

# Editorial

## Letters to the Editor

### Seniors deserve more advantages

Dear Editor,

It doesn't seem like seniors are receiving all of the advantages that they did last year. I think seniors should get out much earlier than all of the other students at Antioch Community High School. Last year, the seniors got out almost a week and a half before the rest of the students, and this year the seniors only get out four school days earlier than everyone else. I am typing this letter to the editor is because maybe the school district can make the change for the upcoming seniors to make sure they receive the privilege of being able to get released from school earlier than everyone else.

Tim Larsen  
ACHS senior

### New dispensers are not efficient

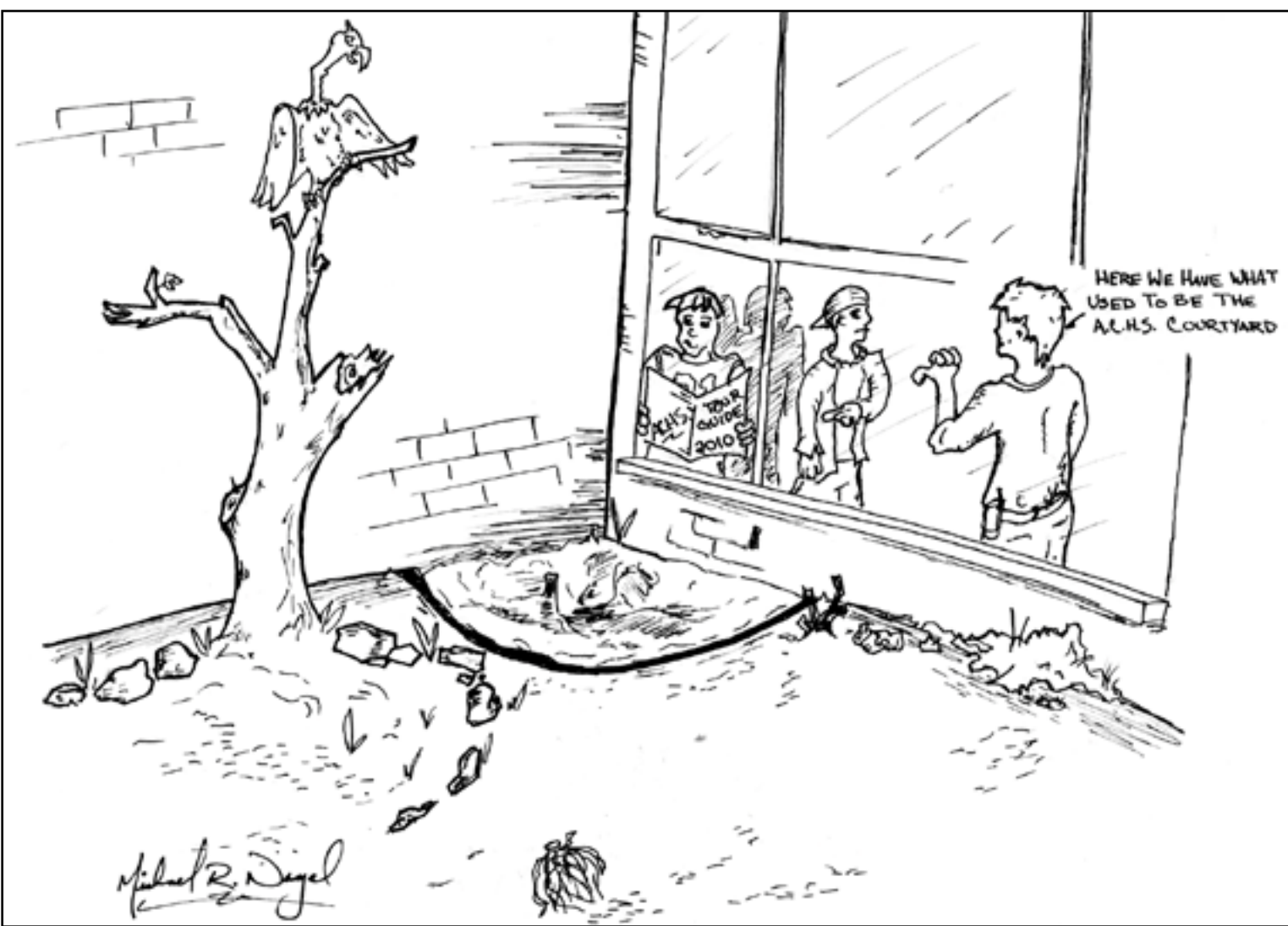
Dear Editor,

Everyday I go to the cafeteria and buy a lunch. I then walk over to the condiments table and what do I find? The napkin basket has been removed and switched with a restaurant type dispenser. I used to be able to just grab napkins and now I have to sit there for several minutes grabbing one by one.

Now, the new napkin arrangement wouldn't necessarily be a bad change, but the napkin dispensers are such terrible dispensers. I went to grab a handful of napkins, but the jaws of the dispenser refused to let go of its captives. Many napkins were torn and crumpled, much to my disappointment.

The napkin basket remains in the commons, yet in the cafeteria it is absent. Why do we need a cold, iron box to hold napkins when the napkin basket provided a natural, homelike feel? I realize it is the end of the year but we can not succumb to cheap imitations of what really represents our school.

Zack Johnson  
Loren Klick  
ACHS seniors



**Student contributions left to waste...**

## Courtyard upkeep abandoned

Trying to get high school students involved in improving the environment of the school and making it a better place can sometimes be difficult. However, throughout the 2004-2005 school year at Antioch Community High School, students were spending some of their school time contributing to the efforts of improving the ACHS courtyard.

Last spring, ACHS was home to a beautiful courtyard complete with a pond, and different plants and perennials that were in full bloom. Surrounding the courtyard were statues that were made by art students, and clay pots that were donated by guest artists. This courtyard served as a display of the efforts of art students, as well as students that were sometimes asked to volunteer with different tasks during their science classes.

Throughout the entire spring, Karen Day, former ACHS science teacher, dedicated her time and recruited her students to perform

various tasks, such as weeding, planting flowers, or spreading soil. Anything that seemed necessary to keep the courtyard healthy and appealing was a priority to Day, and the appearance of the courtyard reflected her dedication.

After Day transferred to Lakes Community High School, the responsibility of the upkeep

“**The courtyard was once a part of ACHS that students as well as faculty members took pride in.**”

of the courtyard was left in limbo. Unlike the previous school year, students are rarely seen contributing their time in the courtyard to keep it healthy.

Instead of being full of green and lush perennials and a sparkling pond, the grass is overgrown, the landscape is filled with weeds and other overgrown plants, and the pond is full of algae and litter. It is no longer a landscape that students or teachers desire to use.

It seems that all of Day's efforts and the efforts of other students to improve the courtyard and make it a nice place for ACHS faculty

and students enjoy have been disregarded. It is a shame to know that something that was once so beautiful and unique to ACHS is not respected or cared for.

Julie Elver, ACHS art teacher, indicated that her advisory will spend time in the courtyard pulling weeds, however, the dedication of just one class is not enough to keep the courtyard as nice as it once was.

The appropriate action needs to be taken to improve this situation. ACHS faculty and ACHS students must take over the responsibility of maintaining and organizing the upkeep of the courtyard. The entire responsibility of caring for the courtyard should not have to fall into the hands of only one teacher. It should be a school-wide effort.

The courtyard was once a part of ACHS that students as well as faculty members took pride in. It offered uniqueness to ACHS that displayed the efforts of students to create a pleasant environment. This courtyard should be maintained and valued, because just like any other part of the school, it is a reflection on all of the students and staff at ACHS.

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Letters may be mailed to the high school to the address on the right or submitted to staff members or the adviser, Michael Gordy, in room 202 throughout any school day.

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**Letters to the Editor**

Letters to the editor must be signed and should not exceed 250 words in length.

Those wishing to withhold his or her name must still sign it for the Tom Tom office purposes.

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