



The Schreiber Times

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\$350,000 Added to State Aid

by Jeni Blum

The Port Washington School District received a budget restoration of approximately \$350,000 from the New York State government in early July, allowing the district to restore driver education and one-tenth of a home economics position at Schreiber. The final amount of state aid for the 1991-92 school year, \$3.9 million, will still be approximately \$2.8 million less than the appropriated state aid given for the 1990-91 school year.

State aid was reduced for the 1991-92 school year because, according to Superintendent of Schools William Heebink, "New York State was running out of

money...There were more expenditures in [the state budget] than there were anticipated revenues." Additional state aid was distributed after a state revenue package was developed which allowed the state to spend more money on education.

The school board, in a meeting on August 6, voted to restore some of the cutbacks which were made last spring, when initial budget cuts were announced by the state. Driver education was restored for juniors and continues to be available to seniors. The board had previously decided that only seniors would be eligible for the course when initial cutbacks were

made in May. One-tenth of a home economics position was added to Schreiber, and the district on a whole regained nine-tenths of a teaching position. Teacher aides were added in the elementary schools.

When driver education was originally eliminated for juniors, some of them opted to take the course privately, while others planned to wait until they would be allowed to take driver education at Schreiber in their senior year. Junior Jim Fox took driver education privately over the summer because at that time he was not aware that he would be eligible for the course in school this year. "I'm very upset that I had to waste my summer taking driver education when I could have taken it in school this year," said Fox. "I think it's very unfair to students such as myself who spent a lot of money on the course, when it is now offered for free in school." Junior Sam Nelson is currently enrolled in driver education at Schreiber. According to Nelson, "I was upset when it was taken away, and of course I was really glad when the budget reinstatements allowed for driver education to be offered again. Taking it in school will

not inhibit me from participating in sports and after-school clubs, will give me school credits, and will save me money."

State aid is determined for each school district by such factors as the general wealth of the community and the number of students requiring transportation to school. Approximately \$4 million out of the \$50 million budget for the district is appropriated for aid.

Although Dr. Heebink does not believe that Port Washington will receive any more state aid next year than it did this year, he said, "Our only concern is that we do not sustain another significant loss of state aid such as we encountered the first year. We've all made adjustments and tried to absorb that loss of state aid, but if it happens again, then it's going to start to really have an impact on the quality [of education]. I don't want people to be deceived that it's all over, that we've gone through a budget crisis and that's the end of the story, because unless something drastic happens in a positive sense to the New York State economy, I think realistically we've got at least another year of difficulty, and I'm just hopeful that we can come through without serious harm to education."

Nine Seniors Named Merit Semifinalists

by Sam Nelson

Nine seniors were chosen as semifinalists in the National Merit Scholarship competition. Andrew Bernstein, Josh Brody, Ed Chin, Oren Eisner, Steve Engel, Peter Han, Nick Kessler, Michelle Rosettie, and Lewis Shin will now compete to become finalists and possible winners of the 6100 available Merit Scholarships, which have a total value of \$26 million.

The students entered the competition by taking the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test and National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT). This test serves as an initial screening measure of the more than one million initial competitors. Of this group, 50,000 seniors were commended, while 15,000 were named as semifinalists. A selection index, using the sum of twice the verbal score added to the math score, serves as the basis for semifinalist honors. In each state, semifinalist standing requires an index that is within the top 0.5 percent of the state's seniors. This index varies from state to state and might vary within a state from year to year.

To become finalists, competitors need a "record of consistently high academic performance throughout all grades, nine through twelve," according to the National Merit Scholarship Program. In mid-January, a committee of college admissions officers and secondary school counselors will meet to choose the final-

ists. Other categories weighing heavily in the judgement of the students are their academic records, including course load, difficulty level, and depth and breadth of subjects studied, and grades earned. In addition, the students must complete an application documenting personal accomplishments, contributions to their schools and communities, scores from the PSAT/NMSQT and SAT exams, and the students' personal statements, including written recommendations from the students' guidance counselors.

The finalists will also be eligible for corporate- and college-sponsored Merit Scholarships, for which they must meet the qualifications set up under the auspices of the sponsors. A further benefit of the competition was recognition in a nationwide news media announcement on September 11. The names of all semifinalists are sent to four-year institutions of the U.S. higher education system for college officials interested in contacting these students to offer financial aid and/or admissions. According to guidance department chairperson John Zanetti, the benefits of being named a semifinalist are valuable. The accolade adds "more credentials" to transcripts and "gives colleges a list of names to pursue for academic excellence." Mr. Zanetti commented, "It's a great honor; it gives the top students a means of being contacted and furthering their education on a high level."



Seven seniors were arrested on the charge of criminal trespass following the abortive senior prank shown above. Coverage on Page 3.

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New Teachers Enter Schreiber

by Supinda Bunyavanich and Elizabeth Hellenschmidt

Fifteen teachers have been added to the faculty for the 1991-92 school year.

These teachers are Doris Behrens, Michael Cain, Anita Connors, Ellen Davidson, Alan Gewirtzman, Neil Miller, Bess Mulvihill, David O'Connor, John Osbourne, Eleanor Oppenheim, Kris Palatella, Kenneth Ruggerio, Patricia Scarantino, Jean Vogely, and Katherine Yanuklis.

Doris Behrens, the new special education teacher, was previously a resource room teacher at Manhasset High School. She chose to become a teacher because she had always wanted to work with kids. According to Ms. Behrens, the students at Schreiber are "very inquisitive and genuinely interested in learning." Her impression of Schreiber is that "the faculty is warm and friendly, and the school seems to run very smoothly."

Physical education teacher and junior varsity football coach Michael Cain has become a full-time teacher after splitting his time last year between Weber and Schreiber teaching math and physical education. In reference to Schreiber, he commented, "I really like the open campus and how effectively the modular scheduling works." Before working in Port, he taught at Half Hollow Hills High School in Dix Hills. He became a physical education teacher because he loves sports and has always respected his gym teachers. Mr. Cain emphasized the talent of Port athletes.

Anita Connors, the new registered nurse, has been interested in her profession since she was a child. She stated that Schreiber's atmosphere is friendly, interesting and active. Concerning the students, she exclaimed, "So far, so good!" She declared her eagerness to help anyone needing her assistance. Ms. Connors was formerly the school nurse at BOCES.

Math teacher Ellen Davidson, who currently teaches computer programming and Sequential Math I and II, served as a permanent math substitute in the school district last year due to excessing. She had previously taught math at Weber and Schreiber. According to Mrs. Davidson, she became a teacher because she likes people and prefers working with people to working with numbers alone.

Alan Gewirtzman teaches English and math to juniors and seniors enrolled in Schreiber's alternate school. He said that he became a teacher because. "As I was growing up, I realized that I really loved to learn, and I decided that teaching is probably the best way to keep on learning throughout my life and to communicate

teacher at the alternate school, enjoys working with his students. He said that he is looking forward to getting to know his students better. "I was amazed at how friendly all of the teachers, students and administrators are. I'm very happy to be working here," said Mr. O'Connor. Before teaching in Port, he was a

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Pictured above are eight of Schreiber's fifteen new teachers.

the excitement that I feel about learning to others." Before coming to Schreiber, Mr. Gewirtzman taught social studies and math at an alternative junior high school in East Harlem.

Driver education teacher Neil Miller teaches eleventh and twelfth grade classes. He stressed that, "It is very important to learn the correct way to drive while in school." He thinks that Schreiber's students are very diverse, mature, and involved. His previous teaching experiences were in technology and driver education. He wanted to teach driver education because he enjoys working on cars and feels that students should learn how to be responsible drivers.

Bess Mulvihill, the new librarian and school media specialist, was a business librarian at C.W. Post before coming to Schreiber. She decided to accept a position at Schreiber because she had enjoyed working with high school students in the summer show. Ms. Mulvihill described the Schreiber community as "motivated and interested in current affairs." Her goal is to try to get the library more involved in school activities. Ms. Mulvihill strongly encourages students to take advantage of all of the library's facilities.

David O'Connor, a history and science

history teacher at John Jay High School in Brooklyn, and he was a teaching assistant at SUNY Stony Brook when he was in graduate school.

After three years of teaching at Weber, technology teacher John Osbourne adds to his course load a mechanical drawing class at Schreiber. His time is split between the technology departments at Weber and Schreiber.

Eleanor Oppenheim, who teaches the ninth, tenth, and eleventh-grade levels of TESL, thinks that it is an exciting and challenging field. She said that she was impressed with the diversity, cooperation, and ambition of the student body. She believes that students appreciate the opportunity to learn about this country and the language and seem to be extremely motivated. Before teaching at Schreiber, she taught in East Williston at the Wheatley School and at the Willets Road Middle School.

Kris Palatella teaches Studio in Art, Drawing and Painting and crafts. She attended Schreiber as a student and says, "It's different now, because I'm the teacher, not the student. I see different things." She decided to become an art teacher because the occupation com-

Six Schreiber Teachers Retire

by Emmie Chen

Six Schreiber teachers retired during the summer months as part of a retirement incentive program which was offered by the school district, saving the district an estimated \$250,000. English teachers Robert Albert and Eileen Cimperman, science teacher Anita Bajardi, technology teacher Ed McIlhenny, registered nurse Miriam Ross, and special education teacher Mathew Scott opted to retire under this incentive program.

The program, which was initiated by the New York State legislature, was offered to teachers considering retirement who met certain eligibility requirements. These requirements were a minimum age of 55, or a minimum of 30 years of teaching. According to Assistant Superintendent of Business Richard Helfont, all of the teachers who retired under this program met the age requirement.

When a teacher retires, the pension he or she receives is based upon years of service. Under the incentive program, an

additional three years of service was credited to each person's pension. Dr. Helfont stated that this increase in pension was a significant factor in terms of these teachers' decisions to retire. He stated, "I think this program has been a great success. It's given the teachers considering retirement the chance to do so economically secure....It has also given the district the opportunity to hire people that we may not have been able to [hire] in the past."

Assistant Superintendent Anne Israel commented, "This [program] was a great once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for teachers, because we do not anticipate this happening again." Mr. Albert commented, "It was good luck for the eligible teachers, and I'm happy the district supported the program. I had planned to retire in a year, and it just made it earlier, to give me more time to write. It was also good for new teachers to come in by encouraging veterans to retire, making room for young people with new ideas."



Eidipus Rex performed in the Fall Concert on the front steps after school on Friday, September 20. The concert lasted approximately forty-five minutes, and included songs originally performed by Cream, Guns N' Roses, Rush, Steppenwolf, and others. The band prepared for the concert for over a month.

Thirteen Students Host Spanish Exchange

by Matt Engel and
Caroline Heller

Thirteen Schreiber students hosted thirteen Spanish students in a cultural exchange program over the period of September 4-25.

The program was initiated through the efforts of the International Education Forum (IEF) and an association called Spanish Heritage (S-H). Spanish teacher Karen Ortiz contacted the IEF with the hope of arranging a cultural exchange experience for some of her students.

Ms. Ortiz addressed her classes in June, inquiring as to whether any students were interested in hosting foreign students from Cadiz, Spain. Ms. Ortiz received a positive reply from thirteen of her students.

On the afternoon of September 4, one teacher and thirteen students arrived at Newark International Airport. Later in the day, they were introduced to their thirteen American hosts and Ms. Ortiz.

"After that, things went smoothly, with no unexpected problems," stated Ms. Ortiz.

The exchange students arrived at Schreiber at 2:30 p.m. on September 5, and were welcomed by Principal Sid Barish and Ms. Ortiz. They toured the building and spent the evening at a welcoming party at Pastabilities, funded by owner Victor Scotto.

On Friday, the students took the first of their three trips to New York City. There they visited the Empire State Building. According to student Christina Muñoz, "We had all seen [the Empire State Building] on television, but in real life it's even bigger than we had imagined." Students native to cities in southern Spain were amazed at the immense

size of the skyscrapers.

The exchange students spent the four-day Rosh Hashanah weekend with their host families and returned to Schreiber on September 11. They took an afternoon



Pictured above are the exchange students and their teacher Paco Peña.

trip to the Sands-Willets House, a historic representation of colonial American life. The students generally felt that this was to be an interesting learning experience about early American life.

During additional trips to New York City on September 13, 16 and 20, the students visited such famous sites as Rockefeller Center, St. Patrick's Cathedral, Central Park, the Museum of National History, the Hard Rock Cafe, the South Street Seaport, and Penn Station. They also experienced the atmosphere of Little Italy and Chinatown.

Most of the students expressed enjoyment about their visit to the South Street

Seaport. "Although the products were very expensive," stated Abraham Castro, "I bought Reebok Pumps and, of course, we all bought Levi's jeans."

Although they enjoyed their culinary

experience in America, all the exchange students prefer the food served in their own country. "I don't really enjoy fast food, frozen food, or microwaved food," said one of the exchange students.

Paco Peña, the teacher who accompanied the students, feels that this program is the "best multi-beneficial experience. The students not only learn a different culture but get a chance to practice their use of everyday English."

Mr. Peña stated that the Spanish school system is quite similar to that in Schreiber except for a few minor differences. In Spain, grade school attendance is mandatory until fourteen, and then

students have the option to continue on to high school or technical high school. The students' school year ends in June and does not begin again until October. Some students who failed examinations in June are required to retake them now. However, the students who participated in the exchange are currently on vacation.

According to senior Jessica Zukerman, the host experience was "a lot of fun." She stated that she and her guest were very similar because of their ages, despite their cultural differences.

A farewell celebration was held for the exchange students and their host families in the Schreiber cafeteria on the night of September 23. In addition to the exchange students and their host families, several teachers and administrators who were involved with the exchange program were in attendance. The party, which lasted from 7:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., was catered by Frank's Pizzeria's "Catering by Columbo." In addition, several parents brought dishes. Twinsation DJs provided music for the party, and balloons were provided by Card Connection.

A ceremony was held during the party, in which IEF presented each exchange student with a certificate. The students also presented their host mothers with roses during this ceremony. In addition, each host family received a framed photograph of the group of students and a ten-percent discount on the airfare to Spain.

Prior to the final trip to New York City, Ms. Ortiz stated, "Although the exchange students and their host were not close early on in the program, there will be a lot of tears shed on their departure." The students departed from Newark International Airport for Spain on the morning of September 25.

Seven Seniors Arrested in Prank Attempt

by Seth Altman

Seven seniors were arrested on school grounds at approximately 4:00 a.m. on Wednesday September 11, for the crime of criminal trespass in the third degree, a Class B misdemeanor.

The students, seniors Jonathan Aronstein, Daniel Cella, Jeffrey Cohen, Merek Dorf, Mark Edelstein, Richard Johnson, and Patrick Olivares, along with approximately fifteen others, had been in the midst of placing a car on the front steps of the school when the police were called by an anonymous observer. When the police arrived, all of the students ran. Officers gave chase on foot to seven of the students, and according to one of the students, they ran through backyards to Bogart Avenue, but were eventually caught on Park Avenue when two police cars blocked their path. They were taken down to the police station, where they were issued summonses and a court date of October 25.

The car that was used was purchased from a lot for approximately \$40. It was then towed to St. John's Place, where it was left until later in the night. According to one of the students involved, they had asked residents of St. John's Place not to call anyone about the car because they were going to move it soon.

At around 3:00 a.m., the group of students began to push the car up to the school steps. They then began, using boards to roll the car up the first set of steps, but according to one of the students

involved, the planks "didn't work too well," so they had to pick the car up and carry it. He also stated that the group planned to get the car all the way up to the steps under the main door, and then spray-paint it. They were unable to finish the "prank" due to the fact that the police arrived.

The possible penalties for trespass are either a year in jail, probation, or a fine. According to Detective Ronald Demeo, who was assigned to the case, the exact penalty depends upon the particular judge that hears the case. He commented that the sentence could be any combination of the possible penalties.

The car was towed away from the school the next day by Chesters Towing Company at an expense of \$75. In addition to being suspended for two days, the seven caught students had to pay for the towing. In addition, there was a meeting between the seven students in question and Principal Sid Barish on the morning of Monday, September 16. During the meeting, the students were told that they would have to put in ten mods of service to the school. Dr. Barish stated that, "They must find these opportunities, like helping the custodians or doing office work. It's important for me that kids understand that we don't look kindly upon this type of antic."

Aronstein stated, "I think they're overdoing the whole thing, because we didn't damage anything. Pranks are a tradition. When people talk about past

pranks, they laugh, but for our prank we were suspended. We would have been happy to have taken the car away. [The administration] knew who it was. They could have talked to us before they had it towed and made us pay."

Superintendent William Heebink was

Ferris to Meet President

by Marc Lindemann

Biology and science research teacher Judy Ferris was honored with the Presidential Award in Excellency For Science Teaching, surpassing two other New York science teachers in the state finals. She will represent New York in a one-week stay as a guest of the President along with 49 other educators from the 50 states.

Ms. Ferris received notice of her nomination in January, along with which was mailed an eighteen-page booklet with numerous questions to be answered. In addition to questions about her career, it required her to send in samples of her students' work. Among these papers were the analyses of *Scientific American* articles by sophomores Emmie Chen and Larissa Comb and Westinghouse papers by alumni Jonathan Schiff and Elissa Blum. She also had to send in a lesson plan and an evaluated example of her class lesson.

Two months later, Ms. Ferris was notified of her qualification for the state finals. Ms. Ferris stated that she was unsure of how she would fare in the

working late on the night of the prank and was in his office when it occurred. He commented, "I'm open-minded to the senior prank tradition; however, I would distinguish between a costly prank and a clever one. The school district can't afford costly ones."



competition, so when she received the letter with the White House's return address, she was ecstatic.

The science department will receive \$7500, the use of which Ms. Ferris will designate. In addition to her week as a presidential guest, which will start on March 10, 1992, Ms. Ferris will attend a reception organized by the National Science Foundation, the award's sponsor, at the National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C. She will also attend a reception given by New York State.

Shrubbers Plan to Beautify Schreiber

by Josh Kurland

In an attempt to beautify Schreiber, the Schreiber Shrubbers are planning to plant trees and shrubs in front of and surrounding the school.

Social studies department assistant Naomi Beckley presented the idea of forming a committee to beautify Schreiber to Superintendent William Heebink last spring. After she received approval from Dr. Heebink, Ms. Beckley joined with Assistant Principal Joyce Shapiro, Joan Dykes of the Audio/Visual department, and special education teacher Amy Prochaska in a meeting with Maintenance Director Henry Allionis to form the Schreiber Shrubbers and launch the campaign to enhance Schreiber's appearance. Their aim, as stated by Ms. Beckley, is to "make this school something to be proud of as a thing of beauty."

The Shrubbers plan to make numer-

ous changes around Schreiber. After hiring a professional landscaper, the group planned the "beautification" of Schreiber in several steps. Their first objective is to reshrub the area surrounding the front steps with more durable, better-looking plants such as plum trees. Other goals include erecting a barrier in the walled and fenced area leading up to Schreiber to hide corrosion and rust, planting trees around the math and language wing to reduce the heat in the rooms, and planting trees in the front green area to reduce erosion of the soil and provide a more pleasant place for students to await bus pickup. The Schreiber Shrubbers also plan to turn the grass area surrounding the flagpole into a tribute to Schreiber by planting a number of large trees such as cypress, spruce, birch, and holly trees.

The practice of planting began in 1980,

when the class of 1955 donated \$500 to the school to plant trees, and it continued in later years as people planted flowers and trees in memory or honor of others. Most recently, Residents for a More Beautiful Port Washington contributed plants to the school. These donations, however, could not prevent erosion and heat from ravaging the front area of the school.

The Schreiber Shrubbers conducted

meetings over the summer and decided that both students and clubs should be allowed to participate in the donation of the plants. The Shrubbers plan to take donations from organizations such as the Leaders' Club as well as from private citizens and groups like Residents for a More Beautiful Port Washington. In this manner, they hope to complete the project within a period of four years.

Class Rank Evaluated

by Remy Bertin

The student ranking system for eleventh and twelfth-graders, which is based on grade point averages, is presently being reviewed by Principal Sid Barish.

The main goal of the study, according to Dr. Barish, is to determine whether or not the current system is advantageous in the admissions process. Dr. Barish has used Roslyn High School and the Great Neck High Schools as models of schools in which the ranking system has been abandoned. In addition to the study of other high schools, Dr. Barish plans to form a committee consisting of teachers, guidance counselors, administrators, students, and parents for the purpose of "listening to other people's ideas and

experiences [with class rank]." Dr. Barish is also planning to contact colleges to determine if schools expect to receive alternatives to class rank when reviewing applicants.

Dr. Barish stated that if he finds the ranking system to be detrimental to the students' college application process, he will advise that the class ranking system be eliminated. If the change were to occur, only the grade point averages would appear on students' transcripts, instead of both grade point averages and class ranks. He professed, "I think it is good for us to step back to examine our present policy on class rank to make certain it remains in the best interests of all students."

Times Advisor Selected

by Steven Richards

English teacher Janet Evans was selected as **The Schreiber Times'** advisor, replacing Robert Albert, who retired during the summer.

Although Ms. Evans has worked with poetry for literary magazines, she has not had any experience in publishing a newspaper. She said that, after nine years of teaching, she is "looking forward to learning about how a school newspaper works." She added, "I want very much to become a helpful and resourceful person on the newspaper."

An advisor selection committee was composed of Principal Sid Barish, faculty representative Judy Keller, and **The Schreiber Times'** Co-Editors-in-Chief Steve Engel and Nick Kessler and Man-

aging Editor Greg Juceam. The committee interviewed the two candidates, technology education teacher James Barchi and Ms. Evans, during the third week of school. According to Engel, "Mr. Barchi had impressive publishing credentials, but Ms. Evans was selected due to her journalism-related experiences."

Ms. Evans is currently a doctoral student at New York University, studying English education. She hopes to maintain a balance between her studies and **The Schreiber Times**.

According to English department chairman John Broza, "She is the perfect choice, not only because she is highly intelligent and works so well with students, but because she is highly adaptable."

Stewart Honored by Voters

by Laurie Rinke

Social studies department chairperson Katherine Stewart was honored by the League of Women Voters of Port Washington-Manhasset at a reception in late June.

Ms. Stewart and Manhasset High School social studies department chairperson John Mulyran were presented with certificates for their efforts in promoting good citizenship by League co-president Nancy Ulrich. According to Ms. Stewart, these efforts included the organization of student-run voter registration booths, the sending of letters from politicians such as

former New York City Mayor Ed Koch and President Bush to Schreiber students urging them to vote, and the institution of the social studies class-Participation in Government.

Ms. Stewart said that beside the awareness programs now in effect at Schreiber, the most valuable part of being recognized was that "it shows you make a difference. Students may forget facts you teach them in a class, but if they develop citizen responsibility and the attitude that voters can make a difference, this would be the best legacy for me to leave them."



The International Thespian Society held a workshop, entitled Mime X2, on Wednesday, September 25. Approximately twenty students attended the after-school program.

Two Win NCTE Award

by Archis Parasharami

Seniors Ariel Nazryan and Karen Newirth were selected as two out of 700 winners of the 1991 National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Achievement Awards in Writing.

The semifinal round of the contest is held in schools across the nation, and the students representing their schools compete in the final round. At each level of the contest, the entrant must provide a portfolio of his or her writing and write a timed, impromptu essay.

Forty juniors participated in the school round, which Nazryan and Newirth won before they entered the national contest. In the primary contest, the students were given a dictionary, paper, and a list of topics for the timed essay. Newirth chose to write about the subject of parenting, while Nazryan wrote a speech about overcoming prejudice. According to English department chairman John Broza,

Schreiber is allowed to choose two students because of its student population.

In the finals, all compositions were read by a high school and college English teacher. The criteria used by the judges included the demonstration of "effective and imaginative use of the English language to inform and move an audience."

In the final round, Newirth wrote about the roles of the two sexes in society. Nazryan's topic was high school students entering college and the real world.

Nazryan commented about her selection as a winner, "It's a great feeling!" Newirth agreed, stating, "It was something I hoped for intensely. I didn't expect to win...It is the best recognition I've ever had as a writer." Mr. Broza cited the "outstanding" poetry submitted by the two as a major factor in their success. He added, "The fact that we had two out of two national winners [from Schreiber] is an extraordinary accomplishment."

Scheduling Upsets Students

by Seth Altman

Due to an unexpected influx of new students, two Sequential Math II Honors classes were expanded into three classes. In order to account for the extra Sequential Math II Honors class, two A.P. Calculus A classes were combined into one class three weeks into the school year. Three College Algebra classes were combined into two, allowing for an additional section of Sequential Math I Regents to be created. According to guidance department chairman John Zanetti, there were no problems with either of these rearrangements: "The only problems were with the seniors in the two Calc A classes."

Mr. Zanetti and Principal Sid Barish believe that the problem arose because approximately eighty new families moved into the district this school year, while few families moved out, causing a net gain of students. Dr. Barish stated that the district studies past trends of incoming students to try to plan for the upcoming year: "Sometimes we see signs of how many students will register for school, but we can never really tell until the first

day."

Several of the seniors who were originally in the calculus class which was eliminated had to drop classes in order to make room in their schedules for the mods 11-12 class. According to Mr. Zanetti, in all cases except two, the students would have been able to pick up the course which they had dropped in the second semester. He stated that most of these seniors felt that "rearranging their schedules was not worth keeping the course."

Senior Heather Gimbel commented, "I feel that it is unfair to make seniors drop classes for the first semester that might possibly help their chances of admission to the college of their choice."

Mr. Zanetti stated that when a student applies to college, a list of all of the courses for which the student has registered is sent to the college. He also felt that since colleges receive this information, the semester during which the course is taken is not very important. He stated, "[The administration] expected people to be upset with the changes, and we tried our best to compensate."

No More Lies: Guns N' Roses' Illusions I & II Released

by Oren Eisner and Steve Engel

I Guns N' Roses fans were rewarded for their four years' wait with the September 17 midnight releases of the band's latest albums entitled *Use Your Illusion I* and *II*. The albums prove that while the band has matured since its debut album, *Appetite for Destruction*, it has retained the candor, defiance, and anger that brought it to the top of the rock world.

Guns N' Roses emerged from the L.A. club scene in 1987 with the release of *Appetite for Destruction* to an audience that had tired of the repetitive and meaningless music of pop-rock bands. The band instantly attracted a large following throughout the nation with its raw, energetic sound rooted in the blues rock tradition of such bands as Led Zeppelin, Aerosmith, and Cream.

Following the success of its debut album, which featured such hits as "Welcome to the Jungle" and "Sweet Child 'O Mine," in 1988 Geffen Records released *G N' R Lies* a compilation of four new songs and four songs recorded from live performances in their L.A. club days. Since that time, the band has been embroiled in seemingly endless controversy. Lead vocalist W. Axl Rose has been accused of being racist, homophobic, and misogynistic because of certain song lyrics, most notably in "One in a Million." While Rose has denied such charges, claiming that his words have been misunderstood, it is this rebellious image that has brought the band such success.

Following inner turmoil largely due to drug abuse, which resulted in the expulsion of drummer Steven Adler, the band began work on a new album, which promised to use previously developed but unreleased work. The album's release was delayed for months due to creative difficulties, but the end product was thirty songs.

The albums were released separately instead of as a double album set so that, according to lead guitarist Slash, fans would not be forced to pay the price of two albums for new G N' R material. Although the two albums differ from each other, both have a darker, more refined sound than previous releases.

The difference in sound is in part due to the addition of drummer Matt Sorum, previously with The Cult, and keyboardist Dizzy Reed. Sorum's powerful drums and Reed's keyboards add a new dimension to the band's style. While songs lack the intensity and rawness of the earlier G N' R, the new albums feature a greater musical variety and show the band's readiness to explore new directions.

Use Your Illusion I presents a harder and more gloomy sound than the second album. Such songs as "Right Next Door to Hell," "Perfect Crime," and "Garden of Eden" contain the intensity and rhythmic force found on *Appetite*. "Right Next Door to Hell" opens the album with a killer bass line rapidly joined by Slash's wild blues riffs, while Rose's distinctive rasp in "Perfect Crime" recalls the blistering rawness found on the band's debut album. "Garden of Eden" is a fusion of the past and the present, adding darker lyrics to the original gut-wrenching force of the band.

"Dust N' Bones," "Bad Obsession," and "The Garden," however, are at the heart of the new sound with their slower tempos and dark, often menacing lyrics. In "Dust N' Bones," Izzy counsels, "Time's short your life's your own/ And in the end/ We are just/ Dust and bones." "Bad Obsession" shows a new side to the band as Mike Monroe lends his saxophone and harmonica talents to provide a different edge to the G N' R sound. Reed's piano and Slash's slide guitar lend a more mature sound to the song,

by Russell Miller

II *Use Your Illusion II* opens with "Civil War," an anti-war protest that was released three months ago, meeting with great acceptance from fans. "Civil War" begins with the famous raspy lines of Strother Martin from the movie *Cool Hand Luke*, which is followed by a whistled rendition of "When Johnny Comes Marching Home." The remainder of the song contains powerful solos by lead guitarist Slash, with Dizzy Reed accentuating the song with his piano lines. One element that is missing, however, is Sorum's powerful drums, since the song was recorded while Adler was still in the band.

The next track, "14 Years," is sung by rhythm guitarist Izzy Stradlin, whose vocals create a distinct contrast to Rose's harmony. Reed plays on the organ in this rhythmic song about the band's struggles.

"Yesterday" is certain to be a future hit, with Axl whining the all-too-catchy chorus: "Yesterday's got nothin' for me/ Old pictures that I'll always see." Coupled with Slash's innovative parts on the guitar, the song is destined for airtime.

The only tune on the album covered by Guns N' Roses, Bob Dylan's "Knockin' On Heaven's Door," follows. Popularized by Eric Clapton's rendition, the track is given a new dimension through the band's creative touches. Although not as impressive as the live concert version, the song is still one of the best on the album. Instead of using the audience's chanting of the chorus, the band uses the Waters, a choral group who's backing vocals are on the track. Similar to gospel harmony, these vocals seem out of place and inadequate for the powerful song. In addition, a telephone ring interrupts in the last minutes of the song with a senseless quote by Josh Richman.

In "Get in the Ring," Rose takes the opportunity to identify and berate specific critics who have spread rumors about the band since its inception. Those singled out include magazine writers Andy Secher, Mick Wall, and Bob Guccione Jr. The song does contain explicit lyrics, which only seem to heighten the song's appeal.

"Shotgun Blues" displays Rose's talent on the rhythm guitar. A raunchy, angry track, it captures the band's rebellious disregard for the rules of society.

In "Breakdown" the band explores an uncharted direction with a banjo accompaniment played by Slash, who plays interesting counterpoint to his lead guitar lines. This is complemented by Reed's chordal piano parts, which add a nice finishing

and Alice Cooper's vocals on "The Garden" adds the finishing touches to a nightmarish tale of drug-induced madness.

A highlight is a cover of Paul McCartney's "Live and Let Die." Axl's vocals transform the hit into something distinctly Guns N' Roses. The song features Dizzy's eloquent piano, demonstrating a more controlled G N' R style which goes from slow and melodic to fast and furious. Another album highlight is an uncharacteristic ballad, "November Rain," in which Rose displays his talent on the piano.

Rose's "Out Ta Get Me" paranoia resurfaces in songs such as "Don't Damn Me," where he responds to his critics, saying "Don't damn me/ When I speak a piece of my mind/ 'Cause silence isn't golden/ When I'm holding it inside."

"Double Talkin' Jive," written and sung by guitarist Izzy Stradlin, returns to the speed and energy of earlier G N' R material. The song ends curiously in a classical Spanish guitar solo by Slash, demonstrating the band's variety.

"You Ain't the First" also explores a new direction for the band as it combines slide guitar with a waltz signature. Izzy again lends his vocals as the band returns to its "whining heartbreaker" anger that was epitomized (with humor) in *Lies*: "Used to Love Her." The song "Back Off Bitch" repeats this theme. Reminiscent of Led Zeppelin, the band lends its frustration with former lovers to its lyrics, a message which has in the past led to criticism from women's rights groups.

The album's second ballad, "Don't Cry," is an emotional track about a lover's goodbye. The song was released shortly before the album, and is remade with alternate lyrics on the second album.

"Bad Apples" begins with a funk rhythm that is replaced by guitar rhythms supported by Dizzy's piano, while Rose cries against the empty feelings of wealth and fame. The album continues with "Dead Horse" which carries a similar message of unsatisfied life. Axl repeats an often voiced thought, "Nobody understands quite why we're here/ We're searchin' for answers/ That never appear."

The finale of the album is the ten-minute "Coma," in which the dark side of the band returns. Repeating the ideas of the preceding two songs, Rose cries from a coma that he does not want to return to life again. The song passes through different stages as he rages and laments. At times the resounding drums and riffs lean towards the metal side, while at others the music sounds almost dreamy. Despite its length, the variety of sound makes the song an appropriate climax. At the end, among the raw chaos of G N' R, Rose admits blame for his problems and chooses life.

In the four years since Guns N' Roses achieved national fame, the band has been repeatedly challenged both creatively and physically. The essence of the band is the rebellious anger of youth; Guns N' Roses receives its appeal from millions of teens resisting society's programmed conformity. As Rose cries in "Don't Damn Me," "Don't hail me... Or I've failed in my attentions... Your only validation is in living your own life." The fears that the band might sell out are unequivocally rejected by the dark messages and unabashed abundance of expletives in the lyrics. Having overcome its difficulties and grown over the past four years, Guns N' Roses may have lost the chaotic power that created *Appetite*, but the first album of *Use Your Illusion* retains a degree of the sheer abandon and reckless emotion that characterizes one of rock's top bands.

touch to an already complete song.

"Pretty Tied Up" is interesting to a degree due to Slash's impressive lead playing as well as Axl's added strength on the chorus. Unfortunately, the lyrics really aren't much with which to work, since they center around the exploitation of a girl who thrills in self-inflicting sexual pain. The song will obviously win the disfavor of parents and women's rights group in the country.

The next song, "Locomotive," begins with Sorum's drums, soon joined by Duff "Rose" McKagan's bass line and Slash's palm-muted guitar. Rose's characteristic whine returns as he relates his troubled relationship with his girlfriend.

"So Fine" is sung by Duff. An emotional song with deep lyrics, it is dominated by a masterful piano accompaniment by Howard Teman.

"Estranged" is a surprisingly slow number, which, due to its length and lack of innovative ideas, becomes a bit tiresome.

The next track is entitled "You Could Be Mine" and is famous for its use in *Terminator 2*, which resulted in its overly-frequent broadcasting on MTV. Probably the hardest song on the album, the chorus revolves around a quote contained in the *Appetite for Destruction* sleeve: "With your bitch slap rappin' and your cocaine tongue you get nothin' done."

A version of "Don't Cry," a song from *Use Your Illusion I*, with different lyrics, follows. This is one of the best new songs on either of the combined new albums, due to Slash's spellbinding guitar play. According to Rose, the original lyrics were written several years ago, but the alternate lyrics recently written represents "more of where we are now."

The album ends with "My World," a rap written, produced, and performed solely by Rose. Although he does an adequate job in convincing the listener that he is indeed psychotic and insane, as far as Rose's talent as a rapper goes, he should stick with rock and let groups like Ice T and NWA do the rap.

Use Your Illusion II demonstrates a change in style of the band, with its less aggressive sound and exploration into different paths of creativity. While the first of the two new albums was restricted in the sense that it much of it consisted of old, unpublished material, the second allowed the band to fully delve into its imaginative side. The result is a highly satisfying set of new songs which testify to the band's attainment of a higher level of growth, experience, and popularity.

Van Halen Gives a Powerful Lesson in Unlawful Carnal Knowledge



by Ed Chin and Lewis Shin

Van Halen has returned to the top of the charts with its new release, **For Unlawful Carnal Knowledge**. The eleven-song album reaffirms the band's musicianship, exuberance, and importance among this generation's musical tastes.

For Unlawful Carnal Knowledge is Van Halen's third album with singer and guitarist Sammy Hagar. Although die-hard fans may have felt cheated and unsatisfied with the band's previous album, **OU812**, there is no doubt that this new release will satisfy listeners, both new and old.

The album begins with "Poundcake,"

a driving, riff-based track complete with all the trademark harmonics and tapping passages of lead guitarist Eddie Van Halen. Hagar's scratchy vocals transform a seemingly simple song about a recipe into a catchy, infectious number.

"Judgement Day" is a powerful song fueled by the pounding bass line of Michael Anthony. One criticism that was made about previous Van Halen albums is the lack of audible bass, which left the songs sounding softer and weak.

The next track, "Spanked," is perhaps the worst on the album. Although it begins with a solid groove, the somewhat inane lyrics detract from the song's appeal.

"Runaround" is strongly reminiscent of the Van Halen of old, with its simple yet effective guitar parts and strong chorus. One of the best songs of the album, the track shows that Van Halen can once again write songs that equal classics such as "Running with the Devil," "...And the Cradle Will Rock," and "Panama."

The next song, "Pleasure Dome," begins with an extended guitar intro before drummer Alex Van Halen comes in. Hagar's vocals are meaningful and deep, singing about the perils of getting lost in

the search of pleasure.

"In n' Out" is a pumping number which contains overly emphasized sexual implications. These allusions notwithstanding, the song is exciting and dynamic. The song is more like something original lead vocalist David Lee Roth would have sung, but Hagar asserts his ability and competence throughout the track.

The album continues with "Man on a Mission," a track which centers around Hagar's vocals and Eddie's guitar licks.

"The Dream is Over" is an excellent example of the band's talent and ability. It contains all the elements of the perfect song: an abundance of catchy riffs, strong drums, excellent vocals, and a brilliant guitar solo.

"Right Now," the only song that features Eddie on the keyboards, is a beautiful piece which starts off with a lone piano, soon joined by the drums and guitar to create an exciting groove. The lyrics give the listener a nostalgic feeling with its message urging him to live every day to its fullest.

"316" is the album's only instrumental, and for those who expected another "Eruption" or "Spanish Fly," look else-

where. This number is a short, melodic piece played on a clean guitar. It instills a sense of peace and tranquillity. Eddie Van Halen revealed that he would play the song while his son Wolfgang became restless in his mother's womb.

The album ends with "Top of the World," an uplifting, positive track which is similar in style to "Dance the Night Away." It is a fast-paced, lighthearted song which aptly demonstrates that the band has a secure hold in the musical world.

For Unlawful Carnal Knowledge is the band's ninth album. For many Van Halen fans who were disappointed with **OU812**, this album destroyed all misgivings and doubts. It displays a return to the old, rocking style of the group, as evidenced by the dramatic increase in wholesome, guitar-based songs and the decrease in mellow, ballad-like songs dominated by keyboards. Original producer Ted Templeton was brought in to work on the album, and the effects are tremendous. The album is loud, energetic, and definitive. For a band that has survived for almost fifteen years, it has proved that it can still play with the best in the business.

New Metallica Reaches Wider Audience



by Ken Pan

Absent from the music scene since its 1988 double platinum LP **And Justice for All...**, heavy metal rockers Metallica have returned with their new and much-awaited album. Eponymously entitled **Metallica**, it deservedly stands at number one on Billboard magazine's album charts as of September 15.

The group consists of lead singer/guitarist James Hetfield, lead guitarist Kirk Hammett, bassist Jason Newsted and drummer Lars Ulrich. For this album, the band enlisted the services of producer Bob Rock, renowned for his work with pop-metal acts Bon Jovi, Mötley Crüe, and The Cult. The changes resulting from this decision are definitely noticeable, evidenced by the shorter, less heavy songs that predominate throughout the album.

The twelve songs on the album are, like the entirely black album cover, dark and gloomy. Each, however, exemplifies the style of music that so many teenagers turn to.

"Enter Sandman," the album opener and single released first has the characteristic Metallica drive and crunch which pack a powerful punch. These when combined with an abundance of catchy hooks and powerful drum parts, make for a great song.

The next track, "Sad But True," is also one of the album's highlights. The verses are different than most Metallica songs, providing a refreshing change in style while still allowing Hetfield's vocals to bulldoze through the lyrics from beginning to end. The album continues with "Holier than Thou," a good but ordinary song. One disappointment was Hammett's soloing, which sounded half-hearted and unconvincing.

The fourth track and only ballad, "The Unforgiven," is definitely the best song on the album. Hetfield demonstrates his prowess as an emotional singer, and his lyrics are perfectly complemented by a beautiful Hammett solo. This will be Metallica's next released single from the album and is certain to be received well.

"Wherever I May Roam" starts off with a psychedelic opening before it moves into a dark guitar part. An interesting song about the life of a wanderer, this song is the last great number before the album's fates.

The next four tracks are mediocre at best. "Don't Tread On Me" has a killer opening but soon falters due to its overly patriotic lyrics. However, "Though the Never" and "Of Wolf and Man" are simply poor songs. "Nothing Else Matters" features an orchestra part but proves to be boring and lacks intensity.

The album does finish on a strong note, though, with "The God That Failed" and "The Struggle Within." Both songs contain killer solos by Hammett, and the snare drum march at the beginning of "The Struggle Within" catches one's attention and keeps it.

Metallica is a seasoned, experienced group that has found a formula for music which has earned it the title as one of the founding fathers of speed and thrash metal. It has managed to become overwhelmingly popular without selling out

like Winger, Whitesnake, or Queensryche. Metallica has kept its aggressive, heavy tone throughout its

career. It will definitely play a large role in the future of metal as glam and pop metal bands inevitably die out.

De La Soul Not Dead

By Shareef McIntosh

De la Soul is a rap group known for its musical originality. Translated literally from the Spanish language, the group's name means "from the soul." Its second album, **De la Soul is Dead**, is so entitled because of the long period of time between this album and the group's first. The term "dead" or "You're dead" also means that something is old or someone is caught in a bad situation.

Three artists, Plug 1, 2, and 3, also known as Posdnous, Trugoy, and Maseo, comprise De la Soul. The group's D.J. is Prince Paul, noted for his extensive use of samples, which are phrases or beats from previous songs or stories. On its first album, **Three Feet High and Rising**, the group established certain trademark techniques such as speaking and writing backwards, as well as extensively using voice synthesizers. Another characteristic of the group is that the artists practically sing while they rap. In their raps, the artists mix up their sentences just enough so that they are understandable after listening to them several times.

The new album contains a positive message. "Millie Pulled a Pistol on Santa" confronts the problem of physical and sexual abuse of children. In the song, a father who is a social worker at school and apparently a model parent helps students out by dressing up as Santa Claus on the holidays. However, he later not only rapes his daughter, but beats her when she tries to resist. This issue is one that has been traditionally taboo to not only rappers but musicians of all types.

Another signature of De la Soul is a skit which appears after every few songs. On **Three Feet High and Rising**, the skit was a mock game show with several abnormal characters played by the group members, who were asked bizarre questions such as, "How many times did the Batmobile catch a flat?" On **De la Soul is Dead**, the skit centers around a certain group of teenagers and a bully named Hemorrhoid. This bully stole a tape from a kid named Jeff, who had found the tape in the trash but wouldn't let his friends listen to it. After every couple of songs the three teenagers interrupt and state what they think about them. In "Ring Ring Ring (Ha Ha Hey)" De La Soul talks about avoiding annoying rap artists who want to be put on De la Soul's record label by leaving its answering machine on.

While De la Soul may be considered the hippie of rap, it has still been allowed complete access into the rap world. The group is part of a new, loose coalition of rappers called the Native Tongues. Other members include Brand Nubians, A Tribe Called Quest, Queen Latifah, Monie Love, Jungle Brothers, and Black Sheep, some of whom are referred to in this album. Several also appear on the album to speak and rap, and send out positive messages while still managing to be lighthearted.

The tape is humorous because of the impressions of people and cartoons that are included, reminiscent of the comedy show **In Living Color**. Even for those listeners who don't like rap, this new album by De la Soul is definitely worth buying, as is the first one.

Commitments Depicts True Rock Music

by Alice Goh

It seems that as long as rock music lives, there will always be movies about the unjustly stereotyped rock career filled with suicides, acid trips, plane crashes, and rehashed, controversial topics involving (and sometimes defaming) legendary musicians and bands. Rarely is there a film that depicts real musical grit. However, **The Commitments** simply provides a deeper view of the natural high of playing music.

The movie is set in the Northside of Dublin, an ultra-blue-collar section of Ireland where Jimmy Rabbitte, portrayed by Robert Arkins, sets out to form a white, Irish, working-class soul band. Rabbitte begins his "search for soul" by placing an ad in the local paper: "Have you got soul? If yes, The World's Largest Working Band wants you. Contact J. Rabbitte... red-necks and southsiders need not apply."

The following days witness a cascade of prospective band members who wish to be interviewed. Director Alan Parker takes this interviewing process and molds it into a fast-paced, comical motion segment. During each interview, Jimmy asks the person to list his or her musical influences, receiving answers which ranged from Irish children of rock U2 and Sinead O' Connor to Led Zeppelin, Hendrix, and even Bach. All of these influences are fine and well, but they fail Rabbitte's requirements, which are Otis Redding, James Brown, and Wilson Pickett.

As a disheveled Jimmy is about to give up, along comes Joey "The Lips" Fagan, an elderly scooter-riding, pony-tailed trumpet player who claims that he has soul. Fagan boasts of playing with all the masters of soul, including James Brown.

Initially doubtful, Rabbitte comes to realize that Fagan does know his soul. Fagan goes on to act as the soul guru and musical teacher for the band.

After a prolonged and weary search, Rabbitte finally forms a band called The Commitments, complete with backup singers and a brass section. The band is kept on a strict soul diet, a form of music which is quite foreign to the Irish.

Several rehearsals later, which are wonderfully portrayed by the cast, the group comes together, mastering the growls, moans, and whines of the American rock classics.

The group has its typical ups-and-downs (the lead singer becomes an ego-maniac and there are personal relationships with backup singers), but director Parker takes the upbeat screenplay written by Roddy Doyle and gives the band's trials and tribulations a fresh and unique look. Once the band lands a few gigs and starts to make a name for itself, the members find that they are actually attaining the stardom that they hoped to achieve from the beginning. However, with the ongoing problems, the audience wonders whether Rabbitte's nascent brainchild will actually succeed and ultimately attain that big record deal before internal problems destroy the band.

The Commitments proves to be an intimate, colorful portrayal of a working Irish band with a complete lesson in Dublin street slang. More impressive, though, is the fact that there are no big-name actors in it. The majority of them were either attained through auditions or pulled right off the backstreets of Dublin.

Needless to say, the acting is impressive, but, most importantly, **The Com-**

mitments captures the true genius of live music. If you've ever been in a working band or tried to be another Brian Epstein, you will surely identify with this

personable movie. Even if you are completely musically illiterate, you will still find it fresh, wholesome, and entertaining.

Freddy's Dead Fails to be a True Nightmare

by Andy Kass and Damir Marusic

Are you looking for a horrifying movie which will keep you up all night? Do you want to be scared out of your seat? Do you want to hear the humorous quips of a burnt, raving lunatic? Well, you might not get a lot of that out of **Freddy's Dead**, but it still can be an enjoyable experience for die-hard Krueger fans.

This sequel to the **Nightmare on Elm Street** series begins in the dreams of a boy named John, played by Shon Greenblatt. John is the only child left in his entire town, because Krueger has murdered all the rest. He is manipulated by Krueger, who, unable to escape from the dream world, must use the boy to find his long-lost daughter.

Through the course of the movie, John teams up with several teenage runaways, Spencer, Tracy, and Carlos, played by Brecken Meyer, Lisa Zane, and Ricky Dean Logan, respectively, as well as their social worker, Maggie, played by Lezlie Dean. The five are trapped in Krueger's hometown, unable to escape.

One interesting feature of the film is its depiction of Krueger in his childhood as a maladjusted, destructive boy who kills hamsters in school. He is taunted by students, who call him "son of a hundred maniacs." This refers to the fact that Krueger was conceived as a result of his mother being gang-raped by one hundred

insane criminals. Rock musician Alice Cooper appears in a cameo role as Krueger's abusive foster father. The movie continues by chronicling Krueger's life as a married parent with a double life as a serial murderer.

As the title of the picture implies, the teenagers and social worker set out to kill Krueger once and for all. To aid them in their task, they enlist the help of a dream analyst named Doc, played by Yaphet Kotto. The group must pull Krueger out of a dream into the real world. Once in the real world, Krueger can be, like any other human, killed through physical means. A highly advertised gimmick and obvious money-making scheme, the use of 3-D is predominant throughout the final scenes of the picture, yielding impressive results.

Although **Freddy's Dead** is similar to its **Nightmare on Elm Street** predecessors in its storyline, its special effects made it an exciting horror film. While a sixth picture in the series is arguably unnecessary and undesirable, one can state that this film ranks among the best of the entire series and is worth seeing for someone who enjoyed the other Krueger films. **Freddy's Dead** overcomes the weakness of a trite plot and provides some good entertainment, but it is certainly not and never will be a classic horror movie.

Nelson's Niche Premieres for Home Video Viewers

by Sam Nelson

Welcome, all you VCR fans who love watching Blockbuster tapes on Friday and Saturday nights. This column is devoted to you, so look for it in every issue of the **Times** for the hottest movies currently out on tape.

Just out is the marathon **Dances With Wolves**. Producer and star Kevin Costner portrays a brave lieutenant in the Civil War. After he is rewarded by the army for heroism, Costner is granted his wish of seeing the frontier before it is gone. Inheriting a deserted post near a Sioux tribe, Costner overcomes linguistic and cultural barriers to befriend the Indian tribe. Knowing the fate of the Indians, Costner's heart is torn. Despite the unbelievable, three-hour length of this movie—yes, three hours!—it is educational and provides a realistic picture of the West as it was. Definitely worth the popcorn.

The horrifying story of Jacob Singer in **Jacob's Ladder** is now out on tape. The plot goes as follows: Singer, a mailman residing in New York City, was wounded in the Vietnam War. The story takes him back to a living nightmare. He soon learns that his battalion in Vietnam was subjected to government testing of a drug called "the ladder." The drug was designed and administered in the hopes

that it would covertly give the soldiers an extra fighting edge to help them overcome the Vietnamese by stimulating their emotions and aggressions. However, the testing fails in its expectations as the drug turns friend against friend. All perish as a result, except for Jacob, who now must live with the memory. The movie is the type of thriller which forces one to really think.

The incredible story of Nino Brown, a successful drug dealer, and his encounters with street-smart cops who are determined to catch him is now on video. The smash hit **New Jack City** is a gangster movie contemporary with the gang violence rampant in the 90's. The star-studded cast includes Ice T, Judd Nelson, and Mario Van Peebles and produces good results in a story which seems like many newspaper stories of today. Although the music is good enough to entice one to spend the money to see it, **Boyz in the Hood** has a better soundtrack. The strong anti-drug message does not, however, negate the "R" rating so your little sister might not go for the the bloody shootout scenes.

Look for **The Doors**, **Madonna: Truth or Dare**, and **Silence of the Lambs** in the **Times'** next issue when I bring you more value for your eyes, time, and popcorn.

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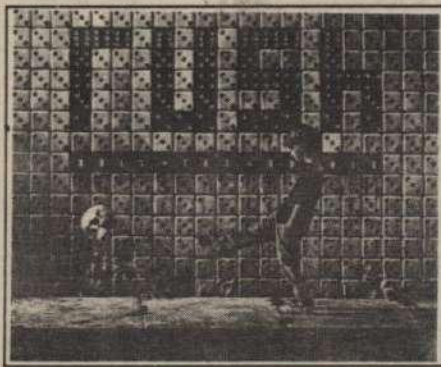
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Rush Wins Big With Roll the Bones



by Michael Johanson

To reach a zenith higher than the Rush of old did might be thought of as impossible, but on its newest album, **Roll the Bones**, Rush did just that. Digitally recorded, mixed, and mastered, the ten new songs which comprise this album truly exhibit the imagination and sheer physical talent of the trio. One tends to doubt that three musicians could produce so much energy and sound, but Rush refuses to compromise itself by bringing in additional musicians.

Rush is made up of bassist and lead vocalist Geddy Lee, guitarist Alex Lifeson, and drummer and lyricist Neil Peart. Each member is a force by himself, outstanding and unequalled in his field.

The album begins with "Dreamline," a powerful song which leads the way for the rest of the tracks. Similar to "Show Don't Tell," a song from the band's previous album, **Presto**, the song starts off with a

loud, blasting chorus which contrasts with the soft, melodic verses, making the song as a whole interesting and catchy.

The second number, "Bravado," is a beautiful, almost soporific song which displays Lee's flowing vocals, which, when combined with Peart's constant, slow-building beat, create a sense of continuity that becomes hypnotic.

Next is the title track of the album, "Roll the Bones." This number effectively demonstrates the band's diversity and creativity with its jazzy bass and drum parts. An infectious bass and guitar riff lead into a graceful chorus. Additional variety is added to the song by a surprising rap bridge.

"Face Up" is a fast-paced, driving song with an elaborate bass line and drums to match. The eerie middle section enters into a blazing guitar solo, ending in a repetition of the chorus.

The sole instrumental track, entitled "Where's My Thing?" is three and a half minutes packed with catchy riffs and intricate drum parts. Utilizing a wild configuration of speed and imagination combined with a rocking bass line, the song is without a doubt the most impressive on the album.

The album continues with "The Big Wheel," a light, almost pop song which seems to be made with the intention of gaining air time. Peart's intelligent, socially aware lyrics on "Heresy" about the plight of commoners in revolutions

blend in with the drums and numerous synthesized effects to give a poetic quality to the song.

"Ghost of a Chance" is a track which shows much promise with its potent chorus, but degenerates into a mushy love ballad, which isn't the band's style of song at all. "Neurotica" is also a poor example of the band's talent and seems more like filler than music. The album ends with

an upbeat, lifting tune, "You Bet Your Life."

Rush is a band characterized by intense rhythms, incredible instrumentation, and rapid time changes. **Roll the Bones** follows a string of seventeen previous albums. The three-man band has had an overwhelmingly prolific and successful career, which continues with its latest release.

Two Students Interview Magicians Penn & Teller

by Jason Hare and Lee Leshen

For those who don't know who Penn and Teller are, they are two spectacular guys who perform wonderful feats of magic. Penn is the tall guy, and Teller is the short one who never talks. In addition to performing, the two have written a book, entitled **Cruel Tricks For Dear Friends** and created a video of the same name. They have also starred in their own movie, **Penn and Teller Get Killed**. They just finished their "Refrigerator Tour" on Broadway in a show called **Penn and Teller Rot in Hell**. After viewing this show, we were able to interview the pair backstage.

Q: On April 10, 1974, you guys met each other. How did this happen?

Teller: This is a dull story... We were introduced in Massachusetts by a man named Weir—we used to have a third partner...we killed him and ate him! Our third partner knew both of us. He just introduced us; it was very simple.

Q: From 1975 to 1981, you did shows called "Asparagus Valley Cultural Society." What were they?

Penn: They were like this show, but a little less mean spirited, and the third member of the group did classical music on strange instruments. I would also play bass guitar, and Teller would play the keyboards...we played Bach things. It was pretty much like this, only we were younger and there wasn't the whole emphasis on swindling. It was more "these are neat tricks" and less "what is the nature of lying?" But the third member was more interested in having a life and a home, and we were just interested in doing shows. So we broke up and Teller and I formed again hours later. However, a more cynical person might say that we threw the other guy out.

Q: What are you going to do after this tour?

Penn: Well, this is a great place to

break this. It's never been to anybody before—this has been secret. So we're breaking this in a high school paper. Our next book is going to be called **How to Play With Your Food**. It's got stuff like how to get your vegetarian friends to eat meat, how to get your Jewish friends to eat pork, how to get selected cards in fortune cookies, and how to make "bleeding jello." How to stick forks in your eyes, stuff like that.

Q: What gives you guys the most pleasure out of being magicians?

Penn: I think not actually being magicians totally. I don't think we would give this much pleasure if we were just standard magicians. I like getting ideas and doing them and having people understand and enjoy them.

Teller: I like lying and cheating but having it not hurt the person you're lying and cheating to. I get a sinister charge out of it.

Q: What do you say to all the Penn and Teller wannabes out there?

Penn: Unfortunately, all the big secrets have really been said before and no one believes them. Do stuff that you like and think is good, start with an idea that feels good, and then make funny and amazing secondary, and perform all the time. I think that the big mistake that my friends make is that they get picky early on. When I met Teller, he was on tenure as a high school teacher, and many other people would have had Teller keep his teaching job and have me get a part-time job and do shows here and there. However, Teller quit his job and would never get another job outside of show biz. This forced us to do shows we would never consider doing. Horrible shows. Birthday parties. Stuff like that...It doesn't matter what you're doing—the longer time you spend your time on stage, the better you'll get...it's from a lot of those that you learn an awful lot from.

American Psycho Shocks Unsuspecting Readers

by Jodi Perelman

Bret Easton Ellis' **American Psycho** is one of the most difficult books that I have ever read. The problem was not the author's writing style but the innumerable acts of violence committed by the main character and narrator, Patrick Bateman. It is a gory, graphically shocking novel which contains a plethora of repulsive actions.

"After I've stabbed her five or six times—the blood's spurting out in jets...Christie's battered hands are swollen to the size of footballs, the fingers are indistinguishable from the rest of her hand and the smell coming from the burnt corpse is jolting and I have to open the venetian blinds." This is just one example of the graphic violence of the novel.

Patrick Bateman is an intelligent, charismatic Wall Street man who has a love for sadistic torture. He graphically mutilates prostitutes, dogs, "bums," homosexuals, and young children. Insistently relating all scenes in exacting detail, not only does Ellis give thorough descriptions of acts of violence, he strangely spends several chapters on the careers of musical artists such as Genesis and Whitney Houston. The most careful and minute descriptions, however, are of the characters' clothing and appearance. Each shirt, tie, jacket, skirt, sweater, pair of eyeglasses, sock, shoe and handkerchief is noted and explained, including the designer of each apparel item. By the end of the third chapter, after about twenty accounts of various apparel, this detailing becomes a bit exasperating: "Van Patten is wearing a double-breasted wool and silk sport coat, button-fly wool and silk trousers with inverted pleats by Mario

Valentino, a cotton shirt by Gitman Brothers, a polka-dot silk tie by Bill Blass and leather shoes from Brooks Brothers."

These ridiculously unnecessary details are used by Ellis to convey Bateman's obsessive nature. Eventually, one learns to appreciate Ellis' patience as an author, for these scenes must have been as tedious to write as they are to read.

One interesting aspect of the mutilation scenes is that many are written in the present tense, which makes them seem more realistic: "Torri awakens to find herself tied up, bent over the side of the bed, on her back, her face covered with blood... I start by skinning Torri a little, making incisions with a steak knife and ripping bits of flesh from her legs and stomach while she screams in vain."

What makes the novel so horrifying is the sexual gratification that Bateman receives from utterly destroying another human being. The most explicit descriptions of death and destruction are reserved for scenes in which Bateman sexually denigrates women.

The controversy surrounding the publication of **American Psycho** almost led to its censorship. Simon and Schuster, which had published Ellis' two previous novels, **Less Than Zero** and **The Rules of Attraction** paid Ellis a \$300,000 advance for this book. However, despite losing the advance, the company refused to publish this novel. A representative from the company stated that higher executives within the publishing house felt that even with certain cuts, the novel would be unfit to print. Within several hours, Vintage Contemporaries, a smaller publisher, picked up the rights to publish the novel.



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the Times

Student in the Spotlight

From Uniondale, athlete Marvin Rainford

by Karen Newirth

Moving from one's hometown of nine years, switching schools, and being forced to make new friends is a teenager's nightmare. For senior Marvin Rainford, it was reality. However, judging from his pleasant demeanor and his many friends at Schreiber, one would never guess that he only moved here last May from Uniondale. Marvin was born in Jamaica in the West Indies and resided there until he was eight. He then moved to Uniondale, where he lived until he moved to Port Washington.

Although the move from Uniondale to Port Washington is not one of great distance, there were many changes which Marvin was forced to face. Most obviously, Marvin reports, "Uniondale has more people of color." Although Marvin feels that he has been treated fairly by the white students at Schreiber, he does see many problems within the school relating to race. He cited a few instances, such as the lack of multiculturalism in the curriculum, especially in the English and social studies departments. He suggested a semester course which focuses on the different cultures which make up Schreiber, stressing African-American history. He also mentioned that the minority students who live in Harbor Homes, which is at least a mile from school, are without transportation to and from school. "I'm sure that their parents pay enough taxes to pay for a bus to and from school. [The students who live in Harbor Homes] shouldn't have to walk in all types of weather—hot, cold, rain. Marvin was also disturbed by the fact that the TESL students are forced into the basement, since their lockers and classes are located there.

Marvin did not merely criticize the school—he also offered suggestions to combat the racism that does exist in Schreiber. He suggested that all of the minority students should join together to form some type of group that could address these problems. Marvin also hoped that through the theater and arts, some events could occur in celebration of African-American history.

Another difference between Union-

dale and Port Washington is that Port Washington is scheduled on the modular system while Uniondale has the period system. Although Marvin admits to some scheduling confusion when he first came to Schreiber, he says that he enjoys modular scheduling more than the system to which he had been accustomed. "You can have just one mod off between classes to relax and get ready for the next class."

Marvin also said that he had looked forward to moving to Port Washington, since he had heard that it had a very good academic reputation. He feels that the school has lived up to this reputation. "There are some really good teachers here," he said.

Marvin not only partakes in Schreiber's academics, but also in its athletics. Currently, he plays on the var-

sity football team, starting at defensive end and also playing running back. It has been said that Marvin is a very agile athlete.

According to senior teammate Andrew Bernstein, "Marvin's presence on the team this year has been a big bonus. He's coming into a new system this year, and he's working hard to quickly become one of the impact players on the team. Everyone on the team likes him; he's friendly, yet serious about football." Varsity football coach Joe DelGais agrees with Bernstein, "Marvin is very nice. He does what he's told, he's very respectful. He's come a long way since August. He's doing a nice job." Marvin is also looking forward to running track this year.

As many seniors are currently doing, Marvin is getting ready to apply to college. His long term goal is to attend an African-American institution. The primarily black schools which he is considering are Hampton University, Central State, Howard University, Morehouse University, and Tuskegee University. He says he is also considering schools in the SUNY system as well as New York University. He plans to major in engineering during college and perhaps attend law school.



Elizabeth Tomkiewicz

Vol. XXXII

FROM THE SCHREIBER TIMES ARCHIVES

Volume 12 • May 17, 1972

Poisonous Drug Threatens Students Only five come for treatment, says Mrs. Reid

On Thursday, May 4, Mrs. Reid, the school nurse, made the following announcement: "There is a drug known as Quaalude circulating in the Port Washington area which may be injurious to your health. If you have taken any of it, please report to the nurse's office. Confidentiality will be respected."

On Thursday and Friday, although a crowd gathered at the office, "not more than five" students came in for treatment, according to Mrs. Reid. Some were simply scared of what the drug might do to them, others vomited, but, she said, there was "not as much treatment as observation—asking questions, taking pulses and blood pressure, checking skin color, size of eye pupils, and general appearance. It was not necessary to medically treat or hospitalize anyone."

"Luckily, a couple of kids threw up the drug," she said. Mrs. Reid felt the students were "lucky this time" that no one was really hurt. This, she said, was because of "the good judgement of the friends who brought them to us before too much time had passed."

All the students who had seen or taken the drug described the same thing: opaque orange capsules. Quaalude originally

comes in white tablets. Many people commented that there was "sort of a mystery" about what, exactly, the capsules contained. "Quaalude" is a registered trademark for methaqualone, a hypnotic sedative not related to barbiturates or other "downs."

As to the large numbers of people in and around the nurse's office, Mrs. Reid said, "the incident generated enormous interest and considerable worry. There were a lot of very concerned friends in here, but also a lot of curiosity-seekers."

According to Superintendent Hugh McGuigan, the Thursday announcement stemmed from a bulletin from Hotline Services in Manhasset, stating that Quaaludes laced with strychnine and cocaine were widely circulating in the Manhasset-Glen Cove area. However, an addendum to the bulletin explained that, although the capsules contained methaqualone, they were not necessarily made from Quaalude...The addendum also states that "...none of the six companies producing methaqualone-products issue their product in orange caps; so we suspect that the street product now in circulation is illicitly (and dangerously) produced."

Eric Begun Visits Russia social studies teacher witnesses coup



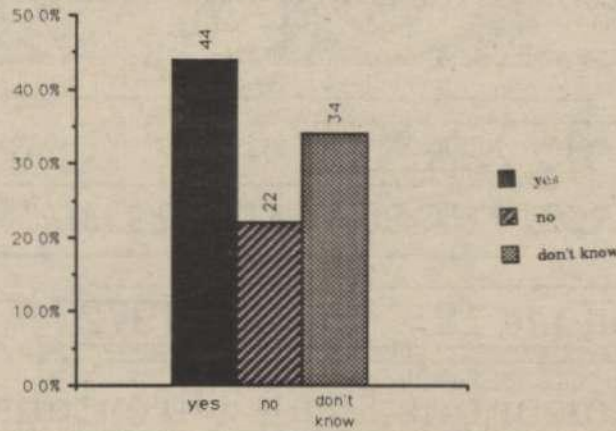
Helene Begun

... and brings it to Schreiber, page 12

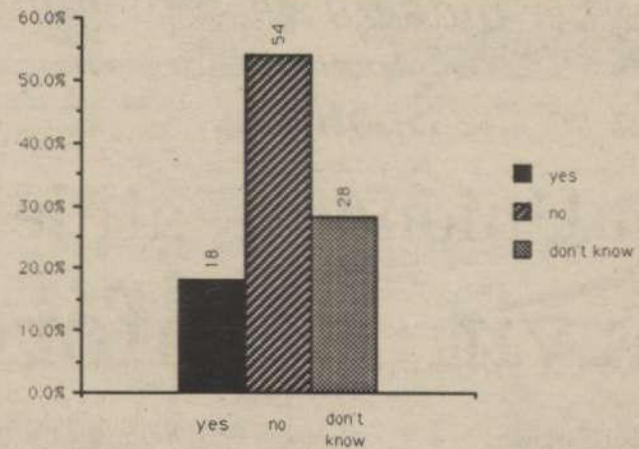
A poll was administered to 35 randomly selected homerooms on September 23 in order to measure student sentiment concerning the recent issue of free condom distribution in New York City public schools.

The following graphs represent the results as answered by the students in percentage form. The survey covered over five hundred students and all tallies were counted and all calculations were made manually by the staff.

Would take advantage of this service if offered



More likely to engage in sexual intercourse



2a.) If age should be a factor, what age is appropriate for condom distribution in public schools?
 6-12=9% 7-12=24% 9-12=43%
 10-12=11% 11-12=10% 12 Only=1%

3.) Should condom distribution be limited to schools which serve areas with certain social or economic factors?
 YES=18% NO=68% DON'T KNOW=14%

3a.) If yes, which factors? LOW-INCOME=14%
 HIGH RATE OF HIV/AIDS=52%
 HIGH RATE OF TEEN PREGNANCY=34%

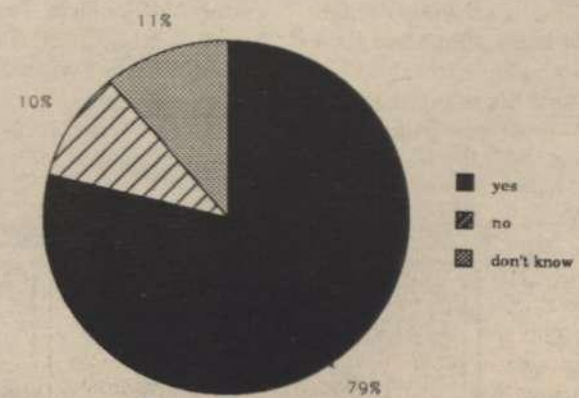
4.) Should parental consent be required before a student is allowed to take advantage of the condom distribution policy?
 YES=14% NO=76% DON'T KNOW=10%

4a.) If yes, should this consent be:
 GENERAL(student is able to take upon request)=76%
 SPECIFIC(parent is contacted when condom requested)=24%

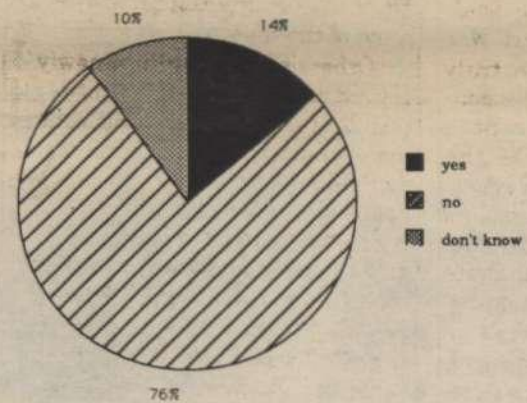
5.) Where should condoms be located?
 NURSE'S OFFICE=32%
 LOCKER ROOM =12%
 BATHROOMS =56%

6.) Should students who request condoms be required to attend any sex education services (such as a workshop, movie, or conference with a health care worker)?
 YES=33% NO=48% DON'T KNOW=19%

Should condoms be distributed in any public schools?



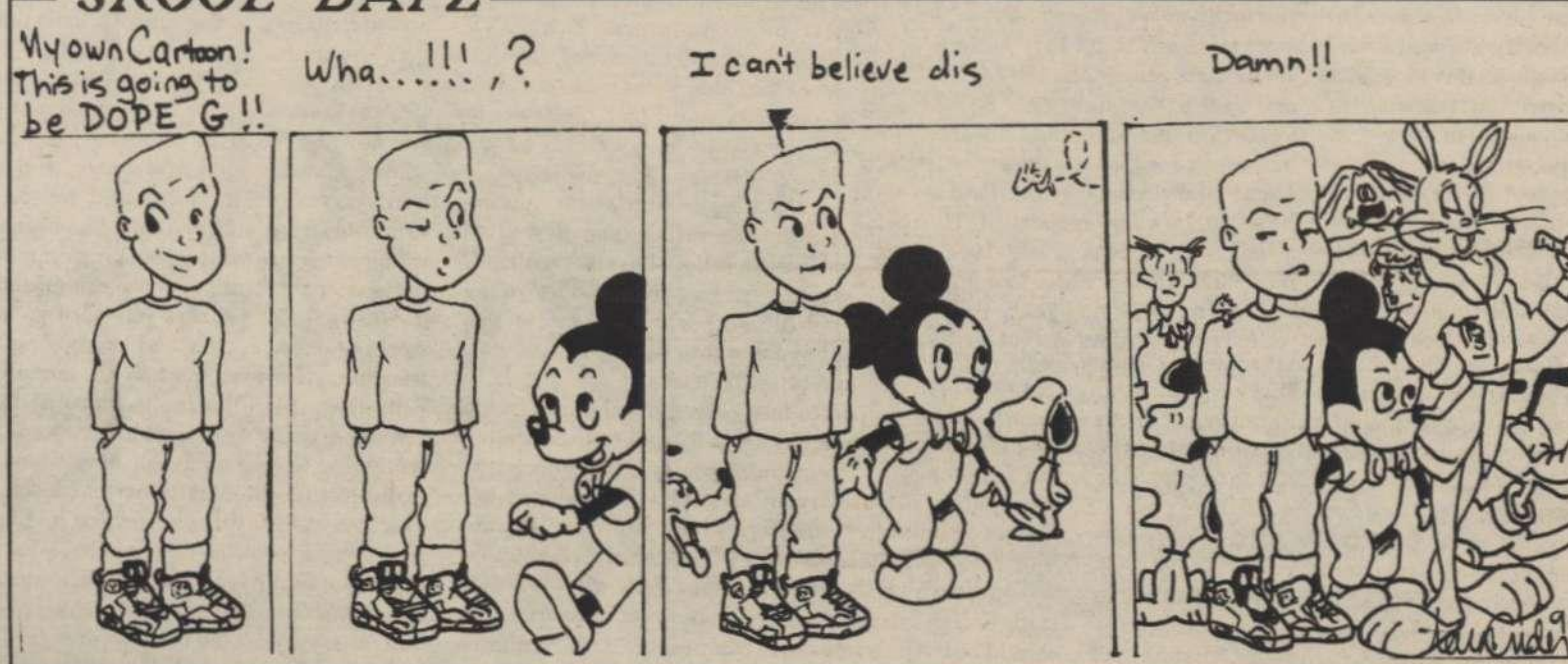
Should parental consent be required before a student is allowed to take advantage of the condom distribution policy?



Schreiber High School Cartoon of the Month

This Month's Cartoon By Aaron Crider

SKOOL DAYZ



Robert Albert Retires

Schreiber bids farewell to Times advisor and English department veteran

by Karen Newirth

With the advent of the 1991-1992 school year, a noticeable absentee in the English resource room and the pub room is Robert Albert. As many people know, Mr. Albert was an intrinsic part of *The Schreiber Times* as well as a dynamic, caring teacher. Mr. Albert planned to retire at the end of this school year but was offered an incentive to retire at the close of the last year, which he could not refuse. Although the acceptance of this incentive meant that he had to retire a year earlier than he had planned, Mr. Albert said, "I do have to think of my family." Mr. Albert will be missed by all who had the opportunity to work with and know him.

English department chairperson John Broza said, "Bob Albert was one of the truly great professionals ever to be a member of the English department. He was honored by the New York State English Council for his work in teaching English with computers. He was one of the founders and specialists in the American Literature course. He was absolutely unselfish and devoted to his students and to anyone with whom he came into contact. Most importantly, he was a true friend to every member of the [English] department and one of the best-liked teachers in the school."

Mr. Albert did not always want to be a teacher. While he was in high school in Valley Stream, Mr. Albert hoped to go to Cornell University to study veterinary medicine or animal husbandry, to become either a veterinarian or a farmer, respectively.

However, when Mr. Albert graduated from high school, he decided to forego college, since he was already employed selling building materials during the day and was an aspiring boxer by night. Mr. Albert was an amateur boxer until he was twenty, and he possessed an undefeated record. At twenty, Mr. Albert participated in the New York City Golden Gloves semifinals, and, according to Mr. Albert, during the fight he "got stupid and got hurt." It was this incident that brought about the realization that he was endangering his mind for the sport. This realization forced Mr. Albert to quit, and he never returned to boxing.

Throughout this period in his life, Mr. Albert's interest in writing had been flourishing, and at twenty-two, he decided to enroll in college. He majored in writing at Adelphi University, where he was also an editor of the literary magazine. Mr. Albert's desire to teach stemmed from a summer job teaching mental patients as an edu-

cational therapist. He found that "it was a great pleasure to teach." Mr. Albert also wanted to do something more social than writing. He received his Masters' degree from Adelphi and went on to receive his professional diploma in administration from C.W. Post University.

by Bob Albert

When most teachers returned to their Port Washington classrooms last week, I didn't. The state-sponsored early retirement incentive was an offer which I decided not to refuse.

Twenty-nine and a half years of secondary school teaching was, I concluded on a hot July afternoon, enough. Now, in September, I'm not so sure. The ache I feel from not being with my colleagues and the young people of Schreiber High School this September is soul-deep. What have I done? What a mistake! Why did I let them buy me out? I was a teacher; I worked hard; I enjoyed my teacher friends; I loved so many of the kids. Arrgghh! This is how I'm slapping my psyche around these days. My September song is a dirge...at least some of the time.

Other times during these newly retired days, I sing freedom ditties to myself. No more red pencils, no more grade books, no more students' haughty looks. The only homeroom to which I report is in my home. Instead of getting up at 4:30 to correct papers or plan lessons, I sleep until 6:00. Gosh, am I rested! Where shall I have lunch today? I wonder how hot those Schreiber classrooms are during these Indian Summer days.

Between the feelings of relief and sadness, I work (strange word!)

to convince myself that my scholastic seasons are over, that I am beginning a new life. Should I become a clinical psychologist? Should I sell real estate? Should I complete my novel? Should I travel the States and



abroad? I think I need a therapist.

At least when I was at Schreiber, I didn't need therapy, or, if I did, I didn't have time for it. I was too busy dealing with the craziness of senseless rules, sensible lessons, and sensitive students. And I loved it.

When I was visiting Schreiber recently, I spoke with

Mr. Albert got his first teaching job in Franklin Square in 1962. He taught English there for eight years, where he also served as the yearbook advisor. In 1970, Mr. Albert took a job as an administrator to a college preparatory program for minority students with SUNY Purchase. That job only lasted a year because "working with young people is what [he] really wanted to do." Mr. Albert then found a job that would last him twenty years: an English teacher here at Schreiber.

As a teacher, Mr. Albert was not only knowledgeable but was truly interested in his students' ideas, and he was also compassionate and tolerant of their varying attitudes and problems. Senior Bob Parker recalls, "I didn't give him the easiest time [in class], and he was as nice to me as he was to the other students. He was understanding about assignments and stuff—he was more considerate than other teachers."

Mr. Albert helped to facilitate some changes in the English curriculum as well as to introduce to Schreiber the computers in the computer-assisted lab adjacent to the English resource room. In 1985, English teacher Martin Hamburger and Mr. Albert wrote for a grant from New York State to finance the Apple IIe computers, a request which the state subsequently accepted. He said, "I didn't think the science and math departments should be the only ones with computers." One change in the curriculum brought by Mr. Albert was the return of

the journalism class in 1988 after Mr. Albert wrote for another grant, which financed the Macintosh computers presently located in the pub room. According to Mr. Albert, the journalism class had not existed at Schreiber for fifteen to twenty years. Presently, there are about fifty students enrolled in journalism, which is now being

taught by Mr. Hamburger and Janet Evans, who has also succeeded Mr. Albert as advisor to *The Schreiber Times*. According to Ms. Evans, the journalism class "is practical, fun, useful, and real—sort of like Mr. Albert."

In 1985, Mr. Albert succeeded Blaine Bocarde as advisor to *The Schreiber Times*. Mr. Bocarde had advised *The Schreiber Times* for twenty-three years. When Mr. Albert took over, the paper was an eight-page publication that was typed, typeset, and printed by the printer. Today, with Mr. Albert's innovation, *The Schreiber Times* is, on average, a twenty-four page publication which is

typed and typeset in Schreiber's pub room. Mr. Albert recalls his greatest moments at Schreiber as those with the newspaper. He remembers fondly the demanding hours, and even more fondly the days when the paper was distributed to the school. "It is monthly gratification," he said.

Mr. Albert, who loves to travel, owns property in Greece, upon which he hopes to someday build a house. For now, on his trips to Greece, he stays with friends while he swims, sails, and writes, and he plans to eventually move to Florida so that he can do more of the same. Currently, Mr. Albert has become reacquainted with his writing and is working on a novel. He is also rediscovering reading, completing "about a book every few days." Mr. Albert has also spent a lot of time working out at a gym and is enjoying his newly-found freedom. However, he has not completely abandoned Schreiber. Mr. Albert has returned several times to visit and plans to help at the newspaper to make the transition to a new advisor more smooth. When asked about his new life, Mr. Albert said, "I hope that writing becomes as fulfilling as teaching had been. I left teaching when I loved it—not when I was burnt out." His colleague and friend A. J. Guber couldn't agree more: "The man went out at the top of his game." Mr. Albert will be sorely missed by everyone; however, we realize how lucky we have been to work with and know him.

A Sneak Peek Under Matt's Hat...

On the Significance of Beige and Brown

by Matt Wolin

The two most common words in the American vocabulary today are "black" and "white." I swear, that's all we talk about. In the sixties the two words were "peace" and "love." In the seventies "I" and "me." In the eighties "gimme" and "mine." It's interesting because we seem to identify the decades with these words. They act as symbols of the times. Does that mean the nineties will be looked back on as having been the "black" and "white" decade? If it does, then we have surely failed as both a people and a society.

My mind is clear on race. I am not a racist, and I don't believe that most people are. However, I do think that many people focus on race—and that is where the problem lies in this country—in this intense focus on what color a person's skin happens to be.

There were a few events that led me to confront this issue and they do not include the Bensonhurst, Atlantic Beach, Leonard Jefferies or Crown Heights debacles. Enough has been written about these situations as it is. In those instances it was, in fact, racism and stupidity at hand. The first of these events occurred at the end of last school year. I was talking to a kid who happens to go to this school about his family and I learned that while he had an Hispanic name, his brothers didn't. This kid was a good student and a hard worker to begin with, and his brothers probably were as well. The question that needs to be asked, however, is, "Will the brother with the Hispanic name go higher on the ladder of success than his two brothers who don't have Hispanic names?"

I put this question to a lawyer who works in my father's office building and he answered yes, citing the policy of affirmative action. It was at this time that I realized that affirmative action is wrong because it judges people not by the content of their work or their own qualifications but by their ethnicity or skin color. The program of affirmative action may have good intentions, since racial and economic equality is certainly a necessity in America. Unfortunately, it promotes not only a feeling of "you're black and I'm white" and vice versa but also a synthetic equalizing of the races. Let us make equal the races through constructive measures—creating jobs and improving education—and not with a synthetic method such as affirmative action.

The second event that led me to believe that we must head in a new direction, away from this intense focus on race, occurred while going through some old issues of *The Schreiber Times*. I saw a letter to the editor by alumnus Jamal Skinner regarding the lack of black teachers at Schreiber and the need for more. Jamal certainly had a point, but not once did he cite one example where a white teacher was hired instead of a black teacher. He then went on to say that Mr. Glover was the only black chairperson and Mr. Campbell the only black administrator. This isn't fair to these two men. Mr. Glover is not the black chairperson of

the music department. He is the chairperson of the music department who happens to have black skin. Jamal also added that black students need black teachers to look up to as role models. The problem with this is that it can become an excuse for students who happen to be black to say, "Well, I didn't do well this semester because I didn't have someone to look up to." Maybe the answer lies not in looking up to someone but in looking within oneself. Role models are great to have but we can't allow their nonexistence to be our excuse if we fail. Even when they do exist, they often let us down anyway. My dad's teenage role model was President Kennedy, and we all know what he was doing with his spare time. I really wished I could have discussed this article with Jamal, for, although he had a point in saying that Schreiber needs more black teachers, he used the words "black" and "white" much too often.

I read a similar article in *The Sporting News* this summer. For those of you who are not baseball fans, let me say that *The Sporting News* is our bible. We worship it. Over the seven years that I have been a subscriber, I have rarely been disappointed with the publication. However, I read a staff editorial in which they said that more black executives were needed in the front offices of the professional teams of the NFL, NBA, and Major League Baseball. This conclusion came following a study by Northeastern University on the issue. Not once did the study cite a specific example in which a qualified black person was turned away. If racism is so prevalent, why can't they come up with just one example? They also said that the amount of black players in baseball only rose 1% over the 1980s. This is when I became truly angry. I attended a Yankees game this summer in which Mel Hall, who has black skin, hit a three-run homer. As he was circling the bases I did not say, "Oh, I wish Mattingly had hit it because he's white" or, "That's one for the black Yankees!" We sports fans do not care what the color of a player's skin is. How dare *The Sporting News* bring this issue onto the field!

I'm sick of hearing "black" and "white." You know what the worst part is—we're not even white and black. At best we're beige and brown. So from now on in this column I'm going to refer to black people as brown people and white people, or better yet, I will refer to black people as beige people and white people as brown people. My hope is to confuse. Let me close with what a beige woman said to me on the subway as I was reading the latest Crown Heights headlines. She said, "Ya' know, Martin is truly dead now."

When I realized what this woman had meant (at first, I had thought she was crazy), I agreed with her, but for different reasons. Martin Luther King's dream (the one we see replayed every third Monday in January) is dead. Not simply because of some thrown rocks and racial slurs, but because we utter the words "black" and "white" far too often. Isn't that what Martin's dream was all about—not saying those words?

Begun Witnesses Coup

by Nerys Benfield, Minsu

Longiaru, and Megan Rendace

The Soviet Union has undergone a historical metamorphosis in recent months as it has moved away from Communism toward a more democratic regime. Social studies teacher Eric Begun witnessed these events firsthand from August 17 to August 31, visiting such cities as Moscow, Yalta, Kiev, and Leningrad (now St. Petersburg). Mr. Begun's great-grandparents emigrated from Russia in 1910. Besides being interested in the country as a social studies teacher, he was also interested in returning to his roots. Although Mr. Begun believes that complete democracy will remain a distant dream for the Russian people, he feels that there is hope, and that one day, with the unified will of the people, that this dream will become a reality. The following is an interview conducted on September 13, 1991.

Q: Were there many tourists?

A: No, there were not. In fact, we heard, and I don't know if it's accurate, that there were less than 100 tourists in Moscow on the day of the coup. Now, there was a soccer team, and a convention of librarians, [but] there weren't a great number of tourists, how many I'm not sure.

Q: As far as you can tell, has the United States' news coverage of events in the Soviet Union been accurate?

A: Well the coverage [was accurate about] events, but I think where they were exaggerated was in the danger. Although three people were killed, [and] even though we were walking among tanks and anti-personnel carriers, we never felt as though our lives were in jeopardy. There were no sharpshooters, and there was no sniper fire. That may have been ignorance [on our part], but we never felt threatened. You knew the potential for danger was there, but the soldiers were very friendly ... they were just sitting there ... so we never felt there was any imminent danger.

Q: How are the Russian and American cultures alike and how are they different?

A: Well they are similar in that Russians are ... mostly Europeans. In fact, Moscow is the second largest city in Europe. And so, Russia is in a large degree more European than Asian. However, there are Asian elements to it. Many Russians have immigrated to the United States, so in that there's a great deal of similarity. They prize Western art and have been very Westernized since the reign of Peter the Great. The major difference is in religion. They are Russian Orthodox, which is different from the major Christian religions in the United States. The churches are different, the customs are different, the method of praying is slightly different. There are some other distinct differences, such as the language, [which] is completely different—there is just no similarity.

Q: Do you have any special memories of your trip?

A: I loved all the cities, especially St. Petersburg. Going to the Hermitage and seeing all the art work was especially impressive. I loved talking with the Russian people; I found them to be extremely warm and sincere. Just being in a country that is in so many ways so different is fascinating. To see how inept Communism and the socialist system is, is such an amazing thing to view. It is different than any other trip I've taken because the culture, although similar, is also quite different, and the sights are so different. The Eastern Orthodox and Russian Orthodox churches were incredibly beautiful and much different than anything I've seen before.

Q: What was the most exciting thing that happened to you there?

A: Being in the middle of the coup was definitely the most exciting thing. Seeing barricades being put up and seeing men and women weeping with joy over the possibility of democracy was really overwhelming.

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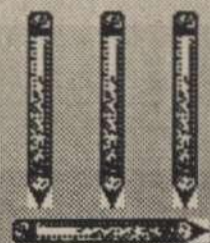
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How Smart Are Drugs?

by Jodi Perelman

As years pass, new and different drugs are introduced throughout the world. Some, such as coffee and aspirin, are relatively harmless in small quantities and are used daily by people of varying ages and different walks of life. More potent varieties, however, often damage the mind and body of the recreational user and addict alike. Often, the harmful effects of drugs are not revealed until generations after they are used. Although the negative aspects of drug use are apparent to everyone young and old, people are still eager to "experiment" with all types of drugs. Whatever the reason for rampant drug abuse may be, there certainly is a market for it. This is where a new generation of drugs comes in: "smart drugs." Instead of altering brain functions and providing a false sense of reality, these drugs allegedly improve the user's mental state.

Get Smart Think Drinks is one business profiting from this revolutionary idea that drugs can improve mental functions instead of hindering them. This company's products include Psuper Psonic Psy-ber Tonic. The active ingredient in this is said to be choline. According to Schreiber biology teacher Barbara Selwitz, choline is represented in acetylcholine, which carries messages between cells in the body. Smart drug users believe that the ingestion of synthesized choline will improve mental abilities by

increasing the level of acetylcholine in the brain, thus quickening or strengthening the messages sent between cells. Another Think Drink is called Energy Elicksure, a combination of vitamins and amino acids. Amino acids are the building blocks of proteins in the human body. Phenylalanine, an amino acid present in Energy Elicksure, is said to have psychoactive effects. The compound ephedra, which acts as a stimulant, is also present in Energy Elicksure.

Is it possible that these drugs can enhance mental function? According to Jas Morgan, magazine editor and smart drug user, Piracetam, which is available over the counter in Europe, provides incredible cognitive capabilities. "You are able to perceive the blank space between two close sounds. When you hear eight violins, you can discern the unique pitch of each one." In the medical community, Piracetam is used to treat disorders caused by strokes, head traumas, and alcoholism.

The desire for success has become all-consuming. In our society, success equates with money. To make money, we've been taught to be competitive, cutthroat, and manipulative. Obviously, not everyone fits that mold, but the fact that people are willing to experiment with mind-enhancing, nonresearched drugs is a pathetic reflection on our society. In a random sampling of twenty Schreiber students, thirteen said that they would try "smart

drugs" upon learning some basic information about the drugs, another four said that they wouldn't take them despite any knowledge of their side effects, and three stated that they would try the drugs unconditionally. One male senior stated, "If it'll help me to remember some stuff for chemistry and give me a high, why not try it?"

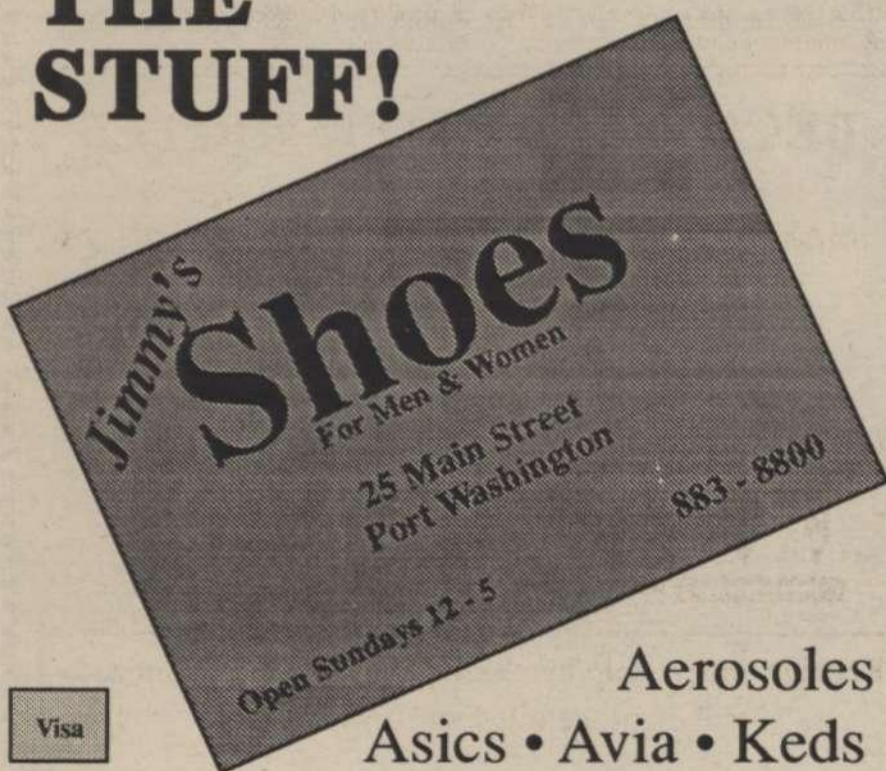
A noteworthy smart drug is Vasopressin, which is medically prescribed as an anti-diuretic. It provides a short-term thrill by replenishing a natural hormone whose absence causes fatigue and sluggishness. Supposedly, the climax passes rather rapidly, but its effect, a clear, mild high, lasts for hours. It gives the user the same feelings which cocaine does, but without adverse side effects. Like the other smart drugs mentioned in this article, this drug has not been researched, nor is it recognized for non-clinical use; thus, its side effects are unknown. However, a medically prescribed anti-diuretic signals the kidneys to retain more of the water which circulates through them. If the drug is taken unnecessarily, water retention can bring on serious complications.

Many of these brain elixirs are readily

available. Supposedly, some ingredients used in Energy Elicksure and Psuper Psonic Psy-ber Tonic can be found in health-food stores. Other drugs can be ordered from Switzerland, Germany and other foreign nations. The book **Smart Drugs and Nutrients**, by Ward Dean and John Morganthaler, is reputedly a guidebook for ordering and learning about smart drugs. However, attempts to find this volume at many bookstores in New York City, the Port Washington Public Library, and an obscure bookshop in the Hamptons proved unsuccessful. Port Washington's Dolphin Bookshop has it on order, but it, too, has had much trouble in locating it.

Much more research must be conducted to fully understand the drugs' effects on the human body. For those people willing to sacrifice their minds and bodies for what are rumored to be awesome yet short-lived effects, that is their prerogative. However, it must be noted that even drugs recognized by the medical profession in the past, such as thalidomide in the 1960s, the birth control pill in the 1970s, and, most recently, Prozac, have later shown horrendous and life-threatening side effects.

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The College Game

A Student-Friendly Guide to the Rules

IN AMERICAN TRADITION, A COLLEGE EDUCATION WAS AVAILABLE TO ALL HARD-WORKING AND AMBITIOUS SCHOLARS. LITTLE REMAINS OF THIS TRADITION. AS MORE PEOPLE FIND IT NECESSARY TO OBTAIN A COLLEGE DEGREE IN ORDER TO QUALIFY FOR CAREERS IN VARIOUS FIELDS, ADMISSION TO COLLEGE HAS BECOME PROGRESSIVELY MORE DIFFICULT. PRES-

ENTLY, THE PEAK OF COLLEGE ADMISSIONS COMPETITION IS UPON US. NOT ONLY HAS IT BECOME DIFFICULT TO BE ACCEPTED AT MOST DECENT COLLEGES, BUT THE SHEER NUMBER OF COLLEGES FROM WHICH TO CHOOSE IS OVERWHELMING.

THIS SECTION IS INTENDED TO ASSIST STUDENTS IN THEIR SEARCH FOR A PROPER COLLEGE WHERE THEY HAVE A CHANCE OF

ACCEPTANCE WITHOUT COMPILING A 1400 ON THEIR BOARDS AND A 4.59 G.P.A. A SCHREIBER ALUMNUS HAS CONTRIBUTED AN ARTICLE DESCRIBING HOW TO EVALUATE COLLEGES OBJECTIVELY, ALLOWING STUDENTS TO DECIDE IF THEY WOULD ENJOY ATTENDING CERTAIN COLLEGES.

STATISTICS HAVE BEEN COMPILED, USING INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT OF SCHREIBER HIGH SCHOOL, SHOWING THE HIGHEST RATES OF ACCEPTANCE AT TEN PRIVATE COLLEGES AND FIVE SUNY SCHOOLS. THESE RESULTS WERE GATHERED BY COMPARING ACCEPTANCE RATES AT COLLEGES WITH TEN OR MORE SCHREIBER APPLICANTS FROM THE CLASS OF 1991.

by Simon Chin

If you're interested in selecting a college, like many other Schreiber seniors (and some juniors) are, you'll need some help. This is not an easy process, and your life for the next four years will be greatly affected by your choice. Seeing a number of college campuses can be confusing for many people. Luckily, there are several clear signs for which to look when determining whether or not you will be happy at a certain school.

First of all, make sure that the school is on your academic level. Face the facts. Although you might want a prestigious name behind your diploma, it will not help to be accepted to a school above your ability. Regardless of tradition or popularity, most colleges provide an excellent

education. Also, be sure that your college has a broad range of classes. The freshman year at college should be the time to decide on potential majors. You just don't get enough experience in high school to even think about a potential career. A college should allow you to experiment in many different areas to bring out your interests. If a college lacks depth of courses, avoid going there.

Non-academic aspects should be equally important when choosing a college. When you visit a campus, walk around by yourself (that is, without your parents) and talk to some students. You can usually tell with a glance if students are enjoying themselves. If kids are sitting around bored, be wary. Find out if kids move off campus after their fresh-

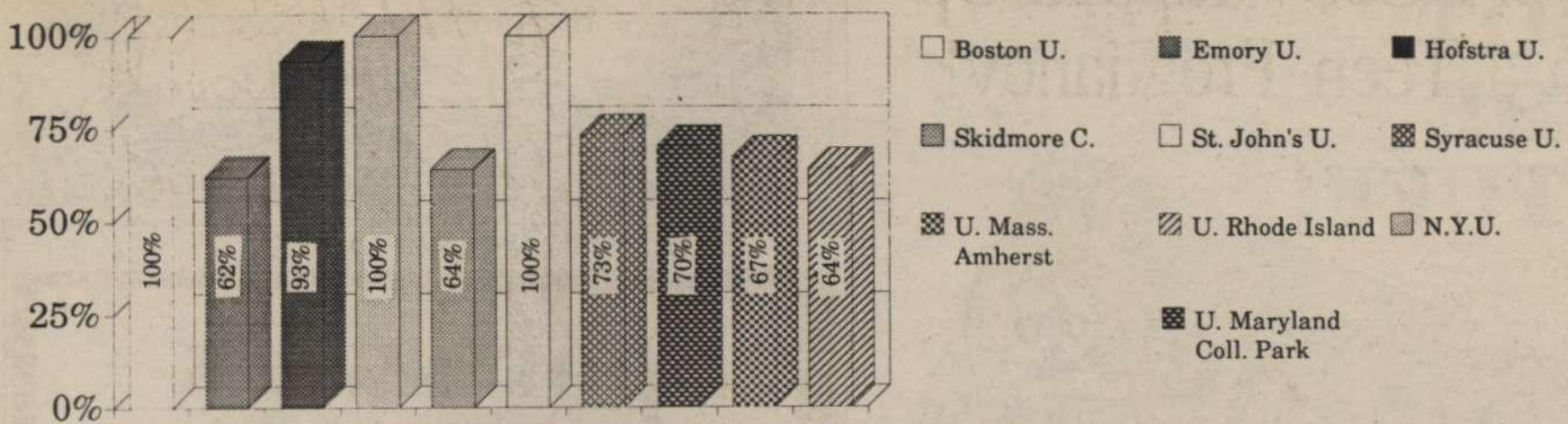
man year. Also inquire about weekend activities. Do people stay on campus? Does everybody go home for the weekend? At the best colleges, people prefer housing on campus, and the town or city surrounding the school does not play a major role in social life.

Finally, look at the size of the student body, as well as at the students themselves. If you feel insecure in a high school of two thousand people, don't apply to a huge state school. If you find yourself bored in a city of eight million, look for a big school. As for the students, all you need to do is look. Are they like you? Do all the people look the same? Although people shouldn't be judged by their clothes, you may not like a school where half of the kids insist on dressing in a three-piece

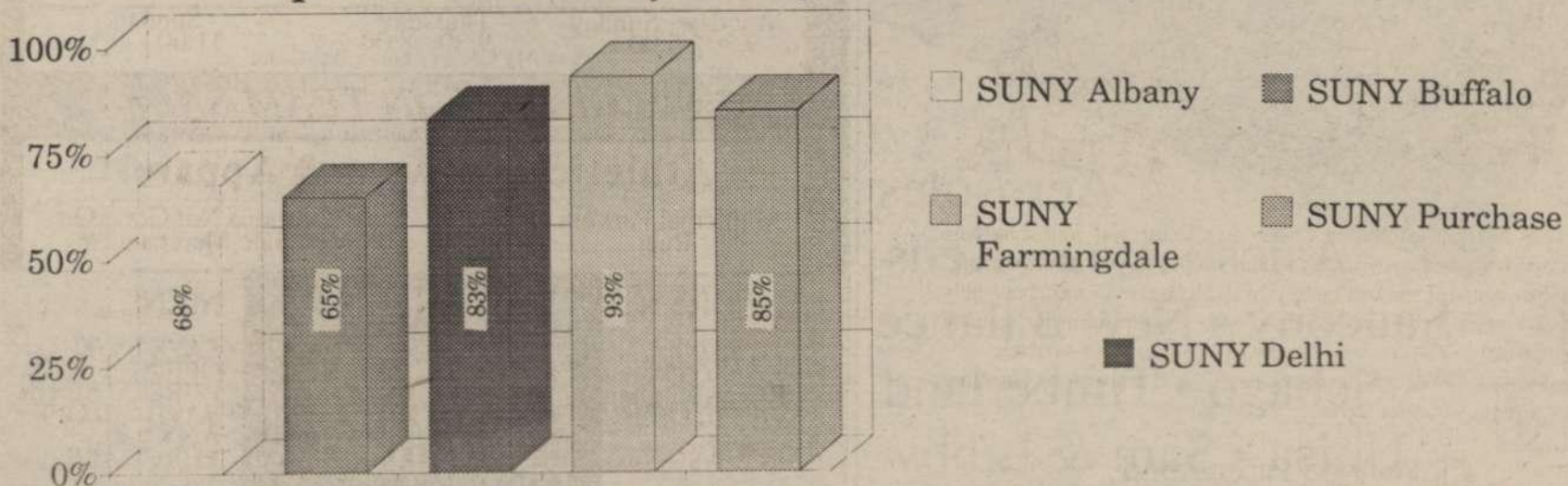
suit. Decide on what you like about your fellow classmates, and look for these traits at colleges. Some other factors to consider may be the percentage of minorities (and if they are really integrated), or if most students come from the same general area of the country.

When you visit schools, you only need to remember a few points to get a good idea of what the college is all about. Choose a school that caters to your academic ability. Consider class sizes and the type of students who attend a certain school. Also consider variables such as location, facilities, and social life. Don't base college decisions on reputation or prestige. Go to the school that you like the most. This will ensure four fun and productive undergraduate years.

Top Ten Rates of Acceptance at Private and Out-of-State Colleges



Top Five Rates of Acceptance at SUNY Schools



Advisor Aches from Growing Pains

by Janet Evans

The position of newspaper advisor at Paul D. Schreiber High School is perceived by many faculty and staff members in a less than favorable light. On the one hand, there is the pleasure of working with an intelligent and dedicated staff. The flip side—the one that elicits looks of patient sympathy—is the long hours, those headstrong “kids,” the deadline pressures, and the coordination of activities, allowing time for the paper. Keep in mind that many of the “long hours” occur between 11 p.m. and 2 a.m. Whoever takes on the responsibilities of supervising the school newspaper is either crazy or cursed. Strange as it may seem, I consider myself honored to be in this position.

It was not without some trepidation that I contemplated this advising position. I was impressed with the quality of the issues from last year and pleased that several of my own then-sophomore students were contributors. **The Schreiber Times** is, without a doubt, the best writing forum that this school offers. **The Schreiber Times'** writing is done with a purpose, for a specific audience. Furthermore, all material is edited by peers. The knowledge, time, and responsibility that goes with researching a story, typing and revising articles, laying out and typesetting pages, working and co-existing together, requires the staff to develop solid business and social skills. Seeing the fine job that these students did on **The Schreiber Times**, I wondered what I

could add to this environment.

I can bring that which comes most naturally to me. I hope that I have brought during these first weeks my belief in students and their autonomy to explore what inspires them, as well as my excitement for good talk, problem-solving, and the challenge of writing and my passion for organization.

ment for good talk, problem-solving, and the challenge of writing and my passion for organization.

It is exciting to be in a position in which one can truly advise—not run the show. Even if I wanted to have a particu-

lar story reported or an article (such as this) submitted, it would have to be approved by the appropriate section editors. I have much to learn, and I am fortunate to be working with some top-notch student leaders in this school.

Port: Teenage Wasteland?

by Lydia Bergen, Valerie Lincy, and Amanda Matthews

Port Washington: the hub of suburban nightlife or the epitome of boredom? Although there are those few sacred souls who can find something to do on a Saturday night, mere mortals such as us can still be found languidly watching **Saturday Night Live**. Most adults, including faculty members at Schreiber, envision Port Washington as a cute suburban town where kids convene on weekends to hang out and have a good time. This is only partially right. Although hanging out dominates the scene, it becomes difficult to have a good time when this activity dominates the social scene. It's definitely not bad to hang out with friends, but just how entertaining is it to sit around discussing Little League scores?

Seeking a change from the usual Little League discussions, weekend activities can range from going to Ben & Jerry's (wow) to playing “Remote Control,” the primitive computer game, at a friend's house. This is high school. Ten years from now, we are supposed to reflect upon

these years as the “good ol' days.” We probably will not be very anxious to reminisce if my fondest memories consist of that great night we all went to Burger King and all got hamburgers. There must be ways, no matter how distant they may seem, to reverse this downward trend in Port Washington's weekend activities.

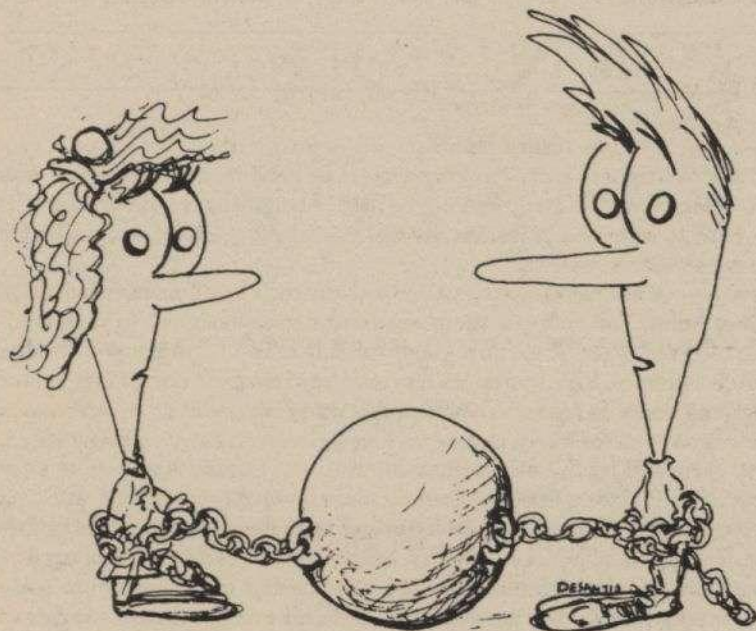
There is always the option commonly referred to as “Let's get the hell out.” This would usually consist of getting in to a car with intentions of long-distance travel or, more frequently, getting onto a train headed out. The destination is arbitrary; just “out.” Although taxis and trains are great substitutes for owning your own car or having your mom drive you around, these means of mass transit have sucked the money from our wallets in the same fashion that leeches suck blood from a mammal. This minor obstacle inspires oppressed teens to find other weekend alternatives, albeit within walking distance. Yet with this added inspiration to find cheap and close entertainment, extensive search efforts have been termi-

nated in a slow, painful death. The fact remains that Port Washington is a wasteland vacant of any appealing activities.

Parents claim that students can find all of the excitement they need at school-sponsored events such as stage shows or sports events. Yet these events are not suitable for everyone. Not everyone can appreciate the pleasures of a well-performed drama or an exciting volleyball game. Maybe a recreation hall (ping-pong, pool, knock hockey...) could be organized, featuring local student bands playing on weekends. This won't be a solution for everyone, but the fact still remains that the boredom infesting Port's youth needs medication. Even a sizeable area available to students, free of police and parent harassment, could help.

At this point, it is fair to say that Port Washington's entertainment business is basically non-existent. Either through the efforts of students themselves or school organizations, solutions must be found to counter the boredom factor of Port Washington weekends.

Don't Get Wrapped Up in a Teen Pregnancy!



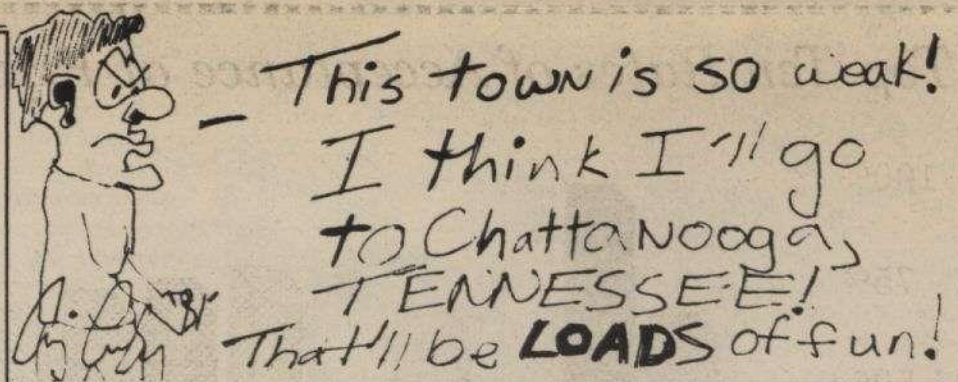
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Are You Just A Statistic?

Should Class Rankings be Discontinued at Schreiber?

The Student Verdict

Should Class Rankings be Discontinued at Schreiber?



Nicole Bender
Junior

I think it's a good idea to let students know where they stand. [Class rankings] are also a good way for colleges to determine what type of student you are...Class rankings make people work harder to get to the top.



Laurie Rinke
Junior

I think that Schreiber is the type of school with a competitive atmosphere... Each student should measure their own ability...It shouldn't be judged with a class ranking. [Class rankings] are unnecessary, as has been [shown] in many other schools.



Claudine Dematos
Sophomore

I think that class rankings are good because [they make] people work harder to get a better ranking...Those who work hard get a good ranking, and they deserve it.



Pete Fishman
Junior

Class rank does not reward [only the] smart people. It encourages competition...[Rankings are] all relative to the people in the class...Colleges cannot tell how smart you actually are [unless compared] to all of your classmates.



Paula Conis
Freshman

I think that class rankings should be discontinued because [class rankings] cause too much competition... There's enough competition with grades and tests alone. Class rankings just make it worse.



Ashraf Estafan
Senior

I don't think that class rankings should be abolished...when colleges look at your class rank, they take into consideration the types of classes that you took. It's a reasonable way of comparing students... colleges need everything that they can get to determine what type of student you are.

Compiled by Alice Goh and Russell Miller

YesYesYesYesYesYes **YES** YesYesYesYesYesYes

by Roger Keren

What exactly is a class rank? In the most basic terms, it is a number that demonstrates exactly how bad one is in comparison to his or her fellow classmates. Exploring the complexities of class ranking, it becomes clear that this number has the power to ruin a student's chances of acceptance at certain colleges, create needless academic pressure, waste guidance counselors' precious time, and upset many people with an impersonal, numerical summary of four grueling high school years.

Class rankings usually have a negative influence on students. Except for the top students in a class, students are faced with a statistic that often discourages them from applying to competitive schools. Some students may choose to challenge themselves with more interesting—and more difficult—honors courses. Meanwhile, other students choose the easiest course load to ensure that they will receive A-pluses and a high class rank. Although a hard-working, low-ranked student may be accepted at a competitive school, a discouragingly low class ranking at Schreiber will prevent them from even trying. Schreiber students are forced to settle for their second-choice college selections. Additionally, the high standards at Schreiber create artificially low class ranks. While an 'A' student might be in the top ten percent of an average high school class, the same student would barely be in the top twenty-five percent of a class at Schreiber. These rankings, when seen by admissions officers, will devalue the application of a Schreiber student, regardless of his or her course load or actual G.P.A. The logical conclusion that admissions officers would make would be that Schreiber gives easy A's, resulting in the high G.P.A.'s.

After dealing with the anxiety that class ranks cause in the college application process, students must also deal with the constant academic pressure caused by class rankings. This is not your everyday "Do your homework," parent-type pressure. Class rankings create an unnatural "I beat you, I'm better" type of competition at Schreiber. Schreiber students need to deal with academic pressure coming from both their parents and their peers. High school is not the time to cause students ulcers and high blood pressure with scholastic competition. It is a waste of time to calculate a class rank that will hurt and demoralize many students.

This notion becomes more vile when we realize that our own guidance counselors are spending their time calculating our class ranks. The purpose of guidance counselors seems to be defeated when they must spend their time on class rankings. Most of their time should be spent helping students. It is a shame that their time to help has to be taken away in order to create a statistic that will be detrimental to students.

There are some students, teachers, and college admissions officers who feel that a class rank is an ideal way to represent academic achievement. Class ranking is, however, the most erroneous and impersonal way available to present four years of effort. Disregarding the fact that those with respectable G.P.A.'s will have an unusually low rank at Schreiber, summarizing a student's high school career with one number is a needlessly demoralizing event. After creating intense competition within school and presenting most students with an unnaturally low rank, it is almost malicious to send this number to colleges as a representation of a student's high school career.

Class rankings create too many negative situations at Schreiber to benefit anyone. Abolishing class rankings will enable students to apply to challenging colleges. Schreiber's competitive atmosphere will ease up, enabling students to enjoy some of their studies. Lastly, abandoning class rankings will prevent a number from summing up the life of a high school student.

NoNoNoNoNoNoNo **NO** NoNoNoNoNoNoNo

by Adam Healey

Dr. Barish has proposed that Schreiber's class-ranking system be abolished. If this action was intended to benefit students at Schreiber, its goals will not be met. Abolishing the class rank will create new obstacles on the path to college admissions, as well as taking away all incentive for healthy academic competition between students.

College admissions officers need class rankings to evaluate a student's academic performance in high school. In most college admissions offices, there are committees assigned to review all undergraduate applications received from a certain geographical area. The people on this committee base most of their decisions on SAT scores, course load, and class ranking. The jobs of these committee members become much harder when no class ranking is provided. An erroneous decision for acceptance or rejection is more likely to occur when a class ranking is not provided. Additionally, "course load" is reviewed by the admissions committee. Students who take easy courses to achieve a high rank in their class will not be treated more favorably than hard-working honors students who are ranked lower. While some students feel that class ranking is an unfair way to compare non-Regents, Regents, and honors students, the weighted grading system used at Schreiber equates these conditions. Honors courses earn grades boosted in proportion to their difficulty. Although there is a theory that states that students opt to take easier classes to achieve a higher class standing, students are actually urged to take more honors courses.

Students also need to know where they stand among their peers. This helps individuals set academic goals for themselves. It is true that class rankings create competition between students. However, this is not the intense, debilitating competition that is described by those who feel that a class ranking is unnecessary. The competition provided by class rankings leads students into higher-level courses. High school is the stepping stone into college and the real world, and this type of competition is needed in order to prepare students for their future.

Ultimately, class rankings enable Schreiber students to determine which colleges are within their reach. If the class ranking system is abolished, it will become nearly impossible for students to determine where they stand within their own school. Class rankings are needed by both colleges and high school students. If the system is abandoned, admissions committees will have a difficult time making the correct admission and rejection choices. Students will have little reason to challenge themselves in school. Presently, class rankings serve a purpose for all. Removing them would only be inconvenient and detrimental.

New Policy Realizes Elevator's Potential

The school's elevator was completed this spring after two years of work and a \$182,000 cost to the district. Following its installation, the question among the Schreiber population became, "So what do we do with this thing?"

The answer was simple that "The elevator was built in compliance with state and federal regulations to make the building accessible for the handicapped," and that it will be used for that purpose, as well as for the transportation of materials by Schreiber custodians and faculty. The first step was to give elevator keys to Principal Sid Barish, school nurse Annette Keenan, and the four Schreiber assistant principals. The keys were given to them so that a student who shows sufficient

proof that he or she requires elevator assistance can be admitted onto the elevators between classes which require a change in floor. Sounds good, right?

Not quite. Waiting for or tracking down someone with a key between classes can perhaps be more lengthy or difficult for a handicapped student than actually walking up or down the staircases. In fact, one injured Schreiber student, after making an appointment to meet with the nurse between classes, was neglected and ended up walking down the stairs to a class. That same student, after explaining to Dr. Barish that walking the stairways is less arduous than searching for someone with a key, was particularly responsible for the reconsideration of the

elevator policy.

The upcoming changes in elevator policy are a prime example of the administration's sensitivity to student and faculty input. Under the new policy, the hall monitors will be given a set of keys to the elevator and will be required to stand near the elevator shaft between classes (following every even mod). These monitors will be responsible for checking student passes and helping them on and off the elevators as well. This new policy will unload some of the pressure from students who feel that they are burdening the nurse or an administrator by contacting them several times each day.

Not only will additional keys be given to hall monitors, but each department at

Schreiber will be given a key as well. This key will be available for teachers to borrow so that they can transport video machines and overhead projectors from floor to floor with ease.

One key per department would eliminate an unnecessary overproduction of keys and would ensure that the elevator not be abused by the Schreiber faculty.

The administration is to be commended for its prompt response to student complaints. The new elevator policy makes sense and should be instituted as soon as possible. Hopefully, these open lines of communication between administration and students will be available to deal promptly with problems in the future.

The Schreiber Times' Policy Statement 1991-92

As a high school newspaper, **The Schreiber Times'** primary purpose is to inform its readers of which events and issues affect Schreiber High School. **The Schreiber Times** will report all news accurately, honestly, and fairly. Preferential treatment will not be given to any party. The rights of all information sources will be respected, and any errors will be corrected quickly and prominently.

All submitted materials will be printed or not printed on the basis of their quality and significance, as determined by the editorial board. The editorial board reserves the right to print, refuse to print,

or return any submitted materials. **The Schreiber Times'** editorial board also reserves the right to edit any submitted articles.

Submitted letters to the editor will be printed if judged to be of sufficient quality and importance. Letters which are obscene or libelous will not be printed. Letters will be printed anonymously only at the discretion of the editorial board when it is necessary to do so to protect the writer. **The Schreiber Times** reserves the right to shorten lengthy letters without altering the meaning. Letters do not necessarily represent the views of **The**

Schreiber Times.

Editorials printed in this publication are the opinion of the editors-in-chief or of the majority of editors. If the situation warrants, minority editorials will be published. Editorials do not necessarily represent the views of the Port Washington Union Free School District.

Advertisements will not be published if they are deemed libelous or obscene, or if they incite criminal activity. Prices of advertisements are standard for all advertisers. Advertisements do not necessarily represent the views of **The Schreiber Times.**

In addition to publishing articles, letters, advertisements, and photographs, this newspaper serves as an open forum for debate and reader opinion. As such, **The Schreiber Times** is committed to the free expression of thought within the reasonable bounds of society. Attempts will be made to give equal coverage to all sides of an issue.

New policy will be established if the need arises. Unless such need does arise, **The Schreiber Times** will follow the policy that is described in this editorial, as well as the guidelines of common sense, reason, and good judgement.

Letters to the Editor

Arrested Student Objects to Harsh Punishment

How would you react if you came to school, only to find a hundred-foot-long plastic cow on the front steps? Pretty funny, right? A Volkswagen in the lobby? Pretty damn funny, if you ask me. A Chevrolet Chevette on the front steps? Suddenly, it's not so funny anymore. For this harmless prank, seven kids were arrested, suspended, and given ten mods of school service.

As a typical Schreiber student, I found the entire ordeal to be an outrage. The Schreiber administration was way out of line in handing out such an unreasonably harsh penalty. No damage was done to the school grounds, and no students were

physically endangered.

I can't blame everything on the administration, however. The Port Washington Police Department played a substantial role, chasing several minors about town. The police should not have to chase kids around to convince themselves that they are doing a real job.

As I see it, the whole situation was blown way out of proportion, and the seven students, as well as all students at Schreiber, have great reason to be outraged. A simple prank such as this does not deserve such harsh punishment. If certain parties believe that permitting simple pranks will lead to more destructive ones, they are wrong. Students at Schreiber have enough sense to avoid life-endangering and massively destructive actions.

This student was one of the seven seniors arrested for a prank on Wednesday, September 11. Name Withheld by Request

Gym Testing Unnecessary

During a recent gym (pardon me, physical education) class, my gym teacher (physical education instructor) announced that we would be doing Presidential Fitness Test training instead of the regularly scheduled badminton.

This is definitely one of the most inane ideas that I have heard in a long time. First of all, not many students take the actual Physical Fitness Test seriously, and therefore they will not benefit from Physical Fitness Testing practice. During this practice, I saw people do one pull-up and fall, or walk the shuttle run, and one student lit up a cigarette after walking the mile in fourteen minutes. Half of my class decided that they would rather be marked "unprepared" than run the mile on a cold Monday morning. I can't

understand how the gym teachers don't notice the lack of enthusiasm among their students or the lack of respect which they receive for subjecting students to such pointless activities. Perhaps they are just too bull-headed to pay attention.

At the beginning of each quarter, all of the students are given choices of several activities in which they supposedly will participate for the next ten weeks. Maybe I don't have the best memory, but I don't remember choosing Physical Fitness practice.

If gym were technically a real class, the grades earned in it would be calculated into students' G.P.A.s: The gym is supposed to be a place where students can relieve stress, get exercise, and learn values, such as teamwork. If the class doesn't count, why are the students always being tested? How am I supposed to obtain a sense of team work short of doing group pull-ups?

Jeff Pinsky

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VIKING SPORT SHORTS

GIRLS' VARSITY TENNIS

by Tom Harrington

The Girls' Varsity Tennis team began its season by beating its first two opponents handily before being trounced by Herricks. Coach Stan Makover is happy to have an experienced squad, including ten returning seniors.

Port's first match was played on September 16 against Locust Valley. The team blanked its opponent 7-0. On September 20, the team defeated Glen Cove by a score of 5-2.

The team then faced a battle for first place with Herricks. Port was defeated 6-1, with the third doubles team of sophomores Emmie Chen and Allison Gelman winning the team's only match.

According to senior Lisa Seslowe, "In the four years that I've been playing, this is the strongest team that I've played on yet." Makover believes that the team has the ability to "go all the way" this season.

GIRLS' X-COUNTRY

by Peter Weiss

Coached by former Olympian Bruce MacDonald for the fourteenth consecutive season, the Girls' Cross Country Track team is coming off a "successful" 11-2 season. This year, the team boasts its largest turnout ever with nineteen runners, including returning seniors Leigh Tomppert and Jess Wolk.

Port routed both Plainview and Uniondale by taking second through sev-

enth and ninth place in a meet on September 24. Junior Valerie Lincy placed the highest on the team with a second-place finish.

In its first meet of the season on September 21, Port won the Varsity B race at the Nassau Coaches meet, which included participants from Suffolk and Westchester. Junior Jen Langton's ninth-place finish was the best Port performance of the day. Langton commented, "Even though we race to win, we try to race in a group as a team. If we keep the unity within our team, we will be very successful in competition this season."

BOYS' JV SOCCER

by Abby Rosenberg

The Boys' JV Soccer Team, under the direction of eighth-year coach Mike Nocera, opened its season with a 1-2-1 league record.

In the season opener, Port tied Mephram 1-1, before losing 2-1 to Plainview JFK and 2-0 to Farmingdale.

Its first victory of the season was a 3-2 double overtime victory over Calhoun on September 20. The team trailed early in the game 2-0, but scored twice at the end of the first half to tie the score. After a scoreless second half, Port scored in overtime to get the win.

Coach Nocera believes that the key to the team's success is to communicate more on the field, and that such communication will come over the course of the season. The goaltending of freshmen Ken Helder and Jason Jurkowski has been the team's strength, and ball trapping is a pivotal weakness that has plagued the team all year long.

The team plays a difficult schedule in upcoming games, but Coach Nocera feels optimistic about the rest of the season.

GIRLS' VARSITY SOCCER

by Brett Bernstein

The Girls' Varsity Soccer team has started its season off slowly, dropping its first five games. According to Coach Stephanie Joannon, the team is relatively inexperienced, since eleven of the players are newcomers to the team.

Port's season opener was a grueling 3-2 loss to Long Beach on September 12. Junior co-captain Audrey Rosenberg and sophomore Amy Farkas scored the two Port goals. Senior goalie Renee Bauman, whose play and leadership has surprised Joannon, made 22 saves.

The next four games were not kind to the Vikings, who lost 7-0 to Locust Valley, 10-1 to Glen Cove, 10-0 to Malverne, and 6-1 to West Hempstead. Sophomore Tina Pavlak scored both of Port's goals over the four-game stretch.

Joannon believes that the team's strength lies in its spirit, which has remained extraordinarily high despite the five losses. Also, she hopes that there will be a dramatic improvement throughout the season's second half. "We're going to measure our season's success by the improvement in the second half of the season," said Joannon.

BOYS' X-COUNTRY

by Andy Kass and Alisa Mandel

The Boys' Cross Country Track team, led by twelfth-year coach Robert Acevedo, is one of the smallest ever. The ten-man squad consists of five returning veterans

and five new members. The team veterans include seniors Tim Dallesandro, Stewart Hsu, and Jim Vincent, and freshmen Peter Clusner and George Livingston, who ran last year as eighth graders.

Coach Acevedo believes that this year "will be a rebuilding [season]." Dallesandro, a four-year veteran of the team, feels that the team will succeed. "It's a small team, but all [are] hard-core members. We expect to have a great season."

The team's first meet of the season was the Nassau Coaches meet at New York Tech on September 21. According to Coach Acevedo, the freshmen runners had "an outstanding meet," with Clusner, Livingston, and Stephen Bartha all winning medals in the freshman/sophomore races. The veteran runners ran what Acevedo called "a fair meet, if you take into account that it's early in the season."

Port's freshmen again turned in a stellar performance on September 24 against Levittown, Hempstead, and Plainview at Eisenhower Park. This contest pitted the freshmen runners against upperclassmen for the first time.

"It is a young and inexperienced team," said Coach Acevedo. "If the young talent and the veterans could gel, we could be competitive."

GIRLS' FROSH TENNIS

by Archis Parasharami

The Girls' Freshman Tennis team, according to third-year coach Peter Travis, "is the best [that it has been] in three years." The coach cited Supinda Bunyavanich and Lori Goldstein as top players but added that "the entire team exhibits top quality, ability, and attitude."

According to Travis, the team's strengths are its training and proper form, though the it has little experience in match play.

Twelve to be Inducted Into Athletic Hall of Fame

by Brett Bernstein

The first twelve alumni athletes will be inducted into the Schreiber Athletic Hall of Fame during the halftime ceremony of the homecoming football game, which will be played as part of the Pride in Port Weekend festivities on Saturday, October 5.

The twelve inductees are G. Carl Seeber (deceased), Leo Costello (deceased), Noel Certain, Bill Cronin, John Fasano, Marcel Freeman, Ernie Jackson, Albert Jessen, Cris Kane, Christine Shea, Karen Skinner, and Alfred Whitney. They were chosen because of their athletic accomplishments at the high school, college, Olympic, and professional levels. For example, in 1947, Fasano won the coveted Thorpe award, which is awarded annually to the most outstanding football player in Nassau County. Shea set a national record in race-walking, and Skin-

ner was a state champion and record-holder in the 100-meter dash.

In addition to the halftime ceremony, the inductees will participate in the Pride in Port parade and in a private reception in their honor immediately following the game.

The idea for the High School Hall of Fame was originated by the Athletic Association of Port Washington and presented to Thomas Romeo, the district athletic director, in January. A steering/selection committee composed of Romeo, Frank Tomeo, Alfred Whitney, Daniel Biro, Stan Cutler, and Oscar Petersen had to decide upon twelve inductees from over 100 former athletes who were under consideration. The committee, in order to represent a cross-section of Schreiber athletics, chose former coaches, athletic directors, and athletes from different decades as the initial inductees.

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The Schreiber Times is looking for sportswriters to write articles for upcoming issues. If you like sports and enjoy writing, contact Brett Bernstein at the next general meeting at 3:05 on October 7.

Veteran Quarterback Browne Out for Season

by Greg Juceam

It was a scrimmage against Glen Cove on Saturday, September 7. The call for the option play came in from the sidelines. Senior quarterback Tim Browne took the snap and stumbled to the right as a defender knocked him off balance. As Browne fell to the ground, his stomach landed on the ball, and he felt an instant shortness of breath. The team's third-year veteran star had just ruptured his spleen, rendering him unable to play for the rest of the season.

The spleen, an organ which is protected by the lower left ribs, cleans the blood and helps to fight diseases. "When I fell, the ball went into my stomach, and it felt like the wind got knocked out of me," Browne stated. "I felt better after a minute and I wanted to go back in the game, but the coach thought that I should stay on the sidelines because it was only a scrimmage. It was a good thing that I didn't go back in, because the injury was

much more serious than I thought." Fortunately, after later analysis at St. Francis Hospital, it was concluded that Browne would not have to undergo surgery (unless he sustained further injury to his spleen).

As a result of his injury, Browne spent three days in the intensive care unit at St. Francis before returning home for two weeks' rest and further analysis by the New York Jets' physician, Dr. Elliot Pellman. According to Browne, "I felt very weak and became short of breath very easily, and it was very hard to eat, so I lost about twelve pounds ... I couldn't even ride in a car [because of the bumps]."

The injury, which will require rehabilitation, is not likely to affect Browne's physical ability to play on the varsity basketball and lacrosse teams. If he is able to compete, this winter will be Tim's third season playing for the basketball team, and it will be his second season on the lacrosse team. The injury also appar-

ently did not affect his standing in the minds of many college football coaches. Browne has talked to football coaches from Hofstra, Princeton, Yale, Rutgers, and Harvard, and in addition hopes to play college lacrosse.

In the meantime, Tim hopes that he can "help out the [football] team in any way [he] can." This will likely include his assistance in coaching during games. Commenting on his injury, Browne said, "I'm very lucky that the injury wasn't something as serious as a knee injury, where I'd be out the entire [school] year, but at the same time I'm sad that I have to sit out the football season after I worked

so hard during the summer. It was my best summer of conditioning, and the injury was a downer." Varsity football coach Joe DeGais further commented on Browne's injury, stating, "Losing Tim hurts. The team is going to lose his two years of varsity experience, but sometimes we all get dealt a bad break."

Tim would like to thank all of the students who visited him at the hospital and at home, because they helped to alleviate some of his discouraging feelings. Among the list of other well-wishers were former Pittsburgh Steelers great Mel Blount and ex-New York Giants Coach Bill Parcells.

Girls' JV Field Hockey

by Jodi Perelman

The Girls' JV Field Hockey team has started off its season with a 0-2-4 record, but Coach Joe Lederer is "very enthusiastic about the season."

Port tied Clarke 0-0 in its first game of the season on September 13. The team had apparently taken the lead on a goal by freshman Lorin Zarkin, but it was nullified by an offside call. The team suffered its first loss of the season 2-0 at the hands of Friends Academy. Port then tied league rival Oyster Bay 0-0 on September 20.

The team registered its third tie of the

season against Garden City, 1-1, on September 26. Sophomore Kim Checcia scored the lone Port goal. Port's second loss of the season was a 1-0 loss to Locust Valley on September 26. Freshman Caroline Heller commented that the score would have been much higher if not for the exceptional play of Peterson in net. Port tied Great Neck South 1-1 on October 1. Zarkin and fellow freshman Sarah Caban hooked up for the Port goal.

According to Coach Lederer, the team is concentrating on improving its offensive line. Through six games, the team has scored a meager two goals.

Freshman Soccer Canceled

by Brett Bernstein

Despite an ample turnout of players, the Boys' Freshman Soccer team has been canceled. The reason for the cancellation was the unexpected and sudden resignation of Coach Fred Yarosh one week before school opened. Coach Yarosh cited personal reasons as the main force behind his decision.

The decision to cancel the team came after a futile four-week search for a new coach by Athletic Director Thomas Romeo. According to Mr. Romeo, there were a number of applicants interested in the position, but none had or were willing to

learn the mandatory prerequisite of first-aid training.

The players who would have played on the freshman team have been offered a chance to try out for the JV team, but some, including David Arnold, do not believe that they are good enough to play on the JV team. "I was upset because I really wanted to play high school sports," said a dejected Arnold.

This is the third time in the past five years that there has not been a freshman team. The other two years were in 1987 and 1988, when the team was canceled because of a lack of freshman interest.

Boys' Varsity Football Opens Troubled Season

by Will Goldfarb

Despite a season's worth of problems before even playing its first game, the Boys' Varsity Football team headed into its season opener with enthusiasm. Despite a 7-0 loss to Plainview/JFK, second-year coach Joe DeGais looks ahead to a "fair" schedule with his relatively young and inexperienced squad.

The absence of starting quarterback senior Tim Browne will not be an easy thing for which to compensate, but DeGais feels the team will be able to make the necessary adjustments. Junior Scott Melvin has stepped in to fill the hole, and the coach is "very pleased" with his performance, citing his ability to run the option, which this year is an essential part of the Port offense.

On September 29, Port was defeated 7-0 at Plainview/JFK in its first game of the season. Two key interceptions hurt Port Washington. The first one stopped a Port drive, and the 31-yard return set up the lone score of the game. The second one halted a Port drive with just under four minutes to play to secure JFK's victory. Coach DeGais felt that senior Brian Lennon played pretty well on both of-

fense and defense, and senior Marcus Ramos and junior Henry Stanziale were capable on offense. Coach DeGais was pleased with Scott Melvin's play, and felt that he ran the option very well. DeGais stated that despite people playing out of position due to extenuating circumstances, the team gave a good effort.

For various reasons, many players from last year's team did not come out this season. In addition, starting senior Tim Caban fell victim to a subluxated shoulder. This will necessitate two-way playing for many players. The decreased senior leadership will be felt, but DeGais feels that senior captain Andy Bernstein will "lead by example" and that senior Jon Shields will assume a leadership position as well.

DeGais says that Port's offense is committed to the option and is capable of running it effectively. He feels that most defenses which the Vikings will face may be able to stop certain facets of the option game, but never the whole package. DeGais is also looking for commitment, positive attitude, and persistence, and he wants the team to stay together for the duration of the season.

Field Hockey Starts Undefeated

by Will Goldfarb

The defending Nassau County Class A Champion Girls' Varsity Field Hockey team has begun this season posting an undefeated 2-0-2 record.

The team was severely hurt by the graduation of last year's seniors, but it will compensate with a large team and key returning players from last season's squad. Juniors Stefanie Andors, Kristen Galvin, and Debbie Henderson all received All-Conference honors last season, and senior Jen Rodriguez and juniors Stefanie Abrams, Paula Palatella, and Dina Suh are among the other returning veterans.

Port played its season opener against Clarke on September 13. After falling behind 2-0 to Clarke, the Vikings came back with two goals of their own in the second half, and the game ended in a 2-2 tie. Galvin and Henderson contributed one goal apiece.

The team then fell victim to a come-from-behind effort by Oyster Bay on September 20, which ended in a 1-1 tie. Port's goal was scored by Galvin, of an assist by Henderson.

In its next game, on September 26, Port blew out perennial powerhouse Seaford 5-1. Suh began the onslaught with the first goal of the game. Galvin then added a hat trick, including two from the corner and one off of an assist by junior Barbara Tomeo. Tomeo then completed the scoring with her first goal of the season. Andors gave an all-star performance on defense.

In its most recent game, Port shut out Wheatley 3-0 on September 27. The game was scoreless at the half, but Port's persistent attack paid off. Suh scored two goals, and Galvin added the third. While the Wheatley goalie faced 24 shots, Port's defense did not allow one shot on net.

The team is well-balanced on offense, and the defense has been improving. Coach Bob Busby feels that the team's greatest strength is its depth. Although the team's main weakness is youth and inexperience, as the season progresses, improvement will be evident.

Coach Busby is pleased with the progress of the team and is looking for a run to the County Finals, with at least a conference title.

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References galore.

I have been a writer for national magazines for the last 15 years. I currently teach writing at Queens College.

Rebecca Rosenblatt Gilliar

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Boys' Varsity Soccer Rated Tenth in County

by Brett Bernstein

The Boys' Varsity Soccer Team, which finished last season ranked fifth in Nassau County, and was ranked tenth in Nassau County in a preseason coaches poll, is undefeated with a 3-0-2 record.

Port played last season in Conference III, but this year will play in Conference II. According to Coach Roger Winter, the top fourteen teams in Nassau County are in Conference I and II. He stated, "[In this conference] it's difficult just to be a survivor; if you have a winning record, that's a real accomplishment." The team will have to play without senior tri-captain Dave Caslow, who tore cartilage in his left knee during a practice and will be out for about three more weeks. Junior Eric Vanags has stepped into Caslow's spot and has earned himself the starting position at midfield. According to Winter, when Caslow comes back, he will have to re-earn his starting spot.

The team's first game was a non-league contest on September 7 versus Garden City, the seventh-ranked team in the county. Junior Emerson Vasquez scored on a breakaway in the first half, but Garden City scored midway through the second half to tie the game 1-1. Neither team scored in the two overtime periods, and the final score remained tied. On September 11, Port played against Cold Spring Harbor in its final non-league game. Cold Spring Harbor led 2-0 at the end of the first half, but Port rebounded in the second half. Port scored four unanswered goals before Cold Spring Harbor added a goal to make the final score 4-3. Senior tri-captain Elliot Aguilar had two goals, and senior tri-captain Matt Navarro and Vanags added one goal each.

Port's first league contest was against Mepham on September 13. Port and Mepham have an intense rivalry going, and Port-Mepham contests have been some of the most exciting games of previous seasons. Port won 1-0 on a goal by senior Sergio Ramirez, who from about eighteen yards out on the left side, chipped the ball into the right corner of

the net. Senior goalkeeper Frank Bartalotta played an outstanding game in net, making twenty saves, including five from point-blank range.

The team's next opponent was Farmingdale, which it played on September 16. Port-Farmingdale is another old rivalry that has at times become physical. Vanags opened the scoring when he headed in a corner kick by senior Mike Farasciano early in the first half.



Junior Chris Perez eludes the Plainview defense.

Farmingdale came back to tie the score 1-1, but Vasquez scored off of a pass from junior Mike Sanchez to once again give Port a one-goal lead. With less than five minutes to go in the game, Farmingdale scored to tie the score at two apiece. The teams played through two scoreless overtimes, and the final score was 2-2. Bartalotta provided the team with another stellar performance in goal, making 23 saves.

Port shut out Calhoun 2-0 for its second win of the season on September 20. Aguilar scored midway through the first half to give the team a 1-0 lead. The game went back and forth until there were ten minutes left in the game, when Vanags scored an insurance goal to make the final score 2-0.

Port took on Plainview/JFK in what was to be one of the most exciting games of the season on September 23. After the opening face-off, Vasquez passed the ball to Aguilar, who gave it back on a give-and-go pass. He dribbled downfield for about ten yards and blasted a shot into the upper right corner past the Plainview/JFK goalie. Aguilar and Vasquez hooked up again for Port's second goal late in the first half. Aguilar chipped the

beat Bartalotta with a shot on the ground. Port had two good scoring opportunities with less than three minutes left in the game, but the Plainview/JFK defense stepped up to the task and stopped each Port scoring chance.

With only thirteen seconds left in the game, Plainview/JFK kicked the ball out of bounds about ten yards from its end line, giving Port its final scoring opportunity. Vanags threw the ball in toward the middle of the goal where it bounced off junior Chris Perez's shoulder. The ball then rebounded off of a Plainview/JFK defenseman's elbow and headed into the left corner of the net past a stunned Plainview/JFK goalie with only six seconds left on the clock. After the game, an excited Vanags commented, "It's just one of those things. Even though we pulled out the tie, this taught us a lesson."

Port's next game was on September 25 against Island Trees. Port struck first when Perez chipped the ball to Vasquez, who tapped the ball by the Island Trees goalie. Island Trees scored late in the first half to tie the game at one goal apiece. Early in the second half, Aguilar scored off of a pass from Vasquez. He trapped the ball with his chest, and before it hit the ground, blasted it over the Island Trees goalie head. A few minutes later, Perez looped a left-footed chip past the leaping goalie. Island Trees scored one more time to make the final score 3-2. Both Island Trees goals came off of Port defensive miscues.

Coach Winter is happy with his team's success, but is not overly optimistic. "I feel that we're very good, we're winning, but [we] just haven't clicked yet." Bartalotta commented, "[The] team needs a lot more discipline." "[The team] has the talent to go all the way, but we must come together if we want to go anywhere," said junior Will Goldfarb. Navarro mirrored Winter's, Bartalotta's, and Goldfarb's comments when he said, "The team looks strong, but the only way we'll win is if we work together as a team." Winter doesn't expect a long wait before the team clicks, since the team is full of veteran players.

Girls' Varsity Volleyball Competes in Conference I

by Sam Nelson

The Girls' Varsity Volleyball team, coming off of last year's impressive 13-1 conference championship season, is currently 2-1 in league competition after being promoted from Conference II to Conference I, the toughest in Nassau County. Second-year coach Maria Giamanco hopes to "come out on top of the conference" this season. The squad is led by four co-captains: seniors Liz Coady, Kristen Jespersen, and Cheryl Sears, and junior Dorothy Katz. The team's key loss during the off-season was last year's team MVP and All-County honoree, Adriana Parra, who moved after the volleyball season ended. According to Giamanco, the key to success similar to that of last year's squad is "mental toughness, since every match will be tough."

Port began its season on September 7

in the East Meadow tournament. Despite the consistent play of the team's four captains, the team came in fourth behind East Meadow, MacArthur, and first-place Herricks. Coach Giamanco commented that although the tournament was "not very competitive," it was a stepping stone for the rest of the season.

Port's home opener was on September 16 against Plainview JFK. The team won 3-2 in a very exciting, passionate match. Coach Giamanco was extremely pleased with the team's spirit and drive, as the 90-degree heat created some "very intense conditions." Sears led the team with sixteen service aces, eight of which came in the first game. Junior Incen Hain, an exchange student from Germany, played consistently on both offense and defense.

The team's next challenge came in the

Northport tournament on September 20 and 21. In the round-robin play of the first round on Friday, Port finished first, thus achieving the top seed in the playoffs on Saturday. However, on Saturday, the team did not continue its winning ways as it lost to Smithtown West in the semifinals, 2-0. Coach Giamanco admitted afterward that the team did not play well on Saturday, but that the tournament offered "some of the best competition we face all year." Katz was honored for her performance by being named to the all tournament team.

The team's next game was a 3-1 victory over East Meadow at home on September 23. Katz led the offensive charge with fifteen kills, five blocked shots, and five aces. Sears also had five aces and added eighteen assists.

The team suffered a 3-1 defeat at the

hands of Herricks on September 25. Port's main problem was handling the ball coming over the net. Although the team managed to fight its way back into each game, it fell just short. The team got strong performances from Katz, with fourteen kills, Sears, with seven aces and 21 assists, and sophomore Kristina Shackel, with eleven assists.

While the promotion to Conference I is a source of concern for Coach Giamanco, she expects that notwithstanding the increased intensity of the higher division the team will do well this season. Giamanco is confident that the team possesses the ability to replicate last year's conference championship. Jespersen agreed with her coach's comments saying, "As long as we communicate and keep our intensity level high, there's no stopping us."