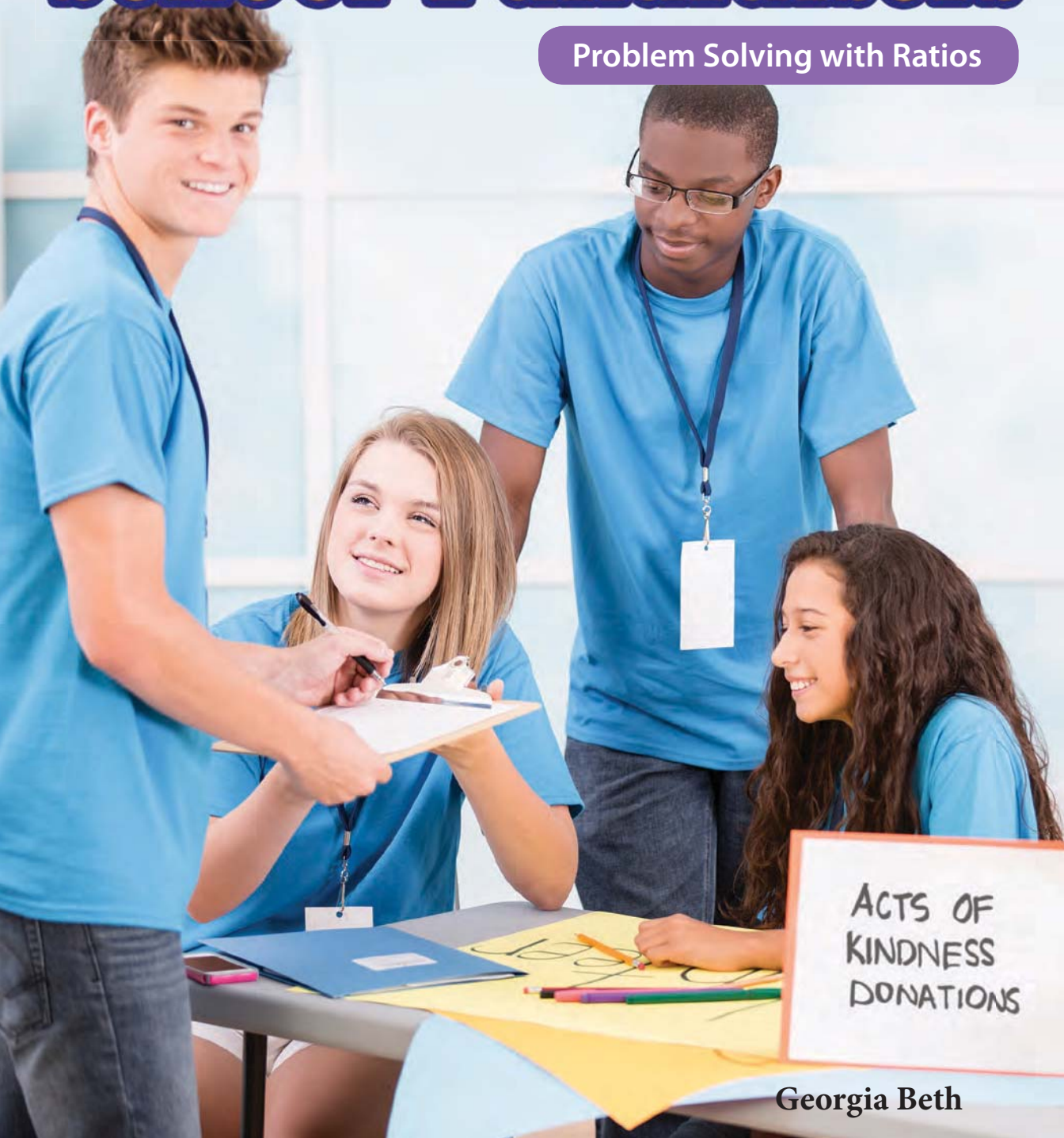




School Fundraisers

Problem Solving with Ratios



ACTS OF
KINDNESS
DONATIONS

Georgia Beth

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A Letter to the Editor

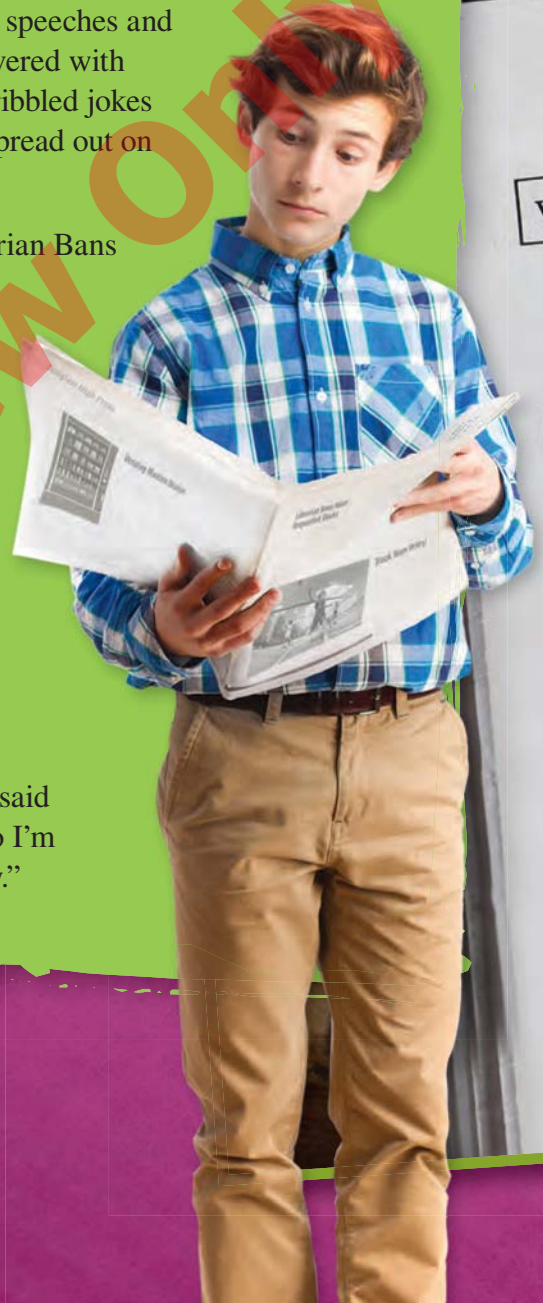
The sign read “Student Body President,” but it could have also said “The Guy Who Knows Everyone.” Broderick peered out from a crack in the door. Getting to know people before they ever spoke a word helped him become friends with everyone, from the **valedictorian** to the custodian. His office was where he wrote his speeches and practiced his handshakes. The walls were covered with layers of old posters, trophies, and quickly scribbled jokes on sticky notes. A stack of newspapers was spread out on the desk.

“Quarterback Out for the Season!” “Librarian Bans Most Requested Books!” “Spring Break 2 Days Shorter This Year!”

“Seriously? Why don’t they just print lightning bolts and a black cloud on the front page? This newspaper is **unmitigated** gloom and doom,” Broderick said in frustration. He pushed a **handful** of papers at the student body **treasurer**.

“Dude, don’t shoot the messenger! I’m just bringing you the **latest**. I don’t write the headlines,” Mateo said.

“Sorry. I’m really stressed. The principal said we have to cut \$2,500 from the budget fast, so I’m reviewing every single extracurricular activity.”



The Press

Douglass High School

Volume 101

Quarterback Out for the Season!

Jason Penn, Douglass High's star
quarterback, sits the season out.

Story on page 2



Star Quarterback



Students study a robotic arm in a makerspace with their teacher.

Mateo gave Broderick a participation report from the administration. “What if we cut the debate team?”

Broderick scanned the numbers and objected, “Seven out of ten of the top Advanced Placement students and International Baccalaureate students are on the debate team.”

“Good point. What about the 21st Century Makerspace?” Mateo offered.

“The principal told me 257 students visit every weekday, and 45 visit on weekends. Plus, it’s pretty much the only activity keeping my brother in school,” Broderick replied.

“Orchestra?”

“Band and orchestra are the biggest extracurriculars of all. Something like one out of four students participates,” Broderick said. “And it’s no better on the field. A lot of people like sports, and some of the teams make money for the school.”

Mateo nodded his head in agreement.

“It looks like it’s going to have to be the school newspaper,” Broderick concluded. “Honestly, no one is even going to miss it. There are only about five people on the newspaper staff.”

Mateo pulled out a notebook. “Let’s get it done.”

LET'S EXPLORE MATH

The report from administration also includes the numbers of males and females who participate in extracurricular activities. Broderick and Mateo analyze the data.

Extracurricular Activity	Number of Males	Number of Females
Debate team	7	8
Jazz band	22	18
Orchestra	26	22
Soccer	21	24

1. Broderick says, "This activity has a ratio of 11 males to 9 females." Which activity is he talking about?
2. Mateo asks Broderick, "What is the ratio of male soccer players to the total number of players?" How should Broderick respond?
3. Mateo says, "Look, these two activities have the same male to female ratio." Which two activities is he talking about?
4. Broderick says, "Orchestra has 4 more males and females than jazz band. So, orchestra and jazz band must have the same ratio of male to female students." Do you agree with him? Why or why not?



On Friday, when Evangeline got to school, she headed to the basement. Walking toward the newspaper office, her mind drifted to one of her favorite daydreams: choosing a pen name for next year's column. *Penelope? Or maybe I'll go totally **incognito** with Miguel.*

Her **reverie** was interrupted at the sight of an envelope. It was poking out from under the door to the school newspaper office.

To the Editor in Chief of Douglass High's The Press,

We regret to inform you that effective immediately, the student body council has elected to cut \$2,500 in funds from the newspaper's budget. Please submit a new budget for approval or be subject to closure.

Douglass Forever!

Broderick Penn



Effective immediately??? Evangeline bristled. *This is exactly why I refused to vote for him.* She stomped to her desk and plugged her tablet into the **steampunk** typewriter. It had been a gift from her dad when she was named editor in chief. Evangeline fumed. There were more than a few things she might say to Broderick that he wouldn't forget. But she knew all he cared about was staying in office.

LET'S EXPLORE MATH

Yesterday, a reporter for *The Press* slid an envelope under the door. In the note, he claimed that he wrote fewer articles than past reporters. He wants to write more. Evangeline knows that reporters always share the work equally. She gathers some other data to compare reporter assignments.

Currently
5 reporters,
25 total articles
each month

When my dad was
editor in chief
9 reporters,
45 total articles
each month

When my older
brother wrote
for *The Press*
6 reporters,
30 total articles
each month

1. How does the current ratio of articles per reporter compare to past years?
2. Imagine you are Evangeline. What would you tell the reporter who made the claim?