

Going Global... Seniors take year after graduation to explore

HILLI CIAVARELLO

Staff Reporter

Margaret Adams

Where? Stellenbosch, South Africa



What? "I'm going to be an au pair. As far as I know its just a fancy word for 'nanny'. It sounds better, it's a more enticing job title. My mom went to Germany when she was my age to be an au pair so it runs in the family. There is a family in Stellenbosch that is expecting a baby in June and then me in July. They also have a 2, 5 and 7-year-old so it should be sort of busy."

Why? "Because I'm young and I don't want to jump into four more years of schooling, so I'm not going to! I don't know, maybe people don't fully understand the freedom we'll be getting on June 6 with education being an option. That's not to say that I'm not going to get back into it, I'm just deferring for a year so they'll be expecting me in fall 2009. I like this because I think it would be easy for me to get

lazy and not go back, but the non-refundable deposit makes that a non-option."

Anything you would like to add about your decision and

why you made it? "I'm scared."

Anthony Bragg

Where? Osaka, Japan

What? "I

will be teaching English."

Why? "For money and learning more Japanese first-hand."

Anything you would like to



add about your decision and why you made it? "My father and sister live there. Also my girlfriend, who I will be living with in Osaka."

Dylan Stark

Where? "New York City, New York

What? I will be sleeping on friends' couches, working dead-end jobs—but hopefully I will

be DJ-ing and working on movies."

Why? "Well, I'm not taking a year off because if so, I could technically take my whole life

off. I think I'm ready for the real world..."

Anything else you would like to add

about your decision and

why you made it? "I'm

joking about all of this, I am really the most confused kid ever. Oh, and you should buy my new mix tapes."

Destiny Schroyer

Where? "Staying in an apartment here in Portland,

and doing a short mission trip to Nicaragua if the opportunity works out." **What?** "Interning at my church and working a regular part time job too."

Why? "To make some back up money and re-focus on what I want to do with my life!"

Are you doing something with an

organization?

"The

internship is with

Southlake Foursquare and the possible Mission is with Forward Edge."



NO-ZONE: cell phone policy needed

Cell policy conundrum

continued from page 5

I understand that teachers' moods and feelings of forgiveness change from day to day, but if this directly affects students, it is not all right. I have no respect for teachers who allow some students to text during class but not others. This isn't a matter of some students hiding their phones better than others, it is an issue of inconsistency that leads to students being treated unfairly.

I would say that, on average, about four students have their phones out during class to text. This number can vary from zero to sometimes as many as eight phones. Rarely, I would say about once every two to three weeks, does a student have their cell phone taken away from them for getting caught using it during class. If the school cell phone policy says that all phones must be off during class, why are these numbers so high? Because teachers never follow this policy, the threat of losing your phone is gone, so why wouldn't students text during class?

The school's cell phone policy is too strict. Students should be allowed to keep their phones on during class as long as they are on silent and are not being used. This may not seem very realistic,

but if all teachers adhered to one, consistent policy, this could be a possibility in the future. I feel that all teachers should follow a single,



school-wide, cell phone policy that states that students should be given one warning when caught using their phones and then they should be taken away until the end of the period. If the cell

phone usage happens a second time, students should have to wait until the end of the day to retrieve them and if it happens a third time, a parent should be notified, but it is not fair to the student or to the parent for a parent to have to come and pick up the phone at school. It is understandable that keeping track of the strikes students have against them could become excessive and stressful for teachers.

The "three strike" system I have outlined may not be realistic, but if the theory of three strikes could come into play somehow, I truly believe that cell phone usage could be controlled and students would be less likely to use them during class. If students ask to text their parents during class about plans that have changed, such as cancelled sporting events, or getting a ride home, teachers should allow them to do so unless they have abused this privilege in the past.

In this case, consistency will be the key to solving this school-wide situation. If all teachers agree to follow the school policy and follow through with it, there will be no excuses for students such as: "But this teacher lets us text during class." "You let this person text so why can't I?" or "How come you didn't care if I had my phone out yesterday but you took it away today?" In eliminating the distraction of cell phones in the classroom, students will be more attentive, cheating will decrease and there will be fewer conflicts between students and administrators.

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