



# The Breeze

Publishing for Somerset High School Since 1921



Monday, March 4, 1996

Vol. 75 No. 5

Somerset, Massachusetts

## SHS Sets a New Educational Trend

Emily Kate Peloquin

On Tuesday, February 6, an innovative program began its second year at Somerset High School. The project, run by Dr. Perry of the Music Department, Mr. Moses of the English Department, and Mr. White of the Art Department, is an effort to expose students to an interdisciplinary educational experience. The three teachers have worked together on devising a program that will integrate music, literature, and art into the study of a historical period.

The program brings to

(Turn to TREND, p.2)

## Dialing for Donations

Jen Silva

On February 4th the Citizen's Scholarship Foundation (CSF) held their annual phonathon at Slade's Ferry Bank. The CSF hosts events throughout the year to raise money for scholarships for Somerset students. I volunteered to help out. When I arrived at Slade's Ferry, I was handed a list of names and

(Turn to DIALING, p. 2)

## Ban on Hats and Coats Recommended

Shyamalee Abraham

On Wednesday, February 14, the School Advisory Committee met and discussed the recommendation to ban the wearing of hats and coats in Somerset High School during school hours. The Committee decided to vote in the absence of four of its members. The vote was unanimous in favor of banning coats. There has been concern over the safety of students and faculty due to the

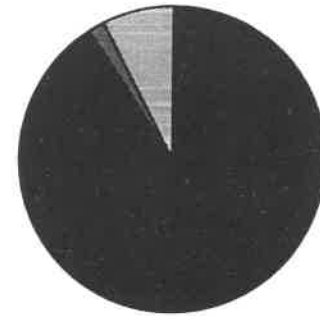
ability of students to conceal weapons under large overcoats. It was decided, however, that articles of clothing such as pull-overs and fleeces are appropriate for school-hour wear. If the recommendation passes the School Committee, it will take effect in September of 1996.

The decision to ban the wearing of hats during school hours met with much more debate in the Advisory Committee and ended in a six-to-two vote for the banning of hats. It was the general consensus of the Committee that the wearing of hats interfered with the educational process and the good teaching and learning atmosphere in the classroom. There was also some concern with the personal safety of the students wearing the

(Turn to BAN, p. 2)

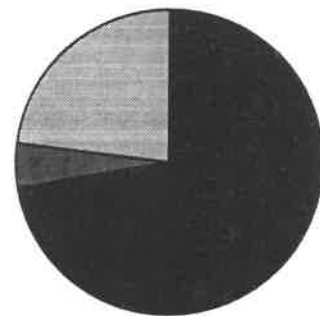
Leave your hat and coat outside the door?

(photo by Paul Golaszewski)



Do you think students should be allowed to wear hats in school ?

yes 90.8%  
no 1.6%  
don't care 7.6%



Do you think students should be allowed to wear coats in school ?

yes 72.3%  
no 4.7%  
don't care 23%

## The Survey Says... No To Ban!

On Thursday, February 15, the *Breeze* conducted an in-school survey in order to determine students' opinions about the proposed bans. Of the 761 students responding, 691 believed that hats should be allowed in school, while 12 believed they should not, and 58 students did not care. In addition, 550 students believed that coats should be allowed, while 36 believed they should not, and 175 did not care.

Several students elaborated

on their responses with comments. Among them were, "I think you should be able to wear what you like," "If they're cold," "Only if there's a heat problem," and "Why the hell not?"

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.



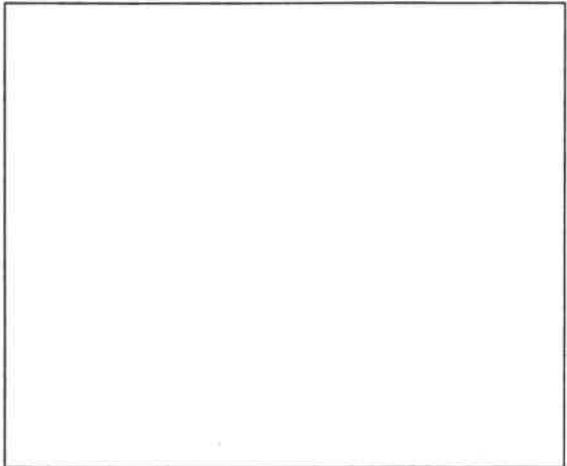
### BAN

(continued from p. 1)

the hats. Matters such as personal hygiene and hair loss, and diseases such as ringworm and impetigo, may apparently be caused by the constant wearing of a hat. More importantly, teachers have been concerned lately over the inability to make proper eye contact with the students wearing the hats in class. There was also concern over the use of hats for smuggling purposes. Overall, the Committee found the wearing of hats unnecessary to the educational process. If the School Advisory Committee's recommendation is approved by the

School Committee, hats will be banned during school hours starting in September of 1996.

Both of the School Advisory Committee's recommendations have to be presented to the superintendent before they are delivered to the School Committee. The banning of hats and/or coats has already been instituted at many area high schools, including Durfee, Case, and Dartmouth. The transition at these schools went quite smoothly, and the students accepted the administration's decision with little or no controversy.



Jen Silva makes a call for CSF. (photo by Paul Golaszewski)

### TREND

(continued from p. 1)

gether students of various ages and academic levels. Students from Dr. Perry's Music Foundations class will work in conjunction with Mr. Moses's Advanced Placement English class and Mr. White's Art classes. Together the forty-six students involved will work in all three disciplines while studying Transcendentalism.

The basis for the project comes from the work of T. Armstrong, author of 7 Kinds of Smart. This book describes the seven multiple intelligences: Intra personal, Body-Kinesthetic, Spatial, Interpersonal, Musical, Logical-Mathematical, and Linguistic Intelligences. Students are learning to discover in which of the intelligences their talents lie through self-evaluation and testing. By learning their greatest intelligence, students will understand how they learn best.

The project has been designed to help students learn more about themselves by exploring new areas of study.

### DIALING

(continued from p. 1)

phone numbers of people who lived in Somerset. I was a little apprehensive about calling people on a Sunday afternoon and asking for money. However, most people that I called donated at least five dollars. Those who could not make a donation were polite. I was glad I could help out the CSF and I think the phonathon was a great success.

Many of the students have a background in only one of the three disciplines. Studying art and music will be new to many of them.

By the end of the project, students will have worked in collaboration with a few of their peers in order to create literary, artistic, and musical works that were inspired by the Transcendental Spirit.

Future plans for the interdisciplinary program involve adding it to the course curriculum of Somerset High School. Next year the project will be open to all students in grades ten, eleven, and twelve, without consideration of academic level.

The implementation of this program makes an exciting turn in the course of education at Somerset High School. Its founders are true innovators, being the first educators in the area to develop such a project. Perry, Moses, and White deserve commendation for bringing Somerset High School to the forefront of education and providing students with a rare and valuable opportunity.

### The End of Freshman Orientation Day

or


### The Beginning of a Longer School Year?

Shyamalee Abraham

The new Education Reform Act that recently became law in Massachusetts requires all school systems to be in session for 180 days and 990 hours starting next school year.

Although Somerset High School exceeds the 990 hour minimum, upper-classmen and sophomores have been having a 179 day school year since 1993 because of freshman orientation day. A request was made to the Department of Education for a waiver of the 180 day minimum, but it was denied. The new state law requiring all students to have school at least 180 days per year could result in the termination of the freshman orientation program, which is considered to be beneficial to new students. However, the orientation program will be allowed to continue if the school year for Somerset is extended to 181 days.

The School Advisory Committee unanimously decided to recommend the lengthened school year in order to save the program. The Committee's recommendation will have to be presented to the superintendent and then passed on to the School Committee before a final decision is made.



Publishing for Somerset High School Since 1921

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# Commentary

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.

## Good News, Bad News

Cate Marcille

Television cameras and reporters converge upon Somerset High School. Are they here to report on our excellent athletic teams, our new interdisciplinary study, or our large music department? No. They are here because a freshman student's parents have been indicted on sexual offense charges.

Unfortunately, the media flocks to negative stories. When one turns on a news program or opens a newspaper, the majority of what he or she sees is despair, anguish, or anger. Once in a while, the media will have a human interest story, such as an interview with someone who has been a hero, but most of the news is devoted to disasters, problems, and scams.

The question is: Why does the media primarily produce negative stories? Is the world really that horrible? The media claim that they are only relating what people want to know. Either case is sad.

Are the media, though, cre-

ating a demand for negative stories in the way they present them? The top news stories do not have to be negative. Reporters could come to Somerset and report on something fantastic that is happening here. If newspapers printed stories of a positive nature on the front page, would people really take the time to search out negative articles?

Come visit Somerset High School on a good day. We have our problems, but who doesn't? Why must only the problems make the news? If you read the Breeze, maybe you'd see the good news, too.

## Not-So-Pretty in Pink

Heather Conroy

Most of us in this school take a foreign language, so for about 40 minutes of every day we are in the world languages area. At first the area's classrooms were like any other rooms in the school—plain and simple. Unfortunately, that changed.

Most of us went blind the first time we saw the new pink paint. It was bad enough that we had to deal with the smell of fresh paint, but now we have to deal with the color, FOREVER!

(Turn to PINK, p.11)

## Break Out the Pinatas

Julie Averill

Guess what? Break out the noisemakers and pinatas because it's "Music In Our Schools" month! It's time for a party, "Celebrate good times, come on!" Okay, I can almost hear most of you saying "Whatevah!" in your charming Fall River trademark accents. I apologize for my zeal, but you all should be just as excited as I am. What we are really celebrating is, in fact, the education of a new generation of Pavarottis, Yo Yo Mas, Melissa Etheridges, Kurt Cobains, John Lennons, Marvin Gayes, you name it! I'll bet you never looked at it that way, huh? Never fear, I shall explain, as always.

The impact of music, though almost no one realizes it, is one of the most profound influences on human life today. Not a day goes by that we don't listen to music. If I had a dime for every time I heard "Geez! I can't get that song out of my head!" I could run for president, and win! (No sarcasm there, nope, none at all.) Anyway, the most amaz-





ing thing is that, despite the importance of music, most of the population does not understand music, or even know the barest essentials as to what makes up a song or composition. Do you know what a sharp is? (No, it has nothing to do with a metallic eating utensil.) Hold on, let me give you a few others: how about fortissimo (hint: it isn't any kind of macaroni), coda, time signature, bar line (there's no frozen strawberry daiquiris at the end of this!), arpeggio (sorry, Italians have an unfair advantage in my quiz). Who were Gluck, Debussy, Milhaud, Prokofiev, Holst, Ives? What does a piccolo sound like? (Anyone who has English period six should know!) Is an English horn made out of brass or wood? What is a double reed? Who wrote Symphony No. 1 (Ha-ha.)?

I rest my case. Music illiteracy is quite the little problem in today's world. It is also one of the biggest ironies. It is virtually impossible to enjoy an ordinary football game without knowing what a field goal or touchdown is. Yet people are completely comfortable with listening to a CD without knowing if it is a trumpet or French Horn they are hearing. It's pretty sad, if you ask a musician, especially the musician performing. Everyone has

a favorite song, but do they know what key it is in?

What is the solution to this problem? Education. As Mr. Holland (of Mr. Holland's Opus fame) would say, music education. Music in our schools. Somerset High has an outstanding music department that gets more and more underpopulated every year. Most schools have a band, a chorus, maybe, if the budget allows, a music appreciation course. SHS has six instrumental organizations, five vocal groups (six if you count drama), and up to eight music related electives. Although this is not meant to look like an advertisement for Somerset's music department, these facts have to be mentioned. At any rate, I urge incoming freshmen, current freshmen, sophomores, and juniors to get involved with this important part of all our lives. Circle chorus, piano lab, jazz studies, or (gasp!) marching band on your 96-97 course request list. I also urge parents to get their children involved in music. You'd be surprised what music will do to your child's perspective on the world. Besides, it might be interesting to know what a glockenspiel does. Who was Mahler? How does one twirl a baton? What is A 440? Who invented the electric guitar? Why.....

  
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.



## Bullets Over Broadway

Madelyn Medeiros

Woody Allen's Bullets Over Broadway, which I recently rented, is an enjoyable movie. Although it was not as light as I had thought it would be, Mr. Allen definitely put his directing and comedic skill to use in this movie.

The plot involves a young playwright who is trying to become famous. It takes place during Prohibition, so gangsters play a big part in the story. The playwright has many problems with his actors. He has to deal with a gangster's girlfriend who can't act at all, a famous actor who is a compulsive eater and gets bigger each rehearsal, a flaky actress with a Chihuahua named Mr. Woofles, a has-been actress who is a little too dramatic, and a gangster with too many suggestions.

There are some serious parts to this movie, but they are very few. If you're looking for a funny movie with a plot, then I would recommend Bullets Over Broadway.

## Toy Story

Jamie M. Cabral



The movie, Toy Story, was a cute movie about the lives of toys. It showed how the toys felt every time their owner celebrated his birthday or Christmas; they would get discouraged every time the boy opened a present. Then one year the boy got an awesome toy that could talk, shoot, and fly. This new toy replaced his older cowboy toy. A grudge soon developed between the two toys, causing a whole load of problems. At the end, though, the toys made up and lived happily ever after. The best part of the movie, I think, was the end. It was action-packed. It was exciting and kept you on the edge of your seat.

## Mr. Holland's Music Lesson

Sylvia Silva

Sometimes a movie comes along that brings with it characters so real that the audience is lifted out of their seats and onto the screen, where they hear, see and feel all that the characters hear, see, and feel. While Mr. Holland's Opus has been criticized for its oversentimentality, to the millions of musicians who saw it, it was like realizing all over again why one loves music so much.

Mr. Holland's Opus, which stars Richard Dreyfuss, is the story of a man who is forced to teach music, and is later forced to retire. Throughout the movie the viewer is introduced to a few of the students whose lives have been affected by the caring and patient teacher, and by the end of the movie, there is at least one to whom the viewer can relate. The movie's Forrester Gump method of time travel, using clips of recorded world events and popular songs, is highly effective, and brings the viewer through decades of time without "Ten Years Later" appearing on the screen. While the story is based on the effect of music on the characters' lives, it can relate to just about anything, and is definitely worth seeing.

## Among Schoolchildren: Emphasizing the Importance of Education

Kara Taylor

It has been said that, "There's no telling how long the influence of a great teacher can last." In Among Schoolchildren by Tracy Kidder, Chris Zajac is the epitome of this statement. She is a spunky, fun, yet determined and strict fifth grade teacher whose personal efforts on behalf of her students and indefatigable energy should be lauded.

Throughout the course of the book, Zajac transforms the diverse members of her class into a small community, working together to learn and to achieve. The ethnicity of children in Zajac's classroom conforms basically to the population of citizens in the Holyoke community; the majority of her students are Hispanic, with "white" as the second largest division. Zajac does not simply attempt to educate her pupils; if one of them seems to be acting in a curious or unwonted manner, she tries to do research on the child's home situation and involve the parents as much as possible. As many current teachers must learn to do, Zajac handles situations varying from drunk

ghetto fathers to critical, snobbish Highlands mothers with deft skill.

As the book relates the story of one particular class's progress from September until the last day of school in June, the reader really gets involved in the students' lives. I truly felt for Zajac when, after months of failing methods, she had to send Clarence, a disruptive and oftentimes violent boy, to an Alpha class for troubled youths. Although Clarence did hurt and frequently disturbed the education of the nineteen other students, Clarence did have his good days, making Zajac wonder, "Is he really the worst student I've encountered ever?"

In other cases, Zajac's energies seemed to be working when, to her dismay, a student

sonal experiences, my career goal of becoming an elementary school teacher has been shunned by some who harshly scold, "You're too smart for that," or, "With your brains, you could really be somebody." Many judgmental individuals have no idea of the tremendous skill and talent required for instructing the nation's youth. In one scene, the author does an amazing job describing Zajac's math lessons. While she corrects one student's paper with her right hand, she quizzes another with flash cards with her left; at the same time, she is able to help a student from the lower math group on the desk beside her, and, without looking up, snap her fingers, commanding the girls in the higher math group to cease their chatter and get to work.

From fractions to slavery, from the Civil War to comets, Zajac arouses even her most uninterested students and awakens their

minds to the joys and rewards of seeking knowledge and striving for their dreams. She challenges the star pupil without leaving behind the "slow learners."

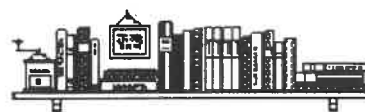
Although Zajac is an exceptional educator, at the end of the year, she is left contemplating her failures, the students she could not reach and the topics she did not discuss. Her stellar pupil, Judith, would probably return to Puerto Rico that summer and may never realize her dream of attending college. Jimmy, who had slept through almost every class, had finally started to wake up and think by the end of the year;

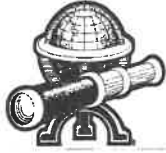
(Turn to CHILDREN, p. 10)

*Zajac handles situations varying from drunk ghetto fathers to critical, snobbish Highlands mothers with deft skill.*

would be transferred or moved away. A certain shy, timid girl named Blanca whom she continually coaxed out of her almost impenetrable shell left her class halfway through the year, leaving her wondering what would happen to the poor girl. Secretly believing Blanca to be a victim of sexual abuse, Zajac could not forget the little child's haunting eyes.

Overall, the character of Chris Zajac amuses and enchants the reader, while at the same time educating him or her as to the invaluable role of teachers in today's society. In my own per-





# Perspectives



## A Breeze From the Past: Boys, Beware!

Mel Maronn

Friday March 17, 1950, was named the first Sadie Hawkins's Day. The story of this day, a proclamation by the mayor of this special event, and a schedule of the day's events were found in the March 15, 1950 issue of the *Breeze*. The story told of a Mr. Hawkins who lived in Dogpatch (a name given to represent Somerset) and had a serious problem with his daughter Sadie. Mr. Hawkins felt that Sadie would never marry, for she was almost sixteen and still unwed.

On March 15, Mr. Hawkins decided to make a plan for finding a beau for Sadie. This plan was titled "Get a man for my daughter Sadie!" All the eligible men in Dogpatch were gathered together for Sadie to take her pick from. Mr. Hawkins let them go and Sadie was to chase after the one of her dreams. There was a shortage of men in Dogpatch after

this event, but Sadie was able to find her man!

Every year at Somerset High School, the memory of Sadie Hawkins was celebrated. Everyone came to school dressed like the characters from the hills of Dogpatch and took part part in the special activities during the day. One of the activities was a costume parade in which judges awarded prizes to the winners. There was also a skit of "Sadie's Marriage," followed by a performance of the school's orchestra and chorus.

The day was not yet over; after the assembly, there were student-faculty basketball games, supper in the cafeteria, entertainment in the auditorium, and a dance at night - all this in remembrance of an unwed sixteen-year old!

The issue of the *Breeze* was complete with a fake marriage license to be cut out and used around the school. Don't worry, guys - they were only good for the one special girls' holiday out of the year, Sadie Hawkins's Day.

## Sadie Hawkins's Day MARRIAGE LICENSE

Be it known to all yo' gals present that

Groom's Name \_\_\_\_\_

is the worsen half an' po' onfortunate spouse o'

Bride's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Joined in howlin' wedlock

By \_\_\_\_\_ Marryin' Sam

Type o' weddin' \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Two-bit  
\_\_\_\_\_ Four-bit  
\_\_\_\_\_ Six-bit

This coupon good for one day only. Get yo' man gals and find Marryin' Sam at the dance for the ceremoni. Here's the offer of a lifetime. Sadie's Day only comse once a yar.

## Multi-Cultural Madness

Jessica Lagasse

Yes, it's that time again! A time when everyone takes a week to say, "I'm different and I'm proud of it!" From Monday, March 11 to Friday, March 15, it is officially Multi-Cultural Week. This means that everyone has five whole days to show off their multicultural spirit.

The overall purpose of this special week is to identify prejudices that are present in our society and to work to eliminate them by increasing the levels of cultural understanding. Many of the activities for multicultural week will be taking place in the World Languages area. All of the teachers have worked very hard to make this week a rewarding and valuable experience for everyone. They have prepared many activities and projects that foster cultural tolerance and acceptance.

As was done last year, a selected quotation will be read to the school over the intercom every morning. These quotations, which are read in Spanish, Portuguese, Latin, and French, will convey a message of understanding and tolerance. Several speakers from different cultural backgrounds are also scheduled to visit the school. These men and women will expose the students to different cultures and customs while encouraging the idea that everyone is equal.

Along with the program of speakers, selected foreign language classes will be working on ethnic exploration projects. These projects, which require an in-class presentation, allow the students to trace their cultural background and teach their classmates a little more about where they came from.

(Turn to MADNESS, p.10)

## The Legend of the Irish Green

Rebecca Sablo


Everyone is familiar with the traditions of St. Patrick's Day. We get don the greenest outfit in our closet, and of course the green socks. Some people even get a kick out of using food dye to produce an authentic St. Pat's meal. But have you ever wondered where it all started?

St. Patrick was born in England sometime around the year 389. When he was sixteen years old, he was captured by raiders and subjected to slavery in pa-

gan Ireland. For six years he herded sheep, but eventually St. Patrick escaped back to England. After studying at a monastery, St. Patrick became a priest and later a bishop. He returned to Ireland as a missionary and set up monasteries and churches. Some say the reason St. Patrick returned was that he had a vision of the Irish calling him back. St. Patrick succeeded in converting pagan Ireland to the Christian faith

(Turn to LEGEND, p.10)



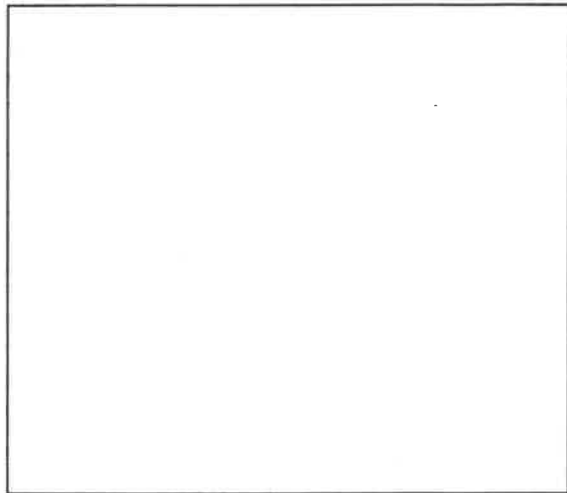


# Around.....

## Flashback Dance: Buckle on Your Platform Shoes!

Rebecca Sablo

Break out the mood rings, dust off the platform shoes, and get ready to be transported back a few decades. On Friday, March 8, the Somerset Student Council will sponsor a Flashback Dance. The dance will be from 7 pm until 11 pm in the cafeteria. Refreshments will be on sale to benefit the Student Council. Tickets will be available in advance or at the door for \$4 each. All Somerset High School students are invited. Please come for a night of fun and help support your Student Council at the same time.



## String Players Tune Up for Festival

Jodie Braz

On March 20, 1996, Somerset will hold its annual String Festival. The festival features young string musicians. The beginners, who are fourth graders, start the concert and the high school chamber players are the last to perform. This concert is a chance to see all these musicians play at different levels. Each group plays their individual pieces and all come together at the end to play a traditional work. This festival draws a great crowd. The string players look forward to this concert with enthusiasm and pride to show off their accomplishments of the year. (photo by Amy Branco)

## Youth Alive: A Closer Look

Kathryn McMillan

A new after-school opportunity blossomed into existence with the start of the new year. At the regular September extracurricular sign-up stage, this group was nothing more than an idea. However, with the permission of Vice-Principal Charles Leary, the Somerset chapter of Youth Alive has become a small new activity. The nondenominational group founded on religious concepts is intended to benefit high school students.

Although this might sound as if it consists of a bunch of church freaks getting together after school, that assumption is far from the truth. This new organization is ideal for socializing with those who share common goals and interests. It is also unique because it helps council students facing any problems or temptations. Youth alive presents SHS students with an opportunity to get to know others who share the same values and to know that they are not alone.

Some students may be turned off by Bible groups. They dismiss the Bible as a book written by a bunch of weird ancient men telling stories that make no sense and have no relevance today. However, the Bible is a great piece of literature which everyone

should read. The stories are indeed relevant. In fact, there were people in biblical times who faced such "modern" problems as drugs and alcohol. Perhaps Nine Inch Nails was not around, but people in biblical times did dance and listen to music. SHS's Youth Alive student leader and initiator, Kevin DeMello, relates biblical excerpts to modern-day trials that teenagers face.


On February 6, 1996, at 2:15 in the library conference room, a small group of students was gathered around the table just chatting with one another about the day's events. No different from lunch, right? Then, Kevin passed a Bible to one student and requested him to read a few specific verses (about one paragraph in 90's terms). Keep in mind that there was no pressure to participate; the relaxed atmosphere allows a timid or reserved student to silently observe. After the passage was read, Kevin was kind enough to relate it to today. The section read was from the Old Testament. It told the tale of a king faced with an enemy army more than double the force of his. What army is SHS

battling against? Well, perhaps no camouflaged brigade is going to seize the school, but there are problems which are on the rise that all high schools face. This opposition is comparable to the ancient king's army difficulties.

After the story, the meeting proceeded to matters at the personal level. Kevin asked if anyone needed advice or if there were any prayer requests. Since there were no loose ends, the group closed in prayer just as it had begun. Although it may not seem as exciting as running timed quarters or starting petitions to free prisoners of conscience, Youth Alive is an experience worth trying. Everyone who participates does not share identical religious beliefs, but there is a fundamental acceptance of right and wrong, and a realization that everyone makes mistakes.

If you would like to find out more about this organization, go to a meeting on a Tuesday afternoon right after school in the SHS library. If you have any questions about Youth Alive, contact junior Kevin DeMello or sophomore Jen DeMello.

Happy Birthday  
Grandpa Fern!  
Love Sara, Katy, and  
Annie



Happy St. Patrick's Day,  
Aunt Rita!  
Love, Sara, Katy, and  
Annie

# School



## Bloody Monday

Jon Azevedo

The 1996 Somerset High School Red Cross Blood Drive will be held on Monday, April 1 in the gym. This event is run by the Somerset High School Peer Leaders in association with the Red Cross. The Red Cross tests all of the donated blood for irregularities such as anemia or blood borne viruses. The procedure is very simple and there is no risk of contracting anything from donating blood.

This year's chairs of the blood drive are Jonathan Azevedo, Joseph Donnelly, Meredith Jennings, and Sylvia Silva. There will be announcements for sign-ups in the future. There is both an age and weight requirement for donating blood. You can donate blood without a parental signature if you are 18 or older, but if you are 17, you need a parental signature.

The blood drive is also open to the public. Please donate blood; it may help save someone's life.

## Somerset Victorious in Debate

Brian Lewandowski

On Tuesday, February 6, the Somerset "C" varsity debate team, made up of Allyson Viera, Victoria Woodward, Elisabeth Bailey, and Katie Martelly came home from Norton High winners of the four person Eastern Massachusetts Debate Conference with a 12-4 win/loss record.

In addition, several two- (Turn to DEBATE, p. 10)

## Somerset Musicians Shine

Sylvia Silva

To be the best takes so much love for what you are doing, dedication to its cause, and desire to be the best. The results of hard work and dedication almost always outweigh those seemingly endless hours of practice and rehearsal, yet it is not very often we are able to truly shine. On February 11, two of Somerset's finest musicians were given the opportunity to shine, in the light of the Fall River Symphony Orchestra.

Every year the Fall River Symphony Orchestra sponsors a concert in which student musicians from the greater Fall River area are featured. While Somerset has had the honor of claiming one out of the three as its own for the past several years, this year two out of the three musicians who were se-

lected to perform are Somerset residents and are true testaments to Somerset, the "Musictown."

Senior Julie Averill and junior Megan Auclair were chosen from the many local students who auditioned to solo before the Fall River Symphony Orchestra. Julie, who plays the flute in Symphonic Band, Concert Band, Marching Band, Jazz Band, and the Orchestra, is also a member of the Marion Band, a group of professional musicians who have their home base in Marion, under the direction of Somerset's Toby Monte. Julie will be majoring in music at college next year, and wants to be remembered at Somerset High for her flute playing.

Megan, who plays the (Turn to MUSICIANS, p. 10)

Snoopy's doghouse under construction (photo by Paul Golaszewski)

## Snoopy: No Longer Just On Paper

Rebecca Sablo

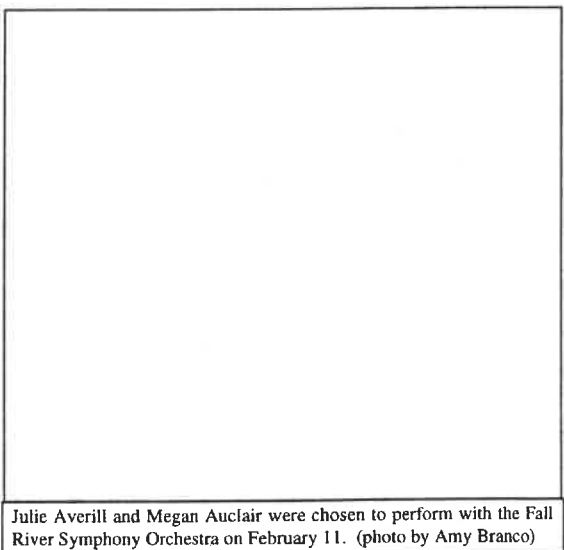
Charlie Brown and the gang appear in the newspaper every week. But on March 22 and 23 the Somerset High School Drama workshop will bring the Charlie Brown gang to life in the musical Snoopy.

Spend an enjoyable night being entertained by the Charlie Brown gang. Snoopy, played by Derek Ashton, will make you laugh with his crazy antics. Laurie Oliveira, cast as the know-it-all Lucy, will send you into a fit of laughter with her sarcastic remarks aimed at Charlie Brown, played by Jason Ferris. The sudden outbursts of naive Sally Brown, played by Julie Averill, will amuse you. Get ready to laugh at the comical situations love-struck Peppermint Patty, played by Pamela Tomawski, and shy, blanket-dependent Linus, played by Craig Aldrich,

find themselves in. If someone is unable to perform, the show will go on. Talented Karalyn Costa and Joseph Arruda have been practicing along with the cast just in case understudies are needed. The music and voices of the cast will amaze you, and the lyrics of the songs will delight you.

It takes more than actresses and actors to put on a musical. Many people are hard at work behind the curtain. The play is being directed by Ms. Hamlen of the English Department and Mr. Maggs of the Music Department. Technical director is Alison Maggs and stage director is Rebecca Sablo. The creation of Snoopy's dog house was the charge of set designer Matt Silva and the choreography was the work of Joanna

(Turn to SNOOPY, p. 11)



Julie Averill and Megan Auclair were chosen to perform with the Fall River Symphony Orchestra on February 11. (photo by Amy Branco)



## It Was One Hell of a Filling

Jonathan Azevedo

The current Durfee track coach once stated that he would rather have a root canal than lose to Somerset. In the fall, the boys' Cross Country team beat Durfee giving them one root canal, but on February 15 neither the boys nor the girls won against Durfee, although the scores were extremely close.

The one event that stood out during the meet was the shotput and "Mighty" Mary Kate Marchand who broke the EAC record on February 10 with a throw of 39 feet 3 inches, but threw 41 feet the next week beating the old school record by over two feet. However, this was not Mary's final accomplishment. In her next and final throw, she threw 42 feet 5 and 1/2 inches, yet again beating her own school record. She is now ranked number one not only in the EAC Conference,

but also in Division B and in all of the state of Massachusetts, and in all of New England. Surprisingly, despite all of this, to this date, (February 15, 1996) she has not been named a Herald News Athlete of the week or even an honorable mention!

Other people were overshadowed by Mary's awesome throw. For example, Scott Maggs improved his freshman high jump record a second time to 5' 6 1/2".

The final score was 40 to 46 in favor of Durfee for the girls and was decided by the relay. The relay was lost, but our top two runners were out. (Jodie Braz was having an asthma attack from giving it her all in the 1000). Everyone did well. Special recognition goes to Emily McNamara who was put in the quarter that night moments before she had to run,

(Turn to FILLING, p. 11)

Sean Kelley, who broke the Somerset High School high jump record, practices his technique. (photo by Paul Golaszewski)

## My View: Pride in Publishing?

Margaret Peachy

The Fall River Herald News raised a very important question in their February 14 issue. The question is not "Does anyone play for pride anymore?", but rather does anyone write or even publish with pride anymore? The first question was asked by Linn Graves in his article about the Somerset vs. Connolly boys' basketball game. Should this question be asked in a sports article? I was under the impression that a good sports article is an objective piece that should simply inform the reader about what occurred in the game. This article failed to do so.

In the first half of the game, Somerset's shots just were not falling. That should not lead to the conclusion that, "Passion or no passion, the Raiders didn't look like they could run a tortoise out of the gym." Such a derogatory statement has no place in a sports article. Yes, Somerset lost by a fairly large margin, but they neither "manhandled" nor "whitewashed." These comments were simply exaggerated editorializing - and insulting.

In talking to Coach Len Alves about the game and article in question, I quickly learned that the score did not reflect the level of play from his team. The Raiders played their hardest but they could not get the ball in the hoop the first half. In the second half they were only outscored by five points because Connolly hit their foul shots down the stretch. Coach Alves told me that the pregame intensity was very high. Perhaps if the reporter had taken the time to talk to Coach Alves (as he did to the Connolly coach), the article would have been more objective.

The Somerset High School boys' basketball team has had a rough season this year, but the team show plenty of pride playing hard every game despite the score. As Coach Alves said, "Everyone has a bad game", but is there any excuse for such a bad article?

Senior Diana Lopiano was recently named to the tournament all-star team at the Cranberry Classic in Wareham. When asked what she would do next, Diana said she would not be going to DisneyWorld, but would continue to practice for the post-season tournament. Chad Boisselle was named to the boys' all-star team.

(photo by Paul Golaszewski)

## Somerset Defeats Connolly, Clinches Tourney Berth

Laura Burke and Margaret Peachy

In recent action, the Somerset High School girls' basketball team defeated Bishop Connolly and by doing so qualified for the state tournament. Mande DaCosta led the team to victory scoring 20 points. DaCosta also dominated the boards with twelve rebounds. Shellie Silvia, Diana Lopiano, and Brooke Lafluer each added six points. The number seven proved to be lucky for Lopiano that night as she came away with seven rebounds, seven steals, and seven blocked shots. Beth Correia had three points and Jen Ozug, Lindsey Haddad, and Mel Medeiros each had two. Kelly Souza, in her varsity debut, had one point and four of the team's 40 rebounds.

The team also recently defeated Dartmouth High in a nail-biter. With this win, the team accomplished one of the goals they had set at the beginning of the season- to beat Dartmouth twice. This was a great win for the Blue Raiders who were without the skills of Ali Berube, Lori Vallet, and Lindsey Haddad.

The girls' basketball team finished the regular season at 12-8. Good luck to the team in their post-season play.



## Sarah Horvitz Skis On

Joseph Donnelly

Upright aerials? Acro-skiing? Moguls? These terms may be unfamiliar to you. They are quite familiar to Sarah Horvitz, though. The 1995-1996 winter season is here, and Sarah has been furthering her excellence in freestyle skiing.

Sarah, a member of the junior class at Somerset High School, is currently on the U.S. Freestyle Development Aerial Team. Besides the years of practice that Sarah has put into skiing, beginning at age nine on the Loon Mountain Freestyle Team, she also trained inverted aerials in Lake Placid, New York for five weeks this past summer. She also qualified her back layout for snow and began working on the back full and lay-tuck for this winter's ski season. At this time, Sarah plans to compete in inverts this winter for the first time.

Sarah's hard work this summer was rewarded by a first place finish at the Sunday River upright air opener. Also, Sarah improved her overall performance and ballet (now called

acro-skiing), and finished well at the Rosemary Bowl at Waterville Valley.

Sarah also did quite well last year at the U.S. National Freestyle Championships and the U.S. Junior Freestyle Championships. She placed fourth in aerials at the National competition despite receiving stitches the day before due to a crash.

This winter, Sarah hopes to compete inverted combined at the U.S. Junior and Senior National Championships. She also hopes to earn a spot on both the acro-skiing and aerial development teams for 1996-1997. Her chances of making the teams depend heavily on her performance at the Senior Nationals. She is hoping to compete and finish in the top three combined at the Junior and Senior National Championships.

In addition to this year's goals, Sarah would also like to improve her mogul skiing to a level where she can confidently ski all three of her events on the

(Turn to HORVITZ, p.11)

## Sectional Wrestling Tournament

James M. Cabral

On the February 9 and 10, the Somerset High School wrestling team went to Hingham for the 1996 Sectional Tournament.

Tommy Mello, in the 103 weight class, beat Derek Burr from North Attleboro to wrestle Jon Commander for 5th place. He lost against Commander but managed to get 6th place and a medal. He will go to the State Tournament as an alternate. Mark O'Brien, who was seeded 3rd, beat Steve Vining from Plymouth North 4-8. Rob Mayo pinned Jeremy Klein in 2:50 and teched John Datessio 11-1. He got 7th place in the tournament. Rob Chapman also got 7th place in the tournament in the 145 weight class. Adam Palmisciano in the 189 weight class pinned Jared Logan in 1:54. He got 5th place in the tournament.

Josh Plosker in the 215 weight class pinned Mike Nantel, and pinned Chris Arruda in 4:33. Josh took 3rd place in the tournament by pinning Mike Nantel. This earned Josh the right to compete in the state tournament the following week. At states, Josh wrestled strong and placed 6th.

Jeremy Shorrock pinned Ryan Lynn from Marshfield in the heavy weight class.

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Somerset wrestlers grapple their way to success.

(photo by Cate Marcille)

## Raiders Skate Their Way to State Tournament

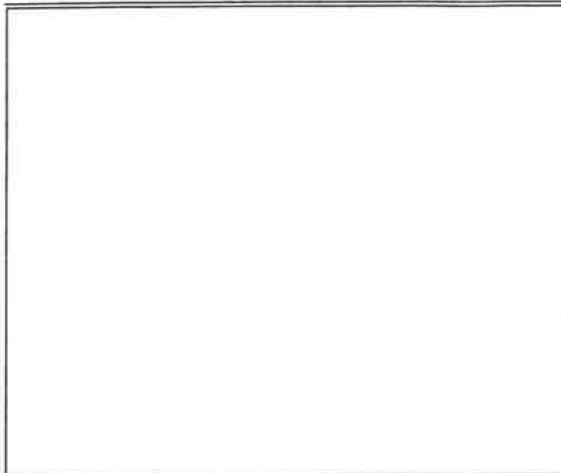
Justin Silvia

The Raider ice hockey team, who lost the Eastern Athletic League Championship to Coyle, almost had their first losing season in five years. After losing to Coyle and Connolly twice, their record was 6-7-1.

The team was in a state of panic going into their last six games. Their goal was to qualify for the State Tournament, and in order to do that they had to win four out of their last six games. After beating Dartmouth, Stang twice, and Feehan, they clinched second place in the league and qualified for the State Tournament. Their last two games were against Seekonk and East Boston. These two games became a preparation for the State Tournament. They beat Seekonk but lost to East Boston. They

finished 11-8-1 for the season.

The success of the season was hampered by two key injuries to the leading scorer Nathan Taylor and junior Nathan Belovitch. These injuries were difficult to overcome. People said the season was over, but the Raiders didn't believe it. The Raiders became closer and many players stepped up: Matt Dunn, Chris Muller, Justin Silvia, Tim St. Pierre, David Schaffer, Andy Machado, Kevin Lopes, Jared Miranda, and Ryan King. Another surprise was our freshman line (Shrimp Line) of Justin Medeiros, Scott Fortuna, and Jonathan Sullivan. Their goal was to make the State Tournament and the 1995-1996 Raiders hockey team accomplished this goal.



New carpeting was installed in the library over February vacation. (photo by Paul Golaszewski)

**Debate**

(continued from p. 7)

person teams ranked high. The affirmative "D" team, made up of Tina Kukielski and Jennifer Plunkett came in first place with a 7-1 record and in second place was the Somerset "C" team made up of Allyson Viera and Victoria Woodward with a 6-2 record. Somerset had three negative teams come in first, second, and fourth. The "A" team, made up of Andrew Horvitz and Elizabeth Summers, came in first with a 8-0 record; in second place was the "B" team, made up of Jessica Lagasse and Paul Golaszewski, with a 6-2 record; in fourth place was the "C" team, made up of Elisabeth Bailey and Katie Martelly, with a 6-2 record.

The varsity and novice teams will travel to Tabor Academy on Wednesday, March 6, to compete in the final rounds of this season's competition. We hope that Somerset's debate teams will continue to enjoy a dominant position in the league.

**Musicians**

(continued from p. 7)

French horn in Symphonic Band, Concert Band, and Orchestra, is also a member of the Marion Band, and of the Greater Boston Youth Symphony Orchestra. While Megan will not be majoring in music when she goes to college, she is sure that music will always be a part of her life. Both Julie and Megan have participated in many District and All-State Festivals and truly are two of Somerset's finest musicians.

**Legend**

(continued from p.5)

and creating strong bonds between Ireland and the rest of the Western Church.

By now you are probably wondering where the shamrock fits in. Well, legend has it that St. Patrick used the three clovered shamrock as a model of the Trinity in the Christian faith. Since that time the Irish, in addition to many other nationalities, have recognized the shamrock to be a source of good-luck. So if you forget your shamrock on March 17, watch out the leprechaun doesn't steal your pot of gold.

**Children**

(continued from p. 4)

with another teacher, would he daze back into dreamland?

No matter where her students proceed from Room 205, Zajac's pupils would never forget the lessons instilled in them by their "old-lady teacher" (she was only 34) who "didn't fall off the turnip cart yesterday." As Kidder declares, "Teachers usually have no way of knowing that they have made a difference in a child's life, even when they have made a dramatic one. But for children who are used to thinking of themselves as stupid or not worth talking to or deserving of rape and beatings, a good teacher can provide an astonishing revelation. A good teacher can give a child at least a chance to feel, 'She thinks I'm worth something. Maybe I am.'"

**Madness**

(continued from p.5)

Another portion of multi-cultural week will be devoted to addressing prejudices and stereotypes. This will be done through classroom discussions about ethnic, religious, and language diversity. Students will compare and contrast different ideas and opinions and then work to identify the common ground in all of them. Hopefully, this will allow them personally to reach the conclusion that no matter what race or religion, we are all essentially the same.

Aside from these discussions and projects, students will also be making posters that encourage commonality and equality. While the discussions are taking place and the posters are being made, Mrs. Wardwell and her Latin classes will be organizing and perform-

ing a Latin play. This production aims to teach its viewers about cultural life in Ancient Rome while providing a great deal of "classic" humor.

All of these organized activities, coupled with activities undertaken by other teachers and departments, serve to create a sturdy base for eliminating prejudice in our school and society. Multi-Cultural Week provides the students with an opportunity to find the same by examining the different. It is founded on the belief that if all goes well now, the future may not even require a designated week to promote acceptance. You all can help make that belief become a reality! So open your minds and remember: cultural diversity does not mean inequality or inferiority!



The Breeze: Monday, March 4, 1996

**Snoopy**

(continued from p. 7)

Taitz.

Performances will be held on Friday, March 22 and Saturday March 23, 1996. The show will begin at 7:30 pm on both nights. Tickets, which may be purchased in advance or at the door, are \$5.00 for adults and \$4.00 for students. If there are any questions concerning the musical Snoopy, contact Somerset High School at 508-324-3115. Do not miss the chance to see Charlie Brown and the gang perform live. No longer are they restricted to a comic strip.

**Filling**

(continued from p. 8)

and did an excellent job.

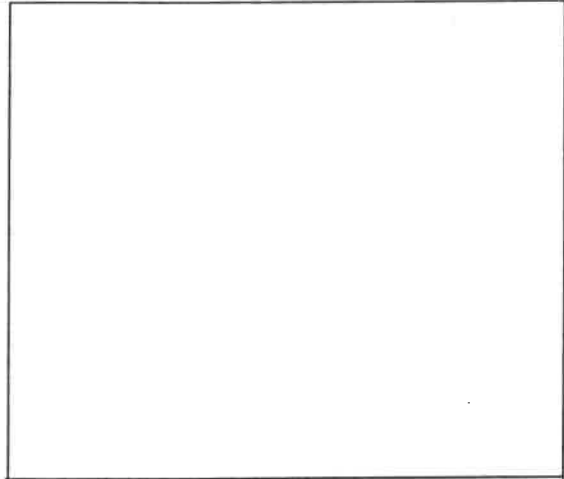
The boys' score was 39 to 47 in favor of Durfee. This should be considered a great accomplishment considering Durfee is three times the size of Somerset and a close game, match, or meet should be considered good in any sport. It wasn't a root canal, but Durfee, we hope you enjoyed your filling.

The Eastern Athletic Conference held its championship meet on Saturday, February 10 at the New Bedford Vocational High Schools field house. This year all teams did as expected: our girls placed second, and the boys finished fourth. Among the records broken was the shotput record for the EAC, previously held by Somerset's Nicole Castonguay; Mary Kate

Marchand broke the record with a throw of 39'3". The school record in the high jump, set in 1974, was broken by Sean Kelley with a jump of 6' 4" which also won the meet. Freshman Scott Maggs improved his record in high jump with a jump of 5'5". Other members of the track team also fared well at the meet. Leslie Crofton won the two mile in a time of 12:11, blowing away the competition.

On behalf of the entire winter track team, Thank you B, AZ, and yes, Mr. Walsh; we could never had done half as much as we have done without you.

If you did not join Spring track, reconsider. No one sits the bench, everyone reaches their goals, and it's ORANGE NINE!



Coach Alves gives his team a pep talk. (story, p. 8)

**Pink**

(continued from p. 3)

Many agree that the color reminds them of Pepto-Bismol. Guys especially hate it. Some think it's disgusting while there are others that really don't care. Most people agree that after a while it doesn't bother them anymore, but still can't understand why a color like that would be chosen. For the ones who still get sick every time they go up there, all they can do now is deal with it.

**Horvitz**

(continued from p. 9)

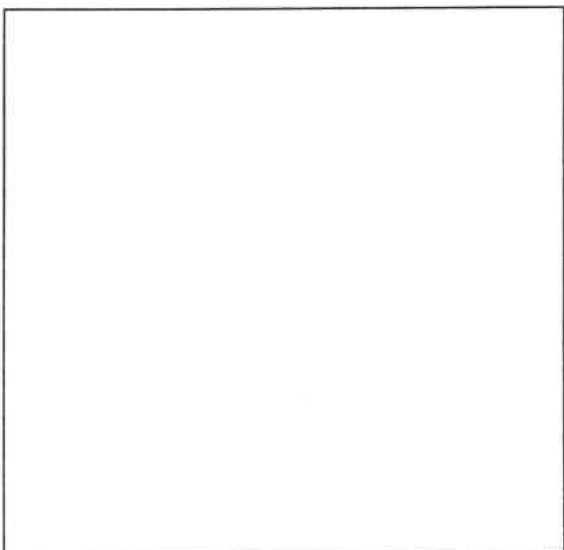
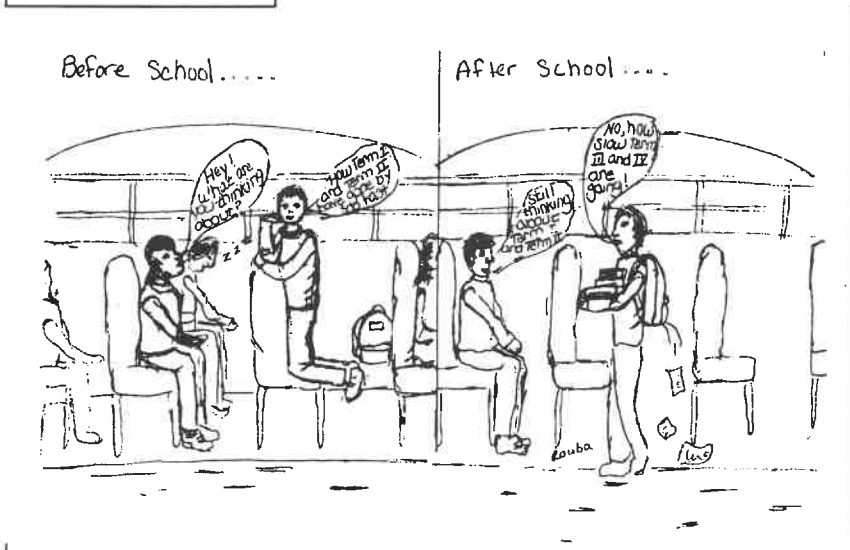
Nor-Am tour within the next few years. Two of Sarah's long term goals are to perform triples such as lay-tuck-tuck and lay-tuck-full on snow as well as to compete in the inverted aerials and/or acro-skiing at the 2002 Olympic Games.

Sarah is thankful to her sponsors such as Lange, Dynastar, Look, Kerma, Spyder, and Powerbar. She also appreciates the continued support provided by her parents, grandparents, and coaches.

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# Recent Scores

## Gymnastics

2/5 Somerset 114.9, Randolph 135.4  
2/13 Somerset 113.2, Holliston 122.0

## Varsity Ice Hockey

2/5 Somerset 19, Stang 0  
2/7 Somerset 15, Stang 2  
2/10 Somerset 5, Feehan 3  
2/12 Somerset 5, Seekonk 3  
2/19 Somerset 2, East Boston 10

## JV Ice Hockey

2/5 Somerset 4, ORR 0  
2/7 Somerset 3, Diman 2  
2/14 Somerset 6, Portsmouth 6

## Boys' Freshmen Basketball

2/6 Somerset 39, Durfee 67  
2/9 Somerset 55, Stang 58  
2/13 Somerset 57, Connolly 39

## Boys' JV Basketball

2/6 Somerset 55, Durfee 73  
2/9 Somerset 45, Stang 61  
2/13 Somerset 71, Connolly 60  
2/16 Somerset 52, Dartmouth 74

## Boys' Varsity Basketball

2/6 Somerset 39, Durfee 67  
2/9 Somerset 55, Stang 68  
2/13 Somerset 26, Connolly 50

## Girls' Freshmen Basketball

2/9 Somerset 39, Stang 22  
2/13 Somerset 43, Connolly 17

## Girls' JV Basketball

2/6 Somerset 25, Durfee 54  
2/9 Somerset 21, Stang 47  
2/13 Somerset 25, Connolly 16  
2/16 Somerset 35, Dartmouth 69

## Girls' Varsity Basketball

2/6 Somerset 52, Durfee 46  
2/9 Somerset 48, Stang 61  
2/13 Somerset 46, Connolly 27  
2/16 Somerset 48, Dartmouth 45

## Wrestling

2/7 Somerset 53, Plymouth N 25

## Winter Track

2/15 Somerset 39, Durfee 47 (B)  
2/15 Somerset 40, Durfee 46 (G)

