



The Breeze



Monday, February 5, 2001

Vol. 80, No. 4

Somerset, Massachusetts

A Decade of Friendship

Nathan Mayer '01

I truly do not know where to begin this article, but I will take some advice from one of my favorite musicals, Rodger and Hammerstein's *The Sound of Music*, "let's start at the very beginning! A very good place to start." from the song Do-Re-Mi.

The first time I met Kevin was in the second grade at Chace Street School in Somerset. I remember asking the teacher if I could bring in the *The Wizard of Oz* and she gladly said yes. So I brought it in for the class to watch. We watched it toward the end of the day, and Kevin was so involved in the movie that he forgot to go to his speech and language class. The teacher came and let Kevin

get the courage to walk two houses away from mine to his to see if he could come out and play. I got to his house and his Aunt Pam answered the front door where I nervously asked if Kevin could come out to play. Pam said for a little while.

From then on through elementary school, Kevin and I (and sometimes Andre, Kevin's brother) played war with his little cowboys and indians, or pretended we were in training to go to war. Pam recalls Kevin, Andre, and I decorating Easter

eggs one year. She still pictures Kevin and I running in and out of her bushes in her back yard, also. One Super Bowl Sunday, Kevin invited me over to watch the game at his

house and at half time we sang on his karaoke machine in his room, but around the end of the third quarter I had to go home. The day that Kevin got his tonsils taken out my brother Mike and I visited him at home and we stayed for about a half hour because he was still nauseous.

Kevin and I were rarely together in junior high, so on the rare occasion I did see him

(Turn to KEVIN, p. 2)



Scene from last Monday's town meeting where teachers' salaries was the hot issue

(Photo by Greg Joynt)

Teachers Fight for Salaries

Clarion Mendes '01

On Monday, January 22, 2001, the Somerset High School auditorium was buzzing with 503 people and very few of them were Somerset High School students. A large portion of the 500 Somerset citizens who attended the meeting were teachers employed by the Somerset school system. The issue that was most hotly debated was that of an increase of Somerset teachers' salaries, and, more importantly, how much money the town should give them from the surplus of town money.

The issue began with a statement by the Finance Committee, particularly from one of the committee's members, Mrs. Cormier. Mrs. Cormier began her statement saying, "you [the teachers] do deserve the raise granted you...you are not worth less than other teachers." Mrs.

Cormier's concern was where the money for the increase in salary should come from. She stated that Somerset is capable of allowing \$75,560 to be allotted for teacher raises.

After the proposal of the Finance Committee, the School Committee, along with the superintendent of schools were given the opportunity to speak. Mrs. Harris, Chairperson of the School Committee, commented that, "we have a wonderful teaching staff in Somerset." She proceeded to emphasize the need for Somerset to grant teachers more money. Mrs. Harris made note that because Somerset school teachers were partially responsible for the dramatic increase in MCAS achievement, they should be rewarded. Additionally, Mrs. Harris described the dire

(Turn to SALARIES, p. 10)

What's Inside?

- NEWS - pages 1 & 2
- COMMENTARY - pages 2 & 3
- EDITORIAL - page 3
- ENTERTAINMENT - page 4 & 5
- AROUND SCHOOL - page 6 & 7
- SPORTS - pages 8 & 9
- COMIC - page 10



Fact of the Month

In 1853, Franklin Pierce, the President of the United States, was arrested for running over an old woman with his horse



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.

This article is written in loving memory of Kevin R. Teves (1982 - 2000)

KEVIN

(Continued from p. 1)

we talked about what was happening in our lives.

High school has been the most memorable time for various reasons. Freshman year, Kevin and I had three major classes together. We would talk in class a lot and sometimes the teacher would tell us to stop talking and get to work. Sophomore year we only had gym together. Junior year came and we had no classes together at all. However, when both of us were not busy, we got together to do something.

Senior year came and we had no classes together, but we had English the same period. I tried to change into his class but I could not because of school rules.

The day before Martin Luther King Day last year, Kevin slept over and we watched *Saving Private Ryan*.

This past summer Kevin began working at Horner Millwork Corporation.

Soon Thanksgiving came

and went and Christmas vacation came. I was singing in my church's folk group on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. I did not even see Kevin and his family at church on Christmas Day, but he came up to the loft to wish me a Merry Christmas, and I wished him the same. We walked to the parking lot together to get our rides. I said, "the next day you have off, call me." "Okay," he said.

That Saturday morning I was awake in bed and my mother came into my room and said that Pam called to tell us that Kevin had an accident at work the night before. He died.

The first words out of my mouth, before I started to cry, were, "How was Pam, Rick, and Andre?" I did not sleep at all that night.

Soon it was New Years Eve, and I had promised one of my friends that I would go over his house. I kept my promise but

two minutes before the ball dropped I got away from the crowd and cried until about two minutes after.

After I went to Kevin's wake, I had supper, then penned a note to Kevin, put it into a sealed envelope, and wrote "Kevin" on the front. I put it into the casket after everyone left the funeral home, except for the undertakers and pallbearers. I was lucky to be one of them.

When I think of why he left so early in life, I repeat to myself, God did not want him to be in a certain situation in the future, or that God did not want him to be in his plan here on Earth.

To a friend, after a decade of friendship and more, God bless him and watch over Pam, Rick, and especially Andre, as they try to move on and learn that Kevin was lucky to have them to watch over him. Now, Kevin is probably watching over them.

Commentary

Bush Becomes Prez: Nation Screwed for Four Years

Phil Sablo '01

George W. Bush assumed the role of President of the United States of America last month, less than ten years since his father served that same position.

His first weeks in office were marked by controversy surrounding his choice of cabinet members, an effort to undo last minute orders by former President Bill Clinton, and early indications that Bush plans on upholding the same promises that he pledged to support during the election.

Bush opted to fill his Presidential cabinet with staunchly conservative Republican nominees. While many names drew criticism from Democrats and other liberal organizations, no person was so much opposed as that of John Ashcroft.

Ashcroft, a former senator from Missouri with a history of conservative politics, was nominated to serve the role as Attorney General of the United States.

Also interesting to note, during this past election, while running for the Senate, Ashcroft was defeated by his deceased opponent's wife in the election. Senator Edward Kennedy of Massachusetts has been of one the most vocal crit-

ics of Ashcroft, claiming him to be a biased politician willing to disobey laws in order to promote his personal beliefs.

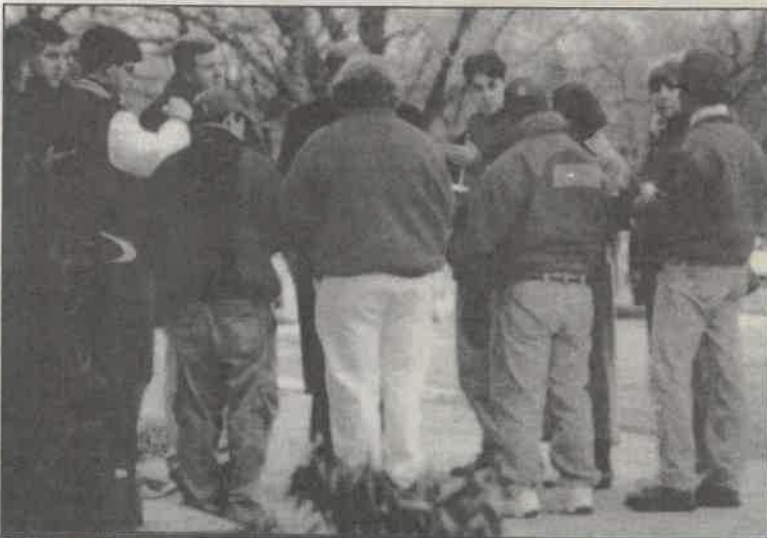
Kennedy specifically attacked Ashcroft's record on abortion, claiming the former senator even fought against the Supreme Court's decision to make abortion legal. Despite this, a select Senate committee has approved Ashcroft's nomination. The matter was approved on January 30th, 2001, making Ashcroft the current Attorney General.

Besides appointing a cabinet, Bush has used his time in office to reverse some of the recent legislation introduced by Former President Bill Clinton. Primarily, Bush has used a technical loophole in the government to undo Executive Orders that have not yet existed for sixty days.

Many of those that he chose to repeal related to reform in the Medicare system. As has been widely publicized, Bush intends to overhaul the Medicare system and invest large quantities into the stock market; apparently, Clinton's reforms clashed with this initiative and Bush canceled them.

At the top of Bush's agenda

(Turn to BUSH, p. 11)



Friends and family mourn the tragic loss of former Somerset High School student Kevin Teves

(Photo by Greg Joynt)



Breeze



Grandview Avenue Extension Somerset, Massachusetts 02726 (508)324-3115

News and Commentary (Co-editors in chief):
Ed Swindelles and Mark Souza
Around School: Niki DeCamra
Sports: Adam Levesque

Advisor: Sherri Muller

Commentary



News, or the Absence Therof

Editorial
Mark Souza '01

In this issue of *The Breeze* there is a recant to an article that appeared in last month's issue. In writing this article I must admit I felt a little silly. Not because I was embarrassed that we made the mistake, everyone makes mistakes and as long as we admit to it I see no problem in making a mistake. The reason I felt silly is most of the people who read it will not know what article it is referring to. That is because last month's issue of *The Breeze* was not circulated as most are.

Normally, *The Breeze* is put into the *Herald News* as a supplement. This is a service that the *Herald News* does for us and other schools, for a cost of course. In this way every first Monday of the month, subscribers to *The Herald* get a

copy of *The Breeze* and on the following Monday they receive a copy of *The Durfee Hilltop*. During December, however, neither *The Breeze* nor *The Hilltop* was included in *The Herald*. Instead, room had to be made for a special Christmas Supplement that took the place of student newspapers.

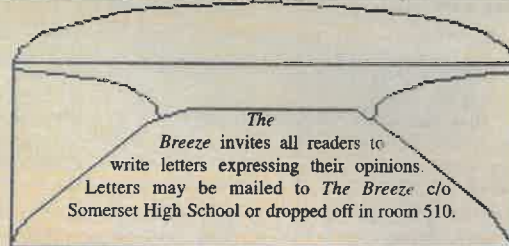
This situation probably leads readers to wonder, "why make the paper for December if it was not going to be printed?" The answer is quite simple, no one told us. The staffs of *The Breeze* and *The Hilltop* were completely in the dark about the situation until we found our papers absent from the normal editions of *The Herald* (special copies including *The Breeze* were sent to our school.)

I know many people who buy copies of *The Herald* on days when either *The Breeze* or *The Hilltop* is included for the sole purpose of reading some-

thing created by the students of local High Schools. I know no one who bought *The Herald* especially for their Christmas supplement. In light of this it seems not just inconsiderate but unjust. We pay *The Herald News* for their service, if that service is not going to be fulfilled we should at least be given fair notice, and possibly compensation.

I do not mean to come off sounding bitter, but I think it is easy to forget how much effort is actually put into making a paper and it is disappointing when the finished product is not accessible to all of our normal readers. Hopefully, it will not happen again.

I would like to remind readers that articles reflect solely the opinions of their writers and not the whole *Breeze* staff or the staff of *The Durfee Hilltop*.



The Real Electoral Process

Mark Souza '01

The main function of any newspaper is to provide the public with information. This is a powerful tool. It allows one to inform people of the world around them, and, unfortunately, sometimes misinform. In last month's issue of *The Breeze* we are regretful to admit that we were guilty of such misinformation. Since the staff here tries their best we have deemed it necessary to apologize for our mistake and correct it to the best of our ability.

In an article titled "The Real Deal About the Electoral College," there were many grossly incorrect statements. Firstly, the Electoral College meets during every election, not only close elections. Each state is allotted a number of electors which is based on the population of that state. Most states legally obligate these electors to vote the same way that the popular vote turned out in that state. Because of this, each person's vote actually does count in states with such a policy; Massachusetts is one. Other states split the legal obligation to districts. Each district decides how their electors vote. Florida, the state under controversy this year, uses such a system. Finally, there is still a couple of states that do not legally bound their electors at all, but it is still customary to vote in accordance with the popular vote.

After the popular vote happens, the electors cast their own

vote. Most times this vote will coincide with the popular vote. During this year, however, the two were in conflict. Since the popular vote only counts in deciding which set of electors vote, the electoral vote is what really decides the next president.

In the rare occasions, so rare that it has never happened in US history, the electoral college may tie. It is in this rare case that the vote for president will then be delegated to the House of Representatives, where each state gets one vote that would be decided by that state's representatives. If this also ends in a tie, the vote is then given to the Senate, who will choose the Vice President who will preside until a President can be chosen. However, the chances of such events taking place are astronomical, and therefore, this is not considered a weakness of the Electoral College.

An actual criticism of the Electoral College is that it filters the power in electing the President away from the people. However, it does ensure that candidates will campaign in every state. The debate about the electoral college will continue with people believing strongly in both sides so it is imperative that we all know what we are debating about. The editors of *The Breeze* would like to apologize for any confusion our previous article may have caused.

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 opinions 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.

Listen to This

SoapBox is a totally student radio show that talks about whatever you want

Listen every Wednesday from 9-11 pm
on AM 1400

Call in. Get on the radio. Say what you want.
(677-1400)

The panel features two SHS students...but the school's not involved so it's not lame!

So...listen Wednesday 9-11 PM
on AM 1400 WHTB

Support the only radio show that cares about you!
One more time...

SoapBox - Wednesdays 9-11 pm
on AM 1400

ENTERTAINMENT



Cast Away Review

Conor Murray '02

Cast Away, starring Tom Hanks and Helen Hunt, is about a workaholic (Hanks) whose Federal Express delivery airplane crashed on an uninhabited island, where he is stranded for four years. He is accidentally discovered and brought back to civilization and hopefully back to his old life. But he finds he will not be able to just pick up where he left off. His loved ones, who thought him dead, have moved on and some have started new lives.

Tom Hanks gives another incredible acting performance as the mailman turned Tarzan. He has to learn how to fend for himself. He has to make his own fire without the convenience of matches (by rubbing two sticks together for a long time) giving him splinters and gashes, causing excruciating pain.

His major challenge is how to overcome the fact that nobody else is on the island and nobody will probably find him for a very long time. Shortly after he landed on the island, some leftover mail from the plane also washed up on shore. One of these was a ball made by the Wilson Company. This ball becomes his friend whom he names Wilson. He talks to the ball like it was just another human being. He carries on conversations with it, argues with it, and punishes it if it says something nasty. His "friend" Wilson is his way of communication. Hanks accomplishes this to superb comedic effect.

Four years pass, and Hanks has long hair, a long beard, and

only wears a loincloth. He is an expert at fishing, he can make fire in minutes, and he and Wilson talk to each other like a long time married couple. But he still longs for civilization. After watching the water for tide patterns, the winds and weather, and improving his building skills, he is ready to set sail for home.

With his instincts and skill, he makes it past the waves and onto the calm sea waters. But a storm nearly destroys his raft in the middle of the Pacific killing his hope of landing near civilization. But luck is finally with him and a ship discovers him and takes him home where he is awarded for his bravery.

The film ends without a conclusion, the film's only weak point. He drives wherever his car will take him to start a new life when he finds out he cannot return to his old one.

Tom Hanks definitely deserves a best actor nomination for one of his best performances. He is the only actor for a good hour and a half and he is just excellent. Helen Hunt plays the role of the confused woman who thought her long lost love was dead. She does not know whether to return to him or stay with the new life she created when she thought he was dead.

If you have not seen it, then you should. You will probably not be disappointed. A four out of five star movie, only losing a star because of its lack-luster ending.

The Golden Globe Awards: Key Winners

Mariah Bliss '03

On the night of January 21st, 2001, the Golden Globe Awards were shown on TV's all over the nation. Several of film's favorites were there, such as Julia Roberts and Tom Hanks, and several new people showed up on the red carpet as well, like Kate Hudson and Renee Zellweger. Generally, the winners were not a surprise (*Sex and the City* as favorite comedy), but there were a refreshing amount of new movies that took home the little golden trophy (*Almost Famous*, Best Movie-Comedy). Here is a list of the winners that night, and the categories in which they won.

- Best Actors-Film**
George Clooney, comedy (*O' Brother, Where art Thou?*)
Tom Hanks, drama (*Castaway*)
- Best Actresses-Film**
Renee Zellweger, comedy (*Nurse Betty*)
Julia Roberts, drama (*Erin Brockovich*)
- Best Films**
Gladiator, drama
Almost Famous, comedy
- Best Actors-Television**
Martin Sheen, drama (*The West Wing*)
Kelsey Grammer, comedy (*Frasier*)
- Best Actresses-Television**
Sela Ward, drama (*Once and Again*)
Sarah Jessica Parker, comedy (*Sex and the City*)
- Best Television Series**
The West Wing, drama
Sex and the City, comedy

Swansea Theaters Not So Great

Conor Murray '02

This past November, a movie theater finally arrived somewhere close to Somerset. In Swansea, across the street from the Swansea Mall, Entertainment Cinemas opened its doors and 8 of its 12 movie screens to the public. A few weeks later, the remaining 4 screens opened up to the public.

Ticket prices are better than most theaters. They are \$6.75 for adults and \$4.75 for children and seniors. A major bargain that they offer is Super Tuesday, where ticket prices are \$4.75 for everybody.

Entertainment Cinemas is a small New England chain. Other theaters are in Seymour and Bloomfield, Connecticut,

and Marlboro, and Edgartown Martha's Vineyard. Massachusetts plus the newest member, Swansea, Massachusetts.

Though the thought of a theater close to home sounds great, and the long journey to Seekonk or the Taunton Galleria Mall is gone, the theater still has a few glitches. During Coming Attractions, the projection is off center and wobbly. This problem is usually solved by the time the main film begins but that isn't where it ends. The sound is too soft and for the quiet parts, you will find yourself straining to hear what the actors are saying. Recently, they had a breakdown

of all the projectors in the theater. Only one of them was able to continue showing a movie after repairs.

The theater is not up to the normal theater standards yet. The picture on the screen isn't too good either. It is dark and during scenes that take place at night, you have to strain yourself to see what is happening. Could this be because of the less expensive prices?

Hopefully, these dilemmas will be solved, otherwise, those trips to the Seekonk theaters is not over yet.

All About Paintball

Nate Sheehan '04

Paintball, what comes to your mind when you think of this? First of all, Paintball is a sport where adults (loosely defined) and kids go to relive their childhood or enjoy their childhood. Paintball can be very dangerous just like any other sport unless adequate protection is worn and rules are followed. Most Paintball guns shoot 68 caliber Paintballs.

The Paintball is paint encased in a thin plastic shell which breaks upon impact. Paintballs are completely soluble and come out in the wash. Paintball players ALWAYS wear protective goggles designed especially for Paintball use. The Paintball pellets generally cause very little pain unless you are shot at pointblank range.

You don't need an organized team or an organized field to play in. You can simply go in the woods with a bunch of friends and shoot at each other.

Almost all Paintball fields offer rental guns and welcome new players. For the first few games you should play on an organized field. The thing to look for is how many referees they have. The average field in North America costs \$15-25+ for 1 day rental of everything including 30 Paintballs. However, if you have all the correct gear you just have to buy Paintballs at the arena. Paintballs are usually 10 cents a piece or less. A day of play is usually from 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM. You should bring food, water, old sturdy clothes, these should be dark or camouflage, and boots or shoes with ankle support.

Playing safe is the number 1 rule. You can start by not shooting the wildlife. Do not fire your gun anywhere but on the field or in the designated chronograph area/shooting range. Inspect your goggles for

cracks or signs of weakness. Make sure your mask is well seated on your face and will not fall off during the game. Make sure the velocity of your gun is below 300 fps (feet per sec.). Always assume the gun is loaded; even if you know differently. Always assume safety devices are broken. Unload the gun when you are not shooting it (when in the safety area). When you get a gun from the rental place or from someone else, always check if it's loaded. You must have a barrel plug in the gun when you are in the Safe Zone. Follow the rules of the game. Don't take off your face mask on the field. Do not play when tired or hungry. Bring lunch with you or buy it there.

Never look down the barrel even with protection. The fps at 270 could break your mask at that range. Tell the manager of any medical conditions.

Ghosts, by Ed McBain

Amanda Ancill '02

Over this past Christmas vacation I spent some quality time enjoying some R & R: reading and relaxation. I read the novel *Ghosts* by Ed McBain. This fictional mystery is about the procedures of police from the 87th precinct during a regular day at the office, or so the officers thought.

The thriller begins with a call to the police department in regards to a woman stabbed outside of her apartment complex in a busy Massachusetts city, just four short days before Christmas. Detective Steve Carella is sent to investigate the crime, along with his partner, Cotton Hawes. Upon their arrival, they're told that there was also a stabbing to a man a few floors up inside his apartment in the building. Having a suspicious feeling that the two deaths are somehow related, Carella races upstairs. This is where this extraordinary story launches itself.

The man upstairs is identified as Gregory Craig, famous writer of the renowned novel about a haunted house in the area titled *Deadly Shades*. Carella meets with Craig's psychic girlfriend, Hillary Scott, to gather leads that could possibly help solve the soon to be eerie case. Obtaining a few names from Miss Scott as leads, the manhunt begins. Could it be a disgruntled writer? An angry publisher? A jealous editor? A close friend? Miss Scott herself? Or possibly a random act of violence? Having only a few leads, Carella and Scott would never even dream it would take so much investigation to crack the case.

Together the detective and Miss Scott use almost every waking moment that they have to try to find Craig's murderer. When Miss Scott realizes that

her and Craig's jewelry was stolen from his apartment, detective Carella has every pawn shop in the city alerted for the missing jewelry in hope that the killer and thief will try to sell them. The story turns even more bizarre when Hillary Scott's premonitions and "feelings" lead her and the detective on a weekend trip to the haunted house that Craig writes about in his famous novel, hoping that any clues to his death might be revealed. It's during this exhausting trip that the true secret of the house is clear, helping to lead to the killer, but I will not give it away.

Through Miss Scott's feelings, Carella's clever work and police connections, and a little help from the supernatural, the killer is confronted, pleads guilty, and is convicted. But believe me, it's not who you would've expected!

This heart-stopping novel combines elements of spontaneity, supernatural beings, and pure suspense to give a mystery lover exactly what he or she is looking for. At the end, when all of the clues add up, the reader is left with a feeling of awe but satisfaction. The surprise throughout the story and incredibly unexpected ending makes for a terrific novel that's definitely worthwhile to read. believe me!



The Top Twelve Stupidest Things You Could Do In Paintball

1. taking your mask off on the field.
2. using previously fired paintballs from the ground.
3. going up too far when your team charges
4. shooting your own team.
5. shooting the referees.
5. wandering off by yourself.
7. walking through a firefight after being marked out
8. retreating back and leaving your partner by him/herself.
9. starting the game with half a load of paintballs.
10. being too scared to be aggressive.
11. starting with an empty CO2 tank.
12. getting tunnel vision.

Terms used in Paintball

TERM	DEFINITION
12g	12 grain CO2 "powerlets"
APG	Action pursuit games
Anti-siphon	A special bulk CO2 tank that is designed to keep liquid CO2 out of the gun
Barrel plug	It prevents paintballs from leaving the barrel
Bottom line	Refers to the location of the CO2 tank at the bottom of the handle
Chronograph	Measures the fps of a gun
CO2	Carbon Dioxide
Feeder	Holds paintballs
FPS	Feet Per Second
IPPA	International Paintball Players Association
PSI	Pounds per Square Inch
Siphon bottle	Designed to suck liquid into the gun
Squid	New Player



A r o u n d



Music director Doctor Robert Perry who has announced this will be his last year at SHS

(Photo by Greg Joynt)

Somerset Music Department Loses Its Music Man

Jessica DeSisto '02

"It's hard for one to perceive what one has done," said Dr. Robert Perry during a brief, yet touching meeting. Dr. Perry, Coordinator of Fine and Performing Arts, has worked for Somerset for the past 36 years. He is a big part of why Somerset is called "Musictown."

Dr. Perry has worked hard for the students. Looking back on the scheduling problems that students had at the beginning of the year, students remember how Dr. Perry fought hard to keep the music program together. He tried to make sure that all of the students that signed up for music classes, got into them.

Whoever takes over for Dr. Perry will have big shoes to fill. He conducts the Marching Band, Symphonic Band, Concert Band, and Jazz Band. He also teaches a Music Foundations class.

Dr. Perry has touched many students through music. "I hope that when the students look back they have a love of music in their lives," said Dr. Perry. "I hope the students

have received a sense of family through music."

Looking back, Dr. Perry says "When they write on my tombstone, I hope they write that I tried." He has put his heart and soul into helping the

Boulay remarks, "I came in as a quiet, shy freshman and through my experiences with the music department, I ended up singing on stage, conducting in front of my friends and family at my graduation, and being a section head for 2 years. So much of this is thanks to Dr. Perry. He pushed me and helped me realize my potential and gave me confidence in myself and my musical ability. I am so grateful for having the chance to work with Dr. Perry for 4 years...he is a wonderful teacher, and I've never met anyone who loves music as much as he does...I just can't imagine SHS without him."

With the years still ahead, Dr. Perry wants to teach music on a college level, especially working with student teachers. The students in the music department are more worried about who will be taking over for him next year and how much the department could suffer without the leadership of Dr. Perry.

"...[Dr. Perry] pushed me and helped me realize my potential and gave me confidence in myself and my musical ability..." Beth Boulay, Class of 1999

students find music in their lives. "Working with him has made me realize how much music has affected my life," said Amanda Corveio.

"I still love what I'm doing and I hope I'm still making a contribution to students' lives." Students admit what an influence working with Dr. Perry has had on them. Whether they sang or played in the band, or participated in drama Dr. Perry was there helping along the way.

Class of 1999 graduate Beth

FLORIDA TRIPS

The Student Council is planning a trip to Florida during the last week of March through the first week of April.

The Somerset High School Blue Raider Marching Band is scheduled to travel to Florida during their vacation, in order to perform at the Walt Disney World Parade.

65 Days left for Seniors!



School



Senior students (clockwise from top left) Lisa Boulanger, Lauren Medeiros, Pam Coates, Nina Hewitt, Katelyn Leary, and Alissa Cordeiro enjoy their Senior Semi-Formal

(Photo by Niki Decambra)

Semi-Formal a Last for Class of 2001

Jennifer Roberge '01

On the night of January 14, it might have been cold outside, but inside the Somerset Lodge, the dance floor was hot. The seniors and their guests danced the night away that Sunday at the Senior Semi-Formal.

From an outsider's perspective I am sure the event seemed just like any other high school semi formal. Everybody was taking pictures, and all the girls were checking out each other's dresses. To all the seniors, though, this was one of the many, "lasts" of their high school career.

Dinner began sometime after 7:00 pm. Tables were quickly filled, and soon after, plates were too. Along with the vibrancy felt in the air, mood setting dinner music echoed in the background. Music from Dido and Lenny Kravitz influenced many seniors to sing along at their tables, while others were saving their energy for

the dance floor.

Dancing began right after dinner and the energy in the room was exciting. The DJ mixed a wide variety of music to please everyone. We went back in time with the "Grease Mega Mix" and Cindy Lauper's "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun." More recent songs like "Mambo # Five" brought back memories of the Class of 2001's junior rally skit, Scooby Doo. The *Charlie's Angels* theme song had all the senior girls throwing their hands in the air. The last dance, N*Sync's "This I Promise You" brought the fun filled evening of dancing to a close.

Overall, the Senior Semi Formal was a night to put aside differences and attempt to bring the senior class together one last time. For seniors, the semi formal was a reminder that high school does not last forever, but good times like that night will be remembered for a long time.

Somerset Drama Back Into Action!

Laura Farias '03

This spring, the Somerset High School Drama Department will be performing the musical, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. Joseph will be portrayed by junior, Jason Read, who we have not seen onstage at Somerset since his performance of Matthew Cuthbert in *Anne of Green Gables* back in 1998. Making her debut as female lead will be sophomore Mariah Bliss, as the Narrator. Mariah became involved in SHS drama from the start of her freshmen year, appearing in both *Matchmaker* and *Barnum*, as Joyce Heth.

We will see a lot of familiar faces on the stage. Senior Ryan Farias, who played Barnum last year, will be joining the cast as the Pharaoh, who is remarkably like Elvis. Alissa Cordeiro, also a senior, who played Mrs. Barnum last year, will be one of

the three Supremes, who will be performing back-up vocals for the Narrator. Joining her as Supremes are sophomore Courtney Farrell, who transferred here this year from Coyle

Joshua Adams, Nathan Mayer, Lauren Borge, Joshua Gustafson, Jenn DeCambra, Jacob Gustafson, and Conor Murray. Portraying their father will be senior Nicole DeCambra, who played Anne in *Anne of Green Gables*. Rounding out the central cast will be senior Mark Souza (a twenty-five inch man in *Barnum*), and newcomer, sophomore Christina Whitey.

The show will be directed by Jerry Goldberg, who directed *Steppin' Out* this past fall. He looks forward to working with Mr. Bruce Maggs, who will be in charge of the music. Mr. Goldberg and Mr. Maggs will be joining with the music teachers at the elementary schools so that a choir of young children can become involved in the play. The show will go on the last weekend of March.



Cassidy, and junior Sarah Levesque. Sarah Shaker, who was the lead in *Steppin' Out*, will be playing one of Joseph's brothers, Napthali. Also portraying Joseph's brothers are Danny Prevost, Robert Houde,



The Student Council will be selling carnations and candy during lunch periods to celebrate Valentine's Day. Send one out to that special someone!



An Interview With Mike Eruzione

KC Dowd '04

On February 22, 1980, a shot rang out around the world that brought a nation together. This was the winning goal, scored against the Russians by the United States Olympic hockey team captain, Michael Eruzione. This victory (4-3), was a major upset, as Russia had been undefeated in Olympic competition since 1968. Several days later, the jubilant words of sports commentator Al Michaels, "Do you believe in miracles?" were exclaimed. These words, now etched in the minds of many Americans, evolved into a reference for the event, Miracle on Ice. Again, a nation in desperate need of a dose of patriotism, came together to celebrate this young American team's triumph over Finland to capture a gold medal at Lake Placid, New York.

Amid the gas shortages, hostage situation, boycotts and the Cold War, a group of college kids rallied to defeat the professionally toned, world power athletes, restoring American pride. Some feel the impact was far reaching. Sports writer Mike Condon (MSNBC) suggests, "The beginning of the end of the Cold War began on a sheet of ice."

While somewhat overstated, relations with the two super powers began to improve after communication in the sports arena developed, as new respect between the nations evolved. However history recalls this event and its influence on sports and politics, one thing is clear. Skill and determination brought the athletes of the 1980 USA Olympic Hockey

Team to the medal round, tenacity and heart earned them a gold.

On January 1st, I had the pleasure of interviewing (Captain) Michael Eruzione, who is also a long time family friend. It was immediately apparent that speaking about his Olympic experiences brought back strong feelings of pride and the emotions tied to great memories. Mike Eruzione grew up in the small, close knit coastal town of Winthrop, just north of Boston. He is married to his high school sweetheart, Donna, and has three teenage children. Mr. Eruzione graduated from Boston University, along with Olympic teammates Jim Craig, Dave Silk, and Jack OCallahan.

Mr. Eruzione is now employed at Boston University, in the athletic development office. He continues to have a successful career of motivational speaking for various corporations. Captain Mike also does some work for an internet company called Gym America (Gymamerica.com), a health and fitness web site. He participates in charity events and has worked as a sports commentator. Along with enjoying his family time, Mike coaches his son's hockey teams and pursues another passion, golf. He is often invited to golf tournaments throughout the country.

The interview:

What does it feel like to compete in the Olympics?

It's a very proud feeling, anytime you can represent your

country in an athletic event. It's very different than your local school or college. When you put on a shirt that says USA, it's really special.

Did you ever consider a professional hockey career after the games?

No. After the Olympics I decided it was time to move on and do something else. To me, that was the greatest moment of my life, as an athlete. I felt that was the best time to stop.

How were you chosen to compete with the 1980 USA Ice Hockey Team?

There were competitions around the country for anyone who wanted to try out for the team. Some players, like myself who were college players, were invited to the final try outs. I went to Colorado Springs with roughly eighty players (finalists). Throughout the two week period of time we competed against each other, played games, and had practices. The coaches selected twenty-eight players and then it was cut to twenty players.

How did you prepare yourself (physically) for the Olympics?

Vigorous workouts all summer. I worked out locally with friends, like your dad. Running, lifting, skating, shooting pucks and doing all those things I needed to play at the next level. I did a lot of running.

Please share some of your most memorable moments of your Olympic experiences.

There were so many special experiences. Certainly, beating

(Turn to HOCKEY, p. 10)



KC Dowd with Mike Eruzione, 1980's Olympic Athlete

Rick Pitino Resigns

KC Dowd '04

On January 8, 2001, Rick Pitino resigned as president and head coach of the Boston Celtics. Hired, as interim head coach was assistant coach Jim O'Brien. Summoned four years ago by owner Paul Gaston, and lavished with a \$50 million contract, Pitino was to miraculously restore the glory years back to the Celtics. The not so great Pitino arrogantly penned his own contract, displacing the truly great Red Auerback from his position, and was granted the title of president and head coach. Gaston then gave President/Coach Pitino carte blanche in hiring his dream team and allotting multi-million dollar contracts.

Pitino's dream unraveled with a nightmarish overall record of 102-146. Reportedly, he relinquished about \$27 million on his remaining 6 1/2 year contract. Cry no tears for Rick. He slithered out of town, in the shield of night, with about \$30 million.

Certainly, Pitino, the previous golden boy of the University of Kentucky, was an articulate and charismatic college coach. He arrived in Boston riding on the glory of a NCAA championship. At the college level, Pitino was able to harness the athletic enthusiasm of his young and talented NBA hopefuls. He stressed the fundamental skills and implemented an impressive running and trapping game. His players seemed to absorb his wisdom and respond with hard work and determination.

As I see it, Pitino's first mistake was to apply this same formula to NBA coaching. Pitino's talent and vision were overshadowed by his enormous ego, which ultimately clashed with the multi-million dollar egos of his coddled players. His reign was plagued with poor decisions, such as handing Antoine Walker a six year, \$70

(Turn to PITINO, p. 9)

PITINO

(Continued from p. 8)

million contract. This previous Kentucky player has not achieved Pitino's predicted greatness, but still cashes his outrageous check. In February 1998, President/Coach Pitino assumed Kenny Anderson's seven year \$46 million contract. Other big pay checks went to Tony Battie (\$25 million), Vitaly Potapenko (\$35 million), and Eric Williams (\$25 million). Where is the "if you don't produce..." clause? With this personally orchestrated selection, Pitino passed on Tracy McGrady, now with the Pistons. Under-performing players linger on their multi-million dollar bench, while potential greats are passed over.

Coach Pitino was unable to find a team leader. He seemed to change favorite stars frequently, and simply never found the combination of players who understood the concept of team-work. Pitino thought he could apply the same philosophy that made him a legend in the college arena to a group of overpaid, underachieving, semi-talented, lackluster per-

formers. Apparently, once awarded a zillion dollar contract, the incentive to excel is diminished. What is there left to work for? Coach Pitino was even unable to spark a fire under his players when he offered his final appeal to his team in November.

Pitino looked disheartened and rundown as he released his short statement to the public. In his final Celtic game, on Sunday January 8, he hugged player Paul Pierce, and walked off the court. "Sometimes change is good just for the sake of change, when things aren't going well," he stated to the Boston Herald.

At this time, Pitino will be a commentator for the NCAA tournaments. No doubt he will be sought after for motivational speaking engagements, as well as big name college teams. As for the Celtics, Paul Pierce and Chris Herren offer some hope. It is clear, however, that at the NBA level, talented, altruistic players win games, not self-proclaiming coaches.

SHS Wrestling Team Improving As The Season Progresses

Kristen Kutz '01

The Somerset High School wrestling team is steadily improving as the season progresses. Early in the season the team lost to Durfee (32-48), East Providence (15-57), and Silver Lake (27-43). From there on out it has been smooth sailing for the Raiders as they defeated Barrington (48-16), Taunton (42-12), Nauset (40-39), and Holbrook (71-6). Recently they suffered a loss at the hands of Norwood, 31-45.

This year the team is led by co-captains Caleb Bliss and

Mike Bryant. Caleb has already won three tournaments and placed a close second at the Marshfield tournament (one of the toughest in the area). Overall he is 23-1 and is ranked fourth in the state. Mike Bryant has had a third, fourth, and fifth place finish in tournament competition. He has only lost one dual match and his overall record is 18-6.

The main point of concern for the captains and Coach Peachy is the overwhelming amount of freshmen and soph-

mores on the team. All are learning quickly and will be an asset to the team in the future. However, Eddie Michao is not waiting for the future. This phenomenal freshman has already placed in two tournaments. The rest of the younger athletes are sure to follow in his footsteps.

Come support the wrestling team by going to the rest of their meets and tournaments as they look to close out the season with a winning record.

SHS Boy's Basketball Team Scrambles To Make Tournament

Adam Levesque '01

The SHS boy's basketball team is 6-8 and they need to win four out of their last six games in order to qualify for the postseason tournament.

Their remaining games are against Bishop Feehan, Falmouth, Dartmouth, Westport, Coyle Cassidy, and Bishop Stang. They were beaten badly by Bishop Feehan and Dartmouth when they played them earlier in the season and it is unlikely they will beat those teams when they play again.

The basketball team beat Falmouth and Westport at home earlier in the season and looks to beat them both again when they play them on the road. The team lost two nail-biters to Bishop Stang and Coyle

Cassidy when they played them earlier and look to return the favor to both of them when they play again.

Chances are that the Raiders will not beat the strong Feehan and Dartmouth teams which means they must win their other four remaining games against Falmouth, Bishop Stang, Westport, and Coyle Cassidy. They play all four of those games on the road and any slip up will cost the team from making the postseason tournament.

Winning four more games is going to be a difficult task for the Raiders but the teams' hopes are high and senior forward Keith Brouillard says, "The team is working hard to

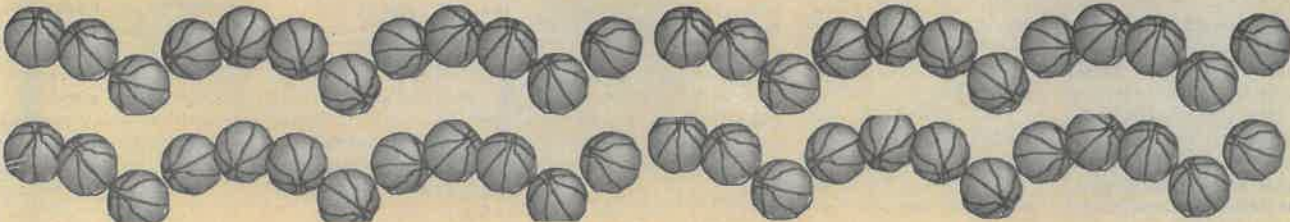
accomplish its goal of making the postseason tournament and can with its outstanding coaching staff, headed by Chris Mendes." Another senior, shooting guard Chris Mello, summed up the season in one word, "Outstanding."

Team captains Ryan Murphy and Nils Pilotte intend to keep the team together and lead them to their goal of making the postseason tournament.

Support the boy's basketball team in their quest to make the postseason tournament by going to their remaining games and cheering them on.

Pitino's Career

Date	Team	Record	Pct.
1978-83	Boston U.	91-51	.641
1985-87	Providence	42-23	.646
1987-89	Knicks	90-74	.549
1989-97	Kentucky	219-50	.814
1997-01	Celtics	102-148	.411





HOCKEY

(Continue from p. 8)

Finland to win the gold medal was incredible. Standing on the podium with the Team, representing America, was very emotional. My most memorable time was marching in the opening ceremonies. That was the best.

What position did you play? Were you confident the team was going to have success?

I played left-wing. Going into the Olympic games, we thought we could win a medal. We did not know which one. We thought a bronze was very possible. As the games evolved, our confidence increased and we felt we could win the whole thing. Initially, our objective was to win a medal.

What were you feeling? What was going through your mind throughout this experience?

Before the events, you have all kinds of different emotions. You are nervous, excited and anxious. When I stepped on the ice, the crowd was very loud and euphoric. Your adrenalin is really elevated and your heart is pumping. I was amazed at what we were about to do. During the game, I had to control these emotions and channel them the right way. Throughout the game we were able to stay focused on our goals, literally. When it was over, we let it all

out. The joy and excitement when you win - just like when you win a championship in any sport, a little league tournament, only more intense.

Are you still in touch with your former teammates?

Yes. We had a reunion in May, where a bunch of us went to South Carolina to play golf together. In December, we met in New York City to plan a hockey game for next October. We're going to play against the (current) US Women's Hockey Team.

Do you plan on winning?

Yes, (laughing). We may actually mix up the teams. This is actually a scoop - because this event, for charity, has not yet been announced.

Mike Eruzione reflects with appreciation:


It's been a great twenty years, going on twenty-one. I still get letters from kids all over the country, students who are doing a paper on the Olympic games and have chosen the 1980 Hockey team to research. Sometimes I come across a reference to our team in an article, and I feel the emotion and satisfaction it elicits. It was a wonderful time, that brought great memories, friendships and opportunities. I appreciate being a part of the 1980 Olympic Games

SALARIES

(Continued from p. 1)

need Somerset will have for teachers in the coming years. This year alone, there will be 18 individuals retiring from the Somerset school system, and the supply of new teachers is not there. If Somerset does not increase pay for teachers and become more comparable to that of other local salaries, Somerset will be unable to compete for new teachers. She gave evidence that Somerset salaries are significantly lower than those in the surrounding communities. She also argued that teacher raises would be beneficial to the community. A quality educational system is directly linked to higher property values. Mrs. Harris proposed that \$292,438 be allotted for increased salaries, three times the amount proposed by the finance committee.

Both proposals led to various questions from the community, and sometimes confusion. Eventually, after much discussion, the public was ready to vote on whether the School Department should be given \$75,560, or \$292,438. The amount that received a higher vote was that of \$292,438, although it was opposed by many.



ave serious
money with **BCC**

College costs serious money. Bristol Community College, the Community College Advantage in Fall River, offers area learners the opportunity to save thousands of dollars:

- Two years at BCC costs thousands less than four-year colleges and universities.
- BCC credits transfer to many four-year colleges.
- Fulfill core requirements at classes taught by talented, dedicated BCC professors.
- Financial aid, academic support available.

Choose smart. Choose BCC.

Bristol Community College
777 Elsbree Street
Fall River, MA
www.bristol.mass.edu

CALL BRISTOL COMMUNITY COLLEGE AT (508) 676-2811, EXT. 2179 FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE ADVANTAGE.

Valentine's Day

Holly Chagnon and Lynn Creamer

The history of Valentine's Day is an interesting one. Valentine's Day developed its earlier origins in the Roman festival Lupercalia on February 15th. Lupercalia celebrated the coming of spring in the Roman calendar. Eventually this Pagan holiday was turned into a Christian one by the Pope. He named this day after Saint Valentine, a priest who had defied Emperor Claudius II by helping persecuted Christians.

If you've ever wondered the origins of the Valentine's Day symbols, we will explain them. The first, and most known, is Cupid. Cupid is an ancient mythological Roman god. He was

the symbol of passionate and playful love. Cupid is also the son of Venus, the goddess of love and beauty.

Next, the rose was the sacred flower of Venus. The



color red is used because of the strong feelings associated with that color, and for that reason the rose is one of the best known symbols of beau-

ty and love. In older days, the heart was the center of all your emotions. To give your heart to someone was to give that person all of your love, so hearts are a very special symbol.

Love birds and doves have been a symbol of Valentine's Day since the Middle Ages where it was thought that they mated on the Fourteenth of February.

Another fact that links them with Valentine's Day and never ending love is that they pair up for life. So from this new found knowledge of Valentine's Day, make the best of it and show someone you love that you care.

Boys Basketball Team Defeats Rivals Durfee, Connolly

Ryan Avery '03

The Somerset Raiders boy's basketball squad is halfway through an up and down season that has included a sweep of their two meetings against Durfee High School, and that has left them with a 4-6 record so far this year.

Somerset's opener was against a surprisingly improved Case High School team that defeated the Raiders, 60-42. The boys rebounded from that loss, however, and defeated Falmouth later that week, 64-54. The Raiders played nothing like they had against Case. They shot much bet-

ter, led by John Braz with 15 points and Jude Morrow with 14.

The Raiders' next game was against rival Durfee High. The Hilltoppers looked to be sending Somerset its second loss of the season, up 54-36 with under 9 minutes remaining, when Somerset went on a 20-2 run, a result of their defensive pressure on Durfee. With a few free throws to close out the game, Somerset had a 64-58 victory when the buzzer sounded. Jude Morrow led the Raiders with 18 points and his rebounding at the end of the

game was a big reason for his team's victory. This was the Raiders first win against Durfee in 9 years and their first win in Fall River in over 20 years.

Somerset then faced Case for the second time this year, and were much more prepared for the Cardinals. Somerset was without senior point guard Mark Arruda, and fellow senior Larry Sherman filled in at the point. The Raiders were ahead much of the game, including a 27-18 lead a couple minutes into the second

(Turn to B-Ball p.12)

Help a Good Cause

Cady Charest '02

A group of students from Somerset High School have been working on a restoration house. These students are Katia Hagerman, Andrew Greenwood, Jon Solup, Nathaniel Sheehan, Janine Emard, David Rodrigues, and myself.

This house is in Fall River and will become a home for men coming out of rehabilitation. I am writing this article to ask for help in our efforts. Objects like pots, pans, curtains, desks, televisions, chairs, tables, lights, irons, and toasters are needed for the house. If you have any old items that you do not need or want anymore, we are willing to take anything usable.

If you gather any items, just bring them to either Church of our Savior on

Route 138 in Somerset, down the street from the High School near The Country Store or the Baptist church on High Street in the Somerset Village near the Historical Society.

You can also bring items to the Congregational church across from the Town Hall on Route 138 in Somerset.

If you knock on the doors of any of these locations, someone should answer and they will tell you where to put your items. Please do not leave the items outside the church if no one is there. We do not want them to get stolen or ruined by weather.

Thank you very much for your attention and I hope you will consider helping renovate the restoration house in Fall River.

BUSH

(Continued from p. 2)

is a tax cut and a number of reforms designed to improve education. The tax cut proposed by Bush is based on the philosophy that those who pay taxes, and have allowed the government to thrive, should be rewarded. It is unsurprising then that Bush's plan favors the wealthiest members of the country because, after all, they contribute more tax money than do the poor.

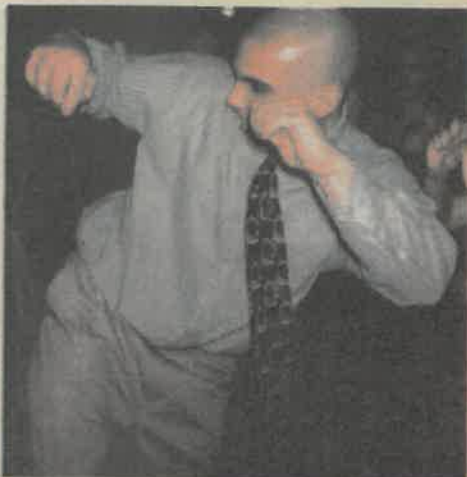
Bush's reforms for the education system call for an increase in "voucher" schools, basically these are private schools funded by government

dollars, increased standardized testing, and funding changes designed to punish under-achieving schools.

While Bush's early time in office has brought harsh criticism from liberals, it has been simultaneously praised by conservatives. Of course, only time can tell whether George W. Bush's policies will be successful. Until that time, it remains

to be seen if Bush will be an adept President or, as some people think, a blundering nincompoop.





Senior student enjoy their semi-formal (bottom left) and stars of the latest SHS production *Sieppin' Our* put on their performance (top right).

(Photos by Niki DeCambra and Greg Joynt)



B-Ball

(Continued from p. 11)

half, but the Cardinals battled back to a 40-40 tie with under a minute left, and took a 41-40 lead on a free throw with 17 seconds left. That was the final score. After the Raider boys took a time out, their last shot rolled around the rim and fell out. Sherman led the Raiders with 17 points.

The Raiders started their EAC league schedule after this game, and suffered three straight losses to league powers Coyle Cassidy,

Bishop Feehan, and Attleboro. Somerset played Coyle tough, but the Warriors converted nearly all their free throws at the end of the game, to secure an eight point victory. Bishop Feehan's three point shooting was too much for the Raiders, as they nailed 10 long bombs to easily secure an 88-33 victory. Aaron Hussey led the Raiders with eight points against the Shamrocks. Attleboro took a quick lead, and Somerset was never able to catch up, as they were defeated 80-47. Larry Sherman led the

Raiders in this game with 10 points.

Somerset snapped out of its losing streak with a victory away at Bishop Connolly, 81-61. Aaron Hussey dominated Connolly's front court scoring 22 points and grabbing 13 rebounds. John Braz also had a great game with 21 points.

The Raiders next game completed the Somerset boys' first ever season sweep of Durfee in the history of the two teams rivalry. The Raiders once again turned it on late in the second half with great defense and

rebounding to earn the 55-53 victory. Senior co-captain Nils Pilotte led the team with 15 points, and Somerset's Veterans' Memorial Gym erupted after the victory.

The win put Somerset at 4-5 for the season before Dartmouth defeated the Raiders in Dartmouth, 82-47, to give the Raiders their current record of 4-6. Senior Chris Mello had 8 points for Somerset against the Indians. The Raiders will now face all their EAC rivals for a second time in late January/February.

The staff at *The Breeze* is always looking for new contributors. If you are interested in writing or taking photographs for *The Breeze* contact Ms. Muller in room 510. If you are not a Somerset High School student, letters from readers are always appreciated. Our mailing address appears on page three.