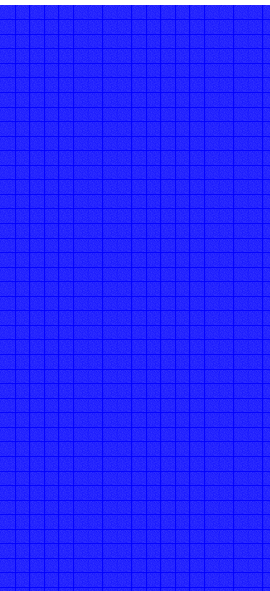


A PEEK AT THE CREEK

Volume 1, Issue 1

DECEMBER 2005



Another Year in Print

As we take on another year in print at Sandy Creek, we see some returning faces and new ones as well. Those returning are a guiding hand to those experiencing journalism for the first time. All staff members of "A Peek at the Creek" are required to meet the academic and behavioral standards that are required to be a journalism professional. The

following students are the staff members for this year's newspaper:

EDITORS:

Heather Macvean
Erica Henricksen

ASSISTANT EDITORS:

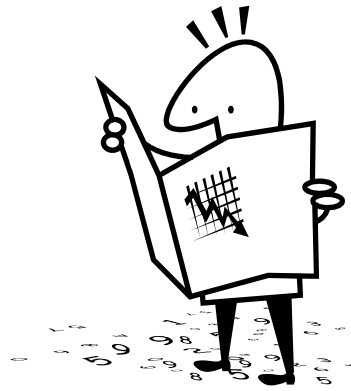
Jen Howe
Adrienne Teachout

INVESTIGATIVE REPORTERS:

Katie Oudekirk
Joe Brennan
Jacque Moody
Scott Luberto
Sam Rood
Ethan Clafin
Mary Kate Blanding

Rachel Freeman
Katie Thomas
Josie Stawicki
Aaron Lehman
Mike Cambareri
Jessica Blauvelt
Karen Blanding
Kyanna Maloof
Kelsey Tyrell
Rachel Hurd
Ruzenna Thibault
Ryan Wheeler
Lindsay Thomas

These students are responsible for this edition of "A Peek at the Creek" and have done a great job, enjoy!



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Upcoming Events by Scott Luberto

In the upcoming months there will be some very exciting events in our school. Everyone should try to take part in some of the activities that are planned. The events scheduled to take place soon include:

Music in Our Schools:	March 2 @ 7:00 PM
Senior Talent Night:	March 3 @ 7:00 PM
Drama Club Production:	March 18
Spring Concert:	March 30
Junior/Senior Prom:	April 29th
Senior Trip:	May 4-8

The New Middle School



The middle school, especially the sixth grade has gone through a major school makeover. A little change here, a huge change there, and poof, you have the middle school.

The sixth graders, I think have gone through the biggest change. Not only did they transfer from the elementary to the middle school, but they also have a schedule that not many of the kids that go to this school get to experience, block periods. Except for the last few days of school. Some classes have double periods to make it easier to give out the finals and have them finished the same day. Block periods are when your classes are not just one period, they are two periods long. If your normal schedule

was Social studies first period, and English class next, then your schedule in the sixth grade would be Social Studies first and second period on ACE days and first and second period BDF days would be English.

The seventh graders are basically doing the same things. Independent Reading Projects for English, Colonies Project for Social Studies and Static electricity in science, but there is something that is a little new. The School Island website. This website is a new tool the teachers are using to teach the students. It has basically every subject you'd expect to find in school and all the ones you'd never think of or remember.

And last but obviously, not

least, there are all of the eighth graders. On December first, the eighth graders will be joining these teachers for a Middle School Community Building event. The students and the teachers of the eighth grade will be watching a movie with popcorn and a soda, after school, from three to six PM in the high school cafeteria. The teachers are still trying to figure out what movie to show. The choices are Herby Fully Loaded, or, Polar Express. Eighth graders, if you would like to help your teachers decide you may contact Mrs. Elderbrook.



Voice of Democracy by Jen Howe

On Tuesday, November 8th, 2005 the 59th annual Voice of Democracy competition took place between four of our very own classmates. Under the supervision of coordinator, Mr. Ron Archibee, the topic for the audio essay was "How I demonstrate my freedom". The four contestants were Senior, Rebecca Day; Junior, Alyson Waring; Sophomore, Elizabeth Lawrence; and Sophomore James Macklen.

The first contestant to speak was Rebecca Day. Rebecca ex-

plained how she demonstrates her freedoms by choosing to get a good education and eventually taking advantage of her right to vote. Next, James Macklen spoke about the steps our country has taken to earn rights available to us today. James discussed the Revolutionary War and many political leaders in American history. After James, Alyson Waring spoke. Alison took a more creative approach to her essay. She spoke of her right to be a vegetarian, and the right to wear

what she wants. The last to speak was Elizabeth Lawrence. Elizabeth spoke about how Americans, we should take advantage of our rights and if united, we can overcome big obstacles.

The winners were chosen by the Lacona VFW. First place went to Alyson Waring, who won a \$150 cash prize. Second place went to Elizabeth Lawrence, who won a \$100 cash prize. The third place winner, Rebecca Day, earned a \$75 cash prize. Congratulations to all contestants!

Drama Club by Elizabeth Lawrence

This year, the Sandy Creek Central School Drama Club will be presenting Homefront, a drama by Dean Feldmeyer. This play takes place during World War II on the Hoosier homefront. According to a synopsis provided by play producers Eldridge Inc., the Rev. Peter Farenkamp and his family all want to do their part to help out, especially the oldest son, David, who wants to be a junior air raid warden. David is inspired to join the Army when Louise gets a call from her fi-

ancé saying he must go to Europe for active duty. David wants to join the Army as soon as he turns eighteen. Peter, David's father, is strongly against this decision because he has seen war up close, and what results it can have. The supporting roles of this drama are filled by Anna, the sensible, loving mother; Bernard, the fun-loving brother who has big dreams of being a big band drummer; and Luana, the youngest who is obsessed with Frank Sinatra. There are also other small town characters who add mild humor. Mrs. Kiah will be the new director of drama club, and she says that she is very excited to take the position, but is also a little

bit nervous. She is very thankful for the countless people who put time and effort in to making the drama club production a success every year and hopes that they will be willing to volunteer their time and efforts again this time around. Kiah believes that this play is "poignant because we have boys and girls going to war." "Though this play is not political, as it is set in the past, it is important," said Kiah. "We have many students, current and former, who are giving their futures to combat terrorism through the war in Iraq and Afghanistan. I chose this play, with the help of Ms. Bitz and several others, to honor those who have gone to war in the past, and those who find themselves leaving now and in the near future."

National Honor Society

Sandy Creek High School's annual induction ceremony for the National Honor Society took place on Wednesday November 16th at 7:00 PM in the High School Auditorium. 21 Juniors and 6 Seniors were inducted. To be eligible for membership consideration, students must have a cumulative grade

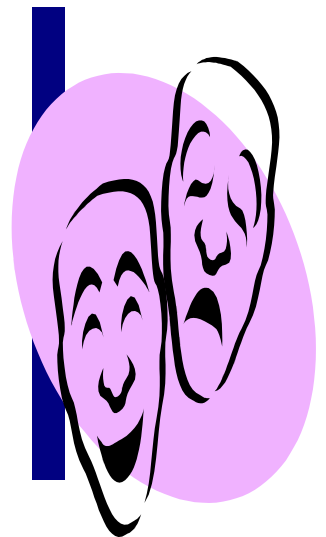
point average of 87%. In addition, potential members must meet high standards of leadership, service, and character. Members of the junior and senior class were evaluated by the Faculty Council.

Leadership is based on the student's participation in commu-

nity, school activities, or election to an office. The service requirement can be met by being active in service projects for the school and community. Character is measured in terms of integrity, behavior, ethics, and cooperation with both students and faculty.



"How I demonstrate my freedom."





Hurricane Katrina by Ethan Claflin

Hurricane Katrina. People hear these words and think about the catastrophe that spread across the southeastern parts of the United States for nearly a week. After causing devastation to the southern coast of Florida, and traveling through the Gulf of Mexico to go through New Orleans and stretch across Louisiana, this hurricane died down into some harmless winds. The destructive path it took however was not soon to be forgotten.

As a result of Hurricane Katrina, millions of Americans were left homeless, and without food, water, or electricity. Thousands were killed and injured during the storm

and many of the bodies could not even be identified. With many people still missing, and families torn apart, this tragedy can hardly be considered over. Efforts are being made across America to aid the victims of Hurricane Katrina, but will they be enough? With all the destruction that had been caused by Hurricane Katrina, people were anxious to begin rebuilding and repair. However, with contamination from the destroyed oil refineries, and other toxic agents, we can ask, "Was it really a safe idea to allow the rebuilding to commence without further tests of the contamination levels?" The Environmental Protection Agency is currently facing lawsuits against the release of information that chemicals found in the air were not in

large enough proportions to effect anybody over short periods of time. However, with people wanting to return to their homes and rebuild the area, a short period of time was obviously not what the reconstruction workers intended. Statements testify that the tests for contaminants should have been based on longer periods of time than the initial periods tested by the EPA. "The EPA did not publicize this information appropriately." According to certain residents of the New Orleans area and with so much death already having been done, the problem need not be added to by disease from air such as leukemia, and other lung-affecting agents. These problems with environment and contaminant control obviously point out the fact that the tragedy of Hurricane Katrina is still alive and present and that we all can we do must be done to aid our fellow Americans in their time of struggle and hardship.

Technology by Rachel Freeman



Technology Integration is a required New York Standard taken into consideration for all school districts. Sandy Creek has a 3 year integration plan, which means that we have no servers or computer systems that are older than three years old. New software and internet services are required to fit the need for higher speeds.

The technology department has input of teachers, students, and community members to see how they can make technology better in our school. The department follows SIPA (Student Internet Protection Act), that provides a firewall protection to block sites that contain sexual content, violence, drugs, chat

rooms, and anything that does not provide an educational purpose.

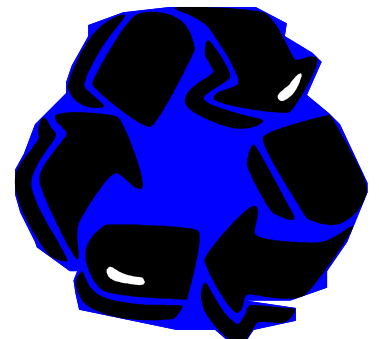
If anyone has any comments, questions, suggestions, or concerns, please contact the technology department or a student on the technology committee. Students on the committee are; Ken Gibbs, Brianna Tubbs, Kelsy Tyrell, Rachel Freeman, Scott Luberto, Michael Cambareri, and Kyanna Maloof.

School Recycling Project

Last year the Environmental Science class began a recycling project throughout the building. The project went very well and is being continued this year. Students collect what the recycle bins in every classroom contain. The only thing with recycling is; one

snotty tissue, one chewed piece of gum, one wet hand towel can cause the whole bag of recyclables to then become garbage. There are many other things that can "contaminate" the bag of recyclables and make it garbage. Please help to do your part and put recycla-

ble bottles, cans, and papers into the proper bins.



Doomsday Advances by Samantha Rood

The hurricanes, the tornadoes, the tsunamis, the earthquakes... is it all coincidence? Is it really just nature taking its course, or is it a course set by us? The human population needs to realize what we are doing. Years and years of pollution have seriously damaged our ozone layer. Global warming was first thought to be a ridiculous theory, but has in recent years proved to be correct. Pollution has not only harmed our ozone layer, but our oxygen and water supply as well. Smog kills plant life, setting life cycles off balance. Ocean and lake pollution is killing aquatic life. The slightest imbalance can cause massive devastation, as implied by the "butterfly effect" theory. We humans have been upset-

ting the balance of the Earth itself, and the effects will not be trivial. It is already happening; we have seen it with our own eyes. The damage to the ozone layer protecting us from the sun has caused a rise in Earth's overall temperature. This is part of a natural cycle that would have happened without our help. The trouble is it would have taken much longer and happened more gradually, allowing for plant and animal life to evolve and cope. However, because we are speeding up the process so much, the effects of this will come down on us hard and fast. Global warming will melt the arctic glaciers, causing a severe drop in ocean and air temperatures. This hot-cold effect will

disrupt the fragile ecosystems, causing thousands of species to be wiped out. The disruption in the oceans could trigger fault lines and volcanoes, causing more natural catastrophes. If our downfall does not come from that, then the new ice age from the melting polar glaciers probably will. Some of us may survive, but at the cost of thousands of species and millions of human lives.

It has been right in front of our eyes for decades, yet the world's governments, the people that are supposed to be there to protect us, do little or nothing to prevent this. Humans in general have a tendency to deny the truth when it is frightening, but the more we deny what is coming, the worse it will get.

We use up the Earth's natural resources much faster than it can replenish and heal itself. More effort must be put into finding alternative fuel and transportation, improving disposal methods, and creating more biodegradable materials. If people are kinder to the environment, and if governments and corporations take the Earth into consideration, we might be able to slow this catastrophe. If we *all* do our part, if we *all* make sacrifices, then the world will be better for everything in it and safer for future generations. If we do not, then we will be punished.



Semi-Formal 2005 by Mary-Kate Blanding

This year's semi-formal brought up some controversy. The idea of dressing in only black and white caused concern among the student body. For some people, buying something brand -new might not be an option, others want to stand out. But how can that be possible if everyone there is in black

and white? There's not much variety at all!



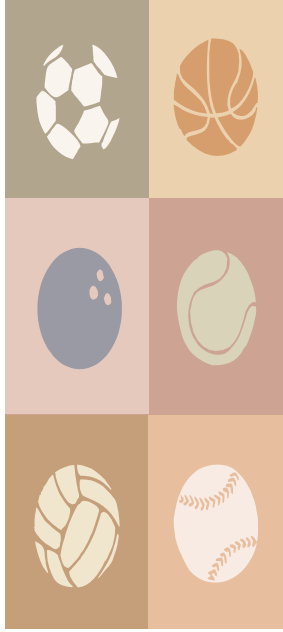
Christmas Joy by Rachel Hurd

Imagine being between the ages of 2-14 and have never received a Christmas gift. Organizations participating in Operation Christmas Child, offer gifts for those who would not get one's otherwise. Area churches contributed to the massive 4,431,665 shoeboxes packed and shipped from the U.S. last

year. Caring people from over 11 countries pack shoeboxes with small toys, toiletries, and other small gifts. Once packed, the boxes are sent to a national collection center in North Carolina, where they are inspected and prepared for shipment to over 90 countries worldwide.

Last year our local collection center, the Greater Victory Fellowship, sent 377 shoeboxes out for distribution. The coordinator of the local collection center, Mrs. Blodgett, said "I do it because it makes me feel good to help others and I enjoy demonstrating God's love."

"It makes me feel good to help others..."



Football

The Varsity football team finished their season with a 6-3 over-all record and a 3-2 third place league record in the division. Joe Brennan rushed for over 1,400 yards and 20 touchdowns, Brad Shippee rushed for 800 yards and had over 80 tackles, and Rodney Trumble had over 100 tackles. Joe Brennan and Rodney Trumble were selected as senior All-Stars.

The 1st Team Offensive All-Stars were Joe Brennan and Brad Shippee. The First Team Defensive was Rodney Trumble and Brad Shippee. For the Second Team Offensive All-Stars Tim Stevens and Ken Gibbs, and for the Second Team De-

fensive All-Stars Jason Hudson and Bryan Rios were named. The Honorable Mentions were Andrew Hovey and Brent Crump. Jamie Darling, Ed Stevens, Bobby Allen, Brent Crump, and Josh McGrath all scored their first high school career touchdowns.

The highlight for the season was winning the homecoming game 50 to 48 against South Lewis in front of a huge crowd, and was also televised on Time Warner Cable Television, channel 26. It was a great Season and a Great Bunch of guys!

The varsity football team future is looking good with the

modified team pasting a 5-1 record, losing only to T.I in a 21-19 battle.

The A team was lead by Koby Fowler who scored 13 touchdowns, Logan McNitt who had his first career touchdown, Lyle Burnett, Mike Elkin, Tyler Gronau, and Taylor Ouderkirk. The offense had great blocking by the line, while defense didn't give up one single point throughout the entire season. The B team was lead by Corey Sprauge, Matt Shirley, Dylan Shiel, and Chris Loran. They improved greatly, especially on defense.



Cross Country

Boys Team

This years boys team was incomplete due to only having four runners. In order to compete as a varsity scoring team we needed five. So our boys ran for individual results only. The top runner for our team was Josh Brown. Other runners included senior Jake Pitcher, junior Adam Wall and junior Ryan Houghton. Great progress was made by all runners.

Girls team

This years girls team consisted of seven runners. The team leader was junior Alissa Kersey who finished the season with a 20th place

finish at the NYS championships in class D. She was also part of the section 3 team who placed first in the state in class D. The other team runners were juniors Diane Vezendy, Alyson Waring, Amanda Allen, Alicia Bradberry, 10th grade-Ashley Haskins, 9th grade-Tiffany Crandall

As a team they place 3rd in the league Championships, 3rd at Adirondack invite, 4th at Weedsport, and 8th at Sectionals. All-star status was Alissa Kersey

We had 3 wiins in the league as a team.

Modified Teams

The teams were both incomplete this season, with numbers steadily gain and with the addition of the "little harriers" running program the comets hope to have the teams complete by the fall off the next school year. Team members Ryan Collins and Sarah Bunnel helped hold the younger athletes together and bring a positive feelings to those around them. The teams were unable to score during the season, with more practice and more runners next year the comets should fare well.



Girls Soccer

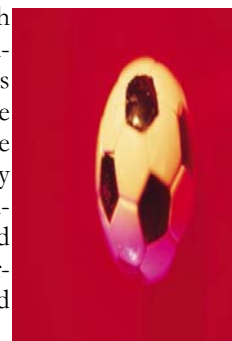
The 2005 Lady Comets finished out their season with a 4-10-2 overall record. The varsity team welcomed ten new players this year from Junior Varsity while only five players returned. The young Lady Comets were led by their three seniors, Erica Henriksen, Heather MacVean and Katie Ouderkirk. The team demonstrated a stronger presence in the Frontier League losing most of their games by only one- or two-goal deficits in addition to defeating powerhouse, Carthage 2-1, for the first time in school history.

Erica Henriksen, Katie Ouderkirk, Mercedes LaVeck and Lindsay Thomas were voted Frontier League All-Stars with Heather MacVean earning Honorable Mention. With a majority of the team returning for the 2006 season, post-season play looks promising next year.

With the loss of many starting players from last year's impermeable squad, the 2005 Junior Varsity Girls Soccer team faced many changes and challenges. They completed their season under the direction of new head

coach, Ms. Williams, posting a 3-11-2 record.

The Modified Girls Soccer team finished their season with an overall record 2-2-4. Unbearable weather conditions stunted the opportunity for the team to show their real true soccer talents. Coached by Mrs. McGrath, the team weathered the storms and found mud-soccer to be just as entertaining as what they had signed up to play.



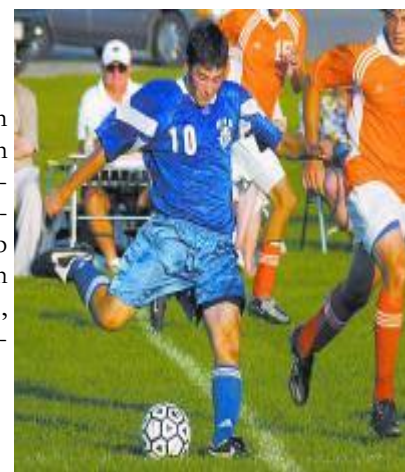
Boys Soccer

For the first time in school history, we had a boy's soccer team, coached by Mr. White. After a rough start, the boys improved greatly throughout the season having two All-Stars Greg Foederer and Gavin Bertram. They also had 4 honorable mentions Logan Quataert, Scott Luberto, Zach Rudd, and Ben Thomas. I'm sure the boys

soccer program has a better future ahead of them as their skills progress.

The first boys modified soccer team had a 2-6 record. Their coach was Mr. Klopotowski. The boys listed on the roster were Mike Canbareri, DJ Myslivecek, Jason Elmer, Daniel Fancher, Will Fancher, Sebastian Goins, Ryan Hay-

ward, Alex Howland, Damen Joy, Jarret Luberto, Kevin Lemire, Josh MacVean, Michael McNitt, Ian Miller, Slater Schack, Kris Shirley, Caleb Snedeker, Caleb Snyder, Zach Thompson, Caleb Ward, Logan White and Dylan Cordwell.



The Sandy Creek Alma Mater

*Alma mater's children
gather*

*From a near and far
Cost to coast her sway
extended*

High her guiding star

Lift the chorus

Sing her praises

*Proud her name we
speak*

*Hail to thee our alma
mater*

*HAIL OLD
SANDY CREEK!*



**A SANDY CREEK HIGH
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We're on the web!
sccs.cnyric.org



Stars

by Robert Frost

How they countlessly congregate

O'er our tumultuous snow,

Which flows in shapes as tall as trees

When wintry winds do blow!

As if with keenness for our fate

our faltering few steps

On to white rest, and a place of rest,

Invisible at dawn,

And yet with neither love nor hate,

those stars like snowy snow-white

Minerva's snow-white marble eyes

without gift of sight.

Meet the Teacher: Miss Urlacher by Katie Thomas



Do you like working with the age group that you work with today?

“Yes, sophomores are fun because MOST of them understand my humor.”

What college did you attend?

“D’Youville College”

Where did you attend high school?

“Webster High School, outside of Rochester.

Do you have any siblings?

“I’m the oldest of five, I have three sisters and one brother.”

Where did you grow up?

“Webster, I lived there my whole life until I was 22 then I moved here.”

Did you originally go to school to become a Social Studies teacher?

“No, I was actually going to school to become a physical therapist, but after 6 knee operations I decided I hated it, and decided to become a teacher.”

Have you had any embarrassing moments since you’ve been teaching in Sandy Creek?

“None that I can think of, but I’m sure I have some”

Do you enjoy teaching at Sandy Creek?

“Yes, I really like the small school setting because the high school I went to was so big.”

Are you married?

“Nope”

If you were to chose a different career, what would it be?

“Probably a nurse because I still do like the medical field.”

What is your favorite TV show?

“Seinfeld”

Did you play sports in high school and college?

“I played soccer and basketball in High School, and I ran cross country and played basketball in college.”

Do you have any hidden talents?

“I love my poker, Texas Hold’Em.”