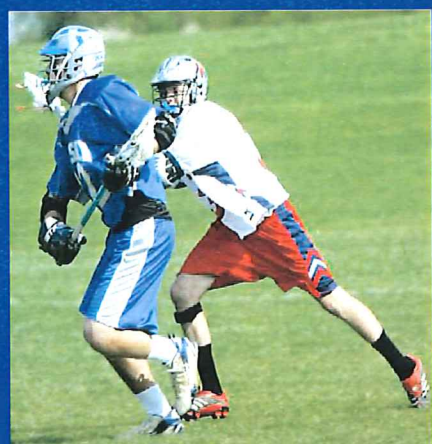


MHS

THE BLUE & GRAY

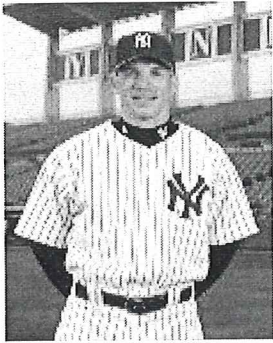
SPORTS



Major League Baseball's Early Season Contenders and Pretenders

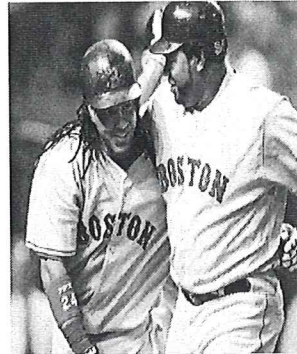
The NFL season is over and the NBA and NHL are deep in the playoffs. This can only mean one thing. The MLB season is revving its engines and reaching full tilt. Even though it is early in the season, teams have shown flashes of things to come. Below, teams leading their respective divisions, or who should be, are listed. Here is how I rank them, as contender or pretender for the rest of the season.

By: Tyler Toole



Yankees

Same team, different Joe. It's not exactly the same team, but new manager Joe Girardi is determined to lead his team back to the playoffs, and get them over the hump for a world series championship. With an amazing lineup, with names such as Jeter, Rodriguez, and Posada, the Yankees will definitely be a contender throughout the season.

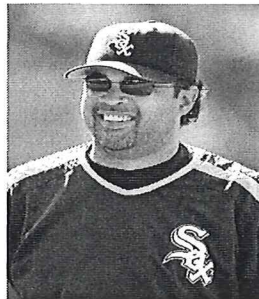


Red Sox

Two world championships in four years basically says it all, but the Red Sox want to make it three in five years. Don't take into account that David Ortiz is mired in a slump, it won't last. Manny Ramirez will have these Sox as a contender from now till the end. It's Manny's world and we are just living in it.

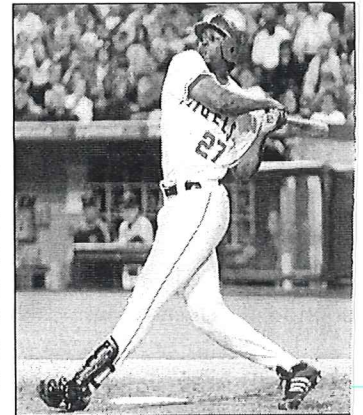
White Sox

General Manager Kenny Williams knew he had to do something to change his team after their 2005 World Series hangover. He brought in the new heart and soul of the team Nick Swisher, Cuban defector Alexi Ramirez, dependable outfielder Carlos Quentin, and gold glove shortstop Orlando Cabrera. Unfortunately they will find themselves facing the Tigers, they are pretenders.



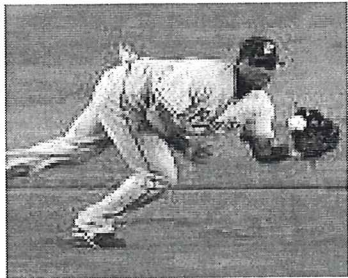
Angels

They've been told they need pitching, so they went out and got Jon Garland. They've been told they needed another bat, so they went out and got Torii Hunter. Manager Mike Scioscia will do his best to ward off teams like Seattle, but the Mariners will prevail in this division categorizing the Halos as pretenders.



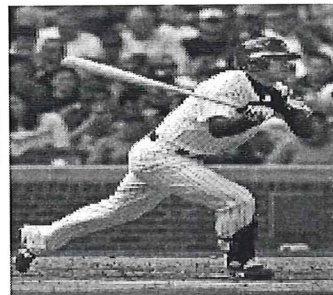
Cubs

Fukudome-mania is hitting Chicago and hitting it hard. Fukudome along with Aramis Ramirez, and Derrek Lee should have the Cubbies leading the division for the whole season, making them contenders.



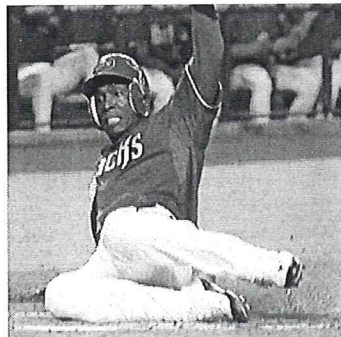
Marlins

Despite having one of the best players in the game, Hanley Ramirez, the Marlins are definitely pretenders. No one had them in first place this far, and no one will have them finishing above the Mets and the Phillies respectively.



Diamondbacks

Orlando Hudson and his band of "Baby-backs" boast the best record in the major leagues, at 16-6. Sadly but true they are in the same division as the Dodgers, and Joe Torre is managing them so DBacks = pretenders.



Phillies

First it was Howard, then Rollins, is it now Utley's turn for an MVP award? The Phillies are ready to show that they are the team to beat in the NL East. They should give the Mets a run for their money making them contenders.

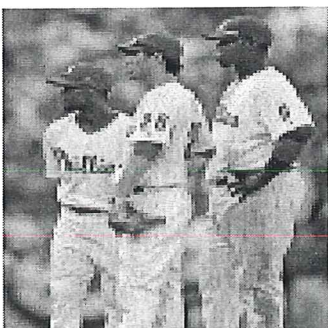
Reyes, Wright, Beltran, and don't forget about Johan. That sounds like some wins for you Metropolitan fans. Willie Randolph wants to forget about last year's collapse and get back to the playoffs, making them contenders.

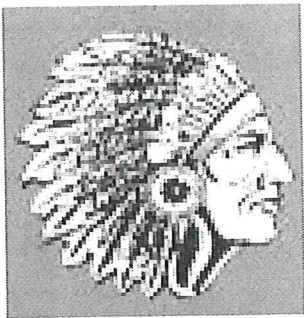
Mets



Dodgers

After rejecting an embarrassing one year offer to manage the Yankees, Torre turned his sights to La La Land. He traded in his navy blue pinstripe uniform for the Dodger blue. Along with free agent signee Andruw Jones and a bevy of young talent mixed with veterans they are contenders.





BLUE & GRAY SPORTS



Girls' Lacrosse Overcomes Slow Start, Looks for Success in State Tournament

By: Shannon Kmetz

You know you're tough when practices consist of sprinting to the point of exhaustion, stick-checking your opponents, and never slacking off. This is the toughness it takes to be a member of the girls' lacrosse team.

This year, these Warriors have given a solid effort on the field. They have faced many challenging opposing teams, and come away with a commendable record of 8-7.

"Our season has been full of ups and downs, but we are trying to come together to gain the success that we deserve in the State Tournament," Varsity Coach Eldridge elaborated.

Saturday, May 17 marks the opening of the tournament, and the beginning of the Warrior's chance to define its season.

Earlier in the

season, the first Saint Rose game had the fans on the edge of their seats, as the teams played a tight, neck and neck

game. Thanks to Sarah Mahon's goal in the last five seconds, the team came off the field victorious!

Manalapan was another exciting game for the team as well, as Manasquan won by about 13 goals.

The team is led by five seniors - Meghan Horn, Michelle Kohl, Kerry Goldsmith, Madeline Schatzman, and Kelly McConnell; and contains many talented underclassmen as well. Key players, besides Mahon, include Devon Golding, and Olivia McCarthy. However, no captains were named this year.

The girls get pumped up for their games with various activities including pasta parties. "The team is very close. We do a lot of things together," Golding explained.

Manasquan's Kelly McConnell defends against an opponent



Coach Zdanowicz Leads Girls' Track To Success

By: Shannon Kmetz



Slip on that spandex. Lace up those 'sneaks. Bring it. And you're all set to be a competitive member of the MHS girl's track team!

The team has done very well this year under the supervision of Coach Zdanowicz. Senior Ashley Aquilante raved, "She is an awesome coach. She works us really hard, and that is why we are doing so good- because of all that she puts in."

That hard work paid off for the entire team, who took second place at the Monmouth County Relays recently!

The four by four team has been really successful, consisting of Aquilante, Sam McWilliams, Holly Blakely, and

interchanging between Julia Ford and Rachael Honrath.

Kaitlin McLaughlin, a thrower for the team, has been victorious this year with the javelin. In addition, the freshmen and sophomores have made their mark this year. "They are trying really hard," Aquilante explained.

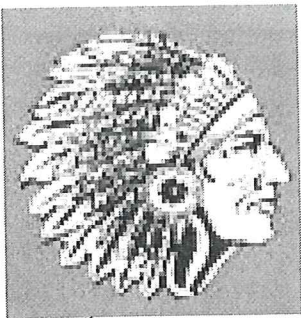
The triple jump has achieved much success with Sarah Ann Yersin who just started pole vault. She cleared 7 feet 6 inches, a very commendable height for a first year pole vaulter, and jumped 30 feet 6 inches in the triple jump.

Rachael Honrath placed in long distance this past weekend at the Monmouth County Championships. Also, Aquilante placed first in pole vault and fifth in the triple jump. The 4 by 4 team placed sixth.

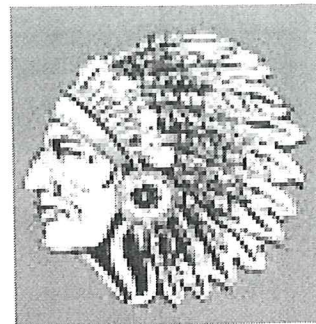
The captains are the four seniors- Aquilante, McLaughlin, Claire Nielsen- a distance runner, and Katie Golding- who participates in hurdles and throwing.

This upcoming weekend the team looks forward to Shore Conference and hopes for the best. Also approaching are State Sectionals, State Championships, the Meet of Champions and two more freshmen and sophomore meets.

As far as improving any weaknesses, Aquilante advised "If we keep up the hard work, we'll do fine!"



BLUE & GRAY SPORTS



Another Successful Season for **Boys' Lacrosse**

By Jackie Truesdale

The MHS Boy's Lacrosse team is having another successful spring season in 2008. With talent at all positions on the field, Coach Dowd and the players have great pride and confidence in their team.

Although the boys lost two outstanding field players, Kelly Mahon and Gage O'Connell, to graduation, there are many returning key players. This year's captains are seniors Mike Pizzolato, Brendan Kinsley, and Frank Ciufo. Kinsley leads the offense with Justin Leddy, Mike Frasco and Kyle Woodward. Two other seniors, Greg Gavan and Matt Trengrove, anchor the midfield. On defense, seniors Pizzolato and Ciufo join juniors, Jack Masterson and Mike Brown, while Zach Britton and Peter Schenke took over Heisler's position in the goal. Other key players on the team include, Andrew Clark, Jake Novack, Paul Mayer, Mike Acciavatti, and Harry Heisler.

Even though it has been a hard adjustment to play without Mahon, one of the top attack men in the Shore Conference last season, the team seems to be adapting and doing a good job. They have a good mix of seniors and juniors throughout the field. Team captain, Pizzolato, stated, "We have great team chemistry and that definitely transfers over to the field."

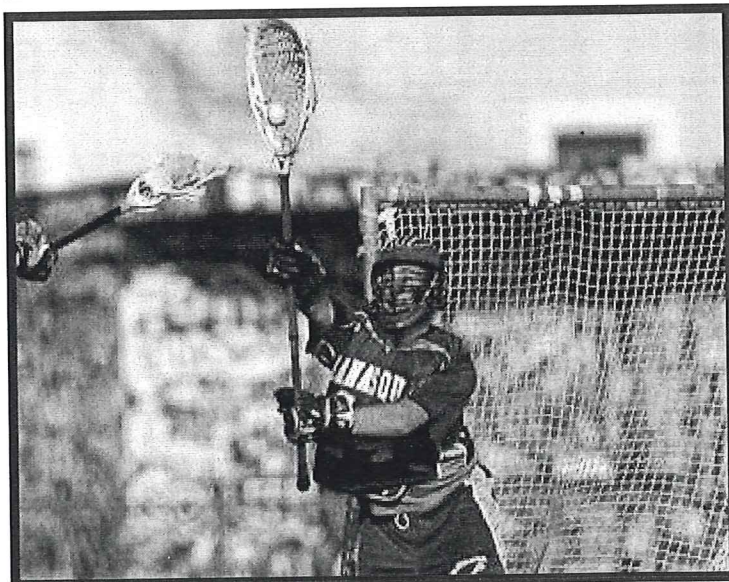
Greg Gavan stated that they are all working very well together and have a positive attitude towards the season. He declared, "The teamwork makes the dream work."

The boys got a solid start by opening the season with defeating the Toms River North Mariners, 7-3. It was an exciting win especially because they lost to them twice last year by a combined score of 28-10. This game definitely put their minds in the right place and they continued to play with pride. This showed when they won the first four games of the season.

On May 3rd the boys had a big win against Jackson Memorial. They won by one point with a final score of 10-9. Justin Leddy scored the game winning goal with only 30 seconds left in the fourth quarter, with an assist by Mike Frasco. Coach Dowd felt that the offense understood the concept of patience and really proved their talent that game.

These Warriors have been working non stop to continue their productive season. They don't give up until the game is over, and give 100% the entire time. Even when they lost a game they still continued to go strong on the next opportunity given.

As of Monday, May 12th they had a winning record of 10-5. With great pride and confidence they are looking forward to capping their season with a title.



College Acceptances

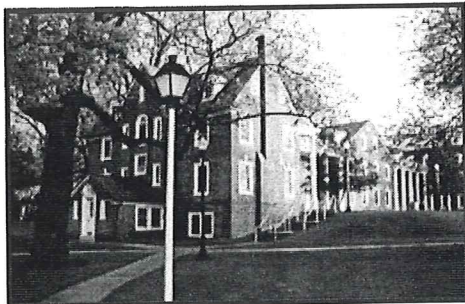
As of May 12, 2008:

Note: *The Blue & Gray* prints college acceptances only when letters of acceptance are turned into Guidance.

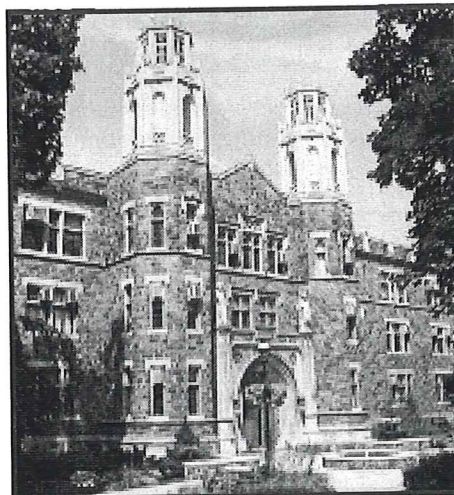
Tyler March	Drexel University University of New Haven University of Massachusetts Lowell
Tyler Martz	Coastal Carolina University
Christopher Marx	East Carolina University University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Kelly McConnell	Pratt Institute California College of the Arts Fashion Institute of Technology
Kellyn McCrone	Salisbury University Old Dominion University Rowan University
James McGuire	Fairleigh Dickinson University
Haley McNeel	Quinnipiac University Stonehill College Providence College
Diane Miller	University of Rhode Island Rutgers University
Caroline Moore	Towson University Ramapo College James Madison University The College of New Jersey Loyola College in Maryland University of Delaware
Sean Mullen	Cabrini College Elmira College
Jordan Owens	Colorado State University University of Rhode Island University of Colorado at Boulder University of Denver Loyola College in Maryland

Katya Palsi	Rowan University The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey Seton Hall University Quinnipiac University Moravian College
Elizabeth Peters	Emmanuel College Boston University Northeastern University
Thomas Phillips	Manhattan College The University of Scranton Quinnipiac University Steven's Institute of Technology
Andrew Pinella	Centenary College
Maree Raps	Rider University The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey
Carleigh Rixon	Sacred Heart University University of Connecticut The College of New Jersey
Ashley Romano	East Stroudsburg University Towson University James Madison University
Amylee Sanders	High Point University Seton Hall University
Madeline Schatzman	Lehigh University Fairfield University University of Connecticut Loyola College in Maryland University of Colorado at Boulder Fordham University

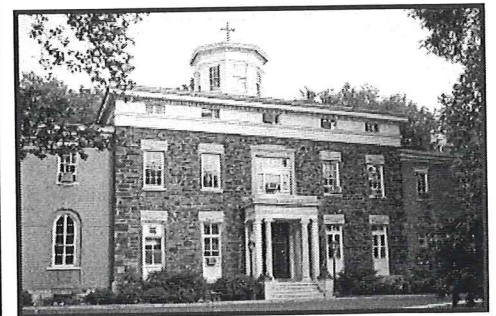
Timothy Schenke	Widener University Drexel University Rowan University
Jared Schwartz	Rutgers University
Kory Schulz	Rider University Monmouth University The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey Wagner College
Jamee Shea	Wilkes University Albright College University of New Haven Seton Hall University University of Massachusetts Amherst Monmouth University Savannah College of Art & Design
Michael Sheehan	Saint Peter's College Quinnipiac University Washington College Manhattan College Loyola College in Maryland Monmouth University



Rowan University's Oak Hall.

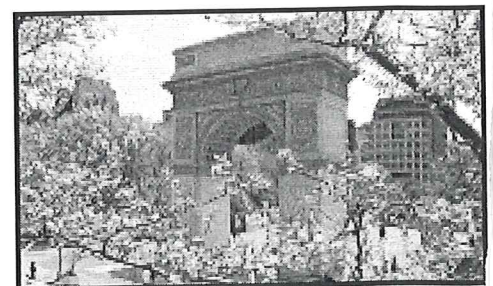


Asa Packer Campus Building at Lehigh University.



Above: Fordham University's Administration Building.

Below: The Washington Square Arc set right next to NYU

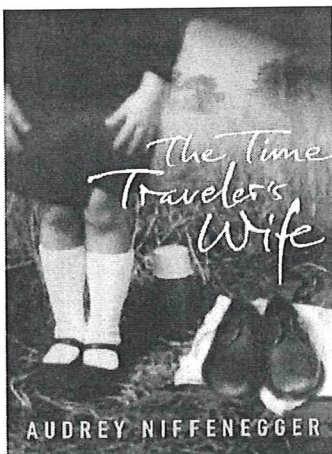


College Acceptances

As of May 12, 2008:

Note: The Blue & Gray prints college acceptances only when letters of acceptance are turned into Guidance.

Kristine Achong	Mount Saint Mary College University of Scranton La Salle University	Meghan Boland	Loyola College in Maryland Lafayette College	Brendan Delany	University of Pittsburgh at Bradford Le Moyne College Purdue University
Jill Agoliati	Montclair State University Rider University Laboratory Institute of Merchandising Fashion Institute of Technology	Logan Burke	Philadelphia University	Christie DeLigny	Merrimack College Sacred Heart University Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Kerry Amerman	Salisbury University Ramapo College College of Charleston	Sandra Burns	Clarion University	Caitlin Docker	George Mason University
Anna Appleman	Pace University Green Mountain College East Carolina University Lynn University	Caitlin Callebs	Towson University College of Charleston James Madison University Penn State University University of Maryland	Brett Dunbar	Philadelphia University
Ashley Aquilante	Mount Olive College Ramapo College	Emily Childs	Drexel University	Chelsea Dunning	Florida Gulf Coast University The University of Tampa Florida Atlantic University
Reid Armstrong	Coastal Carolina University Towson University University of Rhode Island East Carolina University	Kimberly Clayton	University of Charleston University of North Carolina at Greensboro Seton Hall University University of South Carolina George Mason University	Eric Engler	Rutgers University
Lisa Bartholomew	University of Central Florida University of Delaware	Emily Comerford	Buffalo State University Old Dominion University Seton Hall University Richmond University Arcadia University	Lauren Fernandez	East Carolina University The University of North Carolina at Charlotte
Claire Beesley	DeSales University Rider University Seton Hall University	Charles Coursey	Dean College	Travis Fink	Albright College Marist College
Haley Behre	Syracuse University	Brett Crane	Montclair State University Mount Saint Mary College	Timothy Fetzer	Drexel University Saint Joseph's University Emory University
Chelsey Bogan	The Catholic University of America North Carolina State University Rutgers University Flagler College	Kaitlyn Csogi	East Stroudsburg University Towson University	Tyler Fittin	Fairleigh Dickinson University Towson University
		Edward Czech	Saint Leo University	Shea Flood	Newbury College Catawba College Indiana State University Southern New Hampshire University
		Alexandra D'Avanzo	Cedar Crest College West Chester University Seton Hall University University of Massachusetts Amherst		



The Time Traveler's Wife

By: Kaitlin McGuinness

This book is essentially a love story, although not so much boy-meets-girl as six-year old girl meets her future husband as he periodically visits her childhood while uncontrollably traveling back in time from his present with her. He visits her childhood many times, observing as she grows into the woman he loves in the present. She eventually meets her husband in the present, and observes as he grows into the man who visited

her in her childhood.

This is a fascinating story about fate, choice, free will and true love, and offers much food for thought. It has an extremely clever concept, but it is also original because it is endearingly real.

The story and the characters are very genuine, and the love between the main characters is better for all its flaws. It is very romantic, but much more deeply than a normal sickly-sweet love story.

The story is powerful and doesn't have a 'love will conquer all' glittery veneer. The story centers on how the characters cope with the day-to-day disasters their situation creates rather than an epic struggle for love.

It is a rare form of science-fiction, because the primal focus of the story is the people, rather than the people revolving around the phenomenon.

Although the plot story through time with our protagonist, it has a strong plot that will draw the reader in. It has a semi-sweet ending that portrays acceptance of fate in our lives.

This book is an engaging and affecting book that will captivate most readers. There will be a movie coming out this year, so it would probably be best to read it before hitting the theatres in order to follow the intricate plot.

Book Review

Pisces (February 19 - March 20)
 You may not be feeling as sharp as usual, no matter how much coffee you drink. It's a good day to relax and enjoy friends and family, but if you may want to tackle homework or projects first, to get it out of the way.
 Lucky Days: 2, 6, 31



Aries (March 21 - April 19)
 Your intense nature is focused like a laser beam on something or someone -- and it might not be healthy for you! Whether or not it's working out, this phase shouldn't last for much longer.
 Lucky Days: 6, 19, 28



Gemini (May 21 - June 21)
 It's a good day to take care of the basics, like that annoying something you've been putting off. Your energy is more focused on the mundane than the fun or far-flung, so take advantage of it while it lasts!
 Lucky Days: 10, 21, 29



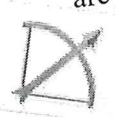
Leo (July 23 - August 22)
 Big, crazy emotions are welling up inside you -- but you are welcoming them, good or bad. It feels good to feel this intensely, even if you're sad or angry or overwhelmed. Don't worry, everything will balance out eventually.
 Lucky Days: 4, 14, 30



Libra (September 23 - October 22)
 No matter what you're doing today, try to make sure that you're fully committed to it. Things are getting more interesting and you should be able to take advantage of the new momentum.
 Lucky Days: 8, 11, 18



Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21)
 Your ambitions are jumbo-sized -- but that's perfect for a day like today. You can feel something big building and now is the time to give it shape and wait for the infusion of energy that's sure to come.
 Lucky Days: 2, 17, 29



H O R O S C O P E S

Aquarius (January 20 - February 18)
 You've got more power over the situation than you realize, so step right up and make something happy with happen. If you're they are, it's a good time to reserve action for later.
 Lucky Days: 7, 15, 23



Taurus (April 20 - May 20)
 People are drawn to you now and while you may not need everyone all at once, it's nice to know that you can count on so many friends to back you up if things get iffy. Keep a smile on!
 Lucky Days: 5, 15, 25



Cancer (June 22 - July 22)
 Big changes are afoot and you are definitely in the middle of it all. That may or may not feel all that great, but you can tell that this is all for the best. Ride it out and things will feel more stable soon.
 Lucky Days: 1, 13, 22



Virgo (August 23 - September 22)
 You can't decide between two people or options that seem about evenly matched, but eventually you are going to need to step up and make the call. Let your intuition guide the way.
 Lucky Days: 3, 18, 21



Scorpio (October 23 - November 21)
 You are pulsing with positive energy and your intensity may intimidate some people -- but fascinate them at the same time. If you need anything, now is the time to go looking for it.
 Lucky Days: 15, 27, 31

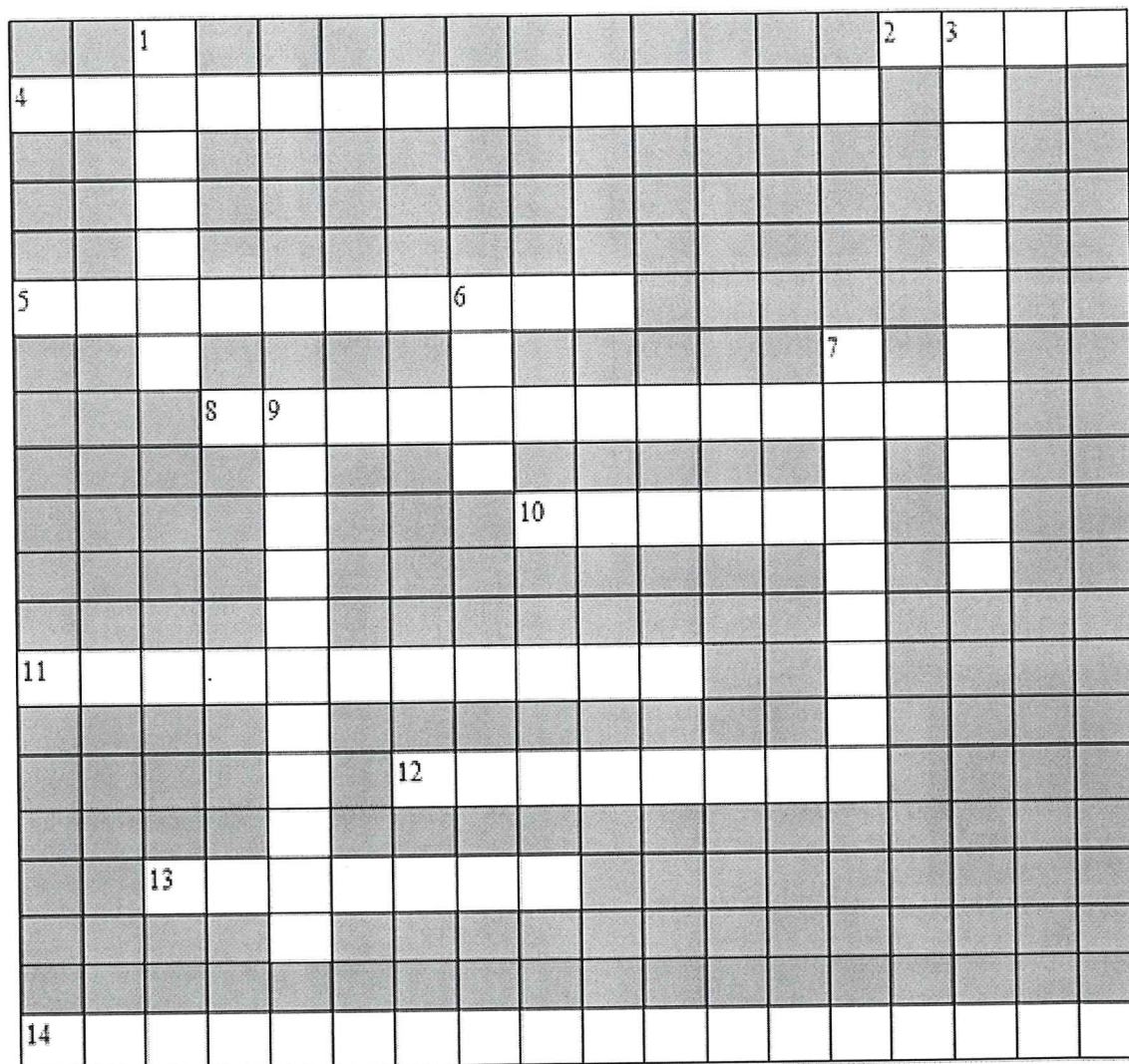
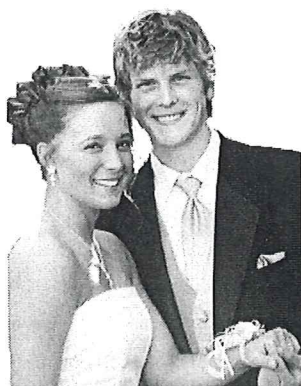
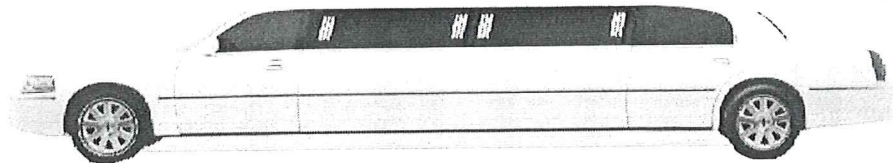


Capricorn (December 22 - January 19)
 Turn inward a bit and figure out what you're really hoping for -- you may surprise yourself quite a bit! There's no need to take action today unless something is literally on fire, so relax.
 Lucky Days: 9, 12, 24



Tis the Season...

By: Sarah Kleinfeld and Shannon Kmetz



ACROSS

2. Sophisticated hairstyle
4. 90's prom movie starring Freddie Prinze Jr. and Rachel Leigh Cook
5. New thriller starring Brittany Snow
10. A gentleman's attire at prom
11. Supplier of the tunes
12. What girls get to fix up their nails
13. flower arrangement worn by dates

DOWN

1. Popular song often excluded from school functions due to it causing risqué dancing
3. Disgusting substance dumped on Carrie at her prom
6. Elaborate dress worn by females
7. Typical mode of transportation
9. Catwoman actress who was crowned prom queen



Senior Birthdays

March!



Poitr Pluta
3/1



Kristine Achong
3/3



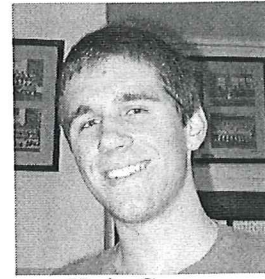
Dan Griffin
3/3



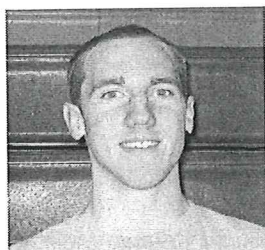
Erica Furmato
3/5



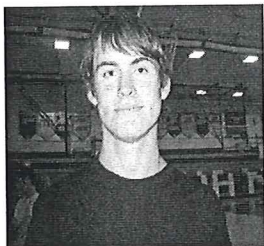
Christie Deligny
3/7



Kyle Carty
3/9



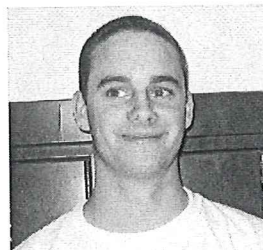
Tim Fetzer
3/12



James McGuire
3/12



Kerri Mccann
3/13



Tim Higgins
3/13



Gabby Ingersoll
3/16



Andrew Holby
3/17



Kali Mura
3/17



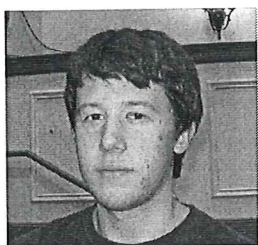
Abby Forman
3/17



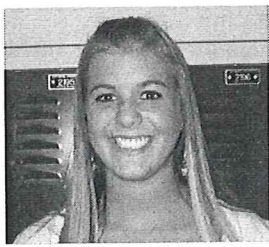
Alex De Muro
3/21



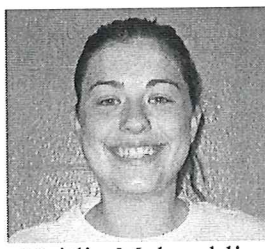
Kristopher Pirnat
3/22



Michael Mylet
3/23



Chelsey Bogan
3/25



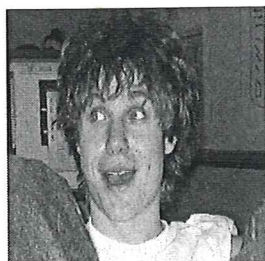
Kaitlin Mclaughlin
3/26



Siobhan Mather
3/27



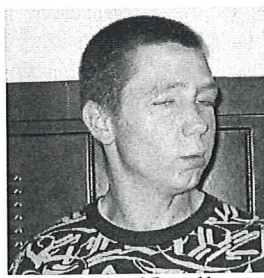
Kaitlyn Csogi
3/27



Matt Haviland
3/28



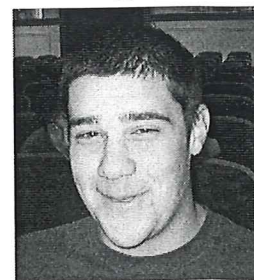
Arianna Lippay
3/28



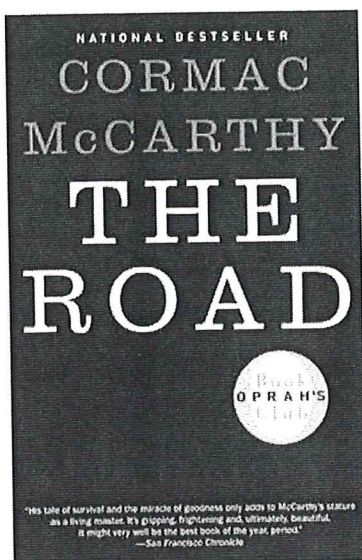
Tom Wolfmuller
3/28



Katie Golding
3/29



Brendan Kinsley
3/29



Book Review: *The Road*

By Matt Haviland

On a road, you can learn about yourself. Not by which road you take, but how you well take it: the way you overcome obstacles - - or don't - - determines who you really are.

Unfortunately, the road they take in *The Road* is a bit tougher. For one thing, it's the apocalypse. Woo hoo! The end of the world! It's like *Armageddon*, except there was no Bruce Willis to save us. So what to do now?

Well for a father and son, they **walk**. The unnamed main characters spend most of

the novel traversing a desolate highway, through snowstorms and cold forests, past enemy figures carrying guns, and by unspeakable horrors that would scar even a grown man. They're walking until they reach the Atlantic ocean.

And that's it. This Pulitzer-prize winner is as straightforward as they come: father and son walk towards the ocean. There's no ring to destroy or woman to save, empire to defeat or specific fear to overcome. They're going simply because there's nowhere else to go and, in such apocalyptic times, you need a goal to keep you occupied... especially when you're traveling with a little boy.

Without a big payoff or intricate plot, what's so great about *The Road*? In the way of climaxes,

there are lots of exciting scenes. Our heroes have to evade roaming bands of murderers, run away from na-

ked cannibals, cross blocked suspension bridges, and fight the constant battles of hunger, will, and weather. Also, the father does carry a gun, and he

certainly uses it.

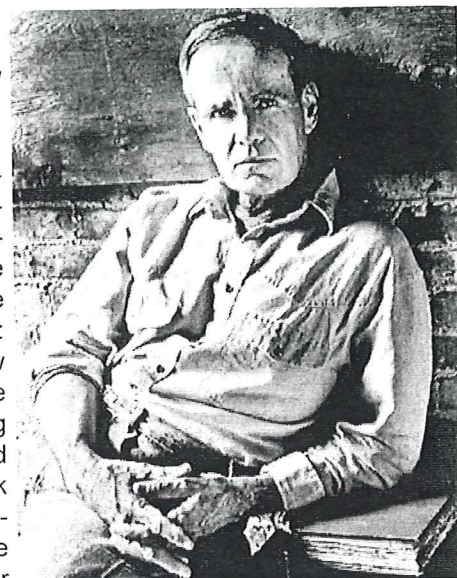
The second strength of *The Road* is imagery. Scenes are brought to choking, breathing life by McCarthy's powerful descriptions. He uses long passages of poetic prose to place you right there next to the characters: "The soft black talc blew through the streets like squid ink uncoiling along a sea floor and the cold crept down and the dark came early and the scavengers passing down the steep canyons with their torches trod silky holes in the drifted ash that closed behind them silently as eyes."

But as with any McCarthy novel, this is not one to read idly - you need to give

Some of these scenes just about open your chest and pull on your heartstrings manually. And the ending comes not with a bang, but a sad elegance.

to sit and read is a waste of time. However, once you hold McCarthy's hand and travel at his speed, it's fine going.

And so you go: from be-



Reclusive, Western... Genius.

ginning to end, *The Road* compels the reader absolutely and creeps slowly up to your emotions and takes hold of them. Some of these scenes just about open your chest and pull on your heartstrings manually. And the ending comes not with a bang, but a sad elegance.

You will love this book if you give it a chance, and by giving it a chance, you give its main characters a chance to survive. Yeah, you can always just see the movie, starring Viggo Mortenson and coming out in late 2008, but the book has something a movie can never have: Cormac McCarthy's beautiful, masterful prose.

Viggo just couldn't compare.

The Glass Castle: An Amazing True Story

By: Claire Beesley

Everyone has something to hide. For Jeanette Walls it's her entire childhood.

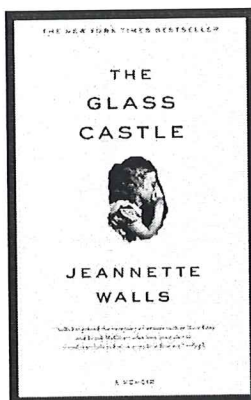
Walls takes the reader back through her unusual life in her shocking memoir, "The Glass Castle."

The book opens up with Jeanette hiding from her mother, who is picking threw someone else's garbage for food. The chapter ends with Jeanette feeling completely horrible for acting as she did.

The second chapter begins with Jeanette's earliest

memory, when she was three years old, cooking hot dogs by herself on the stove. Her mother believed she was old enough to cook for herself. While Jeanette was cooking her favorite pink dress caught on fire, and she was rushed to the hospital.

The story continues through the life of the Wall's family. Rex Walls (father), was



very intelligent, but a raging alcoholic who was always fired from jobs and constantly on the run from tax collectors. Rose Mary Walls was his lazy, bipolar, but artistic wife.

The parents had strong beliefs how their childhood should be raised.

They taught them to read and write. Whenever the family was in a house long

enough for the children to attend school, the kids were shockingly much smarter than their peers, but constantly ridiculed for their living habits.

The family rarely had enough food, but one time they were grateful enough to have a ham. After a few weeks the ham went bad and was covered in maggots. Jeanette asked her mother if it was still okay to eat and her mother replied, "It's okay, just cut off the maggot parts."

Jeanette, her two sisters, and brother were forced to ban together and fend for themselves while taking care

Book Review

Movie Review

My Blueberry Nights Is Not Particularly Sweet, But Is Definitely Satisfying

By: Thomas Sullivan



Norah Jones and Jude Law share a passionate yet immensely awkward kiss in Wong Kar-Wai's *My Blueberry Nights*.

The start of *My Blueberry Nights* mirrors the sweetness of the film's title. As the credits, done up in white and purple lettering, appear on the screen, the camera gets uncomfortably close to a piece of pie as we watch vanilla ice cream melt off the top and run slowly down the pie onto the plate below. The sweetness of the pie in the opening shot doesn't particularly radiate through the rest of the movie, but the underlying whimsical and soothing feelings certainly do.

Like Wong Kar-Wai's previous film *Chungking Express*, *My Blueberry Nights* is an interesting take on the

modern-day love story. Kar-Wai himself refers to his movie as the tale of "a woman who took the long road instead of the short road to meet up with the man she loves", which sums up the movie quite nicely. The story is a simple one: a twenty-something woman named Elizabeth (singer Norah Jones, in her first film role) who has been recently dumped by her boyfriend decides to take a soul-searching journey of sorts around the United States to hopefully discover herself (and possibly love) along the way. In her travels she comes across a bevy of interesting folks including a couple whose marriage is on the rocks (David

Strathairn and Rachel Weisz), a compulsive gambler (Natalie Portman), and a melancholy café owner (Jude Law).

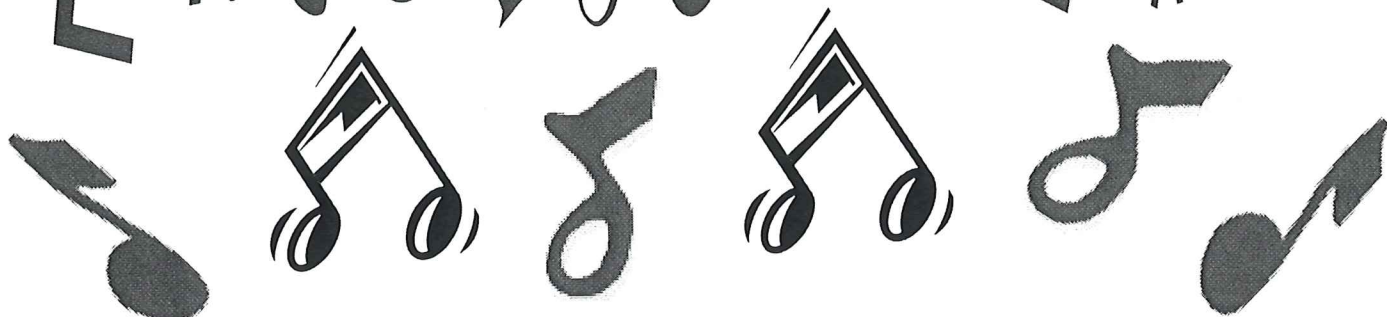
The story sounds thin in writing, and it certainly is in actuality as well. However, as with most other Wong Kar-Wai movies, the story is simply the base for the astounding visuals to work off of. Wong Kar-Wai did not work with the masterful Christopher Doyle this time around, but the cinematography is still nothing short of breathtaking. Slow panning shots along with occasional blurriness and generally casual cinematography makes the film seem very calm, cool, and hip. It also makes the film move at a

glacial pace, which fortunately is never a problem as the story (if you will) is consistently interesting and the visuals are unrelentingly sumptuous.

Unfortunately, I cannot say the same for some of the performances. Many critics, including myself, feel that the idea of "singer turned film actress" is a disaster (Mariah Carey's cinematic train wreck *Glitter* comes to mind), and Norah Jones's performance certainly did not give me any hope that this trend may produce something worthwhile. Throughout the movie she lacked emotion and proper delivery and was a real eyesore when on the screen next to actors and actresses such as Jude Law and Natalie Portman. Hopefully, if given another stab at acting, she'll be able to redeem herself. Jude Law, Natalie Portman, and the other supporting actors and actresses definitely outshone Norah Jones, but were not particularly remarkable either. All of their performances were serviceable, but none of them stood out or wowed me to any degree whatsoever.

Nevertheless, *My Blueberry Nights* blew me away. For a film with minimal plot that relies almost entirely on visuals to keep the audience entertained, it was a damn good piece of cinema. I'm convinced that it's that unexplainable Wong Kar-Wai vibe that resonates throughout all of his films. I'm not someone who particularly takes to films that rely heavily on visuals, but this vibe continues to draw me back to more and more Wong Kar-Wai films, and this film is no exception.

Entertainment



Scandalous

By: Nicole Casey

About two months ago, a story that defied the laws of ----- made the headlines of every newspaper and telecast in almost the entire world! What were these mind boggling headlines you ask? "A man is pregnant!"

Now, two months later, it has been uncovered that these headlines really were not as law

defying as they initially seemed. Yes, a "man" is pregnant, but "he" really is not a man at all.

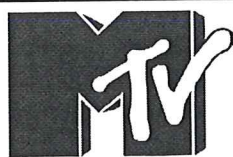
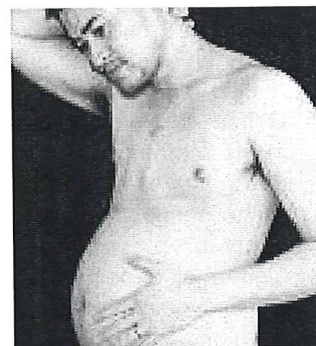
Thomas Beatie, who is legally married in the state of Oregon, announced in early March that "he" was expecting a child. Mr. Beatie had a secret, however. "He" was born a she. Born with the name Tracy Lagondio, Mr. Beatie opted to keep

her female organs when she underwent a sex change.

In 1998, Thomas married a woman named Nancy, who had undergone a hysterectomy. When the couple decided they wanted to have a child, Thomas opted to carry a child for the couple instead of adopting. Mr. Beatie commented that "wanting to have a biological child is neither a male nor female desire but a human desire."

So, overall I guess the

decision is up to you. Is this really the world's first pregnant man or just a sexually confused woman?



New MTV Reality Show Portrays High School Journalism!

By: Jamee Shea

Now MHS can finally get a vision of what the *Blue & Gray* staffers go through all year with making deadlines, scheduling interviews, fixing errors, and getting along. MTV's new reality hit *The Paper* expresses that punctuality, cooperation, and patience all take part in printing out a beautiful issue.

The show takes place at Florida's own Cypress Bay High School, which holds more than 5,500 students, and many journalism awards for their newspaper, *The Circuit*.

Here we meet seven highly dedicated seniors from 60 staffers whom are very intent on



two things: keeping up with *The Circuit's* excellent reputation and fighting to become the new Editor-In-Chief.

The show starts at the end of their junior year, and drama immediately ensues when their advisor, Mrs. Weiss finally chooses overachiever and power hungry Amanda

to be the new Editor-In-Chief, leaving staffers to think she'll have a huge ego.

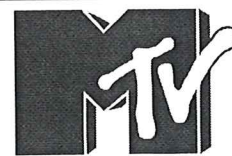
During this hot season of *The Paper*, Amanda and peers deal with the pressures of high school, relationships, drama, and a lot of disappointments. But most of all, they will do anything in their power to come

out with an issue better than the one before, and on the way, learn some new things about themselves as they pursue their dreams in journalism.

This is a fabulous show with real drama, and I think if you watch this, you'll relate to at least one of the characters and their ambitions.

As Amanda says, "Journalists are the most important people in the world."

The show runs on MTV every Monday at 10:30pm. The show is also available for viewing on the network's website. Don't miss out!



The Blue & Gray Editorials

Students Can Make A Difference

By: Haley Behre

Everyone has the potential to make a difference.

Over the last year, an AP government and politics class at Nutley High School received a project to propose their own public policy. The public policy they chose was a teen anti-smoking measure in which smoking was to be banned in all public places.

Who knew that this class project might become an actual New Jersey law?

Over the last few years, teen smoking has become a problem. According to the state Department of Health and Senior Services, approximately one third of New Jersey's high school students are smokers and about 90% of smokers begin before they turn eighteen. An even scarier statistic is that more than 947 million packs of cigarettes are consumed by approximately 3 million children under the age of 18 in a year.

"Smoking is the single most preventable cause of death and disease," stated Herb Conaway, M.D. "Without preventative action, more teens will eventually die from smoking than will die from AIDS, automobile accidents, drug use, homicide, and suicide combined."

And while preventative measures have been taken, making it illegal for anyone under 19 to buy tobacco, there was no law prohibiting the possession of it. A ten year old could be walking down the street smoking a cigarette, and no one had the authority to do anything.

That was, at least, until recently.

Earlier this year, AP high school class at Nutley High School, met with Assemblyman Scalera, who challenged them to propose their own public policy. The idea they proposed was an anti-smoking measure for teens.

Scalera brought the proposal in front of the New Jersey assembly and with the AP class present, the bill passed 53 to 20. Now the bill faces the senate. If New Jersey makes this bill a law, they will become the twentieth state to prohibit minors

Continued on page 29



New "Safety" Laws May Actually Make Driving More Dangerous

By: Nicole Casey

O.k. ladies picture this, you're a seventeen year old girl trying to make money to pay your ridiculously expensive car insurance and sky high gas prices. You are FINALLY walking out of work after an extremely long night and are so excited to be free... until you realize it's 11:30 and your car needs to be home before midnight. That's some short lived freedom...



Monmouth County Sheriff, Kim Guadagno, displays one of the decals that may be used to I.D. Provisional Drivers

To make matters worse you have recently been required to display a "Graduated Driver's License" sticker on the back window of your car, letting EVERYONE around you know that you are a 17 year old driver.

This presents a variety of different issues.

First of all, it is a sad, but well known truth that there are idiots living amongst us. You know... those college kids who think it might be fun to "mess" with the new drivers while speeding down the parkway or the "experienced young men" who find it incredibly amusing to shout annoying or even harassing comments at younger girls while stopped at a red light. Making it easier for these ninnyes to recognize an inexperienced driver or young female adds fuel to the already burning fire.

Unfortunately, because of the many rude people in our society, people, especially young females, constantly have to be aware of who around them and sometimes even conceal themselves in big coats or hats to draw attention away from attention grabbing assets. Forcing such targets to display a sticker, that screams to the world that they are a young underage person is like forcing a cow to wear an "eat me" sign around a slaughter house.

O.k...true story, just the other day a friend of mine was driving through Brick to return a dress she purchased at Mande. As she drove down highway 70 she noticed a little tan car had been driving behind her for most of the ride. You know how people from all different locations can wind up at the same places at the weirdest times? But this was different.

As she pulled into the Mande shopping center, she selected a parking space in the far back, where no-

Continued on page 29

Students Take on Issues In The World!

MHS Students Tackle the World One Issue at a Time!

The Blue & Gray Editorials

When A School Gives Parents Too Much POWER

By: Nicole Casey

Shows, such as Deadliest Catch and Dirty Jobs show the public some of the most dangerous and important jobs known to man. However, there are a few extremely important and difficult jobs that do not have their own spot on any T.V. program. These jobs consist of the people who are talented enough to be teachers, school administrators, and school sports coaches.

I am completely aware that these jobs do not seem difficult at all compared to the men aboard the Time Bandit who risk their lives every day to put fresh crab on our tables. But there is a factor here that most of us do not recognize. Teachers, administrators, and especially coaches have to deal with "concerned"

team.

I do not think parents realize all of the damage that they could be causing. Because of the "gentle" issue of child care that is at hand everyday for the people of these professions there must be a "checks and balances" system in place to deal with problems that could possibly and usually do arise. However, this system can never be perfect because people are not perfect. School administrators and Board of Education members act as the checks and balances. These people can not always do their job to the best of their potential because of the power politics holds over them.

Here is a situation to consider, a high school basketball team has a winning season, a division title, and a coach who is named coach of the year. The team had to overcome a few obstacles, such as a few players quitting after tryouts

A handful of the many students that sported "Save Fenchi" shirts in support of the successful coach pose for a quick pic.



make the



By: Haley Behre

Isn't it interesting how ironic life can be sometimes? How one moment I can be watching a documentary on racist police (*4 Chosen*), at the Garden State Film Festival, and then twenty minutes later be face to face with them.

On Saturday April 5th, senior Matthew Haviland was enjoying his day at the film festival, with a few close friends, when he got in a car accident.

"So there we were, rollin' down the mean streets of Asbury," began Matt Haviland. "My Camry was the color of a black hole, and that's exactly the effect it had on the white sedan next to me: his front bumper was sucked almost gravitationally into my passenger door. It was as if the man phased out of our very dimension and, temporarily as it may have been, transcended the bounds of logic, nature and good driving.

"I honked him right into a dead end," continued Matthew with a passion unchallenged by man, beast and machine, "At the time ordering Frank to copy down that license plate. When all was said and done, this horrible Asbury driver wasn't a driver at all: he had no license (he was 16), wasn't in his own car,

Driven To Racism

and didn't even speak English. Frank and I, meanwhile, left in an ambulance, while my other friends stayed behind with my car."

It wasn't so much the actual accident that upset me, but rather it was the prejudiced comments the police made.

"I can't wait to send their a**es back to Mexico," remarked one of the police.

It's self explanatory as to why I was upset about this comment. Anyone in this day and age, especially with the recent 30th anniversary of Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination, would be upset at such a slanted remark.

That comment was just the beginning of many prejudice slurs against illegal immigrants.

From there the police talked about how our money is going to help these illegal immigrants, which, in their opinion, is a crime. The police said they didn't want to help them since they did not legally belong here. They didn't want any of their hard earned cash to trickle down to these people.

And while I understand their point of view, I do not understand how police, the preservers of American justice freedom, and opportunity cannot understand how their comments were wrong and against what they stand for.

Does much of our money really go to illegal

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Continued on page 27

Students rock out at Variety Show

By Katya Palsi

Saturday night students and fans crowded into the auditorium anxious with excitement. On May 3, 2008 at 7:00 pm MHS rocked out at the annual Variety Show. MC of the night, Mr. Harvey, kept the whole audience roaring with laughter all evening, while numerous groups of students displayed their many unique talents.

There were 18 different performances competing for the prize of \$100 in cold hard cash. Pumpkin Guts, a dynamic duo of Ian Egloff and his "Stevie Nicks-like" girlfriend walked away with the prize.

Organizer of the event, Mr. Weisert, complimented the judges: "Ms. Zdanowicz, Ms. Radzinsky, Ms. Kackos and Mr. Higgins did a great job listening to and evaluating the performers."

But the main focus of the evening was the talent. "It was so inspiring to see. You would never think to see some people on stage, but these kids have these hidden talents that they showcased at the variety show," exclaimed a fervent Jared Schwartz. "I never realized how many students were musically inclined."

The acts all huddled backstage supporting each other – some new, some experienced, some nervous, some pumped! No one knew what to expect! Bands included Red Wagon, Coexist, Stereo Uprising, Jack's Smirking Revenge, Navillus, Jester, and Pumpkin Guts. The entertainers were Maggie Pakutka, Emily Childs, Shea Flood, Jared Schwartz, Ariana Margetis, Kelsey Branch, Jamee Shea, Katie McLaughlin, Marcus Hannah, Tom Shannon, and Martin Pakutka. Of the group several gave outstandingly noteworthy performances.

Tom Shannon performed his original song "Sing

Me A Love Song," which received rave reviews from both the judges and students. Another favorite of the night was Martin Pakutka who "shredded" a guitar solo.

Jared Schwartz cites his performance as "probably the most embarrassing moment of my life." Before walking out onto the stage, the young Schwartz was told he would

be able to identify any specific people in the audience. Unfortunately for him, each face was easily decipherable. The shock combined with his nerves completely threw Jared for a loop and he forgot every line

Maggie Pakutka, last year's winner along with Sophia Weston, was back again performing twice that evening. She blew away onlookers with her originality and creativity. "I never knew anyone who could give such an original twist to rap music," said fellow performer Jamee Shea, who also loved Maggie's brother's act too.

Speaking of Jamee Shea, the talented MHS student was recently sighted shakin' it to Shakira during the Variety Show. Many were floored by Jamee's performance.

Keeping the acts moving along and laughing, Mr. Harvey cracked some jokes between acts. He also entertained the crowd with his "Godfather" monologue at the start of the show. The hilarious MC compared our very own principal Mr. Coppolla to being the Godfather of Manasquan High. The highlight of Mr. Harvey's act was Principal Coppolla's vow "make them an offer they can't refuse" as he described his plans for teachers to take attendance on their laptops every day. As it turned out, the offer was Girl Scout cookies!

All in all the night went fabulously. Singers sang, bands jammed, and the audience enjoyed! Who knows what talent next year will bring to MHS through the Variety Show?!

"I never realized
how many students
were musically in-
clined"
-Jared Schwartz

Sports Injury Management

Continued from page 18

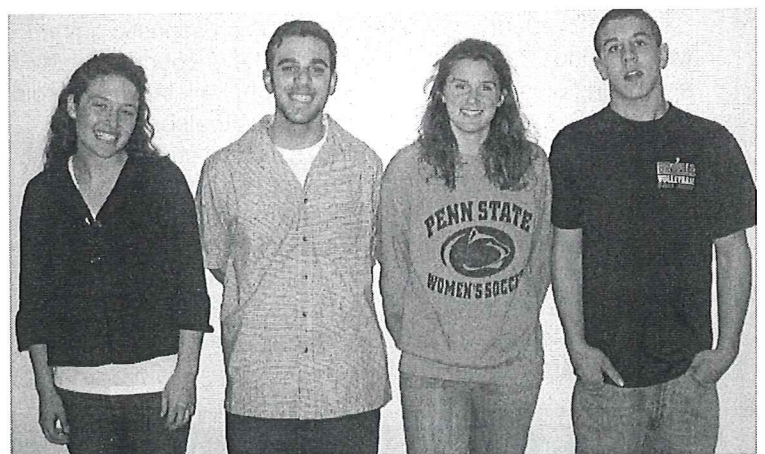
one's own life. Along with presentations, the Sports Injury Management Class also views videos of extreme injuries and surgical procedures through the eyes of an Othroscope.

"Material that we have learned will be useful in the future, even if I don't get into Medicine, because I

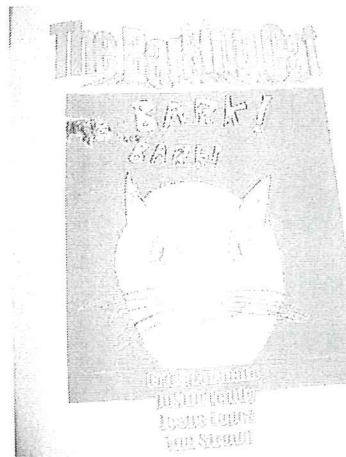
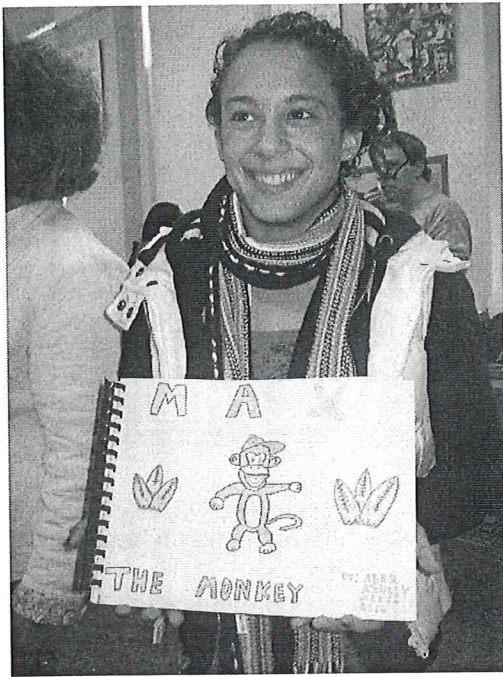
will be able to help my family," commented senior Morgan Lander.

With so many out of the box learning activities there is still more to come! On May 28 Mr. Hyland will be taking the Sports Injury Management Class for a field trip to Bodies, The Exhibition. There they will learn about human cadavers.

CONGRATS March Students of the Month



Senior class celebrates Mrs. Tully's last school year with special project



Story Time With Mr. Harvey!

By: Haley Behre

Mr. Harvey's third block senior English class reverted back to their childhood days for a class project.

The class's task: to create a children's book.

The inspiration: Mrs. Tully's love for children's books.

Mrs. Tully, MHS's librarian of 19 years, is retiring this year. And though the project is an old one [Mr. Harvey used to do it in his writing class], it has not been done in years. However, Mr. Harvey believed this would be a perfect year to do it again. It was to be a tribute to Mrs. Tully, her love for children's books, her elaborate collection and a celebration of her years at MHS.

Though each book had to follow a set of guidelines, the creativity, story line, and type of children's book [ABC, moral book, etc] were left up to each group.

"It was a lot of fun. It was a new kind of writing where you go could nuts," exclaimed Ashley Aquilante, co-author of "Max the Monkey."

The books were to be based on a play, *Cyrano*, which Mr. Harvey had read to the class. Also, recently, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey and Mrs. Tully had seen the play in New York City. The play was about a big nosed man, Cyrano, who loved the prettiest woman in town. However, she loved Christian. Cyrano, feeling incompetent in his abilities to win his love, wrote love letters for Christian, helping him to win the

heart of the girl.

"Max the Monkey" written by Greg Barber, Ashley Aquilante, Maria Nieto and Alex Santamaria, followed the scene of the play almost verbatim. The only differences were that the main character (Max) was a monkey and, in the end, Max won the girl over by overcoming his fear and climbing the tree.

According to Mr. Harvey and Mrs. Tully, each book stuck out for one reason or another. If it wasn't for the writing, then it was for the illustrations, or a combination of the two.

In children's books, Mrs. Tully explained, "the illustrations come first then the story takes over."

What better way to celebrate the completion of these books, then to read them to the target audience- children. On March 20th, Mr. Mawn, Mr. Harvey, an Mrs. Mura's children, Charlie, Ethan, and Jack, all gathered in room 111, to listen to the stories.

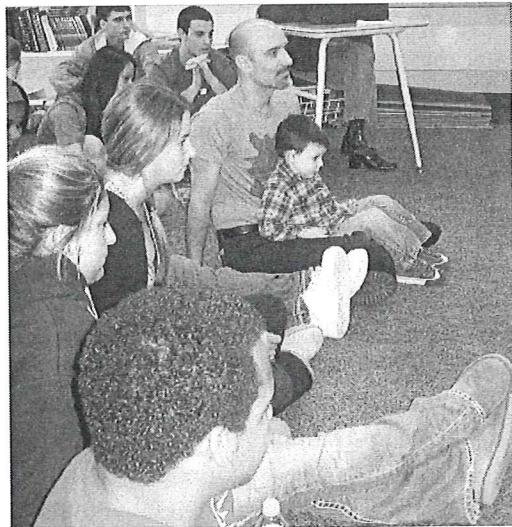
The kids listened and laughed at each story was read.

Mr. Harvey's son, Ethan, seemed to especially like Connor Gondalfo's enthusiasm as he read "Cyrano Nose Best."

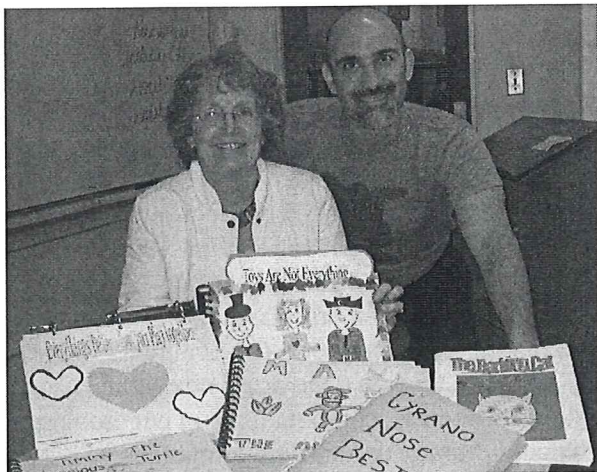
According to Mr. Harvey, the class really pushed themselves. While some students stayed after class, others [Jesus Lopez] worked through their illness and drew beautiful illustrations for "The Barking Cat."

Mr. Harvey could find few words to truly express how he felt the class did on the project.

All he could say was "I couldn't be more proud of them."



Top: Senior Ashley Aquilante shows her group's book, "Max the Monkey"; Above: Mr. Harvey and his son Ethan listen to a story, along with seniors Jackie Truesdale, Christy DeLigny and Chaz Coursey; Below: Mrs. Tully, who is retiring at the end of the school year, displays books created in her honor.



Perception vs. Reality

Sergeant Knight Demonstrates "Army Workout" to Gym Classes

By: Claire Beesley

On Thursday, March 20th and again on Thursday, April 17, the gym classes were surprised by Sergeant Jason Knight. He marched in, set up his DJ and prepared the classes for an "Army Workout." Fortunately, the workout wasn't as dreadful as many of us expected.

While blasting loud music, Sergeant Knight led the class in aerobics cardio muscular endurance training designed to bring the heart rate up and burn calories.

Hannah Tichansky, a senior who took part in the days events, described the workouts as enjoyable, rejuvenating and a good fun way to get shape.

At the end of each workout, Sergeant Knight called the gym classes into the middle, and discussed the importance of exercising and following your dreams.

"I get to give the opportunity to show how the army can be rather than its perception," Sergeant Knight

explained.

He also mentioned while there is a "fun side," to the army there is also structured workouts.

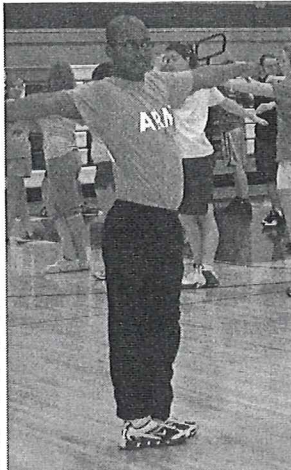
According to Mrs. Kozic, Sergeant Knight's purpose for visiting our school is to show us how to be successful, proud of our country, and to give a little insight to the army.

"He's great, get's people motivated to do physical activity," Mr. Lempa, physical education supervisor, exclaimed.

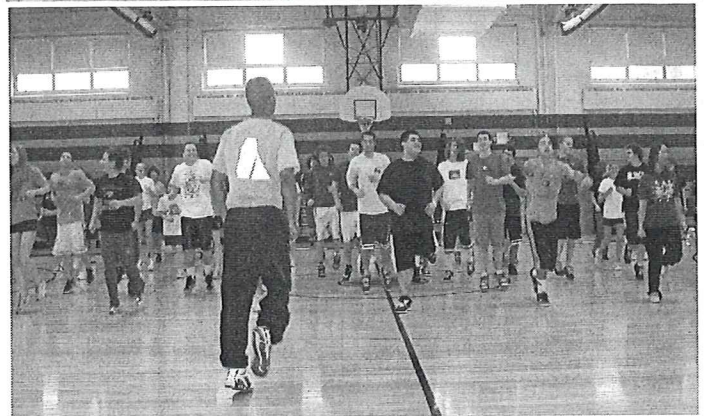
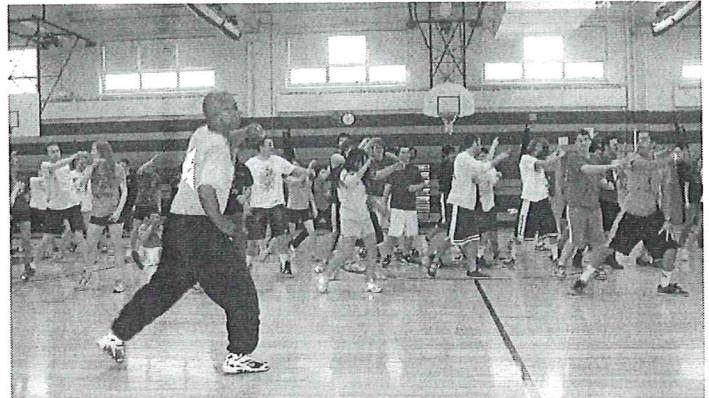
Sergeant

Knight has been traveling from school to school for the past three years demonstrating his aerobic workout simply because he loves too. He is also a well known DJ for a radio show in South Carolina.

There's no doubt that Sergeant Knight will be making more appearances in future gym classes. So if he makes an appearance in your gym class, don't sweat it, it's not that bad.



Sergeant Knight performing his workout for the 5th period gym class



Manasquan Jazz Band Hits a High Note at Festival

By: Haley Behre

Ten local high school bands joined together for the annual MHS Jazz Fest on Wednesday, April 30th. The purpose of the concert was to bring together bands from different high schools to jam in a

noncompetitive environment.

The night kicked off with the hosts MHZ Jazz Band performing. They played songs like "Dancing Men," "Now in the Time," and "Jumbo Gumbo."

From there the other nine schools beautifully performed a large array of jazz music. Songs like "Caravan," "Every Little Thing She Does is Magic," and "Moaning" were played.

"We [Manasquan] were the best by far," said junior Dan Cassidy with a smile. While that might sound boastful, most onlookers would agree. The MHS Jazz Band is a very talented group, led by director Alan Abraham, who pushes his

musicians to play their best.

However, Manasquan isn't the only school that deserves recognition. Asbury Park, for instance, has only had a music program for six years. According to audience member Mrs. Behre, they were not "top notch," but their effort and musical talent should not go without notice.

The night lasted just over five hours. By the end of the night everyone was tired and ready for bed. But as the musicians, music directors, and audience members left Manasquan High School they do so with smiles on their faces and a greater appreciation for Jazz music.

Sports Injury Management Class!!

By: Kayta Palsi

A cool class at Manasquan High School is Sports Injury Management. Rather than sitting, bored, listening to a teacher drone on, the students get involved! Sports Injury Management is a hands-on class in which Mr. Hyland takes students on various trips and hosts presentations by professional medical personnel.

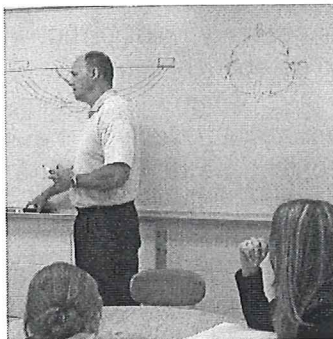
Some may think that just because the class seems "out of

the box" that it is a piece of cake. That is not the case. Just as much, if not more, learning goes on in Sports Injury Management as an Algebra class! "It's the most difficult class I am taking" exclaimed enthusiastic senior Kali Mura.

The class learns about extreme injuries, medical careers, rehabilitating patients back to health, and how the body heals on a cellular level.

Along with learning

uncommon academics, the class also learns in uncommon ways. Every Wednesday for seven weeks pairs of kids from the class will go to Physical Therapy Clinics to watch Medical Careers in action. While



Above: Rob Lavin, Physical Therapist lectures to the class.

at the Clinic the students get to meet and deal with patients. Some of the facilities they will travel to include; Hanger, Shore Spine and Sport,

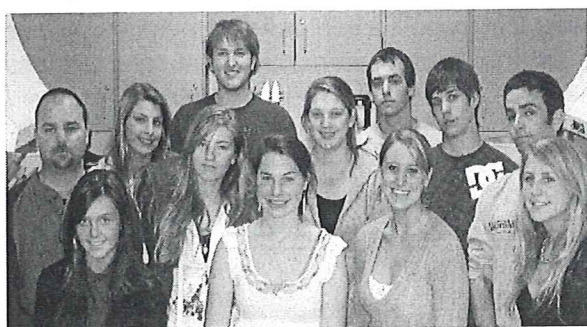
Advanced Orthopedic Velocity, Sports

Training Physical Therapy, and Advanced Orthopedic Sports Physical Therapy.

Another uncommon way the Sports Injury students learn is through class speakers. Earlier this semester a Sports Psychiatrist visited the class and discussed the mental state of dealing with people and injuries. The Psychiatrist also talked about taking care of oneself and creating a happy environment in

continued on page 24

Just another happy day for members of Mr. Hyland's Sports Injury Management Class. Pictured clockwise from left:



MHS Jazz Band Bowls Up A Strike

El Techno Diablos Take Home First Prize

By: Tyler Toole



Recently on Wednesday April 23rd, the MHS Jazz Band hosted a bowling tournament at Shore Lanes in Neptune. According to people that attended the tournament, the atmosphere was great.

"It was a spectacular experience being with such a great group of the student body who know how to competitively bowl," said senior Mike Sheehan

"Pizza; bowling; music, what better combination is there in this world?" added Mr. Abraham.

As for the bowling, like Sheehan said, it was very competitive. Awards were given to the first, second, and third place teams.

Finishing first was the Tech Team known as El Techno Diablos, whose members consisted of Jeff Kirk, Elliot Ernstein, Frank Scott, and Mike Naghski. Coming in second was The Noldor, with team members Jake McDonnell, Eric Bloodgood, Kelsey Forbes, Matt Bloodgood, and Brad Stockhamer. Rounding it

out in third place came Lethal Weapon 4: The Return of Kahn, the team with Tyler March, Bobby Walzer, Kris Pirnat, and Sheehan.

"As we entered the extravagant domicile that some refer to as the bowling alley, we felt an empowering rush of empowerment empower us. I knew we would be taking home the bronze," added March.

During the night music could be heard from DJ Mr. Abraham, who is also known as either DJ Funky Fresh Cuz or DJ Bad Mama Jama.

The jazz band is really pleased with the turnout, and happy that it can help them get to Baltimore Inner Harbor. The band will do their Big Bang Percussion Ensemble in front of the Constellation. Then next year, they will be able to reach Disney World.

Overall the tournament was a great success, and everyone had a great time.

"It was really fun, and it's a really good fundraiser," added band member Ian Gray.

Artists on Main St.

AP Studio Art students showcase their talents at artshow on Main Street

by Jared H. Schwartz

*Chloe Anselmo
Larissa Etson
Kory Schatz
Lisa Bartholomew
Eva Van Voorhis
Kelly McConnell
Kirsten Cosgrove
Brendan Sullivan
Carrie Venables
Danielle Wainwright
Matt Marquez
Stephanie Montoya*

On April 11, 2008, students of the AP Studio Art Class showcased their art at the Main Street Art Gallery on Main Street in Manasquan.

Unlike the Annual Art Show held in the media center, this exhibit was exclusively dedicated to showcasing the talents of students in the AP Class.

Every year, students who take the AP Test for college credit are granted the opportunity to display more art than those who do not take the test.

Junior Chloe Anselmo, who was voted "Most Promising Young Artist" at this year's Annual Art Show, was greatly excited about displaying her art for the public in Manasquan.

"It felt cool seeing my work incorporated with the gallery work. I was honored to have that opportunity," Anselmo explained.

Anselmo's art concentrates on a series of musical and floral designs representing her thoughts and the melodies of life. Many of her pieces highlight the use of rich colors and various strokes to show the influence of music on her work.

"My process for producing pieces aren't anything special, really. I just think of things on my own then go with it. Music inspires a lot of things, though."

One particular piece that Anselmo loves, is

her pieces with a guitar and red rose. It has a cool arrangement and depicts Anselmo's passions, music and flowers.

"I usually have my idea brewing in my mind and whenever the opportunity comes, I express my thoughts on paper."

Like many of the students in the AP Studio Art Class, Anselmo plans on taking the test this year to gain AP credit for college come 2009.

"I have a lot of schools in mind. For example, UArts, FIT, Parson School of Design, Mason Gross School of The Arts, and RISD," Anselmo stated, "I come from a family of artists and, so it's kind of natural for me to continue with it."

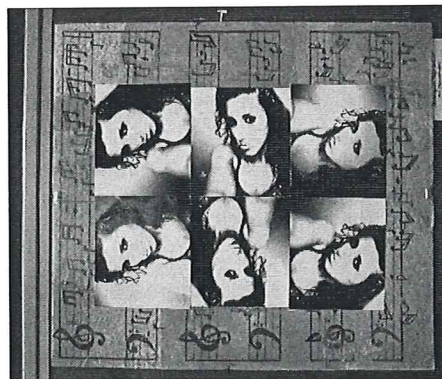
She states the her deceased uncle serves as an inspiration, who was also talented in art and she strives to make her family proud.

"I have really progressed with my art throughout the year," quoted Anselmo, "I really have to thank both Mrs. Monaghan and Ms. Caci for helping all of us in the art class."

Although, Chloe won't be taking the AP Art Class next year, she plans on taking art classes her senior year.



Drawing piece produced by Senior Eva Van Voorhis



2-D piece produced by Junior Chloe Anselmo



Drawing piece produced by Senior Kory Schultzt

Squan Students Go On Mission of Mercy

By: Kaitlin McGuinness

Over Spring break, most students relaxed, spent time with friends or went on vacation. Two Manasquan students, however, did something extraordinary. Senior Jordan Owens and junior Megan Thompson traveled to Honduras with the medical brigade of the House of Friendship, an organization that aids disadvantaged children living in Honduras.

The girls flew out of America in the early hours of the morning. For the next ten days, they worked to help set up clinics in four different rural villages that attracted thousands of people who have no other access to healthcare.

In each village they ran three different clinics- pediatric, general medicine and dentistry. The girls assisted the doctors, dentists and other medical professionals who volunteered their time and services over the Easter break.

Both girls said the experience was very rewarding. Megan has been going since her freshman year, and is the third sister in her family to go. Her eldest sister heard about the program through her pediatrician, Dr. Cahill, who has been going to Honduras with the group for 18 years. This was Jordan's second year going to Honduras, and she also heard about the program though someone who had been recruited by Dr. Cahill.

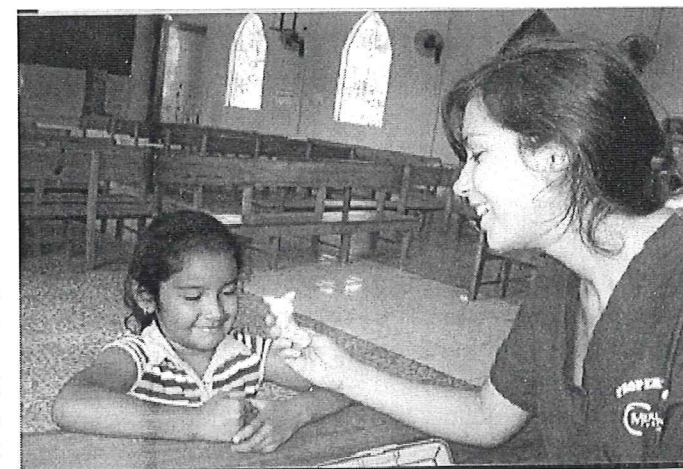
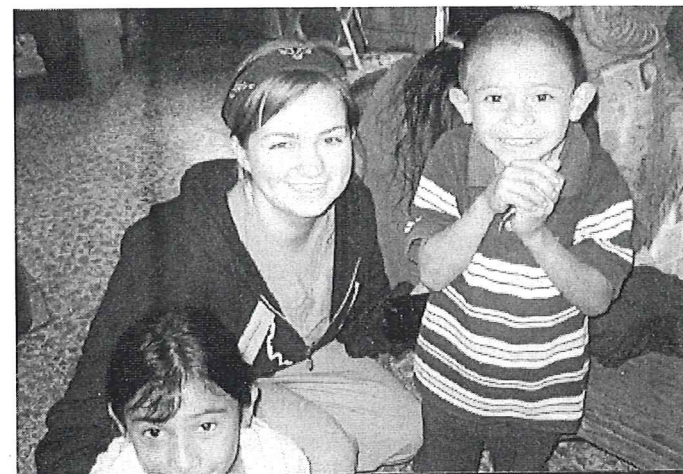
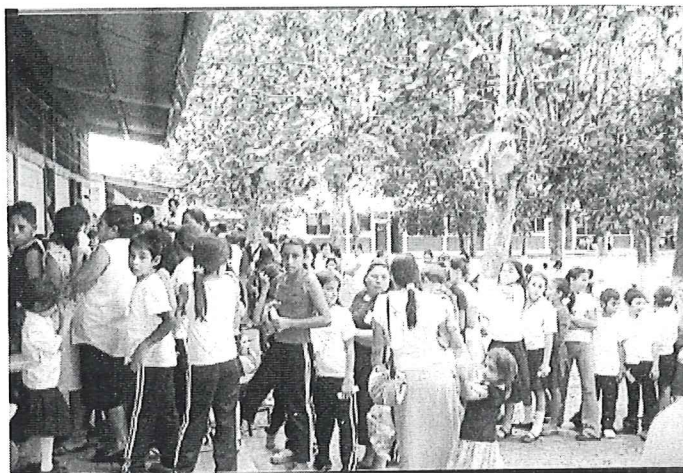
Before going, Megan solicited dentists, elementary schools, pharmaceutical companies and parishioners from St. Mark's church for supplies for the brigade. She received normal articles like toothbrushes, toothpaste, vitamins and medicated cream that are so rare in Honduras. One pharmaceutical company even sent a tractor trailer full of supplies to Megan's home.

Megan wrote a letter for the company asking for donations, and they replied with a phone call when Megan wasn't home. Her mother talked to the company, and then one day they pulled up to the house with dozens of boxes of supplies. Everything the members collected was sent over to Honduras beforehand in a container ship. Megan said she was very appreciative of "the outpouring of generosity."

Jordan saved all the toys she could from McDonald's happy meals, with help from younger children. She brought them for the children in Honduras, many of which didn't have any toys. They loved the small gifts which American children often lose/discard within the hour of eating the meal.

Jordan said the most rewarding part was talking to the little kids. She also had a wonderful experience with an older woman who came into the clinic. Jordan was assisting a doctor when a woman came in, one of the last patients of the day. She was all by herself, and was 100 years old according to her card. She needed help for her feet, which were hurting her. Jordan says they were caked with dirt, and had severe blisters from old shoes and constant walking. Jordan attempted to wash the woman's feet and gave her a new pair of socks. She looked up when she heard a noise, and realized tears were running down her face. She told Jordan that no one had ever shown her such kindness before. "Soon, we were all crying," said Jordan.

Jordan said the woman was a rarity because there are very few elderly people in Honduras. Because of the poor standard of living, lack of food, shelter, and healthcare, people



MHS Gay-Straight Alliance Demonstrates the Power of Silence

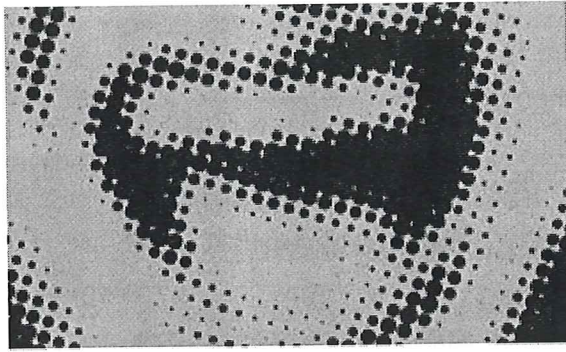
By: Thomas Sullivan

Many people say that actions speak louder than words, but can you say the same for silence? On April 25th, the question was answered with a resounding yes as the GSA sponsored the National Day of Silence, a national student protest movement, at the high school.

National Day of Silence, which was established by University of Virginia students in 1996, requires its participants to stay silent for an entire day to protest anti-LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender) hate crimes and general discrimination.

The movement started with about 150 UVA students and soon spread further and

further around the United States. By the second national day in 1997, the number of



DAY of SILENCE

participating institutions went from one to a whopping 100 schools and colleges around the country.

Realizing that they could not coordinate this alone at this point, in 1998 the original

UVA students expanded the movement once again through regional coordinators. A more strictly organized day lead to a hundred more schools joining to support the cause.

The movement has been growing in size ever since. In recent years, upto 1,900 schools and over 100,000 students have participated and the numbers simply keep multiplying and multiplying.

Student Assistance Counselor Millie Sollecito who organizes and runs

the GSA had nothing but positive things to say about the day as a whole. "It was conducted in a respectable and admirable manner", remarked Dr. Sollecito. "I am extremely proud of the high school

students who participated and were able to send such an important message to the student body".

This year's Day of Silence was different from others in that it was dedicated to a specific person; something that had never been done before. Lawrence King, a 15-year-old eighth grader from California who was shot in the head by one of his male classmates after he asked him to be his valentine, was the focus of this year's day and its after-festivities.

The Manasquan High School GSA will host their annual Breaking the Silence Coffee House in the month of June. As per usual, the event will feature a lot of local performers, coffee, and baked goods for people to enjoy while they celebrate, "break the silence", and make our high school a better place.

MHS Junior Wins Academic Award Junior Jack Masterson Awarded Dr. Norman J. Field Award

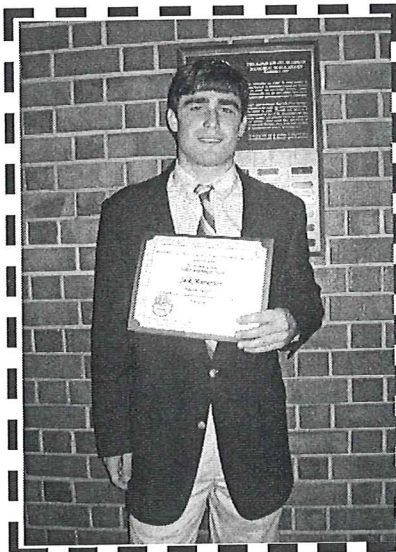
By: Nicole Casey

Jack Masterson, a Manasquan High School junior, is "well-known" around these hallways for being an exceptionally good athletic, an incredibly smart guy, and even being able to talk backwards (yes, it's true, you have to hear it!). As a matter of fact, he is ranked number one in the junior class.

Jack's all around excellence was acknowledged by Monmouth County and the state of New Jersey in April of this year. Jack received the Dr. Norman J Field award from Monmouth County, for his participation in extra curricular activities and academic progress.

This award is given to one High school student and One Elementary school student from every school in Monmouth County. So, simply put, Jack received this award out of over 1030 students.

The award included commemorative certificates



from both the county of Monmouth AND the state of New Jersey. Jack commented that "winning the award was pretty cool, I'm happy I won it."

More importantly, the award looks on great on Jack's already booming resume. "Mrs. Elms told me I was nominated for this award, based on my academic [progress]. It will help a lot with getting into the colleges I want to go to."

Jack is interested in both Holy Cross and Dartmouth Universities, but it not sure where he will eventually end up. However he does plan to continue playing lacrosse in whatever college he chooses.

Jack enjoys math and English class and is also very involved in Manasquan High School's extracurricular activities. He plays

JV and Varsity basketball and is a member of the Spanish club, Key club, Spanish Honors Society, and the Gold Key Club.

Continued on page 1!

Annual Blood Drive Scheduled for Monday, June 2

By: Sarah Kleinfeld

Are you ready to be a super hero? If you say yes, then all you have to do is sign up! No, you won't be given the ability to fly, have x-ray vision, or pick up a bus. If you want to be a true hero, you can donate blood at Manasquan High School's annual blood drive!

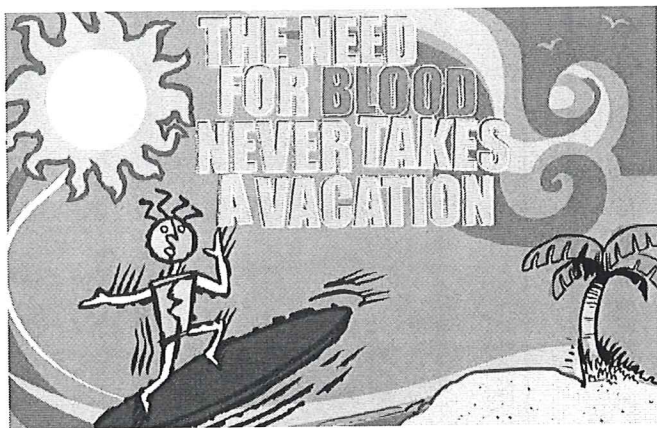
On Tuesday May 20th, from 8am to 2pm, the Central Jersey Blood Center will be sending phlebotomists (nurses who specialize in drawing blood) to the MHS gym. Anyone who is at least seventeen and 120 pounds is eligible to give. Plus in a recent change of policy, students with tattoos and piercings that were done by licensed New Jersey are also qualified.

"Our goal this year is to get more blood than the year before, which was about one hundred and fifty one pints with one hundred and forty six participants," added Mrs. McCoy. That does not appear to be a far off goal. Last year the blood drive was shut down because of insufficient staff, but this year the Central Jersey Blood Center has made it a point to assure the nurse that enough staff will be sent.

As usual, MHS will be competing with other organizations for which one can donate the most blood. Unlike other years, though we are only vying against other high schools, which means less competition. The school with the most blood will win Great Adventure passes for the entire junior and senior classes! Plus, one student will win \$5,000 in scholarships.

Amusement park passes and money are not the only reasons to give. According to Mrs. McCoy, the school

SAVE 3 LIVES
ALL IN A DAY'S WORK



donations will end up in local hospitals and will be used up so fast that by the end of Memorial Day weekend, it will all be gone. As Mrs. McCoy says: "To begin a lifetime of giving blood is such a gift to others."

It's also a great way to find out if anything is wrong with your body because

nurse, "It is important to donate because one pint of blood saves three lives and there is an extreme shortage in hospitals, especially with rare types." The

if so, your blood will not be accepted and you will be notified confidentially.

If you like to give blood, Mrs. McCoy advises you to "remember to begin preparation twenty four hours before

you donate so that you're not depleted and bring proof of age or you will not be eligible." To learn about other donation facts, see "Top 10 Things to Know Before You Donate".

To really pump up the event, the health careers club is trying to get the hit radio station, WB The Rat, to come and play music in the gym.

It all started six years ago, when Don Burke suggested that Manasquan participate in a blood drive. After tons of work this event has become an annual occurrence at our school. It has developed into health careers club's biggest occasion, and all members are important to all things going smoothly.

Remember, someday you might be the one who needs blood, so if you want to listen to some music, eat some treats, and be someone's superhero, don't forget to check out the MHS blood drive.

Textbook Teaches an Unexpected Lesson

By: Haley Behre

It's the first day of school. Your teacher hands out your textbooks, like they do every period, in every subject. You flip through the book to make sure there aren't any rips or inappropriate markings, disregarding the actual text because you trust that it is accurate and objective.

But what if it wasn't?

What if the authors unintentionally published a biased textbook? Would you

Student Speaks Up, Creates Change

even notice the biased fact? And if you did, would you look the other way?

It's safe to say that few would notice the biased information, and those that did would probably look the other way. They'd be too timid or too afraid to speak out against an acclaimed and well researched book.

But not seventeen year old senior Matthew LaClair.

The Kearney, New Jersey student spoke out against the textbook, *American Government*.

Through research and contact with the Center for Inquiry, a nonprofit group whose goal is to defend reason and science, he was able to persuade Houghton Mifflin, a powerhouse in textbook publishing, to review their book.

During his AP US government and politics class, LaClair raised questions about political bias in *American Government*, a popular college text.

My Best Friend's Closet

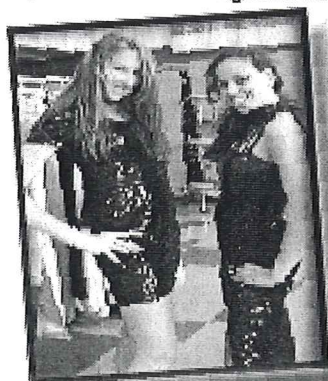
By Jackie Truesdale



Above: senior, Kate Wilt, posed in a beautiful black sequined dress



Above: (left) Brandon Mattem & Taylor Alvarez foolishly posed for a picture while wearing dresses



Above: (left) Erin Ehrola & Sam Casbarro posed in black sequined dresses

Have you ever wondered why everyone looks so good at all our dances? Well the girls usually spend hours on their makeup while the boys spend extra time making sure their hair looks perfect, but that's not the only reason! When the students walk out on the dance floor wearing fancy dresses and formal suits/tuxes, looking so stunning, that's what makes everyone's eyes open wide.

That's why before every high school dance students usually find themselves spending numerous hours in stores looking for that perfect outfit. But, once they've found the outfit of their choice don't you think they should wear it over and over again after spending so much money? Well according to fashion magazines, that's not always the best idea when you want to look "fresh". Therefore, the outfits usually just sit in their closets taking up space.

Student Alliance Club has an answer to that problem! Instead of letting your nice outfits sit go to waste you can donate them to My Best Friend's Closet. It is an organization that helps males and females of any age purchase beautiful garments and accessories at a low price. The club has collected new and old dresses, suits and tuxedos to raise money for MADD, Mother's Against Drunk Drivers, as part of Project Prom.

This year's outfits were able to be dropped off at Gloria Nilson GMAC Real Estate office in Spring Lake, Starbucks in Brook 35, The Atlantic Club, and Ms. Siino's office in the high school.

Student Alliance held a successful sale on May 2nd and 3rd in Manasquan's HS Cafeteria. They collected over 300 dresses and sent the profit to MADD. They also donated huge garbage bags of the beautiful prom wear that wasn't sold to Asbury Park School District.

Next time you have a fancy outfit that you don't plan on wearing again donate it to My Best Friend's Closet so everyone continues to look magnificent at all the dances they attend.

Below: Student Alliance members hung a beautiful sign advertising the organization



Above: senior, Amylee Sanders, & school counselor/ her mother, Mrs. Sanders, posed in front of the school's sign displaying the event



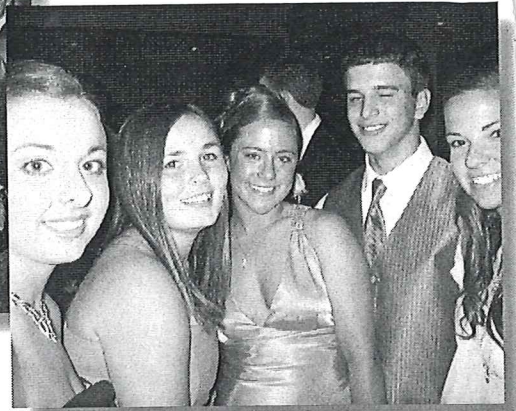
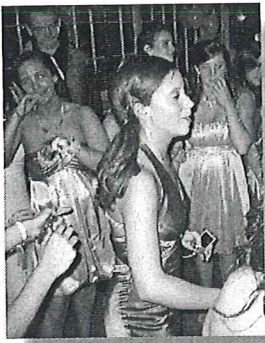
Above: senior, Kiersten Amberg, looked through a rack of stunning dresses



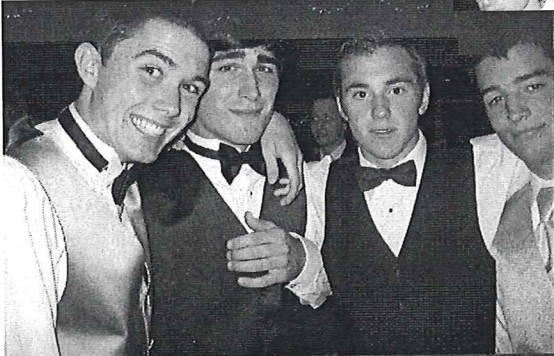
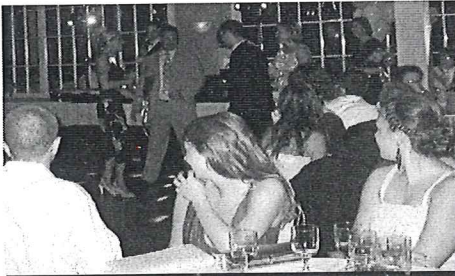
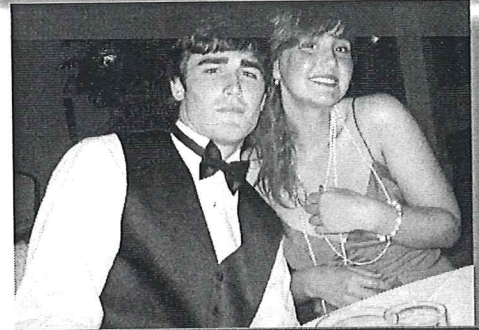
Above: (from left to right) Susie Lo, Ms. Siino, Sam Casbarro, & Julia Vargo posed in gorgeous gowns

COMING SOON
my BEST FRIENDS CLOSET
ALL PROCEEDS GO TO MADD

Photos: Kaitlin McGuinness
Collage: Nicole Casey



Junior Prom 2008



Mr. Weisert Directs His 50th Show: Jekyll and Hyde

Audiences rave over Drama Club spring musical

By: Claire Beesley

Many students devote themselves to extracurricular activities, but there's no doubt that the Manasquan High School Drama Club is the most hardworking group in the school.

Many members say, "Drama Club runs on Dunkin'."

All that hard work, and coffee, paid off in this year's performance of *Jekyll and Hyde* on April 24-26.

The talented senior Matt Truex starred as the positive Dr. Henry Jekyll and the evil Edward Hyde in this tragic musical tale of experiments, love, and murder.

Dr. Jekyll was influenced by his father's illness to create an antidote to separate evil out of good. When Jekyll proposed his plan the Board of Governors were cautious and constantly turned him down.

Jekyll decided to try the concoction on himself, which backfired and transformed him into his polar opposite, Edward Hyde, who roamed the streets killing everyone who rejected his ideas.

"It was a challenge remembering who I was on stage," Truex remarked.

To prepare for this deep role Truex watched numerous movies about people with split

personalities,

such as *Secret Window*.

Senior Shea Flood astounded the audience with her powerful vocals as Lucy Harris, a prostitute confused about what she wants in life. It wasn't until she met Jekyll and fell in love, when she decided to change her life. Unfortunately, Hyde stabbed her to death because she was advised to leave by Jekyll's best friend, Utterson (Patrick Gallagher).

Senior Dana Van Houten brought her character,

Emma Carew, to life through exemplary acting and singing skills. Emma, confident and outspoken, was engaged to Jekyll, and loved him for who he was, despite her father's disapproval.

The advanced lighting blew the audience away during the pivotal Jekyll vs. Hyde scene. The lighting switched rapidly between red and white as Truex transformed quickly between his characters.

Never before has a Drama Club production required over a hundred lights. According to president and stage manager Anna Klindtworth, all three house bars were used, and the crew even built more bars on the stage.

During each show Klindtworth worked in the balcony and gave every single light and sound cue to

freshmen Jimmy Tilton (lighting and freshmen Taylor Alvare (sound).

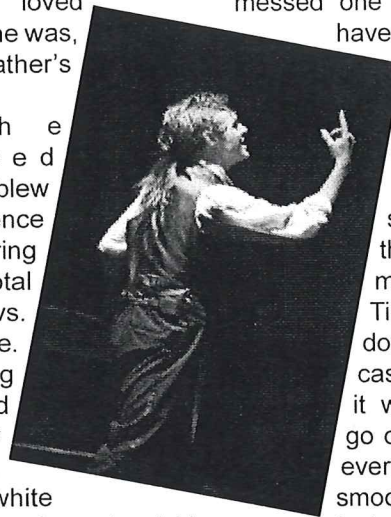
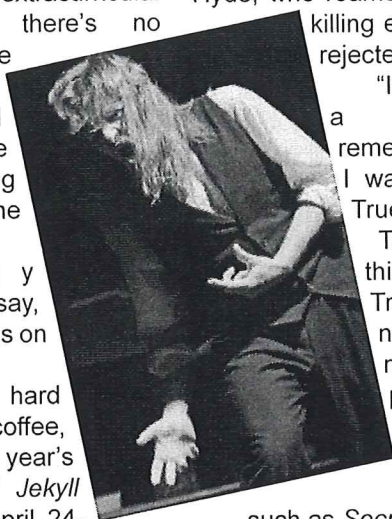
"It was so scary, if I messed one cue up it could have ruined the whole show," Klindtworth explained.

While Anna Klindtworth managed the sound and lights, the assistant stage manager, Hannal Tichansky, worked downstairs cueing cast members when it was their time to go onstage, and kept everything running smoothly.

At the conclusion of the play, Mr. Weisert presented the Jack Nicholson Award to Anna Klindtworth for all her hard work and commitment to the drama club during her four years at high school.

"It feels so good, I really wanted it," Klindtworth said.

Towards the conclusion of the year, a Drama Club Banquet will be held. Her other awards will be announced and next year's president and council will be decided.



Truex Stars as Dr. Jekyll, Mr. Hyde

By: Jamee Shea

You've seen him on the stage roping cows and killing governors. You've also seen him in class walking around with unusual hair extensions. No matter where you've seen Matt Truex you always think of theater.



He looks normal here, but with hair extensions, Matt sure looked different!

Matt Truex, a senior here at MHS, has been highly involved in not only his exceptional academics, but for his amazing stage presence and highly acclaimed singing voice.

We all know he's been very famous in the past four years for his huge roles in all of the musicals, but how did he get started?

Matt claims that since he was a child, he was always mesmerized by the theater. "My mother has been working for the theater so I was very interested," recalls the Brielle native.

But his mother wasn't the first one to get him to sing. His booming performance career started by chance when his teacher Miss Goodwin asked him to sing for the Brielle Tree Lighting in 3rd grade.

Since then even trying sports in elementary school didn't match up to his passion of singing and theater. He then started performing for various theater companies as part of children's ensembles for *Joseph & the Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Scrooge* and *Evita*. "I always enjoyed coming to the rehearsals and having so much fun with friends," added Matt.

After starting the Brielle Elementary School's drama club with Guys and Dolls, high school rolled around and Matt was about to gain a celebrity status with nothing but lead roles.

Continued on Page 7



*The Blue & Gray
Manasquan High School
167 Broad Street
Manasquan, NJ 08736*

Principal:
Mr. Rick Coppola

Issue 4
May 16, 2008

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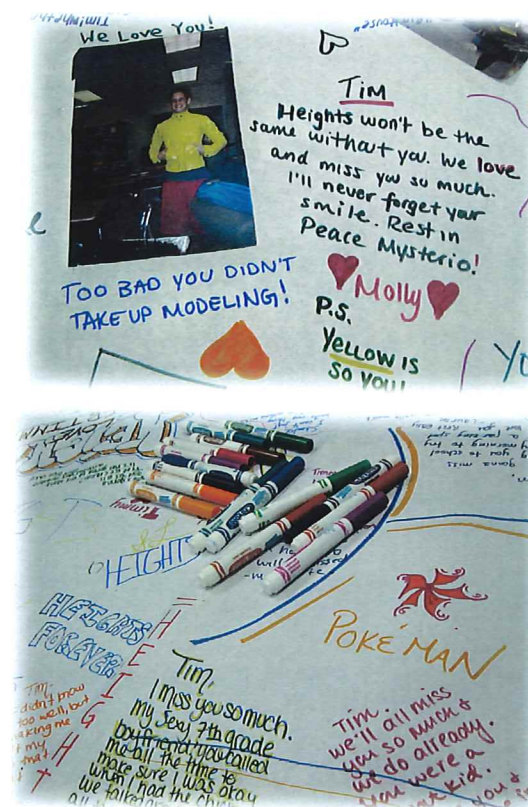
Remember

By: Branden Mattern

Though I may not have known you,
I still knew you.
But now you are gone
Into an eternal night.
Where you once stood
Now there is light.
For you, candles burn.
But that light will soon fade
And then will be extinguished.

Yet with these words,
I carve in stone,
"Let Us Never Forget,
Let Us Remember."
So with these words
Let your memory remain alive
Not for how you died
Or why you died.
But let it be for who you were
And how you acted.

Let the times you laughed,
The times you cried,
The people you loved,
The people who loved you,
Let those be the things that are
remembered,
When your name is spoken,
Or when they talk about you.



Lest we forget your name,
Let this poem give it wings.
Let it give you wings.
Let it keep your name alive.

Tim Schenke,
May your spirit soar,
For this poem will make sure,
You will be
Remembered.

