

# THE GLOBE

Volume VIII, # 3

## Bitten by the Travel Bug

By Tilo Jackson, Class of 2010



After I graduate, I plan on working for a while and saving enough money to buy a decent car. Then I'd like to go on a road trip around the United States and visit friends and family. After that, I intend to go to Europe, Australia, Africa, and Germany, again to visit family and to get a sense of other parts of the world. The

trip I'm looking forward to the most is to visit my uncle, who lives in Cape Town, South Africa. He is going to teach me how to surf, and he'll take me parachuting. When I return to the United States, I plan on going to college.

### Senior Plans

For GBWHS Class of '10

**Evan Crispell** - Sarah Lawrence College

**Darius Graeff** - SUNY College, Albany

**Tilo Jackson** - Work and travel

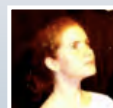
**Elizabeth Orenstein** - University of Kings College, Halifax, Nova Scotia

**Chloe Rohn** - College of the Atlantic

**Anna Sierau** - Read interview on page 5

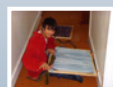
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School weaving projects: Alexander talks about the latest art project.

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The Globe interviews Oliver Kress about his life on the farm.

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### School News



Come to the 2010 Graduation! June 13, 1:00 p.m. at the Simon's Rock Kellogg Music Center.



#### New Editor, New Look!

Kyle Bashour takes over as editor for the Spring 2010 issue of *The Globe*.

*Wish to make a donation? See page 6 for our PO box, or visit our website at [www.waldorfhgh.org](http://www.waldorfhgh.org)*

## Skiing at Butternut!

The sun shone down on the crisp snow. Joyful yelps echoed from the peaks of the mountains. It was the perfect day for skiing.

Because our school is relatively small, all our students were able to have a "Ski Day" at Butternut Ski Resort during the winter. We were given a set of rules, including to be back at a certain time, to be

respectful, have fun, and be safe. After that brief talk, we were released and allowed to ski as much as our hearts desired.

I believe that this was the most fun we have had on a trip. We would all love to go back next year for another wonderful time.

By Tori Stetzer, Class of 2012

## Saint Joan: By Alice Hixon, Class of 2012

Another hot pot of bubbling coffee brewed, while thespians paced back and forth, mumbling their lines. They threw down their scripts, grabbed another cup of coffee, gulped it down, and started mumbling and pacing again, until they were called in for a scene.

This year the Great Barrington Waldorf High School rehearsed and performed their play, "Saint Joan" by George Bernard Shaw, at the Berkshire South Community Center. For many hours, the entire student body was hard at work, building sets, sewing costumes, and critiquing their character with Director Beth Robbins.

The heart-rending and humorous performances in mid-

April were a great success. Students with all ranges of experience, freshmen to seniors and even our wonderful German exchange students, all had roles and uniquely powerful styles that made this play punchy, tragic, and intoxicating.

The play centers around the story of Joan of Arc, the girl who led the French army to victory over the English during the Hundred Years' War.

"Joan is a girl who has the ability to hear and see what needs to be done through her 'voices,' and she has the courage to actually follow through," explains the play's director, Beth

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*From left to right: Darius, Julian, Alice (Joan) and Tori rehearse scene 6, the inquisition.*



*Making up before dress rehearsal.*

## My Trip To America



*Tom Frey discusses tactics with Jordan Sills before a soccer match.*

What picture do people in other countries have about America? What does a non-American think about this country, its culture and its citizens?

There are a lot of prejudices about Americans. Let's think about some of them.

If you type into Google "Prejudices America," you'll find a lot of pages, mostly saying the same things.

Things like Americans are dumb, fat, superficial, and ignorant of politics, not interested in other countries, Bush supporters and they eat nothing but fast food. These statements are as ridiculous as the prejudices about Germans, who supposedly walk around in Lederhosen, drink beer, eat Wiener

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*Mrs. Palmer shows Saphire (Class of 2012) how to start her rug. The 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders built their own looms, and cut the cloth for their rugs.*

## Weaving Through Time

*By Alexander Pitman, Class of 2012*

In and out, in and out... over and under, over and under.

Intertwining colors are stitched together to make wonderful, unique, hefty rugs. Weaving is by far the most social art class we have ever had. It may be time-consuming, but when sitting with friends out on the grass in the gorgeous weather, time seems to slip by faster than we could ever imagine.

Mrs. Palmer came to our school in mid-February to teach us this weaving course. First we hammered nails into our individual wooden frames. The school was filled with loud banging and cheerful anticipation. Then we got to work on the weaving process itself.

This is done with old fabric, from torn pajamas to used shower curtains. Our homemade looms were soon full of color. We are all proud to have made our own rugs.

## Interview with Oliver Kress Class of 2011

*16-year-old Oliver came to Waldorf High in the middle of his sophomore year from a homeschooling environment.*



*Globe: Where did you go to school before coming to Waldorf High?*

*Oliver: I was homeschooled for ninth and most of tenth grade.*

*Globe: What about your education before high school?*

*Oliver: I went to Mrs. Bedard's early childhood for three years. She's the one who first taught me how to be a little kid. Then I went from 1<sup>st</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades to Hawthorne Valley School.*

*Globe: What was the difference between Hawthorne Valley and Waldorf High?*

*Oliver: One of the things is the campus. Waldorf High is much smaller. The buildings at Hawthorne Valley are solely designed for and used as a school.*

*Globe: You have lots of brothers and sisters. There are eight of you, aren't there? What's that like?*

*Oliver: Having a big family is like having a small family, times many times. I got stabbed in the leg once with a fork by a brother. He sometimes throws stones at people, but most of my family doesn't fight too much.*

*Globe: You missed school last week because you were attending a chainsaw safety course. What does chainsaw safety involve?*

*Oliver: They teach you how to fix a chainsaw, and clean it, and use it safely so you don't lose any limbs. I didn't really learn anything I didn't already know, but my father thought it would be a good idea.*

*Globe: What do you use a chain saw for?*

*Oliver: Mostly we use it on trees, either to fell a*

**Continued on page 4**

**Interview (Continued)**

tree or if a tree falls on a fence, we have to chop it off, and fix the fence.

*Globe: Why is there a fence around your property?*

*Oliver: To keep the animals in. We have about nine horses, two mules, a couple of geese, fifteen-head of beef, some dogs and cats, one cow we milk, a bunch of sheep, a bunch of goats; chickens, rabbits, and sometimes there is a possum or squirrel in the bathtub. The usual.*

*Globe: Do you ride the horses?*

*Oliver: Occasionally. I used to think it would be a nice thing to ride around. Now I get busy with other things so I don't do it as much.*

*Globe: Do you work with them?*

*Oliver: I work FOR them, not with them. I take care of them.*

*Globe: What's the worst experience you've ever had?*

*Oliver: One day I was just taking a ride by myself. I was fine going up the hill, but I didn't like going downhill afterwards. As I started going down, the horse realized we were going away from his other friends back in the pasture, and he wanted to get back in a hurry, so he started galloping fast down this steep hill. I stayed on till the bottom of the hill but then I fell off and he galloped over me. I was pretty bruised and battered, but then I was glad it happened because I could tell other people about my experience.*

*Globe: What would you do differently next time?*

*Oliver: Pay more attention, and hold on better.*

**Saint Joan (Continued)**

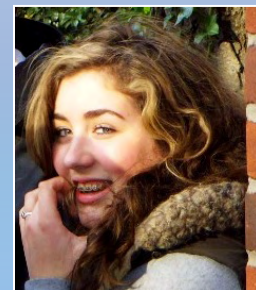
Robbins. "She put herself aside in a completely selfless way, and accomplished something that is considered miraculous. She's not only a historical figure and a saint – she's also a young, enthusiastic, passionate girl. One of the most moving moments for me occurs near the end, when she repents so she'll be taken back into the church. At that moment she no longer hears her beloved voices, and she feels utterly bereft. She has no one – nothing – telling her what to do. At that moment, when she is completely alone, she realizes the truth, and knows it's wrong to disavow her voices. I wanted the teenagers to live with this imagination of Joan. I wanted them to see that you need to quiet all the other things in your life to hear what really needs to be done."

The story of Joan's life stands squarely between the ancient world and the modern. It paved the way for the modern age through the creation of nation-states and the rise of Protestantism, while it harked back to a world of medieval miracles and legends.

"It's also a very funny play," Robbins points out. "There are some hysterical moments – there have to be, since it's written by Shaw! Part of the brilliance of the play is the movement from hilarity to utter heartbreak to hope. It's great theater."

**CURRENT WORK****Human Beans**

One of the most interesting seminars we've had this year has been learning about Human Development with Mr. Sagarin. We have learned about the human brain and anatomical psychological systems. We have discussed what makes us human, and we have also read and talked about neurological conditions, phantom limbs, aphasia, autism, amnesia, and agnosia. This seminar has helped me learn about myself, while learning about all human life.



*By Saphire  
Singer,  
Class of  
2012*

*This seminar is being continued May 17-21. The class is studying genetics, the endocrine system, and human reproduction at a mostly cellular level. We had a lot of fun acting out Mitosis and Meiosis.*

## Trip to America (Continued)

Schnitzel, and we are always living as if it were Oktoberfest. Everybody, I hope, knows that these things do not correspond the truth.

Mathematically, three months (the amount of time I was in the U.S.) is 1/68<sup>th</sup> of my life until now. Why would I spend 1/68<sup>th</sup> of my life in a country full of fools? I came here twice before, and I know that these prejudices are not authentic at all. You should never believe in prejudices. These three months in America confirmed this. Almost all of my experiences with Americans have been culturally positive.

Even if it sounds like one of these terrible prejudices, I do have to say that it is kind of frightening and odd for foreigners to see what American students can eat during a normal school day. This really is one of the biggest differences between our two countries. In Germany, a student eats, on a typical school day, two normal meals and all we drink is water.

Here I've seen students start with a box of Chinese noodles, which they warm up in the microwave. With it, they drink hot chocolate with marshmallows. But everything is improvable. For lunch they'll eat, for example, a pizza. For a snack, eaten throughout the day, there's microwave popcorn with fake butter in it, a few donuts, strange seaweed-leaves, a popcorn ball, or whatever else is around.

This little food experience gave me the opportunity to eliminate one prejudice I've heard often: that all Americans are fat. In my non-eating school in Germany I see every single day more fat people than I ever saw here in America.

Prejudice busted.

For me America is a very courteous, friendly, cosmopolitan and appreciative nation. It's impossible not to love this country and (most) people!

## Interview with Anna Sierau Class of 2010

*Anna has been a Waldorf student since early childhood. She will graduate in June.*

*Globe: I know you like horses – what do you like about them?*

*Anna: I've been around horses since I was born; and our horses are kept more in a herd environment than in boxes; so it's interesting to see them in herd environment and to be accepted into that when you go into the barn; they're easy to be around.*

*Globe: Do they talk to you?*

*Anna: No, but they listen. We do have an animal communicator who does talk to them.*

*Globe: What's an animal communicator?*

*Anna: She's a person who telepathically communicates with animals. We've done workshops with her and if you think about something she can connect to your brain and tell you what you're thinking about. We have a consult with her once every few months; if there's a horse that's really moody we talk to them about that; or if we're thinking of getting a new horse.*

*Globe: Are you interested in telepathy?*

*Anna: It fascinates me but it's not something I think I'd do personally. Partly because I'm not sure whether I could even do it, but also there are some things I don't think I really want to know.*

*Globe: What are some other interests you have besides horses?*

*Anna: Psychology, special education, fashion design, cosmetology, and art.*

*Globe: You're a senior – what are your plans when you graduate?*

*Anna: I'll be here for the summer, then take a year off: travel to England and Germany; then I'll go to either Casnovia College or William Woods College in Missouri or UMass. I'll take a few courses at BCC*



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# THE GLOBE

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## Interview with Anna Sierau, (Continued)

when I'm in the States.

*Globe:* Why Missouri?

*Anna:* I don't necessarily want to go to Missouri – but the school has pretty much everything – including equestrian studies.

*Globe:* You own horses?

*Anna:* They're not our horses personally – Blue Rider is an organization, so we personally don't have to pay for them. But I'm sure it would be a lot more expensive if we didn't have so many kids come in to help walk and feed and take care of the horses, and in exchange they get a riding lesson once a week.

*Globe:* What's the best part of working with horses?

*Anna:* A few things: Personally I like to train horses, and especially barrel racing. Barrel racing is part of the gymkhana games originally arranged out west to test how physically fit the horses are. There are lots of obstacles and you have to get your horse to turn and move over – a test of how much control you have over your horse, and how fit it is. Another thing that's a lot of fun is teaching handicapped people and seeing how different they are in everyday life than when they're around the horses. We have people come, like one man in a wheelchair and he can't do anything for himself in everyday life, but he can sit on a horse and control it.

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*Thank you for reading, and thank you for your support. As Mr. Sagarin says, "If you have any extra money, or you know anyone with extra money that's just lying around, please give it to us!" Donations can be made to the above address, or at our website [www.waldorfhigh.org](http://www.waldorfhigh.org). School programs like the Globe are made possible by people like you!*

*-The Globe Staff*