

THE ARGO

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RUTGERS PREPARATORY SCHOOL

February, 1987



Senior Paul Kuharsky was one of the few brave enough to donate during the Blood Drive.

Annual Blood drive to help community

by Jean Salamon

As the eighth annual blood drive came to a close, Mrs. Lair had a good feeling of its success. The Blood Drive was sponsored by the Greater New York, New Jersey Red Cross and was held in Baldwin Hall on December 8th. Many members of the faculty, seniors, parents, friends, and alumni joined together in the holiday spirit, donating their time and their services. Although there were over sixty volunteers, many people were unable to give blood because they had the flu. Having the flu or recently having one's ears pierced affects the blood. Before a person is permitted to donate, he/she must answer a questionnaire, explaining his/her medical history. If the person fulfills the necessary requirements, then he/she may proceed to donate blood.

Stressing the importance of donating blood, Mrs. Lair said, "A person has to give only one pint of blood, that can, in turn, save someone's life. There are no dangers involved in donating blood, causing it to be a very safe process."

Because they were below the donating age, which is seventeen, Shirley Chwatko and Larry Hamelsky volunteered their time by taking down important information about each individual donor. "It was a great pleasure in helping not only the school, but the community through the success and necessity of the blood drive," Shirley commented.

Refreshments were served in Baldwin Hall for all blood donors. Jelly beans, cookies, tea, and juice were available, which provided donors with a chance to regain their strength.

Donors included seniors Anick Jesdanun, Rebecca Kaizerman, Marc Eisenberg, Paul Kuharsky, Andy Hamelsky, and Jennifer Shein. Any senior or member of the faculty who was unable to donate blood at Prep, may do so at any Red Cross in their area.

College Guidance Office gains new video system

The college admissions department, headed by Mr. Daviet and Mrs. Hagin, has just been equipped with a new system. This system is comprised of video laser disks which contain short films on various colleges. A small television screen enables one to view the campuses and classrooms of different universities, while also hearing the opinions and thoughts of students residing in those colleges. There is an index which is arranged according to the states and next to it can be found the disk number.

The entire system came in right before winter vacation. It is intended primarily for the graduating class of 1988. Instead of visiting a college without any idea of what the campus looks like, the video laser disks allows students to see the campus beforehand. As Mr. Daviet said, "It is like a moving and viewing talk book."

Many colleges are also coming out with VHS tapes, so that students may see the college on a video recorder. The new system contains a VCR as well. The department has approximately ten colleges on video tape. When combined with its other resources, the number of universities to view is a total of eighty-nine. In addition, a special

disk has been ordered and should soon arrive. This is a "How-to" disk, and explains the procedures of filling out an application, a financial guide for parents, standard tests required by colleges, and other such general information.

For two years, seniors have been using the Apple computer to help in their selections for college. The Apple assists in college admissions by listing the school with its particular characteristics. One way that this is very effective is that the program lists the various sports teams available at each college. That way, if a student desires a specific sport in college, they can switch on the Apple to find out their options. The computer also provides geographical data, academic majors, and the necessary board scores for applying.

The college admissions office at Prep has provided students with a great advantage through laser disks, the Apple computer, informative books, and the expert guidance of Mrs. Hagin and Mr. Daviet. They hope to double the number of colleges available on disks by the end of the academic year.

The Fine Arts at Prep—past success, future dreams

by Leah Salamon and Althea Miller

The Drama Club's fall production of *Ten Little Indians* by Agatha Christie, turned out to be a huge success. The play ran December 4, 5, and 6 in Holley Hall. It's success was largely due to the long and laborious weeks of preparation put in by the cast and crew. People involved either onstage or backstage were Ms. Devine, Mr. Herzberg, Mr. Hickson, Crystal Canella, Richard Tse, Stavros Hartenias, Mrs. Clark-Von Ville, Gabriel Fizeki, Candy Juman, Ezra Weisz, Mr. Clark-Von Ville, Pat Condon, George Barood, Rebecca Kaizerman, Ron Lahiri, Debi Balsam, Alisha Coleman, LaurieAnn Avery, Sherrylynn

Lee, Leah Salamon, David Elfant, Anupama Jain, Akihiko Katayama, Deborah Shocket, Denise Sullivan, Michael Gatto, Heather Rotter, and Mr. Kendall. This year's play was the biggest drama production ever put on at Prep, and included the largest turnout. It was a positive effort to enhance the arts, which were steadily declining.

The winter production is scheduled for the last week in February. This production is to be very different when compared to the previous ones done at Prep. The Winter Arts Festival will include not only student written plays, but will also include other art forms such as visual arts, dance, photography, and public speech as well. The idea original-

ly started two years ago with "From Page to Stage", which was a production including only student written plays.

This celebration with students participating in various art forms, will involve "approximately one-fourth to one-third" of the student body and faculty, according to Mr. Herzberg. This production will take place throughout the campus including Holley Hall, Baldwin Hall, classrooms, and the lounge. The three plays that are being staged will also appear in the winter issue of *Excelsior '87*.

In coming months, the Drama Club will be expanding even more. Long range plans include a possible production with two one-act plays in the late spring.

RADIO FEVER

On January 12, 1987, two students and two members of the faculty aired on a live talk show on WCTC. The talk show concerned the idea of "positive peer pressure", and how this program has proved effective at Prep. The students involved were Mark Nathan and Andrea Neumaier, while their faculty counterparts were Mr. Levinson and Mrs. Antin.

The group returned to the studio on January 27 for an hour-long program. They were joined by Morgan Roth, graduate of Prep in 1982 and McGill University in 1986. Now a copywriter for WCTC, Ms. Roth spoke of how Prep prepared her for her future. Mark and Andrea spoke of their future plans, while Mr. Levinson and Mrs. Antin commented on programs to aid in college selection and choice.

Au Revoir to Mr. Gaggini

by Judy Clancy

In September of 1951, there was a new addition to the Prep faculty - Mr. Gaggini. Now, in January 1987, this teacher who has contributed a great deal in the areas of French and Spanish, has left after thirty-five years of service.

Back in 1951, the school was very different from what it is today. Besides Mr. Gaggini's arrival, other exciting changes took place. This was the first year Prep was not a boarding school and girls were also admitted to the high school. Unlike today, the eighth grade was a part of the high school, and there were a total of 100 students in all five grades.

During his thirty-five years at Prep, Mr. Gaggini took a total of three "leaves" to enhance his education. His first leave was in 1956-57 and was similar to a sabbatical. In this period, he received a grant from the United States government to teach English in Cambodia. He spent his second leave, 1966-67, in the Frankfurt International School, a private school in West Germany. His last leave was in 1981-82. In this year, he developed a presentation for the National Endowment for Humanities for a grant. The grant would allow Mr. Gaggini to be a part of an interdisciplinary course on seventeenth century France.

In the 50's, Mr. Gaggini instituted the Activity Period at Prep by presenting this program to the faculty. Not only did Mr. Gaggini serve as the Chairman of the Foreign Language Department, but also as Chairman for the Students' Life Committee, which dealt with student affairs. At that time, he was also a member of the Academic Advisory Committee, which includes no faculty members today. Mr. Gaggini served as President of the Cum Laude Society. He handled all of the dances, was advisor to Ye Dial for seven years, and was very supportive of the athletic program. In 1969, 1971, and again in 1980, Mr. Gaggini held studies to examine and improve the foreign language program at Prep.

RPS thanks Mr. Gaggini for the fine programs he instituted and supported here at Prep, and sincerely hopes to see more excellent teachers like him in the future. Mr. Gaggini commented, "I would not have been here all this time if I hadn't liked it, and if I could do my life over again, I'd do it the same."



Mr. Gaggini, who has spent thirty-five years teaching at Prep, retired in January.

Editorial

by Andrea Neumaier

The dress code is a subject regularly debated—should we have one, what should the code actually be? Are ties and jackets necessary, would a heavy sweater fulfill the same purpose? Is a winter jacket an acceptable substitute? Should it be? These are not the questions I wish to discuss. The points I have in mind are whether the dress code is discriminatory against males and the random, seemingly haphazard, enforcement of the existing code.

Points raised in AP Government class caused me to reflect upon this subject in greater depth than we did in class. The introduction to the dress code in the handbook states that all students are expected to be dressed in clothes that are "non-distracting, neat, clean, appropriate, and in good repair." The clarification of the word "appropriate" goes on to forbid sweats, longjohns, military-type apparel, T-shirts, sneakers, and work boots. The school counsels a "simple wardrobe, appropriate for teenagers" and states that school is not a daily fashion show. Now, how much of this has actually been applied recently? Especially to the female students. Since there is more diversity and flexibility in female dressing, they seem to get away with a lot more. If a boy isn't wearing a tie or a jacket, that fact is readily noticeable. However, the distinction between, say, long johns and "appropriate" pants is much finer. Girls do not always look neat and clean, which seems to be the reason for the dress code. Some suggestions have been made that boys should not need a jacket if they are wearing a heavy sweater. This would apply to the girls too. Also, boys need not wear a tie if they are wearing a sweater, as the tie is not visible anyway. These seem like a good start towards giving the boys some of the flexibility given to the girls.

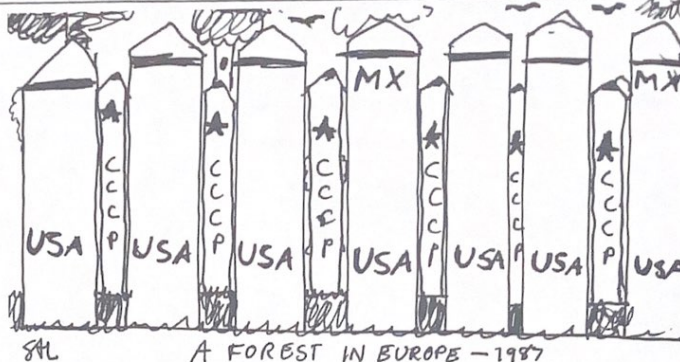
Not only do the girls seem to be stretching the dress code, but we must discuss the whole matter of whether to enforce the dress code at all. It appears to be a matter of choice from teacher to teacher. Some prefer to just ignore it while others regard it as the law. And those teachers who enforce it get a hard time from the students. All of this serves to confuse the student body to a greater extent. Take for instance the recent exam period. A senior privilege is that seniors in good standing are allowed to dress down. Looking around the exams, it seemed as though more than half of the room was in some way dressed down. And almost no demerits were handed out. What is the message in such actions from the faculty and administration? Of course students are going to take advantage.

This morning, in assembly, the administration announced that it has begun to resort back to demerits for dress code violations. In order for this "tightening of the reins" to work, I feel the faculty needs to come to a consensus, not on the dress code itself, but how to enforce it. Until then, students will still receive a double message, an unclear picture of what is expected. While teachers are paid to teach, and not to be policemen, they do have a commitment to give a consistent image to the students.

Springsteen "Live" his best album yet

by Stephanie Leveene

For years, Bruce Springsteen has been one of rock's premiere live performers, with many of his past shows taped and "bootlegged" for private profit. Now Bruce has put out his best album(s) yet: a five-record set titled *Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band—Live 1975-1985*. In the three and a half hours and forty songs are thirty-six originals and four cover songs, including Barrett Strong and Norman Whitfield's 1970 anti-Vietnam anthem "War", his first single from the album. In his songs, Springsteen many times deals with the harsh realities of the working-class, stemming from his background in Freehold and Asbury Park. "Johnny 99", a blues-sounding piece from his *Nebraska* album, tells of an auto-worker who got laid off, and in desperation because of debts got drunk one night and killed someone. "Seeds" is about a man looking for work and ending up homeless on the streets, "Nebraska" is the story of the real-life killing spree of Charles Starkweather in 1959, and "My Hometown" tells of the decay (as he sees it) of his own hometown of Freehold. But although much of Springsteen's popularity comes from the fact that he is real and speaks from the heart, he is also always ready to have a good time and can make some of the liveliest music around, which is especially evident on this album. One that really stands out is the nine-minute "Rosalita (Come Out Tonight)", which for years Bruce used as a finale to his concerts. It, like so many of his other songs, is powerful enough on the regular single, but shines even more when it's done live. As to be expected, a large chunk of the songs are from his *Born in the U.S.A.* album, and the live version of that song far surpasses the studio recording. What characterizes this album is the energy he puts into his songs, even on a "ballad" such as "4th of July, Asbury Park (Sandy)". These are not the homogenized, synthesized, pseudo-rock songs that have been invading our airwaves, but honest, good-time music that really says something. When he raps with his band and the audience on "Raise Your Hand" and "Growin' Up", you can tell that he really enjoys what he does. These albums sell for a bargain price of \$21-\$25 for five albums, and I would definitely recommend it for anyone who enjoys good rock—even if you're not a Springsteen fan.



Arms race is destructive

by Tom Conlon

America has reached what could be touted as the height of societal development. How can we allow our leaders to hold us hostage, pawns? Everything the world has accomplished stands to be annihilated in a matter of a week or so.

Conventional forces glut Europe. A concrete wall separates Germany, I'd imagine against the wishes of most of her citizens. Is it to keep 'them' in, 'us' out, or the Germans from the Germans? A reunited Germany would be a force to reckon with. Economically, numerically, and militarily, it would dominate Europe. Who gave us (i.e. NATO) the power to drive a wedge deep between 'east' and 'west,' to lobotomize a nation?

One is reminded, on a microcosm, of the neighbor who builds the fence to keep prying eyes from his pool-parties. You feel jealous. What is this schism that is such a mental block between 'us' and 'them'? It seems as if the Soviets, dragging along the Warsaw Pact nations with them, have taken the—ahem—liberty of assuming the classical role of have-nots, to one day surreptitiously against us fat, silly, stoned Americans. Would not Mr. Reagan be proud of this view? It is too easy.

Contentment has been losing face value steadily, as everyone who bothered to learn about it could have surmised. The fire was dying. But what do "we" do—throw another couple kilos of plutonium into the furnace—ha ha Star Wars!

This ill-starred project will violate so many treaties that it is impossible for the United States to gain the respect of anyone, including her more capable-of-thinking citizens. The idea is preposterous, any college engineering student could blow the thing out of the stratosphere.

Are we all children of the grave? We are the only ones with the power to halt this nonsense. Or we will all burn together. Where do WE go from here?

Television a step towards fighting drugs and alcohol

by Beth Miller

Television is one of the most powerful mediums in existence today. What comes to life on screen reaches millions of people and can effect their opinions and decisions. In the past ten years or so, this tool has been said to help fight some of America's largest social problems by presenting programs on once "taboo" or disregarded subjects. Lately, much of the attention has been on raising alcohol and drug awareness. The campaign has been successful in many ways, however the question still remains: is the medium getting the right message across? And if so, how effective is it?

In order to answer this question, one must first look at how the medium has been used successfully. For example the campaign against drunk driving. Before organizations such as Mothers Against Drunk Driving (M.A.D.D.) got their message on television through news reports and public service messages, many people were unaware that drunk driving was such a serious problem. As interest in the subject rose, more and more T.V. movies and specials discussing true-life tragedies caused by drunk driving were aired. The more horror stories people heard, the angrier and more involved people got. They not only pushed for tougher legislation on the subject, but they also looked at their lives and made changes in their attitudes towards drinking and driving. In this instance, television's wide reaching audience

contributed to the success of the campaign and overall awareness of the problem.

To further investigate television's effectiveness, one must also realize that some misconstrue a message. I feel that this is occurring with the rising campaign against "crack". Lately, during almost every commercial break there is a short message in which a celebrity recites an anti-crack slogan such as "crack kills" or "say no to crack". By itself, the idea is a good one. However, while the media emphasizes the effects of this drug, they neglect to point out the damaging effects of other drugs. Those who are uninformed may not realize that crack is just another form of cocaine, and that cocaine in its powdered form, as well as other drugs, can

be just as harmful as crack. Some may begin to think that they are safe as long as they stay away from crack, which is not true. This false sense of security can contribute to the overall problem.

Television is definitely a positive way to help fight America's drug and alcohol problems. However, it could be used more efficiently in combatting such complex problems. What must be shown is real-life facts about how drugs and alcohol can ruin a life. This must be done without neglecting any aspect of the problem. Perhaps by showing more of the upsetting truth, people can see how dangerous drugs and alcohol are. Drugs and alcohol are a serious problem in our society, and if we want to change this, they must be treated with frankness.

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Editors-in-Chief Andrea Neumaier, Heather Rotter

News Editor Usha Raghunathan

Opinions Editor Stephanie Leveene

Features Editor Rebecca Kaizerman

Sports Editor Sloan Kroop

Photography Editor Julia Lager

Exchange Editor Paul Kuharsky

Secretary Dan Gura

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Matt Group, Nick Jesdanun, Althea Miller, Beth Miller,

Becca Phelan, Jean Salamon, Leah Salamon,

Craig Seligman, Adrienne Townsen

Advisor Mrs. Wacker

Seniors finishing applications

by Nick Jesdanum

Students came by the dozen to the Upper School Office on December 8, holding large manila envelopes and flashing one dollar bills. They came with their future in their hands, for the contents of the envelopes could affect the rest of their lives. Inside the envelopes were completed college applications, and these seniors had waited until the last minute to hand them in.

December 8 was the date set by the school for all January 1 or 15 applications to be turned in. While this meant up to 38 less days for students to procrastinate and ponder over writing essays, the early deadline gave Natalie Fox, Secretary of College Guidance, a chance to photocopy all the transcripts and type recommendations by Christmas. Over 340 applications were turned in before vacation, a few of them late. "I was annoyed by all the late applications, and I wasn't sure I would get them finished before Christmas," commented Mrs. Fox. "Nevertheless, I found it fun working with the students and getting to know them." As of now, every application turned in has been sent out on time.

Some students did not actually

begin writing essays until early that morning, but most had completed applications ready to turn in. Although many students were unhappy about the 38 lost days, everyone was relieved to finally be finished with essays and applications. "Now I can finally enjoy my senior year," commented one senior. This marks the end of a very long and tedious college application process for most students. The only thing left is to relax and wait for the mid-April reply.

The college application process begins during the spring of the junior year. Students usually take their first SAT's and Achievements, and start asking various colleges for brochures and catalogs. Over the summer, students visit campuses across the nation and often interview at them. In late August or early September, the first batch of applications arrive at homes.

The most difficult part of the application is writing the essays. Many colleges do not specify a topic and allow students to write anything they wish to say. Once the topic has been chosen, the student must continually go through the process of editing until it is just right. Spelling or gram-

matical mistakes can take away from the content of the essay. Once the essays are finished, the application is basically ready to send in.

Students with a strong desire to attend a certain school can apply under the Early Decision or Early Action Plan. Deadlines set are earlier than Regular Admission applicants. The application is reviewed earlier, and a decision is made by mid-December. Under Early Decision, the student must attend that school and must withdraw applications to all other schools. The early action plan is non-binding. Applying early to a school can give the student a slight advantage, as it indicates that this is the student's first choice.

August Daviet, Director of College Guidance, notices that more applications have been turned in this year. Seventeen percent of the senior class has already been accepted to at least one college. While about half a dozen were notified under the early program, many were not. Compared with last year, there have been more acceptances at this stage. This is a good sign, and we all hope to hear more good news in mid-April.



Members of Students Against Drunk Driving (S.A.D.D.) helped create programs for December, Alcohol Awareness Month.

Drug and Alcohol awareness month

by Tony Foleno

December was National Drug and Alcohol Awareness month. Prep's chapter of Students Against Drunk Driving (SADD) took advantage of this by accomplishing what various groups are attempting to do throughout the nation's schools; to make students aware of the dangers of drugs and alcohol.

Mrs. Halpern, faculty advisor of SADD, and SADD officers were responsible for setting up many activities concerned with drug and alcohol awareness. The most important activities that took place in December were visits by speakers Ron Gaetano and Jeff Thaxton, both speaking to and warning students about the dangers of drugs and alcohol.

The speakers were very different from each other in their approach and style of presentation, but in their own way, both achieved the same goal. In sometimes funny, sometimes moving lectures, they both made students think about the dangers of substance abuse. The speakers greatly helped SADD achieve their main goal of making students aware of potential problems. Whether or not the students will heed the speakers' warnings is up to each student. It is important that SADD can only make students aware of drug and alcohol dangers, but it is up to students to listen; SADD can educate students, but cannot force them to obey.

The presentation by Ron Gaetano was special because he was paid to appear with money from the students, from the profits of last year's SADD carnival. He gave a moving, yet humorous account of his experiences with teenagers heavily involved in drugs and alcohol. His warnings stemmed from the troubled situations of teenagers he had dealt with, and the horrifying consequences of their actions. He spoke to both the Middle and Upper Schools. Mrs. Halpern was very impressed by him, saying that Ron Gaetano had "a good delivery of the message", and was very "dynamic".

However, many students were moved by Jeff Thaxton's presentation too. He started off with crazy antics and light humor, but proceeded to recount several tragic personal experiences. He talked about thinking of oneself as a "10", and explained that being involved with drugs and alcohol drastically lowers the self-rating. At the end of the assembly, students found themselves standing and repeating Jeff Thaxton's promise that they would hug and kiss their parents when they got home every day. Sophomore Alisha

Coleman said "I liked Jeff Thaxton the best. He got his point across and was a powerful speaker." Junior Wyndy Goldberg agrees: "Drug and alcohol awareness is important, and Jeff Thaxton got his point across to us because he spoke to us on our level."

A third important activity was a media presentation, "Amber Lights". This film was shown to the entire Upper School in the gymnasium on three wide screens that were as long as the basketball court. The main theme of this presentation was the importance of moderation. The film stated that losing control isn't good, and life should be lived in a balance. "Amber Lights" didn't deal only with drugs and alcohol; it also warned about other ways of "overdoing it", like overeating and spending too much while shopping. The popular music soundtrack that accompanied the film helped to reinforce the film's message of moderation through the lyrics. The entire presentation was impressive, but most students agreed that they found the speakers to be more effective. One student said, "I liked the speakers better, especially Ron Gaetano. They were more effective because they were personal and live, and they seemed to care about what was happening to this particular class."

Mrs. Halpern was quick to acknowledge and give credit to all of SADD officers who helped set up the activities. SADD's presidents are Rob Tuckman and Donna Goodman, the vice president is Jennifer Shein, the treasurer is Lauren Keller, and the secretary is Heather Bensko. Eileen Coakley, Chris Santi, Wyndy Goldberg, and Alex Wotenko are SADD's senior, junior, sophomore and freshman representatives, respectively. Along with Mrs. Halpern, these students were responsible for making others aware of drug and alcohol dangers.

This was only the second year that December was recognized as Drug and Alcohol Awareness month by SADD. And for the second time around, most students feel that SADD has done a very good job in making students aware. SADD hoped that the presentations would stop any Prep students from driving while intoxicated while coming home from holiday parties. But what about the ultimate goal of thwarting drug and alcohol abuse here at Prep? Mrs. Halpern says: "Alcohol and Drug Awareness month helped to educate, but this is not the entire answer. It is, though, a step in the right direction."

Model Congress wins gavels

On Friday, December 12, 1986, a group of 30 juniors and seniors set off with Mrs. Wacker and Mrs. Dutta for the Princeton Model Congress in Washington D.C. Each student was either a Senator or Representative in Senate or House Committees within a Red, White or Blue Congress.

This year Congress had a few different policies from last year. Most importantly, all students at the Congress were required to have a bill if they expected to participate. Then the committee members, rather than the committee chairpersons, ranked the bill, thus determining the order in which they were presented. Overall, this created a much more competitive Congress. Unfortunately, all meetings were held in the hotel—Hyatt Regency on Capitol Hill. Last year a large percentage of the meetings were held in the Russell and Dirksen Senate Office Buildings.

This year, Prep's delegation brought home two gavels and an Honorable Mention. The gavel is presented by each chairperson to the outstanding statesman of the committee. More notably, four of the twelve laws passed during the weekend were sponsored by Prep students.

Representative Steve Freedman, a senior attending

Model Congress for the first time, passed a law originating in the Blue House Committee on Ways and Means. His law increases funding for student aid from \$10 billion to \$13 billion.

Craig Barrack, a second year Senator on the White Senate Committee on Judiciary passed a Constitutional Amendment which changed the electoral college system. Rather than each state having a certain number of total electoral votes, each congressional district would have one electoral vote. In reality such an amendment would have to be ratified by 3/4 of the states before becoming a part of the Constitution. "I was really surprised at the level of support I received. In my case it was especially important because I needed a 2/3 vote, not just a simple majority," said Craig.

Senator Paul Kuharsky was also a member of the White Senate Judiciary Committee. His law established a nine member intra-circuit tribunal to lighten the workload of the Supreme Court.

On the Red Senate Armed Services Committee, Senator Kara Dunigan passed a law which would reduce waste and fraud in Pentagon contracts.

Mark Nathan was awarded an Honorable Mention on the White House Committee on Foreign Af-

fairs. His bill set up a Congressional committee which would be informed of pending Executive Agreements by the President in an effort to prevent situations such as the recent Iran arms-contra scandal. Unfortunately, Congress was adjourned before Mark's bill, which had passed the House, reached the Senate floor.

Junior Mike Rosen was awarded the gavel on the White Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works. "I really had a great time on this trip. In both my Committee and Senate I felt like I presented a lot of unpopular opinions, and it feels good to know that although I saw some things from a different point of view, my efforts were rewarded."

Senior Paul Kuharsky, this year's delegation leader along with Craig Barrack, brought home the second gavel, after winning an Honorable Mention last year. "Ever since last year, I was determined to win the gavel as a senior. I really had a lot of competition and I think it could have just as easily gone to someone else," commented Paul.

Senior Andy Hamelsky, at Model Congress for the first time noted that, "A lot of us were here for the first time didn't know what to expect. But by Friday night were already looking for our friends with stories of a bill we amended, or helped to defeat, or pass. I think everybody was well prepared; which made everything a lot easier."

Mrs. Wacker was equally impressed, and upon the group's return she commented that, "This year was definitely more competitive than Model Congress has been in the past. We may not come home with the large number of prizes we have had in the past, but Rutgers Prep produced 1/3 of the laws passed this year and had an Honorable Mention and two gavels."



Senators and Representatives left their mark on Washington, D.C. while participating in the Princeton Model Congress.

Grapplers led by seniors

by Adrienne Townsen

The wrestling team has been performing quite well this season, considering the fact that it has had many setbacks. The team has a record of 6-5, with many of those losses due to sickness and injuries. As long as everyone stays strong and healthy, Coach Dougherty and Coach Maratto both feel that they have an excellent chance of winning their next matches.

The team has strong senior leadership this year with captains Joe Bornheimer, Danny Gura, Craig Seligman and Rob Tuckman. This leadership will help the younger guys to come through during matches. This year's team is fuller and more balanced with guys in weight classes that are pushing the front line. The lineup includes captains Joe at 170, Danny at 129, Craig at 156, and Rob at 188. The rest of the starting line consists of junior Keith Hancox at heavyweight, junior Peter Kelman at 148, freshman Danny Oross and sophomore Adam Balsam at 141, junior Chris Santi at 135, freshman Danny Karen at 122, junior John Knepper at 108 and sophomore Scott Maltzman at 101. As of now, Prep lacks a steady wrestler in the 114 pound weight class. However, freshmen Aton Muked and Josh Greenstein

have both wrestled in that class.

One major accomplishment for the team came in the middle of the season. The guys showed their potential to succeed in tournaments as they placed seventh out of 16 schools in the county tournament. This was one of the best finishes in Prep's wrestling history. It is also important to note the tremendous effort the team puts forth coming from such a small school. Many of the schools they competed against have thousands of students compared to Prep's mere 265. This tournament was also the first time in seven years that Prep had two wrestlers in the finals. Rob Tuckman and Keith Hancox were seeded 3rd and 4th after competing the finals.

Keith and Rob's achievements were outstanding. Rob pinned his way to the finals and had an excellent chance of winning in his weight class. In the last match he forced a move and was caught. Unfortunately, Rob was pinned and finished second. Keith also pinned his way to the finals, but as 4th seeded wrestler he had to compete against the 1st seeded and was defeated. However, while making his way to finals, Keith defeated the returning heavyweight champion from Bridgewater East. This match

went into overtime and was probably one of the most exciting matches of the county tournament.

The team recently had a good showing at the Hun Tournament. The guys took third place overall out of seven teams. Mike Updike took a fourth place, while Chris took a third. John Knepper and Keith both took second places. So did Peter, by an illegal slam, which rendered him unable to compete in the finals. Joe and Rob, who were both seeded first in their weight classes, captured second places also. With the Prep Conference Meet coming up, the team is psyched for a great finish to the 1986-87 season.

B-ball — the legacy lives on

The varsity and junior varsity boys basketball team is once again in the midst of a very successful season. Anybody who listens in the morning assemblies or reads the array of articles posted in the Field House can tell you that the basketball team is the most competitive team at Prep. In fact, they seem to defeat other teams so badly that it is difficult to be a spectator at a really close match.

The nucleus of the team revolves around co-captains Dave Dixon and Jason Tucker, Rick Lloyd, Chris Miller, Steve Ciraulo, Tim Cirenza, Sean

Lewis, and Billy Slackman. The team has great depth including size, speed, and aggressiveness on the court. One may think that the team has it easy with their new uniforms, warm-up outfits, and practice clothes, but they work for and deserve them. They are expected to win and must work extra hard in practices to keep their reputation.

Over winter vacation the team competed against other schools in Boca Raton, Florida for the second year in a row. The guys looked forward to the trip, and although the weather was not that great, they were able to

practice basketball and play against some tough competition. The team made it to the second round of the final tournament and headed home on New Year's Eve.

Coach O'Connell expects a lot from his players and is confident that they will fare well in the upcoming state tournaments. The key to the team's success is their ability to create turnovers and force penalties in their favor. They concentrate on this in practices as well as basic ball handling skills that can never be overlooked. The guys have also established a consistent flow between their offensive and defensive game plan. It is important for them to be patient in the games and not try to force a shot if the opportunity does not present itself.

It is safe to say that the boys have matured as a team throughout the season. They are now familiar with each other's style of play and can integrate their strengths in order to camouflage any weaknesses.

frustrating when we were in our slump. We were not playing as a team. It is amazing how we pulled ourselves together and are playing like the winners we know we are," commented co-captain Sloan Kroop. The girls are looking for success in the state tournament.

Spikers hit hard

The girls volleyball team has experienced a roller coaster season thus far. They began the season with an easy win over Mt. St. Johns but since then have lost tough games to schools such as P.D.S. and Morristown Beard. Now that the team has faced competition, they can pinpoint and focus on the things that are causing problems in the game.

Volleyball is an aggressive sport and must be played as one in order to win. The girls' primary goal is to convert all defense into offensive plays. It is important for the girls to pass well so the ball can be set for the spike. Junior co-captain Beth Miller has the best spike on the team and comes through in the games. Seniors Eileen Coakley and Michele McGuire are responsible for setting the ball to the spiker so most passes are aimed at them.

Recently, the girls defeated Newark Academy in two games, winning 15-7 and 15-12. The key to this win was the aggressive play of the team at the net. Of course, it is impossible to achieve any success without consistent serving. However, this responsibility has to be practiced on the girls free time so other strategies can be worked on.

Coach Bobst is eager for the girls to play to their potential. The team is loaded with talent and most of the members are experienced. The varsity squad consists of seniors Sloan Kroop, Michele McGuire, Nancy Hegedus, Rebecca Kalzerman, Eileen Coakley, Heather Rotter, and Kara Dunigan; and juniors Beth Miller, Justine DeSantis and Debbie Goldberg. "It was very

Girls improve

by Becca Phelan

In the midst of the 1986-87 winter athletic season, the girls' varsity and junior varsity basketball teams are struggling. They have been competing against very tough teams, some of which have been public schools and private schools placed in a higher division due to a larger enrollment. Coaches Mary Klinger and Mike Delia feel that the team has grown stronger and more united throughout the season. They feel more confident about the team in general, and are optimistic about concluding the season on a competitive note.

"The team is based on defense," notes Coach Klinger. "When the girls play aggressive, we win." This was evident in the game against Kent Place. Junior co-captain Julie Cunjak has been the driving force of the team. "Julie has really provided leadership for the other girls. Just watching her in practice is enough to give anybody incentive," comments Klinger. All the girls are really dedicated to the sport. There were practices over winter recess, and it is not rare to see the girls in the gym on Saturday mornings. The team is at a loss due to the injury of co-captain Kama Bethel, who tore several ligaments in her lower leg during a game. However, it has forced the team to pull together and discover the hidden talent of many players including Heather Bensko, Sandy Wardlow, and Carla Gonzalez.

Practices revolve around basic drills dealing with ball handling skills and shooting. The girls are also conscious of building their stamina. This is vital because they need to play competitively for the entire game in order to come out on top. The coaches also set up game-like situations in practices to prepare the girls for their competition. "This will make the team react more naturally in the games," states Coach Klinger.

The strongest asset that the girls possess is teamwork. The team has been working very hard, but has had difficulty defeating many rivals. Some of their competition has been Nueman Prep, Morristown Beard, Newark Academy, and Montclair-Kimberley. The entire team, except Kama, will be returning next year so there are hopes for a stronger record in the near future due to added experience and talents from the upcoming freshmen.

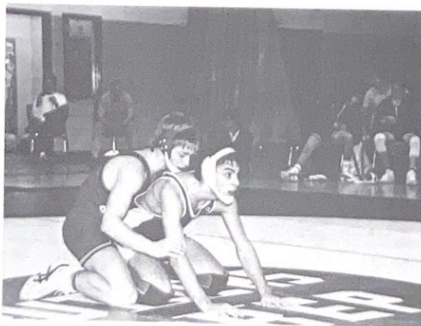
3rd in Conference

It has been another competitive season for Prep's only co-ed winter team. Each year the swimmers have to cope with the daily problem of practice facilities. Many times they are denied practice time when the Y.M.H.A. cannot fulfill the needs of the team. Most of their competitors have the luxury of their own school pool, which puts Prep at a disadvantage. Despite these setbacks, the team is working hard to reach their goal of a .500 season.

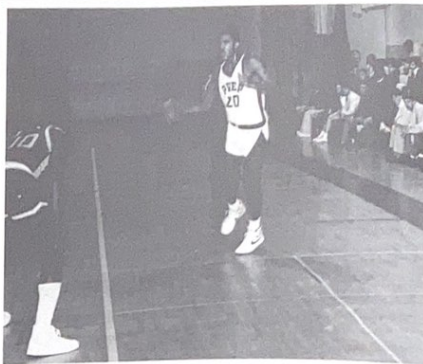
The team recently competed in the Prep Conference Meet. They took a third place out of six teams, the best finish the team has ever had. Key swimmers were Seth Grumet, who placed second in the 200 meter freestyle and third in the 100 meter butterfly, Paul Weiner, who placed second in both the 50 and 100 meter freestyle races, Jim Fox and Chris Racich, who combined with Seth and Paul for a second in the 400 meter freestyle relay. Other important swimmers were Todd Haedrich, Dave Schwam, Paul Koningsberg, Raissa Wilson, Mandy Holliday, Caroline Pozyski, and Andrea Neumaier. Nearly every team member swam a personal best time, a feat that especially pleased Coach Forney.

The team is lucky enough to be under the guidance of Coach Forney and assistant Coach Heidi Nestvogel. Coach Forney has a great deal of experience, coaching Prep swimmers for many years, and knows the sport well. Coach Nestvogel is a helpful addition to the team, working with swimmers individually.

There seems to be a special feeling of team unity among its members. They spend a lot of time together on the van rides to meets and practices. They have to support each other since it is difficult for Prep students to watch them swim against other schools.



Prep Conference winner Chris Santi concentrates during a recent wrestling match.



Senior Jason Tucker is a leader on this year's basketball team, which has clinched the Prep Conference title.