



## Memory project brings joy to less fortunate

By Danielle Gillette

For the past few weeks, six students in Mrs. Koblents' art classes have been working on a different kind of extra credit project. These juniors, seniors and sophomores have each created their own work based on a photograph of a child sent to them through the Memory Project.

The Memory Project's website describes it as, "a unique initiative in which art students create portraits for children and teens around the world that have been orphaned, neglected, or disadvantaged." The artists can use whatever media they want—pencil, paint, etc., to produce a portrait which will be delivered to the child in their photo.

The Memory Project was born in the fall of 2004 by Ben Schumaker, a graduate student at the University of Wisconsin at the time. Since then, youth from the United States and Canada have created more than 25,000 portraits for children in over thirty countries all around the world. Generally, each child in the program receives about two portraits, each crafted by different participants, which provide the child with a small collection celebrating his or her unique identity. (Thus, the number of children who have received portraits through the project is roughly half of the number produced.)

More often than not these kids have very few possessions to call their own; therefore the portrait is meant to provide them each with a special memory of their youth. Its purpose is to encourage them to embrace their own identity, to honor their heritage, and to promote a positive sense of self. The goal is not only to bestow them with something special to cherish, but also to help them see themselves as a work of art.

The project is not only beneficial for the subject of the portrait, though, it is a chance to connect American youth with kids from other countries in a meaningful exchange. For the art students who make the compositions this is an opportunity to open their hearts to youth who may have endured more hardships than they can conceive. The endeavor inspires global friendship and promotes the value of sharing kindness with others.



Bodley art students are taking part in "the Memory Project," creating hand-drawn portraits of orphaned, neglected or disadvantaged children from around the world. Displaying their pictures are (left to right) top: McKenzie Swart, Christen Sanderson and Sadie Adamy. Bottom-Mikaela Houck, Maggie Ryan and Audrey Proto. (photo by Ms. Koblentz)

Young children are the most noticeably thrilled to receive their gift, commonly holding their portraits proudly and showing them off to everyone around. Teenagers may prefer to receive their portraits in a more private place where their peers are not crowded around to see. Their immediate reactions are not always as easy to assess, but they often display the

portraits in their lockers, or even prop them up on their pillows.

The students participating are allowed to send a picture of themselves along with their work, but are not permitted any further contact with the child to prevent any unnecessary disappointment if the correspondence is unable to continue.

### Winter photo contest noted

The G. Ray Bodley High School Photo Club is proud to announce the second annual winter theme photo contest. Students and teachers are invited to submit 1-3 printed pictures to Ms. Amerault in room 120. The deadline for photos is March 7. See Ms. Amerault for details.

## Opinion

# Michael Vick: punishment did not fit the crime

By Jenifer Woodruff

If someone has been arrested for armed robbery, assault (on humans or animals), or manslaughter and have been sentenced to either life in prison or are presently on death row; should they be released? Well, even if you believe that they should rot in jail, there are many judges out there who would lift the sentence.

Among the homicidal maniacs in the world today, we are so "lucky" to have the opportunity to add another questionable person to the list. Who could I possibly be speaking of? None



**"Even after being arrested for operating and participating in a dog fighting ring for over five years, those many supporters of his are still cheering for him at his football games."**

other than NFL quarterback, Michael Vick.

Yes, Michael Vick was once the role model for those millions of fans, and apparently still is. Even after being arrested for operating and participating in a dog fighting ring for over five years, those many supporters of his are still cheering for him at his football games. These fighting rings have extremely disgusting conditions in which dogs are egged on by onlookers to "tear themselves up," and ultimately to see which dog can spew the most blood.

During dog fights, dogs not only bite and claw at the other opponent, but their owners will use other brutal tactics to ensure a victory as well. These strategies include, but are by no means limited to; pouring shards of broken glass onto the animal, or even tying spikes to the heels of a dog's feet. A brief synopsis of what Michael Vick has done to various dogs includes having them hanged, drowned, and ordering that their bodies be slammed into the ground so their backs would break.

Now, I'm wondering why PETA wasn't at each one of Vick's games, throwing paint and causing an uproar over this. Well, through further

research I found that PETA did do something: They sent a letter to the National Football League. The letter asked that Michael Vick be subjected to a psychological test as well as an MRI brain scan in order to look for "evidence of clinical psychopathy or anti-social personality disorder."

However, a brain scan was not taken and although PETA did not like this, Vick was allowed to play football again. I will say this, PETA really surprised me. Instead of crowding around Vick, as they would do to an ordinary person who has committed a malicious crime against animals, they opted out of it and simply sent a letter.

On July 7, 2008, Vick sought Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Newport News after failing to "work out consensual resolutions with each of his creditors," according to court papers. The initial filing, which was incomplete, listed assets of less than \$50 million and debt of \$10 million to \$50 million. The seven largest creditors without collateral backing their claims were owed a total of \$12.8 million. Yet, he is still playing football and making much more than the debt he owes.

It's astounding how our even the leader of our country praised the NFL for giving this player "a second chance." Thank you Mr. President. It's nice to see you taking time out of your busy schedule to show how much you condone the actions of Michael Vick instead of getting us completely out of the war still raging.

If you still are not convinced that this man has some sort of mental issues, among the tools used to train the dogs there was something else. What police found was repulsing, a "rape stand," which is a device in which female dogs are strapped into and restrained to allow a male dog to breed with her. That tells me exactly what Mr. Vick thinks about females.

Did you know that Michael Vick has had a reality show called "The Michael Vick Project" since February of 2010? I never heard about this, probably because I don't follow up with how advocates of dog abuse (and killing) are living their lives of "redemption." Vick told the *Los Angeles Times*: "I just want people to really get to know me as an individual. What I want to do is change the perception of me. I am a human being. I've made some mistakes in the past, and I wish it had never happened. But it's not about how you fall, but about how you pick yourself up."

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# Helium depleting, party costs increasing!

By Tyler Crandell

While many people know that helium is used to fill balloons at parties, they may not know that it has many other purposes. They may also not know that helium is depleting at a rapid rate. While partiers are inhaling helium to make their voice sound funny, scientists are crunching numbers on what to do with the problem of the diminishing gas.

Although helium is known as the gas used to fill blimps and Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade balloons, it has greater and more conventional uses. Helium is a vital component in regards to rockets, spacecrafts, diving equipment and even MRIs. The problem is that we are running out of the gas. The majority of the world's helium comes from beneath America's Great Plains where it is trapped in natural gas. The U.S. began stockpiling the gas in the 1960s, but in 1996 opted to sell off its reserve by 2015. After 2015 other helium producers, which include Algeria, Qatar and Russia, will control the remaining amount in the global market. This is estimated to be only about 40 years worth, however.

While the U.S. Federal Helium Reserve measured in at 32 billion cubic feet in 1991, the number in 2008 was reduced to 19 billion cubic feet in just 17 years. Nobel Prize-winning physicist Robert Richardson, thinks increasing the price would help to conserve helium. If you charge 100 dollars for a party balloon (which some say they should cost) party planners would definitely curb their balloon cravings. Raising the price

## Bizarre News of the Day

A carrier pigeon that was being used to smuggle drugs into a Colombian prison has been captured by police. The bird was flying toward a jail in the north-eastern city of Bucaramanga when it was discovered nearby by officers with a bag strapped to its back.

Police recovered 40 grams of marijuana and 5 grams of a paste containing cocaine and believe the package was too heavy for the bird to clear the prison walls.

"We found the bird about a block away from the prison trying to fly over with a package, but due to the excess weight it could not accomplish its mission," said Jose Angel Mendoza, the local police commander. "This is a new case of criminal ingenuity."

Carrier pigeons trained by inmates or accomplices have previously been use to smuggle mobile phone SIM cards into the same jail, according to police.

By Morgan Firenze

on the element would also hopefully encourage major helium users, such as NASA, to recycle.

Whatever happens, it is clear that helium is a precious and useful gas. Conversation efforts need to be made and through research and science new methods are likely to come about to help lessen the global helium appetite.

(Source - National Geographic)

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Or in school from Mr. Senecal in room 102  
before and after school

## Quote of the day:

"If you enter this world knowing you are loved, and leave this world knowing the same, then everything that happens in between can be dealt with."

Michael Jackson

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## In the News

## GRB announcements

Yearbook presale is currently underway. Reserve your copy of the 2011 *Fultonian* by stopping by room 102 before or after school.

A representative from Jostens will be at GRB to take Cap and Gown and announcement orders today and tomorrow. The representative will have a table in front of the auditorium during lunch bells. Please bring your orders to them today or tomorrow.

It's Zumba time! Come join the French Club for Zumba classes every Monday, starting today at 2:30 in the third gym. Cost is \$3 for students or \$5 for teachers or four for \$18.

Come get into shape and have some fun with the French Club.

What better way to beat the cold weather than with a Red Raider blanket? See Mr. Lacey for blankets and Red Raider bracelets.

The new members of the National Honor Society and officers will meet in room 141 at 2:20 today after school. All new members must attend.

Senior members of NHS must check in their December/January service hours with Mrs. Morse or Mrs. Ryan by the end of the school day today.

Any students interested in travelling to Europe this summer, contact Mrs. Hallatt for more details.

Hey juniors! It's time to start planning the prom. Come join your representatives every Thursday in Mr. Lacey's room from 2:30 until 3.

Photo Club members are reminded to come to Ms. Amerault's room 120 to sign up for the Eastman House field trip in Rochester on February 25. Space is limited, so sign up soon! The next photo club meeting will be on Thursday, February 10th. Bring pictures.

Buying lunch today? You'll have a choice between Philly cheesesteak sub, cheese pizza or smuckers PBJ.



Preparations are well under way for the Quirk's Players production of *Beauty and the Beast*, which will be staged at the high school March 10-12. Assistant Director Mr. Lescarbeau, right, goes through a routine with several of the male cast members (left to right) Nathan Deavers, Alex Bawarski (hidden), Neil Devendorf and Nate Hawthorne. (Senecal photo)

## Early deficit too much for Lady Raiders

Friday night the Lady Raiders went on the road in another non-league matchup against the Phoenix Firebirds. After getting behind early the girls never caught the spark they needed to rally ahead and take control of the game, which ended in a 52-40 loss for the Raiders.

Coming into the night off two great wins versus Mexico and at Homer the girls seemed to have some momentum on their side. The shots just were not falling for Fulton as they watched Phoenix take a commanding lead in the first half. Leading scorers Ashlynn Palmitesso, Sammara Stowell and Christina Pensabene finished the night with 16, 10 and 9 points respectively.

Although looking at a twenty point deficit at the end of three quarters the Raiders fought hard, winning the fourth quarter with 17 points to compare with only 9 from the Birds.

Phoenix looked sharp at home, taking the game into their own hands for all four quarters. Sarah Bregg led the Firebirds with 10 points followed by Brittney Sears with 9. Phoenix shared the rock with nine different players with a bucket.

The Ladies will be looking for a return to winning ways when they host the J-D Red Rams in a league matchup this Wednesday. Tipoff is set for 7pm.

**RaiderNet**  
Daily

## This week in Raider Sports

**Today:** Boys BBall @ Chittenango (5:30/7 p.m.); Vball @ Mexico (5:30/7 p.m.); Swim @ J-D/CBA (5 p.m.).

**Tuesday, Feb. 1:** Hockey A CBA (7:15 in Nedrow); Bowling vs. Fowler (3:30 @ Mattydale); Swim vs. New Hartford (5 p.m.).

**Wednesday, Feb. 2:** Vball @ Cortland (5:30/7 p.m.); Boys BBall @ J-D (6/7:30); Girls BBall vs. J-D (5:30/7 p.m.).

**Thursday, Feb. 3:** Bowling vs. CBA (3:30 @ Mattydale); Vball vs. Chittenango (5:30/7 p.m.); Swim @ Mexico (5 p.m.).

**Friday, Feb. 4:** Girls BBall @ Cortland (5:30/7 p.m.).

**Saturday, Feb. 5:** VBall vs. CBA (11 a.m.); Hockey vs. Clinton (5 p.m.); Wrestling @ Class A Meet (TBA).

**School of Thought** compiled by Kayla Hanczyk & Kayla Distin

# Who is going to win the Super Bowl?



"Green Bay...right now Green Bay is the hottest team."

Mr. Pasho



"Packers. They have the momentum and the hot quarter-back."

Mr. Lescarbeau



"I'm hoping the Packers win."

Mr. Heindorf



"Green Bay all the way! It would be a nice, ironic farewell to Mr. Favre?"

Mr. Senecal

## Meteorology and you

By Carson Metcalf



**Today:**



Cloudy and sun. High around 10.  
Record high: 63 (1988).  
Avg. 31.

**Tonight:**



Cloudy skies. Low in the upper single digits.  
Record low: -8 (1994)  
Avg. low: 13

**Tomorrow:**



Cloudy with snow showers. High in the low-20s.  
Record high-59 (1989).  
Avg. high: 31

*GRB junior Carson Metcalf is an aspiring Meteorologist and the creator of the Central New York Weather Center @ [www.centralnewyorkweather.com](http://www.centralnewyorkweather.com)  
Look for his daily weather forecasts for Fulton on RaiderNet Daily.*