

Gleneagle's Student Voice

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the Edge

Gleneagle welcomes new teachers

MACY LAO
staff reporter

Prepare to expand our nest as we welcome three new staff members under our wing. **Ashley Ambrosio**, counsellor, **Elizabeth Purdy**, foods and textiles teacher, and **Heidi Upton**, geography, guitar and business teacher, joined the Gleneagle staff at the start of the second semester.

Coming from diverse educational backgrounds and teaching interests, these new staff members enter the school doors sharing similar mindsets as well as differing goals.

Prior to coming to Gleneagle, Ambrosio taught physical education and math at Riverside for five years and at Terry Fox, for one year. "I love teaching and I love being in the classroom," she said, "but I felt like [being a counsellor] was the next step for me, and I like to work with the kids one on one."

Along with her teaching experience, Ambrosio has a history of volunteering. Her most memorable volunteer experience was during the Vancouver Winter Olympics. "My job was to be a host for the men's hockey players. So I got to meet all of team Canada...and basically every team that was there," she said. "It was the best

volunteer experience I ever had," added Ambrosio. "And I love hockey, so it's my dream volunteer opportunity."

Having her first teaching job here at Gleneagle, Upton expresses her excitement. "I always hear such great things about Gleneagle and I'm glad to be here," she commented. "I think the students are amazing. Everyone's so eager to learn (in my experience so far), so it makes me want to be here."

Purdy also has a good feeling about her new position. "I've only been here for just over a week but I feel nice compared to some places," she said.

Both Upton and Purdy's goal is to create a positive learning environment for the students. "I want my students to feel like they can learn whatever it is I am teaching," said Upton. "If that requires coming after school or before school for extra help, I want to be there for my students." Purdy aims to make "students feel comfortable in class and to [help them] learn something that's meaningful for them."

Their love for teaching is derived from being able to work with students and connecting with them in the classroom.

When asked about their hobbies and interests, they all, coincidentally, conveyed a fascination with



MACY LAO PHOTO

Play a little melody for me: New music teacher, **Heidi Upton**, strums some chords in her first week as a member of the Gleneagle staff. Upton also teaches geography and business.

the outdoors. "I do a lot of snow camping... or kayaking someplace with all my gear and camping anywhere," said Purdy.

"I'm a big skier," said Ambrosio. "In the summer, I play a lot of golf; I play a lot of sports. Just being outside and enjoying what the wilderness has to offer is great."

"I went halibut fishing in Alaska and we caught a 150-pound halibut that took us an hour and a half to reel it in," added Ambrosio. "So I think I can be a halibut fisherman."

Upton expressed her love for travelling. "I've been to China, South Africa, Costa Rica, Alaska,

Europe...I've basically been everywhere."

To describe each of these staff members in a phrase: Ambrosio is a "good listener," Purdy is "caring," and Upton is "very organized."

"I always like to be on schedule and have a plan ahead of time and follow my plan," added Upton.

No Valentine's love for homeless this season

EMMA ROBERTS
staff reporter

On a day when most students were focused on red roses and chocolate hearts, a Gleneagle student decided it was time to ask the question: Where is the love?

A guerrilla art piece showcasing the plight of the homeless confronted the staff and students as they entered the school's front foyer.

Angela MacMillan, grade 11, was the driving force behind the project.

The cardboard setup – which consisted of several human cutouts and a mock shelter – was an attempt to draw attention to the issue of homelessness as well as inform Gleneagle students. It included statistics and stories debunking common stereotypes surrounding people who end up on the street.

"I just thought it'd be a good idea," said MacMillan. "I looked up a lot of in-

formation about the homeless; a lot of it, people don't really know, and they kind of jump to conclusions [regarding] what it's all about. I thought this would be an interesting way to create a display," she said.

Aryn Gunn, art teacher, provided teacher support for the project.

"She was really helpful in supporting my ideas and giving me the resources I needed," said MacMillan.

"It's far enough after Christmas that people start to forget to donate, and food banks start to run out of food again," said Gunn. "It's not on our minds the same way it is before Christmas. It's also an attempt on her part to help jog people's memories," she added.

"Some of the interesting things that Angela found out, and of course that I was surprised to find out too, are the reasons why people claim that they're homeless," said Gunn.

"I think the stereotype is that they've got a mental illness or they're a drug user, and what she found was that a huge percentage of people, almost half the people that are homeless, are homeless because they simply can't afford housing. They don't make enough money in their jobs," Gunn added.

"I just want everyone to be less misinformed about the whole thing. It costs less to keep people in homes that are safe

than to leave them on the streets because of legal costs and medical costs and everything. And people jump to conclusions and say 'well, I don't want to support them,' but if you weigh it, it actually costs less and the social impact is a lot better," MacMillan explained.

"Drug rehabilitations have a really high success rate, generally 85%, so you're not throwing your money away if you're donating to those kinds of places," she added.

"The information is important. That's what she wants people to take away from it," said Gunn.

"And it just goes to show, what Angela has done, that one person, one student, can make a difference," Gunn added.



EMMA ROBERTS PHOTO

Appearances can be deceiving: Grade 11 student poses next to her guerrilla art display, designed to encourage students to understand the homeless.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Pro-D Day

February 18th

Jazz Dinner Dance

February 25th

Interim Report

March 10th

Real meaning of education: saying no to taking shortcuts

Do you ever wonder why we go to school? We're fundamentally here to be educated. That's just common sense, right? It seems so, yet some of the actions we take contradict this notion entirely, so much so, that it may be an idealistic creed amongst educators rather than reality.

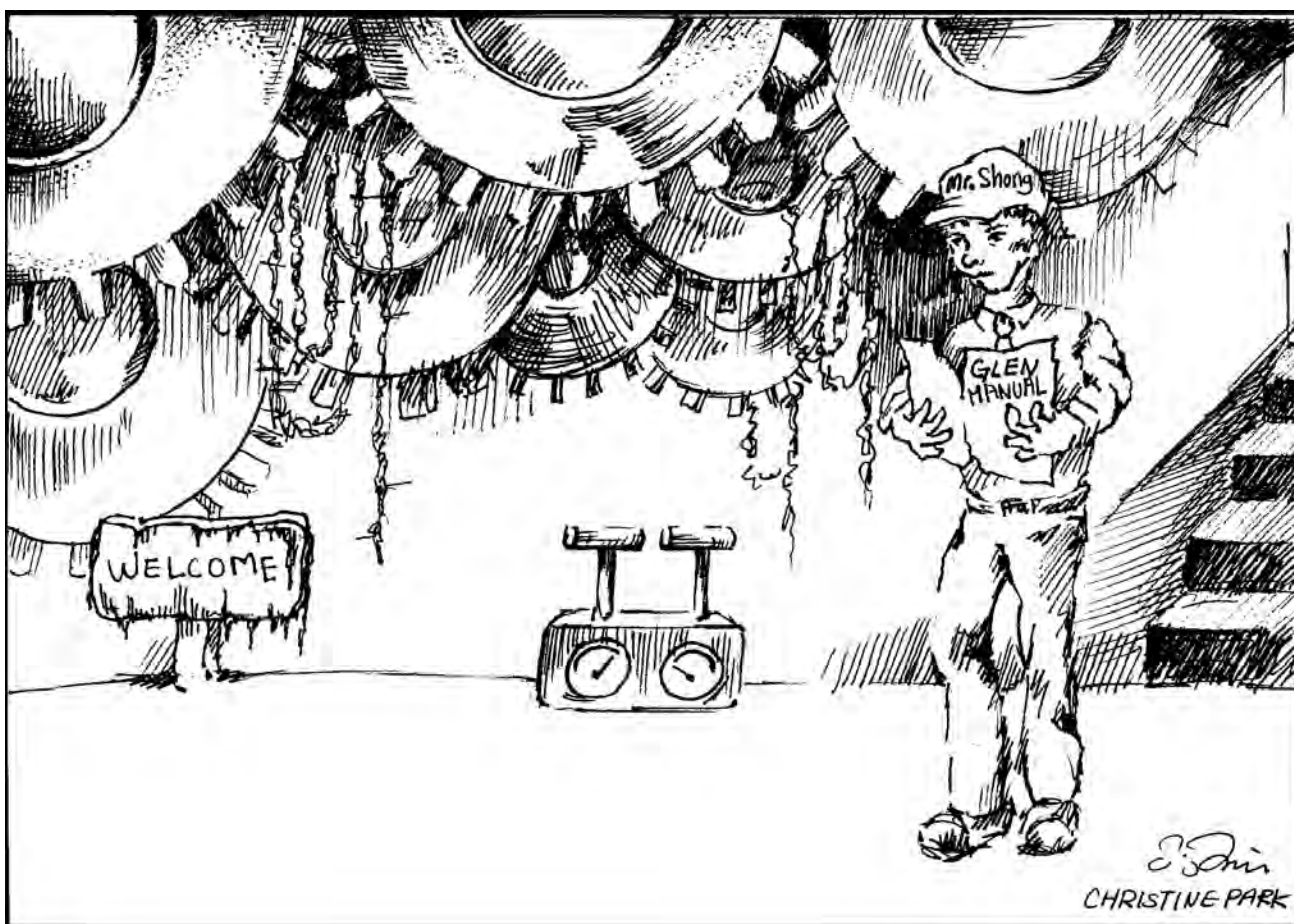
As a high school student in the 21st century, you learn to take certain shortcuts. You learn to cut your reading time for English class by reading condensed study guides, to search online for the answers to homework questions. When you can't solve a math problem, you copy the answer from the back of the textbook.

How can education be the aim of our labour if we consistently choose to undermine it? When we fall victim to laziness, we don't attain knowledge and skills; we just become more resourceful at faking it.

But one day, faking it just won't cut it anymore. In the long run, the harm that comes from not being able to understand literature or the language of mathematics, will far outweigh any short-term benefit we gain from taking shortcuts.

Cheating ourselves of our education is perhaps the most self-defeating thing we can do at this age. We may lower our own standards, but the bar set in the real world will be high. We may feel content pushing the easy button today, but if we're incompetent without it, then we've failed.

In second semester, let us dare to ignore the easy button for awhile, perhaps even get rid of it altogether. If our peers still shortchange themselves, so be it. With the superior education we'll gain, we'll outpace them in the long run anyway.



Grad Transitions: 12's final test from high school to real world



doesn't seem like a big deal.

But it *is* a big deal. And we're not procrastinating because we don't think it's a big deal, because we *know* it's a big deal. That's why we're waiting until the last possible second.

Hear me out.

Remember a couple years ago when we dreamt, starry-eyed, about graduation? We shrugged it off as being a million years away, but we totally romanticized it.

It was this great big *end* and we thought of university and college and whatnot, but graduating was where it was at. That was where our life was going to start.

But what if we're scared? What if we feel like we're stumbling around in all the wrong directions? What if we feel like we'd like to spend just one more precious year here to

Everyone has done his or her job to give us all the tools and, supposedly, we're prepared.

So we're holding on to this *one* thing we have, this one deciding factor. It's up to us whether or not we do it. Secretly, we want someone to hold our hand through the whole thing. We want someone to tell us what to do.

Someone has been telling us what to do since kindergarten and suddenly, we're on our own.

It's scary. In fact, it's terrifying! We don't know what we're doing anymore. Why should we be trusting ourselves to do all of this? Who's troubleshooting? Who's going to show us where we went wrong if (or when) we fail?

morning, a bit panicked, because my book was in my backpack. I hadn't even brought it to my room.

So I sat through class sweating that day; I was paranoid that my teacher would somehow know that I'd skipped my allotted reading time.

But, of course, she didn't. And neither did my parents.

I'd been reading like I was supposed to, so they had stopped checking up, and just assumed that I was still doing it. They trusted me enough to leave me alone.

So all this time, ever since we were little, we've wanted to be trusted enough to be left alone.

We're teenagers; we want our freedom. It's expected of us. And we're being handed that freedom on a silver platter.

Soon, we're all going to be turning 18. We'll be bona fide adults. We're as ready as we'll ever be.

So as the deadline is approaching, we're all going to have to make like well-adjusted grown-ups and do our grad transitions.

It's second semester! We can taste the finality of it, the last page of the last chapter. The cliffhanger.

Let's just do it. Let's trust ourselves enough to jump off the cliff and see where it takes us.

It's going to be scary but it's also going to be exciting.

And, of course, if we don't jump, we'll be high school drop-outs, and nobody wants that.

It's better to jump than to fall.

"It's scary. In fact, it's terrifying! We don't know what we're doing anymore. Why should we be trusting ourselves to do all of this?"

take our time and figure things out?

What if we don't *want* to leave?

Going into the second semester of grade 12 is the home stretch. We can see the finish line; it's right there in front of us. For the most part, we don't really have to do much; we're sliding into home base. As long as we don't screw up, we'll get there.

Graduating is a rite of passage, but it's also an expectation. What we do afterwards is irrelevant. This is the one thing we have to do and then we're off into the real world.

So we're taking our first wobbly steps on ice skates. Our parents have let go of us as we peddle hesitantly down the street on our bikes, without training wheels for the first time.

I remember when I was in grade two, my teacher told our class to read for at least ten minutes every night before we went to sleep. She said it would develop good habits.

And so, every night before I went to sleep, I would read. But one night, I forgot. I remember this vividly: I woke up in the

edge columnist

I think that Grad Transitions was created to test us. Secretly, nobody actually cares about our healthy living plans or volunteer hours or daily physical activity. They're making us do it to see if we will.

For the first time in our academic lives, we're not actually being forced to do something in a short amount of time. We have seven months in grade 12 to get it done, and we could have even started it in grade 9.

Of course, if we don't get it done, we can't graduate. We have to take the initiative and we have to get it done.

But we'll probably still procrastinate and do it at the last minute because, come on, it

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

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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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What is the cheesiest Valentine's Day gift?

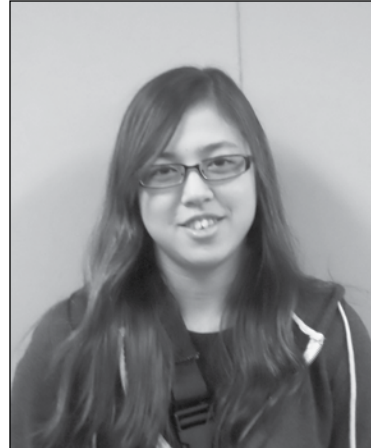
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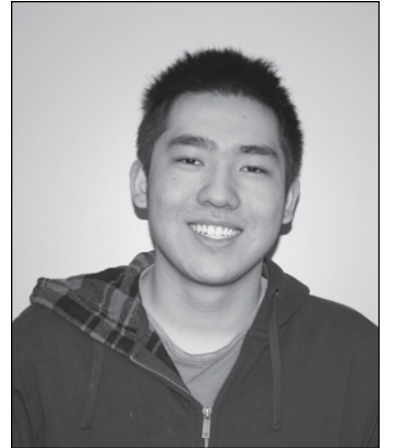
grade 9
"A mixed tape"



grade 10
"Anything with 'I love you' on it"



grade 11
"Heart shaped cheese"



grade 12
"Chocolate hearts"

Homophobic slurs not just meaningless words



staff reporter

"What a fag. How gay is that? He's such a faggot."
Shut your mouth. Please, just shut your mouth right now. I can't stand it when people open their

mouths and use language like that. Can you believe that people would honestly use these homophobic slurs, knowing that people around you are suffering each time you use them?

Now, you all might be thinking the same thing that I would be thinking if I read that: who would use that language?

You would. *That's* who would. Don't deny it; I won't. I've said it at least once in my lifetime—we all have—and I regret it a lot.

I didn't get it. People use these slurs all the time; why should it matter if I use the word just once in a while?

But it's exactly that. You use "gay" as a way to put people down; but tell me, please, what exactly is so horribly wrong with being gay that you decide you have to use the word as a way to insult people?

It's wrong in so many ways. I adore gay people; some of my absolute *best* friends are gay or bisexual. So when I hear what people say about gay being wrong, it *hurts*. It hurts more than I thought it would.

People say that gay marriage or gay sex isn't right because "it's not the way the human

"They could all be too scared to be who they are because of us"

body was made," or "it's not the way it was meant to function so that people could reproduce," but that has absolutely nothing to do with the way people feel about each other.

Love is completely irrelevant to reproduction. Love and sex can be the same thing, or they can be beyond different.

People feel how they feel. How many of you have brought home boyfriends or girlfriends that your parents didn't approve of, but you didn't care what they thought because of what you *felt*?

Because something deep inside told you it was just *right*.

Who is anybody to say that peo-

ple can't feel that way towards the same sex?
There are stories everywhere: people have committed suicide because of the homophobic slurs being tossed around like they're going out of style. Well, you know what? They were never *in* style.

Please, open your eyes. Your best friend, your mother, your en-

emy, the boy you see in the back of class who never talks, the girl who talks back to the teacher, any one of them. They could all be too scared to be who they are because of us; because of all of us, because all we do is toss around these homophobic slurs like they don't mean anything.

Who are any of us to say what someone is or isn't? Who are we to decide? We are nobody.

You are the only one who can ever decide who you are. It's all up to you.
Some people say sexuality is a fashion, that everyone does it, but statistics also say that at least one person out of every 10 people is attracted to the same sex, whether they are gay or bisexual.

People are who they are. Accept it, and stop making fun of them for it.

Letters to the editor:

[Re: "Gleneagle teachers debate cellphone use in classrooms"]

I don't agree with people not being able to use cell phones in class. First, I would like to talk about Yongzhe Wang's letter to the editor in the paper's last edition. He stated that he was a proud owner of a 2005 Nokia cellphone and that people with blackberries use their phone to text, that they are useless, and that iPhones are more educational. My first thing is, maybe if Yongzhe had a nicer phone, he would want his phone in class. Also, iPhones and blackberries can have the same purpose. I think you would be more distracted using an iPhone only because there are games on it. Also, if you think someone is a more successful student in a class when they don't use the phone, well don't use yours. If people

want to use their iPods to listen to music or they want to text, it is their problem. Nobody is forcing them to use it.

-Malique Giordano

[Re: New semester brings new principal to Gleneagle]

We will surely miss Mr. Matheson and probably most of the grade 12's will miss him the most since they knew him the longest. The new principal seems alright, so let's open arms to him.

-Leon Chai

As a grade 9 student, I am still new to the school, so I can't relate to how the grade 11's and 12's feel about Mr. Matheson leaving. The sad and disappointed energy spreads around the school quickly, though, and several grade 9 and 10 students express how bad it was for Mr. Matheson to leave. While this is a relatively upsetting time, we

must welcome our new principal with open minds and open arms.

-Marvin Dejasco

I think that picture of Mr. Matheson looking into the future is a great picture because it shows him moving on and starting new, and not looking back.

-Trevor Chernoff

[Re: "Save them or scrap them: educators ponder provincial exams"]

I think that the Provincial exams should be cancelled because it is not fair that all the exams in Canada are cancelled, but not in Alberta and British Columbia.

-Emily Zhang

[Re: "Surviving babysitting: exasperating, rewarding, real"]

I disagree with Wynona

Balaam-Hess' point of view on babysitting. I don't believe babysitting is as hard as she makes it sound. She quotes, "Babysitting is a hard job, filled with scrutinizing parents and screaming children." Well, I believe that this is quite an exaggeration. I've babysat before, and sure it can be hard and the kids can misbehave, but if you really know what you're doing, then it shouldn't be as hard as she makes it sound.

-Sophie Turner

I agree with Wynona Balaam-Hess because I used to think that babysitting was just a "job" kids did to earn money. However, after having my own experience, babysitting is just as hard as having a job in a restaurant, if not, harder. Not only do you need to be responsible and not fall asleep on the job, you also need to keep the kids entertained, and keep the parents pleased.

-Joyce Chang





ANDY ALBRIGHT PHOTO

A wet welcome: Coquitlam firefighters responded to a fire alarm at Gleneagle during last month's retirement celebration after a water pipe burst.

YOU MY HAN
staff reporter

A water pipe burst on the evening of January 27, causing a dramatic interlude at a retirement party held at Gleneagle. No one was hurt.

The accident happened at around 5 pm, when the retirement party for Gleneagle's former principal, **Dave Matheson**, and former head counselor, **Caryl Nelson**, was just underway.

School secretary **Suzanne Clark**, who was welcoming the guests, noticed that there was water dripping from the ceiling just in the entryway by the kiosk.

As vice principals **Jeremy Clarke** and **Carol Coulson** came out of the gym, Coulson commented that the water was "pouring out of the fixtures like a shower."

Before the main water pipe could be shut off, the steam had set off the smoke detector, and the fire alarm.

Meanwhile, in the gym, the program had just begun and the Gleneagle jazz choir was singing. Everyone was evacuated from the building through the west doors facing the field.

"You could see the ceiling tile starting to bend, and [the water] was pouring... in the hallway," said Coulson.

"We rolled up all the carpets... [into] little booms to stop the water from flowing down the hallway, and then we hurried and got

squeegees and snow shovels and opened up the doors and [started] pushing the water out of the building before it caused more damage. It got to the point [where] you couldn't even see down the hallway, 'cause the steam was so thick," she said.

The accident was caused by a worn-out rubber flange. The school has replaced it with a stainless steel piece which should never break again.

"The school opened brand new in 1997... and [these pipes are located] behind gyprock walls; it's not the thing that you regularly check. [The rubber flanges are] intended to last a lifetime, but they sometimes wear out, and that [one] did," explained Coulson.

As for Gleneagle principal **Gerald Shong**, it was something that he will "look back on and laugh about." Even though he was not yet officially the school principal that day, he was there to help out.

"At schools, things happen all the time that are unexpected, so much that you are never really surprised," Shong said. He believes that as a school administrator, you have to be ready at all times to be able to deal with these "surprises."

But the accident seemed to have little effect on the atmosphere of the party. In fact, when the guests were evacuated out of the building, the sky was clear and the sun was just setting, so everyone got to enjoy a beautiful sunset.

"If you asked me what I remembered about that night, [I would say] it was an awesome ceremony, and there was just a little bump, a little glitch," commented Gleneagle staff member **Cindy Quach**.

Quach was a member of the staff social committee in charge of food preparation that evening. During the evacuation, they brought the food out of the building and served the guests. In Quach's own words, she was trying "to keep it positive."

"We didn't let [the accident] dampen [our spirits]," she added. "Stuff happens; you've just got to deal with it and go on," she added.

Emily Chew, a student helper at the party, said that "it was really calm," and "no one was panicking. [The guests] were actually enjoying themselves, almost like it was part of the party," she said.

Yet, Chew also commented on how people should pay more attention to emergency alarms, since when the fire alarm went off, most people stayed seated.

"I knew it wasn't a fire, but something was wrong... it's not a drill, people," said Chew.

School District 43 has insurance that will cover the expenses, which will cost tens of thousands of dollars, according to Coulson.

"When emergencies happen, you show what you're all about," said Quach. "We showed ourselves to be pretty together people [that night]," she said with a smile.

Inspiring Model UN blazes path for future Gleneagle delegates

JOHN CHONG
staff reporter

Gleneagle delegates to the Vancouver Model United Nations (VMUN) 2011 conference returned with flourishing passion for international affairs and debate.

The delegation was accompanied by social studies teacher, **Andrew Lloyd**, and was held at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Vancouver from January 28 to 30.

Two Gleneagle delegates received awards for outstanding performance: **Steven Black**, grade 12, and head delegate, was named the honourable mention in the United Nations Security Council and, **Paolo Mercado**, grade 11, was given a verbal commendation in the Joint Crisis Committee.

These awards reflect standings of third and fourth place in their respective committees, which were the most prestigious and designed for the best and most experienced delegates. The UNSC had around 15 delegates and the JCC about 30.

The awards were given based on quality of ideas, debating skill, and performance as a delegate working towards peace and resolution. Each group had a dais that ran the debate and decided the winners.

The keynote speaker was Paul Heinbecker, who represented Canada on the UN Security Council

in the 1990's.

Each delegate at the event debated two topics, expressed their views from the perspective of their assigned countries, and presented resolutions for their problems.

Black represented the African country Gabon, and Mercado portrayed Ivan Konev of the Soviet army in East Berlin.

"In the JCC it's actually a historic simulation," Mercado said. "It was the Berlin crisis of 1961. Instead of portraying countries in a democratic situation, I was portraying a communist leader. Basically what you do is you portray this character. You have history on them, you have their perspective, and you have to push an agenda based on their perspective," he said.

About 450 students attended this year's VMUN, which was the most in the event's history. Sponsoring school St. George's had a delegation of around 170 students. About 50 schools were represented, mostly from BC but teams from places such as New York and Seattle were also in attendance. Delegates were quite evenly split between public and private schools.

"I think that everyone who went learned a ton. Everybody had a lot of fun debating," Black said.

"The calibre of the people there, both the delegates and the dais, the people running it, were absolutely fantastic," he added.

Kellyanne Yep, grade 12, was surprised by how young some del-

egates were and how capable they were, despite their age.

"There were a lot of grade 7 and 8 private school students and they go up there talking about policy and it's just pretty inspiring. In middle school a lot of us didn't have that knowledge - yet they can go up there and they barely reach the podium - and they're talking about things that seem beyond their age," she said. "It's intimidating to go up there and speak in front of all these people... and they just do it so easily."

Black likened the model UN experience to social studies class, but without time constraints.

"A lot of the time we discuss a lot of these issues in socials class but then there's always that feeling of 'okay, we've got to keep this short because we have to move on sometime soon,' but that wasn't there. We were there to do the debating," he said.

"We do wish that we had heard of this earlier and been able to participate before, because it was a really good experience," said **Nick Ellery**, grade 12. "We met some really good people from other schools. Overall it was a really, really good experience."

"Anyone who enjoys social studies and who loves being in socials class, loves debating, finds all that fascinating, I would absolutely recommend it to them," Black said.

"In the absence of our debate team I think anyone who enjoys



DAVID YU PHOTO

Preparing for debate: grade 11 student braces himself for an intense committee session at the Vancouver Model United Nations.

debate should try out for the Gleneagle Model UN team. We have a really good team," said Mercado.

The student diplomats are now preparing for events they have lined up in the future. About 10 will attend the Canadian High Schools Model United Nations (CAHSMUN) held in Richmond in early March. About 10 have also expressed interest in the Washing-

ton State Model United Nations (WASMUN) held in late April at Seattle University.

"I'm hoping that future Gleneagle years have this amount of support, or even more so, and it will expand," said Ellery. "We do have quite a few grade 10's and 11's who will be continuing next year, and hopefully we'll be able to make it a really big thing."

Three finalists chosen for school anthem

MICAH LAO
staff reporter

Now that talented students lyricists have submitted their versions of Gleneagle's anthem, the voting process is preparing to get underway. According to **Bryan Jackson**, guitar teacher, three submissions will be revealed soon. With technology and the musical talents of **Kyle Araki**, **Sam Naso**, and **Jeff Huggins**, all grade 12, Jackson is confident in recording the student anthem entries.

"We're going to get audio files of samples of each of the three songs, and then put them together in one video," he explained. "Once we get the video out, people will be able to vote and then maybe we'll do a bit more intensive recording after."

As lyricists themselves, the duo of Naso and Huggins are one of the three finalists that include **Hannah Park**, grade 12, and **Conrad Chow**, grade nine. Since the video is yet to be finished, **Kimberly Chang**, grade 12 student organizer, says, "We'll probably play ten seconds of the song on the announcements, just to give people a taste of it."

Once the video is completed, Chang hopes that voting can begin on Youtube, Facebook, or the school's Sharepoint site.

"Getting the visuals together [for the video] is going a bit slower than we expected," she admitted. "But [voting] will probably go for a week."

Huggins noticed that the anthem entries carried a common theme of emphasizing the importance of Gleneagle's community.

"[The anthem] is about the school and the feeling it gives to the students as they walk through the halls," he commented. "Overall, we're a really good community."

"We're hoping for [some more] school spirit, something that a lot of the students can relate to and [have something]



For the love of music: Bryan Jackson, teacher, and grade 12 student sound out an original piece for the Gleneagle school anthem. Gleneagle students will vote online for the winner among three original entries.

to represent us," remarked Chang.

Gleneagle's anthem contest originated in a district conference called "Defining Ourselves, Defining our Purpose," in January of the previous year. With a list of brainstormed

words that reflected the community from that meeting, Jackson and **Lisa Dubé**, English teacher, collaborated with Chang and **Reza Sheikhzadeh**, grade 12, to initiate the contest.

Drafting students using state of art technology

WYNONA BALAAM-HESS
staff reporter

Drafting and design students are now able to access the latest software available even though our school can't afford to buy it. AutoCAD, also known as Computer Aided Design or Computer Aided Drafting, is a software application for 2D and 3D design and drafting. AutoCAD is a product created by Autodesk Inc., a multinational corporation that creates design software for architecture, engineering, media and entertainment, building construction and much more.

The corporation has offered students a free

three-year license. The students are able to go onto the website and sign up. Then they are able to download the software for free, for a limited time.

Advanced tech-ed students are able to learn how to create architectural structures and leave the class knowing how to use the program and in the future be open to new job opportunities.

"AutoCAD 2011, for students in high school, are allowed to go onto the Autodesk community and apply to become a part of it. And through that, you're able to download any of their software up to date 2011 and you're able to keep it for three years," said **Jason Reid**, grade 12.

"[The AutoCAD community is] basically

students from anywhere, who are able to share projects and get insight into questions they may have and [get] answers," said Reid. Autodesk, at first, only offered a 13 month license, and now, have raised it to three years, but the class does not know how long this will last.

Without Autodesk's offer, Gleneagle students would not have access to this product. It has not been an item in the school budget. The latest version the class has is 2005 and since then, there have been six different versions. The educational price for AutoCAD is \$1600 to \$1800 per station. So approximately, it would cost \$18000 for just ten stations or 1/3 of the lab.

Other than the select few who have got-

ten the three year license for the AutoCAD 2011, class members have the old version. This was the first semester the class tested the free license offer and it involved a lot of extra work.

"This will be a little quicker with the incoming new computers," said **Wayne Biley**, Tech Ed teacher. For home use, they found Autodesk even accepts Yahoo email addresses for students.

"We spent the money on upgrading computers. There isn't money for everything," said Biley. "The big thing about this is that it enables students to use the latest software even though we can't buy it for them," he added.

AutoCAD 2011 enables some students to eventually carry on with careers such as becoming civil engineers, or construction contractors.

"Some might be mechanical engineers who will build things that we haven't even thought of yet in ten years from now!" said Biley. "[More job opportunities would be] 3D modeling, movie making. You can draft a 3D object and make it into foam. [AutoCAD 2011] allows you to see your product before you actually make it," said Reid.

AutoCAD has more features than the old versions, one of the favorites, known as the 'Steering Wheel'. It allows you to view your creation from any angle or direction.

"Before [in earlier versions], you had to press the side bar and it didn't move smoothly," said **Raymond Hua**, grade 10.

Biley would like to see enough interest in the program to have a class mainly for AutoCAD. "We have four different grade levels and groups in this class, right here in this one block. And so not everyone's doing it. They're doing other things, like one kid is working on robotics so he hasn't had time for this," said Biley. Biley hopes that in future his classes may be able to consistently use an updated version of AutoCAD.

Putting new face on announcements

TAMARA BABCOCK
staff reporter

Gleneagle staff and students are attempting to spice up the morning announcements by creating a televised version, but they have been struggling to overcome many difficulties with the project.

Jeff Huggins, grade 12, and **Erin Bodin**, grade 12, came up with the idea to create and film video announcements and display them in every classroom during block two. Their goal was to model the idea of a television newscast.

Originally the video announcements were going to replace the current announcements each morning.

The expected starting time was Monday, February 14. Several complications have caused the video announcement crew to push the deadline forward to Today and to consider the possibility of showing only one video announcement each week instead of

having one every day of the week.

The main reason for the change is the time period in which the video announcements will need to be filmed, edited, and perfected. **Jodey Udell**, Gleneagle teacher, is helping out with the project. He says that since the announcement submissions aren't received until the start of block one, they wouldn't be able "to collate [the announcements] in time." If only one video announcement was created each week, there would be a more flexible amount of time available to work with.

Udell is also worried that the video announcements "would become just as stale as the announcements are now" if they were shown every day. If they were only shown once each week, they would become more of a special event and students would look forward to them.

The weekly video announcement would be longer than usual announcements, and Udell says it would focus more on major events of the week rather than the flavour-

less announcements heard each morning.

Both Udell and Huggins agree that the video announcements are meant to interest students more than the current announcements. This is one of the reasons why they are still a work in progress. Huggins says "theoretically, we could have already started them, but...we want to make sure it's appealing to students."

Udell believes the video announcements will be "important for school spirit...[and] to recognize personal accomplishments."

It is not possible to play the audio of the video announcements over the P.A. at the same time, which creates a problem for unconventional classrooms with no television such as the gym and drama room. Huggins says the teachers of these classes may be asked to read out the announcements to their students instead.

The project received an overall positive response when it was introduced during the staff meeting on Monday, February 7.

Senior girls prove teamwork makes the dream work



PATTY ANDERSON PHOTO

In your face: Grade 11 student protects the net against a competitor in league play as Jessica Jazdarehee, grade 11, moves in to help.

KEVIN CAWTHRA
staff reporter

The senior girls basketball team goes by one motto and that's "Teamwork makes the DREAM work," and for Coach Anderson, it has worked wonders this season.

In the rebuilding phase this year, the team hasn't used it as an excuse, but as a motivator.

"Youth is sometimes a factor. We make mistakes that show our youth...but we also don't back down," said **Patty Anderson**, coach.

The team entered the playoffs with a specific goal: "Not to worry about winning or losing, just [to] go out and play as hard as they can. Never surrender," said Anderson.

Anderson led her team to the girls' game in league playoffs, at Centennial Saturday night. Unfortunately the girls let a 52 to 52 tie slip away late in the fourth quarter and eventually lost to Centennial.

"The pressure was getting to us as a team. I think we lost some crucial games that we really shouldn't have," said **Breanna Yee**, grade 11.

In earlier playoff action, the girls headed over to crosstown rival, Riverside, Friday afternoon, eventually losing to the third ranked team in the province, Riverside, 67 to 40.

"Some kids stepped up, some faded away," Anderson commented about the game.

The girls defeated Terry Fox on Thursday night, 51 to 36, in their opening playoff game.

The team has had this on their calendar for a while, since they lost to Fox 56 to 50 in a tight game earlier in the season.

The "girls played great," Anderson said. **Jessica Jazdarehee**, grade 11, had 25 points in the huge win.

In the final game of the regular season, the girls played against Yale and found themselves down by 16 at half time, but they came back and fought with every inch of effort.

Jazdarehee tied the game up late, and the girls sealed the victory with foul shots, 45 to 43.

"I knew I was going to shoot if I was open, so I spotted up along the three [point line] and my teammates did a good job of passing the ball! We did a good job of fighting back," said Jazdarehee.

Anderson believed a low point in their team's season was losing to Fox earlier on, but fondly remembers winning against ninth ranked Maple Ridge.

Anderson wants to believe there are more high points to the season.

"I'm hoping they are still coming. We have a goal and we hope to fulfill it. But I've had a lot of fun. The skill has improved, and so has the team work. They are such a team. It's hard to beat 'TEAMS' with only one or two stars," said Anderson.

Jazdarehee believes the Centennial Shootout tournament, in which they beat some of the top teams in the province, was a high point to their season.

Rosemary Nwankwo, grade 11, feels very positive about the playoffs.

"I think a high point was finally having a full team playing. That means no one with any injuries or other problems," said Nwankwo.

On Tuesday night, the girls played a "do or die" game against Seaquam at Centennial Secondary school; no score was available at press time.

Gleneagle gymnastics team finish strong at district championships

IZZY DOCTO
staff reporter

Gleneagle gymnasts dominated the mats against their fellow District 43 teammates during the district championship at TAG Gymnastics in Port Coquitlam.

The district championships consisted of District 43 teammates including Gleneagle, Centennial, Terry Fox, Pitt River and Port Moody gymnasts competing against each other on February 4.

"It's kind of fun in a way because it's kind of like a practice but they're competing. It's only about 15 people but it's still competition," commented coach, **Michele Morin**.

Olga Belikov, grade 12, placed first overall in level one, her high-

est score a 12.0 on bars and an overall score of 45.1.

Grade 12, **Nicole Stevens**, followed up in second place with an overall score of 43.9, also in level one.

Gloria Han, grade 11, and a beginner, tied for fourth with another competitor, and grade 10 **Jeanne Mok** (also a gymnastics beginner), placed fifth overall.

In level two, **Ally Mandley** thrived on vault placing first, receiving a score of 12.2. Mandley placed third overall in level two and fellow grade 10, **Shelby Kitsch-Best** followed in fourth place. **Jordan Orr**, grade 12, placed third overall in level five, which is the highest level for high school gymnastics.

"I think that we all performed to the best of our capabilities and we

know what we're all capable of and we try hard no matter who we're training with and who we are competing against," Belikov said.

This year, the team attracted both seasoned athletes and beginners.

"We have some people that participated last year, so they do have the strength and the experience, and then we have some newcomers that have athletic backgrounds and they are doing well because of that," said Morin.

Morin acknowledged that there is always room for improvement, saying that the gymnasts could improve on "fine tuning their routines."

Next up for the gymnasts are the Fraser Valley Championships being held tomorrow, February 18. Provincial championships will follow for those who qualify.

Provincial banner for table tennis

HELEN DOO
staff reporter

Facing the competition of 160 players from 16 different schools from all over the province, the Gleneagle table tennis TEAM made their way to the top and brought home the grand prize.

The six Gleneagle representatives of the BC Table Tennis Championships were **Tyler Clements**, grade 12, **Travis Drolet**, grade 12, **Jerry Ou**, grade 12, **Alex Lim**, grade 11, **Jeffrey Lee**, grade 11, and **Adrian Lee**, grade 10. They won the first place trophy, gold medals, and a banner for the school.

"It was through hard work, dedi-

cation, and the support of our team. With all the cheering and the good spirit, I think that's the reason why we won," said team captain, Tyler Clements.

"Based on the skills of the students, I knew that we were going to be in at least the top four. In fact, the last game we had in order to advance to the top four, became our toughest game," said **Ali Tootian**, coach. "In the end of the first day, I was feeling so comfortable that we were going to win the competition."

"In the finals, it was back and forth and really close. We pulled through and won by like three points," said Clements.

As the Talons soared their way

through the championships, there were a few bumps along the way.

"The most difficult game that we had was against Eric Hamber Secondary, who were our competitors in the second round," said Tootian. "Also, Burnaby North is always a tough game. We met them in the finals, but we were very comfortable with them."

"I faced Burnaby North. They were the team that beat us last year, so it was rewarding to beat them in the finals," said Clements.

For those planning to join next year's team, there might be some changes.

"My goal is to have a girl's team and a second boy's team soon," said Tootian.

Junior boys head to Valleys next week

EVANGELINE SHIH
staff reporter

From non-existent team, to pushing Fraser Valley playoffs, this was an all around exciting season for the 12 players on the junior boys basketball team.

The results on February 9 and 10 against Terry Fox and Arch Bishop Carney: 42 to 21 for Terry Fox, 44 to 31 for Carney, put Gleneagle's team in fourth place for the Fraser Valley playoffs.

The first game of the playoff tournament is scheduled for February 21.

Currently, the team's strength is having a potentially stifling zone defense.

"The season has gone exceptionally well in all honesty," said **Cameron Smith**, a volunteer coach who is also busy working as a medical doctor.

"The team did not exist in the fall, with no teachers being able to coach the boys who were keen and determined to play for their school," said Smith.

Only four of the boys had really any experience playing as grade

9's, on the junior boys team last year," said Smith.

"There was no coach to coach a grade 9 boys team last year, and not wanting to see a repeat of that, I volunteered to help coach the team."

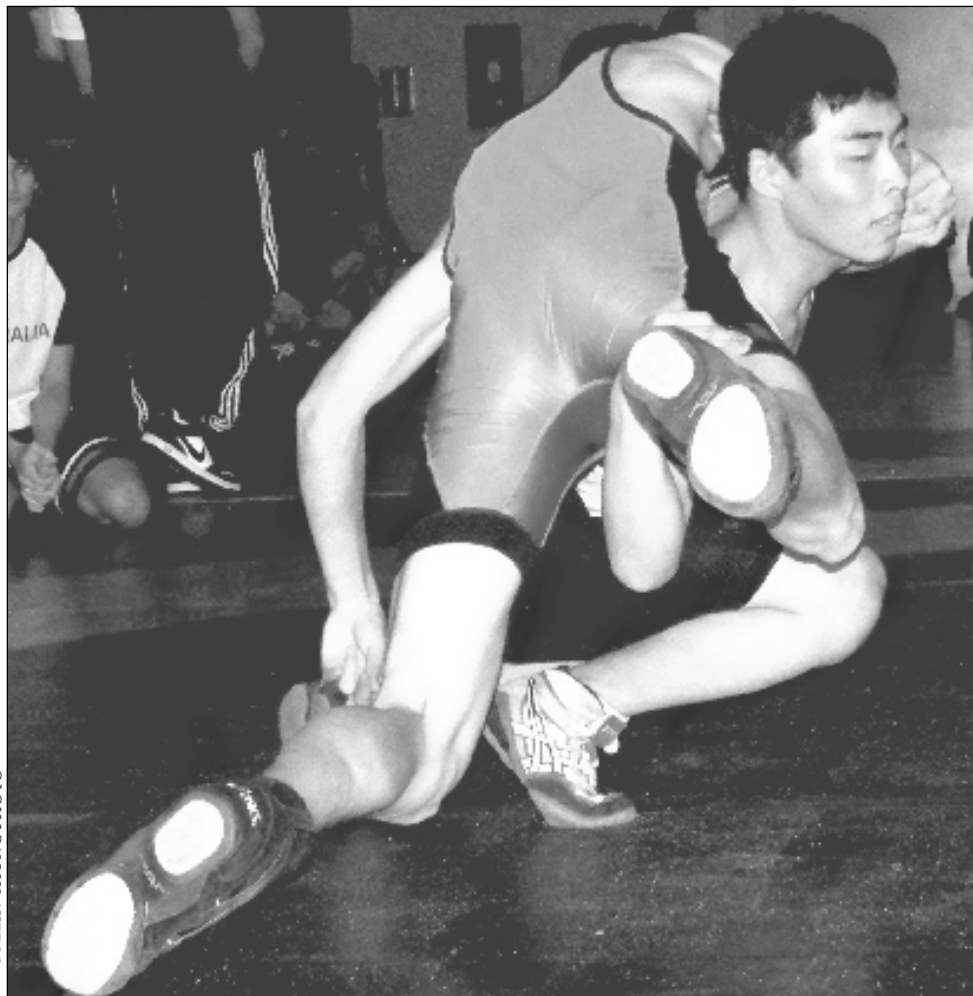
Lars Hansen, a former two time BC High school basketball MVP, member of the 1976 Canadian Men's Basketball team, member of the NBA's Seattle SuperSonics basketball team, and Canadian basketball hall of fame member, was the friend Smith turned to, to help coach this team of 12 boys.

"It was a brand new team," said **Aleks Marjanovic**, one of the grade 10 players on the team. "I wasn't expecting much at first, because we didn't all start from grade 9."

"As all the boys on the team are in grade 10, they all have to move up and tryout for the senior team at Gleneagle next year," said Smith.

"All of them have the determination needed to play at this next level and all of them will challenge the returning grade 11's for playing time next year," he added.

Gratifying season for Gleneagle wrestlers of both genders



COLLIN CHUNG PHOTO

Showing their expertise: Gleneagle wrestler, grade 12, shows off his skill and agility. The boys wrestling team achieved fourth place at the recent Fraser Valleys.

EVANGELINE SHIH
Staff Reporter

After a long and momentous season, both boys and girls Gleneagle wrestling teams placed well in the Fraser Valley Championships. The girls team was awarded second place, the boys, fourth.

"The Lower Fraser Valley is by far the most competitive wrestling zone in the province," said **Collin Chung**, one of the coaches of the team. With 14 teams competing from the Fraser Valley zone, including the Tri-Cities, Burnaby, and the New Westminster school teams, Gleneagle placed an impressive second, behind St. Thomas More, and fourth behind Terry Fox, St. Thomas More, and Burnaby South.

"We are proud of how well our team performed, even though we weren't able to improve on last year's third place standing (for the boys team)," said Chung.

Among the placing of the athletes, **Farid Alizadeh**, grade 12, **Sasan Haghighat-Joo**, grade 10, **Stephanie Ma**, grade 10, **Alexis Latimer**, grade 12, and **Catherine De Vaal**, grade 12, were awarded gold in each of their weight categories.

"One of the strong points in this year's team, is that our team has a good range of weight," said Chung. "We cover every single weight class, and we have decent wrestlers in every weight class."

Just a week before the Fraser Valleys, 13 athletes from the team accompanied by coaches **Collin Chung** and **Anthony Giordano**, community coach, went on a trip to Port Alberni for the Alberni Wrestling Tournament.

"Over 400 wrestlers from schools all over B.C. competed in this tournament," said Chung. "Although the total number of wrestlers entered in this tournament was lower than in past years, the quality of competition was very high."

A few injuries and some controversial referee decisions prevented the wrestlers from advancing, but overall, the results were satisfying. **Sasan Haghighat-Joo** placed gold, **Logan Wong**, grade 9, placed silver, **Dylan Sadat** and **Arman Bondar**, grade 9, both placed bronze in their respective weight categories.

"I gained lots of experience in Port Alberni," said Alizadeh. "Even though I lost, it was a fun trip."

With only two more weeks until the end of the season, Chung encourages all the wrestlers to work harder and keep practicing.

"Everyone really improved a lot," said Chung. "The people who come and practice the most do the best. Losing discourages a lot of people; they don't see the long-term experience, and they lose sight of their goals. But it's the people who stick with it who succeed. It's about looking for the best competition they can face, being able to face it, and that's what we're teaching them."

Senior boys hitting their stride as playoffs begin

KEVIN CAWTHRA
Staff Reporter

Good teams find a way to win, and lately you could say that about the senior boys basketball team. The boys are entering the district playoffs in third place, ahead of seventh ranked in the province, Pitt Meadows Secondary School, in the Fraser Valley North division.

The boys have been on a roll of late, winning their last four games of the season and also winning five of their last six games. "I think it's taken us a long time to actually find any true consistency on the way we play, but I think we found our identity," commented **Tony Scott**, head coach. "I think we realized if we play really good defense, it will allow us to stay in games," he said.

Talons finished off the season against Port Moody Saturday night, taking it to them with a win of 60 to 47. "We started off well and finished off strong," commented Scott. The boys walked into Centennial Secondary School Friday night with confidence beating a weak Centennial team 69 to 54.

Grade 9's build TEAM

ANDREA KLASSEN
Staff Reporter

With a tough season under their belts, the grade 9 boys basketball team is headed to Fraser Valley competition next week.

The word "team" doesn't just have the regular meaning for these guys, taking on the acronym "Total Effort Always Matters," and through the whole season, these boys have proved that.

"Over the months, our team had many ups and downs," said team captain **Conrad Chow**, "but I learned that I just have to keep trucking on and always give my best effort." The team made it to districts, where they beat Riverside but lost to Centennial in the district finals last week.

Chow has much praise for his coach **Andrew Lloyd**, saying, "He has been very motivational and passionate about coaching us." Coach

On the biggest night for the boys this year, Senior Night, the boys pulled off a phenomenal win over Pitt Meadows, 61 to 60. **Zach Usherwood**, grade 12, with 10 seconds left, drove through the line after getting a pass from **Brenden Yee**, grade 12, and went up for a layup to pull ahead late in the game.

"One of the high points for the season was probably Senior Night," commented Scott after the game. "Some of the things we talked about was staying in touch with big teams and putting yourself in position to win a game or even stealing one like they did." Before the game Coach Scott honoured the seniors on the team, giving out individual plaques to each grade 12, commemorating the season.

The boys were all business against North Surrey on Friday night. They opened up the scoring and never looked back, eventually winning 76 to 29. The boys were looking to avenge a loss from the Legal Beagle tournament against Terry Fox, but Terry Fox showed the boys why they are ranked fifth in the province, beating them 64 to 44. Scott knows there have been many low points in the season. "I think we've had a ton, that's why we've been so inconsis-

Lloyd has similar things to say about his players. "They are a lot of fun and hard working, but the season has also been challenging."

The team ended up in second in their conference, letting them have a bi into the first round of districts. In districts, the team won against Riverside by 15 points, but then lost to Centennial, also by 15 points, securing their spot in the Fraser Valley's.

"There are three things we tell ourselves before each game," said Lloyd. "Be proud of our effort, be over the top for teammates, play with integrity; and we do that." He also remarked on the fact that it wasn't just basketball the boys were learning, but that "they also improved on being men."

"I love basketball because of its intensity and action and also the teamwork inside of it all," said Chow. The teamwork will continue on in Fraser Valley's beginning on February 22. And beyond, that Lloyd says "We would love to get to Provincials."

tent," he said.

Brandon Arce, grade 12, agreed. "Our low points had to do with a lot of fatigue, and the fact that sometimes we had complications with each other."

"We had to realize we had to do this as a unit and not as individuals fighting for the spotlight," said **Ardeshir Houssein-Pour**, grade 12.

"I would change the beginning because I feel that not everyone on the team was going to be prepared for this journey ahead. Like we could talk the talk for certain things but not walk the walk, kind of thing," said Arce.

Scott admits that at the right time the defense is starting to hit it off. "Our defense has come around and everyone is starting to buy in," said Scott. "I think being able to have Zach [Usherwood] to control the tempo of the game, and if we don't have him running the show, we are

kind of behind the 8-ball, so you know those two things are the key [to] moving forward," said Scott.

Scott knows, as the team is entering the playoffs, their goal is "to go as far as we can. I think the number one goal is to make sure every single game, we're ready to compete and play. If we're ready to compete and play every single game, and every second, and minute of each game, we put ourselves in good position to move on," said Scott.

"We're a lunch-bucket type team. We've got to work, work, work, work, and if we don't have that kind of attitude, we're not going to go too far," he added.

The boys opened their playoffs at Terry Fox Secondary School against Centennial on Tuesday night, but scores were not available at press time.



Making it look easy: Senior boys keep their eyes on the ball during a match against Walnut Grove.

KEVIN CAWTHRA PHOTO

Gleneagle's got talent: artists amaze at Emerging Talent show

STEVEN BAE
staff reporter

Grade 12 Gleneagle art students wowed the juries of the 14th Emerging Talent show as they boast one of the highest number of pieces ever accepted into the show, something that has become a long-standing Gleneagle art tradition.

"This year has [so far] been a wonderful, wonderful year," said a proud **Melanie Stokes**, art teacher, "the best yet."

A total of 135 pieces of artwork were submitted from six secondary schools in the district. 79 were accepted – and an astonishing 36 were from Gleneagle.

"This is an annual event at the Evergreen Cultural Centre and this show is specifically for graduating grade 12 students who are applying to post secondary art studies," said Stokes. "These are the students who are really serious about art."

"I feel really happy about it," said **Gerri Jin**, grade 12 Gleneagle art student. Jin had three pieces accepted, which is the maximum for any single student. Jin herself "always liked drawing when [she] was little," but became serious about art in grade 10. Jin plans to attend Emily Carr University of Art.

Shaelyn Zhu, grade 12 Gleneagle art student, also had three pieces accepted. Zhu submitted work in very different mediums — an oil painting, a watercolor painting, and a digital print. Zhu was accepted to the Ontario College of Art and Design, the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and has applied to Emily Carr.

Carli Kidd, grade 12 Gleneagle art student, had one piece



Triple façade: 'Self Portrait' by Katherine Kim, grade 12, depicts her face in three different angles and emotions. Along with other distinctive pieces of artwork, this acrylic painting is featured at the Evergreen Cultural Centre with student art from throughout the district.

accepted. "I was happy that my animation got accepted," said Kidd. "I was kind of disappointed it was the only thing that got accepted, though."

However, it is by no means a disappointment. "This is putting it up to...a professional show," explained Stokes. "That's why it's such an extraordinary event and a wonderful opportunity for secondary students."

Stokes notes two factors for Gleneagle's huge continuing success. First, "We are lucky enough to have a very strong tradition of good art students in the school," said Stokes. "We have always sent the most kids to the show."

Secondly, "We run the Art Careers class," said Stokes. "For years Gleneagle was the only

school who actually offered [it], and may still be.

"These kids are lucky because this class actually focuses on getting their portfolios ready, helping them apply, doing research on different schools, and providing work for the Emerging Talent show," Stokes added.

Jin also highly recommends the Art Careers course for budding artists. "They should definitely take art courses in our school," said Jin. "Art Careers helps; it gives them time and I think it's a great course because you don't have to do stuff outside of school."

Mike McElgunn, art teacher, explains: "The students in the Art Careers class are so successful because every art class they've done, we've been skill-oriented

and we've broken those skills down to make them small bits so that nobody is overwhelmed to begin with."

Stokes emphasizes the independence of the students in Art Careers. "The quality of the work is entirely the student's own work, so it's not class projects," Stokes explained. "These are things that they dream up themselves, their own creativity; these are independent projects."

Kidd's animation, presented on a TV in the art show, is a perfect example. "[My animation] is based on the lunchtime experiences I have," said Kidd, chuckling. "[My friends] are the characters in the animation."

Aryn Gunn, the art department head when the school opened,

and current art teacher, is also proud of the continuing tradition. "I'm not surprised we did well," she said. "We have a very successful history and our programs are quite well known and recognized."

"It goes right back to when the school opened," added Gunn. "The very first year of the Emerging Talent show, Gleneagle students had almost half the show."

"I look at what they do and I think, 'that is so amazing,'" beamed Stokes. "They have so much thought, and so much creativity, and they work so hard; every year, I'm amazed. I'm super proud of them," she added.

The Emerging Talent XIV show started January 21 and runs until February 19.

Musicians boogie, jive, groove with Juno nominated salsa band



Soul singers: Members of the vocal jazz group rehearse for the upcoming Jazz Dinner Dance. This event will also feature Gleneagle's jazz band and the Rumba Calzada group.

MARIANA GORJÃO
staff reporter

Tickets are selling fast for Gleneagle's upcoming Jazz Dinner Dance next Friday, February 25, in the multi-purpose room.

"We've been practicing since the beginning of the year," said **Myles St. John**, grade 11, member of the jazz band.

"[I've been in vocal jazz] for four years...

since grade 9," said **Jacque Bolster**, grade 12. "I think [we're] sounding really good. We are in a good spot to get ready for the Jazz Dinner Dance. It's going to be great."

The musical event "is open for everybody: the public, the parents and students," said St. John.

"We're going to lower the stage on the multi-purpose room so people can have more space to dance," said **Eddie Trovato**, music teacher. "It is a formal event, so peo-

ple are expected to dress up a little."

There are going to be two dance floors. The adults are going to be on the ground level. "We are going to have professional dancers and so we don't want to mix them with the students ... but we're going to make sure that students have space in the upper

a professional group" said Bolster. Rumba Calzada is a Vancouver, Juno nominated salsa band.

Rumba Calzada will also be performing at Gleneagle on February 22 during period 4.

There will be a silent auction occurring during the night. "[We] have all the tables

"The Jazz Dinner Dance is open for everybody: the public, the parents, and students"

level if they want to groove away," explained Trovato.

Bolster is nervous but also excited about the vocal jazz numbers. "We're doing *Knock On Wood*,...an acapella version of *Come Together*,...and *Sway* by Michael Buble," she said. "We are really excited for our trip to Cuba and any chance that we get to perform as a practice is a chance that we will take, definitely."

"We're going to feature **Steven Black** in *Do Nothing Until You Hear From Me* and we're going to feature **Kyri Robinns** in *Orange Colored Sky*," said Trovato.

There are going to be tables set with a gourmet pasta buffet at 6:30. The jazz combo is going to open the night, while the vocal jazz will follow them performing during the dinner. "The group Rumba Calzada is going to play after dinner because they're

set up with the auction items. There's a starting bid: ...people go quietly, they read the information, see the prize, and then put a bid in," explained Trovato. "Near the end of the night, ...they do a last call for the auction and then anyone who has the winning bid is contacted."

"[There's] a huge variety of items; everything from kitchen appliances, to box seat tickets to the Canucks with free parking."

All the money will be going towards the music department and materials for the schools that the music students will be visiting in Cuba.

"We are taking school supplies and hygiene products such as toothpaste," said Trovato.

Tickets are \$40 each, on sale until Monday, February 21 at the main office. Tickets are almost sold out.