

NO SOUP TODAY



Jill Moncecchi, left, and Chris van Luling, cafeteria workers at Mount Greylock, pose last month alongside 10-gallon jugs of water which have replaced tap water in cooking due to perchlorates in the school wells. Off the menu for now: Soup, because it takes too much water to make. School officials are considering alternate water-supply options -- including a possible town water line.

Return of BSO eyed for next year

By Emily Baker-White

Music educators at Mount Greylock are hoping for a return visit by members of the Boston Symphony Orchestra next year, in light of the positive student reception to a March visit -- the first ever by an organized group of BSO musicians to the school.

Mount Greylock students participated in a master class with four members of the Boston Symphony Orchestra during the March 12 event sponsored by the BSO as well as the Mt. Greylock Friends of the Arts. The visit was part of the "education and outreach" program at the BSO.

This was the BSO's first time at Mount Greylock, though they have previously visited schools in the Berkshire Area, such as Reid Middle School and Pittsfield High School.

Students involved seemed fairly responsive as well. Bassist Jonah Jonathan described the event as "going fairly well" and "a good learning experience." Violinist and quartet member Kejia Tang pronounced the master class "something to get us going." Orchestra director Ouisa Forhaltz

seems optimistic that the members will return next year, perhaps with a full orchestra compliment.

This program was started by the symphony in Roxbury over 10 years ago and has since branched out to more than 80 churches, schools, and community organizations in the Roxbury area. The orchestra also branched out further to areas such as Chelsea, Peabody and Lynn, as well as its newest addition to the outreach program, Berkshire County.

Also part of this newfound partnership was a field trip back in December which took many students to Boston for a closed rehearsal of the symphony with Pulitzer Prize winning musician Wynton Marsalis. The students saw the musicians rehearse for a performance later that night of Marsalis's original work for jazz orchestra, *All Rise*. The trip was open to students grade eight and above and was free of charge.

In a two-hour workshop on Monday afternoon, a string quartet made up of BSO members performed Mozart's "The Hunt" quartet and then coached four Mount Greylock students in their performance of "Eine Kleine Nachtmusik." The master class lasted about 45 minutes, touching on many musical aspects such as dynamic contrast, ensemble participation, and balance between the instruments. The symphony members and students talked about stylistic changes, and the guest performers worked with the students on how to improve their performance and how to transfigure the notes on a page into a form of art.

The visitors then proceeded to work with the senior high string orchestra, distributing themselves among our own Mt. Greylock students. Following this orchestral session, the BSO members opened themselves up to an open question and answer session with the audience, which consisted of members of the community as well as Mount Greylock music students. Many community members seemed excited to see students playing along beside professionals, and the audience feedback was generally good.

Mount Greylock's music program hopes that the orchestra will come back full-throttle next year, perhaps for a longer and more expansive workshop experience. Perhaps next year we could have wind and brass compliments. Perhaps the orchestra could come back for multiple days. As for what has already occurred, it seems that the day was a smashing success. It gave students a chance to play music in a way they never had before. Thank you, Boston Symphony Orchestra.

School board meets June 8 Combo super/ principal eyed; are 7.5 teaching jobs in jeopardy?

By Carl Kubler

The School Committee will consider on June 8 a plan for administrative reorganization that entails combining the superintendent and principal positions, among other changes.

The task force proposing the changes believes the new administrative model, which would account for one full-time administrator, one full-time business manager and a number of deans, would cost either the same or less than the current cost of administration. This estimate is especially relevant in consideration of Williamstown's recent failure to pass another Proposition 2 1/2 override, which voters rejected by a slim 80-vote margin. Consequently, MGRHS will be short the \$156,315 it had been hoping to receive from a successful override.

The new administrative structure provides for a dean of the upper school, a dean of the middle school and a dean of curriculum, instruction and assessment. Each dean would be considered an 80 percent administrator and 20 percent teacher.

Below these deans, who are directly responsible to the top administrator, would be a dean of community resources (20 percent administrator, 80 percent teacher), a dean of school resources (40 percent administrator, 60 percent teacher), and a director of special education (60 percent administrator).

Finally, department chairs, who would be 40 percent administrators and 60 percent teachers, offer the final link in this proposed chain of command. But regardless of what form our administration takes next school year, the budget remains a pressing concern.

Given the recurring budget crisis stemming from increasing costs and decreasing revenues, the School Committee must make \$743,549 in cuts from the \$9,249,490 fiscal 2005 budget approved in March. Supt. Mark Piechota presented two options to the School Committee.

One option saves \$658,875 by cutting 4.6 full-time teaching positions budgeted in the fiscal 2005 budget and removing a further 7.5 teachers currently on staff. An addi-

Turn to REORG, on Page 8

INSIDE:

'Senior project' applauded

As the School Committee considers making the concept a requirement, pilot participants in the "Senior Project" program say they liked it, but wish they had more time. Story, Page 5.

Why oppose wind turbines?

Commentator Rachel Payne argues the macro benefits ridge-hugging wind-turbine electric generators far outweigh aesthetic concerns. Her opinion is on Page 7.

Going out for varsity

With four years of preparation and a 5-2 season record, the school's club lacrosse team says it is ready for varsity status. Story, Page 8.

Well-traveled SPED director

The school's new "SPED" director, Lynda Araoz, has studied and taught in Britain and Argentina and most recently worked in the Albany, N.Y., area. She starts in September. News brief, Page 2.



Roman feast

Parents and Latin scholars share Mediterranean-inspired "potluck" at the May 20 Junior Classical League dinner and award ceremony. More than 200 people attended.

NEWS/ARTS

Latest shows . . .



Photo courtesy of Hank Gold

Above, a light moment in the MGRHS production of "Killing Time" by Williams College alumnus Baird Jarman, directed by graduating seniors Gideon Bradburd and Amanda Bell.

"Alice in Wonderland" debuts on Thursday; O'Mara, Librizzi direct

Middle School students will stage a performance of *Alice in Wonderland* on Friday and Saturday, June 11-12 at MGRHS at 7:30 p.m.

Directed by Kathy O'Mara and David Librizzi, who run Minerva Stage drama camp in the summer and also started a film camp for kids last year, the show's musical direction is by Deborah Burns. Burns was also music director of last year's sellout "Bye Bye Birdie."



Above, director Lyndon Moor's introduces the middle-school band at a May 19 concert.

A dozen parents, others attend first Community Days

Trying a new approach to community outreach, Mt. Greylock invited parents and other adults to visit the school earlier this month -- and everyone is happy with the result.

Hosted by the student council, the project allowed members of the community to tour Mt. Greylock and better acquaint themselves with student life in the new millennium. After a brief presentation introducing the history of the school, student guides led visitors around to their 3rd-and-4th-period classes.

Roughly a dozen community members visited Mt. Greylock during the three-day period, but the student council intends on increasing this number in future community days.

SPED director hired; visits school

Mount Greylock's new "director of student services" -- a position which oversees special-education services -- visited campus last week and will start work July 1. Lynda Araoz' appointment was confirmed by the School Committee on April 6.

Araoz has been special-education and counseling director at the Albany Academy, Albany, N.Y. She also has taught English at a school in Buenos Aires, Argentina and has served as a counselor at the Neil Hellman School of Albany.

Araoz has a B.A. from St. Lawrence University, an MA from the University of Birmingham, in the United Kingdom, and a masters' in social work from SUNY-Albany. She has started graduate-level work in administration at MCLA-North Adams.

Parents appeal for submissions to the "Beacon"

With four pilot issues for May under their belt, parents who have launched the Middle School's weekly take-home newsletter are now read to accept submissions. Organizers say the Beacon is intended to reinforce the identity of the Middle School.

"We hope The Beacon will serve as a helpful communication tool for parents, students, teachers, staff, faculty, coaches and administrators to share information of interest, achievements, wish lists, scheduling and other time sensitive items," says Deb Dane, an organizer.

She urged contributors to email submissions to either DebbyDane@aol.com or Stomberg@aol.com.

JavaJive set for last day of school June 18

The last JavaJive teen coffeehouse of the school year is set for Friday, June 18, from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the First Congregational Church in Williamstown.

Students who want to perform should contact Mollie Berman at 458-2868 or at javajiveCH@yahoo.com. A period of "open mike" for non-scheduled performers will happen if time permits.

The April 2 JavaJive earned \$475 for Habitat for Humanity. Berman is especially encouraging performances by teen-aged classical and jazz musicians, comedians and poets.

Summer reading at Water Street Books

Williamstown's Water Street Book store is ordering copies of all of the required-books on the Mount Greylock Regional High School summer reading list.

Manager Richard D. Simpson said the store's hours are Mon.-Sat. 9:30 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sunday from noon-5 p.m. The phone number is 458-8072.

POETRY CORNER

Muffler

By Charlotte White

I can hear my grandmother in the other room
The sound of metal on metal, bracelets
On her thin wrists, tapping each other as she turns pages
Of her New Yorker magazine. A noise like wind chimes.

My old cat died when she was twenty-one, all
Skin and bones, fur hanging off ribs,
Claws always out, matted fur,
And a sound of claws on wood, always scratching.

My grandmother has soft skin,
And arthritis in her hands, so the joints stick out
Round like stones or buttons, and when she comes to our
house,
She sews for us. Needles clicking against each other

Sound an awful lot like cat claws on wood or tile
And the noise of creaking bones as the cat walked
Is like my grandmother on the stairs,
With her whispering bracelets that she's always had.

It seems like there should be a cacophony of noise,
Bracelets and claws and wood and needles and wind chimes,
But all the sounds are soft and muted
As if I am hearing them through felt or wool,

Something covering my face,
Keeping everything from hitting me at once.

My Friend

By Miranda Cooke

I cried,
You were there.

I laughed,
You laughed with me.

I moped,
You cheered me up.

I hurt,
You healed.

I hated you,
You loved me.

I was afraid,
You calmed my fears.

I never would have made it,
Without you.

GRADUATION 2004

GRADUATION
PULLOUT

Classmate characteristics, observed by knowing peers in good humor

EDITOR'S NOTE -- Each year, it is the custom of Mount Greylock's graduating seniors to characterize the traits of their fellow classmates. The designations are meant to be humorous. Here is The Echo's version of this year's "Senior Superlatives." Look for another view in the yearbook.

(* photos, PAGE 4)

Class Clown
Shane Miro
Kristen Miro

Most original/creative
Eli Phillips
Mary Wooters

Most outspoken*
Jeremy Richardson
Emily Adams

Most courteous
Hal Laidlaw
Amanda Bell /
Heather Murtagh

Best all-around*
B.J. van Luling/
Zach Ogden /
Ben Kolesar
Amanda Bell /
Heather Murtagh

Best nickname
"B.J." van Luling
Nicole "NuNu" Luczynski

Best hair
Peter Lieberman*
Naima Brown* /
Alysa Austin

Best car
Mike Holland
Deanna Kettles /
Charlotte White



SPRING HARVEST -- Tulips planted by volunteers at last fall's MGRHS community workday yield a harvest of color beneath the stained-glass image of the school's namesake.

Most studious
Aaron Souza
Amanda Bell*

Most musical
Yo Matsui
Megan Bailey

Most flirtatious
Damon George /
Mike Holland
Rachel Parzick

Hardest working
Alex Kopynec*
Megan Bailey* /
Colleen Farley*

Wildest party animal
Damon George
Jill LaLonde

Most mischievous
Greg Holland /
Santino Bruno
Krystal Martelle-Rolnick

Most scatterbrained
Brendan McClenachan
Missy Ouellette

Worst case of senioritis
Torey Littlefield
Jenna Gable

Did the most for MGRHS
Will Fogel*
(single-handedly
saves Mt. Greylock)

"Biggest Head"
John Bence
Deanna Kettles

White, Lamb to keynote Sunday's graduation of 109 MG seniors

One-hundred and nine seniors will receive diplomas on Sunday. The school's commencement ceremonies at 2 p.m. will include the traditional addresses by two members of the class -- one selected by faculty, William T. Lamb, and one selected by the class, Charlotte V. White.

"Some people call us 'bad,' I prefer to think of our class as 'spirited.'" Those are the words class president Zach Ogden used to describe his fellow seniors. Many say that this year's seniors are among the brightest and most hardworking, and others say they are among the most mischievous and child-like. Ogden agrees with both assessments.

Asked about the bad and good things the seniors have done, Zach names their stealing of the Junior class's pumpkin and having a senior skip day as early as...November. They are extremely proud of their pep rally however -- the best in years -- and Ogden also feels proud of having so many awesome peers: "We have some really amazing people in our class and a lot different personalities. Despite this, however, we are a very tight class."

Ogden has experienced firsthand the mischievousness of his class when he was voted class secretary in ninth grade from writings without actually being nominated, giving a speech, or having his name on the voting ballot. He declined, but when nominated by a peer for president in eleventh grade, he decided to take control of the matter accepting the nomination and eventually the office.

"We have some really amazing people and a lot different personalities. Despite this, however, we are a very tight class." -- Zach Ogden.

When asked what they liked most about Mt. Greylock, many seniors answered: "It's over." Many also said that if they had a chance to do something differently, they'd either bully underclassmen more or play more poker and bridge during class. "We like to have fun," says Ogden. "Fun is before everything for us and we tend to make a joke out of everything."

Sunday's program will include the traditional *Pomp and Circumstance* Military March by Edward Elgar, and will include a welcome by Ogden and a musical adaptation of Robert Frost's poem, "The Road Not Taken" by Randall Thompson.

A well-kept secret until Sunday is the teacher-of-the-year award, which will be conferred by the student class officers. Senior musician Yo Josef Matsui will lead the procession. For Ralph Bradburd, the school-committee member presenting diplomas, one which he hands out will be special -- it will go to his son, Gideon.

THE OTHER GRADS

Five retired teachers, counselor, former school-board member all join school's 'Wall of Honor'

Five teachers, a guidance counselor and a longtime parent volunteer / school-board member were cited for their contributions to the "vision and direction" of Mount Greylock RHS during a May 6 ceremony. Plaques naming each of them join 13 other citations and photos already on the brick wall at the school's main entrance.

A selection committee nominated the newest honorees and their names were confirmed by a school board vote. Supt. Mark Piechota told about 50 people gathered for the ceremony the Wall of Recognition "celebrates those who made enduring contributions that had significant impact on students, faculty and the life of the school."

The inductees were: Former School Committee member Carolyn Behr, the late Betty DeBlois, a counselor, and teachers Martha Dailey, Lola Green, Bill Nieman, Jerry Norton and Anne Speyer.

In his remarks, school board chairman Robert Petricca praised the seven honorees, while noting that the school was now "under seige" because of budget cuts.



WALL INDUCTEES -- From left, Bill Nieman, Fran DeBlois (husband of the late Betty DeBlois), Carolyn Behr, Anne Speyer, Lola Greene, Jerry Norton and Martha Dailey.

SENIOR SUPERLATIVES . . . a sampling



LEFT PHOTO -- "Best hair" . . . Peter Lieberman and Naima Brown. BELOW -- Most courteous and most studious . . . Amanda Bell (with teacher Tom Ostheimer and Gideon Bradburd). BELOW LEFT . . . "most outspoken" . . . Jeremy Richardson and Emily Adams.



ABOVE -- "Hardest working", from left, Colleen Farley, Megan Bailey (also most musical), Alex Kopynec . . . ABOVE RIGHT . . . "did the most for Mount Greylock" . . . Will Fogel. BELOW RIGHT, "best all around" . . . B.J. van Luling, Amanda Bell, Ben Kolesar, Heather Murtagh (also most courteous), Zach Ogden.

'Senior Project' pilot applauded; better evaluation needed?

By Kejia Tang

The first crop of participants in the senior-project program at Mount Greylock RHS appear happy with the concept, but say some fine tuning of evaluation criteria may be necessary. The school committee will consider next week whether to make completion of senior projects a formal graduation requirement beginning in 2005.

"The evaluators seemed to have different feelings on the overall tone of both the paper and the presentation," says Colin Gold, one of two seniors interviewed about their experiences with their senior project. "Some felt that informal papers and presentations were good whereas others felt that the papers were supposed to be thesis papers."

Generally though, Gold said most of the approximately 10 piloting seniors enjoyed the process and thought it worthwhile as a year-long project, as long as the grading process itself is fine-tuned with evaluators having similar expectations. Gold's project was to write a 28-page play.

"It's a great experience and opportunity to learn something you would never otherwise have the chance to learn," said Gideon Bradburd, another piloting senior who chose woodcarving as his project. Bradburd, unlike Gold, found the evaluators to be mostly fair and serious.

This year's participants in the pilot had only from mid-March to mid-May to start, complete and report on their project. If the senior project becomes a requirement, students will begin crafting their project months earlier. Projects this year ranged from translating Greek, banjo playing and wordcarving to expressing the Holocaust through art.

The participants in the project were required to complete 10 hours of field work relating to their topics, write a 6-10 page paper, and orally present their project. The oral presentations took place on Wednesday, May 19, with judges from throughout the community coming to Mt. Greylock to evaluate students' work.

Gold suggested that perhaps one-on-one meetings with

teachers and evaluators throughout the course of the project might help to keep students on the right track while Bradburd urged later project-doers to pick a topic which really interests them and about which they want to learn — rather than one that is easy to complete and is picked just to pass.

Gold had difficulty choosing a topic, but faculty mentors — history teacher Thomas Ostheimer and math teacher Michael Caraco — were described by Gold as helpful in fine-tuning his choice.

He spent many hours watching movies, reading scripts and doing research to help his writing along. "I found the whole process difficult as I tried to balance the time between writing the script and doing homework and studying for tests," he said.

Though he was very satisfied with his project, Bradburd also felt, like Gold, that a few more months would have been a great help.

Edith Wharton essay winner . . . an excerpt

The night we slept on Mount Greylock's roof

**names have been changed to protect the guilty*

By Heather Murtaugh

That summer the third forbidden action in the rule book of my camp was climbing on roofs. Everyone laughed at this rule, but I understood the severity of being 10 feet off the ground.

Living in a small town in Massachusetts, as far away from Boston as physically possible, nothing out of the ordinary ever happened in my childhood years. The summer months were passed frolicking in fields, biking around the neighborhood, splashing in pools, and to avoid extreme boredom always being sent away to summer camp.

It was two nights before I got to escape the inescapable repetition of summer life when my carefree companion, Esmerelda, and I realized that my departure was the end to our summer days. And like anyone would, we realized that we had not done anything interesting, anything crazy.

So we began to brainstorm. What could we do? But like any good idea, we took it from somebody else. My parents were hosting a belated fourth of July barbecue. Naturally all their friends were there, so my sisters and a couple of our friends wandered over to the neighbor's pools to relieve ourselves of the fake enjoyment of socializing with dry humored adults.

The day was coming to an end. The soft colors of the sun were evanescent from the ripples of the water, but it was there that logic seemed to slip away and childish judgment over took our minds. Esmerelda and I bounced our ideas of craziness off my sister, who laughed at our pathetic efforts of being original and simply said "Sleep on the roof of the school." There it was: sheer brilliance or so it seemed.

Those six words ignited our eyes, and as soon as she said it we were committed. She gave us the simple plan. One. Drive a ladder to the school. Two. Park the car somewhere else. Three. Pull the ladder up. With that plan we would get away scot free.

We took her idea, but not her plan. So after the guests had said their farewells and good-byes Esmerelda and I scurried around packing all the necessary objects: sleeping bags, sleeping mattresses, flashlights, food, music, and the ladder.

The ladder was the only tricky part. We told a little fib to my father that we were planning an early morning excursion to go apple picking on the next day. He found this to be a wonderful idea and eagerly agreed to help us load a 10-foot extension ladder in to the back of my old family station wagon. Little did he know that he was becoming an accessory to our crime. So with the sky full of stars we headed to the building where we spent so many dreaded daylight hours to spend one happy night.

So in my old station wagon we pattered up to the building, the headlights eerily reflecting off the empty glass windows. We pulled over to the gym, with the thought that if we parked in the dark no one would see the car. We climbed out of the car and dragged the ladder out of the trunk. We then went to turn on the flashlights, but in my hurry I had forgotten to check if they worked. They didn't.

So here we were. Two girls, one deathly afraid of being raped and believing that empty dark places are very suspicious, and the other nervously exhilarated yet timidly admitting how unnerving the looming school and woods looked. We stumbled around with the ladder leaning it up against the school only to discover that the gym walls were too big for my little extension ladder. Luckily it gave us an excuse to move our potential camp site to the front side of the building where the lights were and the rapists weren't. There we unloaded the car again and successfully set up camp on the roof leaving the car and ladder right in front, and thinking nothing of it. We turned on the CD player laid on our backs, admired the night sky, and finally drifted into sleep.

At about one I awoke to the soft droplets of water falling on my face. I awoke my friend asking if she

Mount Greylock students performed impressively in this year's Edith Wharton writing competition. The annual contest is open to juniors and seniors in schools in the Berkshires and offers three prizes in three categories: First Place, Citation of Merit, and Honorable Mention in Essay, Fiction, and Poetry.

This year, Greylock seniors Heather Murtagh and Charlotte White received First Place in Essay and Poetry respectively, and junior Danae Johnson and senior Angela Scerbo were honored with Citations of Merit in Fiction and Poetry. All the winners were recognized in a ceremony at the Mount, Edith Wharton's home, in Lenox on May 25.

Murtagh's essay appears on this page. White's poem, "Muffler," appears on Page 2.

thought we should leave before we got soaked, but we generally agreed that it would pass. It passed, but I fell in to an unrestful sleep which is probably why I noticed the cop lights circling the building about two hours later. The white and blue lights spun around the building.

I slapped my friend awake and if it was bright enough to see our skin color we probably turned a nice shade of white. The cop pulled around again parked right next to my car, the lights directed to the part of the roof where we were sleeping. I walked over to the edge of the roof leaving my companion behind and greeted the cop.

There I stood in my pink pajama shorts, my snuggle teddy bear tucked under one arm, and morning breath lingering in my mouth with his flashlight boring into my eyes.

"Hi," I said quite cheerfully. "Hi. What are doing," he said with some uncertainty.

"Nothing," I replied. "Is that your car?" . . . "Yeah." . . . "Who's up there with you?" . . . "Just my friend and I" . . . "There's only two of you?" he said as if he expected a party. "Yea" . . . "Yeah" . . . "Do you have any drugs?" . . . "No" . . . "Alcohol?" . . . "No." . . . "What are you doing?" . . . "Sleeping." . . . "Hm . . ."

He seemed confused as to what to do so I made him a suggestion.

"Would you like us to get off the roof?" I asked.

"Yeah, that would be good," he replied, and paused, then adding: "I guess you should bring your stuff down too."

His radio interrupted our productive conversation and through the static I heard someone say that back-up was on the way. He said that he wouldn't need help, but it was too late. The lights of all the police on duty (yeah a whopping total of two cars) pulled into the parking lot. And since it seemed to be my lucky night it was no other than the police woman who frequented our school ever so often.

At this point Esmerelda had pretty much become silent. I guess she thought I would do a better job of playing dumb with the police people. But I wasn't really playing dumb. We weren't doing anything that they forbid us to do in D.A.R.E. So the police asked a couple more questions and requested to see my license. I handed it over -- trying to be as agreeable as possible.

They then did something that I have never seen police do. They stood close to each other and in hushed voices contemplated what to do with us. I think we were a one of a kind situation for them. This was a one of a kind situation for me. Then they turned to us and the police woman spoke.

"Ummm . . . So you guys realize you are trespassing." Strangely enough though, that idea had actually never occurred to me. "After dark it is illegal for you to be here unsupervised."

I suddenly had a vision of my parents bailing me out of jail, but luckily that was swept away. "But since we haven't had trouble with you before, we aren't going to arrest you this time. We're going to give you a warning." (Wierd, they demand us to be at school then punish us for being there.) "So why don't you go home and we'll call your houses tomorrow."

It seemed like they were too tired to think of a real punishment. So we loaded up the car and we were about to drive away when I realized at my age it would be illegal for me to drive at such an early hour of the day. I probably would get two feet and they would pull me over for driving during illegal hours. So I asked the cop what I should do.

"Excuse me, I'm not 18 so I'm not really supposed to drive right now. Should I anyway?" This was a relatively easy question but they contemplated it anyhow. "Ok. We'll drive you home. One of you can come with me and the other can go with him."

So we split up and went our separate ways. It still had not quite dawned on me that we were considered "criminals," so I proceeded to try to climb into the front passenger side of the cop car. It was locked so I asked her to unlock it. She gave me a semi confused look, then requested that I sit in the back since the front was covered with her stuff. I said that it would be no problem, and climbed in behind the bars. We pulled into my friend's driveway and like a chauffeur she released me from the nice leather seats of her car. We said our good-bye and hurried quietly into my friend's house.

We crawled into bed again, still in shock over what had just happened. But I guess the police realized after they left us that they probably should call our parents immediately, considering we're minors and everything. So at about three-thirty in the morning our parents received unexpected calls. Ironically, at the barbecue they had a whole conversation about how when Esmerelda and I are together they know that we can be trusted.

After that call things were kind of a blur. I spent a painful 10 minutes at the kitchen table with my friend and her parents as they drilled us as to what we could possibly be thinking. They concluded that we were not thinking at all. Other than that things were pretty calm in their family.

At my house people got a little more jumbled up with the phone call. My sister had been out that night and my father, for the first time, had gone to bed before she came home. So when the phone rang he assumed that it was the police sorrowfully saying a misfortune had taken place. My other sister assumed that it was the hospital saying that someone had a little too much to drink. My mother thought some elderly relative had died. And my other sister who had collapsed into her bed moments before slept through it.

My parents rushed over to take me home from my friend's house, and upon entering the room (no hellos or anything) my mother blurts out, "Heather, I'm disappointed." That was just too much to handle. I burst into frustrations of sobs asking how they could be mad we could have been doing so much worse.

With her response you would think that I had gone and impregnated myself. I mean who ever knew trespassing was a real law that anyone cared about. After that I was driven home and slept away the rest of the morning. Upon awaking I was greeted by my sister, who came up with the brilliant plan. She looked at me, shaking her head. "Heather, I didn't think you listened to me."



Heather Murtaugh

GRADUATION 2004

Guidance gurus see variety in this year's college admissions

Yale, Princeton, Brown, Vassar, Swarthmore, the University of Michigan, UNC-Chapel Hill and Williams are among colleges which Mount Greylock Regional High School plan to attend in the fall. Guidance officials say more people applied to more colleges this year than last, but they do not spot any particular trends in the outcomes. Nearly every senior has college plans.



MGRH guidance counselors Sandra Olszewski, left, and Beverly Maselli.

Alphabetical list of college plans . . .

Below is a list of seniors' college plans, as given to the guidance office at Mount Greylock Regional High School.

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Adams, Emily Elizabeth | Champlain College |
| Austin, Alysia Sierra | Hobart & Wm. Smith College |
| Bailey, Megan Elizabeth | Williams College |
| Beattie, Scot William | Williams College |
| Beguín, Brittany Ellen | Trinity International Univ. |
| Bell, Amanda Dana | Vassar College |
| Bence, John Doyle | Kenyon College |
| Bergmann, Vanessa Janina | Univ. of Rochester |
| Bishop, Jessica Lee | Univ. of New Haven |
| Bologna, Steven Richard | Western N. England College |
| Boyer, Chelsea Rose | George Mason University |
| Bradburd, Gideon Stern | Yale University |
| Brown, Naima Camille | Brown University |
| Bruno, Santino Emilin | Dean College |
| Bushey, Benjamin J. | Berk. Community College |
| Card, Melissa Joan | Hobart & Wm. Smith College |
| Castella, Nicole Alexis | Boston University |
| Chick, Justin Edward | Green Mountain College |
| Claudio, Angel Luis | Northeastern University |
| Connolly, Erin Katherine | Berk. Community College |
| Coons, Heather Ann | Bay Path College |
| Couture, Leah Jessamyn | |
| Cross, Even Howard | |
| Cunningham, Brody N. | Western N. England College |
| Degros, Cynthia | Northwestern University |
| Dowling, Heather Marie | Berk. Community College |
| Dufour, Shannon Elizabeth | University of Vermont |
| Farley, Colleen Rose | UNC-Chapel Hill |
| Fogel, William Louis | Univ. of Michigan |
| Fohlin, Christopher Dole | Clarkson University |
| Franco, Alyse Marie | Johnson State College |
| Gable, Jenna Lee | Berk. Community College |
| Gallagher, Devin Carney | Union College |
| Gauthier, Alana Hope | Undecided |
| George, Damon Jacob | U.S. Navy |
| Gero, Robert Lee | Berk. Community College |
| Giulino, Erin Margaret | Berk. Community College |
| Gold, Colin B. | Hartt School of Music |
| Gomes, Allison Lee | Univ. of Mass.-Amherst |
| Groth, Jason Matthew | Tufts University |
| Haig, Brady Jameson | Berk. Community College |
| Haley III, Richard Nelson | Berk. Community College |
| Haviland, E.J. NMN | University of Vermont |
| Healy, Jordan Patrick | Western N. England College |
| Heming, Christopher Hilton | Mass. College of Liberal Arts |

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Hinchliffe, Christopher D. | Berk. Community College | Morganson, Jennifer Ann | Ithaca College |
| Holland, Gregory Thomas | St. Michael's College | Moriarty, Krista Lea | Salem State College |
| Holland, Michael Daniel | St. Michael's College | Murtagh, Heather | Syracuse University |
| Holmgren, Kirstin Veramarie | California Lutheran Univ. | Noonan, Katherine Grace | Berk. Community College |
| Jesjunina, Valerie E. | European Univ.-Barcelona | O'Connor, Kevin James | Univ. of Mass.-Amherst |
| Jolin, Kyle Andrew | Norwich University | Ogden, Zachary Salzer | University of Vermont |
| Kasuba, Nichole Tobin | Salem State College | Ouellette, Melissa Marie | Framingham State College |
| Kettles, Deanne Lee | Berk. Community College | Parzick, Rachel Allison | Fashion Institute of Design |
| Kiernan, Gregory | Western N. England College | Phillips, Eli Stephen | Bennington College |
| Kierstead, Megan Elisabeth | Oberlin College | Pirzi IV, Herbert | work |
| Kolesar, Benjamin James | Williams College | Poulin, Nichole M. | Northeastern University |
| Kopynec, Alexander | Williams College-deferred | Quik, Michael James | Berk. Community College |
| Kruger, Dayna Marie | Berk. Community College | Quinn, Justin | AmeriCorps |
| Kruger, Katelyn Ann | Berk. Community College | Quinn, Lauren | Bridgewater State College |
| Laidlaw, Harold Stewart | Princeton University | Resio, Matthew Augustus | Curry College |
| LaLonde, Jill Leigh | Berk. Community College | Richardson, Jeremy Curtiss | work |
| Lamb, William Taylor | Gettysburg College | Rougeau, Renee | Berk. Community College |
| Lavin, Megan Elizabeth | Wheelock College | Scerbo, Angela Marie | University of Vermont |
| Leach-Krouse, Olivia Richards | Franklin & Marshall College | Shotwell, Andrew Henry | Framingham State College |
| Lennon, Ryan William | Berk. Community College | Sicotte, Alicia Marie | Berk. Community College |
| Liberman, Peter Louis Krall | Trinity College | Smeglin, Daniel Anthony | Lehigh University |
| Littlefield, Torey Stuart | Univ. of Mass.-Amherst | Smith, Christopher J. | undecided |
| Lontz, James Patrick | work | Souza, Aaron Lowell | Princeton University |
| Luczynski, Nichole C. | Green Mountain College | Thurston, Ross Henry | Siena College |
| Mabey, Phillip Gregg | Keene State College | Trites, Dillon Wadsworth | Fairfield University |
| Martelle-Rolnick, Krystal A. | Berk. Community College | Turgeon, Sarah Elizabeth | Berk. Community College |
| Matsui, Yo Josef | Univ. of Mass.-Amherst | van Luling, Bartholomeus Adrianus | Univ. of Rhode Island |
| McClenachan, Brendan Peter | Mass. College of Liberal Arts | Weiner, Joshua Alex | University of New England |
| Miller, Kristin Marie | Undecided | White, Charlotte Veronica | Williams College |
| Miller, Sara Drew | Skidmore College | Witek, Shelli | undecided |
| Miro, Kristen Lynne | Univ. of Rhode Island | Wood, Lydia M. | Franklin & Marshall College |
| Miro, Shane Andrew | Univ. of Rhode Island | Wooters, Mary Katherine | Swarthmore College |

FROM 7th TO 12th
YOU HAVE BEEN AN
AMAZING CLASS
BEST WISHES AND
GOOD LUCK
IN ALL YOU DO

THOMAS P. McHUGH
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(Fax): (413) 458-2657
E-Mail Address: mchugh@berkshire.net

**Congratulations
& Best Wishes
to the Class of 2004**

from the members of the Mount
Greylock school committee:

Ralph Bradburd
John Malloy
Thomas McHugh
Timothy O'Brien
Robert Petricca
Ronald Tinkham
Sally White

OPINION

Wind turbine projects face opposition -- but why?

By Rachel Payne

One of the area's most promising environmental initiatives has lately been gaining momentum, or has at least begun to generate talk. The independent efforts of the organization Hoosac Winds, in partnership with enXco, and a group of William's College students and faculty may bring wind power to the communities of Monroe, Florida, and perhaps Williamstown.

Wind turbines would provide an alternative to traditional fuels such as coal, natural gas, and oil in the generation of electricity. In this way we could decrease carbon-dioxide emissions, the leading cause of global warming, as well as the lower output of sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides which are associated with acid rain. The popularization of wind power as an energy alternative, that is clean, renewable, and cost effective, would go far to lessen the continued devastation of the planet by global warming, and is perhaps the most feasible solution to America's oil consumption woes. Of course, the reduction of this country's reliance on foreign oil would not only slow the process of global warming and save the Alaskan frontier from being ravaged by drilling, but would also improve foreign relations and discontinue negotiations with hostile Middle Eastern nations.

Yet to reap these myriad benefits, adaptation and even sacrifice is needed. The Hoosac Winds project calls for the construction of a total of 20 wind towers in the quiet hamlets of Monroe and Florida, each up to 340 feet in height with rotors 253 feet in diameter. The altitude required for wind harvesting is provided by Crum Hill in Monroe and Bakke Mountain in Florida, but makes for high visibility. The turbines would even be seen from neighboring towns.

On the other hand, the plan has passed studies on site feasibility and environmental and avian impact. Votes in Florida and Monroe supported further negotiations with enXco, one of the nation's leading wind power companies. Sen. Nuciforo and Rep. Bosley arranged for a state grant of a 35-year lease of land to the company. Besides building permits and permission from the Mass Dept. of Highways, only final approval of town select boards is required.

Fortunately, the Hoosac Wind project has found great support in Williamstown.

There has been little in the way of specific planning, but "there are lots of students, alums, and some faculty members [at Williams College] who are interested in the possibility of wind energy at Berlin Pass," says David Dethier, chair of geosciences at Williams College and professor of geology and mineralogy. Thus far, the only action taken was an appeal to construct an anemometer – a 164-foot tall wind-measuring device which would help determine the real potential of the area as a site for wind turbines.

It has been hypothesized that the Berlin Pass may be an ideal spot for wind collection. Yet even this modest proposal has already been met with passionate



Do you see windmills? Enhanced photo supplied by Taconic Crest windmill proponents shows turbines as tiny specs.

opposition. A group called Save The Crest (in reference to the Taconic Crest under consideration for cultivation), along with many others in the community, is distraught at the prospect of these jarring additions to our beloved mountains.

Some have expressed concern based upon the popular myth that wind mills threaten the avian population, which originated in the large California wind farm of Altamont where 183 birds flew into the propellers of the turbines. However, the speed of rotation in the planned mills is less than that in Altamont, the distance between the constructions is far greater, and the designed blades are larger, leading to better visibility and thereby diminishing the threat.

Though I recognize the wind towers as a startling addition to the landscape, I think it a petty objection. The current environmental crisis, in which innumerable species have been lost and natural habitats depleted, is the result of our indulgent and uncompromising existence.

It is the menace to the untouched beauty of the mountains, and perhaps to tourism, that is central to the argument of nay sayers. Whether these concerns influenced the Berlin Zoning Board of Appeal's decision to deny Williams College members the right to build an anemometer is a matter of debate. Though

Dethier insists, "I am not a lawyer," he is puzzled by the ruling against this most practical request, which would determine whether wind power would even be conceivable in our area.

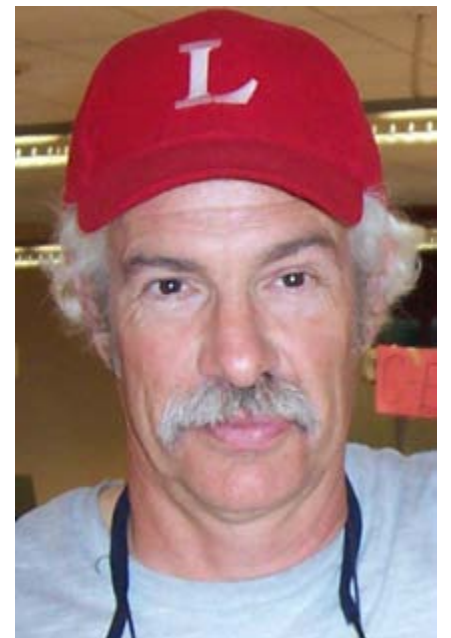
The board claims the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act compelled its choice. Apparently, constructing the measuring tower is considered segmentation of the environmental project, and has been deemed inappropriate. Denied the ability to perform the study, the project may never develop.

Though I recognize the wind towers as a startling addition to the landscape, I think it a petty objection. The current environmental crisis, in which innumerable species have been lost and natural habitats depleted at a staggering rate, is the result of our indulgent and uncompromising existence. The busy lifestyles of the day demand convenience and expedience in all things, and concern for the consequences of our abuse of our resources is secondary to our more immediate obligations.

However, the crisis will not be alleviated until alterations are made to our way of life, whether through energy reforms or changes in our habits of transportation. We cannot reject the few solutions presented to us and simply demand more advanced technology or flawless legislation that might somehow resolve all conflict without compromise. Where change is desired, sacrifice must be made.

Similarly so to the untouched splendor of the mountains and to the supposed threat thereto posed by wind mills, Dethier reminds us of "the things we don't see in the Berkshires." The damage done to the environment by traditional fuels is less apparent, because it primarily "has impacts away from our back yard."

But this small injury to the illusion of unmarred hills and valleys pales in comparison to the imminent global-warming disaster, the poisonous businesses of coal mining, and the



Prof. David Dethier

production of other fuels. Another involved in the wind effort is Nicholas Hiza, also of Williams College, but a native of Wyoming, "where a lot of the economy is based around coal and natural-gas production . . . ranchers . . . are having their ranches cut up and their cattle poisoned by pollution from natural gas drilling . . . there are 51,000 gas wells proposed for the power river basin of Wyoming alone. In many places, these wells are only 20 to 40 acres apart, and to each one you have to build roads and pipelines and power lines, and reservoirs for the waste water that is dumped on the surface."

He continues: "You can imagine that the open prairie will look a little different after development of this magnitude. . . I just think we need to keep in mind that what we are using now [for power] has a substantial aesthetic impact."

It is contrary and illogical to defend the landscape with such vehemence while our daily lives reflect such environmental wrecklessness in our dependence on fuels that are genuinely venomous to the planet, and therefore to our own species. What's more, this is as rare moment in which an ecological advancement is economically appealing. That companies like enXco find the wind initiative a desirable business opportunity is a remarkable blessing that must be counted this moment. Never before has energy reform been for fiscally feasible.

Therefore, we must look to the thoughtful motivation of Monroe and Florida. Local attitudes against the cultivation of windmills must cease to justify the rulings of Zoning Board, and the ruling must be challenged. To neglect this opportunity would be shameful.

The author is a Mount Greylock student.

Does group punishment send right message?

By Emily Baker-White

Why should an innocent student be punished for the idiocy of his classmates? The argument for using peer pressure in a positive way is completely absurd. Shouldn't we try to reduce peer pressure, instead of "use" it? And wouldn't it be possible that this idea of "positive peer pressure" could, in fact, be reversed?

Hypothetically speaking, you are a relatively well behaved student in a school district where group punishment is regularly implemented. Suppose your classmates start acting foolishly. Assuming

that you will be punished already for what they have done, you don't hesitate to join in the fray. Is this not a logical scenario?

Peer pressure has come to associate with a desire to "fit in" to a social group. Perhaps, though, the social group that one would want to fit in with would be the group that was misbehaving. Then, the concept would be useless, and do the opposite of what it is aimed to do.

What happened to "innocent until proven guilty?" And what happened to those fifteen students that got detentions for a week for *something they didn't do?*

We have rights as students; we have rights as citizens of this country. It's not fair to punish the innocent.

So please think, teachers, before you give a class detention. Think, administrators, before you punish just a witness. Someone with a perfect record could be scarred by something they never would have done. Someone could be suspended for being a victim of unprovoked bullying. That's not right, it's not fair, and it needs to stop.

The author is a Mount Greylock student.

TEAM ECHO

The Mount Greylock Echo is the student newspaper of Mount Greylock Regional High School in Williamstown, Mass. It is published monthly during the academic year. Any Mount Greylock student may join the staff, attend meetings and submit articles. The Annual Meeting of the staff and election of editors and officers will be June 13. For an invitation, email echo@newshare.com. Next publication date: June 17, 2004.

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SPORTS

U16 Berkshire Ajax soccer heads home able to beat older teams

By Jason Silberstein

U16 Berkshire Ajax, led by Coach Warner and including a core of Greylock players, has jumped out to a 2-1 record this year despite playing in a U17 league. Helped by Coaches Demeo and Russo of Williams College, the team formed during the winter and came out of its first test, an indoor tournament, with mixed results.

Once practice started on the grass, however, the team came together and started to play with some vigor. The first league game reflected this phenomenon, as five second-

half goals gave Ajax the 5-3 victory.

Playing in the U-18 tournament the following weekend yielded impressive results: a third place finish that would have been first barring a disallowed goal in the final game. On the way to this successful showing the U-16's also beat the U-18 Ajax team, coached by Blair Dils. But the following day, a tired U16 team underperformed in a 3-0 loss. The team rebounded the next weekend, however, earning a 5-3 win.

Playing a division or two up certainly seems not to have bothered the U16's, per-

haps because they had a few heavy hitters of their own. Sahand Hajizadeh, who had big plans for forward but nevertheless ended up in the back, exemplifies this. He has become a force to be reckoned with, unafraid to toss around his bulk and bulldoze opponents when his newest moves fail.

The team has also fared well without mainstay defender Luke Jandl — out because of his knee surgery — and without the tenacity and humorous noises he brings onto the field. Seth George has emerged as

the leading goal scorer, with Chris Miller a close second. Many younger regional players who have proven themselves on the field complement the veteran Greylock core of the team well.

The team hopes to continue playing with the same fire in its belly at its ultimate test at the Dartmouth Tournament in late May. The first home game was set for Thursday. Until then it is expected the celebration will continue every Sunday at McDonald's, with the team playing the dollar menu after another romp through the opposition.

With 5-2 record so far, MGRHS girls' club lacrosse bids for varsity

By The Echo Staff

Four years after the sport was added to the school's lineup, Mount Greylock's girls lacross squad is evolving into a skilled and talented team, their coach says.

Will varsity status come next year?

"It's a highly skilled, technical game," says Sue O'Reily, an elementary-school teacher in Williamstown who takes to the lacross field as head coach for Greylock. "You need 12 girls on the field all the time. It's popular among colleges."

Last year the girls varsity went to a tournament in Charlemon and came back the champions. This year, the Mounties lacrosse girls had a record of 4-2 as of last week, losing to Vermont's champions, Burr & Burton of Manchester, Vt., and dropping one to the Williams College JV team.

With only a few more games left, the 12-member girls team will go into each



Photo by Judy Dias

Will Greylock's girls lacross squad earn varsity status?

game with intensity and confidence, O'Reily says.

Lacrosse remains a "club" sport, but proponents hope to have it elevated to varsity status next year. And they are holding fundraisers to make sure the team has financial support.

This year's captains are juniors Carly and Emily Mason and Sarah Truskowski.

It's the second year as goalie for sophomore Hope Ross. "She puts in hard work and effort to help defend the team," says Coach O'Reily, who is joined by assistant coaches Juliane Austin and Mark Weimer.

Williams College summer lifeguard post pays \$8.50 per hour

Red Cross-certified lifeguards are being urged by Williams College swim coaches to apply for a summer job at the college's pool which pays \$8.50 an hour for a noon-to-5 p.m. weekday schedule from late June until the third week in August.

Qualified lifeguards age 17 or older should contact either assistant swim coach Dave Polen, at (802) 442-5291 (dpephsdl@hotmail.com), or head coach Steve Kuster at 597-4372, according to Polen.

Polen said lifeguards will assure the safety of lap swimmers and other recreational users of the indoor pool.

REORG

Continued from Page 1

tional \$84,674 would be saved by reducing professional development, limiting field trips and arts enrichment, and decreasing the Director of Student Services' salary.

A second option would also cut 4.6 full-time teaching positions in the fiscal 2005 budget. Instead of removing a further 7.5 teachers currently on staff, however, this plan proposes laying off three teachers while simultaneously not replacing three teachers who are retiring at the end of the year.

All extra-curricular activities and athletics are to be cut from the budget.

Further budget considerations include possible reimbursements by the state for district transportation and special education costs. Whether or not the Berkshire Arts and Technology Charter School opens could also affect the fiscal 2005 budget.



BOYS' VARSITY BASEBALL - Front row, kneeling, L-R: Andrew Agostini, Dan Hogan, Josh Appelbaum, Ben Resio, Mike Larson, Joe Jacobsohn. Middle row, L-R: Coach Steve Messina, Pat Flynn, Peter Lieberman, Matt England, Sawyer Hamblin, Kyle Jolin, Krista Moriarty (manager), Jen Morganson (manager). Back row, L-R, Phil Mabey, Dillon Trites, Mike Lucido, B.J. Van Luling, T.J. Kasuba, Norm Sweet (assistant coach).