



# The Argo

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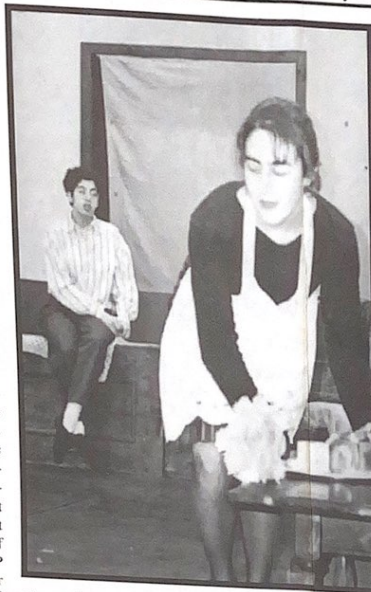
## French and English Classes View Film

Jen Geller

On February 2, the French classes and the AP English class went to the Montgomery Theater for a viewing of Gustave Flaubert's *Madame Bovary*. The two and a half hour film consisted of Flaubert's unique expressionism and realism in the language it was originally written in: French. AP English student Bessie Mbadugha expressed concern that, "the film adaptation deleted some important scenes that could have lent more to the character of Emma and her situation." AP French student Jeff Brinker added, "the sub-titles helped a lot. The actions and actors portrayed everything so fast that I would not know what happened without them."

*Madame Bovary* traces the married life of Emma and Charles Bovary. Emma, circumscribed by society and filled with boredom, turns to lovers as a way of escape. Charles, a country doctor, remains hopelessly in love with Emma and foolishly oblivious to her infidelities. The movie was a mostly faithful adaptation of the text, seeking to transfer the imagery and detailed descriptions from the book onto the screen. It contained aspects of the book such as "double-action" sequences and showed in the grisly, clinical manner of the book Emma's death scene.

While it seems that the majority of the students were not totally enthralled by the long and occasionally tedious movie, many of them felt that it was interesting to be able to compare the film with the book, and therefore rated the day overall as a success.



*Dora, the Beautiful Dishwasher, directed by Akin Salawu, and Foiled by An Innocent Maid, directed by Nicole Weitz, ran February 6-8. For review, see Page 3.*

## New Officers Elected to Council

Regis Renard

On February 9, School Council officer hopefuls gave their speeches and entertained questions about what they would do if elected and how they would do it. From the freshman class, David Sugarman and Andowa Newton were nominated to run for treasurer. The sophomore class gave nominations for Uma Ayyala and Meredith Maxwell to fill the position of secretary. The junior class had a larger pool of nominations consisting of Amanda Heron, Ryman Maxwell, and Marnee Richman for vice-president, and Luis Garcia and Matt Maccia for president. Each candidate spoke of their aspirations and qualifications for their respective positions. Uma Ayyala's "Vote for the best candidate!", Amanda Heron's "Help Wanted", and Luis Garcia's

"Thoreau campaign" are some examples of the multitude of posters placed around school to help garner votes. The long-awaited elections were held on February 12. David Sugarman was victorious in his bid for treasurer, while Uma Ayyala won the secretary spot. The races for vice-president and president were closely contested. Both required a run-off on February 13 because no candidate for either office had won over fifty percent of the original vote. When the run-off votes were tallied, Marnee Richman emerged as vice-president and Luis Garcia as president. According to current Council President Jason Kaplan, the current officers have enjoyed their tenure and will miss being in office, but are "looking forward to stepping down and having a chance to relax."

## Inroads Interviews Prep Students

Bessie Mbadugha

On January 9, five seniors were interviewed for admissions into the Inroads program. Inroads is part of a nationwide network, with 38 affiliates nationwide. The New Jersey affiliate has offices in Newark and New Brunswick. The mission of Inroads is to "develop and place talented minority youth in business and industry and prepare them for corporate and community leadership." The five seniors interviewed from Rutgers Prep were Bessie Mbadugha, Kendall White, Dejon Hush, Akin Salawu, and Nicole Martin.

Inroads was established in 1970 by Frank C. Carr, who recognized untapped potential among minority youth. He invited local corporations in Chicago to provide summer internships for Black, Hispanic, and Native American Indian college students, who could become future employees, after receiving training through the internships. Corporations contribute a tax deductible sponsorship fee which supports Inroads, and pay summer salaries to their interns. There are now 700 sponsors providing internships to 4600 students, including AT&T, Bellcore, Johnson & Johnson, Shell oil, The Prudential, IBM, Colgate-Palmolive, General Electric, and Merrill Lynch. Over 2500 minority youth have completed internships and now serve in leadership roles in corporate America.

A pre-College com-

ponent is operated through the Newark office. There are currently 52 college bound juniors and seniors with GPA's of 3.0 or higher in this program. These students plan careers in business, engineering, science, or liberal arts. Instruction to enhance math, computer, and English skills is provided by experienced teachers and Inroads staff. Rutgers University-Newark College of Arts of Sciences participates in this component. Development workshops, SAT/PSAT courses, corporate trips, and counseling in college and career choices suitable to the individual, are all included in the activities of this component. There is also an Alumni Component which has 95 "Inroaders" who have completed internships since 1987. Over 70% now work as professionals for Inroads/New Jersey sponsors. They also serve as counselors to young interns about to enter the corporate world.

The students interviewed for this program agreed that the money that can be earned through these internships is very attractive. Inroads interns make anywhere from \$10-\$15 an hour, working in corporations during the summers of their college years. Dejon Hush commenting on the interview stated with a smile, "next time I might have to remove my earring, so I would appear more conservative." The others appeared very hopeful and some were even confident about the interview results.

## Council Corner

Matt Maccia

School Council finished up 1991 with its annual food drive and toy drive. Both successfully helped needy families during the holidays. Council's next event is Career Day, which will be held on April 15. A survey was taken to see what careers the students are interested in. A committee was formed, headed by Scott Mory, Debbie Melnick, and Marnee Richman, to contact the speakers. Anyone with any suggestions should speak to Council president, Jason Kaplan. Council elections have just concluded,

signaling the approach of the end of the year.

The Constitution Committee, headed by Scott Mory, completed the needed revisions in the School Council Constitution. After hours of work and checking grammar and spelling, Council submitted the proposed changes to the student body in an assembly in Baldwin Hall, where the students voted on whether or not to accept the amendments. Afterwards, Council drafted a revised version of the Constitution complete with the added changes.

### Inside:

Play Review by Erik Wasson.....Features Page  
Dejon's Response to last issue's editorial.....Opinions Page  
Model Congress, Model U.N., and Junior Statesmen.....Features Page  
Roving Reporter feature on the new cafeteria.....Features Page



## Response to Akin's Editorial: More Problems at Prep

Dejon Hush

Many people objected to Akin's article in the Argo, which stressed the problems at Rutgers Prep that people do not believe exist. They said that his accusations had no bearings on the situations here. Much of what the article said had many truths, but lacked examples to back it up. Those criticized said that they had only been joking in the incidents described, but they also did not realize that these jokes hurt people and that taken out of context can be seen as racist or prejudiced.

The school pulled aside some black students to speak to them because of concerns that they were being exclusive. The school administration told this group that they should not hang around each other exclusively and should associate more with other people. It was said that other students were afraid of the black students when they would stand around together. Were they scared the black students would mug them? One of the school's justification for bringing this matter up was that they could not understand how a senior and sophomore, two of the black students who were hanging out together, could be such good friends. Could this be because they practically live across the street from each other, and only a year separates them in age? The school is now choosing who you can and cannot be friends with. Other groups of kids who hang around each other are often all Jewish or all Catholic or all white. Why was a group of black students picked out? Why does this group pose a threat to the majority?

Some time ago, I had an interview for Inroads. Afterwards, I talked to the interviewer. She told me that next time I go for an interview, I should take out my ear-

rings and I should wear a more conservative jacket. She told me that businesses have preconceived notions of what type of people they will hire. If I go for an interview and follow her advice, I would only be trying to hide who I am and what I am. A person in a business, after seeing me, will know that I am not conservative (mainly because of my hair). What would be the difference if my "soon to be employer" saw an earring in my ear or a hole in my ear? Does my appearance affect the way I think or contribute to the way I am mentally?

People say that this scenario does not exist, but it does. When you see someone that you do not know, if they are different from you in looks in a way that you do not like, you might put an idea into your head that you feel he or she is a "jerk" or a "loser". Think about how you have already become a judge and jury for that person without ever having given them a chance as a human being.

Akin's article holds a lot of truths that people may not want to hear. People probably disliked the article because they saw part of themselves in it. Society is full of prejudice, and for someone to refuse to believe that this problem can exist at Rutgers Prep is a view of ignorance.

The school has indirectly and directly contributed to this problem. In a sense, the school allows prejudice to thrive in our environment. The only time prejudice will cease to exist is when we all can look at each other as people with different names and hair styles, rather than people of different skin color or religious backgrounds. The administration should confront these issues before they become too large to handle.

## "Smells Like Teen Spirit..."

Dave Lee

What is the teen spirit that lead singer Kurt Cobain of Nirvana sings about? "Here we are now, entertain us/I feel stupid and contagious." In these few lines, he has captured the essence of American young adults: hungry, mob-like packs of wolves who are entirely hedonistic, always seeking pleasure.

As a teenager, I too am a part of this spirit. I feel myself drowned by my surroundings and I love it. We exist only to find pleasure in the world. We submit to our desire for highs: we drink endlessly, we fill ourselves with drugs, we involve ourselves in relationships. We live, breathe, and talk this pleasure. We think about how we can entertain ourselves, and nearly everyone finds a way. And all these peaks last a very short time

only to be followed by another stretch of wanting. How did we become such a narrow minded group?

This teen spirit can be found walking in the hall of Rutgers Prep, as well. The women flaunt and flirt, the men strut and smirk: planting seeds to blossom. Jokesters joke, continually chiding those vulnerable to criticism, gaining satisfaction from the pain of the one insulted and from the laughter of the crowd. Those few individuals who do know what is going on either assimilate or are treated as outsiders. That's all part of the teen spirit game: those who know the truth and choose to stand apart are shunned, those who participate are invited and accepted.

Most follow the pack, striving to achieve the peak of pleasure. But we do

not realize that we are often packs of pathetic, apathetic morons. We rarely listen to anyone but our peers, and we care only about how we look, smell, sound, and radiate.

This teen spirit reeks of something wrong. Relationships are based purely on pleasure and physical appearance, the desire for expensive cars and clothes, the apparent need to be "in" or "social." In this nation of conformists, we have ceased to be individuals. And this, more than the abuse we heap upon ourselves, more than the abuse we heap upon each other, is what is wrong with our "teen spirit."

Have an opinion?

The Argo welcomes letters to the editor.



Akin's article was very indicative of the problems present both in Rutgers Prep and in society-at-large. He does not call people racist, but brings the issue of prejudice out into the open. People have to take a step back and see that prejudice is a reality and will remain one until we, as the future generation, can see past differences of race, religion and gender, and look at each other as individuals.

### The Argo Staff

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**Editorial Policy:** In the interest of journalistic integrity, the Argo refuses to print pieces which contain tasteless criticism or personal attacks



## Roving Reporter

The Question: "What do you think of the new Cafeteria service?"



*Sophomore Violette Renard: 'I like the new cafeteria service. It seems cleaner and better than the old one. The new people running it listen to suggestions'*



*Senior Dejon Hush: 'Nothing has changed in the cafeteria except the prices and the fact that they have a soda machine. The food isn't the greatest. I like the Quik Chocolate Milk.'*



*Sophomore Dean Barber: 'I think the food is much better than the old cafeteria but a little too overpriced. The variety makes it especially better.'*



*Junior Paul Kermizian: 'It's better, but not by much. I like some of the food, but I can use up all my money and still be hungry'*



*Freshman Mimi Knoble: 'Overall, it's a definite improvement. The food tastes better and there's better selection'*



*Senior Jason Kaplan: 'The School Cafeteria... It's the only thing holding me back from going to college next year...NOT!'*

## Model Congress Returns; Model U.N. and Junior Statesmen Gear Up for Trips

Drew Rafalaf

In December, Mrs. Wacker led a group of sophomores, juniors, and seniors to the yearly Princeton Model Congress in Washington D.C. This March, Mr. Stefani will lead two similar trips. He is the advisor of Model U.N. and of a new club called Junior Statesmen. Model U.N. will take place in New York, while the Junior Statesmen will occur in Washington D.C. Maireen McCue, Nicole Martin, Akin Salawu, and Jamie Kelner are the delegation leaders for Model U.N., where students act as representatives of countries and debate international policy. Senior Dejon Hush founded a chapter of the Junior Statesmen at Rutgers Prep after he learned about it during a summer program. Junior Statesmen is similar to Model Congress, but is organized somewhat differently. Students involved in the program include Meredith Maxwell, Jeremy Goldberg, Joe Folen, Jill Glazewski, Regis Renard, and a large number of sophomores and freshmen.

The Model Congress this year was comprised of three separate Congresses: a Red House of Representatives

and Senate, a White House and Senate, and a Blue House and Senate. The three Congresses are similar, but were divided to accommodate the large amount of people from around the country who attended the convention. Each Senate and House is further divided into committees, such as Ways and Means in the House, and Armed Forces in the Senate. Along with Congress, there is a Model Supreme Court and a National Security Council.

While in their committees, the participants had to support their bills in debate, and debate for or against the other bills in their committees. If the bill passed out of committee, it went to its affiliated House or Senate, and if passed by that house, travelled to the other. Bills that were passed by both houses were considered to be laws.

Scott Mory, as Rutgers Prep delegate to the National Security Council stated, "I loved it." The NSC consisted of discussing foreign policy options that would be made available to the President. Also, members of the NSC would sometimes testify

as expert witnesses before the Senate and House Foreign Affairs Committees of the subject of bills or in times of international crises.

Those who attended the Congress overwhelmingly found it to be interesting and challenging, and some of the Rutgers Prep entrants picked up awards for their achievements. Elizabeth Sugarman, Amy Sheridan, Akin Salawu and Eric Wasson received commendations for their committees. Another commendation was for Regis Renard who was the layout editor and the driving force behind the success of the Model Congress newspaper. The members of this paper were able to put out a new edition every morning, working long hours through the night to do so. Scott Mory was awarded a gavel, the top honor, for his success in the National Security Council, and Drew Rafalaf won two gavels, one for the Blue House Ways and Means committee and the other for the Blue House of Representatives.

## Two Different Directors and Two Different Plays Add Up To Night of Laughter

Eric Wasson

Melodrama is at its best when it serves to justify daily existence, with its individual deviations from preset norms, by ridiculing the social tendency to assign actions and roles. By exhibiting stereotypes, such theater provides a comic look upon the dependent institutions of stage and life. The winter productions constituted two different approaches to the performance of such melodrama, each pleasing to the audience's palate for laughter, each separate in color, texture, and strategy.

*Dora, the Beautiful Dishwasher*, directed by Akin Salawu, made its attack on the taste buds via exaggeration of gestures. On opening night, the farcical reactions of the cigarette-holder totting Anna Moral and housemaid contributed to the necessary anti-theater element. The brilliant use of wine-bottle motions were the culmination of this vein of comic insight. The well-placed photograph of the lead actor, lovingly over-cherished, also ridiculed predetermined social behavior to the tune of laughter. The MC performed a coup de grace with her "Wow, this is so exciting" at the end of one of the acts, furthering the self-mocking design of Mr. Salawu. Taken in total, his play was a great use of props and encouraging presentation of farcical melodrama. Strong performances by Jen Hasenburg as the dishwasher, justly over-innocent, and the hero, a breast-beating type-cast Dave Lee who was suitably overdone, greatly strengthened the elixir which Salawu forces the audience to drink.

If the direct method produces a rather titillating feeling on the back of the tongue, the indirect magic of Ms. Wietz finishes only after stimulating every corpuscle of tongue, mouth and guffaw-producing innards. Hers, in *Foiled by an Innocent Maid*, is a method of less farce, greater vocal antics and sudden revelations to her anti-theater subtext. If Salawu must slap

the audience with Mr. Lee's fists, Wietz dances around stereotypes of the old, of love, of heroism and of villainy and then stabs mightily with a dagger in a punctuated equilibrium. Madai, brilliantly costumes, renders the poorly written text with just the self-mockery that its staging as melodrama demands. The anti-theater vests itself in the musical accompaniment and in the unmusical shrieking of Ms. Karen's Folsabee. Her high-pitched standard reaction first evokes the revulsion of the covered ear. However, underlying the revulsion is a realization that this is magnificent satire, comment on society's role for women. While pop-culture's "Jimmy" may not sound like the traditional ovation for heroes, in fact, Wietz used it, in a magnified manner, to the same end. The reviewer has rarely enjoyed such mirth as when hearing the music at Mr. Folen's entrance. The same actor's hysterical passage by the window was typical of the evening's sudden jabs of perspective. Ms. Knoble also danced well to her prescribed tune.

The juxtaposition of the work of two budding directors is bound to breed comparison. The work of Akin Salawu is strikingly modern in its direct assault on the traditions of theater. In being "modern," it is in some ways old: like the modern theater of the 1950s and of anti-opera its effect on the audience has greatly diminished with the passage of time. Stressing the underlying purpose of melodrama, it flew and then evaporated. The work of Nicole Wietz, in the end, presents the more wholesome experience. Subtlety makes the medicine go down. The spectacle of traditional comedy strengthens, instead of hindering, the melodramatist's message or anti-message. It lingers on the memory like Limberg cheese. The B, the r, the a, the v, the o. Like all solid performances and food items, the winter productions left the reviewer hungering for an encore.



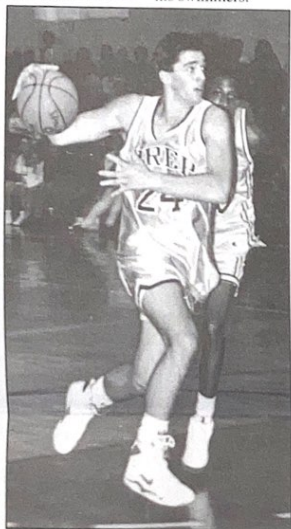
## Swimmers Splash to Success

Amanda Heron

This year, Rutgers Prep's swim team is off to a great season with a record of eight wins and two losses. They came in second in conferences losing to Morristown Beard by only six points. Although the team lost three swimmers since last season, the six new swimmers gained have produced.

With states coming up soon (February 18th for girls and 19th for boys) the team is working harder than

ever. "The girls have a chance of defending their state championship title", said Coach Forney. "In my four years of swimming at this school, this year's team shows the most promise of winning states.", added senior Dan Miller. "The sport attracts good kids. That has been my experience over the last twelve years. I have always had good kids out for the team," concluded Coach Forney, noticeably proud of his swimmers.



Colin Simons breaks through a hole in Franklin's defense

## Boys' Basketball Playing Strong

Brian Schaeffer

The Boys' Basketball team is gearing up to defend their state championship title this season, and has just come off of tough wins in the second and third rounds of play in the Somerset County tournament. With 21 wins and only 5 losses the team has high expectations of completing their goal. With the momentum the team has gained during the second half of the season, they have few obstacles to overcome: two were reversing losses against Pingry and Franklin and another was Tuesday's win over Dwight Englewood, which had been ranked above them in the State tournament.

Earlier this year, the Basketball team participated in St. Andrews School tournament in Florida. The team took first in the tournament with many players making all-tournament. During the tournament, Senior Paul McLaughlin scored his

1,000th career point. Fellow senior Brian Lloyd also scored his 1,000th point in a home game against Morristown Beard. "It's a great feeling!", said Brian after scoring the point. But hitting these high marks has not slowed down these Prep stars. "They add to the team both on and off the court," states senior Dennis Timko, "Paul and Brian are spectacular to watch from the side. They contribute to our team a lot. They always try to make the big plays and usually succeed. They are two keys to our success." Shadowed by the team's offense, another part of the team's success is their defense. Colin Simons and Tim Ruiz offer depth to the team's defensive play. "We want to go to the finals, and that is enough for us to get there," said Colin Simons. The team's remaining games are all post-season play in state or county games.



## Girls' Volleyball on Rampage

The Girls' Volleyball team is heading their way to the state finals. A perennial powerhouse for Prep, the team has enjoyed a phenomenal success rate of 19 wins and 2 losses. Its only losses were to Lawrenceville.. "Lawrenceville is a tough team. They have postgraduates, which gives them an unfair advantage over schools like Prep", said Senior Gracie

Alcid. But despite the losses, the team has taken first in Morristown Beard tournament and 7th in their first Choate School tournament up in Connecticut. "There were teams from Canada and all over the North East in the tournament. The teams there played to 11 points instead of 15 and added winnings by services and side out advantages and disadvantages,

rules which we at Prep are very unaccustomed to", said Sophomore Violette Renard. The girls' team, led by starters Laureen Trainer, Gracie Alcid, Lindsay Bensco, Lynn Schwartz, and Sharon Salamon, has upcoming games in the N.J.I.S.W.A.A state tournament. The team, riding high after recent victories, feels that it has a good chance of winning.

## Girls' Basketball on the Rise

Jill Glazewski

As the close of the season draws near, the Girls' Basketball team heads into the state tournament with a record of 10-7. The team came back from winter break and lost four games in a row before putting it together to rip apart Saddle River 43-27. In that game, sophomore Gia Bocra led the scorers with 20 points.

The team went on to edge St. Elizabeth 51-49. Junior Jill Glazewski finished with 20 points. Next on the schedule were archrivals Pennington and

Pingry. Prep crushed Pennington by a score of 40 to 26, led by Andrea McLaughlin's 14 points. Then Prep hung on to beat Pingry, 43-38. This was one of the girls' best games, as they had to compete back and forth with Pingry for the lead. The lead scorer in the game was Jill Glazewski.

Prep will meet Gill St. Bernards in the upcoming state tourney. The Argonauts lost 44-33 in their last meeting but hope to change that because of their better, more consistent play recently. A



Tara Auciello looks for an open teammate to pass to. win against Gill will not only allow them to advance in states, but would also be a great confidence booster for the young team.

## Wrestlers Attempt to Pin Down Crucial Victories

Sam Finkelstein

The Wrestling squad has had tough times this season. Plagued with injuries and bad chance, the team has dropped to a 6 win 6 loss and 2 tie record. Despite their record, Prep has some of the best wrestlers in their division. Senior Shaun Barber, posting a 21 win and 2 loss record, Juniors Paul Kermizian, 15-8-1, Kevin McGowen, 12-10, Rob Gonzalez, and Sim Jagannathan, Sophomores Steven Lenard, 16-8, and

Dean Barber, 7-8-1, and Freshman Billy Bocra, 14-7, have performed well.

Recently, Prep participated in the Hun and Prep Conferences where the team placed third in both. At the Hun tournament, Prep posted first place victories by Billy Bocra, second places by Shaun Barber and Steven Lenard, and third places by Dean Barber, Sim Jagannathan, Kevin McGowen and Rob Gonzalez. In the Prep Conference tournament, Prep had

two first places: Shaun Barber at 145lbs and Kevin McGowen at 152lbs. It also had a second place win by Billy Bocra at 112lbs, and Paul Kermizian placed third at 125lbs. The wrestling team is preparing for the national tournament at Lehigh University in Pennsylvania, which will be followed shortly by the state tournament.