



# The Spectator

The Stuyvesant High School Newspaper  
www.stuyspectator.org

"The pulse  
of the  
student  
body."

Volume XCII No. 3

November 8, 2001

To The Stuyvesant Community

## Stuy Pier: Last Manhattan Stop for WTC Wreckage

By ARIELA ZAMCHECK

From most windows on the north side of Stuyvesant High School, students can see a continual procession of trucks unloading mangled steel, chunks of concrete, and other debris from the mounds of rubble at Ground Zero. Huge cranes haul load after load of the steel, aluminum and copper into waiting barges. Men wearing hard hats use high pressure hoses to spray the material while it is in the trucks, after it is dumped unto the ground, and before it is released into the barges.

"It is just a constant reminder of what happened," said junior Caitlin Condell. "It's always right there, out the window."

The site next to West Street evokes the memory of the enormous destruction that befell the neighborhood. But students questioned said they had adjusted to the grim landmark. With school in session next door, workers hurry through the removal operation, which has been made more efficient in recent weeks. Though massive, they regard it as just another job.

Last Thursday afternoon, Mike Poerio, the foreman for the day shift, surveyed the operation from the bike path just west of the highway. In an average workday, he oversees the machinery, aided by his hand held radio. By measuring the amount the barges sink into the river he determines the weight of their cargo. He constantly calls the Department of Sanitation to report the site's progress.

The site is just one of the first stops for the outbound debris.

"Trucks keep coming from Ground Zero," said Poerio. "We get them unloaded into four barges. It takes an hour for them to get to a pier in Brooklyn where they stay temporarily. From there they go to Fresh Kills or to New Jersey, where the materials are cut for scrap."

Brought to New York as a consultant from Pennsylvania immediately after the collapse, Poerio was confronted with the task of supervising the site

## Suspicious Package at Stuyvesant Tests Negative for Anthrax

By YOUSAF KHALID

On Friday November 2, the Department of Health released test results on the suspicious package placed on Assistant Principal of Pupil Services Eugene Blaufarb's desk two weeks before. The package tested negative for anthrax according to Blaufarb.

The package was received on Friday, October 19 but not examined until Monday, October 22, according to Assistant Principal of Organization Steven Satin. That day, Blaufarb called senior Nina Townsend, to whom the package was addressed, to his office at around 10:00 a.m. and questioned her about the package while he stood behind a closed door.

"What made Mr. Blaufarb suspicious was the student's name was spelled wrong, the address of the school was incomplete, and it came from a town where she didn't know anybody from," Satin explained. "We're told to watch for anything suspicious."

Upon learning that Townsend was unfamiliar with the return address on the package, Blaufarb notified the police, according to Satin.

"They [the police] were reluctant to come, but they did come. By the time I'd got downstairs, the police had taken the package," said Satin. The administrators never opened the 9" by 11" package, which Satin said appeared to have loose material inside of it. Although, he added, "we didn't shake it too much."

In light of the two-week duration before the test results came in, several members of the student body, the Parent's

Association, and the faculty were concerned or angry that they were not informed of the potential danger.

"I think they should have told us the second it happened and they should have cleared that part of the school," said junior Joseph Caputo. "I think we could handle a threat and it should not be their discretion whether to keep this a secret. Imagine if it was found to be positive."

Blaufarb responded, "There was no evidence that anything was wrong. If we respond to everything with a knee-jerk reaction, we'd be walking out of the building every day."

Math teacher Paul Fitzgerald agreed. "To tell everyone is an extreme reaction. It starts rumors that may be more dangerous than anything else," he said.

"We are a high profile school," Satin added. "No [other] school has gotten such a letter. This is not something we're going to go around telling everybody, nor do I even think it should be published. My opinion: we don't want to alarm people."

English teacher Katherine Fletcher said, "My initial response was dismay that the community wasn't informed about the potential danger."

Townsend herself was not updated about the situation. "No one bothered to tell me anything," she said. But she added, "Once I went down there they were perfectly willing to share information with me. They don't seem to be hiding anything, if you ask."

*continued on page 2*



School Aide Dorothy Orlando now wears gloves when she sorts school mail.

## After Delay, Freshman and Sophomore Primaries Proceed

By DARYA FUKS

After a relatively low voter turnout for the November 2 sophomore caucus primaries, the sophomore candidates moving to the November 9 general election will be Catherine Choy and Madeline Martinez with 146 votes, and Mitchell Oh and Sophia Mokotoff with 221 votes. The freshman primary winners are Meredith Gringer and Max Ohsawa with 89 votes, and Grace Kim and Dina Qiu with 90 votes.

Every year these elections are held prior to the end of the first marking period. However, because of the events of September 11, the elections were postponed. Senior Indrina Kanth, member of the Board of Elections cited the delay as a reason why there was not a larger voter turnout.

"Sophomore voter turnout isn't usually that good as it is; with the whole situation, it hasn't gotten back to normal yet," said Kanth, "but people are getting back into the swing of things."

"Freshmen and sophomores don't usually take too much interest in the elections," said Ben Abelson, chair of the BOE. According to Abelson, each voter

is permitted to cast two votes and a total of 585 sophomore votes and 836 freshman votes were received.

Abelson said that for the elections in the spring he would like to organize more opportunities for students to meet the candidates. He believes this will increase turnout and interest.

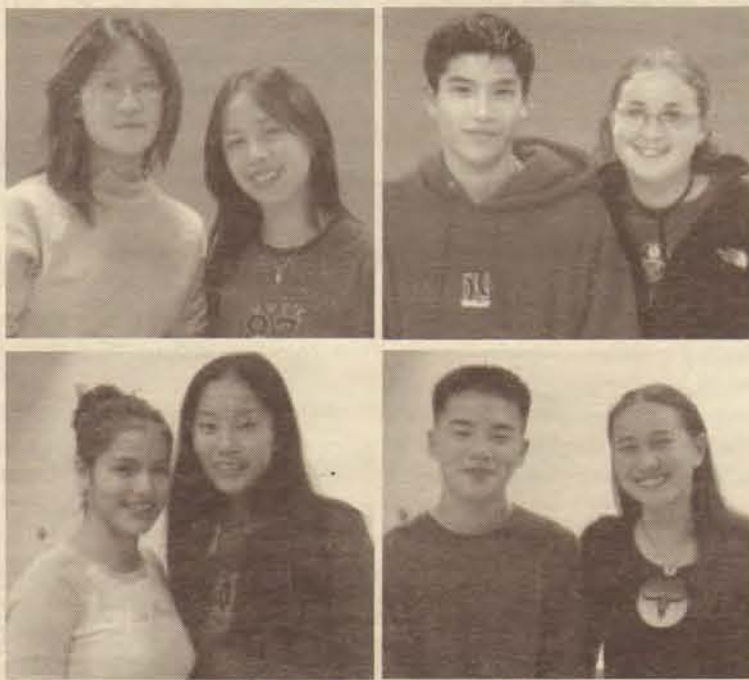
"I was a little disappointed people didn't come out," said Gringer. "So many people were running, and I guess people didn't know who to vote for."

Several new regulations were established for the elections this year. "There were so many problems last year, we had to start from scratch" said Kanth. In the past, few restrictions were placed on campaigning. This year, only flyers printed on standard 8.5"-by-11" paper could be distributed.

"Originally, all the new regulations seemed really strict," said Gringer. "But, I can't imagine what would have happened if these rules weren't in place."

Another new regulation is the prohibition of campaigning on the election day. In addition, all materials must be removed from

*continued on page 2*



Top: Freshman candidates Grace Kim and Dina Qiu; Max Ohsawa and Meredith Gringer. Bottom: Sophomore candidates Madeline Martinez and Catherine Choy; Mitchell Oh and Sophia Mokotoff.

*continued on page 2*



## Stuy Pier: Last Manhattan Stop for WTC Wreckage

continued from page 1

which aids in the removal process of the 1.2 million tons of debris, according to *The New York Times*. Familiar with disposing large amounts of rubble, Poerio said, "the only difference is the volume."

And yet, there are other differences. "There is no way to grasp the enormity of what happened unless you were able to see [Ground Zero]," he said. "If I hadn't been able to see it, it wouldn't have affected me so much."

The procedure by which material is transported to the unloading facilities next to Stuyvesant and at Pier 6 has evolved over the past few weeks. Cranes load material into flatbed trucks from the mounds of rubble at Ground Zero. The trucks then pass through a checkpoint where each truck is washed with high-pressure hoses and then examined by investigators. According to *The New York Times*, before leaving the checkpoints, the drivers are handed manifests—paperwork which tracks their loads—and then are sent to one of several sites, one of which is located north of Stuyvesant.

Debris from Ground Zero is still very hot. According to Poerio, the temperature of the metal can surpass 1500 degrees Fahrenheit. The material is



Cranes along the north side of the building are now a common sight to Stuyvesant students.

sprayed after it is dumped in order to reduce air pollution. "The dust control methods are very effective," said Poerio. "Dust that people see rising from the barges is actually steam."

The November 1 edition of the *Daily News* reported that local school parents and officials were concerned about the "cloud of dust" that appears after the debris is dropped into the barges.

Some Stuyvesant students feel a strong sense of duty regarding their proximity to the relay point. "[The workers] have to do what they have to do," said junior Calen Chung. "It's a good thing that they have that area."

Condell said, "It's probably not the safest thing, but it's the least of my concerns."

According to Poerio, the safety of the barge area is not a major concern for these veteran construction workers either. "Nobody's gotten hurt, nobody's complaining about breathing. Respirators are voluntary for most people."

Despite the long hours, workers taking a three o'clock break under the white tent between Stuyvesant and the cranes, rushed to help when told that a truck unloading debris had fallen over.

"Every man here as well as at Ground Zero is probably overworked, over-stressed, everyone is putting in a lot of time," said Poerio. "There's no way to be sure [how long the process will take]. This is going to take a very long time."

## Suspicious Package at Stuyvesant Tests Negative for Anthrax

continued from page 1

She said that she only told three classmates and her parents because "there's no need to alarm anyone."

Parents' Association President Marilena Christodoulou said she thought "it was reasonable that the school did not disclose until they knew the results," although she was "not too happy it took two weeks to receive disclosure."

Administrators said the delay was due to the fact that the New York Police Department had 4,000 "suspicious packages" waiting to be tested.

While Christodoulou said she, like the rest of the Stuyvesant community, was never "formally informed" about the package, Blaufarb said, "The PA knows all about this. I don't keep secrets. We're equal partners here."

Student Union President Jukay Hsu said he didn't believe the package posed enough of a threat to spread the news to his fellow students. When asked whether he thought the package was a credible threat, SU President Jukay Hsu said,

**If we respond to everything with a knee-jerk reaction, we'd be walking out of the building every day.**  
— Eugene Blaufarb

"Personally I didn't think anything would happen, but I can see how we should be cautious and perceive it as a threat."

Since the package arrived on October 19, all persons handling

mail at the school are required to wear gloves, according to Satin. When mail enters the building, anytime between 11:00 A.M. and 3:00 P.M., it is first delivered to room 211, where it is sorted, Satin said. On October 19, School Aide Dorothy Orlando was responsible for sorting the mail. She said she didn't notice any suspicious package and hadn't become aware of the incident until two weeks later.

"I'm just concerned how they will handle a threat like this in the future and whether they will keep us informed," said senior Brett Friedberg.

Nevertheless, Blaufarb said, "Any package found to be suspect will be handled similar to how the previous package was handled. We will call the police if any package may constitute a threat to students' safety."

## After Delay, Freshman and Sophomore Primaries Proceed

continued from page 1

the school the day before the election day.

"The no campaigning on Election Day was very helpful to both the candidates and the board," said Abelson. "It made everything more orderly."

Another new rule is that each ticket can only have ten students to help them distribute materials. These campaigners have to be registered with the BOE beforehand.

Whenever a rule is broken, the ticket involved receives a strike and is penalized by losing a day of campaigning. The candidates must remove all of their materials from the school for that day. If two strikes are received on consecutive days, the ticket is disqualified.

The freshman ticket of Josh Weinstein and Grace Pang ran into problems with these new regulations. Weinstein and Pang were found giving out doughnuts on the bridge and they received a strike. The fol-

lowing day, a stack of their flyers was found in the Student Union. They were subsequently disqualified.

"I thought [the disqualification] was unfair," said Weinstein, according to whom both the doughnut and flyer issues were the result of misunderstandings. He later wrote a petition stating that he had been wrongfully removed from the race and by October 26, 150-160 people—including Mitchell Oh, one of the sophomore primary winners—had signed it. Weinstein added that when he later discussed the issue with BOE member Eddie Kalleta, he was told that if he remained in the race and "got elected, [the other candi-

dates] could appeal that it was an offense and that I should have been disqualified."

"Josh broke the rules. He had to be disqualified," said Abelson. "It doesn't matter how I feel about it."

Student Union President Jukay Hsu said that although the elections had gone well under the BOE's control, he felt that "campaigning has been stifled a little...it didn't seem like it was an election week." Hsu also said that the BOE "should have given out their campaign literature earlier so that the students would have had an opportunity to read all the platforms before they voted."

## Faculty Report Items Missing Upon Return to Stuy

By JOYCE WONG

On Tuesday, October 9, technology teacher Elka Gould entered her classroom only to discover that an expensive video recorder was gone. Gould is one of many teachers who returned to the school after the emergency relief efforts only to find thousands of dollars in equipment missing or damaged.

According to Parents' Association treasurer Donovan Moore, at least \$30,000 worth of equipment was reported missing or damaged after the return to Stuyvesant. A variety of items was missing from several departments and individuals, including two digital cameras from the Technology Department, five carts and overhead projectors from the Math Department, a water cooler from the Health and Physical Education Department and a trumpet from the Music and Fine Arts Department.

Assistant Principal of Organization Steven Satin compiled a list of missing items to send to the Superintendent of New York City Schools for monetary compensation to purchase replacements. The deadline for teachers to file missing item reports was Friday, November 2.

Some of the missing or damaged items were used during the relief mission by rescue workers. Carts were used to transport necessary materials around the building. Relief workers used mats in the gym to rest between their long shifts.

The Health and Physical Education Department donated equipment to assist the emergency relief workers; the items included a wheelchair, first aid kits and water bottles. However, the equipment was still missing from the school after October 9. Assistant Principal of Health and Physical Education Martha Singer said, "This equipment was brought to them in good faith for them to use, but I feel the items should have been returned to the school. My sports teams don't have first aid equipment right now."

"They were wheeling things all over the place with those carts," said Assistant Principal

of Mathematics Daniel Jaye, "These people were working so hard that they really had to cut corners. The Herculean effort that these people put into the rescue by far exceeds any minor inconvenience of not having a cart to wheel books around."

Several departments are slowly recovering items that were misplaced during either the relief effort or the cleanup. "The other day, they carted a couple of cell models up from the Social Studies Department," said biology teacher Carol Ann Held. It seems the items were misplaced either because of the haste of the emergency workers or the misinformation of the cleanup workers.

Miscellaneous items evidently not needed in the emergency relief effort were also reported missing. After the Federal Office of Emergency

**My sports teams don't have first aid equipment right now.**  
—Martha Singer, AP of Health and Physical Education

Management left the building, several contracting companies were hired to clean the school in the week before our return to Stuyvesant. Some expensive equipment was discovered missing immediately following this time period.

Assistant Principal of Technology Steven Kramer reported two digital cameras and two personal computers missing during the school cleanup. "I came in two days after the attack and the equipment was still there."

Gould added, "I was shocked because this is a time of working together and trusting one another. It's a shame that in the present society, there are people who could take advantage of a vulnerable situation like this."

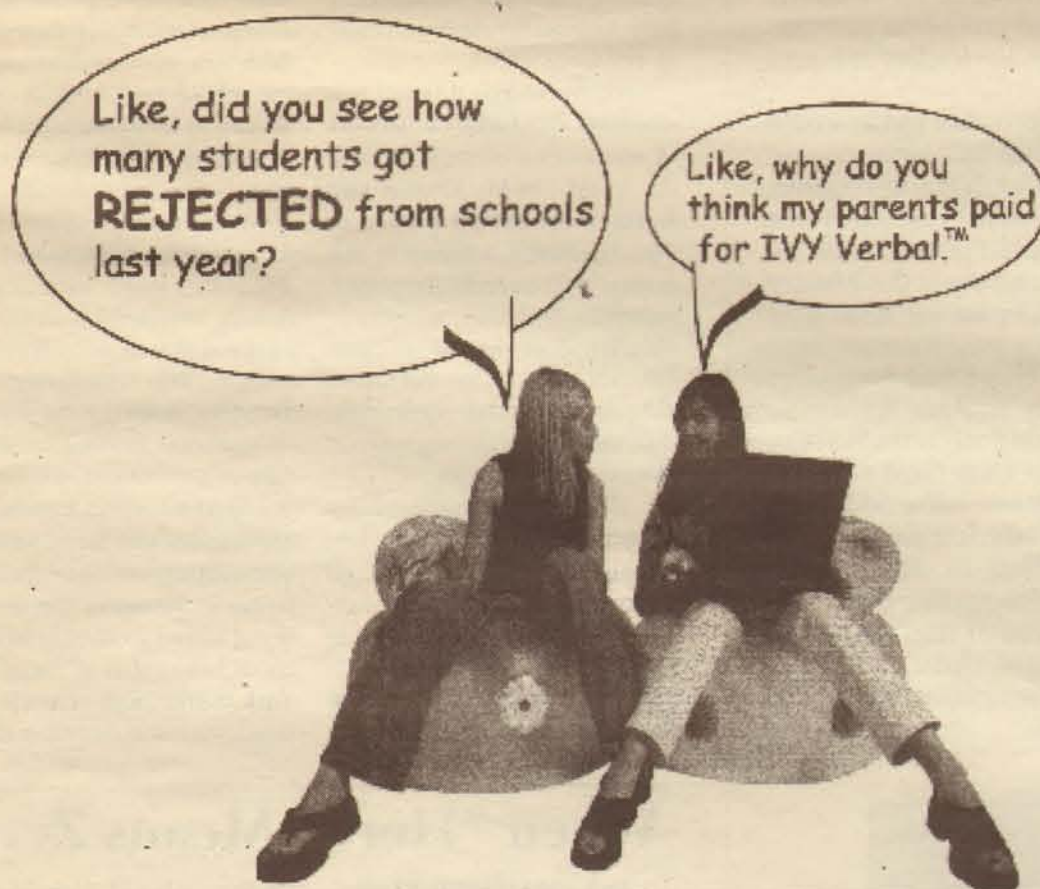
The Parents' Association has set up the Stuyvesant High School PA Recovery Fund to reimburse payments for the missing or damaged items. Check [www.stuyppa.org](http://www.stuyppa.org) for more information.



We, at BeatTheTest™ and IVY Verbal™, are highly optimistic about the future and we have told scores of Stuyvesant students what to expect in 2001. For example, we advised seniors (class of 2001) in the Spring of this year, that the New York economy was entering a severe downturn and what careers will pay the most in coming years.

The future is far brighter than what you have been led to believe by the popular media or by paranoid adults. Furthermore, we have a **free** brochure as to what we believe are the growth areas, as well as what the future will entail for college graduates in 2004 and 2005. Many students (and their parents) have obtained a more positive outlook on the future after reading it. E-mail us at [brochure@beatthetest.com](mailto:brochure@beatthetest.com) and we will forward you a copy gratis.

The future offers superior opportunities for those willing to act on our proprietary research. The critical question now is why are you still using your grandfather's test prep?



Home of the Boolean Grid, Earth's Hardest Analogies, and Earth's Hardest Sentence Completions. We have Queens, Manhattan, and Staten Island locations. Call or visit [www.beatthetest.com](http://www.beatthetest.com)™

(917) 734 -3884

"I highly recommend IVY Verbal. Don't make the mistake the first time around by taking Princeton Review."

Regina Kiperman, Stuyvesant HS

"The personal attention, small class size, and Boolean Grid greatly improved my verbal skills. I highly recommend this course."

Alex Vitkalov, Stuyvesant HS

"BeatTheTest's Boolean Grid methodology improved my score and my confidence!"

Sunny Parihar, Stuyvesant HS

"I thought the course was overall very good!"

Cyriak John, Stuyvesant HS

"Overall, I found the course very helpful. The personalization of strategy for test-taking and the overall application process was very helpful as opposed to the generic uniform brand of strategy I received from Princeton Review,"  
Le'Aura Luciano, NYU



## Editorials and Opinions

# Student Union Endorsements

### Gringer and Ohsawa for Freshman Caucus

Meredith Gringer and Max Ohsawa face Grace Kim and Dina Qiu in the freshman caucus runoffs on Friday, November 9. Although both tickets cite unity as one of their main issues, Gringer and Ohsawa offer the more energetic voice. They have clearer plans as to how they will accomplish a greater sense of class unity. Gringer and Ohsawa plan to improve the semi-formal, hold monthly themed dances, as well as a "Meet Market" to help the freshmen get to know one another.

Gringer and Ohsawa are better informed than the Kim-Qiu ticket on what is going on in school. Although some of their issues have been thrown around in past years, such as optional gym for athletes and enforcement of the test-day policy, the two also have

some innovative ideas. They plan to petition for a Russian class with foreign language credit, similar to the Chinese class instituted a few years ago. Along with Josh Weinstein, Ohsawa has shown initiative by starting an e-community for Stuy freshmen.

The most exciting issue on Gringer and Ohsawa's platform is their proposal to strengthen the Freshman Advisory Council, which will allow for more input from the students. A closer working relationship between the Advisory Council and the President and Vice-President will give the freshmen more equitable representation. Because they have the dedication, excitement and persistence that their opponents lack, we endorse Gringer and Ohsawa.

### Choy and Martinez for Sophomore Caucus

The sophomore class will not be as well represented this year as it has been in the past. Due to the disruptions resulting from September 11, the sophomore class president will not have a seat on the School Leadership Team (SLT) and will serve a mere six months before the term ends in May. However, the sophomore class has two strong tickets vying for the opportunity to overcome these disadvantages to represent the grade as best they can. Both Catherine Choy/Madeline Martinez and Mitchell Oh/Sophia Mokotoff are dedicated to creating a better SU and a better Stuyvesant amid the current climate of uncertainty and disorder.

Oh and Mokotoff have SU experience—as budget director and Frosh president, respectively—and a strong platform, including an intriguing proposal to include student representation on the accreditation committee that should be pursued regardless of who is the victor. However, Choy and Martinez are better prepared to handle the potential challenges of office and, in contrast to Mokotoff and Oh,

focus on achievable issues that pertain to the sophomore class. They are dedicated to the Stuyvesant community and ready to leverage their extensive involvement in Stuy activities to represent the interests of all students and to combat the common perception that the SU is an ineffective and self-serving body.

Choy and Martinez's main goals are to provide a free SAT prep course and to eliminate the drafting requirement for chorus members. They are informed on their issues, how to implement them and even the history behind them. They know how and why the drafting exemption was implemented for band and orchestra but not for chorus and are willing to fight to change this discriminatory policy. They know that rival schools such as Bronx Science offer SAT prep and that Stuy not offering such courses betrays its mandate to offer all possible opportunities to the best and brightest regardless of their income. We believe they are the candidates that the sophomore class needs and deserves.

## The Spectator

The Stuyvesant High  
School Newspaper



"The pulse  
of the  
student  
body"

345 Chambers Street  
New York, NY 10282  
(212) 312-4800 ext. 2601  
StuySpec@hotmail.com  
www.stuyspectator.org  
©2001 The Spectator  
All rights reserved by the creators.

EDITOR IN CHIEF  
Jeff Orlowski

MANAGING EDITOR  
Candace Nuzzo

NEWS  
Abigail Deutsch  
Laura Krug

FEATURES  
Patrick Mangan  
Abbie Zamcheck

OPINIONS  
Jeff Delauter  
Ben Magarik  
Danny Nassre

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT  
Yousaf Khalid  
Jane Pae  
Max Willens

SPORTS  
Josh Ross  
Arthur Tebbel  
Stanley Fang

PHOTOGRAPHY  
Ethan Moses  
Emily Firetog

ART  
Alison Shapiro

LAYOUT  
David Getsoff  
Eddie Cho

COPY  
Robyn Steiman  
Christina Shin

BUSINESS MANAGERS

Isaac Botier  
Gaia Filicori

SPECTATOR ONLINE  
Eugene Oh  
John Lee

CIRCULATION MANAGER  
Will Terrano

FACULTY ADVISOR  
Holly Epstein Ojalvo

## No Reason To Complain

By BEN SOFTNESS

Phrases like "police state" are so common that they now mean nothing. After what happened to our city and our country on September 11, I don't think it's reasonable for Stuyvesant students to feel quite so oppressed because they have to wear ID cards and can't go out for lunch.

Six weeks ago, America was viciously attacked by a network of terrorists with cells all over the world. As Mr. Kramer said in the most recent edition of *The Spectator*, anyone in the country who reads the paper, watches the news, or speaks English has heard of one school—ours. It is therefore admirable that the administration take all steps necessary to protect us from harm.

Next, does anyone really want to go out for lunch? Has anyone noticed that the smell outside is sometimes unbearable? Or that the school is going out of its way to allow us to eat food in the building that we've brought from out of school? The New York City Police depart-

ment has more important things to do than stand around in front of our school all day so that we can go out for lunch when a (I won't say "perfectly good") lunch is available at school and food can be brought in.

Lastly, our parents are far more likely to call the school asking where their kids are now than they were six weeks ago. If the school must keep us inside all day to make sure each student is accounted for, then so be it.

Stuyvesant students need to step down from their perch and realize that it's worth sacrificing a couple of minor liberties in the wake of what has happened. "Operation Enduring Freedom" refers to the freedom to live and practice a certain type of government, the cornerstone of which is freedom of expression and freedom from persecution—not the freedom to eat at Blimpies. We are not being forced to submit to standards below that of many New York public high schools; our freedoms still outnumber theirs.

## When "Hero" Means Zero

By EMMA HARRINGTON

*Hero.* That word has been used so much it is dead and buried.

Firefighters and police officers are heroes. The people in the planes were heroes. So were the tourists with a very bad sense of timing.

And if you saw it on TV, guess what, you're a hero too!

The plaque on the second floor, awarded to us by several foundations, says we are heroes. It says that we were brave.

I am certainly not a hero.

On September 11, I joined other kids and a librarian at a library window, gawking. Then, I got booted out of school unceremoniously, left to fend for myself. By some insane miracle, I made it to Brooklyn on foot. But I'm not a hero. The teachers who led the kids to a bridge that took us to Brooklyn and escorted us home are. I am not a hero. I did not volunteer, I did not hang up a flag, or praise the government, and I did not experience any serious post-traumatic stress.

The word hero has died.

### J.P. PHILLIPS, INC.

29 Durnad Pl. - PO Box 1236 - Manhasset, NY 11030

JOHN P. MARKHAM  
President

acoustical ceilings - metal pans - linear systems  
drywall partitions - carpentry - woodworking  
fabric wall & ceiling systems - metal lathing & furring

contractors - consultants (516) 365-3697  
distributors - exporters (212) 564-5380  
Fax: (516) 365-3556



# Opinions and Letters

## Letters to the Editor

To the Stuyvesant Community:

One of the first things any teacher learns is that when she asks her students to do something—particularly something she might not ordinarily ask them to do—it's pedagogically important to explain the reason for the task. Upon our return to Stuyvesant almost three weeks ago, when all faculty, staff, and students were asked to wear ID's, I was prepared to comply—and yet was surprised that even the simplest rationale for the new regulation was not given to us.

This morning, almost three weeks after our return to the Stuyvesant building, I was pleased to see a document called "ID FAQs" stacked by the second floor entrance for students and teachers to collect as they entered the building. But, as I read the notice, I was astonished by the sarcastic, inflammatory, and glib tone adopted by the (anonymous) writer of the hypothetical question-and-answer session.

I was particularly surprised by the following passages, in which the writer adapts a tone which is by turns:

• Alarmist: "We can't just sit around and wait for something to happen before we say, 'Gee I guess we should have been a little tighter on security. I hope the parents of those 14 kids who died and the 37 who were injured understand...the sensitivity of Stuyvesant students to...wearing an ID card.'"

• Paranoid: "...every nut and fanatic has heard of

Stuyvesant in the news...there are about a billion people in this country alone."

• Mocking: "There are bad people out there who believe that they will spend all eternity in heaven with seventy-two virgins if they can kill some of us while killing themselves...There are an infinite variety of other kinds of nuts and wackos and you think that you are 'above' wearing an ID card in school."

• Threatening: "Colleges will want to know about attitudes such as [non-compliance with the ID regulation.]"

This last point is particularly distressing in that it trivializes our students' concerns, threatening them with something so banal as reporting misbehavior to a college.

Yesterday in one of my writing classes, a student wept when she read her account of September 11 out loud to the class. Last week, the loud sounds of workers moving heavy equipment on the roof above my tenth-floor classroom caused my students to be so frightened that we couldn't continue with class until the source of the noise had been explained to us. Our students, still feeling so vulnerable, surely need and deserve to be treated with greater respect and sensitivity than the writer of "ID FAQs" affords them. At the very least, we can teach our students to have the courage to sign their names to their words.

Katherine Fletcher  
English Department

To the Editor:

Mr. Kramer's letter (10/25/01) was both irresponsible and absurd. To compare our situation to that of an action movie is misleading and panic-causing. To think that our identification cards could help us prevent any such emergency is silly, especially given the total lack of enforcement the policy

has received. A plastic rectangle will not protect us from a bomb or other weapon, and they are not an effective means of keeping people who do not belong out. And as the World Trade Center attack made clear, you need not be in a building to do harm to those inside.

Joel Lewis

To the Editor:

Thank you so much for sending me a copy of the special edition of *The Spectator*, and please accept my congratulations.

As we New Yorkers awoke from the nightmare of September 11, we had only one certainty—each of us had been affected in some way. The need to respond, to do something, to say something, overpowered the city. You accepted as your mission to document the responses of the Stuyvesant Community, your city. The testament of students and staff, the images of horror and hope, all blend to create a literary legacy of Stuyvesant's experience of

those horrific events. As I read through every report, each poem and personal response, the journal entries, the reflections, I was overtaken by emotions which I share with all who have read it and who will read it. For me, however, the feeling of pride overshadowed all—pride to have been associated with *The Spectator* and to witness its growth and professionalism. These would not have been achieved without you, without the editors of the recent past and without the leadership of your faculty advisors. Thank you.

Jinx Cozzi Perullo  
Principal Emeritus

## the diary of a mad senior

Saturday afternoon finds a friend and me on 116th and Broadway, standing at the rather intimidating gates that mark the entrance to Columbia University.

Neither of us are applying here. We are not here to take a tour, be interviewed, or scope out the student body. We have one reason for our visit to Columbia, and for this purpose we bypass the Admissions Office and head straight to the school store. We have come to Columbia for the sweatshirt.

After an hour of browsing the Columbia store, which in size is roughly comparable to your average Barnes and Noble, we emerge back onto Broadway toting not only sweatshirts but

also sweatpants, folders, and a strange apparatus designed to organize your sock drawer. Everything is emblazoned with the Columbia logo and name. Our next stop is on the opposite side of Broadway: Barnard College. We need tee shirts, too.

With senior year and all its college visits comes the inevitable college gear: the sweatshirts, the sweatpants, the folders, the pencils and the pens; the hats, umbrellas, teddy bears, mouse pads, and whatever else a school can possibly fit its name on. If Stuyvesant can be said to have a uniform, it is most certainly that familiar gray hooded sweatshirt with an arc of block lettering across the chest. The college sweatshirt is a staple fashion item of our school, the one item of clothing worn by nearly every senior at some point during our final year.

The same friend who accompanied me to Columbia has recently begun harboring some reservations about her application to Williams. "It's a great school, and I know that," she says, "But...well, it's the

sweatshirt. It's purple and yellow."

Before you laugh, consider this: when it comes down to two equal applicants, is the choice made by the admissions committee any more substantially based than choosing a school based on which has a nicer sweatshirt? After your seventeenth small New England liberal arts school, don't they all start looking the same? And when you realize that you own more college sweatshirts than schools you're even allowed to apply to, doesn't the whole process start looking like one big shopping trip?

It is: we're shopping for the right school, the right programs, the right people, the right fit. And yeah, sometimes for the right sweatshirt. All the colleges I'm considering are those small New England liberal arts places, but this weekend some friends and I are heading up to Ithaca to visit Cornell.

None of us are applying there—they just have this really nice sweatshirt.

—Alison Shapiro

## Inside the SU

Isaac Botier

## Board of Elections Out of Bounds

When I asked the Board of Elections if I could see the platforms of the freshman and sophomore candidates, I was told that the information I requested was "confidential" and only written up for the Board of Elections. What the BOE has failed to realize since its inception at the beginning of this year, is that it is in fact an open committee.

The BOE is made up of five students: three seniors, a junior, and a sophomore. All five members of the committee were chosen under peculiar circumstances. Matt Baer, class of 2001, started the Elections Committee last year and chose the four other members. Jenny Mathews and Eddie Kalletta are still on the committee, now renamed the Board of Elections.

Originally Baer was supposed to interview applicants to fill the three open spots on the Elections Committee. However, due to senioritis, he decided not to do the interviews. Therefore, Frank Mazzetti, last year's COSA, chose three seniors to be in charge of conducting the interviews.

Refusing to grant a member of the press access to candidates' platforms is just one example of the BOE's sanctimonious and power-hungry antics. At the beginning of the year, BOE members refused to discuss what had transpired at their meetings with the Student Union. Their reason: the SU secretary was not present at the meeting; therefore, they did not have to disclose any details.

Then, instead of objectively

controlling the elections and, specifically, campaigning, the BOE decided to interview each of the candidates, and then write up their own literature. This gives them the power to interpret the candidates' platforms, instead of using their actual words. In response to opposition to their policy, the BOE decided to let the candidates see and approve the literature before it was to be sent out.

The members of the Board of Elections tried to prove that they are a strong and autonomous committee by not letting anyone else have any knowledge of election proceedings. They did both the candidates and the elections a major injustice.

## OUTSTANDING TUTORING AND COLLEGE ADVISORY SERVICE

Math  
English  
Special Exams  
All Levels

-Scholarship  
-Essay preparation  
-College Selection  
-Interviewing Techniques

Dr. Jeffrey Liss

(718) 767-0233  
(516) 733-4390

E-mail: collegeadv@hotmail.com



## Arts & Entertainment

### Pregnant Drew Makes Do

By DANIELLA LOH

*Riding in Cars with Boys* is one of those rare Hollywood movies that entertains without violence or flashiness, but rather with the simple reality of human nature. Directed by Penny Marshall, the film is based on the 1990 memoir of the same name written by Beverly Donofrio.

Delivering a superb performance, Drew Barrymore plays Beverly, who in the first half of the movie is a teenager growing up in a town in Connecticut. At the age of 15, she becomes pregnant after hooking up with Ray Hasek (Steve Zahn) at a party one night. Ray is not exactly the dreamboat Beverly has been looking for, but proves his devotion to her by proposing. Their tacky wedding is one of the most amusing scenes in the movie, in which everyone tries to celebrate while hiding their embarrassment.

After Beverly gives birth to her son, Jason (Cody Arens), she finds that she must sacrifice her dreams of going to New York and becoming a journalist. She also finds herself disappointed with Ray's forgetfulness and immaturity. The only thing that keeps her going is her best friend, Fay (Brittany Murphy),

who has also become pregnant. Beverly struggles with expenses and her role as a mother, only to find out that her husband has turned into a drug addict. One obstacle after another gets in the way of the future she has always wanted.

The characters in the movie are well-rounded and realistically portrayed. Drew Barrymore takes on an extremely challenging role, and performs admirably, giving her character a fully three-dimensional appeal. The same goes for Steve Zahn, whose acting makes Ray loveable, despite his glaring flaws. As much as the audience may dislike the characters at one point or another, both actors successfully win its sympathy. The supporting roles also stand out, notably that of James Woods, who plays Beverly's father, holding up his genuine concerns about his daughter throughout the movie.

The film has its moments, both poignant and comical. One of the deepest and most powerful themes is the relationship between Beverly and her son Jason, who constantly blame each other for their troubled lives. Jason often steals the spotlight as well as the hearts of the audience with cute, childish antics.

However, the film could stand some improvement. Occasionally, the movie flashes to the future in which points of Beverly's life are narrated by the grown, 20-year old version of Jason (Adam Garcia). The movie would have been better if more of the story was told from Jason's perspective. Also, the film is tediously slow-paced at times, especially towards the middle when occasional moments of comic relief break

**Like the reality of single parenthood, the film has its emotional peaks along with its rough patches.**

up the monotony.

Like the reality of single parenthood, *Riding in Cars with Boys* has its emotional peaks along with its rough patches. As a veteran of crises herself, Barrymore does not have to dig very deep to bloom from a naïve teenager into a responsible mother. Although at times the movie feels as long as the 20 years of Beverly's life that it jumps through, its sincerity will warm the hearts of viewers.

### Singers and Sponsors Share Spotlight

By CHRISTOPHER LAPINIG

Seventeen Magazine's Star Showcase 2001, the teen publication's ninth annual concert, was held at the Roseland Ballroom on October 26, featuring a variety of promising pop musicians. Profits from the benefit concert were donated to the Red Cross. Unfortunately, the show also delivered what no pop concert would be complete without—an unmerciful barrage of advertisements and sponsor plugs.

Performers ranged from fresh talent to more established artists. The opening acts featured R&B vocalist Dante Thomas, and Jamie Lynn Sigler, a pop singer better known for her work as Meadow on the Sopranos. Sigler, obviously still green on the microphone, opened the evening with a no-frills rendition of the national anthem, followed by an energetic but bizarre and unabashedly self-promoting performance by reggae group T.O.K. While some members cryptically barked a song, others ran across the stage, pelting the audience with posters and stickers advertising their new album. On the other hand, Dante Thomas, prodigy of "Ghetto Superstar" rapper Pras, had a stronger showing. Singing with a hint of Latin flavor, he entertained the audience with his soulful, albeit generic, single "Fly."

Although the audience welcomed the openers warmly, it was the final three acts that garnered the most applause. Among other songs, hit pop group Eden's Crush performed its single "Love This Way." However, the group moved around the stage listlessly in a lackluster routine. In contrast, 3LW gave rousing performances of their hits "No More" and "Playas Gon' Play." Not only were their vocals dynamic and

powerful, but their movement onstage and the flow between songs the audience engaged. However, City High's showing, the last of the night, was perhaps the most captivating, providing a well-balanced repertoire of R&B, rap, and pop. Moreover, their chemistry with the crowd was incredibly effective, keeping the audience involved through charismatic microphone work. Most notably, it was the only group to incorporate the events of the past few weeks into their songs, providing positive words against violence before singing several inspirational songs. The show's finale, their catchy single, "What Would You Do?" kept the audience bouncing to the beat.

Despite strong performances, much of the night was lost to commercialism. Promotions flooded the event; while television monitors throughout the venue played a mind-numbing cycle of advertisements and sponsor logos, company representatives gave away a slew of odd promotional products, including colored plates for earphones. There was no escape from the ads, which even continued to play during the performances. The clothing companies that sponsored the concert held a fashion show that dragged on for more than half an hour, making the Star Showcase seem more like the Corporate Showcase, and even that was inundated with shameless and often senseless plugs. For instance, as models walked down the stage, the emcee pointed out that all of them were holding Evian bottles.

Despite the slew of commercial propaganda, Seventeen's efforts were commendable. Not only did Showcase raise money for a good cause, but it provided an entertaining diversion from the often dreary post-September 11 world.

### What's to Do in NYC?

By TIERNEY AHROLD

There is no reason to be bored in New York! Check out what's happening.

So you want to look good for your Spanish teacher, but don't speak muy bien? Tell him you want to see "Los Tres Cerditos" (The Three Little Pigs), but don't tell him it was in English. This production puts the humor back into the well-worn fairy tale. On Saturday, November 10, 3 P.M. and Saturday, November 17, 3 P.M. performances are five dollars for students. Los Tres Cerditos takes place at Los Kayayitos Puppet and Children's Theater, 107 Suffolk Street, second floor.

For martial arts nuts, there's "Once Upon a Time in Chinese America," a martial arts ballet and theater epic. This piece, written by Fred Ho, is a combination of Chinese opera, American jazz, and a whole lot of martial arts fun. "Once Upon a Time" takes place at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, on November 11 at 3 P.M. If that's not enough, on November 10, BAM is also showing non-stop martial arts films and on November 8, there's a special workshop showing the common man how to perform martial arts moves.

Those interested in all kinds of art and cultural developments

will love the India Center of Art and Culture's new exhibit, From Goddess to Pin Up: Icons of Femininity. Calendar art, a highly neglected art, but highly popular in India, depicts women ranging from spiritual to sexual portrayals. This exhibit shows how women are seen in modern Indian culture. The India Center of Art and Culture is located at 530 West 25th Street.

Tired of the almighty three minute limit at Stuy's Open Mic? Or maybe you just forgot to sign up for it. Don't worry, you can still unveil your poetry at the Unorganized Reading. Bring a pillow for long droners, but for the most part it's a solid, passionate group of readers. Catch the readings on Sundays at 3 P.M. at ABC No Rio, 156 Rivington St.

At the Guggenheim Museum, admission donations are only suggested from 6 to 8 P.M. The MOMA offers similar deals on weekends from 6 to 9 P.M. On Fridays and Saturdays, the American Museum of Natural History is open until 8:45 P.M. and has live performances by jazz musicians at Starry Nights, in the Rose Center for Earth and Space dome. It's open late with free admission on the first Saturday of each month for open galleries, film screenings, live music and a dance

party.

Finally, for the Tarzan in all of us, Steve Brill is giving Edible Plant Tours. Learn how to harvest plants from New York's own parks and sidewalks. Tours are from 11:45 A.M. to 3:45 P.M.; tickets range from \$5-\$10. Call (718) 291-6825 to make reservations. Brill will be in Central Park on November 18, in Cunningham Park, Queens on November 10, and Prospect Park, Brooklyn on November 11.

As you can see, NYC offers a wide variety of things for teens to do. So get off that couch and eat some plants!

### Tutor For Success

1 on 1

Spanish - French

Licensed Retired Teacher

(212)721-3654



# Students Voice Feelings at Forum

By SUSIE POPPICK

"Do you guys not feel safe?" asked guidance counselor John Mui.

During fifth period on Thursday, October 18, a new student discussion group had its first meeting in Lecture Hall B. This gathering, unofficially entitled "How to improve on an environment that is safe: ensuring physical and emotional safety and health," was the brainchild of Assistant Principal Eugene Blaufarb.

Blaufarb initially created the group so that the student body would have a forum for expressing fears, anxieties or opinions about the health and safety issues that now confront the school community.

"I wanted to get some student input. I also wanted to ensure that they had a venue to discuss issues with others and give the school feedback," said Blaufarb.

At the first meeting, students from various grades quietly took their seats. Mui and two other guidance interns stood before the small group, one already jotting down notes.

On the front dry-erase board, two questions were written: "What do you want to happen as a result of this group?" and "What do you need from this group?" The guidance counselors then asked the students in the group to explain why they came. The answers given were

extremely varied.

"I have no idea what to expect, but I really want to help people," said freshman Jinhee Gwon.

Junior Alex Levin said, "I want to use this group to communicate with the Student Union and Administration and to take measures to contribute to a healthy and positive school environment."

"I'm doing it for service credit," said junior Alex Dergachev.

The room laughed, and conversation picked up. The counselors said very little but moderated the discussion.

The issue of safety was introduced, and Mui asked how the students felt about it.

Junior Yelena Akhtiorsky said that she was pleased with the increased security around the school's building. "Before, anyone could get into our school. I feel much safer now," she said. Some students shook their heads at this comment, and sophomore Ernest Baskin raised his hand to disagree.

"Only on the first day was the security really good. Now they barely look at your ID's. I think the security has gotten much more lax," said Baskin.

Some students said they were still concerned about the air quality despite the administration's reassurances.

Freshman William Silversmith complained that the air in the school's neighborhood

seemed unsafe, and he felt as if he were breathing fibers.

"I think the school is doing everything they can to make us feel safe, but by not letting us go out of the school at any point in the day, it negates the fact that they tell us the air is good," said junior Adam Richards.

Mui interrupted to assure the students that the air both in and out of the building was considered safe.

Discussion progressed to suggestions about what the school and student body could do to make everyone feel safer. Ideas that were brought up included posting a student bulletin board with current air quality statistics, having the school provide dust masks for students upon request, and installing a new air filtration system.

As the period neared an end, Mui asked if the group wanted to meet again the following Thursday. Most of the students appeared enthusiastic.

"This discussion group could be ongoing and sustain itself," Blaufarb said. "Already, we're meeting with the adults who run the group to put together the feedback they got. While some students will drop out, others will join. They gather only once a week, and kids can eat lunch there. I think that this group will stay in effect as long as the current world situation remains as it is."

## Teacher Runs the Marathon

By JOSH ROSS

Math teacher Bernard Feigenbaum ran in the New York City Marathon on November 4, completing the race in 3 hours, 54 minutes and 59 seconds. Feigenbaum last ran the race in 1997, and at age 49, he was the only Stuyvesant teacher to run this year.

Testafaye Jifar of Ethiopia, the winner of the marathon, finished the race in 2 hours, 7 minutes and 44 seconds. Feigenbaum's finish was good enough for 6,352 place, putting him in the top 30 percent of the 23,631 finishers.

Feigenbaum's training method, known as "speed work," involves running segments of about six miles, then a break, then another six miles, and so on. Feigenbaum had been training for several weeks prior to the marathon, doing

about 30 miles of speed work each week in Central Park.

"My goal was to break four hours," Feigenbaum said of his intensive training. "I'm glad I accomplished my goal."

Feigenbaum's son Andrew, a sophomore at Stuyvesant, stood with his mother at the corner of 88th Street and First Avenue on November 4, waiting for Feigenbaum to come jogging down the road. "We just handed him some food and some Gatorade when he passed," said Andrew. "He just grabbed it and kept on running." He added, "It's something I could never do. It's really amazing."

On Monday it was back to work for Feigenbaum, and sporting a shiny gold medal and standing on a pair of aching legs, he took on a different challenge: his third period statistics class.

## Patroons Clinch Playoffs After Spotty Season

continued from page 8

under a lot of pressure," said senior Alex Pearlman. "The other teams have found holes and are able to capitalize."

On October 31, the Patroons clinched a playoff spot, but its seeding is still undecided. Four teams from the Manhattan A division, and as of now, they could be seeded anywhere from second to dead last. The first seeded team will be

Martin Luther King Jr. The team looks hesitantly hopeful about the season's future. "We were focused, but now we're getting pretty messy," said Burr. Senior Trevor Koob added, "This team has the potential to go the second round of playoffs," said Koob. What may decide their fate is who they will play, and whether the Patroons will have enough energy to play.



**A  
B  
C  
M  
a  
t  
h  
  
A  
c  
a  
d  
e  
m  
y**

We offer :

- PSAT & SAT I High Score Training Classes
- SAT II (Math IC/IIC, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Writing) Intensive Courses
- High School Math SQ II, III, Pre-Calculus Classes

Experienced Teachers    Excellent Learning Environments    Guaranteed Results

### SAT I / SAT II Courses

Our intensive courses teach students the strategies they need to score high on the SAT I / SAT II exam. SAT I students score 150-200 higher after taking our course. Our students often receive full scores on the Math II C and Physics SAT II. We find each student's strengths and weaknesses and give them the skills to improve on the area that are individual for each student.

This year more than fifteen of our students received full scores on the SAT I, II, Math, English, Physics.

Meet Some of Our Teachers:

Mr. James - US attorney  
Mr. Eric - English Professor  
Mr. Nicole - AP English Teacher  
Mr. Liu - College Professor in Physics

Congratulations 2001 Early Admission

Alicia Lau - Harvard University (750 SAT II/IIC)  
Yale Huang - Columbia University (800 on SAT II/IIC)  
William Hsu - Cornell University (800 on SAT II/IIC)  
Eunice Ng - Carnegie Mellon School of Computer Science (750 on SAT II/IIC)  
Joannie Yau - NYU (750 on SAT II/IIC)  
Steve Hsiao - NYU Sterns School of Business (800 on SAT II/IIC)

43-02 Main Street, 2F, Flushing, NY 11355 (Next to Flushing Botanical Gardens, Entrance on Cheery Ave.)  
**TEL : 718-888-7866    FAX : 718-888-7989**



## S P O R T S

## Vixens Roll On; 8-0 in League Play

By EVAN MEYERSON

After getting out to an early 6-2 lead, it seemed as if Murry Bergtraum High School would finally put an end to the Stuyvesant girls' volleyball team's run at immortality. It was then that senior Anne Liu ended the longest rally of the match with a devastating kill. The tide suddenly shifted towards Stuy, who only allowed Bergtraum two more points for the rest of that game, which was the first to 30.

The Vixens quickly disposed of Bergtraum 30-8, 30-11 on October 30, extending their undefeated season to 8-0. They were led, as they have been during the entire season, by senior Yelena Goldman, who finished with four kills. Her service game was virtually unstoppable, racking up seven straight points on aces and service winners during the first game comeback.

According to Vixen's coach Phil Fisher, "This year's squad is as good as any I've had." The Vixens' undefeated status has put them atop the PSAL Manhattan 7A division. In fact, since Fisher began coaching the team two years ago, the Vixens have not lost a league match. What makes this year's team different is the fact that not only have they not lost a match, they are yet to drop even a game. In its history, the girls' volleyball team has never won a city championship, but Fisher believes that this year's team has a legitimate shot at the title.

The girls' volleyball team showed signs of things to come by winning the Dalton Invitational on October 6,



The girls' volleyball team huddles during their game against Bergtraum on October 30.

defeating Dalton High School in the final. They also had key victories over teams which traditionally have given the Vixens trouble, including Long Island City High School and Hunter High School.

The team's tri-captains, seniors Yelena Goldman, Amanda Zifchak, and Corina Bogaciu have effectively used their experience to carry the team. Goldman's kills have been complemented by the assists of Zifchak and Bogaciu, each of whom had three assists in the Bergtraum match. The Vixens have also received contributions from sophomore Emma Coultrap-Bagg, who rotates off the bench, and starter Nivi Pinnamaneni, a senior.

Since September 11, the volleyball team has been practicing much harder and more frequently than before. Coach Fisher explains that this increase in practices is to "lift up the intensity lost because of the disaster."

In attendance at the game against Murry Bergtraum was Fred Rodriguez, the commissioner of PSAL Girls Varsity

Volleyball. During a timeout, Fisher let his team know about the presence of the commissioner. "I wanted to make them more nervous, which I thought would motivate them," said Fisher. Rodriguez is the most influential individual in deciding what seeds are granted to which teams in the city tournament. Therefore, it was important for the Vixens to play particularly well.

The girls' volleyball team also wanted to use the Bergtraum game to gear up for the John F. Kennedy Invitational. "The [JFK Invitational] will virtually determine our seed for the city championships," said Fisher. Last year, the Vixens were seeded fifth at the city tournament, but a strong showing at the JFK Invitational could give the team an even higher seed.

"We are all nervous about the [JFK Invitational] because we are expected to be a fourth or fifth seed in the city championship," said Zifchak. "Hopefully that will make us want it even more."

## Patroons Clinch Playoffs After Spotty Season

By AMALIA DELLA PAOLERA

The boys' soccer team has had a very erratic season. They've won tight matches in the final minutes of some and been blown out completely in others. Yet, in their first fourteen games, despite an extremely compressed schedule, they've managed to compile an 8-4-2 record as of November 5, clinching a berth into this year's city tournament.

Two of the Patroons' losses have come to undefeated Martin Luther King Jr., who are now 14-0. In the two games, the Patroons were outscored by an astounding 27 goals, losing 9-0 on October 24 and 19-1 on October 31. "This is not soccer how you're used to playing it," said coach Stan Kaps to his team after a MLK game. "This was a different level of play."

Stuyvesant has also had disappointing losses against Hunter on October 6, and against Beacon on November 2. Stuy had beaten Beacon earlier in the season 1-0 on October 15, and also tied Hunter on November 1. These few games are examples of the erratic play the Patroons have exhibited this season. A reason for this might be that the Patroons, between October 24 and November 2, a period of 11 days, played eight games. This tight schedule has many drawbacks, which include not only fatigue but also loss of practice time. Amazingly, because the Patroons have so few days where they're not playing

games, they never really get a time to practice. "It's normal for the soccer schedule to be tight," said senior Thomas Kunjappu, "but this is more compressed than it has ever been."

With much of this year's squad composed of rookies and younger players, there is also the problem of team chemistry. "We're still getting used to each other," said captain Scott Burr. One thing that this year's team has been better at than last year's team is scoring in tough spots. Several games this season have been decided in the closing minutes. Two such matches were games against Julia Richman High School on October 13 and Art and Design High School on October 30. Stuy defeated Julia Richman with a goal by Scott Burr in the closing moments of the game, and tied Art and Design with two goals in the second half by Burr.

Stuyvesant's defense is solid, but the team often plays a haphazard kick-and-run style game, where instead of passing the ball to create plays on offense, the defense simply boots the ball out of the back to start a shaky counter-attack. This style of soccer is rarely able to hold up for long. As a result, the Patroons have been able to blow out relatively weak teams, which are the majority of their games but have not been able to win the tougher matches. "We're playing good defense, but the defense is

*continued on page 7*

## Injuries Destroy a Promising Peglegs Season

By ROCKY CHEN

The September 11 terrorist attacks cut the Stuyvesant Peglegs' season short but one game, as they are playing their eighth and final game against Lafayette on November 10. However, this is almost inconsequential, as a playoff berth became less and less of a possibility as more and more Peglegs were sidelined with injuries. As of now, the Peglegs have played seven games, and have seven injured starters.

The disabled list includes two of the Peglegs' three captains: tailback/free safety Nick Oxenhorn, whose knee injury, which he suffered during training camp, has limited him to just two games this season; and defensive end/tight end David Olesh, who is still out with a leg injury. Starting guard and defensive end Cyril Pickering is also out for the season, while wide receiver Brian Kang played his first game of the season on November 4 after hurting his thumb in the first game. Starting offensive/defensive tackle Tim Cho and cornerback Will Anderson both hurt their knees during homecoming.

Cho has continued to play, but Anderson has not been on the field since. And offensive/defensive tackle Danny Lee missed two games with a broken arm. In addition to these starters, several significant backup players have been hurt as well.

"I believed that we had a team capable of not only beating the teams on our schedule, but possibly making the playoffs," Oxenhorn said.

"We have a tough schedule," coach David Velkas told the PSAL before the season. "If we stay away from injuries we are hoping to make the playoffs." Unfortunately, that was not the case.

Players have pointed to various reasons for the injuries. Many speculate that the two-week layoff following September 11 was a major factor. No practices were held, and players might not have been physically ready for the restart of the season. Other players said it might have to do with lack of training in the off-season.

Running back Sergey Vaynshteyn, who now relies on crutches after tearing his Anterior Collateral Ligament (ACL), maintains that, "dealing with injury has



Senior and co-captain David Olesh was out for most of the season due to injury.

not been a problem. My philosophy is to make the best of any situation."

Olesh, an All-Metro selection last year, said, "I am disappointed, as this is my senior year. But injury is part of the game and it must be accepted as such. Whatever the cause of these injuries, we don't regret that they happened because injury is the nature of the game we play."

Junior defensive back Henry Te is one of the many younger Peglegs who has

received increased playing time as a result of these injuries. He said, "I'm disappointed in how things are going, but I'm glad I'm learning and getting better for my senior year." In this way, losing starters to injuries might benefit the Peglegs in the future, as younger players get some game experience to bring with them when it's their turn to lead the Peglegs—and try to stay off the injured list.