

The Kent Slate

Visiting writers inspire by example

By the Kent Slate Staff

At the midway point of camp, students took a break from regular classes to work with four accomplished writers from New York City.

They showed us news styles of writing and students got to practice such as bantus, sestinas, magical realism and persona poems.

Rich Villar, came to Ms. Rader's class and began by having students do skits as a group. One group acted out a

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Poet Rich Villar leads students in a writing exercise about 'a wedding gone awry' during Visiting Writers Day.

Tanks roll in the Middle East

by David Gabriel

In a land far far away from Kent, Connecticut, in an area called the Middle East a conflict is taking place. Israel, a country with approximately seven million people, began a fight with two Islamic militant groups.

One group is Hamas, of Palestine. Its core beliefs can be defined in this statement by Hamas leader Dr. Al Zahar, which appeared in an article published on CNN.com, on Monday 17th, 2006.

"[My] dream [is] of hanging a huge map of the world on the wall at my Gaza home which does not show Israel on it...I hope that our

dream to have our independent state on all historic Palestine (including Israel). This dream will become real one day. I'm certain of this because there is no place for the state of Israel on this land". Although Hamas supporters believe that Israel should no longer exist. Other countries such as Australia, Canada, UK, US, Israel, and the European Union, agree it is a terrorist group. Jordan bans the existence of the group.

The other group is Hezbollah, of southern Lebanon. It is considered as a terrorist group by Israel, US, UK, the Netherlands, and Canada; the European Union says that its leader Imad Mugnyiah is a terrorist.

Hezbollah's political movement is committed to the destruction of Israel, and supports Hamas.

Conflicts in that region between Israel, Lebanon, Syria, Egypt, Jordan, Iraq, and the territories of Palestine, have been taking place since the Jewish religion began around 4,000 years ago. The more recent conflict began in March when over 150 Katyusha missiles were fired from both Lebanon and civilians in the West Bank and Gaza strip.

On June 25, an Israeli soldier, Gilad Shalit, was captured by Palestinian militants. This

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News

Communication begins with a single sound

By Chase Burton and Taj Herrera

Oinks, bird calls and squeaks filled the Science Building when the vocal artist Victoria Christgau, collaborated with students.

Christgau the second member in the Writer's Camp Visiting Artist series asked students to use their voices in new ways. She created a song from nonsense words to get students in the mood for singing. After a while she asked students to repeat the words.

"Ms Christgau was amazing. She has a great voice and she could make any sound from any we asked her to do," said Laurens Spethmann. "It was crazy but fun.

During the hour long collaboration, students made up a whole new language with each person adding a grunt or a gobble to the language.

For the finale, campers sang a song from Ghana about rice cakes. As the song went on, students had to sing faster and faster. They also started to harmonize until the song got so fast that they started to stumble over their words.

The evening offered many new experiences and opportunities for communication.



Above: Vocal artist Victoria Christgau has each student contribute a new sound to the group's collective 'song'. Below: students enjoy the spontaneous collaboration.



News



Visiting Writers join coordinator Abena Koomson.

“Writers” from page 1 wedding gone bad while the other group acted out the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. In the second hour, students had to listen to music from Carlos Santana, Fiona Apple, Miles Davis, Ella Fitzgerald and Louis Armstrong and then write a sestina about it. A sestina is a poem of six stanzas of six lines each. You have to choose six words to end each line of the

poem.

“I like him because I learned a new different style of poetry. It was hard but I liked the challenge,” said Dante Van Putten

In Mr. Green’s class Jai Chakobarti taught students how to describe people in fantasy. He showed a piece of film where there were men dancing a “Monkey Dance.” He had us describe and discuss the clip. During

the second morning class, we described everyday abilities many people have: walking, talking, running, speaking and eating. He also demonstrated how to describe extraordinary abilities like breathing underwater, flying, and floating. Finally students described their fears and then put all of the elements together to write a story.

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News

Poetry and music are synonymUS



Poet Alija Hogans had the opportunity to create a spontaneous collaboration with members of synonymUS, a new york based improvisational group that specializes in putting poetry to music. Hogans read his poem unaccompanied at first but then brought down the house when he read it a second time with the band. Members of the group include Stephanie Williams, Steve Williams, Abena Koomson and Ray Medina, (not pictured).

Middle East from page 1

kidnapping was the first kidnapping since 1994, and was followed by a giant Israeli military front. The Israeli army did an air, land, and sea invasion on the Gaza Strip. They fired artillery at the towns, bombed the power plants, roads, and bridges. They lined tanks around the border, and their ports were surrounded by Israeli warships. These lengthy measures were part of the Israeli operation “Summer Rains”, where the goal is to find Shalit, alive.

In the Gaza Strip, Palestinians were left with no power, very little water, and heard bomb shells day and night. They complained that Israel had gone too far, for just one

soldier. Prime Minister Ehud Olmert of Israel responded in an article on CNN’s website, “I take personal responsibility for what is happening in Gaza. I want no one to sleep at night in Gaza. I want them to know what it feels like.”

Kent School Theology teacher Dr. David Greene said he worries about the feelings of the next generation of Israeli, Lebanese, and Palestinian children. He explained that “what’s missing on both sides is what the children who are growing up will think”. Will the Palestinians and Lebanese children grow up believing that Israeli people are evil without reason?

Brandeis University student

Dan Koosed is more concerned with the narrow view that the media portrays. He explained that the media talks about tanks rolling into Gaza and Lebanon, but they don’t talk about the number of rockets fired to Israel.

Koosed said the media make it seem like they are trying to conquer and “imperialize” Lebanon and Palestine rather than what the Israeli Defense Force is actually trying to accomplish. He said he believes that the actions of Israel are “totally justified” and that Israel’s retaliation is only to take out Hezbollah. He believes Israel has the right to defeat people who wish to continue the holocaust.

News



Visiting Artist Damon Honeycutt uses a Chinese Long sword as he combines the spoken word, martial arts, dance and acting. When asked if the sword was real, he responded, "Nothing in the world is unreal"

Honeycutt teaches the art of interpretation

By the Kent Slate staff

With shiny silver sword in hand, Damon Honeycutt showed expression through his martial arts.

On July 24 Honeycutt completed the Visiting Artist series. First he performed a combination of martial arts and interpretive jazz to portions of President Bush's speech after 911 and sections of the Greek Play *Antigone*. After he finished performing Honeycutt told campers "If you want to be an artist, you need to learn to listen."

Honeycutt is a yogi who has also practiced martial arts for 21 years. He said got tired of hitting things so he began using his martial arts in dance. He is currently a member of the Scapegoat Garden dance company

He stressed the importance of being able to interpret sources of art and inspiration. He had the campers split up into five groups of eight. Four people came up with a sentence. The other four had to act out the movements to that sentence.

Campers agree that the best part of the evening was watching the way he moved the sword especially when he jumped up and down and came face to face with campers.

At the close of the evening he urged writers to experiment with their own blending of different art forms and to listen to the world around them to gain inspiration.

"Writers" from page 3

Tara Betts came into Ms. Koomson's class and taught students how to write Bantu poems. These are two line poems in which the first line is about nature and the second sentence describes a similar aspect of human nature.

Rounding out the group was Elana Bell who helped students take on a new persona,

or voice other than your own. During the first session she described what the poems were and during the second session she had students work with magazine ads to describe what the subjects in the pictures were feeling or doing.

During the afternoon, the visiting writers shared their own work, while students got to read some of the writing they created

in the morning.

"I enjoyed listening to the writers work instead of just working in the afternoon." said Tenley Godfrey. "My favorite poem was by Tara Betts. It was about Koolaid, but the message wasn't about Koolaid. It was about family.

Features

Spiders Are Forever

By Seamus Palm-Baker

Seetreeon Torres, from the Bronx in New York, loves spiders. He will go mad to catch even a tarantula. It seems there is nothing that will stop him.

He has caught four spiders so far at Kent, but one has died. Torres made a grave for the spider, whose name was Homeboy, and put it near the window sill.

I remember the first time I saw Torres catch a spider. He was very excited and put it into his cup, which he says helps him keep the spider from escaping. He uses a card to scoop the insect from its web, then plops it in



the cup.

Torres is not the only one who keeps spiders as pets. Some of the other campers catch them as well, including Alijah Hogans, Sean Bemand and even myself.

Torres cares for the spiders that he catches. He feeds them moths and beetles. You might think the spiders wouldn't be able to catch the moths because they fly away---but they catch them in the beautiful webs they make.

Sometimes the spiders will eat each other if they can't catch a moth. If only spiders knew they were cannibals.

Torres and his spiders go together like peanut butter and jelly. "I will never lose interest in spiders."

Features

Private schools have much to offer

By Tenley Godrey

When students came to the Kent Summer Writers camp, not all of them knew that it was a private boarding high school. The campus is so beautiful and intricate; it's rather easy for one to mistake Kent School for a college.

The differences between a preparatory school like Kent and public schools run deeper than appearances.

Nile Lundgren, a teaching assistant at the Writers Camp, has experienced boarding life at Kent as a post graduate for one year before heading to Trinity College.

It is common for high school students to attend a boarding school for one year as a way to better prepare themselves for college.

Before enrolling in Kent, Lundgren attended a public high school in Guilford, Connecticut. He stated that "The difference between a public and boarding school is night and day."

Often private boarding schools are more prestigious than public high schools athletically.

Lundgren said "The sport teams in the public high school were already established in grade school. When a person knows that their spot is secure, they tend to

slack off, which in turn affects the team's status."

When students are drawn from countries all over the world and nearly every state in America, the sport teams at a boarding school are forced to work harder to come together and work as one.

Academically, a public school student may not be challenged to his or her full potential, and can put in the minimum effort to slip by.

In Public School, home life can be a major distraction to homework. The environment can be less disciplined or structured.

At a boarding school, teachers are always there for assistance. The library and computer lab are literally right down the hall, and there is a designated block of time in the evening for schoolwork only. These schools seek to instill proper study habits and self-control in young people.

The behavioral expectations for students in private schools are often much stricter in private schools than public schools. "Students in public schools get away with goofing off and poor manners more so than preparatory school scholars" Lundgren added. Proper etiquette and grammar are one of the countless life lessons taught in a boarding school.



*Nile Lundgren
"chilling"
in the Foley
Academic Hall
on the Kent
School Campus.
Lundgren spent
a PG year here
at Kent before
going off to
Trinity College.*

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Features

What do Summer Writers Campers actually know about the lifestyle differences between the girls' and boys' dorms? Not very much other than the announcements heard after lunch, regarding special meetings on clean up and room inspection. These announcements made us search for more answers to questions like: Who has the dirtiest dorm? What is life in the boy's dorm like? What's life in the girl's dorm like?

Facts gathered from several interviews expose all about Case and Field dorm and the campers' living conditions.

Boys dorm – Field

Lights out is supposed to be at 10 p.m., and one or two boys actually do go to bed then. But beginning bedtimes for Field-Boys is normally between 10:30 and 11:30. Some exceptions go to bed later, which is completely normal at our age because we're "full of energy".

issue: REUNIONS or room meetings.

Reunions, as we like to call them, are very different from day to day (or night to night). The boys play games, share music, have pillow fights or talk about girls.

The counselors usually don't punish this behavior because the camper pays the price the next morning.

Wake up times for the boys vary in a wide range, although lots of boys wake up 5 minutes before breakfast, which is because of the last night's lack of sleep.

One always thinks boys are the dirtiest humans. If we're talking about Field dorm this rumor is TRUE. In the bedrooms, it differs between very messy and ok, but when it comes to the bathroom there are no *ifs*, *ands* or *buts*. It smells very bad and you "have to put a towel over your nose before walking in", according to camper Chase Burton.

Study hall experience is very different from camper to camper. Some boys study;

some boys don't. The ones who do, usually sit in their rooms. The ones who don't sleep, read, talk and play both video and board games. All in all, the boys enjoyed their camp year at Field dorm.

Girls dorm – Case

People often say that girls dorms are always clean and smelling well, but Rachel Robb did agree with this. She said that some rooms "smelled like bad soap, like rotting soap or dirty clothes", when it came to how messy the rooms were both Claudia and Rachel agreed that only some of the rooms were messy, but not the hallway.

Girls normally get up 45 minutes before going to breakfast, Claudia, Rachel and Megan Nixon thought that girls take from 5 to 30 minutes to get dressed and that in the morning everything is very quiet.

At nighttime before going to

This leads to a further

Features

bed and at the end of study hall girls are much louder and have to be pushed a little to go to bed, normally between 10 and 11.

When Rachel and Megan Nixon were asked if they raid other peoples room or if other people came into their rooms they both agreed that they went into other peoples rooms and took food, and that other people made the same thing with them. The girls don't have a problem with that because it's between friends.

It seems that most of the girls prefer to sleep in doubles rather than in triples because they think that "three is crowd"

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“Private Schools” from page 7

For instance, the simple conversational mistake “Jimmy and me are a great team” is bound to be corrected by any authority figure in earshot, to “Jimmy and I are a great team”

Probably the most significant advantage students gain from boarding schools is independence. When you attend a private school, you are not only meeting, but living with people from China, Japan, Australia, Spain, France, Germany, Russia, California, Maine – the list goes on and on. Students are able to learn about all different cultures

and travel to new countries and places that they have never been.

In the public school system, students are often learning with peers from the same town year after year.

The high school-to-college transition is easier for students who have already conquered homesickness, know how to study effectively, and can fight their own battles without the help from a parent.

“My classmates from Trinity College who attended a public school had some trouble learning to live away from home and

managing their study time affectively” Lundgren said. He added that he wasn’t really homesick at all, since the demanding, busy schedule left no time for him to think about family and friends.

Boarding school truly is an incomparable and unforgettable high school experience. Such schools generally look for students who are highly qualified in their past athletic, academic, and community accomplishments.

Features

Be smart and safe on Myspace

By David Gabriel

In a poll of Kent Summer Writing Camp students, 42% of the students had a Myspace account. Some responded as if having an account was really personal, while others didn't know what it was.

One student said the site should be "burned" and that she had heard that a girl was raped because of it.

Here you will learn the facts about Myspace how to be safe while using it.

Myspace.com is a social networking website, created in July of 2003 by Tom Anderson. In the United States 4.5% of every site visited, is on Myspace.com. It is the sixth most popularly visited site in the world according to Alexa Internet (a site that shows the most popular sites by the number of visits the site gets). The site has well over 95 million users.

Myspace.com only accepts users 14 years or older, and 14 year olds and 15 year olds are automatically set as "private". Private means that users can only access a page see your pictures, friends, comments, information, if you accept them.

Any other person has the option to set his or her Myspace account as personal as well. The website is very controversial. It has been criticized widely for not offering enough precautions or protection from sexual predators

because they have found ways of convincing people online of being the same age, and taking advantage of Myspace's many loopholes.

The commonwealth of Massachusetts has asked that the age minimum be raised.

Myspace.com has responded by saying that this summer Myspace.com will not allow members who are 18 or older to add people who are younger as their friends unless the person on either side knows each others full name or their email address, according to MercuryNews.com.

Anderson wants kids to know the dangers of Myspace and that people have to take any and all precautions that are available.

Those precautions include....

1. Set your Mysapce account on "Private"
 2. Never reveal your last name
 3. Never give your home address
 4. Never add or accept users you do not know.
 5. Never arrange a meeting with someone you've only met on Myspace.
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Campus Sports

Crew rocks the Housatonic

By Tenley Godfrey

Crew, or boating, is one of the many recreational activities offered here at the Kent Summer Writers Camp. Most people don't know what crew is at all, and the camp allows for more students to learn about this interesting, out of the ordinary sport. Victoria Castillejo, a rower and camper, stated "I was interested in trying crew because I enjoy being on the

strong, confident voice and small framed physique.

"Crew is the ultimate team sport" said Dan Genck, a former student at Kent School and the present teacher assistant helping out with crew. Working as a team and rowing in sync with one another is the key to success in crew.

Campers row on the Housatonic River and the ergometer, which is a stationary rowing workout machine. They have also

sport of rowing, Alexandra Pite said "I hope to row for my high school and possibly even a college team someday." Our instructor was Mehta Rehnberg, who has coached the New Milford High School team for several years and rowed for Kent in high school. She continued rowing throughout college.

For two days during the rowing program, campers went kayaking and swimming in the Housatonic River due to the extreme



Campers dip their oars into the Housatonic River during afternoon activities.

water and it was a completely new sport to me."

Basically, there are nine people in a sixty foot long boat called a shell. There are eight rowers and one coxswain. The rowers each have one oar with a rectangular blade, each one on the alternate side of the boat. The coxswain is the person who steers and directs the boat and rowers, usually owning a

experimented with the tanks, which is a fixed crew shell in a pool.

Over the course of one and a half weeks, campers including Tenley Godfrey, Rachel Robb, Michelle Chin, Veronica Urquijo, Victoria Castillejo, Alexandra Pite, Shandelle Williams, Dorie Schwartz, and John Gonzalez have learned the basics of this sport.

When asked if she would pursue the

hot and humid weather.

Rower Dorie Schwartz added "The hardest part of crew at this point is carrying the boat down to the dock. Probably my favorite part of rowing is when everyone rows together and finds a rhythm, which makes the boat balanced and move fast".

Campus Sports

Baseball season heats up

by Taj Herrera

Hey you crazy baseball fans out there missing all the action - you're not going to guess who's leading Major League Baseball in Home Runs and RBIs.

David Ortiz aka Big Papi from the Boston Red Sox was leading MLB with 32 home runs and 90 RBIs. Ortiz also has a batting average of .278. He has played on the Red Sox for three years but before he played with the Red Sox he played for Minnesota for two seasons. This year he's been really smacking them. He has hit at least a dozen walk off home runs for the Red Sox this year.

Roy Halladay from the Toronto Blue Jays is one of the

three pitchers who are tied in the MLB for the most wins in a season as of July 21 with 12 wins. He's tied with Curt Schilling of the Red Sox and Josh Beckett also Red Sox.

Halladay has been playing with the Blue Jays for his whole baseball career and his ERA is 3.08.

Curt Schilling has played with many teams in his 20 seasons. He will be known as one of the greatest pitchers to play the game because he has a fantastic command of his pitches and he gets batters to swing when they shouldn't. He can throw a mean curve ball.

Beckett has been playing in the MLB for six years and most of his career he played with the

Florida Marlins.

Johan Santana from the Minnesota Twins is leading the pitchers with 145 strike outs. Santana has been playing with the Twins for seven years which is his whole baseball career so far.

All you Detroit Tigers fans you should be happy because Detroit is leading the MLB with the record of 62-30. Also according to the ESPN prediction "The Oakland A'S are going to win the World Series."

Still many die hard Yankees fans believe that Yankees will pull through. They are known to win most of their games during the second part of the season. In October they kick into high gear.



Making A Big Splash!

Campers take advantage of the daily pool time after their sport or activity.

Campus Sports

Lacrosse meets hockey in hybrid sport

by Chase Burton

A new sport called Box Lacrosse has trickled down from the north. Box Lacrosse is an indoor version of lacrosse that is played all over Canada.

The ice is melted during the summer months so the refrigerators can get a rest. The idea of Box Lacrosse is that the ice rink can make some extra money during the summer.

There are many professional teams in Canada such as the Victoria Shamrocks or the Peterborough Lakers. Although there are not as many teams in the United States as Canada there are youth teams popping up like Danbury CT is starting a team.

As the 2006 NFL season starts, the biggest question is who will be number one? Will it be the Saints who have made a humongous comeback by signing Reggie Bush? Or can it be the Patriots who won three years in a row?

Here are some predictions by some of the campers:

Taj Herrera:

1. New Orleans Saints
2. New York Giants
3. Pittsburgh Steelers
4. Tennessee Titans
5. Seattle Seahawks

David Gabriel:

1. New England Patriots

2. New York Giants
3. Pittsburgh Steelers
4. Seattle Seahawks
5. Tennessee Titans

Alija Hogans:

- 1.
2. Green Bay Packers
3. New York Giants
4. New York Jets
5. New England Patriots

Whoever wins, it will be an exciting season. With rookie talents like Bush, D'Brickshaw Ferguson, Matt Leinart, and Mario Williams, teams will be young and fearless.

In my opinion, these are the teams who will have the best

There are many different rules for box Lacrosse. For example in Field Lacrosse a slash is with one hand. In Box Lacrosse, you can hit with two hands and put more power into the slash.

Also the goals are a lot smaller in Box Lacrosse, only 4 feet by 4 feet. In Field Lacrosse the goal is 6 feet wide and 6 feet tall. That makes scoring a goal even harder.

Finally, in Box Lacrosse you can play the ball off the boards.

position rankings:

Running Backs:

1. New Orleans Saints
2. Kansas City Chiefs
3. New York Giants

Wide Receivers/Tight Ends:

1. Pittsburgh Steelers
2. Cincinnati Bengals
3. North Carolina Panthers

Quarterbacks:

- 1.

Sports Opinion

A Preview of Next Season's NBA

This upcoming season people who watch the National Basketball Association should expect to be shocked by teams that are really going to improve.

My predictions are that the Toronto Raptors, Atlanta Hawks and Charlotte Bobcats will have better teams this season.

The Hawks have Joe Johnson, Al Harrington, and Josh Smith. The Raptors have Chris Bosh, Charlie Villaneuva, and Joey Graham. The Bobcats have Adam Morrison, Emeka Okafor, and Kareem Rush.

Even though they are getting better, they still won't make it to the finals. The teams to look for in the finals next season are: Detroit Pistons, Miami Heat, Dallas Mavericks, and San Antonio Spurs.

Marcus Williams of the New Jersey Nets, Adam Morrison of the Bobcats or JJ Redick from the Orlando Magic will win Rookie of the Year. Morrison led division I basketball with 28.1 points per game. A lot of people are saying that Williams is a good point guard and Reddick was second in most points scored per game in Division I basketball right behind Morrison.

I think the Spurs will win because of their defense. In fact they keep their rivalries 7 points below the NBA average. Key



Sure, it's not the NBA but close enough. Dante Van Putten drives against Josh Bey as the other players look on, ready for the rebound.

players like Manu Ginobili, Tim Duncan, and Michael Finley help them win. Tim Duncan won most valuable player a couple of times.

I think the Mavericks also have a chance of winning because of their defense. They are one of the best defensive teams in the league. They also have Dirk Nowitzki, Jason Terry, and Josh Howard. They also win because of their teamwork.

The Heat has a chance of winning because of their team. In fact they ended up winning the finals this season. Their key players this season were: Shaquille O'Neal,

Dwayne Wade, and Gary Payton. Even though they didn't have the best team they ended up winning because they played well together.

I think the Pistons will probably make it to the semi-finals because of their collaboration of defense and offense. Their key players are: Tayshaun Prince, Chauncey Billups, and Richard Hamilton. Ben Wallace was traded to the Chicago Bulls. They were expected to win the finals, but unfortunately lost to the Heat.