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THE SCHREIBER TIMES

Paul D. Schreiber High School Port Washington, New York Volume LX No. 3 November 2009

SWINE FLU



WILL STUDENTS GET VACCINATED?



Girl's Swimming
-Sports-



New Moon
-A&E-

Patch.com
-Features-
Grading Fitness Testing
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For his digital photography class, junior Daniel Siegel created this piece to study the various angles that can be viewed from interesting perspectives. He also wanted to show the diverse effects of shadows.

NEWS BRIEFS

Blood Drive

There were a total of 96 pints collected at Schreiber's first blood drive of the school year. On Nov. 18, the drive was run by the Student Council and many students came to show their support by donating blood.

The process takes approximately an hour. Starting with registration, students then fill out a health history form, participate in a mini-physical, and then proceed to the actual donation. About a pint of blood is taken which can be used to save up to three lives.

"I definitely feel good about it," said junior Will Sandoval after his donation.

There were certain health requirements that students had to fulfill before they could be cleared to donate. This year, a new policy ordered that students donating must also meet additional height and weight requirements which apply to girls shorter than 5'6" and boys shorter than 5'. These requirements relate to blood volume; low blood volumes may not tolerate the removal of the required volume of blood.

The American Red Cross collected all the blood donations this year. This organization is one of the largest suppliers of blood in the United States and it is responsible for about 45% of all blood donations.

There were no major problems during the procedures, but, because of the nature of the event, a few individuals felt dizzy due to the loss of blood. After students donated, they were advised to eat and drink fluids in order to stabilize blood

sugar levels and aid in the recovery of the minerals and fluids lost.

"It's so awesome that the kids have really come out to donate blood. About eighty kids signed up, but we've had so many more come in," said Student Council advisor Ms. Patricia Burr. "For the number of kids that are eligible there's been a great percentage that has donated."

~ Daniela Di Caro

Johnson City Administrators Visit Schreiber's Research Programs

For over 60 years, Schreiber has been accredited by Middle States, an association that maintains and promotes educational excellence. The research programs that Schreiber offers exemplify the academic rigor emphasized by Middle States, and they have drawn attention and been recognized both within and outside of the school district.

On Nov. 13th, both the Principal and the Assistant Principal of Johnson City High School visited Schreiber in order to look at the research and senior experience programs. Johnson City High School, which is located outside of Binghamton, NY, is looking at the possibility of creating these programs in order to increase the academic rigor of its own school.

"Having heard so much about us, Ms. O'Donnell, the Principal of Johnson City High School, asked if she could pay us a visit and thus the meeting occurred," said Assistant Principal Mr. David Miller.

While at Schreiber, the administrators of Johnson City met with many of the

research advisors, including Dr. David O'Connor and Mr. Petro Macrigiane of the social studies department, Mr. John Schineller of the science department, and Ms. Tina Marie Gallagher of the math department. Additionally, they discussed the senior experience program with social studies teacher Mr. Larry Schultz.

"The Principal and Assistant Principal from Johnson City were very interested in seeing the way that our research programs worked," said Mr. Macrigiane, the social science research advisor for the senior class.

In order to learn more about Schreiber, the Principal and Assistant Principal of Johnson City also met with Principal Mr. Jay Lewis and the four Assistant Principals.

Mr. Miller came in contact with Johnson City High School through Middle States, a program which he has been involved with for many years. Currently, he and Ms. Lauren Giliot serve as the school's internal coordinators with Middle States.

"They were very impressed with the academic achievements of our programs and students," said Mr. Miller.

~ Katya Barrett

ERRATAS:

The October 2009 issue incorrectly attributed one article. "Vulgarity for the masses: *South Park Style*" was written by Victor dos Santos.

Additionally, the photo for *Captain's Corner* was taken by Chris Yap.

The Schreiber Times

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Staff Writers: Daniel Bialer, Kaia de Bruin, Daniela Di Caro, Victor dos Santos, Laila Iravani, Bethia Kwak, Aimee Stern **Contributing Writers:** Jonathan Bellon, Matt Brooks, Hannah Fagen, Katherine Fields, Evan Greenberg, Ryan Havens, Kerim Kivrak, Annabelle May, Dan Miranda, Mike Oelbaum **Cover:** Chris Cottitta, Gintautas Savukuynas, Chris Yap **Centerfold:** Christina Vlahos **Backpage:** Reid Mergler, Graham Potters, Harrison Remler

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Senior Experience program expands to incorporate all seniors

All class of 2011 seniors and current AP seniors will have to participate in an internship

by Sahil Doshi

News Editor

Over the past few years, the Senior Experience program has been rapidly increasing in size and interest, and its primary organizers anticipate that it will become a requirement for the seniors that graduate in 2011 as well as current seniors who are taking AP courses this year.

This program is an opportunity for students to partake in an internship, project, or community service activity at the end of their senior year. A program of this type allows students who are normally confined to the high school classroom to expand their horizons and try out potential career paths of interest in the "real world."

"This program is ideal for seniors because they are at an age where they are naturally seeking to expand out of their traditional scholastic routine," said social studies teacher Mr. Larry Schultz, the Senior Experience coordinator. "By allowing them the chance to try something new, different, and with more freedom we are providing them with exactly what they are looking for. Based upon the results I saw from my students last year, I can safely say that was what they took from the experience. They were happy to be out of regular classes and exploring the wider world."

Mr. Schultz oversees the program and helps all the seniors to find an appropriate

placement. With the help of Principal Mr. Jay Lewis, social studies chairperson Mr. Bryan Frank, and former Senior Experience coordinator Mr. Eric Begun, the program has been growing and expanding throughout the last few years.

Students have the opportunity to choose from a wide variety of paths to fulfill the requirements for this program. Last year, students interned with teachers, lawyers, doctors, coaches, physical therapists, accountants, dentists, and others while still attending school. Additionally, artistically-minded students were able to create their own projects

"I believe that this program is exactly what seniors in high school need to prepare themselves for the college and employment worlds," said Principal Mr. Jay Lewis.

including photography books, fashion designs, student-created plays, and films.

"I do my best to not limit what seniors are allowed to do for their experience. As long as I feel their request will require significant hours to complete, and is otherwise appropriate, I will approve it," said Mr. Schultz. "We had some very

dedicated students doing community service for some great causes: Hurricane Katrina recovery, care for disabled children, and work with the elderly."

During the 2006-07 school year, a Senior Task Force was formed to lead the program with a vision to eventually incorporate all seniors. The Task Force included administrators, teachers, parents, and students. However, since immediately transitioning approximately 400 students into such a program was thought to be too difficult, it was decided that the transition be phased over a three-year period.

With this window coming to an end, the expansion of the program was presented to the Board of Education in March 2008. The expansion was endorsed, and an implementation plan was discussed. Now, the entire class of 2011 will be expected to participate in the program.

Additionally, current seniors who are taking one or more AP courses will be required to complete a Senior Experience project after the exams end in May. The coordinators will be meeting early in 2010 with these students to discuss the details of the program and to encourage them to develop a proposal for what they intend to accomplish as quickly as possible.

Currently, students have the opportunity to browse through a database of numerous organizations that seniors have worked with in the past.

"I am also very pleased to announce that we are in the final steps of updating a Senior Experience page on the Portnet website," said Mr. Schultz. "On that page will be a portal to all of the forms necessary for our students to complete their experiences. In addition, it will include a searchable database for all of the businesses and community organizations who are willing to accept interns. As I'm writing this, we have 147 organizations. It also seems to be growing by the day."

The Senior Experience themed courses are scheduled during the end of the day, specifically during 5th and 6th periods. The classes will meet 5th period, but 6th period will be off so that students can work on their internship. However, students are not limited to this 6th period class time to participate in their internships; they are free to use any other time during the week to fulfill their requirement. All students are required to complete 12-14 hours a month from February through May.

Students taking AP courses will be released from their classes once AP exams are over in May so that they can complete their projects.

"We will work directly with AP students to make certain that adequate time is available to complete projects as designed," said Mr. Lewis.

The idea of such a program was first initiated by Mr. Begun approximately 15 years ago through a Senior Options course that he taught. This course has remained over the years and attracts between 15-35 students each year.

Last year, the program expanded massively when the social studies Senior Experience program was introduced. The department now offers three themed courses, rather than the traditional senior courses of Participation in Government and Economics, which still cover the required NYS curriculum.

This year, the English department has also introduced a themed course of its own to add to the Senior Experience. Mr. Corey Block and Mr. Joseph Corbo now

Internship Opportunities:

Commerce:

- EBM Direct Marketing
- Pritsiolas & Latopol Accounting
- Port Washington Federal Credit Union

Businesses:

- Alper's Hardware
- Diane's Place (Hair Salon)
- Entrée

Community Service:

- LI Alzheimer's Foundation
- LI Gay & Lesbian Youth Inc.
- Make-A-Wish Foundation
- Special Olympics

Medical:

- Gold Coast Dentistry - Dr. Bruce Sims
- Physical Therapy - Dennis Kinneary
- Port Pediatrics
- North Shore Hospital

Arts, Music & Entertainment:

- Dance Arts Centre
- E1 Entertainment
- Island Photography
- Jean Rimsky Theater
- Port Radio
- Wright Music

Teaching:

- PW Elementary Schools
- Weber Middle School

Sports:

- Arena Sports Store
- Bounce Gymnastics
- Port Washington Tennis Academy

Miscellaneous:

- Glass Cockpit Aviation
- Inn at Great Neck
- Mark Wienberger, Attorney at Law
- Legislator Roger Corbin

teach the Film and Literature course as an additional way to satisfy the requirement.

Over 25 high schools in Nassau County have senior year programs that are similar to Schreiber's. The school belongs to the Senior Year Network, an organization sponsored by the Nassau County High School Principals Association, which supports and promotes the development of senior year programs in the region.

"Many schools have successfully implemented a Senior Experience program, such as Scarsdale High School and East Meadow High School," said Mr. Schultz. "In addition, every year I go to the Hofstra 'Sharing Student Work' senior project fair and I get to see all of the Long Island schools that are involved in this growing trend."

The Senior Experience program, which began 15 years ago just as an idea, will finally reach its full potential next school year with all seniors having to complete a certain number of internship hours before they can graduate.

"I believe that this program is exactly what seniors in high school need to prepare themselves for the college and employment worlds," said Mr. Lewis. "It is an 'out of the box' experience that allows seniors to pursue something of interest, write a proposal and design a plan for accomplishing the goals that were set out, and do it in a way that is meaningful on a personal level. Schreiber has had successful experiences with this program for over 15 years."

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School holds two charity drives to help the needy

Students donate books and animal supplies as holiday season approaches

BY Leah Nash

News Editor

As the holiday season approaches, various charitable drives are taking place throughout the school to help those in need. The English Honor Society is hosting another book drive and junior Samantha Palmer is running an Animal Supplies Drive.

English Honor Society Book Drive

After a successful book drive last year that donated over 400 books to a Schreiber alumnus, this year, the English Honor Society is working closely with Ms. Premilaraj Govindarajulu, known as Ms. Raj, and Ms. Evelina Zarkh to send books to children in India.

There will be two rounds of the drive: one collection of books will go to the school Ms. Zarkh is currently teaching at under the Fulbright Program and the other drive will send books to where Ms. Raj will be returning. Books are being collected for the drive until Dec. 8.

"A lot of planning goes into these book drives, especially with the costs associated with shipping," said senior Luke Record, co-president of the English Honor Society. "We are currently trying to figure out the most efficient way of collecting them and then how to send them."

The drive is targeting classic novels and books written by prominent English authors, including Jane Austen and Charles Dickens, as well as books written by Indian authors such as R.K. Narayan.

"Reading is a liaison to success," said Record. "The more these children are exposed to through books, the more ideas they may be able to come up with. Reading also provides a constructive hobby for many of these children."

Other items being collected for Ms. Raj's drive include storybooks for 3-15 year olds, black and white composition notebooks, pens, bookbags, puzzles, stuffed animals, and a variety of other school supplies.

"The Bharat Scouts and Guides Organization is committed to a number



Kevin Granger

Displayed above are the boxes located in the main lobby which were used to collect supplies for the North Shore Animal League Supply Drive. Additionally, books were collected in the English Office for the English Honor Society drive.

of social issues, and I work for the street children deprived of many things in life," said Ms. Raj. "I have offered my services by helping to collect books and other things for these street kids who get their education sponsored by social organizations. It would be immensely helpful to the kids who could never get access to good books and could never afford to buy them."

The books collected for the book drive will be sent directly to Ms. Zarkh while she is still teaching in India in order to ensure that these classic novels are delivered.

"We didn't purposely do it around the holiday season, but, sure, hopefully the altruistic spirit helps us," said Record. "The drive last year was pretty successful and hopefully it will be even better this year."

North Shore Animal League Supply Drive

Samantha Palmer set up a drive for animal supplies for the North Shore Animal League (NSAL). Puppy mill rescue dogs have recently come to the North Shore Animal League and there are not enough supplies for these puppies. The league was hoping for supply donations from its volunteers.

"I decided that my fellow students could help me to collect the items that NSAL was asking me to collect and so I went to see Dr. [Brad] Fitzgerald," said Palmer. "I did not know that Dr. Fitzgerald was as big an animal lover as myself and got on board immediately to help with my animal supplies drive."

To raise awareness for the drive, morning announcements were made and all assistant principals were notified of the new drive. Palmer also mentioned the drive to many teachers and she made announcements during classes.

"I hope to be able to bring in the much needed supplies to the shelter to help out the animals because when they come in they look so helpless and lost and the supplies might help to make them feel more at home," said Palmer.

Items such as old blankets, old newspapers, dog toys, and dog treats were collected as part of the drive. Supplies were collected in the lobby with a sign that said "Animal Supply Drive Drop Box" until the Thanksgiving break.

"Depending on how well the drive does this year will help determine whether or not I will run the drive next year," said Palmer. "Hopefully many students are able to donate to this worthy cause."

It's Academic participates in Quiz Bowl

BY Hannah Fagan

Contributing Writer

Coming off a disappointing loss to Herricks in the Long Island Challenge last year, the school's quiz bowl team, It's Academic, aimed to rebound this season in the Regional Quiz Bowl, a local competition that features over 50 teams from across Long Island. On Nov. 18, five members of the team, along with team advisor Mr. Jeremy Klaff, headed to Great Neck South High School for its first meet.

"This is Schreiber's first year in the Long Island quiz bowl. Some of these teams have been doing this for decades," said Mr. Klaff. "But Schreiber is here to stay and the rest of Long Island better get ready."

Seniors Eddie Grove, Ryohei Ozaki, Jonny Schechner, captain Andrew Seo, and junior Hillary Mogul represented Schreiber, which competes in the Northwest Nassau division, with Friends Academy, Great Neck South, Kellenberg, Solomon Schechter, and Wheatley.

There are a total of seven divisions on the island. At the end of the season, the top two schools from each division, plus two wild card teams, will compete in a playoff tournament, which culminates in the crowning of the Long Island Champion.

"We are new to Quiz Bowl, and we are trying to compete against teams that have been practicing for years. We hope to achieve a position at the top in Nassau County. We have a strong team comprised of people with extensive knowledge in various topics, but it still will be an uphill battle," said senior Eddie Grove.

At the first meet, the team had to face off against Great Neck South High School, which won the Long Island Challenge last year. Each meet consists of four rounds. In the first, toss-up questions are offered for either team to answer. Correct answers are rewarded with a bonus question. The second round features questions separated into pre-determined groups, one per team. The third round is a lightning round, and the fourth is a toss up like the first.

After round one, Great Neck found itself in the lead but Port climbed back in the second round to tie the score. Round three is the 60-second lightning round. The rules stipulate that the team with the lower score going into the lightning round will be given the choice to pick from the three topics. As the score was knotted up, a coin flip was conducted to determine which team would choose. Great Neck won and chose the category, "Words or phrases that start with 'T.'" Port was left with "Libraries," forgoing the third topic, "Impressionist Paintings." Great Neck accrued more points and went into the final round with more points.

With 20 questions left to determine the winner of the game, both teams struggled to put points on the board. In the end, Great Neck narrowly won by a final score of 52-56 and assumed second place in the division. The loss set Schreiber back in its quest to make the playoffs. However, the team finds itself in fourth place with four games left. The next meet will be held on Dec. 9, and Port is set to play Wheatley.

"The team has some of Schreiber's brightest and best, and we are ready for a fierce competition with people in Nassau County who think that they are as smart as us," said Mr. Klaff.

Creative arts assembly showcases modern dance



Kevin Granger

During a double-second period, students and faculty had the opportunity to view Taylor 2, a modern dance company consisting of six performers led by Director Andy LeBeau. Performances were condensed into excerpts so they could fit within the allotted time. The first dance was a period piece from World War II with three arrangements depicting different emotions. The second and third dance sequences were inspired by the classical music of George Handel and Johann Bach.

All of the dances were choreographed by Paul Taylor, the founder of the company.

School chapter of Glamour Gals hosts its inaugural event

Club members give makeovers to senior citizens at the Sands Point Nursing Home

BY Lauren Effune

Copy/Managing Editor

Students recently had the opportunity to partake in an intergenerational experience through Schreiber's first of monthly senior citizen makeovers. The event, sponsored and led by the local chapter of Glamour Gals, provided elderly women living in the Sands Point Center for Health & Rehabilitation with personal spa treatments by students in the club.

The mission of Glamour Gals, which has chapters throughout the United States and in Scotland and Canada, is to foster stronger relationships between teenagers

"The members of Glamour Gals try to reduce the loneliness of living in these facilities by providing activities to entertain the seniors."

and senior citizens living in nursing homes or rehabilitation centers. The members of Glamour Gals try to reduce the loneliness of living in these facilities by providing activities to entertain the seniors.

"I think the whole idea of working with the elderly is pretty cool," said club advisor Mr. David Hinchliffe. "This is my first time doing something like this and I'm optimistic of the benefits it will provide to these senior citizens. We have dedicated members and I am sure that their work will have an impact on these women."

The school chapter of Glamour Gals was first founded last year by senior Christina Vlahos with the help of Mr. Hinchliffe. This event was the official kickoff for the club and the first makeover held this year. Vlahos founded the club in order to learn more things about the seniors' experiences from when they were younger while providing them with a friendly atmosphere where they can enjoy themselves.

Students attend Chemistry Day at Stony Brook

BY Annabelle May

Contributing Writer

Science students recently had the opportunity to take a trip out to Stony Brook University to attend its annual Chemistry Research Day. Held on Nov. 13, the event allowed students to browse through a wide variety of college research projects at the Student Activities Center, and they also had the chance to receive a tour of the university.

Boards depicting the work of research students, including graduates and undergraduates, were displayed at the 10th anniversary of Chemistry Research Day. The day started off with a lecture and then over 100 projects were put on display for the hour and a half-long program.

"We are trying to educate people and give them information," said undergraduate secretary Liz Perez. "That is the primary purpose of this day."

Students from Schreiber and other visitors had the opportunity to ask the Stony Brook research students questions about their projects. Many of the students had been working on their projects for years and had already presented

The makeover, which took place on Nov. 22, provided a variety of spa-like services for the residents of the nursing home to choose from, such as facials, massages and manicures. The members of the club carried these out themselves based on specific guidelines provided by Glamour Gals. In addition, the organization provided all the cosmetics that were necessary for the makeovers.

Nevertheless, the event provided more than just recreational entertainment. The members of the club also interacted socially with the residents, initiating conversations and speaking to them about their lives and their hobbies. This way, the women are given one-on-one attention by the members of Glamour Gals and teenagers get to learn more about the residents and their unique experiences, incorporated with personal treatments and relaxation time.

"It was very nice to be given this kind of attention and my cosmetician was very friendly to me," said one senior citizen. "This day reminds me of all the times when we girls would all be so excited to run to the beauty parlor. I haven't had my nails done in such a long time."

The school chapter of Glamour Gals plans to provide makeovers every other month for the residents so that they can develop closer relationships with the teenage members of the club.

"It's not about getting acknowledgment, or a pat on the back for doing a good thing. It's about reaching out to these vulnerable, lonely human beings and making them feel a little stronger, a little prettier, and a lot happier," said Vlahos. "You have no idea how far a little blush and lipstick can go."

According to the founder of Glamour Gals, Rachel Doyle, the makeovers "instill confidence in the women and compassion in the teenage girls." In the future, the club will continue to host makeovers with facials and manicures, and spend more time interacting with the residents with dancing and holiday-themed parties, as well as a mini-fitness program. In addition, the members of Glamour Gals



Ryohei Ozaki

As part of the Glamour Gals event at the Sands Point Nursing Home, senior citizens had their nails painted and received facials. Four Schreiber students participated in the event.

hope to integrate more students into their events by recruiting students with musical abilities to play at the makeovers.

"I decided to join Glamour Gals because it's fun. You get to talk to the

elderly and hear about their lives and their experiences," said senior Alizé Margulis. "I feel this is a great way to give back to the community by making these residents' days more fun."

Professional conductors assist the orchestra

BY Matt Heiden

Assistant News Editor

The Schreiber Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Anthony Pinelli, had the opportunity to work with a conductor and guest musician from a local ensemble. The North Shore Symphony Orchestra (NSSO), which participates in an Educational Outreach program, sets up workshops with various music groups all over Long Island.

Students worked on their concert repertoire with Conductor Ms. Susan Deaver and Concertmaster Mr. Anton Polezhayev on Nov. 4.

"Ms. Deaver gave us a different perspective on the music. Having a new conductor is almost like playing a new instrument, and she gave us valuable advice on how to play better as a group. We'll play better at the concert because of this workshop," said junior violist Emily Waldman. "It was also great to have Mr. Polezhayev share his talents."

A special legislative grant from State Senator Craig Johnson expanded the program to include student orchestras from Long Island high schools.

Schreiber was one of two schools chosen to work with Ms. Deaver and Mr. Polezhayev, as Senator Johnson is a resident of the town. According to the NSSO, the Educational Outreach Program is designed to enhance orchestral music students' experience through panel discussions and master classes.

The NSSO was founded in 1961 as a community orchestra that let musicians of all ages share their enthusiasm for music.

Members have studied at distinguished conservatories at both the Manhattan School of Music and Juilliard. As a part of their Community Education Program, the orchestra has been in residency at two high schools, North Shore and Plainview Old Bethpage J.F.K., for 30 years. With the grant from State Senator Johnson,

the group is bringing this project to other schools throughout Long Island.

Schreiber's student musicians worked on Dvorak's "Serenade for Strings in E major" and "Adagietto" from Mahler's *Symphony no. 5*, both pieces being played at the Winter Concert on Dec. 9. These two works are also commonly included in the repertoire of the New York Philharmonic, and as such, can be difficult to pull off with a high school ensemble.

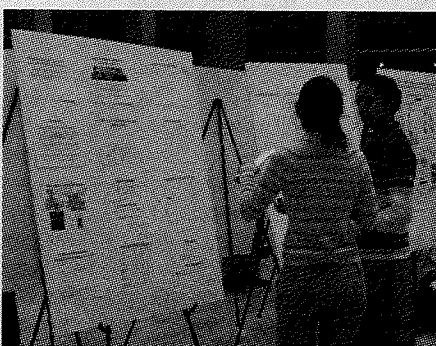
The workshop was divided into two parts, the first for the entire orchestra and the second for a few students who volunteered to play solos. After working on musical styles and phrasing with Ms. Deaver, three students played selections from solos they were currently working on for Mr. Polezhayev.

Seniors Jessica Forman, Connie Kim, and Jenny Park each had a private session with the violinist. In typical masterclasses, students gather to play briefly for a distinguished musician to get feedback on their technique. Mr. Polezhayev gave advice on how to master tricky passages and play better as a whole. The session, although directly involving only three students, highlighted points that all of the musicians could benefit from.

"Even though I wasn't playing for him, the masterclass was really interesting and resonated with me. It was an experience that we could only get from working with these professional musicians," said junior violinist SonYon Song.

Afterwards, Mr. Polezhayev gave a short concert, featuring famous pieces from the violin repertoire including Sarasate's "Zigeunerweisen" and Massenet's "Meditation from Thais." The Freshman orchestra, taught by Ms. Carol Vacariello-Garofalo, was also invited to sit in in the performance.

Working with professional musicians is not an everyday occurrence, especially for high school orchestras. The program exposes musicians at every level of playing ability to a new caliber of musicality.



Annabelle May

Above is one of the many research projects displayed at the Student Activities Center.

these projects at other competitions or expositions.

"It was a great experience," said junior Michael Graf. "It was wonderful to be able to see college-level research projects."

The AP Biology, AP Chemistry, and Science Research students all went on the trip, accompanied by science teachers Mr. Scott Carmody and Ms. Marla Ezratty.

"The trip was terrific," said Ms. Ezratty. "It was great for the students to be exposed to this level of research."

Point

Counterpoint

Should physical fitness testing be comparatively graded?

By Blake Mergler

Opinions Editor

It's that time of the year again: the time of moaning and groaning by many students, the time that seems like a chore for most gym teachers. Yes, it's the time of fitness testing.

Year after year, fitness tests are administered through physical education classes in Schreiber. Although the type of assessment varies to some degree, these tests are meant to assess one's physical fitness by evaluating each student's flexibility, agility, cardiovascular strength, upper body strength and overall wellness. Students are instructed to perform their best on various exercises, such as the sit-and-reach, push-ups, curl-ups, shoulder stretch, and the infamous mile. These tests are ultimately ineffective at assessing one's overall physical fitness, unfortunately, because students do not receive grades based on their performance. It is a sad truth that most students do not care about the various sections of the test and simply do not try their best. They find that they do not need to show their best effort, but instead, go for a mediocre amount of push-ups, or an average mile time.

I am not saying that all students do not put forth their best effort. Some students truly do care about each part of the fitness test administered in gym class. However, most students do not find the need to try their hardest because of the nonexistent impact that fitness testing has on the grades they receive for their gym class.

"Students do not try for fitness testing because it's only once a semester," said junior Lucy Lee. "Also, teachers are not too strict about it."

Although physical education teachers take into account the amount of effort each student puts into the various sections of the test, they cannot decide a student's grade on whether a student pushed him or herself to do thirty push-ups or to do ten push-ups. Who is to say if a student put in his/her "best effort" and only could do two push-ups?

Rightfully so, teachers cannot grade a student's fitness comparatively to other students as each student can have a different level of fitness. Athletic students might have a faster mile time or be able to do more push-ups while students who dance might be more flexible. Certainly, a student who has trouble completing one push-up should not receive a lower grade than a student who does sixty push-ups.

However, a way that students can be graded that will be fair and encourage them to actually care about their fitness is to be graded based on individual accomplishment. I am proposing a new method of "fitness testing" that will allow for students to become motivated about their fitness by having comparative results.

In this proposed system, the fitness

tests performed in November and the fitness tests performed in the spring will be compared. Over a seven-month time period, students will be encouraged to work on an area of fitness that they have difficulty in and try to improve. Then, when gym teachers formulate students' grades, they will consider whether a student has improved, remained the same, or become worse in that certain area of fitness to which he committed himself to focus on. If a student has improved, he or she should be rewarded with better grades. But, if it is clear that a student did not work on his or her area that needed improvement and got worse, grades should be reflective of the student's lack of effort.

"Usually, many students do not care about the gym testing," said junior Alex Smith. "If we had a comparative grading system, students will be more motivated to try harder in fitness testing."

Instead of the fitness test being something that many students blow off and put minimal effort towards, through this system, the fitness testing could be made into a useful and beneficial tool to accurately evaluate the fitness level of all students.

With the growing problem of obesity in this country, gym teachers have the responsibility to make students aware of their fitness abilities. This proposed program will allow for students to be aware of their abilities in various areas of fitness and wellness and allow for them to improve on selected areas. It is a perfect solution to the problem currently affecting all gym classes where most students are indifferent and not putting forth their best effort. In this way, students will be graded on their fitness level by teachers comparing their efforts over the span of the whole entire year.

So, yes—it is the time of year that many students moan and groan about and dread all year long. By improving the system, students will ultimately be motivated to complete the extra push-up or run a faster mile. Teachers can turn what now seems a useless component of gym class into a productive and healthy experience for students.

By Daniel Bialer

Staff Writer

Twice every school year, students in the fourth through twelfth grades are required to participate in physical fitness testing in Port Washington and much of the United States. This test is designed to test flexibility, endurance, strength, and other aspects of one's physique. For many students, this is the most dreaded unit in physical education classes. However, through the current system, gym teachers encourage students to try their best and do not grade students based on the testing.

The proposition of grading one's physical ability through comparing their fall and spring fitness testing has many flaws. For numerous reasons, the results of physical fitness tests should not affect students' grades.

It is impossible to grade based on improvement because students' physiques change from month to month. In the fall test, a student may get a great mile score, because he or she participates in cross country. However, in the spring, when a student is not involved in any sport, the student may get a lower score because he or she has not had the opportunity to train as intensely.

The body is also more prone to injury than the brain. An injury that a student has in December could easily affect his or her performance in April or May, if it lasts long enough to weaken his or her muscles. Generally, the brain is not injured day to day, so injury would not cause problems on academic tests, but injuries could easily affect them physically.

Many students try very hard each year to improve their scores, and yet, do not do as well as

they would like.

"No matter how hard you try, you will always improve at a rate different from the people around you," said junior Alison Ehrlich. "Because of this, your grade should reflect your effort and improvement should not be a factor."

In addition to the flaw of this proposition due to one's change in physical fitness, this system could be flawed by students themselves who would try to trick the system. A student could very easily run a mile below their ability in the fall, in order to make a huge improvement in the spring. If grading is based on improvement, a student who improves by a huge percentage from fall to spring might get a better grade than someone who tries very hard, but continues to get a steady time on their miles.

There would also need to be a better way of enforcing that teachers are receiving accurate results. In a class of thirty or forty, it is impossible for a teacher to watch every student, which provides an opportunity for students to lie about their true scores, or to skip a lap in the mile.

In the current system, this is very dishonest, but if students were graded for the test, this would become a very serious issue. Students would be more likely to cheat in order to ensure a good grade in gym.

Even the people around a student can affect their achievement in the test. It is meant to be a competition against oneself, but there is always competition among the other students.

If there are many fast students around in a student's fall class, the student is most likely to move faster in order to keep up. But, if there are many students who

are slow in a student's spring class, he/she is more likely to use less energy and move more slowly.

By the semester gym classes, this improvement between a student's fall and spring fitness testing might not occur and, in this way, hurt a student's grade.

Though not grading fitness tests may prevent students from trying their best on the test, a new grading policy would cause numerous other issues and would be flawed. There are too many variables affecting one's scores on the fitness tests that make it impossible to implement a fair, comparative grading policy.



Loren Giron

Day of quietude will hush complaints of the library

BY Will Zhou

Assistant Opinions Editor

Ah, the library: a place for students to review with friends, cram for tests that are occurring next period, and even to catch up on rest. Or so it should be. However, with the advent of the standards set up by librarians for those to follow while in the library, these activities are becoming more difficult to go about doing.

It's certainly not as if the librarians are purposely trying to ruin students' cherished off periods. On the contrary, it appears that their good intentions and zeal in attempting to fulfill their duties as librarians lead to students' discontent. It is unfortunate that there is a perceived need for students to be asked to leave the library for being "too loud" when they are talking with classmates.

It is true, however, that librarians are necessary to the functionality of any library. With 1,200 students entering the library every day, the library certainly gets a lot of traffic and is a popular location. This can be attributed to the fact that it is, among other things, one of the few school locations that provides access to computers.

"There are lots of venues that the school provides students with to hang out, but people still go to the library. The library is the only quiet place for students to get their work done," said librarian Mrs. Mary Seligman, who has been working at Schreiber for seven years. "No matter what method we have tried, including asking politely three or even four times, nothing seems to work."

Librarians are not necessarily addressing the issue properly. As mentioned in a past article, librarians should work as

silent monitors of the books themselves and to aid students in finding certain texts on varying subject matters. A librarian's focus is not on attempting to form an environment in the library using methods that might also distract students.

It is important to note that most of these rules weren't even made by the librarians themselves: a focus student group held around four years ago decided upon the "quiet rule" in the library, and the only rule that was made by the librarians is the food and drink rule.

This rule is arguably the most justified; there is certainly an issue with students as well. Frequently, custodians find banana peels hidden behind books or swarms of ants in corners where old food has been left. This is certainly something to be avoided, and certainly not the librarians' fault.

There are only three rules in the library, and they are all in plain sight, on signs posted throughout the library. Regardless, students still choose to disrupt this study space with activities that could be done without reprimand in other areas, such as the commons, the cafeteria, or outside. In response to this

situation, I propose a method of seeing whether or not librarians are doing too much, and thus settling this issue.

This proposal entails one day where the librarians will not reprimand students for making too much noise. This does not mean that they can't do anything if students bring in things that can damage school property. If this is the case, then the librarians should take action.

Throughout this day, the librarians and students will take note of the difference in the atmosphere of the library and make a decision as to whether or not it is necessary for the librarians to employ the rules as they have been.

"Only a day is needed for the librarians to see that they really don't need to address students for small 'misbehaviors' that really have no effect on the concentration of the other students in the library," said senior Kevin Wong.

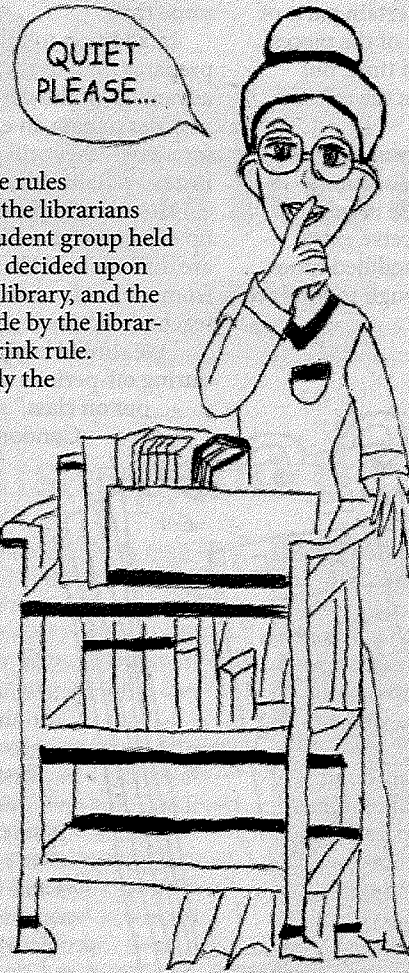
If nobody complains about the library being too loud as to interfere with their studying, then the issue may not be as bad as formerly perceived. If this should

be the case, the librarians have no need to address students as often as they have been doing. If students do end up becoming too loud and distracting for the other students, those that care are sure to speak to the librarians or administration about it, as some have done in the past.

In this case, librarians have a reason to carry on with their current actions. However, it is important that the librarians do not act unless the students complain. Because the issue of the library being "too loud" is somewhat subjective, it is necessary for the students to bring up this issue if it bothers them.

An extremely important component to this proposal is that students must not know of the course of action. If told, one of two things would almost definitely occur: either they would behave at their best in order to ensure that librarians no longer reprimand them in the future, or they would choose to completely lose self-control in order to most efficiently use their one day of freedom. Either option will not help the library or the situation at hand in any way. Therefore, it is best to tell only the librarians to ask students to leave the library.

All in all, although librarians are certainly imperative for the success of any library, their current methods of trying to quiet down students have not been as effective as hoped. Another student focus group, similar to the one held four years ago, should be formed in order to discuss the results of the day. A decision should be made as to whether new rules should be employed, or old rules should be reinforced. This proposal can solve any arguments over whether or not the librarians are doing what they are supposed to do and settle the issue once and for all.



Eunice Kim

Kevin Wong

Exceptional teachers deserve recognition each quarter

BY Sophia Jaffe

Assistant Opinions Editor

I'm sure we have all heard the monthly announcements listing the Students of the Month. Three students from each grade that exemplify admirable qualities are given the title. However, why should such recognition be limited just to the students? A hardworking teacher who creates a comfortable and engaging atmosphere for students should also be celebrated. Next to the pictures of the students that hang in the office, the least we could do is to show our gratitude by putting a picture up to honor our fellow teachers.

If we have a student of the month, it only seems natural that we have a teacher of the quarter too. Teachers direct the educational process. Without their guidance, experience, and intelligence, the school would have absolutely no foundation. We should have a teacher of the quarter to recognize those that do a particularly fine job to offer us the best education. Perhaps a teacher of the quarter could be honored because of a particular act he or she performed that has changed the school, classroom, or students in a positive way.

Their actions do not need to be limited to the classroom. Teachers do many things as part of their jobs that help improve life at Schreiber. For instance, a teacher that exemplifies good teamwork as the representative of a club or as a coach of a team could qualify as a recipient of this teacher of the quarter

award.

"There are many teachers who deserve to be recognized for their hard work. If exceptional students get a title, so should exceptional teachers," says sophomore Ethan Weber.

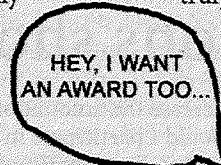
Just as students of the month are nominated via teachers' recommendations, a teacher of the quarter could be nominated by a student's or by a group of students' collective recommendations. A box for such nominations could be placed in the main office. Students could write a short recommendation outlining the reason for their choice and even put their names on the recommendation if they want to be contacted to provide more background for the choice. If they do not prefer to be contacted, they could do it all anonymously. The principal and/or the assistant principals could then pick the winners.

Honestly, how valid is student of the month anyway? It is just one teacher recommending a student for one reason or a single action of the student. Can a student actually exhibit how well-rounded or accomplished they are in the class setting within one subject? A teacher is more able to portray their teaching style, personality, and effectiveness in leading their class than a student is able to by just participating in the class.

A recommendation is more valid when there are numerous people or groups supporting it. A student only has to get recognized by one teacher to

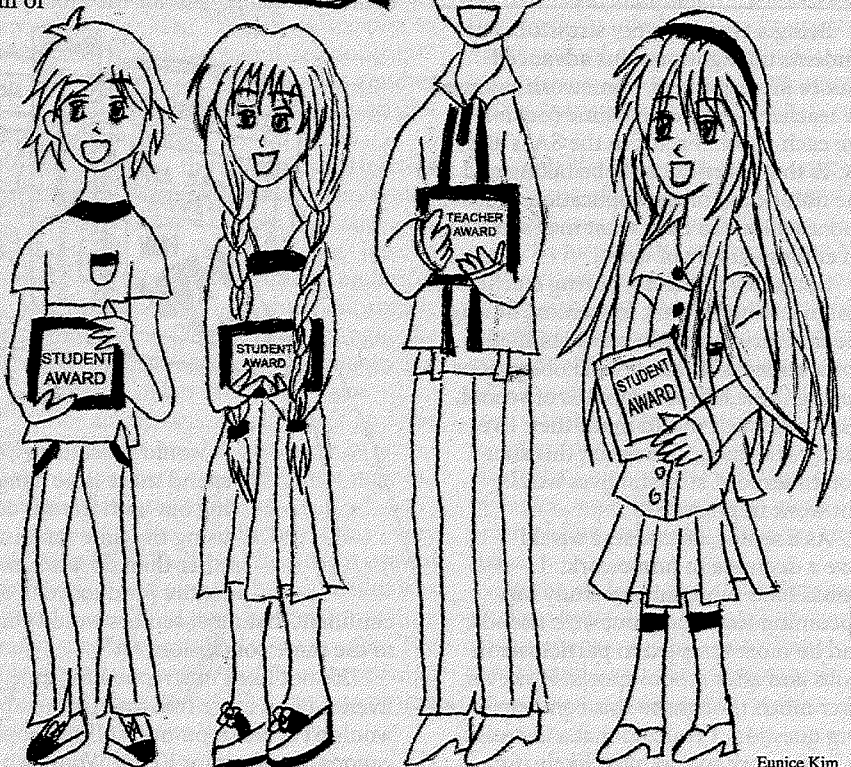
win the student of the month title. A teacher of the quarter would have to be recommended by multiple students in order to justly earn the title. This would ensure that the teacher receiving the title actually truly deserves it.

It is natural for people to want a little acknowledgement for all of



their hard work. It is expected that a person working for the greater good of the society should get some form of recognition. This is the least we can do. It is a good idea to select those students who help make our school a better place,

so why don't we do a similar thing for those teachers who make a significant difference in the lives of the students?



Eunice Kim

Sectionals are not that big of a hassle

BY Ryan Havens
Contributing Writer

All students playing a musical instrument must report to sectionals a few times a quarter in order to undergo instruction and practice playing their selected musical pieces. These sectionals are not made to fit into the student's schedule and thus there is a high chance that it may conflict with an existing class that the student is taking. Because of this, sectional timing is an issue that divides both students and teachers alike.

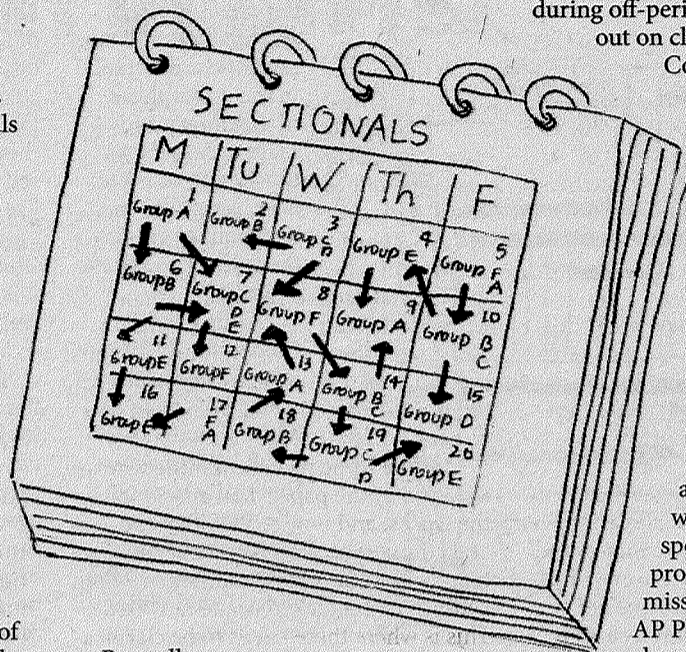
Students argue that sectionals interfere with many of their important classes by taking place during the same period, but music teachers claim that sectionals are necessary and that their timing is a rigid structure that can be subject to little change. Many students wish for another option to the sectionals that cause them so much stress. The results of this clash are students cramming, due to lessons that they missed, and sparse attendance at sectional meetings so that they can attend class; neither the students nor the teachers are satisfied.

While sectionals certainly create a dilemma for students who miss classes, the puzzle they present to students has been overstated. Students miss school days for a variety of reasons such as sickness, vacations, college visits, and more. The thing is, getting the flu can force one to miss as much as a week of school, and yet one still has to make up the work. The impact of sectionals has been greatly exaggerated.

One period of class can be made up much more easily than a day away from school because of sickness. If one is willing to miss one or two days, what's the problem with missing a single period? Being sick or on vacation restricts you tremendously; you obviously can't go and exchange notes with your friend after school, for example. If you had a sectional, however, you could meet someone after school or during another off-period.

Sectionals are vital, as they are times for teachers to focus on the fine details of performance and to instruct students individually. In Mr. John Meyer's Symphonic Band, he has certain parts of the band work on sections of the pieces during the scheduled band time, but uses sectionals to fine-tune the roles of specific instruments.

Sectionals are necessary and cannot simply be thrown out. The sectional schedules are tightly packed in order to allow every group to receive extra practice. The ordinary scheduled times for music class are not enough to produce proficiency.



Regardless of what needs to be done, almost all students agree that sectionals interfere with their schoolwork. Ask any student about their last sectional and one might groan and say, "Man, I missed the review for the Spanish test and I ended up getting a 'D'!" Other such replies lamenting about missed work are commonplace.

Students can only miss a few sectionals per quarter and missing any more than the set amount will knock

their grade down. Missed sectionals are hard to make up, since different instruments play different parts and multiple parts can't be worked on at the same time.

In addition to missing a class that prepares for a test, some students take advantage of the strict sectional schedule in order to gain an extra day to study for a test—they will go to the sectional instead of taking the test on that day.

However, in most cases, students end up missing vital note-taking days that are difficult to make up. Reading off from a friend's notes can never recreate a teacher's lecture.

"We should have more sectionals during off-periods so we wouldn't miss out on class," said freshman Erin Condon.

A possible solution to the problem of missing classes for sectionals could be to offer sectionals before and after school. This way, students will not have to miss valuable class time and simply can go to school early on designated days.

Although having students come before or after school for sectionals would conflict with clubs or sports, this would solve the problem of having students miss a class as important as AP Physics or Calculus for the advancement of their musical studies.

Sectionals are necessary and cannot be done away with. This fact cannot be overlooked. While sectionals do conflict with some classes, the classes can be easily made up with minimal impact to the student's education. The impact of sectionals is clearly over-exaggerated. The clamor about sectionals is, simply put, making a mountain out of a mole hill.

Eunice Kim

College applications should not bar teachers from giving work

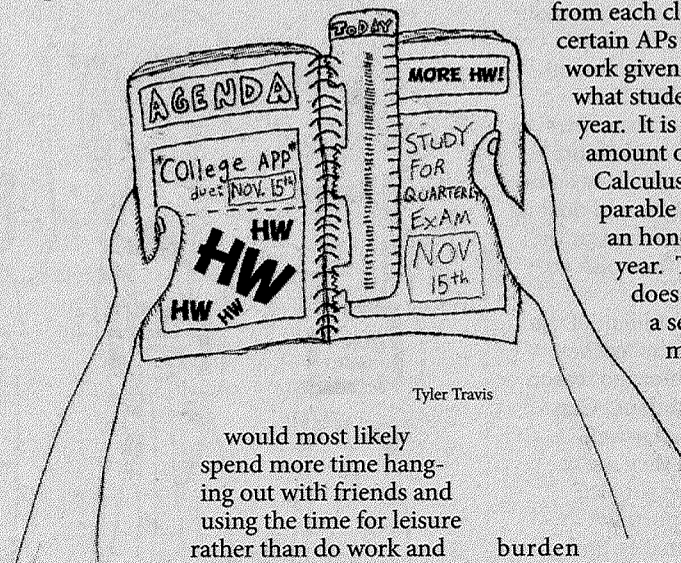
BY Mike Oelbaum
Contributing Writer

Being a senior is very stressful. For students taking numerous advanced classes in senior year, homework assigned by teachers is extremely time consuming each night. Factor in the SATs and ACTs that a senior could be taking and the notorious college application process, and a senior can have what may seem like an endless supply of work.

Certainly, in theory, having teachers assign less homework for seniors during the first quarter might seem justified. For a senior who has several obligations during these first few months of school, less homework would make their lives that much easier. However, this solution to seniors' stressful lives would not work in practice.

As a senior, of course, I would love a decrease in homework. I would have more time to study for upcoming tests, hang out with friends, and be more tempted to participate in clubs and after school sports. However, after much thought to this compelling question, I realized that a decrease in homework would most likely not

increase the amount of time I study. Would I participate in more clubs and sports? Possibly. But for the most part, I



Tyler Travis

would most likely spend more time hanging out with friends and using the time for leisure rather than do work and be more productive. I am confident that most seniors would come to the same conclusion.

"It's not like I'm strapped for time. Even if I had more free time, I probably wouldn't spend it on my [college] applications," said senior Kevin Wong, who is

currently taking five AP courses.

Additionally, if we were to analyze the amount of homework seniors receive from each class, it is likely that in certain APs the amount of homework given would be similar to what students received in junior year. It is probable that the amount of work given in an AP Calculus class is roughly comparable to the amount given in an honors math class of junior year. Taking many AP classes does not necessarily mean a senior would have a ton more homework than he or she received the year before in honors level classes. Since seniors are already acclimated to the workload, the added burden of completing college applications should not prove too arduous for most of them.

Most AP courses, or courses in general, tend to eat away at one's time because of the amount of time a student needs to study for tests, not because of the homework load. As New York starts

A new view

BY Evan Greenberg
Contributing Writer

Being a new student isn't easy, nor is it instantly gratifying. The days are long, the rules must be learned quickly and like a bare specimen just afoot in a new and demanding world, the environment must be hastily understood. The first day is the worst. From that first dreadful ringing of the school bell to the last buzzing clamor of the day's end you realize that the summer is buried without remorse. Six o'clock is looming behind every evening hour and you'll most likely have homework by Friday.

At the start of the school year, each day at Schreiber seemed like an exciting adventure. After a while, however, like almost anything—what was once adventurous became dull and reprimanding. My days became mundane instead of intriguing. As for my observations of Schreiber, they are mostly complimentary. In classes, at least the ones I attend, I have concluded that teachers and students treat each other with respect, yet still conduct the archetypical struggle for power they do in every school.

The students of this school are more or less friendly, but their friendships exist and are constrained by a kind of social architecture, the school is divided into very clear groups that sometimes touch yet never integrate. The ability to leave the school for periods where no teaching is at hand as an upperclassman is one that I have never personally had before, and one that I now, I'm sure like most, am growing fond of.

But there is an issue of cleanliness. The bathrooms carry this pretty gruesome, wallowing stench and the water fountains, when not spraying in distant directions, fill mouths with microscopic horrors I don't want to begin to imagine. But overall, under the bravado of reputation, I think we can all admit that it is a pretty good school—a school that values responsibility as holy and its abandonment as blasphemy, but seems always to be near for its offering of a helping hand.

out behind other U.S. states in the AP curriculum, AP teachers are forced to cram their students with units quickly and test frequently. For this reason, AP courses could interfere with a senior's ability to do college applications, but it depends on the student. If AP teachers could somehow give tests less often and provide students with more time to study, the extra time could prove to be beneficial to those students that truly need it. But while teachers of non-AP courses can usually get away with teaching and testing at their own pace, teachers of AP courses do not necessarily have that leisure.

Therefore, in actuality, this solution to the stressful days of senior year is not practical. Most students would not put the extra time to good use, but rather, squander it by hanging out with friends instead. Moreover, the seniors who are incurring the heaviest workload from their AP classes were often prepared to cope with that work by the fact that they took classes in their junior years which were of a comparable intensity. It is not really feasible to expect teachers to adjust the amount of homework they give to suit the needs of students preparing for college.

Editorials

Senior opportunity important

While the concept of a Senior Experience program was first thought of 15 years ago by Mr. Eric Begun, it will now officially be a requirement for all seniors graduating in 2011. Additionally, seniors this year taking AP courses will be required to participate in a project as well once AP exams are over in the middle of May.

The Schreiber Times believes that such an opportunity to be involved with various firms and organizations in Port Washington and Long Island, while still in high school, is beneficial to the growth of the students' horizons by giving them an experience that can help in their futures.

The program was created with the idea that seniors will be able to have "real world" experiences before college so that they will be able to experiment with different possible career choices. For the past few years, Senior Options classes have been offered. However, these classes were optional and therefore not every senior was able to have this opportunity. The program has now expanded with the help and planning of Principal Mr. Jay Lewis and social studies teacher Mr. Larry Schultz to allow students not only in the Senior Options classes to participate in the program but students in AP courses as well.

As of the end of November, there are 147 local organizations that students have the opportunity to be active with. Students can experience a wide variety of future job opportunities around Long Island. They have the chance to shadow teachers at Port Washington schools, intern at different law and business firms in town, get involved with community service organizations, work at local retail stores, and take part in other enriching

activities.

With the ability to choose from such a wide selection of possibilities, almost all students will be able to find a match with something they believe they want to pursue in the future, whether it be law or business.

Students currently have the opportunity to browse through a database of possible internship opportunities on the Portnet website. There is a section of the site dedicated solely to the Senior Experience program. An overview of the program as well as of past internships are available on the website.

Many other high schools have implemented a Senior Experience program that have had a great deal of success. Over 25 high schools in Nassau County have senior year programs similar to Schreiber's own. East Meadow High School and Scarsdale High School are examples of two such schools.

The Schreiber Times believes that this program will not only give students a great advantage in college and the workplace in the future, but it will make the end of their senior year a more memorable and worthwhile time. Since the AP curriculum ends in May, students stop learning from standard classroom instruction in some of these courses, and the rest of the year is spent however the teacher wishes. The second semester of senior year is known by many as a laid-back and stress-free time for seniors to enjoy and appreciate.

This program will ensure that although students still will not be in stressful situations, they will be learning various social skills that cannot be learned in a regular high school classroom. The timing for such an opportunity is ideal, as students are no longer overly preoccupied with high school work and college admissions, and they are able to reflect on what they might want to pursue after high school.

Times Policy Statement

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

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

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

We will print letters to the editors if judged to be of sufficient quality and importance on a space-available basis. We will not print letters that are obscene, libelous,

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

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

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

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

Performers deserve respect

On Nov. 23, Taylor 2, a modern dance movement, came to perform at Schreiber and was met with disrespect of the most extreme kind by some students. Instead of appreciating the clear talent of the performers, some students decided to mock the heartfelt performance.

Each year, the Creative Arts Committee plans a district-wide assembly that is meant to enrich the lives of the students in Port Washington with a cultural event.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Like many other students, I was eager to read *The Schreiber Times* the morning I found it outside my first period class. Personally, I was excited for one article in particular. Imagine my disappointment when I didn't find it—or my frustration and confusion when I learned it would never be written, let alone published! I was hoping you could explain why the Schreiber Drama Club's fall production, the One-Acts, was not reviewed in the paper.

I asked some friends of mine who are involved in the paper if an article was in the works, and they replied that the general consensus of the newspaper staff was that we shouldn't complain, since we're getting the centerfold in the next issue. This is where there needs to be clarification: The Drama Club and the Schreiber musicals are two separate organizations. The musicals are part of the performing arts department, and the Drama Club is an extracurricular organization; the musicals are run by teachers, whereas the board of students leads the Drama Club; musicals in this school have student involvement in acting, stage crew, and pit, but the Drama Club productions are directed, performed, crewed, and sometimes even written by students, with little to no involvement (in most aspects) from our advisor. So while many theatrically-inclined students from either or both organizations will be thrilled to read your review of *Guys and Dolls* in this issue, this centerfold article will have nothing to do with the Drama Club or the One-Acts.

Leaving the above issue aside, I still am confused as to why our show wasn't even mentioned in the paper. In past years, every show from September to the end of May was reviewed, including the One-Acts. There are people on *The Schreiber Times* staff who are involved in the Drama Club or are friends with Drama Club members, and who knew about, attended, or participated in some facet of the production. People involved in the show visited you during work week and pitched our show to friends in the *Times* staff. We made announcements and hung posters, and Kevin Granger even took pictures to accompany a review. Keeping our advertising and our past reviews, why would there not be a review or even any mention at all, of our show in the school newspaper?

It struck me as sort of ironic that a newspaper issue that notes our student body's deplorable lack of school spirit happens to exemplify the same ideas. The One-Acts were a culmination of weeks of hard work and devotion from around 40 students what could better be

Taking into consideration the hard work and dedication that was put forth by director Ms. Rose Marvel and this Committee as well as the obvious efforts displayed during the show by the dancers themselves, *The Schreiber Times* believes that the student body should have been more respectful during the assembly. Instead of talking and laughing loudly at the dancers.

In future events and assemblies, the *Times* hopes that students will be more accepting of artists and that, if they do not like the performance, simply allow others to enjoy the hour of performing arts.

described as school spirit than supporting or highlighting these students and what they've done?

If anyone on *The Schreiber Times* staff could clarify how this happened (so that one or both of the parties involved can fix any future problems), please let me know.

Sincerely,
Sara Lyons

Letter to the Editor Response:

The Schreiber Times would like to clarify several points:

This staff is well aware of the differences between the Drama Club and the Department of Performing Arts. Both of these departments have received attention through centerfolds each time they put on productions. Our own editors have written them.

The activities of every single club at Schreiber are not covered each issue because, unfortunately, we have a 24 page limit and a student body of about 1,500 students who are involved in over 50 clubs. Many student groups engage in various worthwhile, enriching, and interesting endeavors, and *The Schreiber Times* does its best to feature them in the paper. Unfortunately, it is impossible to create space for each of these activities. We try to cover each club, team, and organization as often as we can, when coverage is merited. Usually clubs understand our situation and are happy to be featured at all. In the Sports section, not every single sports event and sports team is covered in each issue.

Also, it is unfair to say that *The Schreiber Times* editors "exemplify the [deplorable lack of school spirit]," because we did not cover one drama club event. *The Schreiber Times* staff was not aware that giving a club space in our paper defines school spirit.

Another concern which was expressed was that the members of the Drama Club have friends on the staff of *The Schreiber Times*, and therefore they were surprised that their friends did not ensure that One-Acts would be covered. *The Schreiber Times* staff in no way favors the interests of their friends when creating this newspaper. We offer no advantages to certain student groups based on personal connections, and it is unfortunate that there may be this misconception amongst the student body.

-Staff

Interested in writing for Opinions? Then come to the next General Meeting on Dec. 3. All new writers are always welcome!

To vaccinate or not to vaccinate, that is the question

BY Laura Werle
Features Editor

In 1918, a deadly flu pandemic killed more people than in all of World War I. This may seem like the distant past, but, in truth, it was less than a century ago. Still, in the 91 years that separate that year from the current one, countless medical and scientific advances have been made that can prevent such a catastrophe happening again. Since, penicillin was mistakenly discovered, general hygiene has been drastically improved, and what was once the "art" of creating vaccinations has been honed down to an exact science.

Like the "Spanish Flu" of 1918 and the avian flu of the early 2000s, the world is currently in a state of panic over the Swine Flu, or H1N1. Swine Flu has caused more cases of flu than the seasonal flu and has also been more prevalent in groups that are not normally hurt by the flu. Despite the hysteria over H1N1 that has swept through the media and the school system, many are still resistant to getting the newly released swine flu vaccine.

For the uninformed, vaccines are not live viruses, but rather a dead or weakened form of the germ, neither of which is known to cause a flu infection if administered properly.

Even Schreiber, as of yet spared an

epidemic of the flu, has fallen under a spell of speculation about the vaccine. Although students are often afraid of contracting the illness, many have not taken the vaccine, nor do they plan to.

"If I don't get the vaccine, but everybody else does, I won't get sick. I'm counting on everybody else getting one," said one student while being polled.

Last year, the school administration sent a flier home explaining the risks of H1N1 as well as many ways to prevent the transmission of the illness. To increase the effectiveness and penetration of the message, the administration also released an announcement during the day. There was also a phone call message sent to each student's house over the Connect-Ed system.

Of the students who did not receive the shot, 38% cited the newness of the vaccine as their primary reason not to get the shot.

"I get the seasonal flu vaccine every year for as long as I can remember, but the swine flu vaccine is a newer formula," said junior Annabelle May. "Because it's so new, you don't know what side effects it might cause after a few years. I don't want to get it without more testing."

Despite the uproar about swine flu both in the school and the media, a relatively low percentage of Schreiber students have received the shot. While the

reasons for not getting the shot vary, the three main reasons are: students are not sure if the vaccine is safe, they do not think that the vaccine will be necessary, and/or they wanted the shot but their health care provider was out of swine flu vaccination doses.

"There were no more swine flu vaccines available when I went to the doctor," said senior Alexander Beall. "I guess I'd get it but I don't really care."

In the school community, there is widespread fear that the swine flu vaccine will be more harmful than helpful. Whether these accusations of danger are founded in fact, rumor, or heightened fears because of post-apocalyptic movies, the fact remains that many students are afraid of the swine flu vaccine.

Most cite their fear as being based in the newness of the vaccine. As vaccines are created, they are put through rigorous, time-based testing periods. Many students do not trust the integrity of the vaccine because of how quickly it arrived on the scene. Because of the intense spread of the original bouts of swine flu, the vaccine seemed to be made much more quickly than most others are.

Students fear the possible adverse side effects of the vaccines as well. While seemingly farfetched, the worries of the students are not totally unfounded. Occasionally, the recipients of a vaccine

can contract symptoms of the disease, especially if the patient had a compromised immune system before patient gets the vaccination such as a cold, or another viral infection. There have also been accusations that vaccines can cause autism. In the past, the MMR (Mumps, Measles, Rubella) vaccine was the

main subject of this accusation. However, this rumor has since been disproved.

Unlike the H1N1 vaccine, a majority of students chose to take the seasonal flu vaccine. This vaccine must be administered annually, since each year the prominent strains of the flu change.

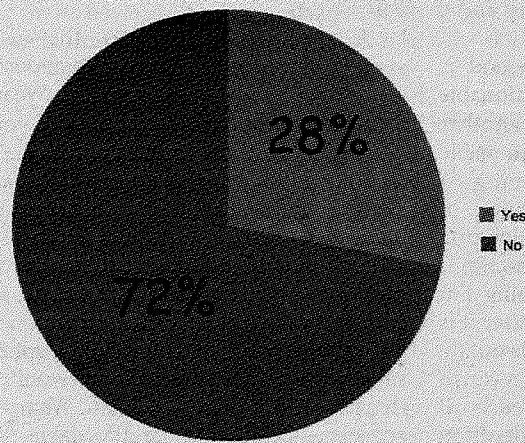
While the swine flu can hit anybody, according to the National Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the groups most prone to getting the H1N1 virus and complications are: children younger than 5, adults over 65, asthmatics, pregnant women, and those with certain health issues.

Based on past cases and knowledge of how communicable the viral disease is, the CDC can project estimates of how many cases, hospitalizations, and deaths swine flu may cause. According to the CDC's website, people from ages 0-17 will have an estimated mean of 8 million cases, 36,000 hospitalizations, and 540 deaths. Conversely, the 64 and up group, a major risk group, will have an estimated 2 million cases, 9,000 hospitalizations, and 440 deaths. In all, the CDC estimates a total 22 million cases and 3,900 deaths because of swine flu and swine flu-related complications.

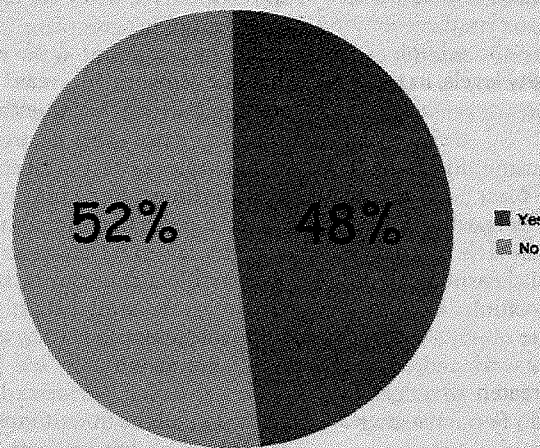
Unlike many other vaccinations, neither of the two flu shots is required by law and both are only good for a year. Each state has a set of vaccines that are mandatory in order to attend school. The lists of vaccinations vary from state to state, often because of things like weather, proximity to certain viral reservoirs, and other criteria can affect susceptibility. In New York, some of the diseases that require immunizations are tetanus, diphtheria, Hepatitis B, polio, and the previously mentioned, MMR.

Whether or not a student chooses to receive the swine flu vaccine, the need to protect and fortify the school against it remains. Precautions as simple as washing hands, keeping hands away from eyes and mouth, and staying home when ill can stop the flu, both swine and seasonal, as well as any other microscopic invader from taking a potentially fatal chokehold on the school.

Swine Flu Vaccinations



Seasonal Flu Vaccinations



Restaurant Review

BY Morgan Quigley
Assistant A&E Editor

Let me preface this review by saying that Let There Be Bagels is still, and for the foreseeable future will be, the king of all bagel joints in Port Washington.

Of all the small underlings fighting to be named a distant second, it seems that D&V Hot Bagels Deli will certainly be a contender, if not for the quality of its bagels, then for its price and the variety of its menu.

The store is located in the strip mall along Shore Road that also features Salvatore's and the Waterview Cleaners. Passing by these string of shops, one can see the nondescript exterior of D&V Hot Bagels Deli. There is a sign on the front which simply reads "Hot Bagels."

When I walked into D&V, I was not expecting anything more than a few types of bagels and some coffee to be on the menu. If there was orange juice, I would be surprised. I, however, was very wrong. D&V is fully equipped with diner type food, bagels, and a pretty extensive choice of sandwiches. I had to go back a couple

of times to actually get a good sampling from the surprisingly large menu.

The breakfast menu has arguably more options than any other bagel store in Port Washington. It includes various egg sandwiches, which is to be expected, but to my surprise, D&V also serves pancakes, French toast and many other items. Like most of the dishes I tried, the pancakes were good, but not great. They were very edible and I enjoyed them, but they were a little thin. The food at D&V is nothing special but none of it is bad either. The coffee was even pretty good, a usual occurrence in many bagel stores.

Next, I obviously had to have a bagel. The bagels were good and that is obviously why most people will come into the store. I had an everything bagel with cream cheese. And pursuant to the store's name, the bagel was indeed hot. To go along with the bagels, there were 12 other cream cheese flavors to try. Despite the rainbow of cheeses, butter may be a better way to go next time. The bagel was tasty, but it wasn't as good as a bagel from Let There be Bagels. It was not clear whether the bagels had been boiled. Unbeknownst to many bagel consumers, the traditional

and time-tested way to make the best bagels is to boil, not bake, them.

The next item I sampled was a sandwich called the Perfect Mundo, and it was nearly perfect. The sandwich was made of roast beef, bacon, and melted Mozzarella cheese on a hero. The roast beef was very tasty, and the bacon was crisp. The melted Mozzarella cheese was smooth and was the perfect complement to the meat. This was the best item I sampled from the menu.

Along with all of the food options that D&V has to offer, they also have many cater for options. You can get three to six-foot heroes, a pastry platter, a nova cream cheese platter, flavored cream cheese, a bagel platter, and a salad medley. They cater for all different occasions and are very friendly. This really adds to the diversity of the menu.

While the food was average, the atmosphere of the place left a lot to be desired. The only place to eat were a few dirty chairs. The whole establishment had a slightly grungy feel and was not very inviting. The staff was efficient but unremarkable.

I would strongly recommend going to

D&V Hot Bagels

D&V for the deli aspect. However if you just want a bagel, I would stick with Let There be Bagels. Even with everything mentioned, the menu still includes burgers, salads, wraps, and buffalo wings, along with many other things to try. The diversity of the foods D&V serves is very impressive, and there's much more than just bagels.

I would definitely suggest trying D&V out and trying different menu options, especially the deli. There is something for everybody to try and most of the food can be satisfying to eat.

D & V Hot Bagels

Hours: 8 AM to 9 PM

Address: 134 Shore Road

Cuisine: Diner, bagels

Atmosphere: Sloppy, relaxed, seems

slightly unclean

Service: Efficient

Food: Good



New website moves into Port, possibly changing the news

New branch of Patch.com may create competition among local news sources

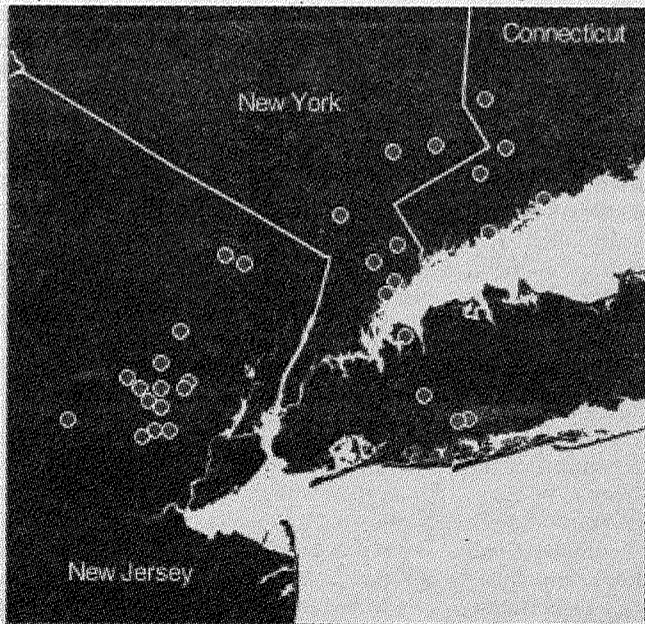
By Brian Kennedy
Assistant Features Editor

Every generation has symbolic dinosaurs, whose extinction speaks of the passing of an era. Enter the true Titanosaur of media technology: the newspaper. In local situations, the newspaper is a trusted source for the latest community happenings and the proverbial soapbox for neighborhood opinions and controversies.

The local newspaper is our most tangible form of Americana, the stamp that certifies our legitimacy as a community, not just a conglomeration of houses and a coincidence of zip codes. But this cultural and societal hallmark may too succumb to the inevitable risks of being the last giant in a world with shrinking doorways.

Our resident newspaper, the *Port Washington News*, has been in existence since 1903, a time when Lower Main Street was the focal point of town, and the gilded top of the New York social pyramid vacationed in the provincial peninsulas of northern Long Island. Today, Lower Main Street has devolved into a perpetual traffic jam and the top of the social pyramid has long since grown bored of its increasingly populated vacation area.

Despite the great disparity in time, the *Port Washington News* still continues to be a community constant. However, despite its enduring legacy, the *Port Washington News'* place as the pre-eminent community news publication may soon be encroached.



Patch.com has created online localized news sources throughout the metropolitan area. Although it started in New Jersey, Connecticut, and New York west of New York City, it has started to proliferate and spread to Long Island. Some fear that the new source for local news may create an insurmountable obstacle for local papers like *The Port Washington News*.

Patch.com, an online "community-specific news and information platform" presents a digital alternative to its paper-based predecessor. Based out of its company headquarters in New York City, Patch.com fuses an open source community-centered approach with formal news reporting that focuses on local issues and events.

Already established in sixteen towns in New Jersey and Connecticut, the organization is currently expanding into Long Island, in addition to other areas of New York State. Sites are under

construction in Merrick, Garden City, Bellmore, and most relevantly, Port Washington.

A free source with a weekly newsletter provided to all registered users (registering is also free) a "Patch" as the company calls it, features a webpage pertaining exclusively to a specific community, manned by a conventional system of editors and writers.

However, Patch.com, by virtue of its digital status, addresses the entire concept of news in an interesting, dynamic, and decidedly unconventional fashion. An established Patch site in South Orange, New Jersey uses several section oriented feeds to display its new information.

The feeds, which consist of news, announcements, events, and "essential" blurbs about the happenings of the day, are constantly updated throughout the day. A top story section is pinned at the top of the page and a cumulative list of updates is displayed to the left of the screen.

Comments by registered users are shown underneath stories, providing an interactive layer to the normally one-sided nature of news reporting. Photo and video sections are also included allowing images and videos to accompany the articles posted in their corresponding feeds.

The website provides lists of local restaurants, volunteer opportunities, and even "local facts." In addition, there is also a digitized, easy to use classified section, and a links page to all the schools, from elementary to university levels, in the area covered by the website.

"[Patch.com seeks to] digitize small communities, creating a place online that reflects what they are in real life," said Mr. Brian Farnham, Editor-in-Chief of Patch.com. But in doing so, does this digitization threaten the century old *Port Washington News*?

By taking into consideration the relatively abbreviated list of features of a successful "Patch," the ability of a print publication, especially a small scale, cost-bound publication such as the *Port Washington News*, to hold its ground with a *Port Washington Patch* is put into doubt.

"Print simply can't compete with the immediacy of online, and that's an incalculable benefit [to Patch.com]. You can update a web site by the minute—the best you can do in print is update it daily. I don't think conventional print media is going away or that online is going to 'kill' it; there will always be a place for the physical representation of words," Mr. Farnham said. "But I also don't think online news is going anywhere but up—it's simply too convenient, dynamic, three-dimensional and, most importantly, affordable."

On the other side of the spectrum, however, the prevailing opinion is different.

"Print can't compete with online

sources for timely news reporting," said Ms. Anne Mathisen, a long time writer and editor for the *Port Washington News*. "Print as a medium for 'soft' reporting such as human interest stories remains effective. This is particularly true for residents of a small town. People still get excited to see their name and photograph in the newspaper."

The coming of Patch.com poses several evocative and yet challenging questions. The most apparent is, of course, How will print media exist in this new modern "ecosystem" of news reporting?

Fashion

By Laila Irvani
Staff Writer

In the world of fashion, there are always major do's and major don'ts. It seems as though there's always a population whose wardrobe is bursting with fashion don'ts. Most people complain that the only reason their daily outfits would be categorized as fashion don'ts is because they're lazy. For example, it's easy for teen girls to slap on a pair of "So-Low" pants and some "UGG" boots in the morning before school.

But what many don't understand is that the legwork to create a fashionable ensemble can be done either at another time, or never at all. Being fashionable isn't hard, or time-consuming; it just takes a little bit of effort and a bit of practice. With these tips, you'll be looking like your favorite fashion icon in no time.

A fashion faux pas is something I'm sure we're all familiar with. Whether it is a male or female, an 89-year-old woman, or a 12-year-old boy, it'll make sure to leave its mark. We see fashion don'ts all around us all the time. One major fashion don't for the winter is the Birkenstock sandal with socks.

No one is quite sure who decided it would be a good idea, but it's always better to ignore a ridiculous trend. Birkenstock sandals are great, especially if you want to get that boho chic or hippie look, or if you just want a pair of really comfortable shoes. But they're sandals for a reason. They should be worn in the summer! To keep your feet warm and cozy during these long winter months, a nice alternative is a pair of ankle boots. Leather, swede, or even polyester boots can be stylish and worth the cost.

Urban Outfitters sells a variety of ankle boots in all different shapes, sizes, and colors that'll be sure to keep you looking fashionable and warm. A best-seller boot from the store is the Kimchi Blue Sweater Cuff Wedge. It goes for \$58.00 and comes in black, gray, and brown.

If you're not looking for the short, young look that ankle boots seem to create, try riding boots or any other kind of boot at all. The department store Nordstrom has an entire shop devoted to winter boots. The styles vary from a motorcycle-esque boot, BP 'Kari' that goes for \$69.95, to a more sophisticated leather knee-high boot with a heel. The DV by Dolce Vita 'Wendall' Boot goes for a more expensive \$84.90. Keep in mind that although you may be sacrificing cost for quality, it's completely worth it. You're going to look

The less obvious, but more significant question is how will we as a community and as consumers treat this potentially transitory development in this moment in our town and society's history? Will we hail the development, embrace it, and make it a permanent part of our community? Or will it be cast aside, scorned and ignored, another upstart relic of the digital age?

While these questions will remain unanswered for some time, their resolution may fundamentally alter how we access, view, and treat information within our community.

What not to wear

great, and you'll have an amazing boot sitting in your closet that will most likely last you many years.

Another fashion don't is wearing oversized hoodie sweaters or sweatpants that you most likely got at a bat-mitzvah/bar-mitzvah, sweet 16, or some other event. Although they may be comfortable, keep the sweaters and sweatpants at home. Many of us have had the utter pleasure of receiving these as party favors, but the truth is, they're better to be seen as a memory rather than everyday tops for your outfits.

A great alternative to the party sweater/sweatpants epidemic is choosing a cardigan to add to your outfit. Wear it with your favorite pair of jeans and you'll always be comfortable and presentable.

Known for their cute yet affordable clothing, Forever 21 offers a multitude of cardigans. For an effortless look that'll keep you looking comfy and cute, try the Elena Sweater Cardigan. It's priced at a convenient \$27.80 and can be paired with almost anything. If you're looking for a simpler cardigan, your best bet would be the H81 Wool Blend Cardigan. You can't get any simpler or more affordable than this. It goes for \$22.90 and comes in gray, pink, and taupe.

Whatever your guilty fashion faux pas may be, if you take a second to think, there will always be a fashion do as it's counterpart. Not only is it easy to fix any fashion problems, it can be cheap too if you know where to shop and what to buy.



This simple cardigan from Forever 21 can help to create a simple, stylish and comfortable outfit in a snap. Throw it on over jeans and a tank top, and you can't go wrong. Cardigans can be found in most stores.

GUYS AND DOLLS

It's the 1950s, with 21st century flair

BY Christina Vlahos
Editor-in-Chief

"When you see a guy reach for stars in the sky, you can bet that he's doing it for some doll. When you spot a John waiting out in the rain, chances are he's insane as only a John can be for a Jane," sang the cast *Guys and Dolls* in Schreiber's production of the musical.

Guys and Dolls was well-worth missing the Saturday night showing of *New Moon*. From Nov. 19 through Nov. 22, the Department of Performing Arts presented "a musical fable of Broadway," *Guys and Dolls*. For those unfamiliar with the plot, set in New York City circa 1950, *Guys and Dolls* is the musical telling of two short stories by Damon Runyon, which involves gamblers and the women who set out to

change their ways.

This is a very popular musical, with many revivals, countless high school adaptations, and the famous 1955 film featuring Frank Sinatra, Vivian Blaine, Marlon Brando, and Gene Simmons. This was a great selection for the school's performing arts community, in that people are very likely to be familiar with the plot and incredible musical score, with such celebrated tracks as "Guys and Dolls" and "Sit Down, You're Rockin' the Boat." Anything from the fabulous 1950s, a decade which birthed gems like *The Honey-mooners*, *The King and I*, and *Roman Holiday*, and a decade whose films and shows were characterized by a festive and romantic, yet thoughtful quality to them, would be a good—no, excellent—idea for this sort of high school production.

Rather than evaluating the school's

very own actors' performances by comparing them to the stars of past *Guys and Dolls* productions (after all, Frank Sinatra's shoes are just too big to fill!), they are reviewed based on their individual assets and how they contributed to the overall dynamic of what was happening on the stage.

A new sound system was recently installed in the auditorium and, compared to previous productions, the auditory element of *Guys and Dolls* was music to audience members' ears—in every way. Gone are the days of struggling to hear the talented vocals of cast members over the zealous accompaniment of the pit.

Around 15 minutes after the musical was due to start on Saturday evening, the pit, directed by Mr. Anthony Pinelli, finally began to play. And when the curtains rolled back, a wonderful backdrop of neon signs distinctive of Times Square was revealed. Cast members staggered across the stage in organized chaos in an effort to represent the hustle and bustle of vibrant 1950s Manhattan. We were then introduced to just a handful of the gamblers of New York City, Nicely-Nicely Johnson (senior Nick Gardella), Benny Southstreet (senior Mark Labadorf), and Rusty Charlie (junior Andy Lieberman), and the ladies of the Save-a-Soul Mission, led by the fervent Sargent Sarah Brown (senior Molly Fried) and her mentor Abigail Abernathy (senior Heather Foye). Failing to arouse regret and shame in the sinners on Broadway with their signs preaching "There is no peace unto the wicked," the ladies retreat to their mission.

Along comes Mr. Nathan Detroit (sophomore Jesse Weil), the orchestrator of illegal gambling activities in Manhattan, namely craps, who has been "running the crap game since [he's] been a juvenile delinquent." Detroit is unable to determine a venue for his craps game, and his fellow gamblers are becoming irritated, because they've "gotta have the game or... die of shame." The choreography for this number, called "The Old-



Kevin Granger

Sophomore Jesse Weil implores senior Cory Morano to sue him for breaking her heart during "Sue Me."

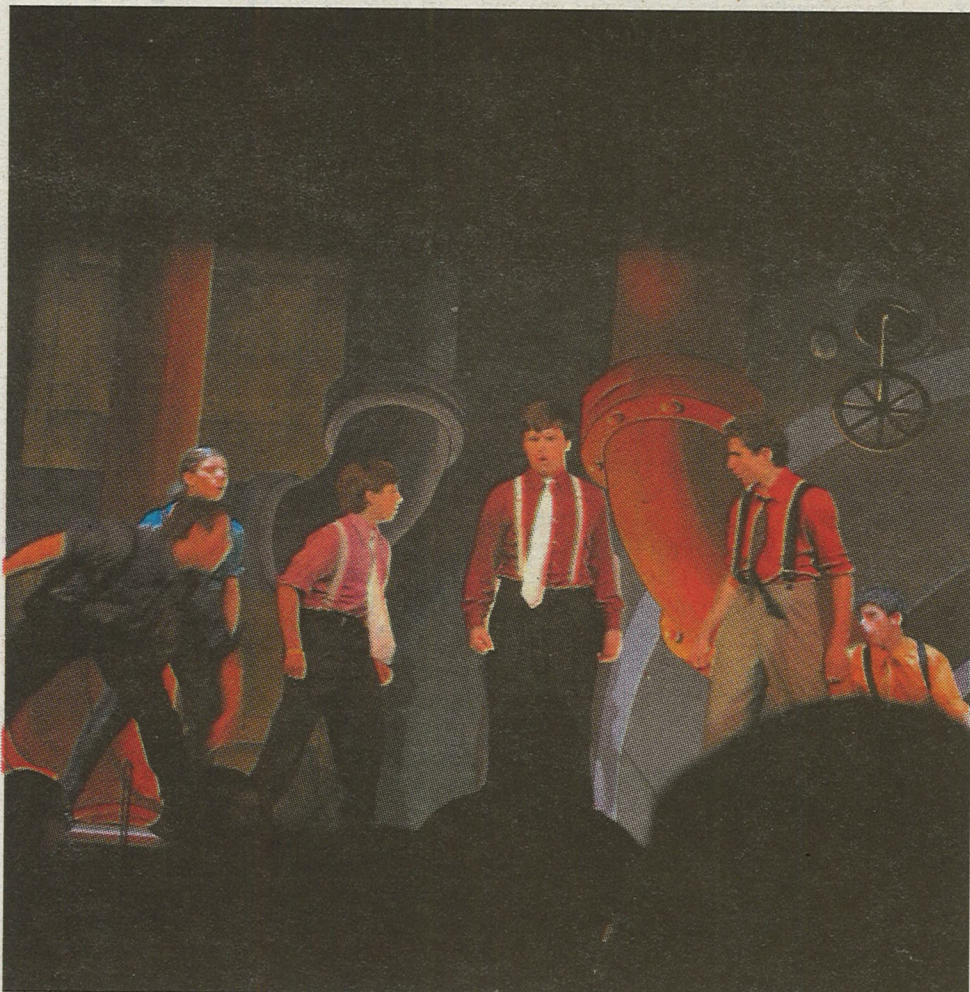
est Established," was delightful and even featured a guy-lift at the end. Go male cheerleaders!

Detroit's eager and impatient fiancée, Adelaide (senior Cory Morano) implores him to marry her after fourteen years of engagement. Her exit is followed by the entrance of the infamous gambler, who bets monetary amounts that are "sky high," Sky Masterson (junior Tommy Doyle). For a sum of \$1,000, Detroit bets Masterson he can't take out a certain doll, namely the pious Sarah Brown, to dinner with him in Havana, Cuba. So begins the typical, but wonderful tale of boy uses girl, gets to know girl, falls in love with girl, girl finds out why he took her out in the first place, dumps him, then realizes they really do love each other, and the show ends happily. In Frank Loesser's version of this story, the cliché plot isn't a problem at all, because corniness isn't synonymous with boring, and the lively musical numbers are funny.

In the ensuing scene, Sky tries to charm Sarah with his suavity and charisma, but she repels his advances. While Fried has for the past several years played main characters and been able to showcase her superior vocal talents, this is Doyle's first role as the male lead, and he's got a voice on him.

Another actor new to the scene of leading roles is Morano, who was hilarious as Miss Adelaide, the unfortunate, prone to psychosomatic illnesses fiancée of Detroit. Morano has great comedic timing, and her shrill, heavily accented performance was a highlight of the show. This was her first lead role in a musical, and she also had an amazing voice which she showcased especially during the scene of "Adelaide's Lament," which had the audience in fits of laughter. In the next couple of scenes, Detroit is essentially cornered into marrying Adelaide, when the boys try to cover up their plans for a crap game by insisting that they are actually hosting a bachelor party. Nathan, unwilling, and Adelaide decide to elope.

When Brown realizes she may actually need a favor from Sky to save her mission



Kevin Granger

Junior Tommy Doyle, as Sky Masterson, sings "Luck Be a Lady Tonight." From left: Mark Labadorf, Michael Schweitzer, Jason Eisenberg, Tommy Doyle, Jesse Weil, and Andy Lieberman.

from being closed, she agrees to join him in Havana for dinner. In perhaps my favorite scene of the show, Fried shines as the drunken mission seduced by the Havana heat and the charms of an avid gambler. Seniors Chelsea Morano and Nick Gardella share a saucy dance, and a brawl breaks out when too many guys vie for a round with Sarah. Sarah then sings of her happiness and the pleasure of his company in "If I Were a Bell," which Fried hit right out of the ballpark. Sky then takes Sarah back to New York, where Doyle sings "My Time of Day," saying to Sarah, "you're the only doll I've ever wanted to share it with me." They join together in singing "I've Never Been in Love Before," when Detroit and his crowd of gamblers are kicked out of Save-a-Soul Mission, where they had been shooting craps. Sarah feels betrayed and turns on Sky, believing he used her.

The second act begins with Adelaide and her fellow dancers at the Hot Box performing "Take Back Your Mink," during which the parents sitting next to me with their two young daughters seemed taken aback when the actors actually stripped down to their skivvies. During "Adelaide's Second Lament," one of the little girls asked aloud, "Isn't she cold?"

Foye, who I am used to playing more major roles in the musicals, finally had her solo in the second act, in "More I Cannot Wish You," in which she basically advises Sarah to follow her heart, even if it leads her to a gambler. It was worth the wait, and one of the more pleasant slow songs of the show.

"The Crapshooter's Dance" was choreographed really well (by both Moranos, who actually choreographed the entire show) and the energy on the stage was palpable and exciting. Sky intervenes after an unfair round of craps in which Nathan gets cleaned out by Big Jules (sophomore Chris Falcioni), who has been rolling unmarked dice. Weil is humorous and has a way of sort of exchanging glances with the audience throughout, thereby developing more interaction and heightening the feelings of suspense and irony.

Making his biggest gamble ever, Sky bets \$1,000 against each of the men's souls



Kevin Granger

The dancing ladies at the Hot Box nightclub perform "Take Back Your Mink" in the second act of *Guys and Dolls*. From left: Hannah Fagen, Julia Bain, Cory Morano, Molly Ronis, Chelsea Morano, Phoebe Sherman, and Taylor Eisenberg.

on one round of craps. If they win, they each get \$1,000. And if they lose, they have to attend a large prayer session at the Save-a-Soul Mission (and thus save it from being closed). Doyle sings "Luck Be a Lady," which was perhaps the highlight of his performance the whole night.

On his way to the mission, Nathan runs into Adelaide, whose heart has been broken time and again as he keeps breaking his promises and avoiding marriage. Weil and Cory Morano are wonderful together, and in "Sue Me," the two of them have this heated verbal battle and then a hilarious, one-sided physical battle in which Adelaide repeatedly beats up Nathan, much to the pleasure of the audience. Sick of his

neglect and his gambling ways, Adelaide leaves Nathan, whose tired, patient entreaties for her forgiveness are shirked.

Having won the gamble, Sky leads the sinners to the Save-a-Soul Mission, where the missionaries anxiously anticipate their arrival. Several men give testimony, including Nicely-Nicely Johnson, who then sings "Sit Down, You're Rockin' the Boat." Almost the entire cast performed this number, and their unity and the obviousness of how much fun they were having made this number wonderful. Even if they hadn't sounded as great as they did, the camaraderie on the stage reminded us why we come to see these shows: to support our classmates and peers, to gather the community, enjoy an evening out, and to really appreciate the fruits of the entire cast and crew's labor over the past several months.

Cory Morano and Fried realize together in a spirited duet, "Marry the Man Today," that they both need to be with Sky and Nathan, respectively, and they can always change the boys' gambling ways once they are hitched and legally bound.

"The entire cast really bonded throughout the experience. We've all grown extremely close throughout the show," said Weil. "People are constantly fighting, but it's only because we know each other so well and we function sort of like a family. It was an excellent experience to work with so many friends of mine, and to share the stage with many of my closest friends, many of which who are seniors and will be leaving next year. One person I'm especially glad to have gotten the chance to work with is the extremely talented, Cory Morano (Adelaide). I think we really worked well together, and playing against her made it really easy to get into character."

This sentiment was shared throughout the cast, as many of the actors and actresses contributed to the positive energy on stage and thus, the success of the show.

"The cast of *Guys and Dolls* was one that I'll never forget simply because of the way we put all of our differences aside to put up a fantastic production," said Doyle. "Everybody always had positive energy and that's truly what moved the rehearsal process along. I can't tell you who I try to emulate on stage without giving you the cast list of every show I've ever been in.

[In] this particular show, I really look up to all of the seniors and all they've done to make these past few months some of the best."

What was interesting about this particular production was that neither male lead was a senior. Both Weil and Doyle were excited to be playing their first lead roles in a Schreiber production, and went to great lengths to prepare.

"[The] character of Sky Masterson was actually a bit of a stretch for me because not only have I never acted a part of this magnitude, but I've also never been a romantic lead. I needed to work incredibly hard to be able to pull it off and hopefully my hard work translated to the audience," said Doyle.

In preparation for his role, Weil initially referred to the performances of both Sinatra in the 1955 film and Nathan Lane in the 1992 Broadway Revival. "Both of these Nathan Detroit's are different, and at first they seemed to be nothing like me. Lane's absolutely hysterical as Nathan Detroit," said Weil. "Unfortunately, I don't look, sound, or act like Nathan Lane, nor Frank Sinatra. In the end, after familiarizing myself with the script and really understanding the character, I decided to make honest choices, and find the similarities between Nathan Detroit and myself: real qualities I have, and accentuate them for the part. I really needed to know exactly how [Nathan] feels throughout the show, in order make him real. He's sort of an arrogant, selfish, oblivious, anxious jerk, but somewhere in the midst of it all he's absolutely loveable."

The female leads were both seniors, and both sentimental about their last couple of performances at Schreiber. "It feels absolutely bizarre that this is my last year at Schreiber," said Fried. "I cannot imagine my life on or off stage without my fantastic, wonderful, brilliant, and inspiring cast-mates. It makes this experience so special, and I'm really trying to treasure every moment with all of these wonderful people."

Guys and Dolls, from start to finish and from auditions to the final curtain call, was an excellent representation of the talented Schreiber theatre community. Bravo!



Kevin Granger

After a lovely dinner at his favorite restaurant in Havana, Cuba, Sky Masterson (Tommy Doyle) sings "My Time of Day," a song about how Sarah Brown (Molly Fried) is the only doll he's ever wanted to share it with.

Banned websites lead to confusion among students and staff

BY Katherine Fields

Contributing Writer

At the touch of a mouse, all of the wonderful things that the World Wide Web has to offer become available for one's viewing. However, while using the internet on school computers, students often find that they are limited in their usage of it. Many websites are blocked from use by a set of criteria, as well as by the preferences of the school administration.

As a student tries to access a seemingly innocent website, he or she can often find it blocked. The proof of such restriction is the infamous white page that slowly loads revealing the Portnet logo and a message stating that whatever website that is trying to be accessed is not available for viewing. Every member of the student body has experienced such a message whether it is while researching a paper, clicking on an enticing news story, or making a hopeful attempt at gaining access to an obviously forbidden website.

"The blocked websites in our school seem to be chosen arbitrarily," said senior Julia Zaskorski. "Either devise a set of criteria or trust the student body. Something in between is ineffective."

One of the main questions raised over the topic of internet filtering is whether or not it is necessary. While websites are blocked on school computers, they can all be accessed easily on any cell phone with internet access, such as a BlackBerry. The use of smartphones with their own access to the internet can often defeat the purpose of filtering certain websites.

"There is constant access to any

website while using a BlackBerry or any other phone with internet access," said freshman Alexa Pinto. "Plenty of people check Facebook regularly throughout the day as well as other sites."

Although many students find that the filtering blocks innocent websites, the decision to restrict access does not lie with the school district alone. In fact, internet filtering is a requirement through the federal Children's Internet Protection Act for all libraries and schools that receive federal funding. However, the school has the ultimate decision of what individual websites to block.

Students are not alone in thinking that the filtering is too stringent; some staff members do not agree with the policies. In the library computer lab, one of the most accessible in the school, many students type up papers and various assignments, conduct research, and check their email. According to Ms. Kate Herz, one of the library media specialists, the school library upholds the belief that students should be allowed to explore the internet and have more freedom to utilize everything that the internet has to offer.

"It is not necessary to have such strong filtering in place," Ms. Herz says. "Our school needs to rethink filtering in order to have students embrace technology and use it in a creative way."

However, not all see the restrictions as limiting. Some contend that the blocking policy is lenient enough for any needed internet usage.

"Our goal is to provide the greatest access within the framework we are required. We apply a filter, follow guidelines, and provide online access in a

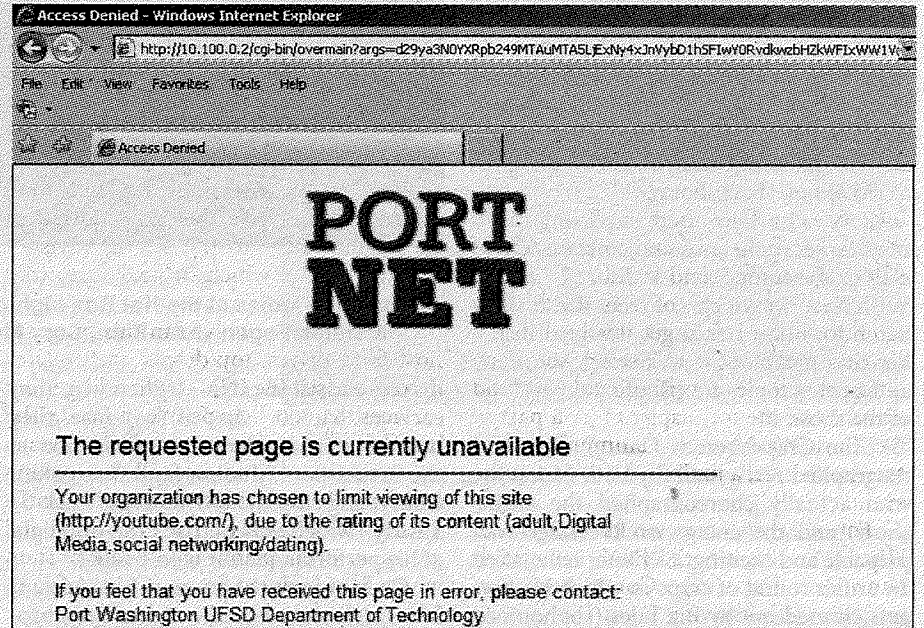
manner to provide the greatest access to online resources," said Mr. David Baylen, the Director of Technology.

When it comes to the question of internet filtering, it is not as simple as allowing one site and blocking another. Internet filtering within the school is done through a web filter called iPrism. This filter separates internet content into different categories, such as social networking sites, blogging sites, and news sources. Users of iPrism can check off different topics or websites that are then placed in various categories. Ultimately, if a website is categorized as inappropriate

but is then deemed appropriate by the school, the webpage can be unblocked. This process then allows students to view the site in question.

One drawback of this system is that it cannot individualize within a website. For example on YouTube, it is impossible to unblock one particular video. Because of the wide range of content on YouTube, it is improbable that the entire site could be unblocked under legal restrictions.

While internet filtering might be a nuisance to many of us and make research a bit more difficult, it is an intricate issue that the district will continue to explore.



Courtesy of Portnet

Students encounter this error message when they visit websites that are blocked by the school filter. The filter blocks sites like youtube.com and academic blogs.

THE WRITING CENTER

"The art of writing is the art of discovering what you believe."

—David Hare

WHAT IS THE WRITING CENTER?

A place where any student can go for help with any writing assignment

WHERE IS THE WRITING CENTER?

Room 212

WHEN IS IT OPEN?

Every day during 4-1/4-2

HOW DO I USE THE WRITING CENTER?

Come in during 4-1/4-2 to meet with Dr. Sachs or a Peer Responder, or make an appointment for another time.

Thanksgiving season spurs on food drives and charity

Students find extra time and initiative to give back during troubled times

BY Aimee Stern

Contributing Writer

Thanksgiving is a time when many charitable events, specifically food drives, occur. On Nov. 14, members of Key Club, which meets in the Student Commons, handed out fliers and collected donations outside of King Kullen in order to collect food for the Twin Pines Food Co-op, a Thrift store associated with the Community Chest of Port Washington. The Community Chest is the group that posts the red-feather posters around town. The Twin Pines Food Co-op will be distributing those non-perishable Thanksgiving foods and frozen turkeys to local families so that they can have a Thanksgiving dinner, which they would not be able to afford on their own.

"We have been doing this event for as long as I have been here; it's always cold, but always really fun," said co-president of Key Club senior David Yedid.

Even members of Key Club who are not on the board get involved in the charity movements. "Seeing so many different people contribute to the food drive made me feel happy to be a part of the Port Washington community," said Melissa Seltzer, a junior who attended the event.

For the past few weeks and up to Nov. 16, Schreiber's INN (Interfaith Nutrition Network) Committee also hosted a Thanksgiving Food Drive. The food collected was donated to the Mary Brennan INN in Hempstead, NY. The INN is a soup kitchen that offers a variety of services to Long Island's homeless and hungry. They provide showers, free hot meals and groceries, career services, language lessons, free clothing, and shelter opportunities.

The state of the homeless on Long

Island is largely unknown to a majority of Port Washington residents, since we have a relatively low number of homeless people. Many assume that because Schreiber students live in a fairly wealthy area, there are no homeless people at all—an assumption that could not be further from the truth, especially in the current economic situation.

Yedid, also a member of the INN Committee, has seen how far the economic crisis has pushed low income workers. "One day over the summer I volunteered and was surprised to see people in work clothes, and even families, not just a stereotypical 'bum.'"

The INN Committee has three students per grade, all of whom are on the INN's Youth Advisory Board. Some are officers on the Board, and each committee from the many Long Island high schools involved are expected to bring non-perishable food goods from a drive that they hosted in their community to the Youth Advisory Board meetings, which are held once every two months.

The students involved in this program host food drives, toy drives, and toiletry drives to assist the INN in providing more services that can help people in need. The members attend various INN events such as their Fundraiser Ball (making centerpieces for tables) and their annual Spring Planting Day. The environmental group is even planning a Walk-a-Thon which is scheduled to occur in April of 2010.

"The INN is a great organization that does a lot of good for the Long Island homeless, and it's awesome to see students from all around Long Island reaching out to their peers and school community to help the INN," said Yedid.

Other than the Key Club, the Student Council is also working with the INN to feed Long Island's hungry. The Student



Kevin Granger

Members of Student Council in the Commons make peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for the Interfaith Nutrition Network to give out to the hungry people of Long Island. Various students come together to feed the needy.

Council, along with many volunteers from the school, have made countless peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. Although simple, peanut butter and jelly sandwiches are ideal to hand out. They keep well, are easy to make and ship, and have good proteins and sugars that will prove healthy to possibly malnourished recipients.

About a hundred schools have also entered a contest given by 92.3 NOW. The contest is taking place in school in the tri-state area. The school with the most donations will win a concert at their school from singer Justin Bieber. Competition charity events have become more popular in recent years, and the prizes often encourage students to participate more actively in charities.

Some groups spearhead charity events

on a more private and individual level. Junior Jamie Greenberg explained that the week before Thanksgiving her family friends come to her house and set up stations to make bags for various nursing homes. The bags are made through a combined effort and are composed of various canned foods, and a flier promoting and explaining the parcel. Last year, they made around 500 bags and delivered them to many different homes. The group also delivered about 30 turkeys to each place.

"It makes everyone feel amazing because you get to see how grateful the people are that they can have a great Thanksgiving dinner and it's because of the help and time that we gave," said Greenberg.

Varied students start training to trot on Turkey Day

BY Zach Halperin

Assistant Features Editor

It's Thanksgiving Day, there is a cool breeze outside, and it's early. People are exhausted and cold, but they all line up at the starting line to begin one of Port's most treasured traditions, the Turkey Trot. The Trot, a 5 mile run, begins on Manorhaven Boulevard right in front of the park, and ends in the parking lot of Manorhaven Park. People of all ages and levels of athleticism participate in this race that can be anything from highly competitive to a joking, fun affair.

Some refer to it not as a race, but as an event. Everyone, of course, wants to beat their previous times and do the best they can, but it's not just about winning. The Turkey Trot is very family-oriented. Many families have made it a tradition to run or walk the course together during the morning of Thanksgiving Day. Some groups even form teams with matching shirts, hats, and sometimes even costumes. There is an uplifting atmosphere before the event and everyone is optimistic about finishing strong and having fun.

David Katz, a science teacher at Weber Middle School, provides the technology to track the times of the runners, as he does in many international races. Upon registering, each runner receives a small

chip that can be attached to his or her shoes, and this chip accurately records their race time. Mr. Katz and Ms. Laura Mogul, a Port resident, organize the event and make sure it runs smoothly. Mr. Katz has worked in numerous countries all around the world to track times of many important races and yet always makes it back to teach his science class. Last year, 1,689 runners participated in the race. This number marked 100 more people than the year prior, illustrating the continued and increasing success of our town's tradition.

Besides cross country runners and the other trained athletes that take part in the race, many non-runners participate and attempt to get into top running condition. Junior Rachel Rozeen and her mother, Cathy Seldin, have ran the race together for the past 5 years. She takes it more lightly and has fun with it. It is a tradition for her and her family to

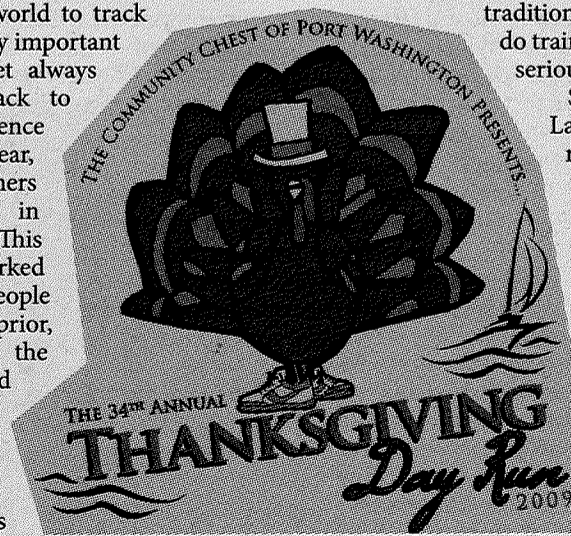
take a picture together at the end.

"I love the Turkey Trot. I love seeing the community come together and it shows Port as a whole rather than a bunch of individuals," said Rozeen. Rachel and her mom run the race as more of a tradition, but some people do train and take it more seriously.

Sophomore Jacob Lanzkowsky is running the event this year for his second time, and has trained hard so he can be a more competitive runner.

"I train by running on the treadmill in the gym. I don't have to work as hard this year compared to

last year because it was my first year. My goal is to run it under 50 minutes and beat my previous time," Lanzkowsky said. For students that do not run on a day-to-day basis, it is even more of a challenge. The reward is still as great for the untrained runner as it is for any seasoned athlete.



www.portchest.org

"The first mile is the hardest and after that it gets easier. You get into a rhythm and you do not cramp up as much," Lanzkowsky said. "I feel as if I am at a disadvantage because I am not a runner, but I am not afraid."

Sophomore Jordan Finkle is another non-runner who has run the Turkey Trot in the past. Although not running it this year, Finkle said he trained hard to get into condition to run, and playing on a soccer team helped him to accomplish his goal of running it in under an hour.

"The hardest mile is mile three," Finkle said. "You have to run uphill and it is hard on the legs. Only sheer will can help you through it. The last mile is the easiest because you can feel the finish line."

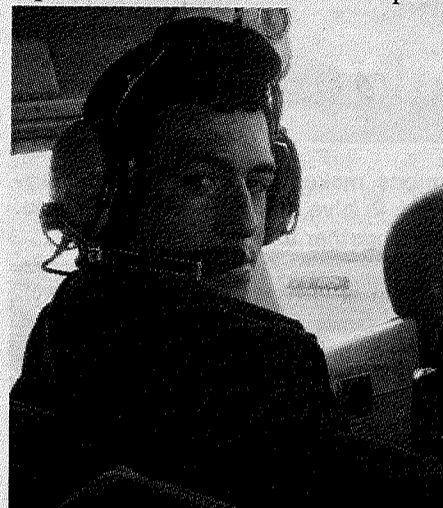
Throughout its history, the Turkey Trot has seen many Schreiber students surpass all adult competition. Last year, then Schreiber student Noah Bondy, now a freshman at SUNY Cobleskill, placed 3rd for males overall. He ran the race in under 30 minutes and beat out many more experienced runners. This was an incredible feat for someone that is under the age of 18. In the male division of kids ages 13-15, Chun Liu, a current junior at Schreiber, placed 1st, freshman James Gallagher placed 2nd, and sophomore Ryan Schwartz placed 3rd. In addition, in the female division of ages 13-15, junior Bridgette McDermott finished 1st.

Student Feature Daniel Cottitta: A true high-flyer

by Blake and Reid Mergler

Opinions Editor and Sports Editor

Most students hear "prepare for takeoff" only when they go away for vacation. Senior Dan Cottitta, however, hears these words frequently because he has spent much of his high school career on the runway. Already making great strides in aviation standards, Cottitta is in his second year of the two-year course, Aviation Operations, offered by BOCES (Board Of Cooperative Educational Services). Through the course, students learn the fundamentals of flight and experience what it is like to be a pilot.



Courtesy of Daniel Cottitta

Daniel's aerial ambition is only limited by federal no-fly zones and his airplane's fuel capacity. He takes lessons through BOCES at Republic Airport in Farmingdale.

Everyday, Cottitta and other students, through this unique course, spend a half-day at Schreiber and then travel to BOCES for their two and a half-hour lesson at the Joseph Barry Technical Education Center.

Cottitta's interest in aviation stems from two generations of pilots in his family. His grandfather flew as a flight engineer for anti-submarine planes during the Cold War. After the Navy, he was an engineer for TWA (Trans World Airlines). His father, following his own father's interest, has a pilot's license and flew as a private hobby.

"My father and grandfather gave me a great amount of influence as a child," said Cottitta. "He would take me and my brother [senior Chris Cottitta] to the airport and we would identify the differences between planes. This is when my interest developed."

Although Cottitta always had an interest in aviation, he did not think that he would ever have the chance to pursue it. Since aviation schooling and preparation is costly and time consuming, it seemed impossible to Dan at a young age; as a freshman, Cottitta was lost as to what to focus on for his future career. However, at the end of his sophomore year, when he met with guidance counselor Ms. Laurie Baron to plan for his junior year, he saw the BOCES Aviation Operation program in the student handbook. As this program is free and can ultimately give you a pilot's license, Cottitta was eager to apply.

"After I was accepted into the program, I felt that I had an amazing opportunity," said Cottitta. "Knowing that I had the potential to get my pilot's license in the

class caused my motivation to skyrocket."

In addition to the motivation from his father and his grandfather, Cottitta derives his drive to fly from his aviation teacher, Mr. John Carey, who is a former airplane pilot. Because he knows what it is like to be a professional pilot and understand all aspects of the aviation industry, Carey teaches the students about the fundamentals of aviation. He has been a major influence in Cottitta's life.

In the course, the students mainly learn aerodynamics, aviation regulations, the airport environment, weather, weight and balance, and navigation in order to prepare for the Private Pilot Written Exam. After hard work and studying, Cottitta passed this rigorous test last year. This year, he prepares for both the ability to solo and pass the oral portion of the exam, required for the flight test.

Former students often visit the center, providing additional inspiration for Cottitta and his fellow students.

"As it is an amazing class, former students come back and share their experiences," Cottitta said. "In one case, a student who started off at Barry Tech became a corporate pilot and flew for Former President Bush. Others have flown jumbo jets to Asia. By knowing these esteemed pilots, we are able to make connections for our future."

As well as providing connections and teaching techniques, the BOCES program also allows the students to fly three times a week. The students are able to take off from the nearly 7000-foot long runway at Republic Airport in Farmingdale in central Long Island. A student's diligence is often rewarded with increased flight

time, which ranges anywhere from 50 to 90 minutes.

For Cottitta, nothing was more exciting than his first time flying on Sept. 15, 2008. He was in the air for about an hour and ten minutes, flying north over the Long Island Sound.

"Because I was top of my class, I was the first student to fly," Cottitta said. "When I was getting ready, the instructor was confident and I learned the lingo and about getting clearance. Once I was up in the air, it was a euphoric but calm feeling. Every time I go up flying, it makes my day. It's my passion."

Although most of the time flight-time is coordinated, there are other experiences that can be quite "hair-raising," according to Cottitta. One time, Cottitta was only 500 feet away from a Sea Plane and he had to maneuver the plane and guide it through the potentially messy situation.

Despite such fearful experiences, Cottitta remains determined to become a pilot. In the near future, he will also be interning at the American Airpower Museum in conjunction with the normal course and flying time. Cottitta will give tours there and clean planes in the hangar as part of the educational internship.

To further his dreams of becoming a pilot, he is applying to aviation programs at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, Dowling University, and Kansas State University, all of which are well-known for their elite training and aviation programs. His preparation through the BOCES program has allowed him to buckle his seat-belt and have a clear take-off into his aviation future.

Remnants of Port's simple beginnings seen in Sands-Willets House *Centuries of history passed on through the generations in the farm-turned historical site*

by Kaia de Bruin

Staff Writer

Even though the farms were all replaced, the sheep shipped elsewhere, and the cows milked for the last time decades ago, the era of farming in Port Washington has not faded completely. Relics of the simpler past can still be found. These are the testaments to a time when Port Washington was not a home to doctors and bankers but to farmers. One such remnant is the Sands-Willets House.

Built in 1735, the Sands-Willets House is one of the only remaining buildings on Long Island from that far back in the community's history. The house is on the state and national register of historic landmarks and is representative of the farmhouses of prosperous Long Island families from the 18th and 19th centuries. The Sands-Willets House is the only one of its kind that is open to the public in the Town of North Hempstead.

The first owners of the house, the Sands family, had possession of the property dating as far back as 1715. The house itself was then built by Captain John Sands II, who was a seafarer out of the many ports in Long Island and present-day New York City. The Sands family built the colonial-style kitchen, the oldest part of the house, in 1735. Originally, the house was much smaller than it is today, and was made up of only the kitchen, another room on the ground floor, and two rooms upstairs.

Members of the Sands family were among the first settlers of Sands Point,

taking part in building the agricultural and port-based community. Years later, the house was occupied by Colonel John Sands IV, who was the head of the Great Neck-Cow Neck Hempstead Harbor Militia during the Revolutionary War. The militia, along with seven members of the Sands household, served in General George Washington's army during his campaigns in New York. Other than its military involvement, the family was comprised of merchants and farmers.

In 1845, Edmund Willets arrived with his wife, Martha Whitson Willets, and they bought the property. He was a well-known Quaker and businessman, as well as an outspoken abolitionist. A small room in the basement is thought to have been a part of the Underground Railroad, but no one is certain (the Mott family, residents of Sands Point, used their house as a stop on the Underground Railroad). Willets then added a Greek-style porch to the house. Their contributions include the side wing and the center section of the house. When the Willets still lived in the house during its peak years, the house had ten chimneys and a farm known as Homewood. The 240-acre farm, part of the property, was actively used until 1920. The Willets family owned the house until 1967, when the Cow Neck Historical Society bought it from Eliza Willets.

The Historical Society still maintains ownership of the property and has done work to restore it, including uncovering the originally built kitchen hearth from 1735. When the Society first took the house over, it was in desperate need of

repair. The Society restored and furnished the wing built in the 1840s, renovated the electrical system, and painted the exterior of the house. In a 1989 article from *The New York Times*, records of the work that needed to be done were presented. The list included rotted pipes, collapsed chimneys, and cracked walls and floors among many other problems. Thankfully, the house is in much better shape today due to the efforts of the Society.

Currently, eleven of the house's eighteen rooms are open to the public. The Cow Neck Historical Society is based out of

the Sand-Willets house and still remains involved with the town through many of its annual events. The Historical Society holds the Fall Fair each September and the Holiday Fair each November. The Fall Fair is a very popular event for children and this year there was a petting zoo, pony rides, face painting, and a fire truck. The affair also showcased a Civil War re-enactment as well. The show serves as a reminder of the history that the house has stood through, from the origins of our country, the Industrial Revolution, and all the way to the digital age.



Christina Vlahos

The Sands-Willets House, one of the oldest surviving buildings on Long Island dating back to the 18th century, is open to the public for tours. Currently maintained by the Cow Neck Historical Society, the House has been home to several residents, including the Willets family which has loaned the site its name.

arts & Entertainment

New Moon does not disappoint the record-breaking fan base

BY Sam Kaplan & Jackie Werner

Contributing Writers

After last year's *Twilight* phenomenon attracted millions of fans across the nation, teenagers and the growing number of "Twilight moms" yearned for the return of the star-crossed romance that captivated the nation. In two days the latest installment in the *Twilight* Saga: *New Moon*, broke two box office records. The midnight showing itself raked in \$26.3 million, and the opening-day total was \$72.7 million, beating *The Dark Knight* in 2008, which made a much smaller \$67.2 million in comparison. If one happened to pass by Main Street on Nov. 19 right before midnight, there may have been a slew of crazy fans piling into the movie theater, waiting to be immersed in two hours of romance and vampires.

The plot of *New Moon* is very different from that of the original film, exploring a darker time in Bella's life and dealing with more intense conflicts. Although *Twilight* mostly involved the developing and budding romance between the Arizona-native Bella Swan (Kristen Stewart) and the immortal, gorgeous vampire Edward Cullen (Robert Pattinson), *New Moon* deals with Bella dealing with the loss of her one true love. After Bella accidentally gets a paper cut at her seventeenth birthday and drips a drop of blood on the Cullen's living room floor, Edward's brother, the mysterious Jasper Hale (Jackson Rathbone) suddenly pounces to attack but is suddenly stopped by Edward. After this life-changing event, Edward feels like he is constantly putting Bella's life in danger and cannot bear it anymore. After an emotional goodbye in the same

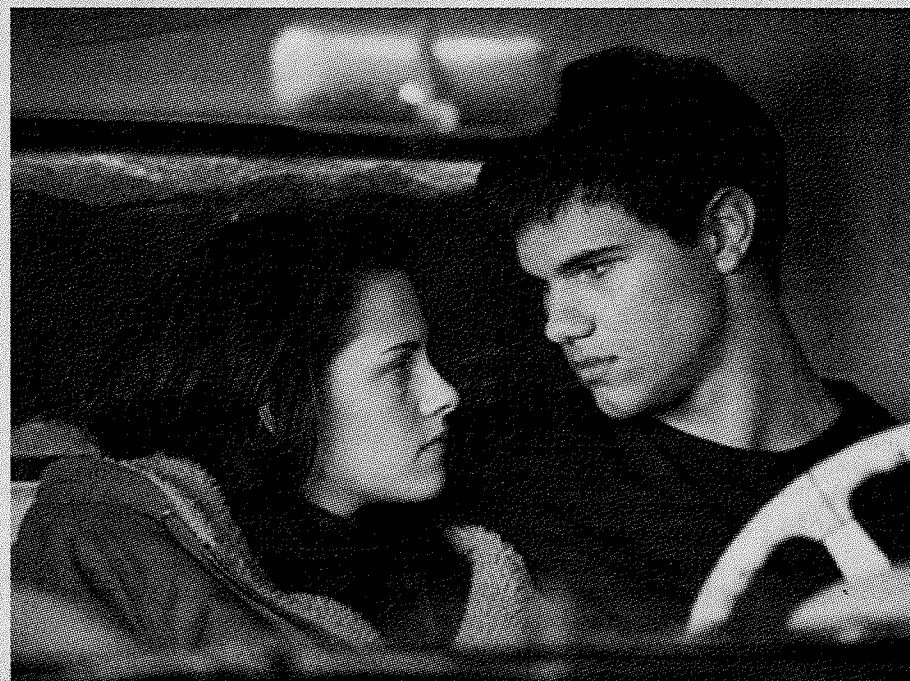
forest where they first professed their love for each other, Edward disappears, leaving Bella alone in the twigs and rocks. Bella falls into a deep depression afterwards, withdraws from the things she once loved and yearns for her love to come back to her.

However, the plot completely changes as her close confidante and friend, Jacob Black (Taylor Lautner), suddenly reappears and plays a major role throughout the rest of the film. Jacob went through a much greater transformation this time around. Although he was shier and hid his secret crush for Bella behind his long black locks, in *New Moon* he completely cuts his hair off and buffs up quite a bit, not to mention for at least 60% of the movie he is seen without a shirt to the great pleasure of teenage girls everywhere.

Not only does Jacob's appearance improve, but he also helps Bella's life improve. He helps his best friend Bella cope with her loss, curing her depression and providing her with entertainment after their school days. The two gradually become closer and Bella slowly starts to drift to him more.

However, their relationship reached a halt when Jacob suddenly disappeared, reminding Bella of her haunting abandonment and confusing her terribly. She finally learns the truth when she realizes that Jacob has joined the Quileute tribe wolfpack, the ultimate enemies of the Cullen's vampire family. This creates a much larger dilemma for Bella as to whose side she should support and which man she should choose to be with.

When Jacob misleads Edward in a quick phone call that Bella has killed herself, Edward decides to present himself to the Volturi, an ancient family that reigns over the vampire world, to kill himself as well. When Alice Cullen (Ashley Greene), Bella's close friend suddenly comes back home to inform Bella of Edward's intentions, the two rush to Italy to try to stop him, disappointing Jacob. Obviously, when Bella and Edward get to reunite, the two reiterate their love and devotion for each other and



After Bella's (Kristen Stewart) love leaves to protect her, she becomes closer with her longtime friend Jacob (Taylor Lautner).

Edward promises never to leave her like that again. The two return back to their hometown in Forks, Washington and seem to be content until Jacob meets Edward again in the infamous forest and the two start to fight over who Bella should choose. Bella chooses Edward, leaving Jacob to run away into the depths of the forests in his wolf-state, heartbroken. Moviegoers are left to wonder, "What will happen to Bella and Jacob's tight-knit relationship?" The last line of the film provides another cliffhanger that left the audience on the edges of their seats.

Aside from the typically attractive members of the cast, *New Moon* presented some new faces. Dakota Fanning was included in the film. Playing Jane, a member of the Volturi, Fanning embraces a new role: one that is slightly less angelic and innocent. Despite this change, she actually does an excellent job, convincing the audience of her villainous ways.

"The acting was much better and the new additions to the cast were great. I hope to see them again in future movies," said senior Caroline Millo.

Overall, this production was very different from *Twilight*. Because it proved to have a significant fan base, the film was given a much higher budget, providing more special effects and vivid images. The film grossed over \$100 million its opening weekend and hopefully, the upcoming films will continue this standard.

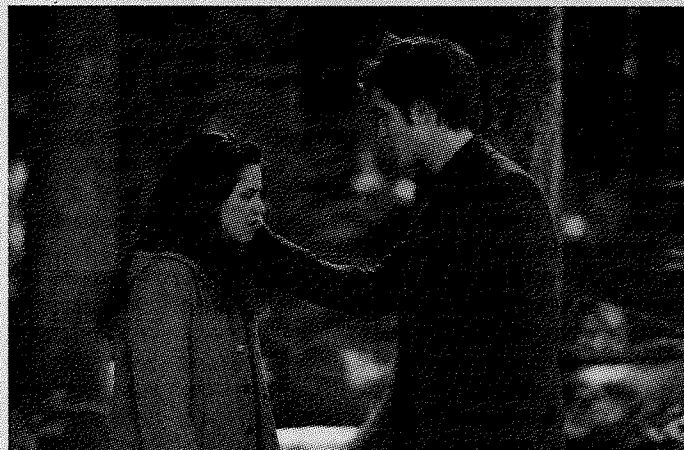
One thing that is great about *New*

Moon is its diversity. It really appeals to people of all age groups, as nearly everyone loves action, heartbreak, love, and friendship. Even better than that is the fact that the film avoids disappointment. Bella and Edward are together in the end, which is nice to see.

While many may be skeptical of the whole recent vampire trend, the *Twilight* series is truly incredible. There are, of course, unrealistic aspects, but the way in which they are integrated makes them seem completely natural and apt.

As is the case with many series, fans are always skeptical of the second film. After all, it could be overdone, or the plot could be turned trite and dry. *New Moon*, however, was excellent. It created drama, resolved it, and left enthusiasts with an excellent cliffhanger. The relationship of Bella and Edward is possibly heading in a more intense direction, while Bella and Jacob's relationship still remains in questions, not to mention Victoria (Rachelle Lefevre), the evil vampire mate of James, who Edward had killed in the original film, who still seeks revenge on Bella.

In the end, the midnight showing was totally worth it. The thrill of vampires and romance is just unbelievable, and fans should be starting their June 30, 2010 countdown. *Eclipse* will be here before we know it!



In order to protect her, Edward Cullen (Robert Pattinson) leaves Bella in the forest and suddenly disappears. This forest is where they first professed their love for each other.

Vampires return, ready to leave their mark on Hollywood

With smaller fangs and larger hearts, these formerly eerie creatures are taking over the entertainment industry

BY Bethia Kwak

Staff Writer

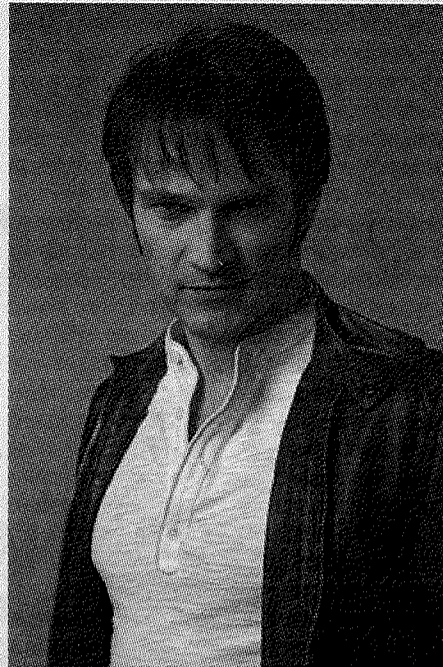
It seems that a new trend is consuming the media with its fangs, and it may just leave a permanent mark. Vampires have taken hold of the silver screen and everything in between, but what is interesting is how this obsession evolved and why it caught on so quickly. It was just one year ago that girls of all ages were swooning over the film adaptation of Stephenie Meyer's novel *Twilight*. Now *Twilight* has blossomed into a full series of feature films.

The concept of vampires has become quite popular on television as well, with new television shows such as *The Vampire's Assistant*, *True Blood*, and *The Vampire Diaries* becoming quite popular. What seems to lure the female population most is the romance; vampires are now seen as the perfect, ideal boyfriends.

"The fact that you get to be with the one you love forever attracts many girls to the concept of vampires. It does not hurt either that the cast of *Twilight* was filled with attractive boys," said sophomore Michelle Gil.

The *Twilight* enterprise used effective marketing techniques in hiring both good-looking and fresh new actors to play the parts of such hunks as Edward Cullen (Robert Pattinson) and Jacob Black (Taylor Lautner).

Not everyone, however, is being sucked into the whole Vampire craze. Others



www.tvguide.com



www3.timeoutny.com

Bill Compton (Stephen Moyer) of *True Blood*, is quite the contrast to the classic vampire, typified by *Dracula* (Bela Lugosi). Compton represents the attractive, desirable vampire that can be found on both the small and silver screen.

even resent the fact that the obsession for vampires has gotten this far.

"I dislike how *Twilight* has started a vampire trend. People, especially young girls, who wouldn't normally be interested in the undead now have a false interpretation of it," said sophomore Hana Seligman.

If we look back to the past, the perception of vampires has changed greatly. Even just a few years ago, the general public saw vampires as dark creatures that caused havoc in communities. They were vicious beings who were purple in color and only interested in killing you by sucking your blood. These days, this certainly is not the

case. Now, vampires are sensitive, beautiful creatures who try to suppress their need for blood in order to save their loved ones. It has truly taken quite a turn, which has made many horror fanatics angry and left others in disbelief regarding this rapid change. Others, though, are fascinated with this new perspective and have nearly fallen in love with the "new vampires."

"I did not like *Twilight* as a whole, but I thought it was interesting how the film brought vampires into a new light," said sophomore Boddy Katz.

As stated before, girls seem to be the prime target of this vampire trend. The male population just does not seem to be as phased by this ongoing development.

"It is not a big deal for guys. If the vampire movie is good, like *30 Days of Night*, then I'll like it as a movie, not for the vampires specifically," said sophomore Antonio Pena.

An interesting point that should be brought up is the whole concept of men being the vampires and the women being swept off their feet. Will the female population ever get their moment of superiority or are they doomed to always be the weak character who needs a man to protect her?

The viewers may be the ones to determine if this new vampire image persists. If many people are not captivated, they could very well go back to their original stereotype: the more frightening monster. Granted, with any trend, there will always be rebels and followers.

PBS unfairly overlooked by viewers

BY Andrew Seo

Editor-in-Chief

With much of the attention paid to cable television and large networks like NBC and CBS, it is no surprise that the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) gets brushed off to the side. PBS is a non-profit service, meaning that you will not be inundated with commercials during a show, and it produces some of the most interesting programming on television.

PBS is most famous among young people for its rich offerings in children's television. Many grew up watching shows like *Arthur*, *The Magic School Bus*, and *Sesame Street*. But, just because you have graduated from the likes of these shows does not mean that there is little that PBS has to offer now at the high school level.

The beauty in PBS is that it does not specialize in one topic like a cable channel would. It does not focus exclusively on the arts or history. Instead, it broadcasts a mélange of programs, ranging from *Nova*, which covers the sciences, to *The Newshour with Jim Lehrer*, which provides a comprehensive take on current affairs. The fine arts are also covered with programs like *Great Performances* and *Live from the Met*.

For those uninterested in watching non-fiction works incessantly, you need not worry. PBS broadcasts dramas like *Mystery!* and *Masterpiece Theatre*.

And for those actually interested in factual and historic programs, there are many options to choose from like *American Experience*, which just last week re-aired its in-depth profile on the Kennedy political dynasty.

But, arguably the best program PBS offers is *Frontline*. Each episode is a mini-documentary, lasting for 60 minutes—

completely commercial free. *Frontline* covers a whole host of public interest topics, including current events, with each one told from an interesting angle.

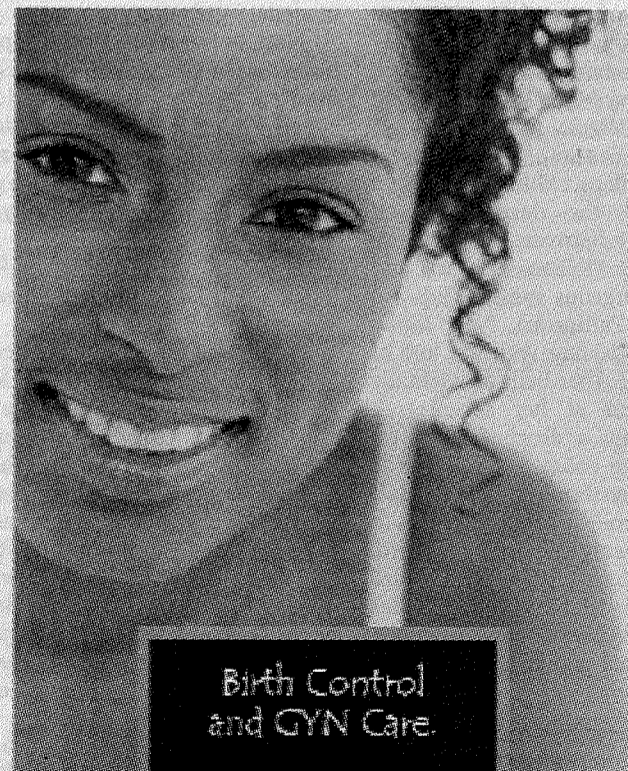
Last week, on Nov. 24, a *Frontline* entitled "The Card Game" aired, covering the credit card business. Congress has recently been pushing for legislation that protects consumers from the fine print and charges that credit cards use to reap profits. *Frontline* fascinatingly covered this issue by looking ahead to see what new terms and products banks would offer in reaction to the regulations.

Another benefit that *Frontline* offers is that it has its episodes online for your viewing pleasure. If you missed "The Card Game," or any of the other episodes that were aired in recent months, you can watch it at your leisure on the *Frontline* website—again, without the interruption of advertisements. In the past year, particularly memorable episodes include "Ten Trillion and Counting," which analyzes and projects the current U.S. deficit, and "The Warning," which examines factors that contributed to the current recession.

Looking ahead, *Frontline* will air "The Madoff Affair" on Dec. 8. This episode will cover the elaborate Ponzi scheme that Bernard Madoff orchestrated, which cost his investors \$65 billion.

Frontline is a thought-provoking program that will stimulate your mind for 60 straight minutes. It covers everything from the Clean Water Act to the war in Afghanistan.

PBS, as a network, has a rich offering of shows that cover everything from astrophysics to orchestral performances. In the New York area, PBS has two channels in the form of WNET and WLIW, so you are almost guaranteed every night to find something that interests you.



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Calamity arrives slightly early with the disastrous 2012

By Victor Dos Santos

Staff Writer

The latest disaster film to hit theaters, *2012*, was directed by Roland Emmerich and stars John Cusack, Amanda Peet, Chiwetel Ejiofor, Danny Glover and Woody Harrelson. The film starts off in 2009 with a geologist who is working for the U.S. government when he discovers that the earth's plates are shifting and that the end is near. Unfortunately, the fate of this movie proved to be the same as the world's fate.

Using this information, the government decides to work with China to have indestructible spaceships to be completed by 2012, so that they can ship out the most valuable people and animals in order to save the human race. They try to keep this a secret when it is announced to the president, who is played by one of the few actors who was decent, Glover. The film also focuses on Cusack's character, Jackson Curtis, a failed writer who is a limo driver. He drives around a rich arrogant Russian man, his two spoiled kids and his girlfriend. A pretty steady Peet

plays Curtis' ex-wife. She has remarried a plastic surgeon named Gordon who is paid by a hilarious Thomas McCarthy.

Cusack also has two kids named Noah and Lily. Noah feels the need to neglect his father. This particular aspect was a bad move on the director's part, because you can tell throughout the movie that the director wants the audience to think that this character is cute and innocent, but instead he's really just obnoxious. Cusack and the kids go on a camping trip to Yellow Stone, where they meet Charlie, played by Harrelson. He tells them about the end of the world and about the secret spaceships in China. At first Cusack thinks the whole idea is all baloney, until the world begins to fall apart. The rest of the film pretty much has to do with Cusack, his kids, his wife, and Gordon trying to get to China as well as the Russian man, his kids and girlfriend, because he provides them a plane to fly in.

2012 is probably one of the year's most disastrous movies, and not the kind of disastrous they were going for. Without the outstanding special effects, which seemed to be the only good part of this movie, it clearly would have been

doomed. Roland Emmerich is famous for doing the disaster genre, and in the past he's done pretty well with the budget he is given, but that wasn't the case here. Plus, the only few actors that actually appeared as if they were trying were Ejiofor, Peet, and Glover.

This movie relied too much on unfunny one-liners, and a lot of green screen. There was also really no story to it, no explanation as to why all of these disasters happened. Besides the Mayans' predictions, the most of an explanation were some vague scientific conversations that the actors themselves probably didn't even understand.

Another problem with the film was its overuse of destruction. Maybe that was the point, to show off the special effects, but after the 40th natural disaster occurring, there's only so much destruction that the human eye can take before it gets tired of it. This movie dragged on far too long towards the end. However, the action was solid and there were some funny one-liners from Gordon and the Russian man's kids. If anyone were to see this movie, then it should only be seen in the theater for its special effects, only because you would not get the same dramatic experience in your own home.



www.allmoviephoto.com

Jackson Curtis (John Cusack) runs toward a burning plane in *2012*, a film that seemed to be filled with catastrophic decisions based on the popular Mayan myth that the world will end in 2012.

Do not stare at this George Clooney flop

By Matt Brooks

Contributing Writer

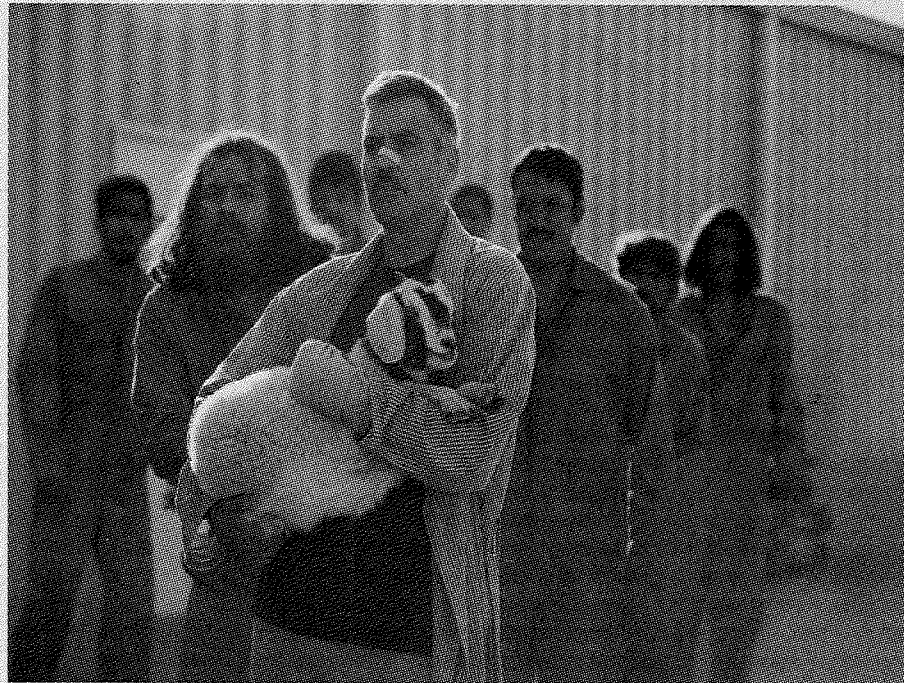
Previews for *The Men Who Stare at Goats* would lead viewers to believe that it is a laugh out loud comedy. Although there were a few comedic moments, overall the film was far from funny.

The film begins with Bob Wilton (Ewan McGregor), a little known reporter in Michigan who is about to be situated in Kuwait at an army base near the border. As he prepares to leave, he has a glorious dream of sorts. He imagines himself entering Iraq, killing the enemies, saving lives, and ultimately returning home to win the Nobel Peace Prize. After being showered with praise, he plans on finding the love of his life and marrying her. As with most dreams, this one does not become a reality. Upon entering Iraq, Wilton meets special agent Lyn Cassidy (George Clooney), a man who is in a secret division

of the army. This strange and unrealistic group can perform superhuman stunts, like passing through walls and becoming invisible. They practice, oddly enough, by staring at goats.

After encountering this bizarre situation, Wilton finds himself wrapped up in a crazy adventure led by Cassidy's ludicrous army officer, Lieutenant Colonel Bill Django (Jeff Bridges). When the founder of the special unit is reported to be missing, everything becomes even more hectic, if that is possible. In order to help the situation, the men turn to an insane individual and clearly ironic Larry Hopper, who twists the mission of this group in order to accommodate his own needs.

Overall, this film was a complete flop. It was not funny and Clooney's talents were wasted. His acting could not even salvage the illogical plot lines and mediocre performances.



www.allmoviephoto.com

Lyn Cassidy (George Clooney) carries one of the many goats that helped him practice his supernatural skills while he is stationed in a secret division of the army in Iraq. In order to train, Cassidy and his fellow troops would stare at the animals.

WDOT provides excellent variety

By Rob Weinstein

Contributing Writer

Four short years ago, Schreiber launched its brand new radio station, WDOT. Encouraged by a local donation, social studies teacher Mr. Jeremy Klaff and a new staff of DJ's embarked on the goal of creating a 24-hour, multipurpose radio station for the student body and local community.

Now, the programs feature veteran voices that are familiar to regular listeners as well as several new shows that are just being started up. Three new shows include "The Brett Fishbin Show," "The Family Guys," and "Drewpiter and the Three Moons."

In the past, famous people such as Aaron Heilman, a former pitcher for the New York Mets, have been interviewed by our student broadcasters. Several events such as sports games, a radiothon, and even a show to raise awareness for Darfur have been covered.

A brand-new show on WDOT is called "The Family Guys." Sophomores Jake Shubert, Chad Edelblum, Arjan Saraon, and Bobby Katz deliver an outstanding weekly program with jokes, creativity and fantastic chemistry. On each show, they read their "Top 5 of the Week," provide "Stupid News," and even a game of Jeopardy. Occasionally, they surprise their listeners with interviews with well-known television personalities such as Peter and Stewie Griffin. In addition, social studies teacher Mr. Craig Medico hosts his own rock music radio show based off of student suggestions.

The gang is also well known to stay away from sports as often as possible. "We just want to be different than other shows and not only talk about sports," said Edelblum.

Lastly, every Friday morning,



www.portradio.org

(From L-R:) Sophomores Bobby Katz, Chad Edelblum, Arjan Saraon, and Jake Shubert, of "The Family Guys" prepare for their first show on WDOT-Port Washington.

"Drewpiter and the Three Moons" graces the soundwaves of WDOT. Perhaps the most outrageous, bizarre, and unique show, "Drewpiter and the Three Moons" is not your ordinary sports show. Aside from covering all of the typical sports topics, the crew also drills sophomore Drew Friedman with many questions, often leading to awkward silences.

The show has an outstanding variety of musics, sports, and humor. There is no better way to start your Friday than to listen to this hilarious show.

If any of these shows sound appealing, check out the station's website, portradio.org, and listen to several others of the station's fantastic shows.

With the wide variety of shows, anyone who has any passions at all will find a show for them. Every show on the channel is easy to relate to; and most students and teachers are sure to enjoy all of them from the old, to the new.

Music Box

Telling lyrics comprise John Mayer's newest album

BY Ali Nierenberg

A&E Editor

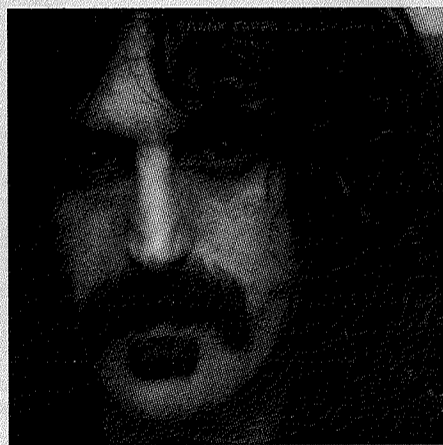
As with his previous albums, John Mayer's lyrics are more than a combination of words. On his most recent release, *Battle Studies*, the artist demonstrates that his message is as clear as ever.

Currently, one of the most popular tracks on the album is "Who Says." This single was heard prior to the Nov. 17 release of the album and is quite catchy, at first. After listening to the song several times, one becomes somewhat irritated with the lack of variation in the melody and highly redundant lyrics. The song seems like a way for Mayer to harp on all of the things he feels that society prevents him from doing because of its "rules." With this in mind it merely sounds like he is whining.

A far better track, "Heartbreak Warfare" captures Mayer's signature sound, combining a soothing melody and intriguing lyrics. The lyrics talk about love, of course, but not in a trite manner. The words are very sincere and because of this everything comes together. The tune is extremely relaxing and the perfect backdrop for Mayer's love analogy.

Continuing on a melancholy tone, the third track on Mayer's album, "All We Ever Do Is Say Goodbye," is quite depressing.

Classic Album: Frank Zappa: *Apostrophe* (')



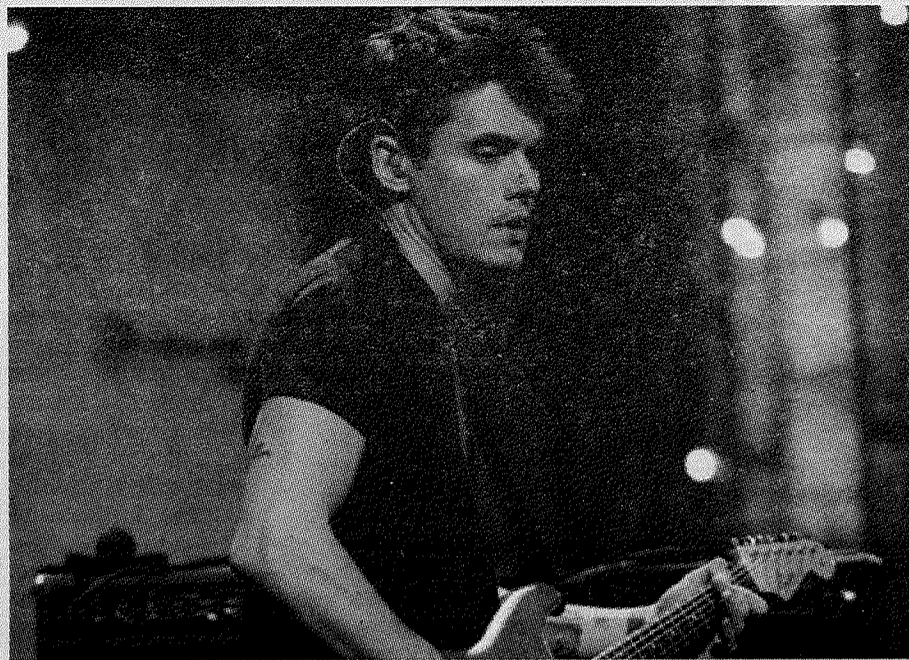
BY Kerim Kivrak

Contributing Writer

To those familiar with the name, Frank Zappa is synonymous with innovation, originality, and an utter indifference to the cultural and political norms. Though his musical career spanned five decades and contained every genre from avant-garde to classical, Zappa's controversial lyrics and abstract style resulted in very little airplay and even less commercial success.

Zappa's 1974 album *Apostrophe* (') is an almost flawless showcase of his musical genius and unconstrained humor. The album is exemplary of Zappa's storytelling style of lyricism.

The first "story" begins with "Don't Eat The Yellow Snow," wherein Zappa describes a dream he had as Nanook, an Eskimo. His mother repeats, "Watch out where the huskies go and don't you eat that yellow snow," as the song makes its transition into "Nanook Rubs It," the second track of the album. He describes a fur trapper beating his favorite baby seal, and both the song and story reach their climax as Nanook shoves a handful of the



www.fuse.tv

John Mayer performs a selection of songs from his new album, *Battle Studies*, at the Beacon Theater in New York City on Nov. 17. Mayer will be returning to the city on Dec. 12 for a concert at Madison Square Garden.

That, however, does not take away from the fact that it is, again, one of the more musical tracks. The guitar and its chords are quite clear in this song, demonstrating that Mayer has more than a good voice.

aforementioned yellow snow in the fur trapper's eye. The man is blinded and remembers an Eskimo legend that states he must visit a man named St. Alphonso in order to receive treatment.

The two tracks might as well be one song. Both tracks have only bass lines and percussion as Zappa sings, and contain sporadic guitar solos as well as the occasional appearance of a horns section. Almost every word out of Zappa's mouth is comically and melodically echoed by an array of background singers. The track loosely continues this story, but eventually, the anecdote reaches an abrupt end.

Nanook's absence is hardly even noticed by the listener as "Cosmik Debris," the ultimate testament to Frank Zappa's guitar playing abilities, begins. This is perhaps the best track on the album. The story is nudged out of focus by the exceptional vocals and Zappa's phenomenal guitar playing. The sheer brilliance of the guitar solo cannot be expressed in words. It is easily one of the best guitar performances of Zappa's career and quite possibly among the best in the history of guitar playing.

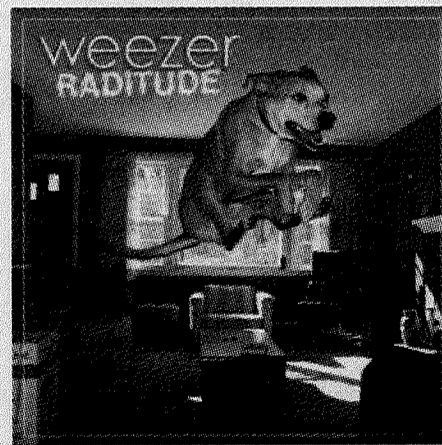
The title track, a six-minute instrumental song, is the most disappointing of this otherwise phenomenal album. The repetition makes it feel like it is meant to be an intermission between the other songs. The guitar work, though still impressive, sounds bland compared to the standard set by the rest of the album.

Frankly, *Apostrophe* ('), like all of Zappa's creations, is not something that can be easily explained. One must experience the satire, wit, and musical virtuosity for him or herself. For those looking to get a taste of what Zappa's music is like, this album is the first I would recommend.

His voice is not as distinct in this work, as it harmonizes with the other instruments, blending in with the background more than usual. In terms of its lyrics, Mayer is clearly saddened by his current love situation and at this point the predicament seems to be a common theme. One can deduce that *Battle Studies* is not a reflection of war, as much as it is love, which Mayer sees as a similar fight.

Some of the other notable tracks on the album include "Crossroads" and "I'm on Fire." In "Crossroads," Mayer diverges

Unlike previous albums, *Raditude* lacks attitude



BY Brett Fishbin

Assistant A&E Editor

Throughout their musical career, Weezer has gone through several phases, but none have been worse than the path they took with *Raditude*. Although it is understandable that they have not recaptured the sheer brilliance of their earlier records, *The Blue Album* and *Pinkerton*, Weezer has taken a serious turn for the worse.

Perhaps the most obvious part of Weezer's decline is in their lyrics written by front man and guitarist, Rivers Cuomo. What used to be relatable and powerful thoughts have turned to boring pop lyrics that have no depth or meaning to them whatsoever. In their heyday, Weezer's meaningful and catchy songs captured

from acoustics and creates quite the beat. The song sounds slightly out of place, but it is nice to hear Mayer sing a little differently. "I'm on Fire" is less drastic, in terms of its contrast, but it is equally musical. It is obvious that Mayer's talent is well-deserved, he put together an album with variety, despite some flaws.

Far from a flaw is Mayer's collaboration with Taylor Swift. While the young country singer seems to be omnipresent in the music world, she does a great job of infusing her light country sound into the track. "Half of My Heart" could perhaps be the greatest on the album. Swift's role is not as dominant as Mayer's, but that, perhaps, is what makes the song work. It is Mayer's album and he continues to express his message, using Swift to simply highlight that. With her excellent voice, she ends up doing exactly that, harmonizing the chorus and singing alone at various points. It was most definitely a well thought out effort.

Battle Studies additional tracks, such as, "War of My Life," "Edge of Desire," and "Assassin" contribute just as much to the album as the other songs. While they may not be as catchy, they contain poignant lyrics and a message, which Mayer has become known for.

Overall the album is a great success. Mayer has begun touring and will bring his crew to New York on Dec. 12, when he plays at Madison Square Garden. It is nice to see that this musician has not lost his signature and remained true to his original sound. He, of course, adds variety, but does not stray far from the profound lyrics that made him successful.

the hearts of rock lovers. Now, they are nothing more than ordinary.

Raditude as a whole is not a fantastic album, but some individual tracks remind fans of their better days. "(If You're Wondering If I Want You To) I Want You To" serves as a decent opening track, and although it's "Hallmarky," at least it's catchy. Perhaps Weezer hit rock bottom with the addition of rapper Lil' Wayne to the song "Can't Stop Partying." As great as Lil' Wayne is at rapping, he does not belong on this album. The lyrics, which make multiple references to clubs and jewels, are uncharacteristic of the classic Weezer. Another track called "Put Me Back Together," partly written by members of the All-American Rejects, sounds like an uninspired song typical of the Rejects.

It is sad that a once brilliant, original band has fallen into the trap that several bands before them have. Although it is natural for a band to go through stages, this is just not the Weezer that fans are used to hearing. Cuomo himself once stated "Studying my moves, they try to understand, why I am so unlike the singers in the other bands, I'm such a mystery, as anyone can see, there isn't anybody else exactly quite like me." He clearly has forgotten this because this album is very unoriginal, and uninspired. With boring, cliché lyrics, easy to play guitar riffs, and music that, quite frankly, does not have any heart or soul, *Raditude* is a disappointment to Weezer's many devoted fans.

Soccer seasons end in first round of playoffs

BY Drew Friedman

Staff Writer

This season, the girls and boys varsity soccer teams both experienced the loss of seniors from previous years and were able to rebuild their teams with younger players.

However, like any other rebuilding season, the teams ended their seasons with losses in the first round of playoffs.

Though a number of players graduated, the girls varsity soccer team had an influx of promising newcomers, including sophomores Gina Cianculli and Emily Rosenthal, and freshman Stacey Weinberg. Coach Lauren Bishar also was a new addition as she replaced former varsity coach, Mary Romano.

With these changes, the girls team ended their season 9-4-1 overall and 8-4-1 in conference play, and finished third in their conference.

Cianculli pointed to the team's chemistry as a reason for its impressive record.

"I think the reason why we were so successful this season is that the group of girls was just a good mix and everyone got along," said Cianculli.

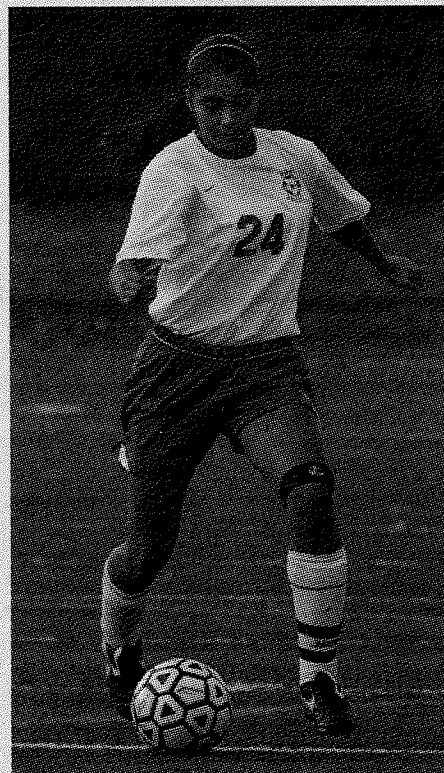
The Lady Vikings played an undefeated MacArthur in the first round of the playoffs. Despite goals by junior Bridgette McDermott and Weinberg and 14 saves by senior goalie Katie Weil, the Lady Vikings lost the game 5-2.

Nevertheless, the score did not reflect the effort the team had throughout the game.

"We were definitely right there with them the entire time," said Rosenthal. "It was unfortunate that we lost, but I think

that we proved ourselves during that game and maybe even surprised ourselves about how good we could really be."

On the boys squad, one notable underclassman who helped fill the void of the graduated seniors was sophomore Andrew Boehm, the younger brother of senior co-captain Donnie Boehm.



Lifetouch

Senior Kelly Certuche was co-captain of the girls varsity soccer team this season. She received the Coaches Award for her performance.

In his first varsity season, Boehm was one of the main scorers for the team. However, even with the addition of young talent, the team could only manage a record of 2-9-3, which left them in last place in the conference.

The team got a second chance to redeem themselves in the playoffs, where they would meet Great Neck South in the first round. The Rebels scored in the opening seconds of the game, stunning both the Vikings and the crowd.

But, later in the half, junior Timo Santala scored the equalizer. The game went into overtime, tied 1-1.

After finishing as runners-up in the county last year to Massapequa, the Vikings would not get an opportunity to avenge their loss in the finals.

Several minutes into the overtime period, William Rezin of Great Neck netted his second goal of the game to put an end to the Vikings' season, dashing the team's hopes of continuing in the playoffs.

"There were times in the season when we really played great," said senior captain Andrew Vasquez. "This skill was evident when we played like a team, taking shots, making crosses, containing well, and going hard to the ball. We played like that against Massapequa and beat them after five years of consecutive losses to them. If we played like that the whole game against Great Neck, we would have won."

Senior goalkeeper Peter Maxted, who was one of the team's captains along with Vasquez, notes on the team comradery.

"It was a good season, as we had a good group of guys," said Maxted. "That's what I'll remember."

The "Dons" speak about boys varsity soccer

BY Harrison Remler

Senior Sports Editor

Mr. Don Fish, the assistant coach for the boys varsity soccer team, had good reason to believe that his team could be a contender while watching the county championships between Hicksville and Calhoun.

"Coach [Don] Zuvich, the Hofstra Coach (Richard Nuttall), and I watched the county finals, and I said to myself that I wanted to be there," said Coach Fish. "If it was up to me, I would give these guys a rest for three weeks and then start up practice again. I just love it. I went to two county finals during high school with Port Jefferson, and I know what it is like."

Despite a first round exit in the Nassau County playoffs, this year's group of Vikings grew immensely over the year. A characteristic of Zuvich's coaching in re-

cent years is his team's tendency to peak during the playoffs.

"When you look at our season, we truly were the seventh best team in county," said Head Coach Zuvich. "Playing in Conference I, we accomplished a lot this year. Beating Massapequa away was a big deal, as well as shutting out Syosset."

A slew of injuries plagued the team, and this was evident in the team's record this fall.

Key injuries to seniors Jon Commisso, Andrew Keen, and Gabe Peña hurt the Vikings throughout conference play. In addition, injuries to juniors Nick Autz and Paul Tasnady devastated the Vikings' season.

"All teams get affected by injuries, but the best teams are the ones which avoid injuries as well as deal with them," said Head Coach Zuvich.

Yet, the injury bug that hit the Vikings

this fall was no excuse for a disappointing season.

"Players, as individuals, need to work to become better soccer players," said Coach Fish.

In reflection of the season, both coaches are convinced that Port should be continued to be considered one of the top teams in the county.

"A win against Oceanside puts us in the top four teams in the county," said Coach Fish.

Many followers of the program found that the beginning of the season was weak, but the players improved later on.

"Against Great Neck South in the playoffs we played poorly in the first 10 seconds of the opening period and in the overtime," said Head Coach Zuvich. "There is no let-up in a golden goal situation such as the playoffs. We need to wake up and play hard every moment, with no let-up."

Girls basketball preview

BY Dan Miranda

Contributing Writer

The 2009-2010 Lady Viking basketball program is coming off a 6-12 record from last year, finishing fifth in their conference. The team, despite its varsity status, was made up of a majority of underclassmen. This season, more is expected of the girls. With only one player graduating from last year's team, the Lady Vikings will most likely see the same stars performing with additional practice and experience. Coach Dennis Trotter will take on his second season as the Lady Vikings' head coach. Referred to as "Trotts" by most on the team, the lively instructor is a fan and friend of his players on and off the court.

"The girls and I have spent a lot of time together and have become like family. I've been to their spring and fall sports games. It's a great group of kids," said Trotter.

The team will rely heavily on last year's leading scorer, senior Emma Horowitz. Horowitz is the team's reigning Most Valuable Player, averaging 13 points and 11 rebounds per game. Her personal goal for the season is to reach the All-County squad.

"I just hope we are as close as we all were last year, and to improve on our record and to get stronger as a team and make it to the playoffs," Horowitz said.

Big things are expected from sophomores Hayley Kerr and Emily Rosenthal, who showed last year that they could be counted on. The two sophomores were the second and third leading scorers, respectively; Kerr received the Most Improved Player award and Rosenthal the Coach's Award.

"On the court, we enjoy playing with each other," said Rosenthal about her relationship with Kerr. "I think it helps that we've been playing with each other since elementary school."

Though Coach Trotter commented that Emily, Haley, and Emma will be the "backbone of starters," he has many options for the two remaining spots.

Sophomores Ariana Spagnola and Jessie Quinn will both be returning for their second season. In addition, seniors Katie Weil and Rachel Strongin have potential to secure the starting spots.

Kerr, Horowitz, Quinn, Rosenthal, and Spagnola all worked on their game in the offseason by competing in AAU (Amateur Athletic Union) leagues. Strong team camaraderie has been an important factor in winning Lady Vikings' teams of the past.

"It's an important aspect of the game because you need to know how each other works on the court, where that person will be and you need to feel confident with them," said Spagnola.

Trotter also mentioned, after seeing the freshmen players at open gym workouts, that he is optimistic about the Lady Vikings program.

"They seem committed, dedicated, and willing to put forth the necessary effort," said Trotter.

Coach Trotter is just as excited about the start of the season as his players, but realizes it is important to stay focused.

"Based on last season's performance, I believe competing for a conference championship is a realistic goal," said Coach Trotter. "I believe our team has the talent; however, it will take a lot of hard work and dedication."



Views on Yankee Victory

"When Joe Torre left the Yankees, I was disheartened and felt let down by the Yankee organization. I soon came to realize, though, that the players on the field are the best in the world and deserve to win for themselves, the fans, and not anyone else," said senior Matt Brown.

"This is the start of a dynasty," said sophomore Jake Shubert.

"[Joe] Girardi should still be fired. He doesn't know how to manage," said sophomore Matt Brooks.

"Get a salary cap," said sophomore Rob Weinstein.

"Hideki [Matsui] was a beast," said freshman Alex Polle.

"It was a great victory, and a great way to open the new stadium. I didn't really have a favorite part, but Mariano's three saves were impressive," said sophomore Tim Costello.

Girls swim team breaks past rough waters

Under Coach Lennon, ten girls and three relay teams go to County Championship

By Reid Mergler

Sports Editor

After finishing with a 1-7 record last year, the girls varsity swim team broke through the rough waters of last year and finished its fall season with a winning 4-3 record. Facing familiar rivals and new competitive teams, the team was able to succeed under the coaching of Mr. Joe Lennon, a teacher at Manorhaven Elementary School.

Four key swimmers, seniors Jenne Biunno, Gabby Borutecene, Danielle Scialo and junior Alex Bricault led the team as captains this season.

Totalling 19 years in team experience, these four girls were an integral part of the team's success.

In addition, all four captains qualified for the County Championships in at least one event.

Coach Lennon praised the girls for their motivation and leadership during the team's grueling early morning practices.

"They have outstanding athletic ability, but the greatest contribution was their drive and motivation in practice, especially at 5:45 in the morning," said Lennon. "They were the first in the water, and their drive and motivation made those around them work harder. They are responsible for the times we posted as the season wound down."

"I really enjoyed being a captain this year," said Borutecene. "With my six-year experience, I felt that I could really help the girls improve, do their best, and give 100%. I always tried to be a good role model for the other girls. This year, we had many first year varsity swimmers, and I wanted them to have a great experience."

The times that were posted as the season ended were important as many individual swimmers qualified for the County Championships.

Given that 10 girls and three relay teams made the cut in their events, the team has made great progress; the Lady Vikings accomplished their season goal of bringing a larger number of girls to the Championship, compared to the number

in past years.

"This year, we had the highest number of individual swimmers in my tenure with the team," said Lennon. "We wanted a steady progression this season. That included girls swimming faster as the season moves on and avoiding a late season burnout. With this progress, the girls had a solid performance at the Nassau County Championships. The team was swimming at its best and posting season best times."

Some girls credit Coach Lennon for their improvement as his help with learning swimming techniques is evidently beneficial for the team.

"Coach Lennon is a great coach as he helps all the girls with their techniques to make them faster and stronger," said Borutecene. "It has really showed at the meets. Many girls had personal best times and their strokes and endurance have re-

her personal best time of 2:12.92.

"My most memorable performance this season was at the County Championships in the 200 IM when I qualified for states in this event for the second time. It was one major goal that I accomplished this season," said Borutecene.

All three relay teams made the Nassau County Finals, as well. The 200m Medley Relay (Biunno, Bricault, and sophomores Samantha Albano and Annie Waskover) placed 19th.

The 200m Freestyle Relay (Albano, Biunno, Scialo, and Waskover) placed 14th and won All-Conference honors.

The 400m Freestyle Relay (Albano, Borutecene, Scialo and Waskover) placed 13th, improving a season best time by over 5 seconds.

Additionally, both Bricault and junior Holland Meyer swam season best times in the 500m Freestyle and Biunno posted a season best time in the 100m Breaststroke.

Divers freshmen Kristen Henne, Juliet Meyer, and eighth-grader Catherine Tasnady dove at the County Championships placing 30th, 29th, and 34th respectively.

Throughout the season, there was another monumental event that occurred as Henne broke her school 1-meter diving record by six points.

With the graduation of four seniors, including Jae An, Biunno, Borutecene and Scialo, who have a total of 17 combined seasons on the varsity team, the team is losing some of its key members. However, Coach Lennon will rely on the junior class to drive the team next year.

"The team has been and will continue to be led by our upperclasswomen," said Coach Lennon. "No one

person can direct a season. While we will miss our seniors, I know that our junior class, which includes Bricault, Meyer, Leah Nash and Pia Wyss, will continue their drive and motivation to lead a team. We have a great deal of depth from 7th through 12th grades, and we have built a solid foundation of talent and ability with eight new swimmers. Therefore, I know we have the drive and talent to continue our progress in seasons to come."



Lifetouch

Senior Gabby Borutecene swam her final race in her varsity career on Nov. 21 at the State Final Meet. At this race, she finished 25th in the state, placing 23rd in the public school ranking. She also swam her best time of 2:12.92.

ally improved."

At the County Championships, Borutecene made the finals in the 200m individual medley (IM) placing fourth in Nassau County and qualifying for states in this event. In addition, she placed sixth in the 100 Breaststroke. She received All-Conference and All-Division Honors in these events.

At the State Meet on Nov. 21, she placed 25th in the state for the 200 IM. She had

Hockey looks to make playoffs with freshmen influx

By Graham Potters

Senior Sports Editor

After making the playoffs two years ago, the boys varsity hockey team is working diligently to achieve that goal again.

"I'm almost positive we're going to make the playoffs this year," said goalie senior Brian Burchman.

Burchman has been a critical part of the team for the last four years. Last year, he was awarded Most Valuable Goalie in Nassau County. He also plays on the New York Saints in the Metropolitan Junior Hockey League.

The school team is currently 1-2, with losses to Wantagh-Seaford and Massapequa. The team is looking to recover from these early losses.

"We have a great team this year and

shouldn't have any problems coming back off these losses," said Assistant Captain senior Peter Doscas. "We have very strong seniors leading this team, and we make sure to set examples for all our younger players."

Captain senior Brian Kennedy and Assistant Captains seniors Owen Caruso and Doscas lead the team along with seniors Burchman, Bailey Chan, Cody Lehrer, Sam Schildkraut and Julia Zaskorski.

"I feel like we have a type of teaching role for the freshmen," said Burchman.

There are many new freshman players this season that are being trained to compete at a higher level of play so the team will be just as strong when the seniors graduate.

"I would consider this more of a transition year than a rebuild year," said Doscas.

"Next year the team will be down seven seniors, which is why focusing on the freshmen is so important."

At practice, the team has been working to integrate the freshmen with the upperclassmen more, even though the seniors do not practice with the freshmen.

Coach Tom McCallen takes the freshmen to one end of the rink to work on specific skills while the upperclassmen work on the other half, practicing running plays and other more advanced skills and drills.

"It's definitely important that the freshmen get the one-on-one training. We [seniors] can usually run our drills ourselves so the coach's supervision isn't as important for us," said Doscas.

Throughout the season, the experienced team will train its younger players while pushing to make the playoffs.

Calling the Shots

By Andrew Seo

Editor-in-Chief

As the fall season concludes in a fitting manner—with the boys cross country team solidifying its spot as the most dominant team during my tenure in high school—I look back fondly on the last four years of Schreiber fall sports. I have had the honor of being the fan of some of the best teams in the state. In other respects, winning did not come as easy. Nevertheless, all of the athletes in our program played with passion and vigor, making my time as a fan all the more enjoyable.

While other fall teams were handing in their jerseys and already looking ahead to next year, the boys cross country team continued to run deep into November. The team is consistently overlooked by the student body. Even so, their banner in the gym is heavily decorated and they have attained dynasty status. The team has won three straight county titles and finished third in the state this year. This past month, weekend after weekend, Bertolotti and company traveled from counties to states to federations to regionals.

Even with three important seniors graduating this year, the team is in good hands. Freshman Sid Kakkar and sophomore Taylor Titcomb are already making tremendous strides. I have learned to appreciate the teams that excel at the highest level, and the boys cross country team is the paragon that fits this descriptor. I would advise the student body to support this constantly overlooked team.

Another memorable cast of Vikings is the boys varsity soccer team. Over the years, this squad has produced the most first-hand memories that I can remember as a fan. As a sophomore, I remember trekking to Mitchell Field in Uniondale to watch the semifinals against Syosset. With a two-goal advantage late in the game, the fans and I were confident that we would have a spot in the County Championship.

But, the Braves soon scored two goal in the closing minutes. Dozens of fans, including myself, were speechless. We were in disbelief. The game was now tied.

After two overtime periods, the game was still even. Penalty kick time. Our team had a strong collection of ferocious goal scorers. We were confident in our team's chances. But, after several Syosset goals and Port misses, the game was over. Would our team ever recover?

One year later, our team was back. With the memories of that fateful game fresh in our minds, we still made the journey to Uniondale. After regulation time ended in a tie, we were nervous. Would Oceanside dash our hopes, just as Syosset had? Luckily, striker Stephan Brossard allayed our fears, scoring the game-winning goal and thrusting us into the finals. On to Hofstra.

As the stands started to fill and the drizzle came down, I looked around the Hofstra field and realized that this was what the high school experience is all about. There may be a select few who pride themselves in their apathy and lack of school spirit, but there were certainly none to be found in the stands.

Although the Vikings ended up losing to a talented Massapequa team, I will always remember that game as being a highlight of my experience as a fall sports fan and student at this school.

If there is anything I have learned these past four years, it is to support one another in whatever endeavors we may pursue.



Athletes



of the



Month



Allie Mirzoeff

BY Harrison Remler

Senior Sports Editor

Sifting through the final copies of her math research paper on polyhedra, senior Allie Mirzoeff focused intently on the computer screen in the social studies resource room.

"With my project, I have determined a new technique which enables me to construct three-dimensional structures," said Mirzoeff.

Aside from making academics a priority, Mirzoeff has had her share of success within the field hockey program.

"Playing field hockey is definitely easier than math, and it is much more fun," said Mirzoeff.

Even after the sixth period bell rings, Mirzoeff continues to try to implement her mathematical techniques on the field.

"If someone is running down toward our goal, I view it as a problem which needs to be solved," she said, who plays center defensive.

Mirzoeff has truly defined the term student athlete, as she balances a course-load which includes five AP courses, as well as her on-field duties as the defensive captain of the team.

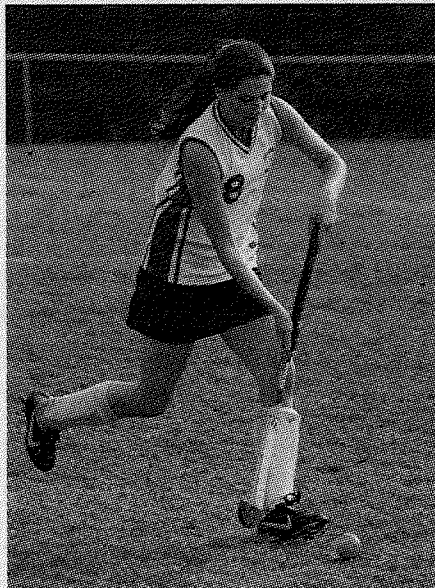
In addition, she was selected to go to the Nassau County Coaches' Association Conference along with some of the school's top athletes. In recognition of her efforts this season, Mirzoeff also received MVP honors, the team's highest honor.

Her two seasons on the varsity squad have been a great experience, as she has developed a real connection with Head Coach Joe Lederer, also a math teacher.

"I think, because of my personality, he underestimated my math intellect, but when he found out my interest in the classroom, we formed a bond," said Mirzoeff.

One of the final moments of her field hockey career turned out to be the most memorable.

"Beating Massapequa was the most amazing game ever," said Mirzoeff.



Lifetouch

Senior Allie Mirzoeff recently finished her final season on the varsity field hockey team, and received the MVP award for her success.

Do you have a suggestion for Athlete of the Month? Please contact Schreiber.times@gmail.com with your nominations.

Peter Maxted

BY Jonathan Bellon

Contributing Writer

The boys varsity soccer goalkeeper, senior Peter Maxted, has made soccer a huge part of his life since he was a young boy.

Playing soccer since he was six-years old, he first started playing intramural soccer in the Port Soccer Club, and has since competed at the highest level to further develop as a player.

"From the start, I loved the sport, and I just never really stopped playing," said Maxted.

Maxted has played both school and club soccer on a daily basis. As a member of the Albertson club soccer team and the United States Soccer Federation (USSF), he travels across the country to places such as California, Florida, and North Carolina. He has even competed in international competitions.

As a member of the USSF, he begins his season this December in Phoenix, Arizona, and will continue playing in tournaments across the country until June.

"I always try to work hard, and this, more than anything, has helped me improve. During games, I think the best aspect of my game is that I understand it pretty well, which helps me anticipate the play," said Maxted.

Playing at such a competitive level has allowed him to be a more successful school soccer player. He has played soccer for the school the past three years.

He began playing his sophomore year as the head goalkeeper for the Vikings junior varsity squad.

Later that year, he was called to support the varsity team during their postseason appearance, learning behind then starting goalie Joe Gil.

In his junior year, he started playing on the varsity team, splitting time as goalkeeper. This year, he served as a captain on the team.

"Peter is brave and will do everything he can do to prevent shots from going in," said teammate freshman Ko Konita.

Maxted hopes to play soccer at the collegiate level. He is currently in the process of contacting recruiting coaches. The thrill in the game urges him to continue in the sport.

"I enjoy the excitement the most in the game," said Maxted. "There's no other sport as continuous as soccer, where one goal in 90 minutes can be so important. Some 3 billion fans can't be wrong."



Lifetouch

Senior Peter Maxted has competed in international tournaments, playing against Argentinian youth professional teams in 2007.

Captain's Corner: Leah Feldman, Varsity Volleyball

BY Harrison Remler

Senior Sports Editor

Harrison Remler: Welcome to the Captain's Corner. I hear you are a big fan of my column.

Leah Feldman: It's true, I am a very big fan.

HR: Just wanted to make sure I knew what I was dealing with here. What sports do you play or have you played?

LF: I am on the volleyball, basketball, and spring track teams.

HR: So, sailing isn't a real sport?

LF: Of course sailing is a sport! It's my main sport.

HR: So, in the theme of the cool winds and summer sunsets, are you as "chill" as your music selections?

LF: So they say.

HR: Define "chill."

LF: Wouldn't you know, Harrison Remler?

HR: Back onto the basketball hardwood, describe to me your first season. Why did you decide to play varsity basketball for the first time as a junior?

LF: My inspiration or reasoning for coming out for the team was after junior varsity coach Lauren Bishar haunted me to try out, and considering the fact that I am close to six feet tall.

HR: Nothing like a confident, tall woman.

LF: True.

HR: Tell us the thought process between the volleyball team rituals and cheers before, between, and after points.

LF: Most of the cheers originate from Amanda Cohen, a Schreiber '09 graduate, as she brought it all to our program. Considering we don't have cheerleaders, it is our own way of boosting team morale.

HR: How come they never incorporate your favorites, such as Dave Matthews Band?

LF: I think IYAZ and Miley Cyrus are a little better fit for gameday.

HR: So, was the final loss of the season a melody in your head, and is it still lingering?

LF: I don't think so. The team fought pretty hard, and I was so impressed with our level of determination against East Meadow, so nothing kept replaying in my head.

HR: Did working the ice cream shop at Inspiration Wharf help you build the wrist strength you needed for volleyball?

LF: Why do you think I got the job? Only reason.

HR: As I ask all of the captains, do you have any pre-game superstitions?

LF: I have an ankle bracelet which I wear only for games. It is covered by the sock that I put on before all of my games.

HR: What events do you run during the spring track season?

LF: I run the 800(-meter) and compete in the high jump.

HR: Ah the high jump. A daunting task in my opinion. What drove you to compete in the high jump?

LF: Dan Gabrielli (Schreiber '09) in-

spired me to compete in the high jump.

HR: Playing three sports a year, during each school season, what is the biggest struggle?

LF: I get bored when I'm not on a team, so the only complaint is a lack of rest.

HR: It seems like more than anything you have developed some great friendships on the track team. It is nice to see our athletes well rounded on and off the playing fields. How can you respond?

LF: I think being social is being a big part of athletics. The team bond is very important and exciting, and while track is more of an individual sport than other team sports, we have great team chemistry.

HR: Tell me about your experiences sailing during the summer months.

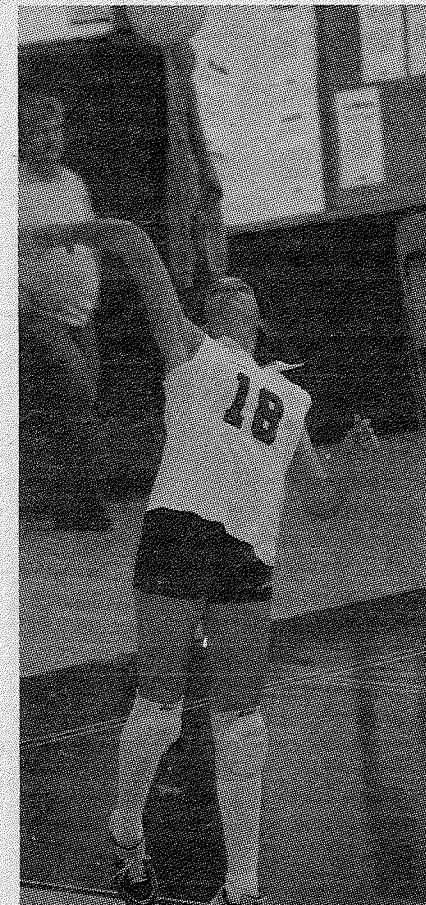
LF: While I am past the age of competition, I still sail on a consistent basis. Sailing is a lot of fun, and we have weekly softball games with our staff during the summer months.

HR: What is your opinion on the proposed condos to be built on the Knickerbocker Yacht Club grounds?

LF: I was actually at the auction where they sold off parts of the original club and it was absolutely heartbreaking. If I find out who the man who put down the money for this project, I will be sure to leave my mark on him.

HR: Nothing like getting chased by a tall woman.

LF: Anything to save my club, and especially my childhood. I want to get revenge on the man who destroyed my club.



Lifetouch

Senior Leah Feldman is a three-sport athlete, playing volleyball, and basketball as well as running track at Schreiber.

VIKING SPORTS

Senior Vikings pave the road en route to Wappinger Falls for Federation Meet Top seven perform for Vikings at State Championship, as Grove sets personal record in 5K

BY **Harrison Remler**
Senior Sports Editor

Stepping off the bus onto the SUNY Plattsburgh campus for the Class AA State Championships, the Port Washington runners were overcome with an array of emotions.

"During the ride up there I wasn't truly focused. But when I got off the bus I wasn't scared because it's only running. I am competing against myself," said freshman James Gallagher.

For freshman runner Sid Kakkar, the emotions were literally hard to describe.

"It was a true honor to be at the state meet. It was great and I was never as excited," said Kakkar.

Seniors Marco Bertolotti, Eddie Grove, and Jake Levine led the Vikings to a third place finish at the state championships. Seeded seventh before the race, the Vikings felt they had much to prove.

"We knew we were better. We thought we deserved the fifth spot coming into the race," said Levine.

Levine ran a 15:49 finishing nine seconds behind Bertolotti, who ran 15:40.

"I ran the race of my life at the state meet. I let the front 10 runners drag me along and with a mile to go, I passed Timothy Lutin. Lutin is one of the top runners in the state, who attends Warwick High School. Finishing the race next to [Lutin] helped me set a personal record by three seconds," said Levine.

Bertolotti, Port's most prominent runner, ran an uncharacteristically poor race by his standards.

"I know I didn't run a great race. I went out with the leaders and tried to sit with them, but I dropped with two miles to go and never got back," said Bertolotti.

Kakkar and sophomore Taylor Titcomb set personal records, with 16:25 and 16:25.8, respectively.

"For me, this was great because I remember, as a seventh grader, seeing Tay-

lor compete. I had looked forward to staying with him and we have been training together since," said Kakkar.

Grove also set a personal record at Plattsburgh, attributing the state meet atmosphere to his success.

"The entire race was incredible as I was running with some of the highest caliber athletes in the state. I set a personal record by 30 seconds, which is quite uncharacteristic for seniors. It was an exciting race as everyone cheered us on," said Grove.

For Head Coach Jeremy Klaff, the state meet was an opportunity for Port Washington to make a statement as a Long Island school.

"Beating defending state section champions Shenandoah and 2007 state champ Warwick was a big feat for our program. This is a big year for us," said Mr. Klaff. "When Richard Schmitz graduated, people thought we weren't going to be as good, but this team is not about only our juniors and seniors. Taylor Titcomb and Sid Kakkar are running very well, beating some of Marco's old times."

The state meet is scored on a point system, as seven runners compete for each team.

Port Washington represented Section 8, which consists of Nassau County powerhouses such as Massapequa, Calhoun, and Syosset.

"Years ago, we never thought we could beat Syosset. Now we are going up against some of the top schools in the state, which have close to 4,000 students. While we weren't going for the number one spot at states, we were trying to make a statement for schools on Long Island who have struggled at the state level," said Coach Klaff. "We tried to ignore the rankings, as we felt that they weren't a true evaluation of each team. The system is based on speed rankings and because of the differences in courses of each region of the state, the rankings are not very accurate."

Despite their seriousness during race time, these Vikings continued to carry their enthusiasm to the state meet.

"Knowing this was my last state race, I went as hard as I could and I feel that our team is, and will continue to be a force to be reckoned with," said Levine.

"In the future, I want to be another Marco. He showed me that hard work pays off," said Gallagher.

Hopefully, the Vikings can continue these successes at the Federation Meet in Wappingers Falls.

"We are really excited to compete against Catholic school programs such as Chaminade and St. Anthony's. We know we are better than Chaminade and the Federation race will resolve all questions," said Levine.

"This is a different race and I have 5,000 meters to prove myself," said Bertolotti.

The Finish Line

Looking to continue their success running off their momentum, the Vikings finished 12th at the Federation Meet. This 12th place finish was disappointing but didn't undermine the overall victories of the fall season.

"The Federation meet was a tough meet for us because it was a very hilly course. Running against some of the toughest teams in the region was a real challenge. But I was personally happy about the meet



Lifetouch

Freshman Sid Kakkar has emerged as a potential successor to senior Marco Bertolotti after setting a new freshman record this fall for the Vikings.

as I have been doing relatively well against such elite teams," said Grove.

Bertolotti finished 21st with a time of 16:41, almost forty seconds behind Max Straneva from Chenago Valley who garnered first place honors at the Federation Meet.

Kakkar and Levine followed for the Vikings finishing 59th and 74th respectively. Titcomb was the final Viking to finish in the top one hundred, as he placed 97th at the federation meet.

Accompanying the top seven male runners on their trip to SUNY Plattsburgh was Lady Viking Senior Meghan Byrnes. Byrnes ran the final race of her three year cross country career at the State Meet.

Byrnes was the first girl in decades according to coaches to represent Port in Plattsburgh. Her senior year resumé included a conference championship.

"Representing Port at the state meet was an incredible experience. I ran the race with so much pride was very proud to wear the Port jersey," said Byrnes.

Byrnes finished 73rd in state, running 19:47 in the 5K race. Aisling Cuffe, representing Cornwall High School won the state title, running a 17:00 5K.

Seniors Reflect:

Eddie Grove:

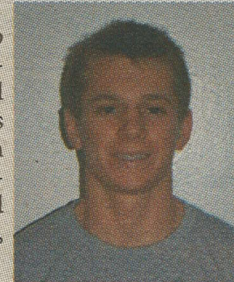
I am thrilled that the cross country team achieved so much in my final season. Having the opportunity to run at States and Federations was an amazing way to finish my high school cross country career. It was great to have people like Marco and Jake as teammates, and I know that our talented underclassmen will make the team great for years to come.



Ryohei Ozaki

Marco Bertolotti:

Although this is my final cross country season, there is still no end to my running. I still have two seasons of high school running to go and I intend to make the most of them. I have had a great cross country career and to finish it off with the success the team had this year is everything I could have asked for. I'm sad that it's over, but the only thing that is changing is the distance and terrain, from 5-kilometer to the mile, from fields and woodchips to a track. My teammates and coach are still around, and that's what makes running so enjoyable for me.



Ryohei Ozaki

Jake Levine:

I am extremely proud of the team placing the highest in the state in school history. I'm ecstatic about my own performances allowing me to gain scholarship opportunities from George Washington University and University of Pennsylvania. My high school cross country career has enabled me to become faster and more disciplined. I'm so excited about how good our distance medley relay and 4x800 relay team in winter and spring are. We are hopefully going to be All-American. Finally, I had such a great time which is the most important thing.



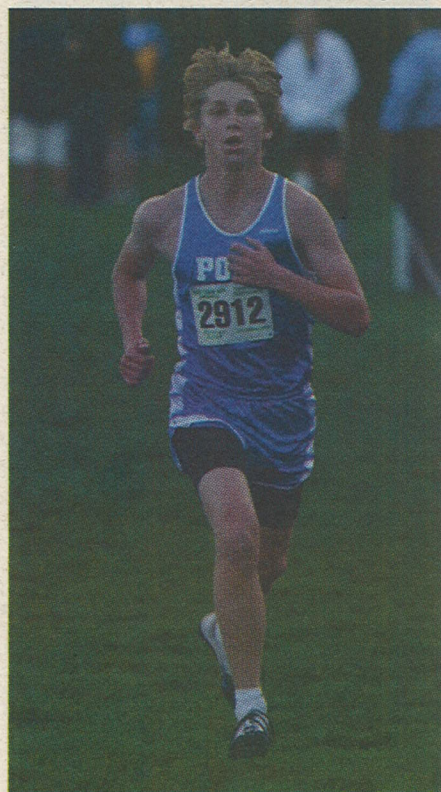
Ryohei Ozaki

Meghan Byrnes:

This year was my third year on the cross country and second year as captain. I was extremely excited about being the first girl to make states in over a decade and running the second fastest time in the school's history. But none of this would be possible without the team. We had no track, we weren't allowed to run our regular courses, and the little space we did have was shared with other teams from both Schreiber and Weber, yet we persevered. Alongside myself and the other captains, Tana Giraldo, Katelynn Catalano and Daisy Barrera, Coach Cooper and the team were able to pull through and share an amazing season, finishing the best we ever had and going to the counties for the first time as a team ever.



Lifetouch



Lifetouch

Sophomore Paolo Bertolotti follows in his brother's footsteps, running in the top seven.