

Middle States Committee Issues Evaluation

by Judi Rimerman

Schreiber has received its evaluative report from the Middle States Committee, thereby concluding the second phase of a three step process toward achieving Middle States accreditation.

The report was written after a year-long period of self-evaluation by teachers, students, and parental representatives, a period culminating in a visit by a league of 25 teachers and administrators from New York area schools. The evaluation contains what Principal Sidney Barish terms "commendations and recommendations as to what was observed" rather than prescriptions for change. Proposals are made, and then the school has the right to accept or reject them as they choose. Dr. Barish stated that school officials may also prioritize concerns. In a similar vein, every

department in school is evaluated, and no particular department is cited as particularly outstanding or weak.

Primary areas of praise in the report included general impressions of the staff. According to Dr. Barish, every teacher in school was individually observed twice. The result was the committee's general statement, "The staff at Schreiber exhibited a high level of enthusiasm and consideration for students." In a similar manner, the Committee cited the rapport between students and teachers in every department as a "meaningful interaction."

With regard to criticisms expressed by the Middle States Committee, Dr. Barish indicated that major areas cited as needing improvement was the Schreiber facilities. Evaluators claimed that the building was in serious need of renovation de-

spite the enrollment declines. Dr. Barish expressed agreement with the committee's assertions. He stated that the primary plan posed by the school board and Superintendent William Heebink to deal with the concern was the bond issue, which was recently voted down. As the plan was defeated, the superintendent must now research alternatives; he will soon make new recommendations to the school board, and these plans will subsequently be relayed to the Middle States board.

Another factor singled out by the Middle States Committee was the lack of attention paid to students with plans and needs unrelated to college. The board suggested that Schreiber "examine the need to improve both the variety and quality of offerings available to students with special needs." Dr. Barish agrees, saying, "We do need to

look at this (situation); we could be more heterozygous with regard to programs offered to students....Much of the problem stems from the fact that our student body is heavily college bound."

One particularly significant suggestion offered by the evaluatory committee was a strict look into modular scheduling. According to Barish, "They weren't suggesting an overhaul or even a revamping, but that it be re-examined mindful of its complexity." A committee for this purpose has already been established; it includes Dr. Barish and a number of staff members.

Other recommendations that Dr. Barish cited as having "stood out" were "the need to develop and implement in service and staff developmental programs" and the need to make use of the various employment

and internship possibilities in the community.

Response to the suggestions and commendations put forth by the Middle States Committee is handled both by the Schreiber staff and the administration. The reports were distributed to department chairpeople, who provided teachers with the section of the report concerning their particular department. Portions of the report will eventually be made public in the school and Port Washington libraries. In addition, the pre-amble of the report has been sent to the superintendent.

The next step involved in the process of accreditation will be plans for addressing the committee's recommendations. These will be discussed and constructed by both staff and administration and will be submitted to the Middle States Committee.

Student Actors Perform at Festival

by Robert Weisz

Seven Schreiber students, under the direction of English teacher Susan Melchior, participated in the annual Shakespeare Festival at Hofstra University on March 17.

The festival is divided into two parts. One part is the production of a Shakespearean play produced by Hofstra. The other part consists of groups of high school students competing against each other in the production of a scene from one of

Shakespeare's plays. The Schreiber actors - Mindy Telmer, Matt Marcus, Dave Kaminow, Jeremy Jones-Bateman, Sody Yodelman, Heather Osterman - and their stage manager Cara Sucher, performed Act I Scene V from *Twelfth Night*.

The competition was formerly held on only one day, but this year it was held on two successive Fridays, March 10 and March 17. Six teams from six different schools competed

on each day. The teams were judged and after all the teams finished, awards were given out for best ensemble, best actor, and best actress. The Manhasset repertory group received the ward for best ensemble.

Although the Schreiber ensemble didn't win any awards, Mrs. Melchior felt that "The performances were splendid. They (the performers) showed a good deal of depth and understanding. I am very pleased."

Port Plans Road Race

by Elissa Blum

The Port Washington Youth Council 5K Run and 1 Mile Fun Run/Health Walk will take place on Saturday, April 1 at Bar Beach Park.

The general entry fee for the race, which will begin at twelve noon, is \$10 dollars on the day of the race, and the reduced entry fee for students and senior citizens is \$7.

The race is sponsored by the Port Washington Chamber of Commerce with specific donations by Shoes and More Shoes, North Shore Vision Services, Avante Garde Optic Inc., National Westminster Bank USA, Sude Jewelers, and Cycles Plus.

The race, which has been held for the past six years, is under the student leadership of Daniel Saul. A committee of students and adults have been working for the past few months to organize registration, set the course, and put together all aspects of the race.

According to Dan, "The road race provides an opportunity for the youth of Port Washington to plan, organize, and carry out a project for the whole community."

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