



The Spectator

The Stuyvesant High School Newspaper
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*"The pulse
of the
student
body."*

Volume XCIV No. 3

October 9, 2003

To The Stuyvesant Community

DOWNLOADING GOES DOWN

Students Deal with the Downloading Dilemma

By NAOMI SOSNER

In a school such as Stuyvesant, where almost everything is done online, it is only natural that students use their Internet access for fun as well as schoolwork. Downloading is a daily activity for some. But recent lawsuits from the music industry may change the downloading habits of students.

"I've been downloading music for a couple of years now, since Napster," junior Josh Lee said. "But I've started to worry about doing it and getting sued."

Last year, the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) announced it was going to begin suing individual users who store and share music files on their computers. This September, the RIAA backed up the threat by announcing 261 suits against music sharers throughout the country—many of whom are teenagers.

Many students said that while they themselves aren't concerned about feeling the repercussions of these lawsuits, their parents are of a different mind.

"A while ago, I came home from school, and sitting on my desk was an article my dad left for me from *The New York Times*," said sophomore Elizabeth London. "It was about the 12-year-old girl who got sued for the file-sharing."

The story of Brianna LaHara, a New York City student who was sued for file sharing, is being viewed as proof of the dangers of downloading music.

"I canceled all my music folders when I heard about her," said freshman Michelle Lee. "I felt like, 'It could have been me.'"

"As soon as my parents heard about the 12 year old girl they made me cancel Kazaa," said sophomore Emily Melloer. "She lives in the same neighborhood as me, and they started panicking."

Some students said that the moral questions regarding file sharing pose a problem for them.

"No, it hasn't really affected me," said junior Josie Pratt. "And anyway, I'm not sure whether downloading is right, ethically."

One of the music industry's main reasons for trying to stop file-sharing programs, like Kazaa and Morpheus, is because of lost revenue in various parts of the music industry. According to the RIAA, people would rather download

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High Spirits Despite Defeat at Homecoming



Charles Mishan / The Spectator

The Stuy Pep Squad cheers for the Peglegs, who lost for the first time this season in their homecoming game against Long Island City High School. The game was played at the Brooklyn Technical High School football field. **See page 12 for homecoming coverage.**

SU Budget Rings Up Change

By JIN-JI KIM
with additional reporting by
EUGENE THEODORE

There are over 200 student-operated organizations in Stuyvesant that ask the Student Union for funding each year, and the SU is expected to cover any new club or publication that meets the membership requirements set by the SU. Hence maintaining the SU budget is quite a task.

"It is not like we get major funding from school or any place," said SU Chief Financial Officer, Eleanora Srugo. "We host numerous events throughout the school year, such as dances and SING!. From students' cooperation, we are able

to obtain our budget."

According to Srugo, the SU will begin distributing "Stuy Advantage Cards" that will allow members to get discounts and give-aways on school apparel. This is one of many new methods the SU will adopt to increase its funding capabilities.

Funding for the various student organizations is the main drain on the SU budget. As the SU's Web site supplement states: "If in need of SU funding, one must submit a detailed breakdown of the fiscal needs with a 'Request for Funding' form to the CFO and present your ideas to a Budget Committee." The meeting procedure, as stated by article three, section two of the SU Constitution, states that if nine

out of sixteen members of the committee attend the biweekly meeting, the proposal will be voted on. If the money is allocated, it will be transferred to a separate account made by the SU for that particular organization.

In face of the current 6% budget cut for all public schools in New York City (a total of one-half-million dollars for Stuyvesant), the School Leadership Team (SLT) has cut the funding for various school organizations such as Model UN. The SU is hoping to avoid doing the same by implementing the use of these advantage cards, but according to Srugo,

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New Sci-Hi Student Selection Process

By SHANNON BLANEY

This October, students taking the Specialized High Schools Exam will have to put more thought into their school preference rankings than past classes did. According to Assistant Principal of Pupil Personnel Services Eleanor Archie, a new student selection process was created last year.

"In the old system when you took the exam your scores were arranged from highest to lowest," Archie said. "Stuyvesant would then go down the list and select those students whose scores met the cut off, until they met the set quota for the number of seats that could be offered that year."

Students who didn't make the Stuyvesant cutoff but did make the Bronx Science or Brooklyn Tech cutoff however, were allowed to attend those schools even if it wasn't their first choice. That has now changed.

"In the new system, the

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Look inside for more
information on the
Stuyvesant Strut!

Ready, Set, Strut!

By DANIELLE FERNANDES

Where can you find poodle skirts, flappers, and zoot suits all in one building and all at the same time?

After the Stuyvesant Strut on October 19, Stuyvesant will host several activities celebrating its 100th birthday. One of these activities will be to represent one decade on each floor of the building for every decade Stuyvesant has been in existence. A boy and a girl will represent each decade on each floor by dressing up "in clothes of that decade," said Stuyvesant Theater Community (STC) costume co-director Lena Sands. The costume crew was provided with \$250 to buy materials for the costumes. Said sophomore costume crew member Elisa Orr, "[I'm] excited that [we] costume crewers get to wear our own costumes for once."

There will also be a timeline set up in the building to commemorate each important event that has taken place at Stuyvesant since 1904. The

timeline, which is available on the Stuyvesant Centennial Web site (www.stuy100.org), marks significant occasions in Stuyvesant history, such as when the football team became city champions in 1922 and when girls were first admitted to Stuyvesant in 1969.

According to building coordinator Renee Levine, the hosts of the events inside the building will be current principal Stanley Teitel and principal emeritus Jinx Cozzi-Perullo.

Other school organizations such as ARISTA and the Big Sibs will also participate. They will be positioned throughout the building so that they can help elderly alumni and "watch out for them," said Levine.

According to Levine, the centennial events are "partially a fundraiser to try and raise money for the school." The store will be selling commemorative items, such as teddy bears, centennial calendars, and T-shirts. Levine also said that a

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Wong Appointed AP of Tech



Charles Mishan / The Spectator

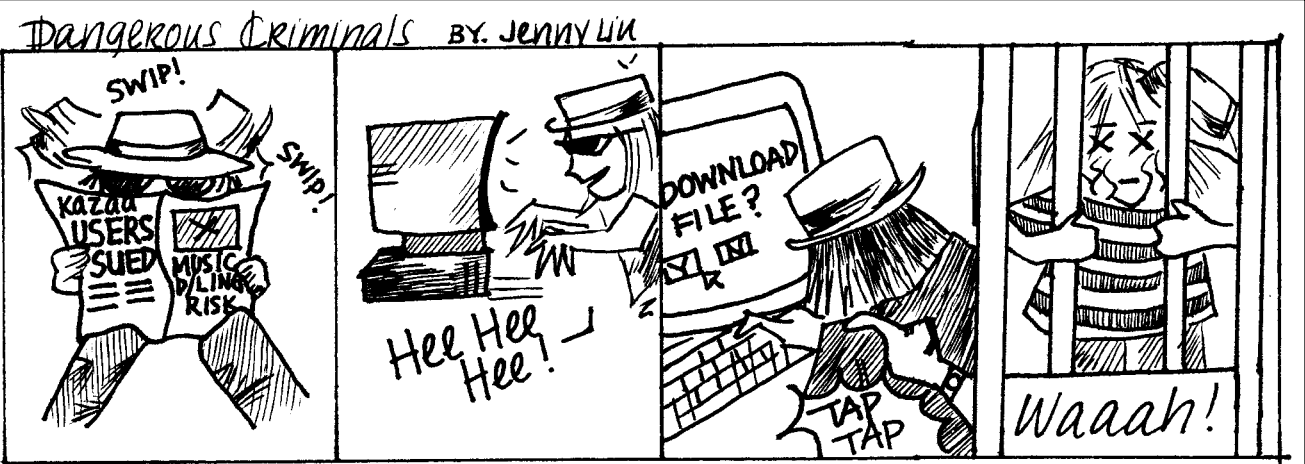
Edward Wong, shown here at his desk in the program office, was appointed the new AP of Technology. **See page 5.**

Downloading Goes Down: Students Deal with the Downloading Dilemma

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than spend close to \$20 on a CD, which resulted in lowered profits.

Not all of Stuy has been caught up on the downloading dilemma. Senior Jonathan Lehman said, "It hasn't affected me in any way. Actually, I'm still stuck on cassettes."



Stuyvesant's Korean teacher, Jae Lee.

Charles Mishan / The Spectator

Fate of Korean Classes Undecided

By LONGYIN LI

"Mr. Lee's classes are flawless and enjoyable," said sophomore Seong Jin Kim on Jae Lee's Korean class, "He doesn't give a lot of lectures and promotes class participation and group activities." However, these classes may be a thing of the past. According to Principal Stanley Teitel, Lee may be forced to leave due to new Department of Education regulations.

According to Lee, state regulations require that all teachers have an teaching licence in their field. Currently, he is not licensed for teaching his Korean classes but is pursuing a license in English as a Second Language (ESL) Korean. When Lee completes his current coursework he will be fully qualified. Meanwhile, he is asking the state to consider his case, as his depart-

ture would likely result in the end of Korean courses at Stuy.

"If I have to leave, I will come back to teach when I get my ESL license," said Lee, "but I will continue to pursue the Korean license."

So far, the search for a substitute has been unsuccessful because it is a part-time job. There are only two Korean classes at Stuy. Lee was willing to accept the job because he also teaches Korean at NYU.

"I would like to keep Mr. Lee here," said Teitel, "but he can't continue [to teach unlicensed] indefinitely."

Reflecting on his time at Stuy, Lee said, "Teaching at Stuyvesant has been a wonderful experience. I've learned a lot from the students. It's interesting teaching kids that can speak Korean and were brought up in Korean families but were never properly taught the language in school."

Many Korean students and their parents are fighting to keep the class alive.

According to junior Mike Seo, whose mother is in the Korean Parents Association, parents and students have devised a plan to try to keep the class in Stuy.

"My mom got a phone call from a mother who organizes the Korean Parents' Association and said each child should e-mail Teitel to keep Mr. Lee, or find another licensed teacher," Seo said.

Many Korean students, like Kim, don't want to see Lee leave.

"As a Korean I think I should know how to speak, write, and read the language fluently. And if the class disappears, I won't have the opportunity to learn Korean anymore."

Free Breakfast: A Mixed Blessing

By YITIAN LIU

One of Stuyvesant's most valued indulgences has recently become more available to the student community. Food, second only to sleep for Stuy students, is now offered for free in the school cafeteria.

As a result of Department of Education Chancellor Joel Klein's new plan for better performance in class, breakfast is now served in the cafeteria every morning for free. "We want to get children ready in the morning," said Stuy school cafeteria manager Maureen Nevins.

Sophomore Xiaotian Chen recently began to reap the benefits of the new breakfast program. He and many of his friends meet each morning to eat meals that Chen claims they would have otherwise hurriedly gulped down on the subway or skipped completely. "Since I get to school a few minutes before my first class anyway, why not get a free breakfast?" said Chen.

Junior Christine Tada shares the same sentiments. While Tada doesn't think that breakfast is improving her performance in school, she does think it is a good time to voice her frustrations. "I'm still failing my tests, but at least we still have these interesting breakfast talks where I can vent out my anger," said Tada.

All this free food has already

attracted much attention. Many regular breakfast eaters can't recall ever seeing such long lines in the cafeteria. After standing in line for a long time, senior Simeng Sun suggested creating multiple lines for serving breakfast. Some students were not even able to get breakfast in time for their first-period classes.

Said junior Wendy Lui, "The lines are so long now! I was almost late for first period when the line was practically out the door and the lunch ladies were taking their sweet time asking, 'What do you want?' I wanted them to just dish out the food!"

However, junior Martha de Jesus did not mind that free breakfast now draws more students to the cafeteria in the mornings than before. "I like food, I like money, so of course I love free breakfast," she said.

Although many students welcome the advent of a free meal in the morning, many disapprove of the consequent raise of full price lunches from \$1.00 to \$1.50.

Freshman Jake Leary thought that the price hike was unfair, especially because of the cafeteria's current shortcomings. Said Leary, "I think they should stock up the soda machines and let you take more than three ketchup packets."

Freshman Romeo Alexander, however, did not mind the price hike as much.

"The food here is better than in my middle school, and there's a greater variety. So maybe it's worth it," he said.

Despite both compliments and complaints about the new breakfast program, Nevins said, "We want the line to go all the way through the doors!" She encourages students tell their friends about it. Perhaps even students like sophomore Annalisa Ingegno, who earnestly believe in popular cafeteria myths involving rats and roaches, may be convinced to change their views.



Charles Mishan / The Spectator

The cafeteria now offers free breakfast to Stuy students every morning. With the arrival of the free breakfast comes a raise in the cost of full price lunch from \$1 to \$1.50.

SU Budget Report

continued from page 1

the SU didn't lose any money directly from the cuts anyway. "Since we're not funded by the administration, our budget itself isn't directly affected," she

said. However those that provide it may not be as willing to divulge money.

New programs like the advance cards will help weather this storm.

New Sci-Hi Student Selection Process

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selection process is driven by your first choice," says Archie. "When the specialized high schools select the students they want to offer seats to, they are still presented with a list of scores from highest to lowest. When we go in and look at the first names on the list, we would normally offer that person a seat. Now, if the first person's first choice was Brooklyn Tech, that's where he goes; we don't even look at him."

Stuyvesant then proceeds down the list of scores, picking out however many people it needs to reach its seat quota.

"After Stuyvesant has had its pick, Bronx will go in and Bronx will start from the top [of the list] and look for anyone who wanted Bronx first," said Archie, "and it proceeds as such for each of the six specialized high schools."

According to Archie, a school may go down the list and not find enough students to fill all the seats for that year. If this happens the school gets to go down the list a second time to select any students who put that school as their second choice, and who had not already been selected by another school. Hopefully," said Archie, "the kids will be picked up by one of the six schools."

Regarding the necessity of the new process, Principal Stanley Teitel comments, "In the past, students were allowed to move between the [specialized high schools] based on their scores. As a result, Stuyvesant has wound up with

more students, some years, than it should have." According to Teitel, the new system addresses that problem.

Freshman Elise Combiere-Kapel, does not agree with the new process. She did concede that at least prospective students had open houses before the exam this year, allowing them to have a better idea of which school they prefer.

Students who had siblings gearing up to take the SSHAT were dismayed at the change of procedure. Many criticize the change, adding that it has not been widely publicized.

"Are you serious? I don't think kids know that," junior Shams Billah said.

"I really wanted my brother who's in eighth grade to go here, but now I don't know if he can get in," Billah said.

Archie also pointed out that there are now three more specialized high schools (HS of American Studies at Lehman College, Queens HS for the Sciences at York College, and HS for Mathematics, Science and Engineering at City College) for students to choose from, thus increasing their chances of getting into a specialized high school.

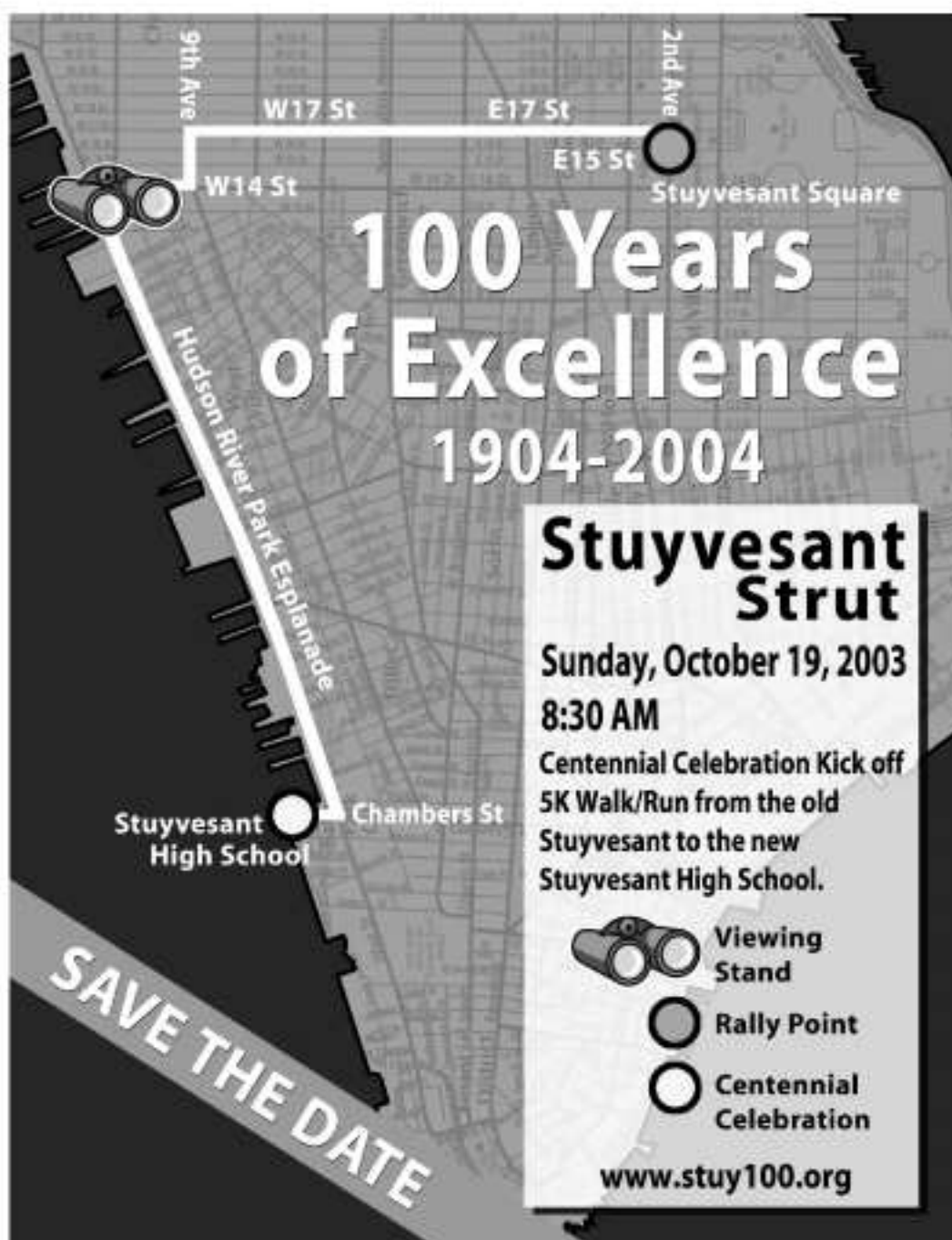
This year kids can select up to twelve schools that are not specialized, meaning that students have a better chance of getting into non-specialized high schools than students of previous years.

"I think," said Archie, "that the biggest thing [prospective students] have to know is 'what is my first choice?' and they have to be realistic."



Come be a part of the Stuyvesant Strut!

Sunday, October 19 8:30 a.m.



Please let us know you will be joining us for this festive occasion!

You can register by visiting:
www.stuy100.org
or by simply calling:
212-981-5291

You can further support your school by participating in the Strut Pledge Drive. Sponsor Sign-Up sheets are available in the Centennial Office, Room 271. Pick up yours today!

The top 5 fundraisers and 5 additional fundraisers selected at random will each receive a cool prize.

For every purchase that you make at the school store, you'll get a raffle ticket to win exciting prizes, redeemable only at the Strut!

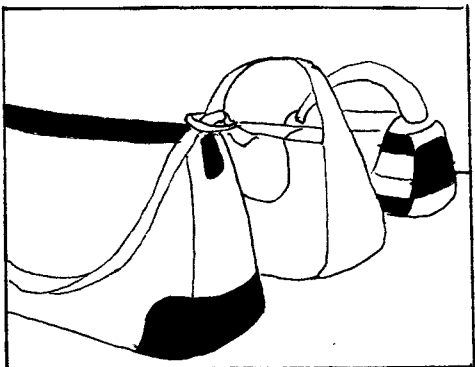
Some of the prizes include:

- Premium Leather Bag from Kenneth Cole (a \$300 value!)
- Four box seat tickets to a New York Ranger's home game
- \$100 Gift Certificate from J&R Music World
- \$100 Gift Certificate from Manhattan Books
- Tickets for two to NBC's Conan O'Brien show

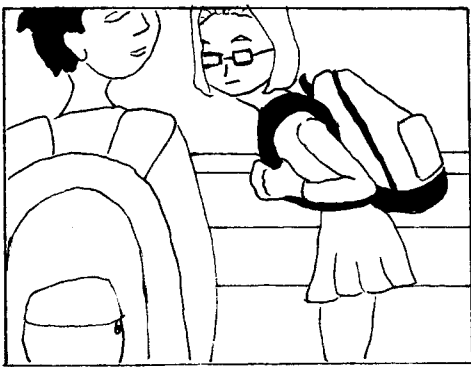
** Participation in the Stuyvesant Strut Pledge Drive is encouraged, although not required. Pledges of all amounts are greatly appreciated. All funds raised will directly benefit Stuyvesant High School programs.

Cartoons

BAGS by H. Yawo Young



MACY BAGS



FRESHMAN BAGS



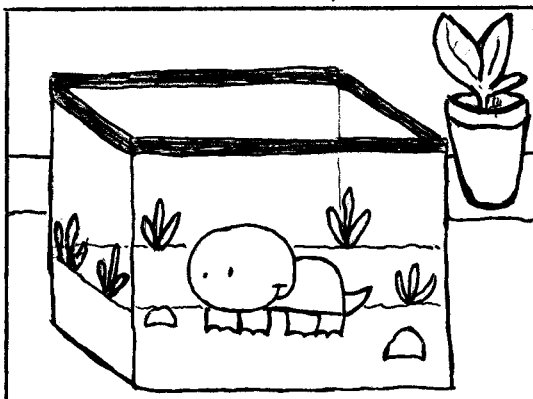
STUY BAGS

GREAT EXPECTATIONS

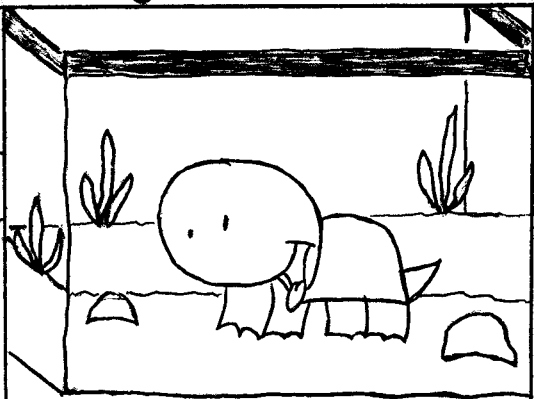
KATIE ZHUANG



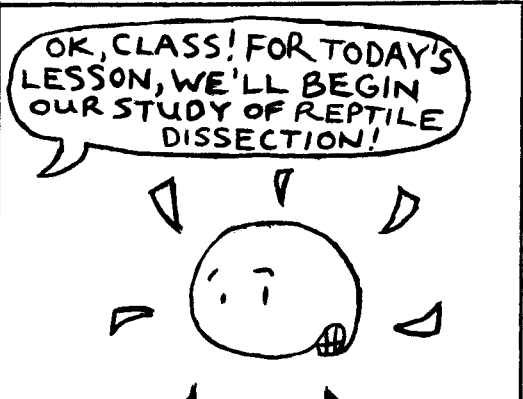
Class Pet by Brigid Black



"AH, JUST ANOTHER DAY IN THE BIO ROOM AT STUY."

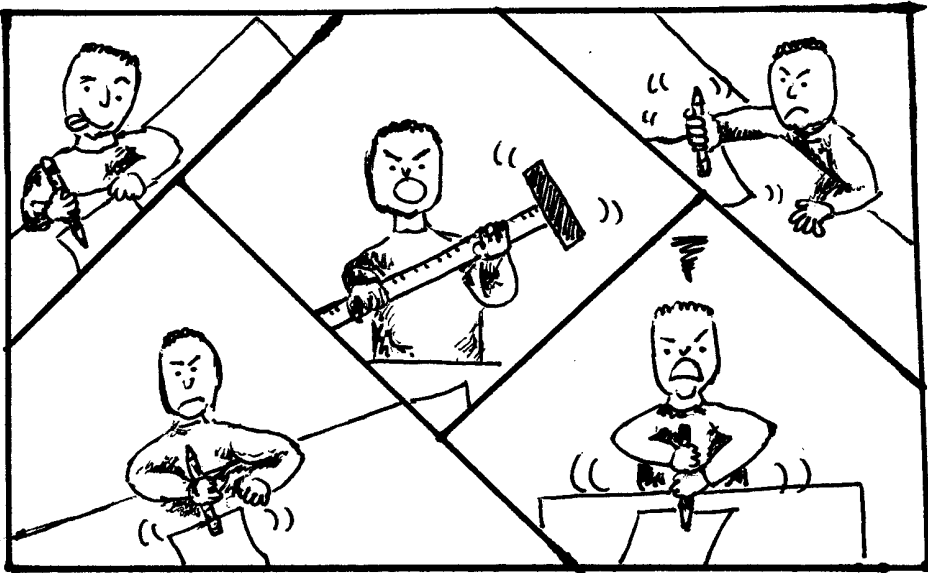


"PLENTY OF SUNLIGHT, FOOD, WATER... THIS IS THE LIFE!"



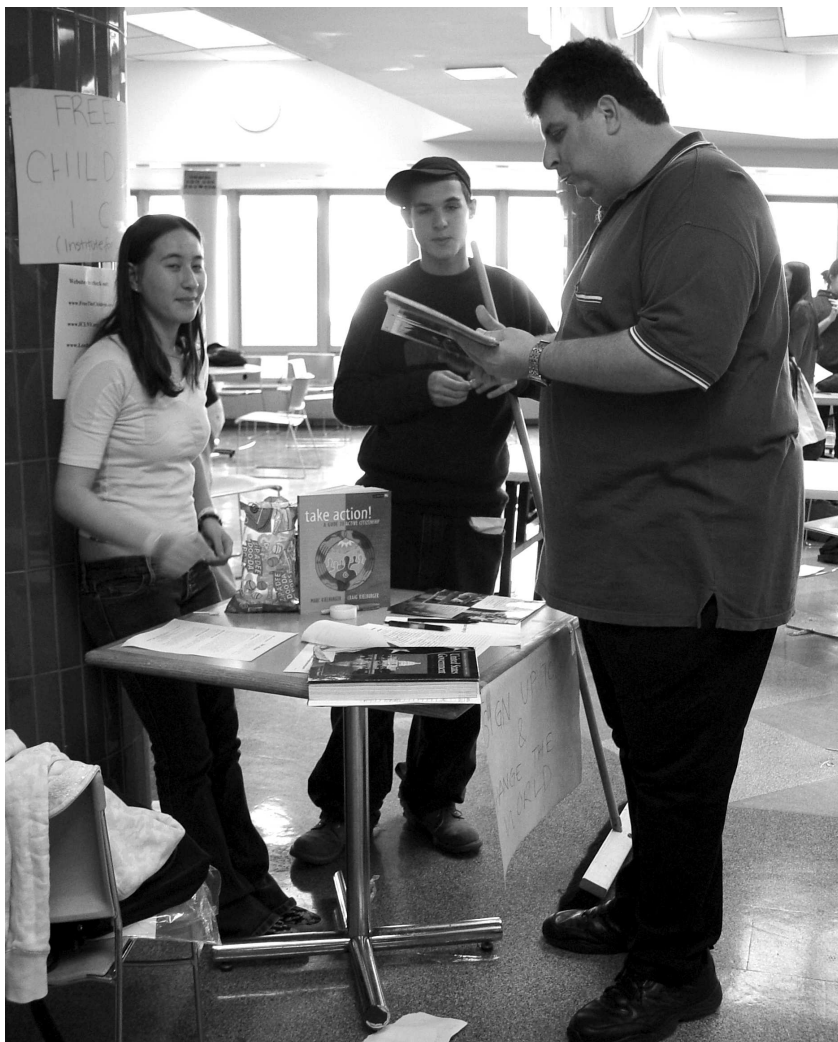
"EEP!"

"THE ART OF DRAFTING"



Allen Zhang

Stuy's Annual Club/Pub Fair



Charles Mishaan / The Spectator

Seniors Sophia Mokotoff and Mike Litwack encourage people to "take action!" at the club/pub fair on Thursday, October 2.

New AP Appointed: Wong to Head Technology

By REESE DAVIDSON

Programming Chairperson Edward Wong has been appointed Interim Acting Assistant Principal of Technology, replacing Stephen Kramer who retired in 2002.

According to Principal Stanley Teitel, Wong will continue doing what he has done for the past year, which is being responsible for Stuy's computer network and programming office. "His responsibilities were the responsibilities of an Assistant Principal," said Teitel. "Now he has the title as well."

Wong, a Stuy alum, started teaching math at Stuy six years ago. He then moved on to assistant programming chairperson and has been programming chairperson since fall 2000. "I never had any intention of being AP," said Wong. "It's a weird turn of events for me to be in this position."

Odessa Holmes, a secretary in the programming office, said, "He's a good boss and deserved to be AP. He's a hard worker."

She also believes that Mr. Wong is "like a robot. He has a magnet that will always come back to the programming office."

Senior Owen Li feels that Wong's promotion is long overdue. "Mr. Wong is a great guy. He has assumed so many responsibilities this past year. The only shame is that he doesn't teach classes anymore," said Li.

Junior Isaac Maddow-Zimet agrees.

"I'm such a ditz, I always forget my program card and can't go out to lunch," he said. "But whenever I do, Mr. Wong is always there for me."

"He's like a robot. He has a magnet that will always make him come back to the programming office."

**—Odessa Holmes,
programming office
secretary**

Ready, Set, Strut!

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silent auction with donated items may also take place.

The Stuyvesant Strut won't only be a great way to exercise, but it will also be your best bet for some interactive history lessons.



Charles Mishaan / The Spectator

Senior Allie Kaufman models the costume she will wear for the Strut on October 19.

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Editorials and Opinions

Change in Admission Process Unfair

Until this year, prospective students could choose Stuyvesant as their number one school with impunity. Now, such a choice could be seen as foolhardy. Because of changes in the specialized high school admissions process, students must exercise discretion when ranking schools on the admissions test.

Under the new system, which is part of the Children First reforms, students have a much lower chance of getting into their “backup” schools. For example, if an eighth grader were to put Stuyvesant as their first choice and fail to make the cut, they would not automatically be accepted by one of the other five schools. Students who ranked a school as their first choice would hold priority over other applicants, even if the latter had higher test scores. By the same token, if a student were to put Bronx Science as their first choice and score high enough to get into Stuyvesant, they would be forced to go to Bronx Science or another, non-specialized school.

This system isn’t fair for the students and it isn’t fair for the schools. It forces students to judge their own ability before they have even taken the test. It’s no longer objective because self-confident kids will have a leg up on meeker ones who perform just as well on the actual exam. Suddenly, the exam has become not only a test of intellect but of ego as well.

This isn’t fair to the school either, because it loses the diversity that it draws from the mix of kids with a variety of personalities. Consider this scenario: a Stuyvesant comprised entirely of students who bet their high school educations on a Stuy acceptance. Many current students did not expect to be admitted to this school when they applied several years ago. If they were to apply today, their doubt would cancel their acceptance. Afraid of not making Stuyvesant and being excluded from other schools by virtue of hav-

ing put Stuy first, they would probably select a more attainable first choice.

The emphasis on rankings also puts Stuyvesant in a strange position. For the first time since the specialized high schools adopted the SHSAT (Standardized High School Admissions Test), Stuyvesant’s not ensured the cream of the crop, and vice versa.

In addition, the new importance placed in the rankings will surely bolster the already bloated test prep business. Obtaining a high score on the SHSAT will become an even greater priority for parents and students, as the chances of acceptance to one’s second choice school are decreased. Essentially, the test becomes a one-shot deal; if you are not accepted to the school you predicted, you may not be accepted anywhere.

With applicants straining harder than ever for top-notch grades, test prep courses will be looked upon as even more essential for acceptance. It seems strange that the Department of Education would make decisions with such consequences after moving the test date from December to October last year to soften the impact of such test prep courses.

Even more strange, the DOE hardly bothers to justify its self. In fact, this year’s Specialized High Schools Student Handbook barely mentions the changes in acceptance procedures. It’s unclear how prospective students are supposed to know that anything has changed. This is unacceptable.

The DOE’s attempt to reform the admissions process is sloppy at best. The new system is not clear, it is not consistent and it is not being properly explained to those whom it greatly affects. Parents and students alike take this test very seriously, and this new system, with all of its uncertainty and confusion, disrespects the effort they put into succeeding, and the impact acceptance could have on their lives.

Spirit Week Silence (Why I Have Not Spoken Out)

By ANNA WIENER

A year ago at this time, our favorite Stuyvesant message boards—the hallways—told the story of an ideological conflict over what is called Spirit Week. “Women Belong in the Kitchen” That’s dated, right?” and “Too bad Stuyvesant’s own Spirit Week had to turn back time and unravel [the women’s rights movement]” are two notable excerpts.

Spirit Week precedes the Pegleg’s football homecoming weekend. Wearing school colors and Pegleg jerseys, the football players each pair up with a football trainer or a cheerleader. Then for a week, the pair exchanges gifts to bolster team spirit. Usually, the cheerleader or trainer bakes for her football player, while the player buys his counterpart flowers.

Last year, several friends and I hung up signs criticizing the traditions of Spirit Week. The exchanges of flowers for homemade cake and cookies between the varsity football team and the cheerleading squad seemed antiquated and insulting to some onlookers. It appeared heavily laden with gender stereotypes and commu-

nicated extremely dated social norms.

The signs were intended to vocalize a perspective shared by many who were made uncomfortable by the Spirit Week traditions. Judging by the controversy that flared as a result, the signs did their job in raising awareness of the situation.



This October, Spirit Week was relatively low-key and unmarked by strife. And yet few, if any, things have changed.

So why the silence this year? I believe repeating the signage would have been redundant, inflammatory, and gratuitous. To the majority of the school, the message had already been communicated and hopefully absorbed.

Last year, the signs were taken as a personal affront by members of the cheerleading

squad and football team. Many were deeply insulted. But the intent was not to attack these individuals. Rather, the implications of their actions were under fire.

Although most members of the squad were aware of last year’s debate, it didn’t seem to have much of an effect on this year’s events. While one member of the varsity team did tell me that he and his cheerleader were taking turns baking for each other, this can hardly be considered a direct consequence. It is difficult to discern whether or not it made an active impact on the way Spirit Week was run this year, although externally it appears not to have.

It should not be overlooked that this same football player added that in the case of more protests, preparations had been made in advance—including a bevy of “anti-feminist” jokes.

It’s disappointing that the whole ordeal has been oversimplified and shrugged off as an aggressive and extremist “feminist” attack. Maybe by next year the wounds will have healed, and the message can be taken seriously.

The Spectator
The Stuyvesant High School Newspaper

“The pulse of the student body”

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The Every-Other-Day Blues

By JEREMY WOOSTER

As a freshman taking physics, I always felt out of the loop. I received scrutiny from my freshmen peers and from strangers in the junior class. I was one of “Teitel’s Tots,” as they liked to call us.

I carried my physics textbook with a sense of insecurity, but I thought that the uneasiness had ended when I became a sophomore. Now I am a junior and I find myself undergoing the same scrutiny I felt two years ago.

At least once a day, a fellow junior approaches me with a question like, “Did you do the lab yet?” or, “Who do you have for physics?” I offer the simple reminder that I took physics in my freshman year.

The worst part of all, though, is the waste of a period every other day. I have B gym with a physics class—when they are not in gym, they sit on the eighth floor in their physics classrooms, and I find myself wasting a whole useless period.

There is a variety of classes offered in Stuyvesant and different courses meet different requirements. Despite all of these classes, though, there are no solutions to my problem.

My solution would be a selection of half-credit classes offered for any one who wants to take them, but geared specifically towards those who want to fill an every-other-day slot or only want to go to a class every other day.

These “half-classes” would be offered on both A days and B days and thus the impact on the teachers would be the same as any other class.

Students who wish to learn different subjects might choose to take two half-classes giving them a full credit and two interesting new topics in a term.

Another option would be for the school to extend a full credit class that normally only lasts one term into a yearlong class that only meets every other day.

Due to recent budget changes, the number of classes has been cut and there are now more people in each classroom. If Stuy put half-classes into place, there would be people in classes for less time but they would still meet the requirements. For instance, the science department requires a year’s worth of science electives. If students spread that number of credits over more time, there would be less strain on each science class.

Half-credit classes are not just a means of giving freshmen physics junkies a leg-up in the programming department. Despite complications with budgeting and scheduling teachers, the long-term results would benefit many teachers and students alike. And of course, I would not have to waste a period every other day wishing that I could be one of the juniors sitting in physics class.

CORRECTIONS

- The names of the current and past members of Double Negative, featured in the last issue, are as follows: Tim Crowe, Daniel Ferrantino, Josh Paolucci, Steve Stein, Emanuel Bierman, and Cody Pruitt.
- Mugwump did not perform at last year’s Band Showcase, as stated in the Double Negative article.
- “No Exit” was a Renegade Theater production, not an STC production.

Free Breakfast Comes at a Price

By SHINIAN YE

Even though their parents and the media have told them that it is the most important meal of the day, many students don't bother to eat breakfast. Now, the Department of Education (DOE), in accordance with the Children First reforms, is telling us the same thing (albeit a bit more subtly) by offering free breakfast to whoever wants it.

According to the DOE's Web

site (<http://www.nycenet.edu>), the Children First reforms will focus on raising all school standards. The bulk of these reforms are aimed at bringing New York City public schools up to the standards set in the *No Child Left Behind Act* and will be affecting everything from soda machines to teaching practices. Many schools will be adopting unified teaching methods for math and other subjects, and the DOE will be reorganizing their management structure.

Many of these changes will only be affecting "failing schools," so the new breakfast policy may be the most dramatic change at Stuyvesant.

Student response to the new policy is mixed. Sophomore Boris Grinshpun said, "I have fourth period lunch and just don't need [the free breakfast]."

Not every student is so apathetic. "How can you not like something if it's free?" asked sophomore Seong Jin Kim. One benefit of free breakfast is that

you won't have to dig through your pockets for spare change anymore. But having it doled out for free has created other problems.

New concerns among students include longer lines for breakfast. Also, it wasn't uncommon for people to buy two breakfasts. In fact, students often paid 35 cents just to get an extra juice. Now the new policy limits students to one breakfast.

However, free breakfast in public schools isn't the only

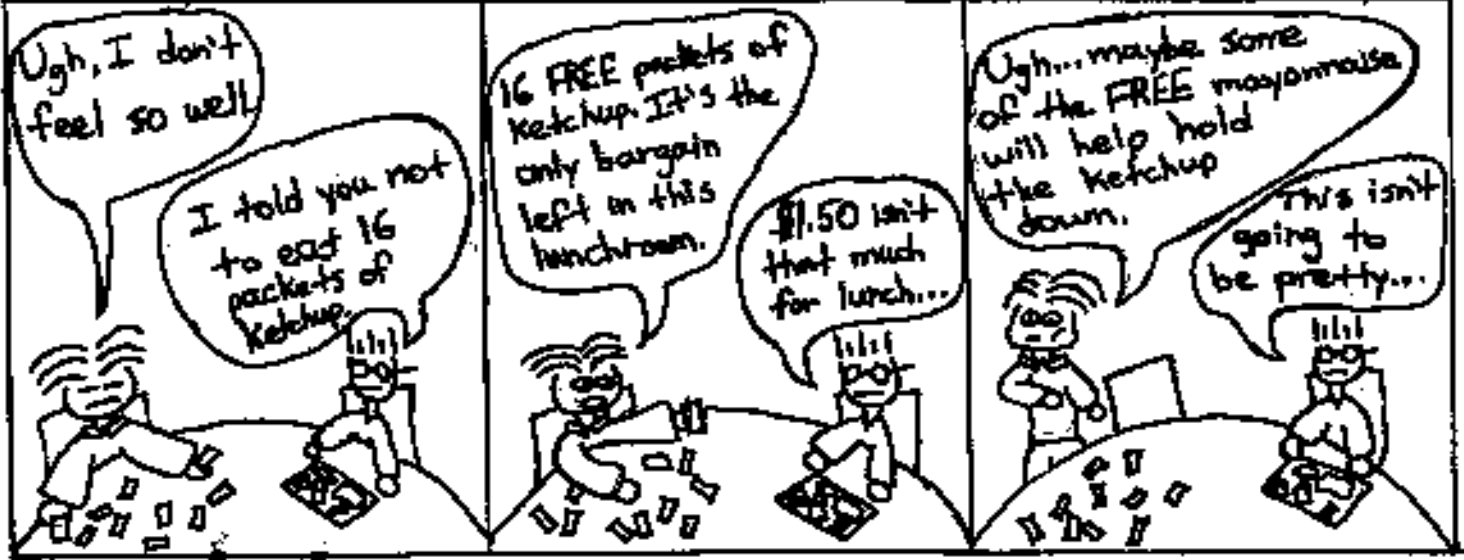
change. Also part of the DOE's Children First reforms is a rise in the school lunch prices. Since September 22, you couldn't find a dollar menu at Stuyvesant. The DOE has raised the price of full lunch by 50 cents, bringing it up to the national average.

The raise in lunch prices has caused much aggravation. "I never liked school lunch, but now I hate it even more with the 50-cent raise," said sophomore Andy Ye.

Though the DOE may seem very philanthropic in offering free breakfast to students, many will not benefit from it. According to junior Kenneth Chen, "The policy change was a bad decision. It only benefits the few people that come to school early for breakfast. Everyone else has to pay more for the same lunches." However, free breakfast does benefit everybody by motivating students to eat breakfast.

Though students might not like free breakfast, it is good for them. If you consider that the last raise in full price school lunch for New York City high schools was eleven years ago, the policies do not seem bad. As mothers say, "What's good for you doesn't always taste good."

Eleventeen Period Day By Eric Lee



the diary of a mad senior

How many trees must be sacrificed to establish a naïve optimism regarding the college application process? If mailboxes could talk, mine would have an answer to that question. For the past year and a half, all sorts of colleges have flooded it with multiple mailings and pounds of paper. In late spring, applications began to arrive. The process had officially begun.

I did not anticipate the start of this year. Summer vacation sustained a certain level of apathy towards it. The perils of being an optimistic senior include the notion that advanced preparation for the college application process during junior year would be enough to get through it easily when it finally came. Unfortunately, the tedium of the process is now upon me.

Senior year is all about making impressions. Within the first two weeks, photographers forced us into artificial positions in order to immortalize us in the glossy pages of the yearbook. Two days ago, I received my yearbook photo proofs in the mail, along with the regular college clutter. It turns out *The Indicator* will feature me being devoured by an oversized graduation gown that flatters my new shoulder implants.

This is not a particularly desirable impression.

By graduation, many of us hope to have left some indeli-

ble mark on the school. I am proud to say I have left my mark on Stuyvesant High School. A friend of mine told me that she recently mentioned my name at a congregation, and when someone asked who I was, another student answered, "Oh, I know her. She always wears two shirts." Layered clothing is my crowning achievement, although I am not particularly proud to say that this is how future Stuyvesant goers will remember me.

But the impression of greatest consequence comes between these events; it is the impression I will make on an admissions committee. After three years of academic rigor, I have earned the right to be considered for a spot at an institution of higher learning—if only I could get past the first page of the application.

I hyperbolize application process isn't that trying. Filling out pages of standardized test scores and arbitrary numbers to help colleges surmise my intelligence is not difficult. The essays are where I meet my doom: Armed with the procrastinator's creed and a bad case of writer's block, I make my attempt to avoid the ostentation associated with these impressions.

I am busy with the first wave of applications, but the possibility of going through a second wave certainly exists. These are the worst of times: Sleep deprivation is the norm, and there's no end in sight. Hopefully, the impressions I make within the coming months will be stronger than those I have made in other aspects of my Stuyvesant career, and this process will end so that the remainder of my senior year will highlight the best of times.

—Gabriela Magda

Stuyvesant Opens Its Doors... Some of Them, At Least

By DEAN JAMES

One hundred years of Stuyvesant history have come and gone. This year is the centennial year of our school, marking a century of education. In light of this, it's interesting that Stuyvesant gave its first official open house to prospective students just three weeks ago. Previously, our school could only be visited and viewed after acceptance was confirmed.

The Open House probably would not convince anyone to take the exam who wouldn't have done so anyway.

On September 23 and 24, however, we finally opened our doors. Why the long wait, and previous resistance? Assistant Principal of Pupil Services Eleanor Archie said that in the past, the administration believed that the open house held in March for the students who passed the entrance exam was sufficient. However, recent suggestions that an earlier open house would provide incentive for prospective students to take the Specialized High Schools Aptitude Test (SHSAT) and select Stuyvesant as their first choice led to the new policy.

However, some students suspected this might have been in vain. Big Sib Vicki Slavina believed that the Open House probably would not convince anyone to take the exam who wouldn't have done so anyway.

"They're probably just using this as a way to see the school," she said.

The actual Open House turned out to be something of a disappointment. There weren't many visitors on the day that I attended, September 23. Tiny eighth graders straggled in one after another with their parents, greeted by cheering Big Sibs who handed them brochures. The newcomers then milled about, searching for an official-looking person. Failing to find such figures of authority, several asked me the way to the theater. Others turned to the Big Sibs for help.

The potential applicants were treated to a video in the theater. They were also offered a tour of the building with highlights such as the senior bar and the library.

Most of the people who attended the open house had previously received recommendations for Stuyvesant from trusted sources.

"My cousin told me that Stuyvesant was really good. The people [here] are nice," said eighth grader Chloe Markewi.

But those who did not have such reliable sources of information might have benefited had the open house been truly open. Getting a true sense of Stuyvesant was somewhat difficult.

A typical Big Sib tour went somewhere along these lines: "On the right, you can see the Senior Bar, where the seniors hang out. Walking along is the student store, which is locked, and the pool balcony...which is locked. Going upstairs, we can see the labs, which are locked, and the science classrooms with stadium-style seating, which are locked as well."

Potential applicants who wanted to look at our Olympic-sized pool, our departmental laboratories, or even the gyms had to settle for a peek through the window. The brochure handed to the visitors as they walked in boasted of more than 156 student organizations, yet only two had any real representation during the day.

If the majority of the student body was vacated before the Open House, and the bulk of facilities off-limits, then what exactly were future applicants touring on September 23 and 24? Was the sight of a well-shined hallway and a surreptitious peep at the pool deck really supposed to give eighth graders a sense of the school?

The purpose of an open house is to sway prospective students' opinions: convincing them that your school is superior to their other options, and giving them a sense of what their high school experience could potentially be.

Potential applicants who wanted to look at our Olympic-sized pool...or even the gyms had to settle for a peek through the window.

Is Stuyvesant so secure in its superiority that our open houses don't include these goals? Or are we simply so new to the business of advertising that we are at a loss of how to truly impress?

Arts & Entertainment

Top 5 Songs for an All-Nighter

By DON JOHN

What Stuy kid hasn’t pulled an all-nighter? Whether it’s for a math test, English paper, or the occasional marathon homework session, we’ve all done it. But why go at it alone when there are enough hard-hitting, fist clenching, head-splitting, songs out there. So stress out, make a mess, and let these songs help you cope while you burn the midnight oil.

I. 9 P.M.–11 P.M.
“Well, this shouldn’t take too long”

Linkin Park – “One Step Closer”

So it begins. You have three cups of coffee lined up and your work laid out. And while agitation hasn’t set in yet, give it time; it will. And when it does have Linkin Park there to help you vent. While this rap-metal group may come off as boy-ban-desque, they have enough hair-raising wailing to silence any critic. Although its only the first few hours of the night a little hard dose of Linkin will point you in the right direction. You’ll be the one wailing and pulling your hair later on.

Lyrics that’ll run through your head during the night: “Cause I’m one step closer to the edge and I’m about to break”

II. 11 P.M.–1 A.M.
“What?! Oh THAT test!”

Staind – “For You”

While the intensity is building, try to rev up more nerves with Staind. Their hard-hitting chorus should be enough to keep your drowsy eyes from closing and your mind away from the lure of your bed. Realize that you can’t give up that quickly because you’re still in the beginning of this, but fret not—you can baby-step your way through this.

Warning: If indeed you find you have a test the next day, an all-nighter may not be the best plan

III. 1 A.M.–3 A.M.
“Six cups of coffee and counting”

Arch Enemy – “Enemy Within”

By now you’ve probably overestimated your ability to finish whatever it is your doing and realized that sleep has been bumped down a few notches on your “to do” list. Jolt your mind by doing some serious head banging with Arch Enemy’s “Enemy Within.” The eerie piano intro sounds like something out of *The Exorcist* and the pulsing drum beats and guitar wailing will give you the same energy as those six cups of coffee you just drank. It’s suggested that you take a break after this song so you can orient yourself again.

Tip: Don’t listen to this without something to throw, break, shatter, whatever.

IV. 3 A.M.–5A.M.
“[Insert expletive here]”

System of a Down – “Sugar”

Simply put, this is insanity in a song. And since you’re in the final stretch of the night, insanity never sounded so good. The song starts off loud and vicious and gives you time to breathe later on. System of a Down’s ability to bottle up rage and spit it out as beautifully as it does is nothing short of amazing. If by the end of this song you are not revitalized with some natural high, chances are you’ve passed out already.

Something to keep by your side: Chocolate to ease you and your hunger pains.

V. 5 A.M.
“Here Comes the Sun”

Pixies – “Where is My Mind?”

It’s a bad sign when you start to see rays of light on homework you started last night. By now you’re probably delirious and in dire need of sleep. Luckily the Pixies have shelled out a song that’s as ethereal as you feel. With a soothing rhythm and melodious lead, this song will help put you back in place after a 36-hour day. The song, with its sedative undertone is a great way to end the night (or start the day, whichever one you prefer). And now lay back, close your eyes, and listen: You still have a about an hour before school starts.

If you have time: Try and answer the song’s title question.



Death of an Angel II
Birth of a Man
(Everything Falls Apart)

By Barry Jin

Everything Falls Apart
The last flicker of light swallowed by the dark
Shadows emerge from deep within my soul
I close my eyes and everything grows cold

And suddenly I cease to fly; I cease to soar
Falling timelessly into the twilight black
A star shimmers in the distance
It calls to me and I listen

Tales of my life flash before my eyes
The sorrow, the tears, and the infinite cries
Deep pangs strike and linger in my heart
Virgin flesh covered in scars

And suddenly I cease to see; I cease to hear
Dancing flames engulf my whole
I quiver and scream; convulse in anguish.
Only silence remains

Man is nothing but the shadow of an angel
The fall from above and the rise from below
It is when everything falls apart
That the life of man truly begins to star

Stuyvesant Theater Dates

Auditions for
“Twelve Angry Men”
October 9, Room 335

Audition Master Class:
Guest Speaker
Michael Biagi,
Musical Conductor.
October 9, 3:30-4:30,
Theater

“Kiss Me Kate” Interviews:
Chorus, Prop, and
Publicity Director
October 10

**“Kiss Me Kate”
Auditions: Cast
October 14,15,16**

Cast Audition Guidelines:
– No a cappella auditions. We will have a pianist.
– No song from the show allowed
– Song must consist of the first verse of chorus and using the second ending
– No monologues – Sides will be given during call-backs only
– Sign-up is first come, first serve. An information sheet must be filled out. Bring a picture to attach to the sheet or be willing to have a Polaroid taken.

Chillin’ Out for the Burnt Out

By COURTNEY CHIN
and ANNEKA MARCHAN

Does your class schedule tire you out? Are you under the stress of looming projects and tests? If so, you may be a candidate for several activities that have proven themselves to be unique experiences while living up to their promise of relieving tension and soothing your senses.

The first of these activities is getting an unusual aqua massage available at the South Street Seaport. This recent invention allows a person to experience the calming and soothing sensation of a water massage without getting wet or undressed. The appearance of the machine can best be described as a cross between a tanning bed and an automatic carwash. The top half of the machine contains a sealed area that collects the water as it is fired out of multiple jets hanging from a track that runs the length of the machine. As the jets pulse back and forth at alternating speeds, the water hits a vinyl surface covering the bottom of the lid, thus forming a barrier between your body and the water released from the jets. The jets fire the water in a rhythmic pattern that promises to relieve tension, stress, and any muscular or back discomfort you may have.

The aqua massage has been a popular attraction at the South

Street Seaport, judging from the long lines to use it. With its fluorescent turquoise gray color, it is quite an eye-catching exhibit on the second floor concourse of the Pier 17 building. Besides deviating from the ordinary, the price for this unique, hip experience is under \$25. A “quickie” massage lasts for 5 minutes and costs \$9; a “relaxer” massage lasts for 7 minutes and costs \$12; a “therapeutic” massage lasts for 10 minutes and costs \$16; and an “ultimate” massage lasts for 15 minutes and costs \$22. It should be noted that a 10-minute aqua massage at maximum pressure is reportedly equal to receiving a 30-minute manual massage at a spa. Not bad for the time-crunched Stuyvesant student.

For those of you who do desire a genuine spa experience, the Yuya Nail Salon may be an attractive choice. After a long week of school, most girls deserve to pamper themselves as a reward for getting through massive piles of homework. Even though you don’t have the money to go to a luxury spa or the patience to wait on a long line, you’re not out of luck.

The Yuya Nail Salon, located at the corner of Greenwich Street and Reade Street, is a good choice for all your nail needs. They do everything from French manicures to buffing pedicures, as well as massages and body waxing. And even

though the clean, sleek appearance of Yuya’s may look expensive, it’s affordable to the average high school student.

“I heard about this place from my sister so I decided to go there and see what it was like. A manicure there is \$8. The people there were so polite, and they give great hand massages,” says freshman Shanna Deen.

“One day after fencing practice, I was feeling sore and I wanted a massage. I went to Yuya’s and they gave me the greatest chair massage. They charge by the minute, so a five minute chair massage was only \$5, a price worth paying for the wonderful feeling I had afterward,” said junior Grace Fried.

If you’re not the type to enjoy sedentary relaxation, and need some exercise to de-stress, the Chelsea Piers rock climbing walls can fulfill your desire for a therapeutic workout. Located in two of the sports complexes at Chelsea Piers (the Chelsea Piers Sports Complex at Pier 60 on 17th Street and the Field House at the 23rd Street entrance), the various climbing walls provide an excellent way to be distracted from daily hassles. The climbing walls in the Sports Complex have a reputation for being the largest and most challenging walls in the Northeast. There are two adjacent walls measuring 10 feet high and 73 feet long and 46 feet high by 100 feet long both complete with changing

climbing surfaces and 100 different routes.

In total, the Sports Complex contains more than 10,000 square feet of three-dimensional climbing space. The walls are open on Mondays from noon to 10:30 P.M., Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5 P.M. to 10:30 P.M., Wednesdays and Fridays from 7 P.M. to 10:30 P.M., and Saturdays and Sundays from 9 P.M. to 8:30 P.M..

For people wanting to learn climbing techniques or further develop confidence in their climbing abilities, the climbing walls located in the Field House are less challenging and less expensive (only \$15 for a day of climbing, instead of the \$26 for private lessons) and more manageable than the ones in the Sports Complex. At 30 feet and designated wall sections for climbers of different skill levels, the Field House wall caters to children, teens, and adult beginners. All equipment is provided and classes are available for beginners to people with advanced abilities. For additional information about rock climbing at Chelsea Piers, call (212) 336-6500.

Whether you experience the Aqua Massage, get pampered at the Yuya Nail Salon, or challenge yourself on one of the Chelsea Piers climbing walls, one thing is for sure: You’ve found the perfect study mate.

Arts & Entertainment

DMB in NYC

By **PERRI OSATTIN**
and **MAREK MERY**

In a frantic two-week ticket giveaway, a lucky 100,000 East Coasters won free tickets to see the Dave Matthews Band (DMB) rock Central Park's Great Lawn on September 24.

The DMB performed as part of America Online's fundraiser for New York City public schools. The DMB and AOL teamed with Department of Education executive Caroline Kennedy Schlossberg to raise an expected \$2 million for the Fund for Public Schools.

Gates to the concert opened at 3 P.M., and less than half an hour later lines on the east and west sides of Central Park spanned 11 blocks each. The show scheduled to begin at 6:30 P.M. began promptly at 8 P.M., with an exhibition of new work from the new Dave Matthews solo album *Some Devil*. The show's eclectic beginning quickly got the audience into the groove of things after keeping them waiting for so long.

The phenomenal acoustics paired with the radiant spectrum of lighting illuminating Central Park's foliage created a vibrant atmosphere under the starry night sky. Most impressive, though, was the music. The DMB rocked on stage for one and a half hours before Matthews began to play his best-known hits. His music brought the masses on the Great Lawn to sing and sway with the beat. "'Ants Marching' is the best song ever. Everyone just rocked the hell out of it. It was amazing," said sophomore Kavitha Davidson.

Matthews thoroughly thrilled the audience with his fantastic acoustic version of Bob Dylan's "All Along the Watch Tower." Dave's rendition was completely different from Jimi Hendrix's, who originally played the popular song in the 1960s. Matthews's version did not do the original justice and the recreation was pointless, especially when the band has so much fresh, innovative material, like the well-known "Crash Into Me." This song, mellower than others, was received particularly well by the audience because of its soothing, subtle instrumentation.

The two and a half hours that the DMB performed on stage in Central Park put everyone into a carefree, live-in-the-moment-for-the-music mentality. September 24 will definitely be a page in our modern music scrapbook, especially with the event's raising of \$2 million. AOL pledged \$1 million and the concert organizers committed another \$1 million, according to CNN. With a fantastic concert and great cause, New York City and all public schools should send a big thanks to the sponsors of the event, and of course, Dave Matthews Band.

Stuy Goes Modern

By **CAROLYN HAN**

The Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) is known for its funky and imaginative exhibits that display modern masterpieces. And the recently opened exhibits featured at the MOMA are no exception. The most notable exhibit is Projects 80: The Tourist, which is a two-part exhibit from the artist Lee Mingwei, and features the work of an anonymous Stuyvesant High School alumna.

Projects 80: The Tourist is a 40-minute slideshow that includes pictures of TriBeCa and Stuyvesant taken by the artist. Lee poses as a tourist and is led by five native New Yorkers around the city and takes photographs of their neighborhoods. Lee and his tour guides probe into every part of New York, especially ethnic areas, including the enclaves in the Lower East Side and Bensonhurst. The photos they take include bodegas, city parks, and fire hydrants. Accompanying the collections of photographs is a running tape of the interviews with the New Yorkers.

The most compelling interview and photo collection was of an anonymous Stuyvesant alumna who took pictures of Battery Park and TriBeCa Bridge. All the while she describes what it was like attending Stuyvesant. She says at one point, "It was great going to the first day of school every year...and seeing all those freshmen ascend the staircase to the Bridge." It's refreshing to see images of Ceci Cela and of the Alice on the Wall mural flash on the screen while hearing an old Stuy student talk about her high school experiences and knowing that come Monday morning, it'll be like walking into the exhibit.

So take a break from the usual Saturday hangouts at the movies or the mall, and enjoy an aesthetically quenching sip of what the MOMA has to offer. This new exhibit is particularly worth stopping by.

In the City in the Library



Author Colette Brooks addresses students in the library on September 19.

By **ALEX MENGLIDE**

On Friday, September 19, Stuyvesant took part in the 25th annual New York is Book Country Festival. Each year this literary celebration ventures out to promote the joys of reading and writing to New Yorkers (mainly students) and to support the city's public libraries. The five-day festival closes with a street fair held on Fifth Avenue and is attended by more than 250,000 book lovers from around the world. This year, Stuyvesant welcomed Colette Brooks, the author of *In the City: Random Acts of Awareness*, to speak in the library.

Due to lack of publicity for the event, Brooks's audience consisted almost solely of juniors from Annie Thoms' short stories class who have been reading excerpts from *In the City* since the beginning of school. With a microphone and podium set up in the back of the library, Brooks spoke adamantly about her book and the experiences that inspired it; experiences almost all Stuyvesant students can relate to.

In the City is written in a rel-

atively new genre, creative non-fiction, which Brooks defined as having the same emotional and literary power as fiction, while remaining based on fact. While both the book and its genre are relatively unknown to the Stuyvesant community, the stories captured within the book hit close to home. The city Brooks writes about is never revealed, but anyone can realize that it is New York.

Junior Marina Braverman, a student in Ms. Thoms's class, said, "In the book she mentions prominent landmarks and never names them, but I always knew exactly what she was writing about because of the way she describes them."

Not only did Brooks observe recognizable places, but she also wrote about familiar people. In fact, one of the excerpts Brooks read was about her observation of a Stuyvesant teacher during a subway ride. She peered over his shoulder as he wrote comments such as "relevance?" and "thesis?" with his red pen all over the paper. The teacher gave the draft a D-, and Brooks expressed how she was taken aback. "The Subway Experience," with all the

eavesdropping and observation that goes with it, was one of the many "random acts of awareness" Brooks spoke about.

Brooks's visit culminated in a question-answer session. Most questions were asked in reference to *In the City*, but others were much more personal and were directed towards Brooks' life and occupation. She answered everyone's inquiries and offered plenty of advice. When she asked if any aspiring writers were present, nobody raised his hand. However, she shared some words of motivation, just in case: "Absolutely go for it."

Brooks' visit left a positive impact on the audience members.

Junior Vasilios Stergiou said, "It was interesting because she wasn't just reading, but she was pausing and explaining."

Junior Dennis Papadimas agreed, and said, "It was a very perceptive look into the world."

The event was also rewarding for Brooks. "I was very happy to get assigned to Stuyvesant," she said, "I could tell the people were listening and it really thrilled me."

Open Mic Opens Its Doors

By **MAREK MERY**

On Friday, October 3, Stuy students were welcomed into a transformed library. The decor for the most part remained the same, but with the beginning of this year's Open Mic, the library became a cozy haven for Stuy's aspiring writers and eager listeners.

Senior Jonah Rowen, who was a participant, said "[The Open Mic] is a great way for lots of different people to just come together and share their thoughts and visions and experiences and work, because I'm sure a lot of Stuy kids write on their own, and they don't really have too many outlets like this to share."

The Open Mic is one of Stuy's literary events, where any student or teacher is free to

share his or her writing and thoughts. It began shortly after ninth period, the organizers, seniors Ilya Nikhamin and Olga Kamensky, calling the small group of people to order.

The first reader after tenth period, Binh Huynh, shared an emotional poem, in which a character becomes obsessed with a girl in his class. The poem told a story about the feeling of hope and desperate want. The reader was nervous, but his interesting poetry captivated the attention of the audience.

The room soon filled with approximately 40 students and teachers, and a renewed excitement stirred the audience. The audience got a taste of creative writing, and among the most exciting was Douglas Yetman's prologue to the first of his series of novels. The prologue, read in

an appropriately adventurous and curious tone, is set in Atlantis, where a king is about to face a life-altering situation at the end of touring through what is described as a maze. Yetman's fantasy-based writing was a whimsical and very impressive piece for the audience.

Students were not the only ones sharing their work. A noticeable presence at Open Mic was English teacher Annie Thoms. She read Lucy O'Clifton's piece "Homage to My Hips," then followed with her own version, a very sweet and short poem describing her appreciation of her knuckles, entitled, "Homage to my Knuckles."

Many scheduled readers didn't show up, and the turnout was smaller than expected. Olga Kamensky, one of the two orga-

nizers of the event, said, "I thought it was a good start to the year, but hope to see future Open Mics attended by more people."

Even with the smaller crowd, the event was a success to those who attended. Senior Greg Hill-Reis commented, "Open Mic is one of my favorite things about Stuy. I think it's just a great opportunity to listen to other people and be heard yourself."

The Open Mic was poorly advertised around school, and many students heard of it only from teachers and others closely involved. With the excitement authors elicited with their poetry and stories, later Open Mics will hopefully attract larger crowds from Stuy.

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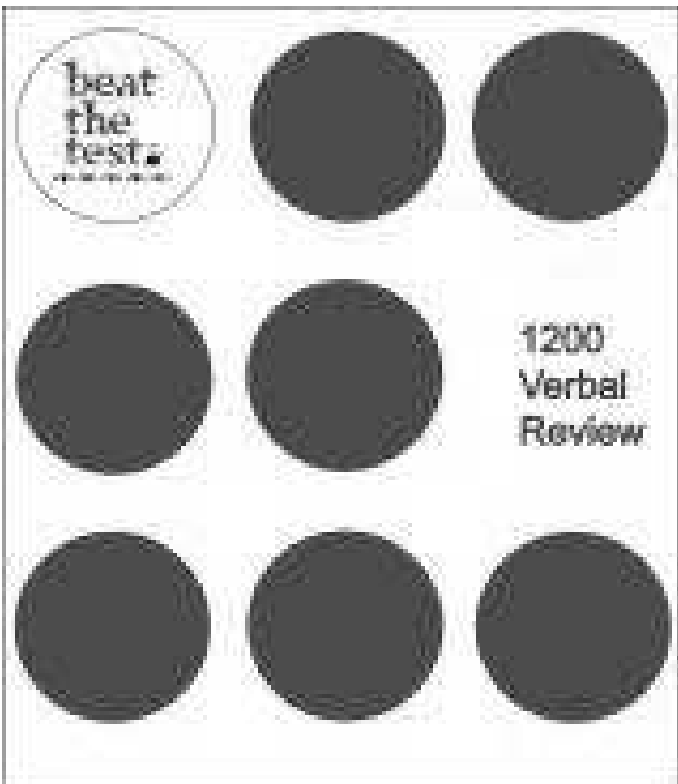
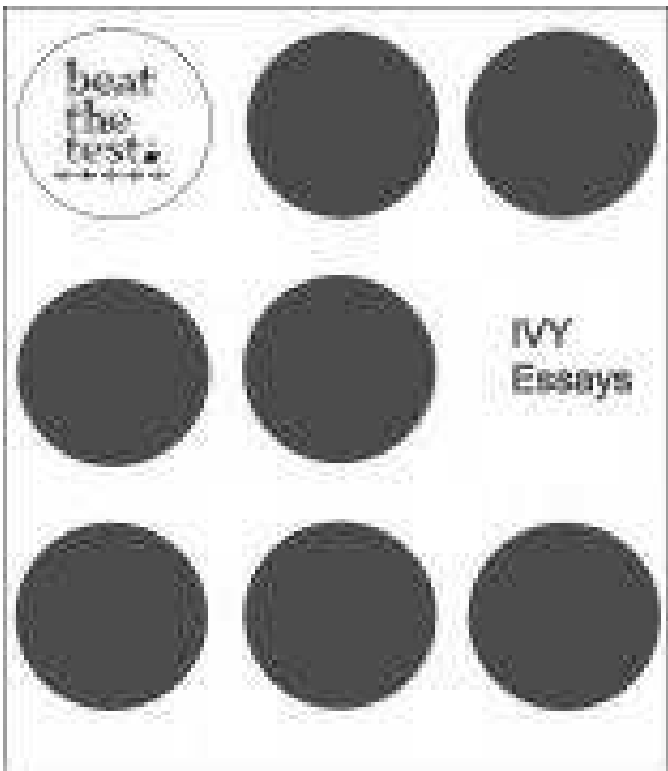


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Girls' Ultimate: Hidden Treasure

continued from page 12

ments, including the Amherst Invitational, an all-high school competition containing the best teams from across the country. The team placed fourth in this competition last season.

The team, despite their lack of recognition and the absence of professional incentive, remains committed and goal-oriented. They practice in Flushing, Queens, though many of the team's members come from the other boroughs and have to travel excessively in order to participate.

Despite their success, the team has managed to fly under the radar within the school. Li



explained, "There is a team you may not have heard about, but we do everything that an ideal team does. And the teammates are all friends off the field." Team member and senior Anne Liu added, "The Stuyvesant Sticky Fingers are by the far the tightest knit team I've ever been apart of."

This year's national tournament will take place in Oregon, and though the team will have enough credentials to merit a bid, they are concerned about fund-raising and ask for support in sponsoring the trip.

For anyone unfamiliar with the sport but eager to learn the basic rules and technique, the ultimate team holds open practices on Thursdays and invites anyone to join them.



The Peglegs are optimistic about the rest of the season, despite their defeat at Saturday's homecoming game.

Charles Raffaele / The Spectator

Peglegs Impress This Senior

continued from page 12

touchdown for LIC, and after that the Peglegs kept the game even with their highly regarded opponents.

The offense, which focused mainly on the running game, featured Herman, and the offensive line continuously created good running lanes for him to plow through. Against a physically superior team, the Peglegs opted for a ball control offense to keep their defense off the field. And with the exception of a couple of untimely interceptions, junior and quarterback Brian Newman captained the offense admirably.

The environment at the game was actually pretty exciting. Well over 100 Stuy faithful attended the game, and class-

mates, teachers, and parents cheered on the Peglegs until the (bitter) end. Cheering after a good play and filled with anxiety with the team's backs against the wall, the atmosphere was perfect for any person with school spirit.

So after finally attending a football game my senior year, I look back and realize I probably should have gone to cheer on the team in past years. I know that the level of play wasn't as high, or the chances of making the playoffs weren't as great, but the environment is great and it is important to cheer on my classmates. After watching our undersized team come that close to pulling out a victory on a hook-and-ladder play, you can be sure to see me at future Pegleg games, even after I graduate.

Peglegs Stumble Against LIC

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Power points is a system the PSAL uses in order to determine postseason eligibility. More points are given when a win is against a team with a winning record than a win against a team with a losing record. Stuyvesant has accumulated 121 power points so far, fifth in their divi-

sion. "Had we won today and kept going, we would have easily made the playoffs," Hudson said.

This game also hurt the Peglegs physically. Junior, linebacker and fullback Jordan Mirror and senior and tackle Levon McMullen were injured in the game. "The injuries hurt us but we are lucky to be deep [in the lineup]. We overcame the injuries to do well," said Hahn. Senior running back and linebacker Theodore Hernandez was unable to play in the game at all due to a previous injury.

Despite these setbacks, the Peglegs are still optimistic. "Next week is a new week," said Hahn.

Stuy Bowling Turns to Youth for Answer

By WILLIAM AIBINDER

Along with a realignment of teams in the PSAL Manhattan II Division, Stuyvesant's co-ed bowling team, the Peglegs, faced a change of players on their own team for the 2003 season.

high hopes for the team but knows that with this "youth movement, we have to be perfect and improve our scores in every match."

The Peglegs are comprised of an A and B team, which are matched with other schools' A and B teams. The A team this year will be made up of the Creed, Quiles, Richards, and last year's rookie sensation, sophomore Andrew Cho. Cho averaged a score of 152.93 during the

Barth. "The only position definitely set is that of Kathryn Blakely," he said. Blakely is a returning sophomore with an average score of 116.25. It is in Barth's hands and best judgments to fill the rest of the three remaining spots with his six rookie bowlers.

Hopefully easing this process should be the promising freshman George Zisiadis. Barth referred to Zisiadis as a bowler with great talent who has the potential for a sensational season. Helping him along are the upperclassmen that Barth says are doing much "for the benefit of the team. They help each other and their teammates and, most importantly, the rookies."

While having to deal with a swell of new players, the Stuy bowling team still carries a positive morale into the 2003 season. The squad has set lofty goals for itself, hoping to win every match, win the division, and finally break the curse of their recent post season failures and charge through the city playoffs.

Fencing Team Lunges into Season

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the season. "The veterans all have nicknames, such as 'god' and 'the stripper,' and team spirit is through the roof," said Fried. The team expects its experience—more than half of the team are returning fencers—and spirit to lift them in the direction of a successful regular season.

Stuy's first match this sea-

son was against the Beacon School on October 3. Last year, the team routed Beacon both times the two schools met, winning 9-3 and 11-1. Aside from Hunter, there is "relatively little competition from Manhattan teams," said Jendoubi.

Hopefully, the team will find some good competition in the playoffs, where they expect Bronx Science will be waiting for them once again.

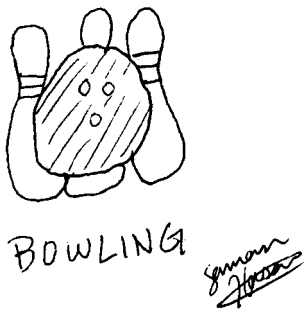
This year's squad consists of no seniors and has only six returning players, having lost several valuable members to the track team for the fall season. Even with these setbacks, Coach Larry Barth still has a great deal of confidence in the leadership he has on the team, as well as his core players, juniors Nathan Richards, Roger Quiles and Benjamin Creed.

These three juniors have been and will continue to be the nucleus of the Peglegs. Last season, the trio were key starters in the team's run into the playoffs, a run which ended in a first round match with the Brooklyn Tech Wolverines.

After the September 29 season opener against High School of Humanities, Barth expressed

regular season, including a year high 209 at the end of the 2002 season.

The B team's spots are currently up for grabs, according to



The Stuyvesant fencing team competed in the first meet of the season at the Beacon School on October 3.

Charles Mishan / The Spectator

Stuyvesant Open School Week

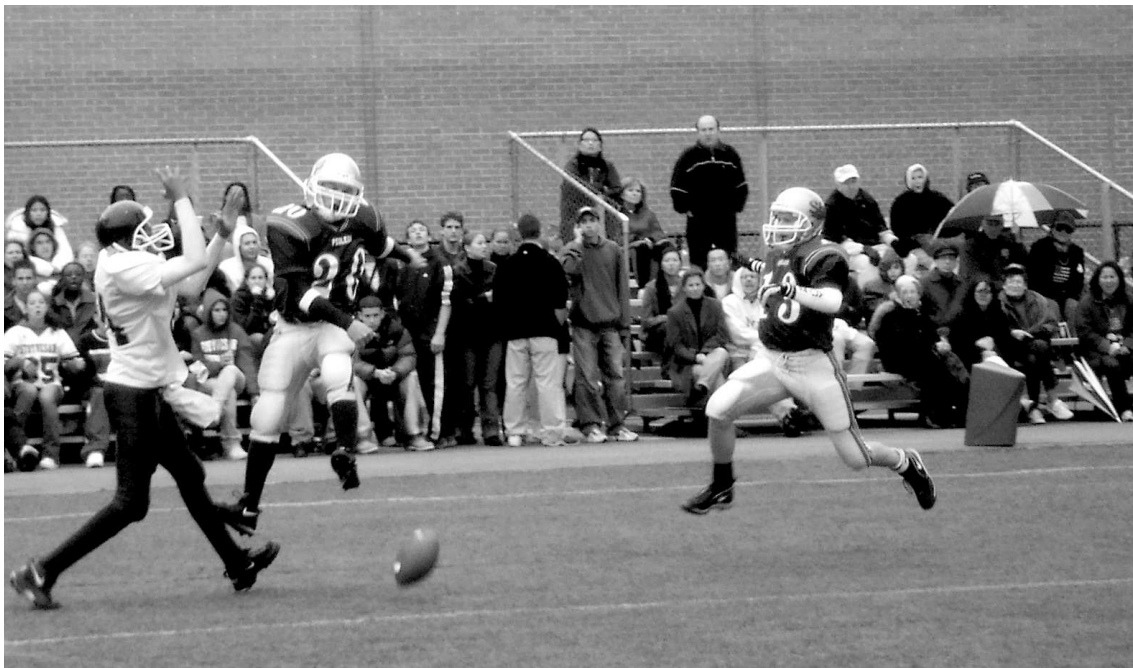
On October 20, 21, and 22 (Monday through Wednesday, from 8 A.M. to 2 P.M.), the school will welcome parents to sit in on classes while they are being held. If your child is uncomfortable having you visit his or her class, you can visit another class your child is not in.

Have any questions about open school week?

Please call:
Cathy Yu, 718-591-6435
Linda Yung, 718-235-1452

S P O R T S

Peglegs Stumble Against LIC in Homecoming



"Turnovers, fumbles at the snap—these mistakes cost us the game. We let the refs decide the game for us," said Brian Newman, junior and Pegleg quarterback.

By GEN KAZAMA

It was first-and-goal at the Long Island City 10-yard line for the Peglegs, Stuy's varsity football team. With 45 seconds left on the clock, the score was 12-6 in Long Island City's favor. The Peglegs had already burned their timeouts and were therefore in a hurry-up, no huddle offense. A touchdown would tie the game. The ball was snapped from the Peglegs' center, senior Jimmy Wang, to junior and quarterback Brian Newman. He took two steps back and looked for someone to throw to.

"I called an audible at the line for a deep pass, and I was hit right when I was about to throw," said Newman. As a result, he fumbled the ball and LIC recovered. Pegleg players and supporters argued that Newman's throwing hand was going forward to throw, and therefore it was an incomplete pass rather than a fumble. However, the referee ruled it a fumble and Stuyvesant lost the game, their undefeated record, and a good chance at the playoffs.

However, the Peglegs had a few chances throughout the game to tie the score. In the second to last drive, the Peglegs had a first down at the LIC 15-

yard line with three minutes left on the clock but could not cash in. On first down, Newman fumbled the snap (which he recovered), on second down the Peglegs tried to run the ball but were pinned in the backfield, and on third down, the ball was thrown to junior Sam Brookfield in the end zone. He and the LIC defender, Malcolm McLaughlin, both had the ball when they were in the air but when they came down, Brookfield's hands were empty and McLaughlin had the ball. "A big factor is the fact that we did not capitalize on opportunities," said senior and co-captain Ricky Hudson.

"Turnovers, fumbles at the snap—these mistakes cost us the game. We let the refs decide the game for us," said Newman.

However, the offense did well throughout the game. When they finally had possession of the ball in the first quarter, they were able to score on a rushing touchdown by junior Simon Lee. In the fourth quarter, when the Peglegs needed to score, the offense kept the chains moving and dug into their bag of plays. On one play, named the Hook-and-Ladder, Newman threw to junior Alex Zedlovich, who then lateralled to senior and running back Elliot Herman, the team's cap-

tain for the game, for a huge gain.

During the first half, the LIC running game chewed up the Pegleg defense. The Pegleg offense did not even touch the ball until nine minutes into the first quarter. LIC's primary rusher, Laiquan Dubose, had 82 of LIC's 210 rushing yards. However, in the second half, the Peglegs were able to halt LIC's runs. "We were having trouble containing the run but we went over it at halftime and we had some success," said Coach Matt Hahn. This success was evident in the fourth quarter when the Peglegs desperately needed the ball to score. The defense buckled down and was able to force a punt after four plays.

LIC also shot itself in the foot many times by giving up numerous penalties in key situations. LIC scored a touchdown in the first quarter but it was called back due to a facemask penalty, and LIC had an offside penalty when the Peglegs were first and goal.

The loss also hurt the Peglegs' playoff eligibility. "This was a big game for us since we would have gotten a lot of power points if we had won," said Hahn. "We were both undefeated so it gave the winning side a lot of points."

Girls' Ultimate: Hidden Treasure

By JON LEHMAN

The Stuyvesant girls' ultimate team, the Sticky Fingers, has been one of the school's most successful squads in recent years, but it has toiled in anonymity because the sport is not officially sanctioned by the PSAL. Although they have been forced to seek challenges outside of the comfortable confines of a league, they have consistently advanced to national tournaments and have proven their worth against both college and professional competition.

The Sticky Fingers have advanced to the national level six out of the last seven years, and with a strong squad lined up for this year, hope to repeat their success. The team features nine seniors, including its four

handlers, the most active players on the field: Diana Li, Teresa Li, Cleo Yang, and Jenny Chan. With so much experience and "tournaments which have four to six games in one day, we have a different set of starters for every other game," said co-captain Diana Li.

The team's coach is by Woody Kal, a volunteer and Stuyvesant alumnus who has worked with the team for three years. His players are generous in their praise for Kal, who, despite his tendency to put the players through difficult practices, was labeled "the most dedicated and caring coach I've ever met" by Diana Li.

On their plans for the season, Diana Li explained, "Our team plays all year long so the fall season is dedicated to teach-

ing new members. We play several scrimmages and try to build up a good record so we can be considered for Junior Nationals."

This past weekend, the team soundly defeated NYU in Prospect Park, 15-4. The team recently journeyed to a sectional competition where they tested their mettle against university teams from the metropolitan area. In an impressive showing, they defeated the team from Wesleyan and lost by only one point to a team from Yale. Even though they qualified for regionals, they declined, rather than have to play against professional teams in the next stage of play.

The spring season also holds in store a bevy of tourna-

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Peglegs Impress This Senior, Despite Loss

By JACOB SMITH

As a senior and a self-proclaimed football fanatic, I attended my first Stuyvesant football game on Saturday, October 4 at homecoming. After hearing stories for three years about how our team would get blown out I never exactly yearned to see them play. I figured, how well could a bunch of future doctors and chemists run a screen pass on third-and-long? However, despite the fact that the Peglegs lost 12-6, I was thoroughly impressed.

A member of the varsity basketball team, I know that it is always nice to have your school behind you. Fans packing the bleachers and rooting you on make you play even harder, make you want to win even more. But my sophomore year, the football team went 2-6, and last year was shut out three consecutive games en route to a 1-7 season.

This year it has been a different story. The team headed into their homecoming match-up with Long Island City High School, undefeated after blowing out their first four opponents. In volleyball gym the day before the game, my teacher, Phil Fisher, implored everyone to go see what was finally a winning Pegleg team, a team that could execute plays and had a good chance at the playoffs.

So I went to see what all the fuss was about and how good our team actually was. And our Peglegs showed me something. They showed me the ability and guts to run a hook-and-ladder late in the fourth quarter trailing by a touchdown. They showed me that after getting dominated at the line of scrimmage by LIC's oversized offensive line in the first half, they could make the necessary adjustments and slow down their opponent's running game when it counted.

Not only was this group of prospective Ivy Leaguers able to execute plays, they showed a lot of heart in the process. Whether it was senior and running back Elliot Herman continuing his forward progress after getting hit by a defensive lineman, or senior, linebacker and co-captain Justin Rose stopping an LIC back after giving up a large gain on the previous play, this Pegleg team played with a lot of fight.

Unable to stop the run for the majority of the game, the Peglegs defense stepped up when it really needed to. It forced the LIC team to punt on two straight possessions in the fourth quarter when it needed the ball back. A recovered fumble in the first quarter was nullified when the referee reversed his call, leading to a

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Fencing Team Lunges into Season



Senior Ethan Frisch fences at the team's meet last week against the Beacon School.

By JACOB SMITH

"Considering that we spend most of our practices lunging at each other with swords, it's amazing how close we all are," said junior and fencer Grace Fried. The Stuyvesant fencing team is hoping those things—teamwork and sharp weapons—will lift them to a second consecutive city final.

The team went 7-1 in the regular season last year, losing only to Hunter High School, and 4-2 in the postseason, with Bronx High School of Science defeating them in the city final. Stuy's other postseason loss came at the hands of Bronx Science as well.

"We definitely want another shot at Bronx Science," said

Coach Larissa Gonzalez. "Someone's got to get that title back from them." According to junior and fencer David Ferguson, Gonzalez is both "devoted" and "quirky" while trying to teach her players how to fight well with their foils.

In addition to Gonzalez, seniors and captains Ethan Frisch, Haitham Jendoubi, Perry Lee, and Jonathan Wai will lead the team. Both Lee and Wai have been on the team for three years, and according to Gonzalez, the team has "a core of two-season vets who've been working fairly steadily over the past year."

The team's attitude is also optimistic while heading into

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