

Special Interest Newsletter

-Cedar Cliff High School-Spring 2005-

-Produced By: Susanna Bagdasarova and Amy Rundle-

-Teacher: Ms. Angela Maxton-

Best of Show Goes To States For History Day

Cedar Cliff is very proud of senior Beth Mumper for her victories at the Regional and State History Day competitions and the West Shore Expo. The History Day competition gives middle and high school students a chance to delve deeper into history and create in depth research projects under a select theme chosen annually. This not only allows students to learn more about history, but it also gives them important research skills. In Beth's case, she applied technology and computer skills while she created the project on the computer editing program called Final Cut Pro. Beth worked on this as a Special Interest project combined with her Economy and Government class.

At the regional competition on April 9 at Messiah College, Beth's History Day project received a second place. Beth focused the project titled "Changing the Channel on Political Advertising," on televised political advertising and its effects on government, society and the elections.

She showcased several presidential candidates of the past and showed the gradual development of televised advertising. Her project, a multimedia entry themed "Communication, The Key to Understanding," also received "Best of Show" at the West Shore Expo, a computer and technology competition for West Shore students.

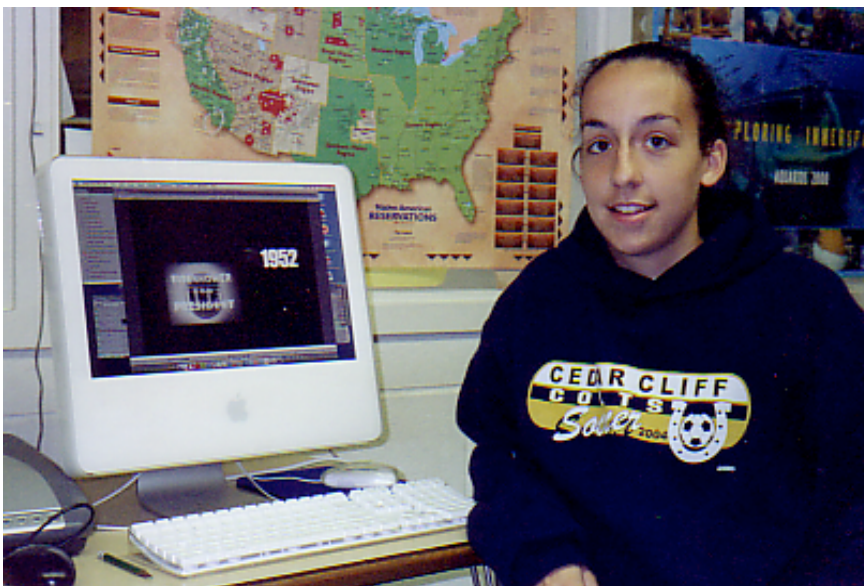
But Beth's success didn't stop there; she went on to the State History Day competition and placed in the top six on May 11 and 12 at Penn State University. "It was a great experience," she says about her wins. "It was hard work, but it was worth it."

Beth encourages other students to participate in the annual History Day at Messiah for its hands-

on application and unique learning experience. This was Beth's first year competing in History Day, and she is amazed at her success. Congratulations to Beth for her astounding successes with her project.

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Beth Mumper in front of her project: Changing the Channel on Political Advertising.

Olympiad Team Advances to States

Congratulations to the Cedar Cliff Science Olympiad team for snatching a fifth in the regional competition at Lebanon Valley College on March 4. A team of fifteen students participated in over twenty events dealing with the hands-on application of science and technology. Coached by Ms. Maxton, the team prepared for their events by building, designing and studying during Special Interest Independent Study, flex, and at home, making sure they knew the information for each event. Events ranged from forestry to robotics; chemistry to physics and were staged as interactive competitions among schools. The team members were extremely excited about their win and looked forward to more success at the state competition.



Greg Potteiger receives his silver medal for remote sensing at states

The team was comprised of the following students: Kilash Anthraper, Joe Buszka, Jennifer Butts, Josh Frisch, Leslie Gordon, Steve Hyder, Robert Kosarowich, Ben Leach, Allison Miles, Mike Mumper, Adam Piontowski, Alex Getty, Greg Potteiger, Alex Rovnyansky, Melany Sponseller and Tim Uhrich along with judges, Mrs. Diehl, Mr. Young, Mrs. Plassio.



The Science Olympiad team at States at Juniata College

Our regional medals are as follows: second place to Josh Frisch and Melany Sponseller for Robot Ramble; third place to Robert Kosarowich, Jennifer Butts and Leslie Gordon for Mission Possible; third place to Ben Leach and Adam Piontkowski for Bottle Rocket.

The team also placed in the top ten in seventeen of twenty-five events, advancing them to the state competition. Moving on to the state competition at Juniata College on April 29, the team of Robert Kosarowich and Greg Potteiger received a second place in the remote sensing competition.



Robert Kosarowich and Greg Potteiger smile about their silver medals at States.

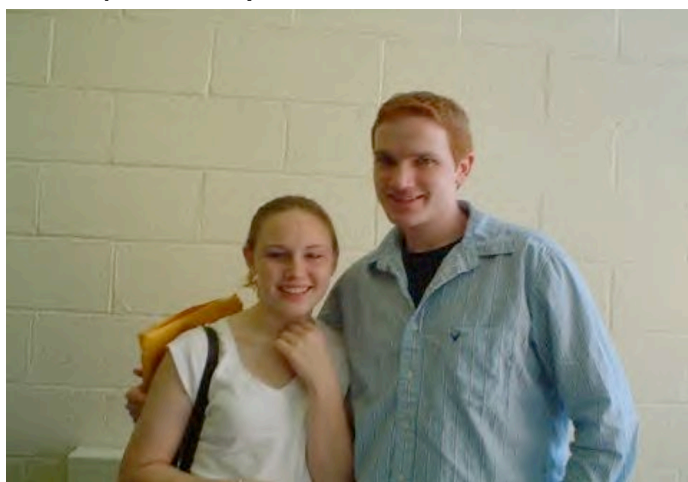
All the students enjoyed the opportunity to travel to the State Science Olympiad competition, especially Greg, one of the state winners. Greg says, "I really wasn't expecting to win at States! But this has really inspired me to try to excel at other things I'm not sure about." Kudos to the group for their wins, until next year!

Shakespeare Takes the Cedar Cliff Stage Once Again



"As You Like It" Cast

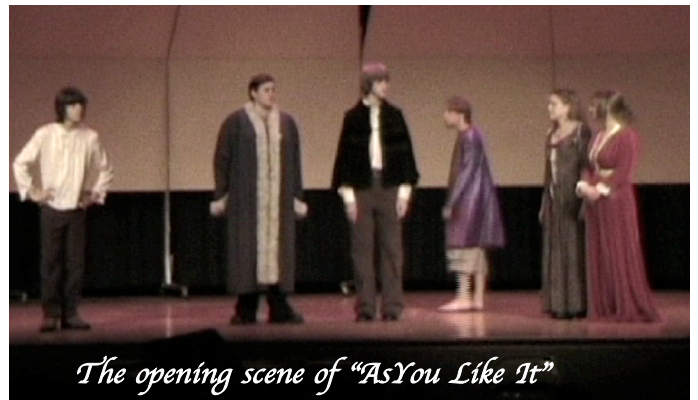
This year's annual Shakespeare play, *As You Like It*, was performed May 10th at West Perry High School. The West Perry Special Interest program hosts this annual Shakespeare Festival for middle and high schools. The play, which is a romantic comedy, was adapted and directed by George Leach and Emily Moore. The two seniors worked hard on adapting and shortening the original play into the allotted hour. George and Emily worked on this as a year long Special Interest project completed during flex periods and are proud to see it come to the stage. "This turned out really well," said co-director Emily Moore. *As You Like It* is an amusingly confusing maze of romance and love, strung together with Shakespeare's wry satire.



*Co-directors Emily Moore and
George Leach*

The play is a comedy written in the famous pastoral style, which pokes fun at life and human nature. The actors who participated: Erin Pizoli, Brian White, Ellen Abbott, Susanna Bagdasarova, Joe Zurat, Charity Walker, Joe Helman, Caity Hoffman, Justin Shaffer, Emily Davis, Derek Ansel, Michael Wagman and Michael Podvin, were very excited about portraying Shakespeare's classic characters. "Shakespeare is really something else when it comes to acting," said Brian White.

Cedar Cliff students also appreciated the opportunity to see a Shakespearean play come to life. *As Romeo and Juliet* is part of the freshman English curriculum, many English classes came to view the dress rehearsal for the school on May 9. Brianda Freistat, a student who attended the play says, "It was really, really, good. Our school has a lot of talent."



The opening scene of "As You Like It"

Independent Study

Special Interest students have the opportunity to take the Special Interest Independent Study class as an elective for grade and credit. Here are some descriptions of student projects:

Block One:

Dan Avetta, Grade 9- Having researched Roman battle strategy, and made a lovely presentation, this student is now researching Cold War Submarines.

Travis Dirle, Grade 10- Travis worked on Photoshop to create original artwork and is currently using Imovie to create an original movie.

Peter Lindhome, Grade 9- He has used Flash and learned new techniques in Photoshop. He is creating a documentary using imovie focusing on the 101st airborne division spanning from WWII to present.

Block Two:

Ellen Abbot, Grade 10- Currently preparing for the SATs.

Susanna Bagdasarova, Grade 9- Completed an essay on Ayn Rand's novelette Anthem, wrote a speech about the persecution of sciences, and wrote an original screenplay entitled "Cries of the War Torn" with Michael Podvin and Michael Wagman. She has just done this beautiful newsletter.

Jon Cohen, Grade 9- This student created a power point presentation on cryptology and is currently composing an original score for the play "Cries of the War Torn."

Sarah Mumper, Grade 9- Wrote a resume, competed in various writing competitions, worked on the Painter Classic computer program and is now researching Elementary Education.

Michal Podvin, Grade 9- Created a power point presentation on Mad cow disease and the subject of Agriculture and Biotechnology. He collaborated on the screenplay for "Cries of the War Torn" with Susanna and Michael Wagman and is now researching Armenia.

Michael Wagman, Grade 9- Collaborated with Michael Podvin on the Mad cow disease power point and helped in the creating of a screenplay for "Cries of the War Torn." He is now creatively writing.



Amelia Rundle, Grade 9- Completed an essay on Ayn Rand's novelette Anthem, researched the Civil Rights Movement and is right now at this second writing this sentence for this gorgeous newsletter.

Mod Three, Grade 10:

Leslie Gordon, Worked on the Science Olympiad categories Mission Possible and Forestry and is now creating a house plan using the software Design Center 3D.

Rachel Marchand, Wrote a resume and prepared for the advanced placement history exam.

Andy Murray, Is using Flash to create an original animation of Edgar Allen Poe's "The Raven."

Greg Potteiger, Prepared for Remote Sensing in Science Olympiad and completed a tutorial in Photoshop to create original art.

Natalie Sabadish, Preparing for the SATs.

Deryn Varney, Preparing for the SAT's.

Brian White, Researched Exotic Japan focusing on language and culture and is now doing an original flash animation.

Proud of P.R.I.D.E.



Thanks to three Cedar Cliff Special Interest Students, Cedar Cliff is once more advertising its incentive program P.R.I.D.E.

The students: senior Tim Uhrich, sophomore Josh Frisch, and junior Alex Heigl created three outstanding videos using Imovie to promote the program.

These videos used interviews of students in combination with the creators' outlook on the program to convince students to join.

P.R.I.D.E is an incentive program that allows students to receive prizes for doing well in school. If you watched the videos, broadcast on Channel One in the mornings, you would know!

Thanks again to Tim, Josh and Alex for bringing a little interesting advertising into our midst. If you would like to join P.R.I.D.E., pick up an application in Mr. Cauffman's office.

STUDENTS SCORE SECOND AT COMPUTER FAIR

On Wednesday, March 16, three students' weeks of effort culminated in the 2005 Pennsylvania High School Computer Fair. Josh Frisch and Mike Weitzman, tenth graders, entered a digital movie entitled "Evil in a Bottle," and Josh also entered a computer fair logo design. Jon Cohen, a ninth grader, entered a multimedia presentation in the form of a power point project about cryptology. Josh's logo design won third place. Josh and Mike won a second place award for their movie, and while Jon did not place, he did win an "outstanding use of technology award" at the A.V. Expo at the ACE building on a different day for a musical composition done on Garage Band Software. Beth Mumper won Best in Show at the same A.V. Expo.



Josh and Mike pose with their second place plaque.

Josh wrote the script for "Evil in a Bottle," and had won a certificate of merit for it in the 2004/2005 scholastic writing competition. He and Mike worked for over a month during their special interest time, putting together their movie, a twenty minute short about a boy named Ben who accidentally swallows a bottle full of evil. Josh said that he thought they did well, especially since "I didn't really make it for that...it was more for my own purposes."

Mathletes Take Third

All year round, students from the high schools sharpen their math skills for the PA Math League Competition. Six tests of six advanced math questions are given to the participating students by advisor Ms. Angela Maxton throughout the year. The top five scores from each test are then sent to be compared to the scores from other schools. This year, Cedar Cliff High School received a third place from the PA Math League in Cumberland County.

The high scorers from test five are: Kevin Eckhart, Robert Kosarowich, Mike Mumper, Ed Mily and Jon Cohen; the top score from the last test was Robert Kosarowich. Congratulations to each student for his/her competitive math skills and success in the league.



Summer Fun

The summer is quickly approaching, and everyone is preparing for the free time. Some of you are planning to go to camps and come back with lots of stories starting with "This one time, at band camp..." and some of you are traveling to Paris or Italy. Some of you have jobs lined up or plans for more great projects. And some are just looking forward to lounging around and relaxing for three months.

Whatever your plans, we hope you have an awesome summer and that you come back next year ready to fill the newsletter with all your great activities.

Young Ambassadors?

On April 12, two teams of students traveled to Penn State York for a simulation of a United Nations assembly on the subject of Central African nations. Each person was assigned a country as well as a ministry of which he was a part. This year interest was high, and two teams went to the competition. The simulation was based on recent crisis developments in Africa. The countries that the students represented: Burundi, Rwanda, Angola, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo; as well as two organizations: MONUAC and the FDLR; all play a key part in current political and social problems in the Central African Region. Students from each participating school were part of a council for a certain country and from there had to work with their country and other countries in a crisis control situation.



Team 1: Lauren Jones, Andrew Sweet, Stephen Hyder, Colin Reynolds, Dave Walters, Alex Rovnyansky



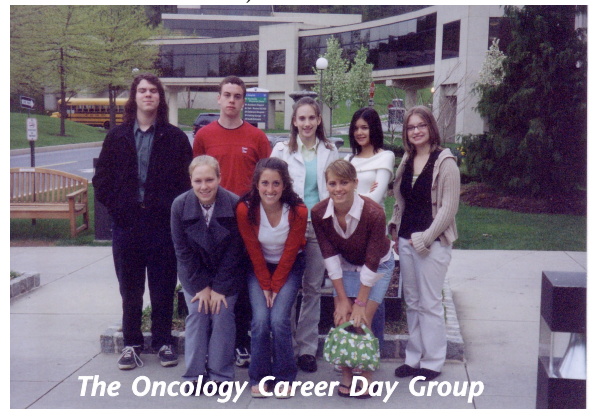
Team 2: Susanna Bagdasarova, Ellen Abbot, Caitlin Wood, Noah Whelan, Peter Lindhome, Ben Leach

The students were given challenges and, they learned leadership, diplomacy and decision making skills while trying to find peaceful solutions to the problems. They researched and prepared for this event during their Special Interest time.

The Model UN participants: Ben Leach, Ellen Abbott, Susanna Bagdasarova, Andrew Sweet, Lauren Jones, Colin Reynolds, Steve Hyder, Caitlin Wood, David Walters, Alex Rovnyansky, Peter Lindhome, and Noah Whelan enjoyed the crisis challenges set for them. Colin Reynolds, a representative for Rwanda, called the simulation, "Very chaotic but very fun." This is the first year that a crisis challenge simulation has been tried for the Model United Nations, and the students felt that it taught them a good deal about realistic emergency situations and how to cope with them.

Careers in Oncology

Greg Potteiger, Kate Shelly, Ellen Abbott, Kristin Phillips, Rachel Marchand, Natalie Sabadish, Steve Hyder, and Nicole Minhas boarded a bus April 25 in the early spring morning. They were heading off to Oncology Careers Day at Hershey Medical Center, a seminar on professions in the field of cancer research and treatment. Students picked their areas of interest from such sample careers as Laboratory Technician, Oncology Physician, Medical Social Worker, and several others. After a 45 minute speech on the subject "What is Cancer?" by Dr. Michael Verderame, students split up to attend speeches by professionals in their chosen topics. Following that was an opportunity to ask questions of a panel of experts representing many of the different careers in cancer research and a speech on "Directions in Cancer Research and Treatment" by Dr. Harold Harvey. Students then ate their boxed lunches and went on to hear professionals talk on their second selected interest group. At 1:45 it was all over, and students headed home after a day that Ellen described as being "A lot of fun. It was very informative," she adds.



The Oncology Career Day Group

Author Profile



John Anthony Wilson was born February 25, 1917 in Manchester, England. His mother died in 1919 when he was only two, and he was brought up by an elderly aunt and a stepmother. He attended Xaverian College and Manchester University, graduating from the latter

Burgess in his later years

in 1940. He served in the

English military in World War Two and worked as an education officer in the far east.

Despite his fame as an author, his early love was music, and he composed several pieces while working as a teacher. In 1959, he collapsed in the classroom. The doctor diagnosed him with cancer and gave him a year to live.

Fearing for his wife's financial safety, John chose the pseudonym Anthony Burgess (Anthony was his middle name, and Burgess was the middle name of his mother) and began writing. His first novel was published in 1965, though he wrote it nearly 20 years earlier. His most famous novel, A Clockwork Orange, was published in 1962. It showed a future world ruled by teenage criminals, focusing on one named Alex, and told in an invented slang that is a mixture of Russian, archaic English, and current slang. It raises the question of whether choosing to be evil is better than forced good with no free will. This question is picked up in Enderby, published in 1968. The Earthly Powers, published in 1980 is considered his finest novel, though not as famous as A Clockwork Orange. Most attribute that book's fame to the 1971 movie by Stanley Kubrick. This movie was poorly received by critics but gained quite a cult following.

Burgess also wrote under several other pen names and was once asked to do a review on a book he had written as John Kell. The newspaper requesting the review obviously had no idea that John and Anthony were the same people. He was also known to write angry letters to editors of papers as an elderly Muslim man.

Anthony Burgess died on November 25, 1993, 33 years after his original death sentence, after publishing over 30 novels and countless newspaper reviews, columns, essays, and editorials.

"If a man cannot choose, he ceases to be a man..."

Knowledge Master Open Success

On Tuesday April 19, 17 students participated in the spring international computerized academic competition: Knowledge Master Open. The students, led by team captain Robert Kosarowich, answered a wide range of questions on topics such as literature, history, and mathematics. With a score of 1,465 out of 2,000 they placed eighth out of 78 Pennsylvania schools. Perhaps more amazing however is their rank of 100th out of 845 schools world wide. Says participant Jon Cohen "We were awesome!" Below is a list of other participants and their grades.

Colin Reynolds, grade 10; Andy Murray, grade 10; Susanna Bagdasarova, grade 9; Mike Mumper, grade 11; Alex Rovnyansky, grade 10; Taylor Breslin, grade 9; Peter Lindhome, grade 9; Steve Hyder, grade 11; Jeff Brand, grade 9; Sarah Mumper, grade 9; George Leach, grade 12; Emily Moore, grade 12; Robert Kosarowich, grade 10 ; Michael Wagman, grade 9; Michael Podvin, grade 9; Jon Cohen, grade 9

When asked about the experience, team captain Robert Kosarowich said: "I was happy with how we did this time, and I hope we do better next year." Congratulations you guys!



Spring 2005 KMO Team

Essay Entrants

Good luck to Susanna Bagdasarova, Alex Rovnyansky, and Amy Rundle for participating in the annual Anthem Essay Contest. The contest consisted of reading Anthem by Ayn Rand and writing an essay on one of three topics. Results will be known in July, and until then we'll keep our fingers crossed!

Student

Writing

**Excerpt from "When She
Remembered Me"
Scholastic Certificate of Merit
Winner**

By Sarah Mumper

THE SWEET SMELL OF HER PERFUME FILLED THE AIR IN THE OLD HOUSE. I THREW MYSELF DOWN ON HER BED HIDING MY FACE IN HER PILLOW. I SHED A TEAR FOR EACH DETAIL I REMEMBERED ABOUT HER. I REMEMBERED HER HANDS, HOW THEY WERE ALWAYS SO SOFT WHEN SHE EMBRACED ME IN HER WARM HUGS. I REMEMBERED HER FACE, THE SWEET SMILES SHE GAVE ME WHEN SHE WAS PROUD OF ME, OR JUST TO SHOW HOW MUCH SHE LOVED ME. I REMEMBERED THE WAY SHE TALKED TO ME, HER GENTLE VOICE FILLING THE ROOM. I REMEMBERED HOW MUCH SHE LOVED ME, HOW SHE TOLD ME AT EACH OF OUR VISITS. I REMEMBERED MY GRANDMA JUST THE WAY I WANT TO. I REMEMBERED HER WITHOUT THE BRUISES FROM HER MANY FALLS, I REMEMBERED HER BEFORE THE DEMENTIA SET IN, I REMEMBERED HER WHEN SHE REMEMBERED ME....

**Excerpt from "Fall From Grace"
Scholastic Gold Key and Special
Award Winner
by Susanna Bagdasarova**

Rain falls, the salty tears of God shower the earth he had breathed life into, weeping for the children beyond salvation. The shower cleanses the earth, washing away the ashes of the fallen nation. The statue watches once more, stone spirit crying with its heavenly father for those forever forgotten. His outstretched hands beckon, red wounds reopening, blood flowing freely once more for the ones he couldn't save....

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National High School Poetry Contest

Award Amount: \$1500

Deadline date: October 31, 2005

The National High School Poetry Contest is open to all U.S. High School Students. You must submit an original, unpublished poem no more than 20 lines. Entries will be judged on creativity, originality, imagery, artistic quality and mastery of poetic expression. You may submit only one poem per qualifying contestant.