

The Charger

Volume 5, Number 6

MARCH 2002

itascaschools.com/charger

District Science Fair: teams tie for gold

BY KAITLYN L.

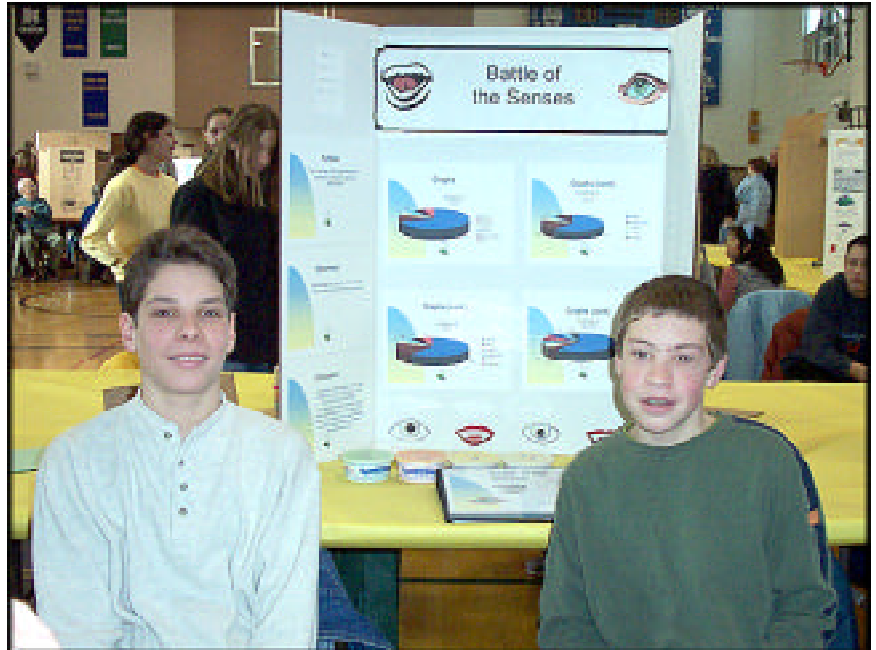
This year's Science Fair was an extraordinary event. More than 80 District 10 students participated in the 2002 Science Fair, and just as many people came to watch. There were projects on electricity, memory, cleaning, taste testing, and much more.

Dr. Nickisch stated that even though there were fewer participants than usual this year, the quality of the projects was much better.

The judges evidently agreed with Dr. Nickisch. They were impressed not only with the great displays, but also with the students ability to explain their projects.

Two Peacock teams tied for the Fair's highest award, the Golden Test Tube: seventh graders Kyle Poplawski and Paul Piekarz and eighth graders Jimmy Arns and Robert Pyde.

See Science Fair
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Golden Test Tube co-winners Jimmy A. and Robert P. studied the connection between sight and taste.



Golden Test Tube co-winners Paul P. and Kyle P. asked whether freezing food affected its taste.

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Science Fair Judges impressed with quality

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Kyle and Paul wanted to see if freezing a food would affect the taste or how people liked it. A bunch of volunteers helped by doing some taste testing.

Kyle and Paul concluded that most people could taste the difference between fresh and frozen food.

Coincidentally, the other winning project was also on taste testing. Jimmy and Robert attempted to establish whether sight affected taste. They dyed pudding three different colors and kept one vanilla. Then they had people taste the puddings and guess what flavor they were.

The majority of people tested identified the pudding flavor correctly. They were not fooled by the changed color.

Jimmy and Robert explained that their strategy for winning was all about knowing your material: if you knew your material then you would impress the judges.

Both teams thought that there were many other good projects this year, and that winning was a big accomplishment.



Science Fair photos by Nicole A. and Kaitlyn L.

Eighth grader Anthony M. explains his science fair project to two of the judges.

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There's trouble in River City

Music Man rehearsals in full swing

BY SUSIE S.

It's time for Peacock's Spring Musical and this year's musical is *The Music Man*. The Music Man is about a traveling salesman, Prof. Harold Hill played by eighth grader, Anthony Miserindino, who arrives in the small town of River City, Iowa.

Hill convinces the whole town he is a band conductor, and after the town people buy instruments for their children, he decides to run away before the town realizes he's a fraud. But someone who has fallen in love with him stops him from leaving. This musical has humor and a love story all in one, and is a great play for all ages.

Music teacher Mr. Travis is in charge of the production. He says the cast and crew are doing a great job. "We are a little behind, but the cast is doing their job," stated Mr. Travis, "and the crew is painting really fast."

He added that the show preparations were going along very well. Problems that cropped up along the way just made things more interesting, he explained.

Mr. Travis predicted that the cast and crew would pull together and make it a great show.

Seventh grader Lara P. plays Alma Hix, one of the ladies in the Pick-A-Little Talk-A-Little gossip group. She's a little nervous about performing because she's afraid she'll mess up on stage.

"I love performing," said Lara, "but getting up on stage and performing in front of a crowd is very nerve-racking."

Lara's classmate Meghan H. agreed, and added that the most difficult part for her was memorizing all the choreography. Meghan is in two choirs.

"I like my parts because I'd rather be in a chorus than have a solo." commented Meghan. She added, "I'm really nervous about the show like anyone would be." Although it's Meghan's first year participating in the play, she's having a lot of fun.

How about the people behind the show? The stage crews make the production possible. seventh grader Rachel R. is a member of stage crew. She said that being on stage crew is fun and exciting. "It's really cool because you get to see the show from all different angles."

explained Rachel.

Seventh grader, Ashley D. has a different take on being in crew. "I like being part of video crew because it gets you involved with the play without having to try out for a part, but it also gives you an excuse to skip out on work at home."

Music Man rehearsals take place on Mondays and Wednesdays for sixth grade, and Tuesdays and Thursdays for seventh and eighth. All the casts members and crew

workers have been working hard to make this production possible. They are looking forward to the big performances on April 25 and 26 at 7 p.m.



The cast of *Music Man* rehearses before school in the cafeteria.

Photo by Renee W.

"Read To Succeed" a Success!

Sixth graders at Peacock once again had the opportunity to participate in the "Read To Succeed" reading program sponsored by Six Flags Theme Park. For their efforts, the following 6th graders earned a ticket to use at Great America, or another Six Flags Theme Park, this summer. Congrats to all participants - readers are winners!

Kacie A.
Mary A.
Frank C.
Justin C.
Amy E.
Crystal K.
Andy K.
Becky K.
Ernie K.
Steve L.
Jessica L.
David M.
Carina M.

Kristen M.
Rachel M.
Pedro M.
Samantha M.

Julia N.
Nikhil P.
Jamie S.
Victoria W.



Peacock students featured at art fair

BY STEVE G.

Every year, Peacock art teacher, Mrs. Dengler, enters her students in the Scholastic Art Contest sponsored by the West Suburban Chicago Consortium of Schools.

Both middle and high school students are entered in this contest.

The awards include a golden key, a silver key and an honorable mention.

Although Peacock did not receive the golden or silver key this year, four students did receive honorable mentions.

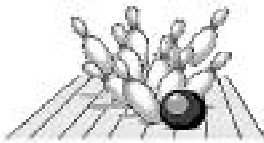
Eighth graders Alyson D., Susan R., Kelsey B., and Karina D. all received an honorable mention.

Their artwork was on display at the Elmhurst Art Museum from February 3 through February 15, 2002. There was an opening reception on February 3 for the students and their parents.



Eighth grader, Susan R., received an honorable mention in the Scholastic Art Contest for this photograph.

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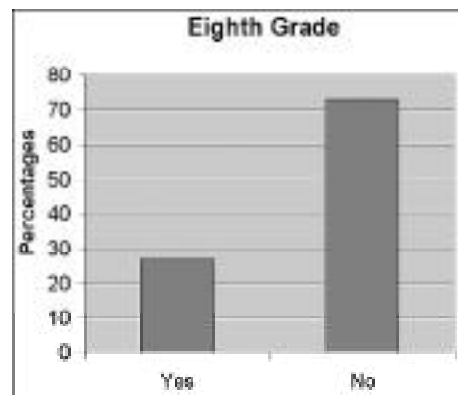
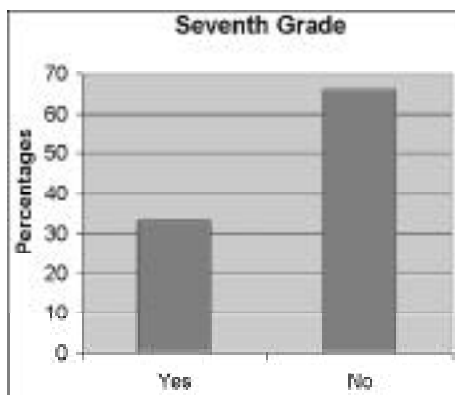
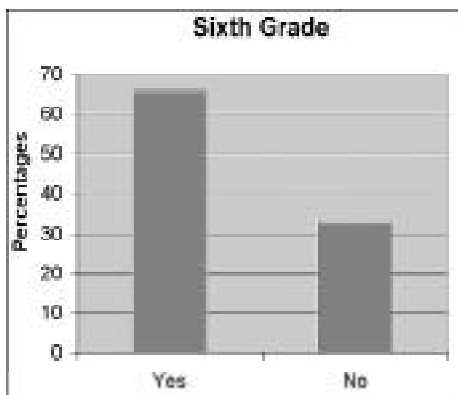
Did you ever plagiarize your schoolwork?

BY RAYA P., KENNY T. AND MISSY W.

Number of students polled by grade:

Sixth grade – 36
 Seventh grade – 24
 Eighth grade - 45

Type of school work most often plagiarized:
 Class reports



What do you think about plagiarism?

BY CARLY L.

Webster's dictionary defines "plagiarize" as the act of taking someone else's ideas, writing, etc. and passing it off as one's own.

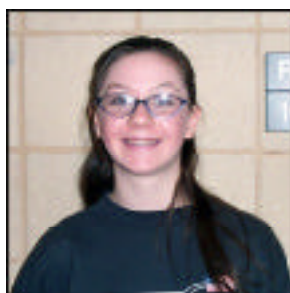
I asked several seventh graders and a

teacher their feelings about plagiarism and what they thought should happen to students if they were caught plagiarizing or handing in a plagiarized paper.



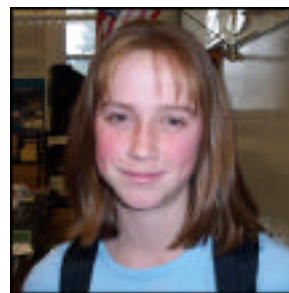
Plagiarism is not right. If kids get caught, they should at least have to do community service because they

are not allowed to go to jail.
 - Kevin H.



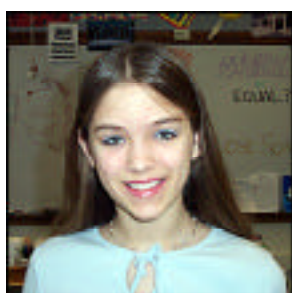
I think plagiarism is horrible. People who plagiarize should be given a detention or something like that.

- Caitlyn C.



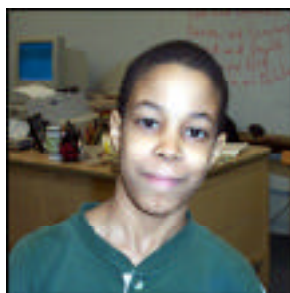
Plagiarism is bad. Kids should get a one-hour detention for plagiarizing.

- Lauren S.



Plagiarism is wrong because people work so hard to make their writings, and students shouldn't copy them. They should

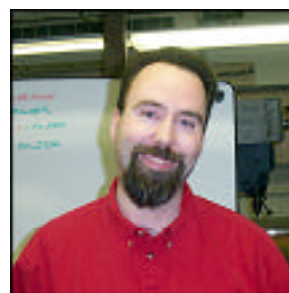
probably get a half hour detention.
 - Kristen S.



I believe plagiarism is one unbelievable thing to do. Why would anybody want to copy something else when they can do

better? Who ever does this selfish act should be given an hour detention.

- Daniel K.



Plagiarism is cheating and it shows a real lack of character. I think a student who plagiarizes should get a zero with no opportunity

to make it up and it should be treated as cheating on a test.

- Mr. Cousineau

Mageknights are "in"

BY JOHN G.



Photo by John G.

These are miniature pieces for the fantasy war game, Mageknight.

Mageknight is the latest craze for teens. It is a collectable miniatures fantasy war game.

Several factions of warriors (Necropolis Sect, Atlantis Guild, Knights Immortal, and Draconums to name a few) are used to expand armies and annihilate enemies.

Warriors come in ranks of weak, standard, and tough. Some are unique and only one can be used in an army.

Big pieces like dragons, tanks, and chariots are bought separately. Chariots are used to transport warriors across the battlefield. Dragons and tanks are powerful pieces to use

in armies.

Warriors have unique special abilities used to help them destroy enemies or survive longer.

Lancers (double based figures) are warriors mounted on animals. Lancers may not ride on chariots.

Each warrior has a point value and you add up every warrior's point value to a number like 500 and you have a 500-point army.

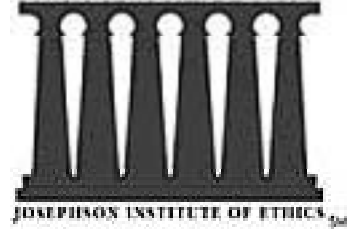
If you are interested in mageknight go to www.Mageknight.com.



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Marlena B.	
Lauren S.	
Crystal R.	Mr. Poremba

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Tom O.	Mr. Scaletta,
Ms. Heppler and	Mrs. Butler
Aaron Z.	Mr. Cousineau
Nicole H.	
Melissa M.	Mr. Poremba,
	and Mr. Raschk
	Mr. Poremba
Susan S.	
Nicole H.	
Megan H.	Ms. Krisik
Celsey B.	Mrs. Jomarron
Samantha D.	Mrs. Agnello

Kelly P.	
Rachel W.	
Michael C.	Mr. Travis

Fairness

Emily G.	Ms. Krisik
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Respect

Rachel W.	Mr. Poremba
Kyle P.	
David K.	
Shannon P.	Ms. Krisik

Responsibility

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Daniel C.	
Weston R.	
Sunny B.	Ms. Krisik
Nicole A.	
Renee W.	Mr. Travis
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The Chicago Rose Buds?

How the Blackhawks got their name

BY JESSICA L.

I am a big Blackhawk fan and have gone to a couple of games. I have recently discovered how the Blackhawks got their name.

The Chicago Blackhawks were founded on September 25, 1926, when the National Hockey League gave Fredric McLaughlin, a Harvard-educated local coffee tycoon, permission to form a hockey team. He purchased the Portland Rose Buds and moved the best players of the team to Chicago.

After rounding up enough good players for the team, he began to focus on coming up with a new name—he was never a fan of the “Rose Buds” name. He thought back to

his past to find it.

Fredric McLaughlin fought for the U.S. Army during World War I. He served as a commander in the 333rd Machine Gun Battalion of the 85th Division of the Army.

The members of his division called themselves “Black Hawks” in honor of the Sauk Indian chief who sided with the British during the war of 1812. McLaughlin decided this would be an appropriate name for his team.

The jerseys that Blackhawk players wear today still have pictures of an Indian chief head on them.



<http://www.chicagoblackhawks.com>

The team name of the Chicago Blackhawks came from the owner, Fredric McLaughlin's army experience in World War I

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Code	Date
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2040-1	April 13
2040-2	April 27
2040-3	May 11

