

Person of Interest

Senior Gina Wei said she is a lover of all muffin types, a creative writing fanatic and a “go-with-the-flow” kind of girl.



photo by Megan McCormack

What's a special talent of yours?

“I really like to write, and I probably wouldn't be so interested or passionate about it if people hadn't pointed out that I was good at it when I was little, ...so I got this impression that maybe I'm good at this.”

What do you want to be remembered for your senior year by your classmates?

“[I want to be remembered as] someone who...stood out without consciously trying.”

What's one thing you can't do but wish you could?

“Ride a bike. I never learned how to ride a bike. My boyfriend promises me that we're going to go to Wal-Mart and he's going to teach me in the aisles.”

Describe yourself in one word or phrase.

“Marginally original because my name is in both of those words.”

What's your motto to live by?

“There's this one quote by Regina Spektor, 'None of it is part of a bigger plan, maybe I'm on a series of tangents the rest of my life.' So, I guess she's saying that not everything you do has to have this bigger purpose, you just have to go with whatever at the moment because that will lead you to where you're supposed to be.”

compiled by Megan McCormack



Students create blogs based on their own interests

Ian Howard | Staff Writer

Blogging, once “lamestream” media is now mainstream media, according to junior Vickie Shackelford. Shackelford writes her own personal blog, where she said she can operate in a realm of online interaction completely overshadowing of traditional social networking sites such as Facebook and Myspace.

“A couple of years ago, I thought blogging was really weird, just because people in TV shows who have blogs are weird, but it actually can be fun, and it's normal now to have blogs,” Shackelford said.

Blogging has not only become cool, but incredibly relevant, according to senior Andrew Morin. Morin started Musicandmor.blogspot.com, and later applied to become part of Allcitychessclub.net a site that gets 13,000 views a week.

“I definitely think blogging is increasing,” Morin said. “It's interesting because now people see blogging as a legitimate media source.”

According to junior English teacher Nathan Coates, blogging is a very useful tool in the classroom. By replacing traditional journal writing, blogging helps students extrapolate what they have learned into future years.

No matter what students are writing, they are constantly becoming better through experience and that is especially relevant in blogging, according to Coates.

“I think the more you write the better you can become at it,” Coates said. “And the more you write for an audience, then you always become better because you think a little bit more about what you're saying and if you're communicating clearly, and you care a little more about not making silly mistakes.”

Blogging can be just as well applicable to post-secondary education, according to senior Andrew Murray. Murray said



photo art by Jami Bechard

that he started Mursports.blogspot.com to share his passion for sports and his talent for making websites.

“I've always thought about blogging, but I didn't know exactly what I wanted to blog,” Murray said. “You see a lot of different people that have different kinds of blogs so, it's really increasing.”

Sophomore Meghan Harris said that she actually operates two personal blogs about two different topics. What is suitable for one is not suitable for the other, according to Harris.

“I have two [blogs],” Harris said. “One is just whatever I feel like writing about the other one is more about religion and all Young Life stuff and how it affects my life.”

Like Shackelford, Harris said that she finds Facebook too public an outlet to express the thoughts that she does on her blog.

“There [are] too many people to like judge you on it and your opinions wouldn't be as heard as much on Facebook,” Harris said. “I feel like I couldn't do it on Facebook because I'd be judged too harshly. I would have second thoughts.”

While it is more private than Facebook, according to Shackelford, the “everyone-in-the-world-is-watching” elements shared by blogging can be just as enchanting.

“I know that people I don't know are looking at [my blog] because I can see who likes the pages and they're no one I know, so, it makes me feel good that other people are actually looking up [my blog].”

Regardless of audience size, the reason to blog is self-satisfaction, according to Morin.

“I just enjoy it,” Morin said. “If I didn't enjoy it, there's no reason for me to do it. I wouldn't feel forced to do it.”