

# THE ARGO

VOL. 99—No. 1

RUTGERS PREPARATORY SCHOOL

OCTOBER 7, 1987



SES students arrived from Spain on September 17.

## Prep's Publications Are Enthusiastic!

Though it is still quite early in the school year, all three of Prep's publications, *The Argo*, *Ye Dial*, and *Excelsior*, are alive and well. The editors of these publications are full of hope and have high expectations, therefore exhibiting their optimism and enthusiastic attitudes. A number of other students have also shown a great amount of interest and are eager to help.

For the first time in three years, Mrs. Wacker is entering *The Argo* in the Columbia Press high school newspaper competition. She feels that this year, *The Argo* has the potential to be a very good newspaper. Co-editor in-chief, Usha Raghunathan, is also optimistic, "This year, the page editors and the staff of *The Argo* are highly talented individuals. With their help and Mrs. Wacker's support, I am sure this newspaper will be successful." The newspaper's other co-editor in-chief is Stephanie Leveene, and the four page editors are: Russell Wojtenko (Opinions), Heather Bensko (Features), Adrienne Towsen (Sports), and Tony Foleno (News). Craig "The Flash" Wacker is the photography editor, while Devraj Lahiri handles distribution.

Also, there is a fine group of staff writers who are both consistent and very competent. Though

many juniors and seniors have shown interest in writing for *The Argo*, sophomores and freshmen have not stepped forward to exhibit their talents.

The editors of *Ye Dial*, the school yearbook, are also enthused about their publication. Beth Miller, co-editor in-chief, comments, "We hope to do a lot this year. We're all planning to make the yearbook more interesting and a lot more fun." Susan Metzger is the other co-editor in-chief and the whole list of editors includes: Claire Barna, Steve Kravetz, Missy Betron, Elizabeth Schwartz, Sherrylynn Lee, Jordan Friedman, Dorian Garrison, Wyndi Goldberg, Michelle Goldsmith, Debbie Goldberg, Caroline Santowasso, and Jeremy Djeu. With all of these students working together, the yearbook is bound to be a success.

*Excelsior*, the school literary magazine, is looking forward to yet another creative year. Since it has retained the experience and leadership of editor-in-chief, Jennifer Kerstein, the magazine is expected to have issues as good as, if not better, than those of last year. Along with Jennifer, there are three other key people: Laurieann Avery (Layout editor), Alissa Hauser (Submissions editor), and Sherrylynn Lee (Typing editor).

## Prep Greets Susan Gooen as New Assistant Principal

For 19 years, Susan Gooen has been teaching - 10 of those 19 have been at Rutgers Prep. Since then, she has taught every level of math offered and has held various positions in school, including Chairwoman of the Judiciary Board, summer school coordinator in 1983, and Math Department Chairwoman since 1982. Mrs. Gooen now adds Assistant Principal Dean of Students to her list.

The amount of responsibility associated with the job of Assistant Principal is overwhelming as Mrs. Gooen illustrated with her extensive list of official duties, such as organizing activi-

ty time and coordinating club and class schedules, supervising prefects, creating faculty rosters, etc., etc. But, that's not all she does! Mrs. Gooen also retains her Math Department Chairwoman position, as well as being Freshman Class Head Advisor, the Academic and Math team advisor, and still has time for teaching AP Calculus and Honors Precalculus.

What are her hopes for this year? Mrs. Gooen couldn't think of anything she'd like to change, but said that she'd like to see the freshmen become a more cohesive unit and start to follow the mainstream of the Upper

## Mrs. Spratford's Dedication to R.P.S. Will Last Forever

by Alissa Hauser

After 28 years at Prep, the first Upper School Assistant Principal, Helen Spratford, has retired. Most of us tend to remember her waiting at the bottom of the up staircase looking for people going down, or scanning the halls for that person without a blazer. Her profound enthusiasm and her empathy towards others is what makes it difficult to describe how much of an asset she was to Prep.

### Campus News

The dress code this year has finally been relaxed. Though the new dress code will not affect the females of Prep, the males now retain the option of wearing ties. The general consensus among students has been one of approval, although some girls complain, "But guys don't look good with blazers and no ties!" Of course, the boys haven't found anything to complain about!

For the first time in a number of years, the Upper School has no new outside additions to its faculty. However, Mrs. Gooen has taken over the position of Assistant Principal, and Mrs. Lutz has left the Middle School to teach Western Civilization and U.S. History, thereby becoming a new member to the History Department.

In the second week of September, a meeting was held for all current seniors who participated in Model Congress last year. The result of the meeting was the appointments of Jordan Friedman and Russel Wojtenko as delegation leaders. Model Congress will be in Washington D.C. on December 17-20.

The actors and actresses have been cast and once again, the Drama Club, headed by Mr. Herzberg and Mrs. Herzberg and Mr. Hickson, the technical director, is in full gear. The fall production is a very popular comedy "Arsenic and Old Lace", and will be playing from November 12-14.

School. She also mentioned that as Dean of Students, she would like to advise students, without just taking disciplinary action.

Insisting that she is a "dull person-why would you want to write an article about me?", most of us who've been in her classes or had an opportunity to talk with her realize that she is just the opposite, promising an exciting year ahead.

Read the next issue  
of *The Argo*: Is the new  
Gym teacher married?

Born Helene Pierrette Dupont in Marseille, France, she began studying English at the age of eight. After going to school at Aix-en-Provence, she started to work as a secretary-translator for the American 6th Port Operation in France. It was here that she met her husband Larry, and eventually, they moved to New Brunswick, NJ. They have raised three kids - two sons, Jean Michele, and Robert, and a daughter, Catherine.

In 1959, Mrs. Spratford started teaching French here at Prep. She soon held the position of Senior Guidance Counselor and then she became the first Upper School Assistant Principal. Creating the French Civilization class, AP courses, and the Academic team, Mrs. Spratford also successfully organized the SES program with Lycee Lacassagne in Lyon, France.

However, for Mrs. Spratford, these 28 years at Prep held more excitement as she chaperoned camping trips, dances, and, of course, trips to France.

Fulfilling a promise she made to her husband, that she would retire when he did, Mrs. Spratford ended her 28 years at Prep last May. At the end of July, a party was held in her honor at school. Though the party, originally scheduled to be outdoors, was moved inside due to heat, this didn't lower the spirits of the many alumni, family and friends who were present. Time was taken out to present Mrs. Spratford with gifts, including a Rutgers Prep chair with an inscription on the back, and a framed painting of John Stella's Elm Tree Farm painting.

It is difficult to describe fully the amount of time and effort Mrs. Spratford devoted to Prep. Her perseverance and determination to make RPS a better school will be present in her numerous contributions, as well as in the hearts of those who knew her. Mrs. Spratford will be greatly missed, and we wish her and her husband a happy and fulfilling life.

## Theme of "Caring" designed at Prep

by Melanie Dever

This year, the Prep administration has designed a new theme - "caring." The future of "caring" here at Prep will become clearer as the year progresses and its manifestations begin to appear. However, it is important to understand the origins of this concept and the affects it will have on the Prep community.

Before disclosing the history and future of the "caring" theme, it is essential to define the exact meaning of this concept. Traditionally, the word caring evokes specific images, such as those of little girls with pigtails helping old ladies cross the street, or, perhaps, of nurses and doctors aiding patients. This year's

theme encompasses much more than this traditional type of caring, and involves instilling into the Prep community genuine concern for the environment, the community, and each other.

When asked why this theme was created this year and what brought about its creation, Headmaster Ted Lingeheld replied, "We were trying to think of a theme for the year and someone noticed that you couldn't pick up a paper without seeing something about the pollution of the beaches, toxic water, or the homeless or AIDS. We found that the one thing all of these issues had in common was caring." The conception of this theme was also the result of the increasing litter problem here on campus.



# Editorial

Usha Raghunathan

Rutgers Prep is very unique from other schools, public and private, principally because it's one of the oldest schools in the country. Established in 1766, RPS has undergone many changes from being a part and breaking away from Rutgers University, to becoming a coeducational independent school. During all of these years, an extremely diverse body of students and faculty have, undoubtedly, passed through RPS, taking with them the excellent education and knowledge this school has to offer.

In my three years at Prep (this year being my fourth), I have never before witnessed such a diverse group of people of various ages and ethnic groups. However, I couldn't help but notice one thing in the Upper School, - that RPS students have a lot to offer in academics, extracurriculars, and sports, yet something is preventing them from expressing their true selves. Is it the conservative attitude that many here tend to exhibit? I have discovered that the majority of persons at Prep are often unwilling to accept the ideas of others, and instead of focusing on the idea itself, the attention and criticism is often directed towards what the person is wearing or what the person looks like. I feel that whether the person is ugly or good-looking, or whether he/she bought his/her clothes in Bloomingdale's or K-Mart is irrelevant. The purpose of school is not only to receive an education, but to learn how to understand the viewpoints of others, without

focusing on the "popularity" or "unpopularity" of the person. This type of "open-mindness" is essential to an individual's character, but, unfortunately, there is very little of this broad-mindedness at Prep.

I can't help but think that many at RPS express their critical attitudes towards other things besides the matter at hand, in order to remain a part of their clique where it is considered "cool" to classify persons only by their appearance. Slowly, I have witnessed an emergence of a few courageous people who are unafraid to disclose their true selves, regardless of the general unaccepting attitude. However, though some students express their individuality in some areas, such as in extra-curricular activities, their individualism disappears when the acceptance of others is concerned. Prep needs to build individual character. We are a diverse body of members and we shouldn't be afraid to be who we are, when it poses no threat or harm to any other person.

This year, the administration has designed the theme of caring and sharing. If carried out properly, this theme should not only be extended towards one's close friends or the members of one's clique, but it should also include respect and an appreciation for other students based on who they are, even though their ideas may be different or their appearance not as fashionable. Hopefully, this year will generate open-mindedness and an understanding for others, which will allow a more supportive atmosphere for everyone.

## Constitution works because of people

by Russel Wojtenko

For two hundred years the Constitution has been the supreme law of the land. Why has this document lasted for so long? Why hasn't another constitution been adopted over the years? What makes this constitution different from other constitutions?

The main reason why the Constitution has lasted so long is because this document is vague. This allows for different interpretations of the document. Another constitution has not been adopted because the interpretation of the Constitution changes from generation to generation. Another reason why the Constitution has survived so long is because the Constitution places the power of government in the hands of the people. Every person has a say in the government by voting. The Constitution provides checks and balances so that no person or group can monopolize the government.

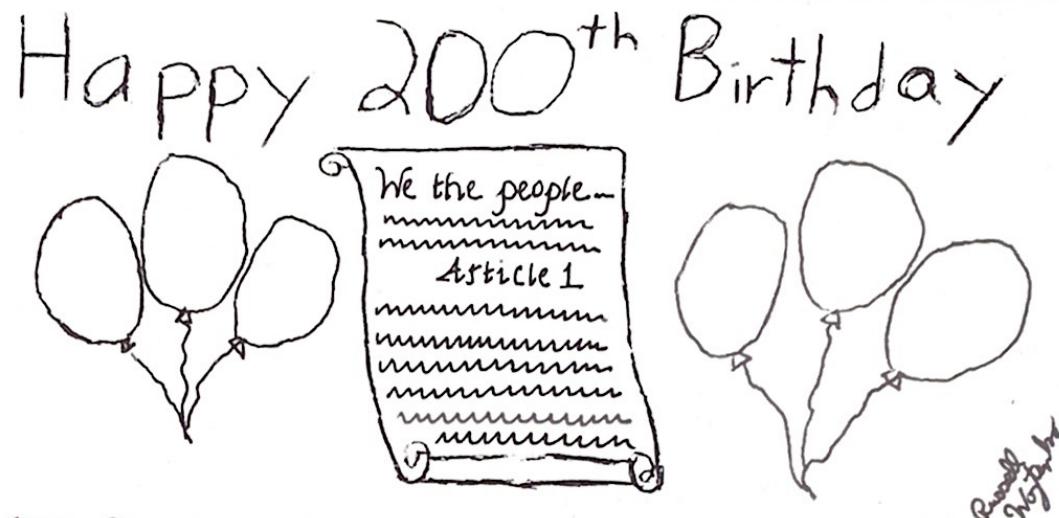
This document ensures freedoms that we take for granted. For example, the Constitution grants the freedom of speech. A person can say anything they want to, even if to criticize the government. Many people in the world are not granted this freedom. Another right is freedom of religion. People are also given the right of

trial by jury, and are innocent until proven guilty. In many countries people are tried by military tribunals and must prove their innocence.

The Constitution differs from other constitutions in that the rights given are upheld. The Soviet Union's constitution provides many of the freedoms that the U.S. Constitution provides. The Soviet Constitution states that the people have freedom of speech. However, ever since the Stalin purges, the people have been too afraid to speak against the government. The Soviet Constitution states that the people have freedom of religion. However, if a group of children are taught a religion, the government claims that the children are not given the right to choose a religion. Finally, the Soviet Constitution states that the Soviet government is a democracy and everyone is given the right to vote. However, elections have only one candidate.

The Constitution is not perfect, but it has lasted through the years. Hopefully it will last another two hundred years.

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STUDENTS' RIGHTS  
ASSEMBLY**



## "Dirty Dancing" is full of great music and dancing

by Beth Miller

I have always had a fondness for the music of the early 1960's. Whether it was the girl groups, Motown, or just plain rock and roll, the sounds of that time always seemed to hold a particular spirit that was unique. The music generated an energy among fans who expressed what they felt through dance.

Recently, that energy was captured in *Dirty Dancing*, one of this summer's biggest movies. It tells the story of Baby (Jennifer Grey), a naive but strong-willed upper-middle-class teen who spends the summer of 1963 at a Catskills resort with her family. There she meets Johnny (Patrick Swayze), a lower-class dance in-

structor, who teaches her how to dance and eventually falls in love. He also helps her grow up by exposing her to a side of life from which she had been sheltered. In the process, he also learns to love and care about others.

Central to the development of the characters is the dancing. Baby is first introduced to the other side of life at a dance where she sees more direct physical contact than she has ever seen before. She is shocked at first, but she soon is drawn in and finds herself "dirty dancing" as well. In order to help a friend, Baby finds herself learning to do more complicated dances, and as the story progresses, her dancing im-

proves which parallels the development of her relationship with Johnny.

Many subjects are confronted in this film; class tension, loss of innocence, family relations, and many more. But over all, this movie is great fun. As soon as the credits opened to the song, "Be My Baby", I knew that I was in for something special. The music was fabulous, and the dancing was incredible. When I walked out of the theater, I was ready to sign up for mambo lessons. A friend of mine said to me, "Why don't people dance like that anymore?", and I began to wonder that myself. Maybe *Dirty Dancing* will be a source of inspiration.

## Tensions in the Gulf could lead to worldwide conflict

by Heather Bensko

On September 23, 1980, seven years ago, Saddam Hussein, the leader of Iraq, sent his army into Iran. The Iraqi army was the strongest in the region at that time, and since the Iran government was weak after the Shah's downfall, the Iraqis took the opportunity to attack. At the same time, the Ayatollah Khomeini came to power and seized the American embassy, and took hostages. This was the beginning of hostilities between Iran and the United States. Although the hostages were released in 1981, the tension remained.

Seven years ago, the war was started over border disputes and sea rights. Since then, Iran has regained all its lost land in the early part of the war, and is occupying Iraqi territory. Now Iraq understandably wants to end the war. Iran, however, refuses to cease until Hussein is either thrown out of government or killed. It has become a war based on honor and revenge, not only territorial rights.

The question of America's involvement now arises. Many don't know that we are involved. It seems, however, that many Americans have formed opinions even though they don't understand the situation. Some don't know where the Persian Gulf is; some don't care. It's amazing how people can form opinions on

they don't understand anything about their culture. The Arabs are a complex group of people. There are many diverse cultures in a small area. It seems that after World War Two, that the United Nations has had an enormous effect on its people.

Lots of people believe that the Ayatollah Khomeini is a "nut". Let's clarify "nut": nut (slang) a queer, foolish or demented person; eccentric. Well, someone who holds people hostage and wants to kill might be considered a nut. But how about the man who sells weapons to Khomeini illegally so that he can have funds for "freedom fighters"? It depends on the perspective on

which the subject is reviewed.

A few months ago the U.S. sent naval ships to the Gulf, so that we could put our flags on Kuwaiti oil tankers, thus providing them with our protection. The ironic thing is that the Kuwaiti oil is not going to the U.S., so why is a country such as ours sending vessels to the Gulf, when we won't profit? Some officials say we are there to defend peace in the Persian Gulf. There hasn't been peace there for seven years. What makes us think just because we are over there, they will stop? If anything, it will be fueled by it. We are provoking them, even by our presence. Aren't the Bridgeton and Stark incidents proof of this?

# THE ARGO

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Advisor .....	Mrs. Wacker

# First Impressions are Always the Ones that Last Forever ...

by Rachel Borah

The halls of Rutgers Prep are filled with buzzing voices speaking of their summer adventures. Everyone feels differently about the first day of school, but the overall sense of excitement is in the air. We see a lot of old familiar faces, yet, we also see a group of new students consisting of freshmen, sophomores, juniors and one senior. It's hard not to wonder how they feel because not only is it their first day of school but it's also their first time attending Prep.

First impressions are lasting impressions. And it seems as if the teachers, students, and school itself have done well in successfully beginning a successful new year.

Shruti Gupta, a junior, is a very interesting person. It is her first time living in the United States because she comes from India. She says, "my school was basically different because it was residential. The people are

friendly here."

Doug Luka, a junior, says, "I like the atmosphere. Teachers make me feel more comfortable in my classes."

Valerie Abdilkah, also a junior, came from a large school with approximately 550 people in her grade alone. "It's a different environment for me. Teachers seem more helpful and a lot friendlier, there is more attention paid to the students."

Mark Poole, a freshman who came up from RPS Middle School, says, "It's a lot different, we have more freedom and more time. I like the sports program better because it's after school."

Tim Hermann, a junior says, "It's completely different from my old school. People are friendly and welcoming. It's easier to meet people. As far as academics go it seems to be a lot of work, but I'm prepared."

Donna Gioffre, a freshman whose brother attends Prep, says, "Since my brother came

here I was familiar with Prep. I like it a lot mostly because of the kids. In my other school there were too many kids, here there is more room. The teachers really get to know you and they really care. The building is really nice!"

As you can see, the Upper School as a whole, has made a good impression on some of the new students. Hopefully this impression will last throughout the year.

**Coming Attraction:**  
SES students give  
impression of RPS.



Peer Leaders at Blairstown with Mr. Levinson and Mrs. Halpern.

## Summer Experiences Give Students New Perspective

by Alex Wojtenko

While most of the Prep community spent their summers recovering from the long, hard school year, a few brave Preppers left the safety of their beds and swimming pools, and ventured out into the real world. Some chose to, or rather, were forced to work while others traveled, or, believe it or not, went to summer school.

Although summer vacation is thought to be a time when school is the last thing on most people's minds, getting a taste of college life by attending summer programs seemed to be a popular choice for passing those lazy, hazy days of summer.

Usha Raghunathan spent one month of her summer attending the Governor's School at Monmouth College. Usha was one of the one hundred students who were chosen from New Jersey to attend the Governor's School where she studied public issues which included discussions concerning the environment problems within New Jersey and also world problems. Aside from her public issues studies, Usha took a psychology course entitled Conflict Resolution II, in which problems were analyzed and attempted to be solved.

The students at the school also had free time to socialize and had access to all of the Monmouth College facilities. "I felt that the program was very enriching in that it gave me a better perspective and understanding of the world around me", said Usha about her summer experience.

Lauren Keller attended the New Jersey Scholar's Program at Lawrenceville. Lauren applied and was accepted out of a group of many applicants who wished to attend the program. She studied the Middle Ages, which included the study of art, history, music, literature, and philosophy.

Marc Rosner applied and was chosen to be a Dean Scholar at Rutgers University. While living on campus, Marc spent his summer studying calculus and expository writing.

Many other people also attended summer programs. Beth Miller, Debbie Goldberg, Lisa Rosenblatt, Danny Karen, and Alex Wojtenko also studied at Rutgers University. Larry

Hamelsky, Susan Metzger, and Jordan Friedman attended Tufts University, while Caroline Santowasso attended Skidmore and Jeremy Hirsch studied at Slippery Rock University in Pennsylvania. Russel Wojtenko attended the pre-college program at the University of Pennsylvania, and when asked why he chose to spend his summer studying, he replied, "Because I wanted to further my education while experiencing college life."

Aside from the usual family trips to Florida and California, some lucky Prep students had the opportunity to leave the U.S. and travel to other parts of the world. Stephen Finkelstein spent a por-

tion of his summer in Africa with his parents and brother. Spending two weeks visiting Kenya and Tanzania, he also traveled to the Congo in Zaire where he stayed for ten days. Stephen went on a safari, saw some of the other sights, and was able to get an idea of the lives of the natives of those parts.

Jennifer Kerstein went with the National Federation of Temple Youth to Israel for six weeks. She toured for four weeks and for the remaining two weeks she did charity work, which included painting the houses in a poor town in Tel Aviv. Besides having lots of fun, the trip was an edifying experience for Jen.

## Peer Leadership retreat at Blairstown

Jeremy Djeu

On Monday, August 24, through Wednesday, August 26, Mr. Levinson and Mrs. Halpern led a group of sixteen peer leaders to the YMCA camp in Blairstown for the second annual peer leadership retreat. Those students who participated included: Jeremy Djeu, Jordan Friedman, Chris Santi, Brian Cohen, Bill Slackman, Justine DeSantis, Beth Miller, Judy Clancy, Missy Betron, Rachel Borah, Denise Goldman, Caroline Santowasso, and Elizabeth Schwartz.

They used a variety of group cohesion games and exercises and became better acquainted with each other.

Upon arrival to the Camp, all sixteen peer leaders were quite excited about what was ahead of them. On the first day, the leaders generally loosened up and became closer to each other and took part in various activities, such as interviews, and discussed various problems such as one's personal fears and worries.

On the second day, the group worked hard and finally mastered the challenge of the Blairstown ropes course. They were extremely flattered by the ropes course guide, (who, by the way, sort of resembled Grizzly Adams), when he said that this group was probably the best

group he ever had.

Upon completion of the ropes course, all of the peer leaders, as well as Mr. Levinson and Mrs. Halpern, felt a sense of pride because they all worked so well together in helping each other. Jordan Friedman commented, "It was really a lot of fun. I enjoyed helping others and had fun establishing group decisions."

After the treacherous ropes course was completed, the most lengthy and tiring process began - co-leader selection. It took approximately three and a half to four hours for the entire group to finally decide with whom they should be paired with. Although this process was exhausting, the group managed to pull through and produce leadership pairs who would be able to work well together.

As soon as it was nighttime on the last night, the sixteen played a game called levitation. Although the results were disappointing, the leaders all had fun and plenty of laughs.

On the third and final day, the leaders commented on the co-leader selection process, had breakfast and lunch. Then, by 1:30, the group left Blairstown, not only leaving in each person a sense of relief that it was over, but also a source of maturity that every one gained from what they experienced on the three day retreat.

## Welcome Back, Mrs. Herzberg

by Nicole Chesman

The Prep community is delighted to welcome back Mrs. Barbara Herzberg, after a year sabbatical in England.

Mrs. Herzberg has been an English and Drama teacher at Prep, since 1971 and her sabbatical was in recognition of her outstanding contributions to Prep.

Mrs. Herzberg's sabbatical was spent in Wroxton to complete her Master's degree in British Literature. She was part of the Fairleigh Dickinson overseas program at Wroxton College where she took courses in Modern British Literature, Shakespeare, and poetry. Out of all of her courses, Mrs. Herzberg enjoyed her independent poetry study the best. She met individually with her professor/tutor to discuss poetry and her writing assignments, "I loved my poetry course", said Mrs. Herzberg, "because I was able to see some of the countryside and sights, first-hand, that poets wrote about. This made the

Mrs. Herzberg was also able to attend many performances of Shakespeare's plays staged by the Royal Shakespeare Company. However, the highlight of Mrs. Herzberg's trip to England was her visit to the Parliament in London where she was able to speak to members of the House of Commons and Lords. One of the subjects discussed was the book Spy Catcher, which the British government banned the publication of.

Mrs. Herzberg studied hard and we're all very proud as she earned a 4.0 average though the competition was tough and her professors were demanding.

Fortunately, Mrs. Herzberg's time in Europe was not all spent studying. She was able to travel extensively with her husband to Greece, Italy, and France. Mrs. Herzberg's sabbatical was, "a dream come true." She returns to Prep with a new perspective, zest, and great enthusiasm. We know that all of her students will benefit from the knowledge she has gained abroad.





## Cross Country gets ready for another winning season

by Carrie Bondy

This season's cross country team is looking better than ever. It will be tough for them to beat their winning record from last year, but with their strong turnout and enthusiasm, they could easily repeat their past success. Under the guidance of Coach Dougherty and Coach Klinger, the team has had long, hard practices to get them into shape for the big meets that lie ahead.

The boys have a really strong team this year. Captain Chris Santi leads the team with both speed and moral support. Team-

mate Keith Hancox commented, "Running helps keep me in shape, and I get a great feeling after I finish a run." The seven Varsity runners are seniors Chris Santi and Jon Faulkner, juniors Chris Conlon, Mark Parker, and Chris Racich, sophomore Steve Finkelstein, and freshman Brian Towsen. Other team members include seniors Keith Hancox, Brian Cohen, Dave Elfant, and Jordan Friedman as well as freshman Bill Hornbostel and Marc Poole. The guys' strength and experience is quite impressive and will be a big asset to the team.

The girls team is led by junior captain Mandy Holliday who finished third in the state last year. The girls' turnout hasn't been as strong as that of the guys. However, they still have a good chance at a winning season. The girls team runs approximately

three miles a day during practice. "The team seems to be pretty strong, and the girls are looking better and better as they work hard to get into shape," commented Coach Klinger. Other girls on the team include seniors Justine DeSantis, Carrie Bondy, and Lisa Rosenblatt, as well as juniors Jessica Gopinathan and Carla Gonzalez.

The first big meet for Prep was the Newark Invitational. It was held at Newark Academy on Saturday, September 18th. A wet and slippery course proved to be dangerous and was the cause of minor injuries to both Brian Towsen and Brian Cohen. Despite these conditions, Prep managed to finish 5th out of the 7 schools in attendance. Hopefully all runners will be back in full force for the next meet on September 22nd against Hun and Montgomery.

## Boys' Soccer hopes to be on top this year

by Larry Hamelsky

On a cold, rainy day last fall, the boys Varsity soccer team lost a decisive game to Blair Academy. This loss set the Agronauts back to a 7-8 record. It has been five years since the Rutgers Prep Varsity Soccer team has had a winning record, and after last year's depressing end, the team has a desire to go over the edge and achieve a winning season.

After losing a large number of seniors, many thought the task of having a successful season would be a difficult one. However, with the mainstays of the team returning, captains Tim Cirenza and Steve Ciraulo, the team's goal seems attainable. Also returning are senior goalie Mike Rosen, forwards Justin Miller, Todd Udomsaph, and the other captain, Larry Hamelsky. Matt Lenaghan and Rich Hanle will be returning for their second year of starting at half back. New to the Varsity squad are fullbacks Tony Foleno and Jim Fox, half backs Craig Wacker and Dev Lahiri, and forwards Josh Greenstein. Danny Oross and Ted Liscinski,

who saw Varsity playing time last year, will be a major part of the defense. Tim Hermann and Andy Morrison are two new players from Franklin High School who will join the team as well. Tim will be vital on the left wing with his strong left foot, and Andy is an up and coming goal-tender. Captain Tim Cirenza adds, "I have a very optimistic outlook on the season because of the addition of new players and the hard work and progress of old ones."

Prep opened the season with two impressive victories. Coming from a 2 to 0 deficit to beat Franklin High School in a scrimmage was a real confidence builder. Steve Ciraulo, Tim Cirenza, and Justin Miller each scored a goal to help Prep down Franklin. Beating Wardlaw in the opening game of the season by a score of 4-3 in double overtime placed Prep on the right track. Justin and Steve each scored two goals, with Steve getting the winning goal. Prep was losing 2-0, but the team came back in a flurry and knocked out Wardlaw, taking its first step toward a win-

ning season. Steve Ciraulo commented that, "these two initial victories will set the team's tone by giving us a positive attitude. This will help us win the big games in October."

With the addition of Coach Tevlin, the team finally has the necessary guidance which Coach Marotto could not handle on his own. Mr. Marotto welcomes Coach Tevlin's enthusiasm and knows that he has played a big part in the first two victories. Mr. Marotto was happy with the team's ability to come from behind, and he was thrilled with the win over a much improved Wardlaw. "I think this team has the ability, desire, and the heart to go a long way, and I know we will", commented Coach Marotto. Coach Tevlin also added, "I am impressed with the discipline and attitude of the players, and we are lucky to have a very strong group of seniors."

Rutgers Prep soccer is clearly turning for the better. By the time the last game of the season approaches, there will be no question that the boys Varsity team will have a winning record.

## Girls' Soccer looks forward to reaching State finals

by Sandy Wardlow

The girls soccer team has recently begun what is hoped to be their second successful season under head Coach Nestvogel and assistant Coach Glantzow. Both coaches have set numerous goals which they believe the team will be able to achieve. Last year, the team finished the season with a record just under .500, and was defeated by the Ranney School in the State semi-finals. This year, the team would like to finish over .500 and at least reach the State finals. While all teammates are expected to support each other, the coaches are expecting especially strong leadership from senior tri-captains Denise Goldman, Kristina Pouch, and Caroline Santowasso.

The team is trying to generate a stronger offense this year, concentrating on taking more shots on goal. This was a weak point last year. However, with the addition of some new members to the team, improvement is ex-

pected. There's no question that last year's part-time goalie Kristina Pouch will once again be called upon to play in the forward line, strengthening it further.

On the other hand, defensively, the team is looking to capitalize on pulling the opposing teams off sides. The coaches are anticipating a strong year in goal for senior goalie Michelle Goldsmith.

Despite their first loss, Coach Nestvogel was very pleased with the team's performance at the first game of the season. "We are stronger this year than we were at this time last year", Coach Nestvogel remarked. However, a number of factors need to be improved prior to the next game. Coach Nestvogel feels as though she's at more of an advantage this season, since she knows many of her players much better now. This should help the team by enabling her to understand each player's individual strengths and weaknesses. As a

result, the team members can feel confident and work together more easily. Some trouble areas that were spotted at the game are communication and the conditioning of the players. These things will have to be stressed more during practice.

Overall, the coaches feel confident about the season. Despite the loss of three graduated seniors, the team looks even stronger than it did last year. The core of the team consists of: seniors Michelle Goldsmith, Julie Cunjack, Denise Goldman, Sue Metzger, Caroline Santowasso, and Kristina Pouch; junior Sandy Wardlow; and sophomores Jen Gussis, Krista Stella, and Megan Coakley. The team is looking for support at upcoming home games including: Oct. 6th vs. Mt. St. Johns, Oct. 9th vs. the Ranney School, and Oct. 14th vs. Saddle River. The team shows nothing but promise in the coming games ahead.

## Tennis has good potential

by Erica Rafalaf

This year's girls Varsity tennis team is coached by Mr. McDermott who also coached the boys Varsity tennis team this past spring. Coach McDermott has many positive feelings about this season because the girls are willing to learn in order to make this year a great one. He says the girls are working hard every day at practices, though many had to be cancelled due to bad weather. When they do have practices, they work on conditioning, getting into shape, strategy, and getting their strokes down pat.

The team members include: freshmen Meredith Israel and Naledi Khabo; sophomores Jennifer Costanza, Dana Deustch, and Karen Robinowitz; juniors Stephanie Bonamo, Edana Kartzin, Michelle Korn, Keri Starker and Jennifer Wiener as well as senior Elyssa Silverman. As captain of the team, Elyssa has very high expectations for this year. Although the team lost the first and second singles players from last year, many new players from the freshman class have joined, which Elyssa feels is a definite plus. "I think we have a strong team and should win many matches this year. I'm very excited

for the season", commented the captain.

The first singles position is now held by Elyssa who has played other singles positions in the past. Second singles is played by Nadledi, and Karen, who already has experience at a doubles position, now plays third singles. Jennifer Costanza and Michelle are teamed at first doubles, replacing two seniors that graduated last year. The second doubles team consists of Dana and Meredith. The rest of the players will see action in the future by filling in and playing if the other team brings extra players.

The team's first match was on September 16th against the Ranney School. The girls were victorious with a score of 4-1. On Monday, September 21st, they play against Pingry who is ranked first among the prep schools and fourth in the state. Coach McDermott says this game will let them know how they rate against the top school. "If the girls continue to show the enthusiasm they've shown so far, and give 100% every time they walk on the court, we will have a successful season regardless of our record", added Coach McDermott.



Caroline Santowasso working hard for girls' soccer.