



ACE: TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME

written by: Ms. Cherrell Sipes, Junior

On November 9, 2005 ACE mentors and participants toured the new Cardinal Baseball Stadium. Eric Romano from HOK Architectural Firm took us through the dugout, player's lounge, and private clubs, concession stands, and up 120 feet to the highest seats in the stands. The new stadium will provide more accessible seating for patrons. There is also a kid's corner and pavilion for children who get restless during a baseball game. There were plenty of safety precautions taken in order for the ACE participants to tour the site.

Shirts had to be tucked in, safety glasses had to be worn as well as hard hats and boots because

It was cool to see Interstate 64, which is approximately 30 feet from the new stadium.



Students view different parts of the new stadium while Eric Romano from HOK explains various aspects of each new feature.



Another point of interest was the wrecking of the current Busch Stadium. A quarter of the stadium will be craned in for the new area of the infield.

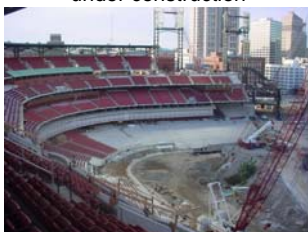
safety is a very important matter in the construction industry.

The current stadium's field is ten feet higher than the new stadium. The air ducts inside have a system where the air is released from the top of the stadium. Participants tried out some of the seating and maybe on "opening day" they can get back to that section.

Construction Careers Center ACE participants were very privileged to get a tour of the stadium while it is still under construction and are very grateful to mentors for making this happen for their group.



Entrance to the new stadium "under construction"



A birds-eye view of the new seating in the stadium



In this Issue:

<i>From the Administrator</i>	2
<i>Early Dismissal Days</i>	2
<i>Civil Engineering Internships</i>	2
<i>Peer Conflict Management</i>	2
<i>Calendar of Upcoming Events</i>	3
<i>JAG Students Visit Washington D.C.</i>	4
<i>MAP Testing</i>	4
<i>Sweetheart Dance</i>	4
<i>Bobcat Den News</i>	5
<i>Harris-Stowe State Sponsor Mr. McAfee</i>	5
<i>Jr./Sr. Parent Night</i>	6
<i>Alumni Christmas Gathering</i>	6
<i>Prom Announcement</i>	6
<i>Homecoming Update</i>	6
<i>Parent Conference & Bar-B-Cue</i>	6

FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

Dear CCC Students, Parents and Guardians,

As we close out 2005 and look forward to 2006, I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving, Christmas and wish each of you a Happy New Year. Having my daughter in from college and "taking a break" is just what I needed.

The CCC Student Government, AGC of St. Louis and private donors provided going away Christmas goodie bags for the students. Each bag had a warm pair of gloves so students can stay warm during their cold walks from the Metro stop. The gifts are very appreciated, many thanks to all those who donated!

As we start our second semester, it is important to remind your student to stay focused. During after school enrichment, three teachers will be assigned to stay after school to tutor students. Have your student take advantage of this program especially if their grades have slipped. Contact Mr. Wilson if you have any questions at extension 102.

Dr. Michael Musick

EARLY DISMISSAL DAYS

written by: Dr. Michael Musick

Recently we added early dismissal days for our students to allow for Professional Development Workshops for CCC faculty. We hope in the long run it will pay dividends for our students' achievement. The following are additional professional development days for CCC faculty: Friday February 17 and Thursday, March 2, 2006. There will not be school for students on either of these dates. Depending on the number of snow days we may have, the following dates are tentative professional development days for faculty and class will not be held for students: Thursday April 6, Friday April 14, Friday May 12, Thursday June 1, and Thursday June 15, 2006.

CIVIL ENGINEERING INTERNSHIPS

Written by: Ms. Gwen Crimm

During the 2004-2005 school year Ms. Marjorie Melton, President of the Board of Public Service for the City of St. Louis visited Ms. Crimm, CCC Student Placement Coordinator. Ms. Melton inquired about the school and what she could do to assist with its success. She agreed to arrange for two students possessing an interest in civil engineering from CCC to intern with the City of St. Louis Civil Engineering Department. Mr. Guasto, Internship Supervisor, and Ms. Crimm arranged for four students to be interviewed by the City of St. Louis.

Through the interview process, Nicholas Conner and Matthew Marshall were selected as candidates to work with the department. Prior to the start of their internship, Ms. Crimm visited the site and was impressed to find they would each have a cubicle, computer, telephone and one intern has a window with a view. CCC is very pleased to have such an opportunity. Likewise, Ms. Melton has expressed there will be other internship opportunities for CCC students in the future.

PEER CONFLICT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

written by: Dr. Michael Musick

Recently a Peer Conflict Mediation program was organized for CCC students. The goal is to have students help other students resolve disputes and arguments before they turn violent. In the first weeks of the program it has received excellent feedback from our students. Mr. Wilson and Mr. McMahan are the sponsors of the program. If you have any questions, you may contact Mr. Wilson at extension 102, or Mr. McMahan at extension 147.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	ED	PR	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	H	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

February	2	Early Dismissal (1:00 p.m.)
February	3	Midterm Progress Reports for Term 3
February	7	Ms. Robyn Wahby – Executive Educ. Asst. Mayor Slay’s Office
February	8	ACE Mentoring Meeting
February	9	P.T.O. Meeting (6:30 p.m. – Cafeteria Annex)
	9	Open House (6:30 p.m. – Cafeteria Annex)
February	11	Sweet Heart Dance (Cafeteria 6:30 – 10:00 p.m.)
February	13	Girls JV Basketball – Roosevelt
February	14	Big Brothers Big Sisters Mentor Meeting (7:30 a.m. Annex)
February	16	Boys JV/Varsity Basketball Gateway Christian
February	17	Professional Development (no students)
February	20	Holiday – President’s Day (no school)
February	22	ACE Mentoring Meeting
February	23	School wide Black History Program
February	28	Dr. Creg Williams, Superintendent Tour St. Louis Public Schools

MARCH

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	ET	11
12	NTB	14	15	16	17	18
19	SB	SB	SB	SB	SB	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

March	8	ACE Mentoring Meeting
March	9	P.T.O. Meeting (6:30 p.m. – Cafeteria Annex)
March	10	End of Term
March	13	Term 4 Begins
March	13-17	MAP Math Blitz
March	14	Big Brothers Big Sisters Mentor Meeting (7:30 a.m. Annex)
March	15	Field Trip - AGC-Construction Craft Laborers Training Facility in High Hill, MO
March	20-24	Spring Break (no school)
March	22	ACE Mentoring Meeting
March	27-31	MAP Math Blitz

APRIL

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	PD	15
16	17	18	19	20	PR	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

April	4-7	MAP Testing
April	11-12	MAP Make-up Days
April	11	Big Brothers Big Sisters Mentor Meeting (7:30 a.m. Annex)
April	12	ACE Mentoring Meeting
April	21	Midterm Progress Reports for Term 4
April	24-28	WorkKeys Blitz
April	27	ACE Mentoring Meeting
Anril	28	MAP Testing Ends

2004-2005 YEARBOOKS ON SALE!

written by: Ms. Erica Snelson

The 2004-2005 Yearbook, the First of Its Kind, is now on sale at the reduced price of \$25.00. This yearbook will be the only one ever that has photos all from the first four years that CCC has been opened. Grab one and capture the moments from years past!!! See Ms. Snelson for details.

ET – End of Current Term **ED – Early Dismissal** **H – Holiday** **NS – No School**
NTB – New Term Begins **PC – Teacher Work Day/Parent Conference** **PR – Progress Report**
PD-Professional Development Day **SB-Spring Break**

JAG Students Attend National Leadership Conference in Washington D.C.

written by: Mrs. Olivia Langendoerfer

During December, ten delegates from Missouri attended the National Jobs for America's Graduates Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C. Victoria Berry, a junior, represented the Construction Careers Center and was supervised by Mrs. Tommie Pillars, Specialist from Riverview Gardens High School. The State Director, Mrs. Pat McBride from Jefferson City, led the Missouri Delegation.

Participating students took part in team building and leadership sessions and gained knowledge and information to share with their JAG Career Associations. The students and specialists were guests at formal luncheons and dinners attended by senators and governors from states affiliated with JAG, and even Miss America.



The students participated in a number of tours including Arlington National Cemetery, Washington National Cathedral, Embassy Row, the World War II Memorial, the Lincoln Monument, and Kennedy Center to name a few.

Victoria participated in a talent show that followed the awards dinner and closing ceremony. This was unique experience for her. Victoria will be giving presentations by request for Black History month at CCC. If you notice from the picture, Victoria is standing where Dr. King gave his famous speech... "I Have A Dream".

PREPARATION FOR MAP TESTING

written by: Mrs. Shelly Stidmon

MAP testing will be conducted March 13 through April 28, 2006 at Construction Careers Center. Sophomores will be tested on their mathematic skills and juniors will be tested in Communication Arts/English. The MAP test is given each year to CCC sophomores and juniors to assess the education development of both the individual student and the school as a whole.

CCC Administration requests the parents assist their student by ensuring they arrive at school promptly each day and encourage their student to do their very best on the assessment.



THE BOBCAT DEN IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS!

written by: Mrs. Nancy Remaklus

The Bobcat Den is in full operation. There is a stock of shirts, pants, belts, and sweatshirts. There is a selection in all sizes except 3X shirts. The supplier is having difficulty in finding 3X shirts at the \$6.00 price.

Shirts are \$6.00 Pants, \$5.00 Belts, \$2.00 Sweatshirts, \$5.00
There is a limited supply of \$5 sweatshirts, and the price will go up to \$6 or \$7.

Embroidered shirts are available also. Students can get the school logo or Bobcat mascot and their name on a shirt for only \$16 including the price of the shirt. These are special orders and must be paid for in advance. It usually takes a week to get it back. There is also a full line of school supplies including folders, spiral notebooks, filler paper, pens, pencils, etc. In addition to school supplies, the Bobcat Den also carries small gift items and cards that students can purchase for birthdays and special occasions. Most of these items are \$1 or less. Please contact Mrs. Remaklus at Ext. 103 if there are questions.

HARRIS STOWE STATE COLLEGE AGREES TO SPONSOR MR. MCAFEE

written by: Mrs. Shelly Stidmon



Harris Stowe State College has agreed to sponsor Mr. Juan McAfee for a trip to the Sigma Tau Delta annual convention in Portland, Oregon. Mr. McAfee submitted a group of poems titled "Crackhead" and has been selected to present them at their convention being held March 29 through April 1, 2006.

Tentatively, the convention activities will begin on Wednesday, March 29th with readings from the society's publication. The following day, those chosen will present their work. The days following the convention's annual opening will be broken into reading sessions 75 minutes long and will consist of four to six presenters each session. The awards banquet will close the convention on April 1, 2006.

Sigma Tau Delta is an international English Honor Society of which Mr. McAfee is a member. Mr. McAfee graduated from Chicago's Columbia College in 1986 with a degree in Liberal Arts. Currently, he attends Harris Stowe State University and is scheduled to graduate in 2007 with his Secondary Education Certification in English.

Mr. Juan McAfee began at Construction Careers Center as a substitute teacher in 2003. That autumn, he became a full-time instructor. Mr. McAfee currently teaches Applied Communications II and III, American Literature and Journalism. He is the CORO Leadership Coordinator as well as a member of the CORO Steering Committee. After the Sigma Tau Delta conference, Mr. McAfee has agreed to write about his experience for the next issue of the Blueprint. Following is an excerpt of the submission to Sigma Tau Delta by Mr. McAfee.

Stardate Number 102264.042936

This is not a poem...this is peanut butter and jelly...smooth or crunchy...grape or strawberry...two slices of bread pressed together...This is not a poem

This is a photo album...baby pictures...cracked at the edges...too old to make out...that's the picture of me when I was ten...dressed in my Easter suit...It was warm that day so the fabric is light...and it does not fit me now...that was a long time ago

This is not a sonnet...though it sounds like a ballad...Living for the City... a whole sonic experience from Stevie...My Girl...bringing sunshine on a cloudy day...unconstrained style by The Temptations...Midnight Train to Georgia...Gladys, Gladys, Gladys ...R-e-s-p-e-c-t...find out what it means to me...Aretha with such depth and talent...Ain't No Mountain High Enough to keep me from you...Diana, intimate and familiar...no this is not a sonnet

This is a mother's purse...smelling of perfume and juicy fruit...This is fifty cents: "Buy your lunch today"...This is a chair at the kitchen table..."Don't leave your sit until you eat all your food"...feeling your sweet breath and soft kiss on my forehead..."Good night sweet dreams, Baby"...happy when I remember you..."Mother, I love you"... "I love you, too, Chile"

This is not a poem...No...It is the ticket of admission to the road we have traveled...It is a prayer...I pray the Lord my soul to keep...This is life...endless and circular...This is the Black mother...proud, lovely, and generous to the end.....

Brown and round...black and thin hair...eyes...lips...singing like morning doves...working outside the house...praying inside the church...giving...teaching...loving...answering me always

This is a rose...that we placed on your Grave...the 12th of December...All your sons and daughters that you've had...we came to see you one last time...We are here and we will follow

This is about life...all those years past...count them one by one...Let's remember

JUNIOR/SENIOR PARENT NIGHT

written by: Dr. Michael Musick

The CCC PTO will be sponsoring a Jr./Sr. parent night on Thursday, March 15 at 6:30 p.m. The program will include information about graduation, job placement expectation, college entrance and what your son or daughter can expect during the last few months of the 2005-2006 school year. Food will be available and door prizes given out!

ALUMNI CHRISTMAS GATHERING

written by: Ms. Gwen Crimm

The Class of 2005 had their first gathering since graduation at the Construction Training School December 17, 2005. There were decorations, good food and door prizes. The showstopper was '05 graduate Calvin Miller arriving in a "pink sports coat, sprinkled with green flamingos." They discussed current events in their lives and plenty of food. Refreshments for the evening were provided by the Construction Training School and MOKAN.

ATTENTION ALL STUDENTS

written by: Mrs. Sybil Morgan

Prom is scheduled for Friday, May 12, 2006. Attendance at school is required on that day, or students *will not* be allowed into prom. This is an early dismissal day so students should have plenty of time to get ready for prom after the school day ends. Because of the time constraints, dinner will be served at the prom, which will be held at Lemp Grand Hall (near the intersection of Lemp and Cherokee). Watch the BluePrint and the website for more details.

HOMECOMING

written by: Dr. Michael Musick

Homecoming was a wonderful event. We sold over 140 tickets and the students came early and stayed late. We had 6 parents and 12 faculty members help at the dance. I was asked numerous times, 'How does it compare?' It doesn't. I loved every minute of it; the decorations, the music and most importantly the students who were so well behaved. Thanks to everyone who made this a successful event!

PARENT CONFERENCE NIGHT & STUDENT GOVERNMENT BAR-B-Q

written by: Dr. Michael Musick

We had over 100 parents at our conference night. A new record! It was encouraging to see so many parents lined-up outside classroom doors to talk to the teachers. This event was held the evening of the Student Government Bar-B-Q. Kym Tolman, Jed Shields and the students did an outstanding job organizing this successful event. One parent commented that the BBQ and the parent conferences being held together made the night feel like a family event.