



## Homewood High School

The mission of Homewood High School is to ensure that each student realizes his or her unique potential in a school setting characterized by a dedicated and exemplary staff, a supportive and involved community, a recognition and acceptance of diversity, an optimal utilization of resources, an uncompromising commitment to excellence, and a willingness to effect change.



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## Contact Information

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## Administration

Dyer Carlisle, Principal  
Patrick Chappell, Assist Principal  
John Finlay, Assistant Principal  
Sally Montgomer, Assistant Principal  
Andrew Sewell, Assistant Principal

## Guidance

Karin Bell - 12th Grade Counselor  
Taqua Sewell - 11th Grade Counselor  
Brenda Monte - 10th Grade Counselor  
Kenya Grace - 9th Grade Counselor



## From the Principal:

This newsletter marks the end of the first semester and the start of the second semester of the current school year. As we look to the beginning of the new 2005 calendar year, it is a good time to look at what we have accomplished and what we need to strive for in the future. First, let's look back at the first semester and evaluate our academic efforts. Report cards will be issued at the end of the day on Thursday, January 6, 2005. I urge students and parents take time to review and set new goals for the second semester and the new calendar year. There is something powerful in starting a new semester and a new year. I believe an important part of our educational system is new beginnings. Regardless of our past record in the first semester, we can get a fresh start in the second semester. I suggest you formulate a plan and put it into effect immediately. Be on time to school and class. Punctuality is an essential element to academic success.

We have had a positive first semester with many high points. It is my hope that we will continue to build on our past successes to accomplish even more in the coming weeks. I am impressed with the hard work of our students and faculty as they work to accomplish our academic goals. A special thanks to our parents for their cooperation and support of Homewood High School and all of its programs.

## Important Dates



**December 17, 2004**  
**December 17, 2004**  
**December 20-January 3, 2005**  
**January 3, 2005**  
**January 4, 2005**  
**January 17, 2005**  
**February 21, 2005**  
**March 21-25, 2005**

**First Semester Ends**  
**Schools Dismiss at 1:30 p.m. for Holidays**  
**Mid-Winter Holidays/Schools Closed**  
**Teacher Workday/No Students**  
**Schools reopen after holidays**  
**Holiday/Schools Closed**  
**Professional Development/No students**  
**Spring Holidays/School Closed**

For the first time, semester exam week in December will mark the end of the first semester for Homewood High School students. In the past, the first semester usually ended in January with the long Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend. This year, the semester will culminate with exams, ending on December 17th. The exam schedule is found in this edition of the Open Line. Students and parents should make note of this change to be sure that all semester work is completed before the long holiday



## 1st semester (before holidays)

Tuesday	<b>December 14, 2004</b>	<b>1st period exam - 1:15 - 3:00</b> full school day on abbreviated schedule
Wednesday	<b>December 15, 2004</b>	<b>2nd period exam - 8:00 - 9:55</b> <b>5th period exam - 10:15 - 12:00</b>
Thursday	<b>December 16, 2004</b>	<b>3rd period exam - 8:00 - 9:55</b> <b>6th period exam - 10:15 - 12:00</b>
Friday	<b>December 17, 2004</b>	<b>4th period exam - 8:00 - 9:55</b> <b>7th period exam - 10:15 - 12:00</b>



## French Club Convention



On Monday, November 8, 2004, over thirty HHS students traveled to the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa to participate in the 63<sup>rd</sup> annual Federation of French Clubs' Convention. All the students attending represented Homewood well; several won honors by competing in a variety of events.

In extemporaneous reading, Michelle Everson earned a Supérieur rating at the French I level. Caroline Dale (level 2) and Meredith Aldredge (level 3) received Très Bien rankings.

In individual recitations, Lauren Novak (level 1) recited a poem by Jacques Prevert, *Le Cancre*, and earned a Très Bien ranking, while Evvie Allison was given a Judge's Special Award for a near perfect rendition of, *Une Nuit de Délire* by a Vietnamese poet.

A group of French II students (Caroline Dale, Elizabeth Levkoff, Bailey Robinson, Talor Vann, Dorian Kendrick, Stephanie Irwin, Christina Gillespie, Anne Ryan Leavitt, & C.J. Frazier) performed a French version of *The City Mouse and the Country Mouse*, and received an award for originality. The French III group presentation was *Tresses d'Ail*, the Quebecois version of *Cinderella*. Evvie Allison, Meredith Aldredge, Kate Venable, Nicole White, Christina Weaver, Sam Arenberg, Basma Elsharif, Hannah Lee, and Courtney Sherman all worked hard to earn a Bien rating.

In addition, Christina Weaver created a beautiful artistic interpretation of the Convention's theme, *La Francophonie*, French speaking cultures around the world. For her efforts, she was awarded the Très Bien ranking.

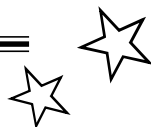
## FCCLA Members Attend National Meeting



The Homewood High School FCCLA chapter was represented at the National Cluster meeting held in Nashville, TN on November 19-20, 2004. Attending were Jamie Ankenbrandt, Alea Bonarenki, Rebecca Hooks, and Sandra Sanchez. Ketrena Hooks chaperoned and Mrs. Lara Landry and Mrs. Kim Townsel attended as advisors.



## Mix It Up Day



Students across the country stirred things up in their school cafeterias on Tuesday November 16, 2004. We joined those schools in Mix It Up Day.

Mix It Up is a campaign to challenge the habits of segregation – separating from others because of different beliefs, interests, race, style of clothes, or any other category. The lunchroom is one of the places we most often separate ourselves from others. The point of Mix It Up at Lunch is not to label social groupings as right or wrong but to begin asking hard questions. What are the social groups that make up our school?

How do groups define themselves and how are they defined by others? How do these groups interact?

The Mix It Up Day activity was facilitated by the Peer Helpers and sponsors Mrs. Brenda Monte, 10th Grade Counselor and Mrs. Taqua Sewell, 11th Grade Counselor.

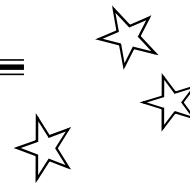
## Piano Class Recital



On December 2, the students enrolled in piano class performed in a holiday recital. Students played Christmas songs, Classical pieces, and traditional piano pieces. All students did a great job!!!

The recital is the conclusion of a semester of work in piano class. Throughout the semester, students learned basic piano techniques, basic music theory, music history, and the blues. Piano students are as follows: Jennell Hawkins, Nathan Goss, Alex Hinson, Brad Wilson, Austin Bonds, Jilesa Brown, Clint Green, Daniel Hayes, Sara Funderburk, Daniel Mathangani, Jason Schubert, Claire Midyette, George Paget, Chad McCauley, James Allen, Melissa Threlkeld, and Anna Underwood.

## Key Club Book Drive



The Homewood High School Key Club gathered over 200 books in a fall book drive to benefit Brighton Elementary School. The club has formed a partnership with the school that will involve several projects throughout the school year. The books donated by Key Club members were used as prizes for each student who read 50 books during the

month of November. Freshman Key Club members were among the group of over 15 club members who delivered the books to the elementary students.

Meredith Wildes, Jenny Rush, Stephanie Williams, Kuri Lee helped deliver over 250 books to Brighton Elementary

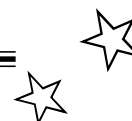


Brighton Elementary School's librarian, Pam Duncan, invited Key Club members to travel to the elementary school on November 23 to read to the students as part of their reading celebration for the month of November. Each Key Club member selected favorite books to read to the enthralled students.

Key Club member senior, Sanjay Malkani enjoyed reading to a group of 3rd and 4th grade students at Brighton Elementary.

Officers of the 90+ member club for the 2004-2005 are Sam Hill-President, Meredith Wolfe-Historian, Bobbi Jones-Vice-President, Ryan Johnson-Treasurer, and Anand Bosmia--Secretary.

## After School Policy



All students need to be off campus by 3:30 p.m. unless they are involved in a school-sponsored activity. For the safety and protection of all our students, those students who remain on campus will be assigned to a study hall for quiet study until they are picked up from school. Parents may come to the main office and your child will be called from the study classroom.



## Choir Competition Season Begins

The Network and Legacy show choirs are getting ready for competition season which begins after Christmas. Both groups will attend competitions in Picaune, MS, Petal, MS, at Pearl River Community College in Mississippi, and at Belmont University. The Network and Legacy will compete against well known groups from Mississippi, Alabama, and Tennessee. The Network will also travel to New York City to compete in Fame NY March 31 – April 3 where they will compete against show choirs from around the nation.

Homewood's annual South Central Classic Show Choir Competition will be February 18-19. The middle school division will compete on Friday, February 18. The high school division and finals competition will be held on Saturday, February 19. The Homewood Choral Department will be hosting 35 show choirs from 4 states. The Network and Legacy from the High School and the Patriot Singers from the Middle School will also perform exhibition shows throughout the two days. South Central Classic is a great opportunity to support the HHS choral department!

## Turkey Day for Life Skills Class

It was another delicious Turkey Day for the Life Skills class. Our students managed to cook up some of the best green beans and sweet potato casserole this side of the Cahaba River. And receptionists, if Emeril won't quit calling the school--it's because he wants the recipe for our famed jello fruit salad.



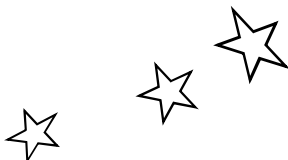
Mountain Brook High School's Life Skills class was able to join us and provide some tasty cornbread dressing. Alas, if it weren't for the parents, we wouldn't have been able to enjoy the turkey and rolls. We feasted and a good time was had by all. GOBBLE!!!! GOBBLE!!!!

## Teachers Present at State Conference



Homewood High School teachers Bettye Arnold and Kelly Reaves recently presented at the Alabama Science Teachers Association annual conference held at Spain Park High School. Mrs. Arnold co-conducted a session titled "Anatomy Antics" with two teachers from neighboring schools. Anatomy labs, strategies, props, and jokes, as well as Alabama Science in Motion activities, were shared with anatomy teachers across

the state. Mrs. Reaves presented a session for Advanced Placement Chemistry teachers focusing on achieving positive results on the AP exam.



## JROTC Activities - Support Our Troops

JROTC has started off the year with much enthusiasm and many great ideas. Our previous events have been our trip to Six Flags for JROTC Day in the month of October. It was a very exciting and relaxing day. During November JROTC participated in two exciting activities. On November 13, 2004 the JROTC participated in Paintball and on November 20, 2004 they went to Oak Mountain Park for Orienteering. These two events were great experiences for our new and veteran cadets. It helped with teamwork and getting to know each other better.



Also, Homewood High School's Air force Junior ROTC is collecting and sending Christmas Cards to IRAQ and AFGHANISTAN to show support for our troops. We are asking that students buy a Christmas card, write a note of support and drop the card in a box in the front office. On the card students need to adhere to the following:

1. Do not write your last name.
2. Do let them know you live in Homewood.
3. Do not put your address on the card.

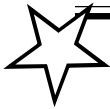
You can give as many cards as you want and JROTC will address all the cards to an APO and provide the postage. YOUR CARD WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

## Homewood Patriot Classic

Why are all these students in suits? Friday, November 12, brought an uncommon sight to the high school campus—hundreds of young men and women in suits. November 12th and 13th Homewood High School's Debate Team hosted the Homewood Patriot Classic, a long time tradition at Homewood. Twenty-seven schools from all over the Southeast including Florida and Texas brought their forensic teams to compete at Homewood for national recognition among the Forensics League. While providing opportunities for young people around the Southeast to compete in debate and individual event competitions, the Classic also provides the Homewood High School Forensics Team with funds to compete throughout the school year. This tournament combined the efforts of administration, staff, faculty, parents, and student clubs with the debate team to hold one of the largest tournaments in Alabama. 2004-2005 Debate Team members include Sara Anderson, Christy Boardman, Amanda Burrus, James Chatham, Max DeLap, Grant Derouchie, Amber DuPree, Jasmine Hoskins, Joy Lampkin, John Nakamura, Bart Roegner, Mycheal Thompson, Robert Wilkes, and Amelia Wright. This team will compete in the following tournaments for the remainder of the year: Mountain Brook, Vestavia Hills, University of Alabama, Samford University, and the District and State tournaments held in Montgomery and/or Birmingham. The hard work, discipline, and potential seen among the young people who debate in Alabama should give residents in Alabama something to look forward to in our future leaders.

## 11th Grade Hears Motivational Speaker

Heidi Lewis, motivational speaker with Barbizon Lecture Series motivated the junior class on the 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens. Students learned the 7 Habits. 1) Be Proactive--Take responsibility for your life, 2) Begin with the End in Mind--Define your mission and goals in life, 3) Put First Things First--Prioritize, and do the most important things first, 4) Think Win-Win--Have an everyone can win attitude, 5) Seek First to Understand Then to be Understood--Listen to people sincerely, 6) Synergize--Work together to achieve more and 7) Sharpen the Saw--Renew yourself regularly.



**Homewood Theatre Wins Honors and Goes to State**

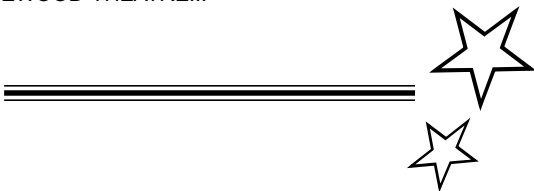
Homewood Theatre students and Homewood's production of THE BRIDGE travelled to Troy State University on December 2 to compete at the state level of The Walter Trumbauer Theatre Competition. On the trip were more than 30 students competing with more than 45 individual events as well as performing their play in the varsity competition of the one act play competition.

In November, Homewood hosted the new District 6 competition with 12 schools competing with over 400 kids and 8 one act plays. At the competition Homewood's production of THE BRIDGE won the following honors:

- Best Ensemble
- Best Technical Production
- Best Costumes
- Best Set
- Best Actor (Chuckie Fuoco)
- Best Supporting Actor (Jamie Pittman)
- All Star Cast Awards for ALL the remaining cast members: Hunter Reynolds, Noah Schinasi, Timothy Craig and Evan Levy.

The production was directed and designed by Mr. Gardner and built with the help of over 75 theatre students over 2 months.

The results of the state competition will be posted in the next issue. Break-A-Leg HOMEWOOD THEATRE!!!

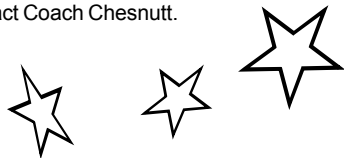


**Lady Patriot Leadership Breakfast**

The Leadership Breakfast for the Lady Patriots athletes was held recently at HHS cafeteria and Dr. Jodi Newton, Superintendent, was the speaker. Dr. Newton spoke on how each one of us serve as a leader and the characteristics of an effective leader.

The Leadership Breakfasts are held twice per semester each year for the Lady Patriot athletes. The athletes meet at 7 a.m. for breakfast and a speaker in the high school cafeteria.

For further information or suggestions for possible speakers please contact Coach Chesnutt.



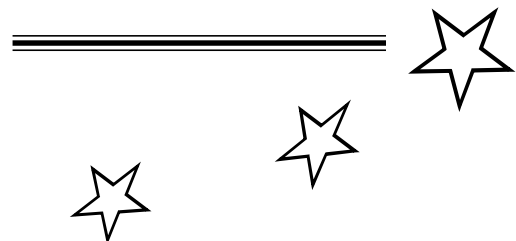
**Peer Helpers Host Ice Cream Social**

Peer Helpers will host an ice cream social after school on November 30, 2004 for all new students to our school. These students have moved here from other schools outside our district and may be in the Homewood City Schools for the first time. We want them to feel welcome and a part of the wonderful Homewood Tradition.



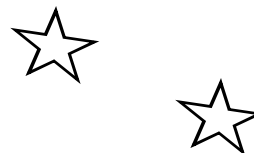
**Psychology Students give Christmas Party at Bryce**

About seventy psychology students went to Bryce Mental Hospital to give the patients a Christmas Party. They arrived at the hospital in the morning to set up the party. There were food, drinks, and a DJ. They played music, and the students and patients danced together. Many of the patients do not have supportive family members so the students brought many presents for them. The students and patients had a wonderful time, and it changed everyone's views of the mentally ill. After the party, the students went to a library area and asked a staff member questions about the hospital. Mr. Tommy Norton, a former Homewood High School psychology teacher, began this field trip 32 years ago. At the time, Homewood was the first high school to take a trip to Bryce. But now many other high schools have followed suit. This trip benefits both the patients and the students.



**Careers in Automotive Industry**

Brenda Monte, tenth grade Counselor and Mr. John Dedrick, Director of Transportation and Vocational/Career Education took a group of interested students to the Careers in the Automotive Industry on Friday, November 12, 2004 at the Civic Center. The students gained knowledge from the careers symposium as well as enjoyed seeing the new vehicles available in 2005.





## The ACT and SAT

Registration packets for the ACT and/or SAT may be obtained in the Guidance Office. Below are TEST DATES and REGISTRATION DEADLINES for the 2004-2005 school year. Juniors are advised to take the ACT and/or SAT in the spring of their junior year. If you have questions regarding the ACT or SAT, please contact Mrs. Bell, Senior Counselor, or Mrs. Sewell, Junior Counselor.



## Homewood High School's code for the ACT and SAT is 011-464.

**\*\*Starting in 2005, choose either of two test options – the ACT Assessment (\$28.00) or the ACT Assessment Plus Writing (\$42.00), which includes a 30-minute Writing Test. Not all colleges and universities require a Writing Test. Check with the colleges you are considering – or go to [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org) for a list of institutions that require or recommend the Writing Test.**

### ACT TEST DATES DEADLINE

February 12, 2005  
 April 9, 2005  
 June 11, 2005

### SAT TEST DATES DEADLINE

January 22, 2005

### REGISTRATION

January 7, 2005  
 March 4, 2005  
 May 6, 2005

### REGISTRATION

December 20, 2004

## Introducing the new SAT in March, 2005. Visit [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) for details.

March 12, 2005  
 May 7, 2005  
 June 4, 2005

February 7, 2005  
 March 25, 2005  
 April 29, 2005

## College Admission Information



Seniors are encouraged to complete their college applications as soon as possible. Please be aware of deadlines and be certain to meet those deadlines. Remember to give teachers at least ten school days' notice for letters of recommendation. Check with each college to which you apply for information regarding scholarships and financial aid. The Counselor's Corner, which is published every other week, provides updated information on scholarships, college visits, and other information important for seniors. The Counselor's Corner is given to seniors in their social studies

classes. The same information is also available on the school website and on Homewood Cable Channel 10.

## Financial Aid



The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is available in the Guidance Office. FAFSA determines eligibility for federal aid for college, including Pell Grants, guaranteed student loans, and work-study jobs on campus. The FAFSA may not be submitted until January 1, 2005, or after. An online version of FAFSA is available at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov).



## Graduation Supply Orders

Graduation supplies are ordered from Balfour, and order forms are available in the Guidance Office. The completed order form and payment should be mailed directly to Balfour. Orders must be received by Balfour no later than February 10, 2005.



## New Scholarship for Seniors

"First in Family" college scholarships for Alabama Colleges and Universities is a new scholarship for seniors offered by the J. Craig and Page. t. Smith Scholarship Foundation.

The "First in Family" College Scholarships will be open to Alabama high school seniors with a minimum of a "C" average, documented community and civic-oriented activities or those who have provided assistance to family members. Recipients must complete community or volunteer work to maintain their awards and demonstrate a commitment to "give back to their community."

Special consideration will be given to applicants who would be the first in either their mother's or father's (or both parents') families to attend college—hence the name "First In Family." Applications are available in the Guidance Office.



IT'S GREAT TO BE  
 A  
 HOMEWOOD  
 PATRIOT!!!





## Presentations for Parents



Parents and Guardians are invited to a series of special presentations and discussions sponsored by the Homewood High School Guidance office. These sessions are for **ADULTS ONLY**. The dates and topics covered will be:

- January 13      Parenting: Setting Rules, Expectations and Consequences.
- February 10    ADHD: Hard Data, New Strategies and Practical Advice
- March 15        Violence: Could my Child Turn Violent-the Warning signs
- April 14         Sex: The Effect of the Sexual Revolution

The presentations will be held in the Homewood High School lunchroom. A light meal will be provided between 6:00-6:30 p.m. and the programs will begin at 6:30 and should conclude by 8:00 p.m.

Please call the guidance office to RSVP at 871-9663.



## Freshman Group Guidance Activity Kaleidoscope Profile



The freshman students, under the directions of Mrs. Kenya Bledsoe, Freshman Counselor, participated in a group guidance activity that taught them about their learning styles. This activity took place in the World History classes, during the first week in November.

With The Kaleidoscope Profile for Students, students were able to reap the benefits of learning about their styles, favorite subjects, and values

and attitudes towards school. This was a "hands on" activity that required the students to use preprinted stickers with statements that reflected students' opinions about why they enjoy school, why school is important, school activities they enjoy, and values. Afterwards, the students scored their profile sheets. The scores reflected their sensory styles (kinesthetic, tactual, auditory, and visual), perceptual styles (abstract or concrete), organizational styles (global or sequential), and temperament styles (intuitive feelers, intuitive thinkers, sensing judges, or sensing perceivers).

Overall, this was a fun and rewarding experience for the students. Mrs. Bledsoe stressed the importance of enhancing current learning styles or incorporating new styles into the study regimen



## Senior Scholarships and Awards



So far, the following scholarships have been awarded to members of the 2005 graduating class: **Anand Bosmia**—UAB and Birmingham-Southern; **Sarah Brandt**—UAB, **John David Gardner**—University of North Carolina at Wilmington. Other awards: **Meredith Wolfe**—DAR Good Citizen, **Adair Whetstone**—nominee for Principal's Leadership Award, **Johnny Holloway and Michelle Willard**—delegates to Model Senate at Birmingham-Southern, **Janesse Stallworth**—nominee for Toyota Community Scholars, **Josiah Bell**—nominee for Prudential Spirit of Community Award.



## Youth Leadership Recognition

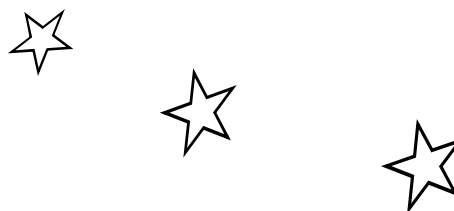


**Amber Busby**, daughter of Dale and Ginger Busby, has been selected as Homewood High's representative at the 2005 Alabama Youth Leadership Seminar to be held May 20-22 at Auburn University in Montgomery. The AYL Program is designed to foster responsible leadership through interactive discussions with some of the states finest business and community leaders. Actively involved in many activities, Amber submitted the winning essay and will "represent the (leadership) potential of our school's student body."



The Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership (HOBY) is an international program offered to sophomores. Since 1958 HOBY has conducted annual seminars for sophomores to "meet, interact with, and question regionally, nationally, and internationally renowned leaders" about present and future issues. All sophomores are eligible to apply and to write an essay about their leadership abilities. A committee from the school then selects the winners. The 2004-2005 HOBY winner is **Miss Joy Lampkin**, daughter of Robert and Audrey Lampkin. The runner-up is **Miss Jasmine Hoskins**, daughter of Creig and Angela Hoskins. This honor adds value to the girls' college admissions applications. Dr. Malcolm Gillis, newly-retired president of Rice University in Houston, Texas says, "An extraordinarily high proportion of HOBY participants have gone in to leadership positions in business, government, and education. This is just one of the reasons leading colleges and universities take special notice of student applications that feature HOBY participation."

Miss Lampkin will be attending Alabama's HOBY Leadership Seminar and then will be eligible to attend the World Leadership Congress. Should Joy be unable to attend, Miss Hoskins will be Homewood's representative. Congratulations to all three for jobs well done.





## Math Department Rocks



The math department is having a lot of fun so far this year. The ninth grade Algebra I students are exploring math in the real world by finding examples of fractions, decimals, percents, and graphs in magazines, the internet, newspapers, or other sources and displaying their items on a poster collage. The Algebra I students are also visiting the classroom "Discount Store". The "Discount Store" features various items ranging from beach towels to DVDs to T-shirts. In the store all the items are at selected discount tables—ranging from 10% off to 25% off. Students are given an additional coupon (from 5%-20% off) to use on one selected item of their choice. During class, students receive a check out ticket which they must complete. On the ticket, students fill out the original price of the item, calculate the amount of their discount, and add sales tax to find the final price. Sounds like they will be ready for the Christmas buying season!



Mrs. Gossett has captured her students' attention by a riddle and a few dice. If you figure out the riddle, then you become a member of the polar bear club and get to put your name on a polar bear that is placed on her wall! There are a great number of student names, a teacher's name and even an administrator. If you have a child in Mrs. Gossett's class, ask them to repeat the riddle and see if you can be a member too!

Mrs. Morgan's Precalculus classes have been pondering a question about world population in the Small World, Isn't it? Unit. This student-driven material is used by the Alabama Math, Science, and Technology Initiative and allows students to discover the type of mathematical model that best fits the type of growth that population represents. The students presented their answers at the end and did a terrific job! They now have a guess of when we will all be squished up!

The ninth grade Geometry students participated in "Shrinky Dinks". This activity allows students to see similar figures through heating a special type of plastic that keeps the original shape but just shrinks in size. The students had fun and got to keep their individual shrinky dinks. \*\*\*A note to parents- This activity only works with a special type of plastic. Please don't allow your student to try this activity with any other type of plastic.\*\*\*

Mr. Hellmers' Geometry Math Team classes have traveled to the computer lab to use the Geometer's Sketchpad software to construct and discover geometrical relationships that involve the points of concurrency of a triangle, lines tangent to the circle, polygons formed from the midpoints of quadrilaterals, and magical discoveries about the Pythagorean Theorem.



## Civil War Museum

Students in Mrs. Rush's Advanced Placement United States History classes took part in a Civil War Museum Activity. Exhibits provided by the teacher were supplemented by a parent, Debra McLafferty's collection of memorabilia. The students enjoyed listening to stories Mrs. McLafferty told about the objects she had on display and examining other exhibits of historical significance.



## Genetics Update Conference



On Wednesday, November 3, 2004, twenty-three HHS science enthusiasts representing grades 9-12 attended a Genetics Update Conference at UAB. Sam Rhine, a well-known genetics expert, presented the intense conference in a college lecture setting for the first time in Alabama. Students found themselves diving into the depth of constant developments while understanding new information. Topics included an introduction to basic genetics, cloning, stem cell research, and tissue engineering. Comments expressed by students include: "I was impressed that we were informed of developments in genetics announced for the first time only hours prior to our arrival." Anand Bosmia

"I was on the edge of my seat soaking up as much information as I could. I feel privileged and honored to attend a lecture on the most modern knowledge of genetics." David Newell

"I thought the lecture on bio-genetics was very informative and interesting. I would like to attend again." Brian Robertson

"I found it very informative and the speaker held my attention throughout the program. He connected with the attendees on a personal level, taking the occasional cue for a comedic turn." Sara Anderson

"I came in expecting a pretty boring lecture for about six hours. Surprisingly, I was drawn to everything Rhine was saying throughout the entire session. I never knew there was so much interesting stuff to learn about genetics in our world." Sagar Patel

"I have gained new insight on current medical issues dealing with bio-genetic ethics." Brian Yamane



## Math Team Tournament Dates 2004-2005



The math team is gearing up for a new and exciting tournament season. The tentative schedule is as follows:

Vestavia Hills High School	December 11, 2004
Briarwood High School	
(Geometry & Algebra II, only)	January 22, 2005
Auburn High School	February 5, 2005
Hoover High School	March 5, 2005
State Written Exam	March 19, 2005
*Note: This is the Saturday before the week of Spring Break.	
Grissom High School	April 16, 2005
State Ciphering (Comprehensive only)	April 23, 2005





**World Language Websites**



In Latin, French and Spanish classes at HHS, students utilize websites for authentic reading passages, webquest searches, review lessons and many other activities. The sites listed below may be helpful for at-home practice and review.

Latin:

- <http://www.quia.com/pages/hhslatin.html>
- <http://www.abney.homestead.com/ecce1.html>
- <http://www.abney.homestead.com/ecce2.html>
- <http://lysy2.archives.nd.edu/cgi-bin/words.exe>

Spanish:

- <http://www.go.hrw.com>
- <http://www.learnspanish.com>
- <http://www.colby.edu/personal/b/bknelson/exercises/>

French:

- <http://www.go.hrw.com>
- <http://www.utm.edu/departments/french/french.html>
- <http://www.quia.com/shared/french>



**HONORS ENGLISH 9 ACTIVITIES**

Honors English 9 students are corresponding with Japanese students who are studying English in Shiroishi City, Miyagi Prefecture. Thanks to a grant from the Homewood Foundation, we have sent our new friends letters, filled with photographs and small gifts. Right before Thanksgiving, we received answers. This project called "Alike, Yet Different" is designed to provide practical use of



writing skills as well as cultural awareness for all of the students, both American and Japanese. Christmas cards will fill the next box that we send. Before writing our first letters, we read Farewell to Manzanar and studied modern life in Japan.

To celebrate our reading of The Odyssey and studying mythology, Honors English 9 held a Greek drama festival featuring entertaining and informative skits. Wearing togas, students retold the ancient myths of adventure and romance. The freshmen, using

imaginative costumes, props and sets, acted out the stories for their classmates.



**National Honor Society Inducts New Members**



On Tuesday, November 9, 2004, the Patricia Ragland Tolbert Chapter of the Homewood High School National Honor Society inducted its new members for the 2004-2005 school year. Ms. Fran Curry of NBC 13 served as the guest speaker.

The Patricia Ragland Tolbert Chapter of the National Honor Society recognizes the academic talents of Homewood High School's top juniors and seniors. Membership is based on the qualities of scholarship (a cumulative GPA of 3.7 or higher), service, leadership and character. Members must attend meetings, maintain academic standards, be involved in individual and chapter service and leadership projects and remain up-standing in character. It is an honor to be selected and to serve in this organization. Homewood administrators and teachers salute these outstanding students. We encourage all Homewood High Students to uphold the ideals of the National Honor Society.

The new members for 2004-2005 are: Evvie Allison, Kenneth Liang, Diana Andrews, Jessy Lindsay, Sam Arenberg, Laura Maharrey, Wendy Ball, Mercy Maina, Fran Battles, Lacey Mann, Jason Beard, Kaylor McCain, William Black, Claire Midyette, Wilson Boardman, Leandro Moraes, Bryan Buckley, Heather Morgan, Renee Bui, Mollie Morris, Courtney Burson, Evelyn Mosquera, Matthew Collins, Josh Mullins, David Cortes, Alan Quenelle, Beau Dean, Daniel Ritchey, Michael Donovan, Blair Segers, Katherine Elmore, Courtney Sherman, Hafiah Elthir, Grace Ann Sooter, Sydney Flowers, Meredith Stinson, B'Annca Garrett, Lauren Strouss, Clara Gilliland, Mark Trippe, Josh Hill, Kate Venable, Jordan Jarvis, Suzanne Wallace, Jessica Johnson, Kevin Ware, Julian Kersh, Zandra Warren, Libby Kirk, Mallory Whatson, Thomas Kozak, Patrick White, Lewis Lehe, Emily Williams.



**Presidential Election Returns**



Mrs. Rush's senior government classes gathered to watch presidential election returns. The government classes were really involved in learning about the presidential candidates as well as the outcome of the election.





## TWO New Ways to Prepare for the SAT and ACT!!!



### New SAT/ACT Software!!

In January, updated SAT and ACT Test preparation software will be available on selected computers in the Library. Kaplan's 2004 SAT/ACT software provides students with customized "accounts" and will keep up with your practice sessions. Beginning with a diagnostic, the program will then make recommendations regarding your practice session, grade your practice tests, and report "practice" scores. Please listen for announcements for information about availability or check with Mrs. Snow or Mrs. McNutt when we return from Winter Break.



### AND.....

For those of you who want to do some test prep during the holidays, the Jefferson County Public Library System has free test prep available online! All you need is a public library card. If you don't already have one, they are easy to obtain, free of charge, from Homewood Public Library (or any branch).

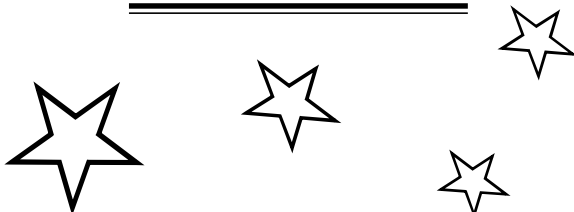
#### To use the database:

- Go to <http://www.jclc.org>
- Place your arrow on **Resources**
- Click **Databases**
- Click **are not physically in a library**
- Under **Social Sciences and Tests**
- Click **LearningExpressLibrary**
- Enter your name and library card number
- Set up your user account as directed
- Choose **College Entrance Exams** from the list on the right
- **ACT** is the first section listed, and **SAT** is the third



The database will ask you to create an identity and password, so be sure to record this information so you can practice over time and keep up with your progress. At the end of each section of practice questions this program will show you your answers with an explanation of any incorrect responses. One of several options available is an approximation of your score!!

Please be sure to see your Librarians with any questions, or arrange for a short tutorial before you leave school for the break. We are more than happy to help you.



## AP EXAMS



Homewood High School is pleased to offer advanced placement (AP) classes from the College Board Advanced Placement Program. It is an opportunity for students to pursue college-level studies while in secondary school. Through these classes students may earn advanced placement credit for college.

In May, an advanced placement exam is given to all AP students. Students earning a 3, 4, or 5 test score on the examination may earn college credit as determined by individual colleges and universities. AP testing begins Monday, May 2 and continues through Wednesday, May 11.

The College Board requires a fee for each exam. Many students paid all or part of their fees at summer registration last August. Final payment of AP exam fees is due by January 20<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Burgess in the business office can answer any question concerning remaining fees. Checks should be made payable to Homewood High School and returned to the business office or to Patrick Chappell, Assistant Principal.

The AP exam fee schedule is as follows:

1 <sup>st</sup> 1st Exam.....	\$80
2 <sup>nd</sup> exam.....	\$80
3 <sup>rd</sup> exan.....	\$60
Additional exams.....	\$20



## Request your AVL Card Online!



Effective immediately, you can place an order with the Library Staff for your very own Alabama Virtual Library Card. This will enable you to access the AVL from home or any computer away from school. The AVL is a huge group of databases placing an amazing range of very credible information at your fingertips.

To request your card go to the Homewood High School Web Page (<http://pandora.hhs.homewood.k12.al.us/hhs>), click on the Media Center link, and the choose Request Alabama Virtual Library Card. Provide your first name, last name, and grade in the appropriate blanks, and then click the Submit Form button.



That's all there is to it! Your card will be available at the Library Circulation desk the next day after 4th period.

# GO PATRIOTS!!!



**Michael McKay Signs with UAH**



Homewood senior Michael McKay signed to play baseball with the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH) as a pitcher and position player. He is a four year letterment in baseball and also lettered for the State Champion football and wrestling teams. He was awarded the Golden Glove for his team last season. This summer he played with the bama Bombers where he excelled as one of their top pitchers and hitters. As a junior, he was selected to the Alabama High School Coaches Top 100 Team.



**John David Gardner Signs Basketball Scholarship**

Homewood High School senior John David Gardner has signed a basketball scholarship at the University of North Carolina-Wilmington. UNC-Wilmington plays in the Colonial Athletic Conference and has made the NCAA tournament three of the last five years, narrowly losing to eventual national champion Maryland by two points in 2003.



Gardner turned down offers from UAB, Birmingham Southern, Ole Miss, and Western Kentucky in choosing UNCW. The head coach at UNCW is Brad Brownell.

**Softball Tryouts**



Softball tryouts were held from November 29 to December 4. All participants were required to have a physical and permission form signed by their parents. The coaches are looking forward to an outstanding season.



**Lady Patriot Basketball 2004-2005**

Date	Event	Location	Time
11/16	Pinson Valley	Away	6:30 p.m.
11/18	Pelham*	Away	6:00 p.m.
11/22	Leeds*	Away	6:00 p.m.
11/26	Homewood tournament		4:30 p.m.
11/27	Homewood tournament		
11/30	Hayes	Home	6:00 p.m.
12/2	JV Hoover*	Away	6:00 p.m.
12/3	Pleasant Grove*	Home	6:00 p.m.
12/7	Erwin*	Away	6:00 p.m.
12/10	Altamont	Away	6:00 p.m.
12/11	Vestavia*	Home	6:00 p.m.
12/17	Ramsay*	Home	6:00 p.m.
12/27	LCHS Tournament	Lauderdale County	
12/28	LCHS Tournament	Lauderdale County	
12/29	LCHS Tournament	Lauderdale County	
12/30	LCHS Tournament	Lauderdale County	
1/3	Metro Tournament	Vestavia	
1/5	Metro Tournament	Vestavia	
1/11	Parker	Away	6:00 p.m.
1/14	Wenonah*	Home	6:00 p.m.
1/15	Altamont	Home	5:30 p.m.
1/21	Ramsay*	Away	6:00 p.m.
1/22	Briarwood JV	Home	4:30 p.m.
1/25	Wenonah*	Away	6:00 p.m.
1/28	Parker*	Home	6:00 p.m.
1/29	Briarwood*	Away	6:00 p.m.
2/1	Pleasant Grove*	Away	6:00 p.m.
2/4	Leeds*	Home	6:00 p.m.
2/8	Erwin*	Home	6:00 p.m.
2/10	Area tournament	TBA	
2/12	Area tournament	TBA	
2/17	Subregional Game	TBA	
2/22	Regional Tournament		
2/23	Regional Tournament		
2/24	Regional Tournament		
2/25	Regional Tournament		
2/26	Regional Tournament		
3/1	State Tournament	BJCC	
3/2	State Tournament	BJCC	
3/3	State Tournament	BJCC	
3/4	State Tournament	BJCC	
3/5	State Tournament	BJCC	

**PATRIOTS!!!!**



### Patriot Basketball Schedule JV and Varsity 2004-2005



Date	Opponent	Place	JV	Varsity
11/22	Leeds	Leeds	4:30	7:30
11/24-27	Rebel Classic	VHHS		TBA
11/30	Hayes	Home	4:30	7:30
12/03	Pleasant Grove	Home	4:30	7:30
12/07	Erwin	EHS	4:30	7:30
12/10	Altamont	AS	4:30	7:30
12/11	Vestavia	Home	3:00	4:30
12/17	Ramsay	RHS	4:30	7:30
12/20-22	JAG Classic	SPHS	TBA	TBA
1/3-5	Metro Tourn.	Home		
1/11	Parker	PHS	4:30	7:30
1/14	Wenonah	Home	4:30	7:30
1/15	Altamont	Home	3:00	4:00
1/18	Sneak Pete Cl.	UAB		TBA
1/21	Ramsay	Home	4:30	7:30
1/25	Wenonah	WHS	4:30	7:30
1/28	Parker	Home	4:30	7:30
1/29	Briarwood	BCHS	4:30	7:30
2/01	Pleasant Grove	PGHS	4:30	7:30
2/04	Leeds	Home	4:30	7:30
2/8	Erwin	Home	4:30	7:30
2/11-14	Area Tournament	TBA		
2/18	Sub Regional	TBA		
2/22-26	Regionals	TBA		



### Varsity Wrestling Schedule

Date	Opponent	Place	Time
12/1	OTM Duals	Vestavia	TBA
12/8	Spain Park/Mt. Brook	Spain Park	5:00 p.m.
12/10-11	Alex City Duals	Alex City	TBA
12/17-18	Erwin Tournament	Erwin	TBA
12/21	Shades Valley/Gardendale	Home	6:00 p.m.
12/30	Hewitt Duals	Hewitt	TBA
1/4	Erwin/Hewitt	Erwin	5:00 p.m.
1/7-8	Hoover Tournament	Home	6:00 p.m.
1/10	Oxford/Brookwood	Home	6:00 p.m.
1/12	Pelham	Away	6:00 p.m.
1/15	Christian Bro. Tournament	Memphis	TBA
1/21-22	Sectionals	Home	TBA
1/28-29	State Tournament	Pleham	TBA



### Homewood Softball Schedule - 2005

Date	Opponent	Place	JV	Varsity
3/1	Shelby County	Home	6:00	4:30
3/3	McAdory	Away	6:00	4:30
3/4-5	Mt. Brook Tournament	Liberty Park		TBA
3/8	Shades Valley	Away		4:30
3/8	Spain Park	Away	6:00	
3/10	Mt. Brook	Away		4:30
3/10	Springville	Away	4:30	
3/11-12	Clay Chalkville tournament	Liberty Park		TBA
3/15	Moody	Away		4:30
3/16	Shelby County	Away	4:30	
3/17	John Carroll	Away		4:30
3/17	Shades Valley	Away	6:00	
3/18-19	Hewitt Trussville Tournament			TBA
3/29	Chelsea	Home		4:30
3/29	Spain Park	Home		6:00
3/31	Ramsay	Green Sprgs.		4:30
4/1-2	Trinity Tournament	Montgomery		TBA
4/4	Mortimer Jordan	Home	6:00	4:30
4/5	Benjamin Russell	Away	4:30	6:00
4/7	Parker	Green Sprgs.		4:30
4/8-9	Homewood Classic	Homewood		TBA
4/11	Springville	Home	4:30	
4/12	Moody	Home		4:30
4/14	Chelsea	Away		4:30
4/15-16	Brooks Tournament	Killen		TBA
4/18	Gardendale	Home	6:00	4:30
4/19	Ramsey	Home		4:30
4/20	Shades Valley	Home	4:30	
4/20	Wenonah	Home		6:00
4/21	McAdory	Home	6:00	4:30
4/26	Shelby County	Away		4:30
4/27	Wenonah	Wiggins Park		4:30
4/28	Parker	Home		4:30
5/3	Briarwood	Home		4:30
5/5-6-7	Sectional Tournament	Homewood		TBA
5/10	Sub-State	TBA		TBA
5/14	Sub-State	TBA		TBA
5/19-21	State Tournament	Montgomery		TBA

Head Coach: Wayne Sheets  
Assistant Coach: Katie Smith  
Assistant Coach: Chet Walker

# HHS PATRIOTS!!!



## Flu Season Report

**What sort of flu season is expected this year?** There is no way to predict what type of flu season we will have. The beginning of flu season, severity, and length of the season can vary from year to year. The CDC reports that as of late November, flu activity is still at low levels. However, it is impossible to predict how the flu season will progress.

**What is the problem this year?** This year with the shortage of flu vaccine, the Center for Disease Control has issued recommendations for reducing the chance of widespread flu in schools. I encourage parents, staff members and teachers to read this sheet and follow the suggestions to help us all stay healthy and safe during the flu season.

**How does the flu spread?** The flu virus spreads through tiny droplets of respiratory fluid. When infected people cough, sneeze or even talk they spread the virus to others. People who carry the virus are contagious 1 to 4 days before their symptoms appear and up to 7 days after getting sick. Therefore, you can pass on the flu before you know you are sick as well as while you are sick.

**What can we do to prevent the spread of the flu?** High-risk individuals should get a flu shot if possible. Check with your physician or local health Department for the availability of the vaccine.

**Tips to help you stay healthy:** Wash your hands several times a day! People catch colds and flu by rubbing their nose or their eyes after their hands have been contaminated with a virus. Wash using soap and warm water for 15-20 seconds (the amount of time it takes you to sing the ABC's). Use anti-viral hand gels in between washing with soap and water. Dry hands with paper towels or automatic hand dryers. Avoid using multi-use towels or "dish towels" to dry hands. These towels may enhance the spread of germs. In school, have regular breaks for the students and teachers to wash hands (not just before lunch). Encourage all students to wash hands regularly. Restrooms should be checked regularly to make sure that soap and paper towels are available. Restroom surfaces should be cleaned regularly.

**Routinely clean and disinfect surfaces-** Objects in the classroom and at home that children touch (such as doorknobs, desk, computer keyboards, telephones, athletic equipment and bathroom fixtures). Wipe surfaces with disinfecting cleaner and paper towels that can be thrown away or cloth towels that can be washed afterwards.

**Use plenty of disposable tissues to blow nose-** Have tissues in all classrooms. Teach students to cough and blow nose into tissue and then throw the tissue away in the closest wastebasket.

**Teach children "cough etiquette"**- The American Academy of Pediatrics suggests teaching children to turn their heads and cough or sneeze into a disposable tissue or the inside of the elbow if a tissue is unavailable.

**Avoid close contact with people when you are sick-** Avoid exposing other people to your germs when you or your kids are sick.. Don't go to school, daycare, church, work, etc., if you are sick.

**Ill students should be excluded from sports-** or other activities involving close contact since transmission of the flu may be easier in these situations. All students and staff should avoid sharing glasses, water bottles, drinks, spoons/forks, etc.

**Car pools and school buses may allow for easy spread of the flu-** Due to the enclosed spaces in cars and buses, the flu virus may be easily spread in these situations. Tissues should be available in cars with several children and on buses for field trips. Students should be encouraged to cover their nose and mouth while coughing or sneezing in an automobile or on a bus. Disinfect interior surfaces (i.e. door handles, hand-rails, etc.) between loads of students.

In the school, clean commonly used surfaces such as all door handles, handrails, eating surfaces, desks, etc., frequently with disinfectant. Bleach solutions or commercial disinfectants are appropriate. Consider sending water bottles with children and discourage use of common area water fountains during the flu season.

**Any employee, student, teacher or staff suspected of having the flu should not attend school.**

**What is the difference between a cold and the flu?** Flu symptoms- Headache, fever, chills, and dry cough- appear anywhere from 1 to 4 days after you've been exposed to the virus. Your temperature can get as high as 104 degrees. The flu can sometimes cause vomiting, abdominal pain, and diarrhea in addition to the more common symptoms mentioned above.

### Symptoms

	Colds	Flu
Fever	Common in children, rare in adults and older children	Common in children and adults
Muscle Aches	Mild, infrequent	Very common, severe
Fatigue	Mild, brief	Can be severe and last several weeks
Nausea, Vomiting & diarrhea	Uncommon	Common, especially in children
Congestion, runny nose, sore throat	Common esp. in early stages of illness	Common, but late in course of illness

For more information regarding the flu or to follow this year's flu activity, check out the Center for Disease Control's website: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/fluactivity.htm>



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