



The ARGO

Volume 229 No. 4

Rutgers Preparatory School

March 1995

P&G Caterers Joins Prep, Students can Choose What to Eat

By David Papa

Here at Rutgers Prep, food services seem to change with the seasons. In the past two years, three lunch services have occupied the cafeteria's small confines. However, this most recent substitution, P & A Catering, has won nearly unanimous support from both students and faculty.

Most criticized Healthy Transitions for being "too healthy." At first glance, the complaint may have seemed only a reaction by Prep's finicky eaters to a different, healthier style of food; however, many other complaints were filed as well. Healthy Transitions was blamed for slow service, and, with the new schedule's shorter lunch period, many students and faculty had trouble getting to class on time. Mrs. Edmondson added, "their rolls were like bricks, and they worked at the rate of a snail. Overall, they [the workers] were rude and didn't seem interested in satisfying their customers." Another faculty member was quoted as saying, "the cafeteria people need to learn that healthy food and tasty food are not mutually exclusive."

School Council, under the auspices of then President

Tara Auciello, attempted to communicate students' concerns to Healthy Transitions. Council members went as liaisons to Parents' Association meetings, and both Mr. Beane and Mrs. Carpenter, proprietor of Healthy Transitions, discussed the cafeteria service during Council's weekly meetings. When student input effected little change, Council intensified its efforts, passing a resolution delineating the main grievances with Healthy Transitions. The resolution was subsequently signed by all but three Upper School students. Still obstinate, Healthy Transitions refused to change.

Over winter vacation, Healthy Transition's contract was up for renewal, and no new deal was signed. Mr. Beane, business office head, explained that both profits in the red and general student opposition caused Healthy Transitions to leave without prodding.

The Cafeteria Committee comprised of Dr. Loy, Mr. Beane, Mrs. Cunneil, Mrs. Bocra, Mrs. Moskowitz, Mrs. Auciello, Mr. and Mrs. Claymer, and Mr. and Mrs. Wolk-Weiss, chose Healthy Transitions nearly two years ago,

anticipating a cafeteria offering various food choices. Mr. Beane distanced the committee from the radical views on nutrition promulgated by Mrs. Carpenter. The new service, which began operations after winter break, was the Cafeteria Committee's second choice.

The new service seems to be a hit with students and faculty. The aim of the new service, as voiced by one of its workers is to provide, "high quality, enjoyable food at reasonable prices. Most students agree that the new service is a change for the better. Manak Ahluwalia commented, "The sandwiches are great and so are their hot lunches." Mrs. Edmondson added that the food tastes great, the workers are friendly, and workers are proportionally distributed in order to speed up the entire process.

Although in the past the food service has been one of the constant complaints of student and faculty members, it seems as though this new service might be able to withstand the stringent demands of the cafeteria-goers and remain a permanent institution here at Prep.

Dr. Bertin Remembered

By Kristine Coco

On December 26, 1994 the Rutgers Preparatory School Community lost a great teacher and friend. Dr. Gerald Bertin was 79 when he passed away. Whether students had him as a teacher, or if they just recognized the name, his accomplishments should make everyone proud that he taught at Prep.

Dr. Bertin resided in New Jersey, specifically in Middlesex County, for all of his years. He received his doctorate in French from Columbia University and began his teaching career at the American University in Birritz, France. He joined the French department at Rutgers University in 1947, and from 1976 to 1977 he served as department chairman. While at Rutgers he founded programs for students to study abroad during their under-

graduate years. For five years, he was the director of the Junior Year Abroad program in Tours, France, and from 1976 to 1985, he was the director of the Rutgers summer studies program, also in Tours. He also published books on medieval French and received the title of Officier des Palmes academiques from the French government for his contributions to French studies. French was not his only language. He attended a summer studies program at the University of Mexico, and during the past several summers has taken Spanish courses in Costa Rica, Guatemala, Ecuador, and Spain.

He served in the Army Air Corps during World War II, and was awarded the Croix de Guerre with a silver star by the French government for his services as a combat liaison.

In the 1960's he arranged teach-ins and protests against the Vietnam War, and was Chairman of the Rutgers University Committee on War and Peace in 1969 and 1971. He also served as president to the New Jersey Committee for Sane Nuclear Policy, and served on the Middlesex Committee for a Nuclear Weapons Freeze.

Dr. Bertin always challenged himself physically. At age 5, he climbed the highest point in the Pyrenees. At 51, he climbed to the top of the Matterhorn, the highest point in Switzerland. He hiked the length of the Delaware and Raritan Canal in one day. He rode a bicycle across France twice, and even hiked from New Brunswick to Philadelphia in the snow, twice.

Not only were his life accomplishments memorable, but his impact on Prep students and faculty will remain for a long time. Aaron Silverstein remembered his teacher, "I not only admired him as a teacher but also as a friend." Another pupil of his, Diana Liscinski, said, "Dr. Bertin inspired me to continue taking Spanish, and to take other languages when I go to college." Faculty members also remember him fondly. Ms. Mansfield said, "For those of us who were not only his colleagues, but also his friends, we shall never forget his passion for life, which he lived to the fullest. We are all the better for having known him." Dr. Bertin was an important part of Prep's community and he will be missed by all.

New Officers Elected, Smooth Transition

By Rebecca Caldwell

The annual School Council elections took place on February 14, but the competition had begun in earnest on February 8, when nine extremely well qualified candidates battled with words at the podium.

Speeches were given during activity period on Wednesday, February 8 in a Council decorated Baldwin Hall. Despite the candidate's nervousness, each delivered themselves quite well. The candidates, recognizing the accomplishments of Tara Auciello's Administration, knew they had a tough act to follow. The following day, Dr. Karman noted that the speeches, on a whole, were as good as any he could remember, a tribute to the candidates' efforts.

The student body had to make difficult choices this year: each candidate offered the school innovative ideas and responsible leadership. Juniors, Ria Rasalan, Matt Scherb, and John Vafai competed for the Presidency. John Kansfield and Sidharth Singh were the Vice-Presidential candidates. Sophomores Maureen Benitz and Jay Golon ran for Secretary, while freshman, Whitney Case and Scott Vafai battled for the Treasurer's office.

On Tuesday, February 14 elections took place. The school was filled with anticipation and anxiety over the pending vote. With turnout approaching one-hundred percent, students voted in Klein Counseling Room throughout the day. Council, as usual, rented a voting machine from Somerset County, adding to the day's excitement.

The results of the 1995 election came first to the awaiting candidates via phone call from President Auciello, and second to the Prep Community at Wednesday's morning assembly.

Whitney Case became Treasurer, Jay Golon, Secretary, and John Kansfield, Vice-President. No Presidential candidate won a majority of votes, forcing a run off between the top two vote-getters: Ria Rasalan and John Vafai. After Wednesday's

run-off, Ria prevailed as President, marking the third successive election of a woman to this office.

Inauguration day, February 22, was filled with smiles and tears as the students and administration said goodbye to outgoing President, Tara Auciello, Vice President Sara Papa, and Treasurer Frank Cesario. Council also thanked current Representatives and class officers with both kind words and certificates.

President Auciello's State of the Council address, filled with emotion, related the difficult time with her mother, and thanked all her friends and the Prep Community for the great memories. Tara championed her administration's success in creating a more unified Prep Community, and sponsoring both a Spirit Week and Career Day in the same year. She also expressed her great faith in Ria and assured all the school of the fine job expected of her.

Tara and Ria have worked together closely for the past three years in student government, so the transition should be very smooth. Ria is no stranger to the Prep Community and its needs: she has previously held the Council offices of Treasurer and Secretary.

Upon becoming President, Ria Rasalan announced her immediate agenda. Her top priority was amending the school's constitution, followed by running the "council sponsored social event," a trip to Hayden Planetarium and Sony Theatres. Since taking office, Ria has held several meetings with the three other newly elected officers, charting a course for the year to come.

Overall, the school seems pleased with the outcome of the elections and hopes to see a very successful year. The student body and Administration thanked Tara's Administration for everything they accomplished, while everyone wished luck to Ria's.

Upcoming Events

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| March 15 | Writing Day RVCC Holocaust Symposium |
| March 17 | Spring Recess Begins |
| April 2 | Day Light Savings |
| April 3 | Classes Resume |
| April 7 | 3rd Quarter Ends |
| April 14 | No School (Good Friday) |

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Affirmative Action Fails

By Frank Cesario

Since the wave of Republicans jumped on the bandwagon of revoking affirmative action, it has come under great debate. Bob Dole has rightly said, "The people in America are now paying a price for things that were done before they were born." Groups like the NAACP argue that minorities are still suffering the consequences of slavery. To say this, though, they are in turn denying the accomplishments of minorities who have made it on their own. The idea of affirmative action is ridiculous. If this was to be carried out in totality, you would have five percent of the NBA being Chinese. We all know this isn't true because they simply are not often the best people for the job. Furthermore, this is not a black and white issue. An African-American, professor Ward of New York City, believes affirmative action is inherently racist. Isn't it saying that we have to adjust the field so that minorities can compete?

America was built on the founding principle that people would come here, work hard, and achieve their own dreams. Affirmative action tells minorities that they can come here and have things handed to them. Many people have experienced the following situation. They want a bike more than anything in the world, but their parents won't give them the money. Most people work until they have enough money to

buy the bike, and they cherish it. This is a simplistic metaphor, but most people who get something won't love it as much as if they had earned it. By giving jobs away, the work ethic of America is being ruined.

If your sink was leaking wouldn't you get the best person for the job? This question seems stupid, but affirmative action says that in some cases a minority has to be chosen to fill a quota. Why can't we just choose the best person for the job? Whether this person happens to be white, black, or Hispanic is of no issue. Some people would argue that without affirmative action, no minorities would be hired. It seems guaranteed that if you need a computer programmer, and the best person is a minority, that person will be chosen. Let's give our society some credit. We are not the same slave-owning society of the past, and as Senator Dole said, "Should we still pay the price for this?"

In conclusion, past President John F. Kennedy once said, "Ask not what your country can do for you. Ask what you can do for your country." Affirmative action is anti-American. America is not a place for a free ride. Our grandparents made it here on hard work, and so will most of us. Most people would not want something given to them that they had not earned. When will this vicious cycle, of repenting for the past, end?

Bottom of the Ninth for Baseball

By Jay Golon

A very sad thing happened last summer in the United States. Millions of people were deprived of one of their basic rights. Old men who sit in rocking chairs, and middle aged men who take up bar stools had nothing to do but sit and drink. There were no more pictures of heroes for young boys and girls to hang in their rooms above their beds. Summer turned into October, but there was no magic in the air, no joyful gallops around basepaths, no fierce pitching duels, and no last game. All the thrills that had sent so many grown men and women leaping and dancing into the night, year after year, were suddenly gone. Perhaps the saddest image was that of the ballpark; the place where your dad took you, and where your grandfather took your dad. The ballparks were abandoned in mid-August right in the middle of one of the greatest seasons this game had ever seen. They sat empty, like enormous green cathedrals. They waited for someone to cheer, for someone to play, for someone to turn on the lights; but nobody did.

It was one of the greatest tragedies in recent history when the 1994 baseball season was canceled. The quality of play hadn't been as good for years, and the Yankees had a firm handle on first place. But everything changed on August twelfth when the players walked out and the owners let them. The millions of fans of the game were given a cold slap in the face. The game we love

is a business. The heroes we trust are greedy. It is said that money is the root of evil, and this has never been more true. The situation surrounding the baseball strike could be compared to two billionaires fighting over a dollar. Both parties, the owners and the players, have money in excess. It is hard to be sympathetic towards them. Yet, nobody seems to be able to mend this wounded game. This is amazing considering everyone from Bill Clinton to Joe the barber has a solution, but nobody who controls the game seems to be listening. Furthermore, neither side seems to care. Greed is destroying one of the most loved, romanticized institutions of this country. Baseball is a public trust which is vital to the morale of many people in this country. It is the continuous background music of our summers. Its melodies and rhythms fill our shops, street corners, and schools. It lets us forget about our everyday lives and become part of an affair that might break our heart every fall, but never fails to give us hope every spring. However this year feels different. Spring can be sensed, but hope is far away. The thought of "replacement" baseball players looms like a dark cloud over every ballpark.

It seems that the best hope for ending this mess is with government intervention. President Clinton is all for binding arbitration, which would return the players to the field immediately, but Republicans Newt Gingrich and Bob Dole say that

government has more pressing issues at hand. Their reluctance to side with the President is only a microcosm of their unabashed stubbornness which will only hurt this nation. The baseball strike is a perfect situation for both Democrats and Republicans to do something nice for the people who put them in office, but baseball was obviously not given a mention in the Contract with America.

Regardless of what our leaders think, baseball is important to our economy. If you don't think so, just ask the Florida and Arizona tourism departments how much money they'll lose this spring if there's no spring training, or the areas around ballparks that depend on the crowds to shop in their stores, or one of the thousands of front office men, hot dog vendors, or groundskeepers that have already been laid off by cost cutting owners. The fact is, organized baseball is a major industry that could only hurt the nation's economy if it were non-existent.

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To Kill or Not to Kill- That is the Question

By Susan Slim

We, as Americans, are granted the right to freedom, but this freedom opens the door to abuse. Our laws are made for the people of this country, to provide a boundary to what is acceptable, without infringing on our rights. The problem with the latter is that the only people who obey the laws are law abiding citizens, not criminals who have no respect for these rules. The politicians of our time attempt to stop the various crimes by strengthening the laws, disregarding the fact that criminals don't pay much attention to them anyway. So they resort to tougher penalties: lifetime imprisonment without parole, community service, and various other punishments. But why should we, as law abiding citizens, spend our tax money on the lives of criminals, when there is a simpler answer: the death penalty.

Yes, this topic is controversial, but let's stick to the facts, ignoring all emotion limitations. A criminal rapes and kills a 7 year old girl, goes to prison, and gets out early on parole for good behavior. A law has recently been passed allowing people living in the same community as a rapist to have notification of that fact, Megan's Law, but there have already been law suits from the rapists insisting that we are infringing on their rights. It should be that anyone who murders or rapes anyone else forfeits all rights. Their rights should have been taken away the minute they were convicted for their crime.

Susan Smith is a prime example for this touchy subject. The young mother of two put her sons in a car and watched it roll into a lake, all the while seeing the faces of two boys, looking at their mother in wonder, and crying. When arraigned, we were shown her crying face as she was introduced to a possible penalty, death by electrocution. The media presented this is such a way as though they expected to provoke sympathy for her from their viewers, when in fact our hearts soared with this news. Anyone, let alone a mother, who could kill two innocent children, is undeserving of any understanding or sympathy from the public. In fact, it would be nice to witness her execution, to see her suffer, like those two boys, who for no reason, had their lives stripped away. In many cases, it is possible that the electric chair and lethal injection are way too humane, that an eye for an eye is a much better approach. The people capable of those crimes do not deserve our pity.

People argue that we have no right to take the life of another, but those are the same people who disregard the fact that these people took the lives of innocent victims, and now the criminal's lives are worthless. People wonder why we don't lock them up and throw away the key, but they look past the fact that our jails are filled with criminals and we simply have no room, so they are let out early on parole. And if for some reason, they do stay in prison for life, it is

our tax dollars that go to feed them.

People in America were outraged at the story of Michael Fay, an American boy who was arrested in Singapore for defacing a car, and was sentenced to being flogged with a bamboo cane. Upon returning to America with scars on his backside, he announced that he would never consider defacing anything in Singapore again. Yes, this form of punishment may be cruel and unusual, but the fact remains that Singapore's crime rate in amazingly close to 0%, while ours is astonishingly high. The latter proves that if a form of punishment is to be employed and is feared, the citizens would not dare break the law, out of fear of the penalty.

Jeffrey Dahmer, a man convicted of sexually molesting young

boys, chopping them up, and storing them in his refrigerator for dinner, was not sentenced to the death penalty. Instead he rested comfortably in prison, until a fellow inmate took it upon himself to kill the murderer. Where was the justice? A man ate young boys, and still his crime was not severe enough to employ death by electrocution?

While this topic is still under scrutiny by newly elected politicians, we can only hope that they will show no remorse towards the insensitive creeps that walk our streets. If the death penalty is used often, striking fear in criminal's souls, then the crime rate will have no choice but to drop, as in Singapore. People need to stop making criminals out to be victims; they wouldn't be in court had they not infringed on the rights of others to live a secure life.

O.J. Overplayed?

By Maureen Benitz

A day hasn't gone by since last June that O.J. Simpson, Nicole Brown, Ron Goldman and a slew of other names related to the O.J. Simpson case haven't been mentioned. Aren't people getting just a little bit tired of all of the coverage?

After the deaths were announced and O.J. was linked to the murders, interest was aroused. Then the highly publicized Ford Bronco chase was watched by anyone who turned on their televi-

sion that Friday night in June. Every station felt as if it was their job to broadcast it.

After O.J. was arrested, his face was on every television set in America. There was always another breaking development in the case. For days we watched to see if there was enough evidence to indict O.J. Of course there was, but Americans stayed glued to the tube, just to make sure they didn't miss a single detail.

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The Argo

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Student Spotlight Shines

By Susan Slim

On February 3, 1995, hard working students from Rutgers Preparatory School combined their efforts to put on a winter production. Parents, teachers, students, and friends met in the Upper School lounge to watch the program, and were left breathless and laughing at an amazing display of creativity.

The night opened with Diana Liscinski introducing the first play, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, by William Shakespeare. The excerpt was directed by Kristine Coco, who was very successful in her endeavors. The script provoked laughter from the crowd with the talented cast of Frank Cesario, Jennifer Conrad, Sam Hartman, Allison Moskowitz, and Jeremy Wang-Iverson. Allison was convincing as Helena, while the crowd roared at Frank and Jeremy as they duked it out for the right to love her, using such tactics as sword fighting and thumb wrestling. Sam, dressed in a white toga, dazzled the crowd with his innocent intervention in the sort-of-love story. Jennifer Conrad, the shunned lover of Lysander, played by Frank, convincingly played the love struck character Hermia. The fights between her and Helena were dramatic and hilarious at the same time. Together, the cast's talents paid off, providing a funny introduction to a night of drama and laughter.

Allison Albino followed with an original poetry reading of "Prince Charming." The inspiration for her poem hit her when she "saw her true love in a gray Buick." The poem was about a young girl whose eyes locked with those of a boy in another car;

obsession followed, but by the end of the poem, when they were forced to go their separate ways, she realized that "Hoboken was not in [her] destiny." She only looked forward, never back, "at that guy in the crimson Chrysler next to [her]." Allison dazzled the audience with her crystal clear enunciation and innocent tone. She remarked, "The poem wasn't necessarily deep or hard-hitting, but no matter who you are, you can always be awestruck by a stranger."

Jessica Hedges directed "Sure Thing" from All In The Timing, by David Ives, with the small but talented cast of Jay Golon and Alana Karen. The scene took place in a cafe with Jay, as Bill trying to pick up Betty, Alana. The play was a series of romantic blunders, but with the aid of a small bell, history could be erased, and Bill and Betty could continue on in a more educated fashion. After many tries, the two hit it off, and left for a movie, a series of Woody Allen films, and exited the stage with laughter ringing in their ears. The skit was very funny, and the audience was sympathetic to the atmosphere, everyone having wished that they too possessed a little gold bell.

Eireann Corrigan followed, reciting four original poems. She began with "Greater Than, Less Than." She continued with "For my sister's child, greatly loved," which told about her relationship with her sister versus the one her sister has with her child. She continued with "For my therapist, on why I'll never shower with a lover," a piece about bath times with her cousin Ryan, which ended abruptly with

her uncle's intervention. She summed up her presentation with "For Christina, from a place called recovery," a heart stirring account of victory. Eireann said that, "I was most nervous at this reading because Prep has encouraged my writing so much, but has not heard a lot of it; it was so personal." She need not worry, for her writing was breathtaking, and left the audience in awe.

Jay Golon and Josh Eckhaus followed with the humorous piece, "Who's On First?" by Abbott and Costello. The piece opens up with Jay, as Bud, trying to explain to Lou, Josh, the nicknames that the baseball players have. After an entangling conversation, it was understood that "Who's on first, What's playing second, I Don't Know's got third, I Don't Give a Darn was playing shortstop, Because was the center fielder, Why's got left field, the pitcher's Tomorrow, and Today was catching." The crowd's laughter at this whimsical production echoed throughout the school's walls. Jay said that "The hardest part was keeping your concentration because people were so close. When they started laughing, it was hard to keep a straight face."

Last but not least, Erin Armstead did a dramatic reading of "The Lorax," by Dr. Suess, accompanied by pigtailed and various animated voices. Her piece, by the famous children's writer was the perfect end to a creative evening. The production, overall, displayed many creative talents Prep possesses and gave the student body a chance to share their talents with others.

Model UN

By Eric Kelner

From February 16 to 19, Mrs. Pink and Mrs. Glennon accompanied a group of 32 Prep students to attend the Georgetown Model United Nations which is the largest United Nations simulation in the country. Students from all over the country, even the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico, attended Georgetown Model UN. Among the 2,800 students that attended were Chelsea Clinton and King Hussein's son.

The Prep students were assigned to represent three countries for the four day simulation. Students who participated in the General Assembly represented the nations of Burundi and Greece. Two students, Eric Kelner and Sumitra Balachandran, represented Nigeria in the Security Council. Before embarking on the trip, Prep students had to research their assigned topics, enabling them to write position papers that expressed their country's view on the important international issues.

Some of the assigned topics dealt with were the Kashmir-Jammu conflict, the problem of overpopulation in the world, and the proliferation of nuclear arms in the international community.

While in delegate meetings, Prep students worked hard to voice their country's opinion on specific topics and to write resolutions that expressed their needs. While Prep delegates did not receive any awards for their effort, they accurately represented their nations in their committees. The Burundi delegation was lead by Bill Passaroti and Kristine Coco, and Andowah Newton and Jen Conrad headed the Greece delegation. All the delegates worked diligently in their meetings, but they still had time to explore the city during their free time. This trip was an overall success, and hopefully, next year's group will be even stronger after the experience they gained.

Junior State to D.C.

By Bobby Roy and Neil Patel

On Friday, February 17, the Rutgers Prep Junior Statesman of America chapter left for the Winter State Convention in Washington D.C. The convention, titled "Congress 95," featured a mock-Congress session where delegates debated bills ranging from marijuana legalization to animal testing illegalization. Over 800 east coast students attended.

Club President Sudipta Mallik led the Prep delegation featuring Representatives Neil Patel, Bobby Roy, Scott Guiazda, and

Kartik Joshi, and Senator Manak Ahluwalia. Mr. Boyle accompanied the students.

The delegates left school on Friday morning, heading first to the Capital to hear Congressman Frank Pallone speak. The next day everybody met in small committees to argue their bills. Representatives Bobby Roy and Neil Patel passed their bill on sexual harassment with an overwhelming majority. Sudipta Mallik passed the same bill in the Senate getting 23 people for the bill and only 3 people against.

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O.J. Overplayed?

Once it was determined that there was enough evidence against O.J., the hearings started about what evidence could be used and which witnesses were credible enough to testify. The state wanted DNA testing to be admissible, and the defense didn't. What a surprise. The defense then said that the DNA testing could be introduced and that they would fight it during the actual trial. The black bloody glove was also in question, along with the knife that supposedly killed Brown and Goldman.

Another hurdle the defense had to overcome was finding people to serve as members of the jury who hadn't already decided on O.J.'s guilt or innocence. This process took several months. Just recently, the jury has been sequestered for the duration of the long trial. During opening statements, a television cameraman's error showed one of the alternate jurors' face on television for a split second. The safety of the jury was in question and led to more delays in the trial.

Opening statements, or more appropriately dubbed, opening paragraphs took hours. Johnny Cochran, a lawyer for the defense, spoke for almost one whole day. O.J. also has two other lawyers, Robert Shapiro and F. Lee Bailey,

Baseball

It seems that only an act of God will restore this game. People have given up on finding solutions to the problem. No one cares who wins or loses. People just want their game back, now. If Americans have to sit through this spring's mindless farce that we call the NBA playoffs, which is slowly but surely sinking to the same level as the World Wrestling Federation, many will retch at their televisions. Seven foot men with orange hair shooting at a nine foot basket from two feet away doesn't cut it for some fans. You can't dunk a curve ball, as Michael Jordan showed us, baseball is just plain better. Unlike so many other sports, if you don't think about it, you can't watch it.

who we haven't even heard from yet, but who are expected to play a vital role in the case. It was during the opening paragraphs that the alternate juror's face was shown. The defense said that they had many more witnesses than the prosecution had previously thought. Marcia Clark, the District Attorney, was up in arms about this, claiming that it wasn't fair to the prosecution; they needed more time to investigate the prospective witnesses. It was basically a plan by the defense to prolong the trial. On the list of newly introduced witnesses, many were people who had been on the plane with O.J. when he flew from Chicago.

The American people, many of whom simply want their afternoon

television back, have recently been subjected to the bickerings of both the prosecution and the defense teams. Both sides are continuously objecting to the other side's statements. During the opening paragraphs, the defense countered the prosecution, which of course the prosecution had problems with.

O.J. has been made out to be a national hero. He is a prominent sports legend, a dominant college and professional football player. After his playing career ended, he became an announcer and a spokesman for Hertz rental car company. O.J. was extremely well known to the American public.

If we, the television viewing audience of America, must be

imposed upon with O.J. coverage, why must it be on every single television station incessantly? There is no need for this. One station, such as CNN, which is a station primarily focused on news, could be providing coverage of the never ending trial. This would provide the opportunity for those who feel they must watch the trial a chance to do so. Nightly updates, along with the other news of the day could be provided by the local television stations.

Is it right to be perpetually bombarded with O.J. news and developments daily because of his celebrity status? Is it fair to the average American to be forced to watch his trial every day? If anybody else committed these crimes, would they receive all of the fan-

fare that O.J. is getting? O.J.'s alleged crimes are committed daily in large cities throughout the United States. Do the accused in those cases get all of the publicity that O.J. is basking in? Is it right for someone of O.J.'s economic and celebratory status to get special treatment?

Chances are the expensive defense team has many tricks and key witnesses lined up in O.J.'s defense. Of course, the prosecution will object and as a result, the trial will continue to drag on. O.J.'s trial has been called the "trial of the century," and at this rate it may take until the end of the century to get a final verdict. The American people are "OD'ed on "O.J." Enough is enough already!

A Story of Responsibility and Improvement

By Sara Papa

Prep swimmers knew it would be hard this year. With half of the team new to the sport and only three returning seniors, Kavita Patel, Ryan Neely, and Sara Papa, Coach Nes Forney and his team knew they would never glide through the season. Things certainly were not made easy, and unfortunately this is not one of those "against all odds" stories where a team overcomes every obstacle to place first. It is a story, however, of respectability and improvement. The 1994-95 season saw the transformation of a group of people into a team. As Coach Forney comments: "I saw a tremendous improvement, very measurable, from the beginning to the end for the majority of the people."

The team competed

decently during the season and ended the year with a 4-7 record. The team placed fourth in the Prep B Conferences in January held at Morristown-Beard, they divided for the Prep B States in February. The boys, who traveled to Lawrenceville Prep, placed 5th in Prep B, while the girls placed 4th in Prep B at Morristown-Beard. Unfortunately, the girls state competition was affected by Model UN, and three of the team's very strong swimmers, juniors Meredith Riley and Corrie Graham, and freshman Jane Needleman, were unable to participate.

Next season should prove to be more successful with Matt Needleman, Sid Singh, George Cox, Nick Lessard, and Kerry Smith returning along

with all the newly experienced swimmers from this year.

Perhaps next year's team will improve their record, but they should emulate the '94-'95 team in one particular area: As Coach Forney observes, "I've had as much fun with the group this year as I've ever had... it was a fine cross-section of young people."

Winter Record

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|--------------|-------|
| Boys' Bball | 13-14 |
| Girls' Bball | 15-9 |
| Volleyball | 3-17 |
| Swimming | 4-7 |
| Wrestling | 9-6 |

Volleyball

By Sara Papa

Girls' volleyball is one of the few sports at Prep that attracts enough interest to field both a varsity team and a junior varsity team. This year the JV team did exceptionally well, posting a 10-3 record at the end of their season. Unfortunately, the Varsity team record was not quite as exceptional, but their record of 3-17 does not reflect the talent

this team possesses. Coached by Heidi Kearnan and Denise Goldman and guided by co-captains junior Joyce Reyes and senior Aliya Walker, the girls did better in the pressure filled atmosphere of tournaments than in dual meet competition.

Reyes, Walker, senior Jae Lee, junior Caroline Chang, and sophomore Susan Slim are the

main starters, and the regular rotation of this young team consists of juniors Ria Rasalan and Akta Patel, sophomore Lauren Peters, and freshman Angela Lin. These members, along with many other contributors, worked together to place seventh in the Choate Tournament in Connecticut this February, a tournament open to teams all over the Northeast region. Earlier in the season, the team also came together to place fourth overall in the Rutgers Prep hosted Spikers' Tournament, and in this tournament Caroline Chang was named to the tournament team.

The state competition also proved this team's potential. They rose above their last place seed and respectably placed fourth out of seven teams. Caroline Chang and Jae Lee were named members to the All State B team, a process which involves voting by both Prep A and B coaches.

With such a young team, next year should prove to be successful.

Upcoming Games

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| 4/3 | Varsity Softball v. Wardlaw Hartridge | 3:45 |
| | Var. Girls Lacrosse v. Wardlaw Hartridge | 4:00 |
| 4/4 | Varsity Tennis v. Wardlaw Hartridge | 4:00 |
| 4/5 | Varsity Baseball v. Princeton Day | 4:00 |
| 4/6 | Varsity Softball v. Princeton Day | 4:00 |
| | Varsity Golf v. Pennington | 3:45 |
| 4/7 | Varsity Softball v. Pennington | 4:00 |
| | Var. Boys Lacrosse v. Old Bridge HS | 4:00 |
| | Varsity Tennis v. Saddle River | 4:00 |
| 4/10 | Varsity Tennis v. Franklin HS | 3:45 |
| 4/11 | Varsity Tennis v. Gill-St. Bernard's | 3:45 |
| | Var. Boys Lacrosse v. Morristown Beard | 4:00 |
| | Varsity Baseball v. Newark Academy | 4:00 |
| | Varsity Softball v. Saddle River | 4:00 |
| 4/13 | Varsity Golf v. Franklin HS | 3:30 |

Boys' Basketball: Record Means Nothing

By Sudipta Malik

Although the 1994-95 Varsity Boys Basketball team's record is mediocre 13-14, no means is it an indication of the team's play during the season. The squad, under the guidance of Head Coach Dick O'Connell and Assistant Paul McLaughlin '92, had "held their own" against a tough array of opponents, including powerhouses Somerville, Franklin, West Windsor, Hun and Lawrenceville. Senior Captain Mike Maccia, Jamie Jimenez and Scott Sienkiwicz are having fine seasons and are providing the leadership and depth to a relatively young team. During mid-season the team acquired Jason Miakos, a quick, talented point guard from Metuchen High School who has been a great floor leader. Starting cen-

ter Joe Zizewski has been solid on defense and on offense. Jeremy Kenney and Mark Markowski have seen limited playing time, but have contributed when called upon.

Several of the high points during the season have been: the thrilling game against Wardlaw Hartridge, winning the Rutgers Prep Tournament, and Coach O'Connell's 1000th game. Against Wardlaw Hartridge, Jimenez, the team's leading scorer and rebounder performed brilliantly, pumping 32 points and pulling down 16 boards. However, it was Sienkiwicz's buzzer beating which gave the victory to Rutgers Prep. The game against the Ranney School was an interesting one, because every Varsity player scored. Against

Lawrenceville, the team played extremely well for the first three quarters, but faced a huge fourth quarter disappointment.

After defeating Ridge in the first round of the Somerset County Tournament, Rutgers Prep faced Somerville, the number one seed. The team led by ten with eight minutes left, but a 4th quarter surge by Somerville prevented their upset from occurring. Sienkiwicz later noted: "Regardless of the fact that we lost, we dearly played our best basketball of the season."

The team was eliminated from the County Tournament, and unfortunately was beaten in the State Tournament by Dwight Englewood.

Rutgers Prep

Making Prep History

By Barry Hirsch

Although the 1994-95 wrestling dual meet record of 9-6 does not appear especially impressive, this team was one of the most successful Prep has ever had. The team, coached by Head Coach Bob Dougherty and Assistant Coach Kai Cambell and lead by co-captains seniors Scott Skorupsky and Billy Bocra, and junior David Papa, did well in the conference meet and state tournaments, as well as in other tournaments, such as those hosted by Hillsborough High and Wardlaw-Hartridge.

The absence of wrestlers at the lowest weight classes certainly did not help the team, but it did not seem to deter the wrestlers much either, for RPS took first place in their conference. The Prep state tournament

was a much tougher competition, and the team placed third overall, second in Prep B. But for the first time in Rutgers Prep's history the wrestling team had three state champions, Bocra, Skorupsky, and Papa. Also placing in the state competition were senior Adam Simnett and sophomore Herb Roberts at third place and fourth place, respectively.

Next year should prove to be difficult for the team. They will greatly miss seniors Bocra, Skorupsky, Simnett, Gregg Costello, who has had a tremendous end to his season, and Rohin Singh. The team will have to look to rising stars sophomore Henri Renard and freshman Dave Thompson to practice hard and win.

It's All About Attitude

By Sara Papa

"It's all about attitude." If nothing else, the 1994-95 Rutgers Prep girls basketball team could teach you that. For a team that, as senior Captain Tara Auciello put it, "sometimes get overshadowed by the boys...this team displayed a lot of attitude both on and off the court."

This attitude is accompanied by a definite personality of energy, contributed by starting point guard Auciello, senior guards Diana Liscinski and junior Liz Alexander, sophomore forward Catie Somers, and senior center Erin Armstead. Freshmen Charlene Davenport and Jackie Sienkiwicz also contribute off the bench. The combination of this attitude and personality has taken the team a long way.

Unfortunately, Prep lost to the Princeton Day School in the state quarterfinals, but they had a much more impressive showing in the Somerset County Tournament. In the first round, Prep defeated Franklin, their second win over them this season. Their progression into the second round led them to

Ridge, the number one seed. RPS played incredibly well, only losing by eight points.

This mixture of attitude and personality also created opportunities for both the players and Coach Klinger to reach career milestones. Center Erin Armstead led the team in blocks, and was among the top blockers in the Prep B conference. Liz Alexander was the team's high scorer, and this season saw the scoring of Diana Liscinski's one hundredth career point and Tara Auciello's two hundred and fiftieth. The last game of the season, senior Eireann Corrigan had her career high score. Coach Klinger also claimed her one hundredth career victory.

The team will definitely lose some of this attitude when seniors Armstead, Auciello, Corrigan, and Liscinski graduate. As Captain Tara Auciello said, "Being a member of the basketball team was one of the best experiences of my last four years here at Prep, and thanks to this year's team, it culminated in a winning season."



Basketball will miss seven seniors next year: Maccia, Jimenez, Sienkiwicz, Bill Passarotti, Scott Gwiazda, Edsel Antonio, and Will Gentile. Next season, look for Zizewski, Miakos, Kenney and Markowski to provide leader-

ship and points. The other Varsity returnees are John Kansfield and Joe Fuoco. JV stars Dave Weitz, Evan Siegel, and Scott Fleischer should move up to the Varsity level next season.