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THE SCHREIBER TIMES

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

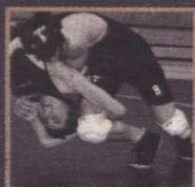


WE DIDN'T START
THE FIRE

STUDENTS RESPOND TO GLOBAL WARMING



Interactive Drum
Assembly
News



Wrestling Slams
Opponents
Sports

U.S. Drug Policy Outdated
Opinions
Dreamgirls Oscar Contender
A&E

IN THIS ISSUE...

NEWS.

Drum Café p. 3
Radio club p. 5
Midterm schedule p. 6

OPINIONS.

Academic segregation p. 7
Celebrity worship p. 8
Ford's death p. 10

FEATURES.

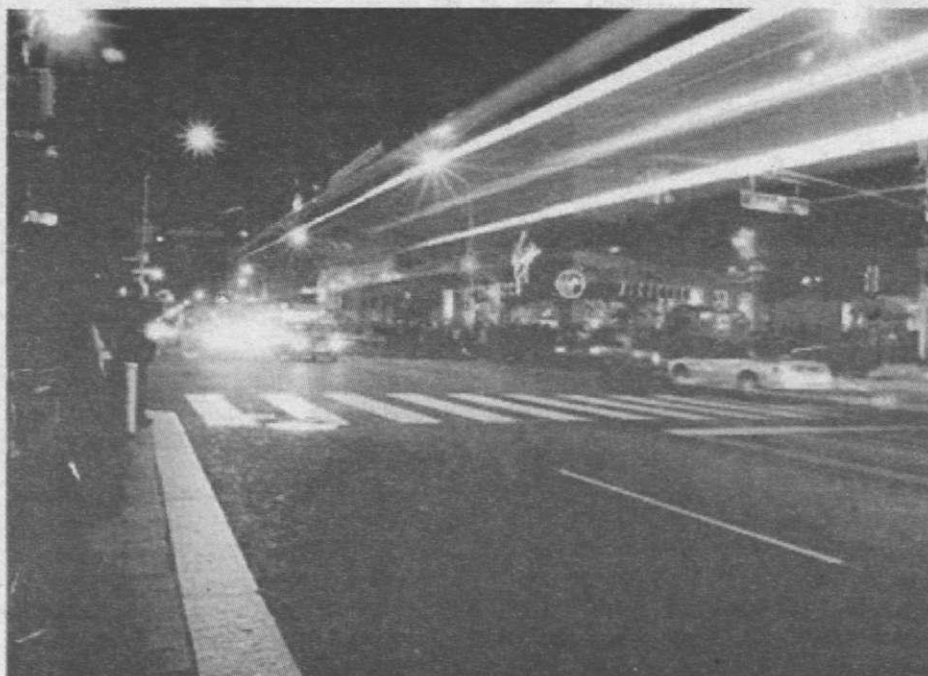
Increased parking p. 11
Fast food farce p. 11
Famous teachers p. 14

A&E.

Dream Girls p. 16
The Good Shepherd p. 17
Free music p. 19

SPORTS.

Wrestling p. 21
Boys track p. 22
Calling the Shots p. 23



Senior Gregorio Roman's photograph emphasizes an angular perspective of life on the street. Using a long shutter speed, he was able to convey a sense of motion in his "Night Photography" project for AP Photo.

NEWS BRIEFS

New Club Spreads Hope

Club Hope, one of the latest additions to Schreiber's plethora of clubs, is still in its early stages, but the faculty has high expectations. The club was created by juniors Claire Lee and Edwin Jung, who are devoted to raising money for inner city communities. The club's advisors, English teachers Ms. Judith Schutzman and Ms. Michal Cohan, are eager to help and supervise this cause.

"When we think of Manhattan, we can't help but to get images of exquisite dining at the Upper East Side," said Lee. "However, once we start looking past the often romanticized New York life, images of crime, violence, unsafe environments, and more importantly, the children and teens that live through it every day come to mind; we would like to bring the Schreiber community together in an effort to aid these children."

Club Hope plans to connect Schreiber students with New York City kids by holding various fundraisers in which the Schreiber community can participate. The money raised by the end of the year will be donated to the Children's Aid

Society (CAS), an organization that has helped 150,000 inner-city children and their families over the past few years.

"We wanted to start an extra-curricular activity dedicated to the effort of bringing inner-city children somewhat of a safer environment where they can enjoy learning and growing up," said Jung.

If you are interested in joining Club Hope, it meets on Tuesday mornings at 7:30 in room B13 and welcomes all new members.

~Amanda Schiff

FLHS Sends Cards of Appreciation

The Foreign Language Honor Society sent approximately two hundred cards to soldiers on the front lines in Iraq. The cards conveyed the students' gratitude for the soldiers and their commitment toward protecting our country. By sending such thoughtful and creative cards, the students hope to increase morale for the holiday season.

Letters ranged from serious notes of appreciation to humorous wishes for

the holidays, each sharing the common purpose of increasing the soldiers' spirits. Although students had different views and opinions on the situation in Iraq, they were eager to participate in the project.

"The students started right away, with no complaints and no questions," said Mr. John Placella, advisor of the Foreign Language Honor Society. "It is such a simple thing to do on our part. The effect is so monumental."

Although the students do not personally know the recipients of the cards, they are confident that these simple holiday greetings will have a pleasant impact on the soldiers.

The Foreign Language Honor Society, along with various other foreign language classes, wish to live up to their reputations as being very charitable by participating in similar projects in the future. To continue its goals, the club would like to acquire more materials for making cards and work with the Art and Foreign Language departments.

~Subah Nanda and Christina Zhou

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Drum Café's interaction with students promotes teamwork

Assembly encouraging unity and creativity receives an enthusiastic response

BY Amanda Schiff
News Editor

As bleary-eyed students slowly filed into the auditorium expecting yet another hour long lecture, their eyes soon widened at the back of the auditorium when they found a drum on every seat.

Although the prospect of giving about 700 teenagers a drum might seem a little risky, the enthusiasm of the crowd was well worth the risk. The Drum Café took the stage in the auditorium on Dec. 21 and surprised the audience with their talent for upbeat percussion.

"The Drum Café is committed to manifesting the full potential of the group," reads the mission statement of the group. "We aim to inspire the individual, motivate the team, and foster a dynamic that allows companies to achieve their goals."

The group started in South Africa over ten years ago and branched out to include six countries including the U.S. and Canada. The New York Chapter of the group was started in 2001 and has been promoting team building ever since.

The Drum Café began as a program for corporations to teach team building skills but became so successful that it began performing in schools and in many other venues. The Cultural Arts Committee chose this performance group for its ability to teach students the value of trust at many different levels.

"Everyone feels like they can do it," said Pavel Lampert, the group's conductor. "I love seeing barriers being broken— cultural barriers, ability barriers, and age barriers all seem to disappear when the entire crowd is drumming."

Mr. Lampert explained that he, along with the other four members of the group, Jeremy Noller, Gil Alexander, Pablo Dembile, and Mange Sylva, work together to create a valuable lesson in music and trust. While each performer alone may sound impressive, together, they have to learn to trust one another, inspire each other, and most importantly, to pass along this value of unity and teamwork to their audience.

"My job is to be the facilitator and act as a conduit between the audience and the master drummers," said Mr. Lampert.

From the moment students entered the auditorium, they knew that something was different about this assembly. Not only was it interactive, but students were participating and eagerly awaiting the next sign language command given by Mr. Lampert.

He basically conducted the entire performance and used his funnyman antics to get every student involved. He taught the difference between a bass note and a tone note and embedded the idea of the "power of the drum" into the students' minds.

By hearing the different sounds of the drum, the audience realized that completely distinct sounds come together to create an original song that has a wide range of tones.

"Mr. Lampert split the audience up

into two different 'teams' and forced us to work together as we beat our drums in unison," said junior Melanie Fried. "It was really cool when the two sections of the audience were instructed to play at the same time, creating one, uniform drumbeat - a possible representation of the importance of working together to achieve a common goal."

The power of the drums is displayed throughout African history. Drums have been used for centuries in battle, birth, weddings, and anytime when people come together. As stated in the assembly, "drums are a way of life."

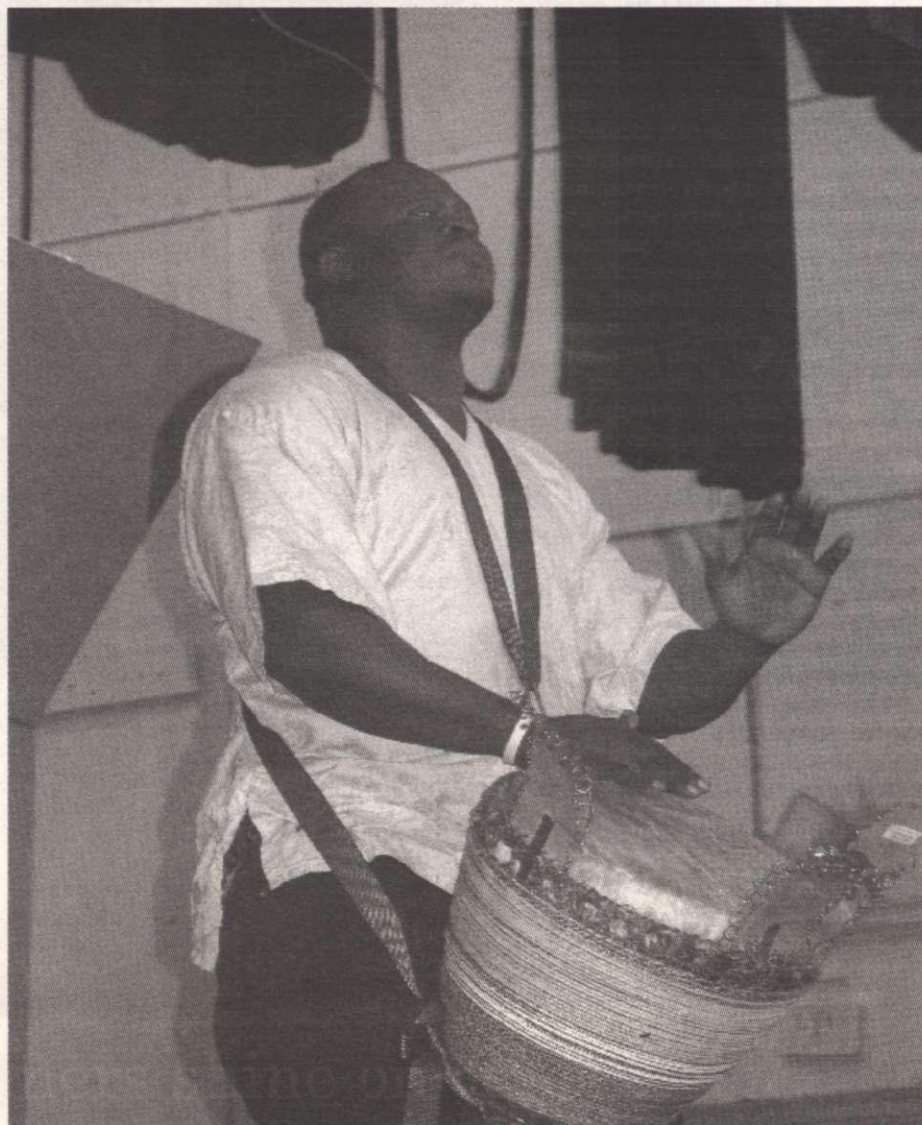
Mr. Lampert encouraged students to chant aloud to understand the rhythm of the music. The spoken words that resemble the sounds of the drumbeats helped to maintain a steady tempo.

"It was amazing how the people in the assembly held everyone's attention through the whole assembly even when everyone had a drum in their hand," said senior Jason Lifton. "Everyone liked being part of the program, not just sitting listening to someone talk on stage. This kept everyone interested."

Each and every student in the auditorium let down their guard for the hour and didn't think about what they were doing or how it may look to others.

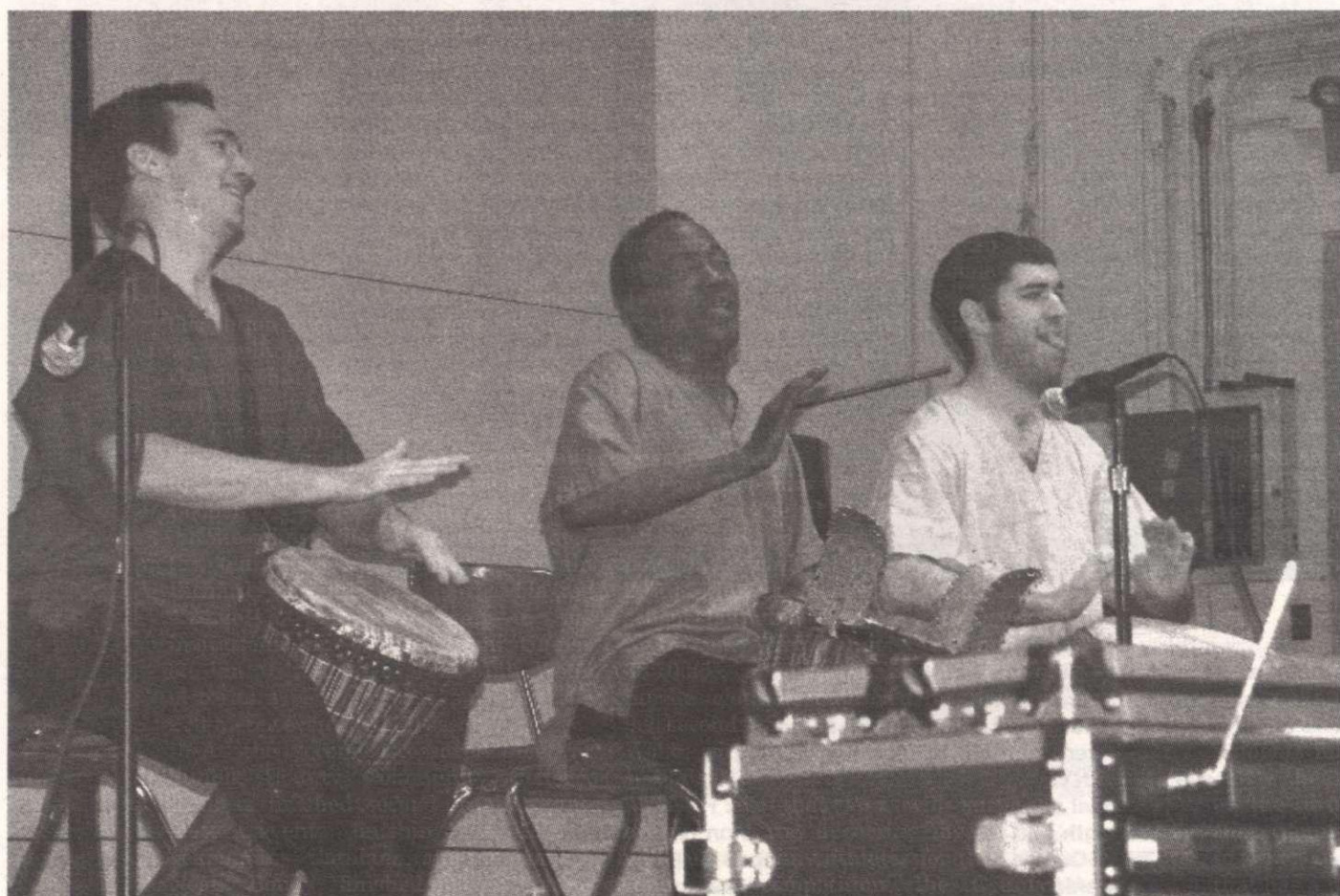
With a drum at their fingertips, they felt compelled to participate and have fun while doing so. The audience was exceptionally well behaved, and the eager participation by students helped to create a comfortable atmosphere in which all students could find interest.

"I think it's really nice that they brought out a musician in everyone," said junior Ilana Broad. "People I didn't think would ever hold an instrument were so into the beats! It was undeniably fun."



Matt Siegel

(above) Mange Sylva, a drum expert from Africa, instructs audience members to tap the drum with their fingertips. The diamond shape formed by his hands creates a more intense sound that could be heard around the auditorium. (below) Pavel Lampert, Pablo Dembile, and Gil Alexander work together to create a harmonious rhythm including both base notes and tone notes.



Matt Siegel

Mouse infestation plagues female section of gym

Physical education teachers not charmed with mice's winter hibernation habits

BY Michael Lau
Senior News Editor

While most students and faculty members were getting into the holiday spirit before the start of the winter vacation, a rodent infestation plagued the female P.E. teachers' office in the gym. Although there have been reports of mice at Schreiber in the past, they were fairly rare. Recently, however, the number of mouse sightings in the gym has continued to grow.

At the end of the winter vacation, the school custodians began laying mouse

problem did not get better with the new mouse traps, Mr. Eric Vonderhorst, Director of Facilities, decided to call in an exterminator.

So far, they have decided against using poison to get rid of the mice, as this would require the whole female wing of the gym to be closed off so that no student would be harmed. The exterminators have only set more traps in the infested areas.

"The custodians have done all they could to try to mitigate the problem," said Assistant Principal Mr. Brad Fitzgerald. "We will see whether or not the exterminators will be able to fix the problem."

However, Mr. Fitzgerald does not believe that the mouse problem will continue to worsen.

"If a problem did grow, we would accordingly carry out any necessary actions to meet the needs of the issue," said Mr. Fitzgerald.

He believes that if there were a major mouse infestation in the gym area, mice would have been spotted a while ago in large numbers. Baby mice need adult mice to take care of them for survival. This means that in the past, the adults were unable to survive, and accordingly their babies did not survive. If there were a problem and the adult mice were able to survive, their babies would have grown, and mice would have been seen long before the winter vacation.

"Since the problem was just reported, there can't be that many mice in the building," said Mr. Fitzgerald. "In addition, mice and their droppings are very easy to spot—if there was a problem, it would have been reported."

Mr. Fitzgerald believes that the issue of rodents and other pests at Schreiber is nothing to really worry about.

"There is food in this building everywhere—students eat in the cafeteria, the commons, in their classrooms," said Mr. Fitzgerald. "And during faculty meetings there is always a plethora of food served. Considering all of this and the fact that reports of pests are rare, there really can't be much of a problem here at Schreiber."

The gym teachers, however, want the rodent problem to be fixed as soon as possible.

"It's hard to come to work and find dead mice on the floor and droppings on the desks," said Ms. Stephanie Joannon. "There's not even food in our office, and the traps aren't enough to get rid of the problem. It's got to be unhealthy."

"The rodent problem is totally unacceptable," said Ms. Maria Giamanco. "For three weeks the custodians have done everything they could, but this problem is beyond what a custodial staff can take care of."

In the male wing of the gym, there has only been one reported sighting of a mouse.

The only thing the P.E. teachers can do to lessen the severity of the problem is to clean out their offices and enforce their students to not bring food into their lockers.

"Recently we cleaned out our offices and the mice problem did improve a bit," said Ms. Nancy Klotz. "In addition, I forbid my students from bringing any snacks into the lockers."

With good hygiene and more mouse traps, the mice problem may be solved.

"I'm relieved that the mice problem is only in an isolated area," said senior Lisa Schechner. "Hopefully they can be exterminated easily."

"For three weeks the custodians have done everything they could, but this problem is beyond what a custodial staff can take care of," said Ms. Maria Giamanco.

traps in the offices in an attempt to get rid of the rodents. Although there have always been mouse traps in the offices in the past, only recently have they actually caught a significant number of mice.

Mice can spread diseases and can even cause damage to structures due to their constant gnawing. When the

All-County Musicians

Division IV:

Orchestra:

Violin I:

Catherine Fish (12)
Sun Hyun Kim (12)

Violin II:

Eliana Theodorou (11)

Viola:

Emlyn Diakow (12)
Danielle Sofen (11)

Cello:

Clara Choi (11)
Adam Johnson (12)

Bass:

Brian Courage (12)

Band:

Flute:

Tae Yeon Kim (11)

Clarinet:

Robert Baldwin (12)

Trumpet:

Myles Potters (11)

Chorus:

Soprano:

Madeleine Bernstein (11)

Alto:

Fredi Bernstein (12)
Lauren Bourguet (11)
Katherine Hughes (11)
Caroline Pickering (11)
Allison Schenkler (12)

Tenor:

Matthew Greenblatt (11)
Aaron Schweitzer (11)

Bass:

Nicholas Otte (11)

Division III:

Orchestra:

Violin I:

Soli Bergantinos (10)

Viola:

Ryohei Ozaki (9)

Cello:

Dahlia Hassan (10)

Clarinet:

Erin Lauzon (10)

French Horn:

Elyse Lauzon (10)

Trumpet:

Peter Maxted (9)

Tuba:

Stephen Nash (10)

Band:

Trumpet:

Ben Spivack (9)

Trombone:

Eleah Burman (10)

Euphonium:

Jonathan Koo (10)

Chorus:

Soprano:

Molly Fried (9)

Bass:

Jeremy Geller (10)



Michael Lau

This year, thirty two Schreiber students were selected to participate in the 71st annual All-County Music Festival. The students were chosen based on their New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) solo exam score (administered once a year), the judge's comments on the NYSSMA scoring sheet, and the number of students who play a certain instrument. The sheer number of violin and cello players in Nassau County compared to other instruments, for example, makes the competition to qualify very intense. Students who play more competitive instruments or sing in more competitive sections needed to have higher NYSSMA scores at a higher level to qualify. The students who played at Post represent the best in their instrument or vocal section. The All-County Music Festival was separated into four divisions based on grade level. Division III included ninth and tenth graders, and Division IV included eleventh and twelfth graders. The actual concerts were held at the Tilles Center on the C.W. Post campus of Long Island University on Jan. 13. "The Division IV concert was excellent," said Senior James Lee, who attended the concert. "I never knew we had so much musical talent in our school."

You listen, you learn, you love with WDOT

Student disc jockeys host shows, broadcast diverse interests

BY Lauren Effune and Kelley Kroft

Staff Writers

Since its debut last April, WDOT has expanded into an entertainment empire. The variety of shows has attracted fans all over the school, including science teacher Ms. Phyllis Serfaty, who logs onto the radio's site regularly. This year, the radio club has expanded to include a radio class taught by social studies teacher Mr. Jeremy Klaff.

The development of a successful radio station was a dream for Mr. Klaff, who previously worked as a radio DJ in college at Binghamton University. Mr. Klaff also has experience working as a radio announcer for the Brooklyn Cyclones and hosting numerous in-school events, including the annual pep rally.

WDOT, Schreiber's radio station, was born out of a grant provided by Dot and Ed Slade and the Slade Family Foundation. This grant was used to buy radio equipment. At first, there were only a few student DJs and a limited amount of shows. Today, there are fifteen shows offered and forty DJs entertaining the student body.

The radio features shows such as sports, variety shows, classic rock, comedy or talk. Each DJ hosts his or her own show and features the DJ's own specials.

"We have a great variety of DJs in

our station," said Mr. Klaff. "Some are funny, some are music lovers, and some are just plain smooth."

One show featured on the radio is "TBA with Kat & JB," hosted by seniors John Forman and Katrina Fahey on B days from 11:20-11:50 a.m. The show features an "academical decathlon," pitting Kat against JB in a battle of knowledge. Although JB wins a majority of the time, the show is always unpredictable (hence the name TBA).

"TheNikkiPondShow," hosted by seniors Nikki Pond and Katrina Fahey, features Broadway and pop music, as well as dialogue, and can be heard first period on D days. Yet another show featured is "Unleashed," hosted by "Los C Los," senior Carlos Molina, and DJ "Big Matty B," senior Matt Braunstein. This show features a variety of hip-hop music. "Unleashed" airs on F days from 2:00-2:45 p.m.

Special events are also recorded on the radio. The WDOT covered the recent Drum Cafe assembly and included an interview with the head drummer, Pavel Lampert. Personal interviews with Holocaust survivor Anita Schorr and poet Stephen Herz were also aired on the station following an assembly in the library. The radio was buzzing during the holiday season, featuring a holiday party consisting of the decorating of former Schreiber student Josh Talesnick.

"Over time, the radio's popularity

increased, and there was a higher demand for air time from other students," said Mr. Klaff. "It eventually came to a point where we had to turn students away."

A new website has also been developed for the radio. The website features a schedule, profiles of the different shows, and archives of previously aired shows. If students can not listen on the internet, they can also tune in to 530 AM.

One of the first steps to becoming a DJ on WDOT is to take Radio Broadcasting I. In the first semester of the class, students learn the basics of radio broadcasting and the fundamental principles of the equipment.

Students receive instruction about how to use the radio equipment, how to market a show, how to advertise affectively, how to create a news show and a jingle, and the overall technical aspects of radio, including FCC (Federal Communications Commission) guidelines and rules.

The second semester class focuses more on journalism. Interested students learn how to perfect their public speaking skills, interviewing techniques, and computer editing skills, and how to prepare their own comedy or drama show and commercial.

"If students are genuinely interested in becoming a DJ, this class is highly recommended," said Mr. Klaff.

Another way to start yourself

on the road to becoming a DJ is by joining the radio club, which meets on Tuesday mornings at 7:30 in room 219.

"I think it's very interesting that our radio station does not only reach the school community, but other people from other schools who could go to our website and listen to our shows," said junior Meghan Doyle.

Participants discuss upcoming events, plan ways to improve the radio station, and organize fundraisers.

One of the most anticipated upcoming events is the Radiothon, hosted by Nikki Pond and Los C Los. It is a 24-hour radio show airing from Feb. 15-16. There are many events being hosted by club members for this radiothon, including a game show, eating contests, teacher karaoke, a rap-off, and a scavenger hunt.

As part of the scavenger hunt, WDOT members will announce a list of objects on the radio. The first student to come back to school the next morning with all of the objects will win a prize. Several different types of prizes will be awarded to winning students.

Interviews with Dr. Geoffrey Gordon, Superintendent of Schools, the Slades, and students are also planned.

As a fundraiser, shirts costing approximately \$8-\$10 each will be made in honor of radiothon. Each show featured and hosted by different students will be fifteen minutes long.

"The Radiothon should be very fun," said Mr. Klaff. "I think they are all going to make it their own. I'm interested to see how it will turn out. I'm very excited."

Mr. Klaff also thinks that there will be more changes made to radiothon in the future.

"We would like to get more airtime for the large amount of students who are interested in hosting their own shows," he said. "We would also like to get more supervision."

In the future, the Radio Club will be hosting a bake sale for fundraising, as well as other fundraising events throughout the remainder of the school year.



Gabrielle Balaban

Juniors Oscar Lopez and Josh Schneider-Weiler host their own show, "Hyphen-On Sports," in which they discuss a wide range of sports-related topics. Their show is one of fifteen hosted by Schreiber students on WDOT, Port Washington. Over 40 student disc jockeys express their wide variety of interests on radio shows airing on portradio.org and 530 AM.

2007 MIDTERM SCHEDULE

ROOM #	EXAM	TEACHER	ROOM #	EXAM	TEACHER	ROOM #	EXAM	TEACHER
TUESDAY JANUARY 23, 2007			9:00AM			THURSDAY JANUARY 25, 2007		
8:15 AM						8:15 AM		
B20	Regents Global	----	A1	Biology	Brandt	Spec. Ed. Dept.	RCT Reading	----
Spec. Ed. Dept.	RCT Writing	----	A2	Biology	Brandt	215	Regents U.S. History	----
9:00AM			A3	Biology	Brandt	9:00AM		
B11	AP English	Pellett	A4	Biology	Jones	217	SS Research Qualifying	----
B12	AP English	Pellett	A5	Biology	Jones	219	SS Research Qualifying	----
B13	AP English	Schutzman	A6	Biology	O' Brien	A1	Math 3B-Part 1	Bozzone
B14	AP English	Schutzman	A7	Biology	Apicos	A2	Math 3B-Part 1	Bozzone
B15	AP Eng. Qualifying	----	A8	Biology	Apicos	A3	Math 3B- Part 1	Bozzone
B16	AP Eng. Qualifying	----	A9	Biology	Apicos	A4	Math 3B-Part 1	Carstens
B17	AP Eng. Qualifying	----	A10	Biology	Crivelli	A5	Math 3B-Part 1	Ganzekaufer
B18	AP Eng. Qualifying	----	8	Biology	Travis	A6	Math 3B-Part 1	Ganzekaufer
B19	AP Eng. Qualifying	----	11	Biology Honors	Jones	A7	Math 3B-Part 2	Ferruso
A1	Math 1A	Tecusan	15	Biology Honors	Crivelli	A8	Math 3B-Part 2	Ferruso
A2	Math 1A	Tecusan	17	Biology Honors	Apicos	A10	Math 11H	Tecusan
A3	Math 1A	Pichkur	18	Biology Honors	Serfaty	B11	Math 11H	Reynolds
A4	Math 1A	Pichkur	19	Biology Honors	Serfaty	B12	Pre-Calculus	Ganzekaufer
A5	Math 1A	Carstens	B11	Chemistry	Case	B13	Pre-Calculus	Ganzekaufer
A6	Math 1A	Carstens	B12	Chemistry	Carmody	B14	Pre-Calculus	Bozzone
A7	Math 1A	Gallagher	B13	Chemistry	Carmody	B15	Pre-Calculus	Siener
A8	Math 1A	Gallagher	B14	Chemistry	Grasso-Krebs	B16	Pre-Calculus	Siener
A9	Math 1A	Gallagher	B15	Chemistry	Grasso-Krebs	B17	Pre-Calculus Honors	Siener
4	Math 1A+	DiVenuto	B16	Chemistry	Nelson	B18	Pre-Calculus Honors	Shannon
2	Math 1A+	DiVenuto	B17	Chemistry	Nelson	B19	AP Calculus AB	Shannon
A10	Math 1A+	Tecusan	B18	Chemistry	Nelson	15	AP Calculus AB	Shannon
8	Math 1A+	Martinez	21	Chemistry Options	Grasso-Krebs	17	AP Calculus BC	Ganzekaufer
9	Math 1A+	Reyonolds	23	Chemistry Options	Grasso-Krebs	19	AP Calculus BC	Pichkur
11	Math B12	Ferruso	118	Earth Science	Paradis	B20	AP Statistics	Martinez
15	Math B12	Ferruso	119	Earth Science	Paradis	12:15 PM		
17	Math B12	Bozzone	120	Earth Science	Paradis	A1	Regents Math A	Tedesco
18	Math B12	Martinez	122	Earth Science	Paradis	A2	Regents Math A	Tedesco
19	Math B12	Martinez	127	Earth Science	Travis	A4	Regents Math A	Pichkur
21	Math B12	Tedesco	129	Earth Science	Travis	A5	Regents Math A	Lederer
23	Math B12	Tedesco	138	Earth Science	Travis	A6	Regents Math A	Reynolds
40	Math B23	DiVenuto	140	Earth Science	Meyer	A7	Regents Math A	Reynolds
42	Math B23	DiVenuto	135	Earth Science	Meyer	A8	Regents Math A	Walk-Ins
140	Math 10H	Carstens	12:15 PM			A9	Regents Chemistry	----
12:15 PM			12:15 PM			A9	Regents Physics	----
RCT Math			RCT Science			FRIDAY JANUARY 26, 2007		
Spec. Ed. Dept	Regents ELA	----	Spec.Ed. Dept.	Regents ELA	----	8:15 AM		
118	Regents ELA	----	118	Regents ELA	----	A7	Regents Living Environment	----
120	Regents ELA	----	120	Regents ELA	----	A1	Regents Math B	Lederer
122	Regents ELA	----	122	Regents ELA	----	A2	Regents Math B	Lederer
TBD	Regents ELA	----	TBD	Regents ELA	----	A3	Regents Math B	Siener
6	Regents ELA	----	6	Regents ELA	----	A4	Regents Math B	Siener
1:00 PM			1:00 PM			A5	Regents Math B	Verity
B19	AP U.S. Qualifying	----	40	Math Research Qualifying	----	A6	Regents Math B	Walk-Ins
B11	AP Euro Qualifying	----	42	Math Research Qualifying	----	Atrium	AP Photo	Murphy
B12	AP Euro Qualifying	----	A1	AP Biology	Ezratty	Atrium	AP Photo	Jaworski
B13	AP Euro Qualifying	----	A2	AP Biology	Ezratty	Atrium	AP Photo	Jaworski
B14	AP Euro Qualifying	----	A3	AP Chemistry	Carmody	207	AP Studio Art	Graham
B15	SS Research Qualifying	----	A4	AP Physics B	Fish	207	AP Studio Art	Graham
B16	SS Research Qualifying	----	A5	AP Physics C	Johnson	209	AP Studio Art	Murphy
B17	Economics Qualifying	----	A6	Physics	O' Brien	209	AP Studio Art	Murphy
B18	Economics Qualifying	----	A7	Physics	O' Brien			
WEDNESDAY JANUARY 24, 2007			A8	Physics	O' Brien			
8:15 AM			A9	Physics	Fish			
RCT U.S. History			A10	Physics	Fish			
Spec. Ed. Dept.	Regents Earth Science	----	8	Physics	Johnson			
B20			11	Physics Honors	Johnson			
			15	Physics Honors	Johnson			
			17	Physics Honors	Fish			
			18	Chemistry Honors	Carmody			
			19	Chemistry Honors	Case			
			21	Chemistry Honors	Case			
			23	Chemistry Honors	Nelson			

Point Counterpoint

Are students academically segregated?

BY Katrina Fahey

Contributing Writer

It is undeniable that high school students find friends who have similar academic motivation. Groups of friends tend to have similar GPAs and take on similar level courses. Is this a coincidence? Do they do all their schoolwork together? No and no. Students wind up in a certain circle of friends, and there are definite underlying causes of this natural gravitation.

"People tend to gravitate towards those who are most like them," said junior Ilana Broad. "It's not necessarily a fault in human nature, but an asset. And school is one of the easiest places to see this."

The first cause is physical placement. Unless one is physically placed together with others, there can be no chance of a friendship. Students meet the majority of their friends in school, and more specifically, in shared classes. If a senior is taking five AP classes, doesn't it make sense that he or she would become friends with other students who have opted to take many AP courses as well? If you choose to take regular or accelerated classes, you're going to meet others who have made the same decision. These students will be similarly motivated in terms of academics.

The next cause is one's values and work ethic. Those who value their education and are more motivated to work hard and do well in school will generally be taking more challenging classes, such as AP and honors.

"It would be harder for people to get along if one friend is very studious and the other is not," said senior Dave Rafe.

Students tend to surround themselves with others who have similar work ethics. Though in some large groups of friends it may not be obvious, a narrower look at the closest friends in a group reveals the academic similarities between them.

"My closest friends and I definitely work hard in school and have similar GPAs that have stemmed from our efforts," said senior Alissa Potter.

In order to get a deeper look into the subject and the point of view of a member of a tight knit group of friends, an interview was conducted with senior Mikki Rosman.

"I'm not in many APs and neither are my closest friends, except for maybe two or three of them," she said. "I'm basically in the same classes as my friends, though we take different electives."

The fact that Rosman's friends take different electives shows that they have different interests, so perhaps it is their values that bind them as a group. In terms of their grades and

GPAs, Rosman estimates that she and her "best friends" have similar grades. Interestingly, she feels closest to friends who have a similar work ethic and determination in school.

An important question to examine on this subject is whether or not these academically segregated groups of friends are a problem. According to Rosman, they are not.

"I don't think the segregation is necessarily bad," she said. "Sometimes people tend to flock to similar types of people. This may not be true for everyone, but I'm usually friends with people that I have things in common with because these things make the friendship easier to form."

No one can argue that friends always have something in common, whether it be a shared class, belief or sports team; however, what kind of bond will be stronger, one in which two friends like to play soccer or one in which two friends are motivated to learn and achieve? The latter, being a value, will always be stronger than that of a common interest. It is much more difficult (nearly impossible) to form a friendship with someone who does not share your values than with someone who doesn't like the sport you play.

Yes, friends in the same group are often similar in terms of grades, motivation, and intelligence. No, this is not an issue, it's an asset. Forming friendships with people on similar intellectual levels is convenient, and, more importantly, inevitable.



BY Melinda Salaman

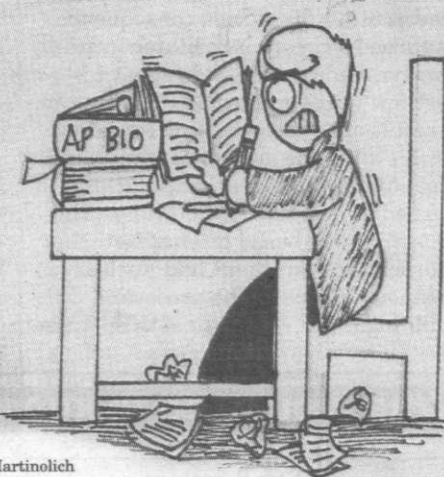
Copy Editor

In the movie *Mean Girls*, Cady (played by Lindsay Lohan) is introduced to the world of high school. Perhaps her most memorable lesson, at least to high-school viewers, is when Cady is being taught by her two outcast friends, Damien and Janis (played by Daniel Franzese and Lizzy Caplan, respectively) the seating chart of their cafeteria. Janis goes down the list of your typical high-school cliques, and each one is as stereotypical as the next.

Each high-school movie loves to focus on cliques. The middle-aged men and women producing these movies seem to really believe that the social rules and groups of high school are clear-cut and defined. But as current high-school students, we should know better.

Sorry freshmen, but there are no rules to surviving high school. There aren't certain groups of people to avoid and certain groups to worship. High school isn't like the movies, and it certainly isn't like we all imagined it to be. Why?

Needless to say, the movies do not echo reality. Popular kids talk to nerds. Stoners chill with gangsters. Foreigners sit with jocks. Despite the expectations, every "type" of student has found a way to coexist with another. So we shouldn't expect this to be any different with students who take honors classes and



Andrew Martinolich

those who do not.

The assertion that students are academically segregated can be disproved with real-life proof. Look around the halls, look around your own life. "Our school definitely isn't segregated, not in the academic sense. I have friends who take honors classes, and some who don't. We're not friends because we have similar homework. Our lives focus on a little more than school," said senior Dan Reese.

Reese is completely correct. Friendships are based on more than teachers, homework, and courseload. There are so many more opportunities available to students to meet people outside of class: teams, clubs, jobs, and common friends are just a few avenues open to students to meet each other outside of class.

Some may argue that students in honors classes aren't necessarily bound by similar coursework, but by certain values they hold, such as commitment to school work. But a look around any honors or AP class will show how incorrect this truly is. When an onlooker observes a higher-level class, he or she will surely bear witness to avid note-takers, doodlers, and the occasional napper.

"There are definitely students in honors classes who just don't care. I've sat in a class where some kid was sleeping, someone else was taking notes, and someone else was asking lots of questions. It's definitely not all the same," said senior Chris Catalano.

Indeed, an onlooker will observe a similar scene in a Regents-level or regular class. Students who attend any type of class aren't one-dimensional. It would be far too simplistic and incorrect to assume that students in honors classes care more about schoolwork than their non-honors counterparts.

No, we don't attend high school as it is portrayed in the movies. Students aren't divided into superficial groups based on looks and wealth. As we've matured (slightly), high schoolers have come to see that people are people, no matter how they look or what they do. Friendships are based on more than school, and our *lives* are more than school (despite what many college-bound seniors may say). Personality, sense of humor, and extracurricular interests aren't dependent on the number of AP classes that someone takes, or what his or her GPA is.

Hopefully, we're mature enough to look past the idea that in high school, students are so predictable that they can be placed into distinct groups without any chance of cross-socialization. So here's the truth, the answer to the million-dollar question: No, Schreiber students are *not* academically segregated. Why? Because we're more than our report cards say we are.

Schreiber Speaks

"I think that in most cases, students are separated by the types of courses they take. They just tend to associate more with students at their academic level."

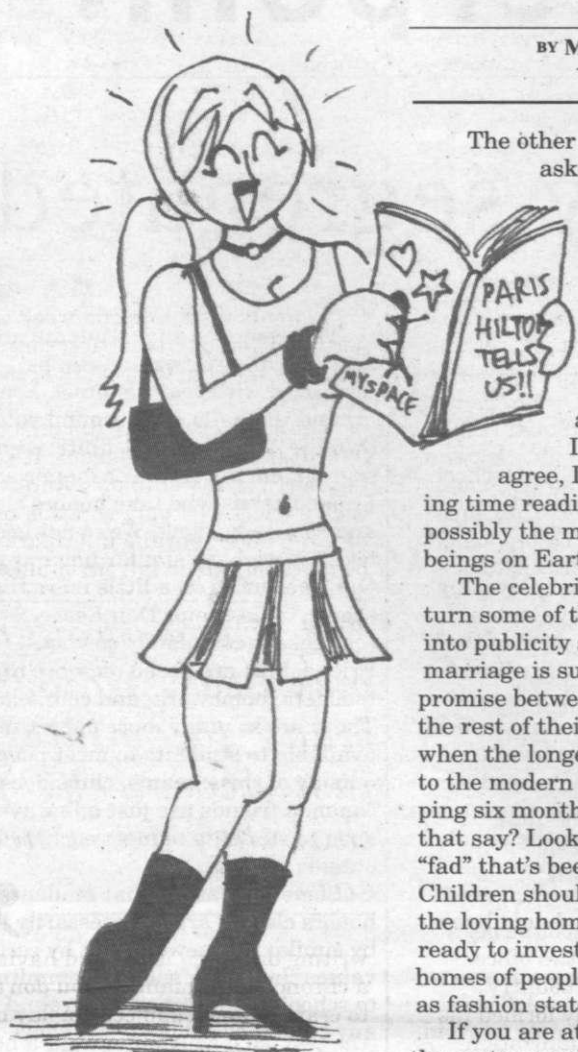
- Allison Rosenberg, junior

"Yes. Students are definitely academically separated. It's partially due to the fact that smarter kids take the same classes with each other year in and year out."

- Justin Samson, senior

Modern "celebrities" leave much to be desired

And why America's youth idolize these unworthy individuals



Andrew Martinolich

BY Melissa Quigley
Staff Writer

The other day, a friend jokingly asked me if there was a Hollywood couple that broke up every two minutes. I suppose he assumed that as a member of the female portion of our media obsessed population, I would know about such affairs. Yet personally, I'm sure many people agree, I don't believe in wasting time reading about the lives of possibly the most inadequate human beings on Earth.

The celebrities of our day and age turn some of the most consecrated acts into publicity stunts. For instance, marriage is supposed to be a sacred promise between two people to spend the rest of their lives together. But when the longest relationship known to the modern day pop idols is a whopping six months, what exactly does that say? Look at the recent adoption "fad" that's been sweeping Hollywood. Children should be welcomed into the loving homes of people who are ready to invest in a family, not into the homes of people who wish to use them as fashion statements.

If you are at all curious as to why the preteen and teenage youth are so

vain and shallow, look no further than MTV; it is a station that teaches children it's okay to dance around half-naked, not appreciate life, and idolize Paris Hilton, Lindsay Lohan, and Britney Spears. These people, who contribute nothing to society as a whole, are frequently placed on a pedestal by American youth. It's more than sad that people have resorted to making these celebrities their role models.

Popular culture, by definition, is the culture of the people. Culture is a lifestyle people choose to live, but choosing to worship celebrities and live vicariously through them, is not your lifestyle, it's *their* lifestyle.

In addition to wasting our precious oxygen, celebrities seem to operate under the misconception that it is okay to break the law whenever they feel like it. Drunk driving, drug abuse and assault seem to be overlooked when dealing with the rich and the famous, even in the case of repeat offenders. While the rest of society is working to be the backbone of this country, a few select people feel that the streets of America are their personal playground.

Unfortunately, it seems that people get bored with their own lives and look to celebrities for inspiration. They, in turn, become uninteresting, unmotivated and unaware individuals who simply occupy space. The truth is they live in their own world, with no rules to abide by.

“In addition to wasting our precious oxygen, celebrities seem to operate under the misconception that it is okay to break the law whenever they feel like it.”

Instead of the typical bottle-blond, fake baked, laxative abusing "celebrity," we should look to classic heroes, such as Mahatma Gandhi, Nelson Mandela, Princess Diana, Martin Luther King, Jr., Rosa Parks and Jimmy Carter for inspiration. This list of true role models, who actually advocate causes of importance, are individuals who merit our admiration. The so called "pop idols" pale in comparison.

Allow me to point out that not all modern celebrities spend their money and time on worthless things. Some, like UN ambassadors Bono and Angelina Jolie, use their high status and ample resources to help others. They are commendable individuals, people to be looked up to. But they are unique. Perhaps with time, the younger icons will catch on and begin using their star power to help those in need. We'll just have to wait and see.

Execution of former dictator sends wrong message

The hanging turns Hussein into a martyr in the eyes of his followers

BY Sarah Scheinman
Staff Writer

On Dec. 30, 2006, Saddam Hussein, the former dictator of Iraq, was publicly executed. Hussein's terrible actions deserved grave consequences, but I do not believe that the new Iraqi Court should have responded to mass murder with an additional murder. The idea of having to live in a ten-by-seven foot cell for the rest of your life is haunting. Prison, where all freedom is completely denied, is a horrific death sentence. Further punishment was not even necessary.

Most of the world's countries disagreed with the action taken against Hussein. Opposition included Britain, India, Brazil, Austria, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Italy, Switzerland and many other nations.

"Cruelty is not to be answered with cruelty," said Louis Michel, the European Commissioner for Development Aid. "I believe that there were other possible means to revenge the cruelties committed by Saddam."

The schism caused by the varying beliefs on the death penalty among nations led to uproar, and it was vehemently debated whether or not it should be instituted in the case of Saddam Hussein.

Additionally, hanging Saddam had another disastrous consequence: It turned a notorious dictator into a martyr. Saddam Hussein spent his last few years on Earth in infamy. As a result of both the infamy he gained for his genocide as well as his alleged weapons of mass destruction, Hussein earned a high level of notoriety. The Iraq War was based on the "fact" that Hussein's government had nuclear weapons or was in the process of building them. Because of this, Hussein

became the poster child of the Iraq War.

To be considered a martyr is one of the highest honors in society, bestowed to religious figures like Jesus Christ and philosophers such as Socrates. A man like Saddam Hussein, with such a violent past, should not be given the title of martyr.

To the religious fanatics often associated with Saddam Hussein, dying in the name of Islam is one of the holiest actions a Muslim can take, and one may argue this is just what

Saddam Hussein did.

For fundamentalists, the Islamic religion often becomes associated with an indulgent heaven and an excess of physical pleasures. Heaven is usually described as a cool garden with running rivers of endless food and drinks. Some more extreme interpretations of the Koran provoke the image of enormous palaces filled with servants and perfect virgin spouses.

What you need to know: The facts concerning the hanging of Saddam Hussein

BY Sam Rosenberg
Staff Writer

The Iraqi government executed Saddam Hussein before dawn on Dec. 30 as punishment for his role in a massacre of his own Iraqi citizens more than two decades before he was toppled by a U.S.-led invasion. Saddam was hanged on the very gallows he used to execute others when he was the dictator of Iraq.

Hussein was captured by United States troops on Dec. 13, 2003, eight months after Baghdad fell to the invaders. U.S. soldiers found the disheveled former leader of Iraq hiding

in a hole six feet in the ground near Tikrit. Saddam had a pistol but was taken into custody without firing it. DNA testing was used to confirm his identity. He was found with a thick beard, which was later shaved by his captors to confirm his true identity.

When Hussein's death sentence was released, about 2000 protesters took to the streets of Tikrit, defying the new Iraqi government's imposed curfew to show support for Hussein. In other Iraqi towns, residents celebrated the former dictator's death penalty sentence.

Tony Snow, the White House deputy press secretary, said President Bush was asleep when the execution took

place and was not awakened. The president had been briefed by national security adviser before retiring and was aware that Hussein's hanging was imminent.

President Bush, who at this point is unable to claim many victories in the Iraq war, issued a satisfied but measured statement about ninety minutes after Hussein was executed. This statement praised the Iraqi people for giving Hussein a fair trial.

In his statement, Bush acknowledged that the situation in Iraq has not improved since Hussein was chased from power by coalition forces in 2003.

The outdated U.S. drug policy

Why the war on drugs is a war on the American people

BY Brian Cindrich

Opinions Editor

Drug abuse is admittedly bad, but the war on drugs is worse. If the United States federal, state and local governments have spent hundreds of billions of American tax dollars trying to make the nation "drug-free," then why is it that heroin, cocaine, methamphetamine and other illicit drugs are cheaper, purer and easier to get than ever before?

Marijuana is one of the single most targeted drugs in the drug war. From 1990 to 2002, 82% of drug arrests were for cannabis. In that very same time period, New York experienced a 2,640% increase in marijuana possession arrests.

I must insist that I do not advocate the use of any controlled substance or illegal drug whatsoever. My position is strictly pro-sanity on the issue. According to a recent government survey, 54% of high school seniors have experimented with an illegal drug. Let's face it, all parents wish, hope and sometimes even pray that their children will refrain from any kind of drug experimentation. However, from a humble teenager's point of view, the majority of us will experiment despite twenty long years of "Just Say No" messages. The effects of advertisements such as "Stay Above the Influence" are ironically identical to that of actually smoking marijuana. They have two effects on the typical American teenager's mind: short-term consequences include confusion and uncontrollable laughter, while long-term effects include forgetting ever having seen the advertisement. Teenagers have become skeptical of the often exaggerated messages and scare tactics relayed through programs like D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education). Instead of advocating abstinence, the government's ultimate goal should be a practical approach to encouraging safety.

The government's strictly prohibitive measures are due to an inherent prejudice and a particular cultural bias, rather than empirical evidence. The justification of such a ridiculous war comes from inconsistent information. Imagine if the government had the same attitude toward more prevalent drugs, like alcohol and nicotine. But the government wouldn't even bother, since domestic-made beer has had such a lovely effect on the American economy. Let's not forget that alcohol has its roots firmly planted in the fabric of our culture, unlike the "devil plant" marijuana, which many politicians and other leaders would argue has its roots firmly planted in hell.

Nicotine is another example of the government's hypocritical approach toward drug control. Cigarettes couldn't

possibly be made illegal, considering the millions of dollars big tobacco companies contribute to political campaigns. So why not just continue the trend of age requirement and slap a "21 and over" sticker on consumable cannabis products? There should be respect for any adult's choice to choose alcohol or marijuana.

Advocates of federal drug policies and regulations might argue that Prohibition did indeed work. Deaths from cirrhosis due to drinking dropped considerably during the Prohibition Era, and if you want to prevent people from doing something, making it illegal actually works.

But let us consider another side

investment for us taxpayers. Until now we have not cared, we have turned over to wardens and prison authorities the unpleasant job of keeping people who threaten us out of our sight. Now we are shocked to learn that their management practices have failed to improve the product and instead turn petty thieves into murderers. We must insist upon new management or improved operating procedures."

Although this journal was written thirty-five years ago, remains relevant today. In fact, the children of inmates, such as those discussed, are proven to be at high risk for educational failure, joblessness, addiction, and delinquency. The war on drugs is an outdated one.

Safety from drug abuse and drug problems is of course a top priority, and in response, the approach to law enforcement when dealing with controlled substances should be revised.

A one-time Texas drug agent described by his former boss as perhaps the best narcotics officer in the country recently formed his own organization to actually fight the drug war. "You cannot overdose on marijuana, but you can on alcohol," said ex-cop Barry Copper on MSNBC. "When

I arrested people, I would much rather have

arrested 500 marijuana smokers than one alcoholic, because the marijuana smoker never fought me, he was very polite, and very nice. The alcoholic would defecate in the back of my patrol car and throw up. By the way, people die of alcohol poisoning everyday. We need to quit destroying families and putting them in our cages. We need to make room for people such as child molesters and others of that nature."

The war on drugs is a true war, waged by the US government against its own people. Despite federal, state and local government propaganda, usage of illicit substances continues to rise and the DEA needs to rethink its approach to drug related law enforcement. How many more billions of tax dollars are going to be wrongfully invested in correctional institutions and further prohibition? This War on Drugs is obviously outdated and isn't working out as well as politicians originally thought. Instead of advocating abstinence, society's ultimate goal should be safety and the prevention of drug abuse and drug problems. Perhaps this usage of the First Amendment to the Constitution will protect the quickly and ever-eroding Fourth, Eighth and Ninth Amendments to the Constitution.

of the argument: when alcohol was made illegal, it was placed into the hands of mobsters who actually started shooting police and then people *really* started dying. Once alcohol became government-regulated, it was able to be controlled and the killing stopped. Many law enforcement officers die everyday from trying to bring drug traffickers to justice. We have record numbers of people behind bars for narcotics, and yet even the DEA will admit that there are more narcotics on the street than ever.

There are thousands and thousands of people in state prisons serving time for victimless crimes. In a 1972 study by social psychologist Philip G. Zimbardo titled *Pathology of Imprisonment*, which was given to students in Mr. Harry Andersen's sociology class, the effectiveness of prisons were evaluated in terms of rehabilitation success and management technique.

"The public should be aware that they own the prisons and that their business is failing," wrote Zimbardo. "The 70% recidivism rate and the escalation in severity of crimes committed by graduates of our prisons are evidence that current prisons fail to rehabilitate the inmates in any positive way. Rather, they are breeding grounds for hatred of the establishment, a hatred that makes every citizen a target of violent assault. Prisons are a bad



Shimon Ishikawa

How to: prepare for midterm week

BY Melissa Heller

Staff Writer

After a relaxing vacation, it's not uncommon to find it hard to get back into the rhythm of school and feel "in the mood" to study for tests, namely: midterms. Midterms are a means of reviewing what we've done throughout the first semester so that come finals, all of that old information won't be overwhelming. But how can we wrap our minds around so much information for so many tests in a one-week time period? There are tests everyday and virtually no time to prepare for each subject.

The solution to this dilemma lies in proper time management. It's best to prioritize and develop outlines for each subject. Not only will this serve as a refresher, but the information will be more ingrained in your mind after

“Even though it may seem tedious to study for midterms, just accept the fact that they are a necessary evil.”

writing or typing it out and having it in a chronological manner. You don't want to cram for each subject the day before the test, so it's best if you get a heads start and begin your studying a couple of days earlier.

It would be even more helpful if you start organizing your information once your teacher announces the date of the test. That way, you won't feel pressured to do everything all at once, and you will rest easier knowing that you know what you have to do. Laying everything out ahead of time is always the best idea.

Speaking of being prepared in advance, you also don't want to rush into your assigned classroom late on the day of the test and be in a panic because you have that "I-know-I-forgot-something" feeling. But it's going to be too late, of course, when you realize that you're writing with a colored pencil and can't find your calculator. Pack your things the night before and arrive a few minutes early. Even if you have time to kill, you can always study out in the hallway and cement concepts with your friends without having to worry about getting a parking space in Monfort or the impending traffic going up Campus Drive.

The night before each test you should be getting to bed early. While it's a teenager's tendency to crash at two in the morning and wake up at three in the afternoon, you will perform at your best if you are well rested.

Even though it may seem tedious to study for midterms, just accept the fact that they are a necessary evil and you might as well prepare in the best way possible. After all, senioritis isn't a legitimate excuse until *after* the exams are completed. Good luck and remember to stay relaxed when you're studying for and taking your midterms. Just remember, we're already halfway through the school year!

Editorials

Superlative titles come across as cruel

When your grandchildren go looking through your old high school yearbook, do you really want them to see that you were voted "Future Circus Act" or "Most Likely to Never Leave Town?" The high school yearbook is meant to serve as a physical representation of one's fond high school memories. Even if one happened to be a relatively shy person, would he or she really want to be immortalized as "Shiest?"

In fact, many of the so-called awards have only led to the creation of sweeping generalizations and stereotypes. Whether people may want to admit it or not, the "Future Interior Decorator" nomination transforms into an outlet for voters' stereotypes about homosexuals. Other people, as a way to suggest that there will never actually be a female president, put "N/A" under the category of "Future Female U.S. President."

Some students have embraced the more stereotypical superlatives including "Future Hangman" and "Future Circus Act" by taking them as a complete joke.

Nevertheless, this lighthearted interpretation can easily slip into malicious personal attacks. Some titles also carry with them very negative connotations. For example, the title of "Most Likely to Never Leave Town" would imply that the person is either a "loser" or somehow incapable of rising up in the world past the high school level. This is an incredibly mean-spirited thing to say, and an even worse thing to publish in a yearbook that is supposed to represent the positive

memories of high school.

One of the worst things about the senior superlatives is that students can submit their forms without the consent of the people they have nominated. This dynamic only reinforces the two-faced, gossiping nature of many high school students.

Another problem with the superlative forms is that students can easily manipulate the outcome by "campaigning" for a position. Seniors consult with their friends and ask to be selected for a certain superlative.

This not only undermines the process of each individual making up his or her own mind as to who would be best suited for each category, but it also takes all of the fun out of being voted for a certain superlative.

Would you want to get a certain title because you constantly nagged people to vote for you or because people honestly believed you deserved it?

Although the superlatives may be in good fun, there are many negative effects of these borderline cruel titles.

While some students may approach the entire sheet as a joke through which to playfully mock their friends, for those students who are actually voted into the more embarrassing positions the joke is not funny at all.

Good luck on Midterms

The Schreiber Times would like to wish the student body the best of luck on their upcoming midterms. For studying advice turn to Page 9.

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

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

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

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

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,

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Actions have consequences. One must think before making a decision which is potentially harmful to oneself and to others. I was, therefore, surprised and even disturbed when I heard about some of the reactions of students to Principal Jay Lewis' announcement on Monday, Dec. 4 concerning the drunk-driving accident on Saturday, Dec. 2. The incident is a clear example of what happens when we fail to exercise good judgment. It could have been a lot worse, and I respectfully disagree with those Schreiber students and other members of the community who were upset that our administrators addressed the issue.

I think that it was important for Mr. Lewis to make that announcement and send out a letter informing the community of the event because, even though the accident didn't occur on school property, it directly involved Schreiber students. The announcement didn't denounce or condemn the students—its purpose was to inform and give parents an opportunity to open a dialogue with their teens. I think that turning our heads and ignoring those students' actions would be wrong and irresponsible.

Making the announcement increased awareness. The announcement served as a necessary reminder of the basic lesson that actions have consequences. Evidently, some students haven't

yet fully registered this concept. My purpose in writing this letter is not to condemn anyone. The facts are these: These current and former students broke the law by engaging in underage drinking, then broke the law by driving while intoxicated, and then destroyed property by driving into a community member's house. Therefore, it is definitely the community's business if we want to stop this behavior and protect ourselves from further damage.

We need to look out for each other and help each other to make better decisions. Evidently, in that situation, the students were not thinking of the effects that their actions would have on their community. Mr. Lewis' announcement and letter were crucial in moving toward a common goal of ensuring the safety and security of our community. Not only were the students' lives at risk, but other community members' lives were at risk as well.

Hopefully, the announcement and letter will have a positive influence on the teens of our community and help them make better decisions for their sake and everyone else's as well. As an administrator it was necessary for Mr. Lewis to act as he did, and I fully support his decision and his actions to inform our community.

Sincerely,
Christina Vlahos

Remembering President Gerald Ford

BY Andrew Seo
Contributing Writer

For the many Americans who admired the leadership of Gerald Rudolph Ford during the late 1970's, his inevitable death was difficult to cope with. After passing away on Dec. 26, Ford was given a state funeral at the U.S. Capitol followed by a service at the Washington National Cathedral.

The students of Schreiber were unable to witness the important contributions Ford made to American history during a chaotic time. Instead, the student body knows only what they have been taught out of a textbook, or what various teachers can recollect of the 70's.

"I was somewhat sad, but not really affected by his death because I didn't know him well [as a president]," said freshman Jason Sirotkin. "I also didn't know what he did and what his accomplishments were. Actually, I know him as the Michigan Wolverine linebacker, sometime during the mid-1900s."

However, the students at Schreiber owe a particular debt to the generosity of President Ford. In 1973, Port Washington was without any sort of organized weight training program for high school and middle school students. Ms. Naomi Beckley, the current night caller at Schreiber, decided to take action to help the young people of Port Washington. She started a weight training program that met two nights a week and became an enormous success among the young adults of Port. She was assisted by Mr. Fritz Mueller,

the athletic director of Manhasset High School, and Mr. Tom Romeo, the athletic director of Schreiber.

After the program had been running for two years, Ms. Beckley decided to write a letter to then President Ford, who had placed particular emphasis on physical fitness, to tell him about the weight training program that she had started, without really expecting any sort of reply.

To her immense surprise, she received a response from none other than Captain James A. Lovell, USN, Ret. and Consultant to the President on Physical Fitness and Sports. Writing on behalf of the President, Lovell expressed the President's support for the program and praised Ms. Beckley's proactive approach to physical fitness. When Congressman Lester Wolff became aware of Captain Lovell's interest in the program, he asked if Lovell would be interested in meeting the students who were members of the weight training program. Lovell responded enthusiastically and invited the students to Washington D.C.

"It was absolutely marvelous," said Ms. Beckley. "It was a very enjoyable meeting. He made the kids feel at home. He wasn't stiff or anything."

Ford's particular recognition of Port Washington and his interest in the physical well-being of its citizens should make him particularly memorable to Schreiber students. On a larger scale, Ford's affable demeanor and intelligent instincts made him a man whose success should never be overlooked, even now, several decades later.

What to do when you're out of space

Community members ask for more parking spots to stop crowding

BY Mara Hollander
Contributing Writer

Port Washington is a small town, hardly the place where a parking garage would be expected to be built. But when the Port Washington Shared Vision Plan report was developed in August 2005 by a group of nearly one thousand Port Washington residents, parking was cited as a large enough issue to call for the construction of safe, aesthetic tiered parking near the train station.

"Parking in Port Washington has always been a problem," said Town Councilman Fred Pollack, who represents the Port Washington area.

He cited the fact that engineering studies in Port Washington have shown the community to be lacking in 271 spots needed for commuter parking alone, contending that tiered parking will not only provide greater commuter parking, but will offer parking for shoppers and employees in the area if opened up to the community at large.

Three specific locations are currently being considered for this project. A tiered lot of approximately 800 spaces would fit into the current train station parking area for twenty million dollars, paid over twenty or twenty-five years.

Councilman Pollack has also mentioned the possibility of building a smaller lot in the same location that would leave opportunities for expansion, should this become necessary at a later date. A smaller lot of around 404 parking spots could be built on South Bayles

Avenue. This lot would primarily serve commuters and long-term parkers, and would cost approximately eleven million dollars.

The final possibility is to construct the tiered parking garage over the parking lot on Maryland Avenue and Maple Street. This would provide more than 300 spots for commuters and shoppers, and would cost nine million dollars.

Not all residents of Port Washington feel that tiered parking is necessary, or even remotely beneficial. Residents have expressed their opposition to the plan in letters to the *Port Washington News*.

A recent letter to the paper suggested expanding the bus system in town, which would be less expensive than building a parking garage. Building a parking lot would likely cause real estate and property taxes to increase within the Port Washington Parking District, at least for a short while.

To get at least partial funding from the town, available parking would have to be open to the general public. By permitting only Port Washington residents to obtain parking permits or park in metered spots, the tiered parking would better solve the commuter and shopper parking problems, albeit more expensively.

Other letters to the *Port News* have also mentioned that shuttles to and from the train station would be more environmentally sound than encouraging people to drive their cars to an enlarged lot.



Photo courtesy of Port Washington Parking Study

At the moment, the South Bayles site is one of the possible sites for the parking garage. Sites vary in size and parking capacity, raising questions about how many spots commuters need and how much Port Washington is willing to pay.

Concerned residents have mentioned the aesthetic quality of such a project, frequently calling the multiple-story complexes an "eyesore."

The two locations that would fit smaller tiered parking structures are better hidden from view on Main Street, yet some residents are still concerned about the negative effect on property values.

Councilman Pollack called the discussion about tiered parking the

"beginning of a dialogue" and made it clear that a decision either for or against tiered parking was not set in stone. "This is going to affect the community for years to come, which ever way we go," he said.

All Port Washington residents are encouraged to share their views of the proposed tiered parking plan on The Town of North Hempstead website via a nine page survey.

Fast food fiends say goodbye to fried food

BY Allison Rosenberg
Staff Writer

In recent years, fast food chains have taken a savage beating. From *Supersize Me* to *Fast-Food Nation*, movies, books, and investigations have criticized the fast food industry for the amount of fat, cholesterol, and preservatives in their food. In response to this movement and the subsequent mass of negative publicity, some fast food companies have begun to institute changes in the food they offer. Changes include offering a greater selection of salads and cutting down on trans fats—overall, moving towards healthier fast food. Or so they say.

A few years ago, McDonald's started offering its new Premium Salads worldwide, and since then, has sold millions of salads to (mostly female) customers.

"We are improving our relevance with products like salads, which cast a favorable glow over our brand and the rest of our menu," said Matthew Paul, McDonald's chief financial officer in an interview with the *New York Times*. The salads are higher-priced and, McDonald's claims, healthier than the other items offered.

In actuality, a recent study conducted by the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine found that many of the salads are just as bad as burgers,

if not worse. From looking at the nutritional information provided on the McDonald's website, it may seem that the salads contain less grams of fat and a hundred or so fewer calories; however, in their totals, the website does not include dressing or croutons.

With dressing, the McDonald's Crispy (aka fried) Chicken Bacon Ranch Salad contains a whopping 51 grams of fat and 661 calories. If you

"In actuality, a recent study found that many of the salads are just as bad as burgers, if not worse."

opt for Grilled Chicken instead of Crispy Chicken, it's 43 grams of fat. A Big Mac, on the other hand, has 34 grams of fat and 590 calories.

Even the Snack Size Fruit & Walnut Salad, in terms of fat and calories, is only slightly healthier than a McDonald's Hamburger.

Burger King's Chicken Caesar Salad with Creamy Caesar Dressing, croutons, and parmesan cheese is a little better — it has 495 calories and 27 grams of fat — but it still has more fat and calories than a BK Double Hamburger.

The study rated Wendy's salads to be slightly healthier than both Burger King and McDonald's.

However, because of McDonald's implementation of the Dollar Menu, the question of the salad's healthiness doesn't seem to matter so much. Despite the introduction of the Premium Salads and the purportedly healthier Premium Chicken Sandwich (which has more calories and sodium than a double cheeseburger), the average McDonald's sells seven times more double cheeseburgers, for a dollar apiece, than Premium salads or sandwiches.

Some fast food chains are looking to enhance the food already out there, specifically concerning the issue of trans fats, which have been shown to raise cholesterol levels and increase the risk of heart disease.

In June 2006, Wendy's announced that it was going to eliminate trans fats from its products, and that October KFC followed suit. KFC said that it would replace partially hydrogenated soybean oil with an oil that doesn't contain trans fats in all of its US restaurants by April 2007. However, this will only be for its fried products (which includes its chicken), not the biscuits, potpies, and desserts.

McDonald's, reputedly, is on the move as well. Last month, the corporation said that it will reduce the level of trans fats in its cooking oil to 2% resulting in less than 0.5 grams of trans fat per

serving. This would take place in all of its restaurants throughout Europe. McDonald's now claims to be the first fast food chain in Europe to cut trans fats. It has said nothing about any plans to reduce levels in the US.

Other popular food chains, such as Taco Bell, Panera, and Starbucks, have also outlined plans to eliminate trans fats.

To deal with this issue, New York City is taking action. Last month, the city's Board of Health voted to adopt the nation's first ban on all but very small amounts of trans fats in restaurants. The law forces restaurants to eliminate trans fats by this July, providing a three-month grace period before the restaurants are face with fines. Makers of doughnuts and baked goods have until July of 2008.

In a separate vote, the Board of Health passed a law that requires some restaurants to display the caloric content of each item on the menu prominently. This applies to about ten percent of the city's restaurants, including many fast food outlets. Chicago is now considering a similar ban on trans fats.

These actions, say health officials, are an attempt to deal with what is widely seen as a nationwide epidemic of obesity, and are predicted to be much more effective than fast food chain self-regulation ever could be.

MELTING ICE?

AT LEAST THERE IS SOME LEFT

WHY GLOBAL WARMING IS A HOTTER TOPIC THAN EVER, AND HOW STUDENTS, STAFF, AND OTHERS ARE RESPONDING.

BY Rob Bellon

Senior Features Editor

Anyone living in the Northeast may have noticed that grass is still green, that scarves and heavy coats seem to have become endangered species, and that the traditional white Christmas was more of a grayish, dull-brown Christmas.

To what can this anomalous change in temperature be attributed? It depends on whom you ask. As environmentalists are pointing the finger at global warming for the hotter-than-average temperatures, critics maintain that the warmer temperatures are simply due to the weather phenomenon El Niño.

An abnormality in tropical Pacific air currents, El Niño generally occurs every three to five years around Christmas. The currents are usually responsible for heating up central and eastern North America, as New Yorkers have been experiencing this year.

However, those who believe that El Niño is the sole provider of the warm weather may be mistaken. Firstly, the last few months of 2006 were undoubtedly abnormally warm, but in 2005, when there was no El Niño, there was a similar hiatus from colder temperatures. Secondly, El Niño is normally responsible for increases in mean temperature of about two degrees Fahrenheit, yet this year's increase in temperature is about double that.

Environmentalists such as Patti Wood, the Executive Director of Grassroots Environmental Education, a Port Washington-based environmental organization, are arguing that there may be something else at stake. She is personally troubled by the apparent lack of normal temperatures and precipitation typically found in late fall and winter months.

"We've seen a sustained period of warmer weather that is unprecedented," she said. "I am still going out to my garden to pick some arugula and lettuce for dinner." She is of course, aware of the argument that El Niño is the cause of such atypical weather.

"Certainly it is a pattern that could be attributed to El Niño," she said of the warmer temperatures. "Is it a result of the larger issue of climate change? Yes."

Ms. Wood believes that although weather patterns we are seeing this year may be due to El Niño, the sustained warm temperatures may be influenced by the existence of global warming.



1968



2007

Photos: Rob Bellon

The effects of warming can be seen on Leeds Drive, Port Washington. In a span of thirty-nine years, there is a noticeable difference in the winter

Opponents of global warming, however, cite the profuse snowfall in Boulder, Colorado, saying that the heat in the Northeast in December was simply an outlier. However, global warming has other, less obvious effects that are easily overlooked when trying to determine its viability as a scientific theory.

As temperature increases, so does the ability of air to hold moisture. Colorado actually experienced an increase in temperature as well. It did snow in

Colorado, but as long as the additional heat did not push the thermometer above thirty-two degrees Fahrenheit, which it did not, the moisture in the air still fell as snow.

Ms. Julia Brandt, who teaches AP Environmental Science and biology at Schreiber, is somewhat frustrated with the existence of a debate about global warming, which she sees as a scientific fact.

"There's a debate," she said. "Not

Seven Steps to Reduce Your Carbon Footprint

- Turn off lights when not in use.
- Use compact fluorescent light bulbs.
- Use "Energy Star" appliances.
- Bike or walk when possible.
- Use public transportation.
- Let clothes air dry.
- Grow a small vegetable garden to reduce emissions created during shipping.

among scientists, but among people."

"Global warming is a scientific issue," said Ms. Wood. "and the general public is not typically interested in science." She believes, however, that if people understood the issue more thoroughly, they would be willing to make changes in their lifestyles to curb the activities that contribute to global warming.

A teacher of AP Environmental Science, Ms. Brandt plays a large role in environmental education at Schreiber. The pervasiveness of the concept of global warming is evident in her classroom. Although it is officially addressed in the unit of air pollution, "It basically comes up all year," she said. It is discussed, for example, in the unit on fossil fuels as well.

Every year, after the AP examination in May, Ms. Brandt lets her students have more control over the curriculum. For the past two years, her students have chosen to learn about global warming. Two years ago, her class discussed global warming in depth in class. Last year, she took her class to see former Vice President Al Gore's movie *An Inconvenient Truth*.

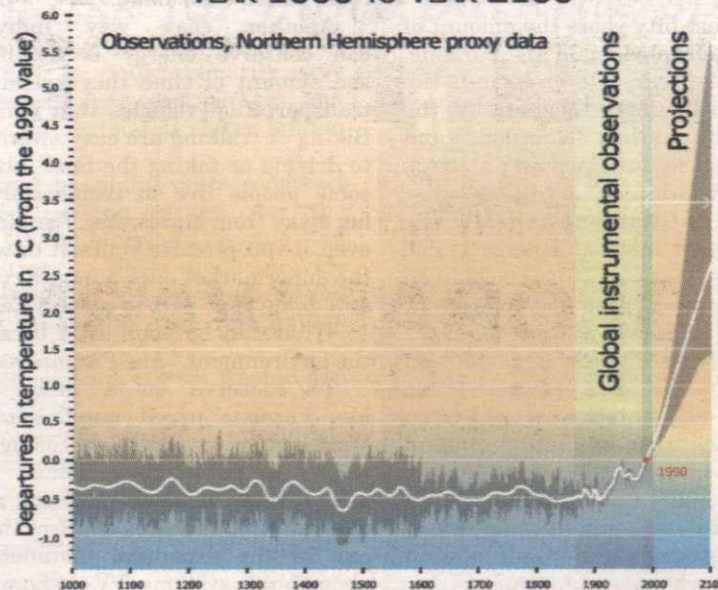
Since its release, *An Inconvenient Truth* has heated up the debate on global

THE "HOCKEY STICK"

The graph that is commonly used to support the concept of global warming, right, has come to be known as the "hockey stick" graph.

Carbon dioxide data from ice-core samples was used to make graphs such as these. Carbon dioxide levels have been observed to be directly related to annual temperature.

Carbon dioxide emissions have been increasing since the start of the Industrial Revolution of the late nineteenth century, and they continue to accumulate in the Earth's atmosphere.

VARIATIONS OF THE EARTH'S SURFACE TEMPERATURE
YEAR 1000 TO YEAR 2100

Graph data: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

The Debate Heats Up

"It's appalling that we don't, as a country, have any effective policies on greenhouse gas emissions. The most productive thing we can do would be to lobby for government changes instead of just focusing on our own actions."

-Rachel Kurjakovic, senior

"I care about global warming even though it doesn't have an effect on me because it will on my kids and my kids' kids. People should cooperate with others for good group efforts."

-Jonny Marks, sophomore

"George W. is ruining the environment, how animals live and things flow. It's disturbing nature. People need to be more careful about the cars they buy and the resources they use up to stop harmful actions that are ruining the ozone."

-Nathan Zeplovitz, junior

"The scientific consensus indicates that the Earth is warming and this is most likely in part due to human action. However, the extent which is human induced or naturally occurring is not known. It is important for people to understand that global warming is a theory, not a fact, and at that not a well-grounded theory. This is because the only evidence supporting global warming are computer models, and naturally computer models have flaws, and more importantly no computer ever designed by man can ever calculate all of the factors necessary to accurately predict the climate 30 years from now."

-James Krellenstein, sophomore

warming. According to its supporters, global warming is caused by greenhouse gasses, such as carbon dioxide, or CO₂, that are released into the atmosphere and trap heat from the sun that would normally radiate back into space. Carbon dioxide pollution comes from the burning of fossil fuels. Common sources of carbon dioxide pollution are cars, trucks, buses, factory smokestacks, and coal or oil-burning power plants. The resulting increased temperature can lead to many problems.

"We are already seeing a loss of species," said Ms. Wood. She specifically cites the polar bear, as the issue of its declining population is particularly timely.

Recently, the Bush administration announced that it wants to categorize the polar bear as "threatened" under the Endangered Species Act. The reason cited was loss of habitat due to global warming.

Polar bears depend on arctic ice for survival. They use ice flows as a platform from which to hunt prey. As the distance between these platforms decreases, or as the platforms disappear altogether in some areas, polar bears either go hungry or drown before they can reach the next platform.

Coral is also affected by global warming, as it can only survive in a

certain range of water temperatures.

There are other effects of global warming that more directly concern people. Rising temperatures are causing glacial ice to melt, which, in turn, raises sea levels. An increase of ocean level of just three feet would force more than 100 million people out of their homes worldwide. Of the megalopolises, Shanghai, Bangkok, Jakarta, Tokyo, and New York City are all within three feet of the average sea level. New Orleans is below sea level as it is, which puts it at even greater risk.

"I've probably ordered more evacuations than any other person in the country," Windell Curole, manager of the South Lafourche Levee District, told *National Geographic* magazine in September 2004. Since Katrina ravaged the Gulf coast in September 2005, at least some people have re-thought the role global warming may be playing our lives.

According to Ms. Wood, there are other effects that most people may not have even considered. Global warming's higher temperatures and rising sea levels can be a deadly combination when mosquitoes are factored in. Increases

in mosquito borne illnesses such as malaria and dengue fever could be real threats for millions of people.

"It may also have a drastic effect on our food supply," notes Ms. Wood. "You may lose predictable growing seasons and extreme weather patterns always impact crops. It's going to affect our ability to produce enough food to feed the world's populations," she said. Furthermore, Ms. Brandt stated that in some cases, if plants bloom as little as one week earlier, the pollen may be largely dispersed by the wind by the time the pollinators of that plant return from their winter migration routes.

With all these potentially dangerous, and in some cases cataclysmic, outcomes, some may wonder what can be done to help reverse the process of global warming.

"We produce twenty-five percent of all the global warming gases, and we are only five percent of the global population," said Ms. Wood of Americans. The conundrum, she says, is that, "people who are most affected by global warming are not necessarily the greatest contributors to it." For example, on Tanzania's Mount Kilimanjaro, the glacial ice is receding due to global warming, even though the surrounding area is extremely rural.

For those willing to make some

changes, there are steps that can be taken toward stabilizing global warming. Simple things such as turning off lights when they are not being used, using compact fluorescent light bulbs, and buying 'Energy Star' appliances, will help save electricity. This will, in turn, reduce the demand for energy produced by burning fossil fuels and releasing carbon dioxide into the air.

"There are things in our homes that use energy all day long," said Ms. Wood. Televisions, computers, and other appliances still consume energy when they are plugged in. Air drying clothes instead of using the dryer is helpful, as is keeping the heat down during the day while you are at work or school and at night while you are sleeping. And there are more actions that can be taken.

"Transportation generates one third of greenhouse gases in this country," said Ms. Wood. She believes that it is the responsibility of automobile manufacturers to make all cars get significantly more miles per gallon, a lot more. Families should also think about buying smaller cars and hybrid models.

But beyond personal motor vehicle reform, Ms. Wood urges a drastic change in how we think about getting places. She is a strong advocate for public transportation, although she recognizes that there has been a gradual deterioration of public transportation systems nationwide. "We put a lot of the money we used to put into public transportation into roads. Fast, reliable, clean public transportation has got to be a priority once again," she said.

Making a seemingly unrelated observation, Ms. Wood also said "we don't even eat food that's locally grown. We eat tomatoes that travel 2500 miles to get here—in a truck—a truck that's polluting the air."

Ms. Wood is perhaps a microcosm of the American global warming movement as a whole. She looks at the science and the consumer population and realizes that there needs to be a bridge between them. "Our government has got to promote conservation and safe, sustainable energy sources" she said. "We need serious political will here."

"If you listen to French news or the BBC, you hear about global warming all the time," she said. Some criticize the media as being too liberal or alarmist. "Our media does not talk about it enough," said Ms. Wood. "We should be more concerned than we are. Understanding human nature, it will take longer to change things."

This sense of urgency stems largely from the fact that many climate scientists cite a ten-year window during which global warming may be brought under control. They look at it as a global emergency that we can only fix by making major changes in the way we do everything, and the way we use energy.

Ms. Brandt takes a different stance on corrective action. "I'm not talking about changing your standard of living. I'm not talking about major lifestyle changes," she said. "I just wish that we would learn to conserve more...What do we want oil for? So we can keep our lights on all day?"

She is an advocate of the increasingly popular precautionary principle. Which is, succinctly,

"When in doubt, we need to cut back," said Ms. Brandt. "During the Great Depression and World War II everybody pulled together because they had to. We don't have that mindset as a society today."

From oil to alternative energy: a slippery slope for Long Islanders

BY Sidney Ginsberg

Features Editor

Before Ms. Kathleen Cunningham Faraone took the stage to educate people about the need for alternative energy on Long Island, Port resident Charles A. Hersh walked the aisles of the Port Washington Public Library conference room. He handed out a sheet entitled: "Are Solar Panels Cash Cesspools that play Robin Hood in Reverse?" to the eager audience members.

A frantic murmur exploded in the room as Mr. Hersh tottered over to the front of the room and passed out another sheet, this one titled: "Long Island Offshore Wind Project." The words "Piece of Junk" were sprawled across the top of the page in large letters.

Why would someone try to dissuade the eager crowd from using alternative energy, when hundreds of colorful fliers that lay on the table at the entrance to the room claimed that it was a great and economically conscious thing to do?

Ms. Faraone is a volunteer from the non-profit group RELI, Renewable Energy Long Island, and was asked to speak at the library by the local group Residents for a More Beautiful Port Washington. "We have an immediate need for alternative renewable energy sources," she said. "We can all practice energy saving in our own lives." According to Ms. Faraone, New York State already has a twenty-five percent commitment by George Pataki to use renewable energy. In addition, Long Island promised in 1997 to have 10,000 solar roofs by 2010 in conjunction with President Clinton's nationwide Million Solar Roofs initiative. As of 2006, Long Island has only 800.

"We are a consumer society," said Ms. Faraone. "If you run out of coffee you can go back to the kitchen and make yourself another, but we only have one planet."

Her presentation included many charts and statistics on global warming and alternative energy. Explaining that the western part of the United States depends on water from the polar ice caps, Ms. Faraone made an effort to shock the audience into agreement that alternative energy is truly the right way

to proceed.

"In the last fifty years the amount of CO₂ has quadrupled," said Ms. Faraone. "The trend is clear. The problem is the emissions will grow exponentially, the projection of carbon emissions and greenhouse gases is not a good prognosis which is why we need to explore other things. Global warming is really our most important matter. Energy is our most important topic. It is the common denominator—everyone uses it, rich or poor, what varies is how much we use."

RELI focuses its efforts on encouraging the use of renewable alternative energy sources, which do not cause pollution and can be reused. Ms. Faraone explained that LIPA, the Long Island Power Authority, which provides most of Long Island's power, is encouraging energy conservation because it has been unable to meet Long Island's energy demands.

"The bottom line is, we're not going to dig our way out of this, there just isn't enough oil on the planet. We need to really support renewable energy. Every time we get up to flip on the light we make a choice to illuminate the room, it's your choice to connect the dots. When the light switched is flipped on you need to make a choice in life about how you're going to power your different needs."

Ms. Faraone dove immediately into the many ways in which Port Washington residents could conserve energy in their households and in the district.

"If every American changed one light bulb to compact fluorescent light bulbs, it would save enough energy to light 2.5 million homes for a year and prevent greenhouse gases equivalent to the emissions of 800,000 cars," she said.

She also suggested turning down thermostats by a few degrees during the day, which saves large amounts of energy as well. Programmable thermostats can be easily purchased which automatically do just this.

"How many of you have an Energy Star product?" asked Ms. Faraone to the audience as she rattled off the advantages to conserving energy by using "efficient electronics." Surprisingly, almost every person in the

room raised their hand.

Another easy way individuals can conserve energy is by limiting the amount of time they spend using transportation vehicles that emit CO₂. Biking or walking are easy alternatives to driving or taking the bus. Although some people live in residential areas far away from stores, Ms. Faraone said even if you promise yourself to walk to the supermarket once a month, you are still doing your part to conserve energy.

"That can be your little homage to the environment," Ms. Faraone said.

To conserve on a larger scale, Ms. Faraone urged families in Port Washington to switch to using solar energy to power their homes. LIPA has a solar pioneer program and is offering \$2000 rebates to offset the high cost of the expensive installation of photovoltaic systems (PV) in homes.

Ms. Faraone asked if anyone in the audience had solar panels on his or her home and surprisingly, almost no one raised his or her hand.

"A ripe audience!" she said. She listed other uses of solar energy, such as the heating of hot water and pools. As Ms. Faraone continued to expose the benefits of solar energy, Mr. Hersh, who had previously been quiet, began to yell that solar panels were not a good investment.

"Solar panels are very expensive, and it's not fair for ratepayers to pay for other people's panels!" said Mr. Hersh. Several members of the audience seated near Mr. Hersh attempted to quiet him by asking him to save his questions for the end.

"It was a comment," said Mr. Hersh.

When the topic of solar energy was exhausted, Ms. Faraone brought up the Long Island Offshore Wind Initiative, which Mr. Hersh had referred to as the "Piece of Junk" on one of his handouts. The Long Island Offshore Wind Initiative (LIOWI) is a project to meet Long Island's energy needs without using fossil fuels or increasing carbon emissions.

"Where else are we going to get our energy from?" she said. "We need it and it's running out. We have to find a way to meet that need." The group is promoting the creation of the Long Island Offshore

Wind Park, an 859 mile area 4.6 miles off the coast of Jones Beach, which will use forty wind turbines to provide wind power to service 44,000 Long Island homes.

Because the offshore wind park, which is slated to be created in 2009, will be the first in the United States, FPL Energy needed to conduct tests to assess the effects of a wind park on the environment. Their concern was avian fatalities. Many environmentalists were concerned that birds would be injured after flying into turbines; however, avian fatalities studies concluded that there would be only one death per 10,000 birds, compared to 700 due to pesticides and 1000 due to cats. In fact, the largest number of avian fatalities is caused by large buildings or homes—5,500 birds die per 10,000 from flying into a building or its windows.

"Your school or office has a greater hazard to the avian community than these wind turbines will be," said Ms. Faraone. Based on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement that assessed the pros and cons of the wind park, the turbines will encourage tourism, increase recreational activities, provide reefs and habitats and have zero impact on the area's fishing. The park also had an eighty-seven percent approval rating in *Newsday*. The LIOWI coalition, "is going to make an enormous difference. There will be a visual impact but it will be worth it. The coalition calls itself an "OPEC Buster" because the project will relieve some of the United States' reliance on foreign oil. It will also help lower the United States' annual emissions of 235,000 tons of CO₂, 489 tons of sulfur dioxide and 221 tons of nitrogen oxide. The total carbon dioxide savings will be the equivalent of avoiding the pollution from half a billion car miles each year.

Although some, like Mr. Hersh see projects such as the Long Island Offshore Wind project as detrimental because they force ratepayers to fund them, fuel savings over twenty years from this project will be 13.5 million barrels of oil.

"Volatile forces will one day cause us to run out of oil—we must switch to alternatives," said Ms. Faraone.



Sidney Ginsberg

Residents for a More Beautiful Port Washington sponsored a presentation by Ms. Kathleen Cunningham Faraone, a guest speaker from Renewable Energy Long Island to inform local residents about alternative energy.

How green is your Island?

- New York State already has a twenty-five percent commitment by George Pataki to use renewable energy.
- Long Island promised in 1997 to have 10,000 solar roofs by 2010 in conjunction with President Clinton's nationwide Million Solar Roofs initiative. As of 2006, Long Island has only 800.
- In the last fifty years the amount of CO₂ has quadrupled.
- Long Island Offshore Wind Park, an 859 mile area 4.6 miles off the coast of Jones Beach, which will use forty wind turbines to provide wind power to service 44,000 Long Island homes.
- The Northeast uses twenty-four percent of the United States' electric load; fifty percent of the nation's electricity is used in coastal areas.
- The offshore wind park had an eighty-seven percent approval rating in *Newsday* and will relieve some of the United States' reliance on foreign oil. It will also help lower the United States' annual emissions of 235,000 tons of CO₂, 489 tons of sulfur dioxide and 221 tons of nitrogen oxide. The total carbon dioxide savings will be the equivalent of avoiding the pollution from half a billion car miles each year.
- Fuel savings over twenty years from this project will be 13.5 million barrels of oil.

Learning with the stars: teacher celebs

BY Meghan Doyle

Staff Writer

As students pass teachers in the hall, they only associate them with the subjects that they teach. Most students don't realize that these teachers are, in fact, famous. That's right. Famous. Maybe not Matt Damon famous, or

Tara Conner famous, but famous nonetheless.

Whether working with HBO, MTV, VH1 or playing in the pits of off-broadway shows, the abilities of Schreiber faculty members transcend the school curriculum.

One such individual is English teacher Mr. Corey Block. Mr. Block

teaches Playwriting and Screenwriting, Creative Writing and Freshman Studies.

Aside from this, he has done stand up comedy, worked with HBO and the animation of the MTV show *Daria*. While all of this may seem rather exciting, there is much more to these time-consuming jobs than meets the eye.

"Going on the road or writing freelance doesn't offer much in the way of stability or sanity," said Mr. Block, "but teaching allows me to work with everything I love and not have to choose. All my passions are catered to."

This kind of attitude is one that is shared by most. The love for teaching, and for counseling is apparent in all of these individuals.

Guidance counselor Mr. Joseph Lorge is another one of the many talented faculty members at Schreiber.

He has commented for VH1's *I Love the 80's 3D*, *I Love the 70's Part Two*, *The 2005 Top 40 Videos Countdown*, and the show *I Love Toys*. *I Love Toys* includes comedians raving about their favorite toys and bashing those they found particularly useless.

"Seeing yourself perform is a great opportunity," said Mr. Lorge. "It is, of course, nerve wracking, but all in all, a great experience."

However, Mr. Lorge admitted that being a counselor and a television commentator are very different fields.

"I enjoy being a counselor more

because it's more genuine, more real, and about giving back," said Mr. Lorge. "Being on VH1 was fun but not nearly as fulfilling as being a guidance counselor."

Yet another talent Schreiber faculty member is Mr. Anthony Pinelli, who teaches Music Theory and Symphony and String Orchestra.

Although his abilities as a musician are manifested through his teaching, Mr. Pinelli has been lucky enough to have played in several prestigious music-related events outside of Schreiber.

He has performed at Top of the Rock at Rockefeller Center, Tavern on the Green in New York and in the pits of some off-Broadway shows. One of his performing groups included the legendary Broadway songstress, Idina Menzel.

He has also done work at recording studios for cartoons and turned down playing in a professional orchestra in Italy to come teach at Schreiber High School. Mr. Pinelli does not regret his decision.

"I like sharing my knowledge with others. Everyday is a new experience here," he said.

Perhaps what these faculty members are really famous for is the dedication they display through their teaching and counseling. They could have continued working in entertainment and the arts, but they chose instead to work alongside students.



MTV

Mr. Block wrote for and was featured on MTV's animated show *Daria*.

His character is pictured above, for the episode "Is It Fall Yet?"

Fashion File Avoiding fashion flops

BY Amanda Schiff

News Editor

Former fashion designer Mr. Blackwell's annual list of celebrity fashion offenders has just been released and it comes as no surprise that Britney Spears and Paris Hilton have earned the top spots. In fact, their panty-exposing, bra-baring antics left them tied for first place on the dreaded list.

His number two pick, England's Camilla Parker-Bowles, was dubbed "a royal wreck," while he chastised Lindsay Lohan for going from "adorable to deplorable." Other famous faces cited for their fashion felonies include Christina Aguilera, Sharon Stone, Tori Spelling, Mariah Carey, Sandra Oh, Paula Abdul, and Meryl Streep.

With all of the media scrutiny that surrounds these public figures, it's tough to imagine that they would ever leave home looking any less than their best. After all, with an arsenal of wardrobe stylists, makeup artists and hairdressers on staff to ensure a picture-perfect appearance, how can such mishaps occur?

To be fair, we should recognize that these people's lives are continuously documented, so we witness every move they make—from grabbing a cup of coffee on a Sunday morning to enjoying a family beach vacation on St. Barth's. Obviously, with all of this exposure, the paparazzi are bound to snap some unflattering photos of makeup-free

faces, sloppy ensembles, and stringy hair.

However, Blackwell's problems with some of these celebrities were not the mistakes they made during their down time. Instead, he found fault on the red carpet, a place where the stars are always expected to bring their A-game.

Grey's Anatomy star Oh landed on Blackwell's list after she showed up at the 2006 Emmy Awards sporting a ruffled, periwinkle ensemble and about a thousand pounds of bead and chain necklaces; clearly she's never heard the old adage that less is more.

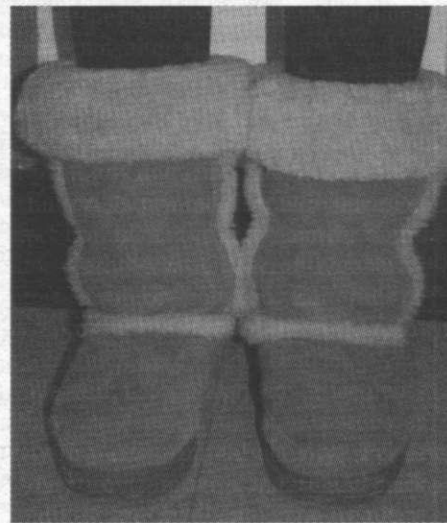
Sexy songbird Carey's numerous concert and awards show appearances in outfits that were too short, too tight, and otherwise cringe-inducing prompted Blackwell to label her "Mariah the fashion pariah."

It is highly unlikely that Mr. Blackwell has any plans to visit Schreiber and compile a list of high school fashion offenders in the near future. But, just to play it safe, I took to the halls to find out what some students think make for the biggest fashion catastrophes.

Senior Katrina Fahey and juniors Julia Goorin and Rachel Postyn all pointed to footwear flops as being the cause for their major complaints. Fahey's problem is with fur-trimmed boots, saying that they remind her of someone sticking his or her foot into a bunny rabbit. Goorin winces at the thought of the dreaded flip-flops and socks combo that often pops up in the

transitional months of spring and fall. Postyn's pet-peeve is watching female Schreiber students teeter around wearing "shoes they can't walk in."

I think we can all agree with her and recognize that when dashing up and down several flights of stairs a day to jet between math, chemistry and Latin classes, spiked heels are probably not the best idea.



David Baer

The boots, pictured above, are just one of the many examples of what you should avoid this fashion season.

Not all of the feedback focused on fashion disasters, though. Senior Kaitlyn Toomla had some great suggestions for how to keep ourselves on the right side of the fashion law.

"If clothes don't fit you or don't look

appealing, you shouldn't wear them," said Toomla. "You should wear what feels most comfortable on you and not worry about following all of the fashion statements."

Sophomore Amanda Ostrove agrees with such sentiments. "Wear clothes that fit you, not things that are ridiculously tight," she said. "Wearing clothes that match will also keep you from committing fashion suicide."

With this in mind, here are my top fashion commandments that will help us all steer clear of any worst-dressed list. You'll never have to worry about the Schreiber paparazzi getting an unflattering shot!

(1) Don't be a slave to fashion trends. Sure, we all want to be stylish, but that doesn't have to mean throwing our fashion sense out the window in pursuit of fads.

(2) Remember that all trends are not right for everyone and that it's best to pick one trend at a time when putting together an outfit.

(3) Accentuate the positives. Got gorgeous blue eyes? Play them up with a beautiful, blue sweater to get people looking at your best features.

(4) Fit counts. Take the time to find clothes and fabrics that fit you well. Clothes that are too tight only serve to call attention to all the wrong places, while super-sized outfits send a sloppy message.

(5) Wear what feels right for you. If you're not comfortable in what you're wearing, it shows!

arts & Entertainment

Old and new stars make *Dream Girls* a serious Oscar contender
Inspirational film chronicles the drive of a young group to stay relevant in changing times

BY **Melanie Fried**
 Staff Assistant

Impoverished, talented musicians venturing from a difficult life to one of fame and wealth is nothing new to the film industry. *Dream Girls*, however, is not just some simple tale about overcoming hardship and rising to the top. It's a chronicle that sheds light on the cultural and emotional struggles that can lie beneath the veneer of success in the music industry.

Dream Girls tells the story of "The Dreams," three young African-American women with incredible voices living in Detroit. The film opens with a talent show during the early '60s, in which The Dreams are discovered by former car salesman Curtis Taylor, Jr. (Jamie Foxx) and begin touring as a backup group for soul singer James "Thunder" Early (Eddie Murphy). The trio consists of lead-singer Effie White (Jennifer Hudson), Deena Jones (Beyoncé Knowles) and Lorrell Robinson (Anika Noni Rose).

It doesn't take long for Curtis to recognize the racial discrimination existing in the music industry. As

“*Dream Girls* takes the audience on an engaging musical journey through the complex social and political turmoil of the '60s and '70s.”

a manipulative producer hungry for money and success, Curtis forces Jimmy Early to reconstitute his persona to that of a softer and sweeter performer (one more likely to be acceptable to white audiences), as compared to his true and wildly passionate performance style. Jimmy is unable to make this transition, however, resulting in an outburst of confusion and self-desperation on stage when he sings "Jimmy Got Soul," as the white audience members depart the hotel in the middle of his high-energy, sensational act. The racist element of the white audience's reaction is underpinned by the many shots of a black waiter at the hotel who is clearly enjoying Jimmy's performance. This

is an outstanding performance on Murphy's part.

Curtis strives to remake The Dreams into headliners, known as "The Dreamettes," instead of backup singers for Jimmy. He reverses the positions of the heavier and darker-skinned Effie with that of the lighter-skinned Deena, whose voice is also more conventional. This is perhaps the most brilliant scene of the film, as it not only demonstrates the group's need to conform in order to achieve commercial success, but also the personal and emotional toll that can accompany success. It is during this scene that Effie vehemently belts out "And I Tell You I'm Not Going" in response to the devastating betrayal of her friends and brother, who is the songwriter for Curtis' record label.

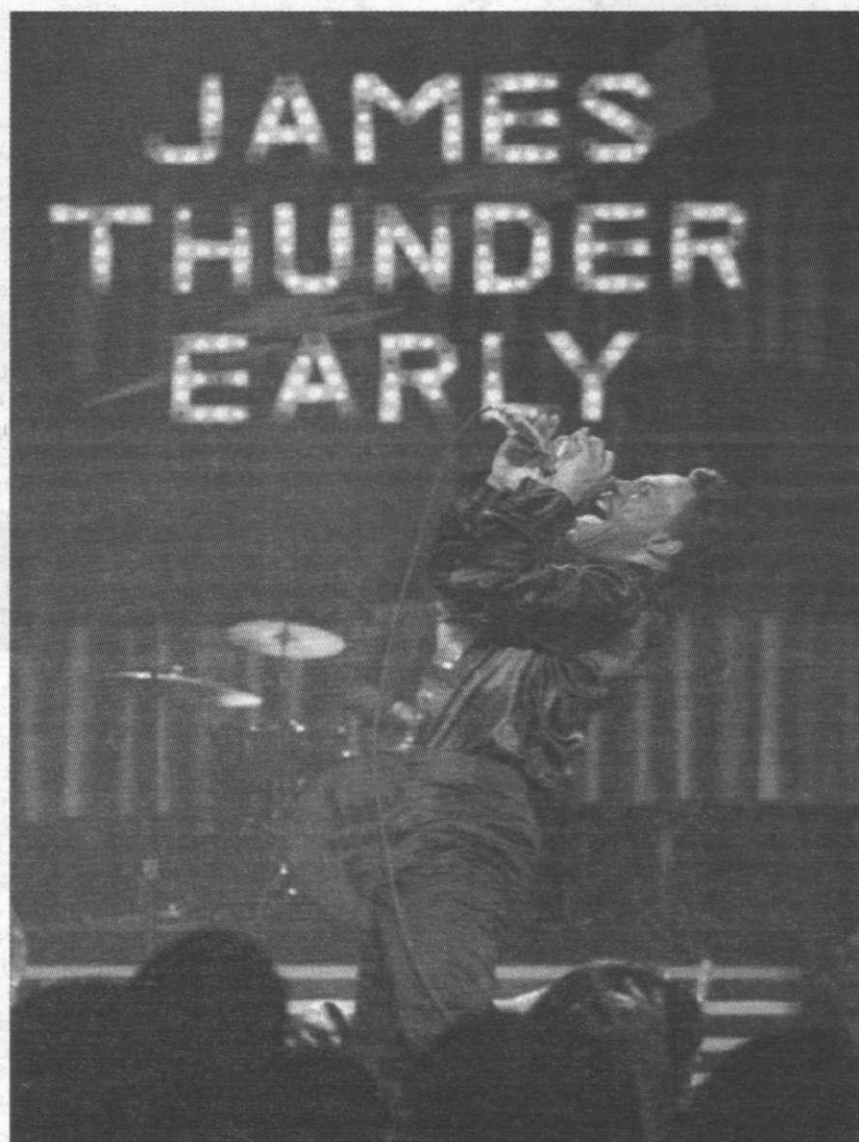
Jennifer Hudson's strong, zealous, and energetic voice blows the audience away as she releases her anguish and pain through song. She is a perfect choice for this role and her impeccable acting outshines that of her co-stars, including the better-known Beyoncé.

Dream Girls is based upon the 1981 Broadway musical of the same name, which itself was apparently "loosely" based upon the story of The Supremes, an all female Motown trio that rocketed to success in the '60s and '70s.

There are undeniable resemblances between The Dreamettes and The Supremes. For example, while Deena replaces Effie as lead singer in the film, Diana Ross replaced Florence Ballard as lead singer of The Supremes, as part of the struggle to accommodate the shifting trends of the music business in the late '70s.

The film's director and writer Bill Condon, who also wrote the movie version of *Chicago*, was able to successfully revive both the social chaos of the 1960s and the pop culture it produced. He utilizes clips of the 1968 Democratic Convention in Chicago and Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech, as well as a news show featuring The Dreamettes' visit to England and their comparison to The Beatles, to deftly intertwine the political, social, and musical aspects of the era.

Dream Girls experiences some technical issues when transitions between scenes lack flow and appear fragmented; however, the substance of the film largely overshadows this, resulting in an experience that tugs at your emotions if not your logic. *Dream Girls* deserves recognition for



The great Eddie Murphy stars as the soul star James "Thunder" Early who tours with The Dreams as his back-up singers.

its costumes, a mosaic of vibrant colors and sequins which reflect the changing times, evolving from the "hippie" style of the '60s to the disco style of the '70s. *Dream Girls* takes the audience on an engaging musical journey through the social and political turmoil of the '60s and '70s.

A film rich with social commentary, witty dialogue, and interesting casting choices, *Dream Girls* is a definite Oscar contender. A film like this solidifies Beyoncé Knowles as a top tier actor, something hard to prove after starting her acting career in films like *Austin Powers in Goldmember*. Her exceptional acting was amazing, but the egoism that this young starlet exhibits takes away from it all. In a VH1 interview, Beyoncé

spoke of the movie as if her character, Deena Jones, was the main focus of the film. However, the Hollywood Foreign Press Association, in this year's Golden Globes, seemed to disagree; they awarded Hudson with the award for best supporting actress, where Knowles walked away with nothing.

This is also Eddie Murphy's comeback from a string of mediocre movies like *Dr. Dolittle 2* and *Daddy Day Care*. Initially, the audience expected next to nothing from Murphy, which made his performance all the more incredible. His rise and fall as James Early was not only musical and heart-wrenching, but believable as well. *Dream Girls*, although with some flaws, is one of the best films of 2006.

De Niro and Damon lead *The Good Shepherd* to success

Spy thriller pleases crowds with unique mix of historical fiction, espionage action, and a star-filled ensemble

BY Max Lewin

Assistant A&E Editor

The shadowy world of international espionage has often been the backdrop of movies, novels, and television shows, the product of outsiders musing about life on the inside. The period of the Cold War in particular, and the rivalry between the American CIA and the Russian KGB, is one of the most thoroughly explored (or as some might say, overdone) sub-genres of the espionage entertainment canon. *The Good Shepherd*, directed by Robert De Niro, is a fresh retelling of a classic story of the Cold War, a tantalizing tale of the CIA, based ankle deep in historical reality and filled the rest of the way with successful and convincing fiction.

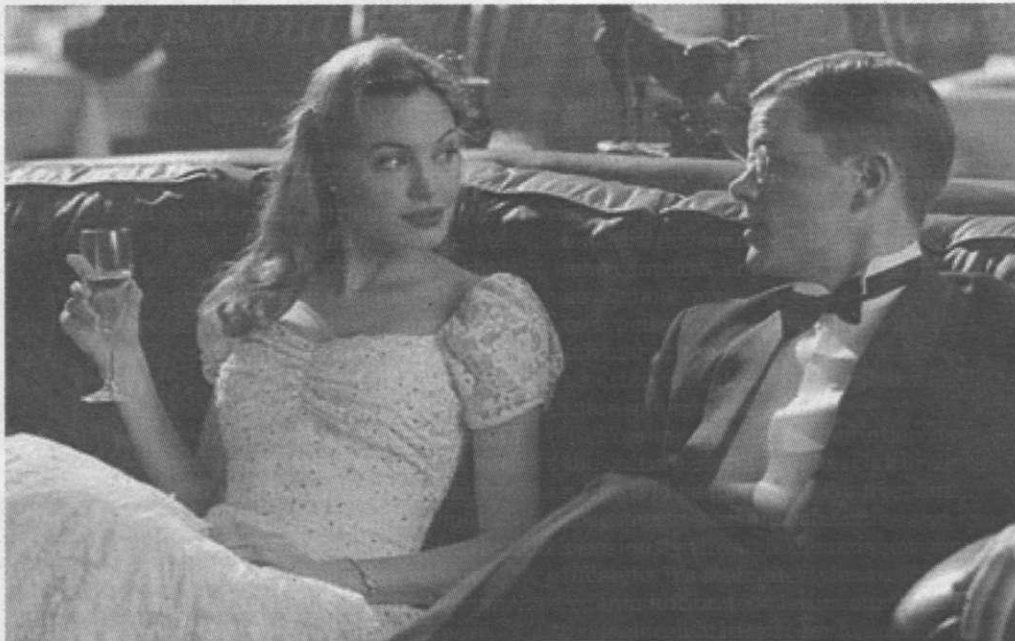
Matt Damon stars as Edward Wilson, a historical hybrid of real men James Jesus Angleton and Richard M. Bissell, Jr., two CIA counter-intelligence czars critical to the history of the Cold War. Surrounding him is a terrific ensemble including Angelina Jolie, William Hurt, Alec Baldwin, Robert De Niro, Billy Crudup, Michael Gambon, John Turturo, and Joe Pesci. But despite the high concentration of star power, Damon is the unquestioned centerpiece of the film. Aside from Jolie, playing Damon's wife of necessity with a level of restraint and finesse that she has not shown since *Girl, Interrupted*, and Turturo as Wilson's chillingly efficient and loyal assistant, few members of the cast truly stand out.

Damon's performance is one composed entirely in shades of grey. He rarely approaches emotional extremes, instead painting himself in various

degrees of moderation. His face is constantly a mask, bending and contorting to the various pressures his character experiences, but never quite breaking. He speaks with extreme reserve, but his laconic quips never fail to hold an emotional meaning much greater than their length in words. Although the movie spans more than twenty years in Edward Wilson's life, Damon always looks to be the correct age, a testament to the work of the film's makeup artists.

After Damon, the next largest driving force in the film is the plot. Most successful espionage thrillers stand on the strength of their intricate plots, which are able to trick audiences into feeling like they are making the same revelations as the characters themselves, and *The Good Shepherd* is no exception. Although some of the plot devices are cliché or absurd when examined out of context, their overall influence on the movie is positive, as they enhance the mood of suspicion and espionage.

The main plot consists of Edward Wilson's rise to the head of the counter-intelligence department of the CIA and all of events that occur along the way, including CIA operations in Berlin after World War II, assassination attempts on Fidel Castro, and the botched Bay of Pigs invasion. Interwoven with these stories are the threads of Wilson's relationships with several lovers, his wife, his father,



Angelina Jolie and Matt Damon play a couple whose forced marriage ends up having consequences not only on their lives but on the Cold War as well.

his son, and his "brothers" from the secret Skull and Bones society of Yale University. While some of the subplots are slightly hard to believe (for example, Wilson staying in love with his college sweetheart despite not seeing her for years), they generally contribute to the impact and realism of the movie. His friendship with Arch Cummings (Billy Crudup), for example, serves to demonstrate the betrayals inherent to the espionage business, while also providing a historical parallel for the friendship between James Angleton and KGB mole Kim Philby.

The Good Shepherd is not for every

moviegoer. It has issues with pace, at times glossing over important events or making an unclear jump ahead in time. Damon's acting can be overly subdued when more emotion would be logical, even for his character. And the cinematography could be more adventurous, which would have turned the movie into more than just a genre standard, but a timeless film. But regardless of these flaws, *The Good Shepherd* is a tense, exciting, and complex foray into the history of American intelligence, worth the price of admission whether you're looking for a thrill or a piece of excellent acting.

Children of Men: a bleak and disturbing vision of the future

BY Michael Friefeld

Contributing Writer

In a time when people fear everything from epidemics to continents under water, a new film, *Children of Men*, puts an interesting spin on the end-of-the-world movie.

It is the near future and all women have lost the ability to give birth. The last child was born eighteen years ago and the whole world has fallen apart because of it.

Britain, where the movie takes place, has become a military state. Terrorists have committed many horrendous attacks; frequent bombings and kidnappings occur, nuclear wars have been fought and most of the countries around the world are in shambles. All non-British citizens are being deported in order to stop the influx of refugees, while the government tries to stop terrorists trying to topple the country.

The main character, Theo Faron (Clive Owen), starts off the movie by almost getting blown to bits after a terrorist bombing. He then gets kidnapped by "The Fishes," a terrorist group bent on stopping the horrible treatment of refugees. He learns from his ex-wife and Fish leader, Julian (Julianne Moore) that he must transport a girl named Kee (Claire-Hope Ashitey) to the coast. Unbeknownst to him, Kee is the first pregnant woman in 18 years and needs to be taken out of the country

before she is killed by other terrorists or the government.

Theo must guide Kee away from Fish who want to use her baby as a figure head against the government and the government who would never allow a black girl's child to be the first baby in eighteen years. They must run from both the cops and Fish, break into a jail, and escape an internment camp.

The movie is a very shocking and very realistic look into the very close future. It uses amazing filming techniques and realistic special effects to keep you on the edge of your seat.

The actors do a wonderful job of making you feel extremely attached to their characters. When you think someone is going to make it through, you are often shocked, when in fact they don't. When you think something is going to happen or that the movie is over, you are shocked once again.

The reason that this movie is so scary is because all of it can actually happen, and that is a horrifying thing to think about. When you leave the theater you have a whole new idea about the world, which is so often the trademark of a wonderful film.

This movie is a great way to change everyone's view on today's world and will hopefully scare people into changing the way they act. It is a must see.

The Holiday: a well done, if simple-minded, romantic comedy

BY Amanda Schiff

News Editor

When one door closes, another one opens, right? In what was clearly destined to be a holiday season chick-flick, Nancy Meyers, writer-director of *What Women Want* secured an all-star cast to put this ancient proverb to work in the heartwarming and cheerful film, *The Holiday*.

Cameron Diaz and Kate Winslet are cast as frenzied singletons, one an uber-rich, Los Angeles movie trailer editor, and the other, an extremely sensitive London newspaper reporter. Although they are 6,000 miles apart, they couldn't be more similar when it comes to love. Amanda (Diaz) and Iris (Winslet), both fed up with the course of their lives, agree over the Internet to swap homes for the holidays.

They agree to a two week swap in which Iris gets a posh Beverly Hills pad, complete with a pool and more DVDs than one could possibly imagine; not to mention eccentric neighbors like composer, Miles (Jack Black) and Hollywood writing legend, Arthur Abbott (Eli Wallach). Amanda ends up with a tiny, storybook cottage in the middle of nowhere whose only perk is a late night visit from Iris' drunken brother, Graham (Jude Law).

As with most teeny-bopper chick-flicks, as soon as you lay eyes on the male leads, you have no doubt in your

mind what is going to happen...in case you didn't guess, Iris ends up with Miles and Amanda is paired with Graham.

When Jack Black was first seen on the screen, I immediately cast him as the funnyman, with contorted faces and goofy antics. However, his courtship with Winslet softens his obnoxious, comedic edge. In addition to Black's surprising role, Law's effective portrayal of Graham is highlighted by a surprising plot twist in which the audience learns that he can do fragile and sensitive just as well as he can dashing playboy.

Because of the over-dramatic way that Diaz plays the role of a neurotic neat freak, high-functioning, no-tears, chichi movie editor, who keeps imagining her life as a blockbuster trailer of romantic clichés, and the general purpose of Winslet as a woman devoted to a cheating, London yuppie, (Rufus Sewell) the movie is geared towards women, and the boyfriends that they force into the theaters.

Despite its rather cookie-cutter plot, predictable ending, and romantic clichés, *The Holiday* was a feel-good, no-thinking-involved film with a good cast and cute side-plots. It's a must see for anyone who is in need of a quick lovey-dovey romance movie fix. (Or anyone who has a major crush on Jude Law.) Although it's no oscar-worthy production, *The Holiday* is the best romantic comedy to come along in ages.

New Zelda game is the flagship of the new Nintendo Wii



In *Zelda: Twilight Princess*, Link battles a slew of new enemies in a completely revolutionized environment.

BY Adam Schaefer

Contributing Writer

The Legend of *Zelda: Twilight Princess*, is the "killer app" of Nintendo's Wii, and rightfully so. *Twilight Princess* is an action-adventure game in which gamers play as the hero Link, trying to save the fantasy world of Hyrule.

Twilight Princess is the latest installment in a thirteen-game Legend of *Zelda* series by Nintendo. In this particular game, a dark force known as the Twilight Realm descends upon Hyrule, when the dark lord Zant attempts to rule both the Light World and the Shadow World. Link teams up with the Twilight Princess, Midna, from whom the game gets its name. Midna has been banished from the Twilight Realm by Zant and turned into an imp.

The game begins with Link as a rancher in the village of Ordon, where his friends are kidnapped and Hyrule is enveloped in darkness. As Link enters the darkness, he becomes a wolf after he is cursed by Zant. Link must learn to master his skills as both a human and wolf to save Hyrule from being taken over by Zant. As the game progresses, the player collects magical objects called Fused Shadows, which give Midna the power to defeat Zant. In order to enter the Shadow World, Link must collect fragments of the mirror of Twilight. However, Link later learns that Zant was merely a pawn of the king of evil, Ganondorf, who has kidnapped *Zelda*, the princess of Hyrule. Link must save *Zelda* and defeat Ganondorf to save Hyrule once and for all.

The game's story can be quite interesting when experienced first-hand. Those interested in fantasy would enjoy it, even if they have never played a *Zelda* game or even a video game before. For hardcore *Zelda* fans, the story fits well in the greater continuity with many

references to previous *Zelda* games, especially *Ocarina of Time*, the popular *Zelda* game for the Nintendo 64.

The action-adventure gameplay also fits well with the fantasy-oriented story. The sword-fighting, which is controlled with the Wii's innovative motion-sensing remote, makes Link's knight-like status seem more realistic. The game even lets you ride your own virtual horse throughout the large world. In fact, the game world is much larger than any previous *Zelda* game. In addition to the sword, Link has his usual arsenal of bombs, arrows, potions, boomerangs and hookshots in addition to new weapons such as the gale boomerang, which creates a gust of wind. These items are not only employed in combat, but are also used to solve the dungeon puzzles for which the *Zelda* series has

become so famous. In fact, this game includes new dungeons, each with their own boss to boot.

This game, as with other *Zelda* games, also includes side-quests and other things to keep you occupied. In fact, this game will probably take even the most experienced *Zelda* veterans at least 40 hours to complete, and that's not even counting any of the side-quests.

The game presents itself very well. The graphics are stunning, but not perfect, certainly not the best when compared with current games such as *Gears of War* for the Xbox 360. The musical score and sound are impressive, but again, not perfect.

This game is widely considered to be the best game on the Wii and is a prime contender for the best game of 2006.

Del Toro proves his filmmaking genius in *Pan's Labyrinth*

BY Nick Otte

Staff Writer

In late 2006, acclaimed visionary director Guillermo Del Toro (director of the comic book adaptation of *Hellboy*), released his new film, *El Laberinto del Fauno*, or *Pan's Labyrinth*. Del Toro directed, produced and wrote this film in Spanish, his native tongue. The film is set in post-civil war Spain circa 1944, where a twelve-year-old girl, Ofelia, obsessed with her fairy-tales, is forced to move to a republican militia station mill to live with her mother and her mother's new husband, a high captain who is a ruthless and utter tyrant to his enemies and to Ofelia. The new couple await the birth of a child, a younger brother for Ofelia and an heir for her mother's new husband.

Ofelia sees no happiness in this life until a fairy comes to her one night and brings her to the center of a labyrinth

in the woods, down a spiraling stair, to Pan. Pan tells her he is a faun, a messenger of the underworld sent by his king to retrieve the young princess lost long ago. Ofelia is sent on three dangerous and exciting tasks to prove herself. Meanwhile, in the world of men, gruesome battles ensue, lives are taken, and betrayal discovered.

This film is a great work of story telling and is visually stimulating, to say the least. Del Toro proves himself a true master in the art of filmmaking, using his wonderful storytelling skills to show the audience a balance of hardship in two worlds, with no clear side of good and evil. The film was nominated for a Golden Globe for Best Foreign Film, but unfortunately lost to *Letters from Iwo Jima*. However, *Pan's Labyrinth* still has a shot at a nomination for an Academy Award. It is a truly incredible viewing experience which everyone should experience for themselves.

Dining out: The best places to eat in Port Washington

BY Alexandra Vojdany

Contributing Writer

You know those nights when your family wants to go out to a restaurant, but no one can decide on a place? Well, you are not the only family that has this frustrating problem. But luckily, Port has a plethora of great cuisine options.

If in the mood for Italian, I strongly suggest eating out at Pomodoro. Not only does Pomodoro provide a pleasant, nicely-lit atmosphere, but it also serves quality food that ranges from Linguine Frutti di Mare (linguine with mussels, clams, shrimp, scallops and calamari in a light tomato sauce-\$20.95) to Petto Di Pollo Contessa (chicken breast sautéed with white wine, sage, topped with prosciutto and fresh mozzarella-\$17.95). Although these meals are a bit pricey, it's worth shelling out for them. An added plus: the service is quick and professional. Grated cheese, ground pepper and water refills are provided well before you realize you need them. The next time your family feels like eating out with a bit more indulgence, take a drive to Main Street and dine at Pomodoro.

If you would rather get your hands on a nice, big burger, there is one place that you can count on. As one of the few hamburger specialty restaurants, Cheeburger Cheeburger provides a unique dining experience in Port Washington. This restaurant is so sure of their quality cheeseburgers that they named their restaurant after them. This specific restaurant distinguishes itself with its original menu choices, such as "The Delirious" (a fourteen ounce burger-\$8.29) and "The Serious" (a ten ounce burger-\$6.99). Friendly waiters and waitresses offer customers the challenge of consuming a one-pound burger. If a customer is able to devour the tremendous burger, weighing twenty-ounces, their picture is put up on the restaurant's wall. Get down to Cheeburger Cheeburger at 18 Soundview Marketplace and make the walls even more attractive by adding your own portrait to it. Every hamburger comes standard with cheese, so be sure to specify if you don't want it or indulge in some of the other more exotic toppings like mushrooms and onion rings. The only problem with the restaurant for more fearless hamburger fans is that it limits the burgers to medium and well-done, ignoring the more succulent rare and medium-rare choices.

Seafood restaurants are few and far between in Port Washington. Louie's Shore Restaurant is one such gem that features a waterfront setting, fresh food and rapid, friendly service. Louie's offers American cuisine and is renowned for its fresh seafood and delicious steaks. Though some of the more exquisite entrées are expensive, portions are generous and tasty. The average price of a dish in this restaurant ranges from \$10-\$20. In nice weather, make sure to get a table on the wrap-around deck overlooking the water and you will not be disappointed. Bon Appétit!

Music Box

Should free music be streamed legally over the internet?

Wolfgangsvault.com sparks controversy over the legality of streaming classic concerts over the internet

BY Jordan Lewis

A&E Editor

In 2000, Metallica made the online music downloading business famous after their congressional attempt to punish every user of the free, illegal downloading software, Napster. Ever since, other software programmers have found new ways of distributing music via the internet, some legal and others not.

Although the legality of music downloading has been solidified in recent years, live streaming music is still a bit of a grey area. Online music stores and web-sites now allow users to preview thirty second clips of songs before they choose to purchase them, and some even allow users to stream full tracks. However, the majority of these free streaming websites do not feature signed bands or artists and have limited catalogues. Today, a new website is testing the legal boundaries of this uncharted territory.

Wolfgangsvault.com, a classic rock memorabilia store specializing in the sale of hippie era concert posters and ticket stubs, recently attracted a firestorm of media attention after the site purchased the archives of the late Bill Graham, a legendary concert promoter who passed away in 1991. Included in his archives is live footage from thousands of unreleased concerts extending from the early sixties until the late eighties.

In what seems to be an attempt to draw new users, Wolfgang's Vault started adding these classic shows to their site under a section called the "concert vault." Strewn throughout the collection of rare footage, are musical gems ranging from Miles Davis' second live show after his epic decision to tour the rock scene in 1970, to early Led Zeppelin on their first American tour. The site recently augmented their collection by purchasing the archives of the King Biscuit Flower Hour, a syndicated radio broadcast of concerts from the seventies and eighties.

Wolfgang's Vault is virtually a rock and roll paradise complete with psychedelic artwork and a functional user interface. And although users have to register to listen to the vault, the process is completely free and relatively pain free. What makes the vault so fantastic is that it opens up a complete spectrum of live shows. Unlike Jimi Hendrix's genius live release *Band of Gypsies*, which was recorded at the Fillmore East with the intent of releasing it, the tracks on Wolfgang's Vault were recorded at far less critical moments of the artists' careers.

For instance, the only Pink Floyd show on the entire web-site is one recorded in 1970 at the Fillmore West, long before any hint of such album's as *Dark Side of the Moon*, released in 1973, and *The Wall*, released in 1973. The advantage (and nostalgia) of listening to early Pink Floyd is hearing the band before it really evolved into the polished psychedelic rock that made them famous. Simply put, in order to truly

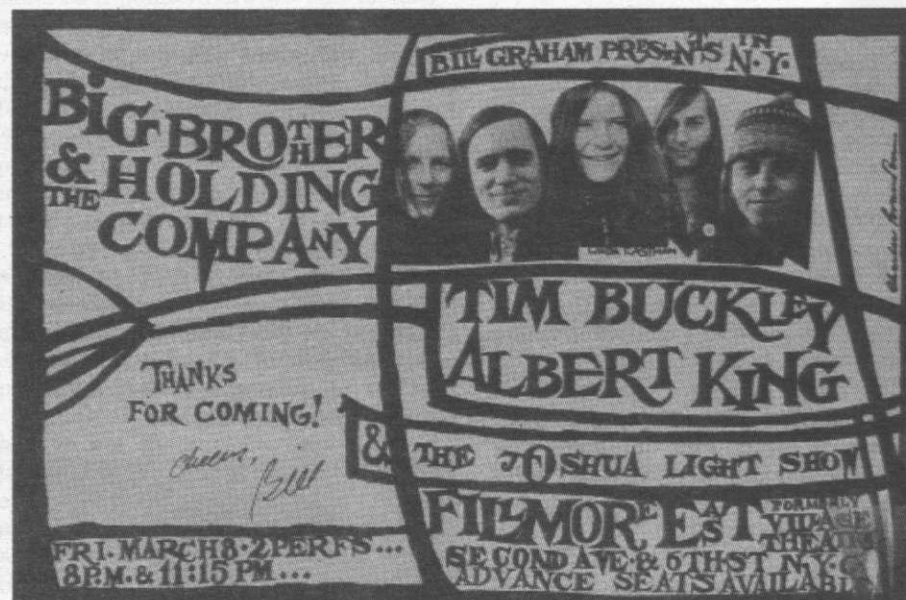
understand the essence of Pink Floyd's (and other bands') style, it is necessary to hear where their musical journey started.

At the Fillmore West concert, we hear the band playing music from their often forgotten first album, *The Piper at the Gates of Dawn*, the raw and blatantly drug fueled psychedelic debut released by the English group. Characterized by tracks such as "Astronomy Domine" the concert features many songs the band seemingly forgot after they became famous for other albums.

The controversy over Wolfgang's Vault is the legality of making live, uncut music available over the internet for free. However, unlike Napster and other downloading-based sites, there are a few differences which make the legality of the issue much more complex. For one, it is impossible to transfer music to any medium such as an iPod, or even store the music on a computer for later use. Secondly, the site is completely owned and operated by a legitimate and legally registered online music store, unlike downloading services where it is impossible to verify that the music has been legally obtained and distributed.

In the December 14 issue of *Rolling Stone*, the web-site was given its first real publicity in a nationally acclaimed publication. Although the site was given a favorable review, the magazine mentioned the possible illegality of the website and cited a few bands that had expressed trepidation over the notion that their music was being distributed over the internet.

On December 20, the first, of probably many, legal proceedings began against the owners of Wolfgang's Vault,



www.Wolfgangsvault.com

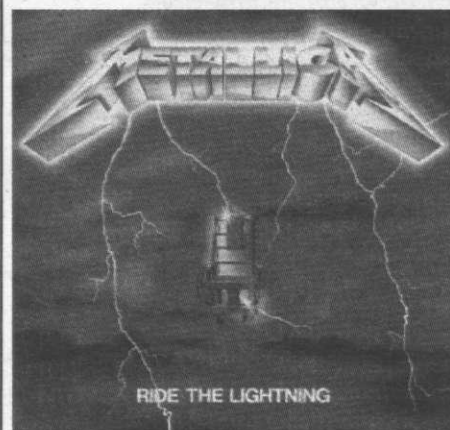
Wolfgang's Vault boasts a huge collection of vintage concert posters along with its impressive streaming vault of rare concerts.

initiated by representatives of the Grateful Dead, the Doors, Led Zeppelin, and Carlos Santana which claim that the site was "illegally distributing live concerts in order to boost sales of other merchandise, including T-shirts, photographs and memorabilia." Indeed the keystone of the site is still memorabilia. Every concert page has its own links to memorabilia from that specific artist, and the music player is also encoded with links to memorabilia pages. Realistically, with any business, making money is the main priority and the concerts are a perfect draw to any rock memorabilia web-site. Furthermore, the few links on the "Concert Vault" section to memorabilia, are unobtrusive and do not in any

way make the user feel like they are obligated to purchase anything.

In the coming months, as this lawsuit matures and others may be brought, artists and music companies will eagerly watch as the fate of streaming music is decided through the legal system. Although the suit is young, it still illustrates a growing trend in both the music business and the legal system. As the internet and other technologies develop, making it even easier for users to access music, the amount of control artists have over the distribution of their music will continue to decline until some serious measures are taken to protect intellectual property.

CLASSIC ALBUM: Metallica — Ride the Lightning



BY Andy Werle

A&E Editor

Often remembered as the most influential metal band in the 1980s, Metallica has released a string of number one albums. Before the success of their self-titled 1991 album and the song "Enter Sandman," Metallica was a hard-working, dirt poor group of teenagers from Los Angeles who were making a splash in the underground metal scene. They were present during the creation of the thrash metal movement that helped thrust them into

the forefront of the scene. Their second album, 1984's *Ride the Lightning*, was light years ahead of their revolutionary debut, 1983's *Kill 'Em All*.

The album opens with a faux-classical piece that soon segues into one of their heaviest and most underrated songs, "Fight Fire With Fire," whose lyrics deal with a nuclear holocaust. The lyrics on the album, surprisingly, deal with death in different forms, yet Metallica took an angle that few metal bands have before. They chose to discuss death as a social commentary.

The title track is about the controversial death by electrocution of a wrongfully jailed inmate, coupled with their trademark abusive riffs and a virtuosic solo from lead guitarist Kirk Hammett. Metallica also addressed death from the point of view of somebody drowning and freezing to death at the same time in "Trapped Under Ice," which, although not really a social commentary, is just a truly awesome song.

The most memorable songs from the album are undoubtedly the bass feature "For Whom the Bell Tolls," and the suicide lament "Fade to Black." The former featured now-deceased but

legendary bassist Cliff Burton, playing his trademark lead bass and the latter was the first ballad in the band's repertoire.

"Fade to Black" was highly controversial because some teens who committed suicide were found listening to or holding the lyrics to the song. The emotional guitar solo from Hammett was recognized by *Guitar World* magazine as one of the top 100 in rock history, coming in at number 23. This album also represents the first time that people said Metallica "sold out" because their hardcore fans expected them to leave on their distortion at all times. Unfortunately, this would not be the last time they were accused of selling out.

While metalheads were excited to hear these and other landmarks such as the biblical "Creeping Death" and the instrumental "The Call of Ktulu," others dismissed Metallica as a fad, unaware of the pivotal *Master of Puppets* album that was just around the corner in 1986. *Ride the Lightning* remains my and many other metal fans' favorite Metallica album and it continues to turn heads 23 years after its debut.

Athletes of the Month

Chris Catalano

BY Heather Larkin
Assistant Copy Editor

Senior Chris Catalano's passion for running began back in middle school when he proved to be one of the most dedicated members of the boys track team. Now a senior, he has been an enthusiastic member of the boys varsity track team since his sophomore year. As one of the team captains, Catalano continues to serve as a motivated leader and a strong asset to the team.

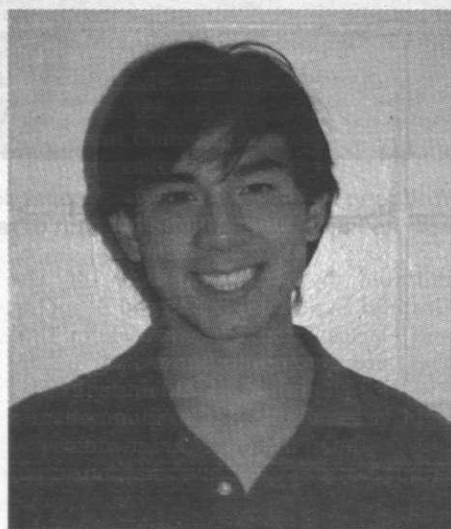
"We're working very hard this year in preparation for the approaching Conference meet," said Catalano. "Our incredible amount of team spirit helps to motivate us to run faster and improve our personal records."

Catalano's success in track and field is indicative of his dedication and passion for the sport. In order to prepare himself, Catalano spends as much time running as possible. In the fall, Catalano is a member and co-captain of the boys varsity cross-country team. During the winter season, he runs extra hours after practice with the help of Coach Jeremy Klaff and fellow teammates, senior Richard Schmitz and freshman Marco Bertolotti.

Catalano also runs in races independent of the school team. This past November, Catalano finished second in his age group in the Port Washington Turkey Trot. All his hard work and physical preparation has

certainly paid off; Catalano improved his personal record with a 4:55 mile in the beginning of the school year. At the Friendship Games finals on Jan. 15, he hopes to run an even faster mile and finish in under 4:50.

Although he is still unsure about what college he will attend in the fall, Catalano plans to continue to run next year. He has already received letters from interested coaches at Washington University in St. Louis. Regardless of where he goes to college, it's doubtful that his motivation and dedication to track and field will subside.



John Forman

Catalano is a captain of the cross-country, winter track, and spring track teams.

Angelica Kapsis

BY Lane Mergler
Staff Assistant

Dedication, leadership, and experience are all vital ingredients to making a successful athlete. Junior graduating early Angelica Kapsis has displayed all of these traits in each sport in which she has participated.

Throughout high school, Kapsis has competed in three interscholastic sports; soccer, gymnastics, and lacrosse. Sports have always been an integral part of her life.

"I have grown up breathing and sleeping sports," said Kapsis. "They have greatly affected my life and personality."

Kapsis played soccer this fall and is currently competing in gymnastics. In the past, she has played lacrosse in the spring, but will not be able to this year due to three disk bulges.

"Angelica has an extremely dedicated, hard-working attitude," said Coach Katie Kitner, noting Kapsis' determination in fighting through her injury.

Having started her career in 7th grade, Kapsis has been on the gymnastics team since 8th grade and is currently a co-captain of the team.

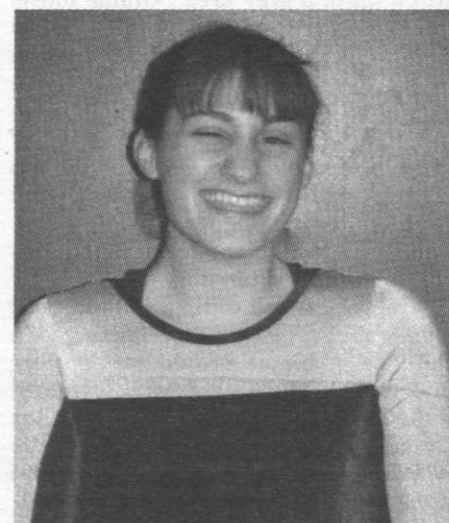
She has been exposed to competition for her entire life, and found gymnastics to suit her best as a sport, because she thrives under the pressure.

"I like all of the action involved in

gymnastics," said Kapsis. "It's the one sport that lets you attempt things that you normally cannot do."

When she was first picking up gymnastics, it took Kapsis a lot of time to adjust to the sport. As time went on, however, gymnastics played a major role in her life.

"She is always contributing to the team, and she also is a great leader," said Coach Kitner. "She always encourages her teammates during practice and competitions, and has matured greatly as both an athlete and a person."



Nikki Pond

Kapsis has been on Schreiber's gymnastics team since 8th grade.

Out of Bounds and metatexting it up

BY David Becker
Assistant News Editor

Honey, call in to base command. We have a problem.

I wrote a brilliant, brilliant, ebullient, jovial love letter (read: caustic, knocking equivalent to Martin Luther's 95 Theses) to John Knowles' *A Separate Peace* to describe my thoughts about Girl's Gymnastics. I found the hard, gripping emotional twists and turns and straddles and vaults. I put my life into it. My soul into it. My Zarkh and my Amanda Schiff, junior, into it. Unfortunately it didn't fit well.

So I resorted to *Heart of Darkness*.

With just a modicum of failure.

I haven't been this uninspired since my first draft of the "Change"-themed Out of Bounds where I compared Mike Lau, senior, to a bullfrog feeling the need to leap from lily pad to lily pad and had a whole line of poetry in Olde English about the pros and cons of fava beans.

Two words.

Never. Again.

It was even worse than the time when I decided that what we really needed was a VH1 countdown-style article about the best and worst moments of Out of Bounds for last year.

Looking back, the *Separate Bounds* was probably a lot worse than the other unpublished Out of Bounds, which primarily focused on Nicole Lana Pond's life and times.

(Ed: Come to think of it, when isn't Out of Bounds about Nikki Pond?)

And you know something? I had a flair for the Knowlesian! A burning, bright, unstifable talent that lights up this section more than Kristin Norton's bubbly, effervescent picture.

This flair for the Knowlesian came out particularly in passages such as:

Lauren Valenti and Amanda Ostrove, sophomores, were in top form and scored 7.3 and 7.7 respectively in each of their events. Alex Sherman always had athletic talents.

Her sleek flips and turns on the bars had me in a tizzy and for a moment, as I watched her float with arched-back, garbed in black and white, I could think of only Free Willy; diving over the sharp

rock-barrier, symbolic of both nature and mankind's domination of animals; escaping into the freedom that is the Pacific Ocean, nothing else.

Honestly, John Knowles doesn't know how easy he had it writing about schoolboys falling off trees. It's my job to be accurate and extremely serious about non-fiction. It was I, not Knowles, who had to read the criticism of my peers, particularly the following:

"I hate being quoted in *Out of Bounds*," said Amanda Ostrove. "Every time I'm mentioned, I sound moronic."

She makes it seem personal. But it's not. I like to incorporate members of the Schreiber student body, expressing only admiration for those valiant enough to be included in my article.

But I'm more angry at Knowles than I am at Ostrove. Like a lot angrier. Who does Knowles think he is writing stream of consciousness, self-glorifying nonsense? That's my niche.

And it's certainly not Knowles' forte to give solid play-by-plays as I do.

With no more than a heartbeat, captains Amanda Greico and Nina Zorfass, juniors and Angelica Kapsis

and Carrie Morea, seniors, sat on edge towards the end of Valenti's performance. They wanted to see if the baby chick would burst from the egg, or at least in the burning eyes of the gargoyle judges.

With a sprint of victory, Valenti came off the beam with the radiance of the goddess Nike and perpetuated the spirit of athleticism. Indeed, the girls won the competition and came first in the area for their efforts. Kelsey Siegel sat on the side.

So next time Ms. Zarkh is persuading you with her eyes that you should be reading a stream-of-consciousness novel for English class and you're thinking, "My, what big words you have, Ms. Woolf," remember this: Personal writing style is nothing, ABSOLUTELY void, if it can be emulated and debauched by the untalented, the Great Unwashed of the scholastic world.

But you'd still read this anyway. Because if you've read *A Separate Peace*, you can probably find room to hate it. Especially if you've made it all the way to the last paragraph of this column.

Oh, and gymnastics is pretty cool, too.

Vikings wrestle their way to a 6-5 record

Two wrestlers are second in the county; others defeat Catholic state champs

BY Myles Potters

Assistant Sports editors

With a 6-5 record, the Viking wrestling team is in the midst of a strong season. "The record could have been better but we lost three matches over Christmas break when several of our wrestlers went away," said Coach Brian Walsh.

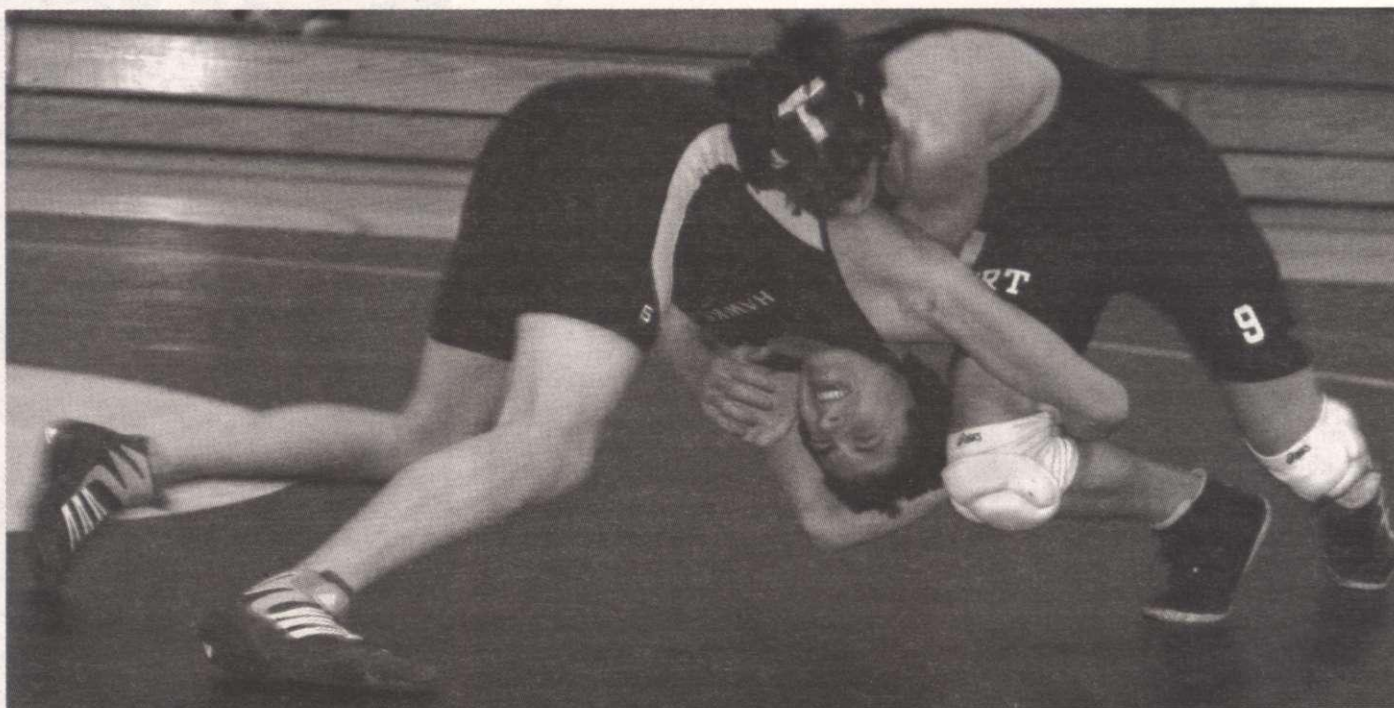
With athletes wrestling in several weight classes, the team has maintained a very high level of competition, all around.

The immense depth of the team is exemplified by the county rankings and Port's representation at the top of Nassau wrestling. John Froccaro, a junior, wrestles in the 96 pound weight class and is ranked second in the county. He will put this ranking to the test in the matches to come.

Anthony Corbo, a senior, wrestles in the 275 pound weight class, and is also currently ranked second in the county. In order to enter the state tournament, these athletes must maintain their high rank and finish at the top of the county standings.

"It would be the first time in thirty years that Port has had a wrestler in the state tournament," said Coach Walsh. "We are now at the stage where we are gearing for the qualifier and county matches, and hopefully we can get some guys in states."

Led by senior captains Anthony Corbo, Silvio DiLucia, Jason Rau, and Travis Baucher, the team has had very strong results in the matches they have participated in thus far.



Junior Ryan Castro representing Port at the Glen Cove Cup grapples prior to bringing his opponent down and pinning him.

DiLucia was named Most Outstanding Wrestler in the Glen Cove Cup on January 13th, where teams from Glen Cove, Lawrence, and Holy Trinity, along with Port, came to face off. At this multi-team match, DiLucia beat a Catholic High School State champion in the 135-pound weight class.

Also at this match, Froccaro, wrestling in the 96 pound weight class, defeated Salerno from Holy Trinity with a pin, only forty-two seconds into the match.

Sophomore wrestler John Steadman,

competing in the 103 pound weight class, defeated Madden from Holy Trinity by a score of six to one.

The meet ended with Lawrence in first place with a score of 175.5, Port Washington in second with 170.5, Glen Cove in third with 157.5, and Holy Trinity in last with 147 points.

On Jan. 12, Port took on Great Neck South and won the match, 60-42, with a key victory coming from sophomore Alex Ferro. Ferro won his first varsity match by pinning Biatroh from Great Neck South in one minute and fourteen

seconds.

Two days before this match, on Jan. 10, Port faced off against Plainview JFK, and won handily by a margin of 45 points, 60-15. Port was so dominant that only three Plainview boys won their matches. The list of those victorious includes, Baucher, Corbo, DiLucia, Rau, Steadman, and seniors Alex Goh, Mike Horvilleur and Dan Reese.

The team has competed well and has achieved strong results, but the real test is what lies ahead.

JV girls basketball wins 41-30

Vikings prevail; improve to 7-2

BY Adam Cole

Staff Writer

The Port Washington JV Lady Vikings basketball team pulled out a victory over the Farmingdale Dalers with a score of 41-30. Port's record now stands at 6-2.

"We're very tough to play against," said Coach Ms. Elizabeth Hutchinson. "We have great attitudes and have a lot of fun working together."

The team managed the win despite difficulties with their own team.

"We were missing two of our starters," said Coach Hutchinson. "But we stepped up to the challenge and beat them."

By the start of the first quarter, freshman Emma Horowitz had already set the groundwork for the Lady Vikings' win by scoring early points for Port.

Port maintained its lead, and closed out the quarter leading Farmingdale by a score of 12-8.

Proceeding into the second quarter, Port scored nine points to add to their lead. Farmingdale, however, caught up with the Lady Vikings by boosting up their score with eight points. At halftime, the Lady Vikings remained on top by a score of 21-16.

As minutes passed by in the third quarter, Farmingdale called timeout to

stop the clock and left Port Washington in the lead by only a small margin.

The clock was at five minutes and thirteen seconds with a score of 29-24. Farmingdale put forth many attempts to come back, but Port held strong on defense and managed to hold the lead.

By the end of the quarter, Port Washington competitively answered the call to get more points by stretching the score to 35-28 in their favor.

Late into the fourth quarter of the game, Farmingdale called timeout with only three minutes and two seconds left while trailing Port by only seven points, 37-30. The time-out was called in order to set up one final chance for a comeback.

However, by the end of the game, Port Washington had hung on to notch the win, defeating the Dalers of Farmingdale by a score of 41-30.

"[Coach Hutchinson] always works us hard and is a good coach," said freshman Jillian Mezzetta. "She is also very patient with us, and it has obviously led to success."

Having worked hard all season to earn seven wins through the first nine games, the junior varsity squad is happy with its progress thus far.

"Our season has been great this year," said freshman Caroline Milo. "But we've played as a team and I believe that 'there is no I in team.'"

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Boys hope to finish season above .500

Youthful team lacks experience and fights through a mediocre season

BY Lane Mergler
Staff Assistant

Despite a losing record, the boys varsity basketball team remains in the playoff hunt with a 1-2 conference record and a 4-5 overall record. The team still has many conference games remaining as well as many opportunities to redeem itself. In order to make the playoffs, the team must finish in at least second place in a five-team conference.

"We're obviously hoping to make the playoffs," said Coach Sean Dooley. "We still stand a fighting chance and we might accomplish this goal. It has remained the team's goal since the start of the season."

Dooley is currently in his third year of coaching. He led the team to the playoffs last year, so he is aware of how hard the boys need to work to get there. "I think that we're in better shape than most teams because of our coach," said junior shooting guard Jake Most. "We can relate to him better than most other teams in our conference relate to their coaches because he is younger."

Also leading the team are senior captains Brian Miller and Justin Sze. Junior Chris Ryder is the team's third co-captain. Power forward Ryder, averaging 12.5 ppg, has led the team in points this season with a total of 100. The closest person trailing behind him is junior David Lee with just 43.

Sophomore point guard Ryan Goldstein currently leads the team in assists.

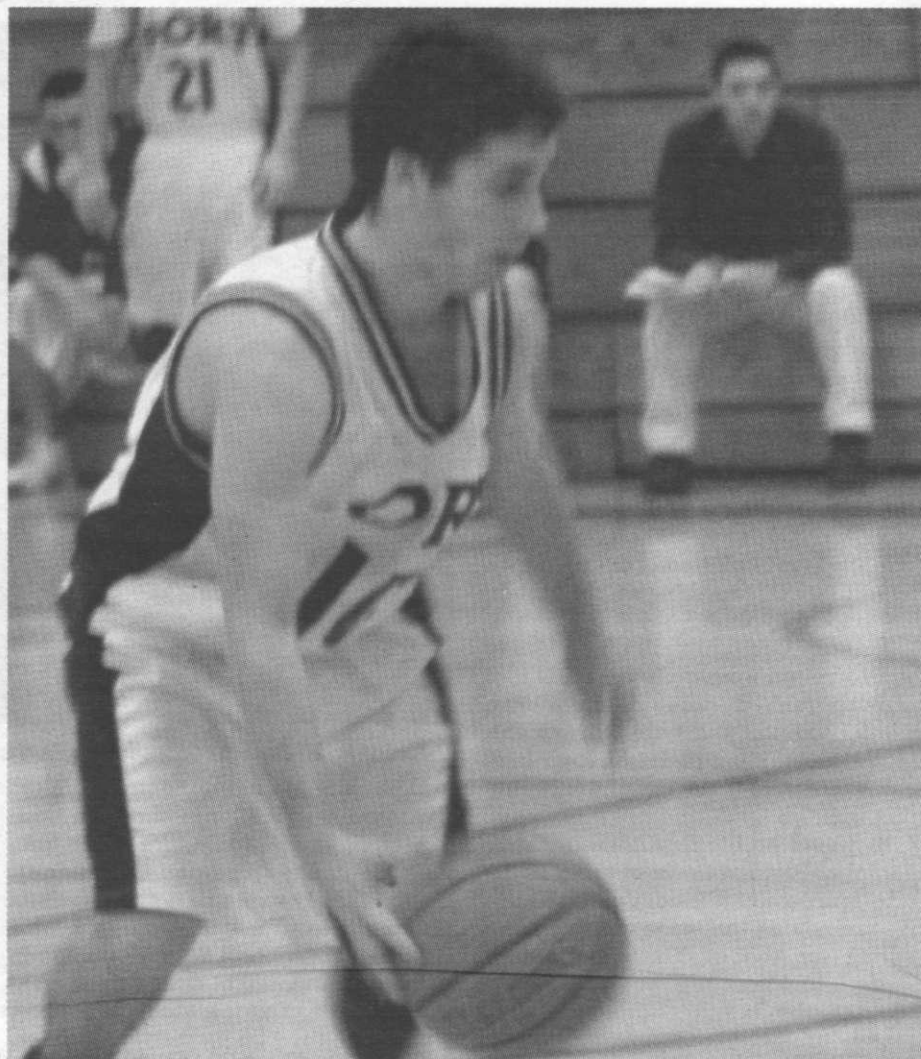
Small forward Sze and center Miller are the only seniors on the team, which is mainly composed of juniors. Among the thirteen players, there are eight juniors, two seniors, two sophomores, and one freshman. The sole freshman on the team is Adam Epstein. Last year, Epstein was the only eighth grader on JV I.

Coach Dooley has subjected his players to rigorous practices in an effort to improve the team's all-around skills. "We've been working really hard in practices," said junior center Jeremy Gurewitz. "Hopefully it'll pay off later this season."

Ryder agrees that the practices are tiring but helpful. "We're young and getting better each day. Each game's fate is just about how hard we play."

Although the team has not achieved the record they initially desired, their hopes still do remain very high. "We are starting off a bit shaky, but I think that we'll rebound and hopefully make the playoffs," said junior forward Steve Kaufman.

(Right) Sophomore Ryan Goldstein uses a crossover dribble to get past the defense. Only in his first year with the team, Goldstein piloted the Vikings on both ends of the court.



Young runners shine on track

BY Graham Potters
Contributing Writer

With the end of the season approaching, the boys winter track team hopes to make a strong showing at the Nassau County Class A-Conference II championship. This will be the first meet in which the athletes' performances are tallied to form a cumulative score.

"As of now, we've been performing mostly as individuals when we go to meets," said senior captain Chris Catalano. "Eventually, we will have a team rank, but at this point the meets have been based on individual performances."

Though the practices require dedication and grueling work, the boys were willing to put in the effort to meet Coach Robin Cooper's high standards as well as their own.

"Coming into the season, I expected the boys to make personal records and to be faster than last year," said Coach Cooper.

The runner who has most exemplified the team's success is senior captain Richard Schmitz, who ran a blazing 4:24.26—a personal record—in the invitational mile at the Hispanic Games on Jan. 6. Senior captain Matt Wolfe also ran a personal best, sprinting the 200-meter event in 24.0 seconds.

At the second Crossover Meet at Suffolk County Community College, Schmitz finished second in the 3200-meter event, finishing in 9:51.7. Teammates Catalano and sophomore Noah Bondy finished close behind in fifth and thirteenth, respectively. Catalano clocked in at 10:30.6 while

Bondy followed with a time of 10:56.2.

Port has been lucky with its young runners this year. This is a strong crop of newcomers to the team that have made an impact early in their careers.

"This year, we have a very large freshman group," said Coach Cooper. "It's a rebuild year but our seniors are fabulous."

While the strong senior group has excelled, the underclassmen on the team have also stepped up. Earlier in the season, sophomore Albert Suh ran the 55-meter high hurdles in 9.54 seconds against competitors from all over the country. Freshman Marco Bertolotti and sophomore Edward Einhaus ran the 400-meter dash in 57.89 seconds and 1:02.91, respectively.

In the West Point Invitational, Bertolotti finished twelfth overall in the 1500-meter event. Only a freshman, he has far exceeded anyone's expectations by running the mile in 4:47 at the Hispanic Games.

Port also has had success in field events. In the the second Crossover Meet, freshman Edward O'Reilly had a personal record in shot put, throwing 29'10.5"; an excellent start for his high school shotput career.

In the triple jump Suh jumped 33'10.25", and in the 55-meter high hurdle event he improved his time to 9.2 seconds. Suh finished right behind Wolfe, who crossed the finish line in 9 seconds flat.

"I believe that Port will surprise everyone at the upcoming meets and will qualify many athletes for the next rounds of competition: the County championship and State Qualifier," said Wolfe.

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Calling The Shots

Outrageous spending calls for salary cap

Offseason filled with splurges for superstars should lead to change

BY David Baer

Senior Sports Editor

Spending outrageously large sums of money is apparently "in" for major league baseball franchises. Just like some type of fashion statement from Europe, this trend is extremely catchy and spreading faster than Daisuke Matsuzaka's fastball. Has this offseason's spending revived talks of a possible salary cap in baseball? Well, after the Chicago Cubs spent over \$300 million (and they're not done), yes, clearly, a salary cap is needed.

This offseason has been like no other in baseball's past, or of any other sport for that matter. The San Francisco Giants inked a deal with southpaw Barry Zito for \$126 million over seven years, and that was not even the largest deal signed this winter. The Cubs' marquee signing was that of outfielder/second baseman Alfonso Soriano to a contract for the large amount of \$136 million over eight years.

If this trend continues (which it will) then the MLB might as well get rid of the smaller market teams like the Tampa Bay Devil Rays, Kansas City Royals, Oakland Athletics, Florida Marlins, and Colorado Rockies.

These five teams, especially the A's, have based their entire organization around the fact that they have limited funds with which to go after free agents.

The A's, who were the center point for a 2004 book *Moneyball*, literally explain how they have had success despite spending significantly lower amounts of money per year.

By following *Moneyball*, Billy Beane, the General Manager of the Athletics, has led Oakland to success. The team has made the playoffs four times since 2000, and often has had the lowest payroll among all other playoff teams that year.

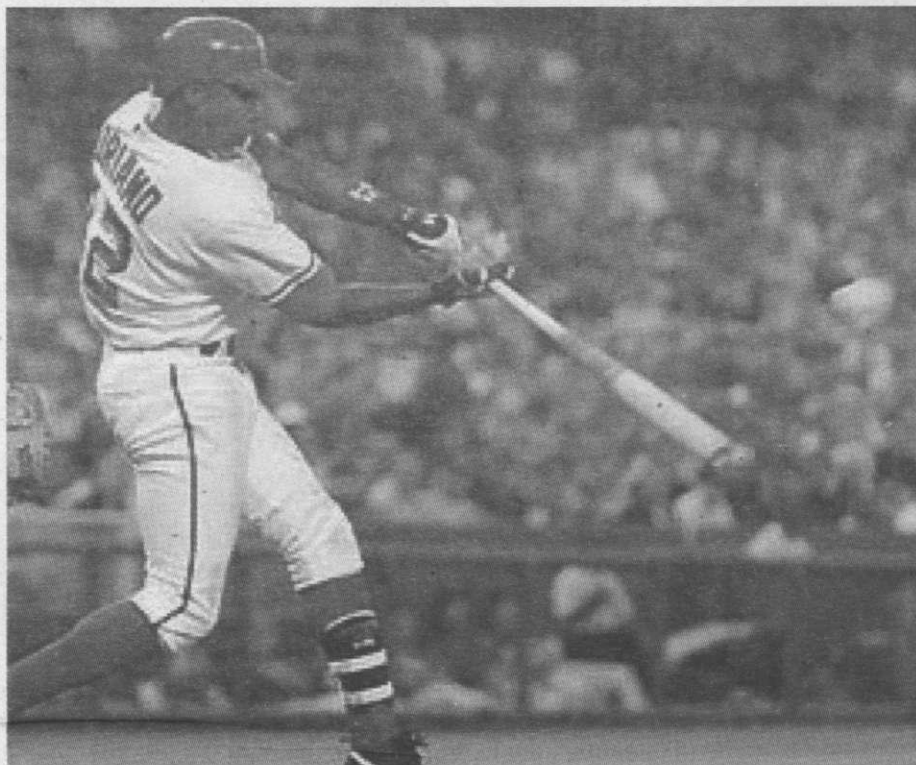
Perhaps, if every other General Manager followed *Moneyball*, their team would not only be successful but would also have a low payroll. This low payroll would only lead to more money in their wallets, so why they don't follow the attempted but failed revolution of *Moneyball* is beyond me.

The Florida Marlins have won two World Series championships since entering the league for the 1993 MLB season.

Ironically, the Marlins played a Cleveland Indians team that was filled with present day super-stars Manny Ramirez and Jim Thome. However, Cleveland is now among the lower teams when it comes to total payroll.

After the '97 season, the Marlins were forced to lose studs Gary Sheffield and Edgar Renteria.

Why should a world champion be forced to get rid of their best players? Does this sound a little strange to



Alfonso Soriano, who played with the Washington Nationals last season before signing an eight-year, \$136 million deal with the Chicago Cubs, slugged forty-six home runs and finished with ninety-five RBIs. With forty-one stolen bases, he joined the elite 40-40 club. Soriano, who has played second base throughout most of his career, moved to left field last year. Despite his original unwillingness to change positions, he led all outfielders in outfield assists.

anyone? Should the Yankees have been forced to trade Derek Jeter or Mariano Rivera after they won the World Series? Should the Bulls have been forced to get rid of Michael Jordan?

If you said yes, you seriously need to get a grip on reality.

One alternative that has been somewhat successful is using young, cheap talent that is brought up through a team's farm system. This requires a lot more work than one would think, and would require an extremely unheard of amount of time focused on the MLB draft that takes place every June.

The problem here is that half of baseball-loving America does not even know about the draft. Unlike the NBA or the NFL, MLB's fifty-plus round draft is hardly ever publicized, let alone broadcast on national television.

Teams find that, although it will cost less money, finding success on their farm system is too risky and requires too much time and effort.

When the New Orleans Saints drafted Reggie Bush in April's NFL Draft, they were hoping for instant improvements. After a 3-13 season (which allowed them to snag the second pick in the draft), they are one win away from a trip to the Super Bowl.

Unfortunately, this does not happen in baseball. It takes much longer for baseball players to become accustomed to the drastic change in speed from the collegiate (or in some cases high school) game.

The inability to take players directly

from college or high school and have them play in the pros leads to the reliance on free agency, which is the complete opposite of other major sports. The NFL, due to its strict salary cap, is somewhat of a medium between these two extremes.

A good example can be found in none other than the New York Mets. The team has bought and traded for superstars, such as Carlos Beltran, Carlos Delgado, and Pedro Martinez. However, the team has found success in home-grown heroes Jose Reyes and David Wright.

In the NFL, the salary cap puts a huge damper on big spenders, and avoids the creation of any franchises like the New York Yankees (who have spent close to, or over, \$200 million dollars per year over the last few years). In fact, due to the salary cap, teams are forced to maintain an environment that lacks an Alex Rodriguez or Roger Clemens-like salary (over \$20 million a year).

The best part about the NFL is, for the most part, that teams are never the same year after year due to the fact that the team must keep a roster that fits the cap.

The 2006 Super Bowl champions, the Pittsburgh Steelers, went 8-8 this season, and the NFC champion Seattle Seahawks backed their way into the playoffs by winning the worst division in sports, the NFC West (yes, it's even worse than the NBA's Atlantic division).

Enough is enough. The Yankees' 2006 payroll, despite dipping back below the \$200 million mark, was still

high enough to eclipse the lowest five payrolls combined. The Bronx Bombers, spearheaded by the infamous "Boss," George Steinbrenner, have literally created an "Evil Empire."

The Bombers are a perfect example of why the MLB needs a salary cap. More often than not, the Yankees are making headlines for spending incredibly large amounts of money to land big-name All-Stars.

In fact, the difference between the highest and lowest payrolls (as of opening day) was, well, astronomically high. The Yankees' payroll of roughly \$196 million was fourteen times that of the Florida Marlins.

Seriously speaking, though, what does Commissioner Bud Selig plan to do about this problem? Unfortunately, regardless of what he does, Major League Baseball is still light years away from a salary cap, due to the preparation necessary by teams.

However, given that seven and eight year contracts are sometimes worth more money than what developing nations rake in, the entire situation is just that much more atrocious. I'm sure that Oprah and her new African schools would agree.

However, despite all that is bad with spending absolutely insane amounts of money and ignoring half the league's inability to pay-up for superstars, there is a silver lining. With countless potential All-Stars hitting free agency (led by Cubs pitcher Carlos Zambrano), there is bound to be some serious green waiting for them come the end of the season.

Why is this good? For fantasy baseball owners all across the country, it means better numbers from more determined players who are striving for the gold... literally. Even though it would make drafting for fantasy leagues much more interesting, the outrageous spending of money needs to be stopped.

The bottom line here is simple: baseball needs a salary cap. It's just not right that Major League clubs like the Pittsburgh Pirates or Cleveland Indians can't compete, simply because they can't afford to.

However, you won't convince the Cubs of this. They insist that their offseason splurge will leap-frog them from last to first place in the pathetic NL Central. Hey, it's clear that money doesn't grow on trees, but in Chicago, it apparently grows on ivy.

The staff of *The Schreiber Times* would like to recognize senior Filiz Kipcakli as the first girl in Schreiber High School history to be named All-State for outstanding achievements in soccer. After an amazing four-year career as a Lady Viking, which consisted of an undefeated 2004 season, and three trips to the playoffs, Kipcakli will continue her pursuit of greatness in soccer next year when she attends New York University.

VIKING SPORTS

Boys dive into inaugural season *Swim team fast off the blocks with two early victories*



Russell Saks

Senior captain John Forman swam breaststroke in both the medley relay and 100 meter individual event (above), as well as 100-meter butterfly and 200-meter freestyle relay. Although Forman's breaststroke time was almost twelve seconds better than that of any Freeport swimmer, Forman earned second place by six-tenths of a second behind Manhasset High School's freshman Jeffrey Yau. This was the first time in six meets that Forman did not win first place in the individual breaststroke.

BY Nikki Pond
Senior Sports Editor

With the help of senior Dan Stewart and girls swim coach Mr. Joe Lennon, 2006-2007 marks the inaugural season for boys swimming in Port. The two spent the last two years petitioning the school board for the institution of a boys swim team.

"It was difficult to get the school to start a swim team because we could not get the funding," said Stewart. "The budget failed multiple times, and the fencers were also trying to get a team."

While Stewart was campaigning, he continued to swim independently for Schreiber with two other boys. Stuart Enscoe ('05) and Noor El-Tahawy ('06) both graduated before Stewart's efforts prevailed.

Now that they have, nearly twenty boys are on the swim team this winter. Over thirty tried out, but Lennon was forced to cut a third of them due to limited pool space.

This year's captains are seniors Laurence Critchell, John Forman, and Stewart. They were chosen by the vote of the team's members who include three Weber athletes.

Eighth-grader T.J. Hoban and seventh-graders Jack Passauer and Jason Stewart, Dan Stewart's younger brother, fulfilled the requirements to make the team during tryouts in November. The team also includes five freshman swimmers, leaving only six seniors who will not be returning to the team next year.

"It's exciting to know how young this team is, right now," said the younger Stewart. "I should be swimming for Port for five more years, along with Jack. We've got a lot of kids who will be on the team for a while together. Once I'm

as old as my brother, I'll be better than he is now."

In order to prepare for a schedule chock-full of meets, the boys are dedicated to improving their skills. They practice every morning before school from 6 to 7 a.m.

"Originally, I thought it would be a challenge to wake up so early every morning," said Forman. "But I have been able to readjust my circadian rhythm to biologically adapt to my new schedule. I have come to realize that I prefer morning practices as opposed to the midday option."

Each meet consists of twelve events. There are eight individual swimming events, three relays, and one diving event.

After two meets without divers, freshman Tommy Jester and Passauer took on the task. To date, they have dived in two meets against four separate teams.

Port's first two meets were blowouts against Conference I powerhouses, Bellmore-Merrick and Garden City.

In the first ever boys swim meet, Port lost 102-76. There were individual victories with Forman taking first in breaststroke, D. Stewart winning both of his races, and freshman Ivan Bandovic placing first in the 200-meter individual medley and 100-meter backstroke.

In his backstroke event, Bandovic's personal best time of 1:05.50 was good enough to earn a spot as number 24 in the Section 8 top twenty five.

Forman continued his winning streaks in the second meet against Garden City, and Bandovic pulled first in a different event. Bandovic swims year-round and is the most versatile member of the team.

The second meet resulted in a 85-75 loss, an improvement over their

previous meet.

On Dec. 21, Port Washington faced off against Great Neck North and Jericho. In its first tri-meet of the year, the 200-meter medley relay team took first with its season-best time.

Bandovic led off with backstroke and was followed by Forman, D. Stewart, and senior Peter Miller who swam breaststroke, butterfly, and freestyle respectively.

In their individual events, Forman and D. Stewart accomplished first place personal bests. In the 100-meter breaststroke, Forman finished in 1:14.83. D. Stewart finished the 100-meter freestyle in 56.46.

In addition to the success of these seniors, junior Xin Feng came in first place in the 100-meter butterfly, achieving a personal record of 1:09.48.

This was also the first meet in which the divers participated. Jester took third place against Jericho but first place against Great Neck North.

Although the boys were not able to defeat Jericho, they took home their first win of the season against Great Neck North.

"It felt good to finally be able to put down a win," said Critchell. "As a new team we had to step up and show everyone what we could do, and we did."

Port's most recent meet was on Jan. 5 against Freeport and Manhasset. The boys defeated Freeport by almost sixty points and pulled six individual wins.

Critchell won two individual events, the 200-meter freestyle and 500-meter freestyle, with times of 2:10.97 and 6:23.05, respectively.

D. Stewart won the 50-meter freestyle, Bandovic won the 100-meter backstroke, and Forman won the 100-meter breaststroke. Jester also took

first place in the diving event against Freeport.

At the same meet, Port lost to Manhasset by only three points; any single event could have changed the outcome of the match.

"A lot of events were really close, such as D. Stewart's freestyle events, Forman's breaststroke, or the 200-meter freestyle relay," said Feng. "If one of our medleys had not been disqualified or if Dan had not slowed down from back pain we would have won the entire meet."

The margin of victory left many members of the team contemplating how close they came to defeating their cross-town rival.

"I blame myself for the loss against Manhasset," said D. Stewart. "Forman blamed himself, I blamed myself, a bunch of us feel that we could have done better. We were just so close, it's very frustrating considering how much work we have put into the season."

Coming into the meet against Manhasset, Port had a two-week hiatus from swimming. Most of the team had not seen a pool in fourteen days because no pool was available to practice in. Instead, the team had dry-land workouts the two days prior to the meet.

"We weren't in shape when we swam against Manhasset," said junior Andrew Singleton.

Port has no remaining tri-meets for the rest of the season. They will take on Syosset, Cold Spring Harbor, Hempstead, Great Neck South, and Bethpage before the conclusion of the regular season on Jan. 30.

As the boys continue to pull individual wins, they look forward to Conference and County championships to follow soon after.