



The Warhorse

September 5, 2008

Palmetto High School

Williamston, SC

Student-Production

Shake Your Pom Poms!

By: Elizabeth Rogers

The Mustang Mafia is easy to spot among the crowds in the stands every Friday night. They're the ones decked out in red from head to toe, standing on fences or bleachers, banging pots, pans, and any other type of noise maker you could imagine while cheering on our Palmetto Mustangs. The Mafia also makes signs and



posters and organizes caravans to away games.

Senior, Jena Cox says, "We're awesome. We're louder than the band and [because of our size] have more

spirit than the cheer-



leaders and we're always supporting our boys no matter what the score is." The Mafia prides itself on being the rowdiest, most spir-

ited student section around, but, one thing is missing... you!

Although the Mafia is the loudest group of fans in the stadium,

they're always looking

to add some more members to the ranks. Instead of paying \$6 to walk



around the track,

which you complain about having to do in gym class, join the Mafia in the stands and help to ensure a Palmetto victory! What better way to spend a Friday night than dressing up, being loud and partying with your friends?

And not only do members of the Mafia show off their Mustang pride at football



games, the group is also in full swing at any other Palmetto sporting event. So break out your cowbells, face paint, and pom poms and let all your Mustangs know you're behind them all the way!

World News

How Well Do You Know Your Candidates?

This is a brief comparison of the two men who are running for President of the United States. There are many of you who will vote in this year's election. I would hope that each of you, who are eligible to vote, will consider what is important to you and vote for the candidate that represents your views. The most important thing is to exercise your right to vote.



JOHN McCAIN

71

Scotch-Irish

Pro-Capital punishment

Alt. sources for energy

Pro Off-Shore drilling

Pro Right to bare arms

Opposes Univeral Health Care

In Iran--

Would use military force

In Iraq--

Will not support withdrawl

Opposed to legalization of marijuana

Pro Civil unions

Cars they own:

Cadillac CTS

Favorite Foods

Shrimp, enchiladas, pepperoni pizza, doughnuts

Heroes

Theodore Roosevelt

Nicknames

McNasty (liked to fight)

or Maverick

Pets

Sam and Coco (dogs)

Oreo (cat), Cuff and

Links (turtles), 13 fish,

three Parakeets, & one ferret

BARRCK O'BAMA

47

Scotch-Irish-Cherokee-Lueo People of Kenya

Pro-Capital punishment

Renewable energy

Undecided

Supports gun control

Supports Universal Health Care

Favors incentive package

Supports withdrawal

Favors legalization of medicinal marijuana

Pro gay equality

Chrylser 300

Chili, pumpkin pie, pizza

Martin Luther King, Jr., Mahatma Ghandi

Cesar Chavez

“Barry O’Bomber”

NONE



Local News

Gas Prices on the Rise

Gas prices have reached a peak in America, and food prices seem to be climbing up as well. Since 2001, food prices have doubled and oil has reached nearly \$116 per barrel.

Think this increase isn't affecting you? Think again. This is affecting us right at home, Mrs. Neel, our

cafeteria manager, has said that the rising gas prices have affected the prices in the cafeteria. Getting the basics of a healthy meal such as milk and whole wheat to the school just simply costs more, driving up the prices that students pay. Per year, a person spends on average \$1,926 on food alone. Food has risen 5% since 2007, and the US government is expecting another 7.5% increase this year, so you can expect those prices in the cafeteria to keep on

rising. by Haley Davis

One food that has taken the hardest hit is corn in economic decrease. It's a staple food for sure- but that's not the reason. The reason remains in our

pumps and gas tanks. It's ethanol, an alternative fuel. Well, why does it matter? Because

oil is expensive, and the US dollar just keeps losing value. And as the dollar's value keeps on dropping, the price of gas will keep on going up for us Americans. The oil moguls in the Middle East are demanding compensation between their higher value money. That means that it cost more US money to keep them pumping that oil because their currency is worth more in the scheme of things.

In the middle of this storm, there is a single ray of light, or so it

seems. Traffic fatalities have dropped below 37,000 for the first time in years, or so says Bonnie Williams of the Anderson Independent. It seems as though gas

not only effects how far we drive, but how we drive as well.

So, the next time you're at the pump, just remember...we're all in this together.

Is Corporal Punishment Necessary?

By Caroline Norton

Corporal Punishment is a subject not talked about too much. It is a subject you probably don't know much about. Have you ever wondered about paddling? In a survey done at our school, 77% of our students do not believe in corporal punishment.

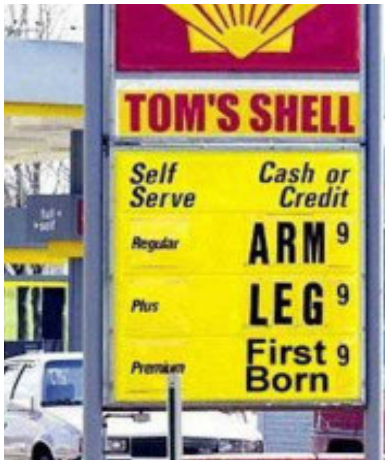
Corporal Punishment is a physical type of punishment, such as paddling. Corporal Punishment is only in 23 states in the United States: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Wyoming.

Anderson School District One does use Corporal Punishment, and South Carolina is ranked third in the nation.

An interview was taken with Mr. Kelly recently and he said, "Corporal punishment is offered as an

alternative punishment in all of district one." He also said "Paddling is a choice that a student can make. You are not forced to take a paddling." Most of you probably didn't even know that paddling was offered at our school. There was only one case last year and no parent had to agree to it or even be called before the paddling took place. No paperwork is filled out for it either.

So, who does the paddling? Mr. Kelly does it for the guys, but if a girl is getting a paddling, Dr. Gary will take care of it. The procedure is the most interesting thing of all. Put your hands in the chair, look at the wall, and say thank you when it is over. Whether you agree or disagree, you do have the option of taking a paddling versus taking a detention. So, if your time is short and your shorts are long, corporal punishment is the way to go.



News

Vote or Die by Tyler Moody

OK, it may not be that serious, but your vote really does matter. This year, on November 4, the United States will come together to elect a new president. No matter who wins, this election will make history, and not just because people have to learn every president's name in social studies.

If elected, Barack Obama would be the first President of the United States not to be an African American. In a possible demonstration of our culture's political dissonance, people have been making far fewer "White House" jokes than one would imagine. Furthermore, Obama would be the second-youngest president in history (he's forty-seven), leading some critics to comment on his inexperience. This is a great point, as the only other president who had as little political experience as Obama was Abraham Lincoln, and we all know how that turned out.

If McCain wins, he will be both the very oldest president ever elected, beating also-Republican Ronald Reagan by four years. However, Reagan still

holds the record for oldest person ever inaugurated—during his second term, he was seventy-three years old. Additionally, his recently-announced running mate, Sarah Palin, is the first Republican female to run on a major party ticket. She is only forty-four years old, just one year older than John F. Kennedy was when he won the 1960 Presidential election. Palin was on the city council of Wasilla, Alaska, from 1992 to 1996, and became mayor of Wasilla in 1996. She held that post until 2002, and in 2006 she was sworn in as governor of Alaska. This means she only has one more year of political experience than Obama, and all of it at the state level.

Neither Barack Obama nor John McCain was born in the Continental United States. Obama was born in

Hawaii and McCain was born in Coco Solo, Panama Canal Zone, a United States naval base. A special committee had to be formed to determine whether or not McCain was legally eligible to run for president.

Does it seem like a tough choice now? Are



you concerned that choosing one man over the other will be closing the door on too much possible history? Fear not! The very election itself has been full of historic moments. For instance, this is the first election since 1960 that two sitting senators have run against each other. This is also the first election since 1928 in which the sitting Presi-

dent or Vice-President has not run for the office. Current President George W. Bush's two terms have expired, and current Vice-President Dick Cheney refused to run, citing concerns that he would mistake foreign leaders for quail, and shoot them in the face.

In less violent news, Barack Obama's choice for Vice-President, Senator Joe Biden of Delaware, was announced to members of the Democratic National Convention via text message, the first time text messages have been used for such announcements. Also a first were the YouTube debates, in which Republicans and Democrats answered questions submitted by YouTube viewer created videos.

This election is historic in many ways: Geographically, technologically, and chronologically. So go out on November 4th, vote, and be a part of history. Unless you're legally restricted from voting. Then don't be a part of history. Because that would be a felony.

Sports

Cramps “Cramp” the Mustangs Style

Friday night Palmetto suited up to try and win their season opener against Wren. In the first quarter things were looking good for the Mustangs as they went on a two-touch-down

run, both by Stacy Mosley, the first a five yard run and the second, a 14 yard punch to the Hurricane

defense. They were unmatched by Wren both times, holding them to zero in the first.

The next quarter was the start of the uphill battle the team faced when they gave up nineteen points in the second, despite the ninety nine yard kickoff return by

teams had a short touchdown runs (Chris Henry scored for Palmetto on an eight yard carry). It wasn't until the fourth quarter that the game gradually slipped away from

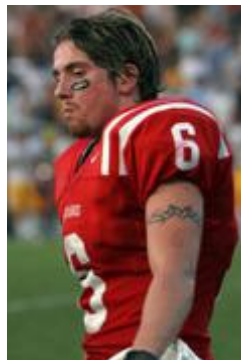
to get out of the hole that they had fell in and lost their opener 54-35.

The Mustangs kept up with Wren for most of the game, out-rushing the Hurricanes by thirty yards, with 284 yards on the ground. The passing game was a different story with Wren having 313 yards through the air only allowing Palmetto 37. In all, the Mustangs gave up ten penalties resulting in 97 yards and had four turnovers, two fumbles and a pair of interceptions. The Stangs hope to redeem



Mosley; it was the only time that the Stangs got the ball in the end zone.

In the third, both



yard rush to the end zone. Although Kenny Ricketts punched in a touchdown from the red zone, it wasn't nearly enough



themselves as they play their second regular-season game against Crescent. We hope that we will make a come back next game.

Local News

The Boomerang Generation Wants to Go Home

Despite the effect of television programs such as *The Baby Borrowers* showing that most teenagers are ready for the "real" world, many teenagers aren't exactly ready to jump head-first into the sea of adulthood. Sure, most teenagers can't wait until they move out of their parents' house and start their own lives. The thrill of living on their own—no rules, no parents, no curfews—is more alluring than the rent-free accommodations that good old Mom and Dad offer, right?

Not exactly. Studies show that more teenagers are putting off adulthood than ever before. The *Wall Street Journal* has termed this time "the extended adolescence." Young adults live with their parents, possibly delay college and depend on their folks for financial support, much to the chagrin of their parents. When surveyed by the University of Chicago in 2005, most Americans thought that adulthood officially began at age

26, unlike ten years ago when adulthood was thought to begin at age 21. Because of this shift in age, most parents don't know when to draw the line to say "no more" to

teenagers' lives and strictly "guide" them through everyday lives. With each step, the teenager becomes less and less confident in their abilities to manage their own lives, thus

back home. "Freedom doesn't matter if you have no money to enjoy it," cited one of the students surveyed. "I lived with them [parents] for 18 years...what's a few more?" said another. At Palmetto High School, several students have mixed emotions when it comes to leaving the comfort of their abodes and be on their own. "I want to get out as soon as I possibly can," comments senior Travis Taylor. "Not me. As long as my mom and dad are willing to pay...I'm willing to stay!" said another senior. Whether you think so or not, your future is not something that you can avoid. You need to begin planning now for the next few years. Have a goal and stick to it. And, by all means, give your poor old mom and dads a break!

Quick Facts

Average debt of a 22-year-old is \$16,120, not including student loan debt

30% of college graduates are unemployed or employed out of their fields

The "Boomerang Generation" is the first generation in America that applications for marriage licenses have declined

their children. "Adulthood really depends on the individual. Adulthood and maturity go hand in hand and some people mature faster than others," commented Mr. Kelly. Although the problem lies with twenty-somethings who don't want to leave home, more psychologists believe that the problem starts in high school. Parents believe that they can micro-manage their

creating dependence on his/her parent seemingly forever. Another survey at the end of 2007 by www.monstertrak.com, a website that helps college seniors find jobs, reported that 60 percent of college seniors planned to move back in with their parents after graduation. The declining economy was the number one reason given as to why they plan to make the move

Student Life

Let the Good Times Roll



Palmetto High School sophomore Justin Mann plays the baritone with 37 others in The Mustang Regiment during summer practice.



The Senior football players picked a teacher to honor who inspired them throughout High School. #8 Nathan Martin picked Lisa Houston a Math teacher at Palmetto High.

If you would like to share your stories with us, please send an email to phswarhorse@gmail.com. Attach a JPEG, camera photo to enhance your story.

Palmettos # 2 Kenny Ricketts with help of #7 Stacey Mosley on this carry while being persued by Crescent's #33 Rashad Williams and # 2 Telvin Tillman.



Palmetto's #42 Chris Henry takes this all the way down to make Palmetto another touchdown.



#5 Jovan Owens running for the goal line.

Editorials

But That Doesn't Really Matter to Me by Brandon Cabaniss

A phrase I hear all too often when I talk to people around Palmetto about matters outside of school or gossip. "Hey did you watch Ted Kennedy's speech last night?" "But um,... that...um...doesn't really matter to Me." They usually smile and change the subject back to something they do know about, sports, the game, what so and so did to so and so in the back of so and so's car; how much fun they had on Lyman Street last night. It might seem stupid to worry over politics or world affairs outside of the town of Williamston, but in retrospect it means the world to know the world. As American it is a great freedom to know about

current news. To know what's happening outside of our own country is a liberty many countries don't have at all. Whether you agree with what the news says or not it just helps that you are informed. If you disagree that means you have an opinion on an issue and hopefully you know enough about what you're going to argue about so that you won't get made a complete fool. There's nothing and I mean nothing that gets me angrier than seeing someone try, and I use try in the loosest sense of the word to debate or argue over an issue they themselves have no idea whatsoever it's about. It not only shows that

you're ignorant but that you have no idea what you're talking about. Though some people still don't care they just reiterate whatever their pastors, dad, friends, really anyone but themselves say; they never seem to have anything original to add to the story or anything new to say, Just recycled information. It's really sad for me to see that because if you won't even attempt to have your own opinion about even the slightest thing really what good are you as a person? "Why should I care? The News is boring anyways." Yeah you're right sometimes the news is boring even for me, but sometimes its vital. Some-

times the news matters to you precisely; I know that one bit of news that is important to me in the presidential election is each candidate's education policy. If you're a junior or a senior you have probably given thought to the price of tuition of college. I know that the school that I want to go to is almost \$36,000 dollars a year and I also know that I have to work my butt off getting the grades to offset that. I know that the average income of a Williamston county family is below \$20,000 dollars. So knowing this, doesn't politics impact your future even more? And this matter's now, I'll take a few minutes of boredom in order to find out what affects my future.

Dear Abbie

Dear Abbie:

I decided to ask you because you are a teen like me (I'm 16), and I have no where else to go! I hate my weight. I'm at least 200 pounds and I'm about 5'2". Whenever I try to lose weight, it comes back with a vengeance and I gain even more. I need help. I become so sad at times—It's horrible. Do you have any solutions to losing weight? I've never ever had a true boyfriend and I want to go to prom this year. I just need help, thanks. —Helpless

Dear Helpless:

My heart truly goes out to you. I have often struggled with my own battles, and I know what it is like to be unhappy about yourself. Just remember, high school is a time of finding yourself and what makes you happy. If you are unhappy with your weight, you could begin an exercise routine a few days a week. You could cut down on your sugar intake or cut out soft drinks all together. If that seems impossible, you may want to talk with your physician. He/she could put you in contact with a dietician, and you could have a professional plan your meals. Before losing weight for a prom date, try losing it for yourself. You need to make yourself happy first!