

HIGH SCHOOL REPORT

"MUSTANG MESSENGER"



Emily Barrie Harbi Natt Leanna Ritchie Matt King

MILTON DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

Several Milton District students are taking a stand against the Toronto District School Board's proposed Afrocentric High School.

The school, which would provide an Afrocentric curriculum, is being proposed to combat the issue of high drop out rates of black students in Toronto. The idea is that an Afrocentric curriculum would motivate students to go to school and would provide a better environment for them, thus making them more likely to graduate.

The controversy lies within the fact that the school would separate people based on their race and brings us back to over fifty years ago when segregated schools were common. People such as Dr. Terrence Roberts, a member of the Little Rock Nine for Arkansas, devoted their lives to bringing about change and inclusiveness.

While our Mustangs visited the Tolerance Centre in Los Angeles, Dr. Roberts shared his views on the issue with our students.

"It's about exclusion. Anything that talks about exclusion is a problem," he remarked.

The students that intently listened to his presentation agree and are determined to have their voices heard. Several students, working together with the school, have started an online petition that they will present to the Toronto District School Board before they meet to vote on the proposal on January 30th.

"We understand that there is an issue with black teenagers, but the solution is not to separate them into a different school. The best solution is to modify our curriculum to provide an equal and effective education system that is welcoming of all cultures and ethnicities," says grade 12 student, Matt King.

He feels that this school would cause unnecessary segregation in Toronto, a city that prides itself on being multicultural.

"It's just not the way to go."

One of the most important parts about the students' campaign is to raise awareness about the issue amongst teenagers. They have encouraged open discussions about the proposal in classrooms and have also created a place on Facebook, a networking website that the majority of students use on a daily basis, where students and parents can discuss their feelings on the matter.

At Milton District, many projects are being put in place to create a culturally proficient high school, including an amendment to the grade 10 civics course to include a unit on cultural proficiency and also a new course which will be offered next year entitled, Global Awareness & Cultural Proficiency.

This model of cultural proficiency is what the students feel will make all schools in Ontario the best learning environment for people of all ethnicities and cultures.

If you would like to contribute your thoughts, all feedback is welcome to the Facebook group entitled, "We've Come Too Far To Go Back Now".

If you wish to show your support for this campaign, please visit <http://petitions.takingitglobal.org/stopsegregation> and sign the petition.

"DATELINE DRURY"



Kevin Boyd Nurin Merchant Allison Wallis

E.C. DRURY HIGH SCHOOL

Hey Milton, it's that time again. Time to treat you to your second edition of Dateline Drury for 2008. Everything is going awesome and we are here to let you know just how and why it is as awesome as we say. Starting off, last Thursday was another opportunity for E.C.D.'s super awesome Link Leader Crew to show off their stuff, and this time, they were busy flexing some cerebral muscles. What was the occasion? Exam preparation of course. Hahaha, get it, course like school course. Never mind. The grade nines, for the first time ever in the history of E.C. Drury, were treated to a Link Crew organized Cocoa Cram: Hot cocoa, and lots of exam cramming. The Link Crew is composed of senior students who know just what to study, how to study, and how to succeed in grade 9! These senior students will help the grade 9's achieve exam success!

Also in the news, the first badminton practice was held on Friday morning (yukk, mornings!). New members are always welcome to test their racket against Mr. Sheppard. We hope to be seeing some great things from the team this year. Goodluck Spartans!

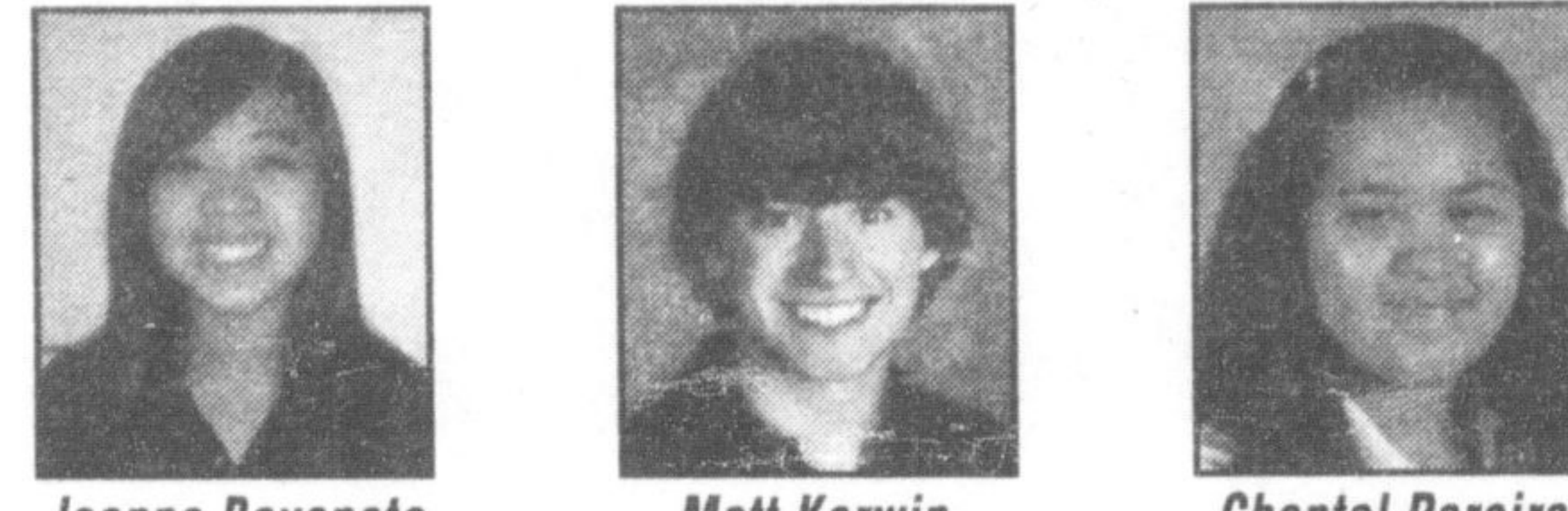
On the topic of Badminton, the girl's field hockey team and the badminton team are teaming for the 4th annual ECD Badminton/Field Hockey Athon. Tonight, there will be a community kids instruction session from 6:15 - 8:30pm in the South Gym. Anyone from grades 4 through to 8 is invited to learn the basics of field hockey and badminton, and enjoy a pizza dinner with the ECD Teams. Active wear is a must as the Athon is nonstop fun and play!

Fun is a commality in the Sports Building. Just ask a member of S.A.S., who is painting and refurbishing the halls of the athletic complex. Painting and pictures, music and food for the whole day!

Moving on in the spirit of music to the Arts Department which is hosting a trip to the hit musical Dirty Dancing. Thursday, February 13th, ECD students will join the crowd at the theatre and be given the opportunity to meet and talk with the actors of the show. Mrs. Cates and Mr. Digiorgio have tickets and they are selling out fast!

Two days to go Drury! Study hard and we will see you on the other side!

"THE ROYAL REPORT"



Joanne Bayoneto Matt Kerwin Chantal Pereira

BISHOP REDING HIGH SCHOOL

Holla BR, your Inside Sources are back once again to hook you up with the latest news. We know that this week is very stressful and very hectic, but we are glad to see that you are taking your time to read this awesome issue. So without further ado, here are some of the important events that happened last week.

An information night for future students and their parents was held at BR last Thursday. This night, which was hosted by the school administration, was a chance for grade 8 students to view the school they will be a part of next year and for parents to learn about what Bishop Reding has to offer for their children. With speeches, Q&A periods, and a guided tour the night may not have seemed all that interesting, but luckily the fantastic LIBs were there to save the day. The Leaders in Black, or LIBs for short, led the students around the school showing them the location of classrooms and other important places throughout the school. If you're a grade 8 student and plan on going to BR next year but couldn't make it out for the information night, don't worry. The student council and LIBs will be hosting grade nine day in August to help students get accustomed to the new environment. If you are a parent and have further question, please don't hesitate to contact the school's administration.

On February 1st, Bishop Reding will be losing a valuable asset to the community. Mr. Jonker will be leaving us to become vice-principal at Notre-Dame High School. Mr. Jonker, who has been teaching at BR for over 20 years has become an integral part of each student's learning experience. For some, he was a great English teacher; for others, a helpful guidance councillor; and for all, a great man. Mr. Jonker has constantly entertained the student body with his witty jokes and cracks at other teachers. He is most known for his hosting of various events, such as Awards Night, and Music Night. He will be sorely missed. So good luck to you Mr. Jonker, and know that no matter where you are, you will always be a part of the Bishop Reding community. GOOD LUCK and never forget to visit to say HEYYYY!

Before the conclusion of this week's Royal Report, one of your Inside Sources would like to end this feud of which Nozuka brother is better. Clearly, your Student Council President, KATHLEEN JOHNSTON aka K-Dawg, is incorrect as GEORGE Nozuka is ten times better than his younger and inexperienced brother, Justin. Well with these kind words, your Inside Sources wish you the best of luck with your final exams and will see you in the new semester!



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