

The Rainbow Edition

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Education Laboratory School

Charter Schools Top Public Schools on Statewide Exams

By KU'ULEI BABA

Charter schools are defined as, "...public schools that have their own school boards and operate under a charter, or contract, with the state giving them more autonomy over their affairs, they are also designed to provide alternatives to the regular public schools." But as many of us know, a charter school is so much more than that. It is also about the quality of education you receive while attending a charter school. Here at the Lab School, we are often unaware of the high quality curriculum, teachers and education that we are exposed to. The Hawaii State Assessment test, however, proves to our state that the Education Lab School scores higher than regular public schools because of a different approach to education.

The test scores for the 2004 Hawaii State Assessment and the SAT-9 were made known to the Board of Education (BOE) and included data from the 3rd, 5th, 8th, and 10th graders tests from charter schools (refer to charts). These scores included all charter schools, which make up only 2% of all schools in Hawaii. On the SAT's (Stanford Achievement Test), many charter school students scored "above average" for each grade level.

The third graders of charter schools scored well compared to the public school students. 56 percent of charter school students scored remarkably well in reading compared to the 47 percent in reading for public schools. Third graders of charter schools scored 36 percent in math, compared to 27 percent for public schools.

Fifth graders of charter schools excelled as well. They scored 64 percent in reading, compared to 50 percent for public schools. But the scores for both charter and public schools were almost identical when it came to math, as there were 24 percent for charter schools and 23 percent for public schools.

Charter schools tenth graders outscored public schools tenth graders with the highest differential. 59 percent for charter schools in reading compared well to the 40 percent in regular public schools. While math was the same story, as 27 percent for charter schools and 19 percent in public schools.

At the national level, charter schools fared quite low compared to public schools. A recent comment made by U.S. Education Secretary Rod Paige suggested that the results of the national average were flawed. How the results or the research done to achieve the results were flawed, he did not specify. In large part, the No Child Left Behind Act counteracts the poor results, therefore holding teachers, administrators and faculty accountable. The Education Lab School is also bound to this law and must adhere to the strict rules and guideline concerning certain issues involving students and curriculum. Many of the teachers here feel that the positive results of the tests taken by Lab School

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A New Face in Politics

By BENNETT GUIRA

Barack Obama was born on August 4, 1961 at the Queen's Medical Center in Honolulu, Hawaii. Obama lived here with his parents Barack Obama, Sr. and Ann Dunham until they divorced when he was two. Obama moved back to Hawaii when he was ten and lived with his grandmother Madelyn Dunham and half-sister of our very own, Maya Soetoro. They both attended Punahou School together when they both lived here.

Ms. Soetoro explained, "He's my brother. We share the same mother, though our fathers are different. His father was Barack Obama Sr., a Kenyan economist who met our mother at the East West Center. My father was our mother's second husband after she divorced Obama. Soetoro was from Indonesia and in the late 1960s the family moved to the island of Java where I was born."

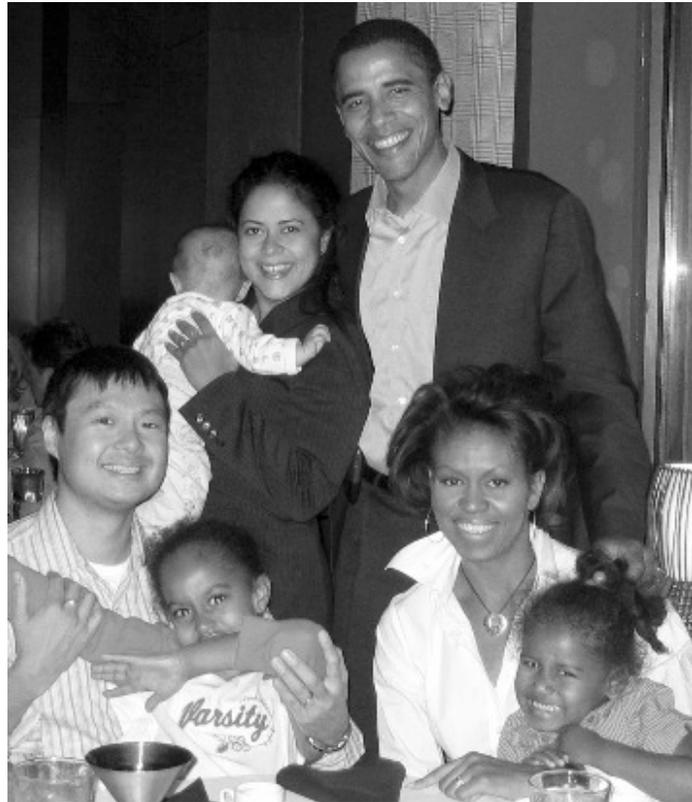
Ms. Soetoro also added, "In many ways our relationship was like that of any brother and sister. I irritated him by standing in front of the TV when he was trying to watch a basketball game. We hugged and bickered in equal measure. But since Barack is nine years older than I am and my mother and father divorced when I was nine years old, at some point he became my mentor and guide. He gave me a lot of the advice and council that a father would give. He showed me life's treasures and helped me to make fewer mistakes as I was growing up."

Obama first graduated from Columbia University with a degree in political science and

a specialty in international relations. He then attended Harvard Law School and graduated magna cum laude, and he was the first African-American to be president of the Harvard Law Review.

Besides his impressive educational background, Obama has also been a great community leader in Chicago. After graduating from Columbia, he became a community organizer in Chicago's toughest neighborhoods. He assisted church groups to form job-training programs, he helped improve school areas, and improved city services. After graduating from Harvard, he became a civil rights lawyer in federal and state courts, focusing on voting rights and employment discrimination cases.

Obama, a Democrat, is now the Senator of Illinois' 13th Senate District on Chicago's South side. During his campaign for U.S. Senator of Illinois, he defeated his Democratic rival in the primary, Blair Hull. His Republican opponent, Jack Ryan was forced to dropout of the race after Republican leaders questioned his integrity.



Photos courtesy of Ms. Soetoro

The families of Ms. Soetoro and Senator Obama dining together after his recent election win



"He showed me life's treasures and helped me to make fewer mistakes as I was growing up" -Ms. Soetoro

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The “Chan-man”

By KATHY JETNIL

“Are we together?” says a tall, thin man with dark, black hair as he turns from a chalkboard to face a room full of high school students. “Yes,” mumble the students in unison as they take out their math books and begin their math problems. It’s a normal class day under the teachings of Mr. Raymond Chan, a math teacher here at the Lab School.

Mr. Chan, known affectionately as the “Chanman” by many of his students, has been a Lab School math teacher for two years. Currently fulfilling his lifelong dream of becoming a math teacher, he’s worked hard to be where he is now.

Mr. Chan has known since he was eight, growing up in Hong Kong, that he wanted to teach math. He came here to Hawaii to major in math at the Brigham Young University six years ago, at the age of twenty-two. In just two years, he managed to complete college, instead of the usual four years.

He became a teaching assistant to his professor at college and then started his teaching position here at the Lab school.

Math is universal in every language and math is what helped Mr. Chan persevere, even though he had trouble speaking a second language: English.

“I had to take special-ed courses...it was so boring,” groans Mr. Chan, who speaks fluent Chinese. He quickly overcame the language barrier, however, and soon graduated from these special-ed courses. Although his English is not top-notch, and has had his spelling corrected by students once in a while, he never fails to help his students learn more about math. He not only found the language and culture different in America, though, but also found the education system very different in America than in Hong Kong.

“[In Hong Kong] there is a lot of [high] respect for teachers...here it’s more informal,” he says, citing the fact that teachers here can have normal conversations with students and can even play basketball games with students, something Mr. Chan has been known to do.

Not only is Mr. Chan a math teacher, but also a Math Team coach. He hopes to one day have math team classes and AP Calculus classes in the future. Outside of school, he takes Education classes to learn how to teach students even better. Outside of work, he likes to spend time with his family, especially his two-year-old daughter, Alysha.

He smiles when asked how he enjoys teaching, saying, “I like teaching students because we can share the knowledge that we have...it is fun, working with young kids. Makes me feel young.”



Photo courtesy of Mr. Chan

Alysha is the “Chanman’s” biggest fan

A Kid At Heart

By AMBER SOTO

Through her 15 years at the Lab School, Mrs. Sally Murchison has earned a place in the hearts of many of her students, probably because she's just a kid at heart.

"I've been in the clay community for a long time," she says, although she won't go into specifics. She says what motivates her to get up and come to school everyday is the fact that she likes working with clay and she likes being able to share her talents with us, admitting, however, that teaching kids can be quite frustrating because we like to talk so much.

"I do like teaching young adults most of the time," she says, and we know what she means by most of the

time. Her voice can be heard ringing through the classroom with scolding ranging from "stop throwing clay" to "that table over there, stop talking", but no matter what happens, at the end of the day she can't deny that she loves us all dearly.

Ms. Murch, as she has become known around school, lives in Moili'iili with her husband, a biology teacher at McKinley High School. When she isn't in school covered in clay, she likes to go the movies with her husband or hang out with friends. Her favorite thing however, is traveling and her dream vacation recently became a reality.

Speaking of her time in England she says thoughtfully, "Its lonesome and beautiful, and it was the first time in my life I had a sense of age. It's thousands of years old and I can never know that kind of age in my lifetime."



Photo by Amber Soto

Ms. Murchison in her natural setting

Her love of England and Scotland perhaps parallels her love for rhinos and at any given time she can be found working on at least one rhino inspired piece. She said the pieces she is most proud of were rhino inspired. In fact, for the past 10 to 15 years, every art show she's been in has featured rhino pieces, whether it is based on their conservation or endangerment.

"I believed that rhinos, like all animals are endangered, should be able to live," she says. When she can, she donates money to Wildlife Conservation in Kenya, believing that all people should make an effort in some way. "I just want Kenya and the rest of the rhinos left in the wild to benefit from what I do."

"I really like teaching because I get to meet a lot of really neat people and I really enjoy working with the students and teachers at this school," she says. That's nice to hear considering many of us couldn't imagine being taught ceramics by anyone other than Ms. Murch. There are perhaps few people in this world that share Ms. Murch's passion for ceramics and even fewer who possess the power to motivate students to love clay almost as much as she does.

High Times at the Lab School

BY KATHY JETNIL

Pot, weed, herb, grass, chron or chronic, blunt, Mary Jane, boom, sticky green, Bombay, Indo, frosty leaves, spliff, dagga, bomb, schwag, dank, tress, or doja. Whatever you call it, marijuana has become increasingly common, especially among high school and college students. In 2002 a poll was taken that showed that 19% of eighth graders, 39% of sophomores, and 48% of seniors admitted to trying marijuana at least once. But is marijuana smoking just as common here among Lab School students?

Marijuana is usually smoked in either hand rolled cigarettes called a “J” or “joint,” or stuffed into an empty cigar called a “blunt.” It can also be smoked in pipes or “bongs” made of glass, metal, or wood. Another variation is to be brewed as a tea or to be mixed into food (such as “special” brownies).

Sally*, Jesse, and Jill, juniors here at Lab school, admitted to trying marijuana along with Clyde, a senior, and Julie, a sophomore.

“I’m not, like, addicted. I’m not like, ‘Oh, I need to smoke weed.’ I figure, you know, a lot of people do it,” says Sally. “It’s not like in those ads where we go through our grandma’s purses and steal money to buy pot...I wouldn’t go and find some random drug dealer.”

Sally started smoking last year out of curiosity and has since smoked on weekends. Clyde, on the other hand, first tried it at a party when “a hot girl walked over with weed and offered it to me.”

“I won’t seek it out, but if it’s in front of me, I’ll do it,” insists Clyde who tried it two years ago, used it around two or three times a week, and then quit a month ago.

Of course, there are other reasons to do it besides curiosity.

“I had ended a bad relationship and I really needed to take my mind off of things,” explains Jesse, who started smoking at the beginning of sophomore year and has since only smoked once a month because, “I don’t like having to hide it [from my parents.]”

The effects of smoking marijuana vary widely with every use, but the most common range from peacefulness and euphoria to feeling silly or paranoid. Physical changes include red eyes, an increased heartbeat, a dryness of the mouth, and increased hunger (“munchies”).

Jill, who first tried it in the eighth grade, describes her first time getting high. “At first I felt kind of dizzy,” she starts, “and then I just started laughing, at everything. Everything seemed just really, like, funny all of a sudden. Like I felt dizzy, you know, but really relaxed. Everything felt, like, relaxed and okay and then my throat got really dry and I got really hungry.”

However, marijuana is illegal and cannot be used or purchased by anyone. The consequences of using marijuana can include arrest, prosecution, and incarceration. So how are these students able to attain any of it?

“Friends - upperclassmen friends,” says Julie, who tried it in the ninth grade.

“My friends, who get it from cousins or older friends, and my cousins,” says Jill.

“I’ve never bought weed...[but] my friend [from another school] is a drug dealer and I’ve seen him give weed. I’ve seen him, like, sell it in these bags,” says Jesse.

Long term effects of smoking marijuana can be respiratory problems along with damage to parts of the brain that influence memory, pleasure, thought, concentration, time perception, and coordinated movements. Smoking can also lead to respiratory cancer. It also may lead to experimentation with other, more lethal, drugs. So why do so many people use marijuana, knowing the long-term affects?

“They do it,” explains Julie, “because it doesn’t hurt you, like, right now...it’ll probably affect me only later on so I don’t really care right now.”

Jesse, however, has noticed some effects of smoking it. “I noticed this year that I’m not as motivated as last year,” she admits.

Julie’s attitude, while considered destructive by most, is common among marijuana smokers. And most of them also agree that marijuana should be made legal.

“If they make alcohol legal, I think weed should be made legal also,” says Sally.

There has been a recent push by marijuana supporters to legalize marijuana in many states. Arguments against legalizing marijuana are: it decreases brain activity, there will be an increase of crime, it’s the stepping-stone drug to more serious, more lethal drugs, it will increase the use of it among youths, and that it’s dangerous and causes lung cancer.

continued on page 14 *Names in this article were changed to protect the privacy of the students.

Eating Off Campus

By GARTH SODETANI

For many dreadful years, seniors have been denied the privileged of exploring the outside of our prison for food. Up until 2002 seniors were able to roam free searching for lunch off campus. "I think we should be able to buy lunch off campus because it wouldn't hurt," said Senior Marisa Oshiro.

"School lunch is very routine so we should be allowed off campus," explained Senior Lucian Holyfield. This is true; school lunch can get tiring after a while. We as seniors should be able to change up our food intake since it's our last year in high school. We should be allowed to go off campus and enjoy out food. There are those lower classmen who say we shouldn't be allowed off campus because they can't go, but I say they'll be seniors someday and they'll get to go off campus if the rule is changed.

Of course a story wouldn't be a story without the other side. There are some seniors who don't care and some seniors who even say it's a bad idea. "It really doesn't matter to me because we don't have that much time anyway," commented Senior Bennett Guira. Time is always a factor since we only have 45 minutes each day to grab our lunch and eat it. Plus lunch is also a period to get caught up with homework or go in to see a teacher for help.

Senior Florendo Corpuz, Jr. said, "I would not want to go off campus because it's too dangerous." This is also a factor we may seem to forget. We as seniors could be kidnapped walking to and from school. If you take a vehicle you can also get into a crash.

Everybody has his or her own opinions. From the poll I took, every five out of six students said that seniors should be allowed to go off campus. That's telling you something.°

School Shut Down

By LAURIE TAU

Rainy weather, wet roads, and storm clouds shut The Education Laboratory School down for a day. On November 1, 2004 Laboratory students had an unexpected day off. The rainy weather running into the weekend was one of the key elements for the schools temporary closure. The storm strengthened on October 30, 2004, when flash flood warnings

were issued to all Manoa residents including the University of Manoa. Some Laboratory students were at the Halloween dance as this broadcast came out. It stormed all night, over flowing the Manoa stream, damaging the University of Manoa, and flooding many peoples houses. Residents in Manoa who were greatly affected by the recent flooding are still recuperating their losses.

The University of Manoa shut down its system on November 1, 2004 because of the destruction that the storm caused, it caused over 2 feet of water flooding the halls, damaging several classrooms, and ruining many important documents stored in Hamilton Library. An important source to all University Manoa and Education Laboratory students. Due to the closure of the University The Education Laboratory was also shut down, you might already know that our school system and schedule follows the University of Hawaii's schedule(the Lab school did not suffer any detriment from storm).

Several uninformed students arrived at school on November 1,2004, a few wondered why no one else was there until the news finally hit them that school was canceled. Word traveled from student to student on Sunday October 31, 2004 about the sudden shut down of the Lab School the next day to prepare them for the temporary closure. It was quiet a hassle for parents because the students who came to school needed to get back home and their parents had to come back and pick them up or they would have to catch the bus. While the students who were informed slept in. It's very important that all students and parents are aware of the current school schedule because it is an inconvenience for everyone. Make sure you call the administration to confirm rumors. Lab school students resumed school on November 3, 2004 after Election day.

sources-http://www.prh.noaa.gov/hnl/Products/LSRHI_1101841920.html

New Fee on Beverage Containers

By CHELSEY VILIGER

\$0.65 for canned sodas and \$1.25 for bottles. Well not anymore! Since November 1st there has been a \$0.06 fee put onto beverage containers, and starting January 1st Hawai'i will start a new beverage container law. So start saving those nickels and pennies...you'll need them!

The fee will be added to aluminum cans (soda, juice, tea, coffee, beer, malt beverages, mixed spirits, mixed wine) and all glass and plastic bottles (same requirements as cans) that hold 64 fluid ounces or less. The only beverage containers you are safe from paying extra for are the 2 liter bottles; those are not covered by the law. The fee will be \$0.06 for each container. That adds \$1.44 more to a 24 pack of beverages. The reason for this increase is that the state needs more money.

If you take your containers to a certified redemption center you will be able to get a refund deposit of \$0.05. The fee is actually more hassle for you! Instead of dumping your containers in a local, easy to access recycle bin, you must pay ahead an extra \$0.06 for your beverage, drink it, dump the excess, remove the label, collect them, FIND a certified redemption center (only a few on the island), stand in line, put all the containers in one-by-one, get a deposit, then finally after a trip to the bank you can get your money back...and you don't even get all of it back! You are paying more for working more...something is fishy here! So...will this new law work????

For more info go to: www.HI5deposit.com

74 Cents to the Dollar

By SHAUN PEARCE

Everyday a man gets his paycheck, for every dollar earned, a woman with the same job gets an average of 26 cents less than he does. That means that a woman is paid 74 cents for every dollar that a man earns. Eventually, the 26 cents missing from the average woman's paycheck adds up to big numbers. Each week, the average woman is shorted \$148 and a 25-year-old college educated woman will lose \$523,000 because of unequal pay throughout her working life. Even though women make up almost half of the working force and many have attained an education equal to men, the wage gap is still consistent.

This difference in pay not only affects women, but families as well. Working families in America alone lose \$200 billion annually because of the persisting wage gap. This means the average family loses \$4,000 a year. More than 50% of single mothers in America would be lifted out of poverty if equal pay for equal work was made a law.

On the average, Asian women are paid 80 cents for every man's dollar while African American women are paid only 63 cents for every dollar earned by a man. Even worse is the fact that Hispanic women only get 54 cents to every man's dollar. That is almost half of what men get paid. That may explain why poverty within these racial groups is such a big thing even in America.

25 years ago, women on the average earned 59 cents for every dollar. That means that women have started a movement towards equal pay of half a penny per year. Another inequity is that, on the average, women get lower pension benefits, about less than half of men. A 2003 report on women's earnings that examined 17 years of data found a 20% wage gap between men and women that couldn't be explained, including factors such as occupation, industry, race, marital status, and job tenure. Hopefully, in time, equal pay rights are accepted as law and the wage gap closes up so that American citizens continue to become equals with one another on all fronts.

Are You Depressed?

By **MARISA OSHIRO**

Depression. It is the saddest feeling in the world. Have you felt it before? It seems that more and more teens are plagued by this disease. There are a number of contributing factors towards depression. It could be hormones, family loss, peer pressure, and in some cases, there is no reason at all.

After interviewing many teens regarding depression it seems that most of them have experienced it. One senior girl explained what her feelings were. She said, "I separated myself from others and every day I would wear a mask to hide my sad feelings." Many teens feel the same way this student does. She continued, "Behind the mask, I really wanted to break down and cry." When asking others if they had ever experienced depression, many did not feel like talking about it. So if you are going through rough times in your life, you are not the only one. It may seem that everyone is happy and perfect, but they all have their measure of problems also.

Although the effects of depression are devastating, there are ways to endure through it. Keeping busy was a popular solution for many. Going out with friends who will encourage you, working out, and staying active will help keep your mind preoccupied. If you feel that you are too deep into depression, try to get some help. "Deciding to get treatment...can make all the difference," said Depression.com.

Some, because of not relieving themselves of their depressed state, have resorted to easing their pressures in other ways. One student coped with depression by cutting himself. "When you are cutting your wrist, you don't really feel any pain," the student said. Hopefully, depression has not gotten the best of you so that you turn to cutting yourself. If you do, seek help. It is never too late. The example of this young student had a happy outcome. Because his parents eventually found out of his long-kept secret, the student received the counseling he needed. Now, he is a healthy, handsome young man and does not regret seeking help. We urge you to seek help if you ever feel extremely overwhelmed to the point that your life could be in danger. Although it may take a lot to confess your feelings to your parents, in the end, it will benefit you in the future. You are sure to have a much happier life, a life without depression.

10 Reasons Why You Should Move to Canada

By **CIANNA CHUN-MING**

Did you ever think of moving to Canada? Well, since this year's past election, it's been on a lot of Americans' minds. Many simply can't stand the thought of having George Bush as our president for another four years. Many Americans were hitting up the Canadian Immigration Web site to look for an alternative to the American lifestyle. Americans mostly dislike the way that the country's headed, especially with the Bush administration in control.

Well, here are a few reasons, as posted by www.canadianalternative.com, on why the "Canadian alternative" is a good one.

1. Canada has universal public health care.
2. Canada has no troops in Iraq.
3. Canada signed the Kyoto Protocol environmental treaty.
4. More than half of Canada's provinces allow same-sex marriage.
5. The Canadian Senate recommends legalizing marijuana.
6. Canada has no law restricting abortion.
7. Canada has strict gun laws and relatively little violence.
8. The United Nations has ranked Canada the best country to live in for eight consecutive years.
9. Canada abolished the death penalty in 1976.
10. Canada has not run a federal deficit since 1996-97.

Teen Suicide

By LAURIE TAU

Teen suicide is the second prime cause of deaths among college students, and it's the third prime cause of deaths among young teens, aged from 15 to 24 years old. Teen suicide rates have tripled since 1970. In every two homicide cases there are three teen suicides. In every hour and forty five minutes a young teen commits suicide. These are statistics of teen suicides over the past couple of years. In 1997 17,566 teens used a gun to commit suicide while 13, 522 homicides were committed by using guns. 90-95% of teens who commit suicide have a psychiatric illness such as depression. In 2001 there were 30,622 deaths caused by teen suicide, in 2002 there were 132,353 hospital treatments for teens who had tried and failed to commit suicide, in 2004 there were 116,639 suicidal emergency treatments for teen suicides. 55% of suicides were committed with a firearm in 2003.

There are many ways to tell if you or your friend is at risk of being suicidal. A mental illness: 90% of suicide victims have at least one mental illness diagnosed as depression, substance abuse, and conduct disorders. 15% of suicide victims were in medical treatment at the time of their death. Previous attempts: 26- 33% of suicide victims have had a previous attempts to commit suicide. Stressors: studies have found that teens who have experienced a recent disappointment or they just got in some sort trouble are more likely to become depressed because of pressure. Firearms: having a firearm around the house increases the probability of a teen suicide. That's why it's important to secure all firearms in the house. Suicide victims ages 10-24 years old have used a firearm to commit suicide.

Signs of being suicidal or knowing someone who is suicidal:

- previous attempts
- verbal or actions of suicide threats
- giving away their prized possessions
- evidence of information about suicide methods
- artwork, written work, or any expressions about death
- being helpless and angered at their self or the world
- talking about how good life would be if he/she were gone
- any scratching or self-inflicted abuse
- sudden changes in behavior(depression)

Signs of being depressed:

- appetite changes
- activity level decreases
- their sleep pattern changes
- lack of interest in things he/she likes to do
- social withdrawal
- thinking about death

ALL OF THESE SHOULD BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY

Treatment

Most parents don't fully understand a depressed teen. Teens give out confusing signals to their parents because they don't want their parents to know. Parents and friends need to be aware of these signs because the risks are too great if they ignore them. Teens who are in trouble and need help should seek

- local hospital
- psychologist
- police station
- a nearby church

Many teens have tried to commit suicide and have regretted it when they failed. Here is one true story of a teen who has tried to commit suicide but failed. How it all started: A young teen was troubled and had nowhere to turn. So she turned to depression, guilt, pressure, and death. There were so many demands on her. She had emotional stress, peer pressure, parental demands, trying to please everyone around her.

The Curse of the Bambino Ends in Magical Four Games

By BENNETT GUIRA

After 86 years and 31, 458 days of waiting, Red Sox fans can finally be happy once again because their beloved Boston Red Sox won the 100th World Series after sweeping the St. Louis Cardinals. October 27, 2004 will forever be remembered in the baseball world as the day that the curse of the Bambino officially ended. It was just a week ago that they were three outs away from being eliminated by their archrivals, the New York Yankees. Other than fans, nobody believed in the Red Sox because everyone thought that the Yankees would surely beat them. But, the Red Sox were able to pull complete the greatest comeback in sports history. After being down three games to none to the Yankees, they came back and won the last four games to go to the World Series. That had never been done in baseball's long history.

After witnessing what happened, who couldn't help but cheering for the Red Sox to win the World Series. Ever since the Red Sox traded Babe Ruth to the New York Yankees in 1918, it is said that they were cursed because of it and that they would never be able to win another World Series. But this year's team did not listen to the curse and just played to the best of their abilities, and in the end, the best team won.

Game four began with a leadoff home run by Johnny Damon. In the end, the Red Sox beat St. Louis 3-0 behind great pitching by Derek Lowe, who only allowed three hits in seven solid innings of work. Throughout the series, the Red Sox never trailed the St. Louis Cardinals once. They are the fourth team in baseball to do that. The Red Sox led ever since tying the score in Game five during the series against the Yankees.

The Series first two games were at Boston's Fenway Park and after two Red Sox wins, 11-9 and 6-2, the Series moved to Busch Stadium in St. Louis. The Red Sox then went on to win Game 3, 4-1 and finally won Game 4 in a shutout, 3-0. The Red Sox outscored the Cardinals 24-12. The three big hitters for the Cardinals; Jim Edmonds, Scott Rolen, and Albert Pujols, combined for 5 hits in the entire series. The Series MVP award was given to the Red Sox's Manny Ramirez who went seven for seventeen with one homer run and four runs-batted-in.

The celebration began right as the final out was recorded. The Red Sox players rushed onto the field and jumped around in pure joy. The stadium was filled with cheering fans, and around Massachusetts fans were also celebrating. The dream has come true for many Red Sox players and thousands of Red Sox fans, some who have been waiting for this moment their whole lives. Finally, we can say, The Boston Red Sox are the World Champions.

Pac-5 Water Polo Steps Up

By GARTH SODETANI AND SHAUN PEARCE

The Pac-5 boys water polo team astonished all high school water polo fans. In the ILH tournament the boys rolled over the "Buff n Blue" who were the regular-season champs. In turn this caused a playoff which would determine the league's supreme champion. Last year the Wolfpack hadn't won a single game in the season. In eight years they had only won about four. This year was a real turnaround. They were able to conquer the "Buff N Blue" who in the last three years had won 27 of their games.

The boy's practiced twice a day every day, once in the morning before school and once after school. This whole season the Wolfpack was seen as a pushover team. They were always the underdogs in each game they played. It seemed that no one believed in the team, except the team. They worked hard every practice, always giving nothing less than 100%. The hard work finally paid off, which definitely showed with an outstanding record of 6-2, losing only to Punahou twice in the regular season. But the defeats to Punahou finally came to an end when the Wolfpack challenged Punahou for the ILH tournament championship. Winning by a score of 5-4, Pac-Five made history making this win its biggest win. We asked our very own water polo player, Kelly Noecker, what it felt like when they beat Punahou: "The feeling was so great, it's almost indescribable."

The Wolfpack almost won against Punahou yet again, this time to claim the ILH title. During the beginning of the game, the score was up at 3-0, our Pac-5 water polo team boys in the lead, but the game ended with Punahou

“Crossfire”

The Democratic Party - Out of Touch with the Pulse of America?

Who Gets the Last Laugh?

By ANDREW WHITE

Since the Democrats lost the presidency many could argue that they are “out of touch with the pulse of America.” Well of course when you consider moral values the pulse of America, it’s easy to affirm that statement. Polls showed pretty decisively that moral values were pivotal in tipping the scale in the president’s favor on November 2nd. Both sides voiced their opinions on moral issues like abortion, stem-cell research, gay marriages and unions, and on election day 51% of our nation decided America wasn’t ready for John Kerry. About half the country is against gay marriage, which matches the statistic of those in America who call themselves Christian. Kerry and Edwards were for gay unions, but still believed that marriage should be kept between a man and woman. It puzzles me as to why moral values came out on top, in the face of more urgent issues like the war in Iraq, the plummeting job market, and the deficit. This highlights how skewed our views on important issues are.

When I think of the pulse of America, I think of America’s youth. I think of how most issues that are cause for discussion concern young people. The heart of America lies in high schools and colleges around the nation. Eventually we’ll be the brains behind all that goes on in this country. It’s in this area that the democrats hit the mark. The democrats have been very good about reaching out to young adults, even those not of voting age, stirring ideas and planting the seeds of progression in their minds. Thankfully record numbers of young people turned out on election day; almost 52% of 18-29 year olds voted. I find reassurance in the fact that 54% of these Americans supported John Kerry, and will one day be running this country. In fact the 18-29 year old demographic was the only one that voted for Kerry decisively. This is a solid indication that our country will eventually move in the right direction. Bush’s second term *is* a setback, but after the next four years, the future looks bright.

The Democratic Party: A Joke

By ROB PHILLIPS

The 2004 election is over and the Democrats have lost everything. The house, the senate, the gubernatorial majority, and the Presidency. Republicans control the country for at least the next 2 years. This huge loss has shown that there is a huge flaw in the Democratic Party. The flaw is that they are simply too liberal and whiney for mainstream America.

John Kerry was a very sad candidate for the Democratic Party. He had no consistency, no balance, and a much too socialistic agenda for America. As this election year has pointed out, the Democrats supporting John Kerry were extreme radical liberals. If the Democratic Party’s most conservative speaker is Ted Kennedy (loud, angry, outspoken liberal) then it should be a sign that they need some major reform. Unless the Democratic Party can pull up from its far too left leaning views, the Republican Party (or another?) will be at the head of America for the next few decades.

This year’s Democratic candidates did a horrible job at speaking out to the people. The focal point of their campaign was to pump anti-Bush sentiment throughout America rather than focusing on the issues they were going to bring to the table. By doing so they scared the majority of America, including fellow Democrats. If the Democrats stopped their vitriolic hatred of our President and put some good, strong plans down on the table they might have won the Presidency (at the very least.)

Dear Editor,

I read your article on censorship and had a few questions. Do you feel that the school administration is censoring what is published in The Rainbow Edition, and if the answer to the prior question is yes, how is this censorship taking place?

I am the chair of the Local School Board that governs the Education Laboratory and I am interested to know if there is censorship occurring with the school newspaper. If there is censorship going on prior to the paper being published with certain articles being eliminated or censored, then that is a "prior restraint" of the exercise of First Amendment rights, which is not always a violation of the proscriptions of the First Amendment, but must be looked at with strict scrutiny, because a "prior restraint" is always suspect of being a violation of the First Amendment.^o Of course, high school newspapers are subject to more censorship than college or newspapers of general circulation, because the school has the right to protect minors from certain information.

I am a former school newspaper editor, when I was at the Lab School the paper was named the "Ke Kupina'i," so I am sympathetic to unreasonable censorship of the newspaper.^o However, it appears from the articles in this month's paper, that is no censorship of the newspaper.^o This month's paper has articles that address: teenage bisexuality and homosexuality, with an interview of a Lab School student that openly admits his homosexuality and wants to see how the school responds to it; universal military conscription, aka the draft; the Honolulu Mayoral race.

From the headline to your article, it appears that you may be confused between censorship and what you coin as "the right to know." Censorship is a "muzzling" of speech and if done by the^o federal government is a violation of the First Amendment and if done by the state or county government is a violation of the 14th Amendment and the First Amendment.

Unlike free speech, there is no constitutional right to know or to obtain information from the government or an individual.^o In fact, a person (unlike a government) has a right under both the federal and state constitutions to privacy. This means that the government can't force an individual to disclose information about themselves except in limited circumstances. However, there are state and federal laws that require that some governmental information must be disclosed to the public. One such law is called the Freedom of Information Act.

Please tell me if there is censorship of the school newspaper.

Best regards.

Charles K. Y. Khim, Esq. (UHS Class of '72)

Dear Editor,

I am writing in reply to last issue's article "The Value of Entertainment." It says in the editorial that current media promotes talentless artists. The writer takes stabs mainly at mainstream hip-hop music. He is saying that mainstream hip-hop music is all about promoting drugs, violence, and sex. Not all music in this genre has songs full of these issues. Songs with these issues are not promoting these issues. The artist just wants to express his/her feelings about something that they have experienced.

When we hear about someone's experience about drugs in songs, they are just trying to express what they experienced in a creative way. Rappers such as Jay-Z and 50 Cent have said that they are not telling you to do what you hear in the songs, but learn from what they have to say and not get yourself into an unfortunate situation. They go on television and in magazines talking about their imperfections. They are people too and they make mistakes. We all learn from our mistakes and become stronger because of them.

They have come from tough neighborhoods and this is what they really experience in their every day lives. Many of us who listen to this type of music have not experienced anything as bad as what these artists have experienced. Music is art and the artist are expressing what they feel through their music. Just because we do not agree with the ideas of the artists does not mean that we should put down their music. We should be open minded about things and not criticize a song the first time you hear it.

It is the listeners choice to do drugs or to commit a crime. The artists do not go out into our neighborhoods telling us do do drugs or have sex. In the end, it is ourselves that we should blame for all the bad things we do. We should not blame others for our mistakes but take responsibility for our actions. Listen to what you want and do not put down other forms of music. Especially when you listen to that type of music too.

Sincerely,

Anonymous Senior

Dear Editor,

I just finished reading your article on, "A Step Out of the Closet" and Jared's "coming out". I am a former UHS grad student and this was the first issue that I've ever read on line. During my years at University High School, I also worked on our newsletters and I must say there is a definite improvement since then.

The reason for my letter is that your article of Jared hit home with me. I am not gay or bisexual but I am a Christian and I have a brother whom I just found out 3 years ago is gay. He is my half brother but I consider him my full brother because we grew up together. He came out of the closet 6 months prior to his father dying of cancer. With most of my family members as Christians, you can imagine the impact on us as well as the difficulty that my brother was going through.

With all that said, I find your article heartbreaking because it puts Christians in such a bad light. We all have flaws and problems that we deal with in life and God somehow always gets the brunt of our own destruction. I want you and Jared to know that as Christians, we believe what the bible says is true but it doesn't mean that we are above everyone else that doesn't believe. It is within everyone's own heart of what right and wrong are and it is God who puts it there. I love my own brother just the same if he were straight but I do know that he also goes through his own feelings of right and wrong.

In your article, I feel that you didn't include just the basic factor that society as a whole, also put their own stigma on the homosexual community. There was a murder in the Bay Area a couple of years ago of a transsexual that got "caught" being a male instead of a female which he impersonated and was brought out to a fence and was beaten to death by non-Christian high school kids. This was a cruel and vicious hate crime that they had done and could be another reason why homosexuals need to hide in the closet.

I know what it's like to be on the other side of finding out that a loved one is gay. I always knew others that were gay (especially living in San Francisco) but when I found out that my own brother was gay and I had my Christian view, it was very hard to deal with. Nonetheless, I love my brother and I'm sure that Jared's parents love him too. Society puts together laws and if those laws are broken, there are repercussions and it's the same way in God's natural laws.

If I could just give Jared some word for thought, let him know that his parents still love him dearly and that to keep his heart open to them too.

Thank you for your article and I hope you find what I wrote worthy of your consideration in painting Christians in a different light.

Sincerely,
A proud UHS alumni
Name withheld by request

Dear Editor,

When I first received the October issue of The Rainbow Edition in my e-mail, to be perfectly honest, I wasn't looking forward to reading it. Don't get me wrong, I love to read, especially if it's about my old school and people that I know. But, I was just stacked way up over my head with homework and studying that I had to do. Initially, I expected that the paper would be just like any other issue: a couple stories on entertainment, sports, and maybe one or two "serious" articles. But, as I skimmed over the table of contents and began to read the paper, everything seemed to catch my eye and there wasn't anything that I wanted to skip over. To me, The Rainbow Edition is better than ever.

All of the articles were interesting and I couldn't stop reading the paper until the very end. The stories covered dealt with subjects that I'm interested in and about people that I knew. There's nothing like reading a good newspaper from front to back, and that is exactly what I did. I really loved it!

It will be difficult to make the next Rainbow Edition even better, but I know that the staff will be able to find important, relevant subjects to write about. Great job on the paper, everyone! Good luck and continue to search for truth (and those juicy stories!).

Shannon Kim (ELS, Class of 2004)
Former Editor, The Rainbow Edition

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students reflect the unique style of teaching and curriculum here at our school. The difference is often that Lab School teachers educate within their own concentrated areas of expertise and enjoy their subjects.

A recent effect of the No Child Left Behind Act has also sent a handful of our teachers back to the classroom, as students! Some of these teachers hold Masters and PhDs, but lacked the license to teach. However, because of the flexible diversity of our teachers, they've gone back to not only to adhere to the new laws, but approach it as fulfilling another educational chapter in their life. Armed with their teaching licenses, teachers will also be able to teach at any public school in the state, which was not an issue before.

Compared to the other charter schools in our state, ELS is the top school. This is partly due to the fact that many of the charter schools in Hawaii have just started within the last few years. ELS has had a long standing reputation as a school that fosters unique and gifted students and has successfully maintained a higher level of education throughout its constant transformation. I think a lot of people that attend our school are not aware of how lucky we are to attend the Lab School. Although we may have the smallest population, and the longest school day, in the end, it's all about the education right? So now we have another reason why we are proud to attend the Lab School.

Website used: <http://starbulletin.com/2004/09/03/news/story1.html>

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Arguments for legalizing marijuana are: it creates pacifism and relieves stress, decrease of crime rate since it will eliminate the need of an underground subculture, it has medicinal value, there are no recorded deaths caused by marijuana smoking, and it enhances creativity.

While the legalization of marijuana would be welcome news to some individuals, certain users may be disappointed including Julie who says, "I think it's more fun, to, like, do it illegally."

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She finally cracked in the beginning of 2002, overdosing on an over the counter drug: aspirin. She took as many as 15+ pills at a time, hoping for the worst. She was scared and regretted her decision to kill herself; luckily she survived. She also had inflicted pain and injury on herself; cutting and slashing is also a sign of depression. She had dug herself into a huge hole from which she could not escape the shadows of death. Her recovery: She started to be more connected to God and her church, she let a few close friends in on her near brush with death. They helped her become more aware of her choices and of her feelings.

Now looking back at what she did, she feels stupid and lucky that she ever thought about doing that to herself. There is still stress and problems she must overcome, but this experience has made her a stronger person. She is now capable dealing with her own problems without going through depression.

SETTING IT STRAIGHT

-Daniel Sugai graduated in 2004, not 2003 as printed in the last issue

-The 13th Amendment to the Bill of Rights abolished involuntary servitude, not the 4th Amendment as published in Andrew White's article "Will There Be a Draft?"

*Happy Holidays from The
Rainbow Edition Staff*

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Mike Ditka, former NFL Coach, was going to be the new Republican candidate but he decided not to join because of family and business reasons. Alan Keyes, from Maryland, was nominated by Illinois Republican Chairwoman, Judy Baar Topinka. It looked like Obama was guaranteed a win because of his growing popularity around the state of Chicago. In the end, Obama won almost seventy percent of the vote.

Ms. Soetoro was there when Obama gave his winning speech. She said, "It was intense. The crowd roared, leaped, shouted, sounds spiraling. Barack deals with that on a regular basis but it was strange for the rest of us to be on stage and to get a taste of what he experiences on a routine basis. Barack is quite a superstar in Chicago and I was happy to see so many young people (teens and even younger) ask for his autograph, giggling with excitement in his presence. I haven't witnessed that kind of enthusiasm about a politician (or that kind of engagement with politics) from teenagers in a long time (perhaps never)."

Obama is very well-liked and respected much throughout our nation because of all his accomplishments that he has. This past year, he became the third African-American to give the keynote address at the Democratic National Convention. After winning his race, Obama became only the fifth African-American Senator in our nation's history. Right now, Obama is also a law professor at the University of Chicago.

On her brother becoming the Senator, Ms. Soetoro commented, "I feel immensely proud, of course. He's a deeply intelligent and thoughtful man and I'm certain that he'll do a great job in the senate. As you know, I have a new daughter, and I'm grateful that he'll be among the lawmakers who are deciding matters of great weight and consequence for my daughter's future."

Obama first became involved with politics when he was voted onto the Illinois State Senate in 1996. During his time, he helped to provide the poor with benefits and passed bills for increased funding for AIDS programs. In 2000, he ran in the Democratic primary for Illinois' 1st Congressional district but he lost to the incumbent Representative Bobby Rush.

"The irony is that my decision to work in politics, and to pursue such a career in a big Mainland city, in some sense grows out of my Hawaiian upbringing, and the ideal that Hawaii still represents in my mind," said Obama.

Obama is gaining more and more support across the country and it is believed that he could run for president as soon as 2008. He is a very passionate speaker whose the people can relate to.

Ms. Soetoro said, "He and his family occupy an enormous place in my heart. Especially since our mother died, he has been a close friend and confidant. He is a constant source of unconditional love."

Remembering their childhood, Ms Soetoro told me, "He has always been both practical and romantic about life. He has always been gregarious and fun loving but at the same time introspective and thoughtful. He has always loves to read and write and has always loved sports. He has always been both generous and competitive. He has always had a bossy streak but he knows how to listen too. He is complex but his needs are simple. He has always been a part of many worlds and cultures."

As you can see by Obama's numerous accomplishments and his loving relationship with his sister, he is very qualified to be the Senator of Illinois. Since he was born in Hawaii, it shows that any of us can become anything we want to be. We can follow Obama's example of working hard and striving for what we believe in, and one day we could make a difference like he has.

"I truly believe that there is another tradition in this country that says we're all connected somehow," states Obama.

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winning its fifth ILH title in a row, the score at 5-4. "After we lost, the feeling was the exact opposite of what we felt when we beat Punahou," spoke Kelly Noecker in an interview. We also asked how they felt after the big game and he said, "We were so close, but then we noticed we could play with Punahou, so next year we intend to practice much harder."

The heavy rain didn't help the teams' pool down at Mid-Pac, where water rose to stomach-high levels and the whole athletic department was in deep waters. The pool was muddy and thrashed by the heavy stream of waters flooding down the football field, through the pool and past the locker rooms. Even through thick and thin, the Pac-5 water polo team managed to give us one of the most exciting water polo seasons yet.



'Rob'bing The Mind

By ROB PHILLIPS

Military Conscription: Scare Style!

Don't let the far left scare you: the draft is not going to come back. The current armed forces estimate vows that we have around 3 million voluntary forces in the United States Military. We only have around 140,000 troops stationed in Iraq as of 10/25/2004. 140,000 out of a huge chunk of 3 million troops does not seem to be a cause for concern that conscription will come back in any time soon. Now the reason why you have been hearing so much about this draft bill is because the Democrats wanted to scare the voters in the 2004 election. Senator Democrat Rangel of New York brought the bill of conscription, HR 163, to the Senate floor for the purpose of voting on it. Rangel suprisingly voted AGAINST the bill he brought up to the senate (as well as the majority of the congress did with the exception of 2 Democratic senators voting for the bill). Now, doesn't this tell you something? The fact of the matter is Rangel brought the bill to the floor to purposly scare voters into thinking that the government would bring back the draft and that one should vote for John Kerry/the Democrats to fight against such a bill.

Well, for one, the bill must be passed by the Republican Senate before it moves up to the Republican House of Representatives. And if for some strange reason it passes in the H.O.R.'s it will move up to the President's desk and he will make the decision on whether to vote for it or not.

If it can not even pass in the Senate then the military draft seems very unlikely. The blatant scare tactics of the draft are being used as a political ploy, a bait to scare our nation's children for the purpose of politics. Why does the left do this? I suggest you ask them some day.

**If you have any comments on this or any other article,
you may send an email to: rainbowedition@gmail.com**