

# The MLWGS Jabberwock

Volume 5, Issue 6

www.gsgis.k12.va.us

Friday, December 14, 2007

## School Should Embrace Tolerance

**Danny Yates**

Jabberwock Staff Reporter

At a recent assembly students and faculty were encouraged to welcome and to embrace tolerance both inside our school and in the community.

On December 3 during seventh period, MLWGS students attended a presentation by Holocaust survivor and renowned speaker Mr. Alex Lebenstein.

"I come to teach tolerance, because even this great country we are often intolerant," said Mr. Lebenstein, an 80 year old Richmond resident.

Several MLWGS students were moved by Mr. Lebenstein's speech.

"I've heard one or two Holocaust speakers before," said Adam Aquino ('09). "But this was really moving because his speech didn't just talk about the horror in the camps but also about the betrayal by his community."

Zack Rubin ('08), who helped facilitate Mr. Lebenstein's visit, was also impressed with the speech.

"Through his moving presentation, he brought a personal aspect to a tragedy surrounded by statistics," said Rubin.

Mr. Lebenstein was born in 1927 in the small town of Haltern, home to 36,000 people, located in North Westphalia. After WWII, he was the sole Jewish survivor from his village to make it through the camps.

Invited to MLWGS by ASL teacher Ms. Brenda Thornton, Mr. Lebenstein addressed a nearly full auditorium and spoke of his traumatic experiences during early November, 1938.

He chose to share his story of Kristallnacht, the "Night of the Broken Glass," because it was the clearest in his memory.

"These two days are still my nightmare," said Mr. Lebenstein. "I was exactly 11 years old when all this took place. I remember how frightened I was. I crawled into bed with my parents."



*Alex Lebenstein displays his Holocaust relics during a presentation to students. Photo by Evin Shoap at James Madison University on April 21, 2005. Courtesy of JMU's newspaper, The Breeze.*

Mr. Lebenstein spoke of how his family and friends were shocked that so many people would come and desecrate the homes of "good Germans." His father fought in WWI, and his family was always loyal to Germany.

"My father put on his war medals, and soon hordes of people came around the corner carrying axes and screaming anti-Semitic slogans," said Mr. Lebenstein. "One Nazi grabbed my father, spit in his face and beat him."

Later he told students that he and his parents hid that night in a ditch in the Jewish cemetery, believing this to be a safe spot. The Nazis, however, were so thorough that they came to the cemetery and destroyed every grave.

"They didn't come for us, they just came to take it out on the dead," said Mr. Lebenstein.

After the war, Mr. Lebenstein emigrated to the U.S. He arrived in New York in January of 1947. At this time he made a promise to never return to Germany.

"I was so angry and hateful. The

Nazis had taken everything from me," said Mr. Lebenstein. "I only had three years of elementary education. I lived with this anger for most of my life."

In 1988 he was contacted and invited back to Haltern by the German newspaper from his hometown.

Initially Mr. Lebenstein refused, saying "...why should I go back to the bloody ground?"

For the next six years he received similar invitations and rejected each one. In 1994, letters arrived from students who pleaded with him to help them study the Holocaust.

"My family and these kids shamed me to going back," said Mr. Lebenstein.

In 1995, he returned to Germany for the first time in almost 50 years, where he received a warm welcome.

Since then he has visited the German school every two years. Just recently, in October, he returned and accepted the honor of becoming a godfather for the schoolchildren.

"When I go back, I can still see the pain and guilt in their faces for something that their grandparents did," said Mr. Lebenstein. "In the U.S. we are not respectful enough to our past. We must embrace tolerance."

Mr. Lebenstein concluded his presentation by charging MLWGS students to take tolerance seriously. He suggested that we should not only have "drug-free" schools, but also make our building "racism-free."

**In this Issue:**

**Michael Vick Sentencing**  
(page 4)

**Movieland**  
(page 6)

# Studying in Silence

MLWGS students use study hall as a chance to relax from the heavy course load of seven other classes. They catch up on homework while unwinding in a calm atmosphere with their friends.

Recently, however, noise complaints have threatened to disrupt this MLWGS tradition. If students in study hall do not quiet down, they will have to spend study hall in silence in Room 153.

While it is essential that students in study hall not disturb classes, the specific freedoms granted to study hall students at MLWGS are equally important.

Many students use their free periods as a time to meet with teachers, work on computers, discuss group projects, and study in the library. Seniors often spend the period in the college library, working with guidance counselors, looking up scholarships, and filling out forms. Confining students to one room will limit their ability to complete these non-book work associated tasks.

Study hall is meant to be used for school work, but students at MLWGS spend all day in academic courses, and then proceed to hours of homework in the evening. It does not hurt to offer them a slight repose from the intense schedule of school and extracurricular activities to socialize with friends.

Instead of penalizing all study hall students, noise complaints should be isolated to specific individuals. Every student in study hall should not be held responsible for the mistakes of a few.

Students should be given a warning after one complaint, and appropriate action should be taken after subsequent complaints. If one student in particular is responsible for disrupting classes, they should be isolated in the adjunct classroom.

Limiting the freedoms of all study hall students will further separate the school from the aspects that make it unique.

—AM

**Want to see your opinion in  
print?  
WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

Email us at  
[newspaper@gsgjis.k12.va.us](mailto:newspaper@gsgjis.k12.va.us)

## *The MLWGS Jabberwock Staff*

### **Editor-in-Chief:**

Anna Mohan

### **Editorial Board**

**News:** Danny Yates

**Layout:** Alan Chang

**Opinion:** Garrett Howe

**Reviews:** Elaine Hillgrove

**Features:** Casey Cordrey

**Sports:** Karthik Ilakkuvan

**News in Brief:** Benjamin Catanese

**Publicity Director:** Adam Koling

### **Reporting Staff:**

John Vaughen

Paul Eiker

Caitlyn Patey

Jessie Li

Melanie Burks

Brie Cifu

Laura Merriman

Hanna MacDonald

Virginia Cross

Logan Ferrell

Charles Condro

Justin Geldzahler

### **Faculty Advisor:**

Ms. Losen

## *Statement of Editorial Policy:*

The MLWGS Jabberwock covers news events related to the school community and provides a forum for students to share their ideas. However, the statements expressed by columnists do not necessarily reflect the views of the Jabberwock staff.

All members of the MLWGS community are invited to submit letters to the editor on any topic, although the publication of all letters is not guaranteed. The newspaper reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, language and length. Please e-mail letters to: [newspaper@gsgjis.k12.va.us](mailto:newspaper@gsgjis.k12.va.us).

# It's a Mad, Mad World

The holiday season has come, and as men and women of all faiths prepare to celebrate their beliefs once again, I wonder about the strange range of circumstances we as humans are capable of putting up with.

While in this season of love and joy we celebrate with our family and friends, our men overseas dine in tents and await tomorrow's fight. As we eat our dinners of turkey, chicken, mashed potatoes, and drink our eggnog, apple cider, and hot chocolate, millions of starving men, women, and children all across the globe wake up to yet another day of searching for food. While we open our gifts and sit on the sofa, watch television, or fill out our college applications, millions of

homeless people wander the streets looking for shelter.

Although we may describe ourselves by our race, gender, religion, age, or any other characteristic, we often forget that above all, we are *Homo sapiens*, and we are all born of love.

Of all the qualities which make us unique, the greatest are those of personality and of individuality, because while a dog is a dog and a fish is a fish, we can be anything we want.

It is sad, that of all of the choices we are presented with, we often choose the worst: to ignore those in need and create more who are. We have chosen this fate for ourselves, whether it be out of ignorance, apathy, or malice. How-

*Opinion*

by Garrett Howe (08')

ever, we can always change.

Although as individuals we may not have much power to institute significant change, we can vote for people who do. The problems that we face may not be solved in our lifetimes, but at some point, if we are to ever advance as a society, we must learn to care. It is in this manner that I ask, in this time of compassion and love, that we at least recognize the suffering of those less fortunate than ourselves, even if we do nothing about it.

## —News—

# MLWGS "Deed" Indeed a Success

Jabberwock Staff

December 13, 2007 was a historic day for MLWGS.

MLWGS director Mr. Douglas Hunt was presented with the deed to the property and building, officially transferring the title of the school from Richmond

City to the Regional School Board of the Governor's School. All the grounds and all the facilities are now legally owned by the board.

"[It was] a historic day," said Coordinator of Administration Mrs. Pat Taylor. "It will be the first time since

1991 when the Governor's School opened its doors that we will have a permanent home."

An act of the General Assembly and the agreement of Governor Tim Kaine were required to transfer the deed. This milestone, however, could not have been achieved without the help of Mr. Bob Mooney of the Renovation Foundation.

Two of Mooney's children attended MLWGS, and he helped MLWGS to find and buy a permanent home. Mooney was also a principle proponent in finding an individual building for MLWGS. In addition, he organized a group, the Renovation Foundation, which greatly aided in funding the building.

Ultimately, however, the transference of the deed required a lot of work and dedication from many people.

"We could not have done this without the help of the community: the business community and the education community, I cannot thank them enough," said Mr. John Axselle, III, Chair of the Regional School Board.



Mr. Bob Mooney presents the MLWGS deed. Photo by Ben Catanese ('10).

# Do the Crime, Pay the Time

## An "On - the - Scene" Report from the 'Mike' Vick Sentencing

By Danny Yates  
Jabberwock Staff Reporter

Monday, December 10 was an unseasonably warm and sunny day in Richmond, but the skies were not so bright for one Virginian.

Michael Vick, former Atlanta Falcons and Virginia Tech quarterback, received 23 months in prison and 3 years of supervised release on federal charges of operating a dogfighting ring during his 10 am sentencing at the Fourth Circuit Federal District Court.

"I would just like to apologize to the court, my family, and my kids. I used poor judgment and made some bad decisions," said Vick just moments before receiving his sentence.

"I'm willing to deal with the consequences and take responsibility."

The question of Vick's acceptance of responsibility was a topic of serious deliberation by both the defense and prosecution during the hour-long sentencing.

After hearing arguments from defense attorneys Billy Martin and Lawrence Woodward in addition to a statement from assistant U.S. attorney Michael Gill, Judge Henry E. Hudson maintained the offense level 15 felony charge.

"You were instrumental in doing this. As a full partner, you are equally culpable," said Hudson. "I'm not convinced you fully accept responsibility."

Although the sentencing was much shorter than originally expected, both sides made convincing arguments, and Judge Hudson was thorough in his explanations.

Some memorable moments included the discussion of Vick's illegal drug use during October 2007.

"Michael went into counseling soon afterwards... he was diagnosed as clinically

depressed," said Martin when he explained that Vick's use of marijuana was an attempt to self-medicate.

This discussion was followed with a statement from the prosecution.

"With respect to the drug use, we believe that this is not an isolated event, but a calculated effort to hide the truth," said assistant U.S. attorney Michael Gill.

Later, the prosecutor noted the unique nature of the case, saying that Vick's role was more involved than that of his co-defendants, Quanis L. Phillips, Purnell A. Peace, and Tony Tylor, because he not only participated but also financed the operation.

"He was in this thing up to his neck," said Gill.

Later, in a final plea for leniency, defense attorney Lawrence Woodward approached the podium, asking the Judge to consider Vick's tough background and previously clean record in his decision.

"Michael grew up in the meanest, toughest streets of this Commonwealth... He has great talent, but also an ability to disappoint," said Woodward.

"I talked to him on Saturday and he told me that today was the last day of disappointment. This case should be a comma, not a period for Michael."

Unfortunately for Vick, his actions have resulted in a two year jail "comma" and the loss of more than 100 million dollars in damages.

As this chapter of the Vick saga comes to a close, news analysts and the public are wondering what will come next.

Vick still faces state dogfighting charges in Virginia and will appear in the Surry County Circuit Court on April 2.

Some question whether he'll be able to return to the field after two years of "hard time," but one thing is clear, Vick and his co-defendants will never return to the Bad Newz Kennels.

Judge Hudson told Vick that he will no longer be allowed to own or interact with dogs other than through humane-society involvement or animal rights activity.

As he closed the case, Judge Hudson also reminded Vick that, as a convicted felon, his life will now change.

"You may never again own or use a firearm and you may not possess illegal narcotic substances," said Hudson.



Michael Vick's defense attorney Billy Martin addresses members of the press and the public shortly after the December 4 sentencing.. Photo by Danny Yates.

## Danny's Minute by Minute Timeline Reporting from the Vick Sentencing

- 7:37- I arrived by bicycle to the 4<sup>th</sup> Circuit Federal District Court at 1000 East Main Street.
- 7:41- I introduced myself to a U.S. Marshall, and took my place as number 37 in line
- 7:41- 9:12- I ate a quick breakfast, talked in line with the other journalists (from the *Virginia Pilot*, *Reuters*, and *Washington Post*), and photographed Vick supporters and PETA activists.
- 9:12 - I was the third to the last reporter to be admitted in the courthouse, but was still able to get a pretty good seat even after I entered the building, cleared security, and took the elevator to Judge Spencer's courtroom.
- 9:26 – I quietly remained in my seat as the Marshall briefed us of courtroom protocol. The reporter next to me discretely pointed to a muscular black man in a brown suit with his arm around an older black woman. These two were approximately three or four feet at a direct diagonal to where we were sitting. The reporter whispered “that’s Marcus Vick.”
- 9:35 – I was getting a little antsy after twenty minutes of waiting quietly, but then a Marshall approached me. Since I was in an aisle seat, he asked me to please keep my hands to myself when the defendant entered.
- 9:38 - Before I knew what was happening, Michael Vick, dressed in a black and white striped prison jumpsuit, entered the courtroom from a back door and squeezed past me so closely that he practically brushed against my chair.
- 9:40 - Soon after Vick entered, his legal team and the prosecutor entered from a side door. Defense attorney Lawrence Woodward shook hands with his client and then consoled Vick's teary-eyed Mother and somber-faced brother.
- 9:57 - After waiting in an agonizing silence for almost 45 minutes, the announcement of “All Rise for the Honorable Henry Hudson...” quickly awoke the courtroom.
- (Time Period During the Sentencing) – I was unable to note my “time-checks” while court was in session, but instead filled twelve notebook pages with quotes and observations.
- 10:55 – After announcing the 23 month prison sentence, Judge Hudson addressed the defendant and explained the rationale for his decision.
- 10:59 – The court was adjourned. I followed the other reporters outside where we once again waited, this time for Defense Attorney Billy Martin's press release.
- 11:36 – I returned to MLWGS by bike.

## Student Opinion On Vick Case

*The following students were asked four questions concerning the sentencing and fate of Michael Vick.*

1. What do you think of the punishment?
2. Will Mike Vick ever play in the NFL again?
3. What will be the impact of this case?
4. Any other comments?

### Ariel McMillan ('09)

1. Fair punishment
2. “Yes, he’s a good quarterback. The fact that he dogfights doesn’t affect his ability to play football.”
3. “I don’t think he will be a role model for anyone though.”

### Marley Hall ('10)

1. Fair punishment
2. “No, I don’t think the NFL will accept him.”
3. “I don’t think its going to affect those already committing crimes. I think it will make the public more aware of what’s going on.”

### Alex Venning ('08)

1. Punishment was too lenient
2. “No. He’ll be out of the game for too long.”
3. “I hope that it will show that the law applies to celebrities.”

### Kelsey Huffer ('09)

1. Fair punishment
2. “There will probably be one team that will take a chance on him, but I don’t know if many people will want to associate with him.”
3. “The problem of dog fighting is on more people’s minds now.”

### Colleen Leffler ('10)

1. Fair punishment  
“I think the 23 months is long enough, but the fact he might have more is ridiculous.”
2. “Not for the NFL.”
3. “Hopefully he will realize that you just can’t be cruel to animals.”

### Melanie Green ('08)

1. Punishment was too lenient.
2. “No.”
3. “The Falcons will try to reform their image.”
4. “I think the penalties for dog fighting should be harsher in general.”

### Justin Pierce ('09)

1. Fair punishment
2. “He might be a free agent. I don’t think he’ll be with a team for a long time. I think he’ll float around for a long time if he comes back.”
4. “It’s a sad end of the story for the family.”

# Movieland Moving In

**Boulevard Square set to open less than two miles from MLWGS**

**By Charles Condro**  
Jabberwock Staff Reporter

Bow Tie Partners, a New York based real estate and entertainment company, recently began construction on a movie theater and shopping center. The project, called Boulevard Square, is scheduled to open sometime in early 2009.

The theater, Movieland 16, will have seventeen first-run screens. The theater will also include a cafe selling fresh-baked pizza, gourmet pretzels and coffee along with the usual movie theater fare.

In addition, there will be space available for shops and an old foundry building that Bow Tie Partners plans to renovate and turn into a restaurant.

Many freshmen are excited about the prospects of having a theater and shopping place so close to school.

“It will be a great place to have fun, see a movie or grab a bite to eat,” said

Elena Dimitri ('11).

While this year’s senior class will miss out on Boulevard Square, many in the junior class plan on taking advantage of Boulevard Square during off-campus lunch next year.

“It will be a nice alternative to Great Wraps and Starbucks,” said Jerry Carlson ('09).

Other students enjoy the fact that

Boulevard Square is a central locale to meet up with friends who live in distant counties over the weekend.

“Richmond really is the key central area, so you would already come downtown anyway,” said Emma England ('09).

Most students, however, look to Boulevard as place to relax before they head home to tackle their homework loads.

“It will be a sweet after-school hang-out,” said Jonathan Crawford ('09).

The company also owns Jefferson Square, an entire city block in downtown Richmond situated between 3<sup>rd</sup> St., Main St., 4<sup>th</sup> St. and Cary St.



*A proposed model of Movieland 16. Photo courtesy of www.bowtiepartners.com.*

# Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor and Maggie Walker community,

Verily, you should all go to the Knights of the Pool Table show at 7:30 pm on Tuesday, December 18 at the Firehouse Theatre (located two blocks from school). Cost \$5.

- King Arthur

\* Editor’s Note:

The “Knights of the Pool Table” is a band composed of several MLWGS students. They performed at the past two Fall Festivals and look forward to their first official show.

**Knights**



# Bringing SECSEE Back

By Casey Cordrey  
Jabberwock Staff Reporter

Sometimes the morning announcements become background noise in a classroom filled with kids chatting before a long school day officially begins. Every now and then something just might grab everyone's attention.

Hearing SECSEE over the speaker just might do that. If it does, the creative acronym for what is most commonly known as the Environmental Club has worked.

SECSEE stands for Saving the Earth Through Conservation, Sustainability, and Environmental Education. This first year club, led by co-presidents Ben Han ('08) and Kevin Xiao ('09), aims to raise awareness about the environment and spur students and community members to action.

"We figured if [the club] had a catchy name people would join," said Xiao.

Whether it is the name or not, people are joining. So far there are eighty-seven members on record.

"The first meeting we used a bio class and everyone had to stand up," said Xiao.

"I was expecting thirty to forty members definitely, but not eighty something."

The large number of members should

help the club carry out its many plans.

The website, [www.secsee.net](http://www.secsee.net), contains a powerpoint outlining details for awareness operations such as a "Low Impact Food Month," bringing in speakers, and creating seminars. Currently, the club is developing an Eco-Week for January 14-18, 2008.

In addition, to make MLWGS "greener," a nascent recycling program has taken root.

"We decided to put out recycling receptacles around the school," said Devon Eriksen ('08), a member of the club's recycling committee. "One half of the boxes are for paper. The other half is for cans and plastic."

Boxes and bins for recycling can be found in commons areas, the cafeteria, and computer labs.

Once bins are full, they are emptied and delivered to the recycling center located behind the science museum.

The club is hoping that the recycling system will develop into a more formal program.

The club's t-shirts, which were sold at Fall Festival, also proved to be very popular. Eighty-five shirts were sold, and the club made a profit of about \$500.

On December 6, 2007, the club



An environmental club recycling bin in the cafeteria. Photo by Casey Cordrey.

hosted Ruth Morrison, a representative of the Green Corps, who spoke about Virginia's energy dilemmas, global warming, and the Climate Security Act presented by Senators John Warner (R-VA) and Joseph Lieberman (I-CONN).

The club's website has a forum where registered members can propose ideas and share information. It also has links to various articles and websites environment-related.

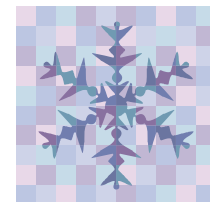
"We think there is a little environmentalist in everyone," said Xiao. "We wanted a way for students to communicate their ideas with a group."

Mr. McGuire's Style Tip for This Issue...

*Men should avoid short-sleeved dress shirts at all costs. It is a dead giveaway of the fashion oblivious male. The concepts of "short-sleeved" and "dress" are incongruous and therefore*

**Happy Holidays and see you next year!**

**- The Jabberwock Staff**



# Tangled Up in Bob

**By Justin Geldzahler**  
Jabberwock Staff Reporter

During the opening credits of Todd Hayne's "I'm Not There," a name from an unreleased song from The Basement Tapes, a title card reads "inspired by the music and many lives of Bob Dylan." We never hear or see the name again, but this foreshadows a sense of the muddled, occasionally brilliant, work that is to follow.

The plot moves in between six different Dylans. Woody Guthrie (Marcus Carl Franklin) is a black orphan making his way across the

South with his guitar always by his side.

Arthur Rimbaud (Ben Whishaw) is a singer being interrogated by the authorities about why he stopped writing protest music.

Jack Rollins (Christian Bale) is a folksinger making it big in Greenwich Village, reinventing himself twenty years later as the evangelical Pastor John.

Robbie Clark (Heath Ledger) is an actor who played Rollins in a movie, his marriage to a French painter now in decline. Jude Quinn (Cate Blanchett) is the

folk singer who has just made the switch to an electric sound. And finally Richard Gere appears as Billy the Kid, an outlaw trying to live the quiet life in Riddle, Missouri.

Don't be fooled by that fairly concise description. The movie isn't a series of vignettes. The stories merge and combine, and the flow of the film suffers from this.

Naturally some of the "lives" of Dylan are much more compelling than others. Cate Blanchett is electrifying on screen as Jude, possibly the most accurate portrait of the man, during his "Don't Look Back" days.

He/She spars onscreen with a British journalist (Bruce Greenwood, also appearing later as Pat Garret) who slowly becomes the Mr. Jones of "Ballad of a Thin Man," which naturally Jude begins to sing after leaving the man in a huff. There's also a delightful reference to Dylan's "influence" on the Beatles that leads to a brief homage of "A Hard Day's Night."

Ben Whishaw is also captivating as Arthur, refusing to give straight answers to the authorities; much of his dialogue coming from Dylan's mid-Sixties press conferences. Unfortunately, he appears the least out of any of the Dylans and is most of the time designated a de facto narrator, clips of him strung in between the others.

Bale and Ledger also give admirable performances as two sides of a similar coin, the closest that any of the stories come to being in the same world.

The richness of these scenes, however, is forgotten. The film drags whenever the story focuses on Franklin or Gere, probably because both are the biggest stretches when it comes to Dylan. The rascallion of a young boy tires the viewer, and save for a nice moment where he visits the deathbed of the real Woody Guthrie, his scenes get old fast.

As for Billy the Kid, that's just grasping at straws. We only know that he's even a musician due to a throwaway line, and Dylan didn't even play Billy in his movie, "Pat Garret & Billy the Kid"; he was Alias. This portion of the movie felt most out of place and frankly was the least interesting.

"I'm Not There" is an uneven movie, flying high on the prowess of Blanchett or Ledger one moment, and swamped in the absurdity of Gere the next.

The strong soundtrack can only help so much at these times. Stay through the slow parts though, because when the film picks up speed, it moves like a rolling stone.

**Rating:**



Ben Whishaw is one of the many faces of Bob Dylan. Photo courtesy of <http://cinema-online.org/>.

# Girls Varsity VS... Green Machine?

**Karthik Ilakkuvan**

Jabberwock Staff Reporter

Since Tuesday, December 4, Green Machine has been out cheering for MLWGS Varsity basketball teams at every home game. Or supposedly, they have.

“We’ve had a very small Green Machine turnout rate,” said MLWGS Varsity co-captain Caroline Vines (’09).

“And I find it extremely unfair. It brings down the morale of the team with no one to cheer us on.”

Thus far this year, 82 Green Machine shirts have been sold. At \$15 a piece – that is \$1230 raised for MLWGS Athletics.

“We bought 90 shirts, so we still have eight left, but by no means are we trying to discourage people from buying shirts,” said Irene Gardner (’08).

“We will make another small order if there’s high demand for it.”

Green Machine started out last year as alumni Andy Rudd’s idea. Consisting of mainly seniors because it was created by seniors, it expanded near the end of the basketball season.

“I think it’s true that you get closer to the class above you as they are about to leave,” said Gardner.

“A lot of seniors this year were excited about it, and we’ve got a good number of juniors. We are still looking for some underclassmen, but I don’t know how to promote it anymore.”

The Varsity Girls team doesn’t think it matters whether they promote it more – they still feel that no one will show up to their games.

“It’s because we live in a sexist society. They value boys more than girls,” said Vines.

“If they’re going to come to the boys Varsity games, they should come support girls Varsity, too. We’re just as good as them.”

The other co-captain of the MLWGS Girls Varsity team, Mauren Campbell (’08), agreed.



**The MLWGS Girls Varsity Basketball team practices in preparation for a game. They are sporting their yellow practice jerseys. Picture by Alan Chang.**

“We have a new team this year, and whatever people thought of us last year doesn’t apply this year,” Campbell said.

“They should at least come out and see what’s going on. We’re being overlooked. I think people come to boys games because they’re more ‘exciting,’ but Green Machine should really be about supporting the team – it really gets our energy level up, and we need the support. They’ve got to try it once at least.”

It’s not as if their complaints are going unheard, though. Green Machine is being proactive in its approach.

“On the schedule, we try to promote it all we can, but I do understand why they’re upset that Green Machine doesn’t come out full fledge to their games. A lot of people don’t know that the t-shirts allow them to get into girls games for free too,” said Gardner.

Thus, Green Machine and Girls Varsity encourage students to come out and support both teams today when they play Thomas Jefferson – the first game they have with their Green Machine shirts – and Monday, December 17, when the boys play Hanover.

“Monday’s game is going to be crazy, no matter whether they win or lose. A lot of the alumni are planning on showing up, including many of the original founders of Green Machine. There’s not going to be enough room in the gym to seat all of us. It’s going to be insane,” said Gardner.

**GIRLS BASKETBALL VARSITY VS TEE JAY TODAY AT 6:15 PM.**