

# The Round Table

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Stamford High School

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40 cents

## PEP WEEK raises spirits at SHS

By Heather Barry

Pep Week was held the week of March 14 by the SHS Student Council. Its purpose was to raise the spirit that tends to sag during the vacationless month of March. Student Council President Maureen O'Rourke said, "March is the longest month of the year—without breaks—so we thought that this would bring a little fun into the school to break the monotony."

The week kicked off with a dance held on Friday the 11th. Despite the rain, many students came and made the

dance a success.

Monday was Pin Day, and students wore their favorite pins keeping in mind Mr. Markosky's admonition that he would censor objectionable ones.

Tuesday was Preppie Day, and all our resident preps reveled in the glory of their day as other students joined them with an abundant array of Izods, docksiders and chinos.

Punk Day was Wednesday, and the SHS halls became luminescent as the bright colors of the "punk" outfits were paraded down them. The many different

styles made SHS look like a fashion show at Bloomingdale's.

St. Patrick's Day, Thursday, had by far the best turnout, as everyone is Irish on this holiday. Green car-

nations sold by the Minority Student Union helped to create a festive air.

The final day of Pep Week ended appropriately with Black and Orange Day. Students wore their school

colors along with painter's hats and bandanas proclaiming their SHS spirit.

The Student Council hopes to make this an annual affair at SHS to brighten the middle of March blues."

## Small cars found dangerous

By Debbie Ladestro

Because of high inflation and outrageous gas prices, many Americans have invested in the smaller, domestic and foreign-made, compact and subcompact size cars.

New studies done by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, show that although these drivers may be saving money, they are risking their lives everytime they get behind the wheel.

Compact and subcompact size cars represent only 38% of all passenger cars, but they are involved in 87% of all traffic accidents that result in personal injury and in over half of all fatal accidents. These numbers have risen drastically in the last few years. In 1977, compact and subcompact cars were involved in only 31% of accidents resulting in personal injury. In only five years, the rate has almost tripled.

Occupants of smaller cars are more likely to be killed in a collision with a larger vehicle. The driver of a subcompact car colliding with a large car is 8.2 times more likely to die. The driver of a

subcompact car colliding with a mid-size car is 6.3 times more likely to be killed.

Similarly, in single-car crashes, drivers of small cars are more than twice as likely to be killed as drivers of full-size cars.

A survey done by *Motor Trend Magazine* in 1982 shows that of 20 car models having the worst accident injury record, all but one were subcompact cars. And, no subcompacts were among the 20 models with the best record.

As more and more small cars are being seen on the road, the number of accident claims on insurance policies are soaring. Many insurance agencies are trying to combat these extra claims by raising their rates for drivers of small cars, while offering discounts to drivers of bigger, safer automobiles.

Insurance analysts believe the accident and fatality records of these small cars will only get worse. The *Journal of American Insurance* explains, these "Cars simply don't provide nearly as much crash protection for their occupants as today's heavier vehicles."



Members of *The Round Table* staff celebrate Pep Day by wearing their class T shirts displaying their school colors.

## Reagan tries to stop teen sex

By Karen Levine

The problem of teenage pregnancy was pronounced critical in the 1970's. In reaction to this, Congress passed a law that extended public and private health planning services, previously only available to adults, to adolescents.

This development meant that citizens under 18 now had a place to go to obtain birth control information, abortions, and treatment for venereal disease. In hope of preventing, discovering or treating problems, strict patient confidentiality was enforced. This opened a new door for those who could not possibly discuss "sex" with their parents.

The Reagan administration has tried to put into effect a new "squeal" ruling, which says that all federally funded family planning clinics would have to notify parents immediately when those under 18 receive prescription contraceptives.

However, a federal judge, Henry Werker of New York, has issued a restraining order preventing this from taking effect. Werker said that Congress is trying to stop unwanted pregnancies and this order could once again produce many such births. Werker said that teenagers must be serviced in these critical years.

The proponents of this law believe that by making

parents aware of sexually active children, it will open the doors of communication between them and their children. They also argue that without birth control teenagers would refrain from sex.

Opponents point out that almost 90% of those using the clinics have already been sexually active for at least a year. They also found that these teenagers found it difficult to talk to their parents about sex. Therefore, the squeal law would only widen the communication gap between generations.

The debate is heated and a final ruling will not be forthcoming soon. In the meantime, Judge Werker's ruling has put the squeal law on hold.

## Teens on the run

By Karin Cholak

Run away teens are a growing problem in the '80's. In 1970, it was estimated that there were 600,000 runaways in the country. In 1980, one million teens were on the run. One half of those who run away are teenage girls.

Most first-time runaways are fourteen to fifteen years old, white, and come from lower or middle class families. A recent government survey has shown that first-time runaways usually return home within ten days, having stayed with a friend or relative. However, a growing number are gone for one year or longer.

One of the greatest concerns felt for the runaway teen is the frightening increase in violence in the

some very violent murders in the last few years. Tragically, some teens run away and are never heard of again. In 1974, President Ford signed a law called the Runaway Youth Act. Until this law was passed, runaways frequently were placed in juvenile halls and jails along with hardened criminals. This act says that states are not allowed to lock up runaways, however, they can still be held and turned over to community programs.

There are close to one million runaways and there are just as many reasons why they run. When most runaways arrive in a strange city, most of them have little or no money for food or shelter and nowhere to go. A national survey by the Department of Health,

than 10 dollars when they first left home.

Counselors report that it is a common occurrence to see a 14 or 15 year old march into a runaway shelter and announce his or her intention to find a job. In most cases, the runaway's dreams are shattered quickly and they end up permanently at the Runaway Shelter. Some runaways, however, aren't as lucky. Arriving in a strange city with no money, no job, and no skills, the young teen often is unaware of help that's available from runaway shelters across the country, and most teens are easy prey out on the streets.

The road back home for these kids isn't easy, but it's usually a lot easier than the streets the runaways have been on. Runaways, parents, and counselors acknowledge



Punk Day brought out the colors to Stamford High as students really got involved. Pictured left to right are: (Top row) Alice Orkofsky, Mia Ruggen, Lorenzo Williams, Erik Graham. (Bottom row) DeeDee Jacob, Chris LaScala, Patty Lidstrom

# The Round Table

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## Simply Debbie

By Debbie White

"He lights the fuse on the dynamite. Ten seconds to go. Lil takes a deep breath. Five seconds. The bad guys are coming through with a bulldozer. One second. BANG!" Those bad guys have had it. Yes, folks, once again B.J. McKay has saved Pogo Lil. My hero. You think I'm kidding?

It is understandable that an intelligent person might get caught up in an intelligent television show but "B.J. and the Bear"? No Way. Yes way.

Television habits are not something to be ashamed of. Many people fall prey to the "boob tube". Then why is it so difficult for me to admit that I spent my entire Monday worrying about Jenny Gardner after she fell off the balcony on Friday? It is because no one wants to admit that they enjoy pure, unadulterated nonsense.

Soap operas (oh, those low, plebian forms of entertainment) don't usually get my attention, but I have friends who sure suffer from them. For example, I have one friend who was utterly

devastated when her job forced her to miss her weekly dose of "G.H.". People tend to blame soap operas, but they're not the only offenders. I have never gone so far as to miss a date or work for a television show, but *Winds of War* tempted me to my capacity.

Most of all it is those reruns that do me in. I am addicted to *B.J. and the Bear*, *Buck Rogers Battlestar Galactica* and *The Mod Squad*. Actually, it's more like being addicted to Greg Evigan, Gil Gerard, Richard Hatch and Michael Cole. And it is not just me. My best friend watches *All My Children* just because, and I quote, "That Tad Martin is so cute."

Girls are not the only guilty parties. Susan Lucci, Donna Mills, Morgan Fairchild and Victoria Principal have done their share to addict those indomitable males who are "above all that." Right Jocko?

So let's just admit to it and carry on as usual. Who says people who watch stupid TV shows are morons? My brain has not turned to mush. Why should it? Rite? I mean "Right?"

## Editorial: Announcements

The announcements at Stamford High are unclear. Either the sound is muffled, sentences are broken up so that they don't make any sense, or the announcers giggle and make unnecessary comments.

Announcements are merely ways to convey messages concerning school activities to students. They are not meant to be a form of entertainment. They should be read before going on the air so that they come out clearly. Announcers should also check the announcements prior to reading them.

By pre-reading, the announcers should be able to read the announcements as written. Club advisers write announcements as they want them read over the air. If an announcer misreads the announcement, he may change the meaning of the whole message.

Many times, messages are read after the event has occurred. It is the announcer's responsibility to make sure the announcements are up to date.

Often the sound is muffled or comes out too loud. Announcers should make sure that they don't hold the microphone too close or too far away. If the announcer speaks too close to the microphone, the message comes out sounding like someone put a bag over his head, or the sound comes out too loud. It all depends on the person and his technique. Announcers should make sure that their voices are carried well by asking someone

## Bulimia on the rise

By Karin Cholak

Bulimia is an eating disorder related to anorexia nervosa which affects many teenagers, primarily girls. It consists of bingeing and purging, taking diet pills and laxatives.

It affects more girls than boys because there is more pressure put on girls to look good. Girls from families with a history of alcoholism and depression are extremely susceptible to bulimia. Girls who do have bulimia frequently have boyfriends, take drugs and drink

alcoholic beverages.

Symptoms of bulimia include the aforementioned bingeing and vomiting; guilt feelings after each incident; constant depression; consistent use of diet pills and laxatives.

The first thing for a bulimic to do when she recognizes her illness is to get professional help. The problem cannot be handled alone. A person who is not in control of her eating habits needs both medical and psychological help—even family counseling is recommended since bulimics'

problems often stem from feelings of worthlessness brought about by their relationships with their parents.

It can take a year or more of therapy for recovery from bulimia, but a bulimic who fails to get this help is putting her life in danger.

Victims develop stomach problems, gum disease, tooth decay, kidney problems and even cardiac problems. Some bulimics have had heart attacks and cardiac arrests during their frequent bingeing and purging.

## The world according to Bruce

By Bruce Miller

If you put it all together, all the things that happen, all the things people say and do, if you put it all together, which of course I have never

done, it is very funny.

There has been a recent rash of subway crime in New York involving youths stealing tokens by sucking them from the turnstile slots. Somehow, this seems to be an unappetizing proposal at

best.

"What is that highly sensitive spot on a woman called?"

"G?"

"No, GTE."

The Susedik family, of New Concord, Ohio, believes that a crop of all genius children can be conceived by talking to them in the womb. "Yo, out there! Change the station!"

"Here lies the body of Jonathan Blake,

Stepped on the gas instead of the brake."  
(Tombstone, Uniontown, Pa.)

There is a magazine called "Rowing U.S.A.", published every two months by the United States Rowing Association.

San Francisco cable television plans to develop a version of "The Dating Game" called "The Gay Dating Game."

Who reads the "Japan Industrial Daily News"? Who writes it? Why am I asking you?

The announcements at SHS are ridiculous. First, they are impossible to understand. One would have a better chance understanding a German calling long-distance from a phone booth at a train station thirty feet under water. But now, let us not be cruel. Those big words, "meet", "Friday", they are toughies. If you want to get a message around SHS, send a Mailgram.

Look at freshmen. Freshmen are funny. They giggle and swear and grow a lot. They trot pleasantly and unashamedly along their pubescent paths, acting, as is their role, like freshmen. Ahh, Death, where is thy sting?

E.T. made more money than any movie in history. E.T. is a puppet. He is not real. He is not living. He has, in fact, never lived. He is foam rubber, felt, yarn, wires and circuits. Sorry to rain on your parade.

What if Scott Baio married Gloria Vanderbilt? What if Meryl Streep married John Merrick? What if Bruce Springsteen married Eleanor Roosevelt?

The Stamford High administration should be required to eat hot lunch from the cafeteria. This too shall pass.

Just one thought to leave you with: On February 23rd, 1980, the U.S. Olympic hockey team whipped the Russians at Lake Placid. How many of the team members' names can you remember?

## Knight Light

### Sherry Fields



By Debbie White

Sherry Fields is an exemplification of the word "excellence."

Currently Sherry is president of the Minority Student Union, senior class vice-president, captain of the varsity basketball cheerleaders, and photography editor of the yearbook.

In addition to these offices, Sherry is also involved in the Philosophy committee, the National Honor Society and serves on the state council on Education.

In the past Sherry has been on the Principal's Advisory Council (PAC) the football cheerleading squad and manager of the softball team.

Sherry's favorite extra-curricular activity is cheerleading. She says, "I'm dedicated to cheerleading. It's a release [for me]."

The many activities that Sherry has been involved in have led to various awards and commendations for her. Among these are the USCA cheerleading award, Commission on Human Rights, first place essay winner; University of Bridgeport Engineering for Disadvantaged Youth; commended scholar in the National Achievement Scholarship Program for Outstanding Negro students; and Who's Who among American High School Students.

Sherry also holds down a 28 hour per week part-time job at Walden Books and maintains a strong academic

which Sherry faces are her lack of free time and her lack of a favorite subject. Despite these setbacks, Sherry maintains a 3.2 grade point average and a good attitude about school. "It's all what you make it. You can have a good time here or you can have the worst years of your life. [Here] you're led to believe you can do anything."

About her future and

"[school is] what you make it. You can have a good time here or you can have the worst four years of your life."

education in general Sherry says she'll be an electrical or chemical engineer and after that career is established she would like to go to law school which is a dream of long-standing with her. Sherry has applied to Cornell, Penn State, Stanford, Duke, Northeastern, Spellman, and UConn.

Education is something Sherry has been very involved in for years. Her last two summers were spent at the University of Bridgeport taking extra courses. It was there that Sherry learned about a valuable aspect of education. "I was in a low group. I have never been in a low group in my life, but that made me mature. I learned what college is like—I learned."

This same attitude prevails in Sherry's comments on SHS. "School is what you make it. You've got to get involved. Don't be afraid to try something. You have to take chances."

Sherry herself is unafraid of taking chances. "I'm at a disadvantage because people continue to look at my worth as a minority. Colleges look at my color...[but] I don't consider myself disadvantaged."

Sherry Fields likes to be considered for her own worth. "It feels good when you walk down the hall and you can feel people pulling for you."

To all who aspire to the

# Cults lure unsuspecting youths

By Janet Schoenfeld

Cults have become a common sight in America today. They range from such established groups as the International Society for Krishna Consciousness which is based on traditional Hindu theology, to newer groups like the Bo and Beep UFO followers who believe they will be transported by spaceship to a better universe.

One of the most notorious cults was the People's Temple, responsible for the "Guyana Massacre" of November 1978, when 911 people died from drinking poisoned grape drink.

There are many cult stories about teenage converts being beaten, sexually abused, starved, deprived of sleep, overworked, and forced to marry other cult members they hardly know.

There is also an account of one cult using female members as prostitutes to attract wealthy converts and another account of how a "rite of breathing" by members of another cult caused the death of two people.

Critics of cults also point out many cases of fiscal fraud on the part of cult leaders. Last spring, the Reverend Sun Myung Moon, head of the Unification church, was convicted of tax fraud.

Then why do teenagers continue to join cults? Kids are not necessarily dropouts, ex-drug addicts or products of broken homes. In fact, Dr. John Clark, assistant professor of psychiatry at Harvard Medical School found that 40% of the cultists he studied were normal, maturing people.

Dr. Margaret Singer, a clinical psychologist and professor at the University of California, estimates that 75% of the cultists she studied could be described as "normal kids."

No one knows exactly what attracts teenagers to cults, but many new recruits share certain general characteristics.

"There are various times when people are more vulnerable to cults," Dr. Singer says. "I've found that people tend to be lonely or somewhat depressed when they join. Also, the cults pick them up at unstable times—between high school and college, between romances, between college and their first jobs, or after a divorce."

Many teenagers go through times when life seems empty and the stresses of growing up seem unbearable. During these periods, cults may promise a special sense of belonging. Dr. James S. Gordon, a psychiatrist at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Washington, D.C. who studies cults that attract young people explains, "It is impossible to grow up and not be confused. The cults offer these kids what the major religions traditionally don't—a sense of immediacy. The cultists are ready to become intimate

convert vulnerable teens who are traveling or who have run away from home. They usually approach confused, lonely and hungry young people in places like airports, bus terminals and streets. The typical prospect is between 18 and 22, white, middle or upper class, and has had some religious upbringing.

Many former cult members believe they were victims of mind control. Whether or not cults use special tactics to turn converts into "zombies" is a difficult question. Cult techniques include meditation, chanting, removal from the outside world, fasting, and other forms of self-deprivation which often produce trance-like states.

Dr. Clark says that experienced cult members use mind control tactics such as obsessive praying and constant lecturing to keep the potential converts totally involved. He also says they enforce a lack of sleep that weakens the mind's resistance and may place the prospect in a panicky, disoriented state. The recruiters then create an emotional crisis that may result in the person's becoming psychotic. "At this stage, the group can control the prospects actions and thoughts," said Dr. Clark.

Other professionals who study cults disagree on whether the tactics used are sophisticated "brainwashing" techniques. Some say every traditional religion has advocated one or more of these practices for the spiritual betterment of its

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chairman of the sociology department at the University of Hartford (Conn.), and Anson D. Shupe Jr., associate professor of sociology at the University of Texas, Arlington, argue that the use of such procedures is routine in all armed forces boot camps as well as many Roman Catholic convents and monasteries. It remolds values, alters personalities, disciplines individuals and shapes their personalities, but it does not render them robots."

Many authorities also warn that some de-programming techniques can be as bad as, or worse than, any of the mind-altering behavior cults use. (Parents sometimes hire professional de-programmers to get their children out of the cults). Some de-programmers have been accused of physically detaining cultists and employing the same mind-control techniques the cults use.

However, in many cases, the de-programmer reasons with the cultist to make him or her see the deceptions, corruption or irrationalities that seem to be a part of some cults. Many former members are thankful that they were made to see how wrong cult life was for them.

The cult question still isn't clear and no one is sure just what effect cults may have in the long run. Many cult members are happy with their experiences, while other former members feel cults are responsible for ruining parts of their lives.

The important thing to remember is that adolescence

# INNUENDO

By Imogene

*Winter may be over but memories linger on as we see.....*

Seniors, along with snow, chairlifts, and wild parties (among other things) seem to be in a "snow storm of gossip." S.S., did you really like streaking outside the lodge?...M.H., who hit you with the pipe?...B.R., thanks for the training!!!...There was also a surprise visit from two special people, "Omigod" M.J. how little is "Little M"?...A little love has crept in between all this infatuation soooo B.R. remember J.R. loves you always...Josie, Imogene would like to know if you have come into realization yet...I hear D.H. can't find her way out of the sandtrap...J.B., did you mean what you said to T.B?...E.J.D., "What's Up Doc?..."L.V., so you say he only hit the tire huh?...A.M., do you believe there could ever be any Friendly's in Africa?...I also picked up that a certain smile makes people want to cry...T.C., is she really going out with him?...M.J., did you have fun sunbathing on the slopes? J.B., it's going to be a long two weeks...S.S., were you really serious about that shower with K.B.???...And for all of you that are into time—7:00 p.m., be there or be square!!!...I heard that T.H.'s step relationships have improved...and Cos, yes, someone did have fun babysitting!...T.C. has a lot of dimes for the bank...One last note (you didn't hear it from me) Mr. Palley's 6th period class is interested in fun at five months.....

I hear that Juniors melted all the snow on the ski trip...P.L. was B.M., a S.M. on the ski trip???...K.B., don't fool around with married men...S.A., do you like CARM-ell skinny legs?...D.C., worship the porcelain goddess lately???...K.L., how was your first experience with medicine on the ski TRIP!!!...M.W., did you bare all on the lift?...Karen, who are you thanking for saving you on those boring ski lifts???...S.K. and M.M., that's what you get for showing off...Who's got an I.S.???...M.M., Imogene heard that M.J. really does care!!!...Is Riunite on ice nice T.B.???...Hey sexy, are you satisfied?...Monster, Imogene, 3/7 was breathtaking just like you...SKI-O, "Do Ten."...A.S., Olivia! it's Christmas—time to join the O.T.C. cheerleaders night to remember...L. B. has been mouthing off during vacation with B.K....G.S., did you get the pretzels out of your nose?...K.K., start smiling...Tommy, when does a certain someone get to see you "under the cherry tree."...J.R., did you know B.R. loves you to death...T.P. the only man you could trust is Daddy...Dish, how was your trip!!!T.N., you and your cousin have something in common...S.A., how was your dip in the bathtub?...L.B., it's time you "went home." after school...C.B., is it just pink eye?...J.W., what's the answer?.....

For underclassmen the *sophomores* are rising above...so J.A., three in one night???...E.S., have you seen any ants lately?...K.M., please tell me what's in it???...A.K., are your headlights still yodeling?...The sophs are into sleeping...N.P., I heard you broke S.P.'s bed!?!?!...D.C., did your dream come true?...J.B., does the light in Burger King really turn you and L.B. on???...Colleen tune in for the new episodes of "ET."...There also seems to be chills up someone's spine...B.R., did you like the carnations from your special friend?...M.W., break out the champagne...Hey Oscar, I'd like to know how's Bert and Ernie-???...W.L., remember the dehydrated frankfurters?...The sophs are also into numbers...Lucky 7, the best was February 22!...And some things are twice as nice... Two ex-Rip girls will always remember 12/9/82 and 1/30/83...Things have also been rough but well worth it...What's up Blotamere...and a final note to Jamie...Love will find a way.....

*Freshmen* are coming out of the woodwork with info...I hear that S.T. is gorgeous...P.P., I think you're a sweet person...C.P. and J.S., please tell me who is "Mosquito"? N.W., you'd better watch your mouth or you might get hit with a fly swatter!...One of your freshmen is into fashion: F.P. you are unique with your leg warmers and black "whoosh-whoosh" pants...J.Z., when will you give up the role of the HULK?...J.S., is it true that you love raspberry yogurt?...D.B., do you think you are "Heaven Sent"?...S.M., I hear you're still after that junior!!!...A.S., have you been flirting lately?...M.G., I'm SHOCKED!!!...S.B., do you enjoy bringing telephone books to school?...P.R., could you kindly keep it down to a dull ROAR!...Mr. T., what do you say we get back to the ranch...."G.I. Joe"—are you still after the floozie in gym?...J.K. "Slam dunk it!"...J.L., two girls got off their bus and walked 1/2 a mile just to see you...K.S., you really do need orange M&M's, but what's for truth???...As a final goodbye, or should I say greeting: Hello Garfield...Bye for now—see you next time.....



## Arthur Asks

*What would you do with an omicron?*

Jessica Ng - Give it back.

Carolyn Mostel - Chew on it, swallow it and turn into a pumpkin.

Steve Gaynes - Eat it.

Meredith Kwartin - Shoot it and eat it for dinner.

Jason Kittell - Put it between my toes.

Serena Mulhern - Mate it with a "phibellig."

Heather Sabia - Drop it and say "What the hell is an omicron?"

Jeff Rodgers - Throw it at them.

Dave DalMolin - Step on it and throw it in the garbage.

Dave Abrahams - Bury it.

Alicia Bannon - Write it.

Steve Fulton - Throw it at someone.

*'Omicron' is the 14th letter of the Greek alphabet.*

By Sarah Siegel

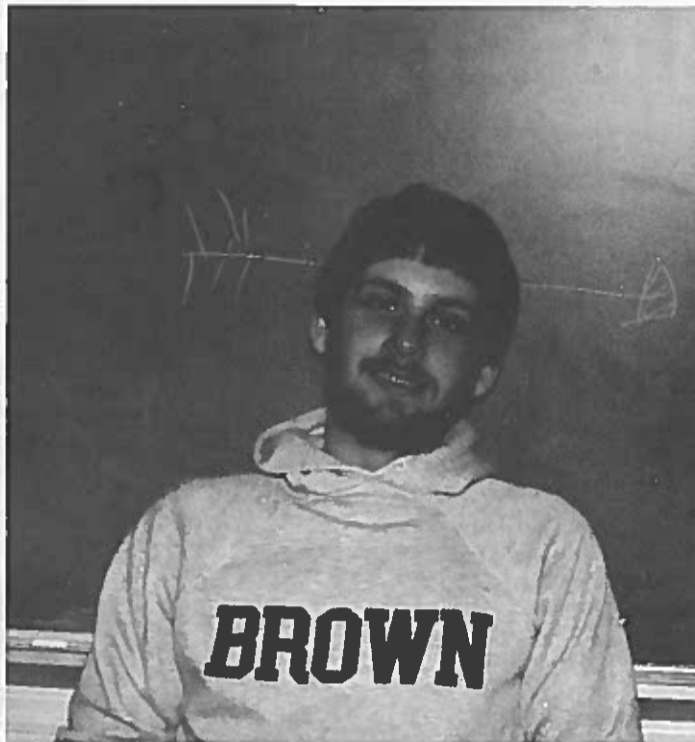
Throughout his years, and especially this year at Stamford High, Bruce Miller has worked hard at the things he likes. These include writing, quoting trivia from current TV shows, reading philosophy, and amusing himself and others.

Bruce has been on *The Round Table* staff since sophomore year and has risen from the rank of reporter, to the status of being this year's Editor-In-Chief. In addition, he has his own humor column, "The World According to Bruce." As a senior, he has expanded the scope of his writing style and has joined the staff of *Vertigo*. His experiment with creative writing has paid off. Earlier this month, Bruce received a letter from National Scholastics Writing Awards, that said he is being considered for Honorable Mention in the short story category of its national contest. His honored story called "Perspective" as well as several other of his stories and poems will appear in the 1983 *Vertigo*.

Bruce watches a lot of TV—"the good shows"—like *Hill Street Blues*, *Cheers*, and *M\*A\*S\*H* reruns, though he says what he likes to do most during his free time is, "sleep...or drink coffee." That stands to reason since Bruce carries a full schedule of courses and has a job at Photo-Video that takes 27 hours out of each week.

Still, he manages well with his classes this year because he enjoys them. His favorite is the philosophy course, Senior Seminar. Earlier in the year Bruce taught Plato's philosophy of Idealism to the class in depth. In a few weeks he will present that of the Objectivist, Ayn Rand. Bruce likes the nature of the things philosophy has taught him so far and he wants to

## Knight Light Bruce Miller



continue his study of it when he goes to college. In fact, Bruce said he had but one piece of advice for those in the grades under him: "Take Seminar!"

Bruce has been recognized by a number of prestigious scholastic organizations. He received a National Merit Scholarship Letter of Commendation, and was honored in the 1981-'82 Yearbook of the United States National Journalism Academy. Added to these kudos was that he was chosen to be a National Council of Teachers of English Writing Award nominee.

Perhaps what Bruce is more widely recognized for though, is his spontaneity, grace on the dance floor, wit, and beard. He has been

known to present his friends both with gifts of "Underoos" and homemade chocolate chip cookies during the course of any given [otherwise average] school day.

At dances he is most often clad in a jacket and tie, sneakers and a baseball cap and can jump around with the best of 'em. His wit is more than visual however, and should be heard to be believed.

In an unusually solemn and reflective mood Bruce expressed that if he were able to start high school over again, "I would have worked harder—well, not necessarily harder, but would have gotten better grades and...I would have grown my beard as a freshman."

## What's your sign?

By Valerie Rimmer

Horoscope predictions are a popular feature in newspapers and magazines.

A horoscope sign is a representation of the zodiac, the name given to a band of stars that appear to encircle the earth. This chart supposedly reveals a person's character and his future.

The zodiac consists of twelve divisions called signs. The signs are named for certain groups of stars called constellations. Astrologers (persons who tell fortunes by studying the stars) believe that a person comes under the special influence of a particular sign. This sign depends upon his date of birth.

According to astrologers, the zodiac's influence on a person comes from several

sources. Each sign gets its main characteristics from a particular planet, called its ruling planet. The zodiac signs are also said to be influenced by four elements—air, earth, fire and water. Each of these elements have specific qualities which help to make up the characteristics of the signs.

Astrologers developed this idea of the zodiac more than 2000 years ago. These men observed the changing position of the stars that accompanied the change in the seasons. Ancient people also believed that there was a connection between seasonal changes and the constellations of the zodiac. In time, astrologers developed ways to explain the supposed influence of the zodiac on the lives of people.

### Signs of the Zodiac

**Aries—Ram—March 21-April 19—** Bold, Courageous

Energetic

**Taurus—Bull—April 20 - May 20—** Conservative, Loyal

Possessive

**Gemini—Twins—May 21 - June 20—** Lively, Talkative,

Intelligent

**Cancer—Crab—June 21 - July 22—** Emotional, Patriotic,

Home Loving

**Leo—Lion—July 23 - August 22—** Cheerful, Proud,

Powerful

**Virgo—Virgin—August 23 - September 22—** Modest, Tidy,

Practical

**Libra—Scales—September 23 - October 22—** Companionable,

Diplomatic,

Pleasant

**Scorpio—Scorpion—October 23 - November 21—** Secretive,

Intense,

Passionate

**Sagittarius—Archer—Nov. 22 - Dec. 21—** Cheerful, Generous,

Restless

**Capricorn—Goat—Dec. 22 - Jan. 19—** Ambitious, Cautious,

Practical

**Aquarius—Water bearer—Jan. 20 - Feb. 18—** Curious,

Outgoing

Independent

## Softball team begins 1983 season



By Michelle Jamieson

The 1983 Stamford High softball teams recently held tryouts to determine the freshman, J.V. and varsity rosters. Tryouts consisted of display of skills in the areas of running, batting and fielding.

sity squad is Miss Dee DeMatteis. "Through hard work and dedication, this year's team should be successful like that of last year's FCIAC finalist," said Miss DeMatteis.

Miss Colleen Kenna, J.V. coach, will be taking on the challenge of rebuilding the

Mr. Bill Chiapetta is back for his second season as coach of the freshmen.

Returning players who figure to see a lot of action this year on the varsity squad are seniors Dana Boccuzzi, Donna Farina, Kim Hardy, and Michelle Jamieson; juniors Jessie Farina, Karen



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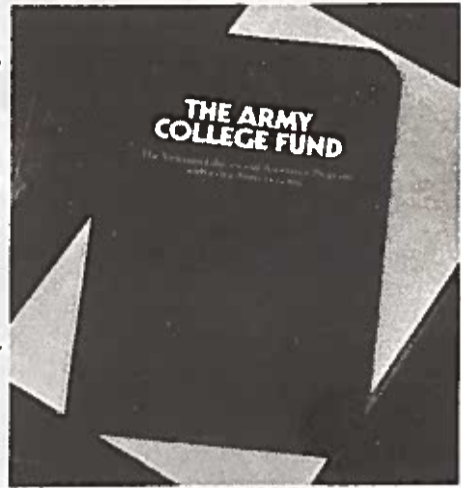
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"I just can't keep my hands to myself..." This statement by Debbie White was an emotional plea to the police officers who arrested her in front of SHS at 3 p.m. on March 12. Debbie had been roaming the halls of SHS for the past four months luring some male students, in a discreet way, into bathrooms and broom closets where she has sexually assaulted them. Captain LeBeout of the Stamford Police Department said, "She has a very good influence on people. Even me. She is a little pushy though..."

Mike Hickey, Joe Bucher-

# Confessed rapist arrested at SHS

Debbie White being escorted from the building by Mr. O'Meara. The halls of SHS will once again be safe.



**Attention**  
Mr. Rick Bucciarelli to pose for Playgirl magazine. It has been brought to our attention that one of our prominent male teachers here at SHS will be featured as the centerfold in April's Playgirl magazine. Said Mr. Bucciarelli, "I like to show off my body."



either cafeteria any time during the day. Although all the food must be eaten in the cafeteria, students should be happy with the ambience created by everyone enjoying their repasts together. The money generated will be proportionally divided among all the groups presently selling food—e.g., the senior and junior classes, DECA, Chemistry Club, etc. The arrangement will go into effect Monday, April 4. It should eliminate litter and eating in classes while at the same time not denying students their needed "pick me ups."

# Food sales restricted to cafeteria

As of April 4, the only place food will be sold in SHS is the cafeteria. The faculty of Stamford High presented a petition to Dr. King demanding that all food sales be restricted to the cafeteria since the halls and classrooms are infested with mice, ants and roaches. These pests find their ways into the rooms because of all the food and crumbs that are carelessly left on and in the desks and all over the floor. Even the custodians have complained about the immense amount of debris that is left in the classrooms, bathrooms and in the halls. "Since the students are constantly selling, buying and eating all through the day, why doesn't the cafeteria just remain open so the food, the smell and the mess can be confined to just one area," one annoyed teacher commented. On March 25, 1983, after many hours of negotiating, Dr. King and representatives from the ARA catering service finally signed a document stating that the cafeteria at Stamford High School will open at 7:30 a.m. and close at 2:00 p.m. From 7:30 to 10:30, breakfast will be served. From 11:00 to 2:00, hot lunches will be available. All kinds of junk food may be purchased throughout the entire day in the annex. Students will be permitted to go down to

# The Round Table

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Stamford, Connecticut

April 1, 1983

40 cents

## Mr. Tucci resigns; opening boutique

After nearly twenty years of service to the Stamford school system, SHS Vice-principal Bruce Tucci has tendered his resignation effective April 30, 1983. Mr. Tucci has been planning this action since early this year when he bought storefront space on Atlantic Street in which to open his new

boutique *Tucci's*. This boutique will specialize in off-beat men's lingerie, importing items from around the world, said Tucci. "It has always been a dream of mine," he commented. "Owning my own business, setting my own hours, being free from the struggles and trials of daily school life. I leave with no

regrets." In addition to the boutique, Mr. Tucci eventually would like to open a chain of yoga spas franchised across the country. "It has always been a dear hobby of mine," said Tucci, "I only hope that I can find the culturally stable clientele that this kind of spa needs to suc-

ceed." These spas would offer self-improvement classes and ceramics courses in addition to basic yoga instruction. "Stamford High will miss this great man," commented Dr. King, "He was a God-send, a school system saint. I can only pray we are able to get along without him."



## Swimming pool installation approved

Finally, after years of waiting SHS is going to have its own swimming pool. The courtyard on the north side of the old building will be converted into a velodrome.

Due to the influx of Rippowam students attending Stamford High, the Stamford Board of Education has decreed that "Stamford High School gets what it wants" and what it wants is a pool.

A committee consisting of Dr. King, Mr. Hagan, Vicki Chapman, Bob Bowes and Mr. Skruck (who best understands the philosophy of the idea) has been formed to make all final decisions on the construction of the pool.

As of now the committee has stated plans to "get rid of those trees" and to convert the SHS Media Center into a co-ed locker room.

As Mr. Hagan stated, "A sound mind is not determined by books but by a sound body."

Also included in the F.D. Rich contracting deal are a wading pool for freshmen and a snack bar (profits going to the junior class and collected by Debbie (the Fish) Ferri).

The general decor will be black and orange except for the water which will be green to satisfy Rippowam transfer students. All life rings will be white bearing the words "Save our Seniors" in black.

Although there is some difficulty deciding how the outdoor pool will be used in the winter, Rosario Mallozzi and Scott Stenquist have promised to live in perfect harmony if it is used as an ice rink. Dr. King is seriously considering this as she was once a cham on speed skater in her native Jamaica.

Students who wish to use the pool must obtain permission from both parents and teachers and may only use it during their study and gym periods. Only Mr. McWilliams 11-0 classes may use the pool during English to achieve a "transcendental" feeling while studying *Moby Dick*.

Since there is anticipated a problem of students jumping out of windows in the old building for a dip, bars will be installed on all classrooms facing the area.

SHS students are excited about the new addition.



## 'Love Bug' crawls over SHS

Herpes is on the rise at Stamford High School. Many students and teachers have reported cases of this disease. It is said that there is a "little red bug" that flies through the halls of SHS which preys on students and teachers when they least expect it.

The bug is believed to be the cause of this sudden outbreak. When the bug bites you it releases a venom that causes the first symptoms of

the disease. If you have noticed a rash or sores on your body you may be another one of his victims.

Students who suspect that they may have herpes should immediately go to the school nurse.

The Connecticut Humane Society is looking for the Herpes Bug since it seems to be an endangered species. If you see this monster do not approach it, but call Dr. King or any administrator.



Mr. Bruce Tucci bids farewell to the hallowed halls of SHS.

## Thespians travel behind iron curtain

The Stamford High School Thespian Society is planning a trip to Russia to compete in the 15th annual dramatics competition. The society is trying to win a title currently held by the Russian Central High School of Minsk. Central has held the title for the past 14 years.

SHS will be presenting a stage version of *The Muppet Show*. Appearing as Kermit the Frog is Richard Strout. The complexity of the role hasn't escaped Rick who said, "It's not easy being green."

Miss Debbie White has acquired the coveted role of Miss Piggy. Debbie's feelings concerning the possibility of SHS's winning the title echoed those of the entire troupe, "Those damn Russians don't have a chance."

Mr. Henry Guertin, Thespian Society adviser, has stepped from behind his director's megaphone and has assumed the role of Fozzy Bear. Mr. Guertin is a natural for this role since he is frequently seen growling at his actors.

Carolyn Mostel will play Gonzo. She emphatically denies that physical characteristics played a part in her selection.

Appearing in all the guest star roles is Mary Stack. Mary is thrilled to finally get a starring role—make that 43 starring roles.

The main difference between the stage version and the TV version of the show is the fact that Kermit and Miss Piggy will have no love interest. Miss White said, "Every time I try to do a love scene with Rick my good taste gets in the way."

Rick said, "In her case they didn't bring home the bacon, they brought home the ham."

Bacon or ham as the case may be, the thespians have high hopes for the competition. Vice-president Cheryl Duncan said that "...this will be the best performance we ever gave." while Secretary Lori Kaswer said, "The Russians have never seen anything like this before and they probably never will again."

## 'Fox of the Year' contest scheduled

Stamford High School will be holding its second annual "Fox of the Year" contest on April 6 during period three in the large auditorium.

Any boy who considers himself a "fox" is urged to be in the competition. Registration will be held at *The Round Table* press room in Room 223 after school on April 4.

lucky guy will also win a trip (for 2) to Fire Island where he can best show off his bod.

Stamford High is fortunate to have such female "foxes" as "Bo" Cikat, "Farrah" Welte and "Jackiyn" Grimaldi to act as judges.

All SHS girls are invited to attend the assembly and encouraged to whistle and



Mrs. Bradbury

A nation-wide talent search has just been completed to find a replacement for Debbie Allen of the hit TV show *Fame*. Debbie, who portrays Lydia Grant, will be leaving the show at the end of the month to pursue a career on Broadway.

The producers of *Fame* have chosen a person who best exemplifies what a dance teacher should be. It is our own class adviser to the Class of '85 and Dance Forms teacher Mrs. Pat Bradbury. She has been offered a contract for the remainder of the season at \$2500 per episode. If she is successful (what a silly question) she will be given a run-of-the-show contract with a substantial raise.

the way it was so an announcement will be made that the part of Lydia Grant will now be played by Pat Bradbury. In this way there will be the least disruption to the viewing audience. They are hoping that the audience will not be able to distinguish between the two and they feel that Mrs. Bradbury will be a bigger success because of her experience as a real teacher.

Replacing Mrs. Bradbury as Dance Forms teacher will be Mr. Cutter, co-adviser to the Class of '85. Before Mrs. Bradbury leaves she will be schooling him in the basics. If Cutter cannot handle the job then Mr. Frank Pociadlo will take over since he has been observing Mrs. Brad-