



The Argo

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Class Elections: The Rite of Fall

by Josh Rosen

This year's class elections were unusually charismatic and exciting. While new freshmen have stepped up to the challenges and demands of their fledgling class, the maturity and experience of numerous incumbents prevailed in the other elections.

Although the Senior Class's electoral process quickly became hindered in the quagmire of buffoonery, they still were able to view a moment of Prep history. Suhas Radhakrishna, after no previous political experience in his past thirteen years at Prep, successfully campaigned to assume the office of vice president. The other positions were held onto by incumbents, who successfully labored last year to organize a successful prom. Allison Albino, Aisha Griffith, and Linda Condon held onto the offices of President, Secretary, and Treasurer, respectively. Henri Renard and Paul Sosman also retained their office of class rep-

resentatives.

Recognizing the heavy responsibility confronting the officers of the Junior Class, the electorate definitely voted for an individual capable of successfully balancing these duties. Jeremy Wang-Iverson was elected President, Camile Melton received the nod for the office of Vice President, and Jeremy Hollander and Tilak Sundaresen were elected for the offices of Secretary and Treasurer. Whitney Case and Ali Naqvi edged out their opponents in a tight race for representative.

The Sophomore class elections were noteworthy in one race. Ben Feldman, absent during the entire election period due to an injury suffered in a soccer match, won his race for the office of secretary. Many Sophomores were quoted as saying, "Ben is a great guy, and deserves a little good fortune." The new officers of the Sophomore class are: President Heather Crossner, Vice-Presi-

dent Babi Das, Treasurer Lon Zimmet, Representative Assad Akhter, and Representative Katie Crisafulli.

The Freshmen demonstrated tremendous enthusiasm in their first Upper School election, with a tight race for every office, especially President. After numerous run-offs and healthy competition, Fred Kim was finally elected, with Shaunessey Lockett, Ari Harkov, and Shaina Brenner for the offices of President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. These elections were a wonderful sign for the future of the Freshmen class.

Although these elections contained the common promises from the candidates, they were especially outstanding because of the multitude of individuals who chose to run. This enthusiasm is a welcome sign to classes who felt social stagnation toward the end of last year.



The Freshman Campout

by Kristin Checchio

The Freshmen camping trip proved to be one of the most interesting experiences that many students at Prep have had. The fact that this was the first trip of many, both symbolic and physical, that we will be taking over the next four years made this trip special to me.

As the class of 2000 apprehensively discovered, most of the rumors that we heard upon our entrance into high school concerning the freshmen camping trip were true: it always rains, you will smell when you return, and they do make you go to the bathroom in the woods. Most of us thought the upperclassmen were making these things up to scare us, but the harsh reality was that they were not kidding. We almost were able to claim to be the first group to not have been rained on in years, but on the last day

we received enough rain to last for at least three days.

On our first night at Wildcat Mountain, almost every member of the class slept outside. We had images of hooting owls and shooting stars in our naive minds as we drifted off to sleep. When we awoke the next morning, we were jerked back into reality with bug bites and other assorted ailments. One person was surprised to find that the rock on which he had been sleeping was actually a snail.

For those upperclassmen who went on the camping trip, you should definitely remember the high ropes courses as one of the highlights of the trip. Some thought it would have been fun to fall and check if the belaying ropes really did work, but that idea was rejected when the

thought the ropes not catching you set in. Everyone who did the ropes course learned something not only about themselves, but also about their classmates. Even when one person wanted nothing more than to stand on firm ground, the comforting thoughts of her fellow classmates made her realize her fears and helped her overcome them. Most people learned that things aren't always as easy as they look.

The most important thing the freshmen camping trip taught everyone was that no matter what happens, we'll always have our friends standing next to us, spotting us. If our rope breaks, they'll be there to catch us. If we run out of water, they'll give us some of theirs. We really did get by with a little help from our friends.

Council Forum: A Chance to Discuss the Issues

Publius

As a part of the School Council's continuing effort to meet the needs of the student body, on Friday, October 4, students and administrators, namely Dr. Loy, Mr. Karman, and Mrs. Gooen, gathered in Baldwin Hall to discuss pertinent issues in a forum-style format. While some of the questions were met with the usual clichés, most students felt assured that their opinions were voiced.

The first issue dealt with the placement of cameras in "strategic location" around the school. Many students present were enraged by the fact that the administration "invaded their privacy" and set up cameras without giving any form of notice. The administration justified their actions by claiming that these cameras were in fact needed for the security of the entire school community, amidst the string of thefts which occurred last year. Furthermore, they admitted that the cameras were only one step in a wave of action taken by the school. Because the administration would not divulge the form of these other efforts, the student body was very unsettled by these remarks. This heated debate ended with many unanswered questions and embittered students.

As is commonplace to School Council Forums, the next issue was that of dress code,

primarily voiced by the female representation. Their primary argument was that the administration had neglected to update the dress code according to the current fashion trends. Mrs. Gooen admitted that the girls' dress code is presently in period of change. Due to this, the administration stated that they have been very hesitant to give demerits for dress code, unless it was prompted after a series of warnings. Although the forum could not provide closure for this issue, both sides were able to voice their rationale for their stance.

To close the forum, issues like scheduling and the status of E period were discussed. These topics procured very little passion from either side, so that the responses were quite dull. The administration concluded that they would look into complaints that the present schedule allows very little time to walk to the cafeteria on days that have just a fifteen minute break. The Forum was especially noteworthy for its unusually large attendance of people with opinions to be voiced. Although the healthy debate had very little immediate effects, the administration took note of the complaints voiced by the student body. Because of this, many students felt the forum was very successful.

Calendar of Events

SAT	Nov. 2
Election Day	Nov. 5
Open House	Nov. 7
Diwali	Nov. 10
Veterans Day	Nov. 11
Career Day	Nov. 13
Pride and Prejudice	Nov. 19 - Nov. 23
Parent Conferences/No School	Nov. 22
Model Congress	Nov. 21 - Nov. 24
Thanksgiving Break	Nov. 27 - Nov. 29

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Pear Leaders: Nature Bound

by Susan Slim

Granted, it was sunny; but while the peer leaders should have been singing songs on their journey to the wilderness, they were stuck at school with a defective Prep van. Due to a little accident involving Catie Somers screaming "Kick it!" and Henri Renard's foot, the van door fell off of its hinge. Thanks to the group's vast intelligence, and some fine maintenance men, the door closed and finally, the group was on their way to their Peer Leadership retreat.

"I think it was a great beginning for the group. The first day was ecstatic, the second was a growing experience," says Janet Halpern, a Peer Advisor. Ecstatic is a good word. Pent up in a Prep van, the energy was growing to tremendous heights; once the group saw that they would have cabins and showers, with hot water, they were bouncing off walls. Like on the infamous Freshmen Camping Trip, this year's Peer Leaders bonded in a big way. Starting with small trust activities, like allowing your body to be suspended in air by your class-

mates' outstretched arms, and moving to such things as The Wall, the Peer Leaders, as well as the advisors, learned to trust one another in ways that wouldn't have been possible at school.

Between activities, the Peer Leaders became culinary artists.

**B o l d
m e n u s
were cre-
ated via
m a g i c
m a r k e r
and poster
board that
introduced
e v e r y
meal. They
ate food
ranging
from gorp,**

an assortment of M&Ms, nuts, and raisins, to chicken and stir fry. They also were in close proximity to a lake, where the seniors found some string, a stick and a bent safety pin which came together to make a fishing pole. Archana Kansagra caught her first fish while the rest of the group stood back, lavishing praise on her accomplishment.

At night, they went to a field and made smores, and Sam Hartman, in comparing the retreat to the Freshmen Campout, remarked that there was "less grime, more smores." At night, the Peer Leaders waited quietly until the advisors were asleep and snuck out to the kitchen,

where they helped themselves to food, Forest Gump, and The Goonies.

On the second day, the Peer Leaders set out to reach consensus over this year's peer groups; after a very long afternoon,

the groups were concocted, as follows: Jane Seymour and Sammy Scheeter, Catie Somers and Henri Renard, Nicole Finner and Aisha Griffith, Julie Grossman and Craig Feinberg, and Susan Slim and Lauren Peters.

It has been over 2 months since they frolicked in that warm summer sun, but this years' Peer Leaders have memories that will last forever.

"Sam Hartman, in comparing the retreat to the Freshmen Campout, remarked that there was 'less grime, more smores'"



The Senior Peer Leaders

A Strong Start for Community Service

by Justin Auciello

In the past, the students and faculty at Rutgers Prep were always willing to help their communities and people in need. The 1996-97 school year will be no different. The Community Service Executive Board and others in the school have been very active in organizing events for the students to attend and participate in. Although Rutgers Prep has a mandatory 10 hours a year requirement, most students tend to do their activities for the fun and the self gratification that comes along with helping others.

The first main event of the school year was the annual Habitat for Humanity project in Paterson on Saturday, October 5th. The main objective of the program is to build houses for the needy through the work of generous people. For the past few years this event has been very popular with Prep students. This year was no exception; 15 students attended. Some

projects that students tackled were nailing boards down, cutting siding, and placing siding on the houses. Although the work was very laborious, the students left with a sense of accomplishment and service.

The annual Walktoberfest was another event that was very successful. The seven mile walk is held in Bridgewater and students raised over one thousand dollars for the cause. Michael Khanna, a Community Service member, commented, "It was a lot of fun since a lot of people showed up."

The Clean Ocean Action Beach Sweep took place on Saturday, October 12th. This is a very popular event which yielded many students. The sweep took place on a stretch of beach in Sandy Hook and participants were required to pick up debris along the beach. Many students commented that the event was fun and that they enjoyed helping the environment.

ment.

The Community Service Board and School Council have already made plans for future events. The Wheelchair Basketball game, a very popular event in the past years, is set to take place on Friday, November 15th at 7:30. As always, it will be fun to see the "real" wheelchair team take on the Rutgers Prep community.

"Make a Difference Day" which occurred on Saturday, October 26, is a day of nationwide community service. Plans were made for helping the maintenance crews on the school grounds.

Prep students always make the effort to get involved in community service, even though they have many other commitments. There is a sense of joy that people feel after helping their community. If anyone has any suggestions for activities or wants to help on the Community Service Board, see Mr. Bartlett.

Soho or Bust

by Scott Vafai

Once again the computer literate, and not so literate, population of Rutgers Prep proved they know how to have a good time. On the seventeenth of October the multimedia design classes and the internet exploration classes, led by Mr. Karma, Ms. Bornstein, Mr. Machipisa, and Mrs. Fair, took a trip to Soho in New York City. The purpose of the mission was two fold, first to visit the Guggenheim Museum in Soho and then the New Museum also located in the Soho area. There was a visit to a local gallery where Mrs. Fair had a one woman show of her work on display and for sale.

Once in Soho, the first stop was Mrs. Fair's exhibit. It was an interesting experience to see one of our teachers expressing themselves in an environment besides school. Her show reflected her experiences in both the Greek countryside and Hong Kong, where she lived for several months.

After this the group went to the Guggenheim Museum to see the mediascape display the Guggenheim was featuring. It was made up of several different types of media among which was a poetry generating computer and a room dedicated to sleep and snoring. The artists featured utilized media in ways most people would never think of. The last part of the tour was to see an exhibit featuring painter Max Beckman, which was a nice contrast to the

mediascape exhibit.

In between museums students were given an opportunity to go to lunch and explore the area. After the group finished their eating experiences they met up and went to the New Museum which featured interactive student art and zines. They were given the opportunity to explore what they wanted to at their own pace. The museum had many student produced and directed movies and multimedia productions running on televisions along with computers hooked up to the internet for students to use. Though it was not running, there was also an interactive radio show in which a host interacted one on one with the students. The zines, which were student made magazines much like our *Excelsior*, were posted around the periphery of the exhibit.

By the end of the day most of the group agreed that the trip had been a worth while and a learning experience. Prep students were given the opportunity to see what they are learning in school in Somerset applied in new cutting edge ways by professional artists.

Although some of these applications were too technical or too complex to fully understand, it gives Prep students something to strive for and look to for inspiration.

MECA: An Optimistic and Ambitious Outlook

by Aisha Griffith

How can an organization made up of thirty people benefit Prep? This is a difficult question to answer, but that is the question facing MECA, the Multi-Ethnic Cultural Awareness Association. This new outlook was prompted by comment last year which stated that this organization tended to lack diversity in their opinions. As a result, MECA is attempting to reach out to all of the students of R.P.S and also hope students will take interest in this revamped association. MECA's goal was always to help students understand, in hopes that they would respect, others' dif-

ferences racially, politically, socioeconomically, or culturally.

This outlook seems extremely ambitious when viewed from the fact that many facets of the student body lack representation in the organization itself. Fortunately, though, the MECA officers seem very open to suggestions pertaining to the future direction of the association, noticed by the MECA box in the Upper School Office.

The priority of MECA presently is Diversity Day, to be held on Wednesday, December 4. Following a form similar to Career Day, the day's events will begin with a keynote

speaker, followed by lunch. After lunch, the rest of the day will be divided into two periods, each encompassing around twelve workshops. These workshops will have a predetermined number of students, and will operate on a first come, first serve basis. MECA hopes that this day will provide everyone with the opportunity to discuss a variety of issues they would normally not be exposed to. The club is also accepting suggestions on topics and speakers for the workshops, but those ideas must be submitted as soon as possible.

Other scheduled events by MECA include a variety of trips. The first one will take place on Saturday, November 23 in Philadelphia. Members and other interested students will attend a forum for multi-cultural organizations, where everyone can obtain a sense of what other schools are doing about multi-culturalism. During the spring, another trip is scheduled to Washington D.C. to visit sites related to various cultures, such as the Holocaust Museum.

MECA seems to have begun the year of a positive note.

Currently, they are still anxiously anticipating the response from those students not in MECA. Some people, however, have been receptive to the club like Frank Cesario, Jordan Rickards, and Jane Needleman. When Frank was asked if he was joining MECA, he excitedly stated, "Just tell me when the next meeting is!" Furthermore, Jordan was very excited to make an announcement pertaining to the next meeting. With the healthy foresight, the future of the Multi-Ethnic Cultural Awareness Association seems very bright.

Cross Country: "Back to Back Champs"

by Craig Feinberg

The 1996-1997 Cross Country team struck the Prep division hard this year. Under the leadership of seniors Scott Yelity and Liz Alexander, the team has proven itself once again this season.

The boys are running extremely fast with a record of 6-1 and a conference title for the second consecutive season. Seniors Scott Yelity, Simon Messing and Josh Rosen lead the team. Junior Dan Chelel, freshman Gavin Riley and sophomore Jarett Sutton add depth to the roster.

Yelity finished second in the conference with a time of 18:22, while the girl's captain,

Liz Alexander, set a new course record of 21:19 while taking the girl's cross country conference title. Liz is backed up by junior Jackie Sienkiwicz (who finished second at the conference meet). Emily Wilson, Kelly McWilliams, Aisha Griffith and Shaunessey Lockett are all competitors on the team. The girl's record is 4-1.

The cross country team will have a successful future with many up coming middle school runners and rising underclassmen who will fill the vacancy left by the graduating seniors.

Boys' Soccer: Showing Promise

by Scott Fleisher

Boys soccer started the 1996-1997 season with high expectations. So far, those goals have been met by posting a 6-3-1 record after a shaky opening to the season. At first, the team tied Newark Academy and lost to Solebury, two teams that Prep should have beaten. Their key win this season was a 2-0 triumph over Prep B powerhouse, Pennington. The skill level of the team has improved greatly from last year and this is now just starting to pay dividends.

The soccer team is led by their strong defense, which consists of starters Evan Siegel, Henri Renard, Ian Japinga, and Scott Fleisher. Sam Schechter often comes off the bench to give the team a lift. Composure is the strength of the midfield. Andy Schultz and Jason Grunwald see the entire field very well, en-

abling them to be such excellent passers. Frank Cesario provides leadership as a veteran of the midfield. The last midfield positions are occupied by the speedy Rene Gbewonyo and Ian Liggett. Keith Forney and Jason Maikos combine toughness and speed as strikers. Fullback Tom Bonanni, strikers Victor Salygin and Ari Harkov, and midfielder Andrew Hobbs also play key roles at critical moments in the game. Brian Benitz and Chris Wehtern are turning into fine, young players and they should assert themselves in the near future. The captains of the team are Evan Siegel, Jason Maikos and Frank Cesario.

The team has high hopes for a successful performance in states this year. A strong showing will conclude an accomplished season.

Mistaken Gods

by Heather Crossner

The immense popularity and fanatic devotion people have brought to sports should be of no surprise to anyone living in this country; the land of opportunity and equality. In a world where no one believes they are getting a fair chance, where Affirmative Action must be debated, and where the gap between the wealthy and the poor is ever widening, the clear cut, win-lose mantra of sports has drawn everyone to the field, in awe and admiration of those who dominate and succeed. Sports have become the last even playing field to which everyone turns, the place where anything can happen and anyone can win if they have the heart and determination, in stark contrast to the reality of the world that lies outside the arena of competition.

It should also be of no surprise that as a result, it is the athletes whom people have chosen to worship. Politicians, parents, and teachers are no longer sensational enough for us. Presidents are no longer the good guys we need them to be, and the role of teacher or parent has apparently become too mundane to merit our worship. And so the black and white realm of sports has seemed the last place worthy of our reverence and admiration. It is the athlete who is the idol, who reminds us of our

personal potential, no matter who we are. It is the athlete who has become our god, the tangible star for which we reach.

When an athlete we worship testifies through his actions that he is only human, some may wonder why more people aren't revolted by what they have seen. Roberto Alomar, one of this generation's best baseball players, spit in the face of an umpire. People were forced to see that these spectacular, larger than life athletes are not gods and are not perfect. For some, the action was unforgivable. For others, it was inconsequential. Some condemned him for not being the perfect person they had envisioned, while others could not allow their perfect image of the athlete to be shattered. Alomar's integrity seemed to rest on what color hat you were wearing at the time, or what region of the country you were from.

But for those who were surprised by America's reaction, our ease in condemning the athlete or our reluctance to even remember the incident; there should have been no surprise. We, the people, have created a world where the athletes are our heroes, and now we have finally realized that we have mistaken them for gods.

High Hopes For Girls' Soccer

by Archana Kansagra

The Varsity Girls' soccer team is having its most successful season with a 13-4 record. The team relies heavily on support from Co Captains Daniella Metzger, Catie Somers, and Nicole Fiumefreddo.

The Lady Argonaut's goalie, Priya Radhakrishna continues to demonstrate her brilliant ability as she has commonly shut down many high powered offenses. Priya's accomplishments are magnified due to the recovery she has made from a serious knee injury.

Alyssa Botwinik, Sara Preschel, and Beth Germinsky have come through for the team when the game was on the line. Nicole Fiumefreddo, Daniella Metzger and Vanessa Abreu have also performed like true

veterans in the face of adversity.

There was a successful balance in Prep's offense and defense. Supporting Priya on defense are Linda Condon, Archana Kansagra, and Catie Somers. Even newcomers Jessica Piraneo, Samantha Rugamas, and Rachel Kendall have stepped up when the team needed them.

The soccer team defeated North Plainfield to move on to the second round of counties, where they lost to Franklin. The girls gave all they had in the game, but came up short of victory.

The team is looking forward to a victorious outcome of the season. With each member of the team improving everyday, the lofty goal of winning states is within reach.



Boys Soccer in Action

Success on the Hard Court

by Mark Markowski

As the leaves began to turn color, the girls' tennis team took to the court for another season of hard work and victory. On the outside, a 5-4 record seems to be only average, but the difficulty of competition has really made every win well earned.

Leading the team at the first singles spot is Natalie Mantell. As a junior, Mantell has shown few signs of inexperience. Coming off a state championship at second doubles is Heather Driver who is now competing at the second single position. Rachel Sarill rounds out the top three at her position at third singles.

In a tennis match, the doubles competition is just as important as the singles match. Angela Lin and Aarti Patel are serious competitors at first doubles. Both Lin and Patel will also have next year to achieve their individual goals if they are not met this year. Jennie Lipman and Laurie Tashman are also putting in many hard hours perfecting their games.

The girls' tennis team will be a force to be reckoned with this year. The season is still young and the girls will really try to finish out the year with the utmost success.

Fall Team Records

Girls Soccer	13-4
Boys Soccer	6-5-1
Tennis	5-4
Cross Country	8-2

The Argo

Staff

Editor-in-Chief
Maureen Benitz

Assistant Editor-in-Chief
Layout
Suhas Radhakrishna

News Editor
Frank Cesario

Editorials Editor
Jay Golon

Features Editors
Justin Auciello
Scott Vafai

Sports Editor
Mark Markowski

Faculty Advisor
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Writers

Justin Auciello
Allison Albino
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Frank Cesario
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RPS Undercover
Winston Chow

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

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Know Your Enemy: A Reconsideration of Trust in our Community

by Suhas Radhakrishna

Let me make two things clear: Dr. Loy is not Big Brother and there is no Inner Party. As crime heightened last year, Mr. Karman pleaded with the students to remain calm, seek out the offender or offenders, and do everything to preserve trust in the community. At the Council Forum, Mrs. Gooen recounted a common student cry, "Why don't you do something?" In retrospect, the administration's decision to install cameras seems understandable, but is hardly forgivable.

Mr. Karman said that the administration was looking for a particular student who might have been in a desperate financial situation and needed the money. Their first step was to talk to individuals and groups

of students. This tactic unfortunately failed.

The administration was carefully vague about the other means of investigation. Dr. Loy hinted at some kind of strategic placement of people around the building to watch student interactions. Mr. Karman would not disclose the other tactics for fear that doing so would make the task of isolating suspects in future crimes much harder.

Students at the time were restless. Every misplaced piece of paper or jacket was reported as stolen. The faculty griped about the sad state of Prep and recalled the good old days of trust. Parents were shocked into reconsideration of Blue Ribbon RPS.

So we slapped some smoke detector cameras in.

"We would not do anything that even hinted of surveillance," claimed Dr. Loy at the Council Forum. Well chosen words. Could someone explain how to define hidden video cameras without using the word surveillance?

Dr. Loy stated that only two cameras were installed, at the ends of the freshman and sophomore locker areas. What I fail to understand is how these two cameras would catch the elusive robber. I have several questions:

Why the freshman and sophomore lockers only?

Why did the administration assume that the person responsible for the thefts would stash the property in his locker?

How exactly do you fit a stolen computer into a freshman locker?

It seems that there are too many holes in this solution to believe that it could have worked in the first place. Considering the cost of purchasing the equipment (approximately \$300 to \$500 per unit, plus installation costs), this choice doesn't make much sense. In a school where we must pay for every paintbrush and stamp, we have a right not to have our money spent like this.

"[It is] scary, unnecessary, [and] shows particularly poor judgment on the part of the administration. Unfortunately, I am not too surprised," said a student who wished to remain anonymous.

Instead of building a community of trust, the administration has created an "us against them" mentality throughout the school.

To be fair, the administration has nothing to gain by seeing where the freshmen put their binders. That is to say — once and for all — there simply is no conspiracy. However, the administration made a serious mistake of which they had no intention of revealing to the students. The fact remains that the cameras were not needed; the crime somehow resolved itself. It will be hard to resurrect the faith of the students after the cloudy and resistant comments of the administration at the Forum and their tenuous pledge to keep the cameras off.

The Dress Code: Too Much of an Issue

by Allison Moskowitz

The dress code has always been an issue in the Upper School. Last year the boys complained. This year the girls are complaining. Every year the students, faculty and administration become more frustrated. Some wish for uniforms, others for a more relaxed dress code. No matter what, no one is pleased all of the time. This year the administration has been devoting an incredible amount of time to get people to abide by the "new" dress code. Meanwhile, thefts are occurring again. Perhaps the administration should devote more time to helping protect the students.

As I was walking to third period one day, an administrator stood at the bottom of the steps telling students to get into dress code. A classmate stood next to me, wearing pants, a wool turtleneck and a sweater around her waist. She was told, because the sweater was around her waste, to get into dress code immediately. She was obviously out of dress code at the time, but was it really necessary for her to put the sweater on right away? It was warm that day and she was hot. She was not trying to avoid the dress code. Maybe this was a one time incident, but girls are lectured daily about the dress code.

Last year the dress code was very different. The letter that went home over the summer discussed dressy tops. It mentioned nothing about materials, collars, or buttons. Girls do not buy a new wardrobe every year, and they should not be expected to. Therefore, many problems have arisen. Girls come into school wearing outfits they have from last year and are told they are out of dress code. Girls are becoming very frustrated with this, and so are parents. It is understandable why the boys were upset last year. Some girls come into school wearing their version of a "dressy" top that looked like a T-shirt. Things were definitely getting out of hand last year, but the efforts being made this year are not working.

The administration has changed its opinion of a dressy top several times this year. First, we had the shirt with a collar. Then, a dressy top was referred to as a blouse with buttons and a collar. The, we were told that a cotton shirt was not a dressy blouse. The material of a shirt shouldn't really make a difference. Girls cannot read the minds of the administration and it is very frustrating to attempt to get dressed in the morning. No one wants to get a demerit, and the girls are certainly not trying to be out of dress code because they don't understand what it is. The students are getting tired of discussing the dress code and the administration is too. If the administration works to come up with reasonable rules, the students will follow them. At this point, the dress code is just shades of gray.

The dress code will never completely go away. Even if we get uniforms some students will be unhappy. For the time being, the administration needs to make decisions about what is allowed and what isn't. Too many outfits are borderline. If students had distinct rules to follow they would be more apt to be in dress code. If students don't know what they are allowed to wear, they can't wear what is appropriate. The dress code needs to be resolved in order for more important issues to be dealt with.

The Value of Voting in Elections

Maureen Benitz

As the election closes in on us, it is important to note how important voting is. Granted, most of the school is too young to vote, but that is not an excuse for being uninformed about the election. It is to everyone's benefit to have information and facts about this election. It does not suffice to simply know who is running for office, it is imperative to know and understand the issues.

There are many issues that affect students in some way that we should know about. Issues such as school vouchers, grants to college students, and per-

forming community service as a way to decrease loan payments for school are all important to students. How can someone judge a candidate before they know how the candidate stands on certain issues?

Everyone always complains about the government and how the government doesn't work for them. To solve this problem, you must get involved in the election process. Campaigns for both parties are always looking for volunteers to distribute literature or hand out balloons. There are ample opportunities for students to be involved with the campaign.

For someone to complain without participating is an invalid complaint. After a person is informed and knowledgeable on the election can they make criticisms on the candidates.

It doesn't hurt to pick up a magazine or newspaper and get information on the election. For those students who can vote, do so. Living in a democracy is a privilege that we should all take pride in. Do yourself favor, don't be ignorant about the election, get informed.

Roving Reporter

What do you think of the security cameras?

"I think they are a good idea. If people are stealing things then they'll just protect us." Sheila Srinihdi '98

"They should have told us about them, instead of us finding out they way we did." Jen Conrad '97

"I don't like them because they invade personal space." Carrie Kirschner '00

"They obviously didn't do any good. I lost all of my CDs." Amanda Rabinowitz '99

"They don't really bother me. I have nothing to hide. If people want to see me change my clothes, then let them." Justin Stavitsky '97

