

THE SCHREIBER TIMES

Paul D. Schreiber High School Port Washington, New York Volume LXI No. 1 September 2010

ASA A FRESH SOCIETY



Football
-Sports-



New Food Policy
-Opinions-

Dr. Banta Profile
-Features-
New Teachers
-News-

IN THIS ISSUE...

NEWS.
New teachers p. 3
Overcrowded classes p. 4
Student Council representatives p. 5

OPINIONS.
New food policy p. 6
Senior scavenger hunt p. 7
Freshman perspectives p. 8

FEATURES.
Dr. Banta profile p. 10
Pride in Port preview p. 10
Schreiber during the summer p.11

A&E.
Wall Street p. 16
Showtime’s Weeds p. 17
Summer arts wrap up p. 19

SPORTS.
Summer biking in France p. 21
Volleyball season change p. 22
Football preview p. 24



This photograph was taken over the summer by junior Brandon Cohen for his AP photography class. He was at Peaks Island, Maine, and shot this rock sculpture in black and white.

NEWS BRIEFS

Wireless Internet

The school will soon become one of the many areas in Port Washington that provides free wireless internet. After a year of work on the part of administration, faculty, and students, WiFi should be coming to the school by mid-October.

“It will allow students to develop internet literacy and be conversant in a technologic age, to be able to discern which are good sites,” said Assistant Principal Mr. David Miller.

Although all the hardware is already installed, the WiFi system is not yet up because of the need to set up filters, a step that is mandated by federal law. This has put a delay in establishing WiFi in the school. Implementing the filters will restrict students’ access to non-scholastic websites. The internet will work in the library, cafeteria, commons, auditorium, and main office.

“This will create learning environments in new areas to allow students to work on a broader scale,” said Mr. Miller. “There are a number of technical issues that needed to be overcome before we could bring WiFi to Schreiber.”

Mr. Miller indicated that both the students and teachers have wanted this for a long time, explaining that access to the internet is necessary to education in

today’s world.

“Just two years ago we had Doug Johnson [an expert in applying technology in schools] come and talk to our staff about technology in the school. He talked to us about the benefits of WiFi,” said Mr. Miller.

Obtaining WiFi for the school was a main focus of the Student Council last year, especially as a campaign promise of senior Jai Sajnani.

“It was mostly a matter of time,” said Mr. Miller. “This year worked given the budgetary considerations. If it was possible to have had it done sooner, we would have.”

~Hannah Zweig

Leadership Assembly

Through a grant from the Port Washington Education Foundation (PWEF), a guest speaker led a workshop fostering leadership qualities for students, faculty, and administrative heads. Mr. Ronald Sutherland, president of NYSSMA in 1984-85 and head chaperone for the NYSSMA All-State Festival, challenged the participants to move out of their comfort zones with a series of activities on Sept. 23.

All students in musical performing groups, including band, orchestra, and

choir, were required to attend the workshop, as well as Student Council executive board members, Letter Club members, and athletic leaders.

The workshop was designed to help the attendees learn the importance of leadership in a group setting and the basic skills necessary to be a leader. Mr. Sutherland accomplished this by forcing students to interact with each other differently than in the past.

“I felt that the best part of the workshop was when [Mr. Sutherland] had all of us switch seats so that we were sitting next to a person who we didn’t already know,” said senior Andy Lieberman. “It really took all of us at the meeting out of our comfort zones and put us in a new experience. That’s what being a leader is all about.”

Mr. Mark Brenner, head of the Music Department, has known Mr. Sutherland for over a decade from NYSSMA and Mr. Sutherland’s other musical education seminars. Through the PWEF’s funding, Mr. Brenner was able to bring one of these workshops to Port Washington.

“All agreed that the message was positive and powerful. They were happy that this was arranged so early in the school year to afford our students the opportunity to develop their leadership skills throughout the year,” said Mr. Brenner.

~Matt Heiden

The Schreiber Times

Editor-in-Chief
Sahil Doshi

Managing Editor
Leah Nash

Copy Editor
Laura Werle

News
Editor
Matt Heiden
Assistant Editors
Hannah Fagen
Max Kraus

Opinions
Senior Editor
Blake Mergler
Editor
Sophia Jaffe

Features
Senior Editor
Reid Mergler
Editor
Katya Barrett
Assistant Editor
Dan Miller

A&E
Editor
Morgan Quigley
Assistant Editors
Bethia Kwak
Kyle Manzione

Sports
Editors
Brett Fishbin
Will Zhou
Assistant Editor
Drew Friedman

Graphics/Photo
Editor
Loren Giron
Assistant Editor
Christian Browne

Business
Manager
Paul Tasnady
Assistant Business Manager
Adam Pollack

Staff Assistant
Kaia de Bruin
Kristin Yu



Published by the student body of Paul D. Schreiber High School. Letters to the editor should be addressed to The Schreiber Times, 101 Campus Drive, Port Washington, New York 11050. The editors reserve the right to refuse, print, edit, return, or not return any submitted material. All letters must be signed by each author. We have a circulation of 2,000 copies per issue with subscriptions available for \$12.00 per school year. We accept camera-ready ads or will design ads to your specifications. For information, call our business office at (516) 767-5862.

Francis Banta, principal
Craig Medico, Evelina Zarkh, advisers
© 2010, The Schreiber Times

Staff Writers: Daniel Bialer, Daniela DiCaro, Katharine Fields, Lauren Goldstein, Sarah Greene, Laila Iravani, Dan Miranda, Sarah Paul, Aimee Stern, Dainn Woo **Contributing Writers:** Joe Betz, Aaron Brezel, Chad Edelblum, AJ Friedman, Georgia Goodman, Nisha Nanda, Alexa Pinto, Lily Thrope, Brendan Weintraub, Emma Zorfass, Hannah Zweig **Cover:** Christian Browne, Elana Galassi, Loren Giron **Centerfold:** Christian Browne, Sahil Doshi, Leah Nash **Backpage:** Brett Fishbin, Drew Friedman, Will Zhou.

Subscribe to The Schreiber Times!

Subscriptions cost \$12.00 for the 2010-2011 school year



Mail to: Schreiber Times, Attn. Craig Medico or Evelina Zarkh
101 Campus Drive, Port Washington, NY 11050
Make checks payable to: Port Washington Schools

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Three new teachers hired to replace retiring staff members

Ms. Cotter, Ms. Horowitz, and Mr. Spiezio fill vacancies in several departments

As the new school year began, people may have noticed both new and missing faces in the Schreiber staff.

Among the retirees from last year are: Mr. Harry Anderson, Ms. Mary-Lynn Conte-Law, Mr. Phil Glover, Mr. David Hinchliffe, Ms. Lynn Kennedy, Mr. Garry Silverstein, Mr. Henry Tabickman, and Ms. Michele Weiden. In addition, one of our librarians, Ms. Kate Herz, now works at the Weber library. Ms. Cassandra Shannon's last day as a math teacher here was Friday, Sept. 24.

To replace the retiring staff, several new teachers have been hired in the respective departments. Ms. Shannon's position is temporarily being filled by Mr. Adam Wolfert. One change, however, is that the position of social worker previously held by Ms. Weiden has been changed to part-time employee.

Ms. Alicia Cotter

As of last year, two positions in the Social Studies department were left unfilled. Ms. Alicia Cotter, a social studies teacher from Manhasset High School, was hired to fill one of the openings. Mr. Andrew Vinella, a former student teacher and substitute teacher at Schreiber, was also brought on full time.

"I have high expectations not only for myself, but for my students as well," said Ms. Cotter.

Ms. Cotter received her Bachelors degree from SUNY Albany in History

and Sociology and received her masters in History from Queens College. She is currently working to receive her Masters in Education from Queens College.

Ms. Cotter was sure of her career as a teacher since high school.

"I knew I wanted to get into teaching ever since my 10th grade social studies teacher inspired me," said Ms. Cotter.

Ms. Cotter found interest in the personal stories and struggles of individuals that contribute to a larger collective history. She is also motivated by the idea of getting kids excited about history.

Despite being new to Schreiber, Ms. Cotter has three years of teaching experience at Manhasset High School.

Because of her previous experiences and connections from her work in Manhasset, Ms. Cotter came to Schreiber already knowing the names and faces of some of her students.

"To my surprise, when I walked in her room for the first time, she already knew who I was and addressed me by name," said senior Aaron Goodman, who has Ms. Cotter for Economics and Decision Making. "It turned out that she had just recently transferred to Schreiber from Manhasset High School, and had taught many friends of mine, all of whom told her I would be her student. I was very impressed that she had taken initiative to get to know her future students prior to the first day of school."

The hospitality that the students felt



Loren Giron

Mr. John Spiezio is the new choral director. He teaches choir, women's choir, and Music in Our Lives. Mr. Spiezio is also the director of the chamber singers and the musical director for the fall musical.

was reciprocated.

"I can't say enough about how welcoming everyone has been—the students, the social studies department, and the administration," said Ms. Cotter. "I am so excited to be a part of the Schreiber community."

Ms. Casey Horowitz

The guidance department, left with a vacancy following the retirement of Mr. David Hinchliffe, is welcoming a new staff member this year. Ms. Casey Horowitz has been hired to fill the open guidance counselor position.

Ms. Horowitz received her Bachelors degree from Indiana University. She then proceeded to obtain her Masters in Education from Hofstra University. Ms. Horowitz was a counselor for three years at Huntington High School.

"What attracted me most to Schreiber was its vibrant academic programs, sports, and extracurricular activities," said Ms. Horowitz. "The teachers and staff were extremely supportive in helping me get settled in and lending a hand to teach me what I need to know."

Ms. Horowitz had to adapt quickly to her new duties as a school guidance counselor. Because of the multitude of phone calls she received over the summer concerning schedule changes and other student needs, her work started early. She places a high importance on maintaining good relationships with her students and keeping an open door personal policy. Ms. Horowitz anticipates a smooth transition into her new role.

"I want to know more about my students, such as their backgrounds, where they came from and where they wish to go, so that I can be the best support for them and their families," said Ms. Horowitz. "I believe that relationships between students and their guidance counselors are central."

Mr. John Spiezio

Next time you see people singing in the choir room, you may notice that it is not Mr. Phil Glover conducting the singers. Instead, it will be Mr. John Spiezio, the new choral director.

Here at Schreiber, Mr. Spiezio is the conductor of the mixed choir and

women's choir, and teaches the Music In Our Lives course.

"I hold students in the highest regard and the time we spend together exploring music has value, both in our activities and throughout their lives," said Mr. Spiezio.

In addition to his work in the classroom, Mr. Spiezio is involved with a variety of extracurricular activities. He is the conductor of the chamber singers, which include performers from all ends of the music department. Mr. Spiezio is also the musical director for the fall musical, *Curtains*.

"Now, coming to Port Washington, I am so excited to be working with such dedicated students and with such a supportive community," said Mr. Spiezio. "In the long term, my goal is to grow the high school choral program to provide students with the best possible experience, including performances in venues outside of Port Washington, and appreciation and understanding for the process of making music, setting lofty goals, and working towards high levels of achievement."

Mr. Spiezio is not new to his field. He was the chairperson and director of arts and music in East Meadow and East Islip. At Massapequa High School, Mr. Spiezio conducted the freshman choir, the 10-12 Choir, and the chamber singers. At Harbor Fields, he taught high school choir, general music to students in kindergarten through second grade, and chamber singers.

Before starting his career, Mr. Spiezio attended Ithaca College, where he obtained his degree in vocal performance. He received his Masters degree in Education at Queens College, and an advanced diploma from SUNY Stony Brook.

"Music and vocal performance have been such an important part of my life, that sharing and providing positive experiences with students is exciting and rewarding," said Mr. Spiezio.

Reported by Hannah Fagen, Max Kraus, Nisha Nanda, Dainn Woo, and Emma Zorfass.

Come to

The Writing Center

Why? For help with your writing assignments

College essays

School essays & papers

Where? Rm. 212-214

When? Open every day:

Per. 4-1 & 4-2

Overcrowded classes frustrate students and teachers

Lack of room negatively affects overall learning environment

BY Max Kraus and Dan Miller
Assistant News Editor and Assistant Features Editor

With so many students yet so few teachers, overcrowding remains a chronic issue. Many classes best suited for a small number of students have increased in size because of an increase in course popularity. Others are simply overcrowded due to a lack of available sections of the class.

Though it is only the beginning of the year, administrators and other staff members have received complaints from students about the effects of overcrowded classrooms. The complaints are reciprocated by staff members, who also desire smaller class sizes.

Many students are frustrated by the fact that some classes are filled to the point where students do not have desks and resort to sitting on the radiator or on the floor.

“Overcrowding is a major problem, said senior Dorothy Kim. “We need to have more desks or smaller class sizes because students in a few classes, including myself, had to sit on the radiators for the first few days of school. This was extremely distracting and made it hard to concentrate in class.”

Although the Board of Education advises that classes should not exceed 28 students, some classes are limited by the available resources. The Mac Lab holds classes as large as 26 students despite having only 20 computers.

Many think that the largest impact of overcrowding occurs in Advanced Placement classes. In those classes, students generally need to pay more attention to concentrate on the demanding curriculums that these higher-level classes entail. Yet, large class sizes can often make it more difficult for a student to participate.

“In some cases when a student would typically ask a question, one might feel embarrassed to do so in a larger class or



Elana Galassi

Classes that exceed their maximum capacity, such as this AP European History section with over 30 students, are prevalent throughout the school because of a lack of hiring and rising interest in certain classes.

does not want to stop the flow of the class,” said senior Jason Gurewitz. “AP classes necessitate a student-teacher relationship, and having a larger class makes it much more difficult for that to happen.”

When the ability for one-on-one student and teacher interaction is reduced, many students believe they will have more difficulty with the AP material.

“I believe that the most productive classes are those in which a teacher is able to relate to a student on a ‘human’ level. In AP classes, it’s not good that the teacher cannot give enough attention to each individual student,” said social studies teacher Ms. Renee McClean.

Others think that the overcrowding dilemma is caused by an excess of students who are unqualified to take AP classes.

“I believe overcrowding in AP classes can be avoided,” said Gurewitz. “There is so much pressure for kids these days to be taking as many APs as possible even if they really should not be taking them. This can be whether they just have no desire or they do not have the ability to do well in the class. However, this problem goes beyond the school and is something that must be dealt with by society and the collegiate process.”

Since many believe that large class sizes can impair a proper learning environment, few understand why the problem still exists, although it remains a priority.

“It’s a simple solution but not a simple process,” said senior Jamie Koopersmith. “All we need is more teachers.”

Ten seniors recognized as National Merit Semifinalists



Courtesy of Ms. Ruth Smith

Ten senior students were recently named National Merit Scholars. Bottom Left: Andrew Oh, Samuel Kim, Timo Santala, and Jai Sajjani. Top Left: Principal Dr. Francis Banta, Scott Singer, Kristin Yu, Stella Kim, Dainn Woo, Sahil Doshi, Jeffrey Sims, Assistant Principal Dr. Bradley Fitzgerald, and Superintendent of Schools Dr. Geoffrey Gordon.

Questions about Senior Experience explained

BY Kristin Yu
Staff Assistant

Throughout its development over the past few years, the Senior Experience program has inspired countless questions. Many people who will soon be involved in the program are still not quite sure of what it entails.

Perhaps the most commonly asked question is, “What is Senior Experience?” This is frequently followed by “Is it in effect for this school year?”

The answers have finally been settled upon.

The program affects every senior student. Senior Experience was previously headed by former principal Mr. Jay Lewis, but is currently being supported by interim Principal Dr. Francis Banta. Senior Experience has been built into the course curricula of the regular government and economic class requirements for graduation.

For students in Advanced Placement courses, the set-up is slightly different. Senior students who are enrolled in any one of the three AP Government or Economics classes offered will be excused from class to do their Senior Experience projects once AP exams are over. In addition, students in the full-year Film and Literature class will be excused from class in late May.

“One thing most seniors will like is that they will be released from their AP Government or Economics class, or will only have to attend their Film and Literature class half of the time in a six-day cycle,” said social studies teacher Mr. Larry Schultz.

The Senior Experience program is a required component of the district’s AP curriculum that will go into full effect towards the end of the school year, after the administration of AP tests in early May. The requirement includes a ten hour commitment in an internship, project, or community service venture per AP class taken by the student.

“Most seniors will have a solid requirement of 50 hours for all of their AP classes,” said Mr. Schultz.

Mr. Schultz is planning to visit every Senior Experience class to explain the finer details of the program. The program also has a new website with a listing of approximately 160 local businesses that have either worked with Senior Experience students before or are interested in participating for the mutual benefits the program offers to both student and employer.

Students may intern with whomever they please, so long as their employer is not a close friend or family member. They also cannot receive monetary compensation for their work.

One of the highlights of the program is the Senior Experience Fair, held towards the end of the school year, where the top Senior Experience projects are presented to fellow classmates, teachers, and the administrative staff.

“There have been many creative projects over the years,” said Mr. Schultz. “One girl created her own line of clothing and had a fashion runway show, and last year someone saved a life as an EMT. One year there was even a kid who wrote their own book.”

Mr. Carmine Matina temporarily returns to assistant principal position

While Ms. Torres is on leave, Mr. Matina is in charge of the freshman class

BY **Matt Heiden**
News Editor

While Assistant Principal Ms. Julie Torres is on maternity leave with her new baby boy, an old face has returned to take her place. Mr. Carmine Matina will oversee the class of 2014 until Ms. Torres comes back to work in early December.

Mr. Matina is no stranger to his work as an assistant principal in the district. He worked in Schreiber for 22 years and in the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School district as an assistant principal. In addition, he was also coordinator of an ESL bilingual program in New York City.

He retired in 2005 and was replaced by current Assistant Principal Mr. Craig Weiss, but continued to intermittently fill in for absent staff members in Herricks

“It was an easy transition,” said Mr. Carmine Matina. “That’s the nice thing about coming back to where you worked for years. Sometimes you go to another building and there’s different things you have to learn, but here it’s like old times.”

and Salem Elementary School until his recent return to Schreiber.

“There is a fantastic feel to Schreiber that you don’t see in other schools. There is a great dynamic between teachers and students which sets a nice atmosphere,” said Mr. Matina. “That hasn’t changed and I think it’s nice to see.”

The timing worked well because it is already a transition for the incoming

freshmen and they will only have to experience one change in assistant principal.

“Mr. Matina is an AP with both in-depth knowledge and experience at Schreiber,” said Superintendent of Schools Dr. Geoffrey Gordon. “Because this involved a new 9th grade class, I wanted to ensure that the new students hit the ground running with an experienced and talented hand to guide them. So Mr. Matina is a great choice, and I am happy he was available because he previously was working in another district.”

The process of choosing Ms. Torres’ replacement took about four months. Dr. Gordon, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Kathy Mooney, principal Dr. Francis Banta, and former principal Mr. Jay Lewis were all involved in the decision.

“My rule is always to select the best candidate for the students,” said Dr. Gordon. “We considered a number of candidates, but with Mr. Matina’s availability, for all of the aforementioned reasons he was a clear first choice of everyone involved. He still relates well to the students and is a real pro, and that is a real plus.”

Mr. Matina is coming back from retirement at this time along with Dr. Banta, who was principal when Mr. Matina first started working in Port Washington, marking the temporary return of two retired staff members this year. The two administrators also worked together when Dr. Banta returned in 2002-04 before Mr. Lewis became principal.

Mr. Matina is also now working in the same building as his son, social studies teacher Mr. Doug Matina, although their jobs do not lend themselves to much of a professional relationship.

“It was an easy transition,” said Mr. Matina. “That’s the nice thing about coming back to where you worked for years. Sometimes you go to another building and there’s different things you have to learn, but here it’s like old times.”



Mr. Carmine Matina is filling in for Ms. Julie Torres as the assistant principal for the class of 2014.

Representatives chosen from S.S. classes

BY **Hannah Fagen**
Assistant News Editor

Many students feel frustrated that they do not have a voice in the Student Council and that its actions remain detached from their needs. This feeling is being addressed by a new policy that encourages each social studies class in the school to elect a representative to Student Council.

“While looking for ways to get more students involved in Student Council, last year’s executive officers came up with the idea of electing representatives. We were also looking for ways to get input from more students,” said Ms. Trish Burr, staff advisor to the Student Council.

After this topic had been discussed by the Student Council, Ms. Burr asked Mr. Bryan Frank, the head of the social studies department, if the representation program could be run from within social studies classes.

“I believe this will help the Student Council become more responsive to the needs of the students,” said executive officer senior Jai Sajnani. “The system will also create more positions of responsibility for students and will effectively keep all students up to date with Student Council activities.”

Starting this year, one student from each social studies class will be elected to represent their classmates at the bi-monthly Student Council meetings, and to create a more open line of communication between the Student Council club and the student body.

“They report back to their class any pertinent information and also report any concerns, issues, etc., that their class might have. Students will be given the opportunity to join committees and get more involved if they are so inclined,” said Ms. Burr.

Interested candidates must be able to attend Friday morning meetings and be interested in the role of Student Council

in the school. The class representatives will also have to speak in front of their classes every two weeks or so, to inform their classmates of the actions of Student Council and report the class’s feedback to the club.

“The representatives should be interested in Student Council and its actions, and also be able to inform their classmates about such actions once they begin attending meetings,” said sophomore Evan Kerr, an executive officer of Student Council.

In the past, when Schreiber had homerooms, representatives were chosen from each of them. However, when the format of the schedule changed, the program of class representatives was temporarily abandoned.

“Ever since we did away with homerooms, Student Council has grappled with the problem of how representatives would be chosen,” said Ms. Burr. “Last year the students felt it was time to initiate elections again.”

The Student Council only involves a small fraction of the student body. Therefore, the general opinion of Schreiber students cannot always be represented when important decisions are being made. Having more members join the club would enable the student body’s feelings to be more accurately reflected.

“The idea of the student representatives came into discussion when we received more and more comments about how the student body is not fully involved. Some thought that you had to be interested in running for an executive position to join the club, as opposed to just helping out with activities that we organize,” said Kerr. “There were also comments about people not knowing what Student Council was doing for the school. So, if there is a direct line of communication between the Council and the students, then all of our actions will be noted and better understood.”



Courtesy of Ms. Sheri Suzzan

From left to right: Mr. John Meyer, Mr. Mark Brenner, junior Brian Aronow, senior Sam Kim, junior Joon-Yup Yeom, junior Jen Kim, senior Dainn Woo, Mr. Anthony Pinelli, Ms. Carol Garofolo and Mr. John Spiezio. These junior and senior students qualified to perform in the various musical ensembles at the NYSSMA All-State conference in Rochester.

Point Counterpoint

Is the current food policy straightforward and effective?

By Daniela Di Caro

Staff Writer

Change is in the air during our first month back at Schreiber. All of us have new teachers, new schedules, and a new principal, Dr. Francis Banta. Another change is in the new food policy.

This new policy asks students to refrain from eating any peanut-related substance. This part of the food policy is designed to promote awareness of food allergies, the most common of which is airborne peanut allergy. Hopefully, this policy will prove to be effective in educating students to be more aware of the people around them.

After all, it is our responsibility as a student body to look out for one another and make sure that our school is a safe environment. I wouldn't want to come to school thinking that I might have an allergic reaction due to someone else not knowing that I had a serious allergy. This part of the policy promotes the courtesy students should show for one another.

"I have been pleased with all of the support for this new policy," said Dr. Banta. "The students here have been taking it very seriously."

To make sure this policy is effective, teachers have been taught tell-tale signs if a student or fellow faculty member is having an allergic reaction. This will increase the speed at which that student or faculty member receives aid from one of the nurses if needed. A peanut-free table has also been set aside in the student commons to any student that might be comfortable eating there.

The policy, however, does not insist that our school go completely peanut free; the cafeteria does in fact still sell peanut butter and jelly sandwiches.

The main idea of the policy is really to promote awareness by using peanuts as an example because children and adolescents show the highest amounts of peanut allergies.

The new food policy also asks students to refrain from eating food during class. The main problem with eating food during class is that sometimes careless students leave some pretty big messes. It then becomes an issue of cleanliness and health conditions, not a matter of ignoring the student body's wants. This problem quickly escalates from some innocent crumbs to infestations of flies, roaches, and other unwanted pests. A problem such as a bug infestation in a school is not one that can be easily fixed.

Personally, I see this "no food in class" policy as actually alleviating distractions that can be brought about by food in the classroom. I have come to realize that there are very

few things more annoying than that one person in class munching on the apple he or she brought for lunch.

Not to mention, it is almost impossible to eat a bag of potato chips without distracting other students in the class. Perhaps they too are hungry and have nothing to eat in class, or maybe the noise overpowers the audibility of the lesson. Overall, food that makes a lot of noise can interrupt or slow down lessons.

Of course, though, there are those days when students have full schedules and do not have time to eat lunch and must do schoolwork or study instead. So, as long as the teacher grants permission to the student who wants to eat, no immediate threat to the cleanliness of the school can be foreseen.

However, students must not take advantage of this privilege that a teacher may sometimes allow; this policy is a school-wide initiative and nobody should really be exempt from it, as that would be unfair. All students are provided with a 30-minute lunch break every day and should really make an attempt to use that time for the purpose it is designated.

Take from this what you will, but do remember to keep an open mind and realize that these policies are in effect to produce an improved, more aware school environment.

By Brendan Weintraub

Contributing Writer

The students of our school were expecting a lot of significant changes to the school upon returning from summer break. We have a new principal, Dr. Francis Banta, and we will soon have access to WiFi in key locations throughout the school. But, among these expected changes, there was one that was not planned for, at least not to the student's knowledge.

The current food policy has caused confusion among the Schreiber community. Peanut allergies have recently become a new focus of the food policy. While this may seem like a good idea, in reality, it is unclear and ineffective. The matter of eating food in class should also be consistent throughout the school. If the administration works out the flaws in the food policy, any confusion will be eliminated.

Students received a letter in the beginning of the school year mentioning new guidelines. In it, Dr. Banta wrote, "I am respectfully requesting that parents whose children bring lunch to school not send any peanut butter, nuts, or nut products for lunch or snack."

In addition, during our first day of

school assembly, the administration made it appear to each grade that our school was now peanut free.

But, in reality, our school is not peanut free; it is just peanut aware. Yet by saying it is peanut free, the student body was under the impression that under absolutely no circumstances were we allowed to bring any food item containing peanuts to school. In this aspect, the new school's food policy is confusing.

"Nobody was really sure what the exact rule was concerning peanut items in the school," said junior Hannah Blumberg.

Also, this policy is not consistent. Since we are not entirely peanut free, there is nothing stopping students from

bringing lunches with peanuts in it, such as a peanut butter and jelly sandwich or trail mix. Students can even buy PB&J sandwiches in our own cafeteria. Just because we, as a school, are supposed to be peanut aware, it does not mean that we all are going to make it a point to stop eating food with peanuts in it.

The students with peanut allergies were told that they would have access to a peanut-free table in which they would be able to eat without risk. However, many of the students do not know where this peanut-free table is (it is in the student commons). However, even if a student with peanut allergies actually does know that the peanut-free table is located in the student commons, he or she will likely avoid the table anyway, in order to sit with his or her friends in the cafeteria. If the goal of the peanut-free table is to allow students with airborne peanut allergies to better fit in with their friends, while still avoiding peanut products, there should be an additional peanut-free table in the cafeteria.

The new policy really only adheres to peanut allergies, when there are many other equally serious allergies in the school which the policy is not addressing. Some students and teachers in Schreiber have allergies to foods such as tree nuts, dairy, fish, and wheat. In all these cases, if the allergy is severe enough, it could be as life threatening as a peanut allergy is, and it should not be overlooked.

Many students are also unsure about whether or not they are allowed to eat in class. The established rule is that you can eat in class as long as your teacher gives you permission. However, this year teachers seem to be stricter about food allowed in class. There should be a concrete rule that all students are allowed to eat in any classroom.

Unfortunately, there are many times in a busy schedule that a student cannot eat before or after a class. Many students also study or do homework during their 30-minute lunch period, which prevents them from eating. These students may not have any off periods in their schedule, and therefore no free time to eat outside of class.

Especially since many students skip the most important meal of the day, breakfast, eating in class is a necessary option. If students are distracted by their hunger, they cannot perform at their full academic potential. With a full stomach, students will be able to do better on tests and be able to focus better on the lesson.

The food policy initiated this year is vague to the students. The peanut awareness idea can only go so far as to try to persuade students and faculty not to bring peanut associated foods into school with them. The school food policy should also be constant throughout the whole school; students should be allowed to eat in class. This new policy should be clarified to the student body so we can further understand and comply with what is asked of us.



Elana Galassi

A not so innocent treasure hunt for seniors

BY **Sophia Jaffe**
Opinions Editor

If you are not familiar with the senior scavenger hunt and what it entails, then good for you. However, this tradition that mixes drinking, stealing, and dangerous situations in one chaotic night needs to be addressed.

The senior scavenger hunt is an inappropriate event that should not be supported in any way and is clearly not the way to start off senior year.

Before I go any further, we should all be aware of what exactly the senior scavenger hunt is. Many seniors get together teams of about six people, usually all girls, and come up with flashy costume themes for each team. One group of girls produces a list of tasks that each team must complete.

Two days before school starts all the teams meet in the Monfort parking lot. Everyone starts the hunt at the same time, and it goes well into the night. The first team to have photo evidence of each completed task wins.

But, really, who is the winner in this situation? Considering the risk involved in many of the illegal acts as well as the public embarrassment, the scavenger hunt does not seem like a success for anyone.

So, what were some of the tasks on the infamous list this year? Well, you had to spray paint “Seniors 11” graffiti at Monfort, steal a traffic cone, and run a lap around the track naked while chugging a beer.

The tasks only got worse from

there.

Typically, teams have a male designated driver who remains sober throughout the night. But, the thought of rushing from place to place and committing embarrassing or illegal acts cannot be comforting to any parent, regardless of responsible driving practices.

“It was crazy and made no sense, but it’s a tradition I guess,” said senior Jason Hubsher.

Another striking aspect of the hunt is the extensive documentation of the crazy night. Pictures are taken of each task as proof, as if each successive task was something of which to be proud.

We all know the dangers of taking pictures and the epidemic effect they can have when posted online or on Facebook. Health class has definitely taught us that posting scandalous photos or comments is a risk that no student should take. With photos, this night can never be taken back or forgotten, days, weeks, or months after.

Don’t get me wrong. The list also includes completely legal activities such as serenading a gas station attendant, proposing to a stranger, and making your own iced coffee at Dunkin Donuts. The innocent tasks are basically harmless and get a good laugh out of everyone.

So, I suggest that if this tradition must continue, the illegal activities like drinking or trespassing should be eliminated from the night.

The hunt would still foster a night of fun, and memories to look back on in years to come.

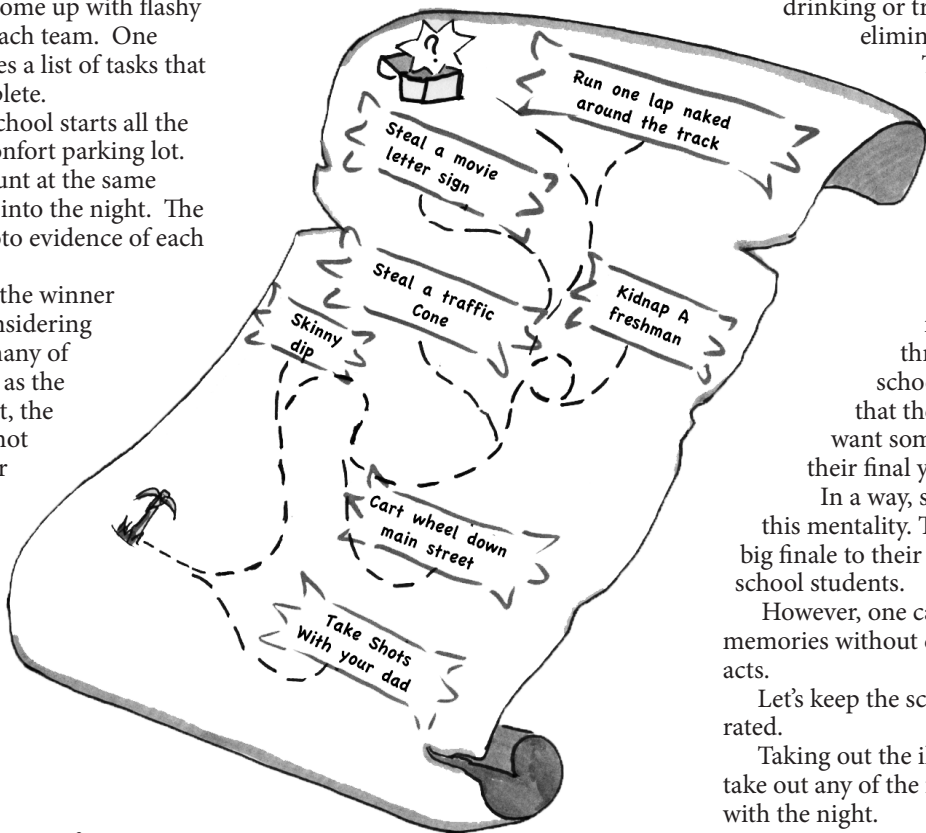
I understand that the senior scavenger hunt is a rite-of-passage. After three full years of high school, it’s understandable that the twelfth grade should want some seniority status for their final year.

In a way, seniors deserve to have this mentality. The hunt is also the big finale to their last summer as high school students.

However, one can still maintain memories without committing illegal acts.

Let’s keep the scavenger hunt PG-rated.

Taking out the illegal aspects will not take out any of the fun that goes along with the night.



Isaac Batbayar

New cell phone policy: proceed with caution

BY **Daniel Bialer**
Staff Writer

This year, a new rule has created a stir: the administration has significantly modified the school rules by permitting the usage of electronics in the school hallways between classes.

Previously, electronic devices could only be used in the cafeteria, student commons, and outside the building. As a result, there was always the possibility of confiscation of electronics in the hallways during the school day.

One obvious benefit of this policy is that students can now be in contact with family members when necessary. In previous years, if a student forgot his or her lunch and realized later on, he or she would often not have the opportunity to contact a parent.

Students would need to go outside in order to contact their parents between periods, and this would mean risking arriving late for their next class, and potentially receiving tank, if it should occur three times.

With the new system, this is no longer a problem, as students can safely talk on the phone while walking to their next class.

As Schreiber is a large school, cell phones can also provide a means of

communicating with people inside the building.

If a student needs to return the calculator he or she borrowed for his or her math class to a friend between periods, it can be difficult to communicate where and when to meet in a short five minute time frame.

By allowing students to use cell phones in the hallways, they can easily find each other for lunch or to exchange borrowed items.

Not only is it a convenience to use electronics between periods, but it is also a luxury. After a difficult or stressful test, students may listen to music as a means of calming themselves and releasing tension before the next class.

In previous years, staff members often reprimanded students for wearing head phones in the hallway and they could punish a student by confiscating the iPod or music player. This previous system caused unneeded hostility between students and teachers.

In addition, the newly introduced WiFi system allows students, in close proximity to certain WiFi zones, to access the Internet from their cell phones and iPods.

This allows a student, if necessary, to access e-mails, online dictionaries, and research sites before a discussion in class. This enables students to better engage in class with knowledge at their fingertips.

It also provides a means of checking last minute facts before a test or quiz, rather than rummaging through a backpack in order to find one’s notes.

Although cell phone usage should be permitted while walking through hallways, the freedom should not be abused. Especially while texting, students pay little attention to their surroundings and block hallways, preventing an efficient flow of students from arriving at their classes on time.

With crowded hallways and many students eager to text message their friends, using a cell phone can become a safety hazard, with the risks of students tripping or walking into each other.

“I have definitely seen some serious disorientation issues from students who are walking and texting,” said senior Alison Ehrlich.

Cell phones have become commonplace, and although they definitely should continue to be banned during class periods and assemblies, there is nothing wrong with the occasional hallway call.

However, students should use cell phones with discretion and keep in mind the effect their electronic use has on the people they share the hallways with every day.

Community Synagogue video causes non-kosher reactions

BY **Blake Mergler**
Senior Opinions Editor

Nearly 100,000 views on YouTube? Seen on Perez Hilton?

I would guess half the student body has seen or heard about the “Rosh Hashanah Song,” a YouTube video created by the Community Synagogue.

Posted on Aug. 24, this video is, I’ll admit, quite amusing, and might serve its purpose of attracting those who would not normally attend High Holiday services to “keep callin” as “God’s line is open for [them].”

However, its parody of “Telephone” by Lady GaGa with the Shofar blowing and the bima setting to share the importance of Rosh Hashanah goes a bit too far out of line.

As a Jew, I do appreciate the synagogue’s creativity, yet I find that this video takes the meaning of the holiest days on the Jewish calendar too lightly. Equating a Shofar and “God’s line” to a telephone and any other means of communication is simply inappropriate.

It gives the message that to come to services means to simply hear the Shofar blow and to quickly connect with God, while the High Holiday experience is definitely much more meaningful than that.

Reform Judaism takes a modern approach toward the religion and tries to make everyone feel as though they belong in a community and are welcomed to attend services, which I commend.

“The movie was trying to express a very holy time for Jewish people in a pop culture song,” said senior Sela Grabiner.

On Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur (both are mentioned in the video), Jews are supposed to deeply reflect on the past year, what sins they have committed, and what goals they should set for the next year.

Yet, to a degree, this video mocks the importance of the Jewish holidays, even though it does not intend to do so.

While each person who comes to a temple may experience these holidays differently, this video can convey the wrong message to those unfamiliar with or critical of Judaism.

Putting the High Holidays out there on YouTube simply leaves room for others who are not familiar with Jewish holidays to mock the religious practices.

For instance, this video resulted in YouTube users posting comments like “Damn Jews!” “Silly Jews” or saying that they like “the horn,” meaning the highly spiritual Shofar.

The holiday was not meant to be broadcast on the internet to the tune of a catchy song for thousands of viewers. The integrity of the holiday should be maintained with personal reflection on the year, not with Lady Gaga’s popular song. Even so, members of the Community Synagogue are proud of their community leaders for their production of this video; several comments on the video exclaim pride of being Jewish and excitement for the popularity of the video.

While many on YouTube are in favor of this video, I agree with the one who deems it “not kosher.”

A hearty welcome to the Class of 2014?

Freshmen articulate their views about coming to a new school

BY **Shari Meltzer**
Contributing Writer

A mixture of thoughts running through my mind; a jumble of emotions lodged in the pit of my stomach; such were my feelings when I first walked into Schreiber High School.

I seemed unable to get the billions of overwhelming questions out of my head. Not only that, but the lyrics to Taylor Swift’s “Fifteen” were stuck in my head.

There was so much going on that I thought my brain would certainly explode. Although I can not tell you exactly what happened to any other freshman that day, I am almost certain that other peoples’ experiences were similar to my own.

Still, this is not the first transition that we have had from one school to another. Everybody has been through this already; the only difference is that we are now older. We can all say that this is, at the least, our third time going through a transitional experience like this.

However, the same feelings arise every time as though we had never dealt with something like this before.

No matter what grade you are in, the first few days of school are always the same. Each year the process repeats.

We find our classrooms and scope them out for our friends. Then, the teachers will do a course outline, tell you what supplies you need, and what they expect of you.

Even though we were in a new place, the routine was so similar to Weber’s that I was actually surprised. In certain classes we are relearning things from earlier years but at a more advanced level. Then there are other classes where we will learn new things, but for now it is fairly easy or just review.

No matter how old you are, or what school you are in, school will still be school.

I believe that middle school did prepare us for our move up to Schreiber. As we get older and, hopefully, begin to mature, we are given more freedom by the adults in our lives.

I honestly believe that Weber was a good stepping stone. Many of you may think differently than I do, but as we get older I think it will become even more

clear that Weber really did help us out somewhere along the line.

Thanks to Weber’s preparation, going up to Schreiber didn’t feel difficult to do; it felt completely right. Middle school taught us how to handle the responsibility that we will continue to foster into our adult lives.

The transition was smooth since the Schreiber community was very welcoming. All of the teachers seem fairly nice as well.

It’s fair to say that many other freshmen, myself included, appreciate the newfound luxury of off periods. This hour of freedom epitomizes the many positive aspects of coming into Schreiber. We have to watch over ourselves, and no one is going to tell us what to do.

We are now faced with decisions we never had in Weber: Should I do work or hang out with my friends when I have fifth off? Where should I go to do my homework?

Although anxiety accompanied the first day of school, it was short lived. It was comforting to know that all freshmen were as nervous as I was and that there were plenty of people, including students, guidance counselors, and teachers available to help us.

My first taste of Schreiber has given me confidence that the next four years of my education will be filled with excitement and enrichment. They will definitely not be as overwhelming as the day when I first walked through the doors of high school.

BY **Aaron Bialer**
Contributing Writer

Immediately after walking into the two front doors of high school, I was disoriented. Swarms of huge high school students created a traffic in the hall that I could not avoid.

After locating and climbing the stairs to the second floor, I finally began to regain my orientation. I quickly found my homeroom and went to the first day assembly for freshmen.

Afterwards, I obtained my ID card and started the search for my first class. I was extremely nervous and had butterflies in my

stomach. It was difficult to successfully navigate a new building. I got lost about ten times during that first school day.

By the second day, however, I basically knew my way around the school. I also had friends in all of my classes who could help me out, if needed.

Other than the

huge number of people and the slightly confusing building layout, Schreiber was very welcoming. I found that most of my teachers were incredibly nice and helpful, even though many gave homework on the first day of school. Teachers also tried to help me find my way around and create a comfortable transition.

After finally getting used to Weber, the transition to Schreiber was difficult. Weber had very few, easily avoidable traffic jams in the hallways, while here, every hallway seems to be full of people, many of whom are double my size.

Another aspect of Weber that I liked better than Schreiber was the separation of grades and houses.

At Weber, each grade level eats lunch at a different time. Grade levels are further separated into four houses. Students generally take all their core classes with teachers and students assigned to their house.

In eighth grade everybody seemed to fit in with his or her house and had most classes in a single hallway, away from students in other grades.

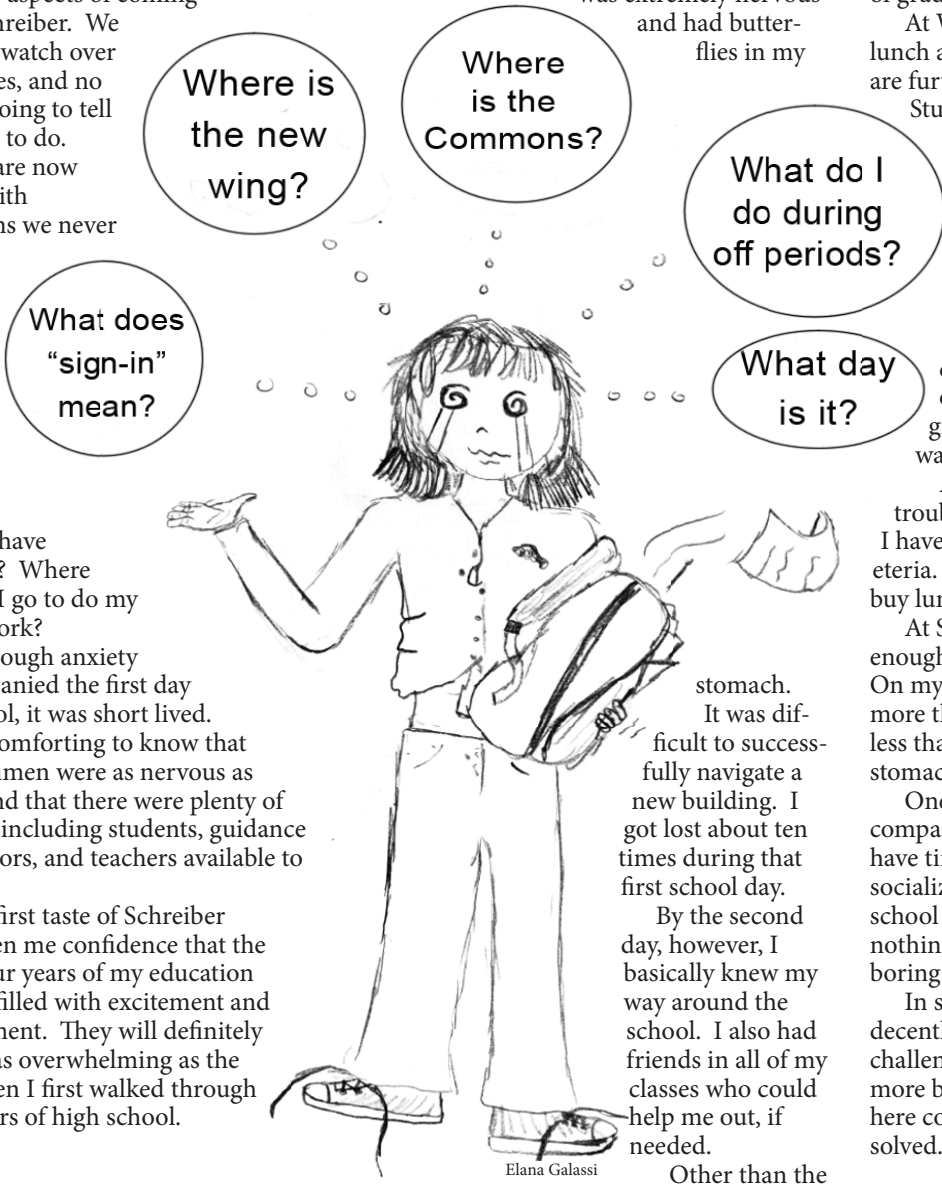
At Schreiber, all grades are combined. While waiting outside one classroom, students of various grades from different classes are waiting outside neighboring rooms.

Also, I find the lunch system troubling. Since I was in kindergarten, I have bought lunch from the school cafeteria. I have always had enough time to buy lunch and eat it.

At Schreiber, however, I barely have enough time to buy, let alone eat lunch. On my second day, the lunch line took more than 20 minutes, leaving me with less than ten minutes to fill my empty stomach.

One great part of Schreiber, especially compared to Weber, is the off periods. I have time to get homework done while socializing with friends throughout the school day. However sometimes, if I have nothing to do, off periods can be more boring than class periods.

In summary, Schreiber has been decently welcoming, which made the challenging transition from Weber all the more bearable. Hopefully, as my time here continues, my few problems will be solved.



Guidance groups give freshmen a golden opportunity

BY **Katharine Fields**
Staff Writer

I would like to welcome all the freshmen. It is normal for you to feel overwhelmed at Schreiber; the days of 8th grade dominance in middle school are long gone and September has arrived with a completely new type of schedule.

The transition from middle school to high school includes a whole host of new experiences. Although this school might seem intimidating, please realize that it will get better, and that everyone in the school knows how you feel.

The upperclassmen of Schreiber remember their freshman year and being thrown into the intimidating maze of our school. We all share a sense of understanding with the timid freshmen and

many try our best to ease the transition.

The school fosters this aid through Freshman Guidance groups. These groups meet during lunch once a cycle for the first six cycles of the year. Peer helpers, upperclassmen who applied for the role, lead the groups under the supervision of guidance counselor Ms. Karen Linsner, who works hard to ensure that each freshman’s experience is invaluable.

“I think Freshman Guidance Groups are really important because Schreiber feels very overwhelming for a new student,” said Ms. Linsner. “They’re meant to provide a smooth transition. I pick peer helpers who have a generous and responsible personality.”

The groups are meant to provide a comfort zone for freshmen where they are surrounded by people who are in the

same position. Peer helpers lead discussions, answer questions, and foster a welcoming atmosphere. Unfortunately, many freshmen dismiss this program as useless.

“I think Freshman Guidance Groups are really important because Schreiber feels very overwhelming for a new student,” said Ms. Karen Linsner.

During the meetings, freshmen are encouraged to ask questions, express fears or concerns, and get to know their

peer helpers so that they can develop a sense of security in the school. Though freshmen might not make the most out of the few guidance group meetings, they are an important part of acclimating to Schreiber.

From an upperclassmen’s perspective, please take my advice, freshmen: get involved in your guidance group and take advantage of the information others give you. Although many find it an annoying occurrence and a waste of time, freshmen should change their mindsets.

Do not roll your eyes at your peers if they try to participate. Support each other during your first few weeks of getting acquainted to what may seem to be a foreign universe.

Freshmen, take advantage of your groups and your peer helpers and make the most out of each and every session.

Editorials

Gym locker policy prevents thefts

As students may be aware, the policy regarding bringing backpacks to gym class is being enforced to a greater extent, and for good reason. In the past, numerous thefts have taken place in the locker rooms. The administration has decided that the best way to prevent these thefts is to request that students not bring any valuables to class. In an effort to enforce this policy more effectively, teachers have been standing at the door to the gym, reminding students to leave their backpacks in their regular lockers. Additionally, a new rule has been instituted, stating that if students leave something out in the locker room during class, they will receive detention.

The Schreiber Times would like to applaud this policy. It causes barely any inconvenience to students, as teachers are accommodating the fact that it takes longer for students to get to Phys. Ed. when they have to drop off their backpacks. In addition, the Phys. Ed. teachers will dismiss classes earlier to provide students with enough time to get to their hall lockers.

Locker room thefts are disturbances that no one needs. The Phys. Ed. department is only asking students to be logical; don't bring things that you don't need to gym class. Gym lockers are intended for the clothes and equipment that you require for class, and nothing more.

The other option, locking the entire locker room during classes, is simply not feasible. Students often need access to the locker rooms at various points throughout the day, meaning that restricting locker room access to in-between periods would be much more inconvenient.

Thefts are a nuisance that no one should have to deal with. Unfortunately,

it has been shown, in the past, that they occur when students leave belongings out in the locker rooms. So instead of complaining next time you have to drop your backpack off before gym class, think about how much more of a disturbance it would be to have your backpack stolen.

New band fashions represent school

The Schreiber Times would like to commend the band's decision to get new uniforms. The old uniforms, in use since 1993, were in need of replacement.

The previous uniforms were not representational of Schreiber spirit at all. In fact, they were more representational of Manhasset's spirit since they were the Manhasset colors of orange and blue.

Also, the uniforms were overall uncomfortable in the oppressively humid climates, which the band often plays in. The stiff jackets and hard helmets are not the most comfortable or fashionable items a student can wear.

The new uniforms are streamlined and comfortable. Dinkles, band sneakers, have been removed from the new uniform, which makes many of the students happy since they were not particularly attractive accessories.

Now, students just have to buy the blue polo t-shirt and wear their own khaki pants and white sneakers. Since students are expected to already have these basics, they do not have to worry about awkward fits. Also, students do not have to pay anymore than they did last year.

Even though the new uniforms incorporate more of each student's own wardrobe, the blue polo shirts will still maintain the unity of the band. The band will surely project a strong, unified appearance, and the students will be much happier in their own clothes.

All of these aspects of the new uniforms should add to a more cheery and lively band that does not have to wear embarrassing helmets and non-breathable outfits. Now, the band can truly focus more on playing exciting music to promote school pride and athletic enthusiasm instead of being distracted by uncomfortable, hot uniforms. Overall, this new uniform is a march in the right direction.

Guidance in the college process

The autumn months for seniors are some of the most stressful times filled with busy workloads and sleepless nights—nothing like what senior year is imagined to be. The guidance department does its best to aid the students during this extremely demanding time by constantly expanding its programs and resources.

The newly created college resource center has become fully functional this school year. What was once just a staff and conference room has now been transformed into a valuable resource for seniors. The guidance department is responsible for the college resource center, located in room 112, where various college meetings have already taken place to help students with the application process.

The Schreiber Times commends the efforts of the guidance department in its attempts to continually expand its programs and help the seniors with the stressful college process. During this extremely overwhelming time for seniors, any available resource is much appreciated.

As of now, the room is only in its initial phases, but it is still praiseworthy that such a resource has been set-up. During these few months of college admissions, the guidance department gets overly crowded and busy, and therefore, by allocating a portion of these resources to this center, the guidance office will be better able to serve students from all grade levels.

Instead of using a classroom, the smaller sized resource center creates a more intimate, appropriate environment for college meetings. At the same time, a classroom is not being used which could have otherwise potentially disrupted a class.

With this progress, another change has also come which does not seem as positive to most seniors. This year, with improvements in technology, the guidance department has moved online in terms of applications. The department held meetings for both parents and seniors in September in an attempt to explain the new process for submitting student forms.

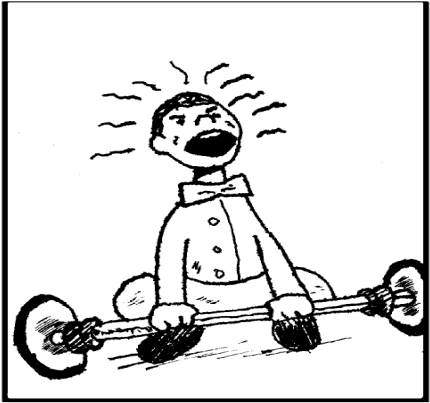
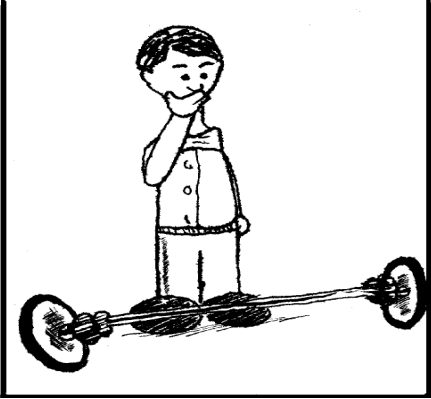
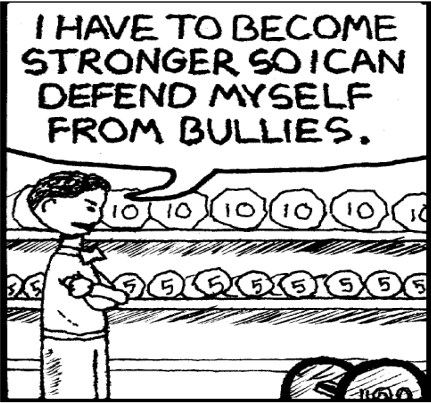
Although this system might be more efficient, we believe that it has worsened the matter for students. In the past, students were able to finish their applications due January 1 over December break, but this will no longer be possible since the department can only process forms once the student's entire application is submitted. Additionally, all early decision applications due November 1 now need to be completed by mid-October so that the guidance department can process the applications. This severely cuts down the time seniors have to complete their applications. Although meetings were held to carefully explain matters to students, there are still many who are confused about this new system.

This system might not affect the students who were able to finish much of their applications over the summer, but for the many who did not do so, this change has brought even more stress to the application process.

While *The Schreiber Times* does believe that the guidance department is doing its best to aid the seniors in every way possible, especially through this new resource center, we ask the department to evaluate this new system of online forms, and to see if it is actually helping the college process, or just making matters worse.

Interested in writing for Opinions? Then come to the next newspaper general meeting on Oct. 7. All new writers are welcome!

The Hart Knock Life



Chris Hart

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.

Dr. Francis Banta, a familiar face, returns as Interim Principal

BY **Kaia de Bruin**
Staff Assistant

Schreiber has a new interim principal, but he is hardly a new face; Dr. Francis Banta has decades of experience working in public education, and many of those years have been spent here in Port Washington.

Dr. Banta was a social studies teacher at Schreiber starting in 1966 before becoming the head of the department in 1972. He then served as Schreiber’s principal for nine years, from 1978 to 1987.

The interim principal job is not foreign to Dr. Banta either: he held the position from 2002 to 2004 before the district selected Schreiber’s former principal, Mr. Jay Lewis.

Because Dr. Banta has the advantage of knowing the school and staff, he is confident that the transition will be smooth.

“It definitely helps to already know the community and people here, because the most difficult part of any new job, despite your past experience or credentials, is always getting to know your co-workers,” said Dr. Banta. “The main goal of any principal, whether they be an interim

principal or not, should be to ensure that goals set by the superintendent are put in place.”

While the amount of time he will spend as principal depends on how easy the hiring process is, Dr. Banta, during his time as principal, plans to continue programs already in place, such as the Senior Experience program.

In addition to familiarity with the school, Dr. Banta has a great amount of education experience. He has been involved in public education for 45 years, spending time in other school districts as well.

“Every school that I’ve worked at has been very different, but one of the main things that I have aimed to emphasize at each is the expansion of the AP program,” said Dr. Banta. “I have also been in many school districts where the policy of open campus has been under debate, and as each school has a different policy, this has given me the chance to see many different viewpoints.”

Dr. Banta’s time in public education includes his tenure as the Assistant Superintendent and then Superintendent of Schools for the Oyster Bay-East Norwich Central School District. During the last ten years he has worked as an interim principal at Harborfields, Roslyn,



Christian Browne

Dr. Francis Banta, the new Interim Principal, is looking forward to being a visible and involved member of the Schreiber community.

North Shore, and Garden City.

This experience at other schools has enabled him to get a first-hand view of how high the standards are set at schools on Long Island.

“I have more global views; I’ve been at excellent schools and it’s been a reminder of the caliber of high schools on Long Island,” said Dr. Banta. “I’ve spent most of my time at schools where the vast majority of students go on to college.”

His main focus for the year is to ensure the success of the students and he will therefore strive to maintain a high caliber of service and academics.

In addition, Dr. Banta has stated that he wants to stay involved in the daily happenings around the building.

“I have attended many events in the last month, such as the September HSA meeting, and the September meeting of the Board of Education, in order to get to know those throughout the school better,” said Dr. Banta.

In the past month, Dr. Banta has met almost daily with the assistant principals. He has also had meetings with the various department heads, and has been going in to classes daily, to better get to know teachers and students. In an effort to open

dialogue, Dr. Banta also held sessions with the new teachers at Schreiber.

“A high school is an extremely dynamic place, and many things happen simultaneously. The most important part of my job is that I have to be as accessible as possible to students, parents and teachers, so that I can understand their interests and concerns and be able to respond day to day,” said Dr. Banta. “An individual may know how to run a school, but it is much harder to do it effectively when you are not familiar with the people you are working with.”

Over the years, Dr. Banta has observed a spike in the use of technology in the classroom. He noted that while curriculum and methods of teaching may have been updated in the past few years, carefully planned and strongly implemented lessons continue to be an integral part of successful teaching. In addition, he is working to stay involved in the school community to create a positive environment for everyone involved with Schreiber.

“I find it exciting, vibrant, and intellectually challenging to work to maintain the best possible atmosphere,” said Dr. Banta.

The Process for Choosing a New Principal

After the retirement of former principal Mr. Jay Lewis, the Port Washington Board of Education appointed Dr. Francis Banta as a temporary interim principal.

Starting at the beginning of this school year, however, the Board has begun looking for a permanent replacement for the job of Schreiber’s principal.

An advertisement was recently placed in the New York Times Job Education/ Training Section requesting resumes and applications from those interested in the position.

The option of selecting an employee already working within the Port Washington district is a potential solution as well.

In order to select the principal, three separate committees, consisting of parents, administrators, and teachers, will interview and eliminate candidates. A fourth committee consisting of students is also likely, but this decision has not been finalized yet.

“I am really looking forward to the selection process with the hope that we can find an outstanding educational leader for our school,” said Assistant Principal Mr. Craig Weiss.

At the end of the extensive interviewing process, the Port Washington School District administrators will make the final decision and appoint the new principal.

~Alexa Pinto

Pride in Port planning committee adds new events to town celebration

BY **Lauren Goldstein**
Staff Writer

As the school year begins, so do the preparations for the annual Pride in Port celebration. This year the planning committee consists of four students from the junior and senior classes who are working alongside Assistant Principal Dr. Brad Fitzgerald to coordinate the community event.

“Both the student planners and Dr. Fitzgerald have dedicated a significant amount of time and energy into creating what we hope to be a well-attended, more original day,” said student coordinator senior Al Ades.

Meeting at least once a week, the planning committee has gone to great lengths to brainstorm and incorporate new ideas into this year’s Pride in Port celebration.

“We have a lot of new ideas and we are

hoping to make this Pride in Port the best one yet,” said student coordinator senior Kyra Schor.

Pride in Port will take place on Oct. 2. As the date approaches, the planning committee has worked to finalize the day’s activities.

The day will consist all of its traditional components, which include the Hall of Fame breakfast and induction ceremony, the parade, family fun day on the Weber field, the senior citizens luncheon, the Homecoming football game, which will be versus Herricks High School, and the community dinner dance at the end of the day.

New to the Pride in Port schedule is the first annual Powderpuff Game. In somewhat of a role-reversal, the Powderpuff Game pits the senior and junior girls against each other in a half-hour, two-hand touch football game while the senior and junior boys participate as cheerleaders on the sidelines. Kickoff is

scheduled for 12:45 p.m. at the track after the parade.

The Pride in Port committee collaborated with representatives from Student Council in order to receive additional suggestions to improve the overall success of the event.

Working together, these two groups extended the length of the celebration, declaring it a four day festivity for all of Schreiber to participate in. All Schreiber students and staff had the chance to demonstrate their school spirit throughout the week.

While in past years, a limited amount of people has been able to be directly involved in the event, this year, involvement was offered to anyone who was interested.

“It is great that Student Council has finally teamed up with the Pride in Port planning committee to heighten the excitement for this day and to get all the students and faculty involved,” said

Student Council representative senior Michael Graf.

The festivities began on the Wednesday before the weekend of the actual event with an abbreviated adaptation of spirit week, with themes such as “Pajama Day” and “Twin Day.”

These in-school activities will conclude with “Spirit Day”, which includes face painting in the lobby and a large pep rally this afternoon, involving the entire student body, in the hopes of hyping up school spirit while generating interest for the events that will occur the following day.

“These additions to Pride in Port will give students the chance to really come together and show their school spirit earlier in the year,” said senior Carly Rosenberg. “I am really excited for this year’s Pride in Port and I’m looking forward to the enhancements that everyone has worked so hard to incorporate.”

Building remains bustling during summer months

BY Sarah Greene
Staff Writer

Although classes officially ended in June, Schreiber did not lose its busy atmosphere during the summer. Various events and activities ensure that the hallways always remained filled throughout the summer months. The school was filled with students participating in this summer's production of *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. Rehearsals occurred almost every weeknight for three hours, with the entire cast and crew in attendance. From Aug. 5-8, the young actors and actresses performed the much-rehearsed show.

"The summer show was really a great experience," said senior Molly Ronis. "It brought together some of Port Washington's most talented performers, and it was amazing to see the show progress during the weeks of rehearsals under the instruction of our fantastic director, Jason Summers."

Summer school courses were also offered, courtesy of the Port Washington School District, from July 7 through Aug. 17. One difference this year was that students from the Herricks Union Free School District were also invited to attend classes.

Eight non-credit, mini-review sessions were also offered from Aug. 4-17 for students who wished to either take or re-take any of the August Regents. These sessions aimed to assist students in familiarizing, or re-familiarizing, themselves with both



Courtesy of K. C. Wilsey

***Thoroughly Modern Millie* was performed by the Port Summer Show program during the month of August. The group, who spent many nights rehearsing at Schreiber, consisted of many high school students.**

the material and the testing process. Some course offerings, besides those that require a Regents, included Physical Education, Health, Accounting, and Principles of Engineering.

On June 28, Driver Education classes began for juniors and seniors. Held by the Port Washington School District, the program includes 24 hours of classroom instruction as well as 24 hours of driving instruction.

Students were given the option of taking classes five days a week for an hour and a half or every other day, excluding weekends, for three hours.

For student athletes, as well as students who are kept busy with extracurricular

activities and schoolwork, the summer program of Driver Education is a very useful option. The summer session enables such students to avoid missing sports practices of clubs that run during the school year.

"I could not do Driver Education this spring because I was on the varsity baseball team," said senior Michael Weiss. "Doing the program during the summer allowed me to continue playing baseball throughout the spring, but still have my drivers license by the time school started."

The school also lent out facilities to various other groups and projects. The Port Washington High School Summer Community Band, which was led by

music teacher Mr. Mark Brenner, received percussion equipment, music, and practice space.

The band held four summer performances at the Sousa Band Shell at Sunset Park, with themes ranging from pop songs to British folk music. Various dance classes and lessons were also hosted throughout the school.

"It was great to be able to continue playing music throughout the summer," said junior Genevieve Bellon. "I think it was awesome that the other students involved with the summer band, and I, were able to bring our music to the community in the form of free, outdoor concerts."



FREE STUDENT CHECKING PACKAGE

With 5% Way 2 Save account

- Free Checking account with no minimum balance
- Free Premium Savings with no minimum balance
- Free Online Banking with Billpay including online statements and balance alerts
- Free Debit Card with no annual fee
- Free advice for all your banking concerns
- No monthly service fees

HURRY IN BEFORE THE NEW YEAR!! COME INTO OUR
BRANCH (ACROSS THE PARKING LOT) FOR MORE
DETAILS PLEASE MENTION THIS AD WHEN YOU COME
INTO THE BANK

*access to over
3,400 financial
centers and over
12,000 Wachovia
and Wells Fargo
ATMs

*Benefits that
will make
college both
affordable &
convenient!!!

The mystery of teachers’ summers revealed

by Aimee Stern and Lily Thrope

Staff Writer and Contributing Writer

What teachers do outside of school is often a mystery to their students. While it may be hard to imagine them when they are not in a school setting, many teachers enjoy the summer months engaged in interesting activities, such as going to new places, being immersed in other cultures, and sometimes even seeing students.

One teacher who took full advantage of this summer vacation was Mr. Larry Schultz, who was married on July 31. His large ceremony even included many other teachers from the social studies department.

“I have been to many weddings, but this one was just so much fun,” said social studies teacher Ms. Erin Howard. “It was great to be able to see so many of my colleagues during the summer.”

Mr. Schultz continued his eventful summer by travelling to Hawaii. While there, he and his wife tried to experience all that Hawaii has to offer, including snorkeling, a fast downhill bike ride on a volcano, and many different kinds of food. One of the best new foods that he tasted was called Puka Dog, which consists of

sausage stuffed with papaya.

“Snorkeling with the sea turtles was awesome,” said Mr. Schultz. “The bike ride was interesting, as the trail was very steep, and I must admit I am not much of a daredevil. Overall though, the trip was great, and I even got a tan, believe it or not.”

Ms. Andrea Martinez was one of the most extensive travelers from the faculty this summer. She traveled throughout Europe for three weeks, visiting cities like London, Paris, Amsterdam, and Barcelona. Highlights of her travels included riding the London Eye, a 440-foot tall Ferris wheel, and seeing the Mona Lisa while in Paris.

She also experienced the excitement surrounding the FIFA World Cup, and watched the final match while in Amsterdam. When she visited Spain days later, the Spanish were still celebrating their victory.

“The trip was really an eye-opening experience overall, and I think it really gave me a new perspective on traveling,” said Ms. Martinez. “I would love to go back to Barcelona and Amsterdam so that I could better experience the culture there.”

Another traveling teacher this summer

was Italian teacher Ms. Meredith White. She rented a house in Naples, which may seem appropriate to students who have experienced her love of Italian culture in class. After speaking to a few of her students, and discovering that they were going to be in Italy also, they made tentative agreements to meet up.

Two students who saw Ms. White in Italy during the summer were juniors Michela Pettruziello and Danie Santodonato, who were nearby visiting Pettruziello’s grandparents.

“Ms. White is a teacher who brings so much of her own experiences into her lessons,” said Santodonato. “It was great to be able to experience this, and see her passion for Italian culture, outside of the classroom setting.”

Despite not making extensive plans for her time in Italy, Ms. White found that she was busy almost every day. Seeing some of her students really enhanced her experience as she was able to witness them using the language skills that she had taught.

“More than anything, I really enjoyed traveling,” said Ms. White. “I am looking forward to returning to Italy whenever I next get the opportunity.”

The importance of a healthy breakfast

by Reid Mergler and Sarah Paul

Senior Features Editor and Staff Writer

Everyone has heard the refrain that breakfast is the most important meal of the day. But why? What does “important” refer to? What is breakfast, exactly?

Take a look at the word. Break-fast. When you eat breakfast, you are breaking a fast, that period of time spent sleeping and allowing your metabolism to slow down. Just like a car needs gasoline to drive, you need food to fuel your body so that it is able to function smoothly and efficiently.

Since you have not eaten since dinner eight hours before, your body simply does not have the fuel that it needs to function properly. Breakfast helps to curb hunger later in the day and prevents you from over-indulging, usually unconsciously, when you get home from a long day of school. It is the time to provide your body with the glucose it needs to live and learn successfully.

You may not feel hungry in the morning; in fact, many students and adults report feelings of nausea. Those trying to lose weight may skip breakfast as a way of avoiding those “extra calories.”

Yet, breakfast is essential for healthy functioning, a higher metabolism, and even weight loss. In fact, skipping breakfast is associated with iron deficiencies and higher body mass index.

It has been shown through research that those who skip breakfast are irritable and fatigued, and can even experience stomach cramps.

This is especially detrimental for students, who need as much energy as possible to focus class after class and achieve the grades they want. In fact, there is a direct correlation between eating a nutritious breakfast and earning higher test scores.

So, what should you eat to consume adequate nutrition for breakfast? Eating something such as a donut or a cereal bar is better than eating nothing at all, but there are actually several healthy, satisfying, delicious, and balanced options to choose from.

Try a parfait with a trendy Greek yogurt (zero percent or two percent fat depending on preference and dietary needs), high-fiber granola such as Nature’s Path Pumpkin Flax Plus, and some fresh berries.

Another option is whole wheat toast with organic peanut butter and banana slices, a nutritious meal which provides hearty whole grains, healthy fats, and sugars. Oatmeal prepared either with milk or hot water topped with apples and slivered almonds is also very nutritious and satisfying.

You can also enjoy the benefits of eggs and cheese on a whole wheat English muffin. These options all have protein, fats, fiber, and carbohydrates that provide energy that lasts throughout the school day.

An important aspect of breakfast is the more variety, the better. With such numerous options, change the meal on a weekly basis to avoid routine and boredom. As a companion to a new school year, begin your year with breakfasts to fuel your body with the essential nutrients it needs.

Restaurant Review Bellissimo Pizzeria

by Georgia Goodman

Contributing Writer

In a town filled with numerous popular pizzerias, including Gino’s, Carlo’s, Frank’s, and Rosa’s, do we really need yet another? In the case of Bellissimo, the answer is yes. Located in the Soundview Marketplace, Bellissimo is a brand-new Italian restaurant that offers a winning combination of great food, a welcoming atmosphere, and an inviting staff.

Bellissimo is festively decorated with red, green, and white flags in a display of Italian pride. From the moment the door opens, the smell of fresh pizza dough wafts out. With a clean, organized, and

welcoming interior, the restaurant appears casually classy.

Bellissimo offers a wide variety of pizza slices, including pasta, buffalo chicken, and chicken parmesan. Truly, deciding what to order will be difficult for any fan of Italian food. Not only was the food of the highest quality, it tasted just like pizza from a family restaurant should: homemade.

The business is, in fact, family owned and operated. The two owners, Sal and Matt Cam, are father and son, and have worked together for many years. The two also own another restaurant that is located in Hicksville.

“We have been working together for 25 years,” said Mr. Sal Cam. “We really love

our family business.”

According to the owners, two of the most popular type of pizza slices are taco and buffalo chicken. Like Gino’s Pizzeria, located on Main Street, Bellissimo also offers Italian ices. The main difference between the two establishments is that Bellissimo has twice as many flavors. Also, the refreshing scoops are less expensive than at Gino’s.

The atmosphere of the restaurant is both relaxed and inviting. As a family-oriented restaurant, it attracts many different types of people. On any given night, there are both entire families eating dinner together, and teenagers getting a quick bite to eat.

“I think that Bellissimo is both a terrific pizzeria to grab a slice from and a great restaurant to have a nice dinner in,” said sophomore Sydney Goldstein. “I ate a buffalo chicken slice because it looked so tempting and also really fresh, and was absolutely delicious. I would definitely go back to Bellissimo for another delicious dining experience.”

While there is sit-down dining available to those who wish to enjoy a longer meal, the service at the counter is quick and take-out friendly. Bellissimo also offers delivery service to those living in the Port Washington area.

“The kindness and generosity of the staff is one of the many reasons why everyone should eat at Bellissimo,” said Goldstein. “When I was a few cents short of the bill, they told me not to worry about it. The staff, and overall atmosphere, are incredibly friendly.”

Bellissimo Pizzeria is perfect if you are simply looking to grab a quick slice of pizza before or after running errands nearby or if you are looking for a nice, low-key family outing. Although Port Washington already has many popular pizzerias, this one is definitely a great addition. Even if you’re not Italian, the fresh, delicious food and the welcoming staff will immediately make you feel right at home.



Noah White

Bellissimo Pizzeria, a new restaurant located in the Soundview Marketplace Shopping Center, offers outdoor seating so that customers can enjoy the few remaining days of warm weather.

Senior Fact #731: Class of '11 has a sense of humor

Friends come together to create matching shirts for the first day of school

BY Laila Iravani

Staff Writer

Seniors from many social circles and backgrounds united during the summer under one common goal: to create senior shirts. Students gathered in groups large and small to brainstorm witty slogans to display across jaunty t-shirts and tanktops.

There were about seven groups of students who created shirts this year, each showing creativity in their unique themes. Ideas ranged from giant thumbs-up graphics, to black and white jerseys with peace signs.

Almost every group incorporated inside jokes or personalized messages on the backs of the shirts to add individuality. One group featured a play on the well-known website, "Texts from Last Night." The girls sported black tank tops with the phrase "[TFTS]:" or Texts From the Seniors, on the front.

On the back, each shirt had a quick one-liner, meant to look like a text message received by the person wearing the shirt.

"We really tried to choose 'texts' that would accurately describe each person," said senior Ann Lee.

Selecting what each shirt would say turned out to be the easiest part of the entire process. After deciding where to purchase the shirts, there were disagreements regarding the exact design. "Deciding on the idea came after

introducing a bunch of other ideas that were rejected by some people in the group and accepted by others. I think after a while people just decided to agree simply for the sake of time," said senior Danielle Zuckerman. "In the end, everybody seemed to be happy with the final product."

Another group of girls attempted to imitate the "Snapple Facts" that can be found on the flip side of Snapple bottle caps. The group filled the front of a white tank top with the Snapple logo; but in place of the brand name, they inserted the word 'seniors'.

"We had a few other ideas besides the Snapple one, but it was the one that the majority agreed on," said senior Melissa Seltzer.

The group had decided on the plan relatively early because senior shirts are something that they were looking forward to. These early plans made it easier and less stressful to make decisions about finalizing their idea and creating the shirt.

"As an underclassman, you see them, and we found it exciting to finally be able to wear our own," said Seltzer. "Something what makes the shirts even more enticing is that they are a school tradition for any one to participate in."

Another group of girls thought of labeling each of their shirts with funny personality traits that they see in each other. For example, one girl labeled herself "The Loud One," while another wore "The



Laila Iravani

One group of senior girls showed off their matching shirts on the first day of school. This group incorporated inside jokes and a play on a popular website's name.

Peppy One" on her shirt.

"It was really hard to agree on an idea for the shirts, because the only thing we all agreed on was the colors and overall look that we wanted," said senior Bridgette McDermott.

After a lot of discussions, and a few disagreements, the group decided to put a large thumbs up sign on the front of the shirts.

"While it was fun to make the shirts with my friends, I am not a huge fan of the tradition," said McDermott. "I think it really highlights all the cliques in the school, which isn't necessarily a great thing to do."

A fourth type of shirt worn on the first day of school was a tank top that resembled a sports jersey. The group said that they agreed unanimously on the idea, which made the process of actually creating the shirts much easier.

"I think it is a great way to start off the year with your friends, and the shirts are an awesome keepsake to hold onto even after leaving high school," said senior Nikki Zolli. "While the process of designing, collecting money for, and eventually ordering the shirts was a bit tedious, the end product was definitely worth all of the trouble."

Apple shrinks iPod nano once again

BY Dan Miller

Assistant Features Editor

Departing from the typical click-wheel design of the most recent versions of Apple's iPod nano, the newest music players from the Cupertino, CA based company feature a 1.54 inch multi-touch display. In all, the package measures only 1.61 inches wide and weighs less than three-quarters of an ounce, making it the smallest iPod nano ever.

Targeted at the active audience, the new iPod nano leaves the past generation's video playback functionality behind for a clip that echoes the design of Apple's screenless iPod shuffle.

This new ability to clip the iPod nano onto one's clothes allows the owner to engage in more vigorous activities without the added concern of possibly dropping his or her iPod.

Many introduced to the small device, which was released on Sept. 1, initially doubted the usability of such a miniscule touchscreen. The screen, however, features large, colorful icons and makes navigation extremely simple. Users can rotate the screen and move the icons around to fit their preferences.

The iPod nano also has the ability to play 24 hours of music on a single charge of the battery.

"Shake to shuffle," a feature made famous by the original iPod touch, makes

use of the nano's built in accelerometer and lets the user rattle the device to change songs randomly. This iPod also contains the Genius function that creates playlists of songs that fit well together in different ways.

A new feature of the tiny iPod is the pedometer. This new feature uses the accelerometer to count the number of steps that the user has taken.

An interesting feature included from previous iPod lines is the "Live Pause," which allows the user to pause a live FM radio broadcast as well as seek (up to 15 minutes behind) parts of the broadcast that the user may have missed.

Of course, no iPod intended for the fitness-minded would be complete without Nike+ support, an optional accessory for select Nike shoes which can send workout information to the iPod screen for the user to view, allowing the user to evaluate his or her workout.

Other functions supported by this iPod include VoiceOver, an audible screen reader that speaks in 29 languages, and Mono Audio, which allows the user to hear all of the music out of only one earbud.

While the sixth generation iPod nano forgoes the iconic click wheel and lacks video playback support, it contains many exciting new features that fit its intended function well. Apple's newest device has shown that big ideas can come in extremely small packages.

Best Take-Out In Port Washington Since 1984

We Deliver Great Kids Meals

MOST ITEMS UNDER \$6.00!!

HICKORY'S FAMOUS

WOOD PIT BBQ

Mon.-Sat. 11am-8:30pm

883-7174

674 Port Washington Blvd., Port Washington

Delivery Charge 90¢ • \$8.00 Minimum Order

WWW.HICKORYSBBQ.COM

We Now Use 0 Trans Fat Oil.

arts & entertainment

Less malicious but still enjoyable, *Wall Street* lives up to expectations

BY **Morgan Quigley**
A&E Editor

The original *Wall Street* movie (1987) left us with Bud Fox (Charlie Sheen) on the steps of the court house, about to go in and testify against Gordon Gekko (Michael Douglas), after he confessed to him and was caught on tape. Fast forward eight years. It is 2002 and Gekko, still played by Douglas, is being released from prison.

Before he went to prison, Gekko thought everyone loved him. When there was no car waiting outside for him, he realized he could not have been further from the truth. In the original, Gekko was portrayed as an idol for amoral financial gurus who put millions upon millions in their pockets while bankrupting the very companies that made them rich.

Gekko, in a complete reversal of character, seems to be the moral center at the beginning of the film. He writes a novel, *Is Greed Good?* and gives lectures to aspiring business students about how not to end up like him. He truly seems to be sorry for what he had done.

It is around this time that he meets a young trader named Jake Moore (Shia LaBeouf). You can see that Gekko sees a part of himself in this young trader. This marks a turning point in his character.

Gekko seeps back into his old ways as he and Moore begin to team up.

Meanwhile, Moore's love interest is Gekko's estranged daughter, Winnie (Carrie Mulligan). Moore really does love Winnie and the clever foreshadowing implies that Moore is going to reconcile Gordon and Winnie's relationship.

What makes Moore a perfect partner in crime for Gekko is his greed. Being the young millionaire that he is, he wants more, a lot more, which is what Gekko ultimately tries to take advantage of.

Moore's boss and head of the firm Keller Zabel, Louis Zabel (Frank Langella), is really like a father to Moore. He is Moore's financial mentor and up to a point, has taught him everything he knows. However, there is a rat in the company. Bretton James (Josh Brolin) leaks that the company is financially unstable. The company is soon forced to sell out. Because of this, Zabel kills himself. This is Moore's turning point. His lust for vengeance against James triggers the rest



Jake Moore (Shia LaBeouf), and Gordon Gekko (Michael Douglas) converge on Bretton James (Josh Brolin) as Moore plots his revenge against the person who destroyed his firm and indirectly caused the death of his mentor.



In this scene, Jake Moore explains to his wife-to-be, Winnie (Carrie Mulligan), the harsh reality of what he and her father, Gordon Gekko (Michael Douglas) are really doing.

of his actions throughout the movie.

Although Langella's character is short lived, literally, he plays a crucial role in the film. He is instrumental in the turning point and his acting is flawless. He represents what good is left on Wall Street, and with his death, all the good that was left dies as well.

Everything falls in place for James. He has plans to get his revenge, and enlists Gekko for help. By doing so, he will also try to impress Winnie and make millions along the way. Sounds great...right?

Of course, Douglas' return to his much beloved role in the first movie is what really helps this sequel. This is director Oliver Stone's first ever sequel, and his first foray is a success. He creates a scenario in which Douglas is able to return to his old character, although this time he is in a mentoring position.

He is wiser and keener, appears to have learned from his mistakes, and still has a few tricks left up his custom-made Italian-suit sleeve.

Though the film was smart and interesting, it was not as fierce and interesting as the first movie was. I was not angry, and nobody became outraged. The first *Wall Street* was merciless in its characters and the sequel is just not as edgy.

Not just the original, but most of Stone's other films contain the fierceness that was truly lacking in this film. Douglas's character is much stronger than LaBeouf's and tends to overshadow him at times. The chemistry between the two left some passion to be desired.

This movie is a very good depiction of Wall Street and uses the economic collapse of 2007 as a platform to set scenes up, and tries to show the truth behind the ruthlessness of the financial traders on real-life Wall Street.

Despite a great performance from Douglas and a solid performance from the up-and-coming LaBeouf, the film did not live up to its potential. For fans of the original, I strongly recommend seeing this movie. If you have not seen the original, rent it and then watch this new sequel. Still, this movie definitely erases the stigma that sequels cannot be as good as the original.

Weeds gets back on track, while *Dexter* remains horrifying

byKerim Kivrak & Brett Fishbin

Staff Wrier & Sports Editor

With the fall seasons starting up, two new seasons of Showtime's most popular shows, *Dexter* and *Weeds* have returned. *Weeds* has returned after two surprisingly uneventful seasons. Although the first few episodes of the new season made it seem as great as the first three, the plot has quickly slipped back into the arc that consumed and constricted the last season.

Season six rejoins the Botwin family immediately after the shocking events of last season's finale. With Shane's (Alexander Gould) confirmation as a murderer and, quite possibly, a sociopath, the family relocates to Seattle to escape Esteban Reyes (Damian Bichir), drug lord, mayor of Tijuana, and Nancy's (Mary-Louise Parker) newest husband.

In previous seasons, Kevin Nealon and Justin Kirk as Doug and Andy carried the show in terms of humor, but this season places Shane, Silas (Hunter Parish), and Nancy in more bizarrely hilarious situations.

The show has also eliminated some of the more useless and uninteresting characters, namely Celia and her unnecessary subplot.

The show has not had the same appeal since it left the sickeningly suburban county of Agrestic. Every season has had an appropriate balance between drama and comedy, but what really made the show interesting was the social commentary on subjects and issues ranging from the actual issue of marijuana itself to the issue of violent children. The setting of Agrestic made that possible.

This commentary is only kept alive through the disturbing but increasingly interesting development of Shane, who

has taken the typical violent behavior of young boys to remorseless murder.

For now, *Weeds* has returned to what the show was really supposed to be about...weed. Nancy begins to sell drugs again. This time, it is hash, but hopefully this return to the actual premise of the show means a return to the show's former glory.

Hopefully, the Botwin family will be able to settle down sometime this season because that is when the family chemistry is truly at its funniest.

Although *Weeds* has yet to revert back to the great show it was before its two season slump, this season has shown promise and has already been more entertaining than both of the past two seasons.

Conversely, in perhaps the darkest season premiere of *Dexter*, protagonist Dexter Morgan (Michael C. Hall) is faced with the impossible task of coping with his wife's murder.

In the finale of season four, one of the most shocking events in television history occurred when second lead Rita Morgan (Julie Benz) is killed by Arthur Mitchell (John Lithgow), aka, the Trinity Killer. Although Dexter claims to be immune to



www.buddytv.com

Nancy Botwin (Mary-Louise Parker) presents her son, Silas (Hunter Parish), and her brother-in-law Andy (Justin Kirk), with her new product.

feelings, he demonstrates an obvious stage of grief.

Dexter is a psychopath who works for the Miami Metro Police, and moonlights as a serial killer. But, he only kills other killers.

In an exciting scene in the premiere, Dexter finds himself in a state of shock, not completely comprehending the changes that are about to occur in his life.

The plot of the episode revolved around Dexter trying to explain past events to Rita's children, and setting the funeral affairs in order. Overall, it was a very strong season

premier, and I look forward to what the brilliant Dexter writers have in store for the rest of the season.

Showtime series have been successful over time. They are able to display the characters in a way that would not be possible on other channels, simply because censorship does not prove to be a problem. More can be done, which leads to much more interesting plot lines and stronger overall shows. Watch out for these shows in the future along with many others that make this network cutting edge.

With the return of *Gossip Girl*, new conflicts emerge and old rivalries flourish

byKatie Fishbin

Staff Writer

The dramatic season finale of *Gossip Girl* left viewers in suspense; the show's third season ended with several unanswered questions. Will Nate and Serena get back together? Will Blair get over Chuck? Will Dan have problems with Georgina again? And the biggest question: Is Chuck alive?

The premier of Season 4 of *Gossip Girl* turned out to be just as exciting as fans had anticipated and offered a few answers to our many pressing questions. Beginning in Paris, France, this season opens with both Serena van der Woodsen (Blake Lively) and Blair Waldorf (Leighton Meester), still best friends, who are spending their months of summer vacation together. But they are both there for very different reasons.

For Blair, the goal is to get over Chuck, who has become MIA. Blair, however, is unaware of the situation in New York as the search begins. Serena is in Paris, attempting to get away from her troubling home life and also from her previous tension-filled relationship with Nate.

Although "B" and "S" appear to be closer friends than ever, Blair is having apprehensions regarding their relationship. She immediately refers to their old habits of competition and cattiness, possibly foreshadowing what is coming this season.

These old characteristics come out once again, to no one's surprise. This

obvious yet intriguing behavior leaves us with yet another character apologizing. But will this happen again?

Dan Humphrey (Penn Badgley) is also having issues of his own. When Georgina Sparks (Michelle Trachtenberg) showed up at his door, viewers anticipated trouble, as her sole purpose is to cause problems for the other characters.

We suspect that she has something up her sleeve and this episode begins with yet another one of Georgina's twisted schemes. Whatever the outcome of her plot, many characters' lives will be altered for better or for worse.

The biggest drama of the season will undoubtedly involve the mysterious Chuck Bass (Ed Westwick). At the end of last season, we were left with a cliffhanger: was Chuck dead or alive?

Now, we learn just a little about his dramatic fate. An unidentified young woman has rescued Chuck and saved his life. Why has she saved him and why is he choosing to hide his identity? And, more importantly, where are they hiding? No one quite knows what is going on at this point.

We are left with Chuck and his mysterious savior, clearly now romantically involved, arriving in Paris. Is it a coincidence that Blair and Serena are spending the summer there too? I'm sure next week we will learn a bit more to keep the suspense building throughout Season 4.

As usual, more and more tension will continue to build as the season goes

on. Various new characters have already been introduced, as well as new fashion styles. Blair and Serena both sport many great new outfits during their European vacation.

The two friends stay true to their motto of "retail therapy" throughout their vacation, with non-stop shopping at the most luxurious and fashionable shops in Paris.



www.harrypottering.com

The season premiere of *Gossip Girl* featured many dramatic scenes, including this one between Blair (Leighton Meester) and Chuck (Ed Westwick). The episode, which took place in Paris, answered many of last season's questions.

Emma Stone gives an “Easy” performance for a difficult role

BY **Morgan Quigley**

A&E Editor

As we learned in health class, rumors spread fast, they change, and over time, they come back to hurt you. At a young age, we’re taught that “sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me.”

Unfortunately, this is not always the case. In Will Gluck’s new movie, *Easy A*, this philosophy becomes completely disregarded.

The main character, Olive (Emma Stone) is a relatively quiet girl, who has a friend who is portrayed as an obnoxiously loud girl with whom Olive is constantly fighting. Olive is what most high school boys would describe as a prude.

The whole rumor starts when Olive’s only friend Rhiannon (Alyson Michalka) invites her to go camping, and to get out of spending a weekend with her and her two hippie parents, Olive says she has a date with George, a student at the local community college, which is, of course a lie.

When Rhiannon gets back from her camping trip and asks how her date went, Olive implies that she had sex with the infamous George.

In an instant, Olive turns from the quiet girl, to the school tramp whom everybody wants to be friends with, especially the guys. Soon, the truth gets out to some of the guys in the school, and they start paying her to say they had sex. The more money they gave her the more she would stretch the lie.

Stone really does a thorough job of portraying her character. She is able to bounce around from personality to personality, almost flawlessly, and is very convincing through her emotional roller coaster.

The rest of the acting was above average except for her best friend (Michalka) who seems like she is forcing out all of her lines.

Olive, as a character, is very dynamic. She turns from a quiet girl, shopping strictly at the Gap, to a scandalously dressed faux-floozy after the rumors start to spread.

However, through her blog, which narrates the entire movie as a webcast flash-

back, we can see that she still is, and still wants to be, the same happy character that we meet at the beginning of the film.

The movie is loosely based on Nathaniel Hawthorne’s classic novel *The Scarlet Letter*. This is the book that Olive is reading in class.

After the rumors start to spread, she embraces Hester Prynne’s character, by voluntarily wearing a scarlet “A” on all of her clothing. Here the movie gives a blatant but appreciated nod to the classic book and to the strength of the main character, Hester, whom Olive tries to embody.

As you probably could have guessed, Olive loses her one friend, and the friends that she thought she was making turn out not to really like her. This movie, despite its sheer stupidity, actually has a message. It is that rumors do spread and eventually hurt people and it took Olive to lose all of her friends to realize this.

One thing that did remain constant for Olive was her somewhat distorted friendship with her off and on love interest since 8th grade, Todd (Penn Badgely), who consistently remains at her side.

He believes Olive throughout the movie and gave her the benefit of the doubt. He is the person that reaffirms Olive’s faith in humanity when she hits rock bottom, and very predictably, at the end of the movie, in the middle of Olive’s last webcast, they have their first kiss.

Mr. Griffith (Thomas Haden Church) is probably the best character in the mov-



www.allmoviephoto.com

Olive (Emma Stone), is being comforted by Todd (Penn Badgely) as the other students torment her for false rumors being spread about Olive being a tramp.

ie. He is Olive’s English teacher, and her favorite teacher. He is a funny character who provides a voice of reason for Olive. She does not listen to it until the end, and this is after she destroys his marriage, by telling him his wife is having an affair with a student, but he ultimately helps Olive get out of the predicament that she is in.

Easy A was really nothing special. It had its moments of hilarity and social satire, but was really blown out of proportion, and the funny parts were too few and far between.

This is not to say that the movie was not entertaining. It was, but calling it a comedy is a stretch. It is no way comparable to Emma Stone’s other high school movie, *Superbad*, where she portrayed Jules in one of the greatest comedies of all time.

To be honest, the only reason I went to see it was to visit the now closed Sound-view movie theater one last time, but I was pleasantly surprised by the entertainment value of the movie. I would not recommend this movie to a friend but it will pass the time on a rainy day.

Movies to Watch Out For

the social network



FREAKONOMICS

Disney
SECRETARIAT



www.allmoviephoto.com

Olive and Rhiannon (Aly Michalka) are discussing the new persona that Olive is about to take on.

Linkin Park strays from old style, but shines bright in new album

BY **Dan Bidikov**
Contributing Writer

Four years removed from its double platinum album, *Minutes to Midnight*, the enormously successful Californian nu-metal/rap-rock band, Linkin Park, finally released its new album, *A Thousand Suns*. This is the band's fourth studio album, and in it, they have managed to change their sound and produce a more varied album than their previous efforts. And it really is varied—between rap and incessant screaming about lost loves—*A Thousand Suns* covers a wide assortment of musical styles. However, no matter how varied and innovative an album is, if the quality of the songs is low, there is little hope for a positive listening experience.

As the album opens, corny voice samples warn us of some sort of cataclysm and discuss the end of the world. After these lengthy introductory tracks, the album leads into overproduced synth-pop that clashes with the well contrived thematic elements of the lyrics.

Despite the insightful lyrics featuring discussions of nuclear warfare, the listener can hardly feel frightened by lead vocalist Chester Bennington's uninspired delivery. Although the vocals in the album are meant to channel deep emotion, they come off as dull and are constantly drowned out by the album's heaviness.

The music is grating rather than powerful. This is not exactly because of the quality of the album, but more due to the irritating electric drumming. Rick Rubin and Mike Shinoda's production of *A*



Linkin Park's long-awaited fourth studio album, *A Thousand Suns*, delivers only marginally on the promise of an innovative musical experience. Still, the band revamped their musical technique and tried new ideas out on the album.

Thousand Suns is decent, but the music's focus on stale beats was a big mistake. They tend to be overpowering rather than setting the stage for a masterfully created epic. This takes away from the music's impact and makes it more annoying than interesting. The band attempts to use heavy beats to back up a vague call to action, but in the end it is all too much.

In songs such as "Waiting for the End" and "Wretches and Kings" it seems that the band members want the listener to take a stand against something, though it is a bit unclear what that something is. Be it about cheating girlfriends, society,

or the pressure to dance to a funky beat, the songwriting is meant to encourage us to fight back. It is a shame that despite these intended strong messages, much of the album is fairly mellow. This is unusual given Linkin Park's admirable ability to excite and anger listeners in past albums.

If you do not take notice of the lyrics, the early portions of the album sound like lukewarm pop music. The problem finally starts to fade when the band takes a 180 degree turn for the better in the song "Blackout." Here Linkin Park returns to its roots for a rawer, less-produced sound. But, the band has done harsh rock with screamo vocal portions before, and it should not have to revert to this style to save the album.

The popular single, "The Catalyst," is a

six minute opus that unfortunately ends up sounding like a monotonous Muse track. Despite one or two standout songs, *A Thousand Suns* is loaded with filler. In an attempt to make its album an artistic statement and more than a collection of songs, Linkin Park has wasted its time creating annoying beats that serve little purpose other than making the album longer.

The band's latest musical work is a noteworthy effort to change its style and present something different and new. Although one must applaud the band for experimenting and avoiding sounding stale, the product of this change is something prior fans are unlikely to enjoy. Which leaves us with a question: Who will enjoy it?

Classic Album: (What's the Story?) Morning Glory



BY **Josh Park**
Contributing Writer

Oasis is one of the biggest names in British pop music. Better known here in America as the band that wrote the song "Wonderwall" and the band that DriveShaft desperately wanted to be by the end of Season 3 in *Lost*, Oasis has always had some big shoes to fill. They had made a strong debut album, *Definitely Maybe*, in 1994, and people were dying to see if they were a band that could stay on the charts. With the release of *(What's the Story?) Morning Glory* in 1995, Oasis solidified themselves as one of the greatest pop acts in Britain. Though this is, of course, the last album they made before listeners started to realize that Oasis can't write an album without using the chords G, D, and E on every track.

Despite all of that, *(What's the Story?) Morning Glory* is still a great album, but it's an album that is very under-appreciated in America. Maybe it is because this fantastic album lives unfairly in the shadow of the shining light that is "Wonderwall." Like

many the songs of many foreign bands, "Wonderwall" has become synonymous with the name Oasis. This unfortunate one-note association greatly limits the potential popularity of other, less well-known, songs that Oasis has to offer.

Even though Oasis did not innovate their sound tremendously for the album (because let's face it: rusty guitars and nasally vocals are sort of their thing), there are still plenty of great pop anthems inside such as "Don't Look Back in Anger" and "Champagne Supernova" which easily slip into your ears. Sure, Oasis basically slapped John Lennon's "Imagine" and a few catchy chords inside "Don't Look Back in Anger" and called it their own, but is that a bad thing? No of course not, it's Oasis; John Lennon practically wrote every song on the album.

This album reminds us of what Oasis does best: creating simple pop music in the guise of rock and roll, "Roll With It" being a great example.

For example when you hear "Wonderwall" do you really care about how hideous Liam Gallagher's voice is? On first listen? Yes actually, you probably would, but the thousands of drunken Britons watching a soccer match don't care one bit. No, to these people, this song is a wonderful invitation to sing their hearts out in a time of need.

Nevertheless these songs are all wonderfully crafted and placed. All of these songs are solid rock and roll hits; from the thundering rock songs like "Hello," "She's Electric," and "Roll With It" to a ballad like "Cast No Shadow," to anthems like "Don't Look Back in Anger" and "Champagne Supernova." Noel Gallagher and Co. do a wonderful job of covering a great amount of depth on what is seen as a "plain" rock and roll album.

Summer entertainment hits highs and lows

BY **Michael Cicchetti**
Contributing Writer

There is something about summer that makes it the best season of the year, besides the fact that we all get two months off from school. It's less stressful, a time when all of us (or at least most) can just relax and not worry about anything crucial. It is all centered around one common goal: having fun. And this summer was not the best time to stay inside and play *Call of Duty* all day. Well, maybe on occasion.

It is a fact that almost all of you have taken a seat in a movie theatre at least once in the last two months. Maybe it was for *Inception*, the head-spinning drama directed by Christopher Nolan (*The Dark Knight*) starring Leonardo DiCaprio, Ellen Page, and Joseph Gordon-Levitt, among others who deserve honorable mentions for their smaller roles, like Michael Caine. The movie, based around a group of dream hackers who attempt to steal information from a target's subconscious, is thought-provoking and, in some cases, headache-inducing.

This movie didn't solely rely on the special effects or the famous names attached to it, although that did help somewhat. But you couldn't just sit and stare at the screen for two hours and know what was happening. The film throws you off guard and forces you to come up with your own conclusion as to what's really going on at the end. Whether you saw it or not, and whether you liked it or not, *Inception* was the most talked about and one of the best movies of the summer.

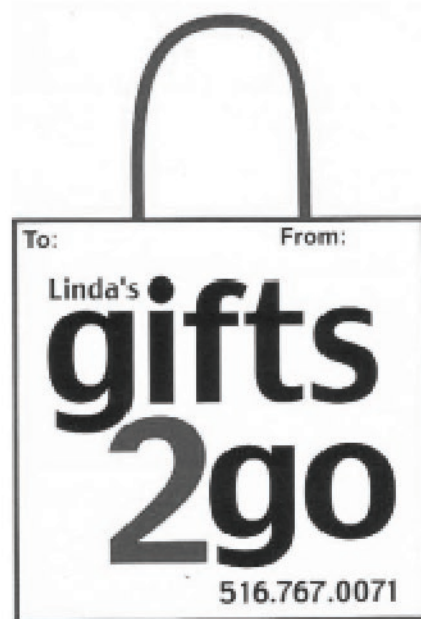
But if you weren't impressed by some of the movies that came out this summer, at least music must have left some memorable mark on you in the last two months: driving around listening to Katy Perry and Ke\$ha and pretty much any song with a heavy fist-pumping back beat. You know: unst-unst-unst-unst-unst-unst.

Or you might have taken a step further and gone to a show or two. Maybe even a festival, like Lollapalooza or Bonnaroo. But then maybe the festivals were miles and miles away and you couldn't make the trip. Well, there was Warped Tour at Nassau Coliseum, packed with over 80 artists from big names like Sum 41 and All-American Rejects to not-so-mainstream acts such as Andrew WK and Enter Shikari.

The day of Warped Tour, July 17, lasted from 12 p.m. to 9 p.m., a whole nine hours of non-stop music, spanning the genres of hardcore metal, ska, and punk, along with a giant slip-n-slide and a band signing nearly every hour. But you did not have to come for the bands to have a good time. Event booths, from Skullcandy to Trojan Condoms, kept you from just standing aimlessly, waiting for your favorite band to hit one of the seven stages that day.

And although summer's practically over, indicated by the recent cold weather and insane thunderstorms, there's still tons of great movies and music to check out. With recent shows like Vampire Weekend's three-day run at Radio City Music Hall to Part 1 of *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hollows*, it seems that although we're back in school, summer is not really over yet.

*Want to make
sure you're the
only one wearing
your dress on
prom night?*



*Want to help
raise money for
your school's
prom night?*

Come to Linda's Gifts 2 Go for your 2011 Prom Dress

- ★ Only one dress in each style
to ensure an exclusive look
- ★ 10% of all proceeds will be
donated to Gambol 2011



**1 Soundview Drive, Port Washington NY 11050
516.767.0071**

From Paris to the sea: 900-mile bike trip in France

BY **Will Zhou**
Sports Editor

Most students learn how to bike at an early age. Although this achievement is a staple of most childhoods, there are notably fewer that continue cycling into middle school and even high school. This past summer, however, juniors Amanda Goorin and Genevieve Bellon undertook an arduous bike trip from the city of Paris all the way to the Mediterranean coastal city of Nice. It took the two juniors a whole month to complete their 900-mile trip. Their packs for the whole trip, which included living needs, clothes, cooking materials, and pitching materials for tents, weighed around 75 pounds and were on their backs for the entirety of the biking portion of the trip.

“The trip gave me more of an appreciation of camping. That was an obstacle: just living off the back of your bike, with none of the usual luxuries,” said Bellon.

Living out in the wild was not an easy task. Goorin and Bellon traveled with eleven students as well as two young advisors, and were not able to enjoy the simple things that we enjoy every day. They could not shower regularly, and had to sleep in campgrounds for the majority of the month, as well as cook their own food. For meals, the students would have French bread and cheese every day. Although they found the food much better than the standard American fare, eating

the same things for a month straight is not an easy task.

Both Goorin and Bellon said that they gained a lot of experience from this trip. They learned to deal with the hardship that accompanies long distance cycling and getting through it. Both students acknowledged the bond that ended up developing between the cyclers, and how everyone came to accept each other.

“The trip taught me self-determination. There were a lot of times I woke up and thought, ‘I really can’t do another 50 miles.’ It’s nothing like we’ve ever done,” said Goorin. “The trip taught us teamwork: we’re all in this together. It doesn’t matter when you get there, or if you’re slower than other people because by the end of the day you’re all together.”

Even though the trip was indeed arduous, and many times both students simply felt like giving up, the rewards were certainly worth it. The whole trip allowed the girls to see France and take in the country views, as well as reap the simple satisfaction of getting through such an ordeal. However, when first going into the program, both students also said that they had no idea what they were signing up for.

“We both got the same flyer in the mail. So we went to the open meeting where the guy who created the program talked to us. It sounded like something fun, so we decided to go,” said Bellon.

The summer program by Overland specializes in long-distance athletic experiences, namely hiking and biking. Their website reveals a detailed itinerary of the trip, with a focus on the sightseeing made possible by travelling through France by bike. There is also mention of skills and fitness: the benefits to physical health from biking are significant. Cycling has low impact on the joints and it is approximated

that people can live 20 years longer if they cycle on a regular basis.

“It’s strange now that we’re back at home. I wake up every day expecting to bike and to exercise, but I’m no longer in France. I’m really in shape because of the experience, and it feels weird not to exercise throughout the day,” said Goorin.



Genevieve Bellon

Juniors Amanda Goorin and Genevieve Bellon take a break from their 900-mile biking trip, which took them from Paris to the seaside town of Nice.

Girls varsity soccer team optimistic for fall season

BY **Dan Miranda**
Staff Writer

At the end of the 2009 season, the girls varsity soccer team suffered defeat at the hands of MacArthur High School in the first round of the playoffs. But as of fall 2010, it looks like the team cannot be stopped.

Led by junior Emily Rosenthal, the Vikings defeated the Valley Stream North Lady Spartans with a 2-0 victory in its season opening match. The contest was called during the 55th minute (out of a total of 80 minutes) on account of thunder, but Rosenthal had already scored her match-clinching two goals.

However, Rosenthal is not wholly responsible for the win. Junior defender Nicole Zweiner stepped up with many tackles, giving Vikings’ goalkeeper, sophomore Sara Marinelli, minimal action throughout the contest. Although the first match did not count toward league play, the team gained experience from a Conference VI opponent and a positive start to the season.

“Winning the game was a good way to start the season because we have a lot of tough games this season,” said senior Bridgette McDermott.

The Lady Vikings, however, are not going to get off easily. While playing against the Hicksville Comets, the Lady Vikings

competed in front of local television channel MSG Varsity. Last season, Port Washington was in Conference V. This year, the team plays in the more-competitive Conference II.

In this second game, the Lady Vikings did not look like the dominating force they were in their opener. The first 70 minutes was a long and difficult fight. The majority of the ball possession was in favor of Hicksville, and it showed in the scorebook with Hicksville’s 3-0 lead with just ten minutes to go. Still, junior forward Kaitlyn Brown was not worried. Brown put the ball in the back of the Comet’s net, as did goal scorer Rosenthal three minutes later on a penalty kick. With a minute remaining, Brown took a shot, but the ball hit off the top crossbar.

“Unlucky. Just unlucky,” said Head Coach Lauren Bishar.

Even with the loss to Hicksville in front of the MSG Varsity cameras, the Lady Vikings continued to push themselves further and further.

“The girls know they can play at this level now,” said Head Coach Lauren Bishar. “I think they were a little surprised that we can compete. It’s a high level and now they realize they can stay in the game against anybody.”

With losses against Plainview-JFK on Sept. 22, East Meadow on Sept. 24, the team continues to make strides in the right direction.

In order to gain a competitive edge this season, the team will have to rely on girls soccer coach Ms. Lauren Bishar, a physical education teacher at Weber Middle School. Running alongside her during games is assistant coach Sean Dooley. Both Port Washington teachers were involved in the team’s run to the Class AA Playoffs in fall 2009.

“We lost a couple girls, but we added a few sophomores. Should be a pretty good season, so, we’ll see how it goes,” said

Bishar before the season began.

Last season, the Lady Vikings capped off an 8-3-1 season with a first round playoff exit against MacArthur.

“Losing to MacArthur last year was disheartening because our team had worked so hard and prepared as much as possible,” said former Lady Viking and alumna Ali Feldman. “That day things just did not go our way, and it is important to learn from it so the team can grow and win in the future.”

Even though there were only several returning players, the Lady Vikings have a select few that played with the team last season including seniors forward Ava Cotlowitz and midfielder Carly Rosenberg, and sophomore Brenna Betsch. The team will need to rely on the three veteran players in order to increase their chances of making it to the playoffs.

While last season, there were few freshmen amidst a team that consisted mainly of upperclassmen; this season, only six of the 22 girls are underclassmen, and only a single player, Lindsey Edwards, is a freshman.

“Being on the team as a freshman has been challenging, but we act equal towards each other, despite age differences,” said Edwards. “The team is definitely close which will help us play together.”

Over the past year, the Lady Vikings have made rivals with some of the teams in their conference. For instance, some animosity remains between Schreiber and MacArthur after last year’s first round playoff match. This year, the team will play MacArthur on Oct. 4 and Oct. 25. Schreiber will also square off against East Meadow, another Conference II rival, in October.

“It’s going to be hard since we’re playing the top teams, but if we work hard, we definitely have the potential to beat them,” said Betsch.



Jun Huron

Junior Kaitlyn Brown strides past an East Meadow defender on Sept. 24. Although the Vikings lost the game, goalie Sara Marinelli saved the ball twice as many times as the opposing goalie.

Volleyball teams undergo fundamental changes

Boys and girls train with different coaches and play new teams

BY **Joe Betz**
Contributing Writer

This fall, the boys and girls volleyball teams both begin their season with high hopes. However, both teams will have to adjust to significant changes in scheduling and coaching.

The boys are trying to build off last year's trip to the finals, but they face two significant new challenges: playing in a different season and against different teams.

The girls now face the challenge of playing in the same season as the boys, unlike previous years. In addition, they will lose their head coach, Ms. Maria Giamanco, to the boys varsity team.

Still, they are optimistic about the leadership of long time assistant coach, Steven Park, who will take over as head coach.

The girls currently have a 5-0 record, with wins against Oceanside, Freeport, Hempstead, and Valley Stream Central. Their most recent victory took place on Sept. 27, when they beat the Uniondale team with a 2 point lead. Upcoming games include matches against the rivals Syosset and Herricks.

The girls varsity team is led by senior captains Kristin Courage and Jamie Koopersmith and junior captain Haley Kerr. New Head Coach Park feels that the use of the gyms for two teams will be a work in progress and, along with Coach Giamanco, has concerns about the facilities. However, according to the coaches, there are also advantages to this joint system.

"I think having both sets of coaching staffs together is nice and if there are a lot of coaches around, there is also a good knowledge of the game," said Eric Sutz, the girls' assistant coach. "This gives both teams access to that knowledge."

Coach Sutz, who is used to sitting in the bleachers as a fan, is hopeful about the upcoming season, and is looking forward to learning from Coach Park.

"He has a great deal of experience," said Coach Sutz. "He has a truly amazing demeanor with the kids and knowledge of the game. For me, coming into volleyball as a new sport, it is a great resource to have. I think coaching is going to be a



Loren Giron

Sophomore Jong-ho Byun spikes the ball for the Vikings against rival Plainview JFK at a home game on Sept. 23.

competitive experience for me, and as a coach I never want to get too far ahead of myself."

Junior Paul Kagan, in his first year on the varsity squad, is upbeat about playing during the same season as the girls varsity team.

"It is fun and exciting," said Kagan. "We get to work as a single volleyball program."

This season, the boys team switched its conference, and as a result, they now play in the fall rather than the spring. This will allow them to have the opportunity to go to the state finals, while last year they were only able to go as high as the county finals.

They will play different teams in Suffolk County, all of whom have regularly played in the fall season.

They will not play some of the Nassau County teams that they played last year when they climbed up to the Division I finals.

Instead, the boys will play vital games against Plainview JFK and Massapequa, where their skill will truly be put to the test.

Coach Giamanco will guide the boys throughout their season in this new conference with 20 years of coaching experience at Schreiber.

"I started coaching here in the spring of 1990. I was initially brought to coach the boys volleyball team when it was brand new. Now that I've been here for so long, and my career is at its finishing side, I wanted to go back to what I started with," said Coach Giamanco.

Junior Matt Caccioppo, a first year varsity player is inspired by Coach Giamanco's guidance.

"Coach Giamanco helps us to strive for perfection by showing us proper techniques," he said.

Despite sharing gyms and experiencing significant changes, both teams hope to come out victorious.

Captain's Corner: Andrew Boehm, Varsity Soccer

BY **Drew Friedman**
Assistant Sports Editor

Assistant Sports Editor Drew Friedman sits down with junior Andrew Boehm to discuss the Vikings varsity soccer season and Boehm's role as captain. Boehm is a returning varsity player.

Drew Friedman: Hey, Mr. Varsity Captain. How you doing?

Andrew Boehm: Pretty good. How can I help you?

DF: It's funny that you're captain of the boys varsity soccer team this year and your brother was captain last year. Is it a hereditary position?

AB: Yeah. Hopefully my little brother will be captain next.

DF: When we were playing little league baseball on Lions Field, you played a mean second base. Did you ever regret putting baseball aside for soccer?

AB: Nah. Soccer is in my genes.

DF: You think you can live up to those genes?

AB: You think you can live up to the potential of *Schreiber Times* legend Harrison Remler?

DF: It would be impossible for me or any other human being to live up to the exacting standards set by the legendary Harrison Remler. Wait...who's Harrison Remler again?

AB: I don't know. Just a kid who has been writing for the sports section of *The Schreiber Times* for the past few years.

DF: Oh, right. Anyway, if he were here, I'm sure he would want me to ask you how the team is doing this year.

AB: This year I am playing center mid-field but I can play any position except for goalie.

DF: What will I find on Andrew Boehm's iTunes library?

AB: I am a big rock fan, so Jack Johnson, Red Hot Chili Peppers, The Script, and Nickelback.

DF: So, what position are you playing this year, Andrew?

AB: We are not doing well. We've had a scrimmage, two non-league games, and

our first league game, and we lost them all. Hopefully we can turn it around though.

DF: Have these games been blowouts or have you been able to stick around till the end?

AB: We lost to Farmingdale 3-0 but I wouldn't consider that a blowout. Everyone was just nervous because it was our first real game against what is known to be a very good team.

DF: What do you have to do to get this season going in the right direction?

AB: It's going to take a lot of hard work and motivation. To make the playoffs, we need to come in among the top four teams in our division.

DF: We are in gym together. What is more difficult, gym football with Del Gais or varsity soccer?

AB: Even though it is a tough decision I got to say soccer. I worked out everyday this summer to make sure I was in my top shape.

DF: Keep on working. I've got faith in you guys.

AB: Thanks, we'll try.

Calling the Shots

BY **Brett Fishbin**
Sports Editor

Let's be honest here, things are not going too well for the Schreiber varsity football team. So, to avoid depressing the whole school, I'm going to discuss the state of the National Football league.

Although there have not been too many surprises this season, the biggest story line has been the controversial "completing the catch rule." All the way back in week one of this young NFL season, Calvin Johnson of the Detroit Lions reeled in a pass from quarterback Matthew Stafford that appeared to be the game winning touchdown. While almost everyone watching, including the announcers, believed that the catch had been made, the refs waved the call off because Johnson had not technically completed the catch.

In reality, Johnson caught the ball, but at the end of his dive, he put the ball on the ground to move on to his celebration. Even though the young Lions receiver should have known the rule, and made sure to follow it, this is an embarrassment for an otherwise quality league. If a running back dives into the end zone and the ball passes the goal line while in the air, and then the running back is pushed out (while still in the air), it is not a touchdown. So why is it that if a receiver catches the ball, takes two steps, then dives and drops the ball, it is not counted? This is not a new rule in the NFL; it has been in effect for the past few seasons. The NFL is not known to be stubborn regarding rule changes, but this must be addressed.

Crossing over to the baseball diamond, Blue Jays slugger Jose Bautista recently hit his MLB leading 50th home run. In a league that has been hampered by steroid interrogations, it is not unfair to have suspicions regarding Bautista's seemingly random success. During the previous five seasons of Bautista's major league career, he has hit a total of just 59 home runs. While it is rare that a hitter suddenly gains so much power, it is not impossible, and the fact that people are alleging steroid use for a player who has never tested positive is a sad sign for the American Pastime.

In a nation riddled with controversy, we have reached a state where if something seems to good to be true, it is. While I am not discounting the possibility of Bautista's steroid use, I am simply stating it is unfair to assume his guilt and undermine his outstanding accomplishment.

Last on my agenda of pro sport controversies is... The Decision! A story that has refused to die down for over two years was LeBron James's free agency. James, arguably the best player in the NBA, had his choice of any team in the NBA this summer and he elected to sign with the Miami Heat. The controversy regarding LeBron deserting his Cleveland heritage, and history, goes deeper than simply his decision.

It was the way in which he did it.

Rather than simply issuing a press release, or even holding a press conference, LeBron chose to host a press television show called "The Decision." On this one hour ESPN special, he announced his intentions of leaving Cleveland, stunning the entire world. Because LeBron had built such a brand in Cleveland, many people were shocked that he "took his talent to South Beach." Personally, I understand his agenda to win a championship with his friends, but the way in which he did it was completely inappropriate, and overdone.

Athletes f the Month

Kristen Courage

BY **Chad Edelblum**
Contributing Writer

Senior Kristen Courage is a volleyball star at Schreiber. She has played as the starting outside hitter for the Lady Vikings since she was a sophomore, when she started opposite alumna Amanda Cohen and was named an All-Conference player.

Last year as a junior, she was named captain and led the team in kills. Along with leading the team in kills, she was named All-County Most Valuable Player and was recognized in the Herrick's tournament all-tournament team.

"Love is a word I would use to describe her devotion to the sport and her team," said Coach Steven Park, who has watched her grow as a player over the last three years. "She is the epitome of what a captain and a leader is. She hustles 150 percent and bolsters the team with her words and skills. She is a complete package of offense and defense in one and she is the go-to-player at any given point in a match."

Returning as captain this year, Courage is joined by co-captains senior Jamie Koopersmith and junior Hayley Kerr.

"I love them. Koopersmith and Kerr are definitely the two people I would want to be captains with me. The three of us spent a lot of time trying to find ways to improve our season last year so it seems right that we're captains this year," said Courage.

Not only does Courage have positive things to say about her colleagues, but she is also well regarded by them.

"Courage is the type of player that is

always working hard. She takes it upon herself to motivate the other girls and is always setting the right example," said Koopersmith.

So far this season, Courage has led the Lady Vikings to a 2-0 start. They beat Valley Stream Central due to Courage's eight kills and seven aces and Freeport with the help of her 14 kills.

"We're focused on making the playoffs and hopefully going farther than we have in a long time, which would be a great way to end my senior season," said Courage.



Loren Giron

Senior Kirsten Courage, a key member of the girls varsity team, is working hard to prepare for her last season as a Viking.

Tom Maruscak

BY **Aaron Brezel**
Contributing Writer

Junior Tom Maruscak is the quarterback of the Vikings varsity football team. Although the team has been struggling through the beginning of its season, Maruscak is confident that the team will make a comeback.

He was born and raised in the state of Georgia and moved here six months ago. Maruscak has experienced a smooth transition from his old school and Georgia's football competition to the best conference in Nassau County, Conference I.

"It's been pretty easy, and everyone here is easy to get along with," said Maruscak.

When asked about the differences between his former school and Schreiber, Maruscak responded that his old school was more sports oriented. Many would find Maruscak's ascent to a prominent role is find hard to believe considering he has been with the team for such a short stint.

Maruscak has been playing football for the past five years, including a stint as a quarterback with his old high school team. He attends football camps and this year he trained with the Vikings over the summer to prepare for the season.

This summer, he especially worked at improving his ability to read the defense and deciding when to run or pass. Despite the heavy demands of being the quarterback of a football team, and planning to try out for the basketball team, Maruscak says he still focuses on school first.

"I just try to manage my time and do my best on and off the field," said Maruscak.

So far, the Vikings have played two

games, against East Meadow High School and MacArthur High School, losing 28-0 and 42-7 respectively. Despite the slow start, Maruscak thinks the team will be able to turn its season around.

"I am very proud of the hard work the team puts out every game no matter what the score is," said Maruscak.

You can come watch Maruscak and the Vikings on Oct. 2 when they square off against Herricks High School on the turf.



Tommy Weil

Tommy Maruscak in his first season for the Vikings, hopes to lead Port to the playoffs for the second consecutive year.

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



WINGS
TAKE HOME
PLUS

16 Haven Avenue
(516) 767-9647
WingsPlusNY.com

FREE DELIVERY TO SCHOOL
(\$15 Minimum)

BACK TO SCHOOL DEAL
Pick Up or Delivery

Plus

15% OFF* With School ID
MONDAY - FRIDAY 'TIL 5PM
*Not valid with \$7.99 combo, daily specials or other offers
Expires October 29 2010



VIKING SPORTS

Vikings hope to change past misfortunes

Varsity football sees recent losses as a learning and rebuilding process

BY **A.J. Friedman**
Contributing Writer

After a disappointing 2009 season, the Vikings are looking to rebound with a strong 2010 campaign.

“I feel we can compete. We showed heart against East Meadow,” said junior wide receiver Tim Costello.

The Vikings fought a powerful Jets team and lost 28-0 on Sept. 7. Despite the lopsided score, players and coaches view the game as a positive experience. “Last year we lost 49-0 to East Meadow,” said Costello.

Their scores are also consistently improving: they scored seven points on their Sept. 9 game against MacArthur, and 14 points against Bladwin on Sept. 24.

The Vikings are once again competing in Conference I. In recent years Port Washington has struggled against the competition with losing records the last two seasons.

The Vikings posted a record of 2-6 last season, with losses to Baldwin, East Meadow and Calhoun all by over 28 points. The team failed to make the play-offs last year, and in 2008 they had a record of 2-6, winning against only Herricks and Oceanside. Port Washington has key match-ups against Baldwin, Uniondale, and Hicksville on the horizon, and will have to win the majority of its remaining games to play in the postseason.

The Vikings offense will play an integral role in the success of the team. Winning will depend on the trifecta of talented half backs; juniors Robert Krieger, Shawn McKoy, and Blaise Stoddard playing in the back field. These runners were recognized by *Newsday* as players to watch for the upcoming season.

The three combine speed, size, and agility into a promising and explosive bundle. Head Coach Joe DelGais plans to use the three in any way he can.

The running attack cannot reach its full potential, however, without the help of a strong offensive line.

Seniors Brian Aguirre, Michael Reali, Scott Singer, and Phil Strengolagalli, and junior Anthony D'Aversa make up an offensive front that will be the key to the success of both the running and passing game.

The wide receiving core is led by juniors Costello, Jon Obadia, Mike Pedone, and Jon Weber. The biggest threat on the Vikings offense is their tight end, senior Jason Gurewitz.

Gurewitz, who was also recognized as a player to watch by *Newsday* this season, will block oncoming defenders and provide a passing target for newly-arrived quarterback junior Tommy Maruscak.

Maruscak, who moved to Port Washington from Georgia this summer, will be vital to the Viking's playoff chances. Coaches and players are confident in Maruscak's abilities to lead the team to the postseason and beyond.

“As long as everyone does their part, the offense fits my strengths as an athlete and a player,” said Maruscak.

Coach DelGais speaks highly of his quarterback's abilities.

“When Tommy is on, he's real good,



Courtesy of Mr. Don Schaefer

Senior Jason Gurewitz and junior Anthony D'Aversa trade signals on the field in the middle of a Vikings game against the East Meadow Jets.

but he's got to believe he can do it,” said Coach DelGais.

A team, however, cannot survive with an offense alone. The Vikings defense looks like a staunch unit that will lead in the conference. The defense is anchored by its defensive line, which features nose tackle Reali and defensive ends, senior Ben Marinelli and junior Ben Dell.

Junior Jay Cohen, Gurewitz, Krieger, and Stoddard make up a physical squad of linebackers. The defensive secondary needs to be quick on their feet to keep up with speedy wide receivers. Cornerbacks, senior Morgan Quigley and sophomore Deandre Hall, look to make an impact while safeties, McKoy and junior Matt Valenti, will play a role in pass-and-run defense.

“I think that our defense is becoming a very tight unit,” said junior Jonny Weber. “There is no stopping us. We are not the best defense, but when we play together it's scary.”

The Vikings will continue to work hard this season to secure a playoff berth. The competition will definitely be tough, but the team is optimistic.

“We're ready to take on some of them, but we're not quite ready yet. We're getting there,” said Coach DelGais.

The team has begun to show positives despite the losses.

“We have begun to play better as a team and we have learned our strengths so now we will be able to play to them,” said senior Jesse Wengrow.

 UPCOMING GAMES 		
10/2	VS. HERRICKS	1:30 pm
10/9	VS. HEMPSTEAD	3:00 pm
10/16	AT UNIONDALE	2:00 pm
10/22	AT HICKSVILLE	6:00 pm
10/30	VS. PLAINVIEW	1:30 pm