

The Argo

Vol. 7—No. 3.

DECEMBER, 1953



Gala Bill Stars Chorus, Players

Prepsters Plan Alumni Reunion

An alumni dance will be held in the Rutgers Prep gymnasium on December 29. Many alumni will attend, including Louis Borberly, Jack Bergen, Chuck Lezak, Bob Paulus, Charlie Reed, Frank Avery, and Bruce Johnson. These alumni will play in a basketball game which will precede the dance.

Because of the wish for some sort of reunion expressed by many Prep alumni, Mr. O'Connell proposed and planned this combination dance and game. Any Prep alumnus is invited to attend the dance.

At 7:00 the Prep varsity team will face a team comprised of Prep's star alumni. Three of the greatest basketball scorers in Rutgers Prep history will represent the Rutgers Prep alumni. These are Louis Borberly, class of '53, Jack Bergen, class of '50, and Chuck Lezak, class of '50.

Last year Lou Borberly established Prep's record for the most points made in a season, 447, and the most points scored in one game, 35. A previous Prep high scorer, Jack Bergen, is now on the starting "five" at Washington College, Maryland, while Borberly, a freshman, is on the second string of the same school. Prep's Bruce Johnson is currently a football standout at Rutgers University.

Rutgers Prep Joins Ranks Of Metropolitan Opera Guild

Christmas came early this year for forty fortunate students when Rutgers Prep was accepted into the Metropolitan Opera Guild. The lucky forty, who will go by bus, will be able to see Puccini's "La Boheme" on April 9th.

This rare opportunity was made possible through the efforts of Mr. Dumarae, who has been waging a one-man campaign since September to win Guild privileges for Prep. These privileges include the opportunity to purchase forty tickets at reduced rates, and to receive three subscriptions to "Opera News."

Mr. Dumarae, who was gratified at the student response to the projected trip, said, "There will be, sometime in the spring, definite time set aside for the students to learn a little about the story of the opera and to familiarize them with the music. This is in accord with the requirements of the Metropolitan Opera Guild."



Stars In Comedy

Yule Play Presents Kerber and Seamon

by Steve Hancox

This year's play was once again presented at the annual Christmas program, which was given on December 11. The play was a one act comedy called "Just What They Wanted," and was under the efficient direction of Mr. Holley and Mr. Calvo. It was a huge success, enjoyed by the students, parents and faculty alike, and well rewarded the hard work of the students.

Roger Seamon was excellent in the part of Gilbert Ash, an absent-minded husband. Eva Ash, his long-suffering wife, was captured completely by Susan Lang, who took the role. Maude Ash, Gilbert's sister, was finely portrayed by Shirley Kerber. Noreen Hudson added color to the play with her characterization of Bessie Eckyles, a neighbor of the Ash family. Bill Muhs portrayed the part of her husband, John Eckyles, with complete conviction.

The play, which involved a mixup of Christmas presents, was a good one. It provided an amusing plot with some extremely skillful dialogue, which was superbly handled by the cast.

The understudies included Diane Dorn, as the wife, Marian Veale as the sister, and Malcolm Cohen as Gilbert. Almost all of the parts were understudied to aid in a smooth production on the night of the Christmas program.

With excellent management and honest work from the students, the play went off smoothly and well reflected the toil of all.

Songs Plus Comedy Head Yule Program

Last Friday night, Rutgers Prep held its annual Christmas concert.

Prep's Glee Club, under the direction of Mr. Thomas Dumarae, featured Christmas songs from different countries in its program.

The first group of songs were English hymns, among which were the popular "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" and "Joy to the World."

Songs From Many Countries

The second group were all Bohemian carols. "Come All Ye Shepherds," sung by the girls, and "Good King Wenceslas" were the two songs.

From Poland came the lovely song, "Hear the Glad Tidings," and from Russia came "Kolyada," sung by the boys.

After these songs, the Elementary School had its program, featuring the French carols, "Angels We Have Heard on High," "Carol of the Birds," and "O Holy Night." Elfriede Riddering of the Preparatory School sang a solo in the latter.

Solos by Girls

The American songs done were "Go Tell It On The Mountain" and "O Little Town of Bethlehem." "I Wonder As I Wander" was sung as a solo by Elfriede Riddering and Estelle Newman soloed in "The Lord's Prayer."

As a finale, the entire Glee Club sang the traditional student song, "Gaudeteamus Igitur."

The accompanist for the Glee Club was Marcia Owens and for the soloists, Cleminta Vitti. The directress for the lower school Glee Club was Mrs. William H. Kelly.

Feature Boy Choral Group For Christmas Film Show

A film, featuring the Columbus Boys' Choir of Princeton, New Jersey, will be shown to the school on Dec. 17. Since the boys sing Christmas carols, the film will be offered before the close of school for the Christmas vacation.

Since 1943, the boys' choir has performed innumerable concerts. They have sung in practically all of the forty-eight states and in several provinces of Canada. This choir has appeared in such places as Carnegie Hall and Town Hall in New York City, as well as the Academy of Music in Philadelphia.

December, 1953

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PREPARATORY SCHOOL**

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Inactivity?

One serious deficiency in our present daily schedule is lack of provision for extra-curricular activities. Although we have five activity periods a week for this purpose, the time provided is inadequate: One activity period per week is not enough to put out a good yearbook or newspaper, nor are two periods per week sufficient to produce a good Glee Club.

Short as these activity periods are, the situation is made worse when the periods are shortened by announcements. When the activity period is encroached upon, it can mean, as in the case of "Ye Dial" and publications, that during an entire school week not twenty-five minutes are given to these tasks. While it is true that, if students are not participating in the planned activity for the day, they can participate in another activity, this is actually a valueless compensation, for in a school as small as ours, students who are in one activity will generally be found in almost all.

If, then, our school organizations and activities are expected to function efficiently, and to be a credit to our school, more organized time must be given to them, through an addition to our daily schedule.

During this Christmas season, the Argo staff extends to the student body and faculty its most sincere wishes for a Merry Christmas.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

They've finally installed a new water fountain, which, much to our dismay, washes our faces while quenching our thirst. The only solution I can see to this is to install a towel rack for drying ourselves and to teach the "youngsters" in our school not to destroy school property.

In addition I deplore the tiny pieces of soap given us which are so useless that it takes at least five minutes to wash our hands. The drying materials are just fair, but by the time operations are completed, we are late for class. It would be appreciated by the writer of this article if bigger pieces of soap were furnished.

"All Wet"

Dear Editor:

The eighth grade has been trying to start an activities period club. We are, however, undecided whether to have a dramatic or photography club. We hope that our final choice will be made at our next meeting. It is expected that the class will prefer a photography club.

In order to have the club, there must be a unanimous approval from the entire club. However, there are two boys holding down our plans, but some of us are confident that we will get the backing from these two boys and start the club.

—Bernard A. Karshmer.

Dear Editor:

Contrary to my usual nature, I find at long last that I must praise the school for something it has done.

To whom it may concern: Congratulations for the new water fountain!

For a while, there, Rutgers Prep could very well be likened to the Sahara desert. Students roamed the halls, calling through cracked parched lips for water. But no water was to be had.

Now there is a gleaming new water fountain standing proudly in the corner which once was so bare and forlorn. So again I must say, although it wounds me deeply, "Thanks."

A Very Unhappy "Grouchy"

P. S. I knew it was too good to last They just shut the water off again.

Who Am I?

- nitter
- mbitious
- errific
- appy go lucky
- ver ready
- ivacious
- ctive in everything
- ot an underclassman
- ery smart
- very one knows her
- ross word puzzle artist
- ard "office" worker
- alented
- legant
- ice

Limelight

Bill Kurtz, a new student at Prep this year, came to us from Hoffman High for a post-graduate course. While at Hoffman, he was a valuable member of the basketball team, proving to be fast and a good jumper, and this year he is lending his talents to our team. He has had experience as a third baseman, for the first time.

However, Bill's abilities don't all lie in the field of sports. Last year he was honored by being chosen the outstanding student in the senior class of Hoffman High, and a dinner was given for him by the Rotary Club. A dinner, Bill received a certificate of award.

Bill plans to study medicine next year at the University of Pennsylvania.

Record Holiday

by Jack Tobin

With the Christmas season approaching, the musical trend has taken a rapid turn from ballads to the annual Christmas songs. Heading this year's list is Eartha Kitt's "Santa Baby." Stan Freidberg has followed his "St. George and the Dragon" with a "Christmas Dragon." Among the other records being played, we find Bing Crosby's old standby of "White Christmas" and many others.

To get back to the hits—As of late, we find many quartets including the Four Aces' "Heart Of My Heart," "Laughing On The Outside," and "Return To Paradise." You then have the "4 Lads" with their hit "Istanbul."

The comeback of the year could very well be Frank Sinatra. In the last two months he has had a continuous flow of hits.

All in all, this year's record season should prove to be quite enjoyable to all its fans.

Studied Verse

I study and study and try
To earn marks that will make term
grades high.

When I study my best,
The profs never test
On the stuff I have studied. Oh why?

Every time that I do all my homework,
The profs never want all that "dome"
work.

But when I'm not ready,
These birds will unsteady
Me by wondering why is it I don't work.

They seem to think that I'm lazy
But really I'm driven half crazy.
The principle hope
Of this poor addled dope
Is to prove my worth to good old A. Z.

—Sharon Ries and Kathe Van Vechten

SPORTLIGHT

by Norman Karshmer

If you will look at the last edition of the "Argo," you will see my predictions for the basketball season. So far I'm batting .333.

The basketball team looked good against St. Mary's even though they lost, 64-62. Al Murasko was the best while Len Bartlett, Bob Allen, Bill Kurtz, Roger Seamon, and Buddy Zajac showed well. The team had a few hard breaks, but I still say that they will have a .750 season. Congratulations to Al Murasko.

Congratulations to Stu Edelburg who made the All-State soccer team. The team is picked annually by the sports writers of the Newark Evening News and the Newark Star Ledger.

Jack Bergen, Lou Borbely, and Howard Mischne are all playing basketball on the Washington College varsity basketball team. They are all alumni of Rutgers Prep. Bergen was high scorer at Washington last year, with a total of 403 points. Borbely and Mischne are freshmen at the same college.

Here is one more prediction that is really putting me out on the limb. Al Murasko will finish the year with a 25-point per game average or over. That's 450 points in eighteen games.

The alumni basketball game, which is listed for Tuesday night December 29, should be one of the top games of the year. The boys who will play for the alumni are the cream of the crop and will give our boys a real test.

Triple Threat Player Aids In Prep Athletic Victories

Al Murasko, the famous former South River athlete, has greatly aided Prep through his fabulous athletic ability. He, a first team all-county basketball player, has already broken the school scoring record for a single game.

In the spring he plans to participate in both baseball and track. Al is planning to pitch for us in baseball, and hopes to run the 100-and 200-yard dash, as well as the broad jump in the field events. He has already established a name for himself as one of Prep's outstanding goalies in its short soccer history.

Al, who is also a member of our Varsity "R" club, finds enjoyment in fishing and bowling.

After graduating from Prep, Al plans to attend college, hoping to become a physical education teacher and coach.

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Saints Edge Out Varsity In Season's First Game

SPORTS FLASH — In Prep's first home game, the Little Scarlets trounced Hun School by a score of 81 to 38. Al Murasko was again high scorer with a total of 34 points. Len Bartlett played a magnificent game on both offense and defense. Don Hughes played a great game on the boards while Seamon showed great skill in performing the fast break with Kurtz and Murasko.

Hun never had the score in their favor from the opening seconds of the game. Prep showed complete superiority during the entire game. The Little Scarlets' defense was so tight that Hun found it difficult to get a decent shot. Even with the tight defense, the fouling was kept to a minimum by Prep.

**St. Mary's Defeats
Prep Jayvee Squad**

On the night of December 4th, the J.V. team, under the supervision of Coach Sperduto, lost a game; even so the possibility of having a very good young team is obvious. With the small potential that the squad had at the beginning, it is quite remarkable that such a good job was done at the game.

For the first time since the beginning of practice, the team, under their captain, Stu Edelberg, met their first outside competition. For a fairly young team, this was quite a difficult job as the teamsters are not too experienced in the fine points of the game.

Besides acting as the captain of the team, Stu was able to put in 13 good points, mostly long shots, which accounted for almost half of the team's 27 points. St. Mary's team racked up 42 points. Among the dominating players were So Hayda with 8 points and Smith at center, doing a very good job. Harrison, an eighth grader, and Carl Baratta, a tenth grader, were both boosters and able assistants to the team.

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Al Murasko's sensational scoring spree broke the previous record of the greatest number of points scored in one game. This still was not enough to top the always tough Eagles of South Amboy. Al scored 36 points, bettering the record by one. His 19 points in the first period were enough to put the Prep school in front 23-13. Then after losing Bob Allen, a fine rebounder, and Bill Kurtz, Prep's floor general, on fouls, St. Mary's came on to win after a final period of much excitement when the two teams were never more than two points apart.

With the absence of Don Hughes, much pressure was put on Len Bartlett to control the boards. He did a good job on rebounding along with scoring eight points. Seamon and Zajac helped with timely buckets, but time ran out before they could get back the two points which Saint's Gorsaka threw in with about twenty seconds to go.

Prep used a zone defense as did St. Mary's. In the first half, the Saints found it hard to crack Prep's defense, but, in the second half, the Little Scarlets began to tire out because of the absence of Hughes and the fouling out of Allen and Kurtz. Saint Mary's, meanwhile, scored constantly.

Prep found both hard luck and time catching up with them. Many of Prep's shots rimmed the basket but rolled out, while luck seemed to be with St. Mary's.

The gym was packed with St. Mary's rooters which definitely aided the Little Scarlets' opponents. However, Rutgers Prep had a fine turnout of rooters considering the location of the game.

Prep found the Hoffman High's court an extremely difficult one on which to play on because of its small size. The Little Scarlets should play much better against St. Mary's when they meet them in Prep's gym.

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Lower School Plans Library Schedule

by Louise Di Lalo

Most of the students at the Elementary School have great interest in books and reading. To help this interest continue, a plan to go to the library was carried out on Wednesday, December 2nd, by the third, fourth, and fifth grades. The display of new books there was the center of attraction. The thought of missing a subject or two was, no doubt, also quite appealing.

The second and third grades are preparing for a Christmas program with all the trimmings, which will include some fine pine boughs to be used as part of the decorations. The boughs came from a pine tree which had to be removed because of the construction of the new university library directly in back of the school.

An assembly was held the day before Thanksgiving. Patriotic songs were sung, ending with the school song and "On the Banks." The school song is sung quite frequently at the Elementary School, but is rarely heard at Prep.

The Kindergarten children have had a "rash" of birthday parties with dixie cups and cookies for all, supplied by the parents of the boy or girl whose birthday was being celebrated.

A departmental schedule is now being followed in the upper grades, with Mr. Sperduto teaching history, Mrs. Anderson, the science, and Mrs. Kehoe, the English.

Constitution Revision Aired By Student Council Group

At the December 4th meeting of the Student Council, the main topic under discussion was the revision of the school constitution. After the formal opening points that were discussed and passed by the council are the following:

1) the clause which governs the election of the secretary and the treasurer was changed so that these two officers might be chosen from either the sophomore or junior class rather than exclusively from the junior class.

2) the article which read that campaigning for officers on the student council should begin on the third Friday after the opening of school and that elections should be held on the fourth Friday was deleted.

3) a person must have attended Rutgers Prep for at least one year before holding an office on the Student Council.

DUSCHOCK'S PHARMACY

SOUTH RIVER

Gatwood Cabin Hop Gets Large Turnout

The Thanksgiving dance, which was held at the log cabin on the Rutgers agricultural farm, was one of the most successful events on the school calendar thus far. The twenty-five or more couples who attended the dance were well supplied with music by "Four of the Ten Gilberts."

In the kitchen, Elfriede Riddering and Gari Gatwood, along with Mr. and Mrs. Heinlein, brewed large pots of coffee for the gang. Besides coffee, cocoa, cakes and cookies were also served.

John Kuhlthau, Vic Stilwell, and Frank Wagner, who were three of the first to arrive, helped get the huge fires burning, which continued all evening and added much to the dance.

Some of the dances which were enjoyed were the Mexican Hat Dance and the Bunny Hop.

After the couples were tired of dancing, the lights were turned off and they sat in front of the two large fireplaces and sang songs. They were accompanied by John Kuhlthau and Gari Gatwood on their ukes.

There were several alumni at the dance including Virginia Ann Hudson, Emile Archambault, Alan Black, Trudy Webber and Harold Williamson.

Prep's Cheerleading Squad Roots for Basketball Team

With the beginning of the basketball season, the cheerleaders are once again ready for action. Our squad this year consists of Virginia Reigger, head cheerleader, and Clementina Vitti, who are the only two girls from last year's squad. Our new "Prepsters" are: Shirley Kerber, Molly Parham, Elfriede Riddering, and Noreen Hudson. Nancy Haworth was elected as substitute, and Marian Veale as manager.

For the sake of variety, the girls will wear maroon corduroy uniforms with white collars and gloves for the basketball season.

Although there weren't many girls to choose from, those which made the squad proved to be very enthusiastic rooters. Prep is quite fortunate in having a group of girls who are always willing to show their school spirit by cheering the team to victory.

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Inquiring Reporter

By John Rosa

"What would you do if you received a umiak for Christmas?"

Barry Brodsky—"Ride on it."

Jack Geiling—"Give it to Mr. Calvo."

Gene Hohol—"Float it down the Raritan River."

Arthur Karshmer—"I'd eat it."

Tono Rebollo—"I'd carry it around on my back."

Norman Karshmer—"Play with it."

Bruce Parsil—"Put it under Mr. Moffat's desk."

Estelle Newman—"I'd exchange it for a larger one at Macy's."

Elfriede Riddering—"Put it on a leash and bring it to school."

Bernard Karshmer—"Grease it up and ride it to school."

Peter Schwartz—"Feed it to my dog."

Roger Seaman—"I'd put it in a pot."

Joe Hamadyk—"Take it to bed with me."

Noreen Hudson—"Take it to the C. T. and buy it a drink."

Mike Kessler—"How many miles does it get to a gallon?"

Howard Tobin—"Trade it in for a pool table."

Bob Michaels—"Take it out on the Turnpike and give it a test run."

Sharon Ries—"I'd take it to a dance."

Louise Di Lalo—"I'd stuff it and then broil it."

Weston Merritt—"I'd bury it."

Franklin Preiser—"I'd hide it in a closet."

P. S. For those who are interested, a umiak is an open Eskimo boat 30 feet long and 8 feet wide consisting of wooden skins and usually propelled by women.

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