

Four Bands Contend for Top Honors in Battle '89

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evening's success by saying, "Compared to last year [the Battle], I'm overwhelmed."

Judges for the night were faculty chaperones Carol Hulse, Paul Kosiba, and Amy Prochaska. Secretary Jen Pollack represented the G.O. on the panel. James Beaudreau was included "as a music enthusiast," said Steve Schneiderman.

The second place finisher was Daedalus, composed of bassist Dan Juceam, vocalist Jon Schoen, drummer Sameer Upadhyay, and guitarists Chester Dlugolecki and Noah Krieger. Daedalus, organized two and a half weeks prior to the battle, played such tunes as "Sweet Child of Mine" by Guns 'n' Roses and "Purple Haze" by Jimi Hendrix. Jon Schoen, lead vocalist, commented, "I thought we did very well. It was defi-

nately fun." Jon went on to say that he was glad Mystic Rhythms won. "They deserved it. They have the most experience," he said.

In third place was the Condors. The Condors are an all-freshman band who prefer a calmer style of music than the other entrants. The band explained their performance of songs such as "Ticket To Ride" and "Handle With Care" by referring to the Beatles and the Travelling Wilburys as their favorite groups. The band also presented an original work, "Snowy Day." The lyrics were written by Mike Berman, singer and keyboardist. Greg Kirmser, who played guitar and sang for the Condors, wrote the music. Other members of the band are Tim Dallesandro and Jon Aronstein.

Curious George and the Men

with the Yellow Hats rounded out the field with a fourth place finish. Their show included a Curious George original, "Green Beer." They also offered their versions of Big Black's "Texas" and Naked Raygun's "Peacemaker," among others. Adam Gray played bass, Dan Varenka was the lead singer, and Gavin Blake was the drummer.

Curious George's set was marked by unforeseen violence. As the group played, several fans began "slam-dancing," a physical style of dance typical to music of the "hard-core" genre. Dancers "slam" their bodies into one another. The scene resulted in several shoving matches which prompted Ms. Rita Albert, Sophomore Class administrator, to interrupt the band and quiet the crowd.

As a result of the boisterous crowd, Curious George was hit



Craig Glantz and Jon Schoen perform at Battle '89.

with a penalty. Later, Manager Will Simon defended the trio by saying, "We feel it wasn't our fault." Adam Gray elaborated, "It wasn't our fans who were violent. They sat down when we

asked them. The crowd consensus was that we were treated unfairly. Everyone [in the band] is very disappointed. We feel we were penalized for our creativity."

Administration Deals with Stage Controversy

by Jay Berman

Several long-standing controversies surrounding the use of Schreiber's stage have recently been resolved or addressed.

The controversy came to a head on February 16 as several students, most participants in Schreiber's theater productions were appalled to find a crew installing a vinyl "tarp" to cover graffiti on the side and rear walls of the stage. Before Schreiber became a four year high school the stage was used for plays, musicals, and concerts alone. However, because of the growth of Schreiber's population, the band increased from an average ninety people to well over 150, according to Band Director Bill Fish. Now the room is shared by two bands as well as the Port Singers, The Play Troupe, and The Red Stocking Revue.

The stage walls were the subject of extensive attention in the fall of 1987. News reached Peter Nissen (Schreiber class of '82) that because of the room's roles as classroom and community theater, plans were being made to paint over the stage walls. Nissen participated in twenty-seven Schreiber productions between 1971 and 1982 and was concerned for the pres-

ervation of the walls. He expressed his concern in a letter to **The Schreiber Times** four years ago and in the fall of 1987 provided an impetus for the founding of The Coalition of Students, Faculty, and Alumni to Save the Walls.

The coalition set out to block a work order to paint the walls, claiming their purpose was to ensure the preservation and continuity of the tradition of student actors. Successful in blocking the work order, the group presented a list of acceptable alternative measures to Superintendent Dr. William Heebink in mid-November, 1987.

The issue rested until February 16, this year, when students, many of whom were a part of the coalition last year, became outraged at the "tarp" installation. Senior Matthew Marcus immediately began amassing a group of students to meet with Principle Dr. Sidney Barish in his office that same afternoon. Due to a large turnout, the meeting was moved to the band room. Dr. Barish addressed the group, reminding them that the tarp was one of the options suggested in the 1987 proposal. Students from the theater expressed concern about removing the tarp during their rehearsal-



A view of the Schreiber Backstage

because it had been installed without a means for removing it easily. Also addressed at the meeting was the importance of preserving the names, the desire for continuing the tradition of actors signing their names on the walls, and the historical significance of the names. The meeting ended with the understanding that the walls would be covered during the day and left uncovered during play rehearsals.

However, the issue of the stage, seemingly resolved, was further aggravated when Band Director Jeff Byrne cancelled band three days in a row, claim-

ing that conditions on the stage made it impossible for him to rehearse. "The lighting was improper and sets for **Twelve Angry Men** were in the way," he said. Dr. Barish, who was at a conference on the days Byrne cancelled band, later said, "His complaints are justified. He cancelled band out of frustration." In a series of letters to Dr. Barish, which once equaled as many as six in one week, Byrne further outlined his complaints about the stage. "I was notifying him that I couldn't operate in my classroom... This is the fourth year I've been trying to get this place the way it ought to look,"

he remarked. "This is an all-purpose room. It should have minimal clutter - props and instruments." He was referring to play props from an already produced musical as well as accoustical shells used by the band that were stacked against a wall.

Both Barish and Byrne stated that procedures for use of the stage implemented last year had broken down. Barish stated, "Obstructions shouldn't exist." In an effort to reaffirm and redistribute procedures for cooperative use of the stage, a meeting of concerned parties was held. Representatives of the music department, theater, and custodians met with Dr. Barish on March 22. Resolved at that meeting was an assurance that the stage would be suitable for the band to rehearse every morning. This will be the responsibility of both participating groups and the custodians. Also discussed at the meeting and pending further study were more extensive storage facilities for props and scenery, various proposals for rigging the tarp, more acceptable lighting for the band, and a storage cage for percussion instruments. Dr. Barish said of the meeting, "I think we opened doors to communication and cooperation for use of the space."

Port Residents Vote Down Bond Issue

by Stefanie Mollin

The \$13,040,000 school bond that was proposed by Superintendent William R. Heebink in November was rejected by voters in the March 14th election.

The vote was 1,240 to 857. Most of the 2,097 voters who came to the polls were senior citizens.

The bond included a four-part plan that dealt with oil tank

replacement, asbestos removal, vital repairs to deteriorating buildings, as well as space addition to three of the elementary schools. The plan was to be financed over a period of 15 years through the bond. It was estimated that the cost of the bond, including interest, would be approximately \$85 per year for the average Port Washington taxpayer.

As a result of the defeated bond, improvements and the various repairs will most likely have to come from school budgets.

"We were all disappointed," says school board member Karen Youdelman. "We spent a lot of time looking at all the options, and this had seemed to be the best plan which would have cost the least amount of

money. We are mandated by the state to do asbestos removal and oil tank replacement, which may affect the budget coming up this June."

According to Principal Dr. Sidney Barish, "It was a disappointment. I was hopeful it would pass. The asbestos removal will have to be done through the school budget. The problems will not just go away.

We'll probably hear about what will happen within a week or two."

Lee Aschenbrenner, Principal of Manorhaven Elementary School and Port resident, also expressed regret at the defeat. He said, "I'm disappointed it was defeated. The bond would have met many needs which now have to be met by the budget."