

The

Flushing High School's Independent Voice

SPARTAN

Blazer

Volume 49 Number 8

Playin' it cool



May

1997

Flushing, MI 48433

The Blazer

1997 Staff

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Letter from the Editor



PAMZERBINOS

Greetings, loyal readers. The '96-'97 school year is quickly drawing to a close, in celebration we bring you the May issue of everyone's

favorite newsmagazine. You may have noticed the nifty little "SPARTAN" thing on the cover. That's a special award we just won! And it means this here magazine is one of the best in the state (we like to pat ourselves on the back)

Another HUGE pat on the back goes out to the Boy's track team. They're having one heck of a season. They're undefeated so far, just stomped Kearsley for the 1st time in 25 years, and will probably win the Big Nine. Be sure to check out the sprint relays; they've got 4 guys that can run the 200 in under 24 seconds. Nice.

If you notice an upside-down ad, it's supposed to be that way. We don't want to hear about it.

This month's editorial is about Miss Moore, so I don't have too much to say. She was one heck of a teacher & her presence in the school will be sorely missed.

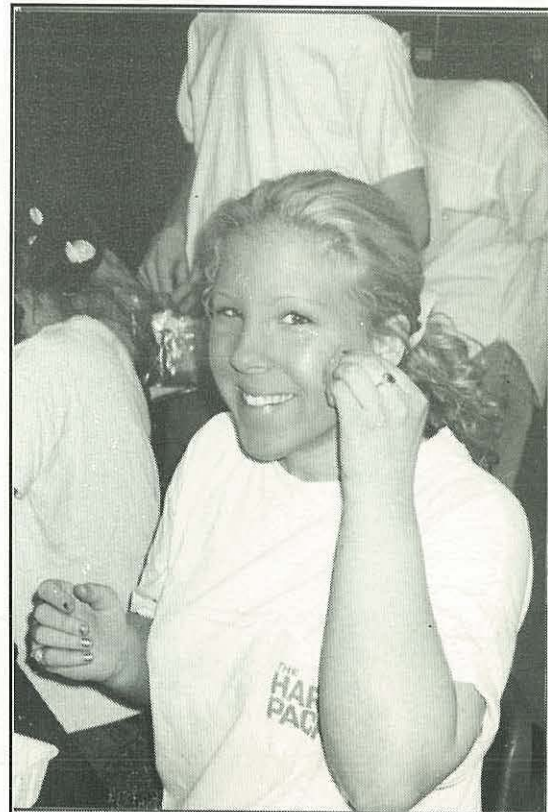
Keep the faith... *[Signature]*

It is the *Blazer's* responsibility to strive for the highest standards of accuracy, completeness, and careful research in its presentation of material. It is our goal to inform, persuade, and entertain our readers, and to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas. We will provide balanced and fair reporting of topics of interests to our readers. Libel, invasion of privacy, and disruption of the educational process will be avoided. It is our policy to address all persons or groups fairly.

The *Blazer* is a recipient of the 1995 and 1996 Michigan Interscholastic Press Association Spartan Awards. The *Blazer* has also been awarded the 1992, 1993, 1995, and 1996 Quill and Scroll International First Place. The *Blazer* is affiliated with MIPA and Quill and Scroll Society.

C o r r e c t i o n s

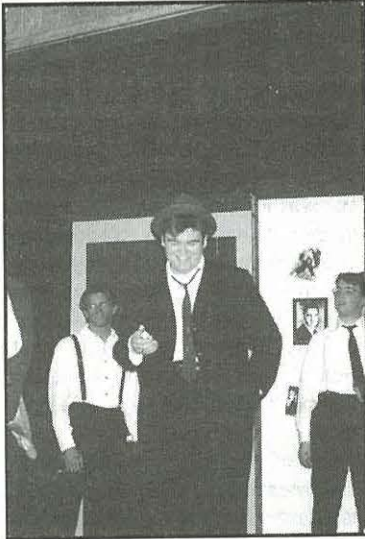
Trisha Brewington, Amy Hurrell and Mandy Staley are not part of the Varsity Softball team.



Senior Lucinda Olson tries to make herself Puerto Rican for the FHS production of West Side Story. Putting on her make-up took between two and three hours every night. Photo by Ali Buell.

In This Issue

On the Cover



Senior **John Popovits**, playing the part of Lieutenant **Shrank** in *West Side Story*, walks in on a war council, in which the two rival gangs are naming their weapons. Photo by Ali Buell.

Senior **Schaefer Arnould** watches teammate **Doug Hubbell**, junior, take off from the blocks during the meet against **Clio**. Hubbell is the team's number two hurdler; look for the guy's track team to bring home the **Big Nine** this year. So far, they are undefeated. Photo by April Jacques.



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Juniors **Matt Popovits** and **Hannah Bira** star in *West Side Story*. The musical is a modern-day *Romeo and Juliet* scenario, and had an extremely successful 4-day run here at FHS. Photo by Debbie King.

In appreciation of Miss Moore

“Caroline Moore never made a decision in her life that wasn’t for the benefit of her students.”

True.

“Every writing or English class I’ve taken since I graduated has been so easy compared to what Miss Moore pushed us to do.”

You see, Miss Caroline Moore had a mission. And that mission was to teach. Anything that prevented her from teaching - PA announcements, off-subject comments, anything - was likely to get an eraser thrown at it. There is not a single person in this school that wasn’t afraid to touch her door. This may have had something to do with the “don’t touch this door on threat of death” sign hanging in her window. And then again, maybe not.

For the 34 years that she taught English here at FHS, Miss Moore set the standard for just about everything. She achieved legendary status in a relatively short amount of time, spearheading the efforts for advanced classes and refusing to accept anything less than her students’ best. “An A paper for someone else would get you crucified in there,” remarks one student. “I think it was for the best though, because it really showed me how much I could do and how well I could do it.”

A lot of teachers mellow out over the years. They demand less from their students, lower their standards, or assign less work that they would then have to take home to grade. Miss Moore never did. She spent years pioneering special challenges for academically talented students. In the '70s, Brown Bag lunches brought in guest speakers to FHS and invited gifted students to the library during fourth hour to listen to them speak. Unfortunately, this program has been lost in recent years, but some of Miss Moore’s other endeavors remain. She co-founded the annual Stratford trip with Mrs. Rundell, organized the awarding of academic letters, set up the “fast track” English program that allows students to skip English 9 to take English 10, and campaigned heavily for the AP program that will be implemented next year.

Everyone who knew Miss Moore knew she liked two things-

academics and athletics. Early in her career, she served as not only an English teacher, but also as the cheerleading coach. She would make chocolate chip cookies for athletes who got a touchdown, scored a hat trick, or hit a home run. She guarded the reserved seats at football games, figuring she was going to be there anyway; she might as well do the seating.

Despite her determined dedication and high standards, Miss Moore was far from tyrannical. Students were often trying to play tricks on her. As Ms. Sharrow recalls, “she was very secretive about her birthday, because she was afraid that her students would try to play a trick on her. Well, one year when I was still down in room 500, the door opened in the middle of my sophomore English class and her entire class came trooping in wearing little paper hats and carrying a cake. They opened the trap door to the tunnel and disappeared one by one. Well, somehow Miss Moore found out about it and slid a filing cabinet on top of the entrance. The kids were locked down there for about 10 minutes and all through the building we could hear their little voices ‘let us out!’”

A graduate of the class of '91 recalls another prank they tried to play on her. Her list of 12 things that really ticked her off hung on the walls for years. The class managed to get her out of the room; by the time she came back, the class had replaced “The Rules” with rules of their own. The next day, she had taken them down and put the original Rules back up. She never said a word. The class was disappointed.

One of the things on the list was “failing to read directions before answering questions.” One form of “directions” that she was especially strict about was her calendar. Each marking period she printed up a calendar of what the class would be doing every day. Any question that could be referred to the calendar was completely ignored. Attempts to finagle a “free day” were useless; if it wasn’t on the calendar, it wasn’t going to happen.

“She was the best English teacher ever.”

Bakuri

BY ANDREW HELMS

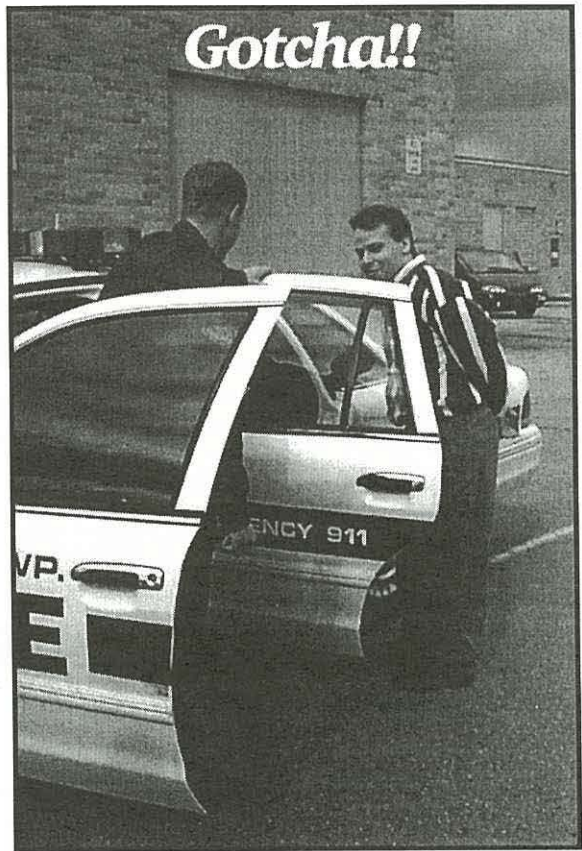




The morning after

Above: (L-R) Allen VanHouzen, Stephanie Wilson, Mike Gardner, Brian Goodwill, Laurie Stewart, Ron Bailey, Pam Zerbinos (in the cat ears) and Karen Weissert. They're at Denny's at roughly 6:30 in the morning after the musical cast party, and none of them went to bed that night. They're very tired. Photo by Ali Buell.

Right: Choir teacher Nathan Degner smirks after talking the police officer into handcuffing him. Degner's car was hit in the parking lot and the police were called. The officer was probably joking when he asked, "does anyone have a camera? I could put the cuffs on him," but we took him up on the offer anyway. Photo by Pam Zerbinos.



Have any pics for the Bulletin Board? Send 'em on in. Drop them off in the Blazer room (room 121).

Baileyisms



I wasn't in a very funny mood when I had to draw my cartoon so I decided to alert you about an alarming fact. According to a recent report issued by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Michigan ranks #3 in the nation in terms of obesity, with over 31% of the population being overweight. Do with this information what you will.

Performers bring people together

In last month's article "Performers' deaths stir obsessions," some very silly things are said.

1) After mentioning how fans remembered the deaths of musicians, the question is posed "what is the point? It's someone you never met."

True. I've never met Winston Churchill or Marie Curie. I've never met Albert Einstein. We acknowledge those who influence the way we see and live life, including musicians. Richie Valens not only wrote "La Bamba," but he struggled out of poverty. Elvis Presley strove not only to develop a new form of music, but to act also. Kurt Cobain also took rock music to a level it had never seen before.

2) It is said "with the rap artists especially, I don't see why people were so upset when they died."

What about the rap that argues against violence? There is actually a lot of it out there, ranging from well-known artists such as Coolio to much more obscure Detroit and Flint groups (try Tydie and Woody).

3) "In the fan's little fantasies they were best friends."

The reason music hits us with the force that it does is because we relate to it personally. Musicians who will never meet us can still tap into our desires, needs, and weaknesses. Sometimes music is our only friend. Other times it brings us together with people very different from ourselves.

4) "The thing that puzzles me is how kids get depressed... at the death of an entertainer."

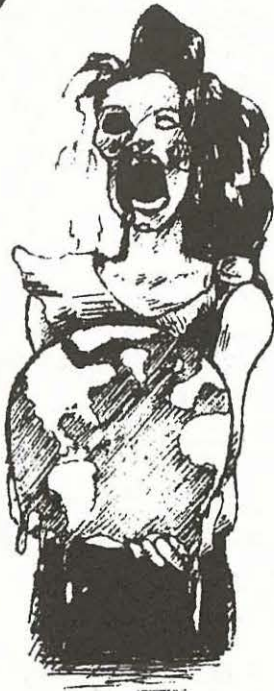
Maybe you should listen to some music.

-CONNOR COYNE
senior

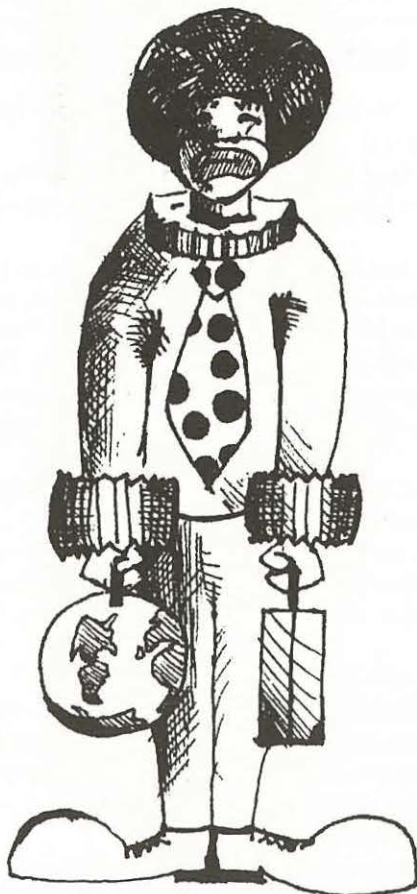
Opinions Policy

Our Humble Opinion reflects the view of the Blazer staff. The Editorial Board chooses and discusses the topic to be covered in the staff editorial. Standing columns are the opinions of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Editorial Board or the faculty and administration of Flushing High School. Editorial cartoons are the opinions of the cartoonist.

The Blazer is an open forum and encourages suggestions, comments and letters. If you have something reasonably constructive to say, write it down and drop it off in room 121; there is a significant chance that it will be published in the Bulletin Board. Unsigned letters will not be printed, although names may be withheld with reason. The Editorial Board reserves the right to change letters for grammatical and spelling errors and for length. No personal attacks or insults will be printed.



BY MIKE ROBSON



BY CAMERON SMITH

World government cheat sheet

So what if it's about cows? It's funny. 'World Ideologies as Related to Cows' forwarded by Nick Sula from somewhere off the Internet.



Feudalism

You have two cows. Your lord takes some of the milk.

Pure Socialism

You have two cows. The government takes them and puts them in a barn with everyone else's cows. You have to take care of all the cows. The government gives you a glass of milk.

Bureaucratic Socialism

Your cows are cared for by ex-chicken farmers. You have to take care of the cows the government took from the chicken farmers. The government gives you as much milk and eggs as the regulations say you should need.

Fascism

You have two cows. The government takes both, hires you to take care of them, and sells you the milk.

Pure Communism

You share two cows with your neighbors. You and your neighbors bicker about who has the most "ability" and who has the most "need." Meanwhile, no one works, no one gets any milk, and the cows drop dead of starvation.

Russian Communism

You have two cows. You have to take care of them, but the government takes all the milk. You steal back as much milk as you can and sell it on the black market.

Perestroika

You have two cows. You have to take care of them, but the Mafia takes all the milk. You steal back as much milk as you can and sell it on the "free" market.

Cambodian Communism

You have two cows. The government takes both and shoots you.

Dictatorship

You have two cows. The government takes both and drafts you.

Pure Democracy

You have two cows. Your neighbors decide who gets the milk.

Representative Democracy

You have two cows. Your neighbors pick someone to tell you who gets the milk.

Bureaucracy

You have two cows. At first the government regulates what you can feed them and when you can milk them. Then it pays you not to milk them. Then it takes both, shoots one, milks the other and pours the milk down the drain. Then it requires you to fill out forms accounting for the missing cows.

Capitalism

You don't have any cows. The bank will not lend you money to buy cows, because you don't have any cows to put up as collateral.

Pure Anarchy

You have two cows. Either you sell the milk at a fair price or your neighbors try to take the milk and kill you.

Surrealism

You have two giraffes. The government requires you to take harmonica lessons.

Olympics-ism

You have two cows, one American, one Chinese. With the help of trilling violins and state-of-the-art montage photography, John Tesh narrates the moving take of how the American cow overcame the agony of growing up in a suburb with (gasp) divorced parents, then mentions in passing that the Chinese cow was beaten every day by a tyrannical farmer and watched its parents butchered before its eyes. The American cow wins the competition, severely spraining an udder in a gritty performance, and gets a multimillion dollar contract to endorse Wheaties. The Chinese cow is led out of the arena and shot by Chinese government officials, though no one ever hears about it. McDonald's buys the meat and serves it hot and fast at its Beijing restaurant.

Fatalism

You have two cows and you're lactose intolerant. You drink the milk anyway.

If you could create your own

THEME RESTAURANT,

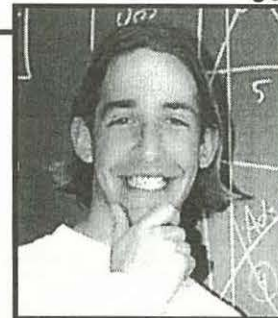
what would it be?



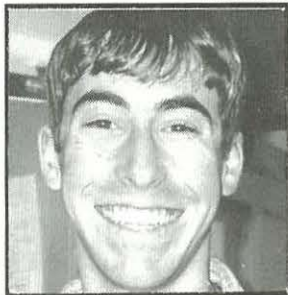
66 Sesame Street on Ice 99
-KAREN WEISSERT
senior



66 Elvis 99
-MARIE REYNOLDS
freshman



66 A Seinfeld restaurant 99
-MITCH WEND
senior



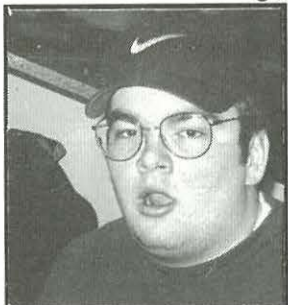
66 Red Necks 99
-ROB HARRIS
senior



66 Civil War Monkey House. All the waiters are real monkeys wearing Civil War garb and there is a floor show reenacting famous battles with real monkeys. 99
-RON BAILEY
senior



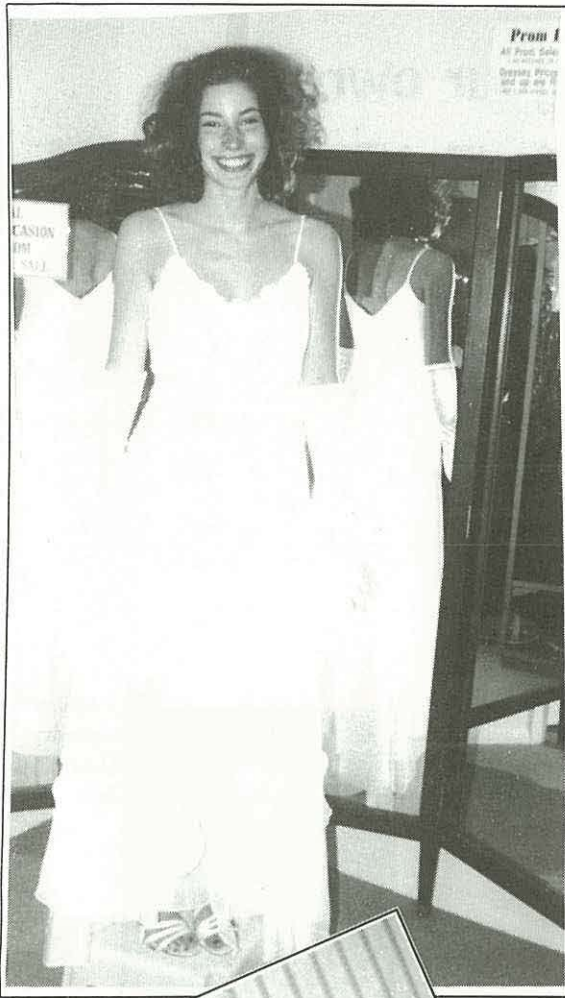
66 Sports fast food- i.e. McDonald's with TVs showing sports games. 99
-MR. WHITMIRE



66 Serial killers 99
-JOHN POPOVITS
senior



66 Hippie's House 99
-RUSTY WEBER
freshman



The countdown begins

“A Night in the Tropics”

By **KERRI BENSON & LINDSYE CAWTHRAY**

Prom is one of the biggest nights of your life. Of course you want to look your best, so here is some important information for all those going to prom.

For most of the girls, prom dress shopping is usually very tiring, but also fun. Some of the stores available for prom dresses are Hudson's, Gantos in Genesee Valley Mall, Linda's Bridal Emporium in Grand Blanc, Stonehouse Bridal Boutique in Davison, Lucille Allen in Mt. Morris, Bride's World and ParaMont Bridal in Flushing. Now comes the hard part; trying on all of those dresses and finding the perfect one for you. Also make sure to get your dress in time for alterations, if necessary. The most popular colors of this year's prom are silver and all pastel colors, says Mary King of Bride's World. The most popular dresses are long and have either some kind of beading or are satin. The flowing chiffon styles are also a big hit this year, says Gordon Schultz of Lucille Allen. Prom dresses start at around \$150. Rhinestones are the biggest accessories this year, with prices ranging from \$15-\$100 for earrings, bracelets or necklaces.

Getting your hair, nails and makeup done is also an important decision. The most popular hair style is the french twist with spiral curls, says Christina Schmoak of Sergio's in Flushing. It takes about 45-60 minutes to do your hair, depending on your style and length. Christina likes to add gold or silver glitter to add that sparkling look. The cost ranges from \$15-\$20. Depending on where you go, getting your nails done usually costs around \$25. Makeup from Merle Norman in Flushing costs around \$15.

Tuxedos are another part of prom. The traditional black is what most of the guys will be wearing. Double breasted vests, instead of cumberbunds, is a big thing this year. The average price range for a tux is \$80-\$100, says Elliot Basner of Sempliners Tuxedo World. It is a good idea to rent your tux at least three weeks in advance.

Another decision to make is wear to go for dinner. Several people have recommended Kyoto's, a Japanese Steak House in Farmington Hills. This restaurant is unique because they cook in front of you and have a great deal of entertainment, not to mention the food is excellent. The average price range is from \$16-\$22 per person. If you like seafood another place to try is Charley's Crab in Oakland County. Their prices are comparable to Kyoto's.

A corsage or boutonniere costs around \$15. Most girls prefer a corsage that slips on the wrist. The rose seems to be the most popular flower for both guys and girls. Order flowers at least one week in advance to be sure you get the correct color and style you want.

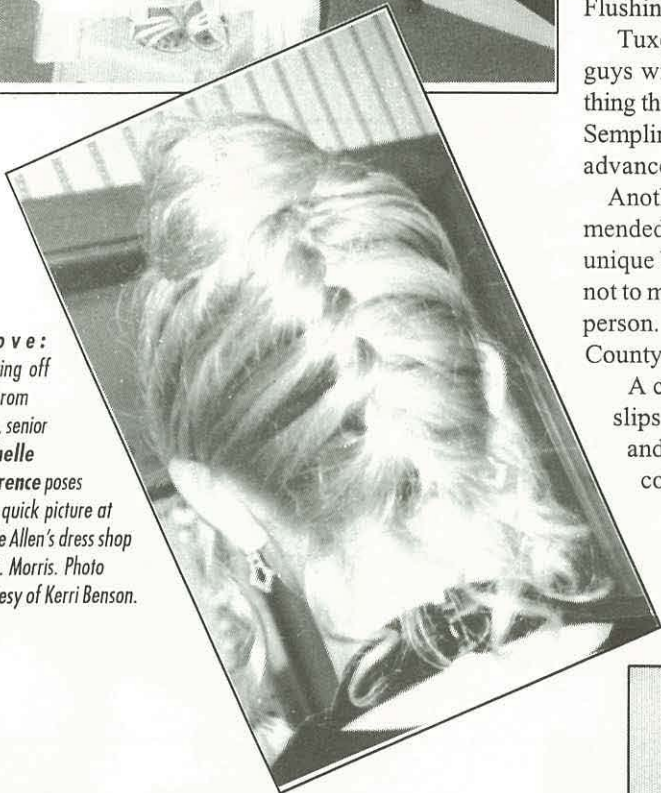
Now that you have some idea of where you're going and what you're going to look like, have fun and take lots of pictures.

What to buy and when to buy it

Prom tickets went on sale April 28 during lunch. Tickets are \$45 per couple, and \$25 for a single ticket. A prom video will also be available for \$10. Prom will be held May 17 from 8-12 p.m. in the high school gym.

A post-prom Cedar Point trip will occur on Sunday, May 18. A charter bus will be departing at 7:00 a.m. and will return at 12:30 a.m., Monday, May 19. The cost for the trip is \$42 and includes admission to the park. Tickets are on sale until May 2.

Above: Showing off her prom dress, senior **Michelle Lawrence** poses for a quick picture at Lucille Allen's dress shop in Mt. Morris. Photo courtesy of Kerri Benson.



Above: "The most popular prom hairstyle is a reversed braid," said Christina Schmoak of Sergio's Hair Design, shown on senior **Lindsye Cawthray**. Photo courtesy of Lindsye Cawthray.

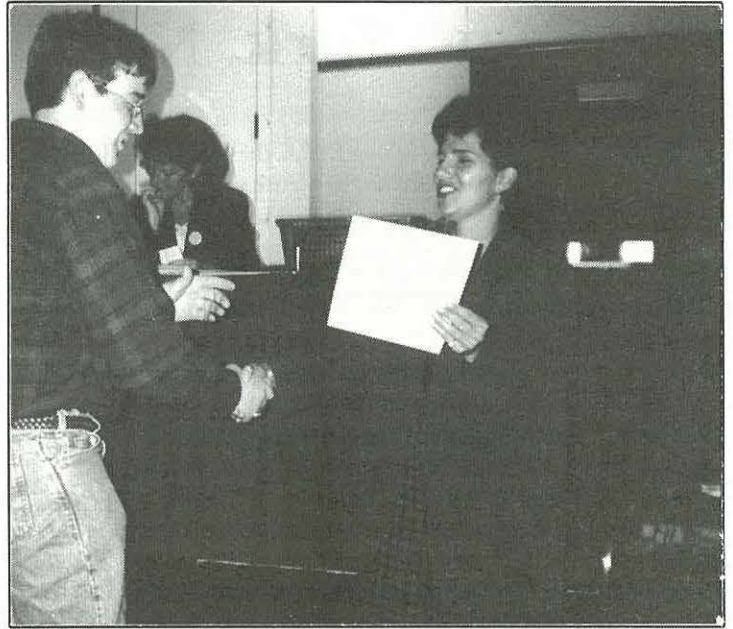
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Computer illustration by Pam Zerbinos.



Above: Senior Brad Chandonnet accepts his first place award for ad layout at the MIPA Spring Conference. Photo by Lisa Fotenakes.

Blazer brings home awards from MIPA

By LISA FOTENAKES

Thirteen proved to be a lucky number on April 18.

The Blazer staff took home thirteen awards including the highly regarded Spartan Award from the Michigan Interscholastic Press Association (MIPA) spring conference held at the Civic Center in Lansing.

"MIPA fosters school journalism by providing educational experiences for students and journalism teachers," said teacher Ellie Sharrow.

MIPA hands out awards for individual entries as well as a special award

to the newspapers called a Spartan, the highest award a high school newspaper can get in Michigan. The presentation of the award is based on evaluation by a judge in a journalism profession outside of Michigan. The Spartan judge said the *Blazer* writers are "exceptionally talented" and cited the Girl and Boy Next Door feature as interesting and well done. The newspaper is also judged on things like business practices, coverage, writing and editing, and design, based on the submission of three consecutive issues.

In individual competition, first-place awards were given to Andy Helms for his illustrations on the Election 1996 and driver's education spreads in the December issue. Pam Zerbinos received first place for an info-graph on the Election 1996 spread in the December issue, April Jacques won first place for the portrait of Gene O'Kelly in the January issue and Brad Chandonnet won first place for ad layout. *The Blazer* and *Pegasus '96* won Spartan awards as well.

Election information

By LISA FOTENAKES

Class officer elections will be held Fri., May, 15 at lunch. Nomination petitions are available in the main office. Fifty signatures must be collected in order to be considered a nominee. The petitions are due May 9, by 3 p.m. on the main office counter. Campaigning may start on May 12, when a list of nominees will be posted. Election results will be announced by the end of 6th hour on May 16.

Students discuss racial issues at youth forum

By LISA FOTENAKES

The Rotary Club of Flint hosted the New Generations Conference at the Prah Center at Mott Community College on April 15. Five FHS students attended the conference. They discussed, along with other Genesee County schools, ways to relieve racial tension in their communities. Flint Mayor Woodrow Stanley spoke on the topic, as well as Melvyn Brannon of the Urban League of Flint. Students took part in group discussions and thought of ways to improve racial situations like affirmative action. The goal of each group was to come up with ideas to solve problems that affect people racially.

"I thought the conference was a good idea. We came up with good ideas to stop racial tension. I am not sure if it will improve anything, but we tried," said senior Brian Goodwill.

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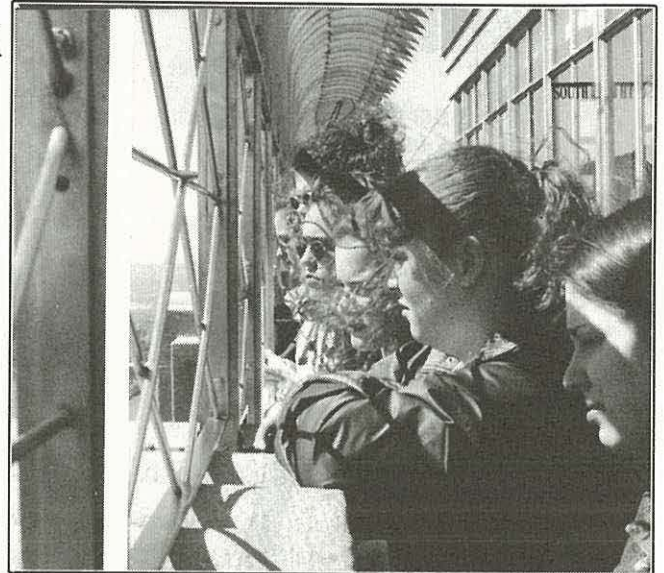
New York, New York

By DAVE CAMPBELL

During Spring Break, the Drama Club took 30 members on a five-day trip to New York. While there, the group saw two Broadway musicals, "Jekel and Hyde" and "Victor, Victoria." The group also attended a comedy workshop with Mike Rock, a comedian from Comedy Sports.

Along with plays and workshops, they also saw such sights as the Statue of Liberty, and the Empire State Building. The group also saw Times Square, popular stores and restaurants like the Hard Rock Cafe, FAO Schwarz, Virgin Records and the Ed Sullivan Theater.

Right: Katie Strimple, Michelle Hynes, Heather McWilliams, Hillary Byrd, and Melissa Schack look out over New York City from the top of the Empire State Building. Photo by Dave Campbell.



Music students to travel to Europe

By KARIN PIERSON

Three students from Flushing are taking the trip of a lifetime this summer. From June 29 - July 20, John Faulconbridge, Sarah Nerreter and Caitlin Coyne will travel to Europe with the Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp International Programs. They will travel to seven different countries in Europe, and stay with host families. As well as four weekend rehearsals at the Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp facilities, the musicians have a full week of rehearsal before their departure.

John, a sophomore in the choir, says

that the choir music is being done by memory. For his audition, he had to sing scales, demonstrate his range, and sing "My Country 'Tis of Thee."

"I'm looking forward to eating all the cool food," he said.

Caitlin Coyne, a freshman, and Sarah Nerreter, a junior, are in the orchestra. Both have been playing their instruments since the fourth grade. The 1997 orchestra has approximately 97 students in it. They are playing 12 songs, including "Romeo and Juliet," "Pines of Rome,"

and "Porgy and Bess."

In the orchestra auditions, students had to play scales as well as a prepared piece. Caitlin auditioned in the summer at the Blue Lakes Fine Arts Camp, and Sarah's audition was over the phone.

As well as a choir and an orchestra, there is a symphonic band and a jazz band on the tour. All four groups will travel to Europe together, but will travel to different places. The groups will do a mini-tour around Michigan in August.

Flushing, Swartz Creek form swim team

By JIM COMER

Flushing and Swartz Creek will combine to field a swim team this coming fall.

The latest update on the number of members on the swim team is that 27 students from Flushing have expressed interest in competing against other area schools in a fun yet difficult sport.

Swimming is a new sport for FHS students to consider. Everything but the uniform and technique are being provided by a combination of Swartz Creek and Flushing athletic programs. After school, the swim team will hop on a bus and be taken to and from Swartz Creek. There will be one swim coach and one diving coach. Coaches have not been named yet.

The combined team will use the name "The Swartz Creek Dragons." Some students don't like the idea of Flushing's name not being included, but most are open-minded about it.

"As long as we don't lose our identity as Flushing students, it won't matter what the name is," says junior Kim Vaughn.

The girls team will compete in the fall, and the boys will compete in the spring.

Senior dates to know

By LISA FOTENAKES

May 27 Caps and gowns will be distributed at the high school from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

May 28 Seniors' last day of school. A pizza and pop party will be held from 6-7 p.m. in the cafeteria, and an honors program will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the gym.

May 30 The Senior Breakfast will be held at Walli's Supper Club at 10:00 a.m. There will be a breakfast buffet at a cost of \$9. Commencement rehearsal will be held at 1:00 p.m. at Whiting Auditorium.

June 1 Commencement will be held at 2:00 p.m. at Whiting Auditorium. The Senior Celebration/Safe Graduation will be held at Saginaw Valley State University from 10:00 p.m. to 5 a.m.

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Car of the
Month



Ready to cruise

This 1970 Chevelle Malibu is a real beauty. Wes Sutkowi picked up this gem down in North Carolina. After a year of work and a lot of money, it is now in great condition. Under the hood resides a small block 350 with chrome valve covers and air cleaner. Bolted to the 350 is a auto hydromatic transmission. It is Chevy Red with a black vinyl top and black racing stripes. It also has New BF Goodrich 10" tires with original rally rims.

His stereo system is no slouch either. He has a Rockford Fosgate CD player with Alpine 6x9's in the back and Infinity 4's in the front. Wes has big future plans for this car. First he wants to replace the 350 with a new 502, plus dual AFB's. Give it a 4:10 posi-traction rear end and a new four on the floor transmission.

By MARK MILLER

Studio 117

Hair & Nails

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117 S. Cherry St. - Downtown

TEENS 15-18 LEARN TO DRIVE

CLASSES MEET IN
FLINT
FENTON
DAVISON

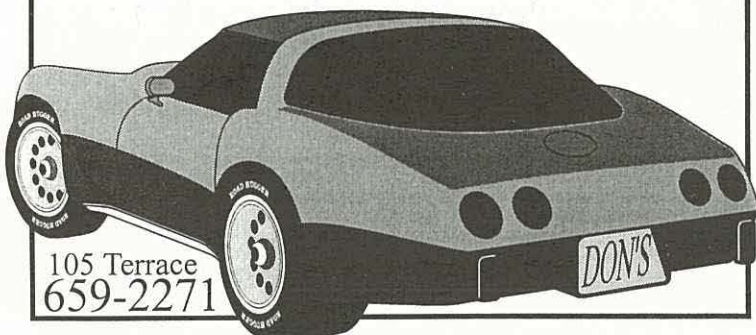


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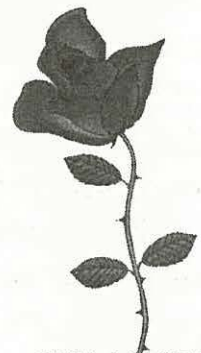


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Jeni is a work of art

BY ANDREW HELMS

"There's not too much interesting about me," Jeni admits. Jeni Wozniak is a victim of misplaced modesty, as all decent people are.

Jeni is a senior at Flushing High School. She has lived in Flushing since she was two years old.

"I like [Flushing]. Everything is in walking distance," she says.

She thinks that the atmosphere and proximity of a relatively small town is something that appeals to her. She particularly enjoys returning from a large city, such as Chicago, to the quiet of little Flushing, Michigan.

Jeni is quite active in Flushing High's music department. She plays the flute in Wind Ensemble, Orchestra, and was in the pit orchestra for the Drama department's musical production of *West Side Story*.

"They said I could play [the flute] really well, so I said 'okay,'" she explains.

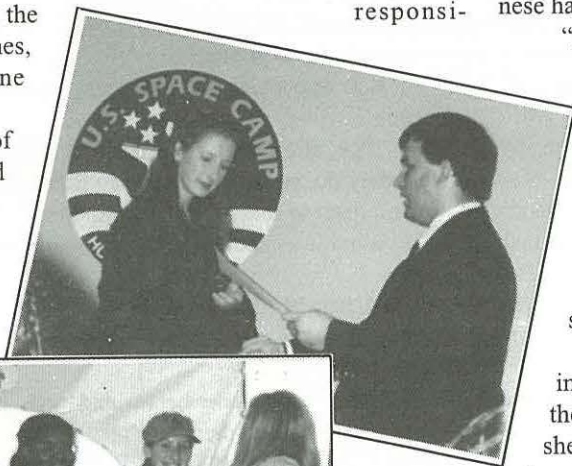
In the State Solo and Ensemble competition, which is a very competitive competition involving sight-reading in front of a judge, she participated as a soloist in the third level (the hardest) and received a first place rating. Jeni said her interest in music "just sorta started, and grew into a serious thing." Serious in the context of working hard, of course, but she also adds that she is just as "serious about going there to have fun."

Jeni is also active in Flushing High's Marching Band. She is a leader in this organization and was put in charge of eight freshmen as section leader of the flutes last season. She found the ability trying at times, but enjoyed it none the less.

"It was a lot of doing it over and over; repetitiveness," she recalls, but she added that she liked "being



Above: Jeni graduates from Space Camp. She received a college credit for her work. **Left:** Jeni is messing with genes at camp. Photos courtesy of Jeni Wozniak.



Freshman Missy Bastuk presents Jeni her senior gift at band banquet '96. Photo courtesy of Jeni Wozniak.

with friends, and competitions. Competitions are fun."

Jeni's interest in all things musical goes beyond the notes produced by her own instrument. She has a passion and appreciation for all of the diverse fields and styles of music, be it classical, jazz, Metallica, or even Marilyn Manson. Though she doesn't resemble the stereotypical Manson devotee, she states quite truthfully, "I like everything."

Jeni finds that she likes things that are different. She has found an interest in the field of Japanese animation, also called Japanimation, anime, and "those cartoons with the chicks with the big eyes." Jeni agrees with the idea that animation is just another media of expression, and the Japanese have found different ways to utilize it.

"It's unique. It's different. That's why I like it," she says.

Jeni has found her own ways to express herself. She has music, but she also has her art. She is a member of Flushing's chapter of National Art Honor Society, and though she will never admit it, Jeni is an artist with exceptional technical skill who could scoff at those who are simply proficient. Her art also carries messages within the finely crafted exterior.

She says, "If there are any messages, they're messages about me. Most of my stuff is about me."

Besides her other skills, Jeni plans to have a career in the future involving the sciences. As to which area in the plethora of scientific fields she would like to pursue, she she says that she would prefer genetics, or biochemistry.

She jokingly adds, "I like to mess with people's genes." Humor is something that is important to Jeni.

"If you don't laugh, I think you'll go insane," she states.

Her family and friends are also important to her. She has a twelve year old brother, Michael, with whom she has a typical sibling relationship. She says that sometimes they are at each others' throats, but actually they are quite close. She especially enjoys hanging out with her friends.

"I think that I'm shy until I get to know someone," Jeni comments on herself, "then I talk their ear off."

Unfortunate are those who simply see Jeni as shy or quiet. They are missing a wonderful way to have an ear removed.

"If you don't laugh, I think you'll go insane."

-JENIWOZNIAK

They're with you through it all; more than **JUST** friends

By REBECCA WILLIAMS

"Friendship is unnecessary, like philosophy, like art... it has no survival value; rather it is one of those things that give value to survival," -C.S. Lewis. Few people would dispute the value of friendship.

"A friend is most valuable when you make him valuable. When you are going through a crisis, it is nice to know who your friends are and who you can count on," says senior Nelson Sosa.

Most of us can be considered experts on friendship since human beings desire companionship. Some randomly chosen resident experts explored friendship from several angles. For instance, how do we become friends in the first place?

"People click. Once you meet somebody you know whether you will be friends," says sophomore Bryan Sawatzki.

"Sometimes it just takes a (soccer) goal!" Nelson says, grinning.

"Either they're total opposites and they balance each other out or they're alike and they need someone to understand who they are," explains senior Lisa Fotenakes. She and senior Trisha Eavy have been best friends since third grade. When they met, Lisa says, "we were a lot alike... we've grown to be opposites, but we're still friends."

On the amount of time that is ideally spent with friends, most of the participants agree with sophomore B.J. Strimple, who says,

"As much as humanly possible! More time with friends is the best unless it's staying with them for weeks in a row."

Hannah Bira, junior, says, "While being alone and with your family is important, time spent with friends is more rewarding."

The nature of friendship encompasses everything from acquaintances to those we call our "best" friends. The one-minute survey results reflect that the majority of those polled believe that it's possible to have more than one best friend. Junior Laurie Stewart thinks it is not only possible, but necessary.

"If you have only one friend, you get tired of them," she explains.

Andrea Rishmawi, freshman, says, "I can't tell just one



Left: Another version of Pam Zerbinos and Jeff Buis, celebrating Civil War Day at Crossroads Village in June 1996. About both the picture and their friendship, Pam says, "it was all my idea, but he doesn't complain. He's really cool about everything." Photo courtesy of Pam Zerbinos.

person everything."

B.J. appreciates the variety of having multiple best friends.

"I get along with my friends in different ways. Some for what they do, some for what they like, and some for how they act and react to things," he comments.

What is expected of our closest friends is often unspoken.

Malene Mortensen, senior, says, "I don't want her to leave me or follow me all the time. I just want her to be there and be equal to me."

Trisha expects her best friend "to talk; it hurts when your friend is hurting and they won't let you know what's going on."

One reason Trisha and Lisa's friendship has survived for so long is because they communicate well.

"If she's doing something I don't agree with or vice versa, we tell each other. I don't keep anything in; even if I try to I can't," Lisa admits. "We're not the typical best friend mold- we don't share clothes and talk about boys- we're deeper than that."

Communication between males and females is publicized as difficult and sometimes impossible. In the movie *When Harry Met Sally*, the plot spins on the possibility of members of the opposite sex being best friends. If it's so difficult, as the movie suggests, why do several FHS students disagree?

Nelson thinks that friendships with girls are "more open; more trustful. You can talk about deeper things. They can give you a better response than someone of the same sex."



Lisa Fotenakes and Trisha Eavy after a mudboggling trip through the woods on Trisha's four-wheeler in March of 1994. "It took me one week to get all the mud off," Lisa remembers. Photo courtesy of Lisa Fotenakes.

Dave Campbell, freshman, agrees, "It's usually easier to talk to a girl when you have a problem."

Bryan also thinks that girls are "more compassionate."

"I think males and females have better relationships because

there is less competition between sexes," Laurie states.

"I enjoy hanging out with guys, sometimes even more than girls. Sometimes I regret having so many guy friends because then I get to know how they are and what they think like, and I think, 'why would I want to date him?'" says junior Kendra King.

To senior Katy Pope, guys "are just as much fun to have around as my other friends. I just don't invite them for sleepover parties."

Malene doesn't see a difference between same-sex and opposite-sex friendships.

"I don't think it's a better friendship and I don't think it's worse," she says.

The trouble with opposite-sex friendships, according to B.J., is that "usually you end up liking this particular person, which isn't always a good thing."

Difficulties are accepted as part of friendship. When is it most difficult to be a friend to another person?

Rachel Osborn, senior, thinks it is "when you don't know what they're like, when you first meet them, and have heard things about them that you don't know whether are true."

"It is difficult when you don't have enough trust," Nelson says.

Lisa is frustrated by caring about people who "don't care back." In addition, sometimes concern for a friend can be troubling because of what can't be voiced.

"It is difficult when they are trying to succeed at something and you know that they are really bad at it. It's hard to sit back when you know they are going to fail," explains senior

Jeff Buis.

Malene has found it is hard "when you are thousands of miles away and you can't help them out; you have to do a lot to keep up the friendship at home."

Malene and Nelson know about maintaining extremely long distance friendships- as exchange students, they have spent this year writing to their friends from Denmark and El Salvador.

"It takes a lot of remembering about them... it takes a lot of thinking, trying to make them be with you whenever you want to," says Nelson. "I think I've become a lot closer to people at home through letters. In a way, friendship becomes better. When I go back I think I'll be a lot more open."

"It is easier to communicate through letters because you can think about what you are saying. You can say more things that you wouldn't normally say," Laurie agrees.

Jeff finds it difficult to keep in touch. "I think distance hurts a friendship," he explains. "Once you see them again, you don't feel as comfortable as you once did."

Although Lisa and Trisha are going to separate colleges next year, they don't seem apprehensive.

"Even when we leave for college it won't matter. If the friendship is strong it won't matter," Lisa says.

Since friendship is something intangible, there are no rules or formulas to explain it. Every member of the group has been somehow surprised by friendship.

Surprise for Malene has arrived in the mail, as she explains, "Some people I never expected writing to me did; people I just said hi to."

"I was surprised when I became friends with someone I didn't expect to like," remembers Laurie.

Nelson finds it amazing "that friendship is so unstable; you're just having the best friendship you could have and you lose it because of something or a situation."

"A lot of my friends have friends their own age," says Dave, whose friends are members of several generations. "I'm surprised that friendship doesn't have any age boundaries."

How many people do you consider "best" friends?

6% have no best friends



55% have 3 best friends



17% have one or two



22% are best friends with 4 or more people



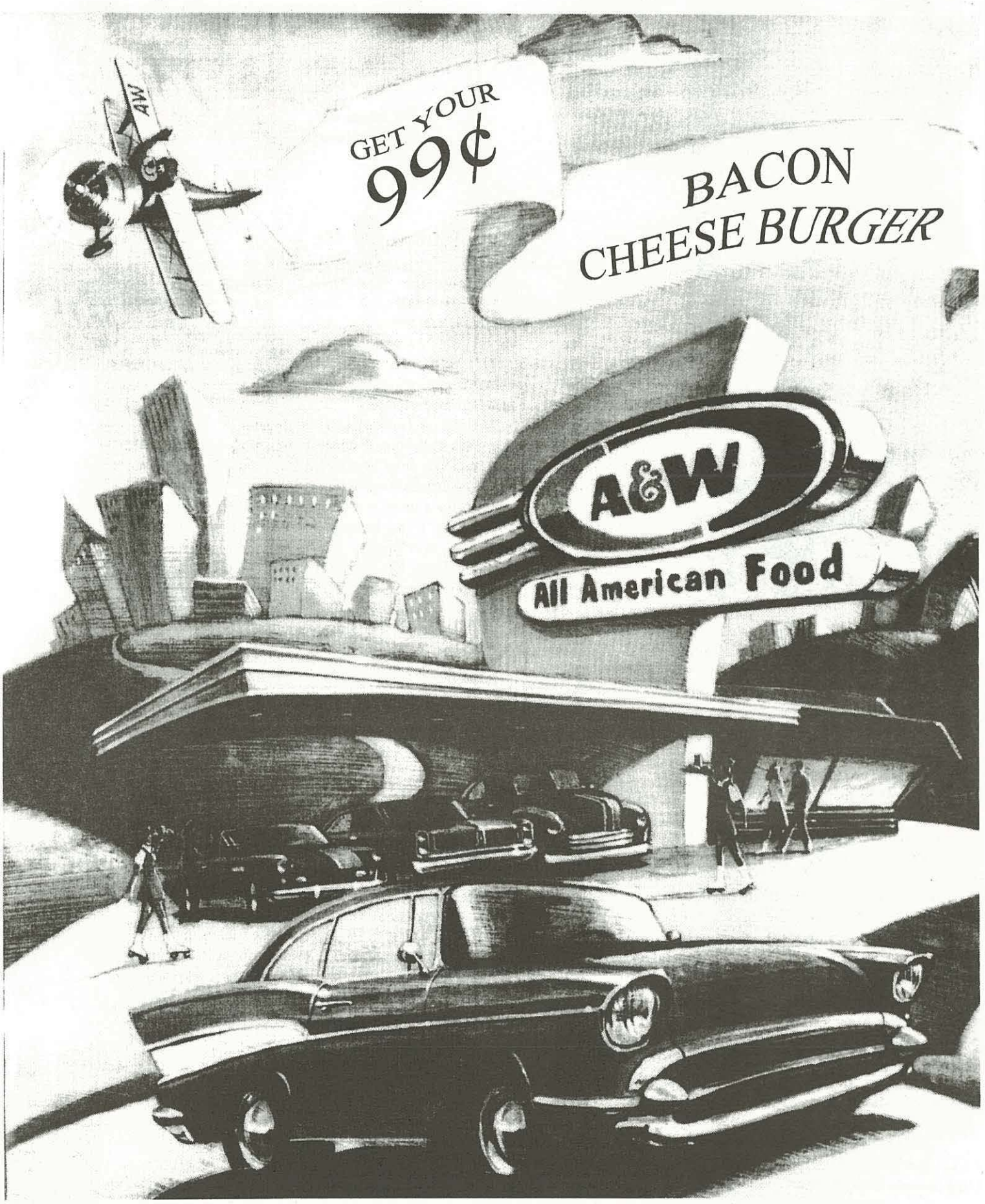
"I'm surprised that friendship doesn't have any age boundaries."

-DAVE CAMPBELL

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The Eric Update

For our new subscribers or any of you who have forgotten what the Eric Update is all about, here's a quick synopsis. At the beginning of the school year *The Blazer* chose a senior to follow throughout the college admissions process. That senior is Eric Elfline. At first he had to decide where he wanted to apply, and he eventually decided on the University of Michigan - Flint after eliminating DeVry Institute of Technology in Columbus, Ohio from his choices because he didn't want to attend an out of state college. Since our last Eric Update, he has been accepted to U of M - Flint, which he plans on attending in the fall. Eric described how he feels about going to U of M - Flint by saying "I feel happy, excited and scared all at the same time."

Illustration by
ANDREW HELMS



Adding up college's cost

By BRIAN GOODWILL

For most high school students who are planning on attending college, a major factor in deciding on the right college is the cost of tuition. The tuition for colleges and universities can range anywhere from a few hundred to tens of thousands of dollars.

When considering the cost of college, it is important to remember that just because one college's tuition may be higher than another does not necessarily mean that it is going to cost more for the individual student to attend that college. Figuring out just how much college is going to cost usually happens once the student has received his or her final acceptance letter and financial aid award letter.

The financial aid letter differs from school to school but included in each of them are a few basic facts. First of all is the list of expenses. This list includes the cost of tuition, food plans, room and board, books and other living expenses for the coming school year. The letter also includes the student's financial need. The financial need is the amount of the costs that will be taken care of through the student's financial aid package which includes scholarships, grants, work study programs and loans. Many of the more expensive colleges have better financial aid packages available to students because the schools do not admit as many students and therefore have fewer students that need money.

Scholarships can be provided from any number of sources. Students are encouraged to apply for as many scholar-

ships as possible. The deadlines for most scholarships available for next year's college students have already come and gone, but it's not too early for this year's juniors to start looking. The guidance department prints out a scholarship directory every school year containing more than 60 available scholarships. Most of these scholarship applications are available from the counselors in the guidance office.

Grants are funds provided by the government or college which are not required to be paid back. Pell grants are most often awarded to college age students. There are also grants like the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants and the Michigan Educational Opportunity Grants that are also available for those enrolled in college at least half-time.

Work study programs set up jobs for students on campus to help them pay for their college expenses and are available at most colleges and universities. To be eligible for the Federal work study program or the Michigan work study program, students must be enrolled at least half-time at their college. Students may only work between five and 20 hours per week, and may only earn up to the amount awarded per semester.

There are many types of loans available to students and their parents with many differing factors. One of the biggest differences is the amount of interest and when the interest starts to accrue. This interest can really begin to add up quickly and so it's very important to

note the interest factors. The Federal Perkins Loan has the best advantages of any student loans because of its low interest rate which doesn't begin to accrue until repayment begins. In order to be eligible for this loan a student must be enrolled at least half-time and the loan must be repaid beginning nine months after the student stops attending at least half-time. To be eligible for either the Federal Subsidized Stafford Loan, or the Federal UnSubsidized Stafford Loan a student must be enrolled at least half-time and repayment begins six months after the student stops attending at least half-time. The difference between the two is that the unsubsidized loan begins to accrue interest immediately after the money has been given to the college while the subsidized loan doesn't begin to earn interest until repayment begins. Parent loans for undergraduate students begin to be repaid 30 days after disbursed to the college.

Also included in the financial aid letter is the student's expected family contribution. This is the balance of the cost not covered by the financial aid package. Hopefully this cost will be fairly low because this is the part of the bill that really matters, the part that mommy and daddy have to cover. The college calculates the expected family contribution based upon information taken from the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This application can be picked up in the guidance office.

MUSCLE MADNESS

By JEFF RICHARDS & JEFF DECAIRE

Ever since 1964 when General Motors introduced the Pontiac GTO, America has loved the power that Big Blocks can pump out. These primitive, gas guzzling, monsters will always be the American cars symbol of power. According to a reader's survey taken by *Muscle Car Review* and some World Wide Web sites, here is the list of the top 10 muscle cars of all time.



Dodge Challenger

No. 10- The 1970 Dodge Challenger. It featured a 440 cubic inch engine that could easily push out over 390 horse power. This car was popularized by the late '70s movie titled, "Vanishing Point."



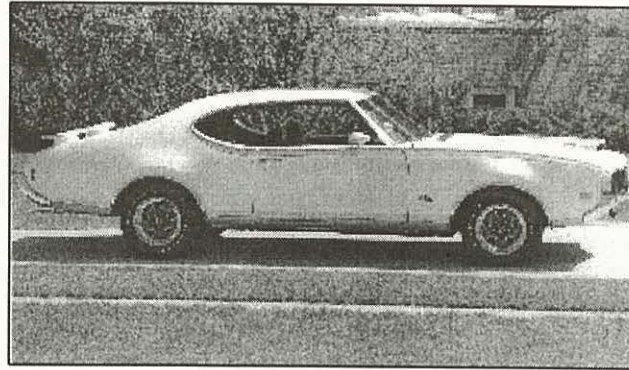
Ford Mustang

No. 9- The 1970 Ford Mustang Boss. Racing Legends George Follmer and Parnelli Jones both drove this car to win the Manufacturer's Cup in 1970. Being the most popular Mustang ever, it cranked out 330 horsepower and had an average quarter mile time of 13.90. The 351 cubic inch engine was used to the max and greatly appreciated by Ford lovers.

No. 8- The 1969 GTO Judge. What began as a low cost car back in 1964, ended up being a top of the line muscle car. The package included the 366 horse power Ram Air III 400 engine. The Judge also included a 60" spoiler, three-color stripes and decals that said "The Judge."

No.7- The 1969 Hurst/Olds. The Hurst/Olds was used as a pace car for the Indianapolis 500. It had a limited production run because of the contract signed by Hurst Performance Products and Oldsmobile. A 455 Rocket engine was placed in these cars along with parts manufactured by Hurst to bring overall performance to a new level.

Hurst/Olds



No. 6- The 1971 Plymouth 'Hemi' Cuda. With the 426 hemi engine under the shaker hood, this car was definitely a force to be reckoned with on the streets. With only a limited number of these around, any one that you can find might be worth picking up.

No. 5- The 1970 Buick GSX. This happens to be the only Buick on the list because of the fact that Buick never took aim at the muscle car industry. Like the Hurst/Olds it had a 455 cubic inch engine that pushed out 360 horsepower and punched an amazing 510 ft/lbs of torque. This is the grand daddy of all Buicks.



Plymouth Cuda

No. 3- The 1965 GTO. Being only in its second year of production, the GTO was the first real muscle car. This GTO was America's top selling car of 1965. Its 389 cubic inch engine cranked out 360 horse power.

No. 4- The 1970 Hemi Cuda. This car has hit the list twice and is obviously Mopar's best muscle car. Packing the dangerous 440 cubic inch engine, this car closely rivaled the Dodge Viper in a drag, pushing out a whopping 390 horsepower and running a 13 flat in the quarter mile.

No. 2- The 1970 Olds 442. The muscle car from the family car company, is one of the best on the list. The 455 inch W-30 engine was powerful enough to make your hair turn gray.

Chevrolet Chevelle SS

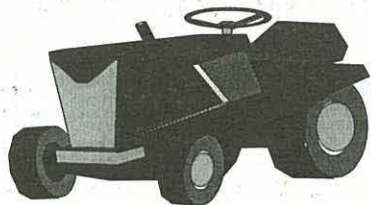
No. 1- The 1970 Chevelle SS (Super Sport). This mighty car featured the deadly 454 cubic inch LS-6 engine. Approximately 3,800 of these came off the assembly line that year, and all of them produced a whopping 450 horse power and 496 FT/LBS of torque this car could beat almost any car off the line and had enough power to hold them all off. Jason Melancon is the proud owner.



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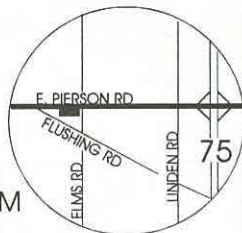
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Gabbing 'bout Gill-Roy's

By **MARC MILLER**

Drano, aisle 8, left side. Crazy glue, aisle 9, left side. Wood screws, aisle 7, right side. For seven students from Flushing High School that work at Gill-Roy's this is an everyday experience. "It just takes time and patience to learn where everything is," said senior Erik Potzmann, a Gill-Roy's employee of two years, "Working at Gill-Roy's has also taught me that when I am on my own I will be able to handle any problem

that comes along. I will be the guy people come to for help. It has also taught me how to deal with people."

With thousands of items in any of the 15 Gill-Roy's, it is important that the employees know where everything is. In addition to knowing where everything is, floor personnel must know how to thread pipe, repair screens and windows, and mix paint. This does not include all the other things Gill-Roy's employees have to do to help customers which could include

anything from taking apart a flashlight to putting on a customer's windshield wipers.

"I know where most of the stuff is, and a lot of information is right in front of me. It's not that hard," said senior Alane Millar who works as a cashier at the South Saginaw store.

Cashiers don't have it much easier than the floor personnel; they get asked to show customers where items are.

"Working at Gill-Roy's has helped me learn basic home repair skills that I can use my whole life," said senior Ryan Skene.

"I have been working there about two

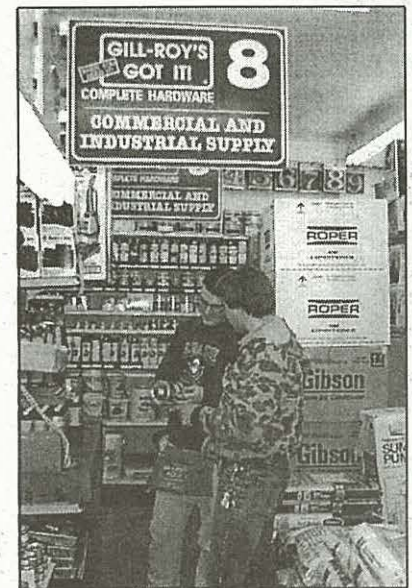


Senior **Bridget McClain** proves that she is a vital part of the U.S. economic system by helping a customer trade for goods and services at the Gill-Roy's on Flushing Road. Photo by Marc Miller.

years," said senior Neil Millar, "It has taken me about a year to learn where most of the items are, but I still cannot find everything. I also know that when I am on my own, I will be able to handle any problem that could come along."

Both the President and Vice-President of Gill-Roy's live in Flushing. Vice-President Kurt Zimmerman said, "Many Flushing grads and current students work at Gill-Roy's through college, and some choose it as a career."

The first store was opened up on Detroit Street by Gilbert Morgan and Roy Travano. This is where the name Gill-Roy's came from. It went into business shortly after World War II and has been growing ever since. The company is currently run by Bob Morgan, Gilbert Morgan's son. There are currently 15 stores in the Flint area with the newest being the one in Montrose. Gill-Roy's is the last of the neighborhood hardware stores for the "do-it-yourselfers."



Customers would probably wander through stores for hours if sales people such as **Marc Miller** weren't there to help. Photo by Bridget McClain.



One more house can keep cool yet hold insects at bay thanks to senior **Marc Miller** and his screen fixing skills. Photo by Bridget McClain.

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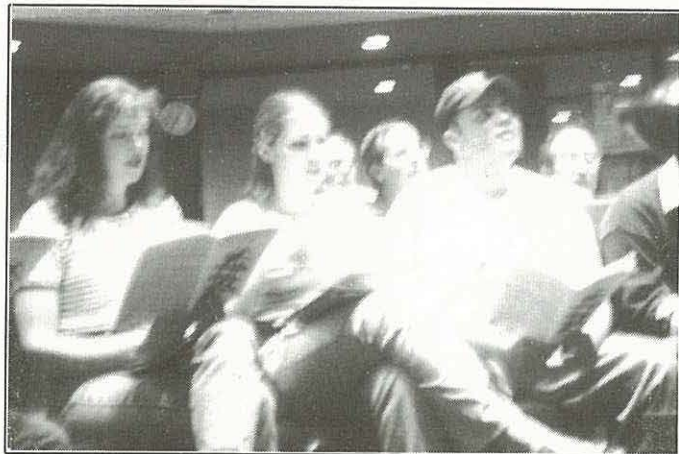
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Debbie Adams, junior Karin Pierson and senior Wes Johnson study their music at practice for an upcoming concert. Photo by Chris Miller.



“We have everyone from musicians to shower singers in this group.” -FRANK ZERBINOS

Voices blend in new community choir

By KARIN PIERSON

Just as a sports team must work together to maximize their potential, a musical group must also work together. This is one of the philosophies behind the musical group the Flushing Singers. The Singers, as proven by their successful debut concert February, are very good at working together.

As their president Peggy Pomeroy says, “There is a lot of work in organizing a group like this, a lot of little details.” The director of the group is Frank Zerbinos. Zerbinos says he got the idea from an Indiana group he was in a where the members had all sorts of musical backgrounds.

“We have everyone from musicians to shower singers in this group,” says Zerbinos. Anyone can join. The requirement is that you have to love singing.

Zerbinos has a strong musical background. He majored in music at the East Carolina University before joining the Army. In the Army, he sang in the Bayonet Chorus for about two years in Korea. After Korea, he lived and performed in Germany. In 1989 he moved to Flushing. As well as the Singers, Zerbinos directs the AGAPE Children’s Choir, the Men’s Chorus and sings in the Centrum Choir at the Flushing United Methodist Church. He has four kids, one who lives in Japan, and Pam who is a senior here.

“I was cornered by Frank Zerbinos, Ken Hedges (Mr. Hedges’ brother), and Bob Martin,” says Peggy Pomeroy. They needed someone that was willing to contribute 100% of their time and effort to the group. They needed someone to “come at the beck and call of the group” and to be “busy, busy,” with details. Pomeroy was the right person for the president of the group.

“There are a million details in organizing a new group,” says Pomeroy. Pomeroy is the main

coordinator of the group. She takes care of concert dates, newsletters, costume and auditorium rentals, announcements and fund-raisers. The choir raised \$400 at a local old-fashioned cake walk last fall. As well as these things, she handles many others.

The main philosophy of the Singers is “to welcome people of all ages, and of all singing abilities,” according to Zerbinos.

“It is a community based group. Lots of members are related or know each other really well,” says Pomeroy.

In recent months, high school students have joined the group such as senior Wes Johnson, juniors Karin Pierson and Sara Lecki, and freshman Dee Dee Foust. Karin was the first to join the group.

The Singers’ first debut concert was on the 1st and 2nd of February. The first half of the concert featured a wide variety of solo & ensemble pieces. Songs included “Java Jive,” “Don’t Cry For Me Argentina,” and “Pie Jesu.” The second half of the show was based on *Les Miserables*, complete with costumes, characters and soloists.

For their next concert, the community choir is working on a ’50s and ’60s theme. They are also planning on singing down at Riverview Park. The Flushing Singers would like to see you there because they enjoy showing off their talent.

**If you want to join...
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FREE ESTIMATES

REASONABLE RATES

INSURED

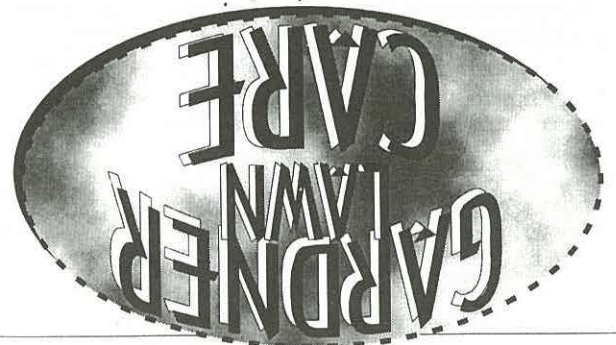
LOW PRICES

FREE ESTIMATES

QUALITY



HIGH



Platters

Concert Dates

May 6 Pavement St. Andrew's Hall	June 7 Styx Pine Knob
May 8 Better Than Ezra St. Andrew's Hall	June 18 Marilyn Manson Pine Knob
May 10 Luscious Jackson St. Andrew's Hall	June 25 Dave Matthews Band Pine Knob
May 30 Ringo Starr Pine Knob	June 28 Bush Pine Knob

Soundtrack adds to movie's appeal

By NATE SWEJA

If you've seen *The Saint*, you've also heard some of the soundtrack. The majority of it is techno with songs like Duran Duran's song "Out of My Mind." Most of the songs are just barely on the screen in the movie. However, the Sneaker Pimps song "6 underground" remains on for a long time during the love scene. The CD includes the likes of Orbital, who does the theme at the end of the film. The song is a compilation of drum beats and horns. "6 Underground" is next up and serves as a rest between two fast songs. Moby's "Oil" is a fast song and when you listen to it in a car, it makes you drive just a little bit faster. Fluke's "Atom Bomb" is a high energy song that can also be found on the Wipeout XL CD. Some more notable songs are Underworld's "Pearl Girl" with warped voices and warped sounds. Duran Duran's "Out of My Mind" makes for a good rock track. The Chemical Brother's instrumental version of "Setting Sun" is much better than the original one with words. David Bowie and Duman Shiek round up the end and lead the way for the ending track "Before Today" by Everything but the Girl. This sound track is above an A.



The Reel Review

By ALLEN VANHOUZEN AND BJ STRIMPLE

Liar, Liar

I have to admit, *Liar, Liar* was very funny and by the end of it, my sides hurt. Surprisingly, the plot and overall idea of the movie wasn't something I pictured Jim Carrey doing, and I went to the movie thinking this. Halfway through the movie, I realized that it was just another Jim Carrey movie, with the same facial expressions and slapstick humor. Not that there's anything wrong with that, but it gets old after a while. However, the supporting cast made-up for his lack of originality and kept the plot moving. This movie could have been a big step for Jim Carrey and with a few more of these, it will keep his acting alive. Many of the one-liners he gives definitely make the movie worth seeing. All in all, I give the movie a six, and I dub it rent-worthy.

Well, since Allen also went and told you the basis of this, I'll just do my review. You can basically sum this in one word... actually in two stinking letters, "Eh." It was obviously the same Jim Carrey you know and love, and the same Jim Carrey you get sooo annoyed of. Anyway, the movie was a good movie all around, but if only that stinking kid from the McDonalds commercials would get hit by a car, our dreams would come true. So if you are a complete Jim Carrey fanatic, go see the movie; then go seek psychiatric help because you need it badly. I liked the movie a little more than Allen though. The judges say 7.25 (I needed a decimal in there just to be me.)

The Saint

No doubt about it, *The Saint* is one of the best movies this year. Its got something for everyone... and then some. The story is about a professional thief (Val Kilmer) who gets caught up in an international dispute involving cold fusion. It's called *The Saint* because every time he puts on a disguise, he changes his name to a different Catholic Saint. The plot was different from most action movies because the bad guys weren't as stupid as you would expect and they occasionally saw through his disguise. This just proved that not all villains are as stupid as most freshmen. Besides being suspenseful, it had a humorous aspect as well. Overall, *The Saint* was lots of fun all the way through and definitely worth seeing in theatres. Allen gives it a ten.

First off, one of the best movies this year was *The Saint*. Val Kilmer did an excellent job with all of the accents his characters used. Allen already informed you about the plot, so why bore you with mindless details. What I didn't like about it was how the directors chose to deal with his childhood. It didn't inform you enough about his being raised a Catholic child with no name. What was good was the fact that he himself was pretty much a bad guy. His entire job consisted of stealing stuff. A bonus was that the real villains weren't idiots. They saw through his disguises most of the time. That made the movie more realistic. All in all, this movie gets a nine from me.

Allen's outlook

BJ's ponder

Road map may be necessary for this movie

By JASON EDWARDS

If you plan on making a trip to the cinema for the purpose of watching David Lynch's latest effort, the deliciously nightmarish *Lost Highway*, you had better prepare to use your brain.

Lost Highway is a terrifying and bizarre descent into madness that can only be tolerated by those who have an open mind

to events that make very little sense. After seeing the movie, some people seem to have a look on their face that says, "That was the stupidest thing I've ever seen. I didn't understand a second of it." Alternately, just as many have a look that says, "That was the best thing I've ever seen. I didn't understand a second of it."

The first third or so of the movie is sluggish to the point of slumber. Main characters Fred (Bill Pullman) and Renee

(Patricia Arquette) move, talk, and interact with one another as though they're both under heavy sedation. But then bizarre events start to occur. Packages begin to appear on their doorstep each morning, containing videotapes of their house and of them sleeping.

After a strange encounter at a party with an even stranger man (Robert Blake), Fred sees a video of himself viciously dismembering Renee. From that point on, the action moves so fast, the viewer will be struggling to take it all in. Lives intermix and blend into one another, and time appears to no longer exist. Seemingly unrelated events are now connected in the most mys-

terious of ways. After a night on death row, featuring a scene which is harrowing not only for Fred, but for the theater audience as well. For no apparent reason Fred is replaced in his cell with a much younger man named Pete Dayton (Balthazar Getty). Since Pete has committed no crime to be on death row, he is released.

At that point the movie seems to begin anew, as the plot seems completely unrelated to the first part. But then, we see Arquette again, this time playing the role of Alice, girlfriend to mobster-type Dick Laurent (Robert Loggia) aka Mr. Eddy. Pete falls in love with Alice and begins an affair with her, and is therefore marked for death by Mr. Eddy. All the time, strange images and film sequences begin to give the impression that impossibly Fred and Pete are the same person.

The suspense and action continue to build all the way to one of the strangest endings to any movie since 2001: *A Space Odyssey*. Pete transforms into Fred once more, the strange man from the party reappears and assumes an undeniably large role in the scheme of things, and bizarre references continue as to what the whole thing actually means.

The running theme of the movie seems to be duality. Almost every major event of the film happens twice, leaving the viewer with an overwhelming sense of *deja vu*. Fred and Pete are polar opposites on the surface as long as lifestyles go, but they also have similarities. Fred and Pete also seem to be the same person in different bodies, while Alice and Renee seem two different people in different bodies. Key lines are repeated to different characters, and key scenes are shot in two different ways. Certain images show up in one scene and reappear later, and the entire movie becomes a loop as the same scene is shown from different perspectives at the beginning and end of the movie.

The overall effect that one gets from this movie is that of a particularly bad nightmare. It seems to contain the warped logic of a dream, but at the same time it makes sense in some strange way, much like a dream does. The viewer definitely has to be in the right mindset to see this film, but it is most definitely a film designed to put you into a new mindset.

Music is just as dizzying as the movie

By CARRIE LaMAY

While the movie is a dizzying display of thought-provoking and unanswered questions, the soundtrack makes a perfect complement to the chaos. While the scenes are intense, the songs add to it. Perfectly choreographed by Nine Inch Nails front-man Trent Reznor, you can get a good grasp on the whole movie simply by listening. It is the aura of David Lynch's vision.

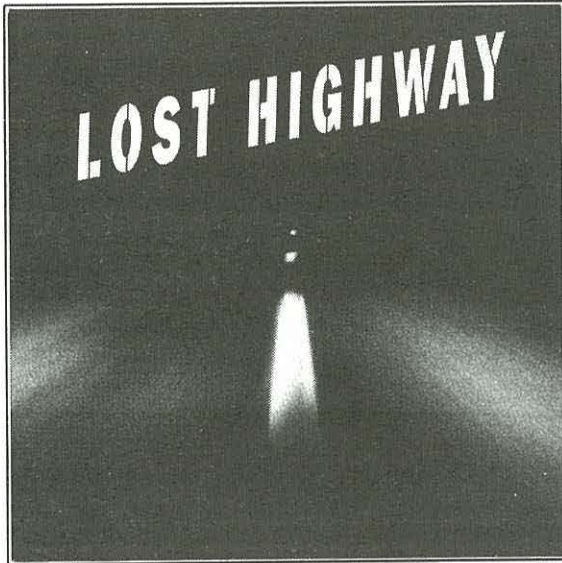
With powerful music talents like David Bowie, Trent Reznor and Nine Inch

Nails, The Smashing Pumpkins, Angelo Badalamenti, Barry Adamson and Marilyn Manson, it produces the overwhelming melancholy, terror and confusion of the film.

The song which sets the scene, "I'm Deranged" By David Bowie, is at the film's (and soundtrack's) opening and closing. At the confusing and most chaotic points in the story, there are The Smashing Pumpkins with "Eye," Trent Reznor with "Driver Down," and Marilyn

Manson's "Apple of Sodom." The hard-packed action scenes are perfectly accented with "Heirate Mich" and "Rammstein" by Rammstein. And rounding it out with slower appts and interludes, Angelo Badalamenti adds "Red Bats with Teeth" and "Fats Revisited", among others.

If you enjoyed the movie, you'll definitely enjoy the soundtrack while sitting at home or traveling down your own lost highway.



Matchbox 20 lights a fire

By CRAIG GASPERSKY

If a list were to be made of little known bands that received a significant amount of air time on radio, Matchbox 20 would be on it. With their debut album *Yourself or Someone Like You* and two hit singles "Long Day" and "Push," Matchbox 20 has been an overnight success.

Rob Thomas, the lead singer, has a style that grabs the attention of the listener's ear. With his soft sensitive voice that will sometimes change without warning to one that resembles an angry drunk, he captivates the audience. The lyric content of songs could easily pass for conversation between two old friends.

Their first single "Long Day" deals with the problem of self-pity or guilt that nearly everyone could relate to. "Well, I'm surprised that you'd believe in anything that comes from me" certainly sums up the overall tone. "Push," the second and current re-

lease, is a sarcastic emotional rollercoaster that also has a catchy chorus with the three words "Well I will, well I will."

Songs that have not been yet released but stick out from the rest in their own musical aspect would include the serenely rustic "Back 2 God." Which also contains lyrics that hold truth, where, again many people can relate to. Then to the distinctive rush that surges right on through "Busted," Matchbox 20 sticks with the melancholy, lonely theme. That tone keeps the listener from being confused about the overall feeling of the album. "Kody" preaches this with the line "Please hand me the bottle, I think I'm lonely now."

The listening experience is topped with the songs "Shame" and "Hang" which leaves you thinking about your own problems. Matchbox 20 is one of the better bands you have never heard of—yet.

The Chemical Brothers

Dig Your Own Hole

Some musicians have been quoted as saying electronic music could be integrated into future types of music. Some bands have already begun to incorporate this style into their music. Bands such as U2, and even The Smashing Pumpkins have already gotten into this style. One of the leading groups in this field is the Chemical Brothers,

Consisting of Tom Rowlands and Ed Simons, the band's latest album covers "electronic" music ranging from heavy beats to a spaced out feeling. The album begins with "Block Rockin' Beats," a compilation of whizzing sounds and monotonous beats. It's a good song to begin the album with. Track five, "Setting Sun," is a collaboration with Oasis's Noel Gallagher's voice is compressed and warped to fine tune one of the best sounds on the album. Track eight, "Get Up On It Like This" sounds familiarly like some secret agent themes. Also, "The Private Psychadellic Reel" makes for good driving music. For anyone even interested in this type of music, this album is highly recommended.

By Nate SWEJA



Offspring springs back to life

By ERIK POTZMANN

After a very interesting disclaimer the newest album from the Offspring, *Ixnay on the Hombre*, goes on to be one of the best alternative records of the year. The next seven songs come on strong with fast tempos and great guitar work. After a short intermission the last five songs do not disappoint, they keep up the tempo.

The Offspring have put together a wonderful follow up to their first major album, *Smash*. The up-tempo album has wonderful vocals from Dexter Holland. Dexter, on guitar, Greg, on bass, and Noodles, on guitar, complement each other well and do a beautiful job on those wonderful stringed instruments. Keeping up the almost suicidal tempo of the songs is Ron Welty on drums.

The two already released songs, "All I Want" and "Gone Away," are probably the best of the album. Although most songs on this album carry a message, they are not preachy. "The Meaning of Life" is about how people are always telling you what to say and what to do, "Open wide and they'll shove in/ their meaning of life." "Mota" is about the pathetic life of a chronic pot-smoker.

The next song is an interesting song about a pair of lovers entitled "Me & My Old Lady." One of the more interesting songs is track five. "Cool to Hate" is a song that lets you know that "liking something is just a waste of time." "I Chose" is a song just about how life can be really messed up. "Way Down

the Line" is a kind of message about how if things will happen to you once it will happen again, "An angry man gets drunk and beats his kids/ the same way his drunken father did." the next song is entitled "Don't Pick It Up." It is a fun song about people regretting some things they did. "My friend was kinda hurting for a girl to try/ he saw one that looked like pat/ on Saturday Night live/ it had a pair of thingies/ but a mustache too/ not clearly male or female/ so what to do."

The last song on the album is a good way to end because it is one of the better songs. "Change the World" is a song about the big talkers who often do little about what they preach, "you don't want to change the world like you say." If you hang around for about another two minutes you get a special message from that lovable guy who dressed up as a bumble bee in those Sprint ads.

When this album came out some people said it wasn't very good, but they were wrong. Because this CD is so good it, now has laser burns from being in the CD player so often.



A & E
May
27
Blazer

Andrew Helms and Mike Robson

Collaborating with clay

By LAURIE STEWART



This claymation figure of Richard Nixon was used briefly in *Forrest Chump*. Photo by Andy Helms.

Creativity is one trait that either a person possesses, or he doesn't. Seniors Mike Robson and Andy Helms have enough creativity running through them to fuel the entire student body. "They have a type of imagination that always surprises me. In their artwork there is always a deeper message, there is something more to look for. They make fun of a lot of things and they find the humor in a lot of situations, but they have a serious point behind it all... usually. I've become more creative from being around them," says senior Rebecca Williams. Mike and Andy are known throughout the school from their numerous pieces of art in the art room and their many illustrations and cartoons in the *Blazer*. One of their most creative and entertaining mediums happens to be claymation.

"Andy's mom wanted to get an animating camera," said Mike. So she purchased him a JVC camcorder with animating features.

That seems to be how Primordial Soöp, the name they adopted for their production team, was born. According to Andy, "She thought I would do regular animations with it."

Mike and Andy's claymation career started with *Commander Suck-oh* which according to Mike follows "the adventures of being stupid." After *Commander Suck-oh*, they proceeded to make 16 more claymations including the parodies *Forrest Chump*, the *X-Philes*, and *Star Twek*. Producing claymations requires a lot of motivation to get started. "We sit around a lot. *Forrest Chump* took so long to make because we said 'pffft... let's play *Streetfighter*," says Andy. *Forrest Chump*, one of the more well known claymations among their friends, took almost the whole summer of '96 to complete. It tells the story

of young Forrest from Brickville, Alabama. Most of the claymation follows highlights from the movie, with a few liberties taken. Forrest spends most of the claymation getting bricks thrown at him and instead of Bubba getting killed in action in Vietnam, he was eaten by a giant Vietnamese Killer shrimp.

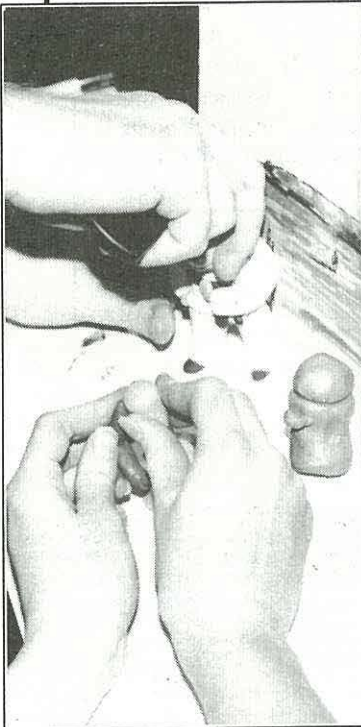
"There are scenes you get disappointed in and you just want to stop working. You have to be very motivated," adds Mike.

Andy claims that the most appealing aspect of claymation is "the clay under the finger nails." Since claymations are like an animated movie, everything is three dimensional. Both of the guys agree that claymation is fun to work with. In claymations, "You control everything, the lighting and characters," says Mike. "Clay people are funnier than real people. You aren't allowed to hurt ac-

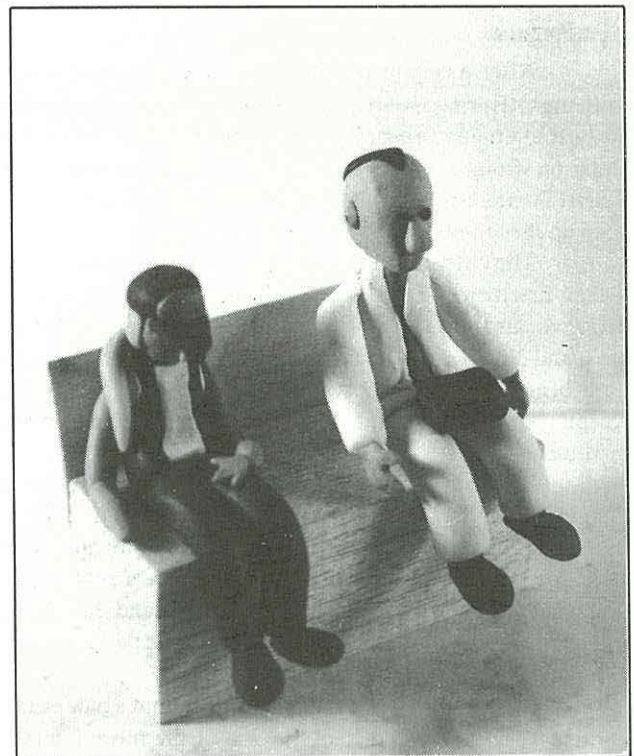
tors, but you can hurt the clay," adds Andy.

Andy and Mike do all of their claymations using Sculpey III clay. "It doesn't really smell, but if you stuck your nose in it and inhaled, you'd probably notice," proclaims Andy. When they first started out, the process was long and rigorous. To film 30 seconds of a claymation, they needed two hours of solid working. Now they have cut that time in half. In the beginning, they would make the characters out of clay and after every frame was shot they would reposition the characters. Now they have become wise to the fact that the method they were using was very slow. Mike and Andy have found that by inserting pieces of wire into the arms of characters, movements are a lot easier. To make the clay people appear to move on tape, everything must be positioned, and then the frame must be shot. After the frame has been shot, Mike and Andy have to move the characters slightly. The camera Mike and Andy use films things at four frames a second. The more frames that are filmed in a second, the less choppy the scene will appear.

In claymations, the ideal filming is one that has very fluid movements. To avoid many fluidity problems Mike and Andy have found some short cuts. "We use a lot of torsos so you can't see the legs. Making characters walk is hard because the legs make the people unstable. We move the torsos and overexaggerate the arm movements." In addition



Andy, (upper set of hands) gets help from Rebecca Williams (lower set of hands). They are composing a scene from their latest project *Czar Wars*. Photo by Rebecca Williams.



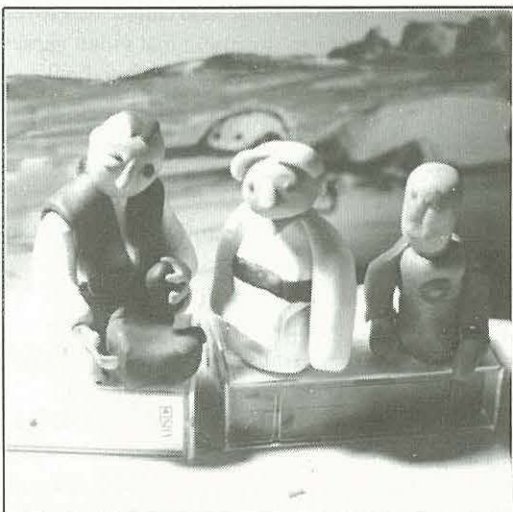
Forrest Chump discusses his life story with an unfortunate man who comes and sits next to him. *Forrest Chump* was Andy and Mike's first lengthy claymation. Photo courtesy of Andy Helms.



Andy and Mike in one of the rare moments they are actually getting work accomplished. Many times they get distracted easily from what they are working on and are tempted to play video games or watch movies. Photo by Rebecca Williams.

to that, they also reuse many of the same characters and scenery. In their new parody of Star Wars they reuse their character of Obi Wan several times as many different people in several different claymations.

Due to the fact that there are not that many claymation videos out there, Mike and Andy's influences are very limited. *Wallace and Gromit*, a claymation produced by the BBC is one of their favorites. The British claymation is about a mild mannered inventor named Wallace and his dog Gromit. The thing that impresses Mike the most is that "you see things being done and it is amazing that they could get them to work." Andy is most impressed by all of the intricate detail. "The backgrounds are amazing." Since Wallace and Gromit is professionally done, the producers actually have a budget they can work with. On top of the brilliant backgrounds and small details Andy is envious of the fact that in Wallace and Gromit, "you don't see the fingerprints on the characters."



Puke Sidewalker's drunken uncle, Puke Sidewalker, and C3PO (funny name still pending) from *Czar Wars* pose for the camera. *Czar Wars* is the biggest claymation Andy and Mike have worked on up to this point. Photo courtesy of Andy Helms.

Fun and games with *The Wrong Trousers*

By REBECCA WILLIAMS

The morning begins normally for Gromit; he pours his coffee, reads the paper and brings in the mail. The only abnormality would be that Gromit is a dog. An English dog, who has the weighty responsibility of keeping track of his owner, an absentminded inventor named Wallace.

Wallace has rigged the house to reduce work, even to the point where he doesn't have to dress himself. When Gromit pushes a button in the kitchen, Wallace's bed tilts and he drops into his chair in the kitchen through a handy trap door. Robotic arms slip a shirt and sweater over Wallace's bewildered head, and jam flies across the table to his toast.

In British animator Nick Park's *The Wrong Trousers*, it is Gromit's birthday, and aside from a musical birthday card which arrives in the mail, he fears Wallace has forgotten. Fortunately, Wallace possesses enough presence of mind to create a surprise for Gromit. Gromit unwraps a new collar, and a leash and - a pair of electronic trousers.

As Wallace explains to a dubious Gromit, "They're for walkies!"

Wallace spends the rest of the morning opening the abundant bills and trying to account for them using an abacus (even though he has a calculator). Wallace is simply not making enough money, so they will have to open the upstairs room to a boarder.

Neither of them are prepared for the fellow who walks into their front hall: an innocent looking penguin. It is all an act; the penguin is actually a thief plotting a diamond heist and masquerading as a chicken.

Wallace, of course, suspects nothing of his new "paying guest." Even when the penguin kicks Gromit out of his room and re-wallpapers with blue fish, Wallace shares champagne with him while Gromit cries outside in the rain. Wallace's favoritism is overwhelming for Gromit, so he runs away and spends the night in a trash can.

In the streets he spies a wanted poster for the suspicious penguin. Gromit rushes home and unearths the plans for the robbery. The miscreant penguin, meanwhile, has transformed the trousers to serve his purposes.

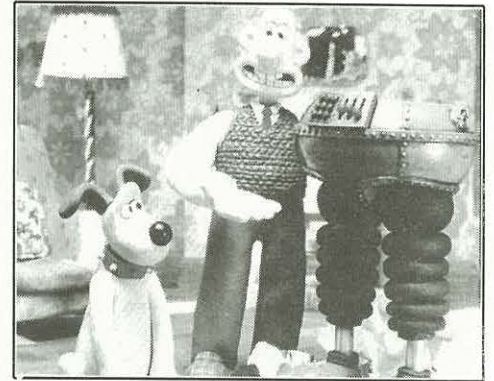
Purposes which include Wallace.

Remember the automatic dressing machine? A drunkenly asleep Wallace glides into the trousers which can now be remote controlled by the penguin. The penguin runs the trousers (Wallace included) all over the city.

"They're the wrong trousers Gromit!" Wallace yells. "And they've gone wrong!"

The trouble Wallace gets into and how Gromit gets them both out of it are well worth discovering yourself.

Nick Park has invented characters as multifaceted as those in a novel. Wallace is an excitable fellow with vacant eyes who grins constantly, while all of Gromit's feelings show through the movement of his eyes and ears. Most of Wallace's pursuits involve cheese; Gromit meanwhile devotes time to reading *Electronics For Dogs*. In addition to the troublesome penguin in *The Wrong Trousers*, Wallace and Gromit encounter a hungry sheep and a foul-tempered dog in *A Close Shave*, and travel to the moon on a cheese holiday in *A Grand Day Out*. All three claymation movies demonstrate Nick Park's admirable skill and imagination.



SPORTS GAMES

From *Pong* to Nintendo 64, the search for the perfect sports game goes on.

By GRANT NELSESTUEN

Back in 1973, the first video game, *Pong*, was released. No one knew that twenty years later millions of kids and adults alike would be enthralled with video games. Since then, the gaming industry has become a multi-billion dollar industry. There has been every kind of game made possible — action, adventure, RPG, strategy, and so on. But sports games have been very popular from the beginning.

The first video game, *Pong*, was a simple variation of table tennis that involved bouncing a ball back and forth between two bars. This simple, yet very addictive game laid the foundation for future video and, more specifically, sports games.

In the late 1970s, the first home video game systems started hitting the markets. The **Atari 2600** emerged as the leader of this new technology. Its line of simple and very

blocky games was a hit with consumers. Although not especially known for its sports games, the Atari did have the racing arcade smash *Pole Position*. Games such as *Baseball*, *Tennis*, and *Boxing* also were offered, but were nothing worth writing home about.

It wasn't until the **Nintendo Entertainment System (NES)** arrived in 1985 that sports games really took hold. The NES's eight bits of processing power was a considerable improvement over the Atari's four bits.

Jordan vs Bird: One on One was a pretty popular basketball game when it came out in the late '80s for the NES.

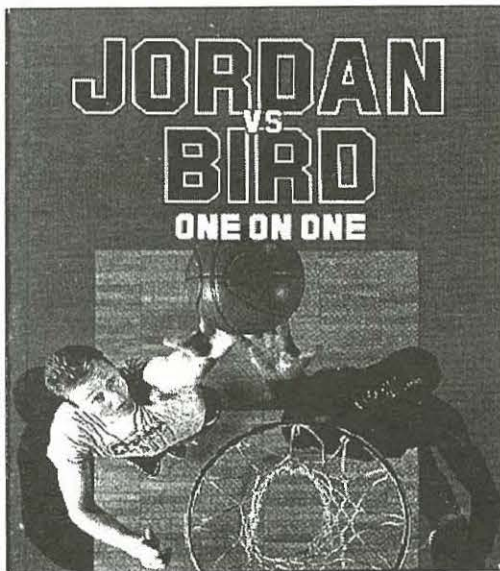
Sports game classics like *Double Dribble*, *Tecmo Bowl* and its sequel, *Blades of Steel*, and *Mike Tyson's Punch-Out* helped the NES outdistance its main competition, the **Sega Master System**. These were not very realistic games, but their

playability and simplistic fun overshadowed this. The Nintendo also had an

add-on peripheral called the Power Pad. It was Nintendo's response to the claim that video games were partly responsible for causing American kids to be the fattest in the world. It was a hit at first, but after all your friends had seen it, the Power Pad wined up in the closet. Other excellent sports games for the NES included the *Bases Loaded* series, *Excitebike*, and the *Track & Field* series.

In 1989, Sega released its second gaming system — the **Sega Genesis**. Unlike the Sega Master System, the Sega Genesis would be around for a long time. Up until now, no video game system's strong point was sports games. The Genesis changed that. Spearheaded by Electronic Arts' (EA) sports line, if a person wanted sports games, that person bought a Genesis. EA redefined the sports genre and set the new standard. The yearly updates for EA's *NHL Hockey*, *John Madden*, *College Football*, *FIFA Soccer*, basketball, and baseball (the names have changed several times) series secured Sega's sports game crown. Other notable non-EA sports games are the *Joe Montana Football* series, *NBA Jam*, *PGA Tour Golf* series, *RBI Baseball* series, and the *Tecmo*

Super Mario Kart 64 was recently released for the Nintendo 64. It is the follow-up to the huge success of the original *Super Mario Kart* for Super Nintendo.





Here are four of EA's newest sports games in its award-winning sports line. FIFA '97, Triple Play '97, and PGA Tour Golf '97 are not pictured.

Super Bowl series.

Two years after the Genesis was released, the Super Nintendo Entertainment System (SNES) came out. The SNES's forte was in the action/adventure category and failed to establish itself with the sports crowd. Although EA released its line of sports games for the SNES, these versions seemed to fade when compared with the Sega Genesis. The Super Nintendo did have some excellent sports games however. *Super Mario Kart* is considered one of the best racing and two-player games up to that point. For baseball fans, *Ken Griffey Jr. Baseball* was a hit. Also, the arcade smash *NBA Jam* was highly acclaimed.

In 1995, Sony released the PlayStation. This 32-bit system boasted eight buttons on its controllers and 3-D graphics that rivalled the personal computers. EA extended its sports reign with the release of its wildly popular sports line. EA also began using its virtual stadium technology in their games on the PlayStation. This made the players fully rendered and allowed the gamer to select any view of the action. *NFL Gameday* and *NHL Faceoff* are some other decent sports games on the PlayStation.

The Sega Saturn was released in 1995, also. With many games available at the time, EA's sports games for the Genesis fans, and its 32-bit processor, the Saturn looked poised to take the lead in the video game wars. However, the PlayStation overshadowed the Saturn with its superior games, graphics, and, mainly, marketing. The Saturn has all but dropped out of the competition currently despite the existence of some excellent sports games.

In late 1996, the much anticipated Nintendo 64 (N64) and promises of the best graphics ever on a home video game system (due to its 64-bit processor), the N64 was a

hit with the consumers from day one. Currently, the crop of sports game is sparse for the N64. *Wayne Gretzky's 3D Hockey* and *Super Mario Kart 64* are the best sports games currently out. *Wave Race 64* is an interesting twist on the racing theme, as it takes place on jet skis. *FIFA 97* is also due out soon.

Video games were a major part of our childhood. Right after "He-Man" was over, we would go play our Atari. Sports games let us act out our fantasies and dreams of playing in the big time. We could hit the last second three in overtime, run back the kickoff 87 yards for a touchdown, or deke out the goalie to secure the Stanley Cup. Today is no different except instead of the Atari 2600, we own a Nintendo 64 or Playstation. The games still let us be stars.



Illustration by ANDREW HELMS.

A survey was given on Wednesday, April 16. 82 people responded to the following.

What kind of game is your favorite?

Action/Fighting	39
Role Playing	11
Simulation	14
Strategy/Puzzle	13
Sports	34

What kind of system do you have?

Sega Genesis	40
IBM PC	39
Nintendo	31
Nintendo 64	18
Super Nintendo	18
Playstation	17
Sega Saturn	6
Mac PC	3
Atari	1

Do you play sports games?

Yes	51
No	58

What is your favorite kind of sports game?

Hockey	38
Basketball	22
Football	20
Soccer	13
Golf	8
Baseball	6
Tennis	2
Wrestling	1

13 people recommended NHL Hockey '97. Four people said that John Madden '97 was the best sports game. NBA Live received three votes. Other games receiving a vote were FIFA '97, College Football '97, Super Mario Kart 64, Face Off '97, NBA Action, NBA Jam, Quarterback Attack, and Ken Griffey Jr. Baseball.

FLUSHING RAIDERS

Football Hockey Cross Country Track & Field
 Baseball Soccer Volleyball Tennis
 Softball Football Hockey Soccer
 Football Hockey Cross Country Track & Field
 Baseball Soccer Volleyball Football
 Hockey Cross Country Track & Field

The Raider **Varsity Tennis** team started out strong this season with four big wins within the first two weeks. The team started out beating Lapeer East 5-2. Carman-Ainsworth was their next opponent, and the team beat them 4-3. All three of the doubles teams won, and the number 3 singles player, **Sami Banat**, also recorded a win. "Our doubles teams are the strength of the team," said senior captain Mitch Wend. The team then proceeded to finish off both Mt. Morris and Davison, 7-0 each. All three doubles teams, and Banat from single, are undefeated for the season. "After the win against Carman-Ainsworth, we are confident we can make it to the state meet," said Wend. He added that the team's main goals are to place high in the Big 9 and to go to the state competitions this year. "Everyone needs to play well and get the job done to be successful." says Wend.

-MATT CHRISTOPHER

The Flushing Raiders **Varsity Baseball** team is off to a shaky 1-4 record. The team got its first victory against non-conference opponent Lapeer West. In the first game of the double-header, the Raiders lost 8-2. However, the Raiders bounced back to win the second game 3-2 with junior **Mike Gates** hitting a solo home-run and junior **Tim Edwards** picking up the victory with relief help from junior **Ryan Long**. "The bats should be coming alive soon," says Coach Mike Yeagley. Gates along with junior **Brandon Grice** have been picking up much of the offensive power. The Raiders pitching staff includes seniors **Jeremy Dake**, **Ryan Jones** and **Tony Herold** followed by Edwards and Long. Look for the Raiders to get back into the swing of things with a tough Big 9 schedule ahead.

-ANDREW RYAN

The **Varsity Softball** team is undefeated at 9-0 with **Kelly Kashmerick** and **Melissa Lee** leading the way. When this team plays defense, they can really do their opponent in. Other valuable impact players such as second baseman **Julie Babcock**, **Tiffany Martin** and **Heidi Yeagley** have got this season going with a bang. Catcher **Paula Diehl** and third baseman **Justin Kyle** also make this the team to beat. Softball action continues today at the Lapeer East tournament. The next Big Nine game is against Owosso at home on May 5.

-ROB BITZ

Boys' Track is racing toward the Big Nine. "This is the best team that we've had in 10 years," said Coach George Hackney after beating Kearsley for the first time in 25 years. The Raiders beat Clio 120-17 in the first home meet by grabbing first places in all events. **Adam Shultz** won the 100 m, **Tom Whitmire** won the 200 m and **Chris Ryan** won the 400 m. **Scott Vlahon** won the 800 m and **Mike Bentley** won the 1600. Then it was off to Frankenmuth where the Raiders placed first among 11 teams, led by Chris Ryan with 4:37 for the 1600 m. Bentley took the 3200 in 10:07. The relay team of **Ed Guzak**, **Mike Lintz**, Whitmire and Shultz won the 4x100m. and 4x200m.

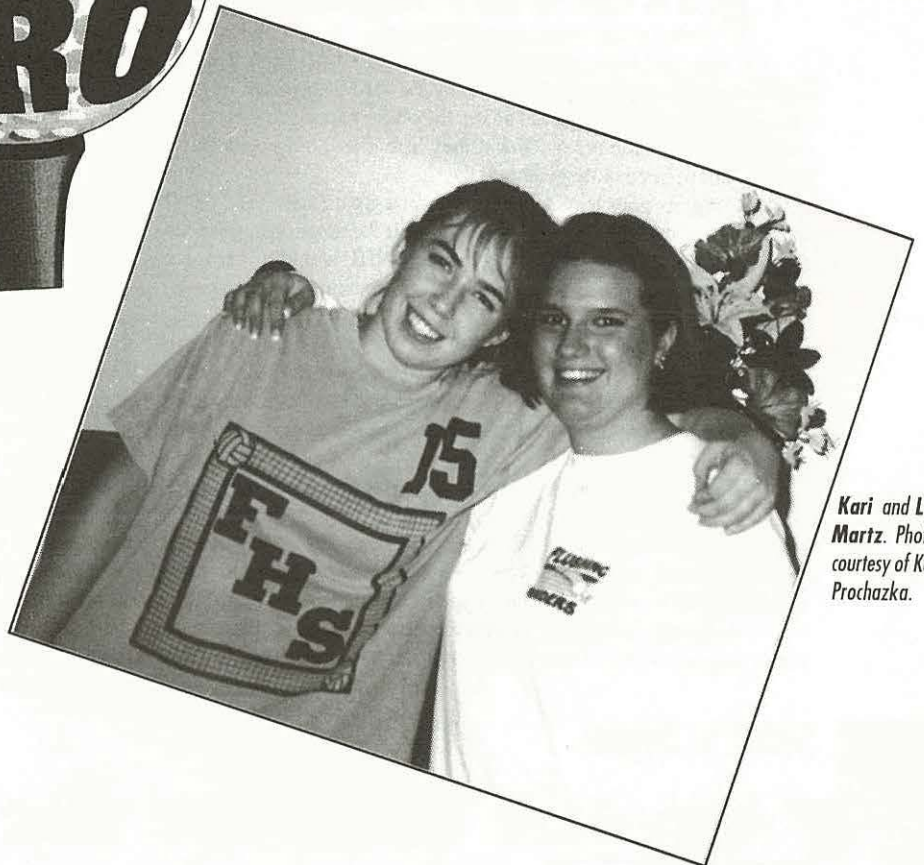
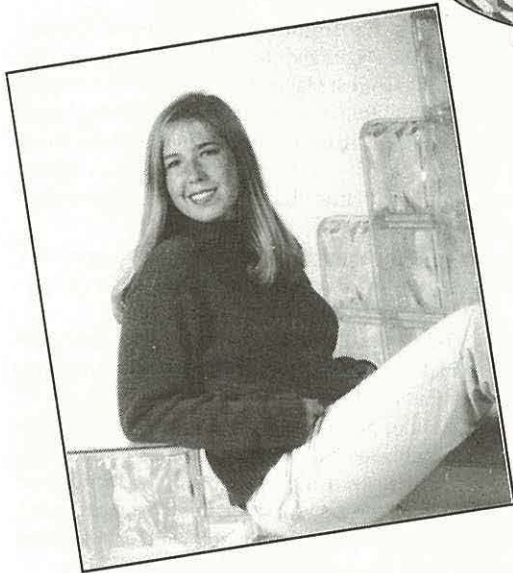
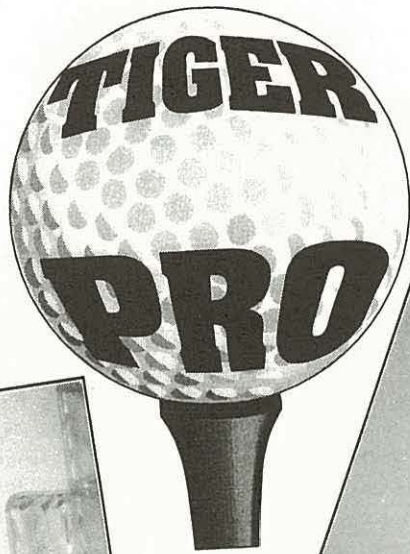
-ANDREW RYAN

The **Lady Kickers**, led by senior captain **Sarah Smith**, **Trisha Eavy** and junior captain **Becky Batey** have a record of 4-1-1 overall and 1-0-1 in the Big Nine as of April 24. Their four wins have come from Carman-Ainsworth, Lapeer west, Waterford Mott and Goodrich. Despite the loss to Saginaw Heritage and the 1-1 tie with Powers, Captain Smith sounded optimistic: "We improve every game and expect nothing less but to finish at the top of the Big Nine." Offensively **Julie Linseman** and **Jennifer Stanton** look strong. Linseman had a hat trick versus Carman. Stanton also scored the lone goal versus Carman. And the lone goal against Powers. The Raider defense is what looks to help these girls in the long run. Watch them take on the tough Grand Blanc Bobcats on Monday and the Swartz Creek Dragons at home on Thursday to finish up the Big Nine season.

-JEREMY DAKE

The **Girls' Track** victory over Kearsley April 22 put the girls track team at 2-0. **Heather Tonda** won the 100 m. hurdles with 17.9. **Megan Swenson** took both the 300 m. hurdles (51.6) and the long jump at 14-8. The Raider relay teams swept all distances. **Kate Shipley**, **Karen Sharrow**, **Anna Dutcher**, and **Jeni Gutscher** took the 3200 relay at 11.17. The 800 relay team of **Alicia Shepard**, **Sara Lecki**, **Heather Mordue** and **Megan Swenson** won with 1:55.4. The same four runners came back to complete the relay set at 400 m. in 54.0. **Brooke Vizena** won both the 1600 m. and 3200 m. with 5:59.8 and 13:17.5 respectively.

-ALANE MILLAR



Kari and Laura Martz. Photo courtesy of Kari Prochazka.

BY LINDSYE CAWTHRAY

There are a thousand words that one could use to describe Kari Prochazka, but the one that comes to mind first is active. She is involved with everything from National Honor Society to varsity volleyball and golf, and of course, she is a success in all of them.

As a freshman, Kari played on the freshman basketball and volleyball teams, and the varsity golf team, which she remembers as one of her biggest accomplishments in high school. She played number three golfer and finished with a strong season. After making Second Team All-Conference, she headed to the MHSAA State Finals in East Lansing for the first time.

"I was really excited about it because we placed as one of the top ten teams in the state," says Kari.

Her sophomore year was even bigger and better. Playing on the JV volleyball team and returning to the varsity golf team for her second year, Kari was determined to accomplish big things. Indeed she did. Averaging in the low 40's for Big Nine play earned her a spot on First Team All-Conference and another trip to the MHSAA State Finals. To top it off, she was named the Most Valuable Player by the golf team.

During her junior year, Kari found herself with hardly any spare time after she finished her schoolwork and extra-curricular activities. She was involved in SLO, Varsity Club, Captain's Corp., SADD, treasurer of NHS, secretary of BPA, and the secretary of the junior class.

Even being involved in several after school activities, Kari still managed to carry a 3.987 GPA. Pretty impressive.

Volleyball tryouts came around quickly her junior year and, sure enough, she made the varsity team. But her biggest season was yet to come.

April finally arrived and Kari was ready as ever to start playing golf. As an individual, she won the Davison invitational, shooting the low score of 82. She then placed in the top ten in the State Finals as an individual. Kari is only the second girl ever on the Flushing Girl's Varsity Golf team to make the All-State Team. Also; she won both First Team All-Conference and the MVP award for the second year in a row.

She recently wrapped up her senior volleyball season and is starting her most important golf season of her career.

Kari is still involved in several clubs and organizations and managing to keep up her grades. She is in the Top Ten of this year's graduating class.

After her senior year is over, Kari looks forward to a summer of playing in golf tournaments and traveling with her family and church youth group.

In the spare time Kari has, she enjoys golfing for fun with her father, hanging out with her friends, and going on vacations with both friends and family.

Next fall, Kari plans to attend either Michigan State University or Oakland University to major in engineering and to play on the golf team.



Bottweiler's Montreaux

Miscellaneous Potzmann

BY ERIK POTZMANN

From the back of my mind and the bottom of my junk pile comes the columns that almost were.

-I hope this is the year of the Red Wings. I have gone through much torment in my days in St. Louis by die hard Blues fans. I really don't want to see the Wings fail again, they have just worked too hard and gone through too much. But if they lose it will only be because they did not believe in themselves.

-Congrats goes to Mario Lemieux in a great finale. His talent would be truly missed. As I have said before if the thugs were gone the stars would shine brighter and longer. If the NHL would just enforce its own rules the game would be so much more exciting, not to mention people like Mario wouldn't be forced to retire early because of injuries.

-I would like to say good luck to all of the senior athletes in their final season here at FHS. May all of your competitions be full of wins, happiness, broken personal records, and most important good times.

-I hope every one is going to the Senior Celebration. Even though there were some problems with input and communication, fun is guaranteed. I have been to SVSU with someone who attends college there, and let me say it is one kicking place. Everything is top notch and wonderful. I will attend, and I hope to see you all there too.

-Although the Pistons are a great team this year I cannot see them going anywhere. They may get to the second round, but as much

as I hate to say it the Bulls look too strong to beat. Expect the Pistons to be on top of the league for several more years, but they won't win a championship for at least two years. I would like to see a wonderful person like Joe Dumars win another championship with the Pistons, but I think he will have to retire before they win again.

-Speaking of the Bulls I wish they would get rid of Dennis Rodman. He is a disgrace to the league and should be asked to retire. He is a tremendous athlete and is a great player, but he has too much of an attitude. He apparently hasn't "found" himself. I cannot fathom why he does the things he does and any reason he has given for those actions just doesn't seem right to me. It seems to me that he is an empty person putting up a great facade. I think he just needs a lot of attention, like a little spoiled brat.

-Here's to the '97 Tigers hoping that they won't do worse than last year. Buddy Bell is too good of a manager to have another disappointing season.

-Here's to the '97-98 Lions hoping that they can acquire some good talent in the draft and in free agents. I also hope they won't let go too many of the players that can help them win a Super Bowl.

-Last of all I would like to apologize for my mistake in my last column. I said that Glen Robinson and Vin Baker were on the Minnesota Timberwolves when they are really members of the Milwaukee Bucks. I knew this when I was writing the story, but for some reason I had the Timberwolves on my mind. I apologize to anyone if I have offended and I am truly sorry for committing such a grievous error.



Slok's Side

Anyone (not) for the Bulls?

BY RYAN SLOCUM

The NBA season is finally over and the playoffs have begun. Now I know most of you people are saying, "Slocum, what were you thinking when you picked Houston and Chicago?" Well, that probably won't happen, but it could. In fact anything could happen in this year's playoffs.

This year the race to the playoffs was crazy. On the last day of the regular season almost half of the playoff seeds changed. This included the game between Washington and Cleveland to see who would get whooped by Chicago.

This year's East division of the NBA was the best of all time. There were six teams who won over 50 games, and four of which ended only three games apart. New York, Atlanta, Detroit and Charlotte moved back and forth from the three to the six seed all year long, right up to the last day. With a win over Indiana, Detroit snuck into the Five seed. Atlanta got the four, Charlotte got the six, and with a huge win over the slumping Bulls, New York got the three.

The one thing that makes these playoffs crazy is the Bulls. They are still everyone's pick to come out of the east, but loads of injuries have sent them on a huge slide.

Chicago lost three out of the last four games and looked terrible. They'll have to be on top of their game to make it through the East.

In the East's first round games, I'm taking Chicago, Detroit, New York and Miami. In round two Chicago will beat Detroit in Five,

and Miami will take New York in seven. This leaves Chicago and Miami in the conference finals. The winner of this game will probably win the whole deal. I'll take Chicago in seven just because of Jordan, but I won't be surprised if Miami takes it.

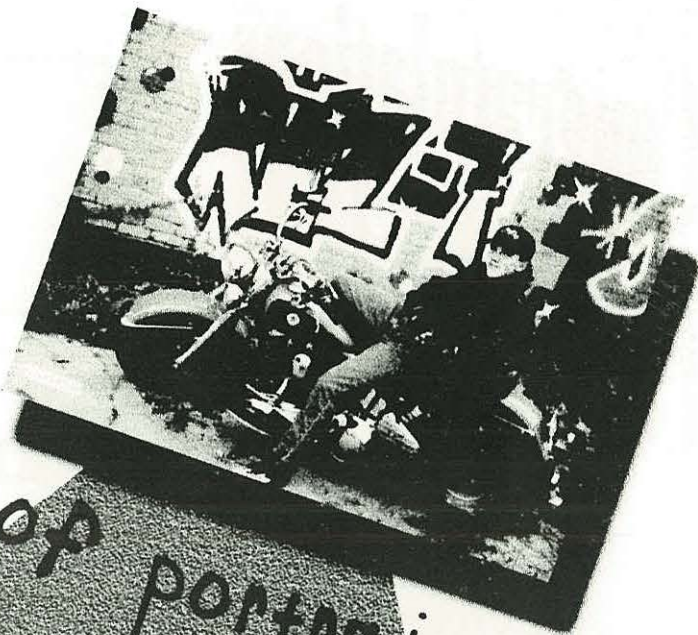
The race in the west was just as crazy as the east. On the last day the two, three, and four seeds were all decided. With the Laker's loss, Seattle received the two seed. The loss gave the Lakers the four and Houston grabbed the three. Houston with the three will have to play Minnesota. I believe this is the most important series in the playoffs. Houston, when healthy, is one of the best teams in the league, but Barkley and Drexler keep going down. On the other hand, Minnesota is the youngest team in the league, and if Houston is hurt, the Timberwolves will ruin them. The importance of this series is who will play at Seattle in the second round. If Minnesota wins, Seattle will have it easy, but if Houston wins, I believe they will take our the Sonics.

So in the first round I'll take Utah, LA, Houston, and Seattle. In round two, I'm going with the double upset with LA beating the Jazz and Houston beating the Sonics. This leaves the Lakers and Houston. This will be a battle between Shaq and the Dream, but I believe the strong bench of the Lakers will pull them through.

In the finals I pick the Bulls and the Lakers. The Lakers will put up a fight but the playoffs are Jordan's domain and in the end it will be the Bulls in five.

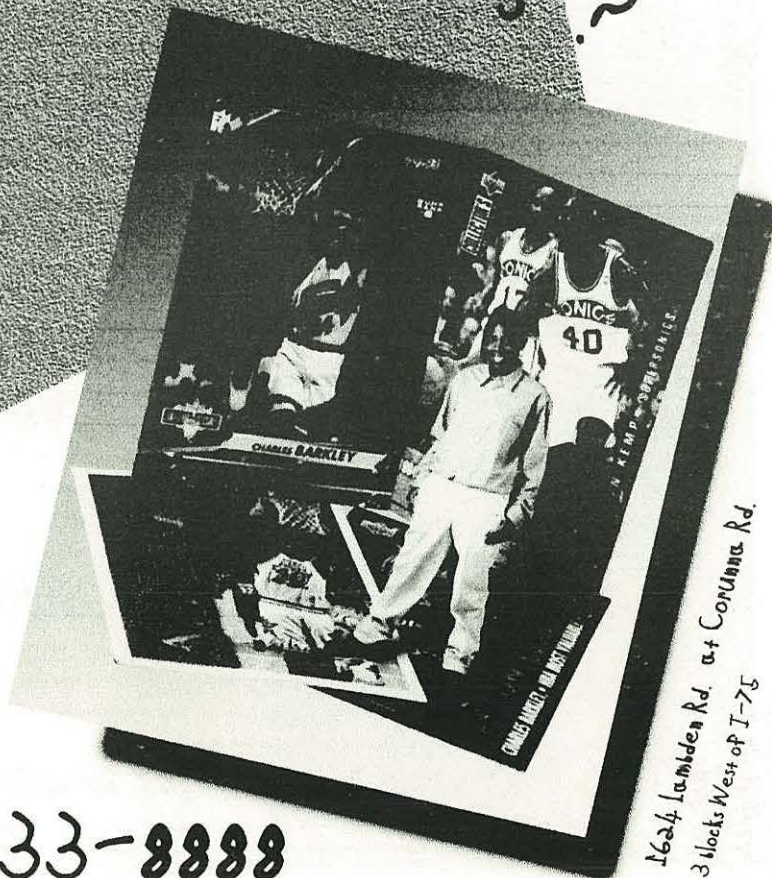
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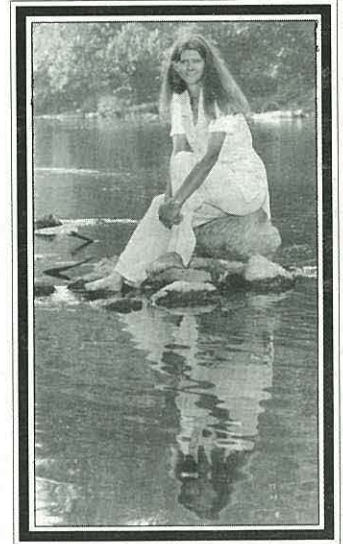
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