



The Colonial

Friday,
February 23, 2001

Volume 57
Issue 8

T h e C o l o n i a l

February 23
• Registration deadline for March 31 SAT I
• Homecoming Pep Rally during seminar

February 25
• National Honor Society Induction Ceremony
1:30 p.m. @ IUSB
Northside Hall #158

March 1
• Band Concert
7:30 p.m.

March 2
• Pom Competition
6:30-9:30 p.m.

March 7
• Honor Band Concert
7:00 p.m.
in Clay auditorium

March 8
• Half day for students
10:45 dismissal

No More Block

Students react to the school board's decision

Erin Lewis
SPOTLIGHT EDITOR

Students are protesting, but they can kiss block scheduling goodbye. On February 5th, the Board of School Trustees voted to support Superintendent Joan Raymond's recommendation to discontinue block scheduling in all South Bend Community High Schools next fall. Why? The superintendent states that it is mainly

a budget issue. Raymond believes that the \$1.6 million needed to continue the block-scheduling program is too much money spent on something which has not proven to be effective. On a WNDU news report she said that continuing block scheduling would create a budget deficit and "then all of a sudden you have to start slashing [budgets] and we're not going to do that. We're not go-

ing to touch programs we believe are working."

Raymond believes block scheduling is ineffective because students spend 30 hours less in class over the course of a school year, and no evidence has been found that it improves attendance, truancy, or academics.

How do students feel about this change? Pretty angry, it seems. While the Board meeting was in progress, nearly forty student demonstrators marched and chanted outside the Education Center building. Some Washington students left school after the decision, an action they state was a protest against the School Board's decision. Many teachers remain skeptical, but the students maintain that they are genuinely angered by the opportunities this decision will deny them. For example, students complain that fewer periods limit their opportunity to take the classes they want to take. Some feel that the longer class periods

enough time to cover the lessons better and to get to know their teachers. Another argument against the decision is that when schools return to the previous schedule,

there will be no seminar period. This pe-

riod gives students an opportunity to catch up on tests and homework they missed while sick or on a college visit. Seminar gives students time to talk to teachers one-on-one about a s s i g n -

ments or classwork they don't understand- something that isn't always possible during normal class time. To sum up the embittered feelings of many students,

Katherine Hamlin, a junior at Adams, can be quoted. "They can dance around it all they want, but they are cutting education for the sake of money. And that's not right for any district to do. Education should not be compromised for the sake of balancing the budget."

Not all teachers are happy with returning to the original schedule, either. Many liked the longer periods and thought they could teach more effectively within them.

See **BLOCK** / Page 2

Budget Cuts

The following are cuts approved by the South Bend Board of School Trustees in order to balance the corporation's 2001 budget.

	Cost	Savings for 2001
District Administration		
Transfer to CPF	\$258,315	\$258,315
Reduced Science Center staffing	\$111,210	\$34,222
Part-time curriculum facilitators	\$37,072	\$11,407
Learning Tree (teacher resource)	\$31,393	\$15,696
Corporation vacancies	\$182,978	\$182,978
Library coordinator	\$80,976	\$40,488
Supplies	\$100,000	\$70,000
Subtotal	\$801,944	\$613,106
School-Based		
Block Scheduling	\$1,649,744	\$507,626
Grand Total	\$2,451,688	\$1,120,732

source: South Bend Tribune

What do you think about the Board of School Trustees' decision to end block scheduling?



"Best decision they ever made. It was never a good decision to begin with."
-Mr. Wallace



"I like having block scheduling. I don't think they should get rid of it just to save money."
-Freshman Sara Schmidt



"I think it's horrible. I like block scheduling."
-Junior Kat Sirota



"I love it. I hate block. I can't stay awake for 90 minutes."
-Junior Chris Serge



"I like block scheduling. I'll miss seminar."
-Freshman Jason Sabo

Nandhu Ramanan
Sandhu Sandusky

Bengay Address part 2

Four score and seven years ago, we called the offices of the Superintendent to request an interview. No two people have been rejected so many times so close to Valentine's Day since Richard Simmons and George Costanza.

Now we are engaged in a great war, testing whether our newspaper can long endure. We have come to dedicate a portion of this newspaper as a final resting place for those questions that gave their lives so generously. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this. The world will not remember what we say here, but it can never forget what we didn't say. It is for us to assure that interviews of the people, by

the people, and for the people, shall not perish from this earth.

Here are some of the things that might have been said at our interview with Dr. Raymond:

Thank you for joining us, Dr. Raymond.

It's nice to see you boys. I read all of the school newspapers. But I hold a special place in my heart for *The Colonial*.

Who is your favorite writer?

Well, my favorite writer and orator is Winston Churchill. Limiting myself to *The Colonial* makes my decision more difficult. "Crafton's View" has the power to whitewash. I really like



(photo manipulated by Nate Ferrone)

the Chouhan character, though. He types very well.

Yes, that Aakash kid is really good with his hands.

I read "The Fiesta Fiasco." In fact, I was in Calcutta watching the game with Aakash. I spent the day with the Maharajah of Nagnagdup.

Moving on to issues with our schools, what do you think is the cause for the low ISTEP scores recently?

Obviously, the low concentration of Indians within our schools is causing a problem.

How do you plan to fix this problem?

This community needs more restaurants like the Malabar. We also need about four hundred more gas station/convenience stores, like the one on *The Simpsons*. As more Indians join the area, we will need more hospitals for them to work in and luxury car dealerships for them. This will stimulate the economy, remove poverty, and raise standardized test scores.

What about the problem of redistricting?

Yes. The decision to remove block scheduling from our high

schools has been controversial. Why were you so adamant?

They told me I could come to Diwali only if we went back to a six-period day.

You have displayed a wonderful work ethic since arriving as Superintendent. Are there any negatives in your job?

One time, I typed a very important document on my disk. I saved it as "Bengay". The next day, I came back and "Bengay" was still there—only it was in Turkish. One of my secretaries must have had a hand in it. Thankfully, whiz kid Adam Sheer saved the document for me. You know, he might be half-Indian.

We wish you luck, Dr. Raymond.

Note: This interview did not actually take place. However, the 4 unreturned phone calls did.

News

• Napster News

• Teacher Accused of Drug Trade



• Aakash runs through the news

Opinion

• Interview w/ Bush and Clinton

Kurt & Shahaab

• "What is something you've done that you now regret?"

Spotlight

• Crafton's View



• Horoscopes (really)



Feature

• Senior Privileges

• Crossword puzzle win Vijay for a day!



Sports



• Featured Athlete Sylvester Mayes

• Boy's Swimming

• Spring Preview

Teacher Accused of Drug Trade

Courtesy of A.P. News Wire

ROY, Utah (AP) — A teacher has resigned after being accused of bumping up the grades of students who agreed to give her prescription painkillers.

Michele Opheikens, 30, was charged Tuesday with possession of a controlled substance and burglary, for allegedly entering a student's home in search of drugs. She resigned as teacher and coach at Roy High School last week.

The charges followed a two-week investigation that began after several students reported the teacher's actions. Police Lt. Greg Whinham said.

"Mrs. Opheikens would tell these kids she would give them an 'A' for some pills," a police report said. "She would also offer to pay \$5 or \$10 to cover their co-payment."

Opheikens' attorney, Michael Boyer, said she developed an addiction to painkillers after undergoing several painful surgeries. He said she is being treated for her problem.

"Ms. Opheikens very much regrets her actions in violating the law, district policy, and her own personal ethics," Boyer said.

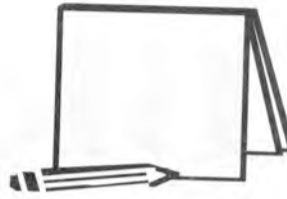
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BLOCK Scheduling (Continued)...

Some worry that, without the extra positions needed for block scheduling, their jobs may be at stake. Raymond does not herself believe that this will be a problem. Her solution to this problem is simply that new teachers will not be hired next year, and these teachers will simply fill positions left by retiring teachers.

This decision has upset many students, parents, and teachers. But it appears to be too late to do anything to prevent loss of block schedule next year.

However, Superintendent Raymond said that a change back to block schedule in the future might be possible. If students make their voices heard, maybe a return to this system will be possible in the 2002-2003 school year.



Napster: Big Time Violation?

Courtesy of thefence.com

Napster, for those who may not know, is a program that you can use to download free music from the Internet. The program converts songs from CD's to computer files, or MP3's, and allows the songs to be sent over the Internet or used in portable players, such as walkmen. However, the federal judge issued a temporary restraining order last year, directing Napster not to promote or permit infringement of copyrighted material. UND Computer Center, in agreement with the UND administration, is announcing that the Napster client software is officially banned for use by UND faculty, staff, and students due to the fact that it utilizes a large amount of

Internet bandwidth, thus interfering with more suitable uses. Some estimate that more than 20 million users regularly committed copyright infringements through Napster by downloading or uploading copyrighted material, without consent of owners. Last year, Metallica and Dr. Dre filed their own lawsuits against Napster in the United States District Court for the Central District of California. Right now, Napster is still up and about but have been ordered to stop making all copyrighted material available to the public. However, they can still have material that is not copyrighted. Several people also believe that Napster should pay the musicians and song writers their full due amount.

What's your opinion about Napster? To the right are located the opinions of public voters. For more information, you can visit thefence.com.

Way to Go, Clay Band and Choir!

Congratulations to those students who participated in the ISSMA State Solo Ensemble on February 17, 2001 in Indianapolis.

Congratulations to those students who will be participating in the ISSMA State Solo Ensemble on February 24, 2001 in Indianapolis.

Thomas Barbour
Bradley Thomas
Mary Barbour
Sarah Miller
Kristin Piscione
Aaron Hachen
Adam Simmons
Kristin Kwieran
Kelly Cohen

Sarah Wiley
Sarah Later
Charee Holloway
Ashley Ghiasedden
Julie Jakoubek
Will Garvey
Regan Harding
Kiersten Kamman

Good Luck!

Does Napster Violate Copyright Laws?

A.	15 votes	5%	Absolutely!
B.	26 votes	9%	I think so.
C.	8 votes	3%	I'm on the fence
D.	50 votes	18%	Maybe not shut down, but it should be forced to charge for the music.
E.	183 votes	65%	No. Napster is a perfect example of what the Internet at its best and purest can do. I have no problem whatsoever with Napster.

Courtesy of msnbc.com

Global Scoop: What's Going On?

Aakash Chauhan
STAFF WRITER

On January 20th we had seen the last of Bill Clinton—or so we thought. The next day the news channels were all over his proposed \$800,000 apartment in

New York. The day after that, the news channels were all over his presidential pardons of international fugitives Marc Rich and Pincus Green. Then Al Gore publicly condemned Bill Clinton for ruining his chances of being president.



Courtesy of msn.com

Marc Rich

It seems as if Bill will never go away. He knows the American people have moved on, but the American media hasn't. The media will still obsess over him and prey upon his extraordinary activities. Then Bill's saga continued; realizing that his \$800,000 apartment wasn't going to float, he decided to buy one in Harlem for much cheaper. People are classifying his exit as the worst in history. It certainly has been an entertaining if annoying one though. The Clintons even left the White House in rubble for George W. and company. That is just sleazy.

Another important event is the "accident" between a nuclear submarine and a Japanese fishing boat. The USS Greenville apparently collided with a fishing boat when practicing emergency surfacing.

Nine people are feared dead, and controversy is stirring about how such a disaster should happen in such a high-tech world. Usually a nuclear submarine contains SONAR, RADAR, and a periscope for navigation purposes. However, these things failed to help because the sub completely annihilated the fishing boat when resurfacing. It is bizarre and shocking for a catastrophe to happen like this. These kind of accidents have also happened in the past but were never paid much attention. This was an emergency drill, so the sailors on the sub weren't as prepared. But regardless of who's fault it is, in a highly technological world, disasters such as these are outlandish.



Courtesy of msn.com

Last but not least, it's almost time to say good-bye to Napster. Not having to buy any CD's has been enjoyable for anyone who uses it. But everything that's good has to end someday. Paying to use Napster has been an

* * *

The Colonial

19131 Darden Road
South Bend, IN, 46637

The Colonial is a biweekly newspaper written and designed by the publication class at Clay High School. It upholds all the ideals of the First Amendment of the Constitution, namely freedom of the press.

Letters to the editor are welcomed and encouraged. They may be submitted to Mrs. Cynthia Brosnan, the Publications advisor, or to a Colonial staff member. Names can be withheld upon request but the advisor and editor-in-chief must know who wrote it. In print we reserve the right to edit any part of the letter that may be considered slanderous towards any person or group. The length of the letter may be changed due to space limitations but the intention of the letter will remain the same.

Editorials represent the opinions of the editorial board. This issue's editorial was written by Megan Tarbet. The editorial does not necessarily represent the opinions of all of the administration, staff or students. The Colonial will not print obscenities or anything that invades the privacy of any group or individual.

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An Interview With Bush and Clinton

Kurt Meyers and Shahaab Uddin
STAFF WRITERS

January 20, 2001. Shahaab and I decided to take a gander at the new leader of the United States. We also couldn't pass up an opportunity to talk to our infamous former leader on his way out.



While we were in for tickets to a Scott Hamilton Ice Skating Extravaganza, we ran into Ole' Slick Willy and Dubya themselves. I am afraid of Bill, so I let Shahaab talk to him. I was stuck with cowboy Bush.

Kurt on Bush:

Q: So now you're President. What's that like?

A: Well, it's different from my farm back in Texas, if you know what I mean.

Q: You own a farm? Plan to bring any of that "home on the range" attitude to the White House?

A: Yeah, me and the Mrs. got some "fire" cow tongues and hot sauce sure to spice up the White House kitchen.

Q: I was talking about tactics to get us out of a recession and other world problems.

A: Oh yeah... that stuff.

Well I have some planned "stategy" for that bullhonkey.

Q: Stategy? Are you sure thats even a word, Mr. President?

A: Um...yeah my dad said it once.

Q: There is some talk about your alcohol problem and you being a crack head. Some say that if you buckle under the pressure of being the President, you will turn to the bottle or sniff some magic powder to ease it.

A: Hey young fella, be calm. I am the President, and the majority of the US believes strongly in me, enough to resist the urge. If they believe in me then so do I. Although my buddy Jack Daniels is lookin pretty good right about now...

Q: Alright you're done. Good luck with the next four years, Dubya. I wish you well.

A: Thank you young man. I hope you live the rest of your life subliminally.

Shahaab on Clinton:

Q: How does it feel to be leaving office after 8 years?

A: It's great. I get to just relax and play my sax. Hillary will be seeing more of me now.

Q: Yeah, like in divorce court. How has Hillary reacted to the change of First Lady to New York Senator?

A: She thinks she is special or something because she's Senator, but she is nothing compared to me.

Q: I notice at her win with the Senate you attempted to put your arm around her but she was pushing you away. What was that all about?

A: I won't deny it, we are hav-



ing some troubles. My love for younger women and cigars, and her love for that Rick Lazio are getting in the way of our marriage.

Q: Yeah, maybe if you didn't love interns so much this wouldn't be a problem.

A: Alright that's it for this interview. Remember one thing, Shahaab: I did not inhale.

A Realistic Look at Homecoming

Sarah Lauer
STAFF WRITER

As you all know, Homecoming is on its way. Most of you are happy about Homecoming, but others, like myself, are not so keen on the whole idea.

I feel it's a popularity contest. Our representatives should have good qualities. Most of the people are not the ideal student in any way, shape or form.

I also feel the principles by which people are chosen are ridiculous. Physical attractiveness is all you must attain to be on the court. What about a good personality? Shouldn't that play a role in some way?

Obviously, the majority of students at Clay think otherwise. Sophomore Saralena Weinfield agrees saying, "I think popularity is a key factor for Homecoming.."

In my opinion, this is how the whole thing works. There are five white couples on the court, and one black. The black students all vote for the

single black couple. And why not? It is perfectly normal for students to vote for the couple they identify with best. The white students split their votes between the remaining five couples. Therefore, the winning couple is usually black.

I think there should be a balance of race on the court, all minorities should be represented.

Most of the Clay student body does enjoy Homecoming. They like seeing their peers dressed up for the court. They get excited to hear the announcement of the king and queen.

I think teachers like Homecoming because it reminds them of the "good 'ole days," when they were in high school. Every Homecoming brings back memories of similar occasions past.

Junior Raychel Weaver thinks, "Homecoming is fun, and it's a time for Clay Alumni to return and savour the great memories."

Clay Colonial Editorial

This article is a boost from a fellow student advising one simple message. Take advantage of your high school years and make the most from your relationships with people. I'm talking about the regrets that you can still change, and the mistakes that you can prevent. When you walk through the halls, your eyes glance at five other people. Sometimes you wave, you might nod, or you don't even acknowledge them at all.

As a result a question arose that tampered with your thoughts for only a few moments when you passed that person. What would it have been like if you had pursued a friendship with that person? What would your life be like right now if you were still

friends with that person? If you had a second chance, what would you change between this person and yourself? What would you have said? What would you not have said?

When you reach your senior year you don't recognize the same kids that were goofy losers that had their own clique their freshman year. Table for one, right? What would your life be like if you had befriended this person while your whole class was going through the "cocoon" state of their high school careers?

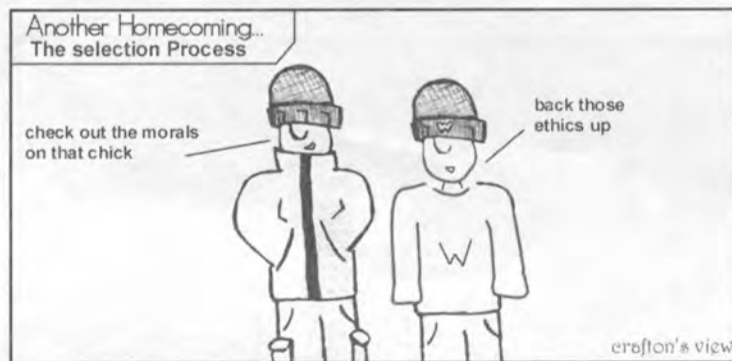
Maybe inside you wanted to get to know someone. However, the extreme clash in friends put them above or below you in the food chain.

You have two choices, "the blue pill or the red pill"- fa-

mous quote from the feature *The Matrix*. You can have many friends, but the ones that don't match your agenda you tend to avoid.

Break your habits and introduce yourself to someone new, or in the future, you might find yourself pointing to their picture in a dusty yearbook, telling your kids that that person always caught your attention for some reason.

The Colonial leaves you with this final thought. We are in charge of our own regrets. Taking a leap of faith ignites us into fearless individuals. Start-off conversations with the positive, and the funny. Remember these are the best days of our lives. I wish you luck.



WASTE of SPACE

What is something you've done that you now regret?



Freshman Kevin Kush: Getting arrested



Sophomore Brian Lynn: When I quit basket ball



Sophomore Paige Austin: I regret quitting poms



Junior Chris Geist: Saying Kashif's house was stupid



Senior Heather Smith: Taking Perusek's Spanish Class



Senior Aaron Thomas: Wasting my high school years doing nothing.



Guidance counsler Mr. Grabowski: Not marrying Anna Nicole Smith when I had the chance!

Senior Privileges: What went wrong?

Aakash Chauhan
STAFF WRITER

Pointless is the word that defines most of the changes, regulations, and rules that have been executed in my four years of high school. These sweeping changes leave as quickly as they come. I guess block scheduling was a going away gift for seniors that will be no more, leaving us to wonder why we were so special to have it.

Our wonderful id's haven't improved anything except more people moping around in de-

attention. There are countless absent/tardy regulations and few reasons to have so many.



Compliments of Health Magazine

All of these matters have been burdens to worry about, so why even at all. The school needs to stick to one

plan and keep it. The senior class hasn't

been lucky at all. The term "shafted" can be applied to our class. Senior Jeff Fox says, "I spent an hour with my fellow thugs in code yellow because I was mischievously getting some books I forgot. I'm sorry that I had to involve myself in that even if I had a pass." Even long-standing tradition has been destroyed.

Homecoming is a great tradition usually celebrated with a float parade. However the track was more important than tradition and celebration. Senior Joe Witkowski feels, "When the homecoming parade was taken away so was the tradition and spirit of it.

Other events such as

the Powder Puff game were also cancelled, leaving nothing at all for this year." I'm not even going to waste writing space about the school "door bell" because it is ridiculous.

The Senior class hasn't been lucky at all. The term "shafted" can be applied to our class.

Whatever it may be, I am happy to get out of here. Four years of this place have turned me into a soldier. I didn't even have to join ROTC to become one!

It's not the senior's fault that underclassmen are

eating in our cafeteria. So why take away the TV's to punish us. Basically, the changes that have circled around our class should have been overruled since day one. Good-Luck to the upcoming classes. We're checking out.

Athletic Equipment * Award Lettering
T-Shirts
Midwest Athletic Letter Jackets
Last Name _____ Last Name _____
Free!! 517-519 N. Hill St. Free!!
South Bend, IN 46617
Phone and fax:
(219) 232-9550
We accept mail/phone/fax/ order
Offer Expires
March 23, 2000
Last Name Free with Purchase of Jacket

Diving into the cash: Where to go this spring

Jamila D. McMorris
STAFF WRITER

Most of us long for Spring Break, the week long vacation from school during the first week of April each year. This is a time for everyone to fly out to sandy beaches or to head to the windy city and party. Personally, I am appalled by the very idea of working over spring break. Why would I spend my vacation stocking isles, serving people... baby-sitting brats, or doing any other form of tedious work?



Being the person that I am, I was able to find several students willing to work over spring break. Senior Sal Shabazz said, "I don't mind

working over spring break, because I need the money, but believe I'll be going to Cancun with the rest of the seniors." And my close friend Junior Jamesia Comer had this to say about working over spring break, "Ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha hiccup ha ha ha ha ha. Me,

work? Over spring break? Ha ha ha ha." A very interesting comment I thought. So why do so many kids object to the idea of working during spring break? Most likely because it's one of the few breaks we get during the school year. Also how many times a year do you get to sleep until 12:00 in the afternoon and stay out until way after the

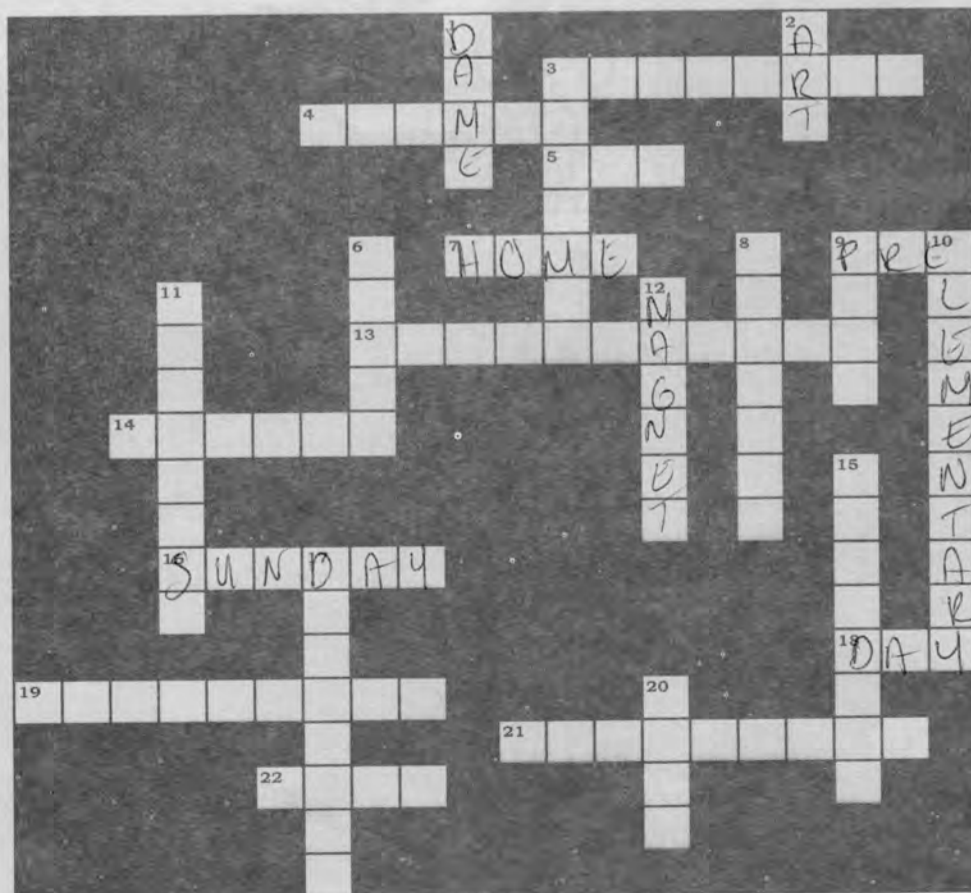
street lights come on? Anyone with common sense would take advantage of this time and do something other than work. It is true that some students need to work, either to save money for college or the summer, or because they have families to support.



Whatever the reason there are some students who have to work. Spend your break however you want, but my final word on this subject is, we'll be working for the rest of our lives, but how many more springs breaks will we have to spend with our friends?



(BLANK) SCHOOL: All answers are types of schools



- ACROSS**
- 3 Dustin Hoffman's first movie
 - 4 Longest break
 - 5 Finger painting
 - 7 There's no place like _____
 - 9 Before
 - 13 Another solution
 - 14 In between
 - 16 After sat, before mon
 - 18 Not night
 - 19 Narrow in outlook or scope
 - 21 The end
 - 22 Think Baim

- DOWN**
- 1 None
 - 2 Martial
 - 3 Everyone's favorite part of English
 - 6 You _____ stocks and bonds
 - 8 16 is the lucky number
 - 9 Plan
 - 10 Beginning
 - 11 Occupation
 - 12 Vijay is a babe _____
 - 15 What you do when you get on a plane
 - 17 Bovinity _____, by Ben and Jerry's
 - 20 Not low

Take a few minutes and see if you can complete this mind boggling crossword puzzle. The winner will receive a prize and be featured in the next issue of *The Colonial* as a student profile. Also, the lucky winner will receive a prize and Vijay for day!... **GOOD LUCK!!!**



This crossword is the brainchild of Marco Sandusky, Abby Herreman, and Mike Brzezinski

Crafton's View:

Andy Faces the Wrath of the Common Cold

Andy Crafton
STAFF WRITER

Being sick is not fun. Normally an individual of good health, this winter abused me with a vicious cold. Instead of a nice runny nose or slight cough, Mother Nature decided to let out a pack of rabid germs from space into my body. One of the most annoying symptoms was the hallucination. I could picture microscopic gerbils running around on the Cheerios I was eating for breakfast, like they were hamster-wheels. Only after taking mass amounts of extra strength cold medicine for a week did I manage to rid myself of the unfriendly virus. In order to help others identify when they're coming down with something, this issue's column will include a list of ways to tell you're contracting a cold.

Ways to Tell You're Getting a Cold:

-You lose your sense of smell and everything tastes like cardboard.
-You feel the constant need to spit out the stuff

lugged in your throat.
-There's an important test you forgot to study for and you can't remember anything.
-After blowing your nose, the tissue climbs back out of the garbage and crawls away.
-You feel and look like you have a cold, but your parents say you're fine.
-You stupidly share a drink with someone who tells you they have a cold.
-You carry a box of Kleenex around so you don't have to go find another.
-Your snot starts to resemble slushy colors from The Bullpen.
-You suddenly start having a craving for chicken soup.
-You start suffering from the gerbil delusions mentioned above.



Disclaimer: The ideas expressed in this column reflect the opinions of Andy Crafton not the entire Colonial Staff. If you can't get enough of Andy's column or would like to see it put through a shredder, feel free to drop us a line.

Xbox vs. PlayStation 2

The War of the Game Systems

Adam Sheer
STAFF WRITER

Microsoft's Xbox is the console that everyone is talking about. It is quickly becoming more popular than the PlayStation 2 and is expected to be released in the fall of 2001. The Xbox was unveiled at this year's Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas by Bill Gates and The Rock. The Xbox was demonstrated with one-fifth the power of the final system. The console performed remarkably well unlike some of Bill Gates' other product demos.

The Xbox will be over twice as fast as the PlayStation 2 with an amazing 733 MHz. The console will also have a custom designed video card made by Microsoft and nVidia. It comes with 64 MB of memory compared to only 32 on the PlayStation 2. The Xbox also has an 8 GB hard drive, 5x DVD drive and an 8 MB memory card. You can hook

four controllers to the Xbox at once and it has a built in Ethernet port in back so you can hook it directly to the Internet.

The Xbox controller is very ergonomic. It is shaped a lot like the Sega Dreamcast controller with many improve-



the games easier to play and much more fun.

There are already over 30 games for the Xbox and many more on the way. Leading hardware and software producer Sega plans to start making software for the Xbox as it phases out the Dreamcast. The Xbox has amazing 3D graphics as well as games with surround sound. It is

also compatible with high definition TV for even better video.

Microsoft's Xbox will undoubtedly

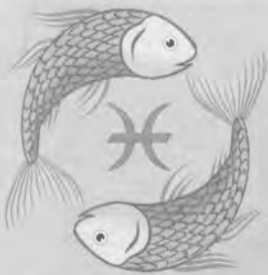
be on the top of the pile of new consoles. It is expected to be in the price range of the PlayStation 2, but at this point it doesn't even come with a controller so once you add a few accessories the price could easily be more expensive than a PlayStation 2.

ments. It has a total of 12 buttons. Microsoft tried many different shapes of controllers before they chose the current one. They have taken the best technology from other controllers to develop the one for the Xbox. It even has a built in rumble pack. It should make

Horoscopes: Foretelling the Future

Mandy Clark
STAFF WRITER

Aquarius (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)
Right now you're feeling bummed that the year is almost over. You barely had time to breathe after school ended and then second semester was here. Your girlfriend/boyfriend didn't get you anything nice for Valentine's Day and you spent a lot of cash on them. Also your parents didn't get you any gifts that are exactly "hip", but at



least they tried. So stop being so greedy! Better things are soon to come. Now you have something to look forward to.

Pisces (Feb. 20-March 20)

You already didn't like the snow, but when you got a flat tire and had to change it in the freezing cold, slid off the road and ended up in a snow bank, and don't forget when the ice caused you to sideswipe a car; now you really hate the snow. I can't say things are going to get better, because your problems seem to be snow related and that is going to be around awhile. My advice to you is to take things a little slower while driving.

Aries (March 21-April 20)

Wow! You're having an awesome month for some weird

reason. Everything keeps going your way and you love it. You haven't been in any collisions yet and you've not suffered from frostbite. Also, you got everything you wanted for Christmas. You really can't complain, but don't expect this to last forever. Don't be too disappointed when things start slightly going down hill. Things have to go back to normal at some point.

Taurus (April 21-May 21)

You're the kind of person that likes to think you control your own destiny. You always get the girl/boy you want, therefore you think you're in control of your life. Wrong! Just recently you have realized someone or something is controlling you. Maybe you haven't discovered what it is yet, but keep searching. You're starting to realize that the reason you always snag that certain girl/guy is because you were blessed with good looks and a great personality, not because you are in control of your destiny.

Gemini (May 22-June 21)

Everything is going well for you except for the fact that you can't get your crush to notice you. You always clam up when you're around them, but what you really need to do is be yourself. Don't be too talkative or obsessive, but don't sit there and say nothing at all. Try being your crush's friend before you try moving in on them. It may take a while for them to fall for you, so you have to be patient or you'll never get that special someone.

Cancer (June 22-July 23)

The last couple of

months have been horrible for you. Everything in your life that you thought was a foundation is crumbling underneath your feet. You're not sure how much more you can take, but don't give up. Watch how you act toward your friends and people you love. You are feeling some major anger inside so you automatically want to take it out on others. Don't do it! You'll lose more than you expect if you take this route. Things will start to look better over time.



Leo (July 24-August 22)
So you didn't get the Jeep Wrangler (or any car) you wanted for Christmas, maybe you'll get it for your birthday. You really wanted to impress your crush with your new wheels, but they have a girlfriend/boyfriend already so it doesn't really matter anymore. What do you do? You really like that certain someone, but they are practically married with 10 kids. You just have to sit back and wait patiently and hope for the best. Try not to get too crazy about the person, because that always ends up in heartbreak. Keep your eyes open for someone else that might cross your path.

Virgo (August 23-Sept. 23)
Live everyday as if it's your last! You don't want to leave this world with any regrets, do you? Don't do any-

thing stupid that later on you will feel bad about doing, but have some fun. Go bungee jumping or something crazy like that. If you're not ready for that you can go on a sky coaster. It's pretty much the same effect (you drop about 150-200ft.), but it is a lot safer. The sky coaster is a lot of fun and you can go by yourself or with one or two other people. Also you can do stuff like in-line-skating, skiing, snowboarding, or if you're headed for the coast, you can go surfing, for some real fun.

Just don't be afraid to live. If you hold your life too close, you'll lose it.

Libra (September 24-October 23)

Most things are going good for you right now. You seem to have many admirers at this point in time. You take advantage of this without thinking of the consequences. Make sure not to let this go to your head, because you could end up hurting someone close to you. You need to make a decision soon on what to do before everything goes wrong.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)

Is your money running short along with your friends? Well, you need to get a job along with new friends. Your friends might have some sorry excuse for not being your friend anymore, but it is probably related to your short cash flow. The truth is they aren't really your friends. Like the little kid song goes "...make new friends, but keep the old..." well forget get about the second part, just

make new friends. Try going to the mall to search for new friends and a new job, but don't forget about your school work.

Sagittarius (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)

Are you one of those people that is nice to everyone, no matter what the situation? Making friends is not an issue for you, but you still feel something is missing. You can't put your finger on it, but you know it's there. You keep yourself so busy so that you're not lacking anything, but there is always something that you just can't do. You do so much for others that you forget to do things just for yourself. Don't worry it's not being selfish, just as long as you don't let it go to your head.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20)

Right now things seem to be really "boring" for you at



school. You get up in the morning and you just want to crawl back into your bed and miss school, but you already have too many absences. Try to pick out all the good things of your school day (I know that's hard) and focus on that all day long. It will make things better. Also you need to study harder, your grades are starting to drop.

It's the Clay Sports. Things to Watch:

Shaun Palus
SPORTS EDITOR

Warm weather and lots of rain mean that spring is coming and so are Clay's spring sports. Clay's winter sports are ending, and the spring sports are ready to begin. Spring will be an exciting season for Clay sports.

Boy's and girl's basketball are both heading into sectionals. The boys hope to return to the sectional Finals, as they did last year. The girl's have a good chance at defending their sectional title, and maybe gaining the regional title as well. Individual wrestlers made it to Semi-State. Junior McKenzie Elston made it to State for diving and Zoe Brickley was 1st in the NIC for the 200 free. The boy's swim team is heading toward sectionals.

The baseball team will be very solid this year,

with many key returners conditioning during the off season. Senior Dewey Parker said, "It will be tough, but we'll work everything out." The senior class, which makes up nearly the whole varsity team, will dictate the NIC. Dewey continued, "First of all, we have to win Sectionals, then the NIC." Watch out for homerun hitting Senior Tim Hudnall.

Due to a loss of many key softball players because of graduation, the softball team looks to rebuild. "It will be a little rocky at first," Junior Stephanie Mrozinski said. "Well, we lost six starters. We will have a young team, but we'll do well. There are a lot of promising newcomers." With the experience of the veterans, they will be a big help for the new comers.

Losing only a few golf-

ers to graduation, the boy's golf team appears to dominate the NIC. With six key returning athletes, the boy's golf team is a force to reckon with. Watch for Seniors David Wilkinson, Dean Catanzarite, and Kevin Lawton to lead the team to victory.

The girl's tennis team should do well this year, with the renovation of the tennis courts. Seniors Flynne Weingarten and Sarah Ansari, Junior Allison Winegar, and Sophomore Jori Weingarten are the key returners.

The girl's track team hopes to repeat their unbelievable season last year. Their strong points are their middle-long distance and their sprints. Senior Katie Zientara and Sophomores Sarah Ritchie, Rachel Kroll, Katie White, and Tina Stefaniuk look to back up

the long distance. Ritchie said, "There are a lot of new people this year, and I hope this season will be really successful." Something that will be interesting to see is if the 4x100 meter relay can repeat their State Championship performance, but they also lost Latoya Hamilton and Crystal Riley to graduation. This leaves Seniors Altarea Hall and Kay Pancheri to find two new sprinters for their relay team. The girl's track team will have a great season.

The boy's track team wants to make a name for themselves this year. The guys should be strong not losing any key seniors. They should be good all-around. Seniors Mike Stefaniuk, Nathan Konopinski, and Shaun Palus, as well as Sophomores Joe Geglio and John Raven anticipate a good season competing as long and

middle distance runners. Seniors Sal Shabazz and Kevin Kuruzar, and Sophomore Ronnie Britton will be a dominating force as they look to dethrone LaSalle's sprinters. Sophomores Mike Macellari and Jason Brown will lead the field events.

Check out the boy's basketball sectionals on the 6th and 9th March. The South Bend Classic will be hosted at Notre Dame is March 12th for the girl's track team and March 13th for the boy's. The boy's track team has a home meet against Michigan City on the 31st of March. Softball has a home game versus John Glenn on March 29th.

All of Clay's spring sports will be exciting and well worth your money. Go out and cheer them on! Good luck to all the Clay athletes!

Boy's Swimming Are Diving In For More

Abby Herreman and Mike Brzezinski
ADS MANAGER AND STAFF WRITER

If everybody thinks that getting up at 6:30 in the morning is bad, try getting up at 5:00 with nothing less in mind than to swim in the cold waters of a Clay High School pool. The team worked hard this year having two-a-days throughout the season. The Clay High School boy's swim team took to the water for a year of rebuilding. Out of fourteen members on the team three were upper classmen.

Under the leadership of Senior captain Dan Pola the boys made it through a rough season winning and losing as a team not as individuals. "We

had a rough start but ended with a win over Mishawka,"

stated Senior Dan Pola. At the last home meet the team hoisted Dan up over their shoulders showing the respect and appreciation they had for him.

Dan, in return, knighted the captains for next year: Juniors Luke Snell,

Ryan Rafferty, and Eric Doolittle.

Leaving the thought of the regular season behind, the team looks optimistically toward Sectionals. After asking the members of the swim team what they do in preparation for sectionals, we received the same re-

sponse from everyone. "We dye our hair, shave our heads, and

taper." Ryan Rafferty claims, "We do this for team unity and motivation." Shaving their heads serves two purposes: to be unified as a team and to reduce drag. Thus, allowing the swimmers to cut just enough time to place where they wish.

With the experience of the upperclassmen, the boy's swim team will be a dominate team in the future. Thanks to the Senior leadership of Pola, the boy's can accomplish anything.

The boy's swim team definitely is one the most spirited teams here at Clay. From dyeing their hair to shaving it off,

who else has more spirit?

An ending thought by a fellow Clay student, Junior Brian Rodick, "Next year, new suits!"



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Featured Athlete Sylvester Mayes

Nickname: Silkk.
Role Model: Kobe.
Pre-Game Meal: Mountain Dew and Pop Tarts.
Favorite Singer: R. Kelly and Hot Boyz.
Favorite Movie: For Love and Basketball.
Favorite Candy Bar: Snickers.
Most Memorable Moment of your career: When I got a technical for hanging on the rim.
Why do you play basketball: Because I enjoy it.
What college do you plan on attending: Tennessee or straight into the Pro's.
Boxers or Briefs: Boxers.
In 10 years you will be: Playing Basketball.
What do you do in your free time: Talk on the phone.
Favorite Teacher: Coach Hupp.
Favorite Class: Algebra.
Who would you want to be stuck with on a deserted island: Kady.



Krysten Anderson
STAFF WRITER