

# The Charger

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## Coming Soon: Goodbye Skittles, Hello Health!

BY ASHLEY B.

In November 2005, Governor Blagojevich asked the nine board members of the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) to ban junk food and pop in elementary and middle schools. On March 16th, 2006, they adopted these rules that were to have taken effect during the 2006 – 2007 school year.

“Good nutrition helps children attend school more regularly, behave better when they’re in school, and score better on tests,” said Governor Blagojevich. “But despite the obvious reasons to eat healthy, for children, the temptation to eat junk food can just be too great.”

Although their intentions were good, Blagojevich and ISBE didn't write the resolution clearly enough. "Junk food" and when it could be purchased from vending machines or served by lunch programs must be defined better. What exactly is "junk food"? Can kids buy it from machines after lunch?

### Fat Food = Fat Kids

Kids in America are getting fatter and unhealthier. Not just from the lack of exercise, but also from the foods they want to eat. But it's not just the school's fault. Parents must take responsibility too. They are the ones who give their children money

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*Some of the treats currently available in Peacock vending machines that may be GONE next year!*

Photographs by Steven A.

## A Fine Festival of Art by Peacock Students

BY JULIA W.

On Wednesday, April 19th, F. E. Peacock Middle School hosted its annual Fine and Applied Arts Show. This night was an opportunity to display many different kinds of student work from the Encore classes throughout the year. Starting at 6:00 p.m., students and their families were able to wander the halls of the school looking at artwork and projects and listen to choir and jazz band performances.

Over 500 pieces of artwork were mounted on the walls on every floor. Mrs. Dengler collected works from all three grades over the first, second, and third quarters, featuring winning entries in the Scholastic Art Contest. There were great varieties of displays: photographs, hand and circus drawings, painted landscapes, and more. Many are reprinted elsewhere in this issue.

The special feature of this exhibit was "The Peoples Choice" awards. As visitors

walked the halls enjoying the show, they cast ballots for their favorite artwork in each grade level. The winners were:

- Sixth Grade – first, Stephanie K.; second, Kate M.; third, Morgan B.
- Seventh Grade – first, Kristen G.;

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## A Fine Festival...

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second, Quinn O.; third, Elizabeth C.

• Eighth Grade – first, Dani D.; second, Max G.; third, Jennifer L.

Both the Jazz Band and the Peacock Chorus performed several musical numbers. Mr. Loest directed our prize-winning Jazz Band in four different styles: Latin, Funk, Swing, and Rock. The band has been having weekly rehearsals since the beginning of the year. They paid off with a very successful performance.

Mr. Travis directed the chorus in singing a Rock n' Roll medley from the 1950s through the 1990s. There were songs from Britain and across the U.S. After five weeks of rehearsal, the chorus and thirty-two soloists "rocked" the gymnasium.

Downstairs in the Family and Consumer Science room, Ms. Ahn and her students cooked up refreshments for the guests at the

show. The students prepared chocolate chip cookies, fudge, and blueberry muffins with punch to drink. The food was delicious and a hit of the night.

Ms. Smith's room was filled with various projects from the year: egg landers, maps, bridges, cars, rockets, and more. There was also a PowerPoint show displaying pictures of students in the classroom working on their projects, and space food samples (dehydrated fruits) for visitors to try. There was even an "astronaut" in the atrium pointing people towards the displays in the IT room which buzzed with people throughout the evening.

The Fine and Applied Arts Show was a huge success. It was great to see so many people in the community come see what Peacock students had created. This show is a great Peacock tradition that will always be a highlight of

the school year.



*The Peacock Chorus performed "Rock 'n' Roll, a Cross-Country Tour of America's Music" at the Fine & Applied Arts Show.*

## Winning Art on Display

Peacock Middle School art students in Itasca were recently awarded honors in the 2006 Scholastic Art Competition hosted by The Elmhurst Art Museum and sponsored regionally by The Elmhurst Art Museum and the West Suburban Region Consortium of High Schools and Middle Schools.

A jury of artists and art educators selected 600 art works from more than 2,000 entries to represent the West Suburban regional level of this nationally sponsored exhibit.

Congratulations to Peacock students for their achievements in the Visual Arts: Dani Dale for a Silver Key in drawing, Julia Wesley for a Silver Key in Photography, Daisy Rodriguez for an Honorable Mention in photography, Max Gordon for an Honorable Mention in photography, and Mia Santellano for an Honorable Mention in ceramics.

Their pieces were on display at The Elmhurst Art Museum from January 29 to February 10. It was an impressive show that also included videos, jewelry, and paintings from high school and middle school students in the West Suburban area.

The works of the Peacock winners are printed in this issue. Look for them, congratulate the winners, admire their creativity and skill, and be inspired for your own artistic future.

## Goodbye, Hello

continued from page 1

for lunch. Instead of using the money for a healthy lunch, students use it to buy candy and junk food. Also, the growing number of fast food places in America isn't helping the obesity problem at all!

Even the U.S. Congress is concerned. On May 3, Sen. Patrick Leahy announced that the country's major soda companies plan to end the sale of sodas in most schools within the next four years. This has already happened here at Peacock.

Mr. and Mrs. Perricone of Mars Services, the people who supply our vending machine

food, have been trying to give us healthier food for several years. Sometimes the kids eat it, sometimes they throw it away.

Mars has been putting in better alternatives to pizza and cheeseburgers – often with a free orange or apple in the same slot. This fruit is usually found in the lunchroom garbage cans.

"You should be aware of what levels of fat, sugar, and calories a snack food has and make the best decisions based on this," said Mrs. Perricone.

She added, "You are now old enough to make good decisions that have to do with better eating. Only you can change bad eating habits. If you don't do this no one can do it for you. Live healthier and live longer."

## The Charger

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## Meta Turkey...

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### Character profile

*Name:* Jinco

*Height:* 5 ft. 1 in.

*Weight:* 170 lbs.; 230 lbs. in super form; 300 lbs. when fused with Meta Turkey.

*Race:* Wolf

*Data:* Jinco is a wolf with incredible strength and speed. His origin is unknown.

\*\*\*

When he arrived on the planet there were a group of raptors waiting for him to land. The raptor guards charged him right away.

"You aren't my target," he said.

All of a sudden he was behind all of them and their limbs fell off. They collapsed and died.

"Sir, Jinco has defeated the squad of cyborgs we sent out for him," said a guard to Silver Trome.

"Heh, well isn't he a stubborn one," replied Silver Trome.

"S-sir!!!" yelled the guard. "His power surpasses even yours!!!"

"Heh, heh, ha, ha, HA, HA, HAAA!! YOU JUST WATCH!!!" said Silver Trome.

All of a sudden the guard collapsed at his feet.

"So, you've finally arrived," said Silver Trome.

"I'm going to kill you and end your reign," said Jinco.

"Save it until *after* you've killed me," replied the raptor king. Trome then pressed a button and floor started to rise.

"We're going to take this fight to the very top of this hundred-story tower," said Trome.

"Good! This way I can toss your dead body around after you fall off because I'll be sure to send you to Hell," replied Jinco.

When they arrived at the roof, they approached each other. They stared at each other for a minute and then Trome said, "Do it."

Jinco replied, "OK." BAM!!! Jinco's fist went *through* Silver Trome's stomach.

"GAAAAHHH!!!" screamed Trome.

"It's over," said Jinco.

Silver Trome was still screaming in pain. "GAAAAHHHH!!!!!!...JUST KIDDING," he said.

"What the...!" said Jinco.

All of a sudden Jinco's fist was repelled out of Trome's stomach. The hole that Jinco made then started to regenerate and was soon good as new.

"My body is made of hundreds of millions of nano bots," said Trome. "You may be strong, but that doesn't matter if you can't hurt me," he said.

Jinco said, "Well...then I'll just have to take out your entire body at once."

"Huh?" replied Trome.

A huge energy blast came from Jinco's mouth and hit Silver Trome point blank.

"GAAAAAAHHHHHHH!!!!!" screamed Trome. The blast almost destroyed the entire tower. When the smoke cleared, all that was left was a smoldering pile of ash.

"I did it; the threat is finally over," Jinco whispered to himself.

"Heh, heh, HA, HA, HA, HAAAAA!!!" laughed a voice.

"Huh?" said Jinco. *It-it can't be!!* he thought.

Trome's body regenerated and stood forth in front of Jinco.

"I'm unbeatable," said Silver Trome.

\*WHAM!!\* Silver Trome landed an uppercut punch right into Jinco's chest.

*I-I didn't even see him move* thought Jinco. So much force had been used that Jinco had been sent flying through the air.

"I c-can't move," he said.

"I hit you with just enough force to put your body in a huge state of shock," said Trome.

"D-damn," said Jinco. Jinco's body started to roll off the edge of the tower and it was a loooong way down.

"I'm not done with you yet!" yelled Trome as he picked up Jinco. He threw him into the air and kned him in the chest.

"URK!" yelled Jinco. "I can't win," he said

"This fight is over," said Trome. He grabbed Jinco and held him over the edge of the roof. "Bye, bye," whispered Silver Trome. He chucked Jinco's nearly lifeless body off the edge and watched as it slammed into the ground.

### Chapter 5: Ancient Memories

(Meta Turkey battles an old adversary and, not surprisingly, wins.)

### Chapter 6: The Great War

After finishing Jinco, Silver Trome stepped onto his sky deck. He gathered all the raptors to the center of the city.

"Creatures of Raptoria!!" he yelled. "One year from now we will invade the Turkey planet, and when we do...WE WILL DESTROY THEM ALL!!!!" Silver Trome shouted. "After we that, we will head to the center of the planet, AND THE ALL POWERFUL META STONE WILL BE MINE!!!!!" he yelled.

The raptors roared their cheers.

"Once I have the Meta Stone, not even Meta Turkey will be able to stop me," he whispered to himself.

Far off in the distance a voice said, "Ohhh Trome, you're so clueless..." For little did silver Trome know, someone *else* wanted the Meta Stone and he was watching Silver Trome's every move.

At that exact moment, Silver Trome snapped his head in the direction of where the voice had come. He hadn't heard it; he was just...feeling a little uneasy.

### Chapter 7: Arrival

"There!" yelled Meta Turkey. He was in sight of the planet.

"Full speed ahead!!!" he yelled.

Meta Turkey slammed into the planet and made a fairly large crater. When he climbed out, he used stealth camouflage. He snuck through the city and arrived at the castle.

Meta Turkey stared at it in amazement and said, "Wow...nice crib."

He heard someone call his name.

"Who's there?!" he said. He approached what looked like a dog.

"JINCO!! What happened?!" he yelled.

"D-don't fight him. H-he's too s-strong," said Jinco.

Meta Turkey knew who that certain *he* was.

"I'm still going to kill him right now anyway!" said Meta Turkey.

"N-no. You w-won't win," said Jinco.

Meta Turkey knew when Jinco was right or wrong, so he trusted him.

"OK," replied Meta Turkey. "We have to get back to my planet to heal you," he said. "Can you teleport us outta here?" he asked.

"Yeah, just enough energy left," replied Jinco.

### Will Jinco be healed?

Will they successfully join forces?

Will they make it back to Raptoria?

Will evil Silver Trome be vanquished?

And, most important of all...

who gets the drumstick at

Thanksgiving?

# 2006

## Itasca Police Department

### Youth Citizen Police Academy

#### **What is it?**

The Youth Citizen Police Academy is a week-long, interactive program designed to give participants a working knowledge of the Itasca Police Department. It is scheduled to meet for one week, June 19–23, Monday–Friday from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.

#### **Why?**

This program will give youths the opportunity to be exposed to the many different functions and roles of a Law Enforcement Officer. It will also give youths interested in a possible career in Law Enforcement an overview of the job.

#### **Goals of the Youth Police Academy**

Among the goals of the Youth Citizen Police Academy is to develop a future partnership with the members of the community. The Youth Citizen Police Academy is also designed to help community members better understand what their police officers do on a daily basis.

#### **What topics will be covered?**

Recruitment	Police Academy	Arrest Procedures
Use of Force	Procedural Traffic Stops	Hiring Process
Telecommunications	Tour of DuPage County Jail	Duty Belt
Canine Demonstration	Evidence Technicians – Crime Scenes	

#### **Who can attend?**

Participants must reside in the Village of Itasca, be between the ages of 13–17, and be of good moral character. All participants are subject to a background check.

#### **How to apply**

Complete an application (located in the F. E. Peacock school office or at the Police Department) by June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

#### **Return completed applications to:**

Itasca Police Department  
540 W. Irving Park Rd.  
Itasca, IL 60143

**Attention: Detective Jerry Ragusin (630) 773-1004**

# Take a Quick Climb into the Right Time to Rhyme

## A Poem

by Karli O.

I can't think of anything to write,  
But this has been a delight,  
So I hold my pencil tight  
And think of something good to write.

## Sun Shine

by Danielle B.

Sunshine, sunshine all around.  
All the sun will touch the ground.  
All the rose, lily, and tulip plants will grow.  
Fresh, cold water will smoothly flow.  
Sunshine, sunshine all around.

## Hockey

by Jake N.

Hockey is a sport,  
A sport that is rare.  
Some people don't play it  
Because it gives them a scare.

Some people play hockey  
Just for the fame.  
But I play it for  
The love of the game.

## School

by Raquel P. and Karla B.

School is fun.  
You can hang out with teachers.  
You can join in choir, but don't fall out of  
the bleachers.

Music is everything.  
You can join in band,  
Make some music;  
Come on take a stand.

Jump around, come on, play.  
You know there's time to do that another  
day.  
School is the time to hang out with friends.  
You know the fun will never end.

Teachers and classes are really fun.  
It's like having fun under the sun.  
Then you have your gloomy days.  
That's when the outside really rains.

With the wink of an eye,  
The school year goes by.  
You may never see your friends,  
But they're there 'til the end.

## Baseball

by Anthony J.

If at first you don't succeed, slide for  
second.  
In curve, out curve...drop.  
Don't forget Tony the star shortstop.  
Life and baseball are just the same.  
You must strike hard to wind the game.

## The Room

by Tom M.

The room was as dark as the night.  
It really does fill me with fright.  
It seems really eerie.  
It looks really dreary,  
And I wish I had a night light.

## Bad Day

by Christina J.

When you're down,  
There's no need to frown.  
Just stick tight.  
You'll be all right.  
Have a great day.  
Just go out and play.

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## Summer Fun Events & Classes

### Waterpark Open!



#### Classes for All Interests

New Teen Quilting class!  
Tie-Dye Party (Ages 8–13)  
Jr. Golf Lessons (Ages 9–12)  
Teen Fitness (Ages 11–15)



#### Events – Day Camps

10th Annual ItascaFest  
3on3 Basketball Tournament, July 14  
Schaumburg flyers Game (Ages 10–15)  
Cubs Game (Ages 11–15)  
Junior Golf Tournament, July 18  
North Shore Basketball Camp (Ages 7–14)  
Tennis, Soccer, Dance & Gymnastics Camps  
Sand Volleyball Camp (Ages 9–17)  
Day Camps

For More Information, call 773-2257

## Rydell High Rocks Peacock in "Grease"



Rockin', rollin', and hand-springing across the stage, Peacock students presented "Grease" on May 5 and 6. The production was directed by Rosemarie Aiello and Tim Martin.



**Peacock Talent Show!**

**Friday, June 2, 2006**

**7:00 p.m.**

**Peacock Gymnasium**

**\$5.00 admission**

**All proceeds will benefit the music program.**

## Voices, Instruments Combine

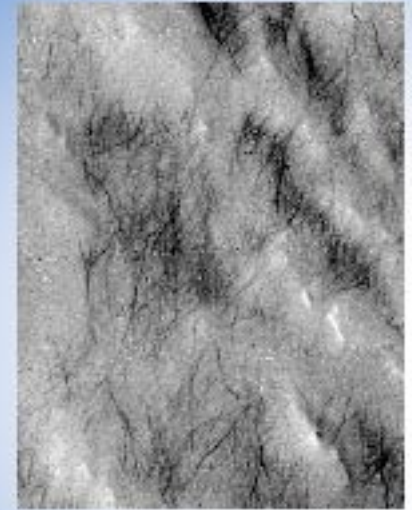


The Peacock Chorus performs "Zum Gali Gali" with Andrea Poplawski on the snare drums and Marisa Geropolous playing flute, directed by Mr. Travis, at the annual Spring Concert.

### Charger Challenge

The Charger Challenge is a paper & pencil game we bring to you each week. The first two people to correctly complete it and bring it to Mr. Smith will receive a prize. The type of puzzle will be different every time. Good Luck!

What is this a picture of? Be specific.



### Review: PeppersGhost

BY RACHEL B.

#### *Shake the Hand that Shook the World*

Start with 60s rock, add 80s style hair. Mix in modern-day lyrics. Throw in a few instruments. Bake on 350 degrees for 30 min. and...TA DAH! You have PeppersGhost.

PeppersGhost are clearly disciples of 60s and 70s music, especially the Beatles and David Bowie. This album shows the band has not forgotten their roots. While most bands are trying so hard to be new and different, PeppersGhost does the complete opposite. They go back to the roots of modern-day music and pay homage to the rockers that started it all.

And all I have to say is it's about time someone remembered where the music scene today came from. I highly recommend this album for all people who love classic rock and roll.



### Review: JamisonParker

BY RACHEL B.

#### *Sleepwalker*

JamisonParker is simply two guys named Jamison Covington and Parker Case. Though nothing else about the band is quite that simple.

*Sleepwalker* is an accumulation of well-crafted songs that fit perfectly with Jamison's lyrics of love and loss. But these lyrics go beyond normal rock songs. Jamison's lyrics show both the beauty and pain of love.

This album, only their second, is fantastic! *Sleepwalker* is JamisonParker's masterpiece. (Their first album was *Notes & Autographs*.)

Unfortunately for all JamisonParker fans, *Sleepwalker* was the final chapter in the extremely short story of the band. They broke up shortly after the release of the album.

Though our eyes tear up at the loss of a great band, we must rejoice in what JamisonParker has left us: two great albums to remember them by.

### Review: Michael Tolcher

BY RACHEL B.

#### *I AM*

I AM not impressed with this album at all. This seems like the kind of album you have to wait to grow up before you listen to it. It's not an album you would find the average teenager listening to. In fact, I'm not even sure the average adult would listen to this.

*I AM* is a mixture of pop and soul, neither of which I have anything against, but I don't like them separately so, of course, I dislike them even more mixed together.

According to Michael Tolcher's official website, his single "Mission Responsible" is taking off at radio stations. This leads me to wonder: what planet are they on? I have not heard or seen a single word about *I AM*. Perhaps I don't listen to the right station or I don't pay attention, but maybe this is not a true statement. Who knows?

All I know is that this is an album that I believe, for the sake of all that is good, should not be unleashed on the innocent ears of society.

## off <sup>the</sup> shelf

Novel News from the  
Itasca Community Library  
By Lori Craft

The library is pleased to have a spot in the Charger in which to recommend great books and to let you in on any upcoming library activities for teens.

### Summer Reading Club

May 22 – August 14

Join one of the library's "Read Happily Ever After!" Summer Reading Clubs. There is a reading club for every age level: Adult, Young Adult, and Youth. Participants just need to read books in order to earn prizes – fun prizes like coupons for Slurpees, big Mac's, cookies, and more! To join, register for the club at the library's Circulation Desk starting May 22. A valid library card is required in order to participate.

### Anime Club Happenings:

#### Miyazaki Movie Marathon

The Anime Club will be sponsoring a Hayao Miyazaki Movie Marathon on June 17 starting at 10:00 a.m. Miyazaki wrote and directed such films as *Spirited Away*, *Howl's Moving Castle*, and *Kiki's Delivery Service*. Free popcorn will be served, but you are welcome to bring your own snacks and beverages.

### Anime Club Meeting Dates

All are welcome to attend one of these drop-in Anime Club meetings. Fellow anime-niacs will gather for a brief mingling and discussion time and then view an episode or two from a popular anime series. Past viewings have included episodes of *Full-Metal Alchemist*, *Outlaw Star*, and *Ah, My Goddess*. Please join us from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. on Monday, July 17 and Monday, August 14.

## Review: "The Pink Panther"

BY JAKE S. & RYAN S.

Running time: 1 hour, 32 minutes

This "Pink Panther" is just as good as the classic ones with Peter Sellers. You are almost constantly laughing as Inspector Clouseau, played this time by Steve Martin, tries to solve the mystery of the Pink Panther Diamond. It was stolen from a world cup soccer coach after he was murdered.

Inspector Clouseau is probably the worst detective you've ever seen. He is teamed up with another spy who is much better but in a lower rank. Clouseau bosses him around thinking he is better. Later Clouseau discovers that the only reason his boss promoted him was because he wanted to have someone ruin the case, so his boss could come in and save it.

The movie is action-packed from Clouseau getting arrested for having



hamburgers in his pockets to Japanese dancing with his partner. He also is chased by giant globes and a pack of lambs all in one movie. Both Jake and I give it a smiley.



## Review: "16 Blocks"

BY JAKE S. & RYAN S.

Running time: 1 Hour and 45 Minutes

"16 Blocks" is about Detective Jack Mosley (Bruce Willis). He is assigned to get a criminal, Eddie Bunker (Mos Def) to the trial on time so he can testify that he saw a police officer abuse someone. Mosley has become an alcoholic from the stress of the job.

Mosley goes to pick up the criminal, but Bunker didn't want to leave without his

suit and Jack doesn't want to wait. He makes Bunker sit in the police car, while he picks up some liquor. When he is in the store, a man comes up to the car window and starts talking to Eddie. Mosley sees the man pull out his gun so he shoots him in the back of the head.

Now the chase is on. Jack has eight hours to go 16 blocks and deliver Bunker. He hides in a bar with Bunker and calls for back up. When the other cops come, they have a plan to set up Eddie and get him arrested for shooting a cop. Apparently, if Eddie got to the court and told what he saw, they would all lose their jobs. Once again Mosley saves him and now has to run away from his old partner and his friends.

The rest of the movie is a great thriller. I won't tell you the plot because I want you to go and see this film to get your blood pumping. Ryan: I give this movie a smiley because I like all the violence.



# Let's Give a Hand to . . . uh, HANDS!



Above, "Hands On Time," by Dani D. a silver key winner in the Scholastic Art Competition.

Right, "My Life," by Hubert G.



Below, "Florista in Pink," by Jocelyn G.



Below, "Perfect Performance," by Audrey J.



Below, "Life's a Splash," by Meghan R.



Below, "Pretty Things in Life," by Taylor Z.



Above, "Pampered Hands," by Andrea P.



Below, "Mr. Sporty Hands," by Tony D.



Left, "Life Size Sports," by Danny J.



## A Land of Landscapes

... from a study of French Impressionists



Left, "Mystic Falls,"  
by Kyle S.



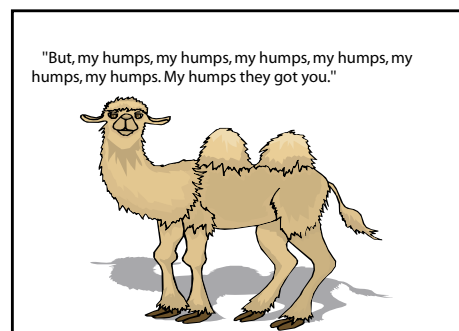
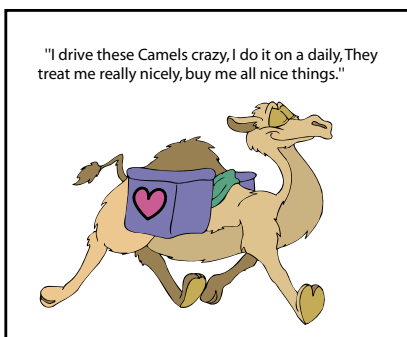
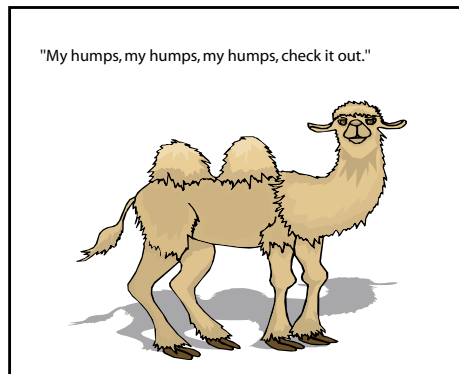
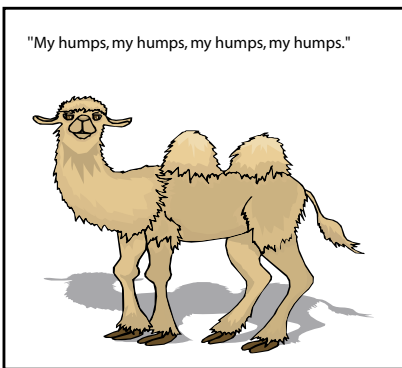
Left, "Peace," by Jonny Kraft.  
Above, "Mountains in Moonlight,"  
by Kelly M.



Right,  
"Desert Greens,"  
by Lauren K.

## "My Humps"

AN INTERPRETATION BY KARLA B.



From "My Humps" by The Black Eyed Peas

## Rhyme Time

continued from p. 3

### **The End of School**

by Ed P.

The end of school is near.  
Soon we'll be out of here.  
After summer it's the next school year,  
And we'll be back with a tear.

### **Secrets**

by Brittany K.

Secrets, secrets are no fun.  
They may really hurt someone.  
Some secrets aren't very true.  
The next one may be about you!

### **Forever**

by Anetta M.

Together we stand,  
Hand in hand;  
We are always together  
And will be forever.

### **Summer**

by Karli O.

Summer, summer's here.  
Let's all give out a big cheer.  
There's nothing to fear  
Because wonderful summer is here.

# Meta Turkey & Jinco vs. the Cyborg Raptors

AN EXCERPT BY MICHAEL F. W.

## Chapter 1: Generations

It had been twenty-five years since Meta Turkey had seen Jinco. Even though Jinco lost at the end of their war against each other, Meta Turkey *knew* he was still out there. Meta Turkey was now a ruler and had brought peace to his planet. Little did he know "peace" was still far, far away.

\*\*\*

### Character profile

*Name:* Meta Turkey

*Height:* 5 ft.

*Weight:* 150 lbs. without super mode on; 220 lbs. with super mode on; 300 lbs. when fused with Jinco.

*Race:* Turkey

*Data:* After trying to escape from Indians and pilgrims, he fell off a cliff. He landed in radioactive waste that gave him incredible strength. He could boost his power each time he transformed. Since then he has won all but one fight. That was against Jinco when they first met. His power increases exceptionally every day.

\*\*\*

Meta Turkey made an announcement to his planet and said, "Turkeys of Metalacia! I'm going on a journey to find our lost friend, Jinco!"

First everyone just stared at him. Then they all cheered and wished him good luck.

"Metal mode on!" Meta Turkey was then off to find Jinco.

## Chapter 2: Raptorian Empire

"So the legendary Meta Turkey has set out to find his almost equally powerful partner, jinco," said the Raptorian King.

\*\*\*

### Character profile

*Name:* Silver Trome

*Height:* 5 ft. 3 in.

*Weight:* 250 lbs. without armor; 400 lbs. with armor

*Race:* Cyborg Raptor

*Data:* Silver Trome is the leader of the Raptorian Empire. He has defeated thousands of armies with his league of cyborg Raptors. His power level in his normal state is incredibly strong on its own. When he does have his armor on, he is 99.9% invincible.

\*\*\*

"Well he won't get any farther when he reaches me," said Silver Trome.

One of his raptor honor guards asked, "Sir, I w-was w-wondering...if y-you could..." He paused.

"Well?!" snarled Silver Trome.

The guard continued, "...if I could... retire?"

Silver Trome then snapped a look at his guard that was so sharp, it pierced everything.

"I suppose. I have no more use for you anyway," he said.

"What?!" replied the guard.



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Silver Trome continued. "But you don't deserve to live anymore either."

The guard was then paralyzed and couldn't speak. Silver Trome raised his finger and a small ball of energy appeared over it. He pointed his finger at the guard and then...FWOOSH!!!! The energy ball turned into a massive energy blast and traveled straight at the guard.

"Die," whispered Silver Trome.

"GYAAAAHHHH!!!!!!!" screamed the guard and he was disintegrated into a pile of smoldering ash.

"Insolent fool," said Silver Trome. "The great battle will begin very soon, Meta Turkey. Very, very soon..."

## Chapter 3: Nice to Meet You Too

Meta Turkey was now light years away from his home planet. He had been traveling for about three days now.

"Damn," he said. "Everyone I've met has no idea of Jinco's whereabouts."

Suddenly a fleet of fighter ships raced at Meta Turkey.

"Well, I guess it's time I had myself some

fun. Heh, heh," said Meta Turkey.

The ships fired flaming chicken eggs at him. He easily dodged them.

"Just some low-class rooster fighters," said Meta Turkey.

But then one of the eggs hit him in the back.

*Hub? They're beat-seekers?* he thought. He raced at the ships and at the last possible minute, he moved out of the way and the flaming eggs hit every ship.

"Ahh. Beautiful fireworks," he said.

Meta Turkey then continued through space and came to the planet called Zobrak and decided to rest there. When he went near a village, he noticed that it had been reduced to rubble.

"What the...? What happened here?" He saw a figure in the rubble, and it dashed away. Meta Turkey chased it down. When he caught up to it, he reacted quickly and socked it in the face. The creature blacked out.

"Why the hell would a creature like this wipe out such a weak planet?" The mouth of the creature opened and a screen appeared.

"Hello, Meta Turkey," said the blurry figure on screen. "I see you killed my drone," said Silver Trome.

"Who are you?" asked Meta Turkey.

"You will find out when we meet," he said.

The number "five" appeared on the screen and started to count down. Meta Turkey dashed away as the raptor exploded.

"Well...nice to meet you too," said Meta Turkey.

## Chapter 4: True Oblivion

Somewhere in space, on an unknown planet, Jinco was training. He had been training for twenty five years. He knew where Meta Turkey was. Jinco had been keeping records of every time Meta Turkey powered up, and finally Jinco surpassed him.

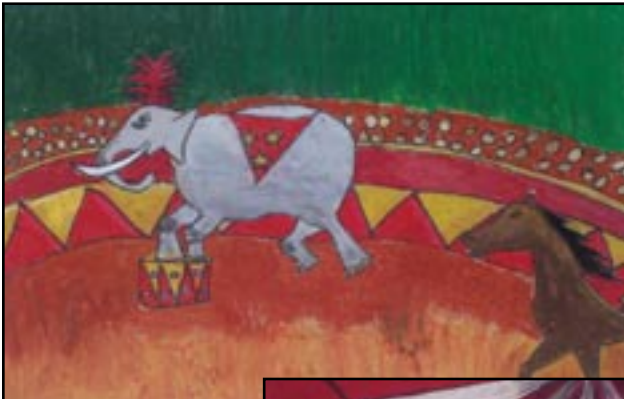
"It is time," he said. He jumped off the planet and within a minute he was an hour away from the Raptorian planet.

continued to p. 15

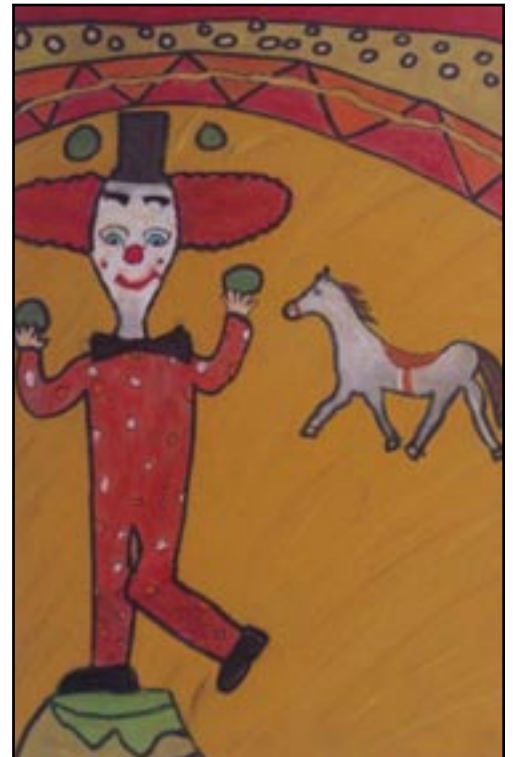
# The Circus a la Lautrec



Left, "Foxy Kittens," by Kelsie M.  
 Above, "Josh's Jolly Circus," by Josh D.  
 Below, "Standing Up Horses," by Kelly D.

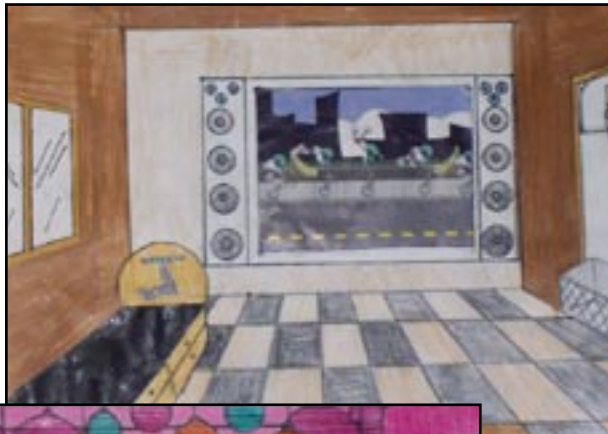


Above, "The Animal Circus," by Mahveen J.  
 Right, "Spirited," by Karla B.



Left, "Funny, Evil, Laughing Clown," by C.J. B. Right, "The Juggler," by Kate McC.

# A View of Some Rooms



Left, "The Fusion Room," by Javier S.  
Right, "Room," by Lexi W.



Left, "Hawaiian Paradise," by Stephanie K.  
Right, "Rockin' Room," by Steven A.



## Honoring Our Country, Our Flag

BY ANDREA P

# Decorated Pottery Shows Classic Style and Ethnic Pride



Jenna S.



Mia S., an honorable mention winner in the Scholastic Art Competition.



Abraham P.



Michael D.



Melissa S.



Lauren K.



Jonny K.

# Pretty as a Picture



Left, "S'Mores," by Kali Callaban. Right, "My Tuba," by Max Gordon, an honorable mention winner in the Scholastic Art Competition.



Above, "Unwanted," by Daisy Rodriguez. Left, "Shadowed Way," by Julia Wesley, a silver key winner in the Scholastic Art Competition.



Above, "Playtime," by Jennifer Lipski.



Left, "Glasses," by Tess Frawley. Right, "Flowers," by Amanda Haayer.



