



The Argo

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Rutgers Preparatory School

November 1991 Issue

Cayer Delivers Address

Scott Mory

On October 3rd, 1991, the Parent's Association held a general meeting. The agenda of the meeting included an address by Mrs. Elizabeth Cayer, the President of the Board of Trustees, discussing the State of the School. Mrs. Cayer's address basically dealt with three topics: 1) the search for a new Headmaster, 2) the Middle States evaluation, and 3) concerns of the Board.

Mrs. Cayer said that since the office of permanent Head was vacated, the Board has been preoccupied with the search for a new Head. The firm of Wickenden Associates has been retained and before Saturday, October 5th, the Selection Committee had over ninety applicants. On that Saturday, the board committee narrowed the list down to twelve people. On October 19th, the committee will meet and select a list of three or four candidates. At that

point the search committee will start to work with adjunct faculty, student, parent, and alumni representatives. The final decision is anticipated in December.

For most of last year, the school faculty and the Board of Trustees were involved in comprising a self-study for the Middle States committee. Middle States is an organization which accredits schools and colleges and helps them look at themselves to pinpoint trouble areas. Mrs. Cayer said that the Board was pleased overall with the visiting committee's evaluation, saying that it offered praise for the faculty and was generally flattering.

First among the Board's concerns is the need to continue the process of erecting additional buildings to expand Prep's facilities, which started in 1990 when the Kaufelt Fine Arts Center and Faculty Apart-

ments were dedicated. Mrs. Cayer said that "the Board recognizes the need to move ahead" and that they were looking at a performing arts center, an auxiliary gym, or a pool as possibilities. The address also mentioned the need to remodel and refurbish the Lower School.

Mrs. Cayer also raised concerns about the school's financial situation. She said that up until now, tuition was enough to keep the school going, but, since the school is still paying for the Upper School, it's not enough. In an attempt to balance the school's budget, the Board has enacted measures to cut travel expenses for the Headmaster, put off repainting all of the locker areas, and asking all departments to cut costs wherever possible. In addition, all faculty salaries have been frozen and no one will be receiving raises this year. Mrs. Cayer stated that the Board is trying to



Mrs. Cayer at the podium

put together an endowment fund to protect salaries in the future. Mrs. Cayer also attributed the need for greater funds to a 6% drop in enrollment over the past two years.

In general, Mrs. Cayer concluded that the school is in good condition and the problems the school is exhibiting are common among most private schools.

Key Club Officers Elected

Melissa Allegre

This year, the candidates for Key Club officers were all from the senior class. The Admission Office believes that the seniors are the best qualified, and would be able to provide the best leadership among their peers because of their maturity and previous experiences at Prep. The newly elected officers to these positions of responsibilities are: Colin Simons - President, Russell Lee - Vice-President, and Glenn Grossman - Senior Organizer.

Key Club members represent the student body, and work in conjunction with the Admission Office in functions such as Open Houses, Parents Night, and Merit Scholar Luncheons. The Admission Office has provided a busy agenda for the club members, some of whom will be visiting several neighboring schools to recruit future Prep hopefuls.

A new aspect of Key Club that members will have to adjust to is a new policy concerning visitors this year. Whereas last year prospective students were allowed to visit Prep for an entire school day, this year only students already accepted by Admissions for the next school year may stay for the day. This new policy's stated purpose is "to discourage outside individuals from dropping in unannounced." Prospective students who wish to apply to Prep receive a short tour and an interview with Director of Admissions, Mrs. Knoble.

Governor's Scholars

from Left: Joe Toleno, Russell Lee, Madai Cruz.

Laranceville Scholar: Erik Wasson



Caroline Elio

Summer Experiences

Erik Wasson

While to many Rutgers Prep students, memories of the summer are already fading into the distance, some students participated in academic experiences that they will remember for a lifetime. "It is important," Mrs. Wacker believes, "for students to share these experiences so that underclassmen can realize the array of activities open to them."

Some students participated in summer programs at major universities and sampled a taste of college life. Melissa Rosenbaum headed north to Wellesley, a prestigious women's college. Nicole Martin attended Cornell University. Reena Argawal studied at Columbia University, and Debbie Melnick attended Stanford University.

"The Governor's School of the Arts made....the people from each art respect one another and grow together," said Madai Cruz, whose recent performances in such diverse plays

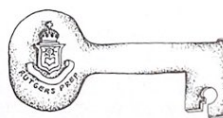
as "The Good Woman of Setzuan" and "The Skin of our Teeth" brought her accolades and the school nomination for "The Governor's School in Theatre." At the Trenton State site she was able to fine tune her art in such specialized training as in "stage combat, fencing, neutral accents, mime movements, and circus acts."

Russell Lee found "The Governor's School on the Environment" worthwhile. He said, however, that it was interesting to deal with the "discomfort of calling Mr. Masza 'Dave'." Russell engaged in various activities that took him from the Stockton State College sight, such as a trip to a sewage treatment plant. Of particular interest to Russell were his studies of the New Jersey Pine Barrens and the possibility of a trip next summer to the Amazon with his primary teacher Lynne Chase. Russell is continuing to promote his paper recycling plan and to increase his envi-

ronmental awareness in Mr. Masza's third period Environmental Topics class.

Joe Toleno attended "The Governor's School of Public Issues", where he discussed such topics as racial tolerance. He found it fascinating to meet people from all across New Jersey and to take a class taught by a Zulu professor from South Africa. The Monmouth College sight offered a beautiful campus in close proximity to the Jersey shore.

Samuel Finkelstein, Jennifer Geller and David Lee found themselves at the California College of Arts and Crafts, where they each studied under separate courses in traditional artistic media. Jennifer added closure to the terrific experiences of all the aforementioned adventures when she stated "I cannot sum up the three best weeks of my life in a few stupid sentences."



The Key Club serves as an organization for students who wish to help out the Rutgers Prep Admission office.

Council Corner

Liz Chin

The School Council for 1991-1992 welcomes its new members. For each class, delegates to Council include the class Vice-President and two Council Representatives. In the senior class, Dejon Hush is the Vice-President and Russ Lee and Debbie Melnick are the two Reps. The Junior Vice-President is Kamari Price and the two Reps are Chris Davis and Marnee Richman. Daniel Cantor is the sophomore vice-president and Anthony Accardi and Amy Halpin are the class Reps. Freshman Kavita Patel is the class Vice-President and Tara Auciello and Dave Sugarman are the Reps.

Council will hold its annual Food Drive from Friday, November 8 until Tuesday, November 26. The class that

collects the most cans will receive a free dress down day. Daniel Cantor is the Food Drive chairman.

The 1992 school year is a year formally designated for review of the school constitution. Council has formed a committee, headed by Senior Class President Scott Mory. The committee has already begun preparations and welcomes anyone who wishes to help.

School Council will also host a dance on Saturday, November 9. School Council Vice-President Colin Simons heads the Dance Committee. The dance will be held in Baldwin Hall. Council is considering time, cost, and possible DJs, and will be inviting neighboring schools as guests.

"This isn't Mr. Roger's Neighborhood..."

Gracie Alcide

Who would think that in a school that was established in 1776, the oldest in NJ, where the motto is, "Severa res est verum gaudium (Hard work is true joy)", could offer such a beautiful and tranquil atmosphere: grounds that overlook a canal, are well groomed, and are enhanced by the coloring of the season. Today, just as in the past, parents who are searching for a good education for their child are concerned with the environment that they place their child into. Many parents choose a private school because of its academic environment and alternative style of teaching.

At RPS, time and tradition have equated to discipline, consistency, and dependability. Keeping all these elements in mind, parents consider what Prep has to offer: a wonderful

setting, a good education, and tradition. However, there is a sensitive issue that seems to overshadow the "sterling" qualities of Prep. I'm not saying that crime is offered in the curriculum, nor am I saying that our school is a spawning ground for criminal activity, but I am saying that theft in this school should not be ignored. Amidst our orchard/country school, where the student populace would be thought of as being shielded from the vices of society, it appears that recently Prep has become a "cozy" institution for juvenile white collar criminals.

This month, car radios were stolen from two students in the senior class (my mom was cleared of all charges). These items join an extensive/expensive list of missing (stolen)

paraphernalia: i.e. video equipment, computer ware, walkmen, candy from vending machines, expensive sunglasses, pocket books, jewelry, books, and money. It seems that if you turn your back on something of value, your belongings will end up on the missing items list. We would all like to blame someone else, but the options are wearing down, and sooner or later the students will become the suspects.

I've attended this school for thirteen years, and I always thought that stealing from someone else's lunchbox was a crime, but a car radio? Again, I'm not accusing any student, but if it was a student who stole the radio I am trying to use some cheap shot at guilt. In those 13 years, I've noticed many changes in my peers, but

I am pretty sure that the general pool of students come from steady socio-economic backgrounds. I look at the average student: Bass shoes (\$50), Gap pants (\$30), and Polo shirt (\$40). Some drive Jeeps, Escorts, BMWs, Mercedes. They go to France, Utah, or England. I'm not labelling everyone as rich "preppies"; we are all diverse, but admittedly we can safely say we come from a more privileged lot. Granted, there will always be crime and fingers will always be itchy for more, but why at Prep? It would be naive to say that crime doesn't exist in any school system, but in some schools, depending on demographics and the socio-economic background of the student populace, statistics can indicate a trend in crime. According to our atmosphere and stu-

dent background, our "crime" rate should be miniscule compared to other bigger (more populated) institutions, yet it is a statistic that must be dealt with.

Insecurity in the Prep community has led to preventative measures. Students are taking care not to leave anything of value laying around. They are keeping their belongings in lockers, and locking their cars. Yet all these precautionary steps will probably not deter people from continuing to steal.

This article will hopefully make people aware of the current situation at Prep. Luckily theft at this school hasn't been accompanied by violence. Prep still remains beautiful, but the little suspicious stirrings will continue...To grow? I hope not.

Harrassment?

Dave Lee

During the past few weeks, we have been overwhelmed with information concerning the sexual harassment of women. The fact that one of the highest members of the United States government, Clarence Thomas, has been accused of harassment shed light onto actions that have occurred throughout time. The innate characteristic of some men to impose power and control over women is carried out in areas where men and women interact: work, business and even school. Yet somehow these

allegations against Thomas were needed to bring harassment to national attention. And what are we to make of the recent outcry from women around the country who say, "Men just don't get it!"

The very idea of sexual harassment causes confusion. There are no definitive lines that designate what is and what is not harassment. Murder charges, robbery, assault all have several degrees of charges and specific outlines of the crimes. But, there are no such guidelines

for sexual harassment. The nature of the offense—there are only two parties involved, and it is one person's word against another's—only further clouds the idea of sexual harassment.

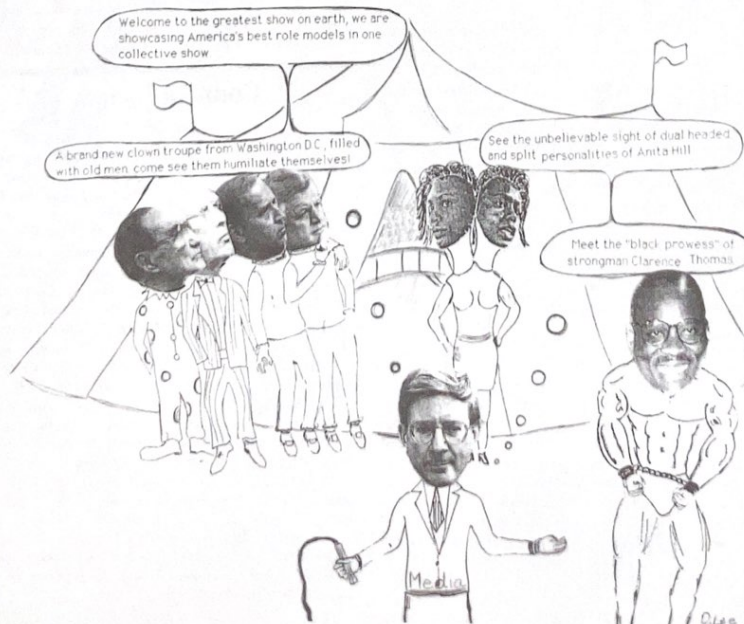
Standards are now being set at both the state and federal level. In a recent case in Illinois, an employer was accused of harassment by a female employee. He said that his words were merely expletives and protected as free speech. The judge instituted the "snub your-toe test." If the employer snubbed his toe,

would he deliberately shout a word offensive to women or would he merely utter some other expletive? The judge believed that the man did not intend to be offensive along sexual lines and ruled in favor of the defendant. Another case set a more feasible test. Where there are inconsistencies between male and female views of pattern behavior, a three judge panel held, "the deciding factor should be whether a 'reasonable woman' might feel threatened."

We are still faced with questions concerning the boundaries of harassment. A recent *Newsweek* article gave several examples; telling someone they have great legs, a pat on the behind, repeatedly pressuring someone for dates, and pornography on bulletin boards or

lockers are all considered forms of harassment. According to these examples nearly all men are offenders of sexual harassment. Of course, the Rutgers Prep community is no exception. All students, male and female, with sexually suggestive pictures on their lockers are guilty. Every senior class, which traditionally attempts to deluge the bulletin board with sexually connotative pictures and comments, is guilty. Anyone who lends a friendly tap on the behind is guilty. At Prep the atmosphere is so charged that a female responded to an offensive remark by hurling (somewhat unintentionally) the offending male into a locker. The end result? A large lump, three stitches, and one more politically correct male.

This has the potential of getting out of hand. One anecdote involves one Prep student's uncle, who after criticizing Anita Hill in his workplace was accused of harassment by a fellow female worker. In the future propositioning of co-workers may not take place because of fear of sexual harassment. Soon, we may have reverse sexual harassment, much like reverse discrimination, where women will use their power, blackmailing innocent males and falsely accusing them of harassment. Although this may sound unlikely, these cases actually occur, and many males are not unjustified in feeling threatened and defensive. What is needed is a clearer definition of harassment and atmospheres where people can relax without being abusive.





The Environmental club has been making a series of announcements on ecological topics.

Environmental Class Attends Boat Trip

Debbie Melnick

Seventeen students from Mr. Mazza's environment class had the chance to learn more about the environment with a "hands-on experience." The class went on a trip on October 10th to Sandyhook Beach, where they met representatives from the Clean Ocean Action Organization. The representatives and the students spent the day cleaning the beach, then learned about sea-life while taking a boat ride on the Raritan Bay.

The class started the day by picking up litter from the beach. The beach had garbage scattered upon it by pleasure boats and fishing boats that traffic through the area. Besides cans, bottles, tires, and paper, the most common litter was straws, which are primarily dumped from the pleasure boats. Some students actually even found a car seat along the beach. The students threw the garbage away in separate paper bags after tabulating everything so that the trash could be recycled accordingly. Mr. Mazza reported, "When we were finished cleaning the half-mile beach, it looked really good, but the stunning thing is that the beach

has been cleaned only three weeks before we arrived."

After the students were finished cleaning the beach, they were taken on "Ol' Salty II," a fishing boat, to do some experiments. After traveling a few miles out onto the Raritan Bay, the naturalist from Clean Ocean Action conducted informative experiments on board the boat. First the students checked the water's PH, salinity, and temperature. Then they dropped overboard an epibenthic dredge, which is a weighted net that scoops the surface of the bay floor and brings up different types of crab and sea-life. The students also used small nets to pull up plankton. There were three microscopes on board the boat so that the students could look at the different, microscopic animals. The last net they used was an Otter trawl, a large fish net. "One of the best parts of the trip was handling the animals and using the microscopes," concluded Senior Rachel Kahn. Many of the students walked away from the trip with a better understanding of the environment and with the knowledge of the importance to all life of keeping water clean.

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Foreign Student Reacts to Prep

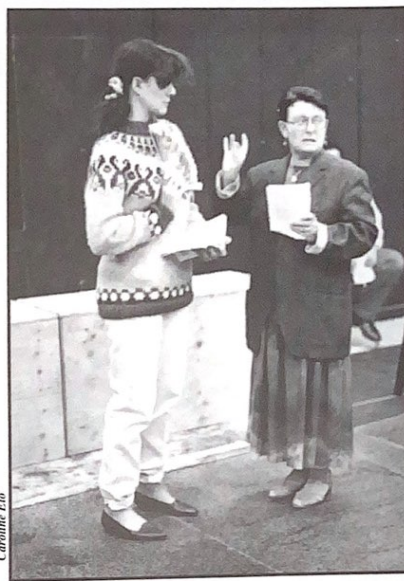
Jignesh Patel

Rutgers Prep prides itself on being a diverse community with people from many different backgrounds. An important part of Prep's history occurred earlier in the century when a group of Japanese students came to America for several years and studied here. It is only fitting, then, that this year, a foreign student will graduate from our school. Femi Adejuwon, a senior from Nigeria, came to Prep last year. With him he brought not only his native culture, but a unique view of Rutgers Prep.

Like most Prep students, Femi came here because he "needed to prepare to get into college." As this is his first and only high school experience in the United States, Femi has no way to compare Rutgers Prep to other American schools, but he can compare Prep to his old school where "tuition included everything - books, food, etc. Here [Rutgers Prep], all those things are extra." Initially, Femi thought that his biggest problem would be the language barrier, but "Rutgers Prepeased the change. It's O.K."

This year, another foreign student has entered Prep. Perhaps Femi's experience has opened the door for students from all areas of the world.

The Argo encourages readers to write letters to the editors. Place letters in the Argo mailbox or in Mrs. Wacker's mailbox.



Barbara Hertzberg Directs Nicole Weitz in Rehearsal

Drama In Gear For 91-92

Akin Salawu

The Fall drama production, *Play On*, is well on its way to completion. This modern comedy, by Rick Abbot, pokes fun at the trials and tribulations of putting on a play. Bad actors, a bad director, and a bad playwright who continues to add new lines up to the last minute, are just a few of the obstacles that the characters must face. The show is directed by Mrs. Herzberg, Mr. Ron Kelly (technical director), Russell Lee (student technical director), and Madai Cruz (stage manager). Both old and new members of Prep theater comprise the cast, including Nicole Weitz, Scott

Mory, Akin Salawu, Mairan McCue, Ana Moral and Kiera Westphal. The show runs from Wednesday, November 13 through Saturday, November 16 at 8:00 in Holley Hall. Tickets are \$4.00 in advance and \$5.00 at the door. They can be purchased in advance from any member of the cast or crew.

This Winter, students will take the Drama program almost entirely into their own hands. Akin Salawu and Nicole Weitz will each select and direct a one-act play. They will hold auditions on November 19 and 20. The Winter production dates are set for January 6-8.

Archives Exhibit Opens

Bobbi Kader

Two years ago, in preparation for the 225th anniversary, a senior by the name of Jon Gaskin began sifting through some 40 boxes that had been stored in the library. What he found, a large number of very old documents and pictures, surprised everyone.

For a further investigation, a professional archivist arrived from the New Jersey Historical Society. The investigator, Dennis Madden, discovered that the collection was a unique one; the diversity and depth of the collection was outstanding.

The archives range from William Patterson Jr.'s tu-

ition bills in 1776 to student essays and artwork. There are 60 years of sports pictures, a letter from a Headmaster complaining about student behavior, and even a school song written by the world famous poet, Joyce Kilmer. These are all a great representation of the school history and could also be worth a great deal of money.

The collection ends in the 1950's, and there is a gap during the Civil War period. However, the condition of the archives the school does have is surprisingly good. To keep them this way, they have all been framed and treated with protective chemicals.

The Archives is on display at the Johnson and Johnson Headquarters, in New Brunswick. The opening was on November 3rd and was celebrated with a cocktail party from four to six P.M. The exhibit will remain for a month. Although the exhibit will not be open to the general public, Prep is planning to have field trips so that students can view the actual history of Rutgers Prep.

Afterwards, the archives may go on to other corporate buildings, libraries, or even museums. It is a very exciting moment for all of Rutgers Prep.

Boys' Soccer On Streak

Jason Kaplan

What do Wardlaw, Saddle River, Solebury, Ranney, Dwight Englewood, Friends (NYC), Montclair Kimberley Academy and Morristown Beard have in common? Together they comprise the eight wins, in Boy's Soccer's record of 8-2-2. Whether you ask fans at the games or Coach Marotto, all will agree that this year's team is the best Prep has seen in a while. Boys Soccer, following decades of losing or mediocre seasons, has finally come into its own. Seniors Colin Simons, Shaun Barber, Dejon Hush, Robbie Samuels and Andy Horvath have led the team, but cannot take all of the credit.

Some up-and-coming underclassmen players deserve attention too, such as Luis Garcia, Craig Fallon and Jeremy Stoler.

The team displays excitement, vigorous play and real teamwork. Even as the clock ticked away in double overtime of the Pennington game, they were able to stay strong on defense. Although they did not emerge victorious, they were able to withstand the threat of a loss. "Working together is what it is all about, and this year's team definitely shows the ability to do this", noted Coach Marotto. Samuels agrees that "everyone plays at their fullest potential, we have a really good chance at the State Champion-

ship." This means, if lead scorer and captain Shaun Barber keeps up the team's score, and Colin Simons is able to hold back the opposition as goalie, the odds are looking good.

An interesting phenomenon has developed this year as far as fan attendance is concerned. Once the team started winning, members of the Prep community began to come out to support the team. The fans are enthusiastic and occasionally rowdy, and their support is appreciated by the team. Barber said, "Without the fans, we wouldn't have been able to do as well as we have this season."



Caroline Elin

Ida Fiumefreddo Collides with an Opponent

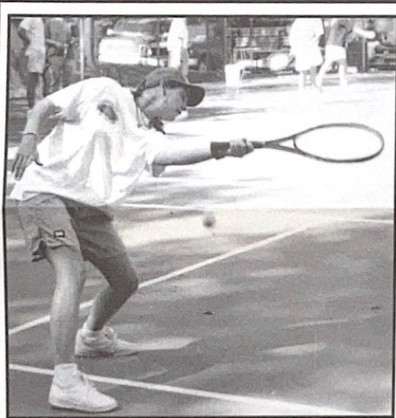
Girls' Soccer Coming Back

Jill Glazewski

The Girls' Soccer team is on its way to an excellent season, against all odds. After starting off with a 2-5 record, the team is in the midst of a winning streak and has brought its record to 5-5. With only three seniors starting, Prep's Girls' Soccer team is young. The majority are freshmen and sophomores, but these players are working hard to earn their positions on the field. In their first game, which was against Princeton Day School, the girls lost 4-1. What made the game even more damaging was the team's loss of Kamari Price for the rest of the season due to injury (torn ligaments in the knee).

Senior starter Cory Metzger described Prep's loss against Hun as being "the best game we've played yet this season." Although the girls lost the game 1-0 in overtime, every second was filled with Prep's intensity and vigor.

The most exciting game of the season so far, though, was against Newark Academy. With Prep trailing 2-1, sophomore Jamie Schurer scored more than halfway through the second half to tie. Then, with less than eight minutes left, freshman Hiam Boraie scored the goal that put Prep ahead to win it. Prep's comeback was a definite sign of the team's potential.



Caroline Elin

Sophomore Meredith Maxwell concentrates on the ball

Girls' Tennis

Brian Schaeffer

The Girls' Tennis team is off to slow start. Despite inspiration from Coach Paul and Coach Kearnin and strenuous practices, the team record is 1-3. The girls hope to improve this record by the end of the season. The team decisively beat Ranney, but was just edged out by Peddie, Pingry, and Morristown Beard. The singles players are Lynne Schwartz, Gracie Alcid, and Nicole Wasson, while the two doubles team consist of Amy Smith & Debbie Melnik and Nikki Samuels & Merideth Maxwell.

The team will also be powerful in upcoming years, because five out of the seven players are underclassmen.

Want to Join The Argo? Stop by and see Mrs. Arlene Wacker if you are interested.

Cross Country: On Pace

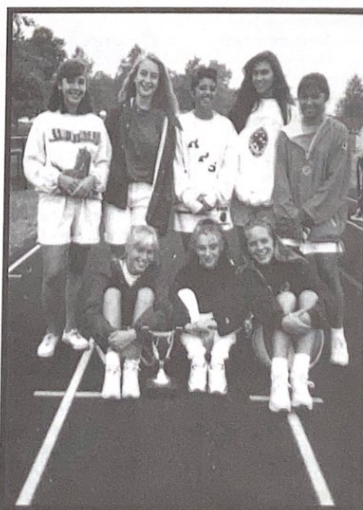
Sam Finklestein

Both Boys' and Girls' Cross Country are off to an excellent start. The girls won the Newark Invitational, and the boys placed third. In the Conferences, the boys placed second in a very close race and the girls won by default. The boys were within an inch of winning, but, as team captain Regis Renard said, "Unforeseen problems, such as injury and equipment difficulties kept us from repeating last year's victory."

Coach Dougherty and Coach Klingler are confident that Cross Country will improve its record and place well in other important meets, such as the States and the Counties.

The Boys' Cross Country team is has several strong runners as well as a great deal of depth. The team's losses were all against Division A schools, including such perennial powerhouses as Pingry and Blair. The team only lost to Peddie by one point.

The Girl's Cross Country team is notable for its vast potential. Erica Golliday, a transfer from BridgeWater, and Joanne Villanovera, a freshmen, play key roles on the team. Amy Holliday, when she is able to return from her injury (severe shin splints), will also play an important role.



The Girls' X-Country Victorious at the Prep Conference.

December Home Games

Boys' Basketball

12/5 Sol Schechter
12/12 Solebury School
12/14 Ad Farr. Acad
12/21 Prep Tournament
12/27 St. Andrews Florida

Wrestling

12/21 St. Mary's HS

Swimming

12/10 Hamilton North HS Away

Girls' Basketball

12/13 RPS Tourm
12/14 RPS Tournament
12/17 Lacordaire
12/18 Mt. St. Johns

Volleyball

12/2 St. Elizabeth
12/5 Mt. St. Johns
12/7 RPS Tourm