

May 2005

## New Expression: May 2005 (Volume 28, Issue 9)

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By Teens, For Teens, ABOUT Teens

May 2005 Volume 28 Issue 9

# Innocence Defied

Age ain't nothing but a number?  
Teens discuss how they feel about  
the media portrayal of teens & sex  
with adults, age of consent laws, rape laws,  
pedophiles, predators & perverts. **Cover Story Page 18**

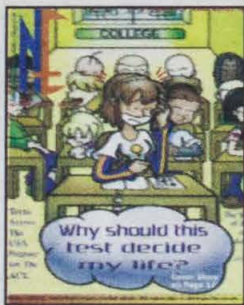
"A moment like this" Yes, you have waited a lifetime for your prom. Page 13



## Letter from the NE Staff

Hello Chicago,

It's the end of the school year, so we decided to make our final letter from the editor, a letter from the entire staff. *New Expression* is teen publication produced, by teens for teens. We must keep this alive. We need your input, and your ideas. Our paper should reach the entire teen population in Chicago. If you like what you see, please call us, or write letters to us. Get involved!



Although, we will not have issues during the summer months, we will have plenty going on. We have the Urban Journalism

Workshop, fund-raisers and promotional activities, and our website will be jammed packed with updates and news alerts. We will be planning a series of events and topics for next year to give Chicago a whole new picture of what we are here at Youth Communication.

We will be increasing the size of our paper to a 28-page news-magazine packed with news that teens care about. *New Expression* will indeed be NEW!!!! We also added a Spanish page to encourage learning for all readers.

Inside our last issue of the year, we decided to touch on a topic that is very serious in society. "Innocence Defied"(Ignored) takes a look at sexual relationships between adults and teens. NE also looked into how the media is portraying teens in television shows as objects of sex for older men and women. Is this cute? You decide.

We have a lot of news for you in this issue. CPS budget cuts, Army recruiters using pushy tactics to get students to enlist and NE Prom 2005 are just some of our stories this month. We hope you enjoy this last issue. Have a great summer, and look for us in September. The NE Staff cannot wait until next year to really show you what we teens can do.

Please call us and email us any stories or ideas over the summer. We will be excited to hear from you about anything.

**NE STAFF**

editor@newexpression.org

# This Month in New Expression

May 2005

## NEWS

High School students complain about Army recruiters in their schools and on their cell phones. Students say enough already.



**Army recruiters strong-armed recruiting tactics Pg. 5**

## COVER STORY

So young, so beautiful and so underage. Teens discuss their feelings about relationships with older men and women and how the media displays this taboo on television and on the Internet.



**Innocence Defied Pg. 18**

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## FEATURE

Walter Payton High School students go "Beyond Our Borders" to explore what teens are like in another culture. These students and teen reporters visited Morocco, and found that teens there have a lot in common with U.S. teens.



**Beyond our Borders Page 22**

## PROM



**"Pretty in Pink" at Prom 2005 page 15**

It's your night, at a dance you will never forget. How will you be remembered? Hopefully, you'll be remembered with style and grace. NE presents to you Prom 2005 to offer you the latest fashion trends for Prom this year.

**"A Moment Like This" NE Prom 2005 Pg. 13**

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## NE Highlight



**Carmen Ordonez**  
Cover/ Prom Photographer



**Devin Ross**  
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Features pg.17



**James Kurisunkal**  
News pg. 5



**Gelisa Smith**  
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**Natalia Santillan**  
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## Former Student Sues for Teachers Spreading Rumors

According to news reports, Rebecca Alvarado, a 19-year-old graduate from Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School, filed a \$450,000 lawsuit against teachers at the high school, due to a class discussion and rumors spread about Alvarado being hospitalized for Mononucleosis.

In March of 2004, Alvarado was hospitalized due to having mononucleosis or *mono*, hepatitis, jaundice, and dehydration. During this time Alvarado claimed her teachers revealed information that made her the subject of ridicule by her classmates. Alvarado claimed she received such taunts as being called a "whore".

The lawsuit stated the teacher led a discussion with her class about Alvarado's condition and told her class to pray for her. The lawsuit also stated the teacher mentioned that many girls who receive the disease are sexually active.

Mother McAuley principal, Sister Rose Woirek, stated she was not aware of the discussion of Alvarado's condition among teachers and students.

Alvarado mother, Maricela Herrada feels that exposing her daughter's medical illness, and spreading negative attention towards her was wrong of the school.



Ne File Photo

## New College Rate of CPS graduates Alarms school officials

According to the data from the National Student Clearinghouse, only 47 percent of last year's Chicago Public School's graduates continued on to a higher education.

The estimate came out about the number of CPS graduates that continued on to colleges or universities this month. Some principals beg to defer with the percentage, saying that the rate is inaccurate.

CPS officials say the numbers in the report may be slightly off, but believes that the effort of the enrollment analysis is worth it.

Educators believe the data is wrong all together by stating that the Clearinghouse only track down 91 percent on all U.S. college students for analysis.



NE File Photo

## National Report shows U.S. teens have difficulties finding jobs

In late April, a study released in Chicago, showed that U.S. teens have problems getting employed nationwide.

The percentage of teens working in the U.S. fell to a historic low last year, and Illinois is one of the three states with the steepest decline in working teens, according to the study. This year, the percentage remains about the same.

The national employment rate for people aged 16 to 19 dropped to 36.3 percent in 2004, the lowest annual average since 1948, when the federal government began making such estimates.

About 39 percent of Illinois youth in that age range were working in 2004—down almost 10 percentage points from 2000. Only Georgia and Oregon experienced steeper decreases in the same time period, according to researchers.

The numbers include teens looking for summer and after-school jobs as well as those seeking full-time work because they dropped out of high school or chose not to enroll in college after graduation.

## Teen Car Crash Fatalities Drop In Illinois

Enforcement of stricter Illinois laws aimed at teens in the spring and summer months, helped lower the number of teens killed in car crashes to an all time 30-year low, state police said earlier this month.

According to Illinois State Police Cmdr. Leonard Stallworth, the number of teens killed in traffic accidents dropped from 187 in 2003 to 133 in 2004, which is the lowest number since officials started recording the fatalities in 1974.

## CTA Budget Hole Affects Public Transportation: New Plan Brings A Scare To Common Commuters

Last month, the Chicago Transit Authority announced that many significant changes will occur. Due to their 55 million-dollar budget deficit, the CTA board states that they had no choice but to increase fares and include a reduction in services.

Aside from that, it is estimated that 54 bus routes will be eliminated and around 2,000 CTA employees will lose their jobs.

How will this affect commuters?

The cost of fare which was \$1.75 will be modified to \$2.00.

The reduced fare for students will increase to \$1 from 85 cents.

There will be much longer waiting times for busses. Transfer cards will no longer be used, meaning you will pay \$2.00 for every ride if you pay in cash.

State lawmakers will have to find a way to fill in that budget cut in order to prevent this plan from being implemented by July 17.



NE File Photo

NEWS  
BRIEFS



# CPS Budget Crisis:

## Can Education Survive In the Face of Massive Cuts?

By Aily Markowski  
Northside College Prep

Lack of state education funding in Illinois for the upcoming 2005-2006 Fiscal Year threatens Chicago Public Schools with a huge budget deficit. CPS already eliminated \$49 million in Central Office non-classroom positions. Without further state funds, schools across the city will be forced to cut over 800 teachers, increasing class sizes and drastically reducing programs, both of which have been proven to lower test scores.

"We are outraged at the way that they arbitrarily cut positions based on a city-wide formula that only looks at teacher to student ratios," said Charles Killman, member of Northside College Prep's Local School Council and President of the Friends of Northside, a fundraising organization belonging to the school.

Northside's Local School Council is one of the several school councils across the city to begin taking action to protest the education budget cuts. Members have begun letter writing campaigns to Springfield committees on education finance and have sent a comprehensive letter, signed by other CPS High Schools, to newspapers citywide detailing the issue and calling for legislative action.

In addition, Northside is planning a teach-in this month for students, faculty, and parents to raise awareness on the scope of the school funding problem.

The Walter Payton College Prep Local School Council has also circulated a petition to many CPS high schools and board members asking for cuts to be restored.

Students, alarmed at the changes that may occur if CPS do not receive adequate funding, have taken action as well through student-led protests.

"Lincoln Park barely gets the funding that we already need, and even less will make the school even worse," said Danielle Pearse, a sophomore at Lincoln Park High School. "Our books are already outdated. And how are we supposed to be able to get things done when there aren't even enough computers for everyone?"

With rising costs on the order of seven percent each year caused by salaries, health care, pensions, and inflation, CPS is facing a reported budget gap of \$175 million for the 2005-2006 school year.

Governor Rod Blagojevich's budget proposal, however, provides only \$140 million more statewide, about \$16 million of which will come to Chicago schools.

Chicago Public Schools called for \$600 million more statewide to adequately fund schools next year, streamlining \$175 million to Chicago.

In response, Blagojevich has issued a proposal to increase state-owned gambling facilities to generate the revenue for education. By doubling the number of slot machines and table games at the state's nine river casinos.

Blagojevich says the state can expect to see \$300 million more for Illinois schools, and \$88 million more for CPS.

"We've already asked schools to be strict with the staffing formula which has already resulted in some position reductions for next school year," said Mike Vaughn, Deputy Press Secretary of the CPS. "That's done before we even know what we're getting from the state."

Officials say the gambling expansion, however, is not enough. Even with the \$88 million more in Blagojevich's most recent proposal, CPS would still face a gap of between \$75-100 million. Schools across the city were required to submit budget proposals by April 1 based on the projected funds for next year. Each school wrestled with balancing funds through cut programs and positions.

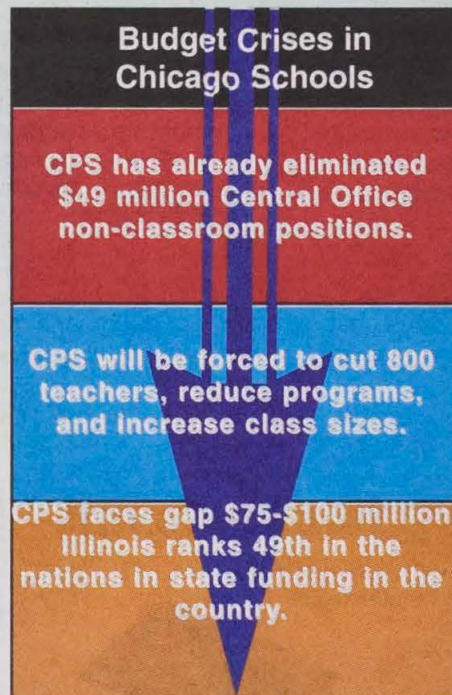
"We did our best with what they were forecasting," said Peterson Elementary's Assistant Principal Susan Paik. "We would have had to let some teachers go if we didn't have teachers already retiring, and we're pretty certain the supply money the school receives may decrease."

Although schools like Peterson will feel the strain of the budget cuts, with 78 percent of students at low income level the school will continue to receive large discretionary funds from both the state and federal governments.

However, Peterson's administration is still concerned that if forced to cut back on positions the loss of teachers would be detrimental to the secure classroom size and environment.

"If they are going to cut more teaching positions that would have a major effect on us," said Paik. "If they cut aids, we're in trouble."

Guidance counselors would be among the first to go at many CPS schools, which would be a damaging loss for college-bound students throughout the city, especially at selective enrollment high schools such as Jones College Prep in downtown Chicago,



percent of graduating seniors attend a four-year college. Jones used the current budget debate as a school wide-civics lesson which culminated in a 15-minute protest on the Thompson Center, where Illinois's Education Funding Advisory Board (EFAB) was scheduled to meet.

Students in Advanced Placement (AP) courses will also suffer as many courses may be eliminated if strict enrollment regulations are enforced.

At Northside College Prep, many students are concerned with courses that may be cut if the 28 student minimum is not met. At a school where some students take as many as five AP courses per year, AP course reduction would be a significant loss for students.

"I came to Northside because of the wide range of AP classes offered," said Camila Youniss, a sophomore at Northside College Prep who is currently registered to take four AP courses next year. "Everyone will be really disappointed if they take away the classes we're signed up for or dramatically increase the number of students in every class."

In addition, CPS has \$220 million in much-needed repair projects that have been halted since the state provided no capital funding this year, and CEO Arne Duncan says there is little expectation these funds will be restored next year.

The projects on hold include new construction, school additions, labs, and general building improvements all throughout the city.

Illinois's previous capital construction program provided CPS with \$110 annually, still only accounting for 14 percent of the system's total expenditures in school construction projects. Blagojevich has submitted to the General Assembly a capital plan restoring the previous statewide level of \$500 million per year.

However CPS CEO Arne Duncan is concerned Blagojevich's anticipated sources of new money are insecure, as the gambling expansion and new cigarette tax that would fund operating and capital improvements respectively both face legislative opposition.

"Nothing is really clear at this point," said Mike Vaughn. "If in the next two months we find out from Springfield that we're not getting significantly more funding than we got last year, we'll have to go back to the schools and ask them to make even more reductions."

The elimination of a projected 800 teaching positions, accounting for three percent of the city's 26,000 teachers, would increase class sizes in CPS and probably downgrade the quality teaching CPS officials strive for.

"If you want quality, which the Board apparently does, then you have to be willing to staff accordingly," said Charles Killman. "The larger class size will prevent teachers from offering the same level of focused instruction as before."

Illinois ranks 49<sup>th</sup> in the nation in state funding for education, providing merely 36 percent of budget funds compared to the national average of 50 percent.

Local property taxes largely fund school districts resulting in huge disparity between the poorer and wealthier districts in the state. Illinois ranks dead last in the country in inequities in per pupil funding, with an average ranging from \$4,753 per student in the poorest regions to \$10,824 in the wealthiest.

Many officials believe total reform in Illinois education funding is necessary in the long term. Critics have called for increased income and sales taxes to support the schools, and balance funding throughout the state.

Blagojevich, however, is opposed to tax increases of any kind, and has declared he would veto such a bill if it were passed by Congress.



# Teens Complain of Army Recruiting Tactics in High Schools

by Willine Valentin  
Lane Tech High School

The commercials say there is no greater service people can do for their country than to join the Army, and Army paraphernalia tell students to "Be all that you can be in the Army," but many Chicago high school students say that these recruiters are pushing these messages a little too far.

A few lines from an addressed letter to a student from the Army National Guard said, "You can also go to college right away, because the Guard offers up to 100 percent tuition assistance... Earn up to a \$10,000 enlistment bonus when you sign up for the Army National Guard... When you meet your recruiter, make sure to ask about your free T-shirt and DVD."

Nothing in the U.S. Army brochures mention the intense physical training those must undergo, there is no mention of any kind of danger or risk, nor do the pamphlets mention the commitment a student will make when signing up for the Army.

"I've been in the Army for 10 years, and never been in combat," said Sergeant Anderson, an Army recruiter. "Even if you do want to go into combat, you'll be behind enemy lines."

Some teens can be easily influenced, but some teens wonder whether Army officials are going to far to push students into joining the Army. High school student say these Army recruiters are using deceitful tactics to get students to sign up for the service without informing them of all the cost and risks of serving in the U.S. Army.

"They show the bright side of being in the Army," said Amanda Cotto. "They say you'll never be in battle most likely. That's what they tell us."

Cotto explained that recruiters say women don't have to go into battle if they don't want to and can still reap the benefits of serving in the military.

"They (recruiters) say 'oh I haven't been in battle so the women don't go into war. They kind of propose that, and then they pay for your college, and they give you a whole bunch of scholarships and everything. That's what they tell us,'" Cotto said.

Many teens are complaining about the aggressive tactics that Army recruiters have been using to encourage teens to join the Army, including calling their cell phones, sending them emails, mailing them brochures, and even visiting them at school.

"One time they called me like three times in one day, and I was just like, leave me alone," said Connie Rogers, 17, junior at Lane Tech high school.

When a student calls the Army National Guard or Army Recruiters to acquire information about the services it is imperative that the operator on the phone takes down your name and number before the operator is able to offer you any assistance.

In April 2005, a Los Angeles Times reporter Erika Hayaasaki interviewed minority students who testified to the harassment of Army recruiters. Karen Magee, one of the students, recalled an instant where Army recruiters offered to buy her a prom ticket if she decided to enlist.

www.newexpression.org

There no cited reports like the LA incident here in Illinois, but Illinois students still complain that recruiters constantly call for them, and mail information.

Across the street from Lane High School, during lunch periods, uniformed Army recruiters may be seen standing outside popular teen venues handing out brochures, and trying to talk to students about joining the Army.

Sergio Nieves, 17, senior at Lane Tech, described how Army recruiters offered to give him a ride to a recruiting center.

"They should tell everything. They're like- yeah we'll pay for this, and like we'll give a scholarship for this. Then they're like, oh yeah, and by the way, we own you for 8 years," Nieves said.

Keith Foley, principal of Lane Tech explained at Lane, Army recruiters are banned from entering classrooms, and trying to come in to talk to students about joining the Army due

to deceitful tactics Army recruiters had been using in order to secretly enter classrooms, and talk to students about the Army.

"They would come in and say they were coming into the counselors office, and instead of going to the counselors office, they would go into the attendance office and get the students programs and walk into their English class, and pull them out to talk to them," Foley said.

Under No Child Left Behind Act of 2002, schools must provide the Army with information on students, such as their address, telephone number, classes,

and etc.

More complaints of Army recruitment include that recruiters focus on recruiting minority students, or students with low scores, and high school dropouts.

One Chicago-area high school's administration is giving it's high school students' parents notice about Army recruitment procedures.

In April of 2005 Crane Tech, located on the Chicago West Side, issues a letter to parents informing them of the federal government's declaration to release information of students who were 18 years and older to military personnel, and told parents to sign an attached form if they wished to withhold their child's information.

If you would not like the Army to receive your personal information then send an addressed letter to the federal government with your request.

**NEW! Spanish section!!!!**  
**Army Recruitment story translated**  
**in Spanish on Page 12**

## NE on Politics

# Besty Ross, Don't Weep

*Why Aren't American teens familiar their Constitutional Rights*

by James Kurisunkal,  
Northside College Prep



The Framers of the U.S. Constitution began the meat of their most prolific document with the rhetorical legislative genius, which became their banner for leaving mother England and joining the other political-religious dissenters of the New World.

The words of the First Amendment, this law that expressed the true identity of a successful democracy and the hope of the men that built this union of states, is as follows: *Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.*

These words have not changed since America's national founding, but their interpretation has changed with each passing generation.

Annual surveys of adults in America by the Freedom Forum confirmed this belief, exclaiming that the "public support for the First Amendment is neither universal nor stable; it rises and falls during times of national crisis." Thirty percent of adult Americans believe the First Amendment provides too many freedoms.

The centuries-old cornerstone of the Bill of Rights is under further speculation by an unlikely population: high school-aged teenagers.

"I don't exactly know what the First Amendment is," said Mary Toma, 16, of Northtown Academy.

"The Future of the First Amendment" was an extensive study conducted by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, in which 100,000 high school students, 8,000 teachers and more than 500 administrators and principals at 544 secondary schools in the United States were interviewed.

High school students across America were surveyed and interviewed in response to the alarming fact that American teenagers just don't know what they're entitled to by law.

Like Toma, nearly three-fourth of teenagers in the United States say they either take the First Amendment for granted or don't know what it is.

Alan Konrick, 16, of Lincoln Park, believed that a person could be sent to prison if he/she was caught burning the U.S. flag. Konrick said that defacing the flag or destroying it "can get you into a lot of trouble."

**Besty Ross Continued on Page 7**



# Jones Students Respond to School Expansion Plans

By Devin Ross  
Walter Payton College Prep

Each student has an idea of what makes a high-quality school, but to some a school without certain conveniences may not be as good as a school with a worthy curriculum, but after months of debates, William Jones College Preparatory will pave away a homeless shelter to make these missing conveniences available to its students.

In a Chicago Public Schools press release in November, the board discussed long-awaited plans for expanding Jones College Prep. The plan included the relocation of Pacific Garden Mission to a new two-acre location, on the corner of 14<sup>th</sup> Place and Canal Street.

"We've been working on this plan for quite a while now," said Dr. Donald Fraynd, principle at Jones College Prep. "Even by the time we start working on the new building, it would take about three years to complete."

Pacific Garden Mission has been at its current location at 646 South State ever since 1923. At the moment, Pacific Garden Mission serves more than 600 people in need.

In December of last year, a community meeting was held that reviewed the plans for Jones' expansion. The plan will cost CPS about \$20 million, and will provide the college prep with a new gym, literary center and many new classrooms.

Jones now sits at 606 South State, but will expand over to the lot where Pacific Garden Mission is located.

Currently, the South Loop high school, which is known for its academic achievements, lacks a gym and library.

The school is a selective enrollment high school, which means prospective students must have a superior combination of entrance exam test scores, good school year attendance and excellent middle school grades. Jones' current enrollment consists of 711 students from many parts of the Chicago area.

Angela Ng, a freshman at Jones College Prep, doesn't seem to think that there is anything wrong with Jones not having a gym or a library. Ng said she picked Jones mostly because of their curriculum.

"It doesn't matter if Jones doesn't have a gym or not, either way you have to work out at the park or the fitness center," said Ng, 15.



NE Photos by Devin Ross

Jones College Prep will take the space where the Pacific Garden Mission is sitting. The school will add a gym, library, and extra classrooms, according to officials.

Although Ng says she could live without a gym, she believes that it is good that the Garden Mission is moving just so that Jones can expand.

"I think that it's a better opportunity for Jones to finally have a gym," said Ng. "It also gives us a better chance in physical education since Chicago is one of the most obese cities. Plus, we'll be able to accept more applicants each year."

Alan Zhang, another freshman who attends Jones, doesn't mind that Jones is lacking a gym or library.

"I didn't care about Jones not having a gym as long as it had a good education program," said Zhang, 15.

Zhang said that he put Jones down on his application for high schools because 100 percent of its students graduated and moved on to college last year. He also put the college prep down because the school is small and had the language that he preferred.

Although these two students think that Jones is just as good as the next school, others think that not having a library or gym is a disadvantage.

Alexandra Hill, who is a freshman at Walter Payton College Prep, says that a school without a gym or library would affect her decision of attending that school next school year.

"I like being able to go to the library at school instead of going to one by my house. It's more convenient," said Hill, 14.

Hadih Tazangi, 15, also thought that a school without these amenities would be inconvenient.

"Gym is a fun class, and the library is a place where you can work in quiet. You could work on a project in the library," Tazangi said.

Arne Duncan said that CPS has worked very hard with Garden Mission to find them a new site. Fraynd also said that he was happy that the plans have finally worked

out, and that Garden Mission will move out of their current spot in a couple of years.

Despite the continuing changes facing this South Loop School, Jones still remains one of the top college preps in Chicago.

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# Lane Tech Students Help Organize Relay For Life



Lane Tech High School students help collect donations for the Relay for Life.

by Natalia Santillan

Lane Technical College Prep

Imagine having to camp out at your school's track for 12 hours, while participating in activities to raise money to fight the battle of cancer. That's nothing new for Lane Tech.

On Friday, May 20, Lane Tech will host the American Cancer Society Relay For Life of Lane Tech at their very own football-track field starting a 7 p.m. to 7 a.m.

Jamie Stiles, 18-year-old chairman for the Lane Tech Relay for Life committee said, "I think Relay For Life is a great event."

"It makes you more aware of how much people can actually help. I am very proud to be chairman of such a great event," said Stiles who has been part of Relay For Life of Lane Tech for its two years.

Relay For Life is the American Cancer Society's national signature activity where participants form teams to honor cancer survivors and remember those that have past away from the disease while taking turns walking or running around the track in hope that cancer will someday be eliminated.

Lane Tech first started their commitment last year, when teens raised over \$30 a team.

Currently, their committee is working on bringing in donations from many sources, and there are over 35 teams participating in Relay For Life. Teams of 8-15 people come together to raise these funds for the organization.

Relay For Life convenes with the Cancer Survivors Walk, which honors those who have struggled with and survived cancer. When the event begins, there is a Luminaries Ceremony to give honor to those who have died of cancer and to those who are still fighting the life-threatening disease. During the event, one member of each team walks or runs around the track, at all times.

Those who will participate this year are very excited about being a part of a good cause, and many newcomers like Javonne Ricks are ready to join the fight against cancer.

"I'm doing Relay For Life because my friend told me about it and it was for a great cause," Ricks said. "My grandmother has cancer and I want to support her."

During the night, teams are encouraged to have on-site fundraising, which can include face-painting, picture-taking stands, kissing booths, and the list goes on and on.

Lane Tech has their very own site on the American Cancer Society website in order to accept online donations. The website is <http://www.acsevents.org/relay/il/lanetech>.

**How Did Relay Begin?:** In May 1985, Dr. Gordy Klatt, a surgeon and avid runner, took the first step of his 24-hour walk-run around a track in Tacoma, Washington. He clocked 83 miles, raising 27,000 to support the American Cancer Society. The following year, 220 supporters on 19 teams joined Dr. Klatt in his overnight event, and the American Cancer Society Relay For Life was born.

High school Relay for Life participant, Matthew Butzen said, "I'm doing Relay for Life because some people in my family have skin cancer and also, it's just a fun thing to do. It's a giant sleep over. My close friends and I have a team and we are all going to just have a good time; hang out, maybe play some sports, play cards or just sit, chill and talk."

Jennifer Lantz, Senior Representative of Illinois for the American Cancer Society said, "I am very proud of the ambition of the youth of Lane Tech, she said. "Relay For Life is an amazing event that brings so many people together in the fight against cancer and watching the energy put forth by this group of students is remarkable. I am looking forward to a very successful and high energy event to help fight cancer through Relay For Life."

Over the last 18 years, Relay For Life has spread to 3,800 communities in the United States and eight foreign countries. Relay For Life is now a worldwide event to help banish cancer.

## Betsy Ross, continued from page 5

Nearly 75 percent of the American teenage population feels the same way, but they are mistaken in thinking that flag burning is illegal.

Almost half of the American teenage population believes the government can restrict indecent material on the Internet which is a false fact.

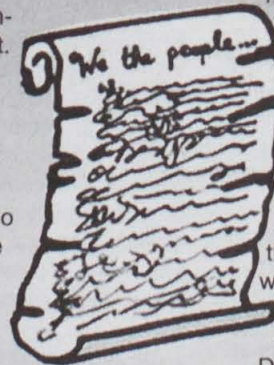
"Society is implying censorship," said Patrice Aikonedo, 16, of Northtown Academy, in response to the legality of government restriction of the Internet.

The basics of the First Amendment are clearly not being taught, as there really is no other explanation for students' lack of knowledge.

Public Law 195, better known as the Constitution test in the Chicago Public Schools system, is administered to students typically during the first semester of their course in U.S. History. The exam assesses students' knowledge of the major legal documents of this country and is scored either as passing or failing. Most students prepare for the exam by independent study. Those who fail the test must retake it, because passing PL195 is a graduation requirement.

"Those who value the American legal system remember it more than those who see it as just another test," said Jessica Galang, 16, of Northside College Preparatory. Students believe The Constitution test is as effective as students allow, and studies reveal high schools are failing students when it comes to instilling an appreciation of the First Amendment. Most high school administrators interviewed for the study said that they do not see the First Amendment as a high priority in education.

The Foundation reports that First Amendment values can be taught, and that, the more students are exposed to the news media, the greater their understanding of the rights of American citizens.



U.S. Representative Danny K. Davis said that many of our legal rights are at stake and under governmental scrutiny. While attending a community meeting for the U.S. House of Youth Representatives in his congressional district on April 29, he explained that the First Amendment was being threatened, most notably the right to assemble in peace.

Davis also suggested efforts be made to protect our rights, through advocacy and organization as a collective. Most importantly, he advised that students "vote for people who think the way you do and will follow through on your ideas." Voting is the ticket for effective social change and as a security to the rights that all Americans have.

Davis and others believe teenagers as a whole must begin to take ownership of the society that they will inherit in the span of a very few years. They should begin by appreciating the legal rights that have been ensured to American teens by the founding fathers of the United States of America.



NE Photo by James Kurisunkal

U.S. Rep. Danny K. Davis encourages youth to understand the First Amendment, and also to get involved in politics, at a U.S. House of Youth Representatives meeting held on April 30th for Chicago high school students.



# COLLEGE DAYS



## Knowledge is the Key for Protection Against Sexual Assault in Colleges

Amanda Jones

John Hope College Prep.

College can be a different world for a freshman female. With dorm rooms, parties, new courses and freedom, college life opens up a new world of dreams, but in this new world also lurks the potential of crimes against women. Lack of knowledge for protection and awareness can lead to a world of nightmares for a young lady.

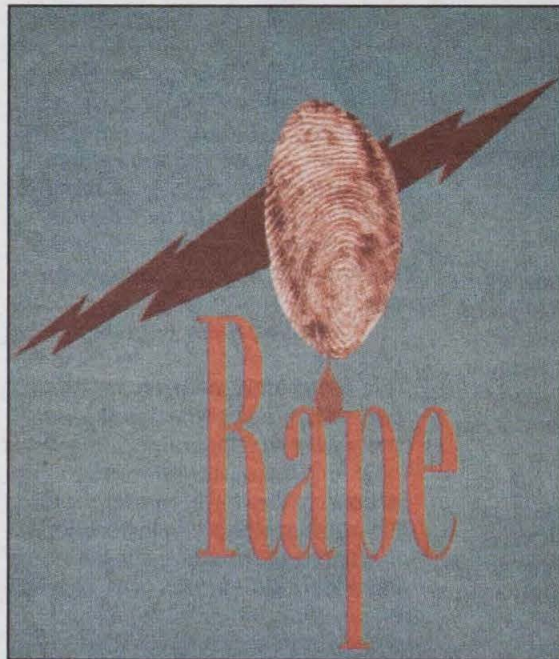
Rape is a familiar term to all and can be defined as a crime of forcing a person to engage in sexual activities. A predator can use drugs to sedate the victim, leaving them physically and mentally unaware of what is going on. Date or acquaintance rape is when one is sexual assaulted by someone she knows—a friend, boyfriend, or classmate.

Unfortunately, the United States has the highest rate of rape of any country that report these crimes. United States sexual assault rate is 13 times higher than Great Britain and 20 times higher than Japan, according to The National Women's Study by the National Center of Victims of Crime.

"Most women do not get raped in the street. In reality about 85 percent of women are raped by someone they know," said Vickie Sides, the coordinator of the Chicago Rape Crisis Hotline, which is a program for the YWCA of Metropolitan Chicago.

A survey of college females by Mary Koss for Ms Magazine in 1985 found that on a college campus, a rape occurs every 21 hours according to reports. Eighty-percent of off-campus rapes occur in a car or house, and of these victims 42 percent were virgins.

While 90 percent of campus rapes occur under the influence of alcohol, according to statistics by the Center of Addiction and Abuse, and one in 12 college men admitted to committing rape.



NE Graphic by Jesse Hall

Koss' study cited one in four females that attend college reported that they were victims of attempted or completed rapes. Eighty-percent of the women said they were raped by their friends, boyfriends or acquaintances.

Today, females on campus must take extra precaution when it comes to late night parties, clubbing, and drinking to much. Sides explained that sexual predators are using drugs to lure their victims.

Sides said in a case where you are at a party— watch out. It would be best not to drink open drinks-out of the punch bowl because it may be spiked.

Three of the most common date rape drugs are: Rohypnol (a.k.a. Roofies), Gamma Hydroxy Butyrate (a.k.a. Liquid X), and Ketamine (a.k.a. Special K).

"Be aware of your surrounding and do not leave drinks unattended," Sides said.

“Most women do not get raped in the street. In reality about 85 percent of women are raped by someone they know,”  
— Vickie Sides, the coordinator, Chicago Rape Crisis Hotline, which is a program for the YWCA of Metropolitan Chicago.

Women are not the only victims of rape. A study conducted by the Prevalence of Sexual Assault Victimization Among Heterosexual and Gay/Lesbian University found men and children are also affected by this horrible crime. 3.6 percent of heterosexual men were victims compared to 11.8 percent of homosexual men and 17.8 percent of heterosexual women reported sex against their will compared to 30.6 percent of lesbians whom reported sex against their will.

In regards to the myths about race and rape, 18 percent are African American, and 81 percent are white according to the Senate Judiciary Committee and Majority Staff.

Protecting yourself is important. Being raped, can lead to unwanted pregnancy, AIDS, STDs, according to Sides. Knowledge and safety is the key, according to Sides.

## College Sexual Assault Stats

### College Rape Statistics

- 25% of college women have been victims of rape.
- 8.5% of college men admit to sexually abusing women - but don't consider that rape.
- Of the women who were raped, only 25% described it as rape.
- Of the women who were raped, only 10% reported the assault.
- 47% of the rapes were by dates and romantic acquaintances.

### Date Rape Statistics

- 84% of women who were date raped knew their attacker.
- Women who are 16-24 are more than four times as likely to be date raped.
- 90% of date rapes occur when either the victim or attacker was drinking.
- 33% of men said they would date rape someone if it could go undetected.
- 44% of women who were date raped have considered suicide.

Sources include RAINN, University of South Florida, Federal Bureau of Investigation (Uniform Crime Statistics, 1996), and U.S. Department of Justice, Violence against Women (Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Dept. of Justice, 1994)



# Essay Contest

## May Essay Question:

What age do you feel should be the appropriate age to start dating? Explain. In your evaluation, do you believe the statutory rape laws protect teenagers and controls youth from dating older people?

### FIRST PLACE

**Robert Jackson**  
Whitney M. Young High School  
Teacher: Mr. Rehak

Dating is a healthy social activity because it gives one the chance to get a better understanding about members of the opposite sex and eliminate some curiosity and anxiety. By the age of thirteen almost every one is going through puberty and cannot help but be interested in members of the opposite sex. Dating is socially acceptable at around the age of thirteen because even schools hold dances and other social events for people of this age.

The problem with dating is that young people can become very serious about each other and this leads to more adult behavior such as sex. Dating for youth should not be so serious and being exclusive is not recommended. Also adults might want to engage in sexual activity with youth, which is definitely not socially acceptable. Youth should not be having sex because most are not mentally or financially ready to handle the consequences. Therefore, statutory rape laws are necessary.

In Illinois the statutory rape laws include the following: the actor is charged with predatory criminal sexual assault if at least 17 and the victim is under 13, the actor is charged with aggravated criminal sexual assault if actor is under 17 and victim is under 9 or the victim is between 9 and 12 and the actor uses force, the actor is charged with aggravated criminal sexual abuse if the actor is more than 5 years older than a victim aged 13 to 16, and finally an actor under 17 is charged with criminal sexual abuse and the victim is aged 9 to 16. The penalty of being charged criminal sexual abuse is enough to keep most teenagers from having sex.

The consequences associated with the violation of statutory rape laws are strong enough to deter most reasonable people. They are not perfect but they are effective at reducing the amount of older people having sex with youth and teenagers having sex with each other. They reduce the amount of teenage pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases.

[www.newexpression.org](http://www.newexpression.org)



### SECOND PLACE

**Kyra Coffey**  
Whitney M. Young High School  
Mr. Rehak

One should not start dating until the age of 16. At this age youth are growing, however they can still be naïve and statutory rape laws protect them from being taken advantage of. At the age of 16 one is becoming mature and beginning to develop into a young adult.

Making one wait until they're an adult is absurd, but so is allowing one to date too young. It may cause one to go wild because of the eagerness to experience new things. One needs to already be somewhat educated on dating before going into the real world so that they know how to handle themselves. Dating too young can cause emotional conflicts that they're unable to deal with. It may also result in them losing focus, such as in school. At the age of 16 one is starting to make decisions on their own and should be able to balance having a boy/girlfriend along with other responsibilities they have. They are also more capable of making better decisions than a 14 or 15 year old. Most people are in their second year of high school when they're 16, which has given them an exposure to a world where they have to be more responsible and think deeper into things.

However, not everyone always makes the right decisions, especially youth because they're in a period of learning about life. At times youth may be naïve, making it easy for older people to take advantage of them. To protect youth from this there are statutory rape laws. These laws help for the most part, but there are still adults who date minors and get away with it. To further deter adults from dating minors the punishment needs to be increased.

The appropriate age to start dating is 16. It's not too old, nor is it too young. It's a reasonable age where can maturely go about dating and grow from the experience. However, to make sure that they are with someone of a reasonable age there are statutory rape laws.

### THIRD PLACE

**Amanda Scherger**  
Kelly High School 10th grade  
Mr. Kinsella

I think that teens should start dating at the age of sixteen. I think that because many teens start dating at thirteen or fourteen. They are not ready for that kind of relationship. Many teens get pregnant before their senior year in high school. Also a lot of girls get taken advantage of by young guys who do not care about the girls feelings. Many teenagers think that the boy/girl friend is really dedicated to them and they get hurt.

Teens should not date early because they might get a sexually transmitted disease and then have to worry about getting other people infected.

Some people do not care about school as much as they did before they got a boy/ girl friend. Many teens mostly girls, date older guys. Most times it is over eighteen. It is the law not to date any one over eighteen if you are younger. This is called statutory rape.

I think that the rape laws do not protect teenagers because they will still do it. Also it does not control teens because they will not listen to their parents so they won't listen to the law. I think that if it is only a year difference it does not matter. Teens should not date anybody that is more than a year older.



## Young Chicago Authors

- Are you a high school freshman who likes to write?
- Would you like to develop this writing talent in weekly classes for the last three years of high school?
- Would you like to use your writing in community service projects?

If you answered yes to all these questions, call

**Young Chicago Authors**  
**1-847-835-5430**

or visit us at

[www.youngchicagoauthors.org](http://www.youngchicagoauthors.org)



## POINT Time for that Silly High School Seniors' Disease COUNTER POINT

Get Down With  
the Senior Sickness!Jennifer Broome  
St. Ignatius College Prep

Are you a senior? Have you been accepted into college? Do the school days seem to drag on and on? Do you feel restless and frustrated with the monotony of school life? Have you decided not to turn in homework anymore or skip school occasionally? Lately, do you feel the need to escape and go to the land of far, far away? If you have answered, "yes" to any of these questions you may be suffering from a well know illness called senioritis. Do not worry. By June, you shall be cured!



The only prescription to help cure senioritis is graduation, and I believe high school administrations should work with helping seniors get through this upperclassmen ailment.

The primary purpose of high school is to get good grades, which will hopefully lead students into a valued university. This year's seniors have definitely worked hard these past four years by maintaining good

grades, assuming leadership positions, and trekking through the rigorous college admissions processes.

After surviving such a hectic year filled of FAFSAs, ACTs, SATs, SAT IIs, APs, and several other acronyms, we seniors deserve a little time to unwind before we plunge into adulthood. Many may call this desire to rest an illness but if you're an upperclassman, then you understand that senioritis is simply a part of life.

After applying to colleges and getting accepted, homework becomes repetitive and tiring. Maintaining above average grades can become petty and tedious because of the lost of motivation.

Also seniors want to experience the end of their high school years more socially. With this being the last year, this is the only time many of us will get to share with our circle of friends. Seniors will never be able to enjoy these teen years again and many underclassmen are able to continue these times. We seniors are in a transitional stage.

We are moving on to a life of complete independence and to unlimited responsibilities. Free from parents, principals, school codes and regulations. Educators and parents should realize this, and simply ease off the over-stressed young adult, because graduating teens certainly have a lifetime of hard work ahead of them.

I am down with senioritis! It is an illness every high school student should want to catch, because it marks the end of high school life. I believe the schools should set up daily massage therapy sessions for the seniors to help treat senioritis. We seniors need relaxation before graduation.

10

Senioritis  
Serious Side  
Effects

by NE STAFF

Senioritis is a made-up syndrome created by students nearing the end of their four years in high school. Its symptoms include laziness, procrastination, and annoyed by schoolwork.

For some students senioritis may go further than that. Seniors caught in the slump may cut class or count the minutes left before their class period ends. Although, there really isn't a region or time from which this so-called syndrome originated, educators, students and parents admit it is common around the month of May.

Due to the beginning of the spring season and the start of vacations near the end of the school year, high school seniors say they experience these syndromes especially after four years of high school. Seniors say they get the feeling of just wanting to relax and the thoughts of graduating getting closer may dominate their systems. Another reason for the "senior year slump" is that seniors may be satisfied to know that they already have a place guaranteed in their graduation class and have been accepted into the college they have selected.

In 2001, a 29-member government commission spent 17 months assessing the cause of senioritis. By conducting focus groups with recent high school graduates, and analyzing the problem with educators, lawmakers, students and parents of the study found that "senioritis" is a huge problem for high school students.

According to the National Commission on the High School Senior Year, *The Lost Opportunity of Senior Year: Finding a Better Way* conducted in 2001, senioritis trickles into a student's first year of college. The study reported, the pressure to push themselves in school may be less, due to the fact that they've already received their acceptance letters. Beware: many colleges require an updated transcript. You may have an admission letter, which states "Your admission is contingent on your continued successful performance," the report said.

Senioritis is a serious problem that may have an effect on a senior's future in college. Partying and working is something a senior prioritizes over school work.

Reports say seniors need to be aware of this, senioritis and that those students which prioritize work over school don't do so well, and colleges "are watching".

Senioritis:  
Highly Contagious,  
Highly Ridiculous!Natalia Santillan  
Lane Tech High School

As the end of the school year begins, and flowers begin to bloom, you hear of seniors and the disease many of them face called senioritis. Many seniors you know begin to procrastinate. Laziness takes over, and even the senior's persona changes. Is this behavior acceptable? No way!

Senioritis, according to the College Board website, "is likely to do more harm than good."

According to recent reports, incomplete high school preparation can contribute to academic problems in college." In other words, senioritis can cheat you of your future.

Senioritis spreads like wildfire near the end of the school year. This near-the-end-of-the-year syndrome makes you start cutting classes, ditching your friends. You feel as if you are just taking a breather or you are relaxing. One of the symptom a person has when they are under the influence are delaying all programs and activities just to have a night of "relaxation". When you get to school, you count the minutes before your class ends. You count the days until graduation. Maybe once or twice a day, you'll miss the "unimportant classes" because, you "don't need them to graduate". All these symptoms are very common and all educators are familiar with them.

In one of my classes, before we started with our lesson, my teacher started lecturing about it being near the end of the school year, and she began to talk about seniors. With many senior grades dropping, it gets very infuriating for a teacher.

While getting feedback from seniors on this disease, one senior in one of my classes told me "Well, what do you care? You're only a sophomore!" This senior's attitude led me to think that just maybe seniorities is not just about laziness and being languid. Seniors also have a sassy attitude towards their younger classmen. In the beginning of the school year, this senior was very kind and was in class every day.

Now, I don't see that senior very often. Senioritis does have an effect on your character and the way you interact with one another.

The only cure for senioritis is graduation. Commencement. After graduation, the pressure of schoolwork and classes seems over.

Seniors, this is your last year in high school. Leave graduation with teachers left behind, thinking of you as a great student. Not as the one who was left under the influence of senioritis and not one who was left to sleep in.







# Watch Out Donald Trump!

## Chicago Teens 'Bring it On' in Business

By Dana Young  
ACT Charter School

### Kellen Davis: The Corner

Although he is only a senior in high school, 17-year-old Kellen Davis of Gwendolyn Brooks High School is already specialized in custom clothing and screen-printing. Davis saw the opportunity to start something new that interest him that no one else was doing, so he started The Corner. The genesis of his enterprise, The Corner, was not an easy task for Davis on the New Year, which is the day he began his business.

"There's a whole lot of work. No time for being lazy," Davis said.

Although being a young entrepreneur has its downfalls and set backs, it has its benefits also, he said.

Davis explained, "I can work whenever I feel like it and still make money. I like to work on my own time," he said.

Even though The Corner has only been in business for only five months, Davis already has plans for the future. Davis wants to start his own clothing line and produce his own clothing, and he plans on opening his own store in the future.

Davis believes that even though you are not sure about your business, you have to keep going.

"Go for it," Davis stated. "I was hesitant at first, but it's a start. Take that first big step. It can't hurt you too much."



Kellen Davis and his partner display the products for the business The Corner. NE Photo by Phil Costello

### Lizette Paz: Pandora's Box

Fifteen-year-old sophomore Lizette Paz of Notre Dame High School for Girls, is just one of the many girls who are a part of the student operated store Pandora's Box.

On August 25, 2004, 10 girls from Notre Dame High School for girls implemented the business plan made by the four seniors from the class of 2004. They decided to remodel the bookstore that no one in the school was really familiar with.

Paz said, being a part of the Pandora's Box establishment and being some what in charge, has taught her some helpful hints for running a business.

"I learned how to do inventory," Paz replied about what she has learned. "How to order items to have enough supplies."

Paz appreciates the fact that she is getting experience on how to run a business at the age she is now. She plans to use her experience in college, but continuing to use them in high school.

"Keep working on it and try to make it a better store for two more years," Paz expressed about her future plans.

Even though she has only been in this business for over eight months, she already has strong feelings about what it takes to get where you're going.



Notre Dame's Pandora Box Team shows off their merchandise. NE Photo by Phil Costello

### Emanuel McCarter: Emanuel's Tutoring Business

At the age of 18, high school senior Emanuel McCarter of Dunbar Vocational High School runs his own tutoring business. Located in the Bessie Colman Library on the South Side of Chicago, McCarter's tutoring business has already been successful for two years. He has learned a lot from running his own business.

"Being a consumer," McCarter replied to what he has learned. "Dealing with other businesses. Dealing with the money. This (the business) will help me with my future goals," he said.

Starting his tutoring business with the help of a program held at Dunbar Vocational High School, McCarter sets out to tutor students in the third to 12th grade, as well as adults and teens who dropped out of high school trying to get their GEDs.

He likes the idea of being a young entrepreneur, but some advantages are better than the others.

"I set my own hours. I think that's the best part," McCarter explained.

McCarter plans to expand his tutoring business, and he wants to take his experience to Northern University, but yet keep the program in Chicago.

Being in the business at such a young age, McCarter feels that young entrepreneurs like himself should never give up.

"Stick to it. It could be a big risk, but it can turn out for the better," McCarter encouraged.

### Charles Reese: Harvest Business Enterprises

Only at the age of 14, as a freshman at Thornwood High School, Charles Reese began to run his own business making business card, web designs, and more essentials for other businesses.

Starting his business alone and running it for almost one year, Reese has no doubts about the reason for him starting his own business.

"I didn't want to work for anyone. I wanted to work for myself for my own money. I wanted to be my own boss," Reese explained about starting his own business.

Running your own business is not simple, but you learn lot of things from what teens can do:

"I learned that nothing in this world comes free," Reese expressed.

Being that Reese is very young and owns his own business, he knows just what it takes to be successful at what you do.

"You have to learn persistence. You have to be a hard worker," Reese said. Reese feels that in the future, he wants his business to expand and get bigger than what it is, and he wants to make more money from it.

When running a business, teenagers have to understand the good and how to make it where you're going, Reese advised other teens who want to start businesses.

"The good thing about it (the business) is making money," Reese said. "I'm gonna go, but I'm gonna walk."





# Vanguardia

## Los adolescentes se quejan de las tácticas de reclutamiento del Ejército en las escuelas

### Introduction to the Spanish Section

Chicago is a diverse city, and its people reflect that. We speak in different languages, and we celebrate different heritages. Our media should reflect that same diversity. Our teens should understand these differences and celebrate it, so *New Expression* has implemented a Spanish section.

Inside our high schools there are students immigrating from Spanish-speaking communities across the world, and they are trying to learn English as well as maintain the roots of their native tongue. The Spanish section is a learning tool for all to use to encourage our youth to engage in learning second languages. Learning how to read, write, and speak in Spanish, or any other language.

NE welcomes Wendy Hernandez who will translate stories written in English into Spanish to reach a wider audience. In the future, bilingual teens will join the staff to write stories about the community in which they live and translate these stories into English.

Together we will learn, teach, educate and make sure Chicago youth are expressing themselves no matter what language they may speak.

### Presentación de la sección en español

Chicago es una ciudad con gran diversidad cultural, y su gente lo refleja. Hablamos diferentes idiomas y conmemoramos diferentes herencias. Nuestros medios de comunicación por lo tanto, deben reflejar esta misma diversidad. Nuestros jóvenes deben entender estas diferencias y sentirse orgullosos de ellas, por esta razón, *New Expression* ha implementado una sección en Español.

Dentro de nuestras escuelas de bachillerato hay estudiantes inmigrantes de comunidades hispano-hablantes de al rededor del mundo, los cuales están tratando de aprender el inglés pero también conservando las raíces de su lengua nativa. La sección de español es una herramienta de aprendizaje para todos aquéllos que la utilicen para motivar a nuestra juventud para que las incorporen en su aprendizaje de un segundo idioma. Esto es, para aprender a leer, escribir y hablar en español, o cualquier otro idioma.

NE da la bienvenida a Wendy Hernández, quien traducirá los artículos escritos en inglés al español para así alcanzar una mayor audiencia. En el futuro, los jóvenes bilingües se unirán al equipo de NE para escribir historias acerca de la comunidad en la cual viven, además de traducir estas historias al inglés.

Juntos podremos aprender, enseñar, y educar; y al mismo tiempo lograr que la juventud de Chicago se exprese por sí misma, independientemente del idioma que hable.

**Por Willine Valentin**  
Preparatoria Lane Tech  
Traducción de Wendy Hernández

Los comerciales dicen que no hay mejor servicio que la gente pueda hacer por su país que el de unirse al ejército, mientras que la maquinaria del ejército les dice a los estudiantes: "Se todo lo que puedes ser en el ejército", no obstante, para muchos estudiantes de preparatoria de Chicago, estos reclutadores están presionando demasiado a través de estos mensajes.

Unas cuantas líneas de una carta enviada por El Ejército de la Guardia Nacional a una estudiante dice así: "Tú puedes incluso ir a la Universidad inmediatamente, ya que La Guardia te ofrece hasta el 100 por ciento del pago de la educación.... Gana hasta \$10,000 dólares en bonos al enlistarte cuando te inscribas al Ejército de la Guardia Nacional...No olvides pedir tu camiseta y DVD gratis cuando te entrevistes con el reclutador."

Ningún panfleto del ejército menciona el intenso entrenamiento físico al que se someterá el estudiante, no hay mención de ningún tipo de peligro o riesgo, ni tampoco se menciona sobre el compromiso que éste hará al enlistarse en el ejército.

"He estado en el ejército por 10 años, y nunca he estado en combate", dice el Sargento Anderson, un reclutador del ejército. "Aún que quieras entrar en combate, estarás detrás de las líneas enemigas".

Algunos de los adolescentes son fácilmente influenciados, no obstante, hay otros que se preguntan si los oficiales del ejército están yendo demasiado lejos al presionar a los estudiantes para unirse al ejército. Estudiantes de la escuela preparatoria dicen que los reclutadores del ejército están usando prácticas deshonestas para lograr que los estudiantes se enlisten para el servicio militar sin informarles de todos los costos y riesgos que conlleva servir en el ejército estadounidense.

"Ellos sólo te muestran el lado bueno de estar en el ejército", dice Amanda Cotto. "Te dicen que por lo regular, nunca estarás en combate. Eso es lo que nos dicen".

Cotto explicó que los reclutadores le comentaron que las mujeres no tienen que entrar en combate si ellas no quieren, no obstante, pueden obtener los beneficios al servir en el ejército.

Ellos, los reclutadores dicen "Oh", yo no he estado en combate, por lo que las mujeres no van a la guerra. Que son generosos al proponer eso, y que después el ejército paga por tu educación universitaria, además

de darte todo un montón de becas y muchas otras cosas más. Eso es lo que nos dicen". Dice Cotto.

Muchos jóvenes se están quejando acerca de las tácticas agresivas que los reclutadores del ejército han estado usando para motivar a los muchachos para que se unan al ejército, incluyendo el estar llamándoles a sus teléfonos celulares, mandándoles cartas y publicidad por correo, y hasta al estar visitándolos en la escuela.

"Una vez, me llamaron hasta tres veces en un día. Yo sólo quería que me dejaran en paz". Comenta Connie Rogers de 17 años, estudiante junior de la Preparatoria Lane Tech.

Cuando un estudiante llama al Ejército de la Guardia Nacional o a los Reclutadores del Ejército para adquirir información sobre los servicios, es imperativo que la operadora en el teléfono te tome tu nombre y número telefónico antes que ella esté en posibilidad de ofrecerte cualquier asistencia.

En abril de este año, la reportera Erika Hayaasaki de Los Angeles Times, entrevistó a estudiantes minoritarios, quienes testificaron sobre el acoso de los reclutadores del ejército. Karen Magee, una de las estudiantes, recordó un momento cuando uno de los reclutadores del ejército se ofreció a comprarle un boleto para el baile de graduación de la escuela si ella decidía enlistarse.

Aquí en Illinois no hay reportes citados como los del incidente en Los Angeles, no obstante los estudiantes aún siguen quejándose debido a que los reclutadores constantemente los llaman por teléfono y les envían información por correo.

Al cruzar la calle de la Escuela Preparatoria Lane y durante los periodos de recreo, los reclutadores del ejército uniformados pueden ser vistos afuera, estando de pie en los locales populares de los jóvenes, repartiendo panfletos y tratando de hablar con los estudiantes acerca de enrolarse en el ejército.

Sergio Nieves, estudiante senior de 17 años de la escuela Lane Tech, describió cómo los reclutadores del ejército le ofrecieron llevarlo en el auto al centro de reclutamiento.

"Ellos deberían decirte todo, pero no, sólo te dicen que pagarán por esto, y lo otro, que te darán una beca para esto y otro, y al final te dicen, eh, por cierto, nos perteneces por 8 años," Dice Nieves.

Keith Foley, directora de la escuela Lane Tech explicó que en Lane, los reclutadores del ejército están causando problemas al entrar a las aulas y al tratar de hablar con los estudiantes acerca de unirse al ejército, debido a las tácticas deshonestas que éstos han estado usando al tratar de entrar secretamente a los salones para hablar con los estudiantes sobre el ejército.

"Deberían entrar y decir que vienen a la oficina de los consejeros, en vez de ir a la oficina de los consejeros directamente. Ellos podrían ir a la oficina de asistencia de los alumnos y obtener los programas de los estudiantes para después dirigirse a la clase de Inglés, y hablar con ellos." Comenta Foley.

De acuerdo al acta "No Child Left Behin" del 2002, las escuelas deben proporcionar al ejército la información sobre los estudiantes, tal como su dirección, número telefónico, clases, etc.

Otras quejas sobre el reclutamiento del ejército incluyen aquéllas en las cuales los reclutadores se centran en reclutar estudiantes de origen minoritario, estudiantes con bajas calificaciones, y desertores de las escuelas preparatorias.

Otros administradores de las preparatorias del area de Chicago están dando a los padres de sus estudiantes informes sobre los procedimientos de reclutamiento del ejército.

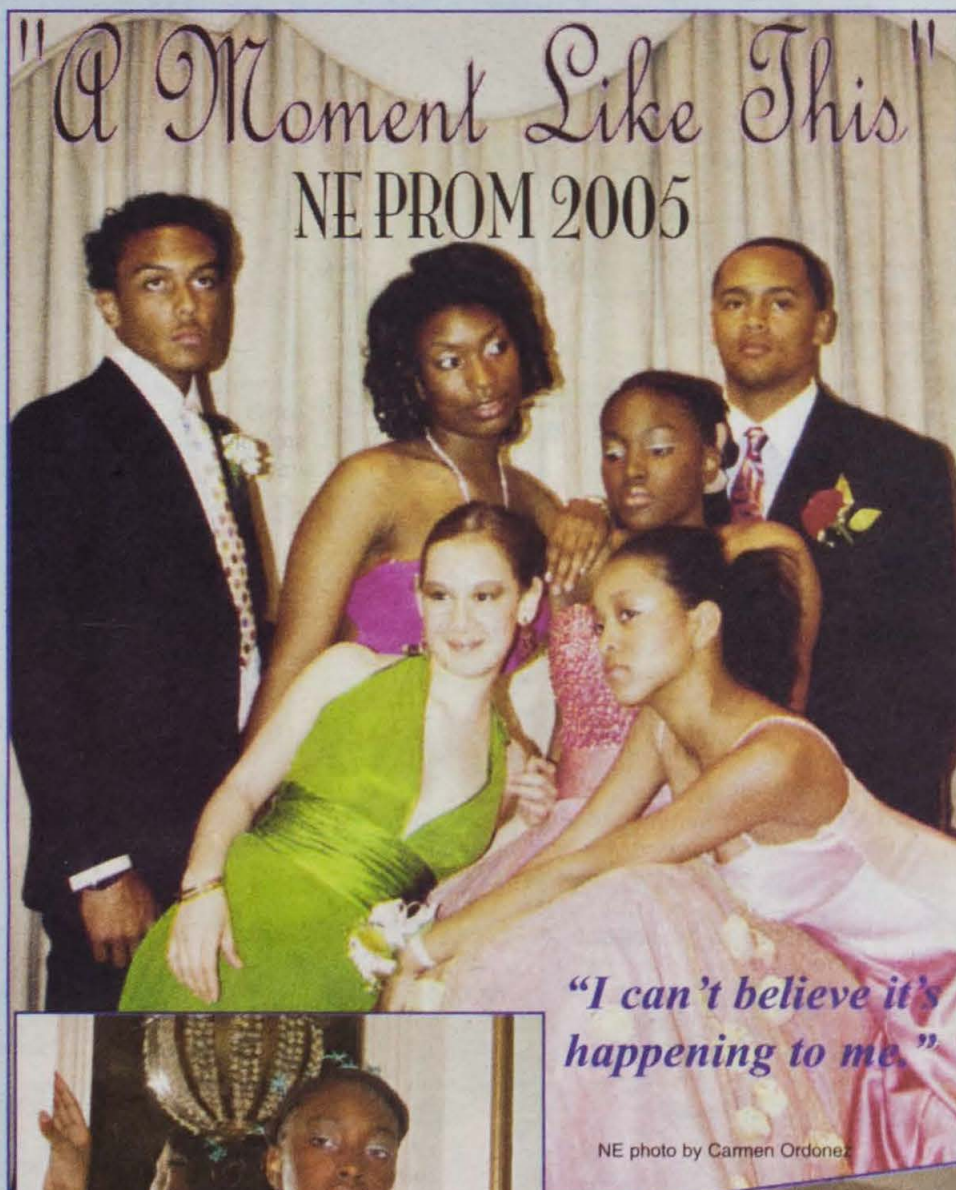
En abril de este año, la escuela Crane Tech, situada al oeste de Chicago, remitió una carta a los padres informándoles sobre la declaración del gobierno federal para proporcionar información de los estudiantes de 18 años de edad o mayores al personal del ejército, y en donde también se les pedía que firmaran una forma anexa en caso de que no desearan dar la información de su hijo(a).

Si no te gustaría que el ejército reciba información personal tuya, manda una carta dirigida al gobierno federal con tu solicitud.



# Class of 2005 Prom

## Cinderella Tonight



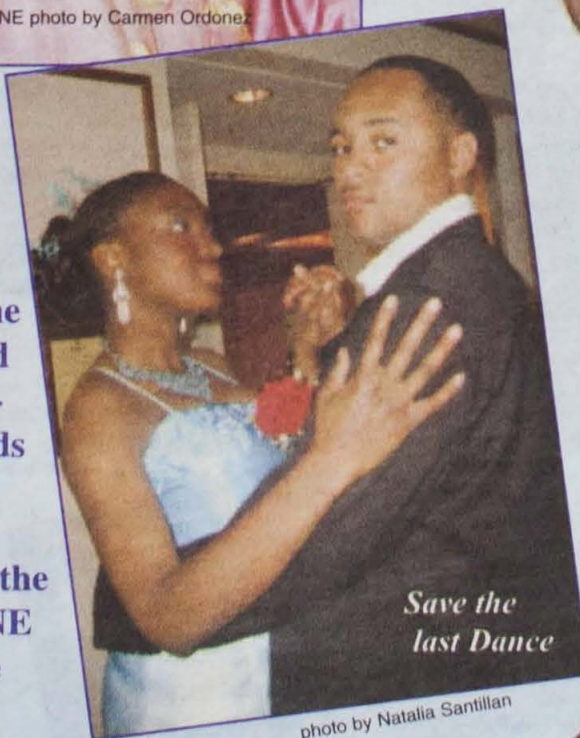
"A Moment Like This"  
NE PROM 2005

*"I can't believe it's happening to me."*

NE photo by Carmen Ordonez



photo by Natalia Santillan



*Save the last Dance*

photo by Natalia Santillan

Teen Models:  
Cassie Brown  
Mellisa Cerna  
Alexis Isaac  
Rebecca Townsend  
Earl Dunn  
Dean Brock

Dresses, suits & accessories provided by Marshall Fields & Company located on 111 N. State St.

Special thanks to CanDace Johnson, Columbia, College Chicago, a fashion consultant for coordination of prom shoot, makeup, dress selection and hair.

Special thanks to Dennetta Plair of AVON for "MARK" make-up supplies.

NE Photos by Carmen Ordonez  
Natalia Santillan & Phylecia Thompson

Cherry Choa Feather Hair clip \$58

Cherry Choa Blue Chandelier necklace \$60

Silver earrings \$24

Blue Beaded Dress by Jump \$159

Alexis isn't going to have to lose her glass slipper, because she's already found her prince in this stunning gown. She is charming in this beautiful two-toned turquoise and white beaded ball gown.

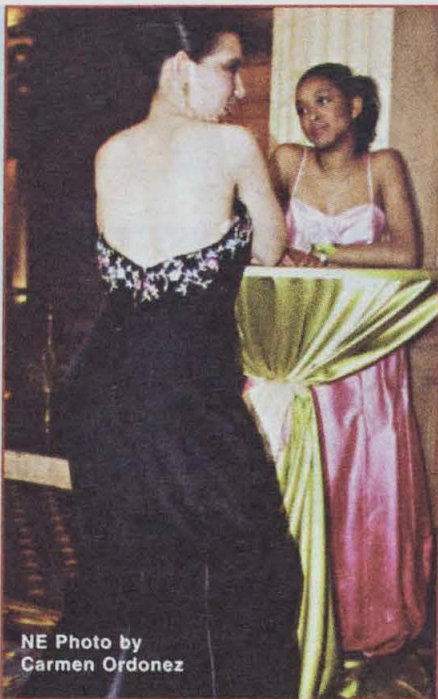
photo by Natalia Santillan

**T**he final Year book Moment. The last dance. A night remembered by all. How will you be remembered? NE shows you some prom trends that will make a lasting impression on everyone at your Prom.

NE wants you to be remembered in the most glamorous way, so welcome to NE annual Prom edition. "A Moment Like This."



# Classic Beauty



NE Photo by Carmen Ordonez



NE Photo by Carmen Ordonez

Watch out Marilyn Monroe. You'll be green with envy.

Mellisa is wearing a green Marilyn Monroe halter style dress. This dress is Classic but trendy.

Monet gold chandelier earrings \$24  
Marshall Fields Gold Bracelet Bangles \$22



"Some people wait a lifetime, for that one special kiss"

NE Photos by Natalia Santillan

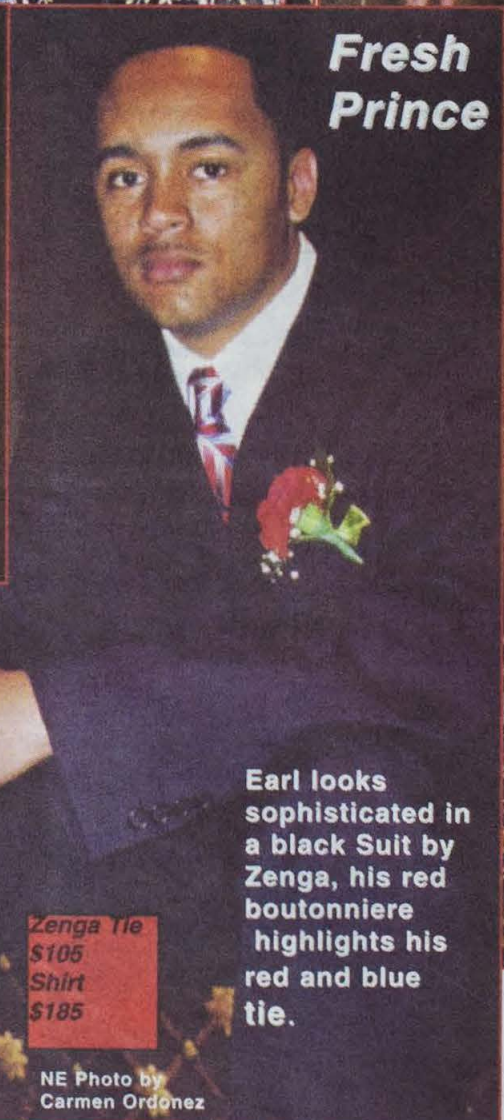
Steven's Gold Shoes

These shoes are better than glass slippers. Golden butterfly Steven's shoes will have you flying across the dance floor.



Cherry Choa Red hair clip \$58

NE Photo by Natalia Santillan



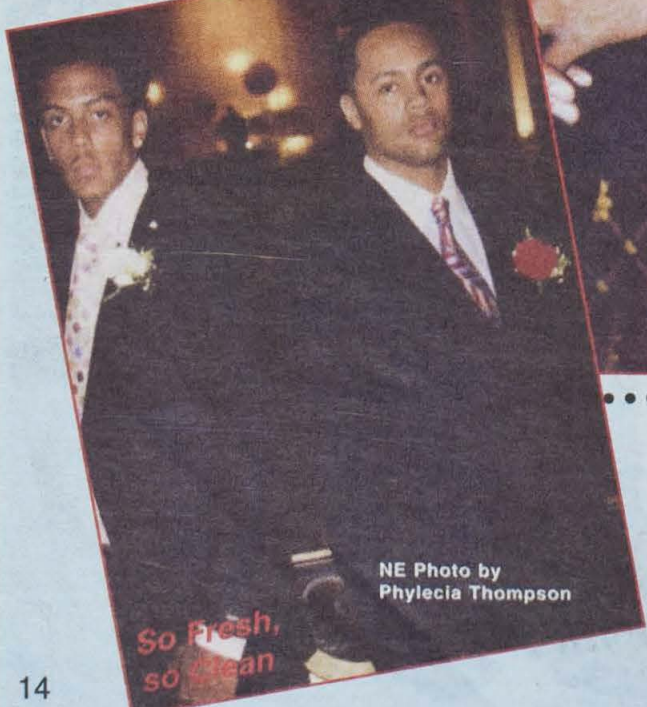
Fresh Prince

Earl looks sophisticated in a black Suit by Zenga, his red boutonniere highlights his red and blue tie.

Zenga Tie \$105  
Shirt \$185

NE Photo by Carmen Ordonez

Classic Beauty, \$310  
Mellisa is a raven beauty in a Oscar like ball gown. This Black corset dress by Laundry is a fitting style for any young lady.



NE Photo by Phylecia Thompson

So Fresh, so Clean

## Prom Essentials

**The Makeup!**  
Girls, make sure you get the right type of make up to make you sparkle. The correct shade of lipstick, can bring out your natural glow. NE models are wearing makeup by "MARK," a popular AVON line.



**Inner Beauty**  
Mellisa, has big brown eyes, so her makeup highlights her beautiful eyes. Soft blush, and dramatic eye shadow brings out a natural glow in her skin.





# The Pink Ladies: Pretty for Promenade

## The Age of Innocence

Cassie, is wearing a beautiful Pink beaded, gown by Javan which displays her sweetness. A soft pink carnation corsage adds a delicate touch to her arm. Very little jewelry gives her a pure but beautiful simplicity in this gown.

**Javan Dress**  
\$295  
**carnation Wrist corsage**  
by Jewel

Pink Ladies are Pretty in Style

There's no doubt that hot pink is the color this season. Pink is fun and flirty.

**Rebecca is Wearing**  
A pink halter Dress by City Triangles  
\$169

*"Some people wait a lifetime for a moment like this"*

Photo by NE Staff

## Belle of the Ball

**Braided Beauty** If you have microbraids, that's no problem. You can still make your hair extra special on Prom night. Alexis use the scarf that came with her dress as a hair wrap to accent her braids.

**Jovani Coral Puffy Dress**  
\$570

Alexis is wearing a princess ball gown by Jovani. This classic petticoat dress is a dream come true for a girl who's always wanted to feel like a princess on prom night.

NE Photo by Carmen Ordonez

NE Photo by NATallia Santillan

NE Photo by Carmen Ordonez

NE Photo by NATallia Santillan

## Prom Essentials

### Don't Forget!

The guy or girl should not forget these on Prom Night. The corsage and boutonniere are very important elements for the evening. It's tradition. Drop by a florist to order one ASAP!



### The Right Shoe

Contrary to popular belief Beauty needs comfort. Picking the right shoes is important for prom night. If your feet hurt it will show on pictures and on the dance floor. Pick the right shoe, and break them in before Prom.



### Make up tips

Simple is elegant. Not too much makeup is okay, even for prom, according to Dennetta Plair, AVON make-up consultant. Colored lip gloss and a little sparkles on your skin will give you a glow for the evening. Cassie's makeup is soft but dramatic by emphasizing the color pink.





# Classy & Sassy

Rebecca is dazzling in a sexy, flirty, slippy gown with lace trimmings. This black-gold and silver beaded dress is elegant, but it is also a bit daring— with a sexy slit to show off the leg. Watch out single males! You may have to fight with the other guys to get the chance to dance with the young lady wearing this dress.

*"I can't believe it's happening to me."*

Charming Dean is sporting a suit by Zenga With a trendy pokadot tie that is fun and funky.

**Sue Wang**  
Black beaded silver, gold dress, \$310

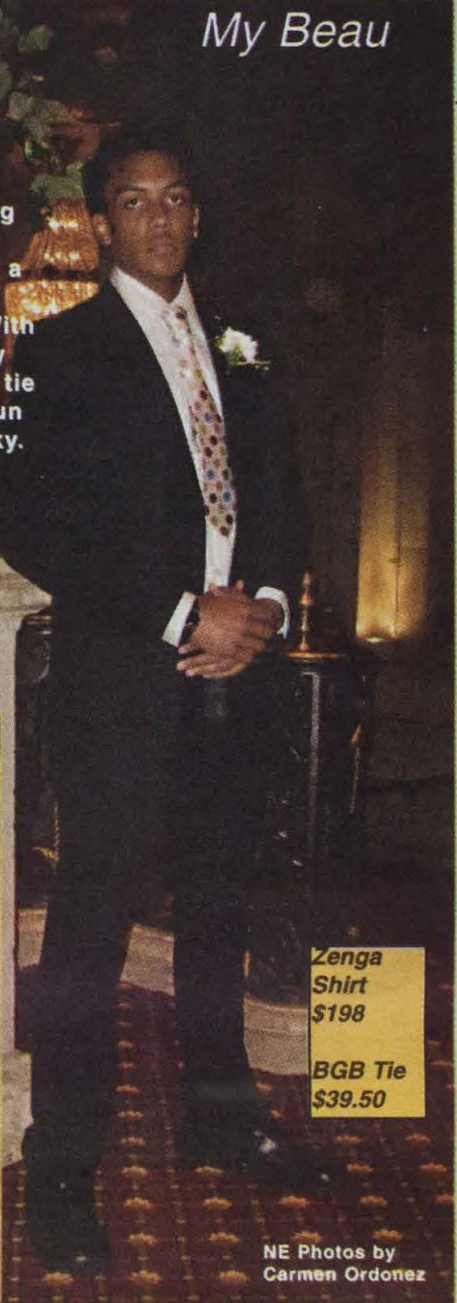
Anne Klien  
Gold Bracelet \$18  
Gold Bracelet \$20

Nine West  
Black Strappy Shoe

NE Photos by Natalia Santillan



NE Photos by Phylecia Thompson



Zenga Shirt \$198  
BGB Tie \$39.50

NE Photos by Carmen Ordonez



NE Photos by Natalia Santillan



## Prom Hair Tips

**Curly Cues,**  
At Prom, you don't have to wear your hair up. Rebecca's hair is styled in goldie lock curls that frames her face. Her make up shows off her eyes. This style is simple, but very elegant in her black, beaded dress.



# Glass Slipper Project Turns Teen Girls Into True Cinderella's

By Devin Ross  
Walter Payton College Prep

Approach Sojourner Truth Elementary School during a weekend of a Glass Slipper Project, the only hint there is a bustling organization inside are the excited faces of girls holding brown shopping bags that are leaving the building one by one.

Inside the school are not classes or sporting events on the weekend, but lines and lines of girls waiting to get their own personal "fairy godmother" or personal shopper to help them pick out their dream dresses.

Senior, Latoya Retic, came last weekend to a boutique but couldn't get in to get a dress. This weekend on April 30, she had better luck.

"Today we got here at 3:30 in the morning and got a number for the line," said Retic, 18. "I was still number 690."

Retic says that there weren't nearly half as many girls that attended the boutique last weekend.

Despite all the time Retic waited, she's still delighted that she came.

"It was well worth the wait," said Retic, admiring her teal colored dress.

The Glass Slipper Project is an organization that provides dresses to high school girls who cannot afford to buy new, expensive prom dress in the Chicago area.

Three women started the Glass Slipper project approximately seven years ago, when they held a small boutique for girls that come from families with low-incomes could obtain beautiful dresses so they would not have to miss that special prom night.

The first boutique the women held was not successful, but the next week the Glass Slipper Project women were featured on Oprah's talk show. After that show, the women's boutique had a huge turnout. To date, the Glass Slipper Project has provided dresses to about 6,000 girls.

"We help girls become the belle of the ball, no matter what their economic status is," said Kimberly Fisher, one of the directors of the program.

This is the first year that a boutique has been held at Sojourner Truth Elementary School. The first year, it was held at Near North High School, located right across from Sojourner Truth.

According to Fisher, about 600 girls showed up for the first boutique held for this year's prom season.

Girls that are eligible to attend the Glass Slipper Project include Chicago high school seniors and juniors.

The organization is solely run on donations and volunteers. This year, the organization received about 8,000 new and old dresses.

"People hear about us and want to donate," Fisher said. "Many gowns are donated from bridal companies, seamstresses and companies that are going out of business."

Every girl that came to the boutique seemed excited and all the volunteers or "fairy-godmothers" were all anxious to help.

"Our volunteers are called personal shoppers," Fisher said.

These lively personal shoppers follow the girls around from room to room helping to find the perfect dress, accessories, shoes and make-up.

The Glass Slipper Project also helps out girls that are physically and mentally impaired. Caroline Johnson, who The CPS Office of Specialized Services, said that they make sure that these girls get the same treatment as all the others.

Araminta Alexander, who attends Richard Career Academy, said that shopping for a dress was a fun experience. Alexander, 17, found out about the Glass Slipper Project through her school and decided to come to one of the boutiques to find a dress for her prom.

Waiting may have been the worst part of the experience for these teenage girls.

"I waited inside and outside," Alexander said, looking tired.

"When I found the perfect dress, everyone was like 'Oh, that's so pretty!'" said Alexander, with a beaming smile.



NE Photo by Devin Ross

(Top) Teen girls wait in line to get their new prom dresses packaged to take home for that special evening.



(Right) Latoya Retic is happy with her brand dress from the Glass Slipper Boutique.

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# Innocence

COVER STORY

# Defied

## TRUTH BE TOLD

### High School Freshman Reveals Her Secret Sexual Life With an Older Man

by Linda Davis

Westinghouse High School

*\* Name has been change to protect the sources identity due to age sensitivity and subject matter.*

**F**ourteen-year-old Wells High School student, \*Willow Johns, revealed her story of a stressful life and complaints, which drove her into wanting and needing someone to make her feel like more than what she felt about herself at the time. Her anxiety forced her into wanting to be in the arms of a man much older.

"When I first started dating this older guy, I was going through a self-image stage, and I felt like I couldn't get that from a younger guy, because they appeared to me as immature," Johns said while pulling her hair up with a ponytail holder.

With her friend living around the corner from where she met this older man, she said she lied about her age to "get with him."

"This was one of those guys that made you want to lie because he was so sexy," Johns said in a passionate tone.

Though she said she did not express having any feelings towards lying about her age to attract him, Johns admitted to wanting to tell him but didn't because she thought that he would break up with her.

"I had plans on telling him my real age, but I fell so deeply into him that I looked over my age and told myself that sooner or later I would tell him and by that time it wouldn't matter, Johns said.

Allowing the older man she felt she was enthralled with take her virginity, Johns said she began having sex with him on a regular basis.

"There have been times when we would finish having sex and I would ask him questions like, what if I was 14 years old and a freshman in high school, would you continue to date me, and he would reply kissing me and telling me that it wouldn't matter because he was all for me" John said.

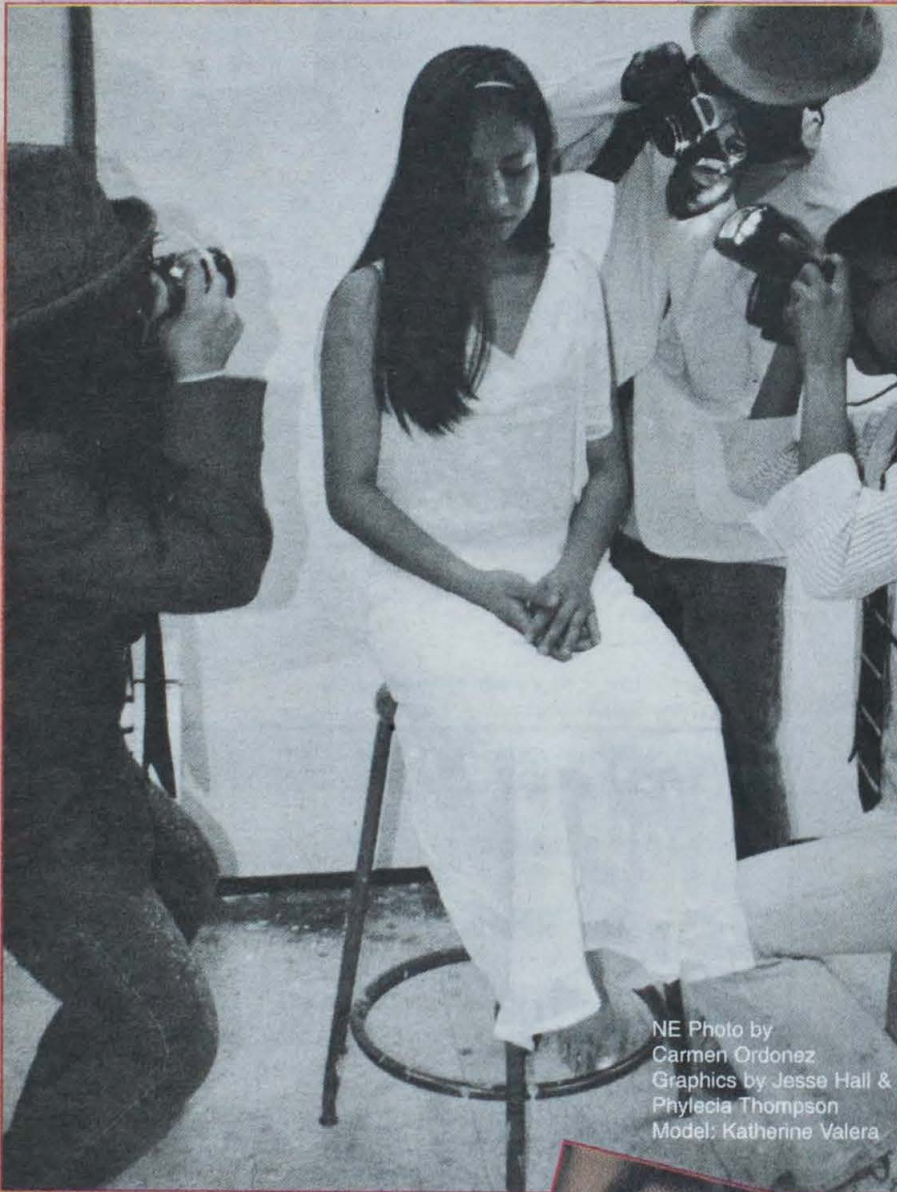
After leaving her friends alone to be with this older guy, he began dropping her off from school and picking her up, because he thought she was a senior and about to graduate and go to college.

"When I left my friends alone to be with him, they started to go around telling people that I was dating an older guy, and he knew nothing about it and eventually the word got back to him," Johns said. "When he found out that I lied to him about my age, he was okay with it. He just wanted to continue to have sex with me and didn't want anyone to know about us," she said.

Johns said they continued their sexual relationship on a private level, but he eventually broke up with her after revealing to her there was someone else he was dating besides her.

"When he broke up with me I was heart broken and I became more stressed," Johns said. "I found myself getting over him after a while, but he still rides around my block from time to time."

*Truth Contiued on next page*



NE Photo by  
Carmen Ordonez  
Graphics by Jesse Hall &  
Phylecia Thompson  
Model: Katherine Valera

Some teens say they can handle a relationship with someone much older than them, but others believe it is very hard and even wrong, especially when parents, peers, the law, and adolescence get involved.

**Age ain't nothing but number? Teens discuss how they feel about the media's portrayal of teens & sex with adults, age of consent laws, rape laws, pedophiles, predators & perverts.**



NE Photo by Carmen Ordonez



# Media Markets, More Molestation

The Good Ole' Days

By Vince Dixon  
Gwendolyn Brooks

Hearing terms such as "pedophile" or "child molester," for most people, may convey a cliché image of an old feeble hermit from a small town. To the few people that knew him, he was often known as the suspicious neighbor no one talked to. The vision might also depict a 50-something predator dodging news cameras and covering his face as he rushes from a courthouse looking ashamed.

This was the shocking image several years ago when news of child molestation and abuse and murders came about. Then, cases like the John Wayne Gacy and Jeffrey Dahmer seemed rare and shocking when exposed.

However, today, cases of child molestation and exploitation have evolved and are more publicized with a smaller shocked reaction to many. The once feeble old man has now become younger, sometimes being in his or her 20's or 30's, and is no longer that old, weird hermit down the road, but is as common as your favorite musician, celebrity, or teacher.

"Ever since Michael Jackson and R Kelly, every [child molester] has been publicized," said 17-year-old Melissa Munod.

Teens like Munod say they are noticing that the average "pedophile" is now the hip, new gym teacher at school, or the top charting pop star. Maybe, the idea that "Age ain't nothing but a number" has made the idea about lusting for underage companionship a trend amongst a newer generation.

Some teens say that emotions will out-weigh the law if they were ever encountered by an older person pursuing a relationship with them.

"Kathy Baran, 16, of Lane Tech said, "If it came to me to date someone older than me, meaning over 18. I wouldn't unless it was true love. Love doesn't know age."

Rather it is love or lust, Why are adults getting involved with children sexually?

### The Prentenders

In recent news, Michael Cardamone of Dupage County was arrested on criminal charges regarding sexual misconduct with minors. Cardamone is a 28-year-old gymnastic coach from the American Institute of Gymnastics. Fourteen girls who trained under Cardamone filed charges against the trainer many claiming that Cardamone fondled with them during stretching and exercising.

Robert Sperlick, a Chicago band teacher facing with 200 charges of sexual misconduct and child molestation. Almost 20 girls accused Sperlick of harassment, some claiming that he tied them to chairs and played with their bodies.

In 1997, another major stereotype about sex offenders was broken by Mary Kay Letourneau, a 34-year-old woman accused of seducing and having sexual relations with her 12-year-old, sixth grade student, Vili Fualaau. Mary Kay's relationship with Fualaau eventually resulted in the birth of the couple's two children. Newspapers and television reports have been counting down to the day of Letourneau's and Fualaau's wedding day.

Leticia James, 31, psychology graduate student, said, "Older women deal with younger men because they are teachable sexually, as well as they have stamina that older men do not supply." But dealing with teens or anyone younger it is not okay because it is statutory rape and child abuse, but a relationship with someone 21 and up is okay."

Adults like James believe that child predators that are breaking the traditional typecast of pedophiles and sex offenders are using "love" as their excuse. These predators, usually found in their small suburban towns, have found another identity- the celebrity.



### Our Heros, our Stars

Over the past 10 years, famous cases such as the R Kelly scandal, and the Paul Ruebens (a.k.a. Pee-Wee Herman), and the Jeffery Jones pornography case came as sudden surprises to most Americans. It seemed a taboo to allow children to watch these shows, like Pee Wee's Play house after the scandal broke. Reports show actors and celebrities who have strong teen and children fan bases are allegedly being caught bearing child pornography in their homes.

One of the more publicized cases involving 80's pop star, Michael Jackson has seen its share of grand media attention due to Michael's well-known "fondness of children" and the panel of high profiled celebrities who may testify during the case.

However, the country's interest in the case has gone to an extreme, with viewers tuning to cable's "E!" to watch dramatic reenactments of Jackson's trial and frequent local and national news updates on the trial's progress.

"The media is to blame because they're telling kids to dress older and look older and the older people don't know hoe old the kid really is," Munod said.

### Media in bliss with the Young

Others, like Munod, may also agree that the media has, in some sense, encouraged the practice of child molestation. There are humorous references to website that post countdowns for the 18th birthday's of young celebrities, who were once under-age. These sites show teen stars like Lindsay Lohan, Hillary Duff, and the Olsen Twins. On television, there are parodies of R Kelly's alleged rape scandal and Michael Jackson's molestation charges found on sketch shows and cartoons.

Some teens wondered if the media could be blamed for the sudden public interest in child predators and famous sex offenders. Popular television shows also spotlight several fictional situations with comedic twists, in which the characters on the show become involved in intergenerational relationship.

ABC's "Desperate House Wives" includes actress Eva Longoria who plays Gabrielle Solis, a wealthy model married to a devoted husband, is having a sexual affair with the family's 17-year-old gardener on the show.

Media, contiued on next page

### TRUTH BE TOLD

continued rom page 18

Teens like Johns and others say by parents not recognizing the problems that teens go through everyday and by parents allowing them to enter and leave their home without finding out if they are sexually active makes it easier to get involved with older sexual partners. Most of all, teens say parents need to ask if their teen daughters or sons are sexual active, who are they with and how old is the person they are involve with? Parents need to care and take time out to find out how this can be prevented and what drove them to that point.

Terrell Fisher said he wouldn't date a younger girl because he does not think that it's right.

"I personally wouldn't date a younger girl because she is not fully developed, and I wouldn't want some older man having sex with my daughter when she gets older," Fisher said.

Robbin Armstrong of Westinghouse High School gives her opinion on teens girls and why they prefer older men. Armstrong said she understands these morals from a male perspective and identify with the views of an older male dating a younger girl, and then furthermore engaging in sexual relations with her.

Armstrong's story reveals an age old belief that teenage girls and boys are probably easily manipulated, naïve, and sexually inexperienced to older people. Older men and women seem to like the idea of teaching new tricks to developing teens, but for Armstrong, her relationship with an older men led to complications.

"I started dating older guys when I was 15," Armstrong said. "At the time I thought it was okay until he started to get to aggressive.

"There have been times when he would tell me when to come in the house, and he would stalk me at work, send me crank calls and force himself on me," Armstrong said.

Armstrong said after getting her number changed and getting away from him, she didn't hear from him again.

"Now that I am older I wish I would have stayed in a child's place when I was younger, because I personally think I was trying to grow up to fast," Armstrong said.

After discovering the facts of "Innocence Defied," and the affects it could leave on a young teen going into adulthood there is only one question to be answered, What is your child doing and how often do you get involved in their lives?



# Teens Think About The Law When It Comes to Sex With Adults

By Tywana Lesley  
John Hope

**“If you are the average 14 and 18 year old you have different agendas. There should be limits, not enforced by the state, but personal limits.”**

**—Safisha Thembeke, 15.**

**T**here are many scenarios with young girls becoming consensually involved with older men, and there are also situations where young girls are forced into relationships with older men and desperately wants out. Females are not the only ones involved in this lifestyle. Teen boys are as well. Whatever the situation may be, it is still considered statutory rape by law.

Alexandria Mack, a 16-year-old sophomore at John Hope, said, “Younger people become involved with older people because they look for someone probably much more mature than a person their age.”

Different countries have different names for Statutory Rape, such as ‘unlawful sexual penetration’ or just ‘rape’. Different states also have different punishments for the offenders.

According to the State Legislatures Handbook for Statutory Rape Issues, a variety of sanctions, penalties and treatment may be associated with statutory rape, including prison or jail, child support, fines, counseling, and treatment services. Modern statutory rape laws usually reflect multi-level statutory schemes with different penalties set forth depending upon the age of the minor. In addition, laws may provide for increased penalties if the defendant is much older than the minor, if pregnancy results, or under other circumstances.

Some teens say they think that older men and women probably look for relationships with youngsters to recapture their youth.

“I think that in most cases, certain people believe that they need someone younger to feel younger himself or herself,” said Lucia Gonzalez, 15, of Lane Tech. “Younger people need the security involved in knowing that the person that they’re with is more mature than they, or the people they are associated with are. They need to know that they have been through it before and that they understand.”

Even though teens may feel they are capable of handling a relationship with an adult, studies prove that teens cannot be fully prepared for adult problems like pregnancy and sexual transmitted diseases.

According to the Guttmacher Institute Report on Public Policy, studies show that at least half of babies born to mothers who are minors are fathered by adult men, and that the sexual partners of those women are often men 3-6 years older.

There are even laws, known as the age consent laws, that makes engaging in sexual activity before a certain age illegal.



Although the age of consent law is fairly known some teens don’t agree with it.

Safish Thembeke, a 15-year-old sophomore said, “If a sexual or platonic relationship between two people is consensual, then I don’t think its the authority’s problem to be involved in, unless charges are pressed.”

When someone of or over the age of consent has sex with someone below the age of consent, it is considered statutory rape.

Some teens believe limits should be set in a statutory rape relationship like when a 14 year old is involved with an 18 year old, only because there is a big mind set difference.

“If you are the average 14 and 18 year old you have different agendas. There should be limits, not enforced by the state, but personal limits,” Thembeke said.

According to Accused Violators Early Response Team (AVERT), the law states that to be able to have sex, both partners must be over the age of consent. Age of consent laws are in effect to stop young people from being exploited by adults. When a teen reaches the age of consent they can no longer be considered a victim of statutory rape. However, states have certain laws for sexual relations with an authority figure, like a teacher, coach, tutor, etc., disregarding the age of consent laws.

There are different age limits for teenagers in different places and the age to engage in sexual activity is different for boys and girls. In Illinois the age to legally have sex, no matter what one’s sexual orientation is 17 years old. Experts state in some states, the victims or the victim’s parents can report statutory rape and/or they can be raised by the state.

Different states also have different state codes, which determines if two individuals are involved in a statutory rape situation.

Dr. Ozella Phillips, Critical Director of Teen Living Programs in Chicago, encourages teens to stay away from relationships with men or women who are much older, and seek help if there’s a question about feelings like this.

“I will tell them not to do it,” advised Phillips against teens having a relationship with an older person. “Try talking to a mentor or an adult that you trust. Seek out an adult that can help and will not try to involve sex.”

Phillips said adults having sex with teens is illegal and wrong in the first place.

“I think it is not okay, but people look the other way as long as it is not them or their child,” Phillips said.

Despite these laws, teens say they believe nothing can come between these types of relationships because the feelings are stronger than the law.

“Nothing can be done to prevent statutory rape. People from different cultures believe in this to some extent, Gonzalez said. “Also, some of these people honestly love each other. As long as their parents consent, there is nothing illegal that is happening.” (Dana Young, NE Intern, contributed to this article).

## Media contined from last page

Fox’s The O.C has aired several episodes in which a the rocky relationship between mother and daughter characters; Julie and Marissa Cooper, becomes even more distraught when Marissa’s ex-boyfriend and high school classmate becomes romantically involved with Marissa’s mother.

On Cable shows, some aimed at underage audiences, also take on the issue, with programs such as Nip/Tuck show twisted plots with teen character like a mother involved in an affair with her own son and his teen classmate. Canada’s popular cult hit; Degrassi: Next Generation. On Degrassi, 16-year-old Paige Michealchuck secretly dates a twenty- something Teacher Assistant, while her 18- year- old brother has an open relationship with her gay best friend.

A recent television poll showed 60 percent of Americans are concerned about what children watch on television, in movies, and on video games. Pew Research Center for the People & the Press found that 73 percent of the people surveyed care about what children are exposed to on the Internet.

Teens ask does the constant endorsement, in which the media gives to illicit situations, influence the urge that a minor or predator may have to become involved such actions themselves?

Experts say adults and parents should be well informed about such programs. Critical Director of Teen Living Programs in Chicago, Dr. Ozello Phillips, said, parents should monitor what teens are watching.

“Boundaries and lines are being crossed all over the place, and adults (parents) should have more control over what teens do,” Phillips said.

(Dana Young and Phylecia Thompson contributed to this story.)



NE Photo by  
Jesse Hall



# Online Chat Rooms: A Venture Into A Pedophile's Paradise

by Vince Dixon  
Gwendolyn Brooks



Online chat rooms—a place where dozens of strangers log on to cyberspace to talk about anything and anyone at any time. The idea of someone you've never met before exposing their personal information to the world has always made me very skeptical about Internet chat rooms, and this is why I, normally, stay away from chat rooms online.

However, the recent growing popularity of chatting services and online dating seems to be taking a hold of many teenagers who I know. With websites like "tagged.com" and "teenchat.com," I've noticed how this trendy activity has slowly

begun to get my friends hooked.

What is it about communicating with someone you can't see or hear that makes people become addicted to these sites?

I remember asking one of my friends this question and he responded, "You get to meet new people I guess," he said.

Fair, I thought to myself, but there are other ways that are safer ways to meet people?

As "tagged.com" becomes the new fad of my school, I've heard that same question being asked over and over by teachers and student who aren't members of the site. I always hear the same response—a shrug or small silence followed by a humorous "I don't know."

These responses has led me to believe that there is something else about chat rooms that a person just have to experience in order to understand why people are so interested in this.

A while ago, I logged on to a popular Internet site to do research for a school project. It was then that I had noticed the "Yahoo!

Messenger" icon at the top of the screen. I decided to click the icon and a small sign-in window suddenly appeared on the monitor asking for my email address and password. Once I entered the information, the sign-in window faded and two more popped up. One of the two new windows contained news and weather info, and the other contained a horizontal list of options, including instant message, mail check and chat. I clicked "chat."

Pretty soon, a new window appeared, now bearing a list of chat room categories. The list included "Community," "Romance" and "Regional," but none of these cites interested me. However, as I began to exit the window, one category caught my eye, "Schools and Education". I've heard of chat rooms, which allow users to find their high school and chat with classmates or friends, people that you know, and thought I could look up my own. I clicked the category link and small list of chat rooms quickly appeared. I didn't see my school, or any school at all, but I noticed another link labeled "user rooms". I clicked the user rooms icon and what suddenly appeared on my screen absolutely stunned me. A new list of chat rooms appeared, a longer list with each room bearing a very sexually provocative title. I checked to see if I was in the wrong place, but I was not.

As I scanned the rooms to see if I was reading the titles correctly, I noticed that many of them were aimed at young minors. "Girls 18 & younger 4 men 30 and over" one of them read. Out of the 51 rooms on the list, 5 of them included titles that referred to minors and sex. I couldn't help but think pedophiles or child predators created most of these chat rooms.

The next day, a story was featured on the news about Robert Sperlick, a music teacher accused of harassing more than 15 girls at the school in which he worked. A similar story about a former Boy Scouts counselor also appeared.

I thought about these chat rooms and how easy it is for predators to take advantage of minors. Could this be another reason for so many stories of child molestation and abuse in the news, or could the Internet be a play land for these predators?

It turns out that Yahoo does post a Terms of Service message in the second window that appears on your screen when you log on. The message states that chat rooms containing adult content should not be posted in any area of the site but the adult section. However, there were 51 rooms containing adult content when I entered the "Schools and Education" section. The Terms of Service message also stated if a person observes questionable behavior in one of the rooms, it can be reported it to the Terms of Service Customer Support Team.

I wanted to see how safe this site really was for minors. Chatting has become a popular activity with most people I know and probably for thousands of other vulnerable young minors I entered the Romance/adult section. In the user room area labeled "Lesbian" 2 of the 56 rooms bore the titles: "high school girls! 4 older women" and "Young girls for older women" both were occupied by 43 people and three with webcams. In the Romance/adult/gay male section 4 of the 173 user rooms had titles such as "11-17 Horny high school

boys" and "12-16 boys in puberty".

I went back to the "Schools and Education" section and entered a room. Yahoo! chat enables users with webcams to chat and show themselves at the same time. Anyone can access the cam by requesting to do so from the owner of the cam. Of the 8-webcam users of this room, two allowed me to view their webcam.

This was ridiculous. Most of the rooms contained users who claimed to be as young as 12 asking for the company of an older man or woman. Adults did the same, posting such messages as: "Mom wanting hot kids" or "Dad looking for younger son"

In a room of 22 people, a user posted the message "15yr looking to meet up with and older guy." In which two men claiming to be 37 and 29-years-old responded.

When signing up for Yahoo Messenger age verification and term agreement are posted before you can go on. However, a simple click of the "I agree" button does the trick.

I thought about the nine-year-old girl that was raped and beaten earlier this year by an older man. With the growing news of child abuse and molestation along with the growing popularity of chat lines, I wondered if sites such as Yahoo.com are as safe as they seem and if the young people that use them know they are in danger.

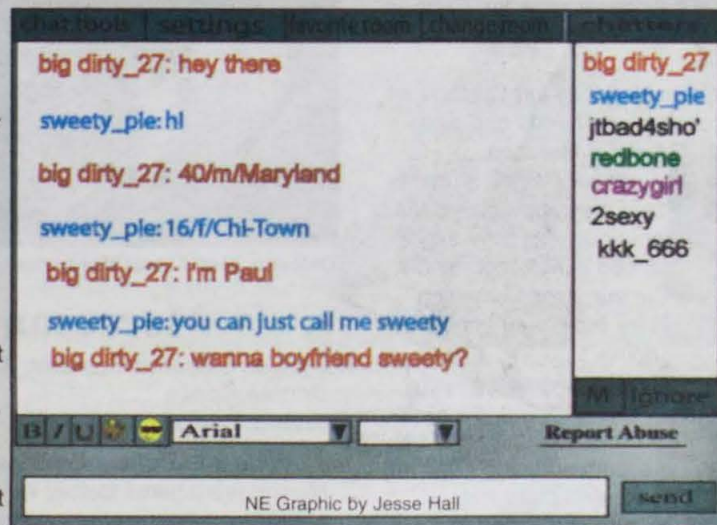


Photo Opinion/ by Dana Young, ACT Charter School

Do you think Internet chat rooms facilitates sexual predators or pedophiles to solicit youth?



**Brittany Wade, 17, junior, Jones College Prep.**  
"Yes, parents should monitor their children's behavior."



**Kevin Russell, 17, senior, Jones College Prep.**  
"Not really, that's what they do on the streets so it's the same thing."



**Joselan Alonso, 16, sophomore, Jones College Prep.**  
"Yes, depending on the type of person they are talking to."



**Miguel Garcia, 16, sophomore, Jones College Prep.**  
"Yes, you can get into a chat room and meet a person, and when you meet them in person and do something stupid, you never know what could happen."



# BEYOND OUR BORDERS

## Chicago Teens Experience Moroccan Culture

By Willow Rook,  
Donnie Moore, and  
Claire DentonSpalding  
Walter Payton College Prep

Fourteen Walter Payton students left Chicago, expecting nothing more than six days of travel, fine foreign cuisine, and shopping. After a dauntingly extravagant visit to Morocco, Walter Payton students began to appreciate the subtle differences between Casablanca and Chicago teens.

Walter Payton students and Peace Journey went to Morocco to visit their overseas sister school named Ben M'Sikh in March.

Before Payton students went to Morocco, they spoke with Moroccan students through two videoconferences and through emails.

When Walter Payton students arrived at Ben M'Sikh High School, students were greeted with a spectacular reception by the teens in Morocco. Payton teens left the tour bus and were greeted with a fast-paced drumbeat and news reporters and cameramen from the three Moroccan news channels.

Payton students searched frantically for their pen pals lost among the sea of curious students. Once they were found their pen pals, they were yanked away from their American peers and taken to numerous classrooms to meet teachers and to see a student art exhibit.

In place of six wheel trucks to transport produce, they had donkey-drawn carts and hand-pulled wagons.

Where there are street vendors selling knock-off Kate Spade bags.

They have peddlers selling fruits, vegetables, and bread. While the United States have eight-story shopping centers and strip malls, Morocco has canopied bazaars.

The 350-foot Twin Center towered over the rest of the city, much as our 1450-foot Sears Tower casts a shadow on Chicago.

The people, however, were surprisingly similar to Americans.

The girls flaunted tight shirts, jewelry, and high heels. The guys strutted around in Diesel designer jeans, baseball caps, and sunglasses.

They sang and clapped on an hour and a half bus ride, and danced to techno music and rap. They laughed at our jokes, despite the fact that they couldn't understand the punch line, and graciously wore the Cubs shirts we brought them although they didn't fit.

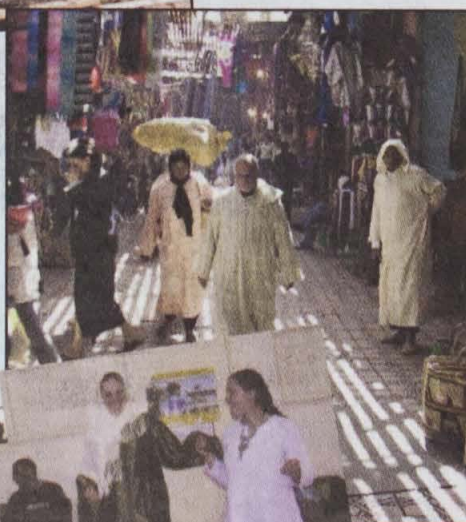
The teens revealed they left Chicago as tourists, and returned as friends and diplomats of Morocco.

Walter Payton students said they appreciated the graciousness they experienced in Morocco, and it far surpasses anything they have ever known at home.

They welcomed Chicago teens into their homes for lunch and tea, accommodating vegetarians and picky eaters. They applauded the Chicago teen's miserable rendition of "It's a Small World."



Photo by Patrick Dhuyvetter



Photos Submitted by Walter Payton



Photos by Lana Fagman



Chicago teens meet Moroccan teens.

Photo by Patrick Dhuyvetter

### Moroccan Youth, Modernity

By Claire Denton-Spalding &  
Donnie Moore  
Walter Payton

What are your assumptions about Muslim teenagers? Before we came to Morocco, we had very skewed assumptions. We thought the youth would be extremely conservative, wearing headscarves and heavy robes. Our books led us to the impressions that the culture prohibited boys and girls from having relationships- platonic and sexual. However, we were dead wrong.

One of the biggest shocks was the apparel worn by Moroccan youth. Instead of wearing concealing garments, most girls wore tight shirts and high heels. A few girls who wore headscarves, but most girls styled their hair. The boys were very stylish. They wore clothing brands like Diesel and Fubu.

We also wanted to know what relationships between boys and girls were like in Morocco. A pen pal, a teen boy named Samir, had a female friend named Soukina, who he introduced as one of his best friends. Ayoub, another pen pal, had been friends with Hind since the beginning of high school.

Another shock was the style of teens dancing in Morocco. The pen pals danced to rap, techno, pop, and traditional Moroccan music. Dancing was mixture of traditional Moroccan

dance, rapture, and American style juking.

We talked with our Moroccan pen pals about topics anywhere from dance to relationships, and found that dance is vital to Moroccan culture.

Ayoub Salann, 18, said, "The Moroccan people say we can't live without bread. Dance is the same thing- we cannot live without dance."

This proved true throughout the trip. During the trip, we danced at least once a day out in public, or at night-clubs.

However, relationships between boyfriends and girlfriends are very different.

Fassy Youseff, 19, said, "To talk with our parents [about relationships] it's taboo. Moroccan parents condemn relationship between sexes that are not platonic- it is forbidden by Islamic culture."

Ayoub added, "In Chicago...you can make sex. But we can't. It's forbidden. We have limits for that."

However, boys and girls still date. Moroccan teen, Fatima, 17, said, with a hint of regret, "I had a boyfriend, I loved him very much. We broke down...we broke up."

When we asked if they were going to raise their children with the same restrictions, our Moroccan pen pals replied "No!" "Never!" "No, no!" Our pen pal's generation will change the face of Morocco.



## Dining with Gelisa

Teens Taste Testing Chicago-Area Restaurants

By Gelisa Smith

A School of the arts @South Shore Campus

It's time to eat! I'm Gelisa Smith, and I will be guiding teens to the full stomach that they deserve. As the latest addition to 'New Expression, I am going to offer readers a brand new restaurant review. I will offer a full-scale look in to the "fab" and the "shab" of inner city dining for teens. I am, now, taking you into my recent experiences with the good and the bad of restaurant dining.

While out with a friend for her birthday, Wednesday, April 20. I'd decided to go to a restaurant that's inside of a hotel. The Ramada Inn, near 57th Lakeshore Drive, is an exquisite dining area in the south end of the hotel area. At the restaurant, a host greeted us and showed us to our seats. Shortly after we were seated, our waiter, Maria, greeted us, and very pleasantly served us. Most of the staff seemed quite comfortable working together, which makes going out to eat an enjoyable experience.

I ordered a Shrimp Fettuccine Alfredo dish, which came with a mix of vegetables, conveniently, named a California Blend, after the sunshine state. At some restaurants the vegetables are sometimes bland, but not here at The Ramada.

The Ramada Inn restaurant was a bit fancy, but for teens wanting to go for a taste of class without spending a wad of cash, this restaurant is a good choice. For family dining I'm sure it would be an excellent place to eat with prom graduation and Father's Day coming up.

I give The Ramada four stars. Two for me, and two by my friend.

Although some Restaurants have a rather kind feel to them, not all places do. A recent visit to a restaurant on 89th & Commercial named Cocula left a rather foul taste in my mouth without even eating the food.



Cocula is a "no" For Gelisa.

Cocula Restaurants are in various places throughout Chicago, and have been around for 25 years. I entered the restaurant with a taste for Mexican food, and I, eventually, left opting for something else.

When my cousin and I entered the restaurant on Tuesday, April 19, we were greeted by a rather sassy waitress and seated at a booth with a window view. It appeared to me that the waitress seemed to be having a rather unpleasant day. She served us chips with a spicy Mexican salsa, two cups of water with ice and napkins.

All was well until exactly 43 minutes went by. We both realized that we had not been served our food. I, previously, asked for the owner, to offer us some information about the restaurant, but this time, I really wanted to speak with him about the poor service. When he did finally come to our table, I asked the needed information and left. If you're going to eat at Cocula, be prepared to make room for your grand kids, because it's going to be a long wait. I give this restaurant one-half star.



Gelisa gives Ramada Inn



Cocula



## The Perfect Classic for Summer Exploration

By Natalia Santillan

Lane Tech

Have anywhere to go this summer? If not, why not explore new worlds with a book? This summer, I urge reading the classic "My Antonia" by Willa Cather. This book, about prairie life in the mid-1800's in Nebraska, is narrated in first person by Jim Burden who looks back to his childhood.

When 10 years old, Jim, unfortunately, lost both his parents in Virginia and so he goes and lives with his grandparents, the Burdens in Black Hawk, Nebraska. Once situated in the country life, Jim meets his immigrant neighbors, the Shimerdas, whom are Bohemian.

The family consists of three siblings, Ambros, Yulka, and Antonia, whom the book is titled for. Antonia and Jim become friends instantaneously and commence their life-long relationship. As Jim grows, he learns life experiences with Antonia. In her company, he becomes more mature, and develops a sense of self-identity. The Shimerda family soon faces a tragedy. Mr. Shimerda commits suicide due to his strong nostalgia. His death brings a significant change for Antonia. She takes up the job of working in the fields along with the men. At this point in the novel, Jim gains a strong admiration for Antonia, and soon falls in love with her. Her strong-willed and passionate character to improve her home life is what Jim admires of her; not to include her beautiful exterior. Jim and Antonia are parted away due to life changes both undergo. Jim goes to college and Antonia stays in Black Hawk, mending for her family.

In this novel, Cather writes in plenty of detail the events, the characters, the relationships, all which compose the novel to becoming very fascinating and intriguing. Cather also portrays the themes of immigrant life and American experiences with great depth. Other themes represented in this novel include the traditional nature of the late 19th century values. Packed with much ethnic

diversity, this book is sure to interest those who wish to gain knowledge of cultures and past history. The tone presented is nostalgic, by Antonia's part, and sad but also optimistic.

If you are anxious to explore new landscapes, landscapes, which have been known throughout American history, this book should be at the top of your summer reading list.

## 'House of Wax' melts the scary away

by Lori Moody,  
Curie High

For those who remember the 1953 Horror classic "House of Wax," ask the question— why remake it? Also ask, why aren't scary movies scary anymore? At least in this film we get to see the very over-rated starlet, Paris Hilton running for her life.

The new 2005 version of "House of Wax," the story begins with the classic scary movie device, with a weekend getaway for six friends. Soon this fun weekend becomes a terrifying fight for their lives. Sounds like something we've seen before.

In the remake of the 1953 horror classic, the group of friends travel to the biggest college football championship of the year, but, as usual, the trip takes a turn for the worse and the friends enter into a horrific run of events. Carly (Elisha Cuthbert), Paige (Hilton), and their friends, decide to camp out for the night before heading to the game. Ooooooh! Don't go in there!

A fight with a mysterious trucker at the camp site leaves everyone unsettled, and Carly has her hands full trying to keep the peace between her boyfriend Wade (Jared Padalecki), and her brother Nick (Chad Michael Murray) who seems to have a problem with her new love interest.

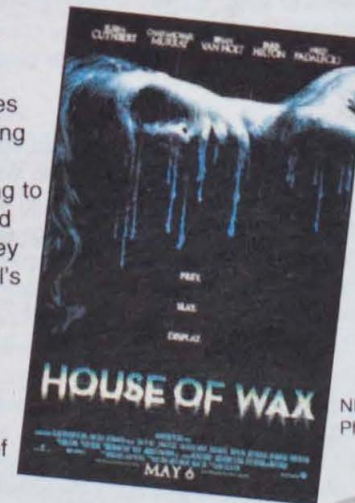
Notice how love always trickles into the plot, but they are all going to die anyway.

They wake up the next morning to find that their car is wrecked, and now their stranded. What are they going to do? They accept a local's invitation for a ride into Ambrose, the only town for miles. When they arrive in town. The crew of friends goes to Ambrose's main attraction— Trudy's House of Wax, which is filled with life

like wax sculptures.

But as they soon discover, there is a shocking reason the exhibits look so real. As the friends uncover the town's dark secrets, they are stalked by a demented killer and find themselves in a bloody battle for survival. The group must find a way out of Ambrose or become permanent additions to the House of Wax.

I personally thought the movie was ok and a decent thriller, but it was not scary enough for horror film lovers. Despite the C+ acting of the very young cast, I give it two thumbs up. It follows the tradition of such horror flicks like *Scream* and "I Know What You Did Last Summer."



NE File Photos

Cast: Elisha Cuthbert (Carly Foster)  
Chad Michael Murray (Nick Jones)  
Jared Padalecki (Wade)  
Paris Hilton (Paige Edwards)  
Jon Abrahams (Johnson Chapman)  
Robert Ri'chard (Blake)  
Damon Herriman (Lester)







# Ask Eyevie

Eyevie McHenry  
Prosser Career Academy

Dear Eyevie,

I have a friend, who I love to death. We have grown up together and are inseparable. We both met this boy who likes me and wants to be with me. The problem is that my friend likes the boys also and wants to be with him, as well. He says that she is too young for him. Now I really like him myself, but we both know that she'll be mad if she knew that we were talking. Please, tell me what to do!

Three's A Crowd

Dear Three's,

What you need to think about is who is more important. Sweetie, boys come and go but true friendship will always last. I understand that you really like him, and he's probably so fine, but you said that you and your friend have grown up together and you both have been friends too long to let a boy come along who is about to break up what sounds like a wonderful friendship. You have to think about your best friend in this situation. The boy likes you. You like him, but your best friend likes him. This should not be a problem. The smartest solution is to do what is best for your friendship. Please, don't let this boy come between you and your friend. There will be other boys, but will you ever have another friend like her? I seriously doubt it.

Dear Eyevie,

I just want to say that I love reading your advice column. You are so real, and you seem as if you always come from your heart with the way you answer these letters. I'm 17 years old, and I just found out that I am pregnant. My family don't know and my boyfriend doesn't either. Eyevie, I am so scared to tell them. In my family and in my community, I am looked at as the "achiever". I am known as the one who "is going places". Everyone in my life expects so much out of me and I feel like I am under so much pressure. I've only told a few close friends about me being pregnant and they all suggest that I go ahead and tell my family. I don't want my family to be disappointed in me. I don't want them to look down on me because they won't be the only ones who will. Teachers, friends, my younger sisters, and even my pastor might be disappointed in me. I can't bear all of those people looking down on me. I am thinking about getting it aborted, but I hate myself for even thinking that and I definitely don't want to tell my boyfriend because I am scared that he might want to keep it. Eyevie I can go on and on about this, but basically I am saying this: What do YOU think I should do?

Scared to Death

Dear Scared,

I really do appreciate that you enjoy my advice so much that you would come to me with this sort of issue when you haven't even told your family yet. My advice to you is this, don't get rid of it. I know how it is when you have so many people who look up to you and expect great things in life for you, but please do not think that you are letting them down by getting pregnant. I tell you not to kill your unborn baby because I am very much against abortions. I abhor the idea of killing an unborn child, but that's just me getting personal. You don't know what kind of life you will be able to provide for this baby so why not go ahead and find out. Tell your family about the baby, they will be able to help you. I know you are scared to tell your boyfriend, but he had a hand in making this baby too so he deserves to know that he is a father-to-be. I know you are scared and are feeling pressure, but don't let those feelings push you into doing something that you might regret for the rest of your life. Discuss it with your family and the baby's father. With their help you can come up with a much better solution than getting an abortion. If you really feel that you cannot take care of this baby then there are so many more options that you can consider such as adoption. Don't let killing it be your only choice. Just think, having this baby and taking care of it just might be one more thing that you are successful at. I would really love for you to email me another letter to tell me what you decided. Bye.

Got a question you need answered? Write "Dear Eyevie"

623 S. Wabash, Suite 207 or  
editor@newexpression.org

Gemini MAY 21-JUNE 21

Aww, your having a little bit trouble on making decision right now. You are not sure whether this decision is for you. But once you make your decision made you'll be happy that you made the choice.



NE  
Horoscopes

May Millon  
Lake View High School

CANCER JUNE 22-JULY 22

Okay, its time to shine. Don't be nervous. It's okay when you let things out. Surely, they'll understand what you feel, and make sure you tell what you really feel about them.



LEO JULY 23-AUG 23

People that surround have big egos, but don't let it affect you because it's not worth worrying for and don't let anybody push you down.



Virgo AUG 24 SEPT 22

You are little bit stress out right now, but don't worry. Friends of yours are their to comfort you. You have to relax for a while to forget all those issues you have.



LIBRA SEPT 23-OCT 23

Some people that surround you are pressuring you to do the things you don't want to do. Well, you are not up to doing it anyways, because you are feeling lazy to do things right now. Just hang on and try hanging out with friends and family.



Scorpio OCT 24- NOV 22

This person likes you a lot, and you like this person back. However you are just as nervous as this person is.



Sagittarius NOV 23-DEC 21

Don't think too much. It will just give you a headache. Just go with the flow. Whatever happens, take risks.



CAPRICORN DEC 22-JAN 20

You are doing nothing this month, which is the best way to forget your issues, just relax and take a deep breath.



AQUARIUS JAN 21- FEB 18

You think that your facing a big issue, but don't worry because you can handle this.



PISCES FEB 19-MAR 20

You're a showing little bit too much of emotion this month. However, you might freak other people out.



ARIES MAR 21-APR 19

This is the time to shine. Don't let anybody to stop you.



Taurus APR 20-MAY 20

Okay so the secret is out, its not the end of the world you know. That person will understand on how you feel about him.





# Fresh Films Creates Future Filmmakers Now

by Whitney Helm

Young Women's Leadership High School

If you ever wanted to be a famous movie star, or a Hollywood filmmaker and thought you had to wait until you get older— you don't, because there's a Chicago company ready to help teens become the next Steven Spielberg or Spike Lee.

Fresh Films which started in 2002, was the brain child of Kelli Feigley, who is the president of Dreaming Tree Films. Winter Fresh, better known as the makers of gum, created Fresh Films to promote and support teen filmmakers through contests and events.

"The idea behind Fresh Films came when we were in the high schools making films with teens," Feigley said. "We started in Chicago at three high school: Sullivan High School, Orr High School, Farragut High School."

Impressed with the talent of the local high school teens, Feigley said she decided to make it a national competition, so in 2004 she made it a nation wide event by allowing interested teens apply online. Feigley explained that the contest successfully, attracted hundreds of thousands of teens to apply. This made the selection process become more difficult. Now, interested teens must submit a 100-word film idea, but no experience is necessary because it is all based on the teens' concepts.

The film ideas are judged by teens on the Fresh Films panel, which will rank the best ideas. When the top 100 entries are chosen, they become films. Fresh Films crews goes to seven cities to shoot and produce the movies.

Feigley said, this year the cities include Los Angeles, Miami, Dallas, Chicago, Minneapolis, Seattle, Washington DC. and three mystery cities. Ten films are made per city. Once all the films are made. A winner is determined on the Fresh Films website. Every week there are two new films to vote for, and the winner will be selected by July 5.

Winners receive the title of "fresh filmmakers," and they are flown to a premiere party in Hollywood. Winners get prizes like Apple Computers.

If teens do not want enter the contest to become a filmmaker there is still opportunities to be a part of Fresh Films. Teens can be apart of the fresh films crew, vote, and do casting calls, according to Feigley.

Voters from the Website are selected once a week, and they can also win a trip. The winner can bring four of their friends to the winner's premiere party.

Not only does the company help with future media, by giving them the opportunity to cast the actors, find locations or to shoot movies, it teaches youth how to help with costumes. Fresh Film students like Jose Velez, 18, explained that Fresh Films help them come out of their shell.

"It's helped me communicate with people. My sophomore year, my teacher told me about the after matter programs. I walked in on my first day and felt uncomfortable and left," said Velez, a Chicago teen. "My junior year, the same teacher told me again, so I went and met the director Espin Feigely and his assistants."

"They taught me how to use the camera and film. The reason I didn't want to do it sophomore year was because we had to act out our own scenes," Velez said.

NE Graphic by Jesse Hall

"You get to learn about yourself."

Velez said he also learned a lot about editing and cinematography.

"With the technology part, I learned how to edit video, and add effects," Velez said.

The teens that participated in 2004 can apply for a 6-week internship to help with the 2005 filmmakers.

"You get to meet new friends from across the country," Feigley said.

Velez agreed, "I have met people I would've never met because of the program. Yeah, I would definitely recommend it in the two years I was in the program I made three films," he said.

Feigley said, "Fresh Films gives the experience you need to break into the world. It's an awesome way to get your foot in the door before college. You'll learn more in one week than after your first year at college."



## NE Teen Guide to Summer Fun in Chicago

**Chicago Blues Festival**  
June 9-12  
6-10:30pm  
Grant Park in Downtown Chicago  
Free Admission



**Lincoln Park Fest**  
June 18 - June 29  
Saturday & Sunday, 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.  
Clark & Armitage

**Taste of Chicago**  
June 25-July 4,  
Grant Park in Downtown Chicago  
Free Admission



**Pride Fest**  
June 26  
Noon to 10 p.m.  
Halsted & Waveland - Chicago

**Chicago Outdoor Film Festival**  
July 13-Aug 24 (Tuesday Nights)  
Butler Field in Grant Park at Lake Shore Drive and Monroe  
Free



**Citizen Kane**  
July 12

**Annie Hall**  
July 19

**My Darling Clementine**  
July 26

**E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial**  
August 2

**The Night of the Hunter**  
August 9

**The Hustler**  
August 16

**Star Wars**  
August 23  
8:09 p.m.



**Venetian Night**  
July 30  
Queen's Landing  
Boats will glide between the Shedd Aquarium and Monroe Harbor

**Chicago Air & Water Show**  
August 20-21  
North Avenue Beach

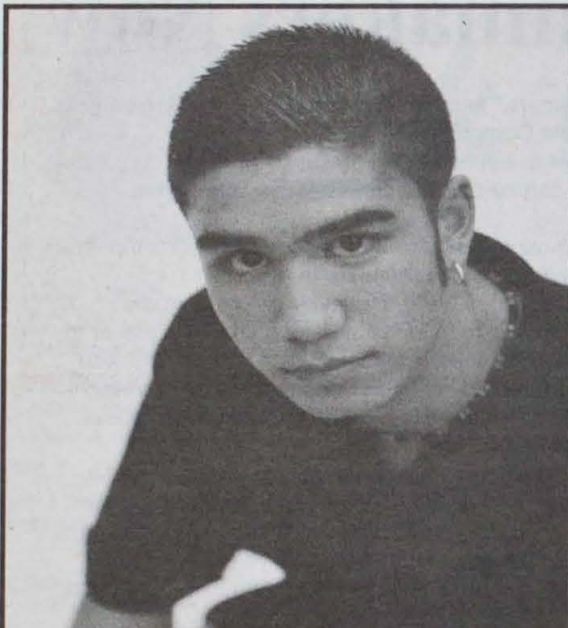
**The 76th Annual Bud Billiken Parade**  
August 13, 2005

NE Photos by Carmen Ordonez



NE Photo by Carmen Ordonez





**Dating.  
Getting good grades.  
Finding a part-time job.**

Being a teenager isn't easy. It's hard to work and still have time for dating and studying. It's easier when you work for UPS. As a Part-Time Package Handler, I know what my hours are so I can schedule everything else going on in my life. The pay is great. Plus I don't have to work weekends or holidays. If only pulling an "A" in Chemistry were this easy.

## Part-Time Package Handlers

UPS Hodgkins  
(I-294 & I-55 • South Suburbs)  
Sunrise Shift • 4am - 9am  
Day Shift • 10am - 3pm  
Night Shift • 10pm - 3am

Shift times are approximate. To learn more about Part-Time Package Handler opportunities and the UPS Earn and Learn® Program, please inquire at:

**[www.upsjobs.com/chicago](http://www.upsjobs.com/chicago)**

or call: **1.888.4UPS.JOB**  
Access Code: 4476



Get as much as  
**\$23,000\***  
in College  
Financial Assistance!

Equal Opportunity Employer  
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## NE CLASSIFIED SECTION

ATTRACT ATTENTION FROM 50,000  
READERS.

BUY OR SELL CARS, DVDs, CONCERT TICKETS.  
SEND PERSONAL MESSAGES.

ONLY \$2.50 FOR THREE LINES,  
\$1 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL LINE.

ADS MUST BE PREPAID BY CHECK OR CREDIT CARD.

EMAIL REQUEST TO : [OFFICE@YOUTH-COMM.ORG](mailto:OFFICE@YOUTH-COMM.ORG)

**CALL 312 922-7150 FOR ADDITIONAL  
INFORMATION**

## NE Teen Business Listing

**The Corner  
Custom Screen Printing  
Phone: (773) 818-6609**

**Emanuel's Tutoring Business:  
Located in the Bessie Coleman Library  
Phone: (773) 449-1393  
Fax: (773) 747-7768  
E-mail: [emanuel\\_mccarter@yahoo.com](mailto:emanuel_mccarter@yahoo.com)**

**Harvest Business Enterprises  
Charles Reese, Senior Executive  
Phone: (708)957-7316  
E-mail: [charles1@yahoo.com](mailto:charles1@yahoo.com)**

*Come and be a voice for Chicago Youth at  
**New Expression***

**Be a part of NE  
Tell us your stories and your concerns as Youth in living in  
Chicago.**

***BE THE VOICE OF CHICAGO YOUTH !***

**We need teens to help us out with next year's  
New Expression Editions.**

**Call (312)922-7150 for more information**





# NE Seniors- Where Are You Going?

**Jennifer Broome**  
NE REPORTER  
St. Ignatius

"I will be studying law at DePaul University for two years and then I plan to transfer to Stanford."

Being at NE, enable to learn that writing is always an important skill and an asset. By being involved with NE I feel more confident in expressing myself with factual evidence, not just my opinions, which is something I feel some people never learn how to properly do.

My hopes for NE is that it remains a ground of expression for youth and that it continues to train youth to properly do so. Journalism is more than rants and opinions. It's a lot of hard work and it is like a jigsaw puzzle. For anyone who is interested in journalism or any field involved with writing, I would advise them to realize that.



**Jeannette Bruno,**  
NE Associate Editor  
Lincoln Park

After this year, I will be going to Carlton College in Minnesota.

NE has definitely helped my writing. I have more people skills and can interview people.

My advice to students in NE is to use the team. There are a lot of smart, capable people working for NE, and teamwork is key. Help each other.



**Katie Burman**  
NE Reporter  
Lincoln Park

I am going to Beloit College after graduation.

NE has improved my writing and research skills.

My advice to underclassmen working with NE is to work together. If you need help, get in contact with a fellow reporter (even before Anita, Phil, etc.) don't be scared to ask for advice.



**Linda Davis**  
Feature Editor  
Crane Tech

I plan to go away to college, mabe become a talk show host. What the hell, I want to be the next Oprah!!!!!!

I learned that responsibility comes with patience and determination.

Stay focused. Sometimes when you go into something and you are not sure if you are capable, motivate yourself, because what you don't like about your writing, someone else will. Never get a job that you don't feel comfortable about because you can never put your all into something unless you feel it within.



**Kenya Hunt,**  
NE Reporter  
Chicago Vocational

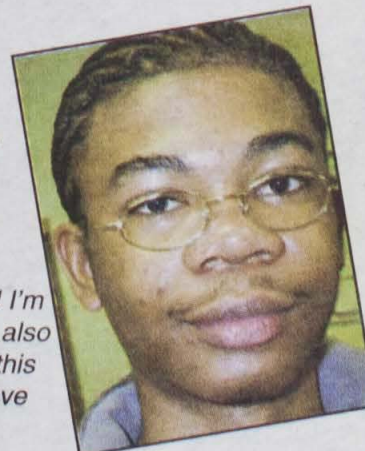
Will attend Columbia College Chicago.



**Jesse Hall,**  
NE Co-Graphics Editor  
Crane Tech

I will be starting college in July at International Academy of Design and Technology (IADT) here in Chicago. I will be studying Interactive Media.

I would like to thank NE for showing me the ropes to success and the way to my future. I've had the greatest fun of my life here, and I'm sure that the next person to come along will also have fun. I know that when they leave from this place to move on to a new level they will leave with a bag of knowledge in their hands.



## Letter to the Future

Even *New Expression* has to do a goodbye to the graduates, so start humming "Pomp and Circumstance," as you read.

Seriously though, our senior staff members are going on their way to pursue college dreams and embark on terrific futures. We are glad you were with us for the school year and stuck through all the ups and downs. These teens have definitely shown me what it takes to stay dedicated and focused no matter what obstacles are arising.

These young professionals taught NE staff, past and present, a thing or two about teamwork, commitment and maturity. As serious as I can be sometimes, the teens opened up my heart, and, reluctantly for me, let out the teacher inside of me. These teens stuck out the hard times and they motivated me to continue the tradition of the late Sister Anne Heinz's mission for NE. Not only must youth be heard and understood, but also youth voices must be appreciated and taken seriously. Youth must be taught to use their voices.

Who says teens are too young to understand the world around them, or to care about society and issues they must face in this world? I know that they do. I have seen their progress, and I have witnessed their growth. All youth need to hear is the words, "Yes, you can!"

These teens grew, not only as writers or graphic artists, but also as enlightened individuals questioning the media around them, and exploring their curiosity through reporting. These are skills they will use forever, and that is nothing to take lightly. Look out world!!! They are indeed prepared for the future.

NE seniors, you will be missed and cannot be replaced. Jesse, Jennifer, Kenya, Jeanette, Katie, and Linda, go forward into greatness. Hope to see you there at the top!

As you pass your torches to the underclassmen staff to continue the tradition, remember (as cliché as it sounds) be the best you can be. Remember deadlines, deadlines, and deadlines. Remember, crazy NE nights, even if we had to throw together a cover in one hour in a "MASH operation" remember the good times.

The staff of Youth Communication wishes you all the luck and success in all of your endeavors. Please keep in touch, and let us know your stories. Congratulations! You are NE Alum. Make us proud.

**Love Always,**  
Anita P. Bryant  
NE Editorial Advisor





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**DVDS**  
- NATIONAL TREASURE  
- THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA

**MOVIES**  
- CRASH  
- HOUSE OF WAX  
- KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

**CONCERTS**  
- COLDPLAY  
TIME:  
8:00 P.M.  
PLACE: METRO



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**MOVIES**  
- MIND HUNTERS  
- UNLEASHED  
- MONSTER IN LAW

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**MOVIES**  
- STAR WARS: EPISODE III REVENGE OF THE SITH



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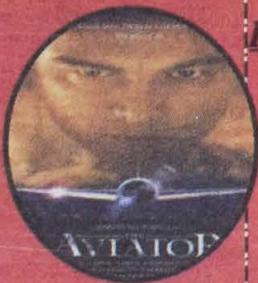
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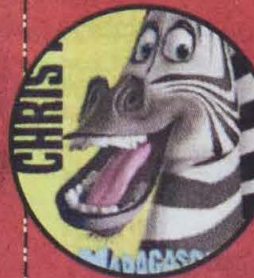
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**DVDS**  
- THE AVIATOR



**MOVIES**  
- THE LONGEST YARD  
- MADAGASCAR

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**MAY**

TELL YOUR TEACHER YOU APPRECIATE SLEEPING IN THEIR CLASS IT'S "BETTER SLEEP MONTH" AND "TEACHER APPRECIATION MONTH". GO ON SLEEP.