

# The Schreiber Times

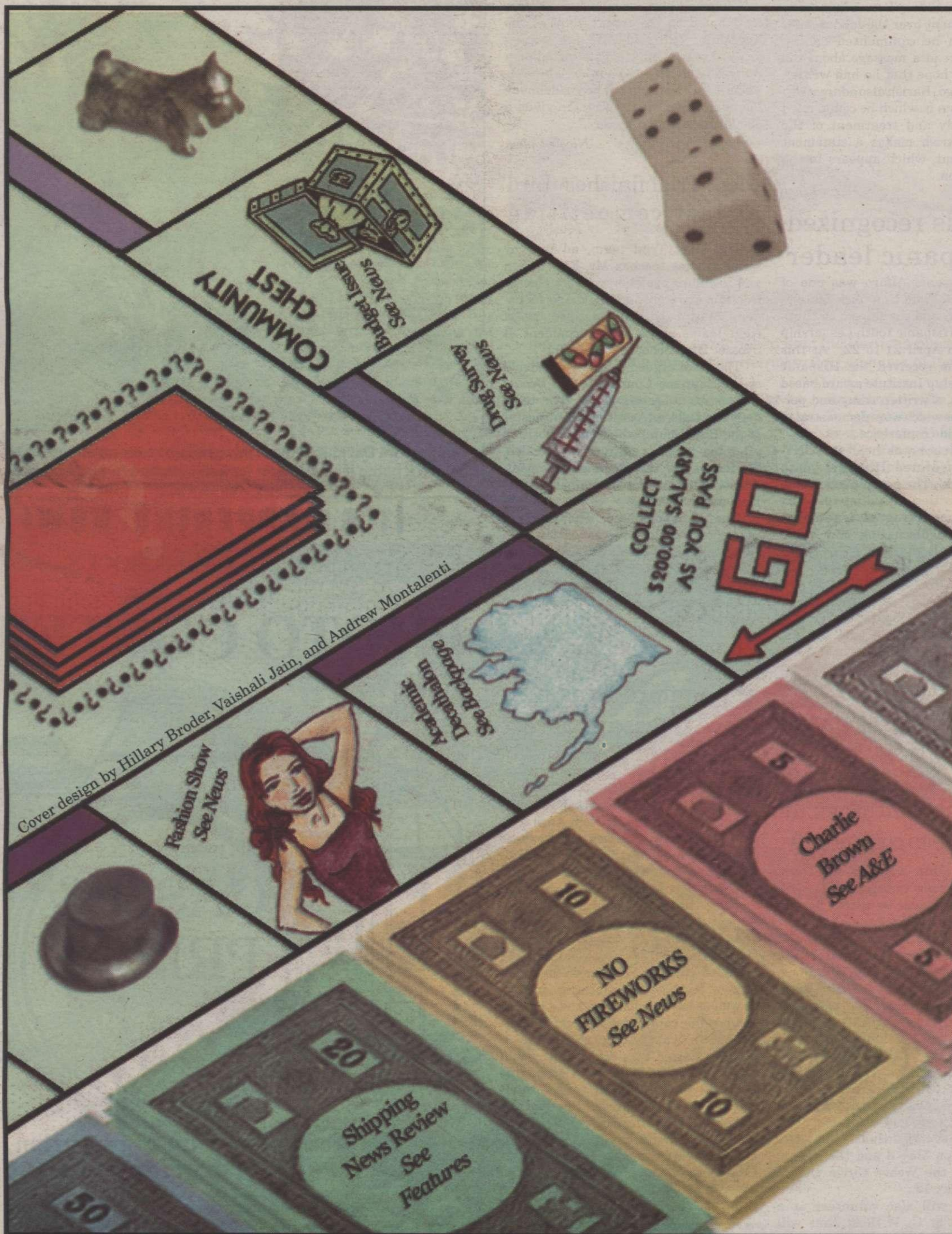


Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Port Washington, NY  
11050  
Permit No. 162

Paul D. Schreiber High School Port Washington, New York Volume LI No. 9  
<http://times.portnet.k12.ny.us>

Friday, May 4, 2001

2001





## NEWS BRIEFS

### Junior Dennis Archi passes away

Junior Dennis Archi took his life on April 21. The following Monday, April 23, school officials visited each first period classroom to inform students of the tragedy. Officials also made students aware that the school psychologists and counselors were ready to help anyone through this grieving period.

Principal Dr. Sidney Barish then made an announcement over the loudspeaker during which he commented on the tragedy. He read a message about the importance of hope that he had written twelve years ago. Barish also addressed a letter to parents in which he commented on the tragedy and treatment of the situation. Barish makes a statement on this incident, which appears in the features section.

-Merve Emre

### Alfaro is recognized as Hispanic leader

Senior Yessenia Alfaro was one of twelve students from New York State to be chosen to attend the Angelo Del Toro Puerto Rican/Hispanic Youth Leadership Institute from April 21 to 22. At this conference she received the Hispanic Youth Leadership Institute award based on her grades, a written essay and personal strengths which were demonstrated at this statewide conference.

The conference was held at SUNY-Albany and featured Hispanic youth from New York. The group participated in many activities including role-play situations, partaking in leadership workshops and discussing how a bill becomes a law. In the discussion on bills and laws, each student represented an assemblyman from his or her district. Alfaro represented Republican Assemblyman Mark Herbst. She was required to give her opinion on each bill that was discussed such as, "Should healthcare be provided to illegal aliens?"

Alfaro commented, "I was honored to be chosen to be a Hispanic leader to represent not only Schreiber, but Nassau County."

-Nicole Tingir

### Key Club continues to contribute to community

The Key Club was active in the community during the month of April, and will continue to be active for the remainder of the year.

Members aided District Health and Physical Education Coordinator Ms. Cheryl Clifton and the Drug Task Force by putting informational packets together after school on April 20. Club members volunteered at the Drug Task Force meeting at Weber Middle School on April 23.

The club also volunteered at the Sousa Dinner at the Polish American Hall on April 28, during which it assisted in food preparation set-up, and clean-up.

Upcoming events include a bake sale in the lobby on May 8 and the annual car wash at the Weber Circle on the morning of May 12.

Members will also volunteer at a Bike-A-Thon at C. W. Post, that will benefit the Long Island Alzheimer's

Foundation on May 20. This six-mile bike ride is the club's Long Island Future Corps project.

The Key Club donated two thousand dollars to the Alzheimer's Foundation whose mission is "to help lighten the burden and improve the quality of life for those suffering with Alzheimer's disease and their caretakers." Currently, there are over 50,000 people on Long Island who have Alzheimer's disease.

Co-president senior Ryan Klang commented on the recent plans of the Key Club. He said, "We are looking forward to upcoming events including a car wash and Bike-A-Thon. The Bike-A-Thon is for the Long Island Alzheimer's Foundation for which we were given a \$2000 grant from *Newsday*."

-Nicole Cohen

### Moot Trial finishes third at last competition

The Moot Trial team, advised by social studies teacher Mr. Eric Begun and including members seniors George Gerstein and Amy McDonald and sophomore Matt Brod, ranked third out of eight teams at its last tournament at Syosset High School on April 20.

The team argued as the respondents of the Supreme Court case *Boy Scouts of America v. James Dale*. The team defended Dale, an Assistant Scoutmaster of the Boy Scouts, who lost his position after his homosexuality was revealed. McDonald did the opening statement, Gerstein did the cross-examination, and Brod did the closing.

Gerstein commented, "There is nothing more I could have asked for than to make Syosset sweat at our very last tournament. The great thing about this activity is that you really get to know what the Supreme Court decided and its impact on us."

-Caroline Axelrod

### Sophomore wins first place in essay contest

Sophomore Julia Bernstein won first place in a state essay competition sponsored by the League of Women Voters of New York State and attended a conference in Albany from April 1 to 4. Bernstein was chosen to represent Schreiber and she then moved on to the state competition. She placed first, receiving a monetary prize.

Over the course of the conference, Bernstein attended many lectures and participated in various workshops. During the first two days, participants attended group discussions on the faults of New York State's education system, as well as keynote lectures and a chance to tour the capitol building in Albany. Bernstein was also introduced to a petition started by a school that would reform New York's electoral standards and will be introduced to Schreiber through Model Congress. She had the privilege of following local State Senator Michael Balboni as his shadow.

Bernstein commented, "It was a great experience learning about politics and government. I am looking forward to going back next year."

-Merve Emre

## PHOTO GALLERY



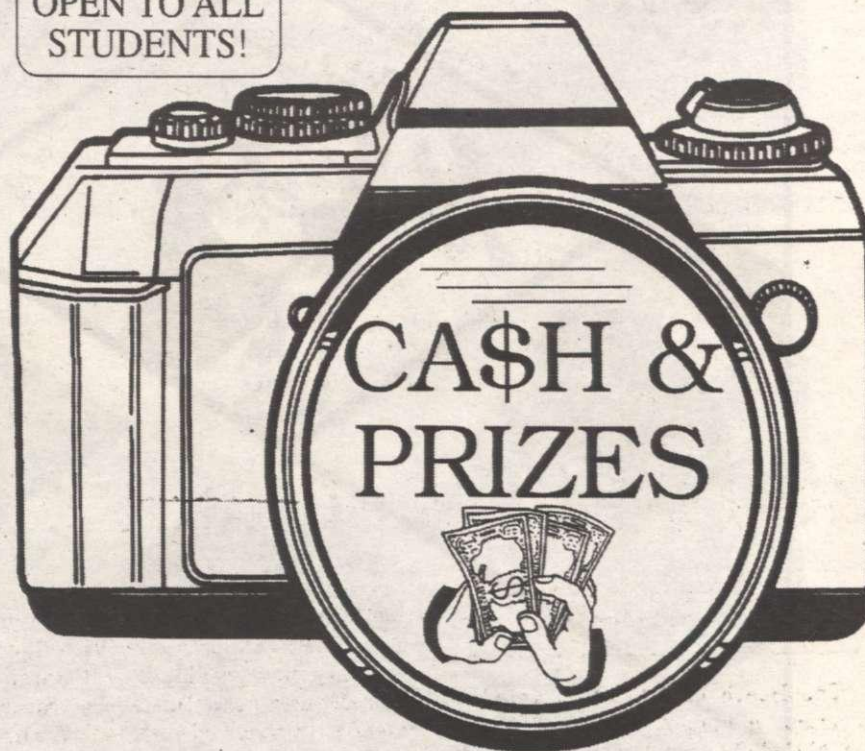
Sophomore David Katz took this photo of a stone statue for Mr. Ron Costello's photo II class. Katz took this picture in his backyard on April 22 and used a three and a half filter.

### IT'S HAPPENING NOW!

SCHREIBER HIGH SCHOOL'S  
ANNUAL

## PHOTO CONTEST

OPEN TO ALL  
STUDENTS!



**For details and an application,  
see a photo instructor, room 106.**

(Sponsored by the Technology Department.)

\*All photos must be submitted by May 18, 2001\*



# Board of Education elections on May 15

by Adam Carron

The district will hold elections for two Board of Education positions in the Weber Middle School all-purpose room between six a.m. and ten p.m. on May 15. Two of the three candidates, who are Nancy Cowles, Laura Mogul and Michael Meehan, will replace the current trustees Alan Baer and Dean Nardone, who decided to open their seats after serving their full three-year terms.

Mr. Meehan is a forty-year-old resident of Port Washington, enjoying tenure as a United States postal worker. He has three kids, one of which is attending school at Weber, one at Manorhaven Elementary School, and the last will begin pre-kindergarten in September.

Meehan would like to reduce the continuous bickering at Board meetings. He is very proud with the school district and feels that he would bring a sense of civic pride to the table. Being a homeowner, Mr. Meehan understands how high taxes can hurt those who are least able to afford large tax increases. He is sincerely committed to providing the best education possible for the kids and believes money can be saved by filing

for federal grants that have been going untapped. He would also like to challenge the community to lift some of the financial burden by expanding volunteer programs that serve all the schools.

Ms. Mogul, the second candidate, has been attending the school board meetings for the past two and a half years. She has three kids attending district schools, one in tenth grade, one in sixth grade and one in second grade. Ms. Mogul decided to run as soon as she found out that two positions were opening. She has wanted to be a part of the Board where she can be an influential force in helping the schools. She feels that the Board has been focusing too much on the school bond issue, rather than the education

aspect.

Ms. Mogul is aware that the Board is going to need to have some big decisions to make in the near and future, such as hiring new assistants for the superintendent and negotiating contracts for teachers and custodians. She would also like to change the way that the Board meetings are run. She feels that they are too contentious and that the fighting needs to be replaced by people respecting and supporting each other as the issues pass over. When

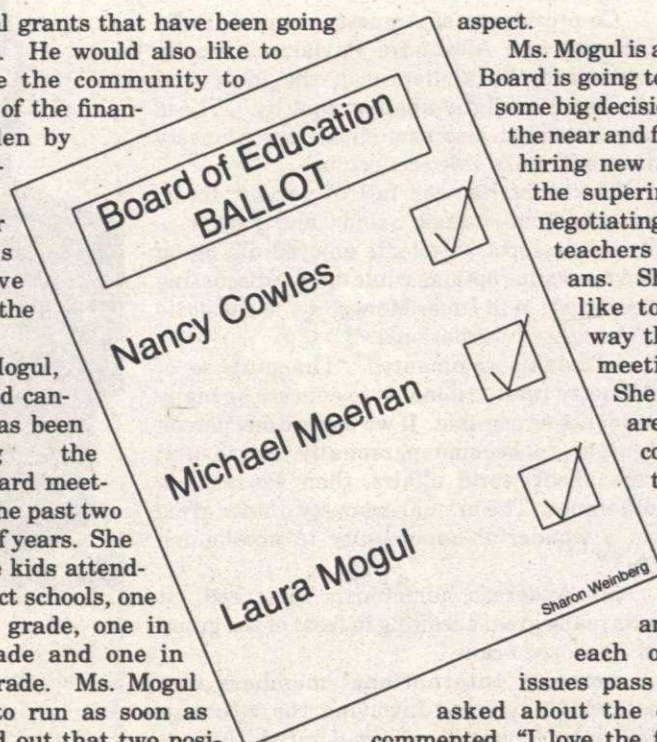
asked about the election, she commented, "I love the fact that Port Washington is small enough that if a person feels it necessary for them to make a change, they can easily jump in and get involved."

The third candidate is Ms. Nancy Cowles, who is a former Board member

and feels it is necessary for her to step up again and voice her opinion. She is aware that when the two Board members leave, the majority of the people have served less than a year, so she wants to get involved to help them learn how the process works and what types of questions should be asked. Like the other two candidates, she does not feel that enough time is being spent on education. She is concerned about having courses for all types of kids. She sees the need for more specialized courses both for kids who are more advanced and for kids who need more help than others.

Ms. Cowles is cognizant of the financial impact that education has on the community. She feels that the community has an obligation to seek increased value for every dollar spent. More time needs to be set aside for thoughtful, appropriate review, community input and revision. She insists that having a citizens' review committee should definitely be explored.

Commenting on how she feels she can make changes in the school board, Ms. Cowles stated, "I will strive to create a safe, welcoming educational climate, in which all children can learn and understand that their contributions and they, themselves, are valued."



## Port will not host Memorial Day fireworks

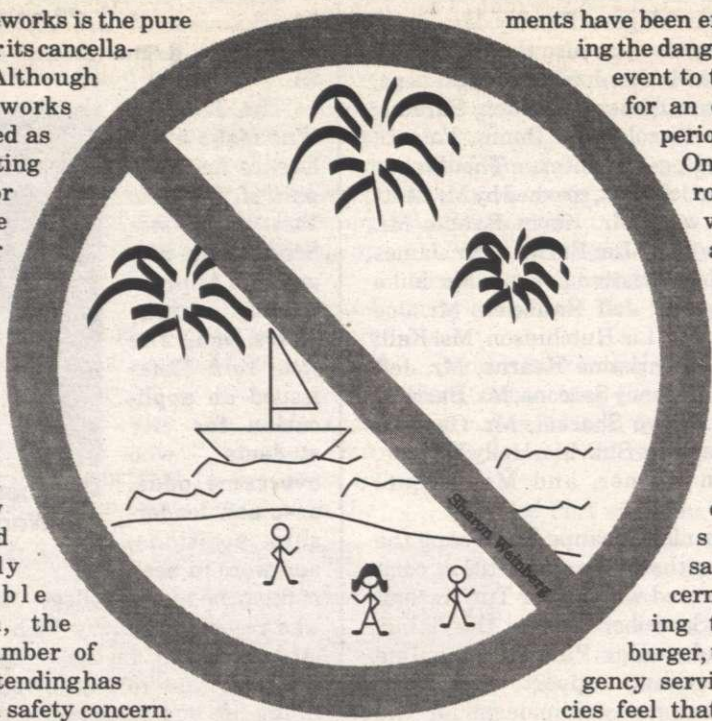
by Brienne Bellavita and Alexandra Pavlakis

A press release issued on April 27 reported that Town of North Hempstead Supervisor Ms. May Newburger has cancelled the annual Memorial Day fireworks display at Bar Beach. Due to safety concerns, the Town decided that the fireworks are no longer a secure event.

The fireworks have been a town gathering for the last fifteen years, drawing in not only local residents, but outsiders as well. Frank Castagna, the main owner of the Americana in Manhasset and Wheatley Plaza, has been providing the Town with the display as an annual gift. Newburger stated, "He [Frank Castagna] has given a special gift to the Town, and it's a sad irony that the fireworks show has fallen victim to its own success." The actual popularity

of the fireworks is the pure reason for its cancellation. Although the fireworks had served as a starting point for the summer season in the past and have provided the Town with a relatively cheap and generally enjoyable occasion, the large number of people attending has become a safety concern.

The police and fire depart-



ments have been emphasizing the dangers of the event to the Town for an extended period of time. Only one road provides access to Bar Beach, and when flooded with spectators, causes a serious safety concern. According to Newburger, the emergency service agencies feel that "in the event of illness or injury, they

could not remove people to a hospital in a timely fashion."

Members of the Fire Services Advisory Council, the Port Washington Fire Department and the Port Washington Police Department hailed Newburger's decision. William Kilfoil, the Chief of the Port Washington Police Department, stated, "We appreciate Supervisor Newburger's sensitivity to the safety of Town residents and others who have attended the Memorial Day fireworks at Bar Beach." Walter Trapp, Chief of the Port Washington Fire Department, agreed with Kilfoil. He commented, "We are pleased that the Supervisor has listened to and acted upon the concerns of those charged with the weighty responsibility of assuring the safety of those attending the fireworks at Bar Beach."

Although there will be no celebration this year, Newburger and various committees have already begun brainstorming for a different activity schedule for Memorial Day weekend 2002.

## 2001-2002 school budget vote on May 15

by Sarah Morgan

The Board of Education voted 4-3 to accept a budget of \$80,859,334 for the 2001-2002 school year at a Board of Education meeting on April 3. Board members Alan Baer, Dean Nardone, Richard Sussman, and Peter Wezenaar voted for the budget while Robert Ferro, Julie Meyer, and Steve Zimmerman voted against the proposed budget.

This amount represents an 8.9 percent

increase over the current budget. This increase is due to the elevated student enrollment as approximately one hundred seventy new students will enter the district next year. In addition, contracts need to be renewed and employee health benefits will be increased by ten percent. Afterwards, school busing for all middle school and high school students will also be added.

In order to take additional safety precautions, front entrance hall monitors will be implemented at the district elementary schools. Despite the question-

ing of the necessity of these monitors, the Board voted to keep this item in the proposed budget, at the cost of eighty-six thousand dollars.

Items not part of the proposed budget include a reduction in technology and a failure to meet all of the requests for new teacher and staff members. Although the Board considered cutting the district's Driver Education program, this program remains in the budget.

The immediately previous budget represented a 2.6 percent increase.

An additional community hearing on

the budget will be held on Tuesday, May 8, at 8 p.m. in the Schreiber auditorium. The budget vote will take place on Tuesday, May 15, at Flower Hill.

Board of Education member Mr. Dean Nardone, who voted for the budget, commented, "It's bad that it [the budget] costs so much, but that is what it costs to have a good education." He mentioned that the last couple of years the budget has been tight because it initially failed. Due to this, reserves are down and funds must be replenished.



# Annual Amnesty dinner supports Inner Mongolia

by Brienne Bellavita

Amnesty International, advised by Social Studies teacher Mr. Harry Andersen, hosted its annual dinner in the cafeteria on April 3. This dinner allows students to discuss various human rights issues in a laid back environment. The night included food, speakers, open discussions, and videos. Although a band was scheduled to perform at the dinner, illness of one member prevented this from being possible.

Every dinner has a theme, and this year the chosen topic was the crisis occurring in Inner Mongolia. Inner Mongolia was historically part of the Great Mongol Empire founded by Genghis Kahn. In the 1940's, the Chinese Communist government occupied the region. On May 1, 1947, the Chinese Communist government renamed the area the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region. For more than fifty-three years, the Chinese Communist government has been occupying Inner Mongolia. The land has been stripped of its natural resources, the children are forced to attend Chinese schools and the entire culture and way of life is restricted.

Approximately thirty-five people attended the dinner including one student from the city who wandered in and was so interested that she decided to attend. Many students were generous in their donations to the cause. One of the main ways that Amnesty International helps to make a difference is through urgent actions. Urgent actions are letters written to officials demanding fair treatment to political prisoners or other actions to protect the human rights of individuals. Numerous

urgent actions and petitions were sent around the dinner tables accumulating many pages of signatures.

Co-presidents of Amnesty, seniors Dalia Nazryan and Alexandra Pavlakis, formally addressed the audience on the issue and the need to fight against apathy. Those who attended also saw clips from Amnesty International's video collection.

The cafeteria was full of various foods, ranging from pizzas, salads and pastas to baked desserts. Students enjoyed dining on the numerous options while openly discussing the situation in Inner Mongolia and the goals of Amnesty International.

Pavlakis commented, "The purpose of Amnesty International is to educate as many students as possible. If we inspire one person tonight to become personally active and care about world affairs, then we made a difference. The annual Amnesty dinner gives us a wonderful opportunity to accomplish this."

Mr. Andersen humorously remarked, "It was really great speaking in front of the group of 20 oz. soda cans."

Amnesty International members also attended a protest involving the situation in Inner Mongolia at the United Nations building back in February. Members are even present in the picture section of the official web site of the Inner Mongolians' People Party.



Co-presidents of Amnesty, seniors Alexandra Pavlakis and Dalia Nazryan, address attendees about the hardships faced by Inner Mongolians.

Brienne Bellavita

## Leukemia Society organizes benefit faculty volleyball game

by Nicole Tingir

The Leukemia Society raised \$2,355 for the Lauri Strauss Leukemia Foundation through the Benefit Volleyball Game on April 20. The Society, advised by Assistant Principal Dr. Rita Albert, consists of seniors Nathalie Faure, Katharine Garofalo, Deborah Geiger, Ruth Kleinman and Natasha Pavlovich; juniors Dan Cahn and Liz Serrano and sophomores Jamie Feather, Michelle Guidice, Lindsay Levin, Lara Melniker and Rebecca Schroeder.

The Schreiber faculty faced the Weber faculty. Playing for Schreiber were Dr. Sid Barish, Mr. Dan Biro, Mr. Bob Bracken, Mr. Mike Cain, Ms. Cheryl

Clifton, Ms. Robin Cooper, Mr. Joe Delgais, Ms. Meghan Freeley, Ms. Maria Giamanco (who was also the coach), Mr. C.J. Gober, Mr. Jim Jones, Mr. Scott Lenz, Ms. Laura O'Brien, Ms. Jen Paradis, Mr. Gene Pizzolo, Ms. Donna Valenti, and Mr. Roger Winter. The Weber faculty participants, coached by Mr. Matt Sanzone, were Mr. Kevin Baudo, Mr. Joe Caruso, Mr. Jim Enright, Mr. James Fallon, Ms. Christine Freund, Mr. Mike Gallagher, Mr. Jeff Haubrich, Mr. Joe Hayward, Ms. Liz Hutchinson, Ms. Kalli Katos, Ms. Christine Kearns, Mr. Jeff Moss, Mr. Anthony Saccone, Ms. Barbara Sepe, Mr. Steve Shackel, Mr. Gardner Smith, Ms. Julie Suk, Ms. Holly Vetrone, Ms. Fran Weiner, and Ms. Raquel Wilson.

After senior Suzanne Davis sang the national anthem, the competition commenced with senior Tim Keenan as Schreiber's mascot, the Viking, and senior Pamela Riquelme providing support, encouragement and enthusiasm for the Schreiber team. In the end, the Weber team fought its way to victory, winning three of the five games.

Volunteers for the night's activities were Ms. Maria Augustino, Ms. Nori Cerny, Ms. Maria Dubie, Ms. Stephanie Joannon, Ms. Annette Keenan, Ms. Valerie Massimo, Ms. Angie Prudente, Ms. Marie Raday, Ms. Sally Reinhardt, Ms. Joyce Shapiro, Ms. Andrea Snellinger and members of the Leader's Club.

Assistant principal and Leukemia Society advisor Dr. Rita Albert commented, "Thank you to everyone who participated in the volleyball game. Though Weber won, everyone had a great time."

## Ms. Joan Lisecki receives award

by Matt Brod

English chairperson Ms. Joan Lisecki received the Teachers Who Make a Difference Award on March 31.

The Teachers Who Make a Difference Award is part of *The New York Times* Scholarship program. Approximately three years ago, *The New York Times* issued an application for city students who overcame odds, assumed leadership positions, and were in need of financial aid for college. Ms Lisecki was recognized, along with sixty-two other teachers, in the celebration of the important role he or she played in the life and success of a particular student. Upon recognition, Ms. Lisecki received \$3000.



Ms. Joan Lisecki received The Teachers Who Make a Difference Award on March 31.

While Ms. Lisecki was a teacher at Martin Van Buren High School, a student by the name of Leticia Williams approached Ms. Lisecki and asked her for her assistance in the essay portion of her application. After Williams

applied, she became one of the six winners of the competition, receiving \$48,000. Fifteen runner-ups received smaller monetary funds. After Williams emerged as one of the six students, she was then asked to identify a teacher who had influenced her life. After careful consideration between three teachers, she ultimately chose Ms. Lisecki.

Ms. Lisecki commented, "Everyone who graduates has had someone who made a difference in their lives."

pressure, suicide, and binge drinking. The students worked with both experienced peer counselors and school counselors on these issues.

## Peer Counselors prepare for 2001-2002 school year

by Jennifer Schmirer

Aspiring peer counselors for the 2001-2002 school year attended a training session at the Community Synagogue on April 25.

One hundred six students participated in this event as well as a series of "Let's Talk" groups to prepare for next year. In the "Let's Talk" groups, students discussed issues that sophomores and juniors consider important to the school community. These issues included peer

Guidance counselor Mr. Paeder Maxwell felt that the day was very successful. He also stated that the next step is the selection of the group facilitators for the fall semester. The emphasis of the peer counseling training session was to attract a diverse group of students and to vary the different activities in which they engage.

## SUMMER DRIVER ED CLASSES

Sign-up in the Schreiber Main Lobby  
Saturday May 12th & 19th (8am -12pm)  
May 14th-18th (7am-8am)

You must be 16 and have a valid  
Learner Permit



For more information see Mr Costello



# Science researchers present work at Regional Fair

by Matt Brod

Sophomore and junior science research students competed in the sixteenth annual Regional Fair on April 20. First place was awarded to sophomore Julia Bernstein, second place was received by junior Catrina Rorke and third place was a tie between sophomores Jessica Gross and Nicole Tingir.

In her project, "The Effect of Letpin on the Length of Maturation in *Drosophila*," Bernstein introduced a human hormone called Leptin into *Drosophila*, to see if it would decrease the time a fruit fly takes to become an adult. Her results concluded that Leptin did in fact increase a fruit fly's maturation state.

Rorke's project was entitled "The Effects of Solidity Levels on the Photosynthetic Rate of *Chlorella Stigmatophora*." She set up test tubes with different solidity levels of *Chlorella Stigmatophora* and tested for oxygen levels at different time periods. Her results concluded that lower solidity levels would permit oxygen production among algae and would thus be able to sustain animal life in the case of utrification.

Gross's project was entitled "The Effect of Competition on the Mating Call Type of Male *Xenopus laevis* Frogs." She tested the call types produced by male frogs of the *Xenopus laevis* species in

different social situations, specifically with one female frog placed in the presence of one, two, and three male frogs. She discovered that the call-chirp is triggered by an increase in male competition.

Tingir's project was entitled "The Effect of Aminoguanidine on Advanced Glycation End Products in Chicken Embryos." She injected embryos with various levels of glucose and aminoguanidine, and then used a fructosamine kit as a quantifying reagent. She found that the aminoguanidine significantly lowered the amount of glycated proteins in the embryos.

Highest honors for this category were awarded to juniors Josh Brandstader and Erin Ly and sophomore Erica Burden. Juniors Tim Koo and Eric Merkelson and sophomores Matt Burack and Jon Levin received honors.

The proposal category was introduced this year for those students whose projects have not yet produced results. Sophomore Merve Emre received first place in this category followed by sophomore Jonathan Latzman in second, and sophomore Nicole Ambrosio in third. In this category, honors were given to juniors Jessica Ansel, Zena Hassen, and Craig Meltzer and sophomore Daniel Goetz.

The competition was organized by the present science research students and was advised by science research teacher Ms. Phyllis Serfaty. All students and



Senior Leah Hamburg (left) listens to sophomore Nicole Tingir (right) explain her project about injecting chicken embryos at the Regional Fair on April 20. Tingir tied for third place with sophomore Jessica Gross.

faculty were invited to attend the competition. The judges for the competition included the science faculty, and social studies teacher Mr. Brian Frank. Science teacher Mr. Peter Travis remarked, "The students' work was very impressive and the hard to understand topics were explained well."

The reason for the Fair's creation was to prepare the students for out of school

competition. The students also wish to receive friendly and pertinent feedback on their presentations and posters.

Ms. Serfaty commented, "The Regional Fair gives students an opportunity to hone presenting skills and meet with great success at competitions with other schools. I am looking forward to great things from the sophomore and junior classes."

## Senior auction to benefit the Gambol

by Sam Salkin

The annual senior auction to benefit the Gambol took place in the auditorium during periods 4-1 and 4-2 on April 26. This year's auction included prizes such as Mets and Yankees box seats tickets, a picnic in Central Park with Ms. Barbara Selwitz, parking spaces in the faculty parking lot and a trip to the "Freeley Mansion," otherwise known as health teacher Ms. Meghan Freeley's house.

English teacher Mr. A.J. Gober was

the auctioneer for the event and senior Becky Henderson was recognized for her efforts to gather auction items and organize many aspects of the auction. Parents Ms. Judy Henderson, Ms. Heidi Spellman and Ms. Jean Vogeley also helped coordinate the event.

Co-prom coordinator, Ms. Debbie Lefton, reported that this year's auction was "...one of the most successful in Schreiber history. We are truly grateful to the administrators and teachers for being so helpful and enabling us not to raise the price of admission to this year's Gambol. The students were enthusiastic and it was an overall success."

## Students participate in Prom fashion show

by Sarah Morgan

Seniors Stephanie Borris, Karen Chuzmir and Lauren Kanfi, and sophomore Jessica McGuire participated in "The Big Night—Prom 2001" at Bloomingdale's Department Store in Roosevelt Field Mall on April 5. Roosevelt Field, in association with *Seventeen* and *Clinique*, presented the event.

High schools from across Long Island, including Baldwin, Calhoun, Garden City, Herricks, Jericho, Kellenberg, and Long Beach, participated. The school that had the largest number of people in the audience won a limousine, a tuxedo for their prom date, a *Clinique* gift basket, a day at the salon, and crystal tattoos.

The participants were fitted for dresses on April 3, and the dress rehearsal was

held on April 4. Students had their hair done at Maximus Salon in the Source Mall and the *Clinique* counter at Bloomingdale's did their make-up. The fashion show took place on a runway and a DJ from Craig Scott Entertainment played music.

Themes included Bright Nights, Black and White, Precious Metals, Fairy Tale Fantasy, Punk Funk, and the Fabulous 50's.

Borris, Chuzmir, and Kanfi modeled designs by Jessica McClintock, and McGuire modeled De Laru's designs for the Bright Nights category.

In the Fabulous 50's segment, Kanfi modeled a BCBG dress, McGuire wore a Laundry design, Borris modeled the design of Dave and Johnny Celedon, and Chuzmir wore a Tadashi dress.

Chuzmir commented, "It was a lot of fun. We had the opportunity to get our hair and makeup done and feel like a model for a day."



(l-r) Junior Myung-Hee Vabulas and freshman Andrew Malone were among the few students in the country that had perfect papers on the NLE.

## Students excel in National Latin Exam

by Sam Salkin

The Foreign Language Department sponsored the administration of the National Latin Exam on March 16. The exam, given to every Latin student in the school, consists of forty multiple-choice questions designed to test grammar, derivatives, history, culture and translation of passages.

Among the gold and silver medalists, three perfect scores were awarded to Schreiber students. Junior Myung-Hee Vabulas and freshmen Andrew Malone and Samantha Mirzoeff all received a perfect score of forty. Students receiving gold medals were Vabulas, sophomores Merve Emre, Andrew Pariser and Max Sokol, and freshmen Jonathan Allured, Marla Diakow, Jane Forman, Michael Furino, Matthew Levering, Andrew, Mirzoeff, Meghan

Mulqueen, and Anushka Peres. Silver medalists were juniors Max Bernstein, Ronli Diakow, Chris Keen, Patrick Mulqueen, Laura Silver, Caitlin Tsuchiya, David Whittemore, and Brad Zankel; sophomores Gina Farinaccio and Allyson Young, and freshmen Shane Hafer, Kimberly Lee, David Lindenbaum, Brian Moran, Max Schneider, and Rachel Wilke.

The test began in 1977 with six thousand students nationally participating. Historically, Schreiber has scored very high, boasting many gold medals and perfect exams. In the year 2000, 109,000 students from all fifty states and over eight foreign countries took the test.

Latin teacher Dr. Louise Lindemann commented, "We, as teachers, are always very proud of students who do well in school and national exams. Latin students are very enthusiastic and special."



# Six students showcase artistic talent

by Caroline Axelrod

## Honorable Mentions

Six AP Studio in Art students participated in the Twentieth Annual Congressional Art Competition, sponsored by Congressman Gary Ackerman, at the Nassau County Museum of Art on April 22.

Senior Hillary Broder and junior Tyler Graham received honorable mention, claiming the only two honorable mentions in the county. The Art Department also submitted the work of seniors Sarah Morgan and Kerin Weinberg and juniors Alison Narofsky and Yeu Jin Yoon. Schreiber represented six of the sixty-three entries from thirteen high schools in Nassau, Suffolk, and Queens counties.

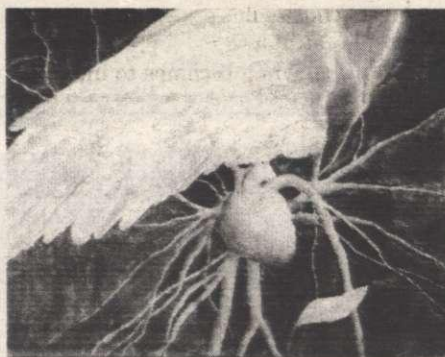
At the reception, the winners were presented with awards and all participants received certificates and calendars. Two weeks prior to the reception, all work was on display in an exhibit entitled "An Artistic Discovery" at Nassau County Museum of Art in Roslyn. The artwork used all types of media including pencil, oil, collage, photography, pastel, acrylic and watercolor.

The contest acknowledges one overall winner whose work will be displayed in Washington D.C. in the corridor leading to the Capitol Building along with other winners from across the nation. An overall second place winner was also selected for the first time because of the minimal difference between the top two point totals. In addition, two honorable mentions are awarded in each county. The first place winner will take a trip to Washington D.C. on June 13.

Art chairman Dr. Mark Graham commented, "The artwork of our students was the most outstanding work in the entire show. It was more imaginative, and we were one of the few schools that used the figure as part of their work."



(l-r) Senior Hillary Broder received honorable mention at the 20th Annual Congressional Art Competition on April 22 for her work, "Cutting." Broder created this portrait of senior Kerin Weinberg with oil paint although Weinberg is not associated with cutting. Broder created this painting to express the emotion of depression as a part of her concentration project, "Women and emotion." Junior Tyler Graham also received honorable mention for his "Anatomical Back." He used mixed media for this work as a part of his concentration project "The male and female back portrayed in different medium."



(l-r, t-b) Junior Allison Narofsky submitted her oil painting "Sheltered," which depicts her body in a box as a part of her concentration project, which focuses on the importance of childhood. "Bird," entered by junior Yeu Jin Yoon, is made from newspaper, charcoal, and pencil and illustrates the lyrics of a Korean song. The acrylic painting "Icon" was entered by senior Kerin Weinberg and depicts a realistic Weinberg kissing a non-realistic Weinberg. The pencil drawing "Wooden Pleasure," submitted by senior Sarah Morgan, is part of her concentration project, which depicts still life objects from different perspectives.



**PORT COUNSELING CENTER**

225 MAIN STREET

PORT WASHINGTON

PORT COUNSELING CENTER IS YOUR COMMUNITY RESOURCE FOR HELP IN COPING WITH CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY THROUGH TREATMENT

- Recovery/Relapse Prevention Program
- Bilingual Chemical Dependency Education
- Intensive Adolescent Treatment Program
- Family Substance Abuse Education
- Stop DWI Psycho-Educational Program
- Men's/Women's Issues Groups
- Treatment Program For Seniors
- Treatment Program For Veterans

If you need us, we are here for you and your family. All services are provided by state licensed clinicians. Please call:

**Port Counseling Center, Inc.**

And Ask For Art Rosenthal at 767-1133

or 767-1182

or 767-0973

Hours: 9:30 a.m. - 9:30 p.m., Mon. - Fri., 9 - 3:30 Sat.

Fees are on a sliding scale



# Does a "good" college guarantee a "good" education?

## A look at the frenzy for admission to selective colleges

by William Greene

This year, the college admissions process has been one of the most competitive in history. Most schools are experiencing a marked increase in qualified applicants, and the acceptance rates at top-level colleges and universities have plummeted to nearly ten percent. In a recent article for *The New York Times Magazine*, Frenanda Moore commented on this trend: "In 1985, when I graduated from high school, above average grades and a few extra-curricular activities meant you could at least shoot for the Ivies. These days, such an assumption would be hubris."

Not only is the admissions process becoming more competitive, it is also becoming increasingly arbitrary. Grades, board scores, extra-curricular activities, essays and demographics play an important role in admissions, but none of these factors are definitive. Some students are gaining acceptance to prominent schools with intimidating enrollment statistics, while getting flatly rejected by schools of lesser prestige, and vice versa. Ralph Gardner Jr., in an article about the advent of college counseling for *New York Magazine*, writes that a Yale admissions officer said: "[Yale] could have tossed all its acceptances in the trash and culled a statistically identical and stellar freshman class from the reject pile."

There are many reasons why this is happening. Certainly, there are more people applying than in previous years, and there are more people with impressive resumes who seek admission to the top colleges and universities. However, the most significant and most often overlooked reason for this recent frenzy of competition is a result of the way people in America view education.

Many people view education as a means to an end, a necessary vehicle to a prestigious and lucrative career. Discounting the inherent value of a good education, many people apply to college for the sole reason that a degree from an elite school will be worth more in the American marketplace. Admittance to a top-level university is viewed as a ticket to a successful and fulfilling life, and many students therefore apply to the same schools without regard to the course requirements, the quality of the professors, or any other factors that are tied to the quality of education.

This movement in American education is based on a set of assumptions that few students question. However, deeper analysis of these assumptions reveals how distorted and impractical the American view of education has become.

First, it is believed that a more prestigious education is always a better education. However, the quality of education is based on the extent to which a student takes advantage of the resources at a given school, not the name or reputation of that school. Science majors at both top-level and "second-tier" schools study the same material from the same textbooks, thus rendering the location of those studies meaningless. Lesser-known schools sometimes offer honors programs with courses as rigorous and intense as

schools of greater distinction. And though the more prestigious schools boast faculty with celebrity status and all sorts of laurels, this is no guarantee that they provide the best instruction.

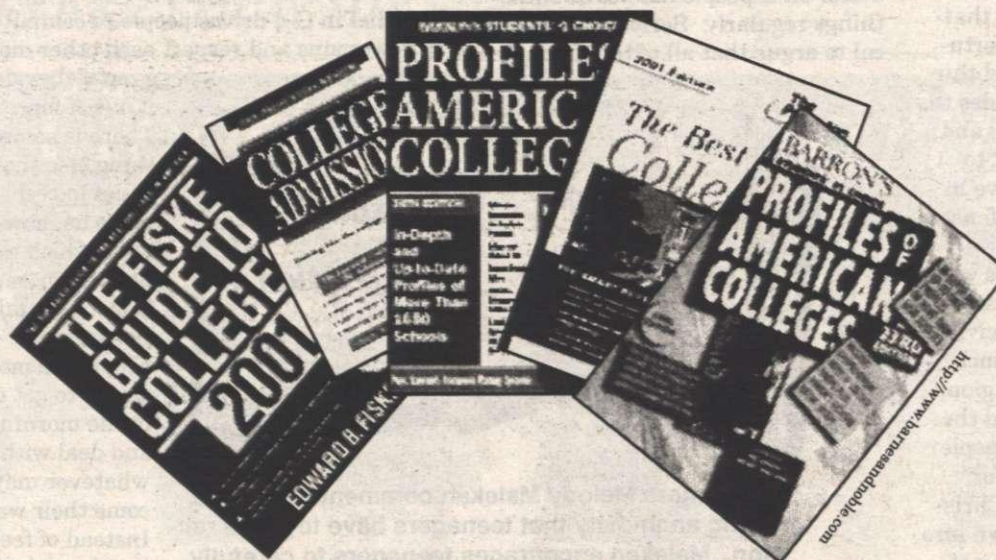
A deleterious corollary of this assumption has been the extent to

ment...an internal satisfaction rather than an actual accomplishment." Kitao was referring to the intellectual aspect of success, which is based on the internal satisfaction of learning and four years of free inquiry. Every school, regardless of name, reputation, or

lectual fulfillment. French literary theorist Jaques Derrida, in *Criticism in Society*, concisely summarized this viewpoint: "Within the university...you can study without waiting for any efficient or immediate result. You may search, just for the sake of searching, and try for the sake of trying. So there is a possibility of what I would call playing. It's perhaps the only place within society where play is possible to such an extent."

I do not mean to completely ignore the benefits of going to a good school, or make any sweepingly polemical generalizations about the way Americans view education. There is, of course, a reason why certain colleges and universities have great reputations and consistently attract the most ambitious, assiduous, and intellectually curious students. But the extent to which society has come to value a big name over the actual process of learning is undermining American education, and driving high school students crazy in the meantime. In truth, most students will find their niche wherever they go, and they will have the opportunity to

explore a wealth of experiences and fields of study. And regardless of an indefinite ranking in *U.S. News and World Report*, students will learn nothing unless they apply themselves to their work and take advantage of the many opportunities that a college offers.



Senior William Greene reflects upon the competitive college admissions process. Greene claims that while college rankings are important, attending a top school does not necessarily guarantee success.

which Americans value college ranking systems, equating a higher rank with a better education. Ranking systems, such as that in *U.S. News and World Report*, are intended as a diagnostic tool for finding a school within a given range. But the difference between the quality of education at schools in each "tier" is subjective, and often less meaningful than the numbers indicate. The amount these rankings change each year demonstrates their uselessness as a definitive mode of determining the best college. And some of the methods by which they rank (selectivity, alumni giving rates, and total endowment, for example) are inherently biased towards older, more established universities. Educational consultant Shirley Levin, in "Ignore College Ranking," advised that choosing a college should entail "more substantive and relevant factors than some ranking based on arbitrary criteria developed by journalists interested in a quick profit."

More misguided, however, is the assumption that admission to an elite school will guarantee "success." But the meaning of the word "success" is nebulous—it can denote achievement in many different areas. Success can be financial, intellectual, social, or even spiritual. Nevertheless, success in any of these areas is not related to the name or reputation of a school.

Nineteenth-century American politician Daniel Webster defined success as "achieving a desired end." Prestigious schools purportedly offer a means to the "desired end" of greater financial prosperity, but this is only wishful thinking. While graduates of elite colleges and universities earn more at entry-level in some professions, long-term financial success is a product of hard-work, ambition, and luck.

T. Kaori Kitao, professor of Art History at Swarthmore College and author of "The Usefulness of Uselessness," defined success as "fulfill-

ment, offers courses, facilities and resources by which students can gratify their intellectual curiosity. And those students who are overly concerned with a career and the misconception that a top-level school will guarantee financial success, according to Kitao, are at a disadvantage when it comes to intel-

## Edward D. Pakel

### Attorney At Law

20 Guilford Road  
Port Washington, New York 11050  
516•883•2090



- **Experienced**  
Real Estate Attorney - a practice of Residential, Commercial and Landlord/Tenant law.
- **Unique**  
Business Benefit Planning - experience with Corporate Non-qualified Benefits and Small Business needs.
- **Integrated**  
Elder, Personal, Financial and Estate Planning - an advocate of an integrated approach to Will, Trust, Insurance, Tax, Long Term Care, Health Proxy and Estate planning.

AN EXPERIENCED AND HONEST COUNSELOR  
Weekend and Evening Appointments Available



# Sophomore says: "You gotta have faith"

by Melody Malekan

Recently, it seems as if every time I hear someone mention religion, it is to condemn it. Atheism has become a fad, and religion has come to be seen as something in which only ignorant and unreasonable fools believe. I have heard more than one person say that the only thing religion has ever generated is hatred and conflict. I feel that this belief is both untrue and unfortunate. In fact, the six hundred and thirteenth mitzvot of Judaism includes the commandments to love both Jews and Gentiles. This piece is not meant to condemn people who do not believe in G-d or religion. Rather, it is a defense of religion.

I am not denying that religious wars have caused horrific occurrences such as the Holocaust and the violent civil war in Ireland. Though conflict such as these have been incited by religion, there is a necessity to look beyond the violence and see what it is that people are so willing and ready to fight for. It would not make sense for the Christians in ancient Rome to be thrown into an arena with tigers for something of no value. The Jews would not have chosen death over conversion so many times throughout history for something meaningless. These people made grave sacrifices for a reason, and so I feel that it is our obligation to at least look into what makes so many people consider religion a driving force in their lives.

Religion is not bad. In fact, the basic doctrines of most religions endorse ideas that are considered morally good.

Take into account the Ten Commandments, which are arguably the base of almost every major religion in the world today. These tell us not to steal, not to commit adultery, not to kill, not to lie, not to be jealous, and to respect our elders. I would like to hear someone argue that these are inherently bad values. I cannot name one person who does not agree that we would all be better off if people did not do these things regularly. Seriously, it is illogical to argue that all of the fundamental

system that we are so dependent upon fails?

This brings me to another area of disagreement: the existence of G-d. Personally, I believe that G-d exists. I have nothing against people who disagree with me on this point, but what does vex me is the idea that people seem to have an urge to point out to me that believing in G-d makes me less of a person, or a more stupid one. Logically, belief in G-d drives people to commit fewer sins and respect each other more,

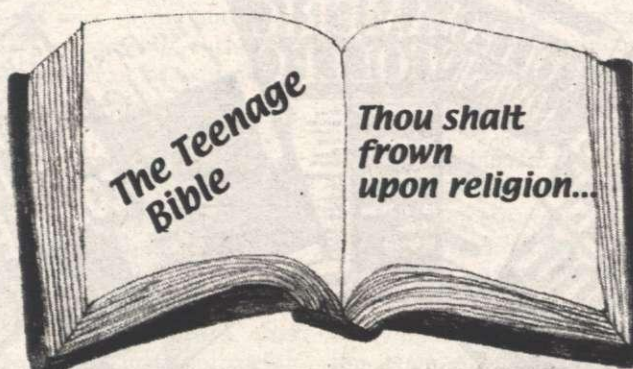
even if they do it out of fear. There is something else that belief in G-d gives us, however, which may be even more important: faith. Faith gives people the motivation to get up in the morning and deal with whatever may come their way. Instead of feeling that a bad experience is

the end of the world, faith gives people the ability to look beyond getting hurt and to try for something better. It gives people the conception—even if some sadly see it as a misconception—that things can get better, and that they will get better because G-d is looking out for them. Religion cannot only be a driving force in people's lives, but it can drive them to go on living. I have yet to see

the problem with this, and I agree with George Michaels when he sings, "You gotta have faith." The hope and happiness that religion instills in people is the reason why it has become such a driving force in the world, and why it has outlasted almost every civilization.

I have left myself open to the argument that one of the greatest problems with religion is the fact that it is too much of a force in some people's lives. People cite examples such as the treatment of women under the Taliban. I will openly admit that fundamentalism in any religion can be dangerous. It is the fundamentalists in most religions who enforce oppressive laws. There are a small percentage of people who take every single word in texts of religion literally and apply it to their everyday lives. There are an even smaller number of people who try to impose every word in the texts of their religion on those around them. This is where the devastating conflict in the Middle East stems from. Then there are the brilliant people—I like to call them bigots—who feel that the only people who are good enough for G-d's glorious earth are those who are just like them. However, it is unmerited to say that their religion backs this completely and that therefore it is bad to the core.

Most religions condemn hatred, and characterizing religion with hatred is wrong. Do not condemn something that you do not know or understand—this is defined as prejudice. If you choose not to accept the doctrines of religion as true, then have the courtesy to allow others to do so without facing endless scrutiny.



Sophomore Melody Malekan comments upon the growing animosity that teenagers have towards religion. Malekan encourages teenagers to carefully examine different religions before condemning them.

bases and teachings of religion promote evil and that there is no reason for religion to exist. Religions lay out laws, if not at least recommendations, for the ethical treatment of people. Is it so terrible for people to attempt to repent their sins? Or is it a bad thing to be more afraid of committing them in the first place for fear of having to answer to a higher power, especially when the

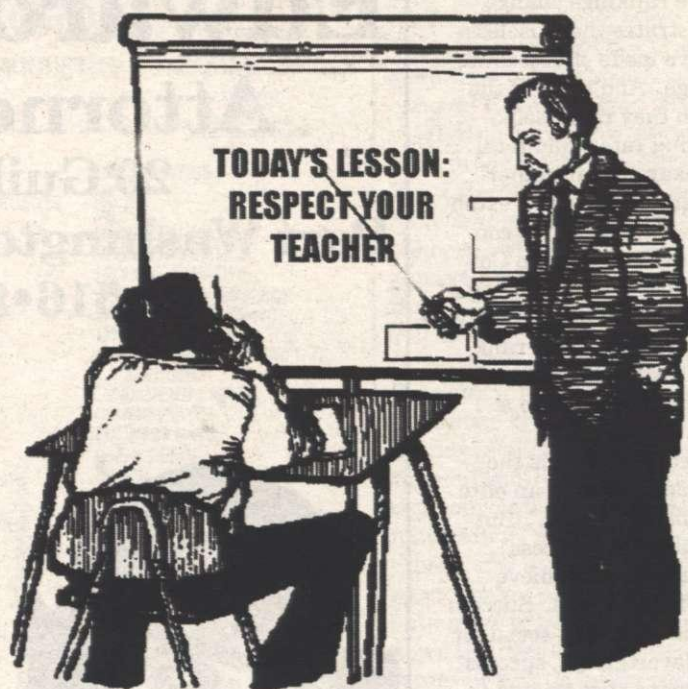
## Students demand more respect for teachers

by Jessica Gross and Melody Malekan

Why is it that high school students are so quick to demean their teachers? Despite many students' belief that their teachers are constantly seeking mechanisms by which to inflict pain upon their pupils, the fact is that most teachers are simply trying to teach us and enlighten us with their knowledge.

Most students would consider themselves well equipped to refute the aforementioned statement. If teachers were out to get us, so to speak, then why would they bombard us with incessant homework, impossible tests, and long hours of torture, oops—we mean classes? Why would they insist on giving us essay after essay, and constantly make us review for those pointless Regents, Achievement Tests, and AP exams? It could not possibly be that they are doing it for our own benefit—no, that would be an impossibility. There must be some kind of an evil conspiracy.

There are several problems with this attitude. First of all, it is absolutely unfounded. Teachers could easily stop giving us tests and papers, and in doing so, reduce their own workloads. But, they do not. What many students fail to recognize is that the announcement of a test elicits the positive motivation to study and actually learn important material, and that the notorious red marks covering a paper directly result



Sophomores Jessica Gross and Melody Malekan encourage students to recognize the strong efforts of their teachers. According to Gross and Malekan, students at Schreiber lack respect for teachers.

in an improvement in the quality of the next essay. Students are prone to forgetting the patience that many teachers display when it comes to repeating things over and over again, a patience that the majority of teens themselves

do not possess. They too frequently let that tedious lesson on quantum physics overshadow the incredible demonstration of explosions that was shown just the day before.

Perhaps the information that teachers are bestowing upon us does not seem of importance right now. Perhaps it appears as though the endless hours that we spend studying seemingly obsolete facts are wasteful. However, there is a very meaningful answer to the commonly posed question,

"What is the point of this?" Right now, many students really do not have any conception of what they would like to do with the rest of their lives, what they are going to study in college, and which

of the thousands of possible professions they will choose. Consequently, it is of utmost importance that we explore all areas of knowledge, from biology to Shakespeare to European history. Just maybe, doing that lengthy worksheet in American History will make a class in law just a bit easier, and we will have our high school teachers to thank for it. Additionally, with the base of knowledge that teachers are granting us, we could theoretically take our lives in any direction that we choose.

It is important to realize that our teachers have made a deliberate decision regarding their professions. Nobody threatened to defenestrate your math teacher if she did not become a teacher. Quite on the contrary; our teachers selected their profession with the intention of helping the youth of America to receive an education and become better people. We are sure that all students, despite any issues they may have with any of their current teachers, can remember at least one teacher who really touched them or affected them in a very positive way. We are equally positive that the very teacher that vexes you has, at more than one point, in the past had that very same impact on a former student. Most likely, you will remember him or her in a positive light, because our teachers are among the most important people we will encounter in our entire lives. So, give them all they want—a little respect.



# Should high school students dress to impress?

## Seniors debate the importance of appearance amongst teenagers

### Kleinman discourages striving for the ideal

by Ruth Kleinman

I hear people say all the time that they do not like others who act in a fake manner or who dress a certain way just to impress people. Everyone has finally realized that super-

models in magazine ads are airbrushed and fixed by using computers. Everyone is always talking about how most of us "normal" people do not look like celebrities and do not have the super duper skinny bodies like they do on television, but it is alright since we can be bigger in size than they are and still be healthy.

However, it's all becoming a cliché. It is definitely losing its meaning. What is the purpose of saying, "Oh I don't really need to look like that person on TV" when in reality, you are still thinking you want to? I'm sure we can all agree that none of us will ever look like Janet Jackson or Julia Roberts. We probably all want to, because they are both attractive. But we will never have their bodies or their looks.

I am sick of this attitude, because no one ever does anything about it. I know I will never have the body of Shania Twain or Mya or Helen Hunt. But I have accepted it. Some people still have not. And the message that's out there—that celebrities are sometimes not the right role models—is heard, but not put to use.

I still see people coming to school everyday wearing platform shoes, tube tops, and skintight pants, probably because some celebrity in the spotlight has started this new fashion trend. People talk about how they need to lose weight, or go to the tanning salon, or get a haircut just like Jennifer Aniston in order to look better. But, wait a minute,

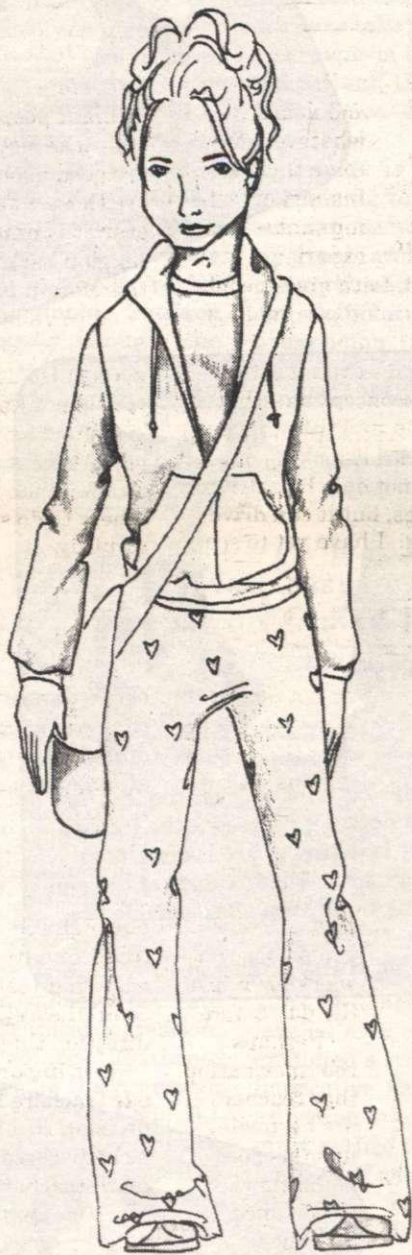
didn't we all just agree that celebrities are not always the right role models? You know I was right when I said, "supermodels in magazine ads are airbrushed..." So why are so many people hypocritical when it comes to fashion, style, and looks? Why do we need to be dressed up for school and try to look pretty just to sit in a

classroom all day? I go to school in jeans or sweatpants and a T-shirt on most days. Occasionally, I'll hear that seven-year-old girl inside me saying, "Let's play dress up today" so I'll wear something nicer. But I am still completely shocked that few people accept who they really are inside, and that many resort to being the pretty face.

I got so many reactions and comments from the article I published in the January 2001 issue of *The Schreiber Times* about teenagers and images of themselves. I figured there was a small chance that I would start to see a trend of students wearing less make-up and more casual

clothing to school everyday. However, I was dead wrong.

I wish there were something I could do to make these things go away and somehow alter these ideal images. Because of the pressures of society and the role models we have, today's youth oftentimes will base friendships on clothes, money, and popularity. I'll just keep sitting and waiting for a change. I do not have much time left in high school so hopefully you will do whatever you can in my short time left so these pressures can change and eventually cease to exist.



Hillary Broder

### Dressing up does not dress down confidence

by Brienne Bellavita

While I agree with many of the statements that Kleinman makes, such as "...the message that's out there—that celebrities are sometimes not the right role models—is being heard, but not put to use," I disagree with the general message of her article.

In reference to wearing "platform shoes (and) tube tops" Kleinman writes, "...I am...shocked that few people accept whom they really are inside, and that many resort to being the pretty face." Does this mean that because I wore a skirt to school today I somehow feel inadequate about myself and am trying to show off my body instead? I can assure you that is not the case. While many girls do wish to show off their bodies by wearing "skintight pants," others, including myself, simply wish to look nice. Furthermore, I think it is ridiculous to suggest that in an idyllic world everyone should not be concerned about what others think of him or her. I do not believe that there is a single person who has never wanted to impress someone else—maybe they did not use specific clothing to catch another's attention, but they may have used another asset or attribute in order to do so. Furthermore, what about the good ol' saying, "if you've got it, flaunt it?"

In her article, Kleinman also accuses others of being "hypocritical when it comes to fashion, style and looks." However, she also writes, "Occasionally, I'll hear that seven-year-old girl inside me saying, 'Let's play dress up today' so I'll wear something nicer." My advice to Kleinman is not to call others out on being a charlatan and then act like one herself.

In another line, Kleinman states, "What is the purpose of saying, 'Oh, I don't really need to look like that person on TV' when in reality, you are still thinking you want to?" The problem with this statement is that Kleinman is assuming that "need" and "want" are the same, when, in actual-

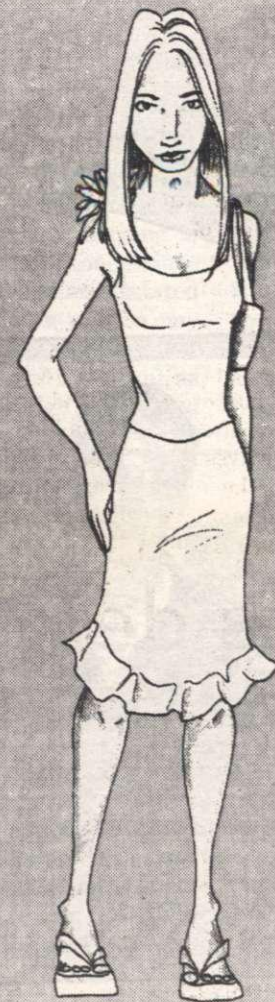
ity, they are two very different things. While I believe it certainly would be nice to have Christina Aguilera's stomach, I certainly do not feel the need to possess it, and thus, I am not employing any radical way to obtain such a stomach.

Kleinman also asserts that people only wear things like

"platform shoes, tube tops, and skintight pants" because some celebrity does. I think that is one of the most ridiculous things I've ever heard. While it may true that many want to wear what the so-called "style" is, that has more to do with stores, advertising and models than with celebrities. No girl is going to wear a short little shirt revealing her navel to school every day just because that is Christina Aguilera's and Britney Spears' normal attire. And, if someone decides to, that is essentially his or her own decision. Lou Pearlman most definitely was not wagging a contract in front of their faces to try and give them an incentive to do so.

Finally, Kleinman maintains that after her article in the January 2001 issue of the *Times*, she thought others would start wearing less make-up and start dressing down to school. Well, I'm

sorry, but if you feel that passionately about the subject, then you should probably do more than just write an article in *The Schreiber Times*. Furthermore, I would just like to question your entire idea: You seem to think that dressing down to school is what people should do, and that we should all feel comfortable enough with ourselves to do that. However, who's to say that those that wear baggy clothing to school do not actually have less confidence? If someone is always self-conscious, doesn't it make sense that they would want to wear baggy clothing to try and cover up their body? Whatever the case may be, students should be able to wear what they want, when they want, without the fear of being criticized by a fellow classmate. If we were all supposed to wear baggy clothing, and thus look the same, why not just wear school uniforms?



Hillary Broder



# The Roving Reporter

## Is our educational system becoming too test-crazed?

by Jamie Sokol



"I think teachers are leaning too much towards state tests. There is too much pressure from administration to meet requirements."  
-senior Bryan Vogeley



"At the elementary level, there is a lot of testing. When a great amount of testing is going on, kids lose out because teachers teach specifically for their students to pass the exams. Creative learning does not take place."  
-Dr. Ira Weiss



"I think it is. People base each other too much on their scores and colleges do it as well. It puts more pressure on the students."  
-sophomore Sumru Kumar



"For the most part, every test we have encountered has been a total miscalculation of our learning capabilities and overall knowledge. In fact, standardized tests are nothing more than money-grabbers, and an attempt to make people feel really good or really bad about themselves."  
-senior George Gerstein



"Of course. It has been for at least the last five years. To me, it does not represent the totality of learning that is taking place. It often does not acknowledge the intrinsic values of the generalized learning that takes place outside the classroom."  
-Mr. Harry Anderson



"I think they think too much of the tests. Teachers do not care about grades and what they teach. They just care about the tests."  
-freshman Richie Miglietta



"We are becoming too obsessed with tests. There are a lot of people who have no social life because their parents insist that they study, even if the subject is something they are not interested in."  
-junior Chris LaBanca



"Tests are not perfect, but there needs to be some system in place to judge how kids are learning. Until something better comes along, it seems to me that we are stuck with being test-crazed."  
-senior Amy McDonald

All photos by Jamie Sokol



## Vote and vote "yes" for the budget

The Times urges all eligible voters to vote and vote yes for the budget on May 15. All Port Washington residents who are at least eighteen years of age are eligible to vote at the Flower Hill Building. If the budget is not passed, a revote will take place in June. The district must resort to a contingency budget, in which vital programs will be cut.

Although there is a significant increase in the amount of the budget, this funding is necessary to accommodate the increased student enrollment, as well as programs such as after school busing and the implementation of elementary school monitors. The passage of the budget is necessary for the sustained level of educational excellence in the district.

## Times is deeply saddened by recent cancellation of fireworks

Memorial Day weekend is a time when college students are home and families and friends get together to not only recognize the holiday, but also celebrate the coming of summer. The Schreiber Times staff was saddened by the announcement of the cancellation of the Memorial Day fireworks. The Italian Festival has always marked the beginning of a new school year and the Bar Beach fireworks have always marked the end. Truly, it is the end of a long tradition that our town has

been fortunate enough to experience together for numerous years. Thank you to Frank Castagna and everyone else who have made our fireworks memories possible!

The Times recognizes the need for such a cancellation. If the fireworks placed anyone's life in danger, then holding the event is not worth this risk. However, we urge the Town to come up with a different celebration for upcoming years.

## Times offers condolences and urges communication

The Schreiber Times would like to offer its condolences to the family and friends of junior Dennis Archi, who died tragically on April 21.

The Times encourages students to talk to school psychologists and counselors if they feel the need to discuss this incident. Many times it is helpful

to talk about your feelings with professionals. Also many people find it comforting to bring friends with them when meeting with psychologists and counselors. In addition, do not hesitate to talk to another trusted individual.

## Congratulations Academic Decathlon team

The Schreiber Times would like to congratulate the Academic Decathlon team on its participation in the Nationals in Anchorage, Alaska from April 19 to 21. It is a prestigious honor to attend this competition, and the fact that the Schreiber team finished seventh is extremely commendable.

Congratulations are also extended to the team members' exemplary performance in the individual categories. Junior Matt Schefer

received a gold medal in the honors division in math, junior Ronli Diakow received a silver medal in the honors division in math, and senior Adam Krotman received a bronze medal in the scholastic division in science. Krotman also placed second overall in the scholastic division, receiving a seven hundred fifty-dollar scholarship, as well as a five hundred-dollar scholarship for the highest score on the team.

## MAILBOX

In a recent review of *Bobos In Paradise*, a stunning social commentary by David Brooks, Julia Bernstein criticizes the book because it contains allusions to historical figures with whom she is not familiar, asserting that these allusions detract from Brooks' "breezy, satirical writing style." Bernstein writes: "It is ironic and slightly discouraging...that one of the inherent assumptions Brooks makes is that anyone reading the book will have the same familiarity with intellectual heroes and pop figures that he himself possesses." In other words, *Bobos in Paradise* was an "earthly pleasure but not a heavenly delight" simply because it contained references to people she didn't know.

In particular, Bernstein notes an allusion to Jane Jacobs, a prominent writer and social critic whose book *The Life and Death of American Cities* had a tremendous impact on urban planning. However, Bernstein failed to mention that Brooks provides extensive background on Jacobs. And if that didn't suffice, Bernstein should have taken a five-minute jaunt to the school library and consulted one of the many reference volumes available for her perusal.

The quality of a book is not lessened by the amount of material foreign to the reader.

If this were so, some of the greatest authors in the Western canon would never be read, and if we only read books about things we know, we would never learn anything new. When you come upon something—a word, a phrase, or an allusion—that you don't know, don't fret upon it, look it up.

-Senior William Greene

### Times Policy Statement

The Schreiber Times' primary purpose is to inform its readers of events, issues, and ideas affecting Schreiber High School. The Times also serves as an open forum in which members of the Schreiber community may express their ideas and opinions.

The Times will report all news accurately, honestly, and fairly. We will not give preference to any group or individual. We will respect the rights of all information sources and any errors will be corrected promptly.

We will print submitted materials on the basis of their quality and significance as determined by the editors of this publication. The editors reserve the right to print, refuse to print, or return any submitted materials. The editors also reserve the right to edit any submitted articles.

We will print letters to the editors if judged to be of sufficient quality and importance on a space-available basis. We will not print letters that are obscene, libelous, or contain unfounded charges. The Times reserves the right to shorten letters if doing so does not alter their meaning, and to choose a representative letter from a group of related ones. Letters do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editors. We will not print any anonymous letters.

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

We will not publish advertisements if they are deemed libelous, obscene or likely to incite criminal activity. Prices of advertisements are standard and price schedules are available upon request. Advertisements do not necessarily represent the views of The Times.

We will establish new policies if the need arises. Until such a point occurs, The Times will follow the policy described in this space as well as the guidelines of common sense and reason.

# THE SCHREIBER TIMES

EDITORS-IN-CHIEF  
Brienne Bellavita  
Sarah Morgan

MANAGING EDITOR  
Andrew Montalenti

COPY EDITOR  
Alexandra Pavlakis

ARTS/GRAPHICS EDITORS  
Hillary Broder  
Vaishali Jain

LAYOUT/DESIGN EDITOR  
Jeff Nevins

NEWS EDITORS  
Caroline Axelrod  
Nicole Tingir  
Matt Brod, ass't

OPINIONS EDITOR  
Jamie Sokol

FEATURES EDITORS  
Merve Emre  
Catherine Lennon

A&E EDITORS  
Kerry Gibbons  
Josh Bernhard, ass't

SPORTS EDITORS  
William Kang  
Timothy Koo  
Dave Whittemore

COMPUTER MANAGER  
Andrew Montalenti

BUSINESS MANAGERS  
Raphi Rabin-Havt  
Jesse Schenendorf

PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR  
Ira Glasser

WEB PAGE EDITOR  
Andrew Montalenti

STAFF: Julia Bernstein, Adam Carron, Josh Gelb, George Gerstein, Jessica Gross, Rachel Klein, Melody Malekan, Olivia Moskowitz, Sam Salkin, Min Suh, and Sharon Weinberg.

REPORTERS: Bikram Chadha, Matt Chin, Nicole Cohen, Sam Eichner, William Greene, Jason Kang, Ruth Kleinman, Jennifer Schmirer, and Robbie Wenger.

PHOTOGRAPHERS: Jason Kang, Liz Serrano, and Robbie Wenger.

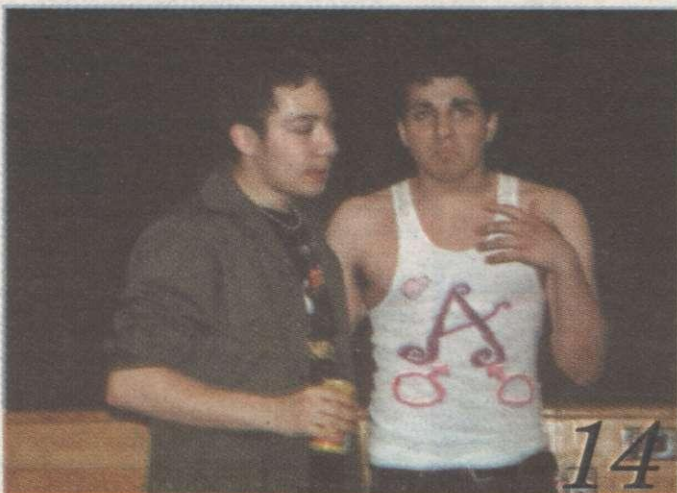
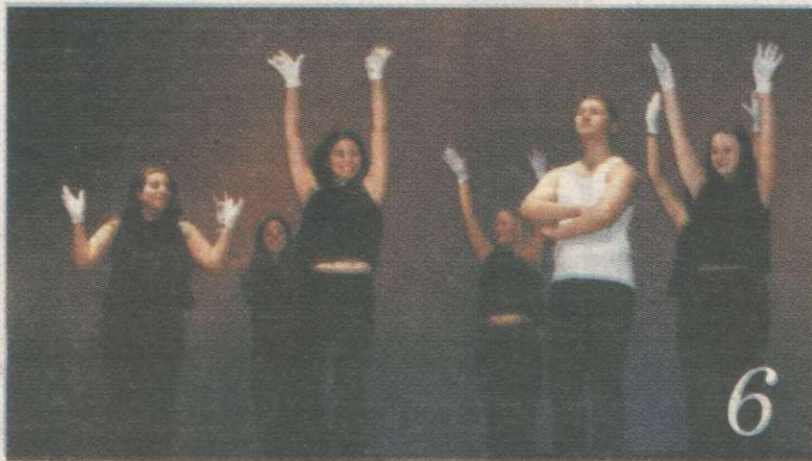
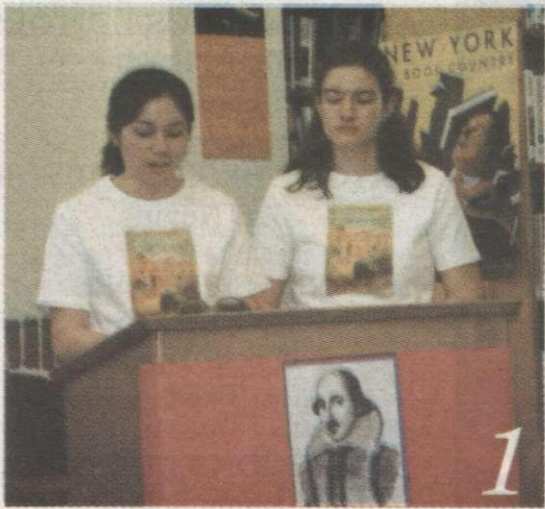
Published by the student body of Paul D. Schreiber High School. Letters to the editor should be addressed to The Schreiber Times, 101 Campus Drive, Port Washington, New York 11050. The editors reserve the right to refuse, print, edit, return, or not return any submitted material. All letters must be signed by each author. We have a circulation of 2,000 copies per issue with subscriptions available 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.

Sidney Barish, principal  
G. Blain Bocarde, advisor  
© 2000, The Schreiber Times

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



# Shakespeare



by Josh Gelb

As the ninth annual Shakespeare Day approached, many people doubted that it would take off the ground without the leadership of retired English teacher Mr. John Broza. For eight consecutive years he took charge of the event and in his absence the spirit of the bard's annual birthday seemed to be dwindling. On April 23, those who feared the worst were proved wrong when this year's Shakespeare Day 2001 took off under the coordination of juniors Charlotte McCorkel and Myung-Hee Vabulas and English teachers Ms. Sari Schulman and Ms. Donna Valeri.

In this particular year, the celebration happened to fall exactly on the supposed birthday of the great English playwright. It is on Shakespeare Day specifically that Schreiber High School becomes a flowering world for the arts. In the hallways, student from art classes painted throughout the day, and the library, book covers based on the plays and many of characters were on display. Home economics teacher Ms. Sally Reinhardt and her students served high tea in the true style of British living.

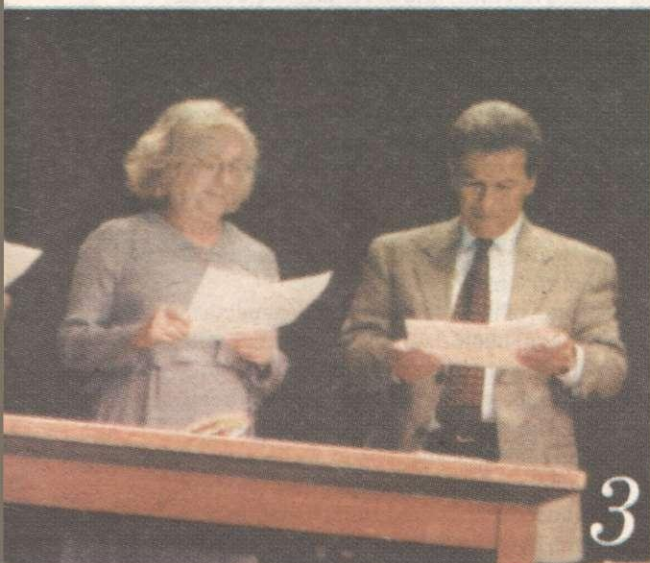
The Dance and Literature class opened the festival during first period with scenes from *The Taming of the Shrew* during first period. The scenes were narrated by Ms. Valenti and accompanied with dances choreographed by Ms. JoAnn Miles. Junior Nicole Segarra as Kate the shrew and senior Stephen Peluso as Petruchio, her brash suitor, danced the first number. The piece, which involved Peluso chasing Segarra in a futile attempt to woo her, was exceedingly funny. This was followed with the entire class performing "Too Darn Hot" from *Kiss Me Kate*, the Broadway musical comedy based on Shakespeare's play. The Company included seniors Elena Weis and Shirley Youssefia, juniors Meghan Bronsky, Melissa Esgrow, Alana Kwartler, Katie Lagana, Melissa Oring, Vanessa Pozan and Nicole Segarra, and sophomore Karen Rodriguez-Diaz. The number was exceedingly well rehearsed, resulting in a very tight and enjoyable dance.

The scene competition is often the highlight of Shakespeare Day as it involves not only members of the theatre arts class but some outsiders as well. First place in the contest went to junior Vanessa Pozan as Olivia, junior Caitlin Tsuchiya as Viola and junior Fabiola Walzer as Maria, for their scenes from *Twelfth Night* and perhaps especially Tsuchiya's performance as a girl pretending to be a boy.

Photographers: Suzanne Davis, Ira Glassey, Henry Magel, Liz Serrano.



# Shakespeare Day 2001

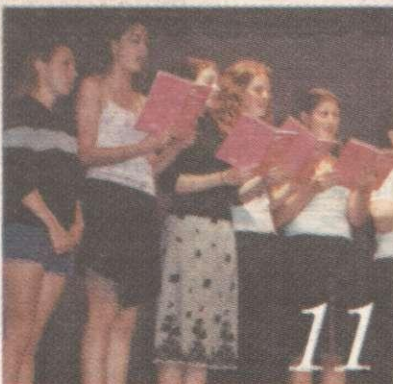


boy. Second place went to juniors Lauren Bakst and Ben Peres as Beatrice and Benedict from *Much Ado About Nothing* and third place went to seniors Drew Difonzo-Marks and Jenny Gamell for their portrayal of the title characters in *Romeo and Juliet*. Other scenes featured junior Fabiola Walzer and sophomore Michelle Rinke in *The Merchant of Venice*; juniors Jade Collett and Davi Shy in *The Comedy of Errors*; junior Dana Brenman and sophomore Sophie Porter in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*; junior Ali Martone and sophomore Lucy Portugal in *Much Ado About Nothing*; senior Kate Lazarovic and junior Mike Lees in *Macbeth*; senior Jon Johnert and junior Emma Smaldino in *Hamlet* and senior Steve Peluso and junior Vanessa Pozan in *The Taming of the Shrew*.

Other awards were given in the categories of masks and sonnets. Freshman Victor Schaefer won first place for his scintillating representation of Tybalt from *Romeo and Juliet*. Freshman Jessica Chung received second place for a mask of the nurse and freshman Patrick Louie won third place for a mask of Romeo and Juliet together. In the sonnet category, junior Laura Silver won first place for her sonnet, "A Sonnet to Spring," which celebrated the dawn of the season. Junior Lauren Wallach won second place for her sonnet, "Waves of the Ocean," and junior Amanda Anderson received third place for her sonnet, "I Promise to Remember."

Other highlights of the day were the skit from *The Compleat Works of Willm Shkspr*, with senior Jon Johnert and juniors Emma Smaldino, and Caitlin Tsuchiya. This charming sketch reached out to the audience in the hope of making Shakespeare "interesting." It succeeded. The monologue from *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, delivered by senior Steve Peluso, added a new twist to Shakespeare, making it exceedingly accessible to the mind of a young adult. The dramatic performance of a monologue from *Romeo and Juliet* by senior Jackie Rivera also gained a great response from the audience.

Musical performances by senior Kerry Gibbons, junior Lee Evans, the Chamber Choir and the Symphonic Orchestra performing Elizabethan music were delightful. The Weber Drama Club also made an appearance, performing an original work entitled *Naughty Shakespeare*, which like *Willm Shkspr*, brought together the modern world with that of Shakespeare's plays. The Weber Drama Club performed skits such as "Tempest Survivor" and "As



(1) Juniors Charlotte McCorkel and Myung-Hee Vabulas, coordinators of Shakespeare Day, conclude the events during sixth period. (2) (l-r) Juniors Joanna Wong, Irene Min, Josh Bernhard, Meghan Lehman, Amy Kerzner, and Patty Borzon perform an original play by junior Julia Bernstein named *Shakespearean Sisterhood*. (3) Mr. Carnelo, Mrs. Israel, and Mr. Insera read from scenes of *Taming of the Shrew* and its contemporary adaptations. (4-5) Juniors Laura Silver and Lauren Wallach accept their awards of first and second place respectively, in the sonnet competition. Not pictured is third place winner junior Amanda Anderson. (6) Senior Elena Weiss, juniors Alana Kwartler, Vanessa Pozan, Meghan Bronsky, Max Esgrow, Katie Lagana, and Melissa Oring perform "Too Darn Hot" *Kiss Me Kate* in an energetic number. (7) Sophomore Lucy Portugal and junior Ali Martone act out a scene from *Much Ado About Nothing*. (8) Mr. Lederer and Mr. Pichkur perform the Math Department's take of *As You Like It*. (9) Senior Jon Johnert stands on top of juniors Emma Smaldino and Caitlin Tsuchiya in *The Compleat Works of Willm Shkspr*, directed by Mrs. Sari Schulman. (10) Juniors Lauren Bakst and Ben Perez act as Beatrice and Benedict in *Much Ado About Nothing*, which was awarded second place in the scene competition. (11) Seniors Becky Henderson, Stephanie Borris, Jenny Gamel, junior Lee Evans and senior Michele Glasser sing Elizabethan songs and madrigals beautifully. (12) Senior Jacqueline Rivera performs a monologue from *Romeo and Juliet*. (13) Ms. Seiner and Ms. Lebrocca perform in the Mathematics department take of *As You Like It*. (14) Sir Toby, played by junior Ben Perez, converses with Antonio, junior Josh Bernhard, in Kerry Gibbons' original play *Much Ado About the Twelfth Merchant of Macbeth*. (15) Senior Steven Peluso performs a monologue from *The Two Men of Verona*. (16) Juniors Caitlin Tsuchiya, Vanessa Pozan and Fabiola Walzer (not pictured) perform a scene from *Twelfth Night*; they received first place in the competition.



Continued in A&E...

Layout and design: Jeff Nevins and Andrew Montalenti



# A surprising hero prevails in Annie Proulx's Pulitzer-winning novel *The Shipping News*

by Julia Bernstein

When one thinks of a hero, one envisions a tall, dark, handsome, and brilliant man ready to conquer the world and succeed. This image, fabricated by novels, films, and television, is an enduring one in our society. In her Pulitzer prize-winning novel *The Shipping News*, Annie Proulx goes a long way in proving that a character does not need to fit this stereotype to be a likeable protagonist. It is her character's progression to respectable hero that acts as the core of this sweet and touching novel about life, love, and family.

Quoye, Proulx's main character, would most likely be categorized as an anti-hero. Ungainly, slow, and unsuccessful, Quoye works as a third-rate newspaperman in upstate New York. After the death of his philandering wife, he, his two daughters, and his aunt move back to the heir's ancestral home in Newfoundland. Proulx lovingly portrays the small fishing village to which they return, and Quoye and his family are able to blossom and succeed there. With Proulx's descriptive prose, it is easy to sense how Quoye transforms from an anti-hero to a hero under their influence.

The myriads of colorful characters that populate Proulx's novel add most of the spunk to it. Quoye himself is not a humorous figure, yet most of those that surround him are. His friends, supporters, and enemies range from Partridge, his only friend during his dismal New York existence, to Nutbeem,

the British eccentric who works on the Newfoundland paper, *The Gammy Bird*, with Quoye. The humor these and other figures supply help temper the more sobering issues the book addresses, such as loneliness, betrayal, and death.

The plot of Proulx's novel is meandering and sometimes disjointed. At times, the reader is left with the impression that the relevance to Quoye is nonexistent. Because of the pessimism of the first part, the novel begins slowly and does not fully grab the reader's attention until later on.

*The Shipping News* is a love story, but the love is not solely between Quoye and Wavey, the woman from Newfoundland with whom he falls in love. Before the reader becomes aware of Quoye and Wavey's relationship, he or she is acquainted with Quoye's growing affection for the land of his ancestors, and the sea on which they depended. He is happier here than anywhere and his family shares his feelings.

Family is another important theme in Proulx's novel. Quoye is a single father, and he loves his two young daughters, Bunny and Sunshine, dearly.

Having had an awkward childhood himself, he is eager to prevent this from happening to his own children and is relieved when his elder daughter's first day of school goes well. He is also concerned with shielding the children from death. When their mother is killed in a car crash, he cannot bring himself to tell his daughters that she is dead. Death seems to play an overly important role in the novel, as Quoye himself comes in contact with a gratuitous number of dead bodies. The emphasis on death makes the point that this is an issue with

which Quoye is concerned, but at times the author seems to go overboard.

The title *The Shipping News* is derived from the section of the paper Quoye makes his own, and is reminiscent of the many nautical themes throughout the book. Each chapter is headed with an excerpt from "Ashley's Book of Knots," a whimsical but appropriate touch. More importantly, the dependence Quoye and his neighbors have on the sea is a major point of the novel. Men are killed and houses are swept away by the force of the water, but their resilience enables them to survive.

One of the most unique aspects of Proulx's book is her grammar. She prefers sentence fragments to long, drawn-out constructions. While heavy with the adjectives, her style is light with the pronouns. The grammar can be disconcerting, when struggling to adapt, but once accustomed to it, it can be fun. There is something liberating reading an acclaimed book that would make your English teacher faint, and Proulx's deliberate quirkiness personifies the off-beat charm of her novel.

*The Shipping News* is one of the best contemporary novels I have read in a long time. Although it is slow in the beginning, the message still rings true. It is a very unique novel as Newfoundland is not exactly a place where many stories are set. It provides a welcome diversion from the usual fare of bestsellers one normally sees. Even though it meanders, Proulx's *The Shipping News* weaves a tight net around the reader, capturing the imagination and enchanting the heart.



Proulx's novel weaves an intricate and beautiful story. Her main character's transformation from pitiful to heroic creates a unique plot, expressed in Proulx's highly original voice.

## Bamiyan Kebab House cooks up competition for Shish Kebab

by Sam Eichner

About two or three years ago, a small bagel shop on Main Street (near Starbucks coffee and the eyeglass store) closed after remaining in business for many years. This space then changed ownership several times until it became the current business, the Bamiyan Kebab House. When this restaurant was still under construction, the few who knew of it considered it ludicrous to go up against the well-known Shish Kebab. Nonetheless, despite the great criticism of this new restaurant, the Bamiyan Kebab House opened. When the restaurant first opened, many were almost sure it would not even last the month because of Shish Kebab's fierce competition. The Kebab House has already been open for several months and business is still steady.

Several weeks ago, while passing this new restaurant, I decided that I would give it a chance, despite my preconceived notions about it being just another Shish Kebab. However, I was amazed by how good the food was and by the diversity of the menu. Many things like stews, vegetarian dishes, and pita kebab sandwiches that are on the Bamiyan Kebab House menu are not served at Shish Kebab. In addition, the prepara-

tion and style is also different from that of Shish Kebab.

I began the meal with an appetizer of hummus. I have been to other Middle Eastern restaurants and tried their hummus as well, but none had ever measured up to Shish Kebabs'. This hummus, however, was better by far. It was chopped finer and was much creamier. So even at the beginning of the meal, I was very impressed.

Next came the main course, which was a combination of mouth-watering filet mignon and a beef/lamb mixture on a skewer. This was prepared and spiced very differently from Shish Kebab. The only way to describe it is that it was a less Americanized style than that of Shish Kebab. There was a choice of three different types of rice (brown, white, or green) with the entrée, and I chose brown. This also seemed to be a very good choice. The rice did not taste very rich and full of butter or oil. All in all, the main course was as impressive as the appetizer.

When the time came for dessert, I was already very full. So I actually did not order any dessert, but of course, being as curious as I am, I had to know what they had. There was a choice of three items: Turkish baklava, a fried dough pastry dipped in honey, and a homemade pudding. If I would have

had the stomach for dessert, I think I would have gone with the fried dough pastry. But, since I cannot give you an opinion on what it was like, you will just have to go and try it for yourself. Although these desserts seemed very appetizing, there were only three choices. I suggest that the house add a larger variety of dessert choices to the menu.

Besides the food, the atmosphere is somewhat different from that of Shish Kebab as well. This is partly due to their relative sizes. The Bamiyan Kebab House is a smaller restaurant, which is very peaceful, quiet, and relaxing while Shish Kebab has a louder, more boisterous atmosphere. But one negative thing about the Kebab House's atmosphere is how it looks directly on to the heart of Main Street, and there is less of a sense of privacy. But this is a minor problem, and the addition of curtains on the windows of some sort could resolve it.

As far as the service goes, the food arrives quickly and all the waiters are courteous and eager to please the customers. When I needed a suggestion from the waiter, he had no problem telling us what was best on the menu. This is to the contrary of most waiters. The average waiter would respond to the question "What is good?" by saying "Everything."

As you know, one of the most important

factors that determine whether or not you will eat at a particular restaurant is the price. For the amount and quality of food served in the Bamiyan Kebab House in comparison to Shish Kebab, the price is more than reasonable. A regular entrée would cost anywhere from \$10.00 to \$15.00. There are a select few items on the menu that are more expensive and range from \$17.00 to \$26.00, but spending that much is not necessary. There is great price flexibility at the Kebab House.

I truly enjoyed my experience at the Bamiyan Kebab House and give it a very positive rating. I hope that many other people will try it as well and decide for themselves where they will go for middle eastern food: Shish Kebab or the Bamiyan Kebab house.

Appetizer: A+  
Entrée: A+  
Drinks: A  
Dessert Options: B+  
Atmosphere: B+  
Service: A+  
Price: A+

overall

A

Andrew Montalenti



# Student reflects on impact of depression in high school

Sharon Weinberg

by Merve Emre

There is no right way to live life. Many float through the days with an unconscious recognition of how important each new day is. They wake up to the morning with the hope of getting through the school hours as painlessly and effortlessly as possible and coming home to minimal work and maximum relaxation. Every day is different, unmarred by any hints of excitement or uniqueness. It is not the idea of routine that creates such a monotonous outlook on our lives; it is more that we lose touch with a deep-felt appreciation for the immaterial things we value.

Then there are events that make us tune in and wake up to our own mortality. There are events that have been synonymous with the pervasive anger of teenagers: Columbine, Santana High School, and sadly enough, the list includes many more names. It is frightening when we view anger: projecting anger onto society results in mass violence. Suppressing anger inward leads to suicide precipitated by depression.

There is an appropriate place to start then is depression. Depression is an illness so commonly diagnosed that it has been called the "common cold" of mental distresses. Please differentiate between "having a bad day" and depression symptoms. Although it is still not completely agreed upon what causes depression, there are two branches of theories that are often combined to create the accepted model of clinical depression. According to the Pediatric Textbook, which was published by the American Association of Pediatrics in 1999, the medical model examines brain chemistry, blaming the clinical symptoms on absence of neurotransmitters between the synapses of neurons. The psychological model puts forth the idea of negative thinking. It is the more commonly accepted and discussed explanation in high school society's exposure to the disorder. It would be unrealistic to think that we could nip depression in the bud—in addition, what many do not realize is that depression is often misdiagnosed as extensive negative thinking, and the biological side of it can be ignored. Happy teenagers do not just become willing to take his or her own lives because of negative thoughts for several days.

Since our elementary school days we have seen videos, heard lectures, and received handouts dealing with depression. If anything, we should be familiarized with the warning signs that seem subtle but actually send

out flashing warning signs. There are countless instances where warning signs are apparent but many times, friends are sworn to secrecy. Therefore, fear of betrayal and intervention prevents them from reaching out. Dr. Leona Jaglon, a pediatric psychologist, described the warning signs as being extreme behavior: insomnia or lethargy; eating a lot or eating too little; weight loss or weight gain, in addition to an extreme feeling of worthlessness. Most people, but not all reach the final stages prior to suicide attempts by vocalizing their desire to take their lives. The most high risk signs of these stages are recurring images and thoughts of death and the formulation of a suicide plan by the individual.

Suicide is at once a sensitive and frightening topic. The realization that one can be willing to utilize a power so great and terrible leaves us all instantly uneasy. According to the Jed Foundation, a center for suicide prevention, it is the third leading cause of death among the youth of America. Ninety percent of adolescents

who attempt suicide have some sort of diagnosed clinical disorder, most often being depression or substance abuse. Up to one-third of all suicide victims have

made previous suicide attempts. Fifteen percent of adolescents who have exhibited the common symptoms of depression attempt suicide successfully. While such acts of self-mutilation such as cutting oneself are often interpreted as "cries for help," a person who uses narcotics, guns, or hanging to end his or her life is labeled as a case where the individual exhibited a strong desire to die. What is imperative for people considering such an action is to reach out for help; they must realize that is the wrong resource for dealing with the immediate pain that they feel. The relief that a person is seeking is a feeling that cannot possibly exist or in anyway help once the person has taken his or her life. There are thousands of better ways to direct the pain, hundreds of creative and inspirational outlets that can transform the negative thoughts into happiness and hope. What it comes down to is simple, they are denying themselves the opportunity for change. Tomorrow is always another new day. By cutting off the present because of overwhelming anger, they are only cutting off the chances for the future. If a friend becomes aware of these symptoms, they should have no choice but to reach out for help.

When it is too late and a suicide has already occurred, what is even more frightening is that unending stream of questions that we start asking, always

beginning with "Why?" There is such a concern bordering on obsession amongst everyone to discover the hidden

roots of events that profoundly impact a community. Every individual will formulate his or her own theory that will assign a specific cause

to important events and decisions made. There is that feeling within all of us that once we discover and understand there are appropriate methods toward prevention for the future.

It is hard to accept that in many cases we just do not know or understand the "why" scenarios in the situations. There is no one to blame, there is nothing to analyze, and there are no connections that we can make between these isolated events. We just do not know, and we may never know or understand. Although this idea may seem illogical and irrational, as people who persevere through the natural

ups and downs our everyday interactions bring us, it can seem incomprehensible.

The idea of life being petty and empty is absurd and obviously untrue. Even if we walk through our days not fully conscious of the vitality of life and the pleasant surprises that each

day can bring, we should carry within ourselves the sense that every new day is an adventure. Every single time we wake up and prepare ourselves to face the day, we should look toward our lives with an unsurpassable exhilaration and appreciation, for these feelings of hope and happiness are too precious to be ignored. Hope is possibly one of the most valuable things that we can possess, for it keeps us on our feet through times of the greatest grief. It is a priceless entity that helps us fight to preserve our lives. But when we take away life, what can possibly remain?



## The Dolphin Bookshop

941 Port Washington Boulevard  
Port Washington, New York 11050

516-767-2650

### SAT Test Question-(not)

What do these things have in common?

Cliff Notes  
Stage sticks and Incense  
Candles  
SAT Review Books  
Regents Review Books  
College Guides  
Hackey Sacks  
Great gifts for your girlfriend  
Great gifts for your boyfriend  
Greeting Cards

The answer: They are sold at The Dolphin Bookshop  
Monday-Friday 9-7 and Saturday 9-6



# Dr. Barish comments on the recent tragedy within Schreiber High School

by Dr. Sid Barish

The tragic death of Dennis Archi has gripped all who knew him and touched everyone's life at Schreiber because of the way he died. No one confesses to understand why a tragedy such as this happens, least of all when it involves such a young person with so much to live for. But it did happen, and we have to deal with that. Some of you have expressed wonder or concern about how we responded to Dennis's suicide and whether more should be done. I want to explain what was done and what lies ahead for us.

As you may recall, early on the Monday following the news of Dennis's death the administrators, counselors, psychologists, social worker and school nurse teacher addressed classes of students to report what happened. While the message was brief, there is a reason for that. First, details were not known and it was prudent to gather more information and respect the family during that time. Second, it is never clear how some kids will react when the news is reported publicly so we wanted to be cautious and offer support and counseling outside of the class settings. That offer was extended as part of the message that was delivered. We also wanted to reach

out to friends and others who might be hurting most over this loss of life and not set off emotions at that moment.

The risk to others is what guided the response thus far and guides me still. It is very difficult to find the appropriate response to tragedies of this nature. Experience shows that while it is proper to grieve the loss of life we need to be careful not to dramatize or glorify the suicide itself. The risks of sending out the wrong message to other students who may be feeling sorrow, despair, or depression are just too great. Therefore, we will seek ways to find the right balance to show respect for the tragic death of a child, friend, and classmate and express our sorrow and sympathy to his family without jeopardizing the wellbeing of others.

After some of you spoke or wrote to me I was upset by an impression you got from my response to this tragedy and the muted response in general. You perceived that teachers or I did not care about Dennis or you and were pretending that his death did not occur. It was as if we were trying to hide it or deny it. While nothing could be further from the truth, it was a perception that I had to address. And so I am writing to you after addressing you at the school.

It is because we care about you so much that our response to any suicide is measured and very carefully thought

out. It is very hard for some to imagine how anyone can take his or her own life. It is equally tough to picture someone copying the behavior because a moment of silence is held or a flag is flown at half-mast. Though it may be difficult for you to believe something like that could happen, research and experience tell us otherwise. Therefore, there will be no gestures of that kind. That does not mean we do not care or that Dennis's life was not worth anything. We need to find a way to express our sense of loss that does not send the wrong message. And together we will.

I am angry at what Dennis did. Part of this tragedy is that there was an almost endless number of ways for him or anyone to deal with hurt, sadness or feelings of despair, and only one wrong way. That he chose the only wrong response is a message that you all must recognize. Anything that brought him closer to help and hope would have been right. There are people around you who care about you and can help in times of need. Friendship is something that has no value unless it is called upon and used. Do not consider yourself a burden to others. You are important and your life has value that is immeasurable. You must protect it.

As we grieve the loss of a young and important life, I offer some thoughts on the bereavement process and some

actions that can help during this sorrowful time.

- Intense and overwhelming feelings are normal and common
- Anger at the person who took his or her life is also common.
- You may feel guilty for what you think you did or did not do. You are not to blame.
- You may feel hopeless and depressed. These feelings are common and in time will pass.
- Remember that you are a person of worth.
- Express your feelings to others. Denying or hiding your feelings may lead to depression.
- Learn about the grief process so you know what to expect and can help others.
- Call upon your personal faith to help you through the trauma.
- Do not be afraid to use professional help as part of a support system.

In light of this terrible tragedy, please remember this important message. We can care for each other and help each other and show that school is a place to learn how to solve life's problems and a place to give and receive love. In the darkest moment of your darkest day you need to search for light. Even a glimmer in the distance is hope. Seek it and be a source of light for others.

**DELUX** "A Commitment to Excellence"  
For Over 30 Years  
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

GREAT LIMOUSINES  
"SUPER PROM PACKAGES"

For 24 hour/7 day service please call:

**(516) 883-1900**

When Out Of Town:

**(800) 232-3358**

Member of Student Life Line • D.O.T Certified • Fully Licensed & Insured



Corporate and Personal Accounts Welcomed

## Student questions the validity of the Scholastic Aptitude Test

by Bikram Chadha

The SAT was introduced in the 1960's as a tool for measuring a student's probability for success in college. It was seen as the common yardstick for academic measure by leveling the wide disparity in curriculum, state standards and grades among school systems in the United States. Recently, in a speech before the American Council on Education, Richard Atkinson, President of the University of California, proposed that the nation's largest public university system no longer require the SAT I in the admissions process. Instead he suggested the adoption of a more "holistic" approach, which would consider extracurricular activities and grades, as well as scores on the SAT II tests.

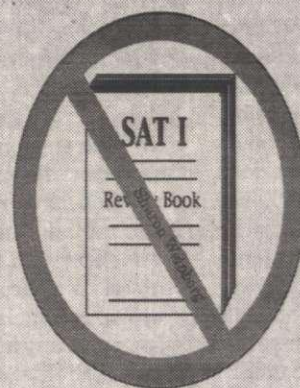
The statistics from the state of California show that the overall scores on the SAT I vary amongst the different cultures in America. These results question the validity of the test as a common and fair measure for students from different walks of life and different socioeconomic statuses. Because California is the single largest school system, the state's opinions often has an impact on other universities. Therefore Atkinson's comments have added fresh fuel to an old debate on the merits of the SAT.

In 1996, the voters in the state of

California banned the consideration of race and ethnicity as a factor in determining admittance to college. At the same time, the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit in Texas, Louisiana, and Mississippi have banned the consideration of race in university admissions. To drop the SAT's as a way of furthering compliance with the federal ruling would be the ultimate showdown for a test that has been given to millions and used widely in the admissions process. The earliest that the Californian proposal could come into effect is 2003 and the full impact of such a proposal would not be known for years. It is unlikely that Atkinson's proposal would result in a sweeping change across the nation anytime soon. Furthermore, the SAT

cannot be dropped without establishing an alternative test that has been validated for objective criteria to be used in the admissions process.

The concept suggested by Atkinson is not new. There is an awareness that students from different backgrounds score differently among the nations' prestigious institutions. The weight of SAT scores varies widely in the admissions process. In support of the "holistic" approach, the most important advice given to high school students is to succeed academically, to be active in sports and to become productive members of one's community and society at large.





# A&E Entertainment

THE SCHREIBER TIMES A&E FRIDAY, MAY 4, 2001

page 17

## You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown wows old and young alike

by Josh Bernhard

Now, I am going to start off this review by getting this out in the open: I do not like musicals. However, I really enjoyed this production of *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*, directed by John Sheridan. The play, written by Clark Gesner and based on the famous *Peanuts* comic strip by the late Charles Schulz, is a fun production of school-time woes with all of the colorful characters from the comic. I went to the show with an open mind, and I left more than pleased that I had attended. I do not know whether it was the smiling faces of all the young kids in the audience, the little boy who yelled "That's Snoopy!" at Josh Gelb's first appearance, or Charlie learning that we *all* nibble our pencils that made me smile more. And let me tell you: we should all aspire to be Linus. (More on that later.)

This Schreiber production is filled with seasoned Drama Club veterans sprinkled with a few promising newcomers, resulting in an all-around wonderful cast. And, best of all, they could all *sing* (a prerequisite for a musical, but one that often seems to be forgotten in school productions). Cam Gelb and Karla Kennedy created wonderful choreographed musical numbers, and the cast does a fantastic job of performing them.

Junior Henry Magel III stars as the title character Charlie Brown, and though most were surprised at the casting of a junior in the lead role, he was able to handle it with charm. Senior Julie Goldin stars as Sally Brown, Charlie's cute younger sister. Her musical solos

were some of the best in the show. Lucy Van Pelt, the stuck up girl pining after Schroeder, is played by senior Michele Glasser, who is able to tackle numerous musical numbers of her own throughout the show. I was impressed by the ease with which she is able to deliver solos time and time again. Sophomore Jon Levin stars opposite to her as Linus,

Lucy's younger brother. Levin, having been in past Schreiber productions, was finally given a chance to demonstrate his ability after delivering an unforgettable performance during the recent Young Playwright's Festival. He is funny and should continue to hone his acting skills in future productions. Senior Brandon Woolf plays Schroeder, the prodigy musician chased by Lucy. Woolf makes his stage debut in this show and is a standout, but unfortunately will not be here next year to grace the stage again. Senior Stephanie Borris as Peppermint Patty is wonderful to watch, and her solo number "Poor Sweet Charlie" is one of the best in the show. Junior Josh Gelb plays the coveted role of Snoopy, and is amazing in his performance. Appropri-

ately animated, Snoopy steals the scenes in which he appears. I was surprised to see, however, that he wears no mask and lacks Snoopy's trademark floppy ears. I will let that slide though, because some of Gelb's facial expressions are priceless. Freshman Anushka Peres is his silent sidekick, the bird Woodstock, and she fits the role perfectly. Freshman Andy Malone

does a wonderful job with the role of Roy, the encyclopedia of information. I have to say that following his performance in the Young Playwright's Festival, I fear he is on the path to becoming typecast! Senior Kerry Gibbons' Marcie was perfect casting. ("I think Charlie

Brown has nice hands!") Senior Steve Peluso is hilarious as the filthy Pig Pen, though I do not quite know how the rest of the cast dealt with his un-cleanliness. Senior Maura Kutner is cute as could be as Violet, innocently (or perhaps not so innocently) drawing a picture of her dress on the paper bag covering the head of an embarrassed Charlie Brown. The red-headed girl whom Charlie was hiding from, played by Lee Evans, is the adorable Frieda. Freshman Daria Vinogradova rounded out the cast as Peggy Jean, who stood out in the "Philosophy" number.

This play is wonderful because everyone has a connection to the characters. There is not much meat to the story, but this is children's theater and should be treated as such. There is, I found, much to be learned from the story. Linus struck me as the existential being of perfection that we should all aspire to be. All he needs to be happy is his blanket,

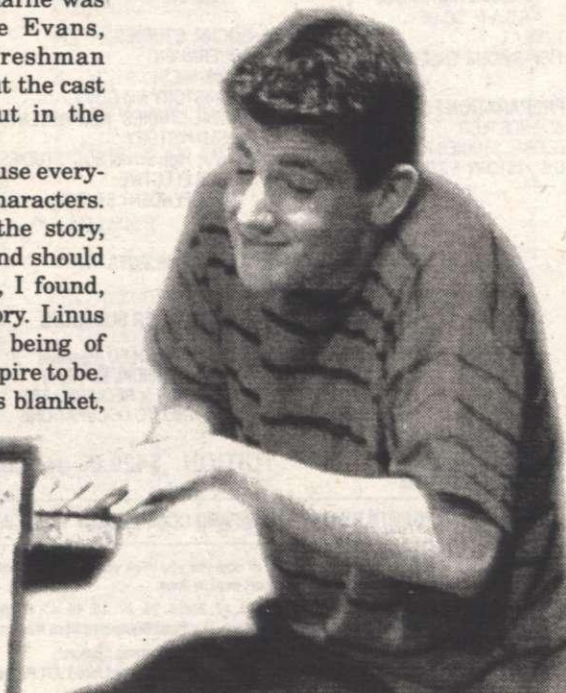


Senior Julie Goldin hits a high note in her song, "My New Philosophy." The song was an audience favorite.



The cast of *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown* sings the title song of the play.

and even though his older sister beats on him, he has all he needs to be happy. Maybe if Charlie Brown takes a cue from Linus, he would not be as unhappy as he is. Charlie Brown has to achieve his happiness the hard way, and learn all the lessons along the way. But it is reassuring to know that everyone chews on pencils.



Senior Brandon Woolf performs in "Schroeder," sung by senior Michele Glasser (not pictured).

All photos by Liz Serrano



# Senior criticizes Thomas review

by Jamie Sokol

"Despite certain instances of indiscretion and faltering within productions, I was very entertained by the review of the Young Playwright's Festival." I say this not to anger, mock, or even ridicule *Schreiber Times*' reviewer junior Joe Frislid. This is more than a facetious attempt to start an argument. While I thoroughly enjoyed Frislid's review, and for the most part supported what he stated, I found myself in strong disagreement with his review of *Thomas: The Man of No Face*.

There is nothing worse for a high school newspaper than misconstrued information. After thoroughly reading Frislid's review, I can honestly say that I was in a state of disbelief. Not only did Frislid completely misinterpret *Thomas: The Man of No Face*, but, in my eyes, he spends so much time hyperbolically dwelling on this misconception that he essentially takes away from the absolutely incredible performances of the actors and actresses.

According to Frislid's review, he was bothered by the "material provided for such talented young thespians." Frislid then goes on to wrongly assume and indirectly accuse playwright senior George Gerstein of writing a homophobic storyline.

I saw the production of *Thomas: The Man of No Face* twice during the running

of the Festival. In addition, I have read the actual script, and since encountering Frislid's comments, I have reviewed the Sunday performance on videotape quite carefully. I must credit Frislid when he says that it was a "teenage-angst type of play," for indeed it was. It is from this point on that I completely disagree with Frislid's review. *Thomas*, the title character, was clearly created to accurately portray the typical teenager in today's society—a society that unfortunately frowns upon and discriminates against homosexuals. The word "faggot," which was heard once in the play, was not used as a weapon, but rather to paint a realistic portrait of a confused teenager in such a society.

Whether or not a work actually represents the viewpoint of the author is often questionable. It is not the job of the writer to fully believe in what he or she is writing about—it is merely his or her responsibility to design a story to which the audience can relate and appreciate. By human nature, this usually involves effectively mirroring some distinct aspect of society. If *Thomas: The Man of No Face* had been performed without such terms and the one line of vulgar language by which Frislid is so disturbed, the play would have quickly dissolved and drowned in an unrealistic attitude. I am by no means condoning society's disparaging attitude towards homosexuals, nor am I approving the use of vulgar language. I am simply

stating that without these terms and attitudes, *Thomas: The Man of No Face* would have left its predominantly teenaged audience unimpressed and unsatisfied.

Frislid goes on to comment that "if the gay-bashing had been left out, [he] would have enjoyed the play..." If Frislid adopts this attitude towards every play he sees or every novel he reads, he will find himself in opposition to almost every quality piece of writing he encounters. Some of the most highly respected literary and theatrical masterpieces of our time present material that is indeed unethical and morally questionable, and certainly contains both slander and vulgar language. I bring to Frislid's attention classics such as the Broadway hits *Tommy* and *Rent*, classic novels such as *Huckleberry Finn* and *The Bluest Eye*, the play *The Crucible*, and classic films such as *The Birdcage*. Finally, I must point out the 1998 Schreiber production of *Equus*, which included gay references and vulgar language, was performed on the same stage as *Thomas: The Man of No Face*.

Frislid spends so much of his paragraph on *Thomas: The Man of No Face* disapproving and misconstruing the storyline, that I believe he does not give the cast as much credit as it deserves. Junior Michael Lees certainly delivered a performance that was more than "quite well." Lees was able to portray the part of

Thomas with such ease and comfort that it seemed as if he was really a scheming teen paying students to ace his calculus exams. Seniors Adam Caslow, Alex Cummins, and Drew Difonzo-Marks, junior Henry Magel III, and sophomores Dan Alschuler and Sam Salkin won over the audience as Thomas' jocular friends, and senior Michele Glasser was both convincing and authentic in her role as "The Girl." The same can be said of juniors Katie Hartman and Chris LaBanca. LaBanca's stern portrayal of Thomas' father was wonderful, and Hartman, whose talent for rapping is unparalleled in my estimation, had everybody wishing they had a mother just like Mrs. Goodman.

*Thomas: The Man of No Face* was such a fan favorite because it dealt effectively and efficiently with a subject matter to which almost every high school student can relate. Frislid's criticism is both misdirected and misinterpreted, and the lack of credit given to the talented thespians is inexcusable. "I am not one to petition a critic to be shut down because of subject matter, but this review was gratuitous." I leave Frislid with these final thoughts: If you are unhappy with an aspect of society, fight for what you believe in without insulting your peers. In addition, do not judge an entire play based upon a few scattered words taken out of context—as a high school junior, you should know better than that.

## ...Continued from Centerfold

that of Shakespeare's plays. The Weber Drama Club performed skits such as "Tempest Survivor" and "As Denmark Turns." A version of Shakespearean *The Weakest Link* also took place in the auditorium during period 4-2. Seniors Chris Cahn and William Greene emerged victorious, perhaps through strategy as opposed to knowledge.

During period five, two original plays were produced, the first of which was *As You Like Much Ado About the Twelfth Merchant of Macbeth* by senior Kerry Gibbons, which was directed by senior Jenny Gamell. A very confusing combination of several Shakespearean plays, *As You Like It* follows the adventures of three different Antonio's (senior Jesse Beatus, junior Josh Bernhard, and freshman Brad Tashman), their lady friends (seniors Karen Chuzmir, Jenny Gamell, and Julie Goldin) and the rest in this convoluted farce (senior Gill Muller, juniors Ben Peres, Vanessa Pozan, Laura Silver, and sophomore Evan Jay). The most bizarre aspect of the play was the entourage of policemen running up and down the aisles shouting "hup, hup, hup." It may be hard to follow, but the audience is warned of that at the beginning of the play.

The other piece, written by sophomore Julia Bernstein and entitled *Shakespearean Sisterhood*, was about a group therapy session between those women of Shakespeare who are forced to end their lives in some way or another. It was performed by juniors Josh Bernhardt, Patty Borzon, Amy Kerzner, Meaghan Lehmann, Irene Min, Lauren Wallach, and Joanna Wong. Unfortunately for the writer and audience, the actors refused to speak any louder than a conversational tone, making it completely impossible to hear

the dialogue at all. What may have been a brilliant play was lost in the acoustics of the Schreiber auditorium.

The teachers also found their way into the celebration. Mr. James Lyman delivered a delightful lecture on ships in Shakespeare's time. Mr. Blaine Bocarde, Mr. John Broza, (whose presence was never lacking throughout the day), Mr. Ron Costello, and Ms. Meghan Freeley, read selected songs and sonnets. Performances by Ms. Cheri Delio, Dr. Louise Lindemann, Mr. John Placella, and Ms. Jeannine Montusi were very much enjoyed. The award, however, for best performance by a teacher goes to the math department in *As You Like It*. Featuring Ms. Mardi Braun, Ms. Elaine Labrocca, Mr. Joe Lederer, Mr. Scott Lenz, Mr. Joe Pichkur, Mr. Eugene Pizzolo, and Ms. Valerie Siener, this performance was adored by the audience, especially the wrestling match between Mr. Lederer and Mr. Lenz.

The event itself was a success and a wonderful tribute to the bard. However, when listening to the comments of the fellow audience members, it becomes clear that Shakespeare Day is at most a futile attempt to culture those who do not wish to be cultured. The constant noise in the auditorium, which most likely contributed to the inability to hear *Shakespearean Sisterhood*, is proof of the inability of certain Schreiber students to sit through any sort of assembly. Perhaps many still believe in the inaccessibility of Shakespeare. It's dated. It's boring. Nothing happens. There is no action, no humor. In cases such as these, kids should remember the sexual antics of senior Steve Peluso's monologue, certainly enjoyed by the audience, or the exciting murder and deceit of *Hamlet* or *Titus Andronicus*... one human sacrifice, nine murders, four executions, two rapes, four amputations, one act of treason, and one birth out of wedlock. Beat that *Die Hard*!

**AIR CONDITIONED CLASSROOMS**

**FOR ADVANCING OR REPEATING OR ENRICHMENT**

**THE WINDSOR SCHOOL**  
136-23 SANFORD AVENUE  
FLUSHING, NEW YORK 11355  
(718) 359-8300

**2001 SUMMER SCHOOL**  
SUMMER SESSION JULY 3 - AUGUST 15

ACCREDITED BY THE MIDDLE STATES ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS  
REGISTERED BY THE NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

| COURSES   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>PREPARATION FOR TESTS</b><br>S.A.T. - VERBAL (ENGLISH)<br>S.A.T. - MATH<br>P.S.A.T. - VERBAL (ENGLISH)<br>P.S.A.T. - MATH<br>ENGLISH for ENTRANCE EXAMS for Special High Schools<br>- S.S.A.T., CO-OP<br>MATH for ENTRANCE EXAMS for Special High Schools<br>- S.S.A.T., CO-OP<br>T.O.E.F.I.<br>NEW 6-HOUR ENGLISH REGENTS   | <b>ENGLISH</b><br>ENGLISH 12 <sup>th</sup> GRADE } NEW REGENTS<br>ENGLISH 11 <sup>th</sup> GRADE<br>ENGLISH 10 <sup>th</sup> GRADE<br>ENGLISH 9 <sup>th</sup> GRADE<br>I.S. & Jr. High School ENGLISH<br>REMEDIAL READING COURSE<br>READING SKILLS COURSE<br>ENGLISH as a Second Language<br>- E.S.L.<br><br><b>SOCIAL STUDIES</b><br>GOVERNMENT<br>ECONOMICS<br>U.S. HISTORY and GOVT.<br>GLOBAL STUDIES } NEW REGENTS<br>WORLD HISTORY<br>I.S. & Jr. High School SOC. STUDIES<br>SENIOR ELECTIVE<br>INDEPENDENT STUDIES            |
| <b>PREPARATION FOR R.C.T.'S</b><br>SCIENCE R.C.T.<br>GLOBAL STUDIES R.C.T.<br>U.S. HISTORY & GOVT. R.C.T.   | <b>MATHEMATICS</b><br>MATH A<br>MATH B<br>SEQUENTIAL MATH I<br>SEQUENTIAL MATH II<br>SEQUENTIAL MATH III<br>9 <sup>th</sup> GRADE MATH (Elem Alg)<br>10 <sup>th</sup> GRADE MATH (Geom)<br>11 <sup>th</sup> GRADE MATH (LA - Trig)<br>12 <sup>th</sup> GRADE MATH (Pre-Calc 1, 2)<br>A.P. CALCULUS<br>FUNDAMENTAL MATH<br>GENERAL MATH<br>BUSINESS MATH<br>PRE-ALGEBRA<br>I.S. & Jr. High School MATH<br><br><b>SCIENCE</b><br>BIOLOGY<br>CHEMISTRY<br>PHYSICS<br>EARTH SCIENCE<br>GENERAL SCIENCE<br>I.S. & Jr. High School SCIENCE |
| <b>GIFTED 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> GRADERS</b><br>ENRICHMENT CLASSES IN ALL SUBJECTS   |  |
| <b>OTHER SUBJECTS</b><br><div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div>           SPANISH<br/>FRENCH<br/>TYPING<br/>KEYBOARD </div> <div>           HEALTH ED (Hygiene)<br/>PHYSICAL ED (Gym)<br/>MAJOR or REQUIRED ART<br/>INTRO. TO OCCUPATIONS </div> <div>           COMPUTER-INTERNET,<br/>WORD PROCESSING,<br/>SPREADSHEET,<br/>DATA BASE, ETC. </div> </div> |  |

**AIR-CONDITIONED CLASSROOMS**

**TUITION: \$420.00 per class**

**AIR-CONDITIONED CLASSROOMS**

**REGENTS EXAMINATIONS AND COMPETENCY TESTS AVAILABLE AUGUST 16 and 17**

- Specify below the course or courses you think you will take. Final decision of courses can be made after you receive your report card in June.
- BUSES: Q12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 25/34, 26, 27, 28, 44, 45, 58, 65, 66, and QBX1.  
M.S.B.A. Bus #N-20 or 21 along Northern Boulevard from Roslyn, Manhasset and Great Neck.
- TRAINS: #7 or L.I.R.R. to Main Street Flushing Station.  
Metro-Card available to NYC residents. Reduced fare L.I.R.R. also available.

**DRIVER EDUCATION:** Tuition \$495.00. Call for Driver Education application. You can take Driver Education alone, or it can be taken with one, two or three courses.



# Memento and Blow are one word titles for thousand-word movies

by Andrew Montalenti

You wake up, and have no clue where you are. No clue what just happened. No clue what you did last night, or who you are with this morning. Does this sound familiar? This is the life of Leonard Shelby, an amnesiac on a mission in the independent film *Memento*, which I can easily label as one of the five best pictures of 2000-2001.

Leonard is played by Guy Pearce, who you may remember from the Academy Award-winning *L.A. Confidential*. Hollywood shied away from giving Pearce a prominent leading role in a feature film, but writer/director Christopher Nolan must have had Pearce in his mind upon completion of the original script. Pearce simply worked as Leonard Shelby, and brought *Memento's* pivotal character to life.

A since retired insurance claims investigator, Leonard wakes up one night to the sound of his wife mumbling for help in the bathroom. When he walks in, he finds a masked baddie strangling and raping his wife. He immediately goes to attack the scoundrel, only to find himself suddenly hit from behind and slammed against the bathroom sink, landing, belly-down on the tiled floor below him, staring into the eyes of his fearful wife.

This incident causes the death of Leonard's wife as well as his amnesia. His short-term memory is forever scarred, and he is unable to make new memories after the incident. Every fifteen or twenty minutes he forgets what he was doing fifteen or twenty minutes ago. However, he needs a mission; to find his wife's killer.

In order to do this, Leonard subjugates himself to a regimented system of control over facts, truth and reality. He takes Polaroids of new friends and writes proverb-esque one-liners, such as, "Don't believe his lies." He also has notes written down on scraps of paper. I know, I was thinking the same thing while watching the movie: this guy really needs a Palm Pilot. Of course, this system of information control means that he relies on any information that he has written down as dogma of the highest power. He tattoos important, unchanging facts all over his body, including a prominent one that reads backwards across his chest (as to be visible in the mirror), "John G. raped and murdered your wife." This is to be the constant reminder of his mission every time he wakes up in his environment with a *tabula rasa*.

The movie questions everything—memory, reality, state of mind, and even truth—through its use of brilliant filmmaking. The movie starts from the end of the story, and works its way backward. I usually consider this to be a mundane filmmaking device, but I found this movie to make the cleverest use of it. You only know what Leonard knows at each point of the game, so you are always waiting for the new clue that will unravel a bigger piece of this enigmatic puzzle of a story. There are mystery

movies that work this way playing forward, but as this story unravels from the end to the beginning, you are surprised, after two hours, to find that this device works backwards as well. I wish I could deeply analyze this movie and tell you what I think of it at every point of the story line. However, it is simply too good of a movie for me to spoil it. I emphatically urge anyone who has two hours to spare to see this movie. Quite frankly, you will be amazed.

On a different note, when I walked out of *Blow*, I was surprised that a stylistic and visual movie showing off Johnny Depp's charismatic walk more often than providing us with engrossing dialogue, could actually enlighten me to a universal truth. It helped me to understand that life is a roller coaster, with both ups and downs.

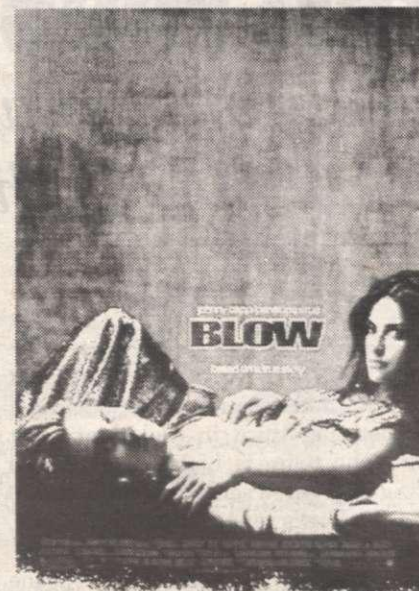
Johnny Depp plays George Jung, a small-time nobody from a typical suburban home who finds himself in California during a time in which drugs

much better job.

However, *Blow* hardly does that. Whether or not drugs are good or bad is not an issue in this movie. Jung is made out to be a hero: an honest, hard-working drug dealer. Meanwhile, his cheating, backstabbing drug-dealing friends are the enemies. This movie is about a man who lives a rags-to-riches story but then goes back to rags again. It is about a man who remains loyal. He is a nice guy in a business for bad guys demonstrating the philosophy that nice guys finish last. This movie is, forthrightly, about the making and then the breaking of a man, and how things like chance, coincidence, and other people's actions can obliterate your aspirations in one fell swoop.

The divine figure in this story is Ray Liotta, who delivers an amazing performance as Jung's father. His prophetic pieces of advice to the young George and then his dealings with him in adulthood are the most powerful character-oriented scenes in the movie. In a movie that lacks character substance outside of the expansive Depp, I feel nothing but newfound admiration for Liotta as a character actor.

*Blow* is a very strong visual movie that provides some illumination by the end. However, this movie is cooked medium rare and it could have been well done. With a stronger writer



Although not an amazing movie, *Blow* has its moments and provides the audience with an important message by the end.

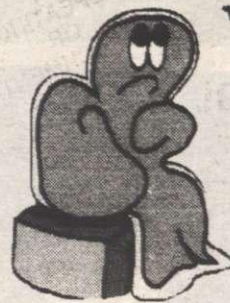


*Memento* has an engrossing storyline and a clever script that makes it two hours of quality entertainment. If the Academy chooses to recognize an independent flick, it could snag Best Original Screenplay.

and sex were more abundant than water or air. He soon realizes that he can make a living by selling pot on the warm beaches of California, and this is where his drug-dealing entrepreneurship explodes. Jung, a straightforward yet insular businessman, wants to expand his business to the East Coast, and eventually go national. He starts out with ganja, and eventually switches to Columbian cocaine, direct from the source.

The misconception of critics is that this is a drug movie. Although a major element is the trafficking and sale of drugs, this is not a drug movie in the way *Traffic* is a drug movie, or in the way *Requiem for a Dream* is a drug movie. Both of these movies discourage the use of drugs and make drugs and drug dealers seem like the enemies. For your information, the latter, practically unrecognized by the Academy, does a

## What's the first 4-letter word you think of?



If it's not  
**S-A-F-E**  
maybe you  
should  
think again...



### SERVICES

|                         |                            |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Birth Control           | Emergency                  |
| STI Testing/Counseling/ | Contraception              |
| Treatment               | HIV Testing/Counseling     |
| Pregnancy Testing/      | GYN Care                   |
| Options Counseling      | Sports/School Physicals    |
|                         | (with parental permission) |

Have questions? Ask! Services are confidential.

Clip and save.



**Planned Parenthood**  
of Nassau County, Inc.

### Free Teen Clinics

**Hempstead**

**Glen Cove**

(Monday-Saturday by appointment)

(Wednesdays - walk-in)

540 Fulton Ave.

110 School St.

(516) 483-3033

(516) 674-4082

(bus - MTA N70, N71, N72)

(bus - MTA N21, N27)

PPNC... because it's your health, your responsibility, your choice, your life.



# VIKING SPORTS

## Port volleyball shuts down competition

*Vikings remain the only undefeated team in Conference B-1 after a thrilling 3-2 victory over Long Beach*

by Jason Kang

The boys' varsity volleyball team is back with a vengeance after finishing a disappointing third in the county last year. The team is highly experienced (losing only three seniors to graduation) and with Port's reputation in volleyball, was ranked second entering the season. A month and a half into the season, the team holds a 7-0 record and shows no sign of fatigue.

The team placed first in the Plainview Invitational Tournament on April 21 and looks to continue to tear into the competition. It is now the only undefeated team after its latest victory on April 26 over Long Beach, which had been the only other undefeated team before its defeat by Port.

Port played an intense game against Long Beach. The team, led by seniors Stuart Katz and Jon Lee, was able to pull out a 3-2 victory, 9-15, 15-11, 15-11, 6-15, 15-11. The games were extremely long and intense.

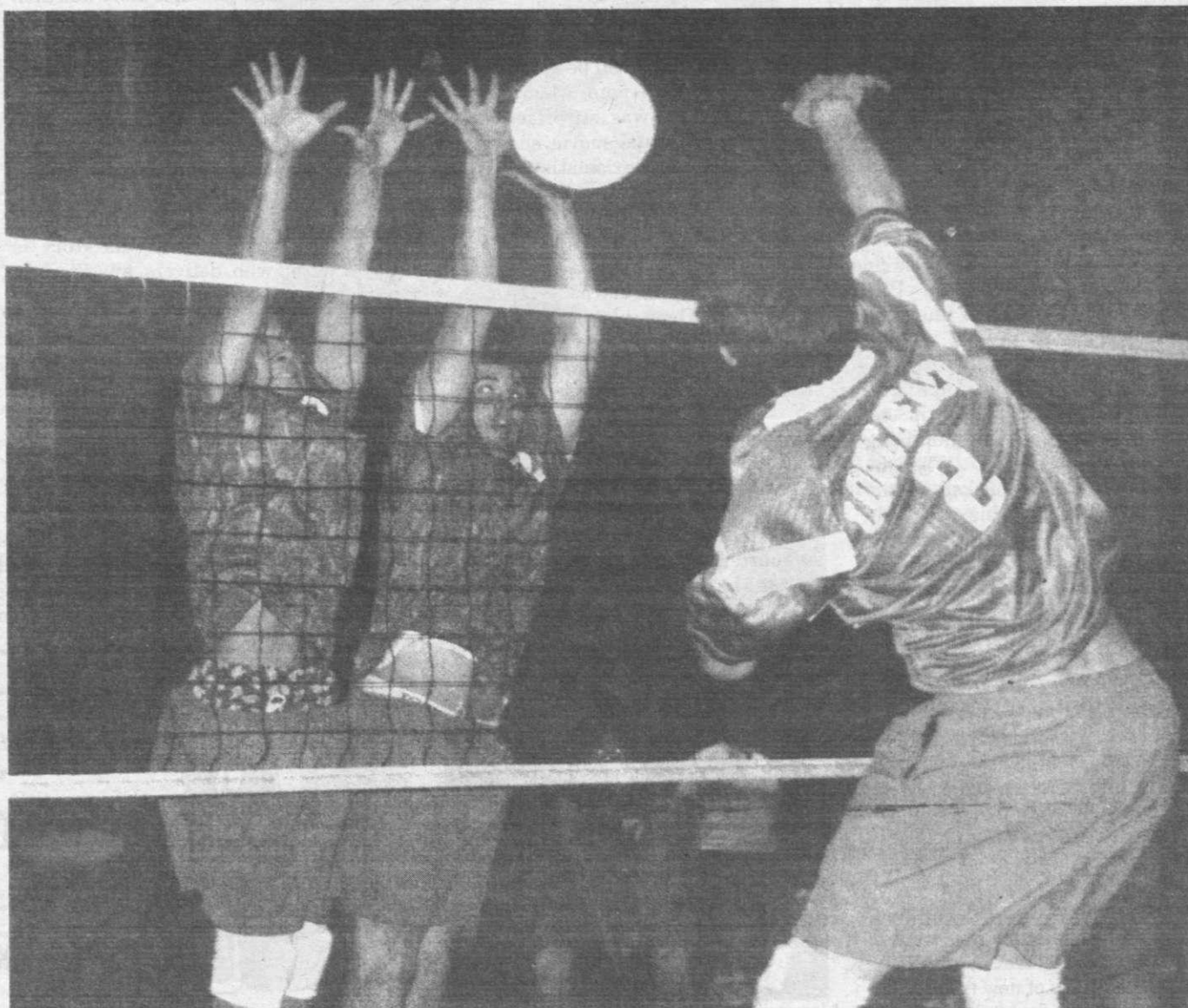
In the first set, Port took a fast 5-1 lead. It then lost it very quickly against one server. The team was not moving to receive as well as it could have and the score quickly changed to 5-9. Port then went back and forth on points and finally Long Beach took the first set with some ease.

In the second set, the team was more focused and more into the game. Port won the second set with confidence. The team brought its energy from the previous game with it as it entered the third set. Port was able to take a quick lead, only to get caught up near the end. But finally, with the help of setter junior Sae Hae Moon, Port was able to take the intense third set.

In the fourth set, the team seemed to fall apart. The communication was off, and it seemed some obvious calls were going against Port. Key serves were missed and Coach Maria Giamanco showed her disapproval. The team showed some intensity during the last few points of the fourth set. It then entered the fifth set with a tied score of 2-2.

After over two hours of playing time, the fifth set went by quickly. Port took an early lead and held it for a while, until the score tied at 11-11. The game started to pick up and Port was able to kill the ball with great sets by senior David Shin, and kills by senior Arek Leoniuk as well as by junior Eliav Mintz.

Katz and Leoniuk finished the game with 32 and 13 kills, respectively. Shin and Moon had fifty-six and thirty-one assists, respectively. This game determined the first place spot in the conference and Port's victory brings it closer to its hopes of winning the



Senior David Shin (far left) and junior Angelo Ferrucci block a Long Beach outside attack. The game ended 3-2 in Port's favor, making the Vikings the only undefeated team in the conference.

championship.

In spite of the victory, Coach Giamanco was dissatisfied with the way in which Port played. She commented, "We got critical points, but overall we were inconsistent. We played well when we had to, but that's it."

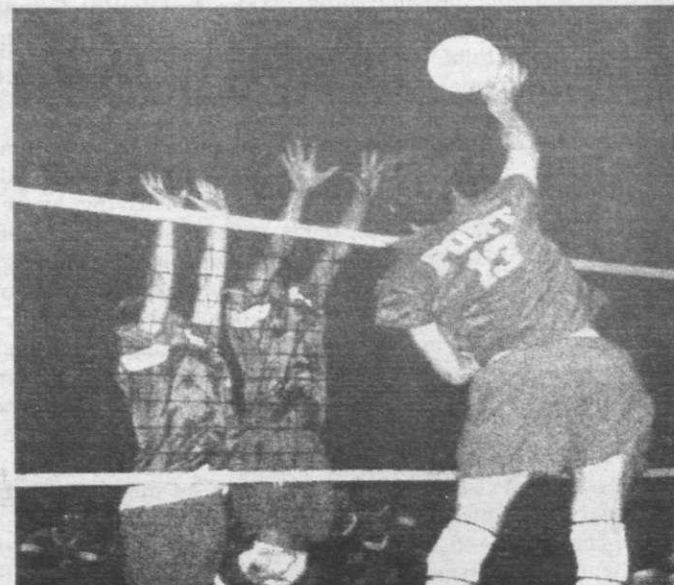
Mintz commented, "Long Beach played awesome and we had too many serving and passing errors. Our blocking (was weak) so we were forced to rely on our backcourt. But we started blocking in the fifth set and that allowed us to win."

Port faced West Hempstead on April 18. The Vikings did not break much of a sweat, winning the game in three straight sets. Katz had eighteen kills and Shin had twenty assists to win the game, 15-5, 15-2, 15-13. The team was focused as it had just won against Hewlett on April 5.

Hewlett was not the powerhouse that it has been the past few seasons. Usually Port has some problems facing this team, but this year the Vikings were able to take Hewlett rather easily. Port won in four sets, 10-15, 15-5, 15-6, 15-2.

After losing the first set, Coach Giamanco made sure the team concentrated and did not give away any undeserved points. The team went on to easily win as Katz had twenty-one kills and Shin had twenty-three assists.

Port played the regular season opener against Floral Park on April 2. The Vikings were able to win in four sets, 15-10, 15-11, 9-15, 16-14. In the first two sets, Port showed its dominance on the court as it was able to execute kills with ease. But in the third set, Floral Park stepped up and was able to take the match.



Senior Stuart Katz (13) spikes over Long Beach. Katz finished the game with 32 kills.

However, Port was able to get its act together in the fourth set and won 16-14 with Katz's thirty-one kills and Leoniuk's eleven kills.



## Boys' varsity lacrosse tears it up in league games

*After a tough pre-season, Vikings defeat Calhoun, South Side, and Floral Park*



Robbie Wenger

Senior Spencer Bodner (7) passes to junior Bobby Ogrudek (18) in the game against Floral Park on April 18. Port won, 11-10, off of the strength of junior Doug Lutin's game-winning goal with four minutes left.

by Dave Whittemore

After a tough pre-season in which the team lost to top-ranked opponents such as Massapequa and Farmingdale, the Vikings have been unstoppable in league play with a 3-1 record. Port began the season with a loss to Wantagh, but have since beaten Floral Park, South Side, and Calhoun.

The team's losses in the pre-season have been a blessing in disguise. The playtime against such impressive teams has forced the young varsity squad to toughen up and gain experience rapidly.

The Vikings crushed Calhoun 18-4 on April 23. Port jumped out to an early lead, scoring seven goals in the first quarter, while Calhoun only managed to get one goal past goalie senior Nick Dello-Iacono.

Calhoun made its best effort in the

second quarter, scoring three goals. The Vikings scored five times in the second quarter, including three goals by junior Pat Mulqueen.

After halftime, Calhoun was unable to score anymore goals, while the Vikings scored six more times in the second half.

Mulqueen led the team with five goals, and junior Mike Cosolito added a hat trick. Seniors Spencer Bodner, Chris Cahn, and Jose Galeano, and junior Ray Ross each scored two goals. Dello-Iacono had a masterful performance, holding Calhoun to four goals and racking up six saves.

On April 21, the Vikings defeated South Side in a low-scoring game. Port broke out early, scoring four goals in the first quarter.

The team scored two goals each quarter for the rest of the game, but South Side was held to five goals in the first half and only one goal in the

second half.

The Vikings won, 10-6, on the strength of junior Doug Lutin's three goals and Mulqueen's one goal and five assists. Galeano and senior Donald Wilson each added two goals, and junior Scott Udell stopped South Side from making a comeback in the last quarter by saving four point-blank range shots.

In a close game, Port beat Floral Park on April 18, 11-10. Lutin was the star of the game, scoring the game-winning goal with four minutes to go in the fourth quarter.

Port failed to score in the first quarter, but came back with five goals in the second to take the lead at halftime, 5-4.

Floral Park came out strong in the third, out-scoring Port, but Port made a strong comeback in the last quarter on the strength of Lutin's tie-breaking goal.

Lutin led Port with a hat trick, while Cosolito and junior Bobby Ogrudek each added two more goals.

In their first league game, the Vikings lost to Wantagh, 20-12. Wantagh out-scored Port in every quarter but the last, when Port finally began to mount a comeback. Unfortunately, it was too little, too late.

Wantagh's offense completely overwhelmed Port's defense. In addition to Wantagh's twenty goals, Dello-Iacono and Udell combined for seventeen goals.

Wilson was the high-scorer for Port with a hat trick, and Cahn added two more.

The team's excellent play thus far this season has shown that the players are ready for any challenges. The Vikings are looking to make the playoffs, and hope to make a run at the county championships.



Robbie Wenger

Junior Sean Kellenbeck (12) evades a Floral Park player. After defeating Floral Park, South Side and Calhoun, the Vikings improved their league record to 3-1.

## Boys' varsity tennis is on its way to county title

by Matt Chin

The boys' varsity tennis team has beaten its last three opponents: Syosset, Manhasset, and Garden City.

Led by Coach Stan Makover, the team has seven very strong sets of players, four singles and three doubles, who have helped Port win the past two county championships. Senior Craig Rubin is the first singles player and the winner of the individual county championship last year, in addition to being the best ranked player in the east and ranked among the low hundreds in the nation. Replacing second singles player junior Kazuya Otani, who is injured and unable to play for the remainder of the season, is senior Josh Weissburg. Senior Manuel Bulautian plays third singles. Junior Ben Joelson commented, "Manuel is the heart of the team; he thrives in the clutch and is the key to our team's success." Finally, finishing off the singles section is freshman Max Schneider, one of a growing number of freshmen who have joined the team this year.

Seniors Mark Hiller and David Rosen are at first doubles. Juniors Ben Joelson and Jason Kirsch play second doubles, and freshmen Bryan "Mr." Chen and Gregory Hiller tie up the ends at third doubles. They have played solidly in all games this season, particularly in the last two.

After a restful weekend, Schreiber came back refreshed to win on April 30 against Garden City, guaranteeing them a slot in the county championships. After winning four out of the first five matches that day, a first singles match was not played, and Bulautian's match was halted after one set when he was declared the winner, 6-2. Meanwhile, Weissburg pulled through in straight sets, 6-4, 6-0, as did Rosen and M. Hiller in a match longer than expected, 6-2, 5-7, 6-4. Upon winning, Rosen joked, "As an old man once said, 'Boo-yah Grandma.' As in B-Y-O-B: Bring your own boo-yah!" Kirsch and Joelson won with ease against their opponents, 6-0, 6-4, while G. Hiller barely pulled Chen out of a close match, 6-4, 6-3, and Schneider struggled in a very close match, barely losing by a score of 6-2, 6-7, and 6-7 (7-4 in the tiebreaker).

Schreiber dominated in their game at Manhasset on April 26. Rubin won in straight sets, 6-3, 6-4, to keep up his perfect record. Rosen and M. Hiller won 6-1, 6-0, and second and third doubles both won with scores of 6-0, 6-1.

Despite a minor setback last week against Roslyn, Schreiber plans to continue to excel through the end of the season, and looks forward to the difficult future. The four teams who are most likely going to the county championships are Port Washington and Syosset with records of 9-1 and 8-1, respectively, Great Neck North (7-2), and Syosset High School (4-3), Makover stated. "It's going to go right down to the wire, and it will be a competitive season. We're going to try to win [the county championship] for the third year in a row." Bulautian added, "There's no doubt in my mind that we're going to three-peat this year."



# Girls' varsity lacrosse dominates Conference I

## Lady Vikings improve record to 6-1 with win over New Hyde Park

by Min Suh

This season kicked off with a lightning start and the Lady Vikings are preparing to win their seventh Nassau County title with a record of six wins and one loss. Port has created quite a reputation this past decade, participating in a Nassau County championship game eight times. This season, Port is faced with a tougher schedule and is continuing to live up to its reputation as a Long Island powerhouse.

On April 24, Port squared off against New Hyde Park. Port usually has a balanced offense and defense but this did not hold true in its game against New Hyde Park. New Hyde Park has an exceptional offense but poor defense.

New Hyde Park attacked first and put the ball in the net. However, this was not counted due to the fact that there was a foul. Senior Caitlin Bracken then went straight through the middle and scored, giving Port the first point of the game. Junior Sarah Walsh came in from the left side to lob one in. New Hyde Park returned, scoring its first goal.

New Hyde Park scored another goal, evening the score at 2-2. Walsh then scored from the left side, giving Port the lead once again. Sophomore Lara Melniker scored with an assist by Walsh. Bracken got a fast break and ran in another goal.

In response, New Hyde Park returned with another goal, but Port still led by one goal, 5-4. There was a bit of bickering between New Hyde Park defensemen and midfielders. Walsh took that opportunity to score off of a fast break. New Hyde Park then finished with another goal, with Port leading 6-5 at the half.

In the second half, Port stepped up its defense as New Hyde became more aggressive. At 22:40 a yellow card was issued to a New Hyde Park player and at 19:25 another yellow card was issued to Bracken, resulting in her replacement by attackmen junior Emily Farber.

The game progressed through the halftime mark and there was no score until Walsh lobbed one over the head, bringing the lead to 7-5. New Hyde Park responded with a goal. Bracken then came in through the middle and scored with an assist by freshman Jackie Hehir and scored again with an assist by Walsh. Bracken scored an additional two goals, both unassisted. Afterwards, Melniker scored with an assist by Walsh. O'Connor scored with an assist by Walsh with a seven-point lead of 13-6, which was the final score.

The Lady Vikings played at Freeport on April 23. Freeport won the face-off and a Freeport midfielder was apparently confused and moved down the wrong end of the field. Port drew first blood as Hehir went in for an unassisted goal. Freeport had skilled goaltenders as shot after shot from Port found the stick of the goalie, but unfortunately for Freeport, O'Connor scored with an assist by Melniker.

Walsh then dove around the goalie for another goal and did so again after the face-off, resulting in a score of 5-0. Melniker then scored off of a cross from Walsh.

Freeport finally started to score when number twenty (Colonna) scored two

goals for Freeport back to back. The last few minutes of the half were played intensely as Bracken scored with an assist from Walsh. The half ended with the score of 8-2 in Port's favor and Hehir had taken a stick to the throat.

The second half started with a goal by Melniker, with an assist by senior attackmen Nathalie Faure. Walsh then moved in quickly and scored another goal with an assist by Melniker. Freeport then scored but Port still had a commanding lead of 10-3. Walsh moved around the left corner to score a goal and repeated this for another. Freeport then responded to Walsh's onslaught by scoring. Near the game's final minutes Freeport scored another two goals in the game, ending it at 13-6.

On April 19, Port played the ever-notorious Garden City in a square off between the top two-seeded teams in League 1. The game began with Garden City drawing first blood as Garden City's all-American offensemen Amy Appelt scored.

Walsh scored an unassisted goal in return. Walsh cradled around Garden City's defensive line and went in for another goal. At 20:04 Appelt received a yellow card for slashing and was temporarily out of the game. Even though Appelt was out of commission for several minutes Port did not use that time to its advantage. As Appelt was subbed back into the game she spearheaded Port and scored, making the score 2-2.

Appelt then again took a powerful shot and scored against Port. The Lady Vikings were feeling the pressure and Coach Winter called for a time out.

Walsh scored another goal for Port. Garden City then score five unanswered goals. Things were not looking too favorable for Port, but in the last five minutes of the half, Bracken and Hehir both scored. Saccone, Port's goalkeeper, was under a lot of pressure and there was no stopping Garden City. The half wrapped up with a score of 9-5 in favor of Garden City. The second half repeated the first half as Garden City again scored immediately from the face-off when Bracken replaced Hehir for the face-offs.

Port needed to get its act together and at the twenty minute mark Trinko scored one unassisted and the score was 10-6. Walsh scored again with an overhead lob. Garden City then retaliated and scored two goals. Walsh went in head on to score again but Port was still waning behind in goals, as the score was 12-8. Trinko went in for a shot which bounced in off of the post for a goal with ten minutes left in the game.

Garden City then called for a time out and came back into the game, scoring two more goals. Garden City scored another goal, making it 15-9. The game play on the field was now dominantly on Port's side. Walsh came back with a lone goal worked around the back of the goal. In the last four minutes of the game, legitimate checks were made but the whistles were blown. Appelt then scored another and the game seemed to be at an end when Walsh scored the last



Min Suh

Senior Caitlin Bracken attempts to score against Garden City. Junior Sarah Walsh scored six goals, but Port lost in a close game, 16-11.

goal at 16-11. Although Port had lost to Garden City, Port played hard.

On April 11, Carle Place faced off against Port. The game started with an unassisted goal by Walsh. A Carle Place goal soon followed within the first five minutes of play. Walsh put another ball in the net to take the lead. Sophomore defensemen Lindsay Levin scored off of a pass from Walsh, giving Port the 3-1 lead. Game play became rough and the whistle was blowing quite often. Sophomore defensemen Lisa Vogety was elbowed and a call was made. Walsh scored off of the advantage, ending the

half at 4-2.

Walsh started the second half by scoring with an intricate spin move followed by Zwrn scoring with the assist by Melniker. Walsh scored on an unassisted shot and scored another with an overhead lob, bringing the game to a score of 8-2. Port was playing more aggressively than in its lackluster performance during the first half as Zwrn scored again. Sophomore attackmen Deirdre O'Connor then scored another goal for Port. Walsh ended the onslaught and scored another goal, ending the game with the score of 11-2, Port.

## Returning seniors hope to lead golf team to victory

by Olivia Moskowitz

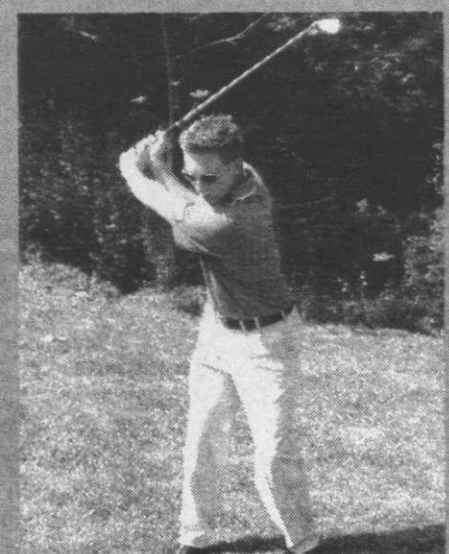
This year's varsity golf team has had a difficult beginning, but the team hopes to see some major improvement as the season progresses. With the amount of talent on the team Coach Mr. Ron Costello feels it is possible to "... finish the season undefeated."

The season started off with three losses, but on April 26 the team dominated an undefeated Roslyn. Team captain senior Matt Emmernan finished with a par thirty-six and star player senior Joey Mandaro finished with one under par thirty-five. The team has five other returning seniors: Lee Brodsky, Jon Handelman, Vijay Pantal, Kevin Vanderbuilt, and Bryan Vogety. Brodsky commented, "With all the returning seniors to the team, we are sure to dominate the conference."

Golf is the only sport Schreiber offers where both girls and boys are allowed to compete on the same team. The three female sophomores on the team are Jen Handelman, Catherine Senatore, and Jen Tsai. Mr. Costello feels there is an excellent chance that next year there will also be a girls' team so that these young women can receive the praise they deserve.

Mr. Costello has been coaching the

team for the past thirty years and hopes to see another conference championship. His record includes fourteen conference wins, two North Shore championships, two Long Island championships, and one New York State championship. He is well on his way to three hundred career wins, as he only needs seven more wins to reach that milestone.



Timothy Koo

Veteran senior Lee Brodsky takes a practice swing.



# After a slow start, varsity baseball picks up speed

## Vikings take 2 of 3 from Herricks and defeat top-ranked Oceanside

by Robbie Wenger

The varsity baseball team has had a good season, with a 5-5 record. It engaged in a three game series against Herricks on April 16, 17, and 19. The team defeated Herricks in the first game and the third, but lost the second. The team also upset Oceanside, which is top-ranked, as well as Elmont and John Adams.



Senior Steve Tartaro (6) prepares to pitch while junior Todd Rosenbluth (2) gets ready at third base.

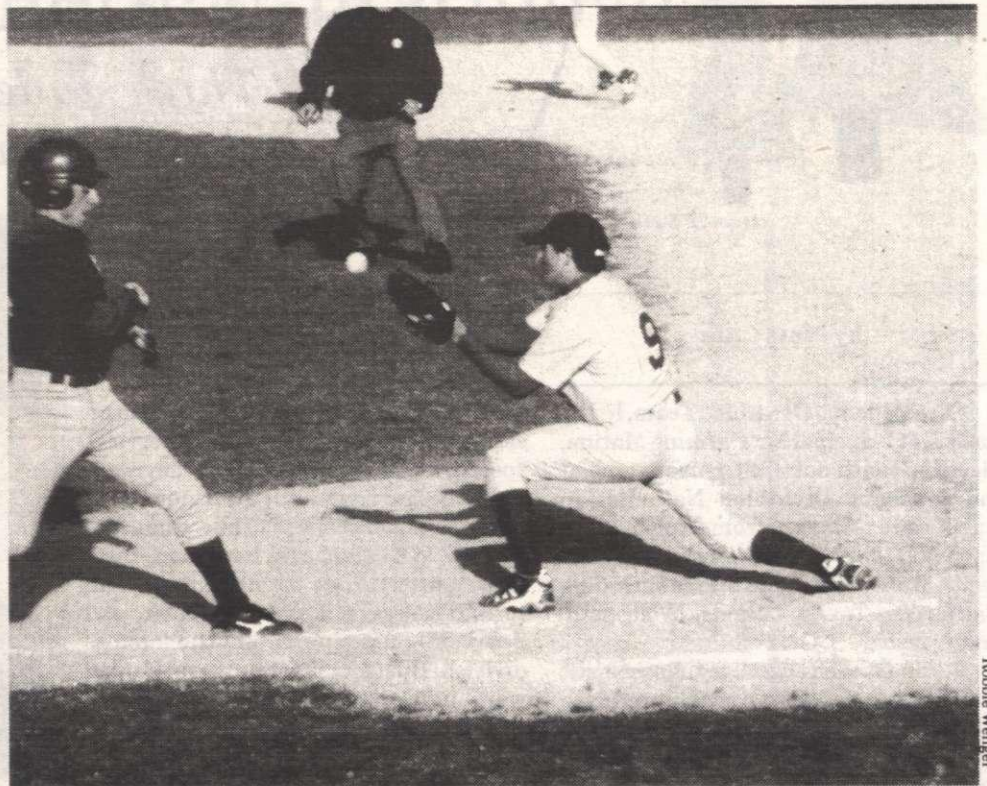
The Vikings beat Elmont on April 24, 15-7. Elmont had an early lead with a score of 5-0, but Port came back with a twelve-run fifth inning to win the game.

Senior Chris Clemente highlighted the explosive fifth inning by hitting a grand slam. Junior Todd Rosenbluth was 2-4 in the game, with two RBIs and two doubles. Junior Barry Lichman also contributed by going 1-2 with two RBIs. Junior Harris Selinger secured the win for Port.

The team also defeated John Adams on April 21 with a score of 8-6. Senior Steve Tartaro led a six-run second inning with a two-run single, and junior Tom Murray scored two runs with one hit and one RBI. Selinger picked up the win.

Herricks was beaten in a three-game series by Port's formulaic team. In the most recent game on April 19, Port won 8-6. Junior Chris Keen began as the starting pitcher, but was hit in the foot when a Herricks batter nailed him with the ball. Keen did not want to relinquish pitching so he walked it off and heroically continued.

In Murray's first at-bat, he slammed a two-run homer over the fence. Overall, he was 2-3 with three RBIs. Senior Paul Zentko played a good game and was 2-4 with an RBI. Rosenbluth



Senior Adam Caslow stretches to beat the Herricks player to first base. In a three game series with Herricks, Port won two of the three games.

was impenetrable at third base. Tartaro made a pinch-hit single and he made the winning run in the bottom of the sixth inning.

On April 17, the middle game of the series with Herricks, the team lost narrowly 7-6. The day before, Port beat

Herricks 5-4. The winning pitcher was Tartaro and the winning hit was made by the catcher Murray.

The Vikings are currently in second place in their division, one game behind the leaders. They are hoping to make the playoffs.



## SPORTING GOODS UNIFORMS

IN HOUSE  
CUSTOM  
EMBROIDERY



IN HOUSE  
CUSTOM  
SILK SCREENING

# (516) 767-5108

52 Main Street • Port Washington, NY • 11050





# Academic Decathlon places seventh at Nationals in Anchorage

*Three students receive medals at competition against fifty-five other schools*

by Matt Chin

The Academic Decathlon Team, led by Assistant Principal Mr. Carmine Matina, placed seventh out of fifty-five teams at the Academic Decathlon Nationals in Anchorage, Alaska from April 19 to April 21. The team competed against teams from thirty-nine states including California, Texas, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Arizona.

Placing second overall in the scholastic division, senior Adam Krotman received a \$750 scholarship in addition to a \$500 scholarship for receiving the highest score on the team. Individual awards included a gold medal won by junior Matthew Schefer in the honors division in mathematics, a silver medal won by junior Ronli Diakow in the honors division in mathematics and a bronze medal won by Krotman in the scholastic division in science. Junior Kate Zebrowski placed fifth in language and literature and junior Brad Zankel placed fourth in mathematics.

Team members included seniors Evan Behar, Jonathan Bond, Jessica Buettner, Krotman, and Keren Latimer; and juniors Diakow, Schefer, Zankel and Zebrowski. Students participated in

ten different categories: art, economics, essay, interview, language and literature, mathematics, music, science, speech and super quiz. Each student competed in six of the ten categories in addition to an essay and then went on to the interview, speech, and super quiz where they were publicly quizzed and interviewed in front of an audience. They competed in different divisions based on their unweighted grade point averages in certain classes. Diakow, Schefer, and Zebroski participated in the honors division, Buettner, Krotman, and Zankel were in the scholastic division, and Behar, Bond and Latimer competed in varsity.

Mr. Matina commented on the success of the group. He said, "I thought the team gelled together as one unit. They did a fabulous job in that they won several medals. I'm looking forward to next year when we have quite a few students returning."

While not competing, the students visited various lakes and landscapes as well as gift shops. Schefer commented on the irony of the landscapes he visited with the team. He remarked, "It was unusual how there would be beautiful mountains in the background, but when you looked back down, there would be oil refineries and factories."

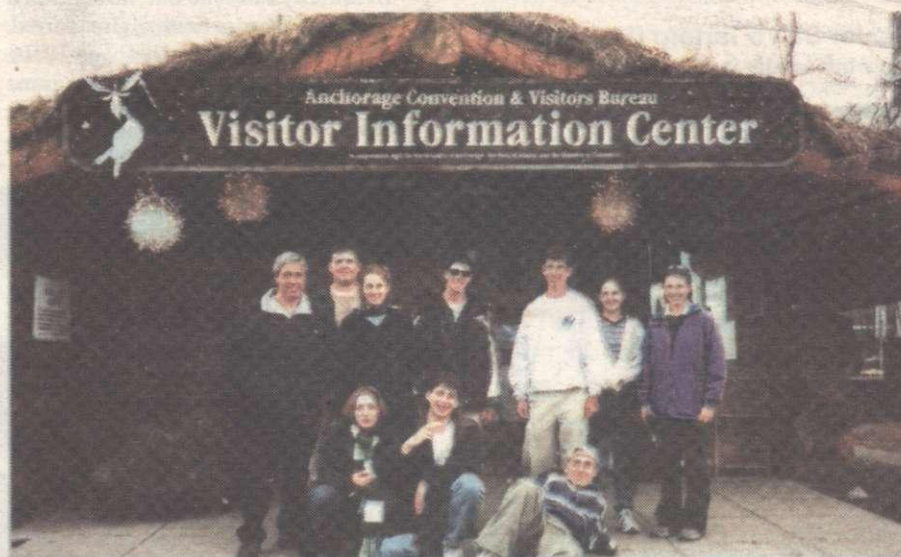
Team members pose with a Viking on the streets of Alaska. The school mascot, in addition to the participants' blue and white colored hair and matching sweat-shirts, demonstrated the team's spirit.



In the actual competition, the team won many awards. Diakow, Krotman and Schefer all won individual medals and Zankel and Zebroski received individual ranks. Overall the team won seventh place out of the fifty-five schools competing.



Decathlon members (l-r, b-f) senior Jon Bond, juniors Matt Schefer, Ronli Diakow and Kate Zebrowski, seniors Keren Latimer, Jessica Buettner, Adam Krotman, and Evan Behar and junior Eric Merkelson and their advisor Mr. Carmine Matina showcase their team spirit.



The group poses in front of a Visitor Information Center in Anchorage. Besides competing, the students took trips to various tourist destinations.



The team is shown here against a backdrop of Alaskan mountains. The unique scenery provided an appropriate landscape for this prestigious competition.