

THE ARGO

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Spring Concerts a Grand Success

Choirs Shine in Spring Concert

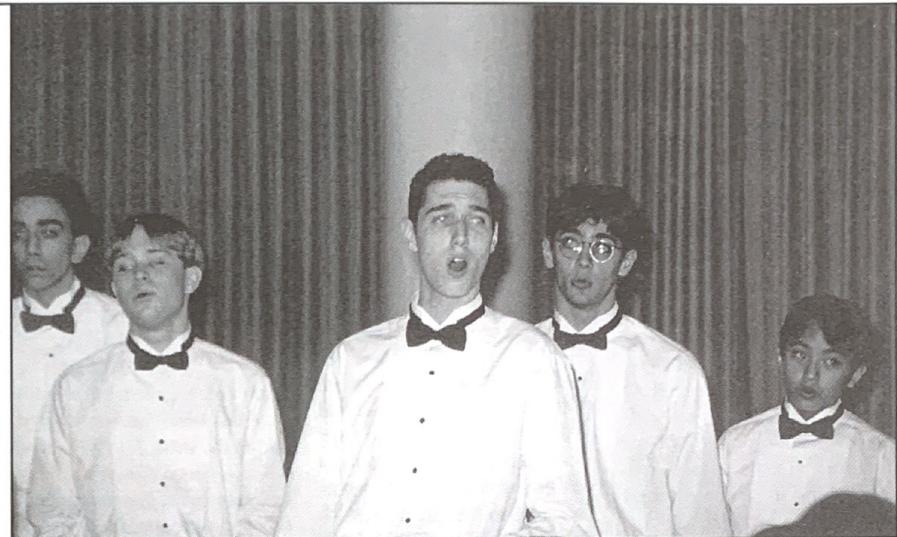
by Isaac Chalal

The Spring Choral Concert, Here's To Song, featured acts from the Lower School to 12th grade which graced and soothed the ears of a full house. The Madrigals started off the Upper School lineup with "Cantatae Domino", a 17th century song written by Pitoni. The piece was extremely difficult, but the Madrigals performed it beautifully. The next song on their repertoire was "Adoramus Te" which, in English, means "I adore you." It is an 18th century song glorifying the presence of God in a natural form. "And So It Goes" might have been the best song that the Madrigals performed. It is a Billy Joel original which featured solos by Gideon Dabi and Scott Buchanan. "When the Madrigal group sang, it was as if God came down from the heavens and said, 'hey, I'm here too.'" said Jay Golon, a two year member of the Madrigal group. This group consists of 12 seniors who set an excellent example for the

underclassmen who will lead the way next year.

The woman's choir opened up with "Nigra Sum," an ear-catching tune originally written in Hebrew and then translated a thousand years later into Latin by Pablo Casals. Angela Lin superbly accompanied the piece on piano. "How Merrily We Live," their second song, was performed accapella. "How Merrily We Live" was certainly the most difficult piece to learn and perform, but we proved to ourselves and to Mrs. Hunt that we can learn more difficult music despite the short amount of time that we are allotted each week," said Freshman Emily Scherb. The Woman's choir will definitely miss the strong voices of the graduating seniors, but they are looking forward to another successful year of making beautiful music under the leadership and training of Mrs. Hunt.

The men's choir, for the first time in its four years of existence, gave an all accapella performance consisting of "Vive l'Amour", "Kyrie", and "Yes Sir That's My Baby."



Senior Gideon Dabi sings one of his final solos with the Madrigals

"I think that we were all really pleased with our performance considering the amount of time we had to prepare," said Gideon Dabi. "Vive l'Amour" consisted of four different male voice parts which shifted keys and exchanged the lead throughout the song. It was absolutely amazing how they all pulled together during different intervals at the end of the song to finish it off with a big bang. "Yes Sir That's My Baby", was probably the most fun song to learn," said singing juggernaut Frank Cesario. He concluded by saying, "If only

the administration would open their eyes and give us a little bit more time to rehearse, we could show them what singing is all about." This year marks the graduation of six seniors who were on the original choir started by Mrs. Szeles four years ago: Justin Stavitsky, Simon Messing, Sam Hartman, Leland Coglioni, Scott Buchanan, and Suhas Radhakrishna. They will be missed along with the other departing seniors.

The Lower School Choir, the 5/6 grade Dulces Cantores, and the 7/8 grade choir, performed before the

Upper Schoolers and contributed to the wonderful evening. The concert ended with the combined choirs singing "The Lord Bless You" with alumni singing greats Erin Armstead, Robert Szeles, and Matt Scherb. The last song of the night was "Here's To Song", in which every singer, Lower School through Upper School, sang and the audience was welcome to join in. It was really something to listen as over 200 Prep voices filled Voorhees Chapel; it made one forget the time constraints placed on these groups.

Instrumental Concert

by Shaunessy Lockett

On the evening of April 29th, Voorhees Chapel was full of sounds of instrumental song. Whether the music was played by the orchestras or the bands, the music's beauty blended into one.

The orchestra, under the direction of Ms. Collins, began with pieces by Bach and Mozart. They were followed by the Middle Schoolers who played Vivaldi and Bach. Then, the upper school ensemble, which features strings along with 2 flutes, a clarinet, and an oboe, played one of Bach's

Brandenburg Concertos as well as the well-known Rossini piece, "William Tell Overture." Cellist extrodinare Erica Leavell opened "William Tell" with a moving solo. Ms. Collins said at the end of the year,

"This ensemble performed with great dedication and spirit and has arrived triumphant in their challenging musical journey!" The third song the orchestra played was a Kyle Szabo original, "Essay for Chamber Orchestra." It was the piece's world premiere; tuxedo-clad Szabo also conducted. Clarinetist Beamer Seilaudom and Oboist Kristen Peterson both enjoyed this music more than the winter songs,

and both believed the orchestra's performance justified all their hard work. With only senior violin Aisha Griffith and senior Bass Akbar Nasir graduating, the ensemble looks only to get stronger.

The second half of the program was dedicated to the bands directed by Mrs. Peterson. The Upper School Jazz Band played pieces by Norred, Holmes, and Lowden. Their works were marked by strong drums beats; the band's three excellent drummers, Sammy Schechter, Jarrett Sutton, and Dave Rosenstraus, each played one song. Mrs. Peterson, who was out for some time while pregnant, returned

in time to conduct and was very happy with the performance. "It was a good end to a good year," she commented. The Jazz Band was followed by the 4/5/6 grade band and the 7/8 band. These younger groups showed a good performance could be given at any age. A "Star Wars" medley was the highlight for the 4/5/6 band, and the concert ended with the 7/8

band playing the theme from "Mr. Holland's Opus"

Unlike in the winter, the choirs and the bands are split up in the spring. This is to allow the younger groups to play and still keep the length appropriate. The wonderful show managed to convey one very important message: no matter what instrument you play, music is music and its beauty is always the same.

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Spring Drama Production Delights Prep Audience

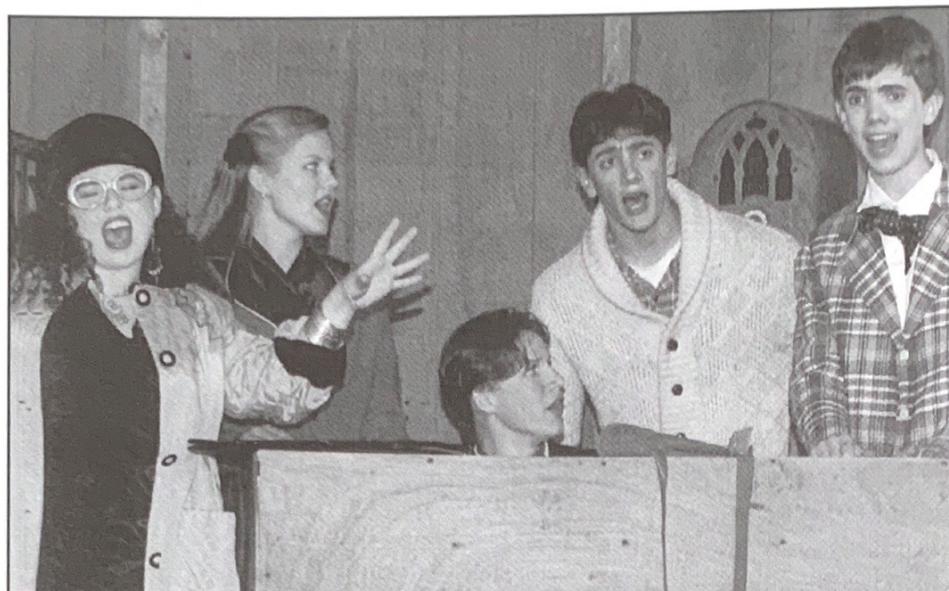
by Julie Ann Miller

This spring many of us had the opportunity to enjoy another one of Prep's theater productions, *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*, by John Bishop. The play was about a group of actors and actresses who meet at the Von Grossenkneutens mansion to audition for a musical. At their gathering, a number of strange and intriguing machinations unfold.

Elsa Von Grossenkneutens (Jane Needleman) appears to hold a backer's audition for a possible musical, which she might fund, at her mansion in upstate New York. The musical is written by the alcoholic lyricist Bernice Roth (Nicole Finner) and slightly effeminate composer Roger Hopewell (Denis Tsearenko). Pretentious B-Movie director Ken de la Maize (Scott Buchanan) is the director. Also in attendance is Majorie Baverstock, (Allison Albino) the exuberant producer. Irish actor Patrick O'Reilly (Jay Golon), comedian Eddie McCuen (Nathan Holt), chorus girl Nicole Crandall (Whitney Case) are all in attendance to rehearse the musical. Elsa's mysterious maid, Helsa (Jennifer Conrad) is also on hand. Little does the creative team know, it is not an audition, but a set up to catch the stage door slasher. The stage door slasher last struck at the previous Hopewell/Roth collaboration, so it is thought he might strike again. Elsa is in cahoots with police officer Michael Kelly (Jeremy Wang-Iverson) to try to catch the slasher.

Senior Jen Conrad enjoys playing the parts of villains, and so, she was thrilled when she was able to play the role of Helsa. Since this part called for a German accent, Jen asked her friend's mother, who is German, to read the script for her. From this research, Jen succeeded in developing the German accent required by her role.

When asked about their favorite or funniest scene in the play, most of the cast immediately said it was the fight scene between Jen and Jay, in which Jay ends up being straddled! Another favorite was when Jeremy was miming messages to



Jane. The team work, so crucial to this production, was stressed by Jane when she said, "It's not about you being funny; it's about you giving something to somebody else to make it funny."

This production was not only filled with great acting but also with very impressive scenery and effects. From snow to secret passages, the technical crew really had their jobs cut out for them. "If nobody notices anything we do," explains Senior Simon Messing, "then we've done a perfect job. But if somebody notices something we did, that means that we did something wrong." After the play was over many of the cast and crew members were happy to announce that they had executed a perfect show!

Stage manager Amanda Lin was responsible for calling the cues for the technical occurrences during the show, while George Cox, as Student Technical Director, led his technicians with his experience. Freshmen Gina Tarlton worked the lights during the show, and Matt Krolak operated the sound board. Eric "Stuart" Lemmo was responsible for opening and closing the secret passages backstage.

Now that this play is over, there is a mixture of feelings coming from the cast and crew - some of nostalgia, some of relief, and some of excitement for next year's play. Matt Krolak demonstrated his enthusiasm saying, "I could do this all year." "It's just not the same," says Whitney. "We don't spend as

much time together, but we still have that bond that was created during the show."

Since this year's show called for a smaller group of actors and actresses, the performers became very close. With a spring show, some actors inevitably move on. This show saw the final performance of 7 actors, (Jen, Jay, Jane, Scott, Denis, Nicole, Allison) and 3 technicians (Amanda, George, Simon). Many of them are happy that their acting career at Prep ended with such a great performance. "It was bitter sweet," said departing Junior, Jane. "A lot of people have had about 6 or 7 shows in there. For them it's a really big milestone. The show came off really well, and it was nice to see that such a sad moment was able to end on such a happy note." Jeremy said, "It will be strange doing plays without the faces I have worked with since Freshman year."

There were tears and hugs shared at the last performance of *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*. This moment was extremely touching for the 7 cast members and 3 technicians who ended their Prep Drama careers. The graduating actors will be greatly missed, but the returning actors and technicians should be able to continue to entertain. With so many kids graduating, younger Prep actors will get more opportunities to work in Holley Hall. Nathan probably best expressed the sentiments of all Prep theater-goers, "I'll definitely be looking forward to next year!"

Students learn, observe at Teen Arts

by Maureen Benitz

special to the Argo

On Thursday, May 15 nearly 40 of Prep's artists trekked to Raritan Valley Community College for the Somerset County Teen Arts Festival. Students from all over the county involved in writing, visual, and musical arts were in attendance. In a school as small as Prep, this sort of event is very important because it exposes the students to

what their peers from other schools are doing. Mr. Mordetsky said the school should continue to attend so, "we can see what other people are doing."

Back in February Prep's writers submitted original pieces which were read and critiqued by professional poet Craig Czury. He was slightly pretentious proclaiming the poems he read, "boring," and "not representing the world around them," but it did give Prep writers the chance to have their work read

by a professional poet. He challenged his listeners to think about why they write the way they do, to think much more than most of us already do. The Prep writers had their work published in an anthology which featured all the work by writers across Somerset; in fact, Prep put more originals in the anthology than any other school. Students got the chance to discuss writing technique with Czury as well as the other professional writer, Herman Ward, an older gentleman, who taught by having his students mimic popular forms of short poetry.



THE ARGO

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Mr. Peter Richardson

The Argo welcomes submissions and responses to editorial articles. Please mail to the Editor at:

The Argo
Rutgers Preparatory School
1345 Easton Ave
Somerset, New Jersey 08873

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Erica Becker, Brad Blecker, Edward Chandler, Jay Grunwald among others had their visual art work exhibited at the gallery that was set up.

Erica enjoyed going through the gallery seeing what other's her age, but at different schools, were doing. There was also a room set aside where short skits were performed in front of an audience of peers. Both of these allowed Prep artists to see others work.

Mr. Wittman verbosely sums up the theme of the festival, "When students take off their RPS colored glasses at the Teen Arts Festival they instantly and delightfully revel in the buzz of competition and inspiration given by all of the various teenagers in their area."

Along with the exhib-

its were workshops, which were run by art faculty across the county. Mr. Wittman ran a 3D collage workshop which Trevor Scott said, "was the bollocks." Trevor said he was really down in the dumps in the days preceding the festival, but the day seemed to, "brighten up his life in ways that cannot be put in words." There were also workshops in fashion, basketry, printmaking, marbling, acting, and even soap-opera performing.

The wide variety of workshops and exhibits that were featured made this year's festival a more than worth while experience. Much thanks goes to Mr. Wittman and Mr. Kendall for organizing the festival within Prep, and hopefully it will be an option for artists next year.

First Year Teachers

(cont'd from page 2)

She believes that good advice for any new teachers coming into the school not to be afraid to ask questions, a sentiment shared by Mr. Sanford.

Ms. Schwind both ran the math league for the Upper School and coached softball. She helped coach the volleyball team and do make-up for the spring drama production with Ms. Ables. Ms. Schwind says that the sports are lots of fun, and provide relief from the everyday duties of teaching. She said that although undertaking so many activities is time consuming, it gets easier once one establishes a daily routine.

Ms. Ables related the advice she gives to her students, "Don't take anything personally." She stresses the importance of learning from your mistakes.

Mr. Sanford works with both the boys tennis team and the cross country program while also teaching Biology and Physical Science. He encourages both students and faculty to be open-minded about such things as solving problems, both academic and social.

This was Ms. Ables, Ms. Mazzeo, and Mr. Gottlieb's first teaching job at the high school level, and they all agreed that it took them a while to get the feel of teaching high school students. Ms. Ables, coming straight from college, found it challenging to adjust to the personal atmosphere created by the small class sizes here at Prep. However, she feels that this environment is very beneficial.

In addition to the adjustments they had to make, these new teachers also experienced moments that made their first year at Prep a memorable one. Ms. Ables will remember her second period English II

class, not only for their lively group discussions but also for their original interpretation of Tennessee Williams' "A Streetcar Named Desire." The students brought in some of their own costumes and props and acted out a scene from the play. For Mr. Gottlieb, the thing that he remembers the most is Christmas. Many of his students gave him gifts and he wasn't really expecting quite so many, especially being a new teacher. For Mr. Sanford, the most memorable moment was a display of school spirit during the winter sports' spirit day. He recalls the day when the basketball teams played Wardlaw-Hartridge with an exceptionally large crowd there to support Prep. That made him proud to be a part of the Prep community.

Some things that people remember most are more comical events. The situation that Ms. Mazzeo will remember most from her first year was the stampede to the bathroom when it was announced that the water would be shut off for the entire campus in 30 seconds. When asked what comical event she remembers most, Ms. Schwind laughed and then gave an emphatic, "No comment!" This leaves something to the imagination. Perhaps some of her students know which esoteric event she was thinking of.

All of the new additions to Prep have really enjoyed their first year here. Among the most important lessons they have learned are to be prepared for anything and everything, to learn from their mistakes, and above all, to not be afraid to ask someone for help. Perhaps most importantly, though, they discovered that the structure of Prep is unique and provides for a very close and personal school community which a person can become attached to.



Junior Varsity tennis players practice their groundstrokes

Productive Tennis Season

by Ian M. Liggett

This year's tennis team has enjoyed much success, compared to the teams of just a few years ago. Although the team, at this point, has a 4-5 record, slightly worse than last year's 7-6 mark, it has been plagued with injuries, rain, and AP exams, the common enemies of all spring sports at Prep.

Led by Senior Captains Suhas Radhakrishna and Paul "Steel Cage" Sosman, playing first and second singles respectively, this year's team has developed into a solid supporting cast of underclassmen around the nucleus of these Senior leaders.

At third singles is junior Ian Liggett, and at first doubles are "The Bagel Brothers" Nakul Rao and Dan Lane, both Sophomores, followed by juniors Ganesh Ramanarayanan and Tilak Sunderasen, a.k.a. "The Indian Connection," at second doubles. Ian, Nakul, and Dan are second-year varsity players, and Ganesh and Tilak have just gotten their doubles teamwork together. They have stepped into their roles quite effectively in their first full year of varsity tennis. Senior Dominic Esser and freshman Ari Harkov are always ready to step in as the alternates.

Both Suhas and Paul have been injured at some point this season. Suhas sprained his ankle early in the season by step-

ping on a ball which had strayed too near the court, while in his own match. Paul pulled his groin muscle while playing Ranney, and it continues to bother him. A groin pull is a nagging injury, which can only be healed after extensive rest, which, as most students know, is impossible to get.

The team has received much support and advice from both the captains and Coach Jim Ackerman. In addition to the current team, last year's Senior Captain Eric Danzeisen has returned from college to support the team. As the team looks towards its future, it looks towards continuing improvement and hopefully increased fan support as the team gets better.

Boys' Lacrosse Winding Down

by Chris Wang-Iverson and Gavin Riley

Led by Henri Renard and Craig Feinberg and coached by Mark Tyree and John Murray, the boys lacrosse team ended the season with a disappointing loss. The team finished with a 3-10 record. From looking at that record, you would immediately think, "Wow, they are bad!" However, that is not the case.

The team was led by veterans Craig Feinberg, Henri Renard, Chris Correa, Ricki Alcid, Ian Japinga, and Thom Bonanni. These top players were backed by key freshman newcomers Gavin Riley and Andrew Hobbs. Freshmen Neeraj Kumar and Fred Kim greatly improved

their defensive skills over the season, and were backed up on "D" by junior Deepesh Patel and sophomore Jim Russo. Craig made some great saves, helping the team with their victories, but unfortunately he fell sick, leaving Greg Verb to protect the goal. As a sophomore Greg was not as experienced as Craig, but he still did his best and got some help from Henri, who also played goal later in the season.

The team's offense was led by Henri, Ricki, Ian, Gavin, Andrew and Thom. Ricki and Henri were the team leaders in scoring for the season, and Thom showed his versatile skills by playing midfield, attack, and defense at some point in the season.

The best game of the season came against West

Windsor, where the team showed what they were really made of. Although they lost, as Coach Tyree put it, "Sometimes the score doesn't matter, especially when everyone on the team contributes." Of course, he is referring to good ball-movement and scooping.

Scooping was the main weakness for the team. As Coach Murray passionately displayed from the sidelines by yelling such things as, "Please, TWO-HANDS ON THE DAMN STICK." Or, "Give me your equipment!! I'm going to go out there to show you how to play."

Others on the team showed much improvement during the season. Dan Zinkevich, Dipak Debiswas, George Condon, Adam Green, and Chris Wang-Iverson all look to help the team next season.

Softball Finishes at 6-8

by Maureen Benitz

This softball season has proved to be very different from any other season this team has seen. This was caused by many factors. Most importantly, the team played many hard games and pulled off many victories. These wins came from several key players, three of whom will be graduating this year. Many other underclassmen stood out this season as well, providing

both offense and defense for the Argonauts.

Liz Alexander, the team's senior right handed pitcher, improved greatly from last season. Liz sustained a minor muscle sprain that hindered her ability to hit during the middle of the season, but she made a great recovery in the last few games. Liz's ability to get on base with consistency proved to be a necessity for this team.

Following Liz in the line-up was senior Maureen Benitz. Also able to easily get on base, Maureen

Baseball '97

by Andrew Venezia

In 1997, the baseball team had an up and down year. While meeting high expectation by winning the inaugural RPS Diamond Classic Champions, in which co-captain Sam Hartman hit two home runs, the team dropped three in a row to teams they felt they should beat.

Now, near the end of the season, after posting an 11-8 record the team feels they could have done better. Although Prep made it to the second round of the state tournament, they lost to #1-seed Wardlaw-Hartridge. However, the team did have a fun and productive year under the tutelage of Larry Santowasso and Tony Mento.

Team co-captain Joe Fuoco led the team with 11 walks, while hitting a strong .361 and scoring twelve runs. Co-captain Sam Hartman, led the team with a .500 batting average and also had 3 triples and 19 hits. Senior Joe Ziznewski had three home-runs and hit .425, while

senior Keith Forney had 6 doubles and a .429 average. Ed Chandler also performed well by throwing a no-hitter in one game and batting .357 for the season. Other defensive stars include senior outfielders Scott Yelity and Scott Fleisher and catcher Jordan Rickards.

The seniors were backed up by strong seasons from sophomores Brian Benitz and Jeff Lowich. Jeff knocked in 8 RBI's and scored 8 runs, while Brian hit .372 and stole 12 bases. Sophomore Vic Salygin also contributed to the team's success.

Freshman Andrew "Beef" Venezia made solid contributions to the team by hitting 3 for 4 and catching Ed's no-hitter. Newcomers Homin Lee and Will Cosolich rounded off the team.

All in all, everyone showed bright spots during the season. While it may be hard to fill the voids that will be left by the departing seniors, all members of the present team look to a bright future.

and Liz were a threatening pair to have together. Senior Heather Driver finished the trio of powerhouses at the plate. Heather, who held down first base with great ease, was able to hit many runners in, giving the team much needed runs. These three seniors will be sorely missed next spring, and the team will have to work hard to find replacements.

The junior class provided many people for the line-up. Shortstop Debbie Gray was also a threat in the box.

(cont'd page 4)

Softball

(cont'd from page 3)

Because Debbie is quick and able to get on base, she batted in the ninth spot. Erica Becker also improved this season, using her small size to her advantage. Catcher Kris Farley shared the duties with freshman Sam Rugamas. Kris improved from the beginning of the season, becoming a very capable catcher. Center fielder Nicole Smith used her speed to catch many fly balls hit to center. Her power also made her a threat at the plate. Kerry Smith also proved to be excellent outfielder. Kerry also turned out to be a utility player by playing many other positions well. Sheela Srinidhi, a rookie to the team, also improved this season by learning how to play outfield.

The freshman and sophomores also proved their worth to the team. Jennie Lipman and Kim Brown showed their skills in the outfield, while Risa Peterson proved to be capable to play any position. Freshmen Emily Wilson, Kelly McWilliams and Avtar Sheppard-Singh made great strides as well.

Interest in the team was so great that Prep was able to field a J.V. team for the first time in many years. Many of these girls have played together for several years, and that chemistry is hard to replace. However, with the prospect of many impressive middle-schoolers, the quest for the state title may not be so out of reach. Nonetheless, earning a state title can come only from dedication and hard work. Good luck to the team next year!!

The Class of 1997

by Sara Preschel

The class of 1997 has been together for years; not only have they added personality and zest to our community, but they have contributed to make every aspect of our school better.

From giving melodious voices to the Madrigals, to adding talent and success to our athletic department, the class of 1997 was the backbone of R.P.S. this year. Previous senior classes have viewed their senior year as a count down to when they go off to college, but this class looked at their oncoming year differently. Their unyielding dedication to Rutgers Prep and their great leadership qualities and hard work left a great mark on the school. The seniors led the cross country team to finish their season with a great record and a conference championship. The varsity girls basketball team once again was successful, racking up conference and state championships, with help from the senior support and talent. The seniors, with their incredibly determined and high spirited attitudes, led

Anonymous

Certain things about freshman year are to be expected. You're supposed to have to take harassment from seniors, get stuck doing article notebooks, and make the shocking discovery that all the teachers try to make your life impossible by scheduling all your tests on the same day. But there are other things freshmen have to go through that just baffle me. Is there actually a reason we need to be confined to forty-five minutes of hell, in study hall, every day?

I've had plenty of time to think about it, and I can't come

up with one. I'm sure the excuse the teachers always give about why only Freshmen are stuck in study hall, regardless of the student, doesn't even make sense to them. Their typical response is, "Well, Freshmen are adjusting to a new environment, and they need the time to make sure they're prepared for all the challenges of the classes at Rutgers Prep". It seems to me that there are just as many Freshmen on the Honors with Distinction list as people in any other grade. If the people who make the rules really think that imprisoning us in a room is going to make us study, they should sit in on a study hall. If you look over a few shoulders,

most of what you'll see is the sports page or an open text book being completely ignored. You can't make people study if they don't want to. The main problem connected with forcing all the Freshmen to stay in study hall is the people who do want to study, but can't because of all the people stuck in the study hall who don't even want to be there. I have no objection to keeping people in a study hall if they need to be there. The only thing I do object to is the Sophomore with a C average who is allowed to sign out, while the Freshman with an A average is held hostage in a room full of people just trying to make noise and kill

time. Even if they did want to study, they couldn't.

Students of any grade with a high enough average should be allowed to sign out. Then students who need to be in a study hall will be, and students who don't need to be, won't. Anyone who says that freshmen need the study halls more than anyone else needs to work on their logic. Maybe they should be held captive in a study hall so they have time to think about it for a while...

Artists Honored at Annual Dinner

by Jeremy Wang-Iverson

Whether you chose the succulent chicken parmigiana or the delightful pasta primavera, it did not matter; you did not attend the Creative Arts Dinner for the food. It was like an Oscar ceremony except shorter: people were dressed up, there were musical performances, teary-eyed acceptance speeches and certificates were given out; Mr. Karman was the Billy Crystal of the night.

At the Bridgewater Manor on the evening of May 7th, Prep's artists and faculty gathered to celebrate an artistically prolific year.

The attendees ate dinner, then awards were given out.

Maureen Benitz was hailed for putting out more issues of the Argo than the legendary Matt Scherb, a goal she had going into the year.

Prep visual artists Andrea Lewandowski, Nicole Smith, Melanie Kemmann, and Denya Chinquee unveiled a four panel sea mural, an absolutely wonderful piece which is to be placed in Mr. Mazza's room. Mr. Mazza, unable to attend, accepted the mural and gave his thanks via a satellite-video hookup in which he thanked the art department for all their work. Mr. Wittman, Ms. Roselli, Ms. Fair-Polymeropoulos, and Mr. Mordetsky were all on hand to present certificates.

Director Ms. Turlish and Technical Director Ron Kelly presented certificates for those who participated in either of this year's two shows, Pride and Prejudice and The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940. Afterwards, departing senior Jay Golon presented flowers to Ms. Turlish and Ron and made a very special presentation to Mrs. Herzberg. Jay credited Mrs. Herzberg, theater director before Ms. Turlish, for giving him his

start in acting and honored her with a plaque and flowers. She received a standing ovation and accepted the award in tears saying she was speechless and, "This is so nice."

Mr. Kendall gave his departing senior Editor-in-Chiefs for Excelsior (Jay Golon, Nicole Finner, Susan Slim, Allison Albinio, and Amanda Lin) sunflowers, drawing a metaphor to how he has watched them grow since they were freshmen. Very appropriately Jay and Nicole's White Issue of Excelsior came out the same day. Whitney Case is currently working as Editor-In-Chief in getting this year's the third issue out.

After posing the question what color does a smurf turn when choked, Mr. Wittman presented certificates to all those who contributed to the Yearbook. Editor-in-Chief Amanda Lin was recognized for all her hard work, and Mr. Wittman, who had seen the book, commented that it was great. The book was released May 16, the seniors' last day, but there still is the supplement on the way. The supplement can be glued into the back of the book, and will feature spring events

which happened too late for the main book. This year's book is 25 pages longer, features more color and is dedicated to the Senior Class's Coordinator, Mr. Avella.

All the musicians who participated in either Orchestra, Band, or Choir received certificates, but music also provided some entertainment for the evening. Michael Szeles and Kyle Szabo played a duet, and the Madrigals sang two songs, a preview to their Spring Choral concert. Gideon Dabi gave a very heart-felt thank-you to Mrs. Szeles for helping him in his musical endeavors, and Kyle Szabo received special recognition for composing and conducting the orchestra, as well as playing.

The dinner was sort of a goodbye to many of the departing seniors who contribute to the creative side of Prep. Along with work being honored, work was also displayed, in the mural presentation and the musical numbers. For one night at least, attention was given to an aspect of Prep that can sometimes be overlooked.

Peer Leadership Comes To An End

by Shaina Brenner

Both grunts and smiles came from the class of 2000 when the final period of peer leadership came to an end. While some looked on in dismay, others were surprisingly happy to know they now had a study hall. But what the members of the Freshman class and their peer leaders can say is that the program affected them each in some way.

One of the main goals of peer leadership can be expressed by the words of Mother Theresa: "In this world, we cannot do great things. We can only do small things with great love." And so, peer leadership has taught all of its members to do

exactly that, seen in the final projects. To end a successful year, each group assumed the responsibility of choosing an end of the year project.

Aisha and Nicole's peer leadership group chose to visit members at the hospital while Catie and Henri's group painted a wall in the back woods to eliminate the graffiti there. All and all, each project had a significant purpose. Shaunessy Lockett felt that "...peer leadership is a useful program. It helped me to become better acquainted with some of my classmates. However, there were times when it seemed to be pointless and uninteresting. But overall, I definitely encourage peer leadership to be a permanent program here at Prep."

ROVING REPORTER:

Question: "What do you think of this year's Yearbook?"

"It's sad because there aren't enough pictures of us in it."

- Ben Feldman and Dave Rosenstraus

"I liked last year's better because there is a more diverse number of people. This year there are the same people in every picture."

- Jaydalia Jones

"I think it needs an autograph page, but other than that it is a good representation of Rutgers Prep life."

- Whitney Case