

THE ARGO

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Coach O'Connell Reaches a Milestone

by Mark Markowski

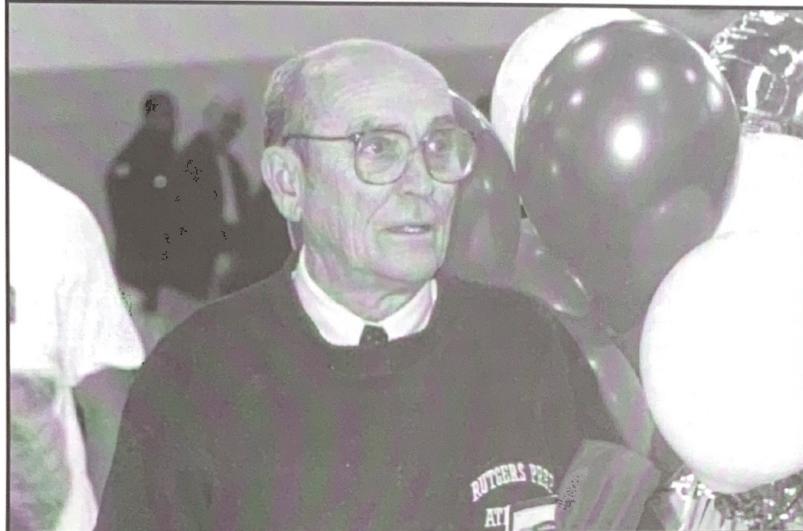
When the Rutgers Prep Argonauts took on the Somerset Tech Panthers, many generations of basketball players filled the stands to watch their former coach win his 700th game. The balloons were filled and the cake was rolled into the cafeteria at halftime. The media flashed their cameras all over the gym, hoping to get a shot of Oke and his players.

As the clock went to zero, I threw the ball in bounds to Jason Maikos and he handed it to Coach O'Connell. Oke received kisses from the girls' team and handshakes from all of his players, past and present. Coach O'Connell really appreciated all of the support and congratulations, but he tried to think of it as just another win. He made a short speech to everyone in the gym thanking them for their support and then he hurried them off the floor because the girls had a big game.

Oke has never felt com-

fortable in the limelight, but his coaching has made this inevitable. He has touched thousands of lives whether they have played in one of his teams or just watched him from the stands. A quick look in his office and one would realize just how many people he has taught. Whether it was a picture of "Dinky" Procter or the 1982 Argonauts, Oke has been around for quite a long time.

Oke's competitive fire that burns inside him is still blazing bright. He once said, "I never go into a game thinking we are going to lose. I don't care who we are playing." He loves the sport of basketball no matter if he is watching or coaching. Oke wants his teams to have fun when they play. He wants everyone to take as much joy in the game that he loves so dearly. Oke once told me, "Find something that makes you happy. For forty years I have enjoyed my job. There



Oke Celebrates his 700th Win

was not one day that I dreaded coming to work." This must be the case because in forty five years he has only missed four days of work.

Coach O'Connell is a basketball legend. Everywhere the team goes, everyone comes up to him and

shakes his hand as if they were the best of friends. Many people do not realize just how impressive it is to win 700 games in high school basketball.

Coach O'Connell is a special man who has captured

the hearts of many. His outlook on life and his love for basketball has inspired many lives throughout his forty five years as a member of the Rutgers Prep Community.

The Winter Concert: A Musical Success

by Jeremy Wang-Iverson

On the wintry evening of December 19, the Prep community filled Voorhees Chapel in New Brunswick to enjoy a night of music. While students were happy because only one day of classes remained, parents and teachers were in a festive spirit, eagerly awaiting the start of the annual spectacle. As Mrs. Hunt took the stage to welcome everyone to the concert, the audience's chatter fell silent. The atmosphere was perfect: the singers and musicians were prepared, and the final result was a beautiful night of sounds which garnered in the holiday season.

Under the direction of Mrs. Szeles, the bow tie clad men delivered a inspired performance with a challenging repertoire of music. The group had such a high turnout this year, they were forced to move from Mrs. Szeles classroom to Baldwin Hall. There are 48 members this year, as opposed to the 12 there were four years ago. This increased number of

singers did not intimidate Mrs. Szeles, who has worked with groups of all sizes, nor diminish the quality of the performance. In fact, days before the performance Mrs. Szeles exclaimed this group is one of the best choirs she has ever worked with at Prep. Their performance opened uniquely. Once Mrs. Szeles struck an opening note on the piano, the men arose and approached the stage singing "Procession," a Gregorian chant. Their middle pieces were "Rise up Shepherd and Follow," and "Bashana." This talented group ended their performance with a variation of the holiday favorite, "Jingle Bells."

The women's choir also gave an enjoyable performance on this memorable night. Under the direction of Mrs. Hunt, the women had a three song set, including "Sivivon," and "Personet Hodie," and the African spiritual "The Storm is Passing Over." In "Personet Hodie" the group was accompanied

by flutists Ganesh Ramanarayanan and Linda Condon. Scott Detra, a professional pianist from Westminster Choir College, did excellent work accompanying the women on the piano. Mrs. Hunt remarked that she was very impressed with the group's ability to work with such varying genres of music. "It can be difficult to sing three very different styles of choral music in one performance, but they worked very hard, and it certainly showed tonight."

Last year, thirteen of the most talented singers in the Upper School, chosen by audition, debuted at last year's winter concert. The group drew rave reviews, and has continued to grow musically and physically this year. With many singers departing for college, Mrs. Szeles opened auditions again to all interested, and again she has succeeded in coordinating a very talented ensemble, combining old and new voices. The Madrigals have grown to seven-

teen singers. Since there is no time allotted to them in the schedule, these dedicated musicians ardently practiced during activity periods to learn their repertoire. There set included a Fifteenth Century Italian Madrigal, "L'innamorata," and Fifteenth Century Spanish Madrigal, "E la don don," and ended with a Christmas carol.

The instrumental talent of Prep was also exhibited on this evening. Ms. Collins made her debut as the Orchestra's new conductor, bringing new music and a vibrant personality to the ensemble. This group gave an upbeat performance, featuring Bach's "Brandenburg Concerto No. 3," and the haunting "In the all of the Mountain King." Kyle Szabo conducted Stravinsky's Pulcinella.

Another instrumentalist group of the Upper School, the Jazz Band, performed with the liveliness that has made this group famous within Prep circles. This

group performed "Hip Sticks," and "String of Pearls," to the delight of the audience.

Featuring over one hundred Upper School performers, the night was enjoyable for everyone. Dr. Loy concluded the night with a few words which connected the musical atmosphere in the packed house with the upcoming holiday season. The music department, and all performers should be congratulated on an excellent evening of music.

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Changes In English Staff

by Jeremy Hollander

It is with open arms that the Rutgers Prep community welcomes its newest faculty member, Mr. John Murray. He joined the Prep English department late last month. Mr. Murray is, of course, replacing Mrs. Audrey Doryumu who is away on maternity leave (although it will not officially be maternity leave until February 14).

It has been known since the beginning of the year that Mrs. D would be leaving—the only question students and faculty had was whether she would make it through the first semester. Despite the trying circumstances, Mrs. D made it. On her last day she was quoted as saying, "I thrive by being challenged...and this year, these kids really challenged me." Ashley Doryumu was born on February 14, 1997.

Mr. Murray joins Prep after teaching for the previous seven years at Montclair-Kimberley Academy. Prior to that, Mr.

Murray lived in London for sixteen years where he worked as an investment banker. His job has taken him around the world to every country in Europe and Southeast Asia. He also spent time in the Persian Gulf, Morocco, and, of course, North America. In fact, Mr. Murray grew up in New Jersey and went to school at Pingry.

At Montclair-Kimberley, Mr. Murray founded and coached the school's first wrestling program. Although he will not be involved with Prep's wrestling team, you can look for him in the spring to be on the sidelines of the lacrosse field as an assistant coach for the varsity team.

While it will be impossible to replace Mrs. Doryumu (we all know she is unique), Mr. Murray is a welcome asset to our community.

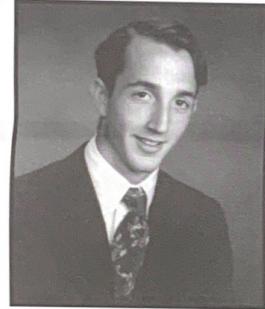
Spotlight on Jason Maikos

by Mark Markowski

Jason Maikos has spent the last three years at Prep establishing a name for himself as one of the best point guards in central Jersey. Jason was named co-captain last season, which really sparked his career. This season, Jason is averaging over twenty two points per game, placing him among the leading scorers in the county.

Throughout the season, Maikos has nursed a nagging tailbone injury. Jason's competitive nature has led him to play with an uncomfortable soreness. Despite his injuries, Jason, along with the rest of the team, has earned a record of twelve wins and six losses. The boys' team also won their holiday tournament in which Jason was named co MVP.

With few games remaining in the season, Jason needs under 50 points to reach 1000. Maikos



has high hopes for the basketball team and their quest for a state championship. Rutgers Prep was placed fourth in the Prep B division, giving the team favorable odds for the tournament.

Jason hopes to continue his basketball success in college where he wishes to play for a Division III school. With his skill and intelligence, Jason Maikos should have no problem continuing his success at a higher level.

The Spring Show: Murder Mystery

by Jeremy Wang-Iverson

As the winter show came to a close, a time of preparation has come again for the Drama department. The spring show is "The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940", written by John Bishop. The title is somewhat deceiving because it's not a musical. It's a comedy and murder mystery. The play centers around a group of actors preparing for a musical, when during the musical, members start disappearing. It's a very technical show which will feature secret passage ways, snow scenes, etc. Ms. Turlish has been very careful not to circulate too many cop-

Spotlight on Liz Alexander

by Maureen Benitz

Ask senior Liz Alexander if she remembers Saturday December 21, 1996. Without fail, she does. On the second day of the Prep Holiday Tournament, Liz scored her thousandth point. She is second only to Gia Bocra to achieve this.

In the first game of the tournament, Liz scored 24 of the 28 more points she needed to reach 1000. The team was keeping a tab of how many baskets she had to make until she reached her goal. When she finished with 24 points, the team was sure that within the first 2 minutes of the next game that she would reach 1000. This was not the case. Liz didn't score until the second half of the game. Liz finished this second game, against Blair Academy, with 10 points.

When her 1000th point was scored, the game stopped and many people presented Liz with balloons and flowers. Many



newspapers were there to photograph the day. The next day, many local newspapers had pictures and stories to commemorate the day. It was a circus for about ten minutes after Liz made that shot. Her team is very proud of her accomplishment and shared in the accomplishment.

Liz has been working on her game for many years. At every

practice, she gives it her all. Even if the team is just working on a simple layup drill, Liz constantly works hard. She tries her best to get everyone motivated and working to their potential.

Liz's hard work on the court has paid off in her academics. She is now being recruited by many colleges for basketball. Liz's dedication to the sport should prove to be an asset for her in college. If one goes into the gym after practice is officially over, one would often times see Liz shooting around, either by herself or with other people.

Her hard work has led the team to its most successful season, with the State Championship Title within sight. *The Argo* congratulates Liz on her accomplishment and wishes the rest of team good luck in their quest for the State Title!

A Wonderful Winter Show

by Susan Slim

Even though the programs said Saturday, on Friday, February 8th, Rutgers Prep students, families, and friends assembled in the lounge area for the annual winter spotlight. We had moving music, hilarious skits, and most importantly we had Eric "Stuart" Lemmo doing "Lightening Crashes" on the electric guitar.

A myriad of talents are unleashed in the Winter Show. Those people who you never hear speak reveal those secret talents through acting, poetry, and music. The night opened with the Upper School Madrigals singing the "The Long and Winding Road" by the Beatles. Sam Hartman's solo brought tears to men's eyes and made the ladies knees buckle. Jay Golon's solo was equally heart stirring. The group was so well prepared that Mrs. Szeles was able to stand aside as the Madrigals made her proud.

Allison Albino and Jay Golon acted in a "curious" and "bizarre" skit about a man and his wife acting like strangers

until they realized that they were in fact married. In mock seriousness the duo succeeded in fooling the audience about their relationship until the swirlly hug that ended the play. Frank Cesario also had a minor but entertaining role as a clock whose only line was "Bong."

In between skits were violin pieces by Kyle Szabo and Michael Szeles. Both pieces were exquisitely done, and the music emanating from their respective violins made even the harshest critic listen to their notes. Allison Albino and Susan Slim shared some poetry with the crowd. Albino's poems were both coy and sweet, and delivered with enunciation that made Mrs. Herzberg proud.

Maura Pritchard, Babi Das, Abbey Winant and Isaac Chalal acted in a skit called "Cheating" in which Babi Das learned a valuable lesson about morals and how much easier learning is than cheating. Maura Pritchard also

sported a happening 80's side pony tail. Denis Tseranko and Allison Moskowitz made our stomachs ache with laughter as they pretended to be idiots from the Ukraine.

Allison Albino, Josh Rosen and Sam Hartman poked our funny bones with a scene from the "Soup Nazi" episode from "Seinfeld." Their deep, insightful interpretation of the script, as well as Josh Rosen's voice echoing throughout Prep halls held us captivated with amazement. Denis made a guest appearance, as Rosen screamed "No sheep for you!"

Frank Cesario and Jay Golon acted out a scene called "Pillow Talk" in which Cesario voiced his reluctance to sleep in the same bed as another man. By the end of the skit, Frank was over his fear.

As you can plainly see, there is no talent lacking here at Prep. Everyone attending had a marvellous time.

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Girls' Basketball 23-2 and Ranked #1

by Maureen Benitz

"When you work hard, good things happen." Ask any member of the Girls' Basketball team if they recognize this quote. Without a doubt they will say yes. The team hears this many times during practices and games. This is the motto that the team follows. Their hard work thus far has produced a very successful season, full of first things for the team, such as winning over 20 games in a season and beating Woodbridge High School, a group IV public high school.

With daily learning, the team has had many highlights. During the second round of the Prep Holiday Tournament, Liz Alexander sank her 1000th point. She is only the second girl to attain this plateau. This was a very proud moment for the team. The first major obstacle that the team overcame was defeating the Peddie School at Peddie. The game went down to the last few seconds, with junior Jennifer Franklin sinking free throws to secure the victory for Prep. After the Peddie game, Prep faced Mt. Saint Dominic, a very powerful Catholic school. Prep was unable to keep up with the team and suffered their first loss. Although no team likes to lose, this loss showed that Prep could play

with big schools.

At the Winter Family Fun Night, Prep beat rival Wardlaw Hartridge. Last year, Prep faced Wardlaw when both teams were undefeated. Prep suffered the loss in a tight game, but avenged the loss this year. Prep defeated Wardlaw by a score of 61 to 37. During this game, in which the gym was filled to capacity with cheering fans from both sides, junior Jackie Sienkiewicz contributed 14 points. This was a big win for the team because Wardlaw is a conference rival.

For the first time in many years, Prep defeated Villa Walsh, a Prep A school. This game was very close, and was won thanks to foul shots made by Liz. With virtually no time left on the clock, Liz was fouled and drained 2 foul shots to ensure Prep's victory over Villa Walsh, another rival.

For the first time ever, the team was named to the Home News and Tribune's All Area team. When the team was first added to this list, there was a full page story on the success of the team. In addition to being on this list, the team is also on the Courier News list of top ten teams. Every Thursday for the past two months, the team has been the number one school in the Prep

division in the Star Ledger. The team has been placed on these lists due to the efforts of seniors Catie Somers and Liz Alexander and juniors Priya Radhakrishna, Jackie Sienkiewicz, Debbie Gray and Jen Franklin. Alyssa Botwinick and Emily Wilson have also seen much time, enhancing the team. Risa Peterson, Jasmine Orders and Blanche Piraneo have also played and added to the team.

In addition to the Upper School students that support the team and the parents, the fourth grade classes are now pen pals with the team. The fourth graders send cards and banners wishing the team luck. At the game against Wardlaw, many of the team's pen pals were in the crowd, cheering very loudly. The team sends the fourth graders cards in return for their support.

Keep your eyes on the court, you will be pleased with what you see. The team is destined to do well this season. The team is ranked number 5 in the Somerset County Tournament, which includes many big public schools. There is a very strong chance that this team will add a State Championship Title to their list of Firsts.

Prep Wrestling Working Hard

by Fred Kim

The wrestling team is having a very good season. Led by Coaches Dougherty, Lamb, and Santowasso, the team is working hard for the State Tournament. Because of the experience and brilliant leadership of team captains, Craig Feinberg and Henri Renard, the team has learned how to work together and help each other.

On February 5, the Rutgers Prep wrestling team took second place in the New Jersey Prep Conference. The team was only 9 points behind Wardlaw Hartridge, who took first place. Although the team did not win the conference, many wrestlers took individual titles. Jon Berkely, Marvin Quesada, Alon Tabak, Jim Russo, and Khanjin Nagarsheth all took the conference championship in each of their weight classes. Craig Feinberg, Andrew Venezia, Herb Roberts, John Vicari, and Chris Whethern took silver; Andrew Hobbs, Homin Lee, and Fred Kim took bronze. Everyone worked hard and played as a team.

The wrestling team is now practicing for the State Tournament and is working harder than ever to do well.

Swim Team Successful

by Danielle Kelner

Coach Forney is leading the Rutgers Prep Coed Swim Team to a winning season, with six wins and four losses. This year's team is lead by junior Winston Chow, who is first in his conference in the one hundred meter breast stroke. Key members of the team are seniors George Cox and Keith Forney, juniors Nick Lessard and Kerry Smith, sophomore Abbey Winant and freshman Gavin Riley. However, the swimmers are all contributing to their great season.

The swim team swam competitive meets against Wardlaw Hartridge and Montclair Kimberly Academy, but unfortunately lost both by scores of 68-130 and 38-58, respectively. The most exciting meet this year was the defeat to Metuchen. The team lost by two points, but it was lost in a relay race.

The swim team qualified for the biggest private school swim meet, the Easterns, which will take place in Philadelphia. The team will be represented by two individuals and one relay team. Winston Chow will compete in the 100 meter breast and Abbey Winant will compete in the 500 free. The 200 free relay team will be represented by Keith Forney, Winston Chow, George Cox, and Gavin Riley. Mr. Forney is pleased with the improvements that all the kids are showing.

*left:
BBall Coaches
O'Connell and Klinger*

The Spikers Continue to Conquer the Season

by Allison Albino

The Varsity and Junior Varsity Volleyball team have attacked this season with energy and spirit. Currently holding a record of 10-5, they are fighting to defend their Conference Championship and they hope to obtain the title of State Championship of the Prep B Division. Among these victories included a win against Lawrenceville Prep School, last year's Division A State Champions. The Varsity team took Lawrenceville in two games, forcing them to a shameful defeat in the second game with a score of 15-0. The team has faced other teams including Kent Place, Princeton Day School, and Peddie, and they are continuing to play with a vigor that will carry them successfully through the remaining season.

However, much more awaits this team besides the State Tournament (which is scheduled for February 22 at Morristown Beard). The Rutgers Prep Volleyball team is the only team in New Jersey, except for Lawrenceville

that was invited to the Chaote Invitational Tournament in Wallingford, Connecticut. The Tournament took place over President's Day weekend and there, the Spikers faced teams from competitive boarding schools all over the East Coast. Many of these schools recruit students to play on their athletic teams. They will encounter challenging opposition but it will nonetheless force them to play harder and prove themselves an honorable team representing not only Rutgers Prep, but the state of New Jersey.

This team is one of the closest teams that Prep has encountered. The Field House is often resonating with the sounds of their cheers before and after a game. The pile their hands together and proudly say aloud, "Prep Pride!" proclaiming to everyone that this is a team with heart, that respects each other and how they interact on the court.



Argonauts Reach Great Heights

by Charlene Davenport

This year the Boys' Varsity Basketball team has achieved many great accomplishments. On January 11, 1997, the team beat Somerset Vocational and Technical High School, to give Coach O'Connell his 700th win. This was a monumental and historical event, not only in Rutgers Prep history, but also in the history of basketball itself.

In December, the team held their annual Holiday Tournament. They beat Lakewood Prep in the first round and Timothy Christian Academy in the second round to win the tournament. During these games, two MVP's were selected. Both Jason Maikos and Mark Markowski played leading roles in winning the championship.

Rutgers Prep depends tremendously on the performance of the starting five players. Throughout the season, they have shown that they are able to handle the pressure and the responsibility that comes with starting. The starting five includes seniors Jason Maikos, Joe

Ziznewski, Mark Markowski, junior Will Pabst, and sophomore Jarrett Sutton.

Jason Maikos leads the team in scoring and steals. With 6 games left in the season, Jason needs only 54 points to score 1000 at Prep. Joe Ziznewski is second in scoring and leads the team in rebounds. Joe has to score only 34 more points to reach 1000 career points at Prep. This is a great achievement for both players, considering they have been at Prep for only 3 years. As Co-Captains they have both shown tremendous leadership and have been invaluable to the team.

Will Pabst is second in rebounding and has become an integral part of the team. Mark Markowski has asserted his place in the starting five as a defensive specialist. He harasses opposing teams, creating many opportunities for steals. Jarrett Sutton, the youngest player in the starting five, has become a premier post player averaging 7.3 points a game.

Rethinking Media Ethics

by Heather Adi Crossner

The press has an essential and indispensable role in society. The survival of democracy, in part, is due to a media dedicated to keeping the public aware of affairs that may otherwise have been kept from them. The mere presence of the press discourages any attempt of mass deception by powerful organizations and makes it more difficult for corrupt practices to go unnoticed. The press is so important because it gives power back to an educated public better able to make decisions about their lives. Though we are dependent on the media for keeping the people empowered, we must not give journalists free reign.

In a recent case, ABC's show *Primetime* was sued after an exposé by the newsmagazine. "Primetime" sent two producers undercover to a Food Lion supermarket to apply for a job. Using false information and hidden cameras to record the conditions of the workplace, *Primetime* aired a report on the horrific conditions of the food that was being sold and the filthy workplace where the food was packaged. Though the story was accurate in its content and the information reported to the public, the Food Lion company sued for fraud, trespass and breach of loyalty. The company contended that the problem was in the way in which the information was obtained and not in the validity of the information. The methods they objected to were the producers giving false information to the Food Lion employers to be hired and the use of hidden cameras. The jury found in favor of Food Lion and awarded the company \$5.5 million in punitive damages.

Most journalists and news organizations cried out against

the verdict and ferociously objected to the lawsuit. They insisted that the finding in favor of Food Lion meant that investigative journalists will forever be tentative in using tactics of hidden cameras and other methods that had been commonplace. Most people agreed that the verdict was outrageous and felt that it was a threat to the freedom of the press and infringement of the First Amendment, though the First Amendment was never an issue in this case. Many felt it would make smaller news organizations hesitate to go after corrupt people or practices for fear that they may be forced to deal with an expensive lawsuit from those investigated. The cry from the press was loud and strong. The loser, they said, would be the public and the loss of a media that had always tried to serve the public's interests.

There is, however, some problem with the press's image of themselves as martyrs being condemned when they had only wanted to protect a vulnerable public. While the press has, many times, done excellent investigative reporting that opened the eyes of millions of people across the country, there has also been the not so inspiring record of sensationalism that has always grown beside the more sincere journalistic efforts. As this form of journalism becomes increasingly prevalent, it is the obligation of the rest of the media to become even more dedicated to responsible journalism. As it becomes harder to distinguish reporting that educates and reporting that misleads, reporters must set higher standards for themselves and their stories.

It is not being argued that

the story behind the Food Lion chain needed the attention it received and was an issue that the American people needed to know. The question is whether "Primetime" needed the sensationalism and deception of producers using false information and lying to obtain a job. The newsmagazines say that they have seven current employees and former employees who have given on the record, first-hand accounts. Yet the show decided to use techniques that amount to entrapment and infringement of the rights of the Food Lion company to be able to hire people who honestly represent themselves and to have its stores inspected in an honest way.

More and more often, hidden cameras are being overused and misused in stories that could have been reported effectively without their use. Those news organizations who are crying so loudly over this verdict must realize that they are the ones who have brought on this lawsuit. In the media's charge to get the attention of the public, they have begun to stray from their efforts to educate and begun to use methods that jeopardize the story in an effort to grab the attention of the viewers. The media must stop feeling sorry for themselves and what they believe to be an infringement on their First Amendment rights and begin to realize that the sensational use of hidden cameras and deception should be kept in reserve for extreme cases of wrongdoing in which all other methods have been exhausted. In their effort to get the story, journalists cannot violate the rights that they have dedicated themselves to protect.

right to this information. Curiosity, especially in a school environment, should be fostered, not fenced in. Access to any textual matter should be completely free.

State and federal laws further dictate that minors should not have access to pornography and must respect copyrighted material. Including this in the school policy is redundant. If students access pornography or download a stolen (copyrighted) program, they are breaking the law. Just as America Online and other ISPs are not directly responsible for whatever illegal activities its members conduct through their service, the school should not fear some massive suit. Unfortunately, much of the Internet Policy seems written purely in fear of legal action against the school.

The entire policy in essence is a reactionary double standard. Much of the controversial information obtainable on the Internet can be found in text form. An advanced chemistry textbook provides the chemical background to create a bomb. Bookstores and libraries carry books on all manner of "inappropriate material."

The Anarchist's Cookbook, hate literature, etc. A perfect example of this double standard is the Josh Rosen incident. Our own school library (when it existed) carried fashion magazines which everyone had free access to, but Rosen was harassed, penalized, and publicly condemned for downloading Kate Moss pictures.

The most pressing problem in our school with respect to the Internet is not the alleged deviancy but rather the lack of access to information. There are without a doubt more students who have no idea how to use Netscape than potential cyberpunks. At this point the Internet seems like something we throw fourth graders in front of as an advertisement for Rutgers Prep. The hysteria must end, the Internet Policy must be withdrawn, and students must have full freedom to explore and educate themselves.

not realize it, Rutgers Prep has a thriving, but small, group of alternative and punk musicians. I think all of these people mentioned deserve a lot of credit for forming successful independent groups and working on them so hard out of school.

For any information on upcoming shows or any of the recordings mentioned, talk to me or write to:

Umbilical Records
PO Box 31
Belle Meade, NJ 08502

Bungling our Way to the 21st Century

by Suhas Radhakrishna

The Internet hysteria that infected overzealous Congressmen and the media last year has now taken over Rutgers Prep. Instead of the Karman "Common Sense" plan which implicitly defined Internet policy earlier this year, the administration has decided to force every student to sign a paper so full of legalese and jargon that few have any idea what it means. Put simply, the school policy implements outright censorship by forbidding students to access material that does not serve a vaguely defined "educational" purpose.

Unfortunately, we have come to accept the draconian "sign here or else" policy-making tactics of the administration. We signed the paper either in ignorance or with the knowledge that there was no alternative. Though the school often likes to think of itself as a completely autonomous body, the Constitution as "supreme law of the land" still holds. This policy is just as unconstitutional as the Communications Decency Act of 1996. The school has simply replaced the indefinable word "decent" with the equally vague phrase, "for school purposes only."

Mr. Karman voiced his distress over finding materials on "phreaking" in the computer lab during morning meeting earlier this year. What he may have failed to realize however is that access to information is completely independent of what one chooses to do with it. Reading about "phreaking" (theft of phone service) does not mean that you have any intention of ripping off AT&T. The same idea holds for any other type of "inappropriate" material. Reading "The Jolly Roger's Cookbook," a widely spread, poorly written, and incorrect treatise on bomb making, does not make you a terrorist. Anyone who attempts to set off a bomb, phreak, hack, or whatever else should understand the risks involved and be aware of the fact that they are breaking the law.

Nevertheless, we all have a

band.

Time passed and more change came. Dave Thompson left Diction and now can frequently be found at rave dance parties. Diction has released two tapes on Umbilical Records, an independent record label run by a friend and me. Before their recent break up, Diction played a great deal of punk shows. Two more of their songs live on, along with two Mohawk Barbie songs, on the Umbilical Records compilation. One last tape will be released by them this coming spring.

My band, Mohawk Barbie, has also released two tapes on Umbilical Records. We still play two to three times a month at punk shows in the tri-state area. We will be releasing two more songs on the Rotten Roll/Stinkbox Records compilation which will come out in March along with our

Warning: There Are Rock Stars In Your School

by Trevor Scott

There are many activities such as sports teams, clubs, and academic groups that a student at Rutgers Prep can become involved in. Often, students devote a large portion of time to these activities in order to be successful at them. Although these groups are run primarily by the students, there is an appropriate amount of adult supervision to make sure the goals of the group are met in an orderly fashion. It is hard to imagine what it would be like running such a group without the help of an experienced adult, but that is just what Thomas Filipkowski, Samuel Schecter, David Rosenstraus, Kevin Winter, Jeffrey Pink and I do in our spare time. Each one of us is in a band which we run with our friends. To be quite honest, it can get tricky at times.

I guess the story really should begin with Jessica's Error, a band made of all RPS students in 1994. The members included Chris Pink, class of '96, on guitar, Dave Thompson (still absent) on vocals, Jeff Pink on bongos and other noise makers, Sam Schecter on drums, and myself on bass. We

started off practicing in the school library of all places. However, we were soon kicked out due to technical difficulties with the jazz hand drums and amplifier, which we would borrow. Then, we started practicing cover songs and some originals at Sam Schecter's house. After a few small gigs, we broke up because of a problem commonly known to friends at RPS...we lived too far apart. From this band, we branched off into many others.

Tom Filipkowski, who played second guitar in Jessica's Error for a short time, and Dave Thompson started a hard core punk band called Diction. I joined a punk band in my home town of Hillsborough called Mohawk Barbie. Chris Pink and Sam Schecter went on to form an "alternative" band called Mr. Pink and Jeff Pink can currently be found working on a glam metal



very own single, released on the Umbilical Records label, following close behind in April.

Sam's band, Mr. Pink, won the Manalapan High School battle of the bands in '96. Since then, Chris Pink has gone off to college and has, thus, been replaced. They have played venues such as the Stone Pony in Asbury Park and they plan on playing many more.

The final piece in the RPS music scene puzzle is David Rosenstraus. He used to be an alternative band called Schroe which has played many coffee houses and has recorded a demo. Now he is in an experimental band along with Kevin Winter called Option? Rollerderby?

Although most people would