



## Danger!

Animal species dwindle as humans destroy their habitats and hunt them for their monetary value.  
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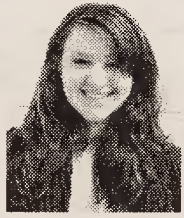
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## the high LIFE

“The undeniable fact is that College Board is a monopoly in the educational system. Education run by industry directly goes against all that this country was founded upon, and College Board should be held accountable for its unethical actions.”



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### News

Scammers exploit Facebook to con graduating class of 2015 college students into use their products.

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### Opinion

People pay large sums of money for diamond engagement rings, but are they really worth the cost?

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### Features

Cases of bullying become more frequent in schools and cause alarm among students and parents.

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### Sports

New Tar Heels forward Harrison Barnes disappoints fans with his recent abysmal performance.

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## Aspirin provides hope for oncology patients, people at risk of cancer

BY MAC BALL  
Reporter

British and American scientists reported in early December that aspirin pills provide a small chance for people to survive certain types of cancer. Over a 20 year period, the scientists tested over 25,000 patients who took an aspirin daily. Results showed that, if taken daily, aspirin lowers a person's cancer risk by approximately 20%.

Certain types of the disease carry a much higher percentage including esophagus cancer at 60%, bowel cancer with 40%, and lung cancer at 30%. Some other cancers either had a lower percentage or were not entirely proven at a specific percentage due to the patients' problems with other illnesses. At this stage of research and development, doctors recommend that if a person has more than a ten percent chance of experiencing a stroke or heart attack, he or she

should take an aspirin daily. Even if someone is healthy and athletic with a good heart rate, doctors still recommend it.

Reasoning for this routine is because, like a normal sickness for which an aspirin helps one heal, the aspirin attacks the existing cancer cells and alerts them to stop multiplying, and, in some cases, makes the cancer cells self-destruct. Also, researchers believe that such self-medication reduces chronic inflammation of the cells that generally leads to cancer.

Dr. Peter Rothwell told BBC that because the risk for cancer increases with age, the benefit of aspirin increases as well. He recommends that people start a daily aspirin regiment at the age of 45 and continue for about 25 years. The only reason to stop taking it daily is that by the age of 75, the body's chance for bleeding increases dramatically, and aspirin can cause the depletion of platelet cells, which are the part of the blood that

make it clot when a person bleeds. Regular bruises and cuts can continue bleeding for unnecessary periods of time. Some small internal bleeding can continue unknowingly and cause extreme organ damage.

Another scientist, Dr. Igor Astsaturov, told BBC that as a primary care doctor, he recommends taking aspirin long term for the best results, especially near the age of 65, because the study showed the highest prevention at that age. Dr. Ed Kim, a scientist at the University of

Texas, agreed; however, he would not recommend it to patients unless they speak to their doctors first about both the benefits and risks of taking the medication.

Dr. Kim stated that this study does not completely prove that aspirin protects against cancer, but does show some kind of hope that more research can find ways to lower certain cancer rates. He added that other risks may negate the help of aspirin, and it would not work, and in some cases, may actually cause more harm than good.



## WikiLeaks universalizes information, causes chaos for Australian activist

BY MARY CLAIRE HURLY  
Reporter

"Time Magazine" claims that the WikiLeaks "could become as important a journalistic tool as the Freedom of Information Act." This non-profit organization was launched in 2006 with a goal to bring important news and information to the public; however, the creators have not been formally identified. Many people believe the initiator is WikiLeaks spokesperson Julian Assange, an Australian Internet activist. According to the WikiLeaks website, it strives to provide an "innovative, secure, and anonymous way for sources to leak information to our journalists." The site accepts tips and information in a few ways, which include postal drops, and an electronic drop box; everything remains distinctively anonymous.

As noted on its website, WikiLeaks believes that "publishing improves transparency, and this transparency creates a better society for all people." Although the organization receives numerous awards, as well as respect and praise, it

also endures constant criticism. Some government officials oppose the organization, believing that the release of classified information harms national security and compromises international diplomacy.

Just after one year of the organization's beginning, the website claimed to have over 1.2 million leaked documents. Through investigative journalism, a critical verifying process and detailed examination, it publishes what has been previously hidden from the public. Headquarters is located in Sweden because it has one of the world's strongest shield laws to protect confidential source-journalist relationships.

Most recently talked about is the leak involving a "thermonuclear" file to which Julian Assange held access. He claimed that it is composed of "key parts" of secret United States government cables. Assange, arrested in December for a sex-related crime, threatens to release this file if anything happens to the organization. Assange surrendered to British authorities regarding a Swedish arrest warrant. He was denied bail by District Judge

Howard Riddle because Swedish authorities had presented "serious allegations against someone who has comparatively weak community ties in this country and the means an ability to abscond," reported by the British newspaper, "The Guardian," on December 7.

Lawyers of Assange say that they have been under surveillance by members of the security services and have accused the United States State Department of behaving inappropriately. "I've noticed people consistently sitting outside my house in the same cars with newspapers. I probably noticed certain things a week ago, but mostly it's been the last three or four days," said Jennifer Robinson of the law firm Finers Stephens Innocent to "The Guardian" in an article on December 5.

Pentagon officials are desperately trying to figure out the mystery of what information the file actually contains. Despite Assange's setback, WikiLeaks released a number of cables as if to show that it cannot be intimidated. Visa, PayPal and MasterCard all stopped processing donations

to the group, but spokesperson Kristinn Hrafnsson told The Huffington Post" on December 7 that it "will not change our operation."

Many websites that partially or fully duplicated WikiLeaks have been created for the organization's protection. In just one day following the arrest of Assange and all of the gossip that followed, more than 1,000 "mirror" sites appeared online.

Over the short time that the organization has been active, WikiLeaks has released documents, videos, cables, pictures, and information dealing with Sarah Palin's emails that raise questions about flouting public records to information regarding the United States' foreign activities. Stories on wars, murders, tortures, diplomacy, spying, ecology, climate, nature, sciences, corruption, finance, taxes, trading, censorship technology, Internet filtering, cults, religious organizations, abuse, violence, government, trade and corporate transparency, and suppression of free speech and a free press have all been publicized in the media through the determination of WikiLeaks.