

THE SCHREIBER TIMES

Paul D. Schreiber High School Port Washington, New York Volume LXI No. 5 January 2011

Hitting the Small Screen

MSC

VARSITY



PAULY D. SCHREIBER HIGH SCHOOL



Bowling
-Sports-



Museums
-Features-

Teen Diet
-Opinions-
Intel Semifinalists
-News-

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This photograph was taken by senior Laila Iravani as part of a series of images inspired by the whimsical dreams and nightmares from her childhood. The series will be part of her portfolio as a “concentration project” for her AP Photography class.

NEWS BRIEFS

Pennies for Peace
Continuing upon the charitable atmosphere of December, the Social Studies Honor Society is collecting money for its own drive. Any denomination of money is being accepted, and the collected funds will be sent to the Pennies for Peace charity which is a part of a much larger charitable organization known as the Central Asia Institute.

This charity was first started by Greg Mortenson after his trips to the Middle East. Its main objective is to build schools and provide supplies for children, especially girls, in Pakistan and Afghanistan.

“The idea behind the pennies is to show that in a third world country, a single penny is not worthless; it can buy a pencil, thereby opening the door to knowledge. It’s a little idealistic, but this idea shows that even small contributions can make a difference,” said club president senior Aditi Shroff.

The Honor Society will be collecting donations 4.1-4.2 in the lobby until the last school day of the second quarter. The people who donate are allowed to then guess the amount of jelly beans in a jar, which represents the millions of pennies that the organization collected last year.

“So far, the collections have been going very well. We are very grateful that the

Schreiber community is so generous and willing to help out in our drive,” said Shroff.

One of the main aims of the Social Studies Honor Society is to become more globally aware, and therefore, in addition to the Pennies for Peace charity, it hopes to become pen pals once again with students in Liberia and will help out the efforts of other students to spread awareness about Black History Month.

~Sahil Doshi

Environmental Initiative
An environmental initiative is being launched to save energy and conserve resources that is as simple as flipping a switch. The Schreiber Compact Committee, composed of faculty members, parents, Schreiber students, and members of the administration, discussed ways to improve the school and local community.

“Last spring, members of Compact hosted a sustainability presentation with several faculty members, administration, and Jim Ristano, our facilities manager, to explore its relevance throughout our curriculum and best facility practices,” said Ms. Laurie Courage, a parent representative to the Schreiber Compact Committee. “After follow-up discussions with Mr. Ristano, Compact agreed to start

with something small that would make a big difference — turning out the lights.”

Occupancy sensors have been built into many of the classrooms at Schreiber. However, it is simpler and more energy-efficient to turn off the lights when leaving a room.

“The biggest challenge we face is making everyone aware that keeping the lights turned off, especially for rooms about to be unoccupied or where daylight is providing sufficient light,” said Ms. Courage

The Compact Committee aims to implement this initiative in both Weber and Schreiber and to introduce more environmentally-friendly changes in the future.

“This initiative would really make a dent in saving energy,” said Dr. Helen Sachs, a member of the Compact Committee. “We would love to have it mentioned on the morning announcements, maybe with an R&B song, just to sensitize the kids to turning off the lights.”

The campaign to turn off the lights is just the beginning of the Compact Committee’s plans to make Schreiber more eco-friendly.

“In addition to several reuse and recycle programs already underway at Schreiber, this program to reduce energy use is a small step that each of us can do together to make a big difference,” said Ms. Courage.

~Kristin Yu

The Schreiber Times

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Three research students chosen as Intel Semifinalists

Science Talent Search becomes more competitive on Long Island

by Hannah Fagen
Assistant News Editor

Out of over 1,000 applicants, three young scientists from Schreiber were recently chosen as semifinalists in the Intel Science Talent Search. The annual competition announced its 300 semifinalists last week on Jan. 12th. Each winner was awarded an individual scholarship and money for his or her department in the amount of one thousand dollars each. Seniors Jai Sajnani, Jeffrey Sims, and SonYon Song, each from a different research program, were named as winners.

Student Semifinalists

In the social science research program, Sims was named a semifinalist for his project entitled “Effects of Complexity, Contrast, and Size on Bingo Performance in Patients with Parkinson’s Disease.”

“I studied the role of visual factors in patients with Parkinson’s disease through the game bingo. Cards were manipulated based on the number of cards, visual contrast, and size. Both Parkinson’s Disease patients and control participants played simulated games, and the results analyzed response times and errors,” said Sims.

Sims worked at Boston University in its Vision and Cognition Laboratory under Dr. Alic Cronin-Golomb as a part of the University’s Research Internship in Science and Engineering program.

“While I did not test the participants myself, I had the opportunity to see face-to-face how such research and experimenting is conducted, as well as the tremendous amount of work involved,” said Sims.

By associating the complexity of



Elana Galassi

From left: Research teachers Mr. Petro Macrigiane, Ms. Jamie Loehner, Ms. Tina Gallagher, Assistant Principal Dr. Brad Fitzgerald, and Intel semifinalists seniors SonYon Song, Jeffrey Sims, and Jai Sajnani.

different bingo games to complex issues faced by individuals with Parkinson’s disease, Sims and his mentor came to the conclusion that aspects of daily life can be made easier for patients.

“It felt great to win and make it to the next round. Submitting to this competition required a huge amount of work and it definitely now feels like everything paid off. Mr. Silverstein was my research teacher for my sophomore and junior years and his guidance both prior to and since his retirement has been a huge part of my success,” said Sims.

Song, from the math research

program, earned semifinalist status for her project entitled “Method of Performing Indirect Stellar Nuclear Reaction Rate Measurements and Calculations.”

“With my research, physicists can now almost exactly duplicate stellar nuclear reactions what were once impossible,” said Song. “The initial reaction rate and probability calculations that I performed can be used in future research to select only those reactions that resulted in higher reaction rates and greater probabilities of occurring.”

Song worked at the National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory at Michigan State University, with Professor Georgios Perdikakis last summer, as part of the High School Honors Science Program within the University, which supports young scientists by providing them with opportunities to conduct research with the nation’s most knowledgeable professors.

“I loved the freedom. I worked from 8 a.m. in the morning all the way until 1 or 2 a.m. some nights. I could come and go as I pleased,” said Sajnani.

His project has the potential to create a cancer screener that can be mass-produced for use in non-clinical settings and can also test for diseases such as hepatitis and HIV/AIDS.

“Having recently received a distinction from the Siemens competition as well, I felt proud that all of my work and long hours had paid off,” said Sajnani.

Competition Intensifies

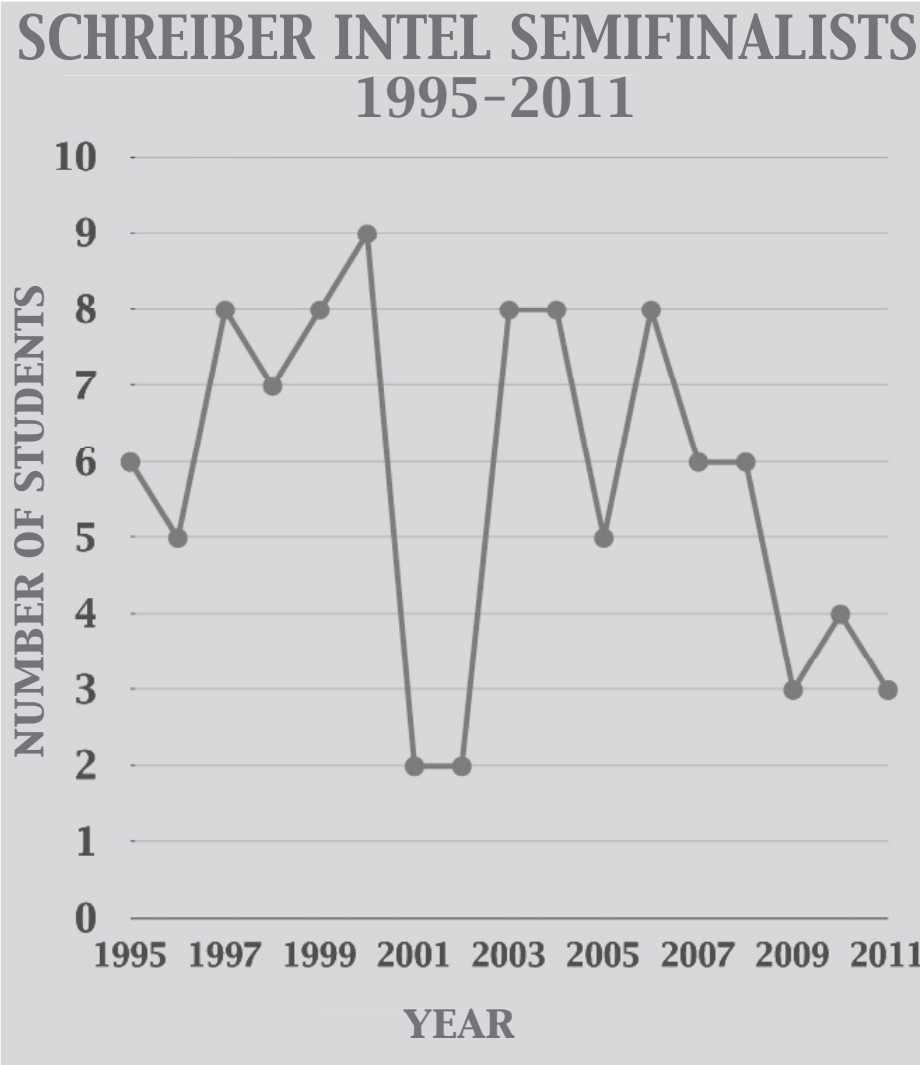
Although Schreiber produced multiple winners this year, there has been a downward trend in the number of semifinalists over the past several years.

“Although it is somewhat disappointing that we have not been producing as many semifinalists as we once had, I think the most important thing to keep in mind is that Schreiber is still one of the highest ranked public schools partly because of its commitment to research. This year, we have one semifinalist from each department, which shows the balance of academic rigor and achievement in all three research classes,” said Song.

The reason for the downward trend in the amount of Schreiber students awarded for this competition is debatable. There have been consistently more entrants nationwide in competitions such as Intel in recent years. Some contend that as competition for college admissions becomes more intense, it drives students toward nationwide achievement.

“The fact that the pool has increased but the number of semifinalists has not makes it more difficult to win,” said Ms. Marla Ezratty, a science research teacher.

“I think with Long Island becoming almost a hot spot for research, it will become more difficult to pull the numbers we’ve pulled in the past, because more and more students are entering Intel,” said senior math research teacher Ms. Tina Gallagher. “However, there will be a time that Schreiber High School will produce high numbers of Intel semifinalists again.”



Midterm and Regents examinations undergo changes

There is no schoolwide change in midterm policy although departments are modifying tests

BY Max Kraus
Assistant News Editor

This year, there are several new changes in the school’s testing protocol. Supposed changes to midterm week are being discussed and the administration of more midterm tests is encouraged. One dramatic change concerns the Latin Regents. This exam would normally be administered in June, but was canceled because of statewide budgetary woes.

Midterms

As midterm week approaches, the talk of change regarding midterms and Regents is confusing students and faculty members alike. Rumors that drastic changes are being made to Schreiber’s midterm policy have spread, as have rumors that the status quo will be maintained. Although midterm procedures have been altered in several departments, others have preserved their standard testing policies.

“There is no change in the midterm practice,” said Interim Principal Dr. Francis Banta. “Four days have been allocated. Four days were assigned in 2010. Midterm decisions are made course by course.”

The coming midterm break will see an increase in the number of tests being administered to the student body. It is expected that 56 tests will be administered over the four-day testing period. This increase may be attributed to the emphasis teachers place on the value of midterm exams. Midterm tests are used to evaluate how much students have

2010 Schreiber Language Regents

- Foreign Language exam averages for Schreiber were around 93%.
- Almost 100 % passed with very high mastery levels.
- Changes in state foreign language exams this year include the cancellation of the Latin, Hebrew, and German regents, as well as the cancellation of all foreign language proficiency exams.

retained from the first semester so that teachers may determine how to proceed in the following months.

“I believe the greatest value in administering midterm exams is that the students have the opportunity to review content and demonstrate their knowledge at the midpoint of a course,” said Interim Principal Dr. Francis Banta. “The students will benefit by having time to study without the need to cram for tests. This practice enables them to be better prepared for a final exam administered in June.”

Some students believe that midterms help them review the material learned in their first semester of class. In addition, they believe that this review better prepares them for their final examinations.

“Although taking midterms is not my favorite thing to do, I believe that midterms are important for several reasons,” said senior James McCallen. “They give students a reality check for the AP exams and finals because they help you study your weaker topics. They also help you assess how much you know from

the first half of the year.”

Although many believe that midterms are an efficient way of evaluating mid-year comprehension of class material, several students have voiced their frustration concerning the rumored changes to midterm week policies.

Principal Banta, however, has denied that there will be changes to the school-wide midterm policy.

“There is no change in the midterm practice,” said Dr. Banta. “Four days have been allocated. Four days were assigned in 2010. Midterm decisions are made course by course.”

Although there was not a widespread policy change, different departments are modifying their midterm policies this year. The Languages Other Than English department is changing its policy to include more courses that will be administering midterm exams.

“In the past it was AP courses and now, this year, it is all honor classes,” said Mr. John Placella, the chairperson of the LOTE department. “I feel they are very important, especially for honor courses.”

Latin Regents

In June, the LOTE department will face more changes, as the Latin Regents will not be administered for the first time ever. The exam is being discontinued because of the budgetary issues facing the state. However, administrators are making an effort to re-introduce the exam or an exam similar to the Latin Regents.

“It has been cancelled for budgetary concerns,” said Mr. Placella. “My organization, Foreign Languages Administers Chairpeople and Supervisors of Long Island (FLACS), of which I am the immediate past president, has been organizing a Latin Regents examination and all of the proficiency examinations. I am a co-chair in charge of organizing the Latin Regents and will do so for most Long Island districts, as well as many in Westchester and upstate New York. New York State will accept our examination as a fulfillment of the testing requirement, which can help one gain an Advanced Regents Diploma.”

This examination will be entitled FLACS Checkpoint B Latin Examination. On Long Island, with FLACS’s help, the same format as past state examinations will be maintained.

In recent years, students and teachers have called into question the use of the foreign language Regents exams.

“I think its good that the Latin Regents ended,” said McCallen. “It was never an accurate portrayal of the curriculum. It was too easy. Maybe it’s just me, but I thought it was so easy that someone not taking Latin could pass the Regents.”

However, others believe that the Regents exams are helpful in assessing the foreign language skills of Schreiber students and comparing their abilities to those of other students throughout the state of New York.

“It is very helpful in keeping the standards to a level of credibility,” said Mr. Placella.

Skatepark in Manorhaven Beach Park to be open to public by June 2011

BY Nicole Zweiner
Contributing Writer

Five years in the making, plans for a skatepark accessible to local skaters are now going forward. The park will be designated specifically for skateboarders from Port Washington and its surrounding towns. According to North Hempstead Town Supervisor Mr. Jon Kaiman, the park, which will be located in Manorhaven Beach Park, will be open to the public by June 2011. The coordinators emphasize the importance of the planned skatepark for the teenage population.

On Dec. 20, there was a meeting at Harbor Links Golf Course to discuss the possibilities of skateparks at Manorhaven Beach Park and North Hempstead Beach Park. About 60 local parents and teens attended to discuss an alternative skating venue to the parking lots and sidewalks typically used by skaters.

One unique aspect of this meeting was the opportunity for Port teens to speak with a well-known skatepark company and actually help plan the park. The town brought in a group called Spohn Ranch Skateparks, a California company that

is known throughout the country for its skateparks, to help design the park.

“In Port Washington, there just happens to be a lot of skateboarding going on. It is just silly that a town with a lot of skateboarders doesn’t have a skatepark, while a lot of other towns with barely any skateboarders have skateparks,” said sophomore Christian Kane.

The plans anticipate that by the end of 2011, North Hempstead Beach Park will be a larger destination for skaters with an additional plaza, bowl, and a variety of “street elements” such as benches, curbsides, and rails.

The money for the local skatepark has been collected and proponents hope that sponsors will donate more money to maintain the park in the future. Mr. Kaiman wants to build a place for skaters to travel to so they can hang out with other kids who share the same interest of skateboarding.

One important reason for building a skatepark in town is to minimize the risks to safety associated with having teens skateboard in town, where they can injure themselves or others if they are not careful.

“When you’re skateboarding, you’re

going fast and it’s easy to fall. When you’re on the sidewalk, it’s so easy to slip out and fall into the street and either hit someone on the sidewalk or be hit by a car, which

has almost happened to me plenty of times. It is just safer to have a skatepark put in,” said Kane.



Above is a promotion photo for the Morrell Skatepark in Henderson, Nevada, by Spohn Rance Skateparks, the company behind the new Port Washington project.

MSG Varsity picks Schreiber as “High School of the Week”

by Emily Rosenthal
Contributing Writer

Every week, MSG Varsity, a high school sports television network, features a high school from the tri-state area as its “High School of the Week.” During the week of Jan. 10, the television network highlighted courses, teachers, and student body after naming Schreiber its “High School of the Week.”

MSG Varsity chose Schreiber as its “High School of the Week” after reviewing the school’s many accomplishments and events over the past year. The crew came to Schreiber and filmed various classes and sections of the school in order to portray what makes the school unique. They filmed a Sports Medicine class, a physics class working on a lab, and a radio show. The film crew also filmed music classes and a mini-concert. The choir and the orchestra performed combined pieces for the film crew to showcase what the music department has to offer.

“I think they showcased the arts department well,” said junior Jesse Weil.

Ms. Stephanie Joannon, Director of Health, Physical Education and Athletics, was the key organizer in putting the partnership together. Ms. Joannon helped to establish the school’s connection to MSG Varsity.

“We have been fortunate that MSG Varsity has recognized the uniqueness of our community and high school by honoring us as the High School of the Week,” said Ms. Joannon.

At the end of the 2009-2010 school year, the Port Washington School District entered into a partnership with MSG Varsity. As a result, the school was incorporated into the MSG Varsity website and the associated television network. MSG Varsity then gained the ability to broadcast all the happenings around Schreiber. The network’s webpage is designed and regularly updated by Mr. Peter Koch and his students at www.msgvarsity.com.

In addition, MSG Varsity gave the school a video camera, software, and money for additional equipment in order to allow students to contribute to the broadcast. There are currently several videos of athletic and academic activities held at Schreiber on the site.

MSG Varsity operates on two levels regarding athletics. The network sends either full crews with play-by-play reporters to an individual game or a single camera operator to cover all the highlights of a particular event.

This enabled the girls’ varsity soccer team to be filmed this past fall during its first game of the year against Hicksville High School. This footage featured live interviews of the players during and after the game.

The highlights of many athletic events are frequently broadcast on both MSG Varsity’s television network and website. Clips of the games are on the website for about a week for members to view and enjoy.

Recently, several students were featured on a quiz bowl game show,



Courtesy of MSG Varsity

MSG Varsity reporter Stacey Sabilla speaks in the segment shot on Jan. 10. She discussed the four main pillars of education in the Port Washington schools: Academics, Athletics, Arts, and Volunteerism.

The Challenge. This gave Schreiber the opportunity to display not only its athletic skills but its academic prowess as well.

“It was very interesting to have MSG Varsity at our school, and to be

interviewed,” said senior Annabelle May. “I think they gave a pretty accurate portrayal of Schreiber by using interviews from students around the school and getting different perspectives.”

Addressing concerns about WiFi

by Max Kraus and Noah Reisman

Assistant News Editor and Contributing Writer

In September, students expected to be able to access wireless Internet throughout the school. Five months later, students still cannot log onto the WiFi network promised at the beginning of the school year. Although WiFi has not been available for use by the student body, the wireless Internet is now installed at the school in several hotspots.

“I am definitely frustrated about the fact that we don’t have WiFi,” said senior Cori Nelson. “They promised it to us and it would be a lot easier to do certain things with it.”

Students looking to use the system should know that at this point it is fully operational and it should not be long before the service is available to students.

Hotspots have already been installed in the library, main office, guidance office, commons, cafeteria, teacher’s cafeteria and auditorium. Due to the nature of wireless internet, students should be able to pick up signal in some of their classrooms, especially those in close proximity to the aforementioned locations as well.

Despite the current range limitations, the ultimate plan is to expand into classroom areas. The system has been utilized by faculty beta-testers who have encountered no significant problems thus far.

The group has been able to connect to the internet by following the instruction sheet that students will receive when the connection is approved for student use.

Most students, however, are becoming tired of the repetitive assurances of the school.

“I’m really frustrated with the administration because the WiFi has yet to be installed. I mean, how else am I supposed to update my Facebook, Twitter and blog?” said senior Michael Weiss. “Wireless Internet is the greatest invention of all time. I’m thankful Schreiber decided to acquire such a useful tool, but it seems

like it will never come.”

Like Weiss, many believe that the WiFi will come without the restrictions that are currently in place on the wired computers throughout the school. However, filtering, by law, must be in place on school computers.

The system is designed so that laptops and smartphones can be used as a way to do research, not surf the web like students might at home. For security reasons, the servers that hold students’ school files must be kept separate from the WiFi network.

The next step in getting WiFi to students is putting in place the proper regulations to comply with Board of Education and administrative policies on in-school Internet use.

Mr. David Baylen, District Director of Technology, has drafted these regulations and submitted them to Superintendent of Schools Dr. Geoffrey Gordon and the assistant superintendents so that they can confer with the Board of Education and discuss the approval of WiFi for students.

Unlike most WiFi connections, it will not be just a password that a student needs to connect to the Schreiber network. Because the school district utilizes a proxy server for its internet connection, students will need to have a “proxy pack” downloaded on their computers in order to connect.

The instructions that students will receive when WiFi is made available for use will explain how to set up their connection and begin using wireless Internet in the school.

With other budgetary restrictions in place, some students would rather that the money be spent on more mundane problems.

“I like the idea of WiFi especially since computers are limited and it would be easier to do work if I could bring my laptop to school and use WiFi,” said senior Kayla Harris. “It does cost a lot of money, however, and I think using that money for other reasons is important too.”

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2011 MIDTERM SCHEDULE

| ROOM # | EXAM | TEACHER | ROOM # | EXAM | TEACHER | ROOM # | EXAM | TEACHER |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|--|-------------------------|----------------|---|---------------------------------|---------------|
| TUESDAY JANUARY 25, 2011 8:15 AM | | | B17 | Math 9H | Ferruso | 12:15 PM | | |
| 131 | Living Env. Regents | - | B18 | Math 9H | Lederer | B20 | Chemistry Regents | - |
| TBD | RCT Global Studies | - | 30 | AP Biology | Ezratty | B20 | Physics Regents | - |
| 9:00-11:00 AM | | | 215 | AP US Qualif. | - | TBD | RCT Reading | - |
| 118 | AP English Lit. | Sachs | 217 | AP US Qualif. | - | 1:00-3:00 PM | | |
| 120 | AP English Lit. | Schulman | 219 | AP US Qualif. | - | B11 | Integrated Geometry | DiVenuto |
| 122 | AP English Lit. | Schutzman | 136 | AP Chemistry | Carmody | B12 | Integrated Geometry | DiVenuto |
| 127 | World Literature | Schulman | B19 | AP Environmental | Brandt | B13 | Integrated Geometry | Gallagher |
| A1 | Biology | Apicos | B20 | AP Environmental | Paradis | B14 | Integrated Geometry | Gallagher |
| A2 | Biology | Brandt | 12:15 PM | | | B15 | Integrated Geometry | Gallagher |
| A3 | Biology | Brandt | 15 | Int. Algebra Regents | - | B16 | Integrated Geometry | Ganzekaufer |
| A4 | Biology | Brandt | 1:00-3:00 PM | | | B17 | Integrated Geometry | Tedesco |
| A5 | Biology | Crivelli | B11 | Chemistry | Carmody | B18 | Integrated Geometry | Tedesco |
| A7 | Biology | Dardzinski | B12 | Chemistry | Loehner | B19 | Integrated Geometry | Tedesco |
| A8 | Biology | Dardzinski | B13 | Chemistry | Loehner | 15 | Int. Geometry Plus | Ganzekaufer |
| A9 | Biology | Ezratty | B14 | Chemistry | Loehner | 17 | Int. Geometry Plus | Ganzekaufer |
| A10 | Biology | Gallego | B15 | Chemistry | Krebs | 18 | Int. Geometry Plus | Reynolds |
| 130 | Biology | O'Brien | B16 | Chemistry | Nelson | 19 | Int. Geometry Plus | Reynolds |
| 134 | Biology Honors | Apicos | B17 | Chemistry | Nelson | 21 | Int. Geometry Plus | Verity |
| 135 | Biology Honors | Apicos | B18 | Chemistry | Nelson | 23 | Int. Geometry Plus | Verity |
| 136 | Biology Honors | Crivelli | B19 | Chemistry Honors | Carmody | A1 | French AP Language | Lindemann |
| 140 | Biology Honors | Ezratty | B20 | Chemistry Honors | Carmody | A2 | Latin AP | Griffin |
| 142 | Biology FLC | Travis | A3 | Chemistry Honors | Krebs | A3 | Spanish AP Literature | Dupuy |
| A6 | Biology STEPS | Dardzinski | A4 | Chemistry Honors | Nelson | A4 | Spanish AP Language | Morffi |
| 138 | Biology ESL | Decker | A5 | Chemistry Options | Krebs | A5 | Latin 4H | Griffin |
| B11 | Earth Science | Campanella | A6 | Physics | Johnson | A6 | French 4H | Lindemann |
| B12 | Earth Science | Campanella | A7 | Physics | O'Brien | A7 | Italian 4H | Ferrante |
| B13 | Earth Science | Campanella | A8 | Physics | O'Brien | A8 | Italian 5H | Ferrante |
| B14 | Earth Science | Fish | A9 | Physics | Schineller | A9 | Spanish 4H | Joseph |
| B15 | Earth Science | Paradis | A10 | Physics | Schineller | A10 | Spanish 4H | Joseph |
| B16 | Earth Science | Paradis | 130 | Physics Honors | Fish | FRIDAY JANUARY 28, 2011 8:15 AM | | |
| B17 | Earth Science | Paradis | 131 | Physics Honors | Johnson | 217 | Global History Regents | - |
| B18 | Earth Science | Travis | 134 | Physics Honors | Johnson | TBD | RCT Writing | - |
| B19 | Earth Science | Travis | 135 | Physics Honors | Schineller | 9:00-11:00 AM | | |
| B20 | Earth Science | Travis | 136 | AP Physics B | Fish | 208 | AP Studio Art | Best |
| 12:15 PM | | | 138 | AP Physics B | Fish | 207 | AP Studio Art | Graham |
| 15 | Alg 2/Trig Regents | - | 140 | AP Physics C | Johnson | 106 | AP Photo | Murphy |
| 201 | RCT Math | - | A1 | Math Research Qualif. | - | B11 | Sr. AP English Qualif. | - |
| 1:00-3:00 PM | | | A2 | Math Research Qualif. | - | B12 | Sr. AP English Qualif. | - |
| | | | THURSDAY JANUARY 27, 2011 8:15 AM | | | B13 | Sr. AP English Qualif. | - |
| A1 | Math 10H | Ganzekaufer | 225 | US History Regents | - | B14 | Sr. AP English Qualif. | - |
| A2 | Math 10H | Tedesco | B20 | Geometry Regents | - | B15 | Sr. AP English Qualif. | - |
| A3 | Math 11H | Tecusan | TBD | RCT Science | - | 15 | AP Calculus AB | Reynolds |
| A4 | Math 11H | Reynolds | 9:00-11:00 AM | | | A1 | AP Calculus AB | Carstens |
| A5 | Pre-Calculus | Bozzone | A1 | College Algebra | Siener | A2 | AP Calculus BC | Pichkur |
| A7 | Pre-Calculus | Martinez | A2 | College Algebra | Pichkur | A3 | AP Calculus BC | Pichkur |
| A8 | Pre-Calculus | DiVenuto | A3 | Topics in Pre-Calculus | Siener | A4 | Spanish 3H | Gonzalez |
| A9 | Pre-Calculus Honors | Wolfert | A4 | Topics in Pre-Calculus | Siener | A5 | Spanish 3H | Gonzalez |
| 215 | Soc. Sci. Res. Qualif. | - | A5 | Probability and Stats. | Lesser | A6 | Latin 3H | Griffin |
| 217 | Soc. Sci. Res. Qualif. | - | A6 | Algebra 2 / Trig. | Bozzone | A7 | Latin 3H | Griffin |
| 219 | Soc. Sci. Res. Qualif. | - | A7 | Algebra 2 / Trig. | Bozzone | A8 | French 3H | Delio |
| WEDNESDAY JANUARY 26, 2011 8:15 AM | | | A8 | Algebra 2 / Trig. | Lederer | A9 | French 3H | Delio |
| 130 | Earth Science Regents | - | A9 | Algebra 2 / Trig. | Martinez | A10 | Italian 3H | Ferrante |
| TBD | RCT US History | - | A10 | Algebra 2 / Trig. | Siener | 138 | Science Research Qualif. | - |
| 9:00-11:00 AM | | | B11 | Algebra 2 / Trig. | Siener | 140 | Science Research Qualif. | - |
| A1 | Integrated Algebra | Carstens | B12 | Algebra 2 / Trig. | Tecusan | <div>NOTE: The times and dates of certain examinations have been changed since the original schedule was mailed home. These changes are noted with bold faced type.</div> | | |
| A2 | Integrated Algebra | Carstens | B13 | Algebra 2 / Trig. | Verity | | | |
| A3 | Integrated Algebra | Pichkur | B14 | Algebra 2 / Trig. | Verity | | | |
| A4 | Integrated Algebra | Pichkur | B15 | Found. of Alg. 2/ Trig. | Carstens | | | |
| A5 | Integrated Algebra | Wolfert | B16 | Found. of Alg. 2/ Trig. | Carstens | <div>504 ROOM/CONFLICT ROOM: ROOM 213</div> | | |
| A6 | Integrated Algebra | Wolfert | B17 | Found. of Alg. 2/ Trig. | Bozzone | | | |
| A7 | Integrated Algebra | Tecusan | B18 | Found. of Alg. 2/ Trig. | Bozzone | | | |
| A8 | Integrated Algebra | Tecusan | 15 | Found. of Alg. 2/ Trig. | Ferruso | | | |
| A9 | Integrated Algebra | Tecusan | 17 | Found. of Alg. 2/ Trig. | Wolfert | | | |
| A10 | Integrated Algebra Plus | Lederer | 19 | Found. of Alg. 2/ Trig. | Wolfert | | | |
| B11 | Integrated Algebra Plus | Lesser | B19 | AP Statistics | Ferruso | | | |
| B12 | Integrated Algebra Plus | DiVenuto | B20 | AP Statistics | Ferruso | | | |
| B13 | Int. Algebra Plus (FLC) | Martinez | 215 | AP Euro Qualif. | - | | | |
| B14 | Integrated Algebra Plus | Martinez | 217 | AP Euro Qualif. | - | | | |
| B15 | Int. Alg. Plus (STEPS) | Lederer | 219 | AP Euro Qualif. | - | | | |
| B16 | Math 9H | Ferruso | 221 | AP Euro Qualif. | - | | | |
| | | | 223 | AP Euro Qualif. | - | | | |

Point Counterpoint

Are the New York State Regents exams necessary?

BY **Sophia Jaffe**
Opinions Editor

In 1865, Reconstruction was not the only positive change; New York State also implemented its first statewide high school exams. Since that time period, the Regents have continued to be a reliable source of student assessment.

New York State administers Regents exams to schools across the state as a prerequisite for graduation. These standardized tests ensure that New York students are learning at least a sufficient amount of information in each subject. If Regents scores start to dwindle, it would indicate that the state needs to take more intensive measures of improving statewide education.

One of the main complaints in Schreiber about the Regents is that they are too lax.

But, if you are one of those people who think that the Regents are a breeze, then you don't have much reason to complain in the first place. If the Regents are too easy, then they are just a good way to refresh and solidify your knowledge of the subject at the end of the year.

Indeed, many Schreiber students do not recognize that our school has outstandingly high Regents scores compared to many other schools in the state. Many schools have a majority of students for whom the Regents is an important test that requires much studying.

For the many students who do not just fly by the Regents, the exams ensure knowledge of a minimum amount of material. Getting above a 65 proves that you have learned enough information in that subject to graduate.

Another complaint is that since Regents are only administered in New York, they don't count for anything outside of the state. However, this is untrue. They still show up on transcripts and colleges can see and consider your scores. It is important to try and do your best on Regents, especially if you are applying to a New York college because they are an effective way of comparing in-state students.

Perhaps the Regents are not perfect. But they are necessary. These standardized tests ensure that each school district is doing a good job of educating our youth.

"Lots of students feel that a Regents exam is easier than an in-class final exam, so it is good for the schools to have Regents," said guidance counselor Ms. Karen Linsner.

If the Regents were taken away, then students would probably have to take tests made up by their teachers, and these would probably be harder. Therefore, we should appreciate the Regents because they are also easy to prepare for. There is so much free material online, such as study guides and past Regents, at any students' disposal. Therefore, no student can claim that he or she couldn't prepare for the Regents.

"Since there is a lot of online practice for the Regents, it helps students do well for their fourth or fifth quarter grades," said junior Hannah Blumberg.

The Regents are also a good means of measuring a school's performance. If a majority of the kids in a certain school do very poorly on the Regents, it is a good indication that the school should be re-evaluated by the state and perhaps be reformed.

The Regents keeps teachers on track in the curriculum. They know that they have to cover a certain amount of material by the end of the year. A biology teacher

who has an obsession with fish scales can teach about fish and sharks, but the Regents prevents this teacher from going off on unnecessary, tedious tangents about fish scales because the Regents is not going to go into excruciating detail on them.

The fact is that as bothersome as Regents can be, they are an effective way to measure not only student performance, but also teacher and school performance.

BY **Blake Mergler**
Senior Opinions Editor

For the past 145 years, graduating high school in New York State meant meeting state standards and passing a minimum requirement of NYS Regents exams. This system was established to assess student achievement and ensure standards in the education received by New York residents. However, in this day and age, Regents have become vestigial. While they allow students to graduate, they have little significance in establishing further educational value.

"I feel that so much has taken place over the years regarding the Regents exams that they do not adequately serve the purpose they were originally designed for," said Director of Guidance Mr. Hank Hardy.

In addition, it is not uncommon to hear teachers say, "Make sure you know this for the Regents," or for a global teacher to yell "cultural diffusion." This is because most Regents assess knowledge of simplistic facts or minute details of a course. In Regents classes, some teachers tend to "teach to the test" and do not teach at an appropriate level.

Since Regents are statewide examinations, teachers are burdened because they must make sure that their students pass these tests, instead of exploring topics they feel to be more important and interesting in their curriculum.

"A negative aspect of Regents exams is that they are statewide exams and do not allow for creativity in the classroom," said guidance counselor Ms. Jessica Ludwig. "Because of Regents exams, teachers cannot be flexible in their lesson plans."

While "teaching to the test" is inevitable when students face standardized testing, Regents exams tend to be extremely predictable and similar to other years' exams.

Since a Regents exam usually tests the same facts and teachers are aware of these facts, passing the Regents does not equate to having a well-rounded education in the course. There are even review sheets online like 101 Things to Know to Pass the _____ Regents, proving that the Regents only test certain ideas while completely disregarding other aspects of the course.

Another aspect of the Regents exams that makes them unnecessary is that they are rarely taken into account by colleges and universities outside of New York State during the admissions process. Because of this, it seems like a complete waste of time for those who are not applying to schools in New York State to have to study and sit for several examinations throughout their high school careers.

"Since students know that Regents are only considered by New York State schools, many do not take the exams seriously, which makes these exams unnecessary," said senior Alex Bricault.

In reality, if these exams account for close to nothing, is it really necessary that students sit for so many exams throughout their high school career? Excessive standardized testing is stressful for students as well as the school as a whole.

"There have been instances where the regents exams and the scoring have created issues," said Mr. Hardy.

Additionally, since Regents exams have to be administered during January, June, and August, students are given off for midterms and finals, since Regents exams, which are three hour tests, are required to be given on specific days throughout these weeks.

Instead of spending hours in the classroom and actually learning, students are spending hours completing Regents exams. In gaining this time "off," students are excused from many hours of classroom lessons, which can ultimately hurt them in the end.

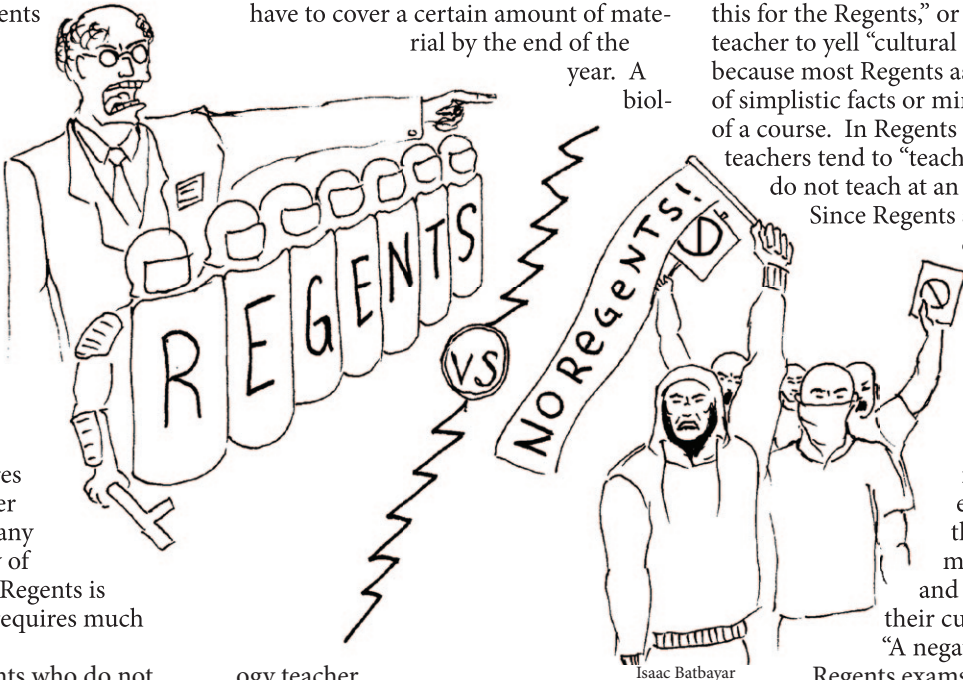
"I feel that students, as a whole, are exposed to too many state tests from grades 4-12," said Mr. Hardy. "The time missing from instruction due to test administration is far too much."

Lastly, the costs of administering Regents should be considered when weighing the necessity of these examinations. While earlier this year there was a State proposal to charge schools to administer Regents, most of the costs are still absorbed by the State, including printing and distribution.

Yet, there are several other costs that the school incurs, including the costs for additional proctors, shipping completed tests, and staff development or training on scoring.

All of these costs pose an unnecessary financial burden on the school district as well as New York State.

Isn't it time that Regents exams get put to rest?



Isaac Batbayar

Schreiber Speaks

"Regents are necessary because they level out the curriculums across schools in New York State."
-Jenna Schneider, senior

"The Regents are not about learning the material. They are about memorizing the tricks."
-Brian Aronow, junior

Trim the fat on unhealthy, negative self-image media

BY **Katie Garry**

Staff Writer

“Does this make me look fat?”

I have lost track of the amount of times I have been asked this question. The attention hog, the insecure acquaintance, the eating disorderee, the borderline eating disorderee, have all asked me and, of course, the random girl reapplying mascara in the bathroom.

The saddest part of this truth is probably 98% of these “Am I fat-ers” are not even close to overweight. At worst they are considered “healthy” or “average weight” by doctors, though when converting their body type using high school terminology, one will describe them as if they are talking about a star from *The Biggest Loser*.

So yes, basically, if a girl’s diet does not consist of grass and water and her mornings do not consist of running a few miles and doing 300 sit-ups before going to school, she is placed in the “fat” category. In *Jersey Shore* language, she is a “grenade.”

The sad reality about the extremely intense insecurity teens have about their bodies is a growing issue, often exacerbated by the media. Magazines, reality TV shows, and the Internet feed an unhealthy, photo-shopped body image to young girls and boys, bringing them to believe that looking like a *Cosmopolitan* magazine cover model is actually normal.

The dieting companies, the health food brands, the gyms, and the exercise DVDs fully utilize and benefit from this distorted body image the media has so generously distributed to American teens. Instead of preaching ideas like “this is good for your body” or “this is really healthy, has a lot of vitamins,” companies are saying that their product will make you “skinnier,” “leaner,” “hotter,” or “better looking.”

The idea is inhumane, disgusting, and probably causes more body insecurity than body confidence, yet it is the most well used and successful technique in this kind of marketing. Business

is also significantly higher around this time of year from Black Friday until Easter; the “New Year’s resolution weight loss” idea is put into every single kind of advertisement possible.

But what do these companies do after getting in their few months of New Year’s commercials and billboards? They switch to the “how to get the hottest beach bod” slogans, of course.

So, whether you are wearing four sweaters, a scarf, and mittens when leaving the house or the more revealing bathing suit cover-up and flip-flops, these companies will find a way to get your attention.

Don’t get me wrong; many teens, adults, and even children actually do need these diets and exercise plans. A good diet and exercise increases health, energy level, self-esteem, and even general happiness. Though with the mix of the media’s influence, these helpful programs can actually become dangerous and attract the

audience farthest from actually needing dieting and exercise.

Even worse, for the most part, is that this same audience often does not use any of the healthier weight loss methods advertised and instead uses a toxic alternative. They can also overdo the healthier methods, not using them in moderation.

Eating only fruit for two meals every day, running until you pass out, or strangely modifying weight loss diets by living on Slim Fast bars and protein shakes is NOT healthy.

As it turns out, the quickest, most effective, and most beneficial weight losing technique is good old fashioned healthy food and exercise! Most would be amazed of what 30 minutes of running, jogging, or walking every

day can actually do for the body. Don’t have enough time every day? Or even for half of the days in the week? Well doing things such as

walking to school, walking to work, and even getting up to get your own seconds at dinner will actually bring you a little bit closer to achieving your weight loss goal.

Most teens don’t even realize how sedentary they actually are until they are already adults.

When junior year comes along, another one of your friends will receive his or her license basically every week until the middle of senior year. And of course as teens, no one’s thinking, “Alright, now that I can drive, I need to make sure I still walk some places because it’s healthier.” Most of us think “I am never walking anywhere ever again.” The best part is, I would bet money on the fact that the place most driven to by teens is somewhere to get something, actually anything, edible.

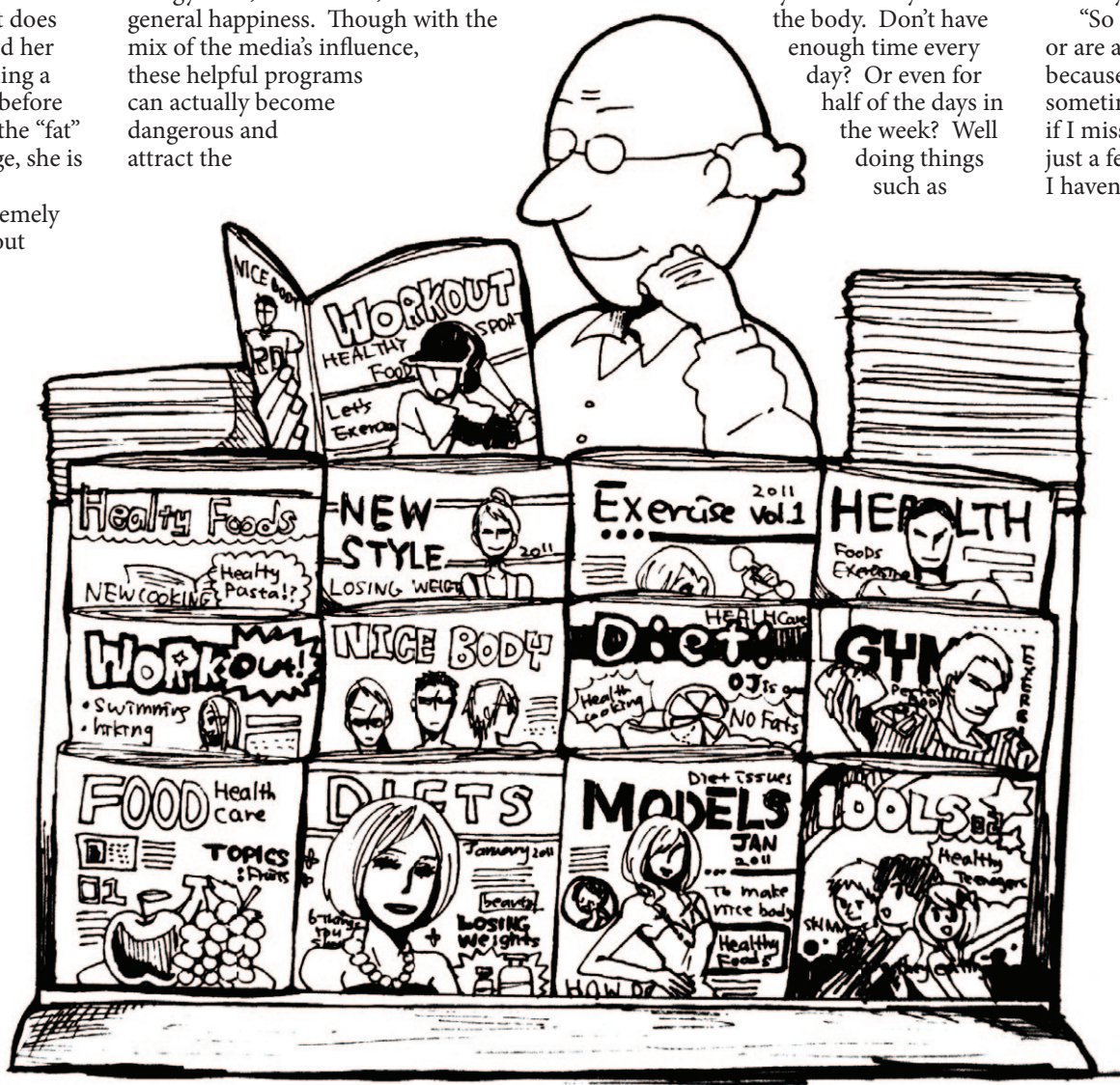
“So many of my friends can drive now, or are about to receive their license, and because of it I walk basically no where. I sometimes used to have to walk to school if I missed the bus, though now that just a few of my close friends can drive, I haven’t walked to school all year,” said junior Sara O’Brien.

All of us are, or soon will be, guilty to profusely asking for and taking rides to places within walking distance from wherever we are.

But to combat this series of rides, a diet to lose weight should not consist of eating nothing. Eating healthy is not drinking protein shakes or eating only salad either. Eating healthy is including all food groups, in moderation, in your diet—fruits, vegetables, meats, grains, dairy, water, portion control, breakfast, and vitamins.

It sounds ridiculously simple...it is ridiculously simple. You don’t need to starve yourself, follow the Weight Watchers diet, or run double what the track team runs to get rid of your “fat.”

Really, it is as simple as a short jog, a simple form of exercise every day (morning, afternoon, night, whenever you have time), and filling your diet with healthy, unprocessed foods.



Risa Choi

Overloaded by work, students just want a break during their breaks

BY **Daniel Bialer**

Staff Assistant

If someone asked “What is the purpose of a school break?” the answer would unlikely be “to do homework.” The purpose of school breaks should be to relax, spend time with family and friends, and catch up on sleep.

“The amount of stress we have during the school year justifies a break from doing work,” said senior Alison Ehrlich.

During this past winter break, although many teachers respected a student’s need to relax, some teachers assigned essays, problems, and readings due at the conclusion of the break.

After many weeks of near-continuous hard work, students deserve to relax during their time off. They deserve to return to the laid-back attitude of summer vaca-

tion for one week every two months. The stress of a full schedule of classes and assignments should not trail into the weeks without class.

Even if an assignment does not take much time, it can still cause unneeded stress during a break. Unfortunately, the reality is that many students cannot help but procrastinate. As a result, their assignments are constantly looming over their heads as they try to enjoy break.

When these students finally do get around to completing an assignment, it is often all done on the Sunday before school resumes, resulting in sloppy, hurried assignments that do not reflect the student’s potential.

Time management of assignments can be difficult during a normal week, so when a student has ten days of free time, it can be very difficult to sit down and just finish the work.

Some students are actually busy throughout the whole break. Whether skiing in the Swiss Alps, relaxing by the pool in the Caribbean, or just taking day trips to New York City, many students are occupied enjoying activities that they do not usually have time for when classes are in session.

Assignments, like reading a book for an English class, are not too much to worry about, as reading good works of literature can be both pleasurable and relaxing during a break. However, when an essay or a slew of math problems is assigned, this can be a different story.

For many written assignments, extra resources are required. Whether a computer, textbook, or binder is needed, vacationing students should not find it necessary to schlep additional items through an airport and on a plane to a foreign destination.

For students who have more unscheduled time, breaks can also be used as a means of relieving stress before school resumes.

For some students, a break might mean doing a missed assignment or finishing an assignment ahead of schedule so they do not need to worry about it again. In addition, some juniors and seniors need breaks to study for the SATs or finish college applications. When students have additional assignments, they cannot use the break as a low-stress catch-up period.

Teachers should respect a student’s time off as a means of recovering and rejuvenating for another challenging few months. With the ability to spend the break how they choose, students will be healthier, happier, and more ready to learn when they return to school.

Just for me, you, and number two

BY Lev Pinkus
Contributing Writer

The man's world is a very simple place. Besides eating, sleeping, and sporting, not much else goes on. There are several special places that every man holds dear. The kitchen, the bedroom, and the sports arena are among the most important places in every man's life. In the kitchen we eat, in the bedroom we sleep, and on the field we sport; it doesn't get much simpler than that.

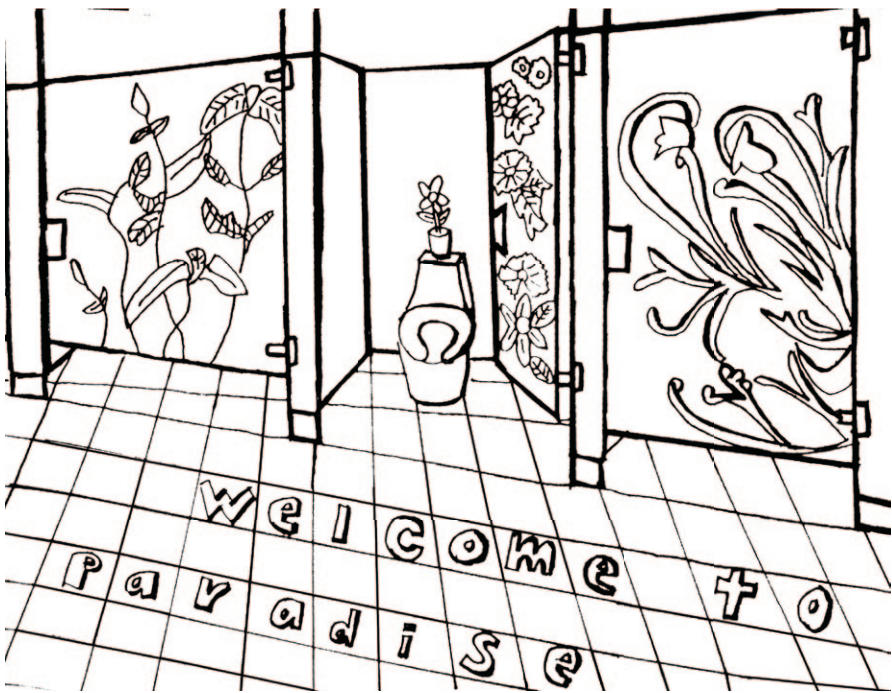
There is one place, however, that many men on the planet hold sacred above all other places: the bathroom. A good bathroom is a place that can satisfy a great variety of our manly needs. Some men eat in the bathroom; some men sleep in the bathroom; some men even sport in the bathroom (just ask Danny Kaminsky.)

The bathroom is a place where men go to think about life's many questions: "What's for dinner?" "What was that girl's number?" "Would I look good with a beard?" But above all, the bathroom is a place to get business done. In order to get this sort of business done, a man has to be comfortable.

Schreiber is our home away from home during the school year. We males spend the majority of the day roaming the building from class to class, eating, sporting, and sleeping, along the way. There comes a point in every man's day when the inner bells chime, and the stomach begins to churn.

We know what we have to do; the only question is where to do it? As a male senior, I can proudly say that I am familiar with every boy's bathroom in the school – and even one girl's bathroom, but that was when I was a freshman, and I'd like to overlook that inadvertent experience. Yes, I am a bathroom connoisseur. I have stood at every urinal, sat on every toilet, and washed my hands in every sink. I know which faucets overflow, which stalls bare the most graffiti, and which blow dryers simply don't blow. I've pressed my cheeks to them all, and the

enough to maintain good air circulation. The windows at the far end vent the room with fresh air, and brilliantly illuminate the mustard-color tile with natural light. The room smells like an old book: refreshing with a hint of mildew. The tan metal stalls are clean; there are no urinal-cakes to mar the freshness of the air; the garbage can at the far corner even serves as a basketball hoop into which one can shoot used paper-towel jumpers. It is a man's perfect refuge for relief. And yet, to my dismay, I can no longer access my garden. Several weeks ago, I found posted on the old wooden door—like Martin Luther's Ninety-Five Theses on the Castle Church in Wittenberg—a decree of new rule. My bathroom is temporarily under new custody. While the upstairs faculty lounge undergoes renovation and asbestos abatement, my bathroom is strictly for their use only. I am devastated. No longer can I retreat from class into my private man-haven. Instead, I must face the acrid smell that lingers in the new-wing restroom.



Brian Seo

supremacy of one has become clear. Schreiber's best bathroom is on the top floor, at the end of the Social Studies wing. Every time I push open that old wooden door, and enter into my own Garden of Eden, I am in a state of total bliss. The bathroom is too small for many people to be inside all at once, and big

staff, hear my cries and do hurry your respected endeavors, so that I can return to my faithful haven. Like Moses before Pharaoh, I implore, "Let my people go!" We too need a place to go, well, "number two." As men, you know how important the bathroom is. Do not deny me—do not deny your fellow men—of the restroom right.

Thank you, guidance

BY Jason Hubsher
Contributing Writer

Seniors '11, I sure had a good New Years' Eve, did you? Well, make sure to thank the guidance office for setting a deadline of Dec. 17 for all applications that were due Jan. 1. In previous years, our peers had no such deadline and many waited until the very last minute to finish their applications.

Furthermore, some seniors even had to stay up on New Year's Eve and cancel their plans to complete their apps. How would you feel about having to do that? "Staying up on New Year's to finish apps would destroy me," said senior Sela Grabiner. "On New Year's, I was dancing the night away in an ocean of sparkling apple cider. I would not want to be filling out my applications. I'm so glad that I had to finish them by the deadline."

Because of the deadline, I got an early start on my applications and finished them in early October. I felt great and was so relieved that I would not have to worry about applying to college anymore.

Thanks to guidance, I did not have to stay up on New Year's Eve. I was in St. Kitts gambling (Yes, I am 18). I don't know about you, but I would much rather be losing money than filling out pages of information about my anticipated major.

Seniors could enjoy bringing in the New Year instead of struggling to finish their applications. Thanks to the guidance department for doing a great job on helping us seniors in this time of need.

"The deadlines they made were effective, because it actually made people do the work for the college applications versus blowing it off until the last second," said senior Haley Broderick.

Now, we can look forward to hearing from all our schools and being second semester seniors.

Why not keep the holiday charity cheer going all year?

BY Celine Size
Staff Writer

As you walked around Roosevelt Field or other luxury shopping centers while looking for holiday gifts, you may have encountered a Salvation Army worker ringing a bell and encouraging people to donate money.

The holiday season, usually starting just after Thanksgiving and ending with Christmas, is extremely beneficial for charities as people feel an obligation to donate money and provide necessities for those in need.

Various clubs, such as Healthnuts, Key Club, and Schreiber's chapter of the National English Honor Society, participated in similar acts of kindness by holding drives and bake sales. All of the proceeds and toys collected benefited the less fortunate and helped promote an atmosphere of giving.

Although many exceptional charitable works occur during the season, they often decrease greatly as the holiday spirit wears off. The people who benefit from charities and non-profit organizations are taken care of for several months in the winter, but face difficult circumstances throughout the rest of the year.

"During the holiday time, people are usually more generous because they're buying gifts for their own families and friends. When they see people collecting money outside of a store, they think about how other families might not have enough money to celebrate during this time. As a result, they are more willing to give but often don't consider that these families struggle throughout the whole year," said junior Ali McCann.

People who are less fortunate and lack clothing, food and other necessities depend on continuous donations to charities. Without the aid of individuals, schools and communities, charities cannot provide their clients with sufficient supplies, especially since the number of those in need continues to increase.

As the economy worsened, these organizations also suffered cutbacks of staff and money, which adds to the challenge of providing for the growing number of people who depend on them. Because of this major issue, everybody should make an effort to extend their charitable works past the holiday season and into the other months.

After the holidays, donating to charities and helping the less fortunate can often slip people's minds as they become preoccupied with their own lives and

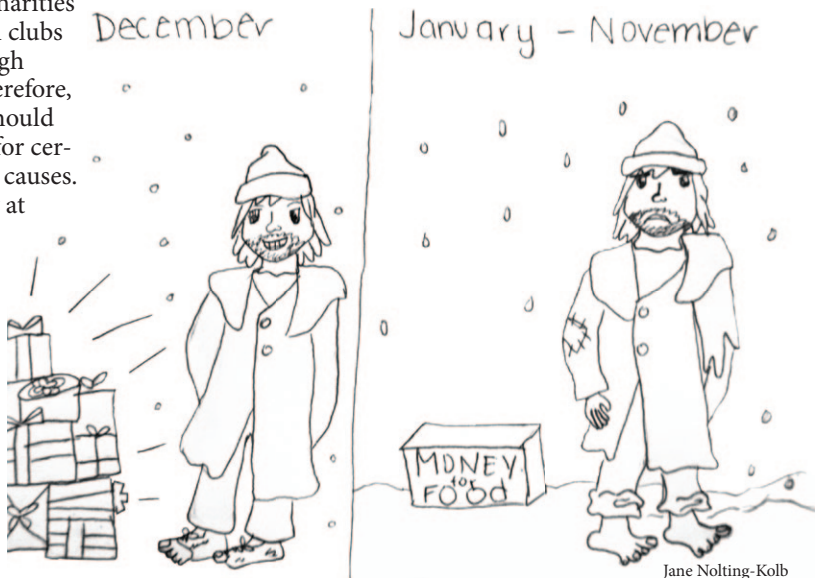
busy schedules. However, holding drives in school throughout the other months of the year is not very difficult and can have a huge impact on many people's lives. Although some might not realize it, simple acts, such as donating canned foods or gently used clothing and books, can touch many lives by providing people with everyday necessities and in some cases, a basis for an education.

In order to collect and distribute supplies, charities and school clubs need enough people; therefore, students should volunteer for certain needy causes. By helping at bake sales or serving food in soup kitchens, students could improve the lives of those in need.

I urge you to

either volunteer or donate during the post-holiday season and not forget those who are less fortunate. Even if you donated many items or volunteered during the holiday season, there are always more people who could use your help.

The fight against poverty is a constant struggle and does not simply end once the holiday cheer disappears.



Jane Nolting-Kolb

Editorials

No such thing as a perfect parent

A major reason why many students care about their grades is because of their parents. Parents encourage their teens to do better, which can make teens feel motivated... or pressured.

High school is a time for teens to figure out who they truly are, and parents can play an active role in shaping a teen's development. There is a healthy balance between parents being too overbearing and too lenient, but there is no perfect way to parent.

All too often, it seems that students are quick to blame their misfortune on their parents. Around the hallways we hear, "My parents are so annoying," "They think it's so easy to get an A," "I wish they would just leave me alone!"

While students are quick to criticize their parents as too controlling, we should attempt to recognize that parents are just trying to do their best for us.

Part of the reason for the conflict between students and parents is that many students try to assert their independence as they mature.

In the four years before many students leave their parents to go to college or pursue other endeavors, students feel that they should do things on their own, while some parents try to hold on to their dear ones.

Yet, if students and parents could be more understanding of each other's needs and wants, they could better avoid constant fighting and arguments.

As easy as it is to complain, students should remember that their parents mean the best for them. A parent who closely monitors his or her teenager's schoolwork or social lives does so believing that his or her involvement will be beneficial in the long run.

Also, parents could try to remember

what it was like to be a teenager in order to understand the pressures and anxieties that their teenagers must likely feel at some point.

Rather than being accusatory of a teenager's grades or social life, parents could be supportive and suggest ways to handle difficult situations.

Since the conflict between parents and teens is nearly inevitable, *The Schreiber Times* suggests that both parents and teens make efforts to improve their relationship with each other.

For example, next time your parent or guardian asks how your school day was, try to stay away from the easy, everyday answer, "fine."

Opening up conversations is the first step to bettering your relationships. Students should show their parents that they care, as much as their parents care about them.

As parents will hopefully always be their children's #1 supporters, we too could try harder to be understanding of our parents. A healthy relationship with our parents and a comfortable home life is essential our well-being as well as that of our parents.

Therefore, let us each make a concentrated effort to improve this precious bond.

Firsthand accounts in the classroom

During the school year, there are frequently speakers in the ninth and eleventh grade health classes who arouse students' interest in various topics ranging from organ donation to alcoholism. Through their visits, they are able to share their experiences and impact students.

Rather than learning from a PowerPoint like the usual health class, students are engaged and intrigued by the

life-changing or funny stories of each individual. The first-hand account that students are given provide them with a memorable and inspirational lesson.

The Schreiber Times encourages more of these lessons to take place. In English and Social Studies classes in the past, there have been numerous visitors, including Shakespearean actors and Holocaust survivors. Yet, more of these speakers should be brought into every class for practical and educational purposes.

First, students can be inspired by speakers to pursue various careers in the future. While students go from class to class absorbing information, they might not understand the practicality of the course material in the real world.

An opportunity to listen to the roles of an accountant or an engineer would give students a hint to what happens in the workforce.

Students could learn how to apply their knowledge and best interests into a career. Because Schreiber is a lively learning institution, these speakers will inspire curiosity among students.

A geneticist's work might open the door for questions, inspiring students to be more involved in their biology classes, and consider the field for a profession.

Then, readings in the textbooks would not seem superfluous, but rather useful and interesting. While some books might be outdated, the presentations can offer a new insight into current issues.

Similarly, in history classes, people who have experienced an historical event, such as refugees or a veterans, could share their story.

Although people or organizations charge money to give presentations to students, *The Schreiber Times* encourages teachers to seek out volunteers who are more than willing to share their personal experiences. For example, students' relatives can speak to classrooms about relevant topics.

The Times commends the efforts of the health teachers to incorporate a first-hand account into a majority of their lesson plans.

If the administration requires every course to have at least one presentation throughout the year, this might enhance students' motivation and learning in all subjects.

Recognizing radicalism

The recent shooting in Tucson, Arizona has sparked nationwide controversy on many levels. First, it has cast a pall over the nation as the families of the six dead mourn their losses. President Barack Obama recently gave an emotionally charged speech, both remembering the lost lives and challenging the nation to live up to the dreams of its children, including those of Christina-Taylor Green, age 9, who was the youngest victim of the shooting.

The Schreiber Times would like to extend condolences to the families of those wounded or killed during the deplorable event. While the man accused of the shooting may have suffered in his own right from mental health issues, the grief caused will be lasting. But, hopefully the shooting will also create a lasting reminder about the dangers of radicalism.

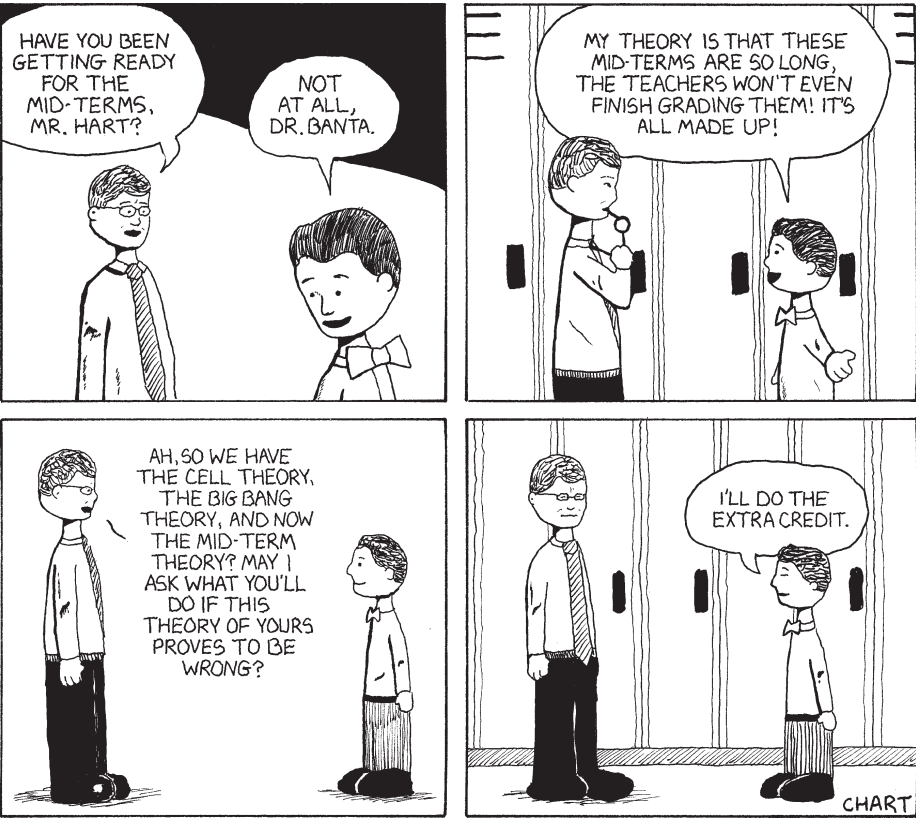
Although it is not clear if radical political rhetoric was the cause of the shooting, the highly-charged politicizing of the event has continued despite the tragedy.

Moderate debate and discussion are integral to a productive and efficient government. Recent events have highlighted the need for a more moderate and reasonable debate through which people can learn and make mutually beneficial decisions when faced with adversity. *The Schreiber Times* urges students to follow this lesson in their daily lives. Engaging in reasonable discussion about everything from political beliefs to social ideals is a key way to both learn and compromise.

Although many pundits and media outlets continue to radicalize the meaning of this event, remember that in order to make progress, thoughts and ideas must be shared equitably among all arguing factions. Utilizing this idea in your daily lives will allow for a more amiable and productive atmosphere.

Interested in writing for Opinions? Then come to the next newspaper general meeting on Feb. 3. All new writers are welcome!

The Hart Knock Life



Times Policy Statement

The SchreiberTimes' 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.

Most students do not exhibit an interest in museums

Only a minority fully take advantage of nearby cultural centers

BY **Kaia de Bruin**
Staff Assistant

To be fair, life in the suburbs can get pretty boring. Many students turn to New York City for fun things to do that they do not have access to on Long Island. Although New York is packed with museums that are full of everything from dinosaurs to Degas, museums are not very popular with many students.

“People always talk about having life-changing experiences in museums, but for me there isn’t that same kind of connection,” said AP Studio Art student senior Samantha Palmer. “I don’t think that seeing art in a museum makes it any more special, and museums really aren’t for me.”

Despite some students’ indifference to museum opportunities, others are more enthusiastic and find them valuable and interesting.

“Museums are awesome,” said junior Elyse Belarge, who cites the American Museum of Natural History as her favorite. “I go on my own too, not just with my art class.”

Many teachers, especially art teachers, emphasize the importance of visiting museums.

“Museums and gallery visits are very important to me both as an artist and an art educator,” said Ms. Marisa DeMarco. “I try to be well read regarding upcoming exhibitions and plan my visits accordingly.”

Field trips with AP art classes, in both Photography and Studio Art, expose many students to these easily accessible museums.

“Since Port Washington is located so



Karina Shedrofsky

The Metropolitan Museum of Art has an extensive permanent collection of Ancient Greek and Roman sculptures and artifacts. Art students often draw these busts to practice replicating lifelike and realistic faces. In addition to its classical exhibits, the Met also has contemporary painting and sculpture exhibits.

close to New York City, we are so lucky to have such access to wonderful art and cultural institutions,” said Ms. DeMarco. “Viewing and discussing works of art is a tremendous part of our students’ artistic development.”

AP Photography classes usually take two trips to Manhattan every year, typically to visit the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the International Center of Photography. There, students get to see relevant exhibits and are given an assignment to work on during the trip.

“I really value going to museums on AP Photo field trips,” said senior Olivia Shendell. “I think that it is a good

experience for us to have, and I like seeing the work of talented artists because it helps my own photography.”

AP Studio Art students have gone on two trips to the Metropolitan Museum this year as well.

Living near a city means that there are numerous opportunities to visit museums and other sites of cultural interest. New York has over 80 museums, many of them in Manhattan.

“I definitely appreciate being near the city and being able to go to museums. When I’m in the city, it is not unusual for me to visit a museum for fun,” said Shendell. “My favorite is the New York Historical Society, which has great temporary exhibits.”

Many Schreiber students do not usually feel the same way though.

“I think that museums are under-appreciated,” said Belarge. “People think that they are boring and do not realize that museums can be really fun.”

Because visiting museums is not often on students’ lists of priorities, they tend to be dismissed as unexciting or not worth the time. While Belarge enjoys the dinosaurs and the blue whale hanging from the ceiling at the Museum of Natural History, most are not as enthused.

“I do not like museums at all and I do not learn anything from them,” said senior Misha Krichever.

It is not necessary to travel all the way to New York to go to a museum. Local museums like the Nassau County Museum of Art are cultural institutions that offer students the chance to learn something about art.

The Nassau County Museum is targeted at families and its smaller scale makes a trip there more low-key. The museum also has an art school and the Tee Ridder Miniatures Museum, which is full of intricate doll houses.

While many students get to go on trips to museums with their art classes, most would not go on their own. The perception of museums as boring places is enough to scare most students off. It seems that museum-goers are a minority in the building.

“I like museums because you can learn a lot from them, but most people don’t feel the same way,” said senior Nicole Zolli. “I

especially like going to museums with friends who are also interested because it creates the opportunity for great conversations.”

Those who do love museums try their best to take advantage of cultural institutions nearby and all that they have to offer. Their less enthusiastic friends should probably beware though, in case they get dragged along.

“I made my friends come with me to the Natural History Museum,” said Belarge. “They liked Pop Tart World better.”

| Comparing Museum Prices for Students*: | |
|--|---------|
| Metropolitan Museum of Art (recommended) | \$10.00 |
| Museum of Modern Art | \$12.00 |
| American Museum of Natural History | \$12.00 |
| Nassau County Museum of Art | \$4.00 |
| International Center of Photography | \$8.00 |
| New York Historical Society | \$7.00 |
| The Guggenheim Museum | \$15.00 |
| Cow Neck Peninsula Historical Society (per tour) | \$4.00 |
| The Morgan Library and Museum | \$10.00 |
| The Frick Collection | \$5.00 |
| The Cloisters Museum and Gardens (recommended) | \$10.00 |
| * With valid I.D. | |

Nassau County Museum of Art

BY **Katie Ferrero and Sam Heapps**
Contributing Writers

One of the most prominent museums on Long Island, the Nassau County Museum of Art, is only 15 minutes from Port Washington. With over 400 works of European and American art from the 1800s and 1900s, this museum offers many opportunities for students to see exquisite artwork.

For the low admission fee of \$4, students can see all the current exhibits as well as the permanent collection, leaving with a taste of culture and artistic talent.

The current exhibit featured at the museum, “For Us The Living,” is a display of Civil War themed paintings by artist Mort Kunstler. This show portrays the dramatic time period during America’s most deadly war. Kunstler, a contemporary artist of Civil War scenes, reveals his sketches, drawings, preliminary studies, photographs, and props in this in-depth exhibit.

His paintings and pieces of art reflect the emotions that existed in the United States during the Civil War, and the artist has ensured that every image is historically correct.

The 50 paintings in the exhibit each show historical and dramatic aspects of

the time period.

With its educational opportunities and intriguing works of art, “For Us the Living” is one of the more interesting exhibits that the Nassau Country Museum of Art has displayed.

On Jan. 22, the museum will present its next exhibit: “Milton Avery and the End of Modernism.” This exhibition examines and analyzes the works of Milton Avery from the 1920s and 1960s.

His signature paintings are the product of transforming casual sketches of real life into finished pieces of art. Avery’s works prove that elegance in art can exist in many different shapes and forms.

Though in the past Avery’s style was overlooked as too abstract and avant-garde, his works are now very popular. Students looking to see original and inspired pieces should visit this unusual display before it closes on May 8.

“I do art as a hobby, so by seeing what is at the museum, I could be inspired for my own art,” said sophomore Jelane DaSilva.

Although Milton Avery’s unique style might not intrigue everyone, people with different interests can find all types of art at the museum. Even people who are not art students should look into this opportunity to see these diverse works of art being shown so nearby.

A LOOK INTO PARENT INVOLVEMENT



Parent-Teacher Interactions

Over the years, a parent's involvement in a child's education has been a major factor behind a shift of the typical dynamic between the student, parent, and school official. Many school personnel have noticed an increase in the number of phone calls and emails sent by anxious parents with concerns.

"I have been a teacher for 35 years, and been at Schreiber for 14, and over those years, parents have become much more involved. There are some concerns that are trivial, and there are some that are not necessary, but most of the concerns are good and important," said chairperson of the science department Mr. Phil Crivelli.

Educators often recognize that these interactions should be judged on a case-by-case basis, although they differ in their overall perspectives.

"All of us have experienced 'helicopter' parents and others that do not respond to teacher requests and do not get involved at all. The level of parent involvement should be based on individual situations. I do feel that parents should carefully look at those progress reports and always contact the teacher to find out the reasons for the lack of progress," said chairperson of the Languages Other Than English department Mr. John Placella.

In particular, many educators feel that the bulk of parental communication about a child should be with teachers, who have more knowledge about individual students' academic progress than administrators.

"If parents call me and ask about a student's grade or progress in class, my first question is always 'have you contacted the teacher first?' since the teacher is the one

that talks and interacts with students every day," said Mr. Crivelli.

Some teachers cite the importance of regular contact as a foundation for learning.

"There is generally a good connection between parents and teachers," said Assistant Principal Dr. Brad Fitzgerald. "Four report cards and four progress reports a year is a good starting place, and the advantage of email and phones definitely helps that along."

One contentious area within this increase of communication is the perceived decline of respect for teachers' professional opinions. Because parents can feel that they are the final authority on their children, some staff members feel that teachers' opinions are not valued enough.

These relationships can be further complicated as school becomes more stressful for both the parent and the student.

Conflicts can arise when students believe that their parents are too involved in their academics. Instead of alleviating the stress, overbearing parental involvement can often compound it.

"I felt upset when my parents gave me a list of colleges to apply to just because of their names even when they did not have the majors I wanted or did not appeal to me in any way. I feel like they should have given me more independence and trusted my judgement. They gave me unnecessary stress when they jumped to conclusions regarding college, classes, etc. before hearing my explanations. I know that they want what's best for me, but some-

"Parents need to understand that we are educators and professionals. I would always take the advice of an accountant, doctor, lawyer because I respect them, but that isn't always the case here," said Mr. Crivelli. "I believe that our opinions ought to be more respected when we advise not to go into a class or to go into one. I don't want children to get hurt and want them to be successful."

As a result, teachers can find themselves the target of parental criticism and blame. Some students struggle in certain classes despite favorable circumstances, and when parents cannot entirely explain how their child functions, they seem to believe that the responsibility lies with the teacher.

"On many occasions, teachers are frustrated that many parents place the blame on the teachers when there are many, many variables to that lack of progress," said Mr. Placella.

Student and Parent Relationships

Relationships between students and parents often become increasingly difficult throughout high school as the student matures and becomes more independent.

times they can really become frustrating," said senior Dainn Woo.

On the other end of the spectrum, students can be frustrated if they think their parents are too uninvolved or uninterested in their academics. Those with uninvolved parents could miss the benefits that do come from having an informed support system at home.

"My parents' involvement in my school life motivates me, because it makes me want to do well not just for me, but also so that they are proud of me," said junior Juliana Beall.

Students who are content with the level of involvement of their parents express that it provides them with another source to discuss academics with and that it allows them to be further motivated without added stress.

"I think that parental involvement is good up to a limit," said junior Amanda Fishbin. "If parents are too involved, it can create unnecessary stress for the student. But on the other hand, if there is no involvement, the students may not be motivated to do well."

While the guidance department recognizes the stress that can arise from overbearing parents, it also understands how

important parent involvement is in every stage of high school. Counselors seek to facilitate good conversations between the students and the parents.

"I think that parents are a part of the team, their opinions need to be valued," said Director of Guidance Mr. Hardy. "Counselors can talk to students about how to deal with the stress, such as through good coping techniques. In certain situations, counselors can reach out into the home to talk about stress."

In short, the benefits of parent involvement are undeniable, although they can be outweighed by negatives if the involvement goes too far.

"I do not expect parents to be doing the student's homework, but I do expect, and hope, that the parents are giving guid-

higher level class for which they may have not passed the qualifying test or gotten a teacher recommendation.

Many teachers see the waiver system as a simple way for parents and students to cooperatively decide on the best class options.

"With open enrollment, anyone can waive into our senior AP English class, as long as they take the qualifying exam," said chairperson of the English department Ms. Joan Lisecki. "It is then up to the child and the parents to waive in against the English department's recommendation."

Although the administration recognizes the pressurized aspect of the waiver system, it maintains that, overall, the system is beneficial to the students who are

following the teachers' recommendation, only to find out later that they have to change the class back to the original recommendation," said Mr. Placella.

Schreiber does acknowledge this downside of the waiver system and allows a large window for students to drop classes.

"If the parent is pushing the child into a class he or she isn't interested or successful in, the student has the opportunity to pull out of the class in a reasonable time," said Mr. Hardy. "The window for dropping classes serves as a safety net."

Many students simply do not welcome the waiver system because it could allow parents another way to pressure or influence their class choices.

"As a high schooler, I think that I have

bility to apply to college."

To ensure that the differences in the roles of the parents and the students are defined, the guidance department has individual meetings with parents, and then with the parents and the students.

"My parents made me choose what colleges to apply to and even what major to select. I want to do what I want, not only what my parents want, and this pressure just made me even more stressed," said senior Alan Kim.

"Parent involvement can take away from the learning process. Over-involvement from parents is counterproductive to the next stage, such as college or work, when the parents will not be present," said Mr. Hardy. "That is why we want to make sure that there are healthy discussions and definition of the roles."

That is not to say, however, that parental involvement is not important in the process of applying to college.

"There is a reason we have multiple parent meetings about college; we want everybody involved," said Mr. Hardy.

Many students will testify that parent involvement, to a certain extent, can make the stressful application process seem more manageable.

"It was definitely helpful having my parents involved in my application process," said senior Andy Lieberman. "I really felt like I had a strong support system that I could go to and discuss my issues about certain schools or things that I was looking for in my overall college choices."





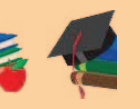





"For some of our population, when the parents are not very involved and the student is confused or does not understand exactly what to do, there can be negative repercussions," said Mr. Hardy.

To alleviate some of the pressures and misconceptions that come with applying to college, the guidance department has been showing parents and students how to use Naviance for the past four years.

"Naviance allows for less parent frustration because it facilitates more conversations in the home, as more information is given to the families for them to discuss," said Mr. Hardy. "In short, it facilitates communication and cooperation."

By Katya Barrett and Matt Heiden

I TRY HARDER TO GET GOOD GRADES BECAUSE OF MY PARENTS









| | |
|----------|---|
| AGREE |       |
| DISAGREE |     |

MY PARENTS MAKE ME TAKE HARDER CLASSES









| | |
|----------|---|
| AGREE |  |
| DISAGREE |        |

 = 20 PEOPLE

I WISH MY PARENTS WERE MORE INVOLVED IN MY ACADEMICS

| | |
|----------|---|
| AGREE |  |
| DISAGREE |        |

I WOULD LIKE MY PARENTS TO COMMUNCIATE WITH MY TEACHERS

| | |
|----------|---|
| AGREE |  |
| DISAGREE |        |

Polls conducted by Katya Barrett and Sophia Jaffe

The power of a good power nap

BY Jeremy Eule

Contributing Writer

It seems that the student population is going back in time, as hundreds of high schoolers are starting to take naps again. While naptime frequently occurred in the kindergarten and preschool years, it has now infused into the lives of many students at Schreiber once again. Students seem to be napping due to a combination of factors.

One factor is students’ lack of sleep during the night. Senior Jeffrey Sims allegedly never gets more than four hours of sleep in a night and relies on the power of a power nap.

“I don’t sleep, but power naps get me by in life,” said Sims.

Another factor is mental exhaustion. A wise biology teacher once said that thinking is more tiring than physical exercise and with the amount of thinking going on in school, it is no wonder students are taking naps.

“I went to go take a nap at 5:00 p.m. last Wednesday, and I woke up the next morning with literally none of my work done,” said senior Stella Kim.

Students from every grade are coming home exhausted from the heavy workload at school and upon walking into their houses fall down almost immediately onto



Harry Paul

Junior Sean Mintz finds a cozy spot for a brief lunchtime nap on the hallway floors. This urge to sleep has spread throughout the Schreiber community, affecting students not only during lunch but also while in classes and after school.

the nearest piece of furniture. When furniture is not available, many simply collapse onto the floor. Expert napper and senior Dean Goodspeed could not be reached for comment this past A day because he was napping on his comfortable kitchen floor.

Many students who have consecutive off periods like Goodspeed plan to go home to finish up some homework or make a sandwich but end up crashing once inside the domicile.

There are negative consequences of napping though, as some people find that a nap during the day makes it hard to fall asleep at night.

People unable to survive without naps, though, cope with this consequence by playing Neopets into the wee hours of the night. Others have found that naps last longer than expected.

“I went to go take a nap at 5:00 p.m. last Wednesday, and I woke up the next morning with literally none of my work

done,” said senior Stella Kim.

This could be the story of a Classic Senior. Legend has it that one senior went to take a nap and did not wake up until the next week.

Some students are finding that they do not have enough time to nap, with the massive amount of homework given to them, and are napping in school.

In virtually every class, you can find one to seven students asleep. The numbers increase exponentially when a movie is shown in class, rising to a staggering number of six to 20 students taking naps.

Many students have tried to be diplomatic with teachers, asking for naptime in class, but teachers are refusing to budge.

“I was writing on the blackboard the other day, and when I turned back around, the entire class was asleep. The only student awake was Danielle Zuckerman, and she was only awake because she could not stop sneezing,” said AP Biology teacher Ms. Marla Ezratty.

Announcements go unheard

BY Hannah Zweig

Staff Writer

Does “Double A in the Morning” sound familiar? As students take their seats and the second period bell rings, the announcements begin with cheerful, perky voices notifying students of last-minute information about clubs and sports.

Some students take the announcements as a time to quickly catch up with friends and take a break. But, other students believe that the announcements have a more important purpose.

“Morning announcements can be very informative but since many people don’t take them seriously, it can be really hard to hear them,” said sophomore Holly Hubsher.

Not only do the announcements begin with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, but the administration feels that announcements also distribute valuable information.

“The announcements are an excellent way to convey information both quickly and effectively,” said Assistant Principal Mr. Craig Weiss who hosts the announcements in his office.

The information is given at the beginning of second period so that all students have the chance to hear the latest news.

This relatively new announcements schedule ensures that even students who have first period off can hear them.

If announcements were given during first period, these students would not necessarily have that chance.

“We decided to switch announcements from the end of first to the beginning of second because we felt that students were more likely to be attentive at the beginning of second period instead of rushing off to their next class,” said Mr. Weiss.

Additionally, to ensure that announcements do not take away from class time, there are five extra minutes allotted at the beginning of second period.

“We try to keep them under five minutes,” said Mr. Weiss. “If there are many announcements, we might skip some of the regular ones.”

While the change in timing and allotted time period may have increased the number of students who listen to the announcements, there still seems to be many students who continue to ignore them.

“You will never get a unanimously positive or negative outcome from the students,” said Mr. Weiss.

Senior announcer Annabelle May, who announces daily with senior Andy Lieberman, believes that there is room for improvement to spread information more efficiently.


“Although I think announcements are important, I know that it is not a perfect system,” said May. “Having a TV screen would help with this dilemma. I also think that teachers should encourage their students to listen every morning.”

“I think we should have morning songs,” said sophomore Leif Firland-Schill. “In Denmark, they have them.”

Computer Graphics and Photography teacher, Ms. Marianne Hart, makes sure that her second period classes listen to the announcements.

“Even if one person needs to hear the information provided, it is important that we pay attention to them,” said Ms. Hart.

Student Views on

 NAVIANCE

“Naviance definitely helped with my application process. I was able to check where I was compatibility-wise with other students and the required grades for admission. Throughout my college process, Naviance was my go-to website when it came to finding out information.” ~Alex Bricault

“I did not use Naviance for applications. I only used it to look at records from the past from our school.” ~Sarah Shlafmitz

“It is sometimes helpful, and at other times, disheartening. You shouldn’t let Naviance make the admissions council decision for you. If you feel you are a perfect fit and you put in a lot of effort on your application, you may still have a chance regardless of your coordinates on the Naviance scatterplot graph for that school.” ~Aditi Shroff

“I really liked that you could compare yourself with other students who applied. In this way, I had an idea of which schools were target, safety or reaches. Besides that, I did not really use it that much.” ~Sara Giraldo

“The most useful aspect is that you can easily view useful acceptance history information. However, I do not like having to coordinate my application on Naviance and Common Application and feel that a lot of aspects of the program are superfluous.” ~Jai Sajnani

“Naviance certainly assisted me because I was able to see how I stood compared to other people who were accepted to those schools. But, it is also risky to only depend on it because it only demonstrates how students stand academically and ignores extracurricular activities.” ~Dorothy Kim

“It definitely helped me a lot as it gave me an idea of where I could get in. I really like the scattergrams where I can see all the people who applied to a certain school and if they were accepted or not. For some of the schools that I really want to go to, Naviance gave me an idea on whether or not I can be accepted. Also, it helped me set goals for the SATs.” ~Jason Hubsher

“There are some schools in which the acceptance history seems inaccurate and for many schools, the sample size seems too small to accurately estimate what someone needs to get in.” ~Jason Stewart

“Naviance is a great tool for me to use to look at the GPA and SAT acceptance range of the colleges that I’m interested in. It allows me to set accurate goals for myself in high school.” ~Nina Devas

“Being compared can hurt. Say you go to the profile of a college that you would love to attend and you see that your GPA is below par, it can be very demoralizing. If you accept that the technology is pretty accurate, it can be very upsetting to realize that you may not be accepted to the school of your dreams.” ~ Ava Selbach

TALKIN' TECH



The buzz about Verizon iPhone release

Finally, it seems.

It has been almost four years since the original iPhone release on AT&T's GSM network in June 2007.

In this time, a large majority of users have experienced dropped calls due to shoddy service.

Verizon reportedly refused Apple's initial attempt to release the phone on its network due to Apple's insistence of unprecedented control of media content and profit sharing.

Unlike Verizon, AT&T agreed to have users access Apple's music store instead of AT&T's.

This is one of many other concessions that AT&T made before signing a five-year exclusive agreement that named AT&T the sole provider of the iPhone in the United States.

In a New York City press event on Jan. 11, Verizon President and Chief Operating Officer Lowell McAdam and Apple Chief Operating Officer Tim Cook announced that after two years of development and testing, Apple will be breaking the exclusivity contract with AT&T and the iPhone 4 will be released on Verizon's 3G CDMA network.

Current subscribers will have the first opportunity to purchase the new device on Feb. 3. General release in Verizon stores, Apple stores, and online venues will be one week later.

Pricing of the iPhone 4 for Verizon is similar to that of the AT&T iPhone 4; 16

GB storage capacity will set you back \$199, doubling the storage to 32 GB throws an extra \$100 on top of that.

Virtually no aesthetic design changes have been made aside from a shift in antenna position around the phone's edge. A new software feature, mobile hotspot, has been added for Verizon's iPhone 4.

This allows for up to five devices to latch onto the 3G connection from the iPhone and use the Internet. Apple has yet to announce if this feature will come to its AT&T models via an upcoming software update.

Despite much buzz from the prior week's Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas where Verizon hyped its new LTE network, the iPhone debuting in the beginning of February will not include any of this functionality.

LTE, or Long Term Evolution, is the phrase used by cell phone companies to describe the transitional networks developing between the current 3G networks and the upcoming 4G networks.

LTE networks are much faster than 3G networks but not fast enough to be classified as 4G. It may take years before 4G networks are completed and polished, but Verizon's LTE network is set to launch in a few months, with AT&T's network launching shortly after.

Sprint's current commercials call their network 4G, though it is not up to standard technical specifications and should really

be called something more like 3.9G.

When questioned about the absence of LTE technology in the iPhone's Verizon debut, Tim Cook replied that using that type of hardware so early in its production cycle would have forced design changes that Apple did not want to make.

What does this mean for the consumer? Whereas AT&T's iPhone prided itself on being able to browse the web and handle a phone call simultaneously (to discuss dinner plans and make a table reservation or have a business call and type an email), Verizon's CDMA network separates voice and data, preventing any of these scenarios.

The lack of what many believe to be a signature feature of the AT&T iPhone has not turned students away from pursuing the device on the new network.

"I wanted it when it came out on AT&T, but my parents wouldn't let me switch," said senior James McCallen. "With the phone I have now, I can't do anything special with it. I'm excited to get the iPhone and download apps so I can do other things with my phone."

Other students, like senior Eric Kashinsky, aren't chomping at the bit to sign a new contract to get the iPhone on Verizon.

"Apple's going to take over the world, and I'm just trying to slow that down," said Kashinsky. "I already have an iPod and my current phone, a Droid 2, works just fine."



www.engadget.com

The highly anticipated Verizon iPhone will be released on Feb. 3.

Apple's introduction into the Verizon lineup will be the first true threat to Google's Android line of phones.

If competition is to bring out the best in its competitors, those who swear by either will certainly be in for a treat as these phone manufacturers will constantly search for ways to outdo each other in this fast-paced, ever-changing mobile phone market.

THE WRITING CENTER

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

—David Hare

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Restaurant Review Where to find the best hot chocolate

BY Georgia Goodman and Alexa Pinto
Staff Writers

A warm drink is often a necessity throughout the cold winter months. For almost everyone, even the daily coffee-drinkers, the most popular beverage to combat the cold is hot chocolate.

Luckily for Port Washington residents, this delicious drink is sold at a number of establishments in town, such as Starbucks, Dunkin’ Donuts, Main Street Bakery, and Sweet Comfort Bakery and Café.

The hot chocolate offered at Starbucks comes in two flavors: regular and salted caramel. While a tall (or small for those who are unacquainted with Starbucks vernacular) of the regular is \$2.65, the salted caramel hot chocolate of the same size is slightly more expensive at \$3.15. The hot chocolate for Starbucks, despite its price, is popular because of its rich and complex taste.

Part of this taste comes from the steamed milk that it is made with. Starbucks’ more intense chocolate content may taste bitter to some, but sugar-lovers often mellow the intensity by adding whipped cream.

“The hot chocolate at Starbucks is a little too rich for me,” said junior Christian Browne. “I like the hot chocolate sold at Dunkin’ Donuts better because it’s sweeter.”

Dunkin’ Donuts hot chocolate is consistent, with a basic but not overly special taste. It is standard hot chocolate. The main cause of its popularity is its low prices, ranging from only \$1.85 to \$2.44

Dunkin’, which is especially popular among students because of the large amount of seating available, also serves white hot chocolate.

“My favorite hot chocolate is the white hot chocolate from Dunkin Donuts,” said sophomore Shaked Kuta. “It’s so good because it’s milky and creamy.”

“I have never really had hot chocolate from anywhere else because I love Dunkin’ Donuts so much,” said senior Sela Grabiner. “Their white hot chocolate is so sugary, amazing and filling.”

Many argue, however, that the hot chocolate from Dunkin’ Donuts, which is not homemade, often tastes too watery. Although the taste is weaker, the quickly moving lines, cheap prices, and convenient location make Dunkin’ a popular hot chocolate destination.

Main Street Bakery, which is located closer to the public library than to school, also serves hot chocolate. The comfortable seating and tasteful decorations make the bakery the perfect place to enjoy a warm cup of hot chocolate.

Patrons of the shop can choose to have their beverage served in a traditional mug or a to-go cup, both for \$2.72.

Although the hot chocolate at Main Street Bakery is made with ingredients from a package, it is prepared with fresh milk right after you order it.

Once stirred, the chocolate adds flavor to the drink, but it’s still much milkier than the hot chocolates of many other establishments.

“Main Street Bakery’s hot chocolate is just right and tastes awesome,” said sophomore Daniella Philipson. “Dunkin’ Donuts’ is too sweet and Starbucks’ isn’t quality hot chocolate when compared to Main Street Bakery’s.”

The fourth hot chocolate destination on Main Street is the Sweet Comfort Bakery and Café, which is located near Starbucks and Dunkin’ Donuts. The beverages, offered in sizes small through large, are sold at prices ranging from \$2.75 to \$3.75.



www.dunkindonuts.com

Dunkin’ Donuts, located on Main Street, offers a convenient insulated cup of hot chocolate. White chocolate and various flavored versions are also available.



Harry Paul

Sophomores Tamara Hoffman and Delia VanPraag enjoy hot chocolate and treats at Sweet Comfort Bakery. The bakery’s cozy atmosphere is warm and inviting to students.

Instead of daydreaming, students remember “I have a dream”

BY Eleanor Kim
Staff Writer

Martin Luther King Jr. is renowned throughout the world for his peaceful leadership of the Civil Rights Movement.

While his importance is emphasized by the federal holiday observed in his honor, his role in history must also be discussed in school.

“When we discuss the Civil Rights Movement in U.S. History, it is Martin Luther King who deserves the credit for the changes that took place, not only in the south, but the rest of the country,” said Mr. Bryan Frank, the chairperson of the social studies department.

In remembrance of Reverend King’s influence on American society, the third Monday of January is observed as a national holiday each year.

“We study the importance of Martin Luther King for several reasons,” said Mr.

Frank. “He was a great leader of the civil rights movement who advocated equality for all. He effectively demonstrated using non-violent means and hoped that people of all colors would live together.”

An unfortunate effect of having a federal holiday is that instead of taking time to reflect on the actions of Martin Luther King Jr., many students simply see the day as a welcome break from school.

“I don’t think that we are informed or reminded enough about the actual day,” said junior Isha Gupta. “Most people just look forward to Martin Luther King Jr. Day because it’s a day off from school.”

Schreiber, however, does attempt to incorporate King’s impact on America in its classes, as teachers try to show students the reasons why he is revered in history.

“In Global classes, when we look at Gandhi and his impact on Indian independence through nonviolence, we make the connection to the 1960s and Martin Luther King’s influential role

in the Civil Rights Movement,” said Mr. Frank.

“I think it’s important that we try and remember his contribution to history while enjoying our day of vacation,” said senior Alison Ehrlich.

Global is not the only class in which King’s contributions to America can be discussed.

“Any time civil rights issues are discussed, either in the past or present day, he is used as an example of how change against oppression can be

successful,” said Mr. Frank.

Some students have taken King’s message to heart, and use the day as a time for reflection.

“Almost everyone knows about Martin Luther King Jr.,” said senior Alison Ehrlich. “As a result, his birthday celebration has become little more than a day off from school. I think it’s important that we try and remember his contribution to history while enjoying our day of vacation.”

King has a powerful legacy, as his beliefs and actions can be discussed in terms of many other world issues.

Schreiber aims to show its students the significance King had and still has, not just in the 1960s, but as an example in all times of oppression.

“The day acknowledges his accomplishments,” said Mr. Frank. “But his impact has become an important part of any civil rights issue or discussion, and an integral part of our curriculum in social studies.”

arts & entertainment

Even with its predictable plot, *The Green Hornet* manages to amuse

BY **Kerim Kivrak**

Staff Writer

As Hollywood continues to scavenge the rich archives of Marvel and DC Comics for inspiration, director Michel Gondry (*Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*) has plunged into the 1930s and revived the Green Hornet—the virtually forgotten hero of a radio serial.

Despite being the antithesis of everything heroic, Seth Rogen undertakes the role of Britt Reid, a reckless playboy and heir to a media empire. Shortly before his death, Britt's father scolds his son for his careless lifestyle and accuses him of wasting his potential. Britt is no Bruce Wayne, and the death of his detached, harsh father has no effect on him emotionally.

Rather, Britt is more concerned with the absence of the man who had previously made his coffee every morning on his father's payroll. Upon investigation, Britt discovers that the man who had been making his coffee and maintaining his father's cars for years was Kato (Jay Chou), a Chinese immigrant whose mechanical expertise had landed him a job on the Reid estate.

During a drunken evening, Kato demonstrates his inventions including a car with self-inflating tires and bulletproof windows to Britt. As Britt and Kato share distasteful memories of Britt's father, they eventually decide to decapitate the statue erected in his memory. During

this mission, Britt witnesses a mugging and unsuccessfully attempts to intervene. Kato's mastery of martial arts is revealed and he saves Britt's life in the first of many rescues. Under the intoxicating effects of alcohol and his adrenaline rush, Britt decides that he will become a superhero with Kato as his sidekick and proposes that they masquerade as villains to fool the criminals of Los Angeles into thinking they are on their side.

Increasingly aware of his ignorance, Britt hires Lenore Case (Cameron Diaz), who fancies herself an expert of criminology, as his secretary, using her predictions of the Green Hornet's behavior to plot out his next moves. With her unwitting help, Britt plans to infiltrate the crime syndicate of Russian mobster Benjamin Chudnofsky, played brilliantly by Christoph Waltz. Chudnofsky progresses through a midlife crisis throughout the film, wielding a flashy double barreled pistol and even adopting his own supervillain persona as the threat posed by the Green Hornet becomes greater.

One of the few faults of *The Green Hornet* lies in its advertisement. Anyone familiar with the work of Michel Gondry or co-writer Evan Goldberg (*Pineapple Express*, *Superbad*) was baffled when word got out that the two would be collaborating on an action comedy, but the movie proves more to be a buddy comedy akin to Goldberg's previous projects.

Aside from the fantastic climax,



www.allmoviephoto.com

Christoph Waltz plays supervillain Benjamin Chudnofsky, a Russian crime boss leader who unites with the gangs of Los Angeles to kill the Green Hornet and Kato once and for all because he views them as a threat to his diabolical plans.

the action scenes took a backseat to the relationship between Britt and Kato. The few action scenes were not particularly creatively done, but Kato's expertise and Britt's childish excitement kept them engaging and fun.

Between fits of laughter, one cannot help but question Rogen's character's role in the story. Kato is a masterful martial artist, a technological genius, and even the superior driver. Kato is Batman, Alfred Pennyworth, Robin, and Lucius Fox all rolled into one.

The original Green Hornet possessed a genius-level intellect and a mastery of martial arts, but Rogen's version is rendered useless by his supposed sidekick, proving only to be useful because of his deep pockets and the few moments in which acts of heroism are born out of his stupidity.

The movie touches upon this area, but it never provides the viewer with a satisfactory explanation.

Although the film was entertaining for its two-hour duration, it never manages to clear the bar set by one of its first scenes. James Franco makes a delightful cameo as a young, up-and-coming criminal in a confrontation with Chudnofsky.

The back and forth between Franco and Waltz was incredibly amusing and an extremely pleasant surprise considering that Franco was not even listed in the

credits.

It is a shame Franco's character was so short-lived, and his departure was abrupt and wholly inadequate for someone who proved to be one of the funniest characters in the movie.

Despite its predictable plot filled almost entirely by clichés, the writers of *The Green Hornet* did not attempt to wedge an unnecessary romantic resolution between the characters of Diaz and Rogen into the ending. Despite following the typical buddy movie formula, *Green Hornet* manages to avoid this most nauseating cliché.

Many who followed *The Green Hornet* through its development were skeptical when Taiwanese singer Jay Chou was announced to be playing Kato. Fortunately for Chou, most have forgotten the '60s TV series in which Bruce Lee undertook the role of Kato. Of course this was not entirely ignored—a sketch of Bruce Lee was shown in Kato's notebook.

Chou is not an exceptionally good actor but his performance was adequate for the "bromance" Goldberg was aiming for.

Despite its many clichés and slightly disappointing action, *Green Hornet* delivers a thoroughly enjoyable experience with hilarity following through to the very last scene.



www.allmoviephoto.com

This scene portrays Britt Reid/The Green Hornet (Seth Rogen) beating up a mobster as he started his role as a vigilante. This is after the two rescue a couple from being mugged and decide to fight crime.

Secrets and scandals are exposed on *Pretty Little Liars*

by Katie Fishbin & Lily Weisberg

Staff Writer and Contributing Writer

After a cliffhanger ending last year, the highly anticipated continuation of the first season of *Pretty Little Liars* premiered on Jan. 3. With the shocking and dramatic twists of last year’s spring episodes, the audience was left with many unanswered questions. The intriguing lives of the main characters continue to leave us wanting more.

Based on the bestselling series by Sara Shepard, the television series was created for the network by ABC Family. Unsure of the potential of the show, ABC Family initially created ten episodes.

However, the show has become very popular among the fans of the book, as well as those who tuned in to watch the new series. Once it was evident that the show would be a success, ABC Family decided to produce more episodes to complete the first season.

The Monday night premiere started off with drama as expected. Each of the main characters, Aria Montgomery (Lucy Hale), Hanna Marin (Ashley Benson), Spencer Hastings (Troian Bellisario), and Emily Fields (Shay Mitchell), has her own unique stories that ultimately intertwine to create the dynamic plot line.

Previously, the four were best friends, but their friendship fell apart after the tragic loss of the fifth best friend in the bunch, Alison DiLaurentis (Sasha Pieterse). Many secrets and unanswered questions were involved in this loss.

The girls could not put Alison or their secrets behind them because a mysterious “A” followed the girls. “A,” pretending to



www.sheknows.com

Aria Montgomery (Lucy Hale), Spencer Hastings (Troian Belisario), and Emily Fields (Shay Mitchell) crowd around Hannah Marin’s (Ashley Benson) cast to look at a mysterious message from “A” that was written without Marin’s knowledge.

be Alison, sent them messages about their prior history and secrets. With a common goal, the girls re-kindled their friendship and are now on a mission to find out who “A” is in order to ensure the safety of their secrets.

The episode starting off the new part of the season was exciting; however, it did not give enough background information. The episode should have given more of a recap to refresh our memories of the earlier episodes. Because the plot line can get confusing and complex, a recap was necessary and definitely missed.

This eleventh episode added newer issues as well as continuing upon the drama of the previous ones. For example, Emily is in the process of accepting her sexuality and this sub-plot resumes in the latest episode.

Furthermore, many old, unanswered questions still remain a mystery, along with new ones. This dramatic show certainly did not let us down.

Additionally, the character development is very well done. Each character becomes her own individual with her unique traits.

All four of them have secrets they only

shared with Alison. Now these secrets, thanks to the mysterious “A,” are starting to spread amongst themselves and others around them.

The *Pretty Little Liars* series is a thrilling drama for young adults. Each episode leaves the viewer impatient for the following Monday. The show is thriving and will keep growing and twisting for some time. Between the romance, gossip, and mystery of the show, there is always something happening that leaves us wanting more.

For those of you who are interested in starting the series now, it may be confusing to understand at first, but after a couple of episodes you will be hooked. Throughout the rest of the season there will definitely be more secrets that will be discovered, and they will leave everyone no choice but to keep watching.

A hopeful year awaits viewers and listeners

by Benjamin Lerner

Staff Writer

While there were a handful of successful and exciting movies in 2010, 2011 will be full of surprises and anticipated films. From sequels to more original ideas, it seems that the movies expected to be released this year are of high quality and entertainment. It is a key year for big franchises, and hopefully fans will be satisfied.

Already in the coming month, there are movies to look forward to. This February, *Unknown* is a highly anticipated film. A man (Liam Neeson) awakens from a horrific car accident just to discover that his wife does not even recognize him and another man has assumed his identity.

Possibly more intriguing to movie fans are the many sequels that are to be released in the coming months. *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2* will bring the eighth, and final film of the franchise, and hopes to continue the success of its predecessor that was released in late 2010. No matter what, it is nearly assured to attract all *Harry Potter* fans nationwide.

Another long awaited sequel, *Pirates of the Caribbean 4*, reboots the franchise that was believed to be over after its third installment.

However, with Johnny Depp’s extreme popularity in the role of Captain Jack Sparrow, and the success of previous films, Disney will have no problem seeing large success at the box office.

Similarly, the highest grossing R-rated comedy film of all time, *The Hangover*, will see its hilarious trio of Ed Helms,

Bradley Cooper, and Zack Galifianakis return to the screen this spring.

Also cashing in on initial franchise success, *Sherlock Holmes 2* and *Transformers 3* are also expecting 2011 releases.

If you don’t find sequels very exciting, another popular trend of the first 10 years of the century that is expected to be no different in 2011 is the big surge in superhero films. *Captain America*, *Thor*, and *The Green Lantern* will all have fans of superheroes, comic books, or simply big budget action movies, filling theaters.

Besides movies, however, 2011 will see the release of several highly anticipated albums. Nebraska native indie rockers Bright Eyes will see their first album in four years following their acclaimed 2007 release of *Cassadaga*.

Their new album, *The People’s Key*, is expected to be promoted with a 2011 North American tour, hitting New York City this March. Ironically, the same week Bright Eyes comes to NYC, hip hop artist Lupe Fiasco is set to release his third full length album, *Lasers*, which will also be his first since 2007.

Also releasing an album is pop-punk band Yellowcard, who like the two previous artists, will share the fact that this marks the first release in four years.

Whether it is music or movies that you are most looking forward to in 2011, many new and anticipated releases are expected. Even if you find none of the aforementioned releases to be very riveting, surely you will find something in 2011, which is expected to be a very exciting year.

V makes a comeback with a big bang

by Bethia Kwak

Assistant A&E Editor

After the devastating news that the thrilling show, *V*, would not return for a long time after the season one finale, fans rejoiced as the second season premiered. The popular show is a remake of a 1983 miniseries. It follows the story of aliens arriving on Earth and the chaos that ensues. While these creatures seem friendly, we soon learn they have menacing goals.

Critics say that the show peaked at its beginning, but slowly became less exciting and intriguing as the season progressed. The season two premiere delighted fans and critics. It was full of suspense and more questions that kept me on the edge of my seat.

After the cliffhanger that ended season one when the sky mysteriously transformed into a red color, viewers were left wondering why this was happening and what the aliens were planning.

Season two kicks off with red rain that Anna (Morena Baccarin), the head alien, claims will help the world. Erica Evans (Elizabeth Mitchell), who is in charge of the alien investigation, later finds out that the rain actually raises humans’ phosphorus levels which allows aliens to mate with them.

As the first season progressed, there was a steady decline of viewers. Compared to the 14 million people who tuned in to the show’s premiere, according to Nielsen ratings, the season two premiere only brought in about 6.58 million viewers.

Hopefully, *V* will continue the same success it had in its season two premiere rather than losing quality as the season progresses. Due to the fact that the number of viewers has plummeted, it is likely that the show will be cancelled by the end of this season unless the ratings pick up. The only thing fans can do is to keep watching and hope that more people tune in to *V*.

No time remains as this epic trilogy comes to an end

by Jess Greenwald
Staff Writer

Writer, actor, and director Elia Suleiman presents the conclusion to his trilogy about Israel and Palestine in the semi-autobiographical black comedy *The Time That Remains*. The film follows Suleiman's prior works, *Chronicle of a Disappearance* (1996) and *Divine Intervention* (2002).

In the newest movie, Suleiman creates a four episode film that takes the viewer through the creation of Israel from 1948 to present day.

The inspiration actually came from Suleiman's father's private diaries as a resistance fighter in 1948 and from his mother's letters urging relatives to flee Palestine during the same time period. To add to the film's authenticity, Suleiman even incorporates his own memories into the picture.

The Time That Remains portrays the daily Palestinian life for those labeled as "Israeli-Arabs," who have refused to leave the country and have become minorities as a result. Many were hesitant to see this movie after having watched the previous two in the series because of the intensity and reality of the subject. Still, *The Time That Remains* proves to be the best of them all.

Do not be surprised if you have never heard of this movie. The film was originally released in 2009 in very select theatres.

Having gone under the radar, it quickly went straight to DVD without anyone

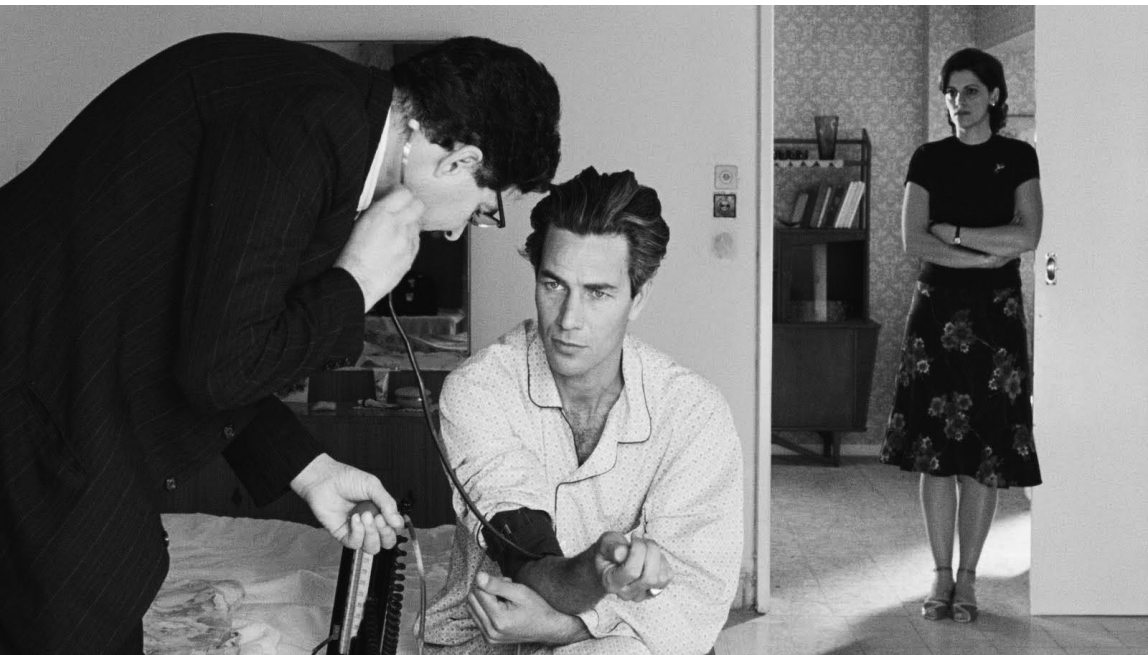
having ever heard of it.

No longer available on DVD, *The Time That Remains* is now playing in the Roslyn movie theatre, which tends to play more independent films compared to the more mainstream Port Washington branch. As of 2009, the movie was playing in very select theatres, so those who have the time should catch the film while it's still playing in Roslyn.

Although the story has been covered many times—the conflict between Arabs and Jews—*The Time That Remains* manages to create its own niche. As a director, Suleiman is able to capture the true essence of human emotion through the use of no words. It is in these mute and speechless scenes that one can truly get a deep appreciation for the characters and setting.

For those who are patient, *The Time That Remains* is a worthwhile film. The movie cannot be classified under one genre.

What makes it so great is that it has



www.4.bp.blogspot.com

***The Time That Remains* is a great film that chronicles how the conflicts in the Middle East affect the average family.**

a little bit of everything. At times it is a drama, while at other times it is a comedy. In truth, it is an attempt at portraying real life, one which consists of many themes and tones.

Many initially might find the film to be too dark and dreary, yet there is humor in the midst of all the family drama. Some may not exactly understand the jokes while some will find the humor to be too dark and sinister. Others, hopefully, will be able to appreciate and enjoy the small level of dark comedy in the film.

The Time That Remains is an incredibly well done movie. Each image is beautifully shot, capturing the full magnitude of the city of Nazareth.

The soundtrack also adds to the overall appeal of the film. Each song, all personal favorites of Suleiman, add to the accurate portrayal of Arab culture and lifestyle.

It is very easy to see that Suleiman put all he had into this final installment giving us the best film of a great series.



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Cake provides a delicious twist to music with its new album

BY Morgan Quigley
A&E Editor

Just a few weeks after Cake released its first single, “Sick of You,” the band released its sixth studio album, *Showroom of Compassion*. In its first album in seven years, Cake really seems as if it is finally going to take a new direction with its music.

The band has avoided the pitfall that many ‘90s alternative rock bands fell into at the turn of the century. With Cake, though, you can still sense the brilliance of its 1996 single, “The Distance.”

Cake started out in northern California as part of a wave of 1990s alternative rock bands. It is most noted for its idiosyncratic approach to mainstream music, a style from which the band has never strayed far.

Like every other Cake album, *Showroom of Compassion* does not really stick to one genre. It bounces around and features ska, a little country, and the rare classical piano.

Cake has really diversified its albums over the years, and this diversity has made its albums more much more entertaining and fresh.

Though it is different, the style of music is still the same. You can still hear the very prevalent “Oh no” and “all right” in the backgrounds of various songs.

Front man John McCrea’s vocals have softened in this album and the vibe of the music seems mellower than it has in the past.

The album starts off with “Federal Funding.” It was an unconventional choice to start with a song that directly targets people lobbying the government for grant money.

The lyrics are repetitive but meaningful and are a great statement song to open up the album.



www.toddowyoung.photoshelter.com

John McCrea’s vocals have their trademark twang as he half-sings, half-speaks throughout the album. The album delighted fans, but could still not be classified as “great” due to a lack of innovative songs.

“Long Time” keeps up the pace of the album with its computerized beat and synthesized background. The end of the song shows off the talent of somewhat new drummer Paulo Baldi.

In an earth-friendly twist, the whole album was recorded in a studio completely powered by solar panels. I feel that the environment of the recording has affected its music.

In the song, “What’s Now is Now,” you can hear birds chirping in the background—it is a very peaceful song. The peaceful trend continues in the

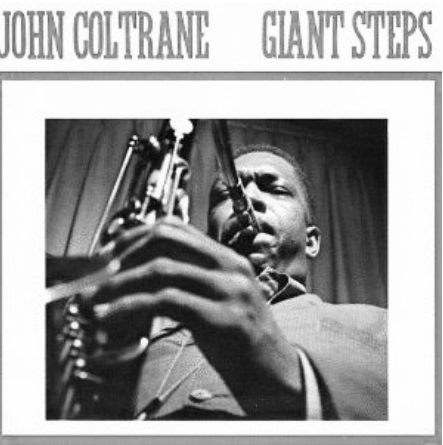
song, “Got to Move.”

There is definitely a vibe that comes from this album that is just much calmer than previous ones.

If you have listened to Cake in the past, you will definitely find something to love about this album, but the fact that the band makes very few, if any, concessions to popular music may result in some people not liking it.

Simply, if you like Cake or are into ‘90s alt-rock performers like Weezer and Beck, this is a great album to buy.

Classic Album: John Coltrane: Giant Steps



BY Dan Bidikov
Staff Writer

John Coltrane’s 1960 album *Giant Steps*, the second under the Atlantic Records label, established the saxophonist’s position as a pioneer in the jazz genre. *Giant Steps* is John Coltrane’s magnificent final offering to the world of bebop as he transitioned into a phase of modal jazz. Improvisation and unique harmonic progressions affectionately known as Coltrane changes make the album a pleasure to listen to.

The melodies are frenetic and Coltrane’s playing is unreal. He constantly branches out into unexpected paths of improvised soloing and it’s amazing that he manages to stay musically coherent while being so unpredictable.

The wild melodic sequences and arpeggios that Coltrane creates are often described as sheets of sound. This technique is present in the whole album, and especially in “Giant Steps” and the aptly named “Spiral.”

Regardless of the melodies that seem so difficult to keep up with, the pace of Coltrane’s fellow musicians never falters. The steady bass and drums keep the speed and passion of the lead member’s saxophone performance in check.

During the opening number, Paul Chambers performs difficult rhythms perfectly on the double bass. Art Taylor’s

consistency on the drums is phenomenal, especially during “Countdown.”

Giant Steps is not a solo act. The instrumentalists alternate their positions on center stage, and their perfect timing is especially impressive because the album was never rehearsed prior to recording.

When Tommy Flanagan enters the spotlight with a piano solo in “Cousin Mary,” he impresses the listener with his prime use of dynamics by coming on strong and fading out perfectly as Coltrane re-enters boldly with a simple musical phrase. This is just one of many examples in which the band members rotate and switch roles during a piece.

Some tracks on the album, namely “Syeeda’s Song Flute,” offer a harsher sound but are still a pleasant listening experience.

The numbers that carry a rougher feel seem more like what one would expect from jazz music—they’re smooth and have an ingrained swing. Despite the traditional feel, the melodies are all over the musical spectrum.

Coltrane’s skills in creating diverse music are showcased in the mellow ballad “Naima,” named after Coltrane’s wife Juanita Naima Grubbs. Slow melodies surround a beautiful piano solo. Flanagan enters the piece gracefully and offers colorful chords, over which Coltrane’s tenor saxophone sings.

The other works are intense and packed with energy. The relaxing mood provided by the track (which has been covered more than ten times) is followed by an energizing romp of saxophone magic in “Mr. P.C.”

The album’s finishing act is dramatic and Coltrane’s consistent, lightning fast work on the saxophone is admirable. The tunes swing vivaciously and the notes reach into all sorts of keys.

Coltrane is never reclusive and the band carries its enthusiasm to the very end. *Giant Steps* is not only an essential for all fans of jazz music, but required listening for music fans in general.

Instant drama with a click of a button

BY Bethia Kwak
Assistant A&E Editor

Fake tans, the poof, and partying. There is not much else to say about our beloved *Jersey Shore*. The new season kicked off with the drama the audience has grown to love. Plus, the crew is back home in Jersey after spending a summer in Miami.

With Snooki’s friend Deena under the roof now, fans can expect more conflict than ever. Now that Angelina has left the *Jersey Shore* family, again, Sammi is alone to defend herself against the girls. Last season left “the three best friends,” Sammi, JWoww, and Snooki, fractured after high tensions because JWoww and Snooki left an anonymous letter in Sammi’s drawer about how her boyfriend, fellow housemate Ronnie, was being unfaithful.

Unfortunately for Sammi, Ronnie realized how much he misses hanging out with the “boys,” and yelled at her when she complains that he is leaving her out. It was good to see in the second episode that Ronnie is finally coming to his senses about how the relationship with Sammi is ruining his life.

The only downside to the season so far is that it seems that the episodes are solely focusing on Sammi’s and Ronnie’s relationships and how the other housemates are being affected by them. Hopefully, once this drama dies down, we will be able to reconnect with our other favorites again.

As the season progresses, the audience will witness Sammi finally apologizing to the girls, Deena creating a very interesting reputation for herself, and Mike “The Situation” playing girls in the club.

The characters that truly seem to have common sense are JWoww and Vinny. They always manage to stay rational. Since JWoww has a boyfriend at home, she manages to stay composed and is able to focus more on her friendships with the housemates. Vinny stays level-headed and backs away from all the drama that accumulates within the house.

Even with all this, the family is back together again as we anticipate a season filled with drama, scandal, and grenades.

While the show is highly criticized, most of us have accepted *Jersey Shore* to be our guilty pleasure. According to USA Today, an astounding 8.45 million viewers watched the premiere of season 3, making it the most watched MTV show, ever.

It may be true that the *Jersey Shore* may not be quality television, but it keeps the viewer entertained for the full hour.

“I instantly judged the *Jersey Shore* without actually watching it. I thought I had heard enough about it in the media. Upon first watching it, everything that the reviews have stressed were true. There was random partying, useless hookups, and plenty of drinking, but I could not stop watching. The show hooked me in like it has with many other fans,” said junior Amanda Fishbin.

Even though this show does glorify poor morals and values, it seems fans find the *Jersey Shore* very entertaining and anxiously wait for the next week to watch the new episode. People can choose to hate the show, but the truth of the matter is that it has become embedded into our culture. Our society is addicted to drama, and the *Jersey Shore* provides plenty of it.

Basketball team remains optimistic after rocky start

by **David Katz**
Staff Writer

The first few weeks of the basketball season have been difficult for the Vikings. Winless so far, the boys are currently sitting in seventh place out of seven teams in their AA-II Conference with three conference losses and seven losses overall.

The Vikings began their season with challenging out-of-conference defeats to the Syosset Braves and Malverne Wildcats, losing the games 64-41 and 51-46, respectively.

Next, Port faced with daunting task of taking on the Hempstead Summer League Champions in Baldwin in the first in-conference game of the season.

In their worst loss so far, the Vikings were outmatched both by Baldwin's size and skill and were beaten 79-37 with a score of 43-13 at the end of the first half.

Despite the superior Baldwin defense, seniors K.C. Ozcayir and Malik Merriweather scored nine points, leading the offense.

In the Vikings' next game, offensive powerhouse Hempstead defeated the Vikings with a score of 61-43 despite the motivation of the home crowd. Ozcayir led the team with 11 points and five rebounds.

The boys were swift in regaining their composure for their next game, which was their third in three days, and going up against a talented Roslyn team in a hostile environment.

The Vikings and the Bulldogs ex-

changed leads throughout the first half, and at the end of the half the Vikings led 21-20.

By the second half, however, Bulldogs' captain Mark Gjonlekaj scored 23 points and grabbed eight rebounds to lead Roslyn to a last-second victory, just winning at 54-52. Junior Josh Feshbach and Ozcayir led the Vikings with 11 points each.

This losing streak was only made bleaker for the Vikings when leading scorer Feshbach went down with an ankle injury in their next game, against Herricks on Dec. 21. The team lost by 24 points.

Feshbach transferred from Friends Academy to Schreiber this year and was a major component of the Vikings offense and, more importantly, their defense.

This was a huge blow to the team when one considers that it had been losing to opposing teams by an average of 20 points per game, with an overall point differential of -115.

With the loss of Feshbach, other Viking players were forced to step up and fill the void in the last game of 2010 at Massapequa.

In the final game before the New Year, Ozcayir led the team with 13 points and senior Michael Murphy following up with seven.

However, their performances were not enough to best a skilled Chiefs team, and the Vikings were again outmatched 68-39.

Despite their winless record, the Vikings still have hope and so do their fans.

"Everyone has been putting 100 percent effort during the past few weeks, and hopefully our hard work pays off as we

start to play some very important league games," said junior Jake Frocarro.

Even though the Vikings have been losing, their fans have been as involved as they were at the beginning of the season.

"Despite the winless record the Vikings have improved every single game," said junior Jake Shubert.

Whether it is their offense or defense, by the end of the game they look like a completely different team."

Feshbach also hopes to come back from his injury soon, and the Vikings still

have a game to be played against the team with the worst record in the conference excluding themselves, Hicksville.

The team's rocky start does not signal well for the rest of the season. Chances are slim that the team can make the rebound, but hopes remain high.

"Hopefully next game will be the game that the improvement exceeds the talent of the other team," said Shubert.

The Vikings will take on undefeated Baldwin at home tonight at 6:15 p.m.



Elana Galassi

Junior Jake Frocarro squares up for a corner three in the Vikings closest game. They lost to Hicksville in overtime 48-41.



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Athletes



the Month



Jason Moss

BY **Will Zhou**

Sports Editor

“When I compete, my mind is clear and focused. Once you dive in, it’s just you and the guy in the lane next to you, and everything is blocked out,” said senior Jason Moss. “Swimming involves your whole body moving cooperatively. After a successful race you have a satisfaction from being thoroughly and completely exhausted and out of breath. But none of that matters, because you won.”

Moss is the captain of the boys varsity swimming team and has been a member of the team since his freshman year. Swimming from the age of nine, he continues his passion while leading the team.

Moss is a devoted athlete who takes pride in both the “dedication and insanity” of the swim team and is committed to making positive changes and setting an example for the younger members of the team.

“His dedication to the sport is contagious and he makes those around him work harder,” said Coach Joe Lennon.

Moss, who is a four-time divisional qualifier as well as a four-time county qualifier in multiple events, has been a Coach’s Award winner in the swimming program. Moss credits Coach Lennon of Port Washington and Coach Dan Stratton of Roslyn for these successes.

“Since my first year on the team as a freshman, Coach Joe has been key in taking my swimming to the ‘next level,’ and I have witnessed him turn Schreiber kids with no previous experience into great swimmers,” said Moss. “I am grateful to have such a dedicated coaching staff.”

The captain’s hard work has not been lost on the coaches or fellow teammates, either.

“Jason has been one of the hardest workers on the team over the past four years,” said Coach Lennon. “All of his past achievements are based on his work ethic at practices both in the water and in the weight room.”

“Jason is one of the hardest working members on the team,” said fellow swimmer junior Seoyoon Park. “His presence and perseverance makes everyone else try much harder.”

From this point onward, Moss is focused on making the most of his last high school season. He swims the 50 freestyle, 100 freestyle and butterfly, as well as the butterfly leg in the 200 medley, and 400 and 200 freestyle relays.

“The goals for this year are really just to continue to improve the team as a whole,” said Moss. “After moving up in conference, we are facing our toughest schedule.”

Moss is unsure of his college plans but hopes to continue swimming in the future.



Jason Moss

Senior Jason Moss swims the butterfly stroke in the 200m and medley relays.

Emma Zorfass

BY **Jacob Eisenberg**

Staff Writer

At the age of eight, sophomore Emma Zorfass began bowling in a league at Herrill Lanes. Since then, she has become an integral part of the success that is girls varsity bowling.

Zorfass has been on the varsity team since seventh grade and has always competed at a very high level. Her accomplishments are as numerous as they are impressive, and there are still many more, to come.

Last season, Zorfass scored an average of 120 points. This season, she has much improved, bowling an average of 140 with a high of an astounding 181.

That being said, it is inevitable that she will soon reach her goal of breaking 200 points. In addition, Zorfass hopes to continue to improve on her average and overall skill throughout her high school career.

Zorfass, however, is not the only one improving. The team has goals to continue to improve as a program and to uphold its second place conference finish from last year.

Already this season, Zorfass has been featured in an article about the bowling team on Patch.com and has additionally been featured in several articles in the past; all of this demonstrates her prowess as a member of the team.

“Emma is a great athlete,” said Coach Kevin Braddish. “She is dedicated to her sport and works hard all year round on improving her game.”

Zorfass has many influences in her life. While her parents got her bowling in the Herrill Lanes League, Zorfass looks up to her sister Nina Zorfass, who was a previous Athlete of the Month for girls

gymnastics in 2008.

“My sister is a huge role model for me because she is an amazing athlete and is 100 percent dedicated to everything she does,” said Zorfass.

“Not only is Emma a tremendous bowler, but she is also a great teammate,” said junior Jenna Lipman. “And, while a lot of our team’s success depends on all of us performing our best, never once have I felt as though Emma was upset with me for not performing well.”

“She is a role model and leader,” said Coach Braddish. “I expect Emma to take this bowling team to the next level and hopefully we can win a conference championship before she graduates.”

Zorfass’s dedication to the team and role model as one of the top competitors denote her important place in the world of Schreiber athletics.

“She is as much a competitor as she is a friend,” said Lipman. “If anything, her modesty inspires the rest of the team to do better.”



Jenna Lipman

Top scorer sophomore Emma Zorfass rolls for the Lady Vikings at the Jan. 5 meet against Great Neck South.

Captains Corner: Sherry Kim, Girls Gymnastics

BY **Dan Miller**

Assistant Features Editor

Dan Miller: Sherry Kim! It’s been a while since we’ve chatted. How goes it?

Sherry Kim: Other than being a tad bit sore with an aching back, I’m doing well.

DM: How did you get started in gymnastics?

SK: My first memory of gymnastics was in Manorhaven elementary when we learned gymnastics in physical education, and I participated in the school’s gymnastics show. It was a bit traumatizing at first, but I soon got a fascination for the sport and its sparkly leotards.

DM: Gymnastics may have been the most interesting thing I learned in Manorhaven phys ed, it’s neck and neck with when we learned to juggle.

SK: From personal experience, juggling is by far much harder to learn.

DM: On a 1-10 scale, how comfy are the leotards? (1 being terrifyingly uncomfort-

able and 10 being “I wish I wore this to school more often.”)

SK: 4.5, the extra half point is for when we’re allowed to pick our wedgie.

DM: Aside from the inevitable wedgies, what is the most difficult challenge concerning the balancing aspect of balance beam routines?

SK: It’s more a fear of the height than the balancing aspect that makes the balance beam difficult. Also, when you have 30 or so eyes staring at you, nervously shaking never helps you stay on.

DM: Is it true that music plays during the events?

SK: Music is only played during the floor event, where we dance and tumble around, but it is chosen by us. This year our soundtrack ranged from Lady GaGa to a classical string song.

DM: Please explain why the uneven bars are so uneven.

SK: The literal explanation would be that one bar is higher than the other.

DM: Well said, Ms. Kim. What tips would you give to, say, a 17 year old, average-build male looking to enter into the realm of gymnastics?

SK: Go for it! But be warned, it’s a pretty intense sport. If gymnastics were easy, it’d be called football... Something I read off a t-shirt today.

DM: Is it necessary to tumble? I haven’t been able to tumble since the second grade.

SK: Not necessarily, but it could be the only thing separating you from the top scores. And it looks cool.

DM: How do you feel about the media’s portrayal of the sport?

SK: It’s definitely more exposed with the release of many movies and TV shows based on gymnastics, which I have yet to watch. With so much more publicity of the sport these days, I think it’s gaining mainstream respect.

DM: What is the team’s record?

SK: Currently we are an even 3-3.

DM: As the captain, how much responsibility do you take for your team’s success?

SK: Not that much actually. I think the team’s success comes equally from all the members of the team.

DM: How do you “win” gymnastics? Trying to understand the scoring on Wikipedia was insanely difficult.

SK: Simply stated, each girl displays her routine in her own event and a score from 0-10 is given by a judge and all the scores are totaled up from all four events for the whole team.

DM: Now it all makes sense...

SK: Well, I could go into more detail of how each point is scored...

DM: No, that’s fine. The near-necessity of tumbling alone has gained gymnastics a lot of respect in my book. I can tell that the team works hard, and I wish you the best of luck for the upcoming meets.

SK: Thanks! I hope the team will finish strong for my final season.

NCAA Bowl Games wrap up with few surprises

BY Drew Friedman
Sports Editor

Tournament v. Bowl Games

Each year people criticize the way that the BCS championships are run. Instead of Bowl games, which do not give a chance at winning the championship to lower seeded teams, a tournament would allow any team involved to win a championship.

“It is unfair how an undefeated team can not make the championship game, while if it were a tournament, they would have a chance at the prize,” said junior Zach Halperin. “I think that if college football were to make the playoffs a tournament, it would gain viewers such as myself who love March Madness for college basketball.”

This year’s bowl games, through a combination of heavily offensive and therefore entertaining plays, matches coming down to one play, as well as controversies and suspensions, all point to the fact that the bowl game style is more exciting than a tournament style.

**Auburn v. Oregon: 22-19
National Championship Game**

Being offensive minded Juggernauts, Auburn and Oregon clashed as they went back and forth scoring on the ground and in the air.

Auburn was able to kick a 19 yard field goal by Wes Byrum to win with a time of only a few seconds left in the fourth quarter. The Ducks were led by QB Daron Thomas who threw 363 with a pair of interceptions and touchdowns making the majority of his passes to his wideout Jeff Maehl who had 133 yards on nine receptions.

Even though the air game was a successful attempt for Oregon, their rush game , which was carried by Heisman candidate LaMichael James, ended up being disastrous.

On the other side of the line of scrimmage, Auburn, behind their Heisman winner Cam Newton, was able to score 22 points on a runing and passing touchdown.

**Syracuse v. Kansas St. : 36-34
New Era Pinstripe Bowl**

The New Era Pinstripe Bowl between the Orange and the Wildcats took place at Yankee Stadium. The Orange rallied behind QB Ryan Nassib who had an outstanding game with three touchdowns and over 225 yards passing. Nassib connected with his number one wideout, Marcus Sales, for all three touchdowns.

Not only was the air game good, but so was the ground game with RB Delone Carter pounding out 198 yards and two touchdowns on 27 carries.

In addition to ripping through Kansas State’s defense, the Wildcats scored 34 points. QB Carson Coffman threw for 14 of Kansas State’s points as he threw for 234 yards.



**Wisconsin v. TCU: 21-19
Rose Bowl**

Number three ranked TCU proved its superiority over fifth ranked Wisconsin on New Years Day in the Rose Bowl as they won a close one on a failed two point conversion by Wisconsin with two minutes to go.

The Horned Frogs were led behind QB Andy Dalton who completed 65 percent of his passes and threw for 219 yards and one rushing and one passing touchdown. Despite Dalton’s performance the Badgers were able to stick with the Horned Frogs until the end of the game. The leader of the Badgers offense was running back Montee Ball who rushed for 132 yards and a touchdown on 22 carries. The Badgers’ tight end Jacob Pedersen was wide open for the two point conversation that would have tied up the game with 2 minutes to go in the 4th quarter, but Tolzien’s pass was swatted down by Tank Carder at the line of scrimmage.

**Ohio St. v. Arkansas: 31-26
Allstate Sugar Bowl**

Despite the controversy and suspension of five Ohio State players including Terelle Pryor, the Buckeyes were able to beat close seeded number eight Arkansas Razorbacks. Highly ranked QB’s Ryan Mallet and Terelle Pryor squared off both throwing for over 220 yards and a pair of touchdowns as well. Pryor was able to use his feet to score at ease rushing for over 115 yards on 15 carries. These QB’s went head to head until the end of the fourth quarter when Pryor and the Buckeyes were able to pull away with 50 seconds left despite two late field goals by the Razorbacks. Pryor and his four suspended teammates will have to remember this game because they won’t be playing until October due to the players selling memorabilia and getting discounted tattoos.

Under the radar, bowling team makes an impact

BY Chad Edelblum
Staff Writer

Despite the lack of attention given to them by much of the school, the varsity bowling teams have become well-known around the county.

With the losses of ’10 alumni Peter Doscas, Raymond Guidice, and Sam Rosenberg, Coach Alan Hagel is now counting on seniors Eric Kashinsky, Jordan Perez, and Ari Schickler. With these three seniors, Coach Hagel has set the bar high and sees them as being able to lead the team.

“Hopefully I can fulfill the expectations of my coach and all of my peers,” said Perez. “I hope to do as well as Raymond Guidice and carry the bowling program to victory.”

With senior leadership and some up and coming youth, the boys bowling team looks to become more competitive than in the past.

As the bowling season started up, the boys varsity team saw a 3-0 loss to Great Neck South at Herrill Lanes. It was its second loss in the week, having previously fallen to Manhasset High School.

Although the Vikings have lost their past few matches, they have increased their scores tremendously throughout the season and look to push toward a win.

Coach Hagel praised first-year team bowlers senior Jeremy Kass and freshman Jamison Santelli, who led the Vikings by bowling a 212 in the final set. Each bowled a turkey, which is three strikes in a row.

Schickler has been turning in high scores all season and gets stronger each week.

“Inconsistent performance this year has kept the team from winning more matches,” said Coach Hagel. “But we are trending upward each week. I’m keeping my eye on each player during the matches and practice sessions. Practice makes perfect.”

The girls bowling team, led by Coach Kevin Braddish, looks to improve on its season from last year.

While not losing a single senior, the team returns with a strong starting core led by sophomore Emma Zorfass. With Zorfass at the helm, the girls bowling team looks to become more competitive.

With leadership from juniors Jenna Lipman and Melissa Kennedy, the team looks to get support from many of the

younger bowlers.

“We hope to improve upon last year. With everyone returning we should be able to do so and become better as a team,” said Lipman.

Fresh off its win over Manhasset on Jan. 3, the girls bowling team continued its streak with a 3-0 victory against Great Neck South.

After an opening 514-422 victory, the Vikings went on to win the final two games, 493-410 and 400-397. All told, Port Washington scored 1407 to Great Neck South’s 1229.

Zorfass was the top scorer, bowling a 177 in the second set. Zorfass’ strong performance was followed by her teammates Kennedy and sophomores Caitlin Tali and Caitlin Whittaker.

“The Lady Vikings’ progress has been tremendous because they are bowling more frequently and with consistency,” said Coach Braddish. “Having more experienced bowlers who also bowl with their family and friends helps too.”

After a tough loss to Great Neck North on Jan. 10, the girls bowling team is currently in second place in Division I.

Calling the Shots

BY Brett Fishbin
Sports Editor

Over the past 20 years, the presence of performance enhancing steroids has been prevalent in professional sports and many of the top athletes, especially in baseball, have been suspected of using them.

While everyone can agree that steroids have no place in sports and that these athletes should be punished for using them, a question that has not clearly been answered is whether or not these athletes belong in the Hall of Fame. This past month, Major League Baseball inducted its 2010 class of hall of famers and to no one’s surprise, athletes such as Mark McGwire and Rafael Palmeiro were not included.

From the surface, it seems that this answers the question, seeing as both players easily have the statistics and charisma to be inducted into the hall, but the fact that both of these players received only about 10 percent of the vote (75 percent necessary to be inducted) shows that even the people with the most knowledge of the sport do not agree.

The process for induction into the baseball Hall of Fame is simple. Sports writers and journalists across the country submit a ballot and all players with at least 75 percent of the vote get in. This year, the inductees included Roberto Alomar and Bert Blyleven. While these two players were certainly high quality athletes, their on-the-field accomplishments do not compare to steroid users such as McGwire.

While the issue remains a hot topic, it will raise even more questions if legends such as Barry Bonds, Roger Clemens, Alex Rodriguez, Manny Ramirez, or Sammy Sosa do not get in.

Could you imagine a Hall of Fame that does not include baseball’s all-time home run hitter Bonds?

While it is in fact difficult to believe, the odds are that more than 25 percent of the voters will hold the use of Human Growth Hormone against these athletes, and I am certain that none of them will make it into the Hall of Fame.

Another question that must be asked is whether an honest confession would help a player’s cause. A year ago, Andy Pettite was practically exonerated from his steroid use by simply admitting it. My stance is that this will have no effect, seeing as Rafael Palmeiro recently admitted his use and still did not come close to being inducted.

The history of the sport has demonstrated that voters are willing to leave out some of its all-time greats.

Two of the most prolific baseball players in history have been excluded from Cooperstown. One is the great Shoeless Joe Jackson, a member of the Black Sox of 1918 (the White Sox admitted to purposely losing the World Series after being pressured by gamblers), and the other is Pete Rose, who admitted to gambling on baseball games while he was still in the league.

Although it can be argued that these actions were worse than simply trying to gain a competitive edge, my verdict is that if Joe Jackson is not in the Hall of Fame for off-the-field reasons, Barry Bonds should not be in either.

It is quite simple: if a baseball player has cheated, there’s no reason for his name to be forever eternalized in the baseball hall of fame among the actual all-time legends.

VIKING SPORTS

Losses don't mean lost season for boys varsity swimmers *Coach and players focus on improvement as highlight of the season*

BY Aaron Brezel
Staff Writer

The Great Neck North Middle School natatorium is filled with music, water, and a bouncing diving board as the Port Washington-Roslyn Swim team takes to the pool for a meet. With unceasing cheers and shouts, electrified crowds give the swimmers a boost of energy while they compete.

Before the team enters the pool during each meet, the members gather and yell, "Port-Ros!" in honor of their shared team. The suspense is palpable as the swimmers line up on the diving block, waiting for a starting gun to signal the beginning of a race.

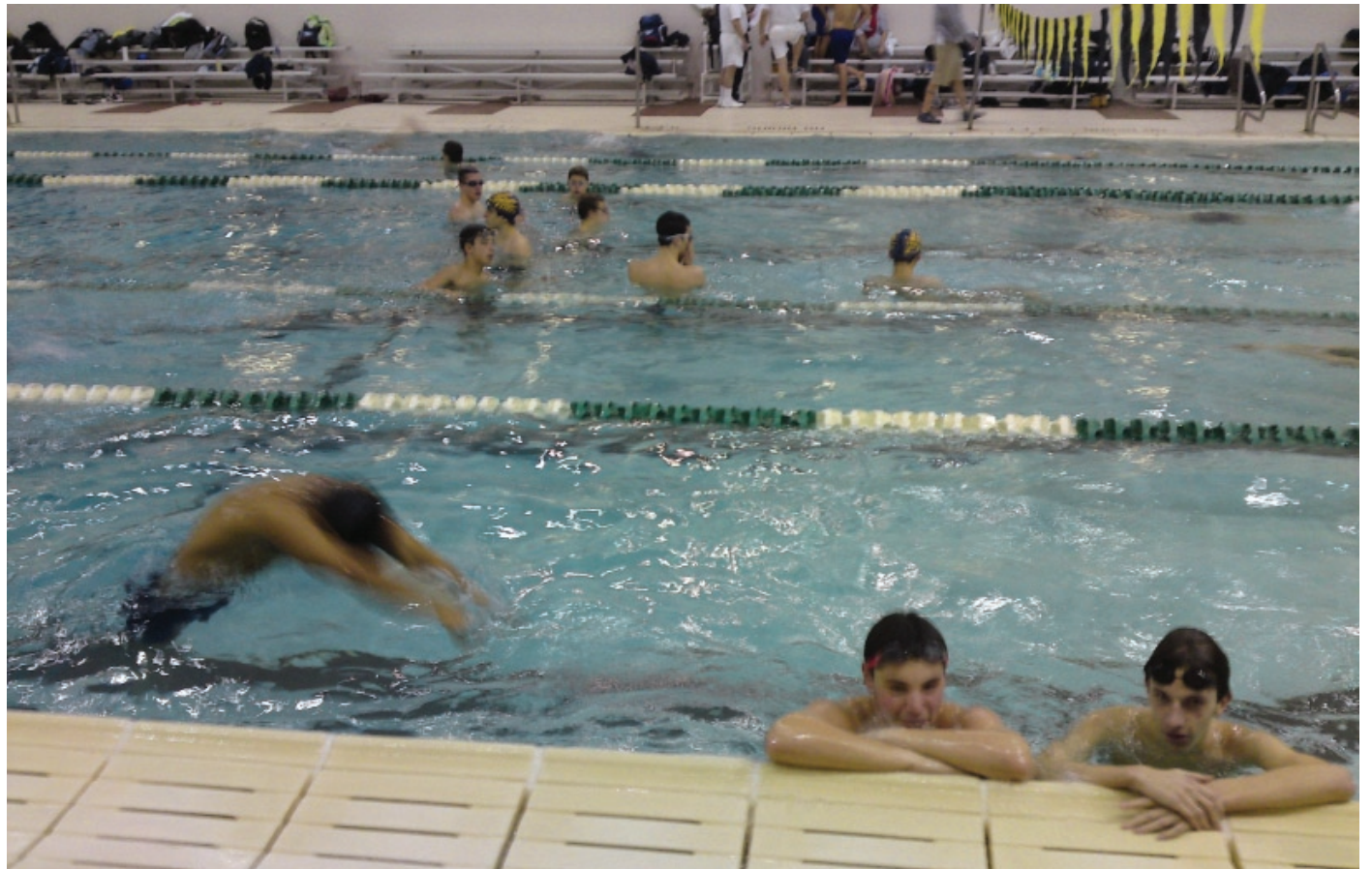
For the most part, the results of these races have not been in Port Washington-Roslyn's favor, but even so the combined team continues to race with the same drive and intensity that was present in the beginning of the season. As they do this week-in and week-out, they also begin to approach the end of a long, tough season.

"You really need to have an intrinsic motivation to be a part of this team," said Coach Joe Lennon. "The hours we keep and the competition we face make this a very competitive program."

Every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, swimmers must board a 5:15 a.m. bus to Great Neck North Middle School to practice swimming. Even on days when they're not toiling in the pool, the team works out on land.

"It takes a lot of sacrifice to swim, but I think it's worth it," said sophomore Matias Franco.

"We can have late meets and early practices and every day they make the commitment to get up and improve," said Coach Lennon. "It may not show in our record but it is very apparent in the per-



Isaac Batbayar

Eighth grader Scott McCann, left, and freshman Gavin Walsh, right, take a break from warm-up as their teammate does butterfly laps in preparation for the away meet against Massapequa which took place on Jan. 6.

sonal improvements and best times we see posted after each meet."

Due to the team's winning campaign last year, it has moved up a division. This, coupled with the fact that only five swimmers returned from last year, has proven challenging for the team.

"Each season brings new challenges and new potential," said Coach Lennon.

The returning swimmers are senior co-captain Jason Moss, juniors Seoyoon Park

and Jason Stewart, Franco, and freshman Gavin Walsh. Because the Nassau County athletics district banned all incomplete, or independent, teams for this year, Schreiber and Roslyn High School have merged their swim teams in order to be able to compete.

The Roslyn swimmers, Jake Schwartz, Craig Todd, and Barry Yang, have already had a huge impact on the team. Schwartz is the co-captain for the team.

"The Roslyn swimmers are all amazing swimmers, and they're very good

additions to the team," said Walsh.

"After independent swimming was eliminated in Section 8 we inherited three swimmers from Roslyn," said Moss. "They are three of our best swimmers and are a great addition to the team."

So far the swim team has not won a competition, dropping meets to Garden City, 95-82; Hewlett, 59-41; Great Neck South, 98-78; Syosset, 94-86; Farmingdale, 92-85; Massapequa, 91-86; and Cold Spring Harbor, 100-83.

"We aren't losing, we just aren't winning," said Franco.

"Success is really measured, not solely by wins and losses, but by how we improve as a team," said Coach Lennon. "In that respect, we are having a successful season."

Junior Craig Todd broke the team record for the 100m breaststroke with a time of 1:11.30 seconds.

Similar to last year, members of the team have achieved county-ranked times. The 200 meter medley, the 200 meter freestyle, and the 400 meter freestyle relays are all swum by Schwartz, Todd, Franco, and Moss; they have pulled off county times of 1:52.56, 1:42.88, and 4:02.37, respectively.

In addition to improvements in times, the team, according to its coach, has become more versatile. Many swimmers have trained themselves to be competitive in more events. Diving is also a new event that has been incorporated into the team, as a team without a diver is at a severe point disadvantage.

Freshman Will Smith has begun participating in the 1 meter dive.

Scott McCann and Neil Devas are both eighth graders who have already had an impact on the team, each participating in multiple events, including the two longest

events, the 200 and 500 meter freestyle.

It's the newer recruits, along with the guidance of the seasoned veterans that will hopefully build a concrete foundation from which to construct a successful team.

McCann and Devas are not the only swimmers improving their game. Smith has reached the second fastest breaststroke time for the team. Sophomore Joe DiSpigno has come out of the shadows to become a top backstroke swimmer.

Junior David Khorassani has drastically improved his freestyle sprint and is also moving up. Senior Shiwoo Moon has also had a breakout season, competing in multiple events with impressive stroke technique.

The whole season has been a big highlight — not in the sense of wins and losses, but in the sense of improvement. Overall the team has made significant strides towards improving themselves and the team. In addition, the team will receive a new conference placement according to its performance this season.

"Although much of swimming is individual, each swimmer has a responsibility to swim their fastest for both the team and for themselves," said Moss. "In the end everyone's race counts toward the outcome of the meet."

It is for this reason that swimming, although different from what are seen as "true" team sports, relies heavily on teamwork.

"We have to rely on each other differently than in basketball or soccer for example, and it makes us a 'team,'" said Moss. "A lot of motivation comes from the team encouraging and pushing each other outside of the pool and during practice."



Isaac Batbayar

Port Washington's swimmers wake up as early as 5:00 AM to get to their intensive practices on most weekdays.