

# Stay Young, SHS

By Sam Strizver

When you're young, you conquer kingdoms in the confines of a playground, create brilliant stories out of a pile of dolls, and cook masterpiece entrées using nothing but your fingers and a multi-colored mound of Play-Doh. The world is a place of endless adventure and life when you're a child. It is also a world that can't last forever, and when it's gone, it's *really* gone. Time has no mercy on us in such a universe as this one.

However, before looking back at your childhood and wishing it could resurface, stop and answer me this question. Is your childhood really over? The answer is no. Until you're able to legally buy a few beers and your favorite adult magazine to enjoy wherever you've ended up, you're still technically a child. And the life of a child is one of exquisite experimentation and excitement! So why not change the word *technically* to *happily*?

We teenagers, including myself, feel the future of adulthood creeping up on us, ready to swallow us down into the abyss of responsibility; of paying bills, and finding a steady job. So we do what we think will help quell our



Photo By: Tsering Yangzom

worries, we embrace adulthood. We drink the “grown-up drink,” we smoke the “grown-up smoke,” and at the same time there's an essay due for Sophomore English on Friday. This editorial is not an anti-drug sermon; not at all. Rather, this is a warning to my fellow students. A warning asking for you all to not embrace the “mature” ways of life so quickly, and to stop and soak up whatever ounce of childhood you've got left!

I'm not telling you to go hang out on a playground and play “pretend,” for that type of activity can't stimulate the average high-schooler's mind. Instead of thinking of a party as a drinking binge, think of it as a time to laugh and get to know people. I know these things don't seem like aspects of a youthful lifestyle, but we are still children, and everything about us is still youthful as long as we don't try to embody what we think is a mature adult.

Save the glorious drunken nights (and horrid hangover mornings) for later in life if that's your thing; right now, just smile and enjoy yourself and your surroundings. You are precious, and every phase in life you go through is precious as well. Don't attempt to speed up the wonders of life just to get to the other side - slow down, take a worthwhile glance at the view, and I promise from the bottom of my heart that things will be okay.

## What's Color Got to do With It?

By Leah Hazen



Photo By: Tsering Yangzom

Nothing angers me more than when race is brought into an irrelevant situation. In today's society, we talk about how we oppose racism and are against segregation, yet here comes an article going against all we have been brought up knowing. In the Stamford Advocate's recently published

article *Fair Punishment?* Maggie Gordon basically calls out the Stamford High and Westhill staff for being racist when suspending students for insubordination. She gave statistics showing the number of students per race suspended from each school, yet didn't include the *total number* of students of each race in each school.

This article is completely ludicrous, as it also tries to point out that

Westhill students sit segregated at lunch; a “fact” that has been twisted to support her claim. Yes, it is

true that some students may sit with those of the same race as themselves, but there is no guideline mandating this. You sit with your friends regardless of color and the Advocate should be ashamed for bringing race into the matter for absolutely no reason.

What angered me the most was that notion that race was the reason for these suspensions, when clearly behavior was the real cause. I wish Gordon had understood, prior to writing these false accusations, that Stamford's diversity makes it remarkable

place to grow up. The reason my parents raised me here was for that very reason. From living in this area with a mix of ethnicities and cultures, I've grown up colorblind, just like the majority of my classmates and peers at Stamford High and Westhill. We do not judge someone based on their skin color, but obviously that's all Gordon saw.

We need to get out of the past and stop living in a world where we believe that everything leads back to race!

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It is possible for some students just misbehave regardless of their race. How can you tell students of my

generation to treat those of all skin colors the same, if the generation before us can't let go of a topic that does nothing but tear us all apart? I don't look at my classmates and see

skin color; I see human beings and respect them as such. This article from the Stamford Advocate did nothing but push society backwards, and we can't allow it to be seen as

the truth when we, as the students, know it is anything but.

## Grim Prediction for the Buffett Rule

By Joanna Ksiazek

Throughout the end of January, there was quite a bit of stir regarding Obama's Buffett Rule. As fantastic of a proposal as this may be, the real question at hand is whether or not a serious initiative will be made to make it an official part of our changing tax law. Though the president and Warren Buffett, one of the wealthiest





men in the world, are giving the Rule their full support, it is highly unlikely that the bill will be passed in the next year or two.

With the majority of Congress being Republican, a group which is notorious for trying to keep taxes low for the wealthy, the Buffett Rule will definitely be vetoed time and time again.

What needs to happen though, is for both parties to set aside their own agendas and make a move in favor of the common good. If investments of the wealthy were taxed at the same rate as their income, then the country will have more money to repay our creditors and for the use of public services.

## New Phone Comparison

By Darnell Morris

	
	
<p><b>My Touch</b></p>	<p><b>Samsung Galaxy S II Skyrocket</b></p>
<p><b>Pros</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Long battery life</li> <li>• Comes with QWERTY keyboard</li> <li>• 4G network</li> <li>• Great camera</li> <li>• Wi-Fi compatible</li> <li>• Very durable</li> <li>• Excellent for playing music</li> <li>• Speakerphone works great</li> <li>• Unlimited data plans</li> <li>• Free with two-year contract</li> <li>• Available in white</li> </ul>	<p><b>Pros</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lightweight</li> <li>• 4.5 inch display screen</li> <li>• 4G Network</li> <li>• 8 megapixel camera with LED flash</li> <li>• 2 megapixel front-facing camera</li> <li>• Easy to text</li> <li>• Choice of three keyboards</li> <li>• \$149.99 with two-year contract</li> <li>• Internal memory up to 16GB</li> <li>• Expandable memory up to 32GB</li> <li>• Available in white</li> </ul>
<p><b>Cons</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Difficult to use</li> <li>• No camera flash</li> <li>• Battery gets hot quickly</li> <li>• Volume not loud enough</li> <li>• \$279.99 without two-year contract</li> </ul>	<p><b>Cons</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only certain cities get 4G network</li> <li>• Sensitive buttons</li> <li>• Randomly freezes</li> <li>• Short battery life</li> <li>• No unlimited data plans</li> <li>• Cheap plastic</li> <li>• Bulky</li> <li>• \$499.99 without contract</li> </ul>