

# Student Life

## MHS Opposes Oscar Nominations

by **KEVIN GOSZTOLA**  
Student Life Editor/Reporter



As the Academy Awards near, the Cavemen offer their own opinions as to what films should win the awards. Not surprisingly, few films on the list for top 25 films in 2005 are nominated and few films on the top 25 films of all-time list have won awards.

The results of the vote for favorite movies in 2005 and for favorite movies of all-time are as follows. The top movie for 2005 according to students is the 40-Year Old Virgin with 37 votes. Following that movie is Saw 2, The Notebook, and Wedding Crashers. While The Notebook failed to win as favorite movie of 2005, it easily won as the all-time favorite with 24 votes. Following with less than ten votes were Remember the Titans, Dirty Dancing, and Save the Last Dance.

When it comes to the Academy Awards, it appears that most do not care and much of this could have to do with the fact that most of the films nominated are usually movies that students do not get to see, have never heard of, or that students do not enjoy.

Those who did say they like the Oscars, didn't like them because of the movies being awarded. Most said, "I like to see what everyone is wearing, but I don't really care about who gets what reward." A few said they like them but sometimes feel that "there should have been other movies nominated." Since most of the movies nominated aren't mainstream, people do not generally care about movies featured on awards shows like the Oscars.

A few people said that they do not know what the Oscars is or didn't know who Os-

car is. For the record, the Academy Awards or Oscars is the best known film awards in the United States and arguably the world. Oscar is the name of the statuette that is awarded and where the name comes from is not known for sure. (So whoever is worried about not knowing who Oscar is, relax. You aren't alone. Hollywood has no idea either.)

Films nominated for awards this year include: Brokeback Mountain, Capote, The Constant Gardener, Enron: The Smartest Guys in the Room, Good Night and Good Luck, A History of Violence, Hustle & Flow, Junebug, Mrs. Henderson Presents, Match Point, Munich, Murderball, North Country, Paradise Now, The Squid and the Whale, Syriana, and Transamerica.

This year 311 (a record number) films were eligible for nominations in the Best Picture category. My personal favorites of the year include: Sin City, Crash, Cinderella Man, Batman Begins, War of the Worlds, Wedding Crashers, Four Brothers, 40 Year-old Virgin, Saw 2, Hustle N Flow, Brokeback Mountain, Capote, and Munich. Only five films can be nominated and naturally, the ones that make it are the ones the critics love best and not the ones that earned the most viewers.

For students who want to watch the awards (and I encourage it), I predict that Brokeback Mountain will win in the Best Director and Best Picture categories. Reese Witherspoon will win Best Actress for her role as June Carter in Walk the Line. Philip Seymour Hoffman will win Best Actor for his role in Capote, and for Best Supporting Actor, Paul Giamatti will win for his role in Cinderella Man. As for the other categories, watch and find out.

### Mishawaka's 25 Favorite Movies of 2005

40 Year Old Virgin (37)  
Saw II (34)  
Wedding Crashers (28)  
The Notebook (27)  
Longest Yard (19)  
Four Brothers (19)  
Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (19)  
Corpse Bride (17)  
Revenge of the Sith (13)  
Chronicles of Narnia (11)  
Coach Carter (11)  
Mr. And Mrs. Smith (11)  
Cinderella Man (10)  
Hitch (9)  
Dukes of Hazzard (8)  
War of the Worlds (7)  
Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (7)  
Get Rich or Die Tryin (6)  
King Kong (6)  
Rent (5)  
Batman Begins (4)  
Hustle N Flow (4)  
Devil's Rejects (3)  
Red Eye (3)  
Walk the Line (2)

### Mishawaka's 25 Favorite Movies of All Time

The Notebook (24)  
Remember the Titans (9)  
Dirty Dancing (7)  
Save the Last Dance (6)  
Lord of the Rings (6)  
Grease (6)  
Pirates of the Caribbean (6)  
Scarface (6)  
Napoleon Dynamite (5)  
Billy Madison (5)  
Dumb and Dumber (5)  
Half-Baked (5)  
Tristan and Isolde (5)  
Donnie Darko (4)  
The Crow (4)  
Rudy (4)  
Matrix series (4)  
Dazed and Confused (4)  
Gladiator (4)  
Finding Nemo (4)  
The Goonies (4)  
Nightmare Before Christmas (4)  
Pulp Fiction (3)  
Breakfast Club (3)  
Office Space (3)

*Rhyme & Reason is a new addition to the Alltold. We hope you enjoy this new feature. In these articles you will find a topic examined (sometimes a little cruelly) from sarcastic and apathetic viewpoints.*



# Rhyme & Reason

## Who Needs School Spirit?



by **RUTH MELIN**  
Columnist

School spirit is pointless. Is there any reason to be so passionate about a school? Do four years of our lives really require so much loyalty?

Why should I be loyal to a school? It's a building, with other people in it. If I could only be loyal to one thing, it definitely would not be a school. High school is four years of our lives. So many other events in our future will have a greater impact than this.

I would not be objecting to school spirit so heavily if some people were not stressing it so heavily. What people am I talking about? It is definitely not the students. Our school is full of cliques. No one gets along with anyone else. Most of us would rather just support our close friends than the entire school. And I have to say, I think that developing solid relationships with a few people has more value than having a generally good feeling towards many people. If some students want to go out of their way to cheer for the school, knock yourself out. But people should stop stressing the need for spirit when most students are satisfied with the state of things.

It's just that over the years, society has been led to believe that school spirit is some necessary part of the passage

through high school. In reality, to answer my earlier question, the concept of school spirit was created by adults who were jaded and were trying to relive their younger years. To such people: this is our life, not yours. Your regrets are your problem. Stop trying to vicariously live through us. I hope that you can see the truth behind school spirit- a pathetic attempt at a second chance.

The only slightly plausible justification someone could give for school spirit is athletics. Athletes may want someone to cheer for them to help them succeed. But how greatly will our cheers actually assist them? This behavior will train athletes to rely on support. If you raise them this way, they will never win the games when there is no one in the stands for them. It is a harsh world out there, and this kind of attitude is just digging them a ditch to fall into. And, by the way, what were schools made for, anyway? Competition? Or education?

Actually, education is the only aspect of school with which a student should be concerned. Ignore those trying to cloud your school days (or daze) with school spirit nonsense. You have enough to deal with. Do not waste time and effort on school spirit. Work through your four years and move on to bigger and better things.

by **AMANDA GRAY**  
Columnist

School spirit. When mentioned, it brings to mind Friday night football games, cheerleaders, and painted chests. In context, it sounds like an idiotic practice, one where most people would not take part. But tell that to the high school game crowds. It's like second nature to them. But why is it imprinted in the human psyche to dress up with school pride? From the times of our elementary school days, we have been told to cheer for the home team. Why? My cheering ability is not going to affect the star athlete, and if it does, then we need to find a replacement, and fast. Things like "motivational symposiums" and spirit week do nothing but annoy most of the school population, and making "motivational symposiums" mandatory was a wrong idea. The school is not going to get a very happy crowd when they are forced through those festivities. Wouldn't it be better to have these gatherings optional? That way, the crowd you get will actually cheer, and the annoyed wouldn't waste an hour of their day. But, that will never happen. Change in a school system doesn't come very easily.

Now, the definition of school spirit is something along the lines of celebrating one's school, or something to that effect.

Does celebrating include dressing up in ridiculous clothes and lighting bon fires? If so, then most of America has it down pat.

Why can't celebrating be gentler and slightly less Cro-Magnon? Something along the lines of "Good job out there" or a pat on the back would suffice.

If this were truly how it was, there would be no problem. But the fact is that, once again, instinct takes over. It has now become the norm to live for the next game, and to cheer at every point scored if you want to fit in. The games are where you go, if you are popular, or are trying to be.

Why must it be that way? Why can't it be the cool thing to go to the local bookstore or to spend time with your family? These are things that many teenagers take for granted. Eventually, we are all going to be in college, or out in the real world working. We are going to miss those many hours we spent cheering for a school that is now just part of our past. Why not spend that time helping to better yourself for the future? I mean, there are only so many jobs that involve cheering and painting yourself, and no one really plans to end up there anyway. It would be amazing to see a large crowd at the library on a Friday night. Too bad, it'll never happen.

School spirit, although sometimes used as a way to wind down or fit in, is pointless. Those few hours could be used with family, or improving yourself for your future. Time is a terrible thing to waste.