

GOOD KIDS GONE **CENSORED** By Aleeza Halen ('08)

Should school newspapers be able to censor articles submitted by students? Sure they should; it's a school newspaper, and high schools have the right to specifically limit high school student's rights to free press.

In 1988's court case of *Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier*, a school newspaper decided to censor articles about teen pregnancy and high school students' reactions to divorce at a St. Louis high school [Hazelwood].

Since the school newspaper is school funded, the high school is not violating the student journalists' First Amendment rights because the fact of the matter is that it is a school newspaper, and the school should be entitled to decide what should be published and what should be pulled out of their own school funded newspaper.

One such article pulled out from the school newspaper was Aleeza Halen's ('08). If this article "advocated questionable actions/material, the administration has a right to censor it," says Ms. Peterson (who knows about recent



A. Halen ('08) had her first submission to Common Sense excluded.

Supreme Court decisions as an attorney and a teacher of Constitutional Law [dealing with censorship and freedom of press] last semester).

However, both Matthew Berdeguez ('11) and Deandra Norman ('08) believe that the article written by Aleeza did not advocate the use of drugs and alcohol nor did it encourage sexual behavior. Twenty other people saw this uncensored, unpublished article by

asking to read it. Most people did not really have thoughts on it, but I digress. No one thought the article in question should have been censored because "bad stuff didn't seem to be in it; it was informative, but it was a little one sided."

Aleeza Halen ('08), the journalist behind a controversial and excluded article, "knows why it was censored; it was because of the content," but doesn't understand why not sooner.

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IS JUNIOR YEAR TOO MUCH?

By Daniel Karaban ('09)

Students in HSAS know that the juniors have the most difficult schedules. In their junior year, students across the United States must take their PSAT and SAT.

At HSAS we must also take one or two A.P. exams and four to five Regents exams, which is the most to be taken in any one year of high school. Is studying for these exams and taking tough classes too much for an eleventh grader to handle?

Roman Kim ('09) states that "yeah, I'm a little nervous. Studying an hour a day right now isn't a possibility so I'm a little worried," when asked about the junior year.

While some schools do not require the PSAT's to be taken for admission, taking them may result in a scholarship opportunity, which some families may need.

Studying for such life changing exams, plus trying to pass the tougher classes taken in junior year may result in a lack of personal time or sleep.

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THE HALLS ARE ALIVE WITH THE SOUND OF MUSIC

By David Moretti ('08)

While entering the vestibule of American Studies, one can hear a somewhat strange and unfamiliar sound permeating through the hall (and a half) that comprises our school's building. That sound is music. Some wonder why it is played so sporadically or why it is played at all.

"I play the music to set the tone and relax everyone," shared Assistant Principal Mr. Olivieri when asked by *Common Sense* to shed some light on this subject.

Some agree with this decision, such as Stephanie McCarthy ('08), who states she likes the music and that it "breaks up the monotony" of the school day.

"It is a beautiful wake up call. I appreciate the music but it would be nice to have diversity" added Jake Ruiz ('08).

Isaac Suero ('09) says it makes him feel "educated" and that "it brings culture to the school." Fanta Ngom ('11) agrees saying that "it fits for a school about
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UNPLUGGED TECH

By Samantha Marrero ('08)

Encompassing a third of every teacher's desk are desktop computers accompanied by ceiling peeping projectors that don't seem to serve more than a poor decorative purpose. Many students have wondered why they are there, and consider it another superfluous luxury. The benefits of this no longer so newly installed technology are highly questionable.

We already have 180 laptops, multiple sets of desktop computers in every room, a Smartboard in nearly every room and just before the summer we got new Mac desktops in room 119. These items are frequently unused during class time. Many teachers and students appear uncomfortable using the new technology.

We continue to accumulate Mac laptops and TI-89 Titanium calculators. Their infrequent use offers a reason to believe that the new teacher desktop installations will also be little used. Why aren't the new teacher computers and their mounted projectors put to use?

Walt Bonne ('11) believes that, "they don't work." This is confirmed



Ms. Camillo does not have the missing cables for our new technology

by members of the HSAS faculty including Mr. Sacchini.

According to Ms. Flintall, our principal's secretary, "it will be useful once everything comes in, (including) missing pieces." She tells *Common Sense* that there are missing components due to the equipment and "everything was purchased separately."

A Dell sales representative was contacted in the third week of October. The missing components are expected to come in as soon as possible, the first possible date having been the 23rd of October.

So why was everything

purchased separately, what exactly is the problem, and why is it taking so long to be fixed? Mr. P. Rockfeld, our HSAS technology consultant, has all the answers: "Dell screwed up. Gigantic businesses can't get their act together enough to think that we need a connector," for the components we ordered.

Rockfeld goes on to say that it's a tedious process working with vendors and he makes it clear that HSAS is working hard to get this handled. He states the problem is that, "we have a connector that allows for the projection to be visible, (but) not the monitor."
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