

The Blue & Gray Sports Section

December Issue

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Editors' Opinion

Every single issue, Matt Gebhard and Brendan "Boomer" Ward will be bringing their own personal opinions about a hot topic in the world of sports. There will be a new and completely different topic each and every month. Enjoy.

BCS or Playoff System for NCAAAF?

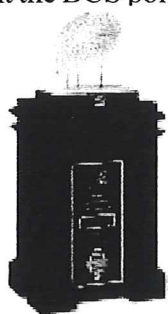
Here is exactly how teams are given their BCS rank courtesy of *ESPN.com*:

Team percentages are derived by dividing a team's actual voting points by a maximum 2850 possible points in the Harris Interactive Poll and 1550 possible points in the USA Today Coaches Poll. Six computer rankings calculated in inverse point's order (25 for #1, 24 for #2, etc.) are used to determine the overall computer component. The best and worst ranking for each team is dropped, and the remaining four are added and divided by 100 (the maximum possible points) to produce a Computer Rankings Percentage. The six computer ranking providers are Anderson & Hester, Richard Sagarin, and Peter Wolfe. Each computer ranking The BCS Average is calculated by averaging USA Today Coaches and Computer polls.



Matt's View

The Bowl Championship Series, or the BCS, has left sports fans scratching their heads in recent years. In 2003 when Oklahoma lost the Big 12 Championship to Kansas State to end their undefeated season, most thought the BCS polls would have Oklahoma falling to number 2, 3 or even farther down. While having LSU up to take the 1 and USC moved up to and LSU did not and 3 respectively. to play #3 LSU (then the national and #2 USC the Rose Bowl. and USC defeated Michigan, meaning the two winners would have a share of the national championship.



The National Championship Trophy

At the end of the 2004 season, three undefeated teams still stood. The time USC was number one, Oklahoma two, and three was Auburn. In the end it was decided that #1 USC and #2 Oklahoma would play in the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl (the then national championship). Some fans were displeased with the selection after the controversy last year. Some believed that they should have a similar system to last year's so Auburn could have a chance to at least share the national championship.

This year there is no real controversy. However the last few years have got voters and fans thinking, "Should NCAA Division I-A Football adopt a playoff

Boomer's View

The BCS is hotly debated all across the nation. Some people hate it while others love it. I actually think the BCS standings is a good thing, yet I don't like how there is no playoff system established in NCAA Football. There should be some kind of playoff system in college football.

I am not talking about a huge playoff system, just a small enough one that gives more than two teams a chance to win a national championship. My particular playoff system would call for 8 teams. Those 8 teams would be the top 8 teams in the BCS standings. The #1 team would play the #8, the #2 would play the #7, and so on.

It wouldn't matter if you were a conference champion or not. The only conferences that give automatic bids are the Big 10, Big 12, ACC, Pac-10, Big East, and SEC. I think giving a conference champion an automatic bid to a BCS game is ridiculous. Florida State, the winner of the ACC championship, and West Virginia, the winner of the Big East, don't deserve to go to a BCS game this year. Instead, teams like Virginia Tech and Oregon deserve to be in a BCS bowl.

Now some would say that there would be a problem because of the time restraints, but there is plenty of time to play 2 extra weeks of football. Teams usually have a month off before they play their bowl game. In



USC QB Matt Leinart with the National Championship trophy

Pro Sports

Unknown Sport of the Month

By: Zuri Malick

Every issue I will be introducing you to a new fun sport to try. Most likely you will not have a clue what I am talking about but I assure you to read on and you'll learn something fun.



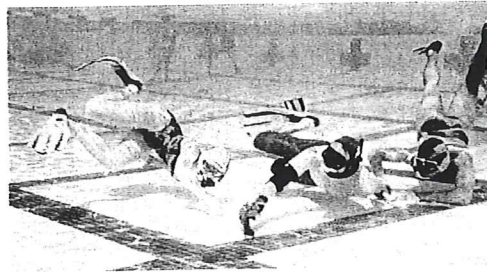
The British Navy invented this sport as a training exercise for their divers to build up stamina, while having fun. Since it is a relatively simple

This month I will be dedicating the sport of the month to our awesome hockey team. This sport is a spin off of hockey and free-diving. It can be played in all different levels, from club to National Titles. It is Underwater Hockey.

sport it can be played at your local pool, with permission of course. You will need 10 kids per team. Each player is required to wear

a diving mask, snorkel, and a mouthpiece. Each player will need a wooden stick to play with. Lastly the most important, the puck, it's not a normal puck either; you will need a lead puck that weighs about 3 pounds.

The game is played



exactly the same as ice hockey, but it is a non-contact sport. You will need 2 judges underwater to keep it under control and one above the water to sound the sirens and watch the substitutions. For more rules visit, www.tjhn.com/underwater-hockey.html.

NFL Standings

AFC East

Team	W	L
y Patriots	9	5
Miami	7	7
Buffalo	4	10
NYJ	3	11

AFC North

y Cincinnati	11	3
Pittsburgh	9	5
Baltimore	4	9
Cleveland	5	9

AFC South

*yz Indianapolis	13	1
Jacksonville	10	4
Tennessee	4	10
Houston	2	12

AFC West

x Denver	11	3
San Diego	9	5
Kansas City	8	6
Oakland	4	10

NFC East

Team	W	L
NYG	10	4
Washington	8	6
Dallas	8	6
Philadelphia	6	8

NFC North

Chicago	10	4
Minnesota	8	6
Detroit	4	9
Green Bay	3	10

NFC South

Carolina	10	4
Tampa Bay	9	5
Atlanta	8	6
Saints	3	11

NFC West

yz Seattle	12	2
St. Louis	5	9
Arizona	4	10
San Francisco	2	12

x- Clinched playoff spot

y- Clinched division title

z- Clinched 1st round bye

*- Clinched home field advantage

NCAA Hoops

Unbelievable Match-ups Early On in Season

By: Brendan Ward

It is very unlikely that you see a match-up between two top five teams before January, but we are lucky enough to have had two. The first one, #5 Oklahoma vs. #4 Villanova, took place on December 3, 2005. The second one, #2 Texas vs. #1 Duke, took place on December 10, 2005. Other great games have taken place early on in this college basketball season.

The Villanova and Oklahoma match-up took place at Villanova. Usually when Nova has a marquee match-up at home, the game is played at the Wachovia Center (the home-court of the Philadelphia 76ers). However, Nova decided to play this game at the Pavilion on the Villanova campus in order to receive a better home-court advantage. The game went back and forth the entire 1st half. Villanova went on 16-5 run in the second half with under 15 minutes to give them an 11 point advantage, 74-63, with only 6 minutes to play.

Villanova never looked back and went onto win 85-74. Villanova most likely has the best group of guards in the nation with Allen Ray, Randy Foye, Kyle Lowry, and Mike Nardie. Foye led them against Oklahoma with a career-high,



Duke's J.J. Redick

32 points. The Duke and Texas game took place at the Continental Airlines Arena (home of the New Jersey Nets), which was supposed to be a neutral site. However, the Meadowlands was full of Duke fans on December 10, 2005.

The game was expected to be a close one, but turned into a Duke blow-out. Duke made a big statement with a 97-66 victory over the Longhorns. Duke's J.J. Redick was unconscious as he went onto to score 41 points, a career high. Redick hit 9 threes and he became the 9th player in Duke history to score over 2,000 points in his career. Shelden Williams, Duke's center, scored 23 points and dominated the paint



Michigan State Head Coach Tom Izzo

on offense and defense. Williams and Redick combined to score 64 points and almost outscored Texas themselves as Texas only scored 66 points. Texas was led by LeMarcus Aldridge who scored 23 points.

Another marquee game was between #6 Boston College and #14 Michigan State. This game was the second game of the Jimmy V Classic at the Madison Square Garden. For those of you who do not know, the Jimmy V Classic is played each and



Villanova's Randy Foye

every year in honor of the late Jimmy Valvano, former NC State head coach who died of cancer in 1993. After two early losses, Michigan State bounced back with a 77-70 win. Michigan State shot 77% in the second half

The Blue and Gray Top 10

1. Duke
2. Connecticut
3. Villanova
4. Memphis
5. Michigan State
6. Illinois
7. Florida
8. Washington
9. Louisville
10. Gonzaga

and hit 8 foul shoots in the last minute to hang onto the victory. Michigan State's Maurice Ager finished with 22 points, 17 coming in the second half, and Paul Davis finished with 18 points. Jared Dudley led the Golden Eagles with 23 points in the loss.

Another top 25 match-up took place on December 10 with #16 Indiana going against #15 Kentucky. The game was played at the RCA Dome, which is the home field for the Colts of the NFL. Many expected a

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College Football

Rutgers Makes Bowl Appearance



Bush Takes The Heisman



Rutgers University Makes First Bowl Appearance Since 1978

By: Matt Gebhard



For the first time since Ronald Reagan was in office, the Rutgers Scarlet Knights are going to be playing in the past season. Rutgers University, has accepted its invite to the Insight Bowl to take on the Arizona State University



Hard work and dedication finally pay off for Rutgers Head Coach Greg Shiano

played. On November 6, 1869 Rutgers took on Princeton in a game which featured only 25 men on each side.

Some of our very own Squan teachers are Rutgers Alumni including Mr. Glenn, Mr. McGowan, and Ms. Z.

When asked about Rutgers attending their first bowl in so many years, Mr. Glenn started an "RU chant." Then went onto say, "It's really great. To be on top of the Big East even though its not as strong as it used to be its great. We really showed lots of improvement and it looks like we are a program on the rise." Mr. Glenn hopes to attend the game, to be played at Sun Devil Stadium in Phoenix. It could be a once-in-a-lifetime chance.

USC's star running back, Reggie Bush, wins the coveted Heisman Trophy

By: Brendan Ward



Bush accepts the Heisman trophy

average. Bush also caught 31 passes for 383 yards and 2 TD's. Bush was a threat every single time he touched the ball. He ran the ball, caught passes, and returned punts. Bush could take it to the house at any moment. In his first two seasons at USC, he wasn't featured as a running back too often, but this year he took over the role of USC's star running back even though he shared some time with Lendell White.

Throughout the year, the race for the Heisman was between Bush, Leinart, and Young. Even though neither Young nor Leinart won the Heisman, they still had great years. Bush won a lopsided victory as he accumulated 2,541 votes.

Young had 1,608 votes and Leinart finished with only 797. Bush received 784 first-place votes which is the second most in Heisman history only behind O.J.

Simpson of USC.
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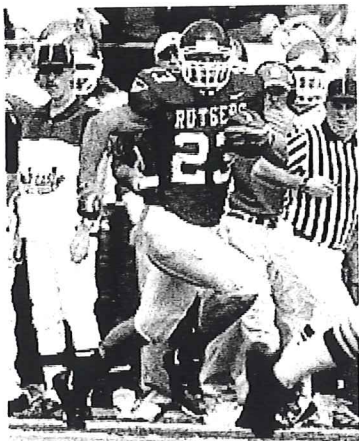
Reggie Bush, the running back of USC, won the 71st Heisman trophy on December 10 in New York City. Bush beat out his fellow teammate Matt Leinart and Texas quarterback, Vince Young. Bush became the 7th Trojan to win the award, tying USC with Notre Dame in total Heisman winners.

They each have 7 Heisman winners.

Bush was phenomenal for the Trojans the entire season. He finished the season with 1,658 yards on 187 carries with 15 TD's and had an 8.9 yards a carry



Bush breaks the tackle



Rutgers FB Brian Leonard

Sun Devils. Rutgers posted a (7-4) record during the season, their best since their perfect season in 1976 (11-0).

Rutgers is known as the birthplace of college football, since it participated in the first college football game ever

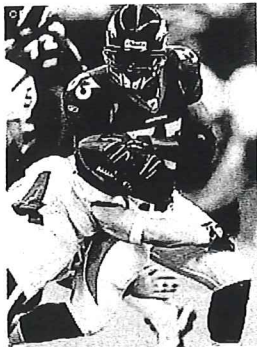
NFL Football

Teams Get Set For Playoffs

Weeks 12-14

By: Matt Gebhard

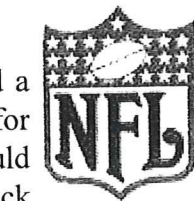
Week 12, as usual fell around Thanksgiving. Of course the Lions and Cowboys were on the schedule, but the Mike Vick was playing in his Thanksgiving game. His Falcons took on the Lions at Ford Field. Mike Vick threw for 2 TD's and also surpassed the half century mark on the



Broncos RB
Ron Dayne

ground in 27-7 victory. The Dallas Cowboys needed a win to maintain possession of first place in the NFC East. They would have to do it against the leaders of the AFC West the Denver Broncos. On their second drive the Cowboys were moving well until Champ Bailey intercepted a pass for a pick 6 to give the Broncos 7-0 lead. Both teams exchanged blows to tie the game at 17-17 and sent it to overtime. The Broncos won the toss and on the second play of the overtime period, handed off to Ron Dayne who took the ball inside the Cowboy 15 yard line which set up a chip shot Jason Elam field goal for the win. With a win over the Seahawks on Sunday the Giants could grab sole possession of first place. In the closing seconds of the 4th quarter usually reliable Jay

Feely had a chance to win it for the Giants. Feely could not control his kick through strong winds and missed sending the game to overtime. In overtime Feely was presented with chances from 40 and 54 yards and missed both of those as well. Feely became the only kicker to miss three game winning field goals in one game.



Osi Umenyiora, Giants' right end,
picks up the loose ball

Week 13, could have been known as divisional week being that 12 of the 13 NFL games scheduled were between division foes, some with playoff implications. Giants took on the Cowboys for a battle for the tops spot in the east. The Giants defense, led by ends Mike Strahan and Osi Umenyiora, made up for the



Giants' left end, Michael
Strahan, celebrates the win

Bengals looked for a strangle hold on AFC North and could do so with a win over the Steelers. The Bengals 14 point lead was cut in half in the 4th quarter as Ben Roethlisberger hit Hines Ward from 6 yards out.

However the Bengals held on and have a two game lead on the Steelers. Indianapolis managed to become only the fifth team since the merger to start a season (12-0), and have most thinking they will be the first team to go undefeated in the modern 16 game schedule. Denver continued to struggle at Arrowhead in a 31-27 loss, keeping the Chiefs playoff hopes alive. Plus in one of the few games that did not have any effects on the playoffs the, Miami Dolphins managed a 20 point comeback against divisional foe the Buffalo Bills to win 24-23.

With the season winding down, Week 14 meant that teams on the bubble needed wins to make

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Players of the Week



Week 13: Miami Dolphins receiver, **Chris Chambers**, had 15 catches 238 yards a TD in a come from behind win against Buffalo 24-23.

Week 14: Giants HB **Tiki Barber** carried the ball 32 times for 124 yards and also caught 5 balls for 71 yards and a TD in a 26-23 OT win over Philly. However an honorable mention in Packer HB, **Samko Gado**, who rushed for 171 yards on 29 carries and a touchdown in an OT win over the Lions 16-13.

Squan H.S. Sports

Warriors Win Honors

By: Brendan Ward

Owen Boyle, Boys Cross Country: 1st Team All-Shore

Bailey Juska, Girls Soccer: 3rd Team All-Shore; Class A Central All-Division Team

Liz Walling, Girls Soccer: Class A Central All-Division Team

Julia Martz, Girls Soccer: Class A Central All-Division Team

Rob Sopko, Boys Soccer: 3rd Team All-Shore; Class A Central All-Division Team

Nick Melchionna, Boys Soccer: Class A Central All-Division Team

Angelo Casale, Boys Soccer: Class A Central All-Division Team

Allie Vadas, Field Hockey: Class A Central All-Division Team

Jess Rogers, Field Hockey: Class A Central All-Division Team

Tahlia Smoke, Tennis: 1st Team All-Shore Singles

Dana Tausek, Tennis: 1st Team All-Shore Doubles; 1st Team All-State

Chase Fitzsimmons, Tennis: 1st Team All-Shore Doubles; 1st Team All-State

Gretchen Amberg: 2nd Team All-Shore Singles

Brad Newman, Football: 1st Team All-Shore Defense; Liberty Division All-Division Team; Defense Player of the Year in the Liberty Division

Mike Mele, Football: 1st Team All-Shore Defense; Liberty Division All-Division Team



Wrestling Looks to Have Strong Year

By: Travis Gassner

The wrestling team has been hitting the mats hard so far. Apparently, so hard that head coach, Mr. Pevovar, tore his MCL and meniscus while wrestling senior Matt Mielke during a Saturday practice. Senior Ron Kubik commented, "I think it is funny that 'P' got beaten up by Mielke."

This season they will face a plethora of tough opponents that they are determined to defeat. Seniors on the team this year are Richie and Robbie

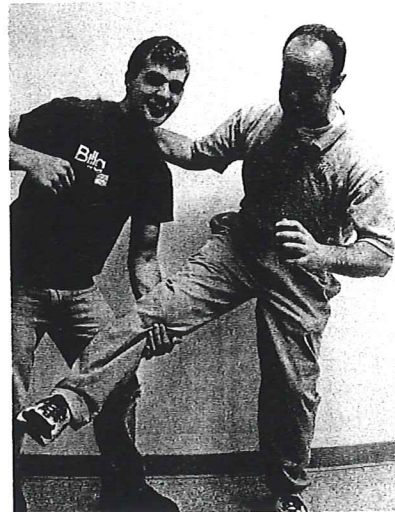
Grieb, Ron Kubik, Tommy Farese, Dave Alsieux, Jason Stolzenhaller, and Matt Mielke.

Key wrestlers this year include seniors Tommy Farese and Richie Grieb and junior Jason Mopsick. So far the team has had two great scrimmages against Elizabeth and Lakewood.

Their first match of the season will be at the Icebreaker Tournament in Matawan on December 17th, where they will face several different teams. Their first

home match will be the following Wednesday, December 21st, against Red Bank Catholic.

Shore Conference competition promises to be tough, but the Warriors feel confident that they are ready to compete with the best.



Matt Mielke and Mr. P re-enact their incident from practice where Mr. P tore his MCL and meniscus while wrestling Mielke.

Ed Savoth, Football: 3rd Team All-Shore Defense

Brian Wheeler, Football: 2nd Team All-Shore Defense; Liberty Division All-Division Team

Evan Ragan, Football: 3rd Team All-Shore Defense; Liberty Division All-Division Team

Jim Sullivan: Liberty Division All-Division Team

Squan H.S. Sports

Boys' Basketball Looks to Repeat Past Success

By: Matt Gebhard

The Boys Basketball team, once again has high expectations for their upcoming season. Last

year's team made it all the way to the quarter finals only to be upset by Colts Neck in the state tournament, while in the Shore Conference Tournament, the boys fell CBA. To help the boys pick up where they left off they have 3 returning starters from last year, including seniors Derek Fetzer, Jason Westrol, and Chris White. The Warriors received



Chris White

attempts the foul shot

Franklin, Cherokee, Lakewood, Irvington, and Lacey. The Warriors were led in their scrimmages by Westrol, Cohen, Fetzer, junior Corey Lee, and sophomore Ben Tumas. Overall the Warriors played well in all the scrimmages, but there is still room for improvement.

The Warriors will enter the season ranked 13th in the state and second in the shore. The boys opened up at home taking on Saint John Vianney.

The Warriors had to overcome a 12 point deficit in the third quarter to get the victory over the Lancers 56-55.

Jason Westrol led the team with 25 points, and brought the crowd to their feet when he laid down a dunk. Chris White nailed clutch free throws down the stretch to seal the victory. One the

Warriors highlights this year will be at the Battle on the Boardwalk, which takes place at Convention Hall in Asbury Park. Their opponent has not

Girls' Basketball Has High Expectations

By: Travis Gassner

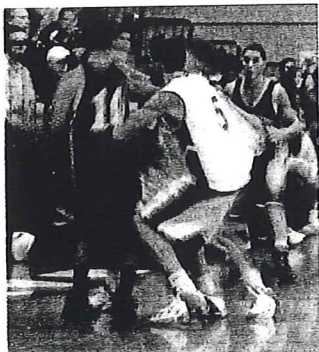
After their disappointing finish in the postseason last year, the girls' basketball team is looking to have a good year with a strong returning lineup. Seniors on the team include, Nicole Hawkins, Mary Kate Duggan, Alicia Piazza, and Laurine Stafin. Other key players include juniors Ryan McGrath and Andrea Early and sophomore Kiersten Amberg.

According to Coach Smith, "We are a strong team that has set some lofty goals this season. We expect to be champions this year. State sectional champions, division champions, Shore Conference champions, and holiday tournament champions." Junior Ryan McGrath agrees, saying, "We should have a great season this year and if we play to our potential we

could win a lot of titles."

Their first game is away at St. John Vianney on December 16th at 7:00. Their first home game is the following Tuesday against the number one ranked, Red Bank Catholic. These two games, in addition to their game against Rumson, will be the girls' toughest opponents this season.

Unfortunately, our number five Lady Warriors fell to the number two Lancers 56-43. Senior Mary Kate Duggan scored 15 points, while senior Nicole Hawkins and junior Ryan McGrath both chipped in with 13 points each. The team suffered a huge blow during the third quarter, when Nicole Hawkins went down with a back injury. Right now, it is unclear when she will return to the court.



Jason Westrol plays defense on the St. John Vianney guard

a transfer from Lacey, senior Matt Cohen, who most likely looks to start for the boys this season.

The team had six preseason scrimmages against, New Brunswick,

yet been determined. They will also be looking forward to the Freehold Christmas Tournament which takes place the 23rd- the 29th. The boys will look to gain revenge after losing in the final last year.



Chris White looks to inbound the ball

Box Sets and Re-releases: Bogus or Bonus?

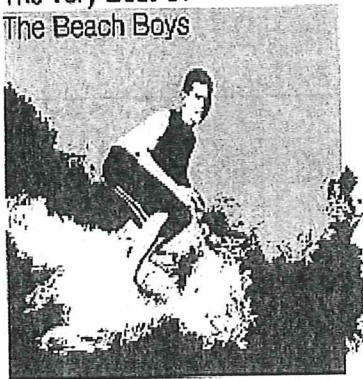
By: Christian Ries

Recently in the music industry, there has been an increase in the amount of box sets being produced and albums being re-released. Among the artists in this trend are the legendary Bruce Springsteen, the southern rock group The Band, surf rockers The Beach Boys, and folk-rock star Bob Dylan.

The Bruce Springsteen re-release of "Born to Run" is a digitally remastered carbon copy of his original smash hit. What then is the point behind the re-release? Is it to milk the consumer for their last dollar? In this case not at all. Springsteen includes two DVD's chocked full of footage of live performances and bonus features that were previously unreleased. The new Bob Dylan dual-disk "No Direction Home" is an album filled with his most popular songs. So what sets this album aside from the rest of the "best of" crowd? Every song on "No Direction Home" is either previously unreleased, unheard, or an alternate studio take. This album is definitely not in it for the money, but rather to be a crowd pleaser.

The Beach Boys however, have released yet another "best of" album and you can bet that "California Girls" and "Surfin' USA" are on there. This seems like they are beating a dead horse. Also The Band has just released their second box set. In 2003 they released their first four disk set and now again in 2005 they are releasing a five disk set. Their new box set does not span a separate era as the first. It covers the same era and contains a plethora of the same songs. I guess you can call the new box set "The Bands first box set plus one".

The Very Best Of
The Beach Boys

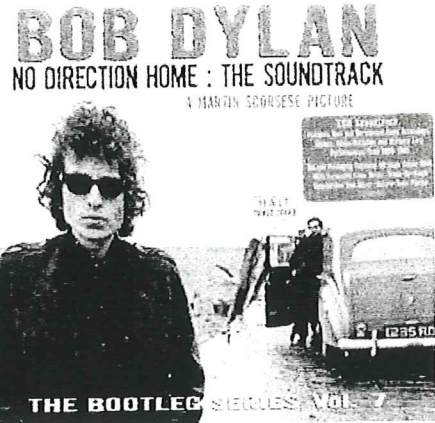


Digital Remaster

Bob Dylan- No Direction Home

By: Christian Ries

Bob Dylan is considered by many to be the world's best songwriter and Director Martin Scorsese embodied him in the two-part



documentary *No Direction Home*. The soundtrack to the documentary is mind blowing and includes 22 previously unreleased and unheard tracks.

The dual disk soundtrack contains many live songs, alternate takes, and demos that really show Dylan not only as a talented musician, but a political activist and comedian. The songs are also in chronological order, so you can hear the folk-rock acoustic Dylan, Woody Guthrie want-to-be, to a distinctive electric rock artist who changed the face of songwriting and music for the next two decades.

This CD embodies the Dylan who few people know, the Dylan outside the recording studio, the Dylan who strayed from his roots and made a musical genre of his own. The *No Direction Home* soundtrack is a must have for all throwbacks in search of Bob Dylan tunes they have never heard before.



So are box sets and re-releases worth the money? I give it a resounding "yes". Even though they may be expensive, they still pack an incredible amount of music and bonus features. Even though you may be getting milked, if you're a die hard fan, it won't matter what it costs because it's about the music.

Continued on bottom of next column



Sagittarius
(Nov23-Dec21)

You've been working hard since returning from winter break. Take a breather for a bit by visiting a friend you haven't seen in a while. You will come home recharged and happy.

Lucky days: 6th, 17th, 22nd



13 & 17th



Capricorn
(Dec21-Jan19)

You feel special this month because Venus, the planet of love, is now your inspiration. You have a newfound optimism to enjoy life with and your positivity is uplifting everyone, but don't get too carried away, not everyone is up for it.

Lucky days: 4th, 7th, 19th



Aquarius
(Jan20-Feb17)

The first half of the month will be quiet, but toward the end of January you'll start to feel your private wishes are coming true. Don't be in "all or nothing" mode, there are a lot of grey areas to explore right now.

Lucky days: 1st, 19th, 28th



Pisces
(Feb 18-Mar 20)

You feel your social schedule speed up this month, but don't get frustrated with your friends if they can't keep up. You feel very close to someone you like on the 14th when the full moon kicks in. Don't take it as seriously as you would like to though, you may get hurt.

Lucky days: 1st, 4th, 23rd



Aries
(Mar 21-Apr 19)

This month, romance and friendships may take a backseat to your mounting responsibilities. Try to keep up with your work as best you can, but don't lose touch with anyone in the process.

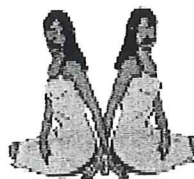
Lucky days: 3rd, 12th, 23rd



Taurus
(Apr 20-May 19)

The stars inspire you to take interest in technology this month. Check out some new gadgets and get creative. Also, remember the Kindergarten mentality of being mean to the person that you have a crush on because someone just may be teasing you more than usual.

Lucky days: 4th, 7th, 13th



Gemini
(May 20-June 20)

This month, you'll make serious progress with educational goals. January is perfect for making appointments to visit colleges and getting applications in. Put your love life on hold to focus on yourself for a while.

Lucky days: 2nd, 18th, 29th



Cancer
(June 21-July 22)

After the holidays, you're running low on cash and unfortunately, your parents refuse to help you out. Look around for an extra job to earn some cash. Get involved with your school and go to a hockey game or some other sports event, you'll have a better time than you expect.



Leo
(July 23-Aug 22)

Your new year starts off with a focus on getting healthy. If you want to jump into a new exercise regimen, now's the time. If you want to change your diet too, the best time to start is January 18th because you'll be more likely to stick to it.

Lucky days: 1st, 20th, 30th



Virgo
(Aug23-Sept23)

The full moon on the 14th will appeal to your considerate side. Be there for a friend in need and you will both be rewarded.

Lucky days: 2nd, 23rd, 27th



Libra
(Sept24-Oct23)

On the 27th, be patient with a relationship and you'll get what you want. On January 20th you'll feel like taking chances to solidify a relationship. Think about your decision first before making any important choices.

Lucky days: 19th, 21st, 24th



Scorpio
(Oct24-Nov22)

All month you'll have the desire to be out and about, but by the end of January your focus shifts back to home. Spend some time with your family and you will feel a lot more secure.

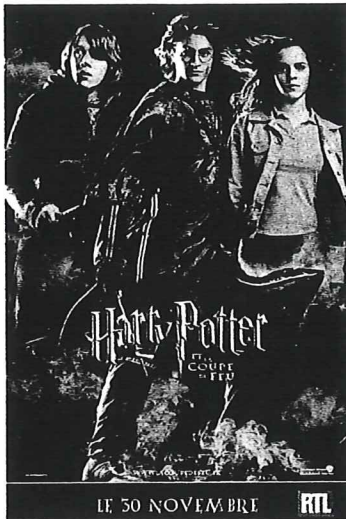
Lucky days: 8th, 13th, 23rd

Movie Review

Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire

By: Callie Peters

If you haven't seen *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*, head to the movie theatre as soon as you can! As the *Harry Potter* books get darker and more violent, the movies do the same. *The Goblet of Fire* is the first *Harry Potter* movie to be rated PG-13. The visual effects are amazing. In my opinion, it is the best *Harry Potter* movie so far.



It is Harry Potter's fourth year at Hogwarts and a legendary event is to take place: the Triwizard Tournament. The Goblet of Fire decides which three students, all representing different schools, will participate. Three champions are selected, but all of a sudden another name is spit out: Harry Potter. Because he is only fourteen, he wasn't allowed to enter the contest. No one knows who put his name in the fire.

This, along with other events, leads Dumbledore and other teachers to believe Lord Voldemort is back. While Harry must complete life-threatening tasks in the tournament, he has to watch his back as well.

If you enjoy adventure, mystery, and violence, this movie is for you. It is filled with many intense scenes that keep you on the edge of your seat, waiting to see what happens next. However, if you don't like movies with thrill and magic, I would not recommend you see this movie.

Answers to Senior Guess Who

1. Nicole Hawkins 2. Emily Kozlowski
3. Bailey Juska 4. Anthony Richardson
5. Clair Palmer 6. John Girard

If...

You had to name the worst job in the world what would it be?

By: Tina Carbone and Sam Buddle



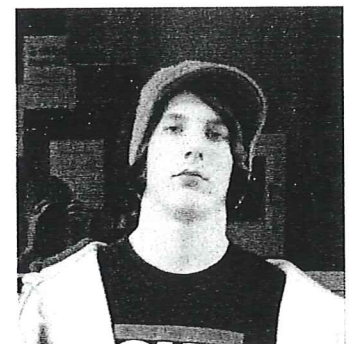
Danielle Gorman:
"PNC cleanup"



Pat Buckley:
"Zamboni Driver"



Christie Furman:
"Window Washer"



Ryan McConnell:
"Picking up elephant poop"



Diane Miller:
"A pedicurist"



Chris Whipple:
"Cleaning up poop"

Senior Guess Who?

1. ONCIEL NASIHWK

Driving around in her silver Chrysler, this girl can be seen with her best friend Michelle Kure. She has brown hair and brown eyes and is 17 years old. For the past three months she has been working at the Corner Market and in her free time she loves to draw and write poetry. She sings in the school chorus and lives in Manasquan.



2. _____

4. NTYAHNO RNCSARHDIO

This gangsta can be seen driving his pimped out ride, a gray 2005 Honda Civic. His boys are Jason Westrol and Matt Cohen. His hometown is Brielle and he lives with his step-brother Billy, who is also a senior. He plays as a shooting guard on the school basketball team and loves the Nets.



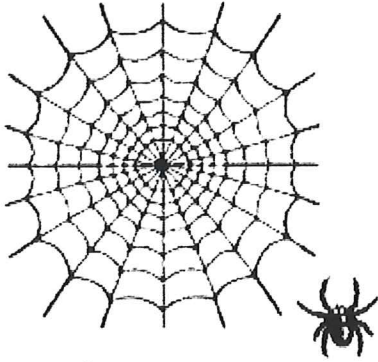
3. _____

5. IRCAL RLEMAP

This senior girl has brown hair and brown eyes. She drives a black Infiniti and hangs out with Don Burke and Eric Albrecht. She loves to act and sing and has been in a lot of school plays. She is also on the track team. Over the summertime she works as a hostess at the Sand Bar. Her boyfriend graduated last year and is in the army.



6. _____



ADVENTURES OF RON

By: Ron Kubik

True fear. True horror. This trip took us deep into the unknown.

We started the night around midnight. It was my friend Brick-town Bud, Max Kuhn, and me. We decided to head up to Clifton and explore the Gates of Hell. Max had already been there before and would act as our tour guide.

We arrived there around two a.m. We parked my car at the Pathmark parking lot and began our adventure. We walked down the railroad tracks and at once were greeted by a brick tower. We knew we were close.

Heading down to the tunnels we were met by a barbed wire fence. We refused to let this ruin our trip (and ruin my article.) We went under it! The jump down toward the tunnels was a good seven feet.

The water was flowing and the darkness was threatening. We began our trip down the first tunnel. It was filled with graffiti, but not too much was happening so we decided to move on. Then we entered the tunnel in which Max had previously encountered something.

The walls held no graffiti and the water was moderately high. Max

decided it would be best if we did not enter the tunnel. I talked him into going. His face turned slightly

pale. Max is a fearless kid and has been a fearless leader but something was not sitting right with him.

We took our shoes off and headed into the tunnel. There was no graffiti. No nothing. Darkness surrounded us. We began to head deeper and deeper into the tunnel.

If it would have started raining we would have been killed by a flash flood. My heart began to race not knowing how far we had gone and not being able to see where we had come in.

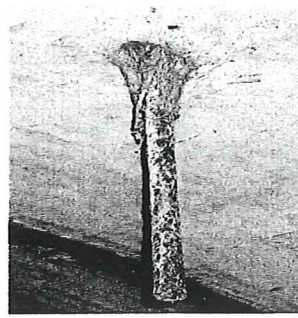
The water began to rise until it was to our hips. That's when our hearts raced our feet and we ran out as fast as we could.

Leaving the tunnels we all became sore. Our feet were freezing, and winded did not begin to explain the heaving of our chests. With fear of getting sick we decided to leave.

Unfortunately going back up under the barbed wire fence was far harder than going down under.

Bud is bigger than Max and I and was not able to make it up under the fence. He began to look very distressed and after laughing for a few minutes I couldn't bear to watch it anymore and pulled him up.

We headed back to my car and headed back home. My soaking-wet friends were unable to sleep on the drive back. We didn't view any part of hell but we definitely had a hell of a scary good time.



Above: Ron's "boyz" Max (left) and Bricktown Bud (right) descend into hell



Healthy Living Cleanse Your Body

By: Callie Peters and Nicole Bogan

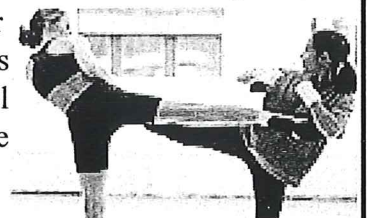
Don't have the time, money, or motivation to dedicate yourself to a gym? Cardio-kickboxing is the way to go. You can buy a video, watch it on TV, or even do it yourself. It can be done at home in a fairly small space.

Cardio-kickboxing is an intense workout that will increase your strength and flexibility while burning fat and, on average, 350 to 400 calories per hour. It can relieve stress and make you feel like a new person. Because it improves your coordination and balance, your every day activities will progress as well. Best of all, if you get mugged, you will have some hardcore moves to bust out and kick butt.

However, there are some dangers that come with cardio-kickboxing. You must know your limits. Pace yourself. Don't feel the need to impress anyone. If you overextend your kicks or lock your joints while throwing a punch or kick, you may experience injuries, such as pulled muscles or torn ligaments.

To begin your cardio-kickboxing workout, do it once a week and progress to no more than three times a week. Don't forget to do a warm-up and cool-down of lighter activity. Here is a move you can try:

Side Kick: A kick in which your lower torso is turned inward so that your heel lands on the target while your foot is parallel to the floor.



Good Luck!

Love,
Your Favorite FAs

Opinion / Editorial



Ramblin' On

Anything about Everything

By John Girard



Alright so Christmas is approaching. I figured I might as well rant about Christmas.

I hate being perfectly politically correct. Otherwise, why would I be writing this article? That brings me to people who refuse to say specific holidays in the holiday season. "Merry Christmas, Happy Chanukah, Merry Kwanza." This is what we say. Now there are some hate mongrels who find it wrong to say any of these phrases. "Happy Holidays" is their expression of choice. That's just boring and lacks taste. Whenever someone wishes me "Happy Holidays" I always ask, "Which ones?" They could be talking about St. Patrick's Day or Easter for all I know. Specify which holiday you are talking about you fool. I pity da poor fool dat don't specify holidays!

I love Christmas, but I just hate the people during this joyous holiday... THIS CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY. Everyone is so damn fake. Take the mall for example.

A place where everyone who works there is always miserable.

Christmas comes along and smiles are thrown on and they are your best friend. They want your money you idiots. Theoretically, they want your money all the time but it's Christmas time so

they know that you are most likely

going to buy something.

Well let me tell you, this is one idiotic reporter that will not fall for these

tricks. If some

salesman tries to

sell me anything that I

don't want to buy, I punch him in the face. I mean, I do in my imagination because that wouldn't go over too well, but at least I think about doing it.

Gift certificates. In my messed up mind, there is nothing better than giving or receiving a gift certificate at Christmas. Some people call them impersonal. Shut up, they aren't impersonal. Buying some gift for

someone that they end up not liking is more impersonal to me. That makes the giver look like they in no way know the person who they are presenting the gift to. Giving a gift certificate enables the person to buy whatever they want. You

want to make me happy? Give

me a gift certificate

and leave me alone.

I

always find that

trying to sleep on

Christmas

Eve is the

hardest thing.

Still to this day I can't do it. Why? How the heck should I know? They should just make December 24th and December 25th one long, 48 hour day. But only run the "Christmas Story" non-stop after the first 24 hours are done.

Finally, one of the most dumb, pointless things people do at Christmas is sending pictures of their family. "Oh this is little

Billy when he received his kindergarten diploma and this is Todd when he took his first poop and this is Kristina's reaction when she caught us following her on her first date." There is also the classic picture of everyone in matching outfits and they are standing at some beautiful location like the beach. How cute and how quaint. I want to make one of these cards but instead of my family and I wearing matching outfits we will wear loin clothes and leopard skin robes. And instead of standing on the beach or in our living room, I would like our picture to be taken right in front of a slaughterhouse. Would you want to get a Family Christmas card from the Girard's?

Well I hope after reading this article you are wiser about Christmas, Chanukah and Kwanza or any other holiday that I have forgotten to mention. Have a Happy-Time-Period-of-Different-Holidays-Celebrated-by-Different-Races-and-Religions-of-People!

"If some salesman tries to sell me anything that I don't want to buy, I punch him in the face."
-John Girard

Science/Technology



Loitering a Solved Problem in Wales

Continued from previous page

to get rid of these kids for good, Mr. Gough would eagerly take it! Lucky for him, Mr. Stapleton gave him a Mosquito to use as a free trial.

This may sound a little extreme, but I know how this guy feels. My brothers, who own Coffee Blue in Belmar, have always had a problem with people hanging around outside of the shop. I can't even count the number of times the cops were called, came, and threatened to give my brothers a ticket. Finally, on a few occasions, the police actually did ticket them with fines of over a hundred dollars. And seriously, who has that kind of money to throw away just because kids want to hang out?

So next time you think about loitering outside any store, remember what could be coming. You never know when this Mosquito might come and infest our local storefronts.



The Bird Flu

Why are we so Concerned?

By: Jon Scharff



Hundreds of thousands of birds dead, thousands of others slaughtered, 68 human lives lost in Asia. What is the cause of all this death? Bird Flu.

There are fifteen types of Avian Influenza (Bird Flu) that routinely infect birds around the world. The current outbreak of the strain known as H5N1 is sending leading health officials, politicians and the world's population into a panic. Unlike other strains of Bird Flu, this specific strain can be transmitted to humans, causing severe illness and even death. Luckily not many people have been affected yet.

The fear is that the Bird Flu virus will evolve into a form that is easily spread between people, resulting in an extremely contagious and lethal outbreak. The virus currently cannot be transmitted from person to person contact, only Bird to Bird and Bird to human. If Bird Flu ever becomes a human to human virus experts predict it could turn into a pandemic, affecting people all over the world. With no immune system defenses, the infection could cause devastating

illness such as occurred in the 1918-1919 Spanish flu pandemic, which killed an estimated 40 million to 50 million worldwide.

The good news is that Bird Flu is currently limited to Asia, but the bad news is that it's making its way across the continent to Europe. There is currently no way to contain the virus because there is no vaccine. However, experts say the chances of the virus evolving human to human are very low. The most likely scenario would be that someone infected with a human flu virus catches the bird flu at the same time, so the two viruses mix their genes and form a hybrid that spreads. Scientists say that they could easily develop a vaccine if the virus becomes a pandemic. The problem then would be manufacturing mass amounts of the vaccine which would be nearly impossible for most countries.

The

World Health Organization is taking all the necessary precautions to prevent this virus from becoming a pandemic. Thousands of infected birds are being slaughtered to prevent the spread. Many countries are now increasing funds for medical research just to be safe. Time will tell what course the Bird Flu is going to take, we are just going to have to wait it out and see what happens.



Unsure of the Holiday You Should Celebrate?

Give Chrismukkah a Try

By: Kaitlyn turi

The Holidays are rapidly approaching and people of all different religious affiliations are preparing to celebrate their respective day or days. But, what do you do when you live in a home where one parent is Christian and the other is Jewish? Not to worry, Chrismukkah is your Holiday. Chrismukkah is the joining of the holidays of Christmas and Hanukkah. It can also be celebrated as a sort of ironic, alternative winter holiday much as "Festivus" which was taken from the sit-com, Seinfeld.

Chrismukkah mostly exists among families with mixed backgrounds but who aren't very religious. If you think about it, the religious aspects of both holidays are completely different. Christians are celebrating the arrival of the Messiah, while Jews are celebrating the victory of their religious people who fought against non-religious Jews.

Chrismukkah is a term that has been used for quite some time in Jewish communities to make note of the large commercialization of Hanukkah and the strong dominance of the

commercialization of Christmas in our culture. A Jewish Museum in Berlin had an exhibit that was called "Chrismukkah: Stories of Christmas and Hanukkah". The word actually came from German-Jews in the 1800's and called it Weihnukkah, because the German word for Christmas is Weihnachten..

In the United States, Chrismukkah was the subject of a press release that went around on joke websites throughout the 1990's. It didn't gain status in pop culture though until December 3, 2003, when it made its debut on the FOX TV show, *The O.C* as introduced by Seth.

The holiday is described as "eight days of gifts, followed by one day of lots of gifts". The first eight days are for the Hanukkah part of the celebration while the last day represents Christmas.

So, if you know anyone who comes from mixed backgrounds, don't get stuck in the rut of wishing them "Happy Holidays", take a stand and wish your friend a "Happy Chrismukkah".



The French Club held its Holiday Party on December 13, 2005. Members were invited to bring a dish to share and enjoy a night of festivities and French food in the Home EC room.

Blue & Gray Special Report

This Just in From the North Pole

By: John Zimmerman

Rudolf the Reindeer, 56, of the North Pole, was killed on December 11th in the woods of the North Pole. Born on the North Pole, Rudolf overcame adversity and was a rising star among Santa's group of sleigh carrying reindeer. His red nose kept him from participating in other events with reindeer early in his life, but on one especially foggy night Santa called on Rudolf to lead his sleigh. That is when Rudolf became a star. After that night Rudolf was adopted into the sleigh riding elite and his place on the North Pole was found.

After forty-five successful runs around the world, tragedy occurred. Rudolf was shot on a daily walk through the woods by an obsessed hunter. Rudolf is leaving his family of eight other reindeer, Santa and

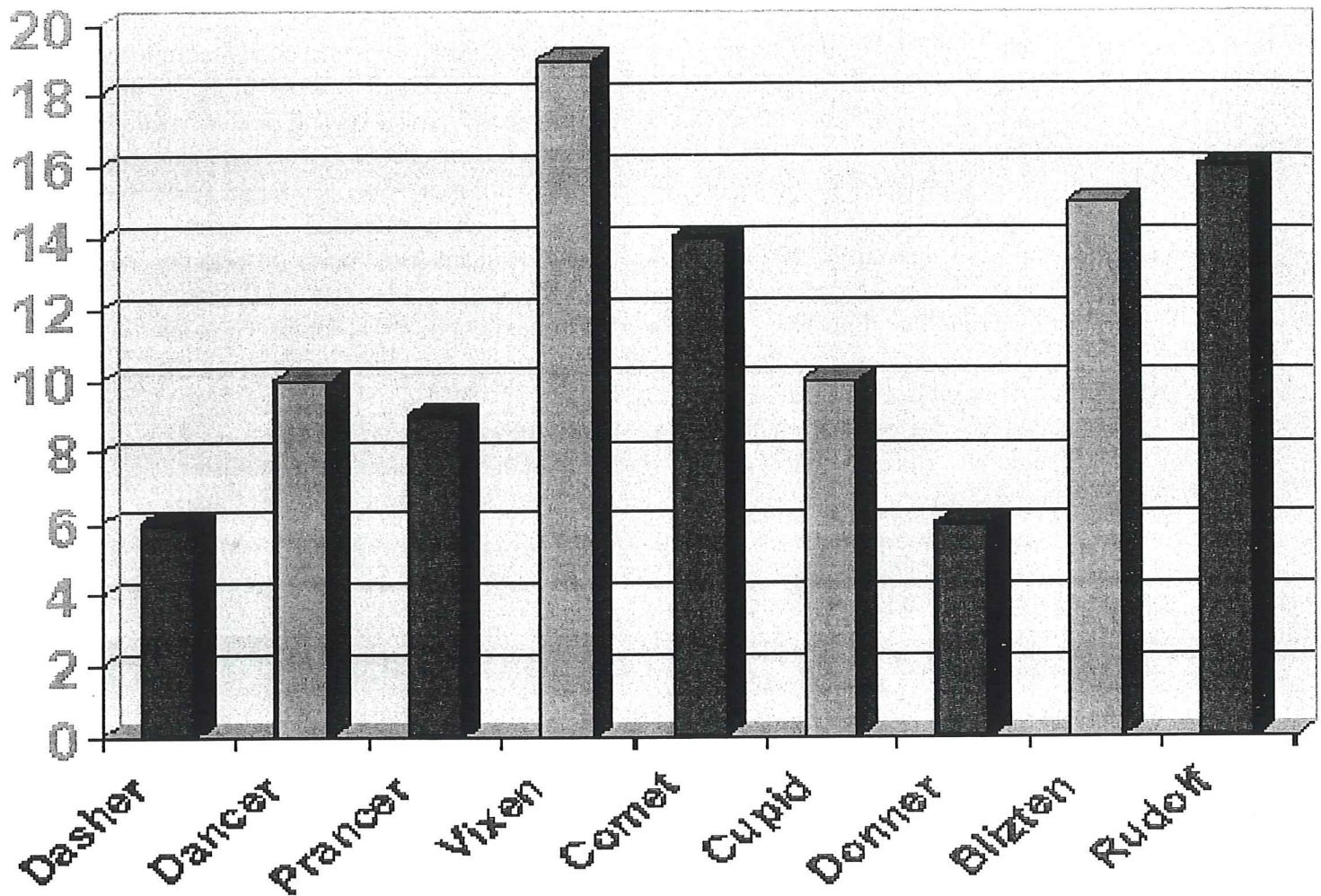
elves. His presence will be missed and now we must wonder, will the presents make it to little Timmy and Jimmy this year?

A wake will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday. Santa, reindeer, and many others are expected to attend. Contributions can be made to the Save the Reindeer fund for possible future hunting mishaps.



Favorite Reindeer

Voted on by MHS Students and Faculty



Holiday Songs and Carols to Sing

By: Maggie Ward

The minute Thanksgiving rolls around the corner, Christmas tunes can be heard everywhere, from the radio to shopping malls. Everyone seems to know the words as they hum along now entering the Christmas spirit.



Carols

"Jingle Bells"
 "Santa Claus Is Coming To Town"
 "Carol Of The Bells"
 "Frosty The Snowman"
 "Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer"
 "We Wish You A Merry Christmas"
 "Oh Christmas Tree"
 "Let It Snow"
 "The 12 Days of Christmas"
 "Silent Night"



Songs

"Silver Bells"
 "Jingle Bell Rock"
 "White Christmas"
 "Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas"
 "I'll Be Home For Christmas"
 "Blue Christmas"
 "Feliz Navidad"
 "It's Beginning To Look A Lot Like Christmas"
 "Baby It's Cold Outside"
 "The Christmas Song"



French Christmas Customs and Celebrations

By: Almy Egan

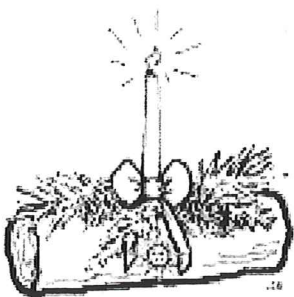
In France, although Easter is the main religious festival of the year, the popularity of Christmas has grown. In Provence, Alcase, and Franche Comté, distinct Christmas traditions have evolved. These traditions include living crèches and special markets. Unlike America, in traditional French society, getting ready for Christmas means cleaning the entire house and completing all household repairs and projects! Also, the Christmas tree has never been particularly popular in France. The French prefer crèches which they have displayed since as early as the 17th century.

On Christmas Eve, children engage in games, riddles, songs, stories, and legends. These all help to pass the hours until it is time to attend Midnight

Mass. After Midnight Mass, the French have the grand fest of the season, this is called le reveillon. Although the use of the Yule log has indeed faded, the French make a tribute to it annually at le rvellion. They do this by making a Yule log-shaped cake called the buche de Nol, which means "Christmas Log."

French children receive gifts from Pere Noel on Christmas morning. Pere Noel travels with his stern companion Pre Fouettard who tells him how each child has behaved throughout the year. In some parts of France, Pere Noel brings the children small gifts on St. Nicholas Eve (December sixth) as well as on Christmas morning. Meanwhile, adults usually wait until New Year's Day to exchange gifts they bought for friends and family..

*Happy
New Year!*



Denmark's Festive Christmas Celebrations

By: Maggie Ward

Guests of a family are invited to join in the lighting of candles on the Advent crown each Sunday during Advent. Adults drink red wine, while children enjoy a sweet fruit juice. Everybody eats small cakes of batter which have been cooked over the fire in a special pan and dusted with sugar icing.

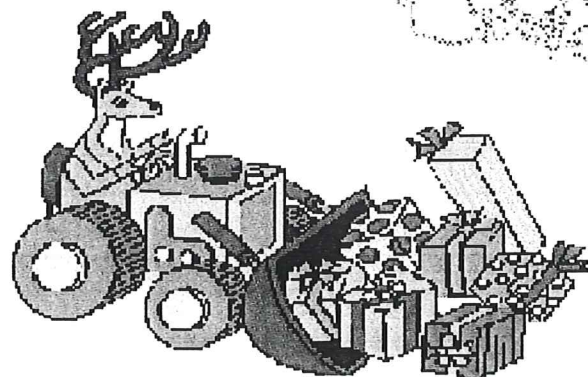
A big Danish tradition is the Christmas plate. This is an old tradition where rich Danes gave plates of biscuits and fruits to their servants and they were the nicest plates around, thus, making them collectables.

Christmas Eve, also known as Juleaften, is a special time in Denmark. Parents secretly decorate the tree with homemade wood and straw baubles. The children are not allowed to see the tree until dinner on Christmas Eve. It is lit up as the family gathers around to sing carols and hymns.

Christmas Eve dinner begins with rice

pudding. It has a magic almond inside and whoever finds it first receives a prize. They eat goose, red cabbage, browned potatoes, and lots of pastries and cakes. Parties also occur that can last all night, with cinnamon-laced rice pudding called Grod.

Nisse, a mischievous elf goes from house to house on Christmas Eve. He is said to live in the lofts of old farmhouses and likes to play jokes. He wears gray woolen clothes, a red bonnet, red stockings and white clogs. A bowl of rice pudding or porridge is left for him so his tricks stay to a minimum. This bowl of rice pudding and dishes of seeds left outdoors for birds makes him very happy.



A Christmas to Always Remember

By: Zuri Malick

My favorite memory is actually not sweet or cute, but it rather shows how much parents can mess with your mind when you are



a young kid. It all started on Christmas Eve, I was 10, and my sister was 12.

Christmas Eve began as usual in our home. We decorated our freshly acquired tree, and set out a plate of cookies and milk for Santa, oh and celery and carrots for the reindeer. At about 9:00 my sister and I ventured up to her room where we started our year after year tradition of staying up as late as possible to try and catch "Santa". Everything was going great until my sister decided it would be funny to ruin my whole Christmas by telling me that Santa did not exist and that we were wasting our time. We got in a huge argument and ended up "fighting" each other.

The next thing we knew we were both being restrained by our parents. After much yelling and confusion, my dad said, simply enough, "You better be careful or you will both end up with coal in your stocking." It really is funny how selective hearing works, you only hear certain things and ignore the others. Of course my sister stood her ground and yelled "THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! Santa doesn't exist!" and I yelled back "You're a Liar!"

After all the arguing I finally fell asleep, as did my sister. When we woke up it had snowed and Christmas was in the air. We both wandered downstairs to where our parents were drinking coffee. My dad, in all seriousness, said, "You two shouldn't have fought last night." As we went into the other room surely enough our stockings were filled to the brim with coal!! Let me tell you something, I learned my lesson, its never to late for Santa to check his list!



Christmas Cheer Spread Around the Big Apple Once a Year

By: Almy Egan

For as long as I can remember, my family and I have bundled up in our coats and scarves and made a day trip to New York City before Christmas. The Christmas season somehow doesn't feel complete without seeing the tree in Rockefeller Center towering over us.

Despite the bustling crowds, we always do a little bit of Christmas shopping while we're there. We would walk into any store and be greeted with Christmas carols playing and decorations all around. When I was younger, we always went to FAO Schwartz to get my Barbie of choice. It would be so crowded that you had to fight your way through parents chasing their exhilarated children around while tripping over all the toys. Now, my mom and I go to places like Urban Outfitters to get me clothes as Christmas presents that I secretly wear before having them "given" to me on Christmas morning.

No trip to the city would be complete without a visit to Tiffany & Co. My mother always drags us through multiple floors to marvel at the sparkling jewelry. When she finally lets us go back

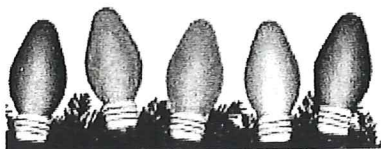
outside into the refreshing cool air, we can see the giant snowflake hung between buildings nearby.

When we go to see the Rockefeller Center tree, half the fun is seeing the angels blowing trumpets lit up by twinkling Christmas lights and the giant red Christmas tree balls in piles leading up to the tree. I even remember going ice skating with my mom below the tree a few times when I was younger.

One year we saw the Rockettes at Radio City, and we were in the front row. The barrage of lights and colors and music was mesmerizing and I swear one of the Rockettes winked at me. In my opinion, every child has to see that show at least once.

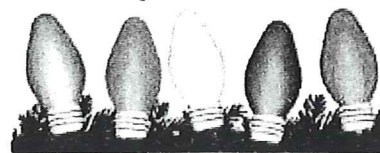
After all of the commotion of the city at Christmastime, my family and I always find a nice warm place to have dinner and relax. We go through all of our new purchases and complain about the drive home.

Once we get home, everyone is exhausted from a long day and goes to bed immediately. I can never go to sleep that quickly though. The city at Christmastime makes me too excited to sleep.



Christmas in Greece

By: Lauren Speirs



Never as big a holiday as Easter in Greece, Christmas Celebrations are on the rise. Recently, Athens' Mayor Dimitris Avramopoulos boasted that his city's Christmas tree is the largest in Europe.

The beginnings of Christmas in Greece go back to the time of St. Nicholas. According to Greek tradition, his clothes were soaked with brine, his beard drenched with saltwater, and his face is covered with sweat because he had been fighting the storms and waves to reach sinking ships and rescue drowning men from the sea. Even today there is still an old custom where many ships never leave port without a St. Nicholas icon carried in the boat.

In Greece, there are many Christmas customs that are similar, yet slightly different from the West. Such as the custom on

Christmas Eve where village children travel from house to house offering good wishes and singing 'kalanda', the equivalent of Christmas carols. Afterwards, the children are usually given sweets or coins in appreciation.

In Greek Christmas, the feast itself becomes the main attraction by adults and children alike. Lamb and pork are roasted in ovens and open spits, and on almost every table are loaves of 'christopsomo' ('Christ bread').

In Greek homes, Christmas trees are not commonly used, but recently have become more popular. In almost every house though- the main symbol of the season is a shallow wooden bowl with a piece of wire suspended across the rim; from which hangs a peice of basil wrapped around a wooden cross. A small amount of

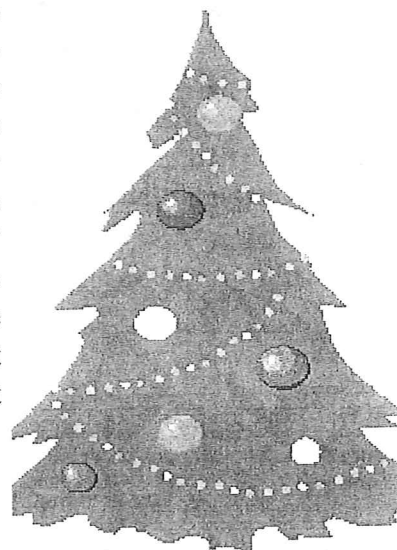
water is kept in the bowl to keep the basil alive and fresh. Once a day, a family member, usually the mother, dips the cross and basil into some holy water and uses it to sprinkle water in each room of the house. This ritual is believed to keep the 'Killantzaroi' (bad spirits) away.

There are a number of beliefs connected with these spirits, which are supposed to be a species of goblins that appear only during the 12-day period from Christmas to the Epiphany (January sixth).

These creatures are believed to come from the center of the earth and to slip into people's house through the chimney. More mischievous than actually evil, the Killantzaroi do things like braid horses' tails and sour the milk. To further repel the undesirable sprites, the hearth is kept burning day and night

throughout the twelve days.

Gifts are finally exchanged on St. Basil's Day (January first). On this day the "renewal of waters" also takes place, a ritual in which all water jugs in the house are emptied and refilled with new "St. Basil's Water." The ceremony is often accompanied by offerings to the 'naiads', spirits of springs and fountains. All in all, Christmas is an enjoyable part of Greece today and one that should be experienced by all.



Puerto Rican Holiday Traditions

By: Allie Vadas

Puerto Rican "Navidad" traditions aren't exactly the same as those in the Americas. Yes, the presents do come on Christmas day, as well as on the day of the Epiphany, January 5th.

That evening, the children of families leave water, grass, and grain underneath their beds for "the camels of the Wise

Men". When they wake up the next morning, the gifts for the camels are exchanged with presents for the children. So technically, Santa brings presents on Christmas and the Wise Men bring presents on the Epiphany.

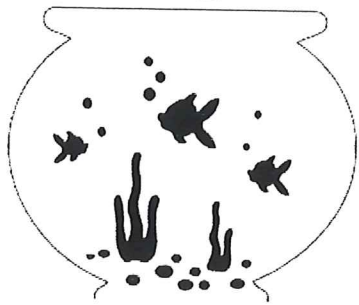
When walking through a village in Puerto Rico, one cannot go far without seeing the manger

scenes. In them you can find what Puerto Ricans call santos, or hand-carved statues that represent some of the oldest works of art. A tree is also on display in many homes. 'Tis the season to be caroling. In Puerto Rico, carolers go from house to house dressed in costumes to resemble the Magi as they sing Spanish Christmas Songs such as

aquinaldos and villancicos. For their great singing, the carolers are presented with food and drinks. People join into the group, and by the end of the night, the group of carolers grows tremendously.

A mass is held nine days prior to Christmas called the Mass of the Carols. It begins every morning at 5:30 AM for nine days.

Spanish Classes Share and Create Fables



Spanish Translation

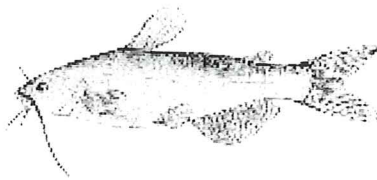
El Siluro Feo: Una fábula

En un acuario, viven muchos peces diferentes. Hay un pez dorado. Ella se llama Goldie. Ella es muy bonita, simpática, popular y tiene muchos amigos. En el mismo acuario, hay un siluro. Se llama Diego. Diego no es tan atractivo como los otros peces y no tiene muchos amigos.

En el pasado, Diego siempre comía solo durante el almuerzo. Nadie le dio una oportunidad. Diego oyó a otros peces hablando sobre él. Nadie quería jugar con Diego nunca. Estaba muy triste y muy solo.

Un día Goldie miró a Diego. Ella se sentía muy mala. Ella le invitó a Diego a la mesa para comer el almuerzo. Los amigos de Goldie empezaron a hablar con Diego. Todos pensaban que él era fantástico.

Ahora Diego está feliz y tiene muchos amigos, gracias a Goldie. Ellos van al cine, toman vacaciones y juegan los juegos juntos. Diego y Goldie viven felices para siempre. **¿Puedes adivinar la moraleja? ¿Has actuado como Goldie en tu vida?**



English Translation

The Ugly Cat fish: A fable

In an aquarium there lives many different fish. There is a gold fish. Her name is Goldie. She is beautiful, nice, popular and has a lot of friends. In the same aquarium there is a cat fish. His name is Diego. Diego is not as attractive as the other fish, and he does not have a lot of friends.

In the past, Diego always ate alone during lunch. No one gave him a chance. Diego overheard the other fish talking about him. No one ever wanted to play with him. He was very sad and very alone.

One day Goldie watched Diego. She felt really bad. She invited him to her lunch table to eat. Her friends started to talk to Diego. Everyone thought he was fantastic.

Now Diego is happy and has a lot of friends special thanks to Goldie and her kindness. They go to the movies, take trips and play games together. Diego and Goldie lived happily ever after.

Can you guess the moral? Have you ever acted like Goldie in your life?



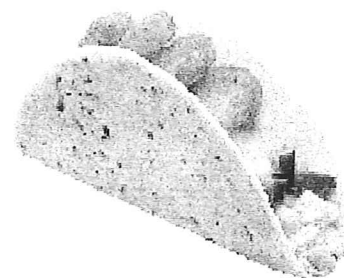
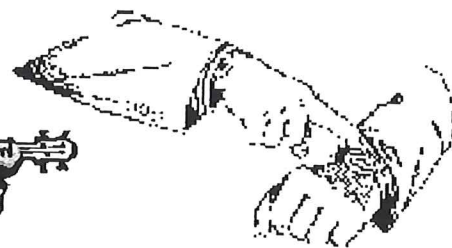
Spanish Translation

¡Yo fui a una cita terrible!

Mi cita llegó treinta minutos tarde. Trató de abrazarme pero él tropezó.

Llegamos al restaurante mexicano y fue muy ocupado con mucha gente. A la mesa, esperamos por quince minutos hasta el camarero vino finalmente. El camarero solamente habló español, no habló inglés. El camarero me coquetó y ¡mi cita le golpeó en la cara! El camarero salió rápido. Otro camarero viejo llegó. Era lento pero habló inglés y tomó nuestra orden. Esperamos una hora para la comida y yo estaba enfadada. La comida, por fin, llegó y era fría. Mi cita criticó la comida y el servicio al gerente. Tenía vergüenza.

Anduvimos a mi casa porque él no condujo. Mi cita trató de besarme pero yo corrí a mi casa y cerré la puerta rápidamente. ¡Qué horrible!



English Translation

I went on a terrible date!

My date arrived a half an hour late. He tried to hug me but he tripped.

We arrived at the Mexican restaurant and it was very busy with a lot of people. At the table we waited fifteen minutes until the waiter finally arrived. He only spoke Spanish and not English. He flirted with me and my date hit him in the face! He left quickly. Another old waiter came to our table. He was slow, but he spoke English and took our order. We waited an hour for our food, and I was so mad. The food finally arrived and it was cold! My date criticized the food and the service to the manager. I was so embarrassed.

We walked to my house because he did not drive. He tried to kiss me, but I ran to my house and closed the door quickly. What a horrible night!

Mrs. Yuhas' FCCLA Club Prepares for Busy Year

By: Courtney Magee and Larissa Reto

The new cooking teacher at Manasquan High School, Mrs. Yuhas, is running a new club called the FCCLA. It is in place of the former Chef's club. FCCLA stands for Family Community Career Leaders of America. It is a national organization that focuses on families and the community. Members of the club learn to cook, interior decorate, and much more.

Right now, their main focus is a two day cooking competition in March which will take place in Cherry Hill. There are about 800 students from New Jersey competing. Right now, the



Mrs. Yuhas, adviser of the new FCCLA, is pleased with the early enthusiasm for her new club.

FCCLA meets twice a month, but they will start meeting once or twice a week in February to get ready for the competition. They had a late start

this year, so they missed the public speaking and leadership speech. However, they intend to be there next year.

The FCCLA welcomes all students, not just those enrolled in Gourmet Cooking. Mrs. Yuhas especially recommends freshman to join, because she feels that it's a great stepping stone when you start high school. By being in the FCCLA, you can receive scholarship money for college. It is a great opportunity that students at MHS should take into account. Good luck in March's competition.

Mrs. Holey, School Nurse

Continued from front page

and Middle Schools. She then came to Manasquan and has been here for 15 years. It has been wonderful to have such an organized and caring person in our school.

Mrs. Holey started the Health Careers Club ten years ago. Members are very grateful to have this club because it allows the opportunity to experience the field of healthcare which many hope to pursue in future careers.

As well as nursing, some of her most memorable moments actually came from chaperoning proms and band trips, seeing plays, and going to concerts and football games. However, she says the constant paperwork is something she definitely won't mind leaving behind.

As her retirement approaches, Mrs. Holey has many plans. She can not wait to spend more time with her husband, mother, three adorable grandchildren, and other family. She

and her husband plan to travel to Siesta Key, Florida for two months. As for next fall, she also is planning to go to Hawaii. She also expects to have more time to spend on her hobbies, which include scrap booking, reading, walking, and seeing friends.

Although she is retiring from the position as full-time school nurse, Mrs. Holey plans to keep up her

practice and still spend some time with it. She wants to substitute both here at Manasquan and other school districts as well. The VNA (Visiting Nurse Association), which has opportunities for part time workers in the health care field, is something she would love to be a part of.

Mrs. Holey has tremendously enjoyed her entire time here with both the students and staff. Seeing the students on a regular basis is what she will miss most. Leaving with many friends and memories, Mrs. Holey will always be remembered as the kind-hearted person she is. Even though there are many mixed feelings that go along with retirement, Mrs. Holey is ready to begin the next chapter of her life.

Students and staff at MHS want to thank you for your hard work and care and offer the best of wishes for what the future holds!





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Student Spotlight

Angela Bardes Named Student of the Month

By: Courtney Magee



Angela Bardes, a senior from Belmar, was named Student of the Month for December. Angela was shocked and tremendously excited about receiving the award. She is certainly deserving.

Ranked second in the senior class, Angela sports an impressive GPA of 100.51. At the same time, she participates in several school activities, including Amnesty International, History Club, and Spanish Club. Better yet, Angela is also president of the French and Spanish Honor Society.

Of being named Student of the Month, Angela stated, "I feel great that my hard work and accomplishments have been recognized."

Congratulations Angela!

Gavin Santucci, born January 19, 2005. He was nine pounds, three ounces, and twenty-one inches long.



**Congratulations
Mrs. Santucci!**

Teacher Feature

An Indepth Look at Ms. Papeti

By: Owen Boyle

Likes to snowboard in the winter. Likes to surf in the summer. Likes to shop all year round. Sound like your typical teacher? Probably not; however, Ms. Papeti does all three. Ms. Papeti is a Spanish teacher who has been teaching for six years, five of which were at Squan.

Ms. Papeti graduated from The College of New Jersey. She was a psychology major with a minor in Spanish. During her stay at TCNJ, she studied abroad in Seville, Spain. She claims that her Spanish heritage (her mom is half Spanish), her innate way with Spanish, and her time in Spain prompted her to become a Spanish teacher. When asked whether she thinks Spanish is the best language, she replied that it was a beautiful language and one of the most widely spoken, however no one language can be crowned the best language.

Ms. Papeti couldn't be happier at MHS. She loves the close community atmosphere here. Her favorite part of teaching is interacting with students. Her motto to students is: "Have fun and always work hard."

