



The Schreiber Times

Paul D. Schreiber High School Port Washington, New York Volume XXXVIII, No.4

Wednesday, December 17, 1997

NEWS



Clubs paint cafe-teria windows, **Page 3**

FEATURES



Kaleidoscope pub-lishes its first quarter issue, **Page 9**

Centerfold



Students celebrate a variety of winter holidays, **Centerfold**

PLUS

Junior discusses anor-axia, **Page 5**

Feature on communica-tions workshop, **Page 13**

Scream 2 review, **Page 16**

Girls' varsity b-ball game coverage, **Page 18**

Latest sports statistics, **Page 19**

The choir, con-ducted by Phil Glover; concert band con-ducted by Mitch Lutch; and sym-phonc orches-tra, con-ducted by Joseph Mooney per-formed in the first of the winter concerts on Decem-ber 10. The second winter concert, featuring the chorus, ninth grade band, jazz band, sym-phonc band, and string orches-tra, will be held tonight in the audito-rium.



photos by Adam Schapp

Winter Concert II tonight

by Charles Albanese

From Beethoven to John Williams, from "Laudamus Te" to "The Gift to be Simple," Schreiber's musical students performed a varied and successful program on December 10. The second of the

winter concerts, tonight at 8 p.m., promises to be equally rich and exciting, with performers ranging from the jazz band to the orchestra.

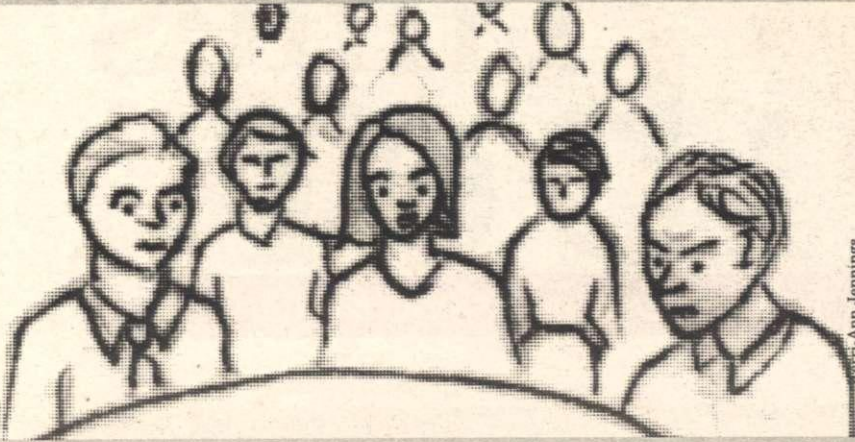
Winter concert one started off with the symphonic orchestra conducted by Joseph Mooney. The group began the concert with "Concerto, D minor, Opus 3, No. 3," by Michael Festing. Seniors Timothy Chung and Ji Young Ryu on violin, sophomores Shirley Cho and Christina Chung on cello, and sophomore Claire Lonetto

on viola all performed intense solos.

The second piece performed by the orchestra was "Symphony No. 4, B-flat Major, Op. 60," by Ludwig van Beethoven. Members of the concert band played alongside the string players during this

Continued on page 4

Board of Education Notes



November 18 meeting

Members present: Nancy Cowles, Sandra Ehrlich, Joseph Mirzoeff, Roy Nelson, Candy Rossette, Robert T. Scheer, Richard Sussman

Additional members: Superintendent Albert Inserra, Assistant Superintendent for Instructional and Human Resources Ann S. Israel; Assistant Superintendent for Business Lawrence D. Blake

Key issues: Board members discuss teacher advances according to existing Advanced Status Program; Superintendent reports on educational development throughout district; Board of Education Committee Reports give light to planning, personnel, facilities, and special education; Extra Assignments discussed; first steps taken in facility assessment program

Issues in-depth: The Advanced Status Program, in which teachers are given the opportunity to increase the number of credits they have and augment their salaries, continues to come under fire from the Board, which questions the legitimacy of the courses which teachers are claiming as relevant to their teaching and subject areas. A presentation was given to outline the procedure by which teachers are allowed to increase their status.

This presentation was given to define the specifics of the Advanced Status Program. The program has come under fire lately from the Board in conjunction with State Education Department complaints about certain accredited institutions from which teachers may take courses.

The architectural company Smith Ottaiano responded to Inserra's initial request for a district-wide facility assessment study. In a letter dated October 22, 1997, Ralph Ottaiano, the principal of Smith Ottaiano Architects, described his plans for the study. He stated that the primary focus of the work done would be to survey the following buildings for the purpose of documenting existing building conditions and establish a basis for a district-wide master plan: Schreiber High School, Weber Middle School, John Daly Elementary School, Guggenheim Elementary School, Manorhaven Elementary School, Sousa Elementary School, South Salem School, District Administration building, and Gate House Building at Guggenheim Estate.

The first part of the study will consist of a building survey. Each building will be examined with respect to its overall condition; lighting, heating/ventilation systems, and compliance with New York State Building Codes. The second part of the study is a feasibility study and the draft of a capital master plan. This phase will include meetings between the architects and district representatives. The third phase of the study will be the final report and presentation to the District Administrator and Board of Education.

—Charles Geizhals

PHOTO GALLERY



Sophomore Patti Ezratty's study in contrasts captures the essence of winter after a snowstorm. She took this photograph for her class with photography teacher Rocco Nofi.

News Briefs

Junior passes away

Junior Summet Chopra died of muscular dystrophy on December 6. Chopra was sixteen years old.

The disease, with which he struggled for many years, left Chopra physically handicapped. However, despite his physical condition, Chopra was able to pass all his Regents examinations last year.

Student Outreach, a student organization which helps critically ill students, donated Blockbuster gift certificates to Chopra every month.

—Christina Wei

ESL holds bake sales

Members of the International Club, along with advisor ESL teacher Ann Mingorance, held several bake sales recently, on November 18, 19, and 20, and on December 10 and 11, to raise funds for

a Native American reservation and for the rain forest.

The club held the November bake sales to raise money to purchase a propane heater for the Rosebud Sioux Reservation. The reservation is not receiving heating assistance as the result of federal budget cuts. The club raised enough money to help the Sioux purchase the ninety-dollar heater.

The proceeds from the December bake sales, which also featured hand-crafted jingle bells, benefitted Central American rainforests. The club raised enough funds to adopt an acre through the Nature Conservatory program.

As an added benefit, the bake sale provided the members of the club, who are mostly ESL students, with an American holiday tradition.

The International Club also held a bake sale in October to benefit AIDS pediatric at North Shore Hospital. The hundred dollars which the club raised will be used for a Christmas party for the

patients.

—Christina Kim and Matthew Ree

Clubs promote culture

The Culture Club, which was founded in order to celebrate diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds, may merge with the International Club to encourage the participation of ESL students in other clubs.

ESL teacher Ann Mingorance, the advisor of the International Club, and social studies teacher Eric Begun, advisor of the Culture Club, have been meeting to discuss what Mingorance calls "a blockbuster kick-off event." The event would be an International Festival, the details of which are forthcoming. The festival is tentatively scheduled for March, said Mingorance.

To further encourage the "celebration" of differences, the Culture Club is dis-

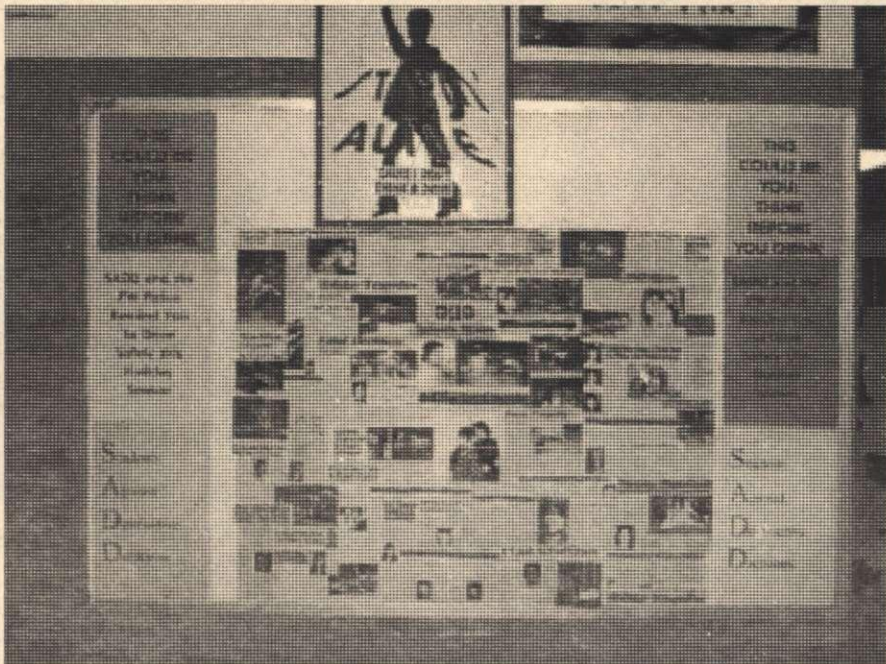
cussing events such as international nights. These nights would include student manned booths and would feature various foods and activities from a number of cultures.

Begun also said that a domestic exchange is another idea in the works. The domestic exchange would allow students to spend an evening at the house of another student (with a different ethnic and or cultural background), providing students with new experiences, such as celebrating a different holiday or eating a new food.

Begun says that the idea for the club was born out of a belief that there is not enough appreciation for diversity. "I just felt there was a need for people of different backgrounds to get together. We should honor our [differences] and not ignore them," Mr. Begun said.

The Culture Club meets every Friday morning in the Social Studies Resource Room.

—Jessica Kirstein



Photos by Kate Pedatella

MADD panel speaks to drivers' education and health students

Posters such as these, created by students in drivers' education classes, were designed to show students the dangers of drunk driving. On December 16, Mothers Against Destructive Decisions (MADD) members addressed students in the auditorium. The members described to the students stories of how they had lost sons or daughters because of drunk driving. Students were allowed to ask questions of the members. All students enrolled in drivers' education were required to attend, with severe penalties imposed on students who cut the assembly.

-Charles Geizhals

Clubs paint cafeteria windows

by Jennifer Chung

The Student Council sponsored the annual window painting jamboree, which took place after school on December 11.

Various clubs, including Aids Awareness, Amnesty International, the four class clubs, Drama Club, GAA, HRC, International Club, Key Club, Latin Club, Leaders Club, Model Congress, Port Light, S.A.F.E., Schreiber Musicians Organization, Student Council, and Student Outreach gathered to paint the cafeteria windows. The students decorated the windows to celebrate the holiday season. The S.A.F.E. window depicted ways to conserve energy with the words "Reduce, Reuse, Replant." The Key Club's window portrayed the club's distinct cause by painting an ill child in bed surrounded by other children. The Latin club depicted the birth of Rome in its holiday window.

The band Ag Surfer provided entertainment while the students painted. This fledgling band consisted of juniors Marco Castro, Michael DiBenedetto, and Aaron Shkuda. The trio unveiled its holiday zeal by playing "Hava Nagila" and "Jingle Bells." The students enjoyed the inspirational festivity of Ag Surfer.

All participants were able to show their artistic talent as well as their devotion to each club. Despite Schreiber's customary lack of school spirit, the window painting jamboree was an event in which many students participated.



Photos by Andrew Bond

Student club members painted windows representing their clubs in the cafeteria for the holidays on December 11. The holiday celebration was festive and colorful.

Student Council holds pasta party

by Jennifer Chung

The Student Council hosted a pasta party instead of its usual Share the Seasons Supper in the Schreiber cafeteria on December 11.

The event commenced with a performance by the United States Blues Corporation (USBC), winners of last year's Battle of the Bands. The band consisted of seniors Jon Braman, Chris Coady, and Jeff Solomon, junior Peter Squires, and sophomore Matt Gewolb. The Jazz Band, under the direction of Mitch Lutch, made

an unexpected appearance and performed after USBC played.

The food staff served pasta, salad, garlic bread, food, and refreshments. Members of the Student Council hosted the feast and raffled off prizes throughout the evening. The prizes included various gift certificates, a dancing coke can, sneakers, gas cards, an electric hairbrush, and a free pizza.

The Student Council offered twenty dollars to anyone who would dance while USBC played. Unfortunately, this incentive was not enough to convince any of the students to dance.

Principal Sid Barish and most of the grade administrators attended the pasta party.

DIANE'S-PLACE

10% off for all students!



Open Tues-Sun 10-6
Thurs. Until 9
(516) 767-3834

191 Main Street
Port Washington, NY 11050

Winter Concert

Continued from front page

number. This piece started off slow and mysterious but turned light and fast near the end.

The woman's ensemble performed next under the direction of Phillip Glover. The ensemble's first song, "Siyahamba," a traditional African piece arranged by Doreen Rao, was enriched with the gentle humming and body movements of the singers. Following "Siyahamba" was "Laudamus Te," taken from Antonio Vivaldi's *Gloria*.

The choir began its program with the song "Alleluia," written by Randall Thompson, a twentieth century composer. Next came John Wilbye's "Flora Gave Me Fairest Flowers." This is an old song which expresses admiration and love among young people.

"Gloria in Excelsis," from *Gloria*, was the first piece the chamber singers performed. The group proceeded to sing "Break Forth O Beauteous Heavenly Light," from Johann Sebastian Bach's Christmas Oratorio.

A change of pace came when the curtain opened once more, and the au-

dience got a view of the concert band. Made up of approximately fifty people, the band began its program with "Symphonic Circus March," by Timothy Rhea, a professor at Texas A & M University. This style of music was reminiscent of an afternoon at the circus.

The next song was Larry D. Daehn's, "As Summer Was Just Beginning," written in memory of the famous actor James Dean who died in a car accident in 1955. Daehn had stated earlier in a telephone interview, "...this simple bittersweet song about a summer seemed appropriate for remembering James Dean."

John Zdechlik's *Chorale and Shaker Dance* was the concert band's next piece. Bands have frequently played this familiar tune ever since its premiere at the Music Educators National Conference in 1972. Last but not least came a very familiar song, the theme from *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, by John Williams and arranged by Jack Bullock.

Winter concert two will feature the symphonic band, jazz band, chorus, and string orchestra.

Smith Barney teaches financial aid

by Jessica Kirstein

Smith Barney held two sessions of the Young Investor's Initiative financial programs designed for students and their families. The programs took place on December 4 and December 8; a third will be held on December 17.

Smith Barney paid for the sessions, and Smith Barney vice-president Dee Walker ran and organized the sessions with the help of social studies teacher Dan Biro.

The company designed the sessions

to be an introduction to the "language of investment." Walker covered topics such as investments, stocks, bonds, funds, planning for college expenses, and budgeting. According to Biro, Walker did "a fabulous job and is a fine teacher in every respect." In addition, Walker answered questions posed by audience members.

Biro explained that the program is an important learning process for everybody. He said that as an economics teacher, he could see the importance of the program. Biro added that he chose to participate in the program because such knowledge is important.

Hispanic Program honors seniors

by Jessica Kirstein

The College Board named seniors Eric Knight and Natalia Seligson finalists in the National Hispanic Scholar Recognition Program.

The Board designed the program to recognize outstanding Hispanic students. Students declare themselves "Hispanic" when they take the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) to enter the contest.

Semi-finalist and finalist status is based on PSAT scores and other evidence of academic achievement. Knight and Seligson are two of 3,000 program finalists. Both have advanced from an original field of 120,000 students.

Knight said of his achievement, "It is a great honor, and I'm very proud to be chosen."



Seniors Eric Knight and Natalia Seligson

Saturnalia is a success

by Lucas Hanft

Latin students attended Saturnalia, a Schreiber tradition for many years, on December 16.

The students celebrated the ancient holiday in honor of Saturn, the Latin god of the harvest and of the universe whose son, Zeus, kicked him off of Mount Olympus. The students came dressed in togas and bringing food.

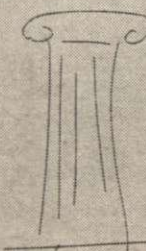
Although Saturnalia is a long standing tradition, this year's festivities were different from those of previous years. Although many classic activities of past Saturnalias, such as the story-telling competition and the Mr. and Ms. Rome contests, were among the festivities, there were some new games added to this year's celebration. Among these new games were Coke and Pepsi, a song contest, and a relay race.

Furthermore, the judging system has

been changed. In addition to the panel of judges common to the Saturnalia celebration, which includes Dr. Sid Barish, and Latin teacher Ruth Haukeland, asked former Schreiber Latin students to oversee the proceedings.

However, some events of the evening which will perhaps never be eliminated are the movies shot by the students themselves based on Roman history. One of this year's films was *Spartacus*, named for the leader of a slave revolt in Rome. This production featured a *Spartacus*, portrayed by junior Peter Schrier, who can act. Another page shown was the senior class's version of *Iphigenia*, starring Kay Schneider in the title role.

Latin students always seem to have a terrific time at this joyous occasion. Sophomore Jeff Klein commented, "It's so fun, I don't want to leave!" According to sophomore Dan Kay, "It's the best thing we do in Latin all year." Indeed, Saturnalia was a great success.



Kristi Ann Jennings

AP chemistry students help Girl Scouts

by Charles Geizhals

Thirteen students from Al Pollakusky's Advanced Placement chemistry class spent time at Hofstra University demonstrating chemical reactions to young Girl Scouts about science on November 22.

Chemistry teachers throughout Nassau County organized the trip to Hofstra in conjunction with National Chemistry Week. The afternoon focused on encouraging young women to become interested in the sciences.

Schreiber volunteers helped the Girl Scouts with a variety of laboratory experiments. The labs dealt with primary colors and the combining of primary colors to make secondary colors. The girls made "oobleck" from corn starch and water, designed necklaces which shine in ultraviolet light, and turned ordinary pennies into "gold."

In addition to helping the students with the labs, the volunteers also did demonstrations of basic chemical reactions.

The students who participated were seniors Dori Brill, Carolyn Chang, Tim Chung, Isaac Dinner, Christina Enscoe, Susan Graser, Victor Kim, Eric Knight, Wei-Jei Liao, Sae Byul Moon, Melanie Olszewski, Vishal Verma, and Catarina Wolmar.



AP chemistry students (l-r) seniors Wei-Jei Liao, Susan Graser, Catarina Wolmar, Dori Brill, and Eric Knight prepare to perform chemical reactions for one hundred fifty Girl Scouts.

How skinny is too skinny?

Junior examines the growing problem of eating disorders

by Bernard Pollack

Everybody wants to be beautiful and desired. Everybody wants to look sexy, and everyone wants to feel beautiful. Some do sit-ups, run, diet, or some even take themselves for who they are. The competition out there to look like the beautiful people who control our T.V.s, magazines, movies, and lives is fierce.

My question to you is: what is too skinny? How do you know when to stop? I have never had an eating disorder myself, but I had to experience someone very close to me going through one.

It is a fact that one in four Americans weighs more than the suggested weight for his or her age and height and that ninety three percent of Americans say that, if they could change something about their physical appearance, they would.

Why are we so fixated with the idea that we have to be laser-thin and beautiful all the time? We think that beauty is the only reason someone would like us, but we're wrong. The world has a major problem which is rarely addressed and yet at one point in our lives affects each and every one of us. Something as important as this should be spoken about by politi-

'We think that beauty is the only reason someone would like us, but we're wrong.'

cians and should be learned about in school. It is the root of anorexia. I'm speaking of loneliness. I'm speaking of the feeling that you're simply not good enough to fall in love or get someone to pay attention to you.

When I first saw Rachel (fictitious name to protect her identity), she was like a vision. She was sitting on the grass in a park where I happened to be skateboarding. She stood out among her seven friends. She had long, dyed, red hair and

ripped clothes. I saw her wonderful eyes and lips which at that moment I couldn't even dream of kissing. I thought I had no chance. She was just too perfect, and I just figured

that she knew it. There was just something about her that blinded me, and I took a chance and asked for her number. She gave it to me. This is where my story begins.

I was crazy about her; she was an incredible person. She was a poet, a romantic, and when we were together, time stood still. She lived so freely. As others were hiding from the rain, she was dancing in it. And I was happy. I thought everything was perfect and that life was as good as it gets.

She was the last person I would have suspected of

being anorexic. She wasn't the type who hung around malls and obsessed over everything she ate. I hadn't really seen her eat a lot, but I hadn't though much about it. By that November, however, she was becoming really skinny, so I talked to her about it and she told me nothing was wrong.

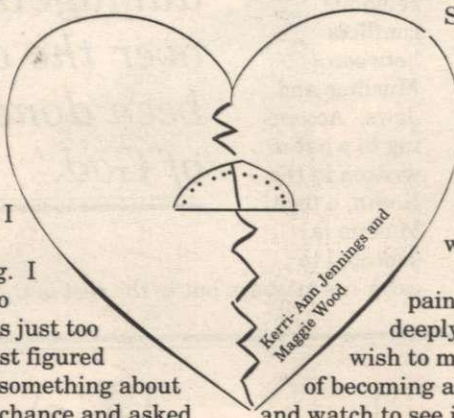
But I knew better. And even though everything seemed fine, we began to drift apart.

Suddenly things weren't as good. I felt like she was always hiding something, and it hurt me that she didn't trust me enough to tell me. But I guess she was feeling the same way, as we both found ourselves single shortly after.

Well, I don't want to discuss what happened afterwards.

I'm not ready to write about the pain of watching someone I care for deeply become so sick. But the point I wish to make clear is that anybody is capable of becoming anorexic. So look out for your friends and watch to see if their diets have gone too far.

Beauty comes from within. It shines like a light from inside of us. Physical beauty is only temporary. We all long to feel accepted and wanted, but sometimes we must make an extra effort to see past a face and be touched by a heart. And remember to look out and watch over your friends because anybody can be the victim of an eating disorder. Try to be open-minded towards other people. In any case, just remember that we're all beautiful in our own ways.



The top of the world -a deadly view?

by Chris Coady

Two men and one woman huddle together in a useless attempt to keep their core body temperatures from diving below eighty-five degrees Fahrenheit.

All three, unable to walk, blinded by snow, strain for every breath at an altitude in which air is virtually nonexistent. A white light, a tunnel almost, appears in the sky. All of the climbers are prepared for death. The white light grows clearer and finally emerges from the storm visible above the hooded head of another man who is faced with a decision. He can carry only one person back to base camp; anyone left behind will die. He chooses the man in best breathing condition, knowing that if he tried to save any of the others instead, they would die of suffocation because their lungs were growing too weak to breathe.

In two weeks, the death of the man and the woman left behind, as well as the deaths of others on this ill-fated expedition, would be mourned across the world. *TIME* magazine would have a cover page article about it. The story would be plastered everywhere on the web. There would even be a TV movie made about it to join in the world's mourning.

The facts are these. Eight climbers paid \$60,000 to climb Mount Everest. Sandy Hill Pitman, one of the clients of Rob Paul, a Himalayan mountaineer, had climbed at these altitudes for only four years. She had already completed five of the seven highest Himalayan

summits. She also paid for a personal Sherpa to carry her satellite communications and other personal equipment past base camp on Everest to the following camps.

As a result, this Sherpa grew too tired to fix the necessary gear and caused a two hour back-up on the technical climbing face of Everest, the Hillary Step. As time passed on, a traffic jam of three expeditions met at the base of the Hillary Step, all planning on climbing to the summit in the same day. Mistakes were made; eight people died.

These eight people, three of whom had never been at this altitude before, all of whom who were not prepared to leave the summit behind after paying \$60,000, died and were mourned. Children gawk in front

of their television sets as actors portray these tragic events. Parents of boy scouts begin to have second thoughts as their sons walk out the door for a seemingly safe weekend in the woods. Teachers ask questions about what their students have heard on the news about this event, only to satisfy their own desire to hear the details.

In a smoky bar in New Paltz, a group of five men shares memories of a lost climbing partner. Fortunately for these men, they have heard nothing of the Everest incident. The memory they

mourn is that of their friend Scott who died while attempting to climb the third pitch of Foops Direct, a climbing route at the Gunks. Scott, a young bachelor with a mother who had always been skeptical of his climbing "habit," left only a beat-up van and a sleeping bag which his friends soon gathered as keepsakes. As the world cried for Everest, the bar in New Paltz cried for Scott. Nobody would know of this climbing accident except for the doctors in the emergency room, the men in the bar and, of course, Scott. The contrast

between this tragedy and the recent Everest incident exemplifies what is wrong with the state of mountaineering.

Scott had years of experience climbing in the Shawagunk Mountain Range, just south of New Paltz on Route 55. It was the challenge which excited Paul.

Scott could climb the same route on Shockley's Ceiling one hundred times and never grow tired of it because he was outside, working his muscles sore, and loving his surroundings. When accidents happen, they are tragic. Scott's fall on Foops Direct was heart-breaking, but Scott did not die because he was not prepared for the stress of the route. Paul did not die because he thought the summit, the success of the climb, the glory of completion were the only rewards for his work. Scott died through no fault of his own.

'Since [Mount Everest] was first climbed, it has been covered in empty oxygen bottles, old food packets and human excrement.'

Anybody with enough money can climb Mount Everest. If you don't believe me, have a fund-raiser, get \$60,000, and call up the Chinese Consulate. I have given up on Everest. There's no point in arguing for it anymore. Since it was first climbed, it has been covered in empty oxygen bottles, old food packets and human excrement. What I worry about now is that the tragedy of Everest is spreading.

Mt. Rainier in Washington and Mt. McKinley in Alaska are now under threats of similar consequence. Hundreds of groups of Americans with no climbing experience are attempting to climb these peaks with trustworthy guides. Name the right price and some Australian hunk twenty years your junior can get your behind hauled up Mt. McKinley in Alaska's Denali National Park.

Even people who have climbed for one or two years become overconfident of their own as well as their guides' physical and mental abilities. Most of these people are middle-aged men and women who believe climbing to the roof of the world will reverse the aging process. This is not true. My advice to these people exploiting the summits of the world is this: take eight years (you're very healthy people, don't worry about getting old) and climb for the joy of climbing! Learn the skills involved. Learn how to let go of a summit if it is too far away.

You can never be too old to climb a mountain, but if you are fifty and you've never seen an ice-ax before, you may be too young.

Religion causes too much bloodshed

Student encourages more open-mindedness about various religions

by Sorjyo Mukherjee

If we could eliminate all religions, the world would be a better place. This is a radical idea, to be sure, but it is painfully obvious that much of the damage done by people over the centuries has been done in the name of God.

There have been people in every religion who have regarded themselves as arbiters and enforcers of truth. Acting in extreme ways, these people have even ended up putting the lives of others at risk. Many religious conflicts and tragedies can be attributed to misinterpretation and intolerance.

People's minds should be open to new beliefs. However, whether they choose to accept them or not varies

according to each individual's point of view. The Middle East, often referred to as a "powder keg," is a place where many tragedies have taken place in the last few years. A great part of the problem involves religious conflicts between Muslims and Jews. According to what is written in the Koran, a true Muslim is expected to carry his message out to the rest of the

world. It is a shame that in order to do so, some groups have adopted the use of force in the form of jihad, or holy war.

'...it is painfully obvious that much of the damage done by people over the centuries has been done in the name of God.'

Going back at least to the time of the Crusades, what began as a simple article of faith has all too swiftly become a fanatical campaign to establish and ensure the dominance of one set of beliefs over another. By taking a close look at the origins of

Christianity, one can understand that religious conflicts are anything but current events. As Christianity continued to grow and expand, the Romans made the religion an object of persecution.

It is important to mention that over the centuries, the followers of Christianity were not the only ones who were persecuted and tortured. The period known as the Holocaust refers to the time when millions of Jews were killed, primarily by the order of Nazi leader Adolph Hitler. His system of government, which gave him virtually absolute power, reflected the totalitarian government originated by the theory of divine right. According to this theory, a ruler receives his/her power from God, and consequently, his/her autonomy should not be questioned.

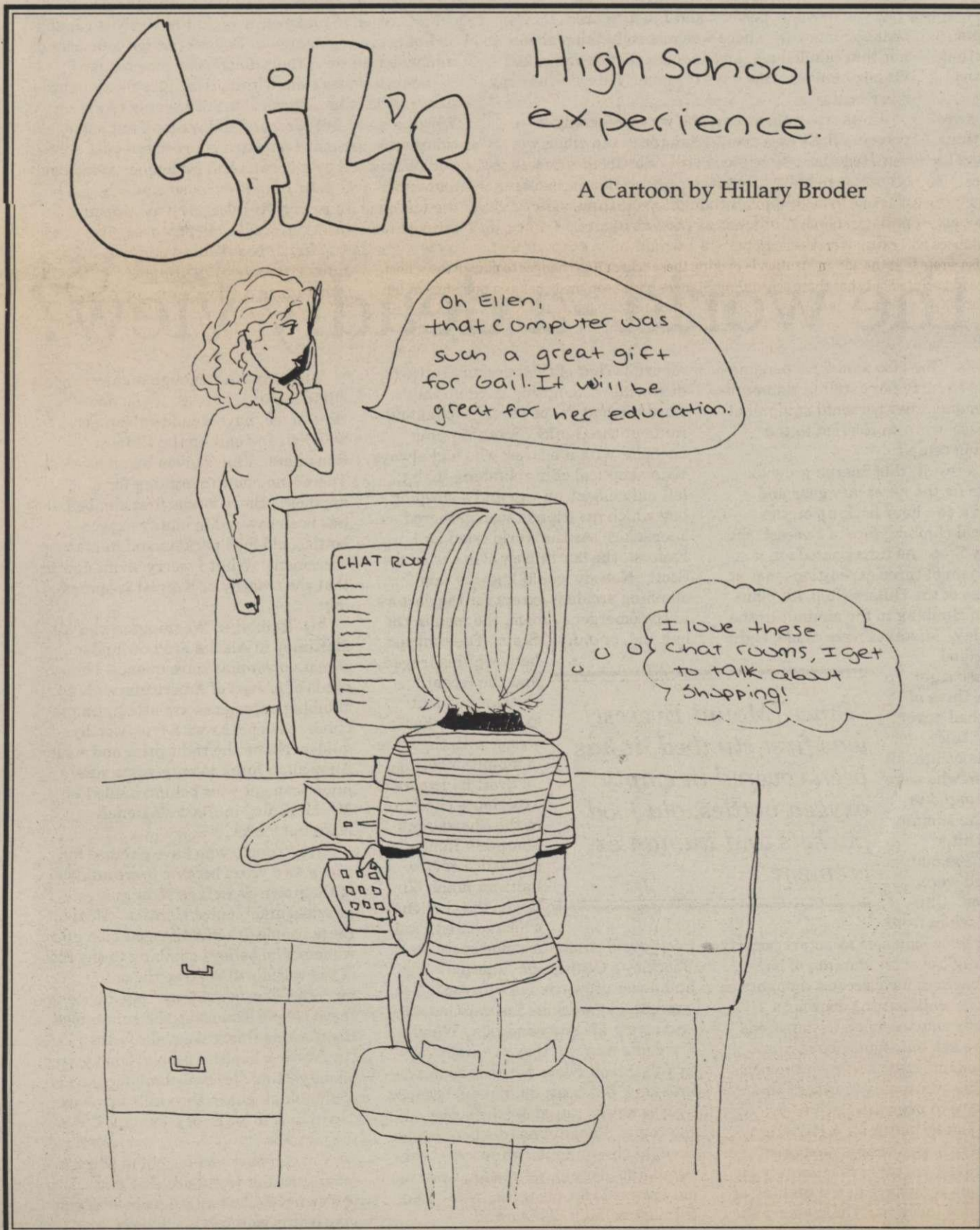
Furthermore, religious intolerance was the main factor which caused the Crusades to become such a tragedy. "God wills it!" was the battle cry of the

'It becomes apparent that a solution for religious conflicts will be reached only when the followers of each religion understand that there is no one correct God or only one set of beliefs.'

"God wills it!" was the battle cry of the thousands of Christians who joined the Crusades. However, it is not reasonable to consider Jesus responsible for all of the things which Christian churches or individual Christians did later in his name. Jesus would obviously have disapproved of many of those things. For example, the religious wars between various Christian sects, as well as the persecutions of the Jews, are in such obvious contradiction to the attitudes and teaching of Jesus that it seems entirely wrong to say Jesus inspired them.

All humans should be born having equal rights. Based on this concept, the Islamic doctrine that ensures salvation only to a true Muslim should certainly be questioned since it excludes the possibility of a non-Muslim reaching heaven after life on earth. Limitations and restrictions generally cause divergence due to the fact that a certain group of individuals is being automatically omitted from something which is desired by all.

It becomes apparent that a solution for religious conflicts will be reached only when the followers of each religion understand that there is no one correct God or only one set of beliefs. No religion is superior to another. All should be respected since each follows a different path in order to reach a common goal.



E-MAIL UPDATE

Schreiber Times's Staff,
The Schreiber Times Online is a terrific service and very well done! I am an Alumni ('74) and moved out of Port Washington after graduating. I don't visit very often, but this takes me back.

I guess I shouldn't be surprised to see coach Winter still there and even less suprised to see him still winning. I was on his team when we were county champs in '74.

Good luck and keep it up,
Kent Chamberlain

To the Editors:

I really, really miss Port (and the rest of New York). I can't wait to come home and see the town and visit everyone at Schreiber. I heard that we got a sandwich bar in the cafeteria this year.

See you soon,
Victoria Pellaton

To the Editors:

Great site. It's been a few years since I've walked the halls of Schreiber, and this page brings it back a little bit.

Keep it up,
John Cina

To the Editors:

My favorite memory of Schreiber would probably be the '95 talent show. The EDS rap group should have placed. They were terrific with their original written lyrics.

I would like to thank Mr. Bocarde, Ms. Angelo, Mr. Gutlerner and Mr. Begun for staying on my case about graduating when nobody else seemed to show that they cared. I owe a lot to all of you.

The Schreiber Times looks like it hasn't missed a beat since I left.

Keep up the work,
Jaquel Moore

Correction box

In the November issue of the Schreiber Times, the entire list of the founding members of the Schrubbers was not printed. The following list contains the names of the founding members of the organization:

- Naomi Beckley
- Bob Bracken (representative to Residents for a More Beautiful Port Washington)
- Joan Dykes
- Edna Eagle
- Colleen Newell (chairperson, 1991-1995)
- Joyce Shapiro

To the Editors:

I am writing this letter in response to an article published in the Opinions section of the November 19 issue of the Schreiber Times entitled "Scheduling changes not needed." The author of this article makes many false assumptions that I have heard students present in opposition to the proposed scheduling changes. Before I respond to the specifics of her article, I would like to point out that I have been living with this current scheduling system approximately three and a half years. I was also a member of the scheduling committee that decided to make these changes.

The author begins her article by saying that she sees no need for the scheduling changes. The need is, in fact, very real. Our current scheduling system does not work "fine." I have been living with it long enough to have experienced almost all of its problems. Firstly, students often have conflicts with other classes. To a teacher or a student this doesn't make sense; how can a student be expected to be in two places at once? It's not fair to the teacher to have a student missing from his or her class due to a conflict nor is it fair to the student to be responsible for the work in the class he or she is not present for. I have experienced this for every year of high school, and it is not pleasant to deal with. This year, I have a full conflict with gym because of band and programming. The proposed scheduling change makes it virtually impossible for a conflict to occur.

Secondly, students often do not have a chance to eat lunch. This also does not make sense. Everyone should be able to eat lunch by having at least twenty-five minutes off even if they are taking the maximum number of classes.

Thirdly, students often do not get the class choices they request. This also happened to me every year. Under the new schedule, it becomes much easier to get the classes you want. At the assembly for the students, the scheduling committee demonstrated how enrollment in many electives increased. There are more problems with the current system but these are three of the more prominent issues.

The author continues in the next paragraph to say that the cutting of classes will increase because of the longer length of classes. She says that the reason why people cut classes now is because they cannot bear to sit through them. I don't think that this is the reason why people cut classes. Maybe they don't want to sit through the class, but they may also need to go smoke a cigarette or buy lunch from the deli. The only reason that the longer classes will cause more cutting is if students use rebellion to the scheduling changes as an excuse for cutting. Otherwise, people will cut classes for the same reasons they do now. I do not think an extra fifteen minutes will cause increased cutting.

She also wrote that the administration is making these scheduling changes to punish the school. I have already pointed out that these scheduling changes have been made not as a punishment but rather as an improvement to the old system. The two scheduling systems are not that much different from each other except that the new system remedies many problems. However, the new system is not a panacea and should not be thought of as one. There are problems with every scheduling system but this is one that was chosen by the scheduling committee, not just the administration, as a replacement for the current scheduling system.

Her last argument is that overcrowding will be a major concern during the designated lunch time. However, it was shown that there are times in our current schedule when just as many students have off for lunch and do not chose to eat lunch in the cafeteria. The new designated lunch time does not have to be used for lunch; it's just giving those with no time to eat lunch a chance to do so. Room 140 was only the only suggested room number for a study and eating area. However, it is not necessarily the one that will be used. Plus, the author wrote, "... what would happen if your lunch period was during a science class which needed room 140?" This would obviously not happen. There are only two lunch periods, and I assume that the administration would make sure that the room designated would not conflict with a class.

The author concludes by saying that we should modify the mod schedule. All the new schedule does is make each class three mods long. We never considered reverting to a block schedule nor did the committee ever feel that the school could ever use block scheduling.

In conclusion, our current scheduling system is like an old shoe. Although it feels very comfortable to wear everyday, it is also ridden with holes and stinks. I think the students need to try on this new pair of shoes before they make assumptions about how it will feel to wear.

-senior David Austerweil

Don't buy Chinese.

Over the next few weeks, many of us here at Schreiber are going to be buying gifts for our family, friends, or maybe even ourselves. But what if we were to tell you that in buying a certain gift during the holiday season, you are all fundraising to help support a cruel regime? The Chinese government kills its own citizens for extra body parts while not granting any rights to those it keeps alive. It has killed one in every six people (1.2 million) in Tibet, a country which it has illegally occupied for the past forty years. China is in violation of almost every human rights law passed by the United Nations.

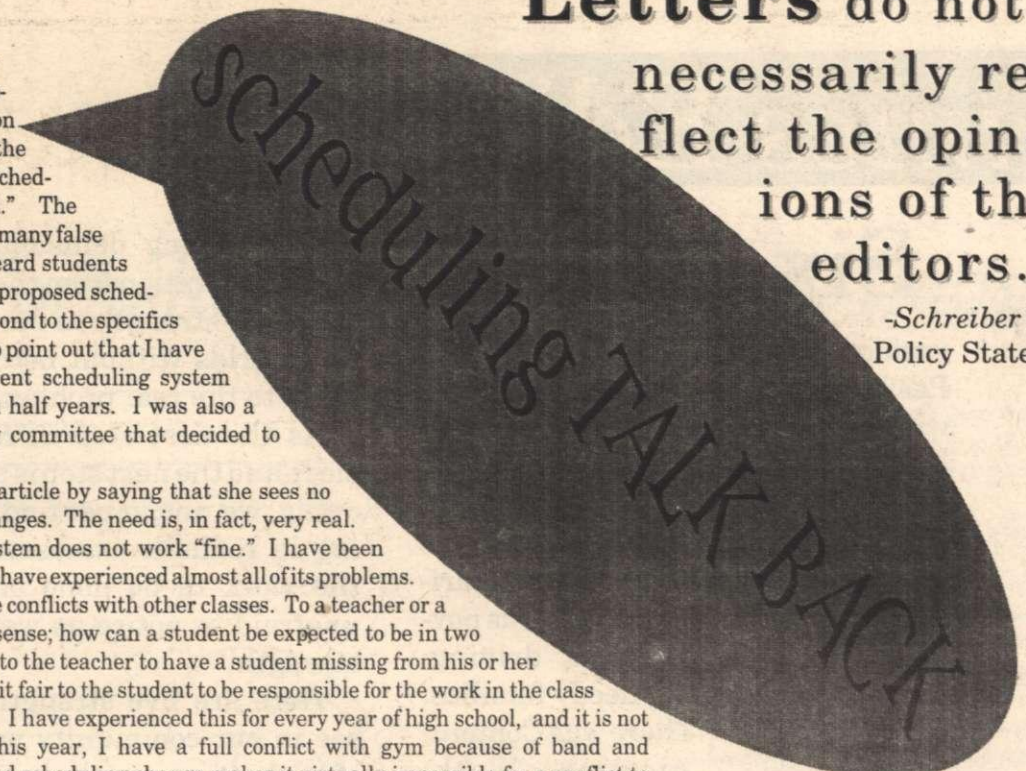
You would probably like to know how you could stop helping this inhumane government. Moreover, when you buy goods produced in China, you are buying goods made by slave labor. Many Chinese workers do not get paid at all and work at least eighteen hours per day in terrible conditions.

The only way to stop the Chinese government from exploiting its people is to stop buying goods which come out of China. Take a second to see where the item you are buying is made. When you see the stamp "made in China," think about the pain and suffering the people who made that toy go through on a daily basis. This holiday season, please shop with your heart.

-junior Justin Kalifowitz

Letters do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editors.

-Schreiber Times Policy Statement, 1997.



To the Editors:

Although I personally am not one to grace the Schreiber stage, I find it quite disturbing that those who want to do so can't. The winter drama, *Lost in Yonkers*, by Neil Simon, has only seven parts, three female and four male. One of the parts calls for a thirteen-year old boy. The role was given to a Weber student who "looks" the part, leaving the Schreiber thespians only six parts.

There are so many talented students at Schreiber that to pick a show with so few parts seems unfair. Last year's winter drama, *Our Town*, by Thornton Wilder, had about twenty-five parts, giving all students a fair chance. And last year, there were still many gifted students without parts. While some students grieved over not receiving a big part, most were still in the show. This year, students grieved again; not because they did not get big parts but because they didn't get any parts.

Students do their best at auditions. Most of the time, they are satisfied with getting any role. Schreiber is not Broadway and the shows do not have to be perfect. The directors do have to give students an opportunity to gain the experience of participating in the theater.

Students didn't have that opportunity this year with *Lost in Yonkers*. Students were either in or out. If the director had selected a show with more parts, many more students could have shared their talents with us. There are many dramas with lots of roles, so why choose *Lost in Yonkers*?

-sophomore Beth Hollander

Lost in Yonkers limits thespians

Times Editorial

Six days before

various clubs joined in the Paint and Pasta Party, one senior went home with a bloody nose after being punched in the face by another senior who believed he was defending himself. There were coat drives and food drives and MADD campaigns against various community problems such as poverty, drunk driving, and needy families.

There was Communications Workshop held on body image, to combat growing problems such as anorexia and bulimia. Detention continues to be as consistently attended as any afterschool activity.

Thus, we at Schreiber usher in the holiday season. Vacation is in three days, and we at *The Schreiber Times* would love to be able to offer a hearty, "happy holidays" with full assurance that your holidays will be happy, peaceful, and fulfilling.

How can we offer such a cheery season's greeting without appearing to overlook the various problems which persist in our school and community? How can we come into a season designed for celebration, rest, and inspiration with such a long list of open, unaddressed, even unrecognized wounds and cries?

Certainly we are in need of healing. We have been long in need of rest. Yet a true wish of happy holidays is also a wish that the work continue, a wish that the hard work being done to dress our open wounds, untangle our tangled, at times violent, feuds, and realize the strength in our diversity be continued in earnest.

In our rest we also need to have some hope. Is it possible to be hopeful

without being delusional, to draw inspiration from the richness and strength in our lives and worlds without becoming blind to the real problems?

As the first step in rest is sleep and the next step is awakening, we, too, must find healing in realistic assessment of the work to be done and be unafraid to notice as well our strength.

Here are five strengths we see in our community worthy of celebration over the holidays, strengths which need to be protected and appreciated continually. With these we say, "happy holidays."

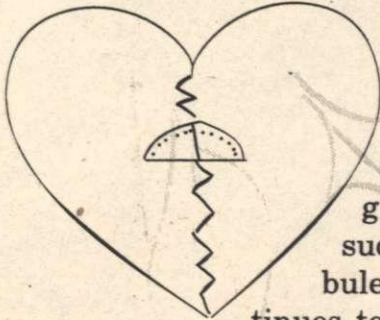
• • •

Diversity: cultural, biological, spiritual, creative.

Health: physical, emotional, personal, collective.

Interconnectedness: family: parents, siblings, wide branching extensions; friends: close friends, teachers, custodians, those whose lives have become intertwined with our own.

Craziness: the wildness of inexplicable life, riding the wave day in and day out, part of the unknowable reality of the world down to every muscle, every thought, every primal molecule.



Kerri-Ann Jennings, Maggie Wood

<http://times.portnet.k12.ny.us/>



Sidney Barish, Ed. D., PRINCIPAL
G. Blain Bocarde, ADVISER
© 1997, The Schreiber Times

Published by the student body of Paul D. Schreiber High School. Letters to the editors should be addressed to *The Schreiber Times*, 101 Campus Drive, Port Washington, New York 11050 or info@times.portnet.k12.ny.us. The editors reserve the right to refuse, print, edit, return, or not return any submitted material. All letters must be signed by each author. We have a circulation of 2,100 copies per issue with subscriptions available by mail for \$10.00 per school year. We accept camera-ready ads or will design ads to your specifications. For information call our business office at (516) 767-4367.



EDITORS-IN-CHIEF:

Jonathan Braman
Carolyn Chang

•••

COPY EDITOR:

Danielle Lindemann
Melissa Brewster Ass't

•••

MANAGING EDITOR:

Sara Weinstein

•••

DESIGN EDITOR:

Jakob Graham

•••

COMPUTER MANAGER/

WEB PAGE EDITOR:

Jason Gordon

•••

NEWS EDITORS:

Charles Geizhals
Jessica Kirstein
Kate Pedatella
Jennifer Chung, Ass't

•••

FEATURES EDITORS:

Andrew Bond
Arielle Soloff

•••

OPINIONS EDITOR:

Ilana Keane

•••

A&E EDITORS:

Charles Albanese
Daniel Katz, Ass't

•••

SPORTS EDITORS:

Peter Yoon
Robert Grief, Ass't
Christina Wei, Ass't

•••

STATISTICIANS:

Illi Eisner
Dan Kohn, Ass't

•••

BUSINESS MANAGERS:

Matt Burden
Scott Ross, Ass't

•••

PHOTOGRAPHY EDITORS:

Jason Osborne
Sondra Pozan, Ass't
Joe Zeltzer, Ass't

•••

LAYOUT EDITOR:

Anita Jose

•••

ART EDITORS:

Jamie Lillyreed
Greg Zwirn
Kerri-Ann Jennings, Ass't
Maggie Wood, Ass't

•••

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT:

Ben Brod

STAFF: Jon Bond, Sean Corriel, Tom Eliaz, Scott Freifeld, David Kolodney, Adam Rappaport, Viviana Risca, Adam Schepp, Alexander Talcott, Katie Wood.
REPORTERS/ARTISTS: Delphine Amato, Chris Coady, Syd Glasser, Josh Graham, Lucas Hanft, Brook Hagel, Sarah Katz, Brian La Rocca, Sorjo Mullerjee, Bernard Pollack, Matthew Ree, Nitya Rehani, Dara Silverstein, Sharmin Sitafalwalla, David Slobotkin, Jane Tarica, Leah Turchin, Jessica Wilpon.

T
H
E
S
C
H
R
E
I
B
E
R
T
I
M
E
S

Chanukah

Chanukah, although it has relatively little importance in the Jewish religion, has always meant a lot to me. The story of my people defending their religion against their oppressors has always been inspirational for me.

As the story goes, the Romans took over Judea, the land in which the Jews were living. The Romans forced their polytheistic religion onto the people of Israel. One man, Judah Maccabee, refused to accept this religion and the tyranny with which the Romans were ruling. He and his followers, the Maccabees, used guerrilla warfare to strike back. In anger, the Romans took and desecrated the sacred temple in Jerusalem.



Maggie Wood

When the Maccabees finally took the temple back, they could only locate enough oil to light their menorah for one day. As the story goes, however, the menorah burned brightly for eight days.

For my family and me, Chanukah is a time to gather with friends and family whom we don't get to see otherwise during the year. It is a holiday when we take time away from our busy schedules and otherwise hectic everyday lives to remember the history of our people.

Traditionally, my sister and I light the menorah; and my mother and sister cook for my entire family. When it comes time to say the prayers, we all say them together.

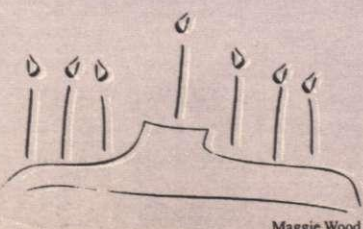
—Dan Lindner

Kwanzaa

African American students will be celebrating the festival of Kwanzaa beginning December 26.

Kwanzaa, a holiday born in 1966 from the vision of African-American leader and professor Dr. Maulana Karenga, is an intense and spiritual time during which families reflect on seven separate ideals.

Each day during the festival, a candle is lit to celebrate each of following ideals:



Maggie Wood

Umoja (unity), *Kujichagulia* (self determination), *Ujima* (collective work and responsibility), *Ujamaa* (cooperative economics), *Nia* (purpose), *Kuuba* (creativity), and *Imani* (faith). Like the name Kwanzaa, these ideals are recognized by their Swahili names in a time for celebration of culture and common ancestry.

Sophomore Chantelle McCurdy's family has celebrated Kwanzaa for decades. "It's like another Thanksgiving," said Chantelle of the seven day feast. For Chantelle and her family, the variety of themes celebrated during Kwanzaa provide everyone with ideals to which they can especially relate.

Chantelle's favorite theme is *Kujichagulia*. "That's the one I like," she said; it is an ideal which she can reflect during Kwanzaa and strive to embody in daily life.

—Jon Braman

A giving Christmas

Usually we associate Christmas with big colorful cardboard boxes, you know, those present "things." However, in junior Jenn Chung's house there will be no presents exchanged. This is because there is an economic crisis occurring in South Korea caused by the fall of the currency and many businesses and banks have gone bankrupt. So, instead of spending money on materialistic items, they have decided to help others.



Maggie Wood

All the money which they would have spent on presents will be delivered to the Port Washington post office. In other words, they are going to send the money to their Korean relatives who are in economic despair. "By giving money to people less fortunate than ourselves, both the givers and the recipients are benefiting with a warm and fuzzy feeling," says Chung.

—Arielle Soloff

Season's G

From Christmas to Kwanzaa is the month for

The Winter

Since the beginning of time, people have celebrated the season around seasonal events such as the beginning of the planting season, the end of winter, and the winter Solstice, the shortest day of the year. People have celebrated the Solstice long before Christmas, Ramadan, Chanukah, American, Tibetan, Iranian, and Scandinavian cultures, among others, representing the ideals of rebirth and cycles inherent in seasonal change.

Remarkably, although few people in America still celebrate the winter solstice are incredibly pervasive in traditional celebrations of Christmas. For example: Christmas trees, wreaths, caroling, and pagan religions celebrating rebirth.

In some cultures, celebrations were seen as petitions to the gods. Sledding to building snowmen, also have their roots in winter celebrations.

In contrast to religious celebrations such as Christmas or Hanukkah, inspirational events, the Solstice celebrations center around a cultural celebration, it reflects a greater awareness and connection to nature. In our modern American culture, which has obscured the meaning of the remnants of this earthrooted celebration.

St. Lucia's

The great Advent festival in Sweden is St. Lucia's Day, sometimes called Little Yule, which is held on December 13. This holiday is first and foremost a feast of lights. Its customs probably have very little connection with the real St. Lucia who was martyred at Syracuse in the fourth century AD. From a wealthy family, St. Lucia often brought bread to prisoners in underground jails, lighting her way with candles. However, her anniversary was also the day of the Winter Solstice according to the calendar. It is this fact which gives special character to the feast.

Every Swedish parish and village has a Lucia Queen or Lucia Bride who dresses in a long white dress with a red sash and wears a crown of lighted candles.

Ramadan

A very sacred and religious month in the life of every Muslim and specific procedures, people learn to appreciate and value what they have.

During the month of Ramadan, Muslims all around the world listen to music, immerse one's head in water, use improper language, and appreciate what they have. By not eating, one learns and appreciates their values.

A question that one may ask is, "What is the purpose of fasting?" Ramadan is a very special month for Muslims. It is during this month that they reflect on their values.

The Dolphin Bookshop
941 Port Washington Boulevard
Port Washington, New York 11050
516-767-2650

Happy Holidays from

Come to Dolphin for all of your holiday

Cards candles

Greetings

Kwanzaa, December or holidays.

Solstice

ns. Actually, for much of history, all holidays revolved
ason, the beginning of the harvest, bringing the flocks in
rtest day of the year. People around the world have
kah, or any other modern religious holiday. In Native
others, the winter Solstice was celebrated as a turning
asons and nature.
ne Solstice specifically, customs associated with the
ristmas, as well as with the general American festivity
ng, and bobbing for apples all have their roots in ancient

ods for daylight to return. Many outdoor activities, from
lebrations centering around the Solstice.
liday such as Chanukah, which celebrate historical and
urrent and yearly real-world event. Like many pagan
ature. It is refreshing to realize that even in our mish-
season with its materialism, there are still strong

—Jon Braman

Lucia's Day

in her head. Early in the morning while it is still dark,
he sets out bearing a tray of food and coffee to visit
houses, farmsteads, cow byres and
stables, bringing a symbolic promise of
coming light. With her goes a man on
horseback and a long procession of young
people who carry burning candles and are
dressed as maids of honor, "star boys,"
Biblical characters, trolls and demons
defeated by the rising sun. In many
homes like junior Christina Enscoe's,
there is a Lucia queen who goes around
the house before sunrise wearing her
candle crown and wakening her sleeping family with coffee
and a special bread called "Lucia cats."

—Maggie Wood

Ramadan

im is the month of Ramadan. Through strict restrictions
what they have.
rld continue the long-time tradition of fasting. From
to be consumed. Also, during the day, one is forbidden to
aguage, lie, or engage in sexual activity.
sting" Most people don't realize that there is a very
is for people to learn to empathize with the less fortunate
i appreciates being able to put food on the table.
g this month that one can really build upon their goodness

—Nazanin Farsidjani

Christmas

Christmas trees, department store Christmas
sales, the exchange of presents, and Santa Claus
dominate the December atmosphere.

Unfortunately, these symbols and practices
obscure the true meaning of
Christmas. Christmas is
the celebration of the birth
of Jesus Christ who came to
bear the sins of the whole
world.

For most people Christ-
mas is a time of hectic
Christmas shopping. For
department stores, it is the
most profitable time of the
year. Modern Christmas
films invade the theaters,
and classics are shown on
TV. These and other
aspects of the celebration of
Christmas cause many to lose sight of the true
meaning of this celebration. Christmas is a
reminder of how Jesus was born to save sinful
man. Christmas is a joyous time for Christians

as they remember the sacrifice God made because
of His unconditional love for the world.

Christmas is also a reminder of how we should
replicate God's compassion for us in the way we
treat one another. Modern tradi-
tions have changed the original
intent of giving gifts. Giving gifts
once meant providing for those who
were less fortunate in society.
Today, we exchange gifts with one
another and forget that Christmas
also reminds us to help the needy.
During the holidays, it should be a
foremost concern of all people to
help the impoverished of society.

Christmas is simply a reminder
for Christians of God's immense
sacrifice to the world and the
sacrifices we should be willing to
make for our fellow human beings.

—Anita Jose



Maggie Wood

This sacrifice should not only be during the
holidays, but should be remembered throughout
the year.

Saturnalia

Io Saturnalia! ("Hooray, Saturnalia!") As the
holiday season approaches, this Latin greeting will
be sung out by Schreiber students as they anxiously
anticipate the arrival of the great Roman festival
Saturnalia.

While the holiday is not as widely known as
Christmas, Chanukah,
or Kwanza, many stu-
dents are quite familiar
with Saturnalia, as
well as with the oppor-
tunity it provides for
festivity. Saturnalia, as
the name implies, is a
harvesting festival in
honor of the seed-god
Saturn, the mythologi-
cal father of Zeus, Nep-
tune, and other impor-
tant Roman deities.

The Saturnalia fes-
tival, the result of
Egyptian and Persian traditions merged in ancient
Rome, was a time for wild joy. On this day, tradi-
tionally the Ides of December (December 17), busi-
nesses, courts, and schools closed. Merriment of
all kinds, including cross-dressing and masquer-
ades, prevailed. In more liberal households, mas-
ters and servants traded places, and each learned
the advantages, as well as the disadvantages, of be-
ing one or the other.

Romans decorated their homes with greenery
and, as with any celebration, food was essential.
Partygoers feasted on a variety of delicacies,
including dormice and fruit, and, of course, there
was an abundance of wine.

Saturnalia and related festivals of its day were
ruled by a mock king, chosen by bean ballot. This
evolved into the holiday practice of baking a cake
containing a bean. Medieval versions contained a
bean and a pea...one for the king and the other for
the queen.

Seneca the Younger, an outspoken
Roman, wrote about this festive atmo-
sphere in his *Epistolae* around 50 A.D:
"It is now the month of December,
when the greatest part of the city is in
bustle...everywhere you may hear the
sound of great preparations, as if there
were some real difference between the
days devoted to Saturn and those for
transacting business."

Now in the twentieth century,
Saturnalia continues to have a large fol-
lowing; one count of hits for a Saturnalia
web page totals 73,273.

Saturnalia is also celebrated at
Schreiber by Latin classes every Decem-
ber. This year's theme was important moments in
Roman history. As in all years, students dressed
up in togas and participated in a plethora of games
and festivities. Students had the chance to com-
pete class versus class in a variety of games, in-
cluding pantomime, singing, relay races, the tradi-
tional Mr. and Ms. Rome contests and the
storytelling and poster contests.

The partygoers also watched student-made films,
such as the senior class's "Iphigenia," which depicted
the historical tale of the sacrifice of King
Agamemnon's daughter.

—Carolyn Chang and Danielle Lindemann



Maggie Wood

at the Dolphin Bookshop.

your needs. We have what you're looking for!

books toys journals

The Dolphin Bookshop
941 Port Washington Boulevard
Port Washington, New York 11050
516-767-2650

Square dance diplomacy

Russian teenager gets her first impression of America: Andrew Bond

by Andrew Bond

As you all know, Russia is in a state of turmoil right now. What's that? You say you didn't know? Don't you people watch the news?! Anyway, the point is that Russia is in a state of turmoil.

With this in mind, I was thrilled when I found out that while I was visiting a friend from my old town she would have a Russian exchange student at her house. This would be a perfect opportunity for me to do a serious, in-depth interview with someone who could give an accurate portrait of life in Russia. I sat down and got to work thinking up questions to ask about things like the economy, politics, and Russian culture.

Unfortunately, I'm not a very good journalist. Consequently, I could only think of stupid, offensive, funny questions. When I showed my questions to Rachel (my friend from my old neighborhood), she made it clear I was not to ask Irena (the Russian girl) any of them. Here are some of the questions that I *didn't* get to ask:

-Did you originally learn English so you could spy on the U.S.?

-Are you going to bring back some

cheap American goods to sell on the black market?

-Do you admit it? We would have whupped you in a war.

-So, how 'bout that capitalism?

-You want to buy some top-secret documents? Five bucks.

-Was Stalin really that bad?

It seemed to me that Rachel's censorship was a bad example of democracy for the Russian girl, but she refused to budge on her position.

After dinner, I was invited to come along with Rachel and Irena to do some country-western dancing. There, we would meet up with several other Russians and their American hosts. My food must have been drugged because I agreed to come along.

The country-dancing place was in Smithtown, out in Suffolk. We got there pretty early, so we just sat and watched as people arrived.

"Country-dancing groupies," was how Rachel described them. The thing about it was that they weren't as much funny as they were scary. If the Suffolk County police officers were to just come in and arrest everyone, they would solve half of the existing unsolved murder cases. The worst person was

this one skinny, balding guy who was wearing a shirt with pictures of fish on it and multi-colored patchwork pants. Needless to say, I made sure he was never standing in back of me.

The Russians from the exchange program, apparently feeling that everyone there was planning to kill them (and they very well may have been), demanded that we leave after an hour or two. We Americans were perfectly happy to be leaving, so everybody got into his or her cars and headed for Bennigans.

The most annoying thing about Russians, I think, is that they all speak Russian. I was in the passenger seat of the car, with two Russians in the back seat. They would chatter away and suddenly burst out in laughter. Being the doubting man I am, it really freaked me out because I was sure everyone was laughing at me.

We got to Bennigans and sat down to order. I was sitting next to one of the Russians, who opened the menu and then began trying to ask me something. It was a blur of arms and slowly spoken words, but she eventually conveyed the message that she wanted me to suggest some wine for her. I'm no wine connois-

seur, so I just said that whatever was most expensive was the best and suggested chardonnay or Merlot or something like that. Of course, I also tried to tell her that she needed an ID to prove she was 21 (she was 16), but it must have been a bit lost on her. After the waitress refused to sell her wine, the waitress left, and the Russian was naturally perturbed.

"Why am I having to go by these laws? In Russia, I am buying wine! Is stupid!" This quote is pretty much accurate, although I forget the actual massacring of the English language. Suffice it to say, it was funny. In fact, almost everything they said in English was funny. The best, however, was when they tried to curse in English. I can't reproduce what they said, so I suggest you just rattle off all the curses you know with a Russian accent.

So, I'm proud to say that I have now done my part to help bridge the gap between Russia and America. While it may not be readily evident, I feel that through country-western dancing and dinner, I've helped create a better understanding between our two nations. I'm like an ambassador or something. I should be in the U.N.

Not your average night out

A trip into New York City takes a slight turn toward the weird

by Jon Bond

On the Saturday of Thanksgiving weekend, I went on a little trip. No, not skiing or anything extravagant. Just a trip to the city with some of my dad's family. Of course with my family any trip can go from normal to abnormal in the blink of an eye.

It all started when my mom dropped my annoying sibling and me at my aunt's house in Queens. My brother, my aunt, and I then went to the subway station. After we bought our tickets at the subway terminal, we saw a train leave. It just happened to be our train. While we were waiting for the next train to come, my sibling did a foolish thing.

He bought a newspaper. No, he didn't buy it for its fine intellectual value. He bought it for the sports section. He also bought it so that when a homeless guy came around asking for money, he could hide his face in a newspaper. He's just the nicest person, isn't he? Soon after, the train came and we boarded it.

While sitting on the train, we encountered all the usual people. The nutssat in one place and stared at us, and there were also the ones who walk around the train rambling on and on to themselves. Occasionally, though, we'd be lucky and get the chance to see a homeless guy give the traditional speech about why to give him money.

The speech usually consisted of him telling us how he doesn't steal, he doesn't threaten people, and the ever famous "Everything I own is what you now see before you."

When we got to our stop, we quickly filed off of the train. At that point, I noticed that we were in Greenwich Village. We then started walking toward the many stores in that area. The first thing we did was stop for some food. We decided that it would be

best not to risk something new and exotic. Instead we went with old faithful... pizza. It was pretty good, too.

Anyway, we started walking again. The first store we stopped at was a music store. My brother and I went in while my aunt waited outside for us. I went through the CDs very quickly. I knew what I wanted, but I couldn't find it, and then I went outside. My brother, on the other hand, went in, knew what he wanted, found it, and

looked around for another half an hour before he bought it. Then we walked around for another two hours basically looking for low cost South Park paraphernalia. Unfortunately, those stores aren't as low priced as they used to be. The cheapest thing was a hat with

Cartman on it which had something under it that looked sort of like this, "#&%#!."

So, I didn't end up buying anything that day. After that, we spent an

hour looking for a taxi that was on duty and didn't already have a passenger. While we were looking for a taxi, we had a run in with a true "kook." He was walking along the sidewalk with a large blanket draped over his shoulders. As he walked, he yelled, "Don't step on my cape!" We eventually found a cab and then went to our final destination: Sammy's Romanian steak house. When we got to Sammy's, we were astonished. The outside of this

place was a dump! At least that was our first impression. Then my dad, my other aunt, and my grandpa arrived. The weirdest part is that they came in a stretch limo! Then we went into the restaurant.

It was nothing at all like the outside. It wasn't a disgusting pile of rubble. It was actually really nice. When I sat down at our table I saw a small container. It kind of looked like it had butter in it. When I was about to taste test it to see if it was good, the waiter came up and stopped me. He told me it wasn't butter at all. He said it was chicken fat. Pretty disgusting, huh?

We ordered our food and it quickly arrived. The other weird thing was that instead of giving you water, they gave you seltzer in spritz bottles. They were so fun. Most of us got steak but not me. I dared to be different and got some potato pancakes. They were sooooo good. After I ate, I went for a little look around the place.

The weirdest place was the bathroom. Instead of having paper towels or a hand dryer, they had a towel roll. That is a very long towel that you basically roll around to a dry spot, and then you dry your hands. That's about all that happened at Sammy's. We then went for a fun-filled limo ride home.

Thus concluded my exciting trip around the city and beyond.



Andrew Bond

PEOPLE ARE NOT PAPER THIN:

Communications Workshop discusses body image

To participate in the workshops, be watching for sign ups in the lobby.

by Dara Silverstein

We live in a society where basically everything is judged by how the media portrays it. The current focus of the media is that models in ads are being illustrated as paper thin people who are in some way or another supposed to be beautiful. In reality this is totally false. People are not naturally so thin that they look dead, and it is very unfair that the media makes us consumers believe that this is the way people should look. Recently, the Communication Workshop Leaders held a meeting that discussed "Body Image." Teen-agers are the most susceptible to be drawn in to the world of weight obsession and this workshop definitely was helpful in making students feel better about themselves.

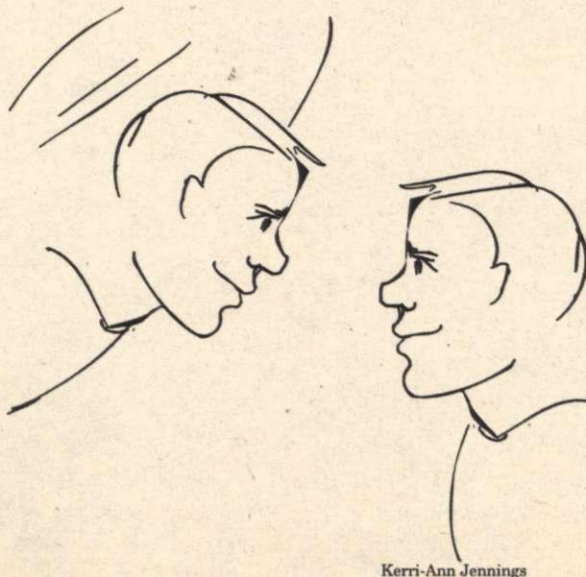
The leaders started off the workshop with a game called "A World of Difference." The object of the game was to ask questions, such as "are you obsess with your weight?" If any one of the students felt this way they would walk across the room. From there, the leaders put on a number of skits that dealt with anorexia and an individual's image of herself when

amongst peers. The individual felt that if she could lose weight she would be popular and all the guys would like her. All of the leaders continually stressed the importance of personality and how it should be the most significant trait in any relationship.

After a bagel break, there was a large group discussion. Everyone was able to say what he/she felt about body image. They said that society tends to base everything on how skinny or muscular someone is. In actuality, fifty years ago Marilyn Monroe was the biggest sex symbol and a size twelve. In the small group discussion, students were able to voice their opinions about themselves and how they felt about their body. All in all, the workshop was very successful, and beneficial to all who attended.

Every year the percentage of anorexics and bulimics increases, while the age of the anorexic or bulimic is continually getting lower. There is no reason why a nine year old should be counting calories. How much you weigh should not be why people like you. Your body is your body and you should be confident in yourself, for

once you like you for who you are everyone else will like you as well.



Kerri-Ann Jennings

Body Images: It's a Communications Workshop Word Find!

M U S C U L A R B E A U T I F U L
 E R U I N I C E B R E A K E R D K
 P Z U Y O M E D I A N O R E X I A
 I G T R I I E L B A T R O F M O C
 O N D S T P O R T R A Y S U P D E
 C I W B A B O F M L K K X E F S S
 F T C E C F S J F I I D S C A R N
 B N R O I P I H S N O I T A L E R
 C U A I N G R T N M Z S E L S M S
 P O L P U F H Y F O E C O O E U L
 E C U I M J I T L K G U R R Y S E
 E K P Q M R W D N K A S N I T N D
 R Y O Y O I P D E Q M S O E E O O
 S E P B C B C Y J N I I M S I C M
 N N O I S S E S B O T O M J C I A
 R C F N B O D Y F F M N T C O R D
 S Y T I L A N O S R E P G K S X A

- | | | |
|---------------|------------|--------------|
| ANOREXIA | COUNTING | OBSESSION |
| BEAUTIFUL | DISCUSSION | PEERS |
| BODY | FALSE | PERSONALITY |
| BULIMICS | ICEBREAKER | POPULAR |
| CALORIES | IMAGE | PORTRAY |
| COMFORTABLE | MEDIA | RELATIONSHIP |
| COMMUNICATION | MODELS | SKINNY |
| CONFIDENT | MONROE | SOCIETY |
| CONSUMER | MUSCULAR | WEIGHT |

Brought to you by Tom Eliaz

Come write for the Schreiber Times! We won't pay you, but if you're good you can get an endorsement deal with Nike!

Watch for the next general meeting, at 3:15 in room 117. We always need writers, artists, photographers, and staff members.

If it swings, it's a musical

Anything Goes with song, dance and lots of laughter

by Jon Braman

Filing into the auditorium Friday night I had simple expectations: a typical musical, put on in typical fashion, a plot of little interest played by an enthusiastic cast, normal individuals breaking into song and dance at opportune moments and ruining any sense of reality. The show I saw, however, was impressive on all fronts, from acting to sets to music to choreography. I was reminded of the way a musical of this genre is supposed to affect audience members, providing humor, entertain-



Senior Justine Paino showcases her aerobic tap dancing skills. Paino played Hope Harcourt's status seeking mother,

ment and satire.

The story took place on a boat, but the actors needed no high seas to get them rocking. The boat had a few visible engines which moved the story along in a fluid groove.

The first, most obvious, engine of the production was the comedy. Senior Joseph Zeltzer breathed comedy. When he tiptoed around the stage with his knickers and towel, even the spring in his Achilles tendon was funny. Zeltzer's quick change from the "cheerio" British smile to the snotty "yes, mother" tone was as effective as it appeared effortless. It was clear that senior Lauren Foster, playing his love-starved fiancée, was not right for the energetic chap. It was clearly hysterical.

Moonface Martin, played by senior Jeff Solomon, brought a second incredibly comic voice to the show. Solomon was cranky yet zen, loud and doofy, yet surprisingly slick and suave, knowingly a criminal, yet strangely adorable, even cuddly. The scene in which he stole the glasses off Elijah J. Whitney, a drunk and cocky businessman played by senior eerie ease by senior Christopher

Coady, had me gasping for breath between wheezy laughs. The two worked together like a windshield wiper and windshield. Solomon's defense of Chinese honor may not have earned him any belts at Tokey Hill but certainly contributed to the ridiculousness and satire of the scene.

Senior Gennaro Savastano, playing Billy Crocker, was an effective contrast to both the criminals, businessmen and Englishmen. Clearly the most sentimental character, Savastano came across with a Garth Brooks innocence (but a far more emotive voice) even as he posed as Snake Eyes Johnson in a ploy to win Foster and not be observed. Foster succeeded in capturing that same sentimentality, with her I-want-a-real-man-not-a-tennis-player plea. She also succeeded in capturing the stereotypical fragility and naivete of the middle class youth, quite a contrast to the knowledgeable vitality of senior Maio Perry. Perry was on the inside and was cool and effective. She took a liking to the likes of a man like snooty, hilarious Zeltzer. She was believable and human.

No one in the play was outside the authoritarian clip of the ship's captain, played by senior Hyam Blum, who kept Billy on his toes.

The second impressive driving engine of the play was the music. Both the orchestra and singers were quite solid and spirited in their melodies. The orchestra, conducted by Phillip Glover, and including Schreiber musicians such as senior David Austerweil (trombone) and junior Joe Handleman (piano), was tight and swinging. The vocalists were swinging as well. The most important aspect of most jazz show tunes is the rhythm, the swing. Capturing that feel is a sign that both the actors and musicians were doing something really right.

Savastano and Perry were a powerful vocal duo, combining the polished sound of trained singers and a casual, natural feel. Duets such as "I'm the bottom you're the top" gave the two an opportunity to harmonize and combine their talents. The liveliness Savastano always brings to the stage came out in his vocal interpretations. Perry's thick and rich voice matched the natural strength of her character.

Foster's voice was less thick but no less compelling than Perry's, and in songs such as "Delovely" she came across as an outstanding vocalist as well.

A third impressive engine of this play was the dancing. Senior Floryn Glass was perhaps the most outstanding dancer of the production, with a number of songs featuring her tap and jazz skills. At one point she even managed a handstand on Coady's shoulders. Glass's giggly exuberance as Moonface's sidekick was matched by her exuberance and obvious talent as a dancer. Senior Justine Paino, exuber-

ance as Moonface's sidekick was matched by her energy and talent as a dancer. Senior Justine Paino, playing Foster's mother, was also featured in a quite impressive and aerobic tap dance number, which left me out of breath just sitting in my seat. Backed at all times by a self-illuminated group of angels, the dancing throughout the play supported the spirit of the music and the acting with physical movement, giving the audience members a captivating auditory, cognitive, and visual experience.

Strong visual support was also pro-



Senior Floryn Glass is held by sailors. Glass danced well.

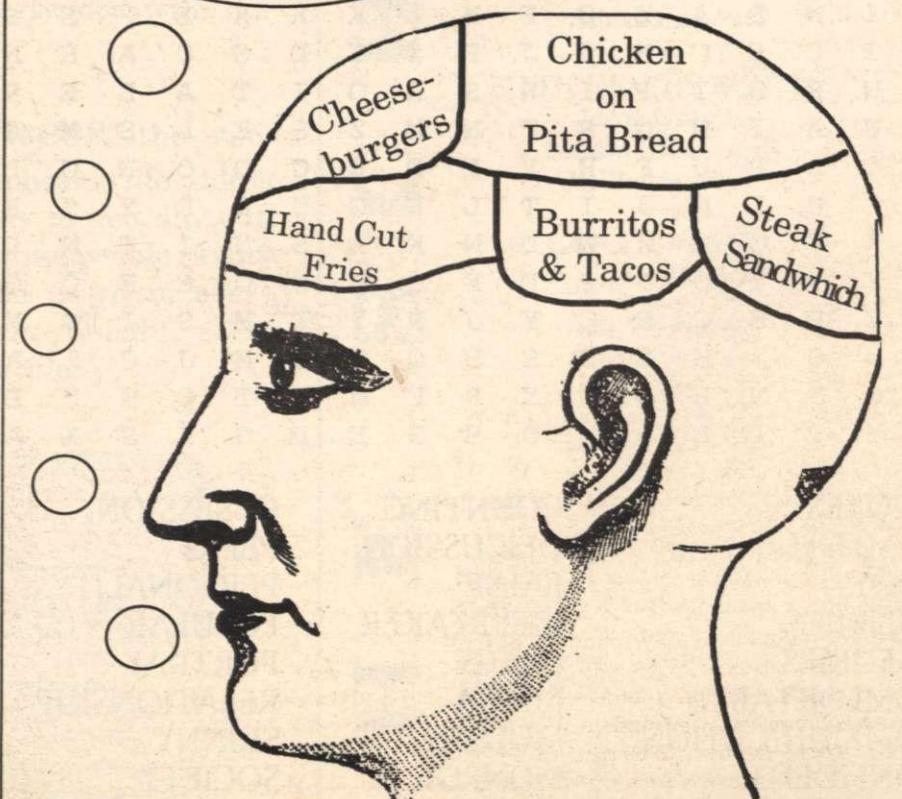
vided by the show's set, perhaps the most impressive musical set since *Forty-Second Street*, which even rivaled the set of *Death of Salesman*. From the prison cells to the second story deck, the directors and actors utilized the set well, suggesting enough of the physical look of most scenes so that filling in the details was no distracting effort.

The combined efforts of all these engines brought the boat to its satirical climax, when on the deck of the ship Billy reveals that he is not the most wanted man in America and is immediately taken into custody. What sense does that make? It makes perfect sense and no sense, given a boat on which anything goes that's extraordinary. But if this social criticism had been the main goal of the musical, Guy Bolton could have left out all the singing, dancing, and humor. In fact, the goal of the play was the singing, dancing, and humor. And it flew. It flew because it was funny and lively and a pleasure to see and hear. But, hey, there's nothing wrong with that.

"Relatively speaking, my stomach expands and contracts like the cosmos. Eventually, it could collapse in on itself forming a black hole.

Hickory's?

CHOMP ON IT!



Hickory's Bar-B-Que 883-7174

Senior climbs to his dreams

by Daniel Katz

Q. What have been your achievements in high school?

A. OK, it's going to be difficult to go down the list, but I'll talk about what I think is really important. I've done a lot in improving myself as a musician and I guess all the theater I've done, too. And within there, there are different set achievements, like awards or whatever; but to me, it's not really important. When I look back on my high school, that's like the time I learned how to do all the stuff that I know how to do now.

Q. Such as music?

A. Yeah, definitely music. High school is where I learned how to rock and roll, and play in a rock and roll band. It's also where I learned how to play trumpet. You know, I didn't even hear my first "funk" album until I was in the ninth grade, and now that is the kind of music I'm totally into. That's definitely been an influence on me.

Q. Well was there anything out of school that you think you've achieved?

A. I've always done extra curricular stuff, and I work. But there are two major things I've been doing. Music, being all aspects of music, and I'm really into rock climbing and mountaineering. In fact, over the past four years, in terms of ability, I've improved. Every weekend that it hasn't rained, from August to October, I was out climbing the Sherondons. This winter, I'm hoping to go and do the five/six route on Mount Gatoden in Maine. That's my major focus; music's there too.

Q. Could I just get a quick list of the plays you have been in?

A. Well how about I give you a list of something else because I really don't want the article to be about the plays I've been in. Let's just stick to rock climbing and music.

Q. Where do you plan to go to college?

A. Um, Yale, Princeton, Harvard. I'm kidding! Well, I know where I want to go to graduate school. I want to go to Prescott University, in New Mexico. But I have applied to Skidmore, and I also applied to the University of Arizona. So far I haven't applied anywhere else but got into Arizona, so if I don't get into Skidmore, I have that to fall back on.

Q. What do you want to do in life?

A. Here we go! OK, First of all, I'm going to take over the world, and I'm going to do it slowly. After I graduate from college, I'm going to Prescott in New Mexico, and I'm going to get my masters in outdoor education because that's by far the most important aspect of education and by far the most denied to people who don't have enough money to go to Outward Bound. They're very limited. You'll never see high school classes teaching stuff like ecology. And if you do, it talks about the environment as a science class. What I find important is Project Adventure class in gym. I hope to be an intern for the Project Adventure as a senior's option project. It teaches about ecology, and it teaches about stuff that happens outdoors. Also, it teaches communication, and in an environment where you have to be trusting about everything, that is important. So after college, I am going to climb mountains. I plan on leaving grad school with enough money to tour Eastern Europe. So I figure I'll climb mountains after that, and then I'll chill. And I'd go to South

America and climb in Peru. I'm going to have to fund it somehow, so I imagine that either I'll be good enough to be a guide, or I'll have to do something like sell my body on the street. But that's what I'm going to do, and that's the plan; it's going to happen.

Q. Do you feel that these dreams are realistic?

A. Whatever. Like, I hate that fact that people's goals now are so realistic. So many people are like, "I want to go to college and major in business, so I can have my own practice," and stuff like that. When I was in the sixth grade, I wanted to be an astronaut. I didn't want to be a business man; no one did. That's so lame. I mean, I'm interested in stuff I do in high school, but I don't think it's going to help me at all. Maybe I'll be surprised. I'm sure a college degree won't be a bad thing, but I'm going to climb mountains. If I die at age twenty-five because I'm climbing a mountain, at least I died for what I love and not dying by getting hit by a taxi in New York City, while I was trying to run to the stock exchange.

Q. How long has U.S.B.C. [Coady's band] been there?

A. Forever, Dan, forever. It's always been there. Because in eighth grade, Jon Braman and I wanted to have a band called "Shoes" that would just do blues songs.

Q. This is the story of U.S.B.C.?

A. This is the story. Jon and I have always been in the same band together. We played in "Chaos Pie" together. We were both trumpet our freshmen year. It was a cover band. But then we played in this band, "Sole."

Q. Who was in that?

A. Well, me, Jon Braman, Peter Bannon, Brad Block, Sharon Horn, and Jeff Solomon. It was ridiculous. We would have practices, and people would go home crying. We played cover songs and weren't that creative at all. I remember in the Battle, we played last, which was supposed to mean we were the best at auditions, but we didn't even get a place, and everyone was upset. We realized that we didn't all have the same drive, and those who had a certain drive to make a certain sound, went a certain way, and that was sort of the start of U.S.B.C. First it was this band called "Turtle Crossing."

Q. Wait, was this still your freshman year?

A. No, freshman year was Chaos Pie, sophomore year was Sole, junior year was U.S.B.C., which is still going on now even though we've had some personal changes. But we're still a band.

Q. You're going to play again?

A. Oh yeah, we're going to make some money this year. That's what it's all about.

Q. O.K., well, do you have a final statement?

A: Final statement? You don't have any "What kind of tree would you be?" questions?

Q: We're not that kind of newspaper, Chris.

A. All right, my final statement: To wrap up my high school careers in a nutshell, is that I don't see my major achievements in the past four years, coming from school. I think all my major achievements I have done mainly on my own, and I don't regret that. I don't want to talk about theater because I enjoy it, but I don't have as much heart in it. That's my statement.



Sara Weinstein

Senior Chris Coady prepares for a life as a either a musician, thespian, or, preferably, a rock climber. He got his start at Schreiber.

Port singers hold annual concert

by Charles Albanese

People from all over the Port Washington and Manhasset areas performed some of Broadway's most popular music and songs with the Port Washington Singers at the Jeanne Rimsy Theater at the Landmark on Main Street on December 6.

This year's performance marked the Port Singers' fifty-second anniversary as a singing and performing group. The group is a chorus of over fifty members. Soloists include students, senior citizens, professionals, homemakers, and trained and less trained voices from Port Washington and neighboring communities.

This year, the group performed some famous pieces by the legendary composers Rogers and Hammerstien. "You'll Never Walk Alone," and "June Is Bustin Out All Over," from the feature film *Carnegie*, "Oklahoma," from *Oklahoma*,

"There Is Nothing Like A Dame," from the *South Pacific*, "I Whistle A Happy Tune," from *The King and I*, and many more all time favorites.

At this concert, guest conductor John Szychberg Lau made his directional debut. Lau's credits include resident conductor of the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra and founder and director of the Hong Kong Philharmonic Chorus. He studied under a world renowned conductor, maestro Leonard Bernstein, in the first Los Angeles Philharmonic Institute.

Also, Lau is the music director of Sinfonia Pacifica Chamber Orchestra, the Chancel Choir at the Congregational Church of Manhasset, and the North Shore Ecumenical Chorus.

Senior Drina Scheiber commented on the evening, saying, "It is a great opportunity for me because I get to work with such great people." Scheiber was one of the Schreiber students who sang in the concert.



Holly English-Payne

Schreiber students practiced for the Port Singers concert. (l-r) Seniors Lauren Foster, Drina Scheiber, freshman Stephanie Borris, and senior Gennaro Savastano practiced while conductor John Szychberg Lau looked on.

Rapp & Katz: Movie Reviews

Get ready to *Scream* again

Reviewed by Adam Rappaport



The sad thing about movie sequels is that they usually have trouble measuring up to the original. Horror sequels usually fare much worse, and all too often a decent creative horror idea is ruined by the multitude of sequels which

ensue. At first, *Scream 2* seems destined to follow in the footsteps of its horror comrades. However, the movie turns out to be funny, scary, and as thoroughly enjoyable as its predecessor.

Once again, Neve Campbell stars as Sydney Prescott whose psycho boyfriend murdered many of her loved ones. The deaths traumatized her but now she is off to college with many new expendable friends. Once again, terror re-enters her life.

Gale Weathers, (Courtney Cox), returns as the ambitious news reporter who has risen to stardom through the writing of a book and subsequent movie chronicling the story of the original *Scream*. At a special screening of the movie, entitled *Stab*, a young couple is murdered and the madness begins. The remainder of the film is wonderfully written, cleverly blending horror and comedy together. David Arquette plays Dewey, a young ex-deputy, who returns to ensure the safety of Sydney.

Nevertheless, everyone is a suspect.

Scream 2 is faced with the challenge of being a sequel about bad sequels. However, the film manages to rise to the occasion and deliver solid entertainment.

Scream 2 does have its weaknesses. Courtney Cox's acting in some parts of the movie is laughable. In addition, so many of the characters die that, towards the end, the "killer pool" is extremely narrowed down. *Scream 2* does accomplish its main purpose. You'll laugh, scream, and have a great time throughout the entire picture.



(l-r) Timothy Olyphant, Jamie Kennedy, Neve Campbell, Jerry O'Connell, and Elise Nealstar in Wes Craven's *Scream 2*. In this scene, they are watching a press conference.

Response by Daniel Katz



Well, once again I agree with you, Adam. *Scream 2* scores as an incredibly fun film. I remember when I first heard that there was going to be a sequel to *Scream*. I was crushed because I thought that the film makers were going to take a great idea (sati-

rizing cheezy slasher films like *Friday the 13th* and *Sleepaway Camp* and at the same time being an intense thriller) and spoil it with a cheap sequel. However, I was wrong.

This time, the idea is to make fun of how bad sequels are but at the same time to make sure it doesn't become a shallow sequel; *Scream 2* succeeds. There are parts when you'll laugh your head off, and there are parts so shocking you'll jump out of your seat. Returning to *Scream 2* are the survivors of the original: Sydney (Neve Campbell), Gale Weathers (Courtney Cox), Dewey (David Arquette), and Randy (Jamie Kennedy). My favorite character in the film is the latter, Randy, who has hilarious speeches about the rules to horror sequels and complains about how the makers of *Stab*, the movie within the movie, didn't get anyone famous to play his character.

I also enjoyed Liev Schreiber's performance. He plays Cotton Weary, the man who was wrongly accused, in the first *Scream*, of murdering Sydney's mom. If you remember, we only see Schreiber briefly in *Scream*, in a video clip on a TV show. In *Scream 2*, we see that Cotton is not the creep he appeared to be but actually a jerk who just wants to be famous.

Good Will Hunting triumphs

Reviewed by Daniel Katz



Good Will Hunting is a brilliant, heart-warming tale from director Gus Van Sant (*To Die For*, *Drugstore Cowboy*). It also contains three of the freshest faces in film today: Ben Affleck (*Chasing Amy*, *Going All The Way*), Matt Damon (*The Rainmaker*, *Courage Under Fire*),

and Minnie Driver (*Grosse Pointe Blank*, *Sleepers*). Surprisingly, Affleck and Damon wrote the original screenplay.

The story takes place in Boston. Will Hunting (Damon) is a janitor at M.I.T. He hangs out with his best friend Chucky (Affleck) in bars and at little league baseball games. Hunting is also a mathematical genius with a photographic memory. He finds himself doing complicated calculus problems while cleaning the classroom of professor Gerald Lambeau (Stellan Skarsgard).

Lambeou finds Hunting's work and tries to track him down, only to find that he's presently on trial for assault. Because of Hunting's long list of offenses, the judge sees fit to incarcerate him, but Lambeau offers him a deal. He will accept Hunting under his custody, as long as he (a) spends time with Lambeau doing more complicated math; and (b), he seeks psychiatric help. Naturally, Hunting opts for this over prison.

Hunting, however, is smarter than all the psychiatrists whom Lambeau sets him up with, and he drives them away. That is, he drives them away until Lambeau hires his old college friend, Shawn Maguire (the always wonderful Robin Williams), to take a crack at it. Lambeau has a little more faith in Maguire, because he's just as

screwed up as Hunting.

Meanwhile, Hunting gets involved with a Harvard girl (Driver) and accepts Maguire as his personal psychiatrist and close friend. What follows is a fascinating journey for both Hunting and Maguire as they share their souls and their darkest secrets.

The performances in this film are excellent. Damon, who first proved he could act as the spoiled, anti-Semitic villain in *School Ties*, shines in his best role to date. This is no surprise, given that he co-created the mysterious character, Hunting. Affleck is hilarious as Chucky, Hunting's blue-collar best friend, whose crowning moment is when he poses as Hunting at a job interview for a prestigious bank. Skarsgard, who was the unfortunate Captain Tupolev whom Sean Connery strangled in *The Hunt For Red October*, is quite remarkable as Lambeau, the professor who is fascinated by Hunting. Driver, who managed to appear in four other films in the past two years, is delightful as



Matt Damon and Robin Williams in a scene from *Good Will Hunting*. This film was written by Damon and Ben Affleck.

Hunting's upper-class girlfriend. Finally, there is Williams as Maguire, a broken man who could have gone much further in life but has stayed where he presently is for his late wife. This role is one of Williams' best, ranking with his roles in *Awakenings*, *Dead Poet's Society*, and *The Fisher King*. I find that Williams is at his best when he breaks away from the wild man roles he usually takes and acts his heart out.

Behind the camera, Van Sant, who has made a mark in independent films with his poetic visions of sociopathic life, triumphs with this masterpiece. Lawrence Bender, who has been successful producing all of the Quentin Tarantino films, made a wise choice in going with this dynamic story. Finally, Damon and Affleck prove that not only are they good actors, but they are also gifted writers.

Response by Adam Rappaport



Mmm...it appears that our taste in movies has coincided once again. *Good Will Hunting* is a truly remarkable film; an accomplishment which is enhanced by the fact that it was created through the efforts of two young actors. The movie possesses a balance of characters which is exemplified by Minnie Driver's role. Her character is

introduced towards the beginning of the movie, but her relationship with Will is developed only to the point at which she serves her purpose into the overall plot. In addition, the film has a quality that makes it almost like a fable with subtle lessons laced in the dialogue. It also seems fitting to mention that following the barrage of summer action movies and the leftovers thereafter, it is nice to see a movie which contains many qualities of an exceptional work.

Jingle Ball rocks

Special concert benefits worthy causes

by Tina Lin and Nitya Rehani

Radio station Z100's Jingle Ball was an excellent, sold-out concert held at Madison Square Garden on December 9. This was a special benefit concert with ten bands and a surprise musical guest.

The concert's surprise guest was the one and only Celine Dion. She sang her new song, "My Heart Will Go On," which is featured in the soon to be released movie, *Titanic*.

The real concert began with the first performer of the evening, Fiona Apple. After listening to five of her songs, hearing some of her piano playing, and watching some of her odd dancing style, our attention was turned to the center mini-stage where Allure was going to play. Towards the end of Allure's performance, the four members of the band tossed out Santa Claus hats and gifts to random audience members. Unfortunately, Allure had the shortest performance time, singing only three songs.

While Allure was giving its brilliant performance and distributing gifts, the group Hanson was setting up on the main stage. When Hanson finally ran out to the main stage, most of the crowd went wild. Even though a few pieces of crumpled garbage were thrown at Hanson when the band members came out, the overall audience attitude was enthusiastic towards the group. Hanson ended, of course, with the ever so lively

"MMMBop."

Maybe it was because people grew tired screaming through Hanson's six songs, but by the constant movement of audience members during the Savage Garden performance, it was evident that many people left for a short break. Most returned, however, just in time for the band's last song, "Truly Madly Deeply."

Z100 spokepeople then introduced another special guest, number 99 for the New York Rangers, Wayne Gretzky. He gave a short talk and then introduced fellow Canadian Sarah McLachlan. McLachlan opened with "Building a Mystery." After she finished, the attention was on center stage again, but this time Lisa Loeb was performing her hit song "I Do."

The next group drove the crowd wild with excitement. A computerized countdown brought out the Backstreet Boys, who ran out and began their performance with some impressive dancing and an uplifting song. The Boys had their own little gifts to give; they gave three silver-plated records to the Z100 crew. Afterwards, they played "I'll Never Break Your Heart." While they sang that, they also selected three girls from the audience to come on stage and dance with them. At the end of the song, each girl received a red rose and returned to her seat to enjoy the rest of the concert.

Next, Chumbawamba came on stage and began to sing an openly political song, a condemnation of Nazism. The

audience heard one other song before the group finally sang its big hit, "Tubthumpin'."

After Chumbawamba, Aerosmith came out with "Dude Looks Like a Lady," a popular song from the movie *Mrs. Doubtfire*. Fake snow blew around on stage and onto the audience as Aerosmith performed. After the band members finished, most people who had come just to see them left the Garden.

However, there were still enough people left to hear the Wallflowers play. Coincidentally, that night was also hunky lead singer Jakob Dylan's twenty-eighth birthday, and members of the backstage crew brought out a cake for him, and he made a wish. The night ended with the Wallflowers singing "The Difference."

American Express, Bell Atlantic/Star 69, and many other big names sponsored this year's concert. The concert benefited SHARE, a non-profit, volunteer driven organization which helps survivors and others affected by breast or ovarian cancer as well as their families and friends. The Jingle Ball additionally benefited the Cystic Fibrosis (CF) Foundation. This foundation has aided some 30,000 individuals diagnosed with CF in the United States today.

Jingle Ball is a great annual concert for anybody who wants to listen to great music and give some money to worthy causes. Anybody who missed the concert this year should not miss it again.

311 and Sugar Ray play the Roseland Ballroom

by Sharmin Sitafalwalla

Musical groups 311 and Sugar Ray played in a concert at the Roseland Ballroom on November 21. This concert was literally smokin'; the music was exhilarating as well.

At 7:30 p.m., the crowd poured into Roseland, and excitement immediately filled the hall. When the lights went out, the concert began, and Sugar Ray ran out onto the stage and got the audience hyped and moshing. The ever so cute lead singer, Mark McGrath, got right into the music as

he jumped and ran from one side of the stage to the other.

Songs like "Cash," "RPM," and "Anyone" proved to be great songs to mosh and get crazy to. As the band was finishing up its performance, the members played their single hit, "Fly," which got the whole crowd singing as one. The song wasn't the same without SuperCat...but it was

still awesome. The anxious crowd soon became bored and started screaming things like, "Get off the stage Sugar Ray...we want 311!"

While the stage crew was getting ready for 311, the crowd took a break from all the moshing, screaming, and sweating. After a few moments of rest, the audience

was re-energized and ready to go once again.

The lights began flashing and the crowd went wild when 311 arrived. These Omaha natives really know how to have fun. Their music had everyone in

trance. From "Hive," to "DLMD," to "Beautiful Disaster," 311's enthusiasm and performance was amazing. The projected backdrops on stage really set the mood for each song. There were pictures of alien heads, clouds, Jupiter, and more.

When the band members played "All Mixed Up," they shouted, "New York, do you wanna dance?" In return, the crowd

screamed, "Yeah!" So a disco light was brought down from the ceiling and the audience went wild. Of all the songs performed that night, the crowd went most insane when the band played "Down." The song was blaring, the crowd was jumping, screaming, and moshing, and the different colored lights were flashing wildly around.

The only disappointment of the night was that 311 didn't play "Transistor." That didn't matter, though, because all of the other songs totally made up for it.

As everybody left the Roseland Ballroom, the only thing we could say was "wow." That's what the concert was like. It was like leaving your body and being on another planet for a few hours. It was truly amazing.



This is 311. This picture is on the back of the band's CD, *Capricorn*.

Second take on Red Corner

by Christina Wei

According to junior Dan Lindner's movie review in the last issue, "the descriptive movie *Red Corner* shows the life of the Chinese people. It depicts the government as a totalitarian force and the people living in slums." But is this a true description? Well, although the setting of the movie is contemporary China, it's filmed in Southern California. Also, how convincing is the story's premise?

Jack Moore (played by Richard Gere), is a business man who is framed for

'...the United States embassy refused to help Gere, and to blame that on the Communist system in China just doesn't seem logical to me.'

homicide. Just like in any American courtroom movie, Moore is frustrated with injustice. Moore's attempt to escape from the "corrupted court" is also added to the movie. As if that isn't enough, the United States embassy refuses to help Moore, and to blame that on the Communist system in China just doesn't seem logical to me. If anyone wants to blame this whole mess on someone, it's the incompetent U.S. embassy.

Now, assuming that Moore indeed killed the woman in the story, how should the Chinese government respond? To make this matter simpler, let's assume that a Chinese businessman came to the U.S. and murdered one of your relatives? How would you treat him? In addition, if that murderer attempted to run away, would you try to capture him and make him serve time?

Also, during most of the court scene, only occasionally does the frustration which Moore experiences seem genuine; he is more like an arrogant grandstander than a frustrated businessman. And this is proven when Moore keeps on calling himself an American, (as if he owns special privileges just because he's an American).

Red Corner is trying to "look like" China, but the melodramatic nature of the story makes it a Hollywood film, not a true representation of the Chinese government.

Port basketball begins season

A young boys' varsity b-ball squad suffers tough losses

by Alex Talcott

"Just take the pictures. We'll take care of the rest." This was the guarantee of Viking sophomore guard Jason Ham prior to the varsity basketball team's December 12 opener versus Friends Academy. Despite coming up short on his promise, Ham and the rest of the team looked strong in a 51-48 heartbreak loss in the first round of the Fritz Mueller Tournament.

The game marked the debut of junior Jimmy Gilmirtin, who replaces Steve Shackel as head coach this season. Gilmirtin had the team relaxed and focused going into the game.

It looked as though the team's confidence would be justified early on as junior point guard Jimmy Cosolito drained a long range jumper to open the game. Junior Patrick White carried much of Port's rebounding burden and had many impressive points in the paint, finishing the game with a team-high thirteen points.

Port's foul trouble escalated into the second quarter and Friends capitalized on the 1-and-1 free throw opportunities. The team remained relentless on the boards and kept Port within striking distance through a series of baseline and running jumpers. However, Port ended the half down 27-20.

Port began the second half as confident and focused as it did the first and hustled to 8-0 and 6-0 runs sparked by the return of senior Rex Mayo. Towards the end of the quarter, Mayo grabbed a rebound, dribbled the full length of the court, and skied for a nifty finger roll. Still, Port ended the third quarter down by four, 36-40.

Port continued to inch closer throughout the fourth quarter with a relentless halfcourt press and undying hustle. White sank two free throws to give Port its first lead since early in the first quarter, 48-46. With one second left, down 51-48, Port inbounded the ball to Cosolito who came within inches of tying the game with a three pointer. Port shook the hands of their victorious opponents and walked off the court with their heads held high, determined to redeem themselves in the proceeding day's consolation game.

In the tournament's consolation game, Mayo (11 points) and White (12 points) accounted for half of the team's scoring output in a 46-54 loss to Manhasset. Despite this tough loss, the team is still young "and we expect to improve," said junior Charlie (spin cycle) Perry.



Jaime Lillyreed

Girls' varsity basketball wins a close game in season opener

by Scott Freifeld

The girls' varsity basketball team won its first game of the season on December 10 against Carle Place by a close score of 39-32. The Lady Vikings came out strong in the beginning of the game and opened up with a quick lead. The team managed to hold onto it throughout the game.

The ladies were coming off an impressive 9-6 season from last year. Due to the graduation of Laurie Ann Orr and Jill Weingrow, juniors Lauren Greene and Emilie Kirkpatrick have stepped in and have led the offensive effort. Kirkpatrick, last year's All Division player, scored a game high of fourteen points, including one three pointer. Greene had ten points and drained two shots from beyond the three point arc. Although the ladies played a very strong offensive game, they were attempting to play a defensive game and hold Carle Place to a minimal amount of points. They did so by using a full court press throughout the entire game. By using the full court press style of defense, the Vikings forced many turnovers which led to numerous fast break points. Greene had five steals, and Kirkpatrick had six steals.

The full court press worked very efficiently. By forcing many turnovers, the Lady Vikings scored many of their points on quick rushes up the floor. Due to a string of steals by the Vikings, the ladies scored ten straight points giving the team a 28-12 lead in the third quarter and sealing the victory.

After the game, most of the players were very happy about the victory. By playing a defensive game, the Vikings have set the tone for the rest of the year. One player said afterwards, "We played a great game. All the girls played well and we played like a team tonight."

On Saturday, the Vikings came in second place in the tip-off tournament. The team lost to Division in the finals 48-47. Lauren Greene opened the game with seven straight points and opened up a quick seven point lead. With five seconds left in the game, a Division player hit two free-throws to take the lead and win the game. Lauren Bracchi was the team's high scorer with eighteen points. Kirkpatrick was named the tournament MVP.

Wrestling team leaves its mark

by Brian Larocca

The wrestling team started its season off at the Hank Paris Memorial Tournament. For many years this competition has been a good indicator of the team's talent. Last year the squad finished first overall in the competition and went on to enjoy a rewarding season.

On the varsity level, senior Eric Knight picked up a gold medal for the 140-pound weight class and sophomore Michael Henderson earned a bronze medal for the 103-pound weight class, the smallest category offered. Rookie junior Matt Schoville has been impressive in his short stint and was able to receive a gold medal for his efforts at the junior varsity level. The team's ability to combine veteran leadership with youthful desire is the strength of the team. This leadership will come from senior Knight and juniors: Joey Cetta (119 lbs), Brian Bordeau (112 lbs), Rob Lutzman (125 lbs), Adam Pennisi (171 lbs) and Thomas Love (189 lbs). Hopefully sophomores Ben Sobel (119 lbs), Evan Knight (130 lbs) and Greg Savran (171 lbs) as well as juniors Schoville and new



Senior Eric Knight positions himself to pin his opponent. Knight won in his first match.

edition Michael Christie (super heavyweight) can supply the team with energy.

For every class that the team does not have a wrestler, it must forfeit the allotted points. It is for this reason why the wrestlers must keep their weight in check. Already there are questions about Alvaro Orellana and Dan Henderson making their respective weights of 160 and 145. That is not even mentioning that the team has no wrestler able to make the heavyweight division.

According to Eric Knight, "it'll take hard work, perseverance and tenacity to ensure that we make our weights but after all that's what wrestling is all about."

Indeed it is those qualities which have made Port Washington the well-known powerhouse of wrestling. On the whole, Sobel summed it up best when he noted that "the team has a long lasting tradition [based] on the combination of pure agility with brute force. This year I promise there will be no difference." Hopefully Sobel is right about this year's team and more importantly correct that the wrestlers can follow in their predecessor's footsteps.

Bowling team begins well anticipated season

by David Slobothkin

The Port Washington varsity bowling team started the season off well with a phenomenal match record of 2-1. Led by senior captain Nick Behrens, the team is looking sharp and in-tune, and they've won over the Port Washington community like never before. Along with teammates juniors Robby Gotti, David McGuire, and Jeff Koenig, the team is bowlin' and rollin' its way to a championship.

The first match was against a tough and intimidating squad from Valley Stream North followed by another challenging matchup with Valley Stream South. After dropping the first match in a heart-breaking fashion, the team rebounded and thrashed Valley Stream South, en route to an eight to three victory. The road to ecstasy had begun.

Said junior Robby Gotti, "we struggled in the first match, but came back with a humongous win. We concentrated hard, and were able to take control. The future for Port bowling is here..." Although Gotti may have been caught up in the moment, he is not alone in feeling the excitement. Prior to the third match against lightly-regarded Great Neck, two of the Vikings players excited a small incident with the opposing team. Fortunately, no punches were thrown, and the scuffle was soon broken up, Port went on to a spirited victory.

Behrens, who bowled a 200 in the Great Neck match, proclaimed that he and his teammates were "aiming for the championship this year, and will settle for nothing less." With a talented crop of players and contagious excitement, the varsity bowling team's goal of a championship does not seem far-fetched.

Sports Statistics

Compiled by Illi Eisner and Dan Kohn

Girls' Basketball - 2-1

Top Players in Each Category

Point Leaders

Player	Points	Average
Bracchi, Lauren	25 (2 games)	12.5
Kirkpatrick, Emilie	35	11.6
Greene, Lauren	32	10.6
Totals	92	34.7

Rebound Leaders

Player	Rebounds	Average
Graser, Sue	24	8
Cohen, Erin	21	7
Kirkpatrick, Emilie	14	4.7
Totals	59	19.7

Assist Leaders

Player	Assists	Average
Kirkpatrick, Emilie	13	4.3
Walsh, Sarah	11	3.7
Totals	24	8

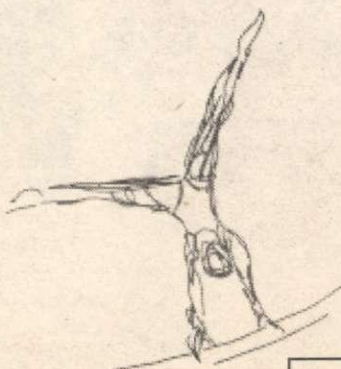
Steal Leaders

Player	Steals	Average
Kirkpatrick, Emilie	13	4.3
Greene, Lauren	8	2.7
Graser, Sue	6	2.0
Totals	27	9

Boys' Wrestling

Hank Paris Invitationals.

Wrestler	Place	Weight
Knight, Eric	1st	140
Henderson, Michael	3rd	103
Savran, Greg	4th	160



All graphics by staff members.

Varsity Schedules*

Girls' Track

Meet	Date
Sect. 8 Relays	January 6
E. Clarke	January 12
J. Fraley	January 18
Div. Champ.	January 21
Class County A	February 6
State Qualifier	February 8
NYSPHSAA State Meet	February 28

Boys' Track

Meet	Date
Sect. 8 Relays	January 5
E. Clarke	January 12
J. Fraley	January 18
Div. Champ.	January 24
Class County A	February 6
State Qualifier	February 8
NYSPHSAA	February 28

Girls' Gymnastics

Opponent	Location	Date
Hewlett	Home	January 3
Great Neck N	Away	January 9
Cold Spring Harbor	Home	January 15
Manhasset	Away	January 20
Long Beach	Home	January 24
Mineola	Away	January 30
Lawrence	Home	February 2
Great Neck S	Home	February 3

Boys' Bowling

Opponent	Location	Date	Result
Valley Stream N	Herrill Lanes	December 3	
Valley Stream S	Herrill Lanes	December 8	
Great Neck N	Herrill Lanes	December 10	
Manhasset	Herrill Lanes	December 15	
North Shore	Herrill Lanes	January 5	
Roslyn	Herrill Lanes	January 7	
Valley Stream N	Herrill Lanes	January 12	
Valley Stream S	Herrill Lanes	January 14	
Great Neck N	Herrill Lanes	January 21	
Manhasset	Herrill Lanes	January 26	
North Shore	Herrill Lanes	February 2	
Roslyn	Herrill Lanes	February 4	

*All schedules are accurate as of the date of publication.

Boys' Wrestling

Opponent	Location	Date	Result
HankParis TMT	Away	December 13	
Glen Cove Cup	Away	December 16	
Valley Stream TMT	Away	December 20	
Sewanhaka	Away	January 5	
Plainview JFK	Home	January 6	
Port Invt. Quad.	Home	January 10	
Herricks	Away	January 14	
Hewlett	Away	January 16	
Lu-Hi TMT	Away	January 17	
Levittown	Home	January 21	
Lawrence	Home	January 23	
South Side	Away	January 30	
NC Coaches Novice TMT	Away	January 31	

Girls' Basketball

Opponent	Location	Date	Result
Carle Place	Home	December 10	W
Lady Viking TMT	Home	December 12	W
Lady Viking TMT	Home	December 13	
Farmingdale	Away	December 16	
Hempstead	Away	December 19	
Roslyn	Home	January 6	
Uniondale	Home	January 9	
Long Beach	Away	January 13	
Valley Stream Central	Away	January 15	
Jericho	Home	January 17	
East Meadow	Home	January 20	
Freeport	Away	January 22	
Plainview JFK	Home	January 30	
Hempstead	Home	February 4	
Mephram	Away	February 5	
Baldwin	Home	February 9	
Massapequa	Home	February 11	

Boys' Basketball

Opponent	Location	Date	Result
Manhasset TMT	Away	December 12	L
Manhasset TMT	Away	December 13	
Massapequa	Home	December 17	
Valley Stream Central	Home	December 19	
St. Dominic's	Away	December 20	
Seaford	Away	December 23	
East Meadow	Away	January 8	
Syosset	Home	January 13	
Farmingdale	Home	January 16	
Baldwin	Home	TBA	
Plainview JFK	Away	January 22	
Freeport	Away	January 22	
Hicksville	Away	February 3	
Mephram	Away	February 6	
Valley Stream Central	Away	February 10	
East Meadow	Home	February 13	

Girls' Bowling

Opponent	Location	Date	Result
Valley Stream N	Herrill Lanes	December 8	
Valley Stream S	Herrill Lanes	December 10	
Manhasset	Herrill Lanes	December 15	
North Shore	Herrill Lanes	December 17	
Roslyn	Herrill Lanes	January 5	
Valley Stream N	Herrill Lanes	January 12	
Valley Stream S	Herrill Lanes	January 14	
Manhasset	Herrill Lanes	January 21	
North Shore	Herrill Lanes	January 26	
Roslyn	Herrill Lanes	January 28	

Indoor track strives for perfection

Girls' track Boys' track

by David Slobotkin

by Robert Grief

The girl's indoor track team is preparing for the upcoming season with the hope that potential can translate into performance. The team's success will depend largely on its short distance runners (50m, 100m, and 300m sprints), who include sophomores Eva Lucks and Nicole Dumpson, along with juniors Emily Record, Katie Cosby, and Katie Miller. Lucks is especially excited for the upcoming season which she called "a great opportunity to show that we're real."


The team's long distance runners (1000m, 1500m, and 3200m races) includes sophomore Mary Beth Houlihan and junior Lauren Gould. Savanna Thor participates in the one mile speed walk. Other events include the shot-put. Thor and friend Pamela Cohen represent Port in this event. Said Thor, "On paper, the team seems to have a great amount of depth, providing versatility that was not available in year's past. The season is shaping up to be exciting and competitive."

From the looks of it, this team can go a long way with a good deal of dedication and overall effort.

With a surplus of talented and confident competitors, Coach Bob Acevedo's boy's indoor track team seems destined to succeed. With thirty-three runners total, Acevedo will enjoy an element of depth previously unfamiliar to himself and his squads in years past. The return of shotputter senior Mark Hermer and sprinter senior Louis Hernandez all but guarantees a bright future for the squad.

After an impressive rookie season, Hernandez plans to reach new heights this year. His motivation will be largely contingent on his failure to be awarded All-County honors after his spectacular season on the Schreiber football team. "I was snubbed," groped Hernandez. "I felt that I deserved to win the award and to be recognized as one of the top players at my position in the county. Its all about politics these days..." Hernandez will run the fifty-five and three-hundred meter sprints this season, two races which gained him much recognition last season. "That was then..." says Hernandez. "If I dwell on what was accomplished last season, I'll only be hurting myself and my teammates. That's not my style. They don't want this."

Overall, the team looks ready to blossom, and the intensity seems plentiful.



Est. 1948

Educational Services

Gain Entrance to the College of Your Choice

P.S.A.T.

S.A.T.

Test Preparation Specialists

Three to Six Students in Each Group

- Our individualized instruction will help you achieve your highest scores.
- Courses taught by specialists, who care about each student's needs.
- Individual verbal/math programs
- Analysis of previous exams

581 Meryl Dr., Westbury, N.Y. 11560
(Entrance on Old Country Road)

Phone for Further Information 333-5035

ROCK CLIMBERS

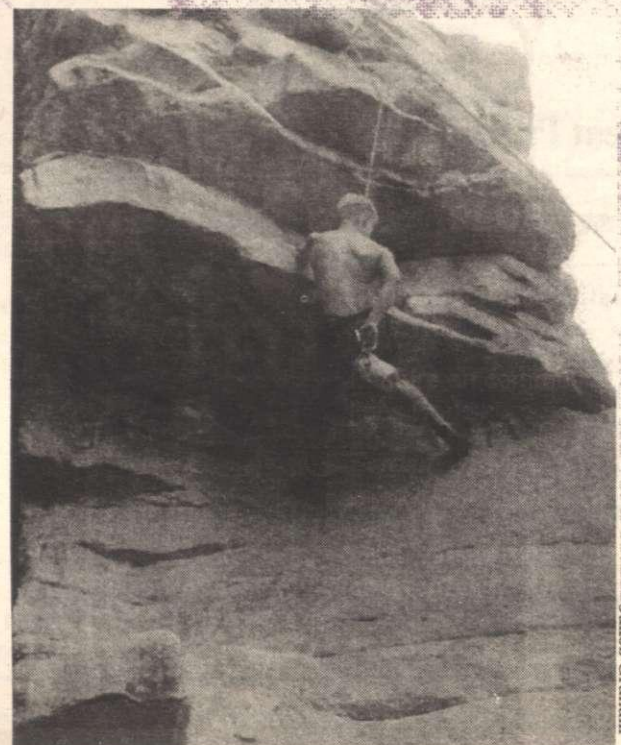
Challenge the Gunks

by Josh Graham



Above: The author ascends using a layback in the crack. Layback refers to pulling out with your hands while using your feet for leverage.

Below: The author tries to redpoint a 5.10a route. To redpoint is to climb without falling; climbs are rated for difficulty from 5.0 to 5.14.



Just west of the Hudson river, the flat expanse of New York gives way to the ripples and cracks of the Shawangunks. Here among the maples and elms, a massive wall of gray and black colored rock rises five hundred feet into the air. This cliff is much longer than it is high, stretching for miles across the eastern Catskills. To the untrained eye, the face of the cliff looks almost smooth, with the occasional hole or a pencil thin ledge. There appears to be no possible way for a person to climb this wall of rock. This challenge is precisely what draws hundreds of climbers to it each year. Climbing a shear cliff or overhang is one of life's most intense technical, physical, and mental challenges.

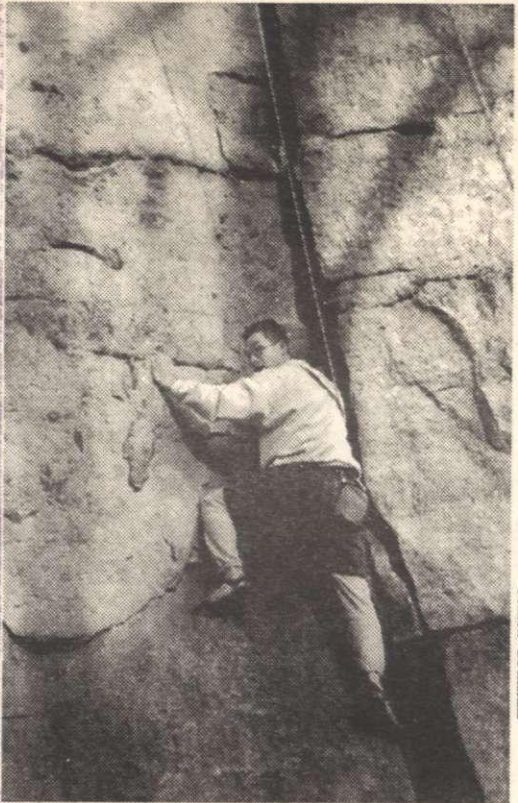
Technical skills are essential in order for climbing. This aspect of climbing most directly affects safety on the rock. Every precaution is important, from double backing harnesses to locking the carabiner to tying a knot correctly. It is necessary to know the technicalities of the equipment before ever starting to climb. For example, if the rope is back clipped over the carabiner it is possible to fall fifty feet to the ground instead of the anticipated eight feet. Learning the technical aspects of climbing takes a long time and can be very expensive since the equipment costs so much. This technical aspect of climbing can also be greatly hindered if the climber is not physically strong.

Climbing is a very physically demanding sport. It requires both strength and endurance. Great upper body strength is needed in order to climb up over an overhang. This is another area in which training is useful. Professional climbers have no off season; they train year round. Ten consecutive one handed pull ups is considered standard

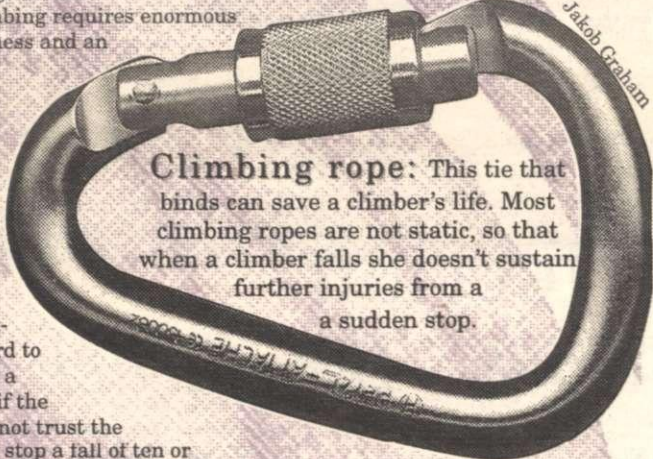
strength for most professional climbers. Recently, indoor rock gyms have become more accessible to populations of urban and suburban nonclimbers. These can also serve as excellent training facilities during the winter months when outdoor climbing is impossible. However, even after hours of training in the gym a climber won't succeed unless he or she is also mentally strong.

Climbing is just as mentally demanding as it is physically. Climbing a rock face is full of problem solving. It has often been compared to the attempt to solve a complicated math problem. In addition, climbers must be able to perform in what most people would consider terrifying situations, such as clinging to an overhang three hundred feet above the ground while trying to figure out a way to get to the top of it. Climbing requires enormous mental alertness and an awareness of surroundings.

A climber must be able to trust his equipment. This is an important aspect of mental toughness. It is hard to climb beyond a certain level if the climber does not trust the equipment to stop a fall of ten or fifteen feet. A year ago, I was climbing in Utah with a friend. We had some complications with the equipment and I got chosen to climb halfway up the cliff and bring the rest of the gear down which someone had accidentally left up there. It was dark, and it had started to rain. I was fifty feet off the ground held up by nothing but a nylon strap connected to a bolt in the rock with the rope between my teeth. I had to get the gear off the wall and tie back into the



Art department chairperson Mark Graham ascends a route at the Gunks. Graham's route exploits the large crack on the right.



Climbing rope: This tie that binds can save a climber's life. Most climbing ropes are not static, so that when a climber falls she doesn't sustain further injuries from a sudden stop.

rope in order to rappel off the rock from the bolt. The rock was really slick and I couldn't see a thing, I kept calm however, and got down all right.

As this example illustrates, climbing is technically, physically, and mentally demanding. The sport has infinite possibilities for personal challenges on all levels. It is also extremely healthy, as long as the climber does not fall off the rock.



Senior Jon Braman dynoing Trash Can Overhang. "Dyno" stands for a "dynamic move" in which a climber lunges upward to catch a hold.