

PAYNE INTERVIEW

What does it take to be a vice principal?

By **Kejia Tang and Connor Casey**

Q: What made you decide to take the vice principal job?

A: I had originally been teaching at Mount Anthony and I was frustrated at how the building was run. If Mount Greylock had not hired me as a history teacher, I would have gone on to get a license to be a principal. Being offered the vice principal after Dr. Davenport left the position was therefore very appealing to me.

Q: What is the greatest difference between you and Dr. Davenport, do you think, and what are you doing differently from him?

A: I've continued most of his policies at the moment and just added a hat rule. I guess the greatest difference would be that since I had been a teacher here, many of my former students are very familiar

EDITORS' NOTE – Timothy Payne was named vice principal of Mount Greylock RHS in the summer, after teaching history at Greylock and in Bennington, Vt., schools. Two weeks ago, he was interviewed by two Echo issue editors. Here are the editors' notes of their questions and his answers.

with me. Some of the seniors still call me "Timmay," and I don't think any would have called Dr. Davenport by his first name (or a variation of it).

A: What's the reasoning behind the hat rule?

Q: It's just a matter of courtesy. I had gone to an all male Catholic high school where there was a dress code, so this hat rule really isn't much compared to that. Most people seem to have no problem with it.

Q: Do you prefer this, or teaching?

A: I do miss teaching; however, I get to interact with a lot more kids as a vice

principal. Also, I don't have any tests to grade now, so that's a plus.

Q: What do you wish to accomplish as a vice principal?

A: I'd like to overhaul the onsequences for breaking school rules. I'd like to see punishments that fit the crime on more of an individual basis.

The consequences right now don't affect students equally. For instance, while a suspension might cause some kids never to commit the offense again, others would see it as just another vacation and not be affected at all. I want conse-

quences that would make every offender think twice about committing the offense again.

I'd like to have some sort of a worthwhile senior privilege too, though I'll still need to think about that.

Also, I'd like to see the school running a schedule where students could have classes more tailored to their individual needs, so kids taking college classes could do so conveniently, and kids who need special help would have time for it.

Q: Last but not least, what are the responsibilities associated with being a vice principal? What would be "a typical school day in the life of Mr. Payne?"

A: Mostly I oversee student safety and discipline. I also help organize and approve clubs and co-curricular activities.

Film festival fills Images house; next year's effort underway already

By **Henry Smith**

Eight students. Eight student films. One student film festival.

Such was the slogan of the recently inaugurated Student Independent Film Festival. And indeed it was true.

With six Mount Greylock film makers participating in the project, it became somewhat of a reunion — with films as varied as Zoe Remillard's serene portrait of a lifelong artist to Sam White's violent portrayal of a Chow Yun-Fat crazed movie viewer. Paul Bergman, Jessie McDonald, Henry Smith, Dave Their were among others who participated as well. Often, over 10 hours of editing were needed to

REVIEW

condense hours of film, to five minutes of perfection.

Overall, it was a complete success, and not without an audience, either.

With free admissions, Images Cinema in Williamstown had a packed house, with delighted viewers of all ages.

For those of you who missed it this time, don't worry. Next year's second-annual student independent film festival is already underway, and it promises to be an even greater success than this year's.



Student filmmakers gathered at Red Herring Restaurant are, from left, Jesse MacDonald, Paul Berman, Zoe Remillard, Henry Smith, and Sam White (film maker David Their not present).

INSIDE:

Partner pot luck

Smack your lips. Greylock Partners have set a school community potluck for Saturday,

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Override again?

One school committee member forees another override. Page 3

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WANTED:

Tutors for middle-school academic assistance

By **Logan Garrity**

The Mount Greylock Student Tutoring Service is looking for more tutors.

Launched this fall, the service is planned to give middle-school students who need it a little extra help in their studies. It is designed as a one-on-one style program with high-school tutors coming into middle school classrooms during extended to tutor individual students.

Middle School students meet with their designated tutor during extended period to get help on their homework and current studies. If needed however, tutors without individual students may also help small groups.

Originally thought of by sophomore Kejia Tang at the end of last school year as a subdivision of SMILE, it was quickly

realized that it would not fit in. SMILE in its current design is more for one-time events rather than a long term project like Tang had envisioned.

He contacted the necessary people at the beginning of this school year and submitted a proposal to Vice Principal Timothy Payne, who then brought it to both Principal Russell Norton and Supt. Mark Piechota.

The idea got approved, but no funding was provided due to the recent monetary shortages.

This was okay as Spanish teacher Amy Freeman volunteered to be the advisor even without the standard advisor fee, since this would definitely be a great benefit to the school and its teachers.

At the same time and independently, English teacher Eliza Barrett had designed her own informal tutoring

program with help from MG Junior Sarah Emmonds, similar to Tang's model, and it was decided to merge the two into a joint organization with two advisors.

This service was thought up to give middle-school students extra attention during school. The Homework Club is after school and Williams College tutors are not as readily available. This service is during extended so that it does not add to the already busy schedule of the tutored or the tutors.

One problem that has occurred is that there are not enough tutors to meet the demand. At the current time those who need tutoring outnumber the tutors nearly three to one.

Any new high schoolers interested in becoming a tutor please contact Kejia Tang, Sarah Emmonds, Ms. Freeman, or Ms Barrett.

Unity group probing substance abuse topic; more members are sought; spring topic undecided

By Jenay Haskins

Substance abuse is the fall topic of UNITY, a group of students who meet to plan and discuss forums — meetings open to UNITY groups from other schools. UNITY stands for “United Neighboring Interdependent Trusting Youth.”

Meetings are once a month, and there is a separate group for middle school and high school. There are four members in the middle school group, and seven in the high school group. New members are welcome to both groups. There are four meetings per year — two in the fall and two in the spring, plus the multi-school forums.

Advised by Sue Strizzi, it is run mostly by club members. Right now the club is discussing substance abuse and getting the message out to others. The spring topic is undecided, but it will definitely involve members of the community. There is no activity fee involved!

S.M.I.L.E.S. adds new officers, slates it's own events

Another year of S.M.I.L.E. (Students Making an Impact Locally for Everyone) has begun. This year's membership has nearly doubled, broadening the possible upcoming events. With new officers; Sarah Whateley as vice president, Rachel Finan as treasurer, and Sarah Hirsch as secretary – club members expect it to be a great year. Also the club has returning co-presidents, Emily Stinson and Lara Moody.

S.M.I.L.E. has already contributed many hours to the community by volunteering at the Little Red School House's annual Apple Fest, Mount Greylock's Work Day and the Connor's Run.

S.M.I.L.E. members also plan to initiate several events, including visits to the Eleanor Sunshini Animal Shelter, Sweet Brook Nursing Home, a snack drive benefitting the Williamstown Youth Center, and sponsoring families around the holidays.

From catapults to togas, JCL makes Latin fun

By Jenay Haskins

The Junior Classical League: enhancing Latin while having fun!

The JCL is run by consuls Alex Kopynec and Jennifer Kodela and their advisors Marjorie Keeley and Sherley Blood.

Upcoming events include the fall raffle (with many awesome prizes!) and Classics Day on Nov. 8. There will be all sorts of fun activities to do and contests to enter on that day. Also, an induction ceremony will be held soon. The major JCL event, the state convention, will be held from April 30 - May 1. It will be an overnight at UMass-Amherst.

Besides the big JCL events, Certamen (Latin Jeopardy) sessions are held every Thursday

... Getting acquainted



Submitted photo

The Middle School Chorus takes direction from Marelene Walt during the Oct. 22 "Get Acquainted Concert on Oct. 22 before a nearly-full MGRHS auditorium. The program included the Middle and High School bands and orchestras, and the High School Chorus. Works by Mozart, Holst, Beethoven, Brahms and contemporary composers and song writers were included.

after school until 4:00 in Ms. Keeley's room. Starting in January, league members will be learning Myth Certamen.

Film club 'rocks' with Rinehart as new advisor

By David Their

Despite all impediments, the Film Club has continued to totally rock.

Last year, the film club was founded by a group of industrious sophomores inter-ested in completely awesome movies.

With Randall Sherwood as the advisor, and movies such as John Woo's Hard Boiled and Bottle Rocket, it was wicked sweet.

Mathias Bartels, student council member and respected student, was quoted as saying, "I wasn't in the film club last year, but I can imagine how much awesomer my life would have been if I was."

The outlook was grim for the film club this year with the loss of the beloved Randy Sherwood as club advisor and the new monetary regulations on clubs. However the film club was resurrected with a new and equally-as-rocking advisor Kathy Rinehart. The film club meets day 4s during extended learning in Mr. Rinehart's (room 68), and has already screened "The Big Labowski", "Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas", and has participated in a field trip to the opening of Quentin Tarantino's "Kill Bill". The film club is always looking for new members.

NEWS

Council retreat focuses on better connections with the student body

Student council has set its goals this year in strengthening the connections between itself and the student body, and taking a more active role in administrative decisions made concerning students (i.e. the school budget).

During a four-hour student council "retreat" earlier this fall, council members discussed goals for the new year, including better ways of connecting with the student body. Several committees have been instituted to inform students of student council activities, solicit input, and analyze ways of furthering student ideas and wants.

Student council is also planning on hosting a middle-school dance and of course, the senior citizen's dinner in the spring. A suggestion box is being set and students are encouraged to speak to their class representatives about any concerns they may have regarding either student council or student life in general.

Student/fac board will review discipline

A Student Faculty Review Board, new this year, has been instituted.

The board consist of three students and three faculty members, chaired by the head of guidance. Three students: William Fogel, Billy Lamb and Patrick Flynn, have been elected in a school-wide election to participate as student "judges" on this board.

The intention of this board is to provide greater fairness for students appealing disciplinary actions taken against them. Students who have trespassed school rules and believe that they have been punished unfairly may appeal to this board of faculty and peers.

Until this year, their only appeal was to the vice principal on all disciplinary matters.

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Molloy thinks override needed again

Board struggles to avoid dependence upon private grants; eyes senior project idea

By Carl Kubler

Struggling to make next year's \$9.8-million budget independent of more money from Williams College or other private sources, the Mount Grey Regional School Committee is looking at all options.

But already, one committee member is saying there may be no option other than to seek another Proposition 2-1/2 override vote. Committee member John Molloy was quoted Sept. 18 in the North Adams Transcript as saying a Proposition 2-1/2 override will be needed.

"I'm anticipating where the budget will be next year and it's a big challenge," Molloy told the newspaper. "It isn't as if we can count on an increase in state aid to cover the increases in our budget."

The committee recently ratified its educational goals for the 2003-2004

academic year. The goals encompass actions that would:

- More effectively integrate the mission statement into the curriculum

- Clarify to the public the financial needs and budget processes of Mount Greylock

- Increase community involvement with the school; and,

- Improve relationships between the administration and the committee.

In preparation for the "self study" that will be conducted prior to next year's school re-accreditation process, Chairman Robert Petricca says board members plan to "break [each course] down and analyze it to see how [they] can do better."

In addition to ratifying these goals, the School Committee unanimously

approved Supt. Mark Piechota's evaluation objectives by a 7-0 vote.

These objectives, similar to many of the School Committee's goals, also include developing a budget plan that is independent of aid from the GAP Fund and Williams College, assessing a variety of class-scheduling options and possibly implementing a senior project as a new graduation requirement.

The school district benefitted from successful overrides in Lanesborough and Williamstown for the fiscal year beginning June 1. A one-time gift from Williams College added \$250,000 and more than \$60,000 was raised by parents and citizens through the Greylock Assistance Project (GAP).

PARTNER POT LUCK

Share food, or gift, at first-ever school-community dinner upcoming Nov. 22

Share food, and share a gift, at first-annual Saturday night potluck in new cafeteria on Nov. 22

No tickets to buy, no donations to make — just bring yourself and your family to the First Annual Mount Greylock Potluck Dinner and Gift Exchange.

Mount Greylock Partners, the school's new parent-teacher-staff-and-community organization, is sponsoring a pot-luck evening on Saturday, Nov. 22, from 5 p.m.-7 p.m. in the school cafeteria, according to Sally White, a school-committee member helping to organize the event.

"It's an evening when parents, teachers, administrators and students can just sit down together and relax, talk, laugh and enjoy each other's company," said White. "Bring something to eat and share with your neighbors."

She said each family member can also contribute an item to the "gift table." These gifts should be nearly new — like the wedding present that's been sitting in the back of your closet for the last 19 years.

Too good to throw away, yet not quite your style, or something that duplicates what you already own.

Fondue pots, wide ties and plush earmuffs will find a welcome home on the gift table, White said. "Of course one person's trash is another person's treasure," she added. "[So] when you donate your wacky, tacky gift, you'll get a numbered ticket."

The purchaser of each ticket will then have a chance to claim an eye-catching item to take home, White said.

Depending on the first letter of your last name, participants should bring to share at the Nov. 22 dinner and social:

A-F — Juice/ Soda

G-L — Dessert

M-R — Main Dish

S-Z — Tossed Salad

or Fruit Salad



Submitted photo

Spotlights training on the Bard

Shakespeare & Co. directors, assisted by parent and student volunteers, participated Oct. 23 in a set-building workshop in preparation for Nov. 13-14 performances at MGRHS.

GAP organizers schedule planning session, urge students to get involved in closing gap

Parents and community leaders who formed the Greylock Assistance Project (GAP) fund last year when the school's budget crisis started are holding what they term an important followup meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 19.

The 7 p.m. meeting in the Mount Greylock school library, has been called to review the anticipated district budget for the 2004-2005 school year, the future of the GAP Fund and the status of activity and athletic

participation fees, according to Beth Goodman, one of the GAP organizers.

School committee members, administrators, and representatives of the GAP Fund committee will provide information and answer budget questions.

In spite of a 2/3 across the board cut in funding for athletics and activities, the GAP Fund has enabled all fall clubs, teams, and arts programs to go forward. Funding continues for winter

and spring activities and athletics, with a strong likelihood that nothing will have to be cut, said GAP organizer Lisa Hiley.

"But the budget outlook for the 2004-05 school year looks even grimmer than before," said Hiley, urging students to get involved in finding ways to close the funding gap.

"Student participation was critical to the passage of the override in May; your continued involvement will make a real difference!"

CLEANUP! . . . *More workdays are planned*

By the Echo Staff

Organizers of an October campus cleanup day, buoyed by a 265-person turnout, are making plans for more efforts to spruce up Mount Greylock Regional High School with more paint, more decoration, more cleaning and perhaps more equipment.

Cleanup day organizer Anne Hogeland (hogeland@adelphia.net) met with the School Committee on Oct. 17 to report on the event.

"In total, approximately 1500 person-hours of time was donated to the school as part of this effort," Hogeland says. "The volunteers accomplished a great deal, including extensive landscaping throughout the school grounds and painting the entire cafeteria."

She said that among examples of projects accomplished outdoors were landscaping, bulb planting, garden expansion, and shrub trimming and planting. Also painting of the gym entrance; raking, weeding, edging and mulching the Japanese garden; construction of new mahogany and pine benches. Indoors, the entire cafeteria was repainted, vents were cleaned of debris, painting of interior doors and lobby trim, scraping and painting the auditorium lobby. Also, volunteers installing new shelving for band instruments, cleaning and organizing trophy cases.

The energy propelling the Workday effort has extended beyond that event, Hogeland adds. She says one local carpenter, who was unable to attend that Saturday, learned that the school had a pile of broken easels that were completely unusable.

"He picked up the seven broken easels from the art room and brought them to his shop for repair," Hogeland says. "A few days later, he returned to the school with newly refurbished easels, and he has volunteered to do additional work." She said other volunteers who constructed benches for the school at the Workday will be installing two large mahogany benches at the gym entrance of the school, providing students with a place to sit while awaiting the late buses.

Williamstown Savings Bank provided financial support for the workday, Hogeland said, and businesses which donated services, supplies or expertise included: Berkshire Ivy Gardens, Robert Emmons and Chris Kapiloff (painting); Caligari Hardware, Orion Analytical, Petricca Construction, Countryside Landscaping, Taconic Lumber, Greenberg's, Latson & Latson, Aubuchon Hardware,



Ann Hogeland stands in front of 14 sheets of paper posted after the Oct. 14 workday. Each paper details projects assigned at the day's 7:30 a.m. start and completed by the end. The workday was termed a success by Hogeland in a presentation to the School Committee.

Butler Wholesale, GH Housen, Snapple, Wohrle's Foods and Wonder Nissen.

School Committee Chairman Robert Petricca, (robertw@petricca.com) who joined volunteers for the cleanup day, said it was great to see all the work accomplished. "But to me that was only a small part of the benefit that our school and students received," Petricca said in a post-workday email to volunteers. "Just the thought of so many people caring enough to give their time and effort to improve the look of our school so that students would have a nicer place to study, sets a great example for all of us involved with the school."

Petricca used the email note to urge anyone who has a negative experience with the school to contact him.

"Until we are able to rid our community of all the misconceptions that abound about the school, we will never truly be a school that everyone holds in high esteem," he said.

Here is a list supplied by Ann Hogeland, of the work completed on the first cleanup day:

OUTSIDE:

- Extensive landscaping around the school grounds, including:
 - School sign on Rt. 7 (weeded, planted bulbs and shrubs)
 - Rock garden (weeded, planted bulbs)
 - Front driveway (planted bulbs)
 - Front of building - main entrance (weeded and expanded flower)
 - Garden, planted shrubs and bulbs, removed shrubs against building)
 - Front of school - by wrestling room (planted shrubs, edged, mulched)
 - Long courtyard (removed large shrubs against walls and vents, pruned, planted bulbs)
 - Health courtyard (removed hedge against building)
 - Back gym yard (pruned shrubs and trees for mower access)
 - Gym entrance (created new garden by retaining wall)
 - Cafeteria yard (planted shrubs and bulbs)
 - Japanese garden (raked, weeded, edged, and mulched; removed hedge against building; planted bulbs)
 - Greenhouse flower bed (created bed for use by Latin students)
 - Repairing and repainting picnic tables, constructing new benches (2 double mahogany, 4 single pine)
 - Cleaning vents of debris - removed outer vent, cleaned and

INSIDE:

- Complete cleaning and repainting of the cafeteria and washing Windows (professional equipment used; required extensive "prep" on Friday (Third coat on wooden doors on Sunday).
- Cleaning, scraping, and painting of doors and trim in lobbies and hallways (started at front of school — worked down hallways)
- Auditorium lobby (included extensive
- Scraping, priming, and finish coat on entryway doors) in principal's lobby, gym lobby and outside the weight room.
- Cleaning and organizing trophy cases in gym lobby
- Installing shelves for band instruments



Henry Suave, left, kneels with his mother, xxxxxx, beside a mahogany bench, one of two constructed by them and other volunteers during the Oct. 4 workday. The benches were to installed in front of school in a bus-waiting area.

Governance in an information vacume: What should be done?

By Fountain

What does a student government do? Does it govern us? If it does, how does it do so? Does it represent us? If it does that, then what does it represent us about? What do we elect them for? Why are they here?

I believe that a student government is a wonderful thing. The more power that can go into student hands the better. Students should take a role and responsibility in shaping the institution that has such a great impact on their lives. And because we, the student body, do not have the resources or the time to discuss and vote on every big or small decision we need to make, we elect a council to be our voice, to do it for us.

Because we, the student body, do not have the resources or the time to find out all the events occurring in this school and how those events affect us, we elect a council to find out for us. And yet, after so many years now, we still have not found out anything. What is happening? What decisions have been made? How will they affect us? Do we not have a right to know?

The students complain. We always seem to be complaining. And the council tells us, "Why complain? If you want to know what's going on, come to our meetings." But if we are going to your meetings, then what do we elect you for? If we have to come to council meetings ourselves to find out what's happening, then why do we elect representatives at all?

So we complain some more. And they tell us, "Why complain? If you want something to change, then tell us what to do differently." But how can we do so when we do not even know what's going on?

We say that we want a say in the decisions that affect us. So they tell us, "If you want a say in the decisions made, then why do you elect us? We are

Anonymous opinion: What do you think?

Echo editors decided to respect the request of the author of this column, a sophomore, that his name be withheld. Do you support this decision? Write a letter to echo@newshare.com. How can student council be more visible to the student body?

your voice in this school. We are the ones who are supposed to represent you. We know your wants; we know what's best for you."

Why do we elect them? How do they know best? How can they possibly know what we want? If the great student body has no clue in what the tiny little council is doing, then how can that tiny little council have a clue in the desires and needs of the whole student body?

We say also that we want increased communication. We say that we want to know what's going on. We have said that for years. And what is the result? What has occurred? What have they done differently? What do we know? What have they told us besides to stop complaining? Even after that mysterious four hour "retreat," what changes can be seen?

Last year, every day, I heard my representatives talk about this project "Revolution and a Half." It was this big, mysterious thing they told me. They would go to these Project 540 meetings, eat chips, eat pizza, and drink soda. I did not know what Project 540 was until election day came.

Are we supposed to wait until election day every year before we can know what has occurred? Is it only when their positions are on the line that they let us know what's happening?

POETS' CORNER

Starry Night

By Kejia Tang

A pie-sized moon, a single eye
Gazes upon His creation
Trees growing down from the nighttime sky
And the stars –
Droplets of water from a cosmic sprinkler
Trickling to a stream of milk
Spilled from a heavenly child

Mortals' wonder rise like smoke
Permeates the skyscape
Veiling the trees in a foggy iridescence
And the child –
He laughs as he ties knots in the belt of Orion
Hunts in the forest of his father's tending
Joy splashing upon uplifted faces below

A head, an arm, a tree
Mortal brushes fly upon a canvas of night
Images pooling on the page
And the faces –
Raised to the Eye that watches
The sprinkler caught midmotion
The milk puddling in the sky.

The poet is a sophomore.

TEAM ECHO

The Mount Greylock Echo is the student newspaper of Mount Greylock Regional High School in Williamstown, Mass. It is published once per month during the academic year. Each issue is developed and edited by a team of "issue editors" and writers. Any Mount Greylock student may join the staff, attend meetings and submit articles. A year-to-year governance structure of The Echo is under development.

Issue editors, staff

This month's issue editors were Conor Casey and Kejia Tang. The next issue will be published Nov. 29; story deadline is Nov. 22; December issue editor is Carl Kubler. Staffers or contributors for this issue included: Chris Densmore, Logan Garrity, Jenay Haskins, Dan Hogan, Ruth Montiel, Heather Murtagh, Henry Smith and David Their.

Next meeting Tuesday

Next staff meeting, Tues., Nov. 4, 2:30 p.m., in Room 60 (back of library). All welcome.
Mount Greylock Echo
Room 60

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ASK MONTY

EDITORS' NOTE — Ask Monty is planned as a regular feature of The Echo. These first three questions were composed by Echo staffers, as were the answers. Monty is a composite — not a single person. We hope this feature will walk an appropriate line between pure good-natured humor and useful advice. Send "Ask Monty" questions to echo@newshare.com. Include your phone number for verification purposes.

Smart 'pet' feels degraded

Dear Monty:

Somebody has been degrading me because I usually get an A when my school papers are passed back. People call me Smarty Pants and teacher's pet. I feel like I'm too different, but I can't change who I am. Can I? What do you think I should do?

Signed,
"Wish I Were Cool"

ANSWER: Why do you want to change? Mount Greylock takes pride in being the "smarty pants" school of the region. You're a true Mountie. Or, you could just relax be stupid like everyone else. You may find acceptance among many of your peers. But will that acceptance last into adulthood? Will it limit your future options?

How to handle a problem teacher

Dear Monty:

One of my teachers doesn't really make learning fun. She drones on about stuff that was interesting the first couple times, but is just plain boring, now that she's been reviewing it for a week. She doesn't really comprehend what we're saying sometimes, and will start a long discussion. Also, she doesn't tell us what our homework is until one minute after the bell rings, she just goes on teaching.

This is a problem for some people, because they are late for their next class, or even worse, break or lunch. What should I do?

Yours Truly,
"Bored Out of My Mind"

ANSWER: Lets see you handle a group of 20 rowdy kids five days a week and see how you turn out. Or, if you think you'd do fine, give your teacher a teaching lesson. Besides, you can always play calculator games in the back row. Who'll notice?

Choosing partners can be tricky

Dear Monty:

We have to pick partners for a class project in school. My two best friends are in my class, and I don't know who I should pair up with. I think I may like one more than the other, but I don't want to hurt anyone's feelings. What should I do?

Sincerely,
"Can't Choose!!!"

ANSWER: Hmmm, how is it possible for you have two best friends? Are you

- schizophrenic
- have multiple personalities, or
- you think "best" is plural?

Sorry to break it to you bud, but best means only ONE. You'll have to choose, which one is really "the best."

Greylock Echo SPORTS

TACKLE ST. JOE'S ON FRIDAY

FB Mounties take aim at 4:4 season

By The Echo Staff

Mount Greylock's varsity football squad, 3-4 in the season so far, has a shot at its best win-loss record in three years when it goes up against St. Joseph's High School in a season finale on Friday at 7 p.m. at Wahconah Park in Pittsfield.

"St. Joe's is a very good football team," said Coach Shawn Flaherty. "We have to stop their run to compete against them and that will be the biggest key." If the Mounties succeed, said Flaherty, they'll end on a high note with a 4-4 season. "That's pretty good," he said.

"We're going to come out strong and try to put a big dent in St. Joe's season," said tight-end Greg Holland. "This is a big game for the seniors, because it is our last."

"I think it will be a good game if we can get all the facets of our offense working -- we should do pretty well," said wing back Dan Hogan. "St. Joe has a pretty good game. They just took their first loss on Saturday against Hoosac Valley."

After two undefeated seasons in 1999 and 2000, the Mounties closed 2001 and 2002 with 3-4 records. They

dropped the Homecoming game, 38-14, against Lee's Wildcats.

"We did pretty well against the Wildcats," said Hogan about the loss to Lee. "It looked like we were confusing them a little bit in the first half and then they kind of figured us out in the second half. But we are pretty happy with our performance."

The Lee game didn't work out as they had wanted it to, said Coach Flaherty. "I felt like we played really well in the first half and in the second half it was a strange how it changed real quickly."

On Friday the Mounties will be led into battle by senior captains Dillon Trites, Kyle Jolin, and Jordan Healy.

Earlier in the season, Greylock picked up its three wins against Dury, Monument Mountain, and Pittsfield High with scores of 21-14, 45-20, and 16-6 respectively. The losses came courtesy of top-level league foes Taconic, Wahconah and most recently the Hurricanes. One change this season has been the absence of veteran coach John Allen, who resigned his consulting coaching position earlier

this year in protest of planned privatization of the school's athletic programs as a way of dealing with state education funding cuts.

"It was a little different at first," Flaherty says. "He's a close friend of mine and I coached under him for 13 years and I definitely miss him." Allen now coaches for Williams College.

Women runners still undefeated going into WMass

What do their captain and coach say? How do they work as a team?

By Heather Murtaugh

They are looking good for WMASS!

This year the Mount Greylock Girls Cross Country team is undefeated as they enter post-season meets.

They are showing how hard work and cohesive team effort could win the league. Working as a team both on the course and during practice has paid off well. Through sun, rain, and mud the girls were able to show strong numbers in all of their races.

The season opened with many questions on how the results would turn out. With many of the top runners injured, the team was lucky to have other girls step up and take the lead. Spectators of the race were shocked by the large packs of Greylock runners that appeared out of the woods, the newspapers have dubbed the team, "The Sea of Red." Just as one "Sea of Red" disappears another wave of red rushes by spectators.

Boys runners pace to a 12-1 domination of Berkshire County with 25-32 Taconic win

By Carl Kubler

The Mount Greylock Boys' Cross Country Running Team is having a spectacular season this fall.

Led by co-captains Will Fogel and Ben Kolesar, Mounty runners dominated Berkshire County with a 12-1 record. Notable was not only their 25-32 triumph over Taconic High School, delivering that school its first loss in nearly three years and ousting it from its position as Berkshire County Champion,

but also Mt. Greylock's recent 22-37 victory against Pittsfield High School.

Pittsfield suffered its first loss of the season in this meet, with formerly undefeated runner Adam Schwartz losing to Mount Greylock's Ryan Flynn-Kasuba by a margin of 0.26 seconds. The Mount Greylock team looks forward to being a high contender for the Western Massachusetts title as well as improving significantly over its performance at States from last year.

Got an idea?

Heard a newsworthy story?

Want to share your ideas?

If the latter describes what you've been thinking while reading this paper, come to The Echo meeting Tuesday November 4th at 2:30 in the computer lab in back of the library. All grades are welcome, and if you have any interest, The Echo staff encourages you to join, or turn in any submissions to members of The Echo.

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