

Editorial Page

Television vs. Reading

By Taylor Chang

What's healthy, doesn't taste bad, and is a great way to spend time? The answer to this question is reading! I know it may sound icky to some students, but it's really fun and you learn a lot while doing it.

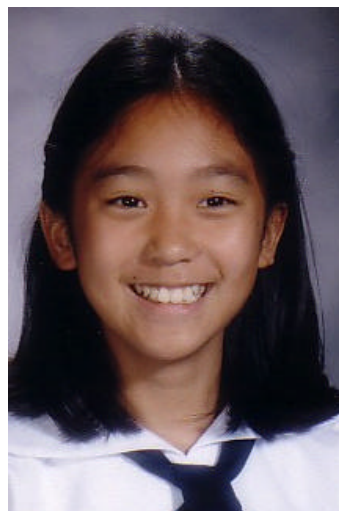
Now if I asked you, "What's more interesting, watching television or reading your favorite book?" lots of people might answer, "Watching television." However, reading is more educational. Well, I like watching television myself, but I also love reading because it gives me a better vocabulary and boosts my imagination for my own writing.

Some people may disagree with me and others may agree, but television is also a good thing. I say this because you could watch educational programs or it could just be a time to spend with your family members.

One very good example is with Kathy Beasley and her daughters, 6th grader Kate and 7th grader Jill Johnson. They watch the show *American Idol* together. They enjoy watching it and they learn more about each other's musical tastes each time.

Sharing a favorite book is also a good way to grow closer with family and friends. Maybe you don't have a favorite book. But if you do, when you read it, doesn't it make you have a tingly feeling inside? Personally, when I read my favorite book, which is *Time Stops for no Mouse*, I love reading it and it makes me feel really good that I have a book that I can read over and over that is so good.

So next time you and your friends are looking for something to do, think about sharing your favorite book or watching a television program together. You will probably learn something about each other and enjoy the experience even more than if you are by yourself.



Mystery



By Emani Decquir

Clues for this month's mystery teacher:

- His pet's middle name is Burton.
- His favorite vacation spot is Oahu.
- His favorite basketball team is the Lakers — whoops, he meant the Kings.

Last month's mystery photo was Mrs. Hoover retrieving a ball from the garbage dumpster.

Q&A

By Britta Swanson

The Brookfield Buzz recently interviewed Miss Hansen about literature.

Q: Who is your favorite author?

A: William Shakespeare is my favorite author, for his plays are timeless. Although he lived and wrote over 400 years ago, his works are still very relevant today.

Q: Do the students read any of his plays while at Brookfield?

A: Yes, they do. Students read *Romeo and Juliet*, as well as *Much Ado About Nothing*. Reading a comedy along with the classic tragedy offers a nice balance.

Q: Which of Shakespeare's plays is your favorite?

A: *The White Tale* is my favorite, as it is a beautiful story of redemption and forgiveness.

Q: What are some of the other books that students in the middle school read?

A: I like to concentrate on the classic works of literature. We read *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, *The Iliad*, *The Odyssey*, *The Red Pony*, and *Great Expectations* to name a few.

Q: Not all elementary schools require students to read over the summer. What are your thoughts on this subject?

A: I think that summer reading is a wonderful opportunity for students to enhance their education. Reading books helps a student to improve his or her vocabulary and greatly helps to improve a student's writing.