



## Match Club singles finale set for Tuesday

By Alex J. Bawarski

After several difficult challenges, this year's Math Club has come to a conclusion. Many students come out every year to show off their mathematical intellect, ranging from juniors to seniors, taking Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus and Advanced Placement Calculus.

Math Club consists of both a team competition and a singles competition. The singles competition consists of a six question multiple choice test, with questions ranging from 2 points to 6 points. The team competition includes three different rounds per session. Round 1 is the individual match where each of the four members completes their own two question multiple choice paper (if there is less than four members, one or more members most complete an extra sheet.)

Round 2 is the relay competition where one player answers the first question and then the next member has to use their answer to finish the next question, and so on. And the last round, Round 3, is the group competition where all members work to solve 2 short-answer questions together.

This competition is always a good time, especially because they start every meeting with a high energy rendition of their very own original "Math Club Anthem," and Math Club advisor, Mrs. Ryan, offers snacks and drinks for every occasion.

The last competition was a special day in the math world, the famous Pi Day competition. Annually, this event is held on March 14, but because there was a Superintendents Day that day, the match was held the day before. This competition included the same basic format as a regular team competition, with a few additions.

To start off the festivities, they recited the "Pi Day Anthem," and everyone got their choice of either chocolate or apple pie to enjoy. Before the regular three rounds of the competition began, an extra round was thrown in; the recitation of the digits of pi.

In this event, each team had to choose one member to go up and list as many digits in order as they could from memory. The teams were awarded 1 point for 5 digits, 2 points for 25 digits, 3 points for 50 digits or 4 points for 100 digits.

No one even came close to the first 100, but Factor Stuff Up representative, Alex Bawarski, earned his team 3 points by reciting the first 51 digits. Math Holes' Eric Naioti and Asymptotes' Patrick Fink each earned their teams 2 points for getting around 40 digits, with every other team scoring 1 point. After the three original rounds were completed, several students participated in the annual "Pi in the Face" event. This competition is always a good way to end off the season and put a smile on the faces of the competitors.

The rankings for the team competitions ended up closer than it would have seemed originally. Taking first, after leading the competition the entire year, was Factor Stuff Up. This team included Rachel Guernsey, Nate Hawthorne, Nate Deavers and Alex

## Mercury has risen with eight March records

It has certainly been an abnormal month in terms of weather for Central New York. With temperatures in the 70s and even 80s, you might think we just entered summer rather than spring.

The culprit behind all of the warm weather in this area is the orientation of the jet stream. It has made a dip from the north deep in to the southwestern portion of the country, allowing the cold air we would typically still be seeing here enter that region while eastern portions of the U.S. enjoy being south of the jet stream in much warmer conditions.

The record setting all got started back on March 7 when the high was 68, breaking the old record of 64 set back in 1973. We hit 68 again on March 12, breaking the old

Bawarski. Taking second in a tight race, after having a slow start, was the Math Holes, featuring Dan Wahl, Brian Garrett, Emily Ervin and Eric Naioti. Placing third in the team competition was team Asymptote, which consists of Joe Sutton, Ashlynn Palmitesso, Sean Fink and Patrick Fink.

When asked about her views overall of this year's math club competitions, advisor Mrs. Ryan commented that, "I think it was a very competitive season. A lot of the teams were very close in scores. It was our first year to do a national competition, which I thought was a good step for our Math Club. We still have to finish our last single's competition though, to determine a winner."

The last competition for Math Club singles title is scheduled for Tuesday, March 27. This is a very important challenge too, because the scores of the top players are dangerously close; Alex Bawarski has 39 points, Eric Naioti has 37, Patrick Fink has 36 and Nate Hawthorne has 35. Tuesday's event will determine everything and will really push the competitors to their limits.

record from 1977 by just one degree. Beginning Saturday, March 17 and running right through Thursday, six consecutive daily high temperature records were set—something extremely unprecedented for this time of year. The most significant of the records was the high of 81 recorded on Wednesday. This shattered the record from 1976 of 66 degrees.

Aside from all of these records, what is even more remarkable is the fact that average highs for this time of year are only in the mid-40s.

Hopefully you have gotten outside to enjoy the unseasonable warmth over the past several days, because cooler weather is in store for this week. With a hard freeze expected tonight as temperatures dip below freezing, local crops could be in trouble too.

By Carson Metcalf



## Opinion

# Warm weather no excuse to ignore dress code

By Laura Perwitz

The weather has begun to get nicer, which means shorts, tank tops and flip flops. Even though it's nice to be able to wear them again, students still need to remember the dress code and they also need to remember how they should be dressing for school.

This isn't so much for the guys as it is for the girls. Girls, you need to really make sure that your shirts and shorts are appropriate for school. Leave all the other stuff for at home. If your fingertips can touch below the bottom of your shorts, then they are way too short. Your shorts should be fingertip long or longer. Nobody wants to see inappropriate things that they should not be seeing.

Along these lines shirts should not be revealing at all during the school year. If you choose to wear a tank top, it should not have spaghetti straps. Make sure the sleeves are three fingers wide or more. Save the spaghetti straps, tube tops and strapless shirts at home for another time. Again, nobody wants to see what you have,



so keep your shirts appropriate.

In school, you should be trying to dress for success rather than dressing for a date or a party. We are a public place where people view us every day. When professionals from colleges come to our school, they look at us and immediately see what we are wearing. No one is going to want anyone in their college who cannot dress appropriately for high school. We are not from the Jersey Shore, so stop dressing like it.

Keeping clothes appropriate will lead you to succeed more and show the teachers and staff that you are an adult and actually know how to dress yourself. If you have to question whether or not you should wear it to school, chances are you probably shouldn't. If you want to dress like someone from the *Jersey Shore* television show, then move to New Jersey. Don't dress like that in a public place where we are supposed to be grown up and making our own appropriate decisions.

If you are asked to change because of your apparel, then just do it. Don't start an argument. Keep your dress appropriate, and you could easily avoid this problem. Dress for success and that may well be the end result.

## Study finds relationship between soda, aggression

By Vanessa Langdon

Can the sugar and caffeine present in soda cause a teen to be aggressive? With 30% of ninth to twelfth grade students drinking more than five cans of soda a week it is worthwhile to look into the validity of such a claim.

A recent study conducted in October and published in the online version of *Injury Prevention* found that there is a relationship between soda consumption and aggression in teens, but it seems to be an association, not a cause-and-effect.

The study surveyed about 1,900 Boston public high school students regarding how many non-diet sodas they drank during the previous week, as well as whether they carried a weapon or had been violent toward family members or peers, to judge if the num-



ber of sodas had any bearing on the aggressive actions of the students. After the data had been compiled the study found that almost 43% of the surveyed students who had drank 14 or more cans of non-diet soda in the previous week carried a weapon compared to 23% who drank less than one can of soda a week.

Fourteen cans of soda a week may seem monstrous and have no bearing what so ever to you or your child's own personal soda consumption on an average week, but the percentages remained high even with fewer sodas consumed. About 33% of teens who drank two to four cans a week said they had carried a knife or a gun at some point, as did 38% of teens who drank five to seven cans of soda.

The relationship between soda drinkers and other types of violence, besides just carrying a weapon, showed similar results as the study showed that 27% of teens who drank 14 or more cans of soda

(continued on page 3)



## Reflections

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## Opinion

## The Great Outdoors

# Early spring may benefit anglers

By Daniel Summerville

The early spring has not left very much for people to complain about. With record heat and one of the mildest winters on record, residents of Central New York are already outside enjoying the weather, even if it is only March.

Not all people were happy about the short winter though. Ice fishermen had very few chances to get out on the ice this year. However, with eighty degree weather, the waterways are wide open for fishermen to do what they do best.

In New York, most fish have a season. This means that certain species can only be actively fished for during certain months of the year. In March, there are only a few seasons open for fishermen, but some species can be fished for all year long.

Sunfish are not the biggest or best tasting fish, but they can be taken year round. With the warm weather lingering in CNY, there are bound to be a few fishermen who are itching to get to their favorite fishing hole, and sunfish are one of the species that they can legally fish. Bullheads are fair game as well.

May and June mark the start of most major sport fish seasons in New York. Bass, Walleye, Salmon and Trout may be some of the most sought after freshwater fish in New York, but fishermen will have to wait a few months before they get a chance to fish for them. The early spring does not leave fishermen with many choices of what the fish for, but in a few weeks trout season opens in April, and if the weather stays like it has been, it might just be one of the warmest trout seasons ever.

This past winter was not very conducive for ice fishing, and many sportsmen could not participate in the popular sport. Shore and boat fishing may not completely take the place of ice fishing, but anglers do not have any choice. Sportsmen are some of the most adaptive people around; ice fishing may not have been very possible this year, but anglers are already crowding the shores of local waterways. Ice fishing is a unique sport, but fishing is fishing, and most anglers are happy to be near the water.



Whether they are sitting in a little hut wearing a coat, or lounging on a grassy shore wearing shorts, for the most part anglers are happy doing what they do best; fishing.

## Soda and aggression

(from page 2)

a week admitted to violence against a romantic partner, compared to just 15% admitting the same who drank less than one can a week.

This study may seem shaky and hard to find a correlation to, but factors that may affect the results were controlled, such as race, gender, and tobacco and alcohol use (those who were heavy soda drinkers were also shown to have a greater chance of using tobacco and alcohol) to protect the integrity of the study. But unfortunately other contributing factors, such as level of parenting and poverty, could not be controlled.

The correlation between drinking soda and increased aggressive tendencies could be explained by the mere act of choosing soda as a beverage compared to a more nutritious option. Drinking soda instead of something more natural, like fruit juice or low-fat milk, is linked to a lack of important micro-nutrients found in the healthier beverages. Such elevated soda drinking could also be a sign of low-blood sugar, which is linked to irritability and violence.

Some experts question the validity of such claims like Alan Manevitz, a psychiatrist with Lenox Hill Hospital in New York City who said, "There's no definitive explanation that this explains how or if this might affect behavior." The idea of a relationship between soda and violence is not a new theory. The idea was even used in 1979 as a defense for the alleged murder of gay rights activist Harvey Milk and the defendant was found guilty of manslaughter instead of murder as he was originally charged!

That's not to say that you should steer clear of that kid in your lunch bell who has a can of Pepsi every day with his lunch, but instead that soda may have more consequences than just discoloring your teeth and giving you a mouth full of cavities; it may have some effect on your mood! So the next time you reach for a can of soda think of maybe going for the orange juice instead, because there maybe some clout to what your parents having been telling you for years.

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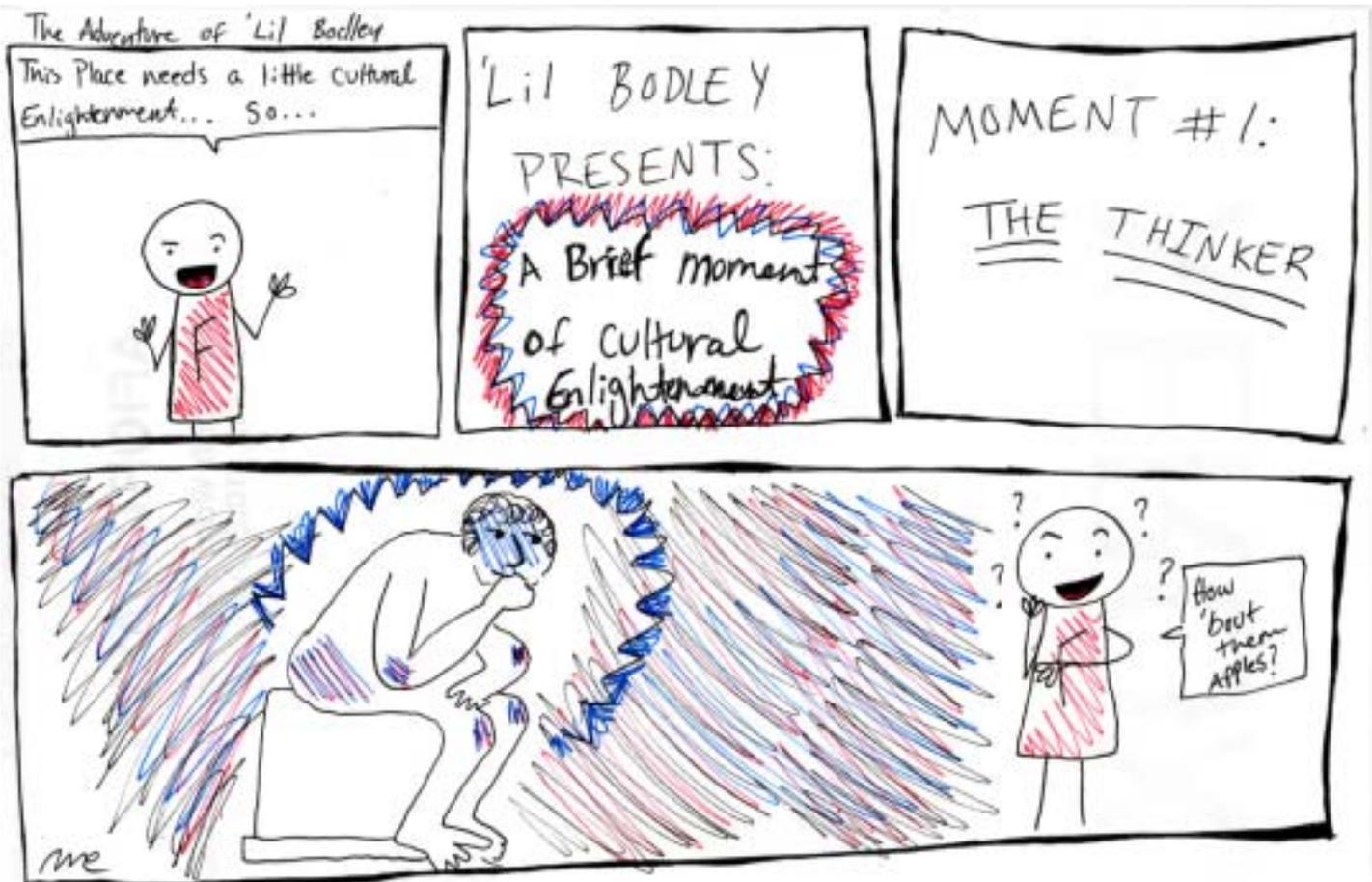
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## The Adventures of 'lil Bodley

## The Adventures of 'lil Bodley

By Madeline Clark (this comic is drawn on reused paper!)



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## What are your plans for spring break?



"Weightlift and get better at basketball."

Dallas Bradley



"Hanging out with my cousin!"

James Sullivan



"Playing lacrosse."

Alexis Lastra



"Hanging out with James!."

Tyler Terramiggi

# Meteorology and you

By Carson Metcalf



Today:



Sun and clouds.

**38°**

Average: 47°  
Record: 78° (1986)

Tonight:



Partly cloudy.

**20°**

Average: 29°  
Record: 5° (1960)

Tomorrow:



Partly cloudy.

**45°**

Average: 48°  
Record: 80° (1989)

GRB senior 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.