



## Fulton places third in OCAY "Peeps Comedy Show"

The fun marshmallow treat known as Peeps was one of the main components used by groups competing in this round of Oswego County Academic Youth (OCAY) League challenges. The 8-10 member teams went head to head in three tasks that tested their artistic ability, creative thinking, script writing, acting ability, knowledge of world, national and local news and politics and a whole host of other talents as well.

Globs of sugar turned into waves, airplanes, King Kong, and even John Cusack in "Say Anything," as teams came up with creative scenes for their first challenge. The groups were asked to construct a diorama of a famous occurrence, scene or pop culture phenomenon using at least three marshmallow Peeps in the final product.

They were only allowed to use materials provided by their advisor or the league in order to keep things on a level playing field. The final products revealed everything from recent events like the natural disasters in Japan to a

depiction of the infamous phase, "Let them Eat Cake" attributed to the doomed Marie Antoinette.

The second challenge required one or two members of the team to create and deliver a 2-3 minute standup routine that was along the lines of something David Letterman or Jay Leno might perform. At least two of the following areas had to be incorporated: world news/politics, national news/politics, local news/politics, sports, entertainment, or science/technology.

The presenters were graded on presentation skills, how well they addressed the topics they choose, if there was also humor incorporated and their general delivery technique.

The final piece in the "Peeps Comedy Show" challenge was to create and perform a 2-3 minute parody of a historical event. The premise of the sketch had to start with the working title, "If \_\_\_\_\_ had been \_\_\_\_\_." Performances were required to include 3-5 team members, none of whom performed the

standup routine, and all dialogue had to be memorized. Creativity ran wild with Beethoven meeting Michael Jackson, Paul Revere trying to convey his critical message even though he was mute, and Shakespeare writing in a "hip-hop" genre among the acts presented.

At the end of the judging, scores from all three categories were combined and the winners were announced. The competition was tight and the panel of judges joined OCAY League Coordinator Dante Ascenzi in stressing that they were blown away by the abilities of all the teams present. One judge commented on how she was amazed by the level of creativity and detail she saw given the fact that teams only have two hours to not only conceptualize, but actually then follow through and create three solid products for presentation.

Mexico's team represented by Katie Dillabough, Elizabeth Emery, Molly Freihofer, Lauren Gregory, Robert Sherman, Alyssa Sprague, Alex Storto, Anthony Veiga, Brianne Vincent and Travis Whitaker finished with the gold medal for this round of competition. The talented group from Phoenix made up of Billy Lentz, Robert Stafford, Laura Kraus, Shane Young, Nina House, Kristin Waldby, Kenny Roffo, Carl Fisk and Jade Homer placed second and received silver medals.

Bronze medals went to Sadie Adamy, Alex Bateman, Alex Bawarski, Clare Bawarski, Elyse Cianfarano, Nate Deavers, Jenna Doherty, Brian Garrett, Nate Hawthorne and Amanda Tetro from Fulton's G. Ray Bodley High School.

Finishing third overall, the team is ready for a strong showing again this season. Senior and longtime OCAY member Elyse Cianfarano said, "I'm happy to have a third place finish close out my OCAY career."

OCAY league advisor and calculus teacher Mrs. Ryan said she was, "proud of the way the team worked together," and was especially excited to see the comedy routine (which Fulton got first place in). At the end of the day, Fulton got first in the comedy skit and middle of the road scores in the diorama and stand-up routine. Senior team member Jenna Doherty said she wanted to do a Hitler-themed diorama, but the Marie Antoinette idea was ok too.

*(article courtesy of Oswego County BOCES with additions from James McKay)*



Fulton's OCAY team placed third in last week's competition. Representing the high school (left to right) were, front-Elyse Cianfarano, Clare Bawarski, Sadie Adamy. Back-Nathan Hawthorne, Jenna Doherty, Amanda Tetro, Nathan Deavers, Brian Garrett, and Alex Bateman, and Alex Bawarski.

## Opinion

# AP exams: are they really worth the money?

By James McKay

Ten years ago, if someone had told you that someday you would be paying money to take tests in school, you would have thought that they were crazy.

Now in high school, AP tests are fairly commonplace. With dozens of AP tests issued to GRB students every year, a considerable sum of money is forked over. The question becomes, "Is it worth it?"

Perhaps surprisingly, the majority of students interviewed said that it was. "It might seem high now, but in the long run, you could end up paying thousands of dollars in college just to take the same course again," senior Brenna Merry stated. Another student said he thought the prices were ok, but he wished he had more



time to get the \$348 from his parents. With the majority of students interviewed taking two or more tests, this feeling was probably pretty universal. At \$87 dollars apiece, one could expect parents to be a little reluctant.

Not all students share the positive feelings about the fee, however. When asked for a comment about the price of his three tests, senior Colin Shannon answered with only one word, "Outrageous!" Junior Casey Fraser is taking the AP US History exam this year, and thought the test price was "Insane".

Personally, I am somewhere in between. I agree that the tests are valuable to our education, and that they shouldn't necessarily be free. The price is something I do not agree with however. I cannot figure out how each test costs \$87 dollars to grade. Either they take a VERY long time to go over, or the people going over them are over-paid. In either case, there is not much I can do. I have already paid for both of my economics tests, and the other two will be taken care of shortly.

## College search the topic for junior assembly

By Daniel Summerville

to attend an assembly on college searches. The students were given information on how to choose the college that is right for them. Even though many may feel that it is still a long way off, the time to start the process is now.

Guidance counselor Mr. Goodnough told students to take five things into account; anticipated major, distance, cost, test scores, and how the college "fits." The informative assembly allowed students to get valuable information on how to narrow down their college searches.

Cost was a major emphasis of the assembly, especially now that tuition to most colleges is increasing while the average family's income is not. Last Wednesday was the deadline for juniors to hand in their resumes to the guidance office in order to be considered for scholarships at the award ceremony in May, so those who failed to turn them in may be out of luck for now.

College is a major part of a person's life. If students are unsure or confused about how to go about making the right choice, the guidance office is a great resource. It is part of the guidance counselors' jobs to help students get to college, so students should take advantage of their help. It is much easier to have the help of people as experienced as the guidance counselors than to try to go it alone.

Last Thursday, juniors at G. Ray Bodley High school had the chance

By Andrew Pitcher

Bodley juniors, and with last Thursday's assembly in the auditorium geared to that specific topic, students really have to begin realizing high school is coming to an end sooner than they might think.

When starting to dive into the topics of what colleges you might want to attend, don't cross any choices off your list until you have thoroughly examined every aspect of the college. Things like your financial income, GPA and other things should always be considered, but students must first think several important questions. Does the college offer the areas you want to major in? Is it in an area that you're comfortable with? What is the student to teacher ratio? Even school size needs to be considered...do you want a large diversity of students or a tight knit group you can fit into?

All the factors involved in choosing colleges should be considered, but not until all of those things are off to the side should you start crossing off colleges you may not be able to afford, or attend because of your GPA.

Scholarships and Grants from organizations, the government, and private benefactors can push a student toward the college of their dreams. Juniors should start applying for scholarships even now, where they meet the requirements (some applications require information that can

(continued on page 3)

## Look your Best!

Book now  
for the prom  
and dinner dance!

## Reflections

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### This week in Raider Sports

**Today:** Girls Lax vs. Clinton (JV-5 pm./V-6:30).  
**Thursday, March 31:** Boys Lax vs. Tully (JV-5 p.m./V-6:30).  
**Friday, April 1:** V Baseball @ Bishop Ludden (4:30); Softball vs. ES-M (4:30); V Girls Lax vs. Indian River (5 p.m.).  
**Saturday, April 2:** Boys Lax @ ES-M (JV-10 a.m./ V-noon).



## Late April prom dress sale seeks donations

The junior prom and senior dinner dance are fast approaching. The sixth annual prom dress sale will be held during the week of April 25-29 for students wishing to purchase a dress, shoes and other accessories at reasonable prices.

Again this year the organizaers are asking for donations of dresses, bags, shoes and the like in all shapes, colors and sizes. Please donate gently used dressed and accessories and check out the sale. Donations can be made to Ms. Vicat or Mrs. Crucitti.

### Quote of the day:

“The most I can do for my friend is simply be his friend.”

~Henry David Thoreau

**Prom tickets on sale  
 \$30 from Mr. Lacey  
 Don't wait! Sale ends on  
 April 15**

## Prepare for college (from page two)

be required from the guidance office).

Certain organizations will give money which will not have to be paid back at all; for certain interests and hobbies, always keep that in mind. Strong students should consider education related scholarships and grants. Athletes should be on the watch for people looking for skill in their particular sport, as it is possible to graduate from a college without being in debt at all as an athlete, although “full rides” are tough to come by. To start the search, inquire within the guidance office, and online.

## Bizarre News of the Day

A British man was devastated when his faithful guide dog lost his sight, so he got a new dog to act as eyes for both of them. Sixty-year-old Graham Wasp, who lost one eye and has partial sight in the other, had yellow Labrador “Edward” to help him see for six years, until the eight-year-old dog was diagnosed with inoperable cataracts and had to have his eyes removed.

After the surgery, Wasp and his wife welcomed Opal to the family, another Labrador trained as a guide dog. “They’ve become quite good friends and get on happily together. There are certain times I’m sure where Opal will help and Edward is happier by having another dog around,” Wasp says.

Wasp says Edward has coped better than expected and says he and his wife plan to return the loyalty Edward has shown them. Wasp says, “We just wouldn’t want to leave him” and he plans to taking care of Edward “until the day that ether we go or he goes.”

*By Morgan Firenze*



**Sign-ups this week  
 Showtime on Wednesday,  
 April 13**

**Seniors! Stay in touch with your class!  
 Check out the new website for the senior class at  
<http://grbclass2011.blogspot.com/>**

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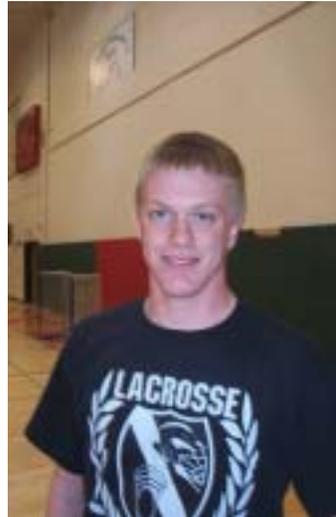
**School of Thought** compiled by Brett Williams & Nick Mattice

# *What are you looking forward to the most in the upcoming spring weather?*



"Wearing shorts!"

Liz Mulcahey



"Fishing."

Brandon Lockwood



"Tanning."

Jerrica Dishaw



"Warm weather."

Scott Bullard

## **Meteorology and you**

By Carson Metcalf



**Today:**



Sun and clouds. High around 40.  
Record high: 79 (1986).  
Avg. high: 48.

**Tonight:**



Partly cloudy. Low in the mid-20s.  
Record low: 9 (1959).  
Avg. low: 29.

**Tomorrow:**



Sun and clouds. High around 40.  
Record high: 87 (1986).  
Avg. high: 49.

*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.*