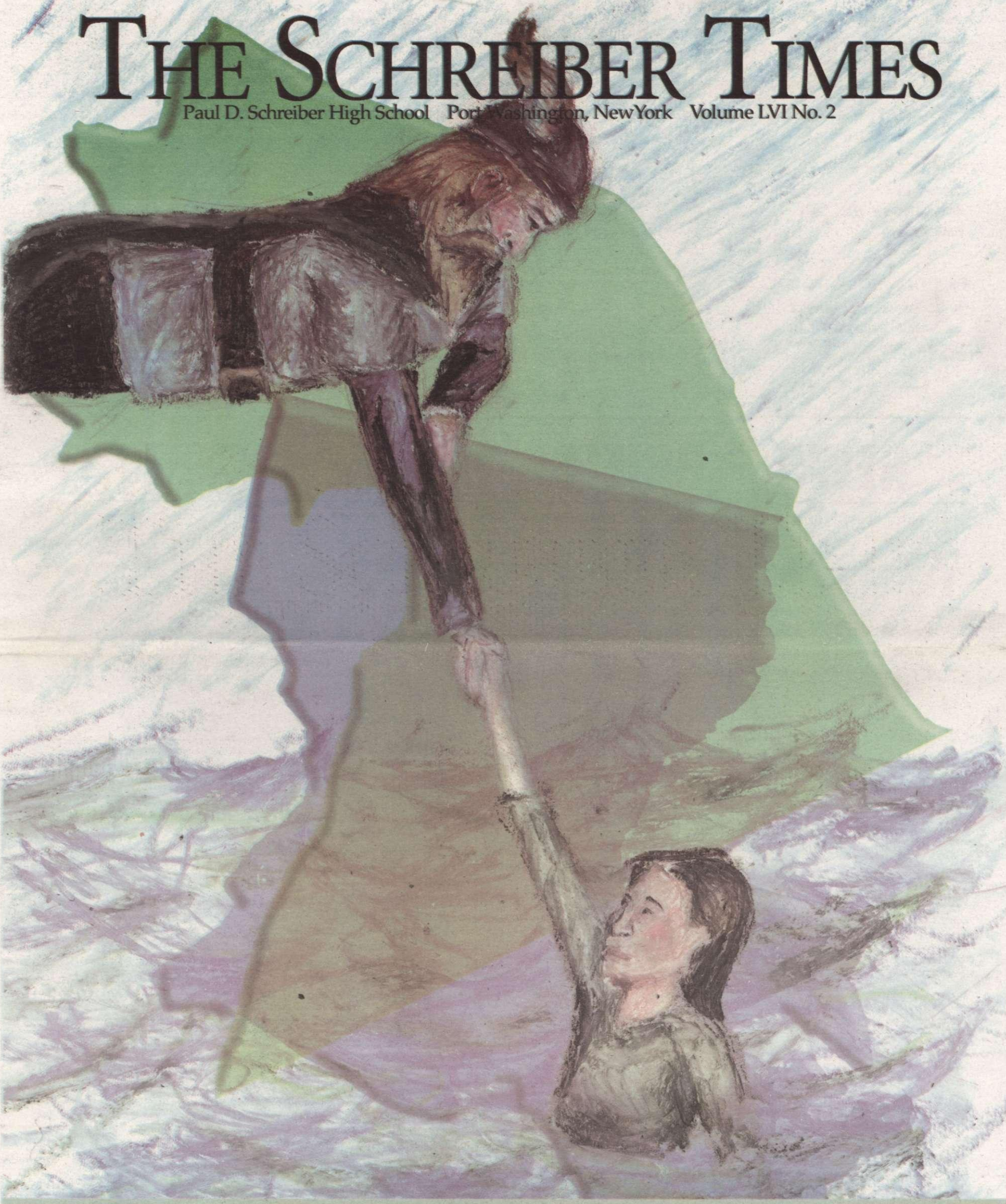


Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Port Washington, NY
11050
Permit No. 162

THE SCHREIBER TIMES

Paul D. Schreiber High School Port Washington, New York Volume LVI No. 2



FBLA
Concert
A&E



Athletes
of the Month
Sports

Politics in the Classroom
Opinions
CS: Sands Point
News

In This Issue...

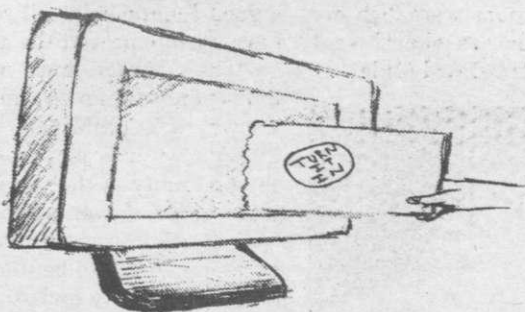
FEATURE: Turnitin.com

NEWS.

Cancer Walk p. 3
National Merit p. 3
Pep Rally p. 4

OPINIONS.

Pt/Cpt - Politics in the classroom p. 6
Response to turnitin.com p. 7
Rachel's Challenge p. 8



Shimon Ishikawa

FRONTPAGE by Daryl Koopersmith & Katie Mancher
CENTERFOLD by Rebecca Sander, Kyra Siegel, Andy Werle
BACKPAGE by David Baer

A&E.

Katrina Relief Concert p. 14-15
One Acts p. 19
"Grizzly Man" p. 20

SPORTS.

Cross country p. 23
Girls varsity tennis p. 24
Girls varsity soccer p. 25

NEWS BRIEFS

Key Club does their part in aiding national relief funds

The Key Club held a car wash on Oct. 1, which raised over \$500 to help combat finance losses due to Hurricane Katrina. The Key Club raised more money than they had expected, and donated all of it to the Osborne family, who suffered greatly from the disastrous hurricane. The car wash took place in the Weber Circle, and lasted from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Key Club members who attended were split into two groups. One group of members went onto Main Street with signs and posters in order to get as many people and cars as possible to stop by the car wash.

The other group's task was to actually wash the cars.

"It felt great to participate for a good cause," said freshman Gabrielle Balaban.

Many fundraisers have been staged in the past month in a valiant effort to support the victims of Hurricane Katrina. Thanks to Ms. Migitz and the Key Club's dedication, there will be one more family being fed in the affected states.

~ Alexandra Vojdany

Schreiber seniors place in 96th NCTE competition

Seniors Jill Marcellus and Sarah Pickering won the 2005 National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Achievement Award for Writing. In their impromptu ten page essays, Marcellus wrote about the obesity problem in America, and Pickering wrote about cell phone use in schools.

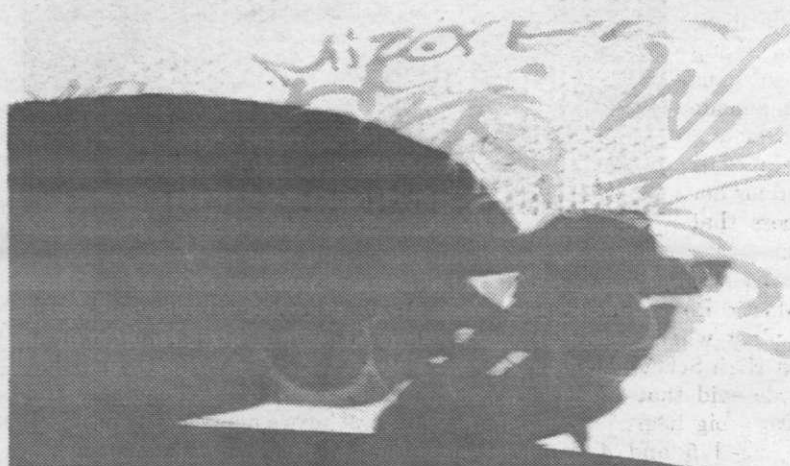
Each of the topics were researched by each respective contestant prior to the essay construction. Both of the topics were noted as compelling and thought provoking.

The NCTE was established in 1911 with the goal of advancing teaching and student achievement in English Language Arts at all scholastic levels. 2,359 students across the nation competed in the NCTE essay competition, and 628 won. This essay contest tested the applicants' ability to combine creativity as well as intellectual prowess, and according to the judges each of the Schreiber contestants was successful.

Both Marcellus and Pickering felt the competition was a fun experience and were honored to win the award.

~ Sophie Kroft

Photo Gallery



The silhouette of senior June Kim is displayed in the AP Photography section of the new Schreiber atrium.

Blast From the Past

In the second of ten installments of Blast From the Past we will discuss the events of October 1985, including the Schreiber Administrators' visit to the White House, the Pep Rally, and the failures of the Vikings football team. During the 1984-85 school year, our very own Schreiber High School was recognized on the national level for educational excellence. The Pep Rally was a driving force in the attendance for the remainder of the sports seasons. Despite the original date having to be changed because of the unfortunate consequences of Hurricane Gloria, athletes had their fun. To cap off this appropriate recap, the Vikings Football team fell to 1-4 for the '85 season.

The Schreiber Times

Published by the student body of Paul D. Schreiber High School. Letters to the editor should be addressed to The Schreiber Times, 101 Campus Drive, Port Washington, New York 11050. The editors reserve the right to refuse, print, edit, return, or not return any submitted material. All letters must be signed by each author. We have a circulation of 2,000 copies per issue with subscriptions available for \$10.00 per school year. We accept camera-ready ads or will design ads to your specifications. For information, call our business office at (516) 767-5862.

Jay Lewis, principal
Anne Pellett, Evelina Zarkh, advisers
© 2005, The Schreiber Times

EDITORS-IN-CHIEF Daniella Malekan, Nick Werle **MANAGING EDITOR** Brett Friedman **COPY EDITOR** Andrew Gross **Executive Editor** Tom Lisi **GRAPHICS EDITORS** Katie Mancher, Jon Seligson **NEWS EDITORS** Senior Editor Sophie Kroft **Editor** Ben Jaffe **ASST** Mike Lau **OPINIONS EDITORS** Gulus Emre **ASST** Brian Cindrich, Jeremy Frank **FEATURES EDITORS** Senior Editor Sarah Silvergleid **Editor** Erin Szulman **ASST** Amanda Schiff **SPORTS EDITORS** David Baer, Jus Chadha **ASST** Nikki Pond **A&E EDITORS** Senior Editor Rebecca Sander **Editor** Andy Werle **ASST** Kyra Siegel **PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR** Liz Corkett **ASST** Matt Siegel **COMPUTER MANAGERS** Gillian Grogan, Adam Johnson, Daryl Koopersmith **BUSINESS MANAGER** Zubin Zaveri **STAFF ASSISTANTS** Sidney Ginsberg, Melissa Heller, Heather Larkin, Melinda Salaman, Stephanie Seeman, Alexandra Vojdany **STAFF WRITERS** Rob Bellon, Chris Catalano, Emlyn Diakow, Asher Feldman, Max Lewin, Sidd arth Ninan, Lexi Peterson, Myles Potters, Rich Schmitz **REPORTERS** David Becker, Ignacio Del Valle, Phil Fleisher, Steven Geisenheimer, Benjamin Greene, Raul Maraboli, Jason Nelson, Dan Stewart, Eliana Theodorou, Matt Varvaro **ARTISTS** Jasmine Cheng, Max Garrett **PHOTOGRAPHERS** Dan Arnstein, Ali Bernhard, Nick Cangemi, Ariana Gould, Jesse Lipson, Matt O'Dell, Ian Schwartz, Josh Talesnick

YES! I want to subscribe to The Schreiber Times

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____
Zip _____

Subscriptions cost \$10.00 for coverage of the entire school year (approximately 10 issues).

Please make checks payable to: The Schreiber Times.
Mail to: Schreiber Times, Att. Anne Pellett, 101 Campus Drive, Port Washington, NY 11050

"Gatsby Murder" shocks Schreiber

Body of Lisa Parisi of Mastic Beach found in Sands Point

BY Ben Jaffe and Mike Lau

News Editor and Assistant News Editor

The body of Elizabeth "Lisa" Parisi was found at 7:45 a.m. on Hoffstot Lane, Sands Point, while a local man was taking a walk on Oct. 15. Since the body was found in Sands Point, where a mansion inspired F. Scott Fitzgerald's book, *The Great Gatsby*, the murder case came to be called the "Great Gatsby" Murder.

Ms. Parisi was apparently beaten and seems to have died of blunt force trauma. She was a 4'11" woman and was found wearing kids sized jogging clothes — a shirt that said, "Love is...patching things up" and pink spandex pants.

The police are certain that the actual murder did not occur in Sands Point and released details about the victim, including the most conspicuous clue: a home-made blue daisy tattoo found on her right hip. This clue confirmed for her family members that she was dead.

Parisi was a resident of Mastic Beach and was an honor roll student when she attended William Floyd High School. Her cousin Laura Richards said that Lisa was a "little girl with a big heart." She had two children, aged 5 and 4 months. Parisi's boyfriend, who did construction work in Sands Point, was charged in

connection with the crime.

Schreiber High School has heightened security efforts in response to the murder.

"When I was watching the news and saw the report on the murder of Lisa Parisi, my first reactions were, 'Oh my God, I hope my kids are okay!'" said Assistant Principal Mr. David Miller.



Two bouquets of flowers and a candle were left on Hoffstot Lane, where Lisa Parisi was found dead.

"As for the security of the school, we have done a few things to maintain our vigilance. We have made sure that no stray cars enter the campus, and because we have a new security protocol, suspicious visitors will be questioned."

Mr. Miller mentioned an incident where a delivery man from a Chinese

restaurant tried to enter the school to deliver the food but was denied entrance. "This is a good example of a situation that could potentially be very dangerous," he said. "We always have to be safe, and the murder incident is a good reminder for all schools that we have a job to protect the students."

"The murder had no greater an impact on me than any murder incidents elsewhere," said Miller. "In the case of Lisa Parisi, it is just scarier because of the proximity of the incident. Although these kinds of events shake kids up, we have to be as supportive as we can."

There seems to be unanimity among Schreiber faculty and students that the murder was frightening.

"I think it just brings to light the fact that we are living in the real world, and are susceptible to the kinds of things we only thought were on TV," said junior John Forman. "Homicide is a horrible thing, but people must recognize that there are sick people that have made it a regular part of the world."

"I think the incident is making the students afraid and giving them a rude awakening that we live in a cruel world," said senior Alex Huh.

Some students, however, thought that the whole murder case did not have a major or noticeable effect on the student body of Schreiber.

"I was shocked at first when I heard of the body," said senior Dan Koh. "But it's not going to change anything in my life especially since the murder didn't take place in Sands Point."

"Personally I think it's unfortunate what happened," said junior Vinny Fasano. "However, I think that people are making too much of a big deal about it. Realistically, I don't think anyone in our school knew the woman and were affected by it. It was just talked about so much because things like that don't happen in small towns like ours."

Schickler wins big

BY Sophie Kroft

Senior News Editor

Senior Carmi Schickler received a \$5,000 prize for his winning essay in the National Endowment for the Humanities for the United States' third annual essay contest. His paper won among hundreds of other entries nationwide.

The theme for this year's contest was, "The Idea of America." In a 1,200-word essay, Schickler explored the history of totalitarian regimes in Nazi Germany, Fascist Italy, and Communist Russia. He also wrote about why the Communist regime in Russia lasted longer than the other two. He concluded the essay by explaining that all three of these governments failed because they "created disillusion."

In order to write his essay, Carmi thoroughly researched manuscripts and biographies of Hitler, Lenin, and Mussolini, as well as the Federalist Papers.

"Studying the past is important because it helps us to predict and adapt to similar events in the present and future," said Schickler. "It is nice to win \$5,000 dollars, but it's crazy to think that it pays for about a month of college. Still, \$5,000 dollars is \$5,000 dollars."

An excerpt from Schickler's essay reads: *Fascism and Nazism, however, differed in their conception of opposition. For Fascists, anyone who opposed the state was considered hostile, while the Nazis targeted people based on race. As early as 1920, Hitler claimed: "Only a member of the [Aryan] race can be a citizen," and also said that "a member of the race can only be one who is of German blood, without consideration of creed" (Hitler, Program of the NSDAP). In this way, fascism and Nazism differed, in that Hitler often discriminated based solely on race, while Mussolini and the Italian fascists cared more about loyalty toward "the State."*

Key Club Walk-A-Thon

BY Rob Bellon

Staff Writer

There was an impressive turnout of Schreiber Key Club members participating in the Walk-A-Thon on Oct. 2, which is held annually by the Port Washington and Manhasset Chapter of CancerCare. CancerCare is a non-profit organization that works to provide free support services to people who are affected by cancer.

Approximately thirty club members walked alongside citizens of the community and other Schreiber students in the fundraiser. There was an air of good will as people walked for the common goal of combating cancer.

"I felt it was an excellent environment to walk with friends and have a good time," said junior Matt Mondragon. "I hope to see more people come in the future."

Key Club Co-President, junior Amanda Sall, was equally optimistic about this year's Walk-A-Thon.

"A lot of people showed up and we raised a lot of money," she said.

The Walk-A-Thon lasted ten kilometers, from Manorhaven Park to Shore Road, up Main Street, over Port Washington Boulevard, down to the

former Trunz building, and then back to Manorhaven Park.

After the walk, everyone gathered at the entrance of Manorhaven Pool for hamburgers and french fries. People were talking and laughing as they rested after the long walk.

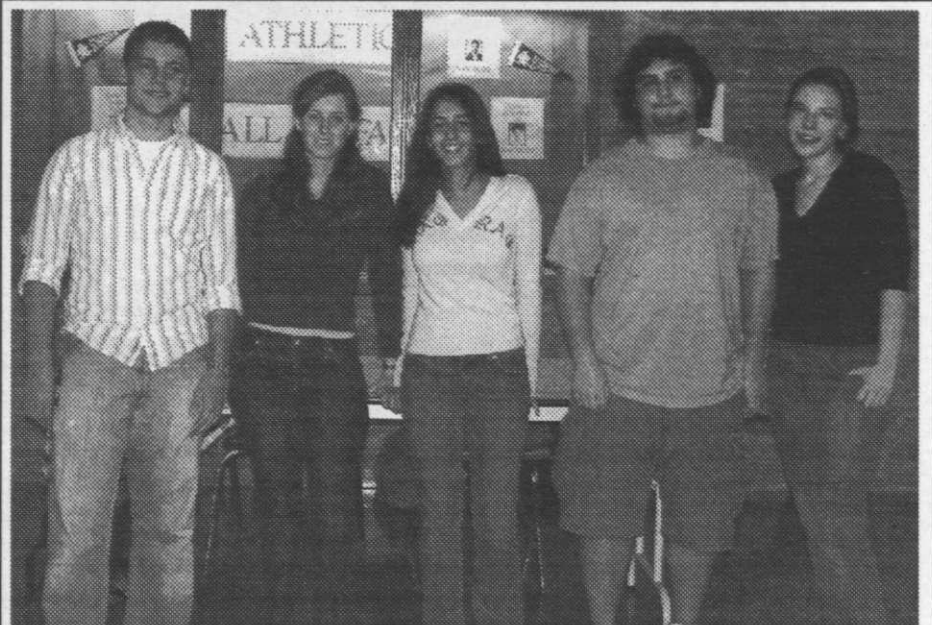
County Legislator and Port Washington native Craig Johnson was present to offer some inspiring words as well. He remarked to the walkers that any amount of money raised is an outstanding contribution to a good cause and that every last effort can help avert the painful effects of cancer on everyone.

The cause is close to Legislator Johnson, who lost his own mother to cancer in 2000, according to the website of the Nassau County Legislature.

The coordinators of the Walk-A-Thon thanked everyone who participated in the event and thanked the Key Club for its contribution of time and money.

"As an officer of Key Club I was extremely pleased with the excellent turn-out for the CancerCare Walk," said Key Club Secretary, junior Alyssa Epstein.

"It's great to see so many people join together to support such a wonderful cause!"



This year, seven Schreiber seniors, (l-r) Nicholas Werle, Arielle Buss, Daniella Malekan, Carmiel Schickler, and Jill Marcellus (not pictured Andrew Gross and Shira Helft) have been selected as Semifinalists in the National Merit Scholarship Competition. Over the past forty-nine years, the National Merit Scholarship Corporation has given out scholarships to the best and brightest of America's youth. It selects 15,000 students, out of the almost 1.3 million applicants, to offer money toward their higher education. Semifinalists are chosen by their mastery of the PSAT/NMSQT (Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) exams, taken in late October by most students entering their third year of high school. The seven aforementioned Schreiber students will be competing to become finalists. "We have a lot of motivated students in an academically challenging environment," said Marcellus, after being asked why Schreiber consistently produces a large number of winners. "The wonderful staff and opportunities for students contribute to Schreiber's success."

Fall pep rally brings students and athletes together

School spirit is alive at annual fall sports competition

BY Lexi Peterson

Contributing Writer

The 2005 Schreiber pep rally began with the school band's rendition of the National Anthem as student athletes prepared for an hour of good-natured competition. The pep rally on Oct. 7 introduced the fall sports teams, with an aim to boost school spirit.

Mr. Jeremy Klaff, social studies teacher and cross country coach, and senior Zubin Zaveri hosted the assembly. They were able to keep the athletes energized.

The emcees introduced all of the junior varsity teams, and then called forward the varsity teams.

Each athlete wore the team jersey. The coaches and captains of the teams were announced individually. The introduction of each team tried to keep the spectators excited.

The first JV teams introduced were field hockey, football, JV II boys soccer, and girls soccer.

After the coaches and captains were announced, the students and athletes competed to see who could do a better wave.

While the students' wave was not very

enthusiastic, the athletes all stood up and shouted when the wave came their way. No matter how many times the wave was repeated, the students could not beat the athletes' enthusiasm.

The pep rally included a series of relay races between student athletes and coaches to make it a more involved

“While the students' wave was not very enthusiastic, the athletes all stood up and shouted when the wave came their way. No matter how many times the wave was repeated, the students could not beat the enthusiasm of the athletes.”

assembly.

The first relay that took place was the scooter relay between the soccer, tennis, football, cross country, and field

hockey teams. During this relay, each person had to ride a scooter across the gym, around a cone, and back to his team. The boys soccer team was the fastest, taking first place.

Of the next three JV teams introduced, two of them, boys JV I soccer and girls tennis, were undefeated. The other team was girls volleyball.

In the midst of team announcements, Mr. Klaff began a “Let's go Vikings!” chant, which got the students, especially the athletes, very riled up.

This chant was followed by the next relay: hula hoops. Each person had to run across the gym up to a cone, hula hoop five times, and then run back to their starting line. Boys soccer won this contest as well.

“Because we won so many competitions, the boys soccer team is obviously the best fall sport,” said varsity soccer player junior Baker Milo cheerily.

For having the most victories, varsity boys soccer received pizza for the entire team.

Next up were the Portettes, who danced to the song, “Disco Inferno,” played by the band. The whole gym cheered them on.

Then, the hosts started to introduce

varsity teams. They began with cross country, which is undefeated, field hockey, boys football and boys soccer.

The third relay was followed by the introduction of varsity cross country, boys varsity football, and boys varsity soccer.

The next relay was the challenging egg-and-spoon race, which was won by girls soccer.

The band played “Washington and Lee” after the relay and then stats were announced, eliciting ecstatic cheers from the teams. Girls soccer had a record of 6-1, with four shutouts, and varsity girls volleyball was 8-0.

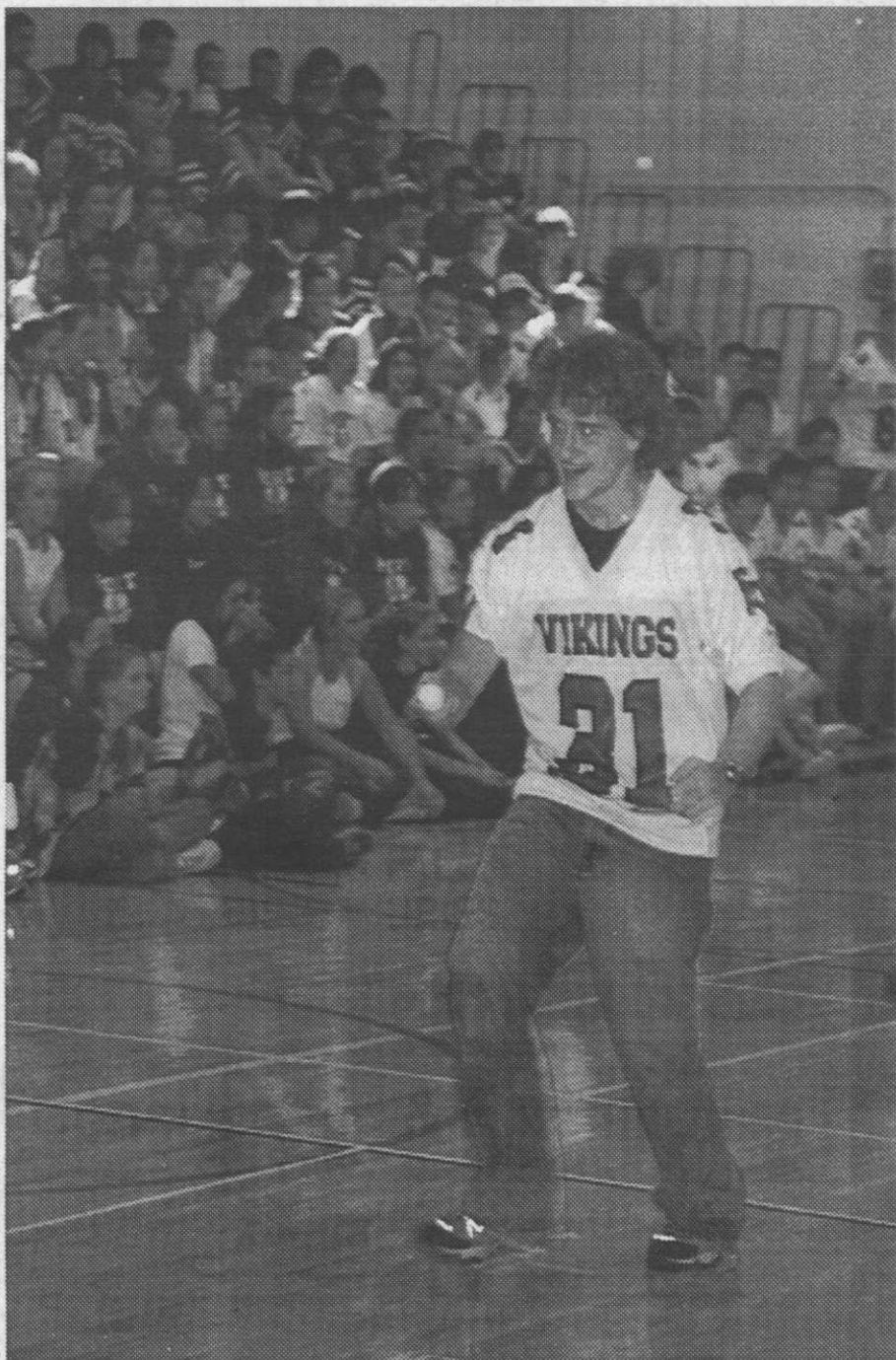
Girls swimming was introduced next, followed by girls tennis.

The fourth and last relay of the event was the clothes relay. Each person had to run across the gym, put on a jersey, take it off, and run back. The faculty won, followed closely by field hockey.

The pep rally closed with the band playing as students got ready to leave.

“I thought the pep rally was a memorable experience that gave me a sense of school spirit and enthusiasm,” said junior David Kim.

All Photos by Liz Corkett



(Left) Senior Tom Hill, member of the varsity football team, runs to the finish line during the egg and spoon relay. The football team was surprisingly nimble, although they were eventually defeated by the faculty. (Right) Senior Maya Silbert (front) and sophomore Lindsay Eisenman show their enthusiasm for their girls soccer team as they rush to sit down during the hula hoop relay. The athletes exemplified the ideal of Schreiber school spirit, but the audience remained uninspired and lethargic.

The Brotherhood of
The Community Synagogue
and
The Social Action Committee of
Chabad
are sponsoring the NY debut
of an exciting new
Independent Film written by
Port Washington's own
Esther Fogel
(Winner of the Austin Film
Festival 2005)

BENDING LIGHT

at the
Landmark
Theater
Thursday,
November 10th
7 PM

BENDING LIGHT

AUSTIN MOVIE MAKERS in association with RES PRODUCTIONS, WOLF STUNTWORKS and THE AUSTIN FILM FESTIVAL Presents
A ROBERT F. STEWART Production of a STEVEN WOLF FILM E.J. STAPLETON TIM JONES "BENDING LIGHT"
TOM SPRY DALLIN MULEY JONATHAN BOATWRIGHT CAMERON CUNNINGHAM Music by FEDERICO CHAVEZ Cinematographer BRENNIA JO HOBBS
Associate Producer TARYN WALDMAN Edited by JONATHAN ALVORD Production Designer STANFORD GILBERT
Director of Photography LAYTON BLAYLOCK Executive Producers ERIC SIMONE AND HENRIK JOHANSSON
Based on "THE MOUND" An original screenplay by ESTHER FOGEL Written by ESTHER FOGEL LAURAN JAMES and STEVEN WOLF
Produced by ROBERT F. STEWART Directed by STEVEN WOLF
Sponsored by CARL NEXT DOOR, BOGER BEASLEY AUB, WATERLOO ICE HOUSE, JOHN EASTY and EVERGREEN RV,
DANIEL GOLDBLATT and THE AUSTIN JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL, JUDY YUDOK, DARIN KURSMANN and PICTURE HEAD POST
FINISH LA, CA.

- *Special guest speakers:* Rabbis Zepelowitz, Edlemen, Paltiel and Lewis, Dr. Meade from Schreiber High School and the screenwriter Esther Fogel
- Wine, water and pastry will be served
- There will be a short Q&A about the film

Admission FREE

Donations are recommended to finance the promotion of the film nationwide.

The film tells the story of a father in a concentration camp who struggles with the question of whether to let his son be killed in the gas chambers or save his son at the cost of another boy's life. Based on a true story, Bending Light traces the moral, ethical and religious torment that often accompanied the physical suffering of death camp inmates.

Point

Counterpoint

Should teachers share their political opinions in class?

BY Daniella Malekan
Editor in Chief

For many students, entrance into high school also entails entrance into the political arena. Schreiber is composed of an array of students, ranging from apathetic teens to "government junkies," a diversity that allows each student a choice of how involved he or she would like to become in politics. The problem comes when impressionable students are exposed to politics for the first time in the classroom, by a teacher who only offers them views from one side of the political spectrum. Since Schreiber is such a liberal school, students are usually only exposed to the left's approach to issues. In the long run, students will be hurt by the fact that they are not learning how to develop and defend their own opinions, a deficiency that can last far beyond their years in high school.

Teachers are human. They generate opinions on the things they see going on around them, and as citizens with a greater degree of political rights and responsibilities than most teens, they often also have a greater sense of political awareness. Sometimes, their political opinions slip out in a comment they make in class. If this happens once or twice, it is okay, but the minute teachers begin preaching a political ideology without openly identifying it as a bias, problems are soon to ensue. As I mentioned before, students often get their first exposure to politics at school. When they are taught by an "all-knowing" teacher who makes comments inferring a political bias without identifying it, unaware students often take the teacher's word for fact, in effect unknowingly obtaining the same political bias. The educational system stresses the idea that a teachers word is law, and students are often reluctant to question them. Students lose the critical skills of questioning and debating that are necessary in order for them to find out where they stand on issues. Students learn nothing about the proper way to process information when they are simply regurgitating their teachers' opinions.

But a teacher openly associating a class with a specific political party or ideology is not any better, because it can serve to isolate those students who may not agree with the teacher, and can affect their ability to function in the parts of the class that have to do with curriculum rather than personal beliefs.

Imagine this: Little freshman Joey walks into his first imposing high school class ever, only to hear his teacher go off on a rant against Bush's spending policies. Joey immediately feels awkward, because he actually supports Bush's spending. When he tries to say something, his teacher immediately shoots him down, making Joey feel not only uncomfortable, but dumb for trying

to give his opinion to an authority figure. For the rest of the year, Joey is reluctant to speak in class, and he is convinced that when he gets bad grades on his assignments, it's just because his teacher is biased against him.

What good comes out of such a situation? Obviously the teacher is not looking to prompt a discussion. He is only offering a lecture to his students, some of whom may have felt uncomfortable and were not as brave to speak up even once as Joey had. Furthermore, the teacher is just giving the student a reason to dislike him. I have never known a teacher to actually grade a student unfairly because they held opposing political views.

Teachers have to understand that they have a great impact on the minds of their students. Teachers are seen as extremely powerful figures; they hold the fate of a student in their gradebook, and whether or not they would like to admit it, teachers need to know that this fact keeps many students on their toes to impress them. If that means absorbing their teachers' political opinions along the way then so be it. After spending an eight hour day at school, students can sometimes mix up their teachers' ideology with their own.

And I'm not making this all up. Many prominent political scientists have begun to research the effects of teacher biases in the classroom, especially in colleges. This summer, Schreiber's own senior Brian Tashman researched the effects of teacher bias on student behavior in various colleges throughout the nation. Tashman found that when professors were very liberal, student opinion generally moved to the extremes, either completely agreeing or disagreeing with their professor.

"It doesn't help the students make their own decisions," said Tashman.

There are many teachers in the school who have already realized the harm of incorporating their political views into their lessons.

"I don't feel comfortable imposing my views upon my students," said social studies teacher Dr. David O'Connor.

This is the right message to be sent. Political opinion needs to be kept out of the classroom, and if there is a small bias present, then students should be made aware of its existence so they can make their own opinions knowing that they are only getting a single perspective on an issue.

BY Nick Werle
Editor in Chief

Teachers from across the disciplines start school every year guaranteeing their classes that they will run a politically neutral classroom. They decline to disclose their own political views, opting instead for promises that both sides will be represented. While these claims sound nice, they are impossible.

Any teacher who claims to head an apolitical learning environment is unrealistic. Even if the teacher never voices outright support for one candidate, policy, or party, the influence of politics is unavoidable. Every decision teachers make — from the choice of the textbook to the content of the syllabus — is informed by their own politics. Their own concept of the material guides their decisions.

Although every classroom is vulnerable to the distorting influence of politics, history classes are the most at risk. One's opinions about current political issues affect his interpretation of history. Because he sees his own version as true, there seems to be nothing wrong with passing it on to children.

For example, learning about the ratification of the Constitution from someone who believes judicial activism is necessary will certainly be much

different than learning from a "strict constructionist." His own beliefs about the intentions of the framers will inevitably creep into the lesson plans as he talks about why these men did what they did.

To the untrained student, this type of bias is all but imperceptible. Because most students will not have the necessary background knowledge to put their teachers' comments into

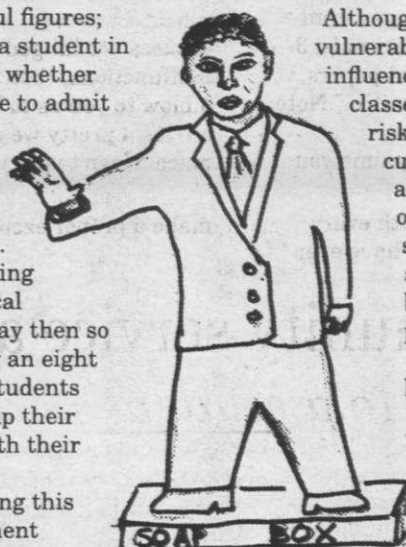
context, they will absorb this material as if it were objective political truth. This is harmful because one's opinions are inextricably linked to the past. It is impossible to separate your opinion of race relations in contemporary America from your impression of Reconstruction. Most issues in America are very old and have been the subject of debate for generations.

If the teacher tries to compensate for his bias, the effects might be even worse. Trying to find balance most often means inserting material from another political extreme into the course. Because all of this ideological shifting occurs outside the classroom it is impossible for students to determine when it is happening. This does nothing but switch out one politicized "fact" for another, doing a disservice to everyone.

The alternative to this balancing act is difficult to grasp. Teachers should not try to combat their innate biases by looking for material from the other side but should be introspective. Teachers should look at the choices that they make in the classroom and how they frame issues. They should examine the content of the textbook to understand the slants of the writers and the inadequacies inherent to any text.

However, this entire effort can be avoided. If teachers were to admit that an apolitical classroom is impossible, they would open up new discussions within the classroom and the department offices. Students would not only be able to decode the (un)intended political messages in the classroom material, but would also get constant opportunities to practice critically analyzing what they hear.

These critical learning skills are important for several reasons. First, critical thinking is key to learning beyond the preset curriculum. Second, they act as a necessary check on teachers whose classes devolve into ideological polemics. Finally, democracy only functions if citizens are trained to question authority and understand how important context is to information.



Shimon Ishikawa

Schreiber Speaks

"I believe that the teachers should discuss the facts of the political issue without having a clear bias to either side. This allows the student to develop his/her own opinion based on facts and his/her own take of the issue."

—James Krellenstein, freshman

"I don't believe teachers should teach their political views, but rather expose the students to different sides of an issue."

—Allison Rosenberg, sophomore

"I think that teachers should provide equal arguments for both sides of a case. However, there is nothing wrong with a teacher stating his/her opinion."

—Jason Lifton, junior

"I think it is wrong if a teacher expresses political bias towards a certain issue. It would change the classroom experience for a student who has a different view."

—Gabriella Monsanto, senior

A website powerful enough to change homework habits *Turnitin.com forces plagiarizing students to hit the books*

BY Max Lewin

Contributing Writer

I would like to tell you about an imaginary friend of mine named Donald Stacy. Donald Stacy is a smart guy, taking lots of honors and A.P. courses, especially for someone of his age. But Donald Stacy is also a very lazy person and procrastinates all time. He's been known to get his mother to sign him out of school on days that papers are due to type them up at the last minute, or even worse, hand papers in days or weeks late with notes providing absurd excuses, signed by his parents or doctor.

Due to a combination of reputation, intelligence, and cunning, Donald Stacy usually gets away with whatever he wants. But soon, the glory days of Donald will come to an end.

If you're wondering why Donald's method of beating the system will soon be obsolete, then you probably haven't heard of Turnitin.com. The latest in the digitalization of the educational process, this versatile website does it all, from collecting assignments, to checking for plagiarism, and most importantly in Donald's case, enforcing deadlines. Turnitin also provides several services for the convenience of teachers including a program for inserting comments into papers, and a digital grade book.

On the surface this may seem like a great idea. Why not make the jobs of teachers everywhere a little bit easier? Why not force students to write original papers instead of copying them from the internet? While there is nothing wrong

with Turnitin's purported intentions as an academic aide, a closer look at their included anti-plagiarism system raises some issues about, ironically enough, the improper use of the intellectual property of others.

Turnitin's much touted anti-plagiarism system consists of three databases, as stated on an informational section of their website.

“The latest in the digitalization of the educational process, this versatile website does it all, from collecting assignments, to checking for plagiarism, and most importantly in Donald's case, enforcing deadlines.”

“Our repository currently consists of three primary databases: 1. Both a current and extensively archived copy of the publicly accessible internet; 2. Millions of commercial pages from books, newspapers, and journals; 3. Tens of millions of student papers already submitted to Turnitin.” Note number three well.

This means that every time you upload a paper to Turnitin it is being cross-referenced with every other student essay they have ever

received. It stops friends from copying each other's essays, or particularly entrepreneurial students from hawking their old papers on the web. But do the millions of students with lawfully written and original papers receive any of the compensation that the owners of the books, newspapers, and journals undoubtedly do? After all, they use the material given to them by students to help run their business, so it's only logical that the students should get a cut.

Unfortunately, this argument begins to run in circles, because the students are benefiting from the service, at least on an indirect level, so one could consider that reparation for their papers. Whichever side of the argument you are on, though, I think that a sensible solution would be to allow students to decide if their papers get added to the database whenever they upload an essay to Turnitin.

Besides its somewhat dicey and hypocritical philosophy on plagiarism, though, I think Turnitin is a valuable educational tool, not only for the teacher but for the student as well.

With the ability to hand assignments in online, you no longer need to have a maintained or functioning printer to make it through school. Of course, if your stalling excuses are hinged on supposed printer malfunctions, then Turnitin is as heavy a blow to you as to Donald, but come on, it's a pretty weak excuse in the first place. Hasn't your teacher ever heard of email? At least Donald knows how to make a proper excuse.

Key Club: not just for community service anymore *How charitable clubs are used to a student's advantage*

BY Stephanie Seeman

Contributing Writer

When passing through a neighborhood, you are bound to see young children running frantically through the streets, with smiles on their faces. Whether they're riding their bicycles or playing Frisbee on their lawns, they always seem to be having the time of their lives. Perhaps the reason they are constantly having fun is because they are never tied down to their desks at 11:30 at night writing an AP paper, or rushing to finish an honors assignment that was due weeks before.

As children enter ninth grade, many parents unfairly expect solid grades in all classes. Even more pressure is added when ninth graders realize that in just three years they will have to apply to colleges. They will need to send in their high school grades to the universities of their choice. However, receiving good grades is no longer the only thing that will ensure your spot in the college of your dreams. It is the combination of a good GPA along with participation in extracurricular activities that will do the trick.

Schreiber is known for its many clubs, some of which allow students to help the community. Many of Schreiber's students sign up for these types of clubs without a generous

thought in their minds. The only reason they decide to participate is because of how it might look on their college transcripts.

Key Club, for example, gives students the chance to participate in community service through car washes, charity walks, and food drives. Students sign up for a specific event and either do not show up, or show up and complain about how early it is on a weekend or how much work they have to put into the job.

It is baffling that students who find no joy in helping others join clubs that are based on charity. Why can't they just pick a club that actually suits their own interests? Students should be less concerned with getting into the best college and more interested in doing what they like.

In some cases, students who believe that helping others throughout their community is lame or pointless continue to participate in Schreiber's community service clubs with hopes that one day they will be given a leadership position in the club. This title might be impressive on a college transcript but many students are unaware that some people, who really find pleasure in helping others, may actually want the post of president.

I would feel horrible if I became president of a club I hated, over someone who absolutely loved it. But

to Schreiber students, it's worth doing this if it helps them get into Harvard or Yale.

In my opinion, if students continue to base their decisions on what looks best for college, they will never experience the warm feeling that comes from helping another person. In fact, if they eventually get accepted to the college of their dreams after

“Students should be less concerned with getting into the best college and more interested in doing what they like best.”

participating in tons of activities they joined purely to appear more appealing, they truly haven't earned their spot. By joining clubs for the sake of college admissions and being competitive, students are not putting their hearts into what they do. Their sole purpose in life will always be to achieve some sort of reward.

War in Iraq is costing America more than lives

BY Eliana Theodorou

Contributing Writer

On Sept. 24, about 300,000 people came together, united for a cause. People of all ages, religions, and races came together, marching side by side to show their opposition to the policies of the Bush administration, the most important issue, of course, being the war in Iraq. This was the largest antiwar demonstration in America since the time of the Vietnam War. Participants ranged from baby boomers to politically active college students. Groups such as Glam (Glamorous

“This was the largest antiwar demonstration in America since the time of the Vietnam War.”

Americans for Peace), Latinos Contra La Guerra, NOW (National Organization for Women), and Raging Grannies all attended, demonstrating opposition to the war in Iraq. Many protesters carried signs with slogans such as “College Not Combat,” and “Money For Education, Not War.” Groups drawing attention to the lack of low income housing initiatives in this administration argued that tax dollars should be used to help Americans instead of foreign nationals.

One of the most inspiring protesters was Ms. Cindy Sheehan, mother of a fallen soldier in Iraq. Sheehan, who has been demanding a meeting with President Bush since this summer was one of several protesters who had originally backed the war. Sheehan turned against Bush when intelligence revealed that there were no weapons of mass destruction in Iraq.

Of course, there were many who also criticized Bush's response to the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. The common protest with all demonstrators was a need for the Bush administration to put the basic needs of people first, and to put an end to war. Of course, the media paid almost no attention to the march. Not only was it at the same time as Hurricane Rita, which was the focus of most of the country's attention, but also peace marches are rarely covered in the mainstream media.

However, as the youth of this country, it is important that Schreiber students stay informed about events like this. After all, we're the ones who are going to end up with this world in a few years.

The web site www.costofwar.com, which gets its numbers from Congressional appropriations, presents some surprising statistics. The site estimates that the \$200 billion spent on the war in Iraq could have been used to hire 3,490,700 new teachers. With the money spent on the war, we could have provided 9,763,600 students with one year's paid tuition at a public university. As a high school student, it's appalling to me that the government is spending its money like this. Scary as it is, we are the future, and this war is obviously not an investment made in our best interest.

Does Rachel's Challenge inappropriately talk of religion?

An in-depth look at the religious organization behind Rachel's Challenge

BY Dan Stewart

Contributing Writer

When I walked out of last month's Rachel's Challenge assembly, I was surprised about what I had seen and was not sure what to think. Over the next few days, discussion with friends about "Rachel's Challenge" led me to realize that the assembly was in fact deceitful and offensive. Before I begin, I want to make it clear that I do NOT aim to debunk Christianity in any way, and I would be deeply upset if this article offended anyone.

I have two major qualms with the presentation. First, we spent one hour of our school day being proselytized. What was presented as an innocent sermon of compassion and kindness was in fact Christianity 101 minus the word "God." We were told that there was this person who espoused compassion, tried to start a "chain reaction" of compassion, and was killed at an early age by people who hated compassion. To me, this sounds like a story straight out of the Bible.

I figured that I'd be considered crazy, so I went in search for evidence. We were given a website at the end of the presentation, www.rachelschallenge.com.

I didn't find any religious references on this page, so I searched for "Rachel Joy Scott" on Google. The results included many "official" Rachel Scott websites. I found messages on these sites like, "The true killer was Cain, and the reason for the murder could only be found in Cain's heart." To be fair, I narrowed down the selection to websites run by Rachel's

family, but I still found passages like, "Rachel Scott took a stand that fateful day. Christians around the world have learned a valuable lesson from this 17 year old."

I'm Jewish; am I not supposed to learn from Rachel?

Think back to the assembly. We were told that Rachel's parents wrote a book about her called *Rachel's Tears*. Actually, the complete title is *Rachel's Tears: The Spiritual Journey*

“What was presented as an innocent sermon of compassion and kindness was in fact Christianity 101 minus the word ‘God.’”

of Columbine Martyr Rachel Scott.

The presenter also said that a movie had been released called *Rachel's Challenge*, which was produced by a Christian film company. In scanning the truly official Rachel Scott web page, I found "Columbine Redemption," a non-profit Christian organization devoted to bringing healing and hope after the Columbine tragedy. Sounds nice, but wait: the first part of the site's mission statement aims "to establish a lasting program called 'Rachel's Challenge.'"

Now, I'm all for faith-based charitable organizations, but when a faith-based organization steps into a public school with a mission

to teach students, I become a little uneasy. Then, I start to hear about predestination and premonitions which makes me even more nervous. Are they saying that Rachel also had divine powers? I read more on the website to find that the organization prides itself on the fact (although I doubt it is fact) that "Millions of people have come, and continue to come, to the Lord because of her legacy."

Rachel's Challenge clearly makes a conscious effort to hide its religious connections. It censored the title of the Scotts' book, it played down Rachel's strong religious beliefs, and didn't mention anything about its parent organization, Columbine Redemption. In effect, the program is admitting that it has things to hide not suitable for public high school presentations.

Nevertheless, hundreds of high school assemblies are directed by Rachel's Challenge each year. Religion should and must not be taught in public schools. When schools accept Rachel's Challenge into their auditoriums they do so at the cost of education. It is completely unconstitutional. But while I strongly support separation of church and state, my anger comes primarily from another source.

The first portion of the assembly was devoted to recalling the tragic day when the nation froze as two fanatical students paced the hallways of a high school with automatic guns and killed thirteen of their peers. I was deeply moved by the film, and while I cannot speak for other students, I'm sure the feeling was common. For most of us, it had been over six years since we had

revisited the events of that horrific day. Rachel's Challenge took advantage of our vulnerability and exploited the disaster. The organization used the Columbine massacre to thrive. Because Columbine created tremendous shock throughout the country, an organization that showed something good coming out of the incident became extremely attractive and grew tremendous support, evidenced by the innumerable Rachel Scott tribute websites.

After all of my research into Rachel's Challenge, I still do not know the name of a single Columbine victim other than Rachel Scott. Thirteen people were fatally shot, and many more critically wounded, and Darrell Scott placed more importance on his daughter's death than the other twelve. The name itself, "Columbine Redemption," embodies my problems with the organization. According to www.dictionary.com, one definition is "salvation from sin through Jesus' sacrifice." This would mean that Columbine is being used as a vehicle to achieve salvation.

Again, I have nothing against Christianity or faith-based organizations. However, I am deeply disturbed by this organization. It aims to bring religious teachings into the public school setting and uses the Columbine tragedy to that end. I am appalled that the Schreiber and Port Washington administrations readily endorsed Rachel's Challenge when a simple Google search shows that it is completely unsuitable for a presentation at Schreiber.

Should the state have the final say on death?

An exploration into the heated debate over doctor-assisted suicide

BY Asher Feldman

Staff Writer

Most people don't want to imagine that humans on this earth would want to kill themselves. Even more controversial is the idea of having a doctor assist someone in the act. Recently, the state of Oregon has come under fire for its law, passed in 1997, which allows doctors to help terminally ill patients end their lives instead of having to suffer through their illnesses.

The law was made in the wake of the Dr. Jack Kevorkian scandal. The case is now being brought to the Supreme Court of the United States, and the new Chief Justice, John Roberts. The court will focus on whether or not the government can find doctors in Oregon under violation of the Controlled Substances Act of 1970 for assisting their patients in committing suicide.

Doctor assisted suicide first came into the national view in 1998, when Dr. Jack Kevorkian let *60 Minutes* broadcast one of his procedures, in which he administered drugs to end the life of a terminally ill patient. As soon as the tape was aired, Kevorkian was accused and convicted of second degree murder. His actions in part caused the passing of Oregon's Death with Dignity Act.

One of the main controversies of

this law is whether or not the federal government has the power to cut down state laws. The idea of the power of the federal government superseding that of the state government is one that is addressed in the Tenth Amendment of the Constitution, which states that, "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people."

In layman's terms, this means that whatever the federal government doesn't have the power to decide, the state gets to decide. Most people believe that unless the federal government has full rights to decide whether or not a person should die, (as is the case with criminals such as Timothy McVeigh, who bombed buildings in Oklahoma City) under the constitution, the state has full rights to make the decision.

Many people opposed to legalizing doctor assisted suicide worry about the extent to which the law could be used. They fear that the law would be used to give deeply depressed patients the opportunity to end their life without getting the proper treatment first and without being told that death is not the only option.

Oregon seems to have grasped the idea of using the law successfully, in that only about 200 people have

utilized doctor assisted suicide in the terms specified under law. The law states that the patient must be mentally stable, have less than 6 months to live and they must be advised to the other options besides death.

I believe that the law in Oregon should be upheld, but that it should undergo some changes. If Oregonians are to keep this law then they should

“The people there are as nice as can be...they would be very responsible and use it to help only people who are in desperate need.”

keep the current qualifications which must be met to attain the right to die.

But they should make a standard list of doctors who are approved to do the procedure. The state could specifically train and license doctors in psychology, the administration of the drugs, and various other fields that they would need to perform doctor assisted suicide. The act could keep this list of accredited doctors at about one for every 10,000 people in the state, or about 350 licensed doctors.

The state should integrate assisted suicide into most major hospitals in Oregon, and create a board of tenured doctors who would be licensed to perform the action and who would look over every case. In each instance, a majority of the board would have to vote to allow the procedure to happen.

Since this is a transitional period in the Supreme Court, the decision in this case could strongly define Chief Justice Roberts' stand on the power of the state versus the power of the federal government. It could also be the last vote for retiring Justice Sandra Day O'Connor if in fact the case is finished before the confirmation of her replacement, whether it be Harriet Miers or another nominee.

As a person who has visited Oregon three times in the last three summers, I know that Oregon is a peaceful place and the people that live there are as nice as can be. I believe that they would be very responsible in maintaining the law and use it to help only people who are in desperate need. I also place quite a bit of trust in the Congress and people of Oregon; if they had the guts to pass such a law in 1997, then they should be able to continue to fight for their interpretation of the Tenth Amendment and for their right to die.

Does Harriet Miers deserve her "Supreme" nomination?

BY Siddarth Ninan
Contributing writer

Following the disastrous Katrina relief effort and the abysmal failure of Michael Browne as director of FEMA, the American public has become more aware of the cronyism and ineptitude rampant within the Bush administration. Of course such partiality exists within all administrations, but recently, failures of appointed officials seem to have been amplified in light of tragedy. In any case, the media now hunts for other such incompetent officials, and with the Supreme Court nomination of a person whose highest legal position seems to have been in the Texas Lottery Commission, allegations of Harriet Miers' ineptitude have been posed from both sides of the political spectrum.

As Bush's personal lawyer for years, Miers has defended him in a number of cases, and while she has proved that she is a capable lawyer, she has never worked in the judiciary. However, this fact alone should not be used against Judge Miers, as many past Supreme Court justices have had no prior judicial experience (i.e. William Rehnquist, who later rose to Chief Justice) and have succeeded with this background. Even in these cases, nominees were

often at the forefront of the American legal world—well respected lawyers who took part in groundbreaking cases. In Miers' situation, her career, while noteworthy, is not one of exceptional fame or outstanding performance, and a majority of her accomplishments were within the parameters of her work in the Bush administration. She was the first woman to practice law at Locke, Purnell, Boren, Laney & Neely, a law firm of considerable repute based in Dallas, Texas. She went on to become the first female president of the Dallas Bar Association and later, the Texas State Bar. Miers later helped Bush in his gubernatorial campaign, and was appointed by Bush to serve as chairwoman of the Texas Lottery Commission.

Since Bush was elected president, Miers has held a number of high-level positions, most recently White House Counsel. This last appointment might seem curious, as the White House Counsel would have a certain amount of sway in recommending the person most qualified to fill the empty seat on the Supreme Court.

Ever since Miers' nomination, support for Bush has been falling, even within his own party. Republicans were promised a strong, decisive nominee who would uphold conservative values in the court, but instead they were presented with Miers, whom they criticize as

inexperienced and unqualified. Even though Bush's approval ratings plunged over the summer due to the rising death count in Iraq, high gas prices, and the mismanagement of Hurricane Katrina, he isn't pandering to his base to gain support like one would expect. In reality, he is displeasing them, something that will not bode well for Bush in the future when he has to work with the very people he has been upsetting. Bush continues to assure the right wing that Miers will support Republicans, but even those who believe him aren't sure of Miers' capability to succeed as a Supreme Court justice.

Perhaps the thing that most strongly gives rise to accusations of cronyism is the fact that Miers has followed Bush throughout his journey to the executive office, tagging along through various White House positions. The strong personal relationship between Miers and Bush that has developed over ten years raises some eyebrows. Ever since being appointed assistant to the President when Bush entered the White House, Miers has developed a reputation as an undying supporter of Bush and his policies. When someone as inexperienced and as loyal to Bush is nominated to the Supreme Court, one cannot help but doubt whether the nomination was based on merit alone.

not Quite newsworthy Halloween: A time for candy and witch hunting

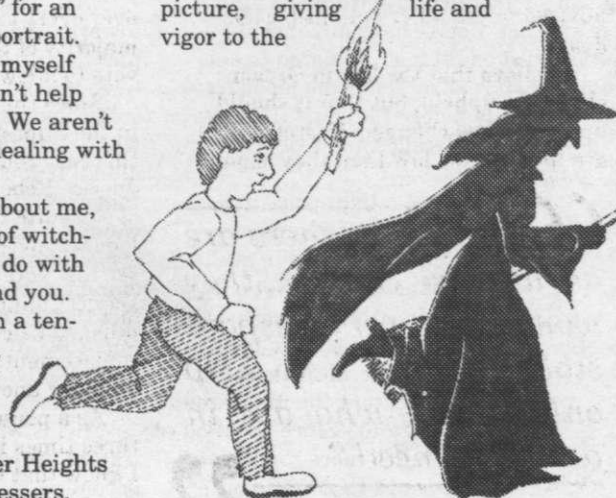
BY Jeremy Frank
Assistant Opinions Editor

I always considered myself to be a fan of art. Pointillists, impressionists, abstracts, and even the people I meet in Greenwich Village who are simply unwashed; their capacity to create amazes me. So at first I wasn't suspicious when I read on YahooNews.com that "The Arts and Handicrafts School in Changsha, capital city of Hunan Province, asked [Swedish Prime Minister Goran] Persson in a letter last month to send 'three or four pieces of hair' for an alleged hand-embroidered portrait. For days I tried to convince myself that I was crazy, but I couldn't help seeing what was so obvious. We aren't dealing with artists, we're dealing with witches!

You may not know this about me, but I come from a long line of witch-hunters. We had nothing to do with the Salem Witch Trials, mind you. We wouldn't touch that with a ten-foot witch-hunting pole. No, my family is responsible for searching every nook and cranny accessible only to magical beings in the Shaker Heights area. We checked behind dressers, inside mailboxes, and even excavated 1/10 of a mile below the surface of the earth. Findings were generally slim, but on a few occasions we found vicious, face-eating snakes compressed inside cans of peanuts through what could only be black magic.

Coming to the conclusion that these "Chinese artists" were witches involved a struggle between my love of art and my heritage. In the end, of course, my fanatical urge to dunk things in Mill Pond while screaming about "being in league with the

devil" won out. (In a side note, I must apologize to the very forgiving Mr. Shields over our misunderstanding. I know now that using Remote Keyless Entry does not make you the "Man-bride of Satan.") Once I was sure they were witches, I had to find out what they were up to. Remembering a lesson I had been explicitly taught about not voicing wild and uncorroborated claims, I decided to read the rest of the story. And that's when my cunning genius discovered this hidden quote, cleverly disguised as its own paragraph: "Our artists will plant your hair in the picture, giving life and vigor to the



Katie Mancher

embroidered portrait." Dear god, they're going to make a living painting and use it to take over Sweden!

It is fitting that the witches should make their move now, with it being Halloween and all. For the last decade or so, witches have been pervading our popular culture. You know what makes Lucky Charms™ "magically delicious?" Dark magic! You know what makes Hoover vacuums pick up dirt "like magic?" Arcane sorcery! With all this evil about, I was happy to hear that a witch was currently before the Supreme

Court, the only court that can sentence her to some sort of ridiculous test as is a time-honored tradition. But when I read the details of the trial, something didn't quite click.

As it turns out, this case involved religious discrimination in Chesterfield County, Virginia. It is customary to have county hearings opened with a prayer, and in Chesterfield County, these prayers are led by either a priest, a rabbi, or an imam (and no, they do not "walk into a bar.") So when Cyndi Simpson, a Wiccan priestess from the suburbs of Richmond, requested permission to lead an opening prayer, she was shocked when she was refused. Apparently, it is the county's tradition to allow any Judeo-Christian (and Muslim) prayers, but nothing else. So Simpson sued and won, initially.

But the Fourth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals ruled that Chesterfield County has done a good job of holding up the Constitutional duty not to favor one religion over another.

On top of that, the other religious leaders had actually been forbidden from using names like "Jesus Christ" which would have been too specific to one religion. Personally, I believe that all religions should be respected, not only Judeo-Christian ones. However, I also believe that Wicca may be a poor example of this. With between only one and three million practitioners worldwide, the number of Wiccans in Chesterfield County could have easily been between zero and Cyndi Simpson. Overall, I think a compromise has to be reached. I don't think the government should be allowed to draw lines in the sand about what religions are "real religions." People like Cyndi Simpson should know that sometimes the needs of many outweigh the needs of a few.

Schreiber Ethics

BY Gulus Emre
Opinions Editor

Should you curse in the classroom?

As the free-thinking youth of America, the liberty that we are the most proud of is freedom of speech. As American citizens, we are allowed to say pretty much whatever we want, whenever we want to say it. And although I am a staunch advocate of free speech and all other rights guaranteed by the First Amendment, there is a line that determines what is appropriate and what is obscene. I am referring of course, to cursing in the classroom.

On the average day at Schreiber, I would say that a student hears some sort of curse at least ten times. Now we all know that cursing is not an appropriate way to express yourself, especially not in front of teachers or other authority figures. Just as an example, you would not knowingly shout expletives in front of someone who could get you into trouble, because you would surely end up in the tank or a week's worth of detention.

But it wasn't always this way. In the days of yore, students wouldn't dare use curses in school, because their punishment was public humiliation and possibly a beating, when today's punishments are pretty lenient in comparison. As the world changed, young children were exposed to more and more "bad" language: through television and other media outlets. The creation of the Internet gave students access to more and more uncensored material—containing more and more curses. Websites like urbandictionary.com provided definitions of any and all curses that students didn't know the meanings of. When you combine all of these factors, you end up with a youth that can recite every bad word in the book.

So when is it "okay" to curse in school, if ever? Although the idealist in me would like to think that we can learn to live in a curse free environment, the pragmatist knows that cursing is too deeply embedded in the daily lingo of most teenagers to be eradicated completely. To be fair, it isn't only teenagers who curse; adults will let slip the occasional swearword during school as well, (much to the glee of students).

Social propriety dictates that cursing is never appropriate in school, because it is a noble institution in which young minds are developing, and young minds don't need to hear foul language. But since we can't all adhere to the societal code, there is a compromise that can be reached.

Try not to curse in the middle of class, especially when you can avoid it. If your carefully organized papers fall all over the floor, then an escaping curse sometimes cannot be helped. In terms of when cursing is appropriate in written work, adding swear words into your essay will not get you extra points, nor will it make your point any more valid. If anything, cursing in the classroom can make you sound juvenile because the need to use curses usually suggests a smaller vocabulary, or at least one lacking in adjectives. Until next time, wash your mouth out with soap.

Violent videogames: do they really create killers?

By Phil Fleisher

Contributing Writer

John "Jack" Thompson is a lawyer and a prominent figure in the National Institute on Media and the Family, a group that is persistent in its battle for a more family friendly environment. For the last seventeen years, Thompson has been waging a relentless war against violent and sexually explicit media. Recently, he has focused the majority of his time upon the impact that those kinds of video games have on our society, and how they affect all those who play them. It is his opinion that violent games are, in their simplest form, murder simulators, which allow a gamer to spend hours rehearsing a murder until they actually leave the house and use what they have learned on a real person.

For the last few years, Thompson has been trying to connect murders of all kind to first person shooters, a genre of video games where you look through the main character's eyes and explore the digital world while attacking enemies with various firearms. Some of the more popular incidents he has tried to link to video games include the Washington Sniper incident and the Columbine School Shooting. He specializes in cases that involve non-firearm weapons and vehicles, essentially where a murder takes place without a gun. It is his assumption that if someone beats another to death with a bat, then he had to have learned it from a videogame.

While he has many supporters on his side, his rash and often inflammatory statements have gained him many enemies. During his battle with the makers of the *Grand Theft Auto* series, he attempted to sway public opinion with his very individualistic beliefs on religion.

"The Bible doesn't promote killing innocent people," stated Thompson. "*Grand Theft Auto* does. Islam does.

Islam promotes the killing of innocent people. The Qur'an requires the infidel whether Jew or Christian, to be killed... That's a core essence of the religion... Muhammad was a pirate who killed infidels and who advocated the killing of infidels. Not a nice guy. Osama bin Laden is in keeping with this fine tradition."

On Oct. 10, Thompson wrote a letter titled "A Modest Video Game Proposal" in which he depicted the plot of an imaginary video game. He then went on to explain that if a company will "create, manufacture, distribute, and sell the game in 2006," he will donate \$10,000 to a charity of Paul Eibeler's choice. Eibeler is the chairman of Take-Two Interactive, the game company that publishes / develops / distributes games such as the *Grand Theft Auto* series and *Manhunt*, an extremely controversial game that was banned in Germany, Australia, and New Zealand.

Thompson's proposed game begins with a court room scene where Osaki Kim is watching his son's fourteen-year-old murderer being sentenced to life in prison. During the short movie, you see the connection made between the murder weapon; a bat, and a favorite video game of the murderer, where one of the main ways of killing people is with a bat. Kim leaves the courtroom believing that video games had a part in his son's death. "Vengeance will be mine, I will repay," Kim says as interactive play starts. During the game Kim is supplied with a multitude of weapons, including handguns, shotguns, sniper rifles, swords, and baseball bats. Kim flies from his home in L.A. to New York, to visit Paula Eibel, the female CEO of Take This Interactive. Once there, Kim murders Eibel, along with her husband and children. Kim then travels from New York back to L.A., shooting up arcades and electronics stores, telling managers and cashiers that "You should have checked their

IDs!"

The reason he is traveling back to L.A. is so that he can attend E3 (the Electronic Entertainment Expo), where he slaughters everyone in "one final, monstrously delicious rampage."

So why would Thompson write such a letter? Why propose something so horrible? Was he trying to make a point? Is this all a strange form of satire in which he is attempting to comment on how the video game companies will produce anything?

Two days later after the letter was posted and rumors as to the Thompson's intent started to fly around the internet, Mike Krahulik, the artist of the popular video game based web comic, *Penny-Arcade*, decided to send Thompson an email saying "Ten grand is pretty weak, man."

Instead of ignoring the email, Thompson actually proceeded to call Krahulik. "He screamed at me for a couple minutes," Krahulik reported in a post on his website. "He said that if I emailed him again, I would regret it." Then Thompson hung up.

Then, Krahulik and Holkins did something unexpected. They personally donated the \$10,000 to The Entertainment Software Association Foundation, the charity that Eibeler would have given Thompson's imaginary donation to. And the best part? They did it in Thompson's name.

So what did Thompson do next? He called the Seattle police and tried to get Krahulik and Holkins arrested. In a letter Thompson faxed to the Seattle Chief of Police, he explained that the two men "have decided to commence and orchestrate criminal harassment of me by various means." All throughout the fax, Thompson conventionally ignored the fact that he's given them multiple threats, proposed a videogame where you pee on people you've just murdered, and that these two men just donated \$10,000 dollars in his name.

As of now, Krahulik and Holkins have not been arrested, and continue

to post comics tri-weekly on their website. While everything they have said, and continue to say is true, it is arguable whether what they say could be construed defamatory. Holkins stated Thompson "is... loco insane."

That he is. But this is just one man's opinion, and a bias one at that. While personally, I am not a big fan of the games that could be considered violent, I admit that I have played them. All I know is that I have never had the urge to hit someone with a baseball bat.

"I think we can all agree that young kids should not play violent videogames," Krahulik posted on his site. "I think we can also agree that young kids should not watch violent movies or read pornographic magazines. That's a job for parents, not Jack Thompson."

All too true. For those of you that may not be aware, video games have ratings, very similar to movies. While Thompson's final solution is to wipe all games off the face of the earth, I think that the people at Institute on Media and the Family would be contented if retailers would just follow the rules and only sell games to people of the appropriate age. Adults have the right to play violent games, just like anyone of age has the right to watch violent movies. When it comes to kids, it is really the decision of the parents. Much to Thompson's dismay, he has no authority in my home and will still have no authority when I am raising my kids.

Thompson does have a valid point, but the only way he is going to get it across to people is if he stops acting so crazy. Threats are not the way you get across to people. Attempting to arrest men who give money to charity is not the way you get across to people. Writing proposals that contradict what you stand for and make you look like a murderous loon is not the way you get across to people. As soon as Thompson starts acting like a normal human being, maybe all his hard work will finally gain him some results.

The iPod takeover: how iPod killed the vinyl record star

By Andrew Gross

Copy Editor

The release of the iPod back in 2001 marked one of the most revolutionary advancements in music technology since the creation of the first LP vinyl by Columbia Records in 1948. The iPod has since completely changed the way we listen to music. Thousands of songs are available at the click of a button, held in a practically weightless little white box. To many, this epitomizes perfection; it is literally impossible for portable music to become any more convenient. And in that sense, they're right. Even the most expansive of music collections poses little threat to the capacity of the new iPods.

It's never been easier to listen to music for hours straight, completely effort-free. Since I bought my iPod a few years ago, the total amount of time spent listening to music has doubled or even tripled. As long as it has battery, there's nothing to stop me from listening, no matter where I am. The prospect of having all your music with you at all times is definitely exciting, and few can deny the positive effects that has on the rapid spread and popularity of new music.

Yet at the same time, I have begun

to notice some very negative effects of this constant availability of thousands of songs at the click of a button. The most significant effect is that my music attention span has been completely diminished. While CDs were definitely less convenient than iPods, where you had to carry around a whole book just to keep your options open, and

had to physically change the CDs to listen to new music, there is definitely a lot to be said for the continuity of listening to albums for more than one song at a time.

When I would put an album like *Abbey Road*, or *Dark Side of the Moon* into my DiskMan, I would often listen to it from beginning to end, or at least a few songs at a time. Most albums, especially those from the pre-digital age, were made to be coherent. While some albums are designed for the single success of one or two songs, the album is intended to establish a unified vision. So you really

can't get the full impact of the album by listening to just one song. Now that I can switch instantly from one album to another, I don't have any incentive to stick with one thing. I'll listen to one song, then realize I'm in the mood for another, and before I know it, I'll have spanned four decades and five genres in ten minutes.

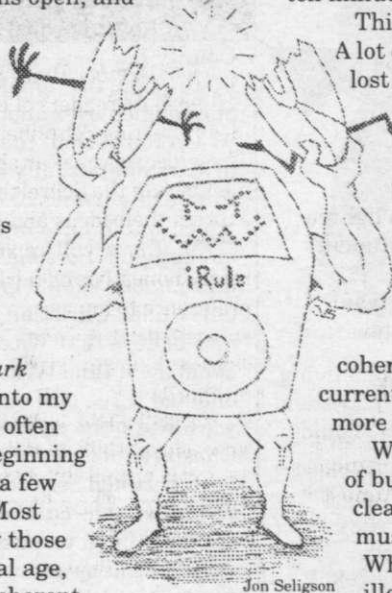
This is not a light price to pay. A lot of the impact of music is lost when it's listened in such haphazard way. Not only has this influenced the way I listen to music, but it's also influenced to a large extent the music that I listen to. Since the iPod is much more conducive to songs that stand on their own, rather than coherent albums, the trends of current music are shifting towards more singles-based production.

With music stores going out of business left and right, it is clear that downloading is the music medium of the future. While many still download illegally, Napster's bust, coupled with Apple's creation of the iTunes store, through which songs and albums can be purchased for download for \$.99 and \$9.99

respectively, have resulted in a shift towards legal downloading.

This, in turn, has contributed towards the shift away from the purchasing of full albums. If you have the option of buying individual songs just as easily as full albums, why waste the money on the entire album if you can just download the songs you like for less money? We would all like to think that the artists are indifferent to the monetary aspect of music production; that they are just trying to express themselves musically. It is unrealistic to expect artists to ignore the financial aspect altogether.

This is why there is a shifting trend towards "albums" that are becoming more and more disjointed compilations of unrelated songs with hit single potential. And that's not to say that the music isn't good, just to say that music is entering a viscous cycle in which the sinking attention span of the average listener is leading to a similar shift in the format of music produced, which in turn is compounding the problem. The iPod is definitely here to stay, but as usual, no improvement comes without its pitfalls.





EDITORIALS

Misrepresented course loads

The Schreiber Times would like to comment on the common teaching tactic of beginning courses at a much more difficult level than teachers intend to maintain as a means of encouraging students to drop the courses, or of intimidating students to improve their performance. In doing so, teachers give students an unrealistic impression of their own capabilities, or lack thereof, in their classes. Students should not be made to think that they are unable to handle a course simply because they are unable to keep up with an arbitrarily difficult introduction. While students should by no means be encouraged to remain in classes that are too difficult for them, they should be allowed to make the decision on their own with a full understanding of the true nature

of the class, rather than a deceptively difficult first few weeks.

Additionally, this practice creates an unduly stressful transition into the beginning of the school year for all students. Instead of gradually easing into the difficulties of academic rigor by allowing students to adapt to their new circumstances, teachers often cause shell-shock in even the most capable students by making the workload even more strenuous than necessary. In order to maintain fairness toward all students, both those unsure of their belonging in a specific class and those fully capable of handling the material, teachers should not misrepresent the nature of their classes as a manipulative strategy.

Schreiber Pep Rally

This year's pep rally was lame. As have been the past three pep rallies, ever since the administration changed the format from individual performances by each team to the mandatory relay races that we all have to labor through.

The pep rallies used to be run in a way where each team was allotted a certain amount of time during which teammates could present their team in any way they decided. Most boys teams introduced team members and captains and discussed games, while girls teams chose to do some presentation along the lines of a humorous skit or a short coordinated dance.

The format of the pep rallies changed after, in the name of friendly competition, the varsity field hockey team came out onto the gym floor, pulled out silly string, and sprayed their rivals, the girls varsity soccer team. The administration was outraged with the mess, and, "coincidentally," the format of the pep rallies was changed to that of the relay races the very next year.

The biggest difference between the old pep rallies and the new pep rallies is that the old ones were full of team spirit. Students appreciated the shows

put on by the sports teams, and they didn't feel the strong divide that now exists between sports players and the students, who feel like they are being forced to watch the event. Audience members are so reluctant that hosts can't get a wave to travel around the stands. Not only that, but team members are also reluctant to join the relay races, to the point where younger members of teams need to be forced to participate (the closest thing to hazing Schreiber sports teams have).

The Schreiber Times believes that although activities such as the silly string fiasco are not acceptable, the format of the pep rally should be changed back to its previous design. Teams should be able to express their spirit in a way that will get both their teams and the audience more enthusiastic and involved. Schreiber, especially Schreiber's sports teams, already suffer from a huge lack of school spirit. We wonder if it is really necessary for the administration to take away from one event that could get students excited about attending school sporting events throughout the year.

Halloween Responsibilities

The Schreiber Times would like to wish everybody a "Happy Halloween," but, in doing so, would like to encourage students to use their best judgment during their celebrations.

Teens often complain that they are treated unfairly on this holiday, by measures such as the curfew set by the police on "mischievous night" and on Halloween itself. Police enforce certain measures that are extra strict because they have had experiences in which teenagers have committed acts such as "toilet papering" or "egging" houses. We disagree with the strictness of these cautionary police measures, and we encourage students to display their respect to members of the community and to prove their responsibility to

community leaders in order to lighten the restraints on high school students on this holiday.

If students prove that they want to celebrate this holiday through harmless actions such as trick or treating rather than through vandalism, they will be working to discard the negative views that many community members hold on teenagers and their actions in general. Almost every Schreiber student has a story about how an adult automatically assumed he or she was irresponsible because of his or her age. If we want to get rid of this reputation, we need to take actions to prove otherwise.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

The victims of Hurricane Katrina need all the help they can get; the food and clothing drive produced incredible results from the student body here at Schreiber. The high school lobby has never been so filled with provisions donated by the students and faculty. The articles in the September issue of *The Schreiber Times* made the members of the school even more aware of what we can all do to aid the many victims of this tragedy.

However, you have to wonder why we are focusing on sending items such as pencils and paper, when many people's entire lives have fallen apart. The school should focus more on what we have done for other Red Cross disaster relief programs and bring in food and clothing instead of school supplies. Rather than spending the \$0.99 on a pack of pens, perhaps this money should go towards a can of food for immediate and needed relief. The school should have placed a greater emphasis on immediate relief items during the aftermath of the hurricane, instead of requesting personal or leisurely items such as the school supplies and games.

Despite this lack of prioritization, the disaster relief which was implemented here at Schreiber produced a great effect, and helped us all come together for one cause. Good job!

-Melissa Heller

Dear Editor,

There is a well written book that compellingly argues the case for Intelligent Design: *Darwin's Black Box* by Michael Behe, a professor of microbiology at Lehigh. In Darwin's time, microscopes were not able to see proteins. Scientists of the 19th century thought cells were bags of protoplasm. The inside functions and workings of cells were not known—a cell was like a

black box.

Evolution accurately describes the order of life's changes over time. However, Neo-Darwinism cannot describe how it happened. Random mutation and natural selection are not sufficient to explain the creation of protein machines, for example. Behe describes several of these protein machines, like cilia and flagella which help cells swim, and protein machines that help blood clot on time and in the right places. Remove one of the several independently created proteins in the machine and the rest of the machine has no purpose, which Behe calls "irreducible complexity". Natural Selection depends on small incremental changes to improve a function, but Behe proves that these small improvements were not possible in the creation of at least some protein machines—they had to be planned and constructed as a whole, because of their irreducible complexity. Behe thus claims that irreducible complexity disproves Natural Selection and proves Intelligent Design for these protein machines.

Behe does not deny that we may be descended from bacteria, nor does he claim that the intelligent designer is God—he just proves that the getting from here to there is not merely through the random natural forces, but it also needs an intelligent agent. Intelligent Design is not a religious or political issue, it is a scientific and historic issue: how did we come to be? Crick, a Nobel Prize winner who co-discovered the double helix structure of DNA, wrote that aliens must have seeded our planet with life. The debate on Intelligent Design is clouded by right wing and left wing political agendas. However, we cannot make our scientific conclusions by siding with the political agenda with which we are most comfortable. Science is a search for truth.

-Joseph Mirzoeff

Times Policy Statement

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

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

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

We will print letters to the editors if judged to be of sufficient quality and importance on a space-available basis. We will

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

Editorials printed in this publication reflect the opinion of the majority of the members of the editorial board. 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.

Schreiber's Katrina money goes to Osbornes

By Melis Emre
Contributing Writer

In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, members of the Port Washington community have tried to help the victims by making donations of all sorts and extending a hand to Americans in need.

It is usually impossible to see the effects of charity. Now, the students of Schreiber have a chance to make an enormous impression in the lives of one family: the Osbornes.

The day before Nancy Osborne's fiftieth birthday, Hurricane Katrina tore through the town of Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Unable to evacuate, Nancy, her husband, Michael, and their four youngest children -- Sophie, 5; Sarah, 9; Jacob, 15; and Joseph, 17 -- locked themselves inside an interior closet in an attempt to block out the storm. Thankfully, they were not hurt. Nancy's three eldest children Emily, 21; Ann Katherine, 23; and Rachel, 29 were also not harmed during the hurricane.

Although the family made it through the initial storm, two large trees had crashed through the roof on either side of the house. This destroyed Nancy and Michael's bedroom, among other rooms.

Flood damage to the walls allowed black mold to grow throughout the house. Fearing for the health of his family, Michael Osborne told his wife to take their daughters Sarah and Sophie to stay with friends. Meanwhile, he, Jacob, and Joseph worked to remove all their personal items from the house, and repaired what they could.

On the evening of Sept. 1, Michael drove to a Lowe's store in search of supplies. He was shot on his way. The police believe the crime was an attempted carjacking.

In an effort to escape from his pursuers, Michael sped away in his car but collided with a telephone pole. He died on impact. When police officers arrived at the Osbornes' house,



The Osborne family enjoying dinner in their new Port Washington home in Oct. 2005. (Clockwise from left) Jacob, mother of the children Nancy, Michael (husband of Ann Katherine), Rachel, Ann Katherine, Joseph, Sarah, Sophie. In the aftermath of the hurricane, the father of the children and husband of Nancy, Michael Osborne, was murdered on Sept. 1.

Joseph was the only one home and was assigned the painful job of telling his mother what had happened.

Michael Osborne's funeral was held in Memphis, Tennessee, where many of his family and friends came to mourn the loss of a great man. He would have turned fifty-three this past weekend, on Oct. 15.

Now, the Osborne family is even more scattered than before. Nancy, Sarah, and Sophie are living with friends. Joseph and Jacob live with classmates. Nancy's oldest daughter,

Rachel, lives with her husband and young son, Samuel. Emily and Ann Katherine are currently living together, along with Ann Katherine's husband Michael, and their infant son. With the help of Michael, who, according to Nancy's sister Ms. Donna Milazzo, a second grade teacher at Daly Elementary School, has been "just fantastic," they hope to reconstruct and sell their old house, and by the end of October, to move into a smaller home.

Although things are steadily looking up for this hopeful family, a lot can still be done to help them on their way to a

better life.

This year, Schreiber's Student Government has made the decision to direct the profits of all clubs towards aiding the Osborne family in their time of need. All charity events in Schreiber this year will also donate profits to the family.

"I think it's great that Student Government can respond to Hurricane Katrina in such a personal and influential way," said freshman student council member Stephan Nash. "The Osborne family puts a face on this national tragedy and keeps the Port Washington community motivated to help, months after the hurricane."

On Aug. 29, what began as a Category 1 tropical storm quickly evolved into a full-fledged Category 5 hurricane named Katrina, which swept across the Gulf Coast and left destruction in its wake. The national estimates of the damage are about two billion dollars. The storm left a death toll of 1,277. Hurricane Katrina has left thousands homeless and torn many families apart.

"Even though all of these horrible things have happened, the goodwill of people is truly amazing," said Ms. Milazzo. "Both my sister and I are thoroughly uplifted by the compassion of Schreiber students, and are very thankful for all the help they have given us."



The Osborne family lived in a house in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Shown to the left is the destroyed bedroom of two boys Jacob and Joseph. Pictured above is a full view of the house the Osbornes had to leave behind after the storm. The family now lives with Donna Milazzo, Nancy Osborne's sister. All Katrina-related fundraisers at Schreiber will donate proceeds to the family's recovery.

Photos courtesy of Donna Milazzo, sister of Nancy Osborne

Schreiber "turns" twenty-first century *Turnitin.com tackles plagiarism problem*

By Sarah Silvergleid
Senior Features Editor

The way we hand in English papers has certainly taken a turn this year. The tradition of printing, stapling, handing in, and receiving a red-marked paper with a teacher's grade may soon be a relic of the non-technological past. Schreiber has introduced turnitin.com, or Turnitin, to our grading process.

The website utilizes advanced search engines to prevent plagiarism and mark student work in what it calls "a unique, paperless environment." Turnitin's servers support a vastly growing database of student work all over the country. Already, English,

left untouched in moments of late night panic.

Teachers usually resort to comparing papers between their one or more sections, or doing Google searches of particular phrases that do not seem to match a student's writing style.

Dubious ethics or no, kids given the opportunity to plagiarize may do so, and Turnitin seems to be a fool-proof way to mechanize the prevention process. Turnitin may help rid us of a problem, but it creates new ones, according to reluctant students.

"The system degrades the student honor code," said sophomore Amanda Schiff, who was recently expected to "turn in" a composition paper.

"The teachers do not trust us enough

be reliable enough to differentiate from students in the same class who may have used the same notes and discussions to create essays?"

"Turnitin does hurt the student-teacher relationship," said senior Emily Sorg. "But I know that people plagiarize and as long as that's a problem, it doesn't personally bother me to submit my paper in."

Using the site is a trade-off. While it does make the student-teacher relationship tense, it also addresses a real problem. "Students who don't plagiarize know that they aren't the targets of Turnitin," said Sorg. "It's just a necessary precaution."

Turnitin compares every submitted paper to a huge number of archived

allows teachers to set up an effective system of peer editing between students. Students rate papers based on rubrics on the website or made by the teacher.

GradeMark, another feature, effectively eliminates a teacher's need to close read the paper. By entering customized rubrics, GradeMark targets common mistakes and a teacher's specifications to "grade" papers. The program acts as a sort of complicated Microsoft Word "grammar check" to guide teachers' comments on papers. So far, most teachers have not used these other features.

Every classroom that involves research is encouraged by the school to convert to Turnitin. In the Social Science, Science, and Math Research programs, teacher advisers receive all original research through the website.

Although original research may not seem like a magnet for plagiarism, especially since the experiments described are the student's own, any type of research paper poses the risk for copying.

"It's a tool, not a punishment," said Science Research adviser Ms. Phyllis Serfaty.

"Students may not even be taking from others' work intentionally. Turnitin can be used as a tool to understand how to research and incorporate the work of other people."

Turnitin does not necessarily put students in an awkward situation, but acts to illuminate points of congruity between students' sources and students' papers.

"I use the program on research papers because it is a quick check," said Ms. Serfaty. "I do not know all of these sources, and neither do English teachers, so the site helps to scan for matches."

Many students find no harm in submitting their work to the automatic scanner. Others, however, take issue to the idea of displaying their own work for access by people around the country.

"My work is being published on a website that any teacher or professor can access with my name on it," said senior Zubin Zaveri.

"Virtually anyone can see the work itself. I don't want to be held accountable for my opinions and views in High School in the future after I've outgrown them."

The problem with Turnitin, then, is that students' own creations are permanently put on a database for no compensation and unlimited accessibility.

Whether one agrees with the principles behind Turnitin or not, the



Sarah Silvergleid

A stressed sophomore checks SparkNotes.com frantically to finish a last minute English paper. She is now at the risk of being "discovered" on turnitin.com, Schreiber's state of the art response to cheating. Students sometimes turn to cheat websites such as SparkNotes.com and PinkMonkey.com, or else ask upperclassmen for old assignments. Under the threat of Turnitin, students may think before using outside sources for inspiration -- or at least directly quoting them without the proper citation.

Social Studies, and Research teachers have enrolled their students into this powerful tool to encourage student responsibility.

Most teachers have only used Turnitin to prevent plagiarism. While kids can get free essays, notes, and pre-formulated ideas on the internet within five minutes or sweet talk some older friends for last year's papers, teachers fear that their students are taking the easy way out.

How rampant is plagiarism in the school? Teachers understand how crafty students can be when the hardest thing in the world seems to be sitting down to churn out some original thought. No internet source or human resource is

“ Dubious ethics or not, kids given the opportunity to plagiarize may do so, and Turnitin seems to be a fool-proof way to mechanize the prevention process. **”**

so they have us put in our own email address, and put our own work on the internet. Can the program really

internet sources, books, newspapers and journals, and its own database of student work. As Schreiber becomes more integrated with the system, plagiarism between students in the same class or between years will be virtually eliminated.

The "intelligent" programming behind Turnitin can filter quotes through essays to analyze their originality. The "level of plagiarism" is denoted by a percentage, where anything below 20% is usually safe.

Some kids have point blank refused to contribute their work to this organized internet database.

Turnitin offers more than plagiarism prevention. Its Peer Review feature

"Koncert for Katrina" raised

by Emlyn Diakow
Contributing Writer

On Friday, October 14, several Schreiber clubs came together to launch a concert event to benefit victims of Hurricane Katrina. The Future Business Leaders of America club (FBLA) hosted the "Koncert for Katrina" fundraising event, in conjunction with *The Schreiber Times* and Student Outreach. Much hard work and planning went into the occasion and it turned out to be a fun and successful night.

Junior Dan Reese said, "I think the concert was a great idea and it worked out well. I'm happy to see that the school is contributing what it can to help with hurricane relief."

Two hundred tickets were sold in advance and at the door, which, in addition to donations and proceeds from the sale of refreshments and glow sticks, helped raise \$1,400 to be donated to the Osborne family of Mississippi. The money that was raised from the concert, along with the rest of Schreiber's fundraising, is going to the Osborne family. Hurricane Katrina left the Osborne family devastated. As a result of the hurricane, Mr. Osborne was killed, leaving Mrs. Osborne to support

her seven children with limited resources. This monetary contribution means a great deal to the family. Mrs. Milazzo, Mrs. Osborne's sister, a second grade teacher at Daly Elementary School, was present at the concert Friday night to show the family's appreciation.

Senior Matt Lazar, founder and vice president of FBLA, said, "All of FBLA's planning and preparation was made worthwhile by the tremendous support we received from the school."

Hosted by senior Zach Bergman, cofounder and president of FBLA, and senior Zubin Zaveri, FBLA member, the night was filled with live entertainment from many of Port's own bands, as well as a faculty group. The teachers' band, consisting of Mr. Corey Block, Mr. Anthony Pinelli, and Mr. Joseph Corbo, on guitar, bass and drums respectively, and Mr. Mark Reynolds on vocals kicked off the evening, playing covers of various classic rock songs. Immediately, the crowd swarmed around the stage in enthusiasm, showing their support and enjoyment, and they remained eager and motivated the entire evening.

The teachers' band was followed by Dome with members senior David Gelb and Schreiber alumni Zach Lipkins, Alex

Mintz and Eliov Mintz. Although three of Dome's members had graduated in previous years, the band was received at Schreiber to thundering applause. The 2003 Battle of the Bands champions performed a three-song set that invigorated the crowd. Although their performance wasn't perfect, the band certainly fed the audience's desire for loud music.

Unfortunately, the night was marred by the overexcitement of the crowd. During Dome's performance, two crowd members started a mosh pit. To accommodate the pit, the crowd in front of the stage separated to create a space in the middle. Then, seeing the empty area, one of the students decided to try and flip over another student. The first wound up landing dangerously on his head, so he stood up and started violently pushing the other. A short fight ensued which was quickly stopped by a brave Ms. Beth Carstens.

After Dome, senior Spencer Bloom performed a solo on guitar. Although his band was unable to perform for the concert, Bloom did not let this setback deter him. He amazed the crowd with soaring riffs and melodic chords. After several minutes, he relinquished the stage and The Humongous started to play.

The Humongous includes seniors Matt

Katz on keyboards and tenor saxophone, John Krauss on bass, Paul Pollack on guitar, and Travis Swain on the drums. The Humongous won last year's Battle of the Bands and once again delivered a stellar performance.

Fact or Fiction, which followed The Humongous, includes juniors Nick DeFazio and Zach Zuffante, and sophomores Anthony Fazio and Tim Sherman. The audience responded well to the band's performance.

The bassist Defeo commented, "We were glad we could help out."

Days on End wrapped up the evening featuring members seniors Chris O'Connell and juniors Zach Wool, Sean Balaban, and Jeremy Scalchunes.

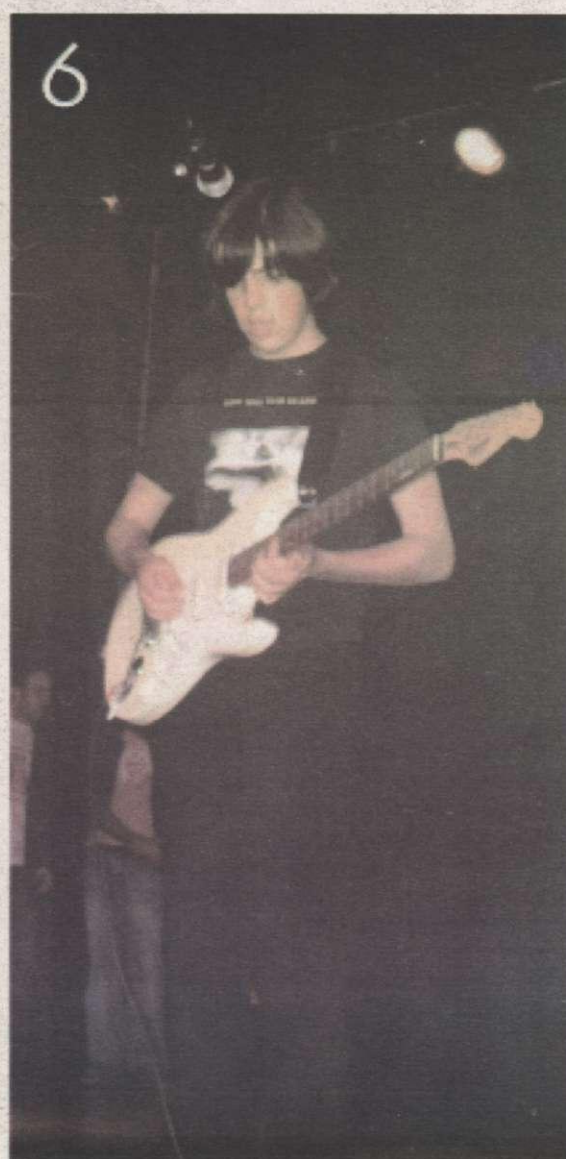
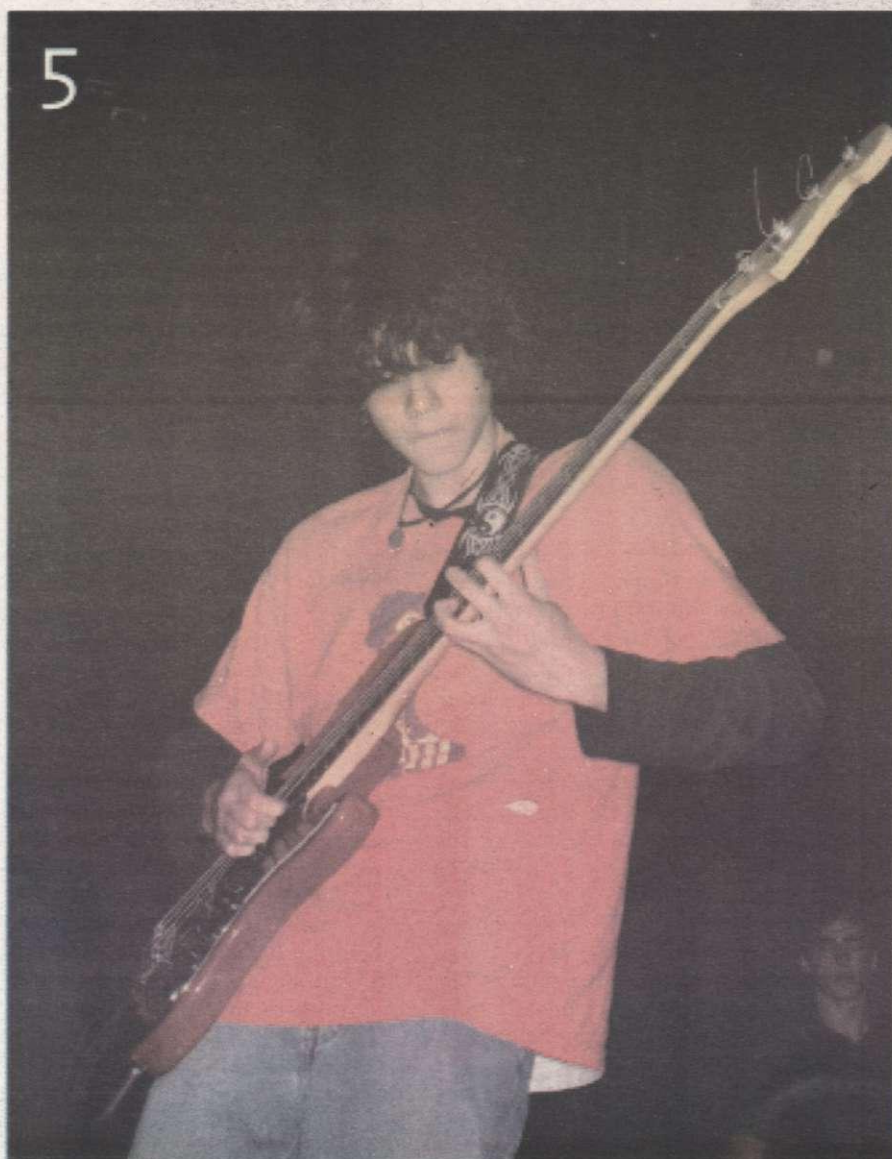
There was a wide range of musical styles showcased at the concert. The Humongous performed with their usual vigor, including their signature saxophone-driven sound. Days on End played their own style of scream-o music, and Dome returned to glory days with regular hard rock. The teachers' band performed a stellar cover of the Kinks' legendary song, "You Really Got Me," which was also covered by Van Halen. Fact or Fiction, always a crowd favorite, played their indie rock originals. So this was the band's last gig; they planned to break up after the show.

"Personally, I am not a fan of all this music," said senior Phil Fleisher. "I think that the school would benefit from a lot of variety of music."

All of the bands performed from their hearts and gave it their all, knowing that the fruits of their labors would benefit a family in need. Almost as much as they enjoyed playing for the crowd, they were glad to be playing for a worthy cause. With this benefit concert, Schreiber continues its support of the victims of the Katrina tragedy, and its streak of charitable events, including the Tsunami Relief Concert held last year to assist the Southeast Asian countries hit by the string of tsunamis that occurred in the region in December 2004. Bergman said, "The concert was a huge success and we were able to raise a lot of money for a very deserving cause."

Senior Alan Yedid said, "The combination of the music and the lights on stage was really really ridiculously good looking."

(l-r) 1) Seniors John Krauss, Paul Pollack, and Matt Katz of The Humongous enter the crowd. 2) Senior Spencer Bloom entertains the audience in a solo performance. 3) Anthony Fazio (with guitar) and Travis Swain (drums) back up vocals. 4) Juniors Sean Balaban (with guitar) and Zach Wool of Days on End play their music for the fans. 5) Nick DeFazio of Fact or Fiction plays the counter melody on the bass. 6) Anthony Fazio of Fact or Fiction shreds on his guitar.



All photos by Ali Bernhard

trina"

s money to help calm one family's storm

one,
on
The
the
ellar

The
efeo
ony
ence
e.
were

ent,
omo
and

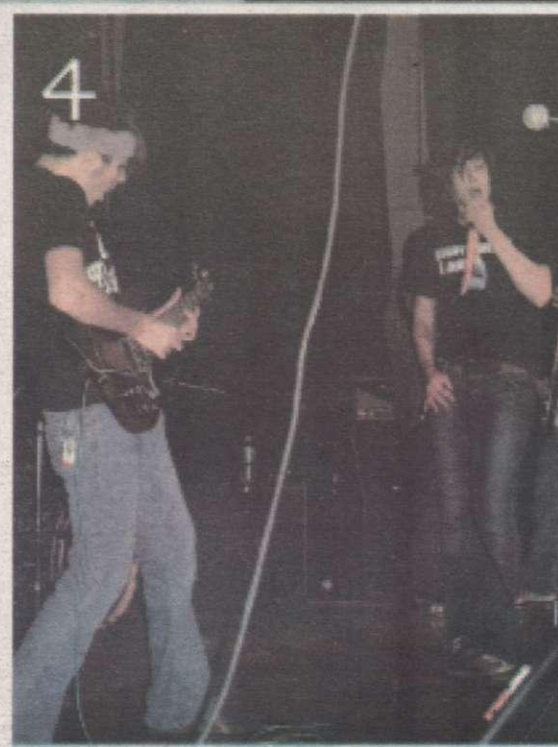
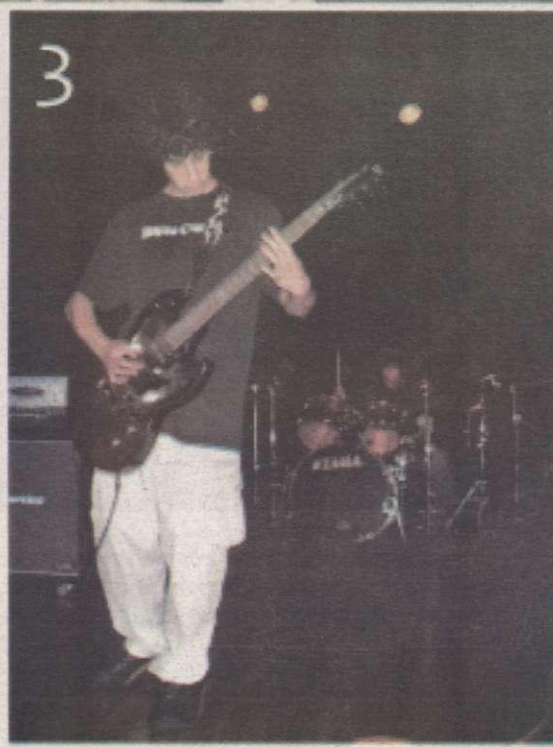
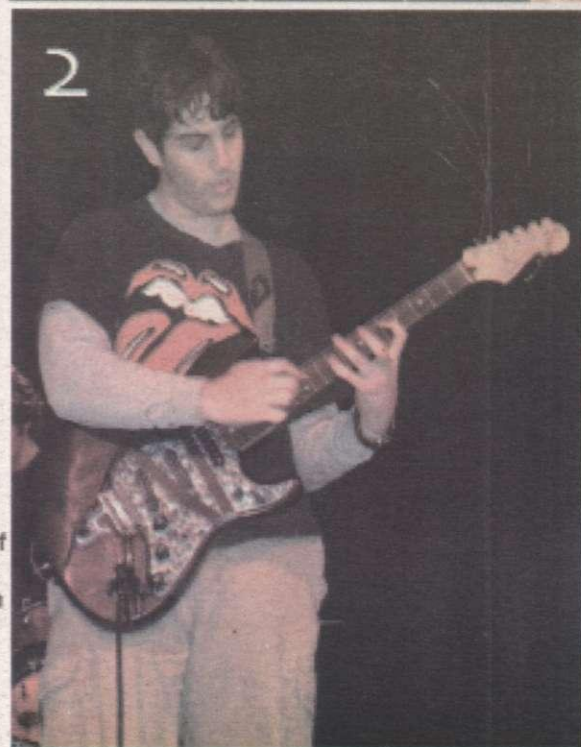
yles
ous
and
olos
latz.
e of
their
The
r of
Got
len.
rite,
idly,
d to

ngry
hink
rger

hair
the
mily
oyed
a be
nefit
t of
its
the
r to
ruck
d in
mid,
we
well-

tion
were

ck
tain
cites
Pol-
ts)
in
End
efeo of
yon
ction



Trips to Europe not a reality for Port Washington kids

By **Damian Bidikov**

Contributing Writer

Besides providing students with preparation for higher education through rigorous academics and furnishing them with the knowledge and skills they need, high school has the goal of familiarizing them with the real world. Schreiber prides itself on its integration of culturally involving and enriching programs and activities. School events like Shakespeare Day, Multicultural Day and class trips have the goal of helping students understand and appreciate the rich history and wide scope of their world.

Until recently, Schreiber was one of the distinguished schools that hosted perhaps the ultimate method of cultural involvement. By taking students on field trips to European countries, the school gave those who were involved a chance to soak in an environment and culture drastically different from their own. The benefits of this need hardly be stated; after all, who wouldn't enjoy a fun and educational visit to Europe with his or her friends?

In the past, students would join Foreign Language teachers for approximately nine days over spring break as they explored the facets of life in a different world. Teachers would

guide students around locations in Greece, Italy, and Spain. While these trips are no doubt accompanied by a significant amount of simple pleasure, the school's primary motives for them are educational. The general belief is that no matter how hard a school tries to emulate or include another culture through events and programs, Schreiber is still deeply rooted in Port Washington, New York. Only by immersing oneself in the physical environment and culture of another country can full appreciation for it be gained.

"While school programs sometimes give me a chance to appreciate a different culture while having fun, they just are not the same as actually experiencing a journey to another continent," said junior John Forman.

Whether these trips are worth the expenditure is one matter, but few can argue that visiting Europe is wasteful or pointless. Most young people find that there is no more engaging or more entertaining way to learn about a culture, society, or country than to stroll around its streets, visit its landmarks, and experience firsthand the history and people that make European societies distinctive. The architecture alone makes the trip memorable. Most people would agree that learning about the Roman Colosseum can be

dull, but witnessing its magnificence firsthand makes for an enjoyable and memorable experience. These field trips had a large focus on architecture and landmarks. Students had a chance to soak in everything about the places they visited, whether historic monuments or age-old roads and villages. Besides architecture, students had a chance to experience a different world by enjoying the food, art and live music of another society. Perhaps most importantly, though, the students were able to observe and interact with people of their host countries.

Sometimes, a class of students would stay with a native family, which graciously served to encourage and guide the visitors on their trips. This part of the field trip gives those who take part a chance to appreciate the quality of a people far away in terms of both distance and lifestyle. Also, being in this setting stresses the fact that young, American highschoolers are not the only people in the world.

"Field trips to Europe ought to be encouraged in order to broaden Schreiber students' horizons and foster their growth as citizens of the world, not just the United States or in some cases, their high school cliques," said sophomore Kerry Dachowitz.

But with so many positive aspects, why doesn't Schreiber offer these field

trips anymore? The School District does not specifically sanction these field trips; they have always been run and funded privately. Students choosing to pay and commit to the trips would do so, and teachers would volunteer to chaperone. Unfortunately, as of now, the only reasonable transportation to Europe is air travel. While becoming increasingly expensive, air travel is also considered decreasingly safe. Although it was not the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, that first extinguished school field trips as widely believed, the catastrophe certainly epitomizes the reason for their absence. Students, their parents, and the Board of Education became increasingly unwilling to take the risk of airline transportation as fear of terrorism became more and more widespread. Fear was so widely realized on 9/11, school field trips to Europe are generally regarded as a sad impossibility.

Still, most people highly support the motives and benefits of these field trips, and many of those people would be willing to go, were they still held. Unfortunately, save for a decision by the Board of Education and a general sense of security concerning air travel, these trips will continue not to be feasible.

Foreign exchange students get a little taste of the USA

By **David Becker**

Contributing Writer

This year, Schreiber welcomed two new students, seniors Lena-Marie Bremer and Tobias Eppler. Each year, Schreiber receives between two and four applicants for placement in the school district from students from foreign countries.

Schreiber receives these applications from the Education Foundation, a non-profit organization Schreiber has worked with for many years. Students must finish the application, receive a reference from a teacher, and provide their academic transcript.

The student is then interviewed by a member of the EF High School Year staff in his or her country of origin. Selection depends on "maturity, adaptability and academic motivation." Another student will be arriving in January from Madagascar.

The Education Foundation was created in 1965 in Cambridge, Massachusetts. It offers many programs including some for adults and college students and places emphasis on the teaching of foreign languages. Globally, the Education Foundation has set up whole foreign language schools in thirteen countries including Ecuador, France, and Russia. There are seventy Education Foundation offices abroad.

In recent years, Schreiber has received students from as far away as Italy and the Scandinavian countries. Tobias and Lena did not apply specifically to be in Schreiber or in New York; they were placed here by the program. However, there are many online application websites for foreign exchange students that allow them to select a school based on certain criteria

such as its location, public or private designation, and gender.

The EF also offers programs that allow students from the United States to go abroad, but Schreiber students have not utilized this service this year.

It is important to note that the contingency budget has not affected the number of applicants that Schreiber has accepted. This is because Schreiber is not paid to host these students.

Most students find host families to adopt them so the school doesn't need to provide any financial help. "If there were fifteen foreign exchange students, then, yes, we'd have to make a new section of English, and that would cost money," explained Principal Mr. Jay Lewis. "But to squeeze in two or three?"

While credits for classes taken by these foreign exchange students transfer back to the students' home countries, the service offers only one or two semesters in the United States so they do not earn a New York State Regents diploma. However, many foreign exchange students have taken honors or Advanced Placement courses

while in the U.S.

This year, both of Schreiber's foreign exchange students are German. However, they are not both from the same parts of Germany, and met for the first time through this program.

Bremer comes from JGS-



Courtesy of Sarah Pickering

This year's incoming class included two German students, Tobias Eppler (pictured above) and Lena-Marie Bremer. They were placed in Schreiber by the Education Foundation, which focuses on foreign language education.

Brachenfeld School in Schleswig-Holstein. In Schleswig-Holstein, Lena lives in the town of Neumunster. The town is in the northernmost region of

Germany. "It's only a little bit bigger than Port Washington," said Lena. It's a nice little town with many schools and is quite old. "Very historical," she added. It's about an hour away from the Viking settlement of Hedeby.

Bremer stills thinks there are a few things that Germany doesn't have. "I really like America. The people are really kind and genuine. When you go to a store in Germany, people don't say 'hi' and 'how are you?' They say 'hi' in America. I think I will miss that when I go back."

Eppler comes from the Gymnasium High School in Stuttgart. Stuttgart is in the far south of Germany. It's a beautiful city that is relatively small and is the sixth largest city in Germany.

Eppler is also enjoying some away-time from Germany. "Schreiber's cool," said Eppler. "It has a huge variety of classes. America is bigger. It's a bit more conservative, but it's nice. I like America. I really do."

It is apparent that the feeling is mutual. "These students promote diversity in schools by offering unique positions in discussion," said Mr. Lewis. "They broaden students' horizons, and allow students to think outside of a local mindset."

Students agree that it's great to have foreign students in the school.

"I just love the German people!" says senior Katie Hayden. "Toby's awesome and Lena's really nice." She's not the only fan.

"I think it's fantastic!" said sophomore Paula Astudillo. "I love meeting new students."

If you see Tobias or Lena in school, make sure to wish them a warm "willkommen im Schreiber!"

Apple moves into movies and TV

Sarah Silvergleid
Senior Features Editor

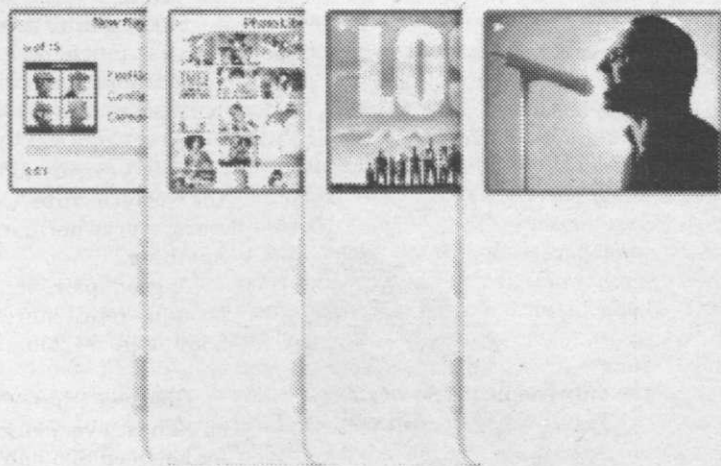
The iPod was once synonymous with the most revolutionary music player ever. iPod ads bragged about the machine's capacity to hold 1,000 songs in a player the size of a deck of cards.

Today, electronics aren't complete until they are in color, display pictures, and play radio, television, and movies. The new iPod does all that and still goes for its original market price of \$299.

Since its debut in 2002, the iPod has gone through several generations, but no change as drastic as this October's new iPod. Earlier alterations included a change in the scroll wheel, the control

placement, and most recently the iPod Photo, which holds color photos in addition to song files.

The latest addition is very different from earlier generations and the iPod Photo. Its screen is now 2.5 inches, giving it a more "fat" look. In reality, the largest new model is 10% thinner



songs, 25,000 high quality photos, and best of all, up to 150 hours of TV shows or videos.

The best part of the new iPod is its organization. With iTunes and iPhoto, music and pictures instantly upload without complication.

iTunes offers the most organized way to compartmentalize and listen to music, and the iTunes music store lets users legally purchase songs that download effortlessly into their music libraries and iPods. As the music store expands, it includes new artists, free songs and samples, audiobooks, and radio shows called Podcasts.

Soon, videos and television will be synced with the music/photo system. iPods are no longer sorted just by genre, artist, and playlist. With an iPod, one can listen to music, catch up on a book, browse their picture album, and enjoy a small-screen movie or episode of a TV show.

The iPod will probably still be known first and foremost as an MP3 player, but its limits are growing smaller with each new update.

Another benefit of the new iPod is its twenty-hour battery life guarantee. Although this sounds promising, the iPod battery has never been the most reliable. The new iPod also comes in

two new color varieties, familiar white and a new sleek black, as well as the last iPod's U2 version.

For the more shameless user, Apple has a Harry Potter collector's iPod that comes with all six audiobooks and bears a Hogwarts crest on the back.

To the dismay of those who recently invested in an iPod mini,

Apple has a new alternative.

The iPod nano looks like the mini, but has the traditional white exterior and a color screen.

The nano holds 500 or 1,000 songs in its two and four gigabyte model, respectively.

The extremely lightweight iPod is only

.27 inches thick.

The newest iPods are smaller than their older counterparts with incredible new features. The iPod is no longer a music player, but a music, movie, television, and radio player that is still as organized and portable.

All photos from Apple.com

Sharp as a "Razr"?

By Heather Larkin
Assistant Editor

A revolution in cellular phones is under way as a wave of new technology is sweeping across the nation.

Recently, the designers at Motorola crafted the new Razr V3: an ultra-slim phone measuring a mere 13.9 mm thick and weighing only ninety-five grams. The intricate frame of the phone is composed of craft-grade aluminum and a chemically-etched keypad.

In order to protect the phone's fragile structure, Motorola encased the Razr in a coat of anodized aluminum. Designers also created a flat keypad in accordance with the phone's clamshell shape.

The Razr's numerous features distinguish the cell phone from all others. The Razr contains a miniscule camera capable of taking photos of up to 640 x 480 pixels, and is protected by a lens of hardened glass.

The phone allows one to set a caller I.D. photo for every person in the contact list, while a built-in voice activation system facilitates dialing calls.

The "Media Mall" provided is successful in linking users to the Internet in order to purchase wallpapers, games, and various mp3 ring tones.

Additionally, a custom "Moto-Mixer" allows one to create their own ring tones by combining sounds from different instruments to form an original melody.

Although Motorola may flaunt the Razr's innumerable features, many consumers are not impressed.

Junior Daniel Stewart dislikes the quality of the phone's sound. "I love the exterior of the phone, but

the sound quality is poor," he said. "I literally have to walk into a quiet room whenever someone calls, just so I can hear what they're saying."

Sophomore Matt O'Dell agrees with Stewart's criticism of the phone. "It is difficult to hear at times, and in my opinion, the overall phone is way overrated," he said. "Another negative is the price, the phone is so expensive, even for the amount of features it offers."

Although various owners may agree with Stewart and O'Dell's complaints

regarding sound, the price of the phone is a more universal complaint. At face value, the Razr sells for a whopping \$499, a price that doesn't even include the additional video attachment. "The price is absolutely outrageous," an anonymous student said. "When I first received my phone, I was completely unaware of its value and I was just happy to have a phone that actually picked up calls."

One might argue that the outlandishly high prices set on these new phones counteracts its commendable features.

Without question, the Razr, although deemed the epitome of "new age technology", may soon become just a gadget of the past.



www.geekcove.com

Planned Parenthood

a safe place to talk about what's on
your mind

Comprehensive Health Care:

STI Testing, Counseling and Treatment

Gyn Care

Birth Control

Emergency Contraception

First Trimester Abortion

Pregnancy Testing/Options Counseling

HIV testing and Counseling

Affordable, Convenient, Confidential Health Care



Planned Parenthood of Nassau County
516-750-2500

Hempstead
540 Fulton Ave

Glen Cove
110 School Street

Massapequa
35 Carmans Ave

Ignore your rights and they go away.
To join Planned Parenthood's Students for Choice, call 516-750-2665

Features Fashion File

Put your best foot forward

By **Amanda Schiff**
Assistant Features Editor

Who says beauty is pain? With this fall's latest shoe styles, your feet can dazzle in comfort. These styles are popping up all over at prices that won't burn a hole in your wallet.

From ballet flats to loafers and everything in between, this fall, there are no limits to your wildest shoe fantasies.

Ballet flats, a girl's new best friend, are continuing to score with critics this season. Most people love them because they are both comfortable and chic.

They are available in every color of the rainbow and can be found to go with anything in your wardrobe.

These ballet shoe inspired flats are both practical and pretty and don't have to break your bank. They can be found at Payless for only \$14 and look just as nice as the pair found in Bloomingdales for \$275.

Loafers are replacing the infamous moccasins everyone was sporting last

fall. Loafers are just as comfortable and match just about anything. This year,

they are being produced in hundreds of styles in every fabric from leather

to velvet.

Saks Fifth Avenue sells loafers for as much as \$295, whereas a comparable pair can be purchased at www.shoes.com for \$22. Save the \$273 and treat yourself to another gift.

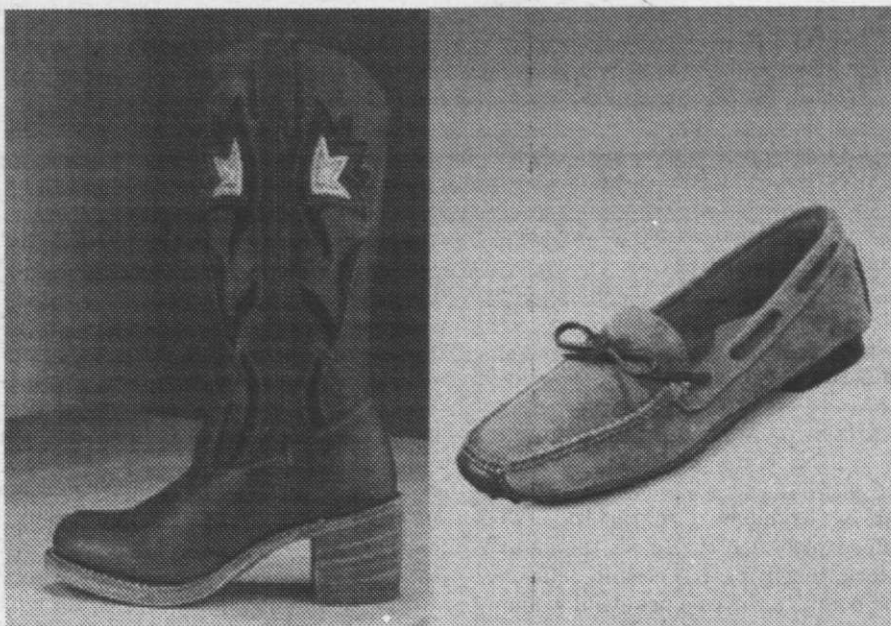
This year, cowboy boots are riding the western craze. Cowboy boots can be worn everywhere, in any climate, with anything.

A good pair of traditional cowboy boots at retail stores can run between \$350 and \$1,200, depending on the style.

However, these boots can be found on almost every discount shoe website for between \$25 and \$45. So saddle up and pick out your favorite pair.

Shoes are not just made for walking anymore... Today they are as important a fashion statement as your sweater or your jeans.

Shoes are jeweled, feathered, glittered, and trimmed with velvet or lace. They are plaid, tweed, or animal printed. This fall, deciding between pink and black, leather and velvet is no easy "feet."



Cowboy boots are not only for cowboys anymore. The above boot from Neiman Marcus is available in both black and chocolate brown. Loafers are the new "it" shoe this year, coming in every material from leather to velvet. The above is genuine suede with a leather bow.

The social acceptability of Trick-or-Treating

By **Willa Jones**
Contributing Writer

Ever since we can remember, Halloween has been a time for us to dress up in scary or silly costumes, walking door to door to speak the renowned words "trick or treat."

Many look forward to this activity year after year, either to collect tons of candy or to act like a kid again.

Though many of us are reluctant to let go of this fun tradition, we cannot avoid the question asked by so many adults around Halloween time, "Aren't you too old?"

Going trick or treating can be categorized as a custom strictly meant for younger kids, especially excluding high school students.

For some, it seems immature for a bunch of sixteen year olds to walk around town collecting candy from families.

"I think that we have outgrown going trick-or-treating but that kids in high school can still have fun on Halloween by celebrating it in other ways," said sophomore Stephanie Seeman.

Though a lot of people agree with Seeman, there are many reasons that kids in Schreiber are excited to go this year and deny that they have outgrown the fun tradition.

"It is an opportunity to be a kid again [even in high school]," said sophomore

Liza Rimsky, who still deems it socially acceptable to roam the streets at night in search of free candy. She brings up the good point that throughout the school year we are treated almost as adults. Therefore, this holiday can be seen as a chance to forget our obligations and engage in our childish tradition.

It is also candy that motivates teens to still go out at night on Oct. 31.

"You are never too old to nab some free candy off some old folks," said sophomore Sam Colonna. "How often are people practically throwing candy at you? Of course it's okay!"

The huge bags of candy treats are rewards for the night which distract many from the fact that they may be too old to trick-or-treat.

Halloween is a very fun and festive holiday coming up in which kids in high school celebrate in different ways.

Though people will object that it is immature for kids in high school to go trick-or-treating, many still prowl the streets.

Kids in high school still show their Halloween spirit and dress up in costumes to collect candy with their friends.

It is simply up to you how you want to celebrate Halloween, but make sure to take advantage of the great holiday and have fun, because it only comes once a year!

From costumized to cliquey

By **Heather Larkin**
Assistant Features Editor

Once again, October has rolled around and it's time to begin prepping for one of the most popular holidays: Halloween, a day dedicated to the eeriness of the scary and supernatural, is the one time each year during which children and adults alike dress up in an array of different costumes. Costumes expectedly differ in construction and meaning depending on the look one is interested in. While some aspire to frighten their friends and family with, bone-chilling costumes, others view Halloween as a chance to dress up as a person or an object demonstrative of his or her personality.

"Halloween is my favorite holiday because I get to share it with all of my friends," said junior Emlyn

Diakow. "It's fun to dress up in strange costumes because it's the one day of the year that it's considered acceptable. The weirder you dress, the more fun the holiday is! I also love Halloween because people who I don't normally talk to walk up to me and say, "I like your costume!"

Similar to the differences in costume from one person to another, costumes differ between ages. As you grow up,

you'll find that the Winnie-the-Pooh suit you loved so much as a child now lies discarded in the darkest corner of the basement.

Upon entering high school, many teenagers eagerly ditch their childhood costumes in exchange for group costumes that allow them to distinguish their "group of friends" from the rest of the grade. Crayola crayons, Power Rangers and Smurfs are just a few of the group costumes seen throughout Schreiber in the past few years.

Although it's fun to flaunt your individuality by wearing an original costume, the unity and excitement inevitably coupled with discussing, creating and finally dressing in the same way as your clique cannot be matched.

"[Halloween] is such a fun holiday.



Shimon Ishikawa

arts entertainment

page 19

THE SCHREIBER TIMES FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2005

The Drama Club pays tribute to David Ives *Schreiber's first drama production of the year stuns crowd*

by Kyra Siegel
A&E Editor

The weekend of Oct. 21-23, the Drama Club started off the year with *Reality Check: Six One-Act Comedies* by David Ives. Even working under short time restraints, the cast put on a hilarious, polished performance.

One Acts are what a short story is to a novel; they are shorter versions of a play. The One Acts appealed especially to an audience with a short attention span, because the theme of each act was comically delivered in a short amount of time.

The six one acts performed had a more artistic feel than most other Schreiber plays. "I loved the surreal tone of all of the plays," said junior Max Lewin. "They reminded me of a collection of short French-surrealist plays I went to see at the NYC Fringe Festival, except with much better acting."

The first act, "Sure Thing," directed by senior Michael Thompson, featured seniors Rich Guccione and Christine Imperatore, who played Bill and Betty, respectively, characters who meet for the first time at a café. The act starts with Bill taking the seat next to Betty and trying to casually flirt with her to start conversation. Then, every time one of the characters slips up by committing a relational faux pas, the scene backtracks, giving them unlimited "do-overs." The comical scenes highlight all the mistakes people can make while dating: from admitting to living with parents to bragging about full-body liposuction. As the act finishes, Bill and Betty are able to circumvent language obstacles and agree to go on a first date.

Guccione was especially entertaining and impressed the audience with the variety of voices he used for different responses to Imperatore's questions. Every scene Guccione played a new character, switching from a sleazy pervert to an arrogant Harvard student, within seconds.

Although the scene focused on Bill's role, Imperatore made her character stand out by clearly delivering lines in a tone that perfectly represented her character.

The next act, "Degas, C'est Moi," directed by senior Sarah Pickering, was much less straightforward. The act centered around Ed, played by senior Tom Lisi, a jobless New Yorker who pretends to be the famous painter, Degas. Throughout the day, Ed finds poetry in mundane events but his perspective

clashes with the hostility of the people around him.

Lisi did an excellent job capturing his character's emotional state. The tone he used perfectly demonstrated the contrast between his character's poetic nature and other characters' realistic attitudes.

"Degas, C'est Moi" was the only act with an ensemble, which included twelve random characters who helped reinforce the play's theme and intermittently provided comic relief. At one point, Lisi eyes a beautiful woman, played by senior Paul Pollack cross-

Before intermission, seniors Brandon Bushey and Matt Katz, and sophomore Kate Hughes put on "The Philadelphia," directed by senior Elyssa Jakim, which comically questions reality. Bushey plays a frenzied man who has gotten stuck in a "Philadelphia," a Twilight-Zone-like state in which he can only get the opposite of everything he asks for. Bushey's character learns that you can shout to get service at a diner, and that the best way to order beer is to first ask about orange juice and egg nog.

His companion, played by Katz, is conversely stuck in a "Los Angeles,"

clearly," added sophomore Andrew Martinolich.

Following intermission, seniors Katie Hayden and Sarah Rice and junior Tobias Eppler played three chimps in "Words, Words, Words," which was directed by Drama Club Advisor Mark Gamell. As part of a scientific experiment, the chimps are forced into a room with typewriters and expected to write *Hamlet*. The dialogue wasn't as funny as in the preceding acts, but with less to work with, the three actors still managed to get a lot of laughs.

Next, "Variations on the Death of Trotsky," directed by senior Katie Leon, starred sophomore Tim Sherman as Trotsky. The act portrays various accounts of the Russian revolutionary on the day of his demise, desperately trying to cope with the mountain-climber's axe he discovers lodged in his head. In one rendition, Mrs. Trotsky, played by senior Laila Selim, admits to having a passionate love affair with Mr. Trotsky's killer, their under-cover Spanish gardener, played by a sombrero-wearing senior John Kraus.

"Tim was really funny," said junior Fredi Bernstein. "Even with a fake axe sticking out of the back of his head, his acting was extremely convincing."

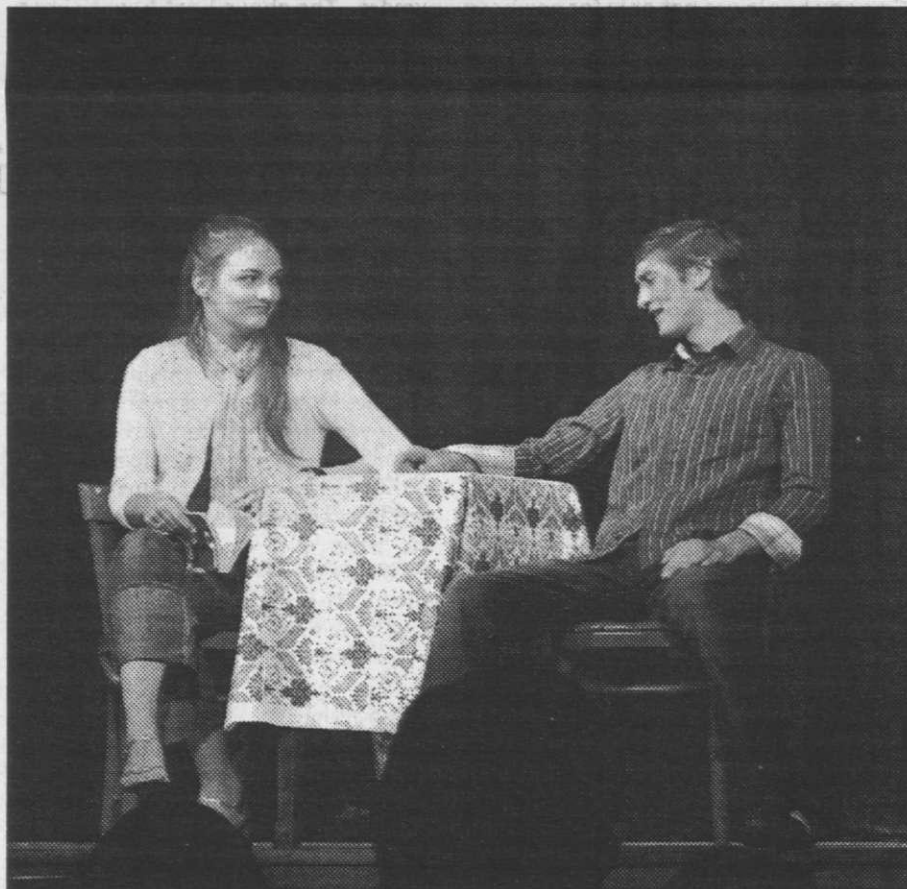
Selim also put on an excellent performance; her dramatic mock-seriousness worked well with Sherman's eccentric character.

The last act of the night was definitely the most surreal. "Philip Glass Buys a Loaf of Bread," directed by senior Alina Fomovska, was a confusing combination of Glassian style dance and chanted fragments of dialogue. But, in the end it all makes sense, since in the last scene the fragments are said in sequential order. Actors seniors Melissa DeSiervo, Jeremy Frank, and Sarah Pickering and sophomore Jesse Stayton did an excellent job of clearly portraying the mood of a difficult act.

Overall, the One-Acts were an outstanding collection of thought-provoking scenes. The acts were hilarious, showcasing the very best of Schreiber talent.

"It was brilliant," said junior Allie Schenkler. "I was highly entertained."

"It was really fabulous," agreed Jesse Ziedman, a member of the ensemble from "Degas, C'est Moi." "I worked with a fabulous group of people and even sacrificing our weekends was



Matt Odell

After many misguided attempts to forge a relationship, seniors Christine Imperatore and Rich Guccione finally make a meaningful connection in "Sure Thing."

dressed in pearls and red pumps, and wonders, "Should I seduce her?" Ed also runs into an angry beggar, played by freshman Brendan Orellana, who flips him off, and meets two other strangers, junior Lesley Brown and sophomore Kerry Dachowitz, who effectively get into character.

The act ends with Ed realizing that after a day of pretending to be someone else, staying with his true identity isn't so bad — especially with an attractive wife, played by junior Elena Box, waiting for him at home.

a lazy, carefree state-of-mind, where your wife walking out on you matters as much as what you had for breakfast. Unfortunately, Katz suddenly gets sucked back into a "Philadelphia," causing a hilarious mental breakdown.

Both Katz and Bushey gave amazing performances.

"I want to give Brandon Bushey an award for his outstanding performance," said senior Tom Hill.

"I was most impressed with Matt Katz, who besides being hysterically funny, delivered his lines smoothly and

Herzog's documentary probes into "Grizzly Man's" life

BY Max Lewin
Contributing Writer

Timothy Treadwell does not look like the kind of person who comes to mind when you pair the words "Grizzly" and "Man." While one might envision a rugged mountaineer with leather clothing, a thick and shaggy mustache, and a large hunting rifle slung over his shoulder, Mr. Treadwell was actually a fairly small, balding, middle aged man. He had a tendency to be vain, a persisting case of insecurity regarding his relationships, a somewhat effeminate voice, and he lived one quarter of every year in the Alaskan wilderness with wild grizzly bears. He viewed himself as an "Eco-warrior," protecting the bears and their natural habitat, as well as raising awareness about the importance of grizzlies.

In his years spent traveling to Alaska, Mr. Treadwell had come to be very close, at least in his own mind, to many of the bears with whom he lived, to the point where he could touch them and play with them without fear.

Sadly, Mr. Treadwell was slain by the animals whose lives he had lived to protect; on Oct. 5, 2003 he and his girlfriend, Amie Huguenard, were killed by grizzly bears. Many of his critics who had called his methods insane and suicidal while he was alive said that he was to blame for his own death. But Werner Herzog sets out

to debunk these negative judgments in his documentary of Timothy's life, entitled "Grizzly Man."

Drawing from the voluminous library of home videos that Treadwell made during his Alaskan trips and interviews with his parents, friends, ex-girlfriends, and coworkers, Mr. Herzog paints a vivid and chilling

psychological picture of a man driven to the fringes of society by his own paranoia and failures.

The movie begins by showing clips Treadwell intended for public display in educational videos. Herzog then begins to show "outtake" clips as the movie delves deeper into Treadwell's persona. We see him brought to tears by the discovery of a

dead baby fox and we see him playfully chase around another fox from a family of foxes that had stolen his hat. In one particularly chilling scene, he spews obscenities at the camera for nearly five minutes, aimed at the park service, although the viewer never knows why.

Interspersed through the clips are expositional interviews about his life before he became the "Grizzly Man." We learn that his life as a young man was difficult; he failed in his first career, acting, and fought with drug addiction.

The viewer learns about Treadwell's life in reverse chronological order; the movie starts with his death and moves backwards in an attempt to map out his final years, and discover who Treadwell really was as a person. In manipulating time in this fashion, Herzog succeeds tremendously. *Grizzly Man* is far more sincere than many other modern documentaries and more personal than most biographical films. Viewers may at first feel that Timothy Treadwell is an eccentric stranger but by the time they leave the theater they feel a much deeper connection to him and understand the sad story of his life.



Timothy Treadwell, the "Grizzly Man," worked with grizzly bears in order to understand, raise awareness, and dispel rumors about the bears. In 2003, he was killed in 2003 by the bears to whom he had dedicated his life.

Unsure of what to watch? Here are the highlights of weekly primetime

BY David Becker
Staff Writer

If you only watch six hours of new television this week, you should check out these hot new shows. You'll be the crazy kid with the overbooked Tuesday night, but my, the buzz of drama that a new season of television has to offer! The iron bars have barely clanged shut on Michael Scofield of *Prison Break*, while President Mackenzie Allen has just been inaugurated on *Commander-in-Chief*.

What should I do with my Mondays at 9 p.m.?

Tune into FOX for *Prison Break*:

Prison Break is the single most satisfying criminal drama in years. The pilot episode has kept us coming back week after week to learn more about life in the most curious prison on primetime. Previously, we met Michael Scofield, whose brother, Lincoln Burrows, is scheduled to die in a few months because of a homicide that Michael is sure Lincoln did not commit. Michael, desperate to help his brother, holds up a bank in order to be imprisoned alongside Lincoln in the Fox River State Penitentiary. From here we learn that Michael, who is equipped with the blueprints of the prison, has developed a plan to free Lincoln. Michael's only ally outside of the prison is his defense attorney, Veronica Donovan, who is tied to Lincoln in the most delicious way. *Prison Break* is such a marvel of a show. It sells itself on being in the style of *Shawshank Redemption* but is highly original and deserving in its own right.

What should I do with my Tuesdays at 9 p.m.?

Tune into ABC for *Commander-in-Chief*:

The ink on *The West Wing's* resignation from primetime is hardly dry, but we have already found a replacement for the oval office, and her name is Mackenzie Allen. She heats Capitol Hill up like a summer time cook-out in this delightful political dramedy. Geena Davis gives a performance that is somewhat reminiscent of Allison Janney's dry humor and warmth. The show deals with a slew of gender issues that not only President Allen, but all of America, faces when the previous president dies of an undetected aneurism and Ms. Allen is first in line "to be the leader of the free world." A campaign against her ensues, led by her advisors, but the mother of three fights the good fight and proves that women have what it takes to be president of the United States of America. Or maybe just President of the Universal Studios Lot #214. Either way, the show has tremendous charm and is highly discussable.

Tune into NBC for *My Name is Earl*:

"A bully and a low-rent crook," Earl wins the lottery and, after nearly losing it after being struck by a car, has an epiphany. He is determined to live with good karma, which is introduced to him by Carson Daly talking about it on TV. He is driven to use his good fortune for a positive cause and is strangely effective despite his limited intelligence. Earl creates a list of 261 misdeeds he plans to undo, including faking a death to break up with a girl and "everything [he] did to Dad." The show is strangely appealing and is very funny, sometimes in subtle, sophisticated ways.

What should I do with my

Thursdays at 8 p.m.?

Tune into UPN for *Everybody Hates Chris*:

Chris Rock not-so-lovingly remembers his childhood in early-eighties Brooklyn with narration in the style of stand-up comedy. Chris has his bike stolen, is picked on by the young neighborhood thugs, and is teased by his two siblings. The young Chris struggles with challenges that might typically turn up in Rock's stand-up comedy, like sneaking a crate of sausages into the house after suffering through a vegetarian meal or the general effects of dealing with moving out of the projects. There have only been four episodes of *Everybody Hates Chris*, but it still has some of the best family-oriented humor of recent weeks such as, "Back at school, Greg camped out for me like I was the new 'Star Wars' movie." It's fun to hear Chris Rock be somewhat restrained with the content of the writing, especially if you've ever seen any of his stand-up.

What should I do with my Thursdays at 9 p.m.?

Tune into FOX for *Reunion*:

Is time linear? In shows such as *24*, where a precise hour transpires in one episode, and generally in television, where no more than two or three days pass by the episode's end, it is quite clear that in television time moves forward. But what about when it moves forward very, very fast? *Reunion* is an insight into the lives of six friends, starting with a funeral in 2005 of an unknown friend whose death is being investigated. The viewer then steps back into 1986; each episode progresses forward one year until arriving back at 2005. The show relies so much on this concept that without this structure, the writing would just

appear dull. The characters are rather forgettable but overall, the show is addictive because it offers a sudsy O.C.-esque clique with a typical dramatic dynamic, plus a shocking, possibly homicidal, mystery. Will Estes and Sean Farris star as Will and Craig, the two leaders of the group.

What should I do with my Fridays at 8 p.m.?

Tune into CBS for *Ghost Whisperer*:

In *Ghost Whisperer*, Melinda Gordon, played by Jennifer Love Hewitt, realizes that some troubles just don't end when life does. Gordon is a newlywed with the strange capability to speak with spirits of the deceased. But the twist is that they seek her help. Often her ability allows her to relay important messages to the living. The series was inspired by the cases of James Van Praagh, who claims to be able to speak to the deceased. Only five episodes of *Ghost Whisperer* have aired, so the plot of the show is not quite clear because Gordon is dealing with many individual cases that wonderfully tie into one another. However, CBS is expecting *Whisperer* to overcome a wash of new shows because they have just extended the show for a full season. I think it's a very wise move, and even if you're confused and more than a little disturbed because Hewitt is speaking to a cadaver (or sometimes with her ear pressed to the good earth), it is encouraging that at least you are part of this philosophical journey to link the living world with the world beyond. Hey, it's primetime. We love beautiful, + strange people.

Paul McCartney is lucky to be back in the U. S. of A.

BY Andy Werle
A&E Editor

The curtains at Madison Square Garden rose forty-five minutes after my ticket said they would, but what followed was worth the wait — even the pounding techno music blasting through the sound system. As soon as Sir Paul McCartney became visible, the crowd of thousands screamed their approval. He opened with a classic Beatles song, "Magical Mystery Tour," which got the crowd on its feet right away.

McCartney, who is sixty-three years old, has been touring for forty-three years, ever since the Beatles' inception in 1962. After the band's breakup in 1970, he started the band Wings. Since that band broke up, McCartney has toured and written new material solo. His new album, *Chaos & Creation in the Backyard*, features song after song of soft rock. He played three of these tracks, "Jenny Wren," "English Tea," and "Fine Line," at the show. As great as his song-writing ability is, nothing pleased the masses more than the old Beatles songs he played.

The show opened with a video biography, chronicling McCartney's early life in Liverpool, his meeting each member of the Beatles, the golden years of the Fab Four, his Wings career, and solo work. It was clear that the audience came to see McCartney play old Beatles tunes, as they screamed and clapped hysterically when each member of the Beatles was introduced through the biography.

McCartney's current band is made up of drummer Abe Laboriel, pianist Paul Wickens, and guitarist Rusty Anderson. The back-up group let McCartney stand out as an icon but also provided excellent musical background. As they were introduced, they all commented on how much they enjoyed being in New York City. Although the band members were much younger than McCartney, he

gave them the respect that talented musicians deserve.

Alongside a band of talented youngsters, McCartney whipped out his classic violin-shaped bass and

"Helter Skelter," "Please Please Me," "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band," and "The End" made the fans scream like it was 1965. They let McCartney know how much they appreciated and loved his



Paul McCartney greets the crowd in Oslo in April 2004, on the first leg of his 2004 summer tour.

played such legendary songs as "Drive My Car," "Til There Was You," and "Jet," a Wings' song. Showing off his talents, he picked up a guitar and played "Blackbird," "Eleanor Rigby," and "I Will."

He also played a grand piano that rose out of the floor for the Beatles songs, "For No One," "The Long and Winding Road," "Hey Jude" and his solo song, "Live and Let Die." The crowd loved each of the songs and sang along happily, dancing in the seats.

The encore songs were a cross section of the Beatles' greatest hits. "Yesterday," "Let it Be," "Get Back,"

contributions to the music world through their screeches and shouts.

Throughout the show, McCartney gave the crowd tidbits of information that he used to segue into songs. For example, he told the crowd how NASA woke up

the astronauts in the space shuttle Discovery with "Good Day Sunshine" on the day that they came home before he started playing it. The large screens surrounding and supporting the stage showed images relevant to the songs, such as street signs during "Penny Lane" and airplanes during "Back in the USSR."

McCartney's concert was a very classy affair overall, with tapestry-like curtains surrounding the semi-circular stage. The band all wore matching black outfits, except for McCartney, who shed his jacket after the first song. Before the show began, the many flat screen televisions projected images of surreal artwork, and the lights swung around with interesting designs peppering the walls of the arena.

The Garden served as an ideal concert location, as each seat in the house was good, assuming you brought a pair of binoculars. McCartney addressed each section of the crowd, and audience participation greatly encouraged.

The rousing chorus at the end of "Hey Jude" brought tears to the eyes of older members of the crowd, as they remembered listening to the same song when they were in high school.

The show was both visually and emotionally satisfying. I was lucky enough to see a living legend, one of the members of the most popular bands of all time, and one of the most talented rock composers the world has known.

Corpse Bride appeals to classic Burton fanbase

BY Sidney Ginsberg
Staff Assistant

Fans of Tim Burton's *The Nightmare Before Christmas* are in for a treat this fall. Tim Burton has produced a new movie, *Corpse Bride*, which is now playing at Clearview Cinemas on Main Street. Burton, who is known around the world as the producer of outstanding, strange, dark, and stimulating creative visions, has done it again with a unique tale of a man who, overwhelmed by the miserable reality of his own wedding, stumbles into the woods and accidentally proposes at the grave of a murdered bride.

Helena Bonham Carter, the voice of the dead bride, has been in Burton's *Big Fish*. Johnny Depp is the voice of the male lead and has been in four other Tim Burton films, including the recent movie, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. The cast is just one element of the film that gives it the feel of a true Burton movie.

Much like *The Nightmare Before Christmas*, characters in *Corpse Bride* sporadically break out into song. This adds a jarring twist to the film. Set in a bleak town, the dreary color scheme of the animation and sallow expressions

of the characters contrast with the soundtrack, many songs of which are cheery.

Despite this odd contrast between the music and the visuals, those acquainted with Burton's previous films said *Corpse Bride* was a huge success.

"Many people who are not used to animated films may not have been able to appreciate the complexity of the animation," said sophomore Sam Colonna, an avid Burton fan.

"The plot may have been a bit childish, but I was more focused on the artistic aspect of the movie. It was still an excellent film to be added to my Burton collection," he said.

"The characters were weird looking, it kind of freaked me out," said sophomore Alex Stern, who had never seen any movies by Burton before.

Consistent with the eerie yet entertaining style of all Burton films, comedy, music, and intrigue are all present. I highly recommend the film to all Burton fans.

Got Poetry?



Kaleidoscope wants it.
Meetings are Thursdays at 3:15
Room 123
(English Computer Lab)

JV field hockey slaps opponents

BY Chris Catalano & Richard Schmitz
Staff Writers

The junior varsity field hockey team closed out its final home game of the season with a sound win, 6-0, over Great Neck South on Oct. 21.

Anchored by a strong defense, the team's offense had a lot of room to excel, exemplified by the amount of goals scored by Great Neck on Friday.

The game started out very defensively, with both sides appearing to play a conservative game. Sophomore Christina Mele broke the stalemate with the lone goal in the half. At this point in the game, this goal seemed to be almost all that Port needed for the victory, with the defense playing extremely well. The first half concluded with the score 1-0 in favor of Port.

The second half opened to a seemingly new offense. Shortly into the half, the team's new life paid off when sophomore Katherine Corteselli scored her first goal of the game. Ten minutes later, she scored again to extend Port's cushion to three goals.

After this goal, Great Neck South clamped down on defense and Port did not have very many scoring opportunities. However, just as much as Great Neck's defense played better, Port's defense also stepped up to the challenge of thwarting any scoring opportunities for Great Neck South.

The next goal came from Mele, her second of the game.

Shortly afterwards, Corteselli scored her third goal, with 7:49 left in the game. 50 seconds later, Corteselli would score again, knotting up a hat trick.

Corteselli has been instrumental to the offense this season, scoring 17 goals.

With six seconds left on the clock, Jessica Liss put the icing on the cake with the final goal of the game, making the score 6-0 in favor of Port. Sammy Wolf was instrumental in almost every goal, getting almost as many assists as there were goals.

It is a testament to the team's ability that even after having a week of rained out practices, they could still play with such skill.

Team coach Ms. Beth Carstens has expressed her support for the team, which has defeated or tied everyone else in the third league.

The team has tied against Oyster Bay, a team in the second division. Against first division teams, the team held its own in close games against Garden City and Friends.

"It was a very exciting win at the last home game," said Coach Carstens, "and we had fantastic turnout. I thank all the parents and friends of the junior varsity players for showing their support all season long."

These words sum up the feelings of both the players and the fans as the JV team ends its season on a positive note.

out of bounds

BY David Becker
Contributing Writer

"Out of Bounds" is a new column that offers a unique perspective of high school sporting events. David Becker goes behind the scenes and writes about the "down and dirty" of high school sports.

The Port versus Oyster Bay field hockey game on Oct. 20 is crowded, but I manage to get in because I happen to know someone who knows someone. The activities start with the team engaging in the traditional charging of each other's sticks screaming "1, 2, 3: HOOO-RAHHH!!!" The two teams line up neatly on either side of the field, but like the opening credits of a Charlie Kauffman film, all signs point to chaos.

The girls' faces are heavy with worry. They hover over their hockey sticks awkwardly. Still, the ball moves steadily toward both sides of the field, never coming very close to either goalpost. There is a penalty corner for a purple-clad Oyster Bay player. Six Port Washington girls surround the lone Oyster Bay girl like hungry hyenas. The ball is shot into the field and then pursued fervently.

The game practically re-begins. Like a pack of raging mares, Port gallops down to the Oyster's goal end. One woman booms a gigantic "SHOOT IT!" that is met with a groan of disappointment. One Port girl's swing is reminiscent of a professional golfer's. It's beyond. The first goal of the game is scored later by Nathalie Brilliant, senior.

"We know this team," says senior captain Ariel Fuchs. "We've scrimmaged them before," added Annie Schechter, junior. "We work as a cohesive unit. Quote me."

"BLOCK IT UP!" screams Valerie Halesworth, coach of eight years at Oyster Bay.

Port attempts to shoot the ball but it goes out tragically. "Don't give up on that ball," cries Schreiber coach Joe Lederer as the cohesive unit approaches the goal. Nikki Pond, junior, glides with the ball with the agility of a goddess. The Oysters pass and then shoot unsuccessfully. The Purples wait at midfield as their goal is invaded. "This is not, like, NFL. TOUCH THE BALL! TOUCH IT!" Coach Lederer calls to the girls.

Thirty-eight seconds until the end of the half, sophomore Jackie Mezzetta brilliantly finishes a cross from senior center halfback, Danielle Powers. The crowd roars. Powers attacks like an enzyme. I then meet the team's charming

mascot, Mr. Loolie, a worm.

In the second half, the crowd gasps. #4 of Oyster Bay falls. Christine Gerard is approaching beautifully. The team is doing "exceptionally well," Schechter says. Gerard is closing in for the kill, but it's a heartbreaking miss. Minutes later, Christine Gerard shoots beautifully and scores a goal.

Coach Halesworth calls a time out. "LADIES, STOP BEING SO MECHANICAL! YOU LOOK GREAT!" she encourages, which is followed by Oyster Bay's "TEAM!" chant. So far Oyster Bay has a record of 4-6.

Toward the end of the half, the Purples circle around Port's goalpost like vultures. It gets more offensive.

Offense becomes defense. Purples score. There have been a total of four penalty corners. The ball bounces off poor junior Liana Clemente's forehead. She doesn't blink an eye. There are now twenty fans.

"Number 5 wants to kill me. I'm not even kidding. Her friend was like, 'Why don't you just hit her,'" reports Pond. Valerie Halesworth has become my favorite person ever. She screams at a player, "LIZ, PLEASE PUT IT IN THE NET. THAT'S TERRIBLE." I want it known she's an absolutely charming conversationalist.

Then, junior Jana Levinson, who has been groomed all season long finally gets her due. Melinda Salaman, junior, is also put in.

Senior Jordana Cohen is replaced as part of the cohesive unit and comments, "Oh my god. Chandler Bing. Hehehehehehe." It's a perfect impersonation. The game soon ends. The score is 3-1. Port shot eleven times and the Purples six times. Port's record so far is 6-6, and Oyster Bay's is 4-7.

I have personally been invited to the last two games of the year and have been offered a stint as manager. However, because of a previous commitment, I will have to decline. It seems that my presence on the sidelines will be missed. The team apparently loves my high-kicks, not that I blame them, of course.

There is one more home game on Oct. 25, Senior Day. There will be a ten minute ritual presentation to commemorate the team's seniors. Coach Lederer and captains Brilliant, Cohen and Fuchs can be proud of the win against Oyster Bay. The team hopes to win on Oct. 26 against Great Neck South. Port clobbered them previously this season. Nice job, girls. Viva la Lederer!

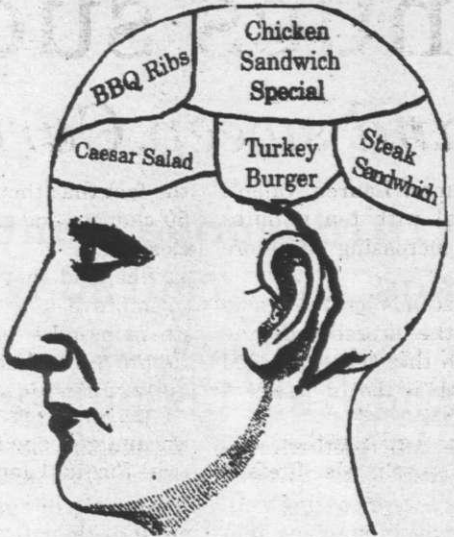
MICKORBY'S PIT

BBQ

WE DELIVER

674 PORT WASHINGTON BLVD.

PORT WASHINGTON



883-7174



Junior Alissa Potter fights hard for possession of the ball while handling it past an Oyster Bay defender.

Runners make history

BY Myles Potters
Staff Writer

Cross country coach Mr. Jeremy Klaff and his team of runners entered the 2005 season looking to build on their success of the past two years, in both of which the team was county runner-up to Farmingdale High School.

In the first meet of the season, Port faced Oceanside and Massapequa. Despite having runners place in top spots, Port fell short in its goal for victory.

The team rebounded from its opening loss by winning all of its ten remaining races of the season, including a match-up against the defending Nassau County champion, the Syosset Braves. With this victory, Port became the division champion. The team also beat division rival Farmingdale.

"That's what I'm talking about, it's about time!" said senior captain Wilmer Chamul in response to the win.



Josh Talesnick

Senior Lauren Hanat paces herself to ensure another win for Schreiber.

Throughout the year, the team's motto was "For the banner!" This was due to the fact that there are no banners for cross country in the school gymnasium, and a county championship would finally give the team public recognition.

After years without a single individual winning a race, juniors Peter Gabrielli and Richard Schmitz came in first and second respectively several times.

The annual Nassau County Coach's meet was a another huge victory for the boys. Freshmen Dimitri Belkin and Jeff D'Elia secured first place. The sophomores, including Ignosio Del Valle and Eric Ruvio, won the second place plaque.

The varsity team claimed the county championship, and overall, the team earned an outstanding twenty-three medals at the race.

The boys cross country team is not the only team making headlines. The girls lost only one meet this year, coming in second in their division with a 6-1 record.

Most of the girls are first-time runners. Returning runners senior Lauren Hanat and sophomore Astrid Firland-Schill came up with big wins that affected the outcome of these races. Juniors Tarryn Fisher, Marissa Fox, Hae Inn Woo, and freshmen Rose Ellen Diffley, and Katherine Maxted were also important team members.

Team captain Hanat, as well as Firland-Schill and Fisher, led the team with times that rival those of the boys on the junior varsity.

"The good thing about cross country is that there is no luck involved like in other sports such as football, hockey or baseball," said junior veteran Matt Mondragon. "We won because we trained and worked harder than any



Josh Talesnick

Senior Jose de la Rosa catches up to a Rebel runner to close in on the finish line.

other team."

The teams are now preparing for the Conference and State Qualifier meets in which they hope to continue their unparalleled success.

"The good thing about cross country is that there is no luck involved like in other sports such as football, hockey or baseball."

Next year, the team will be favored to win the division and county again, even though the team will not be the same. However, with seniors Maurice Alfaya, Wilmer Chamul, Jinyo Lay, Jacob

Litke, and Raul Maraboli graduating at the end of the year, Port will lose some crucial team members. All five seniors have provided leadership and inspiration to the athletes throughout "Just as former captains Adam Gold and Eric Hirsch have left a void in the team, there is no doubt that these seniors will too. They will definitely be missed," Catalano said.

Despite these losses, a new wave of young, promising runners is moving up, and Coach Klaff hopes to establish a Schreiber running dynasty.

"We, as varsity runners, will never forget their great accomplishment of getting the first boys cross country banner in school history, and when re-visiting this school years later we will always hold our heads high over this incredible accomplishment," said Schmitz.

"In fact, Long Island will not likely forget these accomplishments as *Newsday* has published several articles about this monster of a team," he said.

JV soccer team continues success Vikings remain cool under pressure and sweep Carle Place

BY Matt Varvaro
Contributing Writer

The junior varsity soccer team defeated Jericho in The Pit in their last home game of the season on Oct. 19. Throughout this well-played game, the Vikings' offense was on the ball, scoring four goals, while the defense and goal-keeping shut down Jericho, giving up goose eggs. With this 4-0 win, the Vikings improved their record to 10-1.

Both teams started the first half off slowly, but freshman Perri Goldstein eventually scored a little more than ten minutes into the game. That goal was the only one made that half, giving the

Vikings a slim 1-0 lead.

However, Schreiber quickly started the second half with a bang. It was less than two minutes into the half when sophomore Christiana Ressa exploded down the field and scored the Vikings' second goal. Ressa's dominance did not end there; only three minutes later, Schreiber regained control of the ball led by Ressa on offense. She took the ball down the field and found freshman Emily Keisman, who took a picture perfect shot, resulting in a 3-0 Vikings lead.

Although Jericho's offense started to heat up, freshman goalie Brittany Schwartz, blanked Jericho for the rest

of the half. Freshman Lauren Valenti added another goal with ten minutes left in the game, increasing the score to 4-0.

As the final seconds of the game ticked away on the scoreboard, the Vikings, along with their fans, cheered away as they put their tenth victory of the season under their belt.

"We worked the ball together, as a team," said head coach, Ms. Stefanie "Budha" Boutis. "We were passing well, we were really strong in stepping into the ball, and there was definitely a lot of speed."

Coach Boutis also pointed out that the team's victory should be credited to

the fact that they, "won most of the '50-50' chances and got the ball on the really close plays."

She said that in order for the team to improve upon the success it had in its game, the players would have to "improve on their touches and have a quicker passing game."

This win ended up being an especially meaningful one for Schreiber because it was the final game that they would play this season at home, in The Pit, in front of all of their fans. Fortunately for the Vikings, their season ended on a high note at home.

You got served!

Schreiber tennis fights to secure playoff spot

by Myles Potters

Staff Writer

The girls varsity tennis team, coached by Stan Makover, has aspirations of making the playoffs. Coach Makover has expressed his utmost confidence in these girls and believes that his team will make the cut for the playoffs.

"My goal is to make the playoffs," said Coach Makover, "and to do that we need to be one of the top four teams in the county. So far we have accomplished that goal and I am very happy."

Led by seniors Laila Selim and Gaby Monsanto, the team seems poised to accomplish these goals and continue on to the post-season.

The team is comprised of seven starting spots (three singles teams and four doubles teams). First singles is freshman Kristin Norton, second singles is sophomore Laura Chen, and third singles is an eighth grader, Emily Szulman. Rounding out the doubles teams are: first doubles Selim and Monsanto, second doubles sophomore Christine Cassaro and eighth grader Jessica Podlofsky, third doubles junior Alyssa Epstein and freshman Adrienne Bourguet, and fourth doubles junior Amanda Sall and sophomore Sarah Scheinman.

These positions are determined in practice when the girls play off against each other. These playoffs consist of one set. However, during the matches, the team plays a two out of three set

format.

So far, the team has played matches against Plainview, Roslyn, Jericho, Syosset, Hewlett, Cold Spring Harbor, and Friends Academy.

Most recently, the team continued a match that was in progress against Plainview that had been rained out. It was a very close match, with Port prevailing by a final score of 4-3. The fourth doubles team pulled out the decisive victory. It was a hard fought and well deserved win for the team.

The team has been "very successful while competing in Division I, the toughest conference in the state" said Coach Makover.

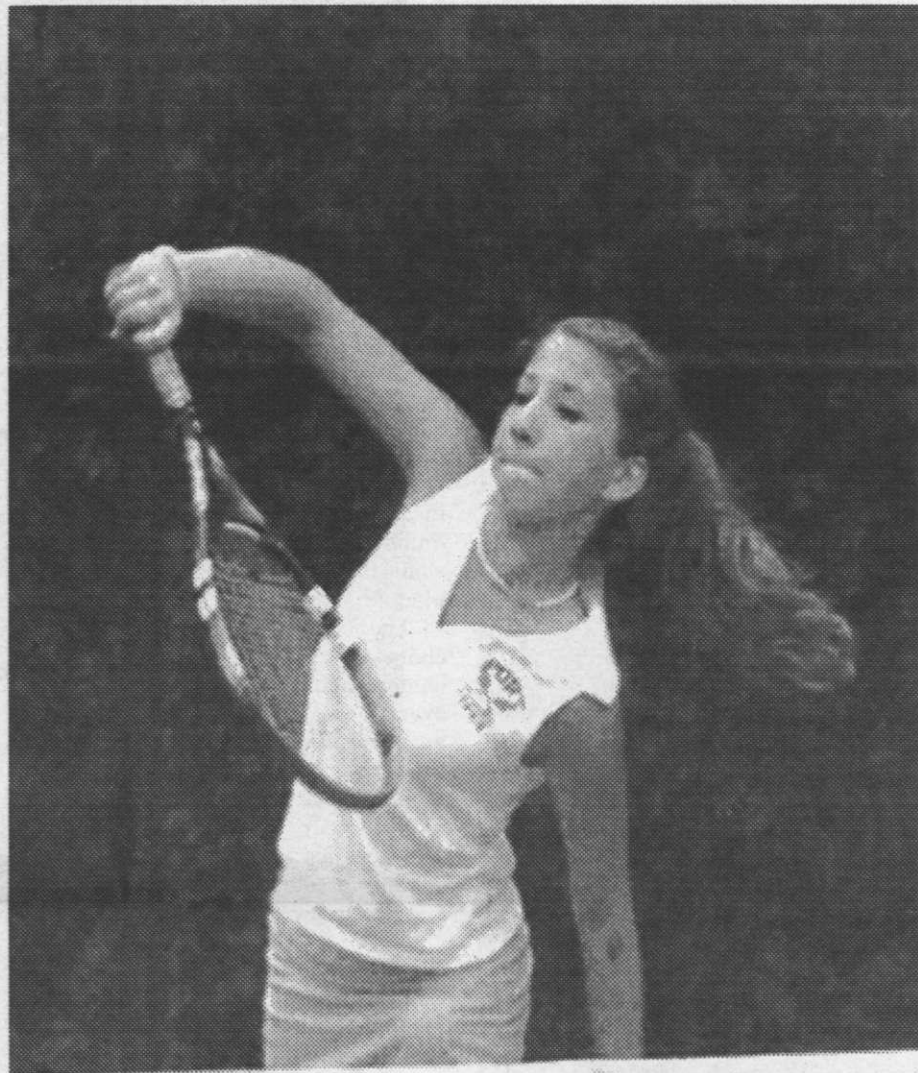
Two girls have distinguished themselves as outstanding among the rest of the players on the team. Norton and Chen competed in the individual county tennis championships as a doubles team, where they placed first. They will be going upstate to Syracuse to represent Nassau County in the State championships on November 28.

"The goal of Chen and me is to win the states this year," said Norton. "We feel very confident and we will try extremely hard to reach our goal. Last year we finished fifth and this year we hope to improve our standings."

Also, over the summer, these two girls competed in the Empire Games in New Paltz, New York. In these games, the two girls took home two gold medals for defeating all of the other teams participating. There was competition from all over the Northeast, with teams from the Adirondack region, the Hudson Valley, and New York City. This was a true test of the girls' playing level, and they lived up to their expectations.

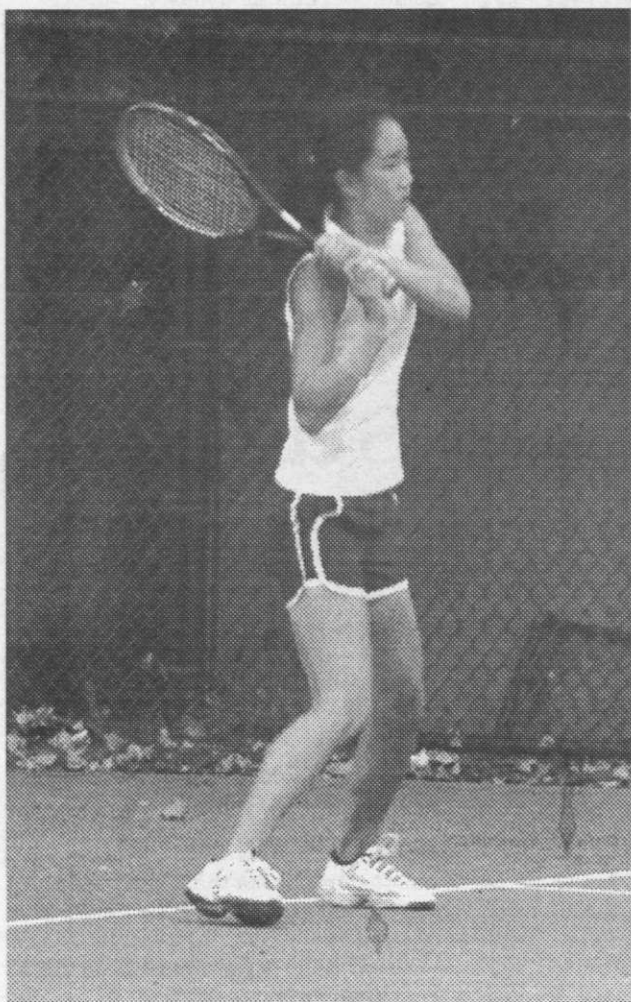
Even with two seniors, Monsanto and Selim, graduating this year, Coach Makover believes that the team will be just as strong, if not stronger next year. With two eighth graders coming up, these players and the rest of the team will only be growing and gaining experience on and off the court.

There will be plenty of players next season to accept this challenge. Look forward to more exciting action from the tennis courts next fall.



Liz Corkett

Sophomore Sidny Ginsberg, attempts to ace her opponents in a match crucial to a possible playoff berth.



Liz Corkett

Sophomore Laura Chen smashes a backhand down the line in an attempt to win the point against her opponent.

Lady Vikings' 2005 Results

Port vs Syosset.....L 3-4
Port vs Roslyn.....L 2-5
Port vs Friends.....L 2-5
Port vs Jericho.....L 1-6

Port vs Hewlett.....W 5-2
Port vs CSH.....W 6-1
Port vs. Jericho.....L 0-7
Port vs Roslyn.....L 3-4
Port vs. Hewlett.....W 5-2

Port vs P JFK...W 5-2
Port vs P JFK...W 4-3
Port vs CSH.....W 4-3
Port vs Syosset.L 3-4

Rams fall after decisive second half

Seniors start in final victory of the season

BY Nikki Pond & Raul Maraboli

Assistant Sports Editor & Contributing Writer

With seven minutes left in the game, the girls' soccer team had a 2-1 lead, yet the crowd grew silent as junior Michelle Doscas prepared to take a penalty kick. The whistle blew. Doscas planted the ball in the upper left-hand corner of the goal to ice the game for Port.

The varsity soccer team won the last game of its regular season in The Pit against West Hempstead on Oct. 21. The game was followed by a presentation of flowers and corsages to the seven seniors and their parents.

For their last home game, Coach Stephanie Joannon, honored the seven seniors by starting them in the game.

The first goal of the game was scored by junior Filiz Kipcakli and assisted by senior co-captain Sarah Weiss three minutes into the second half.

Later in the second half, senior Maya Silbert scored a tie-breaking goal on a cross from senior captain Maggie Spreitzer.

Silbert's goal would prove to be the one that won the game for Port.

The week leading up to this finisher contained three other games that Port managed to either win or tie. The girls pulled big wins out of their two games against Jericho on Oct. 17 and Oct. 19, while they finished their game versus first-place Wheatley in a 1-1 tie on Oct. 20.

Port's starting defense, anchored by juniors Katrina Fahey and Kim Flores, and sophomore Emily "ET" Thrope, proved its strength in the rematch.

The team's single goal was assisted by Doscas and scored by Kipcakli nine minutes after the start. This match was an improvement from their previous game against Wheatley on Sept. 20, which the girls lost 3-1.

The loss was the only one that Port



Senior Maya Silbert prepares for a throw-in against West Hempstead, against whom she also scored the winning goal early in the second half.

endured all season.

The only other tie the girls had this season was against Floral Park on Oct. 7.

Finishing the season with a 9-1-2 record, the possibility of playoffs looks good.

"I hope we get to continue our season in the playoffs," Doscas said. "We have all worked so hard this season, and I think that we could do really well in the postseason."

The girls found out their results on Oct. 25, which are unavailable because they were released after press time.

"I can't believe that even though we moved up a conference, we still completed the season so successfully. It was an awesome way to finish my last soccer season at Schreiber," said Weiss.

"I knew we had it in us all along, it was just a matter of showing it," said Spreitzer.

The girls are coached by Stephanie "Jo" Joannon and were joined this year by a new assistant coach, Mr. Dane Soloman.

The starting goalie, junior Angela Matinale, has proven to be an essential player, completing the season with 107 saves.

At the conclusion of

the 2004 fall soccer season, the team was moved up to Conference IV after finishing the season undefeated.

Due to the heightened competition this year, the team did not score as many goals as they had last year. The team lost several crucial offensive players this year after they graduated, which may have contributed to the decrease in goals scored.

However, due to the more widespread range of people who scored in the 2005 season, there may have also been an improvement in the offense.

Nonetheless, the girls had an exceptional season.

"Our team next year is going to be filled with experience. Although we are losing some incredible athletes, I strongly believe we will be able to step it up and exceed expectations," said Fahey.

Girls Varsity Soccer Top Scorers

Games	Goals
Filiz Kipcakli	10
Maggie Spreitzer	4
Melanie Reese	3
Michelle Doscas	2
Maya Silbert	2
Gabby Weiss	2

Boys varsity soccer looks forward to playoffs

BY Steven Geisenheimer and Ben Greene

Contributing Writers

The boys varsity soccer team squared off against Syosset for the second time of the season on Oct. 18, winning 1-0. Syosset came up with a 3-1 victory during their last meeting; therefore, Port hoped to gain redemption. Despite its 0-7-2 record, Port looked optimistic going into the game.

"This game is important for our confidence," said senior Brandon Schneider. "We really believe that if we play well, we can come through on top."

Syosset started out the game as the aggressor and gained the early momentum. Despite this, they missed many golden opportunities to actually score first in the game. They missed their biggest opportunity when Port's junior goalie, Jonah Lovens, bobbled the ball right in front of the goal which left a wide open net.

Later, on a cross by Syosset, senior Joey Strangolagalli made a defensive stop right in front of the goal, keeping the game tied at zero.

Syosset kept control of the ball

for most of the first half until there were about five minutes left. With four minutes and thirty-one seconds left in the first half, sophomore Nick Balterman sent the ball out wide to forward junior Alex Lee, who chipped it over the goalie into the far corner for the first completed shot on goal of the game. This goal swung the momentum over to Port and got the crowd into the game.

With two and a half minutes left in the first half, Port threatened to score again. They were able to get a breakaway but were robbed by a diving stop by the Syosset goalie, keeping the lead at one goal. Even though Syosset controlled the ball for most of the first half, they could not capitalize on its scoring chances. This let Port end the first half on top 1-0.

Port started the second half with great momentum and a closer grasp on its first win of the season. Eight minutes into the second half, Syosset was able to draw a Port foul in the box, giving them a penalty kick. When the ball was first kicked it looked like a sure goal, but Lovens came up with a diving save to preserve the lead. And

on the ensuing corner kick for Syosset, Lovens made another huge diving save to really put down Syosset and liven the Port spirit.

Later in the half, Schneider made two key stops to yet again hold off Syosset. About two minutes later, Port had two golden opportunities to put Syosset away. The first was a breakaway attempt by Balterman, which was stopped. Then, Port squandered another chance following a cross by freshman Stephan Brossard.

The last ten minutes of the game were filled with the most intensity. Both teams battled hard on the field. However, Syosset started to get really frustrated and began to commit flagrant penalties. By doing so, they were not able to get any scoring chances to tie the game. Port held strong for the last couple of minutes of the game and came away with their first victory of the season.

All the players, coaches, and fans were ecstatic.

After the game, Coach Zuvich said that his team was "fantastic." "They were able to put everything they had practiced together," he said. "I am



Ariana Gould

Senior goalie Bryant Rich boots the ball up the field to create a scoring chance for the Vikings.

looking forward to the playoffs and remaining three games."

Even though the team struggled in the beginning of the season, they have shown promise playing in one of the most competitive divisions. They hope to end the season strong and look to succeed in the playoffs.

Athletes of the Month

Jamain Parchment Burgandy McCurty

BY **Jus Chadha**

Jamain Parchment, who stands at 6'1" and 150 lbs., may look like a lanky kid, but when he hits the field, his presence is huge.

"Jamain is one of the strongest wide receivers I know," said senior defensive end Harry Jung. "He is pure muscle, no fat. He is able to break tackles, but is still able to burn corner backs on almost every passing route."

In the locker room Jamain adds positive attitude and sportsmanship. "Jamain has really helped our team and he brings a lot to the table," said senior defensive lineman Brian Kutner. "He

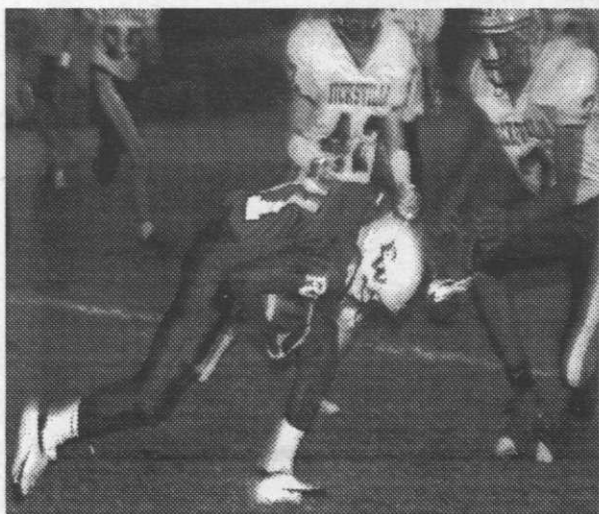
is a huge offensive threat and he has a lot of spirit, but never takes things too seriously. Jamain is a breakout player this year."

Parchment has been able to use his speed and size to exploit the opponents' defense. He put Port in great field position against Hicksville on Sept. 23 after he made three receptions. He also added a 30-yard-run down the sideline, and used his muscle to force a key interception in the third quarter on a pivotal drive by Hicksville.

Parchment's best game of the season came in the team's 34-26 win over Long Beach, where he finished the game with three touchdowns, one of which came off a 45-yard bomb from senior quarterback Greg Berry. He set up his own rushing touchdown with a 60-yard run to close out the game.

"Jamain has been an important piece of our team this year and has provided a much needed spark in our victories," said senior running back Bobby Candela.

Despite his successes, arrogance hasn't gotten the best of the Vikings' top receiver. "As good as I feel this season, it has not come easy," said Parchment. "Eating right and staying in shape is an important component to my success and it's been hard work, baby."



Jamain Parchment lowers his shoulders as he drives into a crowd of hungry Hicksville defenders.

Nick Cangemi

BY **David Baer**

Sports Editor

The volleyball team is having a successful season with an undefeated record, mainly because of the play and leadership from senior captain Burgandy McCurty. McCurty has been named to the All-Tournament team for the Wantagh Tournament, the MVP of the Herricks Tournament, and has been an All-County player since sophomore year.

"She has dominated the court," said Coach Ms. Maria Giamanco, who is currently coaching her sixteenth season at Schreiber. With the leadership and experience of McCurty, along with other

seniors, including co-captain Marina Pedisich, the team is doggedly pursuing a playoff berth.

"Burgandy is the whole package," said Coach Giamanco. "She is a strong defensive and offensive player with the drive to be a champion."

McCurty is proud of her success. "I was not going to play [volleyball] in high school," said McCurty. "However, when Coach 'G' saw my vertical jump, she insisted that I continue to play. The outcome has been great, and now I'm thinking about playing in college."

McCurty currently has 241 kills this season, including a career-high 29 against Great Neck North; not bad for someone who almost didn't play.



Female athlete of the month, senior Burgandy McCurty, takes some time off from practice to hone her little known skill in "hallway sliding."

Nick Werle

JV undefeated streak snapped

Future of Port football continues strong season despite loss

BY **Jason Nelson**

Contributing Writer

Despite dismal back-to-back losing seasons and a new low, a 0-8 record last year, the JV football squad has made a significant comeback.

The major difference in the team begins with the new coaching staff of Head Coach Tom Daniels and Assistant Coach Michael Gallagher. The coaches have stressed conditioning and fundamentals more than in the past during this year's extended practices. The players appear to have no complaints.

"We definitely concentrate on conditioning more than we did before," said sophomore Tyler Fernandez. "I think that on the whole it's paying off."

Indeed they are. The team improved its record to 5-0 with a win over Baldwin last week 13-0. Sophomore quarterback Larry Baglio led Port's lethal offensive attack along with sophomore captain Steven Kaufman and freshman running back Jeff Froccaro. Kaufman and Froccaro each earned a touchdown.

The other captains, sophomore



A JV wideout breaks from the huddle to set up at the line of scrimmage.

Liz Corkett

tailbacks Sam Pyo and Daniel Surakin, helped fuel the team's short yardage game. The defense was just as vicious as the offensive attack, holding Baldwin to zero points offensively. Key plays came from sophomore cornerback James Lopilato and linebacker Hernandez.

The JV Vikings continued their season on Oct. 24, against the heavily favored Syosset Braves. Syosset is known for their running game as well as their defensive ability. Syosset runningback Zach Plotkin has an incredible eight touchdowns in five games.

The game proved to be a true test as well as a learning experience for the young squad. In the first half Plotkin ran for two rushing touchdowns

and at the end of the first half Port trailed 22-0. This marked the first time of the season where Port had been losing by that large a margin.

The Vikings' defense could not contain the Syosset running back. The offense as well had trouble scoring. An injury to quarterback Larry Baglio kept the experienced sophomore off the field, which hurt Port's attack. The game proved to the players and coaches that they weren't as prepared as they should have been and that they needed to work on the run defense. Port suffered its first defeat of the season as a shutout.

The run defense was not much of an issue in their past games. The team had already beaten Long Beach, Valley Stream Central, Plainview JFK, and in their largest win of the season, Hicksville by 35 points.

The basis of JV sports is to learn and prepare for the varsity level. It appears the coaches are doing a great job preparing the players. So far the young JV players have given the Port Washington fans some hope for the future.

Football drops three straight games

Vikings eliminated from playoff contention after loss

BY Jus Chadha
Sports Editor

Port's record dropped to 2-4, after losing its third game in a row at Syosset on Oct. 23. Port came into the game riding a two game losing streak after defeats by Valley Stream 0-35 and Baldwin 6-49.

Port's failure continued during their game against Syosset, losing by a score of 0-30.

Syosset's upset eliminated Port Washington from playoff contention.

"Today, we came out flat and this loss really cost us," said senior defensive end Harry Jung. "But we have to stay positive and during the next two games of the season we have to come out aggressive, drive the field, and control the momentum."

From the opening snap, Port's defense was two steps behind. Syosset controlled ball possession for the majority of the game and drove down the field breaking away at Port's defense.

"We had too many missed tackles today on defense," said junior Brian Miller. "These uneven matchups on defense lead to giant holes that Syosset was able to take advantage of."

Furthermore, Syosset took an aggressive running-based offensive

approach, which ultimately proved to be the deciding factor in the game.

Syosset also played aggressive on defense, pressuring Vikings senior quarterback Greg Berry on every snap. Syosset's persistence ultimately led to an interception touchdown by Syosset, which resulted in a quick 14-0 lead.

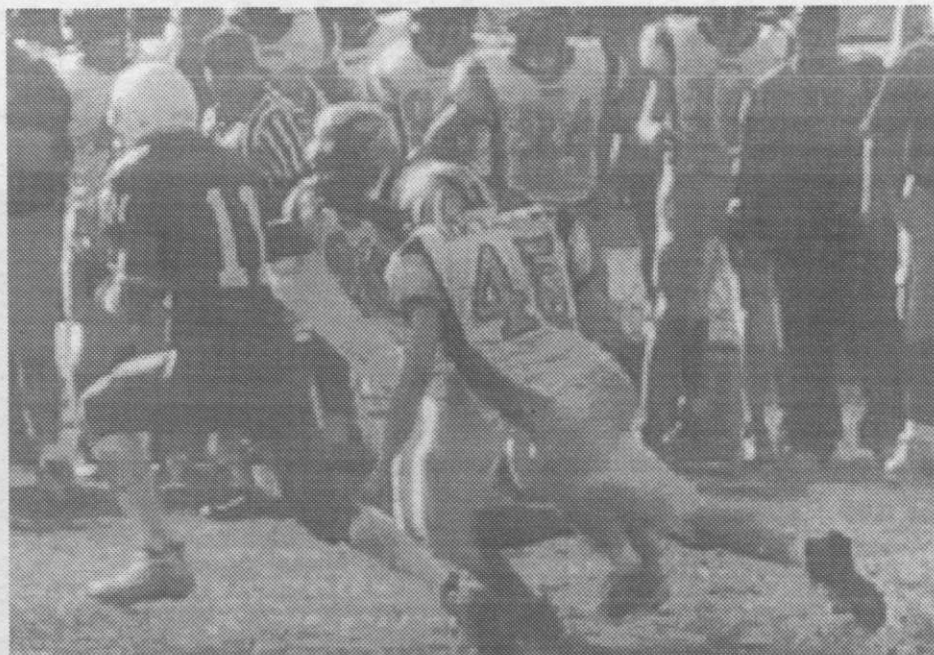
Despite the inefficient quarter on offense, Port's defense came together on a goal line stance at the end of the first quarter, stopping Syosset at the one yard-line.

Key players involved in this stop included Jung, and senior linebackers Dan Koh and Francisco Silva. Junior defensive linemen Arnold Donato, Peter Miller, and Brian Miller also came up with key tackles to prevent Syosset from scoring.

Coming into the second half, Port looked to move the football down the field and play tight defense.

During the first drive of the third quarter, Berry connected with Koh on an arrow pass for a first down. Later, Berry completed a pass to senior running back Bobby Candela on a fade near the sideline.

Senior wide receiver Jamain Parchment added some life to the offense with a nine yard rush, which brought Port into Syosset's offensive zone. However, Port was never



Ariana Gould

Koh hopes to rush for the first down against Baldwin at Seiber Field on October 17th. Port ultimately lost 6-49.

able to capitalize, and was ultimately held to only two first downs throughout the entire game.

Many factors may have attributed to Port's recent three game slump. The team has played many games without key players; who were out due to injuries, including, junior defensive lineman Anthony Corbo, a force on both the offensive and defensive line, who suffered a season-ending injury, putting more responsibility on the shoulders of the other linemen.

Other factors also include a lack of team chemistry. Inefficient scouting on Port's behalf has also been a cause of many of their losses.

"It was a disappointing loss," said Silva. "We started off the season strong, but today we could not manage to move the ball and it resulted in a shutout loss. But we cannot give up now. We still must play for pride and finish the season strong."

"Hopefully next week we can gain our confidence back with a victory against Oceanside and finish off the season at 4-4," added senior defensive lineman Brian Kutner. "Either way, the season has been fun and we improved significantly from last season's 1-7 record."

Port's next game will be played at home against Oceanside on Oct. 29.

The team will close out the season on Nov. 5 against a Conference II team to be announced.



Ariana Gould

Senior running back Dan Koh looks to run the ball back for a touchdown against Syosset. Koh was able to dodge tackles and split the defense for a forty-yard kick-off return.

Varsity Football

Schreiber	14
Plainview	55

Schreiber	27
Hicksville	14

Schreiber	36
Long Beach	24

Schreiber	0
U.S. Central High	35

Schreiber	6
Baldwin	49

Schreiber	0
Syosset	30

Upcoming Games

Schreiber	10/29
Oceanside	

Schreiber	11/5
TBA	

VIKING SPORTS

Volleyball hunts for playoff berth

Lady Vikings remain undefeated in league play with three games left in season

by David Baer
Sports Editor

With a playoff berth on the line, the Lady Vikings' volleyball team came through in the clutch by defeating winless Clarke High School by a score of 25-13, 25-18, 23-25, 25-8. The third game of the match was Clarke's first win of the season.

"We were not focused on the game; we were not playing good, fundamental, team volleyball; and we were not working together like we normally do," said junior Christina "CC" Carrington. "But after putting the loss aside, we were able to play our game, and prevail to a big win in the fourth game to win the match."

With the win over Clarke, Port Washington is now 12-0 in league play, and 14-1 overall. Clarke dropped its eighth straight match this season, falling to 0-8.

Entering the match, Port was coming off wins against Great Neck South, Garden City, and MacArthur, all of which went to four games. The most important of the three was the contest against MacArthur, "a big win," according to Coach Maria Giamanco. This is her sixteenth season as coach of the varsity girls volleyball team.

Schreiber and MacArthur boast the two top teams in Conference III, which is broken up into two parts, 'A' and 'B.' Port is from IIIA and MacArthur is from IIIB. Before the match against Schreiber, MacArthur was the top team in IIIB. The match was especially important because only one team from Conference III makes the playoffs each year.

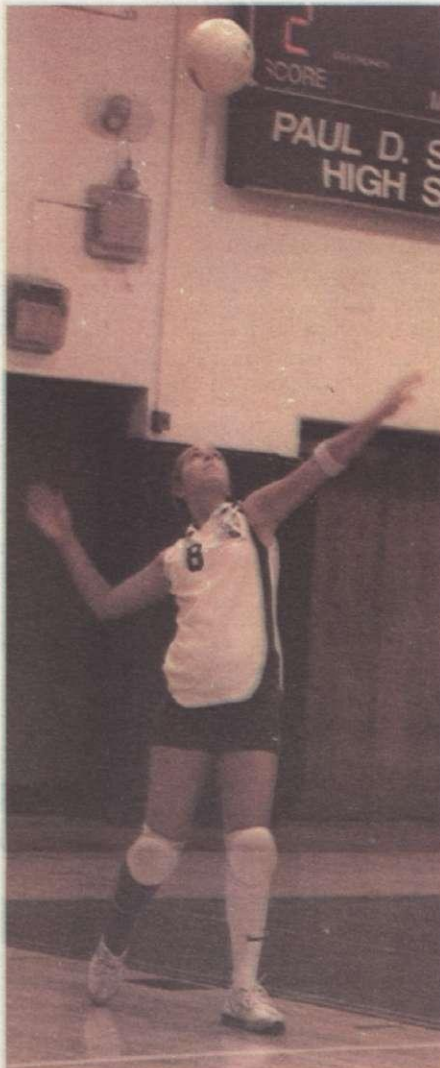
Carrington, who has 319 assists this season, and senior captain Burgandy McCurdy, who was named All-County two years running and currently leads the team with 241 kills, anchor Port's offense.

Carrington tied her career high in assists against Great Neck South, recording forty-one. McCurdy also proved to be powerful on offense, registering twenty-six kills, three fewer than her career high of twenty-nine, which she set on Sept. 26. That match, a victory over Great Neck North, was the one during which Carrington originally set her record.

"CC is an excellent setter who spent one year playing club volleyball," said Giamanco. "It has made a large impact on the level that she plays at. Even though Burgandy is the big numbers-getter, everyone on the team helps balance out the offense. One or two players do not make a team. [Senior] Lindsay Byrne has been playing great defense, and [senior] Katherine Schmidt makes tough serves in crucial moments and is playing strong defense."

Port's strong defense has only lost ten individual games all season. They have competed in fifteen matches.

"We started out and the juniors and seniors were iffy about the season's



Junior Christina Carrington tosses up the ball while serving against Clarke. Carrington, a setter, had fifteen assists in the game, and now has 319 on the season.

outcome, and we have a lot of youth on this team this year," said McCurdy, "but, we have stepped up our game, and they stepped up theirs, and right now, the team is really hot and hunting for the playoffs."

McCurdy and Carrington have been vital to the team's success this year. McCurdy was named to the All-Tournament team for her exceptional play in the Wantagh Tournament, and Carrington for her success in the Herricks Tournament. McCurdy was also named MVP in the Herricks competition.

The team finished in third place in both tournaments this year. "That's pretty good, seeing as we go up against all Conference I teams," said Giamanco.

"In eighth grade, we had an undefeated season [in middle school], and we have not seen one since," said McCurdy. "For me, [co-captain] Marina [Pedisich], and the other seniors, going undefeated would be a nice way to go out."

To do so, the team will have to win matches at Valley Stream South High School and Calhoun High School, and then return home and defeat Herricks High School.

"Going undefeated is something



Senior captain Burgandy McCurdy jumps up to spike the ball against winless Clarke High School. McCurdy had fourteen kills in the win, and added to her season total, which is now 241. Junior Ogechi Abara also contributed to the offensive attack by recording eight kills.

that would be very special for us," said Carrington.

"More than anything, we have great senior leadership," said Coach Giamanco. "It is their ability to focus on one game at a time that has been the key to our success;

we have been playing in the moment. We have prepared our offense and defense for what our opponents do."

All photos by David Baer