

WHAT'S UP?



At Alexander Galt

Vol. 3 Opening Issue 1988 - 89

10 cents

WELCOME

Fall officially begins the 22nd of September, people! I suppose it's time to pack those shorts away and bring out the horrid pants that your mom insists you wear because they're warm. Summer went by much too fast, and here we are, in school...AGAIN!

I'd like to send out a nice warm welcome to all Level I students. It's good to have you with us! (did we have a choice?) By now, you should all be well acquainted with the school and aren't getting lost quite as much as you used to, trying desperately to locate the nearest washroom. We have many new students in Levels 3, 4, and 5 who also deserve a hearty welcome. With all the Level I's and new imports our wonderful school is just blooming!

So, to everyone, have an awesome, terrific and exciting school year, 88-89. Good luck to the teachers who are so "fortunate" to teach us.

by Angela Locke
B:

FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF GALT

Thursday, September first was a day of anxiety for most Level One students.

"Where's my homeroom?" was one of several questions asked by Level One students. "It was hard to find my way around," says Level One student Amy Parsons.

Despite some difficulties, most students survived their first day and enjoyed it. I interviewed Level One student Kathy Kelso, and she said, "I like Galt; I think it's big. I got lost."

Level One student Robbie Laroche said, "I think it's cool! I met a lot of new friends. I was impressed by its size."

I also interviewed Level Four student Dana Sarrasin and asked her what it was like to have the new Level One students around. She said, "It's strange seeing so many short people walking in the halls."

I hope all Level One students are adjusting well, and I hope everyone has a successful year.

by Livia Royea

INTELLECTUAL OLYMPICS - Coming to Galt

This year Galt will be participating in the Intellectual Olympics, friendly competition set up among academically capable high school students from five other schools - Lindsay Place, Le Moyne d'Iberville, Chateauguay Valley, Howard S. Billings and Massey Vanier.

The teams have been divided into two sections (Galt is in Section A), and meets for our section have been scheduled as follows:

Galt at Massey Vanier Nov. 24
Massey Vanier at Howard S. Billings Jan. 17
Howard S. Billings at Galt Feb. 23

The winner of Section A will then compete in the finals with the winner of Section B sometime before the end of April.

Each school will field a team of ten students plus one spare, chosen from Levels I to V. Each member must participate in at least two events during the competition. The competition is divided into the following parts -

art project
computer problem
science/engineering problem
improvisation skit
debate
math/science quiz)
current events quiz)
"Peach for the Top"

On the morning of the meet the teams are presented with booklets outlining the problems and projects for the competition. They will go to assigned areas to work on these throughout the morning in preparation for the main part of the competition held in the afternoon. The morning preparations include creating an artistic work on a designated theme, solving a computer problem, designing and building an engineering model (e.g. - to build a protective device from popsicle sticks and rubber bands which will allow an egg to fall free without breaking), producing a skit on a particular theme, as well as preparing for the current events quiz.

In the afternoon, the teams meet in the school auditorium where all the events are performed before judges, parents, teachers and fellow students. Enthusiasm runs high as the spectators sit on the edges of their seats during the engineering competition and the "Reach for the Top" quizzes. They are then entertained and humoured by their improvisation skits and challenged by thought-provoking arguments of the debates.

Our students should thoroughly enjoy participating in intellectual Olympics where they will demonstrate their expertise in at least two areas of the competition. Those who are interested in taking part should see Mrs. Clowery in Orange Staff or Mr. Parsons in Red Staff for more details. Watch for announcements in the Student Bulletin concerning tryouts and training sessions.

WHY POLLUTE/

by Tanya Barnett

Sitting by a lake one day,
I thought I heard the water say,
"Who puts this trash everywhere?"
Why do they litter; doesn't anyone care?
The fish have all gone away.
Nothing lives in water that's grey.
All I find are pots and pans,
And many sorts of empty cans.
One day I even found a boot.
Oh, why do people pollute?

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MODEL UNITED NATIONS

by JCB

Four committed students have come forward as delegates for the November eleventh, twelfth, and thirteenth University of Vermont High Schools Model United Nations in Burlington, Vermont. Angela Chretien, Christopher Kyle, Andrew McKnight and Andrew Sudlow hope to be our representatives.

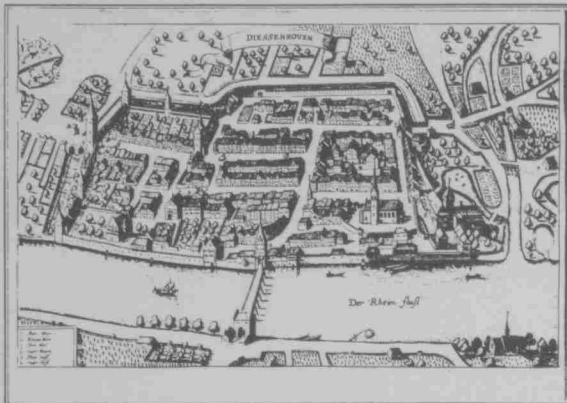
If our school is granted a country which has a seat in the Security Council, this necessitates a total of six delegates. Last year, our four delegates joined two delegates from a New Hampshire academy to complete the delegation of the French Republic. This year a similar pattern will probably develop with the cooperation of the organizing committee in Burlington.

It should be understood that the UVM Model U N normally involves between one hundred and fifty and two hundred student delegates from numerous New England schools and one or two Canadian schools. It is an unrivalled opportunity for those Level Four and Five students who enjoy the experience of meeting students from neighbouring environments but different viewpoints in matters of international disputes and problems. We should avail ourselves of chances of participating in such gatherings and putting the name of AGRHS on the speakers' list, as it were.

The long-running Plymouth, New Hampshire Model U N last met in 1986 and the University of Vermont U N seems to have gained the spotlight. Certainly, the University of Vermont sessions are far more ambitious than those at Plymouth, and the debates are more contentious.

Attendance at events such as a Model U N involves money and lots of it. Where Plymouth Model U N costs \$50.00 per delegate, the UVM sessions cost over \$90.00, and that's American money! To help us on our way, the Student Council of AGRHS has been very generous each year of our participation, as have the Sherbrooke Rotary Club and parents of delegates.

On to Burlington over the Teacher Convention weekend in November!



CHUCHICHASCHTLE and CHICHEGLUUT

By Christina Reynolds

6:00 A.M. I toss over and slowly my eyes open. I hear the church bells ringing to announce a new day. They also sound to call the farmers, who have been in the fields for an hour and a half, back home for the first milking. I remember that I am not in my bed at home, in Canada, but at my grandmother's place in Schlattengen, Switzerland.

I get up and open the shutters and hang my down comforter out the window to air it out. This is a traditional Swiss act. People try to get their comforters out early to make a good impression on their neighbours by not sleeping in.

The village is already awake. Farmers on their tractors drive by, farm wives are rushing by with armsful of vegetables from their gardens, ready to prepare them for lunch.

6:20 A.M. I scurry downstairs and arrive in the kitchen before my sister and my grandmother start breakfast.

As in all old houses, my grandmother uses her wood stove for cooking and for heating. I go outside into the fresh morning air and open the large barn door and then a second smaller one into a room where the logs are kept. I take a couple and a handful of kindling.

Back inside the three-hundred-year-old kitchen, I light the fire.

6:30 A.M. My grandmother appears. We start preparing breakfast. We're out of milk, so I go to the creamery. I get there on time, for in a little while all the farmers

will be driving in with their huge cans of milk from the morning's milking.

6:45 A.M. I'm at "home" again, eating a breakfast of bread, jam, cheese and hot chocolate. Unfortunately, toast for breakfast is not part of Swiss customs.

7:05 A.M. I'm on my bike heading for the elementary school. There I meet with all the other "Sekundarschule" students. At 7:10 A.M., all of us leave together on our bikes and head for Diessenholen, the neighbouring town, where the high school is situated. In Switzerland, school buses do not exist. Unless you live in a big city, you either walk, cycle, or take the train to school or anywhere else.

(to be continued in the next issue)

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**WE
NEED
YOU
Please
Participate
P309,
Tueaday
Noon.**

by Angela Locke

The first meeting of the Regional Students' Council was held on Tuesday, September 12, 1988. Assemblies to be held at the beginning of this week were discussed to introduce the new Council members. Block presidents will be coming around to homerooms this week for representatives to help with the chocolate bars from the world's Finest Chocolate Company instead of Lowney's, just for a change.

The Council will be looking for walk-ons from Cycle One to report to meetings (more about walk-ons as assemblies).

The Hallowe'en Dance is fast approaching and members of the Council are interested in having a live band. Because of the cost of a live band, at least three hundred tickets will have to be sold. Ideas of a possible talent show from 7 - 9 p.m. have come up, but no definite decision has been made.

News of our foster child was brought up at the meeting. His name is Samuel. Council mentioned how many students didn't even know we had a foster child.

We have been fostering Samuel since he was five years of age. He is now sixteen years old. At the moment we are putting him through axhool. When he graduates, we will then take on another foster child and do the same. Many new ideas were raised at the meeting, and these should arise later on in the school year.

REGIONAL STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS

Pres. Karen Robinson
Vice-Pres. Rob LeDoux
Secretary Becky Drew
Treasurer Krista MacGregor
Publicity Shelley Clarke
Activities Tammy Scott

Y/O President Sandy Croteau
Vice Presidents Anna Haller and Melissa Smith
Sec/Treas Tina Perkins

R/P President Gloria Scott
Vice Presidents Tiffany Crook and Sarah Allen
Sec/Treas. Christine Nassar

by Kathryn Napier

You may have noticed that Galt has its share of new students this year. If you have, you have also probably noticed a petite blonde Level 3 with a more than enviable tan. That's Teva.

Teva Graham was born a California girl, (yes, guys, California) but that's not where she got that tan. It is courtesy of the sun over Guinea Biosau, Port Guinea, AFRICA.

Teva's a "missionary kid." Her mother (born in England) and father (a Californian) work for a Christian Missionary Association, and are back in North America on a year of furlough. With them, she and her sister have lived in Brasil, north of London (England) Cameroon, Dakkar and Ziguinchor in Senegal, all in French West Africa. Furloughs, years of rest from missionary work and a chance to visit relatives in North America, have been spent in San Diego, California, her hometown.

In our "interview" (if a conversation on the football field can be called an interview), Teva was open and talkative, but for all the similarities between her and the average Canadian teenager, there are some differences.

She talks about malaria, hepatitis the way we talk about colds. She talks about crocodiles the way we talk about gartersnakes, and ends a story about a boy being eaten by a crocodile with a shy smile, saying "Kind of gross, huh?"

She says that coming off the plane from Africa into Canada is a big culture shock, and says that, "I'm used to walking and playing in the jungle; all this grass is really different. I couldn't describe Africa to you. It's so different from Canada. If you were to jump on a plane right now and go to Africa, you would be shocked."

She misses Africa (and her dog) and finds Galt somewhat different from her sixty-four student Christian boarding school. It wasn't uniformed, and when the temperature went below 25 degrees Centigrade, the girls were allowed to wear pants. The area she lived in had two seasons, the dust season and the rain season. In the dust season it's either stifling hot or so humid that "you just sit there and sweat." The hottest it gets is around 120-130°F, so the Canadian climate could be a bit of a shock.

I hope that she has an unforgettable year in the Eastern Townships. I know she will.



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By: Tanya Barnett

EMERSON

THE SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER

Have you heard? There is a new social worker replacing Loraine Ethier, who is on a leave of absence for a year.

Who is she? What does she do?

"I hope she's cool!" "I wonder if she's O.K.?"

"She always leaves the door open, seems as if she's waiting for someone." "I saw her in the cafeteria." "She often pops in at the Clinic."

"Let's get to know about her and her work."

Who are you, Chantal Hamel?

I'm from the Eastern Townships (Magog). I've studied in Social Science work and Psychology. I've been working ten years for different youth programmes: Katimavik, W.O.W., Pont-B.R.I.S.E. I like theatre, films, reading, cycling, cross-country skiing, and, most of all, I like working with young teenagers.

What does a social worker do?

Well, basically, a social worker's role is to support in the improvement and development of students' personal and social well-being. In simple English: "Help out through the rough times of a young adult's life in order for him/her to grow as a responsible adult."

Concerns like family relations, depression periods, heartache, sorrows, grief that you find difficult to deal with can be worked out with the social worker. Information on drug and alcohol abuse, sexual education, suicide prevention is also available for groups or individuals.

If the social worker can't help you out, she will try to find a resource that can.

Are they confidential consultations?

Yes. What is discussed with you and the social worker is confidential, meaning it's between you and her. If you want someone else involved, you are the one who decides, except in cases where your security may be compromised.

Is there something else we should know?

The social worker can be a resource or consultant for teachers as well in her understanding of youth difficulties.

The social worker can be a resource or consultant for peers who are helping out a friend. Often peers are a great help to each other. But sometimes they may feel that they need some advice or information in order to help out a friend.

How To Reach the Social Worker:

The social worker is at the school at Blue 301 from 8:30 to 16:00, Monday to Friday. I can be reached by telephone on Black 34 or Grey 289. I will be absent from time to time for administrative reasons, and for my involvement at the "Youth Clinic" in Lennoxville (1 day a week, more or less).

If a student or staff member want to meet with me, they can come to my office. I will set an appointment if I cannot meet with them right away. Regular procedure of appointment slip will be used.

If I'm not in my office, you can leave a note under the door with name and homeroom or classroom. You can also leave a message at the School Clinic, with Faith Larocque. I will inform the Clinic of my whereabouts in case someone needs to reach me right away.

I often leave a note on my door if I'm gone for only a few minutes.

I hope this information will help you to know more about your school social worker. If you need more information, do not hesitate to contact me.

Looking forward to working with you for the well-being of the students and the school community.

Yours truly,

Chantal Hamel
Social worker for C.L.S.C.
Gaston Lessard at Alexander Galt secondary school.

A DEADLY COST

by Cindy Bryant and Andrea Westover

Many kids have taken drugs, more than half have failed. The ones who have failed never knew about the consequences; the others knew but just didn't care. Kids may think drugs make me look cool, they can't hurt a fly. That's not true. Whoever told you that is a liar.

Drugs can hurt you badly. Your grades may fail, your friends will dislike you, and your family will never forgive you. Drugs such as marijuana, hashish, cocaine, speed, crack, and prescription drugs may not look deadly but "you can never judge a book by its cover." Some may think drugs are not harmful, but look closely; your friend may have come close to death; maybe you have.

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. ELEPHANT | 9. GIRAFFE |
| 2. ZEBRA | 10. ERMINE |
| 3. WALRUS | 11. ALLIGATOR |
| 4. XENURUS | 12. VULTURE |
| 5. OSTRICH | 13. TURTLE |
| 6. JAGUAR | 14. ROOSTER |
| 7. KANGAROO | 15. QUAIL |
| 8. IBU | 16. PANDA |
| 17. NIGHTINGALE | 21. HORSE |
| 18. MOUSE | 22. FISH |
| 19. LADYBUG | 23. CHIPMUNK |
| 20. YAK | 24. MONKEY |

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

BY: Tanya Barnett

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TANAYUBAURURANHETT
KATHMRYLONOKDYOEAN
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