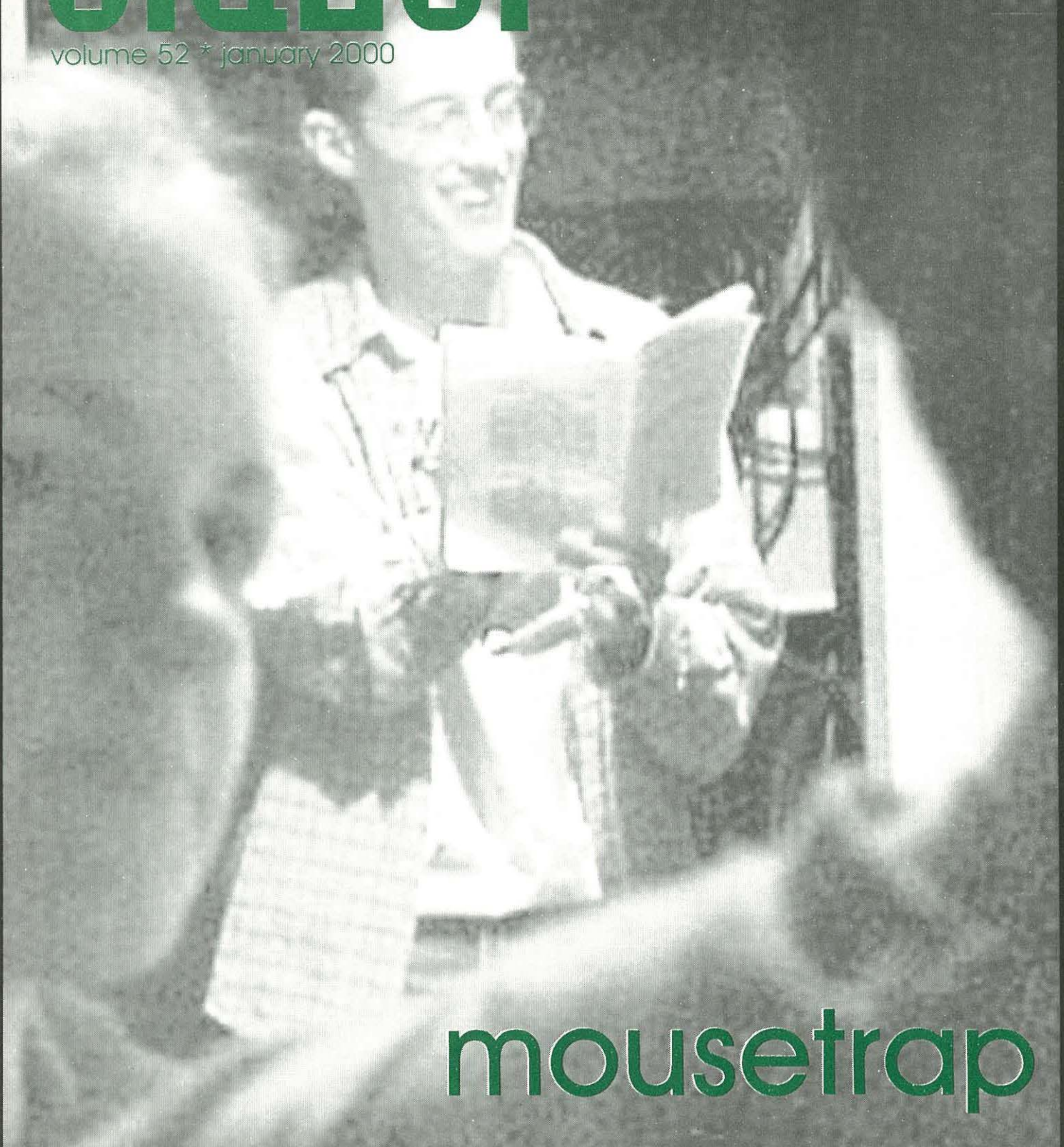


blazer

flushing high school's independent voice

volume 52 * january 2000



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➦ Jason Kennedy (*Detective Sergeant Trotter*) watches the rehearsal of *The Mousetrap* during his 'downtime' as David Campbell (*Paravicini*) and director Mr. Hamilton discuss the script. Photo by Joe Daily

on the cover

➦ David Campbell stands offstage in an effort to help Eric Welsby and Amanda Debar with their lines for the winter play, *The Mousetrap*. The performance dates of the Agatha Christie mystery are Jan. 28, 29, and 30. Photo by Joe Daily



THE DAILY DOSE
BY JOE DAILY



Hey people,

Well, if you're reading this, everything must have turned out all right after the new millenium struck. If not, this never existed and no one will read what I am writing right now. Wow, that's deep. Anyhoo, isn't this a wonderful world we live in?!

Speaking of a wonderful world, it's been great to see all of the students and faculty members that participated in various holiday events, such as Toys for Tots, the Flushing Candlewalk, and the student council food drive. It seems that everyone has been doing a lot of work to help others, and it really shows the pride we have in our school and community.

Well, hope everyone is looking forward to a new semester, and a bunch of long tests that see if you were paying attention. I was going to say more but I can't think of anything, and you can't do anything about it.

In this issue of the *Blazer*, we've got coverage of the upcoming school play, *The Mousetrap*, a story on local musician Ashley Peacock, and sports coverage on the wrestling team.

The news section contains a feature about dangerous intersections, entitled "Dangerous Crossings." The spread identifies accident sites, and gives information on safe driving that everyone should follow.

Well, that's about all the time we have for this month, but stay tuned for upcoming scenes from the next episode of the *Blazer*. Man, that was stupid. Bye.

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In memory of Aaron

BY DANNY GRADY

At around 4:30 pm Friday Dec. 10. A simple misjudgment was the cause of another Flushing fatality. Aaron and his two passengers were broadsided at the intersection of Elms and Dodge roads. Sara Schwertner suffered two broken legs and a broken ankle while James Lewis suffered a dislocated shoulder. 16 year old Aaron Cousineau's life was claimed by the accident. The cause is believed to be associated with a loss of traction due to the weather that evening.

Aaron was born March 7, 1983 in Flint. As he grew up he was considered the Devil with a halo. Aaron was a very, very caring individual. Although he was caring, he tended to be mischievous at times. Aaron was fond of

many things, especially cars and music. Aaron loved cars. Cars were his life. He loved every aspect of them. He often took the time to acquire knowledge about them.

He shared his plans to upgrade a '69 Impala with his friends Joe Moghaizel and Bret Marshall, calling for an engine rebuild, a metallic midnight blue paint job set with two pearl white racing stripes and 20 inch Enki Spider II touring rims wrapped in extremely low profile radials.

Aaron loved bass, basically like any teen. After the basics on the Chevy, he really wanted to make it bang. Thoughts of three 15" W-zero JL's and a 700 watt PPI mono amp with a custom installation constantly ran through his mind. He had a well rounded taste for music too, listening to anything from Alice in Chains to DMX. He was more than just your average teen.

Room 119: A place of understanding

BY AMANDA O'BOLYE

Students went to room 119 during the days preceding the funeral for classmate and friend Aaron Cousineau for many reasons. They went because they needed a place to grieve in private. They went to get support from other people who were mourning as well. They went to get the comfort that they needed. But most of all, they went to remember Aaron.

The room (which is usually used for meetings) was open on both Monday and Tuesday before the funeral. Mr. Beason, Mr. Zawlocki, social worker Ms. Adams, and three local pastors were all available for support and counseling. The students were there for each other.

"It helped just being with my friends," said junior Amanda Volz.

The school came together before classes started on Monday, so as to be prepared to help one another. Mr. Bickel called an early faculty meeting before first hour and informed the staff of Aaron's death. He also asked them to be ready to help students deal with their grief.

Ms. Adams went to all of Aaron's classes throughout the day on Monday to help students understand the loss, and

also have them share fond memories of Aaron.

"There are four steps to the grieving process," said Ms. Adams. "First, there is denial, or saying that it really didn't happen. Then there is anger, where you are just mad and distraught about everything. After this comes depression. Then finally there is acceptance and you are able to move on with your life. This process can last as long as two years for those who are very close to the deceased."

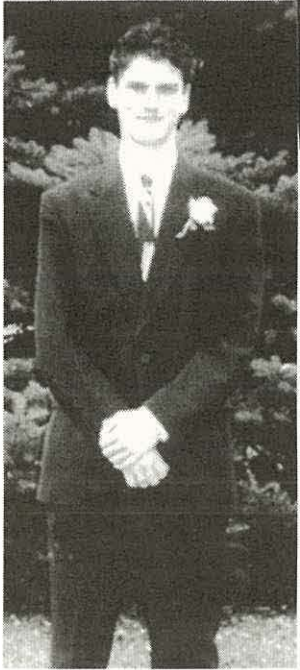
Mr. Zawlocki was able to understand the grief and help students through this hard time.

"Everyone grieves individually, in their own different way," said Mr. Zawlocki.

"You might see a person laughing and think that they aren't grieving and then see a person who's crying and think they are, when they both could be," he added.

For now, things are slowly getting back to normal. This however, does not mean Aaron will be forgotten or not missed.

"Just because the funeral is over doesn't mean the grieving is over," said Ms. Adams. "It will never be over and Aaron will never be forgotten."



EAG Christmas Tree Project

BY ANDREW FOTENAKES

The live Christmas tree that was sitting in the lobby before Christmas break was a holiday project done by the Environmental Action Group (EAG). Club members Molly Hines and Nicole Slayton decorated it with bird-treat ornaments instead of real bulbs and lights. The treats consisted of peanut butter, suet, Ritz crackers, popcorn, and of course bird seed ornaments. The City of Flushing DPW will plant the tree at a location to be named later. Purkey's Landscaping donated the tree for the project.

Senior Molly Hines puts a popcorn garland around the Christmas tree. Photo by Andrew Fotenakes



↑ A number of different ingredients were used when making the bird-treat ornaments. Photo by Andrew Fotenakes

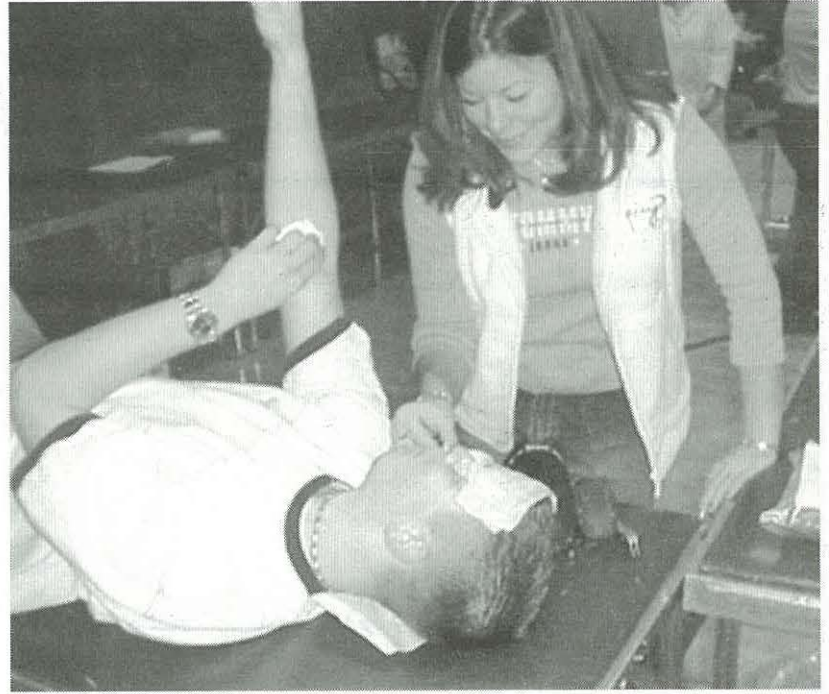


Blood drive surpasses its goal

The recent blood drive put on by Mr. Coggins' second and third hour classes surpassed their goal of 65 pints of blood by 20 with 85 pints for the American Red Cross. Another drive will be held March 24. Students must be 17 years old and weigh 110+ lbs.



Senior Adam DeVantier recovers from his donation with help from senior Lacey Grice. This was Adam's second time giving blood. All of the donors were given free cookies and juice to replenish lost nutrients. Photo by David Campbell.



"The blood drive has never been run better, due to the excellent quality of students involved," said Mr. Coggins.

These students load blood into the American Red Cross blood-mobile Photo by Andrew Fotenakes



She's there for you, with a helping hand

BY ERIC WELSBY

Imagine. You have a STD and are too ashamed to tell your parents or don't know how. You need to talk to someone that can help you, but who? Try turning to Ellen Steward, the new school nurse.

If you approached her with such a situation, she would start by asking about your symptoms to ascertain the problem. She would then refer you to a physician and help you decide what to do next.

"I'm here to help build bridges between parents and students," says Steward.

This doesn't mean if you tell her something she's immediately going to tell your parents. If you need help talking to your parents about something, she will assist you. She is bound to confidentiality, unless of course there's a situation that threatens your life or the life of another person. If one of these life-threatening situations were to arise, she can put you in touch with counselors and doctors outside of the Flushing area to help maintain your privacy.

Along with performing her normal nursing duties around school, Steward has also been assisting with Mr. Coggins' fourth and fifth hour First Aid classes. She has been teaching CPR to the students helping them complete a requirement for the class. The students use life size resuscitation dolls, which consists of a hand and a torso, that can be used to simulate a CPR victim. Steward says the school has six adult size dolls and four infant size dolls that can be used for teaching the class.

At the end of the CPR training, each student will receive their CPR certification from the Red Cross. With their certification, the students can perform CPR on anyone who needs it.



Nurse Ellen Steward teaches Kate Shipley and Amber Cathey CPR. Photo by David Campbell

Student Council puts "Big F" in lobby

BY ANDREW FOTENAKES

Those of you who stayed after school on Friday, Dec. 22 may have heard a bit of distracting noise throughout the school. The saws and other noises were coming from a Student Council sponsored project in the lobby. A portion of the floor was cut out and a large block "F" was inlaid in its place. The project cost around \$6,000 and took approximately seven days to complete.

"It had been an idea for quite some time that was thrown around at Student Council meetings," said Mr. Whitmire. "We finally decided that we would take action and have it done over Christmas break."

Other beautification plans for the lobby and the rest of the school are already being discussed by Student Council, and we will update you on any other decisions that are made.

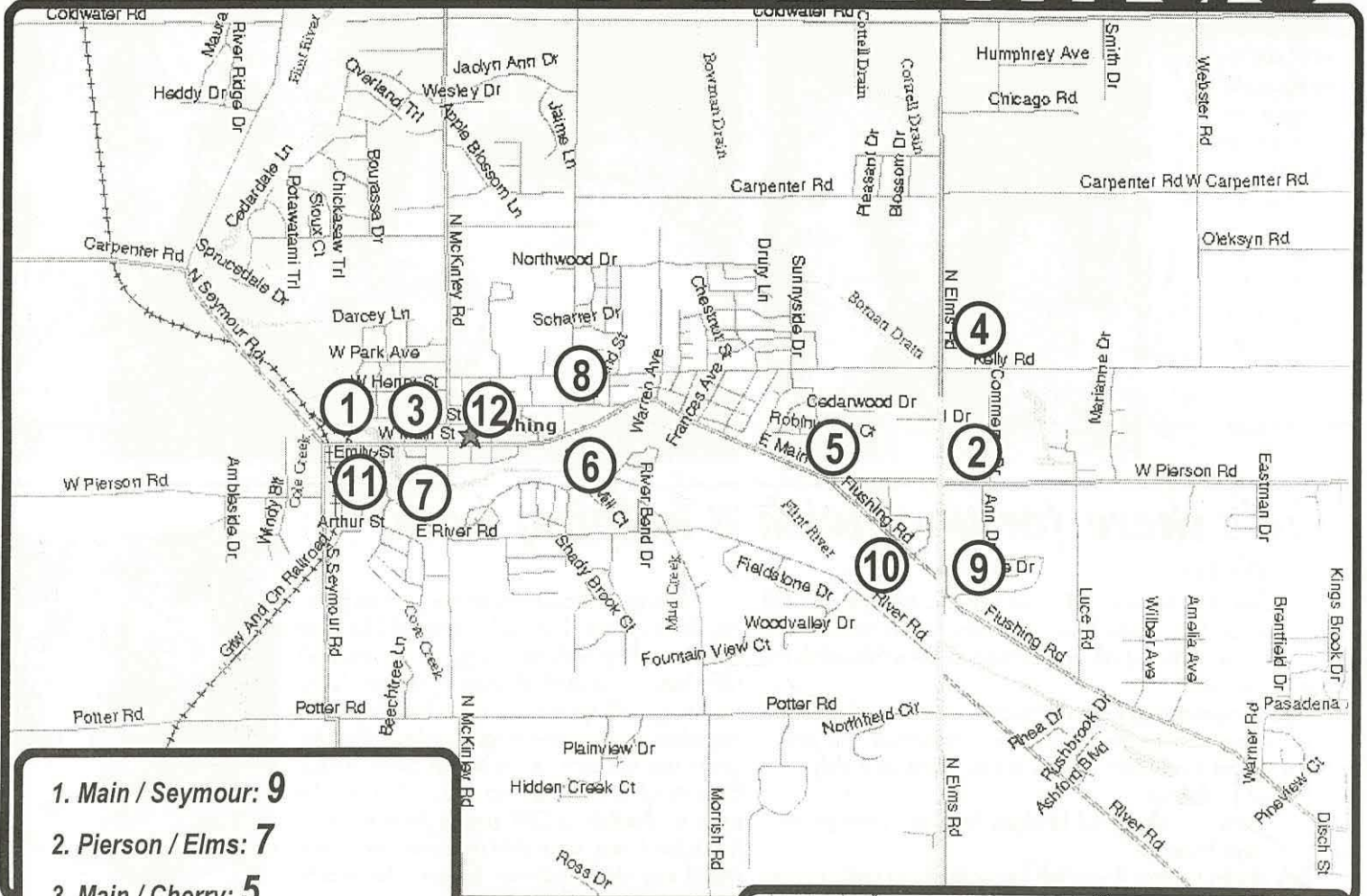


The early stages of the emblem installation. Photo by Andrew Fotenakes

DANGEROUS

BY DAVE MCGREGOR AND ALAN FAILLE

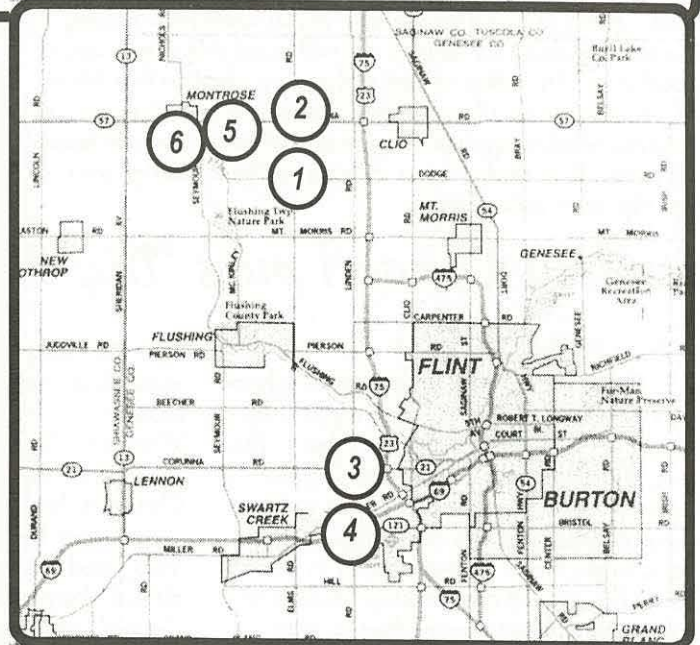
CROSSINGS



1. Main / Seymour: 9
2. Pierson / Elms: 7
3. Main / Cherry: 5
4. Elms / Coutant: 5
5. Flushing / Pierson: 5
6. Main / Luce: 4
7. Terrace / River: 4
8. Chamberlain / Hazelton: 4
9. Flushing / Elms: 3
10. Flushing / Crescent: 2
11. Main / Terrace: 2
12. Main / McKinley: 2

Accidents reported to Flushing City Police between Jan. 1 and Dec. 3, 1999

1. Elms / Dodge
2. Elms / Vienna
3. Corunna / Linden
4. Linden / Miller
5. McKinley / Vienna
6. Seymour / Vienna



Driver Error

Trouble happens at the corner

BY RYAN VISSER

In light of the recent auto accidents involving students from our high school, those of you who drive might have found yourself being more careful while crossing an intersection, or might have found yourself taking the few extra seconds to buckle up before heading out onto the roads. For some of us, these accidents may be a wake-up call.

Driver error is when a motorist neglects any driving law, on purpose or by accident. The fact that we are not invincible and that it only takes one small, seemingly insignificant mistake to create a giant catastrophe, has forced to our attention the need to evaluate how careful we are behind the wheel, and perhaps has made us a little wiser. Then again, some might not think it would ever happen to them - but it does happen.

The terrible tragedy that took the life of Aaron Cousineau and injured three others, including Sarah Schwertner, on Friday, Dec. 10, when his car was struck by a pick-up truck at the Dodge and Elms Road intersection, is a painful example. Cousineau (heading west on Dodge), stopped at a stop sign at the Elms intersection, assumed he could make it across, and according to witnesses, spun out on gravel and was hit by the northbound trucker. The truck driver and both the passengers in Cousineau's car were treated at McLaren.

Driver error among teenagers is frequent, many times damaging, and even fatal, as in this tragic situation.

But having a near-tragic accident is also an eye-opening situation that makes teenaged motorists more wary behind the wheel, as they experience the fear of a bad car crash but are able to walk away. Junior Andy Robinson's totaled car represents that example. Meghan Leathley was his passenger.

During school on Wednesday, Dec. 15, the two Madrigal choir members (along with others following in separate cars), were heading east on Carpenter on their way to the Holiday Inn to perform in a school-related choir concert. In the middle of the Elms intersection, a woman slammed into the back door of the driver's side of his car, rolling it. The car flipped 180 degrees upside down, then came to a halt.

Robinson crawled out through the window, and Leathley, stuck in her seat belt, was helped out the window by witnesses.

She said Robinson might have thought it was a four



➤ A roadside memorial marks the corner of Elms and Dodge where Aaron Cousineau died Dec. 10. Photo by Alan Faille

way stop and was expecting the woman to slow down.

"She hit us at about 55," Leathley said. "Andy hit his head on the window and then my chin."

Though the worst things Leathley got were bumps and bruises, Robinson spent the night at the hospital with a closed head injury. He came home the next day, suffering only temporary short-term memory loss. According to the witnesses of the crash, they were both very lucky.

"The EMT said we shouldn't have walked away from that," Leathley said.

The driver of the other car escaped injury and was just a bit shaken, but the front end of her car suffered a big dent.

It seems now that danger for drivers, especially inexperienced ones, could easily be one simple mistake away. In fact, based on the numbers, there couldn't be an easier way to get in a wreck.

As drivers education classes tell us, the statistics show that the most common cause of auto accidents is driver error, even more common than accidents caused by drunk driving.

So how does an inexperienced driver avoid making unintentional mistakes?

Flushing drivers education instructor Don Walworth, says that the most common mistake young drivers make is failing to concentrate on the driving task.

"You get into this hurry habit," he said, "and start to lose concentration, and you miss stuff."

Mr. Walworth has experienced more than his share of errors in all his years of teaching drivers ed. The worst situation so far, he says, was about eight years ago when a drivers ed car was totaled. He mentioned that it wasn't the fault of the student driving the car, but of another driver that pulled out of a parking lot into the wrong lane and ran right into them. The driver was a teenager that had just gotten his license.

Mr. Walworth's advice to teenaged drivers is to not be in such a hurry to take risks, and to concentrate on what they're doing behind the wheel.

"If it's questionable in any way, it's unacceptable," he said regarding risk-taking behind the wheel. The consequences are too great.

Far and Away

Making a foreign student feel at home

BY AMANDA O'BOYLE

Imagine getting on a plane and going 10,000 miles away from home. Imagine getting off a plane and meeting a family that you've never seen before. You won't see your own family for another year. How would you feel?

For foreign exchange students, this scenario really happens. They are scared, confused, excited, and nervous. Luckily, there is a club that is willing to help foreign exchange students and at the same time, inform students of their cultures as well.

AFS (American Field Service) was started after World War I when servicemen from the ambulance corps got together and decided they did not want to see a war like that happen again. They started an adult exchange with people from other countries so they could understand others' cultures and to try to initiate peace. During World War II the organization was suspended, only to start up again when the war was over. High school chapters were later started because they seemed to work better. Flushing was added to the organization in 1978, having both an adult and high school chapter. The adult chapter was disbanded after nearly 20 years of service, but with between 20 and 30 members, the high school chapter is still going strong.

"Our primary objective is to get acquainted with foreign exchange students and let them know about our culture and learn about theirs," says Mrs. Aubrey, the group's advisor.

This year Flushing is hosting seven exchange students from five different countries. Samantha

Reason and Christy Pina have also recently returned after a stay in a foreign country. Christy stayed in Spain for the summer. Samantha returned from Switzerland after being there for a year.

"It was scary," she said. "They spoke a different language and I didn't know what they were saying."

Samantha had had six weeks of German prior to going on the trip, but learned most of the language when she was there. After a whole year, leaving seemed more difficult than going, especially saying good-bye to her host parents and three brothers.

"I'm definitely going back; I already have my ticket," she says.

Samantha and Christy will both be speaking at upcoming AFS meetings, along with foreign exchange students.

Raquel Serafim, a foreign exchange student, says AFS helps because members get to meet a lot of new people and hear other foreign exchange students talk about their countries. Raquel says the hardest thing to adjust to is having sisters, since she is staying with Monica and Michelle Darnell, and she has no siblings in Portugal.

"You have to share everything with two other people," she says.

Surprisingly, this is one of the hardest things for her host sister, Monica, to adjust to as well.

"I am used to sharing things with my sister, but when you have to share things with two people it's like you have to fight for everything." But then she smiles. "It's hard but fun."

AFS hosts Halloween, Christmas, and other holiday parties so that foreign exchange students can get a feel for American culture as well.

A.F.S. Officers

President-Becky Jordan

Vice President-Andrea Green

Secretary-Katy Brisson

Treasurer-Monica Jacob



Ole Ehardt tries his hand at pumpkin carving during the AFS Halloween party. AFS hosts parties like these throughout the year. Photo courtesy of Becky Jordan



Check out more about the foreign exchange students and what music they brought with them from home on pages 16-17.

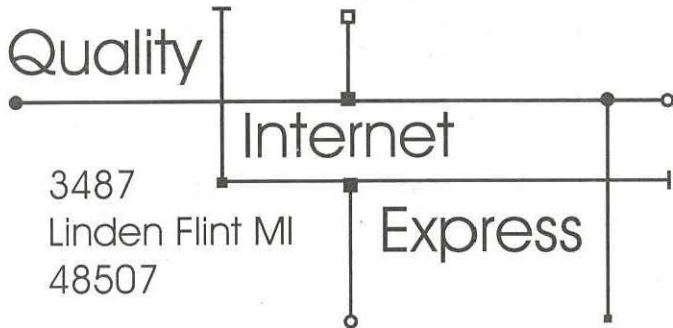


CALENDAR	COME SEE "MOUSETRAP"	A.F.S. MEETINGS
	A MURDER MYSTERY	JAN. 12-GERALDINE/BELGIUM
	JAN. 28, 29, & 30	JAN. 26-ROBERTA/BRAZIL
		TALK TO MRS. AUBREY FOR MORE INFO.

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Letters to the Editor

A reminder

All too often people go out and have a few drinks, and, not realizing that they are incapable of driving, get in the car and take off. When people drink they tend to think nothing can hurt them. They think that are capable of driving when in reality they are not. When you get on the road after drinking, you are not only putting your life in danger, but everyone else's also. Innocent people are killed everyday because someone wants to get drunk and drive. People always seem to think it can't happen to them, but let me tell you the truth; it can. Although you may not drink and drive it can still affect your life in a big way. Approximately, one million people are injured in alcohol-related accidents annually. Alcohol involvement is the single greatest factor in motor vehicle deaths and injuries. Only 4% of all crashes involve the use of alcohol, but 41% of fatal crashes do.

I never thought much of drinking and driving, and it never crossed my mind that this would affect my life. But on June 20, 1998 it did. I still remember every detail. The police showed up at my doorstep at 11:00 a.m. to deliver the horrible news that my loving father had been killed early that morning in a drunk-driving accident. My family was shattered that day because my dad was one of the people that thought he was capable of drinking and driving. Not only did this stupid decision kill my dad, but also an innocent 20 year-old boy. Every day we hear about people dying for this ridiculous reason. I'm sure many of you will read this and never once think about it again. So think about this, please, and realize you are not invincible and it could happen to you. Don't drink and drive, and don't let your friends drive drunk.

- MANDI BARRETT

Censorship in Kearsley

The Kearsley Board of Education collapsed under the pressure from parents, and with it fell a superior literary work. In the words of the author, "Fudging language to avoid offending the sensibilities of one group leads to doublespeak, which is the death of honesty." *Kaffir Boy* is now an even more accurate story of sexual indecency: it has been raped of its meaning.

- JASON KENNEDY



Isn't she cute?

Annie May Koester was born Nov. 21, 1999 at Hurley Hospital to proud parents Jennifer and Rick Koester. Proud uncle Andy Kryza cannot wait until Annie is old enough to use him for a trampoline, like his other relatives. (See Kryza's column "Ramblings" in the December issue.

Corrections: In the November issue of the *Blazer*, Roberta Gomes' home city and state were identified incorrectly. She is from Fortaleza, Ceara. Raquel Serafim's name was misspelled. She is from Portugal.

In the December issue of the *Blazer*, names misspelled included Mr. Bickel, Caitlin Coyne, Kyl Odegaard, Kinga Bornemisza, Bob Bois, Luke Hays, and Dean Paapas. The photo byline was omitted for Samantha Anderson on page 13.

National Honor Society

Membership requirements should be standardized

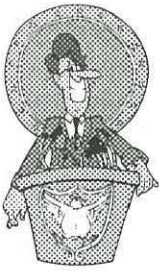
To a senior applying for college, a resume is the high school equivalent of the Holy Grail. It determines where she'll be accepted, for which scholarships she is qualified, and the difference between being selected or denied. One of the most prestigious merits to be placed on a resume is membership in the National Honor Society. NHS's mission- to encourage scholarship, leadership, service, and character among students - is strong, and having membership requirements vary from school to school reduces its value.

At Flushing High School, the minimum requirements for NHS are a minimum 3.6 GPA, evidence of leadership and community service, and high character rating from teachers.

At the end of the 1998-99 school year, 66 of the 317 juniors had a 3.6 or higher, which made them candidates for membership.

At some schools, the eligibility requirements are less stringent, such as a minimum GPA of only 3.0. The amount of community service and leadership varies also, and these may be measured in a variety of ways. How much community service is needed? What kinds of volunteerism "counts"? While minimum requirements are set by the NHS, local chapters have the authority to raise the requirements as well as decide appropriate measurements of service and leadership. The minimum standards of NHS are a 3.0 GPA, service, leadership, and approval by the local NHS board. For example, if at the end of the 1998-99 school year, only the minimum standards for NHS membership had been in effect, 168 Flushing juniors would have been eligible. If our standards were applied at some other school, perhaps no one would qualify at all. The meaning of NHS membership on all those senior resumes is diminished by the inconsistency.

Since NHS is a national merit group of students, national standards should be established. We suggest a GPA of 3.5 at the end of the seventh semester, 25 documented hours of community service, through school, church, or other organizations, election to at least three leadership offices, and a record of no school disciplinary action or police contacts. Tough? Sure. But at least everybody will know what those white graduation stoles mean.



Popularity shouldn't be the deciding vote

BY NATALEE BASSI

Voting is not an effective method of choosing leaders in high school. Oftentimes, elections turn into popularity contests. Several clubs and club officials are elected solely by how many friends they have. Other people are just as qualified for these positions, but are shy or unique, and have no chance.

For example, at Flushing High School, signatures and posters elect student council board members. If someone has a funny slogan and is well known, they will probably be elected. There are no debates or speeches, just posters. How can people make an informed choice without information?

Another example of this occurs within National Art Honor Society. While there are other qualifications that do have merit, in the end it

comes down to a student vote. Members of the society vote on artwork, but they know who created the piece in the first place. Even though the names might not be there, the artist's personal style makes it is obvious who it belongs to. A student hoping for acceptance into the society often worries about receiving enough votes because some current members may dislike him or her.

Changes need to be made to fix this problem. With student council, debates and speeches are needed. Before nominations are made, teacher recommendations should be required.

As far as NAHS is concerned, the work could be judged by outside experts. Leaving the decision up to the experts removes biased views. If this is not possible, another approach is to have students from

different programs vote for their favorites. They would not know each artist's personal style. Therefore, the students would just be voting on what they like.

Not all voting in the high school should be changed, though. Homecoming court and senior personalities are examples of things that are supposed to be popularity contests. If changed, they would lose their meaning.

Unfortunately, until students can remove biased views from their brains, voting accomplishes nothing. People with the qualifications and skills are left out for being different. This crushes people's spirits and hopes and they give up. High school is a time for learning. Everyone deserves the chance to participate.

RAMBLINGS

BY ANDY KAVZA

The countdown to... never mind

New Year's Eve. The ball is dropping. We are all counting down the clock with good old Dick Clark. 5-4-3-2-1, HAPPY NEW YEAR'S! Everybody is celebrating, and I get to kiss the girl. Suddenly, the lights go out. Next, the TV shorts out, my shoes catch on fire, and the cat explodes. I realize the Y2K problem has become a frightening reality. Everybody in the room is frantic. People are running and colliding in the darkness as household appliances explode and airplanes drop from the sky onto the ground. I finally make it outside just in time to see all the masses pillaging and looting the town, and me without a Y2K shelter.

Wait, that's not what happened.

New Years Eve. The ball is dropping. We are all counting down with the aged Dick Clark. 5-4-3-2-1, HAPPY NEW YEAR! Everybody is celebrating, and I get to kiss the girl. We sing, we dance, we're merry. But what's this? There's a big flash of light and the ground starts shaking. Then... blackness. I guess the guy I saw last week holding the sign saying "The end is near" wasn't so crazy, and that I should not have laughed at

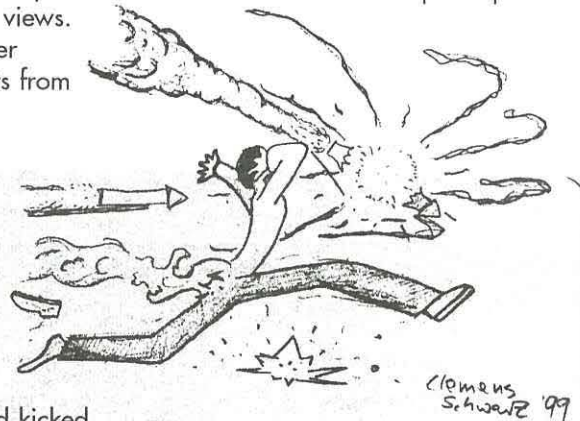
him and kicked him. The world is over, and you're not reading this. I've wasted some of my last precious minutes of existence on writing an article that only my mother and I have read, because we, the inhabitants of earth, do not exist.

No, that's not it, either.

New Years Eve. The ball is dropping. We are all counting down with that big wad of plastic, Dick Clark. 3-2-1, HAPPY NEW YEAR! We celebrate, I kiss the girl, yadda, yadda, yadda. I go to bed, unchanged, and think about the new year's resolutions I know I won't keep. I need to rest up, because our oh-so-considerate friends at the school board have decided that we don't need any time off of school directly after the new year. Everything is the same.

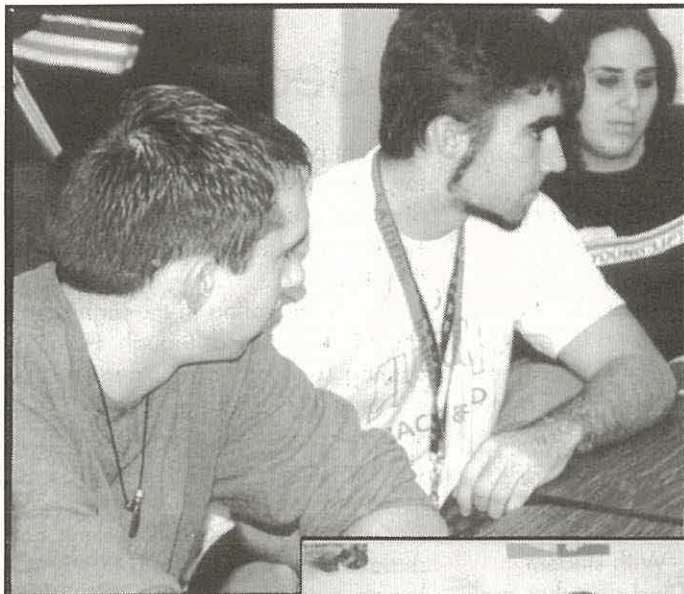
Yeah, that's it.

The year 2000 is upon us. The world is still here and machines haven't taken over. Our cars cannot fly, we do not have robot housekeepers, and the world isn't run by damned dirty apes. Everything is fine, and we're all still the same.





Seniors
Chris
Nelson, Jon
Duvendeck,
and Andrea
Rishmawi
discuss the
importance
of cost in a
college
choice.
Photo by
Dave
Campbell



In any gathering of seniors, the conversation easily turns to college choices. It is now January. FAFSA forms should soon be in circulation, and everyone should be well on their way. Now, a reality check. Although most seniors have some idea about what their plans are, the majority have yet to make final decisions: where to attend, how to pay for it, and what majors to consider. Some may still be frantically completing applications. The eight seniors featured here are at various steps in the process. Some have decided where to go, some have a list of colleges under consideration. In the following months, we will follow these seniors through the process of making their decisions, and shed some light on what is involved in the college decision process.

The next step



BY SAMANTHA ANDERSON

January. Seniors now have five months until graduation. Some have made firm decisions concerning what they want to do in the months to follow, while some have no idea. At times, it seems scary how fast the year is passing, and at other times, our independence can't come fast enough. To put it simply, senior year is one of mixed emotions. Says senior Andrea Rishmawi, "I can't wait to have fun and get out."

While many seniors are trying to make the most of their last year in high school, college plans are a major part of their lives right now. Some are deciding whether college is right for them, others are filling out applications, and still others are fulfilling requirements to get into their dream college. Says senior Meghan Conklin, "I need to take a chemistry course to get in (to the University of

MelindaHathaway



Possible Majors: secondary education, chemistry
Colleges Applied To: University of Michigan Ann Arbor, Calvin College

"Calvin is my top choice, along with U of M Ann Arbor. I can't decide if I want a bigger college, or more one-on-one."

JustinPuro



Possible Majors: undecided
Colleges Applied To: University of California in Los Angeles, Whittenberg University, Kettering University, Truman State University, University of Michigan Flint, and the Air Force Academy

"I want to go to UCLA. Scholarships are a very big thing."

AndreaRishmawi



Possible Majors: uncertain;
possibly psychology
College Applied To: Calvin College

"I like small colleges so much better, because you get more one-on-one attention."

South Carolina). I overlooked it." Meghan is firmly decided upon where she wants to attend. "I am going to USC," she says confidently. "South Carolina is my second home."

However, some people aren't really sure at all. Senior Justin Puro, for example, has applied to over six colleges, including the Air Force Academy and several out of state schools. As of now, Justin would like to attend UCLA.

What is it that attracts certain people to certain colleges? Location, size, and cost are certainly considerations. These things weigh differently, depending on the person and their individual circumstances. Taking a careful look at each factor is the first step towards determining where you should be.

Cost

Cost is extremely important to everyone planning to attend college, and it could be a deciding factor in one's college decision. For the average family, cost will eventually come into play. Take senior Monica Darnell for example. She and her sister Michelle are twins, and their family will have to finance two college educations at the same time. Luckily, FAFSA (the Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and other scholarships are available. However, as Andrea points out, "They don't take into account everything your income goes to pay for."

Senior Jason Kennedy agrees with Andrea. His father makes a fair amount of

money, but as Jason says, "With things like child support and taxes, FAFSA doesn't take into account how much of your income you actually don't see."

Senior Jon Duvendeck also feels at a loss. He is worried about qualifying for some forms of aid, because as he puts it, "I am white, my parents both work and are still married, and I am male."

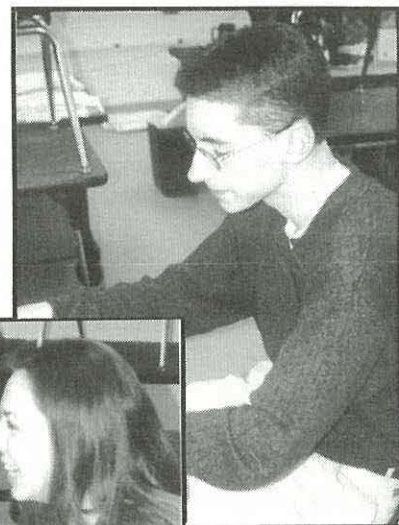
Other things like merit scholarships and individual circumstances must be considered. For example, Monica's father was injured and is unable to work. His disability will qualify the Monica and her sister for additional financial aid.

What if all is settled and you still don't have enough money to attend the school of your choice? "You can take out student loans," said senior Melinda Hathaway. "My sister is still paying off loans, but she's happy."

Jon agrees. "I'd rather go (where I want) and poor for a few years," he said about the prospect of graduating with loans to pay off.

Independent scholarships may also help towards financing an education. For example, the Flushing High School Guidance Department and web sites such as www.fastweb.com can aid in the scholarship search. Says senior Chris Nelson, "I don't know how I will pay without scholarships."

Justin agrees, saying, "Scholarships are a very big thing."



Senior Jason Kennedy discusses why he is excited to go to college. He is looking forward to finding people with various viewpoints and ideas. Photo by Dave Campbell

"I am so excited to meet new people," said senior Melinda Hathaway. Photo by Dave Campbell

Location

Some students wish to stay close to home, while others can't wait to get away and gain their independence. Other than independence, some people just want a new environment with new people. Says

Jason Kennedy



Possible Majors: petroleum geology, palentology
Colleges Applied To: Albion College, University of Michigan Ann Arbor, Michigan State University

"The programs interested me at Albion. It's a very good school, with a top notch program and a monetary incentive."

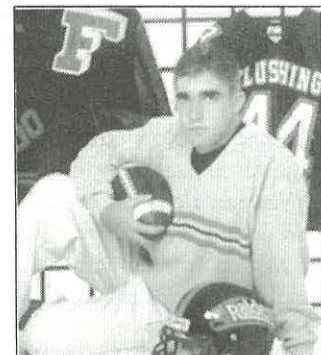
Monica Darnell



Possible Majors: medicine, surgical nursing
Colleges Applied To: University of Michigan Flint, Central Michigan University, Aquinas College

"I think cost should be a part of where you go. My sister and I are twins. We have two people to put through college at the same time."

Jon Duvendeck



Possible Majors: uncertain; possibly youth ministry, secondary education, or business management
College Applied To: Calvin College

"I'd rather go (to the college I want) and be poor for a few years than be unhappy."

Jon, "I want to know people."

Jason also looks forward to meeting new people, but he has a different take on it than Jon.

"I like the atmosphere of college. I want to find people to share my opinions with and discuss different viewpoints," he explains.

However, Jason wished to room by himself. He believes this will help him to keep better study habits. Jon, on the other hand, wants to room with someone. Jon plans on sharing a suite with senior Aron DUBY and some other new roommates. That way, he and Aron can still be close friends, but meet new people at the same time.

Besides meeting new people, most students on their way to college are excited at the prospect of being under their own control. "I can't wait to be on my own," said Meghan. Despite Meghan's desire for independence, her parents are moving to South Carolina along with her. She doesn't believe this will ruin her experience in any way. Meghan will still be living on campus. Her parents will simply be in the same city. "My parents support me," explains Meghan.

Justin is also looking forward to going away, but says, "I'll miss my friends." He adds, "You won't see the same people every day like you do here."

Chris agrees, adding, "It's so easy to stay friends in high school, because you see those people every day and know what is going on." Chris is looking forward to the new environment, but will miss his friends as well.

Size

"A lot of people are seeing the variety of colleges out there," observed Meghan. "Our class is looking at so many places."

This year's class is a unique one. A recent survey conducted by the journalism classes revealed that the top two college choices among the class of 2000 are Michigan State University and Calvin College. Melinda's choices are similar. As mentioned earlier, she is torn between Calvin and U of M Ann Arbor. "I can't decide if I want a bigger college, or more one-on-one," she said.

Andrea, however, has made up her mind. "I like small colleges so much better, because you get more one-on-one attention."

Chris isn't as concerned with the size of the college, though. "I just hope I find interesting classes in college," he commented.

On the other end of the spectrum are Justin and Meghan. They can't wait to get out and experience a large environment with tons of new people.

Parents

When it came time to make major decisions in your life, your parents were always there to do it for you or to help out. But should it be that way when you are making life decisions such as where to go to college? Melinda is in a difficult situation. "My parents don't think I'm mature enough at 17 to make the correct decision," she explains. Melinda is torn between attending Calvin College in Grand Rapids and the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. She isn't sure which school she wishes to attend, but she feels capable of making the right decision when the time comes. However, her parents wish to send her to a larger college so she will not be sheltered in a small community.

Monica shares Melinda's point of view. "Your parents may help you with the costs, but that doesn't mean they should decide where you go," points out Monica.

This brings up the most difficult part of parental involvement. If they pay, does this give them the final decision? Most students say no.

"Your parents raised you, and now they just need to trust you and let you go," commented Jon.

So, when all is said and done, a college decision is a very personal choice. Most agree that the choice should



As of December, senior Andrea Rishmawi had only applied to one college. However, she is now considering an out of state college, as well. Photo by Dave Campbell

be left up to the individual. Every person is different, holding different values and working towards various goals. However, that is what college is all about. It is a place for people to learn more about themselves, as well as a place to become more well-rounded. As Jason says, "You start over when you go to college."

You will meet new people, gain new interests, and learn new things. Says Melinda, "I am so excited to meet new people. I have something inside of me, and I want to be known for that"

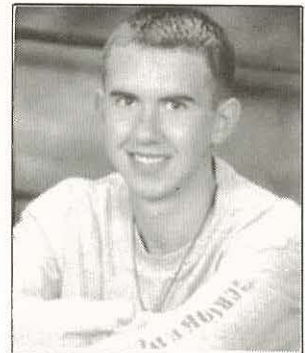
Meghan Conklin



Possible Majors: restaurant management, public relations
College Applied To: University of South Carolina

"I am going to USC. South Carolina is my second home. I just couldn't see myself walking to class in January where there's snow and it's cold."

Chris Nelson



Possible Majors: computer engineering
Colleges Applied To: University of Michigan Ann Arbor, Kettering University, Valparaiso University, Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology

"I hope I find interesting classes in college. I'm so bored with high school classes."

EVERYTHING BUT AVERAGE

BY ANDY KRYZA

Powers senior and former Flushing student Kip Bohnert seems at first to be your average high school student, as he sits at a table and condemns drinking Spartan-brand milk.

"The carton is all unorthodox. My mom brought some home and I refused to drink it."

But after a while, you realize that Kip is everything but average. Along with being an extremely active person, Kip is among 900 freshmen worldwide to be accepted to Johns Hopkins, one of the nation's prestigious medical schools.

According to Kip, acceptance to Johns Hopkins, located in Baltimore, was hard to come by. But after keeping an extremely high GPA and writing three fairly long application essays, Kip was accepted. He cites the fact that most pre-med students are admitted to their alma mater's med-school as his inspiration to attend the school. He is tentatively planning to study biology, psychology, or neuroscience.

Kip will go to Johns Hopkins with some experience under his belt. Occasionally, Kip works with a local pathologist.

"Basically, I followed him around and did dissections on different tissues and organs and made slides to put under the microscope."

However, Kip doesn't want to become a pathologist because of the lack of work with people. Kip recalls his most redeeming moment in the medical field thus far:

"We were taking a bone marrow sample from an elderly woman, and I could tell that she was a little uneasy, so I just started talking to her and pretty soon she had a smile on her face. When it was done she said, 'that wasn't so bad after all.' Medicine is about healing an individual, not just a disease."

Kip has also experienced another thing that not many students can add to their resume. Last spring break, he and other Powers students toured part of Europe, most specifically London, as well as Normandy and Paris.

"You could almost see how history was," says Kip of Normandy. "How remarkable it was that the U.S. and the allies overtook the German stronghold on the beaches."

Kip calls his trip to Europe "one of the greatest experiences of my life. I encourage anyone to go there if they have the opportunity to do so. You're in a whole other culture. It's a new experience that I'll never forget. Nothing in the U.S. can compare."

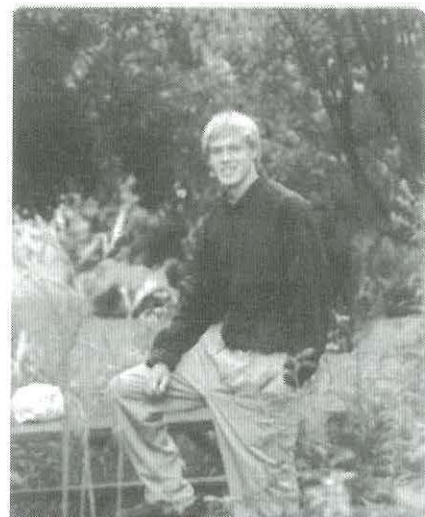
Kip is also a captain of the varsity swim team, or "Captain Kip," as he calls himself. He has already qualified for the state finals, and has done so since his sophomore year. To top it off, Kip represents France in his school's model U.N., a mock version of the United Nations.

Kip's social life is equally interesting.

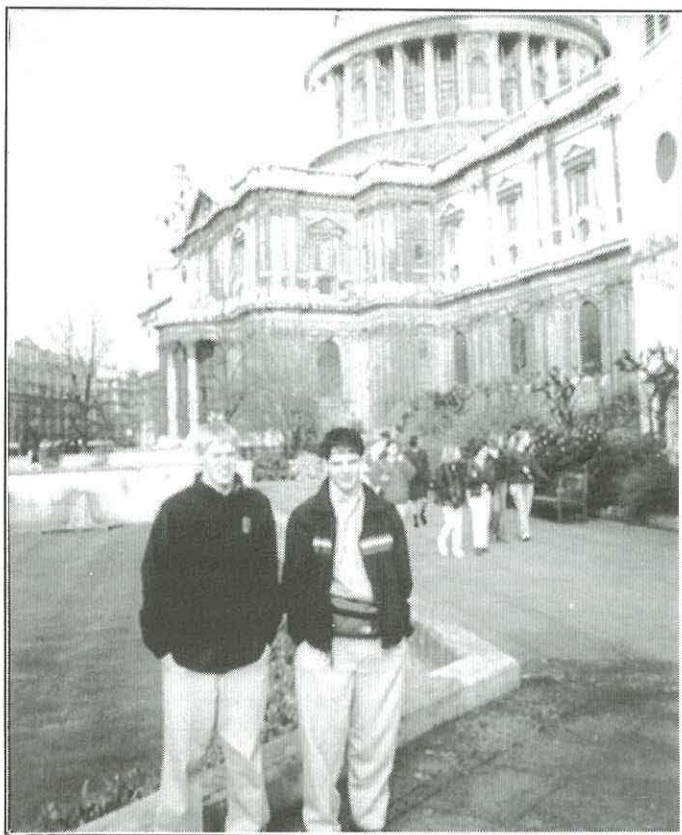
"We're involved in an (independent film) company called K&A productions. I'm the mastermind behind it," Kip says.

The company has thus far put out two mock films, *Checkers* and *Permatrip*. The films depict satiric characters including Cuspert, a sassy English chap, and Pezz (played by Bohnert himself), the kickboxing hero of *Checkers*. Neither of the films run over 25 minutes, and they have not been released, but Kip says that new films are in the works as of now. He also enjoys driving his 1981 green Volvo station wagon. "I consider it the brother I never had, and I want to drive it for the rest of my life," Kip says of his car.

As for younger students, many of whom wish to follow his example, Kip offers this advice: "Do your best and go for what you want as far as college and your career, because it can happen and anything is possible." He then adds, in true Kip Bohnert fashion, "Nibb High football rules!"



Kip and friend Matt Landaal outside of a Cathedral in London. Kip considers his trip to Europe to be one of the greatest experiences of his life.



Culturally Diverse Sounds

Flushing's exchange students talk about music, theirs and our

-Ole Ehardt

-Germany

How is music in Germany different from that of the good old U.S.A.? Well, I'll try not to confuse you. Just to clear things up, no, Mariah Carey does not sing in German. She probably doesn't even know where Germany is. How would something like that work? They really can't record an entire CD and then translate it into another language. And name one German who sounds exactly like Michael Jackson. Now that that's cleared up, don't torture exchange students by asking if American music is translated into German anymore.

German charts include English music as well as German, and so are bilingual. Groups like the Backstreet Boys or NSync are popular with teenage girls in Germany just like here. Most of the time the top 10 titles are English, but sometimes a German title climbs to the top of the charts. It's odd that groups like Rammstein are totally unpopular in Germany, but successful in the U.S. (by the way, "Du Hast" means "You hate." Don't try to find a deeper meaning in it). The charts in Germany are full of all kinds of music: pop, rock, hip-hop, everything. Even though most Germans speak

English, their English skills aren't developed enough to understand all the words and the inner-meaning of a song. They like the song just because of the melody. That's enough to satisfy the inhabitants of the "Beerland."

A great portion of people, mostly those with gray hair and grandchildren, listen to more traditional German music. They like guys jumping around in leather pants and yodeling, but no level-minded teenager with normal friends would ever listen to that kind of music. Normal teenagers

plug their ears or put on a walkman and turn the volume all the way up.

-Roberta Gomes

-Brazil

Brazilians love discos and play dance music all the time. We have many dance song collections both in English and Portuguese.

Caetano Veloso is really famous as well, and not only in Brazil. It is also big in Portugal and other countries. I used to say that Caetano

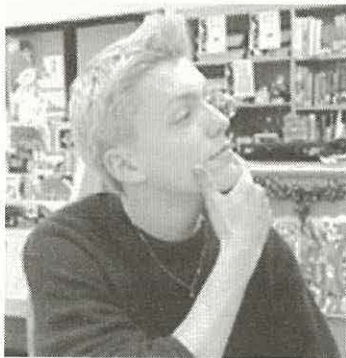
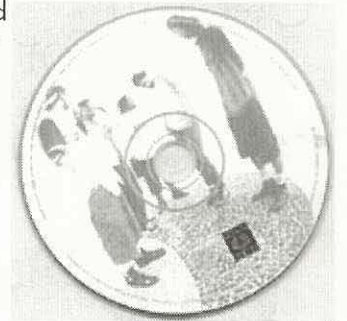


is the type of music that parents like. Also, artists like Marisa Monte are considered "parent music," which we call MPB (Brazilian Popular Music).

O Rappa is a kind of reggae that talks about the violence of my country and the values of black people. I love it. I don't think it's a preference in Brazil, but my friends and I like it.

The music that we call "Forró" is typical music from northeastern Brazil. It is the kind of music that couples like to dance to, and is very popular.

The group É O Tchan is "all that" in my country. We call this type of music "Musica Baiana" which means music from Bahia, a northeastern state of Brazil. We have many groups that perform this kind of music, but the best is É O Tchan. Brazil also has a big influence from the U.S. We have all the best songs you have here, and the new groups here will soon be famous in Brazil. All the songs that we hear on the radio here (Jay-Z, Juvenile, etc.) are already "all that" in Brazil.



-Clemens Schwarz -Germany



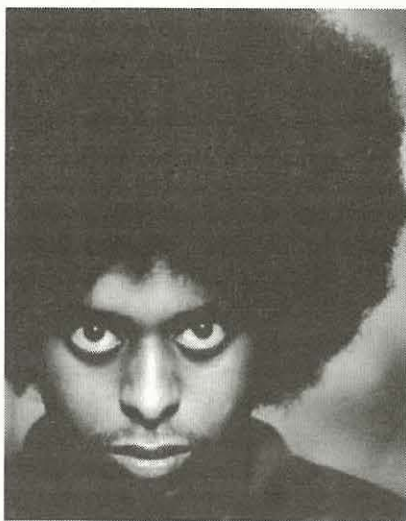
If you hear phrases like "Ich bin der MC ohne Donalds, der King ohne Burger. Ich schreib wie'n Gestoerter jede Nacht neue Burner," then you are probably listening to German rap. Yes, something like this does exist.

I could easily write about the history of German rap, but there isn't really much of one. The first hit came in 1989 and was by the Fantastischen Vier,

who are still on the scene.

Mostly, I listen to rap, but I also like groups like Jamiroquai and some rock.. German rap groups include Absolute Beginner and Fuenf Sterne Deluxe. As most people know, we don't have the same problems in Germany that you have here, and because of that the content of the songs is very different. In Germany, we have very few songs with violent content. Being a fan of American rap as well, I can compare the two kinds.

I can't really say too much about other kinds of German music, as I'm not really a fan, but American music is always in German charts. You can always find something that you like on our music channels, and after 10 p.m. you can see music videos that you would never see at any time in the U.S. I'd also like to clear something up. No music is EVER translated from English to German, not even in music videos.



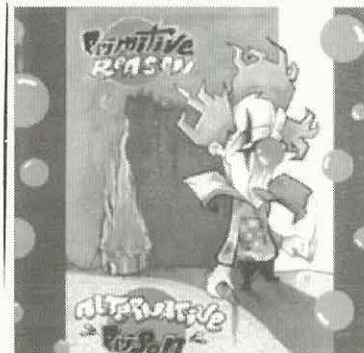
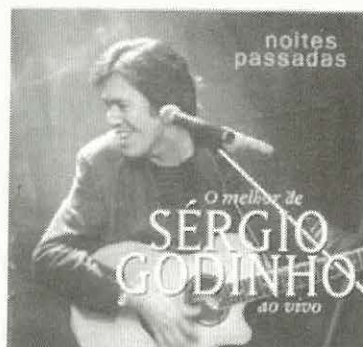
-Raquel Serafim -Portugal



Did you ever wonder what kind of music a foreigner listens to? In Portugal, we listen basically to the same music as American teens. We listen to pop music, including the Backstreet Boys NSync, Britney Spears, and all the others, and NO, we don't listen to New Kids On the Block or any of the old ones anymore, and the music is not translated into Portuguese. Of course, we listen to Portuguese music too, such as Sergio Godinho, Ornatos Violeta, Cool Hipnoise, MafaldaVeiga

We also listen to Portuguese people that sing in English; Primitive Reason, The Gift, and many others. I listen to these Portuguese groups, but personally, I don't like pop music and most of the music that is played on the radio. I love Ska. Aside from Ska, I like Bjork, Portishead, Ben Harper, Dave Matthews Band, Korn, Rage Against the Machine and the Smashing Pumpkins.

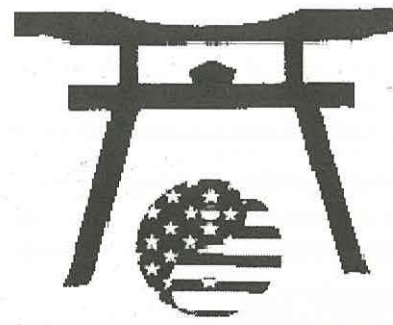
Basically, we listen to the same music as you guys do. We do the same things to have fun and listen to a lot of the same music.





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A WOMAN OF LETTERS

BY JESSICA BOUCHARD

"I was determined from the first day I went to school to be well-educated, partly in defiance against my male cousins who often teased that girls were not smart enough and could not stay long in school," says Central Michigan Professor Dr. Maureen Eke. "I think I was determined to teach them a painful lesson.

Later, it was because I had told myself that a good education is a gift that you give yourself and one that is yours forever. It is very empowering, and for women, it is, indeed, a very potent weapon."

Dr. Eke first came to the United States from Nigeria in 1980. Her reason for coming to the states was simple: "I came to study."

Dr. Eke's doctorate degree is in Comparative Literature, a degree that she earned at Indiana University. Dr. Eke also received her masters degree there. She attended Ahmadu Bello University in Nigeria, where she received her bachelors degree.

"The value attached to education is different here. Growing up, we had to pay school fees to receive education. It was the same for private and public schools. The difference is that the public schools are cheaper. My siblings and I went to a private Catholic school run by Irish nuns. This meant that my parents had to pay a lot of money to send us to schools. Also, we had to take an exam at the end of every term and a final exam at the end of every school year before we could graduate into the next grade level. Here, students do not really have to worry about those final exams, which determine who makes it through school. Everyone has an opportunity to go to school. In many African countries, only the very privileged manage to receive good education. In fact, I am one of those privileged few. Children here have so much privilege that it always saddens me whenever I see people wasting the opportunity to receive an education."

Recently, Dr. Eke came to Flushing High School to talk to several classes. She spoke to the AP English classes about literature, and some of the Integrated Social Studies classes about Africa.

"I have found that many people do not have a sense of the size of that continent. Our basic knowledge of geography tells us that it is the second largest continent in the world, yet I meet people who always refer to the continent as a country; they always compare it with some country. Really, wrong geography, I must say.


Then, there are all the National Geographic safari pictures of animals, exotic people (with large ear lobes, ear rings, mouth rings, or extremely colorful clothing). Of course, we cannot forget the general media image that Africa is ridden with AIDS and other diseases, or threatened by wars all the time. The other is the commercials of now jobless Hollywood stars who ask us to donate money to help some dying African child from some forgotten corner of the world. These images, of course, suggest that Africans or the people in these advertisements cannot help themselves. All falsehoods."

Dr. Eke mentioned that although people don't realize it, much of American culture derives from African culture.

"Today, I notice people piercing their ears, lips, tattooing themselves with henna or decorating their bodies with it. In my culture, almost every girl child has her ears pierced about a week after she is born; at least this was the case when I was young. My parents would not let us put henna on our hands as kids because it was primarily for married Moslem women or Moslem girls of marrying age."

Dr. Eke greatly enjoyed coming to Flushing to talk to the classes about African culture.

"I was glad to come and speak to the classes," says Dr. Eke. "They now know more about my culture, and their's as well."

 Dr. Eke visits Mrs. Phillips AP English classes as well as the Integrated Social Studies classes. She brought in numerous objects from Africa and played music from African bands. Photos by Jessica Bouchard



Senior year is about the Benjamins'; And some people don't have 'em

Senior year. Yes. Finally. Time for us to rule the halls; to be the ones that boss around everybody. Senior pictures, senior class pictures, announcements, prom, yearbook... Wait. Money, money, and more money. Great...

Senior year has got to be the most expensive year invented. There is a lot of the stuff you have to have, but if you don't have the money, you have to eliminate the non-necessities. But how do you choose?

It's almost inevitable that at least \$350 dollars will go to senior pictures. Senior class picture is another \$10.

After

you add yearbook, prom, invitations, announcements, senior celebration, senior breakfast, cap and gown, open house, application fees, room and board deposits, shot fees and medical bills, you have spent at least \$3,000, at least.

So where does the money come from? Some of the fortunate ones have parents who shell out the money. Others have to pay half. And some have to pay all.

So you work all summer, and save all your money. First day of school comes, and you have already paid for some of your senior pictures, and within two months, your bill total has tripled, quadrupled, and continued to multiply. So, we are back to the original solution; getting rid of the non-necessi-

ties. Impossible, but some people have to.

An anonymous senior says, "I'm not having an open house. I can't afford it. I only spent 35 dollars on announcements, so people know that I'm actually graduating. I didn't get a senior class picture, even though all my friends did. And actually, I could only apply to two colleges, because I didn't have the application fees. So my choices were limited, not by choice, but because of cash flow. I see all these seniors who don't have to worry about money. They're lucky and don't even realize it. Then they start to complain. I want to shake them and tell them 'Hey! At least you can do things your senior year. At least you can apply to the colleges you want, and not just the ones with an application fee cheaper than \$35.' But I know I can't do that. It's just going to have to be something that they realize."

Why should this senior suffer, just because they can't afford it? It hardly seems right. But there is nothing else they can do. They are already working, but their money goes other places, too, like car insurance, gas, lunch, and anything else that needs to be paid for. When you add the senior expenses, they have to make choices.

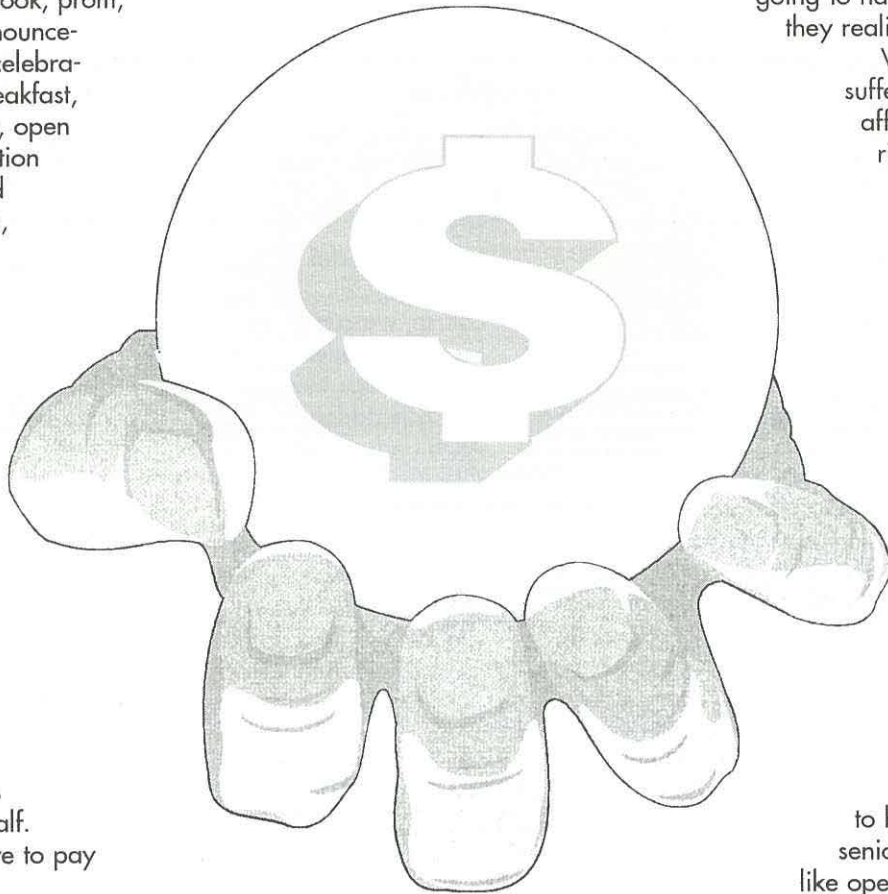
The sad part is the fact they can't afford to apply to colleges. Right there, their future is determined by money.

The choices were limited, because of price.

It's unfair for students to have to miss out on their senior year activities. Things like open houses shouldn't be missed by anybody, but they are.

Maybe some of the seniors need to take a reality check and realize how fortunate they are to have the things they have. Like money. They don't miss out, and neither do the ones that have to pay half. But when you have to do it all, it's your loss, and you didn't even make the decision; money did.

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BY JESSICA BOUCHARD



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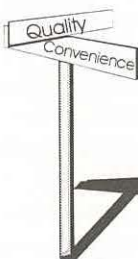
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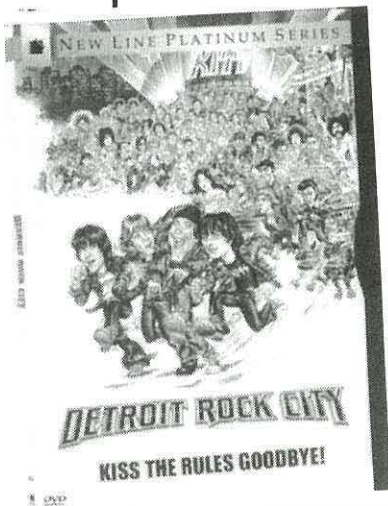
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Rock 'n' Roll All Night



If you like the band Kiss, you will like this film. If you don't like Kiss, you will like this film. If you don't have enough information about Kiss to make an intelligent decision, you will like this film. If you like films, you will like this film. If you like disco, well then...

Detroit Rock City arrived in theaters this past summer, amidst a tumult of other quality films, including another film involving insane adolescence, *American Pie*. The quality film unfortunately took a back seat to other summer blockbuster releases.

Detroit Rock City is a comical adventure of four young friends, the leader of which is played by Edward Furlong, that have their own Kiss-inspired band and don't fit in with anyone in their school. They're on their way to see Kiss, live at Cobo Hall in Detroit. Well, they were on their way, until "mother" (Lin Shaye) found out and burned up their tickets. After numerous events, including a scuffle with some disco freaks, a pizza with mushrooms, and a bathroom disaster, the group wind up in Detroit. Now

they have only to find a way to get in.

A DVD version of *Detroit Rock City* was released on 12/21/99, and the video version is scheduled to be released on 1/11/00. The DVD will be the first release from a Hollywood studio to use the multiple angle feature, and also contains over 15 minutes of deleted scenes.

The DVD also contains a widescreen version of the film and two music videos.

JOE'S WORLD
BY JOE DAILY



"Mother," played by Lin Shaye, leads a rally in Detroit for MATMOK, Mothers Against The Music Of Kiss.

mousetrap

BY JASON KENNEDY



David Campbell (Mr. Paravicini) and Amanda Debar (Mollie Ralston) practice their roles during a Tuesday evening "back to the kitchen" rehearsal.

A woman has been mysteriously strangled at 24 Culver St., West Two, in London. The police have one suspect without an identity.

A young British couple (Eric Welsby and Amanda Debar), who have just inherited a guest house, run around rampantly awaiting their clients to arrive. The first to show is Christopher Wren (Kevin Wilson), a neurotic-looking man who is deeply interested in art and architecture, but who is strange by every standard. He is followed by Mrs. Boyle (Jessica Bouchard), an extremely arrogant woman, and Major Metcalf (Matt Osterberg), a retired army man from WWII. In the end, two more customers have arrived: Miss Casewell (Bethany Bira), a secretive masculine-type woman, and Mr.

Paravicini (David Campbell), the unexpected guest - an Italian tourist caught in the snow.

The opening to Flushing High School Drama Department's newest theatrical performance, *The Mousetrap*, begins during a blizzard evening in England. Every resident becomes a suspect in the murder of the strangled woman in London, and the murders that are about to be committed at the guest house. Detective Sergeant Trotter (Jason Kennedy) arrives to help put the pieces together. The story winds around twists in plot, suspicion between characters, and every person's seemingly obvious motive to be the murderer. The story builds to an exciting climax as the killer reveals itself. No one is safe from *The Mousetrap*.

Show performances are on Jan. 28, 29, and 30. Come and solve the mystery of the Agatha Christie classic.

Foo Fighters...*There is Nothing Left to Lose* ★★★★★

In 1994, a disaster happened to the music world when lead singer and guitarist Kurt Cobain of Nirvana took his own life. A few years later, drummer Dave Grohl and backup guitarist Pat Smear announced that they would be forming a new band, Foo Fighters. The media world laughed in

CD, *The Color and the Shape*. Songs like "Everlong," "My Hero," and "Monkey Wrench" helped put Foo Fighters into stardom. After the release of the CD, Foo Fighters went on tour. After being invited to play at MTV's Music Awards, Pat Smear announced that he would be leaving the band and Foo Fighters introduced a new guitarist. After a long three and a half year wait, Foo Fighters are back with their newest cd, *There is Nothing Left to Lose*. Listening to the first song till the last, you can tell that this is their best CD by far. In this album, Foo Fighters use more guitar pedals to add cool sounds and riffs to their music. They keep their alternative sound for songs like "Stacked Actors," "Break Down," and "Learn to Fly," but also add more softer songs like "M.I.A." and "Ain't it the life." Dave Grohl and Foo Fighters have come a long way since the Nirvana days and it looks like they'll be here for a while, keeping the alternative sound going. So next time you're out looking for a new CD, pick up Foo Fighters latest, *There is Nothing Left to Lose*.

BY JAMESON MYERS

there faces; how could a drummer play guitar and sing vocals for a band? They believed that Foo Fighters would just be another band trying to copy Nirvana. In 1996, Foo Fighters released their first CD, self entitled. After a few weeks of its release, songs like "I'll Stick Around" and "Big Me" were receiving radio time and being made into videos. Two years later, Foo Fighters released their second

Eiffel 65...*Europop* ★★★

The blend of rock, dance, and techno in the '90s has returned toward the end of the decade, producing new and interesting variations on a once more popular theme. Some of these attempts have been unsuccessful, but every once in awhile something unique and merit-worthy comes along. Eiffel 65 brings an interesting new method to this style.

The three member band is a product of the times. Each song is unique in its own way, providing an album with every song just as innovative and different as the last. Eiffel 65's current single

"Blue (DaBaDee)" is featured as track #1, with an extended mix on #14. The song provides a depressingly comical view of a sad man. "Too Much of Heaven" is a high quality song with a powerful message about greed and wealth in the '90s

Eiffel 65 speaks for the times, such asin "My Console," a song that is entirely about the Sony Playstation.

On the bad side, however, techno can only go so far without becoming redundant. Virtually every track on the album features voice alterations through the entire song. It simply becomes annoying after a while. Eiffel 65 isn't for everyone. If you aren't into techno-rock, you might want to steer clear, but if you're open minded to varying styles, give Eiffel 65 a try.

BY JASON KENNEDY



new release CDs worth buying

Rage Against the Machine - *Battle of Los Angeles*
 Len - *Can't Stop the Bumrush*
 Beastie Boys - *Sound of Science*
 Nas - *Nostradamus*
 Dave Matthews Band - *Listener Supported*
Urbal Beats 2 - compilation
Fight Club - soundtrack
 Dr. Dre - *Chronic 2001*
 Live - *The Distance to Here*
 Jessica Simpson - self-titled

★-BAD

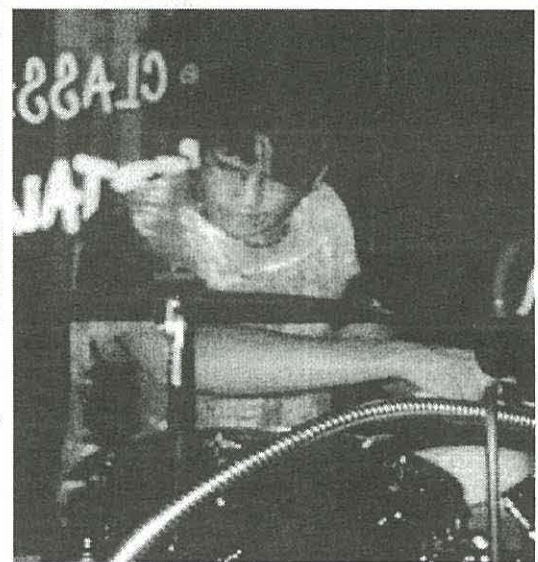
★★-DECENT

★★★-GOOD

★★★★-EXCELLENT



↑ Bobby C. at the Beans and Leaves Coffee House in downtown Flint. From left, Bryan Dixon, Andrea Dixon, Brent Hughes, and Danny McGlocklen. Photos courtesy of Marc Dixon



← Marc pounding away at his drums at the Beans and Leaves Coffee House.

a boy and his

Drums

BY ADAM DREUTH & JUSTINE IANOFF

Anyone who follows local bands can tell you who Bobby C. is. The band wins musical talent shows like clockwork. The most notable ones of 1999 were the Powers Talent Show and Alice's Restaurant.

Almost anyone who walks the halls of Flushing High can recognize Bobby C's drummer, Marc Dixon. The sophomore sticks out in a crowd, with his thin glasses, a tie dye shirt, his John Lennon haircut, and his funky Birkenstock moccasins. Marc looks like a stereotypical rock star. Along with his brother Bryan and cousin Andrea, Marc is trying to make his musical dreams come true, but Marc isn't a one-man band. He and

Bryan also play in a group with their father, Gary, called Fairlanes. Marc considers his dad his biggest influence.

"I like playing with Bobby C. better," says Marc. "The songs mean more."

This statement is also driven by the fact that the band has been drawing larger gigs, like the all-day music festival at the Lansing Civic Center on Nov. 6.

"It's the biggest gig we've had yet," says Marc of the event that drew nearly 1,000 spectators.

Getting good at anything takes time and the drums are no exception.

"I started playing when I was around 3 on toy drums and stuff like that," says Marc. "I didn't get my first professional drum set until I was 10."

He also practices whenever possible. This can prove to be difficult at times because his drums are never at his house due to a lack of space.

Drumming for two bands takes up a lot of time, but Marc finds time to do other things he enjoys, one of which is boxing. Marc boxes for a Flint-based team called Circa.

"My Dad is buying us a wrestling ring for his warehouse in Lapeer," says Marc. "Bryan is serious about professional wrestling, but I couldn't see somebody body-slammng me."

Marc is unsure of the band's future, but he would like to be known statewide. In fame or obscurity, Marc will always play drums for the love of the music, and wants to play for the rest of his life.

"I like the pride of being on stage," he says, "and people coming to see us."

**"I like the pride of being on stage, and people coming to see us."
- Marc Dixon**

Films of the New Millennium

BY CORY GLOVER



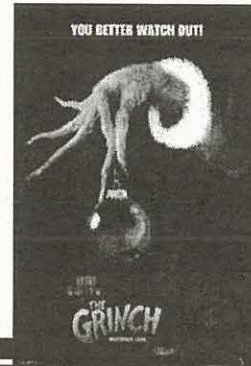
M:I-2

Mission Impossible 2

Who: Tom Cruise, Anthony Hopkins, Ving Rhames, Thadie Newton, Dougray Scott, Brendon Gleeson
 Directed by John Woo (Face Off, Broken Arrow, Hard Target)

What: The sequel to the blockbuster action film. This time around, Ethan Hunt (Cruise) leads a mission to stop the release of a German virus by terrorists. With director John Woo on board, this should be a film to watch for in 2000.

When: May 24, 2000



The Grinch

Who: Jim Carrey
What: Live action remake based on the book and TV movie. The Grinch sneaks into Whoville and steals their toys. Why? He's a mean one...

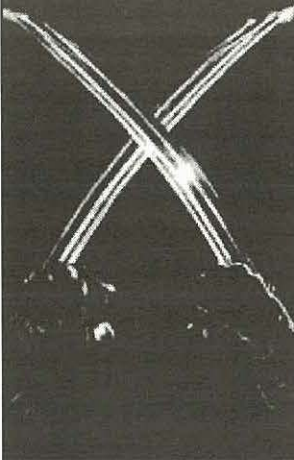
When: Nov. 22



Scream 3

Who: Neve Campbell, Courtney Cox
What: The final installment in the *Scream* trilogy, hopefully less bland than the last effort.

When: Feb. 4



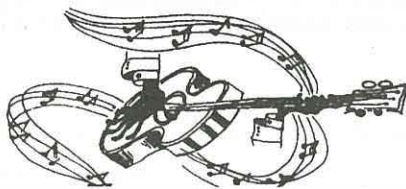
X-Men

Who: Patrick Stewart, Halle Berry, Rebecca Romijn-Stamos, Bruce Davidson, Hugh Jackman

What: A live action movie based on the popular comic book, in which a group of mutants who are despised by the world band together to fight for what they believe in.

When: June, 2000

Picking With Peacock



➔
Musician Ashley Peacock
sings his heart felt song
"Native American," a
song that took him two
years to write. Photos by
Jessica Bouchard



"Ashley Peacock is a rare find in music these days. His sounds is, at once, sparse and full. The mood is totally dynamic: from songs resembling eulogies to anthems of bright celebration... One man with an acoustic guitar, singing with a passion that has almost disappeared from modern music."

-Down the Tubes

➤ Ashley Peacock sings his song "Ten Kisses," a song dedicated to his mother, during his concert at The Elbow Room on December 10th. Photo by Jessica Bouchard

BY JESSICA BOUCHARD

"I started in the A Cappella Choir at Kearsley," says musician Ashley Peacock, "A friend heard me goofing off and told me to audition. I did, and I loved it"

Ashley Peacock has been playing guitar for five and a half years, and has been performing in front of audiences in coffee houses and music stores around the Michigan and Ohio for a year and a half.

When he started playing, Peacock would listen and play to people like Nirvana, Tori Amos, and Nick Drake.

"I even played folk for a while," says Ashley halfway laughing.

Lately, however, his music and life has taken a different turn.

"I used to be a stark atheist, well agnostic, but salvation comes for doubt," comments Peacock.

"I was searching," says Ashley. "I didn't know what for, but I kept looking. Then I found what I wanted, in my music and my life."

It was during a Christian rock concert that Ashley realized that this was what he wanted to do.

Peacock has written numerous songs and has released a CD entitled *Gasoline Rainbow*, which he recorded under his own company Dream Thief Records.

"There are moments of brilliance in the mud; that's why it's called *Gasoline Rainbow*," Ashley told The State News. "It's about finding beauty in places that you don't think to look."

"I founded Dream Thief Records in early 1998 to promote my music," said Ashley, "and to serve as a subtle protest against the exploitation of art which has occurred at the hands of the commercial music industry."

Of all of his songs, the most important to him is "Native American."

"It took me two years to write," says Ashley. "I wanted to make sure that I wasn't forcing myself to write it. I wanted it to come from the heart, and that it did."

Ashley is currently recording his second album under the same label.

"The new album will convey the message of hope that *Gasoline Rainbow* lacks," Peacock told The State News.

Of all things, Ashley says this: "Keep searching; whatever you want to find, you'll find it. And remember, the most beautiful thing to be around is people."

<http://www.dreamthief.com>

Wyndemyre's Parlour

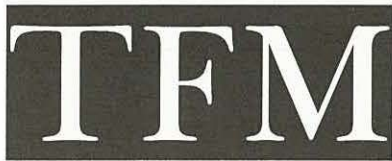


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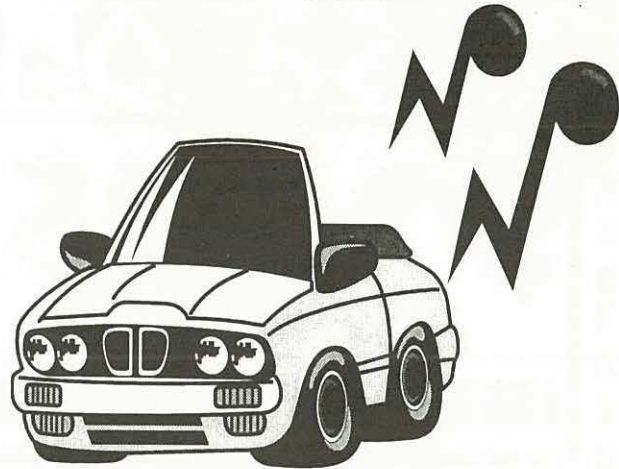
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John Thomas' 1983 Jeep



BY CHRIS JONCAS

John Thomas' 1983 Jeep CJ-7 is all but stock. When he bought it from a friend, it had 33-inch mud terrain tires, three inches of Black Diamond spring lift, and a worn out 4-cylinder with a 4-speed transmission. When he got it home, he swapped the motor with a fresh 350 Chevy, along with a 350 transmission.

When adding the big V-8 he had to make a lot of custom parts like a drive shaft and motor mounts. John then added three more inches of Summit body lift. He says it will throw mud as high as the Jeep. He also added an 8000 lb. warn winch for when the mud does get too deep.

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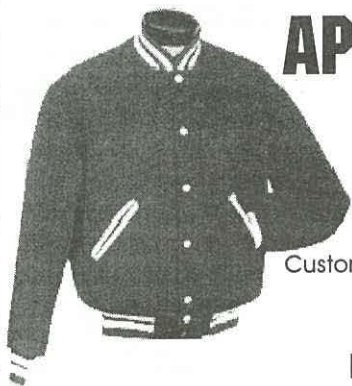


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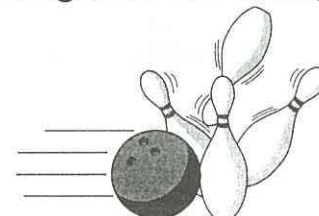
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Remember me?

Or am I just another figment of your imagination, forgotten amongst the shadows and darkness?

The world was right at my fingertips. Man, I had it all: the wealth, fancy cars, beautiful women, and respect. Now, I'm nothing more than a ghost, alive inside a coffin, my dreams faded, my soul set ablaze with misery. I cry myself to sleep each night hoping and praying to wake up from this nightmarish atmosphere, but I don't. It's almost like my sanity is eating away at my existence for each minute spent confined in this wretched cage. I used to only take orders from one man, which was my coach, now I have to follow the barking commands of the guards. If only I could take back that one dreadful night; the night that ended my life.

life

BEHIND BARS

a parable BY JASON WITZ

My name is Jordan Hunter, but I was known around the league as "Infra Red," which was the nickname given to me because of the deadly accuracy of my arm. What a season I was having, too; a record-breaking season. That night after our 100th win of the year, there was a celebration held honoring this victory. I had pitched the best game of my life. I figured a few beers wouldn't faze me; I mean, me and the guys usually crack open a few cold ones after a hard fought game anyway, so it wasn't anything new. As the party carried on till the wee hours of morning, I began to get drowsy, so it was time to leave. I would never consider driving home "drunk," and it was an inconvenience to ask one of the other players to take me home. I was a big star, almost a legend; I could handle anything. Besides, it was only a short, 30 minute hop to the house; just a walk in the park.

I climbed into my shiny new SUV, cranked up the sound and roared off into the night. I was so full of myself right then that I didn't even pay attention to my speed. I didn't even see the stop sign ahead. The next thing I saw was a blinding light and then nothing. Total darkness enveloped me until I awoke to the wailing sound of sirens piercing the night sky. I looked out of the broken glass that was once my windshield and saw the other car. Among the twisted metal I saw four bloodied, lifeless forms that were once a family. The next thing I could remember was the trip

to the hospital. One of the paramedics even recognized me as "Infra Red."

When I got patched up at the hospital, they said I had to wait to speak with the police. That's when everything finally hit me. The police officer told me that my blood alcohol level was twice the legal limit. What was even worse, the people in the other car were all dead. Killed by a drunk driver, not a superhero on the baseball field. Even at my sentencing some months later, the judge referred to me as a killer instead of a celebrity.

As I was led off to prison in chains, I remembered all of my fans that once cheered me when I pitched those no-hitters. Now, I can only hear the jeers of my new "roommates" as I am led to my new home on the third tier in cell block D. I know that I cannot turn back the hands of time and change what has been done. I also know that I will never be able to condone my actions of this heinous crime. Remember me; I'm the one that had it all and then threw it all away.

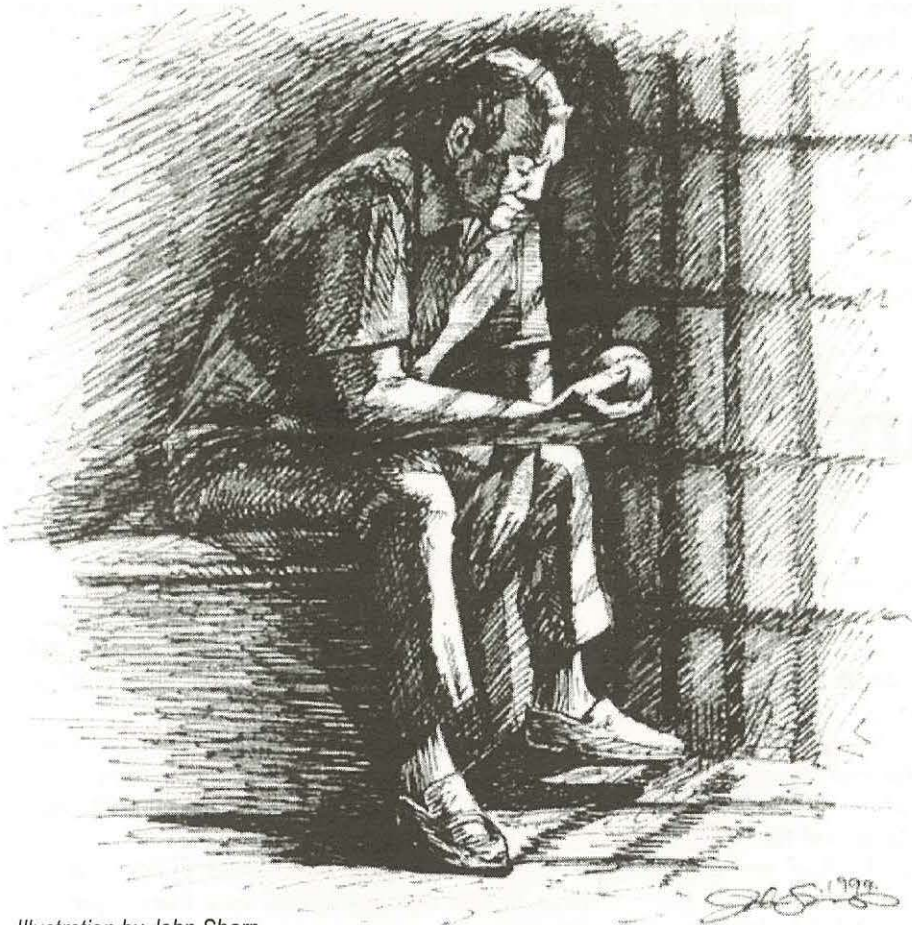


Illustration by John Sharp

Is Raidermania
out of control?

Hype and Gripe

Rowdiness is learned behavior

BY JASON KENNEDY



"Of course not, Raidermania is cool. The behavior of a few select individuals is sometimes embarrassing, but as far as booing goes, that is something we can do without."

-DALE COGGINS,
ATHLETIC COORDINATOR



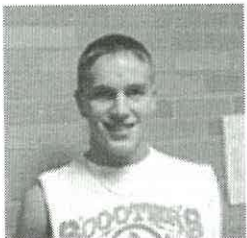
"I don't care if it is, I'm going to boo anyway."

-JIM KOVALCIK,
SENIOR



"No, besides that little crowd surfing incident, we have been under control."

-LOGAN BESON,
SENIOR



"Yeah, some of those senior guys can be obnoxious, but I guess we all need to get a little crazy once in a while."

-RICHIE AUSTIN,
JUNIOR

The evening is set. I get to the parking lot early because I want a choice spot. Already there are plenty of cars, some from our school, some from another school. I go inside, take care of tickets, and walk my way up to the bleachers. There is a sense of hesitation in the air. This will be a big game tonight, I can already tell. I wait.

Thirty minutes and about 400 people later, the National Anthem sets the game in motion. It is a heated battle right from the start, and FHS is loud, rowdy, and from a principal's perspective, out of control. But we like it like that. We feel as if the more we yell, the greater aid to our team we will be.

And then someone is ejected from the game or for the rest of the season.

Sound familiar? It should. It seems the longer a season drags on and the more important the games become, the more reckless the fans get. It's been called bad-sportsmanship, and carries with it a long list of unsettling meanings. What is bad-sportsmanship? Better yet, what is good-sportsmanship? At what point does good become bad?

Good sportsmanship is often defined as the commitment to fair play, ethical behavior and integrity, and those qualities that are characterized by generosity and genuine concern for others.

Do we have that at FHS? Oh, you bet. But we also have something more - something that is perceived as ugly and festering by those who are not 'in the know' - something, ironically, that they encourage to be brought out. We have spirit. Our spirit is so well-known that there is even a name for it: "Raidermania." But lately, it is that mania which has been getting some of us into a lot more than we bargained for. Reprimands are being handed out left and right.

We respect our opponents, whether it seems like it or not. We realize that every team has a potential to beat us, and we find it our obligation to do everything in our power to prevent that. We are rowdy, and we are proud of our rowdiness, because to us, it is what wins the game for the fans.

Booing has been outlawed. Booing is the backbone of every sport. When there is a bad call, the referee knows it. Booing is a psychological battle to get the

decision reversed. The game itself is not just fought on the playing field; it is a long, hard journey the fans take on themselves. A team without fans is an easy team to beat.

All of a sudden there is a sports Gestapo. Are the administrators of FHS afraid of the school getting a bad rep? Is Flushing thought of that highly from surrounding schools? For some reason, I don't think so. If the conspirators-in-command are concerned for our safety, that is one thing (obviously crowd-surfing and rowing can be considered dangerous), but no one is getting hurt by letting the other team know we disagree with them.

It all comes down to 'how much is too much?' As I said before, we respect our opponents. We respect them whether we beat them or we fall to their mercy. But the battle of merit is fair game to both sides of the field. We work just as hard in victory in that respect as do the real players before us. We have good-sportsmanship, but 'good' could not be understood without knowledge of the word 'bad.'

Hartman's Carpetmax

BY MIKE FRAY

What started as a joke, even a so called "stupid idea," has become a reality for the varsity boys basketball team.

Thanks to a generous donation of carpet by Buddha Edward's neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. Light, the locker room got a major facelift.

Several members of the team recently took the old white carpet and laid it in the locker room. The carpet covers both the floor and the benches.

"We used duct tape on the floor and a staple gun on the benches," said Josh Summerfield, a junior center on the team, "I think it looks pretty

cool."

Besides looking good, many team members like the newfound comfort. The carpet has allowed the guys to kick back and relax while they are getting ready for practice and games.

"Having the carpet is really nice because we can lay around on it if we want," said Brian Chapman, a junior forward on the team, "its very comfortable."

There have been talks of such things as a stereo or television set, but for now there is just carpet.

BY SETH TUURI

All sports require hard work, dedication and time. But to be good at any level of wrestling, it takes all your dedication, time, and hard work. The Romans and Greeks knew this, and so does every wrestler who has been to the top.

By yourself, it's difficult to master all this effort. What it takes is someone to push you. But with 30 members on a team and only a few coaches, who can get in your face and make you work?

This is where the senior captains of the FHS wrestling team step in. Brian Ashlock, Larry Jacques, Scott Walker, Zendon Robinson, and Brandon Martin are not always the best role models, but they will push you.

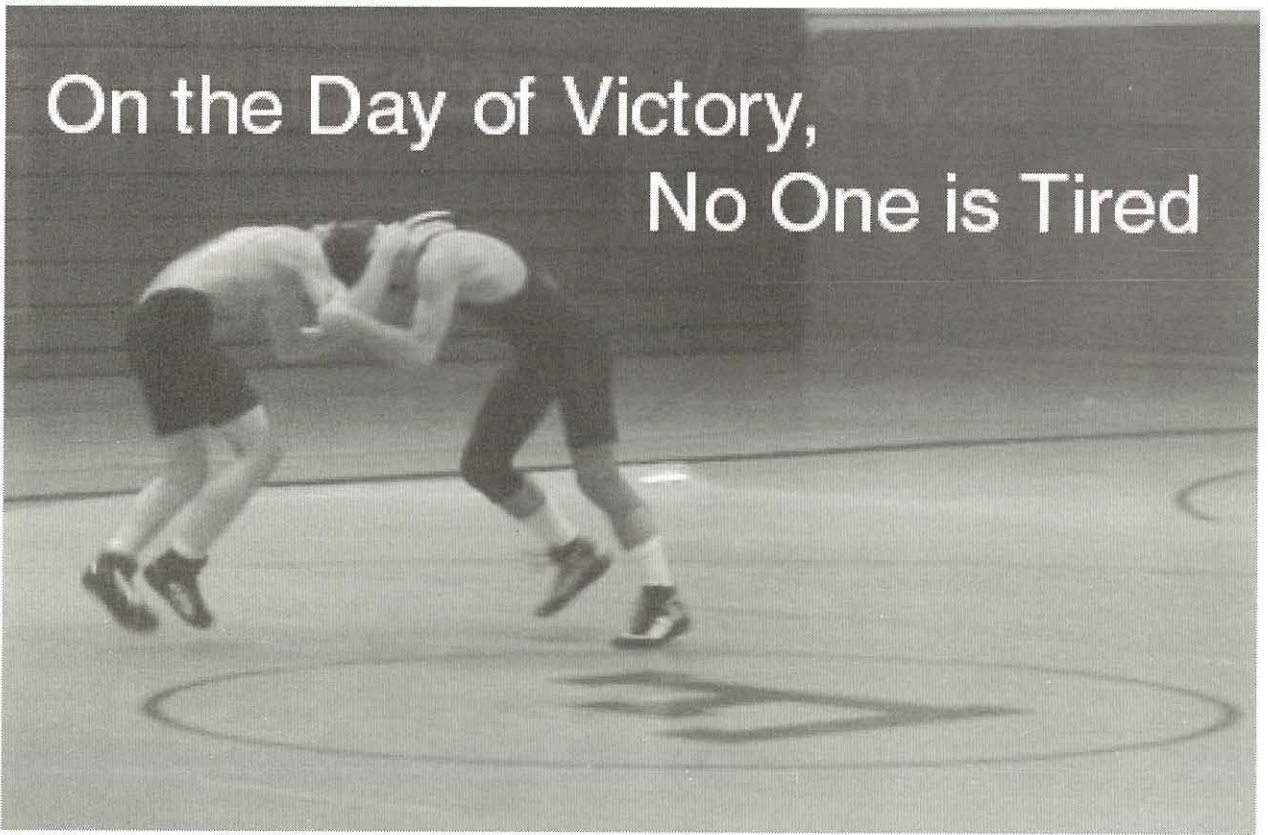
Brandon Martin is the outspoken leader of this group. He is the first to admit that he is a jerk at practice. He describes his job as getting in people's faces.

"There's no doubt that you work harder if someone's yelling down your throat," says Martin.

All this effort can get to you though, Ashlock calls wrestling "the sport you love to hate." Wrestling is a team sport in the sense of competing as a team, but if you lose or make a mistake, it's nobody's fault but your own.

Andy Rishmawi was named the head coach after Coach Buchalski's retirement, and soon hired on Brian Tearhart and Harry Woodbeck to assist him. The team is also helped by numerous volunteers, such as coach Jeremy Martin, Rob Takacs, and Dave Brown. There is also a "mystery man on the mat," another volunteer whose name is unknown because none of the captains were paying attention when he was in-

On the Day of Victory, No One is Tired



↑ Brian Ashlock is shown here wrestling an opponent from Lakeville. Ashlock stuck him to the mat for a pin in the 1st round. Photo by Seth Tuuri

troduced. The head coaching change has been met with positive response, as Rishmawi has set a team goal to win districts for the second year in a row.

"I want to win for Coach," Jacques said. "He gets in your head as far as winning goes. He makes you want to be a better wrestler so you don't let him down."

One thing that does help Larry win is his favorite pink shirt that he wears on Wednesdays before meets. In fact, he is now known among his friends as pink shirt. Brian Ashlock also has superstition in a safari hat he wears before he wrestles. Zendon Robinson has the habit of placing his headgear at a certain corner of the mat before he wrestles. Martin shows his superstition through concentration and focus; he reviews all his moves in his head before he wrestles. He actually says it is a form of meditation where he thinks of nothing but wrestling. Martin also shaved his head completely bald before the regional meet last year. According to Martin, all the little superstitions are what shows individuality on the team.

Ashlock did have a scare early in the season after a crowd surfing incident at a boys basketball game. He

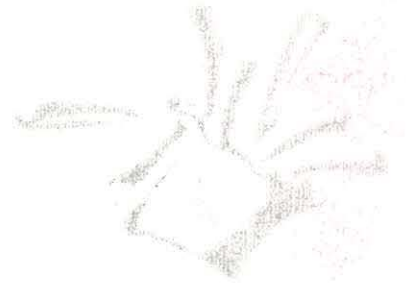
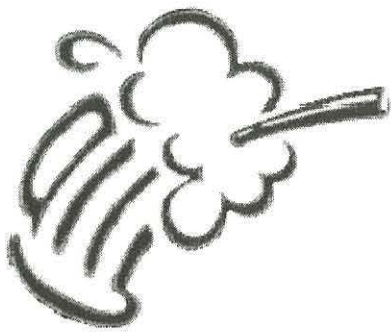
was spared for wrestling, but was unable to attend any basketball games until after Christmas.

Scott Walker placed third last year at the state tournament, and was voted the team's MVP. Walker will look again to compete in states this year, knowing hard work will bring him another good finish. Hard work has also brought Scott offers to wrestle at the NCAA level at Central Michigan University and Eastern Michigan University.

The one thing missing from wrestling here, compared to schools like Swartz Creek and Davison, is the fan base. Davison actually had a meet at a pep rally so the whole school could watch and cheer them on. Not a bad idea at all, considering the school watched them thump Detroit Catholic Central.

"I'd like to see more fan support at our meets," says Ashlock. "It'd be nice if people would yell and get rowdy like I do at the basketball games." Ashlock continues, then after a thoughtful pause, finishes, "Just don't crowd surf."

All good wrestlers will agree that dedication is not shown on the trainer's table, it is shown on the mats.

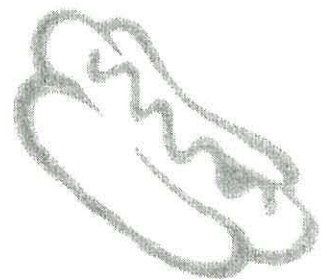


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