

# Whs Register

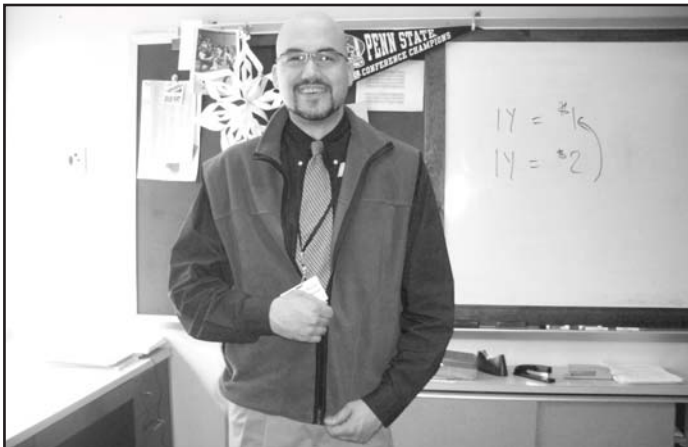
Vermont's Oldest High School Newspaper. Founded 1898.

>Burlington High School

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## Pondering the Power Of Perez



His head polished to a perfect shine, Herb Perez, history teacher and administrator extraordinaire, zips up his stylish vest for another day at school.

Amelia Schlossberg  
Register Staff

Everyone who's had Mr. Perez as a teacher has heard him shout, "TOTALLY. Fabulous!" Have you ever wondered where this signature catchphrase comes from? Or why his wardrobe seems to have an unending supply of vests, vests, and more vests? Or how Mr. Perez survived on the mean streets of New York City, fighting for his life?

This week, Becca Mitchell and I were granted a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to sit down with the mysterious Herb Perez for a no-holds-barred interview.

First, the origins of his contagious mantra: "Totally" is Valley Girl slang from the 80's, roughly equivalent to today's "sweet," an all-purpose adjective. Perez describes "fabulous" as a nonsense word for "an incredibly flamboyant thing." Put them together and you've got an unforgettable exclamation and a much anticipated compliment in his classroom.

Of course, this utterance is just one of the many traits that make Herb Perez the captivating man he is. Perez grew up in the Big Apple, living in Manhattan, Brooklyn, and the Bronx before settling in for elementary through high school years in Queens.

He excelled in school, but his fondest memory from childhood is playing "stickball." After watching major leaguers on television, Perez and his friends headed out to the streets to imitate the pros. They couldn't afford

baseball equipment, so instead they swung broom handles at pink rubber "Spaulding" balls.

The highlight of the game was when "occasionally our dads would come out and play, and that would be pretty cool." Of course, the city wasn't all fun and games: "The street is actually a place where you go to die, as opposed to go to live."

Fortunately, Perez's childhood was not confined to the city. His parents took him to the seashore, nurturing his passion for marine biology. "I'd be one of those weird people who stare at the beach," Perez confesses. "As a little kid, I loved the ocean."

As he grew older, his interests changed, focusing more on social sciences and history. He attended UVM, intent on becoming a lawyer, but a friend's invitation to an educator's lecture inspired Perez to consider teaching.

It turned out he was a natural: "I tutored really well, I work with people with their writing when they needed help pretty well, and I knew that I was a good listener." Perez also had an agenda for his teaching: "I wanted to make sure that the high school I was going to work at and the high school students I was going to take care of and teach, that I was going to do a better job than the teachers I had."

"PEREZ'S POWER" pg. 4

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## Guess Who's Back in The City of Angels?

Cooper Stone  
Register Staff

Yes, the screen writers are back! After a very lengthy strike which began on November 5, 2007, and which lasted three months, we should soon be seeing new episodes of our favorite television comedies and dramas.

In fact some programs, such as "Two and a Half Men" and "The Big Bang Theory", will be the first to air original episodes around mid-March.

The television industry, however, is really struggling to get back to their earlier scheduling. At this point only seven series have initiated shooting.

Generally speaking, comedies are easier than dramas to start production. Among the dramas, "Boston Legal" is the first to restart their taping. "Shark", "Ghost Whisperer", and

"Cold Case" are close behind.

Writers and producers describe the three month strike as "traumatic." Not only were they directly affected by unemployment, but others, in a wide variety of roles, were likewise affected.

Technicians, directors, cast members, cafeteria workers, and others were not working either.

Many of these individuals, who don't command high salaries like the actors, suffered financial hardships. Some took on other jobs, working in retail stores, restaurants, or wherever they could find employment.

Some took advantage of the time off to acquire other skills through education. One assistant director, for example, trained as an emergency medical technician. In spite of the long hiatus, all the workers, no matter in what capacity, "STRIKE" pg. 2

## "One Less" Is Motto of New HPV Vaccine

Theresa Strenio  
Register Staff

It has been nearly two years since the HPV vaccine was recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices.

This vaccine, called Gardasil, protects against four types of HPV, or human papillomavirus, a sexual transmitted disease.

Together, those four types cause 70% of cervical cancers and 90% of genital warts. A statistic done two years ago showed that about 972,000 women in America had contracted cervical cancer.

The Gardasil vaccine is recommended for girls ranging in ages from nine to twenty-six, although it is said to be best to get in between the ages of eleven and twelve.

Since this vaccine is new, researchers are still trying to find out if the shots are effective on women over twenty six, as well as if they are effective in preventing genital warts and rare cancers in males.

The time that the vaccine lasts is also unclear, but so far it protects for at least five years, and they have no evidence that Gardasil will not continue to protect longer than that as well.

The HPV vaccine comes in a series of three shots, with each shot costing \$120. This makes Gardasil the most expensive vaccine ever, as well as one of the more painful shots, according to a

"VACCINE" pg. 2



Many parents are worried about giving this vaccine to young daughters in fear it will make them be sexually active at a younger age.

**"VACCINE"**  
from pg. 1

large percentage of patients. Some critics of the HPV vaccine blame the high price on the fact that Gardasil has only one producer in America, a company named Merck. This causes a sort of monopoly on the vaccine, with no competition in prices for Merck.

Big controversy has been surrounding the Gardasil lately. Many parents have become uncomfortable with giving their daughter a shot to prevent sexually transmitted diseases when some of them barely know about the birds and the bees.

Doctors have advised it is best to give girls the vaccine before they become sexually active; around 50% of girls ages 13-19 are sexually active and that age keeps getting younger.

Almost six million new cases of genital HPV are reported every year, and of those six million, an estimated 74% are in 15-24 year olds. Of those 50% of kids who become sexually active, half of them have had or still have an STD.

So, statistically, one out of every four kids has an STD or has had one in the past. If you are considering getting the Gardasil vaccine, there are a few things to consider. Since this is a new vaccine, long term effects are still being studied.

The side effects of the shot, however, are very minimal, with swelling and redness at the injection of the shot, as well as fever, dizziness, and nausea. In some extreme cases, there have been patients who have fainted.

On a website against Gardasil, it was stated that three people had died the same day they had their vaccine, but it is only speculation at this point whether it was due to their shot or not.

Overall, the results from the Gardasil vaccine have been amazing. With all of the cancers that one can catch over a lifetime, it is a relief to know that there is one less.

With this outstanding breakthrough, hope is returned to finding a cure for cancers, and perhaps within our lifetime, more vaccines will be found. <

## Student Council Plans Spirit Dance and Blood Drive

*Elise Bishop-Rimmer  
Register Staff*

Wear comfortable shoes this Friday the 14th because it is the annual BHS Spirit Dance! Wear the traditional blue and white school colors to the dance and show off your schools spirit.

Entry cost for the dance will be \$5 and will be money well spent. Make sure that you buy tickets at school because they will not be available at the door. Enjoy the night with your friends at the Hilton Hotel on the waterfront for hours of great music and dancing. The Spirit Dance will be in memory of the late Hunter Dandridge and Norman L'Esperance, who were both students of BHS and passed away this year. All proceeds of this dance will be donated to the Burlington Amateur Hockey Association and cancer research organizations.

Last years Spirit Dance was the premiere and had a huge turnout. Student Council is looking forward to another great success this year. Another great way to support BHS and to give back to the community is to attend Student Council's semi-annual blood drive.

If you are 17 or older and would like to donate blood to the American Red Cross then Monday the 17th stop by the gymnasium and earn some community service



*Boogie on down Friday, March 14th at the BHS annual Spirit Dance, while also contributing to two great causes!*

hours as well! Donating blood is not only a way to gain the required community service hours, it also can save someone's life.

There is a blood shortage nationwide, which is why it is important that if you are a healthy student who is 17 or older, you donate blood during this blood drive. Invite someone to hold your hand through the process if you are needle-phobic and also encourage them to donate if they are 17 or older!

The past blood drives have been great successes. During the fall '07 blood drive 130 people attended which is an amazing turnout and 107 were able to donate blood.

These blood drives help the American Red Cross a considerable amount. Blood transfusions are a very important part in helping save a person's life during an emergency and the BHS blood drives contribute a great deal for this process.

The American Red Cross would greatly appreciate all healthy students who are able to donate blood this spring. Also the BAHA association and the Cancer Foundation will also be very pleased with the donations given to them because of the Spirit Dance. Support BHS and other organizations and get active! <



*New episodes of "Two and a Half Men" are set to air around mid March after much delay because of the screenwriters strike.*

**"STRIKE"**  
from pg. 1

found that they could quickly get back to their old routines. Maybe it's like riding a bike, a skill you never forget even if you don't do it for a long time. Even though the workers could get back to their routines, is everything the same as before November 5, 2007? The answer is a resounding "NO!"

One of the largest changes stems from the drop in viewership. After

the canned original episodes ran out, network viewership dropped about 20 percent, even higher among 18 to 50 year olds. Where did these viewers go? During the strike new reality series, which are inexpensive and quick to get into production, picked up many new viewers. As a result even more of these types of shows are hitting the airways. A good example of this is ABC's "Oprah's Big Give" which started airing on March 2,

2008. NBC recently inaugurated a new reality program too, "My Dad Is Better Than Your Dad."

Networks are hesitant about overloading their schedule with reality programs because of economic reasons. Networks charge much more for advertising space and if their programs are similar to cable, the advertisers won't want to pay the higher premium that networks have demanded in the past. Viewers also left the television audience to go online for their entertainment. A Virginia company, ComScore, discovered that more than 10 billion videos were viewed online in December alone. About 3 billion of these were from YouTube. Although online viewership had already begun to increase substantially, especially among the younger crowd, the strike definitely accelerated the trend. The general consensus from the experts is that new episodes of network series, either comedy or drama, will not necessarily result in a return to previous viewership levels. Not only have viewers found other entertainment online and from video stores, but they have also ventured into other pastimes. <



## Bad Theme Threatens Prom

Rachel J. Franz  
Co-Editor in Chief

When I think of Arabian nights, I think of Aladdin, poofy pants, camels... and a prom theme?

That's right, ladies and gents, this year's prom theme is "Arabian nights." Usually I wouldn't get so worked up about these things, but come on! Not only is "Arabian Nights" completely ambiguous, but it is impossible to build a good prom around it. Granted,



*Bad themes can make prom just another expensive dance with the same environment as Winter Ball.*

and I'm sure BHS doesn't either.

Student council supposedly chose the theme because it is cost-efficient and incorporates a lot of bright colors, which gives students a lot of range as far as clothes go.

They also argued that it's a theme that hasn't been used before and it provides a lot of decorating options without making purchases from major prom companies.

This does not excuse the fact that the theme seems to have been pulled out student council's you-know-where. The 2006 Paris theme, or 2007's Red Carpet rave: now those were good ones. Where did this one come from?

They could have at least come up with something decent, like the Roaring 20's from 2005. There you have flappers, prohibition (which is even good for the chaperones at the prom), jazz (sped up for dancers' delight), silent films, gangsters (including Al Capone), and a whole lot more.

Or what about something to really show off the diversity at our school: flag themed, with hit music from all over the world. Cardboard cutouts, fabric, lighting, and theme-specific music could easily make these themes more exciting than "Arabian nights."

I understand the need for a cost-efficient prom. I also understand that wearing bright, colorful fabrics is within the scheme of things. However, the 2008 prom theme, "Arabian nights," is lacking a lot of what should be part of a prom.

While it may be too late to change it now, we can at least shout out our opinions in hope for better proms in the future. But seniors are stuck with one ugly son of a prom theme. <

it allows for fun colors and a few outgoing students who will dress as Disney characters.

But the reality is that it was a bad decision. The major problem with the theme is that it limits the music. Last year's Red Carpet Rave left me skeptical about prom music choices in general. For a rave, the music could have been an amazing mix of various techno styles. However, the mix provided left a lot of us looking like puppets while attempting to dance to beat-less jams that took away from the "rave" vibe that everyone was so excited about.

This year, there is nothing to be excited about when it comes to the music. Perhaps they could throw in "A Whole New World," but what else? It's never fun to dance to "Lean Back" at three out of three dances per year. Prom should provide a new dance environment that helps the event maintain its exclusive reputation.

More music dilemmas come from the issue of bands playing at prom. Last year, graduated band Fresh New Kicks was not successful in entertaining the prom.

This year, student council has invited Broken White Record to play at prom for about half an hour. While the band has promised to play "danceable" tunes and to make sure prom-goers are entertained, the whole idea of a band seems pointless to me. The band has gotten plenty of opportunities to promote themselves to the BHS crowd and should now be working on getting out into the Burlington scene.

In addition, it's not likely that the band will be able to produce the caliber of dancing tunes that are needed at Prom and the crowd will likely be distracted by the band on stage. I don't want to end up sitting in the refreshment room for a chunk of my prom because of another band,

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## Ace the Seahorse has Writer's Block

Ace  
Contributing Seahorse

Note: Ace returns to his column in this issue after being hospitalized due to a nervous breakdown.

So, I have writer's block, as that obnoxious headline exclaims. Make that font a little bigger, why don't ya? So what if I don't know what to write about? Register Advisor Mr. Lamberti suggested that I write about the weather. Well...it was bad. The weather I mean. There was snow, and...it was snowy?

That's not really going to work.

Oh! There are a lot of potholes in the roads. I can't drive, but I can hear the nurses complaining about the roads all the time from my hospital bed. It sounds pretty outrageous. Those darn...people who pave roads.

Boy, how about those elections, huh? There are some important things going on there. And Eliot Spitzer spending eighty grand on a prostitute, isn't that something? I would make some kind of joke here, but nothing springs to mind. Prostitutes...uh...well...Looks like Governor Spitzer got hooked into something shady, eh? Ha ha! Get it? Hookers, prostitutes...they're synonymous, see? Yeah? Yeah? No?

I've lost the knack. I'm like Monet without paints. Hemingway without a pen. Sinatra without a voice. Paris Hilton without talent. I'm sorry, did I say talent? I meant looks. I'm like Paris Hilton without looks. And a trust fund.

It's been a long road to recovery since my nervous breakdown. I woke up in a sterilized hospital room, in the dark. After that it wasn't terribly interesting. I figured out where I was and remembered everything that happened. Then I went to sleep.

Then I woke up and ate some breakfast and looked out the window, and got an angry phone message from Lamberti saying that if I didn't make the deadline he'd make sure I spent the rest of my virtually-unknown lifespan on the streets.

So now I'm writing this piece of tripe to save my livelihood.

You know what? Fine. FINE. The weather. There was a lot of ice on the trees, and I guess that sucked because it made all the trees fall over and crash on people or houses or cars or whatever.

And it snowed a lot and was slushy and it made it difficult to drive. I don't get this, why is it such a big deal? If you want to change the weather, you know what to do.

Scientists have been talking about it for about 10 years now. Buy an SUV. Kill spotted owls. Exile Al Gore to Europe. It's all very simple. Global warming won't be that hard to bring about, if we all work together. Have a ball!

I know you'll enjoy skies of acid yellow, those leafless, scorched trees, and murderous flash floods of melted glaciers.

There it is, Lamberti, the weather. I hope you're satisfied. You communist. I'm going to sleep. <

*"PEREZ'S POWER" from p. 1*

Outside of the classroom, Perez boasts an eclectic musical taste, from hip-hop to classic rock. "You might see me at any type of concert, with the exception of anybody who plays acoustic guitar and slaps it, trying to get people to play with them. Those folks, well, I just like to walk away at that point. You know what I'm talking about, right? 'Slap, slap!' 'God! Stop doing that!'"

Mr. Perez's unique musical choices are matched by his trademark sleeveless attire. His vast vault of vests comes from Van Heusen, L.L.Bean, and "wherever finer men's clothing is sold."

Yet, he insists the outfits are purely practical: "BHS is like a tomb—it's really cold. The catwalks—I freeze! It's cold! So, the sweater vest is about function, it's not about style. I wish it was about style. I have no interest in looking like Chandler Bing from 'Friends,' okay? It came from being excruciatingly cold."

The chill is probably not helped by Mr. Perez's noticeable lack of hair. Toward the end of the interview, I took the bowling ball by the horns: "You don't have to answer this if you don't want to, but when did you start losing your hair?"

Perez didn't hesitate: "I was twenty-one," he explained, "and my buddy was giving me a hair cut... He says, 'You're losing your hair!' I said, 'I am not losing my hair, you made a mistake with the clippers.' There were some colorful words I used at that point."

Reality eventually set in: "By the time I was in my mid twenties—twenty-four, twenty-five I had a rather prominent bald spot on the back of the head, which, to my chagrin, continued to grow."

Perez eschewed the comb-over style, instead embracing his newfound baldness. "I'm a pretty courageous person. So you know what? I'm bald. I'm gonna shave my head. You wanna make fun? Go ahead, it's a free country."

As we wrapped up, Becca asked the question on the minds of many students: "Are you single?" "Well, yeah, Mr. Perez is single," affirmed Perez in the third person, "This job can take up a very big part of your life, if you let it. Especially if you play a few sports. So yeah, I am single, there are no children. Yeah, it ends with me. Don't worry. The world does not have to worry about, you know, little Perezes running around. Don't worry...yet."

In short, the interview was, well, totally fabulous. <

## March-April CALENDAR

BHS blood drive	3/17
Spring sports start	3/17
NCAA men's tourney	3/18
Wellness Day	3/18
First day of spring	3/19
Early release day	3/20
Bash for Cash @ Higher Ground	3/21
NCAA women's tourney	3/22
Red Sox vs. As	3/25
Third quarter ends	3/28
Festival of Cultures	4/5
Latin Day @ UVM	4/11
Game Night	4/11
ACT test @ BHS	4/12

## Voters Approve Moran Plan, School Budget

*Emma Smithayer  
Co-Editor in Chief*

Burlington voters approved several major items on the ballot on Town Meeting Day, among them the Moran plant plan and the school budget.

Mayor Bob Kiss's proposal for renovating the old Moran plant on the waterfront passed by a wide margin, with 7,585 votes for the plan and 4,016 against it, after the defeat of a plan in 2005 to sell the plant to the Greater Burlington YMCA. The vote does not necessarily make the proposal definite, but allows the city and the involved organizations to move forward in planning. Voters also defeated a plan this year that would have torn down the plant and made it into part of Waterfront Park.

The proposal calls for an indoor rock and ice climbing facility, an outdoor ice skating rink, a restaurant and café, a splash park, a rooftop observation deck, a fitness center, meeting rooms, and space for two non-profits, the Lake Champlain Community Sailing Center and the Green Mountain Children's Museum. The nearby streets and bike path will also be renovated, and the skate park will be moved and updated.

Mayor Kiss said the project will, "provide benefits to the community, families, children and young people. I really see the partnership (of the commercial tenants and the city) providing 500 construction jobs, 80 permanent jobs, \$2 million of economic activity annually, (and) a real range of services that complement the vitality and beauty of the waterfront."

Planners expect the facility to be a major tourist draw, especially because it is not dependent on



The Bash For Cash will be held this Friday at Higher Ground, beginning at 7:00. Come check out the winners of the BHS Talent Show along with performers from other area high school, and support the Boys and Girls Club.

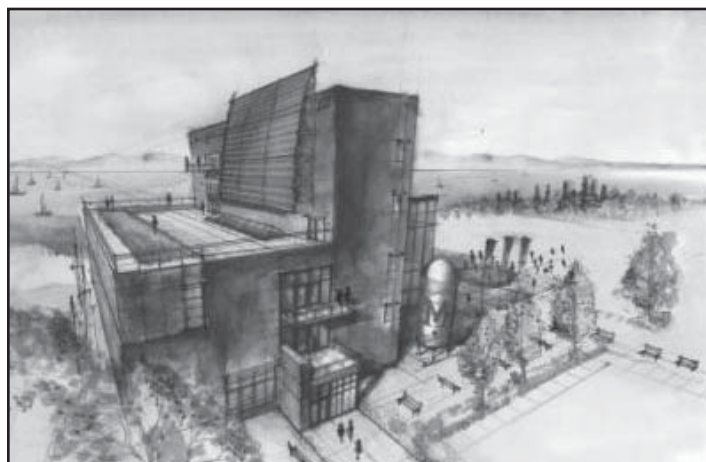
the weather as the ski resorts are, giving tourists another option when the weather isn't good for skiing. The ice and rock climbing walls will draw outdoor enthusiasts (Vermont already attracts about 88,000 climbers each year), and the ice rink, splash park, and children's museum will attract families.

The major cause of the proposal's controversy was its cost: an estimated \$21 million (a "worst case scenario," with costs likely to be lower, according to one of the companies involved). The climbing walls, ice rink, restaurant, and café will be built by a Scottish company called Ice Factor, which built the largest ice-climbing wall in the world inside an abandoned aluminum factory in Scotland and won the Green Apple award for the best Environmental Project in Europe. Ice Factor and the non-profits will share in the cost of renovation, so city taxpayers will cover about \$7.4 million of the cost.

The city claimed that demolishing the plant would cost almost as much, about \$6.2 million, and would not bring in new economic activity to help make up for costs. Some in favor of demolition, many of whom wanted to replace the plant with green space, said the city's estimates were exaggerated.

Voters also approved a new school budget with a 10% increase, which will cause approximately an 8.7 cent increase in tax rates. The district had a 2.3% increase in the number of students this year. The increased budget will pay for three full-time teachers to begin a foreign language program in the elementary schools, two new ESOL teachers, a new district administrator, pay raises for some teachers, and a half-day preschool at Flynn Elementary.

Three other advisory questions also passed, allowing sales of bonds to Burlington Electric and McNeil Generating and raising the property tax deduction for disabled veterans. <



Voters on Town Meeting Day allowed the city to go forward with plans to renovate the Moran plant with a variety of facilities to serve as a community center and tourist attraction. A conceptual image is shown here.

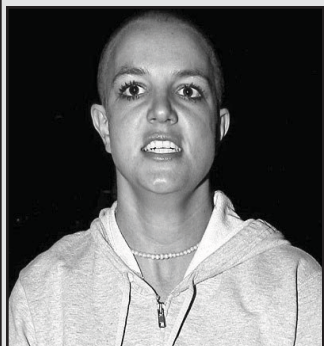


## Featurettes

Who doesn't love Britney Spears fun facts? The queen of drama kept a tanning bed on her Baby One More Time tour bus. Britney likes to relax with candles and Jackie Collins novels after a day of hard work. She also auctioned off personal items on eBay in 2005, including a jeweled bra and worn J. Crew flip-flops. (Hey! Don't underestimate her! Funds benefited Hurricane Katrina victims.) In 2004, Britney and K.Fed (back before the big D) gave their wedding party members personalized Juicy Couture sweat suits (yes, I know) embroidered with "Maids" and "Pimps." Oh, Brit.

The Nintendo Wii system involves using the controller to act out the motions of the game you are playing. What has been unknown to many are the numerous injuries that have come with the system. The problems have become so prominent that the Wii has its own website devoted to dealing with the various injuries. Some of the injuries includes strains, and even tears, in the wrist as well as bumps and bruises due to rogue controllers.

Former Vice Presidential candidate Geraldine Ferraro, rose from the depths of irrelevance earlier this month after making incendiary remarks about Senator Barack Obama's candidacy. "If Obama was a white man, he would not be in this position," Ferraro said to Torrance, California's *The Daily Breeze*. The irony of this statement was not lost on those who were alive during the 1984 Presidential Elections, when she was chosen as Walter Mondale's running mate for her prominent record of public service, her strong Democratic positions on the issues, and for... okay, because she was a woman.



Oops, she did it again. Britney Spears has continued her crazy antics over the years, from eloping to shaving her head.

## Juniors Journey Along the College-Bound Trail

Becca Mitchell  
Register Staff

For high school juniors, school vacations are more than a time to catch up on sleep, hit the slopes, and avoid homework. Aside from their usual schedules, many juniors use these weeks off as opportunities to visit potential colleges. Campus tours are taken, interviews are conducted with admissions counselors, and countless pieces of college merchandise are purchased from school bookstores. Yes, it's a difficult task, but someone has to do it (and that someone is me).

During the winter break, I had begrudgingly agreed to visit my mom's alma mater, Cedar Crest College. In case you've never heard of it, which I suspect is true for many of you, it's a small liberal arts school in my hometown of Allentown, Pennsylvania. That description sounds great, but here's the catch: it's an all-women school. No boys, unless you count professors, which gets kind of iffy.

Anyway, I tried to cast that fact aside as I walked into the admissions office. My mom and I were greeted by smiling faces, asking if we'd eaten lunch, what my academic area of interest was, and if



Lehigh University, which was founded in 1865, has plenty of beautiful, old buildings like these ones. However, I don't recommend visiting the campus unless you're prepared for a tiring tour climbing the hills.

we wanted to take a tour. We were set up with a tour guide named Brittany, who was very amicable but was studying Biochemistry, so we didn't really have much in common.

After I saw the campus, which reminded me of a park with old buildings, I had the opportunity to speak with the editor-in-chief of their school newspaper. She was super enthusiastic, but in the end I wasn't able to picture

myself there. Sorry, Cedar Crest.

The next few days I spent visiting family and eating lots of yummy Pennsylvania Dutch food, but that's not the point of this article. Two days after my first college visit, I went on to see two more schools.

My mom, Aunt Sarah, and I piled into our car to drive to Bethlehem, a charming Pennsylvania town nicknamed the "Christmas City."

"JUNIOR JOURNEYS" pg. 7

## Gelato in Genoa: BHS Model UN Goes Global

Hillary Chutter-Ames  
Register Staff

No one believed that the first six hours of our trip to Italy would be spent in the Burlington Airport: not a very exciting setting for our international excursion.

Thanks to Nick Alsofrom and Dia Davis, who full-out sprinted through the Dulles Airport, we did catch our international flight after weather delays in Burlington.

We spent the first few days of vacation in Florence, where we saw Michelangelo's David and admired the prowess of young Italians sculling on the Arno. We visited the Uffizi museum to absorb Italian painting and sculpture; the second floor had a gorgeous view of the river.

A large part of the group slept through the opera on the first night: it was in German with Italian subtitles, so a lot was lost in translation. We were lucky to have gorgeous weather for our walks around the city.

The Duomo is the tallest building in Florence, and everyone (except the chaperones) climbed the 463 steps to the top. Small

periods of claustrophobia on spiral staircases were worth the amazing view from the top of the dome. Rachel Howard and Kiah Powell-Francis loved the street markets, full of souvenirs and Italian leather.

We had our priorities straight: the first night Laura Swanson made sure to get the maximum number of scoops of gelato. In Genoa, we found an amazing gelateria, Grom,

which left lasting marks on both Dia's and Rachel's jackets. Italian cuisine was not limited to gelato: we sampled artichoke-stuffed lamb, pesto gnocchi, calamari, and the best pizza ever. Thin crusts with delicious mozzarella...molto buon!

When we arrived in Genoa it was time to buckle down: after all,

"MUN" pg. 7



Seniors stroll down the sunny streets of Florence on the recent Model UN trip to Italy.



# Boys' Basketball Holds the Division I Championship

After a long season filled with blowout games, the boys have finally finished off with a perfect record.

*Justin Kopacz  
Sports Editor*



The boys' basketball team came into this season as one of the top dogs in the yard. By season's end, they were the pit bull who defeated all of its competition.

As it was said in a previous Register, speaking of the almost-perfect Patriots, "Perfection. We all strive for it, but only few can achieve it." BHS now joins the ranks of the elite.

The championship game was a re-match of last year's final against Rice Memorial High School. The cross-town rivals were facing each other for the third time this season.

It was clear from the start that Rice was trying to stall the game and keep the Seahorses' potent offense away from the hoop.

The end result was a low-scoring game, but one that still left Rice with a double-digit loss. Their strategy was to stop the dynamic sophomore Joe O'Shea.

While Joe held his own, he took advantage of the double team by feeding his teammates. The primary beneficiary was senior Tyler Barron, who found his range during his final high school game.

The season ended just as it began with our Burlington High School Seahorses on top of Division One. This title is their second in three years and third in the last six years. <

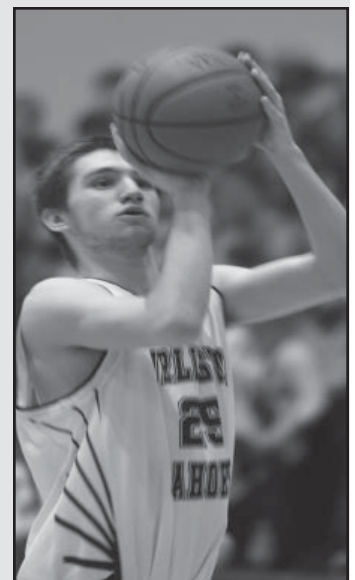
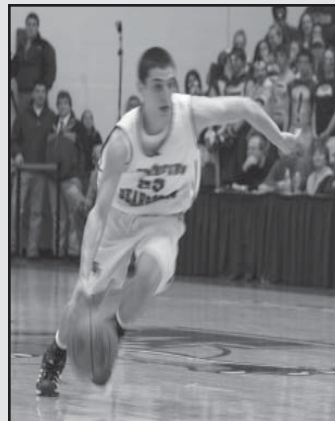
By the numbers:

**3,266** fans at Patrick Gym

**28.2** average margin of victory.

**26** years since a Division One team last went undefeated and won the championship.

**24-0** final 2007-08 record.





## "JUNIOR JOURNEYS"

from p. 5

Our first stop was Lehigh University, where both my aunt and my grandpa went to undergraduate school. They had a new parking garage right by the Admissions Building, which was pretty convenient.

However, the entire school is built on a mountain, so everything else on campus is only accessible by walking uphill.

An admissions counselor presented a PowerPoint about the school, which covered all the basics about majors and admissions to fun facts, like that the inventor of the escalator graduated from Lehigh.

Following that, we went on the campus tour. As I stated, it's all an uphill climb, so my mom decided to let my aunt accompany me for that portion of the visit.

The dorms were average but the architecture of all the buildings was beautiful, and it looked like the campus of an Ivy League school. I definitely could imagine having a nice college experience there.



Cedar Crest College is pretty, but they don't have any men.

After a quick lunch excursion, we went to see the campus of Moravian College, the seventh oldest college in the country. Our tour guide was blatantly sucking up to my mom, but I was able to look past that and see what a nice campus it was.

College tours are strange yet wonderful experiences, and for college-bound juniors, unavoidable. I've seen the perils and highlights of these experiences, and survived them all. So to all of my classmates preparing to see what the world of higher education has to offer them: have fun, and don't forget to wear comfortable shoes. <

## March Madness Hits Center Stage

Joe O'Shea  
Register Staff

Christmas. Thanksgiving. Many consider these to be the best days of the year, but college hoop fans like myself have a different opinion: The first two days of March Madness! This Thursday and Friday, avid college hoop fans across the country will be taking sick days or tuning into webcasts at work, eager to witness this year's memorable tournament moments.

This year's NCAA tournament has its share of compelling storylines and teams looking to capture a championship. As always smaller schools we've never heard of hope to play the role of Cinderella and knock off a giant, like Vermont did to Syracuse in 2005.

Let's start with the favorites. Memphis, UCLA, Duke, North Carolina, and Kansas have all rotated in and out of the Top 5 this season. Memphis is hoping to become the first team from a non-BCS conference since UNLV in 1990 to win the national championship.

This may be their last year in a while with a chance, as fab frosh Derrick Rose and junior swingman Chris Douglas-Roberts are near certainties to enter the NBA draft at the end of the season.

As for a team from a smaller conference to make a deep tournament run, Xavier is a good choice. A Top 20 team virtually the entire season, they boast wins over Kansas State,



Sharpshooter Stephen Curry leads upset-minded Davidson College into the NCAA Tournament for the second consecutive year. The Wildcats, who have not lost in 2008, are poised to make a tournament run.

Miami (FL), and played Tennessee close before falling by seven.

They also made a run to the Elite Eight in 2003, so these are not uncharted territories for them.

Everybody loves an underdog, and a couple teams this year might just be the ones to do some major bracket busting.

My first pick is Davidson. They finished 21-0 in their league, and proved they could play with the top teams in the country with close losses to Duke, UNC, and UCLA.

Second is St. Mary's, who hails from the West Coast Conference and should make it into the tournament as an at-large.

Guard play is very important in the tournament, and few are better than Patty Mills of the Gaels. He dropped 37 on Oregon in a non-conference win and is averaging 14.5 points and 3.4 assists a game for the season.

Who will ultimately take home the title? Drumroll please... Kansas. The most balanced team in the country, they boast possibly five players who will play in the NBA.

When clicking, they are the most potent team in college basketball, evidence by several 30+ point wins in conference play this year.

I expect them to be cutting down the nets in San Antonio on April 5th. <

## Youngster Wows Coach, Commits To College

Eric Gissendanner  
Register Staff

Fourteen years old. When I was this age I was just finishing up my middle school years and beginning the last leg of academic schooling before I hit college.

In fact, college was not even on my attention radar. However, this was contrary to another individual. A Maine high school freshman, Connor Anthoine, has already verbally committed to UVM with a hockey scholarship.

Anthoine is believed to be the first player born in 1993 to commit to an NCAA Division 1 school. His older brother, Mark, committed to play for the University of Maine last year when he was a junior in high school.

Currently, there are estimated to be only 15 student-athletes born in 1992 who have committed to D-1 schools, which makes "UVM RECRUITS YOUNGSTER" p. 8



Connor Anthoine will be donning the green and gold for UVM beginning in the fall of 2011. The 5'9" high school Freshman committed to the Catamounts in February.

### "MUN " from pg. 5

we came for the MUN conference. The Burlington delegates represented their countries well and all took an active part in debate.

Dia as Belgium had her resolution passed on the topic of bioethics. Laura presided well over the Economic and Social Council and learned some techno dance moves from her fellow chair. Max Kuusela not only worked well in the Security Council, but helped start the dance party on the second night of the conference.

The best part of Model UN is meeting peers from around the world. We met several girls from Kuwait, boys from



Senior Allison O'Brien wows her committee with her vast knowledge of global warming at the recent Model UN in Genoa, Italy.

a military school in Qatar, and many other high school students from Austria, Poland, France, Germany, and, of course, Italy.

Despite feeling like Vermonters among the vast array of European style, the conference went well, even for Rachel with the lovely representatives of Orange County.

Upon seeing riot police at the soccer game, everyone probably became a little anxious, but the home-team Sampdoria tied Torino in Serie A play, so no riots for the visiting Americans.

The Sampdoria fans did put our Superfans to shame: they not only waved over twenty huge flags for the entirety of the game but they also kept up a constant medley of team songs at an incredible volume.

Italian soccer lived up to its reputation: besides general rough play there were three yellow cards and a red card. The responses of the fans were almost as amusing as the antics of the players.

Even after the ten-hour flight from Rome to Washington we still tolerated each other reasonably well. Thanks to Mr. Cane and the MacNeils for constant hilarity and a memorable experience!

### "UVM RECRUITS YOUNGSTER" from pg. 7

Anthoine's case so unique. He will have to wait until the fall of 2011 to lace up for the Catamounts.

Under current NCAA regulations, UVM head coach Kevin Sneddon cannot comment on any new recruits until they have signed a letter-of-intent.

When asked, however, about UVM's philosophy of recruiting young student-athletes, Sneddon remarked, "From our standpoint, we want to be aggressive and feel like we want to identify the best student-athletes out there."

This same idea has been echoed in collegiate athletic programs around the country. But there are a few problems that arise when scouting young players. Since puberty occurs

in the early years of adolescence, it could be difficult to determine how an individual's body will develop.

Another question to take into consideration is, 'Is it possible that this player is ahead of his/her teammates? Will others eventually catch up and equalize the skill level?' The answers to these questions are determined mostly by the scouting crew.

Scouts travel, evaluate players and based on what they see, determine just where the individual will be skill-wise in a few years. The entire process seems like a big game of chance. The possibility of injury is always a huge wild-card.

A player can go down at any given time and see that scholarship

go down the tube. Still scouts take the chance and offer the scholarship to the eager youngsters. I mean who could deny have their full college tuition paid for?

Last December, Anthoine visited the campus and shared his reaction, "It's fast, but there was a lot to it. I went for a visit, and that's when they offered me a scholarship." There you go. A kid just starting high school and already having a powerhouse in Hockey East offering him a spot on the team.

For Connor Anthoine, he will continue to play junior hockey in Maine and be under the watchful of Coach Sneddon and the UVM hockey staff. <

### Anxious Seniors Face the Arrival of Acceptance Letters

Allison O'Brien  
Register Staff

Spring is on its way, and with it comes the most anxiety-ridden time for high school seniors: the arrival of college acceptance (or rejection) letters.

Inside the crisp, prim envelopes holds the fate of college-bound twelfth graders. The colleges or universities they have been accepted to or rejected from for the upcoming school year can determine a substantial amount about a student's academic future.

In today's society, with the economy in decline and cutthroat competition for job opportunities, a college degree is essential to finding quick success in the workforce. Such extreme pressures are not lost on seniors, who more

than recognize how pertinent college acceptances are. One senior declares, "I know how much getting into college really means for my future. It makes this time even more scary than it already has been."

And while seniors only get a brief break from the college craze while waiting for their letters, the rest is a much-needed one. The madness that is the college process is an extended and arduous one.

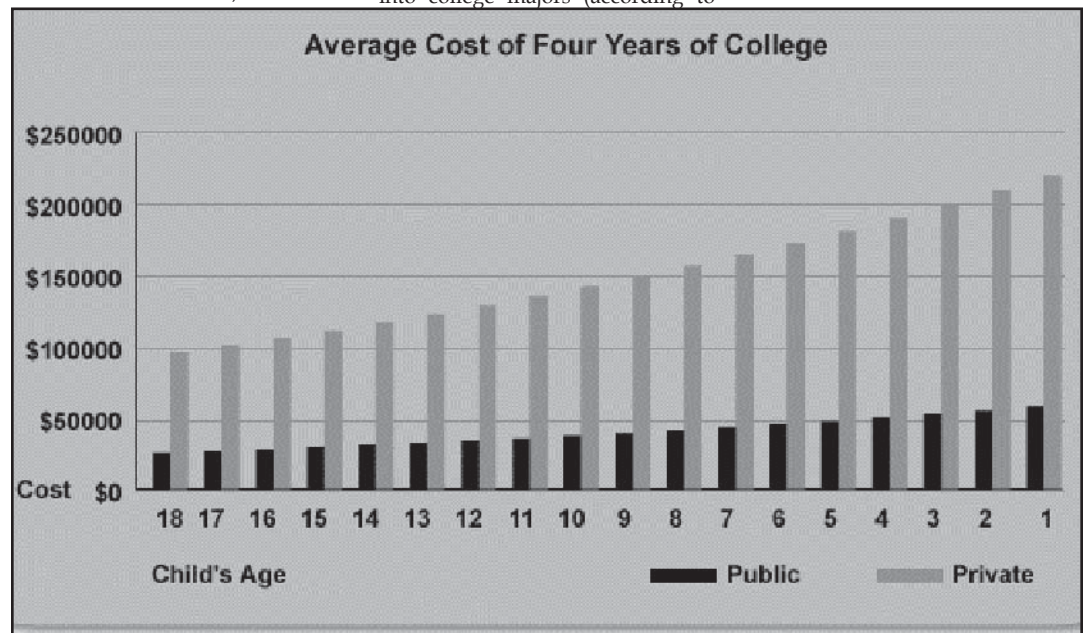
According to CollegeBoard.com, students in as early as sophomore year should begin focusing their course selections and educating themselves about post-secondary opportunities.

As juniors, students are advised to begin college visits, AP and standardized testing, and research into college majors (according to

the College Board student timeline). Unfortunately, senior year is by far the busiest in the college process. By about mid-November, early action decision applications are due to colleges. One must also apply for financial aid at this time if need be.

For regular admission, applications are due anywhere from January 1st to mid-February. Letters of acceptance or rejection arrive in April (for regular admissions), leaving several anxious months for hopeful seniors.

However, the wait is universally welcomed, as it symbolizes the near-end to one's difficult high school career. So, hang in there seniors. Relief will come soon enough, and the approaching summer and plague of senioritis can slowly sink in.<



A graph shows the average cost of four years of college, according to a 2006 survey taken by the College Board. Before students even begin to consider the financial aspect of college, they must first face the stress of getting accepted.