

Vending Machines Arrive at Fieldston

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chine costing the school any money?

Bill Guerrero: No, any commission received on vending sales goes toward Financial Aid (as did the sales on the Gatorade vending machine in the Athletic Trainer's Room).

NR: Do you think that in promoting candy and sugary drinks, the school is enforcing unhealthy habits?

BG: As a school we certainly do not want to promote unhealthy snacks and beverages. The vendor and current selections were carefully chosen; we chose the vendor based on their experiences with other health conscious K-12 schools. The main goal of the machines is to meet the needs of families/students/visitors who weren't able to get any food after lunch when the cafeteria closes for the day. The machines have been requested by some parents and previous student government reps.

Gus Ornstein: Quite possibly, yes. While I am not very involved in deciding what goes in there, I certainly would like to see less candy and other unhealthy options in the vending machines, and more healthy options being offered.

NR: Overall, do you think the ma-

chines are a good idea?

BG: I do think they are a good idea, especially if they have what the community wants. They are to provide convenience and not laziness for the periods before and after lunch when students and faculty may be hungry and don't have time to run off campus. In these situations, having food accessible is very important.

GO: As long as we have the right snacks and drinks in there, yes, I think it's a great idea. It's important that our students and athletes be well-nourished so they can really give it their all both in the classroom and out on the field.

NR: What do you think the "right snacks and drinks" are? Which foods and drinks are most beneficial for before and after working out?

GO: In terms of pre and post workout choices that can fit in a vending machines, it would be great to see healthier, healthier, healthier things being offered. Baked chips would be much better than the current fried chips being offered, for example. Not good on the stomach when running around and working hard. I would also like to see granola bars, more protein bars, dried fruit snacks, nuts, raisins, and fruit juice.

Currie's Got Swerve



PHOTO BY PHILIP KESSLER

Mr. Currie working with electronic music students

BY ROSE MONTERA

Mr. Currie is one of the most acclaimed music teachers at Fieldston. He is especially known for his classes that feature electronic music, which have the love and support of young composers at Fieldston. For the years that Mr. Currie has been working here, many of his students have felt that he is "personally invested in their work."

"Mr. Currie is the kind of teacher that really wants you to succeed and explore what you are passionate about," said Myles Cameron, Form VI, a digital music student. "He is always there for me to talk to and get advice from about my music."

While talking with Mr. Currie himself, he noted that the program here has developed significantly.

"I have seen the amazing process of students becoming remarkable composers," Mr. Currie said. "It's somewhat of a mini conservatory here in the digital music class. We work with pretty advanced materials, and I think that all together these music classes are the best around and separate us from other schools programs."

In addition to being a celebrated teacher at Fieldston, Mr. Currie is also a well-respected composer around the world. Although he primarily does his work in London and the Czech Republic, this year he was invited to premier a song at the Teatro Verdi, in Florence, Italy. It was this spring in which his piece entitled "Swerve: rosarum flores (Remix)" was set to open before another piece called "Carmina Burana".

Mr. Currie created his work with a very specific goal in mind: he wanted his song to be symbolic of the city of Florence itself; he tried to bridge the gap between the old and new. Currie wanted to swerve between first small and intimate music, and then change courses to a large, dense texture and tone, as the name of the piece itself suggests.

"I tried to tie my orchestra piece into music based on ancient melodies while playing for the audience," Mr. Currie said.

"Swerve" contained a large orchestra of about 80 musicians. When Mr. Currie attended the world premiere of his orchestral piece in Florence, he stressed the importance of being a vigilant and active part of his work before it is debuted. He attended rehearsals and corrected mistakes before the premiere for little bit, and explained how difficult and complex it is in the beginning with such a large group of instrumentalists.

Mr. Currie explained the recent change in music and how modern and classical music have changed in the past decades. He mentioned that from the fifties to the seventies, modern classical music was not particularly audience-friendly. The tunes of the time were strikingly academic, and for that purpose alone. It was only since the eighties in which "accessibility of the music was no longer taboo." Musicians began to really think about who was listening, that the listeners were not just a private society. The eighties contained music that was more pleasing to the ear and was not com-

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PHOTO BY NICOLE ROVINE

A pair of Fieldston's brand-new vending machines