

School is evaluated

by Phil Kosnett

On February 1, Prep was visited by a member of the State Department of Education, whose job it was to determine if Prep were qualified for state accreditation. The school passed.

Dr. Walter McCarthy, a former public high school principal, was responsible for examining Prep's curriculum, personnel, facilities, and "philosophy" to decide whether the school was educating its students in a responsible manner, and for making suggestions which the administration is free to ignore.

Prep was accredited years ago but the approval expired, forcing a re-evaluation. Accreditation is considered useful because colleges and parents think more highly of accredited schools. In addition, accredited schools can transfer student credits to another school more easily.

The process began with a study prepared by the administration and presented to the State Department of Education, detailing what the administration considered the school's faults and strong points. McCarthy studied it, then visited the school. He spoke with groups from administration, faculty, and the student body to discuss the school.

McCarthy said afterwards that, "While the school, like all schools, could improve, it easily meets the requirements for accreditation—the required courses, the right number of days per year, and experienced, trained teachers with an effective

variety of teaching methods."

Prep will next come up for re-accreditation in 1982.

Eleven students met with McCarthy to give their views on the school. A variety of complaints were raised, including a lack of liberal arts electives, a disorganized Social Affairs program, the lack of emphasis on art and the need for a modern music course. Study halls were criticized as too strict. And the dress code, not surprisingly, was bitterly protested. The lunchroom food was described as "vaguely resembling something barely edible."

But by far the students showed the most emotion on the question of the library. Every student violently protested what was termed, "gross mismanagement," "a horrible way to run a library," and "an effort to keep us from getting anything done." All agreed that the library could be of great use if students were not "kicked out for stupid, arbitrary reasons."

McCarthy agreed that from what he had heard the library was being poorly handled, and he suggested that a relaxation of discipline would let the students work in peace and give the library staff more time to do "its proper work."

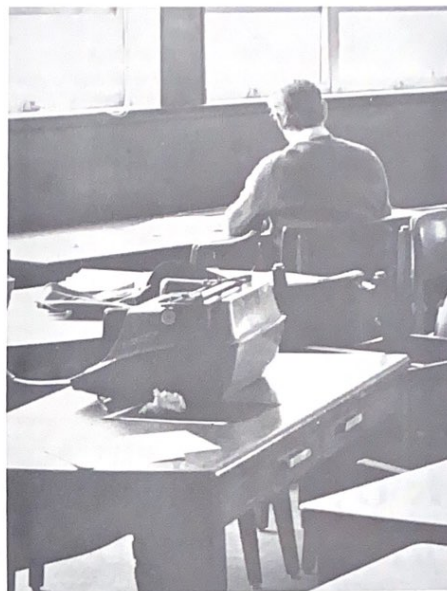
The students did have some good things to say. The faculty was praised for being helpful and accessible. Courses were described as "challenging." The athletic program was praised, and most students agreed

that they were probably getting a better education than friends in other schools. The mix of students from different areas and economic levels was called "healthy." Still 5% of the students in the conference said that they would not have enrolled at Prep if they knew then what they know now.

Students swap schools

On March 16, an innovative project will take place at Prep and six other Central Jersey schools: an interscholastic exchange. Six pairs of students from each school will attend classes at each of the other participating schools, which include Prep, South River, North Hunterdon and Montclair.

Juliana Ratych is head of the interscholastic exchange committee of the School Council. She is enthusiastic and expects it to be a success. "It will give our students a chance to observe and bring back some new ideas that other schools are trying," she notes. She said that it has not yet been decided whether the exchange students would be chosen from the whole school or exclusively from the Council.



An example of the new office furniture in the business office.
photo by Tom Ehlert

Middle School News

Ski club instituted

Seventh grader Scott Groner is responsible for starting the only Middle School club: skiing. Scott, a ski enthusiast, started the club because of his enjoyment of the sport. Scott, with the help of the club's advisor, Mr. Steven Lewandowski, set up reservations, rentals, costs, times, and got permission slips.

Trips take place on Fridays or Saturdays. Two trips have already been taken; the first to Vernon Valley—Great Gorge on December 18, and the second also to Vernon Valley—Great Gorge, two weeks later. An average of thirteen students attended each trip. They go for the day, but not overnight. Prices vary but it costs about thirteen dollars without equipment rental, or twenty dollars with it.

About four more trips will be taken. The next is February 26, followed by two in March, and, weather and snow permitting, one in April. It is expected that the Upper School students will be invited on some of these.

Scott and Mr. Lewandowski feel the club is a success and they will get started again early next winter, perhaps with a trip every other week.

The exam schedule in the Middle School improved this year. Because Middle School students are required to go to classes for the whole day, a suitable schedule had to be worked out. Last year the student went to all of his classes for a short period each time. This year he went only to the classes in which exams would be given the next two days. Mrs. Evelyn Daniels felt this benefited the student more than last year's schedule.

On the last day of exams there was a pizza party. It featured a display of "scientific magic" by Headmaster August H. Daviet. In his display, Mr. Daviet made a mini-volcano, froze various items in liquid nitrogen, and mysteriously lit candles located on the opposite side of the stage.

Mr. Stanley's seventh grade language skills class had a bake sale on February 8. The money will go toward prizes for an essay contest open to 6th, 7th and 8th graders. The theme is "Mysterious Happenings," such as the Loch Ness monster and Bigfoot. The compositions will not necessarily be fiction. The contest is a month or two in the future.

Senior-Faculty Bowling

The faculty conquered in the Senior-Faculty Bowling match on Saturday, Feb. 5. Led by Mr. Anderson, whose form is being admired by Evelyn Roesler and Dr. Spertudo, they beat the student team by 144 to 103. Elmer Virag topped for the seniors' scores at the Carolier Lanes, with a 177, followed by Dave Soong with a 151. Mary Ann Hatala's 136 was the highest score of any girl. Elmer Virag was awarded a spanking new car as Most Valuable Player. Unfortunately, it is ¼ scale, and Elmer is not.

photo by Tom Ehlert



Movie makes money; librarian is board head

On January 28 the Library Club held its first social event of the year with the showing of the Rudyard Kipling classic, Gunga Din. Mrs. Amy Von der Porten and the club members chose to show Gunga Din because they felt that it is a movie that caters to all age groups. According to Tony Scialabba, Vice President of the Library Club, the main reason for the film was for the students' and parents' enjoyment and profit was a secondary concern.

Although a profit was made, there was a smaller turnout than had been expected. While the basketball team members were unable to attend the movie because of a conflicting game, the main reason for the small attendance was the adverse weather conditions. However, those who were able to attend had a pleasurable evening. According to Mrs. Von der Porten, "everyone enjoyed it and suggested that it be done again. It was a very sociable evening."

Mrs. Amy Von der Porten has recently been re-elected President of the Board of Trustees of the Old Bridge Township Library. This will be her third year of holding this position. She has also been reappointed as a Board member for an additional five years. As President of the Board of Trustees, Mrs. Von der Porten will head the Board, sign the legal documents, and be in charge of the overall policy of the library.

—News in brief—

Furniture

Through the efforts of the late Mr. Anthony Scialabba many pieces of office furniture were acquired for the school. The First National State Bank of New Jersey, Mr. Scialabba's employer, donated the surplus used furniture. It has been welcomed by the faculty and administration. After clearing it with the headmaster, any teacher may walk into the development office and pick out a needed desk or various other items for school use.

Model U.N. Trip

On February 23, the Model U.N. Club will leave Prep for New York City. They will take a tour of the United Nations buildings at 9:00 A.M. Later at 2:00 P.M., they will meet with a representative of the Netherlands. Mrs. Dutta, the club's advisor, said that this meeting was in preparation for the coming Model U.N. which will take place March 3-6. In this year's Model U.N., Prep's students will be representing the Netherlands.

Editorial

Does an A in Chemistry mean the same thing as an A in Phys-Chem? Under current school practice, there is no weighing of course difficulty in computing a student's average, class rank, or honors. Students taking five subjects or difficult subjects are put at a disadvantage, since their grades are probably lower than if they had taken an easier route.

Many schools have a system in which each course is assigned a point value based on degree of difficulty, and then by some mathematical formula weighted ranks is arrived upon. Weighting courses, however, is not simple.

Is Algebra II more difficult than Algebra I, or is the more advanced material balanced by the students' more advanced preparation? History courses, being untracked, must be considered equal to each other, but what degree of difficulty should be assigned to them in comparison with other subjects? The same applies to English courses. And what does one do with art courses, which while not academically rigorous, do teach a discipline which can be mastered only by a great deal of work?

There should be no stigma attached to a course adjudged less difficult than another. By word of mouth everyone already knows their relative difficulty.

One method of weighing is to regard most courses as equal, giving extra credit for a fifth subject, advanced language study, Calculus and Pre-Calculus, and Chemistry, Physics, and Advanced Biology. This would affect only upper-classmen, since class rank does not matter until the junior year.

But in the junior year it begins to matter tremendously. Colleges do look at how difficult an applicant's schedule has been, but with 10,000 applicants they may not look too carefully. An applicant with a relatively low rank may be automatically discarded without a careful look at his schedule.

There is no obvious course of action on the question of weighting courses, but the administration should seriously consider the possibility.

An interview with

A. O. Smith: Trying to catch students' attention

by Wendy Krivitzky

Q: A.O., what programs do you hope to initiate during your presidency?

A: I want to get to work on all the items the students listed as their biggest concerns, such as the lunchroom and dress code.

Q: What work have you and the council begun in these areas?

A: We are going to talk to the administration about the possibility of having a lunch wagon come to school, in place of the machines. It may be a bit more expensive but hopefully it will be higher quality food. At our next council meeting, we will be reviewing the dress code questionnaires. In the area of discipline, it will be difficult to change the detention policy because only the type of punishment can be changed. At this time, a student tutoring service has already been established. The council will be coming up with many more definite proposals.

Q: Do you see any problems in the library?

A: The library situation has not been discussed very much, but I feel that more books are needed. There should be more books geared towards what teachers assign so we don't have to go to outside sources. I'd like to review the situation more before any action is taken.

Q: Some students believe that the council is not an effective way to bring about change in the school. How do you propose to upgrade the council's reputation?

A: I would like to see more than one meeting a week which would mean more progress. The meetings could run on a Tuesday-Thursday weekly basis. I'd like to see more student involvement in the form of non-council members on the various school committees. The smartest or the most popular students are not necessarily the most capable. I hope that more people will become involved who are in the mainstream of the thoughts and needs.

Q: How do you propose to attract the students who just don't care?

A: I hope to be able to catch everyone's attention. I have positive feelings about the students. One way I plan to spark some interest is to keep the students more informed about council activities—in the form of a brief summary of the council meetings in assembly. Once the council solves one problem and it shows its effectiveness, it will be easier to get more people involved. After the council shows what it is doing, it should change their (students') minds. If it doesn't, well you can't please everyone.



A. O. Smith performing one of his many jobs as the new school council President.
photo by Tom Ehler

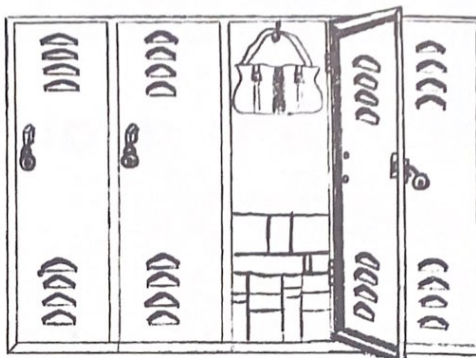
Drug policies discussed

by Amy Krivitzky

Some recent events in Rutgers Prep have caused much confusion, rumors and complaints. Several students over the past three months have been suspended in connection with possessing, using or selling marijuana on the school's campus.

One might first question "Why was all this action suddenly being taken when everything had previously appeared to be under control with respect to marijuana use in school?" The answer is simple, as Mr. Daviet, the Headmaster, explained: "We have become more aware of the situation. Students who objected to other student's use of marijuana on campus brought it to our attention. It is still illegal. The same action would be and has been taken in cases involving liquor."

Those students who were in fact found with marijuana are wrong. They were breaking the law, but that is not in question now. However, the manner in which the evidence was found has been a topic of great concern.



Several girls have reported that their gym lockers had been opened and looked through while they were in gym class. One student reported that her pocketbook had been searched without her previous knowledge or in her presence. There have been other reports of alleged Upper School locker searches. It is tempting to immediately scream "violation of our rights" and "invasion of property and privacy." According to the school's attorney, the lockers are property of the school and they may be checked.

On the other hand, however, pocketbooks and other personal items should be a different matter. They are the student's property. Should we have to go to school each day wondering if our personal belongings are being searched while attending a class?

When Mr. Daviet was asked this question he answered honestly and openly: "It is not the policy of the school to search purses or persons. Some students were asked to dump their purses, and they were cooperative. If there is a strong belief that a student has an illegal substance we will give the student the opportunity to produce it. We will not invade the student's privacy illegally, yet we do not want to get the police involved, which would cause many more complications for the student. We will use the police as a last resort. We do what we have to do as simply as possible with a minimum of hurt to the student. I am against marijuana and it is very foolish to do it at school, which is a more controlled atmosphere than a concert or home. Don't bring it on campus."

Obviously, conflicts do exist between the administration and some of the student body about the school's disciplinary policies in this area. The administration should work with students to establish an official policy regarding action to be taken if a student is suspected of involvement with marijuana, alcohol, or other illegal drugs. This would eliminate much of the misunderstanding and rumors which have developed in recent weeks. Future suspensions might also be avoided. Mr. Daviet said that the administration will be happy to meet with a group of interested students to discuss the present policy and perhaps to modify it.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

The student body and administration exercised their ability to compromise on school policies. The dress code has been a major topic of this school for the past year. The administration gave the students permission to dress casually during the examination period this past mid-term. In general, the students proved responsible in upholding this new policy. This event distinctly demonstrates that the entire school has the capability of cooperating simultaneously.

I feel this change in dress policy proved to be very effective in several ways. The new policy put the students in a more relaxed atmosphere. The examination week has always been a tense and highly pressured time for all students. By allowing more casual attire, the administration helped to ease some of the anxieties that were felt by many students. The absence of ties and jackets certainly was less restricting for the boys during the actual taking of the exams. Hopefully, this relief of pressure resulted in better exam grades.

Having taken one step forward in the improvement of student-faculty relationships, the consequences are boundless. I sincerely hope that future student bodies will be as responsible as the present student body in abiding with new freedoms such as this one.

Sincerely,
Joanne Juhasz

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Students in deep concentration during a mid-term examination.
photo by Tom Ehler



Students rehearse for "Picnic," which will be presented in March. photo by Tom Ehlert

Former preppie tells of college life

Janet Berkovits is a former Prep student, as well as editor of this page. She is now at her freshman year at Clark University in Worcester, Mass.

What happens when a preppie is immersed in the college atmosphere, and finds himself lost in a population at least five to a hundred times larger than that in Rutgers Prep? Culture shock?! When one thinks of college, there is a tendency to imagine patched jeans (90% patches, 10% denim), plastic pancakes, football games, coed rooms, and stacks of thick technical books. Basically the freshman year away from home is spent wondering whether to be a doctor and/or lawyer to please mom, or whether to be an artist to please yourself. At least one escape to look forward to is MacDonald's, the place to go for some good home cooking. For all the ulcers you will learn to nurture, the experience is still quite thrilling.

Oh, I can remember those days when I was so anxious to leave Prep—like when it was 9:00 P.M. and the Argo had four empty pages and five exhausted editors; when Dr. Spreduto's countenance was absent from assembly and there was no one to tell us to leave quietly, or when the senior room was closed due to student pollution and the only other place to go and talk was the girls' room.

If I ever complained to my teachers at Prep or moaned about homework assignments, I would like to take this

opportunity to apologize. All that they taught me in the span of five years is an invaluable gift, and it was a miracle that they could teach me anything at all. Now, I'm not talking about Mr. Chamberlain's hyperbolas, Mr. Bratek's Declaration of Independence, or Mr. Daviet's fangled molecules. I'm talking about how to deal with one's peers on a mature and realistic level and how to use a library properly. If Mrs. Von der Porten can't do it, nobody can.

One thing I've noticed among the other preppies in college is that they have made the adjustment to the heavy work load with much more ease than others. That's true only when no one else knows their true identity. I've had the finger (index, that is) pointed at me in furious accusation after revealing the nature of my high school: "You're one of those preppies," someone would shout with sarcastic disgust. Then I would laugh quietly because he didn't know the procedure for preparing a term paper while I had already gathered all my sources.

The social adjustment is a horse of another hue, especially if one is moving to a large school. I chose a small private university because I had grown so accustomed to the teachers' individual attention and because I have a phobia about becoming a number filed away in some obscure computer. There is basically no difference between preppies and nonpreppies, except for the bookwormitis we

develop and the innate urge we get to run to an assembly hall every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday come 2:00 P.M.

I think what bothered me first about my new home was that my mattress was thinner than all my books put together. I soon learned the pleasures of domestic chores, and when that didn't work for me I ended up sweeping the dust under the rug and raiding the laundry bag once a week. The greatest difficulty came not in handling my homework but in juggling my bank account. And there are times when I feel claustrophobic and imagine that the gates around the campus are prison bars, but then I simply think of Somerset, New Jersey, and my next schlep home.

There are a few wise suggestions for seniors in high school. Involve yourself in a senior project: it will give you a good idea where to start in college. The freshman year is meant for exploration of varied fields, but it is not time to be wasted. Always think ahead and learn from your experiences by visiting the career planning office, doing internships and special projects, and participating in at least one extra activity. If graduate school is not the place for you, you must be ready to face the competition with only a bachelor's degree. Today that's like the turtle racing the hare.

Don't worry, my friends, there is life after Prep—but it's not exactly heaven.

DOMicile Defended

by The Flying Dutchman

Mr. Beronio, affectionately known as 'Dom' to friends and colleagues, overcame almost unsurmountable odds during the mid-year examination period.

Apparently Mr. B's home was invaded by that most deadly of rodents, known by a zoologist (of spurious origin) as 'Rodentia Sciurus.' (The identification may not be that exact since its ferocious nature prevented closer scrutiny).

One evening, while perusing over exams, a strange noise was heard in one of the adjacent rooms. The perplexed faculty member gathered his wits to deal at once with a possible 'break-in.' He had to surprise his unwelcome visitor. Flinging open the door he was instead confronted with a monstrous creature. His reaction was an astonishingly hasty retreat.

Before plunging into reckless action, he sensibly asked the authorities whether this lethal animal was on the endangered species list. Their reply was "No!"

Since Mr. B. could not recollect any mention of defense against Rodentia Sciurus from his wartime training manuals, he was forced to rely on his own initiative. A distressed Mr. Beronio phoned Mr. Anderson for counsel. He advised the immediate expulsion of this dreadful animal as it was a definite threat to security. (The author cannot divulge the details of Mr. B.'s reply to Mr. A. since the telephone tapes were partly erased.)

The following day at school Mr. B. revealed his plan of attack to his sympathetic colleagues. I would like to add that Mr. Beronio was inundated with many helpful suggestions from the faculty, who felt assured, however, that he could handle any situation with imaginative expediency.

Mr. B. more than fulfilled expectations. In the days to come the faculty was entranced with epic stories of great valor that shamed Hercules' tasks into permanent oblivion. Like an enraged Patton he let loose his arsenal of weapons including a golf putter and an old set of algebra books. Alas for Mr. B. (or fortunately for Rodentia Sciurus) the agile animal escaped from whence it had entered. With the suspicion that the monster would return, it was then enticed for purpose of capture with such delicacies as an apple, peanut butter and left-over spaghetti. These 'goodies' were carefully placed in a contraption more commonly referred to as a trap. Its fate was now sealed.

The next day, our Math department chairman triumphantly (but cautiously!) carried a three foot long cage containing the incarcerated brute for all to see.

Amidst a series of "Oohs" and "Aahs" and further detailed anecdotes on its capture, the administration and faculty watched in great admiration the methods of 'sentencing' this alarming creature.

In spite of having suffered much aggravation, an unreluctant Mr. B. 'pardoned' the animal in an expansive mood of victory. With statesmanlike aplomb he opened the cage outside in the cold of winter to release a defeated Rodentia Sciurus, otherwise known to the layman as the common grey squirrel.

The author is happy to report that Mr. B.'s domicile is secure, and that life on campus can return to an atmosphere of normalcy.

Mathletes in action

Eight times each year, twenty-five schools from Middlesex and Somerset Counties compete in a math meet. With Mr. Beronio as their "moderator," Dickie Cohen, Chris Combest, Bobby Darwin, Kenny Freundlich, Andy Golden and Ricky Zankel compete with perhaps one hundred fifty other students.

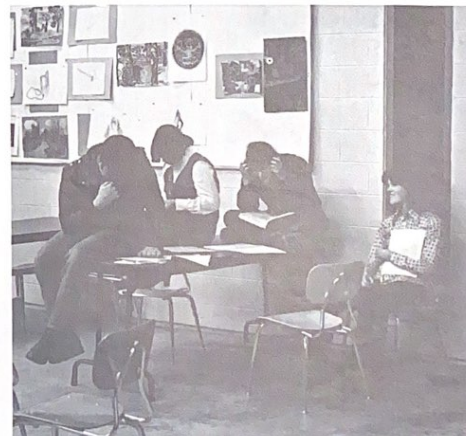
Each school may send eight students to a meet, but must name five as contestants. When the scores are tallied, the three highest scores on each team are combined to determine the team score. At the end of the year, prizes are awarded to those teams and individuals showing outstanding performance throughout the year.

The test itself consists of ten problems, and each student is

allowed one hour in which to complete these problems. After the allotted time period is up, the scores are added. For each correct solution, a student is given one point. No partial credit is given. The problems deal with algebra, geometry, trigonometry, logic and probability.

In a typical math meet, a problem may be as follows: "A box with a square base and no top is to be made from a square piece of tin by cutting out 3-inch squares from each corner and folding up the sides. If the box is to hold 48 cubic inches, what size piece of tin should be used?"

The solution to this problem is a 10 x 10 inch piece of tin. Does this look interesting? Join the math team at their next meet at Montclair Academy, and try your hand at ten other problems!



Actors diligently study their scripts.

photo by Tom Ehlert

BIOS

Valentines and groundhogs

by Robert Murray and Andy Golden

Hello preppies and welcome to your and my favorite column, BIOS. BIOS is brought to you sometimes by the folks on the Environmental Committee and us funny guys. By the time this issue hits the streets, it will be after Valentine's Day. Ah, the festive occasion, the celebration of the rites of spring, and close holiday neighbor of Ground Hog Day. It is February, the month of George Washington, Abe Lincoln, Cupid, and Ash Wednesday. Cheer, raise your beer can high and sing joyful songs, but follow the bouncing ball as we expose that scourge of the holiday season—trash.

Behind every box of candy, every card, every bit of pink lace and every kiss under the mistletoe there lies trash, pollution, waste, and ugly garbage piled on city streets. The result is a never-ending wave of rats. Rats are not commonly associated with such festive occasions but nonetheless, they are a very real part of it. Stop for a minute and think about it; someone special goes and gets you a card or some sentimental token of love, the Hallmark people turn in a large fortune and your heart is made glad. But then what happens? It is all thrown

away, that's what! Every bit except for the candy (and even then maybe the suspicious looking ones with nuts or cream in them) goes out the door and down to the dump, then do you know happens? Rats, that's what happens! Literally zillions of rats come out at night and eat those valentines and related trash, especially the mushy ones. Big rats downing maybe forty cards a night, enough to last to the next holiday, and little rats becoming big rats by eating the candy you thought was no good. RATS! RATS! RATS!

And what can you do to stop this mess? Is there any hope? Can democracy and all that America stands for be saved? Who's to say that apple pie won't be next on the menu of rats the world over?

Fortunately, say hallelujah, we have an answer! Send all of your valentine cards and candy to us in care of this paper. Don't be greedy fools! The end is upon us! We will eat all of the candy and rat-proof the cards before disposing of them. Only we can say NO to rats. So hurry, send valentines and other gifts to us now! And have a happy holiday!



Mary Valenti shoots over the outstretched arm of a defender in a basketball game against Gill St. Bernards. Nancy Page tries to prevent the defender from blocking the shot. photo by Tom Ehlert

"Thinking game" helps girls' basketball team win

"This is the best girls' basketball team that we have had," said girl's gym instructor Mrs. Ar Coppolino after the girls had won for the sixth time in nine games. The sixth victory provided the girls' basketball team with its most triumphs at this point in the season for as long as any team member could remember.

The coach of the team, Mrs. Andrea Lanfrit, attributed the girls' success to many factors. Foremost of these reasons is the girls' quickness in learning the various strategies of the game. For example, the girls are now effectively able to penetrate through a pressure defense. They themselves use aggressive defensive tactics.

Mrs. Lanfrit also stressed that the girls are not only interested in basketball, but they also enjoy it and are willing to contribute a 100% effort for the team.

One of the team leaders, senior Mary Valenti, emphasized two other important aspects of the team's recent improvement. First of all, the team plays a "thinking game." In other words, the girls are more aware of the offensive and defensive opportunities that will arise in a game.

Secondly, many noted that a great comradery existed among the players on the team. "We have great team spirit. Everyone is always pulling for each other," said Mary.

The team has also been helped by the offensive scoring output of freshman Tere Nogueras. Tere's scoring has helped to relieve Mary from carrying the offensive load. In the game against Somerset Vo-Tech, the thirty-four points that our team tallied were all scored by Mary and Tere; Mary had nineteen points while Tere scored fifteen.

The remainder of the squad includes Nancy Page, Maria Troncoso, Vicky Neiner, Ellen Farben, Carla Kuhner, Carolyn Gernert, Alice Sikorski and Jill Roseff.

Wrestling team forfeits heavyweight matches

"Forfeits are usually why we lose, when we lose," said Mr. Buddy Frezza, the coach of the Varsity wrestling team. The team's record is 6 wins, 7 losses.

"The team suffers from a lack of depth." The team has only 13 members this year, down from 17 the year before.

Matches are wrestled in twelve weight classes in every meet. If a wrestler pins his opponent, the team gains six points. A win earns the team three points. Mr. Frezza said since we don't have anyone in the heavyweight class if we forfeit if someone gets sick, we lose 6 points for each.

Last year, wrestlers Joe Yurcisin, Paul Daviet, Tony Jones, Paul Grippo and Jay Goldbaum graduated. Many of them competed in the upper weight classes. The team's record last year was 12-5.

This year, a recruit qualifying for the heavyweight category dropped

out after a week of practice. A veteran in the same weight class decided not to join.

In spite of this, the team has a winning record. "We usually win about 3/4 of the classes we do wrestle in," said Dave Yurcisin, who wrestles at 108 lbs.

The team works harder to make up for the disadvantage. Ed Pahler, who has wrestled 158 pounds, has also competed in the 170 lbs. weight class five times. Other wrestlers have also entered weight classes above their actual weight.

Other meets on our schedule are against the Hun School, Newark Academy, Pingry School, and Pennington School. Later on, Prep wrestlers will compete in the State Meet on February 25 and 26.

"We have better individuals than last year," Mr. Frezza said. "I expect our wrestlers will do better this year than last year in the States."

Varsity basketball team's defense fails to complement its stronger offensive attack

Despite the outstanding individual performances by Rutgers Prep basketball players Tony Scialabba and Matt Lytwyn, the team's record stands at seven wins and eight losses. Coach Richard O'Connell maintains that the team's inability to win consistently stems from two major weaknesses: (1) their poor defense and (2) their lack of a tall, dominating center.

Scialabba, in a 33-point effort against Greenbrook, surpassed the 1000 point plateau in his Varsity high school career. In addition to this, Tony is presently the county's leading scorer, averaging twenty-six points per game. Tony's scoring is further supported by sophomore Matt Lytwyn, whose twenty-four-points-per-game average is second best in the county.

Unfortunately, the scoring of Scialabba and Lytwyn are frequently more than matched by the opposing team. Prep's defense, which has yielded its opponents an average of almost eighty points per game, is the worst in Somerset County.

Part of the explanation of the defensive problems is that the team does not have a tall, shot-blocking center. The team's tallest member is

6' 4" freshman Jeff Hunt. Coach O'Connell said that Jeff has done a fine job, especially considering that he is only a freshman.

The coach said that Johnny O'Connell is doing an excellent job in bringing the ball upcourt and in collecting numerous assists. The coach commented that Doug Braun's fine passing has also helped the team. He added that Don Ballai has done an excellent job coming off the bench.

Other members of the team who have also played well are Art Wilmot, John Kontos, Jack Guarino and Pete Lisiecki.

Tough schedule hurts JV team

"It's almost impossible for my squad to compete against public schools, which have much larger enrollment," said Junior Varsity basketball coach Walter Rockhill. Thus far, the team has only won three times in twelve games, and all three triumphs came against private schools: two against Neuman Prep and one over Morristown Beard.

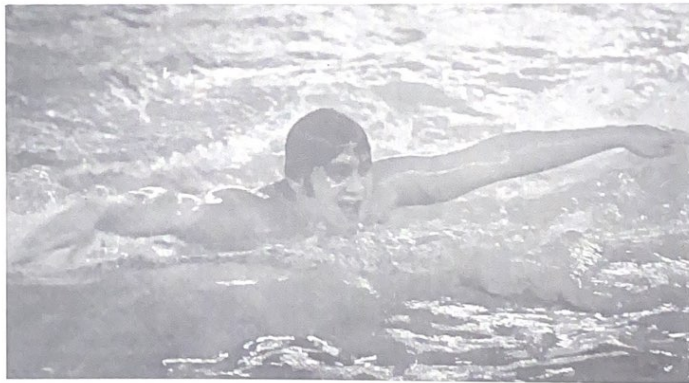
The coach was very pleased with the performances of sophomores Jack Guarino and Pete Lisiecki, who led the team in scoring. The coach said that junior A. O. Smith, who "has caught fire" especially in the last few games, is playing excellently. He added that junior Chris Hartmann, who had been wary of penetrating towards the basket, now seems to have overcome this fear. The coach was also particularly impressed with the rapid improvement of sophomore Jim Abdalla.

Among the players who come off the bench early for the team are Peter Brenner, Gary Cohen, Chris Harter and Chris Combest. The coach felt that both Chris Harter and Gary Cohen have done well in passing the ball to the open man underneath the basket. The coach said that Chris Combest has played very well, especially as a rebounder, although he has a tendency to get in foul trouble.

Other members of the team include Marshall Becker, Greg Hagin, John Kocsis, Larry Casper, Walter Placzek, Jeff Berger, and Peter Brenner.



Tere Nogueras takes a shot during basketball game. Carla Kuhner, Mary Valenti, and Carolyn Gernert hope that it will be a swish. photo by Tom Ehlert



Ricky Zankel demonstrates the form of a butterfly during swim team practice.

photo by Tom Ehlert

Swim team enjoys greater depth

This year's swim team has had one of its best seasons in years, according to Coach Robert Fenstermaker. Coach Fenstermaker believes that this year's squad, even though one of the largest and youngest in many years, has greater depth than either the team of last year or the year before.

Coach Fenstermaker also believes that this year's team will win at least as many meets as last year's, and will have a greater portion of its meet scores closer than in recent years.

So far this season, co-captains Robert Murray and

Ricky Zankel, in freestyle and butterfly respectively, have had outstanding seasons. In addition, Roman Bukachevsky in the individual medley, and Jeff Rutter in the 50-yard free style have had good seasons. Two school records were also broken this year; Jeff Rutter did a 25.5 in the fifty yard freestyle, and Robert Murray did a 58.1 in the 100 yard freestyle.

The greatest accomplishment of the team at this point this year, according to Coach Fenstermaker, has been beating the Rahway swim team. This marks the first time in four years that we have beaten Rahway.