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Council Corner

By Mark Markowski

During February, the School Community elected new Council officers: Frank Cesario, Mark Markowski, Angela Lin and Amanda Rabinowitz. The officers have been making long strides in organizing activities for Prep this spring.

The Blood Drive on April 10, chaired by Rebecca Caldwell, was a success. Over 50 people came to give blood, though the Red Cross rejected about one-fourth as unsuitable to donate. President Frank Cesario and Babi Das spent endless hours on the telephone, encouraging members of the Prep Community to donate. Mrs. Mansfield, Mark Markowski, and other Upper School students volunteered time to register donors and give them moral support.

On April 13, Council sponsored a trip to a Trenton Thunder game. Vice President Mark Markowski organized this event. Ten Prep students along with Mr.

Avella enjoyed a beautiful day at the ballpark. Council hopes run similar trips.

Over Spring Break, Matt Scherb and Jon Vafai revised the Upper School Constitution. Council is reviewing the document now and will vote on it shortly. Once Council approves, the Upper School will vote to accept or reject the changes.

Council has several events lined up for May. On May 3, Council will hold a sports barbecue with food and music. On May 17, Council will run the school year's final Burger Blast along with a dress-down day. On May 23, Council will sponsor a School Council Exchange to learn about other Councils and to improve Prep's own student government.

Next year, Council plans a Career Day, a trip to the Sony Theater in New York and a possible trip to a professional soccer game

Prep Drama As You Like It: Fun, Exciting and Bold

By Jay Golon

"Dressing up like a boy can cause many unexpected problems," Jen Conrad calmly commented at one rehearsal for the Upper School's spring production of William Shakespeare's *As You Like It*. The cast and crew hoped to bring a show that would be anything but predictable to Prep audiences during the last week of April.

Shakespeare presents an obtuse look at the many faces and possibilities of love in *As You Like It*. The show's characters collide with idealistic, melancholy and cynical views about love, all of which add up to a wonderful comedy.

This production continued a daring trend in which Upper School Drama has challenged itself more and more with each show. "After every show I'm convinced that we've hit the highest possible level

Melissa Stass, a feminine Jacques, watches as Frank Cesario and Whitney Case, Touchstone and Audrey, are bonded in *As You Like It*.



of quality that we can hit with a show at Prep, yet we somehow manage to top ourselves with each new season," reflected one cast member. Aside from tackling very intimidating Shakespearean language, the show also incorporated music as well as the largest cast in recent memory. Stage managing such a large group was the responsibility of senior Meredith Riley, who attributes her managing ability to "being very maternal. It helps."

Ms. Turlish returned to direct Holley Hall veterans Melissa Stass, Jay Golon, Jen Conrad, Frank Cesario, Allison Albino, Nicole Finner, and Jeremy Wang-Iverson. In addition to the many returning actors, Gideon Dabbi, making his debut at Prep, and better-late-than-never seniors Rob Sezeles and Ria Rasalan led a host of new talent into Holley Hall.

Mrs. Sezeles brought the same charisma, which has inspired the Madrigal Singers and Men's Choir, to musical performance in *As You Like It*. After Matt Scherb and she researched the original music from Shakespeare's time, Mrs. Sezeles arranged songs and taught actors their parts. Ms. Turlish integrated these sequences into the performance.

Mrs. Herzberg shared her vast knowledge of Shakespeare with the cast, making herself available to help actors study the play's Elizabethan language and improve their diction.

The set, constructed by Ron Kelly, represented some of his finest work. With the help of Mr. Mordetsky, Student Technical Director George Cox, and the rest of the crew, the set became a wonder-

ful, flowing creation which seemed to stretch into every corner of Holley Hall. The set's untraditional formation was a favorite feature among the actors performing in the show. "You look at it and you just want to frolic all over it," commented Frank Cesario.

Frank played the fool, Touchstone, in this production. He said that one of the nicest things about Prep drama is that "It really is a true representation of many members of the community pitching in and helping each other. Not only are the productions wonderful, but they always fill me with a very satisfying sense of working with other people towards a common goal."

Perhaps Allison Albino's evaluation of the *As You Like It* entire cast: "This production has been a tough one, but well worth every minute." The cast and crew hoped that the audience would validate this sentiment.

The Holley Hall audience witnessed an exciting and fun production, filled with moody incidental music, dynamic lighting, a changing set, singing, dancing, and, not to mention, good acting. Both the actors and onlookers thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

The RPS Student Art Show coincided with the spring production, and was held in the Media Center before the show and during intermission. While digesting the sophomore class's bake sale goods, patrons saw incredibly good paintings, photographs, drawings, and pottery created by Prep students from first grade to twelfth.

Prep's artistic prowess pervaded the last week in April.

Prep students "Learn Through Experience"

By Frank Cesario

On March 13, about 25 students from Prep attended the Holocaust and Genocide Studies Day at Raritan Valley Community College. This annual event allows first-hand victims of hate crimes to communicate their experiences to students. It was not simply a day off from school, but a serious reflection on humanity's grave imperfections. As students took their seats in the auditorium, most seemed prepared to learn and experience.

Dr. Samuel Proctor began the program with a stirring speech about his experiences with racism 30 years ago in Virginia. Dr. Proctor pleaded with everyone gathered to do their best to "clip hate at its roots." He challenged everyone

to "be their own person" and excel above the ignorance of racism.

After attending the keynote speech, students chose seminars, varying from "Holocaust Survivors," to "Native Americans," to "Japanese American Internment." Unlike traditional textbook-based learning, most seminars featured speakers who had survived the events they spoke of. Junior Jay Golon said, "These workshops were both interesting and stunning. Since all the speakers experienced these events first-hand, it made the experience, for me, all the more personal and effective."

To conclude the program, Dith Pran, the model character for *The Killing Fields*, addressed the continuing encroachment and abuse

of human rights in Cambodia. Mr. Pran narrated violent and heartless acts that made many members of the audience wince uneasily. Despite his average English, the audience fully understood his message: racism and injustice occur in all the corners of the globe, and in each instance, someone greatly needs help.

Commenting on the day, junior Scott Fleischer said, students left with a feeling of purpose and mission, as outlined by all of the stirring speeches. From the responses of Prep students, the Holocaust and Genocide Studies Day was very successful and purposeful. Directed to make their small corner of the world a better place, students filed onto their busses and returned to school.

Junior Class Dance

By Maureen Benitz

On Friday March 15, the junior class held, in the gym, its first dance. This was the first dance sponsored from within the Upper School in several years. The dance was designed to raise money for the upcoming Junior-Senior Prom. The juniors made \$534 from nearly 200 attendees. The class charged three dollars in advance, and four dollars at-the-door for admission, and sold refreshments throughout the night.

Junior Class President Allison Albino had "no idea what to expect." Since the class had never run such a function, there were no previous plans to work from. Junior Aisha Griffith sent about 50 letters to other schools, inviting them to the dance. Allison and Aisha organized the dance with junior Linda Condon.

Allison didn't "know how many [students] would come to a Prep dance. Prep has a reputation for having lousy functions." She

was happy with the results. "People were dancing and having a good time," she said. "If you give it a chance, it can work."

The dance may have started off slowly, but by the end of the night, many people were up and dancing. Even Mr. Karman frequented the dance floor. Allison originally feared that people wouldn't dance and would congregate on the sides of the gym or on the bleachers. This was not the case; students and teachers danced well into the night on the half-gym dance floor.

There were many non-Prep attendees, presumably from the invitations that schools received and from students bringing their own outside friends. Nearly half of the people who attended the dance did not go to Prep.

Aisha Griffith felt that the dance, as a first attempt, was successful. She had sold tickets for a few weeks and had felt a negative

response, but dance night saw more people than she expected. Aisha had hoped for more support earlier on. Junior Linda Condon also thought the dance went well, claiming, "It was our class's biggest fund raiser this year."

School Council Vice President Mark Markowski was skeptical at first, but he "was glad to see my premonitions of an unsuccessful dance disproved." Junior Nicole Fiumerreddo thought more people came than she expected to see. "We didn't lose anything by holding the dance," said Nicole. "It was a way for us [the junior class] to raise money for the Prom. Maybe if another class were to hold a dance there would be more support and more people would come."

Overall, the dance succeeded. This was a way for juniors to raise money in a fun new way. The class made several hundred dollars and most people had an enjoyable time.

Selected Shorts...

Instrumental Concert at Vorhees

Instrumentalists at Prep, from Jazz Schoolers to Upper Schoolers performed their Spring Concert on April 30 at Vorhees Chapel at 7:30 p.m.

Mrs. Peterson conducted the The Jazz Band, Concert Band and Combined Orchestra. Mrs. Shipley directed the String Ensemble.

Academic Team Caps Winning Year

Rutgers Prep's Academic Team finished its season, losing to Saint Joe's by the thinnest of margins, in the Bridgewater-Raritan Invitational Tournament of Excellence (BRITE) quarter-finals. This one loss offsets an otherwise excellent year. The Varsity team, captained by seniors Gerard Joe and Matt Scherb, won the Somerset

County tournament this winter and, until the loss, had made the round of eight from a seventy school field at BRITE.

Mrs. Gooen, the Academic Team coach, held annual testing to select new members on April 24 and 26. She will announce next year's team at Honors Convocation on May 24.

Boys' Baseball: Looking To Rebound

By Justin Auciello

The Boys' Baseball Team returns from a dismal 1995 season without the leadership of graduated seniors Mike Maccia and Ryan Neely. This is not the team's whole story, though. Under the leadership of Head Coach Bob Marotto and recently added Assistant Coach Larry Santawasso '91, as well as captains Jason Maikos, Sam Hartman and Joe Fuoco, the team has gained an optimistic outlook for the approaching season.

The team is comprised solely of underclassmen, with the exception of the lone senior, Gerard Joe. The juniors are the strong-

hold of the team. However, two freshman sensations, Brian Benitz and Jeff Lowich, have shown Coach Marotto that they can hold their own offensively and defensively.

The hitting powerhouses include juniors Keith Fomey, a utility player; Jason Maikos, the team's best pitcher who also plays second base and short-stop; Joe Fuoco, pitcher and short-stop; Jordan Rickards, the team's only catcher; Sam Hartman, an excellent pitcher; and last, but certainly not least, Scott Yelity, an extremely quick runner that can play any outfield position.

The rest of the roster rounds out with sophomores Jeremy Wang-Iverson, David Pung, Tom Filipkowski, and freshmen Victor Salygin and Robert Spitzer.

It is also important to note that most of the starting lineup have played in summer leagues and have attended numerous camps in order to help improve themselves and the team.

Can the team be contenders for Prep B champions? When asked, Coach Marotto simply replied, "With all of the power this team possesses, we have an excellent shot!" Well, it certainly won't be easy, but with all the young talent on this squad the Boys' Baseball Team should rebound over the next two seasons.

Varsity Tennis '96

By Suhas Radhakrishna

Prep Tennis. Two words which have traditionally meant nothing but humble failure. In past years, the Men's—or Boys'—call it what you will—Tennis Team had faced awesome opponents such as Newark Academy and Pingry, but had had reasonable success playing weaker opponents. This year, the Prep B Conference has been revamped and competition is much more even. Losses to such giants will no longer hurt the team's standing as much.

This season has had a difficult start. With chaotic weather and the interruption of spring break, the tennis team had, at best, four full practices on the courts before its first match. In addition, the team faces a rigorous schedule with matches almost every day of the week against tough opponents. As a result, the generally exhausted team scored only one win before playing the county tournament.

At "counties," the first doubles team managed to break into the second round, but faced a

close defeat there.

With barely enough time for practices, the lineup was still largely unsettled after the county tournament. Returning senior Eric Danzeisen and junior Suhas Radhakrishna alternate between first and second singles with strong support from returning junior Paul Sosman at third singles. Doubles teams have been permutations of six talented players: Damon Wong, Ian Liggett, Ganesh Ramanaayanan, Tilak Sundaresan, Dan Lane and Nakul Rao.

Despite the difficult start, the team has already broken the win record for a Prep tennis team from this decade. The team scored big wins against Ranney and Solomon Schechter. The team's goal is to end with a winning record. Matches scheduled before the state tournament on May 18 will be difficult but by all means winnable. As always, the Men's Tennis team remains enthusiastic and optimistic.

Girls' Lax to Shine Again After Florida Retreat

By Rebecca Caldwell

As in the past, this year's Girls' Lacrosse Team does not have to worry about building talent. After previous successes, the girls must be careful not to be too overconfident heading into the 1996 season. Luckily, the experienced coaches Glantzow and Shifman will keep the girls from becoming too cocky.

In contrast to the other athletic teams at Prep this year, the lacrosse team has a very experienced and talented senior lineup. Co-Captains Julie Rockoff and Rebecca Caldwell provide a solid base of leadership with the help of Joyce Reyes.

In addition, the wealth of underclassman talent surpasses most other sports teams at Prep. This strong group is led by juniors Daniella Metzger, Jane Seymour and Nicole Fiumefreddo as well as sophomores Priya Radhakrishna (now injured) and Andrea Lewandowski. Not only does the team possess this great bunch, but they are also supported by a strong freshman contingency including Sara Preschel, Beth Germinsky, and Allison Schecter. This youthful aspect of the team should prove to be quite valuable as the season progresses.

One thing that the girls' clearly do not lack is spirit. During

Spring Break the team participated in its second trip to Florida for a training camp. This year's camp at St. Petersburg proved to be an incredible experience for the team.

The trip was not easy though, with practices, games and coaching all occurring simultaneously. The team fared quite well though, finishing 3-2 in games against some of the most competitive teams from areas such as Philadelphia. In addition, the girls received coaching from some All American college players.

Luckily, the trip was not all work, as the team spent time at Busch Gardens and the swimming pool. The camp was a valuable bonding experience that the girls will never forget.

This season the girls hope to repeat their good showing at the Prep B State Tournament. Although they were stopped in the semifinals last year, their goal is to bring home the crown this year. Hopefully, a strong regular season will garner a top seed; although, tough games against Blair Academy, Stewart Day School and Princeton Day School loom ahead. With luck, the team will remain confident, and look forward to hanging a banner in the gym at the end of the season.

Girls' Softball Fields a Team

By Amanda Cruz

Unlike last season, this year the Girls' Softball Team actually has more players than positions in the field. While this notion is surely comforting to Coach Robert Dougherty, the amount of young talent on the team also provides him with an opportunity to build a successful program for the future. Hopefully the team will remain healthy and not have to struggle to find the required nine players to participate.

This year's team plans to build around its experienced fielders. Juniors Maureen Benitz (third base), Heather Driver (first base), and sophomore Debbie Gray (second base and short-stop), will return to their familiar positions. The lone senior on the team, Amanda Cruz, will play either center-field or short-stop. Also, Susan Slim will return as catcher

after taking a year off. The pitchers will be Liz Alexander, Kris Farley, and Kandace Clarke. All outfielders were also on last year's team, and their experience will be much needed.

The story of this season should be experience. The girls must learn to play together as a team. The recent additions of Nicole Smith, Erica Becker and Kris Farley should help to dramatically improve the team's record and standing in the Prep B division. Also, in order for Coach Dougherty to give the girls the much needed playing time they deserve, he will use his young talent in games played by Varsity players. Hopefully, the team will mature rapidly and be competitive this season. At least more success is assured for the future.

Golf: High Hopes for Low Scores

By Mark Markowski

The 1995 season was full of close victories and serious drama on the grassy links.

The Golf Team ended the year with a quite successful 10-4 record. At the high school level, a competitive golf team is comprised of six players, either male or female. Last year's starting six consisted of four talented sophomores and two young, but impressive freshmen. This spring, the starters have returned older and more mature. The team has shown flashes of brilliance during its early practices. Now, the upcoming season is more of a mental challenge.

Although the team's scores are down from last year, sophomore star Dan Chahal has been sidelined with an injury during the first two weeks of the season. The pressure will therefore rest on the shoulders of Lee Demaree and Katie Somers, who are both battling for a position in the top six.

Returnees Jeremy Hollander and Josh Rosen will have to come up big for the golf team this season. In addition David Weitz and Mark Markowski will have to show a great deal of leadership in guiding the seven new freshmen that

joined the team this year. This won't be easy, as the schedule is packed with some of the top Prep A and B teams in New Jersey. Great scores will be needed, which are possible, for the team to finish the season with a winning record.

The Golf Team of 1996 should be lots of fun to watch this spring. The team also has a favorable chance to take home the Prep B title in states this year under the guidance of coaches Nes Forney and Walter Nichols. Keep an eye out for Prep golf.

Scores

Golf	6-5	May 3	Council Barbecue
Boys' Tennis	4-5	May 6-17	AP Exams
Girls' Softball	3-6	May 15	Arts Dinner
Boys' Baseball	4-5	May 16	Teen Arts Festival
Girls' Lacrosse	3-2	May 17	Burger Blast
Boys' Lacrosse	2-4	May 20-22	Senior Exams
		May 22	Vocal Concert
		May 23	Sports Dinner
		May 24	Honors Convocation
		May 28	Senior Trip

Records as of May 2

events

Boys' Lacrosse Aims for Improvement

By John Kansfield

As the old saying goes, "It can't get any worse than it already is." Unfortunately, this phrase is the one that best describes the boy's lacrosse team. Coming off a dismal 0-13 season there can only be optimism for a brighter future.

This year's team, although young, does have some decent talent. Captains John Kansfield, Craig Feinberg and Henri Renard head up the squad. In addition, returning players Dave Blenker, Ian Japinga, Ricki Alcidi and Deepesh Patel will form the core of the team. Freshmen George Condon, Greg Verb and Keegan Rollins will learn the game and become Prep's stars of tomorrow.

In order for the team to be successful, it would need exceptional goal tending from Craig Feinberg. Although Craig is fairly new to the position, he has worked hard and his improvement is quite visible. The defensive pairing of

Kansfield and Patel will help to strengthen Craig's chances in goal. For scoring, the team relies on the quick moves of Japinga and Alcidi, as well as Renard's blazing shot.

One thing that can not be stated about the lax team is that they have not tried to win. Over the summer, several players participated in various camps and programs, including the Johns Hopkins Blue Jay Lacrosse Clinic and the Princeton Lacrosse Summer League. In addition, Coaches Tyree, Szeles, and Clark have toughened practices with many ground ball drills and full contact one-on-one-to-the-goal drills.

There are no assurances of victory for this year's team. The team faces tough competitors in Princeton Day School and Pennington. Hopefully, the team will gain respect in the Prep B Division.

The Argo

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