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The Schreiber Times

2005
Monday, January 24

Paul D. Schreiber High School Port Washington, New York Volume LV No. 5



ATMs in Schools
Have Reality Shows Gone Too Far?
JV Girls Basketball Team Reign Undeclared
Tsunami Relief: What is Schreiber Doing to Help?
Athletic Intimidating Dodgeball Squad Dodges Competition

NEWS BRIEFS

Latin Students Visit the Metropolitan Museum of Art

Forty sophomore Latin students engaged in a scavenger hunt in the Classical Wing of the Metropolitan Museum of Art on December 10.

"It was fun to have an experience at a museum that wasn't like everyday at school," said sophomore Jocie Klemes about the trip.

Eight students worked as a team at the museum. The teams were organized by color.

The Green Team showed their enthusiasm early in the day by donning green, look-alike shirts. In the end, this team won, completing the hunt with the most correct answers.

Latin teacher Ms. Ruth Haukeland prepared a ten-page hunt for specific objects. She was amazed by the students' diligence in seeking out objects and answers.

~Sophie Kroft

All-County students participate in music festival

Every year in January, the top musicians from Nassau County are chosen to represent their respective schools in the All-County Music Festival.

This year, there was a great number of Schreiber's students in attendance out of eighty-nine districts. The participating teachers from Port Washington included Ruth Addeo, Mark Brenner, Jeff Byrne, Amanda Carew, Lisa Dunaj, Dick Feingold, Victoria Fields, Diane Fish, Phil Glover, Donna Hunt, Monica McFadden, Robert Moore, Paul Moyer, Anthony Pinelli, Karla Shonbrun, and Bonita Utzig.

Students are chosen based on their

NYSSMA scores, which must be exceptional. The students are broken up depending on their instruments and level of ability. There are three rehearsals, each four to five hours in length. All rehearsals must be attended in order to perform in the festival.

In each division, there is an orchestra, band, jazz band, and chorus. In the division three orchestra, there were three participants from Schreiber, freshman Aaron Silberstein, percussion; freshman Danielle Sofen, viola; and sophomore Catherine Fish, violin. The division three band had one participant, freshman Hae Inn Woo, flute. Sophomore Catherine Fish was also the only participant in the division three chorus as a soprano. Freshman Allison Rosenberg was in the jazz band section on jazz trumpet.

In the division four orchestra, violinists juniors Jumanah Hassan, Sinsub Jeong, and Aram Lee attended the festival. Junior Samara Schwartz was the only viola player from Schreiber. Violoncello participants included senior Brandon Chan and junior Dan Koh. Division four symphonic band participants included senior Danielle Bourguet, french horn; and junior Matthew Silverstein, tuba. Unfortunately, because of illness, Silverstein could only make two of the three rehearsals and could not attend the festival.

Seniors Carola Cassaro, soprano; Melanie Pietras, soprano; Yang-Hum Lee, tenor; and juniors Kelly Moran, alto; Michael Ambrosio, tenor; and David Gelb, tenor were in the mixed chorus. Juniors Kathryn Podobinski, soprano; and Claire Talcott, alto, participated in the women's chorus. All the students are congratulated for their success.

~Sophie Kroft

Kaleidoscope Corner

Kaleidoscope, Schreiber's literary magazine, is printed annually and features student artwork, poetry, photos, and prose. Here is an excerpt from this year's magazine.

Lashes

*Come together, haunting me
this presence; my elegy*

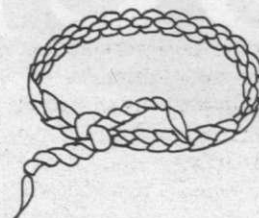
...I dance. Yes, I twirl in the sweet waves of melody, my body a simple puppet, limbs teased and jostled by the snaps of invisible strings. The notes are flooding, my veins are overflowing with this, the pure passion, so abstract, yet tangible, so real yet when I read; it escapes. All of my sorrow, my anger, my love, and my joy collide and mix, they leave me now, swept away by this new feeling of rapture, of total unison with the earth, with the people, with myself.

~Alexis Mychajliw

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Tsunami Relief Aid at Schreiber



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Photo Gallery



Senior Cailin Buondelmonte took this photograph of her two friends over the summer for her Photography I class. She was attracted to the landscape and the formally balanced composition.

FRONTPAGE by Daryl Koopersmith, Katie Mancher, & Jon Seligson

CENTERFOLD by Jessica Becker & Emily Singer

BACKPAGE by Brett Friedman & Ben Jaffe

The Schreiber Times

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Jay Lewis, principal
Anne Pellett, Evelina Zarkh, advisers
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Schreiber congratulates five Intel semifinalists

BY Daniella Malekan
News Editor

Seniors Pamela Arnett, Sarah Catanzaro, Jacob Fainzilberg, Zachary Levine, and Paul Winters were announced as five of the 300 semifinalists who were chosen from around the nation in the Intel Science Talent Search competition on January 12.

"It's kind of surprising," said Levine upon being asked how he felt about being selected as a semifinalist. "It feels very rewarding that all of the hard work I put in was honored by such a prestigious competition."

"Having five semifinalists this year in the Intel Science Talent Search reflects incredibly well on the school, students and research programs, and we are very proud of these individuals," said Principal Mr. Lewis. "However, all the students who entered the competition worked very hard and need to be recognized for their work."

The semifinalists are all students in Schreiber's Math, Science, and Social Science Research programs,

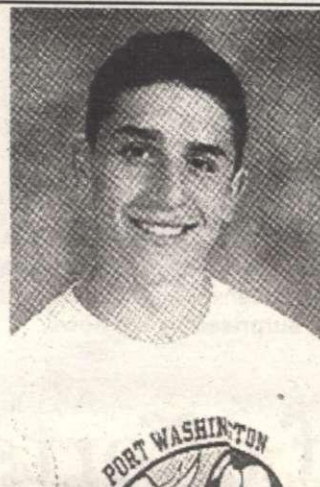
and each one completed his or her research over the summer with the help of a mentor.

Each semifinalist received a \$1,000 scholarship, and the school received the same figure for the research programs per student semifinalist.

The competition occurs annually and is open to all high school students. This year, 1,600 students entered the competition from forty-seven states, Puerto Rico, and Washington, D.C. Students submitted projects in various fields of science, including biology, chemistry, engineering, mathematics, physics, and behavioral science.

Judging, which was completed by over one hundred scientists who are the leaders in their fields, took into account each student's research skills, originality, and creativity when they selected the semifinalists.

This year's forty finalists will be announced on January 26, and they will attend a trip to Washington, D.C., for further judging and competition for college scholarships. The 2005 winners will be announced on March 15.



Zachary Levine: Michigan State University

Gamma rays with Doppler shifted energy values have been investigated and analyzed. Levine used several computer programs in order to analyze the 134Pr (Praseodymium) nucleus. As the nucleus decayed, it emitted the gamma rays that were studied in the present paper. These gamma rays were emitted as the

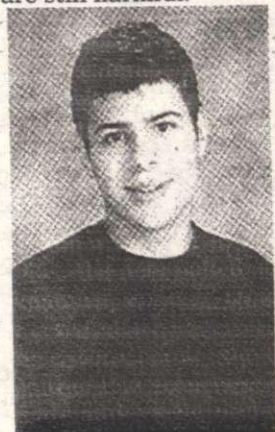
nucleus decayed to states with lower spins. The determination of lifetimes of these states is an integral part of evaluating how deformed a nucleus is at a specified moment of decay. In the present study, the analysis of Doppler shifted gamma rays has successfully helped determine the degree of deformation of the 134Pr nucleus through one portion, or band of decay.



Sarah Catanzaro: Rockefeller University

The tobacco industry is currently marketing modified tobacco products as potentially less harmful alternatives to conventional cigarettes; however, there are few, if any, ways to assess the effects of such products. Catanzaro's study examined the effects of mainstream smoke from three different modified tobacco cigarettes, Quest1, Quest3, and Eclipse, to a standard

research cigarette and a non-smoking control on the development of atherosclerosis in the apolipoproteinE-deficient mouse. Quest cigarettes have varying nicotine levels, but the same tar content, while Eclipse heats rather than burns tobacco to yield lower nicotine and tar than conventional cigarettes. Mice were exposed to smoke from each of these products as well as a reference cigarette. Catanzaro's findings suggest that nicotine is the primary factor in atherogenesis in this model, and in effect, modified tobacco cigarettes are still harmful.



Paul Winters: New York University

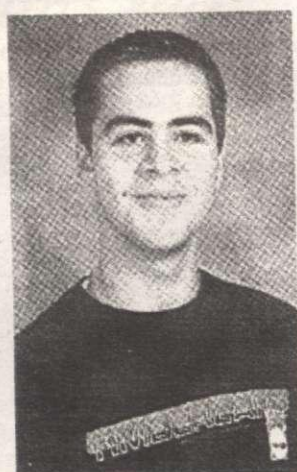
Winters investigated how individual response to system (societal) threats is modified by differing levels of subjective well-being (based on the five factors: extraversion, agreeableness, conscientiousness, emotional stability, and openness to experience). Winters hypothesized that since extroverts were less responsive to negative emotional stimuli, like threats, they would have a diminished perception of the threat and thus diminished responses. Responses to system threats are subjugation and the rationalizing of inequality for members of a higher status group and self-scape goating for members of a lower status group. Part of his data indicated that individuals who were extroverted and considered themselves liberal showed less outgroup favoritism (a legitimacy of the higher status group) as a member of the lower status group when exposed to a high system threat message. The results did not prove clearly that certain responses are based on one specific moderator. Instead, a combination of traits yielded a certain response. This addition to the body of research helps us to understand the combination of moderators that will affect a response the system threats.



Pamela Arnett: New York University

In today's environment, pathogenic, disease-causing bacteria are becoming increasingly resistant to antibiotics. New antimicrobial agents with novel mechanisms of action are urgently needed. Arnett's work examined a recently discovered antimicrobial agent, trypanosome lytic factor (TLF), which is a component of high-density lipoprotein. By administering the try-

panosome lytic factor to invasive and Spi1/Spi2 mutant murine mice macrophages, the trypanosome lytic factor was able to form pores in the membrane of these prokaryotic cells and kill them. This research suggests that lytic human high-density lipoprotein could be employed as a novel agent to kill pathogenic agents.



Jake Fainzilberg: C.W. Post University

In his study, Fainzilberg analyzed the effect of a magnetic field on the viscosity—measure of internal friction (flow)—of water. Pure water is a diamagnetic liquid, meaning that its molecules repel a magnetic field. Since water is diamagnetic, its viscosity experiences an apparent decrease in the presence of a magnetic field because the molecules move more slowly given the repelling force. The change in

viscosity can, furthermore, be used to obtain the diamagnetic permeability of water. Fainzilberg created an equation in his project that could calculate the magnetic permeability of an unknown fluid if a known one is used and both are subjected to the same temperature and field conditions.

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All photographs courtesy of Port Light

Schreiber employee charged with larceny

BY Spencer Bloom and Daniella Malekan

Staff Writer and News Editor

Angela Prudente, a former teacher's assistant in the social studies department of Schreiber, was accused of stealing over \$45,000 from her union. On January 5, Prudente was taken into custody under charges of third degree grand larceny. She pled not guilty to her accusations at her arraignment in First District Court in Hempstead.

"It's really disappointing that someone in our school that we know would commit a crime like this and put our school's integrity on the line," said junior Jordana Cohen. "I heard of the scandal in Roslyn and never thought something like that would come to Port."

Prudente, 51, was the co-president of the Port Washington Paraprofessional Association (PWPA) for eight years. For the last three years, she was responsible for the financial records. It was during this time that Prudente allegedly made many ATM withdrawals and debit card purchases by withdrawing money from the PWPA's bank account.

According to Nassau County District Attorney Denis Dillon, Prudente spent \$45,163.70 on assorted "living expenses," such as gasoline, lodging, and clothing from stores such as Old Navy.

"We were all very fond of her in the department and during her time here, we all had a great working relationship with her," social studies teacher Ms. Renee McClean said. "It was very sad when we were aware of this because of the relationship we all had with her. She was nothing but the nicest person to work with. The whole situation was quite devastating."

"It's always regrettable when something like this happens," principal Mr. Jay Lewis added. "Things like this occur in the education world, business world, locally, and nationally, and we have to make sure that there are proper procedures in place when wrongdoings occur. I am confident that the district itself is not implicated in any of these allegations and my hope is that her union will be able to deal with the issues effectively."

Over the summer of 2004, the PWPA conducted an audit, and found that there was money missing. The union contacted the New York State United Teachers, who subsequently alerted the district attorney's office.

The charge of third degree grand larceny is a class D felony, punishable by up to seven years in prison. However according to a *Newsday* article, Dillon said the charge is "merely an accusation,

and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty."

Prudente was fired from her job as co-president of the PWPA and resigned from her job in August 2004.

Schreiber students have had varying responses to the allegations against Prudente.

"I think that it is the ploy of the liberal media to cause the destruction of this woman's reputation," said junior Matt Silverstein. "She didn't do anything that bad. She just bought a few extra things."

Senior Eric Siegel agreed with Silverstein saying, "God Bless. Port Washington is a rich town. Might as well milk it for what it is worth."

"I can't believe it took them so long to find out what she had been doing," said

junior Aroon Rustemi, who disagreed with Silverstein and Siegel. "I find that to be really shocking."



Courtesy of Portlight

Former Schreiber employee Ms. Angela Prudente has been charged with third degree grand larceny. Schreiber students and faculty alike are very surprised by the news.

Students partake in tsunami relief efforts

BY Kathryn Podobinski

Schreiber students have been a part of the group of countless ordinary people across America and the world who have begun to contribute their time and fundraising efforts to the tsunami victims.

The Student Council currently has money collection bins placed around the school and members canvassed the halls seeking donations for the tsunami relief fund.

The *Schreiber Times* also organized a fundraising project event with the help of altruistic student and teacher volunteers. After school on January 5, the volunteers learned how to weave bracelets of blue and white yarn.

The bracelets were named "Link Bracelets." A tag was attached to each bracelet that explained that the bracelets would "benefit the victims of the tsunami that devastated South and Southeast Asia." It also informed the buyer that in Asian cultures, the bracelet of string is a symbol of connection between two people. The proceeds were sent

to Save the Children.

By the end of the night, over eight

"I feel that being a part of the tsunami relief effort was a very enjoyable and worthwhile experience," said English teacher Mr. Joseph Corbo, who participated in *The Schreiber Times* event.

English teacher and *Schreiber Times* advisor Ms. Anne Pellet decided to make the Link Bracelets after reading an

article in *Newsday* which described a family in Nassau County that organized a similar event at their home.

At press time, *The Schreiber Times* has raised \$2,300, selling the bracelets both in and out of the school. They have plans to continue selling the bracelets until they are all gone.

On an international level, the rest of the world community has been sending in as much aid as possible. Although the United States was criticized for its initial

meager response, it has increased its pledge to \$350 million.

One of the worst natural disasters of all time, the massive tsunamis struck the Indian Ocean's coasts. The death toll has exceeded 162,000 citizens and tourists in Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India, Thailand, Somalia, Malaysia, the Maldives, Myanmar (Burma), Tanzania, the Seychelles, Bangladesh, Kenya, with still more unaccounted for.

Other countries have made substantial offers of aid, with Australia leading the pack through a pledge of \$810 million, followed by Germany with a \$684 million pledge.

The tsunamis that hit Southern Asia and parts of Africa were the result of an earthquake that occurred on December 26 in the Indian Ocean. The Boxing Day earthquake gave a staggering reading of 9.0 on the Moment Magnitude scale, successor to the Richter scale, with the center located one hundred miles west of Sumatra, Indonesia.

With more than its share of poverty, disease, and civil wars, Southeast Asia did not have a tsunami warning system in place as it was never a high priority for the area.

The affected countries have to handle the massive task of providing relief for affected citizens and in the long run, reconstructing their cities.

"What happened in Southeast Asia is really a tragedy, but I think that by helping out and raising money in school, me and other students have been doing our part to try and help those less fortunate than we are," said sophomore Emily Mottehedeh. "Hopefully, the situation there will improve as things become more organized."



Emily Gordon

Junior Maya Silbert teaches sophomore Rob Baldwin how to make a link bracelet as they participate in a fundraiser created by *The Schreiber Times* in order to raise money for Save the Children. This event was only one of several that occurred in the school to raise money for tsunami victims in Southeast Asia.

NCTE congratulates three juniors

BY Sophie Kroft

News Editor

Schreiber English teachers chose juniors Alina Fomovska, Jill Marcellus and Sarah Pickering as semifinalists in the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Writing Competition. These juniors will be representing Schreiber on the national level of the competition.

"The department found the decision extremely difficult this year because collectively they were the best entries ever," said English department chair Ms. Joan Lisecki. "The quality of writing across the board made it difficult to choose. Congratulations to the winners! I'm sure they will represent Schreiber auspiciously."

The competition was held on November 17, 2004. Over thirty juniors were given two hours in a computer lab to work on a piece relating to "Super-sized mustard." The piece that had to be written was allowed to be in any form, from poems to essays, and any length.

The teachers of the English department then critiqued the responses that were submitted anonymously. The top three essays were chosen as the semifinalists and were announced on December 22, 2004.

The semifinalists will now have to put together a portfolio containing their best works, totaling up to ten pages. In the end of March or the beginning of April, Fomovska, Marcellus and Pickering will have to compete in another impromptu essay contest. They will be competing against other excellent writers in the

nation.

Excerpts:

Pickering explains the idea of oversized food in a piece called "Adapted for Infinity." She focuses on the new view that everything is "quantity not quality."

Yet our mighty man-made paradise is based on a paradox. As we enlarge our creations, the world we observe around us increases exponentially, and we continue to shrink. We've built around ourselves and have consequently lost ourselves in the expansion process. "How ingenious!" we declare, "a sandwich that is ten feet long!" But with the invention of such a meal, our bodies fail to meet the goal, and we are caught cramming food down our throats. An orgy of lettuce, a massacre of bread. No one



is content.

Marcellus's untitled piece demonstrates the security people feel with large amounts of food they will never finish.

A nearby shelf had its cookies pushed to the side in order to accommodate some extra Wheat Thins. Even knowing that there were more crackers there than I could possibly eat during my remaining years in that house, I felt relieved. Or maybe I was happy because I knew this. I felt ashamed but I also felt secure. Perhaps, one day when I am living on my own, I will not follow my mother's path. Perhaps I will not use my house to store food first and myself second. In the meantime, however, I need the security of that box of Triscuits in my

basement.

In her work, "And I hear Ploosh," Fomovska incorporates dialogue to make her analogies.

And then, Mary, then they come down. And then they aren't like elephants, but like missiles! Bombs! It's as though I'm in Japan and I'm getting bombed! And I dive into the 72-toilet-paper-roll pack, but the jars crash. But they don't just crash! They shatter! They rupture!" he should have pulled out a thesaurus, "They break!" And I hear splat! And I hear ploosh! A Magritte painting, that's what it is, all around me. The floor is shaking, Mary, and the air smells sour, and yellow, and everywhere, everywhere you look there's mustard.



All photos courtesy of Port Light.

Holiday carols in the lobby

BY Michael Lau

Staff Writer

The holiday season was in the air when student musicians projected their voices for the entire school to hear.

"The music in the lobby has definitely made the last day of school much more enjoyable," said sophomore Dan Stewart, as he paused to listen to a student ensemble in the lobby.

To lighten the atmosphere of school before the holidays, several students voluntarily played joyous holiday tunes in a chamber-like ensemble in the front lobby on the day before winter vacation. The performances included a combination of singing and instrumental pieces.

Chairs and music stands were placed in front of the auditorium in the lobby for the performers, and as students passed through to walk to their classes, they were happy to hear beautiful music to brighten up their day.

"The caroling helped to bring the festive atmosphere to life for both students and faculty," said sophomore Brian Courage. "It was a fun experience to have been a part of."

Many of the holiday favorites were played, including "Jingle Bells," "White Christmas," and "Joy to the World."

The caroling started at 7:30 a.m. and continued throughout the day.

Some of the students who participated early in the day were seniors Zach Levine, Kira Silver, junior Samara Schwartz, and sophomores Courage, Catherine Fish, Adam Johnson, Tamara Nowakowski, and Lauren Wasserman.

The students played during their free periods, and, as each period passed by,

different students could be seen caroling in the lobby.

A flute ensemble was also involved during the intermediary period between 4-1 and 4-2. Some of the flautists who participated were juniors Arielle Buss, Sophie Kroft, Laila Salim, Gina Solomita and sophomore Lauren Wasserman. They played pieces such as "Angels We Have Heard on High," "Oh Little Town of Bethlehem," and "Away in a Manger."

The four teachers in Schreiber's music department, Mr. Pinelli, Mr. Byrne, Mr. Glover, and Mr. Brenner, also performed holiday music around the school on the same day.

Mr. Pinelli played the trombone, Mr. Byrne and Mr. Brenner played the trumpet, and Mr. Glover played the tuba. They caroled in the lobby during 4-1 and during 6th period they went around the school, even inside the library, and masterfully played great holiday pieces.

Since the group was playing band instruments, they could be heard from afar, and attracted many curious students in class who took a peak outside to see what was going on. Students who were passing by even stopped what they were doing to watch the teachers play. They enjoyed being able to see their teachers play music in a much more relaxed environment than usual.

"It was great fun, and it got people in the mood for the holidays. I enjoyed making the students smile," said orchestra teacher Mr. Pinelli.

Fashion show raises funds

BY Stephanie Seeman

Staff Writer

On January 7, Schreiber's junior class club opened the school's doors, welcoming guests of all ages to its first fashion show of 2005. Due to the popularity and extreme success of Schreiber's fashion show, over \$700 was raised for tsunami relief and the Lori Strauss Leukemia Foundation, and \$400 for the junior class club.

"It was such a fun experience and it felt so good knowing that I was helping to raise money for such a good cause," said

junior Jose De La Rosa, who participated in the fashion show.

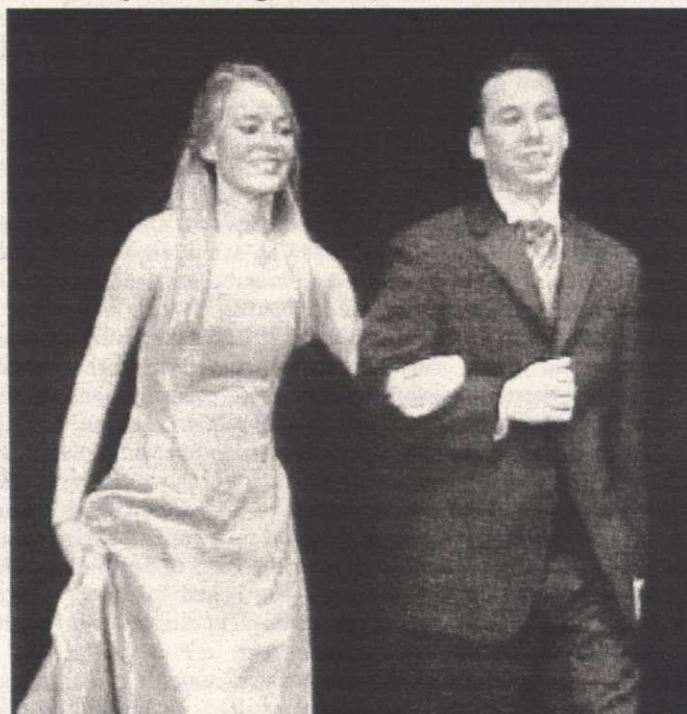
"I think for our first fashion show, it was a success," said Ms. Tina Marie Gallagher who, along with Ms. Beth Carstens, ran the Schreiber fashion show.

The fashion show took place in Schreiber's auditorium, where music was playing and the stage was decorated with balloons. Tickets were sold for five dollars in school and seven dollars at the door.

The students who modeled in the fashion show volunteered their time

to show off both casual and glamorous clothing and to raise money for some very worthy causes. They wore clothing such as prom tuxedos and dresses, in addition to the clothing that was donated by the Gap clothing store in Manhas-set.

Prizes, such as DVDs; were also donated by the companies Corporate Loss Prevention, Royal Waste and Summit Security, and were raffled off to attendees.



Junior Sarah Mellon and senior Bobby Fischetti show off their formal wear as they strut down the runway.

Courtesy of Ms. Beth Carstens

SADD hosts comedy night

BY Meaghan Lewis
Contributing Writer

On the evening of December 22, members of SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) and other Schreiber students went out for an alcohol and drug-free night of comedy with many students from Roslyn High School.

"It was a very amusing night. I loved

"*The teens that attended SADD's night of comedy could have been out at a party with their other friends, but instead they chose to have a night of drug-free fun on the after school field trip.*

the comments and jokes, and especially the way they had on-going laughs from inside the audience," said freshman Nathalie Rivera.

The teens who attended SADD's night of comedy could have been out at a party with their other friends, but instead they chose to have a night of drug-free fun on the after school field trip.

The students took a bus to Roslyn so that both schools could join up together for a night of improvisation with the group called Gotham City Improv. The students especially liked eating pizza at Roslyn with the other teens their age, and many enjoyed reuniting with some of their old friends.

Later in the evening, students and chaperones rode two buses into glamorous

New York City to experience a night filled with many smiles and laughs.

When the show began, the members of Gotham City Improv asked the students and chaperones to write a few sentences about something they would like to see acted out later in their hysterically funny skit. When it was time for the sentences to be enacted, audience members recognized who wrote them by the random bits of laughter that arose from the crowd.

The improvisation group asked many student volunteers to participate in their show. When a volunteer would go up, they were asked what their normal school day entailed, and then the actors proceeded to completely alter the student's response, turning it into a nightmare to be acted out.

Rivera later remembered how they made some funny comments about the high school football team and everyone started instantly laughing. She liked how they added something from the schools, because it made most of the participants want to listen even more.

At the end of the night, the students were exchanging e-mail addresses since in those few short hours they had grown to be friends.

"The Roslyn kids were awesome; I'm still in touch with a whole bunch of them," said Rivera. "They were really cool with everyone from Port. I also really liked spending time with other teens outside the Port Washington school area."

SADD advisor and school psychologist Ms. Michelle Weiden was pleased with the participation of students who attended the show, but hopes for a greater student turnout in the future.

Drama's chili night is hot

BY Jessica Aloe
Contributing Writer

The Schreiber Drama Club hosted a Chili Cook-off on January 13. The event served all different types and styles of chili, from "Vegetarian Hawaii Chili" to "Mexican Chocolate Chili."

"While the event happens only every three years, it is always a success," said Drama Club director Mr. Mark Gamell.

Towards the end of the evening, a vote based upon the loudest applause was used to determine the best chili at the cook-off. This year's winner was "pineapple and shrimp chili," which was made by juniors Elyssa Jakim and

Leila Selim.

Bands Fact or Fiction, Loving Apology and Vahina Facche provided entertainment for the event by playing their music throughout the evening.

The turnout for the event was a record high for the club, raising over \$900 in total from the night.

The club members hope to put the money they made toward costumes, paint, and other supplies the club needs to put on their several yearly productions.

"This is a big success for the Drama Club," said Drama Club board member senior Ali Bromberg. "The chili was really good and so were the bands. Everyone had a really good time at the event."



Freshmen Jesse Stayton, Aaron Schweitzer and Stephan Ferguson chow down on some delicious home-made chili at the Drama Club's Chili Cook-off.

Daniella Malekan

Board of Education notes: January 4

BY Nick Werle AND Hillary Wool
Ass't Features and Features Editors

David Strom, who was elected to the Port Washington Board of Education in 2003, has taken a job in California and resigned from the board, effective January 19.

At the January 4 meeting, the other six board members discussed their choices in light of Strom's pending departure: hold a special election, appoint someone to serve until the annual election in May, or operate as a six-person board until the May election.

Mark Marcellus asserted that the board has no reason to hold a special election. He favored the board's continuation as a six-member group until the May 17 vote. May is not far off, and it would be difficult for someone to step in and get up to speed between now and then, he said.

Given the current board's cohesion, 3-3 votes are rare, he added.

Dean Nardone agreed, and Jean-Marie Posner argued that, while there are people who would make good contributions, the board's continuity was of utmost value. Rob Seiden's stance was that appointing a new member would be antidemocratic.

The seats currently held by Marcellus and Seiden are up for election this year. If, as appears likely, the board decides against holding a special election, Strom's seat would be filled by whoever comes in third on May 17, Marcellus explained in an e-mail. That person would immediately

take Strom's seat, rather than wait for the new board to be installed in July, and would hold that seat until the conclusion of Strom's term on June 30, 2006.

Dr. Roy Nelson expressed concern about the committee system's well-being. He asked how the committees on which Strom sits—curriculum, which Strom chairs, and policy—would move ahead without someone to take Strom's place. Marcellus volunteered to "step up" to the metaphorical plate of Strom's committee assignments.

Calling herself "somewhat conflicted," Nancy Cowles said she stood opposed to a special election, but was unwilling to part with a seven-person board. "Each of us brings something different to the table," she said. She pondered whether the board could add a member in a timely fashion. Also, she pointed out the "burden" on attendance that would be placed on members should there be a six-member board.

Dr. Geoffrey Gordon, superintendent of schools, suggested that the board appoint a member of the minority community to the available position. In the spirit of open-mindedness and diversity, he said, perhaps a fresh voice would be valuable to the board. After all, the board members had implied earlier that their viewpoints tend to be similar. He encouraged the board to reach out to a representative of an often-invisible population.

The discussion came to an end when the board consulted its lawyer on the matter. The members were told it was

legally inappropriate to make a final decision, as Strom's resignation was not yet in effect. They plan to discuss the issue again on Jan. 18.

Sue Sturman, co-president of the Daly HSA, offered the first community comment of the evening. She asked the board to give Strom's position to the next in line from the last election. Then she spoke about the sealed windows in the new Daly gymnasium. It could get very hot without air conditioning, she said, looking ahead to warmer months.

Former board member Julie Meyer echoed Sturman, saying, "The public spoke at the last election." She said that the board should appoint the candidate who received the third-highest number of votes.

Eric Zausner placed third last May, behind Cowles and Posner and ahead of Candace Bowser, Brian Calenda and Richard Sussman.

Prior to serving on the board, Strom initiated the portschoolnotes listserv, initially paying student reporters out of his own pocket to take notes on board meetings and eventually persuading the Parent Council to foot the bill. To receive the board notes electronically, readers may send a blank e-mail to portschools-subscribe@yahoo.com. The Port Washington News also publishes the notes.

Next, the board moved to a construction report. Gordon began by celebrating the fact that the construction projects are coming in under budget, a scenario that seemed unlikely when the \$68

million bond was passed. Now, the administration estimates about \$671,000 will remain in the budget when construction is finished, allowing the district to move on to "B-list" items.

The board heard a report on the progress of construction around the district. According to Turner Construction, the company managing the whole project, most of the schools will be completely closed out by the last week in March.

The last school with major work outstanding is Daly elementary. Even Daly is mostly finished, the Turner representative said, save for some interior details, tiling and work on the new gymnasium's wood floor. This work should be finished by the third week in February. During the next two weeks, walk-throughs are scheduled with the architects.

Paving and landscaping of the new Daly parking lot also remains to be done, but this will wait until the weather cooperates, in the spring.

The board focused on the details of closing out the projects—the specific paperwork that must be provided and the particulars of the one-year guarantee on all work done for the district. The board also clarified the parameters for the eighteen percent refund that the district should receive from the state after all the documentation is completed.

2005 MIDTERM SCHEDULE

TUESDAY JANUARY 25, 2005

8:15 AM		
ROOM #	EXAM	TEACHER
140	Comprehensive English	English Dept.
6	Comprehensive English -ESL students	ESL Dept.
201	RCT Math	Special Ed Dept.
B11	AP English	Pellett
B12	AP English	Pellett
B13	AP English	Schulman
B14	AP English	Schulman
B15	Shakespeare	Valenti
B16	World Literature	Valenti
A1	Math 3H	Tecusan
A2	Math 3H	Carstens
A3	Math 3H	Carstens
A4	Math 11H	Healy
A5	Math 11H	Healy

9:00 AM		
ROOM #	EXAM	
A6	Math Research Qualifying Exam	

12:15 PM		
ROOM #	EXAM	TEACHER
A1	Math A	Tedesco
A2	Math A	Tedesco
A3	Math A	Tedesco
A4	Math A	Tedesco
A5	Math A	Tedesco
A6	Math A	Tecusan
A7	Math A	Tecusan
A8	Math A	Tecusan
A9	Math A	Healy
A10	Math A	Reynolds
15	Math A	Lederer
17	Math A	Lederer
19	Math A	Ganzekaufer
21	Math A	Ganzekaufer
23	Math A	Ganzekaufer
10	Math A	Shannon
11	Math A	Shannon
4	Math A	Walk-in/Retake
B11	AP Statistics	Schmalzbach
B12	Calculus BC	Ganzekaufer
B13	Calculus B	Cayemitte

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 26, 2005

8:15 AM		
ROOM #	EXAM	TEACHER
140	Comp. English II	English Dept.
6	Comp. English II - ESL Students	ESL Dept.

8:30 AM		
ROOM #	EXAM	TEACHER
A1	Biology	Apicos
A2	Biology	Apicos
A3	Biology	Apicos
A4	Biology	Brandt
A5	Biology	Brandt
A6	Biology	Brandt
A7	Biology	Crivelli
A8	Biology	Jones
A9	Biology	Jones
A10	Biology	O'Brien
15	Biology	O'Brien
17	Biology	O'Brien
18	Biology	O'Brien

8:30 AM EXAM		
ROOM #	EXAM	TEACHER
10	Biology (Honors)	Serfaty
11	Biology (Honors)	Jones
19	Biology (Honors)	Crivelli
21	Biology (Honors)	Ezratty
23	Biology (Honors)	Serfaty

9:00 AM		
ROOM #	EXAM	TEACHER
B11	Earth Science	Paradis
B12	Earth Science	Paradis
B13	Earth Science	Paradis
B14	Earth Science	Paradis
B15	Earth Science	Travis
B16	Earth Science	Travis
B17	Earth Science	Travis
117	Earth Science	Travis

12:30 PM		
ROOM #	EXAM	TEACHER
118	Trends in Literature	Gokturk
120	Trends in Literature	Gokturk
122	Trends in Literature	Gokturk

12:30 PM		
ROOM #	EXAM	TEACHER
213	AP European Qualifying Exam	-----
212	AP European Qualifying Exam	-----
215	AP European Qualifying Exam	-----
217	AP European Qualifying Exam	-----

ROOM #	EXAM	TEACHER
219	Economic Proficiency	-----
221	Economic Proficiency	-----
225	Economic Proficiency	-----

ROOM #	EXAM	TEACHER
201	Physical Setting/Earth Science Regents	Special Ed

ROOM #	EXAM	TEACHER
202	RCT US History	Special Ed

ROOM #	EXAM	TEACHER
140	AP Government	Begun

ROOM #	EXAM	TEACHER
A1	Pre-Calc	Siener
A2	Pre-Calc	Siener
A3	Pre-Calc	Pichkur
A4	Pre-Calc	Pichkur

ROOM #	EXAM	TEACHER
A5	Pre-Calc Honors	Siener
A6	Pre-Calc Honors	Shannon
A7	Pre-Calc Honors	DiVenuto

THURSDAY JANUARY 27, 2005

8:15 AM		
ROOM #	EXAM	
6	Physics Regents/Chemistry Regents	

8:30 AM		
ROOM #	EXAM	TEACHER
10	Math A-23	Schmalzbach
11	Math A-23	Schmalzbach
15	Math A-23	Schmalzbach
17	Math A-23	DiVenuto
18	Math A-23	Gallagher
19	Math A-23	Gallagher
21	Math A-23	Pichkur
23	Math A-23	Pichkur
A1	Math A-23+	Reynolds
A2	Math A-23+	Reynolds
A3	Math A-23+	DiVenuto

ROOM #	EXAM	TEACHER
A5	Math 3B	Siener
A6	Math 3B	Siener
A7	Math 3B	Shannon
A8	Math 3B	Shannon
A9	Math 3B	DiVenuto
A10	Math 3B	Lederer
B11	Math 3B	Lederer
B12	Math 3B	Gallagher
B13	Math 3B	Gallagher
B14	Math 3B Part 1	Verity
B15	Math 3B Part 1	Carstens
B16	Math 3B Part 1	Carstens
B17	Math 3B Part 1	Reynolds

ROOM #	EXAM	TEACHER
117	Math 3B Part 2	Schmalzbach
8 (504 Room)	Math Research Qualifying	

12:30 PM		
ROOM #	EXAM	TEACHER
A1	Physics	Fish
A2	Physics	Fish
A3	Physics	Fish
A4	Physics	Fish/Grasso-Krebs
A5	Physics	Johnson
A6	Physics Honors	Fish
A7	Physics Honors	Johnson
A8	Physics Honors	Johnson

ROOM #	EXAM	TEACHER
A9	AP Biology	Ezratty
A10	AP Biology	Ezratty

FRIDAY JANUARY 28, 2005

8:15 AM		
ROOM #	EXAM	TEACHER
130	Living Environment	-----
15	Math B	-----
201	RCT Global	-----

8:30 AM		
ROOM #	EXAM	TEACHER
A1	AP Chemistry	Michel
A2	Chemistry	Apicos
A3	Chemistry	Case
A4	Chemistry	Krebs
A5	Chemistry	Michel
A6	Chemistry	Michel
A7	Chemistry	Nelson
A8	Chemistry	Nelson
A9	Chemistry	Nelson

ROOM #	EXAM	TEACHER
B11	Chemistry Honors	Case
B12	Chemistry Honors	Michel
B13	Chemistry Honors	Nelson
B14	Chemistry (Option)	Krebs
B15	Chemistry (Option)	Krebs

11:00 AM		
ROOM #	EXAM	TEACHER
221	Soc. Sci. Research Qualifying	-----
225	Soc. Sci. Research Qualifying	-----
219	Soc. Sci. Research Qualifying	-----
215	AP Amer. Qualifying	-----
217	AP Amer. Qualifying	-----
212	AP Amer. Qualifying	-----
213	AP Amer. Qualifying	-----

12:00 PM		
ROOM #	EXAM	TEACHER
B11	AP English Qualifying	-----
B12	AP English Qualifying	-----
B13	AP English Qualifying	-----
B14	AP English Qualifying	-----

Turning lead into gold, as simple as a chemical test Is there any validity of bullet testing used by the FBI?

• BY Siddarth Ninan
Contributing Writer

Despite recent criticism, the American justice system is among the best in the world, and generally makes the right decisions. Yet it seems that one of the most surefire methods of connecting the suspect to the crime has an unforgivable margin of error.

What if this method, which results in the lock-up of hundreds of people, has an error rate of twenty to fifty percent? The FBI could lock up hundreds of innocent people for life, casualties of an oversight.

"First there were the scandals involving the CIA; now the FBI is under scrutiny," said senior Denise Carlin. "It seems that every crime-fighting agency is committing its own crimes."

This is the case now, as the method of chemical matching has been found to have a huge, case-altering flaw. The technique of chemical matching between bullets found at crime scenes and those in the possession of suspects has long been used by the FBI—for over three decades, in fact.

The method involves analyzing the bullets at a crime scene for traces of certain contaminants. Using the chemical signature from the bullet, they look

for a match in any of the bullets found in the possession of the suspects. Whenever a match is found, though it might not exactly prove that the suspect shot the gun, it certainly provides strong circumstantial evidence tying the suspect to the weapon.

Unfortunately, this technique was most devastating to the defendant's cause in cases for which there was very little actual evidence tying the suspect to the crime. In such cases, the results of the chemical matching often influenced the jury greatly, tipping the scales largely in favor of the prosecution.

Chemical matching works on the assumption that no batch of bullets has exactly the same makeup. As it turns out, there is no way of telling for sure whether two bullets came from the same batch or not. The composition of bullets from the same batch differed from the beginning of the day to the end of the day, probably due to the oxidation of certain trace elements.

It appears that two batches can be made months apart with the exact same chemical makeup, as there are many instances of bullets made at different times that have the exact same chemical signature. Bullets that seem exactly the same could have been made

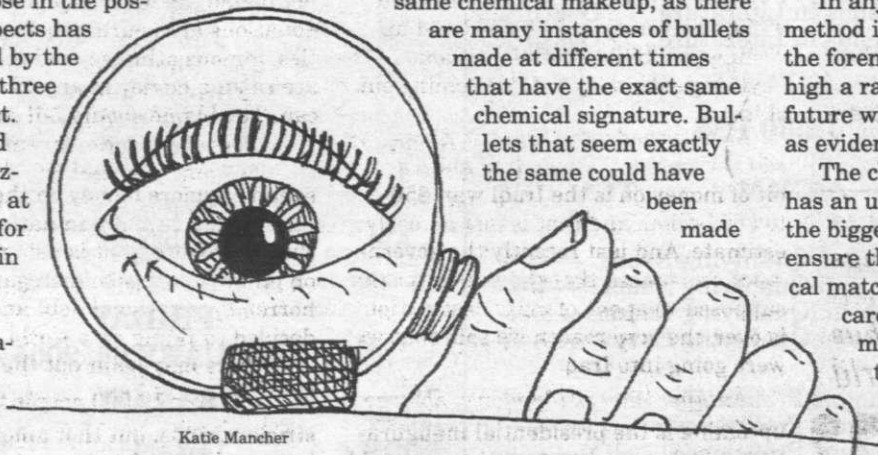
at different times and vice versa. The FBI never thought to check the validity of its test, and due to their mistake, thousands of verdicts have been called into question.

On the other hand, the chemical matching has put away as least as many criminals as innocents. Originally, it was only used in the absence of the most foolproof method of connecting bullets to suspects: bullet rifling. Each gun imprints marks on every bullet it fires, caused by certain mechanisms that spin the bullet in the barrel, ensuring that the bullet flies straight.

However, in some cases the rifling tests were impossible or inconclusive, so the prosecutors turned to the next best test, chemical matching. Despite its rate of error, when used in conjunction with other substantial evidence, chemical matching can be used legitimately. Unfortunately, chemical matching tests have been used as the most conclusive evidence in many cases, possibly causing the jurors to base their decisions on the tests alone.

In any case, the chemical matching method is now being eradicated from the forensic system, deemed to have too high a rate of error. Prosecutors in the future will not be able to use the tests as evidence.

The chemical matching test simply has an unforgivable rate of error, and the biggest problem facing us now is to ensure that every case in which chemical matching was used is reviewed carefully, so that the hundreds of men and women sentenced by the faulty test can regain their lives.



Not Quite newsworthy Jeremy Frank's New Year's resolutions for dummies

BY Jeremy Frank
Staff Writer

This issue, I wrote an astounding article. It was witty, poignant and so amazing that you would make me your king. It was so funny that you would have bowed down before me and built me a palace so massive that it'd tear the earth from its orbit. Unfortunately, I accidentally deleted that article.

I, Jeremy Frank, am an idiot.

That got me thinking, and in a wave of desperate self-denial, I realized something. I may be an idiot, but I am not alone.

Lots of people make New Year's resolutions. On January 1, we desperately try to convince ourselves that we are capable of change. Most people tend to abandon this notion by February, after they've either gained five pounds, smoked more cigarettes than a moody French café, or continued to go bald, no matter how hard they've tried not to.

But there is one New Year's resolution I think we should all make (and keep). 2005 looks like a good year for such human emotions as fear (as in, "I'm afraid of terrorists"), anger ("I hate terrorists"), and envy ("I wish I had as nice a cave as that terrorist does"), but common sense is in shorter supply than flu shots and sober freshmen combined.

This dearth of common sense cannot be contributed to one source, but instead

spans a vast field of brainlessness. Here are a few handpicked examples that I believe demonstrate just how low we've sunk as a species.

Science

Most people don't think of scientists as a stupid bunch, but instead as nasal dweebs whose reproductive organs are only for...well, nothing I guess. This idea is about to be shattered (sort of.)

There are lots of wonderful places to build the world's most advanced solar telescope. The top of a volcano isn't one of them.

There are only two things that can belong on top of a volcano: the laboratories of mad scientists and virgin sacrifices. Luckily, the old wet towel known as common sense wasn't there to stop Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy from choosing Maui's Haleakala volcano, the "House of Sun," to be home for their \$161 million telescope.

Crime

Airport screeners, they're more than just foot fetishists who ask you to take your shoes off. They are supposed to keep drugs, weapons, and nail clippers off airplanes.

Equipped with enthusiasm, skill, and a cheery disposition, they are supposed to spot even the most subtle hint of danger. Obviously, it is the airport's duty to respond to danger posed to its customers.

The shocking news I'm about to reveal comes straight from the common sense pool that is responsible for having two plane bathrooms for every fifty passengers...and then serving seafood. Even this precedent of poor judgment pales in comparison to events recently released about a man with a gun at London's Heathrow Airport.

Last June, Benjamin Lehman was allowed to pass through security with a loaded handgun. The remarkable thing wasn't that he managed to get it aboard, but how he talked himself out of two counts of "having a dangerous article."

Lehman, an Israeli who lives on the West Bank, claims that he carries a gun with him for protection and simply forgot that he had it with him.

Consumer Goods

The Michigan Lawsuit Abuse Watch sponsored a contest for the stupidest product warning labels. The purpose of the contest was, "to reveal how lawsuits, and concern about lawsuits, have created a need for common sense warnings on products." So who won?

A prize of \$500 went to Ed Gyetvai of Ontario, who submitted a toilet brush label that read, "Do not use for personal hygiene." Second place went to Matt Johnson of Illinois, who found a warning on a scooter that cautioned, "This product moves when used."

Schreiber Ethics

BY Sarah Catanzaro
Opinions Editor

Where is it appropriate to smoke?

After school on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday I journey off campus, through Monfort and half a block down Main Street, to work. It's a rather arduous journey, as I'm sure you can tell.

I have to walk all the way down those stairs (despite the fact that they were repaired, it seems that there are still too many) and then across the vast expanse of parking lot. Then I have to wait a whole two minutes at the traffic light to cross the street, only to be compelled to walk an additional twenty steps.

You can imagine my disappointment that certain students are making my journey much harder. While trekking through this territory on a cold winter day, I smelled something...well, foul.

It wasn't the product of those awful geese that plague our fields or the loads of garbage that decorate the trail from Schreiber to Monfort. The smell seemed to emanate from a group of students sitting on the hand-rail by the Monfort steps.

As I walked further down the staircase, I recognized the smell: somebody was smoking marijuana (also known as weed for those of us

"...what I am opposed to is students blowing their weed right into my face just before I have to go to work."

who prefer a three-syllable maximum vocabulary). A few students were quietly smoking a joint right outside school.

This is not a lecture on the hazards of weed. The opinions section has already published its share of articles on drug testing, medicinal marijuana, and other related topics...it seems that marijuana might even be the new gay rights of the opinions section!

At any rate, what I am opposed to is students blowing their weed right into my face just before I have to go to work. While you might enjoy getting high after school (perhaps you have the time and freedom to do so, or maybe you just don't care), but some people have other agendas, other activities to partake in, other jobs to attend.

Those of us who do have other things to do after school want to go there and make a good impression. When a student blows a big puff of purple haze onto you, permitting the smell to get entrenched in his victim's hair and clothes, he impedes this.

I doubt my supervisors thought highly of me when I walked into work reeking of some little delinquent's drug of choice.

Like I stated earlier, I have no intention of telling you what drugs you may or may not do; your lifestyle is up to you. However, if you are going to have a little rendezvous with MJ after school, please go somewhere else. You need not "puff the magic dragon" right into my face.



TSUNAMI RELIEF

US contributions to tsunami relief are wave-ering

Other countries are trumping the United States in their contributions to tsunami aid

BY David Epstein

Contributing Writer

The death tolls are rising, but United States' donations to relief funds for those areas plagued by the tsunami are quickly falling. The United States seems like a miserly country when compared to places like Germany and Australia.

"America is one of the wealthiest nations in the world," said Denise Carlin in response to America's poor contribution record, "However, it seems that our country is also most greedy."

December 26, 2004 will be a day that goes down as one of the saddest days in recent world history. The day after Christmas began with joy as families reveled in the lingering holiday spirit, but things quickly took a turn for the worse. At around 10 a.m. New York time, reports began pouring in about a massive tsunami that had just hit the coastline of the countries along the Indian Ocean.

The initial estimates of the death toll hovered around 6,000-9,000, and immediately the United States government began working on a donation to the relief funds. Their initial donation proposal of fifteen million dollars was considered absurd by the world community as a whole.

Quickly the United States increased their proposal to thirty-five million and then to \$350 million without public donations.

As America was deciding how much to give the countries hit by the tsunami, other countries were already implementing their plans to send over aid. Many countries, including the ones in the European Union, a coalition of European countries, were coordinating efforts to better serve the stricken communities.

As the days wore on, more countries became involved in the efforts as the death toll rose. Public communities all around the world were now making a huge difference in the relief efforts.

After just five days, more money had been raised in America than during the September 11 crisis. The death toll had risen above 100,000 and people were taking serious notice of the horror. Websites such as Amazon.com and Google.com began offering ways to donate to the relief fund securely and without hassle. Over time, the private donations amounted to over \$200 million.

As countries are donating to the relief funds for the tsunami tragedy the US government's donation continued to be dwarfed by other smaller and less powerful countries than our own.

Germany's government has created a plan for \$647 million to be donated for relief and to supply a mobile hospital, water treatment, and aid supplies. Germany's public has donated just \$120 million less than the US has donated from its government and the public combined.

In total countries from Europe have donated a combined total of two billion

"...the government is using money on other things with disregard to the horrendous national debt and yet has decided to skimp on a world tragedy."

dollars, and that number is still growing.

Also, Australia's government has donated \$815 million to be given over a five year period, of which half is loans, and the public has donated over \$88 million, a total of \$903 million. As you can see countries that we would not expect to be able or willing to donate more than the US have done their best to come up with as much money as they can.

The international banks have also made large donations. The International Monetary Fund has offered one billion dollars in debt relief for the

countries affected by the tsunami in order to lighten their governments' load. Also donating are the World Bank, with over \$250 million, the Asian Development Bank, with over \$175 million, and many more.

With these facts at hand, you have to wonder if America is doing enough to help. The United States has recently been unwisely spending its money. Just last year we launched a Mars exploration that could end up costing us a billion dollars without anything extremely notable coming out of it.

Another endeavor that the American government is spending quite a bit of money on is the Iraqi war, \$50 to \$60 billion, and that is just an early estimate. And just recently the government announced that the search for the supposed weapons of mass destruction is over, the very reason we said that we were going into Iraq.

Another interesting money splurge upcoming is the presidential inauguration, which according to estimates could cost more than \$40 million (not including security details) of private donations, money that could have been well spent to enhance our donation to the tsunami stricken countries.

Using those figures, you have to believe that the United States is not doing enough to help the victims of the tsunami. We are spending money at an alarming rate on things that could end up having no result.

Almost half of the money that has been raised by the United States has come from the public and that figure will rise, while the government's donation will stay at \$350 million. Do



Relief workers rescue a man in Banda Aceh.

not blame the American people; the donations are pouring in and celebrities, famous athletes, and other icons are raising money in anyway that they can. The blame should fall solely on the shoulders of our government.

Some may say that we can't afford to spend anymore money on the tsunami fund because we are in national debt. But the government is using money on other things with disregard to the horrendous national debt and yet has decided to skimp on a world tragedy.

Others may point out that the US has sent over 12,000 people to the stricken areas, but that amounts to just one person for every two point nine miles of coastline just in Indonesia and Sri Lanka, and that is not enough.

Altogether, the United States' effort in the tsunami stricken countries has not been up to the standards that the American people are used to. Our government needs to do more in every respect and needs to gain the backing of the American people especially in the wake of the closely contested presidential race. However, whatever your views are on politics, we need to continue to help out the tsunami victims in whatever way we can.



Tsunami victims at a relief camp await rice packets being distributed in Nagapattinam, an area in the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu.

Tsunami Relief Organizations

Habitat for Humanity International

Asia Tsunami Response Fund
121 Habitat St
Americus, GA 31709
229-924-6935
www.habitat.org

International Medical Corps

Tsunami Emergency Response
1919 Santa Monica Blvd.,
Suite 300
Santa Monica, CA 90404-1950
800-481-4462
www.imcworldwide.org

US Fund for UNICEF

Tsunami Relief Fund
333 E. 38th Street
New York, NY 10016
800-4-UNICEF
www.unicefusa.org

World Hope International

Asia Relief
P.O. Box 96338
Washington DC 20090
888-466-4673
www.worldhope.org

Point/Counterpoint

Should ATM machines be installed in public high schools?

BY Melissa Heller
Contributing Writer

"Hey, Bob, can you lend me fifteen dollars for tonight? We all want to go to dinner and catch a movie, and I'm running a little low on cash. I'll pay you back tomorrow, alright?"

How often does this situation occur at school, whether a student is borrowing money for lunch, movies, school-sponsored activities, a cab, or anything else? Friends are constantly lending each other money. This is followed by false promises about swift compensation.

Or, in a somewhat similar scenario, friends bail on each other, because of their lack of money. This forces them either to go home and watch television by themselves, while their friends are having the time of their lives together or to go to one certain location with all their friends to watch movies and complain how "bored" they are because someone didn't have enough money to go out.

What if, by installing one more machine in Schreiber High School, all these petty complications simply disappeared?

ATMs have recently been a growing popular interest, specifically in high schools in California, Oregon, and Washington. While the main reasons for implementing these machines are for the school's concerns about bounced checks, the machines are also available for the students' and faculty's personal use.

The ATMs were first installed because schools were complaining about checks for registration and school supplies, including yearbooks, bouncing. Parents were also concerned with sending their children to school with large amounts of cash, which could easily be lost or stolen and go by unnoticed.

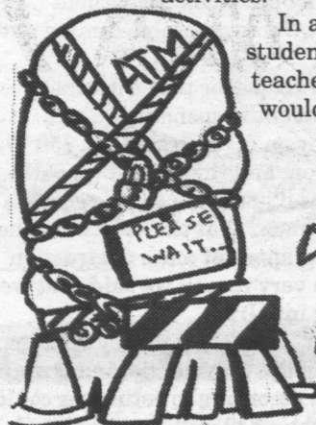
Adults in most workplaces have the ability to access an ATM; why should teachers and the members of school administrations be any different? Many teachers always say, sorrowfully, that they are unable to give money to charitable events at school, because they don't have enough money or spare change on them—only what they may need for lunch, gas, and other smaller items. They also would be able to save themselves an extra trip to the bank, by using the ATM in the school.

The addition of an ATM would not only benefit the faculty, but the students as well. For example, let's say that a student wanted to purchase a yearbook, but knew that she or he would constantly keep on forgetting to have his or her parents write up a check or felt that he or she wouldn't want to bring the seventy-five dollars to school. With an ATM machine available he or she could simply call up his or her parents, ask them to add that sum of money onto their debit card, and hand in the money right away.

In more ordinary conditions, parents can put a specific limit on the debit card, and the student can take out as little or as much money as is needed for the day's events. One minor technicality is that there is a small fee for withdrawing money from the machine: in most schools, the fee ranges from one dollar to one dollar and fifty cents which may seem pricey considering the fact that most students won't be taking out more than twenty dollars at a time.

However, that is the price which must be paid, considering that the schools use their portion of the fee to pay for the machines. When the machine cost is paid off, the money will go toward funding for student activities.

In addition, students and teachers alike would not



Andrew Martinolich

have to complain about not having any loose change for the snack machines, and would not have to buy something from the cafeteria in order to have that one dollar bill which they need for those machines.

While some might worry about not being able to handle the cash flow which will come instantly from their fingertips, they can be kept in check by establishing a certain budget for each transaction. In addition, the ATM machines will educate students on how to budget their money in a more advanced technological way, and allow them to be more independent and not have to worry about "borrowing" from their friends as often.

BY Sarah Catanzaro
Opinions Editor

First, we saw vending machines endorsed by Pepsi-Cola or Nestle enter our school premises. Next, we witnessed the coming of in-school advertising. Now, it seems as if ATMs will be the newest corporate venture into the academic setting. A recent survey conducted by Teen Research Unlimited discovered that one in 200 students, age twelve to fifteen, had a cash machine at school. This number escalated to one in fifty among those age sixteen and seventeen.

The idea for ATMs in schools originated when schools in Washington, Oregon and California discovered that parents were bouncing checks for school fees. To cope with this dilemma, they instituted a cash only policy. By



Andrew Martinolich 1-17-05

installing ATMs in schools, they hoped to facilitate this transition.

However, these newest installations are thwarting the learning process. While it may not seem like a monumental change, to some extent, mounting ATMs in school diverts the learning process and presents students with many distractions.

While a high school senior may not be too eager to borrow money from their friends, ditch their AP Physics class, and head over to Bayview Deli for a late afternoon snack, they may feel more inclined to do so if they can easily access money. Students who have ATMs available in their schools have noted the harm of these machines. "I don't think

[ATMs] are a necessary part of the learning process," said senior Joanne Herz. Clearly, many are upset by the fact that school, once a place for learning, is becoming a place for spending.

The installation of ATMs may also ostracize those students who are less financially stable. Not every high school student possesses his own bank account. In fact, only seventeen percent of U.S. teens have debit cards, leaving more than eighty percent of teenagers without one.

To those who are unable to afford this commodity, the presence of ATMs is an inconsiderate reminder of their economic condition. Rebecca Immel reported in the *Christian Science Monitor*, "It separates us into two groups: the people that get to

use the ATM because they have enough money ... and the kids whose moms give them just enough money for lunch."

Additionally, some students may not be responsible enough to possess an ATM card. As the expression

goes, money burns a hole in people's pocket. These students should not feel pressure to get a debit card before they are ready for it. And in fact, ATMS would encourage impulse spending. Many students are already, as they say, "broke." They should not be inspired to foot even larger bills because they have access to ATMs.

Although students have no profound need for available ATM machines, teachers may need to be able to withdraw money from their accounts. Thus, it would be reasonable to place ATMs within teacher lounges. However, these ATMs are not being installed exclusively in teacher lounges. Instead, they are being fixed in cafeterias and other locations frequented by teenagers.

Schreiber students seem to be opposed to ATMs in school as well. According to senior Danielle Lipman, "If we want to shop, we'll go to a store. Our school is not a mall, convenience store, or casino. ATMs belong in these sort of places, where students enjoy recreational activities. We should not have to worry about the distractions posed by ATMs."

ATMs are a shopper's best friend. However, while at Schreiber, we are students, not shoppers. When the bell rings at 3:00 p.m., we can whip out the "bills" and go out and collect the bling-bling, but when we are in school, calculus is enough to worry about.

Schreiber Speaks

"ATMs should not be installed in schools. Students can access an ATM before or after school."

- Denise Carlin, senior

"ATMs in schools are a bad idea because they encourage the capitalist excess that is ruining society."

- John Krauss, junior

"It would be very convenient to install ATMs in schools. If this was done, students would be less inclined to accumulate large debts with their friends."

- Amanda Buss, sophomore

The religion of the public: a changing textbook reverses its morals

The disappearance of evolution, homosexuality, and STD prevention in public schools

BY Cale Rubenstein
Contributing Writer

Is religion in school just a sly form of missionary work? The answer is yes.

When students hear their teacher, whom they might admire greatly, talking about how God did this, and marriage is defined as this, they may adopt these views.

Children's religious ideas should not come from school, especially if school is changing facts to suit its leaders' religious ideas. Children should learn facts, not religion.

We've all heard of the debates about the pledge with the words "under God," and about the Harry Potter books because of "witchcraft." Surely, religion plays a major part in this. But religious influence in schools becomes more important when the curriculum is changed.

Because of the election of George W. Bush, and the increased number of Republicans in Congress, conservatives are taking risks in government that they wouldn't normally. In Texas, school board conservatives who revised the textbooks feel that Earth was created 6000 years ago. They changed a line in a textbook that said the Ice Age took place "millions of years ago" and changed it to "in the distant past."

Also in Texas, a passage in a textbook explained the effects of adolescence. It originally said that adolescence brings "attraction to others." This was changed to read "attraction to the opposite sex." The publishers of the textbook admitted that they planned to tweak the references to marriage and sexuality.

The State Board of Education of Texas complained about a history textbook, because it explained slavery in an overly negative way.

"Organizations have been created around the country to press parents to take their children out of what they call atheistic and unclean public schools to home school them or bring them to Christian academies."

In Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, the Dover Area School District will be the first to present "Intelligent Design." This refers to the idea that the world is too perfect to be made accidentally, and thus must have been made by an intelligent being. This idea directly clashes with Darwin's Theory of Evolution.

Liberals oppose the "Intelligent Design," saying it is a cover up for the idea of Creationism, the belief that the world was made by God. This is true.

Creationism was outlawed in schools by a Supreme Court ruling in the 1980s. The idea of "Intelligent Design" is the same as Creationism, except for the fact the word God is replaced by two words: "intelligent being." You get the same idea. It imposes monotheism, and that is completely unconstitutional.

In sexual education, the curriculum is being changed—or in this case filed down—to preach abstinence until marriage. Information on birth control,

abortion, and sexually transmitted diseases, is being completely omitted from the curriculum.

I can understand preaching abstinence until marriage. I don't agree with it, but I can understand it. Abstinence is the safest way to prevent STDs and unwanted pregnancies. But not informing students about STDs is not only wrong; it is foolish.

It is the students' right to know about STDs. What would holding back this information solve? The students grow up, they get married, and, if one of them has an STD, he or she will probably infect the other. Even if they heeded their teachers' abstinence lessons, now they both have an STD and may die.

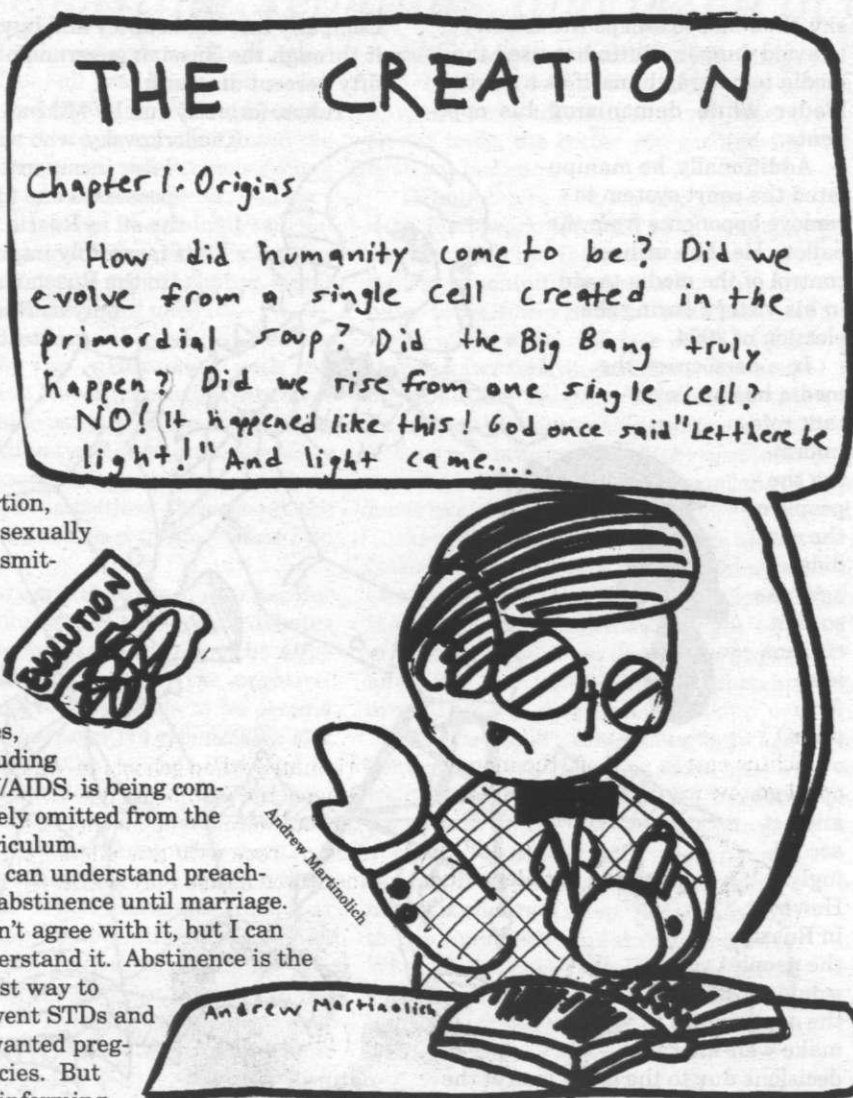
Many people may be thinking, "Why do I have to worry about that? If they don't like it, they should move out of the state." It is not that simple. Even if those people did move out of the state, they would be surrounded by this religious influence.

Texas, one of the most conservative states, is the second largest purchaser of textbooks. The first is California. These states get the final say on what goes into the textbooks before they are distributed across the nation. The views on what is acceptable and what is not are often skewed, and it is a shame that we should all suffer because of certain religious ideals.

For example, the school board was reviewing a history textbook, entitled *Out of Many: A History of the American People*. They discarded the textbook because it reported that there were approximately 50,000 prostitutes west of the Mississippi at a certain time. They argued that the way it was written was demeaning to women across the Mississippi, claiming the writing made it sound like all women west of the Mississippi were prostitutes.

Though it may be offensive to those west of the Mississippi, even if it was written harshly, that is no reason to discard the textbook. It gives reason to edit the textbook, not discard it.

Also, there shouldn't be such a monopoly on educational material.



"It shouldn't be allowed for there to be such a monopoly on educational material. Each state should be able to distribute its own textbooks..."

Each state should be able to distribute its own textbooks, so that if the curriculum established by companies in one state is displeasing, people can solicit textbooks from other states that suit them.

Many conservatives are taking ridiculous steps to change education nationally. Many are urging families to withdraw their children from public schools in an effort to bring down the public school system. Organizations have been created around the country to press parents to take their children out of what they call "atheistic" and "unclean" public schools to home-school them or bring them to Christian academies.

If your parents don't like what you are learning, then they should find an alternative education. If you can't afford private school and don't have time to home school, then deal with it.

I don't care who you are, you don't have the right to dictate what is true and what is not.

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Where is Putin taking post-Cold War Russia?

The future of the ex-Communist nation under President Putin falls into question

BY Liz Pomerantz
Staff Writer

Despite President Bush's praise of Russian President Vladimir Putin for his support of the U.S. in the "fight against terrorism," Putin may soon become a grave danger to his people. It seems as though he is leading his country more towards a dictatorship than a democracy.

Unfortunately, except for the billionaire elite, Russian people have lived

" Putin has used the media to portray himself as a great leader while demonizing his opponents. "

in great poverty, amidst rampant crime since the fall of the Soviet Union. Many Russians hope that Putin will improve the living standard in Russia, but it appears as though he is making policies for his own economic gains and providing little improvement for the Russian people.

Putin initiated his attempt to secure power by taking the media from private possession and putting it under the control of the Russian government, in which Putin wields great power due to its weak legislature. He claimed he did so in the interest of national security.

The two media barons in Russia, Boris Berezovsky and Vladimir Gusin-

sky, then had to escape the country to avoid danger. Putin has used the media to portray himself as a great leader while demonizing his opponents.

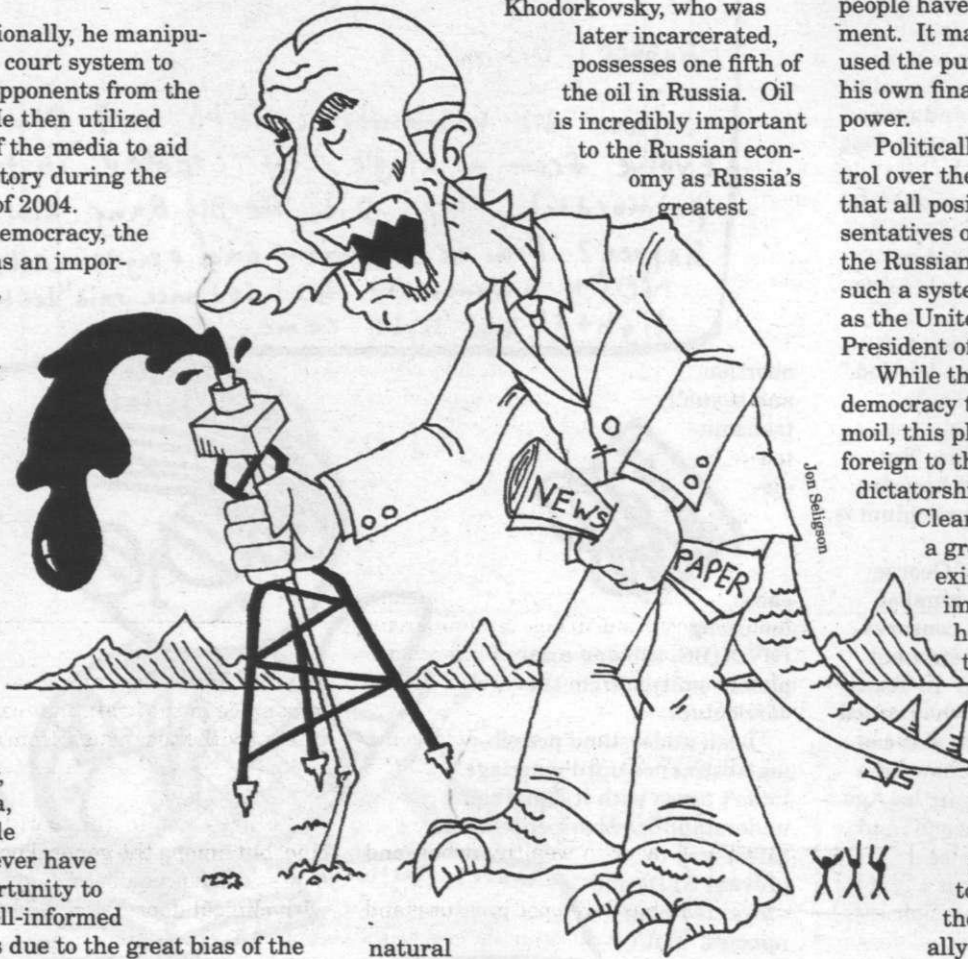
Additionally, he manipulated the court system to remove opponents from the ballot. He then utilized control of the media to aid in his victory during the election of 2004.

In a democracy, the media has an important role, informing the people of the candidates' agendas so that citizens may form their own opinions and act accordingly. However, in Russia, the people would never have the opportunity to make well-informed decisions due to the great bias of the media.

Putin then seized economic control of Russia by forcing the Yukos Oil

Company into bankruptcy and buying it through the Russian government at a fifty percent discount.

Yukos, formerly run by Mikhail Khodorkovsky, who was later incarcerated, possesses one fifth of the oil in Russia. Oil is incredibly important to the Russian economy as Russia's greatest



natural resource.

Furthermore, Khodorkovsky had been using finances from Yukos to

support Putin's opponent, an ulterior motive for Putin to seize the company. While Putin gained great power over the Russian economy, the Russian people have not yet seen an improvement. It may be presumed that Putin used the purchase of Yukos to further his own finances and consolidate his power.

Politically, Putin has massive control over the government due to the fact that all positions are filled by representatives of his party. Furthermore, the Russian government does not have such a system of checks and balances as the United States does, leaving the President of Russia as the sole power.

While the United States preaches democracy to those states in great turmoil, this philosophy of government is foreign to those previously governed by dictatorships or Communism.

Clearly the Russian people suffer a great deal. No middle class exists there, only poverty and immense wealth held by a handful of elite who have fled the country and its government officials.

From looking at Putin's policies and actions, it seems as though he places his own interests as his greatest priority. As Putin continues to follow this course of action, the United States will eventually have to decide whether or not to support a government of such great corruption.



EDITORIALS

Minority students sue Abercrombie and Fitch Company

Recently, civil rights attorneys announced the settlement of a class action lawsuit, Gonzalez et al. v. Abercrombie & Fitch, compelling the retail clothing corporation to pay \$40 million to Latinos, African Americans, Asian Americans, and female applicants and employees who claimed they had been discriminated against.

In addition, the settlement, which was issued by the U.S. District Court Judge Susan Illston requires the company to implement several policies to promote diversity and prevent discrimination based on race and/or gender.

Initially, the law suit was filed in the U.S. District Court in San Francisco approximately half a year ago by the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, the Asian Pacific American Legal Center, and the law firm of Lieff, Cabraser, Heimann, & Bernstein LLP. The plaintiff included nine young adults of color, several of whom were students and graduates of the University of California and Stanford University who were denied jobs or were refused promotion exclusively based on their race.

The settlement urges the store to pursue "benchmarks" for hiring those of diverse ethnicity. Abercrombie &

Fitch must report its progress toward diversity at regular intervals to both the plaintiffs' attorneys and to a Special Master. Abercrombie & Fitch must also hire twenty-five recruiters who will hire minority employees. The company may not target certain fraternities or sororities for recruitment. The company will also be naming a Vice President For Diversity and will provide diversity training for all hiring authorities.

This lawsuit is a glowing example of our generation's commitment to civil rights and equal protection under the law. *The Schreiber Times* commends those brave undergraduate students who dared to challenge this retail giant. While our generation is often criticized for being close-minded and selfish, efforts like this prove that we are passionate about important societal issues.

Gonzales' victory reflects a changing mentality among today's young adults. Even prior to this case, many teenagers expressed serious concern about Abercrombie's blatant discrimination in hiring. A number of youths choose not to shop at the store because they are so vehemently opposed to the form of racism that it exemplifies.

The lawsuit sends an important

message to retailers across America. It is unacceptable in today's society for clothing stores to racially discriminate because they deem Asians, Black people, and other minorities as anti-thetical to their "all-American" image. All teenagers need not be blonde and

blue-eyed to be considered physically acceptable by the corporate world. By complying with the Court's ruling, Abercrombie & Fitch is finally taking steps toward truly embodying the American way—offering equal opportunity to all job applicants.

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

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

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

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

The rise of prescription drugs

Many teenagers are turning to legal drugs to ease their problems

By Tom Lisi
Opinions Editor

A new "epidemic" is taking form in the United States. David Amsden of *New York Magazine* reported just last year a startling portrayal of the lifestyle some modern teenagers face. Timothy Chernyaev, a fifteen-year-old New Yorker, was not feeling himself for quite awhile, and after looking through psychology textbooks, diagnosed himself as clinically depressed.

He then proceeded to call a friend who had a running prescription of Prozac, an SSRI type anti-depressant that alters serotonin receptors in the brain. He wanted to feel better. "I felt serene almost. I wasn't sure if it was the placebo effect, or if it really was working. I just felt kind of numb to everything. You don't get your lows, but you don't get your highs either, which can be comforting."

Was Timothy actually clinically depressed? Who knows? He didn't go to a psychologist. He was clearly going through hard emotional times in his life, but the issue of whether his mental state was abnormal or dangerous to himself he did not portray or consider to himself. Timothy is one example of a rapidly growing problem that has already reached an international scale: the abuse of prescription drugs.

Within the past thirty years, pharmaceutical companies have developed and refined countless prescription drugs that treat a vast array of different "disorders" or "emotional problems." Along with this surge in the success of prescription drugs has come the problem of their abuse, most notably among teenagers. There are more and more Timothy Chernyaevs each year, and drugs like Prozac are being dealt on the streets to teenagers just as cocaine or heroin would.

Yes, prescription medicines are proven to be very successful and necessary for curing the problems of a large body of teenagers around the country and the world, whether it be Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD), Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) or clinical depression. At the same time, this surge in the drugs' success and that experienced by the pharmaceutical companies has, in a sense, backlashed.

American society, as a whole, has grown to regard drugs like Zoloft, Ritalin, and Prozac as a panacea rather than a delicate medicine that has the ability to significantly alter one's brain chemistry. If prematurely or incorrectly prescribed, these drugs could have highly destructive consequences.

Between the early 1990s and 2001, the prescription rate of antidepressants to those under eighteen tripled. In 2002 alone, there were eleven million antidepressant prescriptions written for either adolescents or children in the U.S. Much of the increase in this statistic could be attributed to a growing understanding of the drugs.

Years ago, many were uncomfortable with the idea of drugs that "make you happy." No one wanted to be considered "crazy." It seems that taboo has been practically killed off, taking a turn for the worse. Now people, especially teenagers, are so anxious for the easy way out, they will pop anything into their mouths that might help them.

Though it may seem ironic that the abuse of legal drugs is under the radar while drugs sold through the black market are heavily monitored by the police, it is the truth. How is this happening? There are obvious loopholes in the American health care system. The most common is that an individual will visit dozens of doctors and ask for the same prescription of the desired drug.

The job of a doctor is to assess his/her patient and make a diagnosis based on the examination. Instead pharmaceutical companies have turned it around, and made prescription drugs a commercial product, no less than a car. Patients are no longer patients in the world of medicine, but consumers.

The truth is that many adolescents and adults do not fully comprehend the seriousness of psychotropic

drugs. The modern teenager in wealthy urban and sometimes suburban areas has developed pressures and lifestyles that have closed the gap between teenager and adult, a gap whose definition is very important. Teenagers in a community like Port Washington often find themselves under extreme stress, mostly academic.

Many teenagers in affluent areas are now trophy teenagers for parents. No matter what the cost on the psyche or the interests of the child, having a child accepted into a prestigious or high school is a status symbol. Teenagers who fall under high stress to meet deadlines and expectations, much like the pressures of adulthood, are extremely vulnerable mentally.

Antidepressant drugs last year accumulated twelve billion dollars. Pharmacy giants such as Pfizer and GlaxoSmith-Kline have observed the trend in American culture of taking the easy way out. In modern day, everything is, "Gimme this...and NOW." We have McDonald's, Easy Cheese and we have prescription drugs. Ever since the latch-key generation in the 1980s, the demographic most targeted in marketing is none other than teenagers.

The pharmaceutical companies are no exception, though they should be. One way in which they are reaching a greater consumer base is through the terminology of diagnoses. First it was depression, and then came social-anxiety disorder, and now we have a drug for "general-anxiety disorder." The description of general-anxiety disorder on the website of Xanax, also an antidepressant, states "vague feelings that something bad is going to happen." It would be safe to assume that the entire world population has experienced these "vague" feelings at one time or another. Does that make us fit for medication, or merely human?

While many teenagers in this situation have looked to alcohol and various drugs for comfort, stealing a Prozac or two, or three, from a parent's bottle is becoming increasingly common. Recently, American society has done very

"American society, as a whole, has grown to regard drugs like Zoloft, Ritalin, and Prozac as a panacea rather than a delicate medicine that has the ability to significantly alter one's brain chemistry."

little to differentiate an actual chemical imbalance in the brain that can only be treated with these drugs, from a kid that is simply going through a rough patch in his/her life.

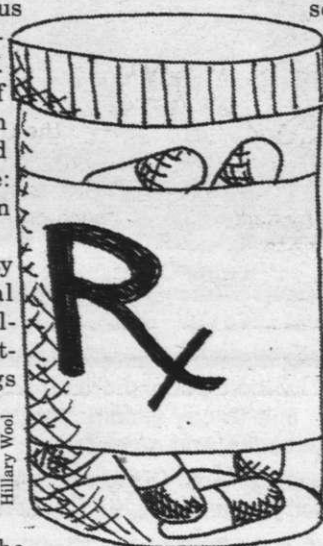
Perhaps not in the world of medicine, but among the general population, depression has now become synonymous with clinical depression, and there is a clear difference. Depression is a mental state that the majority of people experience at some point in their lives. To properly conquer a depressed state, the individual usually has to change their lifestyle or mindset through some sort of self-evaluation. Instead of treating the inability of some individuals to cure themselves, many, especially teenagers, think it is appropriate to simply treat the depression through drugs, even if they are in fact mentally fit to get themselves out of it on their own.

It is a common misconception among teenagers and even adults that because these drugs are approved by the FDA and are regulated by the federal government after years of testing, they are safe to take, even if without one's own prescription. Another likely train of logic is that if one sees someone close who was once down in the dumps and now all of a sudden a happy, great guy, why not say, "Hey, I'm depressed just like him, why shouldn't I have the drugs that he has?" The logic is easy to understand and relate to. If it's legal, it can't be bad for me. This could not be farther from the truth. This is a serious case of ignorance that is not being dealt with on a national scale.

The powers of these drugs are potent and therefore pose a serious danger, threatening to affect how we deal with our emotions. Many kids who take these drugs, sometimes by stealing them from their parents, buying them from friends who have a prescription, or just by an ill-judged prescription by their doctor become dependent on the emotional effects.

Instead of experiencing life's ups and downs, and getting through both by themselves, drugs like Prozac are known to eliminate those fluctuations and numb the person's emotions to a comfortable medium that many find difficult to leave. When some do get off the drug, they find that they have forgotten how to cope with the emotions that they did not have to deal with while on the drug.

The plague of prescription drug abuse is getting larger and larger as these drugs become more and more prevalent. While we battle on the streets all those heavily demonized illegal drugs, more and more American adults and teenagers are falling into serious addiction of drugs that are legal and regulated by our very own FDA.



Hillary Wool



Students Dodge

Schreiber's first dodgeball tournament raises \$1300 for two charities

BY Emily Mottahedeh
Staff Writer

The wise words of Patches O'Houlihan in the hit movie *Dodgeball*—"If you can dodge a wrench, you can dodge a ball"—proved true for the "Athletically Intimidating Dodgeball Squad" (Team AIDS). Granted, they didn't have a former dodgeball prodigy on their side, but Team AIDS still managed to sweep Schreiber's first ever dodgeball tournament.

As the team walked off the gym floor with their new "Schreiber Dodgeball Champs" shirts that they won from Student Council, the intensity in each of their eyes and the sweat dripping down their faces showed their determination. The champions of dodgeball were juniors Chris Doscas, Brett Friedman, Lauren Hanat, Matt Lazar, Tom Lisi, Johnny Marx, Carmi Schickler, and Maggie Spreitzer.

The eight juniors showed team unity by wearing matching, homemade shirts. They left the event knowing not only that they had whooped some dodgeball butt, but that they had also contributed to a fundraising activity.

"It was a really fun tournament," said Lazar. "It was nice to see everyone getting so into it. The satisfaction of winning was even better knowing that not only did I beat all my friends, but I also helped raise a lot of money."

Some teams took the dodgeball attire to the extreme, going all out with specially-made uniforms, displaying everything from knee-high socks to custom-made shirts.

Sophomore Michelle Doscas and the rest of Team "Here To Own" (H₂O) walked confidently into the tournament with their high white socks, royal blue shorts, and personalized white t-shirts with "H₂O" written on them in black.

The success of the dodgeball tournament was enormous; the Student Council raised over \$1300.

"It was one of the best high school events I have attended in my four years here," Robyn Schechter of the executive council said. "It was so great to see everyone so involved and having such a great time. The tournament was a great success for us at Student Council and hopefully our other events will be just as successful."

The funds were split between two charities, the Cancer Center for Kids and the Children's Medical Fund. Each was given \$500 and the remainder of the money was given to a separate cause chosen by the Student Council.

Student Council annually welcomes the holiday season by taking part in a fundraising activity for one or several charities. The members of the Student Council vote on one or more organizations that they feel will best benefit from the money raised.

Student Council used the registration fees for each team to collect money. The cost of the tournament was five dollars for each team member and two dollars for spectators. Each team was required to have at least two female members.

After years of being deprived of their basic dodgeball needs in gym classes, many students were quick to praise and approve the idea. From the moment the tournament was announced, everyone knew that it would be a huge success. Word of the tournament spread like wildfire, and soon the cafeteria became a chaotic mess of friendly competition. As teams were created, friends temporarily became rivals.

The tournament itself took place on Monday, December 13, with a total of twenty-six teams competing. The games began at 5:30 p.m. and lasted until about 8:00 p.m.

The gym was filled with an outpouring of players, spectators, teachers, and food vendors on that cold, snowy Monday afternoon. The event was not only for those competing, but anyone interested in helping a great cause.

Whether people went to cheer their friends on or simply wanted to see their classmates get pegged with balls, it didn't matter: they were still a part of a great Schreiber event. After the tournament was over, most participants walked out of the gym with smiles on their faces.

Even those who did not make it past the first or second round still had a great time.

"We may not have won the competition, but it was still a lot of fun," said sophomore Jason Lifton of "Team Veto." "It felt great to be part of such a great event that helped raise money for two amazing charities."



1. "Team Fire Ball," including sophomores Dave Rafe, Will Frappalo, Jesse Stein, and Danny Goldin, sports their matching uniforms, knee high socks, and game faces.

2. Senior Jared Isaacson, modeling knee high socks and a sweatband, gets angry as he hurls the ball at the other team.

3. Junior June Kim is amazed at the strength of his own shot while senior Danielle Bourguet laughs at the play.

4. Senior Greg Mallon defies the laws of gravity as he throws a ball at the other team.

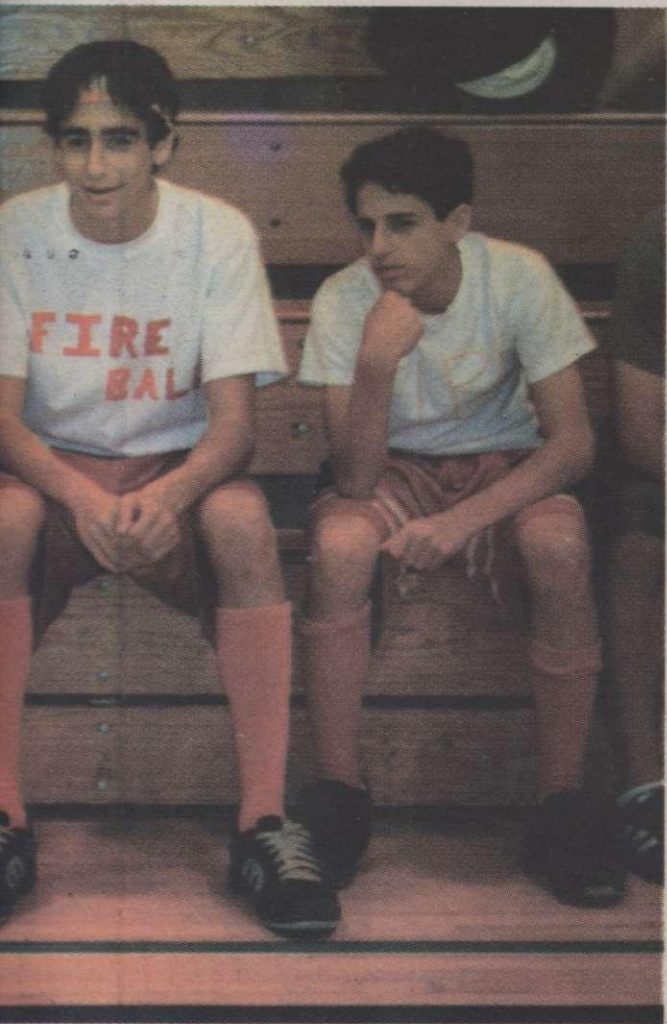
5. Senior David Verni takes "winding up for a shot" to new levels.

6. Team AIDS, the dodgeball champs, stand with referees science teacher Mr. Don Fish and special education teacher Ms. Laura Brazicki. Team members included juniors Chris Doscas, Lauren Hanat, Matt Lazar, Tom Lisi, Brett Friedman, Maggie Spreitzer, and Carmi Schickler.

[All photos by Steve Lee.]



ge for Charity



Schreiber clubs contribute to tsunami aid

By Andrew Gross
Features Editor

On Wednesday, January 5th, after school, Room 117 was crowded with over thirty students. These students were not remaining at school hours after the final bell to learn. Instead, they were giving their free time to help make yarn bracelets which were then sold to students, faculty, and other members of the community, to try and raise money for the innocent victims of the tsunami in Southeast Asia. This effort, organized by *The Schreiber Times*, was part of a larger movement in our community to contribute to charities aiding in the aftermath of this disaster.

Ms. Pellett is very passionate about the cause, feeling that this cooperative effort provided students with a very fulfilling experience and the gratification of helping others less fortunate.

"I have been so touched by the outpouring of student support for this cause," Pellett said. "Students were coming up to me in the hallway asking how they could give their time and effort to this project, whether by generating publicity or making and selling bracelets. I was so impressed by their obvious maturity and understanding that charity is not just giving money, but giving of the self in some fundamental way."

The bracelets were sold for two dollars each, but larger donations were encouraged. Hundreds of students jumped at the opportunity to help the cause, very proudly wearing the bracelets as a sign of their participation.

"Since the bracelet of string is a symbol of connection between people in Asian cultures, this fundraiser allows students to

feel a special solidarity with the suffering people of South and Southeast Asia," Pellett said.

All money made from this venture will be donated to the organization, Save the Children, which the organizers felt was most fitting considering that the efforts were carried out mostly by high school students. To date, the students have raised a total of \$2300. The bracelets are still being sold in the school's Stamps and Stuff store and in the English Resource Center.

Another club contributing money to the cause through fundraising is Campus Action, in conjunction with the school publication, *Common Sense*. These two organizations sponsored a concert on Friday, January 21st.

Junior Jordan Thaler, who runs the club with juniors Brian Tashman and Evelyn Astor, is hopeful that this concert will be as successful as the Night of a Thousand Dinners, which raised over nine hundred dollars for victims of landmines. All money earned from admission to the concert will be donated to Unicef, a well-known children's charity.

The bands performing in the concert are Fantastic Damage, Vahina Facce, Overcoming, Widmer, Anachronous, and Fact or Fiction, among others. Past fundraisers involving musical performances, including Battle of the Bands, and several Landmark concerts have been overwhelmingly successful, and the organizers have every intention of achieving equal success with this effort.

In addition, both Student Outreach, and Student Council have collected donations for tsunami relief. Student Council carried jars to encourage any donations from students. While the money has not

yet been counted, significant results are expected. Students Outreach donated a total of \$380.

These fundraisers are all helping to offset the tremendous damage caused by one of the worst tsunamis in history. On December 26th, the world saw one of its most devastating natural disasters. A tectonic shift resulted in a tsunami so destructive that it has left hundreds of thousands without homes, in dire need of aid.

These school efforts tie into national campaigns of aid. In this climate of desperation, many nations, the United States included, are stepping in to provide aid to the nations in need, through the donation of billions of dollars in aid. According to news.yahoo.com, the United States has donated about 350 million dollars, while smaller nations have donated far more, such as Australia, which has contributed 764 million dollars. This is an extremely severe discrepancy; Australia has more than doubled the United States' contribution despite the fact that the United States is one of the most economically powerful nations in the world.

While the vast majority of Schreiber students and community members support these fundraising efforts on a school level, and encourage even greater national aid, there is a small percentage who feel that the sudden support for tsunami relief is inappropriate given other factors of the current political climate. Senior Dan Febrer, for example, questions the importance of this event in comparison to other longstanding world issues.

"While the disaster in Southeast Asia may seem significant to many, it is far from it," Febrer said. "In Indonesia, the amount of people killed by the tsunami

will be replaced in a mere ten days as a result of standard population growth."

Febrer contends that our school, a government institution, should not involve itself in the relief effort. "Our school, as a governmental institution created to provide the education of the adolescent population of Port Washington, should give no money, as it is not its function," Febrer said.

Febrer disagreed with governmental humanitarian efforts, urging the United States to donate money only for its own diplomatic benefit. Regarding this lack of humanitarian aid to a region in need, Febrer said, "The nation's reputation, as I understand it, is of an amoral beast stumbling into other people's yards when it is not wanted. Therefore, it would be most fitting indeed."

Febrer noted that anyone under the impression that United States participation in tsunami aid would improve its reputation was "not only ignorant of foreign policy, but also is blindly idealistic."

On the other hand, most feel compelled to help the unthinkable number of people whose lives have been ruined as a result of this disaster. Many feel that both ordinary citizens and our government have a responsibility to help other countries in need.

"When countries like Australia are surpassing us and Canada just matched us in terms of millions of dollars, that says something," said Thaler. "Just look at the amount of money we take in every year and their population compared to ours. We're supposed to be the country that is first and foremost giving help to other countries and we should just be giving more."

★ Science CORNER

What is a tsunami?

By Gulus Emre
Assistant Features Editor

Recently, Southeast Asia was devastated by a powerful tidal wave, also known as a tsunami. The word *tsunami* stems from the Japanese word for "harbor wave." This misnomer suggests a minor flood, but a tsunami is anything but small ripples in the harbor.

A tsunami is different from typical wind-generated waves because it is composed of shallow-water waves with huge wavelengths, building up over a long time span. The wavelength of a tsunami, (the distance from the peak of one wave to the peak of the next,) can reach over 100 kilometers or approximately 62 miles. In addition, the time between waves is also very long in a tsunami, lasting several hours. Instead of typical ocean waves that we are accustomed to which roll into shore right after one another, tsunami waves may hit the shoreline every hour.

Tsunamis are started by underwater earthquakes, which permanently uplift or down-drop the ocean floor. These shifts of the continental plates in turn alter the equilibrium of the waves on the surface, causing a massive amount of displaced water.

These waves appear small in the beginning; in fact, their massive height

cannot be seen until the waves gain momentum and the wave peaks come closer to one another causing the wave to swell. As the wave approaches a shore, the water depth decreases, causing the wave to slow down, becoming even larger and increasing by up to two miles.

When the tsunami does hit land, it is able to strip the beaches of sand covering, vegetation, and man-made structures.

Tsunamis can reach 30 meters, (about 98 feet) in height, which is enough to flood entire coastal towns and destroy structures close to the shore. When the waves finally hit a shore, they can engulf entire cities, as the world witnessed on December 26, 2004.

There have been several historic tsunamis, including the 992 tsunami in Nicaragua and the 1994 tsunami in the Philippines. The last "megatsunami" that the world experienced was in 1958, at Lituya Bay, Alaska, where wave heights reached 1,700 feet. This particular tsunami was set apart from others because of its status as a "megatsunami," meaning that it was caused by a major landslide, causing an even larger wave.

More than 1.5 million
children have been hurt
or lost their families
in the Tsunami Disaster
in South and Southeast Asia



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groups @ schreiber: Debate

Freshman discusses case writing, rebuttals, and being in a close-knit group

By Erin Szulman

Contributing Writer

Values, criteria, contentions, sub-points, claims, warrants, impacts, flowing, extending, cross-ex, crystallizing, voters... just a sample of the debate lingo I heard on my first day of practice. Overwhelmed, I feared what was in store for the school year. After arriving late to the first meeting this summer—my first *faux pas*—I entered the room, anxious as to what was in store. Luckily, I saw a few people I knew among the seniors, juniors and sophomores seated around the table. I took my place and began. It took some time getting comfortable around these strangers, but all of the freshmen, including me, managed to do it. Before I knew it, I was writing my first case.

When I first heard about debate, I was excited. I thought I was good at arguing, even though I later found out that's not all there is to it. I knew a few kids who were considering joining, but ultimately, the prospect of friendships was not what convinced me to try it. And while some kids join the debate team due to parental pressure, it wasn't that way for me. I was responsible for my own decision.

The debate team, an extremely demanding extracurricular activity, can take over some debaters' lives. Debate is looked upon favorably by many colleges.

The debate team consists of high school students from all grades, as well as our coach, Mr. Jake Gelfand. Throughout the school year, the team travels around the country competing in tournaments along with other high school students. Debaters don't have to attend every single tournament, but many of the varsity members do. The activity can be overwhelming, and it takes some time to get used to.

My daily schedule has been immensely affected by my involvement with the debate team. Not only does the team meet once a week, usually on Tuesdays for a little less than two hours, but some of my weekends are taken up by tournaments at educational institutions throughout the country. I am forced to limit what I do after school.

Case writing takes the most time. For every resolution, or topic, each debater must write two cases, one for the affirmative side, and one for the negative. An affirmative case tends to be around 1,150 words, a negative around 600-700. I don't know if that sounds like a lot to you, but it sure does for me. Case writing certainly takes the most time. My cases can take anywhere from a few days to a couple weeks to write, depending on what the topic is. When I have free time, if at all, I prepare for upcoming tournaments. For example, I write rebuttals for any arguments my opponent might make against me. By doing this, I have pre-written what I can say after my opponent

makes a certain rebuttal. Little things like that help debaters succeed. Generally, the more tournaments you attend on the topic, the better you get and the easier it becomes.

Debate can be a lot of work, especially with homework from all of my regular classes piling up. It amazes me how I can pull so much off. Frequently, students have to quit the debate team because it's so much work. Besides actual work, there's a few debating websites that keep me and other debaters informed of the latest results from tournaments, photos, and ways to improve during the next tournament. The key is balance, and that I must say, is not easy.

As time goes on, the team gets closer. Nobody feels awkward asking someone else for help, especially a senior. Spending all that time together changes a lot of things. We're no longer strangers anymore. Most people feel comfortable around others on the team.

Debate doesn't bring along only academic sacrifices, there are social ones as well. Debaters are conflicted between going away for the weekend and hanging at home. The schedule of the tournament can be pretty hectic, usually giving me a max of six hours of sleep. Surprisingly, by the time my first round starts, I'm awake. When we get back from the tournament, I usually have a lot of homework to do, limiting my sleep on Sunday nights as well. It's a lot to handle.

Being on a renowned team is interesting. I think it's amazing that some of the individuals on the team are nationally ranked debaters. At first, I felt that being part of the team would cause me to live up to certain expectations, but it doesn't. The only difference is other debaters have actually heard of my school, and know of certain students on our team. I not only feel comfortable being the debater I am, everyone is at their own level and pace, but privileged as well to be in the presence of such a great team and coach.

Students gain so many things from debate. Every tournament you meet new people, make new friends, and recognize debaters from other tournaments.

"Debate has helped me in school more than any actual school subject," first year debater, sophomore Dan Stewart tells me. "I learn from debate everyday."

The debating world is a whole new place, along with a new sense of community and belonging. Debate opens my mind to ideas and our society, if not big words. I not only get to do great things, but see great places as well. Numerous tournaments are at colleges and universities. It's really nice to see the campuses, and college isn't too far away.

"Spending a weekend at an Ivy League university is always a worthwhile experience, but when that weekend is filled with academic adventures, it's fantastic," says Coach Gelfand.

Some should look beyond "brand name" colleges

By Mandy Mendez

Contributing Writer

The biggest question that runs through the minds of high school students as they contemplate their futures is, "What college should I go to?" Everybody wants to go to college, but there are many setbacks that discourage students and persuade them to get a job after high school instead of attending college before pursuing a career. Financial setbacks and the "name brand" college theory often affect seniors as they try to plan ahead.

The "name brand" theory regards the colleges that are prestigious and seem like the "best" ones. These are the schools that everyone knows about and dreams of attending. In the beginning of high school, I wanted to go to New York University, a "name brand" college. During my junior year, I thought to myself, "Wait, why do I want to go to NYU?" The only reason I wanted to go there was to look smart and impress my parents, family, and friends. Now, I am reconsidering this, wondering whether the "name brand" colleges are really the best ones for everyone. Yes, they will make you look smarter and give you a good reputation—but the costs are extremely high. Also, some of them aren't the best for what you want to major in, and they aren't so different from other colleges. Finally, they are extremely difficult to get into. Some people don't even go to college because they didn't get into any of the "best" ones. They give up on higher education simply because they don't want to be seen at a community college or lower-ranked four-year college.

When buying a car, some people choose to buy brand new ones because they want to show them off and be seen in a new

car. There's nothing wrong with that, but others opt to buy used cars that are good quality nonetheless. What's the difference between the two cars? One is new and one is used, but both cars can take you from one place to another—right?

Since last year, I have been enrolled in a cosmetology course at Barry Tech (BOCES) in Westbury, New York. I chose to take this course because I found it interesting

and thought it would be just a hobby—something I could do on the side of a career. At the time, I wanted to become a high school psychologist because I loved helping people and listening to them when they needed someone to talk to. However, while enrolled in the cosmetology course, I began to consider pursuing cosmetology as a career. Now, as a senior in high school, that's what I really want to do. My plan for the future is to graduate high school, then go to college and major in business management while working at a hair salon. I want to go to college so that I can learn about the business industry, and open up my own successful hair salon. I don't want to spend thousands of dollars on

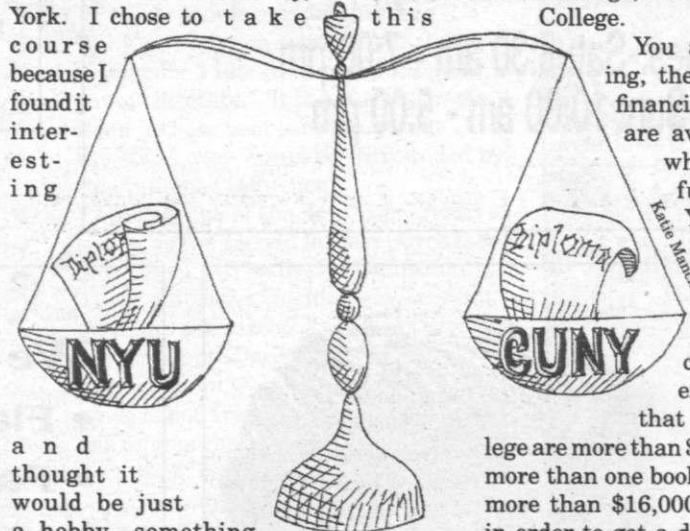
a "name brand" college when I can spend less on another college that will teach me the same things. This way I will hopefully be able to save money for my future salon. Instead of applying to the college I always wanted to go to, I applied to the City Universities of New York: Queensborough, Borough of Manhattan, Medgar Evers College, LaGuardia, and Lehman College.

You are probably thinking, there are scholarships, financial aid, and loans that are available for students who cannot afford the full cost of college.

Yes, that's true, but a higher education at any institution is still pricy. It's not just the name brand colleges that are so expensive. The books

that students buy for college are more than \$50 each and you need more than one book per year. Tuition is more than \$16,000 each semester, and in order to get a degree you need to be in school for two or more years. Plus, there is the high cost of room, board, and transportation. If going to college weren't so expensive, there would be a lot more people going to college and starting careers, the unemployment rate would decrease, and there would be fewer people struggling to live a rewarding life.

Remember, as long as you set your goals and strive you will be happy and successful. Both cars will get you from one place to another—the only difference is that one is expensive and new whereas the other is less costly but good quality nonetheless.



BOCES: Helping students succeed

By Wilmer Chamul

Contributing Writer

BOCES is a great program that students enroll in during their junior or senior year. In this program they can receive up to seven credits for high school by going just three hours a day.

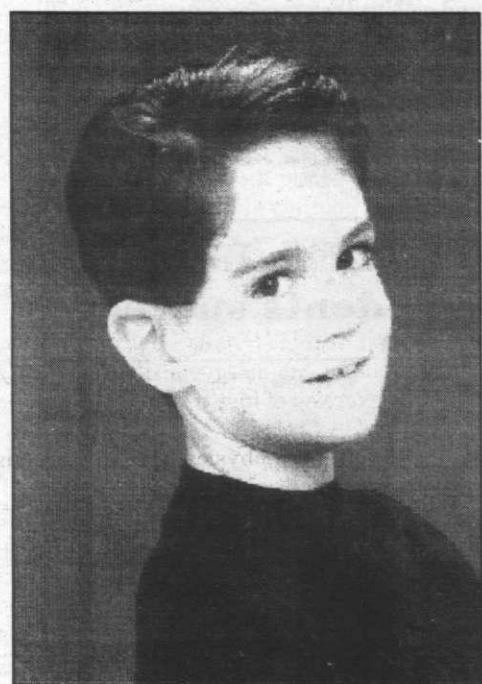
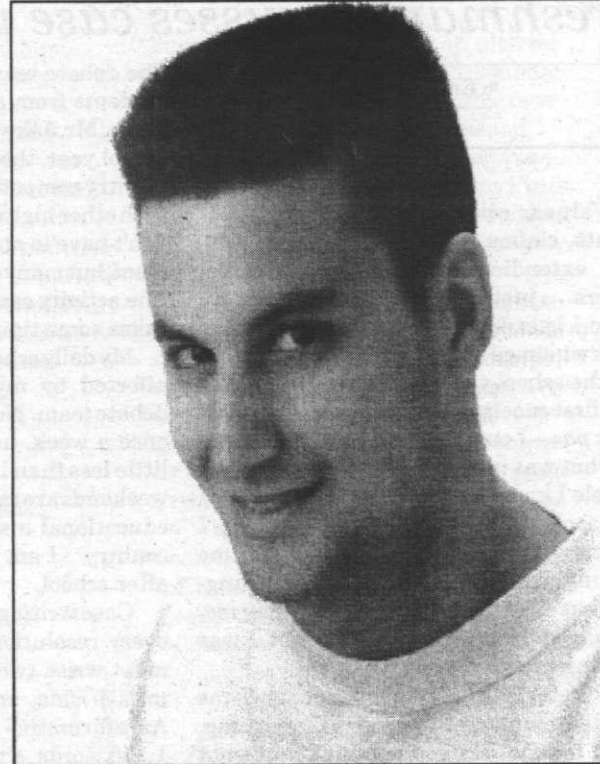
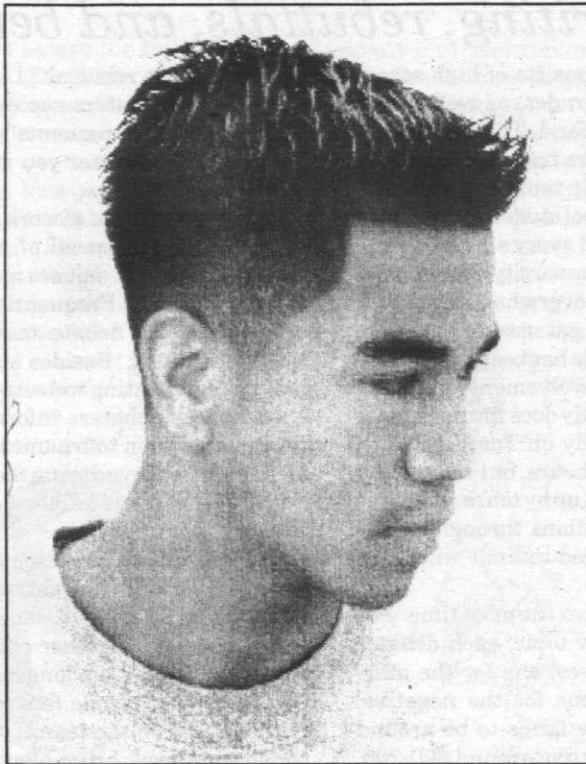
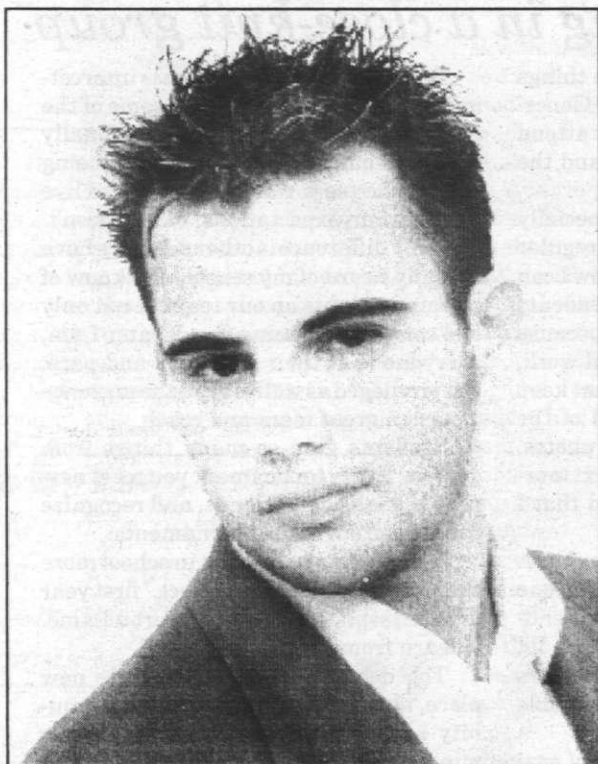
BOCES also has many semester-long programs that students can take to prepare for their future careers and to help students receive well-paying jobs after high school. These programs, among many other great careers, train people to be culinary artists, law enforcement officers, computer technicians, dental assistants, and physical therapy assistants. BOCES offers a great opportunity to combine schoolwork and a career, and helps graduates get jobs in their specialized careers.

BOCES offers many other programs as well. For example, BOCES offers classes students can take if they cannot fit required classes in their schedules. Students who attend only two times a week can receive full credit for science, math or social studies. BOCES also has scholarships to help students pay for college.

In case you have any questions about the program, ask your guidance counselor. The BOCES program can help you get started on the career of your choice and walk on the path of success into college.

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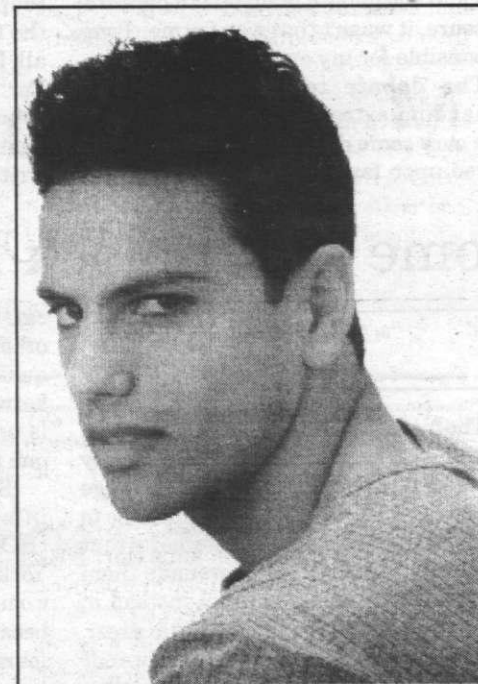
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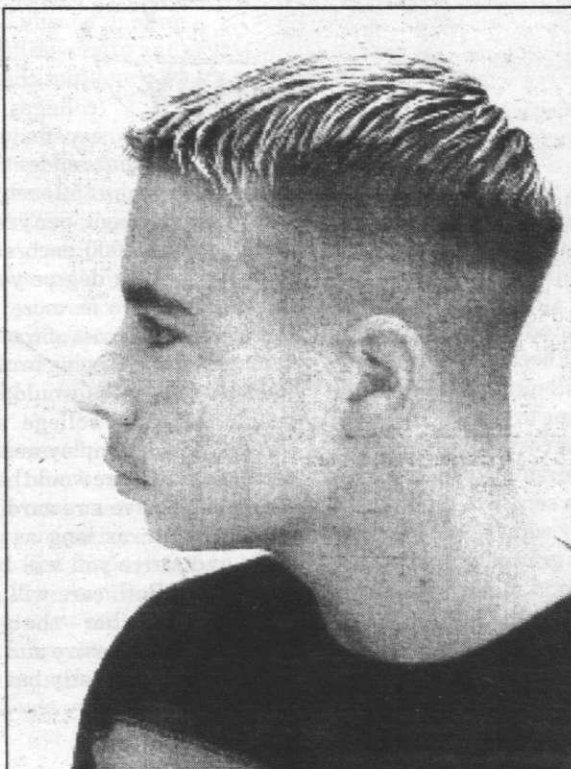


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The eccentric personal "accessories" of 2004

The technologies of JewelEye and color-changing cars

By Kyra Siegel
Contributing Writer

Last year saw trends that made their mark on the world, but who would have thought that 2004 would bring us eye-ball jewelry, skin literature and emoting cars?

Although many of these inventions will probably be impractical, "they are still valuable because they are fun to play with," said junior Gaby Monsanto.

The first peculiar trend, JewelEye, already the latest craze in the Netherlands, has taken pierced eyelids and eyebrows to the next level. Now, a piece of jewelry can be placed directly inside the eye.

Developed by Gerrit Melles, an ophthalmic surgeon at the Institute for Innovative Ocular Surgery, JewelEye can be placed into the conjunctiva, the eye's thin transparent membrane, for about \$4,000. This procedure takes about ten minutes and is relatively harmless, because the jewel is sealed in the eye, never exposed to bacteria.

Customers can choose a variety of shapes for the jewelry—from hearts and crescent moons to music notes and financial denotations—to add a subtle,

personalized look.

"It's not like you'll pass someone on the street," said Melles in an AOL interview, "and say, 'Whoa, what's in that person's eye?'"

Instead, it is only distracting when looking face-to-face. But do not fear if you're indecisive and prone to having second thoughts; the jewelry is removable.

If your parents won't allow you to get JewelEye for your sweet sixteen, you may opt for a slightly traditional form of self-decoration: tattoos.

This gift, however, would form part of a larger literary movement. Author

Shelley Jackson is publishing her latest short story, "Skin," on (literally) the limbs, torsos, and backsides of 2,095 volunteers from around the world. One word of the story is brandished on each volunteer's body part.

The participants sign contracts releasing the author from any responsibility for health problems, body image disorders, job-loss, or relationship difficulties that may result from the tattooing process.

Already, a variety of volunteers—including mothers, and librarians—have decided to serve as human billboards. In a *New York Times Magazine* article, Jackson promises she will try to attend the funerals of the tat-

tooed people who make up her story.

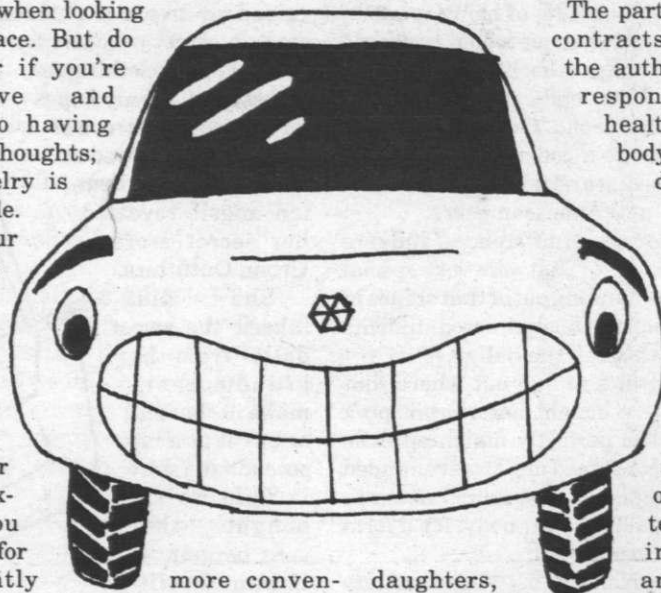
Finally, a car that shows human emotions might be the ideal acquisition for someone who believes the modified saying, "we are what we drive." As many of you approach the legal driving age, imagine steering a car that "wags" its antenna and conveys a variety of different moods through "facial" expressions.

Patented by four Japanese engineers for Toyota, this "emotional" car is complete with eyes and eyebrows and can adjust its body height, colors, and hood designs.

When the owner approaches, the car lights up a happy orange-yellow. If it runs out of gas, it lights up blue, and when it swerves sharply or brakes too hard, the car turns an angry red.

The car's horn can be altered to express thanks, ask permission for a lane change, or ventilate road rage. However, even if the new car does successfully add a new degree of self-expression for drivers, it is doubtful that it will replace the most familiar method of interaction on the road: the one-finger salute.

In retrospect, 2004 ushered in many intriguing accessories. Although these might not be the most practical innovations, at least they are respectable in that they are so bizarre!



more conventional form of self-decoration:

daughters, ians—have

as human billboards. In a *New York Times Magazine* article, Jackson promises she will try to attend the funerals of the tat-

Mowing the lawn: unconventional exercise

How household chores can become your daily workout

By Melinda Salamán
Staff Writer

I love sports. I love the rush I get when the team wins. I love the way I feel after playing in a lacrosse or field hockey game.

"Playing soccer provides me with the best rush," said senior Joanne Herz. "The jolt from a mix of competition and physical exertion is just the best feeling."

But I can also understand why not everybody shares my love of sports. For those who don't like to run and lift weights, for those who want exercise without joining a team, all hope is not lost.

One of my favorite activities in gym is yoga. I was first introduced to this exercise during my freshman year in fitness-gym.

The practice of yoga is often misunderstood because of the serenity felt after practicing it. After one period of yoga, I have a new outlook on the rest of my day; I feel calm and ready to handle challenges.

Those who are skeptical about the benefits of yoga are often those who do not know much about it.

Yoga is an exercise that requires a person to hold difficult positions for extended periods of time (controlled by the rate of breathing) in order to strengthen muscles.

It is truly an all-over body workout. Different yoga positions utilize the arms, the core muscles, and the legs. I feel it is one of the best ways to gain strength without participating in a sport or hitting the weight room.

"Yoga is invigo-

rating, both mentally and physically," said senior Liz Pomerantz.

Another exercise that is extremely beneficial is walking. The power of walking is very often underappreciated, and that is truly a shame. Walking, when done with the appropriate intensity, can strengthen the lower body.

However, a simple walk from one class to another is not considered exercise. What I mean by walking is power walking; walking for extended periods of time at a pace that is challenging.

To further increase the intensity, a person can carry weights or walk up and down hills. Although a lot of people don't see walking as a form of exercise, it is truly helpful. Many people feel that a movement we do everyday—that is to say, walking—could not possibly be exercise. But try it; go out onto the track for an hour and walk at an intense speed without stopping...you will definitely feel the benefits.

Gym teacher Ms. Cooper has elaborated on the benefits of fitness exercises to her class. She describes the multiple physical exercises, other than team sports, that students can partake in to engage both their body and their mind.

Whether it is professional dance or dancing to your own beat, dance is definitely an exercise that burns a lot of calories. Although dance is often not respected, the non-stop movement of

your body can definitely be counted as exercise.

Whether it's taking salsa dancing (which is extremely enjoyable), jazz, ballet lessons, or even just turning on one of your favorite songs for five minutes and moving until the end, dancing works your entire body, from head to toe.

These next exercises will certainly make your parents happy: and that's household chores. Unbeknownst to many, doing chores around the house can certainly burn calories.

First, let's go outside...

Mowing your lawn burns many calories if you don't sit down on it and take a ride. Pushing a regular mower for half hour can burn more calories than if you watch the gardeners do it. While you push your twenty-five to thirty-pound mower, you are working your lower body and arms.

During the fall, my mother often asks me and my sisters to rake leaves. Although we undoubtedly

complain, there is no denying the physical benefits of this energy consuming activity. The exercise of just the action of raking and collecting leaves is obvious.

Even more physically advantageous is shoveling snow. This powdery, cold, white substance is heavier than leaves, and therefore requires more energy to shovel. Who would have guessed that one of the most annoying chores is one of the most beneficial? While you are clearing your driveway, you are also strengthening your arms, your legs, and your chances of getting hot chocolate when you go back inside.

And speaking of going inside...

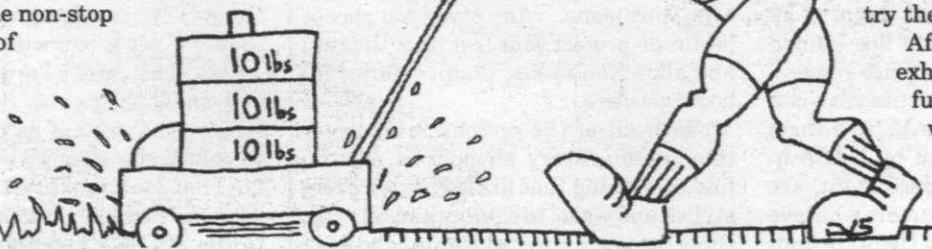
That will not stop your parents from asking you to do more chores. One of the chores that may in fact physically help you is vacuuming and anything to do with climbing stairs. The physical advantages of climbing stairs is undeniable; climbing works your entire lower body and isn't stressful at all.

Vacuuming, my mother reminds me, exercises your arms and sometimes your legs. Pushing a heavy vacuum cleaner is one of the little things that will go a long way.

So there you have it folks: six methods to exercise if you are not really a "team player."

The benefit can be understood firsthand if you heed my advice. In fact, try them consecutively.

After it all, you won't feel exhausted, but strengthened and fulfilled. And for those of you who are "sports-team" people, congratulations and see you on the field.



Dress code USA: Culture shock brings it all together

European overdressing vs. American dress down style

By Charlotte Gentsch

Contributing Writer

"Hi, I'm Lisa. Are you a new student? You must be from Europe!" This was my first contact with a Schreiber High School student. I turned around and looked into the broadly smiling face of an Asian girl to express my astonishment at her accurate prediction.

"Yes, I am an exchange student from Germany, but how do you know?" I said.

Her answer was simple and direct: "You dress differently than everybody else."

Shorts, tennis socks, jogging suits, and sneakers in all shapes and colors: that's how many Germans picture Americans. While I never used to pay attention to these clichés, I soon realized that the images hold little truth.

I have a dream of becoming a fashion designer; I like to get inspiration from what I see people wearing on the streets, in stores, and in school. Since I've come to the United States, one word continues

to appear to me over and over:

Shapeless.

I see girls with oversized hooded sweaters, ripped pajama-like pants or "So Lows," and Birkenstocks. All of these convey a feeling of being comfortable and casual that one would never see in a German high school.

The fact that people can tell my nationality makes me proud. On the other hand, it also gives me a constant feeling that I'm overdressing and not able to really fit in with my new American peers.

What are the real differences? Kids are always looking for that one very special look—an outstanding outfit that shines in a crowd of monotonously dressed students who hurry through the hallways.

As the desire to find out where that girl over there bought her vibrant pink shirt with the perfectly matching little doll brooch consumed me, I was reminded that clothing is not just fabric meant to cover racy parts of your body; it's a form of personal expression.

After overcoming my slight anxiety and false pride, I complimented her

respectfully on her style. When I asked her where she got that fabulous shirt and the little toy with two blond braids and a childish smile, I received an answer that ruined my dream of a hidden store, a secret paradise for extraordinary clothing and accessories. All my hopes for the treasure trove of style were destroyed at once, when my "fashion angel" revealed her secret store... Urban Outfitters.

She didn't inherit the sweet dolly from her grandmother, make it herself, or buy it at a hip secondhand store in SoHo. No, she bought that cute bargain at Urban Outfitters, a chain store found in suburban malls everywhere—a place where you can buy style.

During my stay in the United States, I have observed two breeds of teenage dressers. One category is the Urban Outfitters crowd, who like to pair several layers of lace and tops, embroidered with sequins, with cute little chiffon shirts to complete their head to toe outfit.

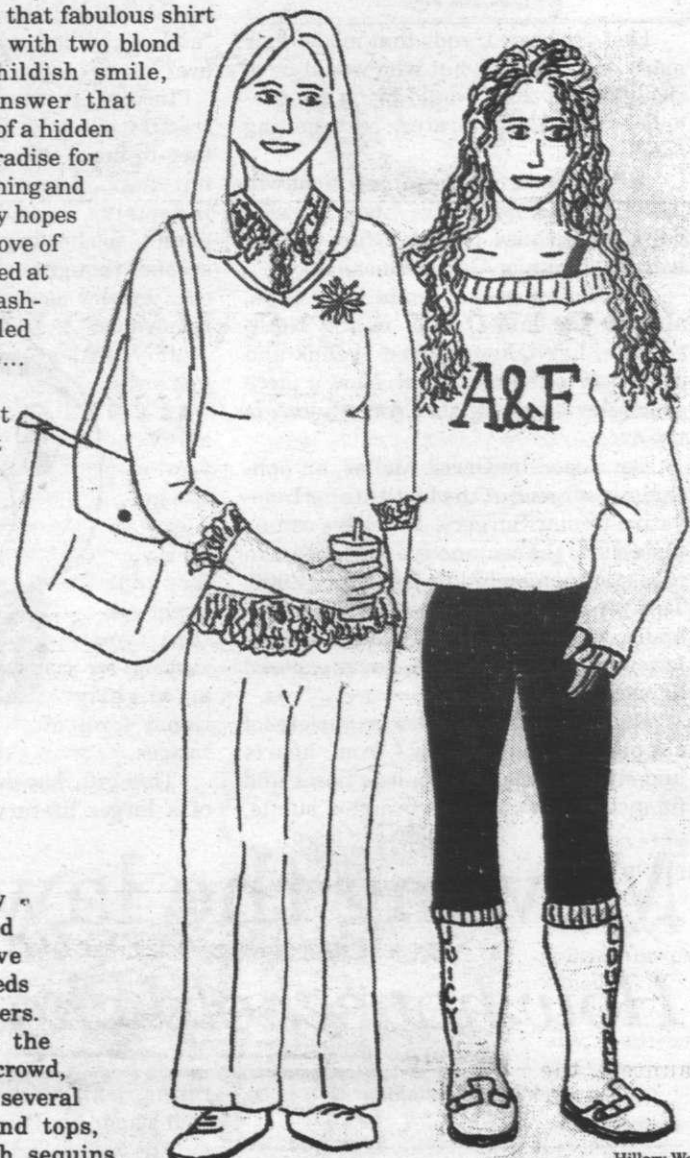
The other group likes to follow a clean and basic, but not boring, look. They often purchase their clothing at GAP, American Eagle, J. Crew, Old Navy, H&M, and Abercrombie and Fitch. They like to wear ripped jogging pants, XXL hoodies, super tight leggings, and Birkenstocks to complete their leisure mode.

“My first step to adjust to American culture was to wear my (first) hooded sweater to the grocery stores, or the post office, and maybe I will be able to wear it to school one day.”

This last trend of dressing as homely and plain as possible, probably influenced by American pop culture, reflects a desire to feel like one was at home, jumped out of bed, threw on some clothes, got in the car, and then went off to school.

By buying those simple garments and not investing in a few classic pieces, people are making a statement that shouts, "These pants were only \$5; if they get worn out within the first two weeks, who cares? I'm just going to get new ones."

This may sound as if I'm criticizing the nation for Americans' "down" styles, but I have to admit that there are at least as many fashion victims in Germany as in the US. I've certainly seen different types of German fashion wrecks, but my



Hillary Wool

favorite one is the eco-dresser.

Germans tend to get a step ahead of Birkenstocks and provide their high-school sons and daughters with breathable, clown-like, wild, suede shoes; tight jeans pulled up to the belly; and sweaters that look like they belong to your 5-year-old brother. One major difference between German and American teenagers' appearances is that Europeans are more "high maintenance." German teenagers flaunt hair that is styled daily, and constantly apply foundation to their young faces. This is a great contrast to the laid back style of Long Island girls. Europeans strive to look perfect, and often wind up looking artificial. That American students prefer chain stores is evidence of heightened conformity. Maybe this is an indication that teens here fear being unaccepted by their peers. Americans prefer to judge their peers based on their character instead of trivialities like clothes.

However, as long as you feel comfortable with what you wear, regardless of nationality, you will look successful and impressive to others. My first step to adjust to American culture was to wear my (first) hooded sweater to the grocery stores, or the post office, and maybe I will be able to wear it to school one day. My exchange-organization has always stressed tolerance towards this lifestyle and encouraged us to see the glass half full rather than half empty, or my favorite rule which applies not only to this case: "It's not right, it's not wrong — it's just different."

FEATURES

Fashion File

Show us your boot(y)

By Amanda Schiff

Staff Writer

Just because the mercury is falling doesn't mean we can't turn up the heat with fashion.

One of this year's hottest trends is stylish but sensible boots. Years ago, pointy-toed, stiletto heeled, patent leather boots were the only fashionable ones. This year, however, boots made of comfortable suede or rubber are considered to be the height of fashion.

From Uggs to Moon Boots, flat, comfy styles are a real treat for your feet.

Ugg boots became one of the hottest sellers on the market this year. High school girls all over the country are pairing Uggs with miniskirts. Also, because the boots are thermostatic, Uggs are popular during the summer and the winter. Although the boots are pricey, selling for about \$130, they are good-looking, comfortable and very warm.

Because Uggs made the A-list for this season, many other brands are selling copies of them. Sketchers is selling a pair of sheep-skin boots for sixty dollars. The online store www.zappos.com features a wide selection of fleece-lined boots representing a wide price range.

Another popular style this year is a revival of a style from the 1970s. Moon Boots, originally designed by NASA in 1969 for the Apollo 11 space flight, are once again popular. Consumers who love the warmth and comfort of Uggs are finding similar appeal in Moon Boots. These

boots are the exact opposite of the spiky stiletto boots that have been popular for several winters.

The boots' resemblance to snowboard boots is no coincidence. Teens who grew up riding rather than skiing on the slopes find it easy to slip into warm, chunky boots whether they're trying out the trails in Vermont, or simply hanging out on Main Street. While fashion designers are coming out with their own versions, the original brand is made by Tecnica, an Italian ski boot company that pioneered the Moon Boot in 1971 and trademarked it in 1978. Moon Boots come in black,

white, blue, pink, and multi-colored. They range from ninety-nine dollars to \$219 at Technica's website.

Wellington Boots are made of rubber and are both functional and fashionable. "Wellies" come in every color and are about forty-five dollars at www.wellieboots.com. Other rubber boots can be bought at

www.zappos.com for about fifteen dollars. Make it simple with a solid color boot or jazz it up with polka dotted rubber boots over your jeans. Any style you choose is sure to protect your feet from the rain and allow you to kiss plain, yellow rain boots goodbye.

With all of the options in footwear this season, every shopper is sure to find something that fits her style. From stylish and warm to chunky and colorful, these boots are sure to brighten the dark days of winter.



Aileen Schefer

arts & entertainment

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THE SCHREIBER TIMES MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 2005

Reality shows push the boundaries of sanity Recent concepts raise questions regarding ethics on television

BY Rebecca Sander
A&E Editor

Fifty years ago, the stars of *I Love Lucy* had to sleep in separate beds because sleeping in the same bed would have implied Lucy and Ricky engaged in sexual activities. In recent years, the morals of television have degraded far beyond implicit sex.

ABC's *Desperate Housewives* recently caused a controversy for being "too racy" for primetime television. A promotional commercial for *Housewives* indecently flaunted the naked back of one of the actresses and offended the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

However, this promo was only a taste of this over-the-top show that deals with the affairs, sexual and non-sexual, of four housewives. This program is not the only one that seems to be beyond the realm of appropriate viewing for primetime.

New reality shows have gone above and beyond, in both originality and insanity.

Who's Your Daddy? was a ninety-minute special produced by FOX in which an adopted woman, T.J., met a number of men who claimed to be her biological father.

The imposters, if able to trick T.J. into believing one was her father, stood to win \$100,000, but the night ended happily when T.J. was reintroduced to her real father.

The show caused an outcry from critics and child-adoption advocates who viewed

it as tasteless and exploitative. Critics denounced the show and its creepy resemblance to dating shows such as *The Bachelor* and *Joe Millionaire*.

Adoptees wrote numerous letters asking FOX to cancel the program. The producers of *Who's Your Daddy?* claimed, however, that all the participants of the show consented and that they received letters from people who wished to

participate in another installment of the show.

Who's Your Daddy? aired on January 3 and drew only 6.3 million viewers, ranking fourth in its Monday night time slot.

Hopefully, such dismal ratings will deter networks from producing shows modeled after *Who's Your Daddy?*

"Not knowing your biological parents is a sensitive issue for a lot of adopted people," said senior Danielle Liss. "Why someone would want to be paid to try and find their biological father is beyond me."

Another "family-based" reality show, *The Will*, premiered on January 8 on CBS. This show takes the close friends and relatives of a wealthy patriarch and pits one against the other as they compete for a large prize.

The Will is loosely based on a reality show called *The Family*, in which members of a family competed against each other for \$1 million. *The Family* ran on ABC in 2003 and drew poor ratings. However, unlike on *The Family*, the money in *The Will* comes from the estate of the patriarch, seventy-three year-old Bill Long.

Disregarding the morbid aspect of competing for a place in someone's will, ten people were planning to do this over the course of a season. The ultimate prize is a large ranch located in Kansas. The concept of this show proves that reality television has no limits and will use any opportunity to produce a successful show.

The classic "makeover" show, too, has been reinvented by such shows as *The Biggest Loser* and *The Swan*. *The Biggest Loser*, which concluded its first season on January 11, takes twelve overweight contestants, who want to transform their lives through weight loss, and awards "the biggest loser" with a \$250,000 prize.

Two celebrity fitness experts were

hired by the show to help the contestants with their daunting task. The show is not straight weight loss, however. The plots of the episodes involve "temptations" that contestants must overcome to become "the biggest loser."

This added component takes obesity, a problem plaguing the American public, and capitalizes upon it.

The Swan takes makeovers to the extreme. Seventeen women who are considered to be "ugly ducklings" undergo intensive plastic surgery, fitness regimens, and therapy to become more beautiful.

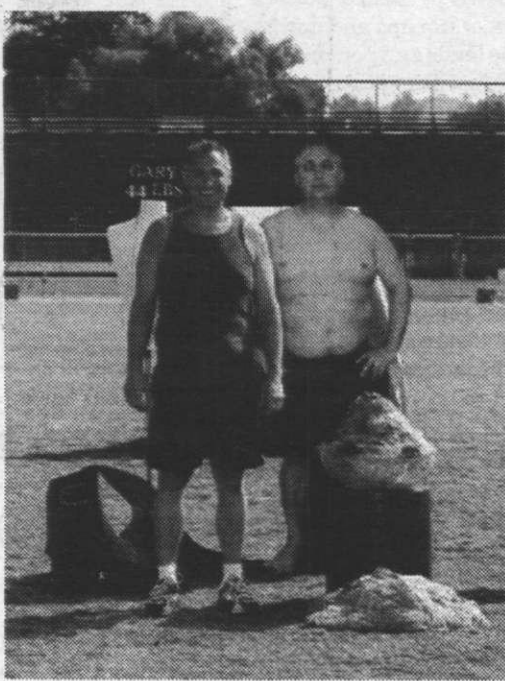
In each episode, two women are remade, and one moves on to the final beauty pageant. This show is similar to MTV's *I Want a Famous Face*. Both take average people and make them "stars."

These shows may seem ridiculous, but they get high viewer ratings. People are oddly fascinated by watching someone become molded and shaped into an entirely new person. Television can change your life, or so millions of viewers who tune into *The Biggest Loser* and *The Swan* each week believe.

As scripted shows continue to flop, earn low ratings, and receive disparaging remarks from critics, major networks turn to reality shows because they are cheaper and easier to produce.

While there is certainly an abundance of ideas for new shows, reality TV has recently taken a turn for the worse with all these new, over-the-top shows.

"It's so unethical for people to make shows such as *Who's Your Daddy?*," said freshman Sidney Ginsberg. "Even if the participants are consenting, it is unfair to exploit human feelings the way reality television producers do."



The Biggest Loser took twelve obese people and helped them to lose weight through a series of challenges.

abc.com/thebiggestloser

The other reality shows that push the limits...

My Big Fat Obnoxious Fiance

Ran on FOX from January to February 2004 (cancelled)

My Big Fat Obnoxious Boss

Ran on FOX until cancelled (remaining episode available online)

Wife Swap

Currently running on ABC

Trading Spouses

Currently running on Fox



Contestants on *The Swan* underwent plastic surgery and intensive fitness regimes in order to transform themselves. At the end of the season, one woman was chosen as the winner of the beauty pageant.

fox.com

ALIAS garners success

by Sidney Ginsberg
Contributing Writer

From the time junior Trace Cohen attended Daly Elementary School, long before coming to Schreiber, he aspired to be a fireman when he grew up. If shows like *ALIAS* were around a decade ago, little boys and girls might have aspired to be FBI and CIA agents instead.

Rather than aspiring to become a traditional hero, like Cohen did, or a famous actor, like junior Greg Ormont did, kids today see shows like *ALIAS* and wish they could be professional crime-stoppers.

Television shows fit into a number of categories. Couch potatoes have a range of comedies, dramas, reality shows, and romantic soap operas to choose from when deciding on a nightly program. *ALIAS*, which runs new episodes every Wednesday at 9 on ABC, fulfills all of these requirements.

The show not only fills the quota for exciting drama and intelligent plot lines but also all voyeuristic cravings for high school kids and adults alike.

The show revolves around CIA agent Sydney Bristow (played by renowned

actress Jennifer Garner), who is always in conflict with either her father, fellow agent and boyfriend Vaughn, or Bad-guy-turned-good Sloane.

The show has universal appeal. Fight scenes between characters in each episode leave younger brothers screaming for more. Riveted teenage girls grope for the phone and yell, "Oh my God, I can't believe Sydney did that!" following each new plot twist.

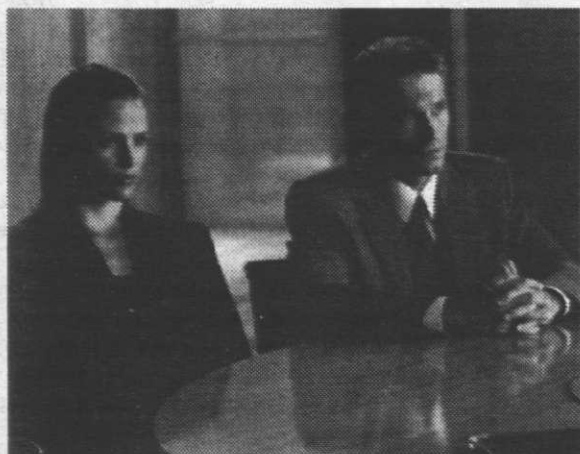
"I find the plot lines to be gripping," said Schreiber junior Carmi Schickler. He admits to watching *ALIAS*, too, because "Jennifer Garner has nice...feet."

ALIAS unites every possible genre of television and adds a soap opera-esque twist. Each episode takes Sydney to

a different corner of the world, allows her to speak a different language, get tortured in a more creative manner, and beat yet another bad guy. Sydney dresses up in costumes that easily fit the description of "cool." Her character's trials and tribulations provide a

truly entertaining television show.

While ardent fans eagerly await more episodes of *ALIAS*' fourth season, they find themselves wishing that they, like Sydney Bristow could be an agent for the CIA.



Sydney (Jennifer Garner) and Michael (Michael Vartan) are involved in a serious CIA meeting in *ALIAS*.

Paradise at Laguna Beach

by Heather Larkin
Contributing Writer

Television for teenagers no longer needs to portray a refined image of teenage lifestyle; unedited teenage situations appeal much more.

At the end of the summer, *Laguna Beach*, a so-called "reality" show, premiered on MTV. *Laguna Beach* is one of the wealthiest communities in America and it is often deemed "the real Orange County."

"I love *Laguna Beach*, partly because it reminds me so much of my favorite show, the O.C.," said sophomore Mikki Rosman. "The only real difference is that, in *Laguna Beach*, the cast members are actual people, who experience the same drama and problems that many teenagers face. The *Laguna Beach* cast is actually filmed."

For a period of six months, MTV was able to film the lives of eight high school teenagers (six seniors and two juniors) who live in Laguna Beach. The drama that constantly erupted in the lives of Stephen, Lauren, Kristin, Lo, Trey, Christina, Morgan, and Talan is similar to that which many teenagers face. All of the cast members display personalities that are uniquely different from one another.

The show, narrated by Lauren, offers a genuine depiction of the ups and downs of relationships, the feuds and personality contrasts between close friends, the thrill of senior year, and the endless gossip that quickly spreads through a small town.

In the first season of *Laguna Beach*, the plot mainly consisted of the ongoing feud between Lauren and Kristin, both of whom had their heart set on Stephen. The animosity and jealousy between the two girls is finally put on hold when everyone, with the exception of juniors Kristin and

Talan, leaves for college.

Kristin and Stephen agree to maintain an "open" relationship while he is away, and in the last episode of the season, Stephen and Lauren go off to college together.

The allure of *Laguna Beach* comes in part from its soap opera feel.

"I think it's realistic for that particular group of kids, but of course that's not the average life that most teenagers have," said sophomore Gayle Krebs. However, she is not put off by the seemingly unrealistic lives of these eight high schoolers.

"I like the show because it's entertaining, and I think the people on it are funny," said Krebs. "Even though your life may not be like theirs, you can still find things about the characters that are the similar to you—that's what makes a TV show good."

In September 2005, the next season of *Laguna Beach* premieres on MTV for all the fans who were left without enough. This time, Kristin will be narrating the episodes, which will predictably be filled with more drama and chaos.

In the new season, all of the seniors from 2004's cast are away at college, and will thus play a significantly smaller role in the second season of *Laguna Beach*. However, MTV will zoom in more closely on the life of Kristin and the drama that exists within her grade, the class of 2005.

The illusion that *Laguna Beach* is a perfect place is continually counteracted with each new episode. Inevitably, the upcoming season will be filled with more drama and troubles faced by teenagers who are believed to lead "perfect" lives.

Port Washington Cuisine

Port escapes to Capri, Italy at Sisina Pizzeria and Trattoria

by Shira Helft and Aileen Schefer
Staff Writers

Although Sisina Pizzeria and Trattoria is a relatively new restaurant in Port Washington, it has still managed to become a hit with many of its customers. With a restaurant décor reminiscent of a small village in Italy, Sisina is an intimate place to gather with friends and family.

The owner, Michael Tizzano, created the restaurant with the intention of bringing a part of Italy to Port Washington. Tizzano grew up in the town of Capri, a small island off the coast of Italy, with his family—especially his beloved mother. One would never expect from the façade of the restaurant that inside awaits a quaint Italian courtyard based on the owner's hometown.

The first things that catch the eye are the clotheslines strung across the ceiling of the dining area. Next, the inside of the restaurant, beautifully decorated with hand painted murals of scenes from Capri from wall to ceiling, comes into view.

Do not let the size of this restaurant turn you away; although Sisina is small, its size only adds to the restaurant's quaint charm. All of the dishes prepared and culture experienced in this small-town trattoria are in spirit of Michael's mother, who is displayed on the front of the menu.

"I really liked the atmosphere in

Sisina," junior Becky Rafe said. "The experience in the restaurant was really enjoyable."

Sisina offers a wide variety of foods for every palate, from traditional favorites like baked ziti, cheese pizza, and chicken parmigiana to specialties including pizza campanile and eggplant parmigiana.

The highlights of the list of appetizers are the faraglioni salad, which is a delicious blend of lettuce, mango, apples,

tomatoes, pecans, and goat cheese with a sherry vinaigrette.

For the more exotic tongue is a plate of fried calamari, served with a mild sauce. Other appetizers that are offered are caprese salad, Caesar salad, and baked clams.

Many of the pasta, chicken and fish entrées offered are high in flavor. These dishes include tubetoni Monte Solaro, a unique dish that is made with pasta,

roasted peppers, smoked mozzarella cheese, and smoked bacon. This combination of enticing flavors results in a delicious meal.

The baked ziti and chicken parmigiana are also

appetizing, although the tomato sauce that was used was a bit thin and lacked richness. There is also a wide variety of other chicken and fish entrées available at Sisina, including salmon filet, filet of sole, and roasted chicken.

Last but by far not least is the wonderful array of pizzas offered at Sisina, the chef's specialty. All of Sisina's pizzas are made with fresh mozzarella cheese and sauce on a traditional thin crust.

The recommended favorite among the waiters is the Pizza al Tartufo. This pizza is made with cheese, sauce, and a medley of marinated mushrooms, herbs, and flavored olive oil. As predicted, it was the favorite dish at the dinner table.

Pricing for pizza ranges from nine to fifteen dollars, while entrees run at about thirteen to twenty-two.

Eating at Sisina Pizzeria and Trattoria is a wonderful experience, whether you are eating with family, friends, or just by yourself.

Sisina is located at 55 Shore Road between the massive Stop & Shop parking lot and its sister restaurant Romantico.

And if you are too lazy to go out for dinner, why not order in? Delivery is available at (516) 767-8877 for a treat that will tantalize your taste buds.



In the spot formerly occupied by Bossa Nova, Michael Tizzano opened Port's newest Italian restaurant Sisina. It is located by the Stop & Shop shopping center.

Investigating CSI: the truth behind the fancy forensics

BY Sarah Silvergleid

A&E Editor

Recent trends in television ratings truly reflect the fascinations of the typical American: sex, drama, and crime. The trifecta of crime shows, the *CSI* series, has especially acquired wide acclaim from the populace.

CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (Las Vegas) is the number one show in ratings followed by *CSI: Miami* at number three and *CSI: New York* at number fifteen. Each show takes different characters, personalities, and environments and centers on a common premise: a murder followed by an investigation.

Whether it be gangsters or rap artists in dark alleyways or a disgruntled client of a prostitute in Sin City, *CSI* unveils new inventive plot lines each week. After all, there is an infinite number of methods by which to commit a creative murder.

The most creative job of the show's writers, though, is to realistically plant hints and clues by which the crime teams eventually solve the mystery by the end of an hour.

Using forensic technologies to unveil the identities of individuals based on a piece of hair, a drop of blood, or a bit of paint on the bottom of a shoe, the *CSI* team always manages to crack the case.

The teams employ highly advanced scientific techniques such as deciphering the molecular composition of a dirt sample, for example, or determining the method of death based on blood splatters.

But how many of *CSI*'s revolutionary crime-solving technologies are realistic?

No doubt people find themselves intrigued by the outlandish deaths portrayed by *CSI* as well as the equally impressive investigations. But the show gives many individuals an impression that crimes can be solved easily with an almost unlimited amount of technologies. Many of these technologies are embellished or do not exist at all. Many techniques, though, are based on real forensic methods.

CSI does an exemplary job of illustrating the advanced techniques in the forensic sciences. Today's computer technologies allow crime solvers to quickly compare fingerprints and other DNA resources to vast computer directories. One of the *CSI* writers' favorite techniques involves finding an obscure piece of DNA somewhere, such as an eyelash, and subsequently profiling an entire genome to get a suspect. In actual crime scenes, DNA can prove vital in establishing suspects or exonerating innocent individuals. Usually criminologists pay attention to blood types and other common alleles to determine identity.

Another technique featured in *CSI* that mirrors real-life forensics involves blood analysis. Using known conventions, actors in *CSI* and criminologists can determine how and by what method a person was murdered based on blood splatters. Especially in cases involving gun shot wounds, blood splatters reveal not only the range of the shot but also can determine what type of weapon was used. Blood evidence that is either splattered or caused by gravity helps to create a timeline of a crime and is demonstrated accurately in the *CSI* shows.

However, many techniques *CSI* employs to create excitement or lead to a conclusion to a case are embellished or just completely invented. Some of these "forensic techniques" make crimes seem almost easy to solve with just a little bit of common sense. On the contrary, technological impossibilities also impede real life crimes. For example, *CSI* cases that involve security camera or DVD footage almost always feature impossible "zoom in" scenes. If a camera feed from a bank robbery shows a faraway picture of the heist, it is impossible to magically zoom in to read a man's nametag or identify his facial features. Some even use zooming in to determine a crime scene's location by identifying known buildings in mirrors or eyeglasses.

Even commonly known techniques such as fingerprinting are embellished. Often the team will find a partial fingerprint or a smudged print that is extrapolated to a perfect match. In one episode, a criminologist recovered various parts of one

fingerprint and was able to use a computer program to complete the missing pieces. Obviously in an actual crime scene, fingerprints cannot be digitally enhanced or extrapolated. In fact, it is almost impossible for forensics experts to use fingerprints unless they are fully formed and viable.

Junior Aileen Schefer, a student of forensic science at Schreiber, enjoys watching the investigations of *CSI*. "Even though you know the show is scripted and many of the forensics techniques the actors employ are done for the purpose of creating an entertaining show," Schefer says, "it is still intriguing to watch the plot unfold."

Despite these exaggerations, though, *CSI* is undoubtedly an entertaining program. These invented techniques only add to the interesting resolutions of each unique case. And the accurate techniques are not only interesting but also attract viewers into the world of criminalistics.



CSI specialist Grissom (William L. Peterson) chemically analyzes evidence from the crime scene. But are these forensic techniques actually real?

Phantom of the Opera proves to be phantastic on the big screen

BY Lesley Brown

Contributing Writer

While December 22 may have been an exciting day for many due to its proximity to Christmas, the date also marked the sneak preview of the film version of Andrew Lloyd Webber's and Charles Hart's *Phantom of the Opera* in select national cities. The motion picture will be officially released January 21 granting other Lloyd Webber fans an opportunity to catch this stupefying picture.

The film, directed by Joel Schumacher and produced by Andrew Lloyd Webber, is based on the famous musical that originated on the London stage in October 1986 and moved to Broadway in January 1988.

(The show is currently still running in both cities.)

The live musical and the film are based on Gaston Leroux's legendary book and follow the same plot. The story takes place in nineteenth century France at the Paris Opera.

Many inexplicable incidents occur at the opera house, and rumor has it that the happenings are the work of the infamous

"phantom" (Gerard Butler) that allegedly dwells there.

This phantom does, in fact, live within the house, and surreptitiously trains a young chorus girl named Christine (Emmy Rossum) within the Paris Opera to sing beautifully. He is able to see that she has been blessed as an "angel of music." He tutors her at night clandestinely, and because Christine's voice becomes so wonderfully developed, she soon replaces the lead role, and prima donna, of the opera house, Carlotta (Minnie Driver).

However, the plot becomes a bit more intricate when Christine meets her childhood companion, Raoul (Patrick Wilson), on her opening night at the Paris Opera. The two become engaged, much to the dissatisfaction of the phantom, who, incidentally, loves Christine.

The week of January 7, Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Phantom of the Opera* topped at ninth place at the Box Office, grossing a total of \$21,548,803. Only time can tell how greatly the film will soar at the Box Office once it opens in all national theaters. For those of you who have a chance, this is one winter film you should not miss.



The phantom (Gerard Butler) broods in the film version of Andrew Lloyd Webber's famous play.

The violence and indecency is back in GTA: San Andreas

BY Michael Freifeld

Contributing Writer

Rugged gangster Carl Johnson, CJ for short, returns to "take back the streets" of Los Santos in *GTA: San Andreas*, Rockstar's latest installment of the popular game series *Grand Theft Auto*.

San Andreas is the fifth in this series of revolutionary games. All of the *Grand Theft Auto* games have been amazing, but *San Andreas* is the king of them all. "Although it is gratuitously violent, it is one of the most entertaining and fun games out there," said junior Spencer Bloom.

It incorporates all of the features of the other *GTA* games and much more. *GTA: San Andreas* has reached levels that other games could only dream of. For example, the game gives users complete freedom to do the very fun and challenging story missions or just fool around.

Players are able to drive cars, boats, motorcycles, planes, and helicopters in game play. They can also utilize new features such as monster trucks, hovercrafts, harrier jets, bikes, and ATVs.

If you have played *GTA III* or *Vice City*, then you know how vast each island is. Just forget how big those were because *San Andreas* features a map that is six times the size of the locations in the old games!

This time, the game is not only set in the city, but includes countryside and desert that allow the user to roam freely throughout a huge expanse.

The game is supposed to be taking place in the early '90s. To agree with this time period, the car radio plays some of the 1990s' great music hits such as "Welcome to the Jungle," by Guns 'N' Roses, and many songs by Snoop Dogg. The complete music library consists of over 1,000 songs, worth hundreds of dollars if bought separately.

Although *San Andreas* is different from the other *GTA* games, it hasn't strayed far from the gore, blood, and violence that many users enjoyed with the first four. For anyone who is angry or just plain bored, there is always an outlet to be found in this stimulating game.

All of the top game sites and video game channels have given *GTA* a ten out of ten that it definitely deserves. *GTA: San Andreas* is worth its fifty dollar price tag for its nonstop action and fun that will last up to forty hours of gameplay.

All in all, this game is sure to please anyone who does not mind strong language and excessive violence.

Lady Vikings beat Calhoun in monumental win

Varsity girls basketball team gets back to .500 mark and strives for playoffs

BY David Baer
Sports Editor

Entering their game at Lawrence, the Lady Vikings basketball team was riding a two-game losing skid. They suffered the defeats in Elmont and at home against Long Beach. The skid, however, came to an end on Saturday, January 16, when the Lady Vikings defeated Lawrence.

The Lady Vikings were led against Lawrence by junior Jackie Young who logged fourteen points and six rebounds. Port came out of their game against Lawrence with a 57-39 victory. This

brought the team back to the .500 mark for the season.

Port's defense really came to play during the win in Lawrence on January 15. The Lady Vikings clearly did not have any problems with rebounds. They picked the ball off the glass a whopping forty-nine times compared with Lawrence's twenty.

Port also won the assist battle in blowout fashion 25-3. Only three of Port's twenty-eight field goals went unassisted. Port also gave the ball away four more times than Lawrence.

Junior Sarah Weiss was a key contributor to the Port win. Weiss came six points shy of a triple-double. Instead, she settled for six points and a team-high thirteen rebounds and twelve assists. Weiss also contributed with a team-high five steals.

Other top scorers for the Lady Vikings were sophomore Angela Matinale, who dropped twelve in the win, and freshman Jackie Mezzetta, who added nine points to go along with four assists, three steals, and a block.

Although the team's two captains, seniors Halsey Diakow and Jackie Stricker, only combined for two points and eight rebounds, they felt their team played extremely well.

"On Saturday we played the best I have ever seen our team play," said Stricker after the game. "Instead of playing as individuals, we played as a team and everyone performed flawlessly. I think that's why we had as much success as we did that game."

The team has had fluctuating success this season. Their inconsistent play is a topic of concern on the minds of the players and Coach Stephanie Joannon.

The Lady Vikings have also recently added sophomore Filiz Kipcakli to the roster. She has been moved up to the varsity level and has left behind the undefeated girls junior varsity team.

The Lady Vikings have not built up any long winning or losing streaks so far this year.

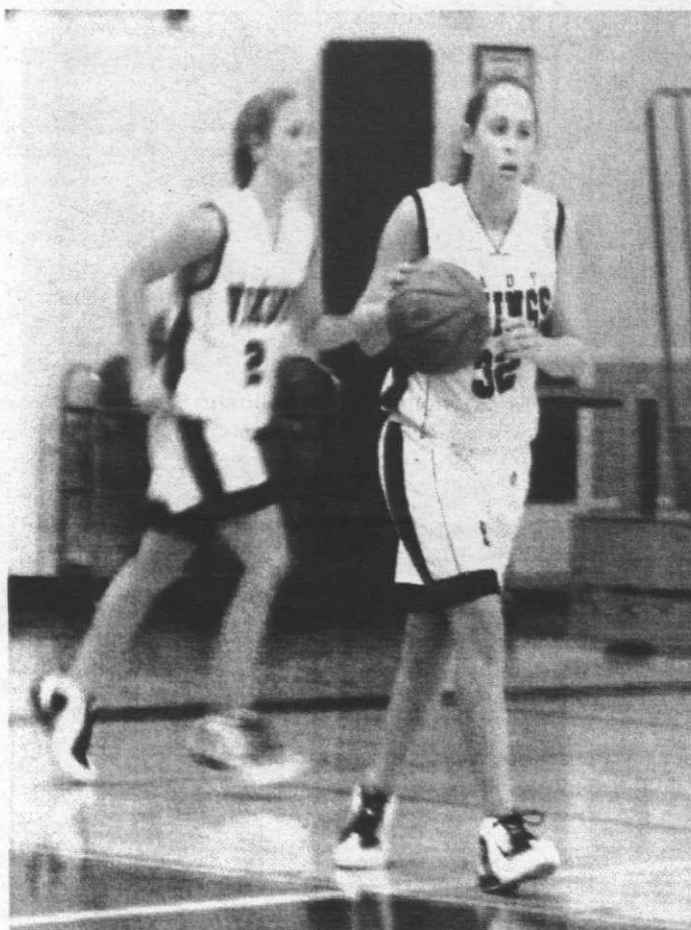
"I think that so far this season we are doing what we can," said Stricker. "We are working to the best of our ability to be as good as we can be. It's not so much about how we expected we would do. It's the fact that we know that we have the ability to do well and we are continuously working hard to live up to our potential."

The Lady Vikings still have many games to play before possibly extending their season into the playoffs.

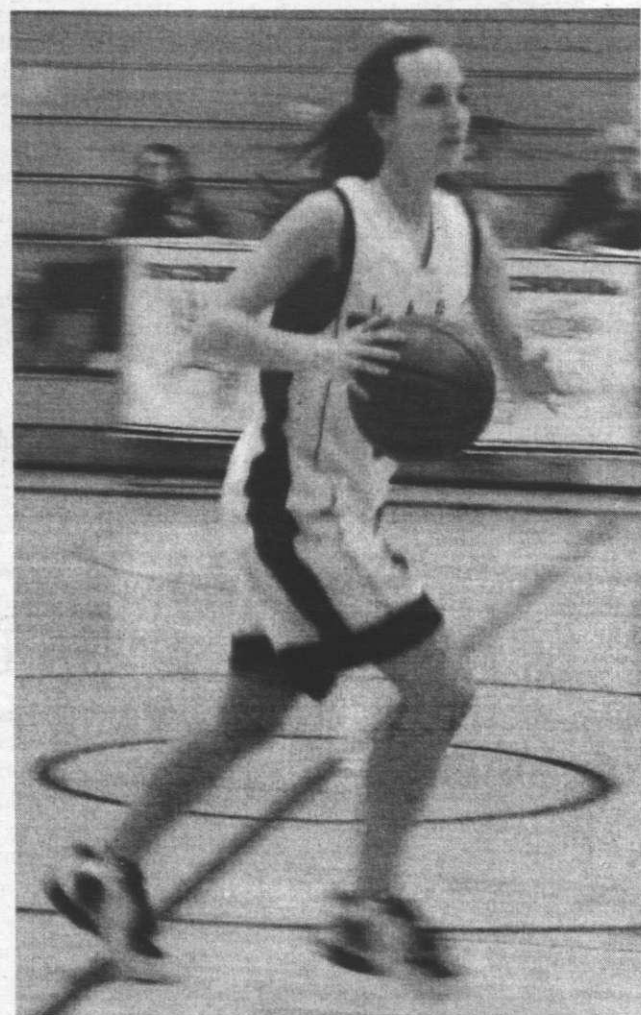
"Our goals are really just to stay unified as a team and to improve as players," said Stricker. "This team is a young one and hopefully next year there will be ten returning players. I think our goal is to work hard to make the

playoffs, but also to have fun and play as a team." Eighth grader Kim Doyle and the nine other possible players who might return for the 2005-2006 season provide Port's youth.

The win against Lawrence High School brought the Lady Vikings' record back up to the .500 mark. The team is on their way to a 2005 winter season playoff birth.



Junior Sarah Weiss pushes the ball up the court while her teammates sprint upcourt to score.



Junior Lauren Hanat looks upcourt to continue a fast break for the Lady Vikings.

Port wrestlers gain much needed experience

BY Jason Nelson
Contributing Writer

The Viking wrestling team suffered its first league match loss of the season to Calhoun High School. Although the team lost 49-24 on January 6, its members say that they are improving every day.

"We had a slow start to the season but now everyone has improved and we are all wrestling better as a team," said sophomore Jesse Wolff after the hard-fought match.

This season has been a struggle for the team because of a multitude of injuries. Sophomores Jason Rau, one of the wrestlers in the 160-pound weight class, and Brian Savran, a member of the 171-pound weight class, had to take time off from the team for injuries.

Because the team does not have

enough people to fill these spots, they have had to forfeit some of their matches. However, the team did have numerous well-earned victories. These clutch and riveting victories came from sophomores Travis Baugher, Anthony Corbo, John Froccaro, Mike Horvilleur,

and Wolff.

Port wrestled a tough match against Calhoun and gained experience in a lot of areas of their games. Before this league match, the team had lost to Great Neck North High School, 58-15 in a tournament. Since that devastating loss, the coaches have started to crack down on the mistakes and correct them one at a time.

Senior captain Greg Michelson has been working and training the team very hard. Along with coaches Anthony Schettino and Tai Kikuchi, Michelson is guiding younger players who possess less experience than the other wrestlers.

There are a lot of young and inexperienced wrestlers that are competing on the varsity team.

"It has been challenging, but it has benefits," said Horvilleur about the move from JV to varsity.

Horvilleur along with other sophomores on the team are being challenged on this level and hopefully will continue to improve their wrestling abilities.

When these young wrestlers become seniors, the team's youth will have gained experience and the hard work will have paid off.

Along with the wide support from the student body, their parents, and many fans, capitalizing on the younger wrestlers' talents may not guarantee success right away, but it will certainly benefit the team in the long run.



Two wrestlers begin their match during the showdown between Port and Calhoun.

All photos by Liz Corkett

JV to ride momentum after heroic comeback

BY Andy Werle

Staff Writer

The JV 1 boys basketball team has a 3-5 record and is working hard to get back to the .500 mark. Coach Sean Dooley is working the team hard in practice to achieve this much-desired goal.

The team's first game was at home against Uniondale, even though it was part of the Uniondale tournament.



Sophomore Greg Novik looks to score on a drive to the hoop.

Uniondale won by five points, but the Vikings felt they played a good game. Sophomore Justin Sze led the team offensively, and the Vikings tough defense kept the game close.

During Port's second game of the Uniondale tournament, Port went up against Plainview-JFK. The Vikings played well once again, but came out on the losing end. The Vikings were only behind by a few points for most of the game, so it was hard for the team to be denied their first win.

Their first win eventually came against Island Trees High School. Unfortunately, the Vikings did not win in front of the Port Washington home crowd, but it was a win nonetheless.

The exciting and controversial fourth game was home against Freeport, where the Vikings suffered a devastating loss. However, the loss was not just a game where Port was outscored, it was a huge blow to their collective self-esteem.

With just less than five minutes to go in the fourth quarter, Freeport continued to bring full court pressure to the Port team. This was despite the fact that they had already locked up the victory.

Feeling that the pressure was unnecessary and unsportsmanlike, Coach Dooley expressed his opinions to the Freeport coach and fans that pressing in a game whose outcome had already been determined is truly a disgrace to high school sports, especially at the junior varsity level.

He sent the team out with new orders: give the other team the ball when, and if, they start to press.

After Freeport refused to back down, the Vikings continued what was already some major controversy. Some of the parents in the audience who understood what the Freeport team was doing and came down out of the stands to yell at the Freeport coach.

In their second win against East Meadow, the Vikings managed to pull out another win. The referee made some arguable calls, but the team played through the troubles and outplayed the opposition. However, the JV team could not handle the speedy Long Beach team in their next game.

In recent news surrounding Port Washington basketball, varsity Assistant Coach Wilson was let go for reasons that were not mentioned. With the loss of Coach Wilson, Coach Dooley was moved up to assistant varsity coach, JV 2 coach Dennis Trottier was moved up to coach the JV 1 team, and Mr. Joe Lederer will step back onto the court after a few years to coach the JV 2 basketball team.

"In my three years coaching here, I have not been part of such an exciting game," said Coach Trottier after the JV 1 team rallied behind Sze's seventeen point fourth quarter against Mephram on Tuesday, January 18.

Port overcame a 22-3 first quarter deficit to bring the game closer. How-

ever, entering the final period, Port found themselves down fifteen. Sze's four three-pointers brought the game closer. When sophomore David Baer assisted freshman Richard Blue for a late minute three-pointer to tie the game, momentum had completely shifted to the Vikings' side. The heroic victory brought Port's record to 4-6. The Vikings will look to carry their momentum into their future games, after their 61-58 win.



Sophomore captain Justin Sze confidently dribbles down the court.

Yankees and Mets hit and run into off-season New York baseball teams make major trades and signings

BY Ben Jaffe

Assistant Sports Editor

In the midst of a tumultuous free agent market in the 2005 MLB off-season, both New York teams, the Mets and Yankees, have been the most active. The Yankees transactions have been typified by improvements to their aging pitching rotation, with the addition of pitchers Randy Johnson, Carl Pavano, and Jaret Wright, while attempting to add consistent role players of past Yankee championship teams, such as Yankee great Tino Martinez. Following in the Yankees' steps, the Mets have added a number one pitcher, former Red Sox pitcher Pedro Martinez. Although the major pick-ups by both teams have great potential for improving their respective teams, many of the pitchers including Johnson and Martinez, have had previous injury problems. Although both teams have made significant improvements and large monetary investments, many of the players are of dubious physical health. With these changes, the New York rivalry, dormant since the 2000 Subway Series, has been rekindled.

Because the Yankees have not won a World Series in four years, the Yankees fiery owner George Steinbrenner has made rampant and sometimes brash decisions, often paying exorbitant amounts of money for unworthy talent.

Although his detractors often criticized him for "buying a World Series," Steinbrenner has been unsuccessful in his World Series attempts. This off-season is just the most recent of this string of transactions.

The Yankees marquee free agent acquisition was attained in a trade made with the Arizona Diamondbacks to acquire World Series MVP and former Cy Young winner Randy Johnson. The Yankees sent pitchers Javier Vasquez, Brad Halsey, and prospect catcher Dioner Navarro to Arizona for Johnson.

As in past seasons, the Yankees showed their indifference to cultivating young talent through their minor league farm system, as they dealt out their top two prospects Navarro and Halsey. Johnson brings an impressive 2.60 ERA to the lacking Yankee pitching staff, while holding batters to a .197 average.

Although Johnson is already forty-one years old and has had chronic knee problems, the Yankees extended Johnson's contract for two more years for \$32 million. Even though Johnson's body may not hold up for the entire year, considering he has had all the cartilage removed in his right knee, the Yankees hope to go into the playoffs with him as their number one pitcher.

In addition to adding Johnson, the Yankees have made other significant additions to revamp their pitching rotation with the signings of Tampa Bay pitcher Carl Pavano and Atlanta pitcher Jaret Wright. Many have questioned

the \$39,950,000 for four years that Pavano received when his 4.21 ERA is taken into account. Wright also has some question marks attached to his name; he has a lifetime ERA of 5.09 and let up ten runs in only 9.2 innings pitched in the 2004 playoffs.

It also seems that Steinbrenner has hoped to repeat the success of the late '90s Yankee teams that won four of five World Series from 1996 to 2000 with the recent one year deal given to 37 year-old Tino Martinez, a critical role player in the Yankee dynasties of the time.

Much to the approval of their fans, the Mets have made a large dent in the free agency market, with the signings of Houston outfielder Carlos Beltran (\$119,000,000 for seven years) and Boston pitcher Pedro Martinez (\$53,000,000 for four years.) The Mets off-season resurgency has been led by recently-hired general manager Omar Minaya.

Beltran, certainly a franchise player for any team, represented by super-agent Scott Boras, signed with the Mets, who offered \$10 million more than any other team. Splitting time between the Kansas City Royals and the Houston Astros, Beltran had 38 homeruns, 104 RBIs, and 121 runs, in addition to a .435 post-season batting average for the Astros. Also, at the age of twenty-seven, Beltran has much room to improve on his lifetime .284 batting average and .353 on-base percentage.

In addition to their new offensive

stud, the Mets signed World Series Champion and three-time Cy Young winner Pedro Martinez. Although Pedro is sure to improve the lackluster Mets pitching rotation, many questions remain concerning his health and stamina. Martinez has seen his statistics go down each year since his unparalleled dominance in 2000. The aging Martinez, 28, has been unable to pitch deep into games and posted a career-high 3.90 ERA during the last season.

With the plethora of major signings made by both New York teams, the previously deficient rivalry between the cross-town rivals is sure to be revitalized. The Mets finally signed prime free agents, unlike their unsuccessful runs at acquiring Alfonso Soriano and Alex Rodriguez that caused much pessimism from Mets supporters. Meanwhile, the Yankees have increased their payroll to an unprecedented \$205 million. Despite the optimism felt by both teams, there still remain potential negatives in many of the signings; for example, both Johnson and Beltran may find it difficult to adjust to the stressful New York environment, while others like Tino Martinez and Pedro Martinez are injury-prone.

Both teams are counting on their new acquisitions to bring a World Series title to New York, whether it be Queens or the Bronx.

All Photos by Matt Siegel.

CALLING THE SHOTS

Sports Editorial

BY Brett Friedman

Sports Editor

Surely you have heard of the curse of the Bambino that has haunted the Boston Red Sox franchise from 1918 to 2004. But have you heard of the curse of "Broadway" Joe Namath?

Since 1918 the Red Sox had wallowed in pain because of the ghastly curse of the Bambino. Bostonians created excuses and lived in denial for almost a century before the curse was lifted from their restless heads. Finally, their Red Sox had won a World Series. All of Boston was so overwhelmed by the sudden change of events that the citizens didn't even know what to do with themselves. No longer could Yankee fans shout "1918" proudly, and no longer could Red Sox fans complain constantly. But under the rising cloud of smoke that was caused by this historical explosion in the sports world was yet another curse lingering in the shadows... "The curse of the Great Broadway-bino."

The 2004-2005 NFL season is still in full swing, but thanks to the Pittsburgh Steelers and some ill-advised kicking, the Jets are not. The past sixteen games is now history for the Jets and is looked upon as yet another disappointing finale. The team had an impressive beginning to the regular season this year, but their luck tailed off towards the latter half of the schedule. However, the Jets came on strong in the wild card playoff game against the favored San Diego Chargers. Spirits were high in the Jets locker room after they pulled off an unexpected win. Their next assignment was the intimidating Steelers squad that boasts a 15-1 regular season campaign. The projected outcome of the game obviously had no impact on the Jets' morale. Twice the Jets set their kicker, Doug Brien, up for the winning field goal in the fourth quarter. The score was 17-17 and the team was

ready to celebrate, but Brien nailed the crossbar on his first attempt. Then in the closing seconds of regulation Brien shanked a 43-yard attempt way left. At this point the whole team was mentally and physically drained, and rightfully so. They had practically won the game and pulled off the biggest upset of the season, but their place kicker ripped

round of the playoffs. The Jets have an 8-10 all time postseason record. The fact that this playoff record is somewhat respectable just reflects the agony Jets fans have had to deal with over the years. The Jets have consistently made the playoffs, but they also have made a predictably quick exit from the playoff bracket.

The legend that was "Broadway" Joe Namath ended in 1977 with his trade to the L.A. Rams. Is it possible that on his way out of town, in a brief moment of resentment, that Joe Namath cursed the franchise he had played for most of his career? It certainly seems that way.

After Namath's departure, the Jets only managed to reach the AFC championship game twice, but never won it. And they still have not made an appearance in a Super Bowl since 1968. Can you comprehend how much anguish Jets fans have been through in those thirty-seven years? That's right, you can't! Do you know how many holes have been kicked in the homes of the New York faithful? I doubt it. From season to season the frustration that has lingered in the fans' minds is wiped away by a certain romantic hope that resurfaces

during every opening game each season. Perhaps there should be hopelessness that fills this omnipresent void, rather than an optimistic faith.

Why would Jets fans put themselves through the agony of yet another demoralizing season? I'll tell you why. It's the same reason that Red Sox fans came been coming back to Fenway Park for eighty-six years in search of their Holy Grail.

But the curse of Joe Namath lives on. The torture and suffering that Jets fans have experienced since Namath was traded to the Los Angeles Rams will continue to haunt their dreams.



"Broadway" Joe Namath was an idol in the tri-state area during his tenure as the New York Jets quarterback. After his heroic performance during the 1968 AFL playoffs, he became a world renowned sports figure. Namath led his team to the 1968 championship game and helped his Jets prevail in the Super Bowl.

out the hearts of Jets players and fans alike.

Being a loyal Jets fan for many years, I have noticed there is a peculiar reoccurring theme when the Jets make the playoffs. Since I was not even a notion in my parents' mind the last time the Jets won the Super Bowl, I cannot explain the sensation Jets fans must feel when their team achieves the ultimate goal in professional football.

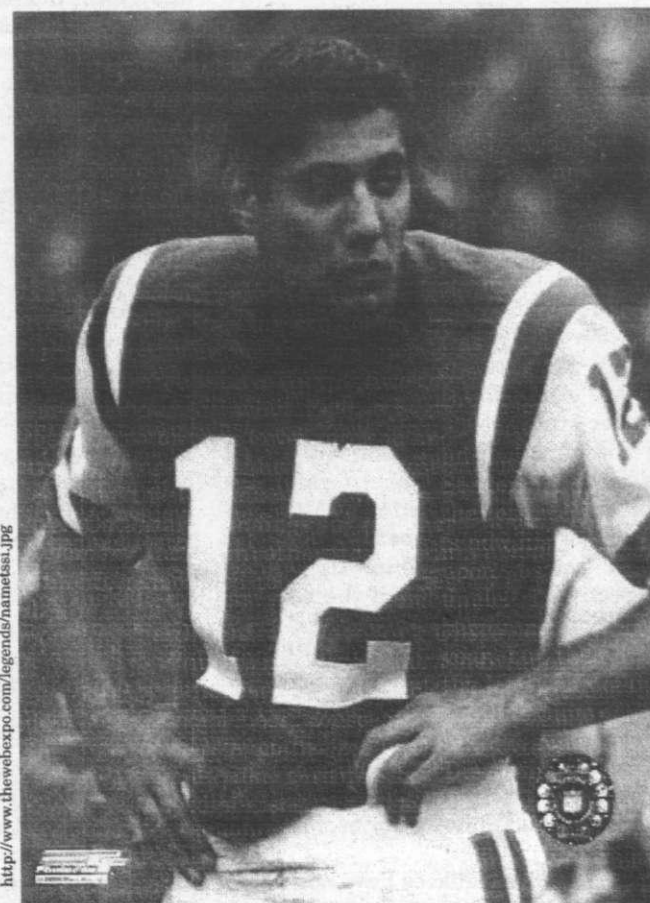
The New York Jets franchise originated in 1960 and in 1965 the Jets got a hold of their first franchise player in Joe Namath. As a rookie, Namath posted huge numbers, and the Jets team excelled with Namath behind center. Each year "Broadway" Joe Namath was the quarterback, the team's record improved steadily. Namath led the inexperienced and underdog Jets squad to the Super Bowl in 1968. And despite the odds, the Jets pulled off the victory 16-7 against Johnny Unitas and the Baltimore Colts.

Since this heroic win in the title game, the Jets franchise has suffered all kinds of devastating losses in each

For the next fifty, maybe even one hundred years, Jets fans will not be able to sit easy on Super Bowl Sunday, because they know that the curse of the Broadway-bino lives on.

Joe Namath Career Stats

Year	TD	Interceptions	Yards
1965	18	15	2220
1966	19	27	3379
1967	26	28	4007
1968	15	17	3147
1969	19	17	2734
1970	5	12	1587
1971	5	6	537
1972	19	21	2816
1973	5	6	996
1974	20	22	2616
1975	15	28	2286
1976	4	16	1090



Joe Namath led a distraught life towards the latter half of his career. He had a disappointing last few years of his career in New York, and was traded to the Rams as a result. Namath cursed the Jets franchise after letting him go in 1977.

JV girls basketball continues to steamroll competition

Lady Vikings boast an undefeated record early in the season

BY Nikki Pond
Staff Writer

After seven games, the Lady Vikings junior varsity basketball team can boast an undefeated record. A few of these wins have been against towns that are locally known for their basketball talent, and past conference and/or county titles. Coach Liz Hutchinson is extremely proud of the twelve girls that make up this successful squad. The four sophomore captains who include Erin Betsch, Emllyn Diakow, Michelle Doscas and Filiz Kipcakli are also very proud of their fellow teammates.

"It is great being on a team with girls who care so much about one another. Even though we may not all be the best of friends off the team. We work well with each other much more so than the teams we play," said Kipcakli.

The girls came back from the December vacation excited and ready to play one of the biggest competitors in the league, Elmont. The squad also came back only to discover that one of their starting guards, Doscas, was out for the rest of the season due to a spiral fracture in her pinky finger. Even though she is not able to play, she brings a lot of spirit and energy to the team by showing up at practices and games

to cheer her teammates on. Sophomore Alissa Potter assumed Doscas' position as starting guard on the team.

The Elmont game was scheduled



Sophomore Alyssa Potter looks for open teammate to pass to as Plainview JFK defenders swarm to the ball.

for January 5. The girls prepared for a rough game as they watched varsity take a hit just before them; however, the second the Lady Vikings stepped out on the court, they dominated. In the

first minute and a half of the game, Port scored ten points giving them a decent lead over the Elmont girls. The Elmont coach called a timeout precisely one minute and thirty-eight seconds into the game because the Lady Vikings were dominating their opposition. The girls knew they could defeat this team, and they performed as expected. Port Washington ended up winning by thirty-seven points,

finishing the game with a score of 62-25.

The next game for the JV girls team was on Friday, January 7 versus Bellmore JFK. This game would be

played at Schreiber giving the Lady Vikings a home-court advantage. It turned out that this advantage was not necessary because Port annihilated Bellmore. They beat them by thirty-one points with a final score of 44-13. One of the highlights of the game was when Kipcakli made an unbelievable three-point buzzer shot at the end of the fourth quarter.

The most recent win for the Lady Vikings was on January 10 versus Long Beach. Once again, Port destroyed their opponent by over thirty points.

"Our team just communicates so well together. It is great to be a part of such a cooperative and awesome group of girls," said sophomore Sidney DiMaggio.

This team is well on its way to an undefeated season. Coming up they have a game at Lawrence on January 15 at 10 a.m. and a game at MacArthur on January 22 at 2 p.m. Port Washington certainly hopes to see some more great victories from this team as well as some good times.

"I hope that we just continue to have fun because we have a chemistry that very few other teams have. Hopefully we will continue to use it to our advantage," said sophomore Stephanie Alechman.

Boys track triumphs

BY Myles Potters
Staff Writer

The dedicated winter boys track team is working hard and shattering records left and right.

The track team practices each day on the track, weather permitting. In instance of inclement weather, the boys will run inside the school halls.

The practices have been paying off, and in the words of Coach Cooper, "The boys have been peeling time off of their personal records."

The team started out the year with approximately forty-five players, the highest number ever. However, the team lost some of these athletes to injuries, while others decided to quit. The team has practiced together since the beginning of the winter season. The twenty-five boys have bonded together to form one cohesive team.

Track is an individual sport. Runners compete against each other, hoping to improve on their own personal records. The track participants make a competition of who can get the fastest time. Last, but certainly not least, they compete against other schools. The competition within the core of the team has paid off, and Port has seen several medal winners this year as a result.

The team has several captains from varying grades, seniors Eric Hirsch, and Adam Gold, junior Wilmer Chamul, and sophomores Andrew Cuthill and Matt Mondragon.

The indoor track and field locations are sparse. Consequently, the team must travel to either of three available locations. They have traveled to Nassau Community College, Suffolk Community College, or Farmingdale State.

The infamous meets seem interminable, and according to Coach Cooper, the team did not arrive home until 11 p.m. after one of their meets.

A new meet has been added onto the schedule for the team this year. It is hosted at Rockland County Community College in New Jersey. The intriguing aspect of this meet is that the competitions are held in yards, not the usual meters. This makes the distances shorter, so Coach Cooper is expecting drastically reduced times.

Also, the students will partake in four events, as compared to the New York standard of three events. This will be the team's biggest meet yet, and they are expecting very fierce competition.

"It's been a great time; the men on this team really know what they are doing. I see great things for the end of the season," said captain Hirsch.

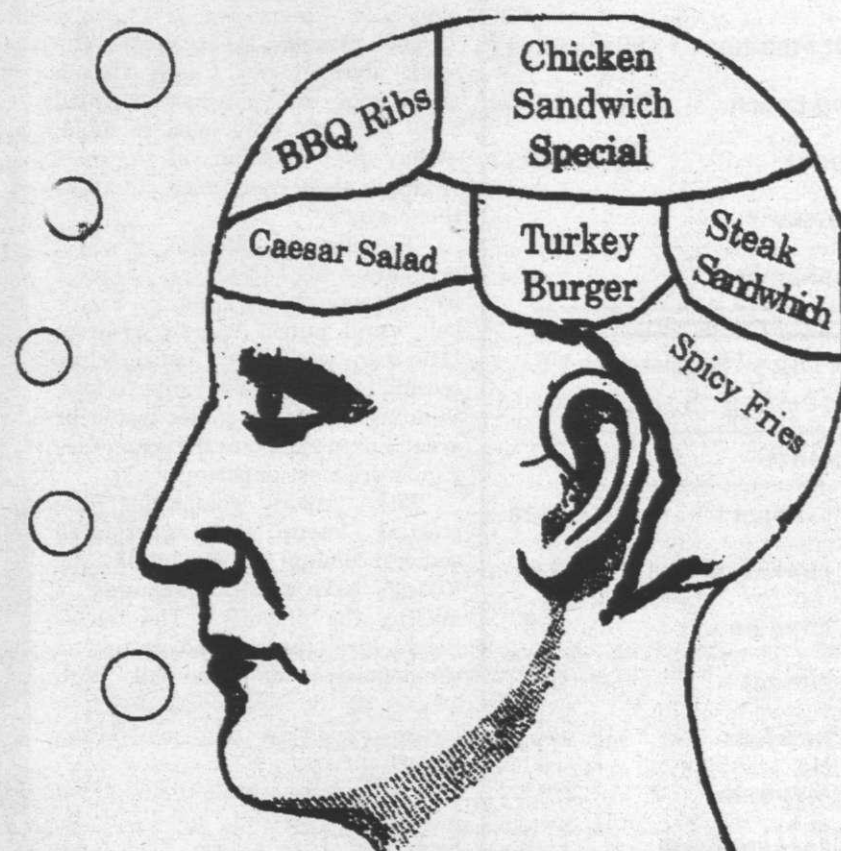
The team is well aware of the high expectations of them. They are also very willing to work for the hard earned awards they have received already, and look forward to continuing their dedication.

“*The competition within the core of the team has paid off, and Port has seen several medal winners this year as a result.***”**

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VIKING SPORTS

Varsity basketball escapes with close victory *Vikings come away with win looking forward to strong finish*

BY Hugo Pineda

Staff Writer

The varsity boys basketball team pulled off a nail-biting victory against East Meadow to get their first tally in the "W" column. Senior Dave Bluver's foul shot with two seconds left clinched the January 4 game.

With 1:30 left to play, East Meadow (0-2) went on a 7-0 run to tie the score at forty-seven.

Junior Jamal Parchment had nineteen points and eleven rebounds for Port. It took a complete team effort to hold off East Meadow for the win.

"We've already won one division game to this point, so who says we can't make the playoffs," said Junior Gus Bechtold. "We have a real shot to get in."

Last year, the Vikings fell one win short of a playoff appearance. This year's squad hopes to go farther. Though most teams look for leadership from the older, more experienced players, this year's team has juniors in all the starting positions.

Anticipating a strong season is one thing, but getting the job done is another. Coach Phil Capola hopes to get this point through to his squad after seeing the team struggle right off the bat.

At this point in the season the team is off to a 1-6 start. However, the most important aspect is winning conference games.

With tough losses in the beginning of the season, the Vikings can only be happy that they weren't conference games and could see the games as practice for tougher opponents to come.

So far the Vikings have managed to pull off a 1-2 record within their conference. They lost their first conference game to Freeport 65-39 and it didn't look too optimistic from there. Bechtold led Port Washington with eleven points in a losing effort.

The Vikings hoped to take their first win of the season against East Meadow and build on it against Long Beach. Port was leading the opposition for most of the game, but a strong fourth quarter push gave Long Beach a 50-47 win.

Long Beach took the lead by making both free throws with twenty seconds left to break a tie at forty-six points. Parchment led the Viking squad with fourteen points.

With more games against Long Beach, East Meadow, Farmingdale, Freeport, Elmont, Lawrence and Herricks ahead, the team hopes to gain some confidence and experience before heading into those games. Bluver and junior captain Dan Koh look to lead the rest of the key players.

The playoffs seem to be the main objective for Coach Capola and though the team has struggled early on, they only need to finish within the top four of eight teams in their conference to make the playoffs.

"To make the playoffs we're probably going to need at least five division wins under our belt," said junior Andrew Preston. "The team works hard and the close scoring games are the worst to lose. Winning all of our games would be great, but to this point the conference games are most important."

With juniors comprising the starting lineup and experienced seniors coming off the bench, the Vikings have a legitimate shot of making the playoffs. The team's height gives them an advantage on the defensive side of the ball. With strong "D" on the court, they can create turnovers and fast break opportunities.

The varsity basketball squad has high hopes as usual at the beginning of the season. The team is confident that they can prove their critics wrong by making the playoffs and potentially even winning their division.



(top) Senior Dan Reitman stands at the post awaiting a pass from junior guard Gus Bechtold. Bechtold is joined in the backcourt by seniors Dave Bluver and Eddie McCabe and junior Bobby Candela. (bottom) Junior Gus Bechtold looks to find a teammate to dish the ball to as he is covered by swarming Floral Park players. Viking guards rely on the drive and dish method on offense to create scoring opportunities for the big men on the floor.



Vikings Basketball Current Results

Opponent	Outcome
1) Whitman	Loss, 43-69
2) Plainview	Loss, 43-73
3) Island Trees	Loss, 44-70
4) Floral Park	Loss, 44-63
5) Freeport	Loss, 39-65
6) East Meadow	Win, 48-47
7) Long Beach	Loss, 47-50
8) Elmont	Loss, 40-57
9) Herricks**	
10) Mepham**	

Vikings' Basketball Upcoming Schedule

Opponent*	Date
12) @ Freeport	1/28
13) vs. East Meadow	2/1
14) vs. Long Beach	2/3
15) @ Elmont	2/8
16) vs. Herricks	2/11
17) @ Mepham	2/14
18) @ Farmingdale	2/16

** Results not available at time of print
*Places and dates are subject to change

All photos by Liz Corkett