

# A PEEK AT THE CREEK

Volume 3, Issue 3

May 2008



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## Home stretch!

We just want to remind people to finish out the school year strongly. It is an important time to review for end of the year exams, while cherishing the moments with your friends before summer.

### EDITORS:

Elizabeth Lawrence  
Scott Luberto

### ASSISTANT EDITORS:

Mary-Kate Blanding  
Jessica Blauvelt

## Investigative Reporters:

### Seniors

Ethan Claflin  
Caitlin Clark  
Melissa Day  
Mercedes LaVeck  
Jonnell Liebl

Josie Stawicki  
Tricia Stevens

### Juniors

Mike Cambareri  
Rachael Hurd  
Brittany McGrath

### Sophomores

Megan Clark  
Nicki Clark  
Frannie Felo  
Eden Rudd  
Nicole Schepard  
Matt Smith

### Freshmen

Russell Levack  
Rachel Paige  
Rachel Pretory

Sandy Creek Central School's *A Peek at the Creek* staff members

## Drama Production by Eden Rudd

On March 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, the Drama Club gave us the pleasure of performing the hilarious, yet bizarre, Check Please, and Check Please Take Two. These dramas were directed by Mrs. Hobbs and Mrs. Marshall; however, the play would not have been possible without the help backstage. The production was about several people looking to go on an innocent blind date, when they actually find themselves having a meal with who could easily be a group of the craziest people they have ever met. Some of these nutcases included a foot reading psychic, a mime, a schizophrenic, a kleptomaniac, a panophobiac (someone with a fear of everything), an upbeat granny, a wanna-be Dracula, and a pirate. It required a multitude of people to make the show as exciting and entertaining as it was. Included in the cast were: Rachael Hurd, Mike Cambareri, Shane Conzone, Adam Sternberg, Marlo Kleinschmidt, Ethan Claflin, Cameron Thibault, Deanna Buley, Nicki Ginnan, Elizabeth Lawrence, Julie Vincent, Ashley Haskins, Tyfanny Howlette, Jessie Glenister, Josh Ward, JerriLynn Schad, Jonnell Liebl, Brittany Kelly, Niki Scheppard, Tayler Fravel, Ashley Wilson, Matt Cwirko, John Hamlin, Dillon Schroeder, and Joe Felo. Nice job everyone, it was very much enjoyed!



Joe Felo



Ethan Claflin



John Hamlin and  
Dillon Schroeder



Tayler Fravel and Adam Sternberg



Nikki Sheppard and  
Adam Sternberg



Marlo Kleinschmidt and  
Rachael Hurd



Julie Vincent and  
Jessie Glensiter



Shane Conzone and Rachael Hurd



Tyfanny Howlett



Brittany Kelly and Adam Sternberg

## Round One by Niki Scheppard

The District Competition of the Battle of the Books was held on the 19th of March. The competition was held in the library with three rows of friends and family members as spectators. The questions were asked by Mrs. Allen and the answers were checked by Mrs. Nemier. At the end of the first round, the Blue Team (consisting of Mark Smith, Kim Rudd, and Sam Phillips) had a lead of eight points. At half time a large assortment of baked goods, which were made by Mrs. Allen and Mrs. Nemier, were served along with punch by Alicia Mahaney. The second round was very close. Both teams tied for most of the game, until the last question when the Orange Team (consisting of Pam Babcock, Jonnell Liebl and Niki Scheppard) won with a slim lead of three points. The medals were handed out and Kim Rudd was selected as the alternate. She will go with the Orange Team as a back up if another team member is unable to compete. Wish the Orange Team good luck for the County competition on the 9th of April!



Orange Team: Pam Babcock, Jonnell Liebl and Niki Scheppard



Blue Team: Mark Smith, Sam Phillips, and Kim Rudd

## Mock Trial: Continuing the Legacy by Mike Cambareri

There is a certain quality held by those who know their own excellence. A strong confidence, an assurance that they can triumph by sheer force of will. Perhaps even a certain cockiness. All of these are the driving forces behind the resounding wins captured by the Sandy Creek Mock Trial team.

After snatching a brilliant season from the jaws of an early defeat last year, our team progressed to the regional finals, where they fought all the way to second place. We now enjoy the insight of seasoned veterans of the courtroom, as well as the fresh views and raw potential of the new additions to the team.

At the time of the creation of this article, they have progressed to the last level of the County, by completing an undefeated season, and triumphing in the County Finals. They are soon to compete for the Regional championship. This will be the first true test of our tireless preparation, brilliant leadership, and dogged determination to achieve victory at any cost.



Mock Trail Team 2008  
Oswego County Champions

## Humor and Quotes by Russell LeVack

"I'm not into working out. My philosophy: No pain, no pain."

-Carol Leifer

"I grew up with six brothers. That's how I learned to dance - waiting for the bathroom."

-Bob Hope.

"If it weren't for electricity we'd all be watching television by candlelight."

-George Gobel.

"When we played softball, I'd steal second base; then I'd feel guilty and go back."

-Woody Allen

Source:

<http://jokes2go.com>

## Pen in Hand by Jonnell Liebl

The quiet passage in and out of Ms. Bitz room ended early in January as four seniors awaited the news of whether or not they would be accepted into a writers conference at a hotel in Little Falls, New York. The wait has ended and the students have already been to and returned from the conference. All four students who entered were accepted. Jonnell Liebl, 17, entered two poems, titled "Ruminations in Darkness" and "The Hollow King." Melissa Liebl, 17, also entered and was accepted with two amazing poems, "Index on the Rules of Life" and "Concentration." Zachary Maloof, 19, entered two excellent poems, "Time's Disguise," and "Where's our Answer?". Last, but certainly not least, Benjamin White, 17, found himself on pages 104 and 105 of our anthology this year with his prodigious poems, "4 AM" and "Oasis." All of the students were repeat appearances at this year's conference. Since they are seniors, they were allowed to attend a senior conference. However, Sandy Creek's attendance looks like it will be dwindling, unless we have students who want to start showing their work. If any student is interested, next year before the end of December, go and see Ms. Bitz, and join the celebration of poetry, or short stories, in our school. For any who are interested in the content of the winning poems entered this year you can contact any of the aforementioned contestants.



## Spanisho Clubo By Ethan Claflin

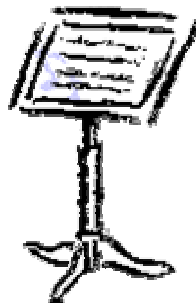
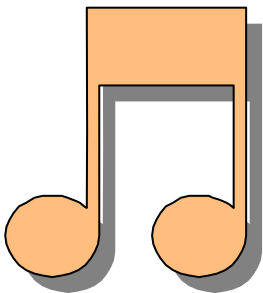
Spanish Club members have some big plans for next year. They are expecting to take a trip to Costa Rica to explore the wilderness and learn about the culture of its native people. Fundraising is supposed to begin over the summer and continue throughout the following school year. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity and will involve seeing a volcano, adventuring in huge canopies, visiting hot springs, and so much more. If you are currently a Spanish student, then looking into this may be well worth your while. Good luck in the gathering of funds, mis amigos!

## Fredonia Singers by Jessica Blauvelt

On Monday, March 24, the Fredonia chorus (also known as the "Chamber Singers") came to practice with the Sandy Creek chorus. The S.C.C.S chorus members learned many new things through the instruction of the Chamber Singers and their director, Dr. Lang. The next day, the Chamber Singers and the Sandy Creek and Pulaski choruses sang together in a concert. The Chamber Singers came from Fredonia College.. The campus of the State University of New York at Fredonia is located in the Western New York county of Chautauqua, minutes from the shores of Lake Erie.



S.C.C.S. High School Chorus members practicing with the Chamber Singers.



SUNY Fredonia Chamber Singers

## Spring Band Concert by Frannie Felo

The high school and middle school bands recently had their spring band concert on April 3, 2008. For seniors, this was their last concert of their high school careers. Seniors were recognized by Mr. Artini for their hard work and perseverance. The seniors include: Ethan Claffin, Sarah Stevens, Elizabeth Lawrence, Matt Cwirko, Maggie Oliver, Troy Shirley, James Macklen, Dillon Schroeder, Adam Sternberg, and Ashley Haskins. I would personally like to take this time to congratulate the seniors of the band. This does not mean it is the end of their musical career; some individuals have stated that they want to pursue musical careers. Band members will continue their musical experience in marching band, which will initiate after spring break.

## Softball by Tricia Stevens



The Sandy Creek Varsity Softball team's participants this year are: Chelsea Claflin, Courtney Claflin, Megan Clark, Chelsea Crump, Karlie Decarolis, Kaylee Fravel, Tayler Fravel, Sabrina Howland, Cassia King, Mercedes LaVeck, Amber Lizotte and Lyndsay Rowell. The team expects a very successful season. Currently, they have a record of 9 wins and 0 losses. They hope to dominate their division and advance to the State Tournament again. Good luck!

The Sandy Creek J.V. Softball team's participants this year are: Jordan Miller, Vicki White, Amanda Carusone, Shannon Garvin, Lyndsay Parker, Rachel Pretory, Brooke Thomas, Nicki Clark, Angela Daley, Nikki Ginnan, Eryn Howlett and Samantha Pfluger. Good luck this year!

Coached by Mrs. Yerdon, the girl's teams looks forward to another successful season. Coach Yerdon was impressed with the returners, including Karina DeCarlis, Michaela Mothersell, and Sam Densmore. The team is well rounded with an even split of seventh and eighth graders. The Comet's have a very strong defense and powerful hitters. The big question this year lies with the pitching staff. Prospective pitchers this year include Karen Caster, Brittany Luszynski, and Kendra Valley. Mrs. Yerdon was also looking forward to see how Karintha Myslivek progress, expecting big things from her.

## Baseball



Devin Coon

The varsity boy's team, with returning coach Mr. Archibee, currently has a 3-3 record. With veteran players Ben Thomas, Aaron Pittman, and Eddie Stevens leading the way, the Comets are looking for a successful season. Standout pitcher, Mike Elkin, even pitched a complete game against Alex Bay to lead the Comets to a 14-6 victory. Leading the offense, Taylor Ouderkirk and Logan McNitt helped in securing the victory. The Comets also defeated Belleville Henderson. Despite the Black Panthers threatening comeback near the end of the game, Aaron Pittman caught the game ending ball, clinching the win for the Comets.

Coach Sturick and the J.V. team started off their season with a winning streak. The team managed to defeat Sackets Harbor 10-7, and then went on to dominate Alex Bay with a score of 19-1. Captains Jake Snedeker, Alex Howland, Matt Shirley, and Jeremy Brennan lead a team of very talented players, including many freshmen. Alex Howland is the leader of the pitching staff, including a complete game with fourteen strikeouts, and Devin Coon is leading the offense. The up and coming rookies include John Warden, Jeremy Brennan, Jake Halsey, and Shane Scullen; all of which Sturick expects good things from. Coach Sturick believes "the team will be very productive; they have been playing good baseball and if they stay focused, this will be a very successful season."



Coach Sturick and the J.V. team.

The young modified baseball team, led by captains Jared Soule, Troy Swarhout, and Derek Pfluger, has a lot of potential due to its talent filled seventh graders. Despite the fact that the team only has four eighth graders, Coach Benedict is very excited about this season. He is expecting a great deal of success. The team has a very balanced offense and defense and a very impressive pitching rotation which includes Tyler Valley, Jared Soule, Derek Pfluger, Troy Swarhout, Stephen Smith, Mason McNitt, and Tyler Shumway. The team looks forward to a successful season. Good luck guys!

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## Golf by Brittany McGrath

The Sandy Creek golf team has increased to 14 players. The team has just finished cleaning up the Elm's Golf Course in exchange for playing there at no cost to them. The players consist of Ronnie Mullin, Marlo Kleinschmidt, Dustin Blodgett, Paul Hallock, Tyler Gronau, Elizabeth Lawrence, Niki Sheppard, Mike Ranieri, Shane Conzone, Caitlin Clark, Logan Stenson, Josh Macvean, Heather Schad, and Fabean Saenz. All of these players participate in a mixed competition. A mixed competition is when girls and guys play all together. They not only compete against other schools, but against themselves too. There are only 6 players at a time and a player must be in the top 8 to go to the match. They play each school in their division home and away. Come and support our golf team during their first match on Thursday, April 24<sup>th</sup> against Lyme.



## Track by Mary Kate Blanding

### Varsity Girl's Track

Despite the loss of many competitors from last year, this season appears to be just as promising. Coached by Mr. Klopotoski, the girls are hoping to be led to victory. Members of the team this year are Tiffany Crandall, Alex Forcione, Fantasia Grossman, Ashley Haskins, Tyffany Howlett, Shaina Johnson, Allie Miller, Emily Nellis, and Lisa Salzman. Good luck throughout your season ladies!

### Modified Girl's Track

Also looking forward to a season filled with first place finishes and lots of fun is the modified girl's track team. With the modified team also being led by Mr. Klopotoski, this spring has a very positive outlook. On the team are Alyssa Akey, Chelsea Elliott, Hannah Foederer, Lillian Luszcynski, Natasha Malik, Allison Miller, Alexis Presley, and Amelia Yousey.

### Varsity Boy's Track

This year the boys and their coach, Mr. Pelton, are anticipating a very prosperous season. Participating this year are Felix Bendzunes, Mike Cambareri, Brent Curren, Travis Donahue, Jessie Drake, Kevin Finch, John Hamlin, Damion Joy, Travis Kimball, Kris Kwak, Zach Presley, Cody Reid, Dillon Schroeder, Dylan Shiel, Troy Shirley, Caleb Snyder, Cameron Thibault, and Josh Ward. We wish you the best of luck!

### Modified Boy's Track

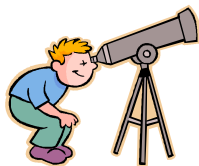
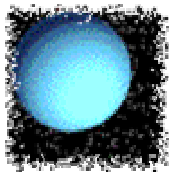
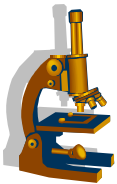
With Mr. Pelton also leading the modified team, which appears to be one of the largest teams Sandy Creek has seen, there is no doubt that their season will be a success. Taking part through the spring are Tim Babcock, AJ LaRock, Pat Lupa, Chad Lyons, Aaron Russell, Ricky Scott, Matt Sedore, Caleb Snedeker, Calab Ward, Logan White, Pat Youker, Joey Cambareri, Jake Donohoe, Cody Donahue, Adam Fox, Ryan King, Conner Luberto, Kyle Nellis, Mike Bullock, Andy Carter, Tristen Carusone, Malikai Durham, Ivan Grossman, Josh LaRock, and Dan Luberto. Good luck through the entirety of your season boys!

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## Elementary School News

By Rachel Pretory and Rachel Paige

The elementary staff is currently hard at work preparing their students for the annual Science Fair. The elementary students are allowed to prepare and present any kind of science projects that they would like. In past years, there have been many different projects presented, including live animals, U.V. beads for bracelets, and germ finding solutions. The students' projects are evaluated and given a reward or prize based on the effort put forth in their entries to the fair. Good luck to all participating students!



## Middle School News By Megan Clark and Nicki Clark

The Middle School has a brand new organization that they can boast about. They have created a Junior National Honor Society. The advisors of the Junior National Honor Society are Carolyn Shirley and Janice Burns. Like the High School National Honor Society, the Middle School's has certain requirements for its inductees. One of the necessities is a grade point average of ninety percent and above from 6th grade up. Another prospect in the Middle School students is strong leadership, good character, and citizenship. The Junior National Honor Society is very selective because they are only inducting 27 students. The goal of the organization is to make service to the community their main priority. This new non-profit organization is going to be a helpful addition to our entire school district.

## Tech Corner By Rachael Hurd

While there are many facets to technology, one article is simply not enough to even scratch the surface. Therefore, in this article we will concentrate on a particular technology and how it is improving our world. One very interesting medical technology that has recently been developed is the Rosetta @ home program. This program is designed to use the power of home PCs to process the massive amount of information needed to help scientists better understand the proteins of the human body. This understanding of the protein structures is vastly important since proteins are the "building blocks of life." The research that is being done in this program will allow doctors and scientists to better understand the functions and structures of the human body; this could lead to better treatments for many different diseases. Some of the diseases that might be better understood and treated by this program include cancer, malaria, HIV, and many more. The basic function of this system is that a central computer takes a large task that would take a long time to process, and breaks it down into many smaller tasks. These smaller tasks are then sent to thousands of computers all over the world that have donated time to the Rosetta @ home program. Then the findings of these computers is sent back to the central computer which puts the pieces back together. This system of dividing the research among thousands of computers, along with the fact that all the time is donated by the computer's owner, allows the research to progress much faster and more cheaply than other methods. This also makes use of the resources many of us are using anyway. Instead of your home computer sitting idle wasting time and your money; you could allow it to help thousands by finding cures to diseases that still plague our world. If you would like to participate or learn more about this program please visit the website, <http://boinc.bakerlab.org/rosetta/>.



## Prototype by Steven Radford

Imagine if you could shape shift into anyone you choose? What if you could transform your body into a tool you could consume from a material, maybe metal? You don't see a butter knife around so you use your hand to make a sandwich. Now would you transform into a person if you knew you would end their life? This is what happens in Prototype, the highly anticipated sandbox action game where you are a lost soul who doesn't really know who he is. All he knows is that people are coming after him and he has the power to consume any being or material and transform into it which could bring about war and total destruction. Fun, huh? When you shape shift into another human, you consume their bio mass and you basically become them. You have their appearance, skills, and even their memories. In the game, you have many options in which to destroy your enemy. You could cause mass chaos onto a military base and create total ruin to everyone in it, or you can take a sneaky approach by taking on the form of a commander and ordering your soldiers commands. You can kick butt in many different ways. Everyone is trying to hunt you down, especially this group called the Blackwatch. They are so top secret, not even the Marines know who they are. The Blackwatch is fully trained to deal with biological disturbances. An outbreak is brought upon in New York City. You are not the only infected being; there are others. They may be friends, or perhaps enemies. You are not a hero, nor a villain, but an anti-hero just trying to find out who you are. This will be released in Fall 2008 on the Play Station 3, Xbox 360, and the PC. E3 will be held in July, there will be a lot of content coming from the convention available for download on your system (depending on which system you have).



## Advice with Bonnie and Clyde Keeping Friends Close

The most important advice I have for you right now is keep your friends close. They are the most important things that you have. They are people that allow you to be yourself and don't hinder your life goals. You need to learn that not everyone you think is a friend actually is. The people who are your friends treat you with respect and will accept you as yourself. So remember, don't trust everyone even if you want to, it might hurt you in the end. People are hard puzzles to solve so you have to pick the pieces of life carefully and make sure none of them contradict each other.

-Clyde

Bonnie is M.I.A. this month, but will return next issue with more advice!

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## Meet the Teacher by Caitlin Clark and Mercedes LaVeck

### **Mrs. Brownell**

Where did you grow up?  
Fulton, New York.

What school/college did you attend?  
I attended G. Ray Bodly High School  
in Fulton and SUNY Oswego.

Why did you choose to teach at Sandy  
Creek?  
I first taught in Fulton and then moved  
here to live, and also my children at  
tended school here in Sandy Creek.

How many years have you been a teacher?  
Twenty-nine years.

Why math?  
I have always enjoyed it.

What is your favorite food?  
perogees

What is your favorite movie?  
The Wizard of Oz.

What is your favorite television show?  
Monk.

What is your favorite type of music?  
Kenny G.

Who is your favorite author?  
Jane Aure.

Who/What is your inspiration?  
My children inspire me and also my  
students.

What will you do after retirement?  
Continue to work part time.

What is your favorite quote?  
"Carpe Diem"



## Meet the Teacher by Caitlin Clark and Mercedes LaVeck

### **Mr. Torch**

Where is your hometown?

I grew up in Buffalo, New York.

What college did you attend?

I did my undergraduate study at SUNY Geneseo and my graduate study R.I.T.

When did you decide to become a psychologist?

Saturday.

Who is your inspiration?

Anyone who has run a marathon.

What is your favorite ice cream flavor?

Cookie Dough.

What is your favorite movie?

Shawshank Redemption.

What is your favorite band?

Ani Defranco (a Buffalo native)

What is your favorite television show?

CSI: Las Vegas.

Who is your favorite soccer team?

Arsenal (English Premier League).

What is your favorite book?

Journey to Ixtlan by Carlos Casteneda.

How many siblings do you have?

Two older Brothers- one lives in Denver and the other lives in London.

What is your favorite quote?

“Lesson of the Moth” by Don Marquels.

What are your future plans?

After eleven years here, I am moving to Boston. I'll still be a school psychologist working in a district north of Worcester, MA.



A SANDY CREEK HIGH SCHOOL  
PUBLICATION

124 SALISBURY ST.  
SANDY CREEK, NY  
13145

Phone: 315-387-3465  
Fax: 315-387-5888  
Email: RFERGUS3@SCCS.CNYRIC.ORG  
Advisor: MR. ROB FERGUSON

We're on the web!  
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## Artwork



By Josie Stawicki

## Poetry

### The Future

By Morgan Macri

I've been thinking maybe it is time for us to move on with our lives and have a great one. But I question myself, will we ever make it out of hell when we get there? Or will it be a dream of ours we make up in the lives we have? Or maybe just maybe you will find the girl/ boy of your dreams and you will go out to dinner and then you / him will ask you that question when he gets on his knee and asks you to marry him. Or sometimes what you got is what you got. That's what people say or that you are just not ready to grow up. We sometimes Have a good life or a bad one. If we blame it on someone we love and cherish, the flame will grow up and get stronger and stronger.

But if we do the right thing...

The flame will die and we get the power we never had in our lives. We sometimes leave the people we love for someone else and divorces and the kids will either go to the mother or the father. But, the one main thing is stronger than is us. Life is a piece of the world that god gave us to use for our time here. We may or may not be here on the earth of 4000, but what I do know is that we will always have each other to comfort one another.

TO THE BOYS AND GIRLS OF  
SANDY CREEK CENTRAL SCHOOL!