

Help wanted: Put a new face on the student book

By The Echo Staff

What does Mount Greylock Regional High School look like to you?

A parent-student team working on a major update of the Mount Greylock student handbook wants some important help — submissions of a new face for the book.

It could be a photo, a drawing, in black-and-white or color, according to Deb Dane, one of two parents working on the project under a SEE Fund grant. The deadline for submission to Co-Principal Tim Payne is May 30 and students (grades 7-12) are asked to submit finished designs.

"It not just suggestions, we're looking for," says Kay Oehler, the other parent on the team.

"What we are looking for is actual

"The goal is simply to make it more welcoming, have it reflect the educational community a little better," says Oehler of the rewrite and update.

submissions for a new cover. it will have the title and we can take any kind of format . . . it would be nice if it were evocative of Mount Greylock in some way.

Co-Principal Timothy Payne is the final authority for the handbook, but the administration delegated the update and rewrite to the School Council, which in turn asked a subcommittee including Oehler and Dane to work on the rewrite. Students David Rosenthal and

Nick Fogel are doing much of the writing, Oehler says.

"They are rewriting the front half, the white-page section," says Oehler. "The goal is simply to make it more welcoming, have it reflect the educational community a little better, make sure everything it says is still true and current and fill in any gaps that anyone helps identify in terms of being a gap." The new version will be delivered by Payne by the subcommittee in June and

will go into effect in the fall, according to the schedule.

Design considerations for the cover, according to Dane:

— Subject matter should have something to do with the culture, setting, or some aspect of Mt. Greylock;

— The design will be reproduced on 8.5"x 11" paper on the vertical;

— Artists should keep in mind their design will be photocopied (700 times);

— Copy on cover: Mt. Greylock Regional High School Student Handbook, 2007-2008. Students may or may not incorporate copy in their design, however copy will be added.

Questions?

email: debbydane@willinet.org
or call 458-0168.



Class elections drawing near

Fund-raising, planning trips are part of the job

By Sofie Brooks

The time of year for class elections is approaching quickly here at Mount Greylock, and soon those ambitious few from each class will hand in their nomination sheets to the principal's office in hopes of becoming a class officer for the 2007-2008 school year.

But being a class officer is not as easy as it looks, especially for grades 11 and 12 when fundraising for senior week and prom truly begins to gain momentum.

As you can tell from all the signs in the hallway about class dues and other fundraisers, the class officers from all grades have been working hard this year. The senior class has decided to go to Great Escape and Lake George for their senior trip this year, and the prom will be at Berkshire Hills just like last year.

Their fundraising will pay for the dance and dinners for Mount Greylock seniors at the prom, as well as the bus and other ex-

See BUDGET, Page 2

Close-Up in Washington -- a diverse experience sparks passionate discussion

By Peter Glover

In mid march a group of six juniors and one teacher from Mt. Greylock traveled down to Washington D.C. in order to participate in a program called Close-Up. Motives for going on this trip varied greatly; from missing a week of school, to meeting new people, to acquiring a better understanding for the way government works. For me, Close-Up accomplished all three of these.

A large number of students from around the country, some of whom had never been east of the Mississippi, all made the trip to a Washington-area hotel. For the next week we were bombarded with varying opinions and viewpoints from all ends of the political spectrum. The amazing aspect about Close-Up was that the program itself never required anybody to give away their own opinions; the program instead urged the

students to learn how to see issues from all possible angles. During the trip I was constantly being forced to debate in favor of views opposing my own.

Most of the students on the trip felt passionately about the issues; everybody had an opinion.

Every day I discovered something new about Washington itself. I learned how effective private citizens can be if they are willing to devote their time.

I also got to see some kids from Hawaii experience snow for the first time (even

though it was more slush than snow). But most importantly the actual transfer of ideas occurred not during scheduled time, but during free time when us kids were socializing. Most of the students on the trip felt passionately about the issues; everybody had an opinion. I must admit, I was impressed with the state of the youth in the country.

Before this trip I had been worried that teenagers no longer cared about the government and that only people from the Northeastern "blue states" had reasonable ideas about the way the country should be run. Close-Up showed me that none of this was true.

For those of you constantly dogged by the thought that nobody else in the country cares Close-Up would be an incredible opportunity for you to experience, and I would recommend the program to anyone.

INSIDE:

ROOTS: What was on voters minds when they established MGRHS in 1960? Dan Whately found out.

.....Page 4

RETHINKING: Is "student in good standing" really a motivator of good behavior? Dan Weiner isn't so sure, in OPINION.

..... Page 2

FINE PRINT: An Echo tradition -- read every senior-project title: What interests us?

..... Page 3

PLUS, Sudoku, and a new feature: "Would you rather?"

OPINION

'My brother Jeff': a drunk-driving casualty

By Sally White

I'd like to tell you about my brother Jefferson.

Jeff loved cars. When he was in high school, he and my brother Dan bought two old Jaguars and worked on them bit by bit, buying spare parts when they had the money. When I came home on weekends, I'd find Jeff, more often than not, underneath one of his beloved Jags. He'd slide out when he heard me arrive, and stand up, covered with grease, to give me a hug. Sometimes all I could see of his face were his blue eyes and his big grin. If I were lucky, a visit would include a ride around the block in a Jaguar. That was usually as far as Jeff could get one to go, but it was enough for him.

He was a good man, solid, sweet, funny and kind. After college, when he ran his own business, Jeff hired the kinds of people that other employers might overlook. He took chances on the oddball and the misfit, and often he turned out to be right. Jeff didn't judge, and he looked for the good in every person he met.

One night in July, 1986, Jeff and his wife Hope were driving home to Delaware from Baltimore, where they'd

sat in the stands while the Orioles beat the White Sox, 2-1. Early the next morning, they were planning to set off with my mother on a trip to Manhattan to see my son Sam, who was one week old.

On a back road in Maryland, just before midnight, a man who'd been drinking beer with his buddies on the Chesapeake Bay failed to negotiate a curve and plowed his pickup truck into my brother's car. Hope was asleep in the passenger seat. The crash woke her up. She saw in an instant that Jeff was dead.

The newspaper said Jeff died in an "accident," but it wasn't that at all. An accident is something no one can control. Jeff was killed by a drunken man who'd made a choice to get behind the wheel of a lethal weapon, a man whose reflexes were slow and who couldn't see straight. brother went to jail for 18 months.

I write this letter to the students of Mount Greylock with one message in mind: that each and every time you hear adults tell you not to drive after you've been drinking, you'll understand that we aren't preaching. We repeat this lesson because we love you. We want you to

be safe. These car crashes are real, and they happen to real people. Don't gamble that you'll be able to make it home, that you'll win the bet with yourself. It's not worth the risk. Sooner or later, someone loses.

If he were alive, my brother Jeff would be in the audience on June 9th to watch his niece Lucy graduate from Mount Greylock.

He would be as old as many of your parents: 52 this St. Patrick's Day. Like them, he'd be delighted to see you celebrate and would applaud your accomplishments.

And, if he had the chance, Jeff would join your families in asking you to, please, for the rest of your lives, never drink and then drive.

Jeff died when he was just 31. He would want each of you to live to be 100.

Sally White is a Mount Greylock parent and member of the School Committee.

Time to rethink 'student in good standing'?

By Dan Weiner

The familiar concept of "student in good standing" is a daily worry for many Mt. Greylock Regional High School students.

The Student Handbook guidelines for students, parents, teachers and staff determine if a student is eligible to participate in school activities that are deemed a privilege. These include going to dances, participating in sports, retaining a membership in clubs, and student parking. The guidelines to maintain "good standing" include: regular attendance, no more than one failing grade, and having no detentions by the time grades are posted. Also, student in good standing can be taken away when deemed necessary by the faculty.

Now, staff and students are reviewing possible changes. A consensus among students and teachers is that "student in good standing" is a good idea. Students should be held accountable for their actions. But the rules are somewhat strict and should be loosened a bit.

Though the system is thought to be beneficial, some people have pointed out pitfalls. Zack Bishop realized the possibility of reverse effects. He says that "some kids might give up after losing their privileges, and no longer see the point in trying." He also points out that student in good standing does not affect everyone, for some people do not play sports or go to dances.

Teacher Tom Ostheimer adds, "we need to ask the question 'is this the best system for holding students accountable for their academic performance and behavior?'" He also says the punishments are unnatural for the crimes, and making them fit better would be more effective. Why should kids who are late to school or fail their senior project lose their good-student standing?

As Davy Payne put it, "the purpose of justice should not be to punish, but to educate." That is what we have failed to do. We throw punishment after punishment at kids with some, but not great effectiveness. Maybe, instead of taking someone away from sports when failing their classes, we should make them get a tutor for each class he or she is failing. Instead of tossing everyone who breaks the rules into the same pile, we could make degrees of punishment for separate crimes. Hopefully, the school council will make changes in the student in good standing policies that are more effective and beneficial to everyone.

GAY-STRAIGHT ALLIANCE DAY OF SILENCE



gay? fine by me.



GRAFFITI WITH MESSAGE: Chalk markings showed up on the sidewalk outside the MGRHS main entrance on Monday, April 2.

BUDGET

Continued from Page 1

penses on the senior trip. The junior class is also starting to decide on locations and themes for their senior trip and prom. Juniors with suggestions can make sure they have a say in what their class decides.

Overall, being a class officer is a lot of work, but it's an important job that includes a lot of decision making, especially for the juniors and seniors. All prospective candidates are encouraged to run for their desired office, but beware that this is not a job that you can campaign for and then forget about.

Your class depends on you to make sure that your class raises enough money for a fun spring senior year. At the same time, however, class fundraising always works out, and no one needs to worry that he or she won't have a prom when that time comes along.

Ninth and 10th grade especially are used more for planning for the future and getting acquainted with the system, like filling out building-use forms and meeting with Mr. Payne. Only in senior year does your class get the built-in fundraisers like food at break and Homecoming to really start making money.

'Mommy, Tell Me'

By Vanessa Dion

Turn on the TV,
What do you see?

Priests preaching to those
Who sit in pews lamenting their woes.
Others come together to worship
In their mosque as a fellowship.
But, somewhere else in the world,
A different kind of brotherhood has
unfurled.

Mommy, please tell me
What is that bonfire from which they all
flee?

Tell me why those who sat, hands
together,
Are now in the dirt, gone forever.
Why can't they live and believe
Without fear of being told to leave?
All around me are men and women
Telling everyone to be just like them:
"Speak as I speak."
"Love as I love."

I want a world where there is no creed.
All it seems to bring is hate and greed.

Without the "he said, she said, you
should say,"
Maybe more lives would last through
the day.

The Greylock Echo

The Mount Greylock Echo is the student newspaper of Mt. Greylock Regional High School in Williamstown, Mass. Published monthly during the academic year, each issue is developed and edited by a team of editors and writers. Any Mt. Greylock student may join the staff, attend meetings and submit articles.

Next news meeting:
Thurs., April 26, 2:30 p.m.
Carlson Library

Next issue published:
Friday, May 25
Next deadline:
Friday, May 18

This Issue's Editors:
Gina Iannitelli, Sean Peltier,
Shannon Young

This Issue's Coeditor:
Katy Markland

This Issue's Contributors:
Dan Weiner, Dan Wateley,
Sofie Brooks, Vanessa Dion, Peter Glover,
Mitch Galli

Send all submissions to:
greylockecho@yahoo.com
Mount Greylock Echo
Mt. Greylock Regional High School
1781 Cold Spring Road
Williamstown MA 01267
(413) 458-9582
<http://http://www.mgrhs.org/>

SENIOR PROJECTS

By The Echo Staff

The Senior Project program, run by Tom Ostheimer and Cindy Bradley, is currently in its third year of production. It is mandatory for graduation and gives each senior three points credit to their diploma; if a student does not complete their project, they receive both a failing grade and also lose their "student in good standing" status. The project, according to the "Senior Project Handbook" available at www.mgrhs.org, "provides students with an opportunity to expand their educational horizons beyond the classroom." The endeavor lasts from September, when the "essential questions" are reviewed and approved by faculty members, to April, when the project papers were due, and May, when the students are required to present a portfolio of work and give an oral presentation. Throughout the year the students have been assisted by an advisor in school and also a mentor from the community. Oral presentations will take place May 23 in the auditorium; re-dos on the presentations will be on May 30. Listed below are this year's senior-project topics, in alpha order by student.

Ilkin Akhundoff: How does one go about writing a script and directing a play on it?

Andrew Allen: How can I build an authentic Roman siege weapon capable of hurling a one pound arrow over one hundred yards, for the Mt. Greylock JCL?

Bryan Anderson: How would I go about making an educational video to teach people the basics of hunting and fishing?

Patrick Andrew: Being a novice at guitar playing, is it possible to learn to read music, play the guitar, and present a musical rock piece, in seven months?

Erin Archibald: How can I hold a successful charity event for children to raise money to donate to the "Moses Fund" of Equus Therapeutic foundation?

Joe Baisch: How best can I capture, in a documentary style film, the east coast skiing experience?

Jessica Barber: To what extent does massage therapy affect one's mood and well-being?

Erin Bates: After building a professional modeling portfolio, how can a young woman successfully work her way into a modeling career?

Nora Bayly: How can I expand my knowledge and skill of dessert making by working under the guidance of a professional chef?

Todd Bolotin: What knowledge do I need to design and construct a gazebo?

Michelle Boudreau: How can I learn to increase my level of skill, explore methods, increase my capacity for, and challenge myself to expand beyond my comfort zone in art?

Jeff Brodeur: How does one remodel a room?

Sarah Burton: Why do cultures have obscurities?

Elianny Camilo: How can I effectively apply my certification as a Special Olympics coach to teach an adaptive physical education unit at Mt. Greylock?

Aaron Castonguay: How can I demonstrate that therapeutic functional-training is a more effective way of physical rehabilitation and strength training as opposed to static-training, and why has this technique not been popular in previous years?

Keenan Chenail: How can I develop a court diversion program that incorporates the Williamstown and Mount Greylock Communities?

Danielle Collyer: How do patients of Crohns Disease manage physically, emotionally, and socially in spite of the effects of the disease?

Benjamin Coons: How can I develop the skills I need to design a website that is functional and user-friendly?

Meghan Cunningham: How do I put together preschool activities to meet the needs of children three to five years old?

Katie-Rose De Candia: How can I create a music video recollection of my senior year, using film as my main source of media?

Evan Dethier: How can I produce an entertaining short movie that chronicles the 2006-07 Mt. Greylock Nordic Ski Team both in its performance and everyday interactions?

Vanessa Dion: How can technology influence the way a person interprets a photograph?

Kelsey Dudziak: How can my interest in orienteering benefit the Physical Education Class?

Ariel Dunn: Why is lighting an essential element of a theater production?

Elias-John Fernandez-Aubert: How would I go about publishing a collection of short stories?

Hannah Gais: How can one go about doing a literacy collaboration with a partner and what would be needed to get it published?

Leland Garivaltis: How can I create a yoga program of specific movements to reinforce the benefits of physical therapy?

Kaitlin Garrity: How does a boarding and riding facility operate with cost effectiveness and safety?

Avery Gibson: What is the process of preparing a misdemeanor criminal case for trial and what practical information can I extract from my findings?

Naomi Graether: How does massage therapy enhance overall wellness?

Jessie Grees: What physiological benefits will disabled students acquire from my instruction as a certified therapeutic riding instructor in the Equus program at Oak Hollow Farm?

Michael Griffin: How can I learn how to Mig Weld a cargo rack together?

Kristy Hamilton: What are the skills, requirements, and marketing needs to keep a restaurant operating successfully?

Anna Hogeland: How can I compare and present my experience as an exchange student to that of foreigners in high schools across Berkshire County and organize a social event in which the exchange students can meet?

Prescott Humphrey: What are the essential techniques needed to produce a skateboarding video?

Ryan Jackson: What do I need to know about being an experienced firefighter and how do I encourage others to become aware and learn about the need for an experienced Volunteer Firefighter?

Jennifer Kodela: To what extent can I develop, organize, and put on an effective youth conference?

Katie Kolesar: How will a structured Anasura yoga program affect my physical functioning?

Karyn Koziara: Can alternative remedies take the place of

modern medicines?

Jon Lacasse: How has road construction changed to meet the demand of daily travel?

Grace Laidlaw: What techniques for self-taught language acquisition are most effective for learning the different aspects of basic spoken Italian?

Richard Lalonde: How does the state police structure differ from that of the local police?

Gustavo Landaeta: How can I educate my peers about the value of a mission trip to another country?

Jocelyn LaPlante: How do I plan for and create a wooden jewelry box?

Tanya Lapointe: How does nutrition affect one's well-being?

Andy Lenhoff: How does one design and build a multiple-length golf club?

Nare Lis: To what extent will my animating and storytelling skills improve through the creation of a short animated film?

Kelly Litchfield: How can I tutor my foster sister in math and counsel her at the same time?

Dan Lovett: In what way may I construct and design a sunroom addition to my house and have a feasible end product for possibly real-life construction?

computer, then use what has been learned to teach others through a semester course?

William Patriquin: How does one learn the process of creating a short cartoon animation?

Dan Parks: How do public safety officials prepare for their careers?

Rachel Payne: How can I teach area residents about the threat of global warming and motivate local activism through a lecture?

Alexandra Peacock-Villada: How can I use the "Grassroot" soccer program as a model to educate local youth about relevant issues pertaining to alcohol, drugs, smoking, and STI's?

Margaret Pilat: What are the skills I need to become a buyer in the fashion industry?

Ben Poulin: How can I design an environmentally sound home that fits in the surrounding community with a budget and minimal size similar to designs for habitat for humanity's house's?

Kurt Quagliano: What does it take to successfully manage a lumber yard?

Justin Quimby: Is there more to being an EMT than education and experience?

Trevor Rathbun: How does one train a K9 to work with a police officer?

Jessica Richardson: How can high school students get involved in the ONE campaign and successfully raise awareness to fight against AIDS and extreme poverty?

Lindsay Rougeau: Why is a darkroom necessary for good photography and what are the necessary steps and procedures one must consider when installing a first-class, functioning darkroom?

Chelsea Roy: How can some childhood traumas lead to adult mental illness?

Justin Ryan: What can I do that will result in my being better prepared for my work in a third world country and how do I communicate my experience when I have returned?

Alaina Sanderson: What are the steps and other things one must consider to successfully convert from Christianity to Judaism?

Kyler Schelling: How do I revive and restore a large-scale piece of stained glass which has been broken, though I am a relative novice?

AJ Schlesinger: Can I learn to access my community effectively to meet my daily living needs, recreational, and social expectations?

Dylan Schultz: How can I create an instructional power lifting training video targeted for high school level athletes?

Zachariah Sheppard: How can I use my basic skills in film production to attempt the completion of a nearly feature-length film?

Faith Shuker-Haines: How can I direct a well-known play, and adapt its production with my own original vision?

Mariann Simon: What creative and technical elements are necessary to produce and direct a student high school play?

Isa St. Clair: What does it take to make a quilt?

Donald Taylor: What are the necessary processes to effectively plan, build, and maintain a safe and high quality ski resort terrain park?

Tiffanie Tomashek: How can a pediatrician educate parents to healthfully raise their children?

Preston Trites: What is the process involved in establishing a successful landscaping business?

Bridgette Tattersall: How can high school students get involved in the ONE campaign and successfully raise awareness to fight against global AIDS and extreme poverty?

Steve Thompson: What do I need to accomplish the project with little experience on building gazebo styled structures?

Khanifa Tyrkba: How can I educate Americans on the unique aspects of my country?

Shan Wang: How can I start a Williamstown "subchapter" of the American Red Cross whose main focus is children?

Heidi Weber: How does Radiology benefit people's lives?

Hannah Westall: How can I effectively learn how to design an interior of a home?

Lucy White: How can I learn the art of ceramics over the course of the year and use some of my products to donate to the Empty Bowl Dinner in Williamstown?

Samantha White: To what extent is the abuse of drugs and alcohol hereditary and/or cultural among teens?

Noah Witek: What skills are needed to operate as a member of the Pittsfield Special Response Team and how does the unit affect the well-being of the community?

Autumn Wolf: How can I create a cookbook that is beneficial to people with common food allergies and intolerances?

Vi Wood: How can I learn to organize and manage the kitchen of a restaurant?

Kyle Yeager: How do black holes teach us about the origin of the universe and what do they teach us about the universe as it is now?

Stephanie Yeager: How can I design a series of brochures that would promote the various programs and activities of MGRHS that could be used by the school for publicity and recruitment?

Rosana Zarza: As a native Spanish speaker, how can I improve and expand my Spanish Storytime Program at the local library to make it more successful and reach the Spanish-speaking community in the area?

P-DAY: May 23

orals

Senior Project Topics Include:

Authentic Roman Siege Weapons

Obscurities In Cultures

Therapeutic Horseback Riding

Operating A Small Airport

The Fight Against AIDS

Converting Religious Affiliation

Creating An Allergy Tolerant Cookbook

Sarah Manners: What are the effects of mainstreaming special education students on the special education student as well as the regular education students in the elementary school?

Seth Maynard: How can I rebuild a combustible engine to further my knowledge and basic mechanical skills?

Travas McCarthy: How can I plan for, and what type of carpentry skills must I acquire, to construct a wooden kitchen table?

Teresa McHugh: How can I establish a performance jazz ensemble for Mt. Greylock students that will provide the opportunity for students to play a wider range of music styles?

Lauren McInerney: How do I approach learning how to play the didgeridoo and at the same time educate others about this relatively unknown ancient instrument with a rich cultural identity?

Charlene Michon: How can I create a step-by-step guidebook to help people do their own auto-body and general maintenance on automobiles, through my own journey of repairing my car?

Matthew Montini: How does one research and write grants to benefit a volunteer fire department?

Alexandra Nowlan: By educating a class of young students, how can I better understand the importance of a good balance between fitness and a healthy nutrition?

Mike O'Brien: What are the aspects involved in the operation of a small airport, including the business and infrastructure subsections?

Ryan O'Connor: How does one learn to build a desktop

HISTORY/AMUSEMENT

Greylock's golden age? Recalling the humble love of 1961

By Dan Whateley

Students at Mt. Greylock, though known to quibble over many issues, seem to have reached an agreement on one simple fact: our school is *old*. There are sprouts of mold hanging from the ceiling, our water pipes have spouted rocket fuel multiple times, and a mysterious pipe breakage in the boy's locker room this past year caused a CSI Miami-style lockdown of the school gymnasium.

Beneath the cacophony of students complaining about the current state of the school (filled with hidden resentment toward the spotless new elementary school in Williamstown) lies a history rich with Greylockian spirit. The story of our school's past is a story not often told (it didn't even appear in a Google search) but, nevertheless, I shall attempt to bring back some fond memories from a time when our parking lot had a few less potholes and our school had a few more students.

The first day of school at Mt. Greylock Regional High School was September 11, 1961 (several days later than our first day of school this year mind you). The school was built to eradicate the problem of



Mt. Greylock Regional High School, photographed after completion of its 1969 addition. (HLH photo)

Unchanged in 38 years -- a photo from R.R.R. Brooks' "Williamstown, 1753-2003," copyright, 2005, Williamstown House of Local History.

overcrowding in local high schools. High school and elementary school children were practicing sports in the same gymnasium while thirteen grades occupied the same playing fields.

Classrooms were so scarce that classes were conducted in hallways and sometimes even in closets. Mt. Greylock was originally supposed to be built off of Stratton Road, but it was finally established in 1958 as a regional school and built on the land of a former airport. The hanger, standing tall directly parallel to the football field, is the only remaining evidence of the airport.

In Mt. Greylock's first year as a high school, there were 818 students: 518 from Williamstown, 270 from Lanesborough, and 30 tuition students. The school received an addition in 1969, but it appeared more or less as it does today (though newer and with a beautiful flat, black parking lot). The ABC program was launched in 1968, and not much later Mount Greylock enrolled its first ABC kids. In 1972, Mt. Greylock received its first computer (specifically for the use of the mathematics department). The school

owes its funding crises to certain legislation passed in the 1990s, though it is hard to say there has ever been a time when money wasn't a limitation.

In the course of Mt. Greylock's

history, many courses were offered that have completely vanished from the small "Course of Study" packets we receive now. Such courses include Journalism, Bible as Literature, Shakespeare, Geology, Italian, Russian, Astronomy, and Weather and Climate. Mrs. Ames, a member of the English department, remembers a time when students could have as many as two free periods at a time to work and get extra help. Mr. Iannitelli, a teacher at Mt. Greylock from 1969-2005, recalls that the school once held a faculty play to raise scholarship money.

Mt. Greylock was a school founded on a single idea: to create a place where students don't have to learn in a hallway or a closet, but rather within a classroom. As you face the temptation to bad-mouth our droopy walls and slowly decaying ceiling, do not forget our humble beginnings. Mt. Greylock, as a child of the 1960s, is more about the freedom of love rather than the freedom of a clean, uncontaminated room. It is time to embrace our rich history as a part of us, and use it as a model for the future.

Dan Whateley is a MGRHS junior.

Bellman, Ames, Garavaltis win smoking film mention

The Medical Foundation of Boston announced April 13 that three Mount Greylock RHS students -- Anthony Bellman, Jordan Ames and Sam Garavaltis -- won an honorable mention for their video, "Reasons Why We Don't Smoke," submitted in a state-wide contest, according to Brittany Chen, project assistant for the Boston-based foundation's Youth Action Initiative.

The trio has been invited to travel to the Boston area on Sat., May 5, to attend a screening of other winning youth video shorts with a health angle and to tour the studios of WCVB-TV, Channel 5.

Masterpiece theater?



Williamstown Theater Festival Director Roger Rees, seated at left, helps Mount Greylock students with acting skills during an after-school "master class" on Monday, April 9.

Would you rather?...

- Have 11 fingers or two tongues?
- Lose a lifelong friend or a lifelong love?
- Be accused of being too serious or unbearably silly?
- Have an enormous head or one enormous leg?
- Die of thirst or of hunger?
- Get all A's by cheating or all D's by being honest?
- Be a moderately happy millionaire or a joyful homeless person?
- Have a pencil for a thumb or a pinky that squeaks every time it touches something?
- Yell "Ketchup!" every time you see a truck or smell like pickles all the time?
- Only be able to take a bath in cheezwhiz or in olive oil?
- Get a 100 on your history final or win \$5,000?
- Have nose hair that grows in ringlets or purple toenails?
- Jump up and down everytime you hear the word "homework" or yell "No!" when a teacher says there is no homework?
- Only be able to hear Enrique Iglesias' "Hero" or Vanilla Ice's "Ice Ice Baby" for the rest of your life?

- Have grass constantly growing out of your ears or have the hiccups permanently?
- Sing every time you stand up or burp every time you sit down?
- Never be able to brush your teeth again or never be able to wear deodorant?
- Moan every time someone says the name of your crush or fall asleep whenever you hear the bell ring?
- Hum the national anthem whenever in a public restroom or skip whenever someone says "I'm hungry!"
- Blink nonstop while watching movies or stomp your feet every time you listen to music?
- Scream "criminal!" every time you see a redhead or clap your hands and smile whenever you see children playing?
- Live in a big world or a small world?

Need Advice? Put your questions in the Echo box in the library and the editors will do their best to help you out.

		7		8			3	
	4				1			6
			3		2			
6		9						
2	3						9	1
						5		7
			9		4			
1			8				2	
	5			1		7		

SUDOKO

Think you can solve this? Be the first one to bring the completed, correct puzzle to Sean Peltier, Shannon Young, or Gina Iannitelli by Friday, May 18th and get your name in the next issue! *courtesy of www.sudoku.com (reprinted by permission)*

SPORTS

Boys track powerhouse

By Sean Peltier

After suffering the loss of standout athletes to graduation, lacrosse, and baseball, as well as the loss of their coach, the Mount Greylock boys track team is looking to pick up the pieces and continue their Berkshire county dominance. New head coach Ron Cabinol brings helpful experience, having coached at Mount Anthony Union High School in Bennington, VT and Berkshire School in Sheffield, MA. "Cabz," as he

is affectionately referred to by his runners, is lucky enough to be able to coach some of the finest sprinters Berkshire county has seen in quite awhile.

The deep boys sprint team is lead by senior Captain Aaron Castonguay and sophomore standout Greg Payton. Captain Joe Baisch returns after a stellar junior campaign and will handle the middle distance duties.

The distance team, long considered a strength of Mount Greylock boys track, has been hit hard by the defection of standout Even Dethier to the baseball team. The weight team lost senior Dylan Schultz to lacrosse, though co-captain Justin Ryan is still expected to stand out among Berkshire county competition.

Girls tennis cannot be counted out

By Sean Peltier

The Greylock girls tennis team has started off slowly. They have lost one match and had two more canceled due to bad weather. The team is experiencing a transition year having lost five talented seniors to graduation. The team also bade farewell to their coach of twenty years, Cheri Johnson.

They should, by no means, be counted out this season though. Senior co-captain Danielle Collyer will hold down the

first singles slot, while senior co-captain Erin Archibald and 7th grader Sophie Santore rotate between 2nd and 3rd singles. Four juniors handle doubles, with Irena Pandzic and Ruthie Thier at 1st doubles and the team of Sophie Brooks and Sam Beattie at the 2nd slot.

Though it's his first year at the helm of the Mounties program, head coach John Jacobbe has experience and knows Berkshire County girls tennis well. Players have adjusted to his new approach to practice, and seem to be on track for a great season. Though the Mounties did lose their first match to the Monument Mountain Spartans, every match went to deuces, showing that the Mounties cannot be counted out.

Girls track anticipates good season

By Gina Iannitelli

The girls track team, led by captains Alex Peacock, Kelsey Dudziak, and Lindley Bell, is chock full of fresh-faced underclassmen ready to take on the heavy responsibility of the franchise of Mount Greylock track. Noticeable uprising distance runners include seventh graders Mackenzie Hitchcock, Kaylene Lemme and Laura Nowlan and eighth grader Bree Flynn-Kasuba, sister of former Mountie boy team standouts Ryan and Kyle Flynn-Kasuba. Sophomore Amanda Burdick explains that though there is a lack of throwers, "we're pretty well covered," as there is a strong senior group which includes Ally Nowlan, Amy Nowlan, Kelsey Dudziak, and Alex Peacock.

These four, among other seniors, show great potential for this year, but also create a difficult gap for next year's girl's team.

"Next year is going to be tough," says Burdick. "We're going to be missing a lot of people, and its going to be hard." The first meet was scheduled for Friday, April 20th at Wahconah, but only included relay events. The first full meet for both girls and boys track, which is against Hoosac Valley, will be held Thursday, April 26th at Drury High School.



Sophomore Dylan Dethier prepares to throw a pitch

Baseball team relatively young

By Sean Peltier

After a rocky season last year, followed by the graduation of most of the varsity squad head Coach Steve Messina will look to a cast of inexperienced, though talented players to usher in a new era of Mount Greylock Mounties Baseball. Leading the team will be Senior co-captains Preston Trites and Ryan O'Connor. Trites is one of only a few players with significant varsity experience is a dangerous hitter who could see time at first, the outfield or on the mound. O'Connor a utilityman may play virtually any position. The third senior on the team is Evan Dethier. Dethier is widely regarded as one of the best athletes in Greylock history, having won no fewer than five state cross-country skiing championships. After running track for Greylock he decided to return to the diamond and the game he loved for his last high school sports season. Dethier will pitch and most likely track down fly balls in center when not toeing the rubber.

There are only two juniors on the squad, Cory Nichols will return to his starting short-stop job, and will also see some innings on the hill. Sean Peltier a newcomer to varsity may see some time in one of the corner outfield slots. A plethora of talented sophomores, many of whom have a little varsity experience will help the team this year. Than Finan may see time in the infield, outfield, or on the mound. Dylan Dethier will play in the infield or pitch. Chris Gennelis is another talented and versatile sophomore, whose bat may soon be wreaking havoc on Berkshire county pitchers. Jeff Romejko will

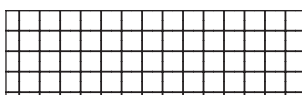
hold down the hot corner at third base, and may also go behind the plate or on the mound. Outfielders Evan Grillon and Cary White round out the outstanding sophomore class.

Three Freshman could also see significant time at the varsity level. Chris Koch will handle the catching duties, after having success there last season. David Jones could see time in the outfield or at first, while Hayden Kuhn may fill a variety of roles in the infield.

Boys tennis looking good

By Gina Iannitelli

The boys tennis team is off to a great start. Though problems with the weather have allowed the team to play only one match, against Monument, they won and are eagerly looking forward to the next match. The starting lineup is as follows: for singles, Dan Whateley and Matt Vaughn switch between slots one and two, and Ben Poulin plays singles three. In doubles, Nico Walker remains in the first slot, Torrey is the second doubles, and Fred Deveaux, Dan Weiner, and David Nowlan rotate to complete these doubles teams. Considering both the loss of Clayton Johnson, a key player in last year's boy team, and the fact that Ben Poulin is the sole senior this year, the boys team is, as of right now, defeating the odds. Also, the team welcomes a new coach Mary Vaughn. Says captain Dan Whateley about Coach Vaughn, "I think the transition's been pretty good." Asked if he sees a bright future for Mounties boys tennis, Whateley exclaims "I'd like to think so!" The next match is scheduled for April 23rd at Lenox.



Freshman Jessi Payton runs the baton during a relay.

More sports coverage appears on Page 5

The boys are back in town

By Shannon Young

After canceling its first few games due to the weather, the Mt. Greylock Boy's Lacrosse team officially began its season on Saturday, April 14th, in Dalton. After losing a year of play due to budget cuts by the school, head coach Jeff Stripp has helped to bring the sport back to the Mt. Greylock community. With aims to bring the sport back into association with the school and to other schools throughout Berkshire County, Stripp helped to form the Berkshire County Lacrosse Association, to which both the boy's and girl's Greylock Lacrosse teams, as well as five other teams in the county, are a part of. In addition to coaching the high school level boy's team, Stripp also runs three youth lacrosse programs for kids with ages ranging from third to eighth grade, with hopes that they will become a feeder system for the high school teams.

Despite Stripp's progress in bringing the sport back to the high school level,



Back Row: (L-R): Colin O'Neill, Ian Jones, Andy Budz, Alex Moody, Marston Albert, Chris Jolin, Rick Lalonde, Steve Thompson. Front Row(L-R): Zack Hansen, Donny Taylor, Keenan Chenail, Mike Griffin, Tim Russell, Kyle Quagliano

his team is still subject to the negative effects of not being affiliated with Mt. Greylock High School. The boys, who are not allowed to change in the locker room, get ready for each practice in their cars out in the parking lot, and must practice on a small square of the front court-

yard at the high school. "The problem is, we don't have a field to practice on," comments Stripp, echoing the sentiments of many of the players. "Practicing in an area like [the courtyard] is hard especially in a game like lacrosse when you're not working in the normal space

that you would on the field."

Though suffering a 3-5 loss in its first game of the season, the team is optimistic. Their next game will be played Tuesday, May 1st, at 4:15pm at Mt. Greylock High School.



Boys lacrosse players practice in muddy courtyard. From left: Alex Moody, Keenan Chenail, Kyle Quagliano, Rick Lalonde, Tim Russell, and Colin O'Neill.

Girls lacrosse hopes to improve record

By Shannon Young

Under the new direction of William's Lacrosse coach, Chris Mason, and assistant head coach, Dawn Shea-Payton, the Mt. Greylock Girl's Lacrosse Team looks to improve its record, after 2006's rebuilding season, marked by the loss of the majority of the Varsity team.

Now part of the Berkshire County Lacrosse Association, the team is functioning, for the second consecutive year, as a separate entity from the high school. Since the team is relatively young, comprised mainly of middle-schoolers and underclassmen, it is divided up between the Varsity high school level and the middle school travel team.

Despite having to postpone the opening of their season due to the weather, the girls look forward to their first game on April 25th, at the Williams College turf field. The team is optimistic about its upcoming season and hopes to improve its record from last year.

Girls softball team optimistic about season

By Katy Markland

The New England weather has played a huge role in delaying Mounties' softball this season, as the players saw a postponement of their first two games. Though balancing ten returning varsity with five "rookies," the Mounties are hopeful of success. Says freshman Jesse Johnson, "I think it should be a pretty good season...especially since the two seventh graders we have are really good."

And that's how it appeared in the opener on Wednesday, April 11, with a seventh grader, Michaela Dinicola, and an eighth

grader, Kim Houston in the starting lineup. Though a little rusty, the ladies pulled out an 11-10 win in the final inning against Hoosac Valley High School. Though down by two entering the seventh inning, senior captain Jess Richardson started the inning with a single, with senior captain Hannah Westall then driving in a run. A wild pitch from Hoosac pitcher Chloe McGrath led Dinicola to steal home for the winning run.

Greylock faced Taconic as part of a tournament on Saturday, April 14, losing 7-0, but will face them in their regular season schedule on Friday, April 20.

Junior varsity opens with Mt. Everett on April 18. This will be their first game with their new Coach, June Blake, who replaced Coach Livernois this year. Though this is Coach Blake's first year with the JV softball team, she is by no means a rookie—she has coached college softball, and has also been the JV girls' basketball coach for the past two years.

Both teams have a positive outlook on the upcoming season, and hope to finish with an improvement from last year's 4-14 record.



JV Softballer At Work