

## Mr. Fremd puts the 'fun' in fundraising

Maggie Zhang  
Features Editor

Crowning a new Mr. Fremd was the featured event last week as junior and senior boys competed head-to-head to raise money for charity.

The annual Mr. Fremd pageant revolves around collecting donations for a charity picked by Student Council.

"Mr. Fremd was different this year because we picked a local charity, Youth Hunger Opposition in Palatine (YHOP), to make our donations toward," student council sponsor Amanda Schmidt said.

Each contestant received three cans to collect money for one week. The judges handed off a check worth more than \$3,000 to the YHOP founder, senior Kellie Kinsella, at the end of the show. Senior Nick Addison was declared the winner of Mr. Fremd, securing his prize of free tickets to prom. Senior Evan Morris was runner-up and received free post-prom tickets.

Although they had their fair share of fun, Schmidt acknowledges the contestants do have responsibilities.

"It is a pretty big commitment, and this year it was especially difficult because many of the contestants had conflicts with spring sports," Schmidt said. "They raise money for about a month, pick their attire for each event and spend time putting their talent together."



Logue photo by Becky Poynter  
**FRANKLY YOURS.** Senior JJ Espinoza amuses audience members with his hot dog act for the talent portion.

## Soloists and orchestra ready to shine in Concerto Aria

Kayley Slezak  
Contributing Writer

Think of it as the school's version of *American Idol*.

The symphony orchestra is presenting a Concerto Aria with four soloists, but what most people don't know is a selective contest chooses these featured musicians.

In January, the music teachers held a concerto competition, open to any sophomore, junior or senior musician in band or orchestra. Judged by the music department faculty, the winners of the competition became the soloists for the concert.

Orchestra director Marla Caballero says picking soloists is always a challenge.

"Every year, we as a music department faculty have the privilege of listening to all of the talented musicians who enter into the competition. It gets more and more difficult to select the top three or four soloists, and this year was no different," Caballero said. "These are extremely gifted musicians."

Junior Patrick Kennedy said that when he picked "Rhapsody in Blue"

by George Gershwin, he knew he had his work cut out for him.

"I've been practicing 'Rhapsody' for almost a year now. It's 46 pages, all of which needed to be memorized, and about 20 minutes long," Kennedy said.

Each soloist is excited to perform his or her piece during the concert.

"I'm looking forward to every aspect of it—performing with the wonderful orchestra, acting out the song I'm singing, and the rush of performing in front of an audience," senior Emily Blair said.

Kennedy anticipates developing the musical expression of his selection to its full potential and says he looks forward to adding his personal touch and interpretation to "Rhapsody."

"I'm excited to hear how the orchestra, Mrs. Caballero and I will all work together to really express something beyond the notes on the page," Kennedy said. "The piece has such a distinct character to it—the contrasts are bold and the themes are memorable."

Senior Sarah Finegan hopes participating in the concert will help

### Concerto Aria Soloists

**Emily Blair** (vocal)  
"Habanera" from *Carmen*

**Sarah Finegan** (flute)  
"Concertino" by Chaminade

**Patrick Kennedy** (piano)  
"Rhapsody in Blue" by Gershwin

**Daniel Brotzman** (piano)  
"Piano Concerto No. 1" by Grieg

her pursue her dream of becoming a high school band director.

"I have such a big passion for music and teaching that I feel this [job] would be a good fit for me," Finegan said. "Being a drum major for the marching band and an intern with the concert band has given me a lot of good experience and has helped me learn more about what it takes to be a high school band director."

The Concerto Aria will be held at 7 tonight in the auditorium. The concert is free of charge and open to students, faculty and family.

## Gymnasts and coach lead Wrigley fans during seventh inning stretch

Sean Leahy  
Editor-in-Chief

The seventh inning stretch at Wrigley Field has become as respected a ritual as any in major league sports. On April 3, the dream of leading a raucous Wrigley crowd in song came true for some of Fremd's own.

Senior gymnasts Mary Burke and Eliza Grosshauser were joined by coach Jim Guest in singing "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" in recognition of the team's state championship this past February.

"It was amazing just to be able to do something like that. Not a lot of people get to do that," Burke said. "I was shaking right before I went. It was really nerve wracking."

Burke took the lead when she broke out into "Alright, Cubs fans, let me hear you!" and then the three led the crowd at Wrigley Field.

The group enjoyed a pre-game trip to the field and

dugout while the Cubs warmed up. They then sat behind home plate and made their way up to the booth after the fifth inning.

"I was more excited than nervous," Grosshauser revealed. "It was more of a fun thing for me."

Guest said the opportunity to sing the stretch arose out of a "combination of connections," not the least of which included Burke's recent spot on WGN's Instant Replay.

In the interview, she revealed how much she would like to sing the stretch at a Cubs game. She got her wish before the Cubs' season was even a week old.

"The best part was being able to be in front of all those people and realizing that everyone is looking at you," Burke said.

To top off the whole experience, the Cubs won their first game of the season, putting away the Milwaukee Brewers 6-3.

"I think they should bring us back," Guest joked. "Especially in October."

## Race to the White House

The presidential race has pervaded television, newspapers and radio for the past several months with late night comedians taking shots at every



word they say. So when I heard one of the candidates was campaigning down the street from where I vacationed over spring break, I jumped at the chance to attend.

A Hillary Clinton rally probably would not be on my "top 10 things to do on vacation" list, but in Louisville, Kentucky, it's pretty much the main event.

The rally took place at DuPont Manual High School, which happened to be where my stepmom's brother works, so I thought I could get in the school quickly without waiting in an inevitably long, grueling line. No such luck! I arrived at 1 p.m. and had to wait outside for over two hours.

Although thousands of people attended, I was shocked there were no protesters outside. I assumed that since the race for the Democratic nomination was so close, there would be at least a few.

Of course, dozens of solicitors set up shop around the outskirts of the school selling t-shirts, hats and pins to raise money for the campaign. Now, I'm not really a Clinton supporter, but when you're standing outside in the cold, shiny things start to look pretty tempting to buy.

When the doors finally opened, I was able to get away with purchasing only a shirt. Not too much damage. This was when things began to get out of hand. Supporters wearing Hillary shirts and an excessive amount of pins screamed and shouted words of support and anticipation in my ears. Although people pushing and shoving me from all directions is not something I enjoy, I suppose it was to be expected.

What surprised me, though, was the lack of security. All attendees had to do was walk through a standard metal detector and hand over purses and bags to a security guard for inspection—but that was it. I have a pretty big purse, and there is no way that the guard inspected everything inside. I would think that security for a high-profile politician like the former First Lady would be tighter.

Once I arrived in the school gym and found my seat only a few feet away from the stage, I had to sit through two more exhausting, tedious hours of watching cheerleaders shout H-I-L-L-A-R-Y and listen to the school choir sing the national anthem a few hundred times. To top it all off, loud music pierced in the background as I waited for the main event. I felt like I was at a concert. My ears were ringing by the time everything was over.

For the sake of the news cameras that were set up, the coordinators of the event asked supporters in the gym bleachers to squish together to make the event appear more crowded than it actually was.

When Clinton finally appeared on the small, makeshift stage at 5 p.m. to make her speech, she immediately cleared the air that she was not planning to drop out of the race any time soon.

The issues she posed were the usual ones that we all hear day-in and day-out on the television: universal health care, a clean energy revolution, getting troops out of Iraq and dumping that pesky No Child Left Behind Act.

Clinton finished her speech and greeted screaming fans. As I was being trampled by supporters scrambling to get her autograph, I began to notice how tired and worn-down Clinton really looked.

Her voice was scratchy all through her speech, and she barely smiled when she willingly took pictures with crazy fans, which was understandable considering she just arrived from a rally in Indiana and was scheduled to attend the governor's dinner late that night.

Not only does Clinton have a crazy schedule, but her opponents, Barack Obama and John McCain, lead the same grueling lifestyles. They criss-cross the country and give those same speeches every single day while they deal with fans who will stop at nothing to get autographs. Although I survived the shoving, screaming and general hysteria of a political rally, it was a close call.

So, the next time I see candidates stumble over their words or hear them misspeak, I might think twice before I laugh about it at school.