

THE TLC TIMES

Volume 1, Issue 1

March 2008



TLC student, Christine Counts, dissects a star fish during Biology lab.

An Inside Look at TLC

By: Caleb Goulet

It's that time of year, guys and girls, summer is near and we are all happy to see the end of homework. We are all wondering if there will be anything new next year. The TLC Times interviewed Tina Gilbert with the TLC Committee and asked her the purpose of the committee. "Well, the TLC Committee organizes the school classes. They decide which families go to which classes, so if a child has gone to say, chemistry last year, they will go to a different class this year. Also, the committee chooses who is best suited to teach certain classes and who is a hall or lunch monitor." Mrs. Gilbert stated. When asked how long TLC has been around, she answered, "TLC has survived 17 years. The reason being is that there are strict rules we must follow. Down in Alabama, there was another TLC that lasted two years because there were no rules to keep the kids in line or make

them do their homework. At TLC, the rules say all homework must be done on time or on the third strike you're out. Also, parents need to make TLC a high priority, so that when the time comes for kids to learn, the teacher is there."

We asked Mrs. Gilbert what were some of the benefits of TLC. "Well," she replied, "some of the benefits of TLC are that moms and dads don't teach classed they don't like or aren't good at, students are accountable to teachers not just mom, social benefits for kids who want to hang out with friends, and also TLC is a good transition to college." She told us they will be adding new families next year. There will also be new classes offered next year, so check out all your options before signing up for your classes.

First Annual

PJ Day!

Last Day of TLC

April 10

Come dressed in your nocturnal best!!

(that means pajamas)

Keep it cool ... no spagehetti straps, shorts, wife-beaters ...

everything classy & covered as if Jesus dressed you!!

Right: Dena Hardee and Lindsey Kaiser perform an experiment during Chemistry Lab



And They're Off!

By: Julia Allen

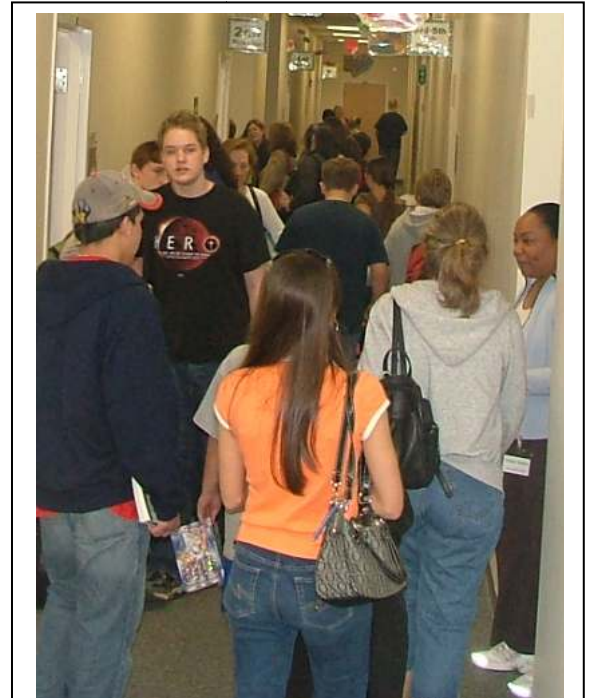
Have you ever thought about what you want to do when you graduate, or about how the years have helped you out with many different experiences? We interviewed two soon to be graduates, Austin Waggoner and Kristen Allen. When asked if he had any advice for younger students, Austin replied, "Be passionate, don't take everything at face value, be careful and pick your friends wisely. Talk about Jesus often. Don't run with scissors, don't play with chain saws and don't play tennis with golf balls." In the future, Austin plans to get married, go to Lee University or Appalachian State, and become a Youth Pastor/missionary. Austin recommends, "Don't rush the time you're not promised." so for now, he's just going to take life as it comes.

We also asked Kristen if she had any advice to share. "Make good habits now..." she suggests, "because it will help you in the future and don't worry about what other people think." I asked if TLC has helped her at all for anything the future might hold and she said, "Yes, with accountability." Kristen's future plans involve going to a good college and getting married. She also hopes to travel, fly in a hot air balloon, go scuba diving and master a foreign language. Kristen ultimately wants to live her life to the fullest.

The TLC Times congratulates these and all the TLC graduates.

Right: David Lillie knows the importance of hard work

Right: Mrs. George's 5th/6th grade book club display their edible creations



Above: Students and teachers

Fill the halls of TLC between classes



Movie Reviews

The Last Sin Eater

By: Jessica Rush

Eleven-year old Cadi Forbes, played by Liana Liberato, is haunted by the death of her younger sister she feels responsible for. To be forgiven of this horrible sin, Cadi seeks out the feared Sin Eater, played by Peter Wingfield, who is believed to eat all your sins away after you die. But a stranger, played by Henry Thomas, shows up and tells Cadi about another sin eater, named Jesus, who is really the only one that can forgive her. Cadi now has to try and convince the leader of their cult, the violent Brogan Kai, played by Stewart Finlay-McLennan, what they believe is wrong.

The Last Sin Eater is based on the novel by Francine Rivers. It takes place in the 1850's in Appalachia and is produced and directed by Michael Landon Jr. It is rated PG-13 for thematic elements, and some intense sequences of violence.

Due to the suspenseful theme to this movie, it is hard to expand on the story any more without giving some of the climax away. There are several mysterious, intertwining plots, such as Cadi's guilt for the death of her sister and feeling the loss of her mother's love. Another is how the Sin Eater came to be. Also, how Cadi's best friend, Fagan Kai, is abused by his father.

Fagan accompanies Cadi on her search to find the Sin Eater, not because he needs forgiving, but because he feels he needs to protect Cadi. Brogan Kai is outraged when he finds out his son, Fagan, has been with Cadi talking to the stranger at the bottom of the mountain who has been telling them of Jesus. But Brogan Kai sees it as if this man of God is turning them against his cult.

I highly recommend this movie because of the great blend of action, suspense, romance, and Christian theme. This makes it a very enjoyable movie to watch. I would also add is that it has some scary scenes not appropriate for children younger than ten. The Welsh accents of all the characters have made their cult even more believable, but at times can make it hard to understand what they are saying. Overall, *The Last Sin Eater* is a very enjoyable movie.

Jock

By: Caleb Goulet

Jess whines a warning and dashed to attack the lion as Jock follows close behind. Knowing the dogs stand no chance against the lion, Fitz, in desperation, raises his rifle, aims, and fires. Just as the dogs reach the lion, it collapses in death. Fitz is stunned-the lion is the first animal he ever shot.

Jock, a 1995 film, directed by Danie Joubet, is a true story of friendship with stars Sean Gallagher as Sir Percy Fitzpatrick and Robert Urich as Rocky. Also starring are, Fay Masterson, Sello Sebatsane, Wilson Dunster, and Ron Smerczak. *Jock* is played by Gitane and Japie. *Jock* is a heartwarming story about a man and his dog, based on the true life story [Jock of the Bushveld](#) by Sir Percy Fitzpatrick.

In the late 1800's, Sir Percy Fitzpatrick, "Fitz," goes to Africa to seek his fortune in the gold mines. While traveling with a caravan to the goldmines, he meets a special dog, Jess, who has just had puppies. One day, a man takes the runt of the litter and tries to drown it. Fitz is moved with compassion for the little runt and proclaims he will raise the puppy for his own. Fitz names the dog Jock. As the movie unfolds, Jock proves he is smart, loyal, and faithful to Fitz. They share many exciting adventures, some funny, others heartbreaking, as they blaze a trail through Africa.

Fitz falls in love with Africa and its plentiful wildlife. He is distressed that hunters are indiscriminately killing big game for their skins and ivory. Long before it is popular, he recognizes that controls are necessary to ensure the survival of the many indigenous species. He champions the cause of the animals, resulting in the first appointment of game wardens to Africa.

This movie is suitable for all audiences. It is a family movie with no vulgar language, sexual content or unnecessary violence. However, there are a few scenes that are quite intense and can be disturbing for younger viewers. I would recommend this heartwarming story of friendship to anyone who loves dogs, and shares a special bond with man's best friend. It is full of adventure and suspense enough for the whole family. For some, *Jock* might even become a permanent resident on your shelf.

RESTAURANT REVIEWS

Chili's

By: Priscilla Carpenter

If you are looking for a great restaurant where everybody is welcome, then look no further than Chili's. The restaurant itself is fairly large and can hold large numbers of people. If it is a busy holiday weekend, you should try to arrive early in order to beat the crowds.

Chili's fun and casual atmosphere welcomes all ages with colorfully tiled tables, vintage photographs and a sunny Southwestern feel. With soft music playing in the background, families pile into dining room booths, while carefree business types watch sports at the bar. As for cleanliness, Chili's does quite well. The tables are always wiped clean with disinfectant and any spills are quickly mopped up. The bathrooms are sanitary as well. The Chili's staff is always polite, and treats you with respect.

The menu features mild versions of Lone Star favorite from double basted baby back ribs, and steak fajitas, to big mouth burgers and deep fried onions. You can also select chicken, grilled shrimp, fish and more. Also, if you want to eat healthy, Chili's has section on its menu dedicated to healthy foods. Just be sure to save room for dessert.

Chili's is an affordable restaurant, but the food is still genuinely good. Usually, the prices will hover around nine dollars per entrée, and about six dollars for appetizers. The more expensive meal as at Chili's are their famous ribs, so avoid them if you are on a budget. Still, the ribs aren't too bad at around fourteen dollars.

Chili's is a favorite to fall back on because it's so versatile and original. One down side is that they are pretty much set up the same and if you've been to one Chili's you've been to them all. Chili's is a great restaurant to eat, no matter what the occasion may be and I have a feeling they will be around a long time.

Jimmy's

By: Jessica Wittersheim

Jimmy's serves a variety of food like burgers, steak, Quesadillas, and more. The restaurant is between fast food and fine dining. It's located in a nice neighborhood near the Mint Hill Library. When I went in, the environment was great. It had very warm colors, crimson red vinyl seats, and a creamy white wallpaper with a wooden wall half way down. There were pictures of flowers and landscapes all over the wall. There were no noisy customers; actually, there were not many people at all, as the place is quite new. I felt almost at home there.

It was a very sanitary restaurant and the bathrooms were spotless. When the menu came, my mouth watered and I was overwhelmed with choices. They offered appetizers galore, chips and dip, onion rings, and so much more. They have main courses like no other, sandwiches, burgers, Mexican, and kid's meals for the little ones. I chose the Hot and Spicy Quesadilla served with salsa and sour cream. The portions were huge, and I had enough for lunch the next day.

When I was ready to eat, the waiter came quickly and she was easily attracted to my table. She was well informed about everything I needed to know. She came quickly with our drinks, but our food was a bit slow. I knew that also meant that they took a little more time trying to make it taste good, rather than to come fast. When I was finished with my meal, the table was cleared right away and the bill came promptly.

Jimmy's is better than most restaurants I've been to. It is a good place birthdays and large groups because it has plenty of room and the waiters come and sing to you. The price range is from three dollars all the way up to thirty five dollars for the finer menu choices. I recommend Jimmy's if you don't want fast food, but you don't want to spend hundreds of dollars on a delicious meal.

Our Two Cents Worth Real Answers to Real-life Questions

A friend of mine let me listen to a song on his mp3 player. I really liked the song, and can't get the tune out of my head. The band is awesome, and the lyrics to this song are really great. But when I listened to some of the other songs by the same band, I was shocked by the lyrics. They glorified drugs, sex, and even used foul language. I found out that I can download a single song to my mp3 player without having to buy the entire album. I was thinking I would just buy the song I like. Some of my Christian friends say that I would be supporting the band and everything they stand for even if I listen to the one song that is ok. Is it ok to listen to a band that isn't Christian, if I choose only the songs that aren't bad?

*Yours Truly,
Torn About Tunes*

Dear Torn About Tunes,

I have had the same problem, people will think it is bad because by buying "some" songs it is still supporting the secular band. But there are secular bands with good uplifting songs.

The downfall of it all is that you are still supporting a band that is not of Christ. By doing this, it encourages secular ideas and gives that band profits to keep going. If the band glorifies drugs, sex, and is using bad language, that right there should answer your question. You don't want to encourage something that degrades women, makes it sound like drugs are ok to use and that it is no big to deal to use bad words. The more you listen to such things, the more you think, "Well, if they did it, it must be ok." Then you will start doing the same and not even realize it after a while.

I think you should not listen to it, because by buying the song, you are supporting this secular band. Your Christian friends are right. Just stick to Christian music, or even uplifting secular music.

I hope everything works out for you and you make the right choice. Pray about it and remember, as Christians, we represent Jesus.

Sincerely,
Just Ask Julia



Above: Mrs. Rush's Effective Communication class in deep thought

Dear Torn About Tunes,

As we get older, we start to face challenging decisions that we didn't have to face before. It's ok that you're torn and confused about a song. Just because the band of this new song you like isn't Christian, it doesn't mean that all bands are like them, and it doesn't make you a bad person.

You can't have it both ways, and you can't just change your standards for one song. If you start to do this now, you might continue and start getting lighter on your song choices until you are listening to the types of songs that do glorify drugs and use bad language. If you let up for this one song, you're going to start heading down a slippery slope.

Obviously, the best kind of music we can listen to is that which praises and glorifies God. There are a lot of Christian musicians out there, spanning nearly every genre, available to the secular market. There is nothing wrong with any particular style of music. But if secular music leads you to get involved in something that does not glorify God, then you should avoid it. Maybe you can find a Christian artist who plays the style you like.

I'm not going to tell you to never listen to anything non-Christian, but just be careful. Remember Proverbs 4:23 "Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it."

Blessings,
Priscilla's Perspective

Dear Torn About Tunes,

The Doctor is in, and I am here to help you. It sounds like you really liked the first song, but you have mixed feelings after hearing the other songs. Your friend's advice about not downloading the song must make you feel odd and creepy inside. You must feel confused about what you should do about the issue.

Listening to that music gives a bad impression of who you are, and others will notice. It also sounds like the band supports the wrong things. Listening to this music might encourage you to start doing the immoral things they are talking about, so you have to be really careful.

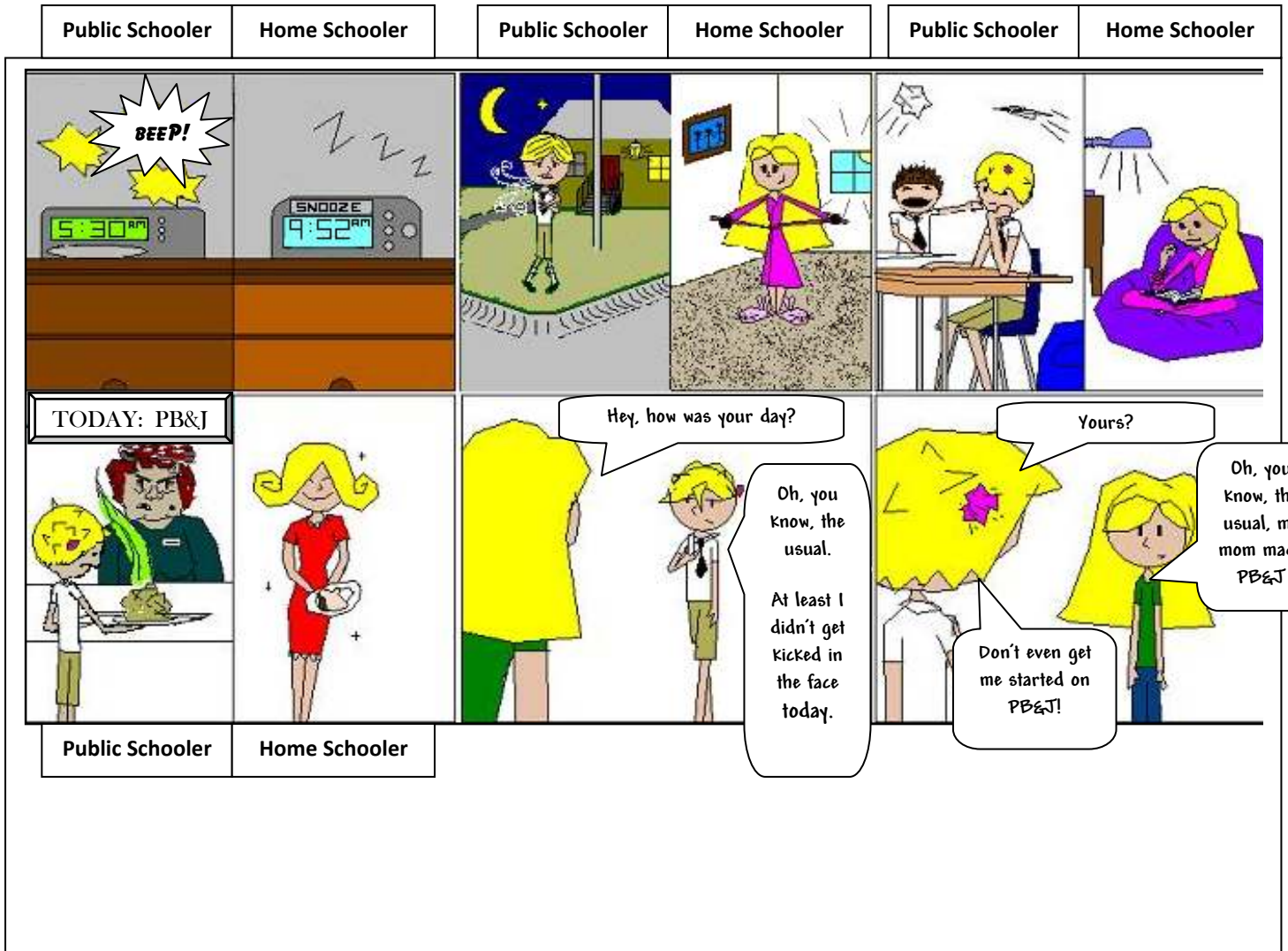
Try listening to one of your Christian friend's music. You might like it. Another thing you can try is spending more time with your Christian friends. That might resolve the case. Maybe they could help you find music that you like, but without the foul language.

Always try to do what you think is right. When you are done with the situation, you will feel like a better person. You never know, maybe you might help someone else in the future who has the same problem.

With love,
Eric, The Doctor

A Day in the Life

By: Jessica Wittersheim



"I never teach my pupils; I only attempt to provide the conditions in which they can learn."
 -- Albert Einstein

"To educate a man in mind and not in morals is to educate a menace to society."
 --Theodore Roosevelt



Above: Mrs. Lillie shares a chuckle with her writina class.



Above: Drama students get into character backstage before the Christmas play

We Hear Ya!

TLC Times staffer, Priscilla Carpenter, polled TLC students the following questions and here are your responses.

Are you returning to TLC next year?

Yes	90%
No	10%

Do you liked being home schooled?

Yes	85%
No	15%

Which of the following classes would you like to see TLC offer?

Band	2%
Art	10%
Foreign Language	78%



Homeschool Humor

Compiled by Jessica Rush

If you're a homeschooler and you don't mind laughing at yourself for being one, then you will love these.

You Know You're A Homeschooler If...

1. You have to move dirty laundry off your desk before you can study.
2. Your school bus is a nine-passenger van.
3. You consider school work after lunch to be cruel and unusual punishment.
4. Your social life is viewed by others to be one step below that of a Benedictine monk.
5. Your father has ever told you to tell the checkout lady at Wal-mart, "We're on a fieldtrip."
6. Your yearbook is also your baby book.
7. Your teacher has ever written your report card on a napkin.
8. Your first real date is on your honeymoon.
9. The only bell that rings at your school is the telephone.
10. You think *Anglo Saxon* is a math textbook.
11. Your school planner has a column entitled, 'chores.'
12. Your teacher has attended school in her pajamas.
13. Your kitchen table serves as a lab, supply center, work area, and, occasionally, a place to eat.
14. You shop for back to school clothes in your sibling's hand-me-down pile.
15. You have to stop and think when asked, "What grade are you in?"

TLC Times Staff

Top Row Left to Right: Jessica Rush, Julia Allen, Jessica Wittersheim, Priscilla Carpenter

Bottom Row Left to Right: Eric Middleton, Mrs. Ptacek, Caleb Goulet