

The

Flushing High School's Independent Voice

SPARTAN

Blazer

Volume 49 Issue 9

Fun & Games



June 1997

Flushing, MI 48433

The Blazer

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Letter from the Editor



PAMZERBINOS

Hello, and welcome to the seniors' last day of school. I don't know about everyone else, but I'm pretty excited about that whole concept. I'm sure the rest of my class is with me on that one. To be honest, this letter is a hard one to write. Normally I can just ramble

and congratulate various people for the cool stuff they do (for instance, Ryan Nagel bowled a 300 a while back), and save the heavy stuff for the last issue. Well, this is the last issue, and there's no more procrastination allowed. It's an interesting feeling, but not one that I'm capable of describing. Seniors, you know what I mean. Underclassmen... just wait. I promise that no one's lying to you when they say "it'll be here sooner than you think." It may not come as quickly as you'd like it to, but it still manages to be here sooner than you think. However, not being prone to sentimentality, I'll move on.

I'd like to wish Mr. Dean well in both his recovery and his retirement; anyone who had the chance to be in his class is pretty lucky. The same goes for Mr. Burroughs; I'd be watching for him on "Jeopardy."

Congrats goes out to the varsity softball team for beating Kearsley. Here at the *Blazer*, we know something you guys don't know- the *Kearsley Eclipse* (their school paper) ran a big ol' front page story about how great their softball team was, and our team beat them twice in a doubleheader. They're featured on pages 32 and 33, so you might want to give that a look.

Other cool stuff that you might want to take a look at is the Stanley Kubrick spread (he's the guy who did "A Clockwork Orange") and we put a new spin on the whole "Top Ten of the Senior Class" thing.

Anyway, I have a feeling I'm running out of space here, so I'll say good-bye to everyone one last time (sniffle, sniffle)... it's been a hell of a run...

Pam

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, 1996, and 1997 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

Lucinda Olsen's name was misspelled, and we forgot to put in the paragraph above that we won the '97 Spartan as well. The Spartan judge was misquoted; she really said that our artists were "exceptionally talented," not our writers.

Write us at: FHS - Blazer Staff 5039 Deland Rd. Flushing, MI 48433
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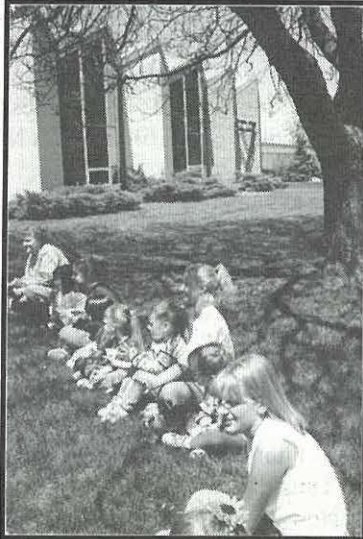


Features Editor Ron Bailey puts up the guns. He was attending the annual *Blazer* awards Banquet. This was Ron's first year and he was given the award for being the most improved staff member. "I went and found the most expensive thing I could find on the menu. I ordered it, and it was good," was Ron's reply when asked about the banquet. Photo by Lisa Fotenakes.

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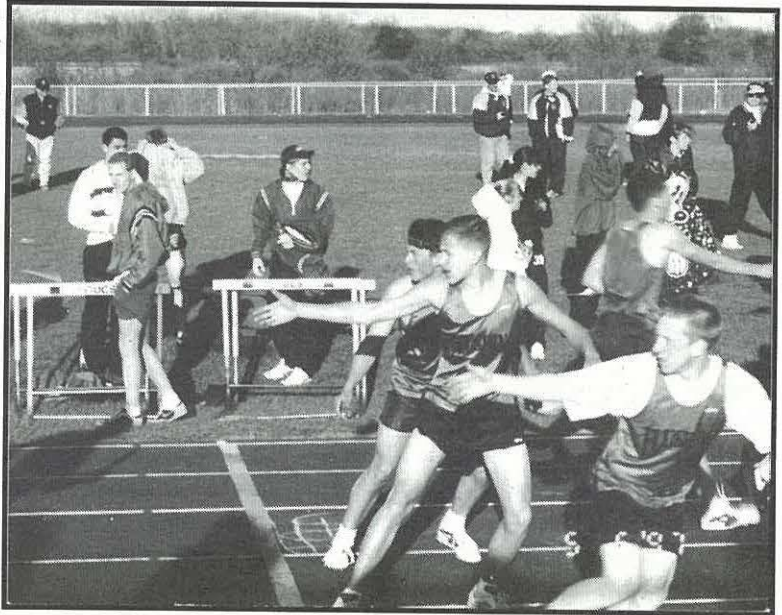
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On the Cover



Senior Tiffany Martin, and freshman Jenny McCollum play duck-duck-goose with their daycare kids. The child development class offers free daycare to help students learn more about child development
Photo by April Jacques.

Sophomore Eric Nelsestuen, Junior Doug Hubbel, and Senior Cam Smith await the baton from their relay teammates. The Raiders were running against Owosso. Last year Owosso beat the Raiders 69-68, this year the Raiders avenged the loss 81-56.
Photo by Jeff Richards.



Behind the scenes in the Blazer room
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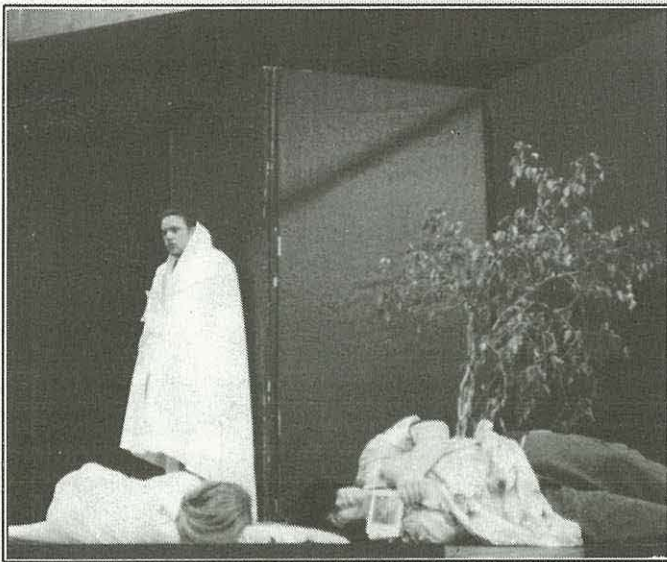
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Juniors Doug Poropat and Tom Whitmire help clean up the courtyard. The group spent a Saturday removing stumps and hauling soil and sod.
Photo by Katie Sharrow-Reabe.

A Midsummer Night's Dream



Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" was performed by Ms. Sharrow's first hour English 10 class on May 2. Above, Dan Shepard plays the part of the moon, as Scott Raquepaw and Michelle Figgins play the parts of Pyramus and Thisby. Photo by April Jacques.

Reinhard-Phillips prepared to teach A.P. English

By Karin Pierson

Next year a lively and energetic woman, Mary Reinhard-Phillips will be teaching the new A.P. (Advanced Placement) English class. She will be assuming Miss Moore's position in teaching the new curriculum, which has not yet been planned. Mrs. Reinhard-Phillips will be teaching two A.P. classes and three English 10 classes. In order to prepare for teaching an advanced placement class, Mrs. Reinhard-Phillips will be attending a conference this summer with about 20 other teachers on how to teach the class. She also teaches classes at Baker College, which will give her experience. Before the school year ends, she will be meeting with a teacher from another Michigan school, who teaches an A.P. class. Mrs. Reinhard-Phillips is meeting with him to find out how to prepare students for the A.P. English exam. Next year's A.P. English class will be literature-based with some writing and a lot of reading.

Mrs. Reinhard-Phillips says she was chosen by Miss Moore to teach this class because Miss Moore knew that she was interested in it.

"This class should have a lot of motivated students because it is not the teacher's goal, but the student's goal, to do well on the Advanced Placement English exam," said Mrs. Reinhard-Phillips.

Mrs. Reinhard-Phillips teaches in a very logical manner, and believes "we can have fun in class and work at the same time," she said.

"I like to act and talk things out more, because the more you get involved, the more you learn."

Substitute teacher to return next year

By Mark Kleindler

These past six months you may have noticed a younger looking person walking around the school, not knowing whether she was a new student or a substitute teacher. Miss Katie Baumbach has been a substitute teacher here for six months. She is filling in for Mrs. Fons, who was on sick leave.

Next, year Miss Baumbach will be back to do her student teaching. She will be teaching three hours of English and three hours of Spanish.

Miss Baumbach graduated from Atherton High in 1993 and then went on to Michigan State University for one semester before transferring to U of M-Flint. She obtained a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degree with English as her major, and Spanish as her minor. She has been going to school at U of M Flint these past six months from 4-7 Monday through Thursday after a long day teaching at the high school. Now, she has gone back to MSU to take one class and complete her degree.

Miss Baumbach's first teaching job was at Flint Central where she was a tutor aid in Spanish and E.S.L. (English as a second language).

"I was really nervous because I was teaching my minor first," she admitted about the Flushing assignment. She also believes her student teaching will be a lot easier because she has some experience and better classroom management. Miss Baumbach also added, "the students kept me youthful, they kept me up with fashion, music, and the latest gossip. They were better than I expected. They are also all intelligent, self-motivated, hardworking, and very serious about their education."

The hardest thing about teaching is grading papers and time management. Her most enjoyable experience was the lip sync with her class, in which each of her students had to lip sync a Spanish song.

In her spare time Miss Baumbach enjoys volleyball, basketball, weightlifting. She also teaches one aerobic class, and enjoys writing and reading. Growing up and living in Grand Blanc, Miss Baumbach has always wanted to be a teacher. Now at age 21 she has had her first opportunity.



Above: Miss Baumbach helps Ryan Kunc in Spanish class. Photo by Zach Pauley.

Out with the old, in with the new

Courtyard renovation project brings community together

By **KRISTEN BROOKS & JIM COMER**

What is all the fuss about the courtyard?

Weeks ago, the Environmental Action Group, sponsored by Donn Hinds, started off the cleanup by raking the area. Mr. David Hedges, a junior class sponsor, knew that there was more work to be done, and his goal was to have it looking brand-new by prom night. By pulling a group of students and parents together, he set up a committee and went to work.

"When people put their minds together," said David Bickel, principal. "It's amazing what they can achieve."

They went from one corner of the courtyard to the other, doing everything from cutting down trees to re-laying sod and dirt. Holes were dug and filled in, and trees and flowers were planted.

"I was impressed with the effort the students put in," said Hedges. "Some workers were under the impression that they would only be there for a couple of hours, but worked for half the day, weekend after weekend."

Many of the materials that were used were donated. The volunteers that worked received a great amount of support from area businesses.

"I think it's really great to see the business community, the students, and parents get together and work on a project that will benefit all, not just now but for years to come," said Kim Vaughn, junior class president.

Not all volunteers can be named, but no one will go unthanked for their hard work and time.

Now that the courtyard is finished, the changes are here to stay. It will be open for Prom night. After that it will be closed.



Top: The overgrown shrubbery was reduced to mulch by Jim Unsel and his grandson Jim Comer. Mr. Unsel donated his time and efforts all weekend.

Above: The central flowerbed was prepared for a sundial by Beth Gifford, Amanda Liggett, Adam Romoslawski, and Jenny Gutscher.

Left: Mike Gates, Jason Roesner, and Grant Nelsestuen dig up sod so that a flowerbed could be placed there later.

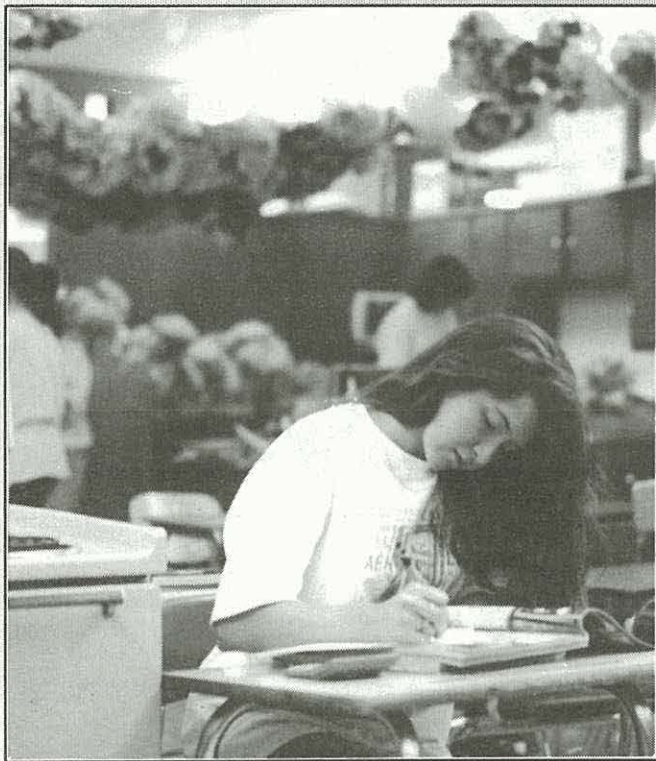
Photos by Katie Sharrow-Reabe.

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The final preparations



In the weeks before Prom, Mrs. Robinson's classroom became the storage area for many decorations. Flowers hung from the ceiling, and huge papier mache objects filled the rear of the classroom. Here, junior Nicole Ward studies in the midst of all the preparations going on. Photo by Dave Campbell.

By LISA FOTENAKES

Students become lawyers for annual Law Day

By DOUG ISHAM

About twenty-two years ago, Mr. Yeagley and various other visionaries of the Genesee County Bar Association joined making the first inter-scholastic "Law Day" activity. This is a celebration of the United States judicial system. The activity is somewhat similar to the celebration of the military in the former Soviet Union. Since the first year here in Genesee County, the idea of a student involved "Law Day" has spread across

The basic concept and planning of the activity hasn't changed much in the past years since 1975. The students in criminal justice classes of twenty different schools within the Genesee County area gather at the Circuit Court in downtown Flint. The activities begin at nine o'clock in the morning with speakers from various criminal justice fields, as well as numerous college officials. At eleven o'clock the students break for a lunch. At one o'clock, the mock trials begin. The legal council of the trials are as follows; a defense team from one school is matched up against a prosecution team from another school, a jury is comprised of students from several different schools, and a professional judge from the Genesee County Court System presides over the trial. At approximately four o'clock, the trials are wrapped up and the students go home educated and enlightened.

This year the defense team-(Lisa Cole, and Kristen Brooks) from Flushing was matched up against a prosecution team from Genesee, with jurors from Montrose and Northwestern. The charges brought against the defendant-(Jason Roesner) were carjacking, robbery, and assault with a deadly weapon. If convicted, the defendant faced the "three strikes, you're out" life sentence policy. The witnesses called, were Kari Winters, and Jeff Griffis, and also Allison Thodoroff as a hair & fiber expert. Judge Robert Ransom presided over the trial. The defendant was found not guilty on all charges.

FHS has won the best performance award eight years out of the past ten, including winning it this year.

There is no prerequisite for participating, other than you must be in the eleventh, or twelfth grades, and you must be in the criminal justice class. Mr. Yeagley is in charge of picking the people that participate. Inquire with Mr. Yeagley if you are interested.

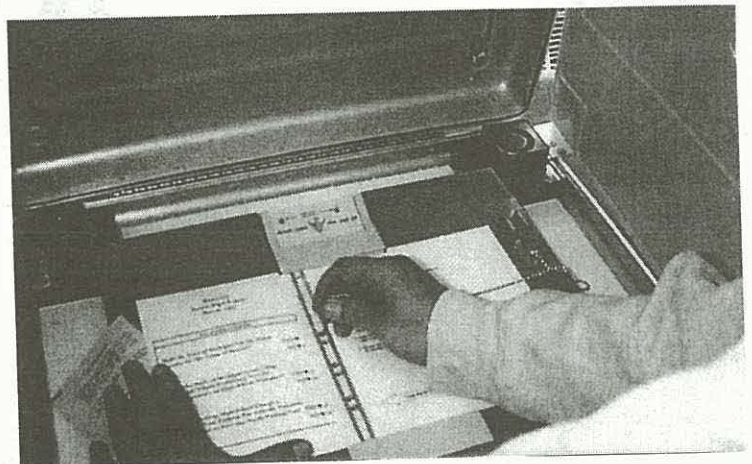
Government classes host voter registration, mock election

By TIM CHURCH

A twenty-dollar annual parking fee sounds like a good idea to 60% of the 121 seniors who "voted" in government class on Tues., May 6. The fictitious proposal suggested the fee to raise funds to pave the parking lot.

Voter registration was held for 18-year-old seniors in Mr. Polehanki's and Mr. Dean's government classes. The student's had a chance to vote on topics like the death penalty, (71% were for, 29% were opposed) and banning use of the HSPT as a graduation requirement (63% were for banning it, 37% were opposed)

Mrs. Ida Reed, Flushing Township Clerk, and a few of her associates gave a demonstration on how to vote, why voting is important to our future, and gave 90 students the chance to vote.



Above: Jason Melancon casts his vote in the mock elections. Photo by Tim Church.

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Drunks to risk more than a driver's license

By **KRISTEN BROOKS**

A drunk driver may lose his/her car. Michigan Legislature made in effect April 1, 1997 a drunk driving forfeiture law.

After April 1, 1997 anyone pulled over for drunk driving, operating under the influence of drugs or alcohol (OUID), or operating while intoxicated (OWI) will pay more consequences than a night in jail and a large fine. By courts jurisdiction they may lose their vehicle. "This will give us one more tool to make it safer for drivers," says Judge Lancaster, District 67. A person convicted of drunk driving or OUID can get their vehicle seized on first offense. If convicted of OWI, with one prior offense within the last seven years or two within the last 10 years they may get their vehicle seized. The vehicle is seized regardless of age, gender, or race.

In order for the vehicle that the drunk driver is driving to be seized, they must have some kind of legal ownership in the vehicle. One can't get their vehicle seized for letting their friend drive it, or a parent for letting their child, unless the driver is on the title.

"What happens to your vehicle," is the question many people ask. The court orders the unit of government in which the ticket was given to seize the vehicle. That unit of government then has the right to sell the car. The owner, drunk driver, do not get the car back. Although, if the vehicle has a co-owner and it was taken without his/her consent, they will receive their fair share of the vehicle's value after it is sold. The remains of the money the unit of government will pay for any injuries, and pay the bank that held the security interest in the vehicle. The driver will not receive any of the money. "If they're stupid enough to drink and drive," says senior Mike Striler, "then they deserve to get their car taken away." If the vehicle is on a lease, the car will be returned to the dealership from which the vehicle was leased.

Survey shows students not fazed by drunk driving

A survey was recently conducted during lunch time regarding student's views about drunk driving. 110 people participated in the survey. The results are as follows:

Have you ever ridden with a drunk driver?

32% said "No"
63% said "Yes"
5% said "Don't know"

Do you fear drunk drivers?

16% said "Yes"
74% said "No"
10% said "Don't know"

Do you think punishments are strict enough for drunk drivers?

66% said "No"
26% said "Yes"
7% said "Don't know"

By **DANIELLE SABOURIN & KRISTEN BANACKI**

"It won't happen to me"

By **RYAN NAGEL**

It won't happen to me.

"Hey man, I'm all right. Just leave me alone."

"You shouldn't be doin' this."

"Why not? I do it all the time, and have I ever been caught or killed anyone? Just get in, all right?"

"All right."

After leaving the party at 2:00 am, Bobby jumped in the drivers seat while Tommy took shotgun of Bobby's new 1997 Z71 Chevy Truck that had recently been jacked up. They were flying between cars that were parked on both sides of the street trying to get out of the subdivision.

At the same time, a little girl and her mother, just returning from grandmother's house in Chicago, were trying to get home to get a good night's sleep. Coming down the street, they saw a huge truck heading right towards them.

Five minutes later, Bobby was pinned underneath his truck.

"Ah, Tommy are you there? Answer me!"

"Are you all right, son?"

"Yeah, where's Tommy?"

"Just don't move, son. We'll have you out in a minute."

Bobby was on his way to the hospital after being cut out of his truck by the jaws of life. He knows nothing of anyone else's condition. He goes to Genesys Regional Medical Center to get checked for any injuries and submits to a blood test.

Six hours later in the hospital he had a visitor.

"Bobby, you have the right to remain silent, anything you say from this point forward can be used in a court of law. You have the right to an attorney. If you can't afford one the court will appoint you one. Do you understand these rights?"

"Yeah, but...but what did I do?"

"You remember the accident don't you?"

"Yeah but..."

"Remember your friend Tommy, and the child, and the mother in the car that you hit?"

"Are they all right?"

"No son, I'm sorry, you're under arrest for vehicular homicide while under the influence of alcohol."

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A parting thanks for teachers

Is the room too hot? Too cold? Am I talking loud enough? Do they understand? Should I let her go to the bathroom? Or is she really going to the pop machine? Is the kid in the back asleep, sick, or drugged out? Should I close the door, or leave it open? If I assign homework, will they do it? Will they understand if I tell them to go read? Are they going to be ready for the test tomorrow? Will I have the test made in time for tomorrow? What's the objective of this lesson? What's the best way to present it? What materials should I use? Is the library open? Will the copy machine break down?

If you recognize that thought process, you're probably a teacher. Those are just some of the literally hundreds of decisions that teachers are forced to make day after day after day.

As a mental process, decision-making is exhausting. Add to that 7 hours on your feet and the fact that teachers are constantly reacting and responding to the people they teach, answering questions about everything from "well, if I were your kid, would you let me..." to "who shot President Garfield" and "I don't understand what happened to the 2x."

And then there are the assorted trouble-makers- how severely do you punish some kid for throwing spitballs, talking back or being insubordinate? How closely do you listen to the boys in the back talk about getting drunk this past weekend?

What do you do about the stream of expletives coming from their mouths, or the cigarettes you happen to see in their pocket?

Sounds like a walk in the park, right? Something like that.

A number of this year's seniors are going into teaching. Why? Maybe because they'll get the summers off, or because they think it's a matter of handing out crossword puzzles and running pieces of paper through the Scan-tron machine. Maybe some of them honestly want to help people, want to have an impact on someone's life, want to change the world and make it a better place. For those skeptics that think teachers don't really change the world, let's face it- a moron's not any use to society. Teachers are some of the few people that have the cure for idiocy.

Realistically speaking, who are you going to remember in 20 years? Your first date? The group you went to Homecoming with? The captain of the football team? That girl who sat behind you in math class? All doubtful.

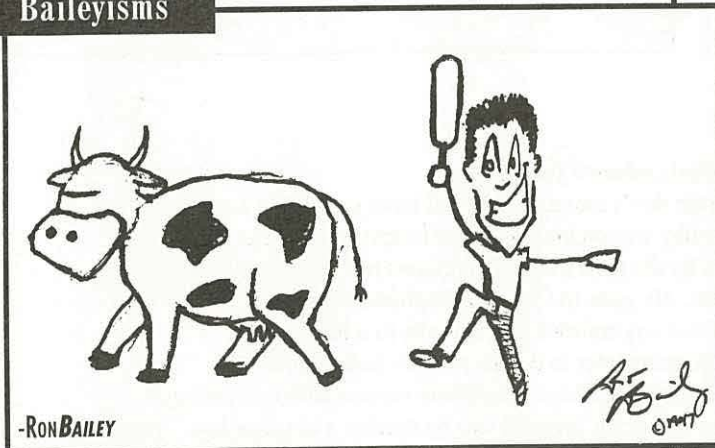
But you're going to remember the teachers. Not all of them of course, but some of them are going to be with you forever. Teachers serve as role models, father figures, surrogate mothers, shoulders to cry on, advice givers, mentors, and oh, yeah- they've taught you almost everything you know.

Perhaps someone should thank them sometime.

Empty Spot

BY MIKE ROBSON

Baileisms



-RON BAILEY

Johnny Bignoggin's mother had always told him not to paddle the magical fire-breathing cow, and he found out why two seconds after he did it.

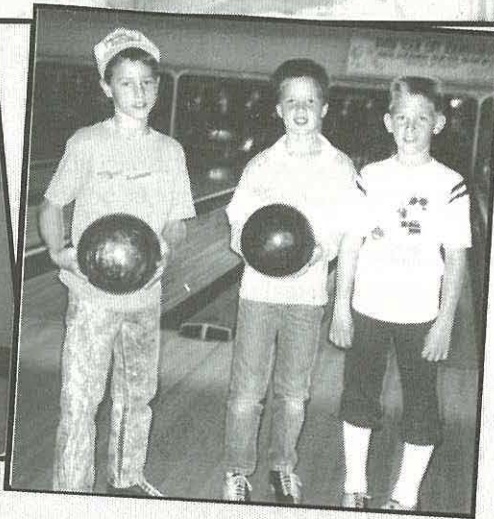


Opinions
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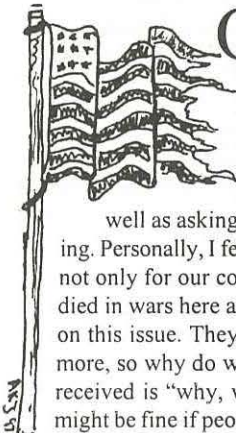
Blazer

Guess who...



Answers
 Far left: Jeff Clark (left) and Jeremy Dake say good-bye to their old Elms lockers after 6th grade appreciation. Photo courtesy of Jeremy Dake.
 Top left: From left, Michelle Lintz, Mike Lintz, and Celeste Boudreau do some early bonding. Photo courtesy of Michelle Lintz.
 Bottom left: Check out those pants! From left, Zach Pawley, Ryan Jones and Ryan Hammond get their first taste of bowling in an elementary gym class. Photo courtesy of Zach Pawley.

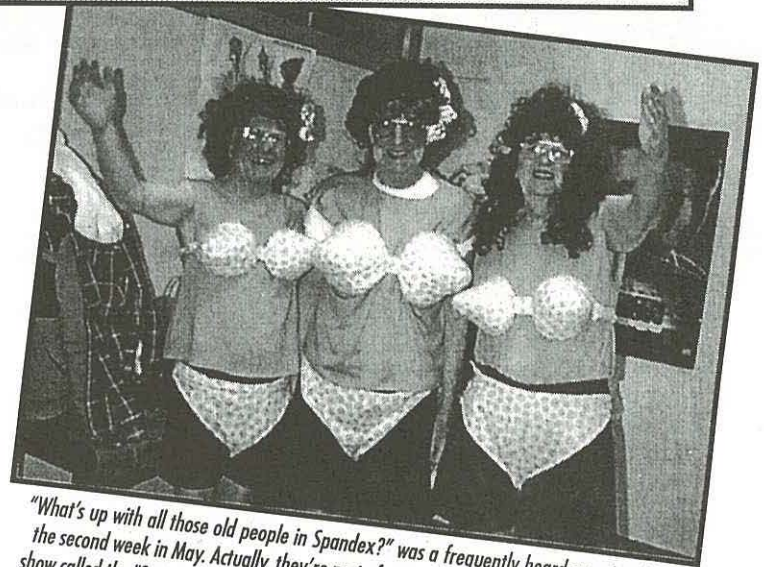
Flag in state of disgrace



Oh say, can you see the flag in your classroom? Some of you will be saying "yes" and some will be saying "no." For those of you who are saying "no," are you wondering why you don't see a flag? Well, so am I.

Why do some classrooms have a flag while others do not? I have asked myself this question, as well as asking it of others. The answers I've received are surprising. Personally, I feel we need a flag in every classroom to show respect, not only for our country's history, but for those who have fought and died in wars here and abroad. Many people have the opposite opinion on this issue. They say, "we don't say the Pledge of Allegiance anymore, so why do we need a flag in the classroom?" Another answer I received is "why, when we have a flag in front of the school?" That might be fine if people were aware of the condition of the school's flag. The flag, for those of you who don't know, isn't well-lit at night or maintained. It is torn, tattered, and completely worn. It has served us too long and needs to be put to rest and replaced. Though everyone has a different feeling about whether or not we need a flag in the classroom, everyone can agree that the current flag in front of the school is a disgrace, and disrespectful.

-ELLIOT **BASNER**
 senior



"What's up with all those old people in Spandex?" was a frequently heard question during the second week in May. Actually, they're part of a senior citizen Broadway revue / talent show called the "Senior Follies" that manages to sell out seven shows a year. The men above, (from left) Bob, Floyd, and Ron (Jack is not pictured, but was also part of the act), put on yellow polka-dot bikinis and danced to "Itsy Bitsy Teeny Weeny Yellow Polka Dot Bikini." We understand it was hilarious. Photo by Peggy Goodwill.

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.

Independence Day not always a picnic

BY MALENE MORTENSEN

Sitting at my bedroom window, looking out at a clear Danish summer night, I see candles shining from far away. This night in May is the only night you'll see those beautiful lights floating in the dark as far as your eyes can reach. The candles tell a story of hope and joy. A story I will tell you.

This yearly tradition is our quiet way of celebrating our Independence Day. It all started in April of 1940. When Nazi Germany took over Denmark as part of World War II, one of the many regulations issued by the Nazis was that people were forbidden to have lights on in their homes after dark. If they did, they had to have blackout curtains covering their windows so that no light would slip out. This was ordered so the Allies' planes couldn't use the lights from cities to navigate in the night, and so German headquarters could not be bombed as easily.

When freedom came in 1945, people tore down the blackout curtains and left the light on all night. They made big fires in the streets, burning blackout curtains and Nazi swastika flags.

That is why we, as a symbol of this freedom, leave candles lit between the 4th and 5th of May. Even though the message of freedom came on the evening of the 4th, the 5th is consid-

ered our Independence Day because it was the first morning in years that Denmark woke up as a free nation.

That freedom is only 52 years old. That suddenly adds a lot more seriousness to the remembrance of this day- when we still have people around who went through it. Hearing the story of war and misery, of resistance group, of hope, and of our grandparents smuggling Jews out of Denmark to safety makes the whole memory feel like a fresh wound that is trying to heal.

Along with the candle light tradition, we go to nearby churches to sing hymns from that era and listen to recordings of the radio liberty message.

Our Independence Day is not a national holiday with picnics, fireworks, and people who don't remember what the whole thing stands for. It's a national remembrance, one of the most important days in our country's history.

Sure, many young people of my generation are beginning to think it's stupid to keep remembering it. But Neo-Nazism is on the rise in Germany, and hatred and racism are right around the corner. It is still as important as it ever was to keep remembering this day; maybe one day the pure light from the candles in the night will spread to the hearts of humans.

One Minute Survey

Personalities and perfect 10s

BY STEPHANIE WILSON

Tell us about yourself...

On a scale of 1 - 10, 10 being high, how good do you look?

Females consider themselves a 6.7

Males consider themselves an 8 (but 16 of them think they're a perfect 10)

Same scale, but now rate how healthy your lifestyle is

Females and males both consider themselves to be fairly healthy, averaging around a 7.5

What do you like best about yourself?

31 % of females like their personality

27 % of males like their sense of humor

What would you change about yourself if given the chance?

56 % of females would improve their looks before anything else

29 % of males would improve their intelligence

The One Minute Survey was conducted on Friday, May 2 during A, B and C lunches. A total of 110 people answered questions about themselves and their lifestyle. The average female rated herself at a 6.7, although 27% rated themselves slightly higher, at an 8. Only 10% of females consider themselves a 10, compared with 25% of males.

When asked about their lifestyle, both males and females answered along the same lines, with the average health rating being a 7.2 for females and a 7.6 for males. However, 46% of females exercise less than 7 hours a week (30% of males exercise between 7 and 10 hours), and 33 % of respondents say they never read nutrition labels on food.



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Illustration by ANDREW HELMS.

In Your Face

Seniors -

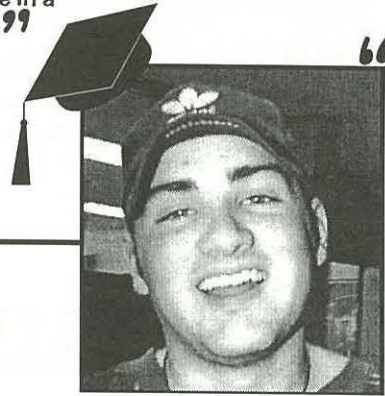
what was the most memorable part of your high school years?



“ Meeting Mrs. Harshfield ”
- MATT NORKO
senior



“ Tying Grand Blanc in soccer. First time in a VERY long time ”
- SHANNON JOHNSON
senior



“ Winning soccer districts two years in a row ”
- GREG RHODES
senior

Underclassmen -

What are you looking forward to most about your senior year?



“ Not being in Mr. Kaza's chemistry class ”
- AMANDA LIGGETT
junior



“ Two hours of Physics with Mr. Yenior every morning ”
- SARA ROBINSON
junior



“ Having field trips and excused skipping ”
- KATIE CLARK
junior

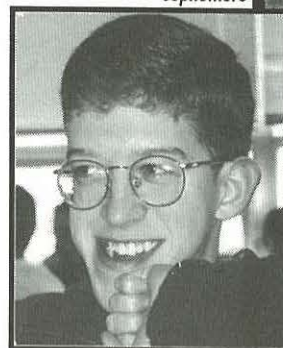


“ To stick my nose in the air and say 'ha, ha, I'm a senior' ”
- JENI USERY
junior

“ Getting a wicked custom-made 'Class of 1999' lunch box ”
- NOEL SNYDER
sophomore



This year's photo survey has been brought to you by Ali Buell & Kendra King.



“ Winning the 'Best Body' award for Senior Personalities ”
- DANNY DUPUIS
sophomore

Opportunity to say good-bye

BY DANIELLE SABOURIN

I run my fingers over the silky smooth marble, one knee up and the other covered in black dirt and grass seed, speaking to you like you were sitting in front of me and just not responding. My sad voice trails off into tears. I stand up, flicking a cigarette into the grass that surrounds all the other graves. On my way home, I pass a semi-truck and my heart skips a long beat as my car blows a couple inches off the expressway. Grabbing the wheel of my car and controlling my anger toward the damage that semi-trucks have done to my life.

A blazer crosses the median and a semi avoids hitting the blazer, smashing dangerously into a small compact car. The car flies off the two-lane highway onto the shoulder, flipping onto its hood. The passengers grasp their seats, trying to stay in one piece. Of the four people, one was tragically injured and would

only live for 20 more hours. I screamed when I heard the news-how could this happen to my boyfriend, the one I was with only a few days before?

A stop sign appears suddenly through the fog. Smash.

Nathan left and went to a harmless senior party. No one thought that they would never talk to him again. He was indestructible, we thought... he thought. He was Big Nate, and no one or nothing could hurt him. He was just too big for that little Camaro, and the semi-truck was just enormous. The impact was just too great and they were gone in a matter of seconds. Everyone was in a sad state of disbelief. Sadness grabbed the whole town with a tremendous force. I wish there was a way to go back and just say good-bye.

Bakuri

BY ANDREW HELMS



Ageless wonders retire



Ahh, grasshopper

By HEATHER McLEOD

This is Mr. Dean's last year of teaching and along with him a legacy of Comparative Religions retires. A few things come to mind when former students think of Mr. Dean: vinyl records, the meaning of life, and "Saturday

Night Live." He gives his students more than just knowledge about government and religion. He gives them a little piece of his own laid-back nature.

"He's like a 65 year old hippie," says Wendy Stratton.

His classes are without pressure and filled with creativity. To lighten the mood during his classes he plays his old records. The tunes vary from The Beatles to Creedence Clearwater Revival. He works his "hippie music" into his Comparative Religions class.

"I learned the meaning of life, the zen of Zeppelin," comments Brent Leighton.

"I'll be hearing that stupid 'Hare Krishna' song in my head forever." says John Welch.

The class opens students' eyes to new ideas and free thinking.

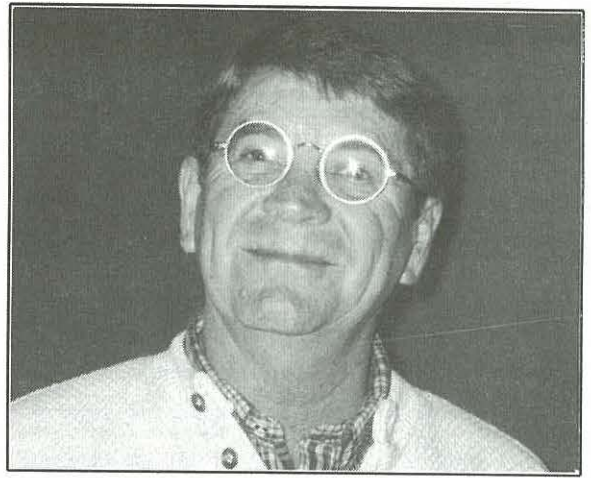
"A cool thing he used to do is close the shades during class and then say, 'Do you want to see a new tree?' Then he would open them and there would be the same tree as before, but it was just another moment so he explained that it made the tree new," Matt Popovits recalls.

He has many friends amongst his colleagues. His good natured personality has made him popular with many people.

"We started here (at Flushing High) 31 years ago and developed as friends socially and professionally... he is laid-back and relaxed," Mr. Yeagley says.

Mr. Burroughs agrees, "He has a great philosophy; he doesn't take life too seriously. He is a refreshing person to be around."

This year Mr. Dean really means it when he says, "I'm a senior too." He will be graduating to his cherry farm in Traverse City because he claims, "it is my dharma."



Left: Mr. Dean in the 1980 yearbook. Above: Same fun loving guy, different decade. Photo by Ali Buell.



Southern charm and intellect

By HEATHER McLEOD

English teacher Mr. Burroughs is known for the use of history in his classes. He started teaching at Flushing as a History teacher 29 years ago before he became an English teacher. He has a class exclusively his called Twentieth Century Literature.

"He knows so much about history. He weaves that into his literature classes," Rebecca Williams adds, "one time he sang and danced for us."

"I thought he was Hitler when I first met him, but he turned out to be Mr. Rogers," comments Karen Weissert.

He often entertains his classes with his southern accents and his animated portrayals of characters from books. His classes expose students to many of the great classic literature pieces. The discussions that take place in his classes explore human nature and social injustices. Everyone is free to voice their opinion and explore new ideas. Mr. Burroughs is most widely known as an intellectual. He seems to have a bottomless chasm of knowledge.

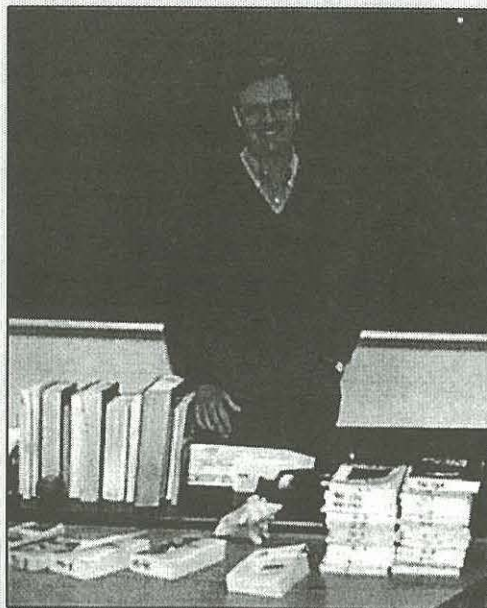
"Mr. Burroughs had a unique skill of knowing everything," comments former student Mike Kunc (FHS'96).

"He should be on 'Jeopardy'," adds Traci Kendall.

It is not only students that find him to have an aura of intelligence. Fellow teachers also agree.

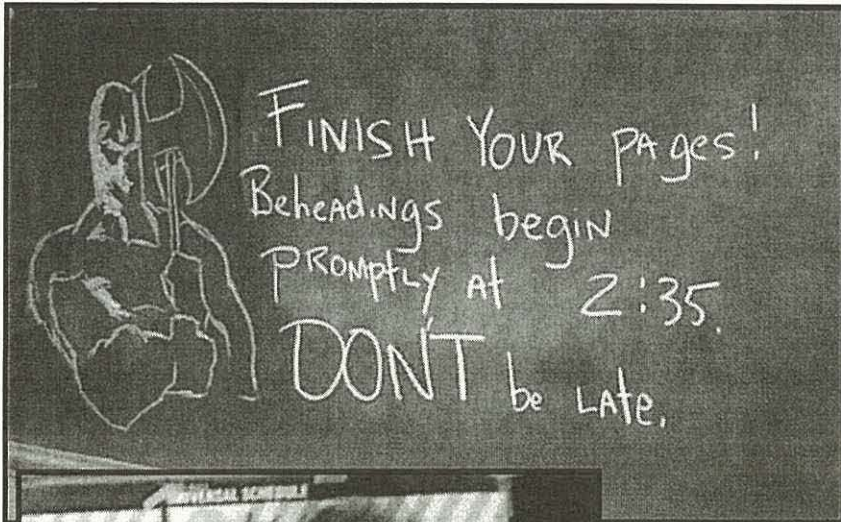
"We respect and admire his intellect. When he is on a committee, people always want to listen to his contributions... his responses are very well thought out," says Ms. Sharrow.

Mr. Burroughs wants to take it easy when he retires. His some of his plans for the future include fishing and travel.



Far Left: Mr. Burroughs stares down the camera in the 1972 Flushing High School yearbook. Left: Mr. Burroughs today. Photo by Heather McLeod.

Behind the scenes in the *Blazer* room...



Above: A sign on the chalkboard warns editors of impending doom, better known as deadline. It takes anywhere from two to six hours to design and edit a single page. Editors are responsible for an average of three pages, although some have as many as seven. This equals many, many hours in the *Blazer* room. Editors work weekends, snow days, and every night after school until about 11:00. Photo by Pam Zerbinos.

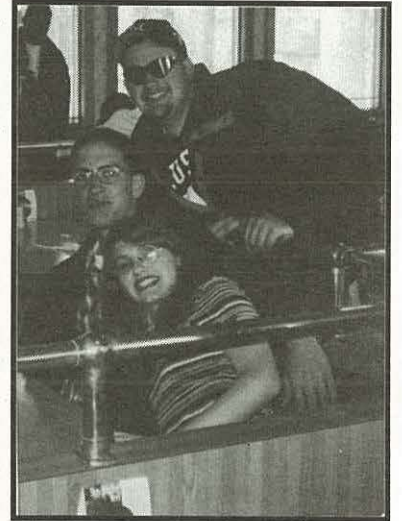
Left: "There's not another group of people that spends so much time together without getting in a fight," says Lisa. Although she and Ron may have their little tiffs, "[the *Blazer* staff] gets along better than most families. There's no divorce." Rebecca Williams (not pictured) jokingly interrupts with "there's a lot of incest, though." Photo by Brian Goodwill.



As a general rule, if you want to be in the *Blazer*, don't be on the *Blazer*. However, most rules are declared null and void for the June issue. This is the *Blazer's* opportunity to let the people who read it meet the people who make it. Let the journey begin...

BY PAM ZERBINOS

Erik Potzmann, Grant Nelsestuen, and Heather McLeod enjoying lunch at a Lansing Arby's. The *Blazer* staff attended the annual Michigan Interscholastic Press Association (MIPA) spring conference and brought home 13 awards, in addition to the Spartan. McLeod's most memorable *Blazer* experience was "when we all made signs that said things like 'kiss me, Grant' and stood outside the door cheering for him as the track team was running through the halls. Go Grant!" Photo by Lisa Fotenakes.



Pam shows her affection for Grant Nelsestuen at the *Blazer* Banquet. "If it weren't for the *Blazer*, I don't think I'd even know Grant," she says, "let alone be friends with him and get to drive his truck. He's got a cool truck." Photo by Brad Chandonnet.



Brad showing off the essence of all that is Brad. "The best thing about the *Blazer* is having a bunch of expensive equipment and software to just come in and mess around with." Photo by Pam Zerbinos.



Senior Profiles

Tim Bouchard, Ads Manager. Although Brad frequently comments that "Tim doesn't do anything," Tim is in charge of all the business aspects of the *Blazer*. He has also been involved with marching band, recently became an Eagle Scout, and is President of DECA. Tim will be majoring in business at Northwood University.

Erik Potzmann, Graphics Design Editor, Production Manager. "I think he makes up viruses," says Heather. Erik has been on staff since he started as Assistant Sports Editor his sophomore year. He is also on the football and track teams, and is the county's leading discus thrower. He will be going on to MSU to study engineering next year.

Ron Bailey, Features Editor (no, he's not in the picture). Bailey's grateful because the *Blazer* has gotten him involved with all kinds of other activities like Drama and choir. He also likes Cheetos, and works on the *Blazer* because of "all the chicks." He will be attending U of M - Flint in the fall and "has no future plans whatsoever."

Rebecca Williams, People Editor. Rebecca is Vice President of EAG, involved with Drama Club and ITS, and a member of NHS. She is very nature-oriented. Among her favorite things to do are opening windows, frog counting as a DNR volunteer, riding her bike, and fly fishing. She is interested in biology and will attend the University of Michigan's School of Natural Resources.

Brad Chandonnet, Ads Editor. "Brad takes a lot of crap from us," comments Ron. Brad is the right-wing conservative on a staff of mostly outspoken liberals. He is heavily involved with his church and went on a mission trip to Ireland last summer. Brad plans on attending Pensacola Christian College in Florida to pursue a major in missions and a minor in graphic arts. "I wouldn't be going to get a minor in graphic design if not for the *Blazer*."

April Jacques, Photo Editor. April joined the *Blazer* "because I wanted to take pictures and they recognize it as an art. It gives me a chance to express myself and be a part of the school." April also enjoys racing cars and showing horses, and plans on attending Mott and obtaining a teaching degree (if the racing thing doesn't work out).

Lisa Fotenakes, News Editor. "The interview to become an editor was worse than any job interview I've ever had, because I wanted it so badly." Lisa will be attending Michigan State University in the fall and majoring in journalism.

Pam Zerbinos, Editor-in-Chief, Opinions Editor. Pam has also been involved with Marching Band, orchestra, NHS, ITS, Drama Club, and once she went to a SADD meeting. She holds a purple belt in karate and can solve a Rubik's cube in a minute flat. Next year she will be moving to Chicago to attend Northwestern University and study journalism.

Heather McLeod, People Editor. "McLeod's definitely the most fun to mess with on deadline," says Pam. Heather is the president of the EAG and ITS, plays the violin in the orchestra, as well as being 7th in the senior class. She will be attending MSU this fall to become a biology teacher.

Andrew Helms, Illustrator. According to Brian, "Andy's my savior." Andy's response? "You need a new savior." Andy isn't sure how he ended up on the staff. "I drew a picture, someone liked it, and here I am." Andy will be majoring in fine art at the University of Michigan - Ann Arbor.

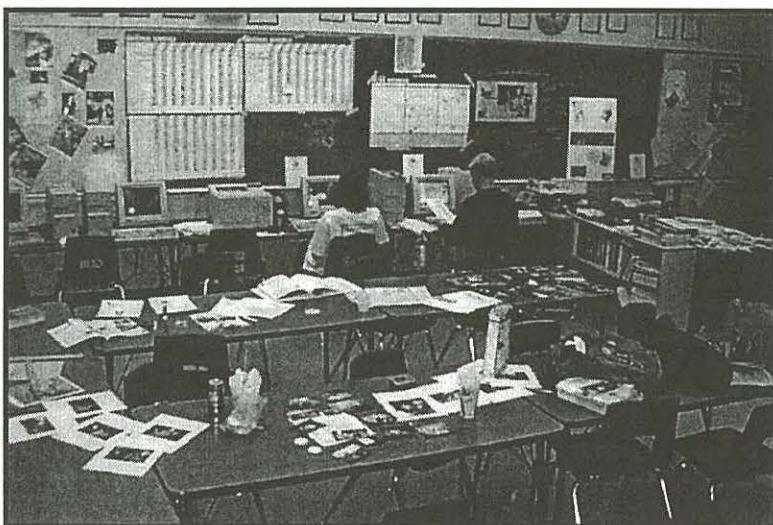
Brian Goodwill (Jedd), College Editor. Besides being on the *Blazer* staff, Jedd has played mellophone in the marching band for four years. He's also very involved in the Salvation Army Church and hopes to end up a Salvation Army Officer. He will be attending DePaul University in Chicago to major in Business Administration.



The latest victim of *Blazer Beat-the-Box*. As a stress reliever, the game has become very popular. Photo by Pam Zerbinos.

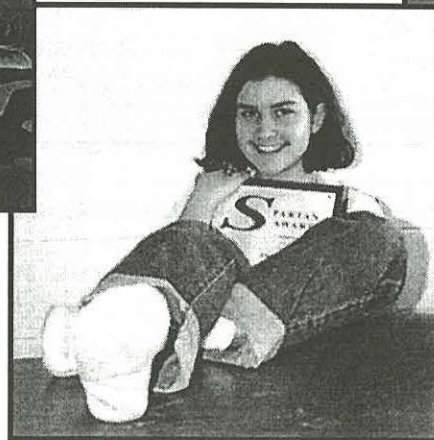
Right: Jedd engages in a game called "Blazer Beat-the-Box." Invented this year by, it is one of the many stress-relievers that staff members enjoy. The game is pretty self-explanatory; players get rulers and beat on boxes. Pam explains, "I think that people have the idea that we come in here and sit in front of a computer until our eyes bleed and then we go home. But when it's the day before we're supposed to go to print and all the computers crash and no one has pictures and then they cancel school and we have to start from scratch when we've already spent two days on a page, we need a break." Photo by Pam Zerbinos.

Below: Pam hugs her Spartan award. The *Spartan* is the most prestigious award that a high school newspaper can win. "I got into journalism almost three years ago because of a boy, and here I am. I need to thank that boy." Photo by Lisa Fotenakes.



Above: The Blazer room on one of those late Friday nights during deadline. Janitors won't go near the room, and this is why. Tables are littered with pictures, old *Blazers*, stale cookies, old Chinese food, and various rough drafts of pages. "We're not the neatest group of people," says Pam, "but it's better this year than it was last year." Photo by Pam Zerbinos.

Facing page: Rob Bitz, Brian Goodwill, Heather McLeod, Lisa Fotenakes, Pam Zerbinos and Grant Nelsestuen go for a joy ride in Grant's truck. "Actually," says Pam, "he's stood firm. I bug him about letting me drive it, but he never does. It took a lot of persuading to get him to even let me pretend to drive the thing. He's very protective." Photo by Ali Buell.



The Top Ten

Welcome to Big Brains Anonymous

By LAURIE STEWART

All through school, children pose the question "Why do we have to go to school?" All through school, children are told by their elders that "you have to go to school so you can be prepared to enter the 'real world.'"

What is the "real world" though? The world that we are living in is just as real as any world anyone could know.

The ten people sitting at the table being interviewed all have one thing in common; they are graduating at the very top of the class of '97.

For four years they have worked hard to maintain this achievement and keep their rank. In addition to this distinguished honor, these well-respected students are on the brink of graduating and preparing to enter the next phase of their lives.

"Do you feel that you are ready to enter the 'real world?'" they are asked.

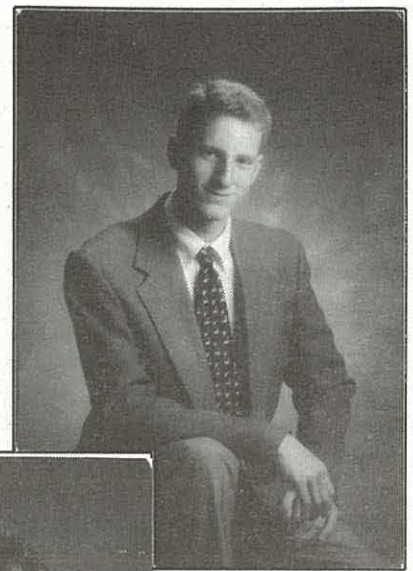
"What are we in now... some kind of semi-real world?" Jeff Buis says with a laugh.

"The world is real?" Heather McLeod wonders.

"I think I need to go to college first and learn some more about what I want to do," says Julie Rice on a more serious note. The group slowly relaxes as they consider what about the 'real world' frightens them or excites them.

"I have to make money," says Heather.

"I think that getting an actual job excites me," claims Schaefer Arnould.



"Getting out of my house excites me," adds Cathy Bluteau.

"I don't know, I just feel like I am more grown up or something," Schaefer offers.

"It's a warm fuzzy feeling," Cathy laughs as she interrupts Schaefer once more.

Even though these intelligent young men and women are almost graduated and out on their own, they all seem rather mystified by the fact that school is almost over. For the past thirteen years, their world has been a constant routine of getting up during the week and going to school. Are these people ready to be out on their own?

"Yup, except that I hope I don't have to room with a 'drama freak,'" Heather grins.

"I'll still ask my mom for money. She doesn't give me any, but..." Cathy jokes.

"You'll be ready to be on your own after you get your first good job that pays more than minimum wage," Jeff reasons.

Schaefer ponders the question, then responds, "I think you know you are ready when you know how to take care of yourself. And you do all of the stuff..."

"When you're potty trained!" interrupts Traci.

"Yeah, that too," quips Schaefer.

Though the 'real world' is an ambiguous term, everyone knows the meaning of it. As young individuals starting out in life, people tend to ask the younger generation how they plan on changing the world and what they expect to get in return. Schaefer has a ready answer;

"I don't plan on changing it."

"Money, lots of money!" Lucinda Olsen kids. "Oh wait... don't print that!"

"I try not to get too opinionated," Kari Prochazka chimes in.

"I want to help old people and people who have been through tragedies like floods and deaths, you know... stuff. I



Above: Traci Kendall

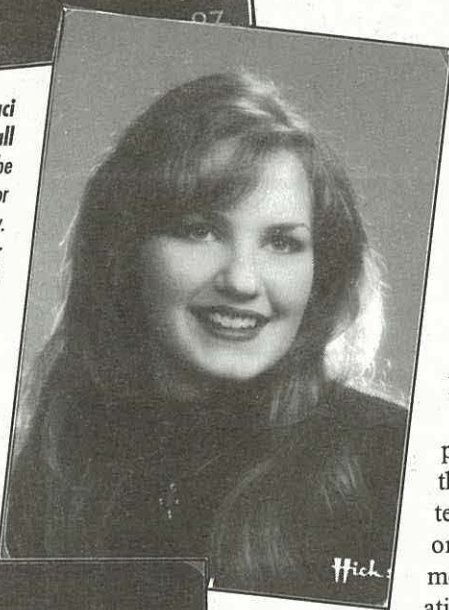
(1st; 4.0), will be attending GVSU for biology and chemistry.

Right: Heather McLeod

(7th; 3.962) is headed to MSU and would like to be a high school biology teacher.

Below: Cathy Bluteau

(3rd; 3.995) is going into pre-med at UM-Ann Arbor.

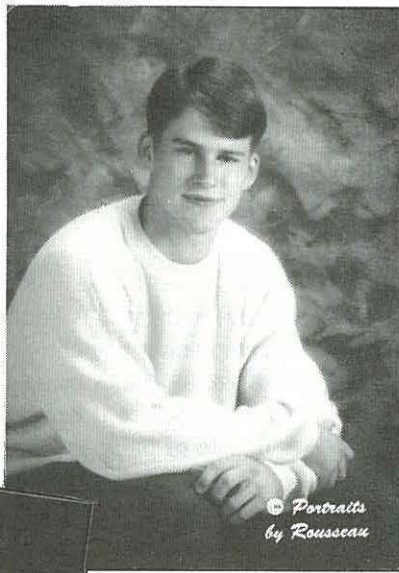


Left: Schaefer Arnould
(10th; 3.957) is headed to G.M.I. and plans to be working at Rapistan Demag.

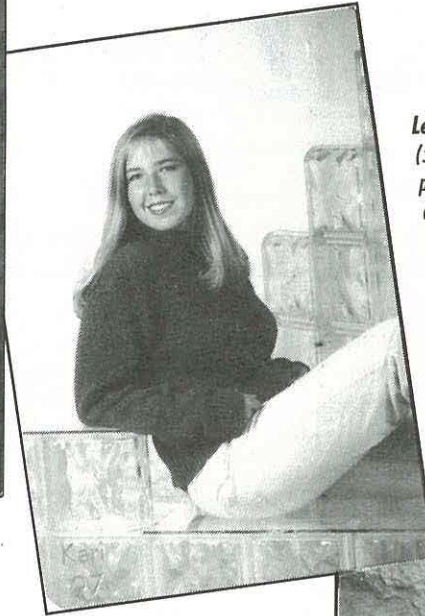
Below left: Trisha Eavy
(6th; 3.987) won the Medallion Scholarship at Western Michigan, where she has chosen to go.

Right: Jeff Buis
(8th; 3.96) is going to UM- Ann Arbor and hopes to be a surgeon.

Below: Lucinda Olsen
(8th; 3.96) aspires to be in the physical therapy program at UM- Flint.



© Portraits
by Rousseau



Left: Kari Prochazka
(5th; 3.981)
plans to go to MSU, study engineering and play on the golf team.

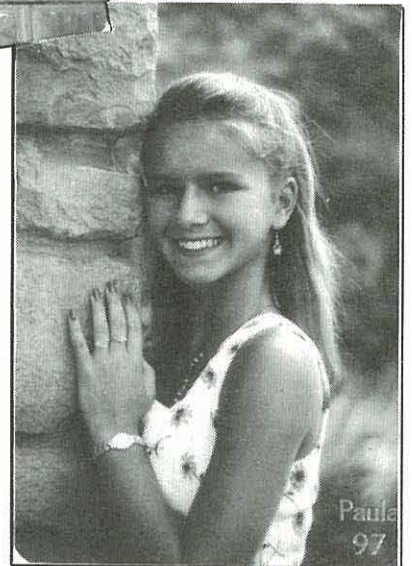
Below: Paula Diehl
(1st; 4.0) shares the valedictorian's crown with Traci Kendall. She can be seen at Oakland University next fall, and will be majoring in mechanical engineering.



Below: Julie Rice
(4th; 3.99) will be going to U of M- Ann Arbor to study business administration.



Hick



Paula
97

wanna do stuff," Trisha Eavy says.

Glad to see the relaxed atmosphere in the room, the interviewer now finds it easier to ask questions.

"What are some of the myths about people who do well in school that you have had to deal with?"

"All we do is study and no matter what we always get A's," Cathy says immediately.

"School just comes naturally, but you still have to work at it," Traci Kendall adds.

"It comes naturally, but I wing it a lot and multiple choice is my friend," Heather admits.

"You have to work in classes like physics... and government," says Jeff.

"What are or were some of your favorite classes in high school?"

Traci blurts out quickly, "Mr. Gandolfi's class is my favorite in the entire world!"

"I liked Mr. Coggins' biology class freshman year. He was an awesome teacher," states Cathy.

Cathy thinks about her hardest class. "Park, definitely Park."

"Do you study a lot?" asks the interviewer. She was greeted by a rousing chorus of no's.

Paula Diehl thinks about it for a moment before giving a shy little "yes."

"First semester I did," responds Julie.

"Well, if you don't study that much, do you feel that senioritis has set in?"

"Struck about two months ago," Schaefer admits.

Jokingly, Cathy adds, "Last year."

Kari laughs, "Yeah."

Quietly, Jeff claims, "I stopped working after Easter."

"Yes, can anyone explain to me how to do integrals and natural logs?" Heather smiles.

Judging from the sarcastic tone of the group, the interviewer decides to get off the subject of school.

"What issues out of school do you consider to be most important?" Not really knowing what to answer, the group chuckles for a few seconds.

"Umm, the drug problem. Yeah, that's pretty important," Traci quips.

Jeff says, "I think we need to cut social security."

Heather is concerned about "making environmental standards higher."

Traci finally says, "Affirmative action is stupid. [Things] should be based on who is most qualified, not race or sex."

Cathy laughs, "We are too involved with school to see what issues are going on."

With the interview drawing to a close, someone in the group finally notices all of the really old books in the back room.

"Are we allowed to see these books?" someone asks. It is a little too late to use them now, though.

"I didn't even know this room was here!"

"You better work"

By **RON BAILEY**

The agent looked at the timid young girl from across the table like a vulture eyeing a piece of meat. The girl is 16 years old and has long brown hair, sparkling blue eyes, high cheekbones and a small, straight nose.

her way to Chicago to have a portfolio taken by a top photographer.

Breaking into the modeling business isn't always as easy as that. There are many things a model needs before they can jet off to New York and start modeling.

"First of all, I would have them get some kind of training," said Bobbe Jons of Avante Models. Jons has been operating the school for 15 years.

"[Models] don't know how to walk down a runway, or pose in front of a still

camera, so I recommend that they take some classes to learn this," Jons said.

Avante charges \$995 for a six and a half month course that teaches students how to be models.

"We do our best to book our models," Jons said. "We don't promise anything, but whether you work or not, everyone that comes out of Avante feels better about themselves."

After models have learned to walk down a runway, they need to work on getting a resume together, as well as a book and comp cards. A modeling resume is different than a job resume. It lists the model's past experience as well as height, weight and

measurements. A book is a compilation of photographs of the model. A comp card is a 5-by-7 card that has a couple of photos of the model as well as appearance information.

However, there are other ways to break into the modeling business besides taking classes. Conventions are held all of the time at which anyone can go in and try to get into modeling. Justin Manssur, a senior, attended the Manhattan Model Search, held in Flint. There, he met with scouts who advised him to go to Buffalo, New York to another modeling convention with six major male modeling agencies there. All six agencies wanted him, including Ralph Lauren and an agency called R&J who place models in soap operas.

"Attending a thing like Manhattan Modeling Search would probably be your best bet. You don't really need classes or anything," Manssur advised.

Meeting with agents isn't always the most uplifting experience in the world. One has to have a good sense of who they are and be able to handle criticism well. Senior Lisa

Fotenakes went to a convention in Detroit and met with agents from all over the United States and Europe.

"Every agent wanted something different. Some liked me and some told me I was too short, to cut my hair, gain weight, lose weight, etc. It was very confusing," she said. "You can't take what the agents say about your appearance personally, because models are freaks, and don't look 'normal'. You could be 5'10" and 130 lbs. and some agents will tell you you're fat."

Whether you attend a convention, or a modeling school, getting into the modeling business can take a long time. It involves a lot of dedication

Senior **Andrea Bernardini** strolls down the runway at a Bridal Show held at Fashion Square Mall at the tender age of 15. Photo courtesy of Andrea Bernardini.



Some people have told her she looks like Stephanie Seymour, which is why she was at this modeling convention today. She wanted to see if she had what it takes to break into the modeling business and grace the pages of magazines.

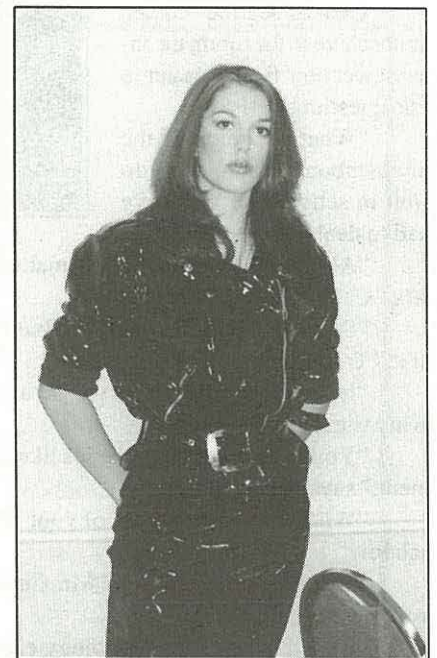
"How much do you weigh," the agent asked, eyeing the girl's rail thin arms and stick person legs.

"115 lbs.," the girl replied meekly.

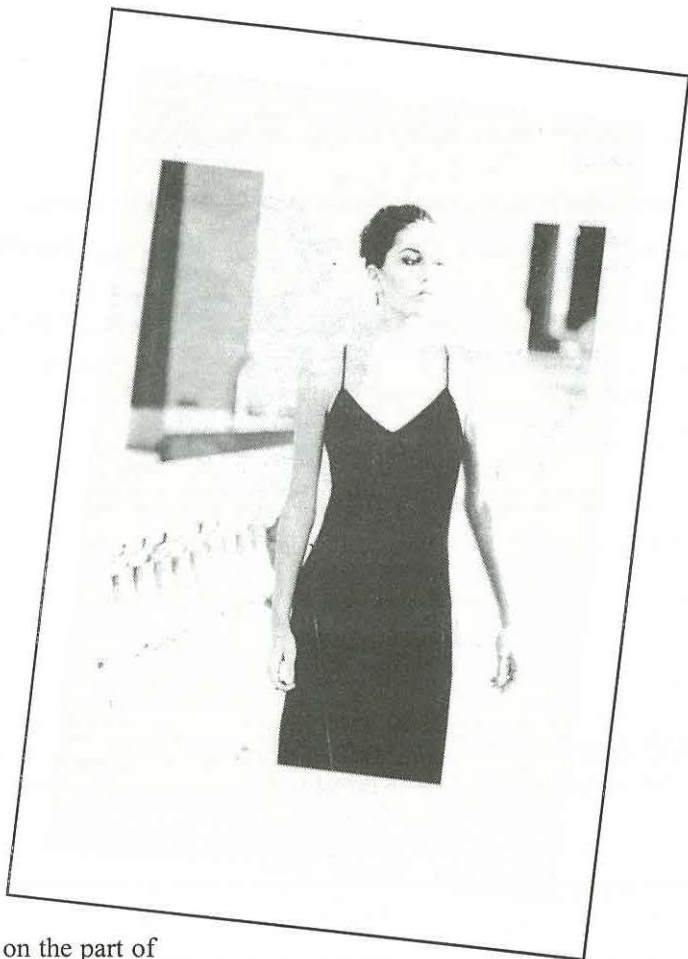
"When do you get out of school? I'd like to start using you this summer, if that's okay," the agent said.

"June 6," said the girl, with the excitement building inside of her.

June 7 she was on

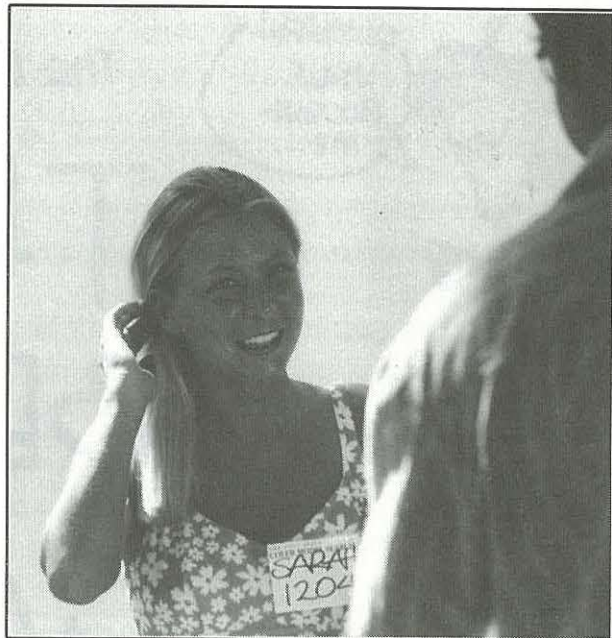


Senior **Lisa Fotenakes** sports a new look after a Scruple's hair show. Her hair was chopped 13 inches in front of a live studio audience. Photo by Gaye Fotenakes.



on the part of the model to stick with it. The ones who stay with it may be rewarded with fame and fortune though the odds are against it. Even though everyone may not reach supermodel

status, most walk away with lessons in poise, self-discipline, and the ability to take criticism.



The joy of modeling

By SARAH BOIS

She is fit and quite slim with beautiful, long, silky blonde hair and bright blue eyes, the perfect image of a supermodel. The waiter arrives with a tray and sets down a platter of baby back ribs and french fries. She picks up the ribs first and starts to eat as a tall, business-like man approaches and says, "Models don't eat baby back ribs and french fries."

That's right, models definitely don't eat baby back ribs and fries. The image of modeling that appears in your head is not all that it's cracked up to be in reality. Sure the money and stardom is great and we all want to be on the cover of *Seventeen* but there is a lot of self discipline and a lot of time that goes along with it.

Picture being in a tent with people. It's 95° out and you're all dressed up in heels. Your instructor has you and your fellow models run around, dance, and skip. You're competing for a contract, so you have to look your best while the sweat is rolling down your face. 4½ hours later, you get a 45 minute break before you get to go do it all over again. Now that may not sound all that bad, but think about all of the other sacrifices models have to make.

Models must endure long days, strict diets, and working out for three hours a day. Models can only eat health food, no salt, no carbonated drinks, no smoking, and no alcohol. Models also get to go to bed early and get up earlier in one hotel room after the next.

This is what the modeling business is all about and if you don't like it and show it, you get nothing. You have to really want to be a model and put everything and all of your time into it. So do you still think you've got what it takes to be a model? If the answer is yes, then go for it and don't stop until you get what you want.

Sarah Bois attended Cover Model Search 1997 in Irvine, CA in late April. She was chosen to be one of 50 (from 36,000) to participate. Above photo by Bob Bois.



Upper Left: Lisa Fotenakes' comp card is used by agents for reference purposes. **Above:** Andrea Bernardini models for a bridal show at Fashion Square Mall held in January of 1996. Photo courtesy of Andrea Bernardini.



The Beatniks are not dead....

THE BEAT GOES ON

BY MITCH WEND



A generation of poets, authors, and “angle-headed hipsters” writing continuous thoughts of their lives. That was the life and times of the ‘Beat’ Generation. Not really a group of conventional people, but more a scene of desolation, love, and music. The 1950s were a time of change, a time of worries and war. The ‘Beats’ were not hippies or flower children. They were men influenced by previous authors such as William Carlos Williams and Thomas Wolfe. They were influenced by the current day they lived in, where they traveled, and who they went with. They were influenced by the spirit of the day and times, and all the precious details they saw in their heads. The thing about that time and generation that makes it different and important to people and other authors today is the blatant expression of feelings. The common love the authors and poets shared for philosophical ideas, interesting details that do not seem important today. The thing was thinking, creating, engaging, being fascinated by attaining a higher state of mind by climbing a mountain, or sitting in the Pacific. The basic writing of that day did not preach religion or answers; it simply pointed out the gritty events of people and experiences and showed how simple life can be when the clouds are removed from the sky. The

birth of the ‘Beats’ began with the rise of the sun, and the lives that were lived throughout the day. Greenwich Village, New York was where the sun rose. A group of young Columbia students got together and arranged simple poetry readings and Haiku sessions. They would smoke their cigarettes and drink their drinks and spout out words that would fall into the room. They read Rimbaud and Nietzsche and enjoyed Joyce’s Ireland. Finished the “Illiad”, and then started the “Odyssey”. Read and wrote for days, then join the Merchant Marines and not be seen for months. Liked to think about why, and what for. Jack Kerouac, William Burroughs, and Allen Ginsberg were some notables from the East. With the end of the second World War and the changing of American society to more industrial blue collar work, the writing and ideas of the “Beats” were rejected and scorned by most Americans. Even the government would stop by to monitor the words that were said and the ideas that were expressed. The lives of these men and women then began to continue to follow the day, and work their way West, to San Francisco. Books would be written and lives would end. Novels would begin and drinking would start. Groceries would be bought and it would rain on Tuesday.

Just another day for them. Kerouac found Frisco, and others followed. Meeting the likes of such West coast authors as Gary Snyder, Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Gregory Corso, and the immortal cult hero Neal Cassidy. The times were good. Alcohol-induced trips to the mountains, tales of the Pacific, mad jazz parties in Frisco that lasted all night. Pure, sublime, unconscious way of living. Some turned religious, some took a junker to Japan, some wrote books and poems, and then left for a while, then returned years later only to continue where they left off. “Here’s the chalice. And make sure there’s wine in it. -Jack Kerouac, ‘Vanity of Dolouz’ The authors had a universal love and desolation for thoughts, and creation. Philosophies were overflowing. “Truth is inevitably chaotic and personal- never organized or official.” (Ginsberg on truth) “So much like the direction music takes in the mind or even the undiscoverable flow of dream images that make dreaming a tragic mystery.” (Kerouac on music) Great books include

Grooving on the local Beatnik scene

By MITCH WEND

Burrough's "Naked Lunch" and "Junkie," Kerouac's "On the Road" (which is considered the postmark of the generation) and his Dulouz Legend consisting of 10 novels all chronologically arranged. Kerouac likes to refer to it as "one vast book like Proust's except that my remembrances are written on the run, instead of afterwards in a sick bed." As with all things, the times had to change and end. The 'Beats' slowly got smaller, and gave way to the 1970s, where peace and war were the main focus. The sun began to dim. Kerouac walked to Heaven in 1969, Ginsberg a couple of months ago. Burroughs and Corso and Snyder still roam this world occasionally, but mainly living quietly as the Buddha (they were all Bodhisattvas) taught.

"He who knows, does not speak."

Kerouac was once asked to describe the 'Beat' generation, he responded by saying "a generation of crazy, illuminated hipsters suddenly rising and roaming America. Serious, curious, bumming, and hitchhiking everywhere, ragged, beatific, beautiful in an ugly graceful way..."

What happened to the generation? Are there still those who walk the streets looking for answers? Are mountains and pavement still appreciated? Does anyone still get that feeling when they look to the West, and see all that raw land with "people dreaming in the immensity of it." If there still are people that see the gritty, know that life is suffering, and can occasionally see grandiose images in the sky, then the beat will go on.

Where else can you swing a music tube, and listen for the stars in a dim lit library? Where else can you hear a man recite the likes of "Smut - is only Tums spelled backwards"?

Where else can you listen to a man who knew Kerouac, knows Burroughs, and spent a lot of time with Allen Ginsberg? Where else can you watch a man read "Howl" and "Kaddish," and hum to the "Rebel Cafe"? And where else can you witness vulnerability and freedom of speech at its finest? A 'Beat' poetry reading.

On Friday, May 9, three poets engaged in a fascinating evening of reading, whirling, and expressing their ideals. Ken Mikolowski spoke first. He currently owns and operates the 'Alternative Press' out of Ann Arbor. Mikolowski had entertaining humor with a raw sense of what works. He read a few short poems, then he went into this several minute trip on chaos, all the time pointing to a sign that read - "You Are Drunk."

After Mikolowski finished, a big man with a tyrant goatee and a black beret searched up to the podium. His name was M.L. Leiber. He makes his living by going from session to session, trying to sell his nostalgic CDs. Leiber read a few of his short works, brushed one of Mikolowski's, then retired to the back for a moment to return with a big red bag. He yanked the zipper down, and came out with a handful of those plastic noise makers that you twirl in the air. He handed them out, grabbed one for himself, and began to twirl to the tape he began playing. The music had a starry beat to it, and the constant WOOOOOOO in the air added a nice effect to the reading of an untitled work. After all the noise makers were collected, and the people back from the clouds, Leiber introduced Ed Sanders, the featured poet of the evening.

Sanders slowly made his way to the stand, with his red sweater

underneath his tan blazer. He sipped coffee, and spoke of the 'Beat' Generation, then grabbed his little guitar, and sang some of "The Rebel Cafe." Then he stopped and spoke of his friend, the late Allen Ginsberg. Sanders told a story of how he and Ginsberg were at the Detroit Museum of Arts, and Ginsberg loved this painting of these nude people in a grocery store. Ginsberg wanted a copy, so they went to the museum gift shop, and found the same painting reproduced on a postcard, with the people wearing clothes.

Sanders entitled the poem "National Endowment." He then taught us to howl, and read Ginsberg's favorite to us, "Kaddish."

Sanders left with teary eyes and a heavy heart, for on that night poetry was read without his friend, but the beat still lived on with him.





Illustration by
ANDREW HELMS

The AP challenge

Seniors test for college credit

By PAM ZERBINOS

When I heard the word "go," I ripped off the plastic cover. I opened the green booklet that had been sealed inside. I stared blankly at "write an essay discussing the effects of territorial expansion on national unity between the years 1800 and 1850."

No problem.

"Thank you, Mr. Gandolfi," rang in my head as I started spewing random facts about the Wilmot Proviso and the Missouri Compromise.

What I am describing is the Advanced Placement exam for US History. Assuming I know as much history as I think I do, I will

“It was a bit of a challenge, but overall it wasn't too bad.”

- BRIAN GOODWILL
senior

get college credit for doing well. I also signed up for the AP English Literature, Calculus, and US Government tests. At \$73

bucks a pop, this was rather expensive. However, I'm hoping that it will be worth it.

A total of 38 FHS students signed up to take 50 tests this year. Over half of these were English Literature tests. "It was a bit of a challenge, but overall it wasn't too bad," said senior Brian Goodwill, who took the English Literature exam. While the majority of the exams were English Lit, other students also signed up for Physics, Biology, and Spanish. And although no one did, it is also possible to take tests in subjects rang-

ing from Latin Literature to Economics or Psychology.

Each exam has basically the same format. Part One is multiple choice questions that aren't easy. An extremely well-prepared student probably won't be able to answer all of them. The Literature exam has you analyze four pieces of literature - this year's consisted of one prose piece, one dramatic piece, and two poems - and answer questions about them.

The real fun begins with the free response questions. On the Calculus exam, these were the problems that required an entire page to answer. There were six of them, and each one had four or five parts. The Literature exam requires you to read and analyze three pieces of literature. There's nothing quite like having to analyze a poem called "Death of a Toad." The History test also requires you to write three essays, although the format is a little bit different. You are supplied with evidence like speeches, magazine articles, photographs, and political cartoons to help you answer the first question. You're also expected to demonstrate previous knowledge of the topic, which in my

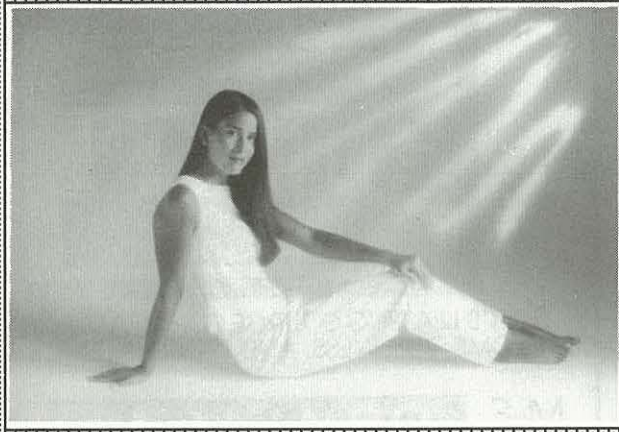
With more than one out of ten seniors planning to attend Michigan State University in the fall, The Blazer staff has compiled this list of the

Top 10 Reasons To Go To MSU:

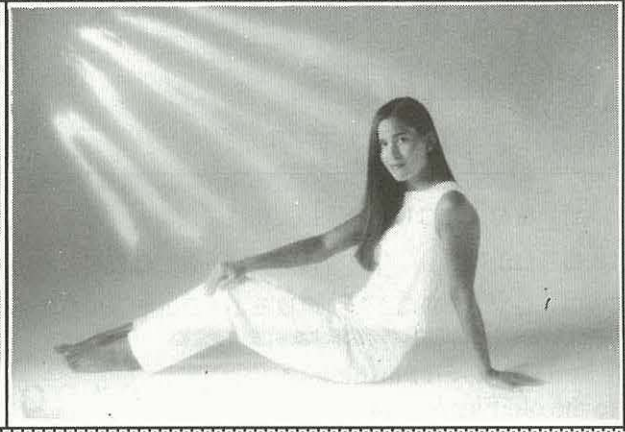
10. "The openness of it."
- Sarah Maloney
9. "No essays to write to get in."
- Ryan Skene
8. "I like the campus and the atmosphere."
- Heather Tonda
7. "It's not too close. It's not too far."
- Erik Potzmann
6. "They have the program I want to study."
- Kari Prochazka
5. "I don't know."
- Jamie Brockhahn
4. "I just always knew I was going to go there."
- Correy Hathaway
3. "Because I couldn't get into Ann Arbor."
- Brian Carmichael
2. "I want to leave home and State is fun"
- Lisa Fotenakes
1. "Harvard would've been too easy."
- John Welch

case was the women's movement. Luckily, we had just watched a movie about that in government class.

The exams are graded and given scores from 1 to 5, 5 being highest. Most universities award credits for 3s and above, although this differs by college. If you're considering signing up for one next year, do it. It's a great opportunity to save some money and test your brain, not to mention get out of school for a day. Just remember - don't open the plastic packaging unless you're told to do so.



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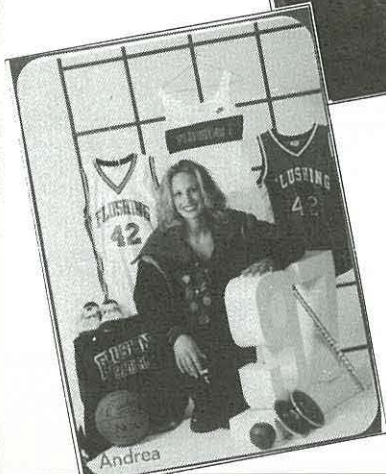


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VISIT OUR GALLERY

Ben Folds *Whatever And Ever Amen*

By CRAIG GASPERSKY

The piano\bass\drum trio from Chapel Hill, North Carolina, explodes in this nearly perfect set of pop ditties on their major label debut. This is actually the second album for Ben Folds Five, the first was a minor label release back in 1995. Ben Folds could very well be the shining star the world has been looking for to pull us away from the endless wasteland of four chord guitar grunge that Nirvana epitomized over five years ago. It's really difficult to pick a high point on this album, because any half witted individual will find him addicted to the Ben Folds sound by the end of this disk. "Song for the Dumped" begins with Folds counting off and practically crashing the piano with a musical tour de force. What sets Folds' style apart from piano playing legends is his style. What makes his sound even more amazing is that Folds manages to do all of this, many times all at once, while delivering an extremely effective and smooth vocal performance. Name one artist, other than say Tori Amos, that can come close to matching this nearly impossible feat.

The truly scary thing is that not only is the performance absolutely amazing, the songwriting is even better. For example, sample a few lyrics from the happily whimsical "Kate." "When

all words fail she speaks\ Her mix tapes a masterpiece\ Walks through the garden so the roses can see\ Oh I.. have you got nothing to say." The only thing is, who needs a mix tape when you can have this album?

The album isn't just a basic collection of generic love songs, such as those that Elton John and Billy Joel have rattled off over the last 25 years. "Steven's Last Night in Town" is about a friend who keeps announcing that he's leaving for good, but never actually leaves, just so he can be the center of attention every weekend. In "Song For the Dumped," Folds shouts, "Give me my money back, give me my money back you [jerk]." This song is a sort of anthem for any guy who's been dumped. The single, "Battle of Who Could Care Less" is a tribute to the Generation X'ers complete apathy they feel toward the world.

If you only buy one album this year, make sure you buy this one.



Bailey White brings another good read

By REBECCA WILLIAMS

"In all my years here as a nursing supervisor, I have never seen such incompetence in a student nurse," the head nurse lambasted storyteller Bailey White after three years of nursing school. That abuse gnawed on her confidence until it eroded completely. White changed her major at that point. She decided to temporarily major in waitressing at Our Place Your Eating Pleasure.

After a few weeks of juggling steak and eggs for the all-night customers at the restaurant, Nockerd Sockett arrived on the scene. Sockett really changed things at the restaurant, and unknowingly became etched in the memory of superbly talented White.

She gives us one glimpse of him: "He was dressed in a purple imitation suede coat with a fringe of matted fake fur at the hem that looked like a row of

dead pink rats that had been left out in the rain."

Since her failed attempt at nursing, she has succeeded as a storyteller whose calm, gravelly voice enlivens the afternoon broadcasts of *All Things Considered* on National Public Radio. Bailey claims to be a first grade teacher in southern Georgia, which seems normal enough. But the eccentricity of the people she knows and describes makes a teaching career sound far too mild. She meets all sorts of people, from the Rose Queen of 1931 who still believes she wears the crown to Red the Rat Man. Most of these peculiar people, however, are ones she's related to.

In her books *Sleeping at the Starlite Motel* and *Mama Makes Up Her Mind*, Bailey White shares honestly about herself, her stubborn mother, and her great-aunt El who defends a bad injury as self-defense.

"It's those elephants. They come in all night long. In the front door, with their nasty trunks probing into every-

thing, and I shoo them out the back."

White draws the background for her stories richly, including details of suffocatingly thick moss and a house which "looked like the birthplace of botchism."

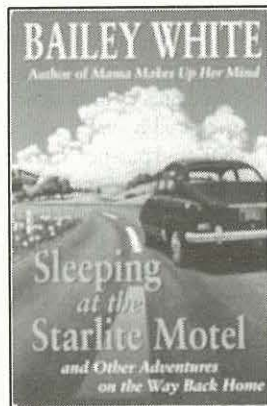
White remembers,

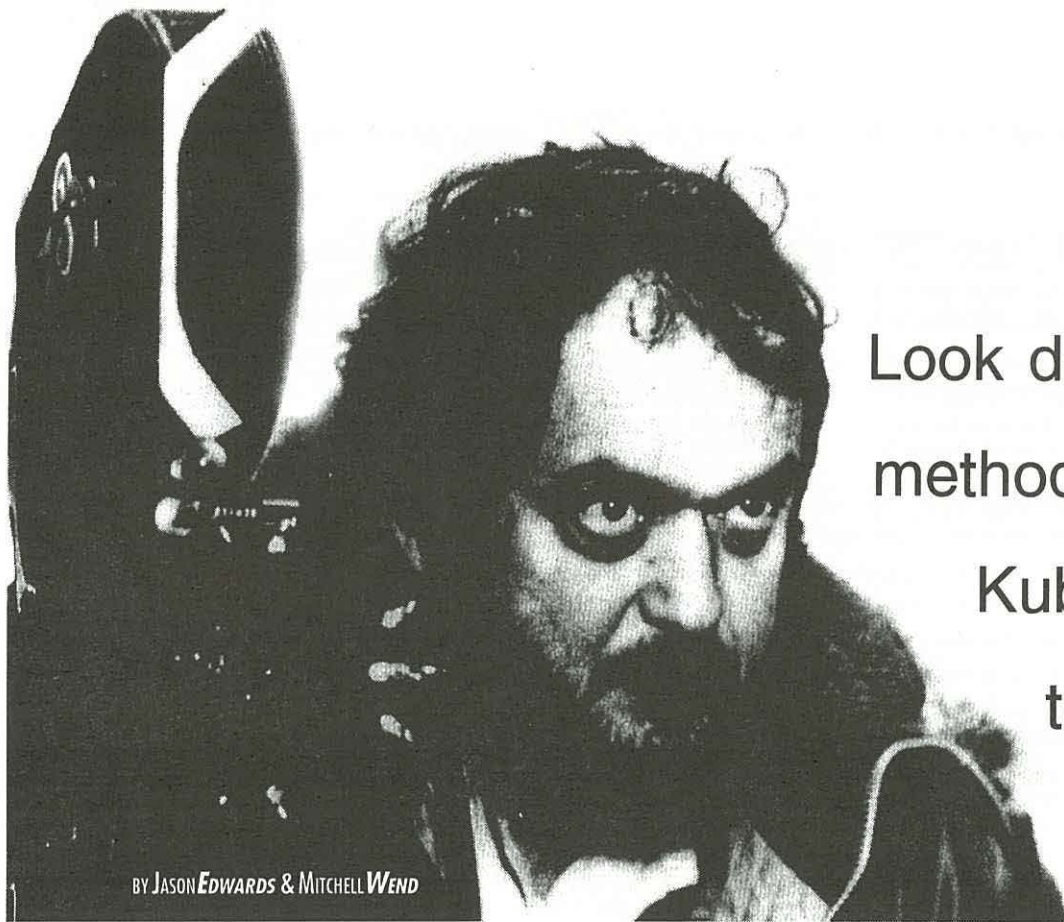
"She had a way of catching her breath in little gasps and rushing on after each pause to prevent her listener from getting in a word that might divert the conversation from the subject of poultry."

White often comments on what disturbs her, such as silly rules. She tells about going to a local restaurant, and battling an urge to feed the fish, although it is strictly forbidden.

"Then he would angle up, and I would feel for just one exquisite instant those thorny fish lips rasping across my fingertips."

White's disappointment and joy are felt completely by her readers and listeners. Even things never experienced find a place in your memory, and you feel like she is confiding in you. It would be odd to meet Bailey White, since you already know her. Besides, there's the chance that you'd end up in one of her books.





BY JASON EDWARDS & MITCHELL WEND

THE

Look deeper into the
method behind Stanley
Kubrick's madness
to see a dark
genius at work.

In the world of screenwriting, there are certain directors who stand out from the rest in their field. Some are masters of the psychological thriller, or of action, or of drama. Some are experts at creating their favorite mood, be it joyous, terrifying, melancholy or bizarre. Some are adept at churning out the latest blockbuster hit, while some are reclusive geniuses who stay out of the spotlight and conjure up elaborate works of the purest art. Some are known for their now-classic films of the past, while some are known for riding the cutting edge and defying classic notions of what a movie should be.

Stanley Kubrick, however, is a rarity in this magical world of screenwriting. Most directors make it their life's work to become skilled at one or two of the things listed above. Stanley Kubrick has mastered all of them. He stands out not only from the rest in his field, but from the rest in all fields.

Kubrick's films display a wide range of diversity in subject matter, film style and even mainstream popularity. Nearly everyone has heard of or seen at least a few of Kubrick's movies, yet they are so startlingly different from one another that not so many people realize that they were all shot by the same director. Comparing such polar opposites as the epic classic "Spartacus" and underground cult favorite "A Clockwork Orange," or sci-fi mainstay "2001: A Space Odyssey" and Steven King's nail-biting-edge-of-the-seat thriller "The Shining" leaves the viewer with the only conclusion that could be drawn: Kubrick is the epitome of the multi-talented screenwriter.

Both Kubrick's life and career have been the classic cinderella story. He was born in the Bronx in 1928, and overcame the left-right punch of semi-poverty and little to no interest in school by becoming a photographer. At the age of 16 he sold his first photograph, and subsequently many more, to LOOK magazine. He graduated with only a .67 average, and that combined with throngs of returning WWII soldiers forced him out of the City College of New York. Kubrick then joined the LOOK photography staff full-time. Through

his job he was able to travel all over America, something he has often talked of as being a defining force in his outlook on life in general. His travels, in effect, opened his eyes to the world.

Kubrick developed a thirst to obtain knowledge for knowledge's own sake, and began to attend Columbia University as a non-enrolled student. At this point he also began to develop a passion for movies, attending the Museum of Modern Art film showings as often as a new program was printed.

In 1951 at age 23, Kubrick used his savings from playing chess for money in Washington Square Park to finance his first film, a short documentary about boxer Walter Cartier entitled "Day of the Fight." It was played on a limited basis at the Paramount Theatre in New York, and garnered Kubrick a small profit, enough for him to quit his job at LOOK and pursue a full-time film career. He was then commissioned to shoot two un-memorable short documentaries titled "Flying Padre" and "The Seafarers."

In 1953, Kubrick scrounged up \$13,000, mostly from his relatives, to direct and photograph his first feature-length film, "Fear and Desire." Kubrick would rather forget this movie, citing it as college-level quality, and has in fact blocked its playing at many theatres around the country. Kubrick followed it up with another pair of forgettable efforts, "Killer's Kiss" and "The Killing."

Kubrick's next film, however, proved to be his first classic. "Paths of Glory," an adaptation of Humphrey Cobb's novel, is regarded by some as the definitive war film. It also didn't hurt that Kirk Douglas agreed to play the lead role.

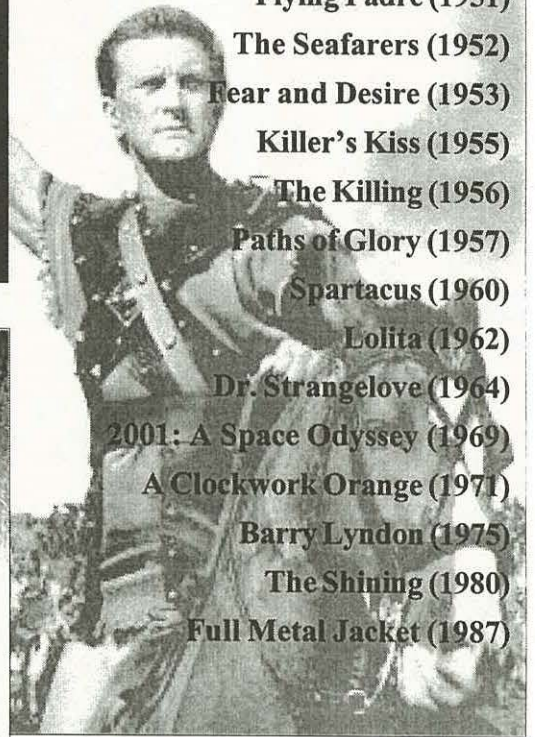
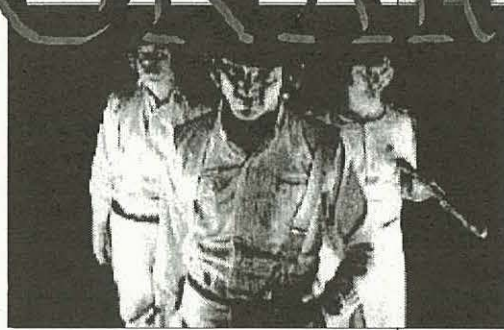
Then, after a few years spent preparing scripts that, to Kubrick's frustration, were never used, he was brought in by Kirk Douglas to take over for fired director Anthony Mann on Douglas's new project, "Spartacus." Mann was fired after only two weeks of filming, and so Kubrick was able to put much of himself into the shooting. The movie has since become an undeniable classic, and was Kubrick's first hit. The movie even drew some Academy Award attention.

Kubrick's next film, "Lolita," was and still is a beacon for

VISIONARY

His Visions

Right: Malcom McDowell stars as the psychopathic Alex DeLarge in "A Clockwork Orange"



- Day of the Fight (1950)
- Flying Padre (1951)
- The Seafarers (1952)
- Fear and Desire (1953)
- Killer's Kiss (1955)
- The Killing (1956)
- Paths of Glory (1957)
- Spartacus (1960)
- Lolita (1962)
- Dr. Strangelove (1964)
- 2001: A Space Odyssey (1969)
- A Clockwork Orange (1971)
- Barry Lyndon (1975)
- The Shining (1980)
- Full Metal Jacket (1987)

Right: Jack Nicholson displays his trademark intensity in "The Shining"



Above: Kirk Douglas in his most famous role as Spartacus.

controversy, being based on Vladimir Nabokov's just-as-controversial novel. The film stars a very young girl and her middle-aged lover, and was plagued by so many legal difficulties that Kubrick relocated to England to shoot it. He decided to stay there permanently, and from then on would shoot all of his films there.

Partially in response to cold war tension, Kubrick's next brainchild was the nightmarishly funny "Dr. Strangelove," loosely based on the novel *Red Alert*. "Dr. Strangelove" was Kubrick's second smash hit, and got him a string of Oscar nominations as co-author, director and producer. Its success would lead him to hire science-fiction author Arthur C. Clarke to write an original story about man's encounter with extraterrestrial life. "2001: A Space Odyssey" is considered by most to be Kubrick's magnum opus. It's a general understanding that this film is not only a defining force in science fiction, but one of the greatest movies of all time. "2001" earned more Oscar nominations for writing and directing, and Kubrick's first and only Academy Award for designing and directing the special effects, which are cutting-edge to the point of genius for the movie's time-period.

What better way to follow up such success than with even more controversy? Kubrick's next effort, the widely-acclaimed and widely-criticized "A Clockwork Orange," was initially rated X in the US and still carries a distribution ban in England due to its graphic scenes of sex and violence. Set in a future where society is overrun by criminals and where the government experiments with brainwashing to counter that crime, "Clockwork" was thought by many to glorify gang activity and violence. Though offensive and shocking to many, the film got Kubrick three more Oscar nominations.

After putting out two futuristic sci-fi oddities in "2001" and

"A Clockwork Orange," Kubrick decided a change of direction was needed, and created "Barry Lyndon," an 11-million dollar costume drama set in the 18th century. The film was not successful at the box office, but was widely-loved by film critics. The film was honored with seven Oscar nominations, more than any Kubrick film before or since.

Five years after "Barry Lyndon," Kubrick went off in yet another new direction, directing Steven King's "The Shining." The movie, unlike "Barry Lyndon," was a box office success, but received little attention critically and was not nominated for an Oscar of any kind.

After another long hiatus, Kubrick put out another hit, "Full Metal Jacket" about the Vietnam War. This was a return to the Kubrick of old, getting both critical and box office success, but only one Oscar nomination.

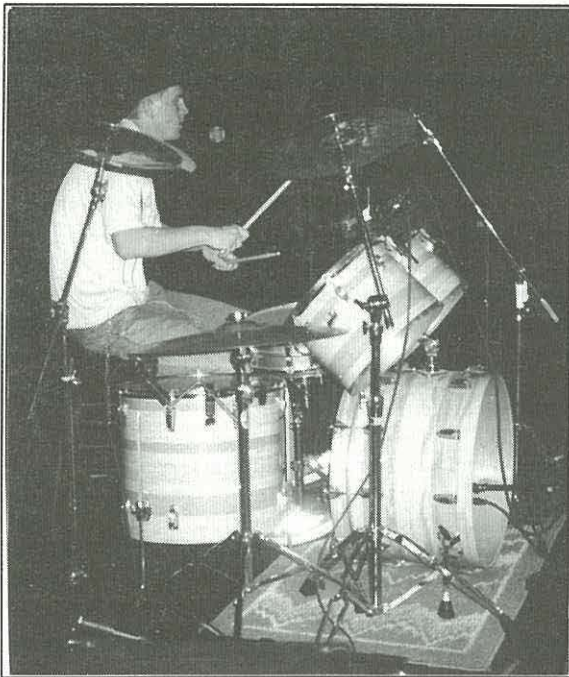
What will Kubrick have in store for his faithful viewers in the future? Since "Full Metal Jacket" hit the screen in 1987, Kubrick has begun production on three more screenplays: "The Aryan Papers," "AI" and "Eyes Wide Shut." While "Aryan Papers" has been put on hold and "AI" is still in pre-production, in December of 1995 Warner Bros. released the news that Kubrick was to begin shooting "Eyes Wide Shut" in England, starring Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman. The film is still in production.

What can we expect from Kubrick's latest effort? That's a tough question. Will it be a dark comedy like "Dr. Strangelove," or an epic sci-fi masterpiece like "2001?" Will it be a light-hearted tale of murder and mayhem like "A Clockwork Orange," or will it be a thrill-a-minute terror ride like "The Shining?" The beauty of it is that it could be any of those, or something completely new. Stanley Kubrick's vision will continue to take him to new heights.

Alice's Restaurant

1997

By LAURIE STEWART



Top corner: Sophomore's **Danny DuPuis** and **Sara Kribbs** accompany junior **Karin Pierson** with a piano duet in the song "Kissing You." Photo by Ali Buell.

Left: Senior **Ryan Shaw** drums with **The M-7** in their first year competing together as a band. Photo by Ali Buell. **Above:** Junior **Breana Trombly** sings her way to first place with **Matt Popovits**. She also took home second place last year. This is Breana's third performance at Alice's. Photo by Ali Buell.

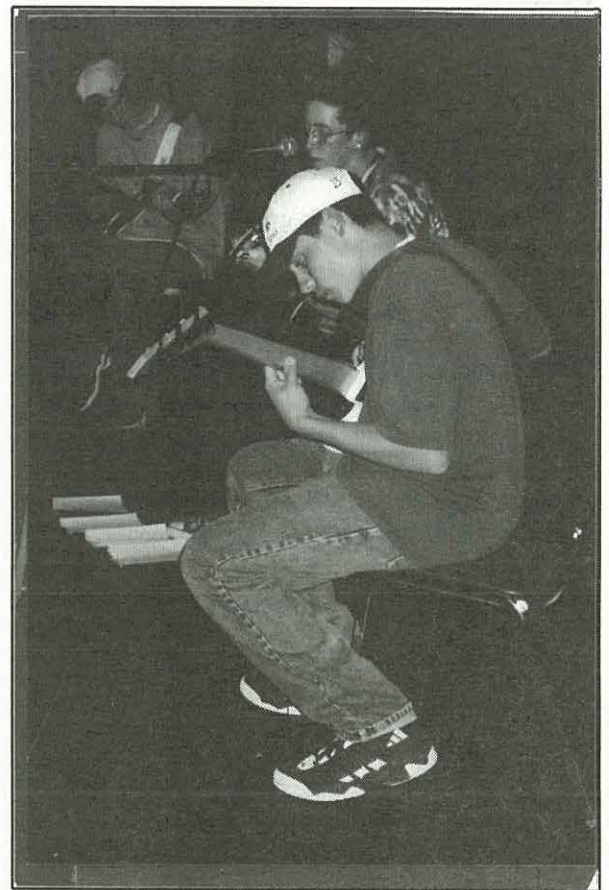


Above: Junior **Erin Robinson** congratulates **Fransizka Pille** after she tied for second place. Photo by Ali Buell. **Left:** Alice's had a record turnout selling over three hundred tickets. Alice's is presented every year by Beta Chi Theta and Madrigals. Photo by Dave Campbell.

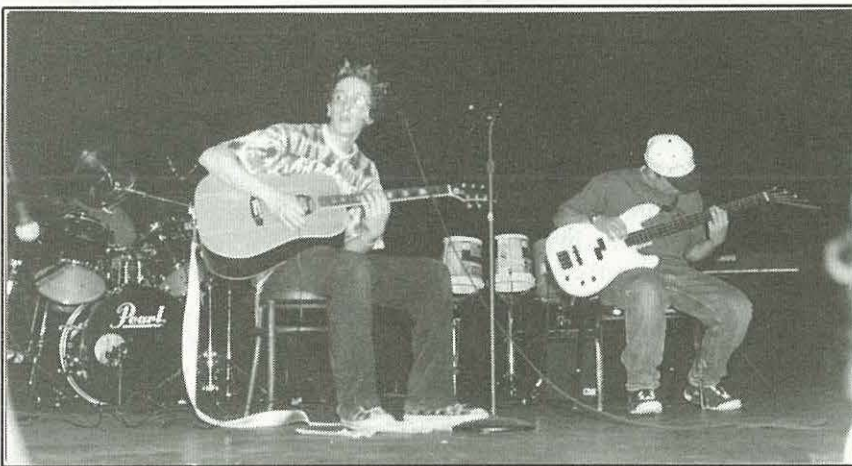




Left: Foreign exchange student Franziska Pille brings the crowd to their feet with her performance of "The Rose." She proved to the audience that sometimes all you need to win is a pretty voice and a guitar. Franziska managed to tie for second with Lucinda Olsen in the non-band category. Photo by Dave Campbell. Below: The band Wake performs a cover of The Eagles "Hotel California." Wake consists of juniors Adam Wisniewski, Giancarlo Aversa, Dustin Bowden, Ryan Slocum, and senior Kyle Kranzo. Pictured here is Dustin and Giancarlo jamming on their guitars. Photo by Dave Campbell.



Above: Giancarlo Aversa, Dustin Bowden and Adam Wisniewski show off their musical talent. Photo by Ali Buell.



Performers savor the thrill of the stage

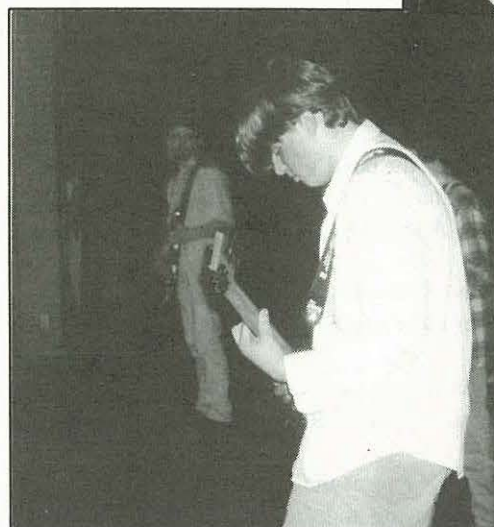
By **ANDY LENNOX**

The butterflies in my stomach felt like they had just cocooned and hatched into razorblades as the act before us played their music. I don't even know if it was good or not, I was too busy dragging all my equipment to the stage and feeling like I was going to puke. The curtain closed on them and we all frantically dragged the large amps and all our guitars into place. I gave a few inconsiderate congratulations to the band who was frantically tearing down. Not because I didn't think they did well, but because I was scared. I plugged my guitar into the multi-effects processor, which was just a horribly confusing combomulation of buttons and pedals. Then I plugged into the power supply. I seriously thought I was going to die. I kept thinking, "What the heck am I doing up here?" and I heard the announcer say our name. The curtain opened slowly and as soon as it did all of the pain and fear went away. I was standing right there, in front of about 300 people.

This is the moment I was scared of? It was so easy. I played my first chords and I was absorbed in the music. The first song was really soft and fun to play; everyone just let it flow. The second song was a barrage of classical style guitar mixed with deafening distortion. The third and last song we performed was like an energy driven rollercoaster. It was the greatest night of my life.



Above: Senior Lucinda Olsen gives a wonderful performance of "Killing Me Softly." She blew everyone out of their seats again this year, and tied for second place in the non-band category. Photo by Dave Campbell.



Below: Junior Andy Lennox and his band Glass surprised everyone by coming out of nowhere and pulling off a second place finish. They came up a close second to My Lesbian Nightmare. Photo by Ali Buell.

Skanking along with the Skolars

By ERIC POTZMANN

If a group with a little local flair is what you are into then check out the Skolars. They are a ska group from Livonia, Michigan. The group has a three piece horn section, a bassist, a guitarist, a drummer, and one lead singer. And as a ska group goes, these guys are very good. Well, actually they have changed their name, so if you wanted to check them out in concert you would go to see Telegraph. But if you want to find their CD you would have to look under the Skolars.

Their CD *10 Songs and Then Some* is quite a pleasure to listen to. It actually has 19 tracks but after the last ten the album goes into covers and a sort of Jerky Boys style phone recordings. Jeffrey does the vocals, Benny does the sax, John is on the trumpet, Steve plays the trombone, Mark plays the guitar, Randy does the bass, and Curtis is kickin' it on the drums. The album was produced on Jump Up Ska, a quality label for ska bands.

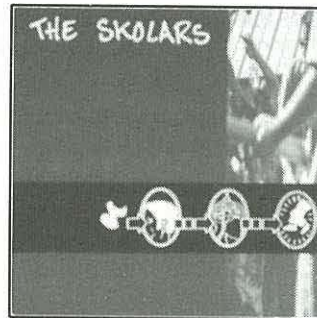
The album starts out about with a song speaking out against the problem of those people who like to ruin concerts by starting fights. Entitled "Should've Stayed Home Tonight," it not only addresses an interesting topic but it is a very catch tune, and is one of the album's best. If a good skanking tune is what you've been looking for, the second track is as good as they come. "Head First, Feat First" is a fast paced song with great horns.

On a little slower pace, the fifth song of the album has great likability. "Carry On" has a light-hearted feel with a great musical arrangement. Just when you think the guys have gone a little soft the next song, "Fighting Time," comes along, charges up the pace, and gives you a good song to jump up

and dance to. The next song is a wonderful male/female duet in which the vocals are much like candy for the ear. "In My Opinion," carries vocals from Jeff and Jamie Jensen from Lone Raspberry. "Had Enough" is one of those songs that changes up the pace again, this time slowing it down. This track is a

great one to mellow out to. To finish up the new songs, "After the Show" appears at number ten. Again the group switches tempo and gives you a good song to dance to.

For the last four songs the band does some covers. All of the covers that they do are really good, but the first one is a mystery track and nothing in the jacket leads to its identity.



The next cover is "Something Else," and it is one of the better

songs on the album, originally written by D. Grant and the SKO's. The Second is "Rude Girl" it is also very good and written by D. Grant and the SKO's. The last named (in the jacket) cover track, "Unity," is a cover from Operation Ivy and again it is very good. In addition to the covers the group does a very interesting version of "Salvation" by the Cranberries.

These guys also put on a good show, so go see them in concert. All in all this is a very good buy for the ten bucks you'll pay for the pleasure of ownership, and it really is a pleasure. If you surf the web stop by their web site and check them out. The address is <http://info.pitt.edu/~t1sst61/skolars.html>.

Being There adds variety to collection

By DUSTIN BOWDEN

Wilco's newest CD *Being There* is a double disc masterpiece. Wilco is probably one of the most talented bands around with five members. The instrumentals on this CD range from lap steel guitar to fiddle and banjo. They have a pop rock sound but mix up so many different instruments it gives them a sound of their own.

Jeff Tweedy is the band's multi-talented singer/songwriter who also plays guitar and bass. Other members include Jay Bennett, John Stirratt, Max Johnston, and Ken Coomer. Added together they put quite an impression on today's music industry.

Now I know what you are thinking.

"I've never even heard of them before and they've got their own double disc CD."

But seriously there isn't a bad song on the double disc with songs like "Outtaside (Outtamind)" and "Red-eyed and Blue," and "Say You Miss Me," just to name a few.

It's songs like Forget the Flowers with a bluegrass beat featuring banjo playing by Maz Johnston and soothing organs on "Red-eyed and Blue" that set this album and this band away from the rest.

It's CDs like this that you can put in and listen to over and over again. So if you're out shopping for a good CD and you're into some pop-rock then pick up Wilco's latest, *Being There*.

Summer Movie Releases

June 13

Speed 2: Cruise Control

June 20

Batman and Robin

June 27

Hercules

July 2

Men in Black

Titanic

July 11

Contact

July 25

Air Force One

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Slok's Side



NWO is just too sweet

BY RYAN SLOCUM

In this the final edition of "Slok's Side", I will talk about a sport that hasn't received a lot of attention, until recently that is. I'm talking about pro wrestling. I've watched wrestling since I was a little kid and I have to admit, it got a little old. The bad guys would beat up the good guys, then the good guys would win. Even Hulk Hogan thought it got old, so he decided to take action. Almost a year ago he formed the New World Order (NWO).

Hulk Hogan started the NWO because he wanted to change pro wrestling. Therefore he said he would take over the WCW and make it the NWO. That was the first change. Other changes included changing his name to "Hollywood Hogan," and he wears all black instead of his traditional yellow and red. The biggest change of all is Hogan no longer wrestles for the fans. He is now the ultimate bad guy.

When Hogan and the other two original members of the NWO Scott Hall (Razor Ramon) and Kevin Nash (Diesel) made their first appearance, they told all the other wrestlers not to get in their way, or there would be trouble and the NWO has certainly backed that up. The NWO has repeatedly interfered with matches, hitting people with chairs, tables, brass knuckles, bars, or whatever they can get their hands on. They also spraypaint NWO on everything in sight, including their victims and the WCW Championship belt.

Senior Nick Hortze is a huge fan and he says, "The NWO is an organization that many think of as a gang, but they only do what is necessary to win. Is that wrong?"

Apparently many other WCW wrestlers don't think there is anything wrong with the NWO, because many of them switched to the NWO. The NWO at one time had 15 guys. Now they only have 12 but they have three championships and the biggest name of all, Dennis Rodman. Rodman joined the NWO in March and gave them big publicity. Every news channel in the U.S. was talking about it.

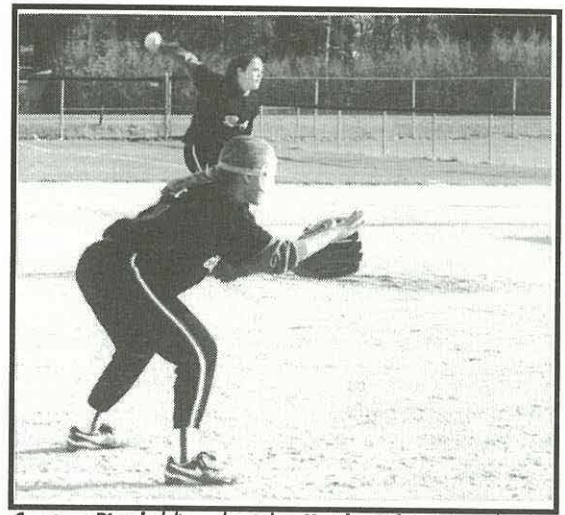
Junior Jeff Decaire says, "I like the NWO because they brought back all the old guys from the WWF, and a lot of big sports stars." That is exactly correct. Not only did the NWO bring in big names to fight for them, they also brought in big names to fight against them. Rick Flair, Rowdy Roddy Piper, Reggie White of the Green Bay Packers, and Kevin Greene of the Carolina Panthers are a few. There are many more who want to get their hands on the NWO, including the other organizations.

The NWO is so hot that the WWF and ECW have copied WCW and made the Nation of Dominance and the Blue World Order.

Nick Hortze sums up the copycats best by saying, "There are just a couple of cheap generic organizations that think they are hard core, but they're not, only NWO is, and when you're NWO you're NWO 4 life brah!!" Nick's right, NWO is the thing going. They've made wrestling bigger and badder than it has ever been. They're on the news, talk shows, sitcoms, and even have their own movie. They pulled wrestling out of the gutter and put it back into the spotlight it was in the mid 80's. With wrestlers like Hogan, Macho Man, Hall, and Nash there's no way NWO can go down.

So I'll end this year's "Slok's Side" with a famous quote from the NWO and Nick Hortze, "I guess the NWO is just too sweet and if you don't like this article you can stick it, brotha."

Sports
June
32
Blazer



Courtney Pintek delivers the pitch as Heather White gets ready. Photo by Laurie Stewart.



Catcher Stephanie Chapman holds up at third. Photo by Laurie Stewart.

Raider Varsity Softball Record

Wins	Losses
28	3

*16-2 in the Big Nine

-as of 5/13/97



Justyn Kyle and first baseman Beci Pierce work together to get the out. Photo by Ryan Nagel.

King of the Field

BY JEREMY DAKE

"A lot of young people have the necessary skills to play softball, but to utilize the skills takes a lot of heart, desire, and hard work." That is the message that Flushing softball coach, Ron King had to say about people who play or want to play softball.

For 14 years Mr. King has put his time and dedication into the Raiders' softball program. Approaching the 400 wins plateau, he has posted a respectable 369-155 record. He has always been a Flushing man, since he started teaching 34 years ago. While at Flushing, he has also coached JV baseball, JV football, and junior high basketball. But to him, softball is what he liked best, so that's what he stuck with.

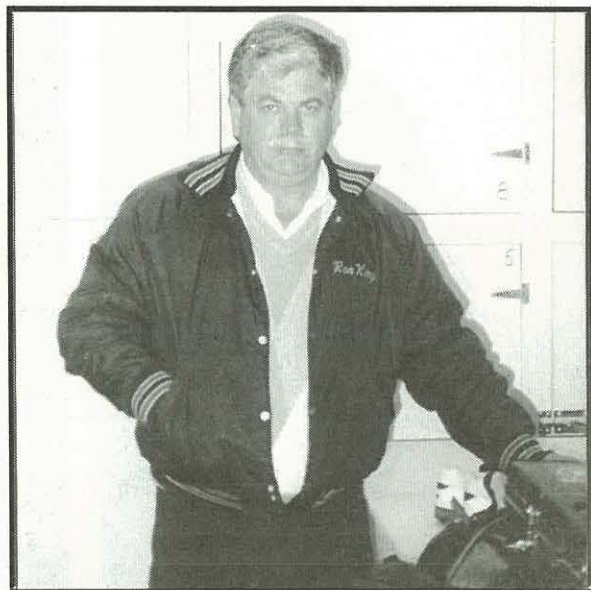
His program has seen 11 girls go to play college ball, and he wouldn't be surprised to see a few go this year. This year's team has a 20-2 record and is on track to becoming Mr. King's best team ever. So far his best ball club has been the team of 1990. They posted a 33-

5 overall record and made it to regionals. They had seven all starters, and one of them was Kris Wasserman, who was the one girl he mentioned would definitely be on his dream team. Kris went on to play at the University of Detroit, and she also made it to the last cut on the USA Olympic Team.

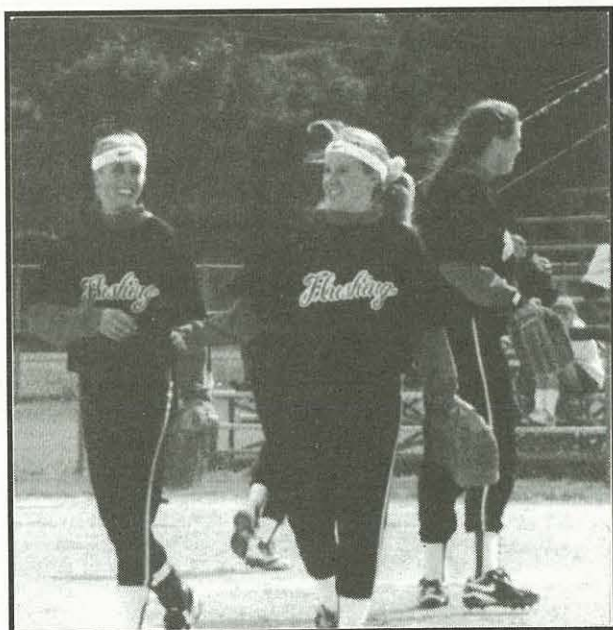
Mr. King is an easy man to talk to and to get to know. His players always feel comfortable and at ease when they're around him.

Mr. King played varsity baseball and basketball at Grand Haven High School. Before becoming a teacher, he graduated from Western Michigan University. He is happily married to Becky, his wife of 23 years, and has four sons and a granddaughter.

"Coaching the girls is a real challenge," said Coach King. "We have a lot of good athletes, and I like the dedication of the girls." He added that he feels young enough to keep coaching for years to come.



Coach Ron King
Blazer file photo.



Shortstop Heidi Yeagley and third baseman Justyn Kyle congratulate each other after a great play. Photo by Laurie Stewart.



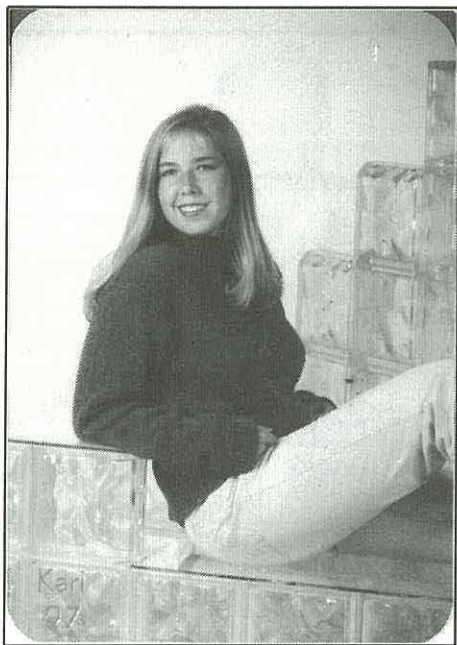
Courtney Pintek fires one in. Pintek has pitched 69 innings, against 302 batters and has a 2.23 E.R.A. Her record as of May 13 was 11-1. Photo by Ryan Nagel.



Kathy Rust at shortstop makes the play for the out. Photo by Laurie Stewart.



Outfielder Kathy Rust warms up in the outfield. Photo by Mark Kleinedler.

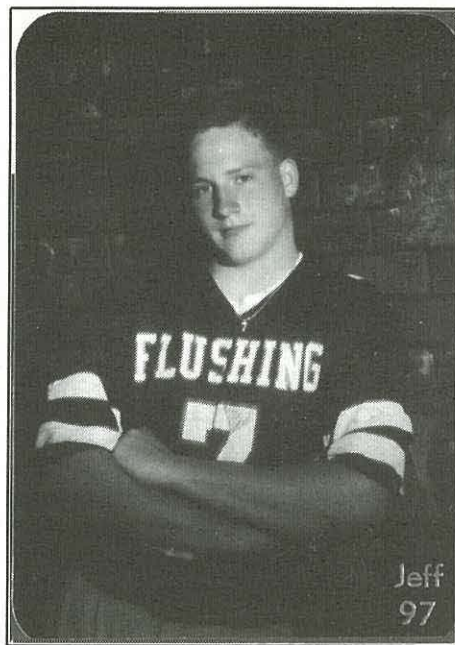


Kari Prochazka (*above*) has played four years of varsity golf and two years of varsity volleyball. She was named Second Team All-Conference her freshman year, First Team All-Conference and MVP of the team her sophomore and junior years, and the All-State Team her junior year. Kari is the first MHSAA Scholar Athlete Award recipient from Flushing. She is planning to attend Michigan State University to play golf next year.

Trisha Eavy (*right*) has run varsity cross country for four years, played varsity soccer for four years, and varsity volleyball for three years. In cross country, she was named First Team All-Conference, First Team All-County, was a state finalist, and made the academic All-State team. She was named Honorable Mention All-Conference as a junior in soccer. Trisha will be attending Western Michigan University next fall.

Jeremy Dake (*right*) played varsity football and baseball this year. In football, he played wide receiver as a junior and received Honorable Mention All-Conference. The next year, he was named Second Team All-Conference for running back. He also was named Co-MVP and led the team with 11 touchdowns. Last year, he received Honorable Mention All-Conference for pitcher in baseball. Besides football and baseball, Jeremy also played freshman and JV basketball. He was also a member of the Intra-

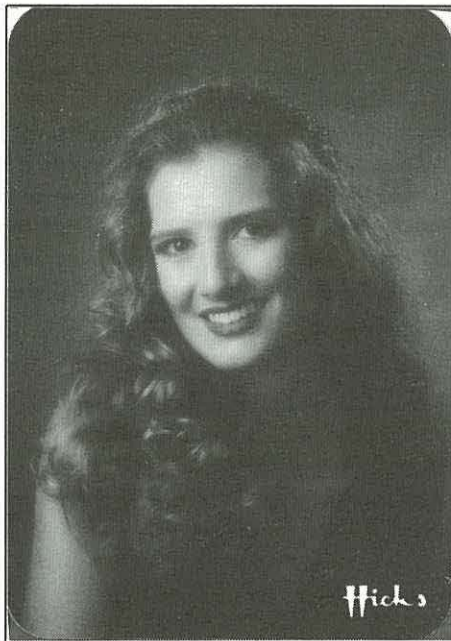
mural Champs — The Shiz. Next year, he will be attending SVSU to possibly play baseball.



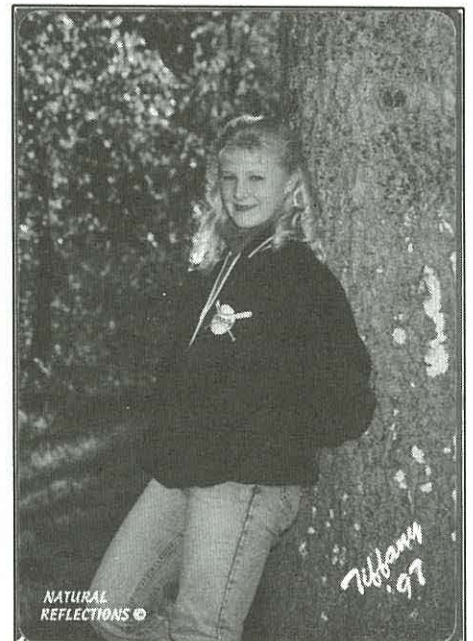
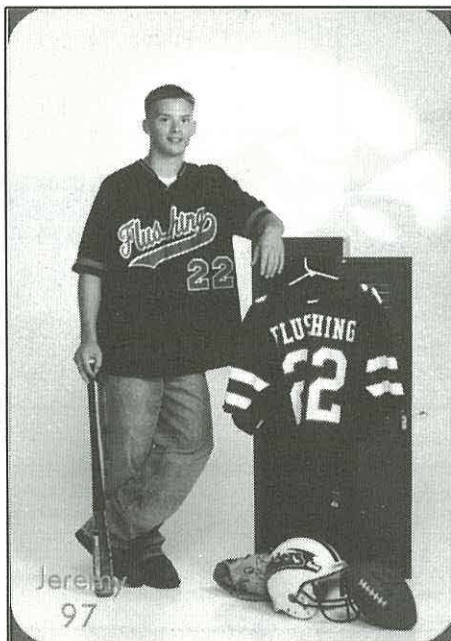
TOP SAR ATHL

BY GRANT NELSESTUEN

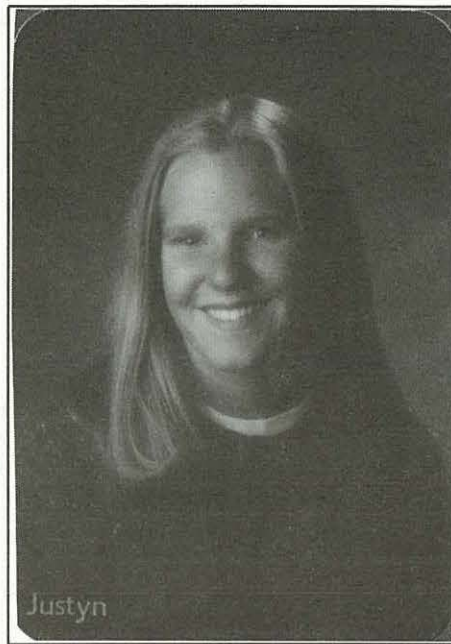
Jeff Griffis (*above left*) played varsity football, basketball, and track this year. A two year veteran, Jeff was named Honorable Mention All-Conference both years for punter and also for quarterback this year. He was named the MVP of the football team, also. He played guard on the basketball team, and throws the shot put, discus, and runs sprints on the track team. Next year, he will be attending SVSU to play football.



Tiffany Martin (*below*) has been on the varsity softball team for all four years, and a varsity cheerleader for two years. She has been Honorable Mention All-Conference and All-District her freshman, sophomore, and junior years and the captain the last two years. In cheerleading, she was the captain and named All-American both years. This fall, she will be attending SVSU and will probably be playing softball.



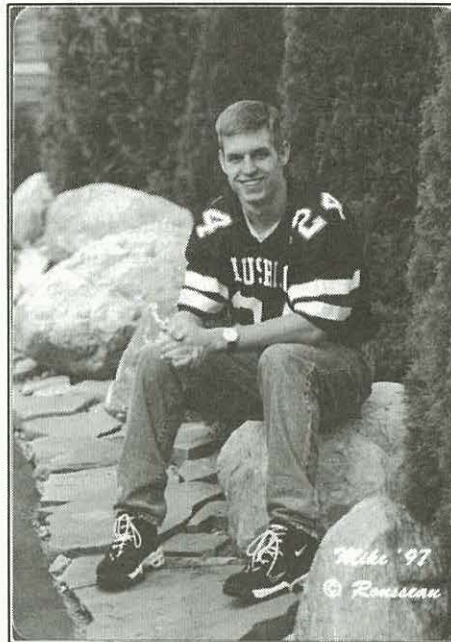
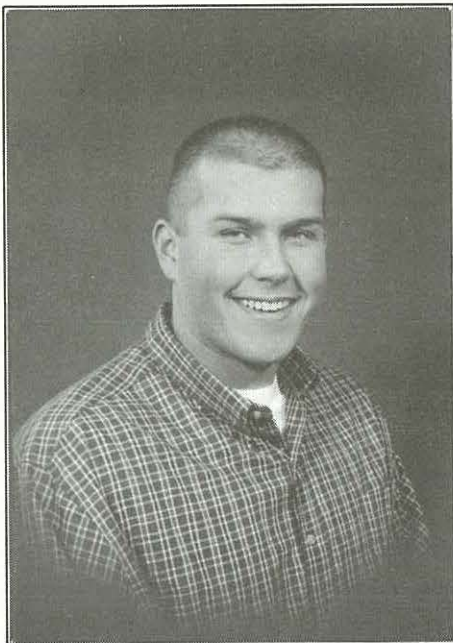
TEN WIPES



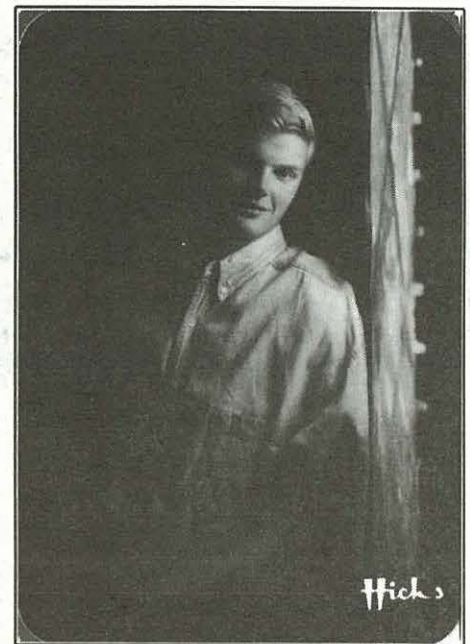
Justyn

Since her sophomore year, Justyn Kyle (*above right*) has played varsity tennis and softball. In tennis, she was named Second-Team All-Conference for number two doubles her junior year, and First Team All-Conference for number one doubles her senior year. As a freshman, she played JV tennis and softball. She was also moved up as a freshman for the districts in softball. She will be attending Michigan State University next year.

Matt Palacios (*below*) has been a three sport varsity letter winner the last two years. He was the captain of the football, basketball, and baseball teams this year. He was named First Team All-Conference and All-Area for offensive lineman. Also, he received the Allan Paul award given to the best lineman. He was voted Most Athletic. Next year he will be attending Northwood to play football and baseball.



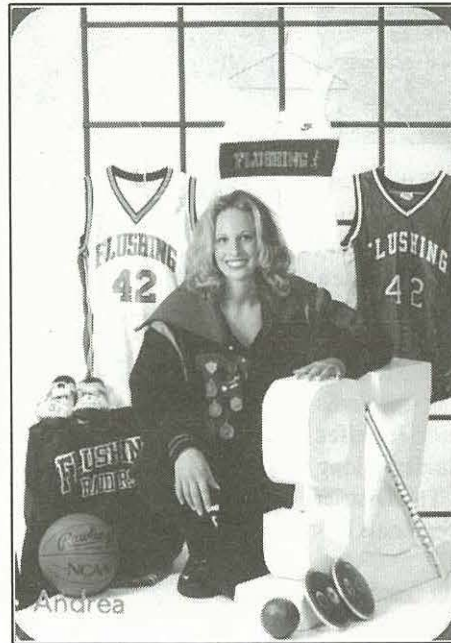
Mike '97
© Rousseau



Hicks

Andrew Ryan (*above*) is a four year varsity Asoccer player. He received First Team All-Conference, First Team All-Area, and Honorable Mention All-State honors this past year. Andrew holds the school records for career goals (36) and assists (36). Besides soccer he played freshman basketball and ran track as a junior. He was also a member of the Intramural Champs — The Shiz. Andrew will be attending Mott next year.

Mike Lintz (*left*) has played varsity football for three years and ran track for two years. As a junior, he was named Second Team All-Conference for defensive back. This year, he was named First Team All-Conference. He led the Raider football team in tackles this year. In track, he runs the 100m, 200m, 400m relay, and 800m relay. He also played freshman and JV basketball. He will be attending SVSU this fall where he hopes to play football.



Andrea

Andrea Bernardini (*left*) has played varsity basketball and track for three years. In basketball, her best sport, she received All-Conference Honorable Mention her sophomore year. She was injured for the majority of her junior year, but managed to gain a ranking in the Top 100 players in the state. Her senior year, she was named Second Team All-Conference, to the All-Academic team, was the 17th overall player in the state, the top rebounder in the state, and received All-State honors. In track, she was named Honorable Mention All-Conference in the discus and shot put. She also played JV softball her freshman year. Andrea is attending Western Michigan University on a scholarship to play basketball and, possibly track.

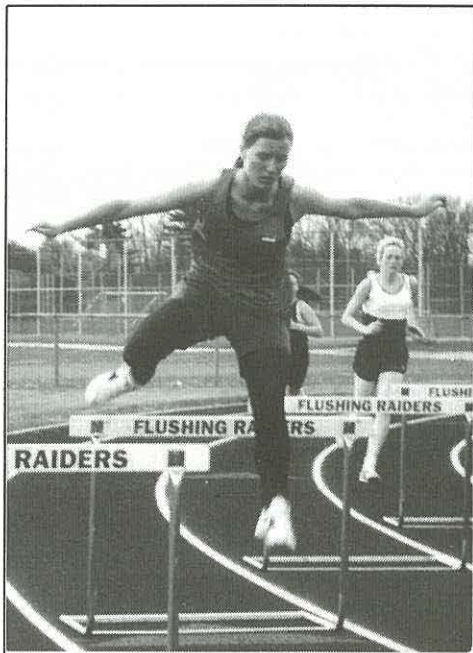
WATER GOREGARD

Football Hockey Cross Country Track & Field
 Basketball Soccer
 Tennis Volleyball Football
 Soccer Cross Country Track & Field

The **Girls Varsity Golf** team finished fourth on May 12 at the Davison Country Club in the Big Nine Tournament. They finished behind Clio, Grand Blanc, and Powers. Senior captain **Lindsye Cawthray** shot a low score of 92, followed by senior captain **Kari Prochazka** with 93. Also helping the team were sophomore **Lindsey Pascoe**, seniors **Laura Martz**, **Lisa Cole**, and freshman **Lynn Noe**. The girls hosted the Regionals at Flushing Valley Golf Course on May 16. Their goal was to place in the top three so the team could advance to the State Finals at Forrest Acres Golf Course in East Lansing on May 30 and 31. Kari Prochazka made First Team All-Conference and Lindsye Cawthray made Second Team All-Conference. The team's record is nine wins and five losses.

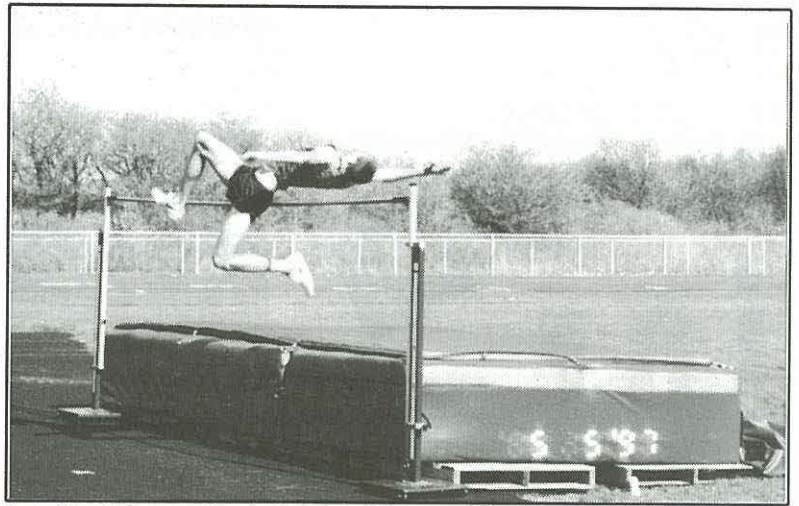
BY **KERRI BENSON**

*Junior **Kristen Banacki** leads her opponents in the 300m hurdles at the Flushing Invitational on May 10. On May 13, the team traveled to Powers for their Cross-Overs, despite strong showings by seniors **Megan Swenson**, **Heather Mordue**, **Brooke Vizena**, **Heather Tonda**, **Andrea Bernardini**, junior **Jenni Gutscher**, sophomores **Sara Lecki**, **Erin Schultz**, freshmen **Kate Shipley**, and **Anna Dutscher**. Photo by **Jeff Richards**.*



The **Girls Varsity Soccer** team is just coming off their best game this year against arch rivals Grand Blanc. The Lady Raiders tied Grand Blanc 1-1. This was the first time ever that Grand Blanc lost/tied in a game in the Big Nine conference. "We are a learning team who is always dedicated and focused for every game," says sophomore **Becky Batey**. The girls have won eight, lost three and tied two times. They began the Big Nine tournament against Davison by defeating the Cardinals 4-0. Senior **Julie Linseman** and junior **Jennifer Stanton** both scored once for the Raiders along with Batey who kicked in two goals. The District tournament began on May 19, with Regionals following on May 27.

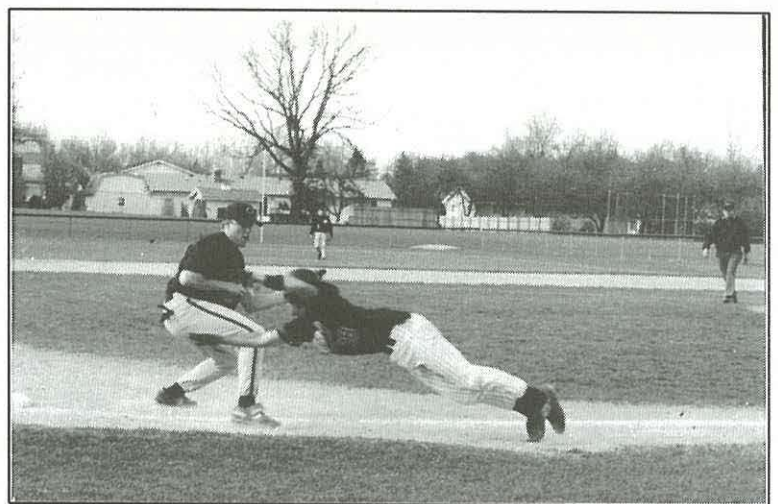
BY **CHRIS MILLER**



*Junior **Matt Foltz** attempts to clear 5'6" in the high jump. He helped his team defeat Owosso on May 6 by a score of 81-56. They swept all the relays, with other key contributors including juniors **Tom Whitmire**, **Adam Schultz**, senior **Erik Potzmann**, juniors **Chris Ryan**, **Scott Vlahon**, and sophomore **Mike Bentley**. The Raiders clinched the Western Division Championship, setting up the showdown with Carman-Ainsworth on May 13. They defeated Carman-Ainsworth 97-40 to remain the only undefeated team in the Big Nine. Photo by **Jeff Richards**.*

The Flushing **Boys Tennis** team came up third in the Big Nine tennis tournament, tying Owosso and Carman-Ainsworth. Flushing faced Owosso in several consolation finals. At three doubles, senior **Jeff Duncan** and junior **Scott Douglas** lost to Owosso 6-4 and 7-5. Flushing's one doubles team consisting of junior **Ian Thomas** and senior captain **Mitch Wend** beat Owosso 6-1 and by a default in their consolation final. Freshman **Mark Radspieler**, who was brought up from the JV team to play four singles made it to the consolation final in his bracket before he fell to Owosso. The team went to the Regional competition on May 16. "I think we're one of the stronger teams, along with Grand Blanc at Regionals," said Ian Thomas. The team needed to place high at Regionals to make to the State competition in Midland on May 30, which has been the team's goal from the beginning. "The whole team came through and performed well this season," added Thomas.

BY **MATT CHRISTOPHER**

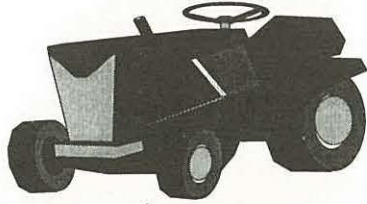


*Junior **Brandon Grice** dives back to third as Clio's **Brad Knorr** attempts the tag. The Raiders ended up losing to Clio 2-0. On May 12, Owosso defeated Flushing 5-4. The Raiders rallied in the seventh inning, but fell short. **Brandon Grice** and senior Captain **Matt Palacios** each homered. Photo by **Laurie Stewart**.*

Ground Effects

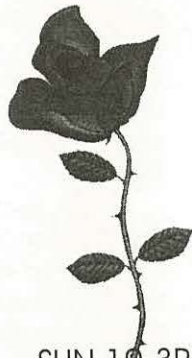
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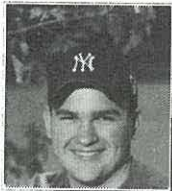
from



to the class of
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Things look good for the Wings this time

BY ERIK POTZMANN

Well this is it, I guess. This will be my last hurrah. Well it has been fun writing for you for the last two years. I really didn't think that it would come to this when I started out. I hope that I have made an impact on the way you view the sports world. I thank all of you for reading my column and giving me comments. I feel like I have accomplished something when one of you comes up to me and says "I really knew what you were talking about," or "I liked what you said this month," and even just "I read your column this month" makes me feel good. Thanks again to all who have enjoyed my writings. Now on to the main course...

I like the Red Wings' chances this year. Things have fallen into place. The pressure is gone, the team chemistry is there, and they really want to win. I can't really explain it but things are different this year.

Every team seems beatable. Even though the Wings only beat the Avalanche once this year, this means nothing. Colorado has been struggling this post season against teams that wouldn't normally be a problem. Hmmm, this all seems like the scenario last year but it was a different team, I can't really remember who that was.... New York is old and defiantly beatable, they hinge on their offense and a hot (streaky) goaltender, which is a volatile mix this time of year. The

Rangers showed that they are a patient team and they are skilled, but against a team with more depth and better skill players, the rangers would lose to the Wings. Philly is a little better, but they still don't have the experience that the Wings have.

The expectations are less. You don't, or haven't seen the Wings on the front page of the sports section for the past several months. The Wings aren't on everybody's mind and mouths. People aren't expecting the world of hockey on a silver platter. I still think people want the Wings to win the cup, but they aren't demanding it.

This team has bonded better than past teams, and the coach hasn't been focused on. They are playing like a team rather than a group of individuals working towards a common goal. On the coaching front, there isn't the daily Scottie report. There was a lot of emphasis on the coach last year and all of his stupid mind games. Thank god people aren't talking about that right now. Sure a coach has a lot to do with it, but it really means nothing what he does outside of the locker room.

I hope to see all of you in the future. Thanks for enjoying, or at least reading, my writings.

Welcome to Hockeytown

BY MATT TRAVOR

Hockeytown is Detroit's Joe Louis Arena, home to one of the original six teams, the Detroit Red Wings. The Detroit Red Wings are the heart and soul of Detroit, but the last couple of years that has ripped apart, following the sweep to the New Jersey Devils in the Stanley Cup Finals. Then last year after their amazing regular season mark they put up, until they were demolished by the Colorado Avalanche in the Western Conference Finals. As we all know the Avalanche went on to be the Stanley Cup Champions by beating the Florida Panthers in the Stanley Cup Finals. The Wings had an average year this year and had a problem with blowing leads in the third period. Now the Avalanche are their arch rivals. This year they met four times in the regular season and were all but blown out of the arena in the first three games, but in the fourth they showed some life.

Last year you may remember Claude Lemieux had the vicious hit on Kris Draper in the Western Conference Finals. In the fourth game between the Avalanche and the Red Wings, the Wings took exception to that incident and literally beat Colorado into the ice, everyone on the Red Wings wanted a piece of Lemieux, even the goalies were

fighting (Sorry: Patrick Roy you are probably the best goaltender in the league, but you can't fight at all, stay in the net).

Now, they are in the 1997 Stanley Cup Playoffs, the Wings earned the 3rd seed overall in the west behind the Colorado Avalanche and the Dallas Stars. In the first round the Avalanche beat the Blackhawks, the Stars met the Oilers and lost, the Red Wings beat the Blues, and the Mighty Ducks met the Coyotes and won. In the second round of this year's playoffs the Avalanche are playing the Oilers and the Red Wings face the Mighty Ducks. In the second round the Red Wings swept the Mighty Ducks in four games and the Avalanche beat the Oilers in five games to win the series 4-1.

A couple of things the Wings will have to remember when they are playing the Avalanche is the thin air in Colorado, and that the Av's are undefeated at home in the playoffs, and Patrick Roy has a GAA of 0.60 at home in the playoffs. Now the Colorado Avalanche and the Detroit Red Wings are on a crash course to meet each other once again in the Western Conference Finals to see who will play for Lord Stanley's Cup!

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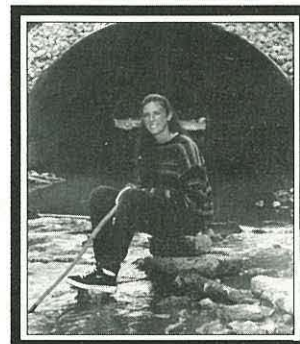
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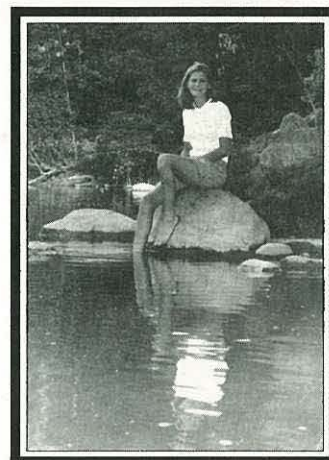


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