



The Breeze



Wednesday, April 3, 2002

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Somerset, Massachusetts

In Loving Memory of

Mrs. Medeiros

By Eric Correia '02
Co-Editor

Somerset High School lost a dedicated teacher and wonderful individual this past month, Mrs. Winifred Medeiros. Mrs. Medeiros, at 60, was an unfortunate victim of cancer. She had been at the high school for the past 19 years, teaching in the Business Department. Efforts are now being made to start a scholarship in her name so that she will not be forgotten. The following are the words of some of Mrs. Medeiros' students, colleagues, and friends, who will all, along with the entire school, miss her a great deal.



Winifred Medeiros

September 24, 1941

March 16, 2002

Winnie can be simply described as a gentle, kind, thoughtful lady, who truly loved life, her family, friends and students. She loved to have fun, laugh and celebrate life to its fullest. No matter how busy she was, she always had time for her friends and family. Winnie was a very strong, caring person who put others' feelings and needs before her own. Her glass was always full with faith, hope and love and this was demonstrated every day. She was truly a wonderful, dedicated colleague and friend, who is and will always be missed.
-Mrs. Delisle

(Please continue on page 2)



The Chorus sang at the March Madness Concert held on March 19 in the auditorium. Also featured were the Orchestra, String Ensemble and Band. (Photo by Jonathan Orsulp)

Somerset's Capital Plan

By KC Dowd '04
Co-Editor

On March 7th an ambitious capital plan was presented to about 80 interested Somerset taxpayers. This proposal outlined various options to overhaul all of the town's schools during an anticipated ten-year process. Architects from the Office of Michael Rosenfield, of West Acton, had been retained to research and design a strategic proposal that would address the considerable needs of the aging school buildings. The capital plan offered various options that would update, renovate or replace the present buildings, which in many areas simply do not meet acceptable code standards. Conditions cited included out of date technology, limited spacing compounded by overcrowding, infrastructure degeneration, plumbing and electrical issues and mega repairs needed for leaking roofs. Also noted were deficient ventilation systems and inadequate athletic fields.

The proposed renovation projects and reconstruction could pose an overall price tag of \$112.6 million, depending upon which plan options are endorsed by the voters. This figure may be offset by state reimbursements, at an anticipated approximate rate of 60 percent. This could place the town's actual share of the total cost at about \$40 million.

Improvements at the high school may present the largest costs. Options include building a new school on the current athletic playing fields and using the original 1936 high school building for central office administration. Another option would be to reconfigure the existing spaces, build a 76,000 square foot addition and renovate the infrastructure. A third alternative would add 36,000 square feet to the existing building with extensive renovations.

(Please continue on page 2)

Mrs. Medeiros was my dearest friend for many years. Her death has been a great loss, and I miss her. However, I'm grateful that she didn't have to spend a very long time in such pain. She was a beautiful human being. Some of the words that come to mind when I think of her are: adventurous, generous, fun-loving, honest, meticulous, and devoted. The world is a sadder place without her but all my memories are happy ones.

-Mrs. Gaudreau

Mrs. Medeiros was a very caring and dedicated teacher. She cared about her students and was also a very good friend. We will miss her and never forget her.

-Jill Lebow

Having taught with Mrs. Medeiros for the past 19 years, I am deeply saddened by the sudden loss of my colleague and dearest friend. The staff and students of Somerset High School lost a truly dedicated teacher and wonderful person. We will all miss her quiet, mild-mannered demeanor and huge heart. She was a fine "lady" in the truest sense of the word.
-Ms. Cavallaro

Mrs. Medeiros Remembered...

Even though some people never had Mrs. Medeiros as a teacher or were not very close to her, they all knew she was a wonderful person.

-Megan Kelley & Heather Francoeur

Mrs. Medeiros was a loving and caring person. She treated her students as if they were her children. She was a wonderful person.

-Maddison Pereira

Mrs. Medeiros was a very caring and good teacher. She was not just a good teacher, she was a good listener whenever someone had a problem. She played a big role in some of the kids lives and these aren't a person out there that could fill her shoes. We will all miss her greatly.

-Todd Barrain

Winnie and I had been friends for about 30 years. I met her while teaching together at Durfee High School. Over the years we shared stories about school, mutual friends and our sons' weddings. I will miss her smile, but her positive outlook on life will be a lasting inspiration for me.

-Mrs. Powell

Mrs. Medeiros was truly a warm hearted person and I will always remember and cherish all that she has ever taught me, not necessarily in the classroom, but also what she taught me outside the classroom about life.

-Kasberlee Anderson

To her students she was a teacher, a mentor, the "candy lady". To me she was a colleague, my golfing companion, my friend. In all the years I knew her, I never heard her speak an ill word about anyone. She was one of the kindest, gentlest people I have ever known and I will miss her forever.

-Ms. Goodwin

Mrs. Medeiros' smile will be missed by everyone.

-Love, Siobhan Minor

Mrs. Medeiros will be forever missed, but will always be in our hearts.

-Love, Ashlie Aguiar

Mrs. Medeiros was a nice and caring person and teacher and she will be missed by many.

-Allyssa Pilkington

Mrs. Medeiros is not only going to be remembered as a good person, but also as a loving and understanding teacher!

-Love, Crystal Belchior

Mrs. Medeiros was a kind and caring person. We will miss her very much.

-Krystal Antmes

Mrs. Medeiros was a very nice lady with a lot to give to her students. She will be missed.

-Allyse Baptista

I didn't know Mrs. Medeiros very long, but she was always nice to everyone, and we will all miss her.

-Anonymous

Mrs. Medeiros was a great person and also a great teacher. We all miss her.

-Love, Melinda

Mrs. Medeiros was a very nice teacher and we all miss her very much.

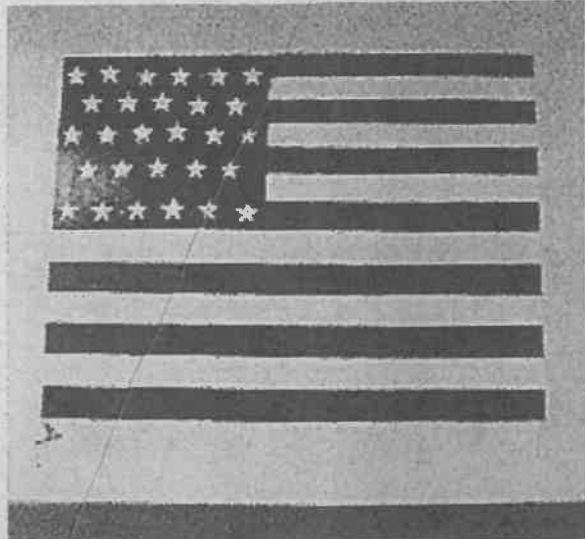
-Courtney

Mrs. Medeiros was a very nice teacher, and we are going to miss her.

-Kevin Joynt

Winnie Medeiros was a remarkable woman. I was privileged to see her in her roles of quintessential lady, devoted mom and wife, serious student, concerned teacher, and very supportive friend. In many ways, her passions makes a widower of the world.

-Mr. Gaudreau



The Student Council painted numerous murals around Somerset High School. Above is an American flag, demonstrating student's patriotism. Other murals, found around the school, represent various sports, clubs, and ideas. (Photo by Jon Correira)

Somerset's Capital...


The fourth option would modernize the internal systems of the high school with classroom reconfigurations, electrical and plumbing code issues, as well as updates of all of the science labs. This would also entail renovating the under-sized library-media center and lecture hall, and replace all of the exterior windows and glass blocks. Also, the entire gravel roofing system needs replacement. The bathrooms, auditorium and gymnasium are also in need of significant repairs. In addition, there are serious handicapped accessibility compliance issues. The high school alone requires an estimated \$40 to \$53 million commitment.

The junior high plan included three options, with a relatively reasonable \$15 million estimate of costs. The first plan would be to construct a "modest" 10,000 square foot addition, with renovations in the existing building. The next two plans would avoid building. These options would increase the teacher student ratio, and implement internal structural renovations.

The elementary schools present specific concerns related to each building.

The architect suggests that the 74-year-old Wilbur School may not be eligible for state funding if renovated. It's small size and accessibility issues present huge obstacles to meeting the projected needs of our expanding student population. According to the capital plan, the best option would be to construct a new elementary school on the junior high property and consolidate the South Elementary and Wilbur School student population. Chase Street School and North Elementary also face major capital expenses for their building systems, windows, roofing, and classroom configuration and handicap accessibility.

A Capital Plan Study Committee has been established to decide the most appropriate and feasible options for each school building. Members of this task force include Superintendent Stephen Furtado, school principals, and representatives from town government and community members. Their recommendations will be presented to the town this fall. Once approved by the voters, the capital plan will be presented to the state's School Building Assistance board for final approval.

	
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Around School:	Lynn Creamer and Holly Chagnon
Sports:	Ryan Avery
Advisor:	George Austin

Around School



Somerset High School custodians shoveling daily trash left by students at lunch (Photo by Jon Correira)

Debate Season a Success

By Sue Berube '02
Breeze Staff Writer

The 2001-2002 Debate season was an overall success for the Somerset High Varsity and Novice Debate Teams. This year's national debate resolution was that the United States federal government should establish a foreign policy significantly limiting the use of weapons of mass destruction. Coincidentally, the topic was decided upon before the tragic events of September 11th. As you can well imagine, the attacks added a much deeper meaning and significance to many of the cases presented concerning terrorism and various related issues.

The Eastern Massachusetts Debate Conference, in which Somerset competes, consists of ten other neighboring high schools including: Bishop Feehan, Bishop Stang, Cohasset, Coyle-Cassidy, Foxboro, New Bedford, Notre Dame Academy, Old Rochester Regional, Scituate, and Tabor Academy.

During this season's eight preliminary round debates, Somerset debaters were able to wrack up a whopping twelve awards. Of twenty-one entering teams on the Varsity level, the Somerset A four-person team of Sue Berube, Andrew Lavoie, Michelle Prevost, and Aisha Stewart finished in second place. Seventeen teams were entered on the Novice level with our very own Somerset B-Kim Hudson, Kate Mello, Megan Kelley and Kelsey Pavao also taking second.

On February 27th, Tabor Academy hosted the rather intense 2002 Eastern Massachusetts Debate Finals. For these final rounds, each entering two-person team, affirmative and negative, was paired

at random for the first two debates and based upon those results, were then paired for the final round. Somerset debaters took home eleven trophies on the bus that night.

As for two-person varsity affirmative teams, Berube and Lavoie were awarded fourth place with the highest total speaker point count in the league. Also, Sarah Sevingy and Jenn Almeida took fifth place with a record of 2-1. On the novice level, Somerset placed second with the two-person team of Hudson and Jackie Boardman.

Several individual speakers were recognized during the finals for their outstanding demonstration of reasoning, persuasion, rhetoric, and presentation skills. Somerset held three places in the Top Ten of Varsity Affirmative speakers: Berube (2nd), Lavoie (4th), and Sevingy (9th). Two negative speakers were also commended: Prevost (3rd) and Katlyn Parise (8th). The seventh and eighth best novice affirmative speakers in the league were Hudson and Boardman.

Effective Speaking, a book by Christine Stuart, cites a survey in the United States in which three thousand adults were asked to list their ten worst fears. Surprisingly enough, speaking in public is the number one fear of Americans- above the fears of financial ruin and even death! Aside from all of the formal awards and recognition that Somerset received this debate season, each and every member of the Debate Team should be applauded for their strength and talent in rhetorical tradition. Congratulations to all. Now, for next year's topic: increasing public health services for mental health care in the United States. Sounds like a headache!

Prom Fashion Show: Good time had by all

By Kate Woolfrey '02
Breeze Staff Writer

The Prom fashion show which was held on Saturday night, March 16, was worth every penny of the admission fee! Forty gorgeous dresses from Deb were modeled by Somerset High School's young women, and to accompany them, were seventeen handsome young men in tuxedos from Roberts' Tux.

The night kicked off at seven o'clock and ended around nine, but those two hours were filled with excitement. The guys strutted down the runway flipping sunglasses, unbuttoning jackets, and working the crowd. The girls gracefully slid across the floor adding just the right amount of twists and spins. While the students worked their stuff on the stage, Mr. Taylor, the MC, did an excellent job keeping the audience informed and laughing. During intermission, the crowd was entertained by the wonderful vocals of Amy Correira and Nicole Roussel, accom-

panied by Andy Lavoie on guitar. Raffle tickets were sold and prizes were handed out to many happy viewers.

Not only was this night an enjoyment for all, it was also a tremendous success. The proceeds have contributed to two \$500 scholarships in memory of Sean Pierce, and just under \$1,000 has been set aside for reduction in prom ticket prices.

This night never would have been possible without the help of many people. First and foremost, Mrs. Laurence, the Peer Leadership advisor, struggled through many obstacles to get this show off the ground. Another thank you goes to Mr. Taylor for his donation of his time and enthusiasm as MC of the show. Also thanks are needed for all the other teachers who lent their time and efforts, the PTO, the Peer Leadership group, the models, the businesses who donated raffle prizes and attire, and Mr. O'Connell for donating his time. Much thought, effort, and hours went into this event and the outcome definitely displayed all the hard work.

Trash Problem at SHS

By Holly Chagnon and
Lynn Creamer
Breeze Staff Writers

OK, so you are in the cafeteria eating Swedish Fish and before you know it you finish the whole package. You look around and there aren't any barrels within arm's reach, so what do you do? Throw the wrapper on the floor. If you ever walk into the cafeteria after third lunch you'll see a pretty pathetic sight. Our custodians literally have to shovel the trash off the floor. That's so ridiculous! There are at

least eight trash receptacles stationed around the cafeteria. They are there for a reason. We are all young adults and should be able to take care of our own trash. The only thing the janitors should have to sweep off the floor is dirt! Maybe if we catch on to this system of throwing away our own trash then we won't have to be dismissed by sections, like the Junior High kids. Even if you don't respect our school, throw away your trash and show respect to your peers as well as the janitors. Let's keep it clean kids!



Samples of ceramic pieces made by Somerset students (Photo taken by Donnelly Roberts)

Ceramics: A great class!

By Donnelly Roberts '04
Breeze Staff Writer

A popular course for the past few years has been Ceramics. Many take the course to fulfill art requirements, but end up enjoying the class enough to take it multiple times. One of the great things that come with the class is the vast horizon of possibilities that can be achieved.

Working with clay gives a person many options. You can use the wheel to create traditional styles of pottery or one can create abstract designs by hand. Many different shapes can be formed with the clay. Unlike plaster or stone, clay takes shape

quickly and is easily manipulated. Clay can be used to achieve a variety of forms. You can easily make anything, from a simple pot to a hippopotamus.

Colorful glazes are another attribute of ceramics. Pieces can have one, two or numerous colors on them. Every color of the spectrum can be achieved by mixing different earthen materials.

Finally, ceramics is an ancient art. People have been using different forms of pottery and clay since the earliest civilizations. This allows us to be linked with our ancient ancestors.

These many aspects of Ceramics together make the course quite popular here at Somerset High School.

Welcome Mr. Bulmer

Jon Fanning '05
Breeze Staff Writer

A new addition to the Somerset High School science department is Mr. Eric Bulmer. Prior to teaching at Somerset High he taught in three different locations. He has come from Bama and Kathmandu, Nepal. After returning to the U.S., Mr. Bulmer taught at Block Island before coming to Somerset. When interviewing Mr. Bulmer I found out a lot about our new addition. He attended URI where he decided that he was going to become a teacher. When asked how he came to the decision of teaching, Mr. Bulmer's response was "The first class I had in college was a teaching class." After taking that class he figured that he would teach. This wasn't his real decision maker though. During Mr. Bulmer's high school career, he had both good and bad teachers. He hoped that by becoming a good teacher, he could replace at least one bad one. When asked what he thought about this school in general, he responded, "This school is everything that I have expected." When concluding the interview, I asked if he had any problems with students since he has been teaching at this school. He responded "No real big problems, just students resisting to



Photo of Mr. Eric Bulmer (Photo by Jon Correia)

cooperate." After wrapping up the interview, Mr. Bulmer had good things to say about Somerset High School. I would like to thank Mr. Bulmer for all of his cooperation for doing this interview.

New Addition to SHS!!

By Nathan Euleterio '05 and
Kevin Silvestre '05
Breeze Staff Writers

There is a new foreign language teacher who was hired just this year at Somerset High School. Her name is Ms. Goncalves. She teaches Portuguese to the ninth grade students.

Ms. Goncalves was born in France and had been living there up until just seven years ago. When she was eleven, in junior high in France, she had already decided that she wanted to become a teacher thanks to her English teacher who had been an inspiration to her.

She originally took English as a foreign language in school. She also had majored to teach English as a foreign language. However, seven years ago, Ms. Goncalves, along with her parents and her brother, decided to move to America. She could no longer teach English as a foreign language as she had planned so she decided to teach Portuguese. A benefit of teaching Portuguese was that it was what had been spoken at home because both of Ms. Goncalves' parents are native to Portugal.

Ms. Goncalves says that one difference she found in the French schools compared to American schools was the time frame in which students were in school. In France, students go to school from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. They also have a one-hour break for lunch. This is opposed to American students who go to school from about 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and usually only have about a half an hour to eat lunch.

Portuguese and French aren't the only languages that Ms. Goncalves speaks either. She can speak Italian also. She learned how to speak Italian in school.

Ms. Goncalves also says that the best thing about being multilingual is that it is easier to get around. A couple of years ago she went on vacation to Europe and she found it to be very helpful to be able to speak more than just one language.

Out of the three languages that Ms. Goncalves speaks, she finds that English has the toughest pronunciations but that Portuguese is the toughest overall.

The best experiences that Ms. Goncalves has had so far at Somerset High School were being able to teach her freshman classes and being able to work with all of her friendly co-workers.

All of us here at Somerset High School wish Ms. Goncalves the best of luck!

Freshman/Sophomore Semi-formal

By Jessica Silva '05, Shirley McCrowan '05, and Valerie Martins '05

On March 15 at White's of Westport more than 150 freshman and sophomore students gathered to attend the semi-formal held that night. They enjoyed a buffet including fried chicken, meatballs, baked ham, tortellini, roasted potatoes and much more. After the food had been eaten, sophomores encouraged the freshmen to get up and dance. At first, the freshmen resisted but before long the dance floor was packed. Many were disappointed with the selection of music, especially the lack of slow songs. Others did not seem to care and danced the night away. Overall students had a great time and everyone looked wonderful.

Governor Swift, MCAS, and You

By KC Dowd '04
Co-Editor

Governor Jane Swift has released her position on the fast approaching high stakes MCAS test in a message to our parents. This assessment directly impacts our graduation requirement and future course work. There are samples of this exam and past questions that you can access on the internet through the Mass. Department of Education, <http://www.doe.mass.edu/mcas>. The Boston Public Library also offers sample questions and explanations for correct answers. Just type in Boston Public Library and proceed to Kids. Practicing previous test questions are a great way to prepare for this state mandated requirement.

Governor's Letter to Parents of Tenth Grade Students
February 2002
Dear Parent or Guardian of a Tenth Grade Student:

This spring, your tenth-grade son or daughter is scheduled to take the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) tests, and he or she will need to pass the English and mathematics tests to graduate. This is a requirement of the Education Reform Act of 1993.

You and your child may be anxious about the upcoming spring tests, but we want you to know that we are committed to your child's success. We are putting in place a fair system that provides every possible option and opportunity for your child to achieve his or her high school diploma. It is essential to your child's future success that his or her diploma represents excellence.

Most students pass the MCAS on their first try. In fact, the tenth graders who took the tests last spring showed great results - 82 % passed English and 75 % passed mathematics, and we have every reason to expect that this trend will continue. For those who do not pass on their first try, however, there are many options available to help them succeed:

* Students have four more chances to take the tests and pass before the end of their senior year;

* Teachers are available to craft a Student Success Plan tailored to your son's or daughter's specific learning needs; and

* Students can access extra help (online and personal instruction) during and after school, on Saturdays and in the summertime.

For parents, we have set up a statewide parent hotline, 1-866-MCAS220, for support and information. Also, at <http://www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/parents.html>, you and your child can review last spring's MCAS test questions and see some new examples of English and mathematics questions. Copies of past questions are available at your school and local library, as well.

The improvements made have not happened by accident. They are the result of hard work by teachers, principals, superintendents, community and business leaders, students and parents. This proves that our students can rise to the challenge if we raise their expectations.

Our future depends on a strong and educated workforce, and your child deserves every opportunity to compete and succeed. Your active support of your teenager and his or her school is critical to making a difference. We stand together with you in partnership on behalf of all students.

Sincerely,
Jane Swift
Governor
James Peyster
Chairman, Board of Education
David P. Driscoll
Commissioner of Education

MCAS Tips

Your support for your teenager is critical now and throughout this school year. Here are some tips that could help you to help your child prepare for the tests:

* Talk with your child's teachers regularly to see what you can do at home to support your child's work in school.

* Make sure that your child gets enough rest, eats properly and gets to school on time every day.

* Talk to your child about his or her previous experience with the MCAS in the eighth grade.

* Discuss the subjects that need improvement and whether your child thinks there has been improvement. If the answer is no, find out why.

* Ask your child about the homework that is due tomorrow and next week, and make sure it gets done. Send your child to school prepared to learn.

* Ask your son or daughter to explain to you what he or she is studying. These conversations help you to follow your child's progress, and help him or her to remember what has been learned.

* If your child has a disability, ask the teachers how MCAS fits into the IEP or 504 plan.

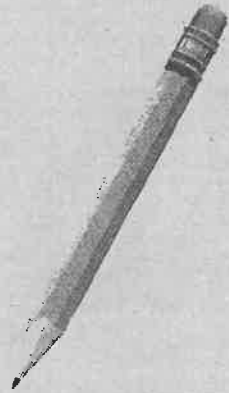
* Read the MCAS questions and the corresponding education standards in the curriculum frameworks and discuss them with your child and his or her teacher.

* Help your child identify his or her learning strengths so he or she can use them to focus on the weak areas.

* Help your child practice MCAS questions, and look over the tests together so you will all become familiar with the expectations.

* Encourage your child to take an active part in class and in other school activities. A well-rounded student has a better outlook and does better on tests. If possible, limit your child's activities to just a few outside of school. While other pursuits are very important, too many hours spent on extracurricular activities, including watching TV or working at a job, can seriously affect attitude, effort and academic performance.

Finally, keep the tests in perspective. MCAS is an important measure of what your child should be learning, but is just one part of your child's school experience.



Grade 10 ELA English Language Arts and Mathematics Spring 2002 Tests

April 9
ELA Comp.
Sessions 1 and 2
May 9
ELA Comp.
Make-up
Sessions 1 & 2

May 14
ELA Lang./Lit.
Sessions 1&2
May 15
ELA Lang./Lit.
Session 3/
Make-up Sessions **
May 16
Mathematics*
Sessions 1&2
May 17 - 23
Make-up
Sessions
May 24
Return
Materials

*Mathematics will require two one-hour sessions.

** ELA and Mathematics make-up sessions can be administered throughout the two-week testing period.

English Language Arts Composition - April 9, 2002 (Grades 4, 7 and 10)

Date	Test Activity
Tuesday, April 9	ELA composition
April 12	Deadline for returning materials

English Language Arts Composition Make-up - May 9 and All other Content Areas - May 13 - 24, 2002 (Grades 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10)

Date	Test Activity
Thursday, May 9	ELA Composition Make-up
May 13 - 24	Tests in ELA Language and Literature, Mathematics, Science and Technology/Engineering, & History and Social Science
Tuesday, May 14	Grade 10 ELA Language and Literature -- Sessions 1 and 2
Wednesday, May 15	Grade 10 ELA Language and Literature -- Session 3
Thursday, May 16	Grade 10 Mathematics -- Sessions 1 and 2
Friday, May 17 - Thursday, May 23	Complete make-up sessions

Entertainment



The Orchestra was one of the music groups that performed at the Music Department's March Madness Concert which took place on March 19. (Photo by Jonathan Solup)

Our Five Worst Songs of the Month

By: Sean Kingsbury '04, Evan Mattoe '05, Eric Correia '02, and Evan Minor '02

Thank God we're not friends with this band and none of them are in any of our families.

5.) How You Remind Me, Nickelback - Remind us to get our nickel back for this single.

2.) Hands Clean, Alanis Morissette - After touching this CD, we felt the need to clean our hands.

4.) Standing Still, Jewel - This song will stand still on the charts, that is for sure. It is Jewel, what do you expect?

and the worst song of the month is...

3.) Friends & Family, Trik Turner-

1.) Girlfriend (Remix), NSYNC feat. Nelly - After this song, no wonder Britney Spears remixed herself right out of her relationship with Justin.

The Mountain of the Women: Memories of an Irish Troubadour Review

By Conor Murray '02
Breeze Staff Writer

After his sixtieth birthday party, lying in a hospital bed with pneumonia, the words of the Greek poet Nikos Kazantzakis reverberated in his mind; "When a man dies, that aspect of the universe which is his own particular vision and the unique play of his mind also crashes in ruins forever." Now six years later, Liam has released his vision of life in his autobiography, *The Mountain of the Women: Memories of an Irish Troubadour*, the first in a series of books to tell the life story of one of the most famous Irishmen in the world, Liam Clancy, musician, actor, and now writer.

Clancy was born in September 2, 1935 in Carrick-on-Suir, County Tipperary, Ireland. The youngest of eleven children, Liam, then known as Willie, tells what it was like to grow up in during world War II in Ireland, being taught in a catholic school by the nuns, and having everyone around him telling him to "get a job with a pension." His father ran an insurance broker's office and expected that his sons, Paddy, Tom, Bobby, and Willie, would join him in the business. Young Willie saw nothing but an office job to look forward to in his life,

and he wanted adventure. Like his older brothers Paddy and Tom, who had immigrated to Greenwich Village in New York City in 1947, Willie wanted to be an actor. In 1954 Willie founded the first drama club in his town, still existing today, and produced, directed, set designed, and starred in a production of the *Playboy of the Western World* which toured much of Ireland. It was one of Willie's costars who suggested Willie be billed, Liam, and it has stuck for nearly fifty years.

In 1956 he immigrated to America to become an actor. Receiving poverty pay the three brothers and friend, Tommy Makem, also from Ireland, performed Irish songs about revolution, drinking, and love. They recorded three albums for Tradition Records, started by Paddy Clancy, *The Rising of Moon: Irish Songs of Rebellion*, in 1956, *Come Fill Your Glass With Us: Irish Songs of Drinking* in 1959. They called themselves the Clancy Brothers and Tommy Makem, also the name of their third album, in 1961. The singing eventually became more popular than the acting and a 16 minute spot on the *Ed Sullivan Show* in 1961 launched them to international stardom.

The book ends on the day after their appearance on the *Ed Sullivan Show* in

Chicago where on the street someone shouted congratulations to them on their television performance and soon a crowd had gathered asking for autographs. Tom Clancy said to his partners, "Hey, we're famous."

The Mountain of the Women is the story of Liam Clancy, his brothers and friend Tommy Makem's road to fame. It is filled with fascinating and well written stories and recollections. Critics have compared Clancy's book to Frank McCourt's *Angela's Ashes* and "Lia is another story that is told in the way only an Irishman could tell it. It is an easy, yet compelling read. If you liked *Angela's Ashes*, you'll love *The Mountain of the Women*. Sometimes Clancy rambles a bit and loses the reader, mostly in short sequences where he explains Irish history. However even some of the history lessons are very interesting. One gripping incident involved Liam's grandmother. She owned a pub in Ireland in the late 1800's when Ireland was still an English colony. There was a group of English soldiers, called the Black and Tans, in the pub at closing time. She asked the soldiers for payment for their night's drinking and immediately one of the soldiers cocks his pistol pointing it at her head, and said "What was that ya

said about paying, Mrs. McGrath?"

The book is filled with anecdotes about his childhood, as well as the culture shock experienced in leaving a small town in Ireland and going to 1950s Greenwich Village in New York City, and the rocky road from poverty line pay to becoming one of the four most famous Irishmen in the world. There are eight pages of photos including Liam as a boy, his siblings, and the group performing in Greenwich Village pubs and on concert stages as the Clancy Brothers and Tommy Makem.

Liam now lives in Country Waterford, Ireland, and still tours in the United States several times each year. He is currently on tour promoting his new book. On March 17, Liam appeared on the CBS Sunday Morning News, in an in depth interview showing viewers some of the places he talks about in the book. I thoroughly enjoyed this book and suggest that it not be missed. The audio version of the book is on Compact Disc and is narrated by Liam himself. The book sells for \$29.99 and is available at bookstores.

To find out more information about Liam Clancy, visit his official website at www.liamclancy.com.

JESSE

Jesse Barboza

HEY, READERS! TIME TO TAKE A QUICK BREAK FROM THE HUMOR TO CHECK OUT THE OLD MAIL BAG!



LET'S SEE... RYAN M. FROM SOMERSET MASSACHUSETTS WRITES, "DEAR JESSE, I NEVER GET YOUR COMICS. WHY AREN'T YOU ANY FUNNIER?"



WELL, RYAN M., IS IT REALLY MY COMIC STRIP THAT ISN'T FUNNY, OR IS IT YOU WHO CAN'T SEEM TO APPRECIATE MY SENSE OF HUMOR?



BY THE WAY, THAT WAS A RIBBICAL QUESTION, SO DON'T SEND ME ANOTHER LETTER.



The End of the Rainbow: a colorful lesson on life

By Amanda Anctil '02
Breeze Staff Writer

What do you think of when you see splashes of color streaming across a beautiful sky? Do you think of little men dressed in old-fashioned green suits protecting their precious pots of gold? Do you wonder where it came from and how it got there? A rainbow is a great way to reflect the storyline of this novel. You'll see exactly what I mean if you read further...

Summer, a talented and loving sixteen year old girl lives on an elaborate estate in Virginia with her paraplegic mother, her tranquil father, her aunt Glenda, Uncle Roy, and her cousin by marriage Harley. She is not unlike other girls her age: she is looking to earn the love of a young boy (which just so happens to be Harley), trying to follow her dreams, and seeking to make a life of her own.

When her expensive all-girl school let out for the summer, she goes to a prestigious summer camp where she studies music and refines her instrument playing. While there she noticed this older camper, Duncan, who seemed to have the attention of all the female campers. Thinking about Harley, she pushes Duncan from her mind. A few nights later, after a dance held at the camp, Duncan takes her for a walk to his van after curfew. There, he rapes her like it was nothing and later escorts her back to her room. Scared and shocked, Summer

calls her parents and they immediately have her removed from the camp. Rain, Summer's mother, becomes scared because she believed that the incident was part of a curse on her family. Summer dismisses this notion and tells her mother that it had nothing to do with her.

Shortly after this episode, Harley's mother, Glenda, who has been considered mad as a result of the death of her younger daughter, Latisha, began to become crazier and crazier by the day. She eventually ends up sleepwalking into the pond on the estate and drowning. Distraught after losing his younger sister and his mother, Harley decides that he can not stay with his stepfather, Roy, whom he does not get along with. Becoming more and more curious, Harley has his computer friend look up information to try and locate his real father. Successfully, his friend found Harley's father's address in a small town in New York. Finally deciding what he had to do, Harley set out to tell Summer his plans and to ask a huge favor of her.

This is when the story really takes off. Harley asks Summer to come with him to meet his dad for the first time. Summer reluctantly agrees and decides not to tell her parents, out of fear that they will stop them before they reach their destination. Early the next morning the two teenagers set out on Harley's motorcycle with only two bags of clothing, a few hundred bucks or so, and the directions to New York. What troubled them was would they make



Sarah Shaker, Danny Prevost and Katia Hagerman rehearse for the Drama Club's presentation of *Bye, Bye Birdie* that will take place on April 5th, 6th and 7th (Photo by Jonathan Solup)

it there? What would be waiting there when they arrived? Would the police stop them? Would they get lost and end up some place totally different? Little did they know that these questions would be the least of their worries, but I'm going to leave it at that.

The rest of this book is too surprising for me to give away. Just about every obstacle imaginable gets in their way. Secrets pop up that will haunt the two kids for the rest of their lives. All that they have known for the last sixteen and seventeen years of their young lives has been altered drastically and might not tip back to their favor.

So by now you're probably wondering, "What is with the title?" That is the funny part. Through all the devastation that they encounter there is a bright light (or shall I say a "pot of gold") waiting for them at the end of the tunnel. The ironic part is that it is right under their noses the whole time. That is what makes this book so great. V.C. Andrews does a fantastic job keeping you wondering and setting you up to you think you know what is going to happen. Two minutes later, WHAM, you have to rethink the whole situation again. You actually feel like you are in the plot. I give this book five stars!!



2001-2002 Hockey Summary

By Paul Mattos '05
Breeze Staff Writer

This year the Somerset High School hockey team ended up having a very successful season. With their 9 wins 8 losses and 3 ties they made it into the state with a 10th seed. Their first game in the state was played at Falmouth. There they played the 8th seeded team Norwell, and won 7 to 6. Jay Ledo led the team with 4 goals and Jeff Smith had 2 assists. After this they played the 2nd seeded team Blue Hills in the quarterfinals. In this game Somerset only managed to score one goal while Blue Hills scored 5.

After the season I managed to talk to teammates Jeff Smith (freshman) and Brandon Levesque (senior). The first per-

son I talked to was Jeff. When I asked how the team would do in upcoming seasons he said that because the team was so young this year with many freshmen that they will have a good foundation for the next few years. Another thing he pointed out was that the team was only losing 6 seniors, which don't include the EAC all stars on the team, Jay Ledo and Josh Letourneau.

I also asked Jeff if he thought that they would make it this far in the beginning of the season. He responded by saying that he didn't know what to expect because it was his first time on a high school hockey team. But he was told by upper classmen that if they played to the best of their abilities that they could have a good season.

After I talked to Jeff I went to senior Brandon Levesque. One of the questions I asked him was how the team felt during their 4 game losing streak during the season. He answered by saying that starting off the season with those losses was tough. One reason was because the team was very young and that made it really easy for them to get discouraged. But he said with a lot of motivation from the 4 captains and hard work from the team they made it out of the hole they put themselves in.

I also asked Brandon how the coaching staff did this season. He answered by saying that they did a decent job with all the young players on the team. He also said that they did a great job getting as far as they did, not taking credit away from the players.



Girls' B-Ball makes tourney run

By Ryan Avery '03
Sports Editor

The Somerset girls' basketball team ended a superb year in the beginning of March at Stonehill College. It came to a close in the semifinal game of the Division 2 MIAA South Sectional Tournament. This was the farthest the team had advanced in four years under head coach Doug Leigh.

In the first two rounds of the tournament, 6th-seeded Somerset held off Dighton-Rehoboth 50-44 (Rachel Smith 20 points, Christina Allain 9 points) and then disposed of Stoughton High School in front of Stoughton's home crowd, 57-44 (Rachel Smith 21 points, Amanda Gaffney 10). At Stonehill, the girls were one bucket away from the finals, as they lost to Fontbonne High School 52-51 on a last second shot. It was a great game, and thrilling to the end. A great comeback by the Lady Raiders was made in the second half, as they were down by 10 points with only a few minutes left in the game. Rachel Smith led Somerset with 26 points, many of which came at crunch time late in the game. Aubrey Fisher and Amanda Gaffney each had 6 points. There was a great turnout for the game by Somerset fans, who filled their side of the gym at Stonehill and never stopped cheering/screaming for the girls the entire time.

Once again, congratulations to EAC All-Stars Rachel and Rebecca Smith, coach Leigh and the entire team for an outstanding 20-win season!

Spring 2002 Previews for Baseball, Girls' Tennis

By Ryan Avery '03
Sports Editor

I recently had the chance to talk with Somerset baseball coach Larry Thomas and junior Shannon Dubois, one of the tri-captains of the girls' tennis team this year, about their outlooks for the 2002 season for their respective teams.

Mr. Thomas informed me that the Somerset baseball team would be relying heavily on youth, as last year's team graduated 11 seniors. This leaves only 3 returning players from last year's varsity squad. Fortunately, one of those veterans is senior Mike Constantino, shortstop, a 4 year varsity member who already holds numerous Somerset hitting records and who looks to dominate the EAC once again this year. Also returning is junior Jared Durfee, Somerset's #3 pitcher from last year (29 innings, 1.45 ERA) and senior Brandon Levesque (pitcher/1st base). Mr. Thomas believes that pitching will be the team's strong point this year, between Durfee and prospects from the successful Somerset freshman and JV teams last year.

The freshman program was especially strong, and the coach mentioned that there would certainly be sophomores on this year's varsity, although he doesn't know how many. Mr. Thomas hopes that if the team develops as a group, that they will once again be towards the top of the EAC this year. He fully expects for the team to make the state tournament, as the Raiders are now in Division 2 instead of 1, and need only 10 wins to qualify. Finally, look for the Raiders to be on the road at least until the start of the regular season, as Somerset's home field awaits a new backstop.

The girls' tennis team will be seeing some changes this year according to Dubois, starting with new coach Mrs. Charest, mother of standout player Aimee. The varsity team looks to be composed of a good balance of veterans and new prospects, as last year's team graduated 3 out of the 7 members. The 2002 team looks to be led by returning players (and tri-captains) Aimee Charest (senior), Stacey Worrell (senior), and Dubois her-

self. Also returning to varsity is sophomore Julie Donahy. According to Dubois, the first doubles' team from last year has to be replaced (most likely by last year's second team), but the Raiders have a good crop of returnees from JV last year to fill the void of second doubles. As to Dubois' personal goals for the year, she told me she would like to see the team make the state tournament again this year and advance as far as possible. Also, she would very much like to see the Lady Raiders dethrone Bishop Feehan as EAC champs, as the Shamrocks have won the title for the past 7 years.

Make sure to catch a Somerset baseball game and a girls tennis match this season. For that matter, also go to a track meet, softball game or a boys' volleyball match (Editor's note: the newly created Boys' volleyball squad looks especially promising). Good luck to Coach Thomas, Dubois and the rest of Somerset's spring athletic teams!