



December 1998

# The Innocent Bystander



Vol. 3

## DID SOMEONE SAY UNIFORMS?

Open Door in uniforms?

Many would say, "Oh what horror!" However, the possibility of elementary wearing uniforms is not completely inconceivable.

A few weeks ago school administration sent out a survey to the parents of elementary students. The object of the survey was to find out how many parents are for or against their children wearing uniforms. The survey also allowed for comments and suggestions.

The uniform concept has been around for years, but until recently, it has never been seriously addressed. This year parents have spoken louder. Mrs. Boyd said, "We want to find out if there are many parents in favor of uniforms, or if there are a few that are simply shouting louder than the rest."

The main reasons for parents wanting their children to wear uniforms seem to be the issues of time, money, and social pressure. If uniforms were introduced, parents would be able to spend less time shopping and getting their children ready in the morning.

On a long term basis, money would also be saved. For a girl, two uniforms would cost an average of \$80. This is much less than many parents are currently spending on school clothes.

According to Mrs. Scarbrough, after a few years, a used clothes bank could be established to sell delicately worn uniforms at a cheaper cost. The most positive aspect

of uniforms is the eliminated pressure to wear and compare name brand labels. In turn, it would allow students to concentrate on their academics, instead of the latest model of Nike's.

Students however, do not share their parent's sentiments. Sixth grader, Elyse Crowl believes that "Everyone would look the same, and we lose the choice to wear what we want." Kids do not want to look exactly the same as the next person, but Hannah Gall in fourth grade would not mind uniforms if they could have some  
(see uniforms, p12)

### DRESS CODE UN-CODED

By: Hi-D Tybee

A policy here at Open Door barely ever changes. Codes and standards are kept strict for the sole purpose of disciplined instruction. This year things have changed.

In October, Student Council proposed to Principal Bova the idea of wearing shorts in the hot months of August, September, May and June. Junior Class President Kent Walls had the idea after he heard several students "complaining about the heat," said Senior Class Representative Adam Hignett.

The first step to "Operation Shorts" was to bring the matter up in STUCO exclusively. Debating among STUCO took place, and the notion had the approval of all in attendance. The ball started rolling when "Operation Shorts" was approved by Mrs. Jaudon. "She encouraged us to talk to Bova," said Walls.

(see shorts, p1)



## Build Kid's Lives

By: Erin Alloway

A loving heart and a helping hand is what the Cleveland inner city mission called Heart & Hand is all about. A heart to help all the children from the projects come to know the Lord and a helping hand in getting them to a better way of life. "Life isn't easy for children growing up in the inner city of Cleveland," stated in the H & H 1998 newsletter.

Drs. Jim and Nancy Davidson are the founders of this mission. They started it in 1988. The Lord gave Jim a vision that became the birth of Heart & Hand, while he was working on a car. The vision included a church overlooking a city in a valley. A few days later as Jim was driving over the Kinsmen Bridge he saw Cleveland; the city in the valley.

Ever since then Jim and Nancy have been serving the Lord faithfully helping the city children. Their mission statement is, "To bring new hope to the children and families of the inner city by practically meeting  
(see heart, p12)



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# Continuing The Tradition SCIENCE FAIR

by Joe Faber

In the history of the Great Debate there have been only three classes to win back to back debates. The Seniors this year had the chance to break that streak, but lost it in a fight to the end to a determined Junior team.

The resolution for the classes of 1999 and 2000 was "Resolved: That the President of the United States should be impeached."

The topic for each Great Debate is picked by the coaches. Mr. Rhodes, coach of the Junior team, and Mr. Schmidt, coach of the Senior team collaborated on the topic and preparations for this year's debate.

With less than a month of preparation, the Juniors set out to accomplish their goals of beating the reigning champions. "I felt that I had done all that I could do", said Junior Halli Brownfield after winning the Great Debate. "I was nervous over parts of the debate, but I had a lot of fun."

"We did a lot of research. We also read our speeches over a hundred times", said Junior Jenean Wall. "It took a while to get prepared, but it was worth the experience and the opportunity."

With the same amount of enthusiasm, the Seniors approached the resolution with determination to prove their position was supreme.

"Getting prepared for the debate was a lot of hard work," said Senior Heidi Baxter. "We did plenty of preparing, reading, and questioning."

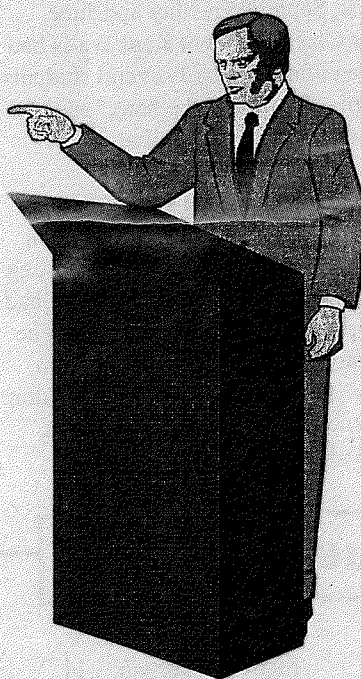
Baxter's partner Dan Pierre commented, "We researched for

about a month and we had some good speeches. I felt the only area I wasn't ready for was that I did not have the previous year of experience."

Hard work and determination has made the Great Debate a prestigious event every year. Both the Juniors and the Seniors put forth high amounts of effort.

No matter what the outcome in past or present debates, the debaters have shown how to compete in a Christ-like, professional and proper way.

When the long shadows of this year's debate fade away, the Juniors will once again face the inevitable challenge of winning their second debate - will they be up for the challenge? It's up to the sophmores to answer that!



by Amy Schuster

On November 12, 1998 the annual ODCS Science Fair took place in the school cafeteria. Participants included both biology and chemistry students. Among those students that participated, three received a top rating. These students included sophomores Lisa Arcuri, Jessica Gouge, and freshman Trevor Gift.

What does it feel like to earn such a high rating? "It was really nice to have gotten something out of the project," said Jessica Gouge.

After all she spent roughly three weeks experimenting with the difference between the male and female memory. "The project did get aggravating," she commented.

Sophomore Steve Leimgruber also thought that his project of seeing which golf ball bounced the best got aggravating, and it was difficult to get accurate results. "I did like making the graphs," said Steve, who spent around 11 hours on his project.

That may not have earned Steve a top rating but according to Mr. Greenwood breadth, depth, ingenuity or creativity will earn a high score. The project itself must be experimental, contain a display, and have an entry paper. The judging is optional, and Mr. Tucker selects the judges for each year.

There is no set time to spend on a project but Mr. Greenwood recommends spending no less than 10 hours on a project.

Over the years, Mr. Greenwood has seen quite a variety of projects, including the year a student placed a bucket of water with a boat in it on the table as his project. "He didn't have a report, display, name,

(see fair,p12)



## Eighth Grade Heads To Congress

By: West Newbrough

November 12 to the 14 the eighth graders, along with Mrs. Reed, Mrs. Bova and a few advisors, made their way to Washington D.C. for the fourth time.

"The kids were very well behaved," said Mrs. Reed. "The bus driver even said so himself!"

Although the eighth graders visited many sites and monuments while they were in Washington, a few stood out in their minds.

"The Jefferson Memorial was awesome," said Eric Kincaid. "From one side of the monument there's an excellent view of the city. I also liked the Vietnam Memorial. Oh yeah, the Air and Space Museum was cool, but Mark Jablonski and I almost got kicked out for going down the up elevator. You should have seen the guard!"

"The kids were awestruck at the Washington Cathedral. They said it was one of their favorite sites," said Mrs. Reed.

Mr. Kincaid commented, "I thought the Vietnam Memorial was neat because it was so quiet. You could see people crying and looking for the names of loved ones. It was nice to see that people actually cared about them besides me."

The trip to Washington was a memorable one for Mr. Kincaid.

"The trip made me appreciate the Christian heritage our Forefathers brought in the making of our country. It was nice to see God's name on the buildings and monuments."

In the years to come Mrs. Reed plans to go again and hopes that all eighth graders will be able to go.



## A Man on a Mission

By: Hi-D Tybee

A walk down ODC memory lane brings us to a principal fork in the road. In 1997, our former principal Jacques Tanguay decided to make a change in his career from teaching students in America to teaching pastors in Africa.

Tanguay held several positions at ODC during his eight year reign. From teacher to guidance counselor to principal, Tanguay hit all the marks.

Leaving this great establishment was tough for Tanguay, "Leaving the ones who you care about



is always rough. When you leave, you know you'll never get it back." When Tanguay was asked what he misses the most from ODC, "That's easy. The people, faculty and students."

(see Tanguay,p.12)

## ODC Band No. 1 at Holiday Parade

By: Missy Norris

The excitement of Christmas has already started for our Open Door band. Teachers and students alike can hear the Christmas spirit throughout the high school hallways.

On November 28, 1998 band members traveled to Cleveland when they were invited by Channel 8 news to be in the annual Christmas parade. This was not the first year that Open Door has been invited to this event. They started competing in this particular parade in 1994.

This year, for the first time, the band had a 1 rating in the category of marching bands with sixty members or more. This 1 rating earned the band the honor of marching first during next year's FOX 8 American Legion Holiday Parade.

Freshman and saxophonist, Bryan Wall said, "I liked it for it being my first year going to it." Eric Stevens who is going to be graduate in the class of 1999 and plays quads says, "It's fun watching all the funny people." Others expressed that going to the parade was just alright.

Knowing that experiences draw a band closer, this event will be one the Freshmen will build upon and the Seniors will miss in the years to come.

Right: The ODCS Marching Band's fearless leader grins for the camera at yet another past competition.





# Sports

## Friday Night *Madness*

By: Erin Alloway

About five hundred people flocked into the gymnasium Friday November 20 for a night of "Madness." This year was the third annual Friday Night Madness. The reason for this seeming insanity is to show off the Open Door varsity and junior varsity basketball teams.

The founder of this event is Mr. David Mezey. Miss Maggie Killian and Mezey thought it would be a great way to show off the year's basketball teams. So, for the past three years on a Friday night in November, the basketball teams have strutted their stuff out on the court for the school.

To make it more exciting, teachers are asked to play the teams for fun. This year several of the teachers, like Mrs. Conner, Mrs. Hardesty, Mrs. Muck, Mr. Schmidt and several others came to show off their skill against the Patriots.

Some of the events held at 'Madness' were a shoot out contest, a game, a cookie eating contest and a shoot out prize.

The shoot out contest was between two teams. These teams are combined of two guys, two girls and one alumni each. This years teams were: Brian Mezey, Debbie Dobson, Jenny Linder, Joel Woods, and alumnus Connie vanWingerden ('92) against Julie Clevenger, Josh Smith, Matt Green, Dana Byrd, and alumnus Brian Harrel ('89).

The two Brians were the top two shooters of this competition. Everyone involved did an extraordinary job for their team.

The game event consisted of four ten-minute quarters. The first and third quarters were the lady Patriots against the lady teachers. Once, as the girls fought for the ball it lead to players and a teacher sprawled on the ground. Besides that both teams displayed good sportsmanship.

There was no funny business when the 'Men' stepped out onto the court. The gentlemen senior Patriots



Above: Dressed to impress, Mrs. Conner warms up at "Madness"

against some of the gentlemen of Open Door. The big scorer of the night for the Patriots was senior Jared Riley. Mr. Travis Mulanax made most of the shots for the other men's team. In the end, both of the Patriot teams won over the adults.

Some delicious cookies were provided by "The Cookie Company" for a cookie eating contest. It really wasn't a contest though. Both teams just ate their cookies until they were all gone, but it was fun to watch Mulanax shove cookie after cookie into his mouth.

All night, door prizes were given away. The biggest prize of the night was worth \$25,000. That's

(see midnight, p12)

## B-Ball at its Best

by: Erin Alloway

Leadership and Unity describe this year's basketball teams.

"Our guys have good leadership and togetherness. No one person is greater (than another)," said Travis Mulanax, V Assistant Coach and JV Coach.

The team captains are seniors Brian Mezey, Tom Pycraft, and Kyle Wilkinson. They are not afraid of any oncoming team because they know they "got the stuff."

They are mentally prepared and are anticipating a great season. "They are capable and have the mental game. They just need to stay sharply focused on the game," said Mulanax. As for the JV guys program it, "...has potential. They are good, big men." The JV boys proved they are ready for a great season with their win over First Baptist.

Debbie Dobson and Sarah Sharp are the captains of the girls basketball team. Coach Maggie Killian feels, "They were so young when we started but 3 years together means experience." This year's girls have proved they are ready to rule the court and become the queens of b-ball. Their game against First Baptist showed that with a 52-50 win.



Above: Lady Patriots celebrate a win at Friday Night Madness.



# People

## From the Senior's Mouth

By: Erin Alloway & Hi-D Tybee

With the new year arising, the two of us started wondering what our fellow classmates wanted to change in their lives in the up coming year. So, this month's question from the Senior's mouth is:

### What is Your New Years Resolution?

"I'm going to attempt to not lock myself out of anything next year."

"My new years resolution is to not make any new years resolutions."

"My resolution is to rekindle relationships with friends that I have neglected."

"To be the worlds greatest boyfriend to my one and only love, Jenni Miller AND to get a new car."

"To have FUN!!!"

"I need no further perfection. Thus, I must not resolve to change anything."

"My new years resolution is to not get any speeding tickets in 1999."

"To get along with all the administration and I hope to not appear in traffic court ever again."

"I want to become whole heartedly dedicated to Christ and to take a stand no matter what the cost."

"My resolution is to keep in touch with my friends after graduation."

"I am going to be nicer to people...maybe."

"My new years resolution is to not lose everthing."

"To pass Algebra!!!! AND to get more sleep."

"My resolution is to give the people what they want."

"To not spend so much money on myself."

"To always keep God first in everything I do AND to get a baseball scholarship to play in college AND to not get anymore traffic court appearances in 99!"

"My resolution is to support others with their resolutions."

"I am resolving to be more responsible. And to have a great senior year."

"To lose weight and to fit into a size six."

"I would like to make an impact to the school not for my glory, but for Gods. A better relationship with my parents is another thing I would like to accomplish during the new year."

### The Real Music Man!

By: Joe Faber

Born in Stow, Ohio and raised in Akron, Mr. Chris Clark grew up with his brother. Mr. Clark did not grow up in the typical house, "I had a very hard home life, Mr. Chris Clark said. I learned to cope with it by hiding in the TV and being quiet at home.

Going to Revere High School, Clark remembers playing pranks, such as taking all the school garbage cans from the classrooms.

With a Grade Point Average of 1.145 through out high school, Clark said, "I really didn't really care about my grades. My brother had a GPA of 4.45 so my parents thought the world of him, so I figured I might as well be as stupid as they said I was."

Continuing his education in

the University of Akron, Clark worked on his grades. "I more than tripled my high school GPA. Everything started to be more meaningful to me."

As a child, Clark had not known Jesus as his Lord. Instead he went out and partied at college.

Ironically, it was through one of these parties that he came to know Christ. "I found myself at home and I didn't know how I got there," Clark said, "I realized I was headed into a dead end street, then I turned my life to God."

With this new revelation, his outlook on life changed.. "People started to matter, I tried very hard to make up for the time I had wasted of my life." Through this experience he realized that time is a gift, and if you waste it you can never get it back.

Through Clarks band director, Mr. Lutz, Clark got an interest in

directing. "He was a man that really cared, and I wanted to be that type of man." Because of this Clark modeled his conducting, and he tries to get the most out of people, and to help them feel what they play and to have fun doing it.

"I was not always going to be a teacher," said Clark. "Dr. Koeller found my resume on the Interchristo chain, and called me here. I have been offered other jobs at public schools, but I have found no where I can have the freedom to affect lives as I do here."

"I hope that people can understand my drive to create successful musicians," said Clark. With all his dedication to his job and school, Mr. Chris Clark is an example to everyone who knows him. Using his life as an example, he gives all the glory to God.



# Elementary

## The Student of the Month

By: Amy Schuster

Have you ever wanted a pet tarantula? Well, sixth grader John DeMaria has two pet tarantulas, along with three dogs.

After being homeschooled, 11 year old John DeMaria is spending his first year in Mr. Russ's sixth-grade class. "He is a hard worker and good student," said Mr. Russ. John has proven that he is a hard worker, and he regularly helps grade papers in the second grade.

At home, he has two little sisters, Morgan (6), and Olivia (3). In his spare time he keeps busy playing with his dogs and playing Nintendo 64, as well as listening to D.C. Talk.

Ask him his favorite movie, and he'll tell you it's the sci-fi thriller *Lost In Space*. As far as sports goes he is quite the athlete. He likes baseball, basketball, and football. He especially likes Cleveland Indians pitcher, Chad Ogea.

At home, you might also find him watching his favorite TV show *The X-Files* and eating a Truly Spicy Chicken Sandwich from

Arby's.

So far, John really likes Open Door. He said, "The teachers are all really nice." Like most of us, John plans on working hard this year so he can earn straight A's.



## Q&A WITH JOHN

**Q:** What do you want for Christms?

**A:** Big Screen TV

**Q:** What's your favorite cereal?

**A:** Cocoa Pebbles

**Q:** What scares you?

**A:** Nothing

**Q:** What' your favorite icecream flavor?

**A:** Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough

**Q:** Favorite X-mas Carol?

**A:** Hark The Herold Angels Sing

## Read Across America Update As of 12/3/98

- (3) Ereditario 13,858 miles
- (3) vanWingerden 7947 miles
- (4) Purses 4249 miles
- (4) Abraham 3262 miles
- (5) Oleszczuk 5413 miles
- (5) Rogers 1713 miles

The top three classes are battling it out until December 11. I asked the top three classes just how their class planned on winning and here is what they said:

We will crush the competition!!!  
-Mrs. Ereditario's class

Our class is one step ahead of the rest!  
-Mrs. Oleszczuk's class

We're gonna win fair and square!  
-Miss vanWingerden's class





# Editorial/Opinion

## Letters to the Editor

As a bystander listening to many discussions concerning the party at the Barn after Homecoming, I would like to offer some insight. Any institution has rules and regulations, and those rules should both be followed and be questioned. Rules should not be followed blindly with no thought to their reason or purpose. However, there is a correct procedure to follow when questioning rules in a moral, civilized society. One should approach those in authority with suggestions or rule changes to be considered. This procedure should be followed by anyone in the school organization whether one is an administrator, a faculty member, a staff member, a student, or a parent. Those in final authority then have some choices - accept the ideas and put the rule changes into effect, consider the ideas and make some minor amendments to the rules, or consider the ideas and decide not to make any changes. The person making the decision is then left with

some choices - accept the decision of those in authority, whatever that decision may be, submit another proposal for change, or decide to leave the organization because he can not accept the decision of the authority.

The issue at hand is not one's personal opinion of whether dancing and/or any other activity is acceptable or not. The problem is a breakdown of the foundations of moral, civilized behavior. This is even true in a non-Christian environment. In a Christian environment we not only need to follow these rules, but we need to be forgiving of each other's mistakes. That does not mean that we should pretend that such mistakes do not exist. Anyone who has not followed the proper rules of respecting authority needs to realize his mistakes and seek the forgiveness of those that have been offended. How can we continue to call ourselves a Christian organization if each of us seeks to do what is right in his own eyes? -Brenna Burger

### Get Out!

By: Jenny Dorsey

A couple months ago, Mr Bova announced that there would be a locker check. Students scrambled to pick up and throw out piles of garbage packed into the bottom of their lockers. They carefully stacked their books and lined up their folders. Then they sat in class and waited.

When the bell rang they stared into a clean, neatly organized locker. For some, they were looking at the same thing they saw everyday. For others, it was as if they were looking into someone else's locker.

Is it right for the school to have so much control over students that they even regulate what the lockers look like? For many students, their lockers are not just a place where they throw books but it's home from 8:00 a.m. to 2:40 p.m. They decorate it with the things that represent who they are and what they stand for. Locker checks are an invasion of privacy and free choice. Students do not have the time or sanity to keep stray papers and crumpled up tests out of their lockers. Do students have a right to privacy? You bet they do.

### Aaahh!!

By: Jenny Dorsey

Every night students of Open Door sit at home and stare at piles of homework. A feeling of overwhelming pressure settles on their shoulders. Some begin to search their brains for the information that is somewhere inside. Others glance at the homework and then kick back and watch t.v.

A day in the life of the average student is just a little stressful. They oversleep, speed to school, leave their homework behind, and blank on test answers. They do their best to stay awake, look like they care when someone talks to them and run out of school when the 2:40 bell rings. From there, some students run to grab something to eat before they have to go to work. Between going to school, work, and having a social life, students do not have the time or energy to do all the papers and projects that are assigned. So, some students resort to barricading themselves in their rooms and staying up until midnight while others frantically write at two a.m. Why do teachers think that they are the only one's that give homework that day? Students push themselves to the point of breaking and still barely pass some classes. Students need a break!

Dear Editor,

After reading your November issue, I wonder if anyone enjoyed the "real" homecoming. I also wonder why a person's "private" party was featured. Will this continue

to be a feature of your newspaper and did you accurately represent the entire student body? This is something you might consider.

- Mrs. Muck



# New Merit Role

By: Linda Tanner

"Please pass me the rolls" is a common phrase used around the table. This year Open Door students are experiencing three different types of 'rolls'. They are the Merit Roll, the Honor Roll, and the High Honor Roll. This system is based on a students' grade point average (GPA). The Merit Roll ranges from 3.0 to 3.49. The Honor Roll is from 3.5 to 3.99, and the High Honor Roll is 4.0 and above.

Mr. Bova wanted to change the old Honor system because he felt that it was unfair. After looking through students' report cards Mr. Bova would often find that students would have good GPA's but not be recognized because of one grade. He felt that that was unfair to the students. With the new system students will be able to get

recognition for their hard work even if one grade was a little low.

Mr. Bova waited for the 98-99 school year to enact this new system. Starting this system mid-year may have offset some students. Thus, the new honor system was introduced after first quarter.

Most students like the new honor system. Hannah Washburn said it is a "Good idea. People who get A's B's and C's should get some recognition because there is nothing wrong with getting a C." Halli Brownfield and Stephen Leimgruber share the same opinion. They agree that it is a good thing. They feel this way because "it does not matter if you get one low grade because your GPA evens it out." In contrast, some students like Beth Cooksey felt that the administration made this new honor system to show empathy on

students who were unable to meet the requirement of the old system.

Additionally students who qualify for one of the three 'Rolls' for 3 of 4 quarters will receive an award at the end of the year. Mr. Bova says that this system will stand unless he has a good reason to change it.

## The Music Man

By: Jenny Dorsey

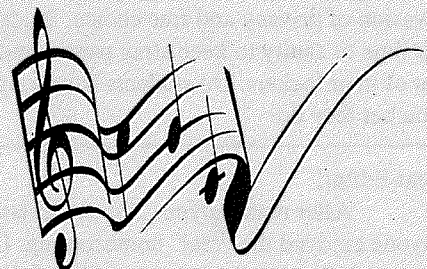
In March of 1999, thespians of Open Door will be performing 'The Music Man'. It will be held at the Lorain Palace Civic Theater. The performances will be on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday March 11, 12, and 13. Tickets to the performance will be available at the Palace and run about \$8.00 a piece.

The Music Man consists of an 88 member cast and 19 crew members.

All of these students are 9-12th graders. "This performance is expected to be a big success," said student director, Erin Alloway.

'The Music Man' is a romantic comedy. It is about a music professor who promises to teach some boys how to play in a band. Ryan Pearce and Amanda Vrona have lead rolls and all involved are looking forward to this year's production.

Open Door Christian School's Drama Club presents  
Meredith Wilson's  
**THE MUSIC MAN**  
as the beautifully named  
Lorain Palace  
Thursday, March 11, 1999  
Friday, March 12, 1999  
and Saturday, March 13, 1999  
Become a patron by adding your name or business to the program. Each patron ad is a tax deductible donation to Open Door!  
Your name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_  
\$10 \$25 \$50 \$100  
Student seller \_\_\_\_\_ Total \_\_\_\_\_  
All donations of \$100 or more receive a full page ad.  
Please make your tax-deductible gift to Open Door by the end of the year.





## Little Women

By: Alisa Pierre

This year's production of "Little Women" was a big success. With Maggie McAulay as the leading lady, and many more of Open Door Christian School's finest actors and actresses, Little Women was a production to remember.

According to Mrs. McAulay, the drama director, the audience size literally doubled from last year's fall play, "Don't Drink the Water." The reason may be because of the widely spread interest of the beloved story of "Little Women." This play is a popular show that spans over many different ages, and almost everybody knows or has heard of it.

Mrs. McAulay said that "everyone did a superb job." This statement was verified by all the reactions and compliments of many people that came to see the play. Mrs. McAulay said that she received positive comments from different people that saw the play.

About 30 people were involved in the production all together, including backstage hands and technical crew.

There were a lot of funny moments in the play. But the winning moment had to have been when Reggie Rice, a.k.a. Mr. March, had the misfortune of his suspenders accidentally coming undone. Reggie said that he was "surprised", and "I was just trying to think of my next line."

Of course there were many other funny moments, but that one took the prize.

Overall, Open Door's production of "Little Women" was a huge success.



Above: From left, Maggie McAulay, Pam Fletcher, Erin Alloway and Katie Helland.

## Christian Conscience

**Dear Christian Conscience,**

Why are people at Open Door so hard to get to know?

**Dear Lonely,**

I agree that people at Open Door are difficult to get acquainted with. I remember my first year at ODCS, it was an incredible challenge, especially when it came to making friends.

It is not that Open Door students are mean, or uninviting, it simply is that many students have known each other all through grade school. When you grow up around a certain group of friends, you become very close, and it is hard to learn how to be friends with anyone else.

In your search for friends do not lose the part of you that makes you special just to accommodate others. In order for you to be completely happy you have to be yourself! Being someone else is very exhausting, and continuing the facade can cause real problems.

Contrary to popular assumption, good friends do not just happen. To be friends with someone else requires a conscience effort. Never stop looking, or being a friend

to others. Real friends are the ones you hang on to, even through college. Being a good friend is a lesson everyone needs to learn. Maybe you can help teach everyone else.

**Dear Christian Conscience,**

I have been dating a guy for a little over two weeks. Is it too soon to kiss him? I really like him.

Sincerely, Wantin' Some Lovin'

**Dear Wantin' Some Lovin',**

I want you to answer one question truthfully. Why do you want to kiss him? Is it that you positively do like him, and you wish to express that feeling through a kiss, or is it something else? Any other reason is like stepping in a fresh cowpie: things get messy.

If you answer that you wish to express your feelings, you may want to consider other ways of telling him how you feel, other than being physical.

I realize that it is just a kiss, but "just a kiss" can actually mean a lot. A kiss is a "rite of passage" for a relationship; it has more meaning than people are willing to admit. When you kiss someone you are telling them that they are special, and exclusive to you.

How would you feel if you experienced a fabulous kiss, and the next day the other person went ahead and kissed someone else. You would be furious and hurt. That is just an example of how strong a physical display of emotion really is. It is not something to be taken lightly.

If you want to show him how much you genuinely care, try writing and making cards for him. If writing is not your speciality, simply use that one unique talent that God gives each person, and do it for him. If he feels the same way as you do, he will appreciate the gesture, and respect you even more for choosing to wait for that right time when you know a kiss is appropriate.



# Classified

## Congratulations!!!

Congratulations to the Junior debaters on a job well done.  
The Seniors Class

Congratulations to the Patriot Marching Band on winning first place in the TV FOX/8 American Legion Holiday Parade on Sunday, November 28! Hard work does pay off!

Development Department

## Wanted

Waterproof, net wanted. Will pay or borrow. Please contact Ryan Hale @ 246-3086.

Little tikes need a soft place to sit. Please let me know if you have any bean bag chairs I could have. I need them for the children for aftercare. Please contact me at your earliest convenience. Thank you.  
Mrs. Rose Smith

Wanted: a student to take over Sammy Moes's position of doing every thing wrong in Mrs. Conner's class.  
Sam Moes

## Lost and Found

Lost: a Sony CD player by the gym pay phone;  
REWARD! Please contact Beth Faucher.

Missing: Class ring, cubic zirconia, with Open Door emblem over gem. If found, contact Laura Ponusky at 937-5246.

## Miscellaneous Mush

To the Angelic Fireball (shorty), Crayola, French Fry, and Twizzler: You guys rock! We are moving to California in 2001!

Love, Sparky

Seniors: Thank you for accepting, loving, and praying for me. You are the best!

Linda Tanner

Hadyn, Rachel, Shannon, Mabel, Matt, and Brittany:  
Have a Merry Christmas and never forget that I love you!  
Hi-D Tybee

Jessica Merril: you're the awesomest. I'm so glad you've come to ODCS.

Love ya, Debbie

Travis Gift: I think I'm in love with you. Meet me after school the last day before Christmas break. In the Senior Hall after 8th period.

Secret Admirer

Maggie McAulay is the hottest girl in the school. I wish she was my girlfriend.

Secret Admirer



Kyle: To the hottest soccer player in the world! You can be my fireball any day!

Abbie Dubois

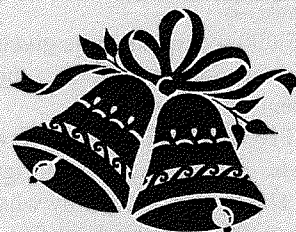
To: Nicki, Chandel, Tara and T.J. Hopkins:  
Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year!  
You guys keep us young and make parenting a blast!  
We love you!!

Mr. and Mrs. Hopkins



# Rhythm and Rhyme

By: West Newbrough



A Christmas to remember  
Is one in December  
On the 25th of the month.  
All cozy inside  
To safely abide  
By the fireplace with stockings  
hung all over.

**-Justin Kincaid 11th**

Christmas lights and ornaments,  
Packages with bows,  
Waiting 'til the night before,  
Excitement tingles in my toes.

All I want are dolls and toys,  
Patience is tossed out.  
6 a.m. on Christmas Day,  
Suspense begins to mount!

Waking up, I hop right out,  
The floor is very cold.  
All I hear is, "Back to bed!  
Remember what you're told!"

Sighing as I turn around  
I wonder how they knew.  
Just wanted to see my gifts!  
Not all, but just a few!

Christmas is so different now,  
Our views are quite reversed.  
I'm still asleep when they come in,  
Excitement nearly burst.

Parents think that when you've  
grown  
Enthusiasm rises.  
But all I want to do is sleep!  
Too early for surprises!  
**-Becky Johnson 10th**

A family gathers around a tree,  
The children are screaming and  
yelling gleefully.  
Christmas Day has finally come.  
And they open their gifts one by one.  
The wrappings are torn from the first  
gifts,  
Smiles spread across the room sure  
and swift.

The children have been waiting for  
this all year,  
Now they're not sure if it's really  
here.  
How could it be possible to have so  
much fun  
And be in a room where you're loved  
by everyone?

Looking around the room and seeing  
everyone with a smile  
Doesn't it make you think after a  
while,  
That there's as much joy in a gift to  
give  
As there is in a gift to receive.  
**-Justin Ball 11th**

Christmas is awesome.  
I get lots of big presents.  
Let it snow a lot.

Presents are awesome.  
Presents are fun to open.  
I love big presents.

Christmas is fun to  
Go skiing on big mountains.  
Christmas is awesome.  
**-John Mason 6th**

## Jingle Bells, My Way by Hi-D Tybee

Seniors rock! Seniors rock!  
Seniors on their way.  
Stinks to be you,  
'cause we'll graduate,  
You'll be here to stay.

Seniors rule! Seniors rule!  
Seniors work the school.  
Don't go there,  
'cause you aint wit' it,  
We are way too cool.

Ninety-nine! Ninety-nine!  
Getting out on time.  
Open campus isn't enough,  
We yearn for the 2:40 chime!

## Toon to "Jingle Bells" author unknown

Dust and smoke the heater's broke  
The door just blew away  
I light a match to see the dash  
And then I start to pray  
The frame is bent the muffler went  
The radio, it's ok  
Oh what fun it is to ride  
In a beat up Chevrolet  
OH.....

Verse 1:  
While riding through the snow drifts  
In a big black cloud of smoke  
Everybody  
points and laughs  
I wonder what's the joke  
I'm riding to the market  
To get some Christmas cheer  
All so that my love and I  
Could have a great New Year  
OH.....



# And So On . . .

*(from midnight, p4)*

right, \$25,000 was going to be given to the lucky person who could meet the requirements of the game.

Five shots had to be made in 30 seconds. Doesn't sound hard, right? Wrong! Thirty seconds flies by when having to make five shots from five different places on the court and chase the ball down when it rolls away.

This year the lucky one to get their ticket pulled was Mr. Tim Hutman. He made the first two shots and then the clocked buzzed.

Only one person has made more than two shots and that was Thad Davis at the very 'Madness' when he made three of the five shots.

Friday Night Madness was a great night and it did its job. Everyone is now familiar with the teams and the basketball fans are ready to support their teams with spirit and excitement.

*(from shorts, p1)*

"First, Mr. Bova needed us to type up a clean and neat proposal," said Walls, "We had total support from Mr. Bova." The final draft was finished on October 14 and sent to the ODC School Board.

Six days later, ODC had a new and improved dress code. The ODC School Board approved the 'Proposed Dress Code Revision' by Kent Walls. The revision set guidelines such as dress shorts only, no athletic apparel or colored jean shorts. Also, all shorts must be colors that would be the likes of pants already worn here at ODC. "Shorts must be no shorter than four inches above the knee and no longer than one inch below the knee," said Walls in his proposal.

Having this dress code change will be a switch for ODC students, as was the change from no jeans to colored jeans just years ago. ODC students prepare for the warm weather, as May will be here in a 'short' time.

*(from heart, p1)*

emotional, social, physical, and educational need on the spiritual foundation of Jesus Christ."

They have different programs to help the kids. On Saturday mornings there is a Children's Church program. Then on Tuesday nights every other week there is Kid's Club. It is a tutoring session for grades 1- 6th. On the odd weeks then there is Gangbusters. This is for teens ages 12 and up.

Tim Guenther heard about H & H from a member at Christ the King Church in 1989 and six months later he was on the board. Ever since then Tim has been taking groups down who volunteer their time to help the Davidsons.

One such group is the senior class of Open Door. Four times a year the senior class goes to H & H. Sometimes there is yard work to be done, sets to be painted, or rooms to be decorated for Children's Church. Although many break-in's occur they are glad to be working for the Lord and helping the children in need. They plan on serving with their hands and their hearts for as long as God wills.

*(from fair, p2)*

nothing!" said Mr. Greenwood with a reminiscent chuckle.

While there have been some poor projects, there have also been many above average projects. One year a student raised a group of chickens, then studied the egg production from putting them under different lights.

Former student Adam White was even told to get a patent for his idea of using solar and wind energy to turn salt water into fresh water.

Whether the projects have taken 2 hours or 2 months, the students of ODCS have kept the science fair going for over fifteen years with both the good and bad projects.

*(from uniforms, p1)*

choice in what they wear. The issue becomes one of balance between the right to choose, and convenience for the parents. Mrs. Boyd has brought up the possibility of variety in the selection of uniforms. If uniforms do become a reality, Mrs. Boyd's contingency plan might be the compromise the elementary needs.

*(from Tanguay, p3)*

Since leaving ODC, Tanguay has been immersed into the French language. He has been attending school at Laval University in Quebec to master the French language. His children have also been learning the "language of love." "The kids are getting better at it. At first, they would play on the playground and all the kids spoke French. They had to use hand gestures," said Tanguay.

Tanguay is learning French to enable himself to speak to the people in the Congo. But all this work is being delayed "due to a civil war in Congo. Tanguay and family "may have to go to Haiti or West Africa." As of now, Tanguay is enrolled in the spring semester at Laval.

In preparation for his career as a teacher of pastors, Tanguay has had the opportunity to preach in front of a congregation three times. This not only gets Tanguay the chance to prepare his teachings, but also the experience of speaking in front of a large crowd.

As you may remember, two of the Tanguay children attended ODC, Bethany and Nathan. "They are doing wonderful! They have made a lot of friends and are enjoying the winter up here [in Quebec]."

The Tanguays will be in Ohio over the Christmas season and hope to see students during their time here.

If you would like to contact Mr. Tanguay or his family, his address is:  
2063 De la Presquile  
Apartment 102  
Quebec, Quebec, Canada G1P-3X9