



THE ARGO

Vol. 102, No. 3

Rutgers Preparatory School

November 1990

Bus Shooting

Sandy Somers

On November sixth a bus window was broken in the afternoon. The Perth Amboy bus was making a right off of Easton Avenue onto Franklin Boulevard at the Landing Lane Bridge light. Simultaneously, the Milltown bus was making a left in the left-hand lane. It is highly suspected that someone on the Milltown bus fired a pellet gun at the Perth Amboy bus.

The projectile went through an open window and hit the back window of the Perth Amboy bus. Following procedure, the Perth Amboy bus driver called the dispatcher at Barker Bus Company. They in turn contacted Mrs. Gillern, the transportation coordinator, who informed Mr. Glackin, Mr. Karman, and Mrs. Gooen. When the busses returned to Prep and Mr. Karman and Mrs. Gooen searched the possessions of many on the Milltown bus, nothing was

found. After clearing out the broken glass of the Perth Amboy bus both busses continued with their normal route.

Mitchael Slade (8th grade) and Mike Edwards were closest to the open window and broken window respectively. Jason Kaplan (11th grade) recalled that he "was in shock." Most students agreed that they heard a "pop" followed by a "crack" (what about the "snap") in the window. The consensus of those present is that a pellet gun was used. When asked about were the gun was Mr. Karman replied "it might have been thrown out a window." Mrs. Gooen suggested that it could have been a rock. This seems unlikely, however.

An investigation of the matter has been concluded. The faculty was informed of the shots the very next day. Barker Bus Co. refused any comment on the matter. The police were not contacted.

Council Corner

Liz Chin

It was stated by Craig Fallon, sophomore class vice president that "The food truck comes for the first rush of people and then leaves. It does not stay its full half hour." Another complaint is the prices are not listed, and are not listed, and are increasing every day. Council is asking the Administration to request a price list that would be posted on Mrs. Gooen's office window. Council is looking into these matters, and hopes to make the food truck more convenient.

Council was asked to provide video yearbooks for the Upper School students. The Council officers met with a representative from the video company for a brief presentation. The opinions of Council were 1) It is too much work for Council to manage by itself. 2) It is expensive for every student to buy one. 3) The first try should be on a tuition basis.

The next dress down day will sponsor the "Russian Family Services" and give food to needy immigrants. Since the organization requested for help immediately, Council bought

and distributed the groceries before the dress down day using money will be returned after the dress down day. The idea to do-nate food to the organization was suggested by Jordana Weiner.

The Annual Food and Toy Drives which Council sponsors, are coming up. A chairperson to organize each drive will be selected. The positions will be open to any Upper School student willing to commit the time and effort. Other positions are also open to the whole student body. Suggestions for the Food Drive included having each class sponsor a different organization, having the entire school sponsor the "Russian Family Services", and giving the class with the most cans a free dress down day.

Student identification cards will be provided this year to all Upper School students. The cards will provide: proper photo identification for traveling and admission for SAT testing. Discounts at selected stores, museums, and theaters are other features. The information on the card will include: student's name, birthdate, grade, school address, signature, Social Security number, and school year.

The Argo is dedicated to rooting out the truth



Mrs Herzberg directs students onto the bus to see
The Miser in New York city.

The Prep Moliere Trip

Arthur Brostrom

On October 10, Mrs. Herzberg's AP English and Masters of Modern Drama classes, Mr. Bertin's French Literature Class, and the cast of "The Imaginary Invalid" went to see the Broadway show, "The Miser" by Moliere, a French playwright. The play is running at the Circle in the Square theatre, located in Manhattan. Both Mr. Bertin and Mrs. Herzberg chaperoned, and the group traveled by school bus.

Approximately two and a half hours long, the play is an excursion into the lives of a ludicrous family headed by a stingy father named Harpagon. Moliere spins a chain of events around this man's stinginess, which makes the entire play quite humorous.

The general feeling of those who went was that it was a very enjoyable experience and time well spent. Observation of the play enabled the cast of "The Imaginary Invalid", another play by Moliere, to see other actors perform a work by the playwright. The cast will be reflecting many of the same types of characters seen in the play, when they give their December performances of "The Imaginary Invalid".

Famous Author Visits Prep

Andrew Rafalaf

The Upper School learned a lot about the New Jersey Turnpike, during an assembly on the 16th of October. Dr. Angus Gillespie, who is a professor at Rutgers University, specializing in New Jersey history, has co-written the book *Looking for America on the New Jersey Turnpike*. The title was "stolen" from the Paul Simon song of that same name. The assembly was a collection of interesting excerpts from the book.

Dr. Gillespie began his presentation by stating that the Director of the Turnpike has a salary of about \$133,000, double to that of the governor's. The Chairman of the turnpike usually becomes the Governor, and the Governor usually becomes the Chairman, making the position of the Chairman very powerful.

The bulk of Dr. Gillespie's presentation was about the Turnpike's tolls and toll collectors. Along the 143 miles of the turnpike there are 18 designated exits, each equipped. The most most expensive toll is \$1.85. The total amount of money collected by toll booths after a year, due to the 190 billion people using them, is about \$182 million. Of that, \$38 million is used to pay

The Argo

Opinions

Page 2

Features

Page 3

Sports

Page 4

The Ogra

Insert



Mr. Bach describes all of the fascinating aspects of the New Jersey Turnpike

Editorial Page

How Do You Say... De-Tention?!?

Amar Maktal

Recently I sat in Room 109 after school for 45 minutes. Nothing was accomplished; me and my cohorts just sat. Talking, sleeping, eating, homework, and anything constructive was forbidden. In fact, nearly any type of motion (a jerk of the head or a brief gesticulation) is not permitted. We, about 12 of us, sat quietly with our faces toward the front of the classroom. This is what is called detention.

It was all very long and boring. I was quite sure each one of us hated it with a strange passion. Earlier, I had struggled into the room 7 minutes later than the rest of the bunch (I was taking a test). In turn, I was required to stay 7 minutes later. I was left alone with the proctor in silence. Then suddenly she spoke. She told me that from now on to get to detention on time because she didn't like being there either. Wait a minute...WOW!!! I thought teachers liked watching us suffer. I made the realization that no one, student or teacher, enjoys the detention process as defined by the Administration.

I was confused. Detentions can either be given directly to an offender, or acquired by receiving 3 demerits (as I had done). All teachers have to proctor detention at least once a year, sometimes more. I really

don't see any faculty enjoying it. Maybe it would be to their benefit not to issue so many detentions or demerits. It appears to me that they are just bringing more senseless and wasted time upon themselves. The whole detention process brings both parties involved one thing—Grief!

In most detentions there usually is a troublemaker. Well, considering detainees are all troublemakers, there is a double-troublemaker. At my recent detention, I was fortunate to have one present. The teacher called him a "hot-house plant." He constantly was moving, and disobeying whatever the teacher told him. He was dismissed early from Room 109 with...another detention. This sort of thing happens a lot, and wasn't exclusive to my experience. The buck was passed, and the student can now bother the next proctor the next week. This whole detention thing seems to work in an endless cycle of grief.

At my old school (St. Joseph's High School), detention usually involved some sort of work detail. I usually wound up cleaning desks or blackboards. This sure beat sitting in a room in total silence. The manual labor didn't bother me. It made my school a cleaner place, and I had actually felt a work ethic for my "job." The chore wasn't too hard, and I could at least whistle while I worked.

The Director of Phys- Ed's Rebuttal

Nes Forney

Let me clarify a few important misconceptions about "Gym Study Hall." First, if Sandy had met with me he would not have written in the Argos that the reason for Gym study hall was for ease in attendance taking. Sorry, this is not the reason.

Second, two days of Gym, two days of study hall, and one day for lab is not a new idea. Eight years ago when the 9th and 10th grades were scheduled for Physical Education together during 4th period and 11th and 12th grades were together during 6th period this was the case. Classes were small, which benefited both teachers and students. Classes were also 70 minutes in length.

Third, feeling strongly that kids would benefit and enjoy Physical Education if they could meet four times per week, the

Administration (at my request) agreed to this arrangement. This was accomplished, but there were a few negatives. Classes were larger, limiting participation for all during the winter months. Day to day groupings differed because of lab groupings, which complicated floor hockey tournaments, volleyball, basketball and the rest.

Fourth, the additions of computer class, peer leadership, chorus, typing, and other variables in individual student schedules further complicated individual student schedules. Some students with no lab or peer leadership were on a five day per week schedule, others on a 2 day schedule.

Fifth, grouping grades 9-11 together became necessary as seniors had so many variables in their individual schedules. Senior seminar, labs, AP classes, etc.

Sixth, classes were of manageable size in the Fall and Spring during good weather. During the winter months our facility could not adequately accommodate 70+ kids and keep them all active (kids were great, however, and made the best of it).

The decision to go back to two days of gym was made in order to keep class size in line with other classes at Prep. At the same time it accommodates Peer Leadership, Chorus, Jazz Band, Labs, and unusual individual schedules.

Choosing Physical Education as a career and using its components to motivate, and stimulate kids physically, mentally, and socially is very rewarding and satisfying. Providing daily time for all kids to experience these benefits has and always will be my philosophy.

The Editors of the ARGO would like to thank Mr. Forney for submitting this letter to us. If you feel it necessary to express your views to us, please do not hesitate to write to us; because you may not be part of the ARGO staff, it does not mean that you cannot submit articles to us. We need your input in this paper. Remember, this is your paper too.

The ARGO

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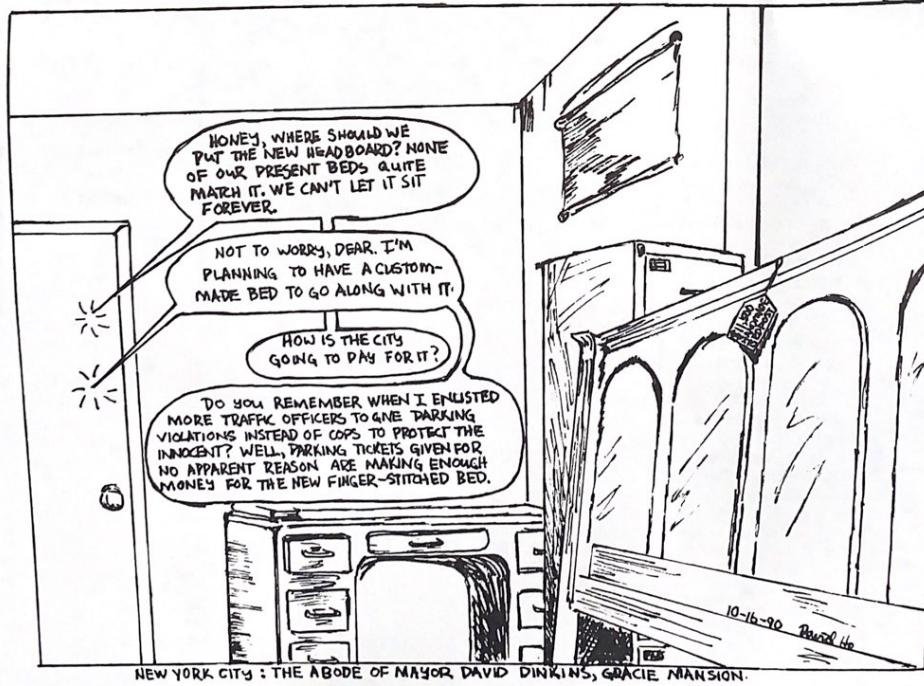
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Editorial Policy: Editorial presentations of individual writers. The Argos encourages letters to the editors from students, parents, faculty, alumnae, and administration. Only signed letters will be accepted but names may be withheld upon request in publication. The Editors reserve the right to delete material that contains tasteless personal criticism.



Features

225 And Counting

Jeff Salzberger

Prep was founded in 1766 under a different name. Back then, they stressed community service just as Prep does today. They played a significant role in the development of American education. The biggest change in Prep's history is its separation from Rutgers University. We were supported by the Dutch Reformed Church, unlike Queens College, which we were, the prep school for.

At its beginning Prep had a European classical education and later expanded to an English, or vocational school. During a school period when classes were stopped at the college, people from the Queens College Grammar School graduated to Princeton and other fine schools. The college was closed for 12 years due to disagreements with the Dutch Reformed Church. It was opened for a while, but then closed again for another nine years. This time it changed its name to Rutgers University after reopening. This prompted the Queens College Grammar School to change its name to Rutgers University after reopening. This change prompted the Queens College Grammar School to change its name to the Rutgers College Grammar School. In the 1860's the grammar school added a high school curriculum. In 1890, the name was changed yet again. This time it was named Rutgers Preparatory School. This school graduated its first girl in 1896. Also in the 1890's co-ed athletics and student organizations were developed. The School Council was developed in 1909.

In 1951, the school put and ended to boarding, and co-education was reinstated. Prep put together its own Board of Trustees in 1952. In 1956 Rutgers University became the state college. This brought about the separation between the university and the school.

V.N. Baldwin, a graduate of Prep, left Rutgers Prep \$100,000 in his will, provided that it was separated from Rutgers University. In 1957 the school moved to its present location, on the Wells Estate. In 1958 the elementary school was ready. After the Colgate-Palmolive Co. left their laboratory, in 1963, the upper school moved on to the Elm Farm Campus.

This is how modern-day Prep was made, and hopefully, this is the kind of progress that will continue to prevail in the Rutgers Preparatory School community.



Coach O'Connell and his 1961 team.

A Review of Morrissey

Adam Lore

While rumors of a US tour in February remain unconfirmed, Morrissey releases his newest single, "Picadilly Palare" to an eager army of apostles. Backed by "At Amber" and "Get Off The Stage", this is a glorious release which merely confirms his greatness.

The lead single features some good piano work and a lively rhythm which keep the spirit of the song constant, never peaking or bursting, but always high. The song is essentially about the trapped lives of the men of Manchester, but the manner in which it is written makes it apply to the whole world.

"At Amber" marks a return for Morrissey into the area of disabled children he visited in last May's "November Spawed A Monster". He speaks of his "invalid friend" who he cannot help but feel sorry for. This is a slower song than its predecessor, but it works to add a feeling of tension to the single.

This tension is instantly relieved when the romp of "Get Off The Stage" immediately follows. In this song, it is the aging musician that Morrissey attacks. He makes note of how most stars simply redo their hits when they run out of ideas. He sings, "The song you just sang, it sounds exactly like the last one. And the next one, I bet you it will sound like this. So get off the stage!" This song helps the single end on an upbeat note and also shows he is not at all like the star he depicts in his song. This surely shows after eight years, Morrissey is still not afraid to try his new things.

"Picadilly Palare" is highly recommended for anyone with an ear for music. It contains social issues, personal problems, and a little fun mixed in. What more could one ask for? Brilliant!

ALSO RECOMMENDED:
The Charlatans: "Some Friendly" (LP)
Happy Mondays: "Step On"
Inspiral Carpets: "Life" (LP)
The Stone Roses: "One Love"

The Amnesty Assembly

Uma Ayyala

Among the new clubs at Prep this year is the Amnesty International Chapter. On Tuesday, October 16, the club presented a twenty minute assembly. It was held in the lounge during activity period. It featured a video describing the program, and was introduced by Mrs. Wacker and Reena Agarwal, a Junior at Prep.

Amnesty International is an international organization which is involved with helping victims of human rights abuse and prisoners of conscience. The video described what Amnesty

International was about and interviewed some people who were subjected to injustice and abuse in prison. The main activity in Amnesty consists of writing letters to governments in which people are being held for their political convictions. This method has proven to save many lives, as well as draw much attention to the situations of the prisoners. The video also told the students that other students all over the nation were helping the cause by opening chapters of the programs in their schools, and also by raising money through fundraisers for the victims.

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France were
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were rejoicing. Sc
others were complai
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France. If one set aside
contradiction in opinion,
the people who went on the
trip could agree that everyone
had a great time.
The "enjoyment and
learning" started in Tours
where we viewed most of the

Page 3

Out To Lunch

Shivam Malik and
Raguini Narotam

As a bunch of us seniors walked through New Brunswick, looking for a place to eat, we found it difficult to decide where to go. It was suggested to us by a few of our friends, namely Jordana and Connie, that we eat at the food trucks on the Rutgers campus. "What," we said, "a food truck? As in chips, soda, and hot dogs? No, guys, we want real food!" While we were contemplating why they desired to eat at a bunch of trucks when we had all of New Brunswick at our disposal, they were already

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While
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tantly fol
two.

Once we decided what to eat, we were even more surprised by the prices. For just \$2.65 Shivam enjoyed a Middle-Eastern chicken kabab with a Coke, Raguini, opted for Chinese food, and paid \$2.15 for Lo Mein and a Coke.

As for the ambiance, we sat on the lawn with many college students, near Scott Hall, and engulfed ourselves the wonderful college life around us. Our lunch conversation revolved around

sur
prise
at the
difference be
tween the Prep food truck (if
that's what you choose to call it)
and the food trucks on College Ave.

Overall, our food truck lunch experience was a nice surprise. Not only were the food and prices good, but there was a minimal wait and the relaxed atmosphere was a nice break for the day. The question now remains: if food trucks are to become a regular part of Prep, why not food trucks like these?

Spanish Club Dance

is a Success
Jason Kaplan

His band, ACIA, got applause, and even a solo on the drums by Greg Fomey.

From 6:30 to 12:00, there already was dancing, jumping, and joking around as the music filled the air. Mike Goldstein welcomed everyone with a joke and at the same time, money was raised for a good cause: supporting a child in Latin America. Thanks to Dr. Lange and Mr. Minniti's supervision, the dance was a great success.

The Spanish Club also held a tennis tournament open to the whole Prep community: faculty, administration, students, family, and friends. Future activities also include a soccer tournament, movies, filming a soap opera, and a lot of parties.

A string ensemble will be starting for Upper School students in the near future. If you are interested, please contact Ms. Hatcher at (201)343-2734.

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less personal criticism.

Sports

Boys' Soccer Ends A Disappointing Season

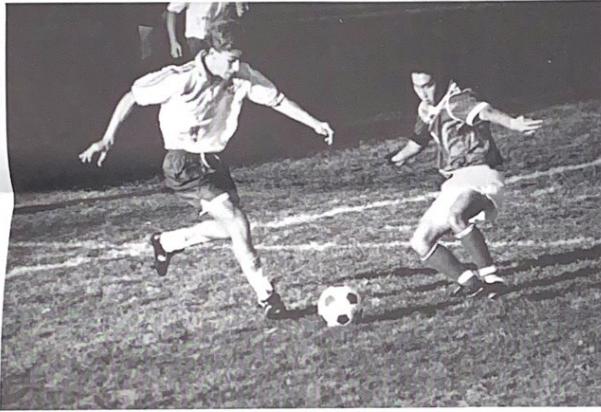
Sam Finklestein

The Boys' Soccer team failed to meet a goal in achieving a winning record this year, but steady improvement throughout has made the season a success. The squad has finished with a disappointing record of 4-12-2, with recent victories against Ranney and P.D.S. and a tie with Montclair Kimberly. Despite the tough practices and overall motivation, they were unable to put together a championship team. The team was never at full potential for various reasons. Injuries to two players, Jeremy Stoler (out for the entire season due to a broken ankle) and Dijon Hush (injured knee) hurt the offense as well as team morale. Mike

Metzger and Glenn Levy, both strong contributors, were sidelined for two games due to red cards. Some other important players missed games for various reasons, such as college visits.

The loss of a few important players, however, is not the only reason the team did not excell. A problem which plagued the squad was that the team did not play together. The lack of communication between players hurt the team tremendously. Excellent plays were established, but the team was unable to finish scoring chances. Shaun Barber felt that the best games played by the team were against P.D.S and Ranney in the state tournament. Shaun Barber stated, "Both these games were won

because the team as a whole gave a 100% effort and communicated well." The Boys' Soccer team beat Ranney in the opening round of states to advance to face Pennington in the second round. Pennington then ended the team's hopes for a state championship by defeating them, 3-1. The Boys' Soccer team was removed from the Somerset County tournament by Coach Marotto due to a few significant reasons, including missing key players. Despite their record, the team finished the season with a positive feeling. The team is now looking toward the future. The loss of the seniors will be felt, but hopefully the team can rebound and succeed next season.



Glenn Levy bolts past his defender during a recent home game.

Girls Tennis Ends on a Good Note

Regis Renard

The Girls' Tennis team's performance has increased from the beginning of the season. Playing well in the conferences, with many of the players advancing to the second round, has proven the team's improvement. Although the tennis team has a record of 3 wins and 4 losses, Coach Paul says, "The team has, in general, been playing relatively well in all of its meets. Beating teams like Saddle River, Blair, and Peddie was very pleasing. The team should have beat Ranney, but that is in the past."

The team was led by Naledi Khabo, who has had a winning season as the first singles player. Coach Paul adds, "The Rutgers

Prep Girls' Tennis team has been usually used as 'bait' for the better teams (in the State Tournament), so the better teams do not need to play each other early in the rounds. But many of the players should make it at least to the second round." Paul's predictions proved correct, as the first and third singles players, along with the two doubles team, advanced past the opening rounds before falling in the quarterfinals. Lynne Schwartz, at second singles, was defeated only after making it to the semifinals. Senior captain Khabo and the team were pleased with the results, feeling that the hard work and determination they displayed has paid off.

The Girls Tennis team ends their season with a meet against Morristown Beard.

Upcoming Home Games

- Nov. 19 - Girls VB vs. St. Elizabeth
- Nov. 29 - Girls VB vs. Mt. St. John
- Dec. 1 - Boys BB vs. Hun
- Dec. 4 - Boys BB vs. PDS
- Dec. 5 - Girls BB vs. Wardlaw/Harrige
- Dec. 7 - Girls BB Prep Tournament
- Dec. 8 - Girls BB Prep Tournament
- Dec. 11 - Boys BB vs. Gill St. Bernards
- Dec. 12 - Boys BB vs. Peddie
- Dec. 13 - Girls BB vs. Villa Walsh
- Dec. 15 - Girls BB vs. Birch Wathen
- Boys BB vs. Birch Wathen

Cross Country Conquers

Robbie Samuels

After a somewhat surprisingly slow start to the new season, the Cross Country team has proven themselves by winning both the State and Prep Conference Championship. The team sprinted to victory in both races, sweeping all three categories at the Conference meet, including Girls Varsity, Boys Varsity, and Junior Varsity. "These triumphant days make up for all of the close losses during the season," said Doug Brown.

In the State meet, the team had five runners place in the top ten, including juniors Regis Renard (2nd) and Sam Finklestein (5th), senior Brian Towsen (6th), and juniors Paul McLaughlin (9th) and Dennis Timko (10th). "With five runners in the top ten, it was impossible for Montclair-Kimberly to catch us," senior captain Towsen stated. Montclair-Kimberly Academy did finish second, fifteen points behind the victors. The State meet featured two varsity races, for both Division A and B, as well as A and B girls race. There was also a mixed junior varsity race.

Juniors Regis Renard and Sam Finklestein paced the Boys by placing 3rd and 5th, respectively, in the Conference meet. Returning from an injury, senior captain Brian Towsen was able to place sixth, nailing down the victory for the boys' team. Other contributors in the race were

Dennis Timko, Paul McLaughlin, John Young and Mish Jaggi, who all finished within the top 15 behind Brian. The win lifted their hopes for a victory in the States. "Because we won the Conference meet, we showed the other teams that we're the best, and we should win States if we perform as we did in the Conferences," said Regis Renard. The Conference victory was the first in four years. The Girls Varsity race featured sophomore Amy Holliday placing second, followed by freshman Gia Bocra, who finished in fourth place. The JV race produced a first place winner in freshman Dean Barber.

Before the Conference meet, the team lost two tough meets back to back. At Immaculata, the squad ran well as a team. Renard won the race, setting a course record in the process. However, Immaculata was able to defeat the Prep team. In another away meet, the team lost on a tough course to Montclair-Kimberly by one point. The squad ended its season at the Somerset County Tournament, where it fell to a tough Somerville team.

Despite the low record the team posted this season, winning the State and Conference championships certainly made the season very successful. Renard, Finklestein, and the other underclassmen will make sure that the strong Prep cross country tradition will continue next season.

Girls' Soccer Almost Makes the State Championship

David Lee

After a slow start, the Rutgers Prep Girls' Soccer Team has shown a great deal of improvement in the past few weeks and has been fairly successful in the State Tournament.

The team's improvement has mainly occurred due to team unity and overall better play. Coach Nesvogel says, "The team is definitely peaking at the right time. The substitutions are playing well off the bench and contribute to the team." One of the main factors in the success of the team is the play of sophomore goalie Cherie Gallini, who has played outstandingly throughout the season. Justine Clemente and Donna Gioffre have been providing consistent play and senior leadership. Other

offensive contributors include Ida Fiumfreddo and Jamie Schumier, who have racked up four goals each and Beth Arsenault, who has five goals and one assist to her credit.

The team has played well against two excellent opponents, Gill-St. Bernard and Pennington, leading to 1-1 ties in both games. On Wednesday the 24th, the team dominated St. Mary's Doane 5-0 in the opening State tournament game. Both the offense and the defense performed well, and St. Mary's could not match the balanced attack. The team ended the season with a loss to Gill-St. Bernard, ending its hopes for a state championship. With a solid group of young players, the team believes that they can succeed in the future.

THE OGRA

RUTGERS PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Vol. 2, No. 3

November, 1990

Behind Closed Doors

Alpa Patel

Many important decisions have been made by the Board of Trustees, including the School's Drug and Alcohol Policy. Most people don't know what goes on behind the "closed door" meetings of the Board of Trustees.

The Board of Trustees presently consists of nine parents and seven alumni. Three new members will be elected, so that it will, in total, consist of twenty-one individuals. The object of the Board is to oversee the business of the school. The Board and Administration are two separate entities that work together, but final decisions on policies, ranging from the dress code to financial aid, are made by the Board and not by the Administration. The Administration recommends, and the Board's job is to decide and to make sure the Administration follows through on what has been decided.

To become a member of the Board, parents who are interested may talk to Headmaster Lingeheld, who will give their

names for suggestion to the Board. The qualifications, or the "three W's," are: Work (the willingness to expend lots of time and energy), Wealth (money to contribute to the school), and Wisdom (brains and experience). Two out of the three conditions satisfy the needs to become part of the Board.

The switch from the soda machines to the food truck was the Administration's choice; there was no direct input from the Board. Yet, the Board did hire the principal Mr. Karman as a delegate who runs day-to-day operations of the school.

The Administration consists of non-voting members, who sit in on the meetings. Like an Administration member, the faculty representative, Mrs. Mansfield, is also unable to vote. Students may only attend Education and Long-Range Planning committee meetings, unless invited for a specific meeting over an issue.

Students who are frustrated by school policy usually go to their representatives in School Council, but it is the Board that has the real power.

Selected Poetry

POW

for Amnesty International

The ceiling is crusted green.
The walls are green crusted brown.
The floor is green brown crusted black.
I must lie in it.
Every day the same
ceiling
walls
floor
walls
ceiling
window
window.
There is a window.
A window, opening
opening wide
letting in the fresh, fresh air
the sunlight
the scents of spring flowers
rushing in
rescuing me
There is no window.
There is a ceiling crusted green
There are walls green crusted brown.
There is the floor green brown crusted black,
in which I lie
with no window.
OH GOD PLEASE LET ME OUT

Julie Ciamporero

When Titans Clash

Garvin Jesdanun

gang up on him."

However, I can not accept this reason for our defeat. The Senior-Faculty football game was a travesty. First of all, the referees were Juniors. A common sentiment among the Juniors before the game held that "the Seniors will have no chance; we wasted them before [during the out-of-school Junior-Senior football game held on the previous Saturday]." More than half of the Juniors I interviewed laughed at the playing ability of the Seniors. With all these negative feelings towards the Seniors by the Juniors, can we really trust their judgements?

I also notice that the Senior-Faculty football game was arranged for November 7, just as the faculty are writing first quarter comments and calculating first quarter grades. Is this a coincidence, or is there some ulterior motive behind this scheduling? With a game early in the year, the faculty is able to hold a tackle-me-and-you-fail attitude against the players. Luckily, none of my present teachers were playing. However, most of us would rather see our own teachers playing. How much more fun could the game get if we had our favorite seventh period teachers in the game?

Despite the obvious thrill I have is to pick out a teacher and

hold back Rob Wines or Mrs. Alfandre dance into the field to a rock beat. I was annoyed to see the Faculty team again consist of an unproportionate number of physical education coaches. Of course, they had tremendous playing ability. It might have been okay if only one of them was playing at a time, but we had multiple coaches dominating the field.

Add that to the redhead, and you have an unstoppable team. And who was that redhead, anyway? Mrs. Gooen stated the next day that he was an English teacher. Why haven't we seen Mr. Ancipink before? Could it be that he teaches only one class and then goes home? How do we know he wasn't hired just for his football ability? "Why don't they knock out the ringers and put in some real faculty members?," one Junior asked.

Our defeat causes the collective ego of the Faculty to swell, although most of the Faculty had no part in the playing of the game. Meanwhile, all the Seniors must together bear the dishonor of the game, even though the odds were heavily stacked against us. I can only hope that things will become more fair before the next time we clash, in the big Senior-Faculty volleyball game.

A Flaw in the Constitution

Geoff Gussis

The Student Council is lying to you. They are a hypocritical organization that only serves the students that are deemed "good" by the Faculty and Administration, and they do not give a fair shot to the other students. Class elections this year exemplified this. The School Constitution was disregarded by Council elite in order to let certain students run, while others were prevented from running during previous years.

It is clearly stated in Section III of the School Constitution that anyone who wants to run for office must, during the previous two semesters, (1) have an academic average of C- or above, (2) have had no more than three detentions, (3) have had no suspensions, (4) not be a present Council officer, (5) have no more than two unexcused absences or five unexcused tardies as defined by the handbook, and (6) have had no appearances before the judiciary board which resulted in disciplinary action.

The controversy lies in the

interpretation of clauses five and six. In the Senior class, there were several instances where candidates were allowed to run, even though in the past two semesters they had violated one of these clauses. Student Council President John Fidelino stated that Council has the right of interpretation in cases where the School Constitution is at hand. He stated that the fifth clause was not worded clearly; that the "as defined by the handbook" phrase meant that the handbook dictated that policy. Closer examination shows that "as defined by the handbook" directly relates to what unexcused absences and unexcused tardies are. In fact, policy concerning tardies and absences has not changed from the 1989-90 academic year to the 1990-91 year. Thus, if the School Constitution was adhered to, these people would not have been able to run.

You may ask to yourself, "What justification does Council have for permitting such abuses?" This is the part where points get shaky and people get hesitant to say anything. From what can be discerned, a private

meeting took place, which included but was not limited to:

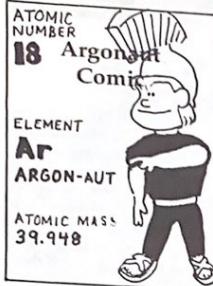
Mrs. Gooen, John Fidelino (and other Council elite), and other faculty members.

At this meeting, it was decided that certain people should be allowed to run for office regardless of their qualifications. Citing unclear statements in the Constitution, Council President John Fidelino said that Council "has the right to review the Constitution."

Do you think that Council should review the Constitution at its leisure? In the past, review of the Constitution was achieved through committee, and any changes were voted upon by the entire Upper School Student Body. I ask you: have you been denied the right to vote on these changes? You should have answered "yes." You should have been allowed to be present at the "virtual back-alley decision making," as David Rosner put it. "When I wanted to run for office, they wouldn't let me because I had violated the School Constitution. I am enraged by this situation," he continued. Who is at fault? You decide.

The Back Page

Ask the Argonaut



Garvin Jesdanun

DEAR ARGONAUT:

Tell me, what did you think of this year's Lasagna Dinner?

HUNGRY

DEAR HUNGRY:

Well, there are really two aspects we may analyze concerning the Lasagna Dinner. First are the presentations of the Lasagna Players during morning assembly. Last year, when the Lasagna Players made their annual visit to the School, they delighted hundreds of schoolchildren with their interpretation of various fairy tales. Unfortunately, this year's troupe was not able to match the success of its predecessor.

Performances ranged from the mildly comic to the fairly mediocre. Perhaps it was the lack of good sound capabilities in the lounge area. Perhaps it was the writing. More likely, the poor performances were due to impossibility of equaling last year's dazzling spectacular. Despite this, one must give the actors credit for trying.

One bright actress with star

qualities shone throughout the week. Performing as the Energizer Bunny, Mrs. Barbara Herzberg state that she "got quite a charge out of the performance." Herzberg is no newcomer to the world of morning assembly-theatre; in fact, she practically invented it, "back in the days of the Spaghetti Dinner."

The other aspect of the Lasagna Dinner I can analyze is the food itself. The chow was great.

THE ARGONAUT

DEAR ARGONAUT:

Governor Jim Florio paints himself as a man who taxes the rich to help the poor. Don't you think that his increased sales tax hurts the lower and middle classes and small businessmen, as well?

JOE LOCANDRO

DEAR JOE LOCANDRO:

Well, it's the difference between regressive and progressive. His taxes aren't regressive because he doesn't tax important things like clothing. He does, however, tax beer, wine, sangria, yachts, cigarettes, gasoline, toilet paper, teeny-tiny rocks, shrubbery, and herring. He sees these as progressive taxes. Just plot it out on the aggregate supply and demand curve. It's simple algebra.

THE ARGONAUT

DEAR ARGONAUT:

Help! What time is it?

CONFUSED

DEAR CONFUSED:

Many people don't know this, but there is a simple equation that lets us convert the time shown on the clocks to real time.

COUNCIL MISCONCEPTIONS

By John Fidelino

The following letter was written to the editor, in response to an editorial that appeared in last month's edition of the Ogra. Serving as its President, John Fidelino represents the views of the School Council.

Dear Editor:

In the October issue of the Argo, in the Ogra insert, there was an editorial entitled "Another Broken System," written by Erik Wasson. The article questions the amount of time it takes to get things accomplished at Rutgers Prep, attributing the problem to a "mute" and "ineffective Council." However, I must question this article's integrity and the basis of the writer's opinion.

Firstly, the writer suggests that the School Council should "walk up to the cafeteria ladies and say, 'salad or no salad... job or no job.'" Council cannot fire RPS personnel simply because of this writer's problem with the salad bar (his actual gripe with the salad bar is not made clear). However, Council can approach those in the Business office—whose job it is to manage the cafeteria—and suggest improvements, which Council has done several times this past year.

Secondly, the writer implies that Council did not work hard enough at regaining gym study halls. On the contrary, there was a Council committee designed precisely for this purpose. That committee, comprised mainly of this year's seniors (Shivam

Mallick, Jordana Wiener, Sandy Somers, Joe Locandro, Naledi Khabo, and Connie Conaway), called for several meetings with Mr. Karman, Mr. Forney, and the other gym teachers to debate and discuss the benefits of a gym study hall and alternative measures that would act in the same vein. Aside from these meetings, the committee administered all the surveys and confronted Administration with them and made almost all of the Thursday Morning Forum outcries, thanks to an enthusiastic Sandy Somers. The "grass roots level" that worked for change was this committee. The work done by those outside this committee is almost nonexistent.

Lastly, the writer claims that Council is limited to "busy work." That is, he says, Burger Blasts. I must say, once and for all, that Council's goal is to do what is in the best interest of the school population. This school's population wants many social events. Burger Blasts and other barbecues, however, are the only types of events in which all students participate wholeheartedly, and only because these lunches are held during school hours.

Besides barbecues, Council works hard at reaching out to the

community through charitable donations, as the can drive, toy drive, and Dress Down Day revenues. Also, Council provides general services to the students: magazine racks, ID cards, and, before the Administration removed them, soda and snack machines.

In reviewing "Another Broken System," I cannot stop myself from asking, "To whom or to where has this writer gone for his information?" Council knows when a non-Council member attends a meeting. Council knows when someone goes into its files, and people on Council know when they are being interviewed; for this article, no one approached Council. Also, because of the writer's misunderstanding of the Council ongoing, it is apparent that no one referred to the Council minutes.

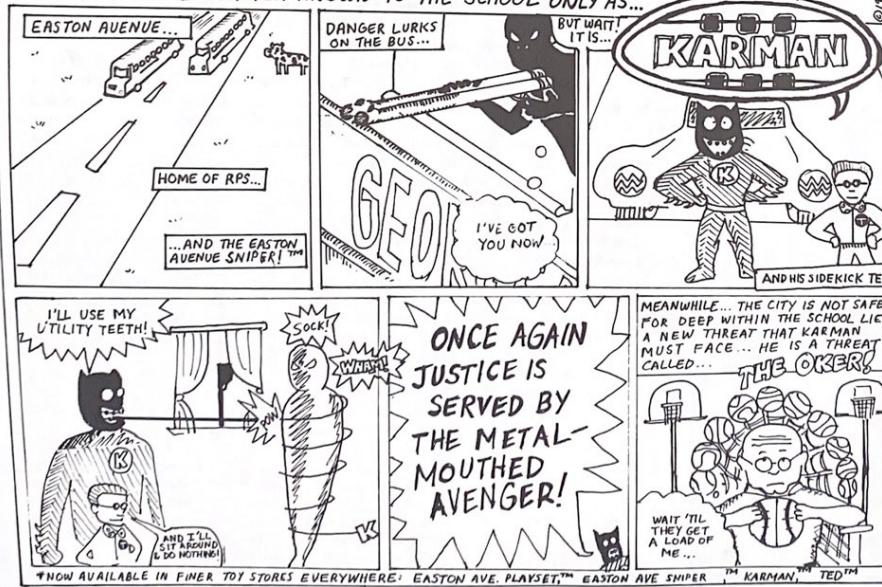
It is very nice to see a student so concerned with the effectiveness of Council that he is motivated to voice an opinion (in this case, that Council is ineffective), but it is nicer to see an opinionated student among our ranks, taking action, and being effective. I hope to see this soon.

Robert J. Fidelino
School Council President

THE OGRA...

a radical but conservative, stubborn but charming group of individuals who live on the edge.

DICK KARMAN... BY DAY, AN ORDINARY MILLIONAIRE PLAYBOY... BY NIGHT, A VIGILANTE CRIME FIGHTER KNOWN TO THE SCHOOL ONLY AS...



The OGRA

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Editorial Policy:
Editorials present the opinions of individual writers. The Ogra encourages letters to the editor from students, parents, faculty, alumni, and administration. Only signed letters will be accepted but names may be withheld from publication on request. The editor reserves the right to delete material that contains tasteless personal criticism.



THE ARGO

We Goofed - But You Can Benefit

In the November issue of the ARGO, there was a publication error which led to an issue with a great deal of spelling and grammar mistakes. Although the editors had meticulously corrected these mistakes, their work was somehow deleted due to a software quirk and the resulting paper contained many inaccuracies. This was unfortunate because the problem was not exposed until after publication. However, we at ARGO are not ones to let an opportunity to benefit from our mistakes pass by. Therefore, we are holding a "proofing contest." The first three students who are able, while working individually, to find over 30 spelling mistakes and grammatical errors will be rewarded with a **PIZZA PARTY!** In addition, one of these three students will be appointed to the position of **ASSISTANT COPY EDITOR**, starting with the January 1991 issue. This position has the potential to provide an excellent way for you to carve a nook on the ARGO staff. Good Luck!!!

Thank you.

Joe Toleno
Argo Copy Editor