

TIGER ROAR

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The Tiger Roar
May 2010

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NEWS

Constance McMillen

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A Time of Honor

Mrs. Kim's Exciting Scale

The Trials and Tribulations of Constance McMillen

ITAWAMBA AGRICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOL, MISSISSIPPI-All that Constance McMillen wanted was to bring her girlfriend to prom while wearing a tuxedo. When school officials reacted to the lesbian

couple by cancelling prom altogether, the American Civil Liberties Union countered

by suing the school district in an attempt to reinstate the prom.

In the end, U.S. District Court Judge Glen Davidson ruled in favor of both, writing that

McMillen's viewpoint "falls squarely within the purview of the First Amendment."

However, Judge Davidson also upheld the district's decision

by stating that he would not force the Itawamba School District to reinstate the prom, as a pri-

vately planned event had already been scheduled. However, when McMillen and her date attempted to purchase a ticket for the "alternate prom," the district cancelled the event again.

...causing more attention and disruption than would have occurred had they just ignored the situation.

However, McMillen's story is not yet over. The following day, a local newspaper reported that the school's Parents Association had scheduled yet another prom, and invited all students including McMillen and her date. When McMillen and her group of friends arrived at the scheduled event, they found the location empty, except for two mentally challenged students. It turns out that the Parents Association had given McMillen and her friends a false location, while still sponsoring a dance for the remainder of the student body.

Many have shown their sup-

port for McMillen and her friends, including Huffington Post writer Michelle Lamar, who called the Parent Association's actions "pure evil" and hopes the organizers behind the

fake event "rot in Hell." Numerous celebrities have rallied behind McMillen's cause. Talk show host Ellen DeGeneres invited McMillen onto her show to present her with

a \$30,000 scholarship, and she was a Guest of Honor at blogger Perez Hilton's private birthday party.

When asked how the Fairview School District would react to a same sex couple wishing to attend prom, Fairview High School Principal David Park had this to say: "We would not ban such a same-sex couple at FHS... we strive to be tolerant of differences," adding, "It [the Itawamba School District's actions] seems to be excessive...and has certainly ended up causing more attention and disruption than would have occurred had they just ignored the situation."

Kevin Kuchcinski



This Page Left Intentionally Blank... *Kallys Da Baez*

The Pennsylvania System of School Assessments (PSSA's) are state issued tests that Fairview High School's Juniors have to endure. These tests assess a student's math, reading, writing, and science skills and, by extension, the school's teaching techniques.

The scores are compared to Pennsylvania state standards to ensure that all of the schools in Pennsylvania are teaching their students adequately. When asked what he thought of these tests, Mr. Park answered "I understand the logic,

why the state does it. I just caution people to understand that there is more to school than just what's on the PSSA tests." Mr. Park is right, there is more to school than just



the tests, but they are also very important. They help fund the school.

However, a lot of students do not

see their importance. Most of them, including junior Tyler Stein, think they are "...a waste of time and of space." Another student, Robert Ambrose, says "They are semi-easy, take up too much time and are a hassle for the teachers..." Most would think that these students should understand why we need these tests. These tests help support the school and we need students to be more aware of the importance of the PSSA's and then maybe they will take them more seriously.

A Time of Honor

Each year on Memorial Day the Fairview Legion engages the entire community in a parade from Holy Cross Church to the Fairview Cemetery

in remembrance of those who have served and died for our country. Each parade, participants from all over the community come to honor these veterans for their time and dedication.

The Fairview Marching Band, representing Fairview High School, adds musical and visual splendor to the festivities. The marching band has become a staple of the Memorial Day parade for over a decade. Starting their practices mid-April, the band marches in the parade and also partakes in the ceremony afterwards at the Fairview Cemetery. The band director, Mr. Mummert, uses this tradition as a way of, "...phasing new members into the band family and giving them a taste of their other duties besides football games and competitions." This year, the Fairview Marching Band will be joined by the Erie All City Marching Band.

Another integral part of Fairview's Memorial Day traditions are the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. The Boy Scouts would march the opening banner leading off the Memorial Day parade. Once they arrive at the cemetery, the Boy Scouts will place wreaths in memory of American soldiers fallen during times of war. Unfortunately, the Boy Scout troop charged with the parade duties has since disbanded. The duties they once performed are now divided among the members of the Fairview Legion. Girl Scouts, not as involved with this event, participate by marching in the parade. Troops 30074 and 00763 will be a part of the parade.

Memorial Day is a time to honor and show our appreciation for all of America's soldiers and veterans. Regardless of the many changes made to this year's upcoming ceremony, it is sure to be an exciting parade and a moving ceremony. Please take the time to pay homage to all American soldiers this year at the parade and ceremony or in your own way.

Allison Richmond & Kay Medzenbacher

MRS. KIM'S EXCITING SCALE

As summer quickly approaches, the anticipation of exciting things becomes overwhelming and most certainly deserves mention. Whether it be the sandy summer days at the beach or the decadence of Creamland, there is a lot to be excited about this summer!

(out of this world exciting)

10 THE SUMMER WEDGE!



No matter the number of Creamland cones you manage to put back, these puppies will fit! Choose a delightful cork wedge to complement every outfit. Live it up, these shoes are only acceptable in summer!

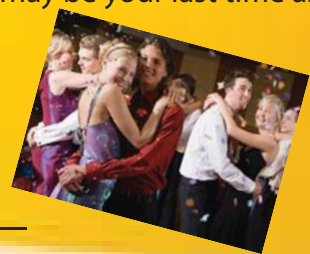
9 CREAMLAND

While discerning which activity to partake in on the weekends, choose the legal one: Creamland! The abundance of creamy cuisine is sure to delight the tastebuds and make you grow a pants size!



8 PROM

The best reason to brush your teeth in June. Doll yourself up in the season's finest, to celebrate with your peers for what may be your last time as a high school student.



7 SEPHORA OPENS!



While situated in a not so friendly locale, Sephora opened in the middle of JCPenney's! Whether you are interested in painting your face like Picasso or perhaps just some high quality skin care, this is the store for you! Warning: this is no cheap date. Be prepared with some plastic!

5 TOPSIDERS

Even if you do not own a boat, this current fashion trend is the best way to fake it. Put on your topsiders and imagine the Lake Erie breeze in your hair as you keep it between the buoys.



2 THE BEACH

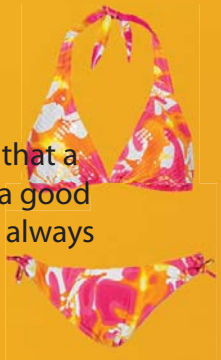
Presque Isle, one of the greatest natural resources of our area, is often overlooked because of the risk of ecoli but I say give it a go! You might like it! Plus, you will witness one of the top sunsets in the world!



(least exciting)

1 SWIMSUITS

Whoever the person was that determined that a piece of spandex covering your body was a good idea, ought to be erased from history. As I always say, more is better. Cover up people!



JOIN US IN PARADISE

WHAT: FHS PROM
WHEN: JUNE 5TH 2010
WHERE: AMBASSADOR HOTEL
TIME: 8:30PM-12:30 AM

TICKETS GO ON SALE THE SECOND WEEK OF MAY!

PRICE INCLUDES:

PROFESSIONALLY TAKEN PHOTO

REFRESHMENTS

DESSERTS

GIFT

COST:

SINGLE: \$25

COUPLE: \$50

ONE DATE PER PERSON

Courtesy of Krysta Wagner

Settings
Learning Support

Product Reviews

Dear Abby

Required Reading

FEATURES



Safari



Mail



Photos



iPod

Learning Support

During the school day students can often see teachers who they have never really "seen." These teachers are Fairview's little secret, the Learning Support staff. When a student in class leaves with Mrs. Bowser, the average student would look at the leaving child like they are stupid. This is hardly the case. What the majority of students do not understand is that everyone is different. Not just by the way they dress or the music that they listen to; every person thinks differently also. The Learning Support department helps students who have been identified with one or multiple learning disabilities. Webster's Dictionary defines a learning disability as, "a classification including several disorders in which a person has difficulty learning in a typical manner, usually caused by an unknown factor or factors." Webster Dictionary is proof that this in no ways means that a person with said disability is less intelligent than a person without a learning disability.

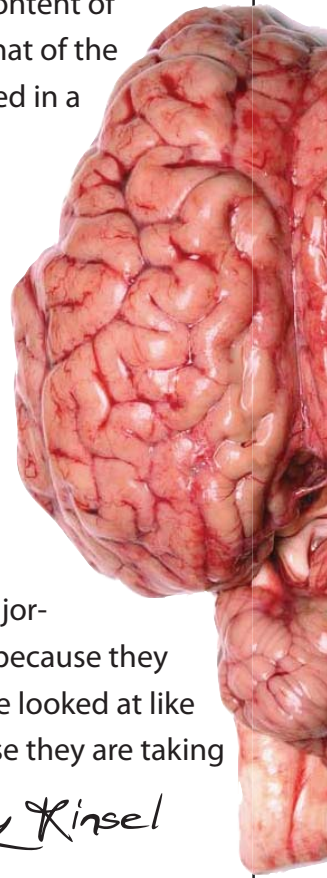
A major way that the Learning Support helps our students is by creating what are known as adapted tests. Adapted tests are tests that have been modified in numerous ways, such as using different wording than a normal student would get on a test, fewer options when it comes to multiple choice questions, added word banks, or even having the test read aloud to a student who has comprehension problems can be a giant help. "Adapted tests are tailored to a student's specific needs because each student is very different" says Mrs. Bowser, department chair head of the Learning support staff.

Although Learning Support is not directly related to the applied course curriculum, they are definitely there for those students as well. One may wonder the difference between the applied courses and receiving adapted tests/work, little do most know that this is a simple question to answer. An applied course is one that fits into the category of general education, according to the ACC&U (Association of American Colleges and Universities) "[general education] is put in place to ensure that every student experiences a relevant and challenging curriculum." This is in contrast to the adapted tests, as stated earlier are tests tailored to each individual student with a learning disability.

This year is an especially big year for all Learning Support staff's across Pennsylvania, because the PS-SA's for the first year ever had adapted tests for students with special needs. Mrs. Bowser said that many tests just had fewer questions per page, because some students can be frustrated by the amount of content on one page. Most of the content of the test booklets was the same as that of the non-adapted tests; it is just presented in a different way.

Our Learning Support staff here at Fairview does not receive nearly as much credit as it should; they are taking our finest and helping them reach their full potential. We as a school should not stereotype the students who go Mrs. Bower, Ms. Cottengim, or Ms. Obuszewski, because at this point we do. The majority of students look down on them because they need extra help, but it should not be looked at like that. They should be praised because they are taking the initiative to better themselves.

-Carey Kinsel



Product Review(s)

El Canelo

Looking for a good place to eat tonight? If you can't decide where to go, fear not; Katie and Jamie have scoured the town for the best, the worst, and the downright delectable.

You don't have to travel south to get a taste of Mexico. El Canelo, a local eatery with two Erie locations, offers traditional Mexican fare at an unbeatable price. The menu selection features traditional Mexican dishes in a fun setting. El Canelo is known for their quick service and authentic atmosphere. We decided to check it out for ourselves.

After ordering our food, it was served in five minutes. Impressive, considering we had a party of seven. The service was very

efficient and the entire restaurant seemed to be clean. However, a restaurant is about the food. Our opinion of it was as hot as a green pepper.

Jamie: My chicken quesadilla was oozing cheese. When I opened up the quesadilla, the ingredients looked repulsive. The food didn't look the way it tasted. Although the chicken tasted a little different, the quesadilla was good as a whole. Though this is not often thought about at restaurants, the water was fantastic. Honestly, I've never tasted better water, as strange as that might sound.

Katie: The service here was ridiculously fast. I liked their chips and salsa, especially because they were served as soon as we sat

down. The menu is packed with all kinds of dishes, including ones that I've never even seen before. I ordered the chimichangas, a mixture of beef served in tortillas with a side of refried beans, guacamole, and sour cream. Most people don't like beans but I find them delightful, especially with cheese. They gave me the worst gas of my life, but they were completely worth it.

In conclusion, we feel that El Canelo deserves a visit, especially if you're in the mood for an exotic flavor. It's the perfect alternative to fast food if you're looking to save money but want to dine at a sit-down restaurant. Give El Canelo a chance and you might just find your new favorite comida.

-Jamie Testa & Katie Pugliese

Burt's Bees

Everyone and their illegitimate love child use the original Burt's Bees lip balm, but few people are well versed in their other products.

I have been using their cologne on occasion for some time now. It is very woody, and has hints of citrus as well as something that reminds me of a cup of Earl Gray tea. It is inexpensive cologne that is great if you want to smell clean and fresh from nature.

Using the peppermint and rosemary body wash is an experience that is nothing short if invigorating. When the cool peppermint permeates your pores, you instantly feel a tingling sensation throughout your body. I must say, this is a great way to start your morning.

Now its time for the redheaded step-child of the bunch: Burt's Bees deodorant. When I first opened the stick of deodorant, I couldn't decide if I had opened a deodorant or a piece of pound cake.

Sure, it smells okay, but I really don't pride myself on smelling of baked goods. The way the deodorant feels when applied to the underarms is less than desirable. Waxy and sticky are the first adjectives that come to my mind when reflecting on that experience.

The lip balm, cologne and body wash are great; however, the deodorant is metaphorical feces.

-Thug Wastee



The iPad

The highly publicized iPad, the newest addition to the iPod family (starting at the hefty price of \$499), was released in the US earlier this month. Many excited individuals waited outside of Best Buy on April 3rd, hoping to get their hands on the newly created iPad display set up in the store. Fortunately, I am an employee at Best Buy and coming in to work early allowed me as much time as I wanted to test the newly released technology.

After testing out and examining the iPad's user interface and design, I came to a few conclusions. It's true that the iPad is faster, smoother, and has a very large screen. I enjoyed the greatly improved picture quality on the screen, and the larger screen surface made the touch interface easier. However, several things about the iPad make it a product that I personally wouldn't pur-

chase. First and foremost, the iPad just seems to be an exaggerated iPod Touch. The lack of new features and creativity in its design make the iPad simply a larger iPod touch. In addition to the fact that it doesn't do much more than an iPod touch, the size of the device (approximately 9.7" long x 7.5" wide x 0.5" thick) creates issues with portability. The iPad is a very nice addition to any technology lover's collection, but its bulkiness, hefty price and lack of individuality from the rest of the iPod family prevents it from being a necessity. The 3G version of the iPad, which will include a monthly bill for data services provided by cell phone towers, seems to be a much more useful version of the product; however, the price of the device increases drastically when 3G service is added.

Looking to find an outside perspective, I asked sev-

eral people as to what their thoughts were on the iPad. Tyler Meisel, a Fairview High School senior, had this to say: "Why would I buy the iPad? I already have the iPad mini; it's better known as the iPod Touch." However, a Best Buy Media Specialist named Jon Tan thinks differently. He believes that the iPad is, "a brand new platform for new technology," and is, "a mobile device with a lot of potential for development."

Overall, I would say that there is a balance of positive and negative aspects to the iPad. Opinions on the new device seem to either be strongly supportive of it or extremely opposed to it. To any "techie" or hobbyist, the iPad has the potential to be a very fun and useful device. However, to the average student, the iPad is an overpriced luxury rather than the newest technology fad. I am not personally a fan of the iPad, but that's not to say that you wouldn't enjoy having one.

-Steven Porter



Safari



Mail



Photos



iPod

Dear Abby,

Prom is in the air, everywhere you look someone is talking about prom. Recently, I bought a dress and I have a date as well. I could not be more excited, it's going to be like a fairy tale. However the guy I am going with is not really friends with my friends, so I said we could go with his friends. I am not really interested in drinking, smoking, or having sex at my age. My biggest fear is that I will be pressured into one or all of these things during or after prom and I don't know how to tell my date or his friends with out sounding lame. How should I approach this situation?

Sincerely,

The Innocent Girl

Dear Innocent girl,

You are right by saying the stereotypical thing to do at prom is drink and have sex. You should be proud of yourself that you have set yourself standards to even stick to when it is possible to fall into pressure. I can understand why you would not want to feel "lame" around a group of people you are not really close to and don't know. People may make fun of you if you don't drink along with them, but really they just want to seem cooler than you. Just politely decline anyone's offer, you can have fun around people who are drinking without drinking yourself. Concerning the sex, I think that it would be important to talk to him about it soon, because if he is only taking you to have sex it won't be a good time for you or him. Just simply sit down with him and tell him exactly how you are feeling. Don't let him put you down or tell you your morals are wrong. If he doesn't want to go with you he was never worth your time in the first place. Just either go with someone else or with a group of friends, having a date is really not everything. Prom is supposed to be one of the best memories of your high school years, don't let anyone ruin that for you!

Love,

Abby

Required Reading

"It was the best of books; it was the worst of books." Such can be said for the required reading we're made to study in school. Each year in our English curriculum, students are subject to a unique batch of novels. Required reading can be invigorating, or it can bore us to tears and make us look at Sparknotes.

Mandatory literature has a purpose; it exposes us to ideas we've never imagined. Some required novels actually spark our interest and end up as our top favorites. Others leave us wondering how they ever got past a publisher, or why anyone would take time to write them.

A number of novels read in many school systems tend to be controversial. Such titles include *Huckleberry Finn* and *The Catcher in the Rye*. *The Diary of Anne Frank*, for example, has been banned in many schools for making students too depressed. Our Fairview curriculum includes *Huckleberry Finn* and *The Catcher in the Rye*. *The Diary of Anne Frank*, however, isn't covered in our high school.

I asked a few students as to what they thought of required reading. Their responses weren't surprising.

"I don't really like the books we read," Emily Welch, a sophomore, commented.

"I like it sometimes," said Bekah Pratt, a sophomore. "It depends. I enjoyed *Speak* and *Anthem*, but [I didn't like] *Lord of the Flies* and *Don't Lets Go to the Dogs*."

Personally, I seem to never like the required reading. However, few titles have sparked my interest, such as *To Kill a Mockingbird*. I absolutely despised other novels, such as *Things Fall Apart* and *Siddhartha*. A few required titles have actually put me to sleep.

If we aren't exposed to a wide variety of novels, we don't receive the full educational experience. We don't have to agree with novels, and if we find them offensive, we can request not to read it. All things considered, it seems to be beneficial for the majority of the student body to read a variety of novels.

-Jamie Tesxi



SPORTS

Softball

Jared Lane

Derek Fiedler

Hitting For A District 10 Title

On Tuesday, April 13th, the Fairview girls softball team beat Girard 11-1 to open the season 4-0. The team was powered by Michalla Martin's two run single and Raven Rozantz's two-run triple in the sixth inning. The team was last year's runner-up in the 2009 District 10 Championship game. This year, the team is looking for first place.

The team is led by the Rozantz sisters, Raven as a freshman and

Taylor as a senior. Raven has started out the year as the team's pitcher while Taylor has sat out the first few games due to injury. Raven said, "I've always loved playing with my sister. It meant a lot when I was able to help out the team while she was injured, especially since it's her last year". Raven had an impressive start to her softball career by throwing a one-hitter against Eisenhower. The team also gets a powerful boost from its seniors. Jessie Bradshaw, Jenna Pollard, Taylor Rozantz, and Katie Frey all bring leadership to this year's team.

Jenna provides a powerful arm and a big bat at third base. Taylor adds some of the best pitching in District 10. Katie Frey brings a big bat to the outfield, while Jessie Bradshaw provides hard work and dedication to the catcher position. While the softball season is only just beginning, the girls have big hopes for this year. Jenna Pollard said, "Last year, all of us were pretty disappointed coming up short. All of us are trying to bring a District 10 championship back to Fairview."

- Jordan Brining



Interview with Derick Fiedler

Ever since he was a young boy, Derick Fiedler has been jumping. All of his life, Derick has been testing the limits of his vertical leap. Going into his senior year, Derick has great expectations. In his junior year, he placed third in the high jump at the state meet. I sat down with Derick to see what its like to be a star athlete at Fairview

Q: How did you get your start high jumping?

A: I just tried it one day during track practice to see if I was any good

Q: How would you describe your event to someone whose never seen it before?

A: All you do is try to jump over a high bar, but it's very technical

Q: Do you plan to continue jumping at college?

A: I am doing track at Slippery Rock next year

Q: Has your track career at Fairview helped you with the ladies?

A: Most definitely, ladies love a guy that can jump high

Q: How do you jump so high?

A: I just do it, hard work

Q: Tell me about your personal trainer

A: Steve Spearman. He's a big guy, that's all I have to say

Q: Who do you consider an inspiration?

A: My grandfather

Q: What are your aspirations for this track season?

A: I want to break the record in all three jumping events, and high jump 6 feet 10 inches

Q: What message do you have for other jumpers across Erie County?

A: Watch out!

-Jordan Bralins



It is an urban legend around Fairview that Jared Lane never "took his first step" at the age of two, he wasted no time ran his first 100 meters in an impressive 11.5 seconds. As a junior, he ran for 1,000 yards as Fairview's running back for the football team and was a participant in the state meet for track. I sat down with Jared to talk about his expectations for the upcoming track season

Interview with Jared Lane

Q: What made you first want to start running?

A: When I thought I was faster than everyone else in middle school

Q: How would you describe your event to someone whose never seen it before?

A: All you do is run in a straight line for 100 meters

Q: Has your track career at Fairview helped you with the ladies?

A: I don't need help

Q: What animal are you most like when you run?

A: A shark, I'm ferocious



Q: How do you run so fast?

A: Rocket boosters

Q: When you run, do you pretend like people are chasing you?

A: I pretend like I am chasing someone else

Q: Who do you consider an inspiration?

A: Mr. Beall and TJ Lawrence

Q: Is being a role model for future FHS students important to you?

A: I think you should be a role model for everyone

Q: What are your aspirations for this track season?

A: Beat everyone in District 10 and perform well at the state meet

- Jordan Brinkling

THIS IS FIRE!

A FACTSHEET ON THE NATURE OF FIRE

Every day Americans experience the horror of fire. But most people don't understand fire. Only when we know the true nature of fire can we protect ourselves and our families. Each year more than 4,000 Americans die and 20,000 are injured in fires, many of which could be prevented.

The U.S. Fire Administration (USFA), a part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, believes that fire deaths can be reduced by teaching people the basic facts about fire. Below are some simple facts that explain the particular characteristics of fire.

FIRE IS FAST! THERE IS LITTLE TIME!

In less than 30 seconds a small flame can get completely out of control and turn into a major fire. It only takes minutes for thick black smoke to fill a house. In minutes, a house can be engulfed in flames. Most fires occur in the home when people are asleep. If you wake up to a fire, you won't have time to grab valuables because fire spreads too quickly and the smoke is too thick. There is only time to escape.

FIRE IS DARK! FIRE IS NOT BRIGHT, IT IS PITCH BLACK

Fire starts bright, but quickly produces black smoke and complete darkness. If you wake up to a fire you may be blinded, disoriented and unable to find your way around the home you've lived in for years.

FIRE IS HOT! HEAT IS MORE THREATENING THAN FLAMES.

A fire's heat is alone can kill. Room temperatures in a fire can be 100 degrees at floor level and rise to 600 degrees at eye level. Inhaling this super hot air will scorch your lungs. This heat can melt clothes to your skin. In five minutes a room can get so hot that everything in it ignites at once: this is called flashover.

FIRE IS HARMFUL! SMOKE AND TOXIC GASES KILL MORE PEOPLE THAN FLAMES DO.

Fire uses up the oxygen you need and produces smoke and poisonous gases that kill. Breathing even small amounts of smoke and toxic gases can make you drowsy, disoriented and short of breath. The odorless, colorless fumes can lull you into a deep sleep before the flames reach your door. You may not wake up in time to escape.

FIRE SAFETY TIPS!

IN THE EVENT OF A FIRE, REMEMBER TIME IS THE BIGGEST ENEMY AND EVERY SECOND COUNTS!

Escape first, then call for help. Develop a home fire escape plan and designate a meeting place outside. Make sure everyone in the family knows two ways to escape from every room. Practice feeling your way out with your eyes closed. Never stand up in a fire, always crawl low under the smoke and try to keep your mouth covered. Never return into a burning building; it may cost you your life.

Finally, having a working smoking alarm dramatically increases your chances of surviving a fire. And remember to practice a home escape plan frequently with your family.

For more information contact:

The U.S. Fire Administration 16825 South Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg, MD 21727

or www.usfa.fema.gov





Album Review

Right Coast Interview

Bands You Should Know

**ARTS and
ENTERTAINMENT**

Album Review:

Congratulations MGMT

Last night I purchased MGMT's latest album *Congratulations*. After playing all the way through twice already, here are my thoughts on it:

Congratulations is quite a departure from MGMT's dance/psychedelic/synthpop debut *Oracular Spectacular*. The Brooklyn-based duo's second album is much trippier, much less dance-y, and quite a bit more off-the-wall. The album opens with "It's Working," a flowing, almost dream-like track with rolling drums, massed harmonies, and MGMT's signature reverbed vocals. *Congratulations* continues by shifting from the catchy B-52s-esque "Song for Dan Treacy" to the upbeat "Flash Delirium" which reminds me vaguely of a mix of Vampire Weekend and The Flaming Lips, to the terror-inducing "Lady Dada's Nightmare" (listen to it, you'll find my choice of adjectives rather appropriate), finally concluding with the title track, an acoustic ballad that satirizes generic pop-stardom.

With *Congratulations*, MGMT has taken their music in a slightly different direction, which carries with it the risk of alienating some of their more casual fans. But for those who truly appreciate the innovativeness and hipster-ism that is MGMT, *Congratulations* is worth every penny (or every second of download time, if piracy is more your speed).



-Devin Kuchcinski

Interview with Brandon Ehrgood of... **The Right Coast**

Jeremy Brinling: How has touring been going?

Brandon Ehrgood: It's been incredible and a lot of fun. We've looked up to the other 3 bands on this Revolutions & Resolutions Tour and it's been amazing to play with them.

JB: Have you been getting a positive feedback from crowds?

BE: Absolutely! Every night we get new fans and more people coming out, so it's great.

JB: What message do you want to get across in your songs?

BE: Different songs have different meanings to us. But the songs are generally about relationships, what I have been through, or

going through. I just try to write songs that people can relate to.

JB: What's an average day for you like?

BE: While I have been on tour I got a case of pneumonia, so just drinking fluids and

"...very cold in comparison to the places we've been."

resting to get myself well enough to play.

JB: What's your songwriting process like?

BE: Well, I write everything and then the band adds their "sprinkles," so to say, and that makes it a band thing.

JB: What bands have influenced you?

BE: The Starting Line, New Found Glory, and Goo Goo Dolls.

JB: If you had to tell a random teenager why he/she should listen to your music, what would you say?

BE: It's real music, what you see is what you

get. It doesn't send the wrong message.

JB: What advice do you give to aspiring musicians?

BE: Write 24/7! Whether it'd be about your aspirations, hard times, or what you have been going through just as long as it is something you care about.

JB: How did your band get together?

BE: Our drummer, Curran, and I met in high school and then

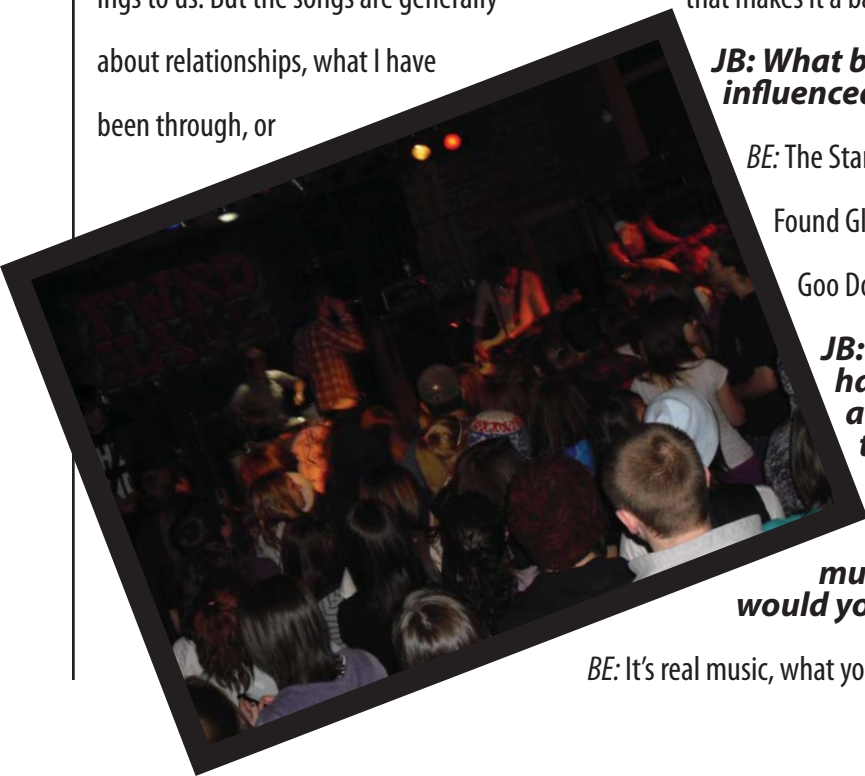
we met our other two members in Philly. All the music that we liked just made us click. Our bassist, Eric, had trouble making his transition from guitar to bass, but it all came through in the end.

JB: Has Erie treated you well in comparison to other places?

BE: Well we have never been here but it is very cold in comparison to the places we've been.

JB: Do you plan to come back?

BE: Absolutely. *-Jeremy Brinling*



Bands You Should Know

Jeremy Brialing

Matt and Kim

This duo came together in 2004 in Brooklyn, NY. They had a self-titled debut album with a large number of concerts behind them within two years. They played at *Lollapalooza* in 2007, and began compiling songs they wrote that later formed their second and latest album in 2009, called *Grand*.

Line Up:

Matt Johnson – Vocals,
Guitar, Keyboards
Kim Schifino – Vocals,
Drums

Current Top Songs:

"Daylight"
"Good Ol' Fashion
Nightmare"



La Roux

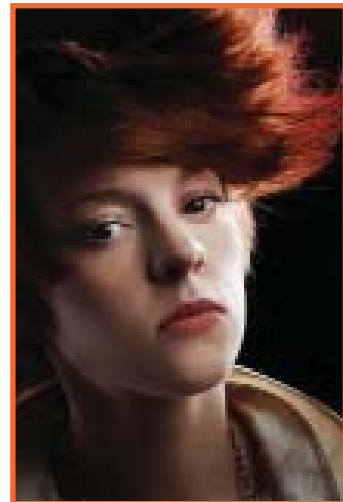
In French, "La Roux" translates into "red-haired one" which is very fitting for the Synth-pop project of duo Ben Langmaid and red-headed, Elly Jackson. Their debut single "Quicksand" was released in 2008 and immediately earned them respect with the BBC Network. La Roux supported singer Lily Allen in 2009 on her tour of the U.K. Later they debuted the first album *La Roux* with the singles "In for the Kill" and "Bulletproof". Recently, La Roux started to receive radio play in the United States.

Line Up:

Ben Langmaid – Synth,
Producing
Elly Jackson – Vocals

Current Top Songs:

"Bulletproof"
"In for the Kill"



Spoon

Founders Britt Daniel and Jim Eno created Spoon in 1994 in Austin, TX. From their debut album in 1996 they began touring with Pavement, Guided by Voices, Silkworm, and Archers of Loaf. They moved from label to label, creating album after album. With each album they create, they "tip their hats" to a genre of music. With their 6th album, *Ga Ga Ga Ga Ga*, they "tipped their hats" to Motown, soul, and large instrumentals. Their latest album, *Transference*, had a darker and more raw approach to their sound. The recently released *Transference* brought their total record count, including singles LPs, EPs, studio albums, and singles, to 26.

Line Up:

Britt Daniel – Lead Vocals, Guitar
Jim Eno – Drums
Rob Pope – Bass Guitar
Eric Harvey – Keyboards

Current Top Songs:

"The Underdog"
"Got Nuffin"



TIGER BITES

Band of the Month: Switchblade
Name of the Month: Diablo



1 in 5,000 North Atlantic lobsters are born bright blue.

If Facebook were a country, it would be the fifth-largest country in the world.



Don't Panic.

A dime has 118 ridges around the edge, a quarter has 119.



"Canada" is an Indian word meaning "Big Village."

