

Sexting: technology creates a growing problem

By Adam Wolford

While there are many advantages to the recent influx of new technology, there also have been major disadvantages. With the rise of camera phones, users have found a way to make what seems like a seemingly harmless form of technology into a disaster. The recent trend among high school students and junior high students alike is an act known as sexting. Sexting, a combination of the words sex and texting, refers to a person using the messaging on their phone to send explicit and provocative texts, pictures or videos.

Many students justify these actions by explaining that the person they are sending the sext to they "trust" or "love" and that they would never hurt them. But as many know, high school relationships tend to be extremely turbulent and when the relationship gets rough, many of these sexts are forwarded to people whom one may not want to see these photos, videos or texts. Once these sexts are out, there is no way to get them back. Period. With technology in this modern day and age a sext can be uploaded to a computer and permanently in the World Wide Web in fractions of a minute.

Despite the embarrassment one will face from having their intimate images or words spread throughout their peers and even on the Internet, sexting has legal implications as well. Recently, across the country, the law is cracking down on sexting offenders. Teens sending nude photos via cell phone can face a vast number of charges including manufacturing, disseminating or possessing child pornography. People who receive the photos on their phone are facing charges of possession. These charges often times force the guilty parties to register as sex offenders. Some students, who live in a state with a mandatory minimum sentence for child pornography offenders, are even facing jail time.

Locally the issue of sexting has arisen at the Fulton Junior High School. Principal, Ms. Parkhurst explained to oswegocountytoday.com that, "I have dealt with some mischievous photos taken when no one is looking...they [the students] don't understand the implications...they see it as fun."

If the students don't understand the implica-

tions, they will attend an assembly on sexting that was scheduled to take place on March 18th. At the assembly the students watched an MTV News documentary called Sexting in America. This documentary follows the lives of two teens whose lives have been greatly changed by sexting. One girl sent a sext to her ex-boyfriend who spread the photo both through her high school and online. The other teen sent a sext his ex-girlfriend sent him to

the ramifications of sexting. "I think it's a real serious problem," stated journalism teacher Mr. Senecal, "because these are the kinds of things that can come back to haunt someone in the future." Junior Scott Bullard said, "I think it's a danger for all parties involved."

Without a doubt, over the past few years an increase in technology has also opened new avenues through which kids are putting themselves in danger. Sexting is a nationwide epi-

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everyone in his phonebook, an act that would him up on the sex offender's list. "Love is fleeting," the documentary notes, "but a sext is forever."

Senior Alicia Vann explained, "At first I thought it was only a problem at the high school, but now that Ms. Parkhurst dealt with it at the junior high I see that it's a more widespread issue." Many students do not think of

demical that is not exclusive to one age, race, gender or location. Children all across the United States are putting themselves in both legal and social danger. While it is nearly impossible to stop sexting, one can recognize the dangers themselves and refuse to do it. Someone who "loves" a person should not be demanding these pictures and, if they are, one should reevaluate their relationship.

Plans finalized for Science Club trip

After a few months of planning, the G Ray Bodley Science Club Field trip is finally set in stone and ready for sign ups. GRB students will be leaving from the high school early Friday morning on May 21st and heading for the first ever zoo in America, The Philadelphia Zoo.

After spending the day at the zoo, the Science Club will be taking the Famous Duck Tours and get an informational tour of Philly, not only on land, but in the water as well. After, they will be heading down to the Reading Terminal to get some food and maybe buy some souvenirs before they head back to the hotel for night where you can go for a swim in the pool and get free breakfast in the morning.

Bright and early the next morning, GRB takes a short trip across the Delaware River to

New Jersey to go to Adventure Aquarium for the day. After spending a few quality hours at the aquarium, GRB heads home, but not before the group takes a stop at the world's famous Geno's & Pat's to get some Philly cheesesteaks before the bus ride home.

The total cost of the trip is \$145 for everything. Interested students need to bring in the money as soon as possible to Mr. Gillard. For any other questions, notify Mr. Gillard or Science Club President Zach Froio.

By Zach Froio

Opinion

Hand signal isn't always "A-OK"

By Julie Allen

In American culture we have many hands signs, some meaning good and some meaning bad things. One sign many think is a universal hand sign is O.K., although this is not the case.

When the O.K. sign is used in many places, it means good or okay, but in others it has a whole different meaning. In Satanism the O.K. sign means the sign of the devil, with the three fingers making the backs of 6's and the forefinger and thumb making the circle part of a 6. Thus it results in three 6's, 666 the devil's number. To occultists the OK sign has a dark meaning as well, with the circle indicating the sun deity and the Mason's never-ending quest for more light. To Freemasonry, the circle also represents the female genitalia, or yoni.

In the Hindu religion, the O.K. sign is a revered mudra (sacred gesture) meaning "infinity" or perfection. It is associated with the female genitalia - thumb and forefinger pressed together at the tips with the other three fingers extended. In the practice of yoga, the O.K. sign is a token of ecstasy, both spiritual and physical. In ancient Sumeria and



Persia, charms and amulets have been discovered with hands in the O.K. position, joined with horns implying fertility. The three fingers extended are symbolic of ecstatic union with the goddess.

In the Illuminist philosophy it means, "He approves our undertaking." This meaning is roughly equivalent to the words in Latin atop the all-seeing eye of Osiris, which is on the U.S. one dollar bill.

Even artists in the music industry today people use the O.K. sign in videos and on album covers for different reasons. Lady Gaga, Justin Timberlake, Beyonce, Drake, and even the Beatles all had different meanings of the hand sign O.K. Most rappers associate the meaning as a gang sign to be thrown for any number of reasons. Lady Gaga and Beyonce wrap the hand sign around their eyes, like an Illuminists symbol. The Beatles seem to be one of the only bands that used the symbol with the meaning we most associate it with today; to mean okay, good, or great. With all these different meanings, it's hard to imagine what other cultures think of something Americans deem as being O.K.

"When the O.K. sign is used in many places, it means good or okay, but in others it has a whole different meaning."

The Zany Zodiac

(still more) words to live by (sort of)

Aries- All signs say yes

Taurus- Don't let your future be destroyed by your past

Gemini- Good is in everyone, take time to find it



Cancer- Pop lock and drop it

Leo- You need to be more open to criticism, you are an over weight, self-indulgent, jerk. Or react more nicely to name calling.

Virgo- If I had a nickel for every time a Virgo looked decent, I'd be one broke little man

Libra- You are the songbird of your generation. Spread the love.

Scorpio- Your soul mate is waiting for you, go find them!

Sagittarius - He who is resistant to change is destined to perish

Capricorn- Your red blouse will bring you good fortune, and it's HOT!

Aquarius- The big yellow one is the sun.

Pisces- Bell rang Schools out!

By Noah Carroll and Andrew Kush

Meet the Reporters

Crystal Kimball, Senior

Crystal works on School of Thought

and writes articles with Raquel Vescio. She likes to play tennis and dance.

Something people might not know about her is that she is friendly and nice.



Compiled by Christina Yanock

Banner season for Lady Raider bowlers

Fulton's forgotten team turned in a season to remember as the girls bowling squad was among the best in Section 3 this year. The girls, under Coach Marge Malette, went 50-6 in league competition and 58-6 overall to finish a close second to East Syracuse-Minoa on the final day of the season by just seven pins. Six-year varsity performer Harley Wylie emerged as one of the greatest bowlers in the history of the Fulton girls team as she finished with a record 196 average and the top three game series of 686 as well as the second best single game total of all time with a 275.

Wylie, a co-captain of the team and first team all-league performer, won the Oswego County Tournament with a 587 series and also qualified for states as one of the premiere bowlers in Section 3. Kylie Clifford finished fourth in the league tourney with a 455 while Jamie Elen and Mikayla Guernsey combined to place third in the doubles competition with a 929 and the twosome of Stephanie Elen and Kendra Tryniski were fourth at 928.

Other highlights included a 4-0 charge past ES-M that featured the highest single match total in Fulton history, 2705, paced by high games of 245 by Harley Wylie and 214 from Jamie Elen as part of her first ever 600 series. That record would soon be broken as the Raider girls counted a 2731 against Cortland which included a high game of 983 where Wylie rocked the pins for a 235 high game and school record 686 series and Stephanie Elen added a 200 to go with a 551 series and 208 high game from Kendra Tryniski.

Mikayla Guernsey was also a force on the lanes for Fulton with a team leading 547 series against Chittenango on her way to joining Jamie Elen and Kendra Tryniski as second team all-league selections.



Stephanie Elen, left, and Harley Wylie, right, were noted as the achievement and MVP ward winners by Fulton girls bowling Coach Marge Malette, center, as the recent Fulton Sports Boosters Awards Night. The pair helped the Raiders to one of the finest seasons in school history. (Noah Carroll photo)



Fifth year varsity performer Jessica Palmitesso, shown here in scrimmage action at Oswego last weekend, will be a key fixture on the mound for the Raiders again this season as she closes in on 1,000 career strikeouts. (Raquel Vescio photo)



The season came to a disappointing end for the Fulton midget team over the weekend as Fulton finished 0-3 in their preliminary bracket. The team, which featured many Raider varsity players, put up a good fight but fell just short. (Danielle Smith photo)



Auditions are March 30-31!
Get your ACT together!

The NCAA Road to Indianapolis

NCAA March Madness comes to the Dome this week

By Eric Belair

The Carrier Dome is home to Syracuse University athletics, especially Orange basketball, but this week the Dome hosts the NCAA Tournament. The East Region will play the semifinals and the finals in the Carrier Dome this Thursday and Saturday respectively.

There will be three games played in the Dome, with one of the games featuring #1 seed Kentucky against #12 Cornell. The other regional semifinal is between #2 West Virginia and #11 Washington. The third game will be the East Region championship, which will put one of these teams in the Final Four.

The first game to take a look at involves West Virginia and Washington.

The Mountaineers have a 29-6 record and are the Big East tournament champions. With these components West Virginia earned a #2 seed for the big dance.

In the first round the Mountaineers handled the #15 seed Morgan State, with a 77-50 victory. This advanced them on to the second round to face #10 Missouri, which West Virginia defeated in a 68-59 affair.

West Virginia is led by one of the top players in the country (in my opinion). Da'Sean Butler is one of the most underrated players throughout college basketball; and he is the squad's go-to player. Butler led the Mountaineers with 17 ppg, earning first team All-Big East honors. He is a clutch shooter, as he had six game winning shots this season. Along with Butler, West Virginia has a balanced team. Devin Ebanks provides another solid performer for the Mountaineers, as he had 16 points and 13 rebounds in the first round. West Virginia also has some deep threats in Kevin Jones and Wellington Smith as they both shoot around 38% from behind the arc.

The Washington Huskies earned an automatic bid by winning the



Pac-10 tournament. They finished second in conference play during the regular season. The Huskies' 26-9 record gave them an eleven seed for the tournament.

Washington's opponent in the first round was the #6 seed, Marquette. This game went down to the wire, but the Huskies hit a shot with only a few seconds remaining to earn an 80-78 victory. The second round was a bit easier for Washington as they dominated the #3 New Mexico Lobos in a surprising 82-64 upset win for the Huskies.

Senior Quincy Pondexter leads the surging Huskies. The 6 foot 6 wingman is averaging an impressive 19.7 ppg and 7.5 rpg to lead Washington. Pondexter is a threat from anywhere on the court. His partner in crime is sophomore Isiah Thomas, who puts up 17.1 ppg as he runs the court at the point guard position for the Huskies.

This game should be a good one and something will need to give in order to determine a winner. Washington is averaging 80 ppg and the Mountaineers are only giving up 63 ppg. Something needs to give and one team's dreams will come to an end.

The other match-up is between the top ranked Kentucky Wildcats and the upset-minded Cornell Big Red.

The Kentucky Wildcats earned a #1 seed after having a great 32-2 record and being regular season and tournament champions of the Southeastern Conference, SEC. The Wildcats are rolling as they beat-up the #16 seed, East Tennessee State 100-71. Then they steamrolled #9 Wake Forest, 90-60 in the second round. Kentucky is averaging 95 ppg thus far in the tournament.

Kentucky is led by freshman phenom and player of the year candidate John Wall. Wall is only a freshman, but he plays like a veteran as he runs the court. He averages 16.8 ppg and 6.2 apg while he earned SEC player of the year honors. Fellow freshman DeMarcus Cousins is the team's big fella. Cousins is a force down low, especially with offensive rebounds. I could go on and on about Kentucky because of their impressive young talent, but I have to move on.

The Cornell Big Red are a twelve seed. This came after being 29-4 and Ivy League champions. The Big Red have been on an uphill battle ever since they entered the tournament as #5 Temple was favored in the first round, but Cornell beat them 78-65. Wisconsin was Cornell's next victim as the Big Red toppled the Badgers 87-69.

Cornell has three All-Ivy League players on their squad, including the league's player of the year in Ryan Wittman. Wittman leads the team with 17.5 ppg. Also seven footer Jeff Foote provides the height and length in the post for Cornell and point guard, former Ivy League player of the year, Louis Dale helps propel the quick inside-outside game for a change of pace for the Big Red.

This game should be an interesting one as each team likes the quick, up and down tempo game. Cornell leads the nation in three-point shooting percentage with 43.4%. The Big Red thrives on their outstanding shooting, but also like to work it low to Foote in the post. Kentucky will try to use their young athleticism to help them beat Cornell. The combination of Wall and Cousins will hope to overcome Cornell's hot shooting. The Wildcats will need to play tight, tenacious defense to advance, but the Big Red is in an upset mood and will do anything to knock off the #1 seed.

These teams will call the Carrier Dome home this week as they all prepare for tough match-ups. The crowd will be into the games, especially Cornell vs Kentucky because Cornell is only 55 miles away, and will be looking for the dramatic finishes that March brings.



Many eyes were glued to the television at the end of the day last Thursday, the opening day of the NCAA Basketball Tournament. Here several members of the journalism class watch the final seconds of another exciting match-up. (Senecal photo)

School of Thought compiled by Max Ambuske

What was the biggest surprise so far in the NCAA Basketball tourney?



"MSU and Kansas killed my bracket."
Mr. Fadden

"Kansas losing."
Evan Vega

"Cornell rocking it."
Justin Baldwin

"Kansas, definitely."
Mrs. Wojdyla

Morning announcements for Tuesday, March 23

A representative from Cayuga Community College will be in the guidance office today at 8:45 to meet with interested students. If you have a class at this time you must have permission from your teacher to attend.

The next photo club meeting will be held on Wednesday in room 118. Bring pictures and don't forget to be roving photojournalists.

The Photo Club would also like to invite any and all students and staff to submit two or three photos for the spring theme photo contest. Entries are due by May 7 and can be turned in to room 120.

Attention seniors: the Oswego Children's Board Scholarship deadline has been extended to March 29.

Get your act together and sign up for Bodley's Got Talent. Sign-ups are taking place this week during all lunch bells, with auditions scheduled for March 30th and 31st.

Meteorology and you

by Carson Metcalf

Today: Scattered rain showers. High around 50.

Tonight: Cloudy skies with a few rain showers toward morning. Low in the mid-30s.

Tomorrow: Sun and clouds. High in the mid-40s.

GRB sophomore Carson Metcalf is an aspiring Meteorologist and the creator of the Central New York Weather Center @ www.centralnewyorkweather.com ...Look for his weather forecasts on RaiderNet Daily.

