

The Breeze



Publishing for Somerset High School Since 1921

Monday, April 1, 1996

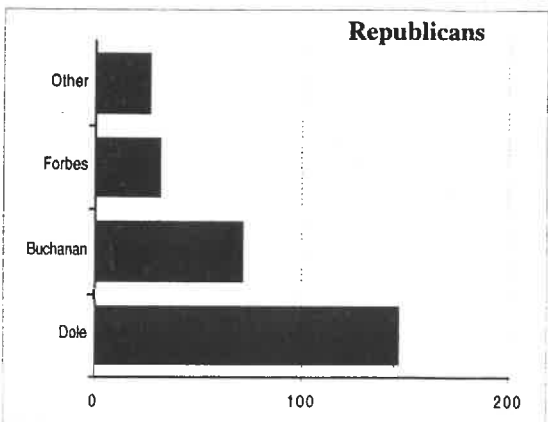
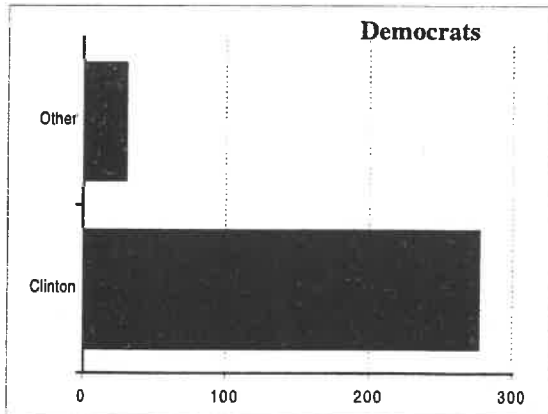
Vol. 75 No. 6

Somerset, Massachusetts

We Choose the Winners

The *Breeze* staff held a school-wide mock presidential primary on Super Tuesday, March 12. On the ballot, students had the choice between Republicans Robert Dole, Pat Buchanan, Steve Forbes, or an other; and Democrats Bill Clinton or an other. (Forbes had not dropped out at the time.) Five hundred eighty votes were

tabulated, and the student opinion seemed to be that of the nation. Clinton won overall with 276 votes, and Dole won for the Republicans with 146 votes. Buchanan had 71 votes and Forbes, 31. There were 56 votes for other candidates, including Lamar Alexander, Ross Perot, several students, and celebrities.



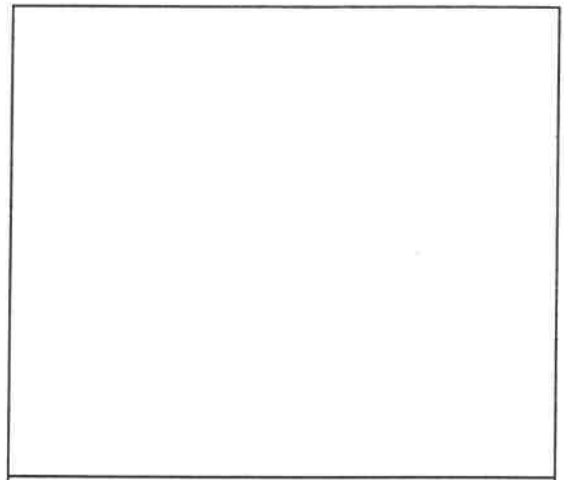
SHS WORKS TO BECOME UNIFIED IN DIVERSITY

Kara Taylor

Ever think you'd listen to the morning announcements and hear someone speaking French? eat tacos, kale soup, or French meat pie in the cafeteria? get to learn Polish dances and see Mrs. Tremblay do the polka? Somerset High School heard, saw, ate, and most importantly, learned diversity during Multicultural Week.

Multiculturalism and diversity truly pervade the lives of every one of us, and it is only fitting that our education should reflect this reality: Multicultural Week was a genuine success in that it combined academic instruction on such topics as race, ethnicity, and prejudice with a broader ideal of social instruction. The amazing opportunities offered outside of the classroom during Multicultural Week included the following: a stereotyping questionnaire, presentations by Mrs. Eliash, a survivor of the Holocaust, and Katie Killoran, a Brown University student who had the incredible chance to study abroad in Paris, and multimedia explorations such as *Schindler's List* and *Night* by Elie Wiesel. As always, the Peer Leaders had

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Jackie Diogo and Leslie Crofton look at St. Anne's Hospital's display at Career Day '96. (photo by Jessica LaCava)

Career Day '96

Christina Barbosa

The annual career day was held last Wednesday, March 13, in the school gymnasium. Numerous representatives from business, banking, education, and military establishments were available to offer much information. This day allows students to recognize their options upon graduation. The day was also open to interested parents. The banks and credit unions present offered material on financing an education as well as information

on loans. Some of the organizations that attended were: the American Red Cross, Fisher College, the Sawyer School, Johnson and Wales University, Massasoit Community College, St. Anne's Hospital, TAD Technical Institute, and the Travel Education Center.

This issue of the *Breeze* has been written and produced by Somerset students and printed by the Herald News. All opinions are those of the writers and not the Herald News.

DIVERSITY

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much to contribute, covering the cafeteria walls with posters designed to heighten multicultural awareness not only this week, but every day.

Multicultural Week was also a prominent part of every department's curriculum. Teachers, knowing that they themselves could benefit from heightened awareness along with their students, carefully prepared lessons that would not only present different cultures and ethnicities, but also challenge the ways in which we think about such individuals and practices. Certain social studies classes discussed the role of women, African-Americans, and the Christian Coalition in the 1996 election. Drama classes discovered the Kabuki theater of Japan, while the mathematics department examined Russian multiplication, Chinese matrices, and even played a Cambodian counting game! The business

technology department discussed the advances of Asian countries in the field of computer systems and even developed a multicultural computer graphics display in room 202. Visual arts students traveled to the Rhode Island School of Design museum and, based on their visit, produced a ceramic and drawing project inspired by panel art from Portugal. The English department studied literature of Japan, China, and the poetry and prose of black and Native Americans. Last, but definitely not least, the physical education department discussed sporting events in different countries and the ways in which the rules differ in comparison to those in the U.S.

Multicultural Week at SHS was a rousing success, and hopefully everyone will try to spread knowledge of and respect for diversity each and every day.

My View: A PLEA FOR THOUGHT

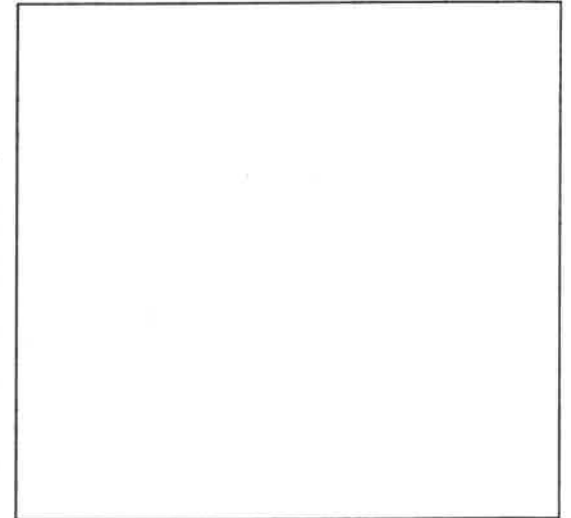
Julie Averill

Recently, I was parading through the hall to my chemistry class when I began to notice something. On the walls, at least every five feet, was a poster displaying some kind of "multicultural" image or saying. Posters sported sayings such as: "Everyone needs love" and "We all have feelings". It made me wonder who the face was behind the poster. Who drew it? Do they believe in what they displayed so cleverly on the poster board? Now don't get me wrong, I think that the posters are a wonderful idea in promoting a sense of tolerance among us here at SHS. I just don't really think that they are enough to stop the tremendous amount of hate, ignorance, and forgetfulness that everyone at SHS displays and puts up with.

But who am I to say anything? What am I talking about, anyway? We don't have any racial problems here at SHS! There's nobody being harassed for their heritage or religion. Geez, why don't I just shut my pie hole?

All of the above is true. SHS is 98% (I'm guessing.) white. We are a middle class town. The majority of people in town are pretty well off. (Just take a stroll through the student parking lot.) But we still find things in one another to complain about. Oh my God, she has her nose pierced! Boy, he's such a prep! Band fag! Look at that loser with the baggy pants! Stupid jock.

Here we are, ladies and gentlemen. We are primarily one color. We are basically either Christian or Jewish. We almost all come from the same part of Europe. Yet we are so shallow and closed minded. We



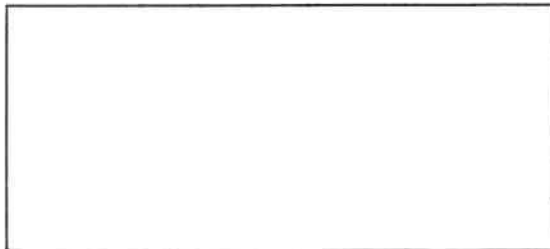
bring weapons and drugs to school. We threaten each other. We constantly put each other down. Why?

I have many theories about the reason for this. One is the much overused phrase "low self-esteem". Many of us, including myself and some of my closest friends, have a problem with this. Some people, though, feel that to make up for their unhappiness, they need to make others feel unhappy, often starting a vicious chain reaction, and ultimately creating more and more people with low self-esteem. This leads into another reason why we continually hurt one another - immaturity and ignorance. Many people don't even realize that they are insulting someone else because they

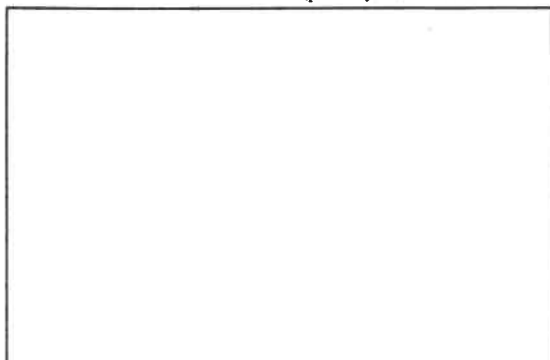
don't THINK about what they are saying. They just blurt out any old comment, not caring about who hears or who they are offending. If we could all just think about our actions and comments sometimes, believe me, the world would be a much happier place.

I apologize for any offense I may have caused anyone, but I have thought this article through many times. I have wondered what the point of it will be. The only people who understand this message will be the people that don't really need it. Please, before you say "Oh God multicultural week is soooo queer," or rip down one of the posters on your way to gym, THINK. Think about how lucky we are to be alive and

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Posters celebrating multicultural week lined the cafeteria walls.
(photo by Jessica LaCava)



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Commentary



Sorry, We're Closed

Jen Cohen

After a long day of school, extra-curricular activities, and other various appointments, I finally sit down to start my homework. Suddenly, I realize that I need to get some information from the library. I look at the clock and discover that I am too late; it is 8:00 and the library has just closed.

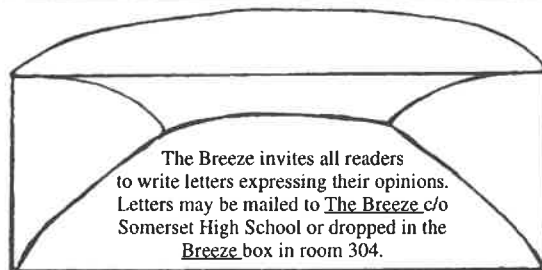
This incident, and others like it, have occurred to me and my friends a number of times. The hours of the Somerset Public Library simply are not convenient for many students. Monday through Thursday, the library is open from 9-8. On Fridays and Saturdays the hours are 9-5, and on Sundays, from October to May, they are 2-5. I was under the impression that a majority of the people who

spend serious time in the library are students; I believe that the library should be more accessible to those students.

For students who work and/or are involved in extra-curricular activities, getting to the library before 8:00 is a great inconvenience, if not an impossibility. If adding extra time to the library's operating hours creates a financial problem, why not take an hour or two from the morning and add it to the evening? Personally, I don't understand why it is necessary to open so early during the week, anyway. I have been in the library in the morning a few times, and the only people I saw were small children playing games and doing puzzles, and senior citizens reading newspapers and talking to each other. These are activities which, while important in their own ways, can be done at other times or places. On the other hand, research must be done at

the library. In addition, the extra-early closings on Fridays and Saturdays often present difficulties. Although spending a Friday or Saturday night at the library may not sound like much fun, for some students, it would be very helpful. Another problem is the odd Sunday schedule. While I commend the Somerset Public Library for being one of the few in the area to open at all on Sundays, I am confused as to why it is only from October to May, instead of September to June. Does somebody mistakenly believe that students are not assigned homework, research papers, and other projects in September and June?

As a senior, I have done well in school, despite having to deal with frustrating library hours. In fact, even if the schedule is changed, it probably won't affect me greatly. However, for the sake of all the students who are younger than I am, I recommend that the Somerset Public Library adjust its operating hours.



The Breeze invites all readers to write letters expressing their opinions. Letters may be mailed to The Breeze c/o Somerset High School or dropped in the Breeze box in room 304.

Students React: Give Us Freedom of Choice!

What Could You Possibly Hide in a Hat?

In our school's history, I don't remember any instance where someone has brought a weapon or something of that type into the school. I feel that jackets should not be worn in school. If a student is always complaining about how cold he is, then he should dress appropriately in the morning. However, the issue over the hats is different. If you really think about it, what could you possibly hide inside of a hat? A gun? A knife? I don't think so. I think the school committee is taking this one step too far. I can see their arguments refer-

ring to jackets, but to hats, no! The people in the school committee never see us in school, so what are they talking about anyway? Personally, I feel that the decision should be left to the teachers' discretion. I have teachers who allow hats and see nothing wrong with it, and I also have teachers who don't allow hats to be worn. If a teacher is going to tell me to remove my hat, I do it out of respect. One of the things we go to school for is to learn respect, isn't it?

Craig Hall

(For more reactions, turn to p. 11)

MUSIC APPRECIATION: MY DEFINITION

(in response to "Break Out The Pinatas")

Kara Taylor

After reading last month's article supposedly promoting "Music In Our Schools Month", I cannot help but wonder: how will Somerset High students be encouraged to enjoy music if the author prematurely jumps down their throats before they even get the opportunity to blurt out the proverbial "Whatevah!" To fully share the wonder and beauty of music, one should be at peace and willing to open up, not demeaning and insulting of others' intelligence.

"Music In Our Schools" month is something to be excited about, and I wholeheartedly agree that music is a valu-

able part of our lives. However, for one to truly enjoy a piece of music, I do not believe that it is in any way necessary for that person to know what a time signature signifies. The issue should not be whether one can define fortissimo, but rather how does that swell in the music make the listener feel? And, more importantly, what emotions does it evoke? The power of music as an outlet for our emotions can be felt and recognized without knowing what a double reed is.

The author of "Break Out The Pinatas" is quoted as say

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The Breeze encourages letters from students, faculty, and community members. Letters must be signed in order to be considered for publication. Letters may be edited for length without changing their meaning or intent, and not all letters will be published.

The monthly editorial reflects the opinion of The Breeze staff. It does not reflect the opinion of the school administration or the Somerset School Department.

Other opinion pieces, such as letters to the editor, feature columns, cartoons, and reviews, reflect the opinions of their authors only.

The Breeze will not print any material that is libelous, obscene, or disruptive to school activities.

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Entertainment, Etc.



Malibu Shores:

The Nicotine of Television Does It Again

Julie Averill

Aaron Spelling. The name evokes images of beautiful women, Gucci bags, palm trees, white stucco Hollywood houses, and sex on a variety of office equipment. How does he do it? From *Dynasty* and *Models Inc.* to the master of trash's newest night-soap, *Malibu Shores*, Mr. Spelling has the ability to captivate audiences with his totally unreal plots, horrible acting, and dream-like settings. Why do we fall for it? I can't answer that question, I can only verify that we do indeed sop up Spelling's shows like a country roll in a pool of gravy.

I've just now finished watching his new show, *Malibu Shores*. (Great way to spend a Saturday night, huh?) Anyway, at first I was in total disbelief that there actually are people on the planet Earth that live like these people do. I don't know ANY 5-foot-11 blondes that sport Anna Sui to public school and go around with "Hello?" and "Whatever!" floating off of their sensuous perfectly Revloned lips. At least they don't go to SHS. If this is what Mr. Spelling considers today's youth to look, talk, and feel like, well I don't

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Like Water For Chocolate:

Young Love "On The Verge of Boiling Over"

Kara Taylor

Laura Esquivel presents a positive view of women in *Like Water For Chocolate*. In the end, Tita, the heroine, triumphs over the obstacles of her mother, family tradition, and society.

At the beginning, however, Tita is extremely oppressed by family tradition. Since Tita is the youngest of the three daughters in her family, she is obligated to remain single and care for her mother until she dies. However, Tita falls in love with a handsome boy named Pedro who reciprocates her feelings immediately. Tita's mother flatly refuses Pedro's request for Tita's hand because of the tradition. Therefore, Pedro marries Tita's sister Rosaura just so he can be close to Tita, his one true love. Tita is furious about her mother's insistence that she obey tradition, but she cannot rebel since, "In the De la Garza family, one obeyed - immediately."

Nacha, the family cook, practically raises Tita in the kitchen. The two share a special bond that Tita never experiences with her own mother. Nacha's death causes Tita tremendous sorrow, and she begins to express her true feelings through an interesting medium, namely the food she prepares for the De la Garza family. She becomes "the best qualified of all the women to fill the vacant post in the

kitchen, and in these flavors, smells, textures, and the effects they could have were beyond Mama Elena's iron command." Even though Tita constantly tries her best to complete her assigned duties, her mother, without fail, always finds fault in everything Tita does, from the food tasting too salty to her bath water being too hot. As Tita comes to realize, "Mama Elena was merciless...she had been killing her a little at a time since she was a child, and she still hadn't quite finished her off." Tita herself knows that she is a special woman with justifiable emotions and feelings that should not be locked inside in fear of stubborn Mama Elena's wrath. As Laura Esquivel notes, "Tita was literally 'like water for hot chocolate' - she was on the verge of boiling over."

The tightly knit Mexican community that the De la Garza family lives in also has a profound effect on Tita's happiness and well-being. Because of the amount of gossip emanating from the fact that Pedro, Rosaura, and Tita all live under the same roof, Mama Elena sends Pedro, Rosaura, and their baby Roberto to live in San Antonio. Roberto dies because of a lack of nourishment since Tita had secretly served as his wet nurse. This tragedy causes

(Turn to CHOCOLATE, p. 11)

It's Magic!

Madelyn Medeiros

Everyone likes magic, but how many of us have ever really tried to understand the secrets of this mysterious art? Well, there are two freshmen in Somerset High whose interest in magic has led to a business of their own.

Justin Rich and Ben Reed have been performing together professionally for two years. Ben first became interested in magic when he was seven years old after watching magicians at birthday parties. He was curious, and got books and beginner kits to learn more about it. Soon, he became more adept with magic. Justin's interest in magic started in eighth grade and it was the theme of his Bar mitzvah party.

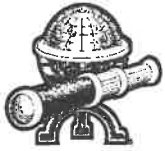
Ben and Justin have performed at birthday parties as well as at the Newport Yachting Center, Hasbro Children's Hospital, the Haunted Island,

the Newport Winter Festival, and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. They were also the winners of the Talent America Rhode Island Winter Showcase held in February, which makes them eligible to compete in the National Talent America Showcase this July in New York City.

As for their tricks, no magician will tell you his secrets, but Ben and Justin will reveal their favorites. They both like the one where they make their dove Comet vanish. Ben also mentioned a trick with red lights that mysteriously appear and one where they put a pencil through a dollar bill. They usually practice about three or four times a week before their show. When asked what tricks they wanted to learn, Ben mentioned the floating rose trick,

(Turn to MAGIC, p. 10)

Ben Reed and Justin Rich make award-winning magic.



Perspectives



A Breeze From the Past: Practicing Democracy

Mel Maronn

April was a very active month for Somerset High School's Student Council in 1949 through 1960. The group participated in the Student Council Convention at Taunton High School for several consecutive years. This traditional exchange program between the two schools included a tour of the school's facilities during the day and an evening visit to the Taunton City Council meeting. Topics discussed between the two schools included interactions between among the student council and the school, the student, and the community.

Good Government Day, an activity carried out in April 1949, offered the chance for two of Somerset High School's Student Council members to visit the State House in Boston. They attended a session of the House, but instead of only viewing, they were asked to stand in the assembly room to be recognized by all the Representatives present! They also attended a session of the Senate, which had just elected Senator Driscoll as the Presiding Officer of the Senate.

In April 1960, Somerset High School participated in another Student government program at the State House. The major discussions of the day in the House chamber were centered around a controversial bill, of which the student representing Somerset High School was strongly in favor.

The students felt that these informative government activities not only taught them how to run their own student council, but to appreciate their school. They also felt that student councils help to educate young American citizens.

Somerset High School Dress Regulations: 1960s

Believing that reasonable standards of good dress and grooming would promote neat, clean, and conservatively well groomed students, the following policies are recommended as a minimum standard for adoption for Somerset High School.

Boys:

- Dress shirt with tie, or a sport shirt with collar completely buttoned except for top button and worn inside tailored slacks or trousers

- From November 1 to May 1, a suitcoat, sport coat, or long sleeved sweater must also be worn. Turtle necked sweaters will not be allowed.

- Boots, cleats, dungarees, brightly colored slacks, and unorthodox haircuts are banned.

- Boys must be clean shaven at all times.

Girls:

- Girls must wear dresses or skirts and blouses or sweaters. Blouses or sweaters which are too short are not to be worn, and blouses or shirts with tails are to be worn in.

- Skirts or dresses may not be shorter than the knee cap.

- Tight fitting sweaters or skirts, eye makeup, and extreme or untidy hairdos will not be permitted.

The Principal is the final judge of acceptable dress. If at any time the pupil's dress or appearance does not reflect credit on himself or the school, he will be requested to make any necessary changes.

The PC PC Contest

Jeremy Proulx

Recently, I had the "pleasure" of going to Providence College's Eleventh Annual High School Programming Contest. There, a bunch of four-person teams of high school students compete by trying to solve fictitious and impractical situations by programming in either of the computer languages of Pascal or Basic.

We boarded the bus shortly after the bells for homeroom sounded, and the first thing we noticed was the heat in the bus. It was cold outside, and a little heat would be necessary. This was not the case; the deaf and partially mute bus driver had the heat set somewhere between reactor core temperature and Sahara Desert. This is what we experienced for about forty-five minutes of grid-lock traffic. I can't think of a better way to prepare for solving brainteasers.

As we stepped out of the bus, a sigh of relief was breathed. As our body temperatures steadied, we walked to the entrance of the now-insight computer building. Inside, we registered and were assigned a temporary guide to show us around. As we were given a tour, it struck me as odd that the computer lab in which we would actually program was a floor below the room where we would deliberate.

We put our stuff in our liberation room, which, to our surprise, also housed two other teams. One team (I will leave

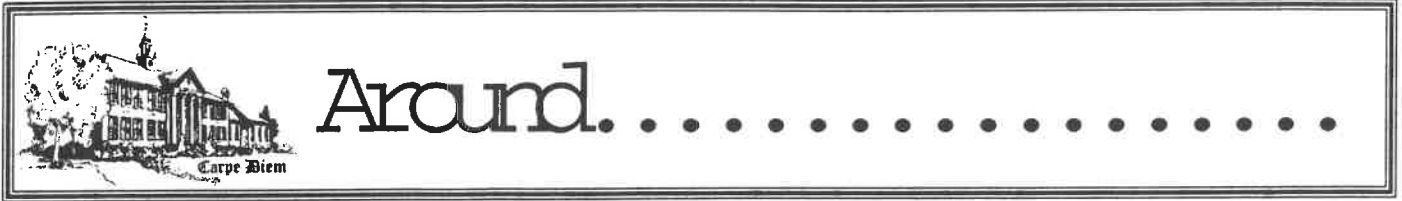
out from what high schools to be nice) was hard-working and quiet. This team did very well, but we only saw two of their four members. These two spent about three hours trapped in the room writing programs, which the other two presumably typed into the computers downstairs. The other team was at best moronic. Their leader, King of the Morons, brought ridicule upon the entire team. He wore an apple sticker on his forehead, bragged about having a mascot (an electric puppet/cow that made an incredibly annoying mooing sound), and dropped an entire pizza on the ground and scooped it right back up into the box to be passed off as "untouched". I didn't like this kid.

Next, we were all herded into a nearby hall to be lectured on rules and protocol and such things. This is when we were

introduced to the short, old, giddy, way-too-excited director of the program who made this half laughing, half-snorting sound in three seconds intervals. He seemed to be a nice guy and it was obvious that he meant well, so he was excusable, unlike the above mentioned King of the Morons.

After our protocol lecture, we returned to the previous hall and we were given our programs. There were nine programs. Programs 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 were solvable, programs 5 and 7 were very difficult but solvable for some groups (not ours), and programs 8 and 9 were impossible. Our group finished 1, 2, 3 and 4, and then we stopped. We were bored and didn't want to do anymore, and by this time the left-over programs were difficult, requiring effort- something unthinkable.

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An Up Close View of Russian History

Rebecca Sablo

On Tuesday, March 12, the Kennedy Library in Boston invited Russian author Edvard Radzinsky to speak about the Russian dictator Joseph Stalin, whose rule is known as one of the bloodiest legacies in history. Mr. Radzinsky is a graduate of the Moscow State Historical Archival Institute and is considered one of Russia's most prolific playwrights. He is also the author of the best-selling biography *The Last Tsar* and has recently published a book entitled *Stalin*. Stalin will be the basis of a television special that is planned to air in Russia next year.

After years of researching Stalin in some of Russia's most secret archives, Mr. Radzinsky may truly be considered an

expert. Mr. Radzinsky spoke with a strong Russian accent as he lead us verbally and visually through the childhood and adult life of Stalin. We were shown pictures of a child who would one day rule Russia with an iron fist and later pictures of a man that Russians were taught to adore. Mr. Radzinsky's talk on Stalin was complete and thorough. He gave incredible details about the secretive life of Stalin.

Members of Mr. Peachy's Modern History class and a few American History students were able to look into a once closed period of Russian history. A special thanks to Mr. Peachy for making this experience in Russian history possible.

Elks Teenagers of the Month Announced

February:

Christina Barbosa, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jose Barbosa of 66 Shove Street, Somerset, has been selected as Elks Teenager of the Month for the month of February. Each month one boy and one girl are selected for this honor from local high schools. Teenagers of the Month are selected according to multiple achievement, citizenship, scholarship, and leadership. Miss Barbosa has participated in Marching Band, Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Chorus, Concert Choir, and Peer Leadership. In addition, she writes for the school newspaper and is a volunteer at the Red Cross blood drive. Miss Barbosa is also this year's President of Jazz Chorale and Yearbook Editor.

John Macek, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Macek of 24 Avon Street, Somerset, has also been selected as an Elks Teenager of the Month for February. A member of the National Honor Society, Mr. Macek has been active in Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Peer Leadership and the Ski Club. He has also played on the baseball, basketball, and cross country teams at Somerset.

March:

Catherine Marcille, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Francis Marcille of 18 Meribah Street, Somerset, has been designated Elks Teenager of the Month for the month of March. Miss Marcille has participated in Marching Band, Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Concert Choir, and String Ensemble. She is a National Merit Commended Student and a member of the National Honor Society. Miss Marcille has been Editor of the school newspaper for two years, and she is also involved in Drama, Peer Leadership, and Amnesty International.

The other Elks Teenager of the Month for March is Jesse Affonso, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Affonso of 122 Yankee Peddler Drive, Somerset. A member of the National Honor Society at Somerset High, Mr. Affonso has also been involved in Peer Leadership and the Ski Club. He has played football and cross country, and he is captain of the tennis team this year. In addition, Mr. Affonso was an American Legion Boys' state representative in his junior year.

1996 Debate Finals

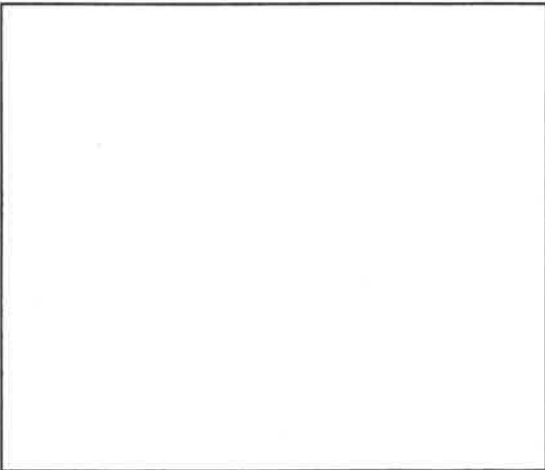
Jessica Lagassee

For the most part, March 6, 1996 was another successful adventure in the on-going saga of the Somerset High School Debate Team. Somerset teams and individuals, at both the Novice and Varsity levels, clinched some twenty plus awards for the preliminary eight rounds of debate. After this impressive showing, Somerset headed into the finals with aspirations of performing even better.

The Eastern Massachusetts Debate Conference (EMDC) finals consist of three consecutive rounds which pit the best debaters in the conference head to head. After the rounds had been completed and the scores were tallied, Varsity team members Andrew Horvitz and Elizabeth Summers had placed fourth overall with a 2-1 record. Ally Vieira and Vicki Woodward were close behind with an identical record but slightly lower points. There scores were high enough to give them fifth place. On the individual level, Andy Horvitz, Ally Vieira and Elizabeth Summers received awards as top speakers in the eighth, second and first places respectively.

Just as our Varsity proved their ability, so did the Novice squad. Both of the Novice Negative teams that Somerset entered placed in the top ten. The team of Eamon Murray and Bryan Franco placed fourth while Jon Azevedo and Mel

(Turn to FINALS, p. 10)



Students gather information about post-secondary opportunities at Career Day '96. (story, p. 1) (photo by Jessica LaCava)

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School



Finger Food and the Electric Slide

Katie McMillan

On Friday, the fifteenth of March, the class of 1997 gathered at the P.B.A. (Portuguese Businessmen's Association) on Main St. in downtown Fall River. The night began at 6:30 with socializing. There were lots of comments about outfits and deciding where to sit, not to mention the constant flash of cameras. At 7:30 the buffet line began to stretch across the hall.

The buffet was complete for all the hungry appetites. It included rolls, spaghetti and meatballs, chicken wings, potato wedges, and cold cuts with salad. At the end of the line of the main courses there sat a round table covered with finger-sized-pastries. Pitchers of soda were on each table, and drinks were unlimited during the dinner. As people finished eating and tables were being cleared, the dance floor seemed to gain a magnetic force that drew everyone to it.

At 8 o'clock the dancing, which would last until 11, began. The music was mostly fast songs, including the electric slides, songs from "Grease", and the usual dance tunes, with the exception of a few slow tunes. During the fast songs almost everyone in attendance was dancing their hearts out, but once the slow songs began it was quite obvious who the stag members of the class were as about one-third of the class went for a walk in the foyer or to the bathroom. However, they all came back for the next upbeat melody. All in all the three hours between 8 and 11 flew by with the excitement and fun of the dance floor.

Besides the general socializing, eating, and dancing, there were other highlights of the evening. There was the

picture-taking for couples and groups of four people. Later in the evening Shirley Temples were available for a price. There was also a "security system": Mrs. Costa checked students in upon arrival, and Mr. Leary provided an escort to a

car if someone forgot something.

The evening proved a success despite the fact that the food was

lacking in selection, and the music could have been a little better. The success of the evening was due to the great time enjoyed by couples and groups of friends. The people in attendance made the evening.



Juniors party at the Semi-Formal.

(photo by Kelly Arruda)

Student Council Attends MASC

Laura Burke

On March 13-15, some members of the Student Council attended a conference called the Massachusetts Association of Student Councils (MASC). This conference was held in the Tara Hotel in Hyannis. This year the Somerset Student Council and the Dighton-Rehoboth Student Council attended MASC together. After everyone had checked into their rooms, we all had dinner in the Tara ballroom, and we were introduced to the MASC executive board ("E- Board") candidates. After our first workshop we were introduced to the former E- Board, heard the nomination speeches, and we listened to keynote speaker Phil Gugliuzza.

There were four workshops at MASC covering topics ranging from student leadership to combatting teen violence. Motivational speakers Mark Sharenbroich and Bob White

also made the trip memorable. From these workshops and speakers, student council members heard many great ideas for improving their schools.

Also, MASC had great entertainment. On Wednesday night there was a lip sync and a dance. On Thursday night there was a banquet and a flashback dance. Also, the hotel pool, jacuzzi, and game room were open until midnight every night.

Finally, schools had to cast their votes for this year's E-Board. John Dolan, from Scituate High School was voted president. Nick Tomasetti, from Oakmont Regional High School, became Vice President. Kate O'Leary from Foxborough High School became secretary. Delegates are Ben Luippold, Joshua Drohan, and Elise Sanchez.

The Breeze invites candidates for Somerset offices to place ads in our May 6 issue. Call us at

324-3115

Thank you for your support.

The Student Council is looking for ideas for murals. Sketches are now being accepted in Mr. Sorem's room. All students are invited to submit ideas.

Thanks for a year of great reading. Keep up the good work and congratulations, Breeze staff.

- Anonymous



Marchand: Shot Put Queen

Margaret Peachy

If you passed Mary Kate in the hall at school, you would not think that someone her size could throw a shot put 44 feet, 2 1/2 inches. Marchand did just that though at the New England Championships this winter. Marchand said that during warm-ups at the New Englands there was a marker at forty feet. She and the other competitors thought that the marker was inaccurate and closer to thirty-eight feet. Marchand was throwing beyond the marker while warming up. On her first throw Marchand found out that the marker was true when she threw forty-three feet. On her next throw she went all out and threw her personal best, forty-four feet, two and one half inches. Marchand remarked that "it felt perfect."

Marchand began her shot put career last year as a sophomore. Her freshman year she played basketball during the winter. But one day Marchand was goofing around with the track team and picked up a shot put to see what it was like. The next year Marchand again signed up for basketball but was soon convinced to do track.

Last year Marchand looked up to fellow thrower, Nicki Castonguay, whose school record Marchand broke this year. Castonguay participated in all the same sports as Marchand, field hockey, softball, and track. Marchand also looks for inspiration from her parents, coaches, and friends.

Marchand also participates

in many other sports and school groups. She is a tri-captain of next year's field hockey team, she plays ASA softball in the summer, and she does winter and spring track. Marchand is also involved with Peer Leadership, Peer Mediation, Prom Committee, and the Ski Club. Outside of school Marchand teaches CCD and takes a drawing class.

A lot of physical and mental preparation goes into a meet. Marchand prepares herself physically by doing half a sprinter's workout: she also does the 4x400m and 300m, and a thrower's workout. She also lifts everyday, heavily two days before a meet. Mental preparation is a big part of any sport. For Marchand it involves trying to relax and a lot of visualization.

Next year, Marchand does not know what to expect for her best throw since she threw five feet farther this year than last year. Her one main goal for next year is to make the All American Team. To achieve this goal Marchand must place in the top three in the country. This year she placed fifth at the national meet. She is even looking forward to a possible national championship.

And for all you young shot putters out there, Marchand offers this advice: "Like anything else, you have to be patient. But mostly you just have to want it - Bad! If you want it bad enough you will do anything for it."

The Maine Skiing Experience

Jonathan Azevedo

On the weekend of March 1-3, the Somerset High School Ski Club held its third annual overnight ski trip to Sunday River in Bethel, Maine. The conditions were beautiful; it snowed both days and some trails were deep powder thanks to the patented Sunday River Snow. I personally waited in very few lines and skied all over the resort. Even some of Sunday River's iciest trails, like White Heat, were packed powder and even powder in some areas. The weather cleared up enough on Saturday night for fireworks and ice skating.

During our trip, a competition was being held. Because of this, we were able to see Somerset High School's own Sarah and Andy Horvitz in action.

The entire trip was very enjoyable. Thank you Mr. Azevedo and Mr. Soares, the advisors, and also their wives who chaperoned the trip.

Somerset Ends a Remarkable Season

Justin Silvia

The Raiders, who accomplished what no one thought they could, made an outstanding impression on everyone during their first game in the State Ice Hockey Playoffs against St. Marys. They beat St. Marys 7-3 and clearly proved that they were a solid state playoff team. Coach Joe Prenda said of the team, "This was their best game of the year; they played together as a team and impressed the people who watched the game." The big star of the game was Tim St. Pierre, who had five goals in the game. Rob Miranda, who had had surgery before the season, played in his first game, and he immediately made an impact. He skated as if he had been skating all year. He was very excited to play and to help win the game.

Somerset's next game was against Nauset, a team they had lost to earlier in the season, 6-5, and tied, 6-6. The plan was to keep Nauset to 3 goals in order to win. The team played great in the first period and a half as they held Nauset to a 2-1 game in Nauset's favor. However, the players eventually became exhausted and were unable to stop the powerful offense of Nauset. The team lost 7-3, but there were no disappointments. Rob Miranda scored his first goal of the season, and Mike Markland also scored a memorable goal from the point. "These kids had the chance to change their season around three times, and they did it," said Coach Prenda.

This season made players who thought they weren't players become stars. The person who best served this role was senior Matt Dunn. Some said that he had talent but didn't believe in himself. By the end of the season, he became the leader of the team, and he became the MVP of the season. It will be tremendously sad to lose players like Nathan Taylor, Matt Dunn, Chris Muller, and Mike Markland (who became a big success toward the end of the season) to graduation. This team displayed a lot of heart and desire and became a team that shined when the odds were against them.

The Somerset High School ice hockey team in action.

(photo by Victoria Woodward)

Feel The Heat Coming From Their Feet

Jodie Braz

This winter track season proved to be one of the best ever. The performances of the track athletes were outstanding. Two of the standouts this season were senior Sean Kelley and junior Leslie Crofton.

Sean was the top high-jumper for our team and was undefeated in dual meet competition. The EAC conference meet at Voke-Tech was the last meet of the season for people who did not qualify for states. Sean had already qualified for

states, but he was not ready to hang up his waffles yet. Sean went on to win the EAC with a jump of 6'4", breaking a school record. The school record had been held by Randy Thurstin for twenty-two years at a height of 6'3". For his performance, Sean received EAC all-star. After the EAC meet Sean started training for the state meet at the Reggie Lewis Track in Roxbury. Sean not only qualified for high jump, but he qualified in the hurdles. While warming up for the hurdles, Sean had a nasty fall, injuring his arm. Despite the pain in his arm, Sean taped it and prepared to jump. Sean had a great day; he jumped a personal best of 6'5" and came in fourth. His fourth place was enough for a spot in All-State. On March 3 at RLT in Roxbury, Sean placed fourth again with a jump of 6'4". This jump helped him qualify for the New England Championships, to be held on March 9 at Harvard.

Sean is the only jumper from S.H.S. ever to make the New England meet. At the meet he felt good and it showed. Sean first cleared 6', 6'2", 6'4" with no faults. By this time there were few competitors left. At 6'6", Sean faulted once and made it on his second attempt; this was his new personal best. Despite not having his lucky socks, Sean went on to win New England Championships at a height of 6'6".

Leslie Crofton is a name you have heard before and probably will hear again. Leslie came in first in the 2-mile at EAC, lapping the field, including the second place runner, at a time of 12:11. Leslie was awarded EAC all-star for her performance that day. Leslie, like Sean, was also undefeated in dual meet competition for the EAC. At the state meet Leslie ran a 12:05 for 6th place. Even though she was not happy with that time, it was good enough to earn her a spot at All-State. The only three people that made All-State for Somerset were Leslie, Sean, and Mary-Kate Marchand. Leslie could be seen the week before the All-State competition running all over Somerset and on the track running quarters with Coach B. At All-State, Leslie ran a personal best of 11:56.52 coming in 10th, when she was seeded 16th. At this meet Leslie qualified for the New England Championships, which meant another

week of training. On March 9 Leslie felt good, and she said her "shoes weren't tight". Crofton was ranked 12th and came in 7th with another personal best of 11:51. Leslie finished this season with a sense of accomplishment and pride.

Two Dartmouth people as well as Sean, Mary, and Leslie were the only people from our conference to qualify for the New England Championship. This is the only time more than one person from S.H.S. has made New England's. We expect these outstanding athletes to be Fall River Herald News All-Stars. Everyone is very proud of these "trackies", and now the reasons are clear. They have displayed the ability to compete with the best athletes in New England. Congratulations to Sean, Leslie, and Mary-Kate; this is a season I am sure we will all remember.

Conference Standings: Winter Sports

Eastern Athletic Conference:

Boys' Basketball:

Attleboro	12-0
Dartmouth	9-3
Bishop Feehan	7-5
Bishop Stang	7-5
Coyle Cassidy	4-8
Connolly	2-10
Somerset	1-11

Girls' Basketball:

Bishop Stang	10-2
Bishop Feehan	10-2
Attleboro	8-4
Somerset	7-5
Dartmouth	4-8
Coyle Cassidy	3-9
Bishop Connolly	0-12

Boys' Track:

Dartmouth	6-0
Attleboro	5-1
Feehan	4-2
Somerset	3-3
Coyle Cassidy	1-5
Connolly	1-5
Bishop Stang	1-5

Girls' Track:

Dartmouth	6-0
Somerset	5-1
Bishop Feehan	4-2
Attleboro	3-3
Bishop Stang	2-4
Coyle Cassidy	1-5
Bishop Connolly	0-6

Ice Hockey:

Coyle Cassidy	8-0-2
Somerset	6-4-0
Connolly	6-4-0
Feehan	4-4-2
Dartmouth	3-5-1
Bishop Stang	0-10-0

Gymnastics:

Attleboro	6-0
Durfee	4-1
Somerset	4-2
New Bedford	3-3
Nauset	2-4
Case	1-5
Nantucket	0-5

Mayflower League:

Wrestling:

Southeastern	4-0
Tri-County	3-1
Nauset	2-2
Somerset	1-3
Holbrooke	0-4

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or The Herald News at
676-2500.

Plea

(continued from p. 2)

healthy: Think about how much you love your grandparents and how you would feel if they saw you saying or doing something wrong. Think about the kid next door who gets harassed because he is on the debate team and plays the marimba. THINK. Before we can learn to accept people from other cultures, we must learn to accept ourselves and who we are.

Magic

(continued from p.4)

which is performed by David Copperfield, one of their favorite magicians. Justin said that he wanted to learn how to levitate.

Ben and Justin are going to the Cape Cod Magic Conclave this April in Hyannis, MA, where there will be magicians from all over the world. Their business is called Magic by Ben & Justin and they're available for birthdays and other events at 676-3259 or 675-7749.

Who knows? If you happen to be in Las Vegas in a few years, you just might see the names "Ben and Justin" in bright neon lights.

Contest

(continued from p.5)

During the rat-race/contest, people could be seen flying up and down the stairs screaming, "We got it!" or "Another syntax error". The upstairs hallway, outside the deliberation room, was crowded and chaotic, but it got worse when about an hour into the contest, the score board was taken down to create tension and suspense.

After it all was finished, we went to the other hall where our advisor was being detained. We made ourselves ice cream sundaes which was the highlight of the day, and got our

seats for the awards ceremony. We did alright in the standings, but the big winner of the day was Case. They finished six programs in the least amount of time.

We left the hall, and walked to the parking lot where the bus was waiting. We got on the bus, and drove into the sunset toward Somerset High.

I guess the contest was fun for some people, but I wasn't one of them. It was difficult to take many aspects of that contest seriously. It was, however, better than a day of school.

Finals

(continued from p. 6)

issa Souza placed fifth. On the Affirmative side, the team of Jen Rezendes and Joe Donnelly placed second. These two debaters further distinguished themselves by receiving individual speaker awards as well. Jen Rezendes received second while Joe Donnelly received

sixth. While we commend these debaters, congratulations should also be extended to the entire debate squad. It has been a wonderful year. Unfortunately, the finals represent the end of this debate season. . . or do they?

Malibu

(continued from p.4)

know what UNIVERSE he's been living in, but I know that I didn't relate to one character on that show (or any of his shows for that matter). There was one scene in which three twenty-something-year-old looking characters (I guess they were supposed to be 15 or 16) convince a shy, less popular girl to have sex with this disgusting popular drunk guy. And she did it! I don't know what kind of character she was supposed to be. I just wound up thinking about how stupid and immature these sophisticated rich snobs were.

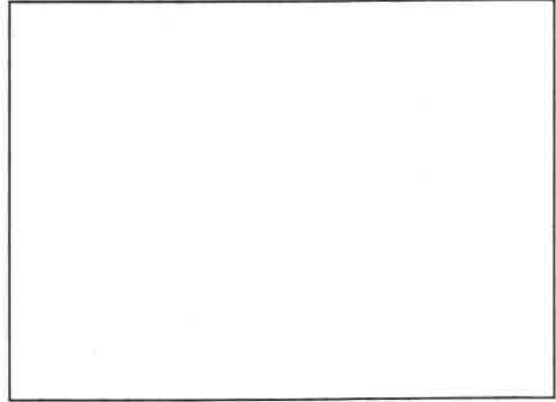
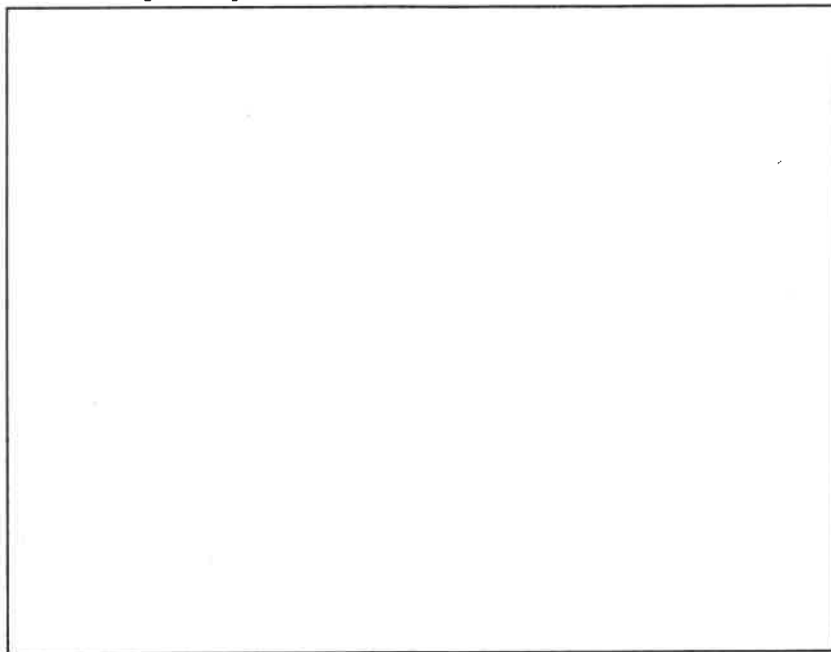
Yet still, I did not turn the channel. I can fool myself and claim that I braved the garbage to alert you, my loyal reader, about this farce of youth. That's not why, though. I find the lives of these shallow plastic people in my boob tube strangely appealing. From the innocent virgin to the guy from the wrong side of the surfboard, they are all what everyone wishes they could be (on the surface anyway): beautiful, exciting, RICH. So, watch good old Aaron's Malibu Shores. But don't EVER think that they are even close to reality.

Appreciation

(continued from p.3)

ing, "people are completely comfortable with listening to a CD without knowing if it is a trumpet or a French horn they are hearing. It's pretty sad..." Is that fact so "sad" that those people should stop listening to their CDs since they cannot distinguish the difference? Where do we draw the line? According to the author, "everyone has a favorite song, but do they know what key it is in?" Besides the false assumption, this statement is ridiculous. Is music appreciation to be limited only to those few that can interpret bar lines and codas?

In closing, I too encourage the underclassmen to get involved in the music program. Hopefully, however, the welcome I extend is a bit less intimidating. Believe me, I play in band every morning and I do not know what it would be like to start my day without music. Personally, however, I do not know what A 440 is or the identity of Prokofiev. Dr. Perry is constantly pushing us to get beyond the "black stuff" of notes and rhythms and to truly, through our music, convey our emotions to the audience, forcing the audience to experience those self-same feelings. When the audience and the band become one, filled with emotion and euphoria from the sheer power of music, music appreciation emanates in its true form (without knowing whether an English horn is made out of brass or wood)!



Students React

(continued from p. 3)

School Clothes

Why does the school administration get to tell us what to wear? I think teenagers should have the right to express themselves by what they wear! Parents and teachers tell teenagers, "You're almost an adult. Start acting like it." How can we act like adults if we can't even choose what we can wear to school?

I think students should be able to wear hats and coats to school. If a student wears a hat and loses his or her hair, gets ringworm and impetigo, it's the student's choice, and they will have to live with the consequences. That has nothing to do with the school. If the school administration really thinks someone would put a weapon in his or her hat, that is just absurd. A weapon in your hat would be uncomfortable and could possibly hurt you. If you had a weapon in your hat, it would be really obvious. If I ever had a weapon, I would not put it in a hat! If anyone had a weapon in a coat, it is possible to fall out. No student would want to get caught with a weapon! I think students would rather walk through a metal detector than get rid of their hats and coats. It would also make everyone in the building more comfortable.

Students would not need to wear a coat in school if it were warmer. Everyone is always cold in the 300s and 400s. The school should first invest in some heat, then tell us not to wear coats.

A lot of people would hide weapons in a bag or socks or a purse. The school administration cannot ban everything. If they take away coats and hats, people will just find new hiding places. What is the school administration going to try to get rid of next?

Sarah Schenker

What's Next...Our Hands?

There seems to be some confusion in the school committee as to whether there should be hats allowed in school. I can't seem to figure out why! It was reported that hats can be disruptive, spread disease, such as ringworm, and can be tools for cheating, but then, so can my hand. No, really! My hand can be even more disruptive than a hat. How many times have you seen a hat throw something, pick its nose, hit someone, or be all around rude? You haven't! As for spreading disease, my hand can do that too. There are far more diseases on the human hand than a hat. Hands are infested with more bacteria and disease than the average cockroach. And for cheating, my hand is better! My hand is easily moved, well hidden, and pen marks come off it much easier. Besides, have you tried to see under the brim of a hat while wearing it? You can't.

So, I move that if the committee moves to ban hats, they should also make a rule to have all hands cut off before entering the building.

Now, if this sounds ridiculous, it is. Banning hats is the most useless ruling I have ever heard of. I believe that if the school committee is spending its time and effort on this question then we may want to look at our committee's members, motives, and priorities.

So I challenge the board to rethink its decision, because the real problem is not hats here; it's education- my education and the education of America's future.

Peter Hewitt

Chocolate

(continued from p.4)

them."

Tita an almost unbearable amount of grief. She completely withdraws from reality and will not leave her sanctuary in the dovecote above her home. The unfeeling Mama Elena declares, "I'm going to put her in an asylum. There's not place in this house for mariacs!" Throughout the novel, the Mexican society, always watchful and suspicious, keeps Tita from the joy of sharing her life with her true love and bringing children of her own into the world. The citizens are too worried about being "decent" to simply live and allow others to enjoy life as well. At one point, Tita wishes she were a seed so that she would not be forced to remain a prisoner, "open to society's disapproval. Seeds didn't have that kind of problem, they didn't have a mother to be afraid of or a fear of those who would judge

After reading Like Water For Chocolate, I am amazed at the weighty responsibilities and obligations of family traditions. I never realized that there are still young men and women my age oppressed by the requirements of arranged marriages and predetermined futures. I have always been able to make choices on my own without fretting over what is "decent" and how my actions will be viewed by other members of my community. As Tita questions, "What is decent? To deny everything you really want?" This novel makes me regret every time I have judged another person without really discovering his or her situation or where he or she is coming from. Also, as Tita learns, in life "there are few prepared to fulfill their desires whatever the cost, and the right

to determine the course of one's own life would take more effort than she imagined." Tita knows what she wants and fights a losing battle for it throughout her life. However, this novel does instill in me a great deal of hope for the future since Tita finally unites with Pedro at the end of the novel. After 23 years of fearing Mama Elena and society's view, Pedro wisely declares, "We've spent too long worrying about what people will say; from now on nothing is going to keep me away from you." Tita ecstatically agrees; in fact, she "no longer gave a damn either about what people would say when their love affair was made public." Tita becomes one with her only love, and she and Pedro are able to celebrate the joy that just being together brings to both of them.

Upcoming Sports Events

Baseball (Varsity and J.V.):

- 4/05 vs. Dighton Rehoboth (H) 3:30
- 4/08 vs. Durfee (H) 3:15
- 4/10 vs. Feehan (A) 3:30
- 4/13 vs. Tiverton (H) 10:30
- 4/16 vs. Attleboro (A) 10:30
- 4/18 vs. Coyle (H) 10:30
- 4/20 vs. Case (A) 10:30
- 4/23 vs. Dartmouth (A) 3:30
- 4/27 vs. Stang (H) 10:30
- 4/30 vs. Connolly (A) 3:30
- 5/02 vs. Feehan (H) 3:30
- 5/04 vs. Tiverton (A, J.V. Home) 2:00



Baseball (Freshman):

- 4/05 vs. Dighton Rehoboth (A) 3:15
- 4/08 vs. Durfee (A) 3:15
- 4/10 vs. Feehan (H) 3:30
- 4/13 vs. Tiverton (A) 10:30
- 4/16 vs. Attleboro (H) 3:30
- 4/18 vs. Coyle (A) 3:30
- 4/23 vs. Dartmouth (H) 3:30
- 4/27 vs. Stang (A) 3:30
- 4/29 vs. Diman (A) 3:30
- 5/02 vs. Feehan (S) 3:30



Softball (Varsity and J.V.):

- 4/03 vs. Nauset (A) 3:30
- 4/04 vs. Bishop Stang (A) 3:30
- 4/08 vs. Durfee (A) 4:00
- 4/10 vs. Bishop Feehan (H) 3:30
- 4/13 vs. Tiverton (H) 10:30
- 4/16 vs. Attleboro (H) 10:30
- 4/18 vs. Coyle (A) 10:30
- 4/20 vs. Case (H) 10:30
- 4/23 vs. Dartmouth (H) 3:30
- 4/29 vs. Westport (H) 3:30
- 4/30 vs. Bishop Connolly (H) 3:30
- 5/02 vs. Bishop Feehan (A) 3:30

Softball (Freshman):

- 4/04 vs. Bishop Stang (H) 3:30
- 4/08 vs. Durfee (H) 3:30
- 4/10 vs. New Bedford (A) 3:30
- 4/12 vs. Apponequet (H) 3:15
- 4/15 vs. Attleboro (A) 10:30
- 4/16 vs. Dartmouth (A) 10:30
- 4/18 vs. Taunton (H) 10:30
- 4/23 vs. Dartmouth (A) 3:30
- 4/24 vs. Barrington (H) 3:30
- 4/25 vs. New Bedford (H) 3:30
- 4/29 vs. Apponequet (A) 3:15
- 5/01 vs. Coyle (H) 3:30
- 5/03 vs. Attleboro (H) 3:30



Boys' Spring Track:

- 4/03 vs. Coyle (H) 3:00
- 4/10 vs. Dartmouth (H) 3:30
- 4/13 Somerset Relays (H) 9:30
- 4/24 vs. Stang (H) 3:00
- 4/27 State Relays (TBA) TBA
- 4/30 vs. Connolly (A) 3:30
- 5/03 vs. Attleboro (A) 3:30

Girls' Spring Track:

- 4/03 vs. Coyle (H) 3:00
- 4/10 vs. Dartmouth (A) 3:30
- 4/13 Somerset Relays (H) 9:30
- 4/24 vs. Stang (H) 3:00
- 4/27 State Relays (TBA) TBA
- 4/30 vs. Connolly (H) 3:30
- 5/03 vs. Attleboro (H) 3:30
- 5/05 Falmouth Girls' Invitational (A) TBA

Golf:

- 4/04 vs. Coyle (A) 3:00
- 4/08 vs. Attleboro (H) 3:00
- 4/09 vs. Stang (A) 2:30
- 4/23 vs. Connolly (H) 3:00
- 4/25 vs. Dartmouth (H) 3:00
- 4/29 vs. Attleboro (H) 3:00
- 5/02 vs. Feehan (H) 3:00
- 5/06 vs. Coyle (H) 3:00

Boys' Tennis:

- 4/01 vs. Tiverton (H) 3:15
- 4/05 vs. Feehan (H) 3:30
- 4/08 vs. Mt. Hope (H) 3:15
- 4/09 vs. Coyle (A) 2:30
- 4/11 vs. Stang (H) 3:30
- 4/23 vs. Durfee (A) 3:30
- 4/25 vs. Connolly (A) 3:30
- 4/29 vs. Dartmouth (H) 3:30
- 5/01 vs. Attleboro (H) 3:30
- 5/03 vs. Feehan (A) 3:30
- 5/06 vs. Tiverton (A) 3:15



Girls' Tennis:

- 4/04 vs. Feehan (A) 3:30
- 4/09 vs. Coyle (H) 3:30
- 4/11 vs. Stang (A) 3:30
- 4/25 vs. Connolly (H) 3:30
- 4/29 vs. Dartmouth (A) 3:30
- 5/01 vs. Attleboro (A) 3:30
- 5/03 vs. Feehan (H) 3:30



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 <p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: serif;">Vera's Prom Gowns</p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: serif;">Large Selection Sizes 3-20</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Vera's Fashions 678-1851</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: serif;">Fancy Fingers NAIL SALON</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">476 Read St., Somerset, MA 02726 Specializing in all types of Nail Services Tanning - Make-up Application Ear Piercing 508-678-1330 Hours: Closed Monday - Tuesday - Thursday 9:30-8:00 Friday 9:30-4:00 - Saturday 9:30-1:00</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Tanning: 10 Visits - \$25 Prom Special: Sculptured Nails - \$25 French Nails - \$40</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Deb Ferreira Owner</p>	
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