



sayonara to six seniors, including Frankie, Rob, and Brad... page 2



Steve taps the ball over the crossbar; sports news on pages 10,11,12

jane goodall impresses asij students yet again... page 3



winter 2002 The American School in Japan Volume XIII, Issue II

花火新聞

# hanabi

花火新聞

inside

asij alum "rizeing" up the charts: page three

legally hoppin' the walls; senior privileges: page four

terminal senioritis: page five

show me the money: page six

when I grow up: page seven

fly me to the moon: page nine

## putting fun in fundraising mohawks, dyed hair and cross-dressing for habitat



It took 70,000 yen in donations to get him to do it, but Mr. Stone's mohawk was worth every coin. The Habitat for Humanity group has been raising funds for the March house-building trip to Malaysia, and the hard work put in by sponsors and students has taken the form of food stalls, sidewalk sales, and a "buy a brick" drive. But the "teacher humiliation" idea created the most interest. Mr. Stone had an impressive neo-punk look with his hairstyle, Mr. Rosevear joined the current Harry Potter fad by dressing as a type of benevolent wizard, and Ms. Krauth looked pretty in pink as she dyed her hair for the cause.

Then there was Mr. Rogers. Some think he dressed as a cheerleader to help raise money for Habitat, while others suspect he has a subconscious urge to join the cheer squad to perform a few cartwheels and flips at the next pep rally. Whatever their motives, the teachers were good sports about it all, and the students worked hard for a great cause.

Speaking of the fundraising, Habitat still needs money to support the building they do. A small-change drive is underway, and individuals have given amounts ranging from 100 yen to 1000 dollars, and they know it all goes directly to those who need it. Contact Michelle Tabor, Mike Stone, or Julie Rogers if you would like to contribute.

cuttin' it for a cause, Mr. Stone raises multi-yen for Habitat

## mr. sweeney on the mend

Social studies teacher Dan Sweeney continues his amazing recovery from the life-threatening road accident that occurred in December. With typical Sweeney optimism and determination, and with the help of friends, family and medical experts, he has come back from multiple bone breaks and is now in therapy in the U.S. See page three for more information and a personal insight article about this.



## the buzz from the asian circuit: compared to other schools, maybe we've been lucky at asij

mike yong

*Disclaimer: The following information was gathered January 19-20, 2002, at an IASAS (International Association of Southeast Asian Schools) swim meet in Singapore, where competitors from all schools interviewed were present. None of the following information has been endorsed by the respective administrations of SAS, ISKL, JIS, or ISB. In short, it's "the buzz," and has been taken from casual conversation with students—a personal perspective.*

The events of the past few months, namely, the 9-11 tragedy, have placed ASIJ's Southeast Asian brethren into what can only be termed "constructive panic." While sundry ASIJ students appear to view the new security measures with disdainful vocabulary such as the perennial teenage favorite,

"stupid," we indeed may be lucky:

- 1) Singapore American School, Singapore (SAS)  
On September 12, SAS students were swamped with reporters wielding cameras, as the Singaporean media attempted to gauge American opinion. Post-9-11, not much action in terms of security had taken place, mostly because SAS is an enclosed campus to begin with, periodically patrolled by roving guards and surrounded by barbed wire fences.  
But buses were repainted: previously painted with the Eagle mascot of SAS and the words SINGAPORE AMERICAN SCHOOL, they have now been painted over with the words UNITED WORLD COLLEGE, the international school that is SAS' crosstown rival.

Following a recent turn of

events in which Singaporean authorities arrested Islamic terrorists who planned to blow up such targets as the American Embassy and the American Club of Singapore, the Singaporean government has taken steps inside the school to safeguard students. Gurkhas (for those not in the know: ethnically Nepalese warriors trained in combat, believed throughout Southeast Asia to be the most dependable fighters of all) were brought in to patrol the campus. Extremely intimidating, they carry knives in a sheath on their backs. According to Gurkha code, once the knife is taken out, it cannot be put back until it is bloodied. However, the gurkhas have since stopped patrolling, and "very official-looking" police cars have taken their place.

Singapore is a predominantly Chinese city-state of 5 million, with a tiny Muslim

minority; it was previously not thought to be in any danger, but those perceptions have changed with the arrest of a terrorist cell in the country. SAS students say they are not at all worried to be living in the country at this time.

- 2) The International School of Kuala Lumpur, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Security measures at ISKL are significantly more intense than at SAS, which is probably a good thing, considering that Malaysian law allows Muslims from anywhere in the world to travel freely in and out of the country without visas, making the danger of imported terrorism even more palpable. Some would say ISKL students are either oblivious or stupid when they say that they are "unafraid of living in a Muslim country."

(cont. on page 5)

winter ball



maya & carol help with pre-dance decorating; ... using glowsticks & strobe dancing, the nhs raised over 130,000 yen for charity