wrestling power," said Chung. "Every year I've been part of the team, we've been getting better and better and we hope to not stop."

The Talons will be competing for provincial honours in Penticton, February 23-25.

Junior boys stampede into semi-finals after stellar season

THEO ANG
staff reporter

An exciting win over Centennial last week advanced the Junior Boys to semi-final competition in the Fraser Valley North Conference. They played a suffocating defense in the second half, allowing Centennial only 12 points, defeating them 53-39. The win left the Talons 8 and 0 in league play, finishing in first place.

Senior girls hope to continue momentum as playoffs begin

KAREN LAU
staff reporter

Currently a top team in the province, ranked fourth in the league and soon to be entering playoffs, the senior girls' basketball team has shown no signs of slowing down.

Last Tuesday, the Talons triumphed over league rival Terry Fox with a score of 50-43, then followed up with a 51-40 win over Chilliwack on Thursday. The girls also played Riverside this Tuesday, but results were not available at press time.

The league's regular season ends today, as playoffs are due to begin. **Patty Anderson**, coach, however, still holds the team to the same expectations.

"Since this is our final week of play, we're just wanting to go into Fraser Valleys strong and win our first two games," said **Jessica Jazdarehee**, grade 12.

Though two ranks short of top ten in British Columbia, the team has high aspirations for the coming months.

"It is a fierce rivalry in which both teams put it all on the line," said **Andrew Lloyd**, coach.

On Tuesday, the team played the winner of the Centennial and Heritage Woods quarterfinal game, but results were not available at press time.

During the season the team won 21 games and lost only two games, both to Vancouver College.

On January 27 and 28, the team partici-

pated in the Pitt Meadows Air Force Tournament. They reached the finals of this tournament, but lost a very tough game to Vancouver College 57-52.

The coach is very proud of this team. "There aren't enough superlatives to describe the character, hard work, discipline and sacrifice these players have made during the time I've coached them. Our motto is TEAM. Total Effort Always Matters," Lloyd said.

"We are systematic in our approach to every game and practice," Lloyd said. "I think the players would tell you they feel well-prepared for each game and that by taking a systematic approach. They gain

confidence from that," he added.

"We need to work on our mental approach to the game. Is each player following the same process to get ready for each game, whether you play a little or a lot? High level sports require mental toughness," said Lloyd.

Coach Lloyd maintains high expectations for the team. "The statistical side is just numbers. Competitive people realize that you take pride in your individual performance but the ultimate ego isn't about numbers. It is wins and losses. That is what basketball is about. That is how things should and will be judged," said Lloyd.

Grade 9 boys head into playoffs

MEGAN LAO
staff reporter

Despite their slow start with three losses, the grade 9 boys basketball team have picked up their game and rebounded with four victories. They are currently sitting in fourth place with 4 wins and 3 losses in league play as they head into playoffs this week.

"They have improved a ton since the start of this season," said **Drew Slaght**, volunteer coach. "There is still a lot of work to do, but they have come a long way and as a team they have improved tenfold," he said.

Last Thursday, the boys played a league game against Riverside and returned victorious 49-39.

"They are smart kids," said Slaght. "You can throw anything at them and they are mentally ready to handle it, so that is probably the biggest strength of theirs,"

he added.

"For me, the hardest part is when you let your team down, so I try to always work hard and do what I can to make the team better," said **Drew Horton**.

Ahmadreza Jafari, centre, said, "The hardest part is that this is my first year playing basketball [and] my teammates have experience."

Tuesday, February 7, the boys hosted a league game against Centennial and were defeated 39-25.

On February 2, the boys played Charles Best winning 45-29.

"There are some good teams in the league and . . . for the most part I think that we should be able to compete with everyone," Slaght added.

The boys had a league game at Pinetree on Tuesday and competed in playoffs yesterday, but results were not available at press time.

Talons show off savvy skills at talent night



PHOTO BY JOYCE CHANG

Sneaking on stage: The cast of *Seussical: the Musical* opened the talent show on February 3 with their act "Oh the Things You Can Think". The hard work they put in paid off with a successful night entertaining their audience until they laughed, cried, and cheered.

JOYCE CHANG
staff reporter

Gleneagle students sang, danced and karate-kicked across the stage at the annual *Gleneagle's Got Talent* show on February 3. It was an evening of laughter, tears, and cheers as each performer strutted their stuff for the audience.

"I was totally, totally blown away at the talent today. It continues to amaze me just how wonderful our students here at Gleneagle are," said **Ashley Freeborn**, drama teacher. "We don't realize just how talented the people we pass in the hallways are every single day, so it's sort of nice to acknowledge that," she said.

The variety of skills shown by the students

that night was outstanding. Not only were there the usual duets, solos, and lyrical dances, there was also a comedy sketch by **Emily van der Velden**, grade 12, and **Nick van der Velden**, grade 12, a slam poem by **Misha Aini**, grade 11, a touching monologue by **Hammond Yau**, grade 11, and even a performance by Gleneagle's very own karate kid, **Zack Hawkins**, grade 10.

Many performers were first-timers, who had never been on stage before. Butterflies flew in everyone's stomachs.

Emily van der Velden said, "I was performing a comedy sketch with my brother Nick, called *Horse Snorkels*. I was a little bit of nervous because we didn't practice much, but then it just all went really amazing on stage."

Some others, like Aini, discovered their talent or passion through the auditions.

"I actually had no idea I had talent in this. One of my friends, Donya, heard me while I was preparing for English, and she made me go and audition to Freeborn. It ended up being what I was doing and I enjoy it, so hopefully, I can do more of it in the future," said Aini.

All the acts were exceptional; one, in particular, was quite memorable. "The Evolution of Dance" was the last piece of the evening, and it was performed by **Jordan Baratto**, grade 12. Laughter erupted through the crowd as Baratto jumped around and wiggled his body to the mash-up of old to modern music.

Choreographer of *Seussical: the Musical*,

Lyndsey Britten, grade 11, played a major role in organizing the talent show.

"Preparations were a little stressful," Britten admits, "like trying to get everything together, and making sure all the music's in, all the mics are working. But a lot of people volunteered to help out so it went quite smoothly, especially for being planned so quickly."

Gleneagle's Got Talent was actually a fundraiser for *Seussical: the Musical*. The drama department is preparing for their spring play coming up in May, and they are using numerous methods to promote it and raise money for it.

Freeborn mentioned they might be having "a couple of flash mobs" and maybe "a green-eggs-and-ham breakfast to celebrate Seuss."

Greasers and Socs live on stage this spring

SUMBUL VALLANI
staff reporter

The Gleneagle drama department has jumped into rehearsals this past week for the 2012 spring production. The cast will be performing *The Outsiders*, a play based on the well-known novel by S.E. Hinton. The play illustrates the relationship between two different gangs, greasers and socs, and is shown from the greasers' viewpoint.

"After talking to some of the kids, it appeared that they really wanted to try and do something dramatic this year. [The play] is a drama and a bit of a comedy," said **Ashley Freeborn**, drama teacher and director.

Lyndsey Britten, grade 11, who plays Marcia, the second female lead, said, "I don't think the rehearsals are overwhelming, but when we get closer to the show, rehearsals may become more intense and longer. I don't think it will be a problem though; the students who are in the play are ready to [dedicate] their time to it."

Since the members have just begun their journey through the play, they don't exactly know what they will be facing. "It's a bit too early in the production to determine [what to expect], but I strongly believe that every person in this production will work to the best of their ability and spend their time wisely," said **Andrew de los Reyes**, grade 10, who plays the second male lead, Johnny Cade.

Some cast members who are taking major roles are **Curtis Gerstendorfer**, grade 10, playing Ponyboy Curtis; **Danielle Melvin**, grade 12, playing Cherry Valance; **Dylan Araki**, grade 10, playing SodaPop Curtis; **Keiran Maskell**, grade

11, playing Darry Curtis; and **Jong Lee**, grade 12, playing Two-Bit Mathews.

"Since we have a lot of really strong boys this year and *The Outsiders* has a really strong male cast I feel like I have the perfect [actors] for it," said Freeborn. There were also many who showed up to audition for roles this year. "We had almost 30 people, which is really good! I haven't done a production with the drama department as extra curricular, but normally the casts are slightly smaller," said Britten.

Aside from the acting in the theatre room, it is open for students to engage in blocking scenes and directing parts of the play as well. "The director does most of the blocking and directs it how she envisions it, but she is always open to suggestions. If we have ideas, we always can say them. She makes it a very open environment where we all have a voice," Britten added.

"I think our biggest challenge [will be] trying to get to know the newcomers better and create a better bond within the cast," said **Hammond Yau**, grade 11.

Last year, the department performed *The Breakfast Club* which shares similar themes to this year's production. "Our cast is a lot bigger and we have a lot of new actors. But [the two plays] both demonstrate the idea of people trying to fit in and trying to find themselves, and through differences, find similarities between each other," Yau added.

The story is a coming-of-age story.

"It has tons of moments that will make you want to cry, laugh, and sympathize. It'll definitely be a great production," said de los Reyes.

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