MUCKRAKER

THE INDEPENDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY SCHOOL STUDENTS' NEWSPAPER

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Muckraker Speaks!

Empty hallways and insufferable heat marked the last weeks of school. The Abiturienten are finally gone, the 10th graders are doing their internships, 11th and 12th graders keep disappearing to various class trips, and this year's seniors are busy celebrating the end of their high school career or at least the fact that the Abitur is within one year's reach.

All those left could use the empty space and extra time (with many teachers gone on class trips) to transfer the excitement over the World Cup from the streets of Berlin to the classrooms and hallways of our school. Even though the American team didn't get to the round of the last 16, the excitement over the World Cup and especially the German team prevails among students and teachers.

With rising temperatures and students decreasingly interested in attending various classes, the park - just like every summer - again became the preferred meeting point, leaving the library abandoned. Around this time of the year JFKS students are also frequently found in and around the Schlachtensee at any time of the day.

despite But all the celebrating and relaxing, we should also remember that for some of us those last days were not only the final days of this school year, but the final days at JFKS forever. The Muckraker wishes all those students and teachers leaving the school all the best in the future. Furthermore, we hope that all those remaining have a great summer vacation and tons of fun enjoying the last days of the World Cup 2006.

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Spanish Open House Night

Soirée Francaise

Our school is developing French and Spanish subcultures in the form of annual events organized by the departments, the Spanish night on May 23 and the French evening on May 31. The two events were, although differing in language, quite similar in setup. Both consisted of skits and songs performed by the individual classes, and were meant for the students and their parents to learn more about the department, the students' progress, and, of course, the language.

The Spanish night consisted of many popular songs such as "Tú", "La Bamba", "Tortua", "Bonito", and "La Camisa Negra", lots of good food, and several plays that, were quite interesting and funny, given that one understood the language. In the end everyone was encouraged to join in a dance of "La Macarena" with the help of the 9th grade Spanish class. Although the performance started half an hour too late, it was a wonderful, and an all in all well organized, entertaining evening.

The French evening included

skits performed by 8th and 9th grade classes, several musical interludes by 11th and 12th grade accordion players, and a handful of dances and songs by individuals and small groups. Although this event started on time, an unpleasant power shortage caused tremendous problems. French food had to be sold in the break, which was earlier than planed due to the darkness of the small aula. Several students suggested moving the show outdoors, where it was still light, yet those in charge preferred to wait for the electricity to return. Eventually, the problem was solved and the event continued without any further complications. The 9th graders on the French exchange performed scenes from their adventures in France, while another class performed a selfcomposed fairy tale.

Conclusively, the French evening and the Spanish night were tremendously successful and a delight for both natives as well as strangers to the world of Spanish and French.

IUCKRAKER



—THE —

Gumscraper

JFKS Life

Teacher Feature: Mr. Lillydahl

For the people who don't know you, what is your name and which subject do vou teach?

My name is Mr. Lillydahl, and I teach English, although sometime I include a bit of German.

What do you like about JFKS; what is unique about JFKS?

I like the fact that my family is in school here, so that my two daughters are over in the Vorschule and in the 1st grade. So it's kind of fun to see that wander by once in a while on the way to fieldtrips etc. etc. They stop by and say hello every once in a while to my classes at least to excitement. And then of course I enjoy the students and they are wonderful. I think you guys are insightful and interested in the world in general and as we get into spring it takes special students to be able to make it last two months of school when the weather is warming up after Berlin winter.

What will you miss the most when you go back to Chicago?

Students, yes of course! The Muckraker, really (laughs). It's been nice getting to know some students. I like doing two years, for instance I had Said for two years. It's nice to have some continuity to see the same students again. I came from a school in the States that has 4000 students-actually 4600students in 4 grades, so you didn't always see the same students a whole lot. And I will be going back to that school in Chicago.

Do you want to?

Monday, July 3, 2006

Oh, it's a mixed bag. I think that if the tax laws were different, I think I would be tempted to stay one more year, and then maybe another year, and then maybe another year, but it's hard to make a decision-yes, we are going to pay and then we are going to stay for 5 years or 10 years. That makes grandmas and grandpas upset. So it makes into a bigger decision.

So you prefer the money over the students you teach at JFKS (laughs)?



Well, I've been waiting for my students to take up a collection. You guys have been yearly silent about that (laughs). In matter of fact, I can't even get the students to buy rolls for breakfast or something like that.

How is your German after being in Berlin for almost two years?

Mein Deutsch ist viel besser als es war vorher. Aber jetzt weiß ich, dass mein Deutsch sehr schlecht ist und dass ich

nur über das Wetter, die Pflanzen und den Regen reden kann, aber nicht mehr eingehend (laughs).

You actually improved a lot from last

I took German in high school. I am from Milwaukee, and actually I think that Milwaukee might be one of the major cities with the highest percentage of German immigrants. In fact, I have a nephew who is able to take German-a 4-month-Trial German-but he took it in 8th grade. That's unheard-of in the States; a lot of places are dropping German programs. And he got to try it out in 7th and 8th grade, and that was nice.

Away from school, what was your dream when you were a kid...to become a teacher?

I wanted to become an Olympic swimmer. I suppose I wanted to be rich like everyone else. Being tall is a plus; I have long levers. I swam through college and I was the head coach of the school, where I came from, for 8 years. And I resigned to come here and be with you; my position in power...

And then you are going to leave us after two years just because of the taxes? It's a big decision. Here is another thing, too. I can stay in Germany. My children will grow up; they will have the German culture. But if I stay here for another twenty years I still-with the amount of German that I speak-wake up in the morning, speak German to my family, go to school to teach in English, kids

Lillydahl... continued to page 3

—THE — Muckraker



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BERMUN 2005 **700 Voices Are Pretty Loud**

MUCKRAKER



Weihnachten mit Moral

JFKS Life

Lillydahl... continued from page 2

yell at me if I speak German (laughs), and I go home and I am with my family again or with American friends. Once a week I practice German with my friend, the old lady (laughs). The lonely old lady will talk to me (laughs). So in twenty years from now, I might be speaking German better, but I still don't know if I can really sit down and really comfortably mash with German society. So that's another reason why. It's difficult... I am an American, I can't deny that. If I were single, or if I were in a job where I worked with a lot of people who were German, etc. etc. it would be different. I shouldn't say that (laughs), I do work with a lot of people who are German, but in the English department it's different. Also, I don't really get to know the German colleagues as well as a lot of folks down the departments, too.

So do you feel like you are an outsider somehow isolated from all the Ger-

I am a little isolated, sure, But I think I understand Germans and Germany and know many more Germans than I did when I first came. I just think it will be a long process as well. One more

What is your favorite movie? And the worst you've ever watched before?

I remember watching the video American Pie and not finishing it because I thought it was so obvious, cliché, and so ridiculous. That would be my least favorite movie. And my favorite movie is Napoleon Dynamite because it mimics the life of the typical teenager in the States. Everyone has to go through the life and the challenges of the Napoleon Dynamite. It's just that you watch it and don't think about it as much. He was stuck out there with the cows.

What was the name of the Llama? Eat the Ham, Tina.

What do you do after school? Supervise students' fundraising-events, obvious-

Yes, the 11th grade Talent Show. We really enjoyed the shows and concerts.

Are you coming on the 1st and the 8th of June, the school concert of band, choir, and orchestra?

Yes, we will make it (unsure look-but he now HAS to come)...looks like we'll make it.

What do you usually do?

I love the outdoor ping-pong tables (laughs). We like to go out and go exploring. I like to ride my bike in the Grunewald, hang out with my family. (After a long pause) I like to read! Oops, I am an English teacher (laughs). I am supposed to say I like to read, as well. And the other thing I like to do is play the board game Die Siedler von Catan.

How often do you actually read? Well, I am like other people in that, I think, I read in waves. When I start reading a book, I generally finish it in a few days, or maybe a week or two. But then I might go a couple weeks or a month and say, oh my gosh, I haven't read anything because I am reading so many Klausuren and they are so inte-

What is your favorite quote?

resting (laughs).

My favorite quote is "our life is fritted away by Lillydahl...simplify, simplify". It's a bastardization of the quote "our life is fritted away by detail...simplify, simplify" by Henry David Thoreau from my 12th graders who have too much work to do but also have many outlets for procrastination.

Is there a specific event or experience that you will never forget?

I would say, the 11th grade Talent Show. It's fun to see people doing some things outside of school. Going along with that, last year, I enjoyed the Bundesjugendspiele day seeing people throw the shot-put, run. I measured the Long-jump, and it was kind of fun to see people from a different part.

What do you think about the German people? What is your impression of them?

Oh, now you are trying to get me say bad things about the Germans (laughs)! I think that the German people are good people. I think, they are not as friendly as the Americans, so that takes getting used to. Of course, it has been difficult in the short time I have been here to get to know many Germans closely, but as with the few that I have been able to get to know as advertised the German people are very warm, friendly, nice, and supportive, when you get to know them, it just takes a while to do that. It takes a couple of years, and of course I am leaving after two years. So, it has been difficult to get to know too many people (laughs). Oh, I have picked up a liking for wearing my Birkenstocks with dark socks.

One of his quotes: So long.

UCKRAKER Feeling Lackadaisical



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Graffiti Gone Wild



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Barbershop Meets Jazz Band



JFKS Life / Opinion

Der Tag der Mathema

Farsane Tabataba-Vakili

großartige Gelegenheit für alle matheinteressierten Schüler der 7.-13. Klasse um ihr mathematisches Können zu testen und ihrer Schule Ruhm und Ehre zu bringen. Ich war zutiefst erschüttert, als ich mit ansehen musste, dass nur zwei Teams der John-F.-Kennedy-Schule dem 11. Berliner Tag der Mathematik beiwohnten. Zugegeben, die Aufgaben waren recht schwer und das Ereignis fand an einem Samstag statt; dennoch waren Schulen wie das Französische Gymnasium, die Heinrich Hertz Oberschule und die Herder Oberschule mehrfach in den Wettbewerben vertreten. Alle, die sich für die Mathematik interessieren, einigermaßen gut Deutsch können und 2007 an einem Samstag im Mai frei haben, sollten am nächsten Tag der Mathematik teilnehmen.

Auch wenn ich im Großen und Ganzen nur wirklich über den Wettbewerb für die 9te und 10te berichten kann, gab es insgesamt drei Wettbewerbe (7./8., 9./10., 11.-13.). Um 9 Uhr – eigentlich eine "akademische Viertelstunde" später – fing der große Spaß an und wir konnten in die Cafeteria der Technischen Universität zu Berlin, Nachdem sie die Umschläge mit den Teamnummern gefunden hatten. warteten die rund 210 Teams à 3 bis 5 Schüler (in unserem Fall sogar nur 2) gespannt darauf endlich anfangen zu dürfen. Nach einer kurzen Ansprache der Veranstalter war es dann endlich so weit, es hieß: "Ihr dürft jetzt die Umschläge öffnen". Im Umschlag befand sich ein Programmheft, ein Infoblatt über geplante Vorträge, ein doppelseitiger Bogen mit allen vier Aufgaben, sowie Blätter auf denen die Aufgaben einzeln standen. Außerdem erhielten wir

Der Tag der Mathematik ist eine reichlich weißes Papier auf dem höchst professionell unsere Teamnummer, unsere Namen und auch die derjenigen, die es nicht zu kommen geschafft hatten, standen. Nachdem wir alles einmal durchgelesen und uns mental auf eine herbe Enttäuschung vorbereitet hatten, fingen wir an uns über mögliche Lösungen Gedanken zu machen. Ohne ins Detail gehen zu wollen, muss gesagt sein, dass das Level so hoch war, dass nicht selten ein Team aus den 60 möglichen Punkten nur drei bekam). Nach drei Stunden unermüdlicher Zusammenarbeit unter Teamkollegen hieß es dann: "Noch eine Viertelstunde, dann müsst ihr abgeben."

> Nach dem Wettbewerb gab es für einen Euro Mittagessen und danach wohnten wir einigen Vorlesungen anerkannter Professoren bei. Ein interessanter Vortrag handelte von ungelösten Primzahlproblemen, ein anderer von dem Satz des Varignon und der letzte, dem alle beiwohnten, war eine 3D-Vorführung im Audimax. Diese Vorlesungen sollten die Zeit bis zur heißersehnten Preisverleihung überbrücken, die auch im Audimax stattfand. Die Plätze eins bis zehn erhielten Geldpreise, eine Mathematikbücher. Oslo-Reise und Auch wenn wir es nicht unter die ersten Zehn schafften, belegten wir Platz 15. Mitmachen ist bekanntlich alles und es war für alle Beteiligten eine interessante Erfahrung; ich persönlich werde auch nächstes Jahr wieder teilnehmen. Ich hoffe, dass dann mehr Teams von unserer Schule dabei sind, denn schließlich geht es auch um das Ansehen unserer Schule!

www.math.tu-berlin.de/tdm

THE-Muckraker **Day Without An Immigrant**





Barbershop recruits wanted

The Barbershop Chorus will lose a large number of singers at the end of this school year. Many of those leaving are Diploma and Abitur graduates, meaning that older generations in particular will be underrepresented. In order to ensure that Barbershop countinues to flourish, we would encourage musically interested students to take this opportunity to join the Bad Buncha Boys or the Sweet Adelines as new and enriching voices. If you, dear reader, would like to give it a shot, just talk to Dr. Hepner or check out the activities list.

Another face of the War on Terror

The CIA seems to have found a new method in fighting against terrorism: financing warlords in Africa. The idea is to marginalize Islamic groups by giving secular warlords financial aid in exchange for the deaths of hidden Al-Quaida members. The target for this is Somalia, a nation torn apart by decades of brutal civil conflicts and ethnic tensi-

It seems obvious that a nation with a not even recognized central government that is controlled by corrupt rival warlords should not be a playing ground for American counter-terrorism programs. What was the incentive for this idea?

Officials say that the idea was spawned in part from the fear of committing too many American personnel to counter-terrorism efforts in Somalia. The US hurriedly left Somalia in 1994 after attempts to capture the warlord Muhammed Farah Aidid failed disastrously and 18 American troops. Officials say that the fear of losing their own men has been turned into a channel of "hundreds and thousands of dollars over the past year" to corrupt warlords (New York Times).

It seems that America's insensitive approach in combating its enemies is nothing new. This Somalia incident reminds all too much of the late 70's when the United States backed the Taliban against the communist Soviets or in the 80's when they sponsored Saddam Hussein in order to eliminate its enemy Iran. Clearly, these operations did not succeed and later harmed the United States.

So therefore, how can the United States and its CIA make the same mistakes once again? Especially, if according to American officials "[The United States] were fully aware that they were doing [this mission] without any strategic framework [...] and they realized that there might be negative implications to what they are doing." (New York Times). Sadly enough, America has added more problems to a nation that has quite enough to deal with already.

Sports / Poetry

Gedicht

entspannter panther von green-peace

glänzchen im schwänzchen, zähne bene. nacht wacht; leise reisest du zu meinen beinen. alle krallen dürfen schürfen. katzen kratzen! leute: beute.

Analyse

G. Pferd, 9d

Der Dichter stellt sich durch den Alias "green-peace" blauäugigen (oder auch "greenen", also unerfahrenen und idealistischen) Naturschutzorganisationen entgegen, die unter Anderem auf Schulheften und in Kinderzeitschriften ein verharmlosendes Bild von Tigern, Löwen, Panthern und anderen gefährlichen Raubtieren propagieren. Der strenge Binnenreim parodiert dabei die idealisierende und dennoch gewissenhaft strukturierte Vorgehensweise der Greenpeace PR-Kampagnen. Der

Die Fußball-Weltmeisterschaft

Naomi Burrnett und Eva Hückmann

"54, 74, 90, 2006" ist nicht nur ein Lied der Sportfreunde Stiller, sondern auch der Wunsch vieler deutscher Fußballfans, die wollen, dass Deutschland wie in den Jahren 54, 74, und 90 die WM gewinnt. Wenn man heutzutage aus dem Haus geht, sieht man überall die Gesichter der erfolgreichsten Fußballspieler, die für Adidas und andere Marken werben. Auch unsere Schule ist im Fußballfieber. Am Tag des Eröffnungsspiels trugen viele Schüler Trikots und wedelten mit deutschen Fahnen. Selbst Mr. Myers rannte mit einem Fanstick durch die Gegend und bemalte sämtliche Schüler mit deutschen Flaggen. Bestimmt beschäftigen auch euch Fragen wie "Welche Mannschaft wird dieses Jahr die FIFA Weltmeisterschaft gewinnen?" oder "Wie weit wird die deutsche Nationalmannschaft kommen?"

Wir haben uns in unserer Schule umgehört und 40 Schüler von der siebten bis zur dreizehnten Klasse gefragt, wer ihr Lieblingsfußballspieler sei und wer ihrer Meinung nach die WM gewinnen solle. Die eindeutigen Sieger der ersten Umfrage waren Christiano Ronaldo, Ronaldinho, Michael Ballack und Lukas Podolski. Die restlichen Lieblingsspieler waren Wayne Ronney, Miroslav Klose, Arne Friedrich, Tim Borowski, David Beckham, Deco, Gerd Müller, Pélé, Edgar Davids, Zidane, Ronaldo, Totti, Ado, Philip Lahm und Lionel Messi. Hier sind die Resultate der zweiten Umfrage: 5 Schüler stimmten für Argentinien; die Elfenbeinküste bekam überraschende 3 Stimmen, wie auch England und Brasilien; Italien bekam 2 Stimmen, wohingegen Frankreich, USA, Portugal, Togo, Australien, Niederlande, Schweiz, Ecuador und Trinidad & Tobago jeweils eine Stimme erzielten. Der klare Favorit war Deutschland mit 15

Offensichtlich sind die Meinungen der Schüler zur Fußball WM 2006 sehr verschieden. Wir hoffen natürlich auf eine Fortsetzung der deutschen Siege von 54,74 und 90.

Dichter sieht die Erkenntnisse des Darwinismus durch solche Kampagnen gefährdet; er fürchtet gar um das Fortbestehen des biologischen Konkurrenzkampfes. Aber gerade die Aufrechterhaltung dieses konkurrenzbetonten Systems, in dem jedes Tier (einschließlich des Menschen) von seinen Überlegenheiten profitiert, ermöglicht, so der Dichter, das Weiterleben auf diesem Planeten. Die im Künstlernamen angedeutete Stimme ist also eine höchst ironische Provokation. So bene (italienisch für gut) die Zähne eines Panthers unter

dem Make-up eines professionellen Kamerateams aussehen mögen, so niedlich der mit "-chen" dotierte Fellglanz auch scheinen mag, in Wahrheit ist der Panthers wild, ungezähmt und gefährlich. Die Annahme des Dichters, dass essentielle biologische Prinzipien am Rande ihrer Existenz stehen, wandelt sich deswegen auch vielmehr in eine Forderung an den Leser: Liege nicht wehrlos im Bett, denn das könnte es dem entspannten Panther bei Weitem zu einfach machen!

Comments, Replies?

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