

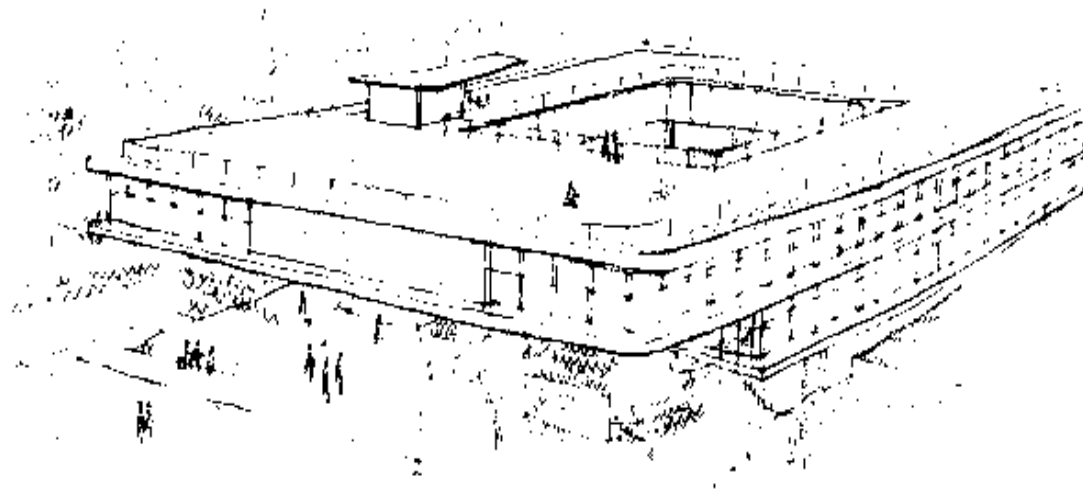


SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2010

ISSUE #13

GZAAAT

GAZETTE



Sketch of GZAAAT new building

New School Building of GZAAAT: Dream or Reality?

The first part will be about building the "teaching area" which means that only the necessary things will be built. These things are the classes and labs, a library, Art studio that is for art/music/religion, PC - room, Cafeteria, three or four student lounges and a short termed multifunctional hall that will be for sport and our most beloved assembly. The second part will consist of everything else, what means that there will be built the facilities that are planned, but could not be put in the first part. These things are music rooms (practice; rehearsal), Art/music history room, halls (auditorium/theatre; drama studio; multipurpose gym), and a bookstore. There will be also external facilities like an outdoor swimming pool; a green house; a football pitch, a multipurpose field and four tennis courts.

See the article on pp. 4-5



Paata Ramishvili with Nanuka and Max.

Two Generations Under One Roof

As Nanuka says, Paata is very lovely and kind but also a strict father. They have great relationship at school and at home everything becomes better and more interesting. Max adds that at school, his Dad is also tough and demanding. He says that Paata becomes more joyful after school.

See the article on pp 3-4 .

Dear Readers!

As a new school year has started, the Newspaper Club also continues its work. After the smoothening summer, with three months of no homework, our journalists came back with many interesting ideas. GZAAT newspaper stuff also proposed journalists to focus more on interviews outside the school and write longer and “deeper” articles. I want to admit proudly that journalists did their best, and in this issue you will see many outside interviews including: Leila Meskhi, Otar Shamatava and even the architect of our new school building at the Lisi Lake. Another issue which I would like to emphasize is the deadline! The only thing I can say here is THANK YOU! Since the stuff of Newspaper Club consists of the class of 2011, this was the first time in our practice when nearly all articles came on time and were no more than a few days late. I think that’s a great success and we have to keep this up, because it is one of the main components that contributes to high quality publication of the newspaper.

A piece of advice for freshmen: I noticed that some of freshmen didn’t write for this issue, because they were afraid of people’s reaction to their articles. Don’t be afraid to write! Although writing a GOOD article is not an easy task, your first writings don’t need to be perfect. Don’t worry that they will be bad and people will not like them. Nobody is a perfect writer. If you need help come to GZAAT newspaper stuff members and everybody will be happy to help you in writing an article. It’s always better to do, rather than not to do. So, go ahead and write without any hesitation!

With Respect,

Ani Lortkipanidze

Editor-in-Chief

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First Impressions, or:

Freshmen Welcome to GZAAT!

After the long summer holidays, the academic year resumed on the first day of September, when the doors of our Academy opened for a new wave of students. The freshmen came to school, all dressed exquisitely, with glowing eyes showing their enthusiasm. As usual, the schedule for that day was strictly defined. At first, they headed to the auditorium, where the director, Mr. Richard Lussen, made his speech, beginning with the words: *Welcome to GZAAT*. He then talked about issues that every student should be aware of: the importance of high grades, extracurricular activities and sports, the sharing the duties and responsibilities, sticking to the school rules, and treating every member of the community with courtesy and respect.

After that, the freshmen were distributed to their different advisories, where they got a few more pointers. But soon the most exciting moment arrived: it was time for the first class. Undoubtedly, Senior Prefects and other kind people, they eventually reached their destinations. And thus began what we can simply call “the avalanche of the handouts.” In these first classes the new freshmen were all given a variety of course expectations. These focused mainly on general requirements, the rules of behavior, and the methods of punishment for those who dared break these rules. Later, the students received their textbooks, were asked again to assemble in the auditorium, and in the end were allowed to go home.

The class of 2014 stepped out of the school for the first time, filled with different emotions. This was their first day in a new community. The day must have been really extremely busy, because when asked about their impressions, some of the students responded that they were exhausted (which is why they were not able to identify exactly what they felt on September 1st).

Here are some of the comments that freshmen have recently made (Editor’s Note: names have been withheld to protect the privacy of the respondents... or because the reporter forgot to ask for them):



New school year, new faces!!!

- On the first day I was very confused. I did not know where the classes were. It took me a few days to get adjusted to moving from one class to another, because in my previous school we did not have this kind of system.
- Everything was new for me: teachers, classmates, the entire situation, and that’s why I had uncertain feelings that day. However, there was nothing that disappointed or irritated me.
- At first it was difficult for me, because I was practically the only person who did not speak Georgian, but gradually I got accustomed to everything: to school, to my classmates, and I really like it now.
- You dare to ask me about the first day and my first impressions? Well, I liked the school very much, but the problem is that I got an E in Russian. Otherwise, everything was OK.
- Yes. Russian teacher.
- The Russian teacher scared us a lot. She said that she was cruel and would write bad grades mercilessly.
- No, they were quite nice.
- I think the teacher of biology is very rigorous.
- My Russian teacher scared me a lot.
- No, actually I liked all of them.
- It seems that, according to the results, Russian teachers are most adept at scaring freshmen!
- What about the school rules: do you like them, or not?
- I liked them, because they prevent students from misbehaving, and endangering the security of others.
- I love them.
- The rules are not very harsh, and I like them.
- There are extremely strict rules here.
- Which rule, for example?
- Maybe, about lateness, I don’t know exactly, just generally speaking.

Eighteen freshmen were also asked three “Yes or No” questions:

| | Yes | No |
|--|-----|----|
| Was it difficult for you to switch from your native language to English? | 5 | 13 |
| Before becoming part of our community, did you think that studying here was easier? | 8 | 10 |
| Did you regret that you became student of the American Academy after your first day? | 1 | 17 |

I would like to wish good luck to all freshmen!!!

By Nini Arshakuni

TWO GENERATIONS
UNDER ONE ROOF



Givi and Kosta

We are GZAAT: Teachers, staff, students... we are a diverse group of Georgians (with a few representatives of other nationalities thrown in), but together we make one community. In this community there are many fascinating people: some of them are interesting because of their special talents; some because of their interesting personalities; and some are interesting because they come from one and the same smaller community – the nuclear family. These are the people who create the phenomenon of two generations working and studying under the common roof of GZAAT.

Everyone knows the first generation: our teachers and staff. They’re the people whom we love and respect; the ones who work long hours to help us improve our chances of achieving our lofty goals. That’s why their progeny tend to be very popular at school. Throughout the hallways you can often hear: “OMG! Look! Those are Paata’s twins!” and “Oh Look, Ketis daughter and Kote’s sister!” Having members of this second generation as part of the GZAAT student body is a real boost to the heart of our community: they are like a “second chapter” of our beloved personalities!

Our history teacher's Paata Ramishvili's twins are freshmen this year. Nanuka and Max are fraternal twins, who differ drastically from each other. Max loves soccer and all kind of sports and hates to read, while Nana always reads a



lot of books and is more diligent than Max. Paata Mas tells us that he speaks to them on equal terms, since he believes that trust is one of the most important building-blocks of the parent-child relationship. He told us that his twins are quite mischievous kids – even having even a “snowball” war with flour and cereal – and he always tries to be by their side. Paata Mas even participates in their funny games! As a parent he also often gives them useful advice about art, literature and politics.

As Nanuka says, Paata is very lovely and kind but also a strict father. They have great relationship at school and at home everything becomes better and more interesting. Max adds that at school, his Dad is also tough and demanding. He says that Paata becomes more joyful after school. [Not surprisingly, as he's away from us: the psychotic high school teenagers].

History teacher, Ketu Sturua is mother to two GZAAT students, Kote (Junior) and Elene (Sophomore) Beridze. When Kote became a freshman, he was known only as Ketu Mas's son, and now Elene is – and always will be – known as Kote's little sister.

You may not know this, but our Computer Guru is the father of Sophomore Kosta Kereselidze. Kosta tells us that his dad is really humorous and that they like all the same movies and everything else too. They both talk fondly about each other and you just see that they are really great friends and have a lovely relationship. Kosta says that their relationship doesn't really change inside or outside school grounds: he tells us that they are always goofing around, smiling and having fun. Mr. Guivy calls Kosta an animal lover and is proud to tell us that his son volunteers at the Tbilisi Zoo.

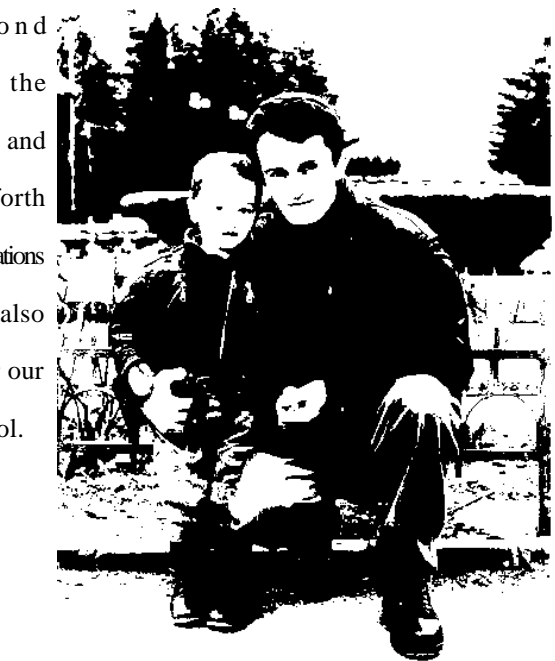
The Kereselidze's have several funny stories concerning Kosta's unusual interest in animals. Once Kosta

and Mr. Guivy went together to the Zoo and Kosta took him to an unusual place using a “secret” path. Finally Mr. Guivy was shocked to find out that they were behind the animal cages, in the place from which the animals were fed. Soon they heard a lion roar and Mr. Guivy, who was really very shocked and afraid, began to beg Kosta to leave this place as soon as possible. The funny story was that Kosta didn't even react to this and began to persuade his father that there was nothing dangerous about the roar.

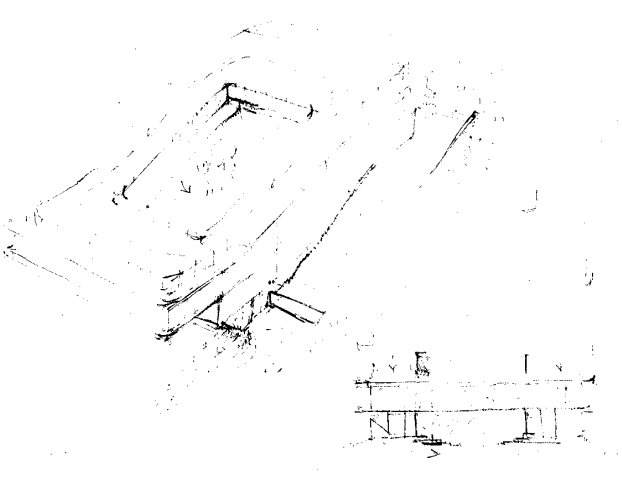
You may wonder why we have nothing to say about Paata and Tazo Gudjeiani. As you know they come from Svaneti, and they acted like true Svans. They decided that they could not answer our questions, because they do not have any interesting stories to tell a newspaper.

Although father and son Makashvili didn't tell us any interesting or funny stories either (which they explain by their Kakhetian humor), they really do have a very special relationship. For Mr. Malkhaz, Archil is a very honest, open-minded and sympathetic person, and Archil himself describes his father as a responsible, smart and funny man. They have a brilliant relationship and try to be helpful towards each other.

Maybe you knew these people separately, but here you can see them together. This is how two generations of GZAAT live their lives. The relationship that our teachers have with their kids is amazing. It shows that the people who work at GZAAT are not only very good at what they do at school but also at raising the new generation of GZAATers. This is a fact which makes us quite proud and we hope that, as time passes, not just



By Paata and Tazo in Vake Park
Mariam Tsetskhladze and Anamaria Sukhitashvili



Dreams for Sale: Perspective sketch
of the new school building. By Gaga Kiknadze

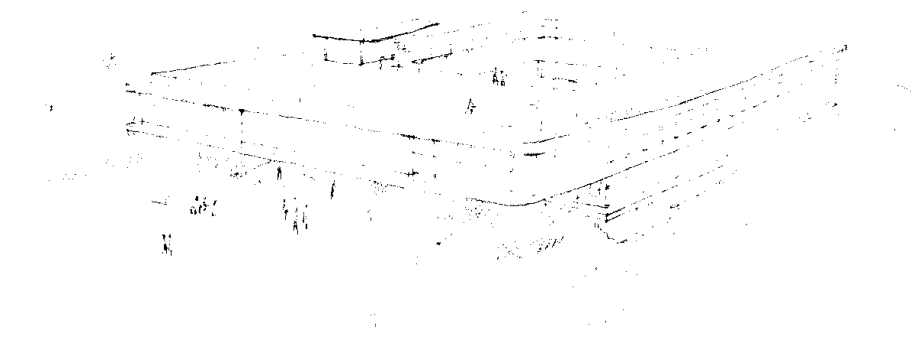
The New School Building of GZAAT: Dream or Reality?

Ten years ago, the founder of our school, Guivy Zaldastanishvili and the head trustee Mamuka Khazaradze had the inception of a reverie, which called for the creation of a purpose-built structure that would become the permanent home to the Guivy Zaldastanishvili American Academy in Tbilisi (GZAAT). Over the years, this project has experienced enthusiastic support and endured periods of bitter disappointment as it has fought to evolve from a reverie into a reality.

From the day it opened its doors to students, GZAAT (formerly AAT), has developed a well-deserved reputation as the preeminent high school in Georgia: the faculty of excellent, dedicated and professionally trained teachers have spent countless hours helping guide those students who have been lucky enough to have been admitted through four years of rigorous educational training. The student experience is often crowned with a full scholarship to a college in the U.S or Europe.

However, maintaining all this is extremely difficult. There is one problem that has plagued GZAAT since it opened 10 years ago, its academic prowess and well-deserved reputation notwithstanding: GZAAT still does not have a stable location to call home. The current school building is rented, creating a state of affairs, which causes a number of problems. According to the Shakespeare our seniors read in their final English class: “There is something rotten in the state of Denmark!” (Hamlet, act 1 sc. 4), and in this case, life is certainly imitating art.

For its new school building, the GZAAT Building Committee worked out a detailed plan that consists of two major parts: coming up with the design and obtaining the necessary permits; and the



Sketch of the new school building. Created by Gaga Kiknadze

construction procedure itself. “The first step is almost done; we are just waiting for the bureaucrats to grant us final permission and for the architects to finish the plans,” said GZAAT Director Richard E. Lussen. “As soon as this happens we can start building.”

We can almost say with certainty that it is the end of the first stage, but why did it take so long to obtain the building permits? The main reason is that the Georgian Reconstruction and Development Company (G.R.D.C), which has helped immensely and is GZAAT’s main partner in the project, because it was paying by installment, took too long to pay for the land it is giving to the school. As a result, AAT did not take any permits until they knew absolutely that the land was theirs. The school was also kept waiting by the company Sainjgeo, which is responsible for the geological studies and topographic pictures, and which was slow to fulfill its obligations. Without the appropriate pictures and studies, the architect could not start his work in earnest.

On October 2, 2010 there was a meeting during which architect Gaga Kiknadze, presented the sketches he had prepared to Mr. Lussen and Mamuka Khazaradze (GZAAT’s trustee). During this presentation it was agreed that Mr. Kiknadze will finish the final draft of the architectural plan by the end of November. After that the second step, the building process, will begin.

The building process consists of two subdivisions: the first part will consist of building the “teaching area” — which means that the utmost necessities will be built: the classrooms and labs, the library, the art studio, the computer room, the cafeteria, three or four student lounges (very necessary) and a short-term multifunctional hall that will double as a gym and and our most beloved assembly hall. The reasons that the building process is divided this way is that AAT wants to move into the building as fast as possible and there are financial problems so they cannot cover the full payment at once.

bookstore. There will be also external facilities including an outdoor swimming pool, a greenhouse, a football pitch, a multipurpose field and four tennis courts. Mr.

Kiknadze is focusing mainly on three aspects: the building will be modern, well-lighted and “green”. It is planned to use “green architecture” to

build the school, meaning that it will be a bio/ecofriendly building making use of natural hot water resources and solar batteries; a plan designed to minimize the impact the new building has on the new environment.

After years of talk the building should finally begin to become reality starting at the end of November, this year. As soon as Mr. Kiknadze’s architectural plan is completed, workers will start on the foundation. The first phase of the building is scheduled to be finished sometime in 2012 so that the school can open the 2012-13 academic year there. However, Mr. Khazaradze would, in fact, like to finish the building in 2011. “We spoke to American experts,” he explained. “And if it will be feasible to use new technologies, we will be able to finish building in one year. We will get an exact answer in one month.”

Unfortunately the maxim that “time is money” is in play and the fact that GZAAT has to pay more to make something in a shorter period of time reflects the school’s financial problem. As a solution, AAT approached the independent Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) about sending financial aid to the school. OPIC’s three principal products are finance, providing political risk insurance and supporting private equity investment funds.

The second part will consist of everything else. Things such as music rooms (practice; rehearsal), an art/music history room, a number of large halls (auditorium/ theatre; drama studio; multipurpose gym), and a

OPIC has agreed to the request, but — for undisclosed reasons — it is taking them too long to send this money and therefore GZAAT asked TBC Bank for a short term loan to pay the builders and start construction as soon as possible. The idea is that when AAT finally gets its financial aid from OPIC, they will be able to pay back TBC. However, these finances will not be enough, so GZAAT plans to engage in some aggressive fundraising at the upcoming reunion, which will also be its 10th anniversary. “We would be quite happy if it turns out that someone would like to give us one million

dollars!” says Lussen, but sorrowfully such wonders happen very rarely.

<= A member of the New Generation inspects the new school grounds



One great disadvantage of the new building site is that it is not as centrally located as our current location. Another

problem is that some people may find it tedious to travel so far everyday, which could result in students with lower pre-TOFEL scores on future GZAAT student rosters as the top prospects may be attracted to high schools with more central locations. Lussen says: “It would be good to have two hectares in Vake.” However, this is something impossible, because at least four or five old buildings would need to be razed for just the one building and there would be more space needed to have a garden. On the positive side, while our current building attempts to be an oasis of calm in the centre of Tbilisi just beside Chavchavadze Avenue, the new building will be fully surrounded by green and further supported by an inner garden.

So, GZAAT has been quite lucky when it comes to land: without the assistance of GRDC and Mamuka Khazaradze it would have been almost impossible to get a plum spot by Lisi Lake in the midst of what is gradually becoming prime real estate. However, building a new school is a huge endeavor and GZAAT needs to aggressively push for whatever materials it can find to stop it from spinning its wheels.

By Luka Bakhsoliani



Masho Japaridze and Elene Saakashvili posing for the cameras

Fashion in GZAAT

Here to summarize the new fall 2010 trends of our hallways. We also plan to inform you about all the fresh fashion tendencies coming up this season and suggest some of the “must-have” accessories for you wardrobe.

The beginning of September 2010 was as colorful as never before. In the first days of school girls were just eager to expose their summer specials. New bags, new shoes, new looks – all of these, plus the suntan looked fresh and inspiring. After all, the first week is the summary of your vacation and it just has to be perfect. Although you could observe all kinds of styles and innovations brought by many special girls, the predominant thing that struck every person’s eye was the huge number of striped clothing. The combination of jeans together and these multiple-color T-shirts was very casual but also very elegant in a teenagerish way. Plus, none of us forgot to supply our collections with the famous Bensimons that come together perfectly with any kind of clothing.

Towards the middle of September the weather got a bit chilly so the girls were given an opportunity to wear suits, especially stylish long ones. This trend was very popular all summer long and still continues to maintain this position. The long suit makes a perfect compilation with skinny jeans and a light colorful scarf.

You know how it feels when you have a new pair of shoes, a new bag or a new scarf; you just can’t wait to wear it! So as September started to approach its end, some of the girls risked and put their new boots on, while another category of girls found it tremendously difficult to say goodbye to shorts.

Here’s a quick sneak-peak of this fall/winter’s trends provided by Glamourvanity.com:

- Let some classic beauty in your life. Chain bags that are influenced by the Chanel are still in style for fall and winter 2010-2011. Chain bags can be worn as lovely clutches and across-body style.

- Don’t restrain yourself from getting extra large with accessories. Go oversized with chains and studs and jewelry and dramatic silhouettes. Thinking huge chunky rings and cuffs and leather bracelets
- Get ready to see belted coats, skirts and trousers.
- Female fashion gets mannish. A masculine tailored blazer becomes one of the season’s key pieces.
- Animal prints are still huge. Zebra and leopard prints stand out and dominate the print palette.

We can proudly announce that the opening of the season was very successful in terms of trendiness as well as innovations. Keep up with reading our reviews, consider our advices and try to make your life as pretty as possible.

By Tako and Mariam Japaridze

GZAAT CLUBS

What are clubs? What do we need them for? Why do they exist? Why would you want to waste your free time on them? These questions appear every year when new kids join our school. (Welcome Freshmen!) For the sake of answering them, the newspaper makes an article that shows how awesome clubs really are.

When going around the school and asking people whether or not they like clubs, most of them said: “Of Course! They’re awesome!” One of the students, Vako Pantsulaia, answered: “I like them. Why? Well, they are simply very, very interesting. You get to know many things you did not know, plus you get to hang out with your friends. And best of all, you are free to join any club you want, according to what you are interested in, and what you would gladly do.” These words are very true! The clubs are all free to join, and they all give you a choice whether to join or not. The clubs were not formed by teachers. They were all formed according to the interests of the students: what they wanted to learn or do outside

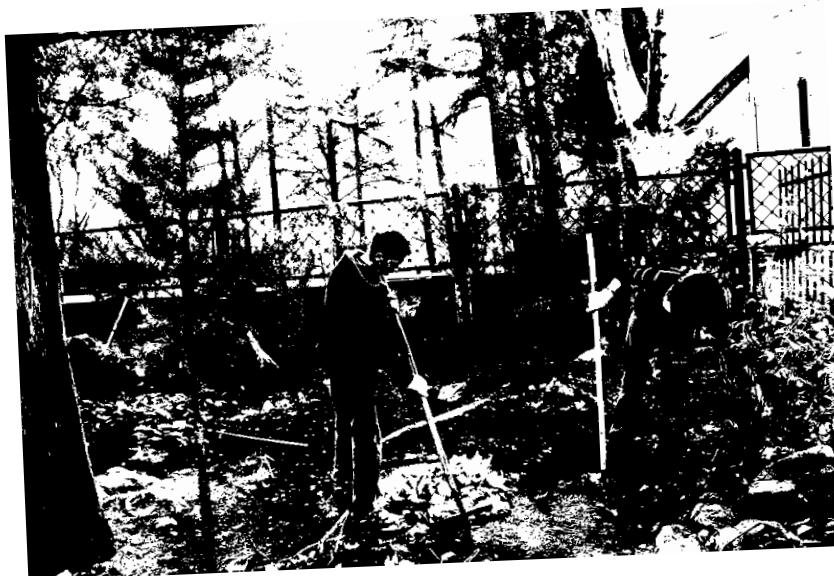
the usual school activities like studying Math or English (or any other subject). Things like dramatic acting and playing the guitar can be learned in clubs in GZAAT (the Drama Club and the Rock Club respectively). Each and every club gives the students the possibility to expand their own experience, skills and knowledge in the field they are interested in. The thing that makes the clubs even better is that you get to do all these things with your friends, making the clubs even more fun. Many clubs give you opportunities and possibilities that would not have been possible in any other situation. A good example is the World Scholars Club. Last year, the team from our school that won the local contest went to Shanghai to participate in the contest that takes place every year, and has students from different parts of the world participate. Imagine what an interesting new experience that would have been!

Now, of course it is understandable that you came to this school not to have fun, but to work, and right now you are thinking that all this would be a waste of time. But think again! Universities usually

love people that stand out and actively participate in different activities offered by schools and by other facilities. Now imagine

how much your chances of being accepted would grow if it was written in your CV that you were in the debate club, and participated in some contest and even WON. Or that you were in the community service and regularly helped out people who needed help. Or wrote regularly in the newspaper (just like me) and finally became a staff member. All these things tell universities that you are somehow special. And of course every university would be very glad to accept such a student into their community.

Continued on P.7



Ecology Club cleaning school territory

GZAAT CLUBS (continued from p.6)

Why would we want to spend our spare time on them? Well, that depends on you and not on anyone or anything else. It depends on what you are interested in. Do you want to know more about history? There is always the archaeology club. Worried about the environment? The ecology club is always glad to accept new members. Want to see good movies, and then discuss them? The movie club will welcome you warmly. And there are many other, also interesting clubs. What you have to do is go to the office and find out what they are. Plus, the ever-present CV problem is easier to solve with them. So the only thing that I, and the whole Newspaper Club can do, is encourage you to join clubs because of the immense fun and interest they represent.

By Kote Beridze

Movie Club

If you haven't been sneaking out of school and have attended our assemblies regularly, you'll probably already know that the new Movie Club was established. The idea belongs to GZAAT Juniors, Mari Lomia and Vika Khavtasi, who decided that aside from discussing books and poetry, students should also pay attention to the art of film-making.

Mari, who is a real movie enthusiast, wants to give our students a chance to enjoy some world-widely acclaimed works of many different directors. We asked her several questions to fully understand her intentions and what led to the creation of the club.

Tamta: So, Mari, tell us what encouraged you to create this club?

Mari: For as long as I can remember, I've always been interested in movies and about a year ago I thought about making it my profession (I'm not decided about that yet). I'm still amateur in "movies," but my main intention is to try and share all the knowledge I have, learning something new and useful from club members along the way.



Tamta: Did you already decide when the club meeting will be?

Mari: Chances are that we'll be meeting on Fridays after the school assembly. But since most of the clubs are on Fridays too, we might transfer it to Tuesdays. We'll have to think about it during a meeting.

Tamta: And what type of meetings will you have? Will you try to continue our class ritual during them, discussing and analyzing the movies you watch?

Mari: During the meetings we're going to watch the movie first and of course, discuss it afterwards. We might also discuss different directors, genres and movements of various time periods. It all depends on the topic. If things go well, we might even have guest speakers - movie critics and directors.

Tamta: How will you choose a movie to watch? You won't try to force the members to watch whatever you want, right?

Mari: No, I'm just going to suggest several movies and give essential information about them. After that, we all will vote and choose which one to watch.

T a m t a :

Now tell us a little bit about yourself. What was the first movie you watched, and why did it impress you? Which ones is your favorite?

Mari: Well, as I already said, I've been interested in movies for years now. But the first one that influenced and really got me into this art was The Lord of the Rings. I've been a fan of LotR for 6 years - from eight to fourteen. My favorite directors are Darren Aranovsky, Stanley Kubrick, Lars von Trier, Wes Anderson and many, many more. But the number one movie for me is Paul Thomas Anderson's There Will Be Blood. The long list of my favorite movies include, but are not limited to : A Clockwork Orange; Dogville; American Beauty; Rosemary's Baby, Fight Club; Dr. Strangelove or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb; American History X; Trainspotting; Requiem for a Dream; The Fountain.

It all sounds too exiting for the creator, but let's hear what other students have to say about the club. When asked why she decided to join the club, GZAAT Junior Mariam Asatiani commented: "I love movies and spend most of my free time watching them. I thought that it would be interesting to share my perspective and thoughts about a particular movie with other kids. I'd love to see how it all progresses. I expect to learn a lot more about this field of art than I already know. Most of all, I want to know what makes a movie a "good movie".

As you can see, students expect Movie Club to bring something new to our routine at school. For now, it mostly consists of Juniors and several other students. We'll see how it progresses from here.

Tamta Gegechkori



Nick Lelashvili's Theory of Evolution

GZAAT Evolutionary Theory:

From 'Clueless Freshmen' to

'Stressed-Out Seniors' in Four Short Years

Three years and two months have passed. Now we, who started as freshmen, are well into our senior year. We are the most-experienced, most-respected, and eldest group of students in the school. We have changed. We've (for the most part) grown up, transforming magically from 14-year-old kids into... young adults. Our beliefs have changed. Some of the things that we initially considered to be bad actually turned out to be good; and vice versa: some of the pursuits that we believed would be successful turned out to be total disasters. But, in reality, our particular generation of seniors - the Class of 2011 - isn't any different from the graduating classes that have come before, nor will the seniors who graduate in the future be any different from us. It is this writer's opinion that nearly all GZAAT seniors develop in the same way, accumulating similar traits and behavior. So, in the name of Darwin, some theory concerning this development can be proposed... GZAAT Evolutionary Theory: From 'Clueless Freshmen' to

GZAAT Evolutionary Theory

(Continued from p.7)

‘Overconfident Seniors’ in Four Short Years.

Freshmen Year:

This is the weirdest year of all. You are the green newbie who knows nothing and nobody and, if you don't have some relative in the school, the thing you've probably heard most about GZAAT is that it is a specialized school for rich kids. Probably you are shocked during your first assembly when the list of school rules sounds like a list of regulations from a Soviet gulag... But in reality the freshmen are the only ones who think so. For the rest of the school, freshmen year is a year of memories, the foremost of which is the reminiscence of quantities of homework which do not seem to be humanly possible. Aside from work, work and more work, the main sources of entertainment are befriending new classmates and learning new things about the school. Life starts to get a bit tenser towards the end of the year, when talk of mysterious “juries” begins to increase. You do infinite “jury-preps”, hear scary stories about students who have failed and have an impression that you need to remember by heart everything that was ever said in class (which is not too far from the truth). But the actual truth is that freshmen year is one of the best in any student's GZAAT school career. The paradox is that it's not until it has passed that you come to appreciate understand how much you have undervalued the year of your green and innocent childhood...

Sophomore Year:

This is the year that, for many, has the best reputation. This is the year that, if you do your homework, you have little else to worry about. Sophomore year is a carefree time, when absolutely nothing happens. You are already a member of the GZAAT community. You have friends, favorite teachers, places where you gather with your friends. You think that you have already experienced everything and nothing can surprise you. Your pride increases: while a year ago you were ready to accept the idea that you were a “pitiful freshman”, now you are ready to crush anyone who would dare to place the adjective “pitiful” too close to the word “sophomore”. Probably you will hear about the SAT for the first time. You are not concerned about it, yet, because it is all still too far from you. The tenth grade is the Nirvana which everyone wishes to reach and which no one wants to leave: for freshmen – to become older, and the rest – to forget about the hell that started their junior year. The end of the year is still the same. Juries come, introducing some diversity into your academic life. You like to scare freshmen like you were scared a year ago, telling them about the horrors of the exams. And then juries pass and you understand that you are free and that you won't be asked to pass the juries ever again...

Junior Year:

If sophomore year is heaven, then junior year is hell. The amount of homework and of your concerns increases exponentially. Unlike previous years, when teachers were easy on you, now, even the mellowest

teacher will be doing everything to make you work. They are telling you that you should already start thinking about your application and that next year it will be too late to start working. But you don't care. Admissions are too far in the future and the SATs are unexplored territory. You naïvely believe that you have enough time to think about both SATs and admissions and that the only thing you should worry about is how to plow through the terrifyingly huge amount of homework you get assigned. By the New Year you already start remembering the light-mindedness of the previous two years. Then the first SAT preparations start. They depress you, because you start to understand that to be able to do ALL THIS in under four hours with only a few minutes of rest you need to be a bit crazy. But the worst isn't the test day... it's the day when you get your scores back and are thrown into the depths of humiliation, despair and dissatisfaction. But there is one small consolation: juries. Unlike you, freshmen and sophomores are still concerned about juries, giving you an extraordinary feeling of satisfaction when you are able to come to school free from any duties.

Senior Year:

After three long years you reach the peak of your academic and social evolution. And then you suddenly realize that it is not heaven, but hell that awaits you. That you should write the SAT, SAT Subject Tests, TOEFL, college essays, fill out countless surveys and forms, and at the same time keep up your grades, because this is your last chance to improve the GPA. There is tremendous work that should be done, not leaving you time for anything else. And then you become an acolyte of admissions, with your old God, or gods, being replaced by new deities: the omniscient and omnipotent Common App, the almighty Naviance and last but not least, that prince of darkness ETS that will bring you to despair with the help of its demon spawn: the SAT and TOEFL. And it helps: even the kids that have never opened books start studying, researching and preparing... because everybody knows... it's a time to shape your fate. The only ones who are in Nirvana are smokers and gluttons. They are able to satisfy their sinful desires, leaving the sacred grounds of school territory and to smoke and eat at their leisure. A world full of passions is open for them, because freedom is so close and you can get not only food, drink or a pack of cigarettes, but also liberation from the rest of the classes. But everybody goes back to school... because this time the stakes are too high and even “mighty seniors” don't have a chance for error...

Three years flew past in the blink of eye. This year, we seniors are not the same as we were when we entered the GZAAT community in the autumn of 2007. We evolved, surviving the era of freshmen ignorance and coming to our present point – the beginning of adulthood, where wishes become less important in the face of responsibilities. These were good years and each grade brought something new... Do I want to return the times when I was a freshman? Yes. Can I do so? No. And neither can you. So use the time you still have and grow up, evolve, develop... and don't forget about having fun... because the times will come when the burden of adulthood will change your life and you yourself...

By Nikoloz Lelashvili

Prefects: Who are they?



From the right (head): Kote Cheishvili, Nini Dvali, Ani Lortkipanidze, Ana Astakhishvili and Giorgi Gureshidze.

On Wednesday, August 25 GZAAT faculty gathered after summer break to discuss upcoming issues and decide the question which interested Class 2011 for four years. They decided who was going to become prefect this year. After long discussion verdict was passed: Kote Cheishvili, Ani Lortkipanidze, Giorgi Gureshidze, Nini Dvali and Ana Astakhishvili were announced as prefects of 2010-2011. The main responsibilities of prefects are to look after freshmen and help them adapt to new school, new environment. Annually, freshmen are assigned to advisors and prefects are the ones who help them in advisories. One may say that they are vice-advisors of freshmen. Prefect's responsibility includes organizing events and taking part in everything that happens at school. In

order to get more clear understanding of what prefects themselves think about their responsibilities, we talked to one of the prefects – Ana Astakhishvili and here is interview with her.

-Ana, can you tell us shortly what the main responsibilities of a prefect are?

- (silence) Firstly, you have to take care of freshmen as if you are their advisor. It is not hard to imagine because you actually become one. During the first week, when freshmen are like lost kids in the unknown rectangular shaped building filled with round tables, unknown kids and unique teachers they need someone who will spend time and help them. Particularly this was the beginning of my prefect duties.

- What is the hardest part in being a prefect?

- Sincerely to say, it's to give an advice. It might seem an easy thing to do, but it's a kind of a dilemma: to give an advice as a student or as a prefect. For the first case I can teach them witty tricks, but for the second one, I am not supposed to push kids to irresponsibility. (Looks like Ana shared a secret)

- Do you like current freshmen? If yes, what do you like in them?

- I remember myself in their age, as being freshmen. They are smart, talented and have the rare ability to adapt easily. They are very communicative and open; therefore most of the girls already report some gossips. (laughs) They are very quite. I WANT TO BE A FRESHMAN AGAIN!!!!

- What are some weird questions usually the freshmen ask?

- Some of the questions were: who is Rick? Why can't we talk during the lessons? Who is the best teacher? How do you plagiarize?

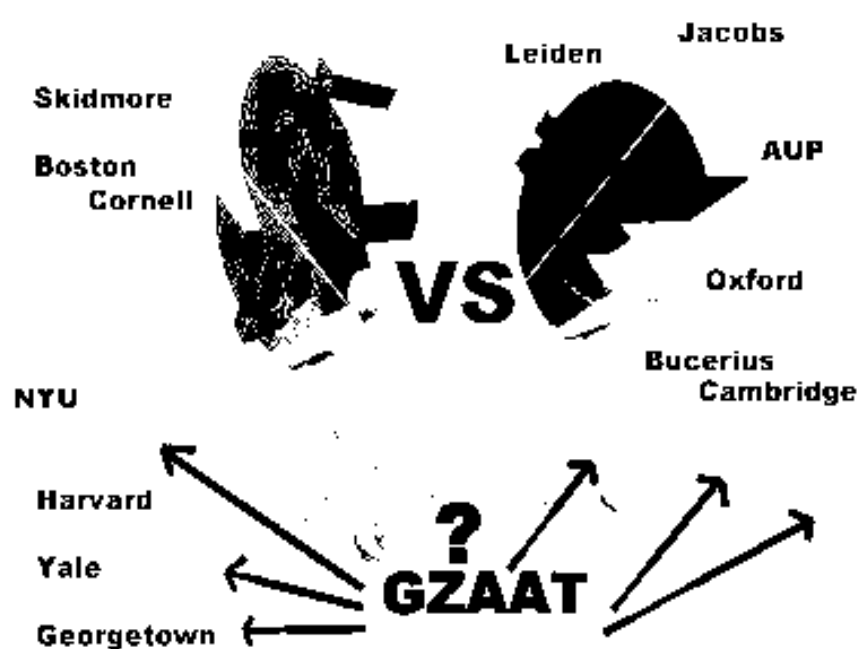
- This answer is the most interesting for us, but this is the question of private conversation. Ana, besides helping newcomers, what are some advantages of being a prefect?

- Currently, we will be choosing vice and presidents in freshmen, sophomore and junior classes and the decision is very important, as the presidents will be helping us with organizing different events. Besides this, being a prefect gives you ability to get acquaintance with the people whom you will leave this inheritance. (AAT)

- Thank you for your sincere answers. I hope you will enjoy being a prefect in the future.

- Thank you, I like your humor. Good luck in elections!

By Ana Gvalia



U.S VS. European Colleges

Selecting a college is like choosing what your life will be for the next couple of years. That's why you should search and research through the countless opportunities. The first best way to find what your fit is, is by choosing a continent -America or Europe?

Distance: It needs no outline that the greatest advantage of Europe for the GZAAT students is that you need at most six hours to get home!

History: The Oldest University situated in Europe is the University of Bologna which dates its origins back to 1088, while Harvard was only founded in 1636. So the Buildings in Europe keep its old charm, some are part time museums as well.

Campus life: In most of the European Universities there are no campuses, so most likely you will have to rent a flat. Consider whether it sounds as profitable opportunity to keep apartment, in one of the most expensive cities in the world like Paris or London? But most GZAAT students rent apartment together, so it becomes less expensive.

Public vs. Private: Most of the European Universities are public, which results in lower tuition, and bigger student number. However, one should take into account that Public Universities in USA share similar traits.

Admission requirements: Generally speaking the admissions process through the European Universities is more filtering, and please keep in mind that you would better decide where you want to get your Bachelor's degree, so choose the exams accordingly. Commonly known, American Universities require SAT reasoning and subject tests, while in UK one has to pass A level exams. The most important: whether you choose to pursue studying in Europe or

USA you will definitely need to take Toefl iBT, so register as soon as you are ready.

Medicine & Law: The most questions arise when it comes to the fields of Medicine and Law. Before entering the Medical school in USA, you have to take Baccalaureate of pre-med, or major in any sciences. However in European Universities you directly are acquired for the medical track. Roughly to say you

save four years. However, many of the degrees that work in Europe have to be reassured in USA. Of course studying the law is most efficient in your country. However in Europe the basic technique of saving time takes place as well, since the law codes are more similar to Georgian laws.

Recommendation Letters: Teacher and counselor recommendations are a vital part of the application process. During the "Application season" (usually mid Fall), GZAAT teachers get many requests for recommendations, so try to warn a teacher far in advance, so that he/she has enough time to write one.

Transcripts: According to a widely spread opinion at our school, only junior and senior first trimester grades matter for an acceptance. Whole administration and school staff assures that this information is wrong. Yes, junior and senior grades weight a little more than those of the previous years, but college admission staff generally considers whole transcript and all grades.

U.S VS. European Colleges (Continued from p.9)
 personality. So if you are in community service club it means you enjoy helping people, if you are in newspaper club means that you like to write and so on. Do not overwhelm yourself with tons of clubs – it is better to join some that you really like and attend regularly, rather than sign up for ten and attend once in a month. Good luck with colleges !

By Natalia Nakaidze

SAT Subject Tests: Which are worth of writing?

Even though popularity of SAT Subject Tests decreases annually, the question, which Subject Test is better to write, is still frequent. To remind, SAT Subject Tests represent supplementary SAT tests in an individual subjects, which are still required by the most highly competitive colleges of USA. List of such universities is quite short, but most of universities with relatively low acceptance rate require additional SAT Subject Tests. Last year, several universities, including Georgetown, Princeton, and Harvard required three such tests, but this year they are changing policy, by cancelling requirement of third Subject Test. Students may write one or two Subject Tests, depended on university where they plan to go, but take in consideration, that every university, known as “Ivy League,” requires no less than two Subject Tests. It is also important that one Canadian institution - the University of Toronto still requires three supplementary tests.

For today, College Board offers 20 multiple-choice Subject Tests. These are: Literature, U.S. History, World History, Math Level 1, Math Level 2, Biology E (ecological biology), Biology M (molecular biology), Chemistry, Physics, French, French with Listening, German, German with Listening, Spanish, Spanish with Listening, Modern Hebrew, Italian, Latin, Chinese with Listening, Japanese with Listening, Korean with Listening. Most of the universities require any of two or one SAT Subject Tests, but Technical universities, which are oriented on engineering, science, and mathematics – require subject tests in specific subjects, like one math (Level 1 or 2) and one science (biology, chemistry of physics) SAT Subject Test. California Institute of Technology is the only university that requires Math Level 2.

Subject Tests in different languages don't need to be discussed, because if you know a language

well enough, you will be able to deal with it, because Subject SATs in language are specially designed for non-native speakers and universities do not consider these subject tests written by native speakers of that language.

Obsolete Means Outmoded!!!

Biology SAT is considered as the one of the most difficult Subject Tests.

Molecular and Ecological Biology require memorizing some concepts, names, etc. For freshmen and sophomores, who were only studying biology and know nothing else, can try Biology SAT, but it's too early for freshmen to write SAT because of inexperience.

In return of biology, sophomores should try Subject Test in Chemistry. It is easier than biology one, but has 85 questions, which should be answered in 1 hour. At the end of the year, sophomores are ready for Subject SAT, and if you studied chemistry well, being able to solve most of the problems, one to two months revision and practice will guarantee your high score. (You can write SAT in May or June, but I recommend writing in June, because you will have more time to finish book and practice). If you write it during sophomore year, you will have less burden in the junior year, where students start working on “big” SAT.

Physics Subject Test is harder, but its scoring guide is “kinder,” because from 75 questions, student with scaled score 60 can still receive SAT score of 800. Those juniors, who think that Ilia Mestvirishvili is too old for being Physics teacher and consider themselves as the potential candidates, or can prove that Albert Einstein's theory is incorrect, may try writing Subject test in Physics at the end of the year.

Mathematics Level 1 is one of the easiest tests for those, who are good in mathematics. With its complexity, Level 1 is slightly difficult than SAT 1 mathematics section. If SAT 1 mathematics is not hard for you, you have to write level 1. And it needs

least time for preparing – two weeks of practice tests and you are ready! Juniors and seniors can afford writing this test, but sophomores and freshmen need to know more about math than they know at this point.

What concerns Math Level 2 test, it isn't as easy as Level 1. That's why it's called Level 2. In this test, you will meet the most difficult areas of mathematics which you've studied in GZAAT. Complex logarithmic problems, advanced trigonometry, conic section – this is incomplete list of Level 2 topics. Number of questions and time for test are the same as in Math Level 1: 50 questions in 1 hour.

Consider, that scoring guide is much softer for Level 2 than for Level 1. If you find out that you are cleverer than Lasha Kokilashvili, or you are able to contradict Pythagorean theory and prove that $1+1$ isn't equal to 2, then Math Level 2 is a test designed specially for you.

Students, who feel comfortable dealing with various figures of speech and techniques of analyzing poetry, are free to write Subject Test in Literature. It's neither too hard, nor easy. Literature test is very like Critical Reading section of SAT 1, but texts are smaller and they include poems. (Tip for SAT Subject test literature: it is useful to work on Shakespeare's sonnets)

SAT Subject Test in World's History is the most “Humane” subject test, because it requires no distinguished knowledge in this subject. If you have 100 in History, it doesn't mean that you'll get 800. Every student can get enough high score in history, but it needs 1-2 months of preparing and learning specific dates or facts, which were crucial in World's history. If you studied history well, you will have more chance to get high score, but keep under consideration that Subject Test in World's history is only offered in December and June.

History of United States is less recommended for our students, because we don't study United States' history as a specific subject, but if you have an ambition and eagerness to be called as “Father of the SAT Subject Tests,” and wish to write all of the subject tests, then nothing can prevent you from writing U.S. History Subject Test.

By Konstantine Cheishvili



Lunch for Seniors: From Crepes to Elvis, Options Abound

It's easy to tell when "lunch-o'clock" has hit the school building: hordes of 9th, 10th and 11th Graders

tear through the halls and cascade down the stairs, jostling and cutting for position in an all-out attack on the cafeteria that is, most likely, viewed with pride by the ghost of Genghis Khan and governed only by the law of the jungle. There is, however, one elite group who

has been freed from this cycle of Darwinian chaos: the privileged senior class. The seniors – the responsible, mature, trustworthy seniors – are allowed to leave the school grounds and eat lunch outside. With so many dining options close to school, many of these newly minted gourmands have difficulties deciding where to eat. In fact, there have been a number of documented cases in which groups of seniors leaving school for lunch have taken so long to decide where to go, that they end up wasting the entire lunch period arguing over where to eat (so they just smoke instead).

Most famous place for seniors to eat is undoubtedly "The Creperie Corner", which has a wide choice of delicious crepes, sandwiches and soups. They don't take more than 3-4 minutes to prepare your order, so not only is the food delicious at "Le Corner de Crepe", but the service is fast too. Another fast food joint is the relatively new "Burgerville", located about 30 meters up the street. As the name suggests, this place specializes in burgers and also has delicious French fries on their menu. The prices are nearly the same as those found at the "Corner of Crepe", and

Senior Soso Tsagareli: "I prefer to buy food in Populi as it is closer to school and their food satisfies hunger unlike the food from Crepe Corner, although it is not as delicious."



the service is just as good, but

most seniors think that food is not as delicious.

For some seniors the market chain "Populi" provides the best option. The market is closer to school than the cafes mentioned above, but it only has ready-made food, which can be heated up at your request. The prices are lower, and the number of calories that you get is higher, but their food is never as delicious as the other nearby options.

For the truly intrepid, the free lunch period can mean adventure.

Student, prefect and newshound Ani Lortkipanidze, for example, is fast enough to

go as far as the exotic "Elvis American Diner" located inside the Philharmonic Concert Hall, fitting all this in a 40 minute lunch. There is also a pizzeria near school but it is impossible to eat here in time as pizza takes

a while to make, and you really wouldn't want to eat it in a hurry. The "Diplomati" market right behind the "Corner of Crepe" sells some delicious cakes and donuts, which were really popular when they were sold at the cafeteria.

The choices open to seniors vary greatly but as research suggests most of them prefer to eat at the "Corner of

Crepe". Senior Misho Antadze: "I always eat at the Crepe Corner. They have the delicious food and, although the prices are quite high, still I think that Crepe Corner is the best option of all." Senior Giorgi Managadze: "I prefer to eat at Crepe Corner, the service is fast, the food is good and the prices are fine." Senior Soso Tsagareli: "I prefer to buy food in Populi as it is closer to school and their food satisfies hunger unlike the food from Crepe Corner, although it is not as delicious." Senior Nick

Natia Lomidze in *Elvis American Dinner*

Tskhvediani: "My first choice is Crepe Corner but I frequently go to eat at Burgerville as I especially like their French Fries. The sandwich with bacon and cheese is also especially good."



So as you can see there are several good options to provide you with delicious food, and seniors are really lucky to have such a wide range of choices.

By Levan Mzhavia

3rd GZAAT Summer Program

Three years ago two GZAAT alumni, Ketik Khukhunashvili and Ana Getiashvili started GZAAT summer school. Since then every summer students from all over the Georgia come to spend their summer meaningfully. Director of summer school is Troy Filman, and teachers are mostly foreigners, who live in Georgia. (some even know a bit of Georgian!!) The groups were divided by levels: elementary, intermediate, and advanced classes. Apart from Tbilisi, some students were also refugees from Pankisi and Tserovani.

This year lots of kids attended Summer School and here are interviews with some of them.

Interview with Kakha Khvtisiashvili:

Me: - Hello Kakha, I want to ask you a few questions about summer school.

Kakha: - Sure.

Me: - Who told about summer school?

Kakha: -My friends told me.

Me: -Are you happy with your decision to study there?

Kakha: -Yes! I liked it very much! It was cool.

Me: - What did you like most of all?

Kakha: - I liked my English and American teachers' lessons. They were very nice to us. I liked field trip in Saguramo. We had a great time.

Me: -Aren't you sorry that you spent summer at school?

Kakha: -No, I wanted to study here, I knew it would be good.

Me: -What did summer school you with?

Kakha: -Nice memories, pictures, videos, and many interesting things that I learned at my lessons. (in fact that's true, he took tons of videos daily! J)

Me: -What can you say about school environment?

Kakha: -Well, people were very nice to me. Everyone was ready to help me any time. I felt myself as home. I enjoyed in summer school very much.

Me: -Thank you Kakha. I'm happy you liked our summer school.

Interview with Nanuka Sutidze

Me: Nanuka, why did you decide to spend whole month studying in summer school?

Nanuka: I thought that studying in summer school would be better than spending whole summer doing nothing. And also I knew I would enjoy it.

Me: Great approach! J so, what did you like about summer school?

Nanuka: I liked everything, teachers, kids, program, and after summer school I talked all the time about it, describing how well I spent time. It was super!



Me: So, third question. What did summer school give to you?

Nanuka: Before summer school when I talked in English, I was very nervous, now I am not. I'm happy to talk in English. Also I have new friends.

Me: And what do you remember most of all?

Nanuka: The last day, it was so emotional.

Me: Thank you Nanuka so much, hope to see you soon!

Nanuka: You're welcome. Hope to see you soon too.

Interview with Tako Kevlishvili

Me: Why did you decide to spend your summer vacation studying in summer school?

Tako: My friend used to study there. She told me a lot of good stuff about summer school and recommended me to study there too. I'm happy that I followed her advice.

Me: how did you like the environment of summer school??

Tako: I liked it very much. Everybody was so kind and helpful. Everyday I looked forward to go to school. It was awesome.

Me: What did it give to you?

Tako: The most important thing summer school gave me is self-confidence. Although my English was quite good, I felt uncomfortable while talk in English, but

summer school changed that. Also it gave me lots of friends -that mean a lot to me.

Me: What was the most memorable thing that happend during the summer school?

Tako: The field trip. We went to Saguramo and tried to fly kites. I have never done it before. We had a lot of fun.

Interview with TA Mariam Asatiani

1. Mariam, you spent your summer vacations in summer school as well, tell us what you were doing there?

- I workd as a TA (teacher's assistant). My job was to help the children understand the material. As you know, the teachers were Americans and they couldn't speak Georgian, so my job was to translate stuff for children and make sure they understood everything. Also I had to look after their behavior, if I noticed that they did something that was against the rules I had to take them to the office. Fortunately such thing didn't happen with my class.

2. What did summer school

give to you?

- Well, it gave me a lot: new experience, new friends, a job opportunity. I learned how to work with children. Also I took my first salary in summer school and a recommendation letter for university.

3. Wasn't it hard to work with little children?

- No, not at all. They all are so adorable. They actually wanted to study and I did my best to help them.

Interview with a parent, Tamuna Mikaberidze

Me: Why did you decide to bring Giviko to summer school?

Tamuna: I wanted him to see something different and original, not like in all other schools. Also he would have contact with native speakers and I thought in would be good experience. Besides, he wanted it too.

Me: Did summer school really give such results as you expected?

Tamuna: Yes, it was very successful. First of all now he has more confidence. Also he experienced variety of studying systems. I think, all in all, it gave great results.

So, summer had ended and as we see it was really productive for those, who spent it in GZAAT summer school. In was memorable one month.

By Valida Panculaia, Mariam Asatiani and Keke Kaikhosroshvili

Soso's Big Adventure: Miami Vice

This July, while I was attending the summer program at the University of Miami, I started to wish that I

had gone there earlier. The three weeks I spent there was one of the best experiences I've had in my life. A good summer school can be a really big step towards establishing a successful future college life.

Usually, the summer schools list is distributed in our school at the end of the school year, but I found my summer school on the Internet when I was just surfing around,

looking at summer schools in the US. I was thinking about spending my summer vacation in the US, since I have never been there and I am probably going to continue my studies there.

So I found the summer program and started to gather the required documents. Usually, one needs two teacher recommendation letters, a transcript, and a personal essay. The process is not as complicated as you might think, and moreover our college counselors are very helpful in this respect.

I was accepted and I departed from Tbilisi International Airport on June 25th, but I cannot tell you the exact date I finally arrived. The flight was frustrating. One of my four planes was late, I was "rebooked" as I flew first to Munich, then to Frankfurt, then to Boston and finally to Miami. At last I exited the airport in Miami, and I must tell you that the US is extremely different from any country I have seen before and Miami is a very hot city. Actually

this is one reason why this summer was so productive for me: if you are planning to continue studying in America, you should try to be as prepared as possible

Yooooo! Miami Beach!!!!!! East Side!!!!



before you arrive, because at first you will be very confused. I'm not mocking the American style of living or learning, but I must point out that it is extremely different from Georgia, in more ways than you can imagine. But now, while applying to American universities I will have a better idea about where I want to go.

During summer vacation, some (excepting George Managadze and several other students who were at schools for the entire summer) may think it crazy to spend three weeks, or even a month sitting in class, reading books and listening to lectures on topics even more complicated than what we do in high school, but you can feel far more relaxed as a summer scholar. Studies are not that tiresome and one can also get involved in everyday activities that are really fun. While I was at the University of Miami (UM) I visited the branch Federal Reserve Bank of Miami (where I actually touched a box containing 20 million dollars),

visited "Ernst and Young" where I met the company's senior manager, and I met the guy from the UM international admissions office and received some

good advice from him. I even went diving at 6 AM. One could also go to movie theatres, shopping malls and to the beach... we had plenty of activities to keep us busy every evening.

Though it was just for three weeks, I also broadened my imagination about my future major and career. I chose business management as a subject to study there. Our

lectures and assignments were very similar to those of the university level, and it helped me narrow down what I might want to study in future. Furthermore, with the help of the program I received six college credits.

Of course all these perks come at a price, and there are some setbacks: the main one being that tuition at summer schools in general tends to be quite expensive and not all students can afford to pay what they're charging. However, there are scholarships and it is very likely (if your grades and CV are good) that you will receive some financial aid.

So, take your chances and do your best to get yourself into a summer school: it will open your mind, and make you a hundred times more familiar with college life and the general situation abroad.

By Soso Tsagareli



Young Band "Psychometrias"

Geo Rock

Everybody has different taste in music. Some like classical; some rap; some rock; and some live for 1950s show tunes. Accordingly, these days there is a vast choice of musical genres from which to choose. Also, in today's globalized world, musical genres are also multi-national: there are Norwegian Death Metal bands; Indian boy bands; and American Afro-Beat bands. Music fans here in Tbilisi seem to mostly listen to foreign-produced music because – aside from more traditional genres (kalakuri, etc.) – most of the music that is aggressively marketed in Georgia falls mainly into the pop category. But, as mentioned above, there is a vast choice of music in the world and this is true for Georgia too. Georgian musicians don't produce only pop music; there is a wide variety of various kinds of bands making music in Georgia. These groups are mostly friends who are attracted to music and get together to play instruments. At first they start by playing covers of famous rock songs (mostly foreign) and then eventually they move on to compose their own music. Some of these groups include Defenders of Tanelorn, Porno Poetry, and Mirror Illusion. The list goes on and on and, as it does, the names on it become less-and-less recognizable. Only a few hardcore fans know that these are the names of Georgian rock bands and not some of kind of sausage companies.

But a Georgian band's existence doesn't end with just getting together and playing some songs at rehearsal: there are live concerts also, which any Georgian band can take part in (if they can play properly). The Rock Club is one of the main clubs where start-up Georgian bands have their first live performances. The Rock Club holds live performances almost every week and it offers Georgian music lovers new bands and new sounds. Even though metal is currently one of the most popular genres in Georgia, there are plenty of punk, indie, and grunge bands as well. One of the most famous and important live shows – Open Air: Altervision for Newcomers – is held each year at "Sportis Sasaxle". This event is important for every band, especially newcomers, because this kind of exposure helps bands find new options to play on bigger stages where, of course, there will be more people, and more people means more fame and who,

besides Leonard Cohen, doesn't want to be famous? These bands usually do not compete with each other. On the contrary, when they have the chance they tend to get together, buy a beer, and discuss their future plans while playing acoustic guitar and testing out their new songs.

So, what is it like to be a young, and (hopefully) up-and-coming, musician trying to make it on the Tbilisi music scene?

To get an inside look, we were lucky enough to catch up with the lead singer from the Georgian band "Psychometrias", Alex Gigaure:

GZAAT: How did you guys create this band? And whose idea was it?

A.G: Our guitarists created the band and they offered one drummer to play in their band, then this drummer offered me to be a vocalist in the band. Unfortunately Irakli, the drummer, left and we had to pick up a new drummer. While searching for a drummer we found our bassist as well and the band was completed.

GZAAT: What genre are you playing?

A.G: At first we started with metalcore, but now we've switched to deathcore.

GZAAT: What does the name "Psychometria" mean? And who came up with this name?

A.G: At first the band was named "The Edge of Hatred" but when I joined the group I thought of a different name. Psychometria is a measuring device of a human's mentality, how wise or crazy a person is; and our music is crazy and hard but it's also melodic and the lyrics are not shallow. Our music is as for crazy people as well as for smart ones.

GZAAT: Where do you get your funds? Do you guys work?

A.G: Mostly we get money from our parents, but this summer we were all working and now we're using this money on rehearsals and such stuff.

GZAAT: What is your inspiration?

A.G: My personal inspiration, which is clearly reflected in the lyrics, is my own life, but our guitarist's inspirations are foreign bands.

GZAAT: And the last question, where can we listen to your songs?

A.G: At rehearsals and live performances, but if there won't be any, then visit our myspace page: www.myspace.com/psychometria. It's still under development.

The Current State of Georgian Cinematography

During August, Georgian movie theatres announced the festival of 101 best movies according to Imdb Top 250. Every day three movies of different genres and times were shown in the theatres. Even though there were not a lot of people who attended these movies, the fact that the movie theatres decided to show "Top 101 Movies" is already a step forward. With the development of art fields in Georgia, it became clear that development of Georgian cinematic and generally increased number of interested people in movies was inevitable. New movies, new festivals, web pages, all foster interest of people (Especially of younger ones, who are interested in Movie Industry). Ten years ago nobody could imagine that the cinema rooms would be field with people waiting to watch Georgian movies. Even though progress in Georgian movie industry in noticeable, the quality of those movies is of the worst sort. While many people criticize directors in creating "pop" movies, a lot of people still have hope that this is just the beginning. In order to get a clear idea, what is going on in Georgian Cinematography today, I talked with Mr. Otar Shamatava- director, producer, actor and scene writer. During his 31 years of work in cinematography, he directed seven movies. Some of those movies are: *revanshi*, *Fiesta*, *Dzvirpaso M*, *atraqtioni*, *Turandoti*, *Vamekhi modis*, etc.

- Could you please tell us a bit more about yourself?

- I studied in 55th public school. Then I finished art academy, faculty of architecture. Then I finished theatrical faculty and released my first movie called *Revanshi* in 1979.

- How did you decide to make your first movie? Where did you get the inspiration of creating it?

This was just a little chat with one of hard rock band members. Usually starter bands collide with the problem of finding a place to rehearse. And if they find a place, then the problem mostly is with financing. In places where the sound is normal or less than normal, two hours of rehearsal costs 12 lari, but at places where the sound is better, two hours costs 20 lari, and sometimes even more!

By Shmagi Liklikadze

The Current State of Georgian**Cinematography (Continued from p.14)**

- It's really hard to answer this question. I think the creation of an idea for the movie is absolutely subconscious. You can get this idea even when you walk in the street and see the bones of a fish, or you might hear some good idea in a dialogue, or read it somewhere. *Mr. Otar Shamatava*

- Who is your favourite director and what is your favourite movie?

- The first one that comes to my mind is Charlie Chaplin and his City Lights.

- What about the contemporary directors?

- Even though commercial movies are dominant nowadays, there are a lot of interesting

directors, for instance Jim Jarmusch and Woody Allen.

- What situation is nowadays in Georgian cinematography?

- It is a really hard period for Georgian movie industry. Basically cinematographic is just starting its existence now. It makes its first steps. There are a lot of new directors who create movies, but on whole I still cannot say that cinematography is developed industry in Georgia.

- Well, a lot of people say that even commercial movies are good to start with. Do you agree with this opinion?

- I appreciate every single detail that is being done. I support everything that will somehow foster development of movie industry. But the only thing that bothers me is that this processes take too much time.

- From your perspective, what kind of movies should the young people watch?

- To be honest, I do not like giving advices about which movie to watch. It is only possible when there is a dialogue and people know each other and each other's interests. So I am against the general portrayal of "Social Layers". I cannot say that one should watch only serious movies. It all depends on the society a person lives in, on the relationships with people and his point of view on others. Everything has its own vibrations; if a kid has a problem at home, or has got no money



to buy food he would not want to watch a serious movie. Everyone creates his own world on his own, and afterwards he decides what to watch, or generally in what to be interested. Now goes a question: can't we raise the public to watch only good quality movies, for instance 8 1/2? My answer

is that it is impossible. People who watch 8 1/2 are individuals and it's impossible for everyone to be an individual. So entertaining shows have the same right to exist as for example Discovery Channel. It has always been like this, most of the people are part of mass, they watch entertaining shows, but there is a small group of people who watch real movies.

After a talk with Mr. Otar Shamatava it becomes clear that even though Georgian

movie industry is not in its best shape, one should not give up a hope that one day high quality movies will also be produced in the same amount as commercial movies, or at least 1/100 the number of that of commercial movies. As it is said, hope dies last, so hope is only thing left for Georgian cinematography nowadays.

By Mari Lomia

**Blink 182 !!!**

It's totally safe to say, that Blink 182 is one of the best bands ever. Tom Delonge, Mark Hoppus and Travis barker do their best to please fans and win awards, in which they succeed. For example they

took part in best video award and "All the small things" music video won. They became the best rock group in 2001. Also they received an MTV Europe Award for Best New Act and the best rock act, after which they appeared in American pie. Blink 182 now is a worldwide phenomenon. Their music is known all over the world. Those who listen to punk rock, listen to blink 182. And there are few who don't like Mark, Tom and Travis.

This band already in 1998 was one of the most popular punk bands of that year, and after that they continue to impress people. Fans of Blink 182 create lots of fan pages and blogs, which automatically mean that they are very popular. Also the fact that they have been on the covers of Rolling Stone, Alternative Press (twice), Teen People, Teen and CosmoGirl and etc. shows that they are well known. They earned top spins on many key radio stations and their song "I miss you" is hit which remains popular since 2003. This song became Choice love song in Teen choice awards. Every teen which listens to rock or punk, knows this song.

Blink 182 is also known for their charity works. The last they did was to produce new exclusive Haiti T-shirts to help Haitians with the help of the red cross. The money earned goes in Haiti 100% fully. Also, they joined soul4soul charity works in LA. Mark participated in "The Munny Show", which is a charity event to benefit the children affected by Hurricane Katrina. Not only do they join charity works, but

they also created a song dedicated to the divorces families: "stay together for the kid" which became the greatest tune. This is even more reasons to love Mark, Tom and Travis.

By Mariko

Kopadze

მარიკო კოპაძე

სივრცის შიში გაქრება...

გინდება შეიგრძნო ჰაერი, რომელსაც
ყველაფრის წართმევა შეუძლია...

ბრჭყვიალა მთვარის შუქზე, როცა
ყველაზე დიდი ხარ, ჩასუსტებული
ტკივილიც გფხაჭნის გულს...

ჩაკაწრული ტვინის ნახევრები
იშმუშნებიან და გაგება გიადვილდება...

გათელილი სიმართლე გაუძღვრებული,
სუღელი ღიმილით გეგებება და ისედაც
გატანჯულ სახეზეც გირტყავს...

დაშრამებული მარტოობა ნაწილებად
გჭრის...

ახლა ბავშვის გაბერილ ღოყებშიც მას
ექებ...

მისი დაკარგვა ლავაში ჩადგმული
მწველი ნაბიჯია...

სიხუმის მუსიკით გაწამებული სამუდამო
ღმუილი...

პანტომიმის თითქოს უაზრო მიმიკები
სუნთქვას გიშლიან...

სითეთრე ნელ-ნელა შავდება და
ჩამაბრმავებელი ოცნებები მას მიეყვებიან...

მისი სული ცაში მიფრინავს შენ კი-
გენატრება...გენატრება...

გინდება დააბრუნო... გინდება მასთან
იყო...

გულში თითქოს ბომბი გიფეთქდება...

უხილავ წრეში ჩამწყვდეული სიყვარული
მოუსვენრად იმეორებს იგივე მელოდიას...

ეიფორიად ქცეული მარტივი გრძნობები
შენში ადგილს ვერ პოულობენ...

გინდება მას გაჰყევი...

ვარდები...

სიცოცხლეს ჰაერს ანდობ, ის კი-ნელა
გირხევს თმას...თვალებს გახუჭინებს...

შენ იცინი...და ძირს ეხეთქები... იმ იმედით
რომ ყველაფერი დამთავრდა, მაგრამ
თვალებს ახელ და...

მის ნაცვლად მომღიმარი სახეები
გიყურებენ...

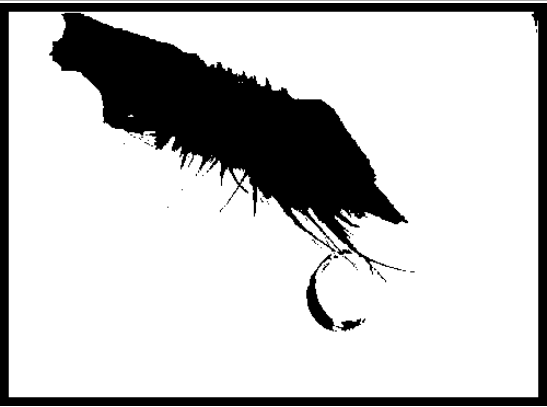
ხედები...ამას მერეც ნახავ...

ახლა კი-ამ ბედნიერ სახეებს შენ
ჭირდები...

მანმადე-იმედს ხელს ჩაკიდებ და
ბოლომდე ასე მომღიმარი ივლი...

გრძნობებით სავსე...

ეიფორიაში...



Levan Asatiani

Tear lake

I sit alone in the rain

Of my own eyes of pain

I cry for help

But it is in vane

Because no one can hear my cries through this
shame

The lake is a fiction

The pain is a lie

You're in control

So plz, don't die.

Ani Lortkipanidze

Coffe.Ge

Act I.

Object #1. Lonely woman who gets
accompanied by a man.

Where: Tbilisi, Georgia, Abashidze Street 34.
Café: Coffee.ge

When: 12th of September, 2010.

How:

I'm just a note taker,

I'm not the facts faker,

I want to be only the reality maker

I just want to be the truth's baker,

I don't want to be the hopes taker

Or a heartbreaker.

I just sit in my chair,

Look in the air,

And observe her hair.

I don't see her scare,

She sits there as if she doesn't care.

What I do is I just stare,

But she again sits, as if she doesn't care.

Her short hair,

Such business woman in this café is not rare.

I think it's not fare,

That her boyfriend or even anybody is not there.

This café where I sit,

Is next to the round square,

This is just so, I needed to declare.

The waitress comes and says:

“Sorry, madam we don't have mango juice,

If you can, please, excuse.”

Finally they reach the truce,

And woman orders orange juice.

The highlighter in her hand,

This women marks staff without an end,

As if she is not waiting for her friend.

I think she doesn't try to pretend,

She just really reads without an end,

Never looking that people around her blend.

I thought after twenty minutes this business
woman would get downtrend,

But here suddenly comes her friend.

His stomach really has no end,

But, it's clear he has some money to spend.

This woman gets serious,

But man is just delirious,

The woman gets imperious,

She's nothing like mysterious.

After ten minutes of discussion,

They switch to Russian.

The woman wants to leave, after next twenty
minutes,

And she really means it.

So they get up for their next trip,

And give the waitresses their merited tip.



International Tennis Star Leila Meskhi

We would like to start by asking when and why you chose to be a tennis player.

Before I was born, my father used to say that if his child would be a boy – he would become a soccer player and if a girl – a tennis player. Sports runs in our family, he said. When you're little, you can't really know what you want, so my parents played a key role in my decision.

Did you ever think about giving up tennis as a child?

My father took my training very seriously and I think I can say that I learned to play quicker than the other kids. Of course, when I saw my friends playing on the streets and I had to go to train I thought "Why me?" But naturally, after I felt victory and being the center of attention, this feeling subsided.

What did you feel when you played tennis on the highest level with the greatest players at the time?

Of course getting there was not easy. First, you had to become one of the top players in your age group among the 15 republics of the USSR to play in the national team. Now it is much easier as being among the best in Georgia is already enough. There was an advantage to the Soviet system, however. Then, our training was financed completely by the government, while now the parents of the child have to pay for everything themselves. It was not easy to get there and it was a very hard period in my life, but all the hardships were worth it when I became one of the top-rated players in the world, and the feeling of the adrenaline rush as the people applauded me. After getting so many prizes, you stop thinking about the problems, the crying, the fights. Very few people are fortunate enough to be in that position and you forget everything you went through to get there.

What were the circumstances in the Soviet Union at the time?

The trainers were very professional and we were taken very seriously, but the other players and I lost a lot of money in the final years of the USSR, when Georgia was an unknown country and we were all associated with the USSR, not our own countries. We were not treated as professional players, but after

several years that changed and we signed contracts with agents and became independent players.

You played many matches throughout your career, which one was the most memorable?

There were many of them, too many to tell you about in this interview, as I practically played for twenty years, but one of the best is my match against Martina Navratilova, a legendary tennis player whom I played against many times, but one of the matches was exceptionally memorable.

You told us how you developed as a tennis player as a child, what can you tell us about the current tennis-playing youth in Georgia?

This is a very tough period in our history. In '96, we established the Leila Meskhi Tennis Academy, when our building didn't have windows and we were content with just several children coming here. Then we had the financial crisis, but overall, we have very good results. We have seven girls in the top 500 right now. You may think this is not that special, but for a small country with limited finances, this is a huge achievement. Tennis is an expensive sport and it costs the federation, the state, and the parents a lot of money to support these players. Of course, the current situation is not perfect. It will be perfect when the country will be fully developed, with enough sponsors to finance us sufficiently. In Tbilisi the situation is better than outside of it, where there are less tennis players.

There is a tournament going on right now, is this the thirteenth already?

Yes, we've done this tournament every year except in 2008 because of the war.

Do you have any other tournaments planned?

Yes, we are collaborating with the government and recently organized an international junior tournament and there are many others planned. There are many improvements coming to Georgian tennis, so you see we are not sitting still. Of course, when a country has had such prominent players as Alexander Metreveli, Teimuraz Kakulia, and even me. Of course the public is expecting more. Ana Tatishvili is now number 135 in the world and has a good chance of qualifying for the Olympics.

What advice would you give to young, aspiring tennis players in Georgia?

It's very important in any area to have a goal that you set for yourself, independently from your parents or anyone else. You have to choose what you want yourself, and work hard to achieve your goal.

At what age should a child make this choice?

This is a hard question. I have two children myself. A parent can give advice, help their children, but I don't think there is a specific age at which the choice must be made.

Is there such a thing as too early?

I don't know, making the choice too early is more like fanaticism and what starts too early might end too early as well. At fourteen years old a child can probably make this choice independently.

Have your children made this decision already?

Both of my kids are playing, but they don't have the same motivation I had when I started.

Do you see yourself in them?

No, not at all. They can't work as much as I did, I guess it's because they have a much better childhood than I had. Motivation is very important.

Do you blame yourself?

Probably, as I wanted to give them what I did not have in my childhood. And we are learning to be more European and give our children more independence.

In what way do you think tennis should be made more popular among children?

I think it already is, we have numerous television channels broadcasting tennis matches and children can choose to play tennis, it's much simpler than in my time.

Outside Tbilisi?

Yes, it's also quite popular there.

Are there tennis courts available there?

In some cities there are some good courts, but overall, there is much room for improvement.

Are there any good Georgian referees?

Yes, we have several, but overall, this is a huge problem in Georgia. In our academy, we cannot employ referees on a regular basis, so they are only paid on special occasions.

Coaches?

Well, we have more coaches, more in Tbilisi than in the regions, but this is less of a problem than the referees.

Did you ever write an autobiography?

No, I have never considered it, I don't know, I have much to do and don't have time for it. But they are now making a new website where they will have biographies of various Georgian sportsmen and women. They are also making a section about me, so that will be something like an autobiography, as they will consult me.

We're sure it will be very interesting. Thank you very much.

By Dati Mamukelashvili, George Tsintsadze and Eduard Saakashvili

Transfers 2010-2011

1. David Villa (Valencia -> F.C. Barcelona) - The best summer signing of this year. After disappointing season of Henry who eventually left F.C. Barcelona, and mediocre display from new boy Zlatan Ibrahimovic, Barcelona were eager to get striker, fit for their tactics. David Villa is perfect. He fits in Barcelona's 4-3-3 tactics, where he can play either the central striker or the left winger. Villa is very apt at fast short passes that are utilized at Barcelona. Villa is very good at positioning, and shooting. Apart from this, he would feel home at Barcelona, alongside Xavi, Iniesta, Busquets, Puyol, and whole lot of other Spanish players.

2. Zlatan Ibrahimovic (F.C. Barcelona -> A.C. Milan) - Top transfer of A.C. Milan this year. Whole year Milan was missing a real centre forward who could use chances created by samba star Ronaldinho and ingenious Andrea Pirlo. Borriello was good but he is not a Milan level striker. Same with Huntelaar. Ibrahimovic fits perfectly in Rossonerri tactics, he can play in both, 4-3-3 or 4-4-2. Ibracadabra uses his strong body well, is fast and, for such a massive body is very technical. He will definitely take advantage of passes from Ronaldinho. Zlatan is very experienced in Serie A, for he played for F.C. Juventus and F.C. Inter for many years. Ibrahimovic would be the missing piece of A.C. Milan.



3. Mario Balotelli (F.C. Inter -> Manchester City) - Italian-ghanian wonder-boy was a target of many top teams this year. However he joined The Citizens. Balotelli fits City tactics well, he can play 4-4-2 system which is employed by Roberto Mancini. By the way Mancini was a person who uncovered Balotelli's talent, so they have a good relationship. Balotelli is a long term project, he is 19 and has to show his best yet. His understanding of Roberto Mancini will contribute to his and club's success.

4. Mesut Ozil (Werder Bremen -> Real Madrid) - Young German star of Turkish descent was captured by Spanish giants in four days. With Cristiano Ronaldo playing as second striker or winger, Kaka having chronic injuries and Guti released from the club, Madrid needed someone to control the center and supply forwards with passes. Ozil is the top choice, as he is apt at dribbling and can deliver clever passes. His legs will not fail, he is 23 only. Clearly the top choice for midfield.

5. Simon Kjær (Palermo -> Wolfsburg) - One of the most promising defenders of his age. Kjær was on

of the key players who led to Palermo's success, staying away from Champions League qualification by one spot. Kjær is very strong physically and controls center of the defense with confidence. He plays decently with head and causes serious problems at corners and free kicks. Wolfsburg would really profit by signing him, replacing aging veteran Barzagli.

6. Ricardo Carvalho (Chelsea -> Real Madrid) - From the beginning, Mourinho was asking for world class defender. He got one now. Carvalho is one of the best defenders these days. He has already played under Mourinho in Chelsea, and proved his vitality for team. Their good relationships would definitely contribute to Carvalhos and club's success. Carvalho is very clever defender, physically strong and would easily replace Raul Albiol. He can forge good partnership with Pepe, who has recently recovered from injury.

7. Aleksandr Kolarov (Lazio -> Manchester City) - Probably unanimous signing of Manchester City,

Kolarov possesses great skills in every aspect of game. He is fast, can deliver rocket shots, ingenious passes and defend well. At 24 he has still to show his full potential. However he enjoyed 3 beautiful years at Lazio. Kolarov can easily change aging legs of Wayne Bridge.

8. Robinho (Manchester City -> A.C. Milan) - For just 18 million, Milan stole samba star from Citizens. Without any doubt, he can be called one of the best talents of modern football, Robinho was second best signing of A.C. Milan, who stole the show at the end of transfer window. Robinho can provide Rossonerri with agility, dribbling, passes and what is most important, with goals. Robinho can fit into Allegri's tactics of 4-3-3 at right wing, though it is not his natural role. He can be very dangerous at 4-3-1-2, playing behind two strikers. Robinho can feel home at Milan, playing alongside Brazilian teammates Ronaldinho, Pato, and Thiago Silva.

9. Milos Krsic (CSKA Moscow -> F.C. Juventus) - Juventus who needed a serious reconstruction, executed many transfers this year. Probably the best signing of this year was Milos Krsic. He can provide Bianconeri with dribbling and passes. Krsic fits 4-4-2 tactics, as winger.

10. Yoann Gourcuff (Bordeaux -> O. Lyon) - After the departure of Juninho, ingenious passing was the thing that Lyon lacked. Gourcuff, although not as shining as in the previous season, had a decent year in Bordeaux. He can take Juninho's role in Lyon and provide vital passes for forwards.

By George Managadze

Are You Joking, Mr. Blatter? Say No to Plastic!

As usual, a number of UEFA scouts attended our assembly and as soon as they heard that our Newspaper Club members were going to reassemble and start working on a new edition, they urgently made a phone call directly to Michel Platini, the current president of UEFA. Naturally, Platini didn't want UEFA to lag behind and arranged the first round of the Group Stage to be played in the following week. Thus, another season kicked off, promising to be much more thrilling than the last one, which was, to be honest, a big, big disappointment. Even the World Cup. Yes, the World Cup, for which football fans waited for four long years, especially after the frustrating Euro 2008.

But what is the problem? Surely it cannot be financial, because despite the recent economic crisis, unbelievable sums of money are spent every day in order to get better and better results. Back in 1999 the world faced much bigger crisis, but it didn't stop Zinedine Zidane and Ronaldo from writing history of their era in golden letters. Today maybe everybody is trying too hard. Well FIFA is for sure. When people hear progress, everyone starts talking about either goal-line technologies or video-referees, which is obviously a serious matter, especially after the World Cup, where the referees made a below average World Cup look even worse. At least ten teams

Inzaghi completing his brace against Liverpool in 2006/2007 Champions League Final



suffered from inadequate refereeing, some of them in the most crucial moments.

But there is a much more serious and harmful problem that's ruining modern football and everybody seems

to be ignoring it, sometimes even ‘enjoying’ it. It is the development of footballs. *Jabulani*, the official World Cup 2010 ball, was just ridiculous. It was a shocking example of how a poor experiment can ruin arguably the biggest event in the world. But this was not the first time that FIFA *modernized* the ball; it was just too blatant this time.

In my childhood, when a boy would get a new ball, the first question he was going to be asked by his friends was: “Is it real leather?” And it had an obvious reason too; the real balls were made of leather. Adidas Tango, which was used in the early 1980s and is labeled as the best football ever by many experts, was made of approximately 90% leather. What do you think the new *Jabulani* is made of? 100% plastic! You might think that if the plastic ball was not better, FIFA wouldn’t have forced it into the game, but it’s not so simple and they’ve got their reasons, which I’ll try to explain, but only after I list the outrageous disadvantages of plastic balls.

First of all, they travel way too fast. This has almost eliminated the classic number 10, the intelligent game-reading defender, the goal poacher and the through pass from modern football. The number 10 shirt used to be the most desired one in young footballers. As of today, classic number 10 has nearly wiped out. Look at the leading national teams today: Brazil coach Dunga left Ronaldinho, the best classic number 10 of the past decade, out of the squad. England does not have a fantasista at all. The Italian national team had always been depended on the classic number 10, producing numerous world-class attacking playmakers, the likes of Sandro Mazzola, Gianni Rivera, Roberto Baggio and my favorite Francesco Totti. Now all they have is Catania’s local Giuseppe Mascara, who in my opinion still deserves a place in the national team, but all the coaches tend to pick fast wingers instead.

The goal poachers are constantly becoming useless in the modern game. Gerd Muller and Pippo Inzaghi

have conquered the world, the German becoming all time top scorer in the World Cups until Ronaldo beat his record in 2006, and the latter leading the charts in all time UEFA Competitions’ goalscorers. Neither of them had the dazzling technique of Alfredo Di Stefano or Diego Maradona, but their excellent positioning led to tons of crucial goals. Two or three seasons ago, Robert Aquafresca was considered to be the new Pippo Inzaghi, but come on, he’s a joke! If I got thousand dollars every time he scored, I’d be starving from hunger.

Also the plastic balls have destroyed the concept of through pass. The through pass used to be the most lethal weapon of the midfielders, who always looked for teammates in better positions. Even until 2002 you could pass the ball through the backline and rely on the forward that he would get on the end of it, or



R. Baggio: Skill has disappeared in the modern game

chip the ball over the defense. Nowadays it is almost impossible as the balls move way too fast and they are extremely bouncy. At the World Cup 2010 at least nine times out of ten, the through pass failed, the ball either running out of play or rolling straight into the goalkeeper’s hands. Most of the famous players of the past got their name by pinpoint passing. The likes of Platini, Zico, Garrincha, Zidane, Bergkamp, Totti, De La Pena and Conti would not have been half as popular as they were, had they used a *Jabulani*. The only players who can chip a pass more or less successfully in the modern game are the old legends, the likes of Ryan Giggs, Andrea Pirlo, Clarence Seedorf, Paul Scholes – all of them well over 30. The young generation midfielders tend to run and dribble much more, but the end product is not even half of that of the old masters.

So modern defenders see a lot less of the dazzling passes and great positioning from the forwards, so reading the game has become another lost attribute of the beautiful game. The majority of the defenders today do not read the game at all; they just react to what they see. The objective nowadays is to cover the holes in defense and don’t let a fast winger skin you. In the past this was not enough: a smart chipped pass and you were left for dead, and the likes of Figo and others didn’t find it difficult at all to execute little masterpieces here and there. That’s why there are no young great defenders in the modern game and those who are considered to be good, are just physically very strong and nothing else. Look at the Italian defense – It is a great joke! Twenty years ago, it was a joy to watch Italian defenders play, Baresi and Maldini systematically producing brilliant performances, marked with both ultimate skill and genuine intelligence, that rightfully led to the nickname “The Invincibles”.

Chiellini, who is the new leader of the back four, would be playing in Serie B 15 years ago. The best indicator of the dropping standards is the fact that John Terry, Gerard Pique, and Pepe are considered to be world class. The likes of Billy Costacurta, Franco Baresi, Giacinto Facchetti, and Franz Beckenbauer are forever gone.

FIFA was well aware of the consequences that would follow the introduction of *Jabulani*, but

they stated that it was “for the good of football”, making matches less predictable, more intense and fast-flowing. But no thanks! We, football fans, do not even want to hear it if there will be less goals scored, less passes complete, less free kick masterpieces, less control of the ball, and less great touches on the ball. It is much more interesting to watch skillful, tactical players rather than a bunch of athletes galloping around the field, having no idea of what will the ball do when they strike it. I completely agree with Roberto Baggio, who denounced contemporary football, saying that “skill has disappeared in the modern game”. FIFA must do something about these horrible plastic balls immediately, or else football might change forever and it will be too late afterwards!

By George Gureshidze

Fernando Torres: A Great Sportsman



Everyone has a favorite sportsman, one who has a great spirit and amazing skills, one who’s ability and performance outshines that of the others. For me, this man is Fernando Torres, an outstanding footballer who is truly an example for many. Fernando Jose Torres Sanz was born on 20th March, 1984 in Madrid. His grandfather was a lifelong Atletico Madrid supporter and he urged his grandson to start training in the very same club. Torres showed prominence in football. After going through the youth ranks of Atletico Madrid, Torres established himself as a star in Atletico’s first team, becoming captain at the age of 19. He was nicknamed “El Nino” -the kid, for his youthful appearance. He was considered to be one of the most prominent talents in Europe, so he got interest from great clubs, such as: Milan, Arsenal, Manchester United and Liverpool. He did eventually sign for Liverpool, who at that time were Runner-Ups to Uefa Champions League, coming second only to a great AC Milan side. Liverpool paid a club record, 27 million pounds, for him. Many experts and journalists argued that this price was too much for Torres, who had only scored 14 goals in the previous La Liga season with Atletico Madrid. But he soon proved his critics wrong, bagging an astonishing 33 goals in his debut season, 24 of them coming in the Premier League. He broke the record of Ruud Van Nistelrooy, as the most prolific foreign goalscorer in his debut season in Premier League. Fernando also scored Spain’s winning goal in Euro 2008 final. But these facts can’t show the whole picture. To watch Torres play is a pleasure; every time he gets a ball, you know that he is going to do

something brilliant. He has incredible technical ability and genuine finishing, (Must see goals: VS Blackburn in 2009, VS Marseille in 2007). Apart from being a great player, he is also a great person. Being a star of his caliber, he nonetheless always acts humbly, always spends some time to give autographs and talk with the fans. Citizens of Rustenburg (town where Spain stayed during the 2010 World Cup) recall that no matter how tired he was after training, Torres always stayed for half an hour to sign shirts and balls. For me Torres is an example of how a real sportsman should behave on and off the pitch. Here is what some of our football loving classmates have to say about him: Giorgi managadze: “Torres is an incredible player, he has got great skills with the ball, perfect decision making and is always in the right position, He is especially lethal when paired with Steven Gerrard, those two seem to have telepathic understanding of each other.” Giorgi Gureshidze: “Fernando Torres is a real leader. That’s why I adored him when he was at Atletico; fighting for every single ball, having a go at referees when needed and comforting teammates when they made a mistake. His fighting spirit seems to have diminished a bit after his terrible injury, but I hope its temporary and wish him to return to his best soon, because it’s a joy watching a player like Torres in his top form.”

By Levan Mzhavia

FIBA World Championship 2010

LeBron James, Kobe Bryant, Dwayne Wade, Dwight Howard and Chris Paul – these are the names that are likely to spring up to your mind when the United States national basketball team is mentioned. They were all there at the 2008 Olympics, winning by an average of 32.2 points in every game. But the Americans had not won a gold medal at the World Championships, since 1994 when they defeated Russia in the finals by 46 points.

But at 2010 FIBA World Championship in Turkey, there was no Kobe, no LeBron and no Howard. Not even Wade. Instead, Americans relied on Chauncey Billups, Kevin Durant and Derrick Rose. However, it turned out to be enough. The B-Team, as it was called, won all the matches in the group stage and defeated Angola in the round of 16 by 55 points. Victories over Russia and Lithuania followed by 10 and 15 points consecutively. In the Final Turkey, the host of the championship got overrun by 17 points. Before the final, the Turks had passed through the barriers of France, Slovenia and Serbia (who had won a dramatic match against Spain in the quarter finals 92-89), but they couldn’t keep the NBA stars at bay.

Lithuania and Serbia contested for the third place, the Lithuanians bagging the win with a dominating performance 99-88.

In the consolation basket (contest for places 5-8), Argentina came first, winning over Spain in the game for the fifth place. Russians got the seventh place, while Slovenia went home as the 8th team in the world.

The championship began on August 28 and came to the end on September 12. Matches were held on five venues in four Turkish cities.

Scola from Argentina had most points per game-27.1.

Chinese Yi J.L was the best rebounder, with average 10.2 rebounds per game.

Kevin Durant was given the MVP (Most Valuable Player) award.

Kevin Durant who is only 22 years old is one of the top scorers in NBA. He was able to win the title of NBA Scoring Champion in 2010 as well.

By Tornike Davitadze and Giorgi Tsintsadze

| # | Name | Year Born | Team |
|----|-------------------|-----------|------------------------|
| 4 | Chauncey Billups | 1976 | Denver Nuggets |
| 11 | Stephen Curry | 1988 | Golden State Warriors |
| 12 | Eric Gordon | 1988 | Los Angeles Clippers |
| 6 | Derrick Rose | 1988 | Chicago Bulls |
| 7 | Russell Westbrook | 1988 | Oklahoma City Thunder |
| 9 | Andrea Iguodala | 1984 | Philadelphia 76ers |
| 5 | Kevin Durant | 1988 | Oklahoma City Thunder |
| 8 | Rudy Gray | 1986 | Memphis Grizzlies |
| 10 | Danny Granger | 1983 | Indiana Pacers |
| 14 | Lamar Odom | 1979 | Los Angeles Lakers |
| 13 | Kevin Love | 1988 | Minnesota Timberwolves |
| 15 | Tyson Chandler | 1982 | Dallas Mavericks |

Edited from internet by Ani Lortkipanidze



"Okay your father managed to get a mouse. Now how do we use it?"

Renting apartment

A large family, with seven children, moved to a new city. They were having a difficult time finding an apartment to live in. Many apartments were large enough, but the landlords objected to the large family. After several days of searching, the father asked the mother to take the four younger children to visit the cemetery, while he took the older three to find an apartment. After they looked most of the morning, they found a place that was just right.

Then the landlord asked the usual question: "How many children do you have?"

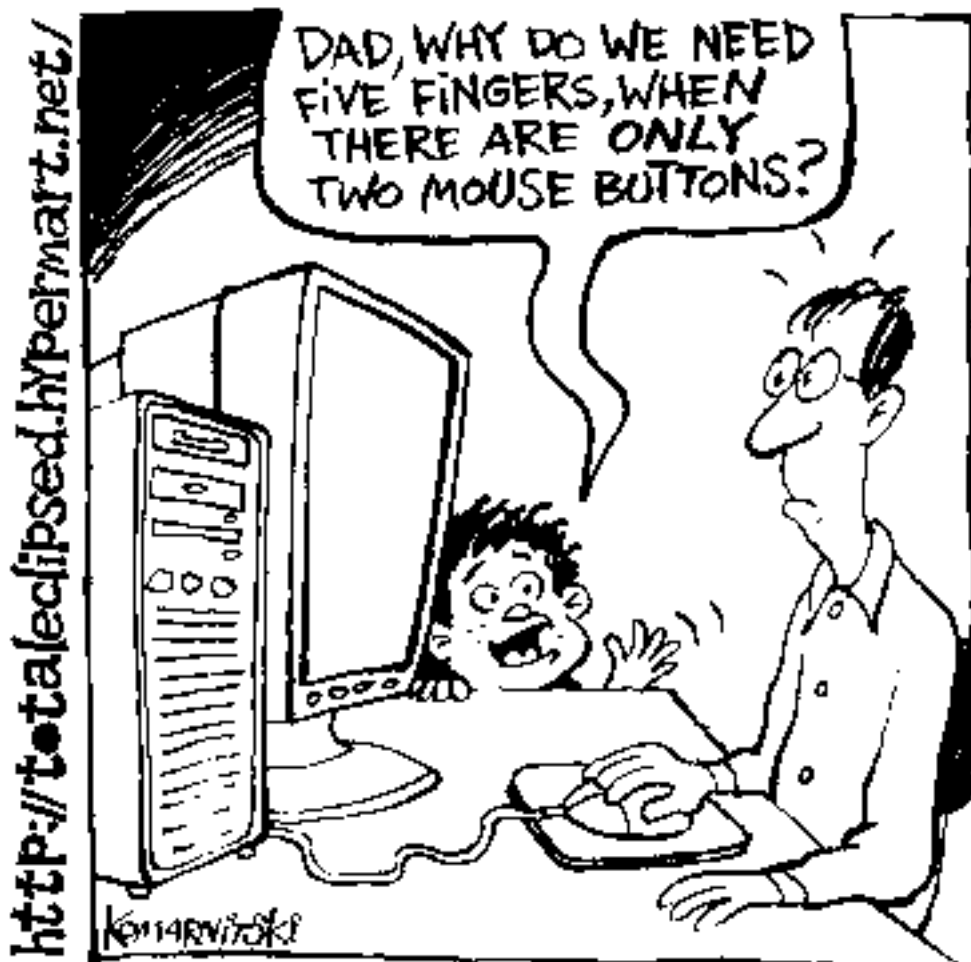
The father answered with a deep sigh, "Seven...but four are with their dear mother in the cemetery."

The landlord, feeling sympathetic towards the man's situation, rented the apartment to him.



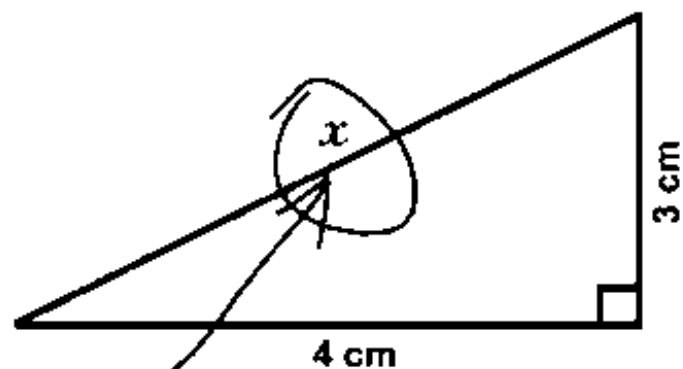
HUMOR

Light travels faster than sound. This is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.



Children: You spend the first 2 years of their life teaching them to walk and talk. Then you spend the next 16 years telling them to sit down and shut-up.

3. Find x.



Here it is



Once again only for you !!!

Café of Rotanda is waiting for you! If you manage to answer all the questions in this quiz correctly and be the first to send the answers to us, you will receive free lunch at Café Rotonda! Send your answers to us (newspaper stuff) by e-mail to gzaat@yahoo.com

1. Why is Torres so special according to his fans?

A) He actively participates in community service B) He always stays for half an hour to sign shirts and balls C) He always welcomes journalists to interview him

2. Which universities require three SAT subject tests?

A) Only Ivy League B) Harvard and Princeton C) Harvard, Georgetown and Princeton D) Columbia and Cornell

3. Which is considered to be easier SAT math subject test?

A) Level 1 B) Level 2

4. Who is Mr. Otar Shamata's favourite film director?

A) Charlie Chaplin B) Stanley Kubrick C) Woody Allen D) Alfred Hitchcock

5. Which academic year is considered to be the easiest according to Nick Lelashvili?

A) Freshman B) Sophomore C) Junior D) Senior

6. Who did Shmagi Liklikadze interview in his article "Geo Rock"?

A) Vocalist B) Drummer C) Bassist

7. What type of bags are in style for fall and winter of 2010-2011?

A) Leather bags B) Small purses C) Chain bags

8. Which movie listed below is head of Movie club's, Mari Lomia's favourite movie? A) Fountain B) There Will Be Blood C) Pretty Woman D) Candy

9. How many years did Ms. Lela Meskhi play tennis?

A) 14 B) 15 C) 20 D) 22

10. Which teachers most scared Freshmen for the first time? A) Biology teachers B) Russian teachers C) Georgian teachers D) English teachers

11. Where did Senior Soso Tsagarel spent his summer and how many credits did he receive? A) Miami, 6 credits B) California, 4 credits C) New York, 2 credits D) Boston, 4 credits

12. Who is a real animal lover according to article "Two Generations"?

A) Max Ramishvili B) Kote Beridze C) Elene Beridze D) Kosta Kereselidze

13. Who is the top transfer of A.C. Milan this year?

A) Mario Balotelli B) Zlatan Ibrahimovic C) Mesut Ozil

14. Which place did Russians take in FIBA World Championship in 2010?

15. How many clubs are presented in Kote Beridze's article about GZAAT Clubs?

A) 4 B) 7 C) 9 D) 12

Quick Article

Clothes' Market

On the 21st of October, the Child and Environmental Services with the help of QSI, New School and Guivy Zaldastanishvili American Academy in Tbilisi arranged a clothes market for kids with limited funds. One of the organizers of this event turned out to be Mrs. Marina Maisuradze O'Neill, the mother of our freshmen student- Sandro O'Neill. GZAAT GAZETTE was lucky enough to interview Mrs. Marina.

1) When was "Child and Environment" established and what is its function?

"Child and Environment" was established in 1995 and from the day of its establishment was supported by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The initial projects included searches for kids roaming in the streets and rehabbing them. Also, the educational issues were always important for *Child and Environment*. Government gave *Child and Environment* a building of a former kindergarten and now this building houses two educational centers. One is *Centre Tsisartkela* and another one is *Centre Begurebi*. *Centre Tsisartkela* was established in 2002 and its main mission is to give education to children aged from 6 to 16. About 50 children from the most "difficult" backgrounds are able to attend this centre. Studying here starts at 13:00 and ends at 19:00. Another centre in this building is *Centre Begurebi*, which was established in 1996. These centre works 24 hours a day and about 25 to 30 children find a shelter there.

2) Can you tell us more about the project "Clothing Others Against the Snow"?

The idea of this project was to gather clothes for kids with limited funds. New School, QSI and The Guivy Zaldastanishvili American Academy in Tbilisi collected coats, sweaters, scarves, pants, socks and other types of clothes. I would like to say special thanks to Mrs. Gvantsa Zhuruli who helped us in spreading the information about the project by staging a performance in one of the assemblies in GZAAT.

By Ani Lortkipanidze

SUMMER!

