Andrew Costley

3-5-13

Journalism, Period 3

Opinions

Nature Falls to Growing Population

Society Fast Forwards Animal Extinction

Human pop growth causes extinction

 The world’s population is over 7 billion people, so it’s no wonder that people are trying to tame almost every wilderness around the world. However more people means more food which means more land needed to grow the food, which creates a vicious cycle of destroying habitats and endangering many species who call the places humanity is destroying their homes.

 Though many people in our community and around the world have dedicated time to making their lifestyle more environmentally friendly, they are focusing on the wrong idea. People should try to hold everyone in the world in the space that civilizations have already urbanized.

 For example, one and one half acres of rainforest are being chopped or burned down every second to make room for pastures, farms, or houses. More than 2,800 species of plants and animals can be found in a four by four mile patch of rainforest. Over 50% of the world’s species live in the rainforest, even though they only cover 2% of our planet.

 As each tree is chopped or burned, hundreds of animals lose their home. Some creatures, such as the Javan Rhinoceros of the Indonesian island of Java, Northern Sportive Lemur of Madagascar, and the South China Tiger of Southeast China, have fewer than 200 adults left in the world, while creatures such as Gorillas of the rainforests of Rwanda, Uganda, and Congo in Africa and Gibbons and Orangutans of Borneo and some islands of Indonesia have less than 10,000 adults left in the wild. This is largely due huge habitat loss, demand for furs and skins on the black market, and widespread new diseases.

 So as our world gets bigger, there won’t be enough room for some of the beautiful species we so dearly would like to save.