

Yellow Door Chronicles

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 2

October 15, 2008

Gun-Toting Teachers

By Natalie

There has been a big controversy in a little town called Harrold, Texas. Harrold is in Wilbarger County, which is a huge county known for high crime rates in some areas. In Harrold there is a school, kindergarten through 12th grade, with about 50 teachers and 110 students called Harrold Independent School District. On October 2nd, this school had a unanimous vote to let teachers carry concealed guns to protect themselves and the students.

In a phone interview, Superintendent David Theweatt said his staff carries weapons because of all the recent school shootings like

the ones at Virginia Tech and the Amish School House in Pennsylvania. His concern for his school got higher when a house that produced drugs was shut down about 50 feet from the school.

The weatt was worried about crime after this event and the nearest police department is about 17 miles away which is about a 30 minute drive without any weather or traffic



Toy Gun, Photo taken by YDC Staff

conditions. So Theweatt took matters into his own hands and got a security consultant to help train teachers to use their weapons and maintain security. He also got special bullets that won't ricochet in the halls. Theweatt believes

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Gay Rights in America

Likely to Improve

By Alan



Gay Rights Symbol,

Similar to minorities and women, gays have had their fair share of discrimination in America, among other places across the globe. Pending legislation that might be passed, however, might give them rights everyone else is entitled to such as marriage, spousal benefits, and the ability to settle child custody issues

with ease after a separation between two gay partners. Recent politicians such as Senator Barack Obama are in support of many anti-discrimination acts and the legalization of gay marriage and other gay rights.

For many years, gays have had to endure harsh discrimination

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Dr. Roth Resigns

By Brooklyn

As most of the O'School community is aware, Dr. Roth recently announced that he has chosen to resign from his position as

the executive director of the school for medical reasons and also because the commuting distance has taken up too much of his free time. His last official day working here was September 5, but we did manage to convince him to return the next week for a celebration on his behalf. Pete and Diana are now joining as the co-executive directors of the



Dr. Henry Roth, Photo Taken by YDC Staff

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NATIONAL & WORLD

Gun-Toting Teachers

By Natalie

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he is prepared and he says many people stand by his decision.

According to the New York Times some people think no matter how much training there is just too many things could happen with a gun in the classroom and other people think that it's no place for a teacher to decide life or death for someone.

National Gun laws have said that there can be no weapons on campuses, but the government has made exceptions for school boards allowing people in higher education to carry concealed hand guns. Harrold is the only secondary school to take advantage of this exception.

For the teachers to carry guns, they had to go into special crisis management classes and get a Texas gun license. According to a resident, Coy Cato, it's a good way to protect their children. The school discussed other options like mace or taser guns, but none were found suitable. Mr.Theweatt voiced that the school thought about peace officers, but when he found out Columbine had an officer who ran out of the building when the gunmen came, the

school overrode the option of a peace officer. HISD thinks the media is overlooking these discussions.

According to Mr.Theweatt, there have been a few parents who voiced their opposing opinions. One parent chose to withdraw her children from the school. The resident was basically told to deal with this new policy or find a new school district, she told the New York Times.

Mr.Theweatt says his school is "safer than a bank." HISD is equipped with panic buttons, electronic doors, and cameras. Theweatt's hope is that these measures will prevent any type of situation happening at Harrold Independent School District.



Harrold Independent School, ASNE Photo Source

Introducing: Dear Sonia.....

Brought to you by the YDC Staff

The Yellow Door Chronicles is pleased to inform you that in future issues, there will be an advice column included to provide a new service to all of our faithful readers.

To help us out with launching our advice column, we're asking you to give any letters or questions to Michelle P. or Michelle Z. After reviewing the letters, the YDC staff will

choose a few of the letters to respond to in the following issue.

This is your chance to ask advice or raise issues that are important to you. All letters must be signed, but if you wish to remain anonymous, your name need not be published in the newspaper.

Oh yeah, and above all, just continue to enjoy the Yellow Door

Chronicles as you always have. Enjoy!

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Gay Rights in America, Likely to Improve

By Alan

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from anti-gay Americans, who are quite prevalent even in today's society. Fred Phelps of the Westboro Baptist Church and his Christian congregation, who many other legitimate, accepting Christians, such as Unitarian Universalists, refuse to identify with, have protested many funerals of gay and lesbian people throughout Massachusetts, hoisting signs that display highly offensive messages towards gays.

Another example of widespread discrimination and a violation of rights for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender, (GLBT) individuals is the US Military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy. Many dedicated officers in service have been prosecuted for having "a propensity or intent to engage in gay acts" under US code, Title 10, Subtitle A, Part II, Chapter 37, Section 654. According to the US Code online governmental database, "the prohibition against gay conduct is a longstanding element of military law that continues to be necessary in the unique circumstances of military service." Serving in the armed forces is not a constitutional right; the government is legally allowed to deny gays of their ability to fight for their country.

The United States of America's government does not allow gays to legally marry, nor are they able to gain the same health care benefits which heterosexual couples get. They can have unsanctioned marriages that are not legally recognized in any states except for California and Massachusetts, which have now become havens in which gays thrive.

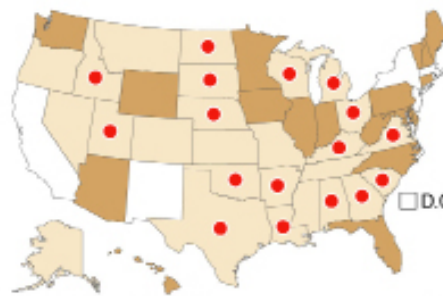
One source of discrimination is derived from the beliefs of Fundamentalist Christians who have opposed gays because they believe that their God does not approve of same-sex relationships. They cite the Old Testament of the Christian Bible. The story of Sodom and Gomorrah explains how a group of gays were punished by the Christian God for their "sins." America was founded by Anglo-Saxon European Christians who incorporated their religious ideology into the basis of

State of marriage in the United States

State-by-state look at the state of marriage, civil unions and prohibitions:

Marriage prohibitions

- Constitutional amendments restrict marriage to one man, one woman
- Laws restrict marriage to one man, one woman
- Amendments or laws have language that does, or may, affect other relationships, such as civil unions or domestic partnerships



Source: Human Rights Campaign

Relationship recognition

- Marriage licenses to same-sex couples
- Provide equivalent of spousal rights to same-sex couples within the state
- Provide some spousal rights to same-sex couples
- Recognizes legal marriages between same-sex couples entered into in another jurisdiction



Graphic: Sacramento Bee

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their government. There has been quite a lot of separation between church and state since the initial foundation of the United States of America, but many of the beliefs remain.

Christians aren't the only group of people known for having certain extremist individuals within their group that hate gays. People with some sort of prejudice can be found in nearly any group, regardless of whether it is religious or not. There are some people who are just plain xenophobic and dislike gays because they think it's abnormal and don't want to accept it.

If one were to look at the rights of gays in other countries, they would see varying views. Certain areas in the Middle East punish gays with execution, whereas other places such as parts of Europe treat gay people no differently than anyone else, giving them equal rights. According to The Chicago Free Press, a local gay newspaper, the best places for gays to live include Sydney, Mykonos, Paris, Barcelona, Copenhagen, and Amsterdam. They also state that the worst places for gays to reside are Saudi Arabia, Nigeria, Iran, Jamaica, and Afghanistan. There are also many parts of the world, where

despite having the same legal rights as others, gays are still treated worse. This is discrimination and not a denial of rights by the governing power, but it is still significant.

The ever-growing popularity of current senator and democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama means he could potentially become the president and reform numerous things, including the rights of gays. Presidents have seemingly little power when it comes to matters such as this, which are more suited for congress, but some believe they can have a positive influence on such outcomes. However, David Crary, a writer for the Associated Press, seems to think otherwise. He has claimed that "neither John McCain nor Barack Obama [seem] eager to push the issue high on their campaign agendas."

Despite economic woes which the US is currently facing, there may still be focus on other issues. New legislature might be passed to cut down on discrimination and ensure that everyone is given the same rights.

LOCAL

Who Handles a Crisis?

By Kayla B.



Michael



Lisa



Paul



Art



DeMarco



Sandy



Warren

At the Orthogenic School, you may happen to see someone running out of a classroom becoming very upset. Some students may calm quickly, but, on the other hand, some students might go to plan B: a crisis. Every school has their own different way of handling a crisis. The Orthogenic School has a job that handles crisis and it is called coverage. Lisa, De Marco, Michael, Warren, Paul, Art, and Sandy all work as coverage for the Orthogenic School. Coverage is one of the most important jobs throughout the school.

Before a staff member is hired they must meet some requirements like “Supreme awesomeness!” says Michael. “You have to have a masters degree and five years of experience in residential, you have to have a proven track record [that] shows that you can effectively interact with difficult students,” said Art. Also “coverage must have a willingness to work in a highly demanding work situation requiring both flexibility [and] innovativeness,” says Paul. It also helps if the person possesses “cultural competency,” he explains.

When coverage is not handling a crisis, they “ensure that the Daily routine is maintained. We ensure that everyone, staff/students, are safe and

feel safe,” Sandy said. They must also “assist staff in decision making/alternatives of handling situations before a crisis develops.” Said Lisa.

When you are in your dorm you may hear a counselor ask over the walkie, “Can coverage please come to the dorm?” Coverage doesn’t always come to the dorm for bad reasons, they come to check in, see if the dorm has a walkie, see if everything is fine, or to bring something to the dorm.

The job has some perks. Lisa wanted to let us know that “talking with and getting to know all of the young people on an individual basis,” was one of her favorite parts of the job. Sandy and De Marco had similar answers. “Getting to know the students,” and “working with the students and helping them when needed,” were what they enjoy.

When students go on home visits, they are told that when they have an emergency, they can call the coverage phone. Sometimes the coverage phone is not on. So when asked, do you always have the coverage phone on and charged? Paul said, “The question depends on the day. If it is a day when the secretaries are in the office, coverage picks the phone up in the front office at 5 PM or when the

secretaries leave. On the weekends and at night, coverage should have the phone on them at all times making sure that the phone is charged at all times.” Feel free to call the coverage phone when you have an emergency and you need to contact someone at the school. The number is 773-203-9950. You should not give this number to friends who may call looking for you!

Coverage is a very busy job. They are running up and down the stairs, and of course, must get tired at some point! “All the time!!!” Lisa said. Warren also said, “Sometimes, but not really because there is so much energy in the building and the students will not let you get bored.”

Coverage is a huge responsibility! They get to know the students very well and they have a job that they can’t slack on. They are here for the students to keep them safe and to make sure that everything in the building is running smoothly. They may get tired, but they are always running around the school taking care of things whether it is unlocking bikes, finding more staff, or getting car keys. They do a lot more than their job description states!

Dr. Roth Resigns

By Brooklyn

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O'School. They plan on taking on these new leadership roles while still managing their current responsibilities. Part of their new responsibilities include attending community meetings and making sure everybody else does their job correctly.

Dr. Roth worked here for about three years, during which time he modified the way in which Staff participates in quarterly meetings and opened up the collaboration process between students and their parents, while also writing two books on the side, according to Diana. Students have also reported him to be the distributor of Christmas gifts when Santa Claus needed a little extra help. "As most of you know, he is a very kind man, and that's probably what we'll all miss the most," Diana explained when questioned about how the O'School community is handling the change involving Dr. Roth.

The responsibilities of the executive director of the school basically involve making sure everybody else in the school is doing their job correctly and maintaining safety within the school twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Executive directors of therapeutic schools are in charge of leading staff meetings, admitting new students into the school, making all of the phone calls to the organizations who donate money to the school to see if any more donations are available, and hiring all new employees.

Public schools have a different way of handling themselves. In fact, they don't even have executive directors. Instead, the principal of the public school will take on the role of the executive director by providing instructional leadership and supervising the overall operation of the school's facilities, according to Sharla Brown-Ajayi, the school administration manager of Normal Community High School. Sharla also said that the public schools are only responsible for their students' safety when the students are on the school's property.

Another difference that exists between therapeutic schools and public schools is that principals of a public school have to strictly stick to the Illinois School Code when hired. The Illinois School Code lists all of the qualifications and requirements that a public school principal must have in order to be hired and manage to do their job in an affective manner. The full requirements for becoming a principal are specifically named



in the Illinois School Code, 105 ILCS 5/21 7.1.

The executive director of a therapeutic school, however, must not only follow this code but also have a minimum of 5 years of administrative experience, and an advanced degree in a relevant area of study, according to Diana. Diana also says that executive directors of therapeutic schools get to know families better than public school principals because therapeutic schools involve the student's family in every aspect of their treatment. "Other than that, public schools and therapeutic schools are run pretty much the same," Sharla said.

Diana and Pete insist that in order to transition smoothly into their new jobs, they will consult with the students about new changes to be made, to some extent at least. "Our main concern is the students and their level of happiness," Diana said when questioned about the transitional plans. Pete also insists that the number one priority is maintaining the safety of the students.

The students have been deeply affected by Dr. Roth's decision to resign. As for some of the younger students, they will miss Dr. Roth's appearance as Santa's beloved helper, but some of the older students will miss their ability to have private chats about their issues with Dr. Roth in his office.

"What I'll miss most about him is his mellow sense of humor," Mollie said.

"I'll miss the fact that he stopped everything he was doing to talk to a student the second you asked him," Kelsey Jo said, commenting later on his reliability and the level of trust he built up with the students.

"He also loved his grandma a lot, which I thought was cool," Mollie added when overhearing the question.

Danica insisted that she will miss the ability to be herself around someone she cares deeply about, but added that she's happy for Dr. Roth's new opportunity because he will add a unique flavor to the new job he's accepting.



SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Video Games: Can You Live Without Them?

By Justin

Believe it or not, according to some doctors interviewed by Fox News, video games are more addictive than heroin. Video games have been getting more graphic over the years, and, surprisingly, the age that kids start playing video games is at 7 years old. We have potentially lost some of the smartest students in the nation. Students have dropped out of school just because of an unhealthy addiction. Over time, teens use video games for a variety of reasons, including as a coping skill. Sometimes they get lost in the process.

People become addicted to video games because they're appealing to people with a very wide range of pop culture interests. For example, if you are a skater you may have the Tony Hawk games, while, if you like sports, you may have Madden. There is always something for everyone.

Teens are more likely to become addicted to games than other users for reasons that include family problems and having an addictive personality. They can also be too scared of socializing with other people in the real world leading them to turn to the virtual world.

Video games are not only bad for your physical health but your mental health as well. People lose sleep when they play video games, which can cause hallucinations and other problems. If you have Mental illnesses and you

are an addict, you could even be a threat to yourself or to the public because people have become violent after playing for a long period of time. Also, people who have a mental illness already have less of a sense of reality, and the world

of video games can cause that sense to weaken. Some people have even died from playing video games because of starvation, or just because of self exhaustion. A 30 year old man died in China after playing games for three days straight.

As an addict, people live outside the daily routine that they must observe. Most people shower, eat, sleep and if they have a job if they would go to their job. If they have a family, they would take care of their family. Addicts don't do any of that stuff. They just ignore everyone. They don't eat, sleep, shower or even tend to their own family. They just play video games.

Video game response and addiction has even been featured in the news and the media. Shows such as South Park show an overweight geek killing

everyone's World of War craft character. There also was a C.S.I episode where a kid went on a killing rampage because he played a Grand Theft Auto-like video game.

If addicts play video games and they could lose sense of all reality causing some serious mental and physical health issues.



Photo Taken by YDC Staff

Downloading Music Legally

By Kayla B.

In 2003 a young girl named Brianna thought that downloading music was fun! She was 12, and wanted to get music off the internet. Her mom paid a site a small fee and she was able to download all the music she wanted. The Federal Government sued her for this little mistake. When people download music it may seem very easy to do. On the other hand you must be cautious if you want to avoid downloading music illegally.

Sites like Lime-wire and iTunes are huge sites where you can download music. Many people use these to download music for their iPod or MP3 player, but there is a difference between iTunes and Lime-Wire. Lime-Wire uses file sharing which is illegal when you share copyrighted items. iTunes follows copyright laws, and when you buy the music you must pay money and then a percentage of that money goes to the artist.

File-sharing allows several users to access the same file, giving the user the ability to read, modify, copy or print. Sharing files from peer to peer networks has become a popular way for music lovers to sample and gather music from a wide range of performers, according to cippic.com. The RIAA also known as Recording Industry American Association, comes down strongly against file sharing, says a report by Ball State University.

On the Lime Wire website, they say that Lime Wire is a fast easy to use "file sharing program" that contains no spyware. Lime-Wire is, however, very well known for causing viruses on people's computers. Other



Photo Taken by YDC Staff

sites can cause viruses due to file sharing as well because you do not know exactly what is on someone else's computer.

With I-Tunes you can rent and buy movies, purchase songs and sometimes pre-order CD's, as well as purchase TV shows and games that are able to go onto your I-Pod or MP3 player. On I-Tunes people can also make their own podcasts and download them for free, but it is against the terms and conditions to put a song on a podcast because they do not own it.

iTunes hasn't seemed to be a problem for people. iTunes organizes your music by name, artist, genre, how many times played and album. iTunes is designed for any type of computer whether it is an Apple or PC. "iTunes is fast, easy, legal, and you know it is going to go to your iPod because it's part of the Apple company." says Olivia.

Brianna and hundreds more people got sued for \$150,000 per song! Even though lime-wire software is legal, file-sharing anything that you do not own is illegal. iTunes, and other sites where you purchase individual media files are legal. iTunes works hard to keep it that way.

SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Get Ready for The New Madden

By Justin

People find *Madden '09* to be an appealing game. It doesn't matter if you're an experienced player, or if you just pick up the game for the first time. People of all ages and skill levels can enjoy a unique yet challenging experience while playing *Madden*. That is also why after 20 years *Madden* is still going strong.

Playing *Madden* is like coaching your own football team. If you are a football fanatic you would love *Madden*. You don't even have to be a fanatic. You can just like sports. Either way *Madden* is a classic game.

Football players think it's one thing to play in the NFL (National Football League). Sure they get paid a boat load of money in the NFL. If you are playing in the NFL you are the best of the best. For some players that still not enough. They want to be noticed. *Madden* gives them a way to do that other than winning the Super Bowl. Players like Payton Manning, who everyone knows, and Brett Favre, who has seventeen years of experience as a starting quarterback, get a different kind of recognition in *Madden*.

Football players are not the only ones who can benefit from being on *Madden*. Musicians can benefit from being featured as well. For instance, the band *Good Charlotte* was unheard of until they were featured on *Madden03*. The football game also made *Yellow Card* big in 2004. This year's *Madden 09* features various artists such as *Busta Rhymes*, *Linkin Park*, and *Gym Class Heros*.

Madden 09 is going to have a buyable soundtrack. To help celebrate and promote this soundtrack, there was a live

show nightly, featured on Jimmy Kimmel Live, through August 11. The artists are also going to be featured in half time of Rose Bowl in Pasadena, California.

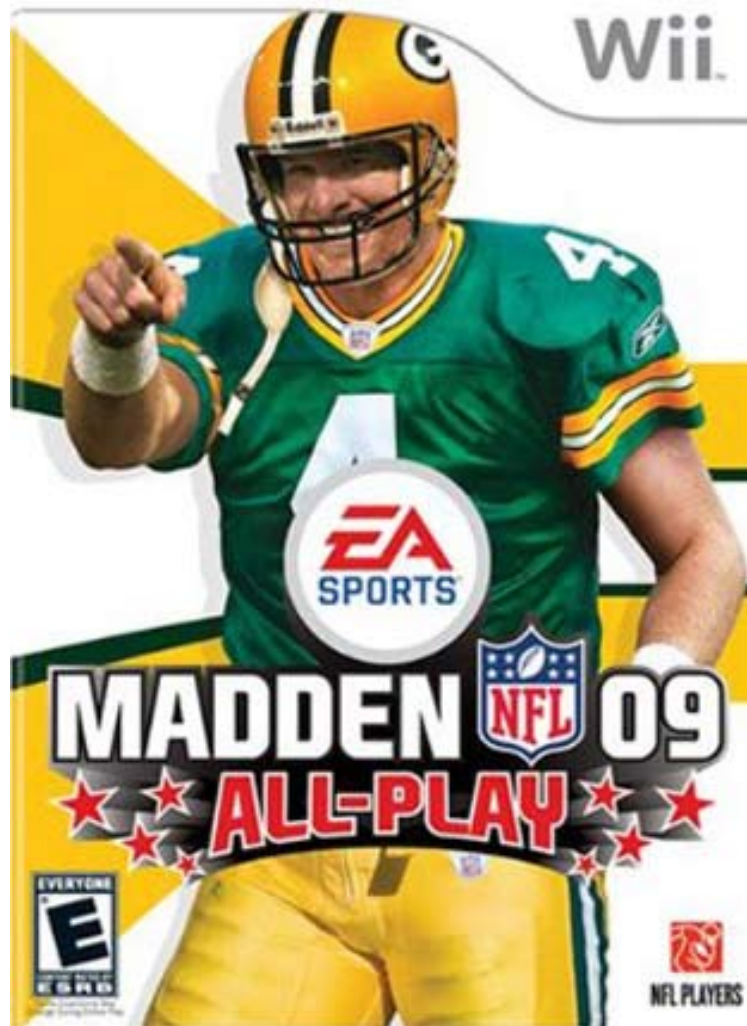
Not only is there are exciting new soundtrack, but there are also all new game play options. There is an all new feature called EA Sports Rewind. Let's say, for instance, that you make a really dumb play and you wish you could redo that play. Well, with this brand new feature you can do exactly that. One new feature could be bad news for all of you rookies though; the computer can actually learn your playing style.

That's not all. You can have up to 32 teams trading and playing online, plus you can look at

your ranking and stats, according to Game stats.

The first *Madden* was made in 1986. Surprisingly enough, *Madden* was not the first football video game. Joe Montana made a video game before John Madden ever got the idea.

The first *Madden* series was sponsored by Amtrak. Trip Hawkins, owner, thought that making a football video game was a good idea. So he just jumped right on the *Madden* train. As we all know, in 1986, technology could only go so



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A Question of Ages

By Natalie

A subject on many people's minds, including the International Olympic Committee, is the age of the very young looking gymnasts from China. Mike Walker is an internet sleuth who was not paying very much attention to the Olympics until he heard about these youthful looking athletes. He decided to see if China's officials were lying, according to an article in The Chicago Tribune.

After deciphering files for days, he found a spreadsheet previously posted on a Chinese government website. It listed the age of the Olympic gold medalist He Kexin as 14, not 16, the minimum age required in Olympic Gymnastics. Also Jiang Yuyuan and Yang Yilin supposedly did not make the regulated age. Many people were furious

at these allegations, and some people are questioning China's morals.

Olympic gymnastics has a minimum age because officials

believe if the gymnast is younger they are more flexible than an older person. There is also a mental part that plays into the age regulation

due to the emotional stress that could be put on the athlete.

Many people are now questioning whether the girls should get to keep their medals, but there

is no agreement. The International Olympic Committee has launched an investigation on He Kexin to see if the allegations are true and, if they are, she could be stripped of the medals that she won in both team and individual events.

Even after uncovering the evidence above, Walker did not stop searching for more answers. He found an athlete registry showing that He Kexin was born on January 1st, 1994. Many people have commented on Walker's blog and showed their skepticism saying that the girls were older.

The Olympic Committee has not determined an answer or punishment, but many are anxious to know the outcome of this controversy. No one knows how this will affect

the future of Olympic Gymnastics or the Olympics in general.



Check out our latest addition to the YDC!
Muffin Man on page 14!



OP ED

Suicide Is Not The Answer

By Brooklyn

Suicide is the leading cause of death of kids in this country. According to a study that was supervised by Kevin Caruso, a psychologist and founder of a suicide prevention website, every year 100,000 kids die by suicide while another 100,000 kids try to die by suicide each year but fail. Just so we're on the same page, the number one cause for suicide is untreated depression. Other major causes may include: loss of a loved one, experiencing a traumatic event, abandonment, abuse or divorce.

The truth is that suicide can be prevented if people get help, and what a lot of people don't emphasize enough is that people who are suicidal must get immediate help. Some signs of someone feeling suicidal are refusal to take prescribed medications, lack of interest in former hobbies, lack of hygiene, fatigue, obsessively thinking about or talking about suicide, isolation from peers, sudden change in appearance, and self-injurious behavior.



If you see someone who appears to be suicidal or you are the one feeling suicidal you can either talk to the suicidal person to offer them support in their time of struggle

or talk to a counselor personally who can offer the right kind of help. You can also encourage people to attend a suicide support group or call a suicide hotline because either way there are trained professionals who know how to handle talking to a suicidal person. The main thing you want to do is make sure they know that you love and care for them because when someone is feeling suicidal they need support then more than ever.

According to several suicide prevention websites for The American Psychological Foundation, and SAFE (Self-Abuse Finally Ends), you can choose to follow specific guidelines when talking about suicide with others that will ensure that nobody is offended or triggered by your words. First of all, if you feel suicidal,

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Future for US Internet Looks Bleak

By Alan

This election's candidates seem to bring a renewed sense of hope to a bad situation that the Bush Administration has created for our once-great country. Regardless of whether you are a McCain or Obama supporter, you should be able to admit that both candidates are better-equipped to handle the role as president than our current one. However, each one has different things to offer to America.

Obama has proposed many good ideas that would benefit the country greatly, such as a reformation of the public education systems, giving gays equal rights, and withdrawing our troops from Iraq. He hopes that improving the schools in America will ensure a better future for all of us, and ending the war will stop our unnecessary spending and hopefully start to help the US's current economic state. He also wants to give everyone equal rights, starting

out by giving homosexuals and lesbians the right to marriage, which all heterosexual Americans already have.

Despite having a questionable vice president pick, McCain seems to have a lot to contribute to the country as well. McCain promises to create more job opportunities with the production of green energy and alternative fuel sources, and also wants to rectify the situation in Iraq, although he doesn't want the US to pull out quite yet. He is also very firm in his belief that citizens should have the right to bear arms to defend themselves from possible threats.

There are many likeable qualities about both of these candidates, and they might be able to fix the problems created by the Bush Administration, such as the US falling into a recession, having a multi-trillion dollar deficit from the war in Iraq, and improving the No Child Left Behind Act

Future for US Internet Looks Bleak

which did leave many children lacking a sufficient education that is essential to their success in life. However, one key issue that neither of these two potential presidents stands well on is the internet.

Both McCain and Obama are in favor of higher internet regulation and certain bills which would allow Internet Service Providers to give conditional service which would

limit their customers' internet usage greatly. This would be achieved by doing things such as severely limiting bandwidth use, throttling upload and download speeds, and blocking whatever sites they wish for whatever trivial reasons they can come up with, such as just not liking the content on a site, or sometimes blocking popular sites due to the high use of bandwidth, meaning that they won't have to pay as much to provide service for their customers. ISPs justify doing things like this because they say that limiting the use of the internet that their users have will cut down on piracy and sharing of copyrighted material, and also that it will prevent people from accessing sites which should not be seen. However sometimes, despite their reasoning, there really aren't any legitimate excuses for doing so.

The internet is used for everything from e-mail to social networking to online purchases to looking up all sorts of information that isn't available elsewhere. Its convenience and easy-access makes it a great tool for everyone to use.



Photo Taken by YDC Staff

Suicide Is Not The Answer

By Brooklyn

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do not feel ashamed about seeking help for yourself. Surround yourself with supportive friends and family members, and stay away from people that might be insensitive or hurtful. Remember that you deserve to be treated with the highest level of respect

and sensitivity 100% of the time, and this is not something you should have to remind people of.

Do not hesitate to talk about suicide with others, but please do so in a healthy way that is respectful to suicide survivors and people that are having a

hard time dealing with the aftermath of suicide. Do not sensationalize or romanticize suicides or portray them as heroic by saying that a suicide "ended pain" or "ended suffering." Be careful of what you say in regards to saying that someone died by suicide or

attempted suicide because if you don't approach this subject with prudence, you might end up offending somebody.

Now that you know how to approach the subject of suicide in speech, let's explore how suicidal ideation is responded to at

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Suicide Is Not The Answer

By Brooklyn

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the O'School. According to the Starz counselors, when someone here tells one of the counselors they are feeling suicidal, a plan of action is made in regards to their safety. If they are physically threatening to themselves or others to an extreme level, they might be sent to a nearby hospital. If they are not a physical threat to themselves or others, then the plan of action usually begins with a search of the person's area in their dorm. Next they usually have a set of guidelines that the person has to follow, such as the person has to be with Staff at all times or they have to remain in places in the dorm where Staff can see them at

all times. After the person calms, the self-soothing process begins in which methods of distraction are practiced. Usually when the person is in a calm and rational state of mind, the counselors will talk to them about their feelings.

There are several ways for people who are feeling suicidal to get help. Here at the O'School, we have counselors, therapists, and teachers who can talk to us about how we are feeling. Elsewhere, there are support systems from our hometowns or the national suicide hotlines.



Get Ready for The New Madden

By Justin

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far. When the Hall Famer, John Madden, asked Amtrak to add more players to a team on the game, Amtrak told John Madden that they couldn't come by that kind of technology. At the time it was impossible to do that. So Madden said he wouldn't put his name on the video game without it. He went to EA (Electronic Arts), but they still could not do his request. Eventually technology caught up to the ideas.

I know it's hard to believe that *Madden* video game wasn't the first of it's kind, but it is the one that has lasted, and *Madden 09* promises to continue to bring fun to many.



Photo Credits

Page 1:

Toy Gun Photo, taken by YDC Staff
Gay Rights Symbol, ASNE Photo Source
Dr. Henry Roth, taken by YDC Staff

Page 2:

Harrold Independent School, ASNE
Photo Source

Page 3:

State of Marriage in the US Graphic,
ASNE Photo Source

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Coverage Staff Photos, Photos by
Michelle Z.

Page 5:

Orthogenic School Sign and Door, Photos

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Person playing Wii, Photo by Natalie

Page 7:

Photo of iTunes page, Photo by Natalie

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Madden Game Cover, Google Images
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Beijing Olympics Logo, ASNE Photo
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Suicide Prevention, ASNE Photo Source

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Computer with caution tape, taken by

YDC Staff

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Go Get Help, ASNE Photo Source

Page 13:

Girl with headphones, ASNE photo
source

Page 14:

Muffin Man Comic, by Ben, Omid &
Derrick

Hot Topic: When you download music, what software do you use?

By Kayla B.

I-Tunes – Anonymous

iTunes – Ryan

Lime wire – Sparkles

I don't use any software because my parents don't let me download music. – Brooklyn

iTunes and sometimes limewire – D-oh!

Lime wire & I tunes & CD's – Justin

I HAVE NEVER DOWNLOADED MUSIC IN MY ENTIRE LIFE!!! STOP YELLING AT ME!!!!!! - Matt N.

I-Tunes 100% Legal - Anonymous

I-Tunes - Jacob

Limewire – KJ

I Tunes – Matt U.

Lime wire – Aaron S

I used to use limewire, until it put a bunch of viruses on my PC. Now I use this program called stealing whatever my brother downloads that I like. It's a pretty user friendly system, I have to admit! I get all my music free! All I have to do is nag my brother. Its that simple! - Danica

I use microtorrent 95 my 6.7 torrent client and mminova and The Pirate Bay



95 my torrent trackers. – Alan

None -Julia

!ITunes! - OA

iTunes - Tommy

I Don't use software. -Denzel
Limewire or iTunes
Shelby

Zune - Joe

I have my friends download music for me. -Nick A

YDC Staff February 2008

Involvement Editor: Kayla B.

Photo Editor: Natalie

Copy Editor: Alan

Content Editor: Brooklyn

Staff Writers:

Alan, Kayla B., Natalie, Justin, Brooklyn

Advisors: Michelle Pegram & Michelle Zarrilli

Assistant Advisors: Geoff Keegstra & Jillian Swinford

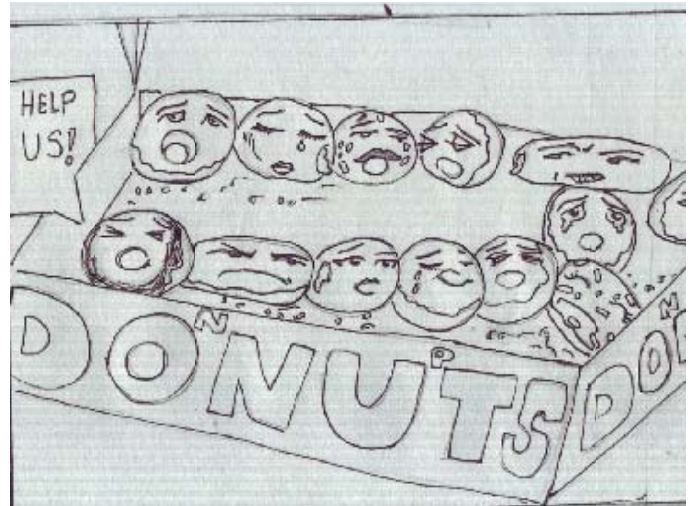
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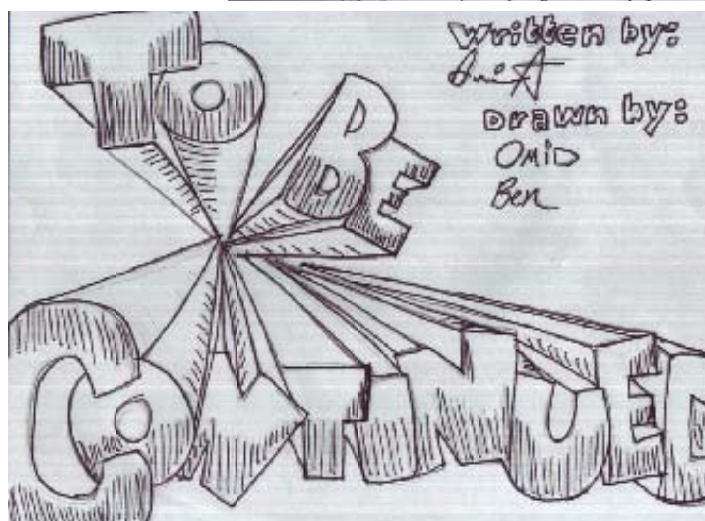
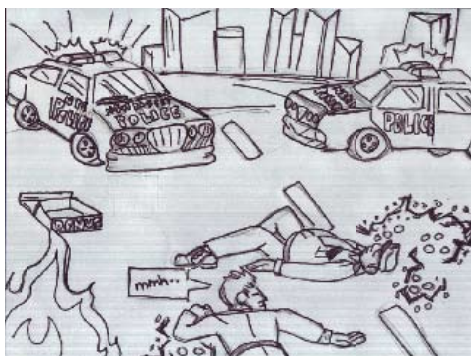
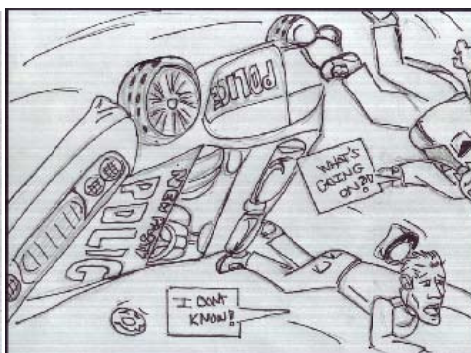
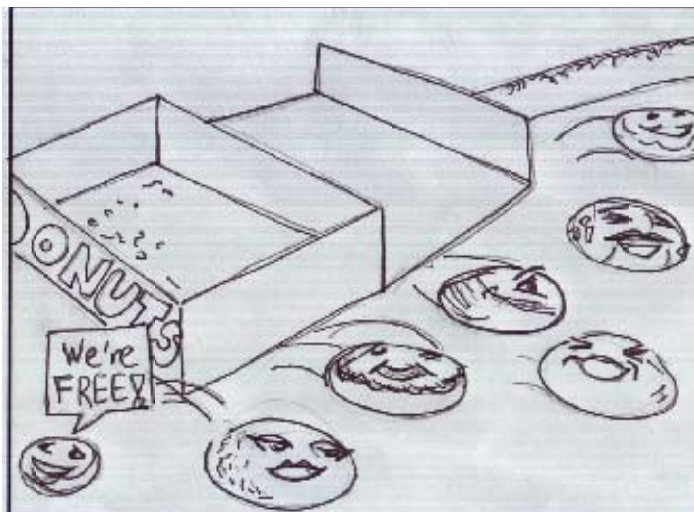
If you are interested in contributing to our paper please submit your articles, poems or artwork to Michelle P. or Michelle Z.

Your work will be reviewed by the YDC team for our next issue.

Muffin Man

By Derrick, Omid & Ben





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