

# THE BURROW

The Student Newspaper of Hamilton County Senior High School

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January 2006

## X's and O's

By Autumn Dixon  
The Burrow

Every February, across the country, candy, flowers, and gifts are exchanged between loved ones, all in the name of St. Valentine. But who is this mysterious saint and why do we celebrate this holiday?

St. Valentine's Day, as we know it today, contains remainders of both Christian and ancient Roman tradition.

Today, the Catholic Church recognizes at least three different saints named

Valentine or Valentines, all of whom were martyred.

One legend says that Valentine was a priest who served during the third century in Rome. When Emperor Claudius II decided that single men made better soldiers than those with wives and families, he outlawed marriage for young men. Valentine, realizing the injustice of the decree, defied Claudius and continued to perform marriages for young lovers in secret. When Valentine's actions were discovered, Claudius ordered that he be put to death.

According to one legend, Valentine actually sent the first 'valentine' greeting himself. While in prison, it is believed that Valentine fell in love with a young

girl, which was believed to be the daughter of the jailer, who visited him during his confinement. Before his death, it is said that he wrote her a letter, which he signed 'From your Valentine,' an expression that is still in use today. Although the truth behind the Valentine legends is murky, the stories certainly emphasize his appeal as a sympathetic, heroic, and, most importantly, romantic figure. It's no surprise that by the Middle Ages, Valentine was one of the most popular saints in England and France.

Valentine was put to his death on February 14, 269 A.D. and that is the reason behind why Valentine's Day is celebrated on that particular day.



## Who needs the Olympics

By Caleb Kirsch  
The Burrow



After baseball was taken out of the Olympics, many sports fans wondered when and where they would find another tournament featuring the best baseball players from around the world. That time has come, and baseball fans are counting the days until the first pitch of the World Baseball Classic.

The tournament is set to play from March 3-20. Professional baseball players join their home countries to fight for bragging rights to decide which country has the best team. The countries that are

participating in the WBC include: Japan, Korea, Chinese Taipei, China, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Panama, Netherlands, United States, Canada, Mexico, South Africa, Dominican Republic, Venezuela, Australia, and Italy.

Experts have had a difficult time trying to determine which teams are projected to win the WBC. Two of the favorites are the Dominican Republic and the United States. The United States put forth a potent lineup with star players such as Barry Bonds, Roger Clemens, and Alex Rodriguez. Although, the Dominican Republic answer with David Ortiz, Pedro Martinez, Manny Ramirez, and 2005 National League M.V.P., Albert Pujols.

With all the good teams that are entering the WBC, there are bound to be differences in opinion. Sophomores, Orry Taylor and Brody Mitchell are no different. "I think Japan is going to win, because they are an underdog but still have a good team," says Taylor. "The United States is definitely going to win, because they have the best pitching."

With experts voicing their opinion on several different teams, it is difficult to determine which team has the advantage. It is only a matter of months, before the world knows who has the best baseball team.

## Black History Month

Katie Kimble  
The Burrow

"It's neglected; there's a tremendous

amount about black history that our culture neglects. And unless we observe it, it's going to be forgotten." The words of librarian, Mr. Kirkpatrick, hit home about Black History Month. At the thought of February, most

people see visions of hearts, anticipate chocolate and prepare for fuzzy feelings. For others however, it is a time to remember the agonizing struggle that many minorities faced to fully enjoy the American dream. February is more than just Valentine's Day; February is Black History month.

Black History Month actually started as Negro History Week, way back in 1926. Dr. Carter G. Woodson was born a son of former slaves in 1875; ten years after the 13th Amendment had been passed. He became an important black historian, and noticed that in school books black people and their history was very rarely included. When black Ameri-

cans were acknowledged in history books, they were still looked on as slaves.

Woodson was upset by this, so he founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History in 1915. In 1926 he launched the first Negro History Week, choosing the second week in February. This week was to highlight the contributions that African Americans have made to the United States' society. He chose this date because it includes the birthdays of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln, whom he believed to be very important to the African American suffrage movement. In 1976, the year of the nation's bicentennial, Negro History Week was expanded to Black History Month.

Every year, Black History Month is given a theme, and this year's is "Celebrating Community: A Tribute To Black Fraternal, Social, and Civic Institutions." If you can't think of anything to do to celebrate Black History Month, visit a museum or hop online to research your favorite civil rights activist. Throughout the month of February, dozens of organizations and cities are holding memorial and honorary ceremonies as a tribute to African Americans who have made huge differences in society and freedom as we know it. Find one in a nearby city and check it out!



Carter G. Woodson

## Still searching for supreme court justice

By Stephanie Hart  
The Burrow

After being nominated by President Bush to replace Sandra Day O'Connor, Samuel Alito had to face a Senate committee on January 10, 2006. Sandra Day O'Connor has been the deciding vote for abortion cases. Some of the Senate committee members are nervous about Alito's opinion on Roe v. Wade. Sen. Charles Schumer, a New York Democrat, commented on Alito not addressing the case was "troubling."

Another issue is Alito's consistency; Alito said "The Constitution does not protect a right to an abortion," in a 1985 job application. However, in 1991 Alito voted against a Pennsylvania law requiring women to inform spouses before an abortion. Alito said, "I did it because that's what I thought the law required." Senator Dick Durbin



President Bush and Supreme Court justice Candidate Samuel Alito

(Democrat, Illinois) made several comments that showed his suspicion; You have refused to refute that statement in the 1985 job application. I'm concerned that many people will leave this hearing with a question as to whether or not you could be the deciding vote

that would eliminate the legality of abortion."

Melyssa Hart, Junior, believes that his inconsistencies work favor, "The fact that he's willing to set aside his personal beliefs and do what's in the best interest of the country makes him an ideal Supreme Court Justice."

Alito was questioned on being

a member of Princeton's alumni, who wouldn't allow women or minorities to attend until 1969. He was accused of being a closet bigot by Senator Robert Byrd (Democrat, West Virginia), who was heavily involved in the Ku Klux Klan, until he ran for Congress in 1952.

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## Xbox 360



By Aaron Trotter  
The Burrow

Ever since I was a young one, I had always been attracted to electronics and technology. So, consequently, I developed quite the attraction for video games. I started when I was 3 years old, and was more often than not declared the winner between my older brother and sister. The first system I had was a regular old Nintendo Entertainment System. Ah, how wonderful those days were. The days of Super Mario brothers and Duck Hunt will forever be implanted in my memory. The NES



would sometimes not be as reliable as today's consoles, but it still will remain the beginning of hours and hours of entertainment in my life. The games wouldn't always work, so you had to be nice to them. I remember sticking a game in, and

getting the dreaded "gray screen" and the having to take the game cartridge to blow in it. My love for video games didn't end there.

With all my Christmas money burning a whole in my pocket, I decided to order an Xbox 360 over eBay. The constant refreshing of the internet web page and the sweating

of my palms kept me on edge as I was about to win the auction. With less than a minute to go, my fingers flew as I typed in my maximum bid for 420 dollars. I was desperate.

I refreshed the page one more time, and the auction closed with me being the high bidder for 406 dollars. I leaped for joy, shouted my victory battle cry, and ended the transaction. Since my eBay account does not have PayPal set up, I had to send my payment by a postal money order.

The seller, a polite and prompt man from West Palm Beach, Florida, indicated that as soon as he received the payment, my new bundle of joy would be sent to me via UPS, and I would get it in 2 days. Since the holidays were going on at the time, I had to wait a week before the payment reached his house.

Then, it was sent to me. 14 pounds of delightful fun-filled heavenly goodness would arrive on my doorstep on Thursday. Thursday took forever to come, but when it did, oh, what a joyful day it was. I arrived to see this beautiful cardboard box, wrapped in tape sitting on my porch. I opened the box, rather, ripped the box, and saw it. Words do not describe my delight I experienced. Just to have it gave me a sense of security, and that I was not behind the rest of the world. A new era of technology had arrived on my doorstep, and I eagerly received it.

Sometimes, just for the heck of it, I get out my old buddy, the NES, just to experience the old days. Now I have a new buddy, and it treats me well. Maybe I'm a bit over the top, but what can I say, I like to have fun.

### THE GOOD



- ✓ Roses, candies, kisses
- ✓ Warmer winter weather

### THE BAD



- ✓ Being alone on Valentine's Day
- ✓ Loss of teachers

### THE UGLY



- ✓ The expenses of Valentine's Day
- ✓ Longest quarter of school

## Student couple profiles



By Autumn Dixon  
The Burrow

Since February is the month of love The Burrow decided to change things up a bit with the student profile and chose three couples to report on.

Seniors, Lucas Owen and Christina Uselton have been together for 2 years as of March 2006. The couple met in Mrs. Vaughan's math class. When asked if it was love at first sight Uselton responded,



Lucas Owen and Christina Uselton

"No way, we used to fight like cats and dogs." On their first date the two went to Mt. Vernon to the movies with another couple. Even though the two are still in high school they plan on being together for awhile. "We have our ups and downs just like any couple, but we have a lot of fun together and have a good thing going so I believe that we will have a future together," stated Uselton. The school year is coming to an end and the two are faced with a relationship and graduation. "After high school, we're both going to go to college so I'm sure we'll spend a lot of time apart but if it's meant to be, we'll last," Uselton said.

Another couple many see walking down the hallways is, junior, Johnathan Leuellen and senior, Abby Rankin. The two have known each other for a while by tripping and kicking each other down the halls but they formally met at a Ten Mile Church lock-in. When it comes to love at first sight, Rankin doesn't believe in such things but she does believe that the love between her and Leuellen is true. The couple, as of January 12, 2006, has been together for a little over a year. The



Johnathan Leuellen and Abby Rankin

two don't really have favorite things to do, "we like to hang out, just as long as we're together it doesn't matter what we're doing," said Rankin. With graduation coming and Rankin soon to be going off to school the two have to consider their relationship. "I can't really say what's going to happen in the future but I hope that we are still together," said Rankin.

Not all of the students who are in relationships have to worry about one, or both of them leaving after graduation. Freshman, Kane Smith and Crystal Webber have been together for a little over nine months as of January 18, 2006. The two both agreed that it wasn't love at first site



Kane Smith and Crystal Webber

but they are happy together. The two met by going to school together and on their first date they watched a movie at Webber's house. The two still have a few years of high school left, but even though that is true they may still think about what they are going to do after high school. "Well, we've talked about being together after high school and I hope we do," Webber stated.

## THE BURROW

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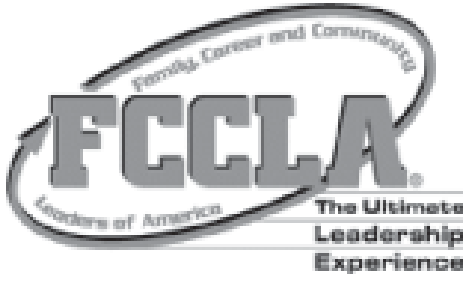
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# FEATURES



By Callan Howton  
The Burrow

With all the clubs in our high school it is hard to keep up with what they all stand for. FCCLA is one club that does not receive much recognition. It stands for Family Career and Community Leaders of America. The club is open to boys and girls who have

## Flower sales



By Sara Veatch  
The Burrow

For several years now, FBLA has made it easier for you to give something special for your "sweetheart". The FBLA sells carnations for \$2.00 apiece around Valentine's Day. This year they will be selling them February 6 through the 10 at both lunches, and will be delivered on February 14. You can buy a red carnation or a pink carnation. The red is for your girlfriend or boyfriend, and the pink is if you just want to send a special greeting to a friend. There is a place on each greeting card where you can write a special note to the person you are sending the carnation to. You also have the option of signing your name or leaving it anonymous. "I think it is a fun thing to do, but it is a lot of work," said Aribi Auten, sophomore and

taken or are taking Teen Living or Family Consumer Science.

FCCLA was first called FHA, Future Homemakers of America. This changed when more males began to join the club and people realized women were becoming career-minded and working outside the home more and more.

The club has been around for several decades. "It is the only national program for youth that has family as the main focus," said Mrs. Kinder. For the last few years there has been a steady number of about members. The officers are: President-Faith Powers, Vice President-Barbara Service, Secretary-Katie Little, Treasurer-Samantha Rooney, Reporter-Brittany Young, Historian-Amanda Hart and Stacy Richards.

Two to three times a year the group takes trips to Carbondale or Rend Lake College to meet with other clubs and see what they



Carnation sales will be held lunch A and B Feb 6th - 10th

member of the FBLA. With the money from the flowers, the club buys suckers for everyone in the school so everyone gets something, so there is not always a very big profit. The club just keeps the money made as a fundraiser for them. So, if you need something to give your "special someone" on Valentine's Day, the FBLA can help you out.

## Garlic mustard - your enemy!

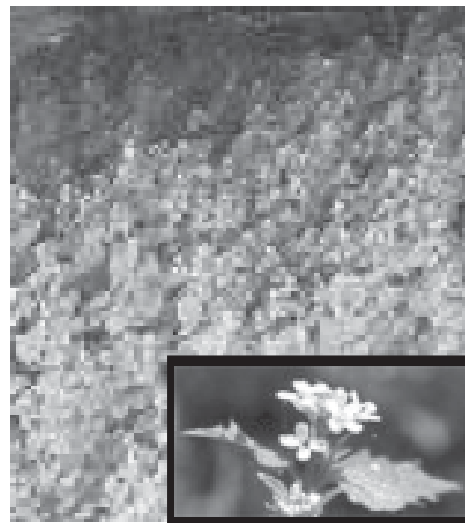


By Whitney Stephens  
Guest Writer

Run! Hide! Invasive plants are taking over!! Invasive non-native organisms are one of the greatest threats to the natural ecosystems of the United States and are destroying America's natural history and identity. These unwelcome plants are disrupting the ecology of natural ecosystems, displacing native plant and animal species, and corrupting our nation's unique and diverse biological resources. Aggressive invaders reduce the amount of light, water, nutrients, and space available to native species. Some exotics are capable of hybridizing with native plant relatives, resulting in unnatural changes to a plant's genetic makeup.

One of the most common invasive plants located in Hamilton County is *Alliaria petiolata*, otherwise known as garlic mustard. Garlic mustard is found in a wide variety of habitats, to include: forest, edges, shaded roadsides, urban areas, riparian areas, flood plains, along hiking trails, waste areas, and along railroads. The garlic mustard plants have stalked, kidney shaped leaves. The leaves range from two to eight inches long, and the leaf margins are coarse, round and irregularly toothed. In spring, new leaves produce a distinct garlic odor when crushed.

The biology of garlic mustard makes it difficult to control once it has reached a site. It is self-fertile, has a high seed production rate, short-lived, and it out competes native vegetation with early spring germination and it can establish in a relatively stable forest under story. There are no natural predators to the garlic mustard plant. The



infestation size of garlic mustard can double in four years!

You may now be asking yourself, "How can I help prevent the spread of garlic mustard? There are several methods to removing the garlic mustard plant. Herbicides are effective. Spraying herbicide in the spring and fall will keep plants from growing and spreading. Prescribed burnings for large sites are a control option, and burning for two consecutive years is recommended, and effective. Depending on the size of the plant infestation, hand pulling is an effective control for this short-lived mustard plant. Prevention is often mentioned as the recommended control method for garlic mustard. At this time, the known distribution of garlic mustard in our state is very limited. By listing the species as a noxious weed, and requiring eradication, we have the potential to contain the spread of garlic mustard, and to remove any existing populations.

have been doing in their communities. They also take one bigger educational trip every year. There are regional and state conventions also. "Several years ago Rachel Brashier became a state officer from our school," said Kinder FCCLA participates in many fundraisers every year. They do community service with the 4-H group. They make lap robes for the nursing home, bean bags for the Pre-School, and pillows for the H.O.P.E. (kids that are taken from meth

homes) project. They also donate everyday necessities to the H.O.P.E. project. Another fundraiser is the compatibility surveys that were recently taken by the students in our school. The surveys tell the top ten people you will most likely be compatible with. They will be available at lunch on Valentine's Day for \$1.50. FCCLA also holds two hat days, donating the money they make to the Crisis Closet and K.A.R.E.

## Freedom Day



By Callan Howton  
The Burrow

On February 1st Freedom Day is celebrated. Although many people do not know about the holiday it is still very important. Freedom Day celebrates the end of slavery. On this day in 1865 President Lincoln signed Amendment 13, which abolished slavery. In 1863 President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation. It freed most of the slaves, but the entire United States was not freed until 1865. We did not begin to celebrate the holiday until President Harry S. Truman. Major Richard Robert Wright, Sr., who used to be a slave but then, became active in education and journalism, founded the National Freedom Day Association, and



is known as the "father". Since most slaves were black, National Freedom Day is celebrated mainly by them. February is Black History Month so the two go hand in hand.

## The saddest day of the year



By Katie Kimble  
The Burrow

January 23, 2006 has been called the saddest day of the year by a British psychologist. Cliff Arnall, a health psychologist at Cardiff University has made a formula for determining the saddest day of the year. In an interview done by the Telegraph newspaper, Dr. Arnall said that his conclusion was drawn from a formula he created. This formula includes the time since Christmas, the amount of debt you have, and the period of time before New Year's resolutions are broken. Dr. Arnall's conclusion was drawn from other experts in winter disorders who stated that January was the most stressful month of the year. This is due to the arrival of credit card bills, the fact that energy from the holidays is burned off, and the reality that too much Christmas shopping leaves the buyer in debt. By January

24th, those with New Year's resolutions that lasted longer than a week are barely hanging onto them. After December 21st, the winter solstice, the days begin to shorten. For those with SAD (seasonal affective disorder), the fewer daylight hours leave them feeling depressed for the winter months, and the idea of 3 more months of winter is not reassuring. If you're feeling down, try exercising. Walk the dog or go to the gym, because according to a study done by Nottingham Trent University, moderate exercise raises levels of phenylethylamine (PEA) in your brain. PEA is a natural stimulant produced by your body during exercise, and is commonly known as "runners' high". It is related to amphetamines, but does not have the negative long-lasting side effects of the addicting drugs. Get up and do something active, because January may be the most depressing month, but it doesn't have to be for you!

## Groundhog Day



By Sara Veatch  
The Burrow

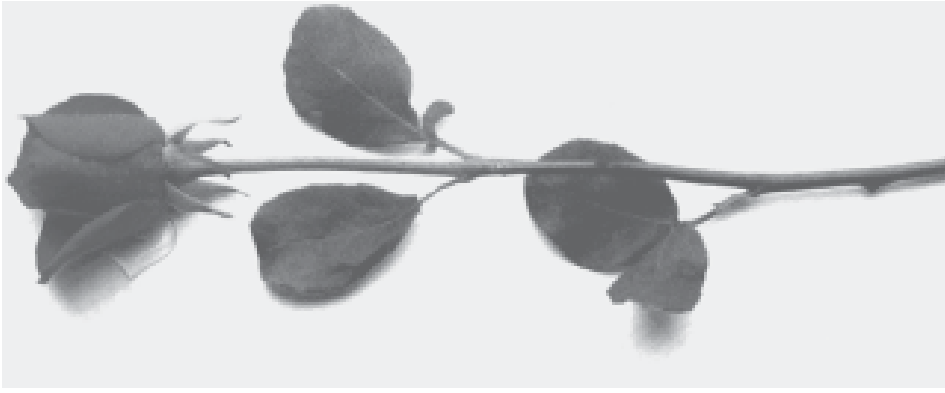
Groundhog Day is one of the most unusual holidays celebrated in the U.S. It is said that on February 2, Punxsutawney Phil, the groundhog, comes out of his hole. If he sees his shadow he believes that means that there will be six more weeks of bad winter weather and will return to his hole, and if he doesn't see it, then he believes that winter is over and he will come out of his hole because spring has come. When asked if she believes if this is true, Kasey Glenn, junior, said, "Not really, but I don't really look at the weather patterns." The traditions of Groundhog Day come from the Candlemas Day celebrated by the early Christians in Europe on February 2. It was custom back then to hand out candles blessed by the clergy on that day. It was said that the weather that day was important and that it marked a milestone in winter. Each country in Europe celebrated the day a little differently and each had a little chant or rhyme. The Germans recited:

*For as the sun shines on Candlemas Day,  
So far will the snow swirl until the May.*



*It is said that if the groundhog sees his shadow there will be six more weeks of winter weather.*

The Germans believed that if the sun was shining on Candlemas Day and the hedgehog saw his shadow then winter was not over. The Germans picked up this tradition from the Romans. When people began settling in Pennsylvania, a great deal of those people were Germans. The Germans saw that there were a lot of groundhogs in Pennsylvania. They believed that the groundhog was very wise and sensible and that it resembled their hedgehog from back home. From then on, the Germans used the groundhog to carry out their tradition. Instead of being called Candlemas Day, it came to be known as Groundhog Day. Groundhog Day is still celebrated thanks to the efforts of the Punxsutawney Groundhog Club.



## Please accept this rose

By Brittany Heil  
The Burrow

The Bachelor is back and is in the most romantic city, Paris. The premier aired on ABC on January 9 hosted by Chris Harrison. Travis Stork is a thirty-three year old ER doctor from Nashville, Tennessee. He is now staying at his beautiful 14th century French chateau and was accompanied by twenty-five gorgeous women on the first night.

On the first show he had to make a very difficult decision before he got to truly

meet these girls. As hard as it was, he sent home thirteen girls with broken hearts. He'll now get to know the twelve girls, but has to choose eight at the next rose ceremony.

Many hearts will be broken, and tears will be shed, but it will always be a mystery of who will be chose at each rose ceremony. There will be some lucky women who will even get to meet his family, and he will get to meet theirs. After all of this will he find the love of his life, will he propose, and will she say yes? "I'm so excited that the new season has started, and I can't wait to see who he picks," says junior, Erin Morris.

## "Fun with Dick & Jane"

By Nick Holloman  
The Burrow

Starring Jim Carrey, "Fun with Dick & Jane" is one of the worst Jim Carrey movies released in the last ten years. Dick (Jim Carrey), and Jane (Tea Leoni), are living the American Dream, great jobs, nice house, and a kid, but things go downhill when Dick is conned into taking the wrap in a company scandal by his smooth talking boss (Alec Baldwin). After hilarious attempts to find new a Job, Dick comes to the conclusion that if stealing was good enough for his boss, then stealing is good enough for him.

One problem with this movie was the lack of explanation of what exactly happened to Dick and the company he worked for. Also for the people who didn't pay attention to the Enron Scandal many of the jokes would have little if any meaning to the viewer. "Dick & Jane" does an adequate job at slapstick humor,



"Fun with Dick & Jane" is the best adult comedy this season

and gestures that Carrey is known for, but his previous movies surpass it. What may be the saving attribute is that this season has been lacking in Adult comedies, making "Dick and Jane" a bitter, yet suitable cure, for moviegoers looking for a comedy.

## Valentines Day Massacre

By Brittany Heil  
The Burrow



"Bugs" Moran

While most see Valentine's Day as a day for love, flowers, and chocolates, it wasn't this way at all for seven men in 1929. There were seven well-dressed men found shot to death in a garage. These men were mobsters under the control of gangster "Bugs" Moran. Little did these seven men know that they'd become a part of Valentine's Day history: The St. Valentine's Day Massacre.

The investigators for this crime were very puzzled on that cold Valentine's Day. These men had their backs turned and they were faced towards the wall. Investigators didn't understand why they would do this? They were mobsters. They later knew that "Bugs" and Al Capone weren't too fond of each other. Capone was immediately suspected for involvement in this murder. It was true, Capone had arranged for Chicago mobster, "Bugs" Moran and his gang to be eliminated on Valentine's Day in 1929.

## Stewart hosts the Oscars

By Johnny Barrow  
The Burrow

Jon Stewart, the host of "The Daily Show" on Comedy Central, has just been named the next host of the 78th Academy Awards. "As a performer, I'm truly honored to be hosting the show," Stewart said at a press conference on January 5th. Many have wondered who would replace Chris Rock as host, such names as Conan O'Brien and Jay Leno were mentioned. Stewart isn't new to hosting award shows; he hosted the Grammy Awards in 2001 and 2002.

"Although, as an avid watcher of the Oscars, I can't help but be a little disappointed with the choice. It appears to be another sad attempt to smoke out Billy Crystal," said Stewart jokingly. He follows a long list of great hosts such as Johnny Carson and Whoopi Goldberg.



John Stewart host of "The Daily Show"

## Hostel

By Johnny Barrow  
The Burrow

The Quentin Tarantino and Eli Roth-produced gore fest hit theaters on January 6. It tells a tale about two American college buddies, Paxton and Josh, who backpack through Europe. Along the way they meet a new friend named Oli, who is from Iceland.

The two friends arrive and soon easily pair off with exotic beauties Natalya and Svetlana. Initially distracted by the good time they're having, the two friends quickly find themselves trapped in an increasingly sinister situation. "This movie wasn't as good as I hoped it would be, it wasn't all that scary, it was just sickening" said sophomore Jesse Kelly.



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## Who made who? Maybe the courts will know.

**By Brian Harland**  
*The Burrow*

The subject has been growing more and more controversial with each passing court case. The most recent of these court battles was held regarding an elective philosophy

class in a small school in central California. The school is being sued for teaching "Intelligent Design" to students and is also being asked to stop the class from continuation. Nearly a dozen parents have filed the suit saying it violates the constitution.

Intelligent design is simply explained as the belief that life is so complex that it must have been made by a greater being. The class, formally titled Philosophy of Design, was illustrated in course descriptions as,

"Taking a closer look at evolution as a theory and will discuss the scientific, biological, and biblical aspects that suggest why Darwin's philosophy is not rock solid."

Students have mixed feelings about the class and lawsuit. Some are saying that it is not a big deal, while others believe that school and church should be separate. The federal court has their own opinion, ruling a similar intelligent design class in Pennsylvania to be closed down just last month.



## Immature consumption?

**By Brian Harland**  
*The Burrow*

The age is laid down and yet the concept still seems to be incomprehensible. News stories are popping up all over the nation about the subject that may hit home in this small town. That subject is underage drinking.

In Colorado, a young girl, barely seeing the age of twelve, was found dead after being cited for charges of underage drinking. The girl had passed out earlier that night and was released to the parents when the paramedics said she was going to be alright. About six hours later she was taken to the hospital where she was pronounced dead.

In New York, police reportedly broke up a party with approximately 100 underage drinkers and arrested the 16 year old girl that



was hosting the party. The girl could spend up to a year in jail for the charges filed against her.

Current studies believe that the surge in underage drinking is greatly influenced by alcoholic advertisements shown to young adults and teens. Excessive alcohol is blamed for killing over 4,000 kids under age 21 each year.

## Survival of New Orleans

**Brandon Miller**  
*The Burrow*

Its been over four months since hurricane Katrina hit land on the Gulf Coast and since then America has seen what can happen when people ban together to benefit one cause.

Permanent housing has been found for victims, homes are being rebuilt, and orga-

nizations and individuals have given billions of dollars in some form to the hurricane relief fund. A bridge destroyed by Katrina was recently reopened and many colleges are reopening in time for the semester.

FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) alone has given over four billion dollars in assistance and financial aid to victims of Katrina, traffic in the area has increased, and there have been slight population increases around New Orleans.

## Tunnel found under US-Mexico border

**By Amanda McEwen**  
*The Burrow*

A 35-foot-long tunnel beneath the U.S.-Mexico border was found by Border Patrol agents when it caved in and the asphalt roadway above collapsed.

In a path of unoccupied land near San Ysidro port of entry is where the tunnel ended. It appeared to have been used recently once the tunnel was reinforced. Officials, although uncertain, believe it's a trend where smugglers are attempting to go underground after 9/11 as a result of the heightened security.

When the tunnel was built or whether it might have been used for smuggling drugs or people is unclear, but authorities sealed off the U.S. side with sandbags and metal soon after it was found.

More than a dozen tunnels have now been found along the southwestern border in recent years and more are expected to follow.



## March of the Penguins

**By Stephanie Hart**  
*The Burrow*

People aren't the only ones facing the battle of the bulge this winter. At the Asahiyama Zoo, on the northern island of Hokkaido, about 550 miles northwest from Tokyo, Japan, the Penguins are also struggling to keep trim.

During the winter months, instinct tells the penguins to stand completely

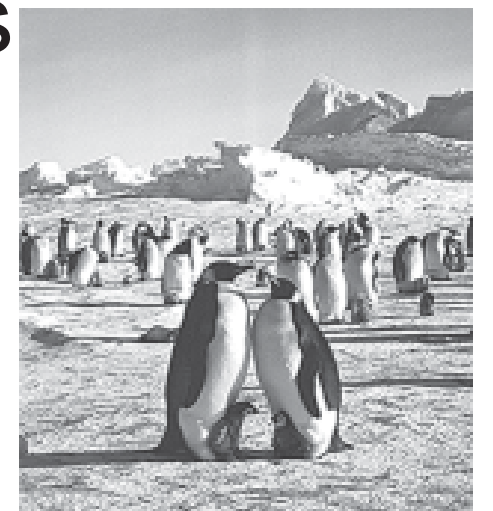
still in huddles to keep warm. The penguins begin to swim and move around much more during the summer months. In the zoos, they aren't struggling to survive so standing still isn't necessary. The average weight of a penguin during winter months can be around 33 to 40 pounds, only one of their penguins is 40 pounds.

The penguins are taken on 500 yard walks twice a day. Their webbed feet make it easy for them to walk on the snow. The exercise regime lasts from December to April.



*Ipod Levi's line the Sleeves*

iPod Carrying cases by Haute couture fashion houses were also featuring somewhat pricey attire, with the Burton Snowboards unveiling later what it called the first iPod-compatible waterproof snowboarding jacket. Jackets may also be found by Kenpo, selling for \$275-\$350, featuring iPod controls on the sleeve.



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## Hook'em Horns



By Devane Prince  
The Burrow

There's a new champion in town. The Texas Longhorns won the national collegiate football championship in dramatic fashion by defeating the two time defending champion USC Trojans 41-38.

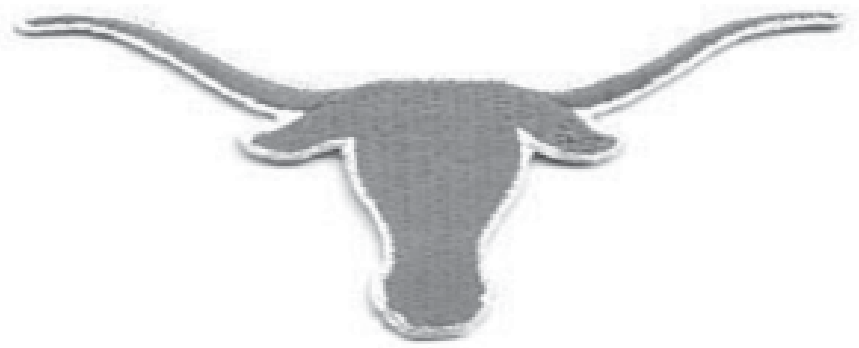
The star of the show was Texas' quarterback Vince Young. When all was said and done, Young had run for 200 yards and passed for 267 in one of the most amazing bowl performances of all time. He carried the Longhorns both emotionally and physically, and was rightfully named the game's Most Valuable Player.

"He's an extraordinary football player,"

USC coach Pete Carroll said. "He's so fast. He's big. He probably made us miss 11 tackles."

Texas not only won the national championship in this game, but also snatched history out of the grasps of USC. The Trojans were looking to make this their third straight national championship, a feat never before accomplished in college football, and it would have been their thirty-fifth straight win.

Texas' coach Mack Brown said of the game, "It's really, really special. It was really surreal when you're down by two scores and you still think you're going to win. We never, ever thought we'd lose the ballgame. Our team never gave up."



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Texas Longhorn

## The death of a legend



By Rhet Vaughan  
The Burrow

Former wrestler Scott Hall a.k.a. "Razor Ramon" was laid to rest January 2, 2006. He was considered a living legend during his time in the ring. He starred in the WWF as Razor Ramon. He has long been reviled as one of the most unsavory characters in the world of professional wrestling. His blatant disregard for authority and the law have time and again overshadowed his limitless potential and charisma.

While Hall's in-ring talent and microphone charm have never been in question, his downfall has been demonic drug usage. Despite his bad boy reputation, Hall has received numerous second chances in the wrestling industry. After being convicted for

illegal cocaine possession in 1996, he was forgiven by owner Vince McMahon and Hall plead insanity. He was transferred to the WCW where Owner Ted Turner gave him yet another chance as long as Hall reported to rehab weekly. There he teamed with Kevin Nash and X-Pac to form the famous N.W.O. clique.

The 6'7, 280 pound beast had most of his success being known as "The Bad Guy" of WCW while in the N.W.O. He continued his wrestling career when the two corporations combined. His alcohol continued to be a serious problem so in May 2002, the WWE released him. He divorced his wife later than year. He spent his time from then until his death riding his motorcycles and apparently he became a complete cocaine addict. He was found dead in his Colorado home the day after New Years in 2006.

## I'm out of here!



By Caleb Kirsch  
The Burrow

Although there are still two months before the 2006 baseball season starts, many top name players are looking for a new home.

One transaction that has many people wondering is Johnny Damon signing with

the New York Yankees. Damon, after the conclusion of last year's season told reporters that he hopes to stay in Boston for a long time. Although, three months later Damon decided to pack his bags and head to New York. Even though the Red Sox lost Damon, they traded for top pitcher Josh Beckett, and veteran third baseman Mike Lowell from the Florida Marlins. Beckett and Lowell are no strangers to the playoffs, and are hoping to help give the Red Sox a deep playoff run in 2006. Another top star that is switching cities is slugger Alfonso Soriano. Soriano was unhappy playing with the Texas Rangers, and was traded to the desperate Washington Nationals, looking for an edge to make a playoff run in 2006.

With a lot of big names being moved after the 2005 season, many people have a difference of opinion on which transaction is going to make the biggest impact. Sophomores Ricky McVay, and Holden Jackson are both arguing for different teams. "The Red Sox definitely made improvements on their team. Josh Beckett and Mike Lowell are two of the best players in the league," said McVay. Jackson argues saying, "The Nationals definitely got a good deal by getting Soriano. He's fast and he can hit, what else do you need?"

With several months remaining until the trade deadline expires, some teams are still hoping to make a deal, that will give them an edge in 2006.



Former Texas Rangers 2nd baseman Alfonso Soriano

## Coach plays his last inning



By Devane Prince  
The Burrow



Coach Dedeaux

Mark McGwire, Randy Johnson, Tom Seaver, all have one thing in common; they all played under the most successful college coach of all time, Raoul "Rod" Dedeaux. The coach of 11 national championships (5 straight) in the 1970s, died of complications from a stroke.

"A giant has passed away," said USC athletic director and former outfielder Mike Garrett. "This is a tremendous loss for USC and the entire baseball community. It leaves a huge void in all of baseball. From coach Dedeaux, I learned how to win and how

important it was to win in any sport. For him, winning was a way of life."

Not only did he coach at USC but he played shortstop at Southern California from 1933-35 and appeared in two Major League Baseball games with the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1935. He was also the coach numerous future big leaguers played for Dedeaux at USC, including Hall of Fame pitcher Tom Seaver, All-Star outfielder Fred Lynn and slugger Mark McGwire.

"Dedeaux was a baseball legend and will be missed greatly", said sophomore Brody Mitchell.

## PING!!!



By Rhet Vaughan  
The Burrow

The makers of the highest-rated and top-selling baseball game of the past three years have created a completely new baseball experience: MVP 06 NCAA Baseball. Inspired by the beauty and emotion of collegiate athletics, MVP 06 NCAA Baseball is the first-ever college baseball game, changing the way baseball video games are played with the all-new Load and Fire Batting system.

The new batting system opens a whole new door to the world of cyber baseball. You now get the feeling that you are really batting, rather than just timing the tap of your button. This is possibly the most anticipated game of the New Year.

Sophomore Orry Taylor said "This game is going to rock. No big name players or Salary Cap." Freshman Ben Scattone commented "This game will be flipping sweet."

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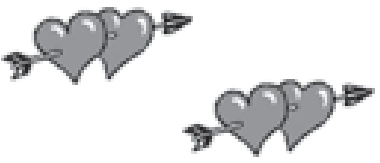
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**CASE III**

# VALENTINES




Happy VALENTINE'S DAY!

TO: NICOLE MARIE FURTAK  
FROM: AARON MILLER TROTTER




XOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXO



**To: Rebecca**  
**From: Sarah**


**Get Well!**

**Happy Valentine's Day!**



Happy Valentines Day!


Lurch is a Hottie!




To: Mel

From: Erin

Happy Vday!



Happy Valentine's Day!




To: Nikki, Kayla, Toni, Bea, Katie, & Leta

Love ya guys, Rachel

Be My Valentine




I Love Michaela Jo Morlan



To: Taylee, Tiffany, Haylee, Sydney, and Miranda

From: Your Secret Admirer

I love you girls!




Happy Valentine's Day!!

TO: JOHNATHON

I LOVE YOU!!


FROM: ABBY



Happy Valentine's Day

To: Lucas Owen

From: Who do you think? Love ya!



Happy Valentine's Day!!

TO: The Jonyanator

FROM: Caleb

Much love!




My Valentine

To: Lucas Jones

From: Your Secret Admirer


I'm NUTS About You!



To: Abby

From: Johnathan

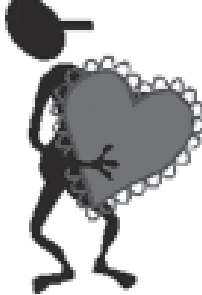
Happy Valentine's Day! I Love You Too!



**KISS ME!!!**

TO: CED


FROM: YOU KNOW WHO



Happy Valentine's Day!!!

To: Vanessa


From: Brian



Have a great Valentine's Day

TO: Beth

From: Anonymous



I Love You!!

TO: Mom

FROM: Jeremy

Happy V-Day!

# VALENTINES

**LUV YOU**

**Happy Valentine's Day!**

To: Nikki and Sam

From: Aunt Lisa

**LUV YOU**

To: Amanda H,  
Faith P, Stacy R.,  
Lindsay R, Tabatha R.,  
Amanda J.

**Happy Valentine's Day!**

Luv ya!

From: Whitney H.

Some bunny likes you!

To: Kaila Ragan, Nick Walls,  
Jordan Hamson, & Ryan Shriver

From: T-ACK

"I Luv You"

Happy Valentine's Day!

To: Amanda Howe, Trudy Luffman, Laura Penrod,  
Christy Dugger

You Know We're Cool!

Happy Valentine's Day!

TO: Mrs. Neal

From: Jordan Hamson

**Happy Valentine's Day!**

**Go Stephanie!**

**BE MINE**

TO: AARON JOHNSON

FROM: BROOKS

To: Josh, Bob, Caleb, Amy,  
Katie, & Sarah

Love: Me!

**Just sending my love!**

To: ARIBI

From: Mom

TO: Mrs. Neal & Justin

From: Holden

To: Devin, Stephanie, Brandi,  
Mollie, Lacy, Jessica, Michaela,  
& Kelli

From: Ashley Bowers

Luv Ya!!!

Happy Valentine's Day!

To : Brittany Bishop

Your an awesome friend. Have an awesome Valentine's Day!

From: Arianna Bradley

**I Love You!!**

TO: Sammy, Britt, Abby, Kota,  
JJ, Katie, B, and Lou

Always, Autumn

*Have a great Valentine's Day!*

To: Autumn, JJ, Dakota, Sam, B, Beth, & Abby

From: Abby

*Have a great Valentine's Day!*

**Happy Valentine's Day Girls!!**

To: Michaela, Sarah,  
Heather, Megan, & Maggie

I Love Ya!  
Kaitlyn

**Happy Valentine's Day!!!**

To: Cedrick

I hope you have a good Valentine's Day!

From: Abby