

# The Schreiber Times

VOLUME 23 NO. 5

Paul D. Schreiber High School

Wednesday, December 22, 1982

## Schreiber Clerk Charged With \$60,000 Theft Of Student Funds - Administration Pledges to Replace Money

by Adam Joseph

Mrs. Marcia Dempsey Lewis, the person in the Schreiber office in charge of all student funds in the district, was arraigned on December 9 on charges of grand larceny in the second degree and tampering with public records in the first degree. "She is accused of embezzling approximately \$60,000," said Edward Greeley of the Nassau County District Attorney's office.

Mrs. Lewis' job entailed keeping track of all non-taxpayer funds including the funds for all of the Schreiber organizations, (i.e. yearbook, Student Government, Human Relations Committee, Band, Choir, National Honor Society.) No specific figures are available yet.

Although the district is only insured for \$10,000 of the theft, Superintendent McGuigan pledges that the students will not suffer and that all of the money will be recovered. Mrs. Lewis has also pledged to make restitution.

Dr. McGuigan said that "certain irregularities" were discovered in the accounts of Mrs. Lewis during a "routine audit" by the school and once it was evident that criminal activity was involved the District Attorney was notified. McGuigan said the audit that turned up the irregularities was strictly routine and was not prompted by any suspicions that money was missing or by any complaints. The last time a formal audit was done on the account by a professional accounting firm was in 1979.

Dr. McGuigan gave **The Schreiber Times** a proposed set of safeguards designed to prevent future incidents of theft. They include the appointment of Mary Strickland as Treasurer of the Student Activity Fund. Mrs. Strickland works in the Administration Building. (Previously, the Student Activity Fund had no contact with the Administration Building.) There are also several new rules concerning the handling of student funds that will make it more difficult for irregularities to occur.

## Student Government Discusses Holiday Issues

by Rita Sethi

Several issues pertaining to the holidays were the highlight of the student government meeting on December 8. The new food drive was introduced and donations for Saturnalia and Celebration '82 were voted on. Also at the meeting, a representative from the police station spoke, and the Senior Citizen's party was announced.

The food drive is being sponsored by the Human Relations Committee, Schreiber Times, and the Student Government. Adam Joseph informed the Student Government members that there is a real need for help for the Port Washington residents. There will be places to deposit the food in the lobby between December 20-December 23.

The Human Relations Committee received two hundred dollars to pay for paper goods and decorations for the cafeteria. This year's theme is Winter Wonderland; the Orchestra, Band, and Choir will perform. The Latin Club, through Lyssi Dver, then received one hundred dollars for their Saturnalia. It was then decided that Port Light would get 25% of the profit from Battle of the Bands, the Student Government would get 25% of the profit, and the winners would get the 50% of the earnings. Adam Honen announced the annual Senior Citizens Party. This will include dancing, a Santa Claus and performances by the band. Officer Mineo from the Port Washington Police spoke about drunk driving. He hopes to form a better relationship with the teenagers of the community by justifying the giving of tickets.

## Have You Given Yet?

by Maggie Patrick

There is still time for you to bring in your contributions for the food drive which will run until tomorrow. Donations of food and money will be collected in the lobby from 7:30 through mod 4 and mods 17-18. Students should bring in donations of dried milk, canned juices, meats, fruits and vegetables, boxes of spaghetti, or jars of peanut butter and jelly; other canned foods will also be accepted, but these are preferred. Already sophomores Joseph Sypowicz and Kevin O'Halpin have collected food donations from delis and

supermarkets in Port to contribute to the food drive. Approximately 856 Port Washington residents, living at or below the poverty level are counting on the contributions of the Schreiber community. It is the season of giving; please give to those in need. The last day of the food drive is tomorrow--don't forget; every donation counts. Volunteers will be needed tomorrow after school to load the fruit for delivery. Interested students should come to the publications room after school tomorrow.

## Celebration Tomorrow — "Winter Wonderland"



by Sue Haiken

The Human Relations Committee has been busy preparing for their annual holiday salute, Celebration '82, to be held on Thursday, December 23. The main purpose of Celebration '82 is, as Miss Stewart puts it, "to bring students together as a community in which they share friendship, food, and comraderie". It is in the Christian and Judaic tradition that December is a month of celebration, although Celebration '82 has no religious connotations and is merely a commemoration of the holiday season. Basically, the Human Relations Committee sees Celebration '82 as a nice way to leave school before vacation, and to celebrate the new year.

The festivities will begin early Thursday morning with two assembly concerts given by the Schreiber band, choir, and orchestra.

The cafeteria will be decorated according to the Celebration's theme, "A Winter Wonderland". In charge of the decoration committee are Naomi Sasaki, Art Schaefer, Allison Levy, and Kit Wunder, who have been working hard to create a gingerbread house, a snowman mural, large cardboard unicorns, and other decorations.

## Hatton, Honen Receive Honors



by Meesha Halm and Susan Switzer Photos by Mary Kate Michalak

The North Reding Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution announced Adam Honen as this year's recipient of the Good Citizenship Award on December 14th. This award recognizes leadership and service to the school community along with the qualities of dependability and patriotism. As a result of receiving this award, Adam is now eligible for state and national competitions for the Good Citizenship Award.

Peggy Hatton has been elected as the chairperson of two upcoming seminars for the Youth Participation Project, a program which trains teenagers in business skills. The YPP is a subcommittee of the Nassau County Youth Board. In addition, Peggy is active in the Comprehensive Family Committee, a group of adults and students who meet to discuss programs which the Youth Board's funds should be used towards. She was one of only 30 youths from Nassau County chosen for this honor.

From 11:20 until 1:35, the cafeteria will be filled with the sounds of holiday music, and rock and roll. At the end of the day, members of the Schreiber band will play holiday tunes in the cafeteria. Heading the entertainment committee are Donald Park, Janet Rice, and Kate Davis, who should be commended for their organization and hard work in making a two-hour tape of music, organizing the morning assemblies, and getting together the band members to play at the end of the day.

All day long, cookies, baked by Schreiber students, and apple cider will be given out in the cafeteria. The Human Relations Committee has been handing out cookie pledges designed by Mrs. Shapiro, and is hoping to receive about 9,000 cookies. Dr. Banta generously donated enough money to cover the cost of the apple cider. The members of the Schreiber faculty are also in the holiday spirit, and will be holding a "cook-in" to bake cookies for the celebration. The Schreiber Food Service, with special thanks to Mrs. Wanzor, will be donating two large sheet cakes to the Human Relations Committee. Chris Forrest and Madeline Pugliese, who headed the refreshment committee, were very helpful in pricing the paper goods and the apple cider.

The Student Government helped the Human Relations Committee by donating enough money to cover the cost of all the paper goods and decorations. It also offered the help of its personnel in organizing Celebration '82.

Another feature of Celebration '82 will be the sending of holiday greeting cards to the entire student body and the faculty. The combined winners of the Holiday Greeting Card Design Contest, held by the Human Relations Committee, are Stephanie Schwartz, Julie DeAngelis, and Amy Miller who will be designing, printing, and mailing the cards, with the help of Mr. Hurley and Mr. Barchi.

Terence Rafferty and Mia Freund, co-chairmen of the Human Relations Committee, are overwhelmed by the help and enthusiasm they are receiving from the student body, the faculty, and all the members of the Human Relations Committee.

## Caputo Says Students Cause Roach Problem

by Adam Joseph

Mr. Joseph Caputo, the head custodian at Schreiber, told **The Schreiber Times** that the students themselves are the main cause of the recent roach problem. He said that he and his crew find all kinds of roach-attracted-to-garbage all over the school, including, "...coffee, food, soda, orange juice, apple juice, you name it." He also said that the teachers who allow their students to eat in class and the teachers that allow students to leave the cafeteria with food are contributing to the problem. "The teachers should come down harder," he said.

Another cause of the roach invasion, Mr. Caputo said, is that boxes coming into the school for use in the kitchen are often infested with roaches. This, along with the fact that they are prolific breeders, make the war against roaches an uphill battle.

Commenting on the general litter conditions in the school, Mr. Caputo said that the cafeteria as well as the girls' locker room, and the hall leading to the smoking lounge are a disgrace. He wonders when was the last time a student picked up a piece of litter in the halls.

As he spoke the track team thundered by on the top floor. He looked up and noted, "This is a busy place - track teams practice in the building, school all day, Adult Ed at night. And now this," he said, pointing to the girls practicing in the lobby for Sports Night. "But that's what this place is for -- it's for you...I'm trying to better the place and to keep it clean. You students aren't helping."



# Dver Named Mr. Rome

by D. Gilpin

Sophomores and juniors screamed "Fix!" as senior Lyssi Dver received her sash, rose and Burger King crown in the Mr. Rome Contest at the Saturnalia, Tuesday December 14. The Latin Club sponsors the annual Saturnalia for club members. This year the G.O. donated one hundred dollars which was used for decorations at the banquet attended by over one hundred toga clad Latin students. Honored guests were Dr. Banta, Mr. Bartels, Mrs. Lundberg and Weber Latin teacher Mrs. Heath.

There were three contests held this year: Mr. Rome, Best Latin Joke and Best Costume. The Mr. Rome contestants were judged by the Honored guests and Mrs. Adams on their answer to a question pertaining to Roman culture during the Augustan age and their legs. Junior Paul Mandel was the runner up in the Mr. Rome contest. Other Mr. Rome contestants were Sophomores Ian Tauber and Ed Coffee, and Junior Mike Royston. The senior class also won the contest for Best Latin Joke with their pun on the name Euripedes. Senior Denise Gilpin won the contest for best costume. Other contestants were senior Jenny Varenka, Juniors Paul Mandel and Mike Royston and Sophomore Errol Orheck. Entertainment in the form of films was also provided. Each class showed their Latin film set to music.

The Saturnalia is the celebration of the God Saturn, the return of the sun after the winter solstice, and the end of the harvest season. The Romans celebrated a prosperous harvest by gorging themselves at a banquet.



Photo by M. K. Michalak

Julius Caesar and Mark Anthony? The Green Hornet and Flash Gordon? No, Dr. Banta and Mr. Bartels oogling at toga-clad Romanoids at Saturnalia celebration.

# Scholarships Await Seniors

by Tom Pellegrino

Seniors all know about the high cost of college tuition. Part of this high cost can be paid for with the scholarships now being offered to all eligible students. The scholarships are the P.T.A. Jenkins Memorial, Elks National and Sons and Daughters of Elks Scholarships.

The P.T.A. Jenkins Memorial Scholarships, awarded by the N.Y. State Congress of Parents and Teachers, scholarships to top-ranking seniors in N.Y.S. public high schools who intend to enroll in a teacher education program in a N.Y.S. college. Only one application per school is accepted. The scholarships are for \$1600, \$300 paid in each of the first two years and \$500 in the last two. Winners must agree to teach in a public school for at least two years within the seven year period following graduation from college. Applicants must go through a series of interviews in attempt to win a scholarship.

The Elks National Foundation offers "Most Valuable Student Awards" for all H.S. seniors or equivalents. Winners usually come from the upper 5% of the class. The

scholarships are won in national competition and range in amount from \$900 to \$5000 each. N.Y. is granted 23 awards.

For sons and daughters of Elks, there are \$570 scholarships to be awarded to students nominated by the State Scholarship Committee. These scholarships are available to all H.S. seniors and college students through their junior year. N.Y.S. has been granted 35 of these scholarships.

The N.Y.S. Elks Association grants 25 \$700 scholarship awards in statewide competition. In addition, 13 more \$500 "Special Merit" awards are granted to one applicant in each of the Grand Lodge Districts of the state of N.Y.

All Elk Scholarship applicants will be judged on scholarship, leadership, and financial need. All awards are conditioned upon the enrollment of the winners in an undergraduate course in an accredited American college or university.

Applications and more information on these and other scholarships are available by seeing a helpful Mrs. Cunningham in the Guidance Office. All applications should be given to her no later than Jan. 18.

# G.O. Takes Christmas To Elderly

by Ilene Rosenzweig

Cake, music, fun, smiles, listening to some bad jokes and telling a few too, provided good cheer and a wonderful way to start off the holiday season for students and senior citizens alike at the senior citizens holiday party.

The party was sponsored by the student government and held at the Flower Hill Senior Citizen's Center Monday. First students served cake and then the band came down and

played the all time favorites: Jingle Bells, Deck the Halls, Silent Night. The Senior citizens needed little prompting to get up and dance and they were equally as enthusiastic to share their dancing styles with the students. Everyone danced the Hokey Pokey and one woman showed everyone how to do the Chickie Chickie. She demonstrated in detail by flapping her arms, clucking like a chicken and doing the twist.

Before the buses came to take the Senior Citizens home there was time left over for the students and the senior citizens to sit and talk for a while. They told each other jokes about school and grandchildren, but regardless of the conversation, even where there wasn't any, the expression on almost every face was the same; twinkling eyes and upturned lips which made it obvious that the small gesture of an hour long holiday party was more than appreciated.

# Winter Concert Review

"O Come Emanuel" echoed in the empty halls as the murmuring crowd quieted and watched the blue robed Choir march solemnly into the auditorium. They sang in unison until they mounted the risers and Dr. Purrington led them into harmony to finish the piece.

The Choir's performance at the Winter Concert on December 19 was one of the highlights of an outstanding afternoon of music. The Orchestra, led by Mr. Mooney, played two pieces, "Six Interdances," by Beethoven and "Shakespeare Sketches" by Vaughan Williams. In the latter, Donald Park, the Orchestra's principal violinist, soloed on a difficult passage. The wind section of the Orchestra sounded particularly well, especially certain oboe passages by David Kane and clarinet passages by Joshua Berman.

The Choir also sang "Alleluia" and "The Twelve Days of Christmas" in which there were solos by Eva Osterberg, Tom Murphy, Maggie Patrick, Matthew Yee, Gary Schanzer, Dyann Mazzeo, Tom Gullo, Maura Carew, Jenny Varenka, Jyll Bladkeslee, Nick Scandalios, Greg Saraydarian. Lissandra Grant sang a solo in "What Is This Lovely Fragrance". She exhibited a beautifully musical voice.

The Concert Band finished off the concert with performances of a Sousa march, "Our Flirtations", the theme from the movie "E.T." and "Christmas Festival". "E.T." was played with verve and energy and featured a xylophone solo by Diana Bandfield and some huge timpani booms by Paul Mandel.

# Musicians Make All State, County



Photo by M. K. Michalak

Schreiber Members of All County music groups: (left to right) front row, Jennifer Varenka, Dyann Mazzeo, Tim Hall, Maggie Patrick, Rear, Gary Schanzer, Nick Scandalios, Tom Gullo, Robert Juzups, and Russel Detwiler. Not pictured are David Kane and Josh Berman. Berman is an All State Band member.

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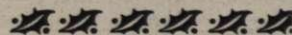


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# Students Bypassing Artistic Opportunities

by Ilene Rosenweig

Fewer and fewer students are enrolling in the art courses offered here at Schreiber and the prospects for increased enrollment, in the near future are dismal, says Schreiber's Art Department Chairperson Warren Hurley.

Ten years ago 14% of Schreiber's population were taking some form of art course. Since then there has been a steady drop in the number of involved in Schreiber's art program. This year's enrollment has reached an all time low with only 100 students, or 7% of Schreiber's students taking art.

These statistics show that something has changed here at Schreiber, and maybe elsewhere too. Because the curriculum and the quality of teachers has remained relatively constant, it is logical that the change has been in the attitudes of people at Schreiber; we the students and probably our parents and teachers as well.

There are different ideas as to what these changes are and what has caused them. One belief is that the nation's present state of economic hardship has encouraged students to take a more practical attitude towards their education. Dr. Banta agrees that, "Earning power is being encouraged and more students are more career oriented earlier."

With the constant threat of unemployment, even for the highly educated, attaining practical skills at an early age and going to the finest schools has become imperative to young people who are concerned with keeping unemployment and economic despair from being facts of their daily lives.

Dr. Banta says, "Parents expect their sons and daughters to get good grades and to complete rigorous academic courseloads that will best prepare them either for college or, for those not college bound, for the job world."

As a result, those students who are not art majors are less likely to include art in their schedules because they are concerned that if they are not especially talented in art they will not receive the grade they need to boost their grade point averages, and that an art course may read as a "goof off course" to those who will be reviewing their transcripts.

Jeff Nichols, senior, explains why he feels many students think art is not an important course to take, "people think that other courses might help them later in life than art courses will. People are more career oriented today."

Dr. Banta cites another possible reason for the dwindling interest in art to be a greater emphasis on the more traditional courses like English and math and science. He says, "Starting in the seventies more attention has been paid to the mastery of basic skills because statistics were showing that more and more students were graduating without these basic skills, like reading, writing and arithmetic."

But then a question is raised. As a result of our emphasis on the practical academics are we neglecting to educate that softer side of human nature; the aesthetic side?

Mr. Hurley explains why he believes art is an essential aspect of a student's education, "especially in today's times people don't realize the importance of the aesthetic side of man. We're so busy with the technological side of man that we take art for granted. But if we're responsible for the growth of students we must ensure a well rounded education, by neglecting art we are offsetting that well balanced education."

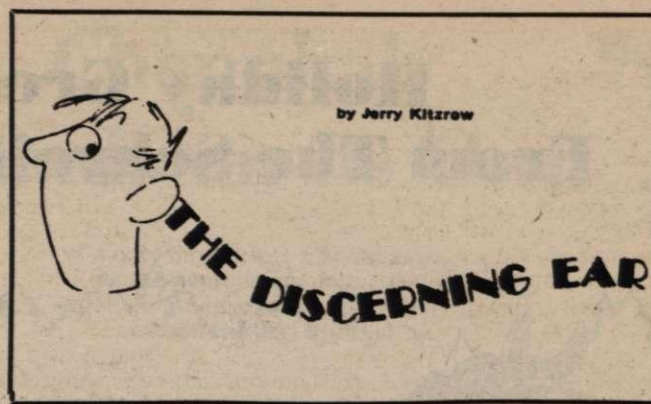
In the four years that we attend Schreiber, 4 years of English are required, 3 years of social studies are required as well as one year of math and science. There are no requirements for art.

We are told that math is a required course even if you are planning to be a garbage collector because math teaches us a logical method of thought. Social studies is not supposed to be merely a memorization of facts and dates it teaches us a sense of heritage and pride and helps us to better understand what may occur in the future. English teaches us to better express ourselves through writing and to better understand the thoughts of other through reading. If we can have the insight to appreciate the abstract benefits of all the latter "traditional subjects" why do we overlook that art is almost the only stimulus for creativity and imagination among all the required courses at Schreiber. By not requiring art we are implying that these aspects of our character are not important.

And what about the complete absence of Art History and Art Appreciation courses at Schreiber due to lack of interest. Just as we are required in Literary Masterpieces to understand the great writers and to appreciate the beauty of their expression shouldn't we also understand the great painters and what they express in their works of art.

Yes, when we graduate from Schreiber we are chock full of logorithms and historical dates, but perhaps if we consider the number of students who probably will graduate from Schreiber without being able to recognize a Picasso painting from a Rembrandt we would realize that there is something missing. Perhaps we ambitious, success minded students of the eighties have overlooked something when carefully planning our next semester's rigorous courseloads.

Mr. Hurley sums up this idea when he says, "you don't need art to be competitive, you need art to be a whole person."



## Farewell to Squeeze

That's it. Squeeze is gone. Kaput. Over. They've done their final gig (in Jamaica, on Thanksgiving) and the tapes of their farewell tour are already circulating around the radio stations. Somehow, though, it doesn't seem as if those tapes can recreate the special feelings that were present in Nassau Coliseum on November 24.

Maybe it has something to do with the fact that you may have had to cut a few classes in order to make sure you had tickets for that first show. Maybe it has something to do with standing in line for hours in twenty degree temperature to get in. Maybe it has something to do with the festive party atmosphere created by the general admission. In any case, it must be hard for someone who was not there, but has listened to the tapes, to get any accurate picture of the concert. After all, the radio doesn't play R.E.M. or The English Beat (the opening bands) even though the concert goer spent over three hours watching the two.

R.E.M., a new band from Athens, Ga., held their own in front of the frighteningly large audience while proving that power pop need not be without soul. Set completely in black and white, their music and presence did justice to their name: Rapid Eye Movement is the dream phase of sleep.

Paul Wellber and The English Beat were then faced with the unenviable task of competing with the audience's impatience. Nevertheless, the band flawlessly exposed most of the crowd to ska (a form of reggae) for the first time. They backed their current album, "Special Beat Service", with the hits "Sugar and Stress", "Save It for Later", and "I Confess". Of course the group got the most people boppin' during their famed version of Smokey Robinson's "Tears of a Clown". But the people had come with one thought in mind: Squeeze. And squeeze they did toward the stage.

At long last, a single spotlight fell on Glenn Tilbrook and his red guitar as he started the opening runs of "Another Nail in My Heart". The lights quickly broadened, Tilbrook and Chris Difford (the songwriters) stepped up to their microphones, while John Bentley (bass), Gilson Lavis (drums), and Don Snow (keyboards) joined in.

The first half of Squeeze's set offered no real surprise: "Pulling Mussels", "Black Coffee", "Annie Get Your Gun", and "Tempted", among others. On these songs, some of their most popular, the crown was hushed as the group began to play, but when the songs were recognized, the response was deafening.

In contrast, the songs in the tail end of the set and in each of the three encores were greeted in a much more subdued manner simply because they were not as well known. The group did four cover songs, including two by Smokey Robinson and one by Marvin Gaye, in an obvious nod to their Motown influences. They also performed a rare instrumental which seemed to be based loosely on the melody to "In Quintessence", featuring a snazzy toe step dance by Chris Difford.

This tour let Squeeze out with a bang. Their album "Sweets From a Stranger" was perhaps not the strongest album to blow out on, but after this tour there will be nothing but good memories of the band. Difford and Tilbrook will still be together—they're now working on a musical based on the "East Side Story" album called "Is That Love". While the other members certainly played their part in Squeeze's success, as their various producers have, it is the quality of Difford's and Tilbrook's material which will render their name a classic in the years to come.

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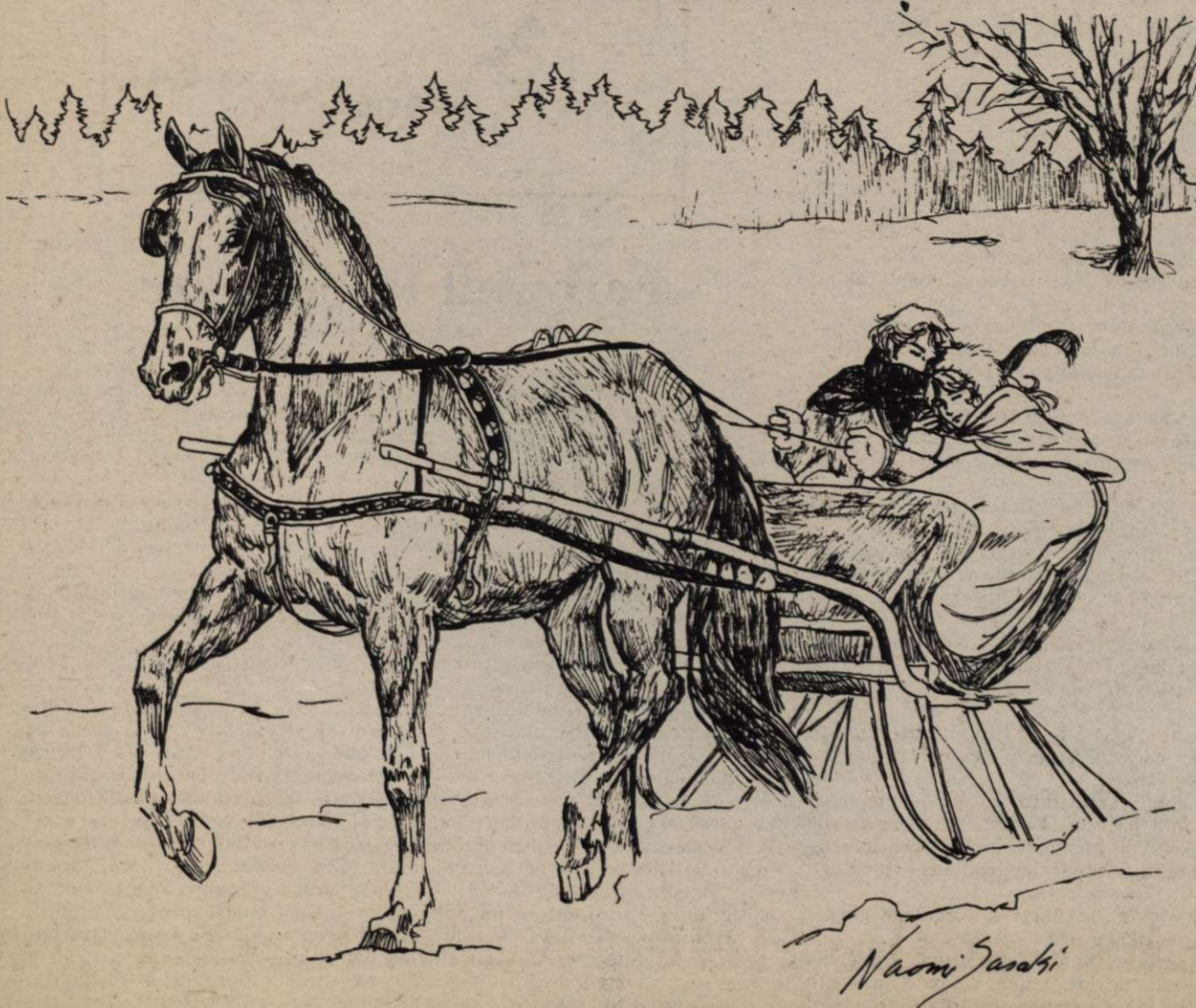
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# Holiday Greetings From The Schreiber Times



## We Salute

## Those Who Help the Needy

The recent efforts of Mr. Whitney, The Student Government and the Human Relations Committee to provide food for the needy this holiday season should not go unthanked. Not only are they reaching out to the people of our community, they are enabling us to feel good about ourselves, an opportunity that is often unavailable.

The Schreiber Times wishes to thank those people who have made contributions to the community through their generous donations of time and effort. We also urge all those Schreiber organizations that do not participate in community service projects to get involved. The taxpayers of this community make it possible for us to have the benefit of a Schreiber education and it is only fair that we return the favor through community service. There are dozens of things that need doing in our community. Poor children need toys and food. Orphans and single parent children need big brothers and sisters. Shut-ins need company and organizations need volunteers. Give of yourself to make others happy, to feel better about yourself, and to show others that Schreiber is the home of not only good students but good people.

To those people and organizations who are involved, we salute you. To those who are not, we urge you to get involved.

# Opinion:

## Conscientious Objection

by Ken Hertz

Albert Einstein was heard to have said, "The pioneers of a warless world are those young men and women who refuse military service." Accordingly there is a sane, attainable alternative to compulsory military conscription. If you have beliefs that question the moral, ethical, or religious aspects of war or the military in general, it is possible that you may be a conscientious objector.

There is no official government list of conscientious objectors. The procedure is this: If and when a draft should be reinstated, and you are chosen, you will receive a letter from the Selective Services requiring you to join the military. You will then have no more than two weeks to present your case to your local draft board, where it will be decided if you are to have conscientious objector status or if your claim was insincere or invalid. If the latter occurs you may appeal to a higher draft board. If your plea is accepted, you will be required to serve two years of civilian service. (i.e. work in a hospital, shelter for the homeless).

If you feel that you may be a conscientious objector then the important thing is this - start thinking about and developing a standpoint and a case now. Included in a file of your position should be letters of support from friends, family members, teachers and clergymen, essays that you have written which state your beliefs and objections to war and lists of books, films, friends and organizations that have helped you to form these beliefs. You should start now, because it would be impossible and unrealistic to assume that you could build a presentable case as grounds for your objection in the two weeks allotted, should you be chosen in the event of a draft.

For further information on issues concerning conscientious objection, write to:

Central Committee for Conscientious Objectors  
2208 South Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19146

CCCO has for thirty years been supporting those who face conflict with the state because they object to making war.

With the threat of nuclear war upon us, the restoration of mandatory registration, and an increasingly militaristic world, it seems that a reinstatement of the draft is not far away. And the sparkle and glitter of recruitment adds conceal the fact that the military's business is war, not job training. It is important that all young people begin thinking seriously about decisions which they will need to make, and to reflect upon issues of conscience.



Dear Editor:

I would like to comment on the quality of cleanliness of the whole gym, especially the universal gym. While participating in class, my allergies were aggravated by the disgusting pile-ups of dust and dirt which are supposedly cleaned each day.

I do not believe that we should be forced to participate in class when it involves stretching out on dirty mats and breathing in dirt and dust. Not only is this unsanitary, but it could also be carrying disease agents. I think something should be done. Seriously, how hard could it be to vacuum up dirt?

Sincerely,  
Margaret Fitzgerald

The Schreiber Times  
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# Christmas

## Symbols Explained

by Joy Hampton

As soon as Thanksgiving is over we begin to see the familiar decorations and symbols that are associated with the Christmas holiday. It is often true that the meaning of the holiday and the traditional meaning of these symbols are lost under the yards of tinsel, the hundreds of colored lights, the stuffed santas, the plastic ornaments, and the synthetic trees. Many of these symbols, such as candles, trees, and Santa Claus himself, have an origin in ancient religious celebrations which, when combined, make up the Christmas we celebrate today.

Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Christ. No one knows exactly when Christ was born, but December 25 was chosen as the date in 350 A.D. for many reasons. Long before Christ was born, people worshipped the sun. The winter solstice occurred in late December, and many people held festivals to celebrate the return of the sun. The Romans honored Saturn, god of agriculture, with their Saturnalia, a time for visiting friends, exchanging gifts, feasting, and dancing. The Roman New Year's festival, the Kalends of January, lasted from January 1 to January 3. This too was a time of merrymaking. The English and Scandinavians held similar mid winter sun festivals called Yule. They lighted huge yule logs and feasted. The Hebrews observed Chanukah, the Feast of Lights, in December as well. These festivals of light provide a link with Christ, as he was referred to as the light of the world." By setting his birthdate in late December, the Churchmen hoped that people would forget their former customs and celebrate Christ's birthday instead.

Advent became the time before Christmas during which a candle is lit each Sunday for four weeks to represent the years in which the world was preparing and waiting for the birth of Christ. The twelve days of Christmas are the twelve days between December 25 and January 6, the Epiphany, which is the day the wise men arrived at the nativity scene bearing gifts for the newborn baby. These twelve days are filled with merrymaking, and on the twelfth day, it is traditional to eat a cake with a bean baked in. The person who finds the bean in his piece of cake has found the "Christ child" and becomes King for the day.

The star which guided the wise men to the birthplace and the former festivals of light, including the yule log in medieval days and candles used in pagan celebrations, are the forerunners of all the colored lights which we use now to adorn trees, houses, and store fronts.

Evergreens served as a promise to the ancient people that the sun would return. Evergreens guarded against the evils of darkness. They were soon made symbols of joy by Christians. Wreaths were signs of peace and welcome. The colors of holly became the colors of Christmas. Mistletoe was a sacred plant and it too was a plant of peace. Enemies who met under the plant had to kiss and make up. The poinsettia is native to Mexico, and here it is called the "Flower of the Holy Night."

(Continued on page 6)

# Chanukah

## Stands on its Own

by Meesha Halm

Twelve days before Christmas but the house was not quiet—candles burning, dreidels spinning, children causing a riot.

Every year, at about this time, after the Autumn leaves have turned and fallen, and the cool winter air sets in, Jewish families over all the world prepare for the joyous festival of Chanukah. Houses are decorated with menorahs and colorful candles and turning tops, and Jewish children are nervously anticipating their Chanukah gelt, money, and gifts. "In the air there's a feeling of" Chanukah? At first glance, these preparations resemble the hustle and bustle of Christmas and can justifiably be compared to it, but just as there is no Grinch Who Stole Chanukah, he probably couldn't decide how to spell it, or Chanukah Winter Wonderland Special with a friendly talking menorah, Chanukah is not the counterpart of Christmas.

Up until recently, Chanukah was a minor happy holiday. It was a time for nuts, dreidels, games, story telling and candle lighting, not Chanukah bushes. Even Purim was considered of greater importance. Only then, was the period of shaloh manot, the exchanging of gifts, common practice in Jewish homes. Contrary to the holy remembrance of Christ, the only true feeling of holiness is during the actual lighting of the candles and only during the time the candles are lit, even the most Orthodox restrain from work.

The great saga of Chanukah, the Festival of dedication, is told during the eight day long holiday, from father to son, from generation to generation of how Hannah and her proud son stood up to the tyrant king, the destruction of the first Temple, the bravery of Judah and the Macabees and the miracle of the oil that burned for eight days. Since ancient times, the tale of Chanukah is told on the twenty-fifth day of the month of Kislev along with the blessing of the Chanukah lights. Through word of mouth alone, having no mention of the holiday in the Bible, Chanukah has been passed down and developed into the widespread holiday that it is today.

Even today, despite attempts to modify Chanukah to counteract the lure of Christmas, the old still get joy out of watching the young learn and listen to the tale of Judah Macabee, eat potatoe latkes, and spin the dreidel for chocolate coins.

# Holiday Spirit Lives at the Helen Keller Center

by Sue Kaiken

The Helen Keller National Institute for the Deaf/Blind is filled with song, cheer, and merriment on Tuesday afternoon, December 14, as the clients, staff members, and volunteers decorated the Christmas tree, and sang holiday songs. As a volunteer at the center, I helped the blind clients attach ornaments to the tree, and interpreted the songs that were being sung. The spirit of warmth and togetherness was not at all unusual, as these are the feelings exhibited by the clients and staff members all year around. The Helen Keller Institute, located in Sands Point, is a place where deaf/blind people, who have lived very sheltered lives, can learn the basic skills needed to live in a world of sight and sound. The deaf/blind clients live at the center in a residence building where each client has his or

her own room. Each floor of the building has a recreation room and an arts and crafts room. There is a cafeteria on the ground floor of the building. The lobby of the residence building has a piano, and a large recreation room where people can be found socializing at any time of the day.

During the day, the client, depending on their functioning capabilities, attend classes where they learn basic daily living skills. The higher functioning clients can take other courses depending on their needs and interests. The main building has a large library filled with braille and large print books and magazines which the clients have access to at any time.

On the evenings during the week, activities are scheduled for any clients interested. The activities include shopping, bowling, swimming, movies, and sports.

As a volunteer at the center, I take part in these activities once a week. When I first started volunteering, I went bowling on Tuesday nights with a group of about ten to twelve clients, two to three staff members, and two other volunteers. More recently, I have been going on the Thursday evening shopping

trips to Roosevelt Field or the Mid Island Plaza.

Bowling is an activity that many of us are familiar with, but how many of us can bowl close to 200 points without the aid of our eyes and ears? The deaf and blind clients that go bowling use a guide rail that is set up parallel to the alley. By holding on to this rail as they walk down the alley, they can get a feel of where they are, and where the ball should be thrown. The clients bowl, and the volunteers and staff keep score. When the game is over, we tell the clients their scores in sign language or finger spelling.

The shopping trips, as opposed to the bowling trips, are very individualized and allow for one to one interaction between client and volunteer. Ten to twelve clients, as well as two to three staff members, and two to three volunteers usually go shopping on Thursday nights. Many of the clients are independent and can go off by themselves, do their shopping, and meet back at a certain time. Each volunteer is paired off with a lower functioning client, and in one hour, must determine exactly what item the client is interested in buying, find a store that carries that item, help the client select and

buy the item, and meet back with the group. For me, because I have only the skill of finger spelling, simple tasks such as buying a roll of masking tape can become tedious chores. On one trip, the client I was with wanted to have his name ironed on to the back of his sweatshirt with iron-on letters. To figure out that this is what he wanted took about forty-five minutes. One can imagine the thrill and relief felt by both Robert and myself when I helped him into his freshly monogrammed sweatshirt. After everyone is done with their shopping, the group usually goes to Baskin Robbins for ice-cream. Then, like one huge family, we all pile into the van and head back to the center.

Doing volunteer work of this kind is both fun and rewarding experience. It is also a job for which little or no experience is necessary. The center provides prospective volunteers with about four sessions where they are taught how to finger-spell and how to guide the blind. The center also offers a sign language course free of charge to interested volunteers who have worked a required number of hours.



Staff member at the Helen Keller Institute for the Deaf/Blind interprets "The Twelve Days of Christmas" in sign language at Christmas party.

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# Look to the East for a Better View of Home

by Richard Kassner

As the religious celebrations of Chanukah and Christmas arrive, people become, or should become, more aware and appreciative of all that they have. Not in reference to a new Walkman or other material items popular this year, but thankful for something much bigger, thankful that they live in a free country, one which nurtures free expression, not stifles it; a country with an ideology based on humanitarian values and which provides for its people a standard of living higher than any other country's in the world. Perhaps people need to be taken away from the protective and isolated environment of Long Island suburbia to realize this. It is only after returning from a period of study in the People's Republic of China that I have become conscious of the great advantages this country has for its people, advantages which are often taken for granted.

The First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America, contained in The Bill of Rights, provides every citizen with the right to freely express themselves. This right is often exercised in Schreiber and the larger Port Washington community. With this right you and I are able to write a letter to The Schreiber Times offering the suggestion that school policy be changed. Gu Wang of Beijing High does not have this right.

Concerned Citizens About the Landfill is an organization which is essentially fighting City Hall. This action group is seeking a full scale investigation of the toxic gases which, they believe, are produced by the landfill. Not lawyers or politicians, these people are mothers and fathers fighting for a clean environment for themselves and their children. Indeed many believe that to drink clean water and breathe pure air is a basic human right.

## The Chinese are unable to speak out against air pollution.

The main source of energy in China today is coal, and because the country has very little money, anti-pollution devices are almost unheard of. When you go for a walk you can not only sense the coal in your lungs, but see it on your clothes. However, because they live in a communist state, the Chinese cannot demand that the government do something so that their children will not grow up developing respiratory problems. Indeed it could be said that the right to free speech is the basic human right.

## Dazibo writers once expressed popular opinions at the Xidan Democracy Wall.

The right for one to express himself did exist in China at one time, but no more. The period when it was allowed was called the "tiny democracy movement." Individual opinions, written by dazibo writers, were allowed to appear in a small area known as the Xidan Democracy Wall. Such things were written as pleas to the government for both economic and social reform. Many people stood before the wall for hours copying the information so that it might be spread throughout the country. Today nothing remains but a wall in front of which loitering is not permitted. Today the brave Chinese citizen, often a student will gather information from tourists. Subjects usually include Taiwan, Sino-American relations and general questions about economic conditions in various areas of the world.

One professor I know said that "to the Chinese way of thinking the U.S. is first, they are second and everybody else is third." Although China has increased ties with the West, the first treaty being the Shanghai Communique achieved by ex-President Richard Nixon, there are still few consumer goods available. A black and white television set costs about \$1,000.00 in China and the average worker makes about \$25.00 monthly.

## A Chinese father makes \$300.00 a year.

In the United States it is illegal for anyone to work from 9 to 5 and make \$25.00. Here, the least a person can make in a normal work day, by law, is \$28.00 for 8 hours work (with a minimum wage of \$3.50 per hour). Working five days a week the American teenager can make around \$7,000.00 a year while the adult Chinese father makes an average \$300.00 a year. We have a minimum wage so that no individual may be forced to work at slave wages. Such a measure has certain humanitarian qualities; such a situation does not exist in China.

## The government stops the people's exposure to Western products.

When one goes sightseeing in China, they immediately notice deliberate actions by the government to control the people. One experience that sticks out in my mind is when I climbed a mountain to visit a Buddhist monastery that sat at the top. Upon reaching the top I went right past the temple to the souvenir shop. I knew that I would find the sacred Coca-Cola there. This shop, just like all the others, had two sections, one open to all and another open only to foreigners. In this second "secret" area was the place to buy refreshments. The Chinese were forbidden to enter and buy Coke; moreover, Coke could only be bought with friendship money (which is given to foreigners) not yuan (the money of the people). The government did not want the people to soften or be exposed the western products. The idea, I suppose, is that a Chinese used to comfort is not a Chinese who will break his back for the "cause." This reeks of segregation such as the blacks were subject to in this country and still are in South Africa. Many countries boycott trade with South Africa because of their inhumane practice of apartheid. I saw that the same sort of segregation and inhumane practices exist in China today. Fortunately, such ways are in the past in the U.S.

## The government says "No more than two" to future parents.

Just as Schreiber students take Health, so too, are Chinese students taught such things as birth control. In China today, to have one child is good, to have two is acceptable and to have three or more is to get in trouble. This is because of the population problems. Ever present during my visit were exhortations by the government for people to take part in the census. Propaganda could be seen everywhere. Posters stated that participation in the census would mean a "more modern national future" and that it was a person's duty to be counted. There are 300,000 births and 200,000 deaths daily which creates a population increase of 100,000 a day (about the size of the city of Albany). When the census was completed on July 15, 1982, they found there were about 2 billion people or a quarter of the world's population in China. Fortunately no restrictions are placed on family size in this country or some of us might not be here. Surely the right to give birth is a human one.

Basic human rights are what separates the United States from much of the world. When one travels he realizes that The United States passport is a special document. It has world wide clout and respect because of the political and human, indeed humane, beliefs which it represents.

This holiday season we United States citizens should try to be grateful for the privileges which our country offers to us. If we never forget or take these advantages for granted, then we will never let them be taken from us.

### Christmas Symbols Explored

(Continued from page 5)

The fore-runners of the Christmas trees were the oak trees which the Druids decorated with apples and lighted candles, and also the trees which the Romans trimmed with trinkets and candles during the Saturnalia. Germans began to decorate trees around 1500, and the first tree was brought home by Martin Luther, the leader of the Protestant Revolution, around 1600. To him, it represented the vast night sky, and the candles which decorated it stood for the many stars which filled the sky.

In these days of capitalism, Christmas seems to center around gift giving. This idea stems from the first gift givers, the wise men, who brought their gifts to the Christ child in the manger. Their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh honored the baby's birth. Children in Spain still celebrate the Epiphany, January 6, as the day to receive gifts brought to them by the wise men. St. Nicholas was the best known gift bringer. A real saint, he was famous for his generosity and his love for children. He used all his money for gifts for the young and the poor. The date of his death, December 6, is St. Nicholas Day, and has become the gift day for children in many countries. The 1500's brought the Protestant revolution, and many people changed their gift day to Christ's birthday. The spirit of St. Nicholas took the form of "Christmas man" in many countries. The Christ child was adopted as another symbol of Christmas giving. In the melting pot of America, these many gift bringers gradually became one, the jolly old man with long white whiskers known to everyone as Santa Claus.

Christmas has not always had an easy time. In 1640, the Puritans in England felt that Christmas had become too gay and rowdy. They passed laws to stop all festivity on the religious holiday. Shops stayed open on Christmas day. There was no caroling, yule feasts or celebrating, and if anyone was caught participating in these activities, he was punished.

In the 1660's, the King Charles II revived public celebrations, and festivities resumed, although they were changed. Christmas became a time for families to get together. Peasants, middle class, and noblemen held feasts in their own homes. By the 1860's, customs from all over Europe had combined in America to create the Christmas that we know today.

It is easy to lose the real meaning of Christmas in the crowded stores and in the traffic jams caused by the Christmas rush. However, we must remember that underneath all of the commercial gaudiness, Santa Claus is not only an old man who is drawn by reindeer, but he represents the spirit of giving and sharing. And this spirit was not only present at the nativity scene, but it was the essence of Christ's entire life. The wreaths we hang on our doors symbolize peace and hope for the return of spring. And finally, after singing about Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer and Frosty the Snowman, we must still "remember Christ the Savior was born on Christmas day." That is what Christmas is all about.



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# Intramurals Going Strong

by Jonathan Hirsch

The intramural activities at Schreiber are still going strong. In progress presently are the 3-on-3 basketball games and volleyball. Each are played on the three different levels of expertise: beginner, intermediate, and advanced.

We have two new champions at Schreiber this year. The first is Greg Kiev. He won the table tennis singles competition, defeating Howard Chervis in the finals, the brother of last year's champ.

The other victor was Paul Fenwick, who won both basketball competitions. The two competitions were foul shooting, in which he shot 79 of 100, and the 18 position shooting, in which he shot 29 shots for the 18 positions. Both were awarded Schreiber intramural T-shirts.

STX-lacrosse also met for six sessions but no team was declared the winner.

Coming up in the near future will be the very popular floor hockey. See the intramural news bulletin board in the gym for information.



photo by MaryKate Michelak

Sports Night hopefuls shimmy during tryout practice. The chosen will perform at perennial sellout March date.



photo by Victor Seidel

Girls' Cross-Country Track team members: Dorothy Kraveski, Val Ullman, Orly Ben-Israel, Amy Bingham, Anne Boyle, Lisa Bradley, Emily Silver and Nina Samuelson receive recognition from Coach McDonald at the Winter Sports Award presentation on December 8th.



## Girl's Winter Track Shows Championship Potential

by Vicky Schall and Meesha Halm

The girls' winter track team is starting out what may be the most successful season in the history of the school. The team lists a larger roster than any other winter track team the school has had, and the many members show great promise. There are both returning members and new members, and the combination of proven athletes as well as the potential of the new members is a strong one that is expected to do very well.

The returning members, with records that show their strength, include: Lisa Bradley, Teresa Bradley, Rebecca Buder, Jeanne Goutevenier, Dorothy Kraveski, Eileen Mulcahy, Laney Salisbury, and Nina Samuelson.

These girls are backed up by veterans of last year's county championship spring track team; Sarah Detwiler, Cynthia Sherman, Karen Skinner, and Vivian Slater, joined by cross country team members Orly Ben-Israel, Amy Bingham, Linda Concheird, Jenny Kasmin, Anne-Marie Lapinski, Emily Silver, and Valerie Ullman.

Starting their first track season are new members; Sandi Buitron, Amy Carew, Karen Fico, Allison Fraser, Lisa Gamell, Carolyn Gegan, Sue Gegan, Joanne Hoffman, Suzanne Leddy, Ann Murphy, Christine O'Day, Liz Rosen, Jill Rosen, Linda Salzhauer, and Ann Sheinberg.

The new members show outstanding ability and could develop into excellent runners. The returning members have already proven themselves. One example is seen in Lisa Bradley, who qualified for the state championships in the 60 yd. hurdles last year.

The team starts out their season with an invitational meet at Harborfields, and that meet will be followed by meets at various colleges including Harvard, Yale, Dartmouth, Union College, and Cornell University.

Coach MacDonald believes that the team shows great potential and could be a championship team.

## Class Night

by Liz Sloan

Last Monday night the Girl's Athletic Association conducted a new activity at Schreiber, called Class Night. While it was not connected with Sports Night, the teams were split up into Blue and White, with each grade being a separate team and competing against each other. There were four events; volleyball, crab-soccer, obstacle course, and relays. The Blue seniors were victorious while the White seniors were dead last. White juniors received second place, Blue juniors got third, White sophomores were fourth, and Blue sophomores were fifth. While the turnout was not as good as expected, all participants enjoyed themselves.



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## Public Speakers Look Ahead To Next Competition

By Andy Kramer

Schreiber's Public Speaking Society competed for the first time this year on Saturday, December 11, at Hewlitt High School. Students from several high schools on Long Island prepared speeches and then presented them orally in front of an audience. Although the students who competed from Schreiber, Randi Dorman and Robin Holkower, did not win, they "had a good time".

The Public Speaking Society was originally developed last year by Mrs. Dufour and this year is run by Miss Patt President Robin Hulkower, and Secretary Gary Summers.

The goal of the Society this year is to enter into the mainstream of competition and to sharpen the speaking skills of its members.

The Public Speaking Society is open to anyone who wishes to improve his or her speaking skills. The next competition will be at Chaminade High School on January 15.

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# Girls' Gymnastics Team Shows Championship Form



Elise Nappi poses gracefully on the balance beam.

by Liz Sloan

photo by Victor Seidel

The girls' gymnastics team has their first meet against Massapequa on January 10. The four all around competitors in the team are Elise Nappi, Karin Patterson, Marianne Knizewski, and Shawna Coyle. This is the first year that the team is ranked by its scores from the previous year, making it third in the county. While Miss Amzler, the coach, stated that the team has lost half of its members from last year, she feels that if they all work on consistency, the team will do well. The team's strongest events are beam and vaulting.

# Girls' Basketball Has A Slow Start



Carmela Mongelluzzo takes a jumpshot in a game against Wheatley photo by Victor Seidel

The girls' varsity basketball team has had three non-league scrimmages and shows the potential to be a strong team.

Port's first scrimmage was played against Manhasset on December 9, at Schreiber. Port lost this game, although several individuals played very well. The team needs more practice and the players have to learn to combine their individual talents into one team effort.

Port's second scrimmage was also a home game played against Wheatley. Port won this game by a wide margin. The team exhibited their skill and ability to work together as a team.

On Friday, December 20, Port played Roslyn in their third non-league scrimmage. Port lost to Roslyn, the defending state champions, but they put up a good fight against the tough competition. The final score was 29-59.

Some strong players on the team this year are sophomores Jill Mosby, and Erica Bundschuh, freshman Jenny Marra, and returning seniors Alyssa Dver, Ellen Hoberman, Theresa McLean, and Carmela Mongelluzzo. The team is young, and needs practice, but the talent is there. Coach John Sficof believes that the team has great potential.

## Boys' Basketball Record 2 - 1

by Michael Jeacoma

Last year, Schreiber's varsity basketball team spelled offence J-A-M-E-S A-B-E-R-C-R-O-M-B-I-E. This year, he picked up right where he left off.

In their first game against Roslyn, Port was shocked as Roslyn scored 72 points. Port showed poor defense and poor offense in this game. James Abercrombie and Rod Dumpson (the ice man) both had a strong game.

In the Manhasset tournament, Port came out smoking as Abercrombie ignited the Viking's offense by scoring 30 points. He also gave his hometown fans a treat by slam dunking twice in the game. The ice man had a strong performance as he shot well from the outside. Todd Dumpson and Scott Carr gave exceptional performances as they both scored 10 points, with Todd blocking three shots. Port scored 69 points that game and breezed through Manhasset in the first game of the tournament.

In the second game, Port played a strong, well coached St. Mary's team. Port showed practically no offense this game as they only scored forty-seven points. The only bright spots for Port were the smooth as silk outside shooting by James Abercrombie who scored twenty two points and Rod Dumpson who scored sixteen points.

Port has the potential to win their division and go even further, as soon as they start playing as a team.

Cove's basketball team defeated Port 67 to 53. Todd Dumpson said that the team lost because everyone had a bad day. Glen Cove out-hustled us, we had too many turnovers and not enough rebounding. James Abercrombie was high scorer with 17 points. Todd Dumpson had 9 points, Rodney Dumpson had 8 points, and Jimmy DeMeo had 6 points. These were the high scorers for the game.

## Holiday Calendar

### December 22

The Eglevsky Ballet does "The Nutcracker Suite." For ticket information call 767-1115.

### December 23

"A Christmas Carol" At The Westbury Music Fair, tickets are \$6 in advance. At 7:30.

### December 25

#### CHRISTMAS!

### December 26

Forecast for snow.

### December 27

"A Christmas Carol" again at 7:30.

### December 28

High school seniors are invited to attend a discussion with Port graduates for an inside look at campus life, courses, and social life. 8:00 PM at the Library.

### December 29

"Pennies from heaven" at 8:00 PM at the Library.

Billy Joel at Nassau Coliseum at 8:00 P.M.



### December 31

Long Island Chamber Ensemble at 5:30 P.M. in Nassau County Museum of Fine Arts. Ticket are \$6.00.

Flock of Seagulls at the Paladium at 8:00 P.M.

### January 1

Recover from New Year's festivities.

### January 2

Go skating at Rockefeller Center.

### January 3

Wakeup and go back to school.

Registration CPR workshop all day at the Library.

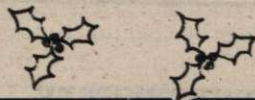
The Caine Mutiny at 8:00 P.M. at the Library.

### January 4

Ithaca Video Festival-video art by accomplished at 7:30 P.M.

### January 7

Ragtime the Library at 8:00 P.M.



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## Grapplers Grasp A 1 - 0 Record

by Adam Honen

The Schreiber wrestling team won their Home opener against Roslyn on December 17 by a 54 to 6 margin.

The meet started with Port wrestlers dominating in exhibition matches. Jimmy Dayton, last year's division champion, and Mark Musto both pinned their opponents. David Guttman wrestled well but dropped the decision.

Art Dover, another division champion from last year, scored Port's first Varsity pin, as he defeated his opponent in the 119 weight class. Dave Cappela followed by pinning his opponent in the 126 weight class in 2:35.

Mike Rosen, wrestling in the 167 weight class, finished the meet and satisfied the noisy Schreiber crowd with a pin in a time of 1:36.

Port amassed the rest of it's points by Roslyn forfeits in six different categories.

The port wrestlers are preparing for their next home meet vs. Wantagh on January 12.

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