

Gleneagle’s Student Voice
Vol. XVII/ Number 3
November 16, 2012

theEdge

Six String Nation gives voice to Canadian diversity

IZZY DOCTO
staff reporter

If pieces of the Canadian identity could make a sound, it would be the acoustic echoes of the Voyageur guitar at the Six String Nation event, held last week in the multi-purpose room.

Gleneagle students, **Iris Hung** and **Andrew De Los Reyes**, both grade 11, had the honour to perform using the Voyageur. They were ecstatic to play the instrument that had been held by their music idols such as **Leslie Feist** and members of **Aerosmith**.

“It was like a dream to me, taking in to account how many people actually touched it, where it actually came from,” said De Los Reyes. “It actually means a lot to play something that legendary and it was really good knowing I got to be a part of that experience.”

The Six String Nation project was created by Peabody award winning radio broadcaster, **Jowi Taylor**, in hopes of making an honest representation of Canada’s diverse culture and history.

“This is the challenge for Canada in a global economy, in a global culture, to define itself flexibly, innovatively, and diversely and this is an opportunity to do that,” explained Taylor.

Hung added how the project helped to instill in her a sense of Canadian pride.

“I think it’s a really unique project that he did because it’s completely Canadian; it’s sort of gathering the Canadian culture,” said Hung. “I think to listen to the stories and to see the guitar played, it’s really powerful as a Canadian to see that,” she added.

The Voyageur guitar is made up of 63 pieces from Canada’s past and a variety of different ethnicities. Pieces range from things such as a part of Maurice Richard’s Stanley Cup ring to a piece of Pierre Elliot Trudeau’s canoe paddle.

Bryan Jackson, guitar teacher and organizer of the event, thought that these



IZZY DOCTO PHOTO

Strumming Canada’s guitar: Grade 11, plays the guitar that is made of 63 pieces of Canadian history. Voyageur, the result of the Six String Nation project, was created by **Jowi Taylor**, an award winning radio broadcaster, to showcase the culture and history of Canada.

pieces represented much more. “It was really interesting that it was just all these pieces of wood and metal and strings and that all of those separately are just . . . inanimate objects, but when you hear the stories that are connected to those things, there are all these different symbolic threads,” said Jackson.

Other parts found on the guitar include a piece of wood from the door of centre block on Parliament Hill and a part of

Olympic champion Nancy Greene’s ski. The main face of the guitar incorporates a beautiful piece of golden spruce from Haida Gwai, which is spiritually important to the native people.

The guitar is a walking and playing history book, but Taylor thinks that it also serves as inspiration for young people today.

“I encounter students all the time who feel overwhelmed by the sense of wanting to contribute and feeling that nobody cares...

that’s exactly when you should think it’s important, when you do have something to contribute and share,” said Taylor.

The instrument itself will have no more additions, but Taylor hopes to acquire one of Terry Fox’s leg harnesses, which he will use to weave a new strap for the guitar.

Proceeds of the event went to the Me-to-We Adopt a Village project, where they will work to build a water well in a community in Ecuador.

Model U.N. members prepare for Connect MUN competition

MARIE TURCOTT
staff reporter

Students will meet the “real world” as they take on the roles of country representatives. It has been a busy couple of weeks for the Model United Nations members as they prepare for their upcoming event, Connect MUN, this weekend. The event will be taking place downtown.

Model UN is a great opportunity for students to get a feel for real worldwide issues as they represent countries around the globe. “It’s like the real world for us high school kids, since it’s modeled off of the real UN team. We take on a country’s respective policies and find resolutions on our topic for each committee,” said **Sean Lee**, grade 10. Lee is representing Russia as the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

“We debate on issues as our country, even if we don’t agree with them. The objective is to get a resolution at the conclusion of the MUN conference. We are judged on our diplomatic and public speaking skills,” said **Scott Lee**, head delegate, grade 12,

who is representing Libya. With several years under his belt, he is taking on a more advanced role as Islamic Corporation for the Development of the Private Sector.

“I feel that some countries are portrayed in a negative light and I want to experience the reality of international politics,” said **Jeffery Gao**, grade 10, representative for

opportunity to improve their public speaking and debating abilities. “I am weak in this area – politics are definitely not my thing. But I want to come out of this with more knowledge on the global issues around us, as well as get over my stage fright,” said **Josh Yang**, grade 10.

“It’s a good experience because there

“We debate on issues as our country, even if we don’t agree with them”

China. “I hope to expand my knowledge on the world we live in, and on current social issues affecting our way of life.”

There is no better way to gain firsthand experience with worldwide politics. “MUN is basically just a way that I can really engage with my interests,” said **Richard Zhang**, grade 11. “I hope to get a better understanding on sometimes less known issues in the world, and also learn how to research, talk, cooperate, and make points properly.”

Model UN provides students the

are many different aspects to it such as debating, socializing and teamwork,” said Sean Lee. Students are able to build their strengths in each area, while spending time with their friends.

To prepare for their next event, all the members are writing their position papers, outlining their country’s policies on each topic. Generating ideas and researching is a good way to ready themselves for debates with students from other schools.

Going downtown for conferences is one of the biggest highlights for students. “The

best part is pretending you’re someone else, like an adult wearing suits and dealing with people in hotels, emulating real life problems. We see on the news all these big events, and MUN shows us that we are capable of finding the key to solving international problems,” said Scott Lee.

“Meeting new friends, and arguing with rich kids from private schools is also pretty fun,” added Gao.

“If you still want to be a part of MUN, it’s never too late. There are still upcoming conferences, so don’t be afraid to join,” said Scott Lee.

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 21

Night of the Notables

November 23

School Based Pro-D day

November 27

Metfest debut

Take a step back, value legacy of Canadian soldiers

Our lives are monotonous by this time of the year, and the persistent drone of rainfall contributes. Wake up, go to school, go home, do your homework, and sleep. The smell of eggnog and chimes of winter hymns are just beyond our reach as November threatens to lengthen its life. Nights get longer, but our patience decreases. We complain about the weather, homework, friends, family, and life does not seem to be going our way.

But put yourself in somebody else's shoes for a minute. It's 1916 and you're waist deep in a pool of mud, blood and disease.

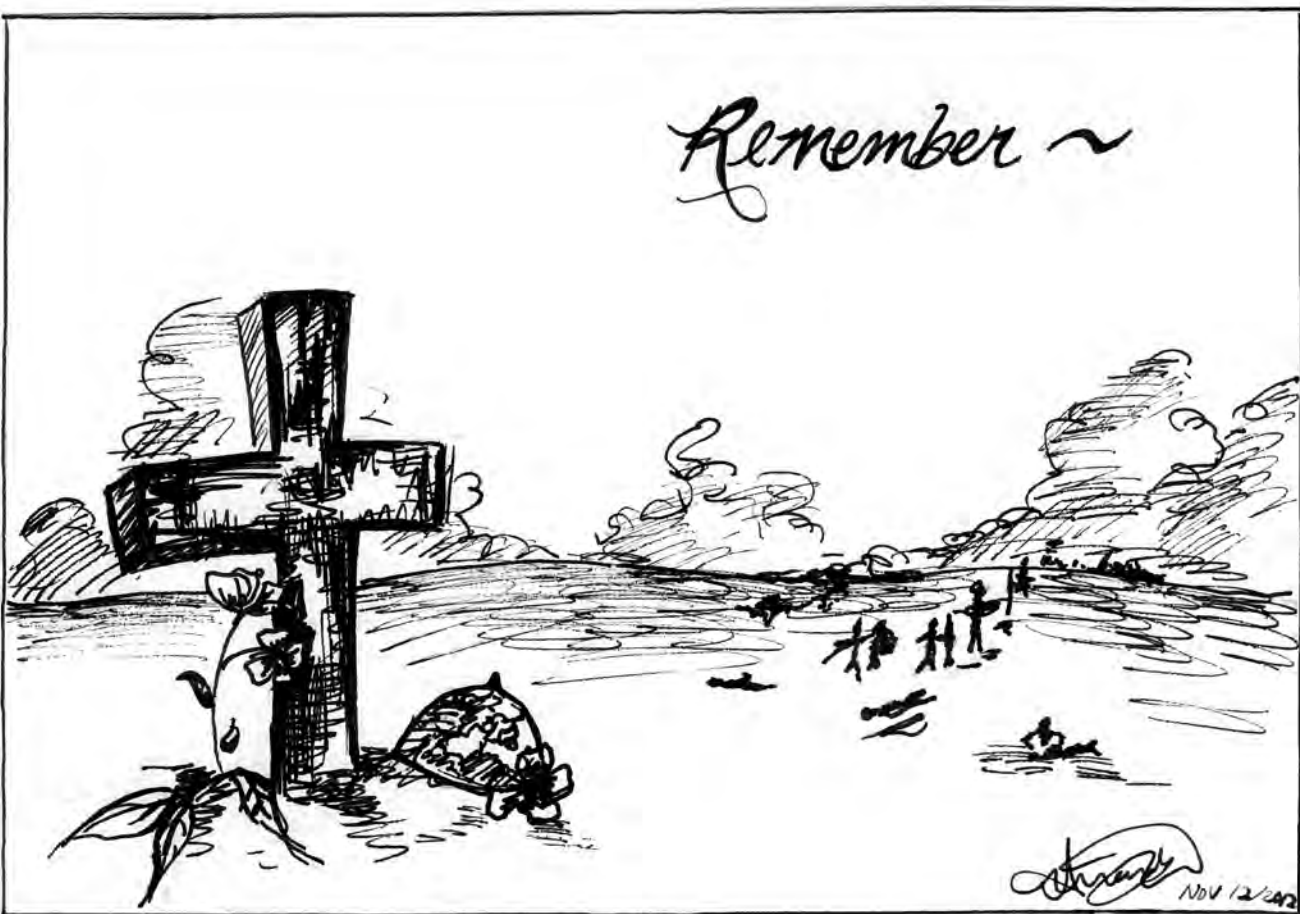
The rain is pounding on your back as an ambush of bullets whiz just above your flimsy helmet. You look across that daunting stretch of space in front of you. You know your chances of surviving that suicide run are slim.

It's easy for us to go through life and forget that all of our privileges today are thanks to the game changers of history. Without the sacrifices soldiers made in the world wars, general freedoms that we view as rights today probably would not be given to us at all.

Conflicts such as the Persian Gulf War and the Korean War involved our soldiers aiding other countries in order to protect their rights.

For decades, our peacekeepers have risked their lives in attempts to prevent conflict in other countries.

These historic examples may seem obsolete to some and too far away for others, but all we have to do is look at the news today. Headlines of our soldiers fighting in Afghanistan, and other nations banding together to demand their own freedoms, such as in the Arab Spring, are current testaments to how easily we can take things for granted.



All we have to do is take a step back from our seemingly lame lives and take on a different perspective. What we have today, whether in rain or shine, whether with or

without homework, is a life that is filled with freedoms and possibilities. In order to appreciate our future, we must not forget the hardships and sacrifices of the past.

Funding shortfalls, changes to school calendar impact education



edge columnist

We all know how it feels to be stressfully typing up an assignment at 1 am. That adrenaline rush just can't be replicated, as you down caffeine regretting spending that extra hour scrolling your Facebook feed, or "fragging" your friends online. Well, at least that's how it used to be.

Today even the most organised of us feel

more pressure to complete work due to the sheer number of holidays, non-instructional days, and shortened block schedules that plague our school weeks. The justification for this is questionable because although the government claims to be providing an equivalent number of instructional hours, the truth is that those few minutes tacked on to every class fail to amount to anything.

(killing your brain). Neither of these options is entirely favorable, and at the end of the day, everything hinges on money.

On paper, the idea of cutting out a week of education seems easy. The budget that would have gone to keeping schools open can be directed towards paying off district debt, thanks to the clever loop hole of reallocating school hours.

there another way? Think about it: when was the last time we had a full five day school week? When have we had a week without a shortened Monday, a holiday, or event? It is becoming rarer for students to receive full educational units, especially in classes such as physical education, where units may only be one week long.

... students across the district are suffering whether they know it or not, and the school board's decision just isn't justified

They are often spent just waiting for the bell, while that school week that we are losing to spring break could provide us with five full lesson plans.

The one factor that hasn't changed is our prescribed learning outcomes, which are the criteria which we have to fulfill to be fully prepared for the next grade level, and everyone's favourite - the final exam. Therefore the common solution is either to compress the extra material into the new schedule (killing your social life), or to give students an inferior learning experience

However in practice students across the district are suffering whether they know it or not, and the school board's decision just isn't justified. Priority wise, education should be at the forefront of tax payer spending because it defines lives and is essential to society.

Compromising spending on education is like compromising emergency services. Just as a paramedic shouldn't stop working, a teacher shouldn't stop teaching. Educational services should be recognised as such. Debt repayment is good, but is

What do you think? Is an extra week off worth it in exchange for a potentially inferior education? You may be reading this thinking that there is absolutely no difference between present and yester years, but please consider the moral faults of such time modifications. I believe the time we spend in school is sacred, a once in a life time experience. Just as the teachers shouldn't have engaged in a full strike, the government shouldn't be taking our education away from us behind our backs.

theEdge

Gleneagle Secondary
1195 Lansdowne Drive
Coquitlam, BC, Canada
V3B 7Y8
604 464-5793
fax 604 464-5796

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.

Member of the Quill and Scroll Society
International First Place
Award Winner: 2011, 2010, 2009, 2003, 1999
George H. Gallup Award
Winner: 2006, 2005, 2004, 2002, 2001, 2000
Advisors
Lois Axford
Kelly Cooper

Staff
Alexandra Cooper
Isabelle Docto
Dawson Drolet
Kristina Eng
Kaila Guimond
Tyler Johnson
Jennifer Kou
Maureen Lao
Alisha Lee
Jordan Louie
Stephanie Lui

Rebecca MacDonald
Brendan Park
Donya Pourtaghi
Jason Roberts
Marie Turcott
Additional staff
Cassie Baratelli
Kevin Cawthra
Youmy Han
Amanda Wang

What is the weirdest job you have ever had?

YOU
SAID
IT!



Michael Milliard
“I was a surveyor for oil and gas exploration; the first hour on the job I got chased by a 900 pound grizzly bear.”



Jinyu Helen Xue
“A secretary in a small carpet store where I was the only employee.”



Bryan Jackson
“To be paid to go to concerts and listen to music was pretty weird.”



Martine Udell
“I was a blueberry picker in Abbotsford for one day.”

Do you know who’s living upstairs?



edge columnist

You’ve noticed her before.
Maybe once or twice you’ve glanced at her in the hallways, but never put too much thought into thinking about her.
Everyone knows her, but not everyone KNOWS her.

She’s cloaked in an air of mystery, which often lures students to peer in . . .

You don’t know where she’s from, or her favourite food, or even her name.
She’s cloaked in an air of mystery, which often lures students to peer in through the glass window of her home, eager to spy her.
You may be wondering right now, “Who is she?”
Well, she is none other than Chessy, the snake upstairs in room 205.

First things first, Chessy is not Ember.
Last year’s snake, Ember, was returned to the Snake in the Grass Foundation at the end of the school year.
The head of the foundation lends Gleneagle a single snake each school year

to keep in our science department to promote a better understanding of snakes and their habitats.
Chessy is a relatively healthy corn snake; however she does have a vision impairment. ,
Due to her limited vision, she tends to be a little more protective of herself, especially when the science department’s

lab tech goes into her habitat.
This explains why the reptile usually hides in her little dome.
Corn snakes are named after the multicolored corn pattern on their bellies which act as a camouflage that helps them both hide from predators and hunt for prey in cornfields.
They can live up to 23 years and can be as short as 61 centimeters, or as long as 183 centimeters.
“I feel happy whenever I see students stopping by to check out the snake and what’s going on because it tells me that they are actually interested in it and that we are doing this for a good purpose,” said **Micah Lao**, grade 12 lab tech.
“By having this snake around, I hope that students will be more aware of their surroundings in terms of nature and that they won’t take it for granted because eventually snakes will cease to exist.”

Letters to the editor:



[Re: Cybercrime prevention act limits freedom of speech in Philippines]
The Filipino freedom of speech issue really bugs me. I feel that yes, cybercrime is an issue but people should be responsible enough to limit what they say on the internet. In my opinion, this is a scenario where the government really shouldn’t have taken matters into their own hands. At times like this, I’m more than thankful to be living in Canada.
-Zsafia Slamani

[Re: Billionaires vs millionaires: Hockey fan questions who’s to blame for NHL lockout]
I loved this article because I believe that it is really important! As a hockey player, hockey watcher, and a Canadian, I can not wait for NHL games to return. I don’t even care who is at fault anymore, as long as the NHL games resume so I can argue with the boys about the best teams and cheer my team on. I need the NHL back!
-Jordan Flatman

The article explained very well about the lockout and it made me more aware of the situation. I agree with this article mostly but I think that the players deserve more than 50% of the money, because they are the ones doing the most work.
-Reza Zovebidaky

[Re: Celebrities inspire Talons to make impossibility, possible]
The article on “We Day” stood out for me. It is great that every year, young people attend this event to listen to motivational speakers, getting inspired to make an impact in this world. It does not matter how young or old we are. We are the change, guys.
-Theresa Lee

[Re: Halloween - not only forum for masked identities]
I agree completely with the article “Halloween - not only forum for masked identities.” The false sense of security that comes with sitting behind a computer screen is ridiculous, and more people need to realize, even by pretending, things they say or do will always trace back to them.
-Nikki Tran

[Re: Gillis shares journey down yellow brick road]
In the article about Jennifer Gillis coming home, she talks about how appreciative she is for being on the show. It’s a very heartwarming article and I’m proud to be at a school that has an amazing musical theatre department and such talented students like Jennifer.
-Patricia Zhu

In the article referring to Jennifer’s journey in Toronto, she states that she really did not have any control in anything, so everything was out of her hands and she did the best with what she was given. I totally agree with what she was saying because throughout her entire journey on Over the Rainbow she did her best and was exceptionally good, especially for her age and her experience.
-Camryn Pettifer

Debate club members reveal rhetorical prowess at UBC

KAILA GUIMOND
staff reporter

Gleneagle’s debate team showed their talent for argument in their first tournament at UBC on Saturday, November 10. Numerous teams placed in the top quarter out of 400; individually, several Talons placed in the top 100 out of 1000 participants.

“We’ve only really had this club going this year,” said **Liam St Louis**, grade 12, founder and leader of the debate team. “Going into this tournament, I think we found that Gleneagle has good, natural debate talent.”

The team believes this is a good start to the year and it’s a good indication of how successful Gleneagle’s going to be in the next couple of months and years. “I think we need more understanding of what role we need to fulfill in a debate. We need to practice the terms that are particular in debate. If we practice, I think we will be able to perform better in judgment and overall,” St Louis added.

“We should improve on thinking on the spot. We don’t get much time to prepare for the next round and it’s nerve-racking sometimes,” said **Lavender Hung**, grade 10, junior debater.

The club practices five to six times a week, in order to prepare for competition. “We have so many members, it’s hard to organize so people can be there. But for the vast majority of the team, members have been doing what they need to do and putting in their own spare time just to watch people debate and I think that’s great,” said St Louis.

In order to prepare for the matches, the debate teams are given topics they have to study and prepare to argue from both perspectives (the pros and cons). “Doing the research for the topics –like the Enbridge Pipeline and the Dutch disease, I learned new things and the effects they have,” Hung said.

“For the future, we are hoping to place in the finals. And improve enough so that we are seen as an elite team and make Gleneagle the team to beat,” said **Jonathan**



KELLY COOPER PHOTO

I agree to disagree: Students prepare their speeches for a debate tournament at UBC. The debate club meets several times a week to build their skills.

Toews, grade 12, senior debater. “As I practice more, I become a better public speaker. It improved my ability to think on the spot as well as think on a critical analysis basis. We have gotten a lot better,” Toews said. We were able to tackle some big subjects, that maybe before debate, we wouldn’t be able to. We’ve grown a lot.”

“We want to show everyone we’re a public school in Co-

quitlam who up-right on pure raw talent. We want to be a team that our school will be proud of so that it’s not just focused on sports,” St Louis added.

“And special thanks to **Dana Tabyanian** [grade 11, student from Port Moody Secondary] our coach, who is currently at the Worlds in an international tournament in Europe,” Toews added.

Struggle of making it through day as pregnant teen



JORDAN LOUIE PHOTO

Facing the reality: Grade 12 and grade 11, imitate the trials of pregnancy and caring for a newborn, as part of their child development class.

JORDAN LOUIE
staff reporter

Lugging around binders, backpacks, and a belly prosthetic isn’t the most fun part of child development. In **Billy Demonte’s** child development class, students go through a real life experience of what it’s like to be a pregnant teen.

Although this day is extremely exhausting for students, it’s a useful experience. This part of the child development class is

very important. According to Demonte, “The point is to make young girls more aware of what it’s like to be pregnant and how the public will treat you, how those close to you will treat you, and the physical difficulties of lugging around extra weight as a teen with binders and backpacks and such as well.”

Tara Clarke, grade 10, agreed about the day’s significance. “The point of the day is to teach us that getting pregnant isn’t a fun thing. It’s a lot of work and kind of hard to

live your normal life when you have this huge stomach,” said Clarke.

The girls who went through this process didn’t enjoy the long and tiring day. “At the end of the day, they’re like: ‘Oh, my back is sore’ and they’re experiencing some of the symptoms,” Demonte said.

Even though the process of being pregnant for a day is difficult, it contributes greatly to the class. Without being “pregnant”, students wouldn’t be able to fully grasp the concept. “As much as you hear people talk about pregnancy, it’s so different to go through the experience,” said **Emily Murphy**, grade 11. The reason for the hard day is so students in class get to know how difficult it is to be pregnant. It makes students more conscious.

“It changes my views. I don’t want to get pregnant,” Murphy said.

The pregnant for a day aspect of child development is what helps girls appreciate every responsibility of having a child more thoroughly. They get to experience some of the emotions that can accompany pregnancy. Clarke says, “The worst part is people staring at me.”

The whole process of pregnant for a day completely changed the students’ views. “Now, when woman talk about pregnancy you can somehow connect and if I ever get pregnant I’m somehow prepared,” Murphy said. The pregnant for a day part of the child development class may be one of the most memorable learning experiences students will go through.



Lest we forget soldiers who died for Canada’s future



Remembering and sharing: World War II veteran **Hans Anderson** shared his memories with Gleneagle students, through the voice of students, **Mrs. Anderson**, **Adam Hayes**, leadership teacher, and **Lee**.

ALISHA LEE
staff reporter

Gleneagle honoured Canadian soldiers of war at the annual Remembrance Day assembly. The mood was set by the call of bagpipes. The Cadets marched in behind, signalling the commencement of the assembly.

In honour of this solemn occasion, **Scott Lee**, grade 12, gave a speech highlighting his interview with World War II veteran, **Hans Anderson**. Sharing the terrifying emotions and deadly experiences Ander-

son explained to him, Lee brought the audience deeper into the web of horrors that war weaves and reminded everyone that following orders may not always be the right choice.

“I feel really privileged because not many people get the chance to interview veterans one on one,” Lee said.

“The responses he gave weren’t to my expectations; I expected something like from a textbook or a movie, but then that just goes to show that a regular soldier’s life is actually more repetitive and not like the way films portray it,” he added.

As well as Lee’s speech, the drama team

performed a vignette of family and friends being conflicted by war. As the re-enacted war raged below, the vocal jazz sang *Fare Thee Well Love* with duets by **Clayton Dowdell** (grade 11) and **Cassidy Stahr** (grade 10), **Scott Lee** (grade 12) and **Jessica Zrally** (grade 12), **Ron Nazal** (grade 11) and **Olga Samutina** (grade 10).

“I really got into the mood of Remembrance Day because of watching the drama play below,” said Stahr. “It just really got me in that sombre mood during my duet.”

Remembrance Day always reminds us of many brave Canadians who were lost, not only in the world wars, but also the Korean

War, peace-keeping missions throughout the world, and more recently, NATO missions in places like Afghanistan.

The consequence of war is that children are left without a parent, spouses are left without their partner, and parents are left to mourn their child’s death.

“Now that I’m older, I can understand and appreciate it better,” said **Nikki Tran**, grade 9. Remembering and honouring both the survivors and the fallen, is what Remembrance Day reminds us of each year, but also to be thankful for our freedom and what it took to give us the liberty we have today.

Students gear up to impress at Night of the Notables 2012

STEPHANIE LUI
staff reporter

TALONS students are preparing to dazzle audience members with eminent impersonations at the Night of the Notables on Wednesday, November 21.

Each year, TALONS have to choose an individual of eminence or notability to portray, and “be in character of your eminent person and bring awareness to the work of the chosen individual,” said **Katie Shin**, grade 10. Usually that person is one who shares similar character traits, qualities, or interests as the students, therefore giving the project more relevance as they find a personal connection to their eminent person. “I chose based off of mutual interests,” said **Julien Nadon**, grade 10. “[My notable person is] Jimmy Wales. He changed the way humankind learned information on the internet.”

Students are also required to make a learning centre to allow audience members to glimpse information about their eminent people. Learning centres range from poster boards, to a recreated room that reflects the life of a notable, to a live per-

formance. Not only will the students gain a deeper understanding of their eminent people, TALONS will also “learn more about finding [our] inner character,” said **Sean Huggins**, grade 10.

“Every year, I always learn about someone whom I have never heard about,” said **Qui-rien Mulder ten Kate**, TALONS teacher. “It’s not just the students learning, but the teachers as well.”

“I believe these people will become our role models,” explained **Samantha Feng**, grade 10. “I want to learn from [my notable person], adapt her successful and good qualities into my life, and become a more respectable individual from this project.”

For the grade nines that are new to this project, **Yilin Zhang**, grade 9, shared her enthusiasm. “What the grade tens and elevens did last year was truly spectacular and I hope that my project could portray my character just as well” Zhang said.

“[It is] incredible to be a part of [Eminent Persons Night],” said **Elle McCleave**, grade 9. “The project gives a lot of freedom and is personalized to fit your character.”

But rewarding experiences are not without obstacles along the way. “I had to do a lot of reading, research, and revision,” stat-

ed Shin. “Sometimes, the answers you are looking for just don’t appear...I needed to spend more time to look at other resources.”

“Sometimes I get writer’s block or just can’t seem to get into character when writing my speech,” said Feng. “And then there’s the learning centre to contemplate.”

“I’m worried about the grade 10 speeches,” confessed **Bronwyn Vaisey**, grade 10. “It’s daunting to think about me forgetting parts of my speech or rambling at the Night of Notables.”

Working hard to make Eminent Persons Night memorable and enjoyable for the audience and themselves, the students discover the significance of this project. “After learning more about Charlie Chaplin, it’s interesting to look at life through [his] eyes,” said **Galen Wang**, grade 10.

“[It] brings a lot of awareness to who you are as an individual, the values you have, and how you look at this world,” explained **Justann Silver**, grade 10.

The purpose is to find great people that stand out to the students. “I think it is important for the students to find that personal connection to someone extraordinary in the world who they can relate to through family history, interests, race, qualities and

other aspect,” said **Bryan Jackson**, TALONS teacher.

“I chose Celia Sanchez because she needs to be recognized,” claimed Shin. “She led the Cuban revolution yet she is completely overshadowed by other names.”

Learning from last year’s Night of the Notables, TALONS hope to incorporate some of what they’ve seen into their projects. “From what others had done previously, it really helped me with forming my learning centre,” stated Feng, “...everything from colours, decorations, character and attitude.”

“It brought a new light into how I could make my project stand out and bring life into my character through dramatic acting or just encompassing the spirit of my eminent person into myself,” said Wang.

“The TALONS Night of the Notables is a milestone,” Mulder ten Kate explained. “This is a project we all look forward to... it allows the students to personalize and fly with it.”

“The Eminent Persons Night is a really special night that kicks off the TALONS program,” Jackson said. “It is the crystalizing moment of the TALONS group and they can do it because of the support of others doing it with them.”

JASON BINGLEY PHOTO

Kyle Smith inspires the next generation of cross country

TYLER JOHNSON
staff reporter

Grade 12 student **Kyle Smith** represented Gleneagle during the cross country provincials on November 3 in Prince George. He placed fifty sixth out of some of BC’s top two hundred sixty five athletes, which was no small feat given the conditions. The frigid fall season had yielded snow fall on the course, which by the time of competition had melted to slush and mud.

Smith described the Prince George course as “tight” and noted that the group was mainly clustered in a small space, in contrast to other events where participants could find themselves running in segregated sections. This led to a hard fought race where all his training, both with the team and individually, met fruition.

While this event marked the end of Smith’s cross country career at Gleneagle, he will remain an inspiration, for his dedication, and his consecutive qualifications

for this event. Coaches **Lori Gregory** and **Katherine Chung** noted that while they are sad to see Smith leave, that they are excited to see the new skill the grade nines are bringing to the table. Smith has inspired many to push that extra mile, and it shows as several students have already found success in this field such as **Jordan Garrison** who qualified, but was unable to participate. Consequently Gregory and Chung see a lot of potential in the group to participate at this level in future years.

Although the cross country season is over there is still ample opportunity to get involved in this area. At the time of publication running club is offering a more casual experience while preparing runners for next year’s season. While winter is on our doorstep things will pick back up in the spring with track and field and another running club outing. Cross country as Smith puts it is more of “a team than an individual sport,” a team that he would like to see grow in the coming years.

Season of growth and disappointment for volleyball teams junior girls

MAUREEN LAO
staff reporter

The season ended for the junior girls volleyball team when they lost 3-1 against Terry Fox on October 29. “We started off well but since we didn’t have a lot of players; we started getting tired and it was harder and harder . . . we lost our confidence,” said **Eliza Vagner**, captain of the team, grade 10.

Izzy Samaniego, grade 10 said, “I feel we could have done better as a team. We did some things that we usually wouldn’t do and

I feel the other team out hustled us.” “When we are fully in it and our mind is set on winning, then I feel that we play very well,” Samaniego added.

Their overall record this season was two wins against Charles Best and Port Moody and five losses to Terry Fox, Riverside, Centennial, Arch Bishop Carney, and Heritage Woods. Since the beginning of the season, the players have developed and improved. **Natasha Lumbagas**, grade 10 said, “We are definitely stronger. We were weak but then I guess as time went by, we developed more and we got stronger at hitting and serving.” Samaniego said, “At the beginning of the season we didn’t know how

to pass and talk as much but as the season went on, I felt that our passing got a lot better and we started talking on the court more.”

“We actually did progress quite a bit throughout the season. We started off slowly but near the end they were doing a great job with passing the ball and setting up each other so they could hit the ball to the other team and I was really impressed

junior boys

KRISTINA ENG
staff reporter

The junior boys’ volleyball team’s season ended after losing to Heritage Woods on November 6. “I think our season was promising, but we were eventually beat by stronger teams,” said **Sina Maloufi**, grade 10. The team consisted of a large majority of inexperienced grade 9 students. “Obviously because they didn’t have a lot of experience, they made mistakes or got nervous,” said coach **Art Abram**. They lost the game against Heritage 25-22 in the first match, then by 25-13 the second match, and lastly short by 2 points with a result of 25-23,” Abram added.

The three grade 10 players “played strongly because they played last year so they were the stronger of the players and kind of carried the team,” said Abram. Unfortunately, the lack of experience was an even larger disadvantage as a number of the teams had club players, meaning students who are a part of teams and play all year around. **Dennis Kim**, grade 10 said “I think we could have improved on our serving and our teamwork.”

Familiar with Abram’s system, the older players stepped up and helped out the others. “[The] grade 9’s improved. When we were in the playoffs a couple of nights ago, we played the second place team and they played their best couple of games in the playoffs against Heritage Woods,” said Abram. “Unfortunately they’ve got some better players and taller players, so we came out on the short end but the boys played really well.”

Although their season has concluded, some goals were still achieved “I guess my goal was to make sure all the grade nines improved their game, which they did for the most part and I’m proud of them,” Maloufi said. “All he grade nine’s who’ve never played before improved tremendously,” he continued. Players such as Kim were motivated to practice hard simply by the need of exercise, Maloufi added.

Looking towards the future, Abram says, “We’re losing three grade 10’s that are really good so hopefully they’ll play next year on the senior team. The grade 9’s, well when they move up to grade 10, they’ll gain some height between now and next September because they’re pretty short and maybe get out on a club team.” Regularly attending practice and being motivated by Abram’s pep talks, this year’s team were “a good bunch...they got along with each other and we just had fun,” said Abram. “I wanted to be able to have fun with the whole team. I definitely reached that,” said Kim.

with the progression,” said **Jeremy Clarke**, team coach.

“I was really impressed with our players. We had some returning players from last year, so quite a few girls that had played in grade 9, but we also had some players that hadn’t played since middle school,” Clarke added. “Some of our girls that were new, I was really impressed with how much their volleyball skills improved since when we first had our practice from the beginning of September till the end of the season,” he said.

As a team, they play well as a unit. “Our team works well together we just really have to know where we are on the court but I think we have good chemistry as a team,” Lumbagas said.

According to Vagner, “we have grown more together because at the beginning we were quiet. We are still pretty quiet but we have improved . . . we are louder and called the ball more. Even though it is not to the desired result, we [communicated] a bit more.”

Although they didn’t make the playoffs, the girls have a sense of satisfaction. **Brittani Yee**, grade 10, said “I’m sad that our season’s over but it was a good season and we worked hard.”

senior girls

DAWSON DROLET
staff reporter

The Gleneagle senior girls’ volleyball team had a rough season but is a better team now because of it.

The girls posted a 1 win and 7 losses record but were not disheartened by this. They felt they grew as a team this year and are looking forward to next year.

The team’s biggest issue was communication as they felt they didn’t talk enough during the play. **Jenna Bentley**, a senior and starter on the team said “A lot of us haven’t played before. That kind of hurt us when we didn’t communicate on the court.” This was no secret as **Avery Hollingworth**, grade 11 and team coach **Billy Demonte** both said the same thing.

Speculating about next year, Avery hopes the team will be strong but noted that “a lot of our good seniors are leaving which is unfortunate.” Demonte said grade 10 **Hayley Knowles** “stepped up” by playing on the senior team this year. Demonte also added that she is a bright spot for next year’s team.

The team’s high point this season was their victory over Port Moody Secondary. Demonte added that another great part about the team was that they were able to elevate their game against provincially ranked teams which is hard to do.

As much as the team is looking forward to next year, they will miss seniors such as Bentley, **Tia McCarthy**, **Ashley Stuart**, **Shaye Grant** and team captain **Alicia Cecchini**.

With the most of the teams girls coming back next year the team should be stronger due to more experience and chemistry they have built together.



Grim determination: Grade 11 delivers a devastating serve to Terry Fox in regular season play.

YOUNG HAN PHOTO

Talons field hockey flying sky-high as they host BCs

DONYA POURTAGHI
staff reporter

Excitement is building as Gleneagle’s field hockey team defeated South Kamloops 5 - 1 and Winston Churchill 6-1 in the first day of the AAA Provincial Championships at Town Center. The Talons played Heritage Woods yesterday but results were not available at press time.

The girls are seasoned provincial competitors, and that experience has given the team an idea of what to expect during the event. By playing against some major competition in BC during the Bridgeman Cup Tournament in Victoria, the team gained knowledge of other competitors and have organized their plays accordingly.

In preparation to compete with 16 teams coming from all over BC, the team has spent the past few weeks practicing hard fine tuning their plays in order to meet their goal of coming in the top four out of the province.

“We’ve still got a lot of details, and there’s the fine skills such as how we defend our corners and some of our free hits and some of those specific plays we’ll still continue to work on,” said coach **Carol Coulson**.

“I think just continuing to work on our scoring chances and we need to get our short corners down a bit more because those are like really great scoring opportunities,” added co-captain **Sydney Veljacic**, grade 12.

The team has really come together, with a 14 win and 3 loss record heading into provincial competition.

“Our strengths are probably that we’re all so close . . . we end up having a lot of chemistry on the field,” said co-captain **Courtney Zoschke**, grade 12.

As far as their performance during Fraser Valleys, the team knew that placing high



PHOTO BY NOLAN SPELLER

In your face: Grade 11, sprints forward, dekeing past the South Kamloops goaltender and scoring enroute to a 5-1 victory for Gleneagle on Wednesday. This was the first game in provincial round robin play.

in that tournament would automatically take them to the provincials, so they buckled down and won both games on day one against Chilliwack and Charles Best, but suffered a loss against their main rival, Heritage Woods, on the second day while competing for first in the Fraser Valleys.

“It was really upsetting because we wanted it really bad but we also knew that [Heritage]

was going to be coming out really hard because we just beat them in districts,” said Veljacic. Hosting the provincials has proven to require a lot of preparation, time, and help from numerous people.

“Oh my goodness, it’s massive!” said Coulson. “We’ve been working on it for the past four months. The main organizer is outside coach **Maureen Macdonald**. She’s

the tournament chairperson and she’s done most of it, but we’re hosting a banquet for 350 people,” Coulson said.

“Chef [Frank] Abbinante and his crew will be putting on a beautiful buffet dinner and it takes lots and lots of volunteers to put on something of that magnitude. It’s a huge undertaking, larger than I ever imagined,” she added.

Magnificent seven Talons swimmers qualify for provincials

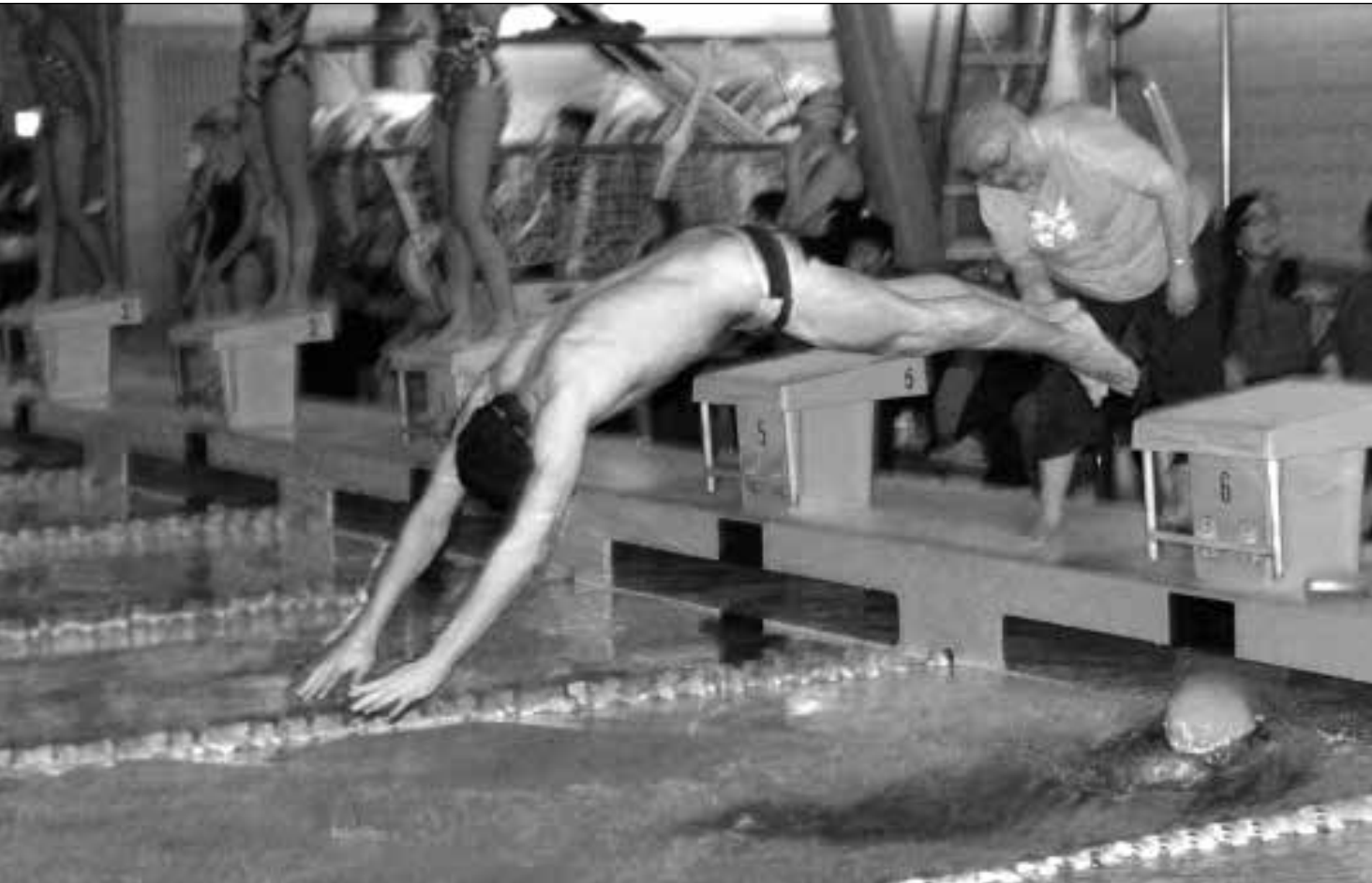


PHOTO BY: JADE DEVARAS

Diving for gold: Grade 11, shows his fine diving form in a relay event as he dives off the block after his teammate’s tag. Student is one of seven Gleneagle swimmers in provincial competition today.

TYLER JOHNSON
staff reporter

The Gleneagle swim team is preparing for provincial championships after an outstanding performance at Fraser Valleys.

Seven of Gleneagle’s 16 swimmers qualified for provincials. **Jeremy Au**, grade 9, **Jacob Christensen**, grade 10, **Danaka Brown**, grade 10, **Hailey Knowles**, grade 10, **Daniel Luo**, grade 11, **Jonathan Zhang**, grade 11, and **Austin Brimm**, grade 11, will be representing

Gleneagle at the provincial championships. “Qualifying through our zone is not easy. There [are] a lot of really strong swimmers in the Fraser Valley zone,” said coach of the team, **Mark Tustin**.

Luo and Knowles both placed first

in their category for the Fraser Valley Championships. “I think from Fraser Valleys going into provincials I have a pretty good chance,” said Luo.

This year, Tustin is hoping that the Gleneagle swimmers can qualify for finals.

“If you’re in the finals, that’s quite an achievement because you’re one of the top eight swimmers for that event in the entire province,” said Tustin.

While all swimmers are doing well this season, Tustin expects most of the swimmers to be in the ‘consolation final’ with only a few making it to finals.

“[Luo and Knowles] will be more than likely be in the finals this year. If they are not in the finals, I will be surprised,” said Tustin.

But individual events are not the only place that the Gleneagle swimmers qualified. “We also have strong relay teams as well. And I would guess that we have a number of teams, at least two, that would be in the finals for the relay,” said Tustin.

Throughout the season the Gleneagle swimmers continually improve their times and sometime even exceed their own expectations. “Jacob Christensen . . . really exceeded my expectations. He went into four relay events at Fraser Valleys and he’s qualified for all four events,” said Tustin.

As much as swimming is an individual sport, teamwork is very important as well. The constant support they receive motivates the swimmers.

“The amount of team spirit that swimmers seem to bring ... is a pretty awesome feeling,” said Luo.

Talons display their talents at Circle Craft Christmas Market



ALEXANDRA COOPER PHOTO

Uncovering hidden talents: Gleneagle grade 12 students, (from right to left) **Grace Yu**, **Cheyenne Manning** and **Travis Anderson** displayed their eye-catching graphic art at the Circle Craft Christmas Market. This is the ninth year that Gleneagle has participated.

ALEXANDRA COOPER
staff reporter

Gleneagle art students, past and present, had their work displayed for five days at the annual Circle Craft Christmas Market, at the Vancouver Convention Centre last week.

The pieces, along with work from secondary students across the lower mainland, were presented in the foyer for patrons to view before entering the market.

The exhibition allows students to represent their natural talent and ability, and to provoke thoughtful interpretations.

Grace Yu's is a good example. "[The piece]

is supposed to be symbolizing childhood and how, when we're children, we always want to open up the wall in front of us and look into the new world," says Yu, grade 12.

"We always want to open up the wall in front of us and look into the new world."

Last spring, art teachers, **Mike McElgunn** and **Aryn Gunn** picked ten students' artwork to be submitted. Seven of the ten selected graduated last June but **Cheyenne Manning**, **Travis Anderson** and Yu still remain as grade 12's.

These artistically gifted students used

photography, graphics and drawing to create their works.

"If you look back at my elementary report

card . . . the only thing I did well in was art," said Yu.

McElgunn, who organized Gleneagle's presence at the show, is very proud of the students' work.

"The Circle Craft Christmas Market student exhibition is a really good

opportunity for our students to showcase their skills and abilities," said McElgunn.

"When Mr. McElgunn first told me about it, I was like, 'what is that?'" Manning queried.

The market is a collection of vendors from around British Columbia who create and sell items consisting of handcrafted jewelry, to clothes, to handcrafted Christmas ornaments.

Over 300 exhibitors and approximately 40 000 arts and crafts enthusiasts made the market successful for another year.

Gleneagle artwork is also displayed in the community at other times during the year at The Evergreen Cultural Centre, Coquitlam Centre Mall, and the Port Moody Library.

Students present their reality with original script for Metfest

JASON ROBERTS
staff reporter

After three months of preparation the Metfest team is gearing up to perform this year's play, one that the students wrote themselves.

Gleneagle's drama club is putting on its annual Metfest fall play this month. The play is called *Boxed* and debuts Tuesday November 27 at Gleneagle.

The play is styled as a mosaic and deals with the trials and tribulations of high school told through the eyes of those who attend it. This style means that the play does not have definitive lead roles; all of the students involved have near equal parts playing multiple roles.

In preparation for the performance the Metfest work was performed as a preview at Heritage Woods Secondary on Friday November 2.

The previews act as a meeting between the schools of the district, with each school presenting a five minute segment of their

play. This way all of the schools get to see each other's work.

As a whole, the drama club felt that their performance at the preview left definite room for improvement.

Drama student **Albert Cao**, grade 11, said "We all kinda agreed that the previews did not go as smoothly as we would've liked. The scene could've been worked way more and lines and cues could have been way sharper."

The play that is being performed is an original piece of work, written by the students.

While writing the play, the drama club stuck with a write-what-you-know mentality and as a result the play is largely about themselves.

Drama teacher **Ashley Freeborn** gave the students questions about themselves that the students were allowed to answer in any form: poetry, anecdote, narrative.

Responses to the questions would then act as guidelines for the script and help the students all write their own parts in the play which revolve around their own lives.

With only one more week of practice,

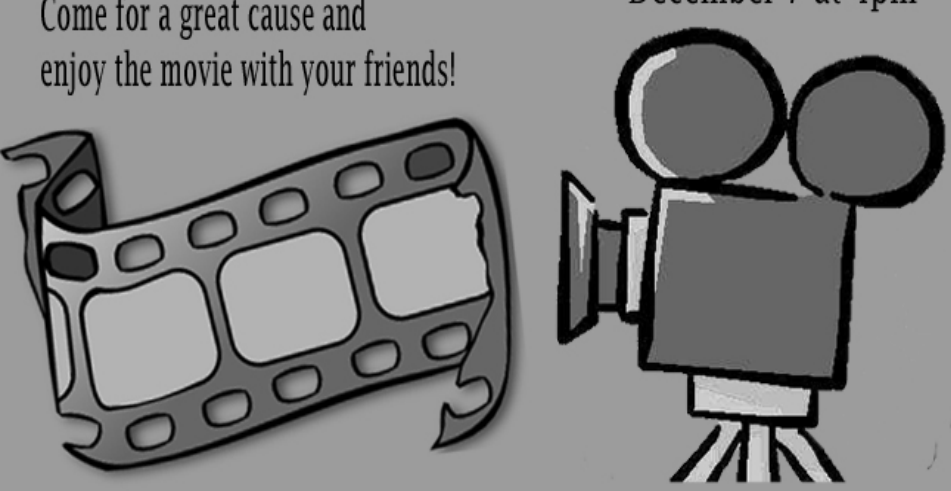
everyone involved is working hard to make the performances the best they possibly can.

Boxed runs from November 27 to 29 at Gleneagle's theatre.

Movie Night

Come for a great cause and enjoy the movie with your friends!

December 7 at 4pm



Admission is a non-perishable food item
All Proceeds go to Share food Bank