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# The Schreiber Times



Paul D. Schreiber High School Port Washington, New York Volume LIII No. 3

Monday, November 25

# 2002



# NEWS BRIEFS

## Young Scientists advance knowledge

The Young Scientists club has been actively sharing scientific knowledge with budding scientists in the past month, especially with their first event: a lecture by science teacher Mr. Jim Jones on his new book.

Mr. Jones' lecture on his book, *Spirits of the Harbor: A Summer of Osprey Watching and Reawakening on Long Island's North Shore*, was held on November 21. Mr. Jones wrote the book over the summer while he watched nature and the actions of birds in their natural surroundings. Using a philosophical approach, as opposed to a scientific approach, Mr. Jones witnessed the life cycles and simplicity of the birds. Encouraged by nature, Mr. Jones was motivated to record his new experience. "By watching the wholesome lifestyles of these birds, I was inspired and now believe that there is hope for humanity," says Mr. Jones.

Additionally, senior Jessica Gross presented her research on "The Use of Microarray Technology and RT-PCR to Determine the Effects of Echinacea on Gene Expression in Human Lymphocytes" on November 5. She used a Power Point presentation to explain the research that she completed over the summer at Long Island Jewish Medical Center to a morning session of the Young Scientists. Club members also attended a seminar about the immune system in Locust Valley on November 19.

Upcoming events include a visit from Dr. Patrick Gannon from Mount Sinai Medical School in the spring. He will discuss his research on the human brain.

~Sophie Kroft and Rebecca Sander

## Key Club holds annual food drive

The Key Club will hold its annual Thanksgiving food drive from November 21 to November 27.

Members of the Key Club will collect food in the main lobby during school. They will also collect food outside of King Kullen on November 23. The Key Club will accept all nonperishable canned goods, which will eventually be distributed to families who are in need of food for Thanksgiving. The collected food will be divided between St. Peter's

Church and the Community Action Council. The food will then go to senior citizens and disadvantaged families of Port Washington. The Key Club also plans to give full Thanksgiving dinners to some Port Washington families.

~Aapta Garg

## "Rent-A-Senior" integrates students

Over 100 freshman-senior pairs participated in the annual "Rent-a-Senior-Day" on October 25. The event allows freshmen the opportunity to pay a dollar in exchange for a senior to spend the day with.

This activity was created with the hope of helping freshmen assimilate into Schreiber. Many seniors picked up their designated freshmen in the morning for school, took them to lunch, and carried their books throughout the day.

Freshman Maggie Spreitzer commented, "I had a fun day with my senior, and it was a great opportunity to get to make some older friends!"

~Emily Singer

## "Birds of Prey" comes to Schreiber

Science teacher Mr. Jim Jones hosted the annual "Birds of Prey" presentation on October 25. Although the program was created for students in his zoology course, all students were welcome to attend the event.

Representatives from the Autobahn Sanctuary who are in charge of the birds at the Theodore Roosevelt Nature Sanctuary in Oyster Bay came to the school as part of this educational outreach program. The group brought various birds of prey (also known as raptors), including live owls, falcons, hawks, vultures, and eagles. The purpose of the presentation was to give students a better understanding of the facts they learned in class and in textbooks, and to incorporate this knowledge into real-life situations. Mr. Jones noted, "There is no substitute for a live animal." Students were able to see how the adaptive features of raptors allow them to survive in the wild.

Senior Dahlia Mottahedeh commented, "It was great that we had the opportunity to see the animals we learned so much about in class."

~Daniella Malekan

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# Photo Gallery



Sophomore Emily Gordon took this close-up picture of flowers for Ms. Joy Jaworski's Photo I class. This photo, taken in the yard by her house, demonstrates informal balance.

FRONTPAGE by Rachel Klein, Ray Suh, and Sharon Weinberg

CENTERFOLD by Caroline Axelrod and Mea Geizhals

BACKPAGE by Nicole Tingir

# The Schreiber Times

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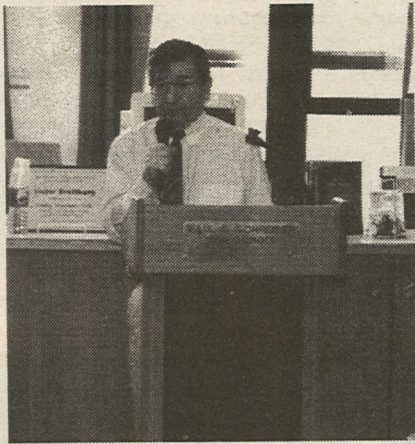
# Holocaust survivors share with Schreiber

BY David Lindenbaum and Jen Schmirer  
Contributing Writer and Assistant News Editor

Mr. Victor Breitburg and Mr. Stanley Ronell, two Holocaust survivors, visited Schreiber High School on November 15.

The first survivor, Mr. Breitburg, was only in fifth grade when World War II broke out. He lived in Lodz, a city in Poland, with a population of 660,000 people, 220,000 of them Jewish. Six months after the war started, Mr. Breitburg and his family moved into a ghetto. After four years, only 75,000 Jews remained. As the eldest child of the family, Breitburg took responsibility for the family when his father passed away in 1943. When the Germans started rounding up all the Jewish people, Mr. Breitburg's family stayed in hiding. When the family ran out of food, however, they were forced to surrender to the Germans.

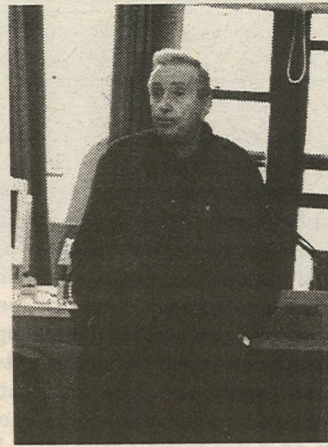
After traveling on a train for three days, Mr Breitburg and his family were taken to the Auschwitz concentration camp. All of the women and children were separated from the men. Mr. Breitburg was fortunate enough to avoid the gas chamber and was put into



Christy Wurmstedt

**Mr. Victor Breitburg discusses his experiences during the Holocaust. As the eldest child of the family, he and his family were taken to the Auschwitz concentration camp. He was fortunate enough to avoid the gas chambers, and was the sole survivor of his extended family.**

a barrack with other healthy young men. Everyone else in his immediate family was murdered. Mr. Breitburg



Christy Wurmstedt

**Mr. Stanley Ronell explained how he and his family went into hiding in a relative's home in the suburbs of Poland. He and his mother acquired false papers and posed as Christians until 1945.**

was then forced to work on a farm, where they shaved his hair and gave him a uniform with a yellow Jewish

star. A number that would replace his name was also tattooed on his left arm. The Russians eventually liberated Mr. Breitburg on his eighteenth birthday. Of his extended family of fifty-four people, he was the sole survivor.

Mr. Ronell, a current resident of Port Washington, was born in Poland. After his father was arrested and later put to death by Nazi soldiers, Mr. Ronell and his mother went into hiding. First, they moved into a relative's house in a Polish suburb. There, Mr. Ronell learned how to play the violin. During the winter of 1941, the Germans shipped approximately 200 Jews into a nearby shack. At the age of seven, Mr. Ronell witnessed the Germans spill gasoline over the shack and light the two hundred Jewish people on fire. Mr. Ronell and his mother soon moved elsewhere, where they acquired false papers stating that they were Christians. From that point, they lived in hiding until they were liberated in the winter of 1945.

Mr. Breitburg commented, "From prejudice to genocide is a very small step." Mr. Breitburg feels that it is important for our generation to understand the personal traumas of the Holocaust.

## Latin students visit the Metropolitan Museum of Art

BY Jen Schmirer  
Assistant News Editor

Thirty-seven freshmen Latin students went on a field trip to the Metropolitan Museum of Art to see the Greek and Roman Collection on November 7.

The docents who guided the students through the earlier Greek works discussed a Cycladic figure playing a kithara, one of five in the entire world. The tour included tapestries from the Middle Ages and European paintings, depicting the Death of Socrates. The docents were impressed by the students'

knowledge of architecture, mythology, and history.

After the guided tour, students spent another hour in the museum browsing the exhibit of their choice. Shortly thereafter, the students ate a quick lunch in Central Park. Latin teachers Dr. Louise Lindemann and Ms. Ruth Haukeland accompanied the students.

"I am always proud of Port Washington students when I accompany them on a trip," commented Ms. Haukeland. "They are impressive not only in their behavior, but also that knowledge that they bring to such an experience."



Courtesy of Ms. Ruth Haukeland



Courtesy of Ms. Ruth Haukeland

Photos (clockwise) Freshmen Mike Winter, Julie Lengton, Megan Hallissy, James Pyo, and Greg Berry take a break to eat a quick lunch after visiting the museum; The Latin students pose for a picture in front of a model of an ancient Roman structure. The thirty-seven students, accompanied by Latin teachers Dr. Louise Lindemann and Ms. Ruth Haukeland, were given a tour of the Greek and Roman Collection on November 7.

## Zoology class visits the Bronx Zoo to study animal habitats

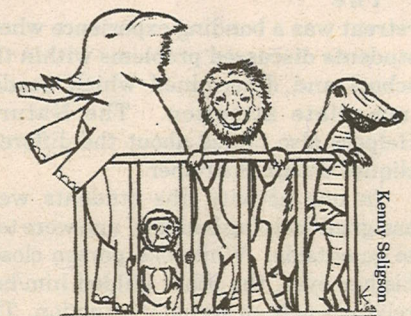
BY Christine Choe  
News Editor

Mr. Jim Jones' zoology class took a field trip to the Bronx Zoo on November 1. The trip to the Bronx Zoo, also known as the Wild Life Conservation Society, revealed the detailed habitats created to meet the needs of different animals. Additionally, the students received information on the importance of zoos.

Mr. Jones commented, "It's unfortunate that we need zoos to help preserve some of our wild heritage. But until we get smarter, some animals can only exist in zoos." Schreiber students realized the great detail of the various habitats after viewing a variety of exhibits, such as ones on Asia and the Congo.

Mr. Jones concluded by saying, "It's always good to see and watch kids learn and enjoy things about wildlife. It was a very successful trip to the zoo."

Senior Mike Hall commented, "The trip was really successful. We were able to examine many endangered animals and were able to donate to the conservation process by giving money to help save the animals."



Kenny Saligson

## Mathletes start strong

BY David Lindenbaum  
Contributing Writer

The Mathletes placed second with a score of twenty-three out of thirty at Manhasset High School on November 19. Previously, the team placed second with a score of twenty-seven out of thirty at Roslyn High School on October 22. Competing in the interscholastic math league, the team is lead by adviser Mr. Anthony Tedesco, President senior Matt Chin, and Vice President senior Andrew Pariser.

The team is composed of fifteen members who compete in monthly meets. With two matches completed to this date, they are already a third of the way through a season of six matches. Each match consists of three ten-minute blocks in which each team member answers two questions. The top ten scores from the team are counted. The problems that are asked are all complicated word problems that can involve any area of high school math. Everything from the higher levels of trigonometry down to basic algebra can be used in the questions.

Last year, the team finished third in the county. The Mathletes members, however, were not completely satisfied with last year's results and this year, they have set higher goals. Pariser commented, "Last year, we came so close to first place in the county, and this year we are ready to take the title that is rightfully ours."

## "Schreiber Stamps and Stuff" opens

BY Matt Brod  
News Editor

Ms. Evelyn Schonbrun's core curriculum class founded the "Schreiber Stamps and Stuff" store this past month. Advised by Ms. Schonbrun, and run by nine of her students, the store is open on "B" day period 3 and "D" day period 6. Items for sale include stamps, pens, pencils, pads, private mail envelopes, post-cards, and labels. The students in her class attend to the store in a rotating schedule, and sell items with either a teacher or a teaching assistant. Ms. Kate Francis and Ms. Bonnie Soldano are actively assisting Ms. Schonbrun in advising the daily operations of the store.

As of yet, the students have made approximately five dollars. The primary purpose of the store is to service the school with only a small profit. Eventually, the students hope to make enough money from the store to finance a party at the end of the school year.

Before the store's inception, the class thought of ways to integrate practical work experience into their daily lives. Ms. Schonbrun thought of a post-office type store and went to principal Dr. Francis Banta with her proposal. After Dr. Banta gave the students \$350 to start the store, they took a tour of Port Washington's post office and purchased a variety of goods to sell. The store has been open for two weeks and has taken off with a strong start. Although the stamps appear to be the bestseller, the class hopes that the other items will

become more popular in the weeks to come. As Ms. Schonbrun put it, "The class is a means to teach the kids a world of work. And the store is a way of doing just that."

In addition to working at the store, the students participate in other activities to foster their interpersonal relationship skills. Students volunteer at the St. Francis Hospital, the animal shelter, and Home Depot. The purpose of these

activities is to give them a sense of real-world experience and offer them an opportunity to train in a specific vocation. Ms. Schonbrun stated, "We try to match ability with a specific job, and that's the hardest part."

Senior Chanel Williams commented, "I think the store is a really wonderful experience for everyone." Senior Timothy Keenan remarked, "It is a great opportunity to learn something new."



(l-r) Seniors Rachel Record and Michael Megdal, junior Frederick Cook, senior Timothy Keenan, freshman Chanel Williams, Mrs. Schonbrun, juniors Aaron Menzel and Wagas Khizar run Schreiber's new "Stamps and Stuff."

## Natural Helpers bond and share at retreat

BY Emily Singer  
Staff Writer

Schreiber's Natural Helpers traveled to the St. Ignatius retreat house from October 27 to October 28. The Natural Helpers include students from all grades who were nominated by their peers as helpful confidantes at the beginning of the year. They were accompanied by faculty Ms. Cherie Delio, Ms. Michele Weiden,

Mr. Donald Fish, Mr. Bradley Fitzgerald, and Ms. Karen Hazen.

The retreat was a bonding experience where students discussed problems within the school and determined which needed immediate attention. The Natural Helpers also talked about the different cliques within Schreiber.

In one activity, the students were assigned "helping buddies" and were told to go outside. While one person closed his/her eyes, the other guided him/her, relying solely on verbal instruction. The

purpose of this activity was to establish a trusting relationship between Natural Helpers.

On the first day of the retreat, names were randomly picked from a hat and everyone was assigned a "secret buddy," about whom he/she learned as much as possible throughout the retreat. During their free time, Natural Helpers wrote encouraging notes on each other's "scrolls." At the end of the retreat, each

scroll was presented to its owner by his/her "secret" someone.

Sophomore Samantha commented,

"I think the goal of the retreat was to become a better listener and skillful problem solver. The focus of the activities was to help us open up to others, trust people, and be able to share our own problems with others. We learned how important it is to make new friends without being judgmental of who they are of what group they may be in—I had a great time and definitely made new friends. It was worth it!"



## Math Researchers compete in modeling competition

BY Jen Schmirer  
Assistant News Editor

Sixteen Math Research students participated in the fifth annual High School Mathematics Contest in Modeling (HiMCM) on November 8 and 9.

Sophomore, junior, and senior math research students participated in this thirty-six hour event from 8 a.m. on Friday to 8 p.m. on Saturday. The purpose of this competition was to design optimal bus routes for a school district. The difficulty of the problem was amplified by the fact that it was for a general school district, and no specific details were given other than the requirement that no student stay on a bus for more than an hour. Results and awards will be announced at a later date.

Students who participated in this national competition included seniors Joe Austerweil, Adam Bloomston, Matt Chin, Joseph Jailer-Coley, Andrew Pariser, and Sharon Weinberg; juniors Robert Grogan, Saad Hasan, Sung Jun Jin, Daniel Kenger, Uri Nazryan, Vikram Raja, Tom Schweitzer, and Aaron Sidford; and sophomores, Dani-

elle Bourguet and Daniel Latzman.

Four groups, each comprised of four students, were picked by math research teacher, Dr. Fritz Cayemite, according to the strengths and weaknesses of each student. The groups worked separately in the math research room, the social science research room, the science research room, and the science computer lab. While the students worked, teachers Ms. Cherie Delio, Mr. Ray DiVenuto, Mr. Mark Reynolds, and Mr. Anthony Tedesco stayed up to advise them.

During the thirty-six hours, students bonded with other students of different grades. When they were not working, games of soda-can bowling were set up in the hall while other students played Nintendo. A mattress was brought in so students would be able to nap. Energizing foods, such as candy, fruit, soda, pretzels, and chips, helped keep most of the students up all night.

Pariser remarked, "Two years ago, this math competition was only twenty-four hours. Some feel that the allotted time was increased to let students sleep. I question who would want to sleep instead of doing math."

# SIEMENS Westinghouse recognizes **3** senior semifinalists

Sharon Weinberg

BY Kevin Boroumand  
Editorial Assistant



(t-b) (l-r) Dr. Fritz Cayemitte, Dr. Frank Banta, Mr. Gene Pizzolo, seniors Andrew Pariser, Jarryd Levine, and Joe Jailer-Coley. These math research students were selected as semifinalists in the Siemens Westinghouse Competition on October 25.

Seniors Joseph Jailer-Coley, Jarryd Levine, and Andrew Pariser were selected as semifinalists in the Siemens Westinghouse Competition on October 25. The students, all from math research, were first notified through a list of semifinalists in *USA Today* and through the Siemens website.

The national competition focuses on math, science and technology, and according to the Siemens website, "recognizes remarkable talent early on, fostering individual growth for high school students who are willing to challenge themselves through science research."

To compete, students had to submit their applications to the Educational Testing Service by October 1, 2002. ETS then selects a group of educators to review and score the projects. These judges take into account the clarity, creativity, experimentation, and interpretation in the project, as well as looking to the possibility for future work and scientific application in the students' projects. 300 projects are then chosen as semi-finalists. From these 300 students, 30 individual students and 30 teams are then chosen as regional winners, and they move on to give presentations in their respective geographical areas. Finally, six individuals and six teams move on to compete

in the national competition held at the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Washington, D.C.

Levine's project was identifying bacterial genes via neural networks. The project explained a solution for using

computers to find and label coding sections of DNA within bacteria organisms. These sections code for the proteins in the bacteria and are often the root cause of mutations. On the application of his project, Levine remarked, "I came up

with a computational method for identifying coding sections within bacterial DNA. This method could lead to major breakthroughs in understanding protein creation. The possibilities created by understanding this facet of DNA are as widespread as DNA itself." Much of Levine's research was done over the summer at Michigan State University with the help of his mentor Dr. Charles MacCluer. Levine was also aided by former math research adviser Mrs. Elaine Labrocca and math research adviser Dr. Fritz Cayemitte. Levine commented, "It was a tough and challenging experience but it had some great rewards and I would definitely do it again."

Jailer-Coley and Pariser worked together on a project which, according to Pariser, "sought to optimize search missions with robots that interact and share data and respond to environmental changes to find the object." The project was completed last year when Jailer-Coley and Pariser were juniors. Both students had worked on separate projects over the summer, but four days before the competition deadline decided to revert to their old project. Pariser commented, "We had a lot of fun working together and really helped each other out a lot. I remember coming home and telling my mother that she could stuff food through the crack under my door so that I could eat. But the work paid off in the end."

## Board of Education Notes: November 12

BY Sam Salkin  
A&E Editor

The November 12 Port Washington Board of Education Meeting began at 8:15 p.m. After the Pledge of Allegiance, roll was called and all seven members were present at the meeting. Board President Laura Mogul began the meeting by explaining that the night would serve as a work session and that no decisions would be made on the night's agenda. Mogul urged those in attendance to vote for the BOCES budget November 19. The district receives many services from BOCES and this vote will enable them to buy their own building. In turn, costs to the district will go down and the taxpayers will pay less.

When asked for any community comments for items on the agenda, former BOE member Dean Nardone addressed the board explaining his dissatisfaction with the progress of construction. According to the plan, Manorhaven and Daly should have been close to done by August. Mr. Nardone also questioned the State Education Department (SED) and their sluggish approval of the plans. "The taxpayers deserve better," he said.

The first item on the agenda was the approval of a new traffic plan for the Campus Drive area. Superintendent of Schools Dr. Geoffrey Gordon explained to the board that while searching for a current plan he had a lot of trouble because there was no current plan. However, after contacting the Port

Washington Police Department, he found that the latest plan was seven years old and since that time much had changed. Dr. Gordon explained that he had met with different teachers to create a teacher committee. Dr. Gordon also announced a community forum for next Tuesday (11/19) at 7 p.m. before the meeting. Since work at Weber is about to begin, Dr. Gordon felt it was imperative to have a plan out in the next two weeks and he wanted the community as involved as possible. So far, Dr. Gordon has had seventeen individual meetings about this specific topic, and ultimately he and Turner Construction Co. will have a definitive plan.

BOE member Peter Wezenaar commented that one line of the plan says that vehicular traffic exiting campus during peak hours should be required to use Saint John's Place. Mr. Wezenaar then raised a question that was the focus of much discussion during the meeting. He queried how much jurisdiction the board had on roads off Port Washington School District property. Dr. Gordon replied that they really had no control off campus. Possibilities to combat this growing traffic concern included combining bus routes, drop-offs at Bogart, staggering start times for school, not allowing left turns on Vanderventer, and closing the Weber Circle to drop offs. BOE member Julie Meyer explained to the board that they needed to begin addressing safety for walking students. According to Ms. Meyer, we have bus drills, but we don't even mention walker

safety. Dr. Gordon agreed and as a parent, he knew that it had to be discussed. Mr. Seiden was also interested in including the Town of North Hempstead and the Beacon Hill Residents' Council in any discussions.

Dr. Gordon felt that Mr. Seiden's remarks were very appropriate. Despite the fact that the Board does not assume a parental role, they have an obligation to protect students. Ms. Cowles suggested that the board could pass on any tentative plans to the civic associations and in turn they could pass plans to their members.

BOE member Mark Marcellus then raised issue about how the new traffic plan might force an earlier arrival at school. "Anyone who can get their kids up an hour earlier should be at my house," Mr. Marcellus remarked. Dr. Gordon agreed. Though he was not interested in changing peoples' cycles, he acknowledged that it might have to happen. He also agreed with Ms. Cowles about combining bus routes. This would serve a dual function; it would eliminate extra traffic, and unnecessary expenditure on buses.

Next, Ms. Mogul decided to move on to the report from the Spector Group and Turner Construction about the construction going on at district schools. A representative from Turner explained that the Guggenheim modular classrooms were almost done, besides a few incomplete minor items. Although the biggest problem was faulty windows, the classrooms were occupied nonetheless. The windows were not making heat a

problem.

Manorhaven is substantially done. They had the same window problem, and new windows will be installed over a weekend to prevent disruption from work. In addition, the gym will be done at the end of December.

Bids at Weber came in at under budget and work is starting to begin. Schreiber came in under bid also, so Turner is going to mobilize soon. Mr. Wezenaar also raised the question that since the district had a surplus from the bids, perhaps the district would consider cutting into the Monfort Hill for more parking and whether or not the board could give a price. Ms. Meyer recommended that type of query go to the Monfort Council. Ms. Mogul advised the board not to spend any surplus until there is hard cash. Turner agreed, citing that these extra dollars are potential.

Turner then turned attention to Daly and Salem. The two schools' plans are currently held up at the SED. Both plans were submitted in March of 2002, nine months ago. Daly's plan was being revised and a new examiner was checking everything.

Next, the board talked about current bids for Schreiber and Weber. In Schreiber, Turner was considering real and oversport wood floors for the gym and also for the new choir room. Specific details about the bids were discussed including the amount of sound the windows at Weber would let in. The meeting adjourned at 10:31 p.m.

# Is our traditional letter grade system too limited?

## Sophomore explores the possibility of a pass/fail grading system at Schreiber

BY Sarah Catanzaro  
Contributing Writer

For many students, the traditional grading scale is a source of fear, apprehension, and antagonism. Most students have become accustomed to seeing a letter scribbled across their exams. Unfortunately, most have also shifted their educational goals from understanding concepts and obtaining knowledge to seeking a mark of merit and self-worth. But let us imagine a setting where high school students could learn for the pleasure of discovery, and where objective standards could be irrelevant and unnecessary. Wouldn't this be more conducive to learning?

Throughout our education, our grades represent our mastery of the material in a particular class. Most teachers use grades as an evaluative tool. However, this format is not necessary or even beneficial for all elective subjects. Many institutions have established a pass/fail grading policy, which is fairly straightforward. Students receive a grade of "P" (pass) or "F" (fail) for all work completed under this option. In this system, a grade of "P" has no effect on a student's average, while an "F" is regarded as a traditional failure. At any time prior to the conclusion of the marking period, students may elect to rescind the pass/fail option.

Challenges to the traditional grading system have been posed in the past. During the late 60s and early 70s, traditional numeric or letter grades were targeted with much opposition. This

stance was supported by a growing body of evidence underscoring a discrepancy between academic performance and important variables such as career satisfaction and professional success. For example, it was shown that there was no correlation between grades obtained by students in medical school and successful performance as physicians. Similarly, many structured forms of assessment, such as the SAT, have

little predictive relation to student performance while in college.

I advocate a pass/fail policy for electives at Schreiber for a variety of reasons. Grades increase competition among students. Although competition is present in "the real world," cooperation is more essential to successful work completion, and is better for a school environment. In addition, grades shift the educational objectives from learning the material for the pursuit of knowledge to learning the material simply to do well on tests. Furthermore, grades put unnecessary stress on students. Studies show that there are increasing depression rates in high school students, a rise that many psychiatrists speculate to be the result of excessive stress associated with grades and testing.

Now that I have presented the fundamental flaws of the traditional grading system, let us examine the advantages of the pass/fail policy. Such a policy caters to a more value-oriented learning experience. By promoting this plan, a school endorses creativity, and encourages students to pursue areas unfamiliar to them without the concern for academic standing. Whereas the motivation for learning in the conventional system is to do well on tests, with a pass/fail policy, students are inspired to learn for more practical applications. For example, a student studying business law would be encouraged to learn in order to formulate contracts in the future. The pass/fail policy provides a student with the flexibility to pursue a more autonomous learning style. According to sophomore Dani-

elle Lipman, "In my opinion, it would really help ease the stress upon students who aim to pass with excellence."

“  
Grades shift the educational objectives from learning for the pursuit of knowledge to learning simply to do well on tests.  
”

Many argue that the pass/fail option is not right for everyone. Some cite a desire to stand out above their peers as a motivation for work. According to these people, being graded stimulates students to achieve excellence. However, the students who thrive on an academically competitive environment could simply opt for the customary method.

For many, the pass/fail system would be a vital characteristic of education in Schreiber. As sophomore Adwait Parker avows, "Schools have a unique obligation to encourage students to take more classes and learn more, but that won't happen unless the students are guaranteed safety in terms of their grade."



Hillary Wool

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## Not quite newsworthy

BY Jeremy Frank  
Staff Writer

Forget tornadoes, earthquakes, floods and hurricanes. A new disaster has risen to number one on the charts. The silent furry threat is the squirrel. This devastating report takes us to the ironically named town of Knutsford, England, where a vicious gray squirrel, described as "having a taste for human flesh," has terrorized this small, country town. With as many as six bitten in the last week, the town is paralyzed with fear. One victim of the squirrel, resident Blanche Kelly, reported to Reuters News Service that she had been chased around her garden. Kelly remarked that, "[I] cannot even put my washing out. I'll never trust squirrels again."

### How it affects us:

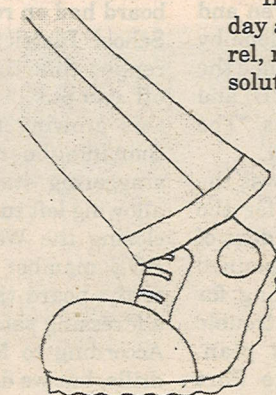
Despite its lack of opposable thumbs, the squirrel's agility and nimble movements would allow it to easily sneak aboard an oil tanker say, on a million to one chance, headed for

Port Washington. Squirrels are masters of disguise and have been known to pass themselves off as chipmunks, ferrets, and even very ugly birds. Experts believe this squirrel would then rendezvous with American squirrel contacts. So stay on your toes.

### How you can help:

If you own a squirrel: If your squirrel seems distant, has violent outbursts, comes home late, and/or has clothing lining their cage much too large for them to wear, then it's time you had a talk with him/her. Explain to your squirrel the difference between right and wrong, the difference between pellets and people. Make sure your squirrel is aware of how to resist peer pressure and how other squirrels may pressure him/her into biting people.

If not: If you are driving home one day and happen to come across a squirrel, remember: if it isn't part of the solution, it's part of the problem.



Jon Saltsman

# Point/Counterpoint

## AOL: Is it Altering Our Language? *Is instant messaging affecting the quality of student work?*

BY Jessica Becker  
Business Manager

At some point in time between the landing of the Mayflower and the Y2K bug, the English language lost its inclination for proper grammar. American English is already fragmented from its proper British counterpart, and over the past few years, we have further butchered the language. It is doomed.

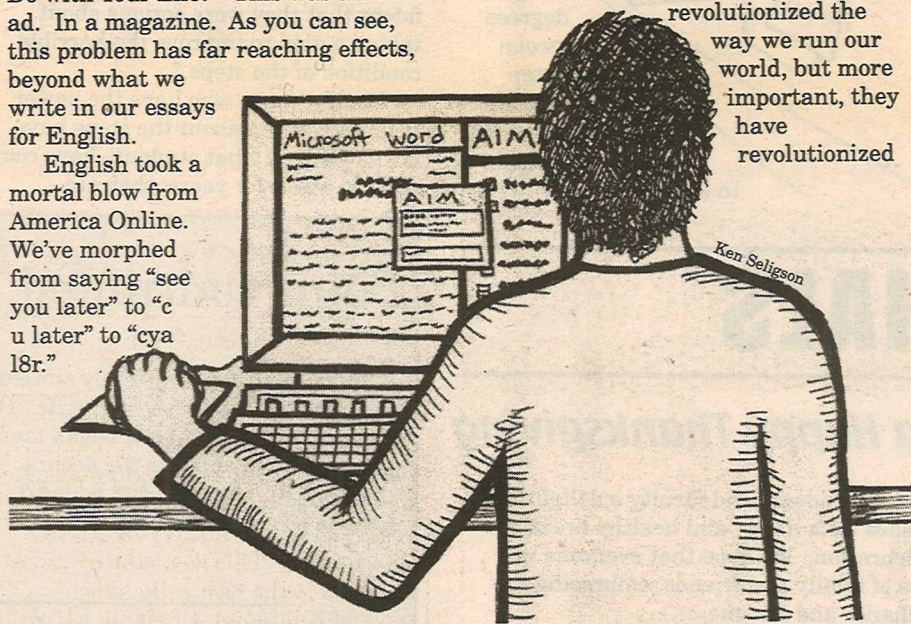
How, you ask? The answer, my friends, is AOL. The little yellow guy beckons us when we turn on the computer, tempting us to click "Sign On" ... and, of course, we do. The second our buddy lists show up on the screen, our minds switch into a different mode. No longer are we in the real world. We have entered a land where spelling, grammar, punctuation, and all other annoying technicalities do not make a difference. A haven for those who can't stand English class, or writing in general, AOL enables the underdeveloped spelling skills of students to worsen, and the semi-literate to forget how to read entirely. Although we may think that we switch our brains back on when we click "Sign Off," it is frightening to see how detrimental "AOL talk" has been to the written and spoken word.

At first glance, AOL and AIM seem to be the answer to the problems of teachers across the country. Think about it: this is the one time students actually want to write! They can exercise their language skills every day! However, over time, instant messaging has proven to have a largely negative effect. Students incorporate this online talk into their everyday language: "OMG that's so funny! LOL!" People actually type the letters rather than the words they represent. It is alarming to witness.

Beyond oral language, it has affected the way we write. I'm not saying that shorthand is bad. Nor is abbreviating what you write to your friends when you're talking online. However, when the line between what we write in the dialogue box, and what we write in essays, papers, etc., is unclear, we have a problem. Teachers receive papers with basic spelling errors, such as "u" in place of "you," or "there" instead of "their" or "they're." We learn the difference between these words in elementary school. They should not be a problem by the time we reach

high school. Beyond the spelling difficulties, AOL has done damage to other conventional mechanics. English teacher Mrs. Bonnie Hennessy said, "I get a lot of 'u,' 'Ts that are not capitalized, and, surprisingly enough, 'lol.' The instant messaging conversation has infiltrated regular English." The fact that shorthand is showing up in class essays is a direct result of AOL's siege on the English language. On the subway last week, I looked over to the person sitting next to me. He was reading a magazine, and on the page closer to me was an ad which read, "What Do U Want to Do with Your Life?" This was an ad. In a magazine. As you can see, this problem has far reaching effects, beyond what we write in our essays for English.

English took a mortal blow from America Online. We've morphed from saying "see you later" to "c u later" to "cya l8r."



BY Sam Eichner  
Opinions Editor

When we think about the last fifty years, we tend to categorize them; the 60s were the hippie age; the 70s were the reign of disco; and the 80s were defined by punk rock and crazy hair. Notice that all of these characterizations are based on the general teenage population that existed in America during those time periods. As we move through the 90s, and into the year 2000 and beyond, we have come to categorize this age as the computer age. Computers have

revolutionized the way we run our world, but more important, they have revolutionized

communication. But it doesn't stop there. Among the large variety of e-mail capabilities, online conferencing, chat rooms, and other online communication mediums, lies the famous instant message. Almost exclusive to teenagers, instant messaging is the new wave in teenage communication, and has acted as a breeding ground for what has evolved into an online community. Many argue that this community has had a negative effect on teenagers and their writing ability, due to the shorthand used in this environment. This, however, is an obvious misconception amongst many AIM (America Online Instant Messenger) critics.

First of all, it is imperative that we realize that the dialect used in instant messaging did not originate in the "Computer Age," as we have come to call it. AOL jargon is nothing more than shorthand, which has been around for almost as long as the English language itself. Do you really think that when kids passed notes in class over sixty years ago, they wrote in perfect English, with perfect grammar? This is unlikely, and instant messages are merely the computer equivalent of note passing after school. This is not to say that note passing itself is not a cause of literary and grammatical deterioration amongst high school students; it very well may be. You cannot blame the invention and use of instant messaging, however, for the deterioration of writing and the appearance of words like "u" instead of "you" in an English essay. Believe it or not, there was a world before e-mail and instant messages, and in that world people wrote three-page letters to their friends (and some still do when computers are not available), which were just as grammatically incorrect as the e-mails and IM's that are sent today. Shorthand is an age-old invention, and if we haven't learned to differentiate our shorthand writing from our essay writing by now, then we had better learn quickly.

Why should we learn quickly? Because the knowledge of both grammatically correct writing and shorthand are necessary in the "real world." Let us set up a simple scenario: your employer tells you to

### shrYbeR sPeEks

"In my opinion, AOL has absolutely no bearing on my writing ability, or the writing ability of others."

-David Lindenbaum, junior

"AOL corrupts the minds of little children. They are taught to use words like 'lol,' which make no sense whatsoever."

-Daniel Marmor, freshman

"I do not believe that AOL or instant messages affect our writing ability. At this age, we have undoubtedly learned to differentiate between schoolwork and instant messages."

-Samantha Moskowitz, senior

"Every now and then, a 'lol' or 'jk' slips into a conversation, especially in the case of teenagers. However, I don't think it has, by any means destroyed, the English language."

-Hillary Wool, sophomore

Both articles continued  
on page 8...

# Sophomores call on Board of Ed to "step up"

## The ill condition of the Monfort steps remains a problem

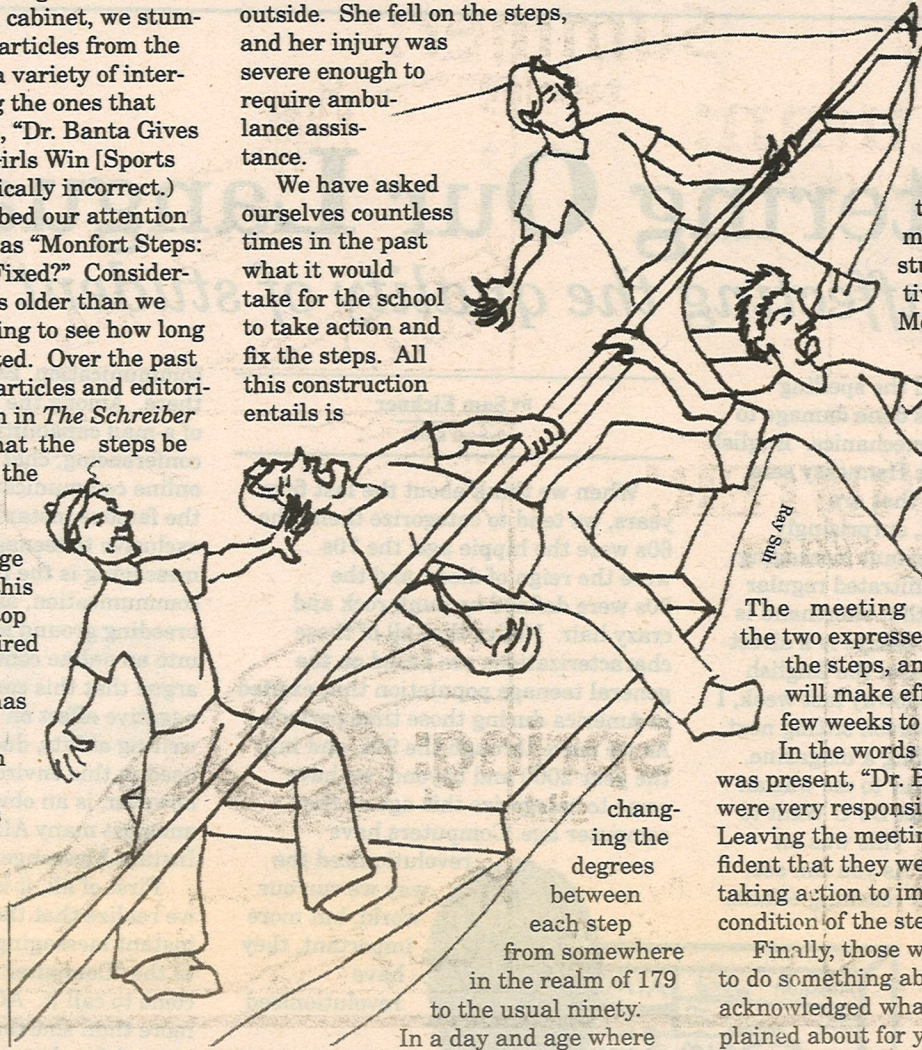
BY Jessica Becker and Hillary Wool  
Business Manager and Staff Writer

While engaged in the unpleasant task of scavenging through *The Schreiber Times* archives cabinet, we stumbled upon numerous articles from the 80s that were about a variety of interesting issues. Among the ones that caught our eyes were, "Dr. Banta Gives Blood," and "White Girls Win [Sports Night]!" (highly politically incorrect.) The article that grabbed our attention the most, however, was "Monfort Steps: When Will They Be Fixed?" Considering that this article is older than we are, it was enlightening to see how long this problem has lasted. Over the past twenty years, many articles and editorials have been written in *The Schreiber Times* demanding that the steps be made safer. Recently, the Student Council has been passing around a petition to encourage student support for this issue. Although the top few stairs were repaired in the late 80s, only half of the problem has been solved.

A danger in warm weather, the steps' peril factor escalates during the icy, winter months. Senior Sarah Farhadian remarked, "It's a major safety hazard because countless times, people I've been

with have tripped on those steps. Something definitely needs to be done." Just a few years ago, one student was seriously injured while descending the stairs after school. She had come from a club meeting, and it was getting dark outside. She fell on the steps, and her injury was severe enough to require ambulance assistance.

We have asked ourselves countless times in the past what it would take for the school to take action and fix the steps. All this construction entails is



changing the degrees between each step from somewhere in the realm of 179 to the usual ninety. In a day and age where

everything is a lawsuit waiting to happen, one would expect that this potentially serious problem would have been addressed years ago. The Monfort steps have not been changed because officials in the past did not want to address this issue.

Despite the procrastination and indifference with which this issue has previously been addressed, there is now a glimmer of hope. Recently, student representatives from Schreiber's Model Congress/Model UN club and the Student Council met with Principal Dr. Frank Banta and Superintendent Dr. Geoffrey Gordon to discuss the Monfort matter.

The meeting was successful, as the two expressed interest in fixing the steps, and stated that they will make efforts over the next few weeks to achieve this end.

In the words of one student who was present, "Dr. Banta and Dr. Gordon were very responsive to our concerns. Leaving the meeting, I felt very confident that they were serious about taking action to improve the horrible condition of the steps."

Finally, those who have the power to do something about the steps have acknowledged what students have complained about for years: they are

dangerous. We applaud their quick response to this prolonged problem. We are extremely thankful for the fact that

“*Finally, those who have the power to do something about the steps have acknowledged what students have complained about for years: they are dangerous. We applaud their quick response to this prolonged problem.*”

we now have administrators who care about such issues. We now look to the Board of Education to approve funding for the project. In leaving, we offer a quote of Albion Fellows Bacon, United States social worker and housing reform advocate. He stated, "When society values the child enough, and realizes what the child means to the State...it will provide even better, for then the child will have ...safety."



## EDITORIALS

### The Times wishes all a Happy Thanksgiving

The *Schreiber Times* would like to wish all students and faculty a delightful Thanksgiving holiday. We extend our wishes for a happy and healthy break and hope that everyone has a safe and fun celebration. We hope that everyone will take this opportunity to reflect on the joys of family and friends, embracing the true spirit of giving thanks for our good chance and fortune.

### 'Damn Yankees' fall musical a success

The *Schreiber Times* would like to offer a heartfelt congratulations to the cast, crew, and pit orchestra of the fall musical, *Damn Yankees*. Your hard work paid off—the performances were a huge success! The show's excellence was aided by a presentation of very entertaining special effects. Congratulations and go Senators!

### 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.

### Point continued...

... "AOL talk" has completely abused the language we speak and write. It's obvious that the problem began many years ago, so I suppose the decline the English language wuz bound 2 happen sooner or l8r.

### Counterpoint continued...

... write a memo to his partner, and then to write a statement to a major corporation. Due to the fact that you lack the skill to differentiate between shorthand and grammatically correct writing, the memo turns out beautifully phrased and grammatically correct in every way, while the statement looks like its writer just left the second grade. What will you say? "I got mixed up between shorthand and correct English?" Or maybe it will be "Well, at least the note is grammatically correct." I'm sure your employer will take that into consideration as he kicks you out the door. In truth, differentiation between the two dialects is a skill that, if anything, AOL facili-

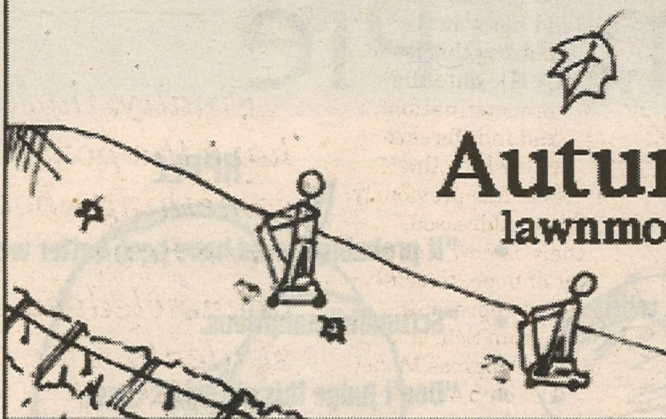
tates.

Let's also keep in mind that the shorthand of instant messaging is not practiced as an act of defiance to the English language or as an anti-establishment movement. To be honest, most teenagers couldn't care less about "the establishment." Shorthand is used because it's short! If you need to send out a certain amount of messages a day at your job, and you don't get your work done because you made sure every memo was grammatically correct, your employer will not be very impressed. He will fire you because you did not get the job done. In school, it makes perfect sense that AOL jargon could compromise your writing skills, because grammar is an essential part of the writing process, and a lack of it can compromise your grade. The grade you get in ten years, however, in most cases, will not be based on grammar. It will be based on efficiency, and all your employer will care about is whether or not the job gets done at the end of the day. This goal of being quick yet efficient is identical to the goal that teenagers strive towards when they send their instant messages at home. The goal is to facilitate as many different conversations as possible while still communicating in a semi-coherent manner, and when this goal needs to be applied to the real world, our generation will be prepared.

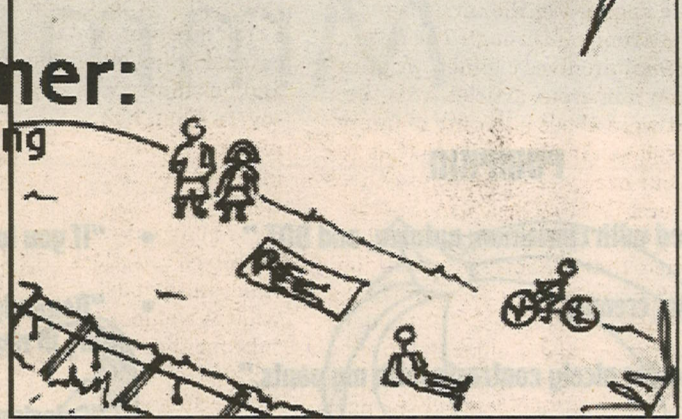


# NO MORE SEASONS

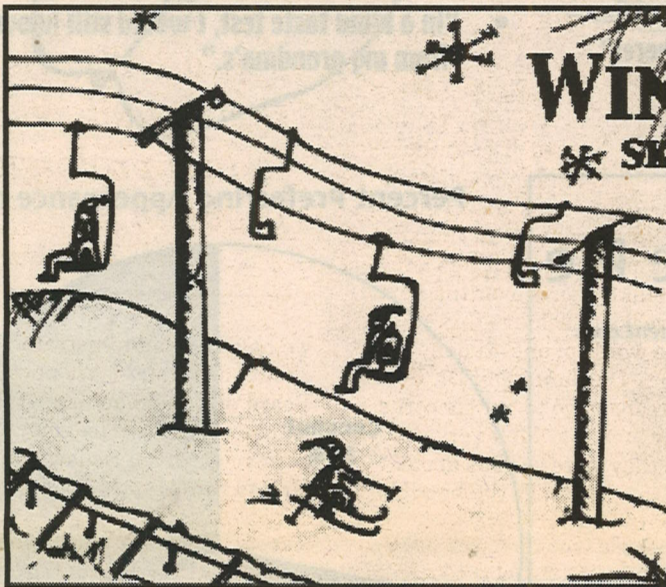
## a solution for all seasons



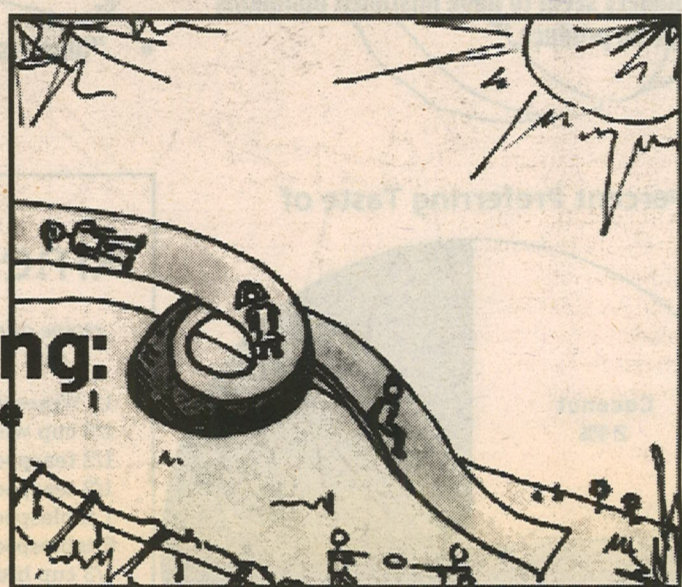
**Autumn:**  
lawnmower



**Summer:**  
tanning



**WINTER:**  
SKI LIFT



**Spring:**  
slide

By  
Sam Salkin and  
Sharon Weinberg

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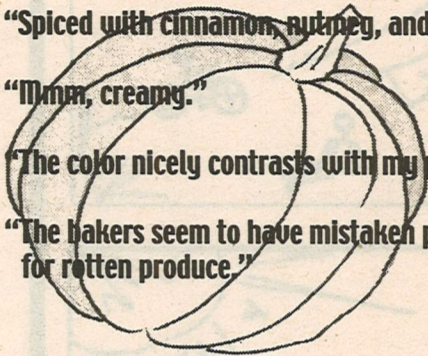
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# Times Reviews

## Mmmmmm...Pie

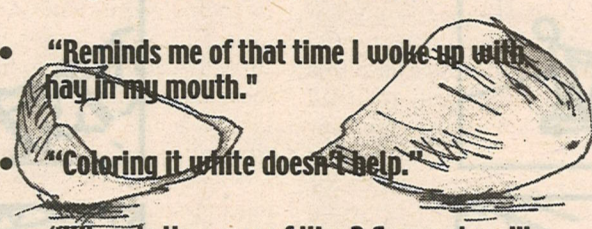
### PUMPKIN

- "Spiced with cinnamon, nutmeg, and DDT."
- "Mmm, creamy."
- "The color nicely contrasts with my pants."
- "The bakers seem to have mistaken pumpkins for rotten produce."



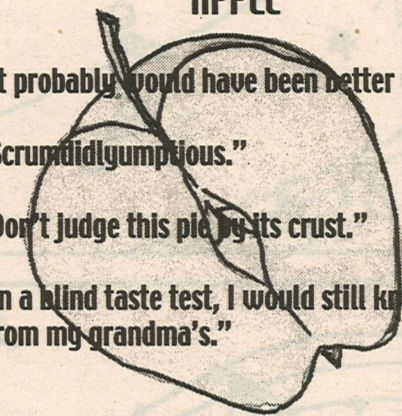
### COCONUT

- "If you love coconuts, it's still bad."
- "Reminds me of that time I woke up with hay in my mouth."
- "Coloring it white doesn't help."
- "Where's the cream filling? Everywhere!"

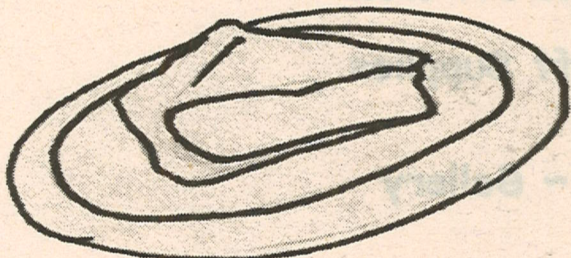
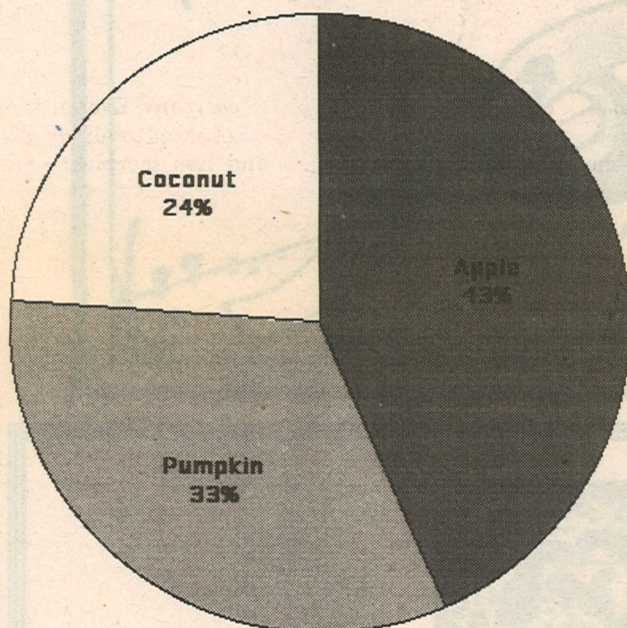


### APPLE

- "It probably would have been better warm."
- "Scrumdidlyumptious."
- "Don't judge this pie by its crust."
- "In a blind taste test, I would still know this pie from my grandma's."



Percent Preferring Taste of



### American Apple Pie

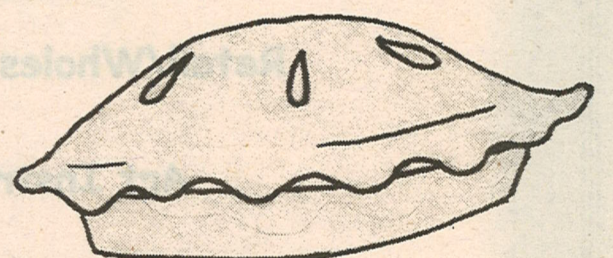
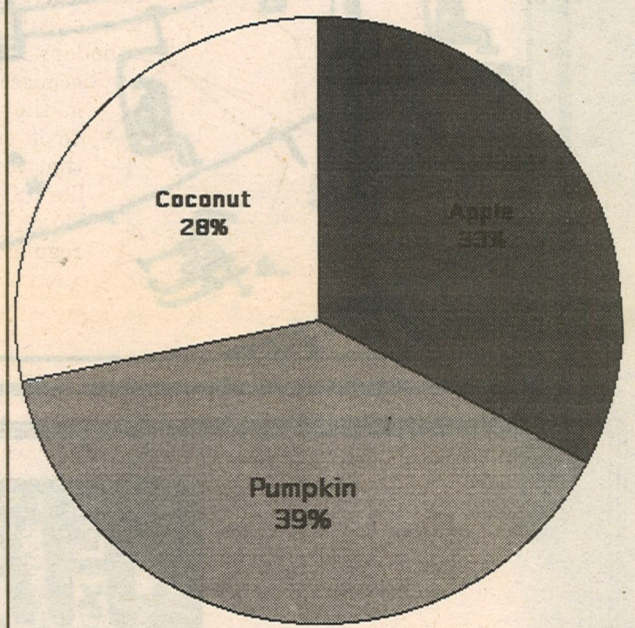
recipe adapted from [www.globalgourmet.com](http://www.globalgourmet.com)

- 12 Winesap apples
- 1/3 cup white sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/8 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
- 6 tablespoons melted butter
- 1/3 cup brown sugar
- 1 heaping tablespoon cornstarch
- Juices from baked apples
- Pie crust (store-bought or homemade)

Preheat oven to 375 degrees F.

Peel, core and dice apples. Mix well with sugar, cinnamon, nutmeg, cloves, lemon juice and butter. Bake at 375 in a covered dish for 40 minutes. Remove from oven and set aside. Then, in a small saucepan mix brown sugar, cornstarch and juice from baked apples. Stir over high heat until bubble. Pour sauce over apples and stir. Place apple mixture in a pastry-lined pie dish. Cover with top crust, crimp and prick holes or vents. Bake at 450 degrees for 15 minutes, then at 350 degrees for about 35 minutes. Remove from oven when golden brown. Cool and serve.

Percent Preferring Appearance of



# The history of the humble pie

BY Adwait Parker  
Staff Writer

Despite the inherent association of the word "pie" with America, its roots can be traced back before the settlement of this country. The Oxford English Dictionary claims that the word had secured worldwide popularity by 1362, but had existed for thousands of years prior. Evidence suggests that the Greeks first conceived the recipe,

which was later adapted by the Romans and Egyptians. Cato the Censor is believed to have penned down the first recipe for a pie, comprised of goat cheese and honey. The present-day fruit pie, however, was nonexistent before the 1500s, when (supposedly) the English Queen Elizabeth I baked a cherry pie. Robert Greene's "Arcadia" presents the first appearance of pie in literature, as he writes, "Thy breath is

like the steame of apply-pyes."

Pies became truly American when they accompanied the Pilgrims on the journey to the New World. The Pennsylvania Dutch would then perfect the crisp-crust, sweet version we know today. Their version was the one written about by both Washington Irving and Mark Twain, and the one that became a staple for every good nineteenth-century housewife.

While today, pies are bought

primarily from stores, the idea of homemade pie continues to be part of the quintessential American dream. Expressions such as "as American as apple pie" are still used regularly, and no holiday feast is complete without one of the steaming pastries. Whether apple, pumpkin, rhubarb or coconut, the pie as we now know it has a history as varied as that of our great country.

Graphics by Ray Suh and Sharon Weinberg.

# Bringing Thanksgiving back to its roots

## Silvergleid traces the origins of our November feast

BY Sarah Silvergleid  
Staff Writer

What comes to mind when one thinks of Thanksgiving? Maybe it is the turkey dinner and canned cranberry sauce, or the haunting memories of elementary school when the teachers made the kids dress up as Pilgrims and Indians and stomach the cafeteria's idea of a traditional Thanksgiving meal. Throughout our nation's history, many traditions of Thanksgiving we delight in or half-heartedly endure today have drastically changed. Others are predicated on completely false information. From 1621 to the 1800s, an ordinary harvest celebration performed by settlers was transformed into a national holiday. From there, Americans turned a seventeenth century view of what



Thanksgiving ought to be into a football-watching, Christmas-shopping, and costume-wearing event.

The majority of Americans think that the Thanksgiving holiday was created when the Pilgrims and Native Americans joined together for a moment to enjoy food and each other's company. What many people fail to realize is that the Pilgrims had a minimal, almost nonexistent, role in shaping Thanksgiving; it was our presidents in the nineteenth century that created the November holiday. In fact, the early settlers who established the Plymouth Colony did not even think of themselves as Pilgrims, but as separatists who had broken off from the English Church. Historians who felt the need to romanticize the event created the literary term "pilgrims." In the eyes of the colonists, the holiday we now celebrate wasn't an event practiced to give thanks to the Indians, or for any of the other reasons we attach to Thanksgiving. Rather, it was a typical English harvest celebration that occurred overseas every year in early October, not November. The reason Native Americans were involved at all was because the settlers invited Massasoit, an important tribal leader in their area, to participate in the festivities. The idea of giving thanks was not put into action until the nineteenth century, when presidents struggled to make it a

celebrated ideal in the United States. Thanksgiving was not created in order to remember how we once joined with the Indians in 1621, but to be of political use in the 1800s.

Right before World War I, when our country was seriously concerned with immigration and the mixing of cultures, America alluded to the Pilgrims and Native Americans as a symbol of different ethnic groups coexisting in peace and harmony. Nationalistic groups used this irresistible metaphor as a way to instill the values of the Americans into new immigrants. Even this metaphor was not entirely true, however, because the Pilgrims would have preferred to fight a war against the Indians rather than enter into a peaceful union. In attempts to make the holiday popular and regularly practiced, American presidents changed it from December to the last Thursday in November. Madison even announced Thanksgiving should be celebrated twice in one year! Even in the late 1860s, the holiday was not universally accepted because some Americans, primarily in the Southern states, referred to it as "another Yankee event" that further eroded their way of life. Contrary to popular belief, Thanksgiving was not invented and regularly practiced by the Pilgrims, but actually just occurred during the miniscule amount of time in which peace between them and the Native Americans was present.

The Thanksgiving created by Washington, Madison, and Lincoln, has been drastically altered from the 1800s to the present. Cultural changes introduced elementary school hand turkeys, football games, and Christmas shopping as central to Thanksgiving. Picture the week before

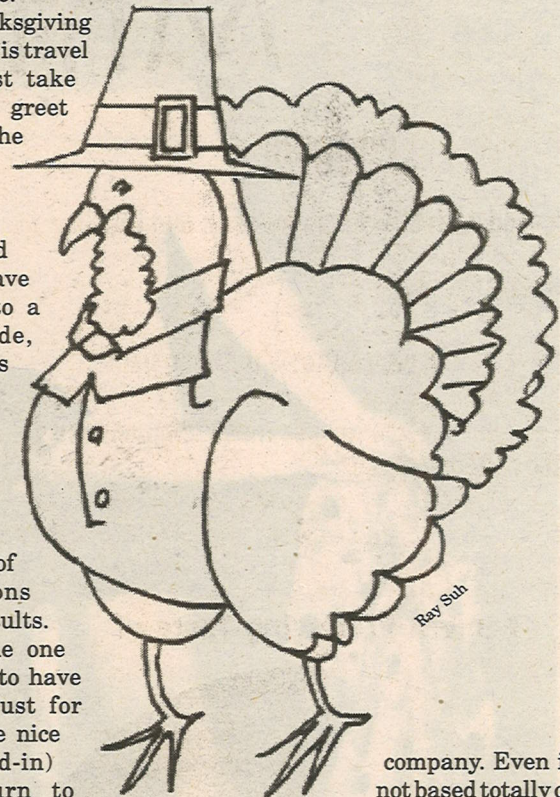
Thanksgiving as a third grader: your calendar of events could include tracing your hands to make turkeys, decorating place mats (as turkeys), and making cereal and pasta necklaces to trade with the Native Americans. Half of the school dresses up in pants with suspenders and goofy pilgrim hats, while the other wears feathers and red war paint. Unlike what they tell you as a third grader, Native Americans do not run around with tomahawks, chanting with their hands cupped over their mouths. These new traditions seem awfully similar to the stereotypes of early settlers and Native Americans, and none of them are based on fact: Native Americans did not trade necklaces with the settlers, and they did not enjoy a long period of harmony and peace.

Another change in American Thanksgiving traditions is the rush that everybody always seems to be in. Tradition dictates that the day after Thanksgiving is a day for Christmas shopping. Our former presidents did not intend for America to frantically run around malls after this peaceful holiday. This is all while some people make a quick phone call to a restaurant to reserve a turkey dinner, something unheard of in prior decades when all

meals were cooked at home.

Another aspect of Thanksgiving tradition that has changed is travel rates. Now, people must take hour-long plane rides to greet their families, when in the past it was more of a brisk walk across the street or down the block to their destination. And even still, some homes have turned Thanksgiving into a football-watching episode, at the house that sports the biggest flat-screen television with the highest definition.

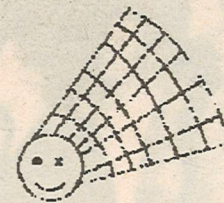
Although there was so much change from 1621 to 1800 and all the way up to 2002, some of the changes in traditions have brought positive results. Thanksgiving may be the one time of year for families to have time together, even if just for thirty minutes. After the nice home-cooked (or ordered-in) meal, people can return to their chaotic Christmas shopping schedules, but for that one moment they can be happy and enjoy their family's



company. Even if it is not based totally on fact and has morphed over the years, this celebration has turned out rather well.

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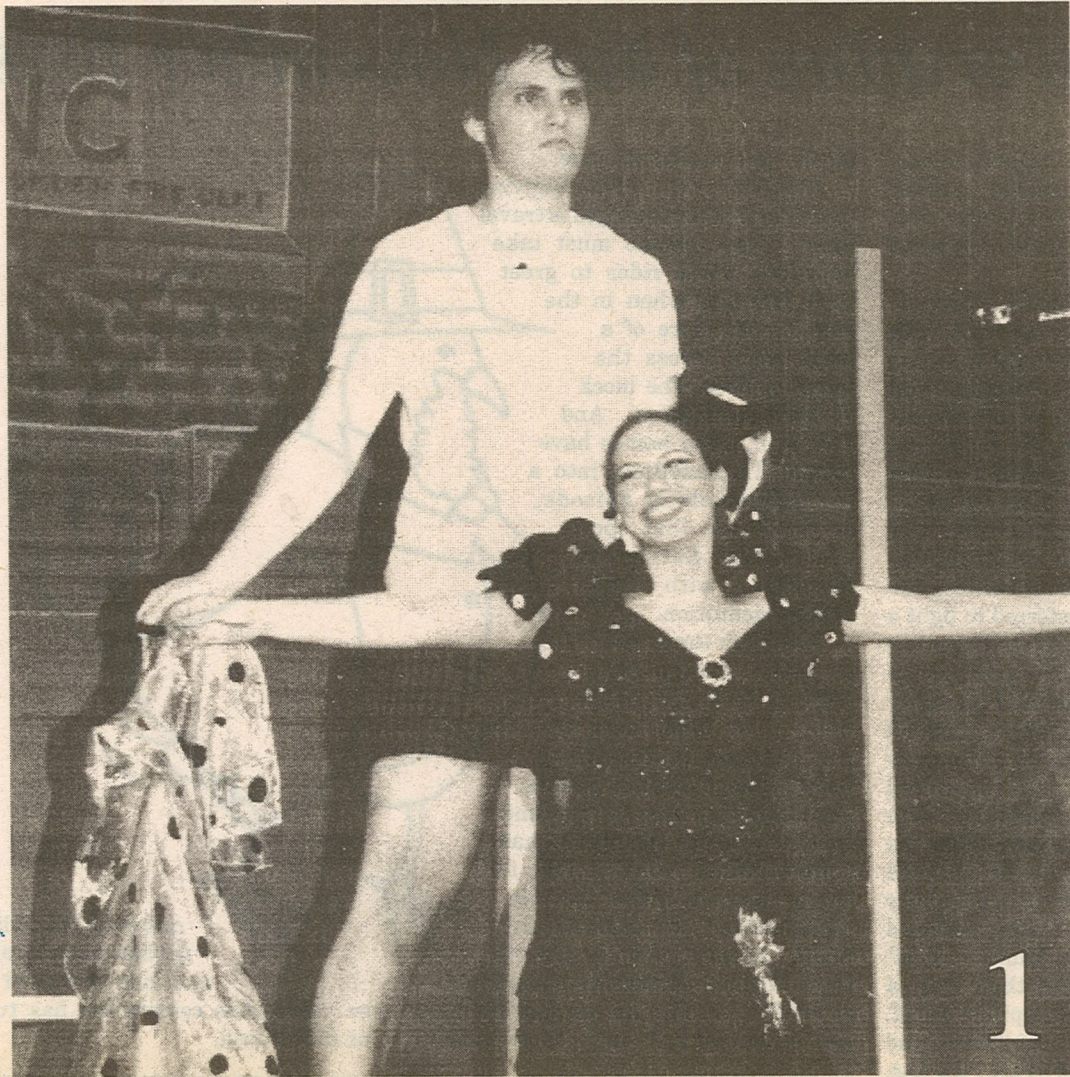
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# Performing Arts deliv

BY Jessica Becker  
Business Manager



"Take me out to the ballgame...play ball!" *Damn Yankees*, produced by the Performing Arts Department, was a hit on November 14, 15, 16, and 17. This fun-filled musical was entertaining for the whole audience, children and adults alike.

The show opened on the Washington Senators baseball team, in a rut. One especially disgruntled fan, Joe Boyd, played by junior Andy Malone, was so desperate after watching those "damn Yankees" beat his team for a win that he said out loud that he would "sell his soul to the devil" for the Senators to do well. Suddenly Applegate, the devil, played by senior Jon Levin, appeared. He offered the old man a chance not only to pull his favorite team out of the cellar, but also to fulfill his lifelong dream of playing professional baseball. Joe considered his options: he could leave his wife and job to become a worldwide baseball hero, or continue his routine lifestyle. Joe agreed to the former, but could not accept a lifetime without his loyal wife, Meg, played by junior Lauren Elicks. Therefore, he made sure that an escape clause was built into the deal. If, on the second to last day of the baseball season, Joe wished to return to his old life, he could decide to forego the last game and return to Meg.

As the star Senators team member, Joe led the team to greatness as the young Joe Hardy, played by junior Bradley Tashman. However, during his tenure with the team, Young Joe missed his wife and his former life. This made Applegate somewhat uneasy. He tried to force his protégé away from Meg by sending Lola, played by junior Ashley

Gamell, to seduce the bas refused to give in, howev employed a new method. convince the public that H ster from Mexico so that. able to play in the final ga against the Yankees, and continue living as a famou night of the hearing, Jo whether or not he would Hardy decided that, "ther in life that are better th and chose to use his esca ily, the charges were dro Hardy arrived at the gar score the final run of the Joe, winning the pennan and returning to his form

*Damn Yankees* enjoyed aspects. The parts were sets were beautiful. Ma able as the old man and his role as Malone's youn erful burst of energy. Thi transition from old age to The baseball diamond ba orful and lifelike and the ery was realistic, conve attending a baseball ga players, before Joe Hard played horribly. One sc by the "Bloopers Ballet," i was practicing, was hila missed fly balls and pitc showed a fear of the bas the team's need for a Later, the players agreee the hospital benefit of senior Michelle Rinke, mambo dance was very c taining. Although som energy, the interactions kept the audience laughi

The accents of Sister Doris, played by ju were highly hu well done. Se

the manage looked li to hav when the p partic it is a sports coaches senior J velous i ing qui recent he (as t busy b Another



- 1) Junior Brad Tashman (Joe Hardy) tries to resist temptation from junior Ashley Gamell (Lola) during the song "Whatever Lola Wants."
- 2) Freshman David Gelb advises his fellow Washington Senators to focus on "The Game." (l-r) Andy Malone and Jimmy Thompson, freshman Bryant Rich, sophomore Jake Glickman, freshman Tom Wang, and freshman Philip Fleisher.
- 3) Senior Michelle Rinke (Sister), junior Amanda Otte (Doris), and sophomore Michelle Davis (Meg) and friends fuss over Tashman (Hardy).
- 4) Junior Jackie Marx as the owner of the Senators pleads her case in defense of Joe Hardy.
- 5) Junior Lauren Elicks (Meg) comforts her husband junior Andrew Malone (Joe Boyd) when he returns after his adventure as the star player for the Senators.
- 6) Although Friday night's performance was interrupted by a fire alarm, the cast was able to entertain the waiting audience with song.
- 7) Supported by many fans, Tashman (Hardy) is ready for his pitch which will win the pennant for the Senators.
- 8) The "Bloopers Ballet" gave the Senators a chance to show off their wonderful baseball skills, and comedic charm.
- 9) Senior Jon Levin (Applegate) sings to his pitchfork during "Those Were the Good Old Days."
- 10) Glickman (Smokey) drops his pants while trying to catch a high fly ball.
- 11) Gamell (Lola) and Levin (Applegate) formulate their plot.
- 12) Junior Anushka Peres (Gloria Thrope) is proud of her saavy outfit, a change from her regular wardrobe.

# rs the *Damn Yankees*

Joe question, "Does anyone have a watch?" When the answer was "no," he replied, "No wonder the Republicans are in office." His song, "Those Were the Good Old Days," was comical, and overall, Levin captured the sneaky, witty essence of his character.

However, some parts of the show could have been better. Those cast members without microphones were often inaudible, which made the show slightly hard to understand. At times, even the microphones could not help the mumbled lines. Another problem was the scene involving Lola's attempted seduction of Joe, which was blatantly sexual. There were many children in the audience, and it seemed that most of the audience felt uncomfortable with the content.

Friday night's performance was a perfect example of the age-old saying, "The show must go on." About fifteen minutes into the performance, the fire alarm went off and halted the performance. Fire trucks arrived and the theater was evacuated. With audience and cast together outside, after about fifteen minutes, the fire department deemed the school safe to enter. When Jon Levin entered the stage again as Applegate, he made a joke and the show resumed without another thought. On Saturday night, one of the lockers fell down just before intermission as the curtain was closing, but again, it was of almost no consequence. The cast acted professionally both times, dealing with the situations as they arose.

*Damn Yankees* was generally well received by the audiences. Despite a few glitches, the performances went on as scheduled. Congratulations to the directors, Mardi Braun and Cam Gelb; the musical director, Mr. Philip Glover; the orchestra conductor, Mr. Mark Brenner; the technical director, Mr. Victor Gelb; and, of course, all of the students involved in the cast, crew, and orchestra.

Photos by Caroline Axelrod



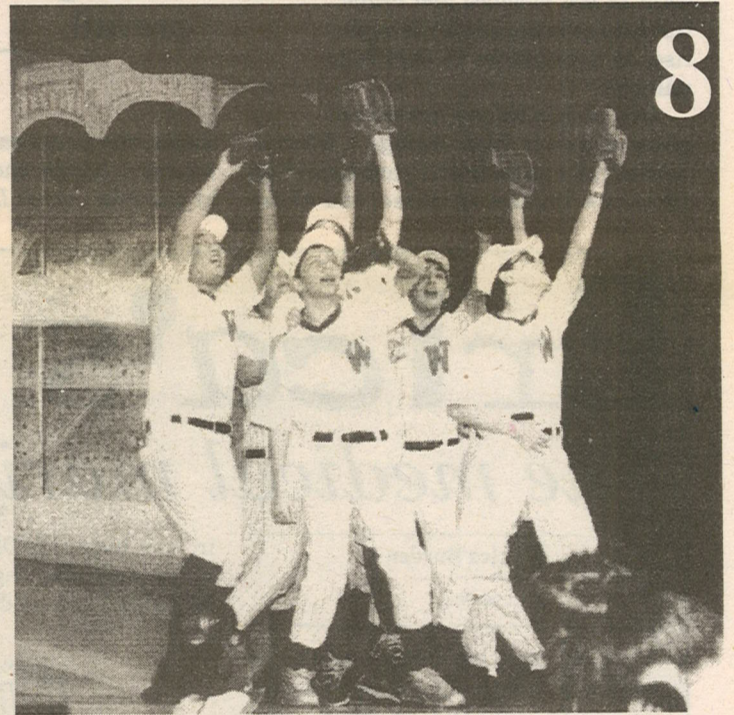
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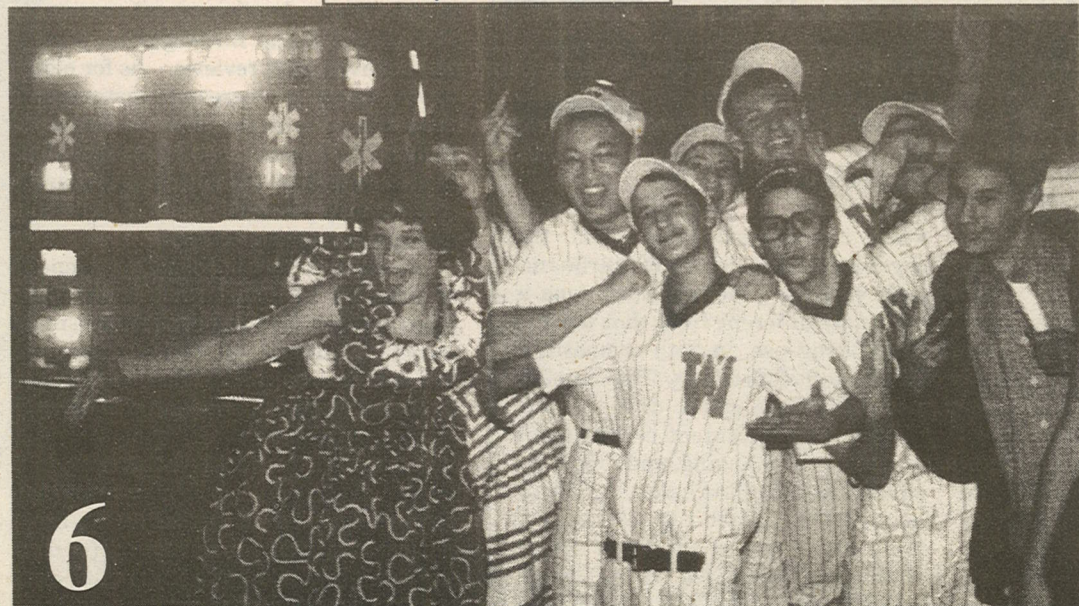
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6

# “T” for “Tired,” “V” for “Violence”

## Hirsch critiques excess of TV crime shows

BY Eric Hirsch  
Contributing Writer

Tonight, after finishing your homework, you decide to relax. You pour a nice, tall glass of your favorite cold drink and sit yourself down on the living room couch. You turn on the TV and channel-surf until you find an interesting show. At least once in this channel-surf, you will probably see yellow tape around a bloody crime scene, with flashing lights and detectives writing on notepads. This season, there has been an increase in crime-related shows on television. Throughout the week, twenty-two shows having to do with crime will be aired during the primetime hours.

Why is there so much crime on TV? Surprisingly, violent crime in real life today is at the lowest it has been in a long time. The average person is as safe today as they were in the 1950s. One would think that after September 11, people wouldn't want to see violence and crime. But today, violence on TV is on the rise, as it continues to entertain millions.

One reason for the increase in crime shows is high ratings. When a network airs an interesting and appealing show, its ratings increase and those

working at the network receive salary increases. The writers, producers, directors and advertisers working with the networks claim that this crime and violence is “necessary for entertainment.” However, since so many crime shows exist today, ratings may see a significant decrease in the near future.

Studies show that crime and violence on TV appeal to the public because people ally themselves with heroes and fight for justice to prevail. In most of these

detectives are always able to capture the criminals and send them to jail. It makes much of the public feel good to believe that the bad guy always loses.

The great amount of violence on TV has

Crime and violence on TV appeal to the public because people ally themselves with heroes and fight for justice to prevail.

shows, the perpetrator is punished and we see a happy ending. For instance, in the NBC show *Law and Order*, the

had some startling effects on viewers. As some viewers watch these shows over a long period of time, they become desensitized to the harmful effects of violence that occur in reality. My two younger brothers sometimes think that bullets don't really hurt and guns

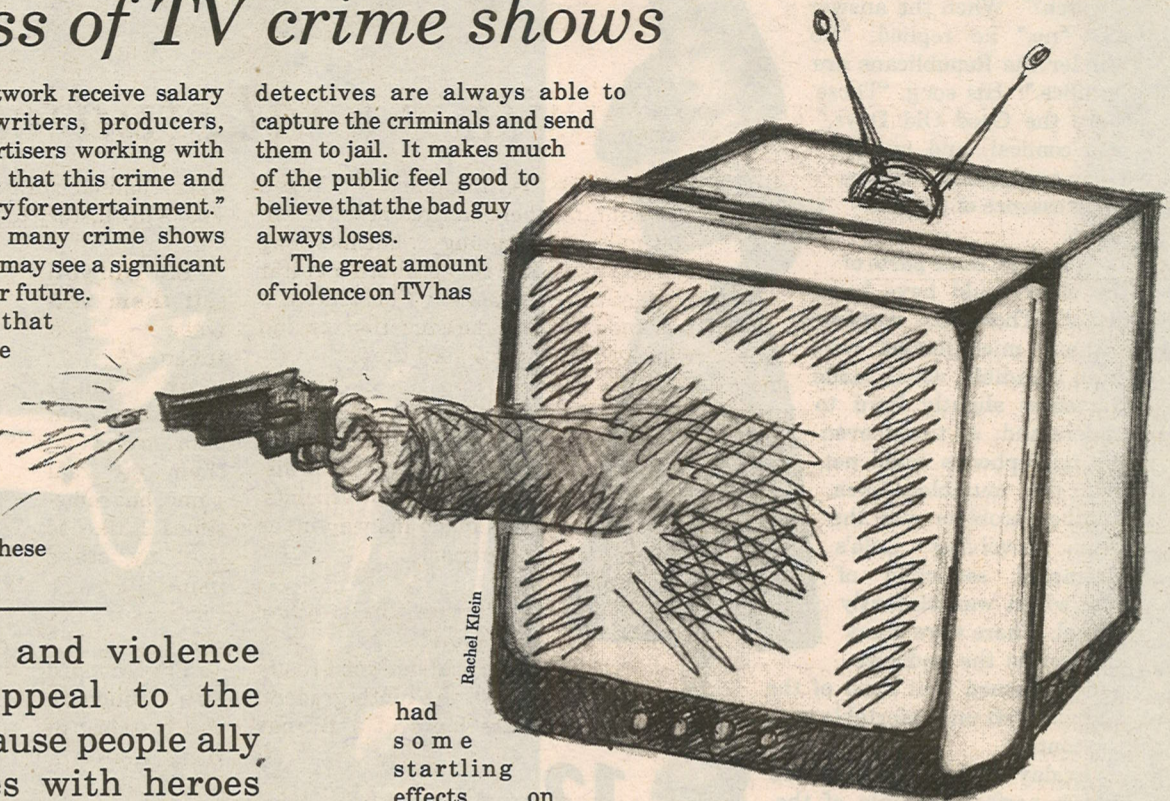
are cool after watching James Bond-type movies, when they can't put those toy guns down.

There are some interesting and astonishing statistics on the violence in crime shows, from Professor Timothy Petersik of Ripon College. The average child sees about 1,000 murders, rapes, or assaults on TV per year. Characters projected as “bad” are punished 62% of the time, and “good” characters are punished 15% of the time. Though it seems as if the good guys always win, this is not the case, as the perpetrators in real life go unpunished 73% of the time!

One issue concerning crime shows is that writers may be running out of new ideas. From the crime shows I have watched, there seems to be much repetition within certain plots. The public may eventually realize this, and the appeal for crime on TV may decline.

Although the current appeal for crime on TV is at a high, many of the newer shows are disappointing because they are similar to older shows. *Boomtown*, a new show on ABC, is unique because it replays events related to the crime through the eyes of those connected to it. “Surprising twists of human behavior await us...” states Kay McFadden of the *Seattle Times*. Another recent success is *CSI: Crime Scene Investigation*, which has received good reviews. As for older shows, we can see increasing instances of “Hail Marys” with the plots. In David E. Kelly's *The Practice*, a central character sent to prison at the end of last season was recently released. This shows a wild attempt to increase ratings.

As we move into the future, the appeal of crime on TV may decline as interest fades and new trends take over the small screen. Perhaps all of the crime on TV will benefit us by broadening our understanding of circumstances that can occur in the real world. Or perhaps it will give us a new perspective on the costs of crime. Of course, if all else fails, we can always use it to provide a one-hour relief from today's current events, in a fantasy world where good and justice always dominate.



Rachel Klein

# Erica's Science

## The medical marijuana debate

BY Erica Burden  
Staff Writer

Weed. Pot. Mary Jane. You know what it is, and you might have smoked it, maybe even last weekend. But what you might not know is the plant commonly known as marijuana is in many states perfectly legal as a medical prescription. People with ailments from multiple sclerosis to glaucoma are “clamoring for pot on prescription.”

The first recorded use of marijuana as medicine was in a Chinese health encyclopedia in 28 BC. The drug was legal in the United States until 1937, until the Marijuana Tax Act of 1937 banned its use. Marijuana's medicinal uses were rediscovered as a result of the increase in the number of recreational users in the late 1970s. Is it the best choice for treating patients with serious conditions like cancer and AIDS? There is much evidence for both sides of this issue, though support for the use of marijuana as medicine is growing.

Standard medications come with side effects that marijuana doesn't, such as constipation, nausea, sleepiness, sleeplessness, wooziness, emotional impacts, liver damage, etc. There are also the possibilities of drug interactions and toxicity levels

in the liver. AIDS patients have as much difficulty ingesting medications for nausea as they do ingesting food, and



Sharon Weinberg

they cannot keep the medication down long enough to take effect. This lends support to the idea of using marijuana, which can be inhaled, reduces nausea, and can enhance the appetite. Many recreational users experience these effects as well. Standard pain medications prescribed to cancer patients and others with serious pain have many negative side effects as well, including addiction and the build-up of tolerance

to the drug. So far, marijuana has no known level of toxicity and can be taken as needed by the patient, avoiding pain in between doses of standard drugs.

A British study found that cannabidiol (CBD), the non-psychoactive part of marijuana, helped patients with Huntington's disease, epilepsy, and Tourette's syndrome. It was also found to be more effective than aspirin as an anti-inflammatory agent. High concentrations of CBD were found in hemp fiber plants while concentrations of THC, the psychoactive ingredient of marijuana, were very low. Medical marijuana is strikingly different from that used in illegal drug use, in both composition and in most of its effects. The complete negative effects of the drug are still unclear, as the content of marijuana is constantly changing, and long-term effects are difficult to ascertain. There is still the possibility of delayed brain function and the other effects of smoking associated with all types of marijuana.



# Teacher Feature

## Salkin gets real with social studies star Jeremy Klaff

By Sam Salkin

A&E Editor

I think the first time I met Mr. Klaff was freshman year in the Social Studies Resource Room when he handed me a sheet for homework that had a picture of Vikings wearing the football helmets of the Minnesota Vikings. Little did I know that I was going to spend the second semester of my Global Studies I class with a man who would become one of Schreiber's most popular teachers. Since that January day, Mr. Klaff has exerted widespread, if trivial, influence on Schreiber society. Among his achievements, Mr. Klaff has reinvented the art of Powerpoint presentations and introduced a game involving the recitation of certain dairy products. I invite you now to enter the Klaffzone:

**Sam Salkin: What year did you graduate high school?**

Jeremy Klaff: 1995, but the students still think I'm sixteen. I tell them that I did really well in Global I and that's why I get to teach Global II. It inspires them to do better.

**SS: So, Mr. Klaff, you started teaching here at Schreiber...**

JK: It was January of 2001. I got out of college... uh, Grad School in December, and I went to work in the city, which is a very dangerous environment.

**SS: Did they bust a cap?**

JK: Yeah, they busted a cap or two. Then I was living at home with my parents - it was depressing, trust me. One day I got a phone call asking me to come in and teach a lesson at Schreiber. Basically, I Powerpointed it up and they loved it and they... hired me.

**SS: Everyone really liked it when**

Cultural Arts Day thing and Mr. Begun was running short on time because Mr. Matina was drumming ... but how long can one drum for? So I grabbed a guitar and spur of the moment I busted out a jam and tried to make education fun and whacky. That was a good time.

**SS: What about any weird stuff that has happened to you here?**

JK: I don't know, there was some disturbing stuff in some of the Powerpoints. Gary Coleman has made his way in, as well as Richard Simmons.

**SS: Do you plan on Christopher Walken anytime soon?**

JK: Christopher Walken won't really be mainstream with the ninth graders. I believe they are more of a Barney crowd.

**SS: As opposed to the Sesame Street generation?**

JK: Exactly. The Christopher Walken generation is probably graduating college right now.

**SS: So the real question is, how did you get on TRL?**

JK: Well, it was February and we were on winter break. Since my parents moved to Florida and no one loves me, I live alone. But anyway, I was hanging around the house and I got a phone call saying there was an audition that day at MTV studios. So I figure, I'm a teacher during February, I have nothing to do. So I go down to MTV with a guitar in hand and I wrote something up on the train to play. I think it was on a brown paper bag. Then

I went in and there were a couple dozen comedians there and I guess I beat them out... So that's how it happened.

**SS: You got to go on TRL the same day?**

JK: Yeah, same day. I got there at twelve so I could be on the show at four.

**SS: What did you have to do on the show?**

JK: The gimmick was that Jaime Foxx was on the show and he was doing a comedy special. So they wanted me to come out so they could bust the chops of some comedian. They

told me he was going to give me a hard time, but I didn't care. The most disturbing part is that somewhere in Port Washington, a whole bunch of kids

were channel surfing and said, "Hey! That's my history teacher."

**SS: Did you tell them you were a teacher?**

JK: Nah, I told them I did data entry. I told them my real name, but sometimes I like to use my stage name, Steven H. Pieces.

**SS: How did you become the Hotshot of Binghamton?**

JK: It's very easy, Binghamton is... it takes a little bit of drive. I got involved

with my friend Seth Mates who now works for the WWF [World Wrestling Federation], he writes for the Smackdown show.

**SS: Does he let you in on the plots?**

JK: I have no idea what's going to happen, but he tells me when he is going to be on. But with him I did television and radio and that led to my big break in judging beauty contests.

**SS: How did that happen?**

JK: I was in Binghamton in 1999 and the people who were doing the pageant asked me to MC and I said sure since I did local things like that. But when I went down to MC the show, they realized they were short male judges, so they had Ms. New York from a previous year MC the show. My friend and I were celebrity judges. Basically, to be a celebrity in Binghamton, you have to breathe. Now I am licensed to judge beauty contests. It's a prelude to New York and then the national. That's hosted by Deion Sanders.

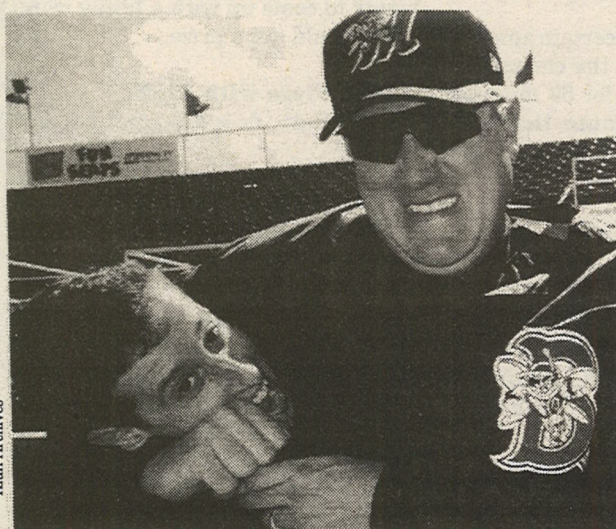
**SS: So then you got a job working for the B-Mets (Binghamton Mets)? How did you land that gig?**

JK: Basically, I had a pulse. They needed someone to work for cheap and I, being a college student, would work for VERY cheap. My rent was \$100. It was the most fun job I ever had besides Schreiber. It was fun because you get to hangout with a bunch of old washed-up players. It's a fun time. Most expensive seats there are six bucks, right behind the dugout. What I did was I orchestrated the whacky contests between innings. I also did the music. All the "cheering horns" were courtesy of me. Basically I ran back and forth between the field and

the music booth, making up dumb games and putting on music. If the announcer were in the bathroom, I would have to



Schreiber students watching *Total Request Live* one February afternoon saw Mr. Klaff's MTV debut.



Former Red Sox player Bob Stanley has Mr. Klaff in a headlock after he was subjected to some of Mr. Klaff's charm.

**you sang the Global History song at Culture Day last year...**

JK: Yeah, well, that was nuts. The story behind that is we were doing the

say, "Now batting: Alex Escobar."

**SS: What major-league players did you get to see while you were there?**

JK: Jerrod Riggan, Ty Wigginton, Bobby Jones, John Franco, Rick Reed, Pat Burrell, Alfonso Soriano.

**SS: Did the B-Mets have a good record while you were there?**

JK: Yeah, they made the playoffs. It's cool because when they won, everyone ran onto the field. If you do that here you get killed. But I had a good time with the Mets. I was also the women's basketball announcer. That's Division I. Women's basketball is big in Binghamton because there isn't much to do. So I got to travel with the team and the players never gave me the time of day. But I got to announce their games. That's also when I hit my infamous half court shot. They called it the "Klaffcourt" shot. We did a 24 hour radiothon in 1999 and we thought it would be a good publicity stunt if we for charity had me hit a half court shot in a tuxedo in front of a lot of people. So basically, live on the air, in a tuxedo, I sank the shot and hugged a chicken.

**SS: So what was the biggest game you called?**

JK: I actually got to call a March Madness game my senior year. We lost in the first round but I got to call a NCAA game. The TV also played it. There were no cameras because technology hasn't hit Binghamton yet, they still listen to Cindy Lauper.

**SS: What do you listen to?**

JK: I just try to stay away from Z100.

**SS: Seen any good movies lately?**

JK: I haven't seen a new movie since 1999. The next movie I am seeing in a theatre is going to be one of my own. So far I have written between 5 and 10

...continued on page 16

# The Counterculture of Counterstrike

## Computer replaces keg as focal point of teen parties

By Robert Grogan  
Computer Manager

Internet by thousands of servers hosted across the globe. Annual LAN parties generally consist

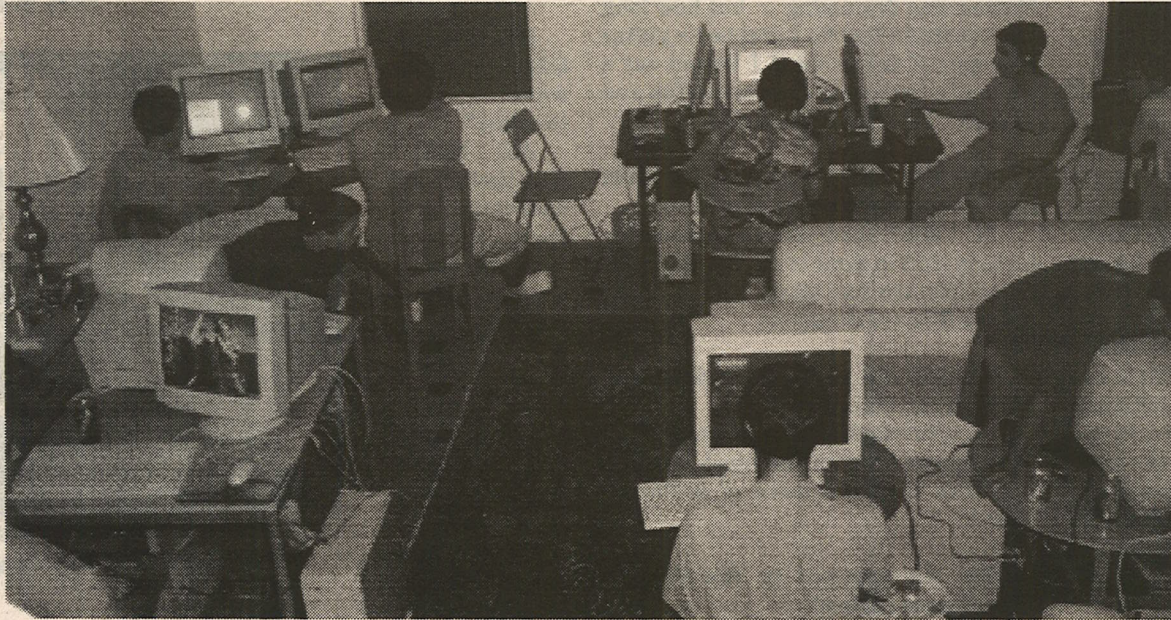
The Gathering in Norway. Each of the aforementioned LAN parties host more than one thousand participants;

who lacks skill.

LAN parties require massive amounts of preparation, networking equipment, transportation services, and, most importantly, a large portion of empty space in an accommodating edifice. Each LAN party attendee must bring his or her own computer, either a desktop or laptop, and a few other peripherals, such as headphones, a monitor, a keyboard and a mouse. Table space is a limiting factor when figuring how many people a LAN party will support. Typical requirements for networking equipment consist of a hub or switch that supports at least eight connections, and network cables for each computer.

A group of students, consisting of current Schreiber students and Schreiber graduates, began meeting at people's houses on weekends for LAN parties early last year. Our first LAN parties were held

Local area network (LAN) parties—organized computer gaming conventions—are the latest events invading the weekends of Schreiber students. They're the product of an underground culture composed of wires, computers, and millions of thrill-seeking individuals. Multi-player computer games have been played over networks since the early days of Doom, the 1993 computer game that revolutionized the industry. In the early nineties, college students secluded in their dorm rooms spent sleepless nights competing on virtual battlefields spawned from the minds of skilled computer programmers and creative science-fiction enthusiasts. Computer gaming offers an opportunity for exhilarating entertainment where social skills are not required, and one is not judged by materialistic possessions, but by the ability to digitally overpower peers. The Internet boom hastened the spread of multi-player gaming by bringing it to the attention of the world community. Popular multi-player games such as Half-Life: Counterstrike, Unreal Tournament, Quake 3, and Warcraft III are made available to anyone connected to the



LAN party attendants prepare for a multiplayer game of Warcraft III. The LAN Crew: (f-b, l-r) Bobby Ventura, Jon Allured, Ken Sheldon, David Jakim, Ray Suh, Kesh Iyer, Saad Hassan, and Bryan Chen. Not pictured: Robert Grogan, Jeff Stricker, Robert Curci, Aaron Sidford, Mike Chiu, and Kevin Boroumand.

of a group of skilled computer gamers playing a multi-player computer game over a network. The Cyberathlete Professional League (CPL) allows gamers to compete professionally for large monetary prizes. There are several professionally sponsored annual LAN parties such as QuakeCon in the United States, The Assembly in Finland and

however, a LAN party on a much smaller scale is not any less fun to attend. There is a unique satisfaction in being able to defeat an opponent in a game, stand up, and, yelling across the room, declare your superiority in deeming your peer a neophyte or, in LAN party slang, a n00b. A n00b, pronounced "nu-bee," is a slang term used to describe a player

in my basement and hosted only five or six people. Attendance has grown since then, and our latest LAN party hosted fifteen people, filled a quarter of a house, and lasted eight hours. As increasing amounts of adolescents become engaged in computer gaming, the esoteric nature of the term "LAN party" will cease to exist.

## A Top Ten List of LAN Paraphernalia

1. 17 Pizzas
2. Caffeine
3. Duct Tape
4. Mp3s
5. Packed Caravans



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Continued from page 13...

## Klaff: In his own words

scripts. Most are comedies but sometimes I like to get in touch with my serious side.

**SS: What is the best quality of your teaching?**

**JK:** I like to bring a certain amount of entertainment into the classroom. I can be entertaining for 59 minutes but for that last minute they can hate me. However, now we have the Cheese Off.

**SS: The Cheese Off?**

**JK:** Yes, the Cheese Off. It's sweeping the nation for children between the ages of fourteen and seventeen. I thought it would be an interesting thing if... well, I like funny words. Look at goulash, galoshes, quagmire, and cheese.

**SS: Cheese is where it all started?**

**JK:** Yeah, you have to get back to your roots. I would sit around with friends and thought it would be funny if we just stared at each other and just said funny words back and forth until someone laughed. So I'm thinking, there's got to be a way to integrate this into the classroom. So during certain types of review games I'll have

a competition. It started with cheese, escalated to gorgonzola and now we are in full-fledged quagmire. What we should do is have a competition for *The Schreiber Times* for whoever wants to come up with a funny word - they could get a prize.

**SS: Pizza with Klaff?**

**JK:** Sure, does that cost me any money?

**SS: Four bucks tops.**

**JK:** Alright, lets do that, but this word better be funny. Here are some words that inspired me: cheese, yogurt, pants, Chewbacca, coleslaw, Ernie Anastis, John Tesh, Oprah, Osh-Kosh-B'Gosh, Kawasaki. Did I mention I taught myself guitar? I don't pay for lessons so I can buy stuffed animals at Toys'R'Us. But my real passion is going through the produce aisle at Shop Rite. If you give me any year I can tell you what happened. Go ahead.

**SS: 1857?**

**JK:** Dred Scott, next?

**SS: 1894?**

**JK:** Pullman Car Strike



# Arts & Entertainment

THE SCHREIBER TIMES MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2002

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## Fall One Acts are hilarious: period Drama Club's One Acts beat the World Series in ratings

BY Sam Salkin  
A&E Editor

As a frequent patron of Drama Club productions, I knew that when I went to *Reality Check: Six One-Act Comedies* by David Ives, I would laugh. But I never guessed I would laugh so hard. Each year, the Drama Club tends to outdo itself, but this year, I doubt anyone could top their first performance of One Act plays on October 25, 26, and 27.

The first of Ives' treasures of the night was "Arabian Nights." Directed by Drama Club veteran senior Diego Carvajal and featuring several Drama Club debuts, this play did justice to Carvajal's directing. Sophomore Kira Silver acted as a translator for Norman, freshman Phillip Fleisher, and Flora, freshman Elyssa Jakin, in a tent somewhere off in the desert. Though this play

Senior Dylan Weinberger, junior James Thompson, sophomore Samantha Garrett, Mea Geizhals, Jake Glickman, Zach Levin, Jon Merker, and Marie Young, and freshmen David Gelb and Shari Zimmerman played six "Jacks" and six "Jills" (males and females respectfully) who acted out the moderator's lessons on relationships. The play began to take shape as each couple began to "break" Selim's rules and form its own kind of relationship. The funniest part by far was when Thompson and Young's characters, who were supposedly ex-lovers, held a cold conversation; Selim spoke about the profanities each subconscious was expressing internally. This scene was a great example of Ives' ability to make his audience laugh at the simplest remarks.

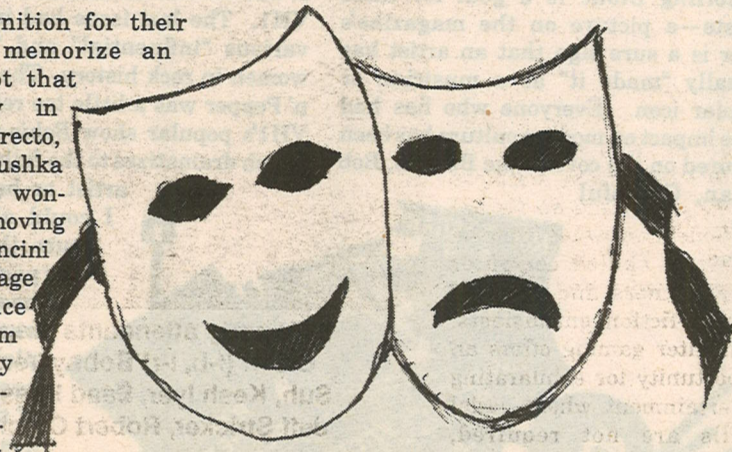
"Captive Audience," directed by Thompson, was one of my two favorites of the night. This play posed an interesting question: do we watch TV or does the TV watch us? Dressed entirely in white, junior Brad Tashman and freshman Sarah Pickering represented different TV characters and were inside a frame of a TV screen on the stage. Watching from a couch on the other side of the stage were Carvajal and freshman Lisa Qui. What was so great about the One Acts, and this play in particular, was Ives' uncanny way of engaging theatergoers by using examples that they had almost certainly encountered in their lives. Have you ever thought of the irony of turning on the TV just in time for one of those, "If you're just joining us..." announcements? Well, this play addressed just that situation. Tashman and Pickering were hysterical, especially when they were hysterical, especially when they were hysterical, especially when they were hysterical, especially when they were hysterical. Showing a movie about "Hot American Mommas." And director Thompson's use of different homemade props added to their acting. The play ends with Tashman and Pickering sitting back on their couch watching Carvajal and Qui, just as they had been watched before.

After a fifteen-minute intermission in the lobby, the lights dimmed on what I believe was the best play of the night. "The Universal Language," starring senior Evan Jay and junior Michelle Mancini, featured Mancini going to Jay to take lessons in the language that soon everyone would be speaking—Una Mundo. Imagine a language in which "Howard Johnson" means - "how do you say?" Howard Johnson, hello? What a bizarre thought! Both actors deserve

major recognition for their ability to memorize an entire script that was barely in English. Director, junior Anushka Peres, did a wonderful job of moving Jay and Mancini around the stage often, a nice change from the frequently static previous scenes. The emotional roller coaster the audience experienced throughout the play of first confusion, then excitement, followed by disappointment and ending with love made it my favorite of the evening's line up.

"The Green Hill" was a great play, mainly because of the number of breakout performances in it. I cannot say enough about junior Nick Marmor's debut performance as Jake, a man looking for a green hill he had seen in a dream. Considering how well Marmor played the role, it is a shame that he didn't start acting sooner. Marmor's passionate performance would not have been what it was, however, had it not been for senior Lara Melniker, his often-skeptical confidant. Conversely, Mrs. Kretchmar, a widow played by senior Michele Rinke, helped Jake to reach his goal, as her husband

had done nothing but take pictures of green hills his whole life. With Mr. Kretchmar's notebook in hand, Jake set off to find the green hill he saw in a dream. Along the way, he met up with a whole cast of characters consisting of seniors Joe Austerweil and Jon Levin and sophomore Laura Agies. Levin put on a classic "Jon Levin performance," playing roles as distinct as a Restaurateur and a Finnish man. Director junior Ashley Gamell did a great job of coordinating such a large cast. Gamell added a nice effect by casting four additional Drama Club members, Garrett and Silver, and freshmen Elyssa Jakin and Rachel Sidford, as fabric dancers. The one blue and one green fabric, representing the sky and green hill respectively, gave the audience the same powerful impression that the hill had made on Jake.



The Schreiber Times Archives

By the time the curtains were drawn on the last play, "Enigma Variations," I was ready for anything. I had already heard a whole new language and seen James Thompson give the dirtiest look ever. It is a good thing I was ready, because what I got was the most bizarre theatre experience of my entire life. Jon Levin directed a play that featured two sets of two people acting out the same exact thing at the same time. Merker and Gelb were featured as Bill, a doctor, while sophomore Calin Buondelmonte and Sidford portrayed Bebe, a patient. On stage, one doctor talked and moved, as the other mimicked the first. At the same time, on the other side of the stage, the same occurred with the two actresses playing Bebe. The dialogue repeated three times; however, by the third time the doctor had become the patient

and the patient had become the doctor. Each patient was separated by an appearance by senior Adam Bloomston as a female nurse. Yes, that's right, Adam as a nurse. Bloomston was hysterical in his role, which was very reminiscent of all the stereotyped male nurses I have seen on TV. After the third set of dialogue, Bloomston appeared to the front of the stage again. However this time, he explained that he was not a nurse, but rather a gym teacher. If things were not confusing enough at this point, suddenly the lights dimmed and the whole cast played ring-around-the-rosie to the music of "pop-goes-the-weasel" until Bloomston blew his whistle and yelled, "EVERYONE IN THE POOL!" Despite a confusing ending, the Drama Club began this year with a bang.

"I knew that...I would laugh. But I never guessed I would laugh so hard."



This year's One Acts featured two plays from this anthology of Ives' plays; "The Universal Language" and "English Made Simple."

wasn't as funny as other ones of the evening, it had a few great moments. As the interpreter's drama became more and more bizarre, in an attempt to make Norman and Flora fall in love, they became more and more hilarious.

The second play was directed by senior Jaime Ormont and consisted of a rather large cast. "English Made Simple" featured freshman Laila Selim as the moderator of an English lesson at a party, digging into everyone's subconscious.

# Peres says *Rolling Stone* is going downhill

BY **Anushka Peres**  
Staff Writer

I don't usually get mail. A vacant mail basket rests on a plastic chair that sits on my front porch. With the exception of bills for my parents and impersonal advertisements (which end up in the trash), the basket is empty. However, at least once a month, there is an exception to this lack of mail. It is the only magazine I have ever bought or had any desire to read because of its honest display of modern culture and its representation of society through popular music. I am, of course, speaking of *Rolling Stone Magazine*. Recently, the magazine has hired a new editor, and, as a result, has adopted a new form, purpose, and ideal, all for the worse.

*Rolling Stone* is a goal for most artists—a picture on the magazine's cover is a sure sign that an artist has actually "made it" as a musician or popular icon. Everyone who has had some impact on modern culture has been featured on the cover—the Beatles, Bob Dylan, Grateful

Dead, Led Zeppelin, Madonna, Guns N' Roses, Nirvana, Backstreet Boys, N\*Sync, and Britney Spears.

Changes in the magazine displayed changes in musical culture. Bob Dylan showed the new advances of folk music and the rise of politically and socially rebellious youths. He was a bum with a guitar who did not sing "prettily" (Frank Sinatra, for example, sang prettily), and challenged conventions of society. Each artist on the cover has helped advance societal change in a similar fashion.

The recent change in the magazine's editorship has resulted in noticeable alterations in *Rolling Stone's* format. The magazine has now become a series of brief writings, without the extra zest that demonstrates how each cover is an accurate display of changes in society. It has become an extension of MTV and VH1. The last issue had interviews of various "influential" and "important" women in rock history. The one on Salt n' Pepper was a little too reminiscent of VH1's popular show *Behind the Music*, which dramatizes to the fullest extent an artist or band's career.

I could actually picture the interview as part of the show. I heard the melodramatic music playing in my head as I read of their difficulties with success. There was a "Where are They Now" section. *Rolling Stone* didn't even bother to change the name from the VH1 show! The articles were formulaic and cliché. I was bored reading about music, and with me that just does not happen.

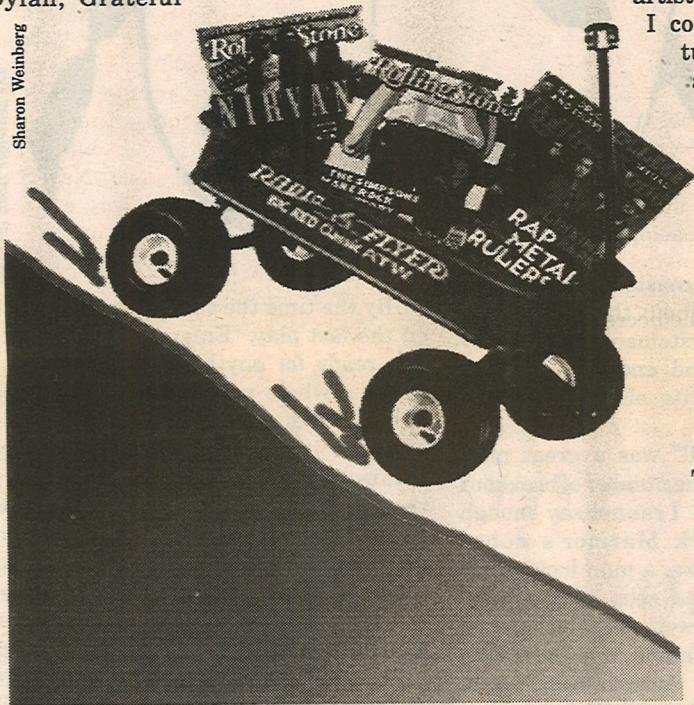
There was

nothing about politics either. A large portion of the magazine used to be devoted to politics and the war on drugs (as both of these issues go hand in hand with music). The magazine showed both liberal and conservative views on each important issue—the environment, abortion, elections, etc. Bill Clinton and Al Gore have both been featured on the cover. However, the newly changed magazine mentions nothing concerning political or economic issues, which seems unbelievable! With recent elections and major changes in the demographics of each major political system, you would think that a magazine that once encompassed every aspect of society would have something to say!

What does this new change in the magazine say about our culture? Because of its new, quick formatting, does this mean that we have become too pressed for time to even read a more detailed and in-depth article about our culture? Or does the magazine no longer reflect society but chooses to focus more on musicians and their personal lives? Will *Rolling Stone* lose all its passion and become analogous to a *Seventeen Magazine* of the music world—telling you who to be, not reflecting who you are?

As far as politics go, I wonder where this idea to exclude such important issues in the magazine came from. If it resulted from readers' apathy, I find that disturbing. George W. Bush is president, Republicans have taken over, we may go to war, and no one has anything to say. I am very disappointed in *Rolling Stone* and have decided not to renew my subscription. However, as far as our culture goes, "zines" are taking over and the underground vibe may come through yet. The White Stripes, The Hives, and The Vines have already begun the change in music and society. We may have to distinguish this cultural change on our own this time—without the help of *Rolling Stone Magazine*.

Sharon Weinberg



# Bowling for Columbine forces Americans to reflect

BY **Ashley Gamell**  
Staff Writer

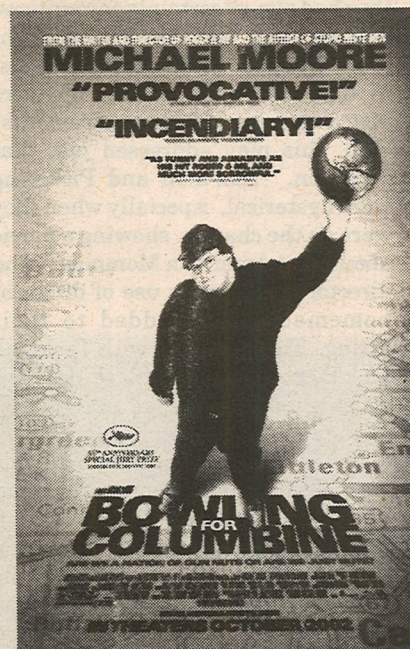
Last year, Canada lost 165 people to homicides; the United Kingdom, 68; Australia, 65; and Japan, 39. Here in the United States of America, the land of the free, 11,127 citizens were murdered. How can this be? What makes us so different? Surprisingly, I found the answer to this question in a movie theater. What I was watching made me question things I took for granted and left me more knowledgeable, aware, and frightened of the country I live in than ever before.

*Bowling for Columbine* is a must-see for all who wish for a broader outlook on the culture in which we live. Simultaneously witty, shocking, and soul-searching, *Bowling for Columbine* is Michael Moore's newest documentary. It focuses on America's incredible murder rate and raises questions about racism, school violence, a fear-instilling media, and a nation of people who have learned to dread and to fire at each other. As the writer, director, and star of the

film, Moore demonstrates a knack for revealing the hard facts that count, for embarrassing his slightly victimized interviewees with hilarious sarcasm, and for getting even the cleverest of politicians to reveal the discrepancies in their thoughts and actions.

The film causes the audience to both cry and laugh, to hiss occasionally and to most often gasp. Unlike any other movie one might go to see, *Bowling for Columbine* unites the audience in disbelief and sympathy. I would safely say that one is unable to argue about controversies relating to firearms without being enlightened by this movie.

Moore begins the movie by acquiring a free gun in a bank that offers this bonus with the opening of a certain kind of account. Apparently, buying a gun only requires completing a few forms and can take place in any ill-equipped place, even a bank. He goes on to demonstrate the effects of such loose gun-control in his visit to Columbine. Interviews and actual footage of the Columbine massacre put the audience face-to-face with the results. A rally by Charlton



Director Michael Moore chronicles his trip across America to explain America's fascination with guns.

## Upcoming Concerts

The Strokes  
Roseland Ballroom  
11/27/02

Ben Folds  
Beacon Theater  
12/04/02

Guns N' Roses  
MSG  
12/05/02

Dave Matthews Band  
MSG  
12/20/02

They Might Be Giants  
Irving Plaza  
12/27-28/02

Rolling Stones  
MSG  
1/18/03

Phish  
Nassau Coliseum  
2/28/03

Heston, former actor and head of the NRA, was held a short drive away in Denver four days after. Identical rallies were also held by Heston in Flint, Michigan, after a kindergarten shooting. Later, Moore's interview with Heston leaves the audience flabbergasted as they watch Heston openly admit his belief in racial profiling, and, disgusted with his own comments, Heston walks out of the room.

If you are in anyway interested in what the media has not told you, if you have an hour or two to open your mind to some very simple, often funny, and very dire discrepancies in our America's corporations, politicians, or citizens, or if you are willing to be asked questions that have no easy answer, go see this film. Although it may make your bones shiver and is at times very graphic, it is also entertaining as it features a new creation by the makers of *South Park* and some very good rock music. *Bowling for Columbine* is playing nearby at the Clearview Cinema in Manhasset, as well as on numerous screens in New York City.

# John Mayer has nothing on Cat Stevens

## Silverstein says nothing beats old singer/songwriters

BY Dave Silverstein

Staff Writer

The term "pop music" is thrown around a lot in the music community in reference to the popular music of the day. Does this mean that what was considered

blended folk music with rock, and soothed or stirred their audience with political opinions. Bob Dylan protested war and spoke of love in his music. Cat Stevens strummed his acoustic guitar with fervor while spreading a message of peace on earth. These musicians had something valid to say and put their messages to a beat, making audiences want to listen and understand how others felt about controversial issues. Ultimately, these singer/songwriters were fantastic musicians with an unsurpassed raw talent. They performed rebellious music. Forget the wild stories you have heard about debauchery in the common rock band. The singer/songwriters of the

past made rock stars look like wimps when they used their minds instead of their sex drives to sell their music. In a time of vicious war, these singer/songwriters served as ambassadors to Americans, merely trying to get the policy of peace passed. That was then.

For a short period of time, the arena rock stars of the 70s and 80s dominated the music scene, forcing singer/songwriters to play in smaller clubs and bars.

The fan base of the singer/songwriter, however, never gave up. The genre merely went underground, making it harder to discover quality music.

In present-day America, the stage is saturated with groups of five white boys singing about a girl's body. Across town, girls wearing nothing sing about how they want to be sex slaves. This makes it understandable that new singer/songwriters are starting to come out of the woodwork. They are out to make a name for themselves and their music and to finish what was started decades ago. But what exactly was started decades ago? Politics were tied to music, and good music, real music, was written. In this day and age, it is considered extremely respectable when people pick up a guitar and try to water down the computer generated drumbeats. But some of the thoughts that they are trying to convey are superficial. On one hand, it is decent for John Mayer to play real music, but he was once an alternative musician. Mayer made a mistake by crossing over into the mainstream style of music—meaning that he is in the music industry for the money, which is the greatest offense to true music listeners. I am sure that all of the fans he once had are now calling him a traitor or a sellout.

I must admit, I did see John Mayer play in a concert. He was not performing his own music, but was making a fool of himself by playing with other guitar greats on stage that he will never live up to as a singer/songwriter. But at

least he tried; music is, after all, about the effort. Then there is Michelle Branch. I like that she actually plays guitar. Even newer singer Vanessa Carlton plays the piano in her video for *Million Miles*. Female greats before Branch and Carlton include Joni Mitchell and Carly Simon. Enough said. As much as I respect what the new generation is doing—trying to get the point across that girl singers are not all about sex and selling their bodies—they will never be able to live up to their predecessors. There is hope for these troubled musicians; their messages are well taken, but their musician-ship is not all there.

Making a music video for the singer/songwriters of the past is probably taboo. They were so obsessed with making music for themselves that other people caught on to their message and enjoyed it. These days, pleasing the fans drives the music industry, whether you play the guitar or strip for thousands of screaming fans and produce mediocre music. While



John Mayer lacks Steven's musical grace. Since Mayer hit it big with the TRL crowd, people like Silverstein feel that he has abandoned his singer/songwriter roots and sold out to mainstream America.

Cat Stevens wanted people to ride his "Peace Train" and John Mayer wants to run through the halls of Schreiber (or something like that), there is no comparison in terms of the content and actual quality of their music. Nevertheless, it is good to see people enjoying human-produced music once again. Not only like it used to be, but like it should and always shall be.



Cat Stevens was a singer/songwriter who knew how to move us. Steven's music, popular during the 1970's, is still heard today in movies such as "Rushmore" and "Almost Famous."

popular music thirty years ago is still pop music? Or does it mean that the music of the last decades will slowly move down the ranks to the classic rock or Motown radio stations? Regardless, there is an element of both new and old music that has remained the same since "pop" began: the concept that music is to be

written and played, and the fact that people like to hear poetry with rhythm and a melody attached. Although some pop stars do not write their own lyrics or play their own instruments, there are many

who actually play their own instruments. It is very exciting to know that there are real musicians out there. I am not talking about rock, for rock is a very different type of music. But I am referring to the singer/songwriters of today whose music is soft and fun to hear. The question is, if people like these writers and performers so much, why are they getting so much criticism? Also, why are they constantly being compared to their counterparts of thirty years ago?

The whole concept of singer/songwriters can be traced back to the roots of any culture. Ages ago, singer/songwriter ancestors spread information, passed on traditions and customs, and created detailed stories to tell through their music. Over time this evolved into the modern day singer/songwriter. Simon and Garfunkel

“ They [singer/songwriters] were so obsessed with making music for themselves that other people caught on to their message and enjoyed it. ”



Joni Mitchell represents the many female singer/songwriters. Although she is cited as an influence on modern-day singer/songwriter Michelle Branch, Silverstein says that Branch does not compare.

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# VIKING SPORTS

## Field hockey eliminated in first playoff game

### *Lady Vikings come up short in second half against Massapequa*

BY Matt Chin  
Sports Editor

After clinching the playoffs in their rout of Baldwin, the field hockey season came to an unfortunate close with a loss in the first round against the Massapequa Chiefs. Though the teams were tied after the first half, Massapequa took the lead and went on to win 4-2 on October 29.

The very brisk game at Massapequa began with a 2:30 p.m. face-off. Port had its usual rotation of mostly seniors—Elizabeth Brewster, Erica Burden in goal, Valerie Herz, Lindsay Levin, Anne Sautkalis, Stacey Sirow, Christy Wurmstedt, and Allyson Young—as well as juniors Jackie Hehir and Elizabeth Murphy.

Led by captains Hehir, Levin, and Wurmstedt, Port had a fast break right after the referee dropped the ball. For the first ten minutes of the game, Port seemed to be in control as they kept the ball on Massapequa's half. However, their run came to a halt when a Massapequa

defender blocked a shot and drove it up the middle to the offense. The center offender for Massapequa drove past Burden and scored with 24:16 remaining, establishing their one goal lead.

Port was not at all disheartened, and the on the next face-off took control once again. This time, they played with much better handling, and it wasn't long before Herz passed the ball to Levin for an open shot and tied the game at 22:31.

For the rest of the half, both teams took turns making runs. Port had another good run with 21 minutes remaining, but it was stopped by the Massapequa defense. Massapequa then had a good reverse and two corners, but the Port defense stepped up to each challenge.

The pace of game changed somewhat after a timeout in the first half at 13:17. There was much more midfield play, and there were fewer runs. Shots off penalties were blocked before any drives could materialize for either



(t-b) Senior defender Allyson Young tries to get to the ball first as fellow teammate and captain Lindsay Levin waits for a pass; Senior Valerie Herz scores the second goal for Port on a stroke in the second half, launching the ball into the top half of the net. Unfortunately, the goal was not enough as the Port Vikings lost to the Massapequa Chiefs, 4-2.

team. The buzzer at the end of the first half rang, and the game stood at a 1-1 stalemate.

Less than ten minutes after the start of the second half, the game was again at a standstill. The ball stayed at midfield for the most part, until Massapequa broke through first. On a penalty by Port's defense in the box, Massapequa had the chance for a stroke, or penalty shot, at 24:35. Rolling just into the left side of the goal over Burden's foot, Massapequa broke the tie and led the game, 2-1.

More drives emerged after the stroke, but all corners were stopped by the defense. At a Port timeout at 17:30, the future looked grim. Captains Hehir, Levin, and Wurmstedt urged the team to just make as many drive-throughs as possible. Unfortunately, only Massapequa saw more drives, and at 12:07 they scored again.

Port's defense struggled to get the ball up, but with 4:28 left, the Massapequa goalie committed a foul in the box. Herz took the stroke opportunity, and scored with a slapshot that flew into the top right corner.

Still losing by one goal, the Lady Vikings put in great effort at trying to

rally back to victory. At the two-minute warning, Port's defense tried to prevent further damage, but high ball penalties against the team hurt its chances at advancing past the Massapequa midfield.

Port called another timeout at 1:53, with a last chance to push the game into overtime. Right after, they effectively stopped a Massapequa corner. At one minute remaining, Port tried to come back but was stopped by yet another high ball call. With 30 seconds on the clock, Massapequa returned on one of those penalties and scored for the final goal of the game, making it 4-2, Massapequa.

Though ending their season abruptly, the Lady Vikings were "happy to make the playoffs in the first place," according to Levin, "after a rough start this season." Their 5-0 win against Baldwin in the last game of the regular season barely earned them a spot in the playoffs.

Though they will unfortunately lose almost all of their starting lineup, the field hockey team has many underclassmen with potential and talent, and hope for equal, if not more, success next year, as they bid farewell to this year's seniors.



All pictures by Jamie Ormont

Senior left wing Valerie Herz dribbles past defenders on one of Port's runs. She had an assist and a goal off a stroke in Tuesday's game.

# East Meadow defeats Port in enormous upset

## Boys soccer reflects on stellar season, the last of Winter's legacy

BY **Bikram Chadha**  
Sports Editor

The boys varsity soccer team ended their very successful season with a tough defeat against East Meadow on October 29. Throughout the season, the team faced many tough opponents such as Calhoun, Lawrence, Massapequa, Oceanside, and Seaford. The team ended the season with a record of 12 wins, 3 losses, and 2 ties. Senior center midfielder Virgilio Meo commented, "We had a good run not just throughout this past season, but for all the years we have played together. It's a shame that we did not go farther, but I wish all my teammates luck in the future."

In their second playoff game, against East Meadow, the team lost with a final

score of 3-2. The team entered the game strong, demonstrating good passing and ball handling skills. Outside midfielders Jeff Byrne and Roberto Perez played great defense and made great runs giving Port many possible opportunities to score. Junior Kevin Davies scored the first goal of the game with 26:37 left in the first half. Despite many breakaway opportunities and scoring chances for both teams, the remainder of the half was scoreless, partly as a result of the phenomenal goaltending by Port's goalie, senior Andrew Levy and East Meadow's goalie, David Hyman. By the end of the game, Andrew Levy had a total of 7 saves, and this season, Levy had a phenomenal 129 saves.

The second half of the game was pivotal for both teams. During the half,

Port scored one goal while East Meadow scored all three of their goals, which led to their victory. The first goal, scored by Jim Masopust, tied the game at 1-1. Consequently, Port increased the level of their game to prevent East Meadow from scoring, but to no avail. In the middle of the second half, East Meadow's star player Mark Masstrandrea was given the opportunity for a penalty kick. With a strategically placed shot on the top left corner of the goal, East Meadow gained their first lead

of the game, with a score of 2-1. Port knew that they had no choice but to tie up the game, and never lost their confidence. Unfortunately, East Meadow was playing up to par and was able to score another goal before Port. With 4:58 left in the second half, East Meadow's Jared Langenthal scored, giving the team a challenging 3-1 lead.

There was still time left for Port to turn the tables, and they took that opportunity. A short time after Langenthal's goal, Davies scored the second goal for Port on a penalty kick. After this goal, the team knew that they were still in the game and had a chance to tie the score and possibly go into overtime. They played hard and quick, trying to maintain possession of the ball and taking advantage of every second they had. Defensive players, seniors Mike Hall and David Katz, as well as sweeper senior Jarryd Levine, tried to keep the ball out of their zone,



Senior goalkeeper Andrew Levy makes another save against East Meadow. He had a total of 129 saves this season and was one game away from setting the shutout record for Port Washington.

increasing Port's chances to score. Unfortunately, in the end, this was not enough, and at the sound of the horn, the final score was 3-2 East Meadow, and the boys varsity soccer team's exceptional season ended. Center midfielder, senior Jeremy Francis said, "It's been a great season. We had some good wins, and some bad losses, but the team's talents were definitely brought out. Many of us improved in the game, and we became an overall better team. But today was not our day. We didn't play our best."

This season also marks the end of Coach Roger Winter's coaching career. Senior Peyton Mait felt that, "With Coach Winter's thirty-five years of experience and our new rising coach Brian McGrade, we felt that we would have a good chance to win it all this year, but things did not work out the way we wanted. I wish all my teammates good luck in the future with whatever challenges they may face."



(t-b, l-r) Senior Jeffrey Byrne competes for possession with an opposing defender in the midfield; Senior Hector Sandoval tries to drive the ball down the line in the first half of the game; Seniors Peyton Mait and Jeffrey Byrne drive up the left side of the field in one of Port's runs.

All photos by Marc Flamm

# Varsity football finds their long awaited first victory

## After losing the first six games, Vikings come back to blank Bellmore 27-0

BY **Matt Chin**  
Sports Editor

With 4:33 remaining on the clock, junior fullback Vince Zorskas is handed the ball on the 1-yard line on Port's side. He sprints past Bellmore defenders, passing the 50-yard line, the 20-yard line, until he soars through the end zone, scoring Port's final touchdown. His 99-yard run highlights the Vikings' first win of the season, snapping a losing streak of six games on Saturday, November 2.

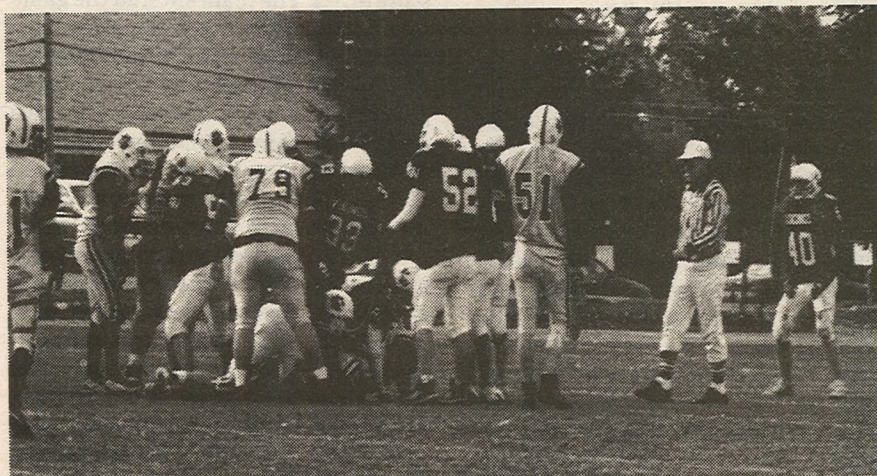
After losing consecutive games to Herricks, Garden City, Sewanhaka, Hewlett, Lawrence, and then Great Neck South, Port never lost determination to win. Now 0-7, Bellmore JFK lost their twenty-sixth straight game, the state's longest losing streak.

Led by coach Ken Case, Port played a consistent game, scoring once every quarter. Zorskas was the star of the

team with 18 carries and a career-high 242 yards rushing. In addition to his 99-yard run in the last five minutes of the game, the longest run in program history, he scored the touchdowns in the first and third quarters. For each of his three touchdowns, senior kicker Sean Lowes successfully scored the extra point.

Senior quarterback Kenny Goodwin also ran for 74 yards, including a 13-yard touchdown in the second quarter just before the half, but with a missed extra point. Port had easy, complete dominance throughout the game. They never lost possession for more than a few minutes, with the help of interceptions from seniors Rob Tataro, Gene Travers, and Lowes.

Winning one game this season has lightened the future for Port, preventing a shutout 0-8 season. Although they lost their next game against South Side the following Saturday, 0-12, they still



Christy Wurmstedt

**Officials step into the pile-up to determine which team has possession of the ball. The win against Bellmore was welcomed by the Vikings, who have had a disappointing season.**

reflect on a great season. "I'm glad that we won at least one game," said senior Eric Salit, a safety for Port. He added,

"Even though the season didn't turn out as well as we'd hoped, it was still fun playing."

# JV football gets first win in five games at Great Neck

BY **Jus Chadha and Brett Friedman**  
Contributing Writers

The JV boys football team faced off against Bellmore on November 2. In their previous game, Port beat Great Neck South with a score of 34-0, giving them their first win of the season. They were hoping to keep that streak alive by beating Bellmore. However, they came up short, and their current record is 1-5.

The team of all freshmen entered the game with an offensive lineup of Bobby Candela, Paul Chang, Bobby Fischetti, Eddie Heppt, Eddie Inella, Dan Koh, Bryant Lee, Keith Martinez, Greg Postyn,

Anthony Scordio, and Francisco Silvia. Their defensive lineup consisted of Chang, Fischetti, Heppt, Inella, Hee Dong Kim, Lee, Martinez, Postyn, Scordio, Silvia. Coach Scott Melvin led the team.

On Port's first possession in the second quarter, they penetrated Bellmore's defense and, with 4:15 left in the half, Kim scored their first touchdown with a powerful run up the middle, giving Port the early 6-0 lead. To finish off the first half, Port came up with a well-executed interception by Heppt.

However, in the second half, Port did not come out with as much intensity. On their first possession of the half, they fumbled the ball, but thanks to their strong defense, Port held Bellmore.

Because of sloppy play on Port's second possession of the second half, they fumbled yet again. Their defense could not stop Bellmore this time, and Bellmore converted for a touchdown.

Bellmore also succeeded in penetrating the Vikings' defensive line for the two-point conversion. This play was very costly, giving Bellmore the 8-6 lead. Later in the third quarter, Port fumbled once again on the kickoff and then once again on the first play during their following drive.

With about one minute left in the game, Port had their last chance to score. Quarterback Koh took things into his own hands by making a 45-yard throw to Postyn for a clean reception. With little time, Port worked their way to

Bellmore's one-yard line but were never successful in converting the touchdown because of costly penalties, resulting in an 8-6 defeat.

Even though Port fell to 1-5 in another close loss, they learned a lot during the game and hopefully this experience will help them in the future. After the game, a few of the members of the team had some thoughts. Freshman Gus Bechtold commented, "We gave them too many opportunities to score because of our costly fumbles, and this was a game that we should have won."

Candela and Koh remarked on the heartbreaking loss, "We played a great game, but we fell short in the end."

# Anaheim defeats San Francisco in all-California World Series

BY **Adwait Parker**  
Contributing Writer

This year's World Series between the San Francisco Giants and the Anaheim Angels pitted a homerun-hitting juggernaut against the spirit of a singing cowboy. At the end of the grueling, seven-game fall classic, the leviathan and his fellow Giants were corralled by the Halos.

Western films actor, Gene Autry, the Angel's founder, surely turned over in his grave when his beloved ball club was five runs down and eight outs away from yet another season ending disappointment. But Anaheim staged, according to one ESPN staff writer, "the greatest World Series comeback ever by a team facing elimination." The six-run surge, capped in the eighth by a key misplay by the Goliath himself, Barry Bonds, gave the Southern Californians the lead. Now the victory platform erected in the Giant's clubhouse had to be dismantled, and the champagne bottles had to be taken away. But if history had repeated itself, the Angels would not have won.

Reaching the playoffs for the first time in 1979, Autry's promising team had high hopes. Sporting an offense led by league MVP Don Baylor and a bullpen

housing legends Nolan Ryan and Dave Frost, the Angels paraded through the American League Division Series. In the League Championship Series, however, their short-lived reign ended in four games against the Baltimore Orioles, the beginning of a twenty-three year curse.

Three years later, they returned once again to a bittersweet post-season. This time, however, the team was "made up of veterans with sore muscles, with tired arms, with drained emotions; this team...had to push itself to grind out wins," according to second baseman Bobby Grich. Just as in 1979, the Angels fell down to earth in the championship

series, and Gene Autry was left without a World Series appearance.

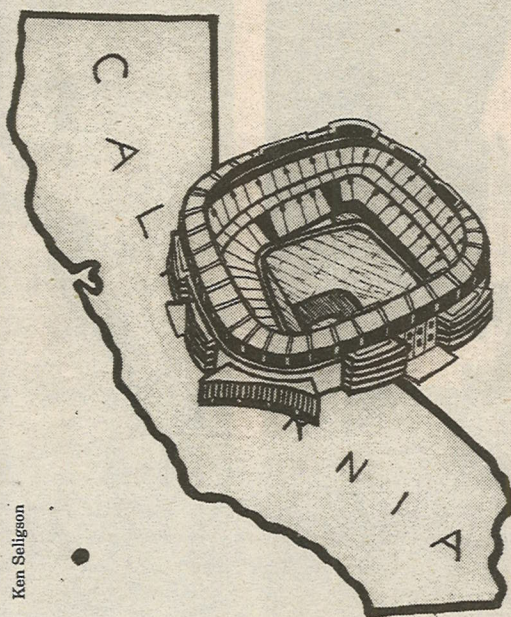
The last time the Halos reached the playoffs in 1986, they were one strike away from reaching the World Series, but Donnie Moore gave up a two-run, game ending homerun to Dave Henderson. It was this image Autry carried with him to his deathbed in 1998, the Angels never fulfilling his dream of winning the World Series, let alone reaching it. In an interview with Pat Sajak, Jackie Autry, G. Autry's wife, reflected, "Whatever venture he went into, he was always at the top of his game. Baseball, particularly the World Series, was something that always eluded him."

If only the cowboy were alive today,

he would surely be singing. The 2002 Anaheim Angels felled the mighty New York Yankees in the Division Series and the intimidating Minnesota Twins in the League Championship Series, before continuing to the World Series and claiming their crown from the Giants in a taxing seven-game royal battle.

Their success, however, came at the cost of another man's aspirations. Barry Bonds led his San Francisco Giants to Division and League Championships, but in his mind, that meant nothing. He secured the World Series records for highest on-base percentage, slugging percentage, and walks, but that meant nothing either. He ended up as he had begun seventeen years ago: still chasing the elusive World Series ring, nothing to show for his Hall-of-Fame-worthy career - and that meant something.

Just as his godfather, Willey Mays, was stranded on second base representing the winning run in the seventh game of the 1962 World Series, Bonds' opportunity passed before his eyes - and his outstretched glove. The disappointment thus continues, writes Jim Caple, "now passed on from godfather to godson as easily as a between-innings toss from the center fielder to the left fielder."



Ken Seligson

# Lady Vikings put up strong fight against Jericho

## Single point loss comes as disappointment to struggling team

BY Kevin Boroumand  
Editorial Assistant

It was the second round of competition and Port planned on finishing the 200-yard freestyle with a bang. Energized by the cheering of teammates and dedicated spectators who traveled all the way to Jericho to watch the girls swim, junior Alex Smith dove into first place with an amazing time of just over two minutes and thirty-four seconds. Freshman Katelyn Rissa came in three seconds later and secured the second position for Port. Now it was just sophomore Miranda Tomic left in the lanes, up against three Jericho

be bettered. It's depressing to go into every meet knowing that you are going to start off 13-points behind."

Unfortunately, the girls swimming team never fully recovered from that early setback despite some huge victories, and the team ended the meet just one point behind Jericho. Overall, though, Port swam an amazing meet, taking first place in nine out of the eleven total competitions. What set the team back were two disqualifications, one for a medical problem with one swimmer and another the product of a false start in the 200-yard freestyle relay. The false start was just one of several controversial calls made

took first place in the 300-yard medley and the 100-yard fly races. Also, Cassaro took third place in the 100-yard fly. In the 100-yard backstroke McGuire came in first place and immediately following that event, Irving gave Port another first place finish in the 100-yard breaststroke. After the race Irving said, "I am really happy to have done so well today, especially given the high level of skill on Jericho's team."

In the freestyle competitions, the Lady Vikings did exceptionally well. They swept the 200-yard competition and Irving took first place in the 100-yard event. In the endurance-testing, 500-yard freestyle competition, McGuire took first place and senior captain Amanda Talesnick came in just seconds later to secure a second place finish.

Despite this amazing show, Port failed by just one point to take the win. Before the meet, Cassaro said, "Even if we lose, our spirits stay high." Her prediction proved true, and during the bus ride home the girls were just as cheerful as they were going to Jericho.

Port went on to its last meet of the season against Plainview later that week



Kevin Boroumand

Freshman Julia Link gasps for air in between strokes during the meet with Jericho.

and, unfortunately, lost that day as well. Irving said, "The team really tried to pull it together for the Plainview game and swam hard but the game just didn't turn out how we hoped it would."

For seniors on the team, Plainview was their last Schreiber meet, and according to Alex Smith, "The seniors were so important to the team, and they are going to be missed terribly." The seniors wish the underclassmen the best of luck next year, and according to Irving, they have the potential and talent for a great season "if they work really hard."



Kevin Boroumand

Teammates strategize beside of the pool before the next relay begins.

opponents. Tomic stood up to the pressure and, at two minutes and forty-five seconds, took third place, giving Port a sweep in the competition and setting off a wild round of cheering from the Port side.

The 200-yard freestyle exemplified the caliber of swimming the Lady Vikings had to demonstrate in order to win the match against Jericho, and they felt confident that they could live up to the challenge. Before the meet, junior Alex Smith commented, "Going into this meet, we have high confidence and are reassured by our last victory against Cold Spring Harbor." Port started the meet at a 13-point disadvantage, as they had failed to provide any competitors for the diving competition, and Jericho took all the points by default. Remarking on the diver situation, Smith said, "If we had teammates to compete in this competition our performance this entire season would

during the course of the meet, all in Jericho's favor.

The meet began with the 200-yard medley relay, and Port took the opportunity to make a quick lead. Senior captains Jennifer Irving and Sirikit Benja-athon led the third lane, and with the help of senior Jessica McGuire and sophomore Carola Cassaro, the team took first place. The same squad also took first place in the 400-yard freestyle relay. Benja-athon said of the squad's effort, "We had a really cohesive squad and teamwork is what brought us our victory."

Schreiber's other strong relay team was comprised of senior Emily Miller, juniors Stephanie Kunita and Smith, and Rissa. They took third place in the 400-yard free-style relay.

Port had an even stronger presence in the individual races. Benja-athon

testing both mind and body.

Posting an 8-5 record, the squad was much better this year than last. Varsity cross-country star junior Tom Schweitzer commented, "We really did our very best this year, and the result was a better record and something to build on for years to come. Next year looks very promising." The team was also led by senior Sloan Mergler and juniors Adam Davis and Victor Schaefer. Throughout the season, the team competed in meets at Sunken Meadow and Bethpage State Park.

With a strong core group returning next year, the team sets its sights on even higher goals, which will hopefully be met.

## Cross country succeeds with 8-5 record in Acevedo's last season

BY Keith Klang  
Contributing Writer

The cross-country team is one of the many fall sports teams with a very successful season. Mr. Robert Acevedo, a retired Spanish teacher of the Port Washington School District, coached the team. The cross-country team members attended long practices after school, where four- to eight-mile runs were the norm. The team always stuck together and pushed each other to do their very best. Weekend weightlifting and cycling were necessary to keep their bodies in "tip-top" shape for competition. Clearly, cross-country is a very challenging sport,

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# HALLOWEEN 2002

Sharon Weinberg

## Student Council Costume Contest Winners

**Most Creative**  
Seniors Lindsay Levin and  
Lara Melniker

**Scariest**  
Senior Ariana Kolitsopoulos

**Best Group**  
Juniors Tommy Maher, Nick  
May, and Jake Sussman

**Funniest**  
Seniors Ned Bechtold and  
Chris Miano, and junior Jolie  
Signorile



(l-r) Sophomores Ashley Bellini, Shaina Schwartz, Katie Rup, Steffy Fertitta, Lindsay Blane and Val Faure, showcase their Halloween spirit with festive tie-dyed outfits.



An inflatable dinosaur devours senior Jon Levin in the Schreiber lobby.



(l-r) Seniors Rebecca Calix, Jessica Schlanger, and Emily Miller pose in their wacky Halloween costumes as a jailbird, a bag of jelly beans, and a ninja.



Seniors Lara Melniker and Lindsay Levin won Most Creative as Adam and Eve.



(l-r) Firefighting sophomores Ashley Kaplan, Rachel Miraglia, Nicole Cavallaro, and Danielle Becker face the heat of Halloween excitement.



(l-r, t-b) Juniors Adrienne Barisch, Marisa Kamerman, Crystal Wei, Hannah Reinhardt, Sarah Rashti, Ellen White, Samantha Marten and Mika Miki exhibit their jailbird costumes.



(l-r, t-b) Juniors Jane Forman, Amande Otte, Jessica Rich, Kristen DiStefano, Marla Diakow, and Alana Bares are NY sports stars.

All photos by Liz Brewster, Amanda Lincer and Christy Wurmstedt