

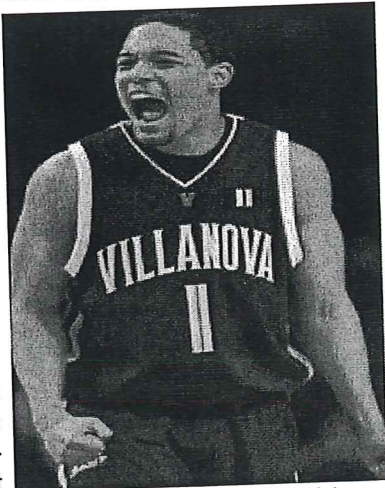
March Madness Filled With Twists and Turns As UNC Brings Home Another Title

By: John Pavia

It's been a crazy March, just ask the final four teams who played in the NCAA Men's Finals. All four teams had to battle their way to get to that point in the tournament, the Final Four. Villanova, North Carolina, Connecticut, and Michigan State battled their way to get to the Final Four with a chance at an NCAA championship but only one would win. The paths each team has taken have been extremely different with Villanova overcoming a shaky start to the tournament to crush tougher opponents but Michigan St. had to battle in almost every game while UNC and Connecticut were expected to win by large amounts which they did.

Villanova almost didn't make it to the second round thanks to an upset bid by American University, but the Wildcats fought back like the tough team they have proven to be and thwarted any chance of an upset. From there, Nova absolutely destroyed UCLA, 89-69, in what was supposed to be a balanced matchup, it was a slaughter. Next, they were playing the higher ranked Duke University and once again, Nova's toughness and guard play dominated the less athletic Duke team, 77-54, allowing Villanova to advance to play top seed Pittsburgh.

The game has as one of games ever cent memory squeaking tory, 78-76. It to the wire guard Scot hit the game with less than maining. With one Villanova the ball in as his team and caught while Scot sprinted down catching a the teammate the inbounds



Villanova's Scottie Reynolds celebrates his amazing, game-winning drive against #1 seed Pittsburg

against Pitts- been hailed the greatest played in re- with Villanova out a vic- came down as Villanova tie Reynolds winning layup a second re- a tie game, player threw to half court mate leapt up the ball tie Reynolds the sideline toss from that caught pass. Reyn-

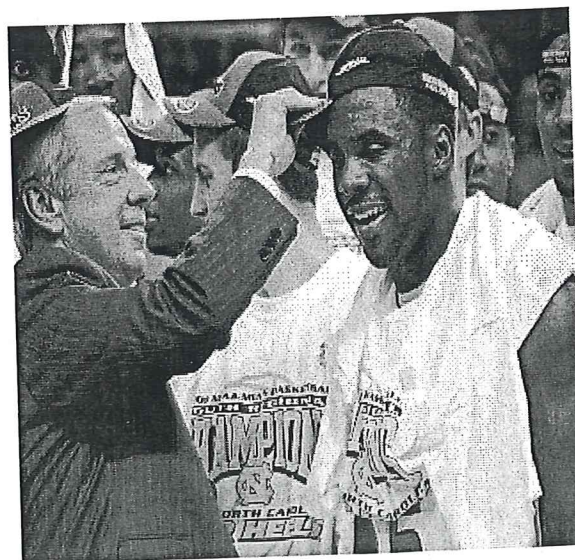
olds dribbled to the lane, put up a shot, and the rest in history for the Villanova Wildcats as they are now 2 wins away from an NCAA Championship.

In Michigan State's case, every game has been a brawl until the end, playing questionably the hardest schedule to get to the Final Four. They played Robert Morris University in the first round which was no cupcake opponent before they won 77-62. Their next opponent was the hot and upstart team in USC which had just won the Pac-10 Tournament as huge underdogs. The streaking USC team was no match for MSU down the stretch as MSU pulled away 74-69. Next up for MSU was the defending champion, Kansas who is one of the toughest, most aggressive teams in the country. Michigan State had to

come from behind, late in the game, to stun the Kansas Jayhawks, 67-62. The next game would be their toughest task, playing the #1 overall seed in the tournament, Louisville. Louisville was coming off a dominant performance as they crushed twelfth-seeded Arizona by 39 points, but Michigan State was not scared one bit. Michigan State handled Louisville's pressure defense and pressing with relative ease as their guards made outside shots and Louisville had no answer for MSU center Goran Suton who had 17 points in the first half. MSU was too consistent throughout the game for Louisville as they moved into the Final Four, winning 64-52.

As for the two other teams in the tournament, UNC and UConn, they played exactly as they were supposed to and dominated their opponents, winning by an average of 22.5 and 25.5 points respectively. No game was close for either team except for Connecticut's hard fought win over Missouri who had brought their best game but it wasn't enough to beat the extremely talented Connecticut team. All four teams were playing at their best levels so far this season and the games in the Final Four were no different.

The matchup between Michigan State and Connecticut was heavily analyzed and many thought Connecticut would battle before moving on but this was not the case. Michigan State's grind-it-out style of offense and gritty defense stifled the Connecticut team which had more talent but was less disciplined. MSU forced turnovers and mistakes by the UConn Huskies and pulled away in the second half advancing to the National Championship, 72-63. North Carolina's matchup against Villanova was purely Goliath (UNC) against David (Villanova). Villanova was a huge underdog due to their lack of any star players like UNC had. Villanova's a tough team but they were no match for the talent of UNC as they missed open shots and couldn't defend the wild Tar Heels. UNC advanced to play MSU in the National Championship, 83- 74.



The National Champions UNC Tar Heels

From A-ROD to A-ROID

By: Ariana Margetis

It's been a rough year for the New York Yankees third baseman, Alex Rodriguez. Accusations were made that the baseball player was cheating on his wife, Cynthia, who has two children with the athlete. They finalized their divorce. Soon rumors surfaced in tabloids that he was dating superstar Madonna, making him a well known name outside baseball. Following the dating rumors, a fourth misfortune hit Rodriguez's way—his previous use of performance-enhancing drugs.

The subject of steroid use is a familiar topic to Major League Baseball and its fans. Many familiar players who



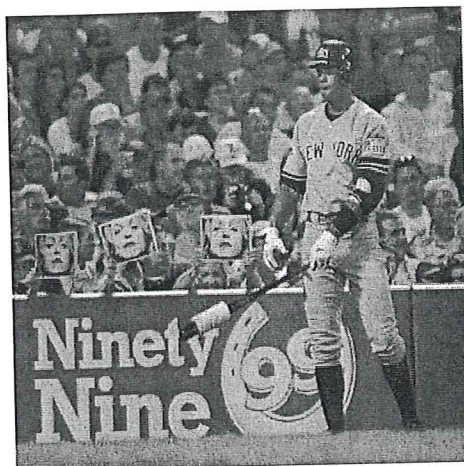
have admitted or have been accused of using such substances are greats like Mark McGwire, Jose Canseco, Rafael Palmeiro, Miguel Tejada, Barry Bonds, and

Roger Clemens.

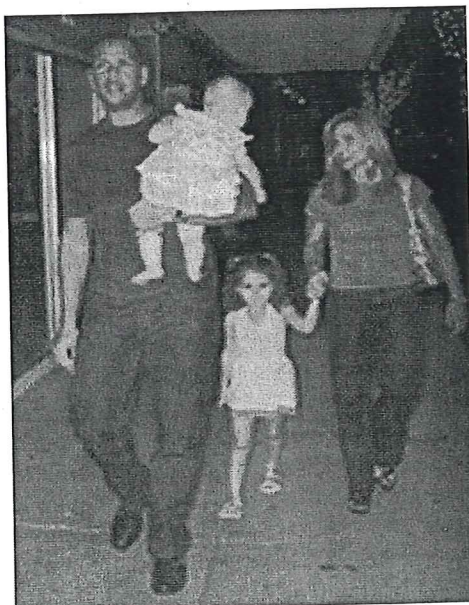
Rodriguez is currently the highest paid player in the league racking in approximately \$28 million a year. In his fifteen years playing professional baseball, he has been a player known to put on great performances. Last season, Rodriguez batted in 103 runs and hit 35 homeruns in one-hundred and thirty eight games. He is ranked twelfth in homeruns with 553.

In 2003, Rodriguez tested positive on a drug test taken while with the Texas Rangers. Sports Illustrated reported a list of 104 players who tested positive on an anonymous drug survey. Rodriguez confronted the situation at Yankee's spring training camp.

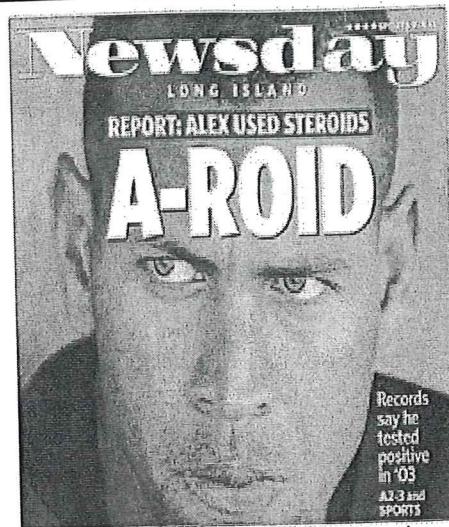
In February, A-Rod finally admitted his usage of steroids. He said he had used these drugs during his three seasons as a Texas Ranger. The third baseman told ESPN's Peter Gammons: "When I arrived in Texas in 2001, I felt an enormous amount of pressure. I felt like I had all the weight of the world on top of me and I needed to perform, and perform



Above: Rodriguez (right) waiting in the on deck circle as four fans hold up pictures of Madonna.



Left-Right: Alex holding daughter Ella, and ex-wife Cynthia with daughter Natasha.



A-Rod made headlines on a Newsday magazine in Long Island regarding his steroid use.

at a high level every day." Rangers own, Tom Hicks also spoke to the associated press, telling them he felt "betrayed" and Alex did call and apologize.

At a high profile news conference, the 6'3", thirty-three year old was looking on into the front row at familiar faces such as teammates Captain Derek Jeter, pitchers Andy Pettitte and Mariano Rivera alongside catcher Jorge Posada. Twenty additional players were in attendance along with other members of the Yankee organization: Joe Girardi, Brian Cashman, and Hank Steinbrenner. During the conference, Rodriguez proceeded to describe the substance as something called "boli" (bol-lee). The name "boli" is the substance's street name in the Dominican Republic. A-Rod then continued to tell reporters that his cousin, who was later identified as Yuri Sucart, sold him the substance. "Boli" was purchased over the counter at a pharmacy in the Dominican Republic. Sucart injected Rodriguez twice a month in what was said to be done in six month cycles from the 2001 to 2003. Rodriguez's statement then changed to a possible injection of once a month or three times a month. Afterwards, the many players in attendance fled to their cars trying to escape the confrontation of talking with the media about the conference.

The A-Rod saga continues. Rodriguez will be missing the beginning of the season up until May due to right hip surgery. A-Rod is rehabilitating in Colorado.

Hyland Helps Athletes, Students All Year Long

By: Samantha Matthews

A hero walks the hallways of Manasquan High School every single day.

His name is Kevin Hyland and among all the things he does for our school, life saver is his number one job and most important when looked at through his eyes.

Whether it's teaching physical education, health, or sports injury management he is always busy and involved with the students and our "warrior community".

"I've learned more from that man in the past four years. He's taught me so much both on the field and off. He taught me about family in the training room and helped guide me in my course of study for next year at college. From the first day I ever met that man and the four years after that there was never a dull moment and I will miss him very much," said senior student athletic trainer KJ Pringle, 17, of Sea Girt.

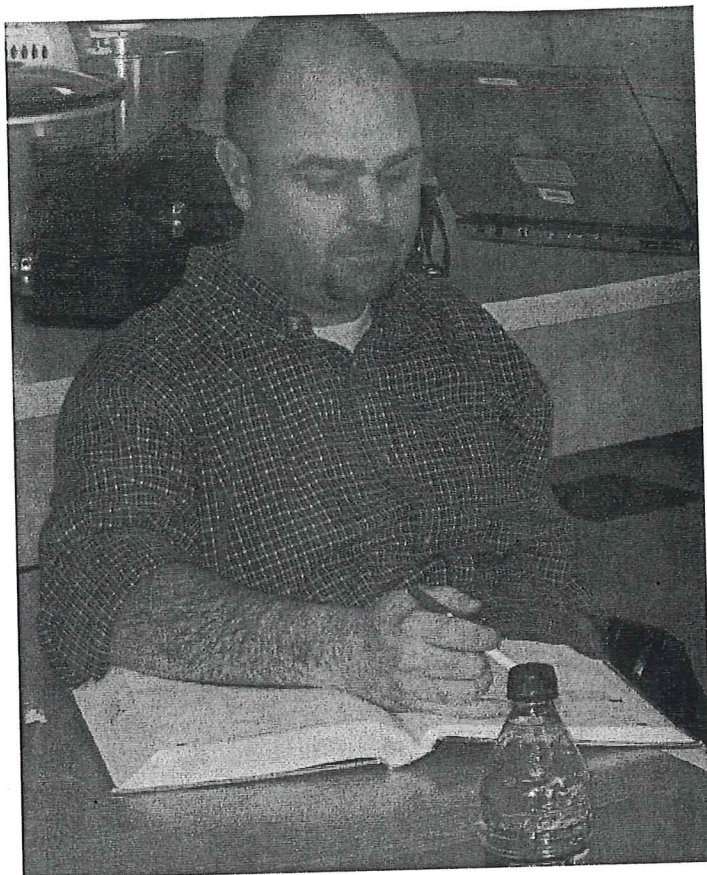
Hyland graduated from West Chester University with a double major in Health and Physical Education and Sports Medicine. He has been the athletic trainer of our school for 15 years and a teacher for 12.

He has been teaching the Sports Injury Management class for 8 years now and was the curriculum writer for this class. Among this class he is also a favorite of the gym teachers and teaches 11th grade health (CPR). A class which I am currently taking and am already enthused in as a result of Mr. Hyland's involved and entertaining teaching methods.

Hyland takes pride in being the Athletic Trainer of our school and I don't know anyone who takes their work more seriously putting their heart and soul into everything. He started the athletic training program during the 1995-1996 school year and it is an extremely successful program in our school that many students take part in during the different sport seasons.

In 2006-2007 Kevin Hyland was dutifully noted as Teacher of the Year. Taking pride in his job and work make him an overall role model for young people such as myself.

"When I play a sport I almost want to get hurt just to see Mr. Hyland," stated junior and starting goalie for the varsity field hockey team, Alicia Lyons, 17 of Spring Lake Heights.



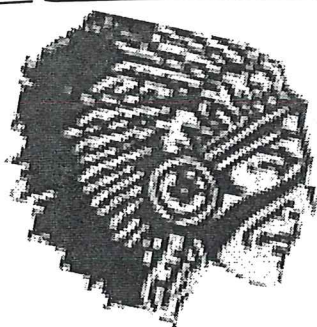
Mr. Hyland preps a lesson for his popular Sports Injury Management elective class.

To call him a hero is not exaggeration. Mr. Hyland has literally been a life saver. Two years ago on the Sea Girt Army camp Mr. Hyland saved the life of a freshman girl who suffered from an asthma attack during field hockey practice.

Mr. Hyland has also had to respond quickly to life threatening athletic emergencies including ruptured femurs and spleens. He can always be seen on the sidelines of a Manasquan sporting event ready to react to anything thrown his way.

Senior Erin Sweeney is one student who has been profoundly effected by Mr. Hyland's style. She has worked as a student trainer since her sophomore year, watching Hyland's expertise in handling injuries and running the training room. She hopes to follow in his footsteps and become an athletic trainer herself.

Whether it's the scalding heat of practice in August or the frigid nights of winter basketball games, Mr. Hyland is here, toiling in the corner of the gymnasium, helping MHS student athletes achieve their goals. The hours are too many to count, and too often take him away from his family. But commitment to excellence makes him the amazing trainer and teacher that he is.



BLUE & GRAY SPORTS

Three-Peat Anyone?

By: Tucker Brendle

MHS Boys Lacrosse Looks to Continue this Year's Winning Trend

Leadership can come in many different forms; in terms of Manasquan Lacrosse, leadership prominently lies in the hearts of the senior leaders. Notable players like Kyle Woodward, Jack Masterson, Pete Schenke, Mike Brown, Zach Britton, Matt Rippon, and Mike Acciavatti are just some of the prime examples of why this season's hopes are through the roof in what looks to be a monstrous mountain to climb for the MHS Boys Lacrosse Team.

When asked about the outlook for the season, senior captain and defensive leader, Jack Masterson, responded "We are looking to have good crowds at all of our games and were also hoping that our great school spirit this year carries over from the basketball season and supports us too. Hopefully we can be the third team to win a state championship for MHS this year."

Squan's first game this season is against Moorestown which will present them with their first huge challenge on their long journey towards a state championship this year. Squan is going to try to be the "Cinderella Man" in this game, as it looks to be a brutal

heavyweight match in which they're extremely out-weighted. But as junior defenseman Ryland McTighe states, "Anything can happen."

Many wonder where this underdog team gets their stand-out confidence from especially since Manasquan is a smaller school with fewer students to choose from for sports teams, causing our athletes to work harder and show more dedication to compete with these big schools.

There is no doubt that this team is confident due to their hard work, camaraderie, and four year continuity, within their senior players. Not to be forgotten is their wealth of experience and leadership and in turn really helps the team to develop comfortably as a whole. Also no strangers to the seniors are very talented and integral parts of the team juniors Mike Frasco and Paul Mayor.

Masterson makes clear that "things are looking good this season as we already scrimmaged two of the top teams in the shore and most importantly we competed in which I thought we did very well."

Starting Goalie Pete Schenke is

extremely optimistic about this season and carries a very noticeable wave of confidence that definitely makes the team more confident when he brings it to practice and warm-ups before games.

Senior captain Kyle Whener of the State Championship MHS Boys Basketball team also encouraged the lacrosse team telling them "If you can dream it, you can do it!"

The kids are also trying to keep things fresh and exciting since they have been going to practice everyday with the same guys for four years. With that Schenke stated that "With recently acquired Fager from the Ocean Spartans, to now new home Manasquan Warriors things are looking up."

Whether the boys bring home a third State Championship this year and make a clean three season sweep to top a virtually perfect school year, they will be greatly commended and appreciated for their efforts. As any team who expects to win should be, their heads are up and their hopes are even higher.

The pressure is on this well composed team but in the words of Jack Masterson "Do you believe in miracles?"

Girls Lacrosse looks to build off last season

Team hopes to improve defense and focus on winning

By Kate Ferraro

The girls' lacrosse team anticipates a successful season. Last season, with a young, but talented group, the team began preparing for this year.

The team had nine underclassmen in the starting lineup, and only lost five seniors. With that

young group, the team finished 9-10 overall, and earned a spot in the South I section of the state tournament. The girls are looking to build off last season and win every game this year.

"We definitely want to beat Wall twice and hopefully beat Shore and Rumson," said Junior Aubree Magyar.

Seniors Devon Golding and

Kendall Malinowski will both return to play the midfield. Also, returning are seniors Jess Commesso, Holly Blakely, and Katherine Reynolds, and juniors Sarah Mahon and Olivia McCarthy, who had huge roles in the offense last season.

"We have strong individual players but we need to work on

continued on next page



continued from page 32

— individuality and privacy are far from sacred or desirable, they are portrayed an annoying hindrance to connecting even more completely with Edward.

Throughout the course of the novel, Edward is fond of intoning romantic (albeit clichéd) platitudes like “look after my heart, I’ve left it with you,” but also displays an alarming propensity to control Bella - for her own good, of course. Before they have formally met, the superhuman Edward sneaks into her bedroom to watch her sleep the whole night long. When this is later revealed to Bella, it doesn’t seem to occur to her that this is a major invasion; setting a lovely example for tweens sighing with passion world over. Breaking-and-entering and stalking are illegal in all 50 states, even in Forks, Washington, and even for vampires. Even smitten ones.

AN EXCHANGE BETWEEN EDWARD & BELLA

“I am perfectly capable of driving myself home!” I stood by the car, fuming. It was raining harder now, and I’d never put my hood up, so my hair was dripping down my back.

He lowered the automatic window and leaned toward me across the seat. “Get in, Bella.”

I didn’t answer. I was mentally calculating my chances of reaching the truck before he could catch me. I had to admit, they weren’t good.

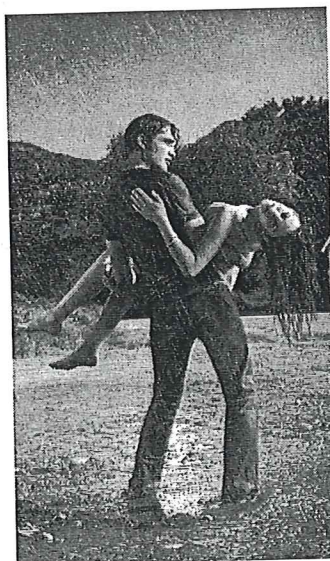
“I’ll just drag you back,” he threatened, guessing my plan.

Edward is “thoughtfully” worried about the perpetually damsel-in-distress Bella’s safety, and so feels the need to do what is best for her. Bella’s free will is a small matter of no consequence. If your boyfriend possesses enormous superhuman strength, that is one thing. If he uses that strength to always carry out his will and counteract any possible opposition, that is wrong and abusive. The words “I’ll just drag you back” from a character with the ability his will over the “heroine” is chilling and repugnant, as is her subsequent acquiescence. She repeatedly defers without question to his superior strength



OK, he’s incredibly gorgeous. But FOCUS here people: subtext.

He was towing me toward his car now, pulling me by my jacket. It was all I could do to keep from falling backward. He’d probably just drag me along anyway if I did.



Bella faints and has to be carried places SEVERAL TIMES.

Even swoon-inducingly cute ones. Edward’s actions aren’t excusable by virtue of his affliction; indeed, the fact that he is a century older than Bella makes it all the more questionable.

On another occasion, when he determines a situation is to dangerous for her, he disables her truck (he can also fix cars, by the way), effectively trapping her, and sweetly promises to return it to working order in the morning (when she can no longer take part in the activities he decrees to hazardous). Bella gives up upon realizing he will cut off any route of access she cares to take, but

instantly forgives and does not resent at all this deterring of her free will.

All in all, *Twilight* is good for a quick, guilty read, but won’t go down for the ages. You’d be better off re-reading Harry Potter if you’re looking for a worthwhile afternoon pursuit. As for the fan-girl whose objections I already hear ringing from the future, by voicing your objections you would make it so much easier for me to pinpoint those among us who have an extreme penchant for the pedestrian and vaguely misogynistic.

Edward wants to go to prom. Bella does not. Guess the outcome...



Will there be a happy ending.

Check out the next issue for another book review.

"All Eyes on Me in the Center of a Ring Just like a Circus"



The Circus Made it's way to "The Rock"

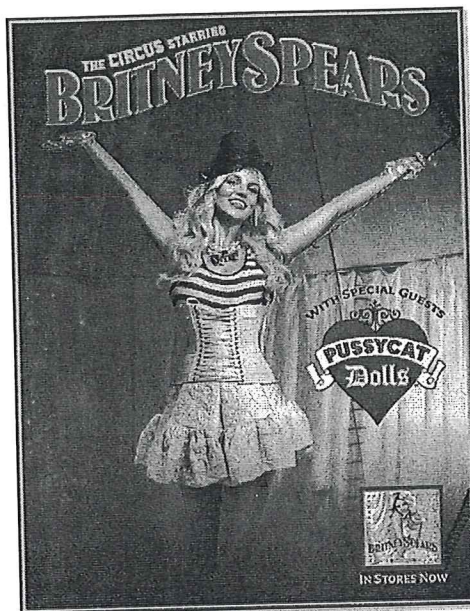


By: Ariana Margetis

She's Back! The legendary Ms Britney Spears went from a small girl in Kentwood, Louisiana to the queen of pop in the music industry. Her every move has been shadowed by the paparazzi and the media, from the breakup with Justin Timberlake, the quick marriage to Jason Alexander, the marriage/divorce to Kevin Federline, but the main people keeping her in comeback mode is her two sons Sean Preston, 3, Jayden James, 2, and her dad. The 27 year old has had a rough few years with all mentioned above and her crazy journey with a shaved head and the headlines of being a bad mother. Her comeback has been a great success so far.

Virgin Mobile launched The Circus Tour, which had tickets selling quickly.

Spears came to the home of the New Jersey Devils on March 13th and March 14th. The Prudential Center was mobbed with fans of all ages ready to watch the acts included in this circus



themed concert. The Pussycat Dolls were the opening act, getting the crowd pumped for the "freak show" that lay ahead. They too put on a great performance. Every dance move was right on target and lead doll, Nicole Scherzinger had an electrifying voice that filled "the rock" with excitement.

The screen was lit and the arena became dark. The face of the notorious Perez Hilton dressed as though taking the lead as the Queen [card] from Alice in Wonderland. The celebrity blogger/gossiper introduced the star. Spears then came down from the ceiling on a ring—taking charge as the ringleader.

As for the rest of the costumes, they were amazing and covered in jew-

els. The of course kept up with the circus act. Speaking of circus act, Spears performed alongside acrobats and other circus performers that accompanied her and her dancers on the three ringed stages.

It was great to see Britney. She looked happy and beautiful. She really put on an amazing show and I'm sure she worked very hard to get back on track. Everyone in attendance was on their feet the whole night singing along with the Queen of Pop to hit songs such as "Circus" and "If You Seek Amy". Spears did not sing as many new songs as most fans expected. She did though flashback to songs such as "Baby... One More Time", "I'm a Slave for You", and "Toxic".

Junior Lauren Zayatz, who I accompanied to the concert thought "She was fantastic! She is an icon and I feel like I was reliving my childhood. I have always been a fan."

Senior Julio Herrera couldn't agree more. "Words can't explain the magnificent aura and vibe that Britney brought to the stage," Herrera felt the excitement and adrenaline rush, adding "As soon as she came out, my heart stopped for a couple seconds. I saw my life flash before my eyes. I thought I was in heaven and Britney was my God."

Spears ended the fantastic night with the hit single "Womanizer".

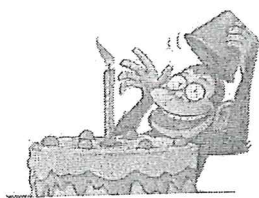
The show was a hit. I wish I could have relived the magical moment. Keep up the hardwork Brit!!



Far Left: A preview of the costumes
Above: Perez Hilton behind the scenes for his big introduction for the pop star.



Britney pictured above with sons Sean Preston (left) and Jayden James (right).



Senior Birthdays in March!!

By: Sue Molyneaux, Cait Dapson and Allie Hagins



Paula DiSalvo
3/1



Stephanie Rhoades
3/4



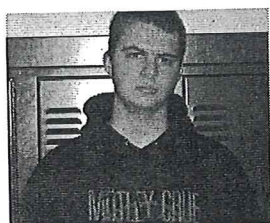
Mike LaSala
3/5



Kelly Gepp
3/11



Rachael Crowell
3/11



Kevin Keller
3/11



Ursula Librizzi
3/13



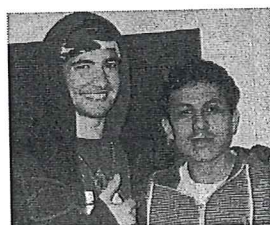
Sophia Weston
3/14



James Dalgarno
3/15



Martin Alvarez
3/15



Boris Jimenez
3/16



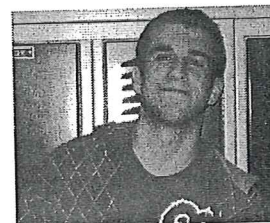
Andrew Holby
3/17



Holly McGill
3/19



Anastasia Ratliff
3/19



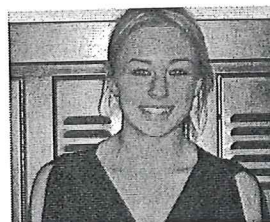
Jon Comodore
3/20



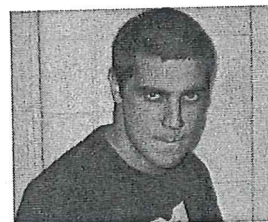
Kelly Bugliaro
3/21



Jen Sclafani
3/21



Nicole Casey
3/22



Dave Bardes
3/23



Ryan Cunningham
3/23



Brendan Karwecki
3/24



Chris Baymore
3/26



Katie Coleman
3/28



Tom Shannon
3/29



Ashley Palkowetz
3/30



By: Cait Dapson

Thousands of girls competed for the chance to become America's next top model. But the lucky number of 21 girls was chosen to compete in this year's cycle 12 of American's Next Top Model. The girls are competing for a full ride with Elite Model Management, a \$100,000 contract with Covergirl, and a six page fashion spread in Seventeen magazine.

When the girls arrive at Caesar's Palace in Las Vegas they are anxious but they don't know what to expect. They are told that their job is portraying an attribute of any goddess of their choice.

After becoming sexy goddesses at Caesar's Palace, it's time to knock out those who just aren't looking tough enough to make it to the top. The weak were eliminated and

the strong were able to hold through, leaving a total of thirteen girls to represent cycle 12.

The girls of cycle twelve are Aminat, Natalie, Fo, Allison, Tahlia, Celia, Jessica, Isabella, Kortnie, London, Nijah, Sandra, and Teyona. The girls range from ages 18 to 25 and represent many different cultures and ethnicities.

Celia comes out on top from the first challenge; her prize is that she gets first dibs on her choice of bed at their new home. All the girls flood their beautiful house in the Upper East Side of NYC. Of course drama already begins when Sandra claims the bed that Celia has already chosen. They both refuse to give it up so the pacifist of the group, London, gives up her bed and chose to sleep on the floor.

Once the girls get settled it is time for their next

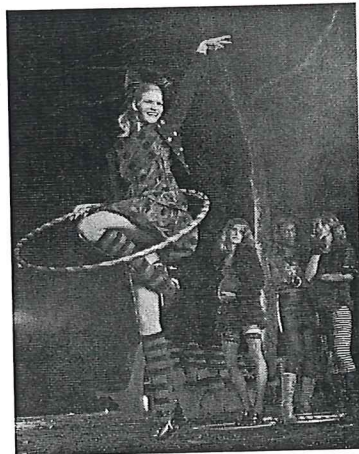
challenge. They end up at Gastavino's with Laura Poretzky from Abaete. The girls will be performing in a good vs. bad girl fashion show to show off their cat walk. Everyone does a great job but one who sticks out is Sandra, who decided not to go to the end of the runway. This gives her a weak impression to the judges and may hurt her in the first elimination.

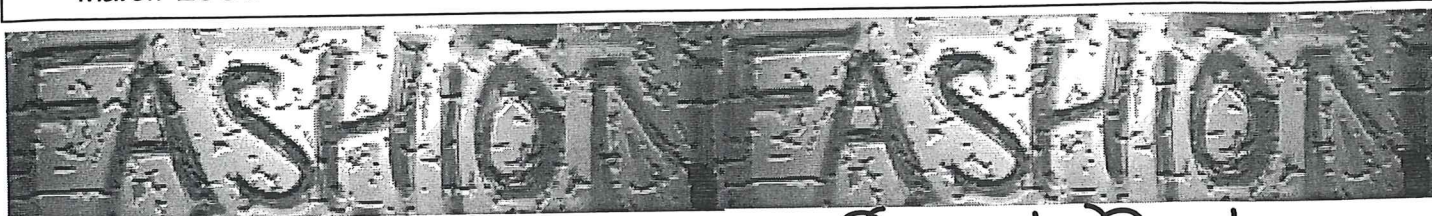
But they move on to their first photo shoot. The girls will be portraying how good girls grow up too fast. They will be playing different playground games and managing looking cute and innocent, but also fierce. Their games include tug of war, jax, hide and go seek, ring around the rosie, and even dodge ball. The girls try their hardest to prove themselves for their first shoot, and most seem successful.

A few strong girls already prove to be the favorites. Celia is the oldest in the group, 25

years old, and proves her spot on top. This blonde isn't going down without a fight and her fierce photos will help her on her way. Allison shows off her gorgeous big round eyes and the judges find them to be outstanding.

The girls' hearts drop as they await their judging. The judges for the night include Tyra Banks of course, Jay Manuel, Miss J. Alexander, Paulina Porizkova, and Nigel Barker. Unfortunately they decide that Isabella isn't strong enough to make it through the long journey to the top and she is sent home. The rest of the girls seem to think that Sandra should have gone home. With her mean and arrogant ways she is very unwanted and the heat rises between her Aminat who thinks she shouldn't be here. See for yourself every Wednesday night at eight on the CWTV channel 11. Who will be America's Next Top Model?





Prom Accessory Sneak Peek

Hot, New Accessories That Are a Must With Your Stylish Prom Dress!

BY: Allie Hagins

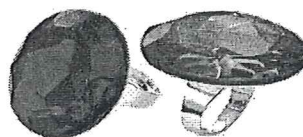
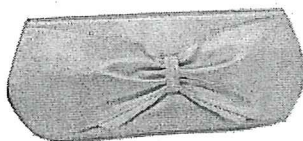
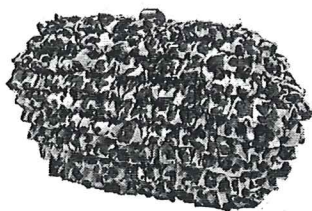
SHOES

We all know your shoes need to look just as good as your Prom dress. New Rocker and Princess style shoes are now in. Animal print are just as hot as always, and of course the classic gold shoes remain in style.



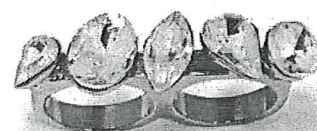
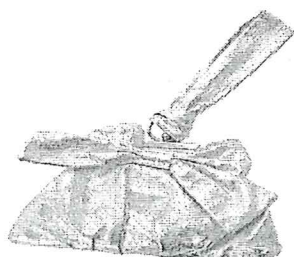
CLUTCHES

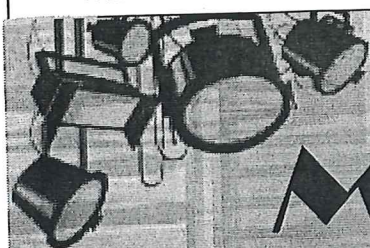
No one wants to go to Prom with a big purse. Clutches are a perfect little accessory to complete your Prom look.



JEWELRY

Experiment with Big Costume and Flashy Jewelry! Big Gems and Animal Prints are big this season. Yet, it is never a fashion failure to go simple with pearls.





Movie Review

THE HAUNTING IN CONNECTICUT

**TERRIFYINGLY
TERRIFIC**

By: Meghan Pignataro

HORROR-IBLE

By: Tucker Brendle

Have you ever felt like your house is haunted? Hearing those imaginary footsteps and visualizing a dark figure pass by in your mirror can easily give you the chills. But how would you react if there were something unordinary hidden within the walls of your house? *The Haunting in Connecticut* isn't necessarily a scary movie, but it's an honorable movie that has an interesting impact on you.

Teenager Matt Campbell, played by Kyle Gallner, is the first of his family members who is aware of the unusual events in their new house. Matt, who is suffering from cancer, begins hallucinating images of spirits throughout the house. Yet is he really seeing the paranormal, or is it just a side effect from his radiation? While the movie progresses, the rest of the Campbell family begins to notice the abnormality in the house, and become very concerned and fearful.

Throughout the movie, I assure that you will jump in your seat. The intimidating background music that is heard during the different scenes gives you goose bumps up and down your spine. Although for those who are easily afraid your fear slowly removed when the family members speak about Matt's sickness. Because Matt is slowly becoming more ill, you become very sympathetic towards his family. This heart breaking diseases takes your mind off this thrilling movie, and directs your attention towards Matt's health.

In most cases, when a movie is at the climax your expecting the end to slowly follow. Yet, there is an interesting twist that keeps your eyes glued to the screen. While you think the most terrifying part of the movie is over, you should think again. The ending is by far the most fascinating part of the film. As it concludes the movie, the end leaves you curious and in an interesting shock.

This movie isn't your typical "horror movie". It doesn't consist of a typical killer dramatically chasing a senseless individual. Instead, it is based on a realistic family who moved to the wrong house, at a wrong time. Overall, *The Haunting in Connecticut* is definitely worth seeing. It's original, and nothing like any other scary movie. The best part about this film; it is based on a true story. The events that occur are real and happened to actual people.

Let's get one thing straight, "Based on a true story" means absolutely nothing.

There are so many ways of getting around false advertising now-a-days that few statements are concrete half-truths and a persons "word" however seem to be the newest craze.

Originality isn't exactly the first word that comes to mind when describing this drained, tedious, and most of a haggard movie. *The Haunting in Connecticut* was exactly like the new Amityville Horror and tried to go with that same old winning formula too; old house + horror + "true story" = One Horror-ible Movie.

This literally "painful experience" movie consist of one family's encounter with the dark forces of the supernatural. The family was forced to relocate near a clinic where their teenage son was being treated for cancer in upstate Connecticut. They soon learned that their charming Victorian home had a disturbing history: not only was the house a transformed funeral parlor where unimaginable acts occurred, but the owner's son Jonah the "physic medium" served as a demonic messenger, providing a gateway for spiritual entities to crossover.

These supernatural experiences started to affect the death bound, suffering cancer patient, and oldest son Matt. The family then began to blame the weird happenings on Matt and his illness related stress. Now revolting terror awaited when Jonah, the boy who communicated with the dead, returns to unleash horror on the innocent and unsuspecting family.

Once again the "new" movie *The Haunting in Connecticut* fell miles short of fresh and innovative, leaving me along with many others bored out of our minds. Some audience members actually began to get up and walk out as the movie came to its "exciting ending" which I forgot to mention never came.

Predictability was the scariest part of this movie and was a re-occurring physic experience for me personally. It did not waste your time, money, or mental capacity to sit through this horrible movie. Not even the amazing mother and father connection played by Virginia Madsen and Kyle Gallner could have saved this truly putrid movie.

Horror in Hollywood

Chris Brown attacks girlfriend Rihanna before Grammy Awards

By: Maria Culver

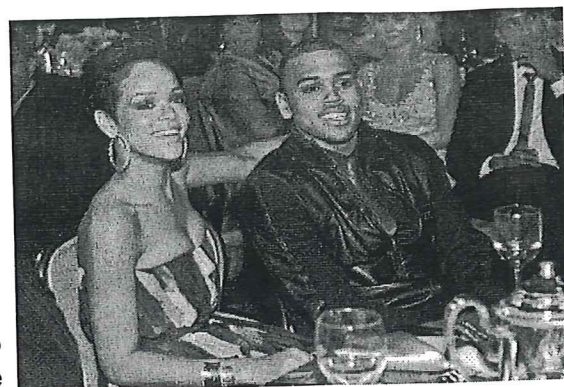
Singer Chris Brown is now under investigation for alleged domestic violence against pop star Rihanna. Around 12:30 a.m. on Sunday February 8th, Brown and Rhianna were said to have gotten in an argument over a text message that Brown had received from another woman. As the aggression grew, Rihanna exited the vehicle. Brown went out to get her and things got physical. He had allegedly hit her more than once leaving her with bruises and cuts on her forehead, lips and cheeks. The 911 call was made by a witness and when ambulances arrived, Brown had already left leaving Rihanna behind.

The following is a statement Brown had given after the attack. "Words cannot begin to express how sorry and saddened I am over what transpired. I am seeking the counseling of my pastor, my mother

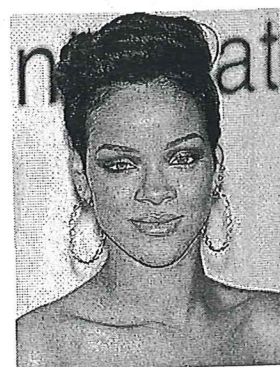
and other loved ones and I am committed, with God's help, to emerging a better person." The Barbados-bound beauty spent her 21st birthday on February 20th with close friends in family. It has been said that Brown had attempted to reach her to wish her a happy birthday.

Rihanna is not making any comments on the situation at this time but she is reassuring her fans that she remains strong, is doing well, and deeply appreciates the all of the support she has received during this difficult time. She is not spending time with her close friends at her home in Barbados to clear her head from this mess.

Domestic violence and abusive relationships are not only heard about



Rihanna and Chris Brown hours before the attack



Picture of Rihanna released to the Press

in the media. It's happening in homes around the world everyday. Abusive relationships are the single biggest threat of injury to women. It is even more than car accidents, mugging, and rapes combined.

Friday the 13th, fun but not frightening (enough)

By Liz Marotta

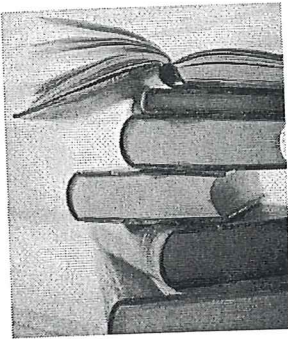
He's back. Again. The infamous killer of Crystal Lake has made his return in the new movie directed by Marcus Nispel. The original Friday the 13th tells the story of Jason Voorhees' mother and how she went on a killing rampage of counselors at Camp Crystal Lake because she thought they allowed her son to drown. Turns out Jason was alive the entire time, and now continues what his mother started and kills all who encounter the Crystal Lake area. The story has been continued in many other movies starring Jason Voorhees. This movie is unlike any

other. The first movie is recapped in the first five minutes, showing Jason's mother's final moments as the last survivor swiftly chops her head off. The rest of the twenty minute opening shows a group of twenty-



some things camping out to gather marijuana plants to sell. Jason kills all of them with tactics such as poisonous arrows, machetes, and fire. Fast forward six weeks later and our star, Jared Padalecki, as Clay Miller is searching for his missing sister Whitney, one of the campers in the beginning. He runs into rich snobs on their way to their lake house at none other than Crystal Lake. As the partying of the teenagers, and Clays desperate search continues, we find out Whitney is alive, and being held prisoner due to her resemblance to Jason's mother. In the end, every

continued on next page



Book Corner



The Cultural Phenomenon (of the moment)

By Kaitlin McGuinness

The *Twilight* series by Stephanie Meyer and the craze surrounding it has been hailed as the next *Harry Potter*. They tap into the youth fandom that has vacated with the ending of the Potter series, but they are not of the same caliber as Rowling's writing. The series about vampires are entertaining, if not great literature.

These novels are literary equivalent of beach books for the tween crowd; steamy, intriguing and escapist, but PG-13. It's not fantastic writing, but a quick, pretty enjoyable read.

The premise of the book is actually quite inventive and compelling. A vampire who must withstand his temptation for the girl he loves is a creative twist on the genre. I don't even mind the vampires who "glitter" in the sun; a source of ire for many. What I do mind is these mediocre offerings being held up as fantastic literature by rabid fangirls worldwide. The potential of the concept isn't fully realized, and the style of writing is average at best.

The first *Twilight* novel was written in a mere three months, and it shows. The entire first three-quarters of the novel are devoted to characterization and portraying the developing and undying bond between Bella and Edward, while in the last fifty pages it seems to occur to the author that the story needs a conflict. A random

killer vampire is thrown in at the end, and a completely dispensable climax ensues. The same pattern continues in the next three books, with no plot development in the first three-quarters of the novel followed by a rapid, random climatic ending.

Another common element of the narrative is the author telling, not showing. As opposed to a tear running down Bella's face, she will instead intone "I'm sad. Very very sad."

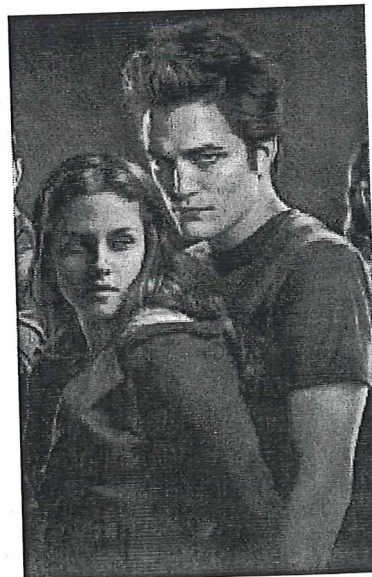
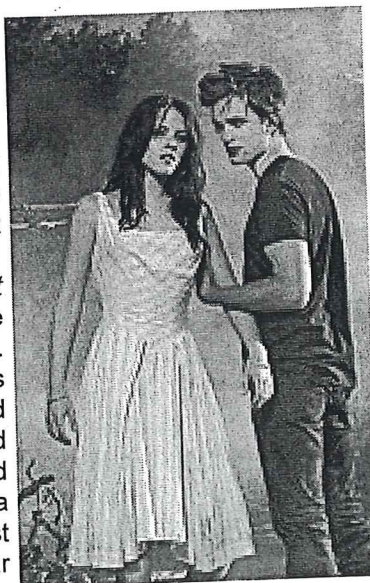
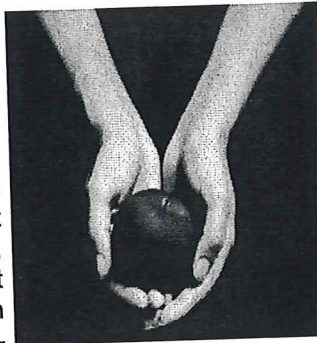
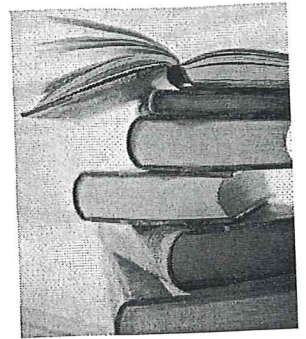
The story is told from Bella's point of view, offering an intimate glimpse into her trite, trivial, petty teenage world. The reader is constantly privy to her every thought and quiver, for better or worse. It is a wonderful

message that Edward sees something in her that no one else does, but for the life of my I cannot see what it is. As a heroine, she isn't much. She has very few opinions but is often stubborn; she is quite bland and is extremely often self-deprecating. She is

apparently a straight-A student but is never particularly clever, and apparently enjoys the classics like Bronte and Austen, but possesses a fraction of the independence and fortitude of a Jane Austen character from over a century ago.

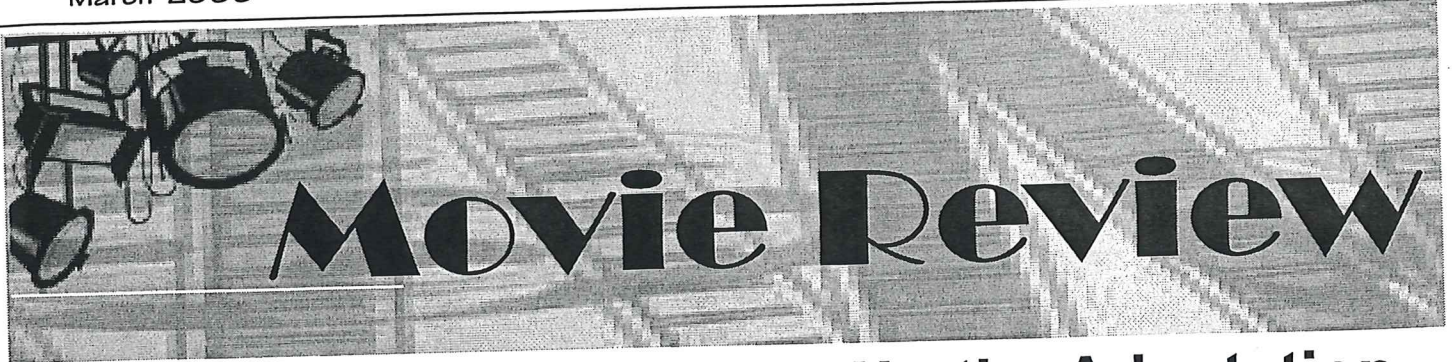
Legions of girls worship the ravishing, ageless, entrancing vampire Edward Cullen. As the series progresses, however, it becomes questionable whether he is truly worthy of this hero-worship/adoration. There are insidious undertones in the relationship between Edward and Bella, which stays chaste before marriage as per Meyer's Mormon background, but displays a disturbing about of control and deference/submission.

Edward has the ability to read all minds but Bella's, and expresses a longing several times to also hold this power over her of knowing her innermost thoughts. Bella initially has some vague reservations about Edward knowing even the contents of her mind, but these drift away as the series progresses. There is never much of objection to his reading other people's thoughts, either, violating everyone within hearing distance. The message is basically the antithesis of Ayn Rand or Orwell's 1984



Eddie knows best.

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Movie Review

Watchmen Proves to Be a Worthy Adaptation

By: John Pavia

There was a lot of hype about whether Zack Snyder's *Watchmen* would live up to the greatness the graphic novel had created many years ago. Many people said the movie was un-makeable and could never be done but Snyder has done the unthinkable with his latest film. The movie was a good action-packed flick with plenty to feast your eyes upon. There are numerous fight scenes with gore and violence, keeping in style with Snyder's last film, action epic 300. The visual effects were incredible, especially in creating Dr. Manhattan, who appears as a blue, glowing man who looks and acts like he's from another planet or a God of some type which actually suits his abilities quite well.

The main plot of the movie centers around six superheroes who have retired from their glorious profession to try and obtain real lives. While most of them have done that, Rorschach/Walter Kovacs cannot because of his hatred for crime and injustice in the world. When one of the superheroes, The Comedian/Edward Blake, gets wind of an evil plan to destroy part of the world in an effort to establish peace in the world, he is killed by the villain to silence him from revealing his plan. All the superheroes mourn The Comedian's death as Rorschach begins to snoop around and figure out if his fellow Watchmen are in danger. Rorschach's persistent nature enables him to coax his friends back into action to save the world from destruction but not all of them, as Ozymandias/Adrian Veidt doesn't really believe in Rorschach's theory that the Watchmen are in danger.

While this is going on, Silk Spectre II/Laurie Jupiter and Dr. Manhattan/Jon Osterman are trying to figure out their relationship which has been torn apart with the increasingly dangerous situation. With Dr. Manhattan's mind being focused on things beside their relationship, Silk Spectre II flees to Dan Dreiberg/Nite Owl for some comfort and support. Dr. Manhattan must go to a television interview where he is ambushed by questions and allegations that he has caused people who have come in contact with him to receive some form of cancer. These

allegations are fake and all part of the evil master plan but they work and Dr. Manhattan becomes angry and migrates to Mars so he can be alone and away from the world that hates him. Once on Mars, he builds a giant glass palace-like structure that is a visual treat to watch. From there

a failed assassination attempt and an arrest are made on Ozymandias and Rorschach, respectively. Luckily for Rorschach,

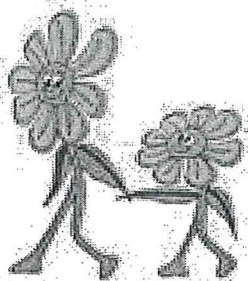
his *Watchmen* pals, Silk Spectre and Nite Owl bust him out of prison in order to save the world from destruction and nuclear war. Dr. Manhattan then returns to Earth to see Silk Spectre so she can try and convince him to save the world despite how much he dislikes it and is



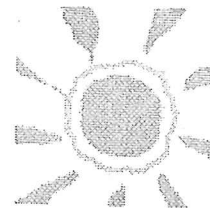
Rorschach trying to evade the police.

Continued on next page





Horoscopes



By: Meghan Pignataro

Aries

3/21- 4/19

Do you feel like having an adventure? This month, you're more likely to have an adventure when you go on a short journey. No need to go very far, just someplace you've wanted to go before, yet never been. You'll be sure to have an exciting time.

Taurus

4/20- 5/20

This month, more people around you will differ in their beliefs from yours. Rather than clash with all of them, listen respectfully to their opinions. It is a great month to expose yourself to other points of view.

Gemini

5/21- 6/20

This month your individuality will really shine. Try showing off the qualities that make you different and unique. That could involve wearing your favorite clothes, sharing your hobbies and collections, or expressing yourself in a different light.

Cancer

6/21- 7/22

Simplicity is your key to having the most successful and satisfying month. This month, you'll want to avoid situations that seem overly complex. Instead, choose to do things in the simplest manner possible. Why be stressed out, when you can relax and do things easily.

Leo

7/23- 8/22

This month you will meet someone who could bring your life much glamour and fantasy. Meeting this person will make you feel that you are on top of the world. Your feelings could be going through many rapid changes so this may cause some irritation.

Virgo

8/23- 9/22

Something that has been "in hiding" or brewing under the surface of things comes to light this month. Confrontation is the key approach in handling this hidden virtue. Don't be fearful or intimidated, but be confident about yourself and your decisions.

Libra

9/23- 10/22

This month you are having many worries and concerns about relationships, friendships, and responsibilities. These worries could be weighing on you heavily, and putting you in a bad mood. You need to sort out all the obstacles that life is bringing you and work toward a constructive outcome.

Scorpio

10/23-11/21

Differences of opinion with friends could bring some obstacles for you unless you keep the area of communication open. You might be trying to inspire others but you must be patient in order to reduce tension.

Sagittarius

11/22-12/21

Keep on dreaming because dreams can come true. If there is something you wish for, it's important to not give up. Things may not always come easily, but if you keep your head up and remain focused, it will certainly pay off.

Capricorn

12/22-1/19

This month you have the potential to brighten up your life. With luck, exciting news and the promise of good things to come, this month you will be feeling great about yourself. Share your enthusiasm with others and make the most of this intense energy that comes your way.

Aquarius

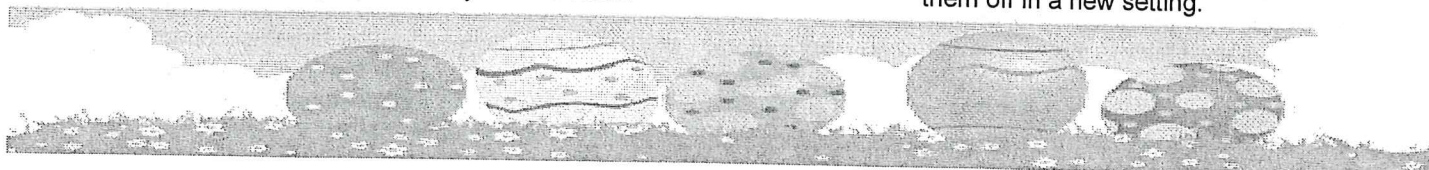
1/20-2/18

This month you have powerful changes bubbling up within you. Your not necessarily focused on changing your appearance, but more your personality. These changes will benefit you, and many will notice your new attitude.

Pisces

2/19-3/20

A new wave of ideas are floating through you, ones that will open up your mind to new people and assignments, and expose you to new concepts, interests, and ideas. You'll have a rare opportunity to pull all your talents together and show them off in a new setting.



Entertainment



The Oscars

By: Liz Marotta



Gorgeous gowns, glowing nominee's, and tons of surprises. It's Hollywood's biggest night: The Oscars.

Held at the Kodak Theatre in Hollywood and hosted by actor Hugh Jackman, it was over three hours of constant entertainment. Even before the awards started though, the entertainment began on the red carpet with the arrivals. With the exception of the announcement of the winners, the red carpet is the most exciting part of the night.

Red carpet hosts Ryan Seacrest and Giuliana Rancic stopped celebs to interview them on either their fashion, their dates, or their nomination. Being recognized for best dressed on the carpet were Natalie Portman, Sarah Jessica Parker, Taraji P. Henson, Marisa Tomei, Anne Hathaway, and Angelina Jolie.

Once everyone was able to get past Ryan and Giuliana, they gathered in the Kodak Theatre with a stage beautifully decorated in Swarovski crystals. The evening proceeded with jokes, tears, and even signing!

A new tradition was started

this year; the presenters of the major titles such as Best Actor were winners of previous years. So the presenters included stars like Jennifer Aniston, Will Smith, Ben Stiller, Nicole Kidman, Reese Witherspoon, and many more.

With by far the most successes of the night, *Slumdog Millionaire* won best motion picture. It also won best directing, music (song), music (score), film editing, sound mixing, cinematography, and writing.

Winner for best actor went to Sean Penn for his adaptation of politician Harvey Milk in *Milk*.

Kate Winslet won best actress for her role in *The Reader*. Penelope Cruz won best supporting actress for her role in *Vicky Christina Barcelona*.

Slumdog Millionaire may have been the hottest topic of the night but Heath Ledger's win for best supporting actor in *The Dark Knight* was by far the proudest moment of the night for everyone. With the announcement of his win, there wasn't a dry eye in the house. His mother, father, and sister proudly accepted Heath's award, announcing it will be given to his daughter Matilda.



Above: host
Hugh Jackman



Best Supporting
Actress
Penelope Cruz



Best Actress
Kate Winslet



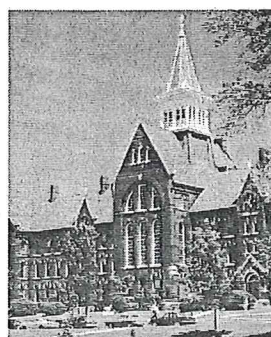
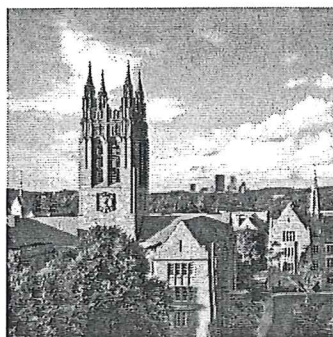
Best Actor Sean
Penn

College Acceptances

As of March 31, 2009:

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

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|--|---------------------|--|-------------------|---|
| Jake Hostnik | Florida Atlantic University University of Rhode Island Roger Williams University University of Maryland | John Mahoney | Clemson University Drexel University University of Vermont University of Maryland Penn State University College of Charleston | Suzanne Molyneaux | High Point University East Carolina University Bloomfield College |
| Michele Illmensee | Rutgers University Northeastern University American University | Jocelyn Marrone | St. Peter's College University of Hartford Georgian Court University | Samantha Moore | Fairleigh Dickinson University |
| Zachary Jakupko | Hartwick College New England College Green Mountain College Paul Smith's College Franklin Pierce University Keene State College SUNY-ESF | Julia Martz | University of Rhode Island | Lindsay Morrow | Villanova University Muhlenberg College Ursinus College Quinnipiac University Sacred Heart University Fairfield University University of Delaware |
| Jess Johnson | Drew University Green Mountain College Seton Hall University Georgian Court University | Jillian McAlary | The University of Scranton University of Rhode Island Kutztown University Roger Williams University | Aedan Nielsen | University of Scranton |
| Kelli Joyce | East Carolina University Rider University | Holly McGill | Hood College Salve Regina University Cabrini College | Katherine Nolan | University of Rhode Island Castleton State College |
| Kevin Keller | Miami University Roger Williams University | Kaitlin McGuinness | American University Seton Hall University Drew University Richard Stockton College The College of New Jersey | Keith O'Rourke | York College |
| Dan Kerrigan | Columbia University | Kiersty McNamara | University of South Florida | John Otchy | Penn State - Altoona Towson University East Carolina University Old Dominion University |
| Frankie Kineavy | Villanova University | Melanie McNeel | Quinnipiac University Miami University Susquehanna University Merrimack College University of Scranton University of Dayton | Ashley Palkowetz | Cedar Crest College Delaware Valley College Arcadia University |
| Michael LaSala | Kean University | Patrick McWade | High Point University West Virginia University Endicott College Seton Hall University University of Tampa Ohio University | John Pavia | Moravian College |
| Ursula Librizzi | The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey Fairleigh Dickinson University | Samantha McWilliams | Shenandoah University Lebanon Valley College Lynchburg College University of Charleston East Stroudsburg University | Kayla Phillips | The State University of New York Potsdam SUNY Cortland |
| Joshua Lopez | Saint Joseph's University | | | Josh Pigman | Kean University |
| Jason Lorenzo | Fordham University Drexel University Bentley College Loyola College | | | Meghan Pignataro | Florida Atlantic University East Carolina University Johnson & Wales University |
| Daniel Maher | Steven's Institute of Technology Drexel University The University of Vermont | | | Kenneth Pringle | West Virginia University Kean University West Chester University Kean University |



Left to right: the beautiful architecture of Fairfield University; the chapel and other buildings on the Boston College campus; the UVM campus in Burlington, Vermont



Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade Draws Huge Crowds to Belmar

By: Samantha Matthews

Not even a blanket of snow lying atop the cold ground could deter this annual event from occurring.

On Sunday March 1st at 12:00 P.M. the streets of Belmar were filled with floats marching bands, bag pipers, venders, music, and so much more. This chaos was a result of none other than the St. Patrick's Day Parade.

The crowd is filled with energetic people enjoying the festivities that the day has to offer. Once you walk down the street you instantly get bombarded by the smell of hot pretzels and hot dogs that the venders always have an abundance of.

Grace Tabernacle, a church on Main Street in Lake Como, open their doors and spend the day making

funnel cakes, hot dogs, and hot chocolate and giving them out free of charge.

Venders walk around with carts filled to the brim with Irish memorabilia of all sorts such as green feather boas and "Kiss Me I'm Irish" hats. The crowd as always enjoyed what the venders had in store for them.

As the floats fly by some throw candy while others simply wave to the crowd. Local businesses send people around handing out coupons, bumper stickers, pens and other fun little items. A fun day is had by all that spend it on the streets enjoying the festivities.

Once again the three hour parade was a success for the towns of Belmar and Lake Como even though the day was filled with green as opposed to white thanks to our unexpected snow storm.

"The enthusiasm was still there despite the weather," said sophomore Julia McGuire.

Shocking Crime in Buffalo, NY

Man Charged with Beheading His Wife

By: Jenn Olesky

A Muslim-American man was charged with second degree murder after beheading his wife in Buffalo, New York on February 12th, 2009. Reports described 44-year-old Muzzammil Hassan as an "influential member of the local Muslim community." Mr. Hassan and his wife Aasiya Z. Hassan were the founders of Bridges TV, a television station with programming aimed at representing Muslims in more of a positive way.

On February 6, Ms. Hassan, 37, filed for divorce and acquired an order of protection against her husband, according to Orchard Park Chief Andrew Benz. One week later, Mr.

Hassan arrived at the police station at approximately 6:20 p.m. to inform the authorities of the passing of his wife.

Although the death of Aasiya Hassan shocked the community, outraged Muslims disagreed with the consequences. They insisted the incident had been some kind of "honor killing" based on religious or cultural beliefs. Muslim community leader, Dr. Sawsan Tabbaa argued their opinion. "It has nothing to do with his faith," he added. "She really believed in the cause, wanting to present her faith in an accurate light and now people are blaming her very faith for her death."

To support his theory, president of the National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership, Rabbi Bradley Hirschfeld said that Ms. Hassan had confided in him years ago about incidents of household abuse. She insisted it was being taken care of with help from a counselor who had guaranteed her that she was safe. The Associated Press reported that police have received calls in the past from the Hassan's due to the issue.



OctoMom adds eight more mouths to her table

Should Profligacy be Penalized?

By: Kaitlin McGuinness

Nadya Suleman, or "Octomom" as she's been named, has been in the news frequently of late as a case study of how far both the human body and public scrutiny can be stretched. Suleman became an object of attention after giving birth to the longest-living octuplets ever recorded, but this marvel has subsequently made her the object of scorn and a source of debate on personal responsibility.

The mother of these children already had six young children, bringing her grand total to fourteen, squarely in the realm of a "mega family." In this era of super-sizing, certain people have supersized their broods, labeling themselves a "mega-families" on internet forums.

A mega-family is classed as one with four or more children, which is a surprise to this reporter who is one of four sisters. The reason that families of this size are called "mega" is because they are far outnumbered by families who are having fewer children than families a generation ago. Family sizes are shrinking, making a family of four children, let alone fourteen, much more extraordinary than it was a decade or so ago.

Critics question whether TV shows like "Jon and Kate Plus" or "18 Kids and Counting" glamorize mega-

families, while other point out that many raise larger-than normal families without outside help from television stations or donations. Birth rates are currently barely at sustenance level, meaning that the populace is barely producing enough babies to replace people who die and sustain the overall population at the current level. Random blips like the relatively few mega-families, therefore, do not place a strain on the overall system or population level.

The difference between these other families and Nadya Suleman's, however, is that she has no means of supporting her. She is currently on welfare in the state of California, and has no father figure to complete a family unit or contribute to supporting or raising the children. Her retired parents must go back to work to help support her, and as her babies are gradually released from the hospital one by one, it remains baffling how this huge family will survive.

The most damning evidence against "Octo-mom" is that she is not a victim of circumstance. She chose to artificially inseminate herself knowing that she could not support the six children she already had. The additional

child she wanted to bring into the world turned into eight due to questionable medical practices, and she decided to raise them without being self-sufficient or having a father figure to contribute.

It is questionable whether it is possible to give love, attention and structure to six toddlers and eight infants, let alone feed and clothe them all. Suleman may plan on living off of donations, but no one can donate care for her children, and she must successfully mold them into young people.

Her lack of common sense in family planning doesn't paint the picture of a woman who can handle this enormous task, and the future of the children is troubling. Also troubling is Suleman's sense of entitlement, planning on the intervention of others rather than taking personal responsibility for her life.

Perhaps charitable intervention in Suleman's life isn't called for, but instead custodial intervention.

The situation seems to call for intervention from Children's Services to ascertain whether she can really provide for all her children, and whether her circumstances and series of poor choices indicates that her children should be instead raised by people who can provide for them properly.



The Octuplets ... and the rest

Maliah
Nariah
Josiah
Jeremiah
Jonah
Noah
McCai
Isaiah

Elijah Makai Solomon
Amerah Yasmeen Solomon
Joshua Jacob Solomon
Aiden Solomon
Calyssa Arielle Solomon
Caleb Kai Solomon

Meadowlands Xanadu Complex Opens This Summer

By: Sue Molyneaux

This upcoming summer of 2009, a five story entertainment complex, called the Xanadu, will be opening in the Meadowlands. The Xanadu is the third largest complex in the world with 4,500,000 square feet of entertainment, sports, retail, office, and hotel space. And it's hard to believe what is inside of this complex.

Aside from the usual shopping mall and food court, there is an enormous sports section. Sports enthusiasts can watch their favorite games on a three-story video wall and participate in tailgating parties, along with a barbeque area. The one main sport attraction many people are looking forward to is the Snowdome. This is a 250,000 square foot indoor snowboard and ski resort open year round. It is the first indoor snowboard/ski mountain to be indoor in the US. "I'm excited for the snowboarding season to never end", Cait Dapson commented on the Snowdome.

Also in the sports section is the Bergen

Ballpark. This ballpark is a baseball stadium with 8,000 seats housing a minor league baseball team. Along with these two attractions is a SkyVenture, which is a skydiving simulator and vertical wind tunnel.

Within 175,000 square feet, you can find yourself in an outdoor equipment store standing next to a mountain replica with waterfalls and streams. If nature really catches your eye, stay for a while and enjoy the 40,000 gallon fresh water aquarium tank stocked with fish native to this area, a shooting gallery, indoor archery range, and an all-embracing diorama devoted to African game animals.

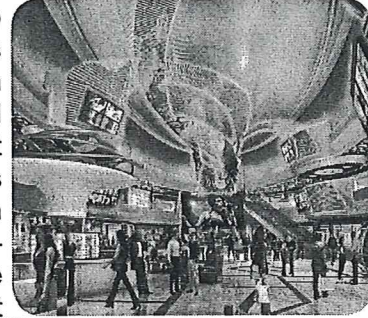
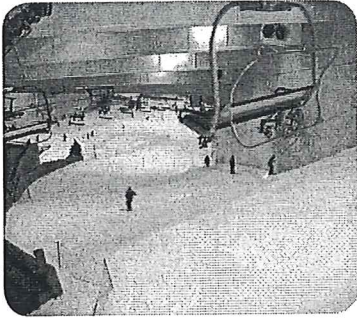
Not the biggest sport fanatic? Walk right on by the sports arena to the entertainment section where you can find plenty of attractions and movies. The entertainment arena will feature giant digital screens that will play anything from music videos to movie trailers for upcoming releases and always a beautiful view of the Manhattan skyline.

Watch live performances in the AEG Live theatre or make your way to the rooftop to ride the Ferris wheel. Film Festivals and opening-night premieres can be seen on 18 wall-to-wall movie screens. Got kids? Leave them in the children's playroom while you sit back and relax on the Premiere Level with its own restaurant and bar and nine balcony auditoriums with loveseats. In your spare time, visit Lucky Strike, the upscale bowling lounge with entertainment in a state-of-the-art décor with a 1930's/1940's feel to it.

Alongside all of this entertainment and enjoyment, there is an area called "Youth Culture" which will include play areas, interactive games, and children store. The largest Discovery Center in the US, LEGOLAND will be open to all Lego-lovers. And for all the sugar lovers with a big sweet tooth, It's Sugar! will be the largest sweet store in the world. Crossing over a candy-themed bridge,

walking past a 30-foot chocolate waterfall, and ending your sweet journey into a city filled with candy and sweets. Children between the ages of 2 and 14 are able to enter the metropolis area, called the Wannado City, where children can participate in different careers and lifelike activities. These activities and careers include policeman, firefighter, lawyer, TV reporter, and an actor.

Within months you can be snowboarding indoors, skydiving indoors, or riding a Ferris wheel on the rooftop. So this upcoming summer when the weathers just not right for the beach, take a trip to the Xanadu for the day and partake in as many activities as you want. And when someone asks you what you did that day you can respond with, "I went skydiving, snowboarding, bowling, saw a movie, and ended my day with a chocolate waterfall." It's definitely something you really wouldn't want to miss out on.



FCCLA Competes in State Leadership Conference

The Family, Career, Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) recently competed in their State Leadership Conference on March 19th and 20th. Competing in Cherry Hill, NJ, the students worked really hard to compete.

The students received medals for their hard work. Frank Dolce won the Gold Medal in the Luncheon Menu. Winning a Gold Medal in Storybook Ethics consisted of a team, Abbie Gillespie, Morgan Hassle, and Casey Voorhees. Silver Medal winners were Mary Kate Coraggio for Luncheon Menu, and Kailin Foster, Kira Mabil, and Courtney Smith for cake decorators.

Congratulations to all competitors and a competition well-done.

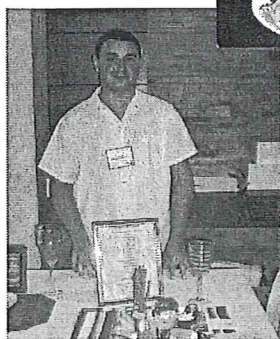


ABOVE: The whole team along with supervisor Mrs. Yuhas.

RIGHT: Junior Mary Kate Coraggio with her silver medal winning Luncheon Menu.



LEFT: Senior Frank Dolce with his gold medal winning Luncheon Menu.



MULTIMEDIA WORKSHOP

The Multimedia Workshop class is a project based class in which the students are provided real-world experiences. They create posters and presentations for real themes using applications such as Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign and Premiere, Macromedia Flash and Dreamweaver.

Recently, they designed posters for Healthy Heart Day and prepared a PowerPoint presentation for the senior citizens of Manasquan. These posters were displayed throughout the local business in Manasquan town.

As seen around the school, the students also designed posters for the HSPA test encouraging the junior students to "Go for the Gold".

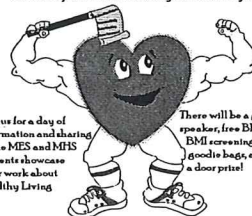
Two weeks ago they created a logo for a local company Jersey Shore Sports. This company chose one of the logos that they will use in their advertisement.

All along the hallways on March 14th were Pi Day posters created by this class. Currently, they are working with the Math Department creating these posters to celebrate Pi Day. Aside from this event, the Multimedia Workshop class is also illustrating a new logo for Google as part of a contest called Doodle for Google. The theme is What I Wish For The World...

The Photographic Society of America has invited the students in this class as well as all students at Manasquan to enter a photography contest called the PSA Youth Showcase. Students from all around the country are capable of participating in this event.



Healthy Heart Day
February 3rd 1pm to 3pm
at
Manasquan Elementary School Gym



Join us for a day of information and sharing as the MES and MHS students showcase their work about Healthy Living

Delicious and healthy refreshments will be served! Tours of the high school and elementary school will be given.
Valentines Day is coming up, take good care of your Heart!

Aim For The Gold
There are no limits



HSPAS: March 3rd, 4th, and 5th

Language Arts Literacy

Mathematics

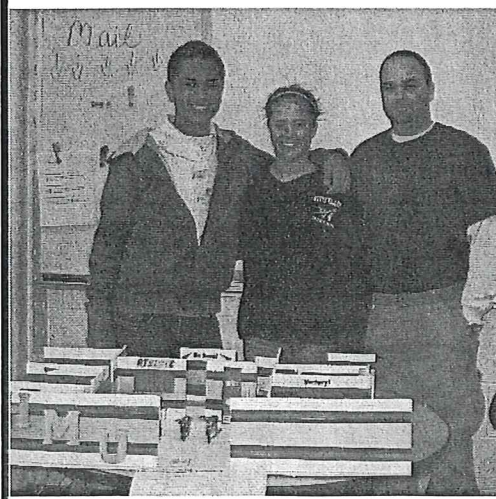
Picture Prompt
Critical Reading
Persuasive Essay
Open-Ended Questions

Multiple Choice
Open-Ended Questions

Scoring

Gold Silver Bronze

Sports Injury Management



Junior Julio Herrera and senior Elise Hemmer won first place in Mr. Hyland's Sports Injury Management class contest to design a sports medicine room. Mr. Hyland said that he appreciated the support of teachers and administrators who voted on the projects.

A Great Place to Act, but Not for the Timid

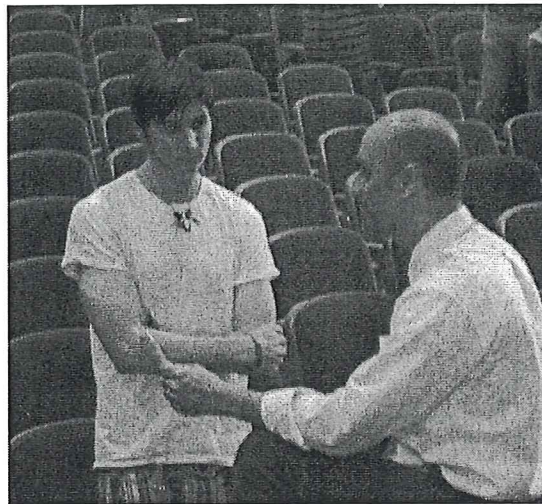
In this eclectic class, sometimes the only thing students have in common with another is acting. When students take the stage of the Manasquan High School auditorium, all those differences go away. This class is Introduction to Acting.

Introduction to Acting is a course at Manasquan taught by Harry Harvey, 40, of Point Pleasant. Students learn the history of the stage, acting methods and techniques, and performances. They are taught how to prepare and develop into a stage character.

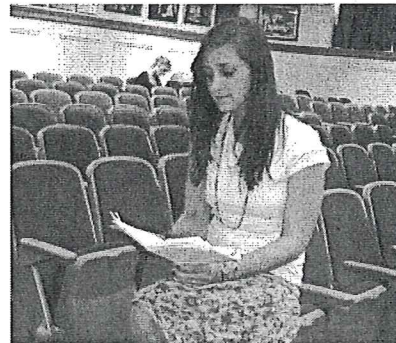
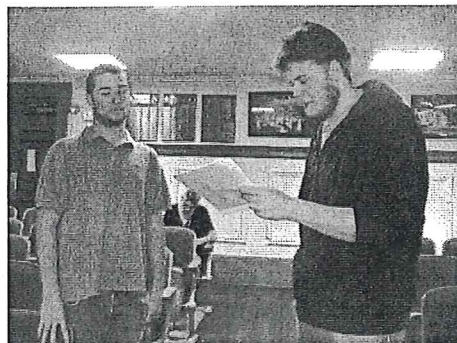
Harvey said he surprising loves a hectic day. "It's great when it's hectic in here. It gets you ready for a big performance, so that day you don't stress if something goes wrong."

Anything can happen in a usual day in this class. Students may learn of a history aspect behind their acting or perform certain scripts. If a student is ever absent for a day, this class goes with the saying, "The show must go on." Although many depend on each other for their acts to go smoothly, students must carry on if there is

By: Julia McGuire & Kaitlin McGuiness



Above: teacher Mr. Harvey works on voice technique with senior Brandon Dwonowski; below left to right: seniors Matt Conte and Chris Froelich rehearse a scene while senior Rose Vellieux prepares for her performance



a mishap. Students might have to recite both sets of lines if another actor is absent.

On Tuesday the students were paired off and practicing comedy duo scenes. Several students said that Harvey is an energetic and exciting teacher. The classes allow for free expression, but don't descend into chaos.

Senior Matt Conte, 17, of Brielle says that this is his favorite class. Initially he signed up for it because he needed an art requirement before he could graduate, and after taking it he commented "it's one of the best classes I've ever taken."

Senior Becky Fawkes, 17, of Brielle said that she decided to take the class "because I wanted to get over my stage fright." Harvey stated that all the students definitely become a lot more confident after taking the class. Students must stand up in front of their peers and put their all into their performance.

Some students feel the class is just fun while others want to go into a career on the theatre, but certainly all the world throughout the spring semester in Harvey's acting class.

Science Teachers Get Creative in the Classroom

By: Jenn Olesky

Taking a science class at Manasquan High School means much more than just taking notes and listening to lectures. From anatomy to physics, classes participated in various experiments, using their prior knowledge to act out what they had learned.

Honors Biology teacher Mrs. Crowning conducted an experiment of measuring the rate of respiration. "My students are very creative and I believe they enjoy the class just as much as I do." Now in her ninth year of teaching, Crowning assigned her class to calculate their air intake using procedures of breathing exercises. "I really like the experiments. Science isn't just a class to sit and listen, but to get up and show what you know and can do," stated sophomore Reagan Murphy, 15, from Belmar.

Mr. Lempa's Anatomy class worked on posters and projects during third block. Each student was to design a model explaining the parts of the body. Dolls and skeletons were labeled and posters were displayed around the classroom. Lempa

believes studying shouldn't be done by memorizing, but through application. "Instead of memorizing, we use active projects to learn. We are active learners who reinforce concepts and terms to make the class more interesting." Jocelyn Marrone, 17, from Sea Girt expressed her feelings towards the class. "I learned a lot about the body and how it functions. There were so many things I never knew and I'm grateful to be learning more."

At the end of the day Physics teacher Mr. Freda walked his students through the understanding of vectors on an incline. A device was constructed using weights to keep balance. The class objective was to figure out the vertical and horizontal forces of a block on an incline plane. The goal was to eventually remove the incline, letting the block stay in place on its own. The end result is proof of equilibrium. Sarah Ervin, 17, from Brielle explained, "I really like the class because there is a lot of group work. It's fun learning and doing different projects with partners."

A Night For Sophomores

The class of 2011 celebrates their annual semiformal

By: Julia McGuire

A day away from the start of spring, students of Manasquan High School returned to school for a night of fun. Friday, March 20th, a DJ and almost two hundred sophomores along with their guests crowded into the gymnasium for the sophomore semiformal.

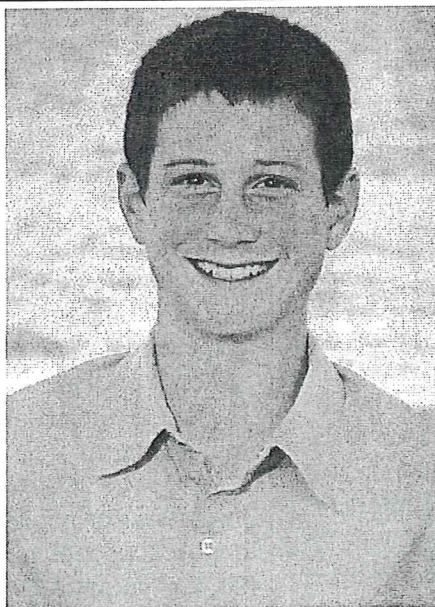
The gym was set up with tables and decorated colorfully with streamers and balloons. The dance floor was always occupied by a large number of people, while others sat at the tables and talked with friends.

Junior, Alicia Lyons who attended the dance last year, as well as this year said this night was "better than her sophomore semi."

The songs that got everyone out onto the dance floor were "Just Dance" by Lady Gaga, "Let it Rock", Kevin Rudolf and Lil' Wayne and "Don't Trust Me," by 3Oh!3.

Dillon Druz, who is a sophomore, said his favorite part was "dancing with my friends...great music and vibes." Chloe Darche, also a sophomore, really enjoyed "jamming out to the "Cotton-Eyed Joe" with Julia and Carey."

Everyone who attended seemed to have a great time. The sophomore class had an overwhelmingly successful 2009 semiformal.



Timothy Schenke Light of Hope Fundraiser

Date: April 25th, 2009

Time: 6-10 pm

Where: Spring Lake Manor

Live music from the bands of Barry and the Penetrators as well as Stereo Uprising.

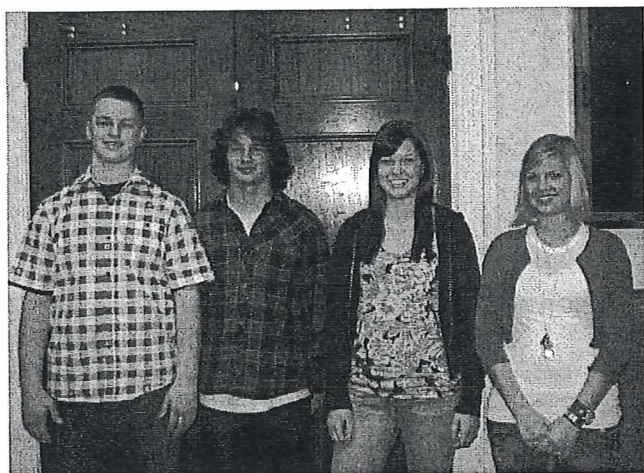
Includes appetizers, hot buffet, dessert, unlimited soft drinks and coffee.

Raffles and giveaways will be there as well as items in Tim's memory such as tee-shirts, magnets, and pens.

To purchase tickets contact the Schenke family at 732-449-7680.

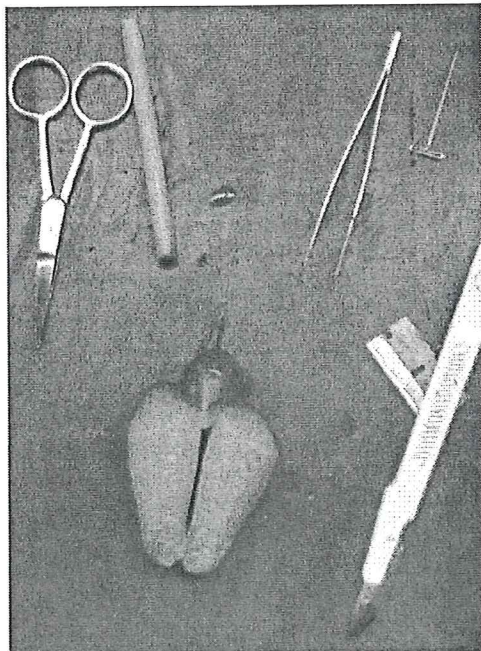
Congratulations

February Students of the Month!
The vote is in and February's outstanding students have been selected by the MHS staff. (From left to right) Sophomore Alex Scoras, freshman Cole McMahon, senior Sam Lowes and junior Sam Matthews were honored for their good grades, consistent efforts and positive attitudes. With midterms approaching, follow their lead and achieve your best!



QUESTION: ???

What do you get when you have a scissor, tweezer, scalpel, pin and pickle in the hands of a science teacher?



**find out
on page
13**

Nurse's Station Bullying Becomes a 21st century Problem



By: Julia McGuire

For as long as schools have been around, there have been bullies. Whether it is private or public school doesn't matter; there is always someone who feels superior to others and tries to prove that to one of a weaker status.

This form of intimidation threatens or frightens the victim into doing what they might not normally do. It is aggressive and unnecessary behavior that becomes repeated because the bully learns that it works. It makes the bully feel powerful and incontrol.

Today, bullying has intensified, and even lurks on the internet. This type of bullying is called Cyber Bullying.

Cyber Bullying is the act of harassing or bullying others through the use of the internet. It occurs when messages that are demeaning, harassing, threatening, hurtful, filthy, or even lewd are sent.

Cyber Bullying is very dangerous and can cause a lot of damage to the victim's physical or mental stability. It can cause serious tragedy.

Typically, bullying happens when adults are present, but unaware. It happens in hallways, at lockers and in class. It happens in elementary school and in high school. It can even continue through college and into the workplace.

But kids especially are becoming more and more abusive and using the World Wide Web to do it. For many, technology it isn't only a way to talk with friends, but to target individuals.

Many people do not understand that once something is uploaded to the web, it can be viewed forever and never taken back. What might seem funny at the time, can have serious, long-term consequences.

An extreme case of cyber bullying happened in October, 2006 and resulted in the suicide of a thirteen year old girl. This girl was Megan Meier. Her friend's mother, a woman named Lori Drew, created an online profile, as a boy named Josh, to find out what Megan had to say about her daughter.

This mother's sweet talk started becoming hostile. She tricked Megan into trusting "Josh Evans" and Megan believed whatever he said. Megan had already sometimes suffered from low self-esteem and was on medication.

Continued on next page

Shore Bowl Challenges Students' Knowledge of Marine Science

By: Kaitlin McGuinness

On Saturday, February 21, four intrepid seniors showed up at Manasquan High School at 7:00 AM to travel to the 12th annual Ocean Sciences Shore Bowl, a marine science academic competition held at Rutgers University. Three of these four seniors, Kerry Fechter, Katie Coleman and Kaitlin McGuinness, had taken a Marine Science course with coach Mr. Wasnesky, but the third team member Mary Sisti had no marine science experience and was bravely filling the place of a student who had to drop out a the last minute.

The group of 5 traveled the 45 minutes to Rutgers University after a quick revitalizing stop at Dunkin' Donuts. The driver of the van was ironically a former ship captain on the research vessel *Walford*, and regaled the group with stories of his days at sea with research scientists. After reaching our destination Rich did not merely drive away to pick us up later; instead he stayed and watched us compete, providing a fan section at each of our matches. He later commented that he was having "a great day," and that this was "better than going to the movies."

The Manasquan Shore Bowl team was competing against formidable opponents, including MAST, the Marine Academy of Science and Technology in Sandy Hook, New Jersey, and MATES, the Marine Academy of Technology and Environmental Science in Manahawkin, New Jersey. Both of these schools focus on marine and environmental science,

and train from freshman year for this competition. Both of these schools had both an "A" and a "B" team, and a collection of alternates.

The teams competed in a series of rounds with multiple choice Jeopardy-style questions with buzzers. There were also open-ended written portions on which the team collaborated. Mr. Wasnesky commented that he learned something every time he goes to these events, and that the open-ended questions were "very specific. More specific that gets taught on the average marine science curriculum."

One of the open ended portions was on benthic organisms, which the team was not familiar with, but managed to receive a point on anyway. Another particularly memorable question asked for 8 properties of jellyfish. "Radial symmetry" was one of them, but "goes well with peanut butter" was not, nor was "non-combustible."

Whoever buzzed in first had the opportunity to answer the multiple choice question and receive the points. The other teams were obviously very adept at buzzing, and it was later discovered that they had had whole practices on buzzing in with practice buzzers. While getting the hang of the buzzer, team member Katie Coleman accidentally hit hers during play while trying to test it. The other team declared that this was a "blurt" and that we should have points deducted, but the judges ruled it was not in fact a blurt.

The Manasquan team may have not have had the most marine experience, but it could be argued that they had the most heart. They held their own, prompting the MAST team captain to later say "you guys were really good too." Coming into the second half, Squan was tied three ways for fourth place. After a dogged elimination round, Squan lost fourth place by one point, and ended in fifth. Some other teams competing included other



schools. Manasquan was also the only all-girl team.

In the first round, Manasquan "failed miserably" in the words of team member Mary Sisti. The round ended 128 – 18 in favor of the other team, and the Manasquan team did not correctly answer one buzzer question. The other team initially contested the score, stating that they had in fact earned more points, but the judges felt it was immaterial because the win or loss is the only determining factor in the ranking. Manasquan were slightly disinherited to discover that the team they just played was in fact the "B" team of the school, but after that first round the Manasquan team pulled back and performed better in each subsequent round.

The Manasquan team had been informed that there would be a free hoodie given to contestants, but there was a moment of concern when it seemed that it might be a windbreaker instead. Finally, it was revealed that a Shore Bowl fleece would be provided, and all the team members were extremely satisfied. The Shore Bowl website states that "fabulous prizes will be awarded at both the regional and national levels," which all of the team members agree is absolutely true. In addition to the fabulous fleece, contestants received a pen, magnet, marine science poster and luggage tag.

Several of the other team was impressively dressed in uniforms, whether in matching T-shirts, collared shirts or full-out naval formal dress. The Manasquan team was wearing their game faces, not uniforms, and was dressed to impress in



Shore Bowl participants (from left to right) seniors Mary Sisti, Kerry Fechter, Kaitlin McGuinness and Katie Coleman

Continued on next page

Mrs. Santucci and Mrs. Kozic Form New MHS Running Club

By: Kate Ferraro

Have you ever tried to accomplish a goal? A motivating technique is starting the journey with a group of people, there is strength in numbers. Well, Mrs. Santucci's hope of running a half marathon has started a new club here at MHS, the running club.

"I have hopes of running a half marathon one day, and I thought group motivation was a good way to train for it," expressed Mrs. Santucci.

Both Mrs. Santucci and Mrs. Kozic had interest in starting the club.

After seeing flyers in the hallway, many students thought no one would join the running club, but after a week, the club was already growing in size. Each practice has 10-15 members any given day. Not only have many students showed a popular interest towards the club, but a handful of teachers are running too, including Mr. Mawn and Mr. Wasnesky.

The club meets on both Tuesdays and Thursdays and usually runs or jogs for about a half hour. After running the members stretch and do push ups, crunches, and lunges. On rainy days,

the club does yoga. Runners have all different levels and try to go anywhere from one to five miles, depending on ability. The club has many benefits, not only does it allow everyone to run at their own pace, it also helps beginners find a partner. The club serves as a great motivation to start running without the stress of being on a team, and lets students come on the days they are available. There is no commitment; you can come whenever you can. Although many groups of friends have joined together, it brings a lot of different students together.

The "practice" begins by the girls locker room, where the runners stretch and talk. The group then heads over to the bike path. Everyone begins to run, but the pack separates quickly between the various levels. Although there are many groups of friends chatting and laughing on the way to the bike path, once the run begins everyone turns on their ipods and get in the zone.

The clubs goal is to increase everyone's ability. Originally, the



Phys Ed teachers share the joy of working out and living a physically fit life

members ran on the bike path, but have began expanding to other routes around Manasquan. Also, another goal of Mrs. Santucci and Mrs. Kozic's club is getting the runners involved in lower distance races like the Jersey Shore Relay.

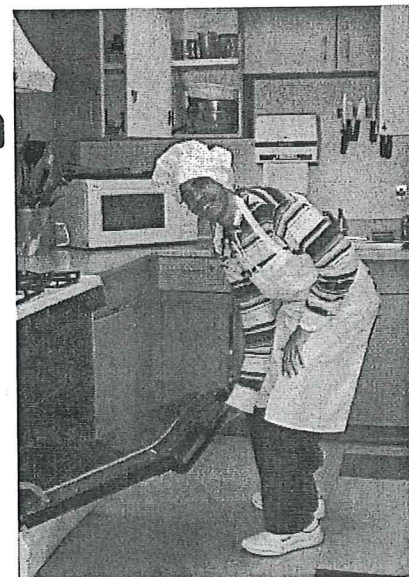
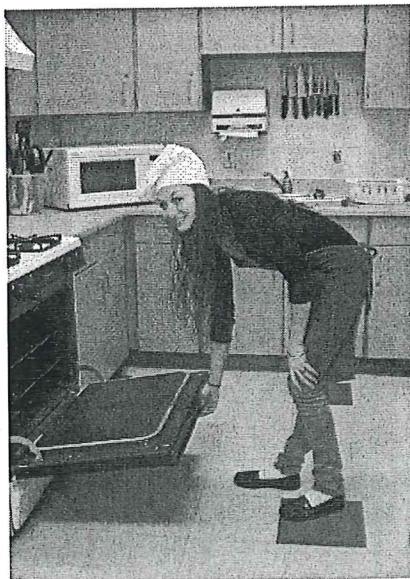
Since Mrs. Santucci and Mrs. Kozic are gym teachers, they stress the importance of running and physical activity. Running improves your cardio vascular endurance, muscle strength, and weight management. Also, it can increase your self or body image, while being a fun and social afterschool activity.

Both teachers hope for the club to last the rest of the school year and pick it up in the fall next year.

It's Time For... chef of the month

Rachael Crowell (left) is the February Chef of the Month. Rachael worked with Mrs. Yuhas last year during her lunch and study, and has excelled so far this year in Catering and Gourmet Cooking. According to Mrs. Yuhas, Rachael is always ready and willing to help her kitchen mates and assists Mrs. Yuhas outside of class, too.

March Chef of the Month goes to sophomore Daniel Best. He is committed to excellence, and goes above and beyond to help in the kitchen.



Academy of Finance Members Take Center Stage

DRESS FOR SUCCESS

By: Sam Matthews

Hard work, lots of preparation, and a great responsibility go in. A tremendously successful student led activity comes out.

On Thursday March 5th the Academy of Finance hosted their fifth annual "Dress for Success" fashion show in the Jack Nicholson Theater.

The fashion show is run by the Academy of Finance Members and is a big responsibility that these students take on.

"It's always kind of confusing and so stressful right before the show but in the end it's so worth it because everything pulls together and it's a lot of fun. "It's cool to see something that we put together be so successful," stated Senior Lauren Tonkovich, who played a big role in making the fashion show what it was.

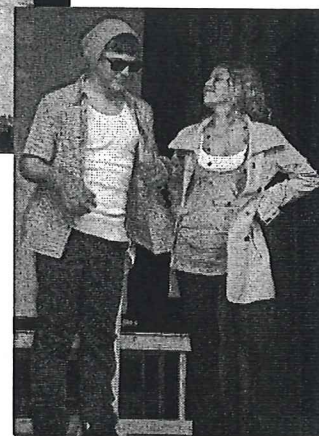
Seniors KJ Pringle and Melanie McNeel were the emcees of the evening livening up the audience with laughter and smiles.

Dressed to the nines, students from the Academy were clothed in formal wear from Antoinette Rose and Pat the Tailor and casual wear from Inlet Outlet, Lola's Closet, and Rare Cargo.

The students weren't the only ones showing us their best catwalk, the teachers were too. Miss Z, Miss Radzinsky, and Mr. Gordon have been in the fashion show every year and Miss Apostolou and Mrs. Santucci were also up there this year.

Seniors Megan Thompson, Lauren Tonkovich, KJ Pringle, and Lindsay Morrow put a great deal of work into the fashion show as well as all the other students who made the show as great as it was.

"The fashion show was very successful and we are thrilled by the continuous generosity of the school and community," stated Mr. Read who works with the students on the fashion show.



Above: Mickey Donofrio and Lauren Tonkovich. Pete Schenke and Tara Cuifo. Miss Apostolou and Joe Tompey.

Above: Mike Brown and Mrs. Santucci. Paul Mayer and Chloe Darche. CJ Davis and Katherine Reynolds.



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

Principal:
Mr. Rick Coppola
Volume LXVII
Issue 4
April 2009

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Seussical the Musical

